



REGISTER

The Central High School

Since

The Oldest School
Newspaper West
of the Mississippi

1886

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Omaha, Nebraska

Scholarship Auction rushes for success

Morgan Denny

"It's an event that's fun," head of the program advertisement committee for Central's Scholarship Auction said.

"Friends of Central are generating money to help students," Mrs. Vicki Baines said.

The 16th annual scholarship auction was held on Wednesday at 6 p.m. in the Scouler Ballroom.

Mrs. Lorraine Chang, one of the three co-chairs of the auction, said that the money raised will be divided up and given to three different sections.

She said that part of the money goes into scholarships anywhere in the amount of \$500 to \$1000 for graduating seniors.

Chang said that another section of the money goes into Central's Scholarship Endowment Fund.

She said that the interest gained from this fund is used to create more scholarships for seniors.

Chang said that, last year, 18 seniors received scholarships from the money raised by the auction and 27 more received scholarships paid for by the endowment fund.

Chang said that, in the past 15 years, over 400 Central students have received scholarships thanks to the Scholarship Auction.

She said that the rest of the money goes to special grants and projects at Central.

She said that, in the past, these projects have included new computer hardware, stereo equipment, field trips, weights and items for the development classes.

Chang said that the Scholarship Auction raised about \$30,000.

She said that there were two ways to bid during the auction.

She said that at the beginning there was a silent auction, which allows people to write down their bid for an item on a sheet of paper.

There was also an oral auction, Chang said, in which an auctioneer auctioned off 40 different items.

She said that there were many new items during this year's auction.

Chang said that one of these items is an OEA parking space.

She said that there were also prom packages and good graduation seats offered at the auction.

Baines said that many Husker items and tickets were donated as usual.

She said that some teachers contributed a dessert a month to the auction.

Chang said that Student Council contributed two groups of four people each that will do yard work and spring cleaning at the buyer's house.

"Since Mr. [Brian] Watson [economics teacher] is retiring after this year, we auctioned off a tie with his signature," Chang said.

She said that Watson also contributed a 1970 edition Honda motorcycle to the auction that started at \$800.

Chang said that balloons were sold for \$10 and \$20.

Each balloon entitled the buyer to a prize worth the amount of money he paid for the balloon.

Chang said that they also added Eagle Bird Bills to the auction.

She said that these bills were purchased for \$10 each, with a limit of 500 sold.

One person who bought an Eagle Bird Bill won \$1000, she said.

Chang said that she started recruiting people and organizing committees, such as the food committee, for the Scholarship Auction last September.

She said that the committees help to get everything donated from large corporations, such as Bag 'N Save.

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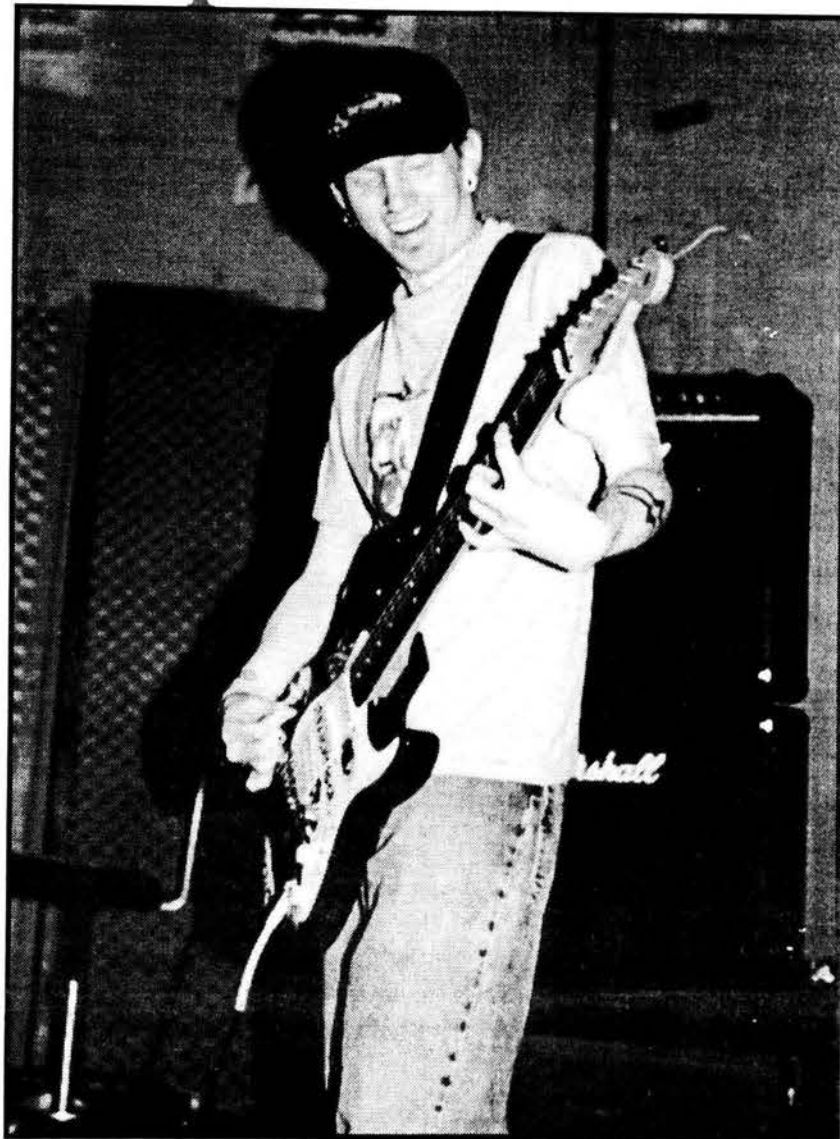
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Opee B. Goode?



Ally Jessing

Rockin' down the (ware)house. Central '97 graduate Nick Roland, a.k.a. Opee, plays guitar for his punk band, Angst for the Everything. Angst for the Everything showed off its talent on Fri, March 7 at the Cog Factory, located in downtown Omaha.

Parent questions District's delay of raising standards

Brian Joseph

What's taking so long? That's the question that Mr. Rashad Byndon, an Omaha Schools (OPS) parent and district graduate, is asking of the district after it has delayed on a plan to raise the academic achievement of its African-American students.

Dr. Ron Meyer, supervisor of projects for OPS, said that the plan began about a year and a half under the direction of former superintendent Dr. Norbert Herman.

Byndon said that during that year and a half, the OPS district has begun to back-off on the issue of raising African-American students' achievement.

He said that the delay in work on the plan means that OPS is afraid of dealing with the issue. He said that OPS has a lot of conformity among its higher ranking administrators and that they do not offer students the opportunity to study diverse groups.

For example, he said that OPS does not require any reading of African-American authors.

However, he said that, in some cases, the delay is not intentional. "They [OPS administrators] don't know any better," he said.

On the other hand, Dr. Meyer said that there really has not been a delay in the implementation of the plan.

"We'd rather do it right than do it quickly," he said.

Dr. Meyer said that after the committee for the plan was formed a year and a half ago, it presented its recommendations to the OPS School Board. From there, he said that the school board asked the committee to take the plan to OPS teachers and community members to get their reactions and recommendations.

By June 1, he said that the plan should be ironed-out and the committee will present it to the school board.

Whatever the case, Dr. Meyer said that the implementation of the plan is on time.

"I don't think it really has [been delayed]," he said.

Dr. Meyer said that the changing of superintendents and other staff members has slowed the plan a little, as has the beginning of the review of OPS Desegregation Plan. He said that many people involved with the plan to raise the achievement of African-American students have also been involved with the Desegregation Plan Review.

OPS School Board member Ms. Nancy Huston said that besides all of this, the original team working on the plan has since broken-up.

Mrs. Terrie Saunders, Central English teacher and co-creator of Minority Scholars, said that even if there was a delay in the implementation of the plan, it would be understandable.

She said that what is being proposed is a large undertaking, and its production was interrupted by the changing of superintendents.

Nonetheless, Huston said that she can see Byndon's point of view. She said that Byndon is a friend of education and periodically challenges to school district to try harder.

Dr. Meyer said that the plan was created because there is a considerable difference between the achievement of African-American students as a group and all other students. "Something needs to be done," he said.

He said that across the board, African-American students simply have not been performing up to the same levels as other students. In fact, he said that lower numbers apply to both African-American students that are part of the Free or Reduced Lunch program and those that are not. Thus, he said that the problem is not limited to only those African-American students that have a lower economic level.

He said that it is of such a concern that OPS is going against some of its own education philosophies. "Typically, we won't do this in the school district," he said.

Dr. Meyer said that OPS normally does not single out one select group for special programs.

As for the plan itself, he said that it covers many areas of concern.

"We came up with 15 areas that we needed to consider," he said.

Dr. Meyer said that these areas include increasing the African-American influence in OPS, clarifying parent roles, developing a management plan and supporting community agencies.

However, Byndon said that he thinks the plan is lacking.

"It's a joke," he said.

He said that the wording of the plan is too complicated for parents. He said that the plan needs to be user-friendly.

Nonetheless, he said that the issue itself is a very important one. In fact, he said that raising African-American students' academic achievement should be OPS' top priority.

She said that school officials, students and their parents all need to put in their best effort in order for children to learn.

"It's the responsibility of all three," she said.

For example, Saunders said that a teacher can try all sorts of things, but the student must be willing to respond.

Also, she said that the student must have some sort of family support.

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Information needed for safety

There is absolutely no doubt that the consequences of sexual abuse on children are devastating. Victims usually experience problems and complications from the experience for the rest of their lives.

This is the very reason why people throughout the nation should be notified about past sex offenders who live in their neighborhood. The United States Supreme Court thinks so too.

Megan's Law is a law stating that all sex offenders must register their name and address with the local law officials for a minimum of ten years after they are released from prison. In several states, such as New Jersey and New York, this information is open to the public.

The law was first enacted in New Jersey on Oct. 31, 1994 after seven-year-old Megan Kanka was abducted, raped, and murdered on July 29 of that same year. The man convicted of the crimes, Jesse Timmendequas, was a repeat sex offender who lived across the street from the Kankas.

By May 1996, 49 states had adopted sex offender registration laws. All appeals regarding such laws that were brought to the Supreme Court were officially overruled on Feb. 16, 1998. One has to wonder, though, why were there even any appeals to overrule?

Those who are fighting the law are arguing that it strips the offenders of their constitutional right to privacy and that it gives them an unnecessary extra punishment. They believe that after the offenders have served their time in jail, they should be given the same rights as every other citizen.

But isn't it an invasion of rights when those criminals rape and/or murder innocent people?

Other arguments presented against this law, as written in the November 1996 U.S. Catholic magazine, include the suggestion that it is the parents who are at fault if a child is abused by a stranger.

It seems as if this argument states that parents have formed this law so they have someone else to blame if something bad happens to their children. In reality, the law is an attempt to better protect the children of this country — our future.

The solution those opposed to the law present is to form a better rehabilitation program for sex offenders rather than "punishing" them with public registration.

How can people even consider letting these people off the hook with a slap on the wrist? Statistics have shown that sex offenders are usually repetitive in their actions. Megan's Law helps to prevent such things from happening.

Nebraska just recently revised the statute (Chapter 29, Article 40) regarding sex offender registration. Effective Jan. 1, 1997, all people convicted of sexual assaults were required to register with the state officials. But the list is still restricted information that is not available to the public.

So what good does Megan's Law do for the families who live across the street from repeat sex offenders? It almost seems as if the law doesn't do Megan Kanka justice.

Proposed plan unnecessary for city

It seems that city officials are proposing plans for the city that are not as important as other programs that need funding.

Recently, Mayor Hal Daub proposed a plan for an electric trolley to run in and around the downtown area, that he feels, will help build tourism and provide more adequate transportation for the area. However, this proposal is too much money to be spent on petty things that Omaha does not need.

The proposed trolley will cost about \$18 million. Although most of the funds needed for the trolley would come from federal grants and the private sector, residents would possibly pay the rest through their taxes. And because of this, the proposal should be rejected.

If the city is going to apply for federal grants, those grants should probably go to better purposes other than a trolley. Area road construction seems to be at the top of the list.

The same amount of money that the city would receive from grants for the trolley would probably be more than enough to fix area roads and pave new ones without costing residents any more than what they spend now.

Most people would agree that the potholes existing in the roads are becoming an annoying problem that never seems to be solved.

But, if city officials want to have a trolley run around the downtown area, (and if they want people to enjoy the use of it) perhaps fixing existing potholes would be a good idea.

Is there a difference between a trolley and a MAT bus?

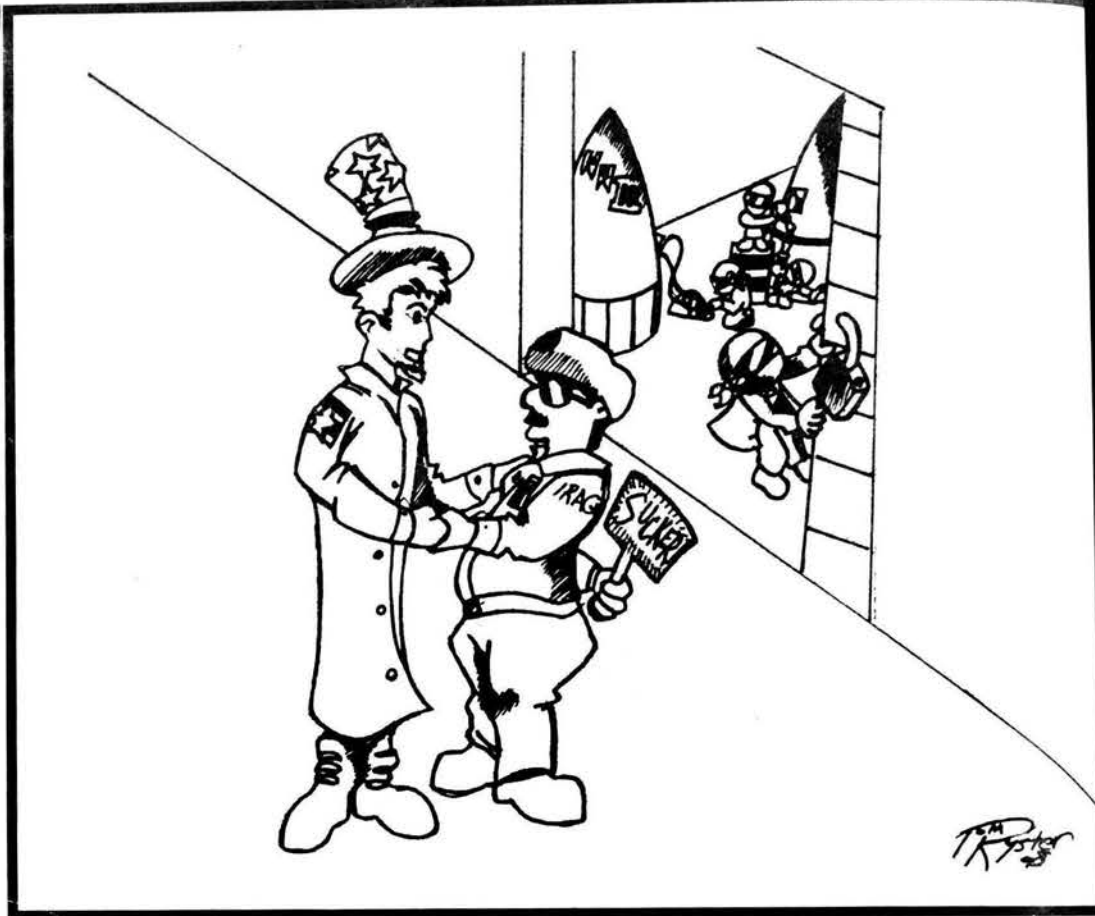
The electric trolley would be run by the MAT company, and if that is the case, what is the difference between a bus and a trolley? They both serve the same purposes, but the cost of adding a few buses to the MAT route would probably be millions less than a single trolley.

But some may still insist upon saying that the money spent on the trolley would all come back to the city (through tourism), and perhaps make more money than what the trolley was intended to.

First of all, most tourism that Omaha receives comes during the College World Series, which only lasts for about two weeks. Most of those tourists usually drive vehicles while they tour.

