



# The Central High School REGISTER

Since  
The Oldest School  
Newspaper West  
of the Mississippi  
1886

Volume 111 No. 3

November 26, 1997

Omaha, Nebraska

## Blood drive draws Central students' support

Morgan Denny

Central held its bi-annual blood drive on Nov. 4, collecting blood from 53 students.

"I felt obligated to give blood," Ben Rinaker, junior student council member and blood donor, said. "I think it's selfless that people didn't give blood since it only takes a little time and doesn't hurt."

"People did it to help out and just to get out of class honorably," Mandy Frank, a sophomore student council member said.

Juan Allen, director of communications for the Red Cross, said that the Red Cross holds blood drives at high schools because they like to "encourage young people to become life-blood donors."

Allen said that this is important because only 5 percent of the population donates the blood that helps to heal 100 percent of the population.

She also said that holding the blood drives at schools makes them more convenient for the students and therefore more likely for them to donate.

Bonnie Macdiffi, the Red Cross' administrative assistant, said that Central's donation goal was 36 units of blood, which was surpassed by donating a total of 48 units.

Allen said that one unit of blood equals 500 milliliters, which is often associated with a pint although the two are not exactly equal.

Central's blood donation goal was lowered from the Red Cross' goal of 42 units on March 6, 1997, when 46 units of blood were donated, Macdiffi said.

Macdiffi said that the reason the number of donors and the number of units differs is because often the bag that the blood is collected in doesn't fill up in the allotted amount of time and some students are turned away for disqualifications. She also said that some of these disqualifications include being sick and having lived in certain countries during certain periods of time.

Another restriction on giving blood is age. A donor must be at least 17 years of age to give blood.

Allen said that this restriction is a state law based on the fact that before 17 years of age, some bodies are not finished developing and need all of their resources, including blood.

Ben said that he thinks the age restriction should be lowered to 16 so that the Red Cross could benefit from more donors.



Gail Braddock

**Feed me, Seymour...**The Central High blood drive was just as popular as the film "Little Shop of Horrors", collecting nearly 50 units of blood. Above is junior Katie Rohmeyer donating her blood to the cause. Katie is accompanied by 5 percent of the American population who give blood each year. Central's blood drive was sponsored by the student council and the Nebraska Red Cross.

Allen said a donor does not have to know his blood type in order to donate, but a card telling the donor his blood type will be sent to him after making a donation.

Allen said that there are eight different blood types, O positive and A positive being the most common.

However, Allen said that O negative is the most useful of blood types because anyone can receive it.

She said that this blood type is often used for trauma patients and in situations when there is no time to check the patient's blood type.

Allen said that the blood collected through the Red Cross in Omaha supplies blood for 96 hospitals in Nebraska and western Iowa. The blood drive is held with the help of Central's Student Council and the Red Cross.

Ben said that holding the blood drive shows that Central is involved in the community.

## Task force may bus out desegregation plan

Brian Joseph

The desegregation plan of the Omaha Public School district (OPS) is under review by a recently formed task force that held its first meeting on Nov. 12.

Ms. Luanne Nelson, technical director of the task force, said that the goal of the review is to thoroughly examine all of the different aspects of the desegregation plan to determine if or what changes need to be made to maintain OPS' commitment to excellence by providing equal opportunities for all students. Nelson said that the responsibilities of the committee include reviewing the current desegregation plan and studying the district's demographics. Once all of the information has been amassed, she said that the task force will make its recommendation to the OPS School Board.

She said that the three co-chairs of the task force, Mr. Allen Greenberg, Ms. Brenda Council and Ms. Connie Spellman were chosen by Dr. John Mackiel, the superintendent of OPS, in October. The 33 members of the task force were chosen from 133 different applications.

"We really looked at the parent component when we formulated the committee," Nelson said. She said that they tried to make the committee very balanced. She said that there are both opponents and proponents to the desegregation plan on the task force.

Greenberg said that he became involved with the review for two reasons. Personally, he said that he became involved because the issue directly affects himself and his kids. He said that he has experienced two elements of the desegregation plan: mandatory busing and magnet schools.

However, he said that he also became involved because of the importance of the issue to OPS. He said that he believes this issue is important to maintaining the quality of the OPS district.

Also, he said that ensuring that the district remains strong is critical to maintaining the vitality of the city of Omaha.

Nelson said that by being a part of the task force is a big responsibility. "I admire that commitment," she said.

The members of the committee will meet a minimum of twice a month until May of 1998. On May 25, Nelson said that the task force will make its preliminary recommendation to the OPS School Board. She said that the task force's final recommendation will be made to the board on July 13.

For the first couple of meetings, Nelson said that the task force will be looking at the topics of mandatory busing for students at the elementary level as well as voluntary busing at the secondary level.

Greenberg said that the three co-chairs have decided that the first three to four meetings would focus on educating the task force members on the desegregation plan. He said that there will be presentations on various topics concerning the plan such as the financial figures as well as the legal aspects.

After the education process, Greenberg said that the task force would then look into public opinion on the subject. "I don't know if there's a single public sentiment," he said.

Nelson said that she can see many advantages to the desegregation plan. Actually, she said that she does not see any disadvantages in continuing it.

For example, Nelson said that the desegregation plan of OPS allows students the chance to experience different cultures. With the world changing into a global society, she said that these sort of experiences are very important.

Also, she said that there are other advantages. "It's fostered the establishment of magnet schools," she said.

Originally when the desegregation plan was enacted, Nelson said that many magnet schools were created.

However, she said that the desegregation plan may need to be fine-tuned. With the changing demographics of the city of Omaha, Nelson said that some aspects of the plan may need to be adjusted.

Also, she said that some elementary school students have long bus rides and that adjustments may need to be made to shorten them. For example, she said that this may be accomplished by busing students to schools that are closer to their homes.

Greenberg, on the other hand, said that he has no preconceived notions about the desegregation plan. He said that while his family has not found the effects of the plan burdensome, this does not mean that other families have not as well.

He said that hardships occur for parents when their children's schools are relatively far away. Also, he said that the distance sometimes limits parents' involvement with their children's schools.

However, Greenberg said that he believes having children come into contact with all sorts of different people is a positive aspect of the desegregation plan.

Story continued on page 5

**INSIDE**

- Editorials.....pages 2-3
- Alumni directory...page 4
- Wash for Cash.....page 7
- College 101.....pages 8-9
- Smoke Pit bbq.....page 10



## No electricity leads to school absences

Flickering candlelight, the glow of a fire lighting up the faces around the room, everyone curling up in a blanket. Sounds like a happy, warm family atmosphere, does it not?

The truth is that most of the Omaha Public high school students who found themselves in this situation were anything but happy or warm. In fact, many were upset that they had to attend school with these kinds of conditions at home.

When the storm hit in the early morning hours of Oct. 26, nature as well as people were completely unprepared. The falling snow stuck to the leaves that were still left on the tree, causing limb after limb to break. Hundreds of power lines were downed due to these broken branches. Schools around Nebraska and Iowa were closed for several days, in some cases even a week.

Then OPS Superintendent John Mackiel made the decision to open only the public high schools, leaving the elementary and junior high schools closed. This type of separation seems very unusual.

So what was the point of the separation? The given reason was the fact that all the high schools had electricity, something which could not have been said about the other OPS schools for many days afterward.

Still, how productive could these days have been? With nearly half of the city still in the dark, few teachers assigned homework, knowing that it would have to be done by the light of a candle.

So these days ended up being days of review, where very little was accomplished. In some of the high schools, computer classes became study halls because the networks could not be set up without complete electricity.

But none of this was a concern for the large number of students who either didn't attend school or came several hours late due to the unavailability of an alarm clock. And why didn't they have an alarm clock? Because there was no electricity!!!

Maybe a question we should be asking is if these absences will be counted against the ten day policy, a rule that states that anyone missing more than ten days in a class must appeal the grade, else he or she will fail the class.

The policy, which can be found in the Omaha Public Schools student handbook, also states that some absences will not count against students. Such absences include those related to religious holidays, preapproved absences, prolonged illness, school activities (including certain sporting events) and others that are due to unusual or extenuating circumstances.

Still, the biggest surprise is the fact that only three days in the school year were reserved for snow days.

Maybe the members of the school board forgot where we lived and that we usually have one, if not several huge snowfalls throughout the winter.

Even though the snow melted in about two days after this storm, it took over a week to completely restore power.

Lack of electricity seems just as viable a reason to close schools as snow covered roads, an opinion that is probably shared by all the students that dressed in the dark that week.

## Storm causes concerns for Halloween

With all of the debris and downed power lines still present, this year's Halloween should have been postponed.

Halloween is supposed to be a fun filled event, but this year it was more of an obstacle course for many trick-or-treaters.

Mayor Hal Daub announced that Halloween would still be held, but had a request for Omaha businesses.

He asked the businesses to let their employees off at 3 p.m. in order for them to get home and take their children around trick-or-treating before it became dark.

Letting employees off early was a good gesture made by Mayor Daub, but a request is not always honored.

Just because Daub wanted this to occur does not mean that employers had to abide or even consider it.

Although Daub advised trick-or-treating to be done earlier in the day to avoid any trouble, there were a few troubling safety factors that should have been more carefully addressed.

Not all children had an adult or older sibling to take them trick-or-treating because they were still working, despite Mayor Daub's request.

Even if a parent goes along with their children, it was too dangerous for trick-or-treating. Branches were blocking some sidewalks, causing some children to walk out into streets during the times of 3 and 6 p.m., the rush hour.

Another problem that was present should have been observed by the Omaha residents rather than the city officials.

Had Mayor Daub addressed the debris issue through the media, residents might have made a better effort to clean up the debris.

Also, Delores Jacobberger, an OPPD media representative, said that there were downed power lines and it is very hard to tell at this point if those lines were still active on Halloween.

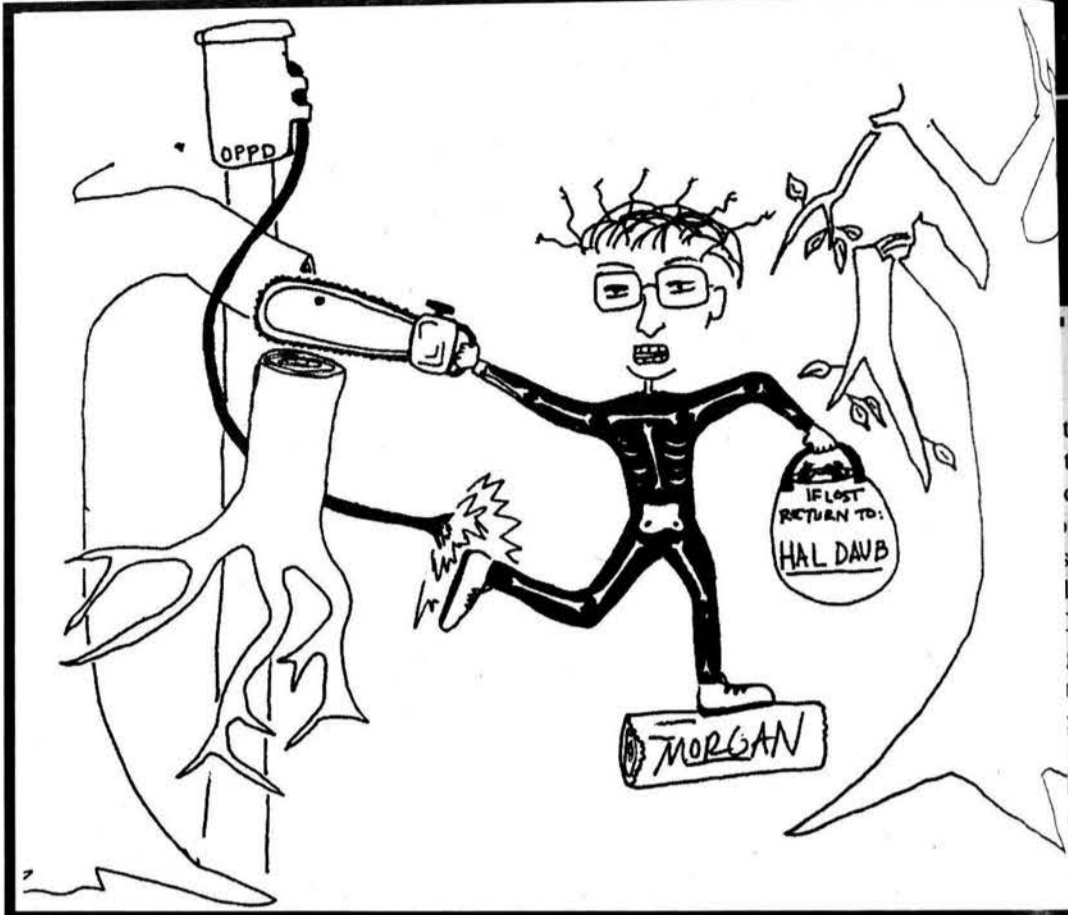
If it was hard to tell whether the lines were live or not, why were children allowed to trick-or-treat?

Although there is always potential for dangerous situations to arise on such a holiday, this year could have been potentially fatal.

However, Jacobberger also said that OPPD tried to get the message out to parents, through the media, to be careful while taking their children out trick-or-treating and to treat any power lines as if they were active.

Of course parents were going to be extremely careful taking their children trick-or-treating whether there were piles of branches or not.

That was the big message for Halloween, "Be careful." But no matter how careful anyone is, there are always going to be situations where someone is not careful enough.



## REGISTER YOUR OPINION

"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*.

Do you think that drug testing and/or the use of drug sniffing dogs in school is a good idea?

Yes. I have nothing to hide so it wouldn't bother me.



Erin Marasco, 11



Charles Meade, 10

No. It would be a violation of my privacy.



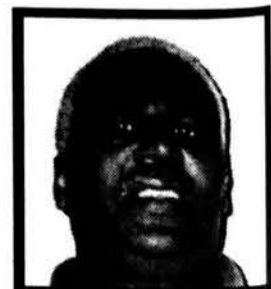
Chris Scofield, 12

Yes. Drugs are a community problem that can be brought into schools.



Tara Thomas, 9

No. Some people want to keep what they have [in their lockers] their own business.



Charles Williams  
Security Aid

Yes. Drug sniffing dogs in schools are a good idea, through the administration, but drug testing is questionable.



## NUFF SAID

By Stephanie Holm



### The best part of waking up

It may stunt your growth...but it gets you wired and that's all counts, right? It's coffee...a big part of student life. So, is it just me, or is this java fad gone a little overboard recently?

Don't get me wrong...there's no problem in having a latte with a couple of friends at a coffee shop, but when a coffee machine is installed in a public school, such as Westside or Millard West?

That's taking it a little too far. So, what is it about coffee that gets teens? Maybe it's due to late nights. You know what I'm talking about...trying to type at four in the morning, or back six cups of joe trying to keep your eyes open enough to get to the board.

