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the Central High School Register

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State Senator visits Central

By Mary Lynn Super
An effort to gain a better grasp of current Nebraska public education, State Sen. Ardyce visited several Omaha schools, including Central. "It's the best, and maybe the only, way to know what improvements need to be made in a school, as well

as what improvements need to be made, is by visiting the school," Sen. Bohlke said. Sen. Bohlke's visit, which took place during the last week of September, consisted of Principal Dr. Gary Thompson and other Central staff members making presentations about Central's programs for the senator.

Dr. Thompson began the presentation by discussing all of the changes Central has seen over the past few years. Many of them were made in an attempt to accommodate the rapidly increasing population, which sprang up to 2204 students this year, comparing to 1700 in 1994, Dr. Thompson said.

"It is hard to accommodate such a large number of students in a building built to hold 1800 people," Dr. Thompson said. Such changes include the remodeling of spaces throughout the building, such as the formation of several new computer labs and changing a section of the library into a new classroom, the principal said.

Civic provides parking

CHS gains 100 to 150 spaces from nearby auditorium

By Mary Lynn Super

"I'm totally thankful for the new parking lot, and it is a privilege to park there. Now I don't have to leave at six in the morning just to find a parking spot," a Central senior said.

Jason Niemeier recently received a parking permit for the new parking lot at 19th and Chicago streets. He said he applied for the permit after he did not receive a senior lot parking permit. Dr. Gary Thompson, principal, said that the new parking lot has drastically cut down parking problems.

"Now 70 or 80 cars that would otherwise have to find spots on the street have someplace else to park," Dr. Thompson said.

The new lot has provided Central

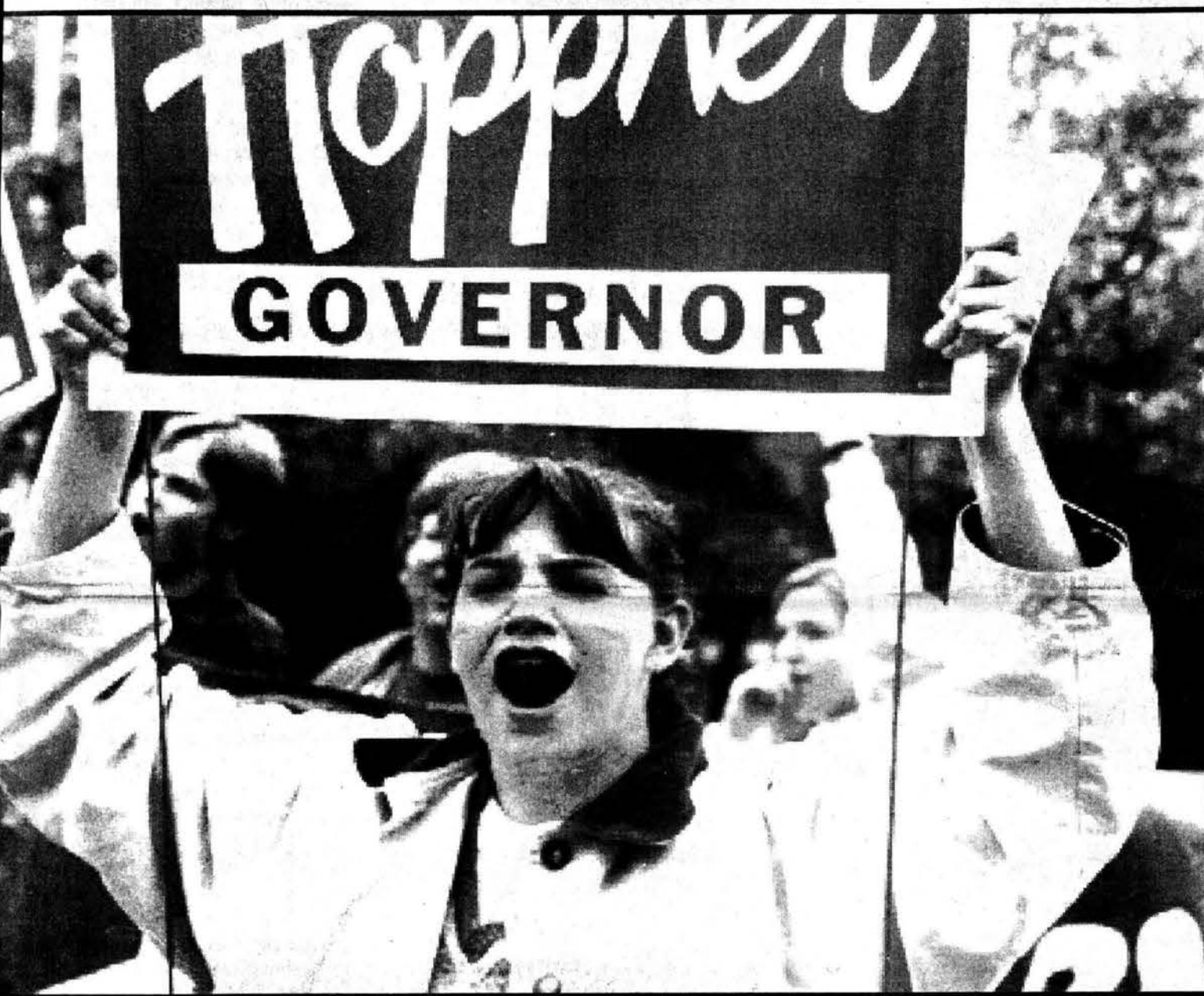
with 100 to 150 new parking spots, Dr. Thompson said. Still, only about 80 of the available spots/parking stickers have been claimed so many spots are still open, he said.

Dr. Thompson said that he had driven past the parking lot several times and noticed that it was almost always empty.

"I was so tired of listening to people complain about the parking situation that I decided to call the Civic [Auditorium] and ask them if we could use their lot," Dr. Thompson said.

He also said that he was somewhat surprised that the Civic agreed with only one minor stipulation: that Central provides some type of security for the lot. Right now security for the lot is provided by American Security, a private security company Central hired specifically for the protection of cars in the new lot, Dr. Thompson said.

Soon, Central's own security guards will watch the lot, rotating in one and half-hour shifts, he said. To make sure that security in the actual school itself will not suffer, another security guard, Frank Zavorka, was recently hired, Dr. Thompson said.



CATHY COLLING/THE REGISTER

GO, HOP, GO! A Bill Hoppner supporter cheers on the candidate outside of the University of Nebraska-Omaha's Bail Student Center before the gubernatorial debate on Oct. 1. During the debate, Hoppner said that maintaining Nebraska's quality education system is the state's biggest problem.

Candidates square-off

By Brian Joseph

Republican gubernatorial candidate Mike Johanns called the issue of Initiative 413 the defining issue of the governor's race.

He wasn't kidding.

In an Oct. 1st debate that pitted both candidates agreeing more often than not, the subject of the proposed lid on property taxes brought-out drastically different views from Johanns and Democratic candidate Bill Hoppner.

And, it brought some barbs from Hoppner, as well.

"As my opponent normally does, he tries to avoid this subject,"

Hoppner said.

Hoppner said that Johanns has never had a firm stance on the proposed lid on property taxes. Originally, he said, Johanns supported 413 and helped fundraise for the proposed constitutional amendment.

It is Johanns' lack of a firm stance on such an important issue, Hoppner said, that proves he is not qualified to be governor.

"If you cannot lead on this particular issue, you're not prepared to be governor," he said.

In response, Johanns said that while he at one time supported Initiative 413, he has switched his position.

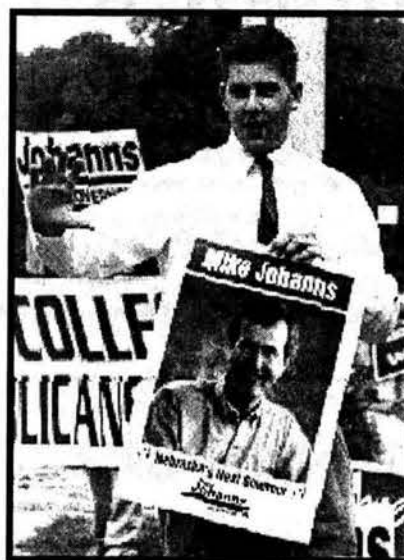
"I've indicated that I will vote against Amendment 413," he said.

However, he said that he does not oppose 413 because of the "spending discipline" it places on school districts. He said that budgeting is a fact of life for everyone, so it should be no different for schools.

"I believe we can finance education. I believe we can lower property taxes. But, you have to decide what the priorities will be," he said.

Rather, Johanns said that he is against the proposition because it does not allow the state to transfer

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CATHY COLLING/THE REGISTER

VOTE REPUBLICAN... UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-OMAHA (UNO) STUDENT SEAN GUILFOYLE WAVES TO CARS PASSING BY UNO BEFORE THE DEBATE.

Central students gain access to Starr Report

By Morgan Denny

The Starr Report, a detailed description of President Bill Clinton and Monica Lewinsky's sexual activities, has become accessible to Central students with just the touch of a few buttons over the Internet, a Central business teacher said.

Mr. Matt Shafer also said that although Central has a system that filters out inappropriate Internet material, the Starr report is available to Central students because it is a government document.

Having read the Starr Report, Shafer said that he feels that it should not be accessible to students at school, but should be available to the public.

"As a parent," Shafer said, "I would probably tell teachers that I do not want my kids reading that at school."

Amanda Ward, junior, said that the Starr Report should not be available over the Internet at all.

"Little kids could read it and think that it's right," Ward said.

Adam Moeller, senior, said

that it is up to parents to regulate which Internet sites their children access.

Moeller said that the Starr Report should be available on the Internet because it is another form of free speech.

"It can't be good or bad because people have the choice whether or not they wish to read it," senior Brian Connor said.



Discrepancies found among area schools' ACT scores

Area High Schools' ACT Composite Scores

Millard	🧠🧠🧠🧠🧠	22.5
OPS	🧠🧠🧠🧠🧠	21.0
Westside	🧠🧠🧠🧠🧠	23.7
Bellevue	🧠🧠🧠🧠🧠	22.7
Elkhorn	🧠🧠🧠🧠🧠	23.5

One brain (🧠) = 3.75 points on the ACT
Scores reflect the average composite score of the 97-98 school year for each district. Information obtained from individual school districts.

By Mary Lynn Super

Every year thousands of high school juniors and seniors take the American College Test (ACT). And every year, major discrepancies can be seen when comparing the average composite scores of each school and each district, a high school guidance counselor said.

Dr. Dick Lundquist, a counselor at Westside, said that the purpose of finding the average ACT composite score of a school's senior class is to be able to compare the students to those of other schools in the metro area, as well as the nation.

A composite score on the ACT is the average of all of the other subscores, one in each of four categories: science, reading, math and English. The highest composite score possible is a 36.

When compared to other districts in the metro area, the Omaha Public Schools (OPS) district averaged a composite score that was several points lower.

Dr. Gary Thompson, Central High School principal, said that he believes a large part of the reason for the gap in the scores is the fact that the population of the OPS district is much different than that of other districts, such as

Millard and Elkhorn.

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Election '98

Students undecided about next governor

By Brian Joseph

And the winner is... nobody? According to the results of the Register's election survey, the overwhelming majority of the students polled—53.4 percent—stated that they were unsure about their choice for the next governor of Nebraska. Republican candidate Mike Johanns brought in 14.6 percent

of the vote while Democratic candidate Bill Hoppner received 22.3 percent. Also, 9.7 percent of the students polled said that if

Professor James B. Johnson, chair of the University of Nebraska-Omaha's political science department, said that the results are not surprising.

"There has always been a negative relationship between age and

voting participation," he said.

Johnson said that high school students tend to pay little attention to politics because they are simply involved with other things.

Also, he said that if the students are not old enough to vote, they believe that they should take no interest in political races. However, this does not mean that all Central students are apathetic to the

governor's race.

"If I was 18, I think that I would vote for Johanns," senior Adam Moeller said.

Moeller said that he supports Johanns because of his conservative beliefs and his party affiliation. While this may sound superficial, Johnson said that most voters base their decision on only two factors: party identification and name recognition.

"People tend to vote for party," he said.

Senior Ben Rinaker said while he originally thought he would support Johanns, he is behind Hoppner.

"Johanns was pro-life, Hoppner was pro-choice. I'm pro-choice," said.

It was these similarities, he said, that changed his mind.

413 Candidates debate proposed property tax lid

Continued from page 1

excess funds collected from property taxes to other state departments in need of money.

Hoppner said that he disagreed, saying that providing funds to Nebraska's education system is of the utmost importance.

"What Nebraskans want cannot get done if this initiative is passed," Hoppner said.

Hoppner said that he is adamantly opposed to the proposition, because of the adverse effect it would have on Nebraska's education system. If Initiative 413 is passed, Hoppner said that Nebraska's schools would lack enough funds to remain competitive.

However, even if 413 is not passed, Hoppner said that plans have to be made to find alternate sources for education funds.

"We have to get the reliance to pay for schools away from property taxes," he said.

This issue of continuing Nebraska's quality public education system with property tax cuts is the biggest problem facing the state, Hoppner said.

Johanns disagreed saying that Nebraska's biggest problem is the outrageous tax burden it places on its citizens.

"Nebraskans are asking for tax relief," he said.

However, he said that this is nothing new.

"That message is no different from the one I heard when I ran for mayor of our state capital in 1991," he said.

In order to lower this tax burden, Johanns said that if elected, he plans on doing what he did for Lincoln as the city's mayor—make the state government more efficient.

"One of the first things I did when I took office was give up the mayor's car," he said.

Since that time, Johanns said that he took the city of Lincoln out of debt and built up a \$22 million surplus.



Carol Hipp, the chair of the social studies department, said that Central had more seniors register to vote than any other school.

Of the seniors who will have turned 18 in time to vote,

18 and Voting

55% said they will vote
21% said they will not vote
24% said they are undecided

If the governor's election were held today, who would you vote for?

Mike Johanns 15%
Bill Hoppner 23%
Other 10%
Undecided 52%

What issue do you think the candidates should focus on the most?

Issues

Education 34%
Crime prevention 30%
Taxes 18%
Abortion 7%
Race relations 11%

What political party do you associate yourself with?

Republican 19%
Democrat 39%
Independent 42%

247 Students polled

Johanns will win, university professor says

By Brian Joseph

In tune with a political trend dating back to the end of World War II, Republican gubernatorial candidate Mike Johanns will become the next governor of Nebraska, a political science professor says.

Professor James B. Johnson, chair of the University of Nebraska-Omaha's political science department, said that since World War II, every gubernatorial race that did not feature an incumbent ended with the Republican candidate winning.

Plus, Johnson said that Nebraska is a traditionally Republican-dominated state.

In fact, he said that over the past years, the gap between the number of Republicans and Democrats in Nebraska is widening.

Also, he said that Johanns has another advantage over Hoppner while Republican voters traditionally tend to vote only Republican and Democrats tend to vote for Republican and Democrats.

And Johanns has more financial support.

"I haven't seen the numbers," Johnson said, "but I would suspect Johanns has more money."

But, Johnson said that this does not mean that everyone across the board is supporting Johanns.

In fact, he said that some members of the Christian Right of the Republican Party think that Johanns is too liberal.

Johnson said that there has been some talk that this wing of the Republican Party may decide not to vote in the upcoming election.

Nonetheless, Johnson said that in his opinion, Johanns will become the next governor of Nebraska.

Hoppner looks to maintain state's education system

By Brian Joseph

Bill Hoppner's vision of Nebraska for the 21st Century: continued educational excellence.

The Democratic gubernatorial candidate said that maintaining Nebraska's quality education system would be his number one priority as governor.

And he said that he has clearly been the candidate to place the most emphasis on the issue.

Thus, he said that anyone can see that he is the candidate most capable of providing for the future of Nebraska's children. As for his plans to do so, he said that the key to the whole issue is the state needs to provide an ample

amount of funds to the education system.

It is this belief, he said, that has prompted him to adamantly oppose Initiative 413, the proposed amendment to the state constitution that would place a cap on property taxes.

If Initiative 413 is passed, Hoppner said that the effects would be devastating to Nebraska.

"Nebraskans would have to choose between tax relief and education reform," he said.

If it were passed, he said that it would be very difficult for Nebraska's school districts to remain competitive with other states schools. As for the state's post-secondary

system, Hoppner said that he has plans to reverse Nebraska's trend of losing high school graduates to other state's colleges.

"I think we need to consider what the governor has been purposing [to reverse the trend]," Hoppner said.

However, he said that also wants to put more emphasis on the School-to-Work program. Also, he said that he wants to entice former Nebraskans to come

back to the state after they graduate from college and enter the work force. Hoppner said that he also has plans to deal with teen violent crime and drug and alcohol abuse.

"We need to be tough from a law

enforcement standpoint," he said.

Yet, he said that the state needs to be careful not to brand juveniles as criminals for their entire lives. Also, Hoppner said that it is important for those government officials to deal with youthful offenders by creatively communicating with the teens.

In the end, Hoppner said that he would have one goal if elected governor—make sure that all of Nebraska's youth receive the same opportunities for advancement that he received as a child.

And, because of this commitment he has to improving the lives of Nebraska's citizens, Hoppner said that the outcome of the governor's race is very clear.

"I'm going to win," he said.

Bill Hoppner

Party affiliation: Democrat

Past government offices held: Chief of Staff to Sen. Bob Kerrey (1989), Chief of Staff to Governor Bob Kerrey (1983-1984), Chief of Staff to Senator Jim Exon (1979-1982), Legal Counsel to Gov. Jim Exon (1974-1978)

Business experience: Executive Vice President of International Transportation Specialists

specific emphasis on incorporating computers in Nebraska's classrooms.

"Technology is very important," he said. However, Johanns said that he does not want to add this technology at the cost of extracurricular activities or electives.

He said that the state of Nebraska currently pays 50 percent of the cost of education and he has no interest in changing that figure.

