

the Central High School  
**Register**

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**US WEST, OPS form partnership**

**Mary Lynn Super**  
At a time when schools around the nation are attempting, and usually failing, to keep up with the current technological advances, Omaha Public Schools (OPS) and U.S. WEST have invested together to ensure that Omaha is different. Sen. Bob Kerrey said at a press conference held last summer. Sen. Kerrey announced a partnership between OPS and U.S. WEST at the July 2 press

conference. The partnership involves the establishment of two separate yet complementary projects. The newest of the projects is Widening Our World (WOW), an internship involving CHS students, Sen. Kerrey said. The second is the Banneker Partnership, aimed towards raising technological interest in middle and high school students. Both are designed to increase "cyberliteracy", the language of computers, Sen.

Kerrey said. The WOW project involves a summer internship program for 25 Central students and their teachers, Sol Trujillo, the chief executive officer of U.S. WEST, said. The idea is to give the students, who convert documents for the company's intranet, real-world work experience, Trujillo said. "If we don't prepare people for the work force, if they [the students] cannot get a job after receiving a

diploma, we, as educators, have not done our job," Sen. Kerrey said. Sen. Kerrey said this was especially important because over half of last year's 20,000 Nebraska high school graduates went directly into the work force. Sen. Kerrey also said that such preparation should begin as early as possible. That is where the Banneker Project comes in. **→ Turn to WOW, page 2**

**Schools tighten security**

Area school districts, in response to the Jonesboro, Ark killings last year, beef-up security measures

**By Mary Lynn Super**

Ever since the March 24, 1998 Jonesboro, Ark incident, schools around the nation have implemented newer, tighter security procedures.

"There's no possible way to guarantee that an incident like the one that occurred in Jonesboro will not happen here," Dr. Steve Joel, the superintendent of Beatrice Public Schools said.

Dr. Joel said that the Beatrice School District is no exception. The district has recently purchased two hand-held metal detectors, one for the middle school and another for the high school, he said.

But, Dr. Joel said, the administrators and district officials are not planning on using the metal detectors. He also wanted to make it clear that they would only be used in rare circumstances.

"We are not patting the students down as they walk in the door," Dr. Joel said.

The metal detectors will only be used if a suspicion has been made or a rumor has developed, Dr. Joel said.

The new precautions are not necessarily a reaction to the Jonesboro incident, though, Dr. Joel said. Instead, he said, it was an example of "natural progression" within the security procedures of the school.

"The law states that the school shall provide a safe, orderly environment," Dr. Joel said. "We are simply trying to achieve that statement."

Dr. Gary Thompson, Central High School principal, said that safety precautions are of great importance at Central, too.

Even so, Dr. Thompson said, neither he nor the district perceived any need for metal detectors at this point.

"I hope we don't ever come to that point," Dr. Thompson said.

Kailey Grant, sophomore, said that she believes there could never be any reason for the use of a metal detector.

"I think that metal detectors are

an invasion of a student's privacy," she said.

Cara Dalrymple, senior, said she agrees with that statement, but only to a certain extent.

"I think they [the metal detectors] are OK to use if there is some suspicion, but not on an everyday basis," Dalrymple said.

The detectors are an addition, not a replacement, to the previous security precautions within the Beatrice School District, Dr. Joel said.

Such precautions include police on campus, but no full-time security aids.

"We [the Beatrice School District] have a contract with the city police department so that we have police officers with flexible hours on campus at all times," Dr. Joel.

Although most people in Beatrice were unaware of the new metal detectors until the news stations did a report on them, the response from parents when they did find out was almost completely positive, Dr. Joel said.

"The parents see this as I do: as a proactive plan for disaster," Dr. Joel said.

Beatrice Schools are not the only ones that are adding new ideas to their security programs.

The Millard School District has also made adjustments in order to "beef-up security in the buildings", Amy Friedman, director of communications for Millard Public Schools, said.

Millard Schools have formed a Safety Committee to improve and tighten security within the schools, Friedman said.

More doors are being locked and security systems are being installed in all the buildings, Friedman said.

But the most technologically advanced additions are the newly installed surveillance cameras, placed at entrances that do not have security guards stopping people who are coming in, Friedman said.

"That way there is someone in the school office monitoring those entrances at all times," Friedman said.

Dr. Thompson said that he would like to put similar security cameras around Central's perimeter.

He said that he looked into installing several cameras three years ago, but the district prohibited the cost.

**Singin' the "Blues"**



CATHY COLLING/THE REGISTER

**GROOVY, MAN....** Central senior Doug Graber sings with his band, Blue Panic, at Marian High School's Welcome Back dance on Sept., 4. Blue Panic, the Entertainment section's entertainer of the month, is made up of Central senior Josiah Nielson, Prep senior Eric Magnuson and sophomore Tom Loftus and North senior Jon Kelly. Turn to page 12 for complete coverage.

**Central teachers, citizens protest Initiative 413**

**Brian Joseph**  
"What is 413?" "Poison!" This was the cry of protestors at a rally against Initiative 413, a proposed amendment to Nebraska's Constitution that would turn taxation policies over to the

courts. The Sept. 19th rally at the Orpheum Theater was organized by Agriculture, Mainstreet and Education (AME) Against Measure 413, a "super coalition" composed of some 40 organizations including the Omaha Education Association (OEA), the Nebraska Association of

School Boards, the Nebraska Democratic Party and the Nebraska PTA. The rally, of which 150 people attended by one reporter's estimate, included teachers, Union workers and state workers. "We're here today because the business community [proponents of

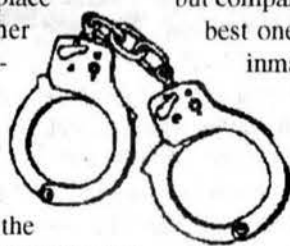
Prop 413] has taken it upon themselves to be selfish," Kris Bertch Joneka, Central speech and debate teacher and OEA Board member, said. Craig Christensen, the coordinator of the coalition, said in **→ Turn to RALLY, page 4**

**Prison opens for teens charged as adult felons**

**John Eubanks**  
"Walking into a prison can be very scary, since you don't know what to expect," a Central High Freshman said. "It would be a learning experience, though." Kali Palmer said that she has never been in a prison nor would she want to. "I just think it's something emotionally that I couldn't handle," Palmer said. "I fear a lot of things and it would be too hard for me." With the opening of the Nebraska Correctional Youth Facility on Aug. 4, many teens

better be aware of the consequences of trouble. The facility is not a good place to go but compared to the other prisons, this one offers some better services. Upon entering the prison, visitors are pad searched. Matt Gelvin, the assistant warden of the prison, said that the facility is an adult correctional institute that houses young offenders, ages 14-18. In the law, it is supposed to be co-ed, but no females

have qualified yet. The facility is not a good place to go to, but compared to the other prisons, this is the best one at working one on one with the inmates, Gelvin said. The only difference between this facility and other youth centers is that these minors are being charged as adults so their sentencing is longer, where as at other youth centers they have not committed an adult felony, Gelvin said. "We can keep them here at the facility



until they are 21 years old and 10 months, but they could transfer or discharge, go on parole or work in the community," he said. The facility will initially house 68 youthful offenders in a high security setting and is programmed to expand to an ultimate capacity of 152 when the need is verified and funding is appropriated, Gelvin said. "The facility currently has 27 inmates, but we should have full capacity by early November," he said. Gelvin said that the inmates, in order to be sent here, have to commit a crime and the

County Attorney tries him as an adult felony or as a juvenile. "They basically base their decision on the **→ Turn to PRISON, page 5**

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# OPS begins plan to close test score gap

By Mary Lynn Super

Members of an Omaha Public Schools (OPS) committee have finally devised a plan to strengthen the education of African-Americans, one of the committee members said.

Mel Clancy, OPS District's director of elementary education, said that the plan is geared toward closing the apparent educational gap between African-American and Caucasian students. The committee has worked on the plan since September 1996, when the gap was detected.

"The committee has formed a strategic, specialized plan to close the gap between the scores," Clancy said.

The gap can be found when viewing the California Achievement Test (CAT) scores.

On average over the past three or four years, African-American students have trailed all other students by almost 34 percentage points, Clancy said.

When the OPS Board of Education received the test scores as they were broken down by race, "an alarm bell went off," Clancy said.

The Board decided very soon after to implement a plan to close the educational gap between races.

The plan includes three main strategies targeting three groups, all in an attempt to begin the extra teaching early in the students' lives, Clancy said.

The first strategy is to get the parents of the children more involved, Clancy said.

"This is the most important step because parents are the first teachers," Clancy said.

Ways that the parents can help their children succeed in life as well as school include monitoring homework, developing relationships with their children's teachers in order to do so, Clancy said.

Terrie Saunders, Central English teacher and Minority Scholars sponsor, said that she also believes that a student's life at home affects the education he receives.

"No school plan can completely cure that [discrepancies in test scores] because some of the problems are societal," she said.

The second strategy involves the schools and teachers themselves, Clancy said.

"We want teachers to find out a student's strengths and push them towards the strengths and minimize the weaknesses," Clancy said.

The plan also gives an outline to develop a better tutoring program within the schools, helping students to learn, Clancy said.

Another addition the plan provides for the school district includes new all-day kindergarten classes in five area elementary schools and one all-day pre-kindergarten class, Clancy said.

"Hopefully this will give the younger students an extra little boost," Clancy said.

The third strategy involves the rest of the community in the project by setting up several educational centers around the city, Clancy said.

"If a child can not stay at school to complete an assignment, he or she can go to one of these sites to receive help or simply to finish it," Clancy said.

The reason for all three sections of the plan is to give the students support from all angles and to be able to make the needed modifications in the future, Clancy said.

The plan is not completely unopposed, though. Rev. Everett Reynolds, president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) of Omaha, said that while he does not necessarily oppose the plan, he does have some concerns about it.

In fact, he said, he agrees that there is need for a plan to be developed to assist African-Americans to deal with the gap.

"The problem began with the desegregation plan because no provisions were made for academics," Rev. Reynolds said. "Instead it dealt with the number of students in the classroom, not the actual students."

Rev. Reynolds said that the best thing about the new plan is the fact that it deals with the problem on an academic level.

The concern that the NAACP had dealt with the fact that the "language [in the plan] was unclear in some places," Rev. Reynolds said.

The unclear language includes the use of the phrase "learning characteristics" in relationship to African-Americans, Rev. Reynolds said.

This phrase was used as a racial slur in a book written by a "racist white fellow," Rev. Reynolds said.

The phrase implies that all people of African-American origin are born with learning disabilities, many of which can not be solved, Rev. Reynolds said.

The Board of Education has not ignored these concerns, Rev. Reynolds said. The Board has held the decision until all the issues are resolved.

# Council of Youth teens provide service, fun

By Talya Greenspoon

Central students are developing leadership skills and contributing to their community by participating in the Nebraska Council of Youth (NCY), the chairman for District Omaha said.

Dave Rennard, senior, said NCY was organized to do community service and bring together leaders in Nebraska while having fun.

"One of the best things about it is that it is run entirely by kids in each district and the state," Rennard said.

Although each state used to have a Council of Youth, Nebraska is the only state that still has one, he said.

The state is divided into ten divisions, including District Omaha, which is Millard, OPS, Ralston, Papillion and Gretna, Jamison Richart, senior, Secretary of District Omaha said.

**"NCY [Nebraska Council of Youth] gave me a great opportunity to help my community while learning and making new friends in the process."**

Stephanie Holm

Central senior and member of NCY

"I've been in NCY since the summer of eighth grade when my junior high counselors selected me," senior Stephanie Holm said.

NCY members get to take part in the decision-making for Nebraska, Holm said.

"I enjoy being in NCY because I get to meet people from all over Nebraska", Holm said.

Some recent projects that District Omaha has done include a graffiti clean up in South Omaha and helping at the Salvation Army, Richart said.

Next, they plan to participate in Habitat for Humanity and help at Haunted Houses in October, Rennard said.

"We are also holding fun activities like a

big District swing dance and a trip to the River State Park for three days and nights," Rennard said.

NCY tries to combine community service and fun together, Rennard said.

"I like being on the Nebraska Council of Youth because the people are great, it is self-run and I enjoy the service projects," Richart said.

District Omaha meets every Wednesday at Godfather's Pizza at 76 Pacific Streets, Rennard said. The meeting will be held Sept. 30.

It can be difficult to attend every meeting, but you do not have to go to every one, an active member, Holm said.

"NCY gave me a great opportunity to help my community while learning, making new friends in the process," Holm said.

# Up, Up, and Away



CHARLIE CARLIN/THE REGISTER

**IT'S A BIRD, It's a plane, no, it's a... skateboard? Travis Davis, sophomore, shows off at Septemberfest, which featured a skatepark again this year. Student Democrats sponsored the skatepark.**

## WOW

# Omaha Public Schools, US WEST team-up to teach technology, give work experience

Continued from page 1

The Banneker Partnership, now partially funded by US WEST, was established in September 1995 in an attempt to help get middle school students more interested in math and science, Sen. Kerrey said. The idea came about after Sen. Kerrey learned that the difference in the math proficiency of white students and African-American students was huge.

"I find out what programs will help further education, then I work to find the money to incorporate the programs," Sen. Kerrey said.

The project was named after Benjamin Banneker, an 18th century math and science scholar who helped design the layout for

Washington, D.C. Since the development of the project, California Achievement Test scores have increased greatly in all of the involved schools, Sen. Kerrey said.

Nebraska State Sen. Shelly Kiel, a supporter of both the WOW program and the Banneker Project said that the main benefit of educating the typical, technologically deprived students is the increased desire to become career-orientated.

"The kids get excited about ideas they never thought of before—science, math, technology—and even more excited about the possibility of a job," Sen. Kiel said.

That idea of preparing students for the job market is especially key in the WOW program, Dr. Gary Thompson, Central High

principal said.

"Hopefully the program gives students the experience that would help them prepare for careers available here in Omaha," Dr. Thompson said.

The majority of the involved student interns also believe the WOW program will be extremely useful in the everyday job market, Trujillo said. The interns gain experience with the internet, formation of computer ready documents, and the general schedule/time management processes.

The work done by the WOW interns is also exceedingly extensive, Ashira Jones, a 1998 Central High graduate and winner of the Intern of the Year Award last year, said.

"This job gives us [WOW interns] an

opportunity to do what college graduates do," Jones said.

While the program is open to all students who have interests in the world of computers, it is geared towards minority students who may not otherwise have the chance to work with otherwise, Sen. Kerrey said.

"WOW give me and other minority scholars the chance to gain experience through our summer jobs," Adriana Phelan senior, said.

As for the future of the programs, US WEST, in connection with Sen. Kerrey, plan to develop both the internship program and the Banneker Project to serve as national models for partnerships between schools and high tech companies, Sen. Kerrey said.

# Central conforms to typical history, English parallel

By John Eubanks

"If they were going to change the Social Studies curriculum, they should of done it a long time ago," a Central High School student said.

Senior John Ingraham is responding to the American History, World History switch.

After a year's worth of planning, juniors and seniors are both taking American History, Mrs. Carol Hipp, the Social Studies Department Head and AP American History teacher, said.

"The main reason for the change is to get Central in line with other Omaha Public Schools (OPS) and other schools in the United States," Hipp said.

Last year and for many years, Central has had juniors take World History while seniors took American

History, she said.

Hipp said that juniors should benefit from this transition because of the simple fact that they are also taking American Literature during their junior year.

Dan Daly, English Department Head and AP English teacher, said that it should be a positive thing because now the English Department and Social Studies Department will be in sync.

"We now could be involved in team teaching, since we correlate with the Social Studies Department," Daly said.

Dr. Jurgen Shawver, English teacher, said that he would, personally benefit from the change by not having to recover a lot of history background that is needed.

"I'm happy to see students co-

incide with both the American Literature and History," Dr. Shawver said.

Some students, like junior April Dixon, said that they do not feel the same way.

"We have been in this order for some time now. I don't understand why the need to change it now," Dixon said.

"Being different could be a plus."

Ingraham also feels the same way about the whole ordeal.

"It's not fair that juniors can now use the two classes as references to each other," he said.

"They have a big benefit over us seniors."

Some students did say that they

encouraged the change.

Stasia Bakhit, junior, said that it would help her out with her English and social studies classes, since they will be basically teaching the same time setting in both classes.

"I encourage the change because, after all, they are only trying to help us out," Bakhit said.

Hipp said that not only will it coincide with American Literature, but also American Government, which students take sophomore year.

This year there are currently classes of American History, four classes of AP American History, one

class of World History for transfer students and no AP World History classes offered, Hipp said.

Along with everything, there are some negative aspects.

Daly said that he is used to having his AP English student coming into his class having some knowledge on Greece, which they learn in World History.

"I am just going to have to spend more time preparing them to fill them in," Daly said.

Even with the 20 American History classes, the classes are still a little large, but manageable, Hipp said.

All other curriculum will stay the same. Freshmen will continue to take World Geography and sophomores will take American Government, Hipp said.

# Insurance rates differ by gender, education

By Andrew Lieben

"It sucks. I understand where they're coming from here, but it still sucks."

Erik Smith, junior, says that he dislikes the fact that his insurance rates are higher than females.

"I know that there are 16 to 17 males that cause the most accidents, so give them the high insurance," Smith said. "I get good grades, took driver's ed., and I still pay \$1000 a year for insurance."

Normally, average male drivers pay around \$1000 to \$1100 for auto insurance while females only pay \$750, Ron Niederhaus, a State Farm Insurance salesman, said.

According to Niederhaus, to fully cover one's car, instead of just acquiring simple liability insurance, males usually pay from \$150 to \$500 more depending on the car, while females pay \$100 to \$450 more.

The difference in costs drops to about 15 percent at age 25, and disappears at age 30, Niederhaus said. Insurance rates also decline with age and with marital status, Niederhaus said.

"Overall, male drivers are more aggressive, take more chances, drive faster, and are more careless while driving," Niederhaus said. "That's why they pay more."

Insurance companies hire businesses to find statistics on various social groups, Dugan said.

Using these statistics, the insurance companies determine their rates, he said.

"It's strictly a matter of statistics," Mike Dugan, former Insurance Commissioner for Nebraska, said.

The reason why some rates are greater than others is that the statistics show that that one group is a greater risk, Dugan said.

"Male teenage drivers are a greater risk than females according to the statistics," Dugan said. "They are involved in more accidents and traffic related incidents."

"I personally have six children who can drive. And of them, two boys and two girls

have been involved in accidents. In this situation, the statistics show the groups to be equal, but it is too small a sample size."

However, items such as grades, whether or not the customer has a driver's education also affect the rates, Dugan said.

According to the statistics, teenage drivers who get high grades and have a driver's education are safer than other age drivers, Dugan said.

"Discounts don't happen in every case, but in most cases, yes, they do get lower rates," Dugan said.

Dugan said that the discounts apply to both males and females.

"This type of gender-based rate differentiation occurs in life insurance as well," Dugan said. "Statistically, women live longer than men, so women have lower insurance rates. Why? Because they live more premiums to pay."

After a company determines its rates based on the statistics, they turn their rates into the Insurance Commission, Dugan said.

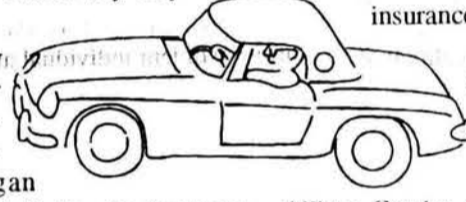
"The function of the department is to regulate all aspects of insurance in Nebraska," Dugan said. "They make sure insurance companies give fair and equal treatment to all citizens for their insurance needs."

However, not all agree. "I don't believe this is fair to charge more than females," Allison Gatzke, senior, said.

"The insurance companies should start all teens at one rate and change it as the teen's driving record develops," Gatzke said.

