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124 No. 20th Street
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DIRECTORY
FEATURES
page 3
PERSPECTIVES
pages 4 & 5
IN-DEPTH
pages 6 & 7
ENTERTAINMENT
pages 8 - 10
SPORT
pages 11 & 12

Entertainment

In-depth

Perspectives

"Toy Story 2"
Page 9

Special Millennium
Spread
Pages 6 & 7

Y2K obsession
Page 4 & 5



Proposals to fight underage drinking

By Jenny Nelson

The Nebraska State Legislature is considering two proposals for harsher penalties for liquor establishments that break the law. These proposals were passed by the Omaha City Council, a city clerk said.

Buster Brown, who keeps the city records and issues the liquor licenses, said that he has a lot of involvement in these liquor penalty proposals. He said he believes that "tightening up" the penalties is a good idea.

These proposals were initially brought up by the City Council Liquor Committee, who voted unanimously to pass the proposals.

Now the state senators must present these proposals to the unicameral so that they might be put into effect, Brown said.

"It's something that we would like the state legislature to enact," he said.

For the first offense involving possession of an illegal gambling device, this legislation would suspend a bar's liquor license for 30 days.

For a second offense, it would close the bar, Brown said.

The other proposal for punishment for selling alcohol to minors, (people under 21) calls for a seven-day liquor license suspension for a first offense, closure of the bar for two days for a second offense and closure of the bar for up to 15 days for a third offense, he said.

Sophomore Jessica MacDonald said she thinks that the current punishment is too lenient. She said she agrees with the proposed legislation.

"They should take the licenses away from minors and close the liquor establishments for more than two days," she said.

Sophomore Lainie Gabriel said she believes that minors should be allowed to drink, if done in moderation.

AIDS AWARENESS



CLAIRE DEVNEY/THE REGISTER

LEFT TO RIGHT: Juniors, Scott Pearson, Stefanie Monge, Alyx Matyja, Anne Muskin and Christian Hoeger gather at Memorial Park on Dec. 1, for World AIDS Day, to remember those who died of AIDS and HIV. The Candlelight Vigil was put on by TECA, a volunteer organization that was formed to raise an awareness of AIDS education.

Students learn effects of disease



MIKAYLA CHAMBERS

LEFT TO RIGHT: Juniors Stefanie Monge and Alyx Matyja remember the AIDS victims on Dec. 1 during the Candlelight Vigil.

By Courtney O'Malley

"The ceremony only lasted a little over an hour, but the impact it had on me will last for a lifetime," Alyx Matyja, junior, said.

The Candlelight Vigil, presented by Teens Educated to Combat Aids (TECA), was held on Dec. 1, World AIDS Day at Memorial Park, Nebraska Aids Project Director of Progress and Services, Richard Santee said.

The vigil was held to remember those individuals and families that have been affected by HIV and AIDS, but also an evening of hope and to make people more aware of the disease, Santee said.

"There has to be an awareness that this epidemic is not over yet. There is still no cure, and you can't just walk away from it," Santee

said. "I've learned more about living and people learn to respect and protect themselves," Santee said.

TECA, a volunteer organization, was formed to raise an awareness of AIDS. It was founded in 1993 and is composed of students 13 years to 19 years of age. TECA was designed to be a volunteer outreach program, TECA Advisor Jeffery Kongsle said.

"When young [people] want to learn the facts, and/or determine if they are infected they can be tested at our facilities at the age of 13 without parental consent," Kongsle said.

TECA hosted the 1999 vigil as a prevention, intervention and youth outreach program for AIDS, Kongsle said.

"We wanted to do something

with an impact and involve the community," Kongsle said.

Memorial Park was chosen as the sight for the vigil because of what it symbolizes, and represents, Kongsle said.

"Memorial Park is really a memorial for those that have died, Kongsle said. The park is also a memorial for those that deserve a place, a place to be remembered."

The vigil was held from approximately 8:30p.m. until 10 p.m., although there was a memorial service at St. Cecilia's Cathedral prior to the Candlelight Vigil, Santee said.

Kongsle said the program was designed to be a two-fold, or two-tiered mission.

Turn to AIDS, page 2

Schools punish spectators

By Andrew Danford

Out of concern for the growing incidence of unsportsmanlike conduct, the school board in Valley, Neb. gave preliminary approval to create a policy that punishes spectators for acting in an unsportsmanlike manner, the Valley superintendent said.

Stan Sibley said that the new policy is not aimed at students but more at parents and former students who have been increasingly causing more disruptions at athletic events.

"This is not a student policy," he said. "The students never are a problem at our games. Usually, the biggest problems are parents and recent graduates."

He said that prior to this policy, the school administrators had the power to punish students for unsportsmanlike conduct, but never had the authority to discipline other spectators.