Johanns said that if this does not change, there will be no threats of cuts.

In regards to Nebraska's trend of losing its graduating high school students to out-of-state colleges, Johanns said that he wants to reverse that trend.

To do so, he said that he wants to ensure

that Nebraska's colleges are competitive with other schools.

"My goal would be to not lose any students to an outside college," he said.

But, he said that while this goal is unrealistic, he does not want students leaving Nebraska for financial reasons.

Johanns said that he would hate to see a student leave Nebraska because an out-of-state college offers better financial assistance.

Whatever the case, by providing good education at Nebraska's schools and universities, Johanns said that economic opportunities in the state would increase.

Johanns said if Nebraska has a well-educated work force, big businesses would be enticed to come to the state.

Thus, there will be more job openings and more opportunities for economic advancement within Nebraska.

As mayor of Lincoln, Johanns said that he succeeded in bringing in big businesses with a similar plan.

Besides his plan for increasing opportunities for advancement in Nebraska, Johanns said that he wants to decrease the number of crimes committed by teens.

"Education is the key," he said.

Johanns said that he wants to work on stopping underage drinking and teen drug abuse.

In regards to underage drinking, he said that, if elected governor, he plans on cracking down on vendors in Nebraska who sell alcohol to minors.

As for the outcome of the governor's race, Johanns said that he was confident in his "Less Government, Lower taxes" campaign.

"We're optimistic," he said.

By Brian Joseph

As the next governor of Nebraska, Mike Johanns said that he can offer youth economic and educational opportunities.

Johanns, the Republican gubernatorial candidate, said that his campaign has focused on increasing teen opportunities for betterment.

"One of the things we've stressed in this campaign is economic opportunity and educational opportunity," he said.

If elected governor, Johanns, the mayor of Lincoln, said that he plans on helping the education system in Nebraska move into the 21st Century.

To do so, he said that he wants to place



Mike Johanns

Party affiliation: Republican

Past government offices held: Mayor of Lincoln (1991-1998), Lincoln City Council member, (elected in 1989), Lancaster Board of Commissioners (elected in 1982)

Business experience: Judicial Law Clerk for the Honorable Hale McCown, practiced law with the firm of Cronin & Hannon, partner in the law firm of Nelson Johanns Morris Holdeman & Titus

Valentine, Neb. implements teen curfew

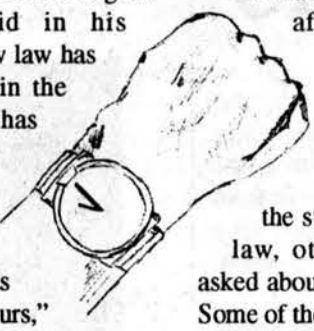
Edith Zendejas
Valentine, Neb. teenagers have been ordered off the streets after a new curfew law that took effect on July 20. Hanzlicek, City Clerk for Valentine, Neb., said that during the summer months, teenagers under age 16 were on the streets causing problems. Bierman, sophomore, said he won't turn 16 until after the new driving law would come

into play, but he said it still means a curfew for him. Under the new law kids under the age of 16 cannot be on the streets from 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. any night of the week. The kids who are 16 and 17 years of age cannot be on the street any night of the week from midnight to 5 a.m., Hanzlicek said. "Even though I am not driving, I still have to be off the streets at midnight," Bierman said. He said that even though the new law might be for the better, it still is

upsetting. Hanzlicek said that the original idea to pass the curfew law was suggested about a year and a half ago by the Valentine Parent Teacher Association and the police. He said that it was a very long process to make this idea a law. There was some hesitation by the City Council to pass the law, and it was brought before them many times before they agreed. He said that some teenagers did disagree with aspects of the law. He

said that the kids were concerned that the new law would limit their rights. Hanzlicek said in his opinion, that the new law has made a difference in the crime. He said he has seen it go down. "This [the curfew law] is a tool for the police department to get kids off the streets after hours," Hanzlicek said. When the law came into effect,

Hanzlicek said they did have some rebellious kids who stayed out after curfew to see if the police would catch them. He said the kids seem to be dealing with it a lot better now. He said that because of the success of the new curfew law, other communities have asked about the wording in the law. Some of them have actually passed a law similar to the one they have in Valentine.



ACT Discrepancies found among schools' scores

Continued from page 1

"We [OPS] have a much more diverse population, and that does not necessarily mean just minority students. The differences range from socioeconomic background to life experiences to educational background," he said.

Dr. Thompson also said that, as a whole, Central scores very well on the ACT every year.

Shaun Kiel, Central senior, said that even though he did not prepare for the test in any way, he believes that Central's classes are preparation to score well in themselves.

"I feel that Central prepared me as well as, if not better than, any high school could," Kiel said.

Kiel took the test last June and received a composite score of 33.

Besides the optional individual preparation, many schools try to prepare the students within the actual curriculum, Dr. Lundquist said.

"ACT, for the past 12 years, has provided the schools with these averages. They have also provided what they define as the proper core curriculum," he said.

According to ACT, the core curriculum consists of four years of English, three years of math, three years of science and three years of social studies, he said.

Dr. Lundquist also said that there are several reasons for Westside's relatively high average composite score, which was 23.7 for the year 1997-98.

He said the main reason for the high scores is the recent attempt to implement the core curriculum into every student's schedule.

"We are making a concerted effort to increase the number of students who complete the core curriculum," Dr. Lundquist said.

The number of students who are completing the core curriculum is a major concern for all schools, especially in terms of ACT scores, Gary Lannan, Burke High School guidance counselor, said.

"Average scores around the nation are rising, most likely because more and more schools are pushing the core curriculum," Lannan said.

The Burke senior class of 1997-98 received an average composite score of 22.5, the exact same average as the entire Millard school district.

South High School, in comparison to other schools, usually has a lower average composite score, according to the OPS research department. The school's 1997-98 average composite score was 21.0, with only a small percent of students receiving a score above 28.

Nina Dibiasi, senior at South, said that she was not sure that her regular classes would have been enough to get a decent score on the ACT.

In order to prepare for the test, Dibiasi said she attended a class provided by the school during the summer. She said the class was made available to Bryan students as well.

"I really think if I wouldn't have taken that class, it [the ACT] would have been much harder," Dibiasi said.

She also said that the class is beneficial in that it teaches students how to focus on the actual questions that the tests contain and how the questions are asked, especially in the English section.

Another high school with a low average ACT composite score this year is Benson, according to OPS research department.

Scott Rentschler, senior at Benson High School, said that he did not prepare for the test at all.

"That is the way I always prepare for tests," Rentschler said.

But, he said, while the lack of preparation gave him an above average score (28), he was somewhat unsatisfied with the score.

He also said that he believed that his honors classes definitely prepared him for as much as possible.

But, he said, there is a huge difference between what one learns in the typical honors class compared to what one learns in a regular class.

"I think someone who took mostly regular classes would not do anywhere near as well as if that person took honors classes. Not even close," Rentschler said.

Urban League, State Farm team-up to encourage teens

Program honors 500 high school students for their leadership, academic achievement

By John Eubanks

"I am so grateful for participating in this program," a Central High student said. "I don't know where I would be today without them."

Sophomore Perry Stanfield said that he has been on top of the world ever since he was honored at the Campus of Hope, an event organized by the State Farm Insurance Co. and the Urban League.

Rachelle Tucker, the youth development specialist for the Urban League said that about 500 or so teens were recognized from all over the Omaha area on September 19th at event. The teens were honored for their achievement within the community.

The partnership between the Urban League and the State Farm Insurance Co. was formed as a way to encourage achievement by minority youths, such as Stanfield, Tucker said. Gary Olson, the executive director of State Farm Insurance Co., said that the State Farm Insurance Co. got involved because they wanted to give back to the community.



ways recognizes the Dean's List and service work."

This does not mean that the members are doing badly in school, though, Tucker said.

"The students, though, prove to be doing very well in school considering their conditions and what they have been through," she said.

Whatever the case, Olson said that Stanfield's story is an example and lesson that we all could learn from.

"He showed great courage for standing up and saying that he is an achiever," Olson said. "He should encourage a lot of other teens to do the same."

Stanfield said that he hopes that he presents a good impression for his friends.

Stanfield said he feels he is helping them go in the right direction away from gang affiliation.

Stanfield said that instead of getting involved in a gang, he finds other ways to spend his time.

"He is definitely a prominent leader, and through this [the organization] he will build upon his character," Tucker said.

In fact, it was this character that led to him getting noticed by organizers of the Campus of Hope event.

Kathy Trotter, Stanfield's supervisor at Job Training at Jesuit Middle School, nominated Stanfield for his hard work and dedication.

"At Job Training, we visit colleges and learn about jobs," Stanfield said.

"It has taught me a lot about what I have to do to get to college and so forth."

As for the future of the Urban League-State Farm partnership, Tucker said that both hope to develop more programs in the future.

Drum roll, please



CATHY COLLING/THE REGISTER

FOR A GOOD CAUSE... Quinn Sikora, drummer for the band Echo Farm, keeps the beat during a benefit concert in which the band was involved. The concert was held during the AIDS walk on Oct. 18.

OPS begins communications audit

Central High School, along with the rest of the Omaha Public School District (OPS), is revising its communication program, an OPS board member said.

Dr. Richard Galusha said that the OPS District communication Audit is designed to decide how much technology will be used and

"We want to give access to schools who need help," Galusha said.

The audit consisted of a technology and communication audit.

Public Information Director LuAnn Nelson said at the purpose of the program designed to determine the effectiveness in internal meetings and external communication.

The idea for the program first started a year ago when Superintendent Dr. John Mackiel decided that OPS needed to take a look into the way the district was communicating.

"We did the technology audit last year by evaluating

the student information systems," Dr. Dennis Pool, said.

"But we were so busy last year we decided to put off the communications audit until this year."

According to Deloitte & Touche, the company that performed the technology audit, OPS has spent over \$13 million on computer software and hardware.

Dr. Pool said that the benefits of the audit are to find the districts strengths and weaknesses.

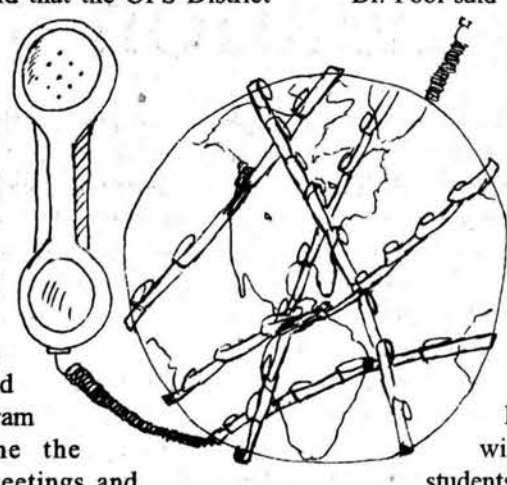
"We want set about to enhance our strengths and improve our communication weaknesses," Dr. Pool said.

LuAnn said that the audit would be performed by Leslie and Associates, an outside consultant who specializes in audits.

"We made the football players mainly out of construction paper," Parrott said.

The rest of the display was made out of cardboard and posterboard.

She also said that the if the Central Marketing dept. won the contest, the money would go towards off-setting the marketing departments costs and help fund



CHS Marketing students design, build Coke display

Katie McCann

Several Central marketing students recently participated in a competitive promotional activity at a local grocery store, one of the participants said.

Katie Lubauskas, junior, said marketing students set up a Coca-Cola display at Bakers' located on Saddle Creek and Winthrop, as did several other area schools.

She also said that the project was a great success for all of the marketing students who participated.

The goal for the display was to attract people who shop at Bakers'

attention," Lubauskas said. "I think the display did that."

After the announcement of the possible project with Bakers', students met with people from both the Coca-Cola company and Bakers' to plan the event, she said.

After the meeting, students and representatives had to decide how many cases of Coke products it would take to set up the display, Lubauskas said.

She also said there were few students who participated at the meeting of representatives, where they decided what they were going to need for the display. Even so, she said, when it came time to set up the display, several others joined.

Lubauskas said that Central's slogan for the project was "Football Fridays."

The display consisted of a football field, players, and a scoreboard. Both Emilie Parrott and Margaret Kukula, seniors, helped make the players for the display.

"We made the football players mainly out of construction paper," Parrott said.

The rest of the display was made out of cardboard and posterboard.

She also said that the if the Central Marketing dept. won the contest, the money would go towards off-setting the marketing departments costs and help fund

student trips to state and national contests.

Katie said that some of the students who helped with the display supplied the material that was used for the project, and that those students will be reimbursed.

Central marketing teachers who were involved with the competitive project were Harry Gaylor and Vicki Wiles.

Gaylor said that the winner of the display contest will receive \$500. As of right now, he said, judgement is pending.

"This project with Bakers' definitely fits in with the whole marketing concept," Lubauskas said.



TOUCHDOWN!...the display, a model football stadium, is made of Coke products and cardboard.

Block scheduling draws in students

By Derek Tritsch

A world with no homework? To Central students this so-called "world" would seem to have as much a place in reality as the abominable snowman, but this world does exist. And it exists in schools that have block scheduling, such as North High School.

"Block scheduling is one of the reasons I transferred to North," former CHS and current North student James Hawkins said.

"I never have any homework anymore."

Block scheduling is a format that makes study halls obsolete and classroom time plentiful. Bryan High School is currently in its fifth year under block scheduling and the faculty has nothing but rave reviews for the program, Bryan Assistant Principal Dr. Peg Naylor said.

"Overall, the academic achievement at Bryan has improved significantly," Naylor said, "and our enrollment is the highest it's been in the nine years that I have been here."

A full day at Bryan consists of four 90-minute class periods and one 30-minute lunch period. Students take two core courses and two electives per semester, Naylor said, but the format does not allow for any study hall periods.

Students are able to finish most of their daily work at school, Naylor said, because teachers' lectures will often run about 60 minutes, leaving 30 minutes left in the class period for the student to work on the assignment given that day.

The beauty of the block schedule comes in the fact that the students are able to work on their homework with their teacher at their disposal for help, Naylor said.

Despite the success stories at North and Bryan, Central does not

plan on joining the trend any time soon, Central Principal Dr. Gary Thompson said. One reason is the difficulty of transferring credits from a block scheduling-school to a traditional-scheduling school, Thompson said.

"Can you cover the same amount of content in half a year that you cover in a full year?" Thompson asked, rhetorically.

Class LENGTH

- Central Periods last 42 minutes
- Bryan Periods last 90 minutes
- North Periods last 90 minutes
- Westside Periods may last 40, 60 or 80 minutes

"It's also difficult for us to schedule a transfer student from a [block scheduling] school because we don't know how extensive his previous courses were."

Another reason that block scheduling hasn't exactly caught on is that students have trouble remembering what they learned since it was taught in such a condensed format,

Thompson said.

"If a student takes a math or foreign language [class] first semester one year and he doesn't take it again until next year, I really question how much he's going to remember," Thompson said.

North High School currently uses an alternative form of block scheduling.

It is similar to Bryan's format in that the day consists of four 90-minute periods, but different in the fact that all eight courses are taken at once, choosing to alternate days rather than to alternate semesters.

One school not very likely to join the block scheduling trend is Westside High School.

They have employed modular scheduling since 1967, Westside Dean of Boys Marty Kauffman said.

The school days at Westside are vastly different from day to day, as students are faced with the possibility of either having a 40, 60 or 80 minute period in any of their courses, Kauffman said.

reference for colleges," Brandie Hollingsworth said.

In order to become a member of YLO a student must submit an application, which includes several short answer questions concerning the applicant's participation in school oriented activities, as well as their involvement in the Omaha community as a whole.

The application process also looks into the student's personality asking whom their hero is and asking for one thing the applicant would like to change about Omaha.

Goldstein said that around 400 sophomores turn in applications in early September, those 400 applications are reviewed by teams of

selectors who choose around 80 students to be interviewed in person, Kathy Oleson a sponsor of YLO, said.

Goldstein said the members of YLO attend one meeting a month until graduation from high school and participate in several seminars concerning leadership in the community.

The program really tries to focus on leadership in the Omaha community.

"Students should be an asset to the city, they should be learning about the city and themselves. The youth program teaches students how to work towards improving both," Gaylor said. "There learning what's good in the city and what needs to be done better."

YLO has many goals they encourage, including development of leadership skills and gaining an appreciation for diversity."

YLO has been a pretty fun," James Butler said.

"All sophomores should apply."

Program encourages leadership skills

By Jeremy Scurlock

Many Central students have been taking an active role in the Youth Leadership Omaha (YLO) program, Central High School teacher and former member of the YLO curriculum committee Harry Gaylor said.

YLO is in its sixth year of existence, and is growing every year.

There is approximately forty students selected from Omaha and the Metro area every year to participate in the program, Anne Goldstein, Director of Leadership Programming for the Chamber of Commerce and a sponsor of YLO, said.

YLO is a program designated to developing the leadership skills of Omaha Metro youth.

Students participating in the program attend many meetings and seminars focusing on leadership.

"Most students who apply for the Youth Leadership Omaha program are looking to sharpen their leadership skills and prepare themselves for a place in society," Goldstein said.

Members of YLO for this year are currently being selected. Participants in the YLO ambassador program from Central are Meredith Zendejas, Brandie Hollingsworth, James Butler, Marina Tsed, all juniors, and Charlie Carlin, senior.

Are all ambassadors in the YLO program.

Ambassadors are students who wanted to keep participating in the program after their sophomore year.

Carlin is currently working on the selection committee for YLO.

"I like being a member [of YLO], it gives me a chance to meet students from other schools and it's a nice



Ham it up!



CATHY COLLING/THE REGISTER

NOW THAT'S COMEDY... Fred Charles, a professional comedian from Los Angeles, Calif., performs by Mer... A new... right to... seat belt... levue, a... lice Dep... Herb E... propose... help rais...
standup routine. Charles, who has been touring the country for 14 years, incorporates a variety of impersonations into his performance. Nearly 2000 shows later, he brought his act to Omaha's Comedy Lift Club, located at 1314 Jones St., on Oct. 14.