When again...it's so hard not to drink coffee, is it? Yep, now we have every flavor of java on the market. Hmm...Jamaican-mocha-fudge-Dutch-chocolate cappuccino hazel-nut-vanilla-cream latte, etc...uh, and make those both fat.

Mmmm, coffee...not only the drink of late-nighters, but also the breakfast of champions. Okay, so being a champion isn't the right

word. But, for those not-so-morning people, it's a great way to make it through the day.

And, when you think about it...coffee has made a major comeback in advertising. Who could forget that ongoing saga of the couple whose entire life revolved around Taster's Choice? Or...were they actually a couple? Does anyone actually know?

Then the Folgers commercial came to be...when people were waking up to Folgers in their cups. Yah, and I can smell coffee from my bedroom..two flights away...uh huh.

But, the best had to have been that oh so famous man...riding the donkey...yep, Mr. Juan Valdez, himself. So, do the people at Columbia coffee actually think that a man on a donkey shows proof of good coffee? Hee-haw!

I think I'm pretty safe in saying that the coffee industry has gone overboard. Is it really necessary to have a coffee machine for students?

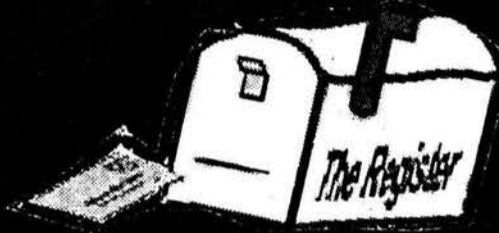
I think that the students of Central are happy fulfilling their coffee needs at a bagel shop in the morning. Are the Westside and Millard West authorities going too far? Who's to say? Until someone does, I'll leave you with this.

Aaahh coffee. 'Nuff said.

For the Issue Date 11-26-97		For the Preceding 12 Months	
1. Title of Publication	The Central High School Register		
2. Issue Date	11-26-97		
3. Number of Issues Published Annually	12		
4. Annual Subscription Price	\$5.00		
5. Number of Subscribers	1,700	1,700	
6. Total Number of Copies (Net Press Run)	1,700	1,700	
7. Total Number of Copies (Gross Press Run)	1,700	1,700	
8. Total Number of Copies (Net Press Run)	1,700	1,700	
9. Total Number of Copies (Gross Press Run)	1,700	1,700	
10. Total Number of Copies (Net Press Run)	1,700	1,700	
11. Total Number of Copies (Gross Press Run)	1,700	1,700	
12. Total Number of Copies (Net Press Run)	1,700	1,700	
13. Total Number of Copies (Gross Press Run)	1,700	1,700	
14. Total Number of Copies (Net Press Run)	1,700	1,700	
15. Total Number of Copies (Gross Press Run)	1,700	1,700	
16. Total Number of Copies (Net Press Run)	1,700	1,700	
17. Total Number of Copies (Gross Press Run)	1,700	1,700	
18. Total Number of Copies (Net Press Run)	1,700	1,700	
19. Total Number of Copies (Gross Press Run)	1,700	1,700	
20. Total Number of Copies (Net Press Run)	1,700	1,700	
21. Total Number of Copies (Gross Press Run)	1,700	1,700	
22. Total Number of Copies (Net Press Run)	1,700	1,700	
23. Total Number of Copies (Gross Press Run)	1,700	1,700	
24. Total Number of Copies (Net Press Run)	1,700	1,700	
25. Total Number of Copies (Gross Press Run)	1,700	1,700	
26. Total Number of Copies (Net Press Run)	1,700	1,700	
27. Total Number of Copies (Gross Press Run)	1,700	1,700	
28. Total Number of Copies (Net Press Run)	1,700	1,700	
29. Total Number of Copies (Gross Press Run)	1,700	1,700	
30. Total Number of Copies (Net Press Run)	1,700	1,700	

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A READER OPINION FORUM



### Job shadow good idea, needs improvement

Dear Editor,

One again the administration has tried something new with the senior class. I have to say that I think it was a pretty successful venture. Despite the fact that many seniors didn't take it seriously the ones who did came away with a great experience. I do think that it could have been improved, I heard several of my fellow classmates complaining that they did not know where to go or who to call.

Along with the worry over where to go also came the few who were going to get a few extra hours at their part time job. After all, you only needed proof that you got out of bed on the morning to get credit for the day. My only problem with the day was that when I got to the job shadow I didn't really have very many questions for them. Being a senior I had been planning for the future and done some research on the field I am interested in.

The administration and counseling office made a valiant effort but perhaps next year they should do the shadow experience with juniors or on a choice basis with students.

Kate O'Neill, senior

## CENTRAL FILES

A LOOK INTO EDITORIALS OF THE PAST

### Tradition of 'C' sacred

■ October 11, 1967

People often scorn traditions, believing that they are useless and unnecessary. To these people, traditions are something that everyone would be better off without.

Perhaps traditions are unnecessary, but it is far from true to say that they are useless. Maybe the value of traditions cannot be measured.

At Central, traditions surround us. Built into the main floor on the west side of the building is one symbol of deep CHS tradition. There is located the "Sacred C." The purple "C" itself became a part of the school only eight years ago when the school was being remodeled.

Although the "Sacred C" is fairly new, what it represents is not. The "C" stands for Central; it stands for everything that Central has meant to each student who has come here.

The "Sacred C" should be sacred to all CHS students. To show respect for their school and what their school stands for, it is a tradition for students not to walk or step on the "C", not to walk on that respect.

It is a deep shame to see all the students who are careless or in a hurry to step on the "C" without any regard to what they are doing.

By taking a few more steps to the left or the right and taking a few more seconds of his time, any student can keep from treading on the "C", which is sacred to many.

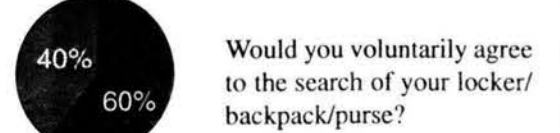
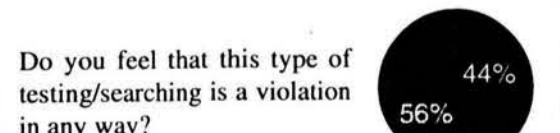
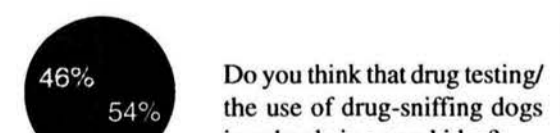
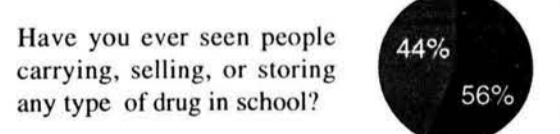
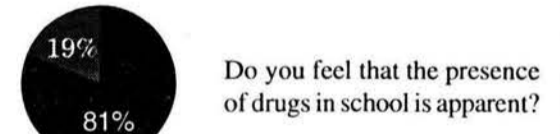
Remember what the "Sacred C" means to most Central High students next time you walk by it. Think before you step!

## 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.

## CENTRAL STANDARDS

NO YES 164 students polled



## The Central High School REGISTER

- Editor in Chief: Rachel Slosburg
- Executive Editor: Brian Joseph
- Editor: Joshua Priluck
- Business Manager: Emily Martin
- Editor: Mary Lynn Super
- Entertainment Editor: Rebecca Starr
- Staff Editors/Columnists: Sandra Cummins, Stephanie Holm, Allison Pagan, Derek Tritsch, Beth Weis, Michael Sheehan, Amy Yin
- Business Manager: Nicole Neumann
- Entertainment Editors: Kate Alseth, Julie Ferris, Katie McCann, Alex Wolfson, Shaun Kiel
- Editorial Editor: Morgan Denny
- Writers: Ian Simmons, Gail Braddock, Allyson Jessing, Alexa Christon, Mr. Matt Deabler

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



# Alumni searching out graduate

By Rachel Slosburg

In 20 years from now will you still remember the name of the kid who sat behind you in English class?

In case it slips your mind, the Central High PEP (Parents Educators Pupils) organization thought of a way to trigger your memory: an alumni directory.

Beginning last year, the Central High PEP organization with the help of Dr. Gary Thompson, principal of Central, and Harris Graduate Connections office, a division of Harris Publishing Company, started the first-ever cumulative alumni directory.

Dr. Thompson said the goal of the directory is to locate past graduates of Central High School and provide a listing of their current location, occupation and family.

He said the alumni directory will include the graduating classes of 1927 through 1997, and eventually future classes will be added.

Dr. Thompson said that the PEP organization decided to hire a professional company to handle the job of finding the past Central graduates.

Mrs. Marrilee Miller, a graduate of the Central class of '66 and PEP member, chairs the alumni directory project. She said that she and a committee of six to ten others, including Central teachers Mrs. Beverly Fellman and Mrs. Peggi

Georgeson, have two primary purposes for the alumni directory project.

The first is to enhance the formation of an alumni association. Miller said that Central is the only school in the OPS (Omaha Public

Schools) district which does not have an alumni association.

"It is really surprising that Central doesn't have an alumni association," Miller said. "We should have been the first school to start an alumni association."

Miller said that the first meeting of Central's alumni association was held on Nov. 18, and that 45 potential committee board members attended.

"Eventually, the alumni association will consist of about 25 members with positions," Miller said.

However, we didn't want to eliminate anyone or stop anyone from participating at the beginning,"

Miller said.

The second reason the alumni directory is being created is to have an accurate record of Central's past graduates, and make it easier to contact a former classmate, Miller said.

She said that the most recent record Central has is of the student's address at the time of his/her graduation.

"It has been difficult to find some of the names and addresses, that is why we hired Harris Graduate Connections to do some of the

work," Miller said. Miller said that the 24,000 former graduates should all be reached by January, 1998. She said by that by March the alumni directory will be ready.

"Central has nothing to lose, and everything to gain," Miller said. "It is important to know where are constituency is."

Miller said that Central pays a royalty for every copy of the directory that is sold.

"The school receives money on every directory that is sold," Miller said.

She said that a directory costs \$58.

She said she thinks the good price because of all that Harris Graduate Connections has put into it.

"People can order a directory through the company at a fairly reasonable price," Miller said. "Harris Graduate Connections put several hours in trying to find past graduates," she said.

Miller said the biggest benefit from using Harris Graduate Connections will be a complete list with all of Central's graduates (maiden and married for their current home address, job title, business address, e-mail information including e-mail and children's names.

She said she plans on updating the disc every year so that new graduates will be made, it will be easier to locate people.

Miller said that any information besides the name and year graduated may be kept confidential. However, she said that the next class year will be printed and that information is public.

**Central has nothing to lose, and everything to gain.**  
-- Marrilee Miller, Chair of alumni directory project

## Central Catch-Up

### Mock Trial in quarterfinals

Adding Mock Trial to Central's list of after school activities this year definitely proved to be a "learning experience" for its members," said Ms. Carol Hipp, Social studies teacher and Mock Trial advisor.

This was the first year Mock Trial started at Central. Due to the fact that it was the first year, Hipp said she chose to make this year's team entirely of seniors.

Next year though, she said, it will be open to all Central sophomores, juniors, and seniors. On Nov. 12, Central's Mock Trial team beat Burke's team at the District round which although open to all Nebraska, is mainly composed of Omaha schools.

Mock Trial is exactly like a trial, Hipp said. It takes place in a real courtroom and is delegated by real lawyers. The members are first given a case. Then they prepare their argument for both sides:

defense and prosecution. While in competition, the members are required to follow all courtroom rules and procedures, Hipp said.

The Mock Trial team has qualified for the quarter finals to be held in Lincoln because of their win on the 12th. The date of this event will be announced at a later time.

Central's Mock Trial team consists of seniors Brooktynn Zendejas, Rachel Slosburg, Todd Jacobson, Sarah Carse, Siri Heese, Dan Danberg, and Sam Kruger.

### Banquet held for fall sports

Central held a Fall Sports Banquet on Nov. 11 to honor all fall sports players.

The football banquet was held on Nov. 24 and was in the courtyard. It was sponsored by Outback Steakhouse, an adopt-a-school partner for Central.

The guest speaker at the fall sports banquet was Howard Wallace, head volleyball coach at Creighton University, Mr. Paul Pennington, assistant principal and athletic coordinator at Central said.

At both of these banquets, the fall sports coaches got up and introduced the teams.

Also they recognized the achievements of the players said Pennington. For example Central's state champion tennis player, Stuart Waters, and state champion cross country runner, Anika Carlson.

## Students explore prejudice elimination

By Brian Joseph

Fourteen Central juniors attended the Prejudice Elimination Workshop, a program developed by the Anti-Defamation League of the Plain States aimed at making high school students aware of prejudice, at the Jewish Community Center on Nov. 5.

Mrs. Debby Brown, the assistant director of the Anti-Defamation League of the Plain States, said that the Prejudice Elimination Workshop is an interactive program that is used to "increase the awareness of the dynamics of prejudice."

"It's really to help students fight bigotry," she said.

Twenty-six schools in the Omaha metropolitan area were represented at the workshop including schools from the Millard, Omaha Public Schools (OPS) and District 66 districts as well as some parochial schools.

"This is not strictly about race," she said. Rather, she said that the workshop looks at prejudice based on race, religion, gender and disabilities.

As for the set-up of the workshop, Brown said that it involves many hands-on activities. "It's very interactive," she said.

Brown said that during the workshop, the students broke up into small groups and had discussions about prejudice.

She said that the goal of the workshop was for students who attended to learn to respect and appreciate the differences of the many groups in society.

She said that she hopes that the students who attended the workshop will go back into the schools and teach others what they have learned about prejudice.

Specifically, Brown said that the workshop is for juniors in high school. She said that she was told by the executive director of the Anti-Defamation League of Plain States, Mr. Bob Wolfson, that the reason for specifically having juniors attend the workshop has to do with

their maturity and the amount of time they will be spending at school.

However, Brown said that she is looking into changing the age requirements. Also, she said that if a school requests to have a younger or older student attend the workshop, exceptions are made.

As for what the students learned at the workshop, Brown said that students were shown various techniques on how to deal with prejudice.

To start off with, she said that the students learned about themselves. Brown said that before one can appreciate others, one must have pride in one's self.

Also, she said that the students learned about ways to deal with jokes about other groups of people as well as how to identify information and misinformation about groups and individuals. The students filled out a Personal Action Plan which was a personal pledge the students made to help themselves and the community.

To become a more civilized society, Brown said that people need to be more informed.

"First of all, you can realize that prejudice is learned and that it can be unlearned," she said.

Brown said that one can strive to create a climate where everyone is accepted, confront prejudice behavior and encourage activities that promote social change.

However, Brown said that it is impossible to eliminate prejudice completely. But, she said that humans have the ability to choose what actions they will take.

Junior Zack Gonsler said that he had heard most of the information presented at the workshop before since he has attended other programs similar to this one.

