

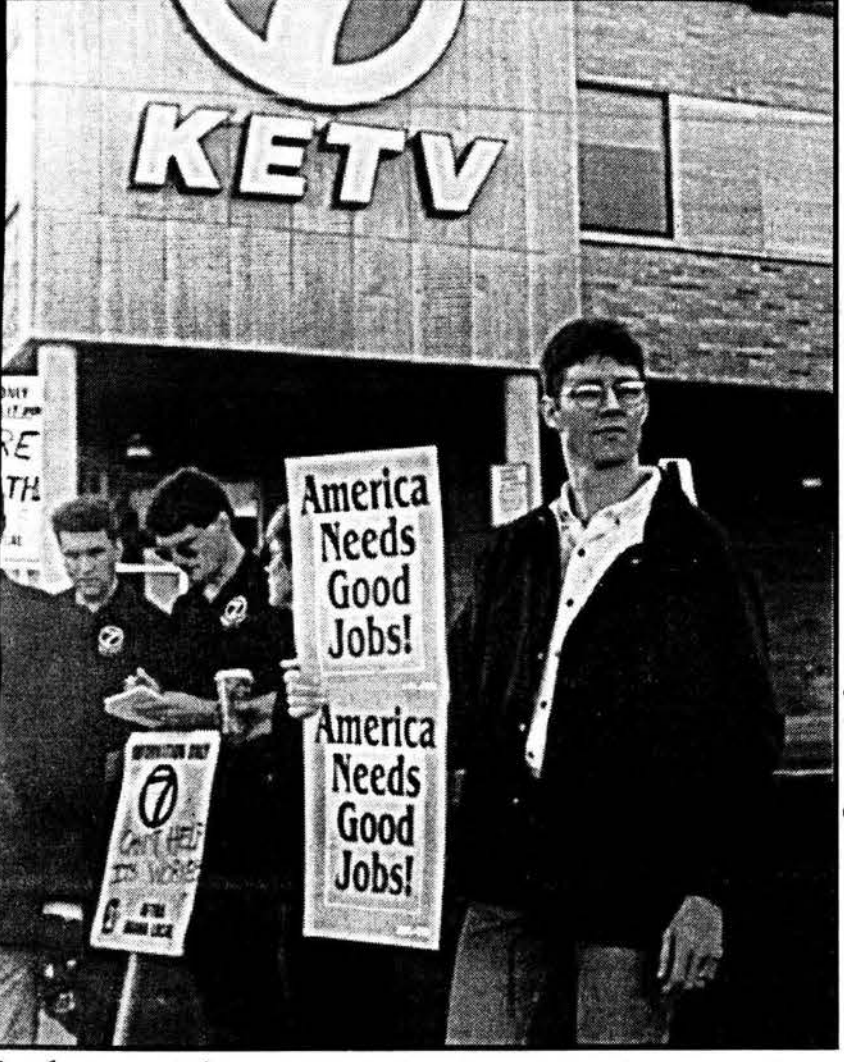


The Central High School REGISTER

Since
The Oldest School
Newspaper West
of the Mississippi
1886
Omaha, Nebraska

Volume 111 No. 1 September 29, 1997

Rise and Shine



Ally Jessing

Early morning protest...Central students may have noticed the commotion outside the KETV Channel 7 building located at 27th and Douglas on their way to school. The AFL-CIO, represented by Tim Cosgrove (above right), is helping union workers at Channel 7 fight for better wages and safer conditions. The protest has lasted five consecutive weeks and occurs on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Alumni hope to better Central's future

By Brian Joseph

Picture Central High School with air conditioning, a gym capable of accommodating home basketball games, a technology center on the fourth floor and an ample amount of parking.

A newly formed group of Central alumni is planning on making this dream a reality.

David Jacobson, a Central alumnus and parent of senior Sara Jacobson and sophomore Ben Jacobson, has formed a group of Central alumni to accomplish the task of renovating Central.

Among those who are involved in the group are Susie Buffett, daughter of billionaire Warren Buffett also credited with raising the funds for the building of the Rose Theater, and Dr. Gary Thompson, the principal of Central.

The group, which does not have a formal name, was formed after Jacobson had seen other high schools in Nebraska.

He said that last year, when he attended Ben's varsity basketball games at other schools, he began to see that the other schools had better facilities than Central.

Also, Jacobson said that with the redevelopment of Capital Avenue, it is only fitting that Central be renovated with the rest of downtown Omaha.

His group is in no way related to the Central High Foundation, a group that is raising money for scholarships and teacher grants for Central.

Jacobson said that he started this group because he wants Central to remain competitive with other schools.

Buffett, on the other hand, said that she became involved with Jacobson's group because her children will be the fifth generation in her family to attend Central.

With the help of Dr. Thompson, the group has drawn up a set of renovation goals that they would like to see done to Central.

The goals are: installing air conditioning, fixing the electrical system, turning the cafeteria on the fourth floor into a technology center, renovating the existing gym into one that can accommodate home basketball games and supplying more parking spaces.

However, Buffett said that this renovation is not like the one done on the Rose Theater.

"The Rose was a gutted-out, shell of a building," she said.

Among the goals listed, Jacobson said that air conditioning is the number one concern.

Not only would air conditioning make the learning environment more friendly, Dr. Thompson said that with air conditioning, Central could be become an asset to the community.

If Central had air conditioning, it could be used by various groups during the summer.

The group plans on paying for all of this renovation through the use of both private and public funds. While something like that has been done in other states, Dr. Thompson said that it has never been done on this scale in Nebraska.

Before the end of the year, the group plans on kicking off its fundraising efforts. A major source of fundraising will be with the alumni of Central.

"There is a very strong loyalty among Central alumni," Jacobson said.

He said there has been an overwhelming response from Central graduates who simply want to help in the group's efforts.

The second place that the group is going to look is at the public funds of the Omaha Public Schools (OPS).

Thirdly, Jacobson said that his group will look for funds in the form of federal money or grants.

Due to the lack of funds that OPS has, Dr. Thompson said that Central has to look for other means to pay for renovation, namely the private sector.

"We're determined to get it done," he said.

New leader guides OPS district into 21st century

Rachel Slosburg

The Omaha Public School district prepares to enter the 21st century under the direction of a new superintendent.

On Sept. 1, Dr. John Mackiel, former secretary of the Omaha Department of Education, became the superintendent for the OPS district, replacing Dr. Norbert Krizan.

Dr. Mackiel said he began the year of his three year contract with a focus on the heat index weather than he ever expected. He has spent more time zero-

ing in on weather, doppler radar and heat index than ever imagined," Dr. Mackiel said. "Beyond that, it [serving as superintendent] has been a real joy and a privilege."

Dr. Mackiel said as superintendent he realizes that the OPS district faces several obstacles which must be overcome as it looks toward the future.

He said he has established four immediate goals at which he is focusing his attention, in order to improve the OPS district.

The goals (listed in order of importance) include: the funding of public education, engaging and educating the community with the issues which face public education, studying the OPS desegregation plan and analyzing its success within the district, continuing to advance the technology and communications available to the students enrolled in the public school system.

The funding of public education continues to be a topic of debate, Dr. Mackiel said.

Dr. Mackiel said that the OPS district has a \$295 million budget to use as operating expenses for the 1997-98 school year.

He said next year, the funding provided to support the OPS district will be decreased, and it is the community (his second goal) which needs to help decide what will be affected by the budget cuts.

Dr. Mackiel said that nearly 75 percent of the Omaha community does not have a child enrolled in the OPS district.

He said their input concerning public education is still important.

Dr. Mackiel said he was very supportive of individual school foundations, such as the Central High Foundation, which has just been created.

"Any time there are dedicated, enthusiastic parents who want to do good things for students and who want to assist, it is outstanding," Dr. Mackiel said.

Dr. Mackiel said his third goal is to reevaluate the focus of the OPS desegregation plan.

He said a committee will be formed to review the desegregation plan which was written 20 years ago.

Dr. Mackiel said the OPS busing system has been an effective way to prevent segregation. However, he said the commit-

tee will determine if there are other alternatives to improve desegregation within the district.

He said two companies will audit the OPS district and judge how well and how competitive the school system is doing in the areas of technology and communication.

Dr. Mackiel said other important issues need to be resolved for a bright future in the OPS district including teachers' salaries and the school calendar. Dr. Mackiel said teacher salaries should not necessarily be based upon seniority.

He said the salaries are merit based because of the fact that a teacher is on a yearly contract, and only asked back if they do a good job throughout the year.

However, Dr. Mackiel said that there should be distinction and recognition for outstanding performance.

"The question is how does one recognize the differences with

which teachers deal with by way of subject matter, grade level and program," Dr. Mackiel said.

In answer to an all-year-round school calendar, Dr. Mackiel presented information comparing the United States school calendar to other nations.

He said that the one thing which has held constant in public education since 1950 is the school calendar, where as other nations have lengthened their school year and the number of

hours a day. He said that he does not believe that it is necessarily the number of hours a student attends school which makes a difference.

He said it is primarily the quality of education which takes place in those hours.

Dr. Mackiel said he is looking forward to working with the School Board, and hopes to continue to build on the wonderful tradition of the OPS district.



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Curfews benefit, not punish

When someone says the word "curfew" in Omaha, people, usually teens, start defending their right to freedom. But there is nothing to defend.

Originally curfews were established in the early 20th century to help conserve oil and petroleum during the times of war. Now curfews are meant to keep kids out of trouble and prevent crime rates from increasing.

Many students are probably wondering "Why now?". According to city records, in August of 1987, City Council members Walt Callinger and Al Dinzole proposed a curfew for teenagers 17 and under. Teenagers were to be home from 11:30 p.m. to five a.m. With their proposal, people within this age group could not be on public streets, playgrounds, vacant lots or other unsupervised places including movie theaters.

This proposal was not approved, with good reason. The times that they proposed were a little bit too early, but they had a good idea as to where kids should not be late at night.

In September of 1995, City Council member Lormong Lo proposed a curfew for Omaha again. His ideas concerning the hours at which children should return home and the whereabouts of their locations are not only more acceptable, but also more reasonable.

With his proposal, the rights of teenagers would not be harmed. Teens would be able to go to movies, concerts, work, a friend's house and so on. The only activities that a curfew would impose upon include hanging out in vacant parking lots, walking around in business districts, cruising and other such activities (during the established hours of the curfew).

This proposal is fairly reasonable with a few minor exceptions. Still, not everyone agrees. Council member Lee Terry said in September of 1995 that he believes it is not the role of the government to tell people when their kids are to be home. But some kids need to be told when to be home simply because their parents will not.

Curfews are meant to help assist in controlling gang problems in cities, protect neighborhoods from graffiti and vandalism and to help keep kids from getting into trouble. Council member Lo's proposal is meant to do that same thing without making teenagers feel as if they are being punished.

A curfew could help with violence and problems within the city, not just what teens do but with what everyone does. If there is a curfew and if kids abide by it, police can focus more on every other problem or concern.

For the students that feel that this proposal for a curfew is extreme, there are cities such as Virginia Beach that have curfew laws stating that the only way it would be "lawful" to be out past the established hours would be to run an emergency errand and immediately return home.

The teens would have to have written permission by a parent to attend a specified engagement prior to 12 a.m., because of the Virginia Beach curfew laws. That is extreme.

Some teens need to be kept out of trouble's way. Maybe they need some kind of activity provided by the city to get them away from trouble and violence. Curfews are meant to benefit us, not to punish us.

There is no reason for anyone to think otherwise.

CHS Foundation huge plus

All the efforts and contributions made by the Central High School Foundation should be appreciated among Central students and faculty.

The Foundation is trying to improve Central. Its main purpose is to help provide teachers' grants and scholarships for students. The Foundation would also provide more student recognition, Principal Dr. Gary Thompson said.

If Central did not have the Foundation, the school would receive grants solely through the Omaha Schools Foundation. But Dr. Thompson said that the Omaha Schools Foundation can deny grants wanted by Central.

There has been much controversy about the Foundation, mostly involving whether or not it should be approved by the Omaha School Board.

At first, some of the Board members said that they do not understand why Central needs its own Foundation and that the Foundation could possibly take away funds being sent to the Omaha Schools Foundation. Just recently, it was approved with a couple of restrictions.

Such restrictions include encouragement of schools to use the Omaha School Foundation and, if a school has a project over \$5000, it must be approved by the School Board, said Luanne Nelson, district's direction of public information and the executive director of the Omaha Schools Foundation.

Central is not the only Omaha Public School to have their own foundation.

North has had a foundation for the past four years which funds their school only. So why are they so concerned with making restrictions now and not four years ago?

The School Board is worried about funding being focused on one school. Mr. Mike Gottschalk, president of the Central High Foundation, said that they (the schools) could all create their own foundations so there would not be any worries about funding.

The Central High School Foundation would greatly improve programs, Dr. Thompson said. He also said that it would help fund plaques and other awards to students, in an attempt to give better recognition for their accomplishments.

The controversy surrounding this issue should not have any effect on schools' individual foundations, including Central's.

Since Central's alumni are the main funding source of the Foundation, the Omaha Schools Foundation should not be worried about Central taking money away from their own organization. After all, alumni should have every opportunity to donate money in support of their former school.

Hopefully, the situation is finally resolved, and we can look forward to the better future which will result from the Central High Foundation.



REGISTER YOUR OPINIONS

"Register Your Opinions" is a sampling of school opinion. It is not meant to represent the views of the entire student body or the staff of *the Register*.

What do you think about the new rule against the wearing of chains and/or collars?

I think the rule is completely unnecessary. I've never been assaulted or known anyone to be strangled by a chain.

Ben Teply, 12



Why do people need to wear chains anyway? Get a wallet.

Melissa Colton, 10

I think it's discriminating against people who wear them.

Florina Mosenkis, 12



It's self-expression. What's wrong with that?

Joe Croskey, 12

'NUFF SAID

By Stephanie Holm



Students? Or Sardines?