Central ROTC gains first female officer

By Andrew Lieben

Central ROTC students have a new instructor teaching them this year, the first female ROTC instructor not only at Central, but also in all of OPS, the new teacher said.

Sergeant Sharon Cooper, a native Omahan, has come to Central for her first teaching experience.

She was brought in due to the large amount of female ROTC students at Central.

"The other teachers and I did some researching and found out that I was one in about 50 female ROTC instructors across the country," Cooper said.

"I'm not extremely thrilled with being a pioneer in this field. I feel I'll have to prove myself."

Teaching is a different story day to day for Cooper, she said.

It remains to be seen if she will be fully respected by her students, Cooper said.

Overall, Cooper says she is impressed with Central High School.

Cooper was ignorant of what Central would be like until she was interviewed by Dr. Thompson, Cooper said, but she finds the students and staff dedicated and intelligent.

Cooper originally worked in the Army administrative branch. This is her first experience ever teaching ROTC and she is still getting used to it, Cooper said.

"I haven't really developed a style for teaching yet, but I do try to

treat my students as responsible adults," Cooper said.

"Sergeant Cooper is extremely competent, her military background is very impressive, and because she comes from a large family, I think she will be a good instructor," Major Richard Yost, ROTC department head said.

For someone who has never taught or been around students before, teaching is usually a culture shock, but Cooper is adjusting very well, Yost said.

And the fact that she is the first woman ROTC teacher in OPS is great.

Seeing that about half of the ROTC class is female, she will be a

good role model for the young women who may even become someone to talk to.

Being one child out of a large family, Cooper was forced to come very independent, Cooper said.

The day after graduation from Marian High School, Cooper forced to get out of the house.

After several unsuccessful attempts, Cooper realized that she needed a steady career, Cooper said. "I needed a place that would shelter me, a me," Cooper said.

"Then, one day, as I was in the Army Recruiting Office at home from the unemployment center, an arm just reached out and me in."

"That's how I joined up."

Central teacher spends summer in Australia

By Meredith Kalina

"It was nice to see how people live, and you can really see the English influence."

Carol Krejci, a Central social studies teacher was speaking of a teacher exchange program through the University of Nebraska to Australia she was involved in this summer.

Alan Seagren, the professor of educational administration at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln,

said that two different programs are offered.

He said that there is one that lasts a year, and the one Carol was involved in lasted for three weeks. Krejci said that she joined thirteen teachers from all over the state in Australia to spend three weeks visiting Australian schools, Universities, TAFE (technical and further education) colleges, and performing arts schools.

Seagren said that the requirements for the trip included taking a graduate or undergraduate

course, getting a recommendation from the principal is encouraged, and an application must be filled out.

He said that all different types of teachers were involved ranging from special education, science, elementary, undergraduates, and social studies teachers such as Carol.

Seagren said that they have an orientation and they are to keep a journal while they are in Australia to record thoughts, ideas, and events. He said that when they got there, they had a seminar at Queensland University.

Krejci said that she was a "home stay" and two different Australian teacher's houses, and really enjoyed learning about another culture and way of living. She said that she would go and visit their schools during the day, and listen or give her point view on certain subjects.

"Two classes I visited were the Native Americans and the Australian Aborigines, and I was able to give them information on Native Americans," Krejci said.

Royalty required to submit application

By Sonya Voss

Central High School implemented a new Homecoming policy in an effort to improve social conditions for the present and future students of Central High School.

According to the new application process for the 1998-1999 Homecoming royalty candidates students had to prove that they were seniors, have been and are active participants on an athletic team, member of the cheerleading/Pom Squads, or band member.

Candidates also had to prove that they were passing all classes, had a minimum of 30 credits, no record of suspensions or existing fines owed

to Central, and last, candidates should not have had a record of emergency expulsions or reassignments during grades 9-12.

According to Mr. Pennington, a Central administrator, the Homecoming policy was originally changed because the one held by Central was based on a nomination system in which a list of candidates were provided by the coaching staff.

The problem with the nomination process is there were students with complaints of being left off the list of candidates, or being nominated for King or Queen and didn't want the responsibility, Mr. Pennington said.

"If nominated by a coach you don't want to feel obligated to run for

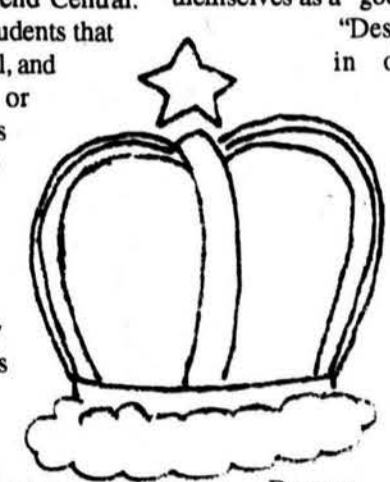
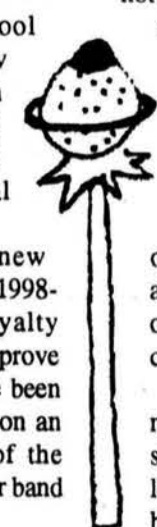
Homcoming King or Queen if it's really not what you want," Mikayla Ward, Central cheerleader said.

There was even a case where a student tried to run for Homecoming royalty and did not attend Central. There have also been students that just transferred to Central, and were finalists as King or Queen. The new policy is put into effect to help avoid such things. Dr. Gary Thompson, Central High School Principal said.

"With the new policy if an athlete wants to become Homecoming royalty it is up to them to promote themselves," Mrs. Wendy Olson, sponsor of Pom Squad

cheerleading squad said. One Central student felt the application process brought down the spirit of Homecoming, that candidate would be bragging and promoting themselves as a "goodie two shoes."

"Despite different opinions in opinion of graduates, Central the bus world will expect to meet filling of application accomplish is one of the Mr. D sponsor



Freddy's Back



CATHY COLLING/THE REGISTER

Nightmare on California Street... Bernard Brown plays the role of Freddy Kruger at a local haunted house, the Fright Zone. The FrightZone is located at 1711 California Street.

Dreams come true with Make-A-Wish

By Morgan Denny

Terminally ill children across the country have been helped, not just physically but mentally too, by the Make-A-Wish Foundation, executive director of the Nebraska chapter of Make-A-Wish said.

Evon Williams said that Make-A-Wish is a foundation that grants wishes, big and small, to children who are terminally ill or have life-threatening conditions.

"It actually can lengthen their lives," Williams said of the wishes.

Williams said that wish-recipients have to be under the age of 18 and cognitively aware of the gift they're receiving.

"They have to be able to decide the wish for themselves," Williams said. "Whether it is by pointing to an object or reacting to a picture, there has to be some way we know that that's their wish."

Williams said that the child's financial situation is irrelevant and that the family pays absolutely none of the costs associated with the wish.

Kym Mullins, mother of a wish-recipient and volunteer for Make-A-Wish, said that the first step in granting a child's wish is meeting with the child and the family.

Williams said that children can be referred by anyone: doctors, family or friends.

Mullins said that it can take anywhere from a week to a year before wishes are granted, depending on the child, the family and the wish.

Once the child decides on his wish, it is approved by the Make-A-Wish board, she said.

Williams said that although the majority of wishes can be granted, some, like cars and weapons, are never approved.

She also said that the Make-A-Wish

Foundation sometimes receives difficult and virtually impossible wishes that are adapted slightly so they can be accomplished.

For example, Williams said, a child wishing to be an astronaut might visit NASA and attend a week of Space Camp.

Mullins said that the most unique wish she has ever granted was to a boy who wanted to go to an in-line skating camp.

She said that the most common wish is to go to Disneyworld.

Williams said that Disneyworld is the wish chosen by around 60 percent of the kids.

Jeannine Mullins, Mullins' daughter and a sixth-grader at Central Middle School, said that she chose to go to Disneyworld, in 1995, as her wish.

The younger Mullins, who has cystic fibrosis, a disease that affects the lungs, said that the only word she could use to describe her trip is "fun."

"Make-A-Wish has brought joy to the family, to Jeannine and to many other kids," Mullins said.

Williams said that once a wish is decided upon, it is up to two volunteer wish-granters assigned to the child to make any and all arrangements necessary for the wish, including hotel accommodations, limousine services and other ideas pertaining to the wish.

Mullins said that most companies and corporations are very willing to help grant wishes.

She said that some places donate, while others offer dramatically reduced discounts.

Mullins said that volunteering for Make-A-Wish allows her "the joy and satisfaction of seeing a child get the wish that he or she wants," Williams said. She also said that the Make-A-Wish Foundation is funded completely by private and corporate donations with no federal funding.

Instead, the Make-A-Wish Foundation organizes many fundraisers each year as a source of revenue, Williams said.

Williams said that some of these include a gift-wrapping booth at Oak View Mall, ballroom dances in jeans and a golf event that raises about \$20,000 net per year.

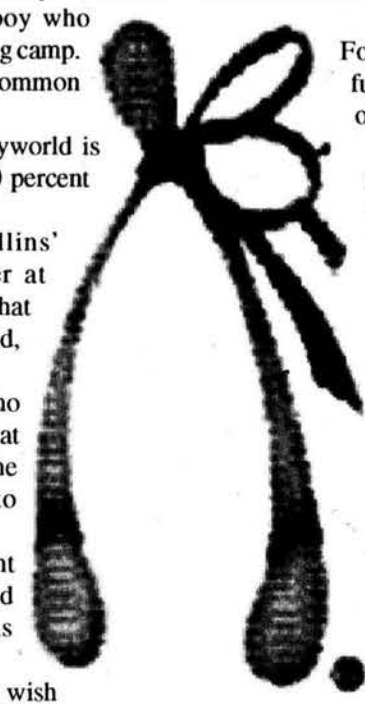
Williams said that the Make-A-Wish Foundation was founded in 1980, after a seven-year-old boy suffering from leukemia was granted his wish of being a police officer.

"That child's delight in having his wish come true inspired volunteers to form the first Make-A-Wish chapter," the Make-A-Wish Foundation pamphlet reported.

Williams said that the Nebraska chapter of Make-A-Wish has granted over 750 wishes to ill children.

She said that almost 60,000 wishes have been granted nationally.

"Make-A-Wish not only benefits the child, but includes the whole family," Williams said. "It gives them wonderful memories should the child die."



Proposed law would buckle-down on safety

Meredith Kalina

A new law giving police officers the right to fine a person not wearing a seat belt has been proposed in Bellevue, a captain at the Bellevue Police Department said.

Herb Evers said that he decided to propose a new law in an attempt to help raise the percentage of people who wear seat belts and lower the number of vehicle fatalities, he said.

"I would hate to be the one responsible for a death of a friend," Ellen Kiteley, a Central junior, said. Kiteley said that her car doesn't move unless everyone is wearing a seat belt.

But not all people are that responsible, Evers said.

"In Nebraska, driving related fatality rates have gone up, and seat belt usage rates have gone down," Evers said.

He said that this law will allow Bellevue police to pull over cars with passengers not wearing their seat belts and charge them with a \$25 fine.

Evers said that he attended a federal state patrol conference, and he became aware of Nebraska's problem with seat belt usage.

He said that Nebraska has a 65.1 percent usage rate, and Bellevue has a 64.5 percent usage rate.

He said that the law is proposed, but to become a law, it must go through three different stages.

He said that at this rate, it will become a law by Nov. 25th, and will

go into effect right away.

"The primary goal of the law is to stabilize or raise seat belt usage percentage," he said.

He said that this law is very different from the state seat belt law.

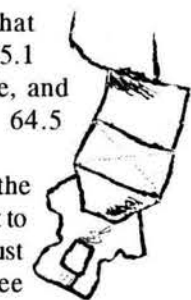
He said that the state's law is a secondary violation law, which means that before a cop can pull you over for not wearing a seat belt, they have to have to see a second law being broken. Examples of such a violation

would be having a headlight out or speeding.

Evers said that the state law is only in effect for the driver of the car, but the new law will be for all passengers.

"I see the effects of this law being very positive, if it is enforced," he said.

"After we put this law into effect, and when the percentage [of use] goes up, other cities will join in," he said.



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Possible budget cuts Prop 413 threatens schools

True, Proposition 413 will put a lid on property taxes, but at what cost? The price is the quality of education for future generations of Nebraskans.

Proposition 413 is a possible amendment to the Nebraska Constitution that many Nebraskans will vote on in the upcoming election.

It promises Nebraskans that their property taxes will not increase. It seems to be the answer to many Nebraskans' wishes.

The problem is that the State Board of Education receives the bulk of its funding from property taxes.

If Proposition 413 is passed, the financial needs Omaha Public Schools and other school districts across Nebraska will not be met.

The money available to the school districts will stay the same or decrease. Therefore, the schools will have to make budget cuts.

Any extracurricular activities still funded by schools will be the first to feel the budget cuts.

In order to support the actual classes, clubs, athletics and school run performances will lose funds.

Luckily, some of these activities receive money from outside sources and fundraising.

However, those that are not able to support themselves will be cut completely. As more and more budget cuts are made, even elective classes will suffer.

Business classes, advanced computer classes, family-consumer sciences, ROTC programs-basically every class not necessary to the basic education of the students will lose funds, and may even be cut.

Fine arts classes, including vocal and instrumental music, drama and art programs are already lacking severely needed funds.

Some of these programs are turning to parents and fundraising to get at least some of the money they need.

If budget cuts are made, these classes will definitely feel the blow. As classes get cut, so will teachers.

Instructors of those classes that get cut will have to learn to teach other classes, or lose their jobs.

One of the primary funds supported by the property taxes is teachers' salaries, so even teachers of those classes that are kept may be cut.

Most of these teachers only wish to teach students important skills, and they do not deserve to be fired.

Those classes that remain will have to make severe cuts as well.

Books, science equipment, computers, software and all other pieces of school equipment will keep getting older and older.

Without funding from the school board, the schools will not be able to replace their equipment when it became damaged or obsolete.

With its Pathways 21 program, Central received some of the newest and most state-of-the-art computers in all of Omaha Public Schools.

In several years when those computers becomes obsolete, the school board will be unable to provide us with new ones.

Grant money that the school receives will most likely go towards replacing books and other more necessary supplies. The answer to this problem is simple. Do not support Proposition 413.

Yes, parents and adults will pay less for taxes, but in the end, the students will pay more by losing electives, activities, supplies and even teachers.

Parents may even have to pay more to support the struggling educational system that is supposed to be teaching their children.

All in all, if Proposition 413 is passed, the future of Nebraska's public schools is looking pretty grim.

Fundraisers at CHS questionable

To make money for several Central departments, some Central teachers have offered to give extra class credit to students who sell fundraising items.

For example, foreign language classes offered their students bonus points to sell food and flower bulbs earlier this year.

This action is flat-out unfair and even unethical.

Many Central students are hard workers, and they have extra activities and jobs that prevent them from fundraising. These students are unable to fundraise and get the extra credit.

Meanwhile, students who do have time are able to sell and receive credit, raising their grade well above those who cannot sell.

Extra credit in classrooms should be based on superior performance, showing and applying knowledge or doing extra class-related work.

Now, it is based on helping the department get more money.

Yes, many Central departments are under-funded and need fundraising to get more money. But bribing students with bonus points to solicit items just is not right.

Unfortunately, offering some type of reward is the only way to get some students

to sell. Rewards create incentive for the students to actually do the work.

However, some students realize the benefits of fundraising and do it for the cause.

The ethics of offering points for fundraising are also questionable.

Fundraising is supposed to be a rather noble act, raising money for an under-funded cause, in this case several departments at Central.

However, when points are offered for fundraising, the purpose is changed from raising funds to raising grades.

For example, if funds are raised for a foreign language class, the reward is receiving better equipment and being able to learn more.

Dr. Thompson should be applauded for his actions in this matter.

Dr. Thompson has said that he has warned the teachers that fundraising is an optional activity and should not effect grades. From now on, extra credit will be used for what it is supposed to be used for.

But the damage has been done. Now students will expect extra class credit for fundraising.

If they do not get it, they will not sell. Teachers would have been better off in the first place simply asking the students to sell.

Athletes are being penalized

The NSAA (Nebraska State Athletic Association) Athletic bylaws have raised more than a few eyebrows from students, and with good reason.

Students have become more and more discontent with the athletic bylaws.

One bylaw in particular that is causing this is 3.6. It is titled "Participation on non-high school teams and in non-high school competition."

It states that "Any student who participates in any athletic contest other than as a representative of his/her high school during the season of the sport involved becomes ineligible to represent his/her school in that sport for one or more contests of the remainder of the season."

Why? Paul Pennington, Dean of Students and Central's Athletic Director, said that it's to keep students from doing too much and to help prevent aggravation to injuries.

Concerning the issue of injuries, this law is almost understandable. However, to keep students "from doing too much" is ridiculous.

First of all, why would this be either the administration's or the NSAA's right to put a halt to the number of activities that a student participates in?

Students are usually encouraged to join as many activities as they possibly can for future purposes, but not in athletics?

Most students know when enough is enough (whether involved with sports activities or in any other type of activity) and most likely would not try to do more than what they can handle.

Maybe this bylaw would be understandable if the student or students who participated in athletic events outside of school only to gain an award or recognition.

But what about the students who participate in events for charitable causes and really do not care about receiving an award or recognition?

Still, out of all of the other bylaws, people have the most difficulty understanding this law in particular.

The same people would say that they know their work schedule and other curricular and non-curricular activities and would not jeopardize them to be involved with a program that could harm such activities.

The bylaw itself is basically stating that students do not know themselves well enough to determine when enough is enough, so someone or something has to. It's silly.



Homecoming's formalities need changing

Homecoming. 'Nuff said. Nope! Just kidding folks. So how was this lovely dance for everyone? Amidst floating playing card balloons and various Vegas stuff, I must say that I had a good time at homecoming.

Of course, in case you're wondering, there were a couple things that would be a tad bit different if homecoming were left to me.

