



The Central High School REGISTER

Since
The Oldest School
Newspaper West
of the Mississippi

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Omaha, Nebraska

1886

Teens judge the fate of others

Brian Joseph

The establishment of a teen court program for the judicial district in Nebraska is the goal of Legislative Bill (LB) 1317, the state senator who introduced the bill said.

State Sen. Jennie Robak said that the courts proposed in LB 1317 would be entirely run by teens for the purpose of trying first-time teen offenders who have committed misdemeanors. She said that the job of the jurors, attorneys, bailiffs and clerks would all be done by teens who have volunteered as part of the program.

Robak said that the only adult who would be involved in the setting would be the judge.

However, she said that this courtroom would be exactly like an adult one. She said that the proposed teen courts would not determine the guilt or innocence of a teen. Rather, she said that the teen jurors would only decide on the extent of an offender's punishment.

For confidentiality reasons, she said that only the offender's first name would be used during the proceedings.

Also, she said that the volunteers involved would be required not to discuss the case outside of the courtroom with anyone, even other volunteers.

As for the benefits of such a program, Robak said that other states which have teen courts have reported that only 4.5 percent of teens who have gone through the program go on to become repeat offenders.

Mrs. Rosalyn Trumm, the coordinator of the Douglas County Teen Court which was used as a model for LB 1317, said that the program has tried 440 teens since it began two years ago. Of those 440 teens, she said that only 29 have gone on to become repeat offenders.

She said that if the juvenile justice system tried teens, it would normally see about 120 to 140 repeat offenders.

"It's much more effective if it comes from your peers," she said.

Robak said that teens are affected by the experience of being judged by their peers.

Trumm said that she has received feedback from parents of children who have been tried before Teen Court and they have said that the experience has been a very valuable one.

One parent, she said, went so far as to say that every teen, regardless if he has committed a crime, should go before Teen Court.

Trumm said that the only disadvantage to the program may be in the fact that it is very uncomfortable for teens to be judged by other teens.

Another advantage to the program, she said, is that it is tax effective. She said that since the program results in fewer repeat offenders, there are less court cases involving minors, and as a result, less money is spent on court related costs.

Robak said that another benefit of a teen court program is that teens speak the "same language."

She also said that justice moves at a faster pace in a teen court setting.

Gross High School senior Andrew Balus, who has been volunteering for Trumm's program since November of 1996, said that this program offers much. "I think it's a good program for everyone involved," he said.

He said that teens are more suited to decide the punishment for other teens because they too are experiencing the same pressures and problems that come from being a teen.

Even though they are teens, he said the jury members make sure that their sentence is a just one.

"I don't think they ever get off easier than they deserve," he said.

Raisin' the Ranch



Gail Braddock

Burning 'Down' the house... David Yow, lead singer of The Jesus Lizard, puts a little feeling into his performance at the Ranch Bowl on Thurs, Feb. 5. The Jesus Lizard, originally from Chicago, opened with local band Ravine. See page 13 for the complete review.

OPS district experiences growth in ESL population

Rachel Slosburg

Hola! Bonjour! Konichiwa!

These greetings represent only a few of the many languages spoken by the English as a Second Language (ESL) students in the Omaha Public Schools (OPS) district.

Mrs. Sharon Watts, supervisor of the district's ESL/Foreign Language department who works at the Teacher Administration Center (TAC), said that the ESL program, which began as a result of the Supreme Court decision in the case of Lau v. Nichols (1974) stating that

all school districts must provide language instruction for minority students, has experienced a rapid growth in a ten year period, illustrated by the representation of 33 different languages and 45 different countries.

Currently, Watts said that 1,760 students in the district are enrolled in the ESL program, a figure which has grown 607 percent from the 1987-88 school year. She said potential students are brought in daily to be screened to see if they need the program.

Watts said that the majority (90 percent) of the ESL students speak Spanish as their first language, followed by Vietnamese (about five percent), Sudanese (about two percent), Chinese and Arabic.

"As soon as people arrive in the city, they bring their children to [TAC] so that their children are screened and placed in appropriate schools," Watts said.

With the continual increase of the ESL students, Watts said that space has become an important issue, especially at the elementary level, and ESL centers have been created to accommodate the large population of students.

An ESL center is more than a typical classroom, Watts said. She said it is an area which is used for tutorial help as well as teaching. Today, Watts said that about 35 schools in the OPS district have ESL learning centers.

Mainstreaming, Watts said, describes the approach used to teach students in the ESL program. Watts said that normally beginning ESL students are placed in classes such as art, music, lunch and gym with other students their grade level.

"Even if the child speaks very little English, he is placed in a homeroom to meet and socialize with his peers," Watts said.

Watts said she is impressed with the attitudes of the ESL students.

"These kids want to fully partake in their new country, and they realize that they need English to accomplish that goal," she said.

She said eventually, as the student's English improves, more of the student's classes are mainstreamed.

Watts said that the turnover rate for ESL students has been very successful in the OPS district.

"We feel our teachers are do-

ing an especially good job," Watts said. "The program is working."

Tho Giap, Central senior and ESL student, said he agrees with Watts in that the program is successful.

"The teachers taught me English from basics to higher," he said.

Tho, born in Vietnam, said he moved to Omaha two years ago.

Tho said the culture shock was not too hard to get used to, but the language has been a difficult barrier.

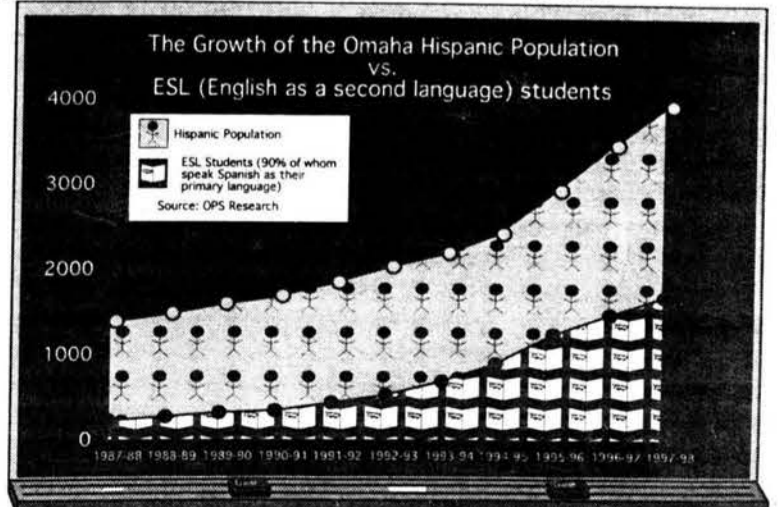
Central ESL teacher Ms. Michelle Golden, who has been at Central from the start of the ESL program, said that it has grown from

six students the first year to 86 students for the 1997-98 school year.

Golden said that Central's ESL center is a "really unique place," and that hearing others' life experiences is probably the greatest reward of being an ESL teacher.

Golden said she thinks it is unfortunate that some people look upon the ESL students as a detriment to the school.

"Some do not have the foggiest idea of how hard it is to live in a new country and leave everything they know behind," she said. "My most important job is being an advocate for the kids."



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■ Political correctness

Society is becoming too sensitive

Somewhere along the journey to racial equality and an end to sexual discrimination, political correctness was taken too far.

As the Oprah Winfrey defamation case becomes more and more publicized, one realizes exactly how carefully each person must choose his words.

Winfrey is being sued by cattle producers because of a statement she made about the safety of meat during her Apr. 16, 1996 show on mad cow disease.

Winfrey declared that she was going to stop eating hamburger in order to protect herself from contracting the disease. The total cost of this statement may be as much as \$12 million.

This amount of money is the projected loss of profit due to the decrease in sales after the show containing Winfrey's statement was broadcast.

The heads of the beef industry claim that the statement influenced Winfrey's viewers, causing them to stop purchasing beef.

And then there is the issue of what occurs if someone does take offense to the statement of another.

According to the records of the State of Nebraska, more law suits have been filed in the past six years than in the previous decade.

Not including divorce suits, the majority of the remaining law suits filed in Nebraska are connected to an offensive statement either published or spoken.

Either people are becoming more sensitive to the opinions of others or it has become increasingly easier to sue someone.

Even children's shows are being drastically affected by the overuse of political correctness.

"Sesame Street", perhaps the greatest intellectually formative show of the twentieth century, has given in to the pressures of an increasingly politically correct world.

There has been discussion about having Bert and Ernie live separately in order to make sure they are not portrayed as homosexual.

The cookie monster now eats vegetables as well as cookies because people thought his calorie intake was too high, and three-year-olds are being taught to get upset when one refers to them as short instead of "vertically challenged."

So, one has to wonder how much benefit has come from a politically correct society.

While the reason for the change came with the laws giving all people the same rights, it has also brought a time of tip-toeing around certain topics and certain words in order to keep from offending anyone.

In the era of the written word, it is somewhat sad that people, whether in the public spotlight or not, have to be extremely careful about anything that is spoken, written, implied or published.

The possibility of striking a controversial or offensive issue is so great and the idea of filing a law suit over defamation so common that it almost seems as if political correctness has hurt the world more than it benefited the "metabolically challenged" or "chairpersons."

Texas woman deserved execution

The controversy over the Texas woman's execution is absurd in that even though she killed two people, some feel that she should not have been executed.

Karla Faye Tucker was the first woman since the Civil War to be executed in Texas, and the second in nearly 20 years in the United States. Because of this, her execution drew much of the country's attention.

And most of that attention was basically centered on her gender and her religion.

The death penalty should not be affected according to someone's gender or religion but by the crime that they commit.

If a person commits a crime, that person should be punished according to the state's law that the crime was committed in.

Despite several claims made by Tucker to the Texas Board of Pardons that she was a born-again Christian and even with the Pope pleading clemency for her, neither the governor of Texas nor the Supreme Court intervened, and she was executed.

Although she was religious and may have been truly sorry for killing those two people, her pleas were denied and rightfully so.

Even if someone is religious, they still have the ability to harm or perhaps kill someone, and because of this her pleas were insufficient.

Also, if she would have been granted a stay of execution or given clemency, why couldn't criminals claim the same just to lessen their punishment?

Even though some would say that the death penalty is a cruel and unjust way to punish a person, it must be followed and carried out as with all other laws.

As with all laws, there may be some reason for debate over the use of the death penalty, but it is still used as a punishment for a certain segment of criminals and until the state laws change, it will continue to do so.

It seems that all of the demonstrational marches for women's rights have obviously been forgotten.

Women are supposed to be equal to men, but why is it when it comes to the death penalty and other sentences, they are not?

A crime is a crime and the law is the law. There is never a good enough reason to grant someone clemency unless there is more logic to their plea than that of being a reborn Christian.

The government proposes and passes laws for several reasons. One is to hopefully deter some of the crimes from happening and another is to show that there is no toleration for such infringements.

And to prove to everyone that there is no toleration for such acts, Tucker was still executed.

THE CLONING INSTITUTE



REGISTER YOUR OPINIONS

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

Do you think it matters whether or not President Clinton had an affair?

No. His private matters have nothing to do with running the country.



Kevin Rosenthal, 12

Yes. The President is supposed to set an example[in terms of handling responsibility].



Carmen Sird, 9

No. It's his own business. He should be able to do whatever he wants to do, as long as it doesn't interfere with running the country.



Jessica Benak, 11

Yes. He is married and he made a commitment to his wife. He should be faithful to her.



Willie Scott, 10

Yes. His character should count. There were several situations similar to this that were his own fault [throughout his career].



Mrs. Dee Kovarik
math teacher

LET'S BE FRANK

By Alex Wolfson



Stop the Hate and Discrimination

After years of fighting against the cause, acts of discrimination and racism are still very present in our society.

Hate crimes: a hate crime, in layman's terms, is a crime targeted against a particular person or group due to their age, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, religion, etc.

Up until a couple of months ago, Nebraska was the only state in the nation that did not have a hate crime law.

Recently, though, Gov. Ben Nelson signed a bill that requires harsher punishment for hate crime offenders.

Before this law, if John Doe had a cross on a church lawn, he would just be charged with vandalism. Under this new law, Mr. Doe would be charged with committing a hate crime.

The Ku Klux Klan, the Black Panthers and the White Knights are examples of supremacist groups that are still active. And surprisingly, these groups still have several members.

Such organizations travel

around the country in their groups, and paint the town red with "I hate blacks" and other such atrocities.

They think it's so fun to terrorize African-Americans, the disabled, Latin-Americans, Jews, homosexuals and all other such groups that supposedly corrupt the "Aryan blood" of "pure white, Protestant Americans."

During World War II, attempts were made to breed pure "Aryans" together to create one master race.

Yet, fifty years later, their numbers seem to have weakened. So at least, we are trying to stop these such people.

It's really scary to think that something like the Holocaust could happen in America. Especially considering the events dealing with racism and prejudice that have taken place during the last fifty years.

A very similar problem has been a hot topic in the news lately: discrimination.

Up until only a little while ago, women would get paid less money for performing the exact same job

as a man.

Women and other groups are still discriminated against to this day. That shouldn't be an issue. A job should be awarded to the applicant with the best skills specifically needed for that job.

Whether or not there are enough minority groups at a particular work place is extremely irrelevant.

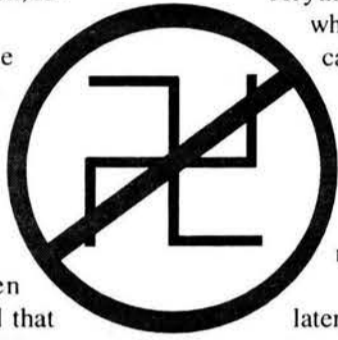
Like I said before, a job should be awarded to the best applicant, not the applicant that happens to have been born into a different culture or social group.

Although I do agree that everyone should be exposed to many cultures and religions simply for educational beliefs, I don't agree that it should be a determining factor for someone getting a job.

Affirmative action is such a horrible way of dealing with our country's problems.

How hard you work should be the determining factor in whether or not you're successful, not your age, sex, nationality, sexual orientation or religious belief.

Let's be frank, discrimination and other forms of hatred have gotten out of hand and need to be stopped.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A READER OPINION FORUM



Tutoring helps students advance in many areas

Dear Editor,

The math and science tutoring that Central is providing is an excellent program. It is a shame that so few people know about it and that even fewer take advantage of it. We should be proud of our school and everything it offers.

Not all schools have a tutoring program as available or educational as ours. Our program also has many advantages usually not offered by tutoring programs: it is free, it offers the help of excellent teachers and students and it is offered both before and after school.

If more people were to use this program, it may convince the more self-conscious people to use it as well. The program makes one feel that tutoring is helpful without making him or her feel stupid. It is not only helpful in terms of grades and schoolwork, but it helps to build a person's self-esteem.

Sincerely,
Cathy Colling, sophomore

CENTRAL FILES

A LOOK INTO EDITORIALS OF THE PAST

Space Worth Risk of Life

April 1967

Since 1958, the dawn of America's space age, thirteen million miles of space in 1900 man-hours have been flown -- all without casualties.

Jan. 27, astronauts Virgil Grissom, Edward White and Roger Chaffee were killed in a flash fire in the Apollo I spacecraft. But their deaths are not the only tragedies to have taken place in the conquest of space. Jan. 31, two Air Force technicians died in a capsule fire in San Antonio.

The question now raised is what effect these recent catastrophes will have on America's space program. The problem is far more reaching, though, than an indefinite delay of the Apollo program. For now we must ask ourselves whether our quest for the cosmos is worth the sacrifice of lives.

Perhaps our answer comes in the words of one died. Colonel Grissom, in a recent interview prior to his death said, "The conquest of space is worth the risk of life."

It is that conquest that trumpets the ever-challenging call to man, bidding him to seek out the mysteries of the universe, defying him to unveil the unknown. In effect, it reveals man's innate desire to know.

As precursors of the space era, we have directly benefited from the results. Such fields as astronomy, mathematics, geology and biology have been bolstered by spatial findings.