"It sounds just like any other prejudice workshop or prejudice meeting," he said.

However, he said that the workshop is worthwhile. He said that this will allow students who do not know about prejudice to learn about it and to help them keep an open mind.

Zack said that from the workshop he has

learned that he needs to confront someone if they say something offensive to them.

"I'm not just going to take it," he said. Megan Douglas, junior, said that she thought it was a worthwhile program.

"I think it's a wonderful idea," she said. Megan said that she hopes the workshop will have a lasting effect on her.

"I hope I will grow from this and she said. "But change is hard."

She said that she will try to look at the world with a "gentler eye."

Also, she said that she would like to see a program like this for junior high students.

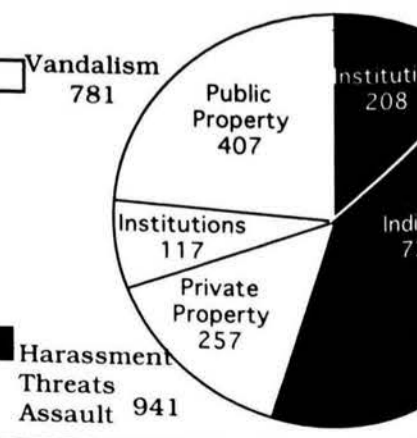
Junior Andrew Thompson said that he thought it was a good program, "but it could be more effective at a younger age."

He said that while attending the workshop, it makes someone aware of prejudice, it can help to change it.

He said that the only way one is going to change one's own prejudices is by making a conscious effort to do so.

Also, he said that he is not sure if he will be able to use what he has learned from the workshop in his everyday life.

### Anti-Semitic Acts





# Greetings



Alexa Christon

**Dr. John Mackiel**, superintendent of the Omaha Public School (OPS) district, pictured here with sophomore Jessica Boro, attended a combined freshman through senior Principal Advisory Meeting on Mon., Nov. 17. The meeting allowed students to ask Dr. Mackiel various questions concerning the OPS district in general.

# CHS teacher given externship to develop OPS English curriculum

By Shaun Kiel

A Central English and creative writing teacher has been given an externship by Omaha Public Schools to work on technology in the English curriculum for seventh through twelfth graders throughout the school district.

Mrs. Peggy Wheeler said she spends her day working on creating web pages and designing lesson plans to explore the Internet. She does most of her work at home through a modem.

Wheeler said that the new units are being created to run in conjunction with the current English curriculum.

"People learn things different ways," Wheeler said. "Some people learn visually, some by hearing and others learn by doing. The internet provides a medium which can utilize a lot of different learning methods."

There are a number of reasons for the addition to the curriculum,

Wheeler said. One is to expose students to the technology and get them using it.

"There's a lot of information that can be found on the Internet," Wheeler said. "It's a really good resource."

Wheeler has already begun work on units for seventh graders, sophomores, and juniors.

"There so many different things to do with the Internet," Wheeler said. "You can study history, culture and symbolism with words, pictures, sounds and games."

The addition to the curriculum will not be finished by the end of second quarter, Wheeler said.

But, she said that the bulk of the work will be done.

After its completion, Wheeler said the project would be taken to her supervisor for review.

After corrections and review, the project will be ready to implement as soon as OPS decides to, she said.

Central
Catch-Up

# Fall Musical rescheduled

The fall musical, "Fiddler on the Roof," has been rescheduled to Dec. 12 and 13.

The play was supposed to occur on Nov. 14 and 15, but due to the recent snow storm, it was moved.

The student matinee will be on Dec. 11.

The snow storm caused the cast of the play to miss a lot of rehearsal, so the play's director, Mrs. Pegi Georgeson, said that she decided to move it.

She said that it did not affect most of the cast, but one of the members was forced to drop out of the play.

Freshman Ben Beck, who played Reb Nachum, the beggar, had to be replaced because he is going to be in the cast of "A Christmas Carol," which is occurring at the same time as "Fiddler on the Roof," Georgeson said.

There were other reasons the play was postponed, Georgeson said: sports conflicts, the All-state choir and the Central Christmas Madrigal Dinner, a fundraiser for Central's choirs.

# Six students attend Math Day at UNL

Six members of the Math Club went to Lincoln on Nov. 13 to compete in UNL's annual Math Day.

As many as 2,000 high school students have attended this math competition in the past, Mr. John Waterman, enrichment math teacher and Math Club advisor, said.

He said that this competition is composed of two events: Probe 1 and Probe 2. Probe 1 is a preliminary competition.

Then, he said that top ten competitors go on to take Probe 2, a much harder exam consisting of a wide range of questions including logic. Both tests are individual.

Also, Waterman said that there is a Math Poll event that is similar to a quiz bowl.

He said that the contestants of the Math Poll event have buzzers which they activate when they want to answer a question.

The students who went to the event are seniors Corey Evans, Ben Teply, Sam Kruger and John Stacy as well as juniors Mary Lynn Super and Dave Rennard.

# Economic Education Week

# Event held to reinforce importance of economics

Jan Denny

Economic Education Week, initiated by Gov. Ben Nelson and sponsored by the Nebraska Council of Economic Education (NCEE), was held to heighten awareness of the importance of economics in the classroom.

This week that Gov. Nelson and other government officials have put aside to focus on economic education," Ms. Jan Gleason, social supervisor at the TAC building, said.

The statewide event included many special workshops and speakers geared toward teachers. Ms. Mary Lynn Reiser, associate director of the University of Nebraska at Omaha's Economic Education Center, said.

Reiser said that Gov. Nelson read books with elementary level economic meaning to elementary students to let them know the importance of economics at a young age, while Mr. Dave Watson, Nebraska state treasurer, spoke to students at North.

Reiser said that after attending economic education workshops, teachers have new ideas and lesson plans to incorporate economics into their teaching area, which could range from social studies to science.

After completing their lesson plans, teachers received a small card back to the NCEE explaining how well they thought it worked.

Mr. Brian Watson, social studies teacher, said he really didn't take a part in Economic Education Week.

He also said that the number of Central students taking an economics class is dropping because, unlike other schools, Central does not require students to take the class.

**It's a week that Gov. Nelson and other government officials have put aside to focus on economic education.**  
--Ms. Jan Gleason, social supervisor at the TAC Building

Reiser said that although Economic Education Week has been going on for 25 years, this is the first year that it's been official.

Ms. Kim Kosin, chair of the Department of Economics and director of economic education, said that one of the main accomplishments of Economic Education Week was to put University of Nebraska at Omaha's new web site into use.

She said that this web site, located at <http://www.ecedweb.unomaha.edu>, contains lesson plans and the Great Nebraska Economics Test (GNET).

GNET consists of 10 questions to test one on his or her basic knowledge of economics.

Reiser said that the test was created by the NCEE.

Kosin, whose idea it was to start the web site, said that she's had lots of positive feedback from teachers and students alike.

A workshop that focused on giving high school and middle school teachers new and different ways to include economics in their lesson plans, featuring speakers from out-of-town, was held Nov. 8 at University of Nebraska at Omaha.

Reiser said that speakers from Oregon and South Dakota came to discuss a book that they have co-written, called *Eco-Detectives: Economics and the Environment*.

All teachers who attended this program received a copy of this teacher's guide, which is available for others to purchase.

Reiser said that although it is too early to tell whether or not Economic Education Week has had an impact on Economic teaching in the Midwest, the number of teachers teaching economics has risen and made "Nebraska stronger for it," in past years.

She also said that she thinks Economic Education Week's public service announcements, run on Cox Cable, helped to promote the week.

# Task force may bus out desegregation plan

Continued from page 1

"I think it makes them [students] better to do that," he said.

Jurgen Shawver, Central English teacher, said that examining the desegregation plan is a logical thing to do.

"I think it's something that needs to be done," he said.

Shawver said that with the financial crunch that is going on, it should be looked at if the money for the desegregation plan can be put to a better use. As to if the desegregation plan helps students having equal opportunity, Shawver said that there are many factors that

help shape students besides the institution where they are taught.

"I think an institution can only take so much responsibility [for shaping a student]," he said.

He said that a student can be educated in spite of a bad teacher or because of a good teacher.

Mrs. Carol Hipp, the social studies department chair, said that the time the desegregation plan was put into effect, it was the appropriate thing to do. However, she said that may no longer be the case.

"We need change," she said. She said that the desegregation plan was

originally put into effect as a result of a letter OPS received from the Justice Department of the United States in 1973 stating that the district had been guilty of intentionally segregating its schools. Nelson said that this segregation was actually the result of the housing patterns in Omaha.

Thus, by court order, Nelson said that OPS established its desegregation plan to adjust the attendance areas in OPS to provide equal opportunity for children. From the period of 1975 to 1984, she said that OPS closed 21 elementary schools, restructured three junior highs and closed one high school, Tech High.

# CHS musicians selected for noteworthy clinic

By Alli Pagan

Once again, Central has many students participating in the All-State Music Clinic, a Central music teacher said.

Mr. Pete Wilger, band director, said that from Central, there are eight instrumentalists and 16 choir member that were selected to play in the clinic, which will conclude with a concert Sat., Nov. 22.

"All-State gives the best musicians in the state the opportunity to perform together in select ensembles," he said, describing the program.

Wilger said that he is always pleased when there is a good number of students participating in the event, which consists of an honor band, orchestra, jazz band, and chorus.

Many students also said that they were pleased with their selection.

Noelle Thornburg, junior, said she was selected in the chorus as the first chair for her section.

"I was really surprised when I found out," she said.

Noelle said she didn't think she would even get into the chorus because there was a lot of competition.

"I just thought of this as a learning experience, but I worked really hard and felt really well-prepared," she said.

Before she tried out, Noelle said she attended a workshop designed to help students with the audition music. She said that she

thought it was wonderful that the All-State focus was on learning the music and becoming a better musician.

Apparently that work paid off, because she now has the opportunity to try out for a solo in the concert, she said.

Another student, Corey McCallan, senior, said that he felt extremely honored to be a part of this year's All-State Chorus.

After not being accepted last year, he said he has learned that making it into the select group is a lot tougher than he had originally thought.

"Last year, I hadn't really prepared, and I was really upset when I didn't get in. This year, though, I took lessons and was well-prepared, and I was really excited when I got in," he said.

Corey said he was glad he was selected this year because he will get to work with kids from all over the state.

He also said he was glad to follow his older brother, who he said was selected for the All-State Chorus from Central several years ago.

The music chosen for this year's concert is challenging, he said, but very fun to listen to.

One of the instrumentalists that is participating this year is Lema Bashir, senior, who will be playing her flute in the All-State Band.

**All-State gives the best musicians in the state the opportunity to perform together in select ensembles.**  
--Pete Wilger, band teacher

# Role playing offers students a chance for fun

By Emily Martin

For some Central students, the opportunity to participate in the role playing game Dungeons and Dragons allows them to learn something new while spending time with friends.

"If you have ever watched a movie and hated the choices a character makes, this gives you the opportunity to take a role and act it out the way you want to," Sally Otis, senior and avid Dungeons and Dragons player, said.

Sally said that she and her friends try to get together once a week and play the game in a session that takes about three to five hours.

"There are times when the game lags, but you have to be willing to follow other characters and pay attention to hidden clues," Sally said.

The game is played with any different number of players and one person who acts as the Dungeon Master, a kind of story-teller who sets the scene and informs the other players of the consequences of their choices as the game progresses.

While a group of almost any number can play, the more people that play, the harder it is to conduct a worthwhile game, Sally said.

"You can play Dungeons and Dragons on-line, but that gets so crowded that you can't do anything," Sally said. "It also limits the group, you aren't as close."

Working as a group and developing a close knit family along with enhancing creativity and acting skills are a few of the perks the game has, Sally said.

The game advances as the characters work towards a certain goal. The characters themselves are unique, ranging from fighters, thieves, magicians, priests and monsters in many different races, including humans and elves.

"This can lead to inter species conflicts," Sally said.

"There is a lot of prejudice in the game, different races are against each other," Sally said. "Every player must accept that the character is not real."

As with any hobby, there is always the possibility of getting too involved with it or forgetting the difference between fact and fiction Sally said.

"A lot of people who don't have lives can get wrapped up in it," Sally said. "We know it is not real, unlike some people."

Sally said she and the people she plays the game with are content to just playing the characters for a couple of hours and then forgetting about it.

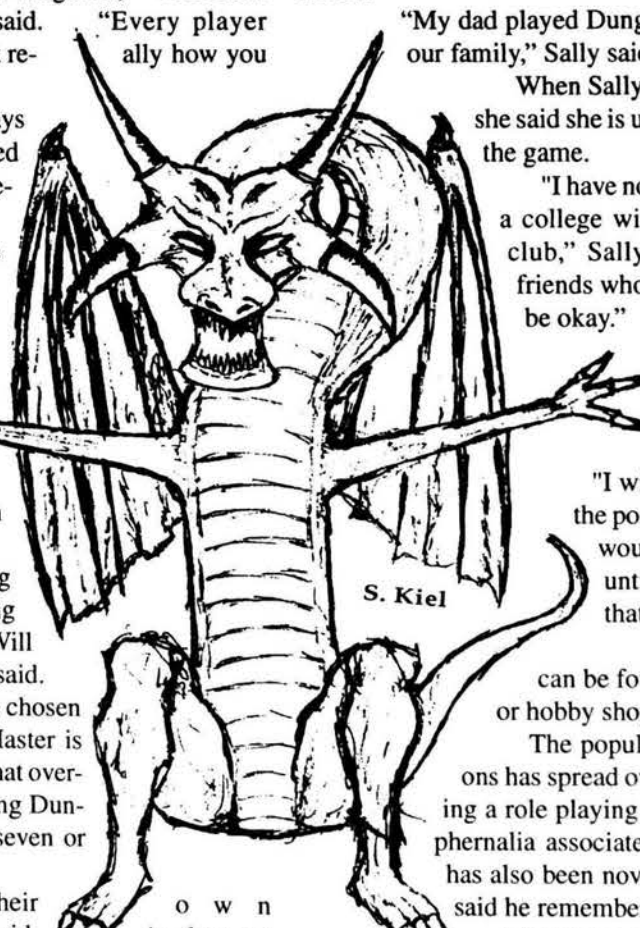
"It is really just about spending time with your friends and hanging out, just like a lot of other hobbies," Will Ross, junior and Dungeon Master, said.

The role of Dungeon Master is chosen by the participant, the Dungeon Master is not a part of the plot, but the entity that oversees it. Will said he has been playing Dungeons and Dragons since he was seven or eight.

He and his friend made up their own rules and played all the time, Will said.

As they got older, they opted for the consistency of real rules.

For Sally, Dungeons and Dragons is a bit of a family tradition.



"My dad played Dungeons and Dragons our family," Sally said.

When Sally goes off to college she said she is uncertain about her relationship with the game.

"I have no burning desire of going to a college with a Dungeons and Dragons club," Sally said. "But if I have friends who also used to play, it would be okay."

