

Power lifters take hold of state title

By T.J. Brumfield

Central High hosted and captured the Nebraska State High School Powerlifting Championship on Saturday, Feb. 24.

Competition, held in the old gym, continued throughout the morning. Several students not only aided in capturing the title as a whole, but captured state titles for their individual weight classes.

The Eagles out-lifted the competition with a score of 52 points, compared to second-place Lincoln Northeast's 32 points. Fremont came in third with a total of 28 points.

Individual state champions included senior Hien Nguyen at 148 lbs, juniors Kelly Allen and Damian Sayers at 198 lbs, sophomores Lamar Fuller at 132 lbs and DeAntae Grixby at 165 lbs.

Second place winners included: juniors Vito Agosta at 132 lbs, Carlos Nuno at 220 lbs, and sophomore Jay Axelrod at 165 lbs.

A total of 18 Central lifters placed in the competition, but no records were broken.

Currently, Central holds 27 out of 44 state records, eight of which Hien is responsible for. Hien was also awarded the title of Outstanding Lifter for the light class.

This was the first tournament for Eagle lifters. The tournament scheduled earlier in Thomas Jefferson, in Council Bluffs, was canceled due to weather.

The team still has the All-Class State Meet in April, which will be held at Roncalli and national competition which will be held in Dallas.

Participation in national competition will be determined by the amount of funds available in the spring sport's budget.



Lei Brown

Power lifter Hein Nguyen, senior, has won two national titles in his weightlifting career. He won Outstanding Lifter in the light weight class at the State competition.

Castles, cows populate world of virtual reality

By Pugh

Virtual reality is expanding into the field of education. Alan Grinvalds and Kathleen Grinvalds, virtual reality project technicians, visited Central on March 5 to share the virtual reality experience with 68 students from Enrichment and C-Programming.

Tree World and Castle World were available for exploration. The goal of Tree World was to see the tree grow by providing it with water and food. Grinvalds said Castle World was a good program for first time participants because it gives them experience manipulating objects.

"I could fly!" Rhyam Keel, junior said. "You could only see where you were. I didn't have any senses but sight."

In Tree World, participants had to fly to the clouds and burst them by using hyper speed so the sun could shine on the tree. A rock had to be moved so the river could flow to provide water. With every step, the tree would get visibly stronger and taller. In order to get food, one had to pick grass and lure a

cow with it. Where the grass was placed, the cow would drop manure. And the tree gets stronger.

Castle World contains a castle with many rooms filled with objects. An armory has a variety of weapons and the bread room has a wooden chest. Senior Jennifer Diesing experienced Castle World.

"It was definitely 3-D experience," Jennifer said. "It's like being inside a cartoon."

The virtual reality system used at Central did not have gravity or inertia. Sound is

available, but was not part of the two programs offered. Grinvalds said the military has very advanced technology and equipment that far exceeds anything else.

"We're on the cutting edge [of educational technology]," Grinvalds said, "but we're still just scratching the surface."

Hickey reminded students to stay close to "the source" - a metal pole with wires running from it connected to the helmet.

"Don't get preconceived notions," Hickey said.

Student extinguishes locker fire

By Pugh

Andrew noticed a sulphur smell, a fire extinguished matches," Schuler-Weingarten, family consumer science teacher, said. "I thought it was my big chance to catch smokers in the hallway."

At approximately 10:30 on Feb. 28, a fire started in the basement on the one side. Schuler-Weingarten and student aide Andrew Mattison, junior, were working in her office when they noticed the

smell. As Schuler-Weingarten checked the stairs, Andrew went the opposite direction and discovered smoke coming out of a locker.

According to Schuler-Weingarten and Andrew, flames began to come from the locker vents and the alarm went off.

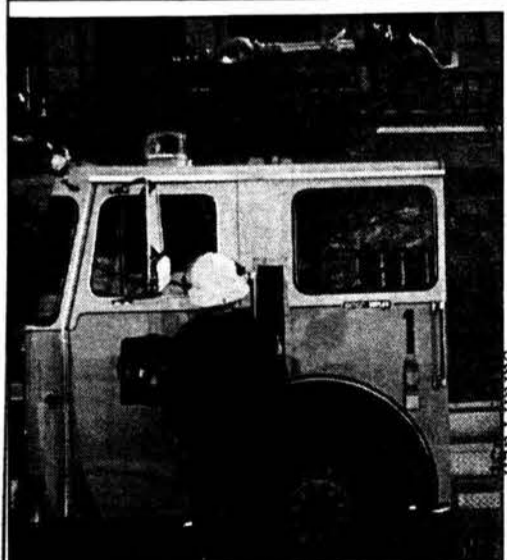
"I grabbed the fire extinguisher and just shot it up through the vents," Andrew said. "It was still smoldering, but it wasn't out of control."

Schuler-Weingarten alerted the office through the intercom in 011, the closest classroom, as staff and students filed out into 20 degree weather. According to Dr. Gary Thompson, Central High principal, response to the alarm time was one to two and a half minutes.

"I was really pleased with everything I saw," Thompson said of the students' actions. "This building has so many exits it's easy to get out quickly."

After spending approximately eight to ten minutes outside, stu-

Capt. Fred Clough, fire inspector for educational codes, said this was the fourth fire in Omaha Public Schools this year.



Sarah Pugh

Sgt. Norm Jalbert, in the truck, speaks with Capt. Craig Schneider after a locker fire.

dents and faculty filed back in. Meanwhile, fire inspectors investigated the area.

determined the fire at Central was deliberate.

"There was no reason for a fire

to start in that locker," Napravanik said. "Next we determine who had access to that locker and who had motive."

According to Napravanik, the locker fire is first degree arson, a class two felony. Punishment starts at one year in jail and could go up to 50 years. Intentional or not, Napravanik said motive makes no difference.

"You don't have to understand why. The bottom line is a fire started that caused damage to property," Napravanik said. "People don't realize their actions could kill."

Clough stressed the fact that the majority of students at Central are proud of their school and there to get an education.

"I'd say 99.9 percent of the students are there for the right reasons," Clough said. "You always have that .1 percent who want to cause trouble."

Anyone with information about the fire should call the anonymous arson hotline at 444-5500.

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Expanded gambling brings crime, economic problems

The amount of money spent on legal gambling in the United States increased 2,800 percent over the last two decades. According to the *Washington Post*, Americans lost \$40 billion of what they bet, more than six times what they spent on all spectator sports combined. Is it time for Nebraska to jump on the bandwagon of this growing form of entertainment? By carefully observing the effects of expanded gambling on other states, it becomes clear that the result of such a change in Nebraska would be disastrous.

Supporters of expanded gambling argue that Nebraskans plug a great deal of money into the Iowa economy through casinos. They feel Nebraska's economy should profit from the gambling industry by building casinos inside state lines. However, these supporters fail to consider that the money gambled away in casinos previously went to other businesses, such as restaurants, retail stores, the performing arts, the zoo and churches. While the gambling business may grow, many other forms of industry in the state will suffer severely.

It is a proven fact that where gambling goes, crime follows. For example, two years after Central City, Colo. introduced gambling, assaults and thefts increased 400 percent. The city must now attempt to quintuple its police force in order to maintain safety. In another case, Hancock County, Miss. opened casinos in 1992. From January through June, in 1994 versus 1993, suicide rates increased 900 percent and child molestation increased 333 percent. Can Nebraska cities really afford to spend a substantial portion of tax dollars building up the police force so that citizens can enjoy gambling their money away in casinos? Definitely not.

Gambling hits the youth particularly hard. Young people who gamble are two and one half times as likely to become addicted to gambling as adults. In addition, they often turn to crime in order to support their gambling habit.

If gambling is integrated into Nebraska, the citizens of this state can expect the future generation to have higher crime rates and more problem gamblers. With these problem gamblers will come even more problems in society, since one out of every five problem gamblers attempts suicide and 37 percent physically abuse their children.

While media reports about gambling usually begin with positive statements, the real truth of the matter lies beneath. For instance, the idea that casinos generate millions of tax dollars has a catch. The only increase in tax money is from gamblers who come from outside of the region. Since the majority of gamblers are usually from the local area, the money spent at casinos is no longer used in the stores, theaters and restaurants which it previously went to. The net tax gain is minimal, if it exists at all.

Nebraska faces a crucial decision which could change both the economy and society for ever. The citizens of this state should not lose other major industries in order to support the destructive gambling industry. It is ridiculous for tax-payers to pay more money in order to compete with the enormous increase in crime that is a direct result of gambling. Nebraskans can stop the gambling problem before it starts and save "the good life" for future generations.

Tradition of post prom should continue

This year, Prom will be held on April 20. Student council has been preparing since the beginning of the year and traditionally, following the dance is Post Prom. However, this year, Central students will not have the opportunity to attend Post Prom as they have in the past. The Parents Educators and Pupils, or PEP organization, has announced that it will not plan or organize a Post Prom for this year.

At some local high schools, Post Prom is as highly attended and looked forward to as much as Prom. Jaynee Ruback, parent and member of Burke's Post Prom committee, said that usually 500 to 600 students attend the party following Prom. "This year our theme is 'Under the Big Top.' We will have a hypnotist, an improv group, carnival games a fortune teller, clowns and balloon makers," she said. Ruback said the committee had no problem finding parent volunteers to plan the event. "There are about 35 people on the committee and then we get several hundred to help during the actual event. Everyone wants to be involved."

Something like this can only happen when the parents of the school make a commitment to put together something for students to remember for years to come. Post Prom, when organized well and with student input, can be a great success. It provides students with an alternative to illegal activities and gives those students who did not attend Prom a chance to see their friends and participate in the festivities Prom night entails.

Matt McGuire, owner of Sir Knight Formal Wear, a tuxedo shop, said that he contacted Central to offer a donation for our Post Prom. "I haven't heard back from them yet," he said. Dr. Thompson, principal, said that when the subject of a Post Prom committee came up at a PEP meeting, no one volunteered to be on the committee.

When funding is offered, it should not be ignored. Though it is too late for this year, steps should be taken to assure that this does not happen again. It is truly a disadvantage for Central students when a Post Prom is not provided. The success demonstrated by other high schools is evidence that there is an interest among students for such an event. Next year, both parents and students should be solicited to continue the tradition of Post Prom at Central High School.



Register Your Opinion

Should the death penalty be abolished?



"It is the only way to be sure that the person will not commit a crime again."
-Brandon Meigs, senior



"I think it should because humans have the right to judge who should live and who should die."
-Niki Gibson



"It depends on the situation. If it is a serial killer, then the only choice might be the death penalty."
-Molly Deacon, sophomore



"Yes, because we are not God. We choose the fate of other people."
-Angela Harbison



"Yes, because I believe people who commit crimes should be punished in an eye-for-an-eye fashion. If you commit the crime, you have to pay an equal price."
-Jeff Baxter, senior



"I think its cruel to kill another person because of a crime they committed not teaching our youth anything about solving crime."
-Juliana Bonner

"Register Your Opinions" is a sampling of student opinion. It does not represent the entire student body or the staff of *The Register*.

"...Long Ago and Far Away..." by T.S. Zald



am ignoring the female audience since it is generally assumed that baseball is a man's sport.

Or that in assuming baseball is a man's sport, I am now being biased and forgetting that many women enjoy sports, baseball included. So let's chop that paragraph out before we offend someone.

And then I mention my voice. I shouldn't mention that, heaven forbid I bring back painful memories for someone who has lost their voice. We better chop that paragraph out as well.

And as for the rest of this column, we better get rid of that too before we offend those who would censor such writers as myself.

But then what? What's next? You can stop me from writing it, but you can't stop me from thinking what I want.

Oh no! Maybe we should start controlling, I mean censoring, thoughts as well. Of course, this is to protect public welfare, before we think something that might offend someone.

After all, our rights are only guaranteed so long as they don't interfere with the rights of another. I'm sure God wanted it that way. So go ahead, doc. Take my tongue, my writings and my thoughts.

Chop off my fingers before they, too, offend someone. Lock me in my solitary confinement of bliss where I can remain tied for life, but happily unoffended. I don't think so.

As Ray Bradbury wrote, "Do not insult me with the finger choppings and lung deflations you plan for my work. I will not go gently on a shelf, degouted and become a non-book."

If you disagree with what I say

then, by God, you can disagree with me. I can't please the world and I don't intend to try. I am only accountable to myself and upholding what I believe in.

To do otherwise would mean being untrue to who I am and what I believe in. I can't do that. Not for you, and not for anyone.

My thoughts, my beliefs and my voice define who I am. To take away any part of that would be to take away part of me. Often we hear of people who fear oppression by the majority but what we don't realize is we're allowing fear of minorities to control us.

We're not that far off from the paranoid society in Bradbury's "Fahrenheit 451." In it, page by page of possibly offensive material was torn from our libraries until not only the libraries were empty, but so were the thoughts and souls of society.

We can not afford to hold ourselves back for fear of offending someone, because anything we do will make someone upset in the end.

My advice is simple. Don't be afraid to think. Say what you feel like saying, but at the same time look around you. Your right to speech does not mean you should viciously slander or attack someone.

If we all do that, if we didn't live our lives in paranoia and yet respected the feelings of those around us, that would be a world worth writing about. That would be a world even I could easily live in.

Until then I can pull up a stretch of grass and dream. Like Alfred Noyles wrote in *The Rustling of Leaves*, "In the fields where I lie, life brings to mind a short day. Long ago, far, far away..."

Letters to the editor

Send all letters of opinion to room 315 or look for the box on the two side in the courtyard. It is the policy of *The Register* not to print unsigned letters. *The Register* reserves the right to edit letters based on length or appropriateness.

'Staff members sought a hasty decision'

Dear editor,

As head of Dimension magazine sales and advertising committee, I would like to apologize to any student or staff members who were offended by our ad containing the term "artsy-fartsy." It was not the intent of the committee to imply anything of a disrespectful nature, or to make anyone uncomfortable with our choice of words. Our goal is to produce a clever and successful advertising campaign for the magazine. I would also like to point out, however, that I feel that the situation was inappropriately dealt with. I could have better understood the viewpoints of offended parties if I had had the opportunity to speak with them about the problem. A meeting of this nature would have greatly aided the committee in understanding the diversity of opinions and values throughout the building. I am frustrated that staff members sought, what is in my opinion, a hasty decision.

Regarding the ad containing the word "dementia," I do not feel it is necessary to apologize. One viewpoint taken is that the poster is not offensive, but rather the graffiti it may provoke may be a problem. I think that this reasoning far oversteps the boundaries of preventative measures. I do not believe the actions regarding this poster were necessary.

Dimension magazine is looking forward to another successful year of publication and hopes for the support and respect of all members of the Central High community. It is our desire that Dimension be treated in a professional manner, meaning that any complaints or suggestions would be directed first to the staff, or to the sponsor, Mrs. Wheeler. I hope that this incident is not in any way detrimental to the reputation of Dimension.

Jody Sheely, junior

'Newscasters with their stereotypical stories'

Dear editor,

I am agreeing with a statement from the article "Youth crime rise in Omaha." The statement says, "Parents often stereotype their children because of the way they dress or act."

I think stereotypes occur partly because of news casters with their stereotypical stories that try and point out trouble makers. The well-behaved teens look bad because of this. My parents are always looking for a second opinion to prevent me from this and that. They get their second opinion from the news channels.

My opinion is that the adult media influence on other adults has made some well-behaved teens look bad in their parents' eyes. All I want from my parents is their respect and trust. This should be earned for merit, not from media-saturated stereotypes.

Dana Keeling, freshman

'Our crowd can't chant'

Dear editor,

This letter is in regard to the overly severe actions taken by Central's administrative and security staff at both the Papillion-LaVista and North basketball games. We don't necessarily condemn the actions of the administrators. They are just doing their jobs, but we feel that it is going to far when the crowd cannot even stand-up and cheer for our team without being reprimanded. From our viewpoint, as students, we have heard that chanting "psyches-up" and encourages the players. We also feel that it keeps the crowd, on both sides, intense and into the game.

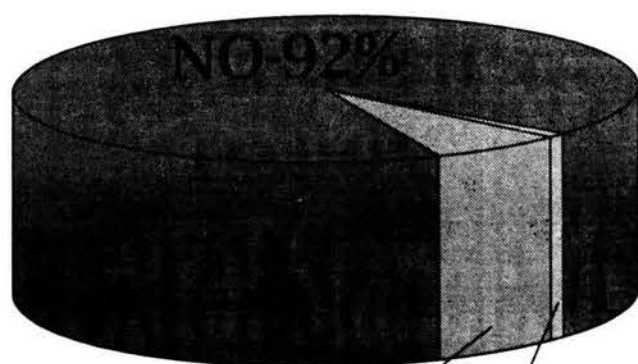
We feel that if our crowd can't chant, everyone should be punished as we have, to completely eliminate the problem. If it is decided that the chanting must not continue, try not to spoil the loveliness of the game by dampening everyone's spirits. We are also proud to be Central Eagles, but we are not embarrassed by this nor do we think that anything is wrong with it. We strongly suggest some reconsideration of the actions taken, because ever since football season school spirit was a big issue. We feel that now people have regained their sense of pride and spirit, and school authorities are putting way too many restrictions on game watchers which discourages attendance.