Under the proposed policy, the spectators, including the visiting team, would be dealt three levels of punishment for unsportsmanlike conduct.

Sibley said that the district would consider taunting, profanity and other behavior that would not be acceptable in the classroom setting to be unsportsmanlike conduct.

"We would like you to keep your language and behavior the same as you would at the dinner table," he said.

For the first offense, the school administrators would warn the spectator.

On the second offense, the administrators would have the power to remove the spectator from the game.

If they refuse to be removed, the administrators could use police force to remove them and forbid them from returning to events for the remainder of the season.

Although schools in Valley have never experienced a problem with unsportsmanlike conduct, Sibley said that it is a growing problem in athletics today.

He said that college, professional and club teams often do not exhibit proper sportsmanlike behavior.

"We consider ourselves to be the sportsmanship capital of the state," Sibley said. "My board determined that before poor sportsmanship develops in our district, we would like to take a preliminary step."

In addition to the proposed policy in Valley, the Nebraska Schools Activities Association (NSAA) will also be considering a similar policy in the upcoming year.

President James Riley said that he expects the NSAA to form a committee to look into such a policy next year.

The committee would be made up of administrators, coaches and athletic directors from across the state, Riley said.

They would then formulate a statewide policy that would be voted in the fall, he said.

In the meantime, Riley said that the NSAA was meeting with the individual administrators of each district through district meetings and help them determine means to control unsportsmanlike conduct within each district.

Turn to VALLEY, page 11

Library opens in South Omaha

By Andrew Danford

The Omaha Library Board granted approval to build a new branch in South Omaha within the next three years in order to better serve the area, a board member said.

Omaha Assistant Library Director Verda Bialac said that the board had been considering moving the current south Omaha branch for years but never approved anything until they voted on Nov. 17.

She said that the current branch located at 23rd and M streets needs to be moved for several reasons.

"The branch that we have now is too small to serve the number of people it needs to," Bialac said.

In addition, Bialac said that parking and technology were a problem at the current facility. She said that because of the construction of the building, it would be impossible to add more technology to the current location.

"There is no room for a computer or any other computers in

there," she said.

The new library would be shared with Metropolitan Community College.

David Kobel, a spokesperson for the college, said that he hopes the new library will be able to help the city and college better serve the people.

"This will give us an opportunity to expand our resources," he said.

According to preliminary plans, the new location will be built at 28th and Q streets on land currently owned by Metropolitan Community College.

Although the details still need to be finalized, Bialac said that sharing of space will combine both the collections and staffs of the current locations.

The city and the college will both contribute funds to build the library.

The city has about \$4 million allocated to a capital improvement fund, Bialac said.

Kobel said that the college has not determined the amount of money it will contribute to the project. He said that the amount will be determined during negotiations that are scheduled to occur between now and May next year.

Bialac said that she expects the negotiations to proceed smoothly. "We have faith that everybody will work very hard," she said.

Kobel said that the new library would help allow the college to make more use of its space at the South Omaha campus.

"It gives us the opportunity to expand our classes at our Omaha campus, he said.

Bialac said that she expects construction on the project to begin in 2002. This would allow the library to open in early 2003.

In addition to the South Omaha project, the city would use money from the capital improvement fund to improve other branches in Omaha.

Preview
MOVIE



COURTESY OF NEW LINE CINEMA

Comedy comes back

"Next Friday!" Craig Jones (Ice Cube) and Karla (Lisa Rodriguez) star in the new movie that starts off where the original movie ended. Craig returns to match wits with his nemesis Debo, a neighborhood bully who is bent on revenge. Once again, forces beyond his control will test his survival skills and his commitment to family.

Turn Entertainment pages (8-10) for more movie information.



Dance provides food for homeless

Student council and the senior class officers held a canned food drive dance on Dec. 3. The food drive donated cans for the Salvation Army.

With about 150 people attending the dance, student council and the senior class officers said they were able to provide a way for all grades to have a good time.

Democrats hold holiday coat drive

The Student Democrats are currently sponsoring a coat drive. The drive started on Dec. 9 and will run through Dec. 17.

Coats will be picked up before school and during lunch periods.

CHS students aid holiday shoppers

Student council spent time at the Crossroads Mall on Nov. 26 by volunteering to gift wrap.

They also helped the visually impaired with their holiday shopping on Dec. 12, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Spanish students taste the culture

Spanish Club held a dinner at the restaurant "La Hacienda" on Nov. 30. Over twenty-five students attended this activity.

"I had a really good time," Spanish Club member Stephanie Monge said.

DECA partipates in volunteer work

The members of DECA participated in several civic activities this holiday season. They will once again be ribbon cutting for Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) throughout December.

DECA will also be ringing bells for the Salvation Army on Dec. 14 at the main entrance of the Crossroads Mall and the Hy-Vee on 90th and Center streets.