On the other hand, he can not see the reasons for ending a year history with the game.

"I will play until I have the possibilities for the game would take a lot," Will said until Disney buys the rights that would make me stop.

Materials to play the game can be found at nearly every hobby shop.

The popularity of Dungeons and Dragons has spread over the years, along with a role playing game with hundreds of items associated with the game. It has also been novels, and even a cartoon, said he remembers and enjoyed the game.

"It was a great cartoon, except for the corn," Will said. "Actually, I have a few episodes on Betamax tape that doesn't rewind."

# Former Central High student pursues acting

By Shaun Kiel

A former Central Student has given up her senior year at Central to attend Idyll Wild Arts Academy, in Idyll Wild, California.

Anna Raful, 17, would have been a senior this year at Central. She was actively involved in the band and drama programs. Last year, on April 25, Anna was presented with the opportunity to audition for entrance into Idyll Wild Arts Academy. She waited a week to find out she'd been accepted.

Idyll Wild Arts Academy is a college preparatory school. There are approximately 225 students in attendance. Over 1200 students audition for entrance.

Despite being a college preparatory

school, the school is run a lot like a real university. Anna attends her academic classes, which include History, Physics, English, and Calculus, in the morning. Like a university, the classes are spread out over the week, so Anna generally doesn't have more than two classes in the morning.

In the afternoon, Anna attends her drama and musical classes. She is currently taking Theater History, Music Theory, Piano, Voice, and Dance.

Attendance at the academy involves spending her senior year in California. Anna said she won't really mind missing out on her senior year.



"Well, it's not like I am really missing out on senior year. I mean, I'm still a senior. I don't think they have homecoming here, but there's still a prom," Anna said upon reaching the academy.

After the Academy, Anna said she would like to apply to an art conservatory. If she is not accepted, she said that there are a number of colleges with strong drama programs to look at.

Anna has had an interest in drama for many years. She has taken acting classes at the Omaha Community Playhouse.

She has also been involved in performing at Central, The Dundee Dinner Theatre.

Over the summer, Anna was involved with a production of "Bye Bye Birdie" at Dundee Dinner Theatre.

Anna's parents said they have made it a point to support Anna in whatever she chose to do.

"Anna has a real passion," Larry said, "and I've always tried to get her to see that they have a passion, to see it through."

Going to California this year was something that Anna had to leave her family behind.

"I don't mind it," Larry said. "I like she's going to college a year early."

# Program aims to better student performance

Joseph

With a grant of \$1.5 million over the next four years, the Family Resource Center Coalition of Nebraska will help orchestrate a parent training program for the state of Nebraska with the goal of improving children's achievement in

Jane Schaefer, the executive director of the Family Resource Center Coalition of Nebraska, said the grant, which was provided by the United States Department of Education, will provide funding for the Nebraska SPRING (State-wide Parent Involvement, Nurturing and Training) program.

Schaefer said that the goal of the SPRING is to help parents help their children achieve in

and child care providers. She said that the program is for children who are in their homes as well as those that have been placed at the secondary level of education.

Schaefer said that there are many projects in the program. The first is the creation of a Parent Resource Center at the Coalition.

Schaefer said that the Parent Resource Center would consist of a state-wide phone number for parents to call for information and referrals as well as a lending library for parent use.

Schaefer said that the Parent Resource Center, in partnership with the Coalition, will provide parental training for parents

and child care providers. Thirdly, she said that there will be a project called Parents As Teachers where people with parenting training will go into the homes of new parents and introduce them to such things as reading to their children.

Schaefer said that the final component of the Nebraska SPRING program, called Parent Community Demonstration projects, is what the Coalition is most excited about.

She said that four Nebraska communities will be chosen and in conjunction with their local family resource centers, they will create community projects to help parents.

However, she said that there are two restrictions: the project must be collaborative with the local school district and 51 percent of those helped must be of low income families.

She said that the topics of the projects could be anything from teen parenting to family literacy.

As to what the program can offer to parents, she said that it will

increase parents' awareness for their accountability for their children's learning.

Also, she said that the program will strengthen the tie between parents and schools. She said that it may change a parent's negative attitude toward a school district or school in general.

Schaefer said that today's parents are lacking in their knowledge of technology, specifically the Internet.

She said that often times the children know more about gathering information over the Internet than their parents.

Also, she said that first-time parents often do not know what appropriate expectations are for their children at certain

ages. "All parents need support," Schaefer said.

While not all families may have relatives nearby for support, Schaefer said that they can have that support through this program.

She said that parent involvement is very important in a student's

development. "Parents are a child's first teacher," she said.

Schaefer said that there have been studies stating that if a child is not stimulated early in life, important brain development will not occur.

Also, she said that it is important for parents to teach their children the value of education.

Mr. John Waterman, the Central math department chair, said that he agrees that the program would be beneficial.

"Anything that increases parent involvement is good," he said.

Waterman said that there has been research that shows that with the more parental involvement a student experiences, the better he or she does in school.

"Kids don't come with operation instructions," he said.

On the other hand, Mrs. Daryl Bayer, the Central foreign language department chair, said that she thought the program would be somewhat useless.

"I just think that [program] would be rather redundant," she said.

Bayer said that parents have so much responsibility as it is that they should not have to attend training on how to be a better parent.

"They have enough to address," Bayer said.

She said that it is the responsibility of a teacher to help a student develop his or her study skills.

**Anything that increases parent involvement is good.**  
--Mr. John Waterman, math teacher

# Listeners win cash with radio contests

Denny

Many Omaha radio stations are holding contests involving varying amounts of money.

WOW 98 and KGOR are both holding variations of a contest in which the winner matches the serial number of a dollar bill in a drawing to the number read over the air.

WOW 98's variation, the Million Dollar Cash, requires its listeners only to match four digits and letter of the serial number to win 9.8 seconds in vault with \$1

chances [of winning the Million Dollar Cash] are a zillion times better than

winning the lottery," J.J. Morgan, Sweet 98's assistant program and music director, said.

Meghan McGuinness, who works in KGOR's promotions department, said that should a listener be able to match the serial number, which is announced over the air, he automatically wins \$100,000.

McGuinness said that the station is allowed, by the insurance company that helps to run this contest, to announce the serial number four times a day.

While most contests involving chance and money are run through insurance agencies, Trish

Matthews, programming director at WOW, said that the money for contests on WOW come out of the station's budget.

Matthews said that each week one song is chosen to be the Song of the Week.

She said that listeners are asked to call the radio station whenever the song is played, the ninth caller receiving \$5 worth of lottery tickets, a cassette tape and his name put in a drawing with all the other ninth callers of the week for a chance to win \$1000.

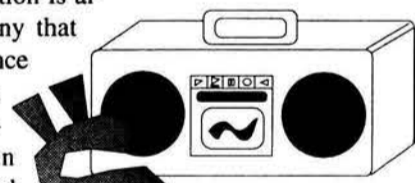
Matthews also said that they choose what type of contests to hold by researching topics and asking for employee input.

"When you have creative people working together, it's [creating contests] magic. It really is," Morgan said.

Morgan also said that a station will often take an already used idea and give it the station's "own twist."

However, McGuinness said that KGOR's contest ideas are generated to fit various specific purposes, such as attracting more listeners.

Matthews said that although stations often have small contests running year round, fall and spring tend to be the two major seasons because these are the times at which radio stations are rated by how many listeners they have.



*A Merry Occasion*  
"A heavenly experience."

**Tea Room, Catering, and Boutiques**  
3205 Harney  
341-9276

**Drake University**

**By Kate Alseth**

**Drake University**  
founded 1881

**Location:** Des Moines, Iowa

**Total Population:** 5,376 students

**Admission:** 93 percent of applicants accepted

**Average SAT and ACT scores for freshman admissions:**  
SAT: verbal- 42 percent score 500 or above  
math- 69 percent score 500 or above  
ACT: 88 percent score 21 or above

**Estimated tuition (excluding room and board):** \$15,300

**Faculty:** 267  
student-faculty ratio: 16:1

**Number of credit hours needed to graduate:** 124 (32 in major)

**Greek System:**  
11 national fraternities (31 percent eligible men involved)  
10 national sororities (29 percent eligible women involved)

**Application/Admission address and telephone numbers:** Mr. Thomas F. Willoughby, Dean of Admissions, Drake University, 2507 University Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50311-4505.

**Telephone numbers:** (515) 271-3181. (800) 443-7253.  
**Fax:** (515) 271- 2831  
**E-mail:** Admitinfo@acad.drake.edu.  
**Web:** www.drake.edu.

**Additional Information:**  
Drake University is located ten minutes from downtown Des Moines. Approximately 1,700 students live on campus.

Drake University offers both a liberal arts education and a excellent professional and preprofessional program.

Majors include: accounting, actuarial science, computer information systems and many others.



# College

## What to do with life Former Eagles share freshman firsts

By Alli Pagan

"College is not only about studying, but also finding out who you are," a 1997 Central graduate said.

Andy Oschner, who is now attending Stanford University in Palo Alto, California, said that while learning is important in college, classwork is only a part of college life.

Mary Blazek, another 1997 graduate who is attending the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA, said that academics are important, though.

One thing she said she liked was that she was able to choose all of her classes.

She said she has a lot of homework to do, but it is

different from high school in that she doesn't have weekly quizzes or worksheets to hand in.

"Instead, your entire grade comes down to two or three tests and a couple of papers," she said.

Another graduate of 1997, Sarah Fischer, is at Wellesley College near Boston, said that although classwork can be challenging in college, it can also be very rewarding.

Andy said he liked the atmosphere of college academics, in that there is always help available if one needs it and it is not as competitive as high school is.

An important aspect of college life to consider is where one will live, the students said.

Kiley Kane, who is attending Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI, after graduating from Central last year, said she thinks dorm life is a good experience because of the environment it provides.

"It is kind of a transition between living totally

on your own and living at home," she said.

Andy, who is his dorm's representative to the Freshman Council, said that there are many new responsibilities while living in a dorm, including doing one's own laundry, purchasing supplies for one's self, getting up on time and taking care of one's self when one is sick.

While it may sound almost scary to some, Andy said he really enjoys it.

"You are on your own, and it is great," he said.

An alternative to living in a dorm is to join a fraternity or sorority.

"It is almost like living in a little hotel," Jon Lynch, a 1996 Central graduate who joined the Sigma Phi Epsilon

fraternity at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, said.

He said he originally had not wanted to join a Greek house, but when he visited KU as a high school senior, he had a good time and was convinced to join the next year.

His fraternity holds many activities throughout the year, ranging from recreation

like intramural sports games, to service projects like cleaning up their adopted stretch of highway, he said.

Among the benefits that Jon said came with living in a Greek house were that students can make good friends with people with similar ideas and that they are never at a loss for people to go out with.

The drawbacks he said are that you don't always have a lot of privacy, you may pay a lot for a small room and you are not allowed to have dogs in the house, although the students in dorms said that this rule applied to them also.

The aspect of college that several students said was most

important is the activities that students can join.

"One of the greatest things about college is that it provides an opportunity to get involved in many things and find out what you are passionate about," Sarah said.

Among the activities that she said she was in are the House Council, a subcommittee of the Student Senate, the *Wellesley News*, the college paper, as a sports writer, and Peer Advocates, a group that counsels and educates about interpersonal violence.

Mary, who is involved in debate, Model UN, and a newspaper at Holy Cross, said that she was amazed by the number of possibilities for clubs that students can join on campus.

Besides his involvement in the Student Senate and intramural sports this quarter, Andy said he hopes to join several more activities next quarter, as he was mainly trying to adjust to college life during this quarter.

Other students also said that it takes a while to adjust to college life.

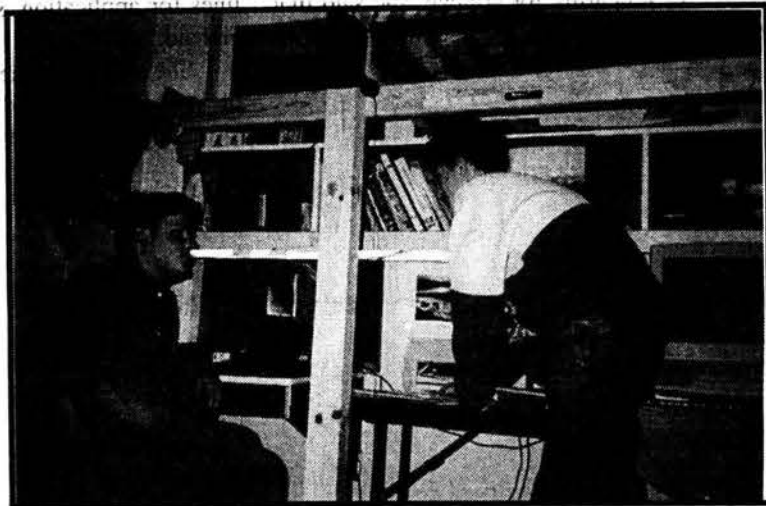
"Making friends is the hardest part because you are thrown into an environment where you don't know anyone," Sarah said.

She also said that, though it does take time, you end up meeting people that you can relate to and who become your close friends.

Andy said that a big adjustment he's had to make is getting used to some difficult classes and not always getting the best grades anymore.

These students are enjoying their time in college, though, and especially enjoy college life.

"I could stay here for eight years!" Andy said.



**Working hard, playing hard...** Creighton freshman Matthew Headley helps freshman Andrew Mattson with his homework in the dorm while enjoying their freedom.

## Financial aid delivers as costs a

By Stephanie Holm

As students prepare to go to college, they are required to make a handful of decisions in a limited amount of time, an admissions counselor said.

Mr. Dave Hannam, a Creighton University counselor, said that various college applications as well as important financial aid applications contribute to the work load of a college bound student. When one is looking at colleges, it is important to keep various methods of financial payment in mind, such as scholarships, grants and loans, he said.

"Scholarships are hard to come by," Hannam said, "but we [the Creighton admissions office] help undergraduate students keep all options in mind."

Creighton offers a variety of scholarships, covering from \$1,000 to three-

quarters of a student's tuition, he said. However, only athletes and the top four incoming business students are eligible for a full-ride tuition scholarship.

"Creighton takes various items into consideration when offering scholarships, such as an overall score of twenty-six on the American College Test (ACT) as well as an overall 3.0 grade point average," he said.

Mr. Hannam said that Creighton offers a variety of financial aid to students by way of various grants and loans. Creighton offers such loans as the Federal Stafford loans, federally sponsored programs which are offered primarily by banks, savings and loan associations and credit unions, he said.

Also available to college bound students is the Parent Loan for Undergradu-

ate Students (PLUS), permitting parents of undergraduates to borrow up to the full cost of education, Mr. Hannam said.

Another necessary requirement for financial aid for college is the completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

However, this application can only be completed during a student's senior year, said an employee from Nebhelp, a Nebraska organization dedicated to educating college bound students and families about financial aid.