Jill Hallgren and Kim Larsen, juniors

In the Student of the Month story in the February issue, guidance counselor Sharon Cipperley was incorrectly identified as selecting the Student of the Month. Cipperley selects nominations, and the National Honor Society Officers select the Student of the Month. In the Pancake Man photo caption, the band was not given due credit for organizing and sponsoring the event. We apologize for the errors.

Central Standards

Should OPS require students to wear uniforms?



140 Students Polled

- Columnist: Sarah Pugh, Carrie Parrott, Shadi Bashir, Hannah Rennard, Colleen Cleary, Erin Beal
- Editor: Caroline Foley
- Assignment Editors: Nick Stender, Rachel Jacobson, Jen Houlden
- Editor: Valerie Newhouse, Laura Richards, Angela Parks, Cory Olson, Stacey Cody
- Columnist: Rebecca Hammond
- Editors: Josh Cohen, Kate King, Les Anich
- Editor/Columnist: T. J. Brumfield, Mark Eyman, Lea Platz, Beth Katz, Thomas Parks, Andrew Binkley, Lei Brown, Luke Atkinson, Morgane du Liege, Rachel Slosburg, M. Deabler

Send all letters of opinion to room 315 or look for the box on the two side in the courtyard. It is the policy of *The Register* not to print unsigned letters. *The Register* reserves the right to edit letters based on length or appropriateness.

News in Brief

Decathlon team competes at State

Central's U.S. Academic Decathlon team came in fourth place in the state competition Feb. 16-17.

"We did a good job," Dee Kovarik, Central's Decathlon coach and math teacher, said. "It was a very close race."

Central tied for second place in the Super Quiz, with questions about the United Nations.

At the Honors level, senior Jennifer Diesing received a bronze and a silver medal and was the team's top scorer overall. Junior Jeff Evans received two silver medals, and senior Carrie Parrott received two bronze medals.

At the Scholastic level, senior Ryan Shelstad received a gold, a silver and two bronze medals, and junior Sarah Fischer received a gold and a silver medal and answered all 10 Super Quiz questions correctly. Junior Caroline Foley received a silver medal.

At the Varsity level, senior Stephanie Lassek received a gold, two silver and two bronze medals and junior Julie Johnson received a silver and a bronze medal. Junior Cheryl Calimlim also competed at the Varsity level.

Alternates for the team included junior Lisa Prosterman who received three gold and one silver medal and junior Jason Hoberman received three gold and one silver medal.

Any student interested in next year's Decathlon team should talk to Kovarik.

Students sing in state, regional honor choirs

Ten Central students will participate in the North Central Regional American Choral Directors Association Convention. The convention takes place March 13-16.

There will be a Nebraska Honor Choir in conjunction with the convention. Central freshmen Emilie Parrott, Alex Wolfson and Lucas Stecker will sing in one of the four honor choirs. The students auditioned by tape in the fall and were chosen to sing six new selections at the event.

Students from six states will participate in this "mini" All-State event, according to Lyn Bouma, music teacher. Seven other Central students will sing in another honor choir. Seniors Tanya Watzke, Stacey Cody, Martha Nelson and Julie Otis and juniors Damion Thompson, Anna Jane Kearns and Philip Medeiros will participate.

The performance will be held at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln in the Lied Center. Freshmen will rehearse for four days and juniors and seniors three.

Admit policy changed

By Kate King

As of Friday, Feb. 23, Central's admit policy changed. Dr. Gary Thompson, Central principal, sent copies of the new policy to staff members Feb. 20 with instructions for them to read the policy to their classes.

So, why the change? Who wanted it? According to one of Thompson's copies of the policy, the "Principal's Staff Advisory Group" discussed the problem of students who are absent from class who return the following day without an admit. The group wanted a change in the policy that would eliminate that problem. The intent of the new policy is to reduce the temptation for students to be truant, or skip school. The advisory group felt that the previous policy, allowing the student to wait up to two days before having to produce an admit for their teacher, gave students the idea that they could get away with skipping class. Thompson said that Brian Watson, social studies teacher, was the most outspoken about changing the policy.

"There was so much abuse," Watson said. "Students quickly learned if they came late to school, whatever the situation, the student could go to class without an admit. The student would say that they would bring it tomorrow and the teacher, whether consciously or not, would forget about asking for the admit and the student got away. All I did was point out to Dr. Thompson that there was the abuse. We instituted a policy we had for years."

The new policy states that if a student returns to class after being absent without an admit, the following actions will take action.

First, the student must be sent to the attendance office immediately with a pass from the teacher that sent them. If the student causes any problems, such as wasting time going to and from the attendance office, or might do so, the teacher reserves the right to summon a security aide to escort the student.

The student must return from the attendance office within a reasonable time with the admit. However, the student will receive a tardy to class and will be disciplined accordingly. Should the student not return with a properly stamped and timed admit after a sufficient amount of time, the teacher will inform the student's administrator by the intercom system. An "Attendance Inquiry" will follow for any student that does not return to class.

According to Paul Semrad, the "Attendance Inquiry" occurs after a pupil is absent for two consecutive days without appearing on the absence list.

"It's to stop cheating," Watson said. "They [students] were cheating the system. There are still problems though."

Central's former policy, effective under former principal Dr. G.E. Moller, was not as extensive. It was effective from Oct. 7, 1994 until Thompson's new policy took effect.

The old policy stated that only homeroom teachers could send students to get an admit if they returned without one after being absent. After homeroom, no teacher was to send a



Patricia Brizendine, social studies teacher and African American History club sponsor, organized soul food in the courtyard. "I know how it's supposed to be," security guard Brenda Pope said. "This is delicious."

Food that's good for the

By Mark Eyman

Central's African American History Club held soul food tasting on Feb. 28 in honor of African American History Month. Among the food were hog head cheese, turkey and dressing, fried chicken, collard hamhocks, corn bread, cracklin' bread, peach cobbler, banana pie and sweet potato pie.

"The food is delicious. I grew up on soul food, so I know how it tastes. This is great!" Brenda Pope, security guard, said.

"This is terrific. It is a wonderful and festive celebration of our heritage," Carol Valdrighi, social studies teacher, said.

There was also a black film festival held after school on Feb. 21. According to Patricia Brizendine, social studies teacher and sponsor of the African American History Club, the films, *A Soldiers Story* and *Sarafina* dealt with black issues.

"This really helped to make students aware of the power of young people. They might not realize that young high school and college students were a major force in the civil rights movement," Brizendine said.

student to the attendance office for not having an admit.

The teacher was to inform the student that they must bring a valid admit the following day and that the absence would remain unexcused until then.

If the student returned the following day without the admit, the teacher was to write a referral on the student while allowing the student to remain in class that day. An assistant principal would then take on the task of disciplining the student.

According to Esther Wageman, attendance office secretary, the new policy has "really positive feedback" and will help cut down on truancy.

"However, the new policy will probably cause more students to come to the attendance office during time," Wageman said.

"It's going to prevent students from taking advantage of the situation," she said. "In other words, the student is going to be caught."

Hastings High benefits from Internet

By Rachel Slosburg

Omaha Public Schools have no student access policy allowing independent use of the internet. Currently, Central has anywhere from four to 30 computers hooked up to the Internet, but all computers on the network (around 200) have the capacity for Internet access.

According to Tim Larson, computer lab director, Central will have a definite student-access policy by the beginning of the 1996-1997 school year.

"I think it is extremely important for students to see what is going on throughout the world and the recent developments in the field of technology," Larson said. "Central is somewhat limited right now with no access policy, but next year will be a major improvement."

Funding granted to Hastings High School provides students with free access to the Internet. Hastings Public School system agreed to give the students a chance to explore the World Wide Web after a state law was passed allowing the Internet to be used in all Nebraska schools.

The Hastings students will be

permitted varying levels of Internet use depending upon their meeting of certain requirements.

A student is able to use the Web while accompanied and supervised by a teacher. However, if a student would like to obtain an independent use license, he must complete the necessary requirements before given a "license."

First, the student must have a guardian sign a parental permission form stating that the user will be unsupervised.

Next, the student has one month to discover the services of the Internet and explore the Web. Then, the student is required to take a test over the information about the Web and how to use the America Online server.

After passing the test, he must sign the school's Acceptable Use Policy, describing what the student can and cannot do on the Web. The student would now be eligible for a license which gives him unsupervised access to the Internet.

Media director of Hastings High School, Jane Rhodus, said that approximately sixty computers are

capable of providing Internet access to students.

Rhodus said students may set up their own e-mail accounts only at the request of a teacher. Other services such as Netscape and Webcrawler are available to the students.

Rhodus said that Students are responsible and avoid the obscene web sites. She said most students realize the important use of the Web is for research. If a student does visit an inappropriate site on the Web, his license will be terminated.

"We have paraprofessionals who are always in the lab to assist the students and help them find certain addresses on the Web. But, there is not someone standing over a student to watch their actions every minute," she said.

Rhodus said she is pleased the students are benefiting from the use of the Internet. Students who take German as a foreign language have been communicating with students in Germany.

The information on the internet is also used for research papers. Former Central math teacher Jane

Els now teaches at Hastings High School.

She assigned her students research papers and gave them time to find information on the Internet. Computers are also located at the local public library and the College library. The students are able to discover information while still at school.

"One big negative was the amount of computer freezes up to local information," Els said. "From my standpoint, it is better to have your own homepage and avoid a starting point instead of an error."

Els said she is limited by the Internet because she teaches, but other teachers have signed their own homepages and explored several addresses for information.

The homepage gives students from getting off the Internet ensures that the teacher knows everything.

News in Brief

Students fast to help the hungry

Two Central students participated in a "30-hour famine" with the youth group of St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, located at 93rd and Dodge, Feb. 23-24.

John Stacy, sophomore, and Emilie Parrott, freshman, both fasted for 30 hours, drinking only fruit juice and water. The famine was sponsored by World Vision, a national hunger relief organization, and groups across the nation participated.

John said the purpose of the famine was "to understand the lifestyle of people less fortunate and to raise money for the hungry."

"It's affected the way I look at food," John said. "I took it for granted before."

Emilie said, "At the end of the 30 hours, I got to eat a wonderful meal, but starving people in Africa might get a bowl of rice if they get anything to eat at all. I realized that the hunger I experienced for 30 hours was only a taste of what starving people experience."

Pastor James Killough of St. Timothy's said the youth group raised \$1003, which will go to feed the hungry.

Viola player makes national orchestra

Peggy Cheng, senior, was selected from many orchestra members across the country for the National High Honors Orchestra. She was only student selected from Nebraska.

Peggy, a viola player with the Central High School Orchestra, will perform with this prestigious group for a gala concert presented at the Music Educators National In-Service Conference at the Kansas City, Mo. Convention Center on Apr. 20. The National High Honors Orchestra meets every two years.

"This is really a great honor," she said. She is first chair out of 18 violas nationally.

Peggy was first chair in the Nebraska All State orchestra and North Carolina All State orchestra. She was also involved in the Omaha Youth Symphony and many other performing groups.

Peggy has been playing the viola for nearly six years and played the violin four years prior to playing the viola.

National Merit finalists selected

Three Central students were selected as National Merit Finalists.

Shadi Bashi, Sarah Dewitt and Sarah Pugh, seniors, were three of five National Merit Semifinalists in the city. After completing the application forms and writing an essay, all three semi-finalists advanced to the final round.

"My parents were more excited than I was," Dewitt said.

Book revives interest in female adolescent insecurities, attitudes

By Ben Katz

When psychologist Mary Pipher read a study performed by the Easter County Health Department on adolescent girls, she was surprised to learn that 40 percent of those surveyed contemplated suicide in the last year.

Pipher decided to write a book about the problems plaguing adolescent girls in today's society. Her latest is *Reviving Ophelia*, a national best-selling novel.

Pipher spoke in Omaha Feb. 28 at the Lied Fitness Center located on the campus of the College of Saint Mary.

Pipher elaborated on the theme of her latest novel by offering several statistics:

-In the last 20 years, the suicide rate among teenagers has risen 300 percent.

-A 1993 Harris Poll showed that one-third of all students in the grades 6-12 polled believed that they would be dead by age 21.

-One-third of all eighth graders in the United States have had

sex. In a 1994 Roper Poll, 54 percent of the teenagers surveyed had wished they would have postponed having sex until they were older

-The average model is five foot ten and weighs 111 pounds.

"Our teenagers are being forced to grow up much faster than the generations before them," Pipher said. "Girls are now begin-

ning their menstrual cycles as young as nine-years old. Adolescent thinking is still immature. [Kids] aren't ready to make the decisions they are faced with."

skinny, dependent and passive," Pipher said. "As ships and planes go down in the Bermuda Triangle, the selves of girls go down in the Bermuda Triangle of adolescence."

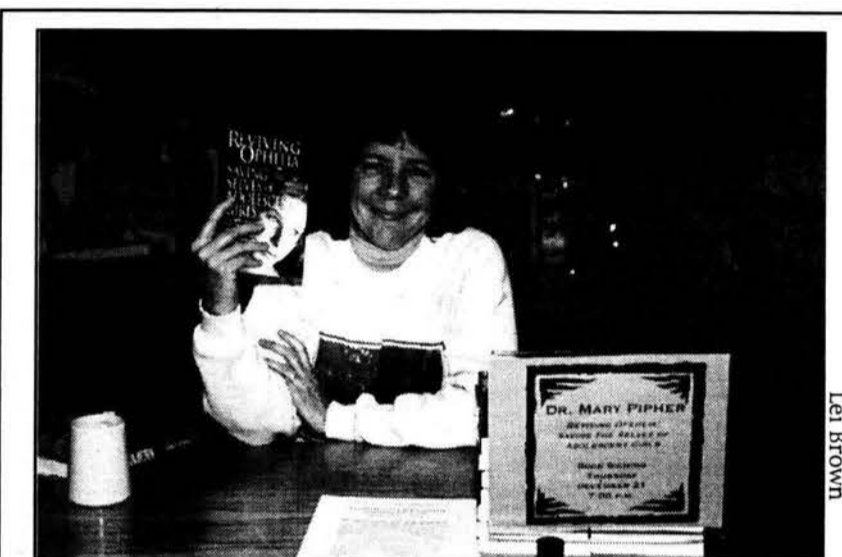
Pipher said violence and sex in the media contribute to girls' lowered self-esteem, especially since both are often portrayed in interchangeable roles.

Pipher also said that the role of parents plays a major part in the development of young women.

"Many parents are so afraid of being dysfunctional that they stop functioning all together," Pipher said. "Nowadays, by the time our children reach adolescence, the culture is raising them."

Pipher names her book after a Shakespearean character who commits suicide by drowning herself.

"Our daughters don't have to drown as Ophelia did," Pipher warned. "We can work for a culture that is more nourishing for our children and our children's children."



Mary Pipher, author of *Reviving Ophelia*, offers advice and insight into the development of adolescent girls.

Lei Brown

ing." "Adolescent girls often turn towards their peers and the media for validation. So they turn on the television and see women who are young,

Central EXCELS with new program

By Rebecca Hammond

Central students completed a survey as part of the first stage of the EXCELS program.

EXCELS is a school-improvement process developed in the Omaha Public School district, or OPS, based on a model made by the North Central Association.

Dr. Gary Thompson, Central High principal, said the North Central Association is a group of educators who evaluate and accredit schools, colleges and universities in 19 mid-western states.

"The goal [of EXCELS] is to combine three processes that in the past have been done separately," Jim Harrington, co-chair of the EXCELS committee and math teacher, said.

The program combines student achievement, school improvement and assessment improvement. Assessment improvement deals with how well students do on exams that test basic areas of knowledge. OPS uses the Benchmark and California Achievement Test to assess students.

EXCELS has five stages. They include developing a school profile, goals, goal assessments, strategies and strategy checkups. Currently, Central is working to de-

velop a school profile, which outlines areas that need improvement.

To develop the school profile, surveys of parents, staff and students are being completed to learn "what they think are our strong and weak points are and what we should be working on," Harrington said.

According to Thompson, staff and students completed similar tests. Parent surveys will be mailed on Friday, March 8, and will also be similar.

Goal assessments are done once a year.

EXCELS provides an opportunity to focus on the kids.

- - Keith Bigsby, business teacher

"The goals are designed to be measurable so that we can see if we are making progress," Harrington said.

Strategies are the specific teaching methods used to reach the

set goals. Strategy checkups make sure the strategy is producing the desired results. Checkups will be done periodically during the year so that changes can be made while students are still in school.

"EXCELS provides an opportunity to constantly evaluate ourselves. To say, is it working? And to focus on the kids," Keith Bigsby, co-chair of the EXCELS committee and business department head, said.

EXCELS is a five year program. The program is divided into a two year planning period and a three year implementation period. Central will implement its strategies during the 97-98 school year, Thompson said.

The program is designed to make sure "all students are learning, assessment test scores are going up, students are getting what they want out of school and that we are turning out productive citizens," Bigsby said.

EXCELS is a district wide program. According to Harrington, Central is one of the last schools to begin the EXCELS program. EXCELS began in OPS within the 93-94 school year. The district was divided up into thirds. The first section began the program in 93-94, the second in 94-95 and the third in 95-99.

"Times are changing in education," Bigsby said. "EXCELS allows schools to change to improve education."

Student involved in Town Hall meeting

By Sarah Pugh

Opinion pieces are being read more often. Jon Lynch, senior, presented Central in the town hall meeting televised on Feb. 27.

Ms. Cipperley called me and said they needed another female representative," Jon said. "They didn't tell anybody what was about. I guess they wanted fresh answers."