Well gee, look what started once again.

Ding, ding, that's right...school. And what do we have for our winner, Johnny?

Oh look, it's a full school year the sweltering, overcrowded Central! AHH yes, it just brings tears to my eyes, literally.

While students at other schools are worrying about what to wear, the students at Central worry who that bell is coming from and if their feed stick is working.

Yes, the heat is unbearable, but it's really the temperature that makes Central so hot? Or could it be the 2,000 and some students roaming its halls.

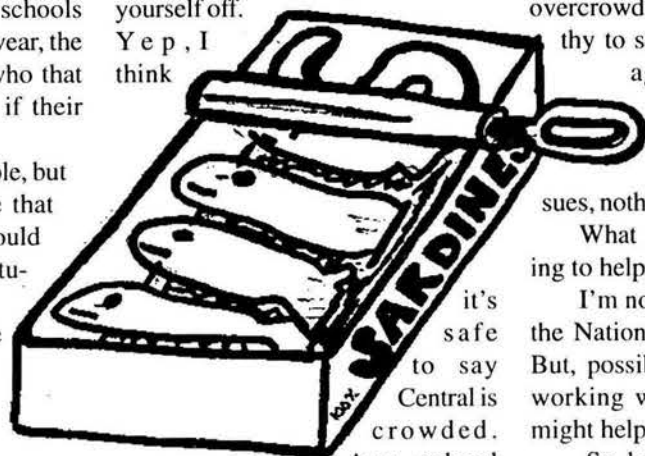
Now c'mon, anyone who crams 135 students into one room for study will be just asking for a tuna.

But, truth is, the heat isn't the problem overcrowding causes. Hmmm...has anyone seen the halls lately? Actually, I wouldn't be surprised if you hadn't. Who sees the halls? All I see are people.

Yeah, you know what I'm talking about. The pushing, the shoving, trying to fit 80 people through the doorway....where easy tasks such as getting a drink becomes a fight for your life.

Then again, you do meet a lot of interesting people that way. How could you not? We're pushed up against one another so close I can tell what scent they're wearing.

So much in fact, I've seen everyday greetings go right out the window. Where casual waves become desperate attempts at cooling yourself off. Yep, I think



Any school where you have the world's longest conga line alive in the halls would surely fit into that category.

But as uncomfortable as it is, what is being done to help?

Last year a thousand new freshman poured into Central. This year even more.

If this continues, before we know it, students will be developing sardine-like qualities.

Many of my friends go to other

OPS schools and have complaints as well. But, never have I heard, "My school is too crowded." It's always, "Man, it's so cold in my school, we wear jeans all year round!"

Well, gee, sorry. You'll get no sympathy here. Those of us who suffer from Central's heat and overcrowding change the sympathy to self-pity and still manage to carry on. The thing is, as much as we students complain about these issues, nothing ever answers them.

What effort is anyone making to help us?

I'm not talking about calling the National Guard or anything. But, possibly a call to someone working with cooling products might help.

So, let's see...you have heat, who do you call? People with air conditioning. You have people, who do you call?

Good question. Who the heck do you call? Ghostbusters? If only it were that simple. Think of the possibilities...

However, until an answer for our "people problem" is provided, one fact is clear. Central is too overcrowded.

'Nuff said.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A READER OPINION FORUM



Minority Scholars helpful

Dear Editor,

I'm in the process of enjoying my second year at Central. I'm a junior who is greatly anticipating graduation.

But out of all the time I've been here I've never heard a word on the Minority Scholars group.

I'd like to congratulate everyone involved in the group. I found out about the group towards the end of my sophomore year. I really needed help and was turning to anyone with a helping hand.

So I decided to join a study hall / tutor period with Mrs. Merrigan - Potthoff. She introduced me to Minority Scholars, and I've grown to love it.

We've had many guest speakers, including Brenda Council and a trial lawyer who shared her experiences. And since I want to be a lawyer, this was very helpful.

Now that I'm a junior they are helping me with grades and scholarship applications. So far my grades are up and college is looking good.

Thanks Minority Scholars!

Lashundra Oakes, Junior

CENTRAL FILES

A LOOK INTO EDITORIALS OF THE PAST

February 1960

Lately there has been much publicity on television, radio and in the newspapers concerning the recent anti-semitic demonstrations throughout the entire world.

These demonstrations have, of course, caused much controversy over the question — WHY? The two reasons commonly and most frequently cited are prejudice and ignorance.

Why should prejudice be a factor? This is a question which can be answered only by each person as an individual since only he knows why he does or does not, as the case may be, feel biased or unbiased against a specific race, religion, person or country.

Prejudice is not a feeling which is inborn, but it is a feeling which is created or bred into people by others around them and by situations or circumstances which have caused them to acquire and keep opinions which are not easily swayed or influenced. Although these opinions are, more often than not, reached with little or no intelligent reasoning behind them, the prejudice remains.

Another factor, ignorance, is one which can be easily corrected. Correction can be obtained by reading a book on the subject in question, by listening to what others (who are better versed or more informed) have to say, or by observing.

Ignorance can and SHOULD BE corrected. When this is accomplished, prejudice will also be removed or at least considerably diminished.

If everyone tries to remember that "prejudice is a child of ignorance," nothing less than considerable improvement can be obtained on these age old problems.

WHERE TO FIND US

Send all letters of opinion to room 315 or find the box on the two side of the courtyard. It is the policy of the Register not to print unsigned letters.

The Central High School REGISTER

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CENTRAL STANDARDS

176 students polled

NO **YES**

Do you feel that the new dress code banning collars and chains is justified?

58% NO 42% YES

Do you think that other parts of the dress code are enforced equally?

28% YES 72% NO

Do you think that a chain or collar could ever be used as a weapon?

31% YES 69% NO

Do you feel that the dress code singles out any one group?

53% YES 47% NO

Do you think this new addition to the dress code could eventually lead to mandatory uniforms?

54% YES 46% NO

Central High's The Register seeks to inform its readers accurately and fairly as to items of interest and importance. The Register (USPS 097-520) is published monthly, September through May by Omaha Central High School, 1244 N. 20th St. Omaha, NE 68102. Unsigned editorials are the opinion of The Register's staff. Periodical postage paid at Omaha, NE postmaster: send subscription address changes to The Register, Omaha Central High School. The Register is self-sufficient. To place an advertisement inquire about ad prices, contact the business manager at 557-3357.

Central Catch-Up

Fall Musical leads chosen

"Fiddler on the Roof" is this year's fall musical.

"Fiddler" is a traditional Jewish musical about hunger, family, life, marriage and a whole lot more.

It revolves around Tevye, a poor milkman, who in the course of the play, unwillingly marries away his three oldest daughters," said Mrs. Pegi Georgeson, Central's drama teacher and play director.

Tevye is played by junior David Rennard. Other leads are Lazar Wolf played by junior Alex Wolfson, Golde played by senior Rachel Shukert and Motel played by junior Andrew Nelson.

Auditions were held for the play Sept. 8-12. On Monday the people auditioning had to go through a dance audition. Next, on Tuesday, they had to sing a prepared song for Mrs. Bouma, Central's vocal director. Then, on Wednesday or Thursday, the students had to read from the script. Students were then called back on Friday to read and sing again.

According to Georgeson, this play hasn't been done at Central since 1986.

First dance set for Oct. 3

Central will hold its first welcome back dance at the Norris Junior High gym on Oct. 3.

This dance was planned by the Senior class officers. Sarah Price, senior class president, said that this dance will have karaoke and food for the enjoyment of the students. Complete Music will supply the entertainment.

The dance was planned in order to welcome back old students and new students alike. The dance will be welcome to all Central students.

Students explore cave

Central students learned about nature on a weekend trip through an old Indian Cave.

Mrs. Whitten, a Biology teacher at Central, organized this trip with Mrs. Pam Galus, a teacher from South High School.

The group of about ten students, drove down to Indian Cave State Park, south of Nebraska City, about two hours away from Omaha.

The students went on Sept. 13 for two days. It cost them \$20 to take this trip. The basic idea was to study the natural surroundings of the park and cave.

CHS receives 620 freshmen, population rises to 2,100

By Emily Martin and Nicole Neumann

Central received some 620 incoming freshmen for this 1997-98 school year, raising some concerns about overcrowding.

"The new freshmen should not be that noticeable," Dr. Gary Thompson, principal, said. "It will be tight though."

At a total population of around 2,100 for this year, the number entering Central this year is down from the 850 new students that were added to the building last school year.

However, overall enrollment is up from last year's total population of 1800.

Dr. Thompson said he believes that this year will be easier to adjust to because of the drop in incoming students.

Also, Dr. Thompson said that the fact that there are 342 seniors this year, as opposed to the 425 that left Central last year, will help. Students, on the other hand, say they believe Central is overcrowded.

"We are packed in here like sardines in a can," Dave Rennard, junior, said.

Many students seem to echo Dave's concern.

"Passing period is the worst," Brianna Fisher, junior, said.

Teachers said they have also noticed a problem with the number of students this year.

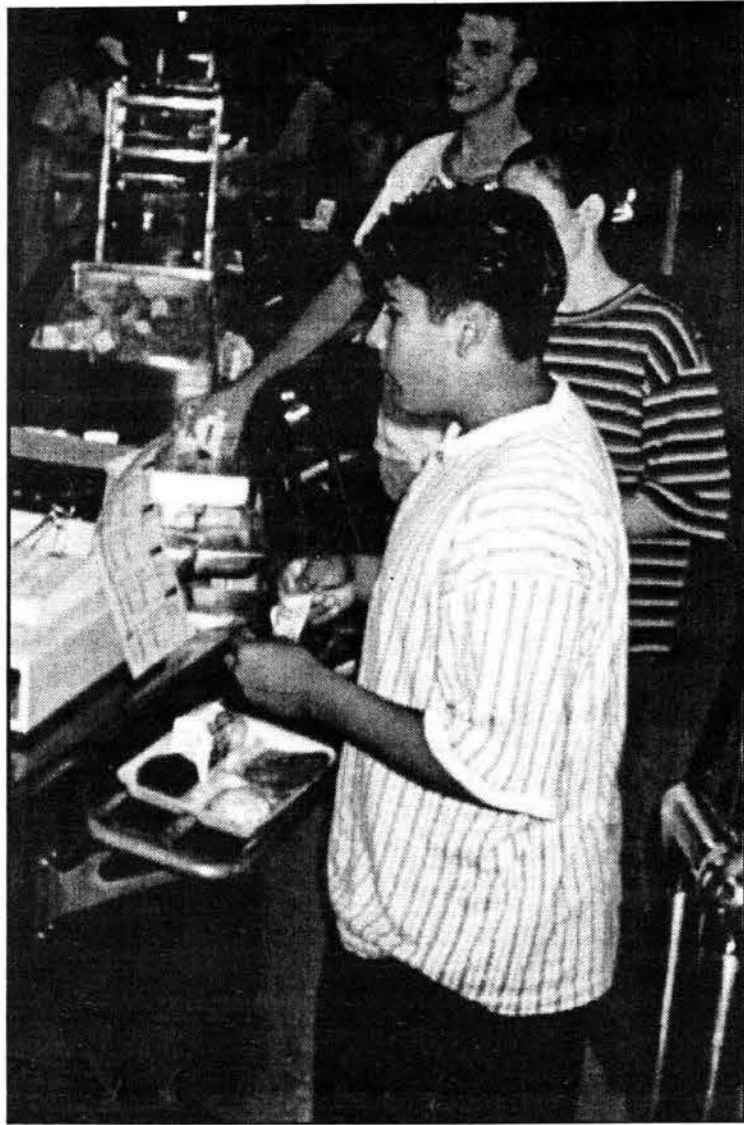
"I don't mind if the classes are big," Miss Rita Ryan, Latin teacher, said. "The only problem I see is that students don't get as much attention."

One teacher said he saw the problems coming.

"We knew it would be like this because of budget cuts," Mr. Dan

Daly, the English department chair, said.

The large amount of students who entered Central this year was due to an increased number of freshmen and sophomores from Lewis and Clark



Morgan Denny

So many students, so little time!!! The lunch lines have been so long this year that the administration has had to extend various lunch hours to get everyone through the line.

These students may register at Central any time before the school begins.

Scholarships and Teacher Grants

PEP forms foundation to improve Central

By Brian Joseph

Members of the Parents, Educators and Pupils (PEP) organization have formed a foundation with the purpose of improving the education of both present and future Central students.

Mr. Mike Gottschalk, president of the Central High Foundation, said that the Foundation, an outgrowth of the PEP organization, will provide money for scholarships and grants for teachers as well as money for other programs that will better the education of Central students.

The Central High Foundation is not related to the group formed by David Jacobson which is raising money for the renovation of Central.

Central Principal Dr. Gary Thompson said that the Foundation may create student recognition programs.

He said that they could go so far as to award students with plaques or have dinners for the honored students.

Gottschalk said that in the fall of 1995, members of PEP began to realize that more private support was needed for Central and that a foundation would be able to support

other organizations related to Central. From these thoughts, Gottschalk said that the Central High Foundation was born.

Dr. Thompson said that Central can use the help the Foundation is offering.

"It's a lot harder to provide a quality program than in the past," he said.

Dr. Thompson said this is because it is becoming harder for Central to find money to finance programs. He said that the school district can never afford to pay for all of the programs needed for a well-rounded school.

"The resources have dried up," he said.

For example, Dr. Thompson

said that the money from the pop machines have been a source of funds for student and teacher recognition programs.

Gottschalk said that he believes that every school is in a competition to gain students. However, he said that the playing field is not level.

"Central has some particular disadvantages," he said.

Gottschalk said that Central has no parking or swimming pools, two things that attract students. However, he said that is

where the Central High Foundation comes in.

The Foundation will attempt to off-set the disadvantages of Central, Gottschalk said.