Are you ready to be amazed by my visions of futuristic homecomings run by moi?

Prepare yourself for take-off. We will soon be departing for Morgan's world.

Hope you've had a pleasant flight. Speedy if nothing else, wouldn't you say?

You are now entering Central's homecoming dance. The year is... well that's not really important now is it?

Walking through the doors, oh wait! There

aren't any doors. Homecoming is outside in a nice temperature controlled dome. One that contains a bug toxin at that.

Something else you realize, your feet. They're... they're COMFORTABLE!

What is going on? You notice that you're not the only one wearing your old broken-in sneakers. Not only that.

Goodness gracious! Everyone also seems to be wearing-DUHN DUHN DUH (played by the brass section in a low key)-JEANS!

That's right ladies and gents. In my alternate universe, we'd wear comfy clothes fit for dancing.

I don't know how many people took their shoes off during the dance simply because they hadn't, they'd have ended up with a total of

seven and a half toes by the end of the. For those of you out there wondering, not normal.

Just think of the benefits here. Homecoming would be so much cheaper hassle-free. Especially for the ladies.

Moving on, at this future homecoming, everyone on the dance would be required to (brace yourselves) dance!

What's with the groups of people standing in the middle of the room? That's why you go out to dinner in silly heads.

If that's what was intended, they call it a homecoming stand-around.

Last, but certainly not least, couple group pictures would be taken of everyone as they come in the door.

I mean, who is really up for standing in line for an hour so you can cheese it with date? Not I, said that fly. Oh well, what works.



Whatever Works
Morgan Denny

Halloween brings candy-filled memories

"Trick or treat, smell my feet, give me something good to eat! If you don't, I don't care, I'll pull down your underwear!"

Doesn't that sound familiar? With Halloween just around the corner, a smile comes to my face and images of candy fill my mind.

Let's take a stroll down memory lane and try to remember what we were for Halloween.

The costume that I can first remember wearing was everyones favorite, the Great Pumpkin. Wasn't everyone a pumpkin when they were little? In a way it was hideous, but it was so cute...

I loved Sesame Street, so I decided to go as Cookie Monster one year. I wore a mask, sweatpants and a blue sweatshirt. However, my sister set her chocolate bar on my pants and it melted. I had chocolate all over the seat of my pants. Of course I didn't notice it until I had already put it on. What an embarrassment.

That was also the year we had the horrible blizzard, and Halloween was "postponed" until further notice.

How can one possibly postpone Halloween? Isn't that against the law? I was so furious, I started to cry. I had chocolate on my pants and no candy in my pillowcase.

Perhaps my best costume was the one my

grandma made me. I was a '50's girl and I had a pink poodle skirt and a pink cardigan. I wore my hair in the highest ponytail my mom could give me, and wrapped a scarf around my neck.

That year was also the first boy-girl Halloween party I went to. I will never forget that party... and neither will my stomach.

I ate so much candy I puked and was sick for the next two days.

The next year I decided to show off for the boys and be a baseball player.

I wore a Cincinnati Reds T-shirt, black pants and a Reds baseball cap. I even smeared black make-up under my eyes. I went to another party, but this time I watched my candy intake.

Lastly, I have to say that the most creative costume I wore was when I went as the Unibomber. What on Earth is more frightening than the Unibomber? I sure wouldn't want to receive a letter from that guy...

I wonder if what you are for Halloween

reflects on your personality. For instance, were a masked-murderer one year? Do you have problems? Instead of the usual pret or ghost, what if I was a rapist or a mob boss? Should parents worry if their child was

be a serial killer for Halloween? Halloween is outside. Halloween is really Halloween which is the day before All Saints Day on Nov. 1.

Now how and when psycho killers and bast players come into style?

I always thought Halloween as a day with homework and free candy. However, as I grew older, it's time to get together with

friends and go toilet paper houses. Now I have to work every Halloween. Maybe that's good. People would look at me and say "trick or treat." They would laugh and turn me away.

Oh well, now I have to tell my mom that I have to buy toilet paper. I have to buy toilet paper for the kids.



Yackity Smackity
Stefanie Wulf

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Students should show more interest in politics

All right, now I'm ticked. Just last month, I was complimenting central students on their mature attitude and sophistication. The students of Central, I was convinced, were different than other teens our age.

Since that time, I have witnessed the results of the Register's gubernatorial election poll. For those of you who have not yet checked out the "Election Preview" on page 2, the results of the poll were quite simple: Central students don't give a hoot.

Of the some 250 students polled, almost 54 percent of them said that they were undecided about their choice for governor. And, 41 percent of the students stated that they had no political party affiliation.

Way to take a stand there. I find it laughable that Central students, who seem to have views on everything, have absolutely no opinion on politics. As teenagers, our parents protested Vietnam, racial inequality and a whole host of other issues. While I may not agree with every stance taken, at least that generation had

enough interest to take a stand. (Yeah, whatever happened to those feminists burning their bras? We definitely need to see some more of those.)

And, if you're one of those people who say that "politics have nothing to do with me," think again. You want adults to listen to you and take you seriously? No one is going to take you seriously if you remain apathetic about the world around you.

Yes, we are only teenagers. And yes, we do have the rest of our lives to stand up for what we believe in. But, nonetheless, I find this widespread apathy disturbing.

Regardless of how corny or juvenile it may sound, in a few short years, we are going to be in-charge. Sooner than any of us think, we are going to be the people leading this country through economic crises, wars or riots.

And, in order for us to be prepared for these new responsibilities, we need to start taking an interest now. We no longer can hide behind the excuse of "just being a kid."

We all want to be treated like adults; we

all want to be treated with the same kind of respect that our parents get. Now, its time to prove that we should be.

So, what can we do? While the election is only five days away, you still have time to get involved.

If you're 18, register to vote and then actually vote. (And when you register, register as a member of a party. Registering as an Independent is such a cop-out. I don't care if you join some rinky-dink party that has no chance of winning an election. Just join one.)

If you're not old enough to vote, attend a candidate's pep rally. Watch a televised debate. Read the newspaper. Discuss political issues with your parents or teachers or friends.

Attend a County Commissioners or City Council meeting. Speak at a Omaha Public School Board meeting. Join the Student Democrats or Young Republicans. Do anything—just get involved and form an opinion.

Let's reverse this trend of pathetic apathy. (There is nothing more sad than a person who believes in nothing.)

Now, if you'll excuse me, I'm going to fill out my practice election ballot—I've got some heavy duty voting to do.



Central Scene
Brian Joseph

Mid-term exams prepare students for future

Now that we have all had a whole week to recuperate from the dreaded, awful mid-term exams, maybe it is time to examine (pun intended) the whole mid-term system.

I have always hated taking tests. Most people do. The late night studying (usually at two in the morning because you just couldn't miss the last fifteen minutes of a movie you have seen a billion times) and the nervousness immediately before the test (leading to sweaty palms which then causes sweat marks on the paper) are just two of the problems that occur before the test.

Then comes the quite regular sick feeling after the test, when you realize that your brain does not retain information without at least three hours of sleep. I won't even mention what happens when the test scores come back.

But the one thing that I end up hating the most about the week of mid-terms is that, somewhere in the back of my mind, I am constantly aware of the fact that, had I made the choice to attend a different high school in the Omaha Public School District (OPS), I wouldn't have the burden of studying for mid-terms.

Yes, you read correctly—Central is the only high school in OPS,

maybe even the entire metro area, that forces mid-terms upon the students.

But then again, there must be some reason why I made the choice to enroll in Central instead of the high school my address dictated I should go to (Benson)—academics.

According to the OPS research department, Central High also has one of the highest rates of the college-bound students in OPS. It has basically a college-prep curriculum.

And it is one of the best high schools in the area, even in the state. Our technology is way beyond that of other schools, the teaching staff has received more Buffet Awards than any other school has even thought about and the even our sports teams are pretty good.

There has got to be some reason why people drive 30 or 40 minutes every day, to and from school. They want to receive the best education possible.

So, as I set up my 20-cup coffee maker and prepare for the long, grueling nights of studying and/or falling asleep in my books, I know I will whine as much as the next person. But hopefully the torture of midterms now will lead to easy-sailing once I hit the real work—college.



S(o)up of the day
Mary Lynn Super

Stupidity tops list of annoyances

Everyone has little annoyances, although mine are very specific. Here are a couple of mine.

There is no question that the gene pool of society needs a little chlorine. My first pet peeve is stupid people.

How do we get rid of stupid people? I have the long awaited solution. If America takes all the warning labels off products, the stupid people would all eliminate themselves.

You know the labels, "do not use in the shower" on hairdryers, the "do not take internally" on bottles of poison. Those people need to be shut out of society.

My second solution to eliminate stupid people leads to a question. Why were safety belts created? Because people are too idiotic to drive. Then why do we have airbags? Because people are too ignorant to use the safety belts.

My second solution is that safety belts and air bags shouldn't be required.

Hey sparky, if you don't want a seat-belt, great, but I'm not paying your health care bills. I may laugh, but I won't pay.

Pet peeve number two: stupid drivers. If you can't see over the wheel, don't get on the

road. I would much rather trust a fast driver that knows their car than a driver who is scared of the road.

My third aggravation is smokers. Being a Centralite, I second-hand smoke at least two packs a day. Is this with just cause? Guess what? I have a suggestion, smokers, don't procreate.

What then is the eternal excuse for smoking? Oh right, you're addicted, sorry. Hmmm, let's think this one out.

If you hadn't started then you wouldn't be addicted now, would you ace?

Don't answer yet. Just think.

Speaking of upsetting people and their addictions, I have a hypothetical question. If your father and grandfather were alcoholics, why would you drink?

Most people know alcoholism is genetic, why even begin? Better yet, I think we should terminate all health care for cirrhosis of the liver. Go chief go.

If you are cool enough to take your liquor now, why not suck it up when you're old?

My pet peeve of the marketing department is their plot to get people addicted to the cookies. You know its true. Not a student at Central can walk by the marketing office without having to drop a few dollars.

What do they put in these irresistible cookies? No one knows except for the marketing teachers, and they're not telling anyone.

Pet peeve number five, why do freshmen stop at the top of the stairs?

Hasn't someone told the youngsters that there are rules of etiquette for the Central halls?

Solution: keep walking. Those that survive being stepped on will learn their lesson.

In closing, if everyone listened to me, the world would attain perfection. So what's the problem?



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*.


Should teachers be financially rewarded if their students achieve certain academic goals?

No. The students are the ones doing the work. The teachers just check it. The students are the ones learning.




Charrisse Ladd, 10

No. The students are achieving their own goals, not the teachers. If the teachers get rewarded for the students' performance, it's as if the students are doing the work for nothing.



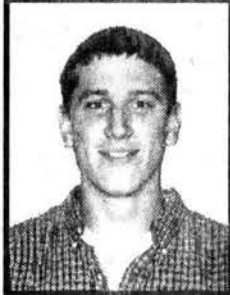
Tiffany Graber, 9

Yes. If the students are getting good grades, it shows that the teachers are doing their jobs and doing them well.




Aaron Thomas, 12

No. It's true that teachers could use more money, but not based on how their students do. And some classes differ in difficulty. The students should choose if their teachers deserve more money.




Chris Balkovec, 12

Yes. If the students are meeting up to the teacher's abilities and are able to follow along in class, it shows that the teachers are doing what they are supposed to be doing.



Wanisha Clements, 11

Yes. If the students are doing well in school, some of their success must have to do with their teachers.



Laura Gleason, 10

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A READER OPINION FORUM

Dear Editor,

Throughout the school and school functions there are always behind the scene workers. In my opinion, Student Council members are many times those people. As a member, I personally don't want to glorify it, but I think it's a very good organization. Yet, this year Student Council has taken an interesting turn. As in previous years, Student Council has met as a whole 7th hour. This year the school board decided to divide up Student Council into three groups for each lunch period. This new division is very ineffective and hectic. We never accomplish anything and can't work as a whole. I think to fully accomplish anything, something needs to be done.

Sincerely,
Courtney O'Malley, sophomore

Dear Editor,

Parking at Central this year is outrageous. There are more students and less parking spaces available. It is completely unfair that students are forced to arrive at 6:30 to find parking, or settle for a nice walk before and after school. I feel very sorry for those seniors who have been looking forward to free parking (close to the school) for the past four years and missed out in the lottery.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Rennard, junior

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The UNEXPLAINED

Skeptics' and believers' views observed

By Meredith Kalina

"It seems to me that there are two responses people have to the belief of supernatural experiences," a professor of philosophy at Creighton University said.

"First, there are skeptics, and second, there are those who do not believe in them at all."

A lot of times, the skeptic's disbelief causes others to believe.

When those people who do not believe tell others not to believe, then people go out and study or experiment with these ideas he said.

Kelsey Carlson, a Central sophomore, said that she believes in supernatural experiences because she has seen real things happen in her life to prove it.

Amy Badura, an assistant professor of psychology at Creighton University said that certain beliefs could also be passed down from generations.

"I think that it [belief] can be passed down in a culture, similar to how superstitions get passed down," she said.

She said that an example of this would be Santa Claus, or the Tooth Fairy.

However, Badura said that a person could also be greatly influenced by those people who bring you up or raise you.

"If your family believes in certain things, you are raised to believe those similar beliefs," she said.

Badura said that some people who are not raised in a home that believes in supernatural experiences, do go on to get involved in it.

"People develop their own identities, and will disown what their family approves," she said.

She said that this circumstance is also seen

in certain peer pressures such as smoking, and drinking.

Graham said that one reason that people do not believe in supernatural experiences is because they believe it is fake.

He said that one very controversial area is psychics, and whether or not they are frauds. "People want simple answers to complex questions in their lives," Graham said.

He said that universally people want answers to life, especially in hard times, and people will tend to believe what anyone says that might give them some sort of hope for the future.

"I think that money is a major reason why some people become psychics," he said.

Graham said that there are a few dishonest techniques used by psychics to make what they do and say believable.

He said that they will have people surveyed at the door, and that information will get filtered back to the psychic, and at live

audience shows, the psychic will pick a person they already know.

Badura said that a psychologist says why a lot of people fall into believing in dishonest people is "Barnum Effect".

She said that this theory states to tell something about a person, they do it because they want it to happen.

Also, Badura said that general statements that can be made for everyone.

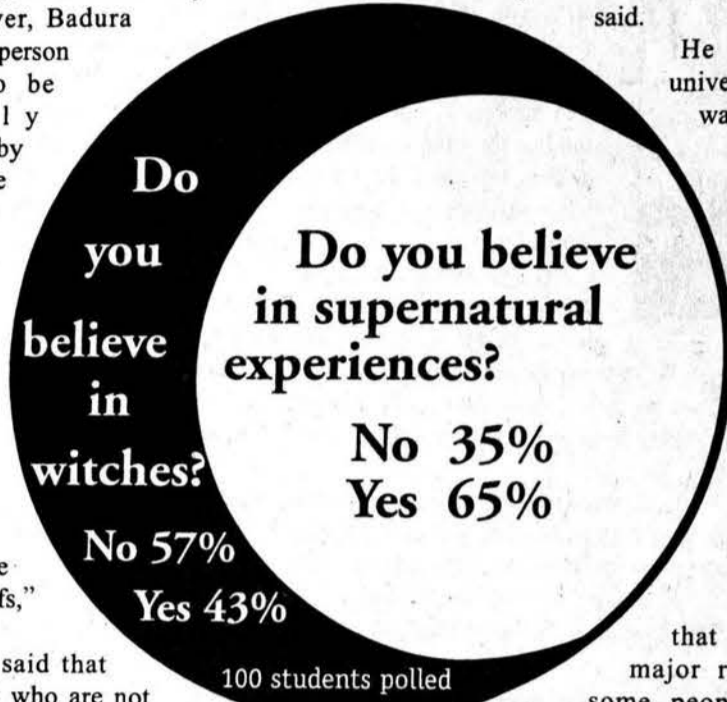
She said that they will say things like "you're going to go on a vacation, or a major will be happening in your life soon".

"They use all-purpose descriptions of experiences," she said. Badura said that she recommends things to watch out for that psychics use to get ones business. She said that to be aware of their own perceptions, flattery, and to be aware of confirming a person remembers the true information, forget the false information.

Colin Boatright, a Central sophomore, said that he believes that psychics are real. "I don't believe in horoscopes, but they make general predictions that are for all people," he said.

Although Badura said that there are a lot of fake psychics, she said that she thinks it is possible to find a real psychic. She said that she has seen a psychic's disconfirmation.

"There is no way to rule out powers," Graham said. "Some people will tell you they have powers, but I don't know if they really do."



Witchcraft becoming popular

By John Eubanks

It's that time of year again—Halloween, when all the witches, goblins and ghosts come out to trick or treat. For some it is a real life situation where they study and practice witchcraft.

Robin Fox, a self-proclaimed witch of seven and a half years, is the cousin of Central High senior Emily Berman and junior Jeremy Berman.

Fox said that she specializes in tarot, which is predicting someone's future through cards.

"There are special tarot cards that are used for this exercise," Fox said.

"Though any

deck of cards will work."

Fox said that she also practices psychometry, which is object reading.

Fox said that one of the things she particularly enjoys is energy work, which she has done for the past year and a half.

"There are a million things one can do with energies," Fox said. "One can make their body temperature warmer or cooler, and they can also reduce or banish pain."

The last time Fox had a headache she said she actually lifted part of herself out of her body so she could no longer feel the pain.

"All energy is kind of the same but it's better to show one and let them feel it rather than trying to explain it," Fox said.

Fox said that energy looks like a white orb and there are many things that she does with it in return.

"I usually turn it into dancing shamrocks and flowing rainbows," Fox said.

She also said that before starting her tarot reading, she uses energy to get the cards warmed up.

"If I am using someone else's

cards I put the energy into the cards to let the cards know that I am a friendly spirit," Fox said.

Fox said that another thing that goes along with energy is aura. Aura is the feelings or glows about people.