Bretta Carol and Michael Scott were "cocky."

When they stopped taping, he wished we had more questions," Jon said. "The stuff they were asking was good for people I guess."

Jon said the questions did not seem relevant. He liked the chance to express his view about opinions of teenagers.

Jon had dreadlocks last year and a lot of teachers viewed me as a troublemaker," Jon said. "It's important to judge people on what they do."

Jon said some of his comments were purposefully vague.

Jon said he was not proud of some of the things he said.

Jon said if he would have said something to incriminate me it could have hurt me some way or another.

Clubs Column

By Mark Eyman

Physics Club

Central's Physics Club took part in the Creighton Physics Field Day. Physics students from Omaha Public Schools, Omaha Catholic Schools and various schools from throughout Iowa all competed in the March 2, competition. The competition consisted of a Leap Frog Exam, in which two students take half of a test each and then switch tests, an Optic Slalom, in which a laser was shot at a target with obstacles surrounding it, Bridge Building out of toothpicks, a Mousetrap car and a "Chalk Talk," which is essentially a speech given by a student on any topic at random. The teachers also competed against each other in an impromptu discussion. Physics Club is also looking forward to the Car Pull competition the first week in April. The car that can pull a weight sled the furthest wins. Central won this competition four years in a row, but was beat last year by North.

Junior Classical League

The Junior Classical League, or JCL, will host the All City College Bowl Competition on Mar. 30. Twelve schools from across Nebraska are expected to attend the event. The categories are Mythology, Vocabulary, Grammar, Roman Life and History and Derivatives and Pentathlon. Two teams per level of Latin will be allowed. Central will have 10 teams with four people on a team. Each round includes a series of 15 questions. The winners of this competition will then be allowed to continue on to the State Competition on Apr. 25 and 26. Central will also host the state competition. JCL also took part in the art language fair on Feb. 29. Members of JCL danced, made food and helped out with displays.

Anthropology Club

When the weather warms up and the frost gets out of the ground the Anthropology club plans on going to dig around Nebraska. They will go to Plattsmouth where the Platte River meets the Missouri. Good times to go on the digs is right after it rains and the soil is soft and eroded. The club is also looking for artifacts from the Woodlyn Indians who were located near Herman NE. Since it is too cold to dig, the winter makes a good time to identify and catalog artifacts. All of the artifacts being cataloged have been collected by previous classes and club members over the years.

Student dee jay Senior spins out the tune

By Stacey Cody

Listening to the newest radio station on Omaha's airwaves, 89.7 "The River," you may hear a familiar voice from Central's halls. As of Monday, March 4, senior Jon Shradar is a dee jay at the station.

Enrolled in Omaha's Career Center, Jon takes classes specializing in broadcast journalism and story writing which help him further his goal of becoming a radio broadcaster. The Career Center also helped him find an internship with local radio station 103.7 WOW.

"I love the people I work with at WOW," Jon said. "They've been incredibly helpful in teaching me things.

There's only so much you can learn in a classroom."

During his time at WOW, Jon learned the basics for becoming a radio dee jay.

On an average school day, Jon, substituting his Career Center time for his internship, leaves Central at 10

interview people about, "pretty much anything at all. The more ridiculous, the better," he said.

Jon leaves the station at noon, but returns at 6 p.m. to co-dee jay until midnight.

"I give them a lot of input on the younger audience," Jon said. "Sometimes I would even come to school to interview students."

Jon was offered the job with "The River" while touring Iowa Western Community College, where the station is based.

"I had an audition tape with me, which really helped," Jon said. "In person, I'm very shy, but on the tape, I showed how I could work."

Jon plans on attending Iowa Western after graduation, and continuing his communication studies while working at "The River." Until he becomes a student at Iowa Western, however, he will continue to work with WOW.

"They gave me my start," Jon said. "I wish I never had to leave them."

Although Jon is pleased with his new job, he said his goal is to become a radio per-

sonality on the morning show of a rock station.

"You just have to take what you can get in the beginning and hope that eventually you get the dream job," Jon said.

Jon is still on salary, but he said he's excited about the job. "It's overwhelming," he said. "I never thought of an opportunity like this opening so soon."

I never thought an opportunity like this would happen so soon.
--Jon Shradar, senior

a.m. to work at WOW. He introduces songs and reads the weather on the air, as well as fetching music for the other dee jays and running errands.

Occasionally, he travels with the news van to streets, malls and courthouses to in-



Good Morning, Central High!...Senior Jon Shradar rocks the airwaves on 89.7 "The River."

Postponed fall production springs into gear

By T.J. Brumfield

After months of waiting for the fall musical, the halls will finally ring with the sound of music.

But with the April performance dates approaching, the production has lost its choreographer, C y n d i Whitfield.

Whitfield, who worked with Central's musical productions in previous years, quit the production for health reasons.

The production was originally postponed because Central's stagecraft teacher, Lou Basilico, retired due to health reasons.

Students formed a 'volunteer tech crew' to put on this year's productions, as Basilico has yet to be replaced.

Filling in for Whitfield on "The Sound of Music" are seniors Kari Hogya and Julie Otis.

to conflicting schedules was not always able to work with larger groups in rehearsal.

Since Kari and Julie

Kari said, hard work is the one quality that characterizes the cast and crew. She said everyone involved in

Zulfer, who spent the semester with Mrs. and her creative classes, has been in the second semester of Georgeson and the classes.

Kari said Zulfer has really made the department as a whole.

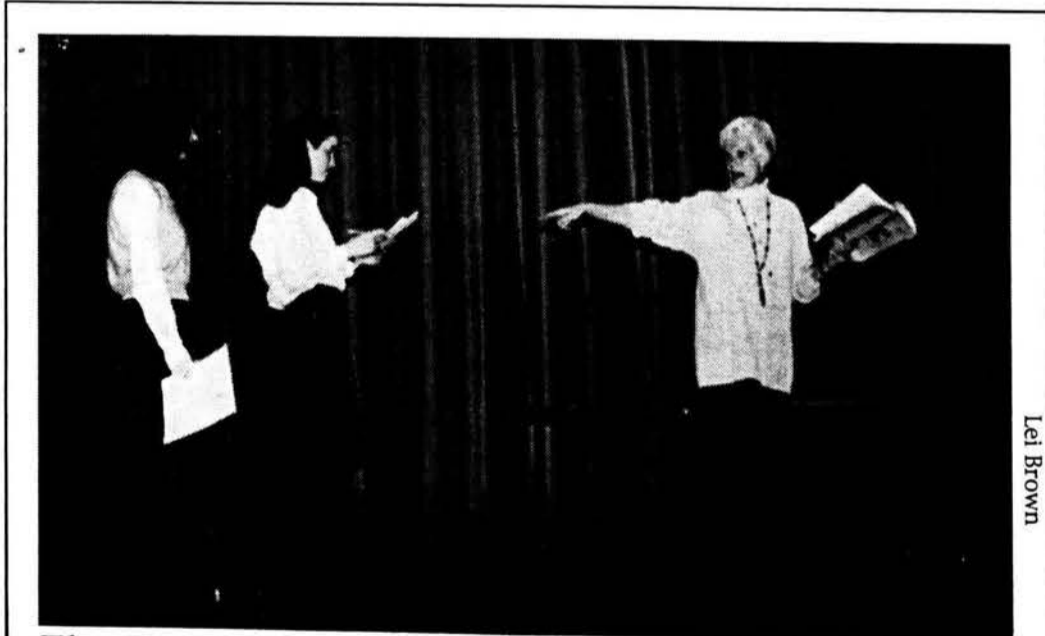
Zulfer directed the one act play produced Road Show now working with Sound of Music.

"She's added a perspective to the production," Kari said. "She's been an inspiration to all the people."

Kari also commented on Zulfer's involvement in every aspect of the production. She said one day she would be working on the set and the other she would be walking in and finding a scrap of tape off the floor with a butter knife.

Though they lost their choreographer and a stagecraft teacher, Kari said she thinks in the end it has only added to the cohesiveness of the group.

"Going through these changes has made the department realize we have to work together," she said.



The Stage is alive with "The Sound of Music" as Pegi Georgeson gives directions to Tanya Watzke, senior, and Morgane du Liege, senior, at rehearsal.

Kari and Julie both acted in productions during their years at Central in addition to involvement in Drama Club, Thespian's Troop and student directing.

Kari said Whitfield choreographed most of the dances in the spring, but due

learned most of the choreography, they are now teaching the rest of the cast the dances.

"If she hadn't taught me the dances, I'm not sure what we'd do," Kari said. "Right now it's just polishing work."

the show had to rearrange their lives, not once, but twice.

"A lot more work goes into the shows than [other] students realize. Work doesn't end when rehearsal does," she said.

She said that there has been less disparity, more cohesiveness between the students working backstage and those on-stage.

Kari also commented on the addition of Kim Zulfer, student teacher.

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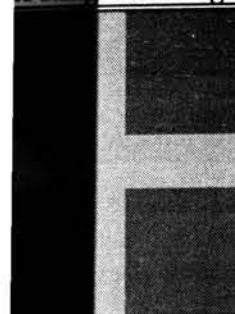
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gether," she said.

Exchange students share cultures, experiences with Central

by King and Morgane du Liege



WHO: Nils Went
WHERE: Sweden
INTERESTS: Music and computers to music," he said. "It's like a dee jay would. I use computers to like a mix for theme songs. I have a who took me to Kan-mix music there."
FAMILY: His family to the United States to more money and a had the most to offer. Her brother attends the rsity of Nebraska at n.
HOW HE GOT INVOLVED WITH OTHER EXCHANGE STUDENTS: end introduced me to Varadi [former ex-student from ary] because I know rian," he said. "I went xchange student meet-th John and Ms. Timm could go to the meet-
FIRST REACTION TO HA: "McDonald's is I came at night from en so I didn't see

much," he said. "I remember going to McDonald's. In Sweden, a Big Mac is \$5.99. Here it's just a couple of dollars."

DIFFERENCES HE'S NOTICED: "More freedom, more things and a better education here," he said. "You can do more things and it's easier to travel, like in walking distances, in Sweden."

He also said his former city in Sweden was bigger.

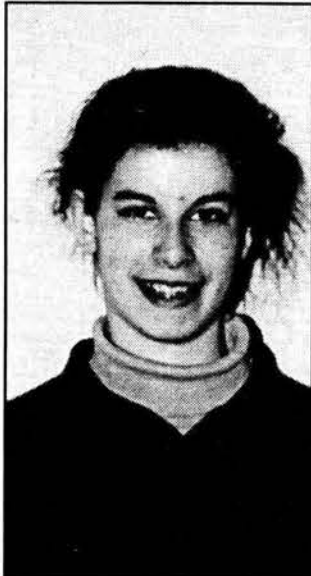
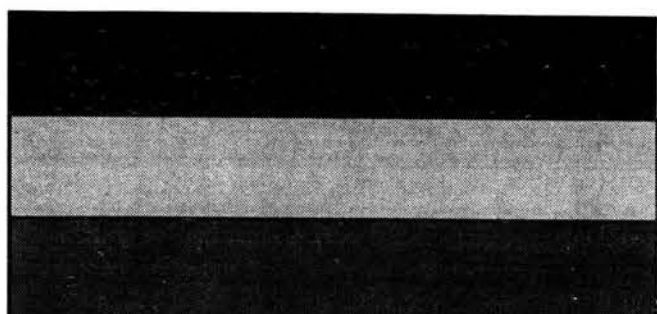
SIMILARITIES: "They are both democratic countries," he said. The seemingly major similarity for Nils is McDonald's. There also is a variety in people in both countries.

REACTIONS TO CENTRAL: "There's no attendance in Sweden, it's like college," he said. "There's longer breaks like twenty minutes between classes, one and a half hour lunch and we started at 9 a.m. and ended at 3 p.m. We took seven classes in a day. Our first class was from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m."

The school spirit is also different to Nils. In Sweden, they don't have school spirit items, such as clothes, caps and school supplies, even though he said the students care about school. They do more outside of school.

COMMENTS ON HIS EXPERIENCE: He thinks that he has adjusted to Omaha. He went to Sweden during the Winter Break. He will go again this summer.

"If I had a wish, it would be to go to the beach and just swim," he said.



WHO: Miriam Fischer
WHERE: Hamburg, Germany

INTERESTS: Tennis, playing piano, hanging out with friends, participating with youth group, going to movies and doing things with her host family

WHY SHE WANTED TO BE AN EXCHANGE STUDENT: She wanted to disprove stereotypes of America to herself. She also thought that being an exchange student would allow her to represent her country.

HER FEELINGS: She is surprised because she has never felt homesick. Accord-

ing to her, everything is really exciting, and most of all she enjoys staying with her host parents. "They are very understanding," she said.

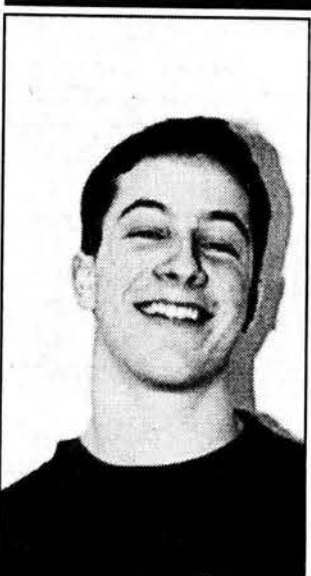
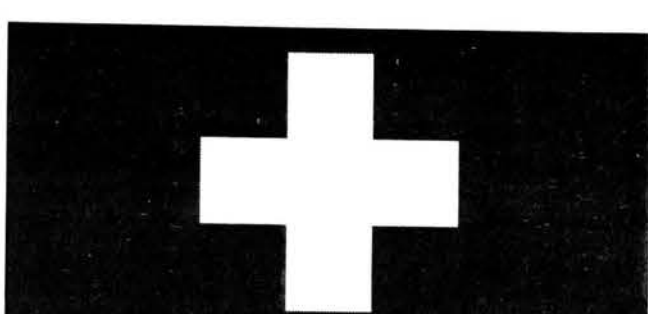
WHAT SHE THINKS IS DIFFERENT HERE: "In Germany, hobbies and activities are out of school and you don't have the same schedule every day," she said. She also says that the level of difficulty here is pretty easy but homework takes a longer time compare to Germany where she had one hour of work at the most.

REACTION TO CENTRAL: She especially enjoys the atmosphere and all the activities she does. She is really excited about Prom as well as graduation.

COMMENTS ON HER EXPERIENCE: "In some aspects I think I've changed and in others not," she said.

She thinks that her view of the United States and the American people is completely different now and that she became more open to the different cultures.

"Even though I'll be happy to see my family and friends again," she said, "I can't imagine I'll have to leave."



WHO: Lukas Huber
WHERE: Berikon, Switzerland

INTERESTS: Basketball, going to movies, singing, hanging around with friends, going to parties

HOW HE DECIDED TO BE AN EXCHANGE STUDENT: "My sister was an exchange student here four years ago," he said. "She stayed with a host family and they asked me if I wanted to come and stay with them. I said yes."

Luke enjoys The United States. Most of all, Lukas won't have to repeat this year back to Switzerland.

HIS FEELINGS: "I have never been homesick. I think that's because I already knew my host family and they're really nice to me," he said. "It helps a lot." He also enjoys meeting people here. According to him, everybody is really friendly and helpful.

DIFFERENCES HE'S NOTICED: "Nebraska is really flat," he said. "I miss the mountains a little bit. Also the school is different. In Switzerland, only one-sixth of the kids go to high school. The others work."

He said that all the activities are outside the school.

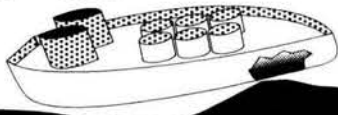
ABOUT CENTRAL: "I especially enjoyed being on the basketball team."

He also thinks the school spirit is really strong.

"In Switzerland, you would never see someone wearing a tee-shirt with the name of our high school," he said.

He said he appreciates the help everybody tries to give him.

COMMENTS ON HIS EXPERIENCE: "I've had a great time so far," he said. "My host family is really cool and I'm not in a hurry to leave."



Oil spill endangers British coast

By Beth Katz

The latest publicized oil spill occurred February 15 when the *Texaco Sea Empress* ran aground off the coast of Wales near several of Great Britain's most vital environmental preserves. The tanker reportedly spilled 19 million gallons of crude oil into the Atlantic Ocean, prompting the South Wales fishing fleet to impose a voluntary ban on the 40 miles of coastal waters affected. This was the fourth oil spill reported in the month of February.

Isabela Cohen, President of the Missouri Valley Group of Sierra Club International, said there are often 10-15 oil spills a month but that they seldom are reported because they are minimal. However, Cohen warns that the impact of one spill is always detrimental to ocean waters.

"One drop of oil can completely contaminate 100 gallons of water," Cohen said.

In 1989, the *Exxon Valdez* oil tanker ran aground dumping 38,000

tons of crude oil into the Arctic waters of Prince William Sound.

Six years later, the environmental and economic impacts of the spill are still being felt.

"The fish population was absolutely devastated from the oil spill. No one can tell how long it will take to restore the ecosystems destroyed," Cohen said. "The fishermen at Prince William Sound were completely out of work for an entire year and now they are still only doing a minimal amount of fishing."

As a result of the spill, between 3,500 to 5,500 sea otters died along with over 300,000 birds. According to *Outside Magazine*, "unaccountable plants and microscopic creatures were lost."