Club experiences flavor of France

French Club held their annual Progressive Dinner on Dec. 5. This event includes four French courses at four different homes.

"The dinner was a real success," French club secretary Jessica Boro said. "Everyone had fun, and the food was great."

French club has many other activities planned for the year, including participating in the Millennium Lights celebration.



CATHY COLLING/THE REGISTER

ABOVE: Juniors Christian Hoeger and Nick Joerz attend Gore's conference at Iowa Western Community College. Gore addressed the issues of education, veterans and Medicare during his speech.



CATHY COLLING/THE REGISTER

LEFT: Vice President Al Gore speaks to undecided voters on Nov. 23. About 300 people attended the conference.

2000
COURTESY OF GORE CAMPAIGN

Gore campaigns in the metro area

By Meredith Zendejas

"I wanna be your next President." Vice President and Democratic Presidential Candidate Al Gore brought this message on a visit to Iowa Western Community College on Nov. 23.

Gore, who was wearing a green polo shirt, khakis pants and hiking boots, spoke to a group of about 300, whom he said are undecided voters, invited to the conference for him to tell them the reasons why he wants to be the next president.

"The President is the only person in the Constitution who fights for all of the people," Gore said. "That is why I am running for president."

Some of the concerns that were brought in the meeting were education, veterans and Medicare.

"Education lifted my family up," Gore said.

Gore said that education is very important to him and he will try to provide more funds

for the public schools. He said that one way of doing this is redirecting some money out of the pentagon into education.

"Concerning women's rights, the progress needed in women's rights in this century will only begin what we will do in the next century," Gore said as a pledge to his mother.

Gore said that his family has always taught him about public service.

He said that families are a big part of his life.

Gore said that he celebrated his 29th wedding anniversary last May and he has four children.

When asked on what he thought was the most important event in history, he said that if everything keeps going the way they are, in February, we would have the longest peace time in history.

If this continues he said, it would have an effect on the democracy and we will be able to solve more problems, which shows that our economy is booming.

Collection removes weapons from Omaha's streets, organizers say

By Meredith Zendejas

The MADD Dads organization held a gun collection on Nov. 15, and collected 176 guns. The National MADD Dads President and the Omaha Chapter President said.

Eddie Staton said that all of the guns collected had to be in working order. MADD Dads paid all who gave away the guns \$50, but they had to be in working order.

He also said that they collected two automatic assault guns, which they paid \$100 each for.

The money for the collection was given to MADD Dads by the State Patrol budget, which gave \$5,000, the state government gave them \$10,000 and \$3,000 came from local churches.

Staton said that \$9,000 of the money wasn't used, but they will use it for the next gun collection, which he said would probably be held in two years.

"The gun collecting provides a way for people who want to get rid of unwanted and unneeded guns, without any questions," Staton said.

He said that the state provided amnesty for anyone who wanted to give away the guns.

He said that they even had teenagers giving guns to them.

"We didn't ask any questions when the

teenagers brought in guns, we were just glad that they were off the streets," Staton said.

One of the reasons for holding the gun collection was to get the guns off the streets and out of the houses where kids have easy access to them.

He said that there are too many accidental shootings that could have been prevented if the owners took the right precautions with the guns.

He said that because of these accidental shootings, along with the gun collection, MADD Dads offered a safety program for people who wanted to have a legally registered gun in their house.

Staton said that the MADD Dads was founded in May of 1989 in Omaha by a group of fathers who were concerned about the youth in the community.

MADD Dads said that they have been focusing on North Omaha since 1996. Because of their effort, he said that there is now very little violence, and gangs are almost non-existent.

Staton said that MADD Dads is notorious for its street patrol that they do every Friday.

He said that the street patrol is not like the normal neighborhood patrol. MADD Dads goes out and talk with the kids.

"We want to have the kids be able trust us and now that they can count on us," Staton said.

Central students attend AIDS vigil

■ AIDS, continued from page 1

The first goal was to remember those individuals whose lives have been affected by AIDS. Secondly, the vigil tried to evoke awareness with everybody, to take away the stigma and end discrimination from those infected, Kongsli said.

To commemorate the evening, AIDS ribbons and candles were handed out.

There were six speakers including an AIDS survivor, Mark Kraft, and TECA members. One of the TECA members and speakers included senior Laura Werkheiser.

These speakers told their survival stories, sang songs, and read poetry.