Gatzke once damaged a drive thru ATM while in her car, causing \$1700 of damage, Gatzke said. Because it was not a traffic related incident, and because she was an honors student who had a driver's education, her rates only went up around \$50, she said.

"The more accidents you have, the more laws you break, the higher your insurance should be," Gatzke said.



# Pathways 21 teaches survival skills

**Meredith Kalina**

From getting lost, to tripping on the doorsteps, to not being able to find the library, freshmen have a hard first week of high school. The Pathways 21 class gives them the opportunity to learn basic survival skills to go to high school, which is hard, Matt Shafer, a Pathways 21 teacher, said.

He said that the Pathways class is required for all freshmen, and it teaches them technology skills they will use during high school. Shafer said that he thinks that teaching freshmen to take the class

is a very good idea, and that the class teaches them "the ropes" of high school.

"We would be doing our students a disservice if we didn't expose them to technology," Murray Fenn, the business, marketing, and technology department head at Central said.



Fenn said that the class has two parts to the curriculum.

The first part, the "hard side", deals with technology skills and information on technical careers, he said.

The "hard side", is hands-on: students spend class time actually on the computers learning how to use the resources the computers provide, he said.

He said that the topics they will be covering include access to the library, learning basic keyboarding skills, computer programming skills,

word processing skills, CAD (computer aided drafting) skills, spreadsheet skills, database skills, Bus/Mark/Electronic imaging skills and desktop publishing skills as well as how to use powerpoint, the Internet and Multimedia.

"By introducing these skills, we hope that students will, later in high school, decide to pursue these individual classes", Shafer said.

He said that he hopes the class size numbers in those specific classes will go up because of the Pathways class.

Another beneficial thing about the class, Shafer said, was that the

students will also be learning the format of writing an English theme.

"They will eventually actually do an English theme assigned to them in their English classes, using the technology and skills from the Pathways class," Shafer said.

The second part, the "soft side", is in a classroom setting and it deals with teaching success skills, taking skills inventory tests, learning the history of Central, reviewing the code of conduct handbook, taking a tour of the building, and listening to career speakers, Fenn said.

Seven teachers wrote the class curriculum, Fenn said.

## Students pass on knowledge

By Kara Lund

Starting in Sept., the foreign language department is again offering the program in which students teach foreign language to elementary students.

Students that are at least in their third year of any language are offered to be in this program.

Students in pairs teach 20 to 30 elementary students, once a week for six weeks.

"Central was the first school to start this program in Omaha. It has been running for over 20 years and is very successful," Daryl Bayer, French teacher and foreign language department chair, said.

In their classes, Central students teach the elementary ones greetings, numbers, colors, the alphabet and many other basic things.

There are 20 grade schools participating. High school students receive a hands-on experience working with their foreign language teachers formulating lesson plans weekly.

"The elementary students do a good job renewing our students interest in their language to study. This is a plus for our program," Bayer said.

The goal of student teachers is to spark an interest in the elementary students in taking a foreign language.

"The purpose of this program is to hopefully pursue foreign language in middle school and high school levels," Bayer said.

"This is the opportunity in childhood development to learn a language."

The students enjoy teaching and influencing the children's lives.

"I liked the program most because we actually made an impact and the kids learned something, it also gives them a desire to do a foreign language," senior Sonja Shelstad said.

Student-teachers accept responsibility along with their pupils' new interest in foreign language.

## Central population at capacity level, administrator says

With a large freshmen class, students, administrators are trying to adjust

Kara Lund

What is the current population of Central you might wonder?

Paul Semard, assistant principal said the population as of Aug. 31 is 2,433 students.

"The school population is at capacity level," Semard said.

"We are at the limit and are only taking neighborhood kids."

The freshmen class is the largest enrollment at around 775 students.

"Like every year we have had transfers from students who moved from out of state," Semard said.

Central has always appealed to students citywide.

With increase population, problems do arise like parking, long lines and large classes.

"Getting students acclimated to school is the biggest problem so this year" security officer Charles Williams said.

Some students are having problems with parking.

Senior Tony Oliveto arrived at school at 7:00 am only to find no parking available anywhere.

He said that he had to drive home and have his mom drive him to school.

"If kids aren't here by 7:00 am, we have to park on the other side of Interstate," senior Zac Clemston

"People get here at 6:50 am just to get a parking stall. Senior lot and the street are full before 7:00 am. Lots of juniors and sophomores will be out of spots when senior lot opens up."

Free busing is offered to many students to solve the problem of the parking lot.

Class size has lead to scheduling problems.

Some teachers are forced to split some of their classes into two to reduce number of students.

There have been many scheduling problems because of the changing of classes.

"Honors English III is an example of this," Ms. Terrie Saunders English teacher said.

She said that her classes were too big to do activities such as speeches or small group discussions.

Creating another class has helped her teach in the manner she is accustomed to.

"Forty or more students in class affects student individual attention," Rita Ryan, Latin teacher, said.

"I believe that having so many students is a disservice to the students themselves."

With the explosion of population come difficulties in sharing space. Space seems to be at a premium right now.

"I am in aerobics and it is annoying having to share the gym with the weight training class, you only have half the gym to use and you have teachers competing over one another's voices," junior Jackie Cannon said.

## One man band



CATHY COLLING/THE REGISTER

**PLAYIN' FOR SOME SPARE CHANGE... A man calling himself Buffalo (Bruce Collier) played his guitar to the amusement of people walking by on the corner of 13th and Howard in the Old Market on Sept. 15. Buffalo works at Hargiss String Instruments on 6061 Maple St.**

## Students volunteer at Humane Society

By Nicole Neumann

At the Nebraska Humane Society the old cliché about some one giving puppy eyes, becomes a reality.

Pam Carter, Director of Education at the Nebraska Humane Society said that the Humane Society is currently trying programs in the elementary schools, to educate children about the importance of

animal safety and responsibility.

In the future, the program will ideally give kids an interactive learning experience, Carter said.

"My main goal as a humane educator would be to educate children and families about pet responsibility, spraying and neutering and to get a broader volunteer base," Carter said.

At a secondary school level students are encouraged to volunteer at the center.

They help with exercising (walking) and massaging (petting) the animals.

"It was a really enjoyable experience and I learned a lot from it," senior Mikala Kearney said.

Kearney volunteered at the center a couple times.

The Humane Society relies on its volunteers to operate, and all in all they have between 250 and 300 people that volunteer, Carter said.

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### RALLY

#### Central teachers, citizens protest Prop 413

Continued from page 1

his opening speech that if the amendment is passed, the quality of education and state services, such as law enforcement and police protection, as well as the average citizen's life would be diminished.

"It's a poison for our schools and our higher education," he said.

In essence, Christensen said that Prop 413, which was proposed by local business men, will limit the amount of state aid local government will receive. He said that there will be less money available for schools, police and fire protection and rescue squads.

Thus, he said that this 3500-word amendment affects everyone in the state of Nebraska.

"We all know its very difficult to do more with less," he said.

At the rally itself, several keynote speakers, including Democratic Sen. Bob Kerrey, talked about the effects Prop 413 would have on their specific organizations or the community in general.

Kerry called for the protestors to start a revolution in Nebraska by telling others about the consequences of the amendment.

"We're behind at the moment [in the polls]," he said.

However, Kerrey said that even though some 60 percent of Nebraskans currently say that they will vote for the amendment, those numbers can be changed before the election on Nov. 3.

In regards to the effect Prop 413 will have on Nebraska education, Bernie Kolasa, the president elect of the Nebraska Association of School Boards, said that the measure is not only unconstitutional, but also severely cripples opportunities for lower income students.

"This is a shot at poor people," Dr. Richard Gilliland, president of the Metropolitan Community College, said.

Dr. Gilliland said that if the measure was passed, Metropolitan Community College would lose some \$1.6 million. Thus, he said that the school would be forced to either raise tuition or make academic cuts.

But, he said that it is not quite that simple.

"We'll cut out our football team," he said.

Dr. Gilliland said that since Metropolitan does not have extra-curricular activities such as athletic teams, classes will have to be eliminated.

"The end result would be a lot of people would be hurt," he said.

The same is true for four-year schools as well.

"Let there be no doubt, a vote for Initiative 413 is a vote for higher tuition," Chuck Hassebrook, a University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) Regent, said.

Or, Sarah Russell, president of the University of Nebraska Student Senate, said that entire courses of study or academic programs would have to be cut.

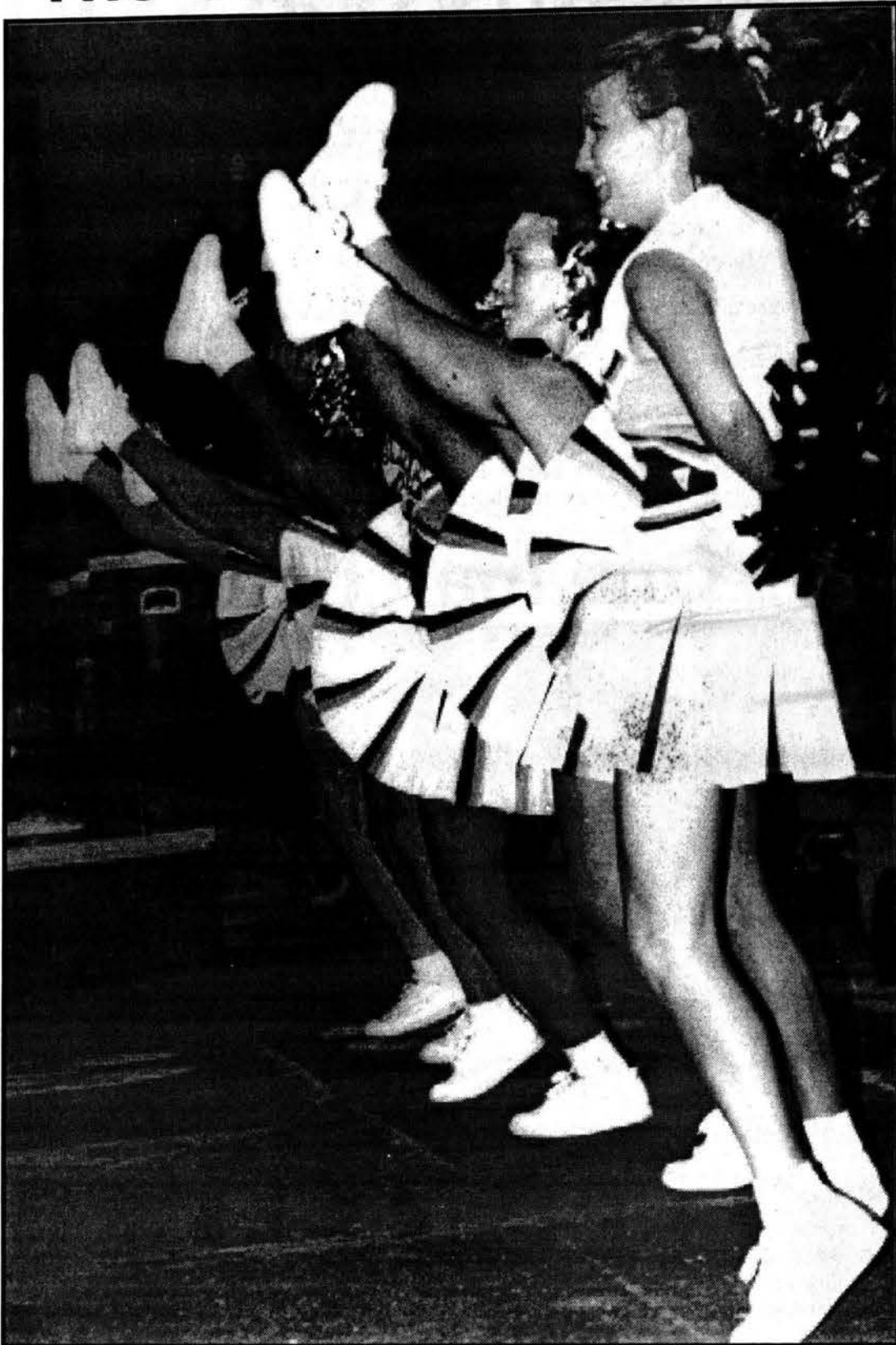
Either way, she said that the UNL would no longer be competitive with other colleges across the nation.

"The University would no longer be cutting edge," she said.

Whatever the case, Carol Krejci, Central social studies teacher, said that Prop 413 would hurt education.

"I think it will be a disaster for public schools," she said. "You can see how crowded Central High is this year, and its only going to get worse."

## The Central Rockettes...



A ONE, A TWO, A ONE, TWO... Seniors Alison Hager (right) and Lizzie Fraser, along with the rest of Pom Squad, entertain the crowd during halftime at Central's first football game on Sept. 3. The Eagles ended up winning their home opener against North 21-3.

CARA MILLER/THE REGISTER

## Senior spend year in Japan

#### After coming home, one Central student finds that she misses her new family

By Morgan Denny

"Japan is still my home," a Central senior said after spending 11 months and 4 days in Japan.

Stephanie Keeney said that she was an exchange student in Japan through an organization called Rotary International.

She said that she was incredibly scared to go at first because she did not know the language and the customs are very different from those of the United States.

Keeney said that all of her school classes were in Japanese and for the first three months she did not understand anything.

"My classmates took care of me and taught me the language," she said.

Keeney said that she is now relatively fluent in Japanese and taking classes at Creighton University.

"Language isn't hard because it's a survival skill," Keeney said. "You have to learn or else you die."

She said that in Japan the teacher changes rooms instead of the students.

Keeney said that she was in a class with 40 other girls who were a year younger than she was.

It was seven months before she could participate in class, she said.

Keeney said that she grew incredibly close to her classmates in Japan.

"I was a million miles away from home," Keeney said. "Without parents and a support system and they became that."

She said that it is incredibly hard to come back to the United States after living in Japan so long and making new friends.

ing such close friends.

"In Japan right now, they are eating lunch," Keeney said.

"And I'm missing from the and from the conversation and everything."

She said that it was very hard to say goodbye to all of her friends and that she almost could not get on the plane to come back to the States.

Keeney said that Japanese culture and customs are very different.

"There were a lot of things that at first were really annoying, but after a while you get used to them," she said.

She said that the hardest thing to adapt to was the lack of femininity expressed by Japanese women.

"You're expected to serve the customer," Keeney said.

"At first I was a little bit shy, but I got it myself, but I started to assimilate."

Keeney said that she went swimming in a natural hot springs in a volcano.

She said that everyone was swimming naked in the same spot.

"Nobody is self-conscious," Keeney said.

She said that while she was in Japan, she also earned her black belt in bungee jumping.

Keeney said that she stayed in different places.

She said that her favorite on a Buddhist temple in which four generations of the same family lived.

Now back at Central, Keeney said that she has to take both senior English in order to graduate.

She said that she now has to read and spelling well.

"It's so weird. It just takes a while to register," Keeney said.



## School districts test-out extra year of high school

By Mary Lynn Super

Three Nebraska high schools have become pilot schools to a new nation-wide program developed to cut down on the cost of college by adding an extra year of high school, the superintendent of one of the pilot schools said.

Bill Hakonson, sponsor of the program involvement at Wisner-Pilger High School in Wisner, said that the allows a student to take a fifth year of high school in order to graduate with an Associate of Liberal Arts Degree as well as a high school diploma.

The degree comes from Northeast Community College, the Nebraska college sponsor of the program.

An Associate of Arts degree is the equivalent to two years in college.

Therefore, a student involved in the program could transfer the credits already received to a four-year college such as Wayne State in Wayne, Neb., the college that most participants choose, Hakonson said. The main idea and purpose of the program is to cut down on the cost of college.

"If you consider the fact that a typical year at Wayne State College, including classes, books, and living expenses, is close to \$8000, and the program allows the student to get into the work force a year earlier to make approximately \$20,000, that ends up being a \$30,000 turn-around," Hakonson said.

The Nebraska pilot schools trying to establish their own, school-

### "Many of our students leave here with 15 or 20 college credits."

Bill Hakonson  
Sponsor of Program Involvement at Wisner-Pilger High School

specific programs are Wisner-Pilger, Atkinson-west in Atkinson and Holt and Neligh in Oakdale.

"Wisner-Pilger has had program called 'Challenge' which has allowed students to obtain college credits for a number of years. The new addition is simply the ability to receive a degree," Hakonson said. "Many of

our students leave here with 15 or 20 college credits."

Kendall Levison, CHS senior, said that he only somewhat agrees with the idea of the program.

"If it offers a student who would not normally get the chance to earn a degree, it is a great idea," Levison said.

## Junior volunteers at muscular dystrophy camp

By Morgan Denny

"It was a true learning experience," a Central junior said about volunteering at Muscular Dystrophy Association's (MDA) camp.

Molly Hoberman said that MDA Camp is a camp for people from ages six to 21 that are afflicted with one of the 40 different types

of muscular dystrophy.

Kathy Kat, director of MDA Camp, said that all of the different types of muscular dystrophy vary in the muscles that are affected and the rate at which the disease progresses.

Hoberman said that she had to fill out two applications and go through an interview to be accepted as a counselor, but that it was all worth

it. Kat said that the camp was held June 14th through the 19th this past summer.

Hoberman said that each counselor has one camper that they are responsible for throughout the week.

Kat said that being a counselor is a lot of hard work. Counselors go from early in the morning till the kids

go to bed, helping the campers with anything and everything they need.

Hoberman said that being a counselor took an incredible amount of patience.

"You had to slow your normal pace down to meet your camper's needs," Hoberman said.

She said that almost all of the kids wear braces on their legs or are

in wheelchairs.

"The counselors really get out of it," Kat said. "They get a different perspective on the world. They don't feel sorry for them, they just gain admiration for them."

Hoberman said that she learned to be more appreciative of the things that she takes for granted

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## Home-schooled students teach themselves, teen says

By Maya Greenspoon

At six o'clock in the morning you are awakened by your alarm screaming in your ears. You get out of bed, rush to get ready for school, grab a quick breakfast and head off to...your living room? No, you're a former Central student, and you're home-schooled. Cotton, school and home are synonymous.

Cotton and her two sisters chose the home-school program this year because their parents grew disgusted with the public school system. Their parents gave them the choice between the Omaha Public School District or a home-schooling program.

They decided that home-schooling was the best decision, Cotton said.

The family uses the Christian Academy for a basic curriculum and a grading system, she said. At the end of every week, we have tests and assignments, and the Academy keeps permanent records and sends report cards," Cotton said.

She said home-school students graduate at the same time as public school students, but they also have the opportunity to take college courses.

"Even though I think you learn better in home-schooling," Rachel said, "you don't have classroom discussions, and you have to have good study skills."

A common misconception held about home-schooling is that the students never socialize.

However, Cotton says that she belongs to a volleyball league for home-schooled teenagers and there is a graduation and a prom as well.

Cotton said her mother, Mrs. Meg Cotton stays home and helps with the schooling.

"I think most adults have enough knowledge to educate high school students," Dee Kovarick, Central Math teacher, also a mother said.

Also, Karen Hatch, Central Chemistry teacher, said that it is important to remember that there is more than academics learned at school.

## Sleep deprivation affects teenagers

By Fred Hart

Everyone's seen it, kids sleeping in class. The question is, is this their fault or just too much to balance? Junior Tim Robertson said. Robertson agrees with most parents that there are just too many things going on. He said that in his family, work, and school, there is very little time left for sleep. Is it his fault?

Mary Carskadon, a psychiatry professor at Brown University and a leading sleep disorder expert said it is not the fault of the teen. She said that teens' natural, normal schedule is hours different than adults. She said another problem is "delayed phase preference" which is a "night people." These "night people" function better at night and in the evening, rather than the morning and afternoon.