Mr. Brad Brown said that 70-75 percent of scholarships and grants come from federal aid programs. These sources of financial aid can be found in numerous places, he said.

"Usually our [Nebhelp's] computerized technology is successful in find-

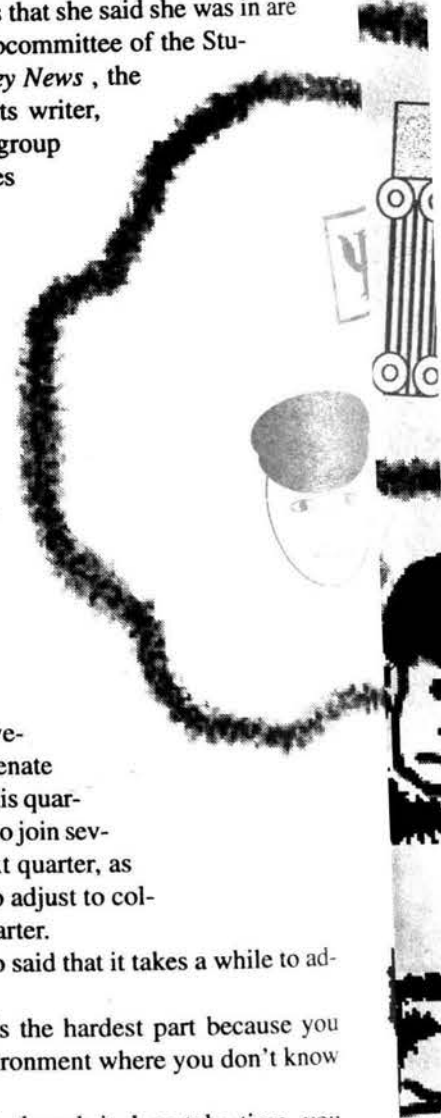
ing loans, grants, and scholarships; however college bound students may also find such items by looking in library publications, family places of employment, as well as business organizations in the Nebraska area," he said.

Brown said he recommends that high school juniors start looking at colleges as soon as possible.

"The sooner the better," he said. "It never hurts to know what your choices are."

Choices are what college bound students have an abundance of, Ms. Judy Retane, a counselor at Northwestern University, said.

She said high school seniors are usually overwhelmed at the decisions that need to be made before their next school year.





# 101: after high school

## Admissions officers' advice: start early

By Alli Pagan

"Start earlier than you need to," a college admissions counselor said to advise high school students preparing for college.

Dr. Peg Blake, the admissions director at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, said that she recommends students to get an early start in the application process.

This process starts in the early high school years with deciding on what type of college a student is looking for, she said.

"Students need to sit back and figure out what they want, in terms of size, opportunities, location, cost and specific programs," she said.

Other things that students should look for in a college include activities and sports teams, Tracy Schuler, a graduate assistant for admissions at the University of Kansas, said.

Dr. Blake said that during the first years of high school, students should search for colleges that fit what they're looking for. Possibilities for getting information from schools include searching web sites and visiting campuses, she said.

Sending away to colleges for brochures and view books is also a good idea, Schuler said.

She also said that underclassmen should start making decisions on what they are looking for and what they are interested in.

Rebecca Rennard, Central sophomore, said that she is already beginning her college search.

"I like to dance, so I've looked into colleges with a good dance department," she said.

She said she has talked to many people, including her dance teacher, to get information about colleges.

One school she is looking at is in Utah, because of the recommendations about its dance programs.

As for preparing for college, she said that she has already taken the Pre-Scholastic Aptitude Test and is getting ready for other required tests.

Perhaps the most important year in high school, Dr. Blake said, is 11th grade, in that it is a key time in applying to college.

"There are many important decisions to think about during junior year," she said.

These include finalizing one's plans about what type of college to go to, what one's interests are, and how much they will be able to pay for college, she said.

From there, students should find colleges that fit into what they are looking for, and begin to make exploratory visits to them.

Schuler said, from experience, that the best thing for students is to get a look at the town and campus of the college by visiting.

Dr. Blake said that the importance of visiting is that students need to have a first-hand look at where they will be spending the next four years of their life.

"If you've never been there, you can't know what it is like," she said.

She said she urges students not to decide on a college until they have visited there.

As far as senior year goes, she said that stu-

dents should be applying now to the colleges that they have decided they might go to.

"Apply as early as possible to all of the colleges you're interested in," Schuler said.

Dr. Blake said that it is important to apply to several colleges in order to keep all of one's options open.

She said it is important to apply early because the chance of getting scholarships and acceptance can be greater if students don't procrastinate until the last deadline.

One thing that she urged all college-bound seniors to do is to stay aware of all the deadlines for application, scholarships and financial aid.

She also mentioned the importance of applying before the deadlines.

Nate Kovarik, Central senior, took advantage of applying early to college, and was recently accepted at Truman State University in Kirksville, MO.

He said he began looking at Truman State during his junior year, when he visited the campus.

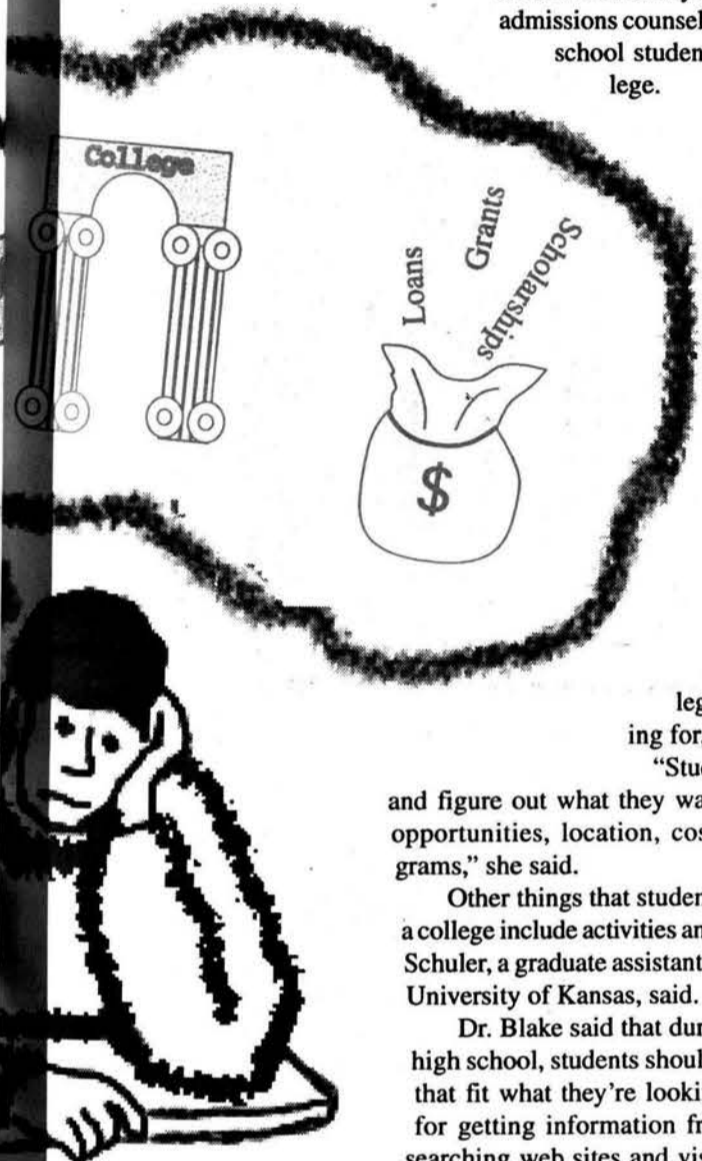
"I really liked the campus, and the academics spoke for themselves," he said of why he chose to apply there.

Under the school's non-binding early application program, he was able to apply by Oct. 1, he said, and received his acceptance letter a few weeks ago.

Along with knowing where he will be going next year, Nate said that he also knows how much aid he will get in scholarships from the school.

He said that applying early, and not waiting until the last minute, eliminated a lot of stress and the work involved in applying to multiple colleges later in the year.

"Now I can sit back and run on cruise control for the rest of the year," he said.



## Alternatives expand students' options

By Sandra Cummins & Alli Pagan

While most students realize the long-term and worthwhile benefits of a college education, many have chosen to postpone this opportunity in order to join the military, a U.S. Army representative said.

Sgt. Socorro Hiero, Central High Army recruiter, said that reasons a student decides to enlist in the Army include travel, college benefits, skilled training and a \$12,000 cash enlistment bonus.

Some students join because they are burnt out after 12 years of school and they need time to think about their next move, he said.

Others desire the on-the-job training they receive in the field of their choice.

"We have jobs ranging from accounting and legal secretaries to journalism and nursing," Hiero said.

U.S. Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Scott Steinhaus said that when in high school, some students are unsure about their career paths.

He said that in the Navy many people mature, learn how to live life on their own and personally grow before going to college.

U.S. Navy recruiter David Gautreau said that the number one benefit of joining the Army or Navy is the financial assistance they provide for those people who do want a college education.

Both the Army and Navy share a tuition assistance program where they will pay 75 percent of the tuition at any accredited college a student chooses while enlisted.

The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) is a test given by the military to test you on such skills as work knowledge, paragraph comprehension, auto and shop information, electronics information, coding speed, mechanical information, general science, mathematics knowledge, numerical operations and arithmetic reasoning.

Your score will help them determine

what jobs you are eligible for in the military, Hierro said.

An ASVAB score of 50 or above will qualify someone for up to \$40,000 for college to be used within ten years after finished with the Army, Hierro said.

Joe Wojtkiewicz, Central senior, said he has taken advantage of this opportunity, and is enlisted to join the Army next fall to train in foreign language.

He said he made this decision in September after speaking with recruiters and realizing that, without loans, he would not be able to afford college.

As part of his training, he will attend an eight-week Basic Training course beginning in August at Ft. Leonardwood, MO, and will then continue in Monterrey, CA at the Defense Language Institute, he said.

"I'm happy with my decision, because it's a good opportunity and a good way to get money for college," Joe said.

He said he hopes that after training and college he will be assigned a post at an embassy or as an interpreter in the U.S.

The only downside to enlisting, he said, was that he had to sign a contract promising to fulfill his service in the Army.

"By law, they can prosecute you if you break that contract," he said.

He said that there may be stiff penalties for a breach of an enlistment contract.

Joe said that while he is pleased with his opportunity, it was not something to think lightly about before deciding.

He said that he would recommend that if others are thinking about this opportunity, they should really think about it before deciding.

Other opportunities that the military provides include Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) and the military academies, Hierro said. Participation in ROTC can give students extra money for college, as long as you take the required academic classes.



# Entertainment

■ Central students find niche in band

## Dillard's Mistake; a wacky twist

By Kate Alseth

You may have heard the words Dillard's Mistake said throughout the halls of Central lately, though it wouldn't be surprising if you haven't.

Dillard's Mistake was created by seniors Kelly Connor, Sarah Wengart and Jennie Sanders. Band would be the closest word to describe Dillard's Mistake, though it doesn't quite sum up exactly what it is.

The band began as a joke. One of the group's friends was looking for a name for his own band. Kelly suggested Dillard's Mistake, after an inside joke between Sarah and herself.

When the name was not used for the band Jennie decided that the name was too good not to be used for a band, so Jennie decided to create her own band with the name, Sarah and Kelly said.

Officially the band was created the day Jennie made spaghetti for everyone, sometime in September, said Sarah and Kelly. The instruments used to create their music are simple. Kelly and Jennie both play guitar and sing lead vocals in many songs. Sarah also does vocals along with playing the pitch pipe and all percussion.

The rest of the music is made by either a Casio synthesizer or the background singers that they call the Mo Dill family. This family consists of seniors DeLania Terhune and Becky Goldberg, junior Shaun Kiel and former Central student Melissa Whittle.

The group recently made an album that was recorded in Sarah's living room using her stereo. The name for the album, *Janky as We Want to Be*, was thought of by Becky. It was suppose to be a play off of the 2 Live Crew

album name, *Nasty As We Want To Be*, said Sarah.

The tape consists of thirty-five hilarious 'songs' about everything from the 90210 cast to Nintendo games. Only two of the songs to listen to on the entire album were written before they began recording.

Most of the songs were just made up as they recorded. Some recommended songs on the tape are "Andy Miller's Cosmic Chick", "The Goth Alphabet" and "19A."

"It's like chillin' with your friends and someone presses record," Sarah said.

The band has distributed *Janky As We Want To Be* tapes to Central students, selling them for \$2. To their astonishment, the tapes sold very well throughout the building. The feed back has been very positive, according to eavesdropping.

Though it takes a few songs to get past just the complete weirdness of the tape, people seem to love the wacky humor of the songs written by Dillard's Mistake.

"I think that Dillard's Mistake is great," senior Molly Deacon said, "It's unique and different and totally Kelly, Jennie and Sarah."

Most likely there will never be a live concert by Dillard's Mistake because they wouldn't be able to remember the songs, said Kelly.

The band says that they are starting on a new album soon and it is expected to be just as hilariously strange as the last one. One song to look for on the new album, according to Sarah and Kelly, is "It's Halloween look out for the Indians."

"I used to be cool, but now I'm a dork," said Kelly, "but Dillard's Mistake makes dorkiness cool."



Dillard's Mistake members, seniors Kelly Connor (center), Sarah Wengart (left) and Jennie Sanders (right), show how strong the friendship bonds are between the members of the band. The band and their back-up singers can all be seen in the halls of Central.

## Smoke-pit; greasy food, great atmosphere

By Julie Ferris

Mmm! Mmm! Good! Real down-home cooking can be found right here in Omaha at the Smoke Pit, a 24-hour rib joint.

Located at 230 S. 25th St., the Smoke Pit offers wonderful, tender, smoked barbecue ribs and many other barbecue delights.

Wearing nothing fancy, only casual attire, we placed our orders and paid for it at the counter. Paying for our meals up front, already gave me comfort that this place takes pride in their barbecue roast.

The prices of the food are considerably okay! They range from about \$3 for sandwiches to \$9 for full-fledged meals. You pay for what you get!

I also noticed that all the food preparation is done up front for all the customers to see. There it sat, an enormous, brick smoker that could cook enough ribs to feed an army.

Boy did my mouth water for those ever-so-delicious ribs! I could just feel the saliva from my mouth about to drool.

After finding a table of our choice, we waited in anticipation for the delicious-looking ribs.

But to take our minds off the wait and to make the atmosphere feel more like home, a big screen TV was available for public use.

Then, just like many new comers would, I began to ac-

tually notice the idea of a truck-stop restaurant.

With a group of beer drinking, barbecue indulging, boisterous men living life large, I couldn't help but form that stereotype in my mind.

Before walking in the restaurant, I honestly thought this place could be hill-billy heaven.

But in reality, the Smoke Pit is known to be a popular place among college students.

They tend to occupy most of the restaurant during the early morning hours like 1 a.m., said most of the workers.