And if the money for the trolley would come from something other than taxes, then there would be no reason to prioritize plans made by city officials, being since, the people of Omaha would not have to take part in it, unless it was a tax.

But if city officials seem to be more concerned with a trolley for tourism than helping improve the physical characteristics of Omaha (starting much needed road construction and more importantly, finishing it), people will have to deal with all of the area construction and make sure they pay their taxes.



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 feel that same-sex marriages should take place within a church?

No. In the Bible, it states that only man and woman are to be together in such a way.



Carisa Roberts, 9



William Avery, 10

Yes. Marriage is a couple's personal business. If two people love each other, they should have the option to get married.



Tanisha Burns, 10

No. God did not intend for two people of the same sex to be married to each other. Marriage is a matter of respect [performed in church].



Jason Hoeft, 12

Yes. If two people love each other, they should do whatever they want. It's not the public's business to get involved in a couple's love affair.



Mrs. Marlene Larue
Science dept.

No. That type of situation is not what I would constitute as marriage. If the ceremony is performed, [I feel] it still isn't a marriage.

LET'S BE FRANK

By Alex Wolfson



Censorship of movie, why not news?

Alright, for this column I'm gonna talk about something that affects everyone in the world. Freedom of expression.

What is this country coming to the American public is censored so much that other people have the right to decide what we watch?

In 1954, a book called "Lolita," written by Vladimir Nabokov was published. It's about a middle aged man named Humbert who falls in love with a twelve year old girl named Lolita. AKA Lolita.

A year ago, the book was made into a movie. Don't remember hearing about it?

It's probably because it's not being released in the United States.

The movie was made, but no company release it. They're afraid that it won't make money because of the nature of the film.

So, really, you can see it, but only if you're willing to fly to Italy or France, because it's only shown in foreign countries.

This is all because of its pornographic, pedophilic nature. What's that all about? Let's get one thing straight. The actions of pedophiles are wrong, but its also

wrong to not let the people see this movie.

The decision to see movies of sexual and violent nature is that of the individual. That's why movies have ratings. If the movie is that controversial and pornographic, give it an NC-17 rating.

I can name a hundred movies full of sex, nudity, and violent content that are in the theaters now. Such as "Boogie Nights" and "Scream 2." So why is this movie getting so much fuss?

The right to choose what we watch and say is the basis of our entire society.

Recently, in Washington, a female teacher became pregnant twice by one of her thirteen year old students, and that was plastered all over the NEWS!

So, if this type of content is allowed to be seen on the news, why aren't we allowed to see it in the theaters? This is just not right.

I'll be honest, I like to go to movies that are violent. It's fun to watch movies that have explosions and fights and other stuff like that.

So why is it that this kind of adult content can be found in PG movies, but we can't even see this one?

I like living in a world where we can decide what we view for ourselves. And even if it is rated R, if our parents want us to see it, we can.

And also, let's admit it, I know all of you at one time or another in your life have snuck into an R rated movie.

So, what's really wrong with this movie anyway? The thing that people are freaking out about is her age. Well, like I said, I don't like what pedophiles do, but this is just a MOVIE.

The censors need to open their eyes and realize that this movie just might have something to say besides "sex, sex, sex." And as far as we know, the movie itself might not even have that much adult content.

And granted, the movie probably does include plenty of sexual content, but so do movies like "Basic Instinct" and "Fatal Attraction." Also, both of these movies include a large amount of violent content as well.

Let's be frank, censorship has gotten out of hand and needs to be re-examined.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A READER OPINION FORUM



Review displays one side

Dear Editor,

Your review of Neutral Milk Hotel's beautiful, sensitive second album "Aeroplane Over the Sea" cements our opinion that the E-Team has no taste and even less knowledge of their subject than we previously thought.

Reading their patronizing, pseudo art-house comments showed us that all of them completely missed the point of the album and just drove home the fact that people with mainstream musical taste cannot appreciate the creativity and sheer beauty of a band like Neutral Milk Hotel.

This kind of music cannot be critiqued in the same way as MTV's latest Buzz Bin sensation. The fact that your team of reviewers' questions whether the band even has talent is sickeningly pretentious.

Did you really even listen to the album or did you just pop it into your car stereo? Music like this deserves actual consideration.

This particular review encapsulates the trend of this newspaper to offer pessimistic and uninformed opinions for the main purpose of sounding cooler than the kids who liked it.

Sincerely,
Sam Fraser and Rachel Shukert, seniors

CENTRAL FILES

A LOOK INTO EDITORIALS OF THE PAST

PDA a constant presence

February 1967

If you were to interpret the initials PDA as representing the Protection against Dermosynovitis in Aardvarks, you would, to state the obvious, be mistaken. Actually, this digital triplet, having transcended the epochs of time and earnestly passed down from father to son, connotes the meaning: Public Display of Affection. This social phenomenon seems to be on the upswing here at Central.

Public Display of Affection falls into three categories of classification: hand-holding, the embrace and the kiss. Each category has its own distinctions.

Hand-holding is a frequent form of PDA. Most hand-holders maintain a constant grip while meandering about the halls, with the exception of passage through doors.

A more emotional response than hand-holding is the embrace. One requirement for this category is that the boy be at least three inches taller than the girl.

Otherwise, great difficulty is encountered by the male in maintaining a curved arm while perambulating throughout the school.

The third and the most potent expression is the kiss. Motion is the greatest obstacle to overcome, for inevitably, kisses directed to the lips land a good distance away, either on the nose or the eye.

In an analysis of this type, one question which constantly confronts the observer is why — why PDA? What arouses individuals to the state of emotion resulting in public display? While biological and psychological reasons might be in order, they fail to denote the true causes of PDA. For actual meaning hinges upon the poetic world — it is that burning desire, that inescapable passion that initiates its being.

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.

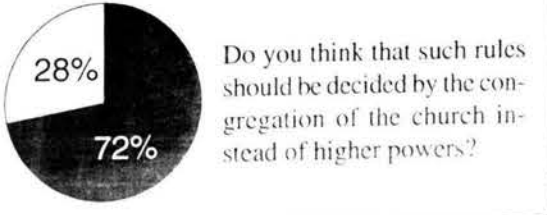
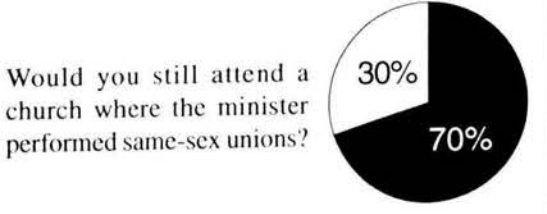
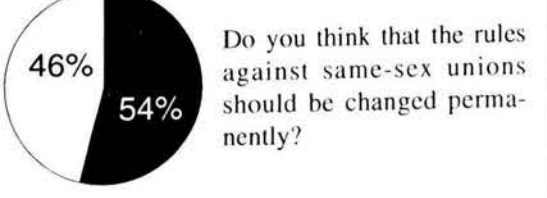
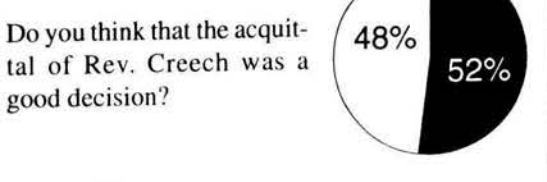
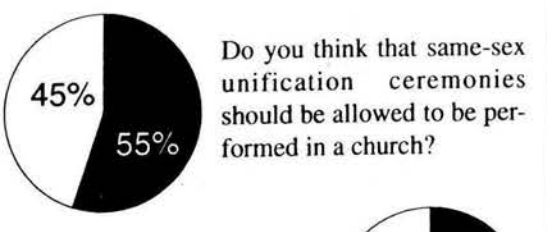
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CENTRAL STANDARDS

NO YES 122 students polled



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Central Catch-Up

Registration to vote held during class

Central seniors are registering to vote so they are eligible to vote in the primaries in May, a Central teacher said.

Ms. Carol Hipp, chairperson of the social studies department, said that all the seniors, including the special education students, who would be 18 years of age by Nov. 3 were given the opportunity to register in their American History class.

Ms. Peg Gallagher and Ms. Nancy Sowl, Central graduates, said they go to all the area high schools to get young people interested in voting. They said they are representatives from the League of Women Voters, which is a non-partisan organization.

Gallagher and Sowl said they are volunteers who are paid, but all the money earned goes to the League of Women Voters educational efforts.

Gallagher said about 200 students have registered to vote from Central.

Jenny Queen, senior, said that since she registered, she will definitely vote.

Gallagher said that when they went to the classes the seniors watched a video about voting prepared by the League of Women Voters.

Sowl said they answered questions while the students filled out registration forms.

She said they could not favor one political party over another, so they traveled in pairs, one from each of the two major parties.

Hipp said that all who registered to vote raised their right hand and took an oath.

"When the students registered to vote, one of the problems was they didn't know which political party to choose," Gallagher said.

Hipp said that 35 percent of registered voters, ages 18-24, vote in the national election. She said that up until 1976 young people were unable to vote.

The reason congress lowered the voting age was because they were sending young men to fight for the country and they had no say in what they wanted.

"If you want something changed in the democracy, the only way is through voting," Hipp said.

Jenny said that people registered to vote because they got the forms, but she doesn't think they will go out of their way to vote.

Hipp said that she could not tell if the students would vote in the election or not, but they seemed interested in the whole voting process.

Cox@Home beneficial to students at home, school

By Nicole Neumann

The cable modem service, Cox at Home, has become available for Omaha area schools, as well as residential areas and homes.

In terms of schools, most of the time that students are on the Internet they are waiting for information to be transferred, and this kind of service would save a lot of valuable time, Margie Gutnik, Data Marketing manager said.

"We intend to offer free modems and services to all the schools in the metro area, the whole area in which Cox Cable serves," she said.

This program is in alliance with the other service that Cox Cable provides. It has for the last 17 years or so supplied all the metro schools with free cable television, Gutnik said.

"Well do it based on a school showing interest," Gutnik said.

If the schools agree, it would be possible to hook up about one school a month for around three years because there are about 230 schools in the area, she said. The installation would also include a parent information night, that would let the parents work with the system and ask questions, she said.

After coming to the session, any people interested in getting the service would have a portion of the cost, \$10, donated back to the school, Gutnik said. So for instance, if ten par-

ents come and decide that they want the service, Cox will give \$100 back to the school.

So far, Northwest High School, Westside Jr. High and Mt. Calvary Lutheran school have been connected to the service, she said.

Most computers modems are supplied with a telephone line, over which the data being accessed travels. The new modem suppliers are fed with a cable rather than a phone line, Gutnik said.

The difference between the classic traditional telephone modem and the cable modem, is the wire by which the information is carried to the user. The broadband cable that is used for the cable modem have a much larger capacity of information in comparison with the narrow band wire that is used for telephone modems, Gutnik said.

To illustrate, on a telephone modem that runs at a speed of 28,800 bits of information can be transferred per second, but on a cable modem, anywhere from 1.5 to 3 million bits of information can be transferred per second, Gutnik said.

"Right now it's probably the best kind of modem that a regular person can get, for anything faster, you have to go to a university," Adam Moeller, junior and Cox@Home user, said.

The only waiting that one would have is waiting for slower computers to respond, Gutnik said.

"People's lives are too busy to wait," Gutnik said.

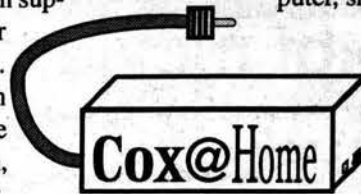
One common misconception is that one does not watch television while you're on the computer, she said.

In fact one of the major benefits, is that it does not tie up the telephone line and the service is always on, so that there is no waiting on process, she said.

The substance that is used for the cables is a fiber-optic system. Over this kind of wire television transmissions, computer modems and telephone transmission can be sent. Cox Cable is currently working on offering telephone service to its customers through these cables.

The service is so fast that a user can actually watch video clips on the computer, whereas before the videos were choppy and not very good quality, Gutnik said.

Cox Cable has set up demonstration booths at Nebraska Furniture Mart Mega Mart. They have six computers that are connected to the service for people to try. They also have an information line, 1-800-234-6660, for people to ask questions and get support.



NHS provides leadership, volunteer opportunities

By Morgan Denny

National Honors Society (NHS) benefits students in multiple ways, a member of NHS's executive board said.

Mr. John Waterman, math teacher, said that NHS does about one volunteer activity per month, including tutoring during study halls.

Siri Heese, senior and president of NHS, said that NHS does many community service projects throughout the year.

She said that this year NHS has volunteered at the haunted house run by Habitat for Humanity, an organization that builds houses for those in need.

She said that the group has also participated in Honey Sunday, a project benefiting Greater Omaha Association for Retarded Citizens (GOARC), and taken calls on the Homework Help line.

Siri said that NHS's current

project is helping out at Child Savings Institute (CSI), a daycare.

Two to four participants at a time visit CSI after school and play games with the kids for about two hours.

"After putting projects together, actually doing them is great," Siri said.

She said that doing the community work makes her feel good and helps her to gain community contacts that may prove to be helpful sometime in the future.

"It (being in NHS) is an honor," both Waterman and Siri said.

Waterman said that there are four components considered when juniors are being selected.

He said that these national guidelines are service to one's community, character, leadership and academics.

Waterman said that all juniors with an accumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.5, which is the

academic requirement, receive an application.

He said that applicants are to list three school related activities, such as sports and clubs, and three activities outside of school, such as youth group and volunteer work, that the student has been involved in.

The applicants are then expected to obtain signatures from the people who supervise the student's activities to confirm his participation, Waterman said.

He said that the 12 members of the selection committee, made of teachers from different school departments, meet and discuss the character of each applicant.

Waterman said that all students who are accepted will see a poster on their locker and will be invited to attend the induction brunch along with their parents.

"Colleges recognize that it's (NHS) a serious and meaningful or-

ganization," Waterman said.

Siri said that as president, her responsibilities include conducting NHS meetings, appointing projects and committees, delegating group and giving the induction speech at the brunch.

Siri said that this position has taught her many valuable leadership skills.

Waterman said that he got involved six years ago and likes to work with this "great bunch of kids who do good work and serious good in the community."

Waterman said that there are currently 86 members in NHS and that he expects about the same number for next year.

Waterman said that the executive board, which oversees NHS activities, includes Ms. Faye Johnson, Mrs. Heidi Jung and himself.

"These kids are the leaders of our society and the future leaders of our society," Waterman said.

DECA members keep tradition alive at State

By John Eubanks

"I was very proud of Central's performance at the State DECA competition," senior Todd Jacobson said.

The competition was held on March 19, 20 and 21 in Lincoln, NE at the Cornhusker Hotel and Convention Center, Mrs. Vicki Wiles, a DECA sponsor and marketing teacher, said.

"I thought we competed well against the other Metro schools," Wiles said.

Mrs. Alice Bunz, marketing teacher, said that each member participated in at least one of the 14 contests.

Some of the contests included Advertising, Apparel Advertising, Finance/Credit, Hospitality, Tourism/Travel, Food Marketing, Marketing Management, Service Marketing, Quick/Full Serve Restaurant and Vehicles, Bunz said.

"During each contest they were required to do two written exams and two role-play problem solving activities," she said.

During role-play, one is given a certain situation and is expected to act it out in the best possible way with the key factors that were learned in marketing class, Bunz said.

Junior Erin Marasco said that it's like a situ-

ation where one has to play a salesman and they must sell the car to the customer.

Along with the required contests, there were also extra events, one of which being the Quiz Bowl, Wiles said.

The Quiz Bowl team took first place, once again.

"Our Quiz Bowl team has won many more times than any other school," Bunz said.

The members of the Quiz Bowl are seniors Dan Danberg, Sam Kruger, Bo Gebbie, Josh Priluck, Brooketynn Zendejas and junior Karin Dudley.

"It's a fun experience," Dan said. "All year we prepare for the state conference and it will all come down to that."

There are also special research projects students can do, Bunz said.

Todd took third place on an Entrepreneurship Project of an Acura dealership and senior Becca Baines took third place on an Apparel and Accessories fashion show, she said.

"I was very happy with my third place finish and hope to do well at Nationals," Todd said.

Along with the contests, there are six state officers up for election each year, she said.