"It is mainly a certain energy that they give off," Fox said.

Fox also said that she uses energy to rid houses of bad spirits by detecting and sealing off portals (two reflective surfaces facing each other) to drive the bad spirits and energies out.

"I compare myself to the Ghostbusters," Fox said, "but on a spiritual level."

In order to get where she is today, Fox said that she took classes in tarot, psychometry and psychic development.

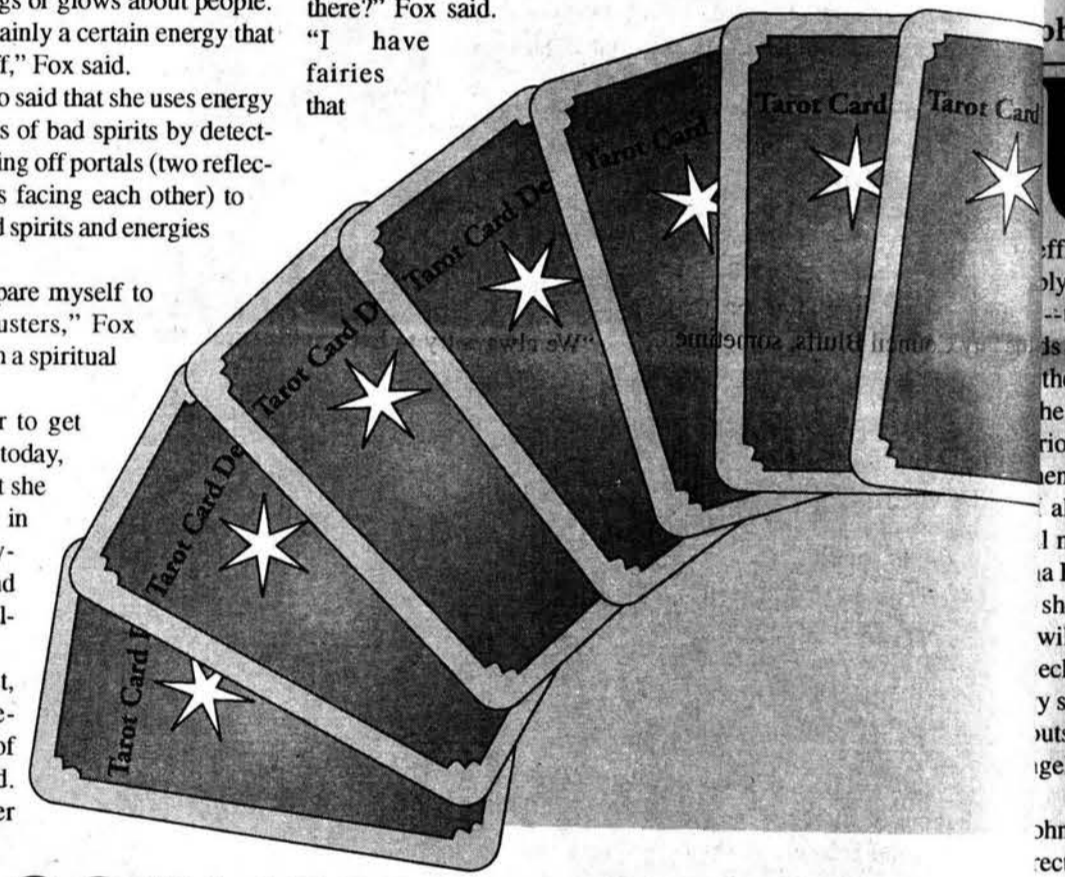
"At first, I didn't believe in any of it," Fox said. "I was never

sure if what I was seeing was real or not."

Fox said that it boggles her mind. "Sometimes I look at things and think is that really there?" Fox said.

"I have fairies that

fly around my house and people say that I am crazy, just because they see them."



Psychics convey powers

By Talya Greenspoon

Have you ever wondered what the future holds, or what you did in a past life?

According to the US West Consumer Tips Service, many people are turning to psychics for help in their lives.

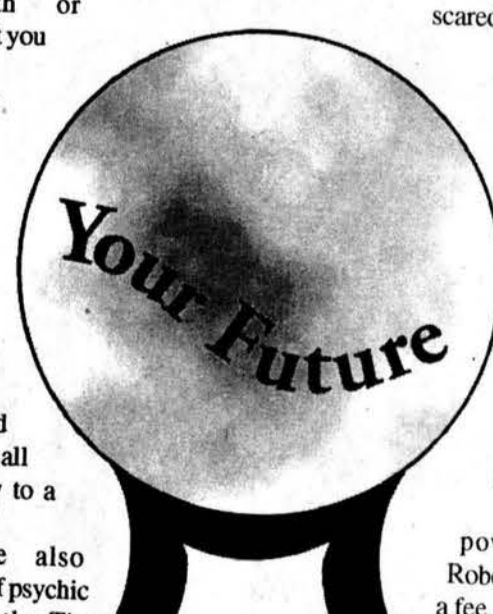
Psychics can supposedly provide clues for dealing with trouble or information about previous lives, according to the Tips Service.

According to the Tips Service, to evaluate a psychic reading a person should ask if there was any truth or messages that you can confirm.

In addition, to psychic predictions, psychics also claim to be able to read a person by their body parts according to the Tips Service.

These include the shape of an ear, the iris of an eye, lines on a palm and the aura of a body which all supposedly hold the key to a person's life.

Tarot cards are also commonly used forms of psychic power according to the Tips Service. The cards use symbols to systematically produce an idea of a future life. If read correctly, tarot cards supposedly hold answers to everyone's life, according to the Tips



Service.

Glen Fineman, clinical therapist, said that he believes there is a lot of truth to psychic ability.

Fineman said that he believes real psychics have an innate ability to tell what could occur to a person or guide someone to making good decisions.

"I think psychics are born with their ability just like any other gift a person can be born with," Fineman said.

Fineman said that he has a friend who did not know she was psychic until she was an adult. He said that his friend believes that she has a very powerful gift, and is sometimes scared of it.

Fineman said that some of the psychics he knows have a strong sense about things that are going to happen but no idea why they have this power.

The psychics he has known are sensitive people who want to use their ability to help others, he said.

In an effort to use her powers to help, Mrs. Roberts, a local psychic, for a fee, will offer advice based on what she reads from her crystals and tarot cards, a representative of Roberts who refused to give out his name, said. He also said that Roberts reads the

past, present and future of clients who come see her.

As for the receive clients they draw in, the representative said that people of all ages and different backgrounds make use Roberts' services.

When asked where Roberts attained her ability, the representative said that it was a gift passed down from generation to generation.

Whatever the case, Fineman said that he is not sure that all psychics are for real.

Junior Julia Jahn said that she agrees.

"After watching talk shows, it is hard not to believe that psychics are real," she said.

Jahn said that she has had several experiences with psychics.

Some on the phone, and face to face.

"I called a hotline and I could tell that he was reading off a card and did not know anything about me," Jahn said.

She said she also went to see a local psychic face to face. This psychic knew personal facts about herself and her family, Jahn said.

Nonetheless, junior Sally Hess said that she sees no evidence to support the existence of psychic powers.

"I think that psychics are a hoax, and I don't think anyone can really predict what is going to happen," Hess said.

Point Counterpoint



"I don't believe in horoscopes because they make general predictions that can be true for all people." Colin Boatright, Central sophomore



"I believe in supernatural experiences because I have seen the real thing happen in my own life." Kelsey Carlson, Central sophomore

Palm Reading leaves students searching

Lund & Werkheiser mystical chamber of vision bares a resemblance to a house, on the least. amidst statues of naked belly religious portraits and glass love psychic Helen Williams of India a business that dares to venture the realms of common nding. paying \$30 for a basic palm reading, experience Williams' self-confirmed for themselves. an additional \$5, she will include of Tarot cards, which, in the world reading, are comparable to a crystal liams said. optics, beware. Williams insists her visions are completely legitimate es any claims of fabrication. ether you like what you hear or not, ll you what I see; good or bad," s said. otentially disappointing aspect of

letting her pattern of visions dictate the session, however, is that readings can last anywhere from 3 minutes to an hour, depending on what she claims to be seeing. As a result, placing a value on such a purchase can be difficult. In the phone book there are over 10 listings of practicing palm-readers in Omaha. Generally, prices among Omaha area psychics are very similar. Like Williams, most range from \$30 to \$45 depending upon which techniques are involved, rather than an actual time element. Techniques include palm reading, Tarot cards, ESP envisioning, and the usage of crystals. Madame Z, another self-proclaimed psychic said she feels it is necessary to include all areas of "viewing" into a session. "It's best to study everything about a person. Different methods tell me different things," Madame Z said. Like Williams, Madame Z is certain that she was born with a gift. As a child growing up in the Philippines, she would often make strikingly accurate predictions about people around her, not

knowing why, she said. "It was uncontrollable. I didn't know that I was a psychic, but just thought there was something different about me," Madame Z added. Often, the things seen by psychics can be as unpredictable as they are unexplainable. While Williams was able to see a particular client's date of death as well as inner fears, she was unsuccessful in predicting more basic aspects such as name and age. When asked such questions she replied, "I am not getting those vibrations," she said repeatedly, "I am just not getting that at this time." Incidentally, psychic abilities are generally viewed as an entertainment tactic, and psychics themselves are listed under Entertainers in the phonebook. However psychics such as Williams and Madame Z claim to see the future and feel there is nothing light-hearted about their practice. "I was given this gift by God," Williams said.



Good Vibrations.. Mrs. Helen Williams, self-proclaimed psychic, reads the palm of a client. "I was given this gift by God," Williams said.

LAURA WERKHEISER/THE REGISTER

Black Angel Myths of statue create urban legend

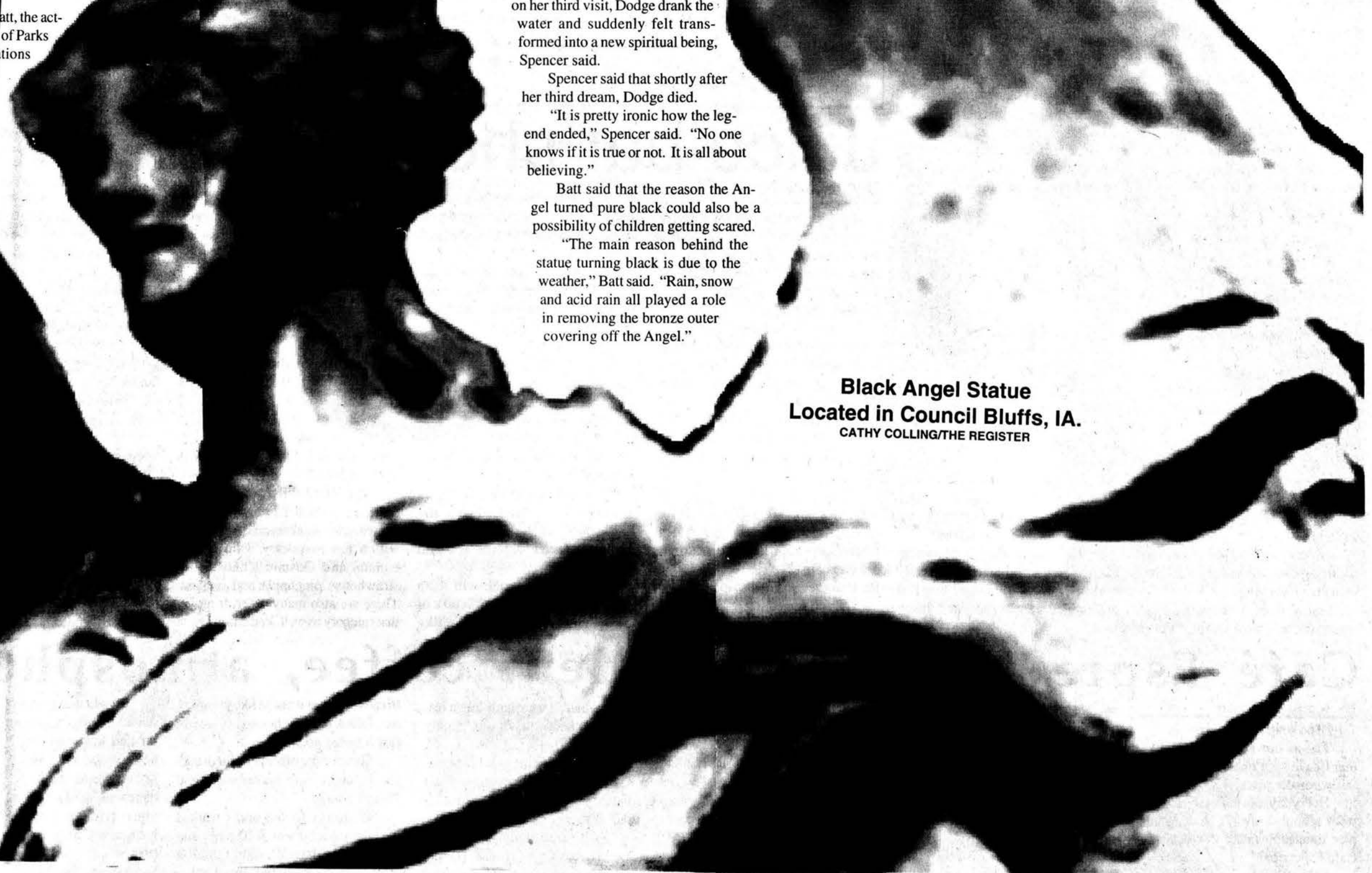
Eubanks Urban Legends are modern myths that become part of an area's folklore, the director of the Dodge House said. Spencer said that everyone has heard the mysterious stories about the Black Angel—that lies on the city Council Bluffs, sometime Black Angel has rumored to be very and scary with odd things happen- ne looks into her eyes, Spencer said. says go up there, especially during hths, mainly for a scary moment," cker, junior, said. "It has been said ooks one in the eyes someone they lie in the next couple of days." said that sometimes it can ry especially when it is e and the rumors of an through one's

said that none of the rumors are true, at least as far as he knows. "Many kids make the folklore up and pass it on from generation to generation," Batt said. Batt said that, however, there have been many arrests of teens going up to the cemetery and vandalizing it. They can also be arrested, as with any park, for just being up there after a certain time, Batt said. "We always try to have police circle the area to keep watch of the statue," Batt said. Special education teacher, Ray Dewalee, resident of the area, said that there have been many instances where kids try to destroy the statue, especially during holidays like Fourth of July and Halloween.

hearing these stories from when I was child," Dewalee said. "The kids mainly go up there to scare themselves." According to legend, the Black Angel is said to be the translation of a series of dreams experienced by Mrs. Dodge, wife of General Dodge who was chief engineer of the Union Pacific Railroad, on the three nights leading to her death in 1916, Spencer said. Dodge told her two daughters that she had a vision of being on a rocky shore and seeing a boat approach, Spencer said. Spencer said that in the boat there was a beautiful young woman whom Dodge thought to be an angel. The angel carried a small bowl under one arm and extended her other arm to Dodge inviting her to drink the water flowing from the bowl. "Drink, I bring you both a promise and a blessing," the angel said as told by Spencer. The vision came three times to Dodge during her dreams and, on her third visit, Dodge drank the water and suddenly felt transformed into a new spiritual being, Spencer said. Spencer said that shortly after her third dream, Dodge died. "It is pretty ironic how the legend ended," Spencer said. "No one knows if it is true or not. It is all about believing." Batt said that the reason the Angel turned pure black could also be a possibility of children getting scared. "The main reason behind the statue turning black is due to the weather," Batt said. "Rain, snow and acid rain all played a role in removing the bronze outer covering off the Angel."

Spencer said that the noted American sculptor Daniel Chester French created this work in solid bronze. "It has been said that it was one of his finest works," Spencer said. Spencer said that French is also known nationally for his statue of the MinuteMan in Concord and the seated Lincoln in the Memorial in Washington D.C. Batt said that the National Park Service has placed this memorial on the Register of National Historic Places.

Junior Colin Irwin said that he doesn't believe in any myths. "If it is not proven, one knows that it is not true because there is no one who can verify that it is true," Irwin said. "Why should one get their hopes up?" Irwin, however, said that it is great for a laugh when one wants to joke around with a friend and make them believe. Becker said that her friends always joke with her every time she goes there. "I still believe the legend about the statue, especially on Halloween," Becker said. Batt said that Halloween night is the park's worst time for visitors. "Kids, I guess, really want to be scared," Batt said. "I don't think the Angel will scare someone though."



Black Angel Statue Located in Council Bluffs, IA. CATHY COLLING/THE REGISTER

Entertainment

New shopping center opens in Old Market

By Meredith Zendejas

Spaghetti Works extended its business by buying a vacant building in the Old Market, called Vendor's Square.

Vendor's Square is located at 1105 Howard St. and features six stores.

Lorelei Rumbaugh, manager of the Southwest Stuff in, said that Vendor's Square is very similar to the Passage Way, but in a more comfortable setting.

Rumbaugh said that Vendor's Square is great for tourists.

With the several different stores plus a coffee shop, makes it easy to shop without going outdoors.

Laura Berwick, owner of Dora Maar Gallery and the Coffee Shop, said that she decided to move to Vendor's Square because the Old Market has energy, and is a happening spot.

Berwick also said that the Old Market accepts any kind of entity, which is another reason why she decided located in the Old Market.

Rumbaugh said that the building, before it was bought by Spaghetti Works, was vacant for a long time, but it did have stores on the first floor.

Rumbaugh said that Wild Things is also a part of Vendor's Square.

When Vendor's Square first opened, Wild Things remodeled so there would be an entrance to the

main part of the building, as a part of Vendor's Square.

She also said that there is still an entrance to the outside in Wild Things.

Rumbaugh said that the stores in Vendor's Square are some of the largest stores in the Old Market.

She said that right now they are remodeling the top three of the building to be rented out, some of the apartments are all ready to live in.

Maureen Phalen, manager of Dora Maar

Gallery, said that business is increasing daily.