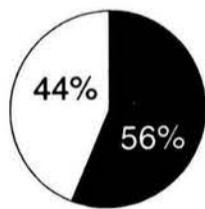
Perhaps space exploration holds the key to future vocations. Our course must be a progressive one, as Colonel White indicated before he took his "walk" in space in 1965. He stated that if astronauts were ever lost on a mission, "we wouldn't want it to hold up the space program. We have to keep progressing."

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.

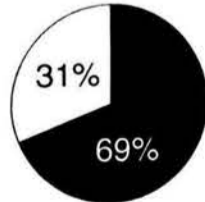
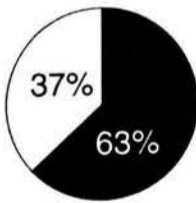
CENTRAL STANDARDS

NO YES 147 students polled



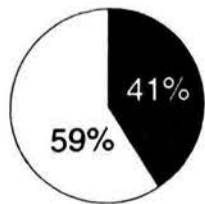
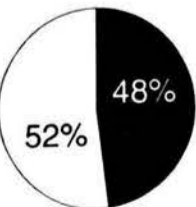
Do you think that the private life of a political figure reflects his or her ability to lead the people productively?

Do you think a person in the limelight gives up his/her right to privacy?



Do you think that the media coverage of this incident has gotten out of hand?

Do you think it matters whether or not President Clinton had an affair?



Do you think that President Clinton, if found guilty, should be impeached?

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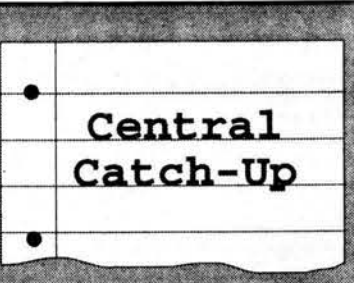
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Central Chess team gears-up for competition

Central's Chess team looks promising for state competition, the chess coach said.

"I think we have a good chance to do well in the state tournament," Coach Drew Thyden said.

In the Metro Chess League, the Central Chess team was ranked in first place, Thyden said.

Sophomore Joe Zielinski is 4-0 in competition and is currently ranked first in the league.

"Joe will likely make first in state this year," Thyden said.

The Chess State Tournament takes place at the end of February.

"The thing about chess is that sometimes you play well and sometimes you don't," Joe said. "I'll win first someday."

Freshman David Piskac is 1-0, and freshman Tyler Yin is 3-1.

"David Piskac and Tyler Yin are two freshmen who bring a great outlook to the future of the Central Chess team," said Thyden.

Central's Chess team finished the season February 10, winning all ten meets.

CHS orchestra director wins teaching award

A Central music teacher recently won an award for her contributions to Central's orchestra program.

Mrs. Molly Moriarty, orchestra director, won the American String Teachers Association award of the Nebraska Chapter of teachers.

She said she was nominated by several of her peers for the opportunities that she gives her students to collaborate with various music groups.

Jill Zavorka, senior, said that Moriarty is the best music teacher and she worked hard to get the program where it is at.

"She makes us strive to do the best job we can," she said.

In the past, Moriarty and the Central Orchestra have collaborated with the Omaha Symphony, Benson High Orchestra as well as several others.

"I like to have innovative programs available for the students," Moriarty said.

Central senior, Lema Bashir, said that Moriarty is a great teacher and deserves the award.

"Mrs. Moriarty has been here since my freshman year and since then the orchestra program has gotten a whole lot better," she said.

OPS considers starting school later in the morning

By John Eubanks

For most students, getting up in the morning is a tiresome obstacle that needs to be resolved. Their wish just might be granted, Omaha Public Schools (OPS) director of general administration said.

Ms. Janelle Mullen is one of 12 members on the Start Time Committee, which was formed to discuss the possibility of a late start for the 1998-99 school year.

One question is always asked: Why can't teenagers get out of bed?

According to the National Education Association (NEA), new research shows teens' biological clocks are at odds with most high school schedules—and it's affecting these students' ability to learn.

Research also indicates that as students hit high school age, their bodies shift to later bedtimes and wake-up times.

"Adolescents need an increasing amount of sleep—nine hours to avoid becoming sleep-deprived, compared with the eight hours required of adults," Mullen said.

The NEA said that sleep-deprived students often lack a sustained attention span, are more prone to irritability, depression, anxiety and more vulnerable to accidents.

Research has also shown that puberty resets teenagers' biological clocks.

Sleep researchers said that it would make more sense to have older students start later in the morning and have elementary students, whose clocks are set earlier, be the ones to meet a 7:45 am first bell, Mullen said.

The NEA "Inside Scoop" article also said that three years ago, the Minnesota Medical Association examined the new research on teenager sleep needs and adopted a resolution asking all school districts in the state to examine their high school start time.

A number of Minnesota schools have responded by switching to later start times, the "Inside Scoop" article said.

According to the "Inside Scoop" article the results were very good. Students seem to be more awake and alert.

"We are basing our decision on these results," Mullen said.

Schools and communities would have to make some difficult adjustments to accommodate later start times, she said.

Dr. Gary Thompson, Central High's principal and member of the Time Committee, said that with classes ending later, students would have less time for activities—or would get home even later in the day.

Dr. Thompson said that the late start would help kids function better and would help them in scheduling and more zero hour classes could be offered.

"The disadvantages would be the time factor for sports' practice after school," he said.

Mullen said that bus schedules would have to change, meaning a greater expense for the district.

Mr. Vern Krenzer, freshman biology teacher, said that he likes the school the way it is now.

"I am a data-based person," Krenzer said. "Unless I was convinced that there was a correlation between the time started and the number of tardies, I would not change the schedule the same as it is."

The Start Time Committee only had one meeting, so there has been no decision made on whether or if the policy will come into effect, Mullen said.

"Right now we are basically exploring the ideas," she said.

Central sophomore, Liz Kieffer, she also believes that the late start should not come into effect.

"An hour is not really much of a difference," Liz said. "I'd rather start earlier and get out earlier."

On the other hand, sophomore Dustin Bushon said he would love to have the late start come into effect.

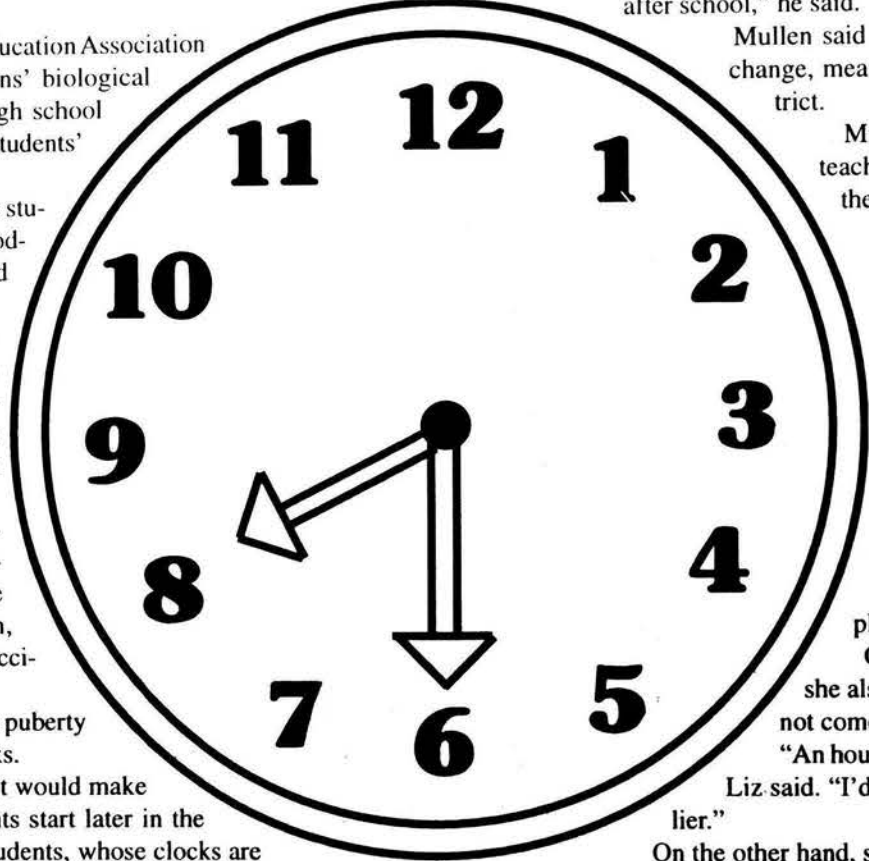
"The late start policy would help me catch up on my sleep," Dustin said.

Mrs. Smejkal, a counselor at Norris Jr. High, said that they start school at 7:45 am and get out at 2:30 pm.

"I think that it would be a great idea," Smejkal said. "It would reduce the amount of tardies."

Mr. Gerald Relford, counselor at Brancroft Elementary School, said that they start school at 9:05 am and get out at 3:35 pm.

"I welcome it because I feel that it would benefit the high school students better than elementary," Relford said.



LB 1176 aims at attracting, retaining students

By Morgan Denny

The "brain gain" bill, Legislative Bill 1176, has been proposed by Gov. E. Ben Nelson in order to keep Nebraska students in the state.

Gov. Nelson said that Nebraska has a growing problem of attracting and retaining students who would later join the state's workforce.

Ms. Sheri Knoerzer, who works in education at the governor's office and has been working with him on the "brain gain" bill, said that while the work force in Nebraska has grown 13 percent, the population has only grown by five percent.

She said that Nelson was concerned about the "bright and young" leaving Nebraska and so he created LB 1176, which is made up of three parts.

Knoerzer said that first step is to attract students to Nebraska's post secondary education institutes, public and private, and show students the variety of career opportunities in Nebraska.

"The best way to help make sure we're keeping Nebraska students is by creating incentives to go to school here," Gov. Nelson said.

Knoerzer said that the second part of the bill entails any student participating in the program to receive a merit-based scholarship that covers one half of their college tuition, with a maximum of \$5000, at

any Nebraska college or university for up to five years.

Dr. David Powers, executive director of the Nebraska coordinating commission for post secondary education, said that in order for a student to receive this scholarship, he must sign a contract stating that he will participate in an internship with a business on the Honor Roll Business list and stay and work, in that field, in Nebraska for at least three years after graduating.

"Eighty percent of people who take an internship end up with that company," Gov. Nelson said.

He also said that the businesses on the Honor Roll Business list are those dealing in "high priority fields" which currently have inadequate work forces, such as high technology and information communication.

tion."

Gov. Nelson said that the business internship might spark a student's interest and open up more opportunities to him.

He also said that the program helps high school students to go directly from school into a job.

Dr. Powers said that each university decides what internships to offer at its school and what grade point average (GPA) to require for the scholarship.

Gov. Nelson said that if a student decides to leave Nebraska during his contracted time or does not fulfill the requirements of the contract, the scholarship becomes a "loan with interest" from the state.

However, he said, if a student completes the requirements, only he switches fields, he will still be allowed to keep the scholarship.

Gov. Nelson said that he does not think of any disadvantages to this plan.

He said that the only disadvantage that could happen would be the student deciding to leave Nebraska in which case "the worst is still going to be the same." It's [the scholarship] just becomes a loan with interest, something that many college students deal with anyway."

The best way to help make sure we're keeping Nebraska students is by creating incentives to go to school here.
--Gov. E. Ben Nelson

lowed to keep the scholarship.

Gov. Nelson said that he does not think of any disadvantages to this plan.

He said that the only disadvantage that could happen would be the student deciding to leave Nebraska in which case "the worst is still going to be the same."

Gov. Nelson said that he created this bill about a year ago and the legislature did not get it on its agenda. Thus, he said that it is only now being legislated.

Dr. Powers said that if the bill is approved there will be a public hearing and study group involving Nebraska's educational institutions. These meetings will help to decide the specifics of the plan which are individual to each school, he said.

Dr. Powers said that the outline of the plan should be general, in order to accommodate the specific details added on by each school.

"They deliberate on it and make sure for their school what doesn't," he said.

Dr. Powers said that if the bill is approved, the program will be promoted at Nebraska colleges and advertised throughout the state.



Tutoring available to students through AIM Institute grant

By Emily Martin

Students now have the ability to receive help in math and science from paid peer tutors before and after school.

This new addition to Central's academic support system comes from a grant the school recently received. The grant is from the AIM (Applied Informational Management) Institute and covers a myriad of facets concerning curriculum development. Mrs. Jean Whitten, tutoring supporter and Biology teacher, said.

The particular grant in question, the UROG (Urban/Rural Opportunities Grant), allows for two paid tutors per shift to assist students in math and science before and after school in room 342.

These students were asked to be positioned by Mr. John Waterman, math department chair. Tutors are present in the morning from 7 am to 7:30 am and in the afternoon from 3 pm to 4 pm. The four tutors are Amanda Hansen, Nate Kovarik, Sam Kruger and Jenny Queen, all seniors.

"It makes me feel great that I can help out the school this way," Amanda said.

The main difference between these tutors and others offered at Central is the fact that these tutors are paid.

The students are paid seven dollars an hour. They said the money was not a concern to them though, but helping out their fellow students and maintaining Central's tradition

of excellence is.

"When I saw the light bulb go off in his head," Nate Kovarik said, "that was the fulfillment for me."

What Nate is referring to is how he said he felt after explaining a concept to a student seeking assistance and the student understanding.

Nate said he tutors in the afternoon with Sam, who shares his sentiments.

Through tutoring, Sam said he has had many positive moments.

"Tutoring reinforces math skills and gives me a warm feeling to know I have helped a fellow student," Sam said.

Sam and Nate said they have received significantly fewer numbers of students coming in for help after school compared to the morning tutors.

Jenny said she and Amanda help typically two students a morning.

To make the tutoring more stable and work off their strong points, Jenny and Amanda said they split up who gets which subjects.

"Most people come in for help

in Algebra and Chemistry," Jenny said.

The science tutoring is split up between the two.

Jenny said she helps students with physics and Amanda assists them in chemistry.

provides these tutors for this semester, it is Whitten's hope that another grant or program will pick up the bill.

"Central is becoming a Project Banneker school next year and it is my hope that they will provide funding," Whitten said.

Project Banneker is a program in place at dozens of OPS schools that has goals in bolstering higher student achievement in math and science.

To do this, according to the Project Banneker mission statement, they work on class instruction, increasing enrollment, community based enrichment and supporting both parents and students. Tutoring falls under the support aspect of the project.

The future of the tutoring before and after school as of yet is uncertain though, Whitten said.

"It is there and we want it used," Whitten said. "We will lose it if it is not used."

The total cost of the tutors as funded through the grant for this semester is \$2,835.

Along with the tutors, the UROG grant (totaling \$17,515) funds the extended hours of Central's computer labs as well as numerous programs for technological advancement in elementary and middle school students through Central.

The UROG grant also allows for the mandatory technology course for freshmen that will be instituted in the 1998-99 school year.



They said they both feel comfortable working through mathematical questions with a troubled student.

In addition to the two student tutors, one of a number of teachers is also in the room to supervise and answer questions if they are needed. This teacher is also paid.

Whitten said she hopes

that the tutoring will help foster an awareness and interest in math and science.

"The bottom line is to get more students taking math and science at a higher level," Whitten said. "If it is just the matter of a support system, we provide that."

While the UROG grant only

Army linguist visits Central, encourages foreign language

By Becca Starr

A linguist with the Monterey Foreign Language Institute visited Central and talked to foreign language students about the benefits of taking and becoming fluent in a foreign language.

Mrs. Daryl Bayer, head of Central's foreign language program, said that the Army approached her about having a speaker come and visit Central to boost awareness of foreign languages, since the Army lacks the people with these skills.

Sgt. 1st class Rick Coley, who is fluent in German, Czech and Arabic, came to Central Jan. 28 from the Monterey Institute to speak about his experiences with both foreign languages and the Army, and to encourage students to expand their minds by taking advantage of both.

He said that he enlisted in the Army in 1978 and was sent to Germany near the Czechoslovakian border as a demolition specialist. He stated that he felt frustration with the language barrier which limited the enlisted men to their barracks "watching football games and drinking beer."

That is where he took matters into his own hands and discovered the German language, he said.