Junior Margaret Kukula ran for Vice President of Membership Services but, sadly, she did not win, Wiles said.

"She ran campaigns and gave speeches to promote her excellence," Bunz said.

In addition to contests, students participated in two of the four leadership workshops, she said. Workshops topics included personal development, "Husker Mania", importance of attitudes and helpful hints on communication skills, Bunz said.

Qualifiers for Nationals, which will be held on April 25-29 in Denver, CO, are as follows: Lynn Anderson, John Ashford, Rebecca Baine, Brian Connor, Dan, Karin, Bo Gebbie, Ki Higgins, Amber Ingram, Todd Jacobson, Sam Kruger, Margaret, Emily Parrott, Josh, Stephanie and Brooktynn.

Going along with the students are Mr. Harlan Gaylor, Vicki Wiles, Mrs. Bunz and student teacher Mr. Magnuson.

"DECA has gone to Nationals regularly since 1987," Bunz said.

As part of a fundraiser to help fund the students to Denver, DECA sold college hats to the students in the courtyard, Wiles said.

"Soon it will be time to hit the ski slopes," she said.





Silent reading encourages students to 'Excel'

John Eubanks

Central High School will be participating in Sustained Silent Reading (SSR) as part of the Excels goal of reading comprehension, Mrs. Renee Proksel, the Excels coordinator, said.

Proksel said that students and faculty will read silently for ten minutes each of the designated days.

The scheduled days are April 19-25, which is also National Library Week. Mrs. Kristel Mayberry, Central's librarian and Excels committee member, said.

Starting on Tues. April 21, students and faculty will begin the silent reading in the first minutes of Period 1, followed by Period 2 on Wed. April 22, Period 3 on Thurs. April 23, and Period 4 on Fri. April 24, Mayberry said.

Students are to bring something that they want to read, Mayberry said. "Although it must be appropriate for school." Teachers have used in-service days to learn how to improve reading comprehension in the classroom, Proksel said. Mrs. Mary Whitney, mathematics teacher, said that they were given a lot of techniques that they could incorporate in the classroom.

All students need to improve reading comprehension in all subjects," Mayberry said.

Mayberry said that Central is the first school in the District to pilot the program in Omaha Public Schools (OPS).

Excels is a school improvement project that is district-wide (all schools are involved), Proksel said. Proksel said that it is a five-year plan and is currently on its third year.

"We basically sent questionnaires to parents and we also looked at test results," she said.

After that, the Excels committee could develop three academic Excellence goals, Proksel said.

The first goal is to improve reading comprehension, the second goal

is to improve on listening/oral communication and the third goal is to improve on study skills, she said.

During the second year, the Excels committee developed a plan that identified strategies and assessments needed to meet goals, Proksel said.

With the program in its third year, they are having students take the Nelson-Denny test in their English classes.

"We used that test as a baseline for our assessment," Proksel said.

Proksel said that next year and the following year will be spent on implementing the second and third Excels goals.

Mayberry said that she has been doing some research on whether or not the SSR program will be successful.

"I am linked to an international library media listserv on the Internet," Mayberry said. "There are over 9,000 global participants."

Five percent of the twenty replies had a negative response mainly because there was no building support, she said.

"Research has also shown us that the more a person reads, the greater their comprehension becomes," Proksel said.

Sophomore Chris Blue said that he agrees because after all of the reading he has accomplished, he actually enjoys reading now.

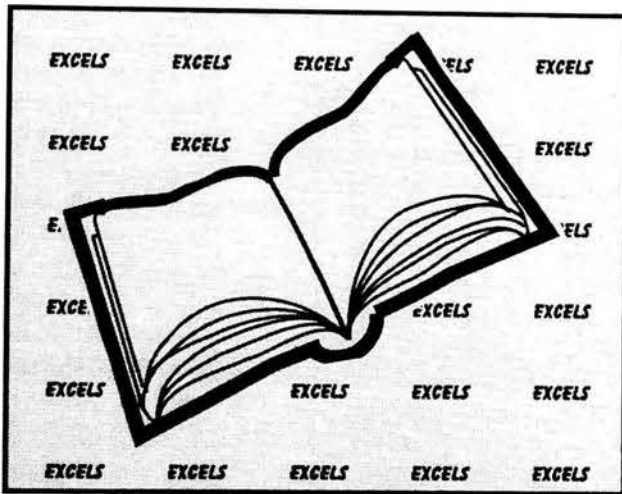
"I don't mind taking time out of class for something that I enjoy doing," Chris said.

On the other hand, sophomore Nicole Perry said that the SSR program is pointless.

"People should already know by now how to read well enough without assistance," Nicole said. "Why waste precious class time on something we do everyday?"

Proksel said that the only solution to that attitude is to "read for fun, not because you have to."

"If we all have a positive attitude towards this, it will work and hopefully it will be a great experience," Mayberry said.



Westside implements new graduation requirements

Shaun Kiel

The Westside senior class of 1998 will be the first to graduate from the school under the new graduation requirements which Westside has implemented, the college counselor at Westside said.

Mr. Lynn Hansen said that over five years ago a committee in District 66 decided to install new requirements for high school graduation.

"We formulated requirements which we believe would better prepare our students to meet the challenges provided by the real world," Hansen said.

He said that students, teachers, parents and business people comprised the committee which set the new standards.

"We thought it was very important for students to be involved in the decision-making, so Westside students comprised one-third of the committee," Hansen said.

Dr. Gary Thompson, principal of Central, said the graduation requirements which Westside implemented would be much more difficult to implement at Central. He said that new requirements would have to be implemented throughout the entire school district.

The size of the Omaha Public Schools dis-

trict does not lend itself to that. In light of that, Dr. Thompson said that Central continues to have no graduation requirements other than its academic ones.

Dr. Thompson also said that he thought Central students were already completing many of the challenges Westside is setting before their students in the form of new graduation requirements.

Hansen said that one of the new requirements for graduation at Westside is a senior project which involves a research paper and oral presentation.

However, Dr. Thompson said that students at Central already complete research projects in several classes, and in others they may be expected to give oral presentations.

Westside's new graduation requirements include a mandatory 80 hours of community service.

Mrs. Mary Wahl, Central alumna and parent of a senior at Westside, said that she thought the community service was a good idea, because it strengthens the students college resume.

Dr. Thompson said that he wasn't sure that mandatory community service really accomplished its goals.

"I wholly endorse community service, and I would be happy to see every student contributing, but I don't think forcing them to contribute allows the student to draw from it what they should," Dr. Thompson said.

Wahl said that she thought a number of the components involved within the new graduation requirements were positive additions to the Westside curriculum.

She said that she believed the research paper and oral presentation included in the senior project presented the student with a good opportunity to gain experience.

Wahl said that she approved of the new graduation requirements, but that judgment cannot be passed positively or negatively on them after only one graduating class.

She said that Westside is a much smaller school district than OPS, and therefore has a lot more room to try something different.

Wahl also said that more important than the educational experience the school brings to the student, is the dedication that the student brings to their own education.

"I believe that the breadth and depth of an education can only be measured by the tools that the student brings along," Wahl said.

Breakfast program feeds students for free

Nicole Neumann

BBRRRRRIINNGG!! your stomach goes off and you grab your books and run out the door. No thought as to breakfast?

This year was the first year that Omaha Public Schools (OPS) offered a complimentary breakfast program for all of the students who take part in, if they wish, Mary Andersen, Director of Nutrition Services for OPS, said.

"We're serving somewhere in the neighborhood of 200 breakfasts a day," Dr. Gary Thompson said.

Those students that take part in the program tend to be a very diverse

group of students, he said.

In terms of paying for the program, it is funded by government reimbursement and the al-a-carte items that are sold at lunch time.

The al-a-carte items, are the extra chips or cookies that students elect to purchase at lunch, either instead of a regular lunch or in addition to, Andersen said.

The usage of those funds in this manner enables the program to not lose any money, she said. Eventually, they are trying to get free lunch for all students as well, Andersen said.

It has not yet been decided if the program will continue next year.

That decision is up to the Board of Education, and they will look at the program in terms of how successful it is in terms of how successful it is, she said.

"We measure that success by student participation," Andersen said.

At the beginning of the year, when the program started each school set a goal to reach, in terms of how many breakfasts that they distribute to the students, she said.

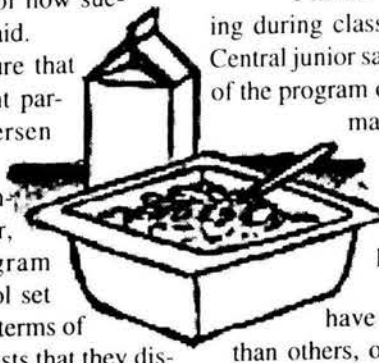
So far 33 schools out of about 70 have reached their set goal. Of

these schools, only one is a high school. The rest are middle and elementary schools.

"I'm not worried about eating during class," Brianna Fisher, Central junior said about the effects of the program on her class performance.

Thompson said the students seem to enjoy the program.

Some days have more participation than others, on account of what is being served that day, but overall it seems to be appreciated, Dr. Thompson said.



Central Catch-Up

Central choir attends clinic in Lincoln, Neb

CHS Singers took a trip to Lincoln, Neb. on April 5 to attend a chamber chorale clinic.

CHS Singers worked for 45 minutes with Dr. William Whyman, Director of Choral activities at Nebraska Wesleyan University said Mrs. Lyn Bouma, Central music teacher.

"The purpose of our attendance at the clinic was to prepare for District Music Contest," said Bouma.

District Music contest is a district wide event for Omaha Public Schools that rates each high school choir participating.

After the workshop, Bouma said, at 7:30, the singers performed their songs at a concert. They sang three madrigal pieces.

Central seniors volunteer as half day activity

"I think setting aside one day to dedicate your time to the community isn't too much to ask," the Senior Class President said.

The senior class spent April 2nd out in the community volunteering their time to different charities, said Senior Class President, Sarah Price.

The Senior Class officers had to come up with an activity for the seniors to do April 2nd, Sarah said.

The freshman were involved in a True Colors activity.

Sophomores took the California Achievement Tests (CAT) in the morning and Juniors went over their ASVAB results.

"The seniors needed an activity to occupy half the day, so we thought a volunteer day would be good because it is something different and the community can benefit from it," said Sarah.

Each senior signed up for a different location to volunteer. They had a choice between places like Fontnelle Forest, The Food Bank, Child's Saving Institute, The Lydia House,

The seniors were required to spend two hours of the day volunteering.

Seniors were not in the building at all during the day, except for the students who are volunteering at Central.

They reported directly to the location they volunteered at 9:00 am and worked there till 11:00 am.

There will be a follow-up assignment in senior English classes based on the day's volunteer experience.

Central Catch-Up

Campaign rewards good driving

The Arrive Alive Safe and Sober Campaign is going to be at Central in the months of April and May to award students with good driving behavior.

The campaign was designed to educate an awareness throughout the community of the importance of safe driving habits, Linda Schlake, executive committee member, said.

Appointed law enforcement officials will be cruising the Central area. They will arrive at their checkpoints at unannounced times and locations Schlake said.

She said that when they spot someone wearing a seatbelt or performing excellent road skills, they may award that person with a squeeze bottle and a certificate.

As a result of their accomplishment, the police department chief will send a congratulatory letter to their parents/guardian Schlake said.

Cheerleading tryouts held

Cheerleading tryouts were held on Sat., March 28, a squad member said.

Junior Jane Swirzinski said that there are many returning girls with plenty of talent. She said she is not sure how the new members will adjust, but is sure that if all squad members work together, next year will be wonderful.

The tryouts consisted of group cheers, group chants and group dances, as well as gymnastic feats such as Russians, Jane said.

"Overall I am very pleased at the squads for next year," she said. "Everyone is very qualified to represent our school as cheerleaders."

Students sell college hats

Three bar hats, that have different colleges' names on them, were sold by the Central marketing department in the courtyard over the lunch hours.

The hat sales program was coordinated by Mrs. Vicki Wiles, marketing instructor, and led by seniors Brooktynn Zendejas and Lynn Anderson.

Mr. Matt Magnuson, student marketing teacher, also worked on the organization, stocking and sales of the hats.

Hat sales started on March 24, Magnuson said. Brooktynn said that the sales lasted until March 31.

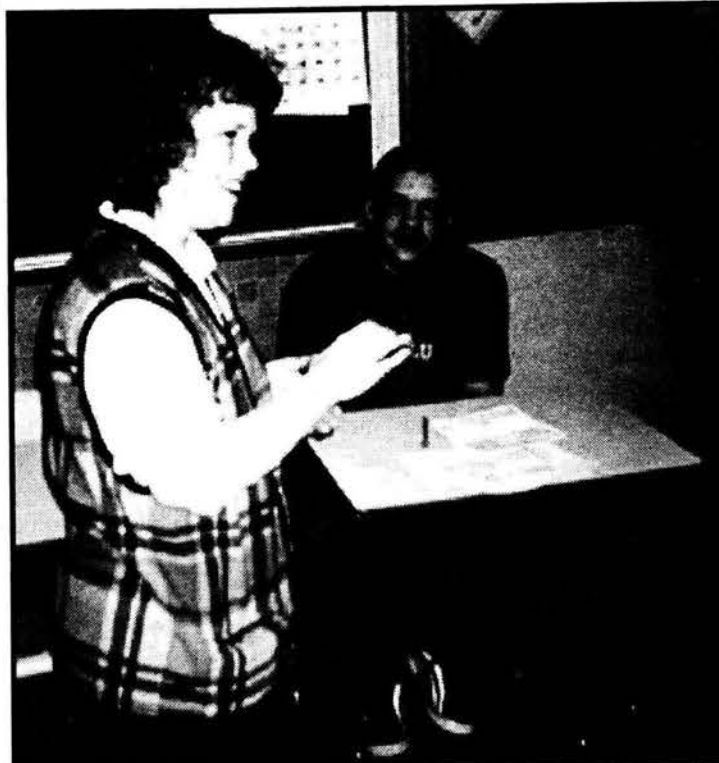
The hats are not meant to be worn at school, but after school or at home Magnuson said.

Neb School for Deaf to close at end of school year

By Jeremy Scurlock

The 129-year-old Nebraska School for the Deaf (NSD) will close its doors permanently at the end of the school year leaving many students and their parents with no idea where the children will attend school, the State Special Programs and Outreach Director said.

Dr. Bob Kellogg said that NSD has provided a quality education to hearing impaired students for more than a century and will be missed by



Jeremy Scurlock

Talking hands... Mrs. Catherine Kellogg, a teacher at the Nebraska School for the Deaf (NSD), pictured here with NSD student Abram Garner, said that it's disappointing that Nebraska is allowing the NSD to close.

many students.

"I don't want to change schools. I'd rather stay here. It doesn't know that the school is closing," Carla Arobin, a student at the school, said.

Most of the students are sad that they have to leave the school. They don't want to receive their education anywhere else. Some students have been there since they were as young as four years old and have attended school for more than 10 years, Kellogg said.

"Knowing that the school is closing makes me feel bad. I don't want to go to school anywhere else," Cody Lauristan, a freshman at the school, said.

The primarily state funded school will be closing at the end of the 1997-98 school year mainly because of the cost it takes to run the institution. Talks of closing the school began in 1984 after a rapid increase in enrollment. Student population at NSD was at one time over 200, now only about 31, Kellogg said.

"Student population at the school has been decreasing over the last 20 years and the cost of running the campus has risen to \$85,000 per student," Don Anderson, administrator of special education at the Nebraska Department of Education said.

Anderson said there has been a program developed that divides Nebraska into four regions. He said the program allows students to choose whether they want to go to the Iowa School for the Deaf (ISD) or a regional program.

The four regions are the Omaha Metro Area, northeast Nebraska (north of Grand Island), southeast Nebraska and central Nebraska.

Most students aren't sure what they're going to do after the school closes. The students will be given an evaluation by the IEP which means individual education plan. This will decide if the students should go to public school, Kellogg said.

"I don't want to go to public school because this place [NSD] has provided much better education," Russell Staab, a student at NSD for almost 10 years, said.

Even though the teachers and students at the school know the conclusion of the term the school will be closed, class carries on providing students a chance to learn with students who are also deaf.