The furniture pretty much consisted of wood tables and chairs and old western pictures and motifs.

The place also had a delightful haze of smoke that hung over our heads, which was not to my satisfaction.

You can guess the whole place permitted smoking. But, of course, it did add to the atmosphere.

Our so-called waitress, who wore just a t-shirt and jeans, brought our food not too long after we ordered. You can guess

what we did next! Yep, we indulged.

The part that made the ribs so wonderful was the enriched, homemade barbecue sauce. Not only did smother the ribs with barbecue sauce, but they gave extra on the side.

Since I'm a simple person, I ordered fries on the

Their crispy crunch was excellent.

The customer service was actually really decent. The people were down-to-earth and very reasonable.

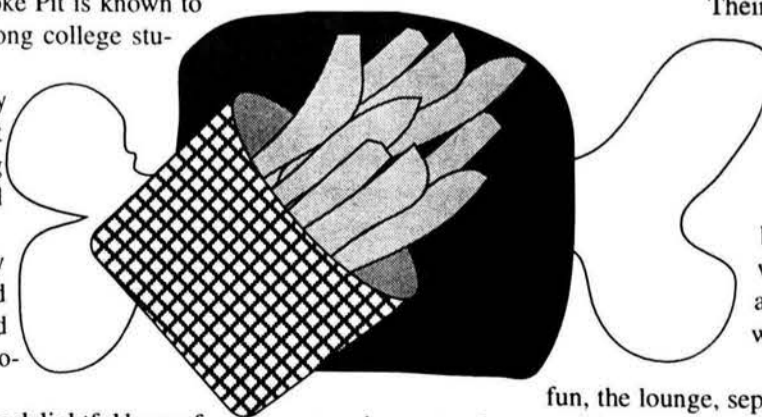
Since this place is a huge college hang out, workers mistakenly thought and everyone else I was were part of the college.

Besides all the barbecue

fun, the lounge, separate from the restaurant, featured go-go girls from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. And I had the delight of running into one of them in the bathroom. As I say is, I saw a little too much.

I recommended this place to anyone who has a craving for barbecue anything! You name it, they'll have it!

Remember to bring a lot of napkins and a big appetite.



# Less than ordinary film romances viewers

By Rebecca Starr

Wow! It's funny, it's romantic... it's "A Life Less Ordinary."

This movie is breaking new ground by crossing the typical 1980's rich-brat-loves-unprivileged-boy and some weird poem your father wrote in his Dungeons and Dragons base.

The movie stars Cameron Diaz as the slightly spoiled, man abusing, and smashing beautiful Celine, and Ewan MacGregor as the not so experienced kidnapper, equally witty and sort of smashing beautiful if you like that sort of thing, Robert. The casting was

good— so good in fact that these two almost make an incredibly surreal movie appear "normal."

The story tells the tale of two angels leaving their incredibly surreal and well done surroundings to bring together two very different people that were destined to be together. The angels go to earth to bring Robert and Celine together.

Holly Hunter appears in this film as one of the angels and does a great job with her part,

Robert, janitor and trashy romance novel author, becomes a victim of the overgrown

world of electronics when his job is replaced by robots. In retaliation he shoots his boss, kidnaps his daughter, and heads for the hills.

The previously kidnapped Celine leads Robert through the trials and triumphs of being a kidnapper. Soon the pair form a sort of camaraderie.

Through this new-found friendship they plan to make quite a bit of money and then go their separate ways. Meanwhile, the angels are failing at their job of bringing Celine and Robert together and are forced to take more drastic measures.

With all of the twist and turns of a pre-

dictable plot line, the plot is surprisingly solid. The style of cinematography and obscurity of the plot is reminiscent of the greats like "Pulp Fiction" and "Trainspotting".

MacGregor and Diaz put on strong performances and, as far as comedic romances go, this is one of this year's best.

Both play their parts so well that they almost appear to be victims to natural order.

With the good performances accompanied by a good soundtrack, "A Life Less Ordinary" could be one of the best movies of the year. The newer style of this movie keeps it moving even when the plot drags.

# Toys take new toll on consumer as Holidays approach

By Rebecca Starr

For all of you out there who have nieces or nephews, younger sisters or brothers, baby cousins or children of your own, it's about time to fight with the lady in line in front of you for the last Beanie Baby. Oh yes, the members of the slightly scary but incredibly profitable toy industry are the cause of temper tantrums and brawls over their items. So, get there early or have a disappointed child this holiday season.

What will be this years Tickle-Me Elmo? Who knows? The makers of Elmo are hoping to strike gold a second time with their Sing and Snore Ernie who sleeps with a face mask and sings lullabies when it is put on.

This may be a bigger hit in actual homes than Elmo was because of the fact that Elmo vibrated so violently that some children were scared of him.

The makers at Play School have come out with another talking computer thing called Jammin' Juke Box that looks and does the same things as all of the other talking computer things in the past, only now it makes a dog noise. I'm not sure why they haven't done a major overhaul on this whole talking computer thing, but I'm figuring that people must still be buying them.

Beanie Babies have been sweeping toy stores as well as

specialty and clothing shops for the past few seasons. These animal shaped bean bags have been so much in desire that frantic consumers call the local stores looking for Beanie Babies and are often lined up in front of stores when they know that there a shipment came in.

The reason for the limited supply of these hot sellers is that if Ty, the makers of Beanie Babies, had flooded the market initially when they saw their popularity, the fad would have been short lived, but by making them more difficult to get, they have prolonged their existence as a hot item.

The major players in the home gaming industry are trying very hard to make us all run out and buy increasingly more expensive games and systems as they upgrade and reinvent all of their games and systems.

Nintendo's baby the Nintendo 64 is a 64 bit system that retails in its stripped version for around \$115 to \$125. Keep in mind that this version has no game or controllers. The second majors expense to this system is the games which range \$15 to \$50.

As all things in life, the better games are way more expensive than the cheap games where 3-D chips were added to Super Nintendo games and re-released.

Sega Saturn and Sony Playstation are trying hard for your

money with systems costing \$100 to \$125. Both of these systems are 32 bit and run on CDs which can take a little longer to load games on than the Nintendo 64. The defining difference between the Saturn and the Playstation is that Playstation has a 3-D chip and the graphics on the Saturn are only slightly better than those of the Super Nintendo.

Games for the Saturn and the Playstation traditionally range from \$40 to \$60. The increased price could be due to the fact that the CD games are longer and have more stages than the Nintendo 64.

Just when you think that you have seen the last of the Barney, he's back and more expensive than ever. This new Interactive Barney hooks up to your PC and talks along to the program on the screen.

It's pretty cool, but wary consumers may be scared away by the price. He retails for around \$100 with an adapter pack for your television running around \$60.

These are just a few of the items that you could be lined up in front of a store for, but with good planning or a relative in the toy industry, you can minimize your own suffering. If all else fails, try the classics like Legos or Playmobile. Remember that these toys can last and leave a far better mark as a present. Remember Teddy Ruxben?

For Custom Screenprinted  
T'S • SWEATS • POLO'S  
JACKETS • HATS • ETC.,

Call

**Shirt Shack**  
**OMAHA**

Quality Printing • Competitive Price!

• COMPUTER GRAPHICS •  
SEE YOUR ARTWORK IN COLOR

Low 12 piece minimum!

**597-3884**


Get a quote on the WEB at

[www.shirtshackomaha.com](http://www.shirtshackomaha.com)

8410 K St., Suite 5

Omaha, NE 68127

Be Kind to Yourself at  
**McFoster's**  
Natural Kind Cafe



Vegetarian  
Cuisine  
Organic  
Fresh Fish  
Organic Range  
Chicken  
Dishes  
Homemade  
Soups

302 S. 38th St.  
345-7477  
M-Th 8 am-10 pm,  
Fri 8 am-11 pm,  
Sat 11 am-11 pm,  
Sun 10 am-3 pm

"Planned Parenthood helped me make the right choice for me."



"I'm not ready to have a baby. So I went to Planned Parenthood for the counseling and birth control I needed. I learned they offer everything from emergency contraception, to HIV tests, to pregnancy tests. I always knew Planned Parenthood was there for me. I just didn't know in how many ways."

- Melanie, 19

Health Care. Education. Counseling.  
That's what we do at Planned Parenthood.

For birth control, emergency contraception, pregnancy tests, STD/HIV tests, and information, call the health center nearest you.

 Planned Parenthood of Omaha-Council Bluffs 1-800-230-PLAN  
<http://www.plannedparenthood.org>



## YADDA YADDA YADDA

By Sandra Cummins



### Gym fun can get ugly

I've been a member of a pretty well-known gym for almost a year. Since I joined, there are just a few things I have observed that make the trip to the gym and the hours of working out humorous and worthwhile.

One thing that cracks me up is what people will wear to work out in. Take John Doe for example. This guy wears tight, very short black shorts, a faded black turtleneck, black socks, and black aerobic shoes, topped with a black ball cap.

I think he took the "Men in Black" movie a little too seriously. Two questions come to mind when I see this guy at the gym: 1) With shorts that short, can the man wear underwear? and 2) How many times does this guy do laundry? He wears his outfit every time he's there.

Another thing that makes me laugh are the people who go to the gym to pick up on the opposite sex. I'll start with men. They are usually decked head to toe in Nike or Adidas. These date scopers reek of cologne and look recently showered.

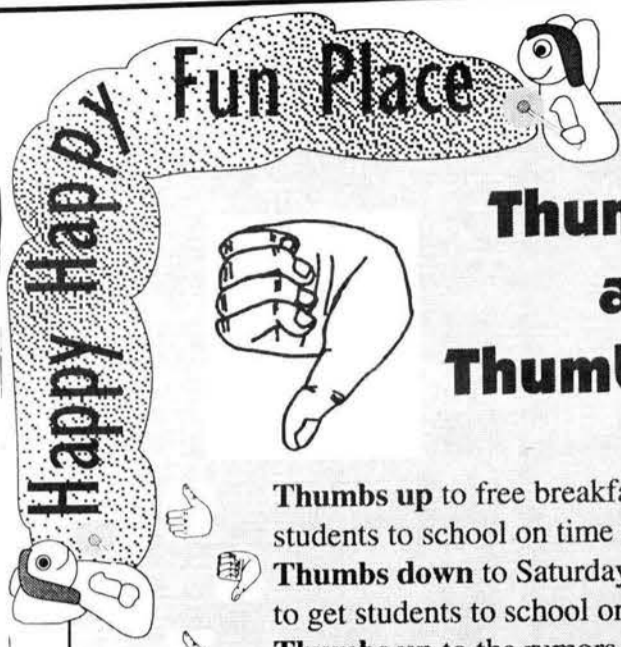
They make sure to prowl the whole gym in search of their prey. When weight lifting, these men make sure to lift enough so that others will be impressed, but not too much or they'll ruin their carefree relaxed look with sweat. Neat scheme, huh?

The ladies searching for dates are easily spotted also. They wear the most makeup, the tightest clothes and do a lot of stretching to show how flexible they are. They also play innocent and naive when they ask a beautiful, buff bod how to improve their inner thigh muscles. C'mon people, can't you find dates elsewhere? You give the gym a bad reputation for being a meat market that it normally isn't.

How about aerobic instructors? Once I went to a "beginners" step class. I was feeling confident before the class started but after the instructor started bouncing up and down the step like it was a pogo stick, I felt just a little misguided. "Let's go everybody! Can you feel it?" the instructor screamed over the pumping music. Yeah, I can feel the pain in my calves starting to rise. I can picture your Barbie voice shrieking when I pull the step out from under your feet...Whoops! Was I writing this all down?

Do you remember that Gold's Gym commercial where they list all the famous people that are members of the gym? So just because I use the same treadmill as what's her face, I'll have the same butt and waist as hers? Not likely.

So to cut things short, since I'm sure I'm almost out of room, join a gym so you can make fun of people. Just kidding! Seriously though, my point is that the gym can be a lot of fun. It doesn't have to be all work, yadda yadda yadda, you know what I mean.



### Thumbs up and Thumbs down



- Thumbs up** to free breakfast. It's the best incentive program to get students to school on time yet.
- Thumbs down** to Saturday school, being the other incentive program to get students to school on time.
- Thumbs up** to the rumors that Marilyn Manson was dead.
- Thumbs down** that they were only rumors.
- Thumbs up** to graduation.
- Thumbs down** to spending all the money you get for graduation on a few announcements and a tassel.
- Thumbs up** to coffee. It makes the Entertainment section possible. Kate agrees. So does Gail.
- Thumbs down** to all the juice and Powerade and all the other caffeine free drinks served at Central.
- Thumbs up** to Pop-up videos. They are the greatest things around.
- Thumbs down** to the fact that Pop-up videos cut off the ends of videos.
- Thumbs up** to the Indigo Girls. They are a couple of cool cats.
- Thumbs down** to the \$7.50 in service charges that I paid on the ticket.
- Thumbs up** to every place open 24 hours a day.
- Thumbs down** to the curfews that prevent people from going to any of these 24 hour places at 4 a.m.
- Thumbs up** to Chee-tos.
- Thumbs down** to all of the rest of the food sold in the cafeteria.
- Thumbs up** to "The Little Mermaid" returning to the big screen.
- Thumbs down** to "Hercules" and "Pocahontas" two movies that shouldn't have appeared on the big screen anyway.
- Thumbs up** to "It's a Wonderful Life" because we will all be watching it and listening to the infamous quote, "Every time a bell rings an angel gets its wings."
- Thumbs down** to the fact that every time a bell rings someone's grade drops a point.

Now open in the Old Market!

Always the Freshest Toppings

## Zio's PIZZA

12463 W. Center Road • 330-1444  
7924 W. Dodge Road • 391-1881  
1213 Howard (Old Market) • 344-2222

## GREEK ISLANDS

### Greek & American Foods

Dine In - Carry Out

Happy Holidays. Use us for Christmas parties.

3821 Center.....346-1528

Afraid you might be pregnant?

## 554-1000

### EPS Pregnancy Services

Free Pregnancy Test  
Confidential Counseling

Open 6 Days a Week • Call for Office Hours

5001 Leavenworth or  
New North Omaha location:  
1723 N. 33rd Street, Lower Level

Christmas Shopping at...

## Mid City Jewelry

Diamonds, Gold Chains, TVs, VCRs, CDs,  
Microwaves, and Cameras

321 N 16th St. 341-5466

Third Year in Business

## ARIPON COMICS

NEW & COLLECTOR

- Comics
- Cards
- Toys

7603 Pacific St.  
Omaha, NE 68114  
Ph: (402) 391-4131

HOURS  
Mon - Sat 10-8 PM & Sun 12-5 PM

## LONG JOHN SILVER'S

SEAFOOD SHOPPES

13110 W. Center Road  
Omaha, NE 68144  
(402) 330-3550



# THE E-TEAM



## KATE



Sex, drugs and rock and roll, that pretty much sums up the plot of the new blockbuster hit, "Boogie Nights."