Even psychologists acknowledge that different factors contribute to the loss of sleep. Glenn Finegan, a psychiatrist and psychologist, said that stress and anxiety contribute to insomnia and sleep deprivation. He said that there is more stress on students than ever before. "There's more demands placed on us including school, home and work. Now they have to be aware of time and budget it well," he said.

Foundation agree. According to a pamphlet, if it takes more than 30 minutes to fall asleep you may have "sleep debt." Sleep debt is when one is lacking sleep and can not function well.

Jon Nebel, senior, said that after work and school activities there is a lot on his mind, especially when trying to go to sleep. He said people sleep in class because of sleep debt.

"People sleep in class because we go to school too early and then we're up to late doing homework," Nebel said.

Mikala Schuman said teachers need to make class more interesting. By putting hands on experiences into the lectures fewer students would sleep in class, she believes.

"When you do something your good at, with hands on, you work to your full ability," she said.

Carol Hipp, social studies department chair, said that teachers have a responsibility to motivate students. She said that visual aids help, but teachers have a certain amount of information to present.

Students need to balance their schedule to get ready to make the leap for college, Hipp said.

To balance the time in the day is a hard thing, Robertson said.

Tim Robertson said that incorporating jobs, sports, and family chores doesn't seem to be the problem. It seems to be the homework and inability to sleep, Tim Robertson said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVE RENNARD  
**"THE WHOLE experience was such an awakening. Before, I had no idea what I could do within politics," senior Dave Rennard, shown here with the President, said.**

## Experience of a lifetime

### Central senior attends Boys' Nation in Washington, DC

By Katie McCann

"Having the opportunity to participate in Boys' Nation was an experience I wish everyone could have," a Central senior said.

Dave Rennard was one of 96 juniors from across the United States to partake in Boys' Nation.

Boys' Nation, which is sponsored by the American Legion, educates people, (juniors in high school) about local and state government, Rennard said.

But to get to Boys' Nation, Rennard went to Boys' State along with other Central students. Those students were Jamison Richardt and Ben Rinaker, both seniors.

Rinaker said that they were selected to go to the event through essays that they wrote while they were juniors.

Girls' State also took place at the same time.

Alison Hagar said that at State, they debated about issues concerning Nebraska, which included in-state colleges. Other members of Girls' State from Central where Noelle Thornberg and Dana Hendee.

Carol Hipp, social studies department chair, was the sponsor

for both Boys' State and Girls' State for Central students.

Some events that took place at State were discussions of Governmental works and mock city councils. Gov. Ben Nelson was also there to answer questions and concerns from the participants, Rinaker said.

Rinaker said that the counselors at Boys' State were the ones who voted on who would participate in Boys' Nation, and that everyone there seemed to really like Rennard.

"He [Rennard] really did an outstanding job," Rinaker said.

He also said that one of the highlights of Boys' and Girls' State was the dance that was held at the end of the conference.

Two juniors from each state, were selected for the event. Besides Rennard, junior Nathan Todd from North Platte Nebraska attended. Rennard was sponsored by the Fraternal Order of Police.

He said that while on the trip, they received the "red carpet treatment."

"We went on executive tours of a lot of really neat buildings. We toured the FBI Building, the Smithsonian, the Capitol Building and the White House," Rennard said.

Participants involved with Boys' Nation also held mock Senate sessions. They were separated into four sections for the sessions. They were Madison, Adams, Jefferson and Washington. Rennard was placed in the Madison section.

The purpose of the sessions, he said, was to debate and pass legislative bills. Both Nebraska bills that were addressed during the sessions were passed.

Rennard's bill that he addressed in the session was an Entertainment tax bill.

With it, one percent of the value of any ticket purchased for entertainment purposes, not including government sponsored events, would go towards education.

"I think Nebraska had the best show out of all the states that were represented there, Rennard said.

While at the event, all members of Boys' Nation had the chance to meet members of both the Senate and the House of Representatives, including Chuck Hagel and Bob Kerrey. Participants were also able to meet President Bill Clinton. Rennard said that he was very nervous when he first met the president.

## PRISON

### Facility opens for teens charged as adult felons

Continued from page 1

background of the person and also the severity of the crime," he said.

Gelvin said that before the inmates come here, they go to a diagnostic center in Lincoln where they stay for 45 days to get evaluated.

They then are classified to a certain facility, based on age, and transported there.

When the inmates are transported there, they will be housed in small group living areas surrounded by a security fence and other security features, Gelvin said.

"They will be involved in a treatment orientation and the programs shall address behavior impairments, drug and alcohol addiction, health and medical needs, education, individual group and family counseling, and physical or sexual abuse," Gelvin said.

Gelvin said that structured programming shall be scheduled for all youth and shall include work, a strong academic program, health education, living skills, vocational training, money management, family and parent responsibilities, substance abuse, physical education, and job skills training and placement.

The youth, when they arrive, will set up their own personalized plan that serves as goals for the inmate, he said.

"Their goal may be educational, behavioral, mental health, or chemical dependency," Gelvin said.

Tina Baker, a caseworker for the Housing Units, said that the inmates need to earn privileges for their incentive plan, based on their behavior.

"Their incentives may be television time, time in the day room, purchasing items from the canteen, having a walkman in their room and even purchasing their own personal clothing," Baker said.

Inmates have to follow all rules and regulations, which are getting up at 6 a.m., eating breakfast, cleaning their room, showering, doing their own laundry and being locked down at 8:50 pm, Baker said.

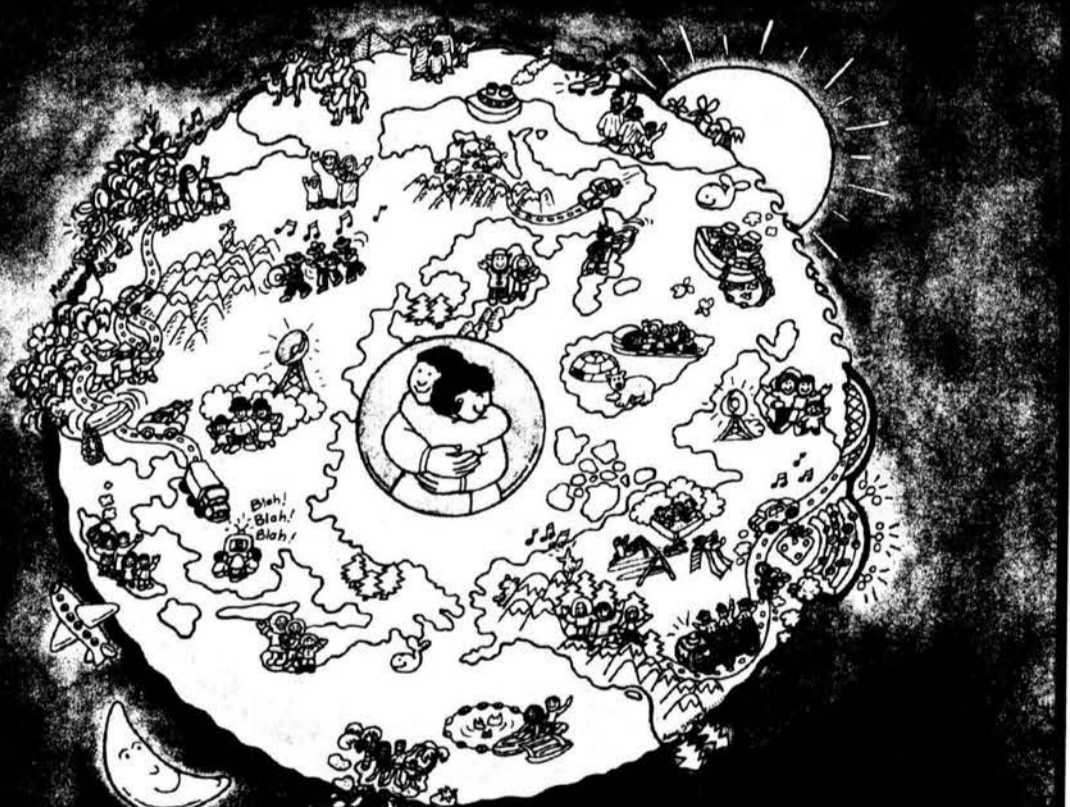
"They can make one 15 minute collect phone call a day and once they follow these rules then they can move up a level with a new set of privileges," Baker said.

Baker said that if they cannot follow directions they get sent to the segregated facility away from everyone else.

"That would not be any fun because you are practically stuck in this room and your food gets served to you through a ledge on the door," Baker said.

During the day, inmates have a program call where they can go to school to earn their GED or they can work at the kitchen, as a grounds person or a porter earning \$1.21 a day.

They can get a raise up to \$2.25 a day and the highest they can possibly earn is \$3.78 a day, Baker said.



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### ATTENTION SENIORS

All senior pictures for the 1998-1999 Central High yearbook are due **October 1, 1998.** Photos should be turned into Mr. Deabler in room 315 or mailed to his attention at Central.

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Computer literacy

Central leads students into future

The Central Administration should be applauded for its work toward preparing its students toward working in the 21st century.

Central is taking the lead by exposing all of its students to the latest technological advances necessary for them to succeed in the real world through the Pathways 21 program.

The new freshmen course teaches the students the basics of many different computer fields.

Keyboarding, spreadsheets, word processing, databases and programming are all areas covered in the course that, the teacher's hope, will spark some interest in the students.

Teachers are also incorporating more aspects of the freshmen curriculum into the Pathways course. Computer teachers will explain the style of English themes and allow students to type them in class, on Microsoft Word, helping them to learn the some of the most up-to-date software available.

But freshmen aren't the only ones expanding their knowledge of computers and technology.

It's every teacher's dream to see their

students using what they know in the real world and the Central computer students are making their teachers dreams come true.

This summer, several Central computer students, most of which are now externs for the Pathways program, travelled to North to help with the installation of new computers.

Working with the North students, the Central students helped to install North's new Gateway 2000s and even helped the computer department program the network.

Now the upperclassmen of Central's computer classes are helping out the freshmen in the Pathways classes.

The externs are acting just like computer teachers, grading papers, helping the students, and even getting paid.

They are basically getting the first experience of having a computer-based job. This is obviously a good thing.

Overall, the presence of more computer-literate upperclassmen, and the variety of areas covered in the Pathways 21, course will help Central's freshmen continue Central's reputation of computer excellence.

Road construction a major hassle

Overslept? There is no need to worry. You have a good half hour to get to school and be there on time.

Three blocks from the school you see a "street closed ahead" sign and your mouth drops.

You have ten minutes left before the bell rings for school to start, and the only way to get to school is a detour down to 30th and Cummings—which is well out of your way to get to school.

You hurry from your car, up the steps to the school and walk inside. You hear the bell and find that you are late!

Many students who drive to school recently experienced this type of incident. Several were late to school and many were angry that there was no warning about the road construction.

Any type of road conditions could cause the possibility to close down a street, but if a street is going to be closed down, should drivers be warned before the street is closed? Many people would probably answer this question yes.

So, what type of road construction would cause the entire street to be blocked off? A sinking-manhole.

The same morning that students and faculty first learned of the construction, they also became aware that the street that is most

convenient for them to get to school will be closed for three weeks.

Three weeks? How could a sinking manhole possibly close down a street for three weeks?

Many people feel that three weeks sounds a little long.

Some students began to laugh when they heard three weeks, others sighed with frustration.

First of all, how does the city decide when a manhole has sunk enough to be worked on? Better yet, if it was such a problem that they would have to shut down a whole street for three weeks, when do they decide the date it will be?

Still, several students and members of faculty for that matter, wonder why this problem was not taken care of during the summer instead of the first few weeks of school.

So when a person thinks about it, there is probably a lot less traffic heading down 24th street towards Creighton in the summer than during the school year.

There seems not to be too many students who go to school in the summer—at least not as many as during the school year.

There is not a whole lot that can be done about this certain situation now, but hopefully, it can be avoided in the future.

Traffic cameras waste money

So, you're in a hurry? You get into your car and begin speeding up the street to get to where you're going.

The police don't pull you over. You got away with it, didn't you?

Nope. It just so happens a camera on that stoplight took a picture of your license plate.

This may soon be a possibility within the Omaha area.

The idea was started by Mayor Hal Daub in hopes of cutting down on the number of accidents caused by running yellow and red lights.

But will it really cut down on accidents? Probably not. Yes, drivers will know that there are cameras on the stoplights, but how can a camera stop someone from running a red light?

Several people feel that the city does not have the right to install cameras onto traffic lights, including State Sen. Ernie Chambers.

Chambers insists that cameras being installed is unconstitutional. Several people would probably agree.

Hopefully no one likes to get into car accidents, and when someone does run a red light or begins to speed to get to their destination, they should realize that they are implying that they are taking responsibility if any type of accident happens.

However, some insist that this method of catching law-breaking drivers is a must. There are cases that some drivers flee the scene of an accident, and there aren't any eyewitnesses.

But what people should really be questioning about is where the money to fund this proposal will come from.

Motasesm Al-Turk, director for the stoplight cameras said that the city would not receive any money from the tickets. He said that the city's share will go directly to the contractor to pay off the city's bill for installing the cameras.

Well, at least it is not costing residents anything for having the cameras put in. However, it still should not happen.

Accidents happen all the time—whether there are witnesses, police or what not. The cameras would probably only give a more evident warning to drivers not to speed, run red lights and so on, but it is not going to prevent it.

There are times when a police cruiser will be directly behind a reckless driver—and the driver will still run a light or speed.

At this point, there is no way to tell if the cameras could work for Omaha or not.

What's next? Cameras in our homes, sensors in our backyards or any other place we thought was fairly private? Let's hope not.

Reward could be put to better use

Remember all those morning announcements where principal Dr. Gary Thompson offers a reward for some crime committed on school grounds? Ever think there might be a better way?

With it costing hundreds or even thousands of dollars to remove spray paint off of the school or off the football field, what's a couple hundred extra to add to the cost? It might just be enough money to prevent the crime in the first place.

A little extra security, especially around "senior prank season," might actually save the school money in the long run. An extra security camera here, another security guard there, and these pranksters might just think twice about committing their crimes.

And how many students would honestly turn in their friends in for money?

Students at Central feel a great amount of loyalty to each other. They do not want to jeopardize that loyalty in any way, even for money.

And what message is the school conveying by offering us this money? After

all, by offering Central students rewards for turning in the guilty, the school is teaching the students to do the right thing for money, not because it is morally and ethically correct.

Even though the rewards give some hope to the office that someone will do something to help, very rarely will they turn a positive effect.

Now, these crimes are becoming more annual, more frequent, and more costly. Those who caused these crimes are not paying any price for what they do, the school is.

Central students are paying for it too. The more money spent repairing damage to the school, the less money there is for activities, supplies and other necessities of school.

Each crime committed makes the staff trust the students even less. Each reward offered causes students to trust their friends more and the school less.

So in the end, a lot of money is being wasted on cleaning up a mess that could have been prevented in the first place.



Omaha deserves limelight

Alrighty all you Centralites. Let me start with one simple question: ever been out of the state?

If so, was it a classic family vacation? you know, the kind where you and your sibling divide up the back seat of the station wagon with an imaginary line and go absolutely ballistic if the car turns at a really wide angle and one of you happens to slightly "fall" onto to other one's side?

Whoa, if you just read that entire thing out loud in one complete breath your lungs must be the size of Montana, speaking of which is a very nice state.

If it was a family vacation, then you most likely didn't encounter any of the locals from other prominent cities—in the Midwest or anywhere.

However, if you did... well then they probably asked you where you were from.

And in that case you must have answered them and said, "Why, I'm from Omaha."

Now if, perchance, you were in Council Bluffs, they'd know exactly what you were talking about.

But if you ventured out of Nebraska AND Iowa you may have gotten a confused stare followed by, "Omaha... now that's where again?"

OK. Here's where my point comes in. I know it took a while but hey, you made it didn't ya?

The point is that no one knows where the helicopters we are even though Omaha is a relatively good sized city!

I mean come on people, we had to memorize all 50 states, their capitals and big cities in fifth grade.

You've gotta retain at least some of that.

In fact, whenever I'm out of town I have started to introduce myself as "Morgan... from Omaha. That's in Nebraska. That's smack in the middle of our good old US A."

I am just short of informing people which solar system Earth belongs to—that's the Milky Way for anyone out there who was mentally freaking out because they realized they didn't know.

Moving on, another thing that is just ultra-super-annoying is the amount of farm

jokes I am submitted to whenever people out of state.

There's always your classic "Well the farmer say when his horse came out of the hill— That's my horse!" and any and joke you can think of containing the "cow, Bessie, corn or farmer."

The jokes, of course, are nothing compared to the utter ignorance of some people.

There have been numerous occasions which I have been asked, in total seriousness whether I live in the middle of a cornfield, whether I have electricity or am home-schooled.

Not to mention that most people believe that an Omahan's idea of a good time is tipping... not that it's not... true... it's just not that good.

HELLO! This is Omaha, the city with the highest crime rate has been compared to cities like Chicago and Houston, which is sad, but that's not our fault.

We are not tiny middle of nowhere, we are an existing farm town—at least not for the last 75 years or so.

Every US citizen should be required to learn about Omaha.

I mean come on, it's not like we're fun of people from Idaho because they like potato infested cities and eat nothing but potatoes. OK, so we do... but that's different. Really.



Whatever Works Morgan Denny

Brownie fun turns traumatic

Yes, it's that time of year again. Girl Scout and Boy Scout sign-ups begin in September. And I'm absolutely positive that you will feel sorry for me as you read the following tale.

My goal was to become a Senior Girl Scout, the highest rank of Girl Scout around. Until I became a Brownie and went camping, that is.

When you're a Daisy, you make dolls out of paper and pins out of buttons, but when you become a Brownie, you get to go camping. Yep, that's right, a weekend in the woods with a roll of toilet paper.

After the "big news" was announced that we were going camping, we all ate Girl Scout Cookies and watched the movie "The Great Outdoors", (the one with Dan Akroyd and John Candy), to prepare us for the journey. I was so excited.

I was hoping I would find a boyfriend

like that one kid did. Only he found a girlfriend, but it's all the same.

The big day finally came and we were all to meet at school with our 2-ply and bug spray.

When we arrived, we were surprised to see a reporter from the newspaper waiting to take our picture. My first came. Being the cool Brownie I was, I flashed him the "peace" sign.

I slept all the way to the camp site and when I woke up, I found that my carpool driver and her daughter, my fellow Brownie, had left me in the car all by myself. I was lonely and had no clue to what was going on. Everyone else was unpacking their stuff in the huge canopy green tents.



Yackity Smackity Stefanie Wulff

To make matters worse, as I was getting out of the car, I fell over a chain "fence" that was supposed to keep the other troops from cutting up my knee, and swallowing it as rock.

I also was stuck with my roomies, Messy Jessie (as I should call her), who was a crybaby, pictures afraid of her own shadow, and who was also stuck with that one plastic girl that every Girl Scout has had.

Just my luck. For breakfast the next morning, our troop leader tied bananas to the limbs of the trees.

If you wanted to eat, you had to climb. I felt like a monkey.

They also tied little boxes of cereal to the trees.

But, that was a long time ago. Oh Yackity, Smackity!

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# Student variety makes population grow

With the beginning of yet another school year, I thought it appropriate to do a Central "numbers" column. You know, a column where the writer lists a fact that corresponds with a certain number.

For example: 112—the number of years the Register has been published. Or: 0—the number of parking spaces available in the Lot after 7:00 am.

With that in mind, I think the number 2160 could be a significant entry.

That was the total student population of Central as of early September, an increase of 296 students from the end of the first semester of last year.

Obviously, something greater is drawing students here by the hundreds. And, that something is success.

Regardless of what you may have heard about Central being "janky" or "ghetto", we are still one of the most dominate high schools in Nebraska.