It's a lot harder to provide a quality program than in the past. -- Dr. Gary Thompson, Central's principal

of work. In previous years, Le Clark had facilities for fresh Robb

reducing Central's freshman population at (two weeks) should level off after this year's 5-2 Jim Felten, coordinator of building personnel for the Omaha School District, said. "The increase in students will become a problem now that Lewis and Clark no longer has a freshman class."

To make sure Central's enrollment will not exceed its capacity, a cap was put on the number of students who may attend Central.

This was done by not making any changes in school assignments to Central outside of the immediate attendance area.

This cap does not affect students' first choice, but any time they make after that, Dr. Felten

"What that means is not allowing people to choose to Central after they have made an initial decision," Dr. Thompson said. "A total cap would take away Central's diversity."

This fall, middle school students will have the option of choosing where they want to go to school.

After they have made their choices, they will be allowed to change them to Central unless it is their home school.

This rule does not affect other school students who must decide where they want to go to high school until later in the year. Dr. Felten said.

These students may register at Central any time before the school begins.

He said that the Central Foundation will be looking for Central alumni for donations.

There has been, however, opposition to the formation of the Central High Foundation.

An Omaha Public Schools (OPS) Board member, Mr. Galusha, said that he believed the Central High Foundation will have a negative effect on other schools.

"It provides a competition between schools," he said.

Galusha said that schools are competing with each other for money from donors. For example, he said that if all elementary schools, junior highs and high schools had foundations, they would all call the same people asking for money.

Also, Galusha said that if a person wants to give money to a school, he or she can do it through the Omaha Schools Foundation.

"If they want to do it [the foundation], fine," he said. "I can't find any advantage to it."

On the other hand, Gottschalk said he does not see it that way.

"I don't think it [the Foundation] will have an effect on other schools," he said.

City Council votes 5-2 for skate park

Kate Alseth

After a long wait and hours of work, the skaters of Omaha finally been granted a skate park at Robert's Park, on 84th and 12th.

Two weeks ago the City Council voted 5-2 in favor of allowing building of a skate park. The council members in favor of the park were Jeff Koneck, David Herd, Lormong Lo, John Lynn and Marc Kraft. Mayor Halvorson had the chance to veto the park but he decided not to.

Kraft introduced the idea to the council after attending many of the skaters' meetings. Council members Koneck and Herd also attended meetings.

After the motion in favor of a skate park passed, the City Council had to decide on a location for the park.

The council chose Robert's Park because it was already scheduled for renovation. It was also chosen because of its midtown location and large facilities that could accommodate a skate park.

The supporters' meetings were held by the local Student Democrats group. The Student Democrats chose the skate park on as a group project.

They decided on this for a project because many of their members were skate boarders, roller skaters or supporters of the idea, Gary Disylvestro, Student Democrats' advisor.

The Student Democrats provided the momentum and initiative for the skate park. As a group they organized skaters to go before the City Council to speak for the need for a skate park.

The Student Democrats had a temporary skate park set up for



Gail Braddock

Leaping high into the air, Justin Thompson, senior, struts his stuff after school. The Student Democrats have been working to build a skate park to offer a safe haven for young skaters.

Septemberfest at Aksarben. The members of the group spent the weekend hauling the equipment from Lincoln, setting it up for use and then returning it to Lincoln. Neal Duffy was one of the members involved with the Septemberfest skate park.

The temporary skate park was a huge success, said Neal. Over 300 skaters, both skate boarders and roller bladers, showed up during the weekend to use the park. This was many more than they expected, said Disylvestro.

The Student Democrats said

that they were happy that there were no serious injuries and that they have been asked to set up another skate park for Septemberfest next year. They said they asked for a larger set up for next year's park.

The funding for the skate park is coming from many sources, said Disylvestro. Some of the funding will be from the city.

Disylvestro said the group is also hoping for funding from Airwalk, a shoe company specializing in skateboarding shoes. Airwalk makes a shoe called skate park; a percentage of the profit from these shoes goes towards grants to make state funded skate parks possible.

The Student Democrats are also planning to raise private money by different types of fund raising, said members of the Student Democrats. One idea they are considering is to organize a concert with different local bands. They would charge an admission and give a percentage of it to the skate park funds.

One concern that the skate park supporters have is the negative energy they are receiving from neighbors of Robert's Park. Many of the people living in the neighborhood worry that the skate park will lead to more crime in the area. They also feel that the noise of the skaters will disturb the peace of their homes, Disylvestro said.

The Student Democrats said they thought about going door to door with flyers to battle the neighbors that are against the skate park.

The Student Democrats said they are very positive that the skate park will be supported enough to withstand the negativity from people.

"We've won the first battle," Disylvestro said.

Lottery grant provides Central with new computers

Shaun Kiel

A new computer lab in room 215 means improved educational opportunities for Central students taking computer based classes, a Central teacher

Ms. Kat Laughlin, Introduction to Computers teacher said that WINGS 21 is a lottery grant sponsored by Central, the Excellence in Education Council, and Applied Information Management Institute.

The WINGS 21 grant is an acronym for Workforce Initiative for the Next Generation of Students.

The grant provided Central with almost \$100,000.

Central used the money to purchase 60 new desktop computers.

Any school in OPS is eligible to apply for lottery grants, which are distributed by the Excellence in Education Council.

Keith Bigsby, former head of the business department, and others were actively involved in the application for the grant, Laughlin said.

Central received the grant and closed room 215, formerly a study hall room, during the end of last school year to install the new computers and renovate the room.

Two classes will make use of those computers this year, Introduction to Computers and Electronic Imaging. Both of these classes were offered previously, but they were taught on older, slower and less reliable computers, Laughlin said.

"I believe that students will benefit from these computers a lot," Laughlin said. "They're faster, more reliable and they allow me to teach the class instead of worrying about having to fix them all of the time, like the old ones."

Laughlin's class, Introduction to Computers, offers students a chance to learn how to operate the computer for a number of tasks. Students are schooled on the basic use of many programs such as Windows '95, Microsoft Word and Microsoft Excel.

"I really believe that students will get a lot out of these computers," Laughlin said, "and not just at Central, but beyond Central, too. It seems that anywhere you go anymore, jobs are going to include computers."

"I'm just hoping to get a better understanding of computers," Luke Stecker, junior, said. "I can use it for typing and stuff, but I really don't understand very well."

The class also teaches basic and proper use of the Internet.

"One thing I've found," Laughlin said, "is that students come out of the class a lot better at researching. The Internet is just a massive resource."

Introduction to Computers does not teach typing. One semester of keyboarding is the prerequisite for the class.

The class is a tool to teach how to make the best use of the computer, Laughlin said.

"Well, the number of computers at Central doesn't rival the number at North," Laughlin said, "but in terms of what's taught and how they're used, I believe Central is number one by far."

The other class offered in the lab is Electronic Imaging, an art based class in which students use a variety of computer programs to create art.

The Electronic Imaging class is currently working with a program called Microsoft Paint.

"There is so much you can do with a computer," Travis Emschwiller, junior, said. "The computer is more than just a word processor. I love using the computer to make art."

Central Catch-Up

Seventeen spread receives mixed reviews

Students and teachers give *Seventeen* a mixed review. Some are weary about some of the details surrounding their visit to Central.

The final product was a spread of black and white photos and a written section giving the ins and outs of Central published in the School Zone special, not *Seventeen* magazine's issue.

"I thought it was a good article that represented Central well. I was impressed," Mr. Lahmann, Dean of Students, said.

His opinion seems to be almost universal throughout the students and staff.

"I love *Seventeen*," Ben Teply, senior, said.

His enthusiasm was shared by classmate, Dan Danberg, senior, who said he found the vocabulary section particularly informative.

While most are impressed and a few star struck by the issue, others, like Mrs. Beverly Fellman said that *Seventeen* was not entirely straight concerning the details.

Seventeen sent Central a stack of issues to sell at \$5 which is a dollar over the price that students could pay at other merchants. Another area that seems sketchy was that students and staff were not aware that the issue was not the actual *Seventeen*.

In addition, some felt "Seventeen" was the unnecessary disruption of the school.

"I thought that *Seventeen* magazine's visit was distracting and that it interfered with the normal flow of the school day," Lauren Coatsworth, senior, said.

Students, teacher explore Wyoming

This summer eight Central students took a week-long trip to Wyoming, chaperoned by Mrs. Jean Whitten, a biology teacher at Central, to study biology and explore the mountains.

Juniors Cara Miller, Meagan Cody, Zac Clark, Sarah Johnson, Dana Hendee and sophomore's Vince Wesselman and Aaron Anderson went on the trip.

The group stayed at the Buford Centennial cabin, located between Laramie and Centennial, Wyoming.

While visiting a fish hatchery, the group was allowed to view a Wyoming toad, currently an endangered species.

"Last year there were 14," Cara said, "but now there are over one hundred."

The next day the group rode horses in an open meadow in Wyoming. A geologist and a botanist accompanied them on the ride, pointing out odd grasses and informing them of the geological history of the area.

Former Central teachers undertake new careers

By Morgan Denny

After the close of school last spring, 21 of Central's faculty members left the school to pursue new and different things.

Many of them had been at Central or teaching elsewhere for more than 20 years.

"I taught for 39 years," Mr. Jack Blanke, who previously taught AP World History at Central, said. "It's time to let someone else do it."

"As the students change," Blanke said, "so should the staff to bring in new ideas."

He also said that he feels that the school board should start treating Central equally, supplying the school with the same funding that it is giving to the other high schools.

Unlike Blanke, Mr. Frank Marsh, a former physics teacher, is now in business with his son.

He and his son build acoustic ceilings for banks, grocery stores, churches and various other buildings.

Although only eight of his 28 years of teaching were spent at Central, Marsh said that he wished he'd come 20 years sooner.

Coming from smaller schools, Marsh said Central's size scared him at first. However, he said that Central has a way of getting one settled in.

Marsh said that he advises new teachers at Central to work hard and assures them that teaching has many personal re-

wards. Like Marsh, Mr. Paul Blazeovich, former world geography teacher, went into an entirely new line of work. He is now taking care of the four baseball diamonds at Grover Park.

Though he understands the space limitations, Blazeovich said that he believes that the classes are getting too large for the students to receive a fair amount of individual help in the classroom.

Blazeovich said the amount of staff commitment surprised him when he first came to Central and described the faculty as "tremendously dedicated."

"You set a precedent going to Central. Whether you're student or staff," Blazeovich said, "you set a precedent for academic excellence."

Last year's Assistant Principal, Mrs. Bernice Nared, now the principal of North High School, said, "Your goal as an assistant principal is always that you'll have your own building. Never close your doors to opportunities."

Although she's now the principal of what is considered to be Central's "rival" school, Nared said that she has received a lot of support from Central's faculty, students and parents.

Nared said that her office at North is now filled with plants including a rubber plant that Central's consumer science

class sent. The plant had a purple and white ribbon on one side and a blue and gold ribbon on the other. A small note was attached to each ribbon signifying their support of Nared.

Nared said that after 29 years in the district, one makes "friendships that never cease."

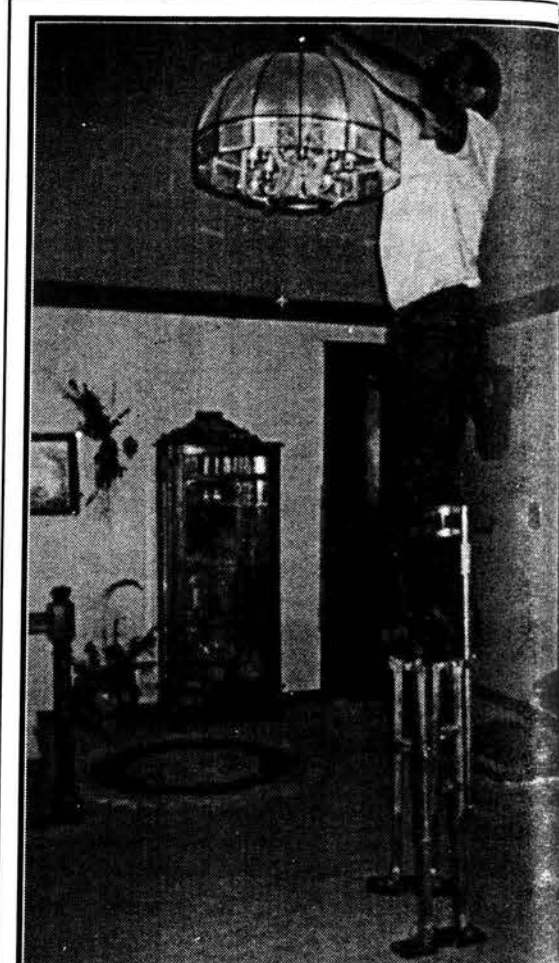
"I've learned that communication is first and foremost," Nared said.

Mrs. Phyllis Mol, a counselor at Central for a semester last year, has also moved to North.

Mol said that Central has "taught me to shoot for high standards and expect the best."

Other teachers that left Central after the 1996-97 school year include: Kristi Anderson, English teacher, Mary Branson, reading

teacher, Bob Carlson, science teacher, Richelle Dowding, English teacher, Dan Endorf, English teacher, Steve Eubanks, science teacher and coach, George Grillo, social studies teacher, Sonya Johnson, Spanish teacher, Gary Kubik, science teacher, Clyde Lincoln, social studies teacher, Diane Miller, physical education teacher and softball coach, Kate Mourning, Spanish teacher, Dean Neff, social studies teacher, Pat Pruss, business teacher, Joan Skoog, English teacher, and Deb Frison, assistant principal.



Still growing... Mr. Frank Marsh, former Central physics teacher, works in his new profession, building ceilings.

Central classrooms filled with new, experienced teachers

By Morgan Denny

Central started the 1997-98 school year with 19 new faculty members after losing 21 of last year's staff members to retirement, different schools and new business opportunities.

With a few exceptions, most of Central's new faculty members are experienced teachers.