She said that all of the paintings in the gallery are original works by the artist.

All of the artists are local, and some are well known.

She said, they are planning to have some art shows in their gallery.

Rumbaugh said that she sells Southwest clothing, jewelry, and home furnishings in her store.

"The Old Market is a neat area," Rumbaugh said, "and it fits what I am doing."

Wolfe Antiques and Niche, are the other two stores in Vendor's Square, Rumbaugh said.

Rumbaugh said that Vendor's Square has only been open for about six months, but she hopes this will set a trend and attract more people.

"Vendor's Square is a great place to shop," Phalen said. "It has a variety different of stores, and a coffee shop, and it's a great place to hang out."



Howard's Charro offers slow service

By Meredith Zendejas

Walking into Howard's Charro Café, 4443 13th Street, my first impression was a very good one, but it all went downhill from there.

When I first pulled into the parking lot, I noticed that it was packed. I did not think that Howard's was very well-known. The only reason I knew about it was because my aunt took me there when I was a little kid.

After walking into the restaurant, we were seated right away.

The walls were decorated with big tissue paper flowers. Even the tables and chairs were authentic looking, but the carpet was a very ugly red. It made the whole room look very dark. In the background I could hear a mariachi band.

After being seated at a table we

preceded to wait, and wait, and wait.

We got there at 8 p.m., and we ordered our food at 8:30 p.m. I was just a little annoyed. There were two people that came in after

me that had ordered and got their food before we did.

During the time I had to wait, I

was able to study the menu. The food ranged from your typical Mexican food, burritos, enchiladas, and nachos, to your more extravagant foods, like chicken flauta, and chicken molé.

The prices were reasonably cheap; none of the food was more than \$10.

The waitress finally came to take our order. I ordered the chicken

flauta.

The food came out about five minutes later. I thought that the wait for the food would have taken a lot longer since the ordering took so long.

The food was okay. It wasn't the best Mexican food I have ever tasted.

The chicken flauta was

wrapped in a fried tortilla shell, sitting on top of lettuce and tomatoes, with sour cream.

I had to drench the flauta in hot sauce twice, and it still wasn't very hot. In fact, it wasn't hot at all.

The sauce tasted more like tomato sauce pored directly from a can. I was disappointed.

The mariachi band was making its way to our table, so I decided it

was about time to go. I like having the band sing did enjoy listening to them a distance.

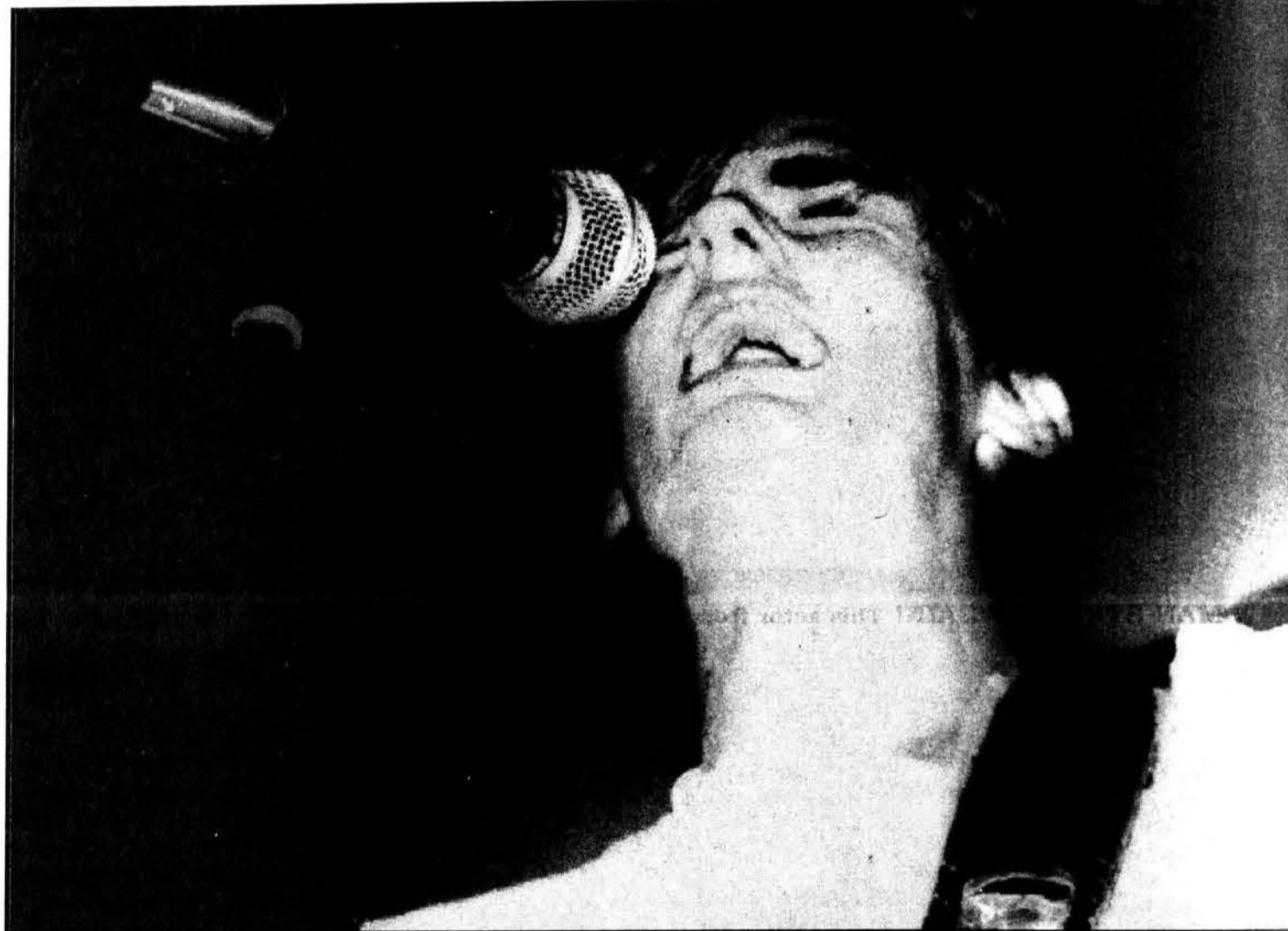
The mariachi band was the better aspects of the was excited because I some of the songs they were. Actually, the only song I was "La Bamba".

The mariachi band was authentic costumes, which was very cool.

If you have a lot of time hands, and feel like cheap food, go to Howard's Charro. You might enjoy the mariachi and maybe the food. Maybe tell the band that it is you they might sing you special.

For me, it might be a until I visit Howard's again

Battlin' Bands



ROCKIN' THE NIGHT AWAY! Tim Sanwick, Westside senior, plays his guitar with his band Mastermind at Community Center, located at 404 South 108th Ave. The Battle of the Bands was held on Friday, Sept. 25, from 9 until midnight. Mastermind also played with a band from Central, Blue Panic. The winning band won twenty one hours in a recording studio.

Contest forces pair to live in 1998 Neon

By Andy Hickman

Imagine yourself living within the confines of a compact car and only allowed to take a ten minute break every three hours.

This "horror" is a gripping reality for the remaining two contestants participating in the Star 104.5's Live-in-it-to-Win-it contest at Ron Olson Dodge.

The premise of the contest is simple: four people forced to live in a Dodge Neon with only ten minute breaks every three hours.

The last person willing to live in the car wins it.

"The creator [of the contest], Kieth Headstrum, was looking on the Internet and he heard about this being done somewhere else and he thought it was good idea," Advertising Manager Jeff Vasak said.

The Star's version started on Oct. 5 at 8 am.

Since that time, Vasak said that two of the four contestants, Kerie and Verna have given up.

Jason, one of the remaining contestants, said that Verna

complained that the Neon was too cramped.

While Kerie simply got up and left.

Vasak said that the contestants only source of diversion is the car radio tuned into the Star.

Absolutely no other electronics, books or any other sources of entertainment are allowed.

The seats are also set in position and are not allowed to be moved, Vasak said.

"All I do in here is wait for my breaks. I usually do hygienic stuff," Stacey, the fourth contestant, said. Jason, however, disagreed.

"It's not all that bad. We get about 250 visitors a day. They all bring us lots of food. I feel as if I've probably gained several pounds since I've been here," Jason, said. Nonetheless, Jason said that this contest is not all fun and games.

"This whole thing is beginning to wear on me and Stacey is a really boring conversationalist, but I'm determined to win this car," Jason said.

Star
104.5

Café Espresso offers excellent coffee, atmosphere

By Katie McCann

"The soup Nazi is here."

This is one of many messages that I have seen on a sign outside a fairly popular place.

Everyday on my way to and from school, I always pass up this nice little shop called Center Street Café Espresso.

Some friends and I went to check out the place. When we pulled

up, we couldn't help but think, by the way it looked on the outside, that a little old lady with white hair was standing at the counter with a lemon pie in her hand.

Well, we were already there so we weren't going to change our minds then. We went inside, and to our surprise it was a nice little place.

The décor was nice and homey, and the lady who does own the place

didn't have white hair or the lemon pie, but had a mop in her hand, trying to clean up some water. When she realized that we were inside she simply said, "The sink sucks!"

To me it's nice to walk into a place and not have an employee kiss up to you.

Anyway, the coffee. It was the best. I didn't want to leave.

It was the first time I ever had

Chai, which is a kashmir green tea. The woman said that it was "highly caffeinated."

When I hear the word caffeine, it makes my day. It really doesn't matter what it tastes like, just as long as there's that terrific caffeine.

And, surprisingly, it was really good. It had a cinnamon and honey flavor combo that tasted like nothing I've had before. One of my

friends said that it tasted like pumpkin pie. I think that was her way of saying that it tasted good.

Some of the other popular drinks for the night were Italian sodas and Mocha Shakes.

When my friends and I walked into the place, it was 8:30 p.m., and on a Wednesday. We didn't think it was going to be too busy on a Wednesday, but it was.

drink fortifiers to your smoothies.

These include bee pollen, spirulina, protein powder, germ, flaxseed oil and wheatgrass juice.

Wheatgrass is grown in the ground and is filled with vitamins. They grow the wheatgrass themselves and blend it into their drinks. You get a wheatgrass shot for \$1.99, double shot for \$3.00.

Drinking a single shot of wheatgrass juice is the nutritional equivalent to eating 2 pounds of vegetables. Needless to say, the drinks at Shock are very healthy and good for you.

If you add the fortifiers to your drink, the nutritional value is greatly increased.

As well as drinks, Shock sells edible snacks. Organic kettle chips, biscotti and cookies are priced from \$.95 to \$1.85.

Juice bar shocks metro area

By Stefanie Wulff

Looking for somewhere different to go in your spare time? Try a juice bar to quench your thirst. Located right by Central, Shock Coffee and Juice Bar is a great place to go, a Central junior said.

"There are so many choices of what to drink between coffee, water, milk and pop," Margaret Meyer said, "now there is a place to go for drinking juice."

Juice Bars are hitting Omaha like the Atomic bomb hit Hiroshima. They are beginning to pop up everywhere.

There is a juice jar located in Shock, a vintage clothing store/gourmet coffee and juice bar, which is downtown in the Old Market. Shock is on 1212 Howard Street, in the lower level of the strip mall.

As you walk into Shock, clothing fills the racks and old games from the

50's and dolls from the 20's fill the shelves. There are 70's pictures on the wall and knick-knacks in the glass cases.

Towards the back of the store, one can quench their thirst at the Juice Bar, try new, original drinks and talk to friendly people.

Shock coffee, espresso, tea, smoothies and wheatgrass drinks are all served at the bar and are all under \$4.

The coffee will wake you up, hence the name Shock.

Under the coffee, espresso and tea category, you will find chai, soy cappuccino, mocha shock, breve and hazelnut, French vanilla, soy and almond latte.

The morning shock will keep your eyes wide open 'till the crack of dawn, while the chai tastes like

"goodness."

Meyer visits Shock frequently and loves the chai. She shops for her wardrobe at Shock and loves the vintage style, she said.

"Chai tastes like goodness, and goodness tastes like chai," Meyer said.

In the next category of drinks, the smoothies, a combination of fruits to the drinks make your taste buds go wild. The prices for the smoothies are between \$2.85 and \$3.25.

The drinks include A Love Supreme, which has orange juice, strawberries and bananas; a Smooch, which has raspberry, vanilla and banana and Cosmic Chaos, with strawberry, pineapple and banana. There are also many other drinks in that category as well. You can also add



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HAPPY HALLOWEEN

right Zone thrills the unsuspecting



CATHY COLLING/THE REGISTER

CHAINSAW MAN STRIKES AGAIN! This actor from the FrightZone attempts to scare all who visit the haunted house this Halloween season. The FrightZone is located on 17th and California.

By Stefanie Wulff

I thought I'd try to let someone scare the pants off me, so I visited the Fright Zone on 17th and California. It didn't happen.

The first problem: the line was overwhelming. It was about an hour and a half wait to get in.

However, I only waited 20 minutes because luckily, I saw some friends at the beginning of the line and they let me cut in front of them.

No, that wasn't fair, but I wasn't about to wait for an hour.

I recommend bringing a deck of cards or a Walkman to help the pass the time.

The building that is used for the haunted house is huge.

It has green lights shining on it and black lights glowing all around it. It was a pretty spooky atmosphere from the outside.

As my turn came up, slowly but surely, I went inside the hallway and read all the rules.

No drugs, drinking, pregnant women, persons with heart problems (did they really think they'd scare someone THAT bad?), and no touching the people who work there. Okay, good enough for me.

Next I went into another room and was entertained by a horror movie on the big screen.

There were ropes guiding us to form lines and I felt like I was in line for a ride at Six Flags.

Next, it was finally our turn. We received a rehearsed, yet boring and very rude, speech of the "Fright Zone do's and don'ts."

I was told to put my hand on the person in front of me for guidance, which I thought, at first it was pointless. But in the long run I was fortunate. Without the guide, I would probably still be in the house trying to find my way out.

She said that if we got lost, we better do our best to find our way out.

If I were to get lost, I thought to myself, I would just sit down and take

a nap. There was no way that I could find my way out on my own.

With the guide leading us, (actually I couldn't even see her it was so dark), I journeyed into the house.

With all the twists and turns in the dark, I received several bumps and bruises on my arms from running into the walls.

Like every haunted house ever built, there were "ghouls" and "goblins" jumping out in front of my path, screaming in my ears.

It was hard to get around them, because they would jump out at me and then stand in my way.

I wasn't suppose to touch them, so all I could do was stand there and yawn until they realized that they were in my path and stepped aside. (I held up the line several times doing this.)

There was the average "chain saw man", "person rising out of the coffin" and "electric chair man" that sometimes made me jump.

However, it was easy to predict when these people were going to jump out.

You know, behind every corner, after every turn, etc.

One

of the greatest things about the Fright Zone was that half of the house was outside.

I've never gone through a haunted house that was half outside. It was nice being there.

It was a nice change from the very smoggy inside.

There were tunnels to crawl through and doorways to chose from which made it difficult, but fun.

Definitely the best thing inside the house was the revolving tunnel.

Let me try to explain this... it's a big purple and red glittery tube-like tunnel that you are able to walk through.

The walls on the outside of the tunnel spin, making it seem like the tunnel is spinning, which makes it hard to walk.

Walking crooked and to the right, I almost fell over two times. It was crazy.

As I walked out, the last thing I saw

was a huge, live snake.

It's just sitting in the cage, so it wasn't very scary, but to imagine the thing wrapping itself around my body, choking me to death, was enough to give me the chills.

When I walked out, the chainsaw man chased me.

It's not so much that the chainsaw scares me; it's the loud noise that it makes.

It really hurt my eardrums.

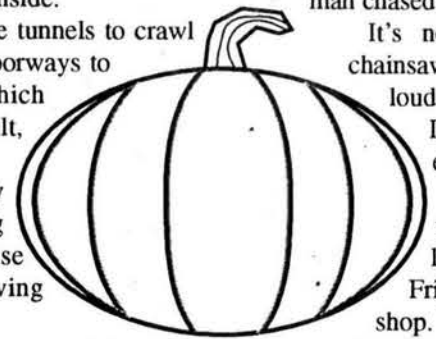
If you are one of those people who like memorabilia, the Fright Zone has a gift shop.

I have never seen a haunted house with a gift shop, but then again, why not?

All in all, I liked the Fright Zone. It scared me at times, however it was hard to get around in the dark.

The Fright Zone was one of the best houses I've been to in a long time.

If you don't scare easily, the Fright Zone will seem like a walk in the park. However, if you do scare easily... beware.



Mystery Manor Actor
Photo by Cathy Colling

Mystery Manor fails to deliver entertainment

By Andy Hickman

Mystery Manor is, in few words, a classic.

As far back as I can remember, Mystery Manor was one of my favorites.

Back when I was a kid I was so of the place. Either they've just gotten really bad or I've grown up and they haven't changed. I think it's the latter.

Horror has evolved quite a bit in the '90's. Back in the black and white days, people were scared by jerky camera motions and high pitched violins.

Nowadays it's beautiful teen models with the ideal body being chased by a guy with a scary mask.

The days of going along with tour groups and being told when someone is going to jump out at you ahead of time or being horrified by some bloody dismembered rubber hand in a strobe light are over.

Sure, that scared me when I was a kid, but now I find it's mildly

amusing.

The location is creepy, but as soon as you walk in, the whole scary atmosphere leaves you at the door.

The house did not meet my expectations, and failed to scare me, or make me scream at any time.

However, the group ahead of me (composed of primarily of grade school kids) screamed and yelled.

I was anticipating a lot of scary people and all that fun stuff, but all I got was a good laugh.

Mystery Manor did not scare me. I was dissapointed that I had to pay to see the house. This will be the last

time I visit our "friends" down at Mystery Manor.

If Mystery Manor wants to keep up with the more modernized (a.k.a. sponsored, commercialized, etc.) it has to beef up it's tacticts (i.e. sellout to a radio station).