**Central Scene**  
Brian Joseph

Yes, we don't get all the attention—or the funds—that North or Burke high school gets, and we might not win every sports championship like the Millard schools, but, we still set the standard by which all other Nebraska high schools are judged.

I can't count how many transfer students I've talked with who have said that our regular level courses are more difficult than their former school's honors courses.

At Central, going the extra mile is not characteristic of just our most talented and successful students; it is a characteristic of the student population as a whole.

Look at our number of National Merit Semifinalists and our ACT, SAT and AP exam scores. Central is always either at or very well near the top of the district and the whole state of Nebraska in academic areas.

And, while the state titles don't come every year, Central is still churning out amazing athletes like graduates Galen Morrison, Luke Denney and DeAntae Grixby and seniors Stuart Waters, Anika Carlson and

Brandon Williams. (And, with the Eagles 2-0 start, don't count out that Class A football title just yet.)

Plus, what other school do you know that has the incredible mix of students like Central?

I'll never forget that first week of my freshman year when I was totally floored by the variety of people found in the student body.

Coming from a junior high in west Omaha, I was not used to the number of different types of people found at Central. (I remember thinking "This is a little United Nations or something.") Truly, Central is a microcosm of the city of Omaha as a whole.

But, what's even more refreshing is the fact that at Central those differences are respected and encouraged. Go into the courtyard and you'll see what I mean.

Lunch tables at Central are blind to what makes people different; I've seen football players eating lunch with skaters before.

I know that if I went to any other high school, I wouldn't have such a wide and culturally diverse group of friends. These factors are bringing students here by the truckload.

Students want to go to Central because we offer that rare mix of athletic and academic success without skimping on the cultural variety.

The next time you hear someone complaining that too many people go to Central, remind them what the alternative would mean.

What other high school in the nation, with so many surrounding roadblocks, can claim such an increase in student population?

Even with our proven academic track record, one would not think that Central would be a student's first choice. We are the only high school in the metro without air conditioning.

We have practically no parking. We are located in the middle of a commercial section of downtown Omaha. Our home football and basketball games are played at a junior high.

But, yet, the students keep coming. The freshman class alone this year is a whopping 78 students—and those students didn't come here for a chance to climb 7000 stairs every day.

# Baseball seems more like a publicity stunt

Coincidence? I think not. More scoring, more excitement, more national press, that is what Major League Baseball needed to stay alive.

And what better way to achieve all of these goals with one swing (pun intended) than to produce an exciting race to see which player (Mark McGwire or Sammy Sosa) can hit the most homeruns (therefore scoring the most), all in order to break an old record (an event that would obviously receive weeks of national press)?

Don't get me wrong...I'm not trying to take any of the pride or honor away from McGwire or Sosa. They both deserve much credit for their accomplishments this season. Very few people can claim all that they can.

But doesn't it seem a little odd to anyone else that all of a sudden players are hitting homeruns right and left (and center too, sometimes)?

Maybe I wouldn't be so skeptical if this had all come at a time when the fans were as in love with baseball as oh, say,

37 years ago.

I guess the whole thing just seems like some kind of publicity stunt to me.



**S(o)up of the day**  
Mary Lynn Super

Whether the balls are juiced or the pitching is purposely weaker, something had to happen to bring more fans back to the game.

After all, where would baseball be without the fans? Or rather, without the support of the fans, how could they pay the players \$100 trillion a year?

But, then again, isn't the fact that the players are paid such astronomical amounts part of the reason why most of the fans left in the first place?

Personally, I was incredibly disgusted by the fact that the strike that occurred a couple of years ago began with the players getting upset because they had less than eight figures on their paychecks.

As a previously huge baseball fan, I have only one more question to ask: what ever happened to playing for the love of the game and not for the love of the fame?

# Clinton sex scandal blown way out of proportion

Yes, I am conforming to the bounds of society. I'm writing about Clinton. So really, what has the man done?

He's become the most powerful man in the free-world, but he's not allowed any slip ups? Yes, he had "relations" with a woman. Can we hold it against the poor pup? I believe if the man wants to date any woman, let him.

Hey, even if she is white trash, that's his prerogative. Why is she white trash, one might ask? She saved a DNA stained dress, that's why. Two words: trailer park.

I know Clinton can get better. Why should he settle for less? Look at the before pictures of Paula Jones. I would have so much more respect if he had paid for her plastic surgery, and then harassed a hottie.

There are worse things the man could be doing, right? Like cover up, maybe?

So what if Clinton wants to bomb small African countries to take the heat off? What's wrong with taking out thousands of innocent people to get to one terrorist?

OK, lets get back to the shame. Slick Willie had the shame of announcing to the

world he was a dirty dirty liar. Is this not enough?

Is that it? Is that why people really dislike Clinton? They feel he lied? Wow, so you are trying to tell me you have never embellished about your duties in the oval office? Maybe not, but we all tell those little white lies of our existence.

I feel if he said he lied and admitted he was chauvinist pig, so what? He told us he believed women were tissues to be used and thrown away. Why still impeach the poor soul for that?

Impeachment. Oooohhh, a strong word. Just think if Clinton were to be impeached, convicted and kicked out of office, we would have Al Gore? Really, Al Gore. That's a great change. We would get rid of the dirty old man for a ditz.

Hmmm, can you rest easy now? With Al Gore as President, the US population would

decrease suddenly. Half the people would migrate to Canada, myself included.

After his assassination, which would inevitably happen, who would we have? Ooohhh, Neeeeewt. That makes me feel great. A fat-head, lizard-boy, that makes me feel just great.

So, as the shock-waves of Clinton's impeachment rush through the world, we would be led into the 21<sup>st</sup> century by a man seeking world domination.

Even if the domination didn't work, we would all become some sort of underground mole people. Don't you love biological warfare?

The President may have quite a few skeletons in his closet, but don't we all? (Except me, of course.) Clinton may be hiding behind a booming economy, but why not, it worked for JFK.



**I'm better than you**  
Jared Hart



# REGISTER YOUR OPINIONS

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

## Do you think that there are any grounds to impeach President Clinton?

No. What does his personal life have to do with the government? Besides, there have been worse things former presidents have done.

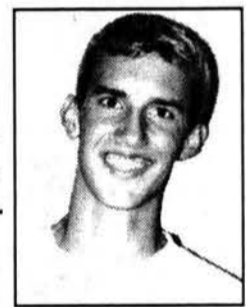


April Brooks, 12



Alicia Starks, 11

No. He's doing his job. Other presidents have done worse things besides having affairs [and lying about them]. I think that this matter should be left in his personal life and not his public life.



Kristoff Berzins, 12

Yes. He lied under oath. The President is supposed to represent the American people. When this happened, [I feel] that other countries probably looked down upon.



Lamar McMorris, 10

No. He is doing his job as President. He didn't do anything wrong within his governmental job.



Paige Klintforth, 9



Robert McAtee, 9

Yes. He lied to everyone. He's the President and he is supposed to set an example.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## A READER OPINION FORUM

Dear Editor,

The beginning of the school year brought many students into the counselors office. While some had to deal with personal problems, many had to deal with schedule changes. Overall the whole schedule change process worked very well, but one area of concern (to me at least) was trying to drop from an honors subject to a regular subject.

In most cases, you would think that dropping to a regular class would be in the best interests of the student and the teacher. Isn't that the way it's supposed to be? Evidently, not at Central.

Many students' requests to be transferred from honors to regular classes were denied. And it wasn't just the counselors—some teachers would not sign the papers.

I know that counselors and teachers both are trying to push students to do their best and work at their maximum capacity, but why fill classes with students who don't want to be there?

Also, regardless of what the teachers may think, in most situations, students aren't just looking for the easy way out. Certain subjects are better understood when worked through at a slower pace.

And the students, not the teachers know what their limits are. I myself tried to drop from an Honors' Pre Cal/ Trig class to regular and was denied.

I was told I could do well if I tried harder. Right, I forgot a teacher would know if I was really trying my best since they've known me for a whole two weeks and I've been pretty familiar with myself for 15 years.

Caroline Walburn, sophomore



Dear Editor,

The growing amount of smoking in the school restrooms has become concerning. I have often walked into the men's restroom and found either the smell of cigarettes, a cigarette in the urinal, or a small group of students smoking.

Whenever I find these smokers, I inform the nearest teacher. However, there is usually no one to be found. I believe that the school should take more precautions against this annoyance and direct violation of school policies.

Vince Wesselman, junior

# The Summer of Good and Bad

## Alcohol pulls students to the edge

By John Eubanks

*\*Name has been changed to protect the identity of the source*

**C**losing your, one last call for alcohol so finish your whisky or beer. This phrase, from the song "Closing time" by Semisonic, is referring to the increase of drinking alcoholic beverages during the summer.

There has been studies shown that teens drink more in the summer than in the school year for various reasons, John Cannon, lead counselor for outpatients Chemical Dependencies for Alegent Health, said.

"Students, during the school year, have extra circular activities that tie them down," Cannon said. "They know that if they caught drinking it spells trouble."



PHOTO HAS BEEN BLURRED TO PROTECT IDENTITY

**THROW BACK A BOTTLE OF BEER...** A Central student shows how easy it is for a minor to obtain alcoholic beverages. Many students said they drink more in the summer than in the school year.

Cannon also said that during the summer there is less supervision and fewer consequences.

\*Senior Abra Cadabra, of Central High School, said that she drank more during the summer because all the pressures of school were not there.

"In school I am involved in many sports and honors classes, which causes me to be more cautious," \*Cadabra said.

"I want to succeed in life and go to a good college." \*Cadabra said that she will occasionally drink during the school year at a party after a football game, but during the summer she drank at least three times a week.

"I drink because I love feeling out of control and on the wild side," \*Cadabra said.

"When you drink, one's true colors shine bright." \*Cadabra said that she will occasionally drink during the school year at a party after a football game, but during the summer she drank at least three times a week.

"I drink because I love feeling out of control and on the wild side," \*Cadabra said.

"There is nothing worse than having to go to school with a really bad headache and stomach cramps," \*Piper said.

\*Piper said that even though almost every time he drinks he gets sick, he does not feel like he drinks enough.

"If it were up to me I would drink everyday," \*Piper said. "I wouldn't have to worry about anything, I could just block it all out."

\*Cadabra said that her parents know that she drinks, they just won't let her drive after she has been drinking.

"My parents care a lot but they can't make me quit," \*Cadabra said. "It's all up to me to make the right choices."

\*Piper said that his parents don't know that he drinks. If they did he would be grounded for life.

"I drink and drive sometimes and I know that would scare any parent," \*Piper said.

"I think that I drive better when I am drunk because I am more cautious."

Cannon said that many teens die or end up killing someone when they had been drinking and driving.

"Teens need to know that, no matter the amount, if they have been drinking they shouldn't even think about driving," Cannon said. Too many peoples lives are taken because of stupid choices they have chosen."

\*Cadabra said that she is an irresponsible person because she doesn't worry about all the consequences that could happen.

Cannon said that, as part of the 12 Steps Program, one of the first steps is admitting one has a problem.

"That is the basis of the whole program," Cannon said.

"If someone can't accept the fact then it will never work."

The 12 Steps Program is a foundation and a model to live by, Cannon said.

"The people on the 12 Steps Program turn to a

higher power for guidance, make an inventory of wrongs and they fix the mess that they have caused," Cannon said. "We also encourage them to spread the good message."

Another place one can go to for alcohol problems is alcohol anonymous meetings, Dennis, a director of the AA Central Office, said.

"We have 600 meetings a year, six to 12 meetings a day in which we serve as a support group, if people are willing to change their life and get through it sober," Dennis said.

There are different kinds of alcoholics, Dennis said.

"There are social drinkers, who drink with others as a way of social enjoyment, there are also weekend roasters who drink to get trashed," Dennis said.

"They also have little or no control and they drink for effect."

Dennis said that there are also the alcoholics who drink to hide their reality.

\*Piper said that he would probably be categorized as a weekend roaster because he loves to have fun.

"At a party where there is dancing, one can't dance when their sober," \*Piper said. "Parties are boring when one is sober."

\*Cadabra said that she is a social drinker because ever since she used to go to her older brother's parties she would drink to talk to people.

"At first I would drink just to fit in, to be one of the cool bad kids," \*Cadabra said. "If I had friends who didn't drink, I probably wouldn't drink either."

Cannon said that when patients come see him he gives them an evaluation to find out if there is dependency.

"If there is no dependency present we give them a more educational approach on peer pressure or curiosity," Cannon said.

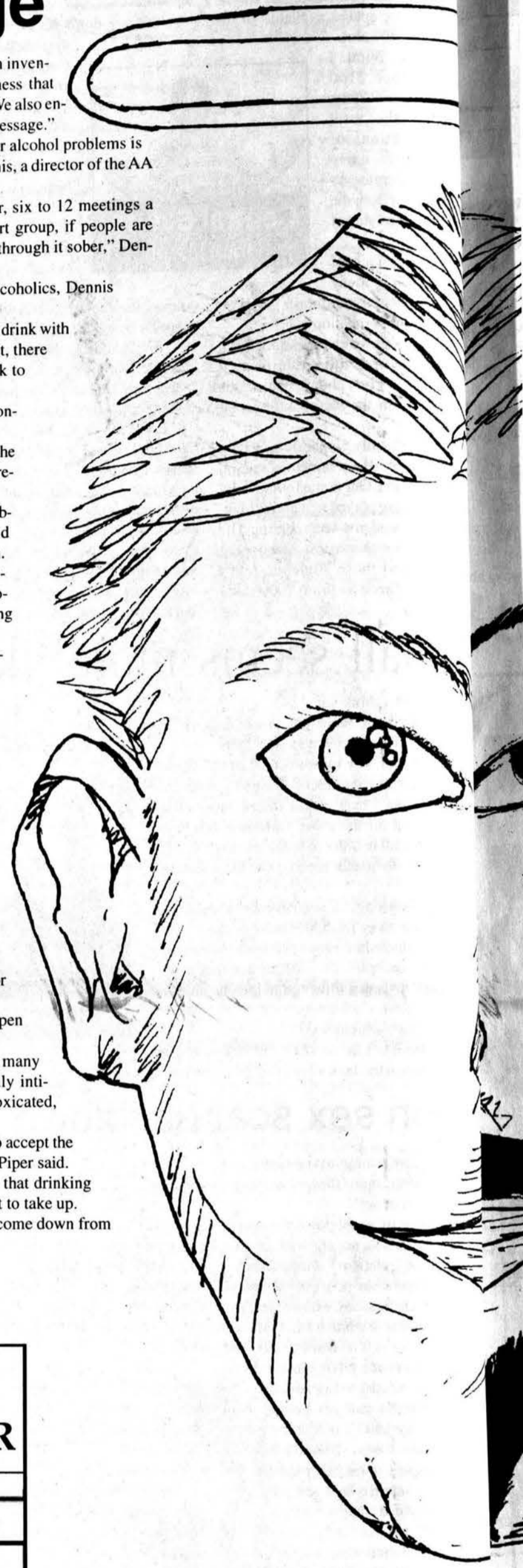
"We tell them what could happen if they do this or that."

\*Piper said that there has been many of times where he has been sexually intimate with others while being intoxicated, without even knowing.

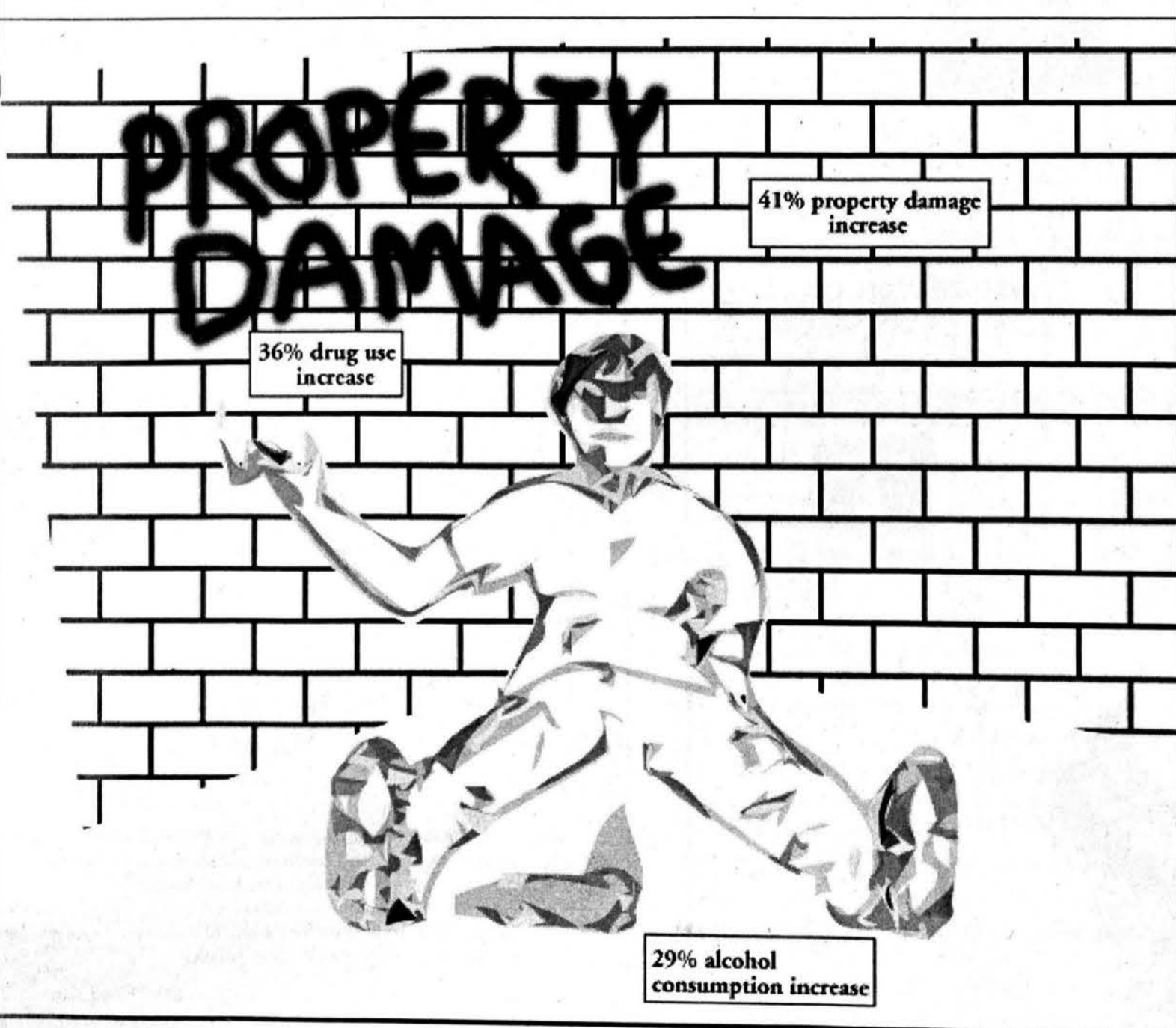
"It is really scary but one has to accept the crazy things one is bound to do," \*Piper said.

Freshman Ashlee Brittain said that drinking is something that she does not want to take up.

"I have seen too many people come down from drinking," Brittain said.



### ■ 100 students polled INCREASE OF MISBEHAVIOR OVER THE SUMMER



## Teens use drugs

By John Eubanks

*\*name changed to protect identity of source*

**I** imagine yourself dirty, dizzy, dangerous, dazed, dark, down and disgusting. These adjectives are all describing the narcotics that are harmful to one's body and health.

Linda Zitek, the substance abuse counselor at the Greater Omaha Community Action Inc., said that drugs have many effects.

"Crank and cocaine can cause a man to be impotent," Zitek said. "Mainly because of the fact that males get drunk and no longer have any sex drive. Females also don't get a sex drive."

Zitek said that crank is a synthetic drug that can be made from chemicals that one could get at a hardware store.