"It's a whole different world at Central," Mrs. Carol Hipp, previously at Lewis and Clark, said.

Hipp, who has been teaching for 30 years, is now teaching AP and regular American History classes.

"It's hard work," Hipp, the new social studies department head, said, "but it's good, hard work and I enjoy working with the other new

teachers." Mr. Matt Shafer, a new accounting, computers and business law teacher from Lewis and Clark said that there are many differences between the two schools including the size of the building and the staff, the level of seriousness displayed by students and the heat of the building.

"I wanted to coach at a higher level," Shafer, new J.V. Girls Basketball and Varsity Baseball coach, said referring to the reason he switched schools.

Like Hipp, Mr. Scott Wilson and Mr. Clint Ashmead are new to Central's Social Studies Department and are teaching world geography and world history classes.

Ashmead, who taught seventh grade at Morton Junior High, said that he likes teaching older kids because they display a higher level of thinking.

Wilson, who came right from University of Nebraska at Lincoln, said, "We're going to make the Social Studies Department the best in the district. We'll be standing on the shoulders of giants."

The Science Department gained many new teachers as well.

Mrs. Jane Colling, now teaching physics, is originally from South Dakota, where she taught ninth through twelfth grade astronomy, meteorology, physics and chemistry classes in a school of 400 students.

Colling, a part of Central's Physics Club, has high aspirations for the club this year. She said that she hopes to build some cars and possibly rockets, although money is a big issue.

Mrs. Marlene LaRue, teaching biology and earth science, said that she "liked the history tradition" of Central.

LaRue said that she will be helping out with National Honor Society this year.


Other new faculty at Central include: Mrs. Alina Bass, assistant principal, Diane Allen, junior to a sophomore English teacher, Michelle Bennett, first and second year Spanish teacher, Vincent Charles, freshman and sophomore English teacher, Jimmie Beck, world geography teacher, Robert Goodrich, chemistry teacher, Robert Jens, physical education teacher, Robert Lessley, in-school suspension supervisor, Marcella Mahoney, freshman and sophomore English teacher, David Morris, American government teacher, Tammy Parker, ESL teacher, Michael Pedersen, first and second year Spanish teacher, and Debra Stansberry, counselor.



Mrs. Carol Hipp

Morgan Denny

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Seniors travel to France and Mexico

Sandra Cummins

Basking in the sun on the beaches of the Mediterranean or volunteering to help educate Mexican kids about the Bible were alternatives to spending the summer in La Seyne for two Central seniors. Senior Sarah Felix traveled to France for a month and lived as a high exchange student. For three weeks she lived in a home called La Seyne Sur Mer, and the remaining week traveled with a group of American students to southern France. Sarah traveled with Nacel Foreign Exchange program and lived with a host family including a father and two sisters. She said her experience was for learning and for fun.

The younger sister, who was 17, and she would go to the beach and hang out with their friends for fun.

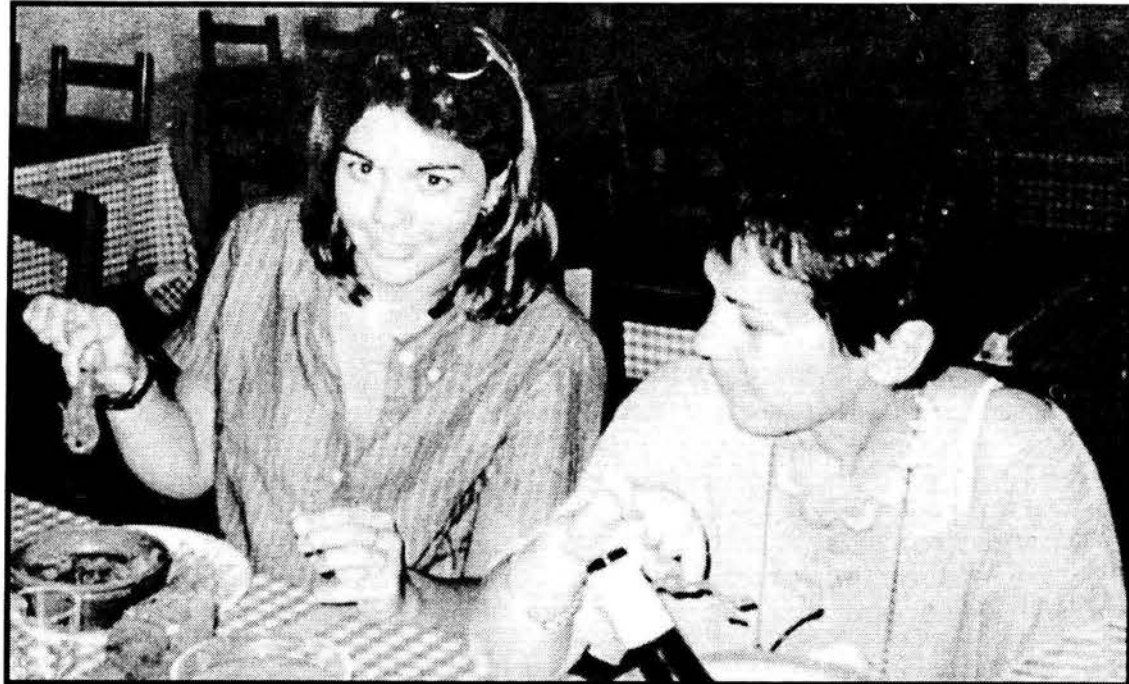
"They're just typical teenagers," Sarah said. "They do the same things we do."

La Seyne Sur Mer is located on the Mediterranean Sea.

"You could see the Mediterranean from the balcony. It was beautiful," Sarah said.

Sarah said the reason she went to France was to become fluent in French.

"I can understand basically everything in French but sometimes



Courtesy of Sarah Felix

Bon appetit... Sarah Felix dines at a French restaurant with her host family mother during her stay in La Seyne Sur Mer, France. While there she experienced many new cuisines.

have trouble saying what I want," she said.

The father of her host family was the only family member who spoke some English.

Sarah said that during the month she was in France she only spoke French, and that it was hard for her to remember English when she returned home.

"On the flight from New York to Chicago I was talking to a businessman and I couldn't remember the word for 'intercom'," Sarah said.

"It was weird."

Senior Erin Jenkins was part of a program called Friends of Mexico, a church mission that devoted a week of July to educate kids about the Bible.

Erin's church group traveled to Galeana, Mexico, a poor area of the state Nuevo Leon.

During the week she was there, Erin said she and other members of the mission would read the Bible to little kids.

"By the end of the week there

were probably about 100 people there," Erin said.

She said that people from the town (with a population of about 400) would gather to listen to Erin's group read and teach lessons.

While they weren't teaching, Friends of Mexico would do work for the town including cleaning and construction projects.

Erin said that her experience was worthwhile and that she met a lot of new friends while teaching them about religion.

Central students experience college over summer

Kate Alseth

While many Central students spent their summers laying around in the sun, others used the free time to attend programs at different universities across the country.

Senior Becky Goldberg and junior David Tennard are two of the students who decided to participate in these college programs.

Becky spent six weeks of the summer at Princeton University, in New Jersey, studying film making. David studied probability and statistics for three weeks at Truman State University, formerly Northeast Missouri State.

Becky chose Princeton because it was the only university that offered film making and had housing for the students.

Most other universities with this program she said, did not offer housing so the people attending had to rent apartments or find other places to stay while they were going to the program.

The reasons why they decided to get involved

in the programs differed a bit between the two students.

David said he hopes to attend a prestigious university and figured that attending a program like this would look good on college applications.

"I didn't want my summer to be uneventful," Becky said, "I wanted to accomplish something during the summer."

Becky also said that she thought this program would help prepare her for college.

During the program both students were treated as if they were college students.

They had the independence for the most part of leaving campus when they wanted and the choice to attend classes.

Becky took classes in lighting, writing, directing and editing.

In these classes she made three short films and received a degree for the films at the end of the program.

David went to a probability and statistics class for seven hours everyday for three weeks.

Each block of classes was about three hours long.

After the seven hours of class, David had two hours of free time and then an hour and a half study hall.

Both David and Becky said that these programs were very beneficial. Becky said that the program gave her a little taste of what college is going to be like.

"The program was really intense, but really fun," Becky said. "It intensified my desire to enter this profession."

David said that the program is great.

He said that studying algebra picked him up a grade in math. He is now taking calculus as a junior.

"It was like a summer camp, the only difference was we did academics instead of weaving," David said.

Class of '67 reunites, relives old memories

Julie Ferris

"A Gathering of Eagles," was the theme for Central's 30-Year Reunion that took place on August 1 and 2.

A committee of 18 Central alumni, headed by Howard Borden, began planning for the event in January of last year.

"It was a group effort in planning the reunion," Borden said.

The committee worked very hard deciding the events that would take place over the two-day period.

It was also difficult trying to locate 590 alumni of Central's 1967 graduating class, Borden said.

"The most difficult task in creating a reunion is finding everybody," Borden said.

After setting the date of the actual reunion, the committee started locating the alumni by searching on the Internet and database, sending invitations and contacting parents and relatives.

"We had a phone search evening encouraging people to come," Borden said.

On Friday night at St. Gerald's School, the reunion began with a Sock Hop.

The principal of St. Gerald's School was a member of the '67 Central graduating class and gave permission for use of the facility.

Over 200 other alumni came to the 30-Year Reunion, Borden said. He said it was an impressive turnout.

The gymnasium where the 60's dance happened and the current Central Cheerleaders and Pom Squad performed, was created to an atmosphere similar to a school dance after a basketball game in 1967.

The alumni *rocked* the night away while getting reacquainted with former classmates they have not seen for years and making new acquaintances.

"We talked about the common thread issues including those of classmates being married, reverse care role of parents and how kids in school have changed," Borden said.

Then Saturday morning, Central hosted a tour of the school.

Central Principal Dr. Gary Thompson gave a 30 minute presentation where questions of the alumni were answered.

Mary Wahl, 1967 graduate and committee member said that walking through the hallways of Central made her feel like a teenager all over again. During the tour, Central alumni noticed differences in the building itself.

"The class was very upset about the rope around the Sacred 'C'," Wahl said, "everybody knew better than to walk on it."

Many of the alumni questioned the rope around the "C", because they felt they had enough respect for the Sacred "C" not to have it, Borden said.

College Closeup Macalaster

By Kate Alseth

Macalaster College
founded in 1874

Location: St. Paul, Minnesota

Population: 1,695 full time students

males: 766
females: 929

Percent of freshman from in-state: 23

Admission: 54 percent of applicants accepted

Average SAT and ACT scores for freshman admissions:

SAT: verbal 620-700
ACT: 28-31

Estimated tuition (excluding room and board): \$16,686

Number of credit hours needed to graduate: 136

Financial aid: 78 percent of freshman receive some sort of financial aid

Faculty: 208

Greek system: none

Application/admissions address: William M. Shain, Dean of Admissions, Macalaster College, 1600 Grand Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105-1899.

Telephone numbers: (612) 696-6357. (800) 231-7974.

Internet address: admissions@macalstr.edu. WWW: www.macalstr.edu

Additional information: Macalaster is set in a 55-acre urban campus four miles away from downtown St. Paul. It is a liberal arts college with an educational program known for its high standards for scholarship and its extra emphasis on multiculturalism, internationalism, and service to society. These high standards and liberal views have been firmly rooted in its history.

Many students come to Macalaster for the liberal lifestyle and teaching methods that Macalaster is known highly for. Macalaster College is supported by the Presbyterian Church.

Macalaster feels that their campus is a place to raise spiritual growth among people of many religions.

DIRTY

The Lowdown

Students' opinions differ on drug usage

By Alli Pagan

*these names have been changed to protect the identity of the source

Although drug use among students has dropped considerably since the 1970s, the statistics have been on the rise again during the last few years, according to the book "Straight Talk about Drugs and Alcohol".

Researchers have found that over forty percent of all seniors have tried marijuana, and eighty-five percent of seniors believe that it is easy to get, according to the NIDA.

What researchers can not always determine is why kids are using drugs and where they get it from.

Many students said that they use drugs because they like the "high" that drugs give them. Others said they were unconcerned with the "low" that came after the drugs wore off.

"I use pot because it's fun and I like the feeling I get from it," Jill*, senior, said.

Several students that had not used drugs said that even though they may make you feel good, it was not worth the harmful effects and problems that go along with it.

"I don't really know why kids would use drugs. Are they really having more fun than people that don't use drugs?" senior Siri Heese said.

Another reason students gave for doing drugs is that the people they hang out with are involved with drugs.

"I had a friend who was a main influence in my life, and it was mainly because of him that I started using drugs," Jill* said.

Some students said that they believe that while friends do have an influence in using drugs, it is more of a personal choice than the result of peer pressure.

"My friends had drugs, and I wanted to try it when they offered me some, but they never pressure me to do anything I don't want to do." Larry*, sophomore, said.

Other students said they agree that the availability of drugs and the curiosity of experimentation were key elements in why students use drugs.

Many Central parents also said they are concerned about the drug use among students.

Nancy Coatsworth is a parent whose daughters Leigh, freshman, and Lauren, senior, attend Central.

She said that she is very concerned about the drug problems in schools and the effects they can have on the students.

"I'm not surprised that students try it, but I hope that common sense sets in and students realize drugs can be harmful," she said.

One aspect that she said concerns parents most is that the drugs are so available.

Coatsworth credits this to the supply-and-demand market that is operating.

The solution to the problem would be to punish the makers and dealers of the drugs, she said.

She also believes that young people should be educated more about what drugs can do to them.

Many students said that some reasons they do not use drugs are that they have harmful effects on the body and that they are illegal.

Since many drugs are illegal, students said they often have to make an effort to hide their usage from law enforcement and parents.

"Students don't get caught because they're smart

about it and don't do it in public," Ben* said.

If parents knew more about who their kids were with and where they were going, teens would not be doing as many drugs, Coatsworth believes.