After the spill, over 4,500 lawsuits followed against Exxon, seeking over \$3.5 billion in damages. In the 1991 *Exxon Valdez* settlement, Exxon paid \$1.025 billion intended to "restore, replace, rehabilitate, enhance, or acquire the equivalent of the natural resources injured, lost,

or destroyed."

However, many environmentalists and scientists are convinced that Exxon's efforts may have only made the damage worse.

"The huge trollers [Exxon] used to clean the ocean suck-up everything from the ocean," Cohen said. "Hundreds of species of fish and marine life are killed by these trollers."

In addition to the trollers, bulldozing, chemical treatments, and hot-water washing may have further contaminated Prince William Sound. These questionable operations alone cost Exxon \$2.2 billion.

"Even though Exxon spent \$2 billion on Prince William Sound, the ramifications are endless," Cohen said. "There is really nothing left to do but let the ocean sift itself over time."

Cohen said that people can show their disapproval and frustration by writing their representatives and boycotting the companies involved.



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ction '96

According to a poll of 103 students, 24 % are Republican, 28% are Democrat and 48% are independent. The majority of students, 43%, said they had an optimistic political outlook, while 39% said they had a negative outlook.

Democrats

Republicans



Bill Clinton is the incumbent president.

deputy director of the Nebraska democratic party, said.

Government regulation

"No government regulation is specially designed to hurt people," Branting said. "The government has the best intentions when the regulations are carried out. The democratic party wants to take a look at regulations, what works and what doesn't."

Branting said government must be regulated for a country to survive.

"A world without regulations is foolish," he said. "We want to have faith in people to do the right thing, but if that was the case, we wouldn't need regulation in the first place."

Abortion

The democratic party's stance on abortion is generally pro-choice, though it varies from candidate to candidate.

"We would like to be at a point in society where there is no need for abortion, where there are no teenage pregnancies and everyone practices safe sex, but we cannot choose what a person does with her own body," Branting said. "We are not advocating abortion, but it is not for the government to decide what people do with their bodies."

Environment

"We're pro-environment," Branting said. "We have natural resources which are very important. This planet cannot be destroyed, but our ability to live on the planet predicated what we do."

Branting said a perfect example of the democratic party's stance on the environment is ethanol.

"We support ethanol because it is ecologically sound and provides farmers with higher prices for their corn. It benefits everyone," he said.

Welfare

"We need welfare reform," Branting said. "What differs between democrats and republicans is how we deal with welfare reform. People should not stay on welfare forever, but we need to help people who are living in poverty."

Branting said there is a big difference between a person on welfare who abuses the system and a single mother with two children living on minimum wage. He said the democratic party believes the government needs to help the single mothers but reform the system so that abuse of welfare ends.

Crime/the death penalty

"Obviously our goal is to get to a point in society where people feel safe in their own homes," Branting said. "The stance on the death penalty varies from candidate to candidate."

"The main difference between republicans and democrats is the right kind of change they advocate. We want to change, update and revise plans for the future. The Republicans are going too far, making changes that are too extreme to be helpful in the future. We cannot destroy our society in order to balance a budget," Adam Branting,

In 1994, Congress went Republican for the first time in 40 years, with Newt Gingrich as Speaker of the House of Representatives. Today there are approximately 500,000 registered members of the Nebraska Republican Party.

Jeff Zeiss, director of the Nebraska Republican Party, said the philosophy of republicanism can be summed up in the phrase, "Local solutions to local problems."



Bob Dole is the Republican nominee.

Zeiss said.

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Abortion

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Party's stance

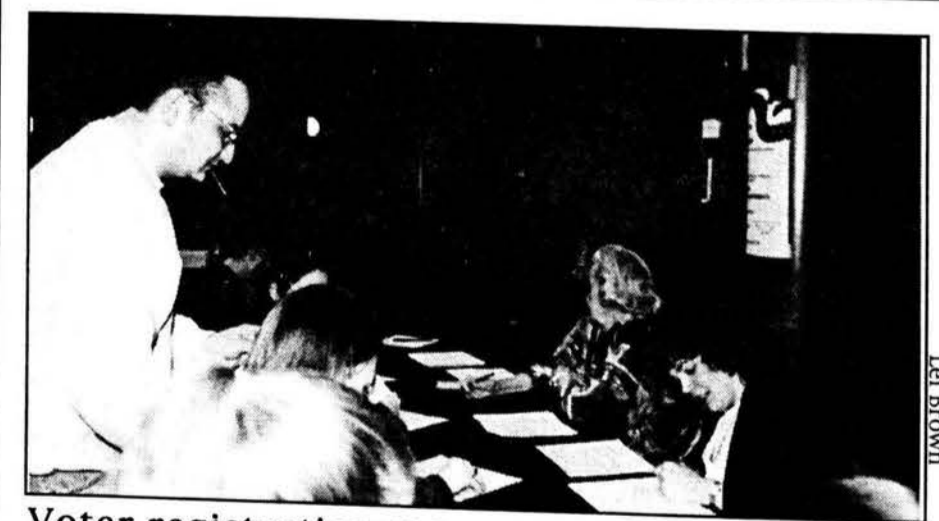
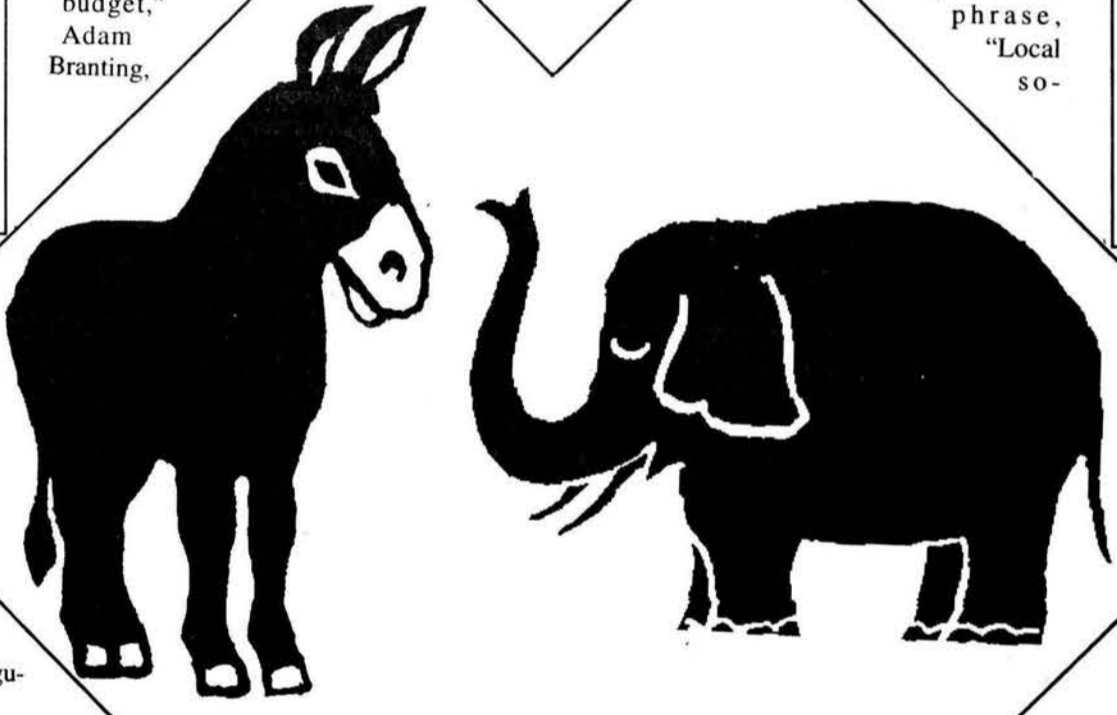
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Voter registration: Eighteen-year olds register to vote for the first time. The Register will hold a Central-wide presidential election in social studies classes.

French Club imports new teacher, gets experience

By **Maureen Hammond**

French classes have a new addition this quarter. Elisabeth Aumeunier, or Lise, came down to students, traveled from St. Etienne, France, to teach.

Lise is assisting at Central as part of a teachers exchange program at the Amity Institute, based in San Diego. The Amity Institute runs exchange programs worldwide, but mostly from Europe and Asia. Lise is the head of the foreign language department.

Lise was hand-picked by Bayer, Beverly Fellman and Tom Rich, Central's French teaching staff, during the school year after attending the Central States Foreign Language Teacher's Conference. To help make the transition, French Club fundraised early in the quarter with the expenses of her stay.

Lise submitted three applications and reviewed them after they came back. "We chose Lise because we felt she would be the best choice for Central."

Lise's first trip to the United States. She arrived on Jan. 24, but has been studying about American history. While in college in France, she majored in history, civilizations and literature studies.

Lise came to study about America because most of the countries in Europe have the same history and tell the same stories," Lise said. "But American history and literature is different."

Lise earned her master's degree in American studies. After leaving France, she completed her first term of a teacher education program. Lise also received a diploma that allows her to teach French as a second language. During her first school year Lise taught French as a foreign language in Scotland.

At Central, her duties include helping French students at all levels with pronunciation, vocabulary and grammar as well as teaching students about French history and culture.

Lise said Lise here is a real positive experience for her. "It's very important for students to have a native speaker."

In Omaha, Lise is staying with senior Colleen and her parents.

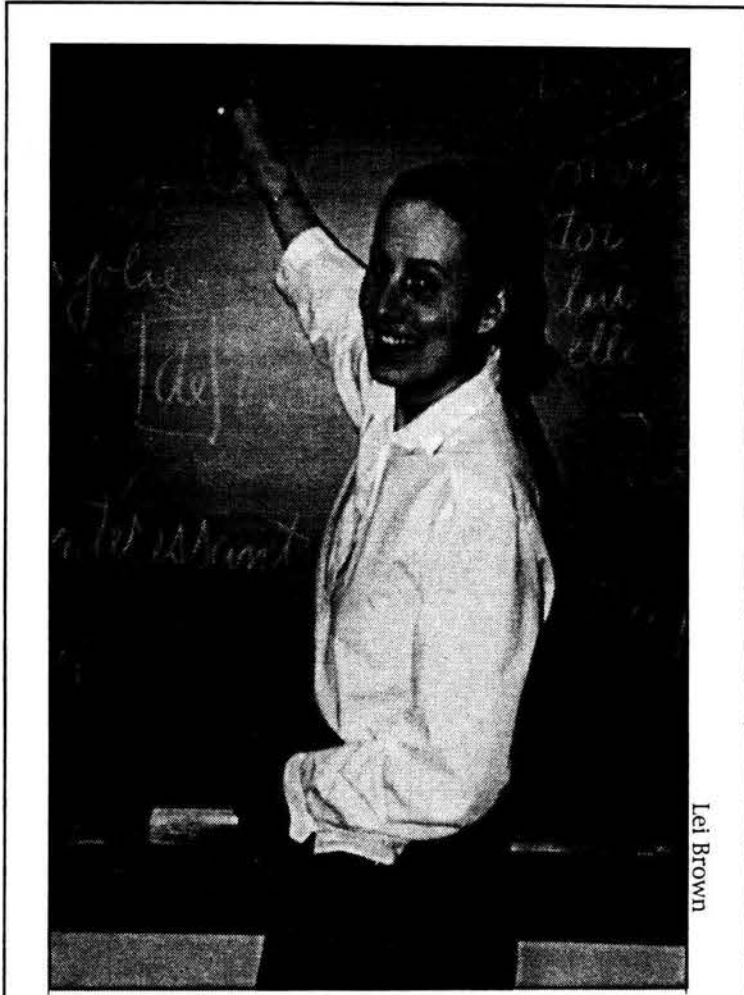
Lise got it off really well from the start," Colleen said.

Lise said she here will just come up and talk to me and they are very friendly," Lise said. "I was very homesick because everybody has been very friendly."

Lise said Lise with foreign exchange student Morgane du Liege, also of France, helped Lise

ease her homesickness.

"It is nice to talk to Morgane because we can compare our experiences and speak French," Lise said. "I don't feel quite as lonely knowing that someone knows what I'm going through."



Lei Brown

Tres Chic! Lise Aumeunier, Central's temporary French teacher, shares her knowledge of the language and culture with students. Lise arrived on Jan. 24.

During the first part of her stay, Lise got her first experiences with large snow falls and bitter cold.

"It never gets as cold where I live as it does here, or any where else in France for that matter," Lise said.

Lise said when it snows in St. Etienne snow usually melts the day after.

Lise said there are a lot of differences between France and Omaha.

"In France most of the buildings are old, but in Omaha, old buildings and new buildings are side by side," Lise said.

Another difference is the cars. In France all of the cars are small and not as old as some of the American cars, Lise said, but here there are a lot of old big cars.

"The first thing Lise said to me after she got off the plane was 'I can't wait to see the big cars,'" Colleen said. "It's fun to see America, and Omaha in particular, through her eyes."

Not all of the differences are apparent to the naked eye. Some of the differences are hidden inside the home.

"Here most families have a computer at home, but in France most families don't," Lise said. "Kids use them at school, but they don't know how to use them as well because they don't use them as much as American students."

Lise has also noticed family differences. Lise said families in France spend an hour or more eating their evening meal, but in her experience, Americans don't spend as much time eating dinner. Lise also says families in France eat later in the evening.

Lise said the biggest difference between France and America is the way ages are separated.

"Students here are cut off from another part of society because they can't go out and meet older people because aren't old enough to go places where older people hang out," Lise said. "They have to hang out with people their age or younger, so they have to wait longer to get more experiences."

Later in March, two of Lise's friends from France are coming to Omaha. Lise said, they are going to rent a car and tour the country. Lise said she wanted to see the Grand Canyon and the southern states, especially Louisiana.

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Central High

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Cheating: dishonest or necessary

By Laura Richards

All students are faced with cheating practices daily, but only some students give into the temptation.

Jeff Baxter, senior, said, "Cheating is the most unethical, dishonest thing a person can do." This statement was commonly agreed upon by the general Central population.

"Cheating is certainly the ethical barometer of our times, Daniel Daly, department head, said. People don't regard dishonesty of that kind in the proper light. They figure that it's okay as long as they get away with it."

The definition of what cheating was the debated question.

Daly ranked the various forms of cheating. He said the most offensive is cheating on a research paper by plagiarizing, followed by cheating on a test. The least offensive is copying someone else's homework.

"Basically, cheating is any

practice which misrepresents someone's ability to do something. It's like stealing," Daly said.

said, "People cheat because they are afraid of failure."

"Central students cheat because it is easier than actually doing the work. People get tired," Shaun Housh, senior said.

Corey Mattea, junior, said copying homework from someone is cheating, but not to the severe extent as cheating on a test.

Matt Whitten, senior, defines cheating as "plugging formulas into calculators, pulling out notes or making cheat sheets."

Matt believes that even if

someone does cheat, they need to know the material because it will catch up with you. "You need to know it regardless if you cheated on it during one test, Matt, said."

"Homework is a form of cheating, but the only one truly getting cheated is the person doing it," Jim Harrington, math teacher, said.

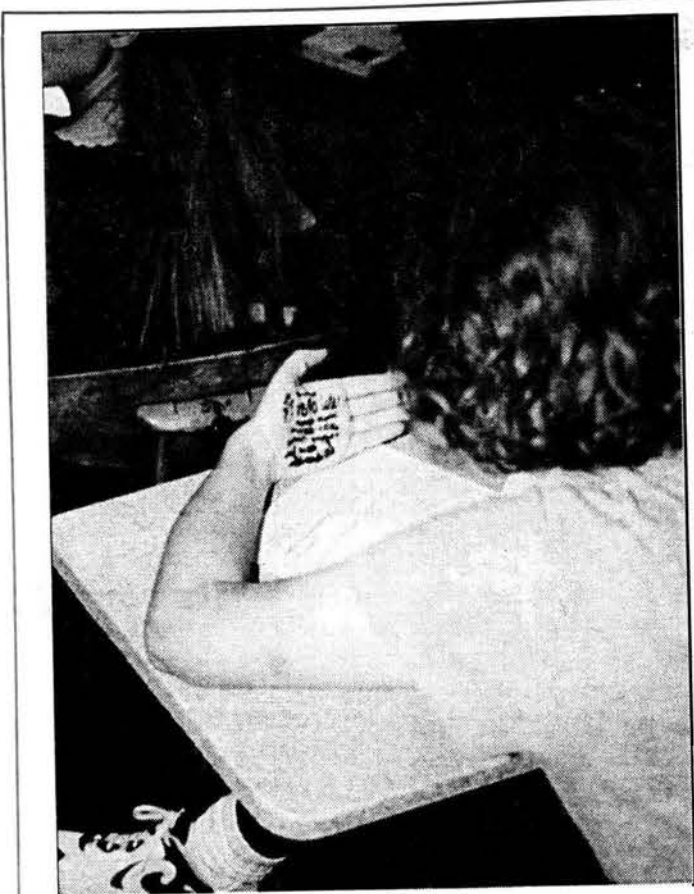
"It's wrong because you are stealing someone else's answers, Jill Roberts, senior said."

People who are asked to give out their homework to copy often get offended by giving it out, Courtney Worrell, junior, said. Courtney also said it's their work, their grade, they worked on it, and they are the ones that will be ahead of the game.

Martha Nelson, senior, said, "Working together on an assignment is not cheating, its cooperative learning."