"Crank and marijuana can cause short term memory," Zitek said. "Marijuana can also cause a males sperm count to drop."

Zitek said that regardless the drug, they all could cause long term effects.

\*Junior Jane Doe said that she

was a bit out of control. From marijuana, LSD, magic shrooms and... practically been on top...

"Doing drugs made me dirty to other people... thing that I will never stop...

This past summer, I had to have boy problems... her to be suicidal. Instead...

ting suicide she decided... drugs again.

"The more I really... I thought it was mainly... out," \*Doe said.

\*Doe said she began... touch with her suppliers... ing not only marijuana but... coke, magic shrooms and...

\*Doe said that she... over 30 hits of LSD this... she is now legally insane...

"It scares me a little... but now I know my limits... \*Doe said she has als...

once, which she will nev... "Crank made me fee... and sick," \*Doe said.

\*She had also done... this summer at a party.



# Evil



## Students spend summer volunteering at camps

By Talya Greenspoon

While some students had a summer full of trouble, others took the break as an opportunity to volunteer as role models.

Cara Miller, senior, worked as a counselor in training and helped build houses in Mexico this summer, she said.

Miller worked at a camp called Calvincrest in Fremont, Neb., she said.

It was her chance to lead in the camp she had gone to since sixth grade, she said.

"I love working with kids and going to camp, so it was a great opportunity," Miller said.

Miller also took a mission trip with her church youth group to Cozumel, Mexico, she said.

They stayed in a church in a run-down part of Cozumel, and everyday they helped build the first floor of a house, Miller said.

"Going to camp and having a positive influence on the kids was a good experience, as opposed to sitting at home and resorting to negative activities," Miller said.

Some teenagers do resort to those negative activities during the summer.

Typically the police call load, especially for teenagers, is heavier in the summer, Officer Dan Cisar,

spokesman for the Omaha Police Department, said.

"I think part of being a kid is thinking nothing will happen, but it can," Cisar said.



**HOLD MY HAND...** Central junior Cara Miller (Pictured right) spent her time this summer in a positive way by mentoring children, like Katie Fitch (Pictured Left), to be role models. Cara was a counselor in training at the CalvinCrest Camp in Fremont, Neb.

In the summer, there is a larger tendency for kids to be at parties and driving around, Cisar said.

Everyone is entitled to make mistakes, Cisar said, but kids who have even minor possession charges will have a mark on their permanent record forever.

The best thing for kids to do is to stay away from dangerous activities, in the summer and throughout the year, Cisar said.

Mark Hakanson, junior, also worked at a summer camp.

He was a counselor at Covenant Cedars Bible Camp in Hordeville, Neb., Hakanson said.

"It was a positive experience for me and I enjoy being with kids," Hakanson said.

Shayna Denny, sophomore, shares Hakanson's point of view, she said.

Denny worked at Camp Kitaki in Southbend, Neb., this past summer, she said.

This was her third year being a counselor, and she has gone there since she was in elementary school, Denny said.

"I have the chance to help kids develop leadership and self-esteem," Denny said.

## Just the Facts...

- Compared to tobacco cigarettes, marijuana has four times the tar as tobacco cigarettes.
- Of the 12 million people arrested per year, the percentage under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol is more than 50 percent.
- In 1994, Congress appropriated \$57 million for drug treatment programs.
- 81 percent of kids surveyed that their parents have talked to them about drug and alcohol use.
- 96 percent of adults surveyed that they have talked to their kids about drug and alcohol use.

## "Summit Up" encourages teens to volunteer

By Meredith Kalina

Volunteering was an alternative opportunity for many Central students this summer, including a service project that the student council is involved in called "Summit Up".

Jessica Boro, a Central junior who is the chairman representing Central in the "Summit Up" project, said that she became interested in the project after she attended a student council meeting at North High School.

"I attended a workshop that explained the whole organization, and I decided that it would be a good thing to contribute to," Boro said.

Curt Thomas, a senior at Plattsmouth High School, said that he is helping organize the

recently hosted "Summit Up" project in the state of Nebraska.

Thomas said that the program was created in the April of 1997, and that it is a nationwide service project.

"Summit Up" is a nation-wide service project, and the goal of it is to get each student involved to complete five hours of community service," he said.

He said that Nebraska's goal is 7500 hours of service by November 15, 1998, and that things are looking very hopeful.

Boro said that any Central student can get involved in Summit Up, and it is greatly encouraged.

"Summit Up" will get people involved in service projects that benefit the entire community," Boro said.

She said that Central will be involved in many individual activities as well as organized projects.

Boro said that, as a group, Central would be doing a Make-a-Wish car wash.

She said that they will make money for the Make-a-Wish foundation as well as earning hours for "Summit Up".

"We will be hitting two birds with one stone," Boro said.

She said that individual Central students spent a lot of their summer earning hours for the project.

She said that students went to camp to be counselors, and on mission trips with their churches this summer to earn points for the "Summit Up" organization. She said that they already have about 1,000 hours and are

expecting to reach their goal very soon.

Boro said that if any Central student participated in any type of service project in the community this summer they should think about signing in their hours.

"If you did any voluntary activities this summer, write down what you did, how many hours you did it, your name, and the signature of a sponsor or parent who can verify your activity," she said.

Thomas said that he will be announcing the total number of Nebraska's "Summit Up" hours at the State Convention in Hastings.

He said that he will also be recognizing the top individual schools of the hours that he received. Boro said that she hopes everyone will help out and try to earn as many hours as they can to help the "Summit Up" organization.

## Deal with depression, personal problems

Magic shrooms, \*Doe said, basically are the same as LSD but they are more of a body high.

"I didn't really like it too much because it messes with your head a little," \*Doe said.

\*She also said that she did speed up her own stupidity.

"Someone told me that they were on pills but they weren't," \*Doe said. "They gave me paranoia, made me really ill and also gave me bad rashes."

At the age of only 13, \*Doe said that she had started smoking marijuana. \*Doe said that she smoked weed not only because all of her friends did it but also because she felt it out in the family.

"I quit doing drugs for two years because my parents kept stealing my money from my bedroom," \*Doe said. "It was getting expensive for a thirteen year old."

Since she didn't have a job, \*Doe said that she would steal money from her parents or her friends parents'.

"I basically did everything I could get weed because it makes you feel really good," \*Doe said. "All of your

problems and troubles would be gone instantaneously."

Justin Mickles, a coordinator at Nebraska Council to Prevent Drugs, said that they are currently working to start a program for teens to prevent drug abuse. Mickles said that they currently have a program for middle school students called All Stars, which helps them to live a drug free life.

\*Sophomore John Known, said that his first drug experience was this summer at the Sweetstock concert, a concert put on by the radio station Sweet 98.

"I did marijuana there because you always hear that everyone is doing it and how good it is, so I was curious to try it," \*Known said.

\*Known said that you could get your drugs at parties or just practically anywhere these days.

"I went to this party all stoned, this summer, and I did meth, a type of speed, without even knowing that I did," \*Known said.

"I just remember people asking me why I was so hyper."

\*Known said that one must

watch himself or herself because when doing these drugs one can do crazy things without remembering the next day.

"One time I woke up in someone's bed with some girl who I had no clue who the hell she was," \*Known said.

"It is really scary so now I try to control myself."

\*Known said that drugs make you hallucinate and make you feel all loose.

The only people with happy days are the ones who stay drug free.

Senior Ryan Garrison said that he doesn't need drugs in life to have fun.

Garrison said that he is an active practicing Catholic and that church comes first.

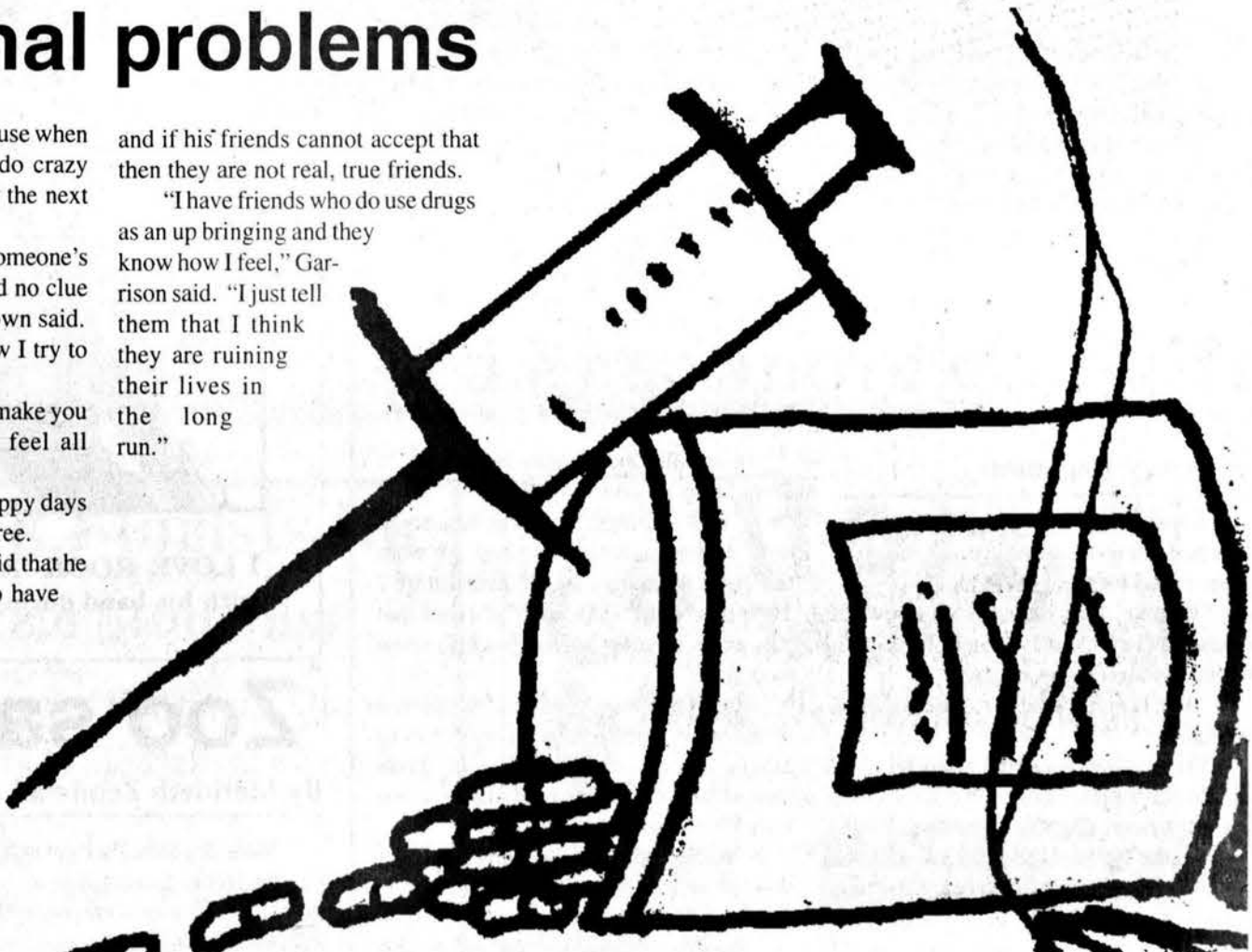
"I probably would do drugs if I didn't have any religion in my life," Garrison said.

"But unfortunately, many teens don't really care."

Garrison also said that he is not a follower

and if his friends cannot accept that then they are not real, true friends.

"I have friends who do use drugs as an up bringing and they know how I feel," Garrison said. "I just tell them that I think they are ruining their lives in the long run."



# Entertainment

## Old tradition helps new generation

By Merideth Zendejas

Martial Arts and kickboxing have become popular among teenagers within the last few years because of the excitement and action, a kickboxing ring judge said.

Chris LeGrow, a ring judge for Dojo of Omaha, said that a man named Carol Washington broke up a fight on the streets one day, and realized that their was a need for a place where kids can let off some steam.

Aaron Jackson, a Central High School graduate and martial arts black

belt, said many young teenagers start doing martial arts to learn how to fight and look good doing it. He said that was one of the reasons he started.

"You learn to discipline yourself, if it weren't for the martial arts I would probably be in jail right now," Jackson said.

"It helps you become a better person."

LeGrow said that kickboxing helps kids take a skill they learn and apply it in the boxing ring. He said it also keeps them busy and off the streets.

Jackson said that the martial arts

were firsts used in the militaries. He also said that Asians used it in the wars if they encountered one on one fighting with the enemy.

Jackson said that some of the health benefits martial arts is lowers the blood pressure, your muscles get more tone, you lower the fat in your body, you slightly build muscle, and you are energized, the blood is able to flow through your body easier.

Martial arts helps you become one with yourself, and you learn to let things go, Jackson said. You get to know how your mind works.

"The More physically balanced

you are the more mentally balanced you are," Jackson said.

LeGrow said that the skills used in kickboxing could be applied to martial arts.

He said that the skills used combined are a very exciting thing to watch.

"Kick boxing is very exciting to watch. In one second or one kick, the match could be over," LeGrow said.

"It is a new dimension, a new thing that is fun."

Jackson said that he has been studying the Chinese martial arts for the last 11 years.

He said it took him only four years to get his black belt in Chinese Kung Fu.

He said that in the ancient times when you were good at something, you lived by it, it was not just a hobby.

It would take someone six to seven years to receive their black belt.

Jackson said that there are two kinds of martial arts, internal and external.

The internal martial arts are a slow moving art, Jackson said. Tai Chi Chuan is an example of an internal martial art.

The external martial arts is

physical, and used more Kung Fu, Aikido, and Jeet Kune Do. If you have all examples of external martial arts.

LeGrow said that kickboxing requires kicking and punching above the waist.

That is a form of kickboxing from Taiwan that is kicking above the belt, LeGrow said.

Jackson said that Kung Fu you are superior or you are not at something.

He said that the founder of kunged was Bruce Lee.

"Martial arts is not always fighting," Jackson said.

## Teens sport oldies style

The fashions of the past make a return with the opening of vintage clothing stores

By Stefanie Wolff

Students dressing in vintage clothing, bright patterned pants and spotted t-shirts, '40's and '50's swing attire and psychedelic apparel, can be spotted at Central High throughout the hallways every day. Bright, colorful shirts and pants are easily spotted from the corner of ones eye in the busiest of all passing periods.

Thrift stores seem to be popping up more and more these days in search of young and old customers who like to express their sense of style to the extreme.

Vintage stores such as Weird Wild Stuff on 31<sup>st</sup> and Leavenworth have a wide selection of psychedelic clothing and accessories.

Robert and Ellie Hollister, the proprietors of the business, travel from small town to small town in search of different print shirts and dresses. L'Iri, a sales associate said.

The family-owned business has been up and running for almost one year and has had good business and satisfied shoppers everyday, she said.

"I don't think this style will die out. Style recycles, so will clothes," she said.

The store is packed with dresses, tie-dye t-shirts, jewelry, pants and shoes. The pictures on the wall remind one of past eras and decades, while the wide variety of jewelry is appealing to the eye.

The best store to shop for clothing is Shock located in downtown Omaha, Central senior Travis Emshwiller said.

Shock is a coffee shop/vintage clothing

store that has been opened for a little less than a year. They sell everything from lamps to shoes and they have great coffee, he said.

Emshwiller credits his mother for his sense of style and hippie boy ways, he said. She dressed him in cute old clothes when he was young and he was the jewel of the family, he said.

"I feel best when I'm strutting along with all my fly kitties in the summer sun when I'm full-flavored," Emshwiller said.

What he dresses in each day depends on his mood in the morning and how classy he wants to be that day, he said.

"My opinion on clothes is that there's no wrong way to eat a Reese's, just like there's no wrong way of dressing as long as you feel you got the flavor spillin' out of your brain," Emshwiller said.

Dressing differently than the kids at school is something Emshwiller is proud of, he said. Sometimes he feels like he was born in the wrong decade, he said.

"If someone's talking about my threads then they must be to insecure about their own style to worry about mine. They must not have any flavor of their own," Emshwiller said.

Amanda Arroyo, senior, chooses the "colorful" way to dress.

"I don't really look at it as dressing vintage, more like colorfully-in-vogue," she said.

Arroyo's parents do not have a problem with her sense of style. She has been dressing "colorfully-in-vogue" since the end of her sophomore year, she said.

People who point and stare at others who dress vintage-like are small minded just because they do not like how one dresses, she said. Arroyo does not pay any attention to them anymore. It does not bother her at all, she said.

"When I'm wearing my bells, it's like I'm all the tired kids' cup of coffee in a lazy day," Emshwiller said.

## We got the beat



I LOVE ROCK 'N ROLL... Central graduate, Justin Thompson, a member of Plosion, performs with his band during the last week of August.

CATHY COLLING/THE REGISTER

## Hip-hop group goes big

By Andy Hickman

A mixture of hip-hop and flippidy has spawned a new talent and genre in the music scene called Remain Anonymous.

"Remain Anonymous is a group with lyrics that just can't be touched," Central senior Cerone Thompson said.

"I've been rocking the mic since I was young."

The members consist of Emmett Gatson (E2 Professional), Thompson (Tha Scribe), Christopher Moore (Seemore) and Christopher Roby (THE SPECIALIST).

"Me and Emmett are cousins and have been rocking the mic since we were kids," Thompson said.

Their name came from their first recording. They didn't have a name yet so they just put down anonymous.

Currently they feature two songs: "I Went From..." and "Say What".

"I Went From" is a song describing how our lives are now, and how we want our lives to change in the near future," Thompson said. "Say What" is a song that gets every member of the group to show their stuff."

Remain Anonymous performed at a talent show attended by various record labels, Thompson said. One of those representatives, Shawnquetta Lavert, was with Rhythm Entertainment.

"We're basically looking for whatever is gonna sell, it has a lot of to do with style and stage presence," Lavert said.

Rhythm Entertainment has artists such as Keith Sweat and Jill Lavert sighed

"Look for our album next year," Cerone said.

## Zoo safari proves educational

By Merideth Zendejas

Mahoney State Park got together with the Omaha Henry Doorly Zoo to create a safari drive for educational purposes, Henry Doorly Zoo's Marketing and Special Events Specialist, said.

Julie Ruhaak said that they purchased the land for the safari drive about four to five years ago, but did not start the development

until about three years ago.

The park opened last May and will open again in April 1st Ruhaak said that the original idea for the park safari came from her directors, Dr. Simons.

The safari is called Leigh G. Simmons Conservation Park and Wildlife Safari. The purpose of creating the park was so people could experience North America's wildlife.

"The park will resemble the old prairies

and planes of the America when the pioneers crossed the west," Ruhaak said.

She said most of the animals that are the safari are animals from their time.

"When you drive through the park you will see elk, antelope, deer, bison, baby mammals, birds, and everything native to the braska," Ruhaak said.

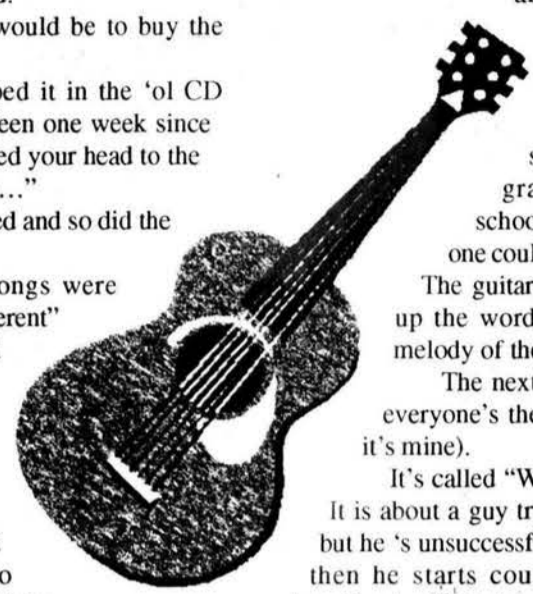
The park was paid for with donations, said.