Some other students said they are worried by the fact that drugs are against the law, but that still doesn't stop them.

"I feel a little guilty, since it is against the law," Jill* said.

That just makes her hide the drugs even more, especially from her parents, she said.

"The laws were obviously put there for a reason," Siri said.

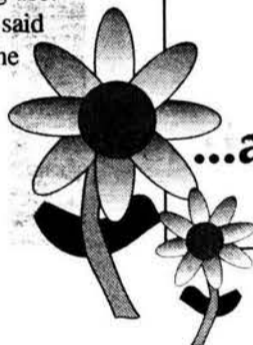
Some students said they believe that drug use is okay for them, though.

"I think it's fine [to do drugs], as long as you don't use them in excess", Jill* said.

She said she does not consider the long term effects of her drug use.

Although some students said they are not concerned with the effects of drugs, other students said they realize that drugs can be harmful.

"I think kids that do drugs will regret it later in life," Amanda Hansen, senior, said.



...all drugs

Narcotics leave unwanted

By Sandra Cummins

"Students know it's bad for them, but I don't think they care," Central junior Greg Davey said.

Dave Wallace, executive director of the Nebraska Council on Alcohol and Drug Education (NECADE), a lot of teenagers don't know the serious effects that drugs can have on their bodies.

Many teens think that they are invincible to drugs, Wallace said. In a national survey conducted by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), only 35.4 percent of high school students graduating in the class of 1995 said that people who try LSD once or twice risk harming themselves.

According to "LSD" by Mary Ann Littell, blotter paper is the most common form of LSD. Sheets of absorbent paper are soaked in LSD and dried. The paper is decorated with cartoon characters, zodiac signs or other illustrations, and perforated like a sheet of postage stamps. A user chews or swallows the paper and the drug goes through the normal digestive system.

LSD alters one's mood and perception. According to Cocaine Anonymous, most teens use drugs to alter their emotions. One experiences possible euphoria, paranoia, panic, anxiety, nausea and tremors.

An LSD high is referred to as a "trip". Ordinary objects take on different images. People may look like animals or monsters. Users often feel or see things that aren't really there.

A national household survey on drug abuse revealed that almost 51.0 percent of high school seniors said it would have been fairly easy or very easy for them to get LSD if they wanted some.

Cocaine is one of the most powerfully addictive drugs of abuse, according to NIDA. Once having tried cocaine one can't predict or control the extent of their continuous usage.

In a national household survey almost 22 million Americans in 1994 ages 12 and above had tried cocaine at least once in their lifetime. According to Cocaine Anonymous, cocaine, as in any addiction, takes over

one's life. It becomes a priority and an obsession of the mind.

The intensity of the cocaine "high" depends on how it is absorbed by the body. Cocaine can be sniffed, snorted, injected or smoked.

Excitement and fear, according to a "Cocaine and Crack" by Mares and Dangers of cocaine use include anxiety, shallow breathing, tremors. Excessive doses of cocaine may cause seizures and respiratory failure, cerebral hemorrhage and heart failure.

Cocaine Anonymous offers a 12 Step program for recovery. Any rehabilitation program is modeled after Alcoholics Anonymous.

The Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN) collects data on mortality and morbidity. DAWN claims that in 1991 the number of cocaine-related ER incidents began an increasing trend that reached 142,410 in 1994.

Cocaine is also known as coke, snow, "C", nose candy, blow.

According to NIDA, marijuana remains the most common illegal drug in America. In 1994, 30.4 percent of tenth-graders said that they had used marijuana.

Fred Otterberg, associate director of the Nebraska Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse said that drug abuse among teens has increased with marijuana and meth.

"Teens don't understand that marijuana is much, much more than it used to be," Otterberg said.

NIDA said that scientists at the University of California found that the daily use of 1 to 3 marijuana joints appears to be approximately the same damage to the lungs as smoking five times as many cigarettes.

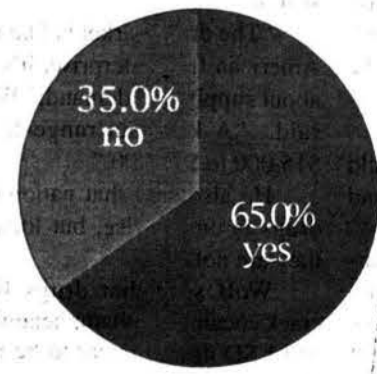
"Nebraska kids drink and smoke more tobacco products nationwide," Otterberg said.

Initial effects can include feelings of euphoria and well-being, inhibitions, an increased sense of humor and a hunger sensation.

Have you ever been in a situation where illegal drugs have been used?



Do your friends do drugs?



123 students polled

FOCUS

Getting High...

■ Getting over getting high

Recovering addicts seek rehabilitation

By Stephanie Holm

Various methods of teen drug rehabilitation have surfaced due to the increase in narcotics usage, a Richard Young doctor said.

Dr. James Wilson, a specialist in the rehabilitation ward, has been working with recovering narcotic users for over five years. Teen drug rehabilitation, a commonly used method for recovering narcotics users, has sky rocketed in new members, said Dr. Wilson. Joining these rehabilitation centers is the first step for people trying to overcome their problems.

There are twelve steps in the rehabilitation process. These twelve steps are clearly defined to allow recovering users the time to cope with their problems.

When a person undergoes a drug-related hospital emergency, rehabilitation is enforced, Dr. Wilson said.

The narcotics user is not forced to rehabilitate, but most often, they do. Society has shown recently, that many people are becoming users,

however, many users are receiving help, he said.

"When a person undergoes critical hospital attention for drug use, usually that person seeks help for themselves," Dr. Wilson said.

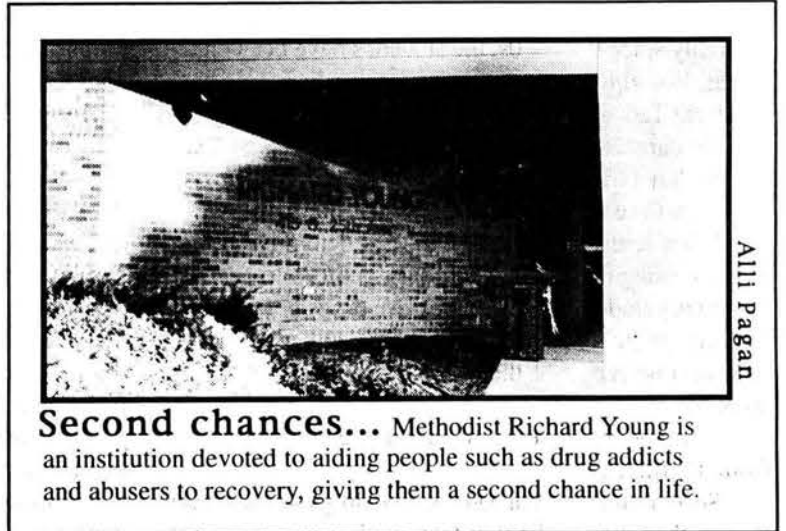
According to NIDA, the National Institute on Drug Abuse, the estimated number of drug-related emergency room incidents has fluctuated since 1988, when it totaled 101, 578.

Since then, the number has risen to an outstanding 142, 410. This increases the number of users being rehabilitated, according to NIDA.

Various new centers are being run by religious groups.

These centers focus on twelve steps as well, however, the twelve steps focus more on religious background and devotion than that of realizing the narcotics problem, Dr. Wilson said.

"Most teens start drugs because of a void in their lives, usually stemming from a bad relationship with Jesus Christ," Bill



Second chances... Methodist Richard Young is an institution devoted to aiding people such as drug addicts and abusers to recovery, giving them a second chance in life.

Broadhurst, administrative assistant at Teen Challenge of the Midlands, said.

Teen Challenge of the Midlands is a residential drug and alcohol Christian disciple program for teens 18 and older who have problems with substance abuse.

Broadhurst said that a lot of teens think that the dangers of drugs are a lie told by older generations to keep the youth from

having fun. Is rehabilitating drug users the right approach to take? According to a recent student poll taken at Central, 54.5 percent out of 123 students answered that rehabilitation was the right approach to take.

Until the numbers of narcotic abusers decrease, rehabilitation will prove to be a strong institute in the aid of recovering users, Dr. Wilson said.

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Effects

Effects of marijuana include an increased heart rate, impaired short-term memory, anxiety, lung damage and psychological dependence.

Marijuana can be taken orally or smoked. Paraphernalia for the use of marijuana includes matches, rolling papers, pipes, lighters, plastic bags and clips.

Other names for marijuana are Acapulco gold, bud, Canadian black, dubie, grass, hay, hemp, Mary Jane, Mexican brown, pot, refer, Texas weed.

"Any drug use by teens is drug abuse," Dave Wallace, executive director of the Nebraska Council on Alcohol and Drug Education (NCADE), said.

Wallace said that most of the time it is the social drug users that end up hurting themselves.

"Until our government and schools realize that there is more to life than living and dying, people are still going to say 'you only live once' on drugs," Wallace said.

Methamphetamine is a drug closely related to amphetamine and acts on certain systems in the brain. It is made in illegal laboratories and has a high potential for abuse and dependence.

Methamphetamine can be inhaled, taken orally, smoked, or injected. Methamphetamine comes in a fine crystal-like powder, tablet, or capsule form. Immediately after consumed by the body, methamphetamine gives the user an intense "rush" depending on the method taken.

A national survey conducted by NIDA said that in 1994 3.4 percent of high school seniors had used crystal methamphetamine at least once.

Methamphetamine gives its user a feeling of energy and excitement. Side effects include insomnia, dilated pupils, rapid speech, irritability and weight loss.

Dangers of methamphetamine use are severe depression, disorientation, paranoia, increased blood pressure and in some cases malnutrition. Other names for methamphetamine are bombitas, businessman's trip, crank, meth, methedrine, speed and splash.

Penalties of drugs outweigh the fun

By Sandra Cummins

The consequences of getting caught with drugs are far more outlasting than the high obtained from drugs, an Omaha Police official said.

Sergeant Bob Wolf, an officer in the narcotics division of the Omaha Police Department, said that teens don't realize that once they are convicted of drug use, it is on their permanent record forever.

Wolf said that the drug sentence can depend on which drugs were involved.

He said that harder drugs such as cocaine and crack cocaine can return a longer sentence than a drug like marijuana.

If a teenager was caught for the first time smoking marijuana they would receive a citation, which is less of a consequence than a misdemeanor, Wolf said.

Sentences for drug convictions can range from five years to a life sentence.

Also, the amount or weight

of a particular drug can affect what an offender is charged with.

For example, if John Doe was caught with an "eight ball" (an eighth of an ounce of cocaine) he might be charged with possession of a controlled substance.

However, if Jim Doe had two ounces of cocaine he might be charged with possession of a controlled substance with attempt to deliver.

"Two ounces is obviously too much for personal use," Wolf said.

If one was in a situation where drugs were being used, Wolf advises that "it would be prudent for them to leave the environment".

Wolf said that teens should know that drugs are illegal and that they can kill you.

"If you're not making it yourself, you're buying it from someone else, and you don't know what the purity level is," Wolf said.

He said that currently

Omaha's supply of methamphetamine and cocaine is coming from California and Mexico, via Interstate 80.

Wolf said that the police department has a new canine unit that works on I-80 to stop the drug flow.

A suspected car will be stopped and an officer will lead the dog around the vehicle to sniff for drugs. If the dog gives any indication that there could be drugs in the vehicle, that is considered probable cause for a search.

"The drug market is like our American free enterprise, it's all about supply and demand," Wolf said. "A kilo can range from \$15,000 to \$30,000."

He also said that nationally drugs are on the rise, but locally they are not.

Wolf said that drugs like crack cocaine, methamphetamine and LSD don't appear to be rising.

Entertainment

Luigi takes life at different beats

By Kate Alseth

Locally renowned percussionist, Luigi Wates, is still at it after at least 50 years of playing.

"Take your age and times it by two, and add 17 to that, that's how long I've been playin'," Luigi said.

Luigi said that he decided he wanted to play the drums after a visit to his uncle's house with his mother.

He said that his uncle was a witch doctor and while he was visiting with his uncle he heard these loud drums playing, and he knew that he wanted to play them too.

"I just heard the drums, and I wanted to play," said Luigi.

Luigi is known to be able to play any type of percussion instrument there is, but Luigi didn't agree with that statement.

"I don't play any instruments," Luigi said, "I just sit behind the drums and bang for awhile."

Though Luigi is humble to his talent, he is an amazing musician.

"I've seen him a few times downtown, he's awesome to watch. Luigi's amazing," senior, Meghan Boylan said.

He spent four months in Portugal last year traveling around and playing music.

He said that he loved Portugal but, that he was there too long.

"I'm a homebody," Luigi said. "I just like to be home."

Luigi loves home although he lives alone. Luigi's life isn't lonely though.

His list of friends is massive. It seems that everybody in Omaha knows Luigi and Luigi knows everybody.

Luigi is known for his jazz-styled percussion.

He regularly performs at local art shows and is very well known in the art community along with the music scene of Omaha.

Luigi has spent time performing at V-Mertz, a restaurant in the Old Market, and Joslyn Art Museum. Luigi played at last year's

Jazz on the Green festival.

He also performs at many weddings and bar mitzvahs.

"Yeah, I do a little of this and a little of that, I've played a few weddings and bar mitzvahs," Luigi said.

Luigi also travels to many elementary schools, performing and teaching children music.

"In sixth grade he came to Druid Hill and taught me different drumming techniques," said senior, Lawrence Butler, "He was really cool."

If you want to view one of Luigi's memorable performances, you can see him at Stageright Coffee, located on 16th and Harney. He performs most Thursday nights.

He also frequently performs at Borders bookstores on Wednesdays with a band that he called, "Luigi and Friends".

During the summer months you can usually find Luigi downtown in the Old Market playing the vibraphone, xylophone or one of the many other instruments he plays.