Safety and Health Council begins MIP education program

By Brian Joseph

In an effort to educate teens about the dangers of underage drinking, the Safety and Health Council of Greater Omaha Inc. has begun a program for teens, who are charged with a Minor in Possession (MIP), and their parents.

Ms. Lesa Durkan, the director of the Safety and Health Council, said that the program, Minor in Possession of Alcohol, is an unique one because it focuses on parent responsibility and features the teens doing eight hours of community service and engaging in role playing activities.

"It's very new age," she said.

Durkan said that teens become involved with the Minor in Possession of Alcohol on the condition that they will have their charges dropped after the successful completion of the program.

She said that the program itself, which has been in existence for two months and has graduated 21 teens, is 17 hours long. Nine of those

hours, she said, are spent in the classroom while the other hours are devoted to community service work.

The classes, she said, are held every Saturday for a three week period. However, the catch is, Durkan said, that one of the teens' parents is required to attend the first and the last class of the program. She said that this is done to increase parent involvement with their teens' lives.

"It helps to place a certain amount of responsibility on the parents," Mr. Jim Jansen, the Douglas County attorney, said.

Jansen said that the program is looking to increase the awareness of parents about what their children are doing.

As for other things discussed in the program, Durkan said that the topics of the legal ramifications of MIP's come-up as well as self-esteem and decision making.

Also, she said that the final class of the program features a two-hour role playing activity.

She said that an acting troupe from the University of Nebraska at Omaha, Option Theater, will be performing typical drinking situations for the teens to act out.

Central sophomore Amy Linenberger said that she thought that the program would be effective in stopping the underage drinking problem.

"I think it's good that parents get involved," she said, "but it's not really going to affect [teens]."

However, Amy's father, Mr. Mark Linenberger, said that he thought that the program would be beneficial.

"Everybody has to take some responsibility," he said.

Linenberger said that society would benefit if more people stopped pointing fingers at others and started looking at themselves.

"Alcohol flows very freely in this country," Linenberger said.

Central junior wins three-week, all-expense-paid trip to Germany

By Jeremy Scurlock

A Central High junior will be spending three weeks in Germany after winning the Daimler-Benz/Goethe Institute contest, a German teacher at Central said.

Mrs. Sandra Dieckman said that this three week trip is a great opportunity for Andrew Thompson, the winner of the contest. Andrew said he's looking forward to his time in Germany.

"When I first heard I had won the contest I was surprised and excited," Andrew said. "I really didn't think I would win."

The Daimler Benz Corporation and the Goethe Institute sent Central and over 2000 other schools in the United States and Canada a video, poster and a 14 question test.

The contest tested students' knowledge of Germany, dealing with educational, political, social, cultural, and everyday issues of the modern day country and its capital.

Over 213,000 students participated in the contest but only 50 were picked to go on the trip, Central was one of them, Dieckman said.

Central had 635 students participate in the first step of the contest.

The students viewed a video on classical and contemporary German music trends, then they answered quiz type questions about the video and the accompanying poster, Mrs. Dieckman said.

Central was then chosen to select one of their students to be a Grand Prize Winner of the contest

from the over 2,000 schools which participated in the contest.

Central offered all students the chance to fill out an application, but only sixteen students turned in the application which included five essay questions.

The eight best essays were chosen by Mr. Dan Daly, head of the English department, and several other teachers from the English department, Dieckman said.

The authors of the essays were then called to be interviewed by Mrs. Daryl Bayer, head of the foreign language department, Ms. Lynda Molyneux, career counselor, Mrs. Sandra Dieckman, German teacher and Ms. Heidi Jung,

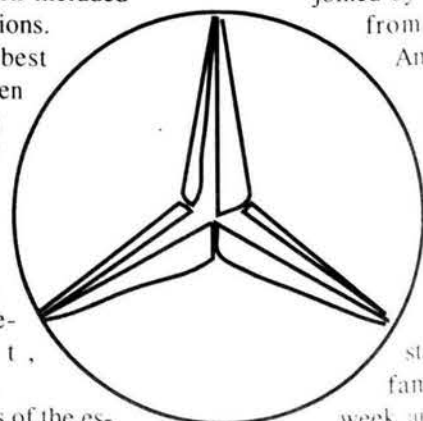
German and Spanish teacher, Dieckman said.

As for the trip itself, Andrew will spend three weeks in Germany with all expenses paid. He is joined by 49 other students from all over the United States and Canada.

"I'm looking forward to going to Germany and meeting new people," Andrew said.

Andrew is staying with a family for a week and will spend the rest of the trip sight seeing and traveling around Germany.

"I think this will be a great opportunity for me to experience another culture," Andrew said.



Organization recognizes African Americans' achievements

Joseph really do not know how I would have up with the money." This statement was made by Central and current grade-school teacher at Park Elementary School, Ms. LeDonna concerning her predicament at the end first semester of her senior year in col- the University of Nebraska at Omaha. white, who was then attempting to get chelors degree in teaching, said that she st finished up an internship with the a Public Schools (OPS) and had to find to pay for her last semester of college. he said that this is when she found out the organization Concerned and Car- ucators (CACE), a group composed of n-American administrators in OPS with rpose of granting scholarships to Afri- ican students.

ue to one of CACE's scholarships, said that she was able to finish college. r. Warren Taylor, the founder of CACE, at the organization is made up of 81 n-American administrators in OPS. In e said that the membership of CACE es Central assistant principal Ms. Alina Central guidance counselor Ms. Faye

Johnson and former Central assistant princi- pal and current North High principal Mrs. Bernice Nared.

Mr. Melvin Clancy, the president of CACE, said that CACE has two basic roles: it provides \$1000 scholarships to African- American students in OPS and it highlights the achievements of African-American students.

Public exposure, he said, is primarily done through a banquet CACE holds on the last Saturday in February. He said that the banquet serves as an award ceremony for those students that won scholarships from CACE as well as a CACE fundraiser.

This year, he s a i d t h a t CACE awarded 25 students with scholarships.

At this year's banquet, Mrs. Terrie Saunders, Central English teacher and co-creator of Minority Scholars, said that four Central students were awarded scholarships from CACE.

She said that the winners were seniors

Kayleta Adams, Rebecca Harmon, Jasmine Henderson and Emily Martin.

Of the 25 winners, Saunders said that Emily had the highest grade point average (GPA).

To be eligible for a scholarship, Clancy said that a student must have GPA of 2.5 or better, be committed to going to college after graduating high school and be in good standing with the school.

Once a student has met these require- ments, Clancy said that the students are evalu- ated on five points: academic achievement, class rank, community involvement, extra- curricular activities and recommendations.

Kayleta said that she origi- nally found out about the CACE scholarship when she attended the CACE ban- quet as a freshmen.

"It gave me something to work for," she said.

She said that when she found out that she had won the scholarship, she was "completely honored."

Rebecca said that she too was excited about winning the scholarship.

"It was nice because it was my first schol- arship," she said.

There's not that many scholarships for African-Americans," Taylor said.

He said that it is hard for many African- American students to qualify for other schol- arships, due to students' GPA's or the income of their parents.

Rebecca said that the scholarships are needed because on average African-Ameri- can are not at the top of the economic struc- ture.

Clancy said that CACE is important be- cause it serves many functions in the com- munity. He said that the organization acts as a catalyst for keeping the African-American community on the focus of education.

However, he said that CACE serves in other capacities as well.

Clancy said that African-American stu- dents look at CACE members as credible pro- fessionals who are taking responsibility.

Rebecca said that the CACE scholarships give students something to work toward.

"I think it looks well on OPS," Kayleta said. "Its a gold star on them."

CACE CONCERNED AND CARING EDUCATORS

HS exchange teacher adds culture to the classroom

Rachel Slosburg To the United States, back to ce, to the United States, back ance, to the United States, de- to India, back to France, and to the United States. This isn't trying to promote ed Airlines' new flight sched- instead it is the traveling path entral exchange teacher, Ms. Aumeunier, who has become a time addition to French classes in the foreign language depart-

relates to learning about the French way of life," she said.

Lise said she first arrived at Central in 1996 as an amnity aide with the Amnity Institute, an orga- nization which provides foreigners with teaching opportunities in America.

"I received my masters in American Civilization and Litera- ture," Lise said. "I decided I actu- ally wanted to know what it was like in America and applied to work for the Institute."

She said she stayed for three months with Central '95 grad, Col- leen Cleary, and really enjoyed her time teaching at Central.

"The kids were really nice and I had a good time working with Mrs. Bayer and Mrs. Fellman," Lise said.

Bayer said Lise's first visit to Central's foreign language depart- ment proved to be very successful.

"Lise adds a lot to our French classroom activities," Bayer said. "She is a native speaker, but more than that, she is sincerely interested in student achievement in her native

language." Lise said after she completed her work with the Institute, she re- turned to France in order to earn her masters in French as a Foreign Lan- guage, as a result of her teaching at Central.

Upon finishing her second mas- ters, Lise said she came back to the United States in winter of 1997 and stayed with a friend she met on her previous trip.

"The second time I came for about six weeks from the end of February until the beginning of April," Lise said. "Then I went back to France to look for an international job."

During the summer of 1997, Lise said she came back again to visit friends and teach at Central, before starting a three month assign- ment with the Cultural Department of the French Embassy.

She said the French Embassy sent her to Pondicherry, India (on the south eastern coast) to promote the French culture and language.

"I guess having two masters

and other qualifications helped me get the job with the French Em- bassy," Lise said. "I can't summa- rize my experience in India into words—I just really liked the dif- ferences in the civilizations and get- ting to know the people."

Lise said while she was in India she was the coordinator of French cultural events including poetry readings and art exhibitions.

Now, Lise said she is waiting to start another assignment with the French Embassy. She said she will be teaching French to students at the Minneapolis satellite location of the French Embassy.

"I will start in Minneapolis in the middle of May and be there for around six months," Lise said.

She said she is undetermined what will happen after her stay in Minneapolis.

Lise said during her time in America she has noticed several dif- ferences between the United States and France.

"We [the French] are existen- tialists and tend to worry about ev-

erything," she said. "But, we also know how to take it easy and have more personal freedom."

She said the students in the United States (from her experi- ences) have too much to do.

"American kids can't really take time for themselves," Lise said. "Everything's in a rush, they need more opportunities just to read and think."

Speaking of American kids, Lise's students said they love their new teacher.

Senior Meghan Boylan said she enjoys Lise's contributions to her combined AP/10 Honors French class.

"I love Lise," Meghan said. "We [the class] get a whole new perspective with Lise."

Lise said Omaha is a "friendly, cozy" place to live and that she will miss it along with all her close friends.

"We are very fortunate to have Lise with us here at Central," Bayer said. "We will miss her as she moves on in her career."

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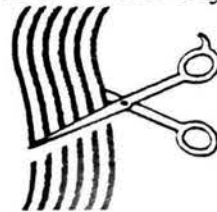
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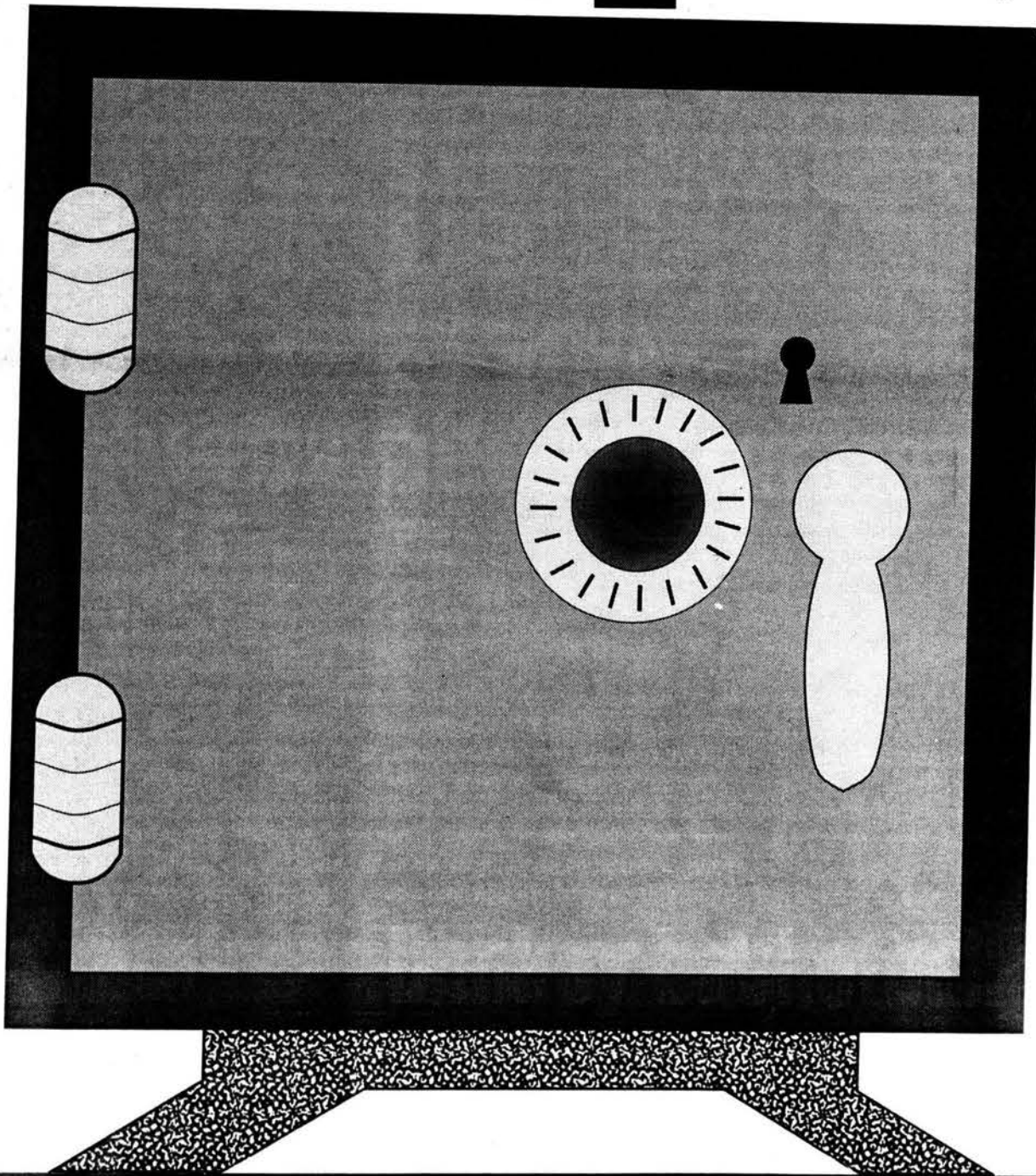
SHOW ME THE MONEY!

Making sense of marketing

Jobs trade money for work

New designs mask money

Students buy into spending



Central Focus

by

Morgan Denny, Stephanie Holm, Alli Pagan and Meredith Zendejas

Graphics by Josh Priluck and Beth Weis



If I were

Stock market spending creates earnings

By Meredith Zendejas

Central gets students involved with money through marketing, management, entrepreneurship and investing in the stock market, Central marketing teacher said.

Mrs. Vicki Wiles, marketing teacher, said everyone uses marketing in whatever focus or career goal they have.

If you apply for a job you need marketing skills to sell yourself to the company, Wiles said.

She said that marketing, simplified, is product, price, place and promotion.

Since 1968, Mr. Brian Watson, Central social studies teacher, said that he has had students buy pretend stocks as their term paper. Each student is to buy three stocks with \$50,000, after 25 business days, they sell, he said.

Watson said that he has students buy stocks to make them aware of the real world.

It also helps students learn to save for the future. Investing in stocks is also a method of long term savings, he said.

Matt Darling, junior, said that he got himself interested in the stock market over a year ago.

Since then he said he has made fifty percent of what he has put in the stocks.

Matt said most of his stocks are with the New York Stock Exchange.

He said his most profitable stock is Pepsi, but he also has stocks in Nike, Ford, and Gap.

"You can't tell how your investment will do, sometimes choosing a stock is luck, and sometimes it's skill," Matt said.

Matt said he made an investment in a company that went bankrupt, and lost everything he put into the company.

He said he also lost about twenty five percent of the money he put into Greyhound.