# CD REVIEWS

## Barenaked Ladies spill out new album

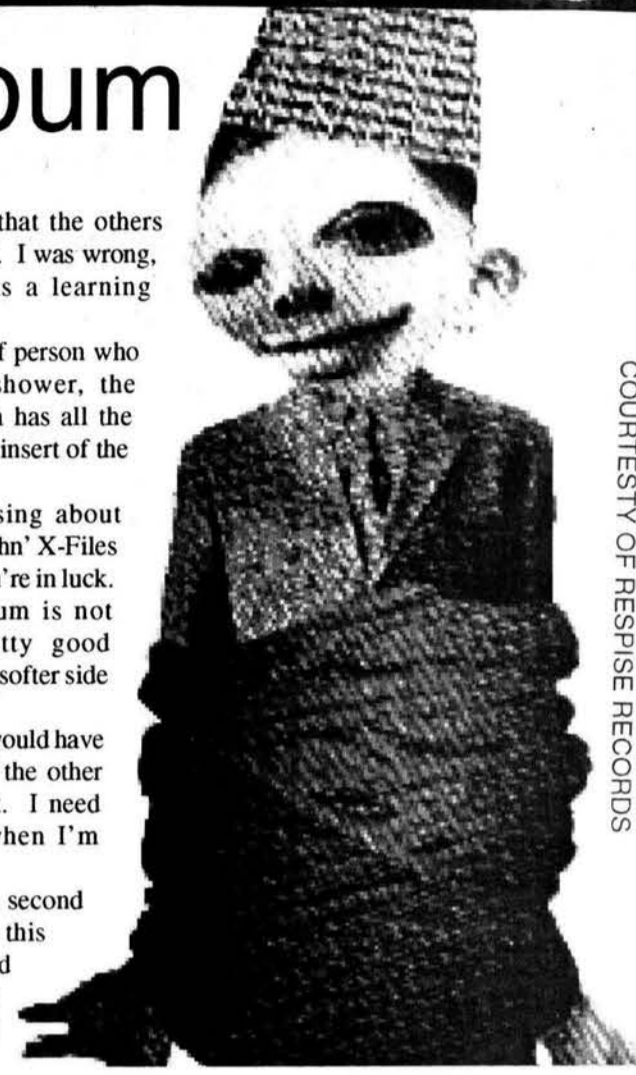
**Fanie Wu lff**  
 been one week since WHAT?!  
 Barenaked Ladies, a Canadian pop  
 me out with their fifth album, *Stunt*,  
 mer since 1992. I'm sorry it has to  
 ay, but I think I'm going to have to  
 hit wonder."  
 e, it's creative and relaxing, but  
 ever wondered why you haven't  
 econd song from the same album?  
 first song that hit the radio last  
 was "One Week", and I still can't  
 driving my car without hearing  
 on the radio.  
 ou like soft rock and a variety of  
 nstruments, then this album is good  
 ever, don't expect to hear another  
 e "One Week" on the album.  
 All the thirteen tracks on the disk, "One  
 is the only track with a memorable  
 other tunes just don't cut it.  
 e Week" is a tune that is often stuck  
 head during school and volleyball  
 and dinner and when I mow the lawn  
 k my dog...

It's just a hip-hop tune that stays in and  
 can not escape my mind.  
 So the next step would be to buy the  
 album and try it out.  
 When I first popped it in the 'ol CD  
 player, on came "It's been one week since  
 you looked at me, cocked your head to the  
 side and said I'm angry..."  
 Then the song ended and so did the  
 album for that matter.  
 The rest of the songs were  
 totally "different" ("different"  
 as in I couldn't even tell  
 it was the same band  
 "different").  
 "One Week" is a  
 song with everything  
 imaginable in it.  
 Everything is mentioned  
 from Harrison Ford to  
 Chinese chicken to laughing  
 at funerals.  
 Soft, friendly songs filled the rest of the  
 album.  
 However, they were not all that bad.  
 "Call and Answer" has a catchy tune to it and  
 the words hold strong meanings.



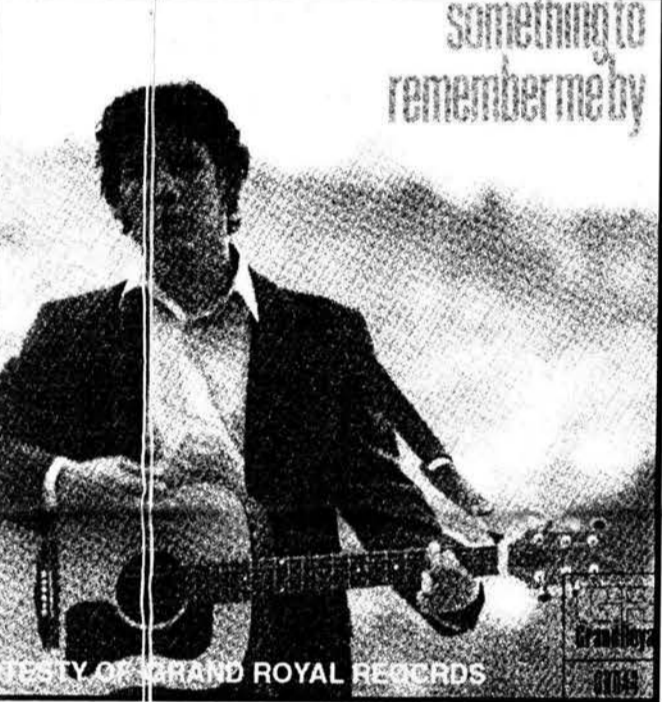
It is a sentimental song filled with good  
 and supporting  
 verses.  
 "Never is  
 Enough" is a  
 good tune that  
 speaks of  
 graduating high  
 school and what plans  
 one could have afterwards.  
 The guitars and drums back  
 up the words and the upbeat  
 melody of the song.  
 The next song is probably  
 everyone's theme song (at least  
 it's mine).  
 It's called "Who Needs Sleep."  
 It is about a guy trying to fall asleep  
 but he's unsuccessful in doing so. So  
 then he starts counting sheep and  
 heartbeats, but he can't avoid the  
 "pleasures of insomnia."  
 This tune has a catchy chorus and if  
 another Stunt song hits the radio, I predict it  
 will be this one.  
 Most of the songs on the disk are not as  
 good as I expected. I figured since "One

Week" was so up beat that the others  
 should have been as well. I was wrong,  
 which is okay. It was a learning  
 experience.  
 If you are the type of person who  
 likes to sing in the shower, the  
 Barenaked Ladies album has all the  
 words to the songs in the insert of the  
 CD.  
 So if you like to sing about  
 Chinese chicken and watchn' X-Files  
 with no lights on, then you're in luck.  
 All in all, the album is not  
 terrible and is a pretty good  
 investment if you like the softer side  
 of music.  
 I, on the other hand, would have  
 liked it if all or most of the other  
 songs were more upbeat. I need  
 something to jam to when I'm  
 driving around Omaha.  
 I'm not expecting a second  
 song to hit the air from this  
 disk, but the Barenaked  
 Ladies did put in a worthy  
 effort in producing this  
 album.



COURTESY OF RESPIRE RECORDS

## Ben Lee's new album is worth remembering



**By Andy Hickman**

For all of you who have heard  
 Ben Lee's first album, his new album,  
*Something to Remember Me By*, may  
 come as a shock.  
 His first album was a  
 composition of immaturity, a  
 wonderful sense of liveliness and  
 relationship oriented music.  
 The Australian born twenty year  
 old made his debut in 1995.  
 After a tour in 1997 he  
 disappeared and then popped back up  
 for a new album.  
 In this new album, he has  
 matured and toned down his poppy,  
 fast paced vitality for more thought-  
 inspiring lyrics.  
 His instrument of choice is his  
 acoustic guitar which is much more

prominent in this album.  
 This gives the album a folk sound  
 to it; enough to consider it a folk  
 album.  
 For the majority of the songs it's  
 just him and his guitar.  
 The lyrics are remarkably  
 touching compared to his previous  
 work.  
 They give you a nostalgic sense,  
 reminding you of times gone by.  
 There are only a few artists out  
 there that can convey that kind of  
 feeling so close to home.  
 A lot of his songs are serious but  
 he still holds on to his youth.  
 Songs like "The 80's Sitcom"  
 and "The End of the World" are  
 examples of satire at it's finest.  
 "The 80's Sitcom" is a humorous  
 portrayal of destinies of such starts as

Kirk Cameron and the Cosby Kids.  
 In the end they all go up to the  
 "big 80's sitcom in the sky".  
 "The End of the World" is a song  
 about what he would do on the day  
 the Earth blew up.  
 It involves "tearing down Main  
 Street in a stolen police car" and  
 "chain smokin' cigarets; it doesn't  
 matter 'cause were all gonna die".  
 In retrospect to the several  
 humorous songs he has, he balances  
 the album with serious songs like  
 "Daisy" and "8 Years Old".  
 "Daisy" is a song about a guy  
 falling in love with a one night stand,  
 trying to get a hold of her and having  
 her avoid him.  
 One of the more touching  
 quotations is "how could I touch such  
 an angel, long gone".

"8 Years Old" portrays the story  
 of an eight year old and his girlfriend.  
 She breaks up with him giving  
 him his first broken heart described  
 as: "it's sad when you're a suicidal  
 eight year old".  
 The story ends when he's  
 seventeen and they get back together.  
 "Deja-Vu couldn't even begin to  
 describe the way I feel.  
 Maybe all the things in my life  
 will turn out this way."  
 The over-all effect of the album  
 is amazing.  
 Ben Lee's talent is show through  
 his superior control of tone color for  
 affect.  
 For those of you who enjoy  
 sitting down and just relaxing this  
 album is a must.  
 Let's hope that it is not his last.

## Omaha "chick" band releases new album

**Meredith Zendejas**  
 Mulberry Lane sounds like another  
 "chick" band.  
 Well, maybe because it is.  
 Mulberry Lane is a native Nebraskan  
 band made up of four sisters.  
 You may know them as the Radiks Sis-  
 ters.  
 When they were just a local band that is  
 they were known as.  
 Then they got a contract with a record  
 company and changed their name to what we  
 know them as today, Mulberry Lane.  
 Their music is similar to the Indigo Girls  
 and Wilson Philips.  
 Their songs are very harmonized, and  
 their sound is  
 Their music sounds kind of like country  
 but with the "twang".  
 "Don't Cry 'Til You Get to the Car," their  
 first release came out a couple of weeks ago  
 at most music stores.  
 Their new CD features their radio release "I Don't  
 Know You".  
 Their music is very good, except for the  
 fact that it all sounds the same.  
 All of the songs have the same notes and  
 melody, but with a little variation in each  
 song.  
 All of the songs seem to be in the same

tempo. It is the kind of music you could fall  
 asleep to.  
 Don't get me wrong, I love the music, it  
 is just hard to listen to the whole CD without  
 thinking about sleeping.  
 The lyrics to the song aren't just about  
 your everyday things.  
 All the songs sound like they have some  
 deep hidden meaning that when you listen to  
 it, it feels like they are talking about you.  
 If you are really depressed I would not  
 recommend listening to this CD.  
 It might make you even more depressed  
 than you already are.  
 Besides all the depressing stuff about the  
 music, it sounds really cool.  
 They do have a couple of upbeat songs  
 that are different from the others.  
 Mulberry Lane is a very talented band.  
 And what's even better, they came from  
 right here in our little-big town of Omaha!  
 Yes, they are known nation wide.  
 Honestly and truthfully, this is some great  
 music, and a great investment.  
 It is a change from all the groups and  
 bands that are played on the radio.  
 After awhile they all start sounding the  
 same, and the same songs are played over and  
 over again, and it get old.  
 It is good to know that there is a variety  
 of music out there.

*Mulberry Lane*



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# Cultural Spotlight

## Afghanikabob does the job

By Meredith Zendejas

"O my goodness, how am I going to eat all this food!" I decided to go and visit Afghanikabob, at 3023 Farnam St., just to see what it was.

Everyday on my way home from school, I always catch the red light on Farnam St. And everyday I am puzzled by this small building smashed in between two other buildings, with a weird name, Afghanikabob, only to find out that it is a restaurant.

I did not know what to expect when I got there. The service was excellent! The host even opened the door for me.

After I was seated, the waiter helped me order because I had no clue what half of the menu items were.

The price of the food was reasonable. They had a separation between what they called "lighter portions" (or in other words, cheap food), and there "heavier portions" (or their expensive foods). The prices ranged from \$6 to \$20.

I, being a poor high school student, chose from the "lighter portions" list. I decided on stir-fried rice with chicken.

The food came out about five minutes later, and it was huge. They gave me this big plate of rice and mixed vegetables in this sauce that was really sweet.

I would hate to have seen what the "heavier portions" were.

The food was on the plate like some gourmet platter on the cooking channel.

The food tasted awesome. I was hesitant to try the mixed vegetables, because they looked weird. After the first bit I was hooked. I couldn't stop myself.

On the plate was triangle bread. At first I didn't know what it was, but it was one of the best tasting bread I have ever tasted.

Did I mention that it was in a triangle shape? I can't get over it.

The waiter was really friendly. About every five minutes he would come over and make sure the food was okay.

It got annoying after awhile, but that was his job. And the fact that there was only two other people in the restaurant besides me.

I also liked the waiters accent, I thought it added to the atmosphere.

I did like the fact that there were not a lot of people there. While I was eating, I could hear Arabian music.

The restaurant was decorated in fancy drapes over some of the tables. They also had a neat painting that covered a whole wall. I felt a little under dressed, but no one cared. It is a casual restaurant.

I would totally recommend this restaurant to everyone. It is a great kind of place to eat for all occasions, especially if you are looking for something different.

You really get your money's worth.

# Happenings

## SEPTEMBER

24--The Fonzarellies, The Break Ups, The Young Hasslehoff, The Dependables at the Cog Factory 22nd Leavenworth

24 & 25--Preseason face off hockey, Los Vegas Thunder vs. Las Vegas Beach Ice Dogs at Civic Auditorium 7:05 pm

24 - 27--Toni Tennile in the musical "Victor-Victoria" at the Civic Auditorium

25 & 27--River City Roundup. Downtown

26--Mulberry Lane and the Confedentials at 12th Howard in On the Roof 6-8pm

26-30--Vala's Pumpkin Patch Fall Festival at Vala's Pumpkin Patch

## OCTOBER

1, 10 & 12--Annual Home Show at Civic Auditorium

3--Octoberfest at German-American Society

11--Fall Festival of Faith, Christian music at Civic Auditorium 11-10pm

18--AIDS Walk Nebraska

19--St. Petersburg State Symphony Orchestra at Orpheum Theatre

23--Minnesota Timber Wolves Vs. Phenix Suns at Civic Auditorium 7:30pm

25--Princes Diana The Musical at the Joslyn Art Museum

# Entertainer of the month

## Blue Panic is planning big

By Meredith Zendejas

With over 2000 students now attending Central High School, it's understandable that people will converse, work together, and form bands.

"I met the bassist through Central and he had a friend who could play guitar and then that guy had a friend who could play the drums. And then we all just kind of came together and formed a band." Central senior Doug Graber said.

Graber is the vocalist and lyricist for a band called Blue Panic. The other members are Josiah Nielsen (bassist), Erik Magnasen (guitarist), John Kelley (guitarist) and Tom Lostus (drummer), Graber said.

Eric Magnuson, Prep senior, said he started the band about two years ago with Josiah Nielson, and they kept adding people as they fit their style.

Tom Lostus, Prep sophomore, said that he joined the band about 10 months ago. He said when he joined Graber moved from drummer to lead singer, and he went to the drums.

Magnuson said that they put out a CD called "Who's the Intellectual?"

Lostus said that the band sings alternative music, some of the songs have no meaning, like the song, "Gumb Grum". He said that one of the songs that they sing, "69th

Street", Neilson wrote. He said it is his old house on 69th St.

"I'd like this to go far, but I'm counting on it." Graber said.

Jon Kelley, Omaha North senior, said that he takes what the band has done comes.

He said he doesn't like getting his ego up because he might get let down.

Magnuson said that the band will go to other cities next summer and get bigger gigs. He also said that he wants to go into the studio again and make another CD.

Lostus said that the band is saving money for a pig to take with them on their gigs.

He said they plan to paint "Blue" on the side and "Panic" on the other.

Lostus said that they practice one week at Jon Kelley's house.

He said that Jon lives just outside Blair, and they practice in his barn. He can play as loud as they want.

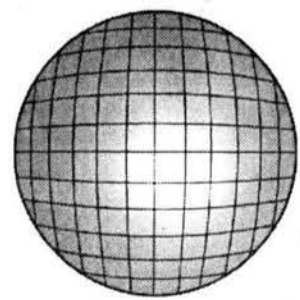
Blue Panic has played at places like their first show at the Wooden Apple Cog Factory and the Ranch Bowl. They average a profit of about fifty dollars a gig, Graber said.

"We play for the enjoyment of it, but it would be nice to be able to play for the money." Graber said.

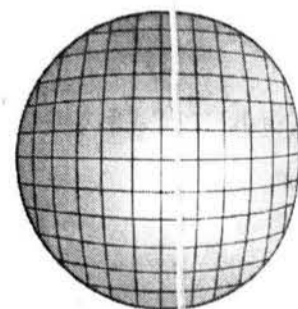


CATHY COLLING/THE REGISTER

ROCKIN' AND ROLLIN'...Eric Magnuson, guitarist for the band Blue Panic, entertains Marian High School at their Welcome Back dance on Sept. 4, 1998.



# FLASHBACK TRIVIA



1. What musician signed with Motown Records at the age of 11 with his first hit, "Fingertips, Part 2," in 1963?"

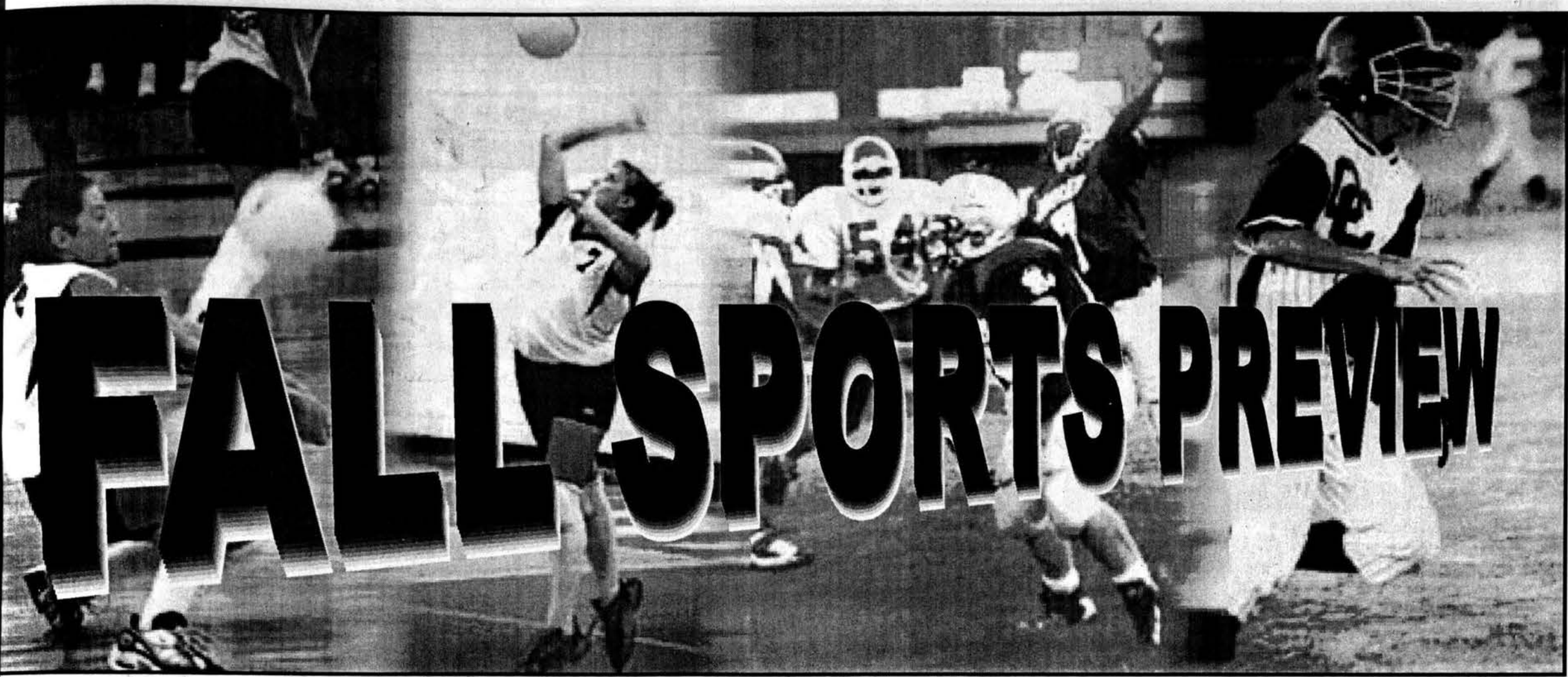
2. In 1991 this artist re-recorded "Unforgettable" with her late father.