After that, he said he was able to join the European rodeo and get his driver's license. He traveled all over Germany while he was on his first tour of duty.

After re-enlisting, he attended the Defense Language Institute for German and Czech and held a position in military intelligence.

Sgt. Coley said he went back to Germany

and debriefed illegal border crossers from communist nations.

When the army offered him the chance to return to California and teach at the Monterey Foreign Language Institute, he moved back to California, he said.

Back in California, he was commissioned to train people that went into Bosnia and other eastern European nations on peace keeping missions.

"Those people went so that you don't have to," Sgt. Coley said.

One of his friends and fellow linguist died when two helicopters were shot down by friendly fire in Iraq.

This left an opening in military intelligence in Arabic and Sgt. Coley returned to the Monterey Institute to learn Arabic, he said.

Sgt. Coley said that he currently leads a company of men out of Monterey and is finishing a masters in teaching foreign languages.

"What I have gained is a lifetime of experience," Sgt. Coley said.

All of Sgt. Coley's linguistic training has been by Defense Language Institute which has three locations in Washington D.C., San Antonio and Monterey.

The institute was started in 1941 in an empty hanger in San Francisco to teach Americans the Japanese language. Second-generation Japanese people were asked if they would leave the camps

that they were forced into during World War II and teach.

The teachers had no experience or supplies as they pioneered the programs used today.

Currently, the institute is attended by members of the CIA, FBI, DEA, Green Berets, Navy Seals and all branches of the armed services.

Courses are taught by immersion and range from 27 weeks for languages like Spanish, French and German to 63 weeks for languages like Korean and Arabic. There are 42 languages taught at the institute.

The cost is \$15,900 per semester which Sgt. Coley received through the Army for the price of books only. He has learned three languages for only \$953.

"I used the army, they did not use me," Sgt. Coley said. He said that learning foreign languages makes learning other things like math, science or history easier.

The institute is going through revision and in the next five years hopes to offer laptops issued to new students for work in barracks and the rest of the world. They would be used for interactive homework.

"At the institute, we teach you how to get off a bus in a foreign country and live there," Sgt. Coley said. He stressed the importance that the institute not only teaches language, but culture as well.

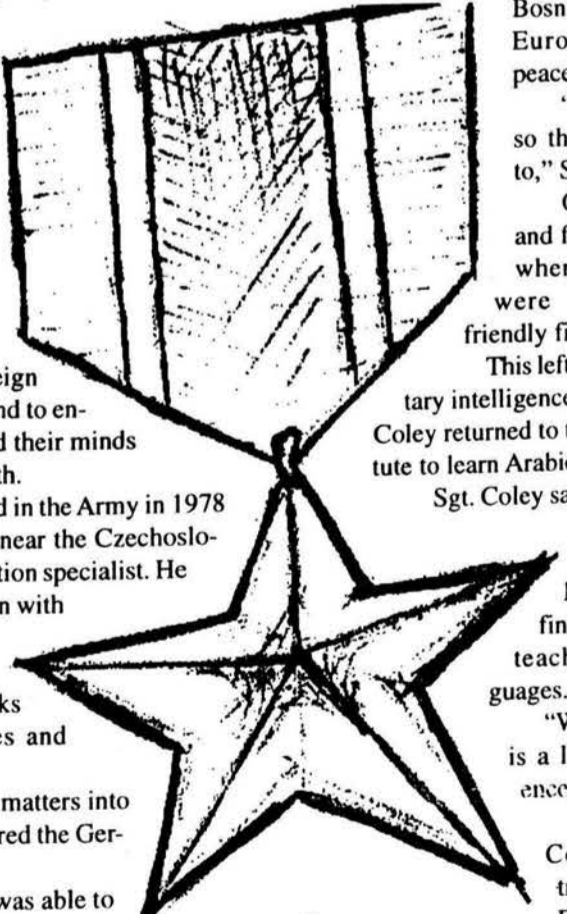
"Learning a language opens the door of opportunity for students and is the basis of learning," Sgt. Coley said.

Sgt. Coley said the next language that he plans to become proficient in is Spanish.

His speech ended with a reminder about how important it is to learn as much as one can because it can enhance all aspects of life.

"It was informative without being boring," Megan Mullen, senior, said.

Other students agreed with senior Sam Fraser, calling it "influential to undecided students in planning their future careers."



Central Catch-Up

CHS forensic team hosts tournament

Central's Forensics team hosted a speech and debate tournament on Feb. 6 and 7 at Central.

Over 30 schools from the Metro and outlying areas attended. Ms. Kris Bertch, forensics coach, said the tournament serves as the team's main fundraiser.

Students from Central's speech and debate classes volunteered at the tournament and earned service points for the National Forensics League.

Part of the fun in hosting the tournament was interacting with people, Samira Nazem, sophomore and debate team member, said.

"You meet awesome people in debate," Samira said. "Debate is the best activity for a young person to do."

The winning debate team at the tournament hailed from Millard North.

Band travels to competition in Minnesota

Central band students will be in Minnesota for a band competition March 27-28, a Central teacher said.

Pete Wilger, band instructor, said he will be taking 75 students to play in a competition at the University of Minnesota.

Wilger said that the competition is called the Cavalcade of Music.

He said the competition is of an adjudication.

Kelli Mattson, sophomore, said that an adjudication is when one plays in front of judges, and they grade the performer on his performance and technique.

The judges also tell the band what needs to improve.

"The trip was optional for students, as long as we had the minimal amount of students needed," Wilger said.

The band has been fundraising for the trip, Wilger said.

A couple months ago the band sold frozen pizzas, pies and candies. They have also sold candy bars.

All of the money raised goes to the trip, Wilger said.

Wilger said some of the students will have paid for the trip with the fundraisers.

The competition is on a Friday, Wilger said.

They will be going to a dinner theater and Mall of America on Saturday.

Central Catch-Up

Students will go to Wyoming for field study

Central students will be observing nature this August as part of a field study in Wyoming, Central science teacher said.

Mrs. Jean Whitten, head of the science department, said she will be taking ten to 12 students this summer, Aug. 11-18, as part of a week long study in the Snowy Mountain Range. They will also be in the Medicine Bow Range, which is part of the Rocky Mountains, Whitten said.

The field study will be sponsored in part by the Buford Foundation. The Buford Foundation is a nonprofit organization that sends kids to the mountains, Whitten said. The Buford Foundation is providing a 15-passenger van, and the cabins that the students are staying in are partly paid for by the Buford Foundation also. The students do pay to go on the trip, Whitten said.

"The main focus is to get into nature, and out of the city," Whitten said.

CHS students excel in state art competition

The Scholastic Art competition recognized several students from Central at an awards ceremony on Sat, Feb. 14, a Central art teacher, said.

Mr. Larry Andrews, head of the department, said that Central fared well, with a large number of art students receiving gold or silver key recognition for art work submitted to Scholastics.

A gold key is awarded for an outstanding piece of art, Andrews said. Only 75 gold keys are awarded in the state of Nebraska, he said. Silver keys are a level below gold keys, with 150 awarded in the state, he said. Andrews said there were also a number of pieces that received honorable mention.

Those students receiving any kind of award from Scholastics for their art were invited to attend a recognition ceremony held at Dana College in Blair, on Feb. 14, Andrews said.

He said that senior Kara Spoonhour received the award for best illustrative piece at the competition. He said her portfolio will be sent to New York for competition for scholarships.

Central students taking photography at the career center also did well in the competition, Ms. Diane Helms, photography teacher at the career center, said.

Senior DeLaina Terhune received the award for outstanding senior portfolio, Helms said.

Central's Pom Squad hosts Kiddie Dance Kamp

By Stephanie Holm

Sugar and spice and everything nice...that's what little girls are made of. Well, what if one was to throw in a set of poms? That's exactly what Pom Squad did when they introduced their Kiddie Dance Kamp, a fundraiser, which involved girls in grades first through sixth, a squad member said.

Junior Sonja Shelstad said that at the camp, the young girls were taught a dance to perform at the varsity boys' basketball game, which took place on Jan. 30.

"The camp is a great opportunity to learn to dance, and to see what the high school environment is like," she said.

The Pom Squad recruited the girls by going back to the elementary schools they attended, junior Alison Hager said.

"The girls we recruit become our little sisters at camp," she said. "I recruited by going back to my grade school and talking to the girls who were interested."

The Kiddie Kamp, aided by the sounds of songs from such artists as the Spice Girls, gave the girls a great opportunity to dance, Sonja said.

"The girls really look up to us as role models," she said, "it really gives you a great feeling."

"The girls really put out a great effort and had a great time learning each step," Alison said. "We showed them what fun high school can actually be."

The cost of the Kiddie Kamp was \$20 per girl, and each girl received a t-shirt, poms, two training sessions and a cassette tape of the songs.



Central's own Spice Girls! The Pom Squad and their Kiddie Dance Kamp campers dance to Spice Girls' song during the halftime of the varsity boys' basketball game on Jan. 30 at Norris High School. The Kiddie Dance Kamp was a fundraiser for Pom Squad and it was available first through sixth graders.

Open house attracts perspective students

By Morgan Denny

Central's annual open house, used to encourage students to enroll, took place on Jan. 24, attracting 850 to 900 students, Principal Dr. Gary Thompson said.

He said that the open house went very well and was the "largest in town."

Mrs. Dee Kovarik, math teacher, said she received "many positive comments from perspective students."

Dr. Thompson said that the open house began in the courtyard, where students and their parents were given a general introduction.

The visitors then went to classrooms containing 25 to 30 people each, where they watched an informational video, he said.

Dr. Thompson said that they then proceeded to the gym where department displays were set up for the curriculum fair.

Kovarik said that the gym, as always, was very popular.

She said that many students took interest in the sports' tables and that the math table was "swamped."

After the curriculum fair, visitors were encouraged to wander around the school, Dr. Thompson said.

Emily Monen, an eighth grader at Lewis and Clark Jr. High who attended Central's open house, said that walking around and seeing the classrooms was the neatest part of the open house.

She said that one of the biology rooms impressed her and stood out in her mind.

Kovarik said that open house is important because a part of a future high school student's "decision is with which high school they feel comfortable."

Emily said that she is definitely attending Central next year and that she never considered another school.

"I just always planned on going there [Central]," Emily said. "It's where all my friends are going and it's a neat place."

Dr. Thompson said that the upcoming year's freshman class will be about 600, around the same that it is now.

Cheryl Oathout, secretary of North's main office, said that currently has 655 freshmen and a total of 2273 students in the building.

Dr. Thompson said that enrollment will be up at Central next year due to the fact that Central will be losing a small senior class and gaining a large freshman class.

Dr. Thompson said that Central's academics, advanced placement (AP) and honors classes attract many students, including those outside of the Omaha Public School (OPS) district or those who are attending parochial schools.

However, Emily said that what attracts her to Central is that "building just looks cool."

Central celebrates Black History month

By Meredith Kalina

"My philosophy is that you don't know where you're going, if you don't know where you've been," a Central High student teacher said.

Mr. Rod Mullen, a junior at the University of Nebraska in Omaha (UNO) working in the English department, said that he believes that learning black history is essential.

Mullen said that he is heading the Black History month activities for the Minority Scholars, a group of minority students at Central.

Mullen said that this month is very important because a lot of the African-American students don't get to learn about their history year round.

"Blacks have been taught everything but their own history," he said.

He said that learning this history is not only necessary, but that it is also natural for the people it influences.

Mr. Ricardo Ariza, the Director of Multicultural Affairs at Creighton University, said that he agreed with Mullen in the fact that

not enough importance is placed on other cultures and their history.

"I think that it is important that we weave cultural history into the natural fabric of our lives, and then we will have a more successful ethnic understanding," Ariza said.

Black History month should be more than just a blocked off time to look at black history, he said.

"We're working for global interaction," he said.

Ms. Patricia Brizendine, the Ethnic Studies and African American history teacher, said that she is taking these theories into action.

Brizendine said that she presented Dr. Gary Thompson, Central principal, with her proposal a month ago, and she is waiting for his response.

The proposal stated the need for a lot more school involvement in the Black History month activities, she said.

The proposal asked for school participation in a live time-line that would be performed by Central students and alumni, Brizendine said.

Brizendine said that two years ago they held

a soul food banquet, and asked to do that at the school be responsible for African-American awareness," Brizendine said.

She said that she feels that just because she is the African-American history teacher and a black female, she shouldn't have total responsibility for the education of Black History month.

"It is important for other teachers to recognize and to become aware of the achievements the African-American's have made," she said, "It should be incorporated into curricula in math, science, etc."

When she first came to Central, Brizendine said that there was a committee of students and teachers which planned the Black History month events. But, now, she said that it is left up to the teacher.

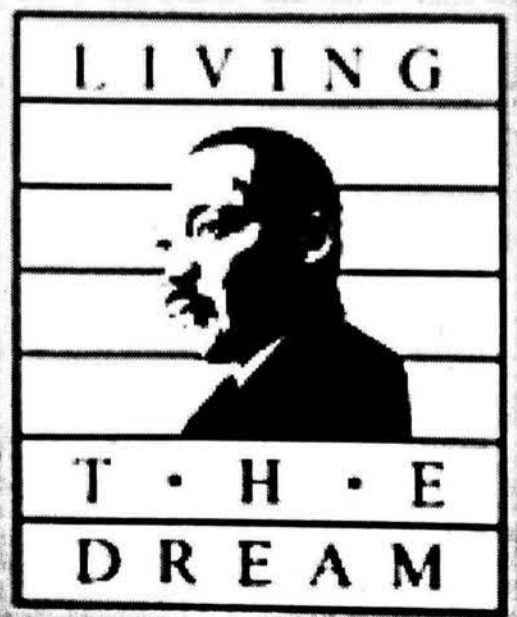
She said that she would like to see more involvement in the month's activities by the whole school.

"Everyone should participate and become aware of the history and achievements of the African-American people," she said.

Mullen said that the Minority Scholars are involved in many projects for this month.

These projects include: black history posters that will be presented to the social studies department and a black history film.

Around the city, Mullen said that many elementary schools are putting on black history plays and events. Ariza said that there are many activities in the city to be involved in, and everyone should take part.



Academic Decathlon strives for success

John Eubanks

Three words to describe this Academic Decathlon team are "hard work, cramming and then studying more," a Central senior said. Senior Ben Teply said that they worked hard for where they are. The Academic Decathlon contains ten academic areas which are: Language/Literature, Science, Math, Social Sciences, Art, Music, Speech, Super Quiz and Essay.

Anyone is eligible to be on the team just has to take a qualifying test and the top three members, the highest scores, are on the team followed by the Scholastic team and Varsity team.

Their grade point average determines which academic they will be in," Mahoney said. The 1997-98 Academic Decathlon Honors team consists of senior Ben Teply, senior Sam Kruger and senior Mary Lynn Super.

The Scholastic team consists of senior Dan Danberg, junior Dana Hendee and junior Liz Montag.

Finally, the Varsity team's members are senior James Leuschen and senior Evans.

There are also two alternates, senior David Rennard for the Honors team and senior Josh Priluck for the Scholastic team.

This year the Academic Decathlon started off with a new advisor, Mrs. Marci Mahoney, freshman and sophomore English teacher, replacing Mrs. Dee Kovarik, Central math teacher.

"Mrs. Mahoney has done a great job especially for her first year," Ben Teply said. "She's very enthusiastic and willing to share her talents with us."

Dan said that she lets them work at their own pace and she knows what they need to get done will get done.

The team went to Regionals, which were held on Jan. 17, and they had finished second, Mahoney said.

Other top winners were North finishing first and Creighton Prep third, she said.

For the Honors level, Sam took first place for the category Language/Literature and for the Science category, and for the Scholastic level Dana Hendee took first place for the Art category.

They qualified for State, being in the top third of the state, which will be held on Feb. 20 and 21.

"For preparation they have been studying more and preparing speeches," Mrs. Mahoney said.

At State, for the Language/Literature category, students are required to know all about the novel *Jane Eyre*, written by Charlotte Bronte, and four poems, Mahoney said.

In the Science category, students are expected to know general knowledge with an emphasis on chemistry.