The movie is based on the porno industry of the 1970s. The main character Dirk Diggler (Mark Wahlberg) gets his big break while working as a bus boy in a night club, frequented by many people in the porn business. The movie is the story of his life.

The film shows the steps he takes, from being a 17 year old high school drop out to being the biggest star in adult films to becoming a washed up nobody. These steps include lots and lots of sex, and lots and lots of drugs.

The film as a whole was very good. The actors were well casted. Mark Wahlberg did an excellent job at portraying a young man amidst the porn industry. The rest of the cast was also very good and made the story fairly believable even with its extremely odd scenes.

The cinematic quality of the movie could be up for argument. Personally, I found it artistically impressive. The camera angles chosen were ones rarely seen in films. The director chose to film things from different points of view. When an important character enters the donut shop, the director chose to film the scene from the donut store employee's point of view, instead of the usual point of view of the main character.

The plot of the movie seemed to work very well. I think that it was a great idea that was one small step away from becoming a new classic film like "Reservoir Dogs" or "Pulp Fiction."

"Boogie Nights" is definitely a movie worth spending \$5 to see. But, if you do go to see it, keep an open mind and watch out for the last scene, it's a little shocking!

## JULIE



Surprised! Shocked! and Traumatized! These were the feelings I had after walking out of "Boogie Nights".

Starring in another low-quality film, Mark Wahlberg (Marky Mark) plays 17 year-old Edward Adams, who strives to be a porn star.

Due to his psychotic mother, push over dad and his dropping out of school, Eddie falls into the hands of porn filmmaker Jack Horner (Burt Reynolds).

Seeming to be somewhat innocent, Eddie only expects to be a star and not a loser like his mother views him. But after changing his name to Dirk Digger and winning an award for best actor (pornographer), Eddie becomes very vain.

The movie honestly portrays the porn business during the late 70's and early 80's. It showed the typical knee highs, short-shorts, boat cars, skimpy swimsuits and so on.

Not only does the movie show Dirk Diggler's life, but other pornographers' lives as well.

Many of them find that their lives as a pornographer will not last forever, but they will forever be paying for the nature of their job.

Besides from the vulgar lives that the pornographers live, there are humorous scenes that make the movie somewhat entertaining.

I was really offended by the indecent exposure the movie portrayed. But I think the director wanted the audience to get a true feeling of how Dirk Diggler and other pornographers lived.

On the other hand, the movie could have been done with a little more class and a lot less nudity. Secondly, the overall acting was terrible and unrelated events led the plot to have no point.

The movie dragged on and on and on and on for practically three hours and gave the audience a surprise ending. But of course, I will leave this scene unmentioned.

Personally, I was very much deceived by this movie. The previews and advertisements made me think that "Boogie Nights" was similar to "Saturday Night Fever" with a few exceptions. Though, throughout the whole movie, there was only one scene with actual disco dancing.

Save your money and don't even bother

seeing the movie when it comes to video.

## BECCA



Something tells me that I won't be able to tell you all about "Boogie Nights" due to its less-than-open topic of the 70's porn industry, but I'll due my best.

Before anyone heads out to the theater be aware that this film could be mildly offensive.

But, it is a good, solid film. Just keep an open mind, get a good seat and enjoy the show.

This bittersweet film tells all about the big daddy of 70's porn, Burt Reynolds, and his top actors as they make themselves stars through the medium of adult film. "Marky" Mark Wallberg and Julianne Moore head up the all star cast as porn stars Dirk Diggler and Amber Waves, Moore gave an unforgettable performance as the strung out and maternal porn star that plays mom to all of the younger stars.

The first half of the movie starts with the fun and action of the good times when everyone was being recruited for the films and being introduced to new people and a new lifestyle. Two of these new recruits were taken from high school just in case any of you are aspiring porn stars. Dirk Diggler a.k.a. Eddie had already dropped out and Roller Girl, the porn star that never takes off her roller-skates, never, flunked out with the help of her new lifestyle.

The second half of the movie turns into a depressing scene of everybody getting strung out, shot or other horrendous alternatives.

It's sort of strange to see Roller Girl, porn star extraordinaire, beat in someone's head with her roller-skates for disrespecting her. Or Dirk, the hottest thing on the porn circuit, getting beat up by anti-homosexual hate groups when he played the idealistic picture of manhood in all of the films.

The ending is sort of interesting and a little ridiculous thanks to their makeup artists and the plastics industry.

Watch out for some sort of award going to the poor souls who did the makeup for that scene.

Overall, it's a fun movie to watch, it's got an awesome soundtrack, and a great cast. The cinematography was great and had that new sort of feel to it. Go out and see it not because it will stir deep emotions or leave you thinking, but because it's a highly entertaining way to spend three hours.

## Happenings

Cramps w/ Guitar Wolf & Demolition Dolls  
Nov. 28 Ranch Bowl

Fiona Apple w/ Laika  
Nov. 29 Mancuso Hall

Luigi Presents Dec. 3  
Borders

Snow Ball Dec. 5  
Mancuso Hall

Indigo Girls Dec. 6  
Mancuso Hall

Robert Glaser Trio  
Dec. 7 Borders

Deftones Dec. 10  
Ranch Bowl

311 w/ Sugar Ray  
Dec. 10 Pershing Auditorium

Ron Cisar Dec. 12  
Borders

Seven Mary Three w/  
TBA Dec. 12 Ranch Bowl

"Fiddler on the Roof"  
Dec. 13 & 14 Central

CENTRAL HIGH PRESENTS

# FIDDLER ON THE ROOF

Based on Sholem Aleichem Stories  
Book by Joseph Stein  
Music by Jerry Bock  
Lyrics by Sheldon Harnick

December 12 & 13, 1997

7:00pm

Reserved Tickets:

\$5.00 Adults

\$4.00 Children 12 & under

557-3332



RAINBOW  
RECORDING STUDIOS  
SOUND AND LIGHTING

Crate Amps  
50% off!

String Sale

Guitar only	Bass only
\$2.00 set	\$10.00

2322 South 64th Avenue  
554-0123

## TWO-MINUTE DRILL

By Derek Tritsch



# Who's No. 1?

This seems to be a somewhat traditional year in college football and, yes, that can only mean one thing: who's number one?

Well, right now, three teams have a valid claim: Michigan, Florida State and Nebraska (in no particular order).

And, make no mistake about it, all three teams believe they are No. 1, no matter what their coaches say about it.

And with today's screwy bowl situation (the Big Ten and Pac-10 champs are still locked into the Rose Bowl, while the rest of the major conferences in the country are part of the Alliance, making a No. 1 vs. No. 2 National Championship game still an improbability), increased emphasis is now being put on this oh-so-important position.

Teams feel they have to be in the No. 1 position going into their bowl game to be assured of a national title, provided they win the game, of course.

This makes the 1997 poll situation very intriguing.

The thinking in being No. 1 is something along the lines of "if you win, the pollsters can't drop you."

Well, as the people at Penn State and Nebraska know all too well, yes they can drop you, and, yes, they probably will.

It's a big problem the polls have (both of them) and it stems from the earliness of that ill-fated "pre-season poll."

You remember that, the one where pollsters make a projection, say two weeks prior to the season?

They will try to declare whom they think is the best team in the country. And that's just fine.

The problem herein lies in that, often times, three or four weeks into the schedule, the pollster will come to the realization that his No. 1 team probably isn't the best team in the country, regardless of whether they are winning or not.

Now he is faced with a dilemma, do I drop my No. 1 (they're playing so bad!) or retain them in the top spot (afterall, they are winning, what more can you ask)?

Now, prior to the last few years, a No. 1 team would stay there until they lost; bar none, no questions asked.

But now, all of the sudden, pollsters have

the tendency to drop a No. 1 team, even if they did win.

And this change in philosophy is coming at a horrible time, because being No. 1 means *everything* going into the bowl game.

Furthermore, the "change in philosophy" wasn't a complete one, i.e. you never know if or when the pollsters will drop a No. 1 team.

The 1994 season is an example of when they didn't drop the No. 1 team after the bowls.

Nebraska held on to its position in the top spot after their Orange Bowl win over Miami (Fl.), despite a serious threat coming from also-undefeated Penn State.

The Nittany Lions defeated a mediocre Oregon team, 38-20, in the Rose Bowl.

Penn State fans felt they were robbed that year because they were dropped late in October after beating Indiana, 35-29.

But what they failed to realize is that, earlier that same season, Nebraska was No. 1 for a two-week stretch before being dropped in favor of Florida for virtually no reason at all.

The point is that it's a long, long season.

And one that is very susceptible to being influenced by politics. You've heard the expression, "winning isn't everything—it's the only thing?"

Well, winning isn't even the only thing anymore.

Now you've got to win, win big, and win big over a respectable opponent.

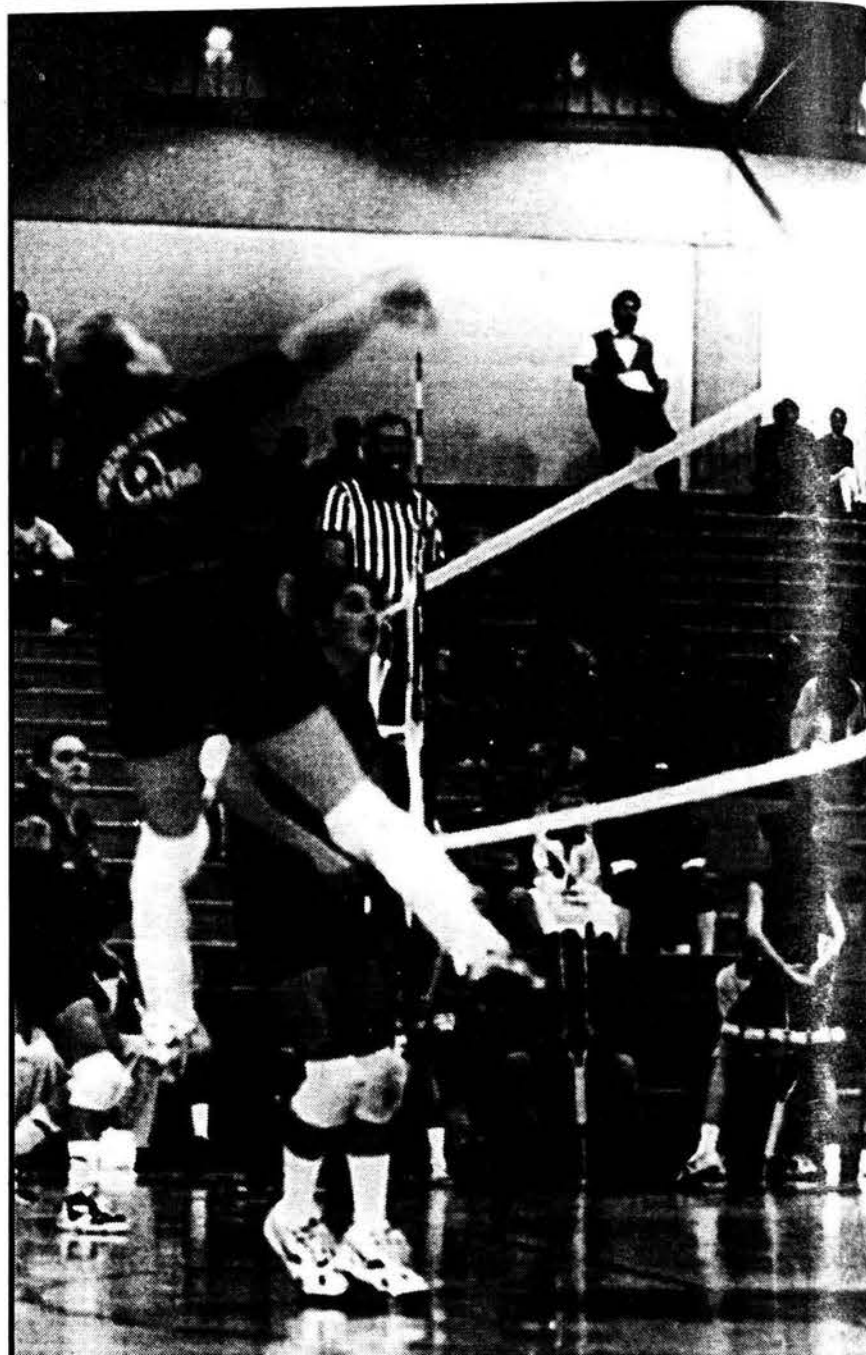
And don't forget to add "look good doing it."

Now, who knows, the way this season has been going, 1997 could be a different story.

These pollsters have been about as sure of themselves as a man about to make a bungee jump; he keeps switching bungee cords looking for a better one.

The problem is he won't know if it is the best one until he actually goes through with the jump, and then, it's probably too late.

These pollsters have got to select the right bungee cord before the bowls—their life may well depend on it.



Spike it up....Eagle Cara Steffensmeier, junior, pounds the ball into the opponent's court. Looking on are senior Jessi Mouton, left, and sophomore Kari Rider.

## Volleyball finishes 10-14 ; look to the future the coach says

By Michael Sheehan

The 1997 Eagle's volleyball team finished 10-14 this year, but looks for more in 1998, the head coach said.

Brad Reichmuth, head coach, said he believes that the team played up to his expectations throughout the season.

The biggest win of the season was the victory over the Westside Warriors in the Metro tournament, Coach Reichmuth said.

He also said that the team has a very good chance to be ranked in the top ten with so many

people returning.

The team is only losing two spots to graduation.

He also said that he believes the seniors will "step up" and become leaders in their senior season at Central.

Coach Reichmuth also said the team next year looks awesome.

"It will be our best yet," Coach Reichmuth said.



Take this coupon to a Marine Recruiter. Give him 15 minutes of your time.


He will give you a Marines T-Shirt and several good reasons why you should consider the Marines.

Marine Corps Recruiting  
7101 South 84th Street  
Lavista, NE 68128  
402-592-1458

Offer good while supplies last.  
Juniors, seniors and recent grads only.  
[www.marines.com](http://www.marines.com)



# Lansky's



731-1919

Perfect  
Pizza

Pizza - Pasta &  
Cheese Steak  
Sandwiches

Dine in or  
Take Out

50th & "L" Street, Omaha, Nebraska

# Eagle Spotlight: Two-Sport Athlete Jenny Queen



## Fast Facts: Jenny Queen

Grade: 12th  
Birthdate: June 27, 1980  
Sports: Softball and Basketball  
Honors: Team captain for the varsity softball team. Two-year starter on varsity basketball team.