Multi-talented percussionist, Luigi Wates, plays local shows at venues like Borders with band Luigi and Friends and at Stage Right in solo performance.

England's dynamic duo Claymates animate history

By Rebecca Starr

The whimsical adventures of Wallace and Gromit are enough of a movie for any adult or child to enjoy. The trilogy of claymations are critically renowned and widely viewed through Europe, but surprisingly have yet to come to popularity here in the states.

These British claymations tell about the life of a crazy inventor, Wallace, and his four legged companion, Gromit.

The pair run a window washing service that was made easy by Wallace's inventive nature.

Wallace traditionally wakes by sliding from his reclining bed, into his clothes and down to the kitchen where another machine is preparing breakfast. Gromit awaits his master every morning and speaks through his face because he does not talk.

The impressive skill of the animators handling the claymation allows them to portray flipping through books, use facial expression, speak and have life-like movement.

The three videos each express their own story line and can be viewed independently.

"A Grand Day Out" (1990), is the story of Wallace's adventures building a space shuttle and tak-

ing Gromit to the moon. The pair run into a not-so-friendly electronic robot that wants to do them harm. After the problem is resolved, they eat some cheese, their favorite dish, and head for home.

This film was nominated for the 1990 Academy Award for Best Animated Film. Animators

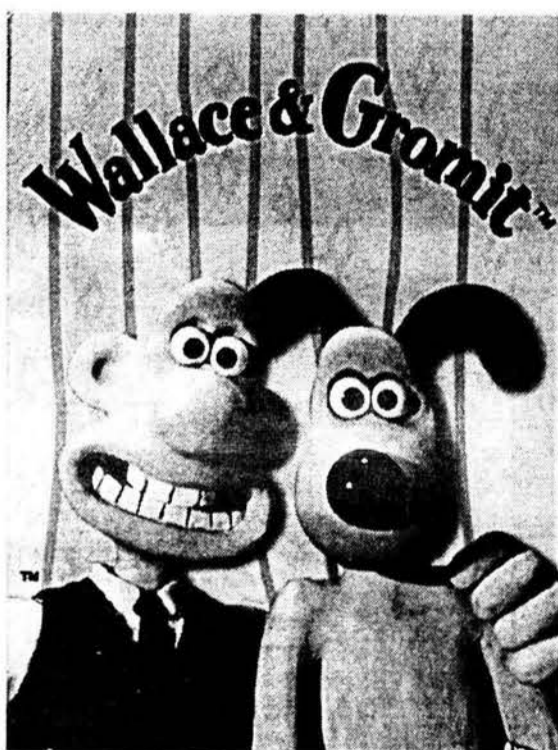
found this film important to experiment with their craft.

The second film in the trilogy, "The Wrong Day Out" (1993), portrayed the mishaps of when Wallace created a pair of mechanical trousers, and the trousers were taken over by an evil penguin. This film won the 1993 Academy Award for Best Animated Film.

"The Close Shave" (1995), the third movie, shows what happens when a mechanical dog turns evil and engages in sheep wrangling. Their skills as animators sharpened and this movie was definitely the best of the three.

Wallace and Gromit are worth watching, especially if you were one of the kids playing with your parents camcorder trying to make your own claymation. Suncoast Video carries the trilogy and

parafonia.



Edgifest disappoints weary listeners, again

By Julie Ferris

The saying, "Third time's a charm," is not even close to the words that describe the conditions at this year's Third Annual Edgifest sponsored by Omaha's modern rock station, KGDE, the Edge. In fact, it is actually the opposite.

Just getting in the gate without a full, body-cavity search was almost impossible. Security at the renovated Westfair Amphitheatre in Council Bluffs, where the festival had to relocate this year, would not allow such things as radios, cameras, coolers or even blankets for that matter.

Even with the sweltering 90 degree heat, the festival managed to draw 24,500 people, mostly teenagers.

Many fans experienced a rude awakening when they went to buy pop for to quench their thirst. Not giving in, they went in search for a water fountain to find two hoses with dirty water. The people, who could not tolerate standing in line for 20 minutes for unpurified water, were forced to buy ice water at the same price as the soft drinks.

Omaha's Grasshopper Takeover was the first of 13 acts, which began playing at 11:15 a.m. The 12 other bands included: Soak, Radio Iodine, Artificial Club, Puzzle Gut, Outhouse, Sister Machine Gun, Refreshments, Mathew Swain, Naked, Smash Mouth, Sugar Ray, and the Nixons.

With all the mighty, mighty let-downs, including the supposed cancellation of the very hot, two-hit single Mighty Mighty Bosstones, the festival had its high points.

Rocking performances by Smash Mouth, Sugar Ray, and the Nixons made the \$12.50, prepaid ticket not a total waste.

Smash Mouth, who performed later in the day, finally got most of the crowd riled up with the song "Walking On the Sun", which is regularly played on the Edge. The mosh pit was definitely too crowded during this song, especially with all the sweaty bodies crowd surfing, which was not allowed.

Speaking of which, many times the paramedics came to rescue people who had fallen on the cement from body surfing and heat exhaustion.

Sugar Ray, who played second to last, actually gave a better performance than the Nixons, who played last. During the performance the lead singer jumped into the crowd encouraging the people to sing and dance. After the last song "Fly", many people left.

When the Nixons ended around 10:30p.m., we decided to wait and avoid the traffic.

Planning eases homecoming woes

by Kate Alseth

Well, once again the Homecoming extravaganza is beginning. The event that makes everyone just a little shaky.

Not all of us know just exactly how to go about making all the arrangements for a night like this.

Where do you buy your dress? Where should you pick up a corsage? What about dinner? Don't fear, we, the Entertainment staff, are here to help.

If you are a female, you have to go through the whole ordeal of what to wear and where to buy it. Guys do this by usually raiding their father's closet just before the big night, but girls aren't so lucky.

Dress shopping does take a lot of time, especially for those of you who walk into the stores with one idea of dress in mind and aren't going to stop shopping until it's been found. Good Luck.

Dress shopping doesn't have to be such a pain. If you don't even know where to start looking, we can help.

The place to start is the local

department stores. Dillards, Younkers, JC Penney's and Von Maur all have a wide variety of dresses to choose from at fairly reasonable prices.

If you don't find what you want at one of these stores, there are quite a few dress stores around Omaha. Kalico's in the Regency Plaza is a very popular place to buy homecoming dresses.

They have dresses ranging from very casual to very dressy, and they keep a record of what school the girls buying their dresses are from, so you don't need to worry about showing up that night wearing the same dress as somebody else.

Another dress shop is Cache at One Pacific Place. These dresses are expensive, but very nice and not usually sold at other stores.

Many people like to spend a little extra cash to buy their date a corsage or boutonniere.

Both guys and girls seem to have the same problem of what type of flower they want and where they should get it.

Most local floral shops make a big deal out of homecoming and will most likely have many types of corsages and boutonnieres to choose from.

There are some well known and reliable floral shops around town that have a good assortment of styles. Some of these are Janousek, Terry's Flowers, Dundee, Kina Florists and Lilian's Flowers.

There are a few things to remember when corsage and boutonniere shopping.

If you are a guy and buying a corsage, find out what color your date's dress is. White is always a safe color if you don't know what to buy.

When buying a boutonniere, go simple. A single white or red rose

is always OK.

So you've got your clothes picked out, your corsage ordered, now you have to decide where you want to eat.

It pretty much all depends on what type of food you are in the mood for. We can give you some suggestions, though. If you want Italian, Vivace in the Old Market is always very popular for homecoming dinner.

Another popular place to eat is The Bistro, also located in the Old Market. If you are in the mood for really good Chinese food with a fun setting, try King Fongs or Imperial Palace. Indian Oven, located in the Old Market, is a great place if you want

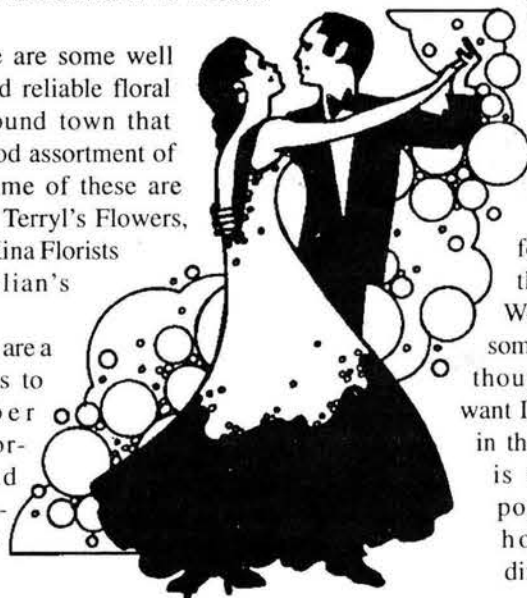
to try something a little different. For a really good, but really expensive meal, try either Maxine's, located on the top of the downtown Double Tree Hotel, or The French Cafe, in the Old Market.

Try to decide on a restaurant that everybody likes. Sticking with places specializing in continental or Italian food is usually pretty safe. There also is always the option of doing the casual dinner thing. Many people get big groups together and just order pizzas or get Chinese take-out before the big night.

You could also be romantic and try cooking dinner for your date. Both of these ideas aren't nearly as expensive and you don't have to worry about making reservations at a restaurant.

We've done our best to help insure you to have a good homecoming experience.

So now try to take a deep breath, relax and have a good time, especially if this is your first time going to homecoming. Oct. 18 will sneak up on you so don't forget the necessities.



IMAX crowd journeys through Grand Canyon

By Julie Ferris

Imagine flying through the Grand Canyon, white water rafting down the river or echoing through the boulders while standing at the bottom of the Grand Canyon.

By experiencing the current Henry Doorly IMAX film called the "Grand Canyon", which was produced and directed by Keith Merrill, I got the feeling of actually being there.

Capturing the essence of life in the Grand Canyon without going there was the purpose of the film.

While watching the 45 minute film on one of the world's largest screens, which ranges about five stories high and 70 feet wide, the experience was quite comfortable.

Plush, red seats that your whole body can sink into, filled the theater.

To add to the comfort, the IMAX theater provided a mini-session stand with pop and candy.

Due to the extremely, sky-rocketing, ex-

pensive prices, I passed without disappointment. Especially since I am a student, over 12 years old, and had to pay \$6.50 for only a 45 minute film.

Like a documentary, the film basically showed events from the past to the present of the Grand Canyon.

The film took us back 3000 years ago, when the first people, who were nomads, discovered the Grand Canyon.

Through the eyes of the primitive people, we saw the beauty of nature that filled the Grand Canyon.

The film also showed many extraordinary, hidden secrets of the Grand Canyon including gold buried in the granite and the remains of the people who died in search of gold.

Then the best part of the film came when the people went down the river through the rapids.

While looking through the characters' points-of-view, the audience crashed through

the waves.

With the wonderful surround sound stereo, the different sounds, including the crashing waves, added to the feeling of being on the raft. The sounds of the most minute insects could be heard so perfectly, it made me cringe.

If you are one for relaxation, classical, instrumental music played throughout the film as well.

The IMAX film let people escape to another world with appealing, educational visuals and sounds.

I feel the IMAX film would be great for a school field trip, a family outing or anyone who wants to journey through the wonders of the world.

If you find there is no extra time to see the film or it does not look interesting, maybe other films at the IMAX will interest you. Currently, the IMAX is showing "Whales." In the future, the film "Alaska" will be premiering.

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YADDA YADDA YADDA

By Sandra Cummins



Those outside of school mishaps

Have you ever noticed how strange it is that people you don't socialize with at school can be your best buddy outside of Central boundaries? Let me explain...

OK, I admit it, I work in fast food. Taco Bell to be exact. I was trying to figure out how to successfully wrap tacos without breaking the shells (which is really hard to do!), when this girl that I've seen in class shouts "Hi!" from across the counter. First of all, for those of you who don't work in fast food, those of us that do hate it when you come in to see the shine on our faces and our uniform that can't fit anyone's body right. It is especially embarrassing to be seen by someone you know while wearing a name tag shaped like a chili pepper.

Is this person talking to me? I guess so. "Um...hey," I enthusiastically muttered. I think I've seen her in a class or two but it's not like we've ever talked before. So she starts gushing out her life story and how she went to her grandparents' anniversary party, yadda yadda yadda on and on. I can't even remember this girl's name, and she's asking what my plans are for the weekend.

By now my boss is staring at me with a get-back-to-work-or-you're-fired look and I'm desperately trying to get away from this intriguing conversation. That's another thing for you non-fast food workers, don't blab on and on when the boss who wants us fired, and is looking for a reason to work, is standing five feet away. Whew! She gets her food and leaves! Later I think about it and come to the conclusion that I was somewhat snobbish for not being more friendly. I vow to go out of my way the next day to say hi when I see her.

So fast forward, it's the next day and look who is walking down the hallway. "Hi!" I exclaimed. Nothing. Nada. I get a blank stare. She looks right through me! I was so mortified. Now I look like an idiot who has no one to talk to and just randomly says hi to people in the hallways.