As for the math section, students are required to know basic knowledge through PreCalculus/Trigonometry, she said.

Students must know all about the 1980's for Social Sciences and must be prepared to have an interview with the judges, Ben said.

The Super Quiz category is all on the "Globalization of the Economy" where ten questions are asked to two members of each team and they have seven seconds to answer each question.

The whole purpose is to see how quick the students can respond,



Jane Swirzinski

Cram all you can...Central juniors Sonja Shelstad and David Rennard worked hard to prepare for the Academic Decathlon State competition, which was held on Feb. 20 and 21.

Mahoney said.

Students were also given pieces of music and art and they will be expected to distinguish between the different pieces, Dan said.

The Speech and Essay category are being held on Feb. 20, unlike everything else which is held on Feb. 21, Mahoney said.

The students are expected to give a three to four minute speech and present an essay of their choice, Mahoney said.

Mahoney said that the areas of emphasis vary each year, including the Super Quiz topic, social studies focus and pieces of art and music.

Ben said that their main competitors at State will be North, Burke and Papillion-Lavista.

Some competitors said that the team has become closer as a result of wanting to beat the competition.

"The unique thing about the team is that we have different strengths and we work well together," Dan said.

Mahoney said that the outcome of State will be determined by how much time and preparation they set forth.

"They can do it if they want to," she said. Nationals will be held in Rhode Island.

Central science class observes animals at zoo

Meredith Kalina

A group of Central students are involved in two scientific research projects for the Henry Doorly Zoo, a Central science teacher said.

Mrs. Jean Whitten, the head of the science department at Central, said that she organized the projects at the zoo which began on Dec. 9, 1997. She said that she wanted the students to have a chance to be involved in something big, and to be involved in the community.

"These projects allow high school students to do real science, stuff that real scientists do," Whitten said.

Mrs. Elizabeth Stolze, the Lied Jungle supervisor at the Henry Doorly Zoo, said that she lets the students conduct two separate research projects.

She said that one project dealt with the great hornbills. The jungle inhabits two birds both a male and female about seven years old, she said.

Stolze said that the zoo hopes the two birds will mate, and that is what the observations will let us know. The goal of this project was to observe the behavioral patterns of the two birds, Stolze said.

The students will achieve this by charting if the birds are close together or far apart, she said.

These observations will help the zoo decide if this is a mateable pair of hornbills, she said.

If the birds do not show a potential to mate, the zoo can then look to get a new bird, she said.

"The more eyes we have watching them, the better," Stolze said.

She said that the second project dealt with the tamarins. These monkeys have been at the zoo for about four years, she said.

The students involved with this project spend one afternoon a week following the monkeys around the whole area of the jungle, Stolze said.

She said that the students are to chart where the monkeys go, and where they spend most of their time. Once the students complete the data, the zoo will know what areas of the jungle are used by the Tamarins, she said.

If there is space that is never occupied by the monkeys, the zoo may at some point bring a second species of tamarins to inhabit the empty space, Stolze said.

Central dominates DECA Metro competition

Andy Hickman

Central High sent over 50 students to compete in the metro area DECA competition. The DECA competition is a huge competition involving 16 different schools and over 500 students, according to Marketing teacher Mr. Harry Gaylor said.

Central won the most awards with a total of 20, second was Millard West with 18, and third was Millard South with 16, according to Marketing teacher Ms. Vicki Wiles.

"Central was the most prominent and successful school, winning the most medals, awards, and first place in all categories," Central student Sam Kruger said.

Awards are based on accumulated points by a student in all different events except the written tests, which get their own individual awards, according to Wiles.

The first place medals were won by John Ashford, Andrew Thompson, Kasper Poulsen, Brian Connor, and Dan Danberg. Nicole Neuman and Sam Kruger tied for the highest overall score on the 30 minute free enterprise math test out of 560 students.

"It's an opportunity for students to compete and prepare themselves in all areas of business and marketing," Educational coordinator Mr. Vic Larson

According to Wiles, Southroads Mall was host to the DECA competition which took place on Jan. 31. Students, from 8 am to 3 pm, competed in 15 events.

The events involved written tests, case studies and role playing tests. The Quiz Bowl had a total of 64 teams, consisting of four people each, according to Wiles.

The role play tests put students in a business scenario where something seriously goes wrong.

The student then uses his or her knowledge of business in order to calm the situation or fix whatever problem is created. The judges then base their judgment on the students' performance, said Gaylor.

The written tests were over different fields such as advertising, financial services, food marketing and retail. These subjects are all main areas taught in marketing classes, Central junior Matt Darling said.

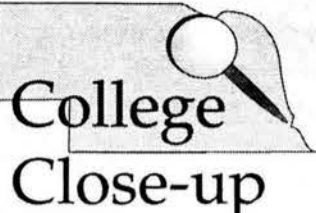
The students competing in the DECA competition are all marketing students.

The class is offered at two levels, beginners and advanced marketing, Matt said.

Marketing is offered zero through fifth/sixth hour and is taught by three teachers Mrs. Wiles, Mr. Gaylor and Mrs. Bunz. Everything that is taught in these marketing classes are applied in the DECA competition, Matt said.



Sam Kruger



College Close-up

By Kate Alseth

Colorado College
founded in 1874

Location: Colorado Springs, CO

Total Population: 1,965 students

Admission: 58 percent of applicants accepted

Average SAT and ACT scores for freshman admissions:
SAT- 79 percent of freshman scored 500 or above on verbal; 91 percent of freshman scored 500 or above on math

ACT- 96 percent of freshman scored 21 or above

Other freshman admittance requirements: Personal essays submitted with application, counselor and teacher recommendations and school achievement records

Estimated cost:
Tuition: \$19,980
Room and Board: \$5,100
Books and Supplies: \$550

Faculty: 206 total

Number of credit hours needed to graduate: 128 hours

Greek System: 4 national fraternities, 4 national sororities

Application deadlines:
Nov. 15- early decision application deadline
Jan. 15- application deadline
April 1- notification of acceptance

Application/Admission address and telephone numbers:
Terrance K. Swenson, Dean of Admissions/Financial Aid, Colorado College, 14 East Cache La Poudre, Colorado Springs, CO 80903- 9854

Telephone Numbers:
(719) 389-6344
(800) 542-7214

Fax: (719) 389-6816

E-mail:
admission@admin.cc.colorado.edu

Web: www.cc.colorado.edu

Additional Information:
Colorado College is a four year, private, liberal arts coed college. The college is located at a suburban campus seventy miles away from Denver, CO.

There is guaranteed housing on campus for all students who desire it. Students are required to live on campus for the first three years of school.

The calendar system is divided into eight blocks instead of the traditional quarterly system. Each block lasts for three and a half weeks. 1998 fall classes begin Sept. 2.

UNO students resurrect school radio station

By Jeremy Scurlock

Student radio is finally back on the air at the University of Omaha (UNO) after two years of silence, due to a lot of hard working students, a student center director at UNO said.

Guy Conway said that he was a little apprehensive about letting student radio back into UNO after the last station, KBLZ, was taken off the air due to several complaints of the station playing obscene, racist and sexist music.

"We have come up with policies to keep from having a repeat of what happened last time," Conway said.

Those policies mean limits to what the station can play and where the station can be heard. Right now it can only be heard in the student center where the station is located.

The Station Director, Joe Hammon, said that the station is going to great lengths trying not to offend anyone who might be listening.

"I really wanted student radio back at UNO and there was a lot of hard work put into bringing it back. I don't want anything to happen that might hurt the station," Hammon said.

When Hammon confronted Conway about starting a new station at UNO, Conway said he told him that he would have to raise half of the \$10,000 they would need to start a new radio station.

"When he [Conway] said I would need to raise

\$5,000, I really didn't think it would be a problem," Hammon said.

After that, those interested in helping at the station polled 1100 students to see if they really wanted a station at UNO. When the positive response came, the students immediately began to raise the money," Hammon said.

"At first I didn't think they could come up with the money," Conway said, "but in my ten years of working here, I have never seen a group of students come together and accomplish such a large task."

The students eventually raised sufficient funds after many fundraisers and donations, including a \$1,000 donation from UPS.

This money was used to replace the equipment which had mysteriously disappeared, and the school paid to rewire the building because the last wiring was ripped out when the school needed to remove asbestos.

"We started with nothing and have accomplished a lot, which is something to be proud of," Hammon said.

Hammon hopes one day UNO's station will be as big as other large universities like the station at Northwestern, where Hammon worked for three years. He said growth would offer students with better opportunities.

"The students have done such a wonderful job at the station, that even I have become a fan," Conway said.



Jeremy Scurlock

Rock and roll... Joe Hammon, the student director at UNO's new radio station KBUL, spins records as a part of his show. Hammon's show is broadcasted throughout the student center Mon, Wed and Fri from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Proposed bill may raise minimum age for license

By Brian Joseph

Imagine teens having to wait until their 17th birthdays to receive driver's licenses with all the same freedoms and privileges granted to adults. Legislative Bill (LB) 320, originally proposed last year, aims to do just that, the state senator that introduced the bill, said.

State Sen. Arydce Bohlke of Hastings said that LB 320 basically has three parts to it: the establishment of a graduated license for 16 year-olds, the establishment of a driving curfew for teens with those licenses and the changing of some of the requirements for receiving a driver's license.

Also, according to a summary of the bill provided by Bohlke's staff, LB 320 proposes that 15 year-olds be required to take a written test to receive a learner's permit.

In regards to the first portion of the bill, Bohlke said that 16 year-olds, instead of receiving a regular, adult driver's license, would receive a graduated license that does not entitle the owner the same privileges as an adult.

However, she said that if a 16 year-old were to get two infraction points on his driving record, he would be forced to have the graduated license for longer than a year.

Under the second portion of the bill, she said that those with graduated licenses could not be on the roads between midnight and 6 a.m., unless driving from work or a school activity.

As for the changing of the requirements for receiving a driver's license, Bohlke said that before one could get a license, one must complete a driver's education class or spend 50 hours driving with a guardian.

Bohlke said that she proposed LB 320 as a way to provide teens with the best possible education in driving.

"LB 320 was originally introduced not as a punishment," she said.

Instead, she said, the bill looks to make students the best drivers they possibly can be. However, doesn't the bill punish the teens that are already responsible drivers?

"But, that's assuming everyone at 16 is a good driver," she said.

But, Bohlke said that this does not mean that there are not some disadvantages to the bill. She said that some teens, separated in age by only a few months, may end up receiving two different types of licenses.

For example, if the bill were put into effect on May 1, all of those teens that turn 16 after the date would receive graduated licenses. But, those teens that turned 16 before May 1, would have received regular, adult licenses.

Omaha Police Department Sgt. Jim Deignan said that LB 320 is addressing the wrong problem.

Deignan said that irresponsible drivers are found in every age bracket, not just in teens.

He also said that the proposals presented in LB 320 should apply to repeat traffic violators, not just teens.

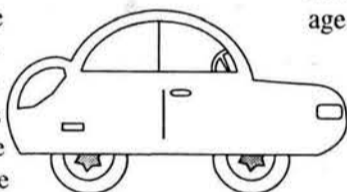
Also, he said that he disagrees with the curfew proposed in the bill.

"I'm big on [driver's] education," he said, "but short on curfews."

He said that reckless teens will drive responsibly during all times of the day. He said that if a teen is out at 2 a.m. and not bothering anyone, he has a right to be there.

However, Deignan said that even though he does not support the majority of the bill, he does like the aspects of the bill that require teens to get more education before they are able to receive their driver's licenses.

As for the reaction teens have had to the bill, Bohlke said that she held a mock hearing at a Hastings high school to see what they thought about it. In general, she said that juniors and seniors did not have a problem with the bill. However, she said that a younger than that did not agree with it.



Lottery funds grants for school programs

By Melissa Colton

Buying a Nebraska Lottery ticket from one's local convenient store is one of several ways to raise money for schools across Nebraska, executive director of the Excellence in Education Council said.

Mr. Joel M. Scherling, executive director of the council, said that 25 percent of the Lottery's proceeds are split between three beneficiary funds.

"About 49.5 percent goes to the Education Innovation Fund," Scherling said.

He said that 49.5 percent goes to environmental projects and the remaining one percent is given to a compulsive gambler's fund.

In 1997, the Nebraska Lottery released approximately \$8.2 million to the Education Innovation Fund and is already planning to fund many more grants for the 1998 year, Scherling said.

"There are two types of grants available through the Education Innovation Fund: minigrants and major competitive grants," Scherling said.

He said that there are two kinds of minigrants. The first is a "planning" minigrant of up to \$5,000, available to any public school district for developing or revising a district-wide Strategic School Improvement Plan (SSIP), Scherling said.

The second minigrant is an "implementation" minigrant of up to \$5,000 and is available to public school districts with annual budget expenditures of \$350,000 or less to address the same funding purposes as a major competitive grant, Scherling said.

The major competitive grants have the intention of creating or improving the quality of education, he said.

Rockey said that these grants are not for the purpose of building needs or existing programs.

Of the major competitive grants, there are Tier 1 grants, available in amounts up to \$15,000, and Tier 2 grants, ranging from \$15,001 to \$300,000, Scherling said.

The board, called the Excellence in Education Council, consists of 11 major members who represent other majority groups and approve the grant applications, Mr. Brian Rockey, associate marketing director of the Nebraska Lottery, said.

Rockey said that the groups represented are teachers, parents, educational organizations, school boards, businesses, post secondary education, administrators and the general public.

Scherling said that Central has received a \$588,933 grant from the lottery funds.

He said that the money was used to begin a pilot program, called the Wings 21 Project, to bring faculty, students and their parents together with area businesses to give students a creative experience with technology and technology-related careers.

The program is a three year pilot and has served 6,000 students since it was established on Sept. 1, 1996.

The program has been successful so far and is in its second year, Scherling said.

As for the future of the program, the Nebraska Lottery hopes to fund more and more grants each year.

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Let's talk about *Sex...*



"If everyone used prevention, we wouldn't have to deal with the issue of abortion and the tragedy of unwanted children," Kathy Tollefsrud, director of education at Planned Parenthood, said.



Top: Steve Zach uses his first amendment rights by protesting every Saturday outside of Planned Parenthood, an organization that focuses on helping women prevent or deal with unplanned child birth.

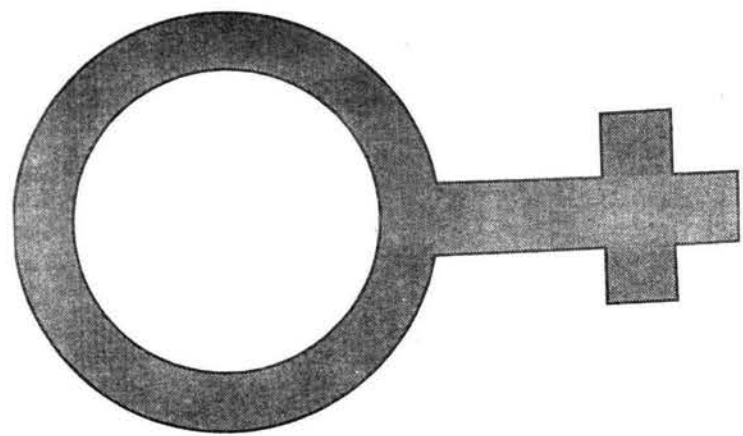
Bottom left: Kendra Mattan, freshman, works on a baby book for her expected child.

Above: Waiting until marriage... these Benson students demonstrate their beliefs and commitment to abstinence before school.

CENTRAL FOCUS

by:

Morgan Denny, Stephanie Holm, Allison Pagan and Meredith Zendejas



"Home don't always

Teens parenting

Consequences of sex hit home to Central students

By Meredith Zendejas

Central's teen parenting class helps to support the teen mothers and their options for the future, a Central teacher said.

Kelli Priebe, Central's teen parenting teacher, said that the main goal of the class was to support the teen parents in attaining their diploma.

This year 29 students are taking the class, two of which are future dads. This year's class numbers were above average, Priebe said. Three years ago there were only five in the class. Last year there were only 15.