Daly said he does not know the benefits of cooperative learning, there are times when it is extremely beneficial, when the ones involved brainstorm off each other. However, once someone stops challenging themselves and takes the ideas of another, that is cheating.

"Cheating may get you the grade, but it does not result in the knowing of something. The ultimate goal is to learn," Daly said.



LEI BROWN

Cheater style: writing on hands is one of the most commons methods of cheating.

Joe Wojtkiewicz, sophomore,

Matt believes that even if

ethic

ethic (eth'ik) n. [ME. ethik < Gk. ethikē (eth'ik), ethical (art. system of ethics) (the human) in a system of ethics] 1. moral principle or standard of conduct 2. any other

ethics (eth'iks) n. 1. the study of moral philosophy or code of moral profession, etc.

ethic (eth'ik) n. [ME. ethik < Gk. ethikē (eth'ik), ethical (art. system of ethics) (the human) in a system of ethics] 1. moral principle or standard of conduct 2. any other

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Campaigning unethical?

Political campaigning considered questionable

By Valerie Newhouse

"Therefore, if I am elected..." Tired of hearing the old campaign promises? What about "dirty" campaigning?

According to Jim Cleary, executive assistant to the mayor of Omaha, politicians have been "dirty" campaigning since George Washington was elected president.

James Johnson, Associate Professor and Chair of the Political Science Department at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, said campaigning was significantly more slanderous at the turn of the century.

He went on to say especially in the last few elections, overall quality and ethics in campaigning has declined.

Johnson said much time is spent setting the record straight rather than campaigning positively.

"Ethics is a problem in all professions," Cleary said.

Cleary said many misunderstandings arise over campaign ads that are not necessarily negative, but he admitted that there are many bad ads, too.

Cleary said that there nothing is wrong with bringing up opponents' records because freedom of speech is guaranteed in the First Ammdement.

"Single-mindedly negative people lose votes," Johnson said. "Americans have come to a point where they're less likely to hold the person doing the nega-

tive campaigning blameless."

Both Cleary and Johnson cited the second district Congressional race in 1994 as an example of dirty campaigning.

Incumbent Peter Hoagland and challenger Jon Christensen ran very unethical campaigns.

Advertising, including speeches, affects the outcomes, said Cleary.

A p - proximately ten months are spent campaigning and the average voter makes his or her decision in a few minutes, he said. Cleary

said a recent *World-Herald* editorial was correct in its ideas. It said that the media will take one negative statement and make it the focus of an article, rather than applauding the rest of the debate for its positive outcome.

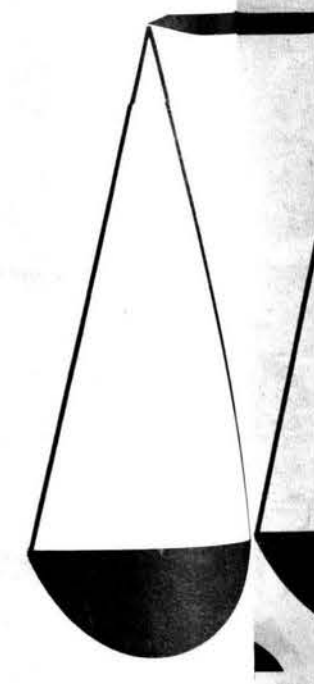
Cleary asked voters to remember one thing: when they are sick and tired of politics and campaigning, they should remember that people throughout the world are hoping for the privilege of voting.

Chris Harshbarger, junior, said, "I think negative campaigning is just a way for candidates to dodge the major issues."

"I don't think its fair," junior Leslie McCarthy said. "Rumors cand do a lot of damage to careers, but it's all part of politics."

When people are sick and tired of politics, they should remember that people throughout the world are hoping for the privilege of voting.

--Jim Cleary, executive assistant to the mayor



Rio

By Kate King

Imagine the illness, all medicine suffering has been end and you want use euthanasia?

The right to fied constitutional practicing euthanasia.

According to on their opinions dents polled think 30 percent are still

Do you know According to While over one Two types of Passive euthanasia

life-support machines shut off the life-support by the choice of According to "execute a declarative

The declarative time or before the only be enacted if terized by the total

TALK SHOWS CONSIDERED FREEDOM OF SPEECH

By Angela Parks

"My Sister Stole My Man," "I Won't Wait for the Wedding Day, I Want to Sleep with You First" and "My Mom is Way too Sexy" are just a few of the topics aired on talk shows.

Today nearly 20 daytime talk shows exist compared to five years ago when only six daytime talk shows—"Oprah," "Donahue," "Sally Jessy Raphael," "Joan Rivers," "Geraldo" and "Live with Regis & Kathie Lee." One could spend approximately 23 hours a day watching daytime talk shows.

"Everyday I watch 'Montel Williams,' except on the day that I work, then I tape the show," junior Courtney Buckley said. In a "Register" poll of 58 students, 74 percent watched talk shows on a regular basis.

According to a Time magazine article some of the hot topics for talk shows are parent-child relations, dating and marital relations.

Are talk shows ethical?

"I do not think talk shows are concerned with ethics. They're involved with ratings," Dr. Jeremy Lipschultz, Communication Graduate Chairman at University of Nebraska at Omaha, said.

Freshman Erin Maraseo said, talk shows are not ethical and they set bad examples for the viewers. In a Glamour interview, Jane Pratt, also a talk show host, said that the thing she loves about "Oprah" show is that it has some "redeeming social value."

"Talk shows are not the best use of media because they do not promote democracy and education," Lipschultz said.

Lipschultz said he feels that talk show pro-

ducers are market driven and produce what they think will draw people to watch the show.

"Television is in the business to make money," Lipschultz said.

He said people have to understand that there is an audience for the talk shows and that under the constitution they have the right to free speech. Lipschultz did say that regulating talk shows would not involve ethics but the law.

The "Jenny Jones Show" will be going to court because of a lawsuit filed by the Amedure's family for the

he had a secret crush on him.

Three days after the taping of the segment, Schmitz went to Amedure's mobile home and shot Amedure to death. Schmitz told a 911 operator that Amedure embarrassed him on a show.

The lawsuit has brought up the issue asking if talk shows should deal with people more honestly. According to the judge hearing the case, talk shows may be forced to deal with people more honestly.

An argument was brought up that the lawsuit posed a threat to the constitutional guarantees of free speech. Judge rejected the argument and the trial date has not been set yet.

"Energy should be placed on responding and debating talk shows," Lipschultz said. He also feels that there should be a "middle ground" on the topics discussed.

Sophomore Sandra Cummins feels that Montel Williams helps his guests on the show.

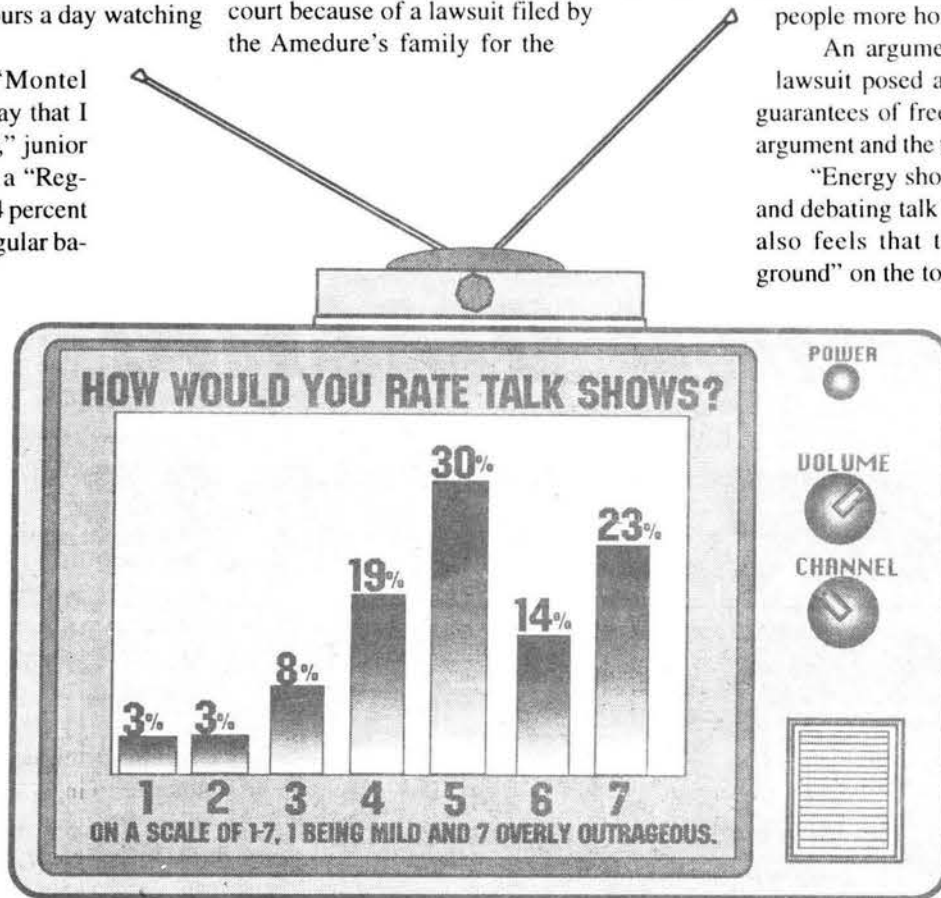
In a Register poll, 31 percent of students surveyed like the "Montel Show" and 27 percent like the "Ricki Lake Show." The other 42 percent consisted of other talk shows.

Lipschultz believes that one of the reasons why people watch talk shows is for entertainment.

One big question always asked about talk shows is if they hire their guests. The pie graph illustrates that the student body is split on if the

guests are actual real or hired. Lipschultz says that he has read accounts of talk shows hiring guests occasionally.

"Ricki Lake" and "Sally Jessy Raphael Shows" display fictional and factual trash," senior Stephanie Lassek said.



slaying of Scott Amedure, who was slain three days after taping a segment on secret admirers. The family is seeking \$25 million in damages from the show, producer Warner Brothers, owner Telepictures Productions and guest Jonhathan Schmitz. On the show Amedure, who was homosexual, admitted to Schmitz that

to die is controversial topic

with the environment and no reasonable hope of improvement."

In other words, if there is no hope that the patient will survive the illness, medication or unconsciousness then the patient would be taken off of life support machines if they signed the declaration.

Direct euthanasia occurs when licensed medical personnel administer lethal substances, such as fatal doses of drugs. Direct euthanasia is a voluntary action.

Bergan Mercy, a Catholic hospital, does not have a policy for patients that want to stop taking medication and use euthanasia. They do not encourage patients to use it because of the religious affiliation.

The University of Nebraska Medical Center has no information for patients that may want to use euthanasia. However, a patient's personal physician may put a request, made by the patient, into his or her file. That request is a statement that the patient does not want to prolong their life after a certain point, which they themselves determine, by medication or life-support machines.

Do you know who Dr. Jack Kevorkian is?

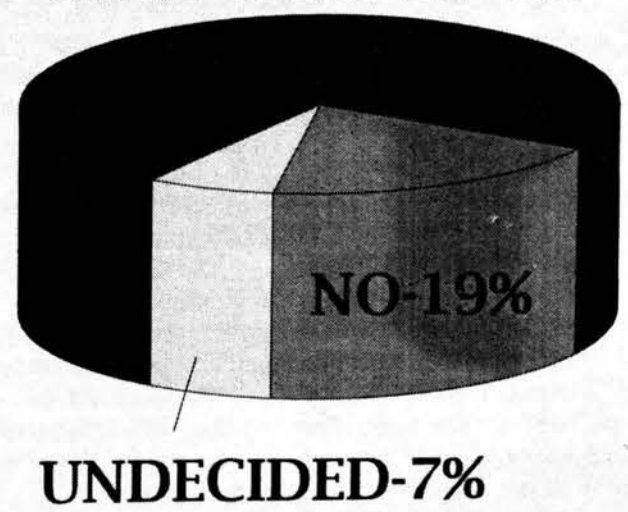
The results from the poll show that 17 percent of you do not.

Dr. Jack Kevorkian, a retired pathologist, is well-known for his assisted suicides. Kevorkian is presently facing two charges of murder in which he used carbon monoxide as a means to end the lives of two people in a trial in Pontiac, Mich.

According to a World Herald article on the trial, Kevorkian's lawyer, Geoffrey Fieger, compared ending human life to taking a pet to the veterinarian's office to put it to sleep.

"The best thing to do is to put it out of its pain and agony," Fieger said in the article. "Your intent isn't to kill."

Should terminally ill people be allowed to end their own lives?



been diagnosed with a terminal illness, you have been exhausted and your doctor tells you that your life is coming to an end. This is a moral question to answer; do you

How can killing people be justified? It can't. But people still continue

the student population is divided on this issue. Thirty-three percent of the students think using it is wrong and

the students polled know what it is. Thirty-three percent of the students think using it is wrong and

the plug. A person dependent on a ventilator must choose whether or not to be removed voluntarily by the patient or by the doctor.

individuals are allowed to use life-support machines.

off of life-support machines.

ive act, must be signed by a head of state. The person's declaration can be in a "vegetative state" which is "characterized by a lack of capacity for cognitive interaction



Laser show: high-tech flo

By Rachel Jacobson

All over the world, lasers are used as weapons, to play music, to perform surgery and to check prices in supermarkets. University of Nebraska at Omaha has come up with a creative use for the laser: Laser light shows.

The whole theory behind laser light shows was always a mystery to me. Before last week, I assumed people paid money to go to a typical university planetarium and watch lights flashing all over the place with great CD's blasting in the background. I attended a show last Saturday night and I discovered that, though my assumptions were accurate, it all comes together to be an interesting show.

The presentation featured Pearl Jam, and I was pleasantly surprised to hear that most of the songs were from *Ten*, by far the best of the band's albums.

When I bought my ticket, the woman at the desk offered me 3-D glasses for a dollar, informing me that it would be a worthwhile purchase. This was not the best investment I've ever made. It was cool for about two seconds but by the second song, the glasses gave me a headache and they just made the lights blur together. Pitch in and buy one pair that you can share with your friends.

Several Central students that saw the show thought that it was of mediocre entertainment value. "It wasn't as great as I thought

it would be," Rebecca Starr, sophomore said.

"The music was O.K.," said Jared Anderson, senior, "but after the first song it got boring."

I thought, as a whole, it was an decently entertaining hour. The lights were synchronized to the music, helping the songs come to life. It's like being able to see and hear the notes and the beat simultaneously. There were four colors (red, green, blue and white) and designs appropriate to each of the songs.

I really could do without the pictures related to the lyrics that were flashed periodically on the screen. In "Crazy

Mary," when Eddie Veddar sang "on the wrong side of the tracks," they showed a train. Even cornier, in the song "Jeremy," when he said "Jeremy spoke in class today," they actually showed a mouth talking. If they would just stick to the abstract designs, the annoyance level of the show would decrease about 90 percent.

"I went to the Pink Floyd show," junior, Jeff Evans said. "The designs were kind of simplistic, but the overall effect was cool."

"Glorified G," Pearl Jam's plea for gun control from the *Vs.* album, was also extremely well-done. Although they used a picture of a revolver, it was appro-

priate for such a po... The laser light presented Friday nights in the Mall Planetarium, located on the first floor of the Durbin Center. Tickets go on sale at 7 p.m., the night of the show. They are \$4 for adults and \$2 for children under 12.

Throughout the month, they will be presenting Clapton at 7 p.m. and Blues at 8:30 and 10 p.m. this month. Saturday alternative night, featuring Pearl Jam at 7 p.m. and Pearl Jam and 10 p.m.

For more information on laser shows, times and ticket prices, call UNO at 554-3737.

AROUND OMAHA: LASER STORM



Laser Storm combines technology with fun to provide a few hours of entertainment on a dull evening.

By Nick Stender

Your heart is racing at a rampant pace. You can feel beads of sweat on your forehead slowly making their way down your cheek.

There, across the room, you see something moving. Is it friend or foe? You take a deep breath, aim the sights of your gun on the shadowy figure and gently squeeze the trigger.

The game is Laser Storm, the place is Skateland at 84th and F. It is a new-age Laser Tag game that is a bit more complex than the cheesy home version of Laser Tag that made its debut in the 80's.

The game is played in a large room where the lighting is controlled and there are poles and other objects to hide behind. There are two teams, usually nine people on each team. For ten minutes you walk around shooting at the other team and

dodging lasers. When you do get shot, a loud beeping noise and flashing light alerts you that you have been hit.

You gain a sense of power strapping on a laser pack and looking down the barrel of a hi-tech gun. Many people find themselves fantasizing about "Star Wars" or "Terminator" and often mumble the all too familiar phrase, "Haste la vista baby."

While the game is exhilarating, and much more complex than the "army" game played by children in backyards across America, it is a little costly. Ten minutes of play costs \$3 on the weekdays and \$3.25 on the weekends.

The staff is very friendly and accommodating. They do a good job keeping a group of people together and on the same team.

They will not split up a group but they will add you to one if you are by yourself or with one other person.

There is a special on Wednesday night from 5-9 p.m. called "Fire Till You Tire." The cost is \$8 and gives you up to ten plays. Be advised however that most people only get to go three or four times.

Skateland sometimes offers special "Skate and Shoot" packages where you get three hours of skating and one ten minute play of Laser Storm in the same night. This can be a good deal except you have to face the ordeal of putting your skates on and off to play Laser Storm.