By Derek Tritsch

One Eagle athlete is balancing sports and schoolwork with a very high success rate. Senior Jenny Queen, who, despite playing varsity softball and basketball, earned a 3.12 GPA last year and appears to be following the same path this year. Varsity Softball Head Coach Kerri Semrad said she appreciated the work ethic Jenny displayed this season. "I know it's kind of tough for her," she said. "She plays two sports and is also in the classroom. At times I even wondered how she did it. She is able to do it because she thrives

on an arduous work load, Jenny said. "I have a lot of trouble doing my schoolwork when I'm not in a sport," Jenny said. "That's why I load myself down with two sports—it actually improves my performance in school."

And what about the performance on the field?

Jenny played first base for this year's Eagle squad that finished 14-17.

Despite not previously playing first base, she took the initiative to learn the position, Coach Semrad said.

And she fielded her position well, finishing with a .9816 fielding percentage, Coach Semrad said.

Her performance at the plate was just as impressive.

She consistently batted clean-up and finished with a .321 batting average.

She also showed good contact, striking out only seven times in 84 at-bats.

"Her averages speak for themselves," Coach Semrad said.

But aside from statistics, Jenny displayed leadership qualities invaluable to her team, Coach Semrad said.

"Jenny was not only a physical leader, but a mental leader out in the field," Coach Semrad said. "Our team really relied on her this year."

About this time of year, though, Jenny said she begins to shift her focus from softball to the realm of basketball.

And she's expecting big things from this year's Central team, as well as her own individual performance.

Jenny was a frequent entry into the starting lineup of last year's team, she said.

"We have enough talent to win a lot of games," Jenny said. "Now if we can put it all together or not, that's a different story. We need to work together more."

Jenny looks to be in the starting line-up for the Eagles at the power forward position, she said.

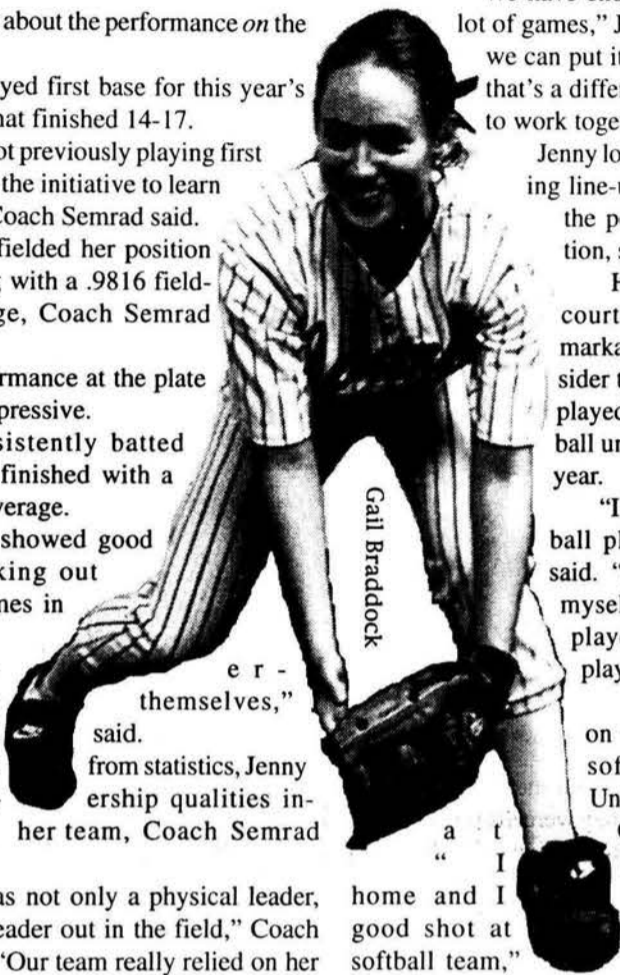
Her prowess on the court is even more remarkable when you consider that she hadn't even played organized basketball until her eighth grade year.

"I was always a softball player first," Jenny said. "And I still consider myself a better softball player than basketball player."

In fact, she plans on walking on to the softball team at the University of Nebraska Omaha.

"I want to stay at home and I have a good shot at making the UNO softball team," Jenny said.

"I have no doubt she'll be successful in whatever she plans to do," Coach Semrad said. "She has a very strong and sincere character."



## Unity dominant for CHS softball team, coach says

By Amy Yin

The 1997 Eagle softball team saw its season come to a close with a loss to Fremont.

The Eagles were lead by senior team co-captains Ally Crossman and Jenny Queen.

Seniors Kim Higgins, Chris Calhoun, Kim Lykke, juniors Stephanie Spielman, Amber Akiens, Meghan Duffy, Kellie Thompson, sophomores Maggie Day, Sophia Theophilopoulos, Kari Shank and Mary Anderson made up the rest of the team which finished the season with a 14-17 record.

"I was not disappointed with the record because the character of the girls made up for it," Head Coach Kerri Semrad said. "I would take the character of the girls over any winning record."

The most disappointing losses came against Millard South.

"We have a lot of experience," Jenny said. "We are fundamentally sound."

An overriding quality of the 1997 team was overall team unity, Coach Semrad said.

Next year's team has eight returning players from the 1997 squad.

"We have a lot of experienced underclassmen," Jenny said.

Coach Semrad said that the greatest strength that the team had was its unity and leadership from the seniors.

She also said that some of the players will receive post-season honors.

CENTRAL EAGLES · CENTRAL EAGLES · CENTRAL EAGLES

# We're Proud to Support Central.



first national bank of omaha

MEMBER FDIC

Investing in you.

CENTRAL EAGLES · CENTRAL EAGLES · CENTRAL EAGLES



# SPORTS

## We Cover Eagle Territory



# Millard South ends Central's season

By Amy Yin

The Eagles closed out their season with a loss to No. 10 Millard South in the District 4 Class A Semifinals on Nov 10.

With 3:09 left in the second quarter, Millard South's Brent Harrill recovered an Eagle fumble which lead to a 24-yard field goal by kicker Chris Brunt, to give the Indians a 0-3 lead.

With 7:41 left in the game, Indian quarterback Jason Severson kept the ball and scored on a five yard run to make the score 0-10.

With 3:08 left on the clock in the fourth quarter, sophomore fullback Corey Sobczyk gave the Indians the final touchdown of the game on a three yard run to make the final score on their game 0-17.

"Our defense was excellent," senior I-back Lawrence Butler said. "The offense just committed too many turnovers for that good of a team."

On Nov. 5, the Eagles faced Millard West at Buell Stadium in a rematch for the first round of the playoffs.

Just 1:30 into the game, the Eagles scored first on a 26-yard run by sophomore fullback Jamaine Billups, to put the Eagles up 7-0.

With 5:23 left before halftime, senior I-back DeAntae Grixby ran five yards for the touchdown to make the score 13-0.

Early in the third quarter, Cecil kept the ball and ran 67-yards for the touchdown to make the final score of the game 19-0.

DeAntae had to leave the game during the third quarter because he suffered a dislocated shoulder and is projected to be out for six weeks.

With the Cecil touchdown, the Eagles avenged their earlier 34-6 defeat by the Wildcats.

On Oct. 31, the Eagles headed to Bryan for their last regular season game at Bryan Stadium.

Bryan scored early in the second quarter on a Ty Johnson run to make the score 0-6.

Early in the third quarter, senior tight end Djuan Johnson gave the Eagles the lead after catching a pass thrown by Cecil to make the score 7-6.

The Eagles made the score 14-6, after a

pitch from Cecil to senior I-back Thomas Hubbard.

Late in the third quarter, Bryan scored a touchdown and then tried to complete on a two point conversion, which was incomplete, to make the score 14-12.

Cecil scored the final touchdown of the game with 46 seconds left on the clock to make the score 20-6.

Bryan got the ball back and with two seconds left on the clock, senior fullback Jay Axelrod intercepted a pass. The game clock ended but Bryan was charged with a flag and the officials gave the Eagles one more play with no time on the clock.

"We got it together in the second half," Djuan said. "We had a little pep talk and we went out and handled them."

On Oct. 24, the Eagles faced Millard West at Bergquist Stadium.

Cecil got the Eagles off to a quick start by scoring the games first touchdown on a 26-yard run early in the first quarter, making the score 6-0.

Millard West answered back with a one yard run by junior running back Chris Mull with 3:44 left in the first quarter to put the Wildcats up 7-6.

Millard West then made the score 14-6 right before halftime with a ten yard run by senior running back Kent Demming.

Millard west then took control of the game with two third quarter touchdowns, the first coming on a six yard run by Kent.

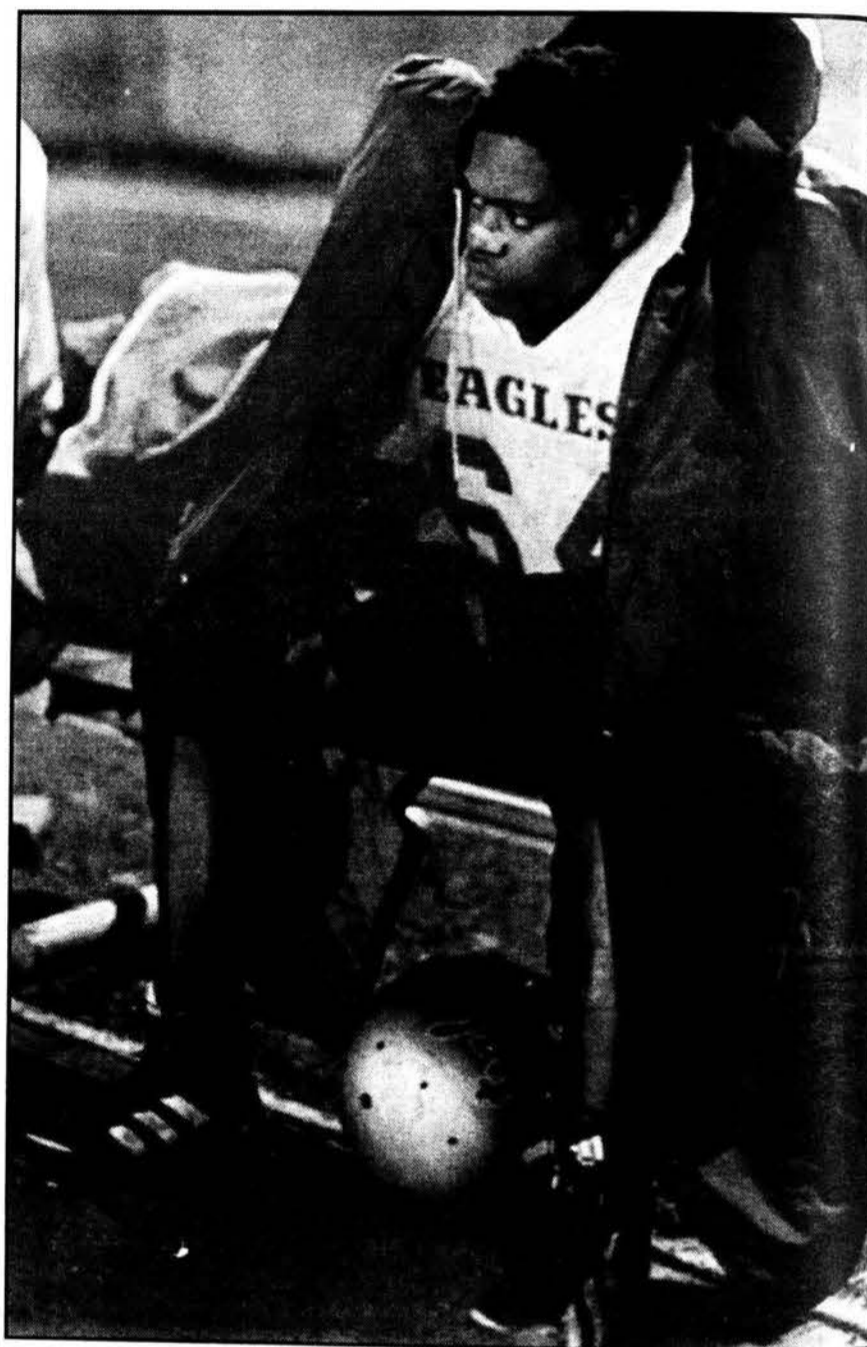
The second came off of senior running back Brandon Kovar, who ran 39-yards for the touchdown to make the score 27-6, Millard West.

The final touchdown of the game came from an eight yard run by Chris in the fourth quarter to make the final score of the game 34-6, Millard West.

"The team played really hard in the playoffs," Head Football Coach Joe Mcmenamin said. "I was really happy we made the playoffs."

The Eagles ended their season with a 5-6 record.

"The coaches did a good job on working with the team and the offensive line," Jamaine said. "We came together as a team and we made a comeback at the end."



A grounded Eagle...Central senior Ernest Woods watch on from the bench in the closing minutes of the Eagles' season ending loss to Millard South. The Indians defeated Central 17-6 in the quarterfinals of the Class A State playoffs. Despite a four game losing streak during the course of the season, the Eagles persevered to qualify for the playoffs. "Considering our situation, we were very happy to qualify for the playoffs," Head Coach Joe McMenamin said.

# Brothers excel for Omaha Lancers

By Derek Tritsch

Two former Central students are excelling on the ice for the Omaha Lancers this year.

Brothers Jake and Jed Ortmeyer have both seen considerable action in their first year with the United States Hockey League club.

Jake, a member of the Central graduating class of 1996, joined the Lancers after a

1997 year which saw him play for a team in both Seattle and Danville (Ill.), in the North American Hockey League.

Jake lived with a host family in both cities.

"It went really well," Jake said. "Living in Seattle was awesome, but I'm glad to be back home and in this league."

Jake, a defenseman, said he was well-prepared for the change of scenery.

"It was hard at first, but I'm adapting well," Jake said "But it really wasn't that much of a step."

Jed, on the other hand, joined the Lancers directly after graduating from Central in 1997.

He said he was surprised that he even made the team.

"I really worked hard, and I guess I

played well enough at try-outs to impress Coach [Mike] Hastings," Jed said.

Jed, a forward, has played very well at times.

In fact, he even played well enough to garner USHL Player of the Week honors.

"I was really shocked I got that award," Jed said "I mean, I didn't even think I would play for the Lancers this year."

The goal of playing for the Lancers is to earn a college scholarship, Jake said.

"This league puts out a lot of college players," he said. "Hopefully I can earn some kind of scholarship for next year."

Jake said his family had contacted the

University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) when the Mavericks did not need a defenseman the time.

His brother Jed has already earned attention from such college programs as Saint Cloud State (Minn.) and Michigan State.

"Nothing's definite," Jed said. "I'm just looking at me."

Jed does, however, plan on spending another year with the Lancers, he said.

The extra year of development will serve him well in the long-run, Jed said.

One might wonder whether or not Jake and Jed enjoy playing alongside each other.

But both brothers agree, however, having each other on the ice is an asset.

"It helps out a lot," Jake said. "I know exactly where he is on the ice."

Jed agreed. "We've been playing together since we were little kids," Jed said. "Plus he tries to look out for me."



Jed Ortmeyer

## DEPARTMENTS

Two-Minute Drill.....14

Volleyball.....14

Eagle Spotlight.....15