It's sad to see a traditional haunted house fall out because everyone lost value to the whole idea. I think Mystery Manor is one of the only houses left that actually donates to charity.

The rest of the haunted houses have unfortunately fallen prey to the sharp talons of capitalism.

Fire department inspects haunted houses

By Meredith Zendejas

Haunted Houses are all fun and games, but what really goes on behind the closed doors to make the house safe for the public?

Tom Moseley, Caption of the Fire Department, said that all the haunted houses have to be inspected by the fire department and other government organizations to let the public be admitted in the building.

Tom Losole, owner of the Fright Zone, said that there are nine people on staff to check to make sure that the house is safe.

Omaha Public Power District

(OPPD) checks all of the electrical things in the houses, he said.

The fire department comes to check the exits and smoke detectors. There are other miscellaneous people who come to check a lot of little things, Losole said.

Moseley said that it is the Fire Department's responsibility to send a person out to each of the haunted houses to make sure that there are proper exits and working fire alarms.

Moseley said that the fire department also checks to make sure that there are not any open

flames.

He said they also check to make sure there is not any straw, hay, or any combustible material used unless it is treated.

When the haunted houses are inspected, everything has to be tested. He said that depending on the size, it could take anywhere from a half an hour to two hours to look over everything.

All of the haunted houses get a temporary certificate of authority when they first start. Periodically, Moseley said that he would send men out to different haunted houses to make sure that

everything is being kept up.

He said that according to the Omaha haunted house guidelines, haunted houses are limited to only two groups to go through at a time, and two attendants have to be with the groups at all times. Moseley said that he can not recall anyone being hurt going through a haunted house, but people should still take precautions.

"When going through haunted houses you should be aware of where all of the exits are. If you are doing everything right then there should not be a hazard," he said.

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Central Scopes

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) EEK! You better start paying attention to what others say to you because this month you will be forgetting something or someone.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Start being nice to people before they stab you in the back. Actions speak louder than words for you this month, so do something nice for a change.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Think about getting a job to earn a little extra cash for the vending

machines so you can stop mooching off your friends.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You lucky dog, you! Take each day as it comes, because each day will be filled with a surprise... Your days are filled with good things.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) Make time to socialize while at that party or gathering. You never know who may show up.. And stop cheating off the guy who sits in front of you in class.

Aries (March 21-April 19) Be careful... Halloween brings tragedy for you and it will not be overcome

that easily.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) This month will be good for you. You need to take a break from work and school, so do it. You have all the time in the world to catch up with the rest of us.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) Be careful for what you ask for. You may get it. Do you really want something so bad that you are willing to sacrifice everything for it?

Cancer (June 21-July 22) TIMBER! Your relationship with that special someone is coming to an end. Get out before you fall down. It's always better to be alone than to be heartbroken.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) This month you should do something outrageous- you'll win in the long run. Go ahead, dye your hair and change your make-up, because you'll get noticed and you'll love all the attention.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Turn over a new leaf. You're old ways are boring and it's time for a change in your attitude.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) This month will be much better than last. Who knows, maybe you'll actually get a reliable parking spot.

By Stefanie Wulff

Happenings

- Oct. 30- Masquerade Ball fundraiser for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation at the Doubletree Hotel
Oct. 30- Lava Rackets at the Doubletree Hotel
Oct. 31- Jive Monkeys and Ravine at the Ranch Bowl
Nov. 2-Dread Zeppelin at the Civic Auditorium
Nov. 5,6- Stars of China Acrobats at the Civic Auditorium
Nov. 6- SemiSonic at the Sokol Hall
Nov. 6- Jorge Nila and the Jazz Ninjas at Joslyn Art Museum
Nov. 7- Shelterbelt Theater fundraiser at the Joslyn Art Museum
Nov. 9- Aerosmith at the Civic Auditorium
Nov. 20- Amy Grant at the Civic Auditorium



Entertainer of the Month: Mulberry Lane

CATHY COLLING/THE REGISTER

Band gets signed by label

By Andy Hickman

Omaha's number one chick band, Mulberry Lane, showed all of downtown what they could do on Saturday Sept. 26, during their performance on top of Little King.

"It was so awesome, hopefully we'll get to do it again," Mulberry Lane member Heather said. "I guess you could say it was an uplifting experience."

Born and raised in Omaha the quartet of Jaymie, Rachel, Heather and Allison have been singing together since they were children,

Heather said. The four of them went to Westside for most of their high school career except sometimes they were personally tutored while on the road.

"As children and in high school we were known as the Rizzuto Sisters, it wasn't until two years ago that we became Mulberry Lane," Heather said.

As Mulberry Lane, the four sisters have put out one album, Don't Cry 'Till You Get to the Car.

"We've played quite a few shows since the CD's release. It's not until recently that major labels noticing us," Heather said.

All four of the band members live in Omaha. Two of them are married, Jaymie and Rachel, and the other two, Heather and Allison, live together.

They recorded and produced their album in a digital studio located in the basement of Heather and Allison's house, Heather said.

"I devote my life to our music. But when I get stressed my favorite thing to do is to go jogging, it really helps me out," Heather said.

As children they took music lessons for their voices and interments. Much of their childhood

was devoted to music, especially as teenagers.

"As sisters we fight a lot, but we've learned how to work professionally and put our sisterly quarrels behind us," Heather said.

Joyce Chamberlain, a spectator at the Little King concert has been a Mulberry Lane fan from the beginning.

"I love Mulberry Lane and the fact that they're from Omaha makes it all so much better. They're songs have so much feeling and their voices are so good," Chamberlain said.

Movie Trivia

- In The Karate Kid, what costume does Ralph Macchio wear to his school's Halloween party?
Which Star Trek movie is centered around the capture of a whale?
In the movie Gremlins, there were three important rules. What was the third and most important rule?
Who played the original James Bond?
Poet Thomas Stearn Eliot may be best known for penning the basis to what long-running Broadway Musical?
Which actor was not in the movie Ferris Buller's Day Off?
What college is featured in the Chevy Chase movie, The Groove Tube?
Which Disney tale tells the heart-wrenching story of a boy and his dog?
What was Mickey Mouse's dog Pluto's only line?
What was Cain's first name in the Kung Fu Movie?

SOURCE: BLOCKBUSTER VIDEO

Advertisement for Central Eagles and Taylor Flower Shop. Features the text 'We're Proud to Support Central' and 'first national bank of omaha'. Includes contact information for Taylor Flower Shop: 733-2322, 5414 South 36th.

Essay

Spirit Week

Togas, fake fur, flannel pants, and guys in reading skirts. It can only mean one thing: Spirit Week at Central. Comfy Cozy, Crazy Hair, Blast from the Past and Spirit Days let students and teachers alike pose for the week leading up to Homecoming. Hey, harm done as long as no one shows up at the dance in one of these outfits.



ABOVE: Emilie Parrot (12), Jamison Richart (12), Rebecca Rennard (11) and Andrea Mullen (11) took it easy on Comfy Cozy Day.



RIGHT: Chris Ochsner (11) and John Fitzpatrick (11) get nostalgic on Blast from the Past Day.

BELOW: Cara Miller (12) can't be missed on Spirit Day.



ABOVE RIGHT: Brandon Williams (12) blinds his opponents with his shiny Spirit Day ensemble.

RIGHT: Terra Gillespie (12) goes all out for Comfy Cozy Day. Teddy bear not included.



TOP: Matt Womacque (12) sports a new look on Clash Day.

ABOVE: Chris Colegrove (12) displays his school loyalty on Spirit Day.



LEFT: It's deja vu for the teachers on Blast from the Past Day. Meredith Zendejas(11), Jorge Escamilla(11), Jeff McWhorter (11), Cerone Thompson(12), Wanisha Clements (11) and John Fitzpatrick (11) gather to show off their style.

Photos by Charlie Carlin, Cathy Colling, Laura Werkhesier, Cara Miller and Mandy Frank Text by Charlie Carlin Layout by Charlie Carlin and Brian Joseph

HOT PROPERTY

The college recruiting process

Only **2.6%** of high school basketball players go onto play in the NCAA

Only **6.6%** of high school football players go onto play in the NCAA

Source: NCAA Information Office

Photo courtesy of Howard University

Recruitment process exciting, player says

By Derek Tritsch

It's a situation that high school students all over the country would kill to be in, and only a select number get to.

Getting recruited by Division I universities is an exciting process, Central senior football player Terrell Gardner said.

"It's kind knowing that all those college coaches want you," Gardner said, "but it does kind of make you cocky if you think about it too much."

Being the object of so many coaches' desires does have its drawbacks, though, like invasion of privacy.

"The coaches call you all the time," CHS football player Brandon Williams said, "it gets kind of annoying sometimes. One night I got five calls from different college coaches."

But, overall, the situation is a good one, CHS tennis player Stuart Waters said.

"It's kind of bothersome every once and a while," Waters said, "but I know that I'll be getting my entire college education paid for and that more than outweighs a little inconvenience."

The value of a college scholarship runs from about \$40,000 to \$80,000, depending on the particular school, Central Football Head Coach Joe McMenamin said.

"I think these kids realize how lucky they are," McMenamin said, "a lot of them would have trouble paying

for [a college education] entirely their own."

The recruitment process is one, McMenamin said. It starts with the particular college beginning to scout the player as early as freshman year, he said.

By an athlete's senior year, college remains interested in her, the athlete will be offered official visits to the particular university, McMenamin said.

An official visit is one that is for its entirety by the university bill that includes: airfare, lodging, meals, he said. High school students are allowed five official visits to a high school career by NCAA regulations, McMenamin said.

Waters, Williams and Gardner have all taken one of their allotted official visits. Waters to University of Iowa and Williams to Gardner to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

"It was fun," Waters said, "make you feel very important."

The visit starts off with a potential recruit meeting with the head coach of the particular university, Williams said. Other activities include eating at the training table with the team and lifting weights with the team, Williams said.

Then, in most instances, the culminating event is a game with the team, McMenamin said.

For Williams and Gardner, it meant standing on the sidelines

Offensive lineman is best in state, coach says

By Derek Tritsch

Talk to Terrell Gardner about going to college and you would think he is making the most important decision of his life.

Perhaps that is because he truly is.

"This is the biggest decision that I've ever made, and I don't want to make the wrong one," Gardner said. "I want to make sure that I take enough time and examine all my options before I sign with anyone."

The 6-foot-6, 310-pound offensive lineman is the best in the state—according to his coach, Joe McMenamin.

"The college coaches really like his size and speed," McMenamin said. "We've never had a lineman as big and as fast as him at Central."

Schools that are currently on Gardner's trail include: Nebraska, Michigan, New Mexico State,

Colorado State, Missouri and Iowa State.

Despite his admitted understanding of the magnitude of his decision, Gardner said that he does not feel any pressure to perform on the field his senior year.

"Every once and a while you'll look up into the stands to see who's there," Gardner said, "but it's not something that really bothers me that much."

Gardner also said that it is

comforting to play under Coach McMenamin, a coach with numerous college connections.

"Coach Mac knows every coach in the nation," Gardner said. "He has always told us that if you start at Central, then you can play anywhere in the country."

Gardner said that he is leaning toward Nebraska because it is "close to home," but that he has not come close to a decision yet.

"Lincoln is the perfect size for me," Gardner said.



Central tennis star lured by Big Ten, others

By Derek Tritsch

The name Stuart Waters is a familiar one to many college tennis coaches around the country.

Perhaps that is what winning several national and regional tournaments all over the country will do for you.

And winning a State Title as a junior probably could not hurt, either.

Waters, a senior, is being recruited to play college tennis by such universities as Minnesota,

Wisconsin, Iowa, Miami of Ohio and California-Sacramento.

Waters realizes the importance of playing for a big-time college tennis program, but said he is not naive enough to ignore the opportunity of getting a good education in the process.

"I could have a four-year education of high quality paid for me," Waters said. "I consider myself very, very lucky."

Stuart said that the tournaments he played in over the summer helped to get him noticed by college coaches.

He said he had a good showing in Boston, Mass., as well as several other cities around the Midwest this summer, Waters said.

His high school varsity coach, Matt Shafer, said he has been impressed with Waters' ability since day one.

"Stuart's just one of those rare

athletes that only comes along every 10 years or so," Shafer said. "He was born with a racket in his hand before he could even walk. The guy eats, sleeps and breathes tennis."

Although he missed much of it due to a broken ankle, Waters acknowledged that there is a bit of pressure on him to play well this season.

"Yeah, but I put a lot of pressure on myself anyway," Waters said. "I don't think it really makes a difference."



I-back's speed earns college coaches' attention

By Derek Tritsch

The latest product to come out of Central's assembly line of running backs somewhat breaks the mold.

Brandon Williams is being recruited to play defensive back by most colleges, where he will probably end up, Central Football Head Coach Joe McMenamin said.

Williams is leading the team in rushing, but even he wonders if it matters at all, in terms of his future

aspirations.

"Everyone wants me at defensive back, but I guess what I'm doing now at running back can't hurt," Williams said. "I'm sure it matters, but I know that most schools are looking more closely at how well I play on defense."

Williams caught the eye of several major Division I football programs this past summer as he ran a 4.36 hand held 40-yard

dash time at the University of Michigan football camp.

Since then Williams has received strong interest from such schools as: Michigan, Nebraska, Colorado State, New Mexico State, Wyoming and Iowa State.

Most schools are still deciding whom they want to offer full scholarships to, so consequently Williams has not received many offers yet.



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CHS runner faces dilemma

By Derek Tritsch

One athlete faced with a tough decision is Central cross country and track athlete Annika Carlson.

With a scholarship to the University of Nebraska-Omaha already on the table, Carlson has also had contact with Kansas State, Brown, Harvard and Macalaster.

But, contrary to many other star high school athletes, her decision may boil down to choosing which academic or athletic scholarship is the most attractive.

Boostered by a 4.5 grade point average, Carlson said recurring injuries may force her to hang up her running shoes in favor of academics.

"I definitely want to go to college out of state and I think I want to run," Carlson said, "but if

I'm still having injury problems then I won't run."

The health issue Carlson alluded to is a formidable problem for her, she said.

Last season, Carlson missed much of the season because she suffered from a right knee problem in the middle of the season. This season, Carlson said she is currently suffering from tendonitis in her lower left calf muscle.

The soreness forced her to miss the first few cross country meets of the year along with Metro.

Carlson did manage to qualify for State, however.

"Even though I won it last year," Carlson said, "I'm not sure if repeating is a realistic goal because of my injuries. My goal is to medal."



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■ CHS Football

Young team excels

By Jeff McWhorter

The Eagle Football team has surprised many this season with an inexperienced team that has really stepped up their play, *Omaha World-Herald* reporter said.

Stu Pospisil, the high school football analyst for the paper, said he was very surprised with the way Central (4-3) jumped out to a 3-0 start. In its first three games Central defeated metro competition North, Benson, and Millard South, he said.

"For such a young team starting 3-0 shows they are making good progress," he said.

The next four games the Eagles lost three very close contests to Westside, Columbus and Creighton. They also came away with a homecoming victory against South.

"It's a little disconcerting though to see them lose such close games recently," Pospisil said.

The teams morale has not been completely diminished though by the close losses. Sometimes the ball just doesn't bounce your way, McMenemy said.

"If it weren't for two plays we would be 6-0 and possibly the number two team in the state right now," Head Football Coach Joe McMenemy said about the recent close losses.

"That's just football though."

Many of the Eagles mistakes can be attributed to inexperience. The defense has a lack of big game experience and they need to work on their consistency, Pospisil said.

In the game versus Creighton Prep

"If it weren't for two plays we would be 6-0 and possibly the number two team in the state right now,"

Joe McMenemy,
Central Head Football Coach

the inconsistency in the secondary was very evident, McMenemy said.

Coach McMenemy agrees that "though problems are week to week, consistency is a major area we need to work on, as well as turnovers."

The team, despite its inexperience, is working twice as hard, coach said. They are learning very well and showing great effort. They progress every week, he said.

Central thus far has used its running attack of junior Jamaine Billups and senior Brandon Williams to its advantage. The big play capability of this team has also kept them in every game, Pospisil said.

The special teams' ability to open the game up at any time has also helped Central win football games. Punt and kickoff returns by junior Lornell McPherson and senior Brandon Williams have broken games wide open for the Eagles, McMenemy said.

Thanks to big plays, the Eagles, who have often started slowly this season, have jumped on teams later in games. These scoring bursts help to disrupt the opposition, Pospisil said.

"With the Eagles big play ability,

who knows how far they can go in the playoffs," he said.