A large group of people or club can rent out the Laser Storm room for \$150 an hour. The group can have 18 people play at a time, switching whenever they want.

Laser Storm can provide a few moments of enjoyment, but is best saved for a rainy day when you have an hour to kill.

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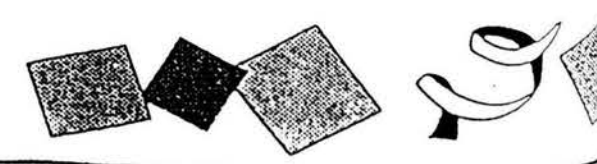
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FAMOUS STALLIONS TROT THROUGH OMAHA

By Caroline Foley and Mark Eyman

The Civic Auditorium held the 27th annual Lipizzan Stallion show that provided its selective audience with a glimpse at historical equestrian training, dancing and routines flawlessly performed by the horses.

The horses trained in ground and above ground, training in hand, on the long rein and in saddle schools. Training in hand is when the horse is able to obey his rider's voice commands, and on the long rein is when the horse is lead by a lunge line.

The Lipizzan Stallions endured a difficult regimen of classical equestrian training that culminated in this evening of intense routines at the Civic Auditorium on March 6 and 7.

The average Lipizzan begins training at age three and are in their prime until the age of 30. They are the "late bloomers" of the horse genus.

The Lipizzan Stallions have dark hair during most of their youth but by the time they are adults, their coat is white. However, some of these horses remain dark for the rest of their lives. Many Lipizzan trainers make a point of keeping one of these darker breeds for good luck.

These white stallions, similar to the ones trained at the famous Spanish Riding School, performed a variety of dressage tests and routines to various classical music compositions.

The Lipizzan's, sometimes called "the dancing white stallions," did routines to Chopin, Mozart and Strauss. The horses did varied levels of dressage movements including extended trots, tempis and piaffes.

The "Airs Above the Ground" segment of the program received the most applause from the audience.

This act featured maneuvers such as; the Levade, a display of the horse's muscle control; the Courbette, displays balance of the horse; the Croupade, a jump that parades the horse's talent and the Capriole, a jump that shows the horse's tempo. These above ground maneuvers were used during ancient battles but are now used to entertain audiences with the Lipizzan's amazing skill.

The Andalusian Stallions, imported from Spain, presented a more contemporary routine.

The show also featured synchronized riding exercises. One, the Pas de trois, is a three-man exercise on thoroughly trained horses who resembled the Three Musketeers. This act was followed by the Pas de quatre, a difficult four-man act, and the Pas de deux, a mirror-image of Lipizzans.

The finale of the show consisted of a ballet that was performed by the horses and coordinated by the riders, called the Quadrille. This act required the most preparation on the part of the rider and stallion.

Although these stallions were not from the Spanish Riding School, the riders and announcer attempted to make the audience think they were part of the famous school. This was apparent in the groups use of synthetic saddles and copper bits, both not used by Spanish Riding School. The horses at the Civic show were only similar to those that hail from the school in Austria.

A major difficulty for people interested in attending is the extreme cost of an evening of equestrian fun. Seats at the Lipizzaner show cost \$17.50 and, if one wanted a souvenir from the costly event, T-shirts cost \$25. The producers of this expensive event did not offer programs or free information to the few audience members who did not know about the famous horses.

This was probably a major set-back to those who could not afford the show, and the small, select audience proved this. People, especially teenagers, who might have gone to the show to learn about the ancient breed of horses, could not because of the drain on their wallets.

Many of those who attended appeared to be avid horse show nuts, attired in sweaters with their horses name spray-painted across the top. Many of the nerotic spectators took it upon themselves to hush those who asked questions as to what the horses were doing.

Another part of the evening that was not enjoyable was the constant "gentle disciplining" of the horses with a whip. The few horses

The Royal Lipizzaner tour spent two weeks in Mexico, seven weeks in the United Kingdom and the rest of the tour is spent in the United States. This is the 27th anniversary of these tours through the United States and as the \$7 program boasts "many more tours are anticipated."



Lei Brown

Prize-winning Lipizzan stallions perform their routines with the utmost precision.

Council Bluffs casinos deal out fun for 18 and older

Nick Stender and Caroline Foley

People are flocking like crazy to the Mighty Missouri into the hatched land of Council Bluffs. What is causing these people to cross the river? Could it be the booming night

The attraction is the casino gambling that has moved into the area. There are currently three casinos within minutes of Omaha; Bluffs Run, AmeriStar and Harvey's.

Bluffs Run Casino has been in existence the longest, one year as of March 1995 and is located at the dog track. Slot machines are the biggest attraction, but people pump quarters in the 1200 slot machines. Bluffs Run also offers roulette and black jack tables and the high-rolling craps tables.

Jessica Harvey, a Bluffs Run employee, said, "The amount of people we get varies from month to month, but usually we get 10,000 people during the week and 16,000 on weekends."

There are two restaurants at Bluffs Run, both quite expensive. One is a buffet-style setup and the other is a fancy, more exquisite place.

"Bluffs Run appears to be the most successful so far and I think that this trend will continue," Harvey said.

Harvey's and AmeriStar are both riverboat casinos. They are also both in

the process of building large hotels. Outside of Harvey's colored lights flash into the sky, luring eager gamblers. During the summer, the boats will take daily excursions up and down the river.

"I think that there is something really neat about riverboat casino gambling," Nora Johnsen said, a Harvey's black jack dealer.

The three casinos offer an alternative for people in Nebraska who are tired of playing Keno or the Nebraska Lottery. According to a March 4 broadcast of Fox 42 news at nine, the Nebraska Lottery has given away over 500 million dollars.

kind of profit that Iowa is getting from the casinos, but that

nowhere close to being the next Las Vegas, it is drawing a large crowd,

All of the Casinos have already paid out big winnings, but AmeriStar gamblers should take heed of the signs posted that say the Casino pays out 85 percent of the money you gambled. That means that they keep 85 cents of every dollar you gamble.

"I have always looked forward to gambling like they do in Atlantic City and



Lei Brown

Feeling lucky? AmeriStar Riverboat Casino lights up the Missouri. AmeriStar is one of the two floating casinos in Council Bluffs, bringing in about 6,000 people during the week and 10,000 on weekends.

does not seem likely," Johnsen said.

mainly from Nebraska. Although the gambling age in Iowa is 21, anyone over the age of 18 can go in.

Las Vegas, and now I finally can," Johnsen said.

"I wish Nebraska could make the

While Council Bluffs is

Drowsy new album lulls into boredom

By Jen Houlden

Tori Amos - either you love her or you hate her, and regardless of which end of the spectrum you are coming from, usually very vehemently so.

Being one of those Tori fanatics who preach the wonders of Tori to anyone who will listen, *Boys for Pele* is even more disappointing than I imagined it could be.

Rapt with attention at every word coming out of that crazy redhead's mouth, this new album proves to me that she needs a break.

Her endless introspection and affiliation with her inner child created a feeling of loathing in me. I cannot handle her pain along with my own, and she needs to stop while she's ahead.

It was boring. Granted, it was melodic and inspiring, and Tori does have an angelic voice, but it is just

a boring album. It's the same kind of harpsichord verses and weaving poetry of her last album, but more homogenized and mediocre.

At this point in her career, Amos should do more than pine away for that boy in high school to keep me interested.

Her album does address some very serious issues, however. Unfortunately, I feel more weighed down by her personal trauma than enlightened. As if I don't have enough horror in my own life.

"Father Lucifer," supposedly addressing the different issues of cultish religion, incest and abuse in her family. I know I should be sympathetic to her pain, but I don't think I should allow some stranger to get me down.

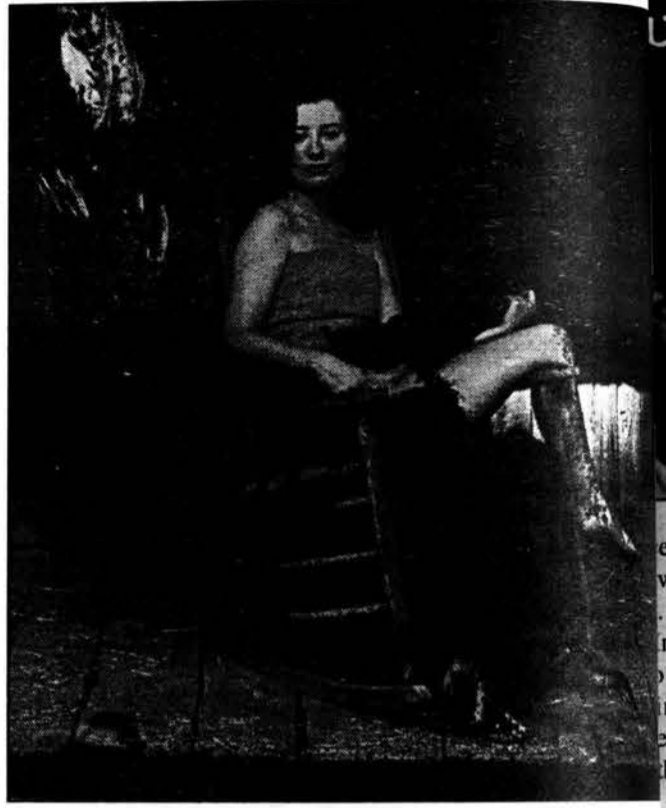
The album, recorded in a European church, does contain various religious overtones. They are not

specifically pro- or anti- god, there is just a definite holy feeling to the album. The religious influences aren't necessarily negative, but just make the album that much more boring, which is the one thing it has plenty of.

The album isn't so bad you can't listen to it; it's so ineffective that it doesn't matter either way. I would prefer it if the album was horrid. At least then it would be something other than this bland collaboration. Neutrality is not a selling point with me.

Sorry to disappoint all you fans of the redheaded wonder, but it's not going to interest, entertain or even keep you awake.

However, If you happen to be looking for a sleep aid, you've found your album of choice. Not a good investment either way, but if you've already bought it, sweet dreams.



courtesy of Moonshine Music

Misleading techno label disguises only dull noise

By Caroline Foley

Listeners beware! A horribly produced and recorded album awaits those who attempt to latch on to the latest fad. *The Trip Hop Test* - part two lets these naive individuals take part in the "cool" raving scene by simply purchasing the album.

The album features bands like Primal Scream and Chemical Brothers, but these usually decent bands give less than decent performances. Primal Scream, unfortunately, remixes the Portishead song, "Give Up But Don't Give Out." The result is a horrible and mutilated rendition of the once cool version.

The Trip Hop Test - part two is the unnecessary continuation of an inaccurate and ridiculous collection of misunderstood techno music that would never be found at a rave or in a club.

To call the album *The Trip Hop Test* is very misleading. The songs featured on the album are not the type usually associated with club-type music. Instead the music is whiny and monotonous. The album's closest relative would be a Best of Muzak tape.

Besides being annoying and misleading, *The Trip Hop Test* is outrageously priced. The album costs \$16, and the clerk who sold this monstrosity pressured unknowing customers into the sale of part one, yet another unworthy disc.

The only aspect of the album that would make it worth the purchase is the mail order found inside the cover. Various compact discs, many of them good, and clothing can be purchased for very little cash and immediately delivered to the front door.

The only task *The Trip Hop Test* accomplishes is giving the listener an enormous headache from the monotonous music, annoyance at the cost, bewilderment in the title, etc.

For the multitudes of hard-working teenagers who enjoy techno music, save your money. This album is a nuisance to the ear and wallet.

Bush burns through Lincoln

By Mark Eyman

All you bookworms who studied for midterms on Wednesday missed out on a great performance by alternative rock bands No Doubt, Goo Goo Dolls and Bush.

No Doubt opened the performance at the Pershing Auditorium in Lincoln on March 5 with an up beat song from their new album *Tragic Kingdom*. Lead singer Gwen Stefani's energy really added to the show. Stefani jumped around and got the show underway by yelling commands at the audience.

"She really got me going. I didn't even know who they (No Doubt) were but now I really like them," Angie Irwin, Millard North freshman, said.

This seemed to be the consensus of the whole crowd. Everyone was jumping around and pushing to get closer to the bare stomached Stefani.

After No Doubt there was a short intermission before the second opening band the Goo Goo Dolls. Goo Goo Dolls came out with much less spunk than No Doubt and definitely did not have the audiences attention. This may have been because they started out with one of their lesser known songs from their recent album *A Boy Named Goo*.

The fact that lead singer John Rzeznak with no shoes on annoyed me irreparably that the audience was bored quickly, but there was a sudden recovery by playing the radio hit which was much needed and couldn't have come at a better time.

"Coming in to the concert, I knew that I care much about the Goo Goo Dolls, and I was disappointed by the performance. They were from the show but they really didn't add anything definitely getting bored," Megan Murphy, School junior, said.

"The band couldn't help getting the show. I love them! I thought that the performance was better than any I have been to before," Thorngren, concertgoer, said.

Rossdale showed his sophistication when he went to concerts he stood next to me and that when we go to concerts we run into each other.

Overall, the whole thing was fantastic and amazing. The Goo Goo Dolls were a disappointment but the interlude between the two bands. No Doubt was as to the appeal of their music.

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? by Carrie Parrott



lasers...

Only 12 short years ago, children weren't so electronically dependent. We didn't have such luxuries as Sega Game Gear and handheld computer games to keep us happy. Most of us were content with the simple pleasure of a doll, a board game or maybe the extra-special Atari.

For the majority of girls, the Barbie doll was the most played-with toy in the world of playthings. Barbie didn't have hair that grows back or live in an expensive condominium back then. She lived simply, with a few dozen outfits, Ken and Skipper as companions and the occasional silver Corvette or swimming pool for entertainment.

G.I. Joe was hot among boys. I

never understood the fascination with the "Real American Hero," but boys couldn't get enough of the little green men. G.I. Joe was soon replaced by the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, then by the Mighty Morphin Power Rangers, also popular among girls. I was recently informed that someone is re-releasing G.I. Joe in an "extreme" form. It's a shame how they ruin perfectly good toys that way.

The board game was also a major form of entertainment. Candyland was my personal favorite. The little colored gingerbread men transported me to a whole other dimension, one of gumdrops, peanut brittle and molasses. Chutes and Ladders is another classic. Sliding down the slides, climbing up ladders and making odd sound effects all added to the joy of it all.

One of the many toys I always wanted but never got is Fashion Plates. You could rearrange the mod-

els' heads, torsos and legs, each wearing different articles of clothing, and rub a black crayon and a piece of paper over it, creating countless outfits and hair styles. It's kind of a sick concept when you think about it, rearranging body parts in the name of fashion, but is highly enjoyable.

A great toy that I played with constantly was the Snoopy Sno-Cone machine. You put ice in the roof (it was shaped like Snoopy's doghouse), turned the handle to grind it up, topped it off with a fruity, syrupy mixture and Voila! A homemade sno-cone ready to eat!

Another toy I never got that had to do with cooking was the Easy Bake Oven. The oven came with little mixtures which you could make miniature cakes out of, and the oven really cooked it. Watching the advertisements for it, you could almost smell the tantalizing aroma of soya lechithin and fake powdered

chocolate.

But the toy that topped the charts, the most popular toy of all time, the epitome of fun was the Cabbage Patch Kid! No one really knows why the chubby little dolls became so popular. It's not that they were that innovative, but everyone had one. They each came in a little box with a personalized birth certificate, and fights between parents broke out for weeks at the local K-Mart because everyone wanted to get the doll for their kids. My Cabbage Patch Kid's name was Charlene, and she had long red hair. When my dog chewed up her stomach, my mom sewed her up and I pretended she got stitches.

My best childhood memories are of the toys that took up my time. I feel bad for the kids today whose toys take no imagination to work. Super Mario Brothers just doesn't measure up to the enjoyment you get out of a good game of Sorry.

POLITICAL SATIRE

NEW BOOK ATTACKS LIMBAUGH, BUCHANAN

acobson

I heard the title of Al Franken's new book. How could I not love it. How could I not love a book with a title that I agree with? *Rush Limbaugh is a Big Fat Idiot and Other Observations* is a hilarious collection of essays by Saturday Night's Emmy-winning writer, Al Franken.

The book is a *New York Times* Bestseller. It was written by Jeane Kirkpatrick, former UN ambassador, on the book it's review was completely hilarious. *Rush Limbaugh is a Big Fat Idiot and Other Observations* is not just unfunny," she wrote. "It is confused."

In the review, Franken printed the editor in response to belittling comments: "It was a mistake that I picked up Sunday's review that you had assigned Jeane Kirkpatrick to review my book, *Rush Limbaugh and Other Observations*," she wrote. "It had been my understanding that the interest of objectivity your

paper has had a long-standing policy of not assigning an author's former lover to review his book."

The rest of the book is just as funny and sarcastic as the first chapter. Franken's writing style is blunt and daring.

The forty-five chapters include anecdotes like "Adventures in Politics: Renaissance Weekend. Hilton Head. I Meet Wolf Blitzer and Play Touch Football with the President"; controversial essays such as "Affirmative Action: The Case for the Mushball Middle" and "Republicans and Environmental Regulation: Like Mixing Oil and Water. Literally"; and two chapters dedicated to pranks Franken and his assistant made on Weylon, Rush Limbaugh's fact checker.