3. ABBA, a 1970's Swedish band made up of two married couples, stands for what?

4. In 1957 a new young group called the Domingoes hit the charts, and later changed their name to what?

5. In 1982 this reunion tour was sold out across the country with all the original members: Eddie Kendricks, David Ruffin, Otis Williams, Melvin Franklin, and Paul Williams.

ANSWERS: 1) Stevie Wonder; 2) Natalie Cole; 3) The Spinners; 4) The Temptations; 5) The Spinners.



# FALL SPORTS PREVIEW

## 8 Central Eagles Fall Sports Preview

**Football**  
**Coach:** Joe McMenamin, 9th year  
**Record last year:** 5-6, 2nd round playoff finish  
**Players lost to graduation:** DeAntae Grixby (IB, DB); Lawrence Butler (FB, LB); Thomas Hubbard (IB, DB); Cecil Evans (QB); Djuan Johnson (TE); Cody Shevlin (LB); Jason Galaska (OL, DL); Jason Friedrichsen (C); Jay Axelrod (FB, LB), Brian Ketelson (OL).  
**Returning players:** Jamaine Billups, 11 (IB); Brandon Williams, 12 (RB, CB); Terrell Gardner, 12 (OL); Errol Randolph, 12 (FB, NG).  
**Opponents to watch:** Creighton Prep, Westside, Millard West  
**Coach's outlook:** "I think we have great potential. But, potential means you haven't done it yet. As the season goes along, our rookie starters will gain experience and we'll start to play like a veteran team."

## CROSS COUNTRY



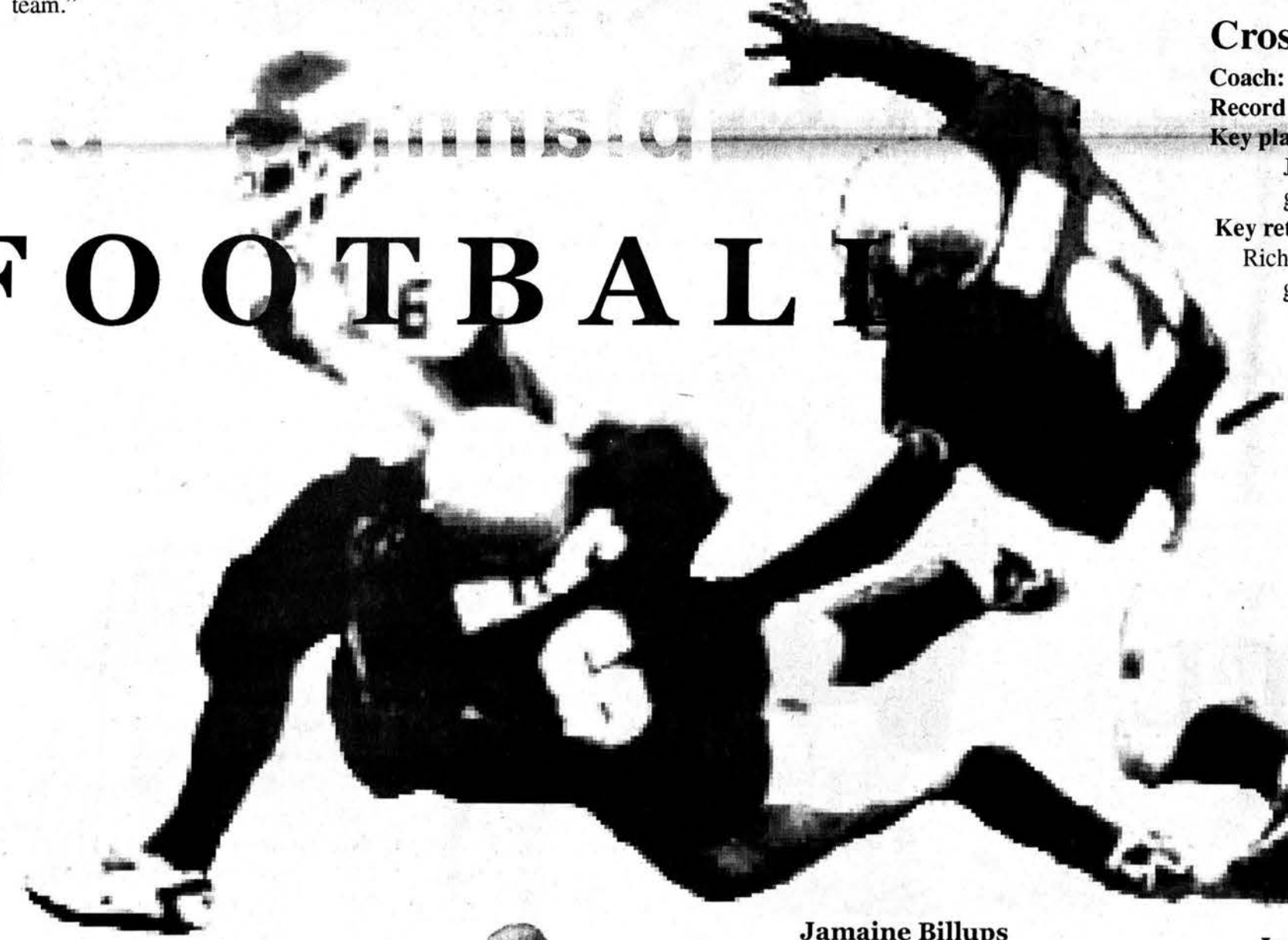
Boys' cross country team

**Cross country**  
**Coach:** Tim Shipman, 11th year  
**Record last year:** n/a  
**Key players lost to graduation:** boys--Sam Kruger, Todd Jacobsen, Nate Kovarik  
 girls--none  
**Key returning players:** boys--Dave Rennard (12), Jamison Richart (12), Carlos Zendejas (10)  
 girls--Annika Carlson (12), Meredith Zendejas (11), Rebecca Iverson (10)  
**Coach's outlook:**  
 boys--

"The boys are very young, but they should improve throughout the year. This is the largest

group of freshmen and sophomores that we have had out in several years."

girls--  
 "Annika Carlson should again be one of the top runners in the state."



Jamaine Billups



Josh Smith

## GOLF



Jessica Boro

**Girls' Golf**  
**Coach:** Jo Dusatko, 32nd year  
**Record last year:** 4-5  
**Key players lost to graduation:** Rachel Slosburg  
**Key returning players:** Stacy Cramer (12), Elisha Miller (12), Lena Hosford (11), Jessica Boro (11), Taylor Billotte (11)  
**Opponents to watch:** Westside, Millard North, Millard South, Millard West  
**Coach's outlook:** "This is my biggest golf team ever and also one of the most competitive and enthusiastic. It's a fun team to coach."  
**Starters:** Any five of the following: Cramer, Miller, Hosford, Boro, Billotte and Caroline Walburn (10).

## SCHEDULES

Girls' Golf		Football		Cross Country	
9/22	SOUTH (H)	9/25	WESTSIDE (H)	9/22	Creighton Prep Inv. (Memorial Park)
9/29	Metro	10/2	Creighton Prep (A)	9/26	Bryan Inv. (Bryan)
10/1	Millard West (A)	10/9	SOUTH (H)	9/29	Bellevue East Inv.
10/6	BRYAN (H)	10/16	Columbus (A)	10/2	Millard West Inv.
10/7,9	District	10/23	Millard West (A)	10/8	Metro (Chalco Hills)
10/15,16	State	10/29	BRYAN (H)	10/15	Districts
				10/23	State
Home matches played at Elmwood All matches start at 3:30 p.m.		All games start at 7:00 p.m. Home games at Bergquist Stadium.		Starting times: 4:00 p.m.	



# '98 Central Eagles Fall Sports Preview

## Boys' Tennis

**Coach:** Matt Shafer, 1st year  
**Record last year:** 4-4 (dual), 4th place finish at State  
**Key players lost to graduation:** Chad Powell, Kasper Poulsen, John Ashford  
**Key returning players:** Stuart Waters (12), Jeremiah Schultz (12), Charlie Carlin (12)

**Opponents to watch:** Westside, Millard South  
**Coach's outlook:** "I think we have a good chance at having two State Champions this year with Stuart at No. 1 and Jeremiah at No. 2. Our doubles teams are inexperienced, but I think they'll surprise some people. When Stuart is on he can beat anybody and I mean anybody."

### Roster (tentative):

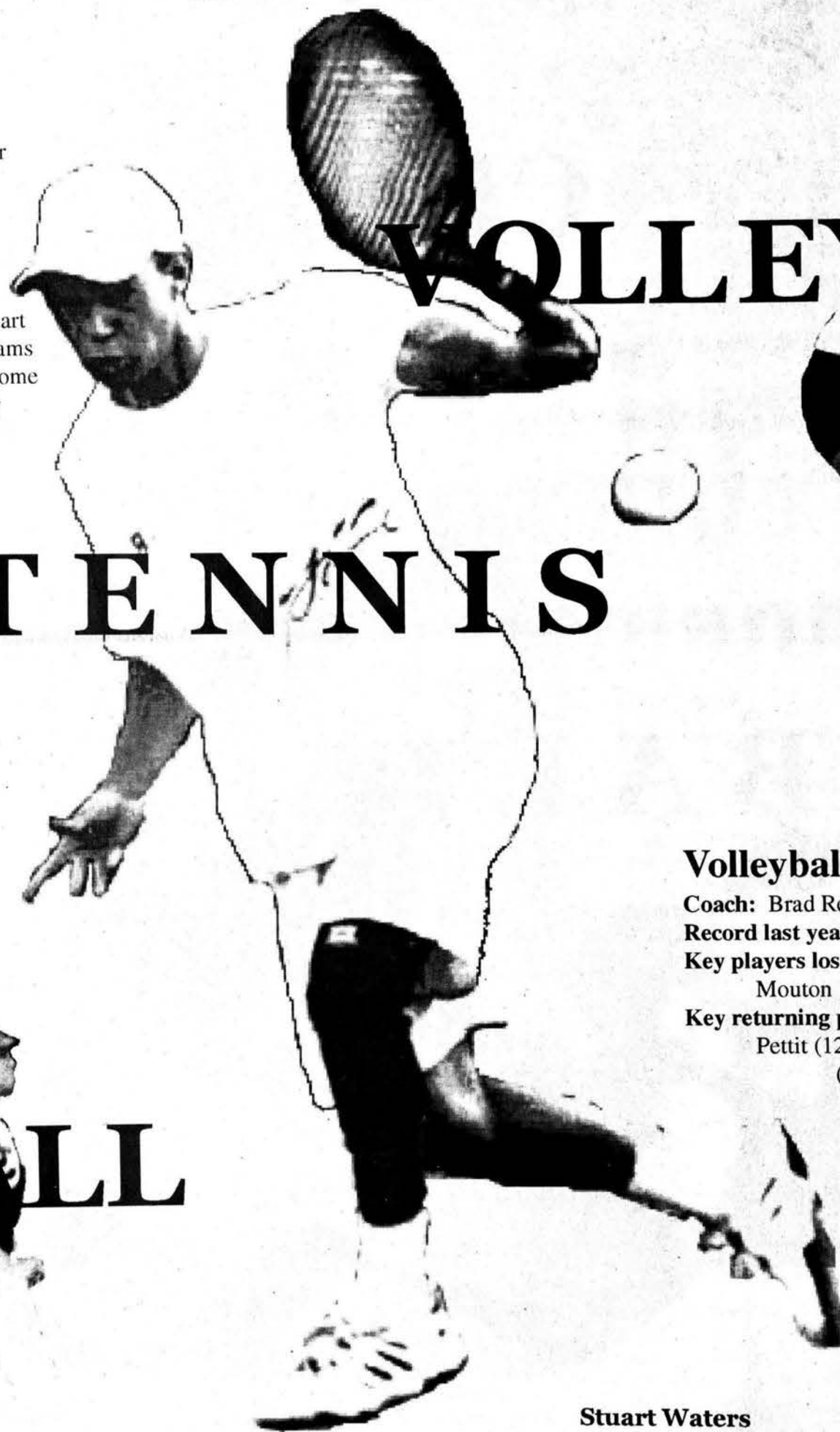
#### Singles

1. Waters
2. Schultz
3. Carlin
4. Quint Lamoroux, 10
5. Chris Ochsner, 11
6. Ian Sansom, 10

#### Doubles

1. Carlin/Lamoroux
2. Sansom/Edward Yin, 9
3. Ochsner/Ben Cramer, 9

# TENNIS



Stuart Waters

# VOLLEYBALL



Cara Steffensmeier

## Volleyball

**Coach:** Brad Reichmuth, 4th year  
**Record last year:** 10-15  
**Key players lost to graduation:** Becca Baines, Jessica Mouton

**Key returning players:** Cara Steffensmeier (12), Lauren Pettit (12), Stephanie Holm (12), Sarah Johnson (12), Becky Abersfeller (12), Kari Rider (11), Liz Kieffe (11)

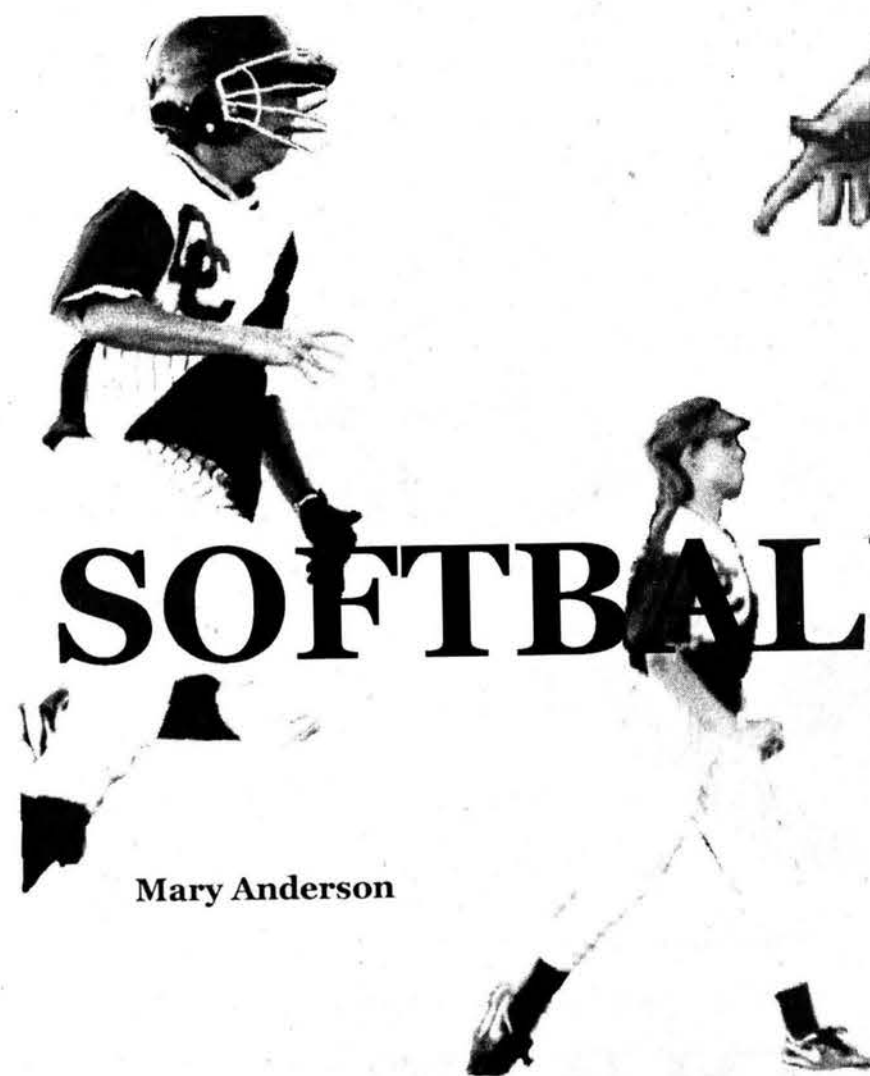
**Opponents to watch:** Bellevue West, Marian

**Coach's outlook:** "Seven players have been on varsity for three or more years, so experience will yield success!"

### Roster (starters):

- Pettit, Steffensmeier, Johnson, Kieffe, Rider, Holly Greenmeyer (11), Holm

# SOFTBALL



Mary Anderson



Melissa Brown

## Softball

**Coach:** Kerri Semrad, 2nd year  
**Record last year:** 13-17  
**Key players lost to graduation:** Cris Calhoun, Jenny Queen, Ally Crossman, Kim Lykke, Kim Higgins  
**Key returning players:** Mary Anderson (11), Meghan Duffy (12), Amber Akiens (12), Maggie Day (11), Sophia Theophilopoulos (11), and Kari Shank (11).  
**Opponents to watch:** Millard West, Papillion La/Vista, Marian, Millard North  
**Coach's outlook:** "We're hoping for strong pitching and strong defense. We've already lost four one-run games, but this team is very competitive and has an outstanding attitude. The real goal is that the kids reach their potential and I think that we're well on our way to attaining that goal."

# SCHEDULES

Softball		Boys' Tennis		Volleyball	
9/24	MILLARD W.(H)	9/22	Prep (A)	9/22	<u>BELLEVUE E. (H)</u>
9/28	Millard North (A)			9/25,26	Papio/La Vista
9/29	WESTSIDE (H)	9/24	SOUTH (H)	10/2,3	SKUTT/CHS INV.
10/1	Marian (A)			10/6	<u>Millard South (A)</u>
10/5	Bryan (A)	10/1	Millard West (H)	10/8	NORTHWEST (H)
10/6	Lincoln High (A)			10/13	<u>SOUTH (H)</u>
10/8	Northwest (A)	10/2	Bryan (A)	10/16,17	Northwest Invite
10/12	BENSON (H)			10/22	MW/Westside (A)
10/13	MILLARD S. (H)	10/7,8	Metro	10/26-28	Metro
10/15,16	District			11/2	<u>Bryan (A)</u>
10/22,23	State	10/15,16	State	11/5,6	Districts
Home games are played at Dill field.		Home courts are at Dewey. All matches start at 4:00 p.m.		Underlined games are at 6:15 p.m. Remaining are TBA.	