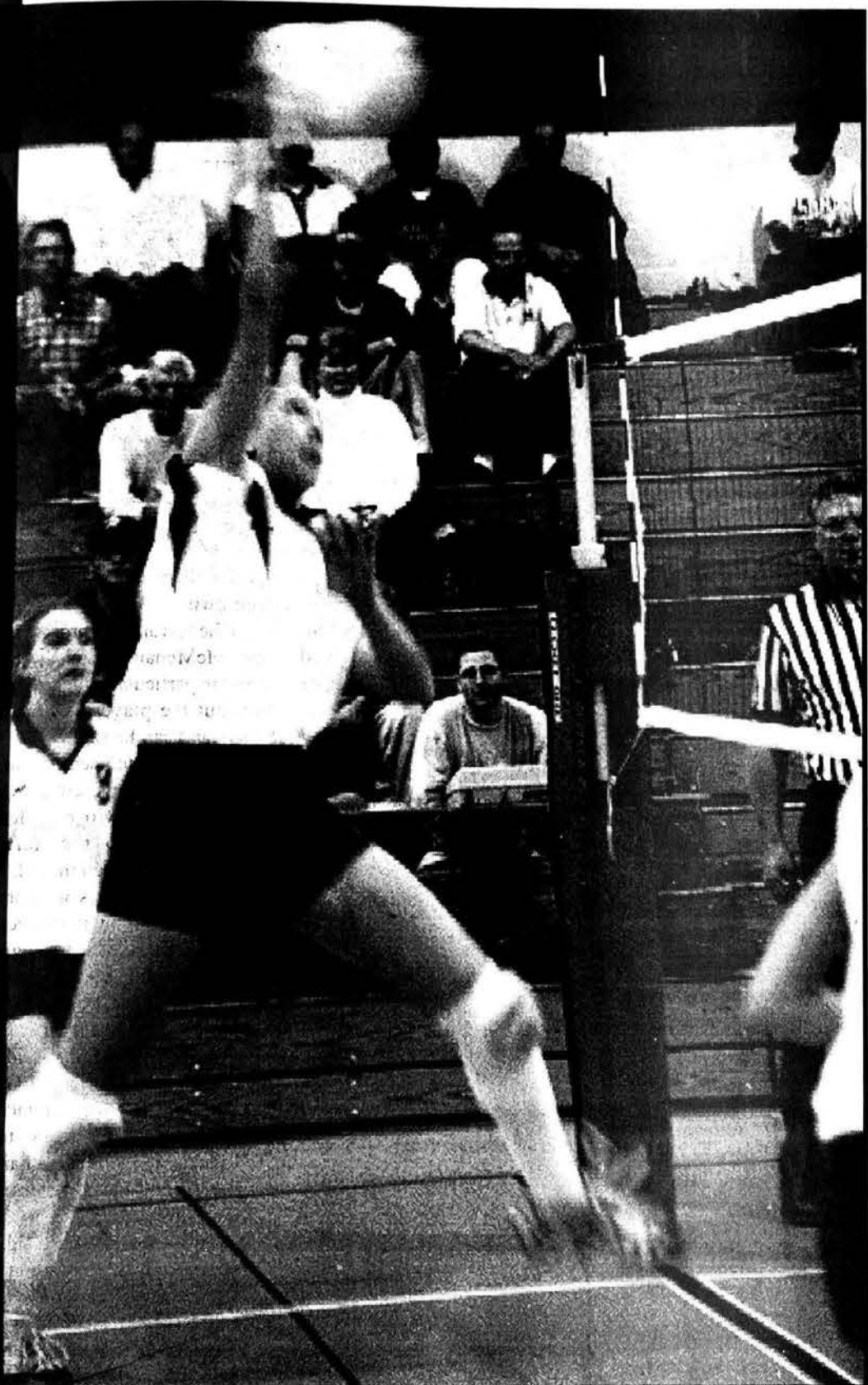
Before making the playoffs the Eagles must first get a couple of district wins under their belt. Their district consists of Millard South, Millard West, Bryan, and Westside. The Eagles have already defeated Millard South and lost to Westside. If they win one of their remaining two games with district opponents Millard West and Bryan they will advance to the state playoffs.

The Eagles have high expectations for the playoffs and hope to advance by defeating teams they have already fallen to.

"Hopefully we can play Creighton Prep in the playoffs again and really stick it to them," Brandon Williams said.

The team seems to feel that the playoffs are what really count. Making the postseason is their motivation and main goal, McMenemy said.

"I think the Eagles have a good chance in the playoffs but they need to watch out for teams like Millard North, Lincoln Southeast, and Creighton Prep," Pospisil said.



CHARLIE CARLIN/THE REGISTER

Senior Sarah Johnson, a member of the girls' varsity volleyball team, attempts a kill against the Northwest Huskies while team member senior Cara Steffensmeier looks on.

Old faces, new look

Eagle volleyball team starts season 11-10

At the Gradoville Invite, the Eagles defeated teams from Northwest, South, and Ralston to take home the championship.

At the Northwest Invite, the Eagles only loss came from Gross.

"The wins were a big boost for us," Abbersfeller said. "We all came together and we just won."

The Eagles next scheduled match is Metro which will be held on Oct. 26 to 28.

Reichmuth said that his goal for Metro is to make the final four.

Reichmuth also said that the Eagles are ranked sixth out of 15 teams.

"Last year, we made the final eight," Reichmuth said. "Our district is really tough because we have teams like Westside and six-time district defending champions Bellevue West."

"We can't determine what's going to happen yet." "We just have to concentrate on our district."

Reichmuth also said that some of his goals for the team are to have a winning record and to beat some of the traditional powerhouses like

the Millard schools and the Bellevue schools.

"We want to compete on the same level as those teams," Reichmuth said.

The Eagles who lost seniors Becca Baines and Jessica Mouton bring back the following players: seniors Cara Steffensmeier, Lauren Pettit, Stephanie Holm, Abbersfeller, Sarah Johnson, juniors Liz Kieffe, Stefanie Wulff, Kari Rider, sophomores Sarah Cleveland, Emily Prest, freshmen Lauren Pauba, Angela Capellupo and Holly Greenamyre.

Next year the Eagles will lose their three senior starters.

"Were losing five seniors next season," Coach Reichmuth said. "Next year will be a different year."

Coach Reichmuth also said that Steffensmeier, Pettit and Holm make his job easier because they have been playing volleyball together for so long.

"They just do things on their own that just can not be coached," Coach Reichmuth said.

By Jeff McWhorter

Playing on Central High School's varsity football team was something the newest edition to the defensive line ever dreamed of, he said.

Jamar Dorsey showed up a six-foot-six, 310 pound, 13-year-old freshman who had never played organized football before this season because he was always too big.

He showed up at "Hell Week", a week in the summer where coaches evaluate new players, because he wanted to play football, and that's exactly what he's gotten to do, he said.

"We didn't know right away that we wanted him on varsity, but we had heard about him and were watching for him," Head Football Coach Joe McMenemy said.

It only took one week on the freshman team before coaches decided to put him on the varsity team. He got his first taste of varsity football during

that week when he got to line up against the six-foot-six, 320 pound senior Terrell Gardner, he said.

"When I first came to ("Hell Week"), he introduced himself and told me that I would play varsity this year. I didn't believe it. I thought he was joking. I'll never forget that first hit though. He knocked me about five yards back," Dorsey said.

Since then, the two have become good friends and they help one another out, he said.

"Terrell took Jamar under his wing and helped him along," Coach McMenemy said.

Terrell has helped Dorsey with his concentration and mental toughness.

He has helped Dorsey improve physically as well, Dorsey said.

"At first, I got nervous before games," Dorsey said.

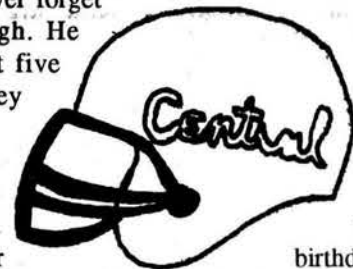
After that first game, his focus really improved, Dorsey said. His aggression and intuition came along as well. He still gets nervous before each game but not as bad, he said.

"He's a very heady, smart football player. He's very coachable, and he gets better every week," McMenemy said.

Now Dorsey, who just had his birthday, is 14 years old and is playing about 75 percent of the snaps as starting defensive tackle.

"I just like to play, whatever coach wants me to do I'll do. It's fun."

He plays on first and second downs while Gardner replaces him on third and fourth down situations. Dorsey also plays on the offensive line occasionally, McMenemy said.



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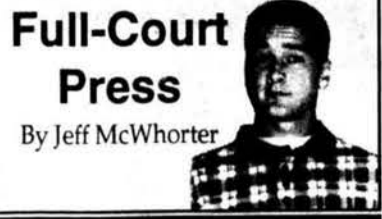
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Full-Court Press
By Jeff McWhorter

Fans make pilgrimage every week

"The Sea of Red."

It is term used to describe the stunning combination of red and white engulfing Memorial Stadium on any given Saturday during college football season in Lincoln.

The best fans in college football are right here in our great state. No doubt about it. Ask anyone who has ever attended a game on one of those magical Saturdays in Lincoln. There's nothing like it.

For Omahans, it begins with the drive down from Omaha to Lincoln. Leaving hours before the 12:30 start time, you begin your trek down treacherous I-80.

Entire red clad families zoom by in their cars making their way to see their beloved Huskers. You get the feeling you're on a religious pilgrimage to the Holy Land. And in a way, you are. It's Nebraska's Holy Land.

Then when you finally reach Lincoln, you look up off of the interstate and see her, your temple, beloved Memorial Stadium.

You continue through Lincoln on your way to see if there are any spots left in the parking garage.

After finally checking all the garages in town and finding them full, you decide to pay the extra five bucks to park in the yard of someone's home.

Nervously, you check your pockets for the tickets and make for the stadium.

After glancing down at your ticket once more and handing it to the ticket-taker to get the stub, you enter the ancient stadium.

The dark and gray atmosphere inside makes you feel excited to get up and find your seat.

After twisting and turning up the steep old staircase to find your seat, you finally walk out into the light and the sun reflects off Tom Osborne Field in a blinding gleam.

With five minutes before kickoff the stadium is suddenly filling up and you become part of "the sea." The third largest city in Nebraska, on game days, forms a 76,000 fans gather to watch their pride and joy.

Anticipation grows as the captains make their jog out onto the turf and the first murmur is heard from the crowd. The opposing team now makes its way onto the field with a puny cheer ensuing from its section.

Then, opposition's jaws all drop simultaneously as the crowd explodes into a frenzy of cheering, clapping and wailing. Nebraska's team then sprints onto the field. "The Sea of Red" is in a tidal wave.

As soon as the game gets underway, the Huskers quickly score a touchdown. The crowd jumps to its feet as hundreds of balloons take to the sky, which is a Nebraska tradition.

By halftime, the home team has sufficiently pummeled their opponent, and you can sit back and watch Lil' Red entertain the crowd.

Traveling back home down I-80 the pace is just a little bit less hectic.

With a smile of satisfaction you think about the next time you'll get to make this pilgrimage to Lincoln.

Eagle duo sweeps Metro singles titles

By Derek Tritsch & Amy Yin

Try hard and maybe you will be able to understand Central tennis Head Coach Matt Shafer's euphoria.

Then again, maybe you won't have to try that hard at all.

In his first year as head coach of the Central boys' tennis team, his Eagles managed to sweep the Metro singles titles.

Not a bad way to initiate a new coach.

"I'm ecstatic right now," Shafer said the morning after the Metro finals.

"I couldn't be happier with the way our team has performed so far this season."

And perform is something that Shafer's top two singles players went out and did at Metro, as both Stuart Waters and Jeremiah Schultz, seniors, won titles in No. 1 and No. 2 singles, respectively.

After skating through the early rounds of Metro relatively unscathed, Waters ran up against defending Metro Conference champion Chris Chiou, junior, of Millard North in the final.

The opponent was not an unfamiliar one, as they squared off for both the Metro and State titles last year, with Chiou winning Metro and Waters winning State.

In the finals match, Waters utilized a raw display of power to pounce on Chiou, immediately, for a quick 6-2 start in the first set.

"I was on in that first set," Waters said. "I didn't have that many unforced errors."

But Chiou, a characteristic slow starter, was not about to concede Waters the trophy that easily, Shafer said.

Chiou, realizing that he probably

did not want to get into a baseline war with Waters, began changing speeds in the second set. Shafer said.

"Chris is very smart," Shafer said. "He said 'I can't bang with Stuart,' so he started changing speeds on him. And you know what? It worked."

The second set went into a tiebreaker at 6-6 and Chiou won out 8-6 in the tiebreaker.

The third and final set was a chance for the crowd to see some of the best tennis in the state, Shafer said. Both players were on their

game which led to some long and entertaining points, Shafer said.

Amidst the classic tennis being played, Waters managed to get up a break in the third and he never looked back, clinching the match with a 6-4.

The No. 1 singles final was not the only match that featured such inspired tennis, however.

At the same time Schultz was slamming it out with his opponent, Bastian Altrichter, junior, of Millard North.

Patience was the key word for this match, as both players were content to trade baseline smashes.

Schultz, whom Shafer characterized as being in "excellent" physical condition, won a nearly error-free first set 7-5.

After dropping the second 4-6, Schultz beared down when it counted

and won the deciding set 6-4.

After the match, Schultz was exhilarated.

"I couldn't even put my feelings into words," he said. "I can't explain what I'm feeling right now."

Shafer was also especially proud of Schultz's accomplishment.

"Jeremiah is a guy who didn't have the tennis upbringing that most of these other guys did," Shafer said. "What he's accomplishing now is entirely a result of his hard work and, for that, I'm really proud."

Shafer said that Schultz does not get his due publicity because he gets overshadowed by Waters.

Schultz said he does not mind the lack of attention.

"I like playing behind Stu," Schultz said. "Sure, I'm not No. 1, but I'd rather be playing behind him than against him."

Unlike Waters who began playing young, Schultz started playing tennis around the seventh grade.

"I just started taking lessons one day," Schultz said. "I took a lot during the summer when they were offering summer programs."

"My biggest moments this year were my first place finish at Metro, the second place finish at the Millard West Invite, and my first place finish at the Papillion Invite," Schultz said. "The biggest moment of my career was probably getting picked for the championship team and playing in the championship sectionals which were held in Springfield, Missouri this summer."

Last year while playing at Metro, Schultz and no. 1 doubles partner former Eagle Chad Powell lost in the quarterfinals.



Stuart Waters



Jeremiah Schultz

CHS coaches form NFL pipeline

By Jeremy Scurlock

The Central Football coaching staff has recently added two new coaches, who have pro experience, to its team, Head Coach Joe McMenamin said.

Calvin Jones and Keithan McCant assist Coach McMenamin with the football coaching duties.

"There addition to the staff brings experience on a pro level," McMenamin said.

Jones played for Central for four years. From 1987 to '90, he starred as an Eagle.

"He played here and wanted to comeback to help out," McMenamin said. "That shows great loyalty to Central."

Jones played at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln (UNL) and was the Big Eight leading rusher his junior year, he was named All Big Eight running back that year.

After playing with the Huskers, he moved on to a pro career in the NFL. He first played with the Oakland Raiders and then won a

Super Bowl with the Green Bay Packers in 1996.

"Coach Mac gave me the opportunity to play down in Lincoln which led to my career in the NFL," Jones said, "and now he's giving me the opportunity to take me first step into coaching. I really appreciate what he's done."

Coach McMenamin said he heard Jones was considering coaching and thought he could do a good job. So, he called him and told him he give him a shot.

"He [Jones] has initiated a good player coach relationship," varsity senior Jimos Reese said.

Jones, now in his first year of coaching, said he likes coaching at Central and may pursue coaching as a career.

"I really want to take advantage and make the most of this," Jones said. "I'll finish this season,

then Coach Mac and I'll sit down and see if I'll return. I really want to stick around and help the program here."

McCant, who is also a Nebraska University alumnus, is currently working with the Central Freshmen squad for his third year, Coach McMenamin said.

"I like him [McCant]," freshman Justin Tatum said.

"He really seems to know what he is talking about."

McMenamin said McCant is really soaking up a lot of experience and doing a good job with the younger players.

NFL Connection

- **Keithan McCant (QB)**
1992, 12th round draft pick by the Cleveland Browns
- **Calvin Jones (RB)**
1994, 3rd round draft pick by the Los Angeles Raiders



CHARLIE CARLIN/THE REGISTER

AYE AYE, CAP'N...Former Eagle Jed Ortmeyer catches his breath during Lancer practice at the quality Ice Plex.

Alumnus name Lancer captain

By Jeremy Scurlock

A Central graduate has recently been selected to take on the responsibilities of captain for the Omaha Lancer Hockey Club.

Former Eagle Jed Ortmeyer was named captain after one year with the Lancers, a season that saw him score 23 goals and dish out 25 assists.

"Having the opportunity to be captain of the Lancers is very exciting," Ortmeyer said.

Ortmeyer was not only named captain of the Lancers, but has also received a full scholarship to play hockey at the University of Michigan.

"Getting the scholarship was a big relief, it's nice to know where I'll be playing when I'm done with the Lancers," Ortmeyer said.

All players and coaches on the team had a part in electing

Ortmeyer captain, Ortmeyer said. Each member of the team selected one captain. Eighty percent of the captain votes for Ortmeyer, Lancer Head Coach Mike Hastings said.

"Jed is the hardest, consistent worker on the team," Mike Hastings said. "He's an almost perfect example of leadership not only on the ice but off the ice as well."

Last year, with Jed playing alongside of his brother Jason, Ortmeyer finished the season with the second-best record in the United States Hockey League (USHL), behind the Des Moines Buccaneers.

Ortmeyer said that this season the Lancers have gotten off to a slow start which has resulted in a 3-4 record.

"We have a strong team and if we keep playing the way we have been we'll start to win some games," Ortmeyer said.

SCORECARD

CHS Scoreboard

Varsity football	
Central.....	13
at Columbus.....	14
Varsity softball	
Central.....	0
at Fremont.....	4
Varsity volleyball	
Central defeats	
Millard West (15-9,	
7-15, 15-4)	

GIRLS' GOLF

The Central girls' golf team's season ended prematurely at Districts, with no one qualifying for the state tournament, Head Coach Jo Dusatko said.

Senior Stacy Cramer (pictured) missed the cut by two places, as she finished 12th in Central's District (the top ten qualify for State).

Dusatko said that all twelve qualifiers for



state came from Lincoln schools (Lincoln East, Lincoln Southeast and Lincoln High). Dusatko also said that this year was "very rewarding" and that she thought her golfers improved "dramatically."

SOFTBALL

The Central softball team's season ended Friday, Oct. 16, with a 4-0 loss to Nebraska No. 2 Fremont in the District A-4 final.

"They produced runs when they needed to," Head Coach Kerri Semrad said. The loss put an end to the season in

addition to ending junior Kari Shank's (pictured) "tremendous tournament" in which she went 6 for 10, Semrad said.

In Semrad's second year as head coach, the Eagle's finished the season with a record of 14-13.

"We had a lot of team unity this year," Semrad said. "The kids have made this season more enjoyable."

Semrad said that the Eagle's accomplished their goal of competing on the same level with all the teams in the Metro area.



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