"Politics, news, and the economy are constantly affecting lives," Watson said.

Wiles said some of the marketing students are involved in a stock project also. The students are given \$100,000 to buy stocks.

Marketing students are also involved in job internships, Mr. Harry Gaylor, Central marketing teacher, said.

He said the students take what they learn in the classroom and apply it to there job, learning selling techniques, human relations and customer service philosophy.

Marketing does many projects to help the students, Wiles said.

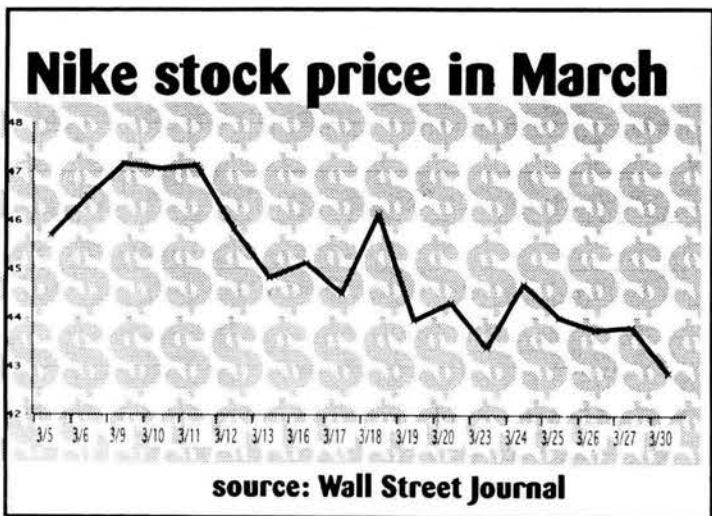
The marketing students have a concession stand at the College World Series, sell Otis Spunkmeyer cookies on the third floor, they do the sports media guides, help with the recruitment, bell ringing and other projects for the school, she said.

Marketing also has a club for students

The DECA competitions also have mock situations where a company is having a problem and the students have to give a recommendation for the problem, Wiles said.

"Central has done very well at the competitions," Wiles said. "This year we

have 15 students going to Nationals in Denver, Colorado."



Marketing also has a club for students

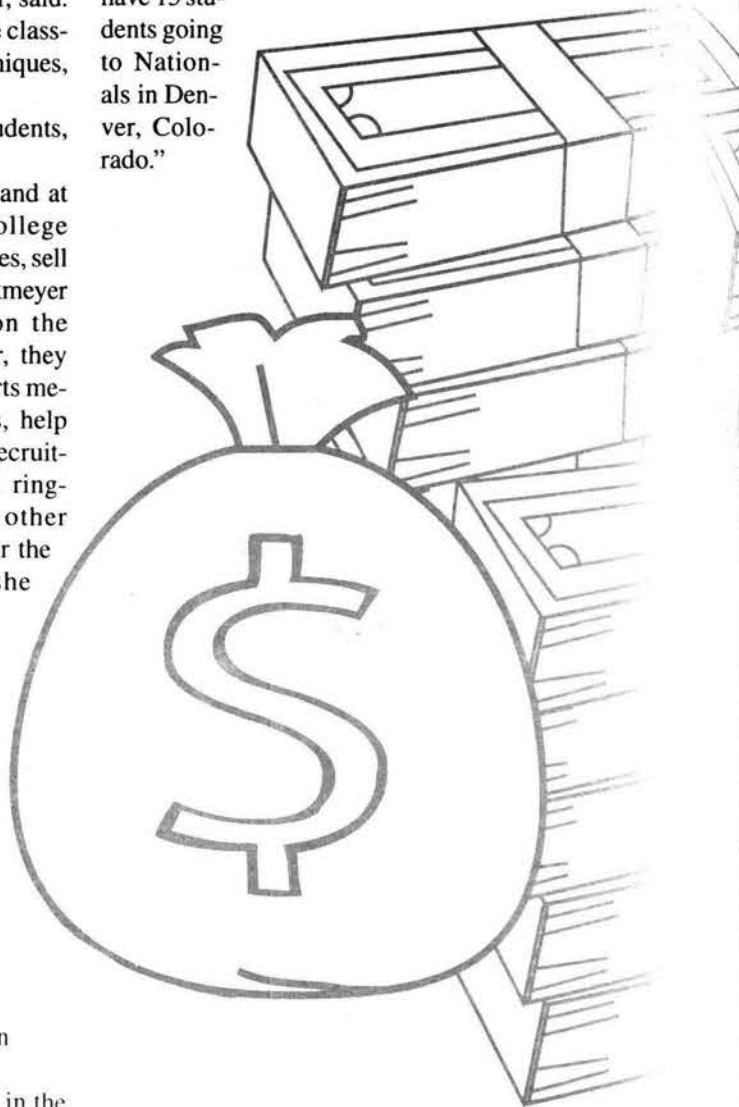
Marketing also has a club for students

in marketing, DECA. DECA has four parts Wiles said, social, civic, professional and leadership. DECA competes at competitions at the local, state and national level, Wiles said.

For the competitions, each of the students take a written test.

They also have role play and problem solving situations that they are given based on their score in the written test, Wiles said.

The competitions are judged by professionals in the marketing field, she said.



Changing face of money includes new design,

By Alli Pagan

During the twentieth century, the face of United States money has changed greatly, a representative of the Federal Reserve Bank said.

Ms. Marci Smith, the Public Affairs coordinator of the Federal Reserve Bank, said that the design of money changes more often than one might think, as money is taken out of print, like the \$10,000 bills printed early in the century, or simply redesigned.

Smith said that the main reason for redesigning the currency is to introduce new security features to prevent people from trying to copy it. The Reserve also reissues bills to meet the demand for them.

Several years ago, there was a sudden demand for \$2 bills, which she said are fairly uncommon, and so the government reissued a large number of them.

Just last year, all of the U.S. bills underwent a new design that includes some new safety features, she said.

The first reissued bills were the \$100 bills, and a few months ago, \$50 bills were reissued, she said. The plan is

to have redesigned, reissued bills for all denominations of money in the next few years, she said.

"The new \$100s are similar to the 1990 series with the security thread and the micro printing around the portrait," Smith said, but new technology allowed the government to add even more features.

For instance, one might notice that the picture of Ben Franklin is much larger, and there is a watermark of the same portrait imbedded on the right side of the bill, she said. Also, she said, there is color-changing ink which appears green head-on, but when the bill is tinted, the words appear to be black.

"This is specifically put on because it is impossible to reproduce it with just a laser printer," she said.

The new \$50 bills include all of these safety features, plus the return of a popular feature from the 1950s—the

"low-vision feature," which is essentially the number 50 in a much larger size on the bills.

"The big number allows those with low vision to sort through their money and makes the bills clearer," she said.

Eventually, Smith said, all of these features will be present on every bill in the country.

One student said that she is not happy with all of these changes, though.

Lynn Anderson, senior, works at Sears as a cashier and has many opportunities to handle these large bills.

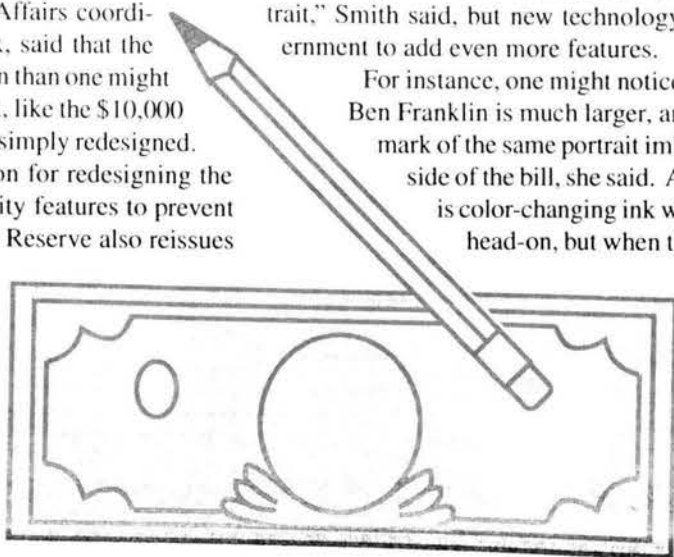
"I think the new bills look fake sometimes, because they're so new and crisp," Lynn said.

She said that she does like the watermark feature, though, because it is easier to recognize the bills as you hold them up to the light.

Besides these new features on paper money, Smith said that Congress just passed a bill to create commemorative quarters for each of the 50 states as well as reissue a new \$1 coin.

The commemorative quarters, she said, will feature pictures representing each state, such as a buffalo for Nebraska. The new \$1 coins will appear gold in color, she said, and will have a different style edge so as not to be confused with quarters.

Earlier this century, two other issues of \$1 coins were





rich man...



Students labor for love of money

By Morgan Denny

Do you look forward to getting that next paycheck in the mail? If so, then you're like so many other Central students who hold jobs in order to obtain cash.

Nate Kovarik, senior, said that he worked for a temporary job service during the past summer.

He said that he ended up working at a test tube brush factory for two months, making \$6.50 an hour.

Nate said that he worked eight hours a day during the week and made over 60,000 brushes over the summer.

"It was a good experience in the fact that it made me realize how important getting an education is,"

Nate said, "so I don't have a job like this later."

Audrey Kosmicki, sophomore, said that she works two jobs.

She said that on Mon., Wed., Thurs. and Sat. she works at Camp Munroe, a day camp for disabled children.

Audrey said that she volunteered at Camp Munroe for five years before turning 16 years old and becoming a staff member.

She said that her job at Camp Munroe is to feed the kids and to help them to participate in the various activities, such as cooking, art and swimming.

"It's great to earn money doing what I love," Audrey said.

On Tues., Fri. and Sat., she said that she works at Bauno's Hair Studio as a receptionist.

Audrey said that being a receptionist is a fun job because all the people are nice.

"It's good experience because I've

learned a lot about dealing with different types of people," Audrey said.

She said that having two jobs has helped her to become more responsible and balance her school activities and priorities.

Sam Kruger, senior, said that he works after school as a tutor at Central for students needing assistance with math or science courses.

He said that tutoring is also offered before school.

Sam said that he is paid \$7 an hour for tutoring, which is funded by a grant from Applied Information Management (AIM).

"People who take the initiative to get help usually get something out of it," Sam said.

He also said that since he has taken the classes that students need help with recently, it is easier for him to see where the students are coming from.

Sam said that there are four students participating in this program as tutors.

However, not every student has the time to work a steady job.

"I baby-sit because I don't want to have the kind of commitment you need for a real job," Dana Hendee, junior, said. "School is my job."

She said that one night while she was baby-sitting, one of the children, a two year-old, began to sleepwalk down the hallway.

"It was really freaky because it was 11:30 at night and there had just been a prank call," Dana said.

She said that the key to baby-sitting is not to do anything bad, like inviting friends over, because the kids will tell their parents and they'll never call back.

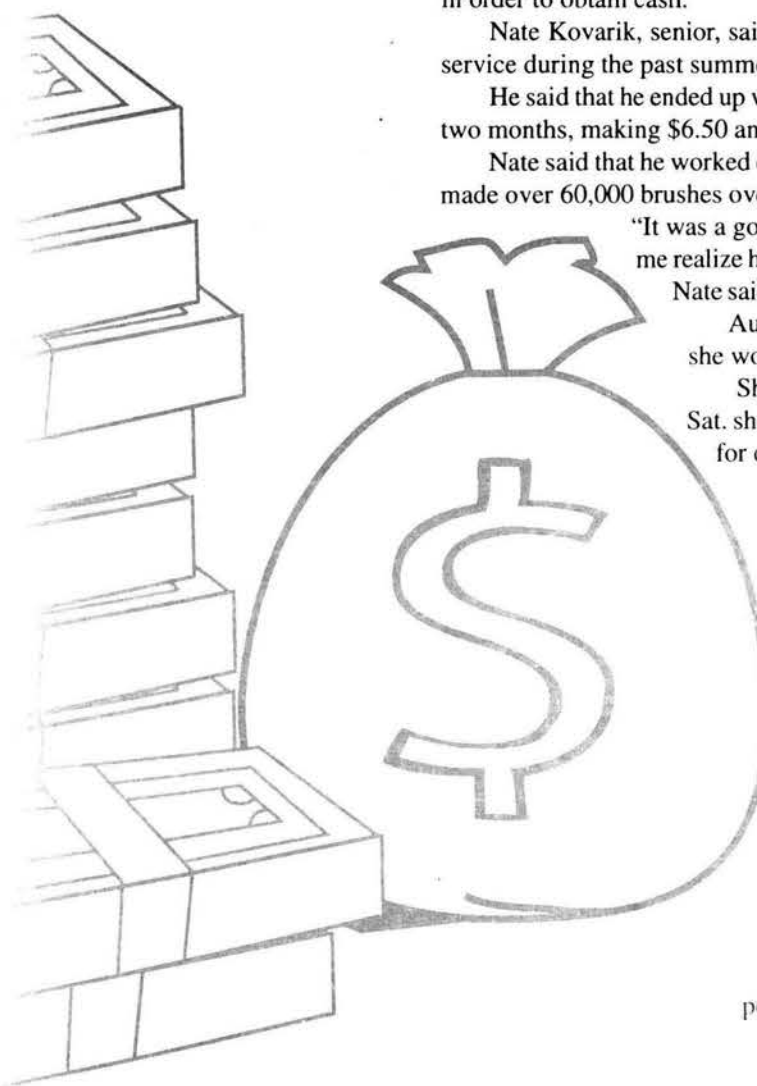
Cara Steffensmeier, junior, said that she works at the gift shop at the Henry Doorly Zoo as a cashier.

"It's fun during the summer because we're all one big family," she said.

She said that she likes her job because it works with her schedule.

"They let me work whenever I can," Cara said.

Cara said that although she only receives minimum wage, she does get free admission to the zoo.



Students' money seems to fly away

By Stephanie Holm

Money makes the world go round.

This famous maxim certainly speaks true for various students receiving a paycheck.

"Everyone likes to spend money," senior Todd Jacobsen said, "the hard part comes when one needs to save."

Working at Bradford, Coenen, & Welsh, a local law firm, Todd said that, though he receives a paycheck monthly, once it is in his hands, it becomes a shopping spree.

"I try to save my money for my next year at college," he said, "but this month my money is going toward spending money for a spring break in Florida."

However, Todd is not alone in his spending extravaganzas. Senior Aaron Freed said that, once his paycheck comes, he spends the entire check in one week, going shopping and eating out.

"At our age, you don't control your money," he said, "your money controls you."

Aaron said that holding onto money is hard to do, especially when new products come on the market everyday.

"Every so often I contribute to my favorite charity, 'Freed's Debt Fund,'" Aaron said. "Money is like an addictive drug, once you have it, you want more and more."

Junior Jamison Richart agrees with Aaron's views, he said. Working at Sydney's Restaurant, Jamison said that, although he receives his pay check every two weeks, he usually uses his cash to buy fun items, such as movies or CDs.

"Right now I have to spend most of my money on prom," he said, "which gets to be quite expensive."

Jamison said that he would like to be spending his money on vacations to other countries.

"Usually I try to save my money," Jamison said.

"I always think that I am saving for something big."

Todd said that he thinks saving money is a major key in getting where you want to be in life.

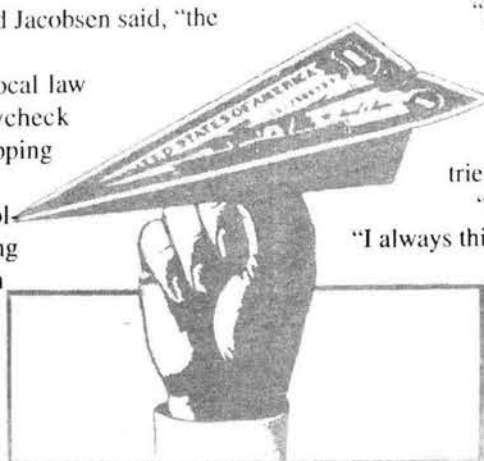
"Saving and budgeting your money is a challenge," he said, "but you have to keep your goals in sight."

"So, next time you make your rounds at the local mall, keep that college tuition in

mind," Todd said, "It doesn't pay itself."

Cara Miller, junior, said that since she doesn't have a job and therefore a regular paycheck, she has to be "thrifty."