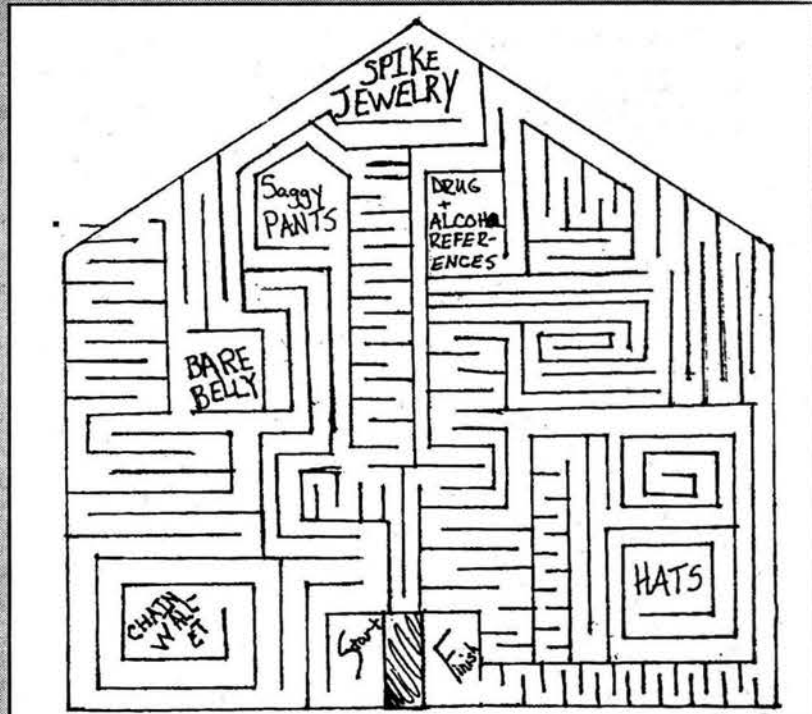
Ugh! You all know what I'm talking about don't you?! Now the people that were walking next to me and saw my face flush with embarrassment know the truth: I did know that girl! On the other hand, isn't it annoying when you can't walk to your class without waving to 20 people? The worst is when the one person you didn't jump up and down for joy for, thinks you're in a bad mood because they got left out. For the rest of the day that one person will either hound you or disregard your presence. Go figure.

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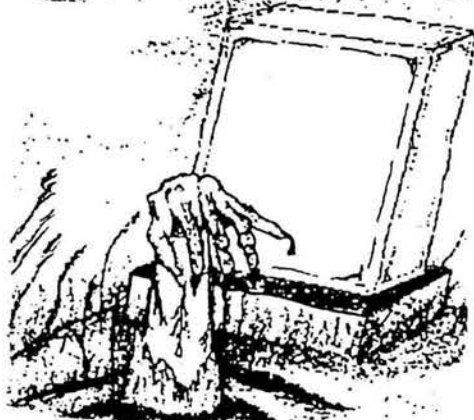
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"I pity the fool that doesn't see 'Copland'"
Mr. T

Kate Alseth
Julie Ferris
Rebecca Starr

KATE

Police officers hitting walls while driving drunk, others committing suicide by jumping off bridges, "Copland" definitely begins with a bang.

For the first half hour of the movie you are sitting on the edge of your seat in shock of what you are seeing. Then it slows down a little bit and starts to drag on and on. It seemed like the never ending movie. The plot never seemed to be able to come completely unraveled.

All of a sudden there were all these affairs and incidents from the past that you had to watch fall into place with the main plot. Some of these things never really seemed to fall into place ever.

The casting seemed a little strange for some of the roles. Sylvester Stallone as an overweight, hearing impaired sheriff, hmm. It was a little unbelievable since we are all used to the big buff Stallone of "Rocky", but he pulled off the role reasonably well. We now know that Stallone does have some acting ability.

Even though I've never been a big fan of these type of action movies I thought "Copland" as a whole was very good. The beginning was excellent and the end was also good, it just got a little boring in the middle. But, as a whole I would definitely recommend this film to anybody who likes those shoot'em-up mob movies, and even to those who don't.

JULIE

Surprisingly, the new-released "Copland" turned out to be an okay movie.

The movie begins in Garrison, a quiet town across the river in New Jersey where nothing is supposed to happen.

Right away the movie takes a twist and reveals the conflict of the plot in a riveting scene. This is when Murry (Rapaport) a NYPD cop, decides to defend himself after being smashed into and practically shot by teenagers.

Away from the city, back in Garrison a safe haven for crooked cops, Ray and other cops hide Murry. While throwing a party for his nephew, Ray finds out his plans of getting Murry a new life fell through.

From here on the plot drags on with different people being killed by the mafia, because they "might talk".

It is obvious the idea of the movie came from a real-life problem of crooked cops playing the system. Even though this movie slowed down after the dramatic conflict, it had an up-beat, emotional ending. So in conclusion, all is fair in love and war!

BECCA

Bang! The movie, "Copland", takes off with fury as corrupt cops drive drunk, shoot unarmed teenagers, and another commits suicide by plummeting to his death from a bridge. The suspenseful beginning leaves you drooling for more.

This star-packed film features Harvey Keitel as a corrupt policeman, Michael Rapaport as a missing and supposedly dead policeman, Robert DeNiro as one of the good guys, and Ray Liotta as Pigsy the bad guy turned good.

A stunning face in this movie was Sylvester Stallone, who for once in his life actually acted instead of just flexing for the camera. Rumor has it that Stallone had to put on 40 pounds for this role.

Janeane Garofalo had a small role as a small town, can't hack it, cop. She was surprising to see, since she rarely goes outside the realm of romantic comedy.

The plot is very long and very twisted. Not that it is bad, it's just a little too intricate for the events. It seems as though the plot is solved, but it isn't really until the last two minutes of the movie.

Despite the lengthy plot, the movie still has a lot of redeeming qualities. The action sequences are very intense with lots of death scenes that can be mildly repulsive and are not meant to be viewed by pregnant women or people with heart conditions.

The intensity of the film can be overwhelming, but that just proves that the actors are doing their job. It was an awesome flick for those who can stay awake through the middle. Be careful about letting it go until video, I think this film would definitely lose some of its effects.

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TWO-MINUTE DRILL

By Derek Tritsch



Eagle football starts season, shows promise despite record

"The more things change, the more they stay the same," and never was the saying more applicable than this year for the 1997 Eagle football team.

Two things always seem to hold true in Central football: a strong running game and a solid defense, and this year it seems more true than ever. If anyone thought that this year would be a rebuilding one after the 8-3 state playoff team of last year, those thoughts were probably erased after the first game of the season, a 14-9 win at North.

With key offensive personnel gone from last year, this year's Eagles find themselves forced to revert back to traditional Central football, that is, control the clock with a dominating running game. This year's rushing attack goes an amazing four or five deep in talented running backs and is led by Nebraska recruit DeAntae Grixby. Central's best hopes for the season rest on keeping the ball away from the opposing team's offense.

"We felt we were wearing [North] down," Coach McMenamin said.

And that's exactly what this year's team is going to have to do to be successful: wear down the opponent. And there just might be enough talent on this team to pull that off.

If they tackle well enough, the defense should be fine, and if the offense can minimize the number of turnovers and control the ball as they did against North, expect big things from the 1997 Eagles. But if the defense tackles poorly and the offense sputters, as they both did against Benson, this could be a long year for Eagle fans. Opposing teams will bring eight or nine players into the box and force Central to pass, which is not exactly the game plan.

Which reminds me...passing. For those of you who checked the newspaper after the North game and missed Central's passing statistics, don't be alarmed, there weren't any. Central failed to complete, that is, attempt a pass against the Vikings. That's something that Coach McMenamin knows must change if the Eagles are to be successful this year.

"We're going to have to be sharper on our passing game if we want to get through our tough schedule this year," Coach McMenamin said.

But, as you probably saw in the Benson game, Central's passing game has some promise. The problem against the Bunnies was trying to keep the defense off of quarterback Cecil Evans.

Which also reminds me...schedule. Wow, the Central coaching staff must have shook their heads in disbelief when they saw this year's schedule. Once again the schedule makers were none too kind on Central, making them play four out of their first five games of the season against top ten teams. North was the non-top ten team, and we saw how easy that game was.

This year's schedule is especially surprising because it is coming on the heels of last year's, which was one of the toughest schedules in Nebraska. But this is football and teams aren't allowed to cry and get their way. Coach McMenamin and his staff will be forced to put a positive spin on their schedule and have his team prepared to play each week, neither of which will be easy.

And I would be remiss if I did not say something about the defense. Boy, this unit can really fly. That's why the success of the defense is so dependent on tackling. The defense must prove that they are not susceptible to smash-mouth football, because this unit is one of the fastest in the Metro.

And this is exactly what happened in the Benson game. The Central defense held the vaunted Bunnie running attack of Kenton Keith and Randy Stella to a combined 29 yards total, but it was Benson's passing that killed them. The Eagles either looked confused in pass defense, often leaving one receiver wide open, or failed to wrap-up, which happened on Benson's 39 yard touchdown pass.

Tackling alone was the Eagles' main nemesis against Millard South. The Indians exploited Central's special teams, running two kicks back for touchdowns. Millard South also helped themselves by running back an interception.

All in all, the 1997 Eagles are a talented bunch, and, more often than not, the more talented team wins. If they can hold down the mistakes and avoid injuries, look for them in the state playoffs.

Cross country strides to Metro

By Michael Sheehan

The Central cross country team looks to have a strong season in 1997, Head Coach Tim Shipman said.

At a cross country meet, the competitors run from 3.2 to 3.8 miles for boys and 2.5 to 3.1 miles for girls.

They also go through a nine week training program.

In the first three weeks they run seven miles a day.

During the next three weeks they run hills and sprints to improve their speed.

During the final three weeks runners use a combination of the two types of running.

Mr. Shipman said that the team this year has some of the best runners in the metro, including junior Annika Carlson.

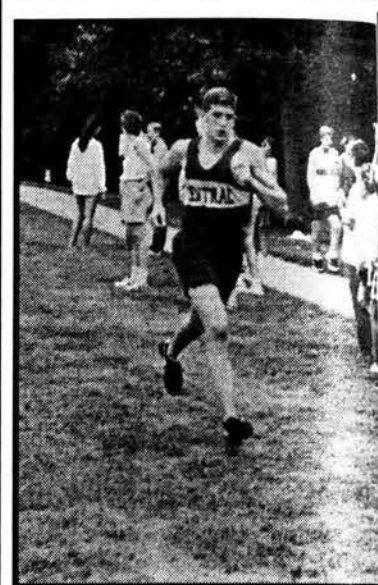
On Sept. 12 Annika placed first in the Central Invite at Memorial Park.

As for male runners, junior Jamison Richart, freshman Carlos Zendajas and senior Chris Scofield all are very talented runners.

"The boys are very determined, and although the girls' team is small, it is very talented," Jamison said.

Central's main competition this year are Millard South, Millard North, Kearney, North and Burke.

Mr. Shipman said the toughest meets are the Millard West Invite on Oct. 3 and Metro,



Run, Jamison, run
Junior Jamison Richart runs the finish line at the Central Invite.

which is held on Oct. 9.

The future of the team looks very bright with many underclassmen running for the varsity team.

Also Mr. Shipman said that two of the men boys and two freshmen girls have a good chance at running varsity by the end of the year.

Girls' golf drives into season

By Derek Tritsch

The Central girls' golf team started the 1997 season off on a positive note, Head Coach Jo Dusatko said.

"I couldn't be happier with how we've started off," she said.

Early in the season, the Eagles' best performance came at the Abraham Lincoln tournament, placing two finishers in the top fifteen.

Junior Stacy Cramer and senior Rachel Slosburg both earned medals for their performances there, finishing 11th and 13th, respectively.

"I was happy with how they finished, although both of them felt they could have finished higher," Dusatko said.

Rachel and Stacy are the mainstays of a 12-person team with ten new players.

The experience of the new players is somewhat lacking, but there is tremendous upside for their golf games, Dusatko said.

"They're beginners, basically, but they're very enthusiastic, which makes it very fun for me," she said. "In a few years we'll have a good team."

This year, the Abraham Lincoln tournament was played on the Eagles' home course,

Elmwood Park. Despite the perceived change, several Eagle players complained about poor greens. While that may have kept high, Dusatko wants to focus on the putting area.

"I just want our girls to keep improving every day, that's the important thing," she said.

Central had another strong showing Sept. 18, in a dual meet against power Marian.

Rachel defeated her opponent by 4 strokes, 44 to 48. Stacy also defeated her opponent.

Dusatko said that this year is somewhat of a rebuilding one. The starting five has been fluctuating, with Rachel and Stacy being the only mainstays.

She said the other three spots are open.

With Metro competition coming Sept. 30, Dusatko won't let her team rest on their laurels.

"Keep improving, keep spirits up and have fun," she said.

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Eagle Spotlight: Stuart Waters

That may sound like a player that's a little too high on himself, but his coach echoes those sentiments.

"I have great expectations for Stuart," Waterman said. "This could really be a banner year for him."

It may seem as though there is little margin for error this season for Stuart, but Waterman puts it all in perspective.

"When I say he *should* win state, yeah he should," Waterman said. "But you need to be hot at tournament time, and sometimes you just aren't. It's a question of luck."

What makes Stuart such a good player?

Waterman says that Stuart possesses a combination of agility and power that is rare among high school athletes. His potent serve often surpasses 100 or 110 mph. In fact, Stuart said he has topped out at over 120 mph. And Stuart has the athletic ability to play any sport, Waterman said.

But Stuart's most valuable asset as a player is his consistency, Waterman said.

"Stuart's a very consistent player," Waterman said. "He comes to play every match, and he plays hard all of the time."

His consistency comes as a result of a strong mental outlook Stuart has on the game, probably stemming from his incredible commitment to tennis.

"I've been playing tennis since I could

walk," Stuart said.

Stuart, a year-round player, is coached by his father, Jim Waters. His dad has always been there to push him, even at times when Stuart struggled with his own self-motivation.

"I've thought about quitting," Stuart said, "but then decided it wasn't worth it."

And it is probably a good thing that he did not quit. Waterman said he thinks that Stuart can definitely continue playing after high school and on into college.