There are several chapters dedicated to 1996 presidential candidates and other influential politicians. Most of them are negative, ("Phil Gramm: Everybody's Favorite Bastard," "Pat Buchanan: Nazi Lover," and "Bob Dole's Nightmare of Depravity," to name a few) with the sole exception of "Bill Clinton: Greatest President of the Twentieth Century," which is actually just a personal plea of Franken's to get invited to the White House for dinner.

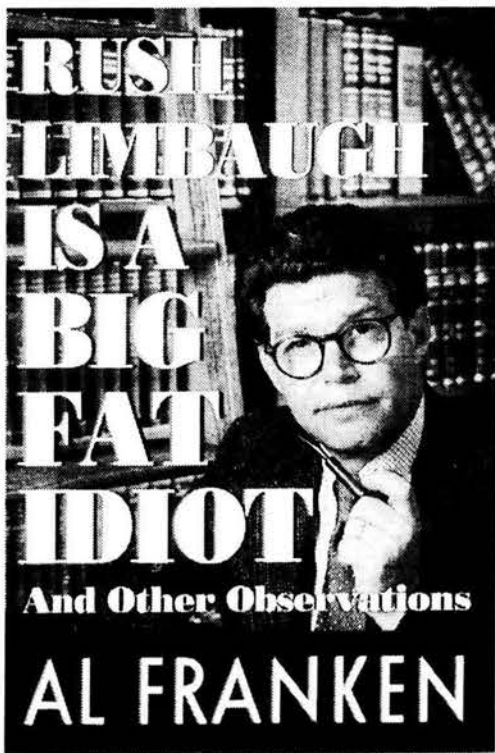
"Operation Chickenhawk" is a chapter about a fictional army battalion in Vietnam, consisting of political figures like Phil Gramm, Dan Quale, Newt Gingrich, Pat Buchanan and, of course, Rush Limbaugh, who all supported the war but didn't go. Complete with hilarious caricatures of the whole gang in army gear, Franken's imagination runs wild in this essay.

Although much of the book is just nonsensical poking fun at Rush Limbaugh's weight problem, Franken really does make some excellent points. He points out the hypocrisies and flat out errors in facts within many of Limbaugh's comments.

Franken also discusses the urgent need for health-care reform, legal reform and entitlement reform. Then again, less serious chapters like "Gingrich: Sex, Giraffes, and Weightlessness" and "Something We Can All Get Behind," a list of ridiculous suggested amendments, make up most of the book.

Rush Limbaugh is a Big Fat Idiot and Other Observations is not only ridiculous and fun, it may actually make you think. Franken's cynical, sarcastic attitude makes the book enjoyable and easy to read.

In the tradition of great political satirists such as George Carlin, Dennis Miller and Bill Maher, Franken manages to make millions of readers laugh and hundreds of politicians furious.



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SPRING SPORT PREVIEW

MEN'S SOCCER SEASON LOOKS PROMISING

By Josh Cohen

The 95-96 Varsity Men's soccer team has the potential to win the state title.

Varsity team members said this is the strongest team since the 1992 season where Central won the state championship.

Head Coach Tim Herbert said that this year's team is going to be one of the most talented teams Central has had.

"There is no team in the Metro that I feel we cannot compete with," coach Herbert said. "I think if we can focus on our game plan instead of worrying about the other teams' game plan, we will be very dominant."

Coach Herbert said that there is a lot of strong leadership prevalent on this year's team. Central only lost four seniors from last year's team, Ben Cruz, Sean Haley, Seth Farrington and Dominic Digiacomo.

"As coach this year, I think my main priority will be keeping the players on focus with what we want to get done as a team," coach Herbert said.

Returning junior defensive starter Andy Ochsner said that this should really be a good year for Central.

"Everyone has played together for a good amount

of time, and simply, we just have a lot of talent," Andy said.

Aaron Kaisershot, junior halfback, said that this season looks promising. "We really have high hopes in making it to state, and winning it all."

Jeff Ludwig, returning junior, said the team is very enthusiastic about this year.

"We look good and we look strong," Jeff said. "This will be a good year if we can focus in on what we need to do."

Coach Herbert made a point that if strong play from the seniors is consistent and the underclassmen on the team can step it up and play hard, Central soccer will be where it wants to be at the end of the season.

Central's first home game is Friday, Mar. 15. They play Bellevue West at Hayworth park at 4:30 p.m.

Following this game is Central's first tournament on Saturday, March 16. It is a four-team tournament hosted by Bellevue East.

The teams included are Central, Bellevue East, Roncalli and Plattsmouth.

Tennis hopes to ace

By T. J. Brumfield

Strong, hard working, compatible, happy to work together and full of potential. These are the words Head Coach Larry Andrews uses to describe this year's women's varsity tennis squad.

Since the last week of February, the team has been meeting indoors for conditioning and basic racquet exercises.

According to coach Andrews, many of the players such as Erika Wulff and Andrea Friedman, both juniors, have been playing in the off season.

Andrea, last year's number one player, and Erika, last year's number three player, are accompanied by sophomore Rachel Slosburg and juniors Maggie Jacobsen and Lei Brown.

Coach Andrews said that the girls showed an interest in playing this year, and he is excited to have a new team of players.

Coach Andrews said that the girls are very confident in their abilities and are looking forward to a successful season.

"It varies from player to player, but we all want to win," Erika said.

Once the team will begin the Dewey Tennis tournament, the girls will be practicing for the state tournament.

They will be practicing for the state tournament, which officially starts in April.

Both players expressed enthusiasm for the season.

track off and running to opener

By Les Anich

Men's Head Coach Dave Felici and Women's Head Coach Cheryl Teiger said the 1996 Eagle's Track Team is an all-around solid team with a lot of potential.

"We are going to max out each athlete to their maximum potential this track season," coach Felici said. "We are going to go into each invitational with the attitude of winning it."

Assistant Head Coach John Georgeson said the whole team does not know how much hard work each athlete has to put in.

"There has to be more commitment in everyone," assistant coach Georgeson said.

Parnell Walton, senior, and Kyle Thomas, junior, are the only members returning who were part of the four by one hundred relay team that won the event in last year's State Meet.

"We don't know who's going to replace the two missing spots in the four by one hundred relay. It is way too early to see who's going to be where, right now," assistant coach Georgeson said.

BASEBALL LOOKS TO STEAL HOME

By T. J. Brumfield

Talent, a taste for success and a winning attitude may make this year part of a new winning tradition for Central baseball, Steve Eubanks, baseball coach, said.

And if there is to be a turning point, it has to start with talent he said.

"I honestly believe these are the kids that are going to get that done," coach Eubanks said.

He said there is incredible ability among his juniors. In fact, the varsity squad is composed of four seniors, one sophomore and 10 juniors.

He said that there is an excellent defense, that the players have good arms and great movement.

The pitching staff is as good as any in the state he said.

"If you have good pitching, you're going to be in any game," he said.

Coach Eubanks said that he is very excited about the team this year and many of the players have the

opportunity to play at the next level.

But coach Eubanks said he feels one of the things that really might make a difference is the players' attitudes.

Every year there is some excitement before the season, Eubanks said.

But usually it's tough to judge the team early on.

"This year there is something different. They've got it [the talent], they feel it, and they know it," coach Eubanks said. "They want it. Now all we have to do is keep preparing and perform."

He said the seniors have added a dimension of leadership to the team.

According to Eubanks, they have got where they are by hard work and discipline.

That discipline is contagious and the seniors have made for positive role models.

One of those seniors, Tom Shearer, said though he believes the team has a good shot at state this

year, they plan to take each game, one game at a time.

"We don't want to let it [winning] come to us. We want to make it come for us. Winning is something we've got to work for," Tom said.

He also said that there isn't a lot of respect for the Eagles.

This is due to the lack of having a winning tradition.

Even though the team is strong, and they play in a weak district, Central probably won't be ranked when the preseason rankings come.

Coach Eubanks said early important games will come against Bellevue East and Northwest.

Bellevue East has a pitcher on staff who has already been given a scholarship to Arizona State and throws a 90 mph-plus fast ball.

He said though there are some tough games early on, he is not very concerned with the beginning of the season.

The baseball season opens Mar. 19 against Valley, a district opponent, at 4:30 p.m.

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March 13, 1996

Men's volleyball sets up for run at state

Rachel Slosburg
 One goal, one focus, one champion. Not just words of inspiration to the members of Central's men's varsity volleyball team, they represent the mission for their season.
 The team works hard to attain their ultimate goal: winning the state championship on July 19. The state champion will compete at nationals held July 4-8 in San Jose, Calif.
 Coach Brad Reichmuth said he first realized the team's potential after the members participated in a volleyball camp last summer. This year, Reichmuth began tryouts a month earlier than last year, in December, to give the team more time to improve their skills for the state championship.
 The addition of five new players has been a contributor to the team's optimistic outlook for the coming season.
 "New players who fill the right positions on the court are the key to our team being successful this season," Reichmuth said.

Returning starters are seniors Adam Rinn and Nate Darling.
 Other returning varsity members include John Mitiler and Jeff Wallerstedt, seniors, James Nelson, junior and Ryan Lewis, sophomore.
 New players include seniors Jeff Driscoll, Nick Friedrichsen, Aaron Champenoy, Nick Dubas and junior Steve Hernandez.
 Reichmuth said the team primarily centers around five players. The attackers are Adam, Nick Friedrichsen, Nate and Aaron. Jeff Driscoll is the setter and official leader of the team's offense.
 "These five players have the talent to play collegiately next year," Reichmuth said. "Sometimes, they show certain plays that I, even with my own experience, could never perform."
 The final position on the court currently alternates between attackers Jeff Wallerstedt and Steve. The defensive specialists are James and John.

The team practices every Tuesday and Thursday from 7:30 to 10:00 p.m. They play adult and college teams for more competition. They travelled to Kearney for an adult tournament the weekend of Mar. 2 and defeated two master teams.
 Reichmuth said he feels confident about a good season.
 "The one team I feel could stand in our way of winning the state championship is five-time defending champion Lincoln East," Reichmuth said. "To make it worse, only one team is representing all of the Lincoln Public Schools because of the lack of players."
 The other difficulty is getting the team to come together with a focus or mentality Reichmuth said.
 "Because each of the players is a star in a different sport, it is a challenge to have them work as one," he said.
 The players are excited to open their season with a home game on Mar. 20 and work hard to stay focused. The team knows they

must play each practice as if it were the state championship but continue to work on the little things which lead to the end result.
 "Our biggest problem is our attitudes while working as a team. As setter, I hope to keep our spirits up throughout a game and stay emotionally tough at the end," Jeff Driscoll said.
 Nate said last year was a season of learning, but this year is a season of improving.
 "We have something to really strive for this year," Nate said. "Although we focus on improving day to day in practice, our long-term goal is for nationals in San Jose."
 Nick Friedrichsen said he is impressed with Reichmuth's coaching ability.
 "He is the best coach in the state; a real motivator. When he gets excited, we get excited," Nick Friedrichsen said.
 This is the first year home games will be played at Central. All of the team members echoed their desire to have school support at the games.

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Lady Eagles look for improvement next season

By Josh Cohen

At the close of the 95-96 Women's basketball season, Central's varsity women are fairly happy with the way their season went, according to Head Coach Dave Felici.

The Lady Eagles ended their season with a 4-15 record, which is a good improvement from last season's 2-17 record.

"We improved in every statistical category, individual as well as team," coach Felici said. "I think we had a really good season, considering how young we were."

In the 94-95 season, the Lady Eagles averaged 29 points per game in total offense.

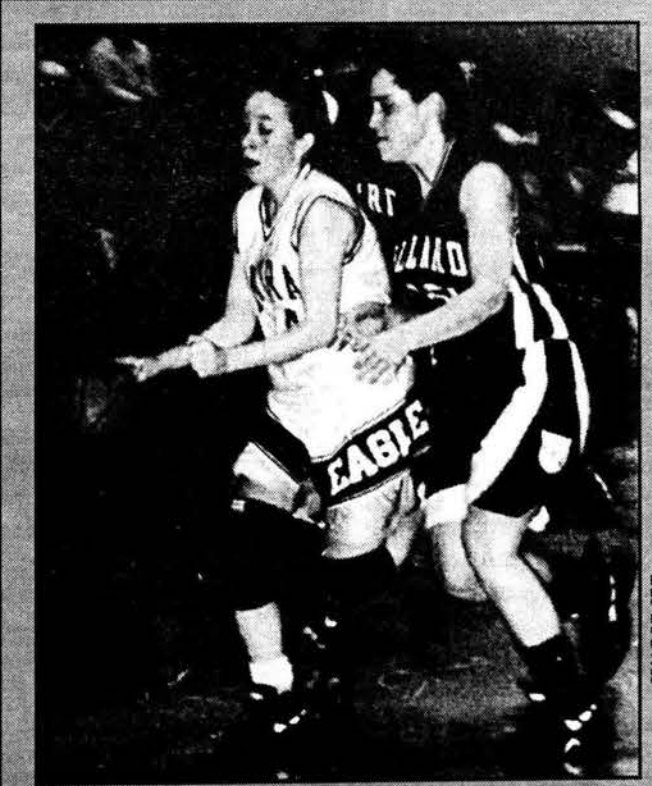
This season they averaged 37 points, an improvement of eight points-per-game.

On defense, their average points given up per game for last season was 58.

This year they fared better, with only a 45 point-against margin, an improvement of 13 points per game.

"When you look at those two stats separately it does not seem to be too much of an improvement," coach Felici said. "But that is 21 points per game that we are averaging better than the previous season. I think that is one great improvement, and am really proud of the way we

played this year."
 From this year's team, there are only two seniors leaving. The rest of the team is made up of juniors and sophomores who will be back for next season.
 Traci Rooks and Nicole Benson are the two seniors who will be graduating in May, but coach Felici is very optimistic about next year's team despite these two starters leaving.



Fast Break: junior Sarah Deacon blows past an opponent, driving down the lane for the easy lay-up in a Central victory earlier this season.

There are some spring tournaments that we will be playing in, and we will be doing a lot of work over the summer," coach Felici said. "Traci and Nicole will be missed next season, but next year's team is shaping up to very strong."
 This season, junior forward Quiana Mitchem set a new record with 215 rebounds in 19 games.
 She has led the Metro conference as well as the state in rebounding for the past two seasons.
 "I am really looking forward to next season," Quiana said. "I think that we will use this year as a learning experience, and really get better over the summer in preparation for next year."

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From the Bench:

Sports Opinion by Josh Cohen



For some reason the Nebraska School Activities Association has established a rule for Varsity athletic competitions that there is to be no standing by any of the student body for a prolonged amount of time.

Students are allowed to stand up during games, just not for an entire game.

How many collegiate or high school games have you actually attended where the student body did not stand up the whole game to support their team.

Maybe it isn't the rule itself, but the fact that Central is the only school that follows it and forces its students to sit down rather than stand up and cheer for their athletes.

I attended the District Championship Basketball game in Lincoln on Tuesday, Feb. 27. Walking in to find a seat I found all of the Central students sitting down, not to my surprise, watching their team get beat by an equal if not inferior opponent.

I also saw the bleachers across the court that played home to the Lincoln High student section. I assume almost their whole student body attended by how full the bleachers seemed to be. They were sitting, excuse me, standing, cheering their team on the entire night. Central students were paranoid to stand up at all, let alone cheer when Central made a tough shot or got a chance to go to the free throw line.

If a school from our state capital does not even follow this rule, why do we?

I know at times teenagers get a bit rowdy, and especially when their team gets behind, like we got behind in the Lincoln High game. But that is no excuse to not let the crowd stand up and support their team.

Some people have speculated that the rule is for safety reasons only and is not enforced for the sole purpose of keeping Central students from standing. That is not how it appears. The administration might be doing their job in following a state regulation, but the fact is that it is hard for a student to follow a regulation when you are the only student body that has to.

When you see other students standing and cheering for their teams, it is very hard to restrain yourself from standing to support your team in the same manner.

People still fail to see is that not standing up and cheering has a real negative effect on a team's performance.

"I think that we played better when the crowd really got into the game and was really loud behind us," junior guard Ralph Blank said. "I did not start, so I could really see the effect the crowd put on the starters. When they were standing up and being loud, they were on. When they were sitting and quiet, they were off. I definitely think the crowd has an effect on a team's performance, especially our team's."

Students and players from all sports, not just basketball, feel that the students should be allowed to stand during games and cheer the teams on.

"I think the students should stand up and cheer all the teams on," senior lineman LaRon Rooks said. "I don't understand why they are not allowed to."

In the seasons to come with different sports to be played, one of two things has to happen. 1) Central students should be allowed to stand and support their team an entire game like every other school already does, or 2) every other school should be forced to keep its students sitting like Central already does.

One or the other has to happen, or this problem will never go away.

State Championship team

Bowlers have title to spare

By Les Anich

The 95-96 Men's Eagles Bowling Team won two straight matches in the stepladder finals on Feb. 26 at Leisure Lanes to grasp the State Championship for the second time in two years.

The State Bowling Tournament was held at Leisure Lanes on Feb. 25 and 26.

Senior

Dominic Holmes, sophomore Chad Powell, juniors Ryan Henkel, Jason Michalak and Doug Cap are this year's Bowling Champions. Doug was the only bowler from this season who was part of the 94-95 Bowling Champions.

"The Championship was a reflection of our hard work and dedication," Doug said. "Going back-to-back in consecutive years is quite an accomplishment, but we proved you can do anything if you put your mind to it."