She said that she mainly spends money on clothing items that are on sale because "everything else is only marked down about 25 cents."



features
Anthony dollar and the Eisenhower
Susan B. Anthony dollars are still
because they were never really popu-
serve hopes to design a unique coin
to use. This will require coopera-
store owners, however, that will have
for the new \$1 coins, she said.
she said, that the government wants
opposed to the bills is because while
ably a year and a half, she said, coins
save a lot of money in making the
ological breakthrough that Smith said
is the ability to add polymers, or a type
money in order to increase the life span
the Australian government has begun
and the U.S. government may soon
polymers in bills.
benefits are that the bills don't crinkle,
and tear as easily, she said.



Entertainment

Distasteful alternatives for a night of elegance



By Kate Alseth

So, once again that wonderful thing called Prom has come. Many of you may agree with me that it's pretty much a big waste of money, but it doesn't have to be.

There are many less expensive alternatives that'll make the whole Prom experience complete.

Let's start with clothing. Guys, if you don't want to spend the money to rent a tuxedo, don't. Many people go to prom in suits that they borrowed from their fathers', which is most definitely easy on the cash flow.

Another option, if you are a really "hip" guy, is to consider shopping around at used clothing stores for really cool vintage clothes. Jumpsuits, leisure suits or just random dress clothes are always prom crowd pleasers. Some stores you might want to check out are Weird and Wild Stuff Retro, and Cool Stuff.

Girls, you too can save money on your prom night attire. One idea is to wear an old dress. I know most of us have at least three or four dresses sitting in our closets from past homecomings and proms. Dresses that we will never

wear again. Revive one of those lost dresses.

Another idea is to check out your friends dress collection. Wear one of their blasts from the past.

Just like guys, you "hip" chicks can check out the same vintage clothing stores for wacky finds like 70s disco cloths or 80s punk dresses.

If you don't have the money to buy your date a corsage, oh well. It isn't like the night is going to be ruined without a huge flower placed upon your wrist or your chest.

If you think about it, corsages are pretty pointless.

But, if you really feel the need to get your date flowers and can't afford it, do something creative. Go pick a flower from your garden, tie some string on the end and stick the thing to her wrist. Whatever you've gotta do.

Now for dinner. Many people feel that on Prom night they are entitled to a special dinner, which is great if you have the money and want to spend your money on food.

But, it really isn't necessary. There are many alternatives to spending \$100 on dinner. One idea is to get a group together at somebody's house, order a pizza, and pre-prom together.

Another suggestion is going to an extremely inexpensive restaurant all dressed up. It most likely will get a good shock value, for

you 'hip' people who love that.

Or for those of you out there who are tired of cheap skates, don't buy your date dinner at all, tell her to eat before you come to get her, she'll love that.

What about post prom? If you're not going to Central's post-prom, rent some movies or if the weather is good, go get a camp site and spend an evening under the stars.

Brain-storm. Think of all the places you went on Friday and Saturday nights when your paycheck fell short. Maybe a casual stroll through the Old Market and Heartland of America park is all you need for a good post-prom.

If you are too cheap to make the prom despite girlfriend/boyfriend's begging, get out the D batteries and take your boombox out for a night of dancing on the town. Bring a picnic dinner and just have fun. Who cares if you have to wait until Sunday to find out who the prom royalty was?

So there you have it. A few ideas for those penny pinchers out there who are trying to find the absolute cheapest way to attend prom. It could be a night to remember, so don't do anything you'll regret.

Maybe if you are really good (pathetic) you could steal your prom tickets and make the entire evening expense free. Have fun and drive safely?

"Wild Things" leaves viewers perplexed

By Kate Alseth & Alexa Christon

Wild may not be the right word for the new movie "Wild Things", completely twisted would be more on target.

The movie, from the preview, seemed like it was going to be a cross between "Clueless" and "Scream", but it seemed a little closer to "Debbie Does Dallas" and "I Know What You Did Last Summer."

The plot was just twisted. The basic story line: a teacher, Matt Dillon, is accused of raping one of his students, which happens to be the daughter of one of the most powerful and wealthy families in Blue Bay, FA. Then enters the girl from the wrong side of the tracks telling her story of how the same teacher raped her a year earlier, surprise, surprise this was played by none other then the queen of teenage horror, Neve Campbell. Next a county police officer, Kevin Bacon, gets involved to crack the mystery behind the girls stories.

After that, the whole movie gets twisted and it gets more and more twisted as the story unravels till it just becomes ridiculous.

The movie goes back and forth from a soft core porn flick to a wacky horror movie. There also is a strong "Beverly Hills 90210" element hidden somewhere in there.

You never could really figure out if the movie was meant to be a comedy or if it was just a lot of bad acting. If it was meant to be taken seriously we feel very bad for Neve Campbell, Matt Dillon and Kevin Bacon's career.

The movie could have actually been good, if it would have been done differently. The story line was a good idea and the casting was impressive, somebody just seemed to be trying too hard. Obviously this shows that Kevin Bacon should stick to acting and leave the directing to someone else.

Would we recommend you spending your time and money on it? Well, it's definitely not a good experience, and who knows you may like it.

Go see it for yourself if you have the same odd interest in in that we did. It is somewhat entertaining. But, if you are strongly apposed to seeing it, don't let anyone force you to the theater, it isn't worth it.

Donkey basketball game entertains middle school

By Andy Hickman

"It's good to see my old Lewis and Clark teachers humiliated like this," Central freshman and former Lewis and Clark student said.

On Mar 28, Lewis and Clark held a boys against girls faculty donkey basketball game, Blazer Club head Nancy Bierman said.

"I didn't believe it when I heard it. I so funny to see these donkeys dragging my teachers around," Lewis and Clark eighth grader Chelsea Dickens said.

The rules were simple, Doug Showell, Lewis and Clark Science teacher and donkey basketball participant said, a person had to be on the donkey to score and to pass.

If you were running down the court, though, you could drag the donkey.

"This is the only year that they are going to be doing this so I really didn't want to miss it," Chelsea said.

The donkeys were made available to the school through a farm in Chipawa Falls, Wisconsin. It's a family business that has been going on for forty years but is shutting down this year, Bierman said.

"The main reason for doing this is for a fund raiser. I must say that this is by far the most entertaining fund raiser yet, I've never seen so many laughs," Bierman said.

There's only one other time that Lewis and Clark held a donkey basketball game and that was about five years ago, Bierman said.

"The kids really got into this, especially with the kiss the donkey part." Science teacher and donkey basketball participant Doug Showell said.

For the past two weeks students were able to pay a dollar to vote on who, at half time, had to kiss the donkey, Showell said.

"Riding the donkeys is a tough thing. They really don't care where you want to go and they really don't much care for you sitting on them. Half of the game is battling the donkeys rather than the opposing team," Showell said.

Not only were Lewis and Clark students attending but former and prospecting Lewis and Clark students were there.

"I'm here with my younger sister who's going to go to Lewis and Clark next year and I'm here just to see my old teachers fall off donkeys," Travis said.



Get a look at that! Donkeys huddle together before the big Lewis and Clark game.

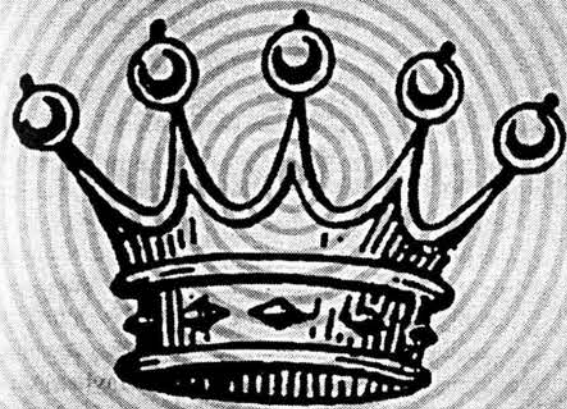
ANDY HICKMAN

CD REVIEWS

Fans of Cake have their music and eat it, too

Courtesy of Capricorn Records

CAKE



Fashion Nugget

By Shaun Kiel

It's refreshing to find a group of musicians that haven't been poured from the industry mold, and Cake is just that group of musicians.

Practically screaming their uniqueness with the style they introduced with their first album, "Motorcade of Generosity," Cake's second record, "Fashion Nugget," is chock-full of great music and even greater lyrics.

One song worthy of special notice on the album is the cover Cake does of Gloria Gainer's "I Will Survive."

Without trying to imitate the original song, which went screaming across the big screens in the movie "Priscilla, Queen of the Desert," Cake performs the song like it was their own brainchild.

Another song to catch is "Going the Distance," the first single to be released from the album. The song had a small amount of radio play, then ran off into a little corner somewhere and never came back. It's worth the listen. "Going the Distance" is probably Cake's closest link to their original album which gave birth to songs like "Rock'n Roll Lifestyle" and "Mr. Mastodon Farm".

The mood of the new album is ever changing,

going from the melancholy "Frank Sinatra" to the upbeat energetic "Going the Distance," and back.

Part of the success Cake has in pulling off such a different brand of music is their brass section. You may find a brass section in a few ska bands today, but the way that Cake puts the brass in the music, and the dimension that the instruments add, sets the band far away from ska.

The brass section is not found in every song, but in most they play at least a bit part. The trumpet solo amidst a slow, single-guitar song like "Friend is a Four Letter Word," is a good example.

Cake's brass section reflects the uniqueness found in the vocal style of Cake's lead singer, who rarely does what could actually be classified as singing. Instead, His half-spoken half-sung lyrics rely more on rhythm and content than on the musical notes that they loosely resemble.

But, nevertheless, his style adds a definite flavor to the music, and always manages to fit perfectly with the instrumentation.

Cake provides a pleasant break from the media-borne musical figureheads that the unwitting public worships today. The band's sound is original, and "Fashion Nugget" is a great buy.

Sixteen Deluxe rips off talented predecessors

Rebecca Starr

Austin has been called a city with too many bands not enough good ones, and Sixteen Deluxe isn't any. It isn't that the music is bad, I just liked it better when they were called Sonic Youth.

"Emits Showers of Sparks," Sixteen Deluxe's label debut with Warner Brothers, was a joint effort between the band and local Austin legend, John Clark.

Recorded in San Francisco, the album sort of takes a choppy recording sound imitating the effect of a recording on cheaper equipment than it actually is.

Being self-proclaimed indie rockers, they managed to pull off both the "indie" and the "rock" out of indie rock, leaving their style better described as "er."

The sound is a little like a Weezer/Breeders cross maybe just a little of something harder mixed in with Sonic Youth. Don't get me wrong, the sound isn't that just like everybody else's though.

Traditionally, I don't like female vocalists, not like Phair, but like Gwen Stefani and I definitely don't appreciate the musical stylings of Carrie Clark. The lyrics are comparable to an eight year-old wandering around singing songs over and over again to them-

selves.

Not to call them lyrically challenged, but the bad poetry that we all wrote during that awkward pubescent phase might best be left in a collective shoe box in the backs of our closet.

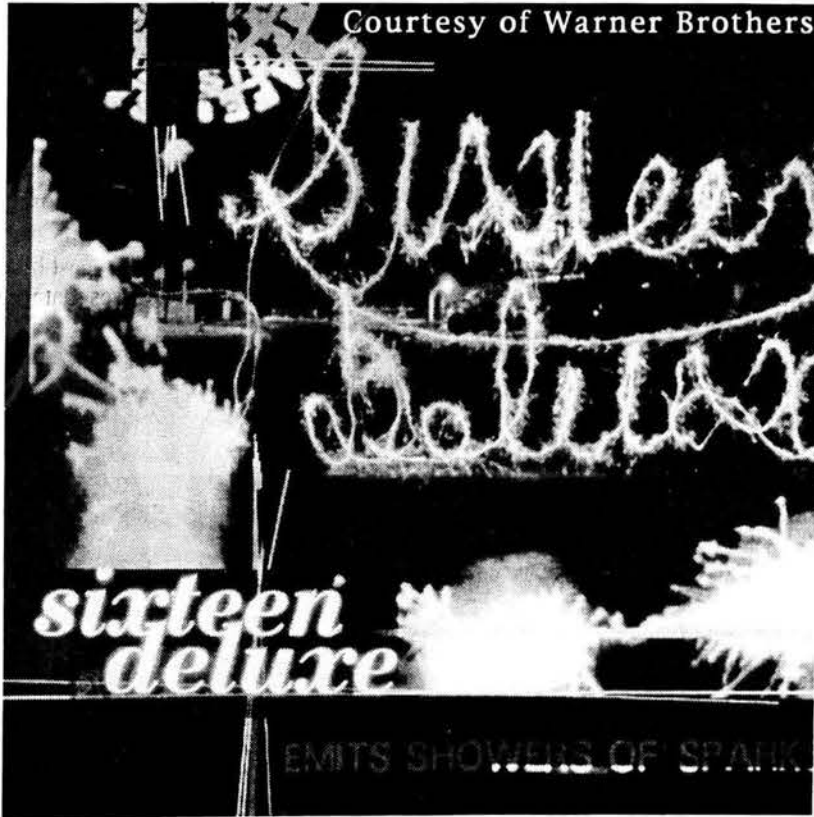
Musically, they weren't bad, but like I said, they are just like everybody else. For the same effect, you can put the aforementioned bands into a multi-disc changer and hit random and you'd pretty much get the same sound.

Not to be totally negative, there was one track called "Honey," that might be worth throwing onto a mix from time to time. One of the things that makes this track better is that there is very little vocals, and none by Clark.

This CD was sort of an accidental buy where my mind drew a blank of all the CD's that I wanted once I actually got in the store. Never actually hearing Sixteen Deluxe, and only reading a very praiseful review by a magazine that is like my Bible, I gave them a shot.

Unfortunately, I was disappointed and now realize that the Pixies would have been a better purchase. To prevent others from making the same mistake I have, avoid Sixteen Deluxe.

Courtesy of Warner Brothers



Ben Folds unfolds another successful album

By Shaun Kiel

"I've got this great idea. Why don't we pitch it to the Franklin Mint, fine pewter portraits of general apathy and major boredom singing... Whatever and ever amen?"

This is the line that the title for the fairly recent Ben Folds Five album "Whatever and Ever Amen" was taken from, and that single quote says everything that needs to be said about the band.

"Whatever and Ever Amen" is an album that begins by presenting the picture of the first album- a happy listener dancing along to the music. Starting up with the quick-tempoed "One Angry Dwarf and 200 Solemn Faces," the album is one tailor-made to dance to, just like their self-titled first album which included songs like "Uncle Walter" and "Philosophy".

Or, at least that's what the listener feels for the first two songs. Right up until they spring the slow songs on you. "Brick," an excellent song that has unfortunately received one too many minutes of radio play, is the first of these songs to be seen. It stops the dancing dead in its tracks. But somehow the album manages to maintain a consistent mood.

This mood is due at least in part to lead singer Ben Folds, who brings a "who could care less" nonchalance

to the music, and sticks it between the gears of a well-oiled machine. In making it seem so easy, though, one might overlook the melancholy lilt through the entire album. There is definitely a contrast that his voice brings to a lot of the music, making it seem more alive.

For this, their second album, Ben Folds Five took a fairly large step from their first album. Their first album dealt very little with personal emotions felt by Ben Folds, whereas the second made leaps and bounds into the field of relationships with songs like "Brick", "Song for the Dumped" and "Selfless, Cold and Composed." The list goes on and on.

Individually, each song leaves the listener satisfied that he has just heard a perfectly composed, separate and complete work, and that is something rare to find in contemporary music. This album leaves no eerie feeling that you may have heard those words or that chord progression just a couple songs ago.

"Battle of Who Could Care Less," is one of the best songs on the album, combining the melancholy of songs like "Brick" and more upbeat ones like "One Angry Dwarf..."

All in all, Ben Folds Five is one of the best new bands I've heard, and this album is worth the money.