"Statistics have shown that 50 percent of pregnant teenagers drop out of high school. This tends to hold true, because 12 students have already dropped this year," Priebe said.

The course was designed to let the future mothers know the resources in the community and their options for future career goals, Priebe said.

The teen mothers are split into two classes, one for expecting mothers and one for teen parents, Priebe said.

When the girls are pregnant, they learn prenatal care, what to expect and how to take care of themselves and their baby. They also learn about labor, the delivery process and the adjustments afterwards, Priebe said.

The teen parenting class teaches the mothers different parenting skills through the different ages, Priebe said.

"The class is very supportive. When you're ready to deliver, and when the baby comes, you have friends in the class dealing with the same thing," Jessica Rollag, senior, said.

Priebe said that she sees a change from before they have their baby and after they're a parent. They think that it is wonderful, but at the end of the pregnancy they get uncomfortable. After reality sets in they realize, it is not easy.

Shawnte Boney, senior, said that she has two children, goes to night school and lives by herself.

She said that she wished she would have waited so that she would be able to support her kids better.

Last year, Priebe said that she agreed to let the girls go and talk to the junior highs and tell them their experiences, so that the junior high kids wouldn't make the same mistake.

"I saw other girls making the same mistakes, just like me, and saw how misinformed they were," Jessica said.

"I would have waited," Nikki Howell, junior, said, "but I can't take back what happened, and I don't regret my child."

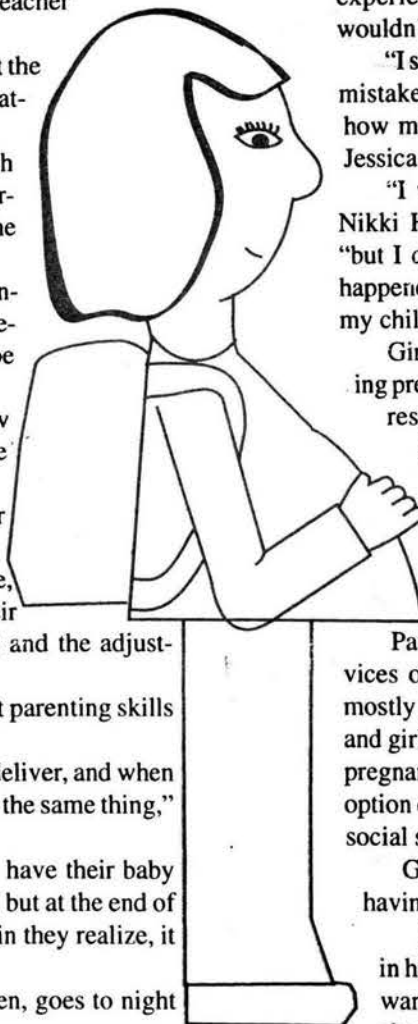
Girls can prevent becoming pregnant by taking responsibility and using birth control if they are sexually active, Priebe said.

Pattie Sauter, director of patient services of Planned Parenthood, said that she mostly handles girls that are mid to late teens and girls that are in their early twenties. They offer a pregnancy test, and if the girl tests positive, she has the option of continuing the pregnancy, where they offer help from social services.

Girls also have the option of giving the child up for adoption or having an abortion. Having an abortion is a women's choice, Sauter said.

Corina Vaughn, 12, said she never thought that she would become pregnant in high school. When she found out that she was pregnant, she didn't know if she wanted to have an abortion or not. She wasn't going to tell her parents until after she had made her decision.

"I wished I would have waited, but it was the best mistake I ever made," Jessica said.



STDs prove that intimate couples can share more than a gene

By Stephanie Holm

Salt 'n Peppa talked about sex and its effects...but did they really get all of the facts? Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) are a serious aftermath of sexual contact between people, a University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) employee said.

"STDs are extremely contagious, and most teenagers don't realize sex can lead to death," said Dr. Robert Johnson.

STDs, a group of diseases passed from one person to another by intimate physical contact, such as sexual relations, close body contact and sometimes kissing, are quickly affecting teens today, Dr. Johnson said.

"The worst part is that most teens don't even know they are infected until it's too late," he said.

The most common STDs are gonorrhea, chlamydia and syphilis, Dr. Johnson said.

The increase in the spread of these diseases is due to the increased number of multi-partner relationships.

"When I was dating, a monogamous relationship was 'in', now, many teens feel sex can be with many partners, as long as they 'get it'," Dr. Johnson said.

Over ten million people in the U.S. get some form of an STD every year.

The most common of STDs, chlamydia, is widely spread by sexual contact, Dr. Johnson said. There are various symptoms of chlamydia, the most common being a discolored discharge, emitted from the

discharge from the penis, Dr. Johnson.

"To treat chlamydia, a doctor will prescribe an antibiotic," he said, "and symptoms should go away within 2-3 days."

Another STD, syphilis, often referred to as the "great imitator," is also common, Dr. Johnson said.

"Syphilis spreads more rapidly than gonorrhea once one has acquired the disease, it can be detected in the blood."

Syphilis is often the most detectable STD, Dr. Johnson said.

"Chancres, or open sores, are apparent with syphilis," he said. "These sores are often found on the genital areas."

This is why kissing is risky once one has STDs, Dr. Johnson said. By coming in contact with someone who has the disease, it can spread.

"Although syphilis is a danger, it can be cured within 90 days with the help of penicillin," he said.

Lastly, gonorrhea, known as clap or gonorrhea, is quickly affecting teens today, Dr. Johnson said. This disease is caused by gonococci bacteria, commonly spread by sexual contact.

"Gonorrhea is best detected by the use of a test that tests a person's genital discharge for the bacteria," Dr. Johnson said.

The symptoms of gonorrhea are very common in the genital area, as well as painful urination and a discharge.

"STDs, although common, are a big deal," Dr. Johnson said. "I guess when it comes to STDs, people often overlook the positive aspects, and overlook the negative aspects."

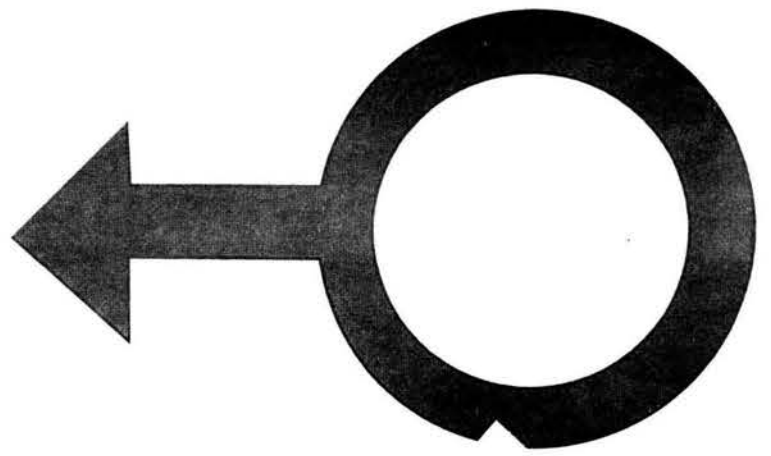
STD	Symptoms	Treatment
herpes	fluid-filled blisters	no treatment
gonorrhea	discolored discharge swollen lymph nodes	penicillin
syphilis	pink-red rash painful urination	penicillin
chlamydia	dull pelvic pain painful urination discolored discharge	antibiotics

thus preventing her from bearing children.

Another common symptom of chlamydia in women is a burning or itching sensation in the genital area. In men, a strange colored



...runs" ...score big

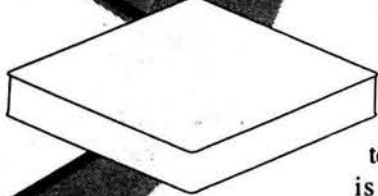


Abstinence programs encourage waiting for religion, safety

By Alli Pagan

In a world filled with mixed messages about teen sex, many programs are trying to encourage abstinence, for reasons including religion and the risks of pregnancy and disease.

"The only safe sex is no sex," Mrs. Jo Beerman, the director of the AAA Crisis Pregnancy Center, who speaks at schools and youth groups.



The obvious risk of teen sex is pregnancy, and she said that even when teens use contraception, the odds of conception are 18 percent, which means almost one out of five will get pregnant.

An even more important risk of teen sex, she said, is the contraction of disease.

"If a teen is sexually active, one out of three will acquire a STD before graduation," she said.

If these risks don't keep teens from having sex, she said, other risks include emotional hurt, guilt, and less satisfac-

tion in future encounters.

A surprising statistic is that adults who were sexually active as teenagers have above average divorce rate, Beerman said.

One of the programs that teaches abstinence is a national, religion-oriented program called True Love Waits.

Mr. Tom Kaufman, a teacher at Benson High School, organized a True Love Waits campaign at Benson the week of February 8-13, joining thousands of teens across the country in a pledge for abstinence.

"The basic premise of this program is that we would like kids to stay chaste until marriage, and if they are not virgins, they can still recommit," he said.

The reasons Kaufman said that he wanted to do this campaign for abstinence were the health reasons and religious reasons, as well as trying to give future marriages for the students a better chance of succeeding.

He said the response at Benson has been positive, and many more students have been curious about the program.

"Most kids have been surprised that someone would step up to the plate and speak about abstinence when in our society sex is so casual," Kaufman said.

Another program that tries to prevent teen pregnancy and the spread of disease is the public school Human Growth and Development class, which has a goal of teaching kids to become responsible and caring adults that are capable of using good decision making skills about their sexuality, Mrs. Kelli Priebe, a Central teacher of the class, said.

The class is mandatory at Central, but students to

have the option to opt not to take it with parent permission.

"We try to make abstinence a focus, but we also teach a chapter on contraception for those that don't decide to wait," she said.

Priebe said that most students know about contraceptives, but don't always face the reality of using them. She said that instead of focusing on that aspect of the class, teens should be given better reasons for staying abstinent than they have now.

"Look at our culture, with all the sexual images in music and on television," she said as a possible reason why kids are sexually active today.

Some students said they disagree on the effectiveness on these programs, though.

Caroline*, a senior who has been sexually active for almost a year, said that these classes do not have much of an effect on kids at the high school level.

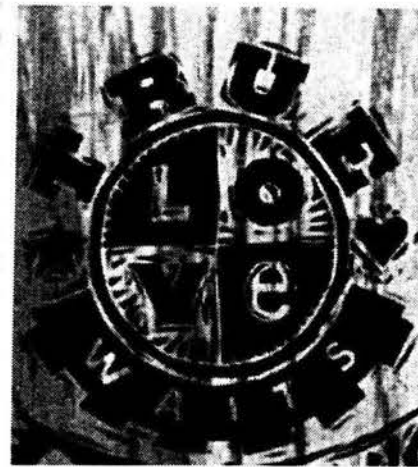
"The thing about these programs is that they teach abstinence, but it is obvious that after a certain age people aren't listening," she said.

She also said that these programs make sex out to be a really big deal, and that they do not think that the kids be safe about sex.

"Anybody can be responsible about sex, and the kids that do it are not just druggies and hoodlums," she said.

Caroline said that she uses contraception every time, and that pregnancy and disease are not an issue in her relationship.

"These programs are good for younger teens, but only have little effect on high school students, because at this age, people are responsible about it," she said.



Protective measures decrease risks

By Morgan Denny

Contraception, the intentional prevention of pregnancy or transmission of disease, can be found in a variety of forms.

Ms. Kathy Tollefsrud, director of education at Planned Parenthood, said that what type of contraceptive one used depends on the needs of the person.

She said that when choosing a contraceptive one should consider one's religious beliefs.

Another thing that she said should be considered is personal access to the product, personal need for privacy and resources, and insurance.

She said that while some contraceptives can be expensive, others are only a few dollars.

Tollefsrud said that there are a variety of different types of condoms, including latex, lubricated and not, and lambskin.

She said that a package of condoms can range in price from a couple dollars to over \$20.

According to Planned Parenthood, the condom is 88 to 98 percent effective and the pouch is 79 to 95 percent effective.

Tollefsrud said that there are many different reasons for using contraceptives.

She said that she can't stress it enough to sexually active teens that they should prevent pregnancy and watch out for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs).

"STDs can be very harmful and can impair fertility," Tollefsrud said.

Tollefsrud said that different forms of contraceptives have been around for hundreds of years.

"Prehistoric healers used rabbit's blood and plants, which turn out to be high in estrogen like the pill," she said. "They also used lemon halves as diaphragms."

Tollefsrud said that there are many misconceptions about the safety of birth control and contraceptive methods.

"No matter what," she said, "it's much safer than giving birth."

She said that fewer teens don't use contraceptives than do.

"If everyone used prevention, we wouldn't have to deal with the issue of abortion or the tragedy of unwanted children," Tollefsrud said.

She said that some teens don't use contraceptives because they're in denial about their sexual activity.

"If they have sex a couple of times and don't get pregnant, they feel invincible," Tollefsrud said.

Different contraceptives are popular in different age groups, she said.

Tollefsrud said that people in their 30s often opt for sterilization, while younger people more often use the pill, condoms and spermicidal jelly.

Tollefsrud said that while most contraceptives are precautionary measures, there is also a pill that can be taken the morning after having sex that has 98.5 percent success rate.

According to Planned Parenthood, if taken 72 hours or less after unprotected intercourse, the pill, containing synthetic female hormones, creates an environment that is inhospitable to an egg.

Along with short term contraceptives, according to Planned Parenthood, there are also contraceptives that work up to a number of years.

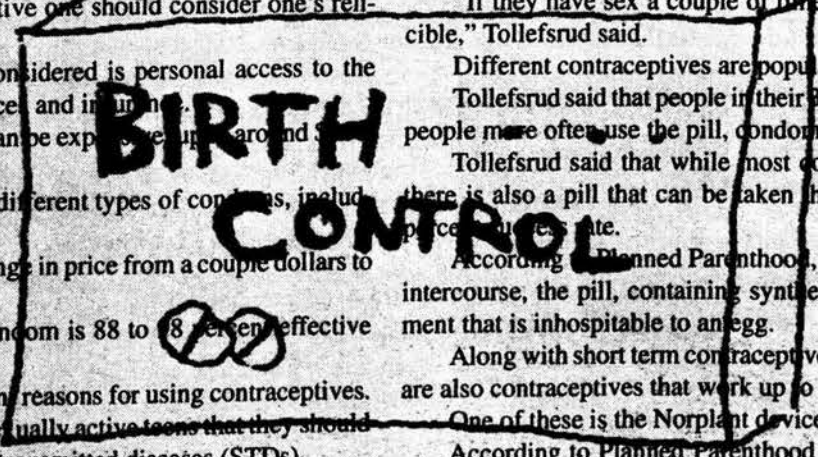
One of these is the Norplant device.

According to Planned Parenthood it consists of six small capsules inserted under the skin of one's upper arm. This device has a 99.96 percent success rate.

Tollefsrud said that there is also a hormone shot, Depo-Provera, that, when administered every 12 weeks, has a 99.7 percent success rate.

Tollefsrud said that the only disadvantage to some of these devices is that they do not prevent STDs.

She said that STDs can be protected against by condoms, female condoms, also known as the pouch, and spermicidal jellies, which are more popular among youth.





Entertainment

The Jesus Lizard electrify Ranch Bowl

By Kate Alseth

"The energy from the performers and the crowd was amazing," Central sophomore Erin Foley said, referring to The Jesus Lizard show held at Ranch Bowl Feb. 5th.

Someone once told me to make sure I see The Jesus Lizard sometime in my life.

I was told they are one of the best original American rock bands around.

This ended up being some of the best advice I ever took.

The Jesus Lizard was a show that you didn't want to miss.

Even if you don't like the band the show was worth seeing.

I've been to a good number of concerts, but I've never been to one that could compare to The Jesus Lizard in many aspects.

The show opened with Ravine, an Omaha band formerly known as Ritual Device-minus Tim Moss, Ritual Device vocalist.

The music was really good with the exception of Mike Saklar, the guitarist's voice.

The other members of the band include Randy Cotton, the bassist and lead singer, and Eric Ebers, the drummer.

Following Ravine was a band out of Los Angeles called Stanford Prison Experiment.