"Stuart is definitely a Division I player,"

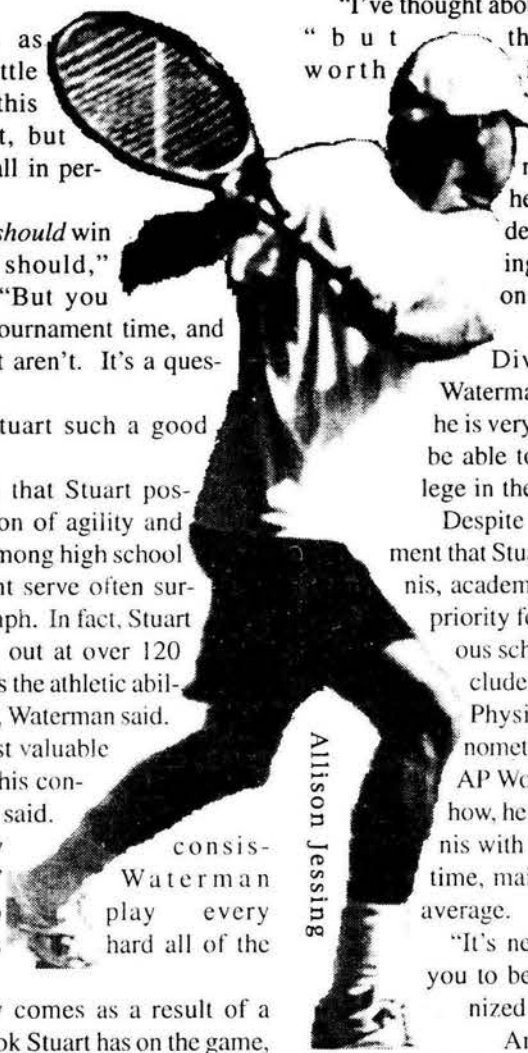
Waterman said. "Academically he is very smart, so I'm sure he'll be able to choose from any college in the country."

Despite the great time commitment that Stuart makes to playing tennis, academics are still a very high priority for him. He has a strenuous schedule of classes that include such courses as Honors Physics 1-2, Honors Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus 1-2, and AP World History 1-2. Somehow, he manages to balance tennis with school and, at the same time, maintain a 4.1 grade point average.

"It's never easy, it just forces you to be a little bit more organized at times," Stuart said.

And so the future is looking very bright for this Eagle athlete.

"I know that all this hard work will pay off in the long run," he said.



Allison Jessing

Eagle tennis looks primed for Metro

By Derek Tritsch

The Central boys' tennis team started off the 1997 season in near perfection. The Eagles defeated both North and Benson in convincing fashion, as well as finishing first in the Millard West Invitational.

With results like that, how could a coach ask for anything more? But Coach John Waterman said that he was not too excited.

"I expected to win," Waterman said. "Each match we won we should have won, so its not too surprising."

Stuart is not the only one who dominated his early matches. Senior Chad Powell, the Eagles' No. 2 singles player, also easily handled his first two opponents.

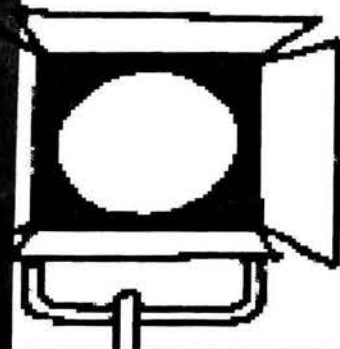
The rest of Central's singles players, all of whom were undefeated through the Eagles' first two meets, are as follows: juniors Jeremiah Schultz and Charlie Carlin, and seniors Kasper Poulsen and Ben Teply.

Switching to doubles action, Central was equally successful. The No. 1 team of Chad and Jeremiah finished first at the Millard West Invitational, Waterman said.

"Our No. 1 doubles team should do some damage come state tournament time," he said.

After Chad and Jeremiah, other doubles players are: Charlie, Ben, Kasper, junior John Owens, and senior John Ashford.

With Central breezing through the early part of the schedule, the real test should come on Oct. 8th and 9th at Metro.



Fast Facts: Stuart Waters

Grade: 11th
 Birthdate: May 29, 1981
 Position: No. 1 singles
 Hobbies: Two-year
 Achievement: won the Missouri Valley tournament in St. Louis this summer

Derek Tritsch
 When he's on, he can beat anybody in Missouri Valley."

The player being referred to is Stuart Waters, the No. 1 singles tennis player. The comment was made by Central tennis Coach John Waterman.

This is high praise for a high school player, especially a junior.

But Stuart said that there are high expectations for his junior year, expectations like winning a state No. 1 singles title.

"I set lofty goals for myself, like this year I think I'm the best player in the state," he said. "Anything short of a state title will be a disappointment for me."

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SPORTS

We Cover Eagle Territory



Central football loses two straight after opening win

By Amy Yin

The 1997 Eagles' football team started the season off this year with a record of 1-2, through the first three games.

Central defeated North in the Vikings' season-opener, 14-9.

Early in the second quarter, with the score tied 0-0, the Vikings recovered the ball in the end zone for a safety to take the lead, 2-0.

With 2:50 left in the third quarter, senior I-back DeAntae Grixby ran in for a touch-down and then ran in for the two point conversion to make the score 8-2.

"We were very competitive, but we had a lot of mistakes in the first half," Central Head Football Coach Joe McMenamin said.

With 10:18 left in the fourth quarter, the Vikings scored a touchdown, putting them up 9-8.

With 5:17 left on the clock, senior I-back and rover Lawrence Butler, ran in from the Vikings' three yard line to put the Eagles' up 14-9.

"I have never felt so tired in my life,"

Lawrence said.

After the Vikings' failed to score, the Eagles got the ball back and let the clock run out.

"I knew if we played hard through the whole game we would win," senior Lnce Griffin, who plays flanker and middle line-backer.

On Sept. 12, the Eagles faced unranked Benson at Benson Stadium.

Central struggled to get their offense going throughout the game. Benson took advantage of their difficulties and moved the ball swiftly through the air.

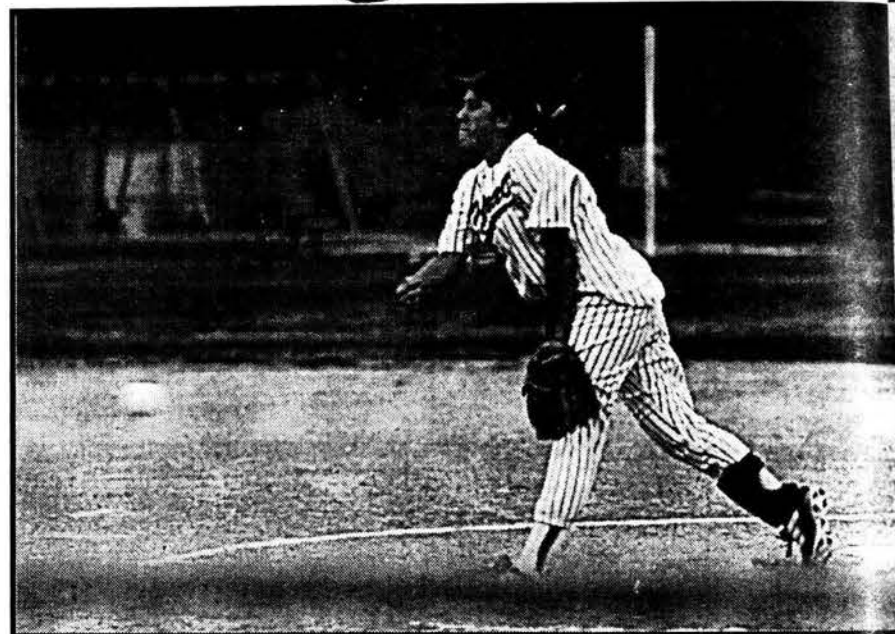
The final score of the game was Benson 17-7 over Central.

On Sept. 19, the Eagles faced the No. 4 ranked Millard South Indians at Berquist Stadium.

Central kept the game close until Millard South ran a kickoff back 98 yards which opened the game up.

The final score of the game was Millard South 35-13 over Central.

Swing Batter...



Senior Cris Calhoun pitches a fastball for the Eagles. Currently, Central's softball team is ranked No. 10 in the Metro with a 10-5 record, the only defeats coming at the hands of ranked opponents. The Eagles made an early exit from the Metro tournament, losing to Westside in the first round. District competition will take place on Oct. 16th and 17th.

I-back follows in footsteps of Central great

By Brian Joseph

Imagine following in the footsteps of nationally known athletes such as the University of Nebraska at Lincoln I-back Ahman Green and former Green Bay Packer Calvin Jones. One Central student is doing just that.

Senior DeAntae Grixby, the Eagles' starting I-back and Safety, made a verbal commitment to the University of Nebraska at Lincoln football program this summer after being offered a scholarship. With his commitment, DeAntae has drawn comparisons to Jones and Green, two other Central I-backs to play at Nebraska.

However, DeAntae said that he is trying to not let the comparisons influence him too much.

"All I have to do is go out and play my game," he said.

DeAntae said that he, Jones and Green are very different players. He said that their running styles are different from his.

Eagles Head football Coach Joe McMenamin agrees.

"DeAntae probably has better quickness [than Jones or Green]," he said.

But, McMenamin said that Green and Jones had better straight ahead speed. Also, he said that DeAntae is very deceptive and has good field vision.

Along with DeAntae's commitment has come more me-

dia attention. He was named to the *Omaha World Herald's* High School Super Six.

But, he said that he tries not to get too carried away with his new-found fame.

"I never let it get to my head," he said.

While all of the attention was exciting at first, DeAntae said that he is now bored with being in the spotlight and just wants to get on with the football season.

"State Championship, that's what's on my mind," he said.

Also, he said while committing has taken some pressure off, new pressures have been put on. Now that he is a Nebraska recruit, he said that he has to be a responsible citizen.

"You've got to be a role model," he said.

DeAntae said that not only does he have to always do his homework, he has to be careful about who he hangs around. DeAntae said that he worries about being at the wrong place at the wrong time.

"There is so much pressure on him," McMenamin said.

McMenamin said that this pressure comes from the fact that DeAntae is playing the glamour position, I-back, in high school and is going to be their first as a Cornhusker. But, he

said that DeAntae is doing well with all of his pressure.

As to why he was offered a scholarship, McMenamin said that it had to do with how DeAntae plays.

"I think the primary reason [that he was offered a scholarship] is that he is an aggressive ball player," he said.

Also, he said that the Nebraska coaches like DeAntae can play both offense and defense.

Once the scholarship was offered, DeAntae said his choice was an easy one.

"I've been a die-hard Nebraska fan since I was little," he said.

Besides Nebraska, he said that many other schools were interested in him including Notre Dame, Kansas State, TCU, Texas, Colorado State, Iowa and Iowa State.

DeAntae said that while other schools sent their coaches to talk with him, Nebraska Head Coach Tom O'Brien did some of DeAntae's recruiting.

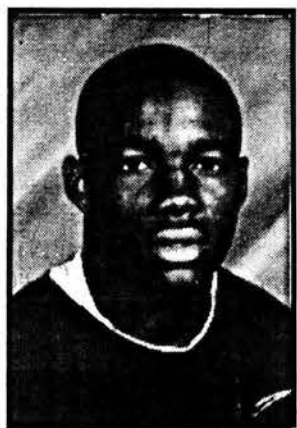
DeAntae has other plans besides playing football. "Football is a free ticket to college," he said.

He said that he wants to be the first person in his family to become a college graduate.

"I'm not trying to go to the NFL," he said.

With DeAntae's size and strength, McMenamin said he believes DeAntae will be able to make the jump to the collegiate level.

"I think he'll do excellent," he said.



Eagle volleyball starts season strong; has sights on state

By Amy Yin

Dedication, hardwork and experience is making the 1997-98 volleyball season a success.

The Eagles have started the season off with a record of 5-2, the only losses came against ninth ranked Marian, and Burke.

The Eagles, losing only two seniors last year, bring back the following starters: juniors

Cara Steffensmier, Stephanie Holm, Lauren Pettit and Sophomore Liz Kieffe. They are joined by seniors Jessica Mouton, Becca Baines, juniors Brooke Ponc, Becky Abersfelder, Sarah Johnson, and sophomore Kari Rider.

"This years team is a 100 percent better," Central Head Volleyball Coach Brad Reichmuth said. "Most of our players were letter-winners last year so they have more confidence and more experience."

On Sept. 12 Central faced Bryan and Burke at the Gradoville Invite at Bryan. The Eagles won against Bryan but lost against Burke.

During the Burke game, middle blocker Jessica Mouton fell and hit the right side of her face on the ground while trying to save a ball during match point. Jessica said she tried to land on her arm but instead hit the floor.

The impact caused a slight concussion

and a stiff neck. In addition, she suffered a black eye that underwent a considerable amount of swelling.

Despite the injury, Jessica managed to come to the Eagles' next game on Sept. 13.

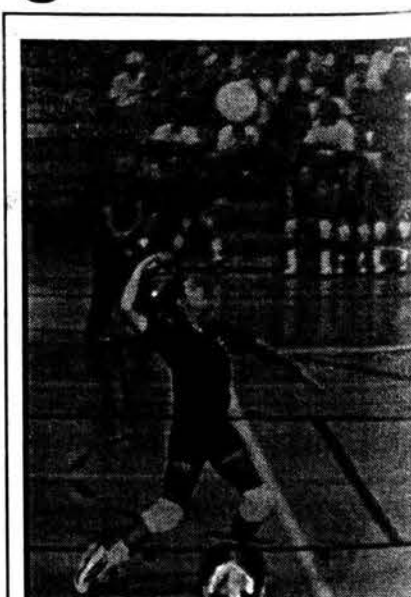
On Sept. 18, the Eagles beat North 15-2 and 16-14.

"We played well against North," Jessica said. "We tried some new things, some of which worked and some of which didn't."

Coach Reichmuth said the team's goal is to finish with a winning record and to make the Final Eight at Metro, which will be held Oct. 27 and 29.

After the completion of their regular season schedule, the Eagles will move on to districts, on Nov. 6 and 7. The state tournament will be held Nov. 14 and 15.

"I think we'll do really well," Cara said. "I think we'll compete with teams that people don't expect us to."



Smack!!! Senior Becca Baines serves up an ace.

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