# HS wideout makes position switch to I-back

By Jeff McWhorter

Central Eagle Football Team will look this year from an old face. Brandon Williams, one of the Eagles' seniors expected to make a name this year according to the *Omaha World-Herald*, is making the switch from running back to I-back. Coach just asked me to switch, and I said OK," Williams said. Williams, who played running back as a freshman, said he is pleased to be back at the I-back position. In his freshman year Williams broke through in his back playing basketball. When he returned to the team as a senior, he was moved to receiver because of the need for running backs out of which he received Division I scholarship offers. Williams' looks to split carries this year with fellow I-back, junior Jamaine Billups. Both players will receive many carries this year on a team that looks to win about 70 percent of the time, Coach Joe McMenamin said. Williams and Billups have played together for five years and enjoy each other. Both being starters in offense and defense, it's nice for them to have a change, McMenamin said. Williams likes to use Jamaine to run between him and Brandon on the outside. "I like his speed," he said. Williams and Billups feel they can help each other on the field. They are from one another because they are both seniors. Williams is working with him [Billups]. We are the teacher and we both play the same way," Williams said. Williams has the leg up on Williams because he has an extra year to play but Williams is still making an impact, coach McMenamin said. Williams may lack experience but he has speed and has developed a good style," coach McMenamin said. Williams, who also runs track, and finished last year's State Track Meet in 4:44.4, runs a sub-4.4 second 40-



CARA MILLER/THE REGISTER

**OFF TO THE RACES...**Central senior I-back Brandon Williams returns a punt against Benson. Williams scored two touchdowns in the game, with one coming on an 87-yard kickoff return and another coming on a 65-yard run from scrimmage. He led the Eagles in rushing, finishing with 111 yards on four carries, as Central (2-0) defeated the Bunnies, 39-20. The Eagles' next game comes on Sept. 25, at home against the Westside Warriors.

# Former Eagle catches on with MLB's Detroit Tigers

By Jeremy Scurlock

There he spent most of his defensive time in the outfield and batted almost .300. "Creighton has a pretty good [baseball] program," Barte said "so I got pretty good exposure to major league scouts." Barte was then drafted into the major leagues by the Baltimore Orioles, he then spent three years in their minor league farm system before being sent to Detroit in 1996. "Kimera was a special kid, a coaches dream, an athlete so gifted, one only comes along in years," Dominquez said. Going to Detroit was just the start for Kimera; he would spend more time in the minors perfecting his swing from both sides of the plate. Barte would be sent from the minors to the majors three times this year trying to better his switch hitting, having the ability to bat from the right and the left side of home plate, Barte said. "Now," Barte said, "the real work starts. I have to be willing to work day in and day out, and to take that extra step to prepare myself for the game." During Kimera's junior and senior years, Central was ranked in the top ten at the end of both seasons, Dominquez said. "Now, my true test comes," Barte said. "To see if I can hit against major league pitching. Getting here [the major leagues] is an extremely tough journey. But, staying here and trying to keep a job is even tougher; a lot of players have trouble learning that." "I just hope I don't turn out to be one of them."

A former central baseball player has found himself a spot in Major League Baseball, Head Baseball Coach of Iowa State University said. Elvis Dominquez coached Kimera Barte in '89-'90. Barte was recently called back to the major leagues by the Detroit Tigers. Barte, who graduated in 1990, was recently brought back from the AAA Toledo Mud Hens to help the Tigers finish out their season. "Being in the majors is an experience like no other," Barte said. "It's something I, and every other baseball player, have dreamt about our whole lives." Barte played for Central from 1986 to 1990. He played all four years on varsity. He played second base, a little outfield and never had a batting average lower than .400, Dominquez said. "Playing and then succeeding out of Central was really great," Barte said, "Now I'm trying to give back." Barte had The Franklin Company send a box of Franklin batting gloves to Central, which were then sold to players for two dollars a pair. He said that he would have the same thing done again this year. "He [Kimera] was a good baseball player, obviously, but also a great three-point shooter and, a good kid," Athletic Director Paul Pennington said. After leaving Central, Barte went on and played three years for Creighton University.

# Lineman breaks through big

By Jeff McWhorter

One "big" reason Central's football team can expect to maintain excellence running the ball this season is an offensive lineman, the Head Football Coach said. Head Coach, Joe McMenamin was of course talking about senior offensive and defensive lineman, Terrell Gardner. "Big T", as he is referred to by many here at Central, is six feet, six inches tall and weighs in at around 310 pounds, he said. A transfer from Dubuque, Iowa his junior year, this will be his second year starting on the varsity squad and opening up holes for Central's always potent running game. Staring running backs, senior Brandon Williams and junior Jamaine Billups, could not be more pleased to have Gardner guiding their way. "We know if we're ever in trouble we can count on him to block for us," Williams said. Gardner is so reliable that the offense spends time gearing plays so Gardner can lead block, McMenamin said. "We try to run the ball behind Terrell as much as possible without making it obvious

to the other team what our game plan is," McMenamin said. Gardner moved from Dubuque to Omaha with his uncle to start over last year he said. His grades were low at his old school and he was getting into trouble. Since attending Central though, his grades have improved and he is staying on the right track, he said. "Terrell has improved and is a smarter, stronger, and faster player than last year. He is a very coachable player as well," McMenamin said. Now Gardner has set goals for himself, which include All-State recognition as an offensive lineman, his favorite of his two positions, and attending a big name college to play football. Both of these goals are very attainable for Gardner who received preseason recognition from the *OmahaWorld-Herald* as one to watch, and receives hand written letters daily from programs such as last year's Co-National Champions Nebraska and Michigan. A co-captain and leader on the field, Gardner should anchor both lines this year and really help the running game succeed.



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# S P O R T S



**Full-Court Press**  
By Jeff McWhorter

## Former football player finds success in coaching

By Derek Tritsch

After a two-year stint in the National Football League (NFL), former Central High great Calvin Jones finds himself right back where he started his football career—at high school.

Over one year after being waived by the defending Super Bowl champion Green Bay, Jones finds himself back in football as the Central High varsity running backs coach.

"I enjoy coaching," Jones said. "I think it's an opportunity to give back to the school that brought me so much."

Jones was asked by the Eagle coaching staff to coach one year ago, right after he was waived by the Packers, Central Head Football Coach Joe McMenamin said.

"Calvin had called us a year after we asked him, and the door was still open for him," McMenamin said. "We wanted him coaching here."

McMenamin was not the only one who wanted Jones as an assistant coach, as many of the varsity players sung Jones' praises.

McMenamin also said that the Super Bowl ring Jones earned with the Packers affords him much respect with high schoolers.

"He has a wealth of football knowledge, but even when he is saying the exact same thing as me, the kids are going to listen to him more," McMenamin said.

Talking to Calvin Jones, you come away with a sense of peacefulness, a sense that he is finally happy with his life, which is something that could not be said two years ago.

After leaving Nebraska prior to his senior year to enter the NFL draft, Jones endured two less than perfect seasons with the Oakland Raiders.

Jones was the third running back in a two running back system, behind veteran Harvey Williams and then-rookie Napoleon Kaufman.

Nebraska fans felt that Jones was not getting a fair shot as a result of Oakland's inadequacies in the front office. The situation reminded them of running back Marcus Allen's situation with the Raiders ten year's ago.

As it were there was public speculation that Raiders' owner Al Davis had intentionally kept Allen on the bench because of personal differences. Allen was generally regarded as one of the game's greatest running backs in the late eighties and early nineties, but he was never allowed to play up to his potential, the media thought.

Could a similar situation have happened to Jones?

Ask an ardent Nebraska fan and you will no doubt get an impassioned "yes," but Jones refuses to take that route.

"I don't think I got caught up in a numbers game out there," Jones said. "I just think it was a case of the Raiders organization refusing to change with the times. They're living off their past success which is why they haven't won a playoff game in ten years."

And as for his opinion of Al Davis, Jones says he understands the method to Davis' perceived madness.

"Al Davis is your typical businessman," Jones said. "He owned the business, so naturally he's going to want to have a say in it."

Although he doesn't seem visibly bitter toward his experience in Oakland, Jones said the situation did cause him to lose his love for the game of football.

"It was a tough situation—I'm not going to lie to you—but I considered myself very lucky to be even be the NFL," Jones said. "I never thought in my wildest dreams that I'd be playing in the NFL someday."

"I'm extremely thankful that I did have that opportunity and that I even got a Super Bowl ring in the process," Jones said. "The game of football gave me my education so I have no reason at all to be bitter toward it."

"Coming back here helped me realize that," Jones said.

Football is not the only thing on Calvin Jones' mind. He is involved with several marketing firms in the Omaha area and "definitely" plans on re-entering the broadcast field at some point.

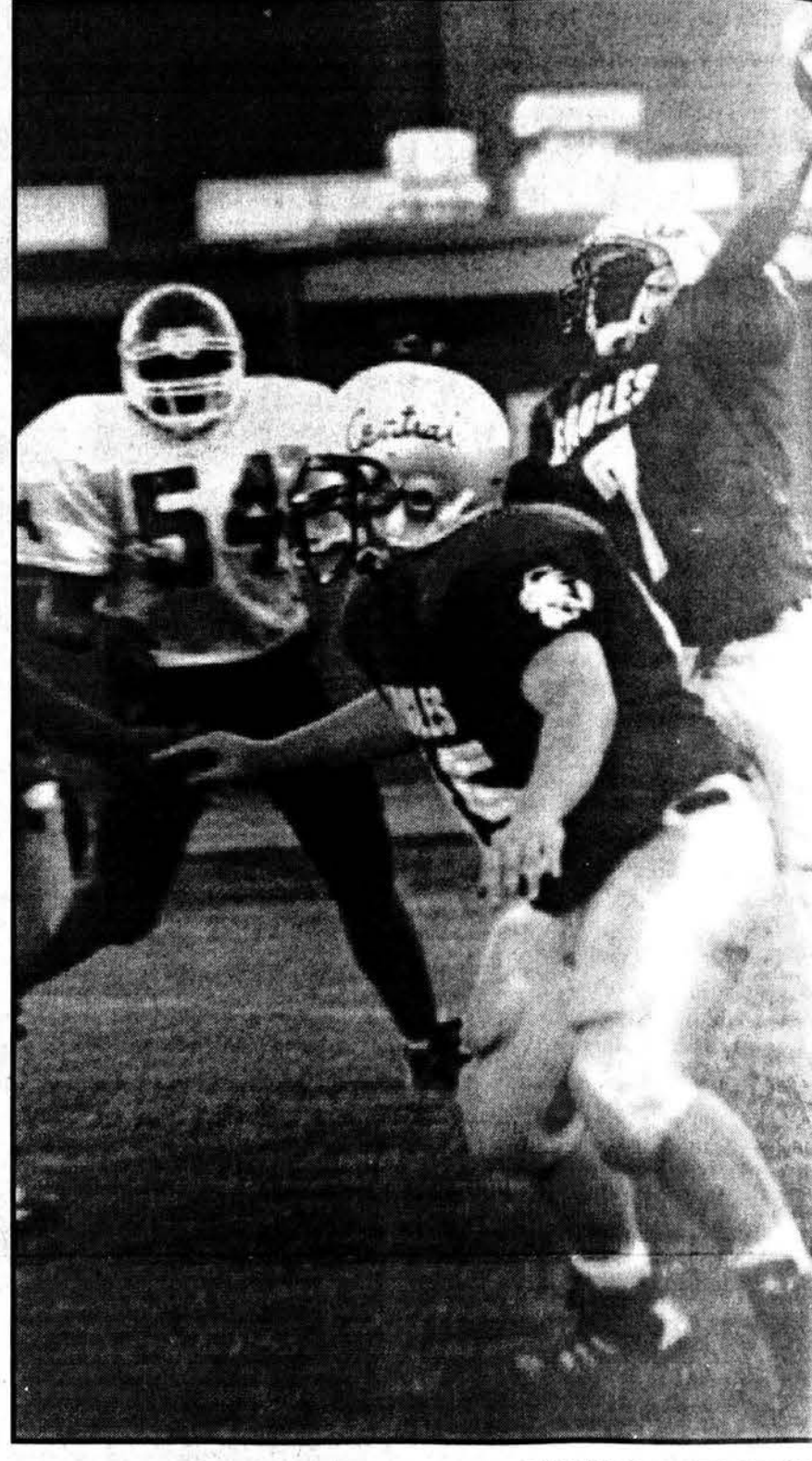
Jones got his feet wet on one of Omaha's all-sports radio stations, 1180 KOIL, as he accompanied radio personality Gary Java on a nightly show which aired from three p.m. to six p.m.

"Doing the show was fun and I definitely plan on doing radio again in the future," Jones said.

As for Jones' coaching career with Central, he said he and the rest of the coaching staff will re-evaluate his position at the end of the season and decide if it is best for both parties if he comes back next year.

"We'll take a look at my position at the end of the year," Jones said, "that is, after we win the State championship," Jones said, tongue in cheek.

## Huntin' Wabbits



CHARLIE CARLIN/THE REGISTER

Eagle quarterback Lornell McPherson (11) launches the ball up into the air against a Benson defender. The Eagles went on to win the game 39-20. So far the Eagles have a record of 3-0. The Eagles started off the second quarter with an 87-yard touchdown by senior Brandon Williams

## Baseball's Comeback

So, who's a baseball fan? I never considered myself a fan at all until recently. Of course, after this summer's spectacular season of Major League Baseball, chances are many people are starting to place themselves in this category.

A category usually reserved for those young kids going through their card collecting phase and the fathers who still remember their first game with Dad, excitedly passing on the legacy to a reluctant son or daughter.

But now, after a strike caused the cancellation of the World Series, and the formation of a league of "replacement" players just three years ago, baseball is back on its feet and experiencing a resurgence of fans unlike any other in recent professional sports history.

Here are some of the reasons why:

### THE HOMER

The most prevalent reason for baseball's new life is obviously is the race for the almighty, untouchable homerun record. Maris' 61 in 61 were an amazing feat.

The record has since seemed unattainable and has stood that way for thirty-seven years.

Yes, the most glorious and revered record in professional sports and the race to the top it has unfolded like a blockbuster movie with a tremendous script containing two remarkable heroes and a jaw-dropping ending.

### THE SLUGGERS

One of these two titans, Mark McGwire is probably the protagonist. McGwire, a former "Bash-Brother" with the Oakland A's in his early years, has hit homeruns from the get go and only improved as years go by.

Now with the St. Louis Cardinals, McGwire has had a career year and looks to easily achieve the record.

The other homerun king in pursuit of Maris' elusive record is an unlikely one in the form of Chicago Cub's left fielder, Sammy Sosa.

He Captured the hearts of the fans nation-wide. Sosa adds an unexpected twist to the homerun race and the fans love it.

### THE TEAM

Another reason for baseball's sudden burst of popularity can probably be attributed to the success of the New York Yankees who have posted one of the best records in baseball history and have been unbeatable all year.

They are the epitome of the word "team".

Good pitching, excellent hitting, and a steady defense have all contributed to the team's superior record, unmatched by any other in the league.

By becoming of model of efficiency, the Yanks have captured the eyes of the American public.

This year's Major League Baseball season will be one to remember.

## Ex-Eagle plans to play for the Huskers next fall

By Derek Tritsch

When life hands you a lemon, make lemonade," the proverb goes, and one former Central athlete is making good on that.

Central High School Class of '98 graduate DeAntae Grixby's transition into college football hit a decided bump in the road last month as he separated his shoulder in the 1998 Shrine Bowl, for high school all-stars, at Memorial Stadium in Lincoln.

Grixby shined in the game, as his 121-yard, two-touchdown performance earned him the game's Most Valuable Player award.

"The amazing thing about that game was that DeAntae played the entire fourth quarter after he separated his shoulder," Central Head Football Coach Joe McMenamin said, "and it turned out to be his best quarter."

The injury required surgery, which he underwent the following week, McMenamin said.

The surgery was something that had to be done, but it was also something that prevented him from enrolling at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln on football scholarship in the fall.

Grixby is currently paying for his own part-time education and also living in Lincoln. Not enrolling as a full-time student will allow him to retain his freshman status when he begins play next year, Grixby's mother, Ms. Evelyn Grixby said.

"DeAntae's actually getting five years of education for only four years of football," Ms. Grixby said.

A turn of events that most would view as a setback, Grixby said he views his situation as a blessing in disguise.

"[Not playing football] gives me a chance to learn the ropes at college and get used to being on my own," Grixby said. "I'm actually kind of happy it worked out this way."

So, through the first three games, has Grixby managed to elude all the anxious feelings that go along with sitting out an entire season? Not entirely, he said.

"It was not too hard until I saw the tunnel walk the first game [against Louisiana Tech]," Grixby said. "It got my adrenalin going."

And as for his involvement with the team, Grixby said that, although he cannot practice with them, he is still allowed to eat at the daily team training tables.

"The training table is funny

because, before the game, you always hear people bragging about what they're going to do today," Grixby said, "and [against Louisiana Tech] no one really went out and did what they had said."

Not playing has not kept Grixby from forming relationships with other Cornhusker players, either.

"[Junior linebacker] Eric Johnson has sort of taken DeAntae under his wing," Ms. Grixby said. "He let him stay with him in Lincoln during the summer when the team was taking part in voluntary workouts."

Grixby said Johnson was one of his closest friends on the team.

"EJ is my big brother," Grixby said. "We met at the Nebraska summer football camp when he was a freshman, and I guess we kind of just got along well."

Grixby said that when he starts playing again this spring it will be at the running back position.

"I told them [the Nebraska

coaches] that I would play what they want me to," DeAntae said. "It looks like that's going to be running back."

Currently, Grixby said his schedule includes attending one of his two scheduled classes for the semester, and then reporting to Memorial Stadium for his one-shoulder rehabilitation session.

Grixby characterized his class so far as being "easy," which seems to give credit to his high school for preparing him well, Ms. Grixby said.

"The Central High curriculum taught him to be a good student," Grixby said. "I think all his teachers have helped to make him the student he is today."

Grixby also said that he is getting along with the coaching staff in Nebraska well.

"Coach [Frank] Solich is one of the main reasons I came here," Grixby said. "I've gotten along with him great since day one."

## FOOTBALL

### Central starts season at 3-0

The comeback kids are at it again. The Omaha World-Herald Top 10 No. 7 Central Eagles came through for another come-from-behind victory on Thurs., Sept. 17, as they defeated then-Top 10 No. 10 Millard South at Buell Stadium 18-14.

The Eagles, who were down 14-3 at halftime, came back on the strength of a 31-yard Justin Galaska field goal and a

Jamaine Billups 4-yard touchdown run.

Senior Brandon Williams gave Central the lead for good with a 25-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter.



Eagle Head Coach Joe McMenamin (pictured) said that it was Central's defense, however, that won the game.

The Eagles held Millard South to 36 total yards in the second half.

"We've got a small, but very quick defense," McMenamin said, "and they're good tacklers."

Central's next game comes on Fri., Sept. 25, against Top 10 No. 5 Westside at Bergquist Stadium.

## BASKETBALL

### Lady Eagles hire new varsity coach

For the first time in Central basketball history, a female was named to the position of girls' head basketball coach.

Michelle Roberts (pictured) will take over for Dave Felici, who left Central last

year for new opportunities," Central Athletic Director Paul Pennington said.

Along with the new head coach, Central is also receiving new coaches at the freshman, reserve and junior varsity level.

"We have a completely new staff from last year and I'm really excited for the season to start," Coach Roberts said.

Last year the Eagles finished the season with a 2-12 record under former coach Dave



Felici.

"We'll all miss Coach Felici, but this is a chance for us to get a fresh start with some one new," senior Center Stephanie Kelley said. "Most of us haven't played under her yet."

Pennington said that Central, along with Northwest, will be the only Metro high schools with a female head varsity basketball coach.

Kelley also said that most of the girls have been playing a lot of basketball over the summer.

Coach Roberts said that she is looking forward to working with all the kids. "All these kids are great," she said.