In the third-place match, Central defeated Omaha Gross, 361-353 score and defeated Lincoln High, 358-328 for the State Championship.

"No one thought we could do it, but we had confidence in ourselves," Chad said.

"No one got even close to us during our championship run except for Gross," Doug said.

Doug taped a sign on his back during the State Tournament that read "Back-to-Back."

"I felt that we really came together as a team and believed in ourselves," Doug said. "We made key shots when we needed them, and if someone made a mistake, the next

person was right there to pick them up."

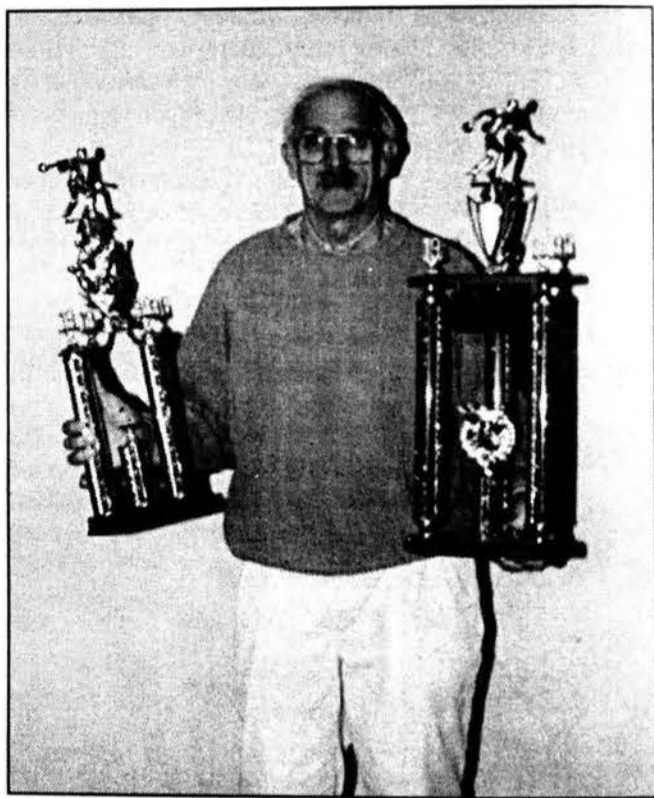
"We knew we could be competitive but we needed something to put us over the top and Ryan did that exceptionally well for the team," Jason said.

Ryan said the presence of a couple of last year's Bowling Champions Matt Kingery and Larry

Blazevich to come

ing Team this season. "Going into this didn't plan on trying Bowling Team. When me to come out. I said everything just came the regular season."

Central is part of sion. There are nine



Les Brown

Paperweights... Head Bowling Coach Paul Blazevich shows off Central's two State Championship trophies, which are anything but dinky. Central has won the state bowling title for the last two consecutive years.

Lathan, Central graduates, inspired the Eagle's bowling team to win their second consecutive championship.

"This team is great, but I'll have to say I like last year's team because they came back and cheered this year's team on," Head Coach Paul Blazevich said. "They gave some well-needed support during District and State Tournaments."

Ryan was asked by coach

stuffed pig.

"The pig was with Team last year, and I would remind the team credible feat we achieved. It did just that," Doug said.

"The kids are very and committed to bowling," Paul Blazevich said.

Ryan said the team forward for next season for another State title.

"He said if I didn't do it, he wouldn't love me anymore."



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Swimming a splash

al swimming and diving team finished a spectacular season, Head Coach Laughlin said.

swimmers' minds and coaches' minds. "This season was a great year for us. It was a successful year than last season," coach Laughlin said.

the team gave their best effort at the meet and that it was a learning experience. The meet was held at the Devaney Center from Feb. 22-24. Last season, only one relay went to the State Meet.

the only event we participated in at this season, we've achieved that goal," coach Laughlin said.

the team took four swimmers to the meet: freshman Nate Bullington, sophomore and juniors Karl Richstatter and Mike were part of the 200 and 400 relays and competed in the 100 breast stroke. "We had a good chance of placing but we didn't foresee us getting a medal," Richstatter said. "We didn't place in the top three. As a team we received only one medal."

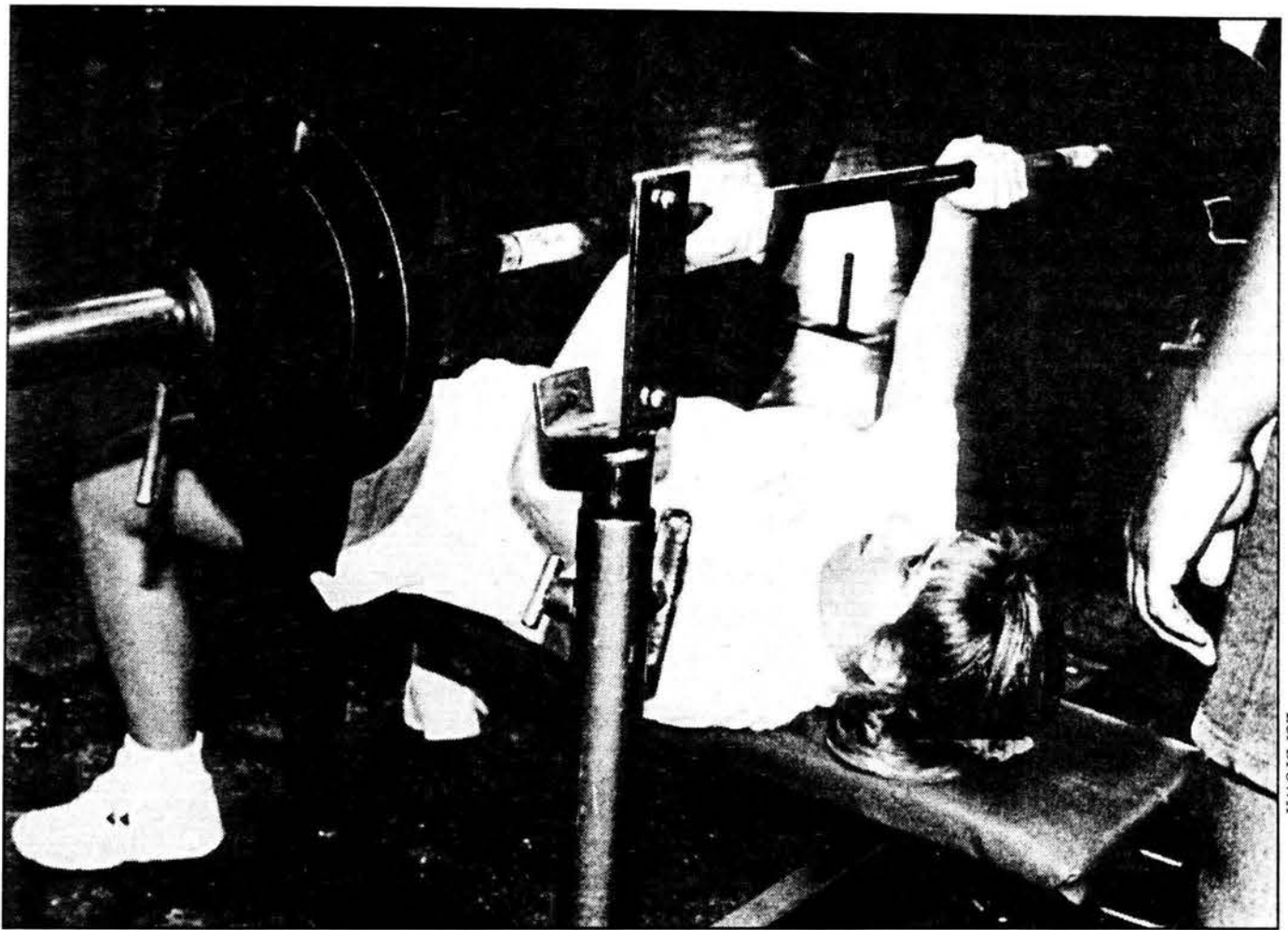
the only Central swimmer who placed at the State Meet. He finished sixth in the 100 breast stroke consolation heat and received a medal.

the team didn't have enough people to compete at the meet like Creighton Prep and Westside," Richstatter, men's captain, said.

the team took freshman Jody Bullington, seniors Abbey Dinin, Erin Quinlan and Mike were part of the 400 and 200 relays. Abbey Dinin won the 100 and 200 free-style.

the team has a lot of expectations for next year. "We have one graduating senior this year and we hope to have the whole team back," Richstatter said. "We want a better season next year than this year."

PUTTING UP THE WEIGHT



Lei Brown

Pumping Iron: Kelly Allen, junior, puts up 115 lbs. on the bench press at the State Powerlifting Championships. Kelly won the open women's weight class for the second year in a row, and helped the Eagles take the state title in powerlifting. Overall, at the tournament hosted by Central, the team racked up 52 points. Columbus came in second with 32 points. The Eagle powerlifters have won the state title nine out of the past eleven years, hold 27 out of the 44 state records, and one national title as well. If there are sufficient funds available from the spring sport's budget, the team will compete in Dallas for another national title.

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SPORTS

We Cover Eagle Territory

Men's basketball season ends on sour

By T. J. Brumfield

Ups and downs ended the tumultuous boy's basketball season.

Central split the final two games of the regular season with an overtime loss at Millard North and a two point victory over Lincoln East.

Their record alone did not guarantee them a spot in the State Tournament, so the Eagles needed to clinch the District Championship for further post-season play.

In order to do that, they would have to win the District Tournament, held in Lincoln on Monday Feb. 26, and Tuesday Feb. 27.

Central played the Benson Bunnies first in the tournament. This team came back from an 18 point deficit and beat the Eagles in December.

That comeback was largely due to Benson senior Adrian Johnson who scored 27 of his total 33 points in the second half.

Once again Johnson was the Bunnies' leading scorer, but according to Rick Behrens, history teacher and boy's basketball Head Coach, good passing, percentage shooting and free throws down the stretch led to an Eagle victory. In the end it was Central 82, Benson 71.

The following night, Central played Lincoln at Lincoln Northeast in the District Championship game.

Central beat Lincoln High at home last year in that same gym, but with a team including four seniors. This year Lincoln had the majority of seniors and already beat Central once by a margin of two points.

The game was close early on, but Central turned the ball over 10 times in the first quarter and Lin-

coln pulled away for a 16-11 lead. In the second Lincoln furthered that lead with a 10-0 run.

Coach Behrens said second half play between Lincoln High and the Eagles was much closer, but Central couldn't close the gap.

"It was a rugged game, but we could have overcome that." Coach Behrens said that by rugged he meant that there was a big disparity in the foul calls.

But according to coach Behrens, Lincoln won because they shot very well, and didn't turn the ball over too much.

"We had a lot of good plays, too," he said. "But not enough of them and not consistently enough." The final score was Central 52, Lincoln 72.

Central finished off the year with a 12-10 record, the second most wins the team achieved in the past eight years, second only to the 1993 team that went to state.

"I think we had a very good year," coach Behrens said. "People don't realize how hard it is to win ten games in this league."

He also said that there were several close games decided in the last minute and that the team wasn't far from a 16-6 record.

The Eagles... with an impressive... against Northwest... the following two... Fouls and... characteristic of... the Eagles.

But the unr... a long run that led... with a win at... Creighton Prep.

During that... three out of four... day Tournament, p... tral went on to be... lowing week, who... sole loss in the tou...

The run ended... winning streak that... point victory over... ranked Indians of M... a third place ranking... the state.

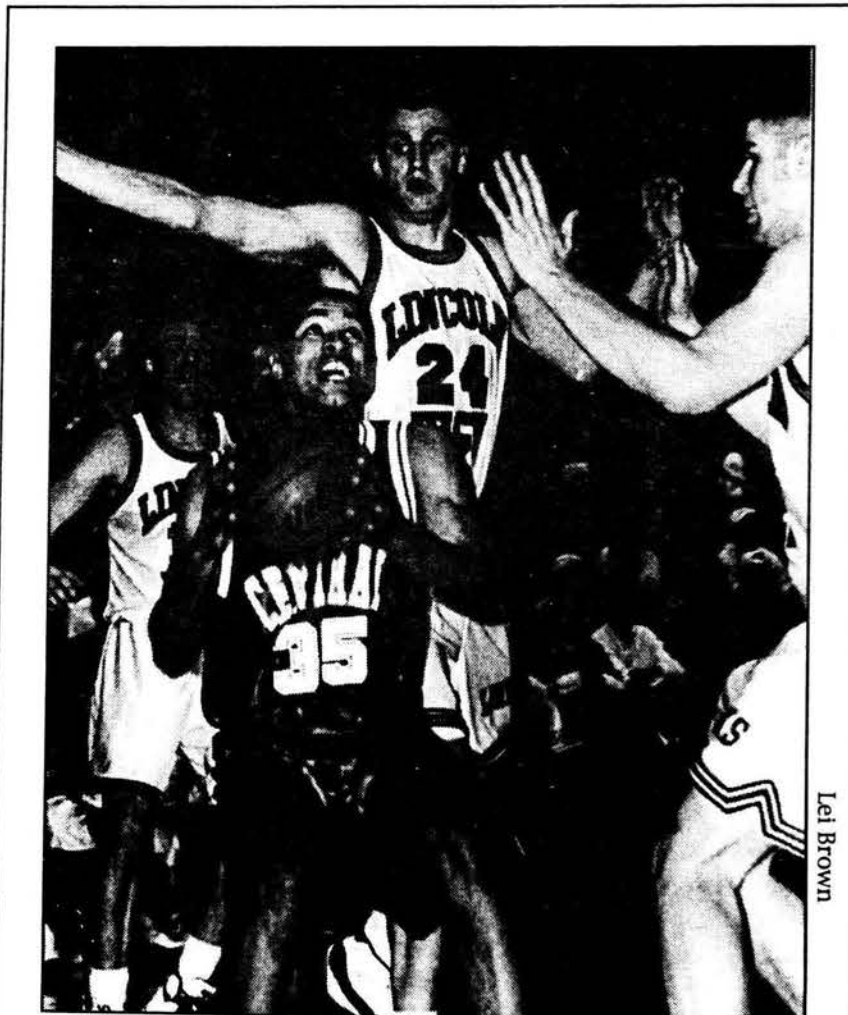
The latter half... composed mainly... games in which the... to retain a winning...

In fact, at one... Eagles dropped four... find themselves at...

Looking forward... coach Behrens said... have a strong team... be all five starting... be seniors Keenan... Corey McCune.

But the coach... is no guarantee of a... next year.

Several other... as South, North... Benson have most... returning as well.



Lel Brown

Towering above... junior Galen Morrison gets trapped by Lincoln High defenders as he drives to the basket during the District Championship game. Galen was Central's leading scorer this season. Central lost 72-52.

Benson takes lead in athletic academic requirements

By Josh Cohen

At the beginning of the 95-96 school year, Benson High School instigated a new program in their athletic department which requires their varsity through freshman athletes to keep all their grades above failing to be eligible to play.

According to Benson High School Athletic Director Cara Riggs, this is the first program in the Omaha Public School district where mandatory grade checks are given to all athletes, for all sports, by all coaches.

"Some of our coaches have done grade checks like this in the past," Riggs said. "But this is the first time that every sport in the school has agreed on one specific program."

According to Riggs, this new departmental policy has had very positive affects on the athletes in its first year at work.

The program states that the Benson High

Athletic Department requires students participating in athletics to meet the following academic requirements:

1) Coaches will regularly monitor the grades of student-athletes' participating in their programs, with a minimum of one check every three weeks.

2) Any student-athlete who has two or more failing grades at the time of monitoring will be suspended from competition immediately until he/she has no more than one failing grade. Practice will be allowed during suspension, and coaches will encourage athletes with failing grades to spend more time with teachers, or in after-school tutorial sessions before coming to practice.

3) Any student-athlete with one failing grade is eligible to participate in all practices and competitions.

4) Student-athletes who do not improve their grades over a period of time may be dropped from the team at the coaches discretion.

"We at Benson feel that academics are the top priority and will maintain the practice of holding student-athlete's accountable for their grades," Riggs said in a statement released from the Benson High Athletic Department.

Relating to requirement number two, Benson has established tutorial sessions in the library everyday after school until 4 p.m. for anyone to go in and get extra help with their studies. There are also tutoring sessions on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6 p.m. to 8

p.m. in the evening, for athletes who have practice right after school and cannot make it to regular tutorial sessions.

"We encourage all our athletes who need help to try and go to the tutorial or individual tutoring sessions during the week," Riggs said. "But for those who can't make it to either, they are then encouraged to go see their teachers and get help directly from the source where they are having problems."

Riggs said that this has been very positive in keeping Benson's athletes in line with their academic progress.

She also commented that this year Benson

did not have any athlete on a varsity team fail to meet the requirements of the Nebraska School Activities Association, N.S.A.A., end of semester credit check.

The N.S.A.A. credit check makes sure that all athletes who are involved in a winter sport have passed at least four credits when

first semester ends and the second check falls at the midpoint of the season.

Riggs said over the summer, the coaching staffs of their athletic programs met together with her and agreed that

Academics are the top priority and we will maintain the practice of holding student-athletes' accountable for their grades.

--Cara Riggs, Athletic Director

standing that it really does matter. Grades are from the beginning of the senior years are not the only ones that

She said that in the long run, we need to help all future athletes keep their standards high and most likely get into the colleges they want to attend.

Departments

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