They had a different type of sound that was very impressive. Their music was very intricate and intense, but not deafeningly loud or too hard, at least for me.

Many people thought that they had gotten their money's worth before The Jesus Lizard had even started getting setup.

The two opening bands did an excellent job preparing and energizing the audience for The Jesus Lizard.

By the time David Yow and the rest of the band took the stage, the audience was already pumped full of adrenaline and ready to rock.

The amount of energy being held in the one room was unbelievably intense.

As soon as The Jesus Lizard began playing, the crowd went insane.

People were jumping off the stage, hanging from the rafters, moshing and showing a whole lot of skin.

David Yow, lead singer of The Jesus Lizard, kept the energy flowing with his incredible, intensely powerful stage presence.

He spent much of the show crowd surfing and being cradled in the security guard's arms being protected from the insane crowd.

He was among the many showing a whole lot of skin.

The Jesus Lizard, as a whole, was outstanding in every way.

Their style is different from most 'alternative' bands. They have a much more intricate sound that shows off their immense talent.

The band's talent is very evenly dispersed among the members.

David Yow (singer), Dwane Denison (guitarist), David Sims (bassist) and Jim Kimball (drummer), all contribute well to the band's sound.

Some of the better songs on their set list for the show included "Wheel Chair Epidemic" and "Block Buster."

The Jesus Lizard tried ending the show twice, but was forced back by the screaming, insane crowd.

Their encore songs included "Bloody Mary" and "The Associate" along with a few others.

As a whole the entire show was absolutely incredible.

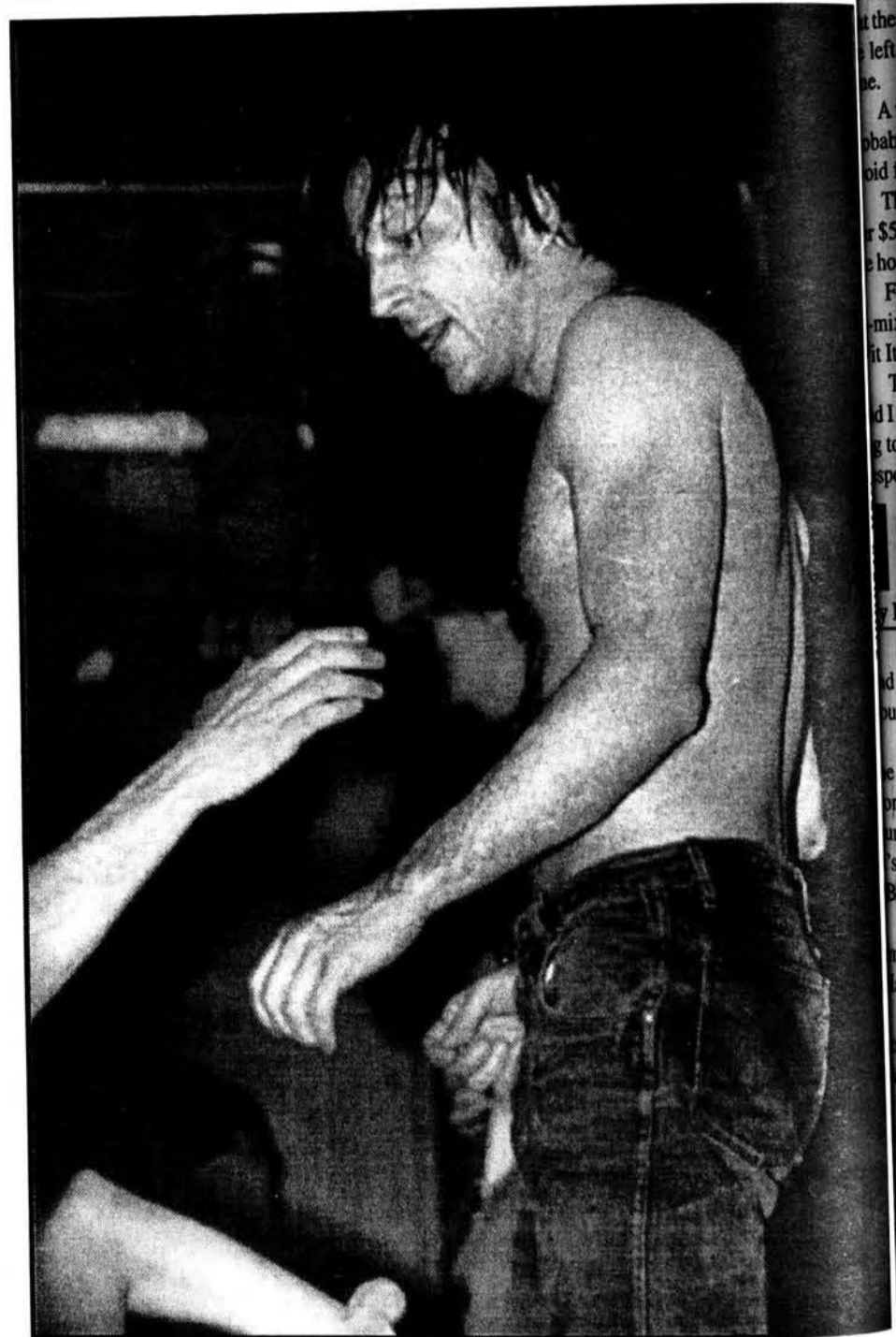
Ravine, Stanford Prison Experiment and The Jesus Lizard all did an outstanding job at completely blowing the crowd away.

All three bands were outstanding in every way. The Jesus Lizard left many speechless and breathless.

The entire concert was one totally energetic and adrenaline pumping experience.

You should certainly be upset if you missed this incredible show.

All in all, the show was definitely worth the \$12 and the time you had to spend on it.



Go for the jugular! Fans reach out to The Jesus Lizard singer David Yow during a Ranch Bowl concert Feb 5. Fans were electrified by the pure excitement.

Zen and motorcycles take new twist to old story

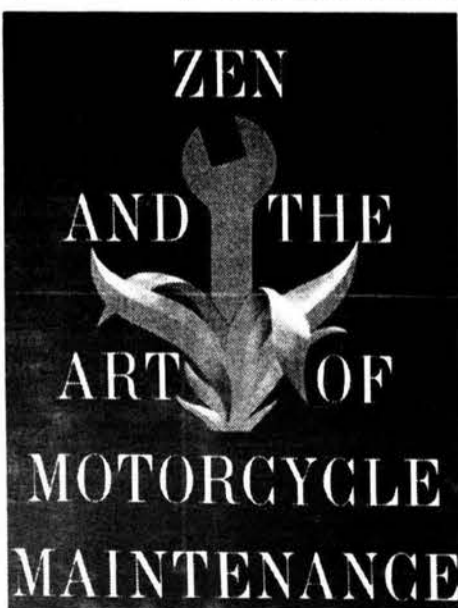
By Shaun Kiel

"Other people can talk about how to expand the destiny of mankind. I just want to talk about how to fix a motorcycle. I think that what I have to say has more lasting value," Robert Pirsig said in his book *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance*.

The book is good and the quote seems to suggest the theme of the story throughout: the improvement of society will only be achieved through the improvement of self.

At the beginning of the book the author describes the story that he is going to deliver as a Chautauqua, a series of old-time orations, designed to entertain and enlighten.

At entertaining, the book more than succeeded. The characters were well-developed, and deep philosophical arguments were masked and abstracted enough that they were easily understood and appreciated.



Running alongside the entertainment value of the story is the flipside of the coin, the enlightenment that he was trying to share. The entertaining philosophical arguments were also serious arguments for self-improvement.

In the pages of the book, the author takes the reader on a cross-country motorcycle journey with his son, Chris.

The author is taking the trip to search for the truth about his past, which was lost when he was committed to a mental institution and subjected to electro-shock therapy.

During the trip, the author is in constant conflict with Chris, who has been suffering from a mysterious ailment for several years. Chris is constantly assailed with unexplainable stomach aches, which agitate him to the point of an outburst.

Throughout the book the narrator's former self, which he refers to as Phaedrus, contin-

ues to plague the narrator with the thoughts that had originally driven him insane.

He uses these thoughts as pointed arguments directed towards the reader.

He realizes the truth in the thoughts that had originally driven him insane, but is constantly torn between the rationality of the arguments and his emotions towards them.

He is constantly thinking of the nature of observation and the observations of ancient Greek philosophers, but it is not as complicated as it seems. The author breaks the large philosophical arguments into simple answers as to why his friend won't do mechanical work.

The book is narrated in first person, and the author claims that it is based, in large part, on fact. Certainly, the author makes it seem real enough.

The copyright on *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* is 1974. The author said in his introduction that since then, several editions have been printed and a sequel, *Like a Phoenix*, has even been written.

In the author's notes at the end of the book, Pirsig mentions that at the time of its release the book was a large success and even found a place on the best-seller's list. The book remains relevant today, and it is a good read.

Newly opened teen club

Shadow dances way into Omaha

Becca Starr

After hours at The Shadow, an 18 and over club, offers house techno, and sort-of-icky-lust-ridden teens.

Being rather inexperienced on the whole teen-age dance thing, my friends and I were rather impressed with our experience as a whole.

We arrived around 1:15 am to The Shadow at 16th and to wait in a line for about a half hour just to get through the door. Being warned by others that had been to the club they require you to check your coat at a closet for money, so I left them in the car and were very cold for a very long time.

A word of advice, the line doesn't move quickly and it is probably worth paying a couple bucks to check your coat and avoid frostbite.

They checked our ID's, gave us a quick pat down, took our coats, and there we were dancing to the thumping music of house mix, music mixed by the DJ that works at the club. For the most part, the music was techno, but there were mixes of popular songs like Will Smith's "Gettin' Jiggy with It."

The floor was packed and about eight friends of mine hit the floor. It didn't take long before we were attempting to avoid unwanted attention from other people that were there for a partner.

Don't let it discourage you if you don't have someone to dance with, the guy to girl ratio in our group was lopsided, but it didn't bother any of us.

If there are any guys willing to dance, the number of girls on the dance floor to the number of guys on the dance floor is about 3:1, however guys seem to congregate around the edges.

The dark, Grindish, atmosphere seems to promote copulating couples and make for more than anxious dance partners.

The girls I went with quickly learned to spin away from unwanted attention while continuing to dance as a polite way of saying no. Remember, rubbing up against someone does not constitute asking them to dance.

So we danced the night away on the leveled dance floor only stopping to buy overpriced water and to watch a few talented break dancing souls.

A few people had glow sticks, a traditionally very raver accessory because raves are very dark and glow sticks look cool in the dark.

Only one or two of those people dancing with the glow sticks actually understood that just holding the glow sticks wasn't enough and there is a technique to them.

Time flew and we left around 4 am with a good aerobic workout, a new understanding of teen-age dance clubs, and a great experience.

80's hit big in "Wedding Singer"

Kate Alseth

Adam Sandler, Drew Barrymore, love, hilarious humor all the 1980's music you can handle, what more could you want? The new movie "The Wedding Singer" has it all.

With all the funny love movies that have come out within the past year, this one is definitely the one to see. Even if you don't like Adam Sandler or Drew Barrymore, see this. The movie isn't really the normal Adam Sandler random humor, it's funnier than that.. The humor is a bit more adult than say, "The Hot Chick" or "Madison."

The movie's plot isn't extremely complicated. It is set in a small town USA. The best wedding singer in town, Robby (Adam Sandler), gets stood up on his wedding day.

He goes through a nervous breakdown. Then he begins to befriend Julia (Drew Barrymore), a waitress at his work who is engaged to a cheating jerk. The two become very close while planning Julia's wedding. Miscommunication occurs as each of their plans to win the other's one's heart. Things

interfere with their plans and leave each of them confused and heart broken. Obviously they end up falling in love, and create this utterly perfect love that everyone wishes to have someday, but knows they never will.

But, the way they fall in love isn't so obvious. The hilariously random ending, where Robby gets some help from a few 1980's celebrities. But, I'll just have to let you see for yourself.

The acting was surprisingly good. Adam Sandler, who I usually dislike, did a very good job. Drew Barrymore, well, personally I just don't think the girl can act to save her life, but she was pretty convincible in this role. She had the perfect look for the role of Julia..

If you are a sucker for 1980's hits, this soundtrack is awesome. The background of the film is filled with songs from classic 1980's musicians like The Culture Club, Billy Idol and Van Halen. There is also a Adam Sandler original that is perfectly 1980's.

Happenings

♣ Feb. 25- Primus~ Ranch Bowl

♣ March 6- Matchbox 20~ Kansas City

♣ March 10- G Love & Special Sauce~Ranch Bowl

♣ March 18- Everclear~ Sokal Hall

♣ March 4&5-Bagels and Bach~ Joslyn

♣ All of March- Degas Exhibit~ Joslyn

♣ April 11-Sarah McLachlan & Lisa Loeb~ Music Hall

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Dancing swings into the next generation

By Andy Hickman

Swing Dancing has become very popular among teenagers today, a dance instructor said.

"A lot of students from Central seem to really enjoy Swing Dancing," Central Junior Allison Gatzke said.

Allison has held two swing dance parties, Jan. 31 and Feb. 6 at her house.

"I just moved in from Denver and swing dance is really big over there," Allison said. There are dance clubs that have swing dance nights every weekend that I used to go to."

The music that is played at these parties are oldies like Benny Goodman and Glen Miller and new big band bands like Sugar Popen Daddies and Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, Allison said.

"People really seem to love dancing like this," Allison said.

Other bands with a swing type, upbeat sound can be used too, Allison said.

"Aside from the parties I've had there are many other place that people can go swing dancing," Allison said, "I'm sure more clubs will start featuring swing dancing."

The few teens in my class like to put swing dancing to ska music, they love it. Dance instructor Ron Shepard said.

Sophomore Matt Smith said that every one should at least give swing dancing a try.

"It's a good dance for creativity and you get to choose you're own style," Matt said.

Matt has been taking classes in dancing since he was a kid but he says that it's the kind of dance that you can walk right into to and do very well.

"It's really fun and you don't have to take classes or have any real talent to enjoy yourself," Allison said.

Allison said, there has been a large turnout and people have reacted very well to the parties and the dancing.

"The way I feel about Swing is best put by the Swing Kids, 'You ain't got a thing, if you don't got that swing.'" Matt said.

Shepard said, in the 40's, during the WWII, a new style of dancing was developed which later came to be known as Swing, put to the Big Band Jazz music of people like Glen Miller and Benny Goodman.

The GI's spread the dance out all over the country in their travels home after the war, Shepard said.

Dance instructor Rod Rabe said, each different coast has its own style.

Each soon became its own type labeled East Coast and West Coast swing. Other more popular styles developed such as the Jitterbug in New York, Rabe said.

"Swing is America's truly original dance," Shepard said. "It's our own true claim to fame."

You can start with the Jitterbug and move up to the more difficult West Coast Swing, Rabe said. There are two types of swing, Rhythm Dances and Structured dance.

"The structured type of swing dancing is called a spot dance where one doesn't really move around, there are certain, specified steps involved," Rabe said.

The spot dance is used mainly in ballroom dances and slow dances. The more uncontrolled rhythm dance is the most active and versatile dance, Rabe said.

Shepard said, it's mostly popular among people of middle age but its popularity is rising among teens.

Swing dance is now put to all different types of music, big band, Latin, ska, blues and



Swing your partner... Matt Pokerny and Dana Ferry, senior at Burke danced the night away at an all-night dance party hosted by Central junior Allison Gatzke on Feb. 8. Never having taken lessons and with only one week worth of experience, Matt and Dana danced hour after hour, impressing everybody with their natural talent. Circles formed around them as they danced the Tango, jittered the Jitterbug, and swung the West Coast.

especially country, Rabe said.

More modern jazz bands are popping up all over the place, and more radio stations are featuring jazz hours and playing more Big Band and Swing Jazz regularly. Alternative bands are also turning towards swing, Rabe said.

In the 1990's, swing dance is rising in popularity, Rabe said.

If a person is interested in learning to swing dance, under the word "dances" on the yellow pages one can find two different studios which teach swing dance, Rabe said. "It's mainly used in clubs, ballrooms, and at jazz clubs" Rabe said.