Douglas County race riot depicted in local playwright's newest work

By Andy Hickman
 The 1919 Douglas County Courthouse tragedy is now being depicted as a drama called "Minstrel Story".
 Playwright and author of "Minstrel Story", Max Sparber says he has transformed a horrible event in Omaha's history into a piece of historical fiction.
 "It's a story that's inherently dramatic. I can't figure out why nobody's written a play about it yet," Sparber said.
 The story is about an African-

American man named William Brown. In 1919 he allegedly assaulted a white woman named Agnus Lobeck.
 Apparently he jumped out of some bushes and beat her and her boyfriend, Sparber said.
 A small mob tried to intercept William on his way to the jail but their efforts were extinguished, Sparber said.
 The Sunday following William's arrest, the *OmahaWorld Herald* published the location where he was held.

Later that evening, a group of 20,000 people from the entire area stormed the courthouse, Sparber said.
 The mob got their hands on William, shot him several times, hung him, drug him on the end of a car and tied him to a railroad track, Sparber said. Then, he said that they burned his body.
 There are only two characters in the play, two minstrels who were jailed in the court house with William.
 Actor David Lewis, one of the

minstrels, said that the characters are nameless because they are supposed to represent all the old American minstrels.
 "The script was one of the most incredible pieces I'd ever read. I had no idea of the magnitude of the event," David said.
 The main focus is not only the William Brown story but it also gives a lot of history of the minstrels.
 A lot of the play contains music, dancing and other variety that the minstrels performed.

Sparber said that the play lasts about an hour and fifteen minutes but the effect of the tale is do very well.
 The minstrels each give a dramatic account of what they see happen.
 "It's a horrible event Omaha's history that, surprising no one really knows about Sparber said.
 The play is through the Blum Theater and is being held at the Douglas County Court House itself.


New show on WB proves to be too sexual for audience


By Shaun Kiel
 Remember "Beverly Hills 90210"? Well, enter Dawson's Creek, the 90210 of the next generation...only, it is not quite as good.
 "Dawson's Creek," which airs Tuesdays on KXVO, the Warner Brother's Network, is a dissappointing example of mass media and pop culture.
 The main character in the show is Dawson, a strapping young blonde who plays a sexually frustrated teenager stuck in the middle of a love triangle.
 Playing opposite him is Pasey, who played Michael in the *Mighty Ducks* movies. There are also two major female


characters, Joey and Jennifer.
 All of these characters are involved in a intricately designed psychodrama that reminds the viewer of the good old days of 90210.
 Except for one major difference. "Dawson's Creek" seems to revolve solely around sex. No more cash problems, religious tolerance or gambling addictions, like 90210, just sex.
 Sure, sex can be a powerful force to draw an audience in, but there doesn't seem to be any other driving force.
 Whether it be sexual relations with a teacher, or a fight with a friend over losing his virginity, the show is very single-

minded.
 Much of the originality contained within this type of show was lost forever after the FOX Network slammed "Beverly Hills 90210" and all of the shows just like it down the consumer's throat. People got fed up, and many stopped watching. "Beverly Hills 90210" is still around, though, plays on KXVO on Thursday night, and is in syndication on Cox channel 27.
 The fate of 90210 seems to suggest the eventual fate of "Dawson's Creek."
 It appeals to just enough people to stick around, but will fade back a bit within a year or two.

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'NUFF SAID

By Stephanie Holm

Heroes aren't so heroic

Masked and unknown...saving innocent bystanders...riding the world of evil. Who does this remind you of? That's right...our heroes. Or are they?

Doesn't it seem that recently heroes of late are being replaced by heroes, uhm...not-so-great? Hmm...we've gone from Superman to Power Rangers. What's wrong with this picture?

Superman...okay, here's a guy who flies through the air, in a cape and tights no less, to save the universe from the forces of evil. So it's a little far-fetched. But, hey...at least he is actually a human being...so what if he has super-human powers?

What I can't get over is how we went from Superman to five teens in multicolor spandex saying, "Power up." And what is this transformation thing? Okay...I want my hero to become a robotic dinosaur that's bigger than King Kong. Sounds like a role model to me.

Even the days of Batman were all right. I could handle the Joker over the Power Ranger's villain (what IS her name anyway?) any day.

Maybe because Batman was at least somewhat decent looking. Have you no-

ticed this...the Power Rangers are all pimple-faced teenagers...nothing compared to Bruce Wayne. Besides, I'd take Batman any day, just for a ride in the Batmobile.

But, what is it that makes the Power Rangers popular? It can't be the way they fight...what wouldn't be defeated by a 50 foot tall dino-monster? And what's up with the way that they talk? Let's see...we have masks over our faces so, hey, let's show the audience who's talking by moving our hands around in pathetic karate attempts.

Point is...our heroes have really gone downhill. Not only are the Power Rangers becoming more popular, but all of a sudden new super heroes have emerged. What about the VR Troopers? Who are these people? We are...VR...VR Troopers? Virtual Reality Troopers, okay, sounds like fun to me. Anyone who needs to announce who they are in their theme song doesn't really trip my trigger, sorry.

For now, I think I'll stick to real people...despite what Space Ghost, Aquaman or Spiderman have to offer. 'Nuff Said.

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By Carl

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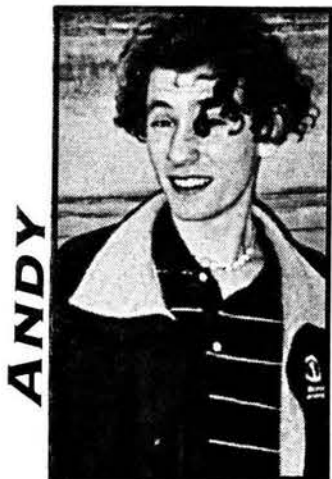
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ANDY



KATE



BECCA



SHAUN

The Coen brothers are at it again with what may be considered the most obscure of all. "The Big Lebowski" hit theaters with a strike as the pet project of Academy Award nominated creators.

The story begins with the introduction of the two Mr. Lebowskis. One is an extremely powerful handicapped man that is married to a young little tramp named Bunny. Lebowski number two, also known as "The Dude", Jeff Bridges, is the definition of a complete loser: no job, no wife and two loser friends that he joins at the bowling alley on league nights.

His two friends are played by John Goodman, who portrays a psychotic Vietnam War veteran, and the ever-psychotic Steve Buscemi, who can be scene in "Fargo" and "The Wedding Singer."

The plots gets really complicated, at least far too complicated to explain in a paragraph. There is the Dude, the Big Lebowski, the Dude's friends, Bunny, a German motorcycle gang, and Mod, the Big Lebowski's daughter, played by Julianne Moore, competing for a whole bunch of money that only theoretically exists. It is basically one giant chase sequence involving one very important Oriental rug.

General Opinion-

Kate-I think I liked it, I remember laughing.

Shaun-Good, but not as good as I was promised.

Andy- Hilarious.

Becca-It was a good movie with moments of hilarity.

Less General Opinion-

Kate-Honestly, it didn't leave a very lasting effect on me. I can't really even remember seeing it all that well, and it

was only a day or two ago I went to the movie.

Becca- It was impressive. The randomness of it all was just sort of out there. Sometimes the movie tries too hard to make you laugh and you sort of get the reverse effect.

Shaun-I hate going into a movie that has gotten so much good press. You can never live up to the dreamy image that the media presents when they like a movie. Case and point, "Titanic." But this was better than "Titanic."

Andy-It made me laugh, and thats what I went to the movie looking for. I was very satisfied.

Casting-

Becca- The Coen brothers always have this way of casting the people that you'd least expect. It would never have occurred to me that Julianne Moore would make a good art-deco chic.

Shaun-No gripes with the casting. In fact, I rather enjoyed seeing Jeff Bridges in his part.

Andy-Jeff Bridges was great. He is certainly the most unexpected for the movie but also the best.

Kate-I thought Jeff Bridges was the perfect Dude. He was fantastic at playing a clueless bum. John Goodman has always had the talent to perfectly act out the typical beer drinking nut, and this movie was no different.

Plot-

Andy-I enjoyed the randomness of the plot.

Kate- The plot seemed to drag a bit. It was as if they came up with a really good idea, were only able to fill 30

minutes of film with it, so went back to shot more till the movie lasted two hours.

Becca- I would not say that it was the plot that made the movie interesting, but instead all of the little sub-plots like the bowling tournament with Jesus the sick-o and the problems with the Jewish day of rest sort of added to the eclectic feel of the movie.

Shaun-A plot in a comedy...wait, no... yes! oh yeah. That's the way it is supposed to be. I have to thank the creators on that point, because I'm sick of movies like "Jingle and the Way" that leave you upset and questioning whether or not there was a plot.

Soundtrack-

All- hmm... I think there was music in it, maybe not though.

Closing Thoughts-

Kate- I say go see it. I know I don't remember it very well, but I think I was enjoying myself while watching it. Just maybe take notes, so you will remember it the next day.

Becca- I liked it, for what it was worth. No earth shattering revelations will be made about yourself, nor will you leave with a new perspective on life, it just sort of was. As what it was was pretty darn good.

Andy-You can't set your hopes up to see a monumental film, but if your looking for laughs this movie should be your first place you look..

Shaun- See it. You'll enjoy it. It's a fun break, whether or not it was overrated.

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All players show improvement, coach says

my Yin
The men's volleyball team has performed well so far this year losing some close games to really good teams, the head coach

Head Men's Volleyball Coach Brad Reichmuth said that the team has performed well due to the fact that the volleyball

team has not been able to practice because of the weather.

"Due to the spring sports teams practicing inside because of the weather conditions outside, we have not practiced for several weeks, which is hurting us," Coach Reichmuth said.

So far this season the Eagles have a

record of 4-5.

Coach Reichmuth said that there are many players who have improved since the beginning of the season.

"All the players have improved since the beginning of the season, but sophomores Jamaine Billups, James Roark and junior Andrew Thompson have probably improved the most," Coach Reichmuth said. "Chris Anderson has also developed into a good leader."

Another problem the Eagles have faced is the loss of their experienced setter.

"Without a setter we are going to struggle with anyone we play," Coach Reichmuth said.

On Feb. 28, the Eagles lost to No. 1 Millard, the combined team of Millard South, Millard North and Millard West.

The score of the game was 15-12, 4-15, 15-17.

"We were the first team to beat them in a game to 15," Coach Reichmuth said.

On Mar. 23, the Eagles lost against South in three sets.

As of right now the Eagles only have seven players left on the team from the beginning of the season.

Four of those players are juniors.

"The biggest bump we have faced this year are the five starters that we have lost since the pre-season tourney at the beginning of the year," Coach Reichmuth said. "We just have to accept the fact that we are going to take a few blows at the beginning of the season and hope at the end of the season we will be suprising people."

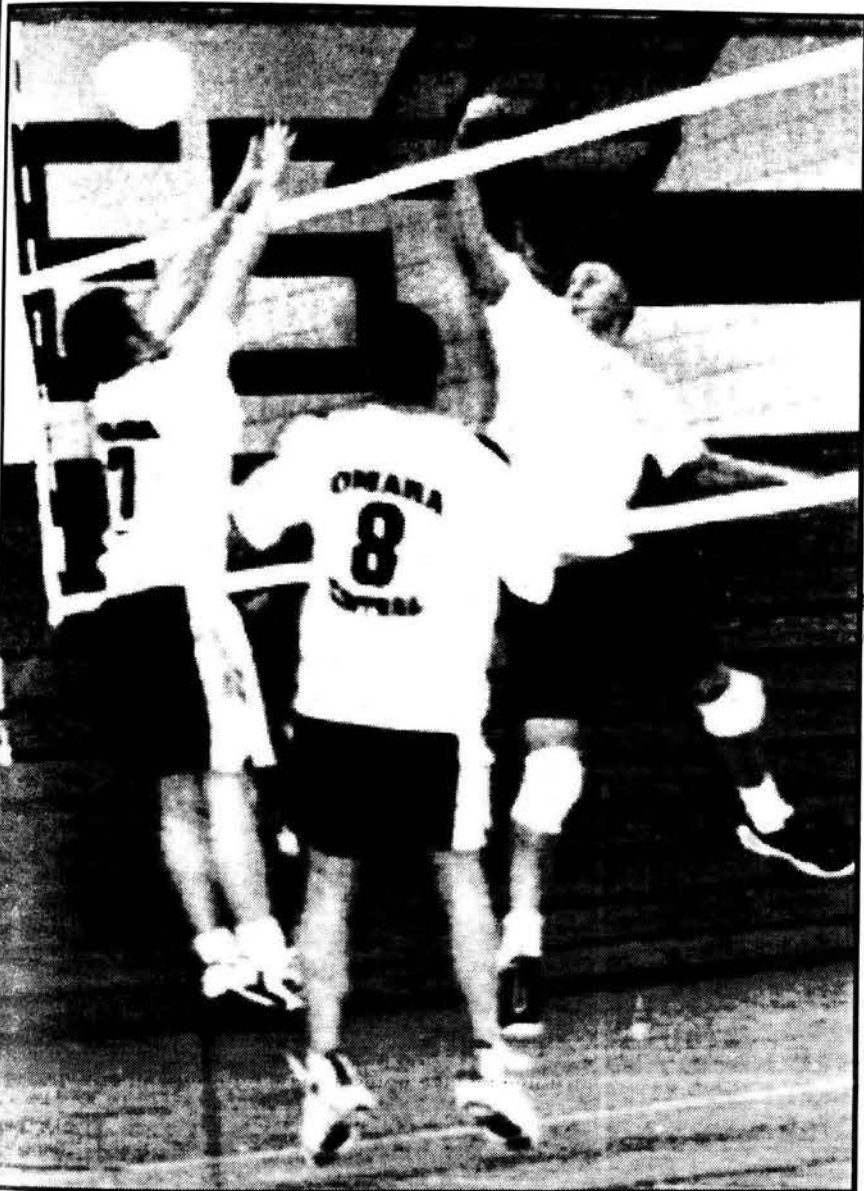
Reichmuth said that as for the State title the heavy favorite to win would be the Millard team.

The Lincoln team will also be one of the teams competing for the state title.

On Mar. 30, the Eagles lost to Lincoln in two sets and then later on won in two sets against Lewis Central.

The men's volleyball team consists of senior Chad Powell, juniors Chris Anderson, Brian Connor, Ben Rinaker, Andrew Thompson, sophomores Jamaine Billups and James Roark.

The Eagles next game is on Apr. 8 against Lincoln.



Alexa Christon

Up, up and away...Junior Brian Connor (left) and sophomore James Roark attempt to make a block against the No. 1 Millard Team. The Eagles have lost five starters since the beginning of the season.

SPRING SCHEDULE

Girls' Soccer

4/7- Burke(A) 4:30

4/9- Bellevue West(H) 4:30

Boys' Soccer

4/9- South(A) 4:30

4/16-18- Papio/Lavista Invite

Baseball

4/8- Gross(A) 7:00

4/13- Elkhorn(A) 7:00

Track

4/9- Millard South Invite

4/18- Central Invite

Tennis

4/7- North(A) 3:30

4/8- Benson(A) 3:30

4/18- Ralston Invite

Golf

4/9- Benson(A)

4/13- Central Invite

4/14- Millard South(H)

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TWO-MINUTE DRILL

By Derek Tritsch



'98 Final Four a wave of the future--hopefully

The college basketball season is finally over with one team left standing, as always. And let me further emphasize the word "team" as this year's Kentucky squad was extremely deserving of that label.

When college basketball fans look back on this Kentucky team, they will not remember one player, such as Indiana's Isiah Thomas or Kansas' Danny Manning in years past. In fact, even the most ardent of fans will be hard-pressed to name three players on this Kentucky team say, fifteen years down the road.

Boring year?

Not by a long shot. This year's NCAA tournament was commonly agreed upon as being the best ever, by almost everyone.

How come?

This year's tourney had real teams, in the true sense of the word, advancing. Lesser known programs such as Utah and Stanford were in the Final Four. Only one No. 1 seed made it to the Final Four and a team like

Rhode Island was one measly game away from it! For the love of God, Princeton was a No. 5 seed!

Granted, we all watched in excitement as Danny Manning put his Kansas team on his back and carried them all the way to the National Championship in '88, but I'd take this year's intrigue over that any day. And I'm not the only one who feels that way.

Maybe this year's trend is a wave of the future. What, with all these underclassmen turning pro early, the overall star power of the NCAA is being depleted. Nowadays, the seasoned, veteran scorer simply doesn't exist in college. If he is good enough, he's off to the NBA after his sophomore season.