Omaha has the Omaha Swing Club which holds dances at the Bel Air strip and the Hall also sporadically holds dances.

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'NUFF SAID

By Stephanie Holm



just doesn't quite "clique"

You can't be friends with us...you're not wearing the right shoes. And—where is that shirt from? Target? ...

It's sad that this conversation would actually take place. Sad, yet true. People do not act as individuals at school; they act as a group...primarily in cliques.

Central is full of cliques, carefully named by the people who wear them to the music they listen to. Preppies, skaters ... at least those are the terms they are responsible for.

Let's play a game...I'll say the name of a store, and you tell me which clique would not be caught dead buying anything from anywhere else. Okay, here it goes: Gap.

Ding, ding. Preppie all the way. Then again, how do you know that the preppies were the ones to shop at the Gap? Classic stereotype, right? Yeah, the preppies...the ones who pay \$55 for a t-shirt.

A Gap caption; an Abercrombie symbol, or the yellow and red checkered pattern—symbolizing that Doc Martens-yep-I-own-them-for-these-shoes look...all dead giveaways for a preppie, right?

And the male preppies? Well, let's just say that the male preppie line is gaining more and more popularity...and you can't forget the Ralph Lauren/Tommy Hilf...hmmm...how many guys have I seen that horse on? Sorry, I'll get back to you...I'm losing count.

Then come the arch enemies of the preppies...the

skaters. You know them, right? The ones with the baggy pants and Airwalks. Hmmm...looks like another stereotype. Then again, if I had a penny for every JNCO logo I see every day, I'd have no problem paying tuition for Harvard.

But, let's get away from the classic stereotypes for a moment. Let's take a closer look at cliques in general. What are people actually talking about when they say that a group of teens are "clique-ie?"

Could it be the fact that cliques look down on everyone not in their group? Or is this really true? I know of quite a few cliques at school that, even though they don't let people into their clique, there aren't exactly large numbers of people dying to get in.

And, within the clique...well...what can I say? The guys and girls date the same girls and guys...they just rotate every couple of months. Can we say boring?

Well, I guess we could say that the reputation of being in a clique is a negative one...or is it? It just depends on the point of view, I suppose. From a clique's perspective...it must seem like one big family...then again...from a non-clique perspective...it really seems like a bunch of snobs, reuniting.

Yep, cliques...the arch rival of anyone with the audacity to be independent. Think and act without others telling you how. This way, you don't limit your options in friendship. And, you can never have too many friends. 'Nuff said.

Happy Happy Fun Place (story!)

Figure 1.1: fortunately, "vaguely alarming melting-sherbert man" was completely surprised by "sailboat tom" and his dearest friend "the spatula kid," so he rushed off and the townspeople were free to... be free again?

Figure 2.9: later that day, Mr. Peanut went for a walk of course; blatantly ignoring the flock of increasingly disenchanted peas bouncing not-so-merrily behind him...

Figure 3.14: Vladimir had this wax apple, only this thin this snail comes out of nowhere and he, too, wanted this wax apple, and reached for it saying "oooo" and this did perturb Vladimir.

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(senioritis) (it grows...)

by gail v. braddock

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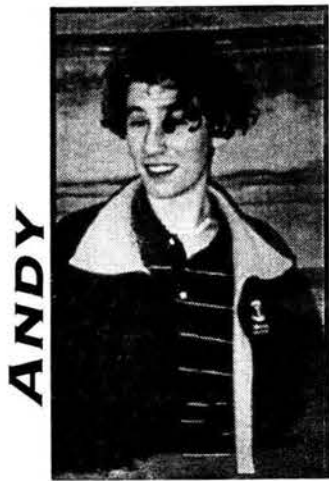
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"Great Expectations"

THE E-TEAM

"I pity the fool who sees this movie."



ANDY



KATE



BECCA



We're assuming that most of you have read Charles Dicken's book "Great Expectations," and if you haven't, you should. It is a very good book. So I don't think we have to go through the entire plot with you. The basics: A poor English boy goes to work at an old crazy lady's house as her granddaughter's playmate. The boy falls in love with the girl and the girl breaks his heart over and over.

The plot is transformed into the desperate plight of Finn as he chases his love for Estella of the way to New York where he suddenly loses all things white-trash about him and becomes the hot man on the New York art scene.

Now the movie does have a bit of a twist. It is set in modern times in America. The boy, Pip, who in the movie is Finn, is nephew of a Florida fisherman, instead of a London blacksmith. Miss Havisham turns into Miss Dinsmore, a mildly eccentric and incredibly sadistic women with a knack for ruining other peoples' lives. Estella is still Estella, only she is a way bigger tease in the movie than in the book.

Estella's forbidden feelings remain hidden deep in her heart while Finn's feelings manage to spill over into all aspects of his life. The rest of the plot basically follows the book with the exception of a few sex scenes

that Dicken's never intended.

General Opinion-

Andy- I hated every aspect of it except for Robert DeNiro.

Shaun- Four thumbs down, but I liked the art.

Kate- It was a decent concept, but they could have done much more.

Becca- I realize that expectations are really high after all of the great movies that came out lately, but it still wasn't any good.

Less General-

Andy- The whole movie was a cop-out on "Romeo and Juliet" and stole several themes from other movies. The whole nude posing thing has been done ("Titanic").

Kate- Yeah, and they could have made better analogies between past and present. The whole Florida fishing boat thing didn't seem to work.

Becca- All things being fair, Gwyneth Paltrow was the ultimate ice queen. She was made for this part.

Shaun- It was a very aesthetically pleasing movie. I enjoyed the back drop of the film.

Casting-

Andy- The only good thing in the movie was the casting. Robert DeNiro and Gwyneth Paltrow were excellent choices for their roles.

Kate- I think they could have found somebody better for Miss Dinsmore (Miss Havisham). She wasn't as eccentric as I have always pictured Miss Havisham.

Becca- Ethan Hawke really is a terrible actor and would not work if he was not so beautiful.

Shaun- I didn't mind the casting that much. I just think the movie was poorly written.

Plot-

Kate- I don't think that the plot came across very well, unless you had read the book. You couldn't really understand the entire relationship between Estella and Finn.

Becca- This was the type of movie where you could get up, go to the bathroom, buy popcorn and check your car to see if you left your lights on and come back and not have missed anything of any importance.

Andy- It's a little hard to have a good plot when a movie is based on a book that was based on "Great Expectations."

Shaun- Plot? What Plot?

Soundtrack-

Kate- I loved the soundtrack. It had the few things that kept me interested.

Shaun- I agree, the new Tori Amos soundtrack was good.

Becca- I really liked the way they used classical music with driven textures. Unfortunately the actual CD was the same.

Andy- It was alright, probably the best of the movie.

Closing Thoughts-

Andy- I felt as if I wasted time. I probably have been doing something more boring.

Shaun- The movie was not worth watching. Becca- There is something pathos done about the movie. It lacks that makes the characters feel like no real feeling to the movie. The soundtrack was the only redeeming factor as a whole.

Kate- Maybe, if you aren't really into it, rent it. But, I'd suggest reading the book if you want to know the story of Pip. It is much more entertaining.

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College bound athletes sign letters of intent

Brian Joseph

Three Central seniors signed letters of intent accepting football scholarships to two Nebraska colleges in a press conference held in a conference room on Feb. 4. DeAntae Grixby signed a letter of intent accepting a scholarship from the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO). Also, Lawrence Butcher and Thomas Hubbard signed letters of intent accepting scholarships from the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO).

Eagle Head Football Coach, Steve McMenamain, said that the signings were a little unusual because all of the players involved were signing with Division II schools or higher.

DeAntae was the Eagles' starting running back and an All-Nebraska pick at safety. Lawrence signed for a number of positions during the season including linebacker, running back, receiver, fullback and tight end. Thomas, on the other hand, was DeAntae's back-up at running back and a starter at tight end.

its to only five colleges which they are interested in. On the first Wednesday of February, he said that the players can sign their letters of intent.

He said that the scholarships are more than simply a way for the player to play at the next level.

"It's an investment in their future," he said.

DeAntae, Lawrence and Thomas all basically signed checks for \$50,000 each, he said.

DeAntae said that being a Husker has always been a dream of his, and now that it is finally coming true he is simply "rejoicing."

Lawrence said that the signing serves as a release for him. He said that now he no longer has to concentrate on deciding what college he is going to attend.



Brian Joseph

Senior Thomas Hubbard and his mother, Ms. Cheryl Box, sign a letter of intent to the University of Nebraska at Omaha on Feb. 4.

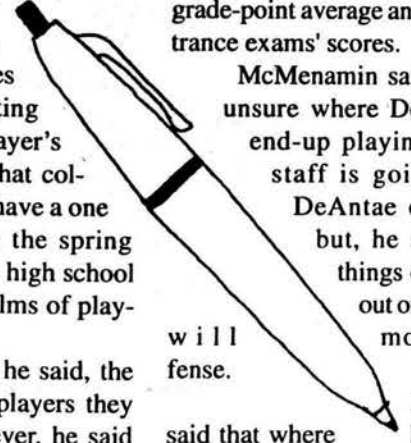
McMenamin said the signing of a letter of intent finalizes the process of recruiting and begins during a player's first year. He said that college football coaches have a one month period during the spring when they can talk to high school coaches and look at films of play-

McMenamin said that this group of recruits did more than excel on the field.

"I think they may be the best group of scholars we've ever had," he said.

He said that all three of them met the NCAA requirements for grade-point average and college entrance exams' scores.

McMenamin said that he is unsure where DeAntae will end-up playing. The NU staff is going to start DeAntae on offense, but, he said that if things do not work out on offense, he will move to defense.



During this time, he said, the coaches pick out the players they want to recruit. However, he said the coaches are only allowed to communicate with the players through the mail.

But, after Aug. 1, he said that coaches can call the players on the phone once a week.

After Dec. 1, McMenamain said the players are eligible to take vis-

will be especially missed," Reichmuth said. "I knew for a while that Stuart would be questionable but Gary's absence was very sudden."

Last year the Eagles qualified for Nationals which were held in Denver.

Central won two matches at Nationals.

"Our goal this year would be to win more games than last year and to gain experience for the 1999 and 2000 seasons when athletes become more than just athletes," Reichmuth said.

The Eagles are looking to finish somewhere in the top four in the Metro.

The Eagles' main competition this year will come from the Millard schools, the Lincoln schools, Omaha North and Creighton Prep, Coach Reichmuth said.

"Millard and Lincoln will be the favorites as they return everyone from last season," Reichmuth said.

The Eagles are expected to compete for the State title this year and are also expected to be a

NU staff.

When DeAntae first heard of Osborne's retirement, he said that he was in shock.

He said that he had a feeling like something had struck his heart. He said that one of his dreams, as a player, was to someday play for Osborne.

DeAntae said that Osborne has an effect on people that makes them feel like they would do anything for him, but in the end Osborne's retirement did not sway him from accepting the scholarship to NU.

While DeAntae was the Eagle's big hitter, McMenamain said that Lawrence was the best all-around athlete. He said that in Lawrence, UNO is receiving a versatile player.

In fact, he said that Lawrence was a steal for UNO and for them to land such an athlete is really incredible.

As for his goals for next year, Lawrence said that he wants to bulk-

up and improve his speed.

Also, rather than playing on defense, he said that he wants to play at running back for UNO.

"They (players on offense) get all the glory," he said.

But, he said that if he were asked to switch positions, as he did for the Eagles this season, he would do so without a second thought.

But, Lawrence said that this does not mean that he would not like some personal honors during his career at UNO.

"I just want to be an All-American," he said.

As for Thomas, McMenamain said that he was the sleeper of the group. He said that at the beginning of the season, Thomas was the Eagles' fifth string running back behind DeAntae, Lawrence, sophomore Jamaine Billups and senior Sunn Spurlock.

But, he said that after Lawrence and Jamaine were moved

to fullback and Sunn was injured, the door was opened for Thomas.

By the end of the season, McMenamain said that he thought that Thomas was running the ball as well as DeAntae. On top of that, he said that Thomas has been a good defensive player at the cornerback position.

But, even though he said that he is planning on going to UNO, Thomas said that he would have liked to have gone to NU. He said that he is considering saving the financial aid money he gets from the UNO scholarship and in a few years transferring to NU.

Originally, Thomas had orally committed to University of Northern Iowa (UNI), a Division I-AA college. He said that UNI had planned on playing Thomas at cornerback however, he said that when UNO offered him a chance to play at running back, he wanted to go there instead.

Men's Volleyball attempts to make Nationals for a second season

my Yin

Central Men's volleyball will attempt to make Nationals for the second straight year this season. The Eagles, which have only one senior, Chad Powell, have an experienced junior class consisting of Chris Anderson, Corey Carius, Brian Connor, Ben Baker and Andy Thompson.

In addition to the juniors, the team also consists of four new sophomores, Jamaine Billups, and Michael McPherson and James Roark.

"I expect in a few months, when we get all of their ability in the right direction, they will be standouts," Head Volleyball Coach Brad Reichmuth said.

They are some of the most decorated athletes in the Metro." This season the Eagles have three talented players. Junior Stuart Waters has an active tennis schedule and junior Gary Bullard is in Germany as part of an exchange program. Lornell is out on further notice because of his injury which he injured during the volleyball season.

"Gary's and Stuart's leadership

will be especially missed," Reichmuth said. "I knew for a while that Stuart would be questionable but Gary's absence was very sudden."

Last year the Eagles qualified for Nationals which were held in Denver.

Central won two matches at Nationals.

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The Eagles are expected to compete for the State title this year and are also expected to be a

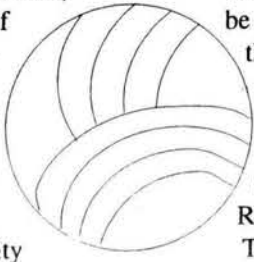
contender for the 18 years old and under National title in Dallas.

"We should finish somewhere between first and fourth in the league because we do return a group of juniors with National experience," Reichmuth said.

If the Eagles do not qualify for Nationals in the 18 years old

and under division, they should be able to qualify for a wildcard entry in the 17 and under level

because of all the players who are sophomores and juniors, Coach Reichmuth said.




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TWO-MINUTE DRILL

By Derek Tritsch



The most difficult task in all of sports

"NBA action: It's fantastic!!!!"

I just have one question, though, if the NBA is so fantastic, then why can't I watch an entire game on TV without falling asleep???? Sounds like a "fantastic" game to me.

Make that fantastic *enterprise*. This league is clearly a business and now that fact is becoming increasingly evident.

In 1998, you're likely to hear a sports fan say something along the lines of "NBA players are more concerned about their paycheck than winning games." True statement?

Maybe, maybe not. And even if it isn't, just the fact that people would wonder should be a red flag for David Stern.

The players' increased salaries have triggered a gargantuan jump in ticket prices. Now the only people that can afford tickets to an NBA game are corporate executives and the like.

This is why Larry Bird, upon his return to Boston as Indiana's head coach actually wanted to be booed by the Boston fans. Why? The NBA is becoming a soft league, he said.

And he's right.

The NBA used to have rivalries. Big rivalries. Now, when the Celtics and Lakers tussle the players are more likely to hug than to throw punches.

Furthermore, the fans of Boston and L.A. are more likely to strike a deal, nowadays, than to start a brawl in the parking lot after a game.

Free agency is making it nearly impossible for a fierce rivalry to develop. With so many players switching teams, year after year, how can two teams grow to hate each other?

Granted, the NBA's free agency situation is not nearly as bad as the Major League Baseball situation. But we can only assume that the NBA is headed down the very same path.

MLB's Florida Marlins owner Wayne Huizenga knows a little bit about that path. Last year he went out and spent millions of dollars bulking up his team through the free

agent market.

Seemed like a good deal at the time, especially since they actually went out and won the World Series.

One problem though, Wayne, your team lost over 40 million dollars that year.

Basketball fans can only hope that the NBA doesn't turn into a menagerie like the MLB, where all teams know they have the option of buying a title.

Free agency will eventually lead to the downfall of Stern's empire. Well, that and the loss of its true emperor, Michael Jordan. There is no one player more central to the success of any professional league than Mike.

Waiting in the wings to take over for Mike as emperor are a bunch of young players with limitless potential and limitless attitude.

These players have either just merely visited college for one or two years (if that), and, thus, have never been seriously coached. They've never been forced to work on the weak points in their games.

This generation of players have been told all their life that they are great players. And if their coach even ventures to correct them he'll get a towel in his face or worse yet, he'll get choked. And that's provided they even listen to him in the first place.

So what we'll be left with after Jordan leaves is a bunch of overpaid prima donnas who don't know how to win, don't know how to work and can barely get along with their coaches. I know I can't wait.

Not that the game is all that exciting as it is now. Countless veterans have mentioned that attending an NBA game now is more like attending a rock concert than a basketball game.

The most difficult task in sports: sitting through an entire NBA game, start to finish.

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In your eye...Eagle senior Jenny Queen shoots a jump against Northwest. The relatively inexperienced Eagle (only three seniors) have struggled through a 1-14 season. "We're going to try to make it competitive," Head Coach Dave Felici said in relation to Central's upcoming Marian and Millard South games.

Girls' basketball reaching high for success, coach says

By Melissa Colton

The Central girls' basketball team is now 1-14 after their recent loss to Benson.

Vonda McClinton, senior, was the leading scorer in the game. Vonda played well, having ten of Central's 26 points, Head Coach Dave Felici said.

The final score of the game was 64-26, Benson.

Coach Felici said Central is in the midst of a difficult part of their schedule.

"For the past two weeks we've played against top rated teams," Felici said, "and our next two games are against rated teams Marian and Millard South."

He said that playing rated teams has helped the girls to be more competitive

and aggressive.

The girls are working hard on their offensive and defensive skills, Felici said.

"We think it's important to show what they're doing right as well as what they're doing wrong," Coach Felici said.

In addition to the team's weaknesses, Queen, senior, said that communication is a big issue with the team.

Jenny said that all of the girls on the varsity team have great individual skills but need to work on team unity.

Coach Felici said that practices are difficult at times.

"One thing that has been really hard is that practice is like camp because we're behind on fundamentals," Felici said.

"Basically it's just lack of experience that brings us down," Tai Bursleson, sophomore, said.

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Swimmer gives back to the community



Fast Facts:

Erin Jenkins

Grade: 12th
Birthdate: May 5, 1980
Sport: Swimming
Honors: Three year letterer, Jefferson Award winner.

Derek Tritsch
The Central swimmer cannot only do it but chooses to give back to the community. Senior Erin Jenkins has qualified for this State meet in the 200 medley relay, but a string of accolades doesn't stop there. Not only is she a three year letterer but she was named the Jefferson Award recipient for outstanding work in the community by a high schooler. Her academic marks are high enough to rank her in the top ten of her senior class, as well as earning her to attend Notre Dame next year. "It's been tough work," Erin said, "but the challenge myself I seem to do better." Erin said she was nominated for the

Jefferson Award mostly for her work with Just Friends, a program in which high schoolers are matched with handicapped teenagers.

Erin has been involved in the program since her freshman year. In that time she has been matched with Melanie, a child who suffers from cerebral palsy. Once a month, Erin said, she and Melanie will "hang out" or go to the movies.

"It makes me feel good because Melanie always seems to be having a good time when we're together," Erin said.

In fact, it was Melanie's mother who nominated Erin for the Jefferson Award. As a result of winning, \$200 was donated to Just Friends in Erin's name.

Erin's volunteer work does not stop there, however. She is a frequent volunteer to her church, Erin said. Every summer, Erin said, she teaches Bible school to grade-school-aged children.

"I guess I just like working with people," Erin said.

Erin has seemingly put just as much effort into her schoolwork. She was accepted into Notre Dame and plans to attend there in the fall. Erin will study pre-medicine, she said.

On the swim team, Erin has shown strong leadership capabilities, as she is a co-captain

along with three other seniors, Head Coach Mike Steele said.

"Erin's a great leader in the water as well as out," Coach Steele said. "She is always dedicated, always at practice. I really hope it is rubbing off on our freshmen swimmers."

Erin's dedication to swimming is evident in the fact that she and the other captains made the decision, along

with the coach, to add morning practices on Tuesdays and Thursdays, to the daily afternoon practice regimen. A confident move for someone with academic aspirations as high as Erin's.

"We're all working a lot harder than we ever have," Erin said. "I just hope it pays off."

And the hard work may or may not pay off at State, but one thing's for sure: the hard work that this Eagle athlete has put in during

her high school career will certainly pay her great dividends in the future.

"I have no doubts that Erin will be successful in anything she does," Coach Steele said.



Alexa Christon

Swimming times 'coming down,' coach says

By Amy Yin

With four more duals left in the season, the Eagles' swimming team is looking to work hard and to have a good time, the head coach said.

"It's been a roller coaster ride," Head Swimming Coach Mike Steele said. "But the team's times are coming down."

Currently the Eagles have a record of 1-4 and are swimming without state qualifier junior Marci Holmes who is out for the rest of the season with an illness.

"The girls are coming together," Coach Steele said. "But they're still trying to get used to swimming without Marci."

On Feb. 3, the Eagles lost to Prep/Marian.

"I expect both of those teams to take the State meet," Coach Steele said.

During the Prep/Marian meet, senior Eddie Piatt qualified for State in the 50m freestyle.

At the Westside Invitational on Jan. 31, the girls' relay teams of seniors Erin Jenkins, Jenny Link, Erin Quinlan, junior Jody Baines, sophomore Heather Moorehouse and freshman Sarah Celevaland qualified for State.

"Individually, we have a lot of talent but as a team we have a little more work to do," Jody said.

Junior Mike Gill has also qualified for State in the 100m backstroke.

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SPORTS



We Cover Eagle Territory

Four Eagle wrestlers move on to State

By John Eubanks

"We are building a foundation this season. When districts arrive, it will be time to open up the door and let the state see the 'Nasty Nine,'" Central's wrestling coach said.

Mr. Jimmie Foster, head wrestling coach, said that the team seems to be doing pretty well as a team as well as individually.

The team went to the Millard North and Creighton Prep Duals and lost to both teams, Foster said.

"Even though we didn't have the numbers, we are still proud that we held our own to them," sophomore Dusty Friedman said.

Some highlights of the dual include Ty Griess's match where he avenged his opponent 9-5, while his opponent beat him at the last match, Foster said.

At the dual, Max Kenny lost his first of seven matches over a two week period, he said.

"This has taught me to keep being competitive and also to keep my spirits high for Districts," Max said.

On Jan. 31, the team also went to the Bellevue East Invite, Foster said.

He said that the team, as a whole, placed third out of 16 other teams.

Other top finishers were Millard South, placing first, and Papillion-Lavista, placing second, Foster said.

"At the meet we only had seven members, due to illnesses, while the other teams had full squads," he said.

Max Kenny won all four matches, qualifying him to Finals and Quarterfinals, he said.

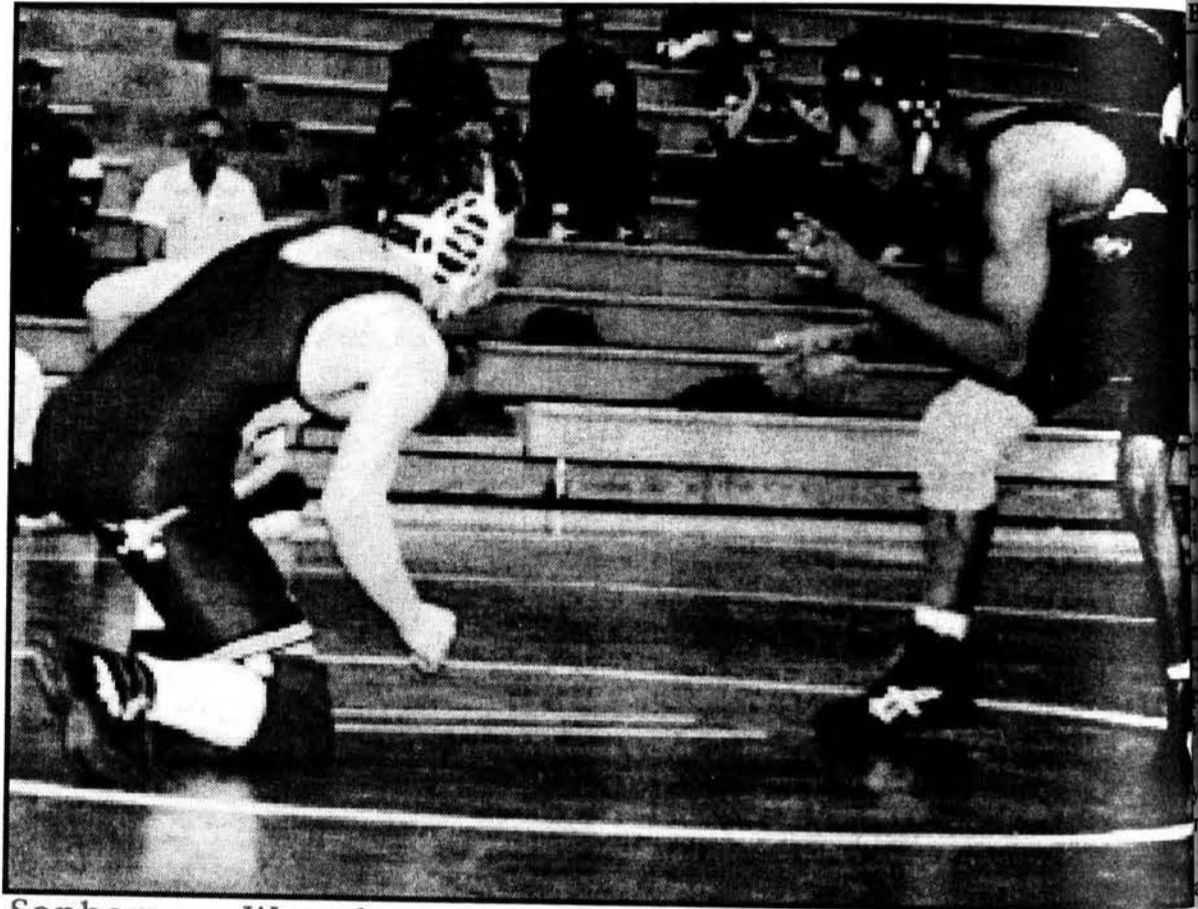
"Along with Max, Eli Bainbridge showed great work and effort, making them the champions of the meet," Foster said.

Other placings were Will Garcia, who took second place, Joe Wojtkiewicz, third place, Ty, taking fourth and Dusty, who took fourth as well, he said.

At the beginning of the season, the team had started out with 27 members but slowly 18 members quit for various reasons, Foster said.

They mainly quit because they couldn't handle all the hard work at practices, he said.

"I am not bitter towards them but when students don't show up to practices and aren't mature enough to tell their high school coach that they are quitting, what does that tell



Sophomore Wrestler Ishrat Husain sizes up his South opponent at the Bellevue East Invite, held on Feb. 3. The Eagles, a nine member team, saw four of their wrestlers qualify for State. They are: senior Eli Bainbridge, sophomores Will Garcia and Max Kenny and freshman Anders Christian.

you about their life?," Foster said, "What else are they backing out of?"

After 18 members quit, nine were left, he said.

"We seem to be doing pretty good as a team, as well as individually," Foster said.

The members of the team are: senior Eli Bainbridge, senior Joe Wojtkiewicz, sophomore Dusty Friedman, sopho-

more Will Garcia, sophomore Ishrat Husain, sophomore Max Kenny, freshman Anders Christensen, freshman Ty Griess and freshman Andrew Thom.

Districts were held on Feb. 14.

Central qualified four wrestlers for State. They are: senior Eli Bainbridge, sophomores Will Garcia and Max Kenny and freshmen Anders Christian.

Central basketball inches toward Districts

By Derek Tritsch

Close, but no cigar.

Central hung with rival Prep before falling 78-63, at Norris Junior High on Feb. 13.

The Eagles were tied with the Nebraska Top 10 No. 7 team at 56 in the fourth quarter before Prep reeled off an eight-point run. Central was never able to recover.

Central (4-12) put up a valiant effort, but in the end they seemingly hurt themselves, sophomore point guard Brian Rahaman said.

"We had held the turnovers down pretty well in the first three quarters," Brian said. "But in the fourth we kind of just fell apart."

The Eagles were led in scoring

by junior guard Brandon Thomas, who had 17. Ben Jacobson added 11.

Another effort that fell just short came on Feb. 6 as Central traveled to Benson.

Benson came in a heavy favorite, as they were ranked No. 5 in Nebraska. Central played well, however, but could not find a way to win, Head Coach Rick Behrens said, as the Bunnies won 95-84.

"I was a little disappointed because I thought we played well enough to win," he said. "But it was the little things that killed us, not boxing out or scoring."

Sophomore Ben Jacobson, in perhaps his best game of the season, scored 24 points to lead Central.

"I was happy with how I played, but I had some easy shots that I missed," Ben said. "I could have had 30 points."

Central was hurt inside by Benson's center, Lee Cook, who led all scorers with 31 points.

Central had their difficulties defending him,

Coach Behrens said.

"We tried some zones, but man-to-man seemed to be working a little better," he said. "But he's a real good player."

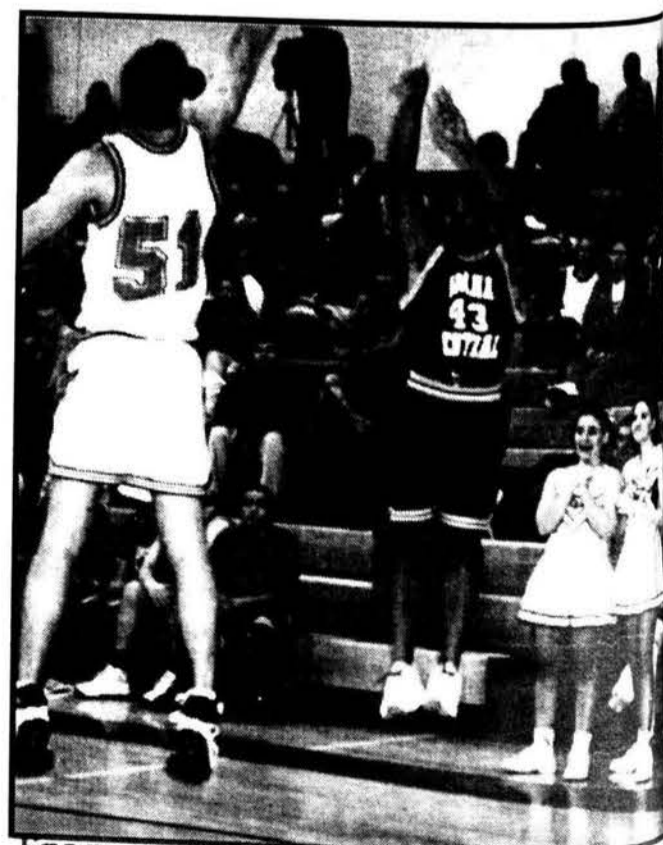
Sunn Spurlock added 18 points, two of them coming on dunks.

As Central moves toward Districts on March 1, Coach Behrens said that the Eagles need to work on the little things to get them over the top.

"Were boxing out well and were scoring well, but we need to play with a little more poise at the end of the game," he said. "When we get close in the fourth quarter, our guys will have a tendency to shoot too quick. But a lot of that is due to our youth."

Central is joined in their District by Westside, Burke and Fremont. Two of those teams have already beaten the Eagles, but Central has a chance to win the District, senior guard John Franzese said.

"It's a tough District, we all know that. But I think that we realize that this team has enough talent that, if we get hot, we can play with—and beat—anyone in Nebraska."



From way downtown..Eagle senior Sunn Spurlock shoots a three pointer in the face of Westside center Mike Preston. Sunn has contributed to Central's offense, with his season high of 18 points coming against Benson.

DEPARTMENTS

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