Experts once thought, myself included, that the early exodus by many college underclassmen to the NBA would kill the college game. Without its stars, college basketball would be too boring, we said. Continuity

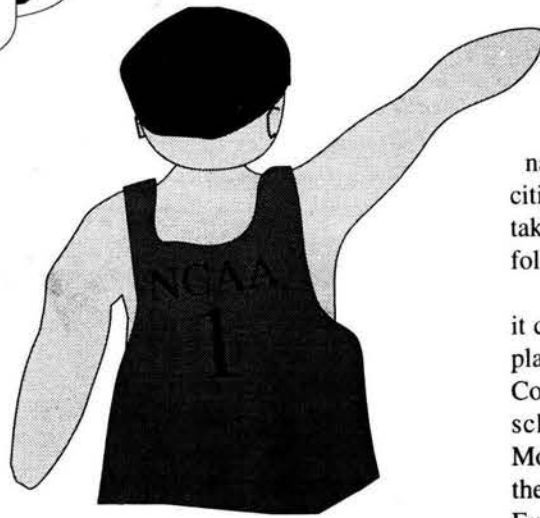
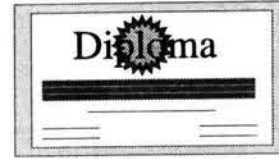
would be non-existent in college with so much yearly turnover, we said.

But after watching this year's tournament I'm not so sure.

Yeah, there were no future Michael Jordans in this tournament. There were no unguardable, 30 point scorers. There wasn't even a truly dominant center like Tim Duncan or Shaquille O'Neal. But none of this mattered.

Utah lost arguably the best player in their school's history, Keith Van Horn, and still managed to make it to the national championship game this year. In other words they made it farther without Van Horn than with

him. What does that tell you?



Teams lacking that superstar player realize that they are forced to revert back to old-time fundamentals and—let me delve into the annals of college basketball history for this

one—teamwork.

What was once thought of as beneficial toward the college game is now having an adverse effect. The college of the new millennium will feature not this phenomenon called teamwork and of that me, me, me playground ball of the 1990's. And the public is responding.

This year's Final Four should have proved that, as the Alamodome in San Antonio was jammed packed and CBS's ratings for the tournament were the highest since 1993. This was a championship game everyone watched and everyone talked about afterward.

People enjoy watching college game because these are the guys that aren't in it for the money. While, in the NBA, there are questions as to how much effort people can be certain that a single player in the college game is giving every ounce of effort he has in order to win.

Plus, the NCAA has their 64-team national tournament—perhaps the most exciting postseason competition in sports. It takes very drastic changes to get people to follow "the tournament."

America has enough basketball talent it can afford to have the very upper echelon players skip college and go straight to the NBA. Colleges will find the talent, in our own schools or overseas—remember Hassan Mottola. And if you've paid any attention to the international scene, you know that European and even African programs are growing by leaps and bounds.

There will always be players, there will always be an NCAA tournament, and, fully, there will always be the fans.

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Fast Facts:

Tai Burleson

Grade: 10th

Birthdate: June 4, 1982

Sports: Track, Basketball

Honors: Bronze medal in 1600m relay at State last year

Derek Tritsch

Get the most out of your high school experience.

This phrase reverberates in the heads of high school students throughout the nation, but only if it is taken seriously. There is, however, at least one student that seems to be taking it seriously.

Central sophomore Tai Burleson can certainly say that she is doing everything she can to get the most out of high school; simply look at her resume: two-year letterer in track and basketball, cheerleader, and member of Bel Canto, Principal Advisory, and Math Engineering Science Achievement (MESA). And to top it all off, she is near the top of her class with a 4.38 grade-point average.

How does she do it? It can be done, but only with great sacrifices and even greater organization, Tai said.

"Grades come first," Tai said. "And, as a result, I frequently have to give up my entire weekends just to get all my homework done."

With such a time emphasis on schoolwork, one might wonder how competitive Tai could be in her respective sports, but Tai's honors would seem to speak for themselves. Last year, she was a member of Central's 1600 meter relay team that placed third at State. Individually, she finished second in the 400m dash at Districts.

She was also a frequent entry into the Lady Eagle varsity basketball team's starting lineup and will be a full-time starter next season, she said.

This track season, Tai has set high goals for herself, she said.

"I want to place individually at State in either the 100, 200 or 400," Tai said, "and I think our 400m relay team should take first in State."

For someone used to such success, one might think that the recent futility suffered by her Lady Eagle basketball team would be a bitter pill to swallow, but Tai says that's not the case.

"I think that our sophomores will be better for it in the long run," Tai said. "But we

all learned a lot this year and I think that we'll have a much better team by our senior year."

While a good deal of her counterparts—in both basketball and track—seem to be relying on athletics for their future, Tai said she has her own ideas for success.

"I want to enroll in pre-medical school at a major university," Tai said. "Hopefully, if I keep my grades up, I'll earn a scholarship."

Although it is early in her high school career, she should be more successful running track than playing basketball in college, Tai said.

"I'm guessing I would probably have to walk-on in order to play basketball at a major college," Tai said. "But that's alright because I would rather run track and that's the sport that I have the best shot at getting a scholarship."

That may come as a surprise given the recent exposure given to the two new women's basketball leagues in the United States: the American Basketball League (ABL) and the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA). But Tai said she wouldn't turn down the opportunity to play in either league.

"I just think it is really good that women are finally getting the respect that they deserve," Tai said. "I would love to play professional basketball, I just don't know if it's a realistic goal."

Whether she ends up earning a living by playing basketball at Madison Square Garden, running the 200m dash or giving heart transplants, the point is that she has set goals for herself. And it's nothing new for this Eagle athlete with the brightest of futures.



Eagles look to improve, coach says

By Amy Yin

The Central girls' soccer team is 1-3 after its recent win against South.

The Eagles, like all of Central's other spring sports teams, have been hampered by the weather and have been forced to practice inside.

"The weather has really hurt us," Coach Laughlin said. "Because of the weather we have had only two games."

On March 26, the Eagles lost to Millard West 5-0.

Central Head Coach Kat Laughlin said that the Millard West game was a game that the team could have won.

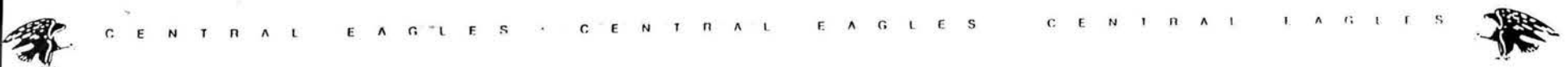
"Our problem was that we did not get to play outside because of the weather," Coach Laughlin said. "When I talked to the Millard West coach he told me that his team had been outside practicing for almost a week so they had a big advantage over us."

On March 30, the Eagles lost to Millard North 5-0.

"Millard North is the defending State Champ," Coach Laughlin said. "We had set two goals at the beginning of the game and we accomplished both of them that day."

Coach Laughlin said that the team has not played to her or their expectations so far.

"Were getting there," Coach Laughlin said.



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SPORTS



We Cover Eagle Territory

New baseball coach begins first year at CHS

By John Eubanks

A new coach takes this year's Eagle Baseball team out to the ballgame.

Coach Matt Shafer, business/marketing teacher, replaced the former coach, Mr. Steve Eubanks, now the Athletic Director at Northwest High School.

Coach Shafer said that when he was a sophomore in college he was asked to coach his brother's Millard North High School baseball team.

"Ever since that, I knew that that's what I wanted to do for a career," Coach Shafer said.

Coach Shafer said that he went back to college and majored in education.

He then got a job at Lewis and Clark teaching computers. He also coached basketball and soccer.

"I never really had any opportunities to coach baseball but I wanted to," Coach Shafer said.

From there, Coach Shafer got a job at Central teaching business/marketing and he was also scheduled to be the assistant coach for Softball.

"Once they found out that Coach Eubanks was leaving for a better opportunity, they needed a replacement and I was interested," Coach Shafer said.

Coach Shafer said that there has been many baseball coaches at Central in the past ten years.

"I'm just hoping to make it a prominent place to stay," Coach Shafer said.

Coach Shafer said that he's looking forward into getting started and he's very anxious to see how the season will progress.

Central's number one contender will be Burke, followed by Millard North and South, Ralston and Westside, Coach Shafer said.

"With the weather being the way it is, we have already missed out on three games," Coach Shafer said.

It was difficult to evaluate entirely new players inside, junior and returning letterman Kevin

McDonald said.

"Coach Shafer had his work cut-out for him anyway evaluating players that he'd never seen before," Kevin, "and he got no help from the weather either."

On Tues., Mar. 24, they were supposed to have played Valley and it is not officially rescheduled, Coach Shafer said.

They were also supposed to play North on Wed., March 25 and that game will be rescheduled at a later date, Coach Shafer said.

Coach Shafer also said that they were supposed to play Northwest on Fri., March 27 but it was rescheduled until April 21.

"I'm sure every team has 'cabin fever' because we would all love to get outside," Coach Shafer said.

Coach Shafer said that he knows of some teams who have already played earlier in the season, when the weather was bad.

"They are going to be upset and wish they hadn't messed up the field since it was all wet and muddy," he said.

Central did manage to get one game in so far this season, a 10-0 loss to Papillion-LaVista on April 1 at Frickey Field.

Central left fielder Chris Tripp, junior, said that they played a good game, considering it was their first.

"Papillion is a tough team to beat," Chris said. "They gave us the competition that we wanted."

Chris also said that their first loss will teach them to try harder for the next game.

Coach Shafer said that he thinks that they will have a great season and a good chance for state.

"We just might surprise everyone," he said.

Coach Shafer said that there is still much to plan out for summer baseball and Coach Eubanks has been very helpful by giving information on how he ran things last year.

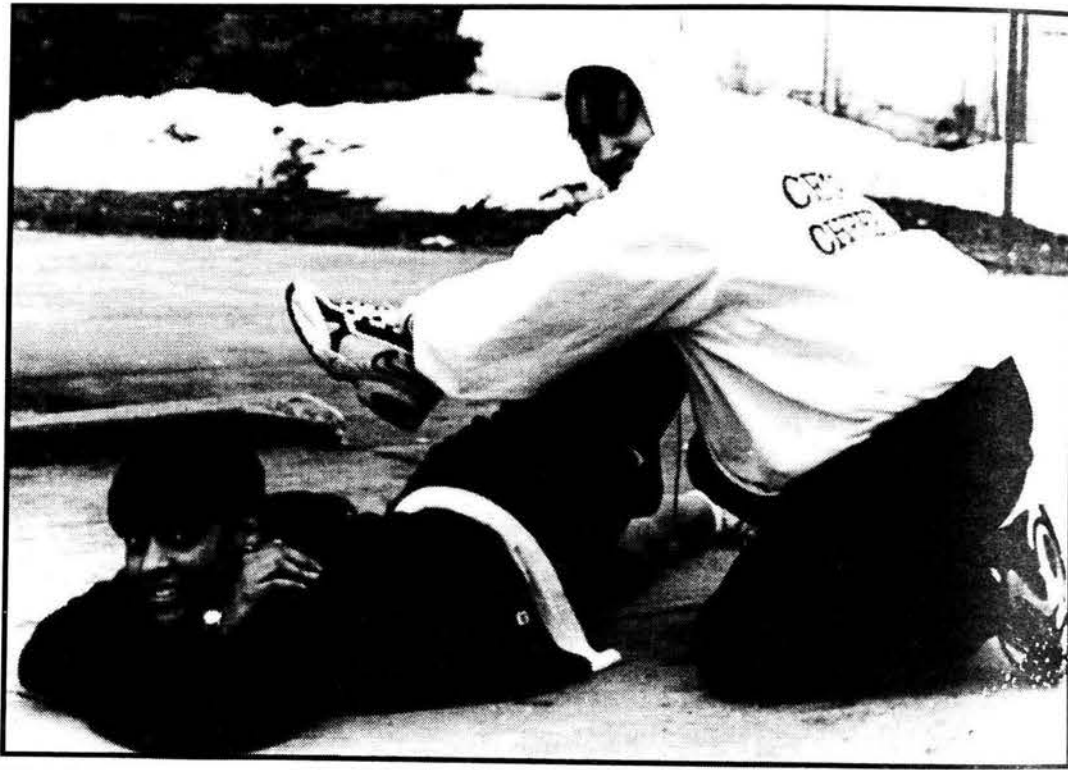
Coach Shafer said that it's nice to have someone to ask questions to.

"It's really great to see a coach stay in contact with the players and new coach," Coach Shafer said. "He will be keeping a sharp eye on us."

Coach Shafer said that he knows that the players enjoyed playing for Coach Eubanks and that it will be a very difficult task replacing him.

"I'll just have to do the best job I can," he said.

Stretch it out...



Shaking the rust off...Eagle senior Aggie Davis stretches out teammate Tai Burleson before track practice. The Central Men's and Women's varsity track teams have yet to have a meet, at time of printing, but both teams' coaches are expecting solid seasons.

Experienced Prep/Central rugby team beats rival; looks toward Regionals

By Derek Tritsch

Caution: some rivalries can be hazardous to your health.

Prep/Central rugby team player Mike Sheehan, a junior at Central, can attest to that, as a punch to the throat from his team's worst rival—Westside—took him out of the remainder of the game.

The team, which is compiled of players from both Creighton Prep and Central, did manage, however, to escape with a 7-5 victory over the Warriors, bringing their record to 2-0 on the season. The game, on March 29, was played in Lincoln at Standing Bear Field due to the rain-damaged Storz Field in Omaha.

The punch to Mike, which went uncalled by the referee, was not the only one of that nature in the Prep/Central-Westside game. An injury suffered in the game by

Prep student Justin O'Neil kept him out of the remainder of the game, as well.

"Westside is the dirtiest team in the league—and you can quote me on that," Mike said. "But a lot of that is probably due to their intense hate for Prep."

Mike was not the only Prep/Central team player who noticed some Westside players using illegal tactics. Central senior Tony Tubrick also said the Warriors broke the rules on several occasions.

"They don't know how to play right," Tony said. "I got a lot of high tackles and the referee only called a few. But he did eject one of their players."

The win came on the heels of a 33-0 pasting of the Millard "2" team by Prep/Central on March 25 at Storz Field.

Out of five tries scored by the

Prep/Central team, three were scored by Tony. He said that his team was able to exploit the youth of the Millard team.

"Millard lost a lot of good players to graduation," Tony said. "Their new players were really new to the match for our experienced team."

Besides having an edge over their opponents in experience, the Prep/Central team, coached by Mr. Tim Anderson, also has an advantage over their opponents in size, Mike said.

Other Central students on the team include seniors Tim Williamson and Eli Bainbridge and junior Jamison Richart.

The Prep/Central team plays in the Great Plains Rugby Football Conference. Other teams in the region are Lincoln, Lincoln Southeast, Westside, Millard North (1 and 2) and Burke.

Class of '97 athletes play in college

By Derek Tritsch

The Central High class of 1997 left its mark in many ways, with athletics being one of them. Several Eagle athletes received full or partial scholarships to play their respective sport in college.

Brandon Myers received a full scholarship to play baseball for Jacksonville (Ala.) State, a Division I program. Despite the increased competition and the great distance from home, Brandon seems to be adapting to college life well, he said.

Another player from last year's baseball team who is playing in college is Jimmy O'Connor. He pitched

for Hutchinson (Kan.) Community College this past season.

Another athlete receiving a full scholarship to a division I program is tennis player Andrea Friedman. She is attending the University of Missouri at Columbia.

The Eagle football team had a number of athletes who attracted attention from colleges, lineman Robert Jefferson being among them. He received a full scholarship to play for Highland (Kan.) Community College. He did quite well, Central Head Football Coach Joe McMenamin said.

Other football players who are

continuing their career are Luke Denney, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Josh Norcutt, University of Nebraska-Omaha; Phillip Burce, Midlands College (Fremont); and Erick Clausen, Wayne State University. Coach McMenamin said that Phillip played this season, while Luke and Josh redshirted.

Last year's All-Nebraska basketball player Galen Morrison also continued his playing career.

He averaged in upwards of 20 points a game for Iowa Western Community College, Central Head Basketball Coach Rick Behrens said.

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