Just Breathe
Take a deep breath.
Fear no the repercussions of your shortcomings.
Dwell not on yesterday's miscalculation...
Or tomorrow's worst case scenario.
Now it's happily ever after.
Now it's that one time
You've been waiting for your entire life
When you shine just a little bit brighter
Love like you've never been hurt!
And dance like nobody's watching.
Just Breathe.
You see, my friend, it's the blink of an eye
That paints the picture of life's presence.
So stand tall.
Be just a little bit more brilliant... beautiful... free
Than they expected.
72.34% of all statistics are nothing but statistics
and 0% portray people
Be a person.
Take another deep breath.
Keep breathing.

wrote and recited a poem entitled "Just Breathe." The poem focused more on actual living associated with living with AIDS, Werkheiser said.

"Since I've joined TECA, it's really things in perspective," Werkheiser said. The North High choir also sang at the ceremony, Kongsli said.

To bring the ceremony to a close, a human AIDS ribbon was formed.

Participants gathered on the side of the hill.

"We've been waiting for your entire life when you shine just a little bit brighter."

Love like you've never been hurt! And dance like nobody's watching.

Just Breathe. You see, my friend, it's the blink of an eye that paints the picture of life's presence.

So stand tall. Be just a little bit more brilliant... beautiful... free than they expected.

72.34% of all statistics are nothing but statistics and 0% portray people. Be a person.

Take another deep breath. Keep breathing.

Werkheiser support," Matyja said.

Central student selected for leadership program

By Ally Freeman

For one Central student, years full of volunteer work and taking on active leadership roles has brought more than just the feeling of helping others.

Sophomore Angel Starks was recently selected as the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership (HOBY) representative from Central.

Starks said she applied by filling out a form in homeroom and was later called to an interview. The interview included such questions as qualities she viewed important for a leader, she said.

Central Guidance Counselor Catherine Hanrahan is in charge of the HOBY program at school.

She said the application changed this year from the past procedures.

This year HOBY did not require applicants to write an essay, instead they just expressed interest and gave an interview, Hanrahan said.

She said that the applicants were interviewed by a panel of three students and one staff member at Central. They were then ranked and their scores were tallied.

Seventeen sophomores applied to be Central's representative at the HOBY conference, Hanrahan said.

Starks said she first became interested in applying for the HOBY seminar after she tried for the equally prestigious Youth Leadership Omaha program.

She said she had doubt of being selected for Youth Leadership Omaha, but when a second opportunity arose for a similar program she knew she should go for it.

"I wanted a program where I could use [my] leadership in a good way," Starks said.

Starks said that along with attending a conference at the end of the school year at Dana College, she must complete 100 hours

of community service within the following year.

Junior Joey Fehrman was one of Central's HOBY representatives last year. Fehrman said that he acquired many new friends and gained valuable leadership skills from participating in the HOBY program.

"HOBY provided the chance for me to meet teens from all over Nebraska," Fehrman said. "The leadership workshop also gave me great service project ideas."

He said that HOBY does a great job of combining activities at community service ideas into a program for various teens from around the state to participate in.

For Starks it's a community service component will be nothing out of the ordinary, she has been volunteering throughout her elementary school.

Activities Staton said she has been involved in include student council, Youth Volunteer Club, and various projects around Omaha.

"I don't care what [project] it is, as long as I'm helping someone," Starks said.

Starks said she knows she can achieve the 100 service hour requirement without difficulty.

She said she has participated in a range of community service activities from simple as planting a tree to working with residents at the Rose Blumkin home.

"I can withhold all the responsibility and get along with everyone," Starks said. She said these personal characteristics will help her be a good representative of Central for the program.

"I am already spending my time doing volunteer work, even without the HOBY award," Starks said.



Starks

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Modern 'Nutcracker' delights audiences

By Rebecca Rennard

Places. Places for the top of act one.

It is Thursday Dec. 2, opening night for the "Nutcracker," and sophomore Julia Anderson stands by the wing amid a group of young dancers who are bouncing up and down to the overture music to warm their feet.

As the main, gold curtain of the Orpheum Theatre goes up, children spring into action on stage, and Anderson dances on in the first of four costumes she will wear during that performance.

The performance of this year's "Nutcracker" was especially important to the Omaha arts community, because it marks the comeback of Ballet in Omaha, Robin Welsch, director of the Omaha Theatre Company Ballet said. Omaha has not put on its own "Nutcracker" ballet since Ballet Omaha declared bankruptcy almost five years ago.

The new Omaha Theatre Company Ballet presented its full-length version of the "Nutcracker" Dec. 2-5 at the Orpheum Theatre.

Anderson said she was excited that the company would have its own "Nutcracker" this year. She said she knew, however, that it meant a lot of work for members of the Omaha Theatre Company School of Dance as well, because they would have more parts in the production than in the past.

"It was really hard having to

rehearse all the time. I was totally worn out by the time we finished," she said, "but it was worth it."

The version of the "Nutcracker" they performed was created for previously by only Ballet Omaha, Welsch said.

"It was choreographed specifically for this theatre, and all of the sets and costumes were designed for this production," she said.

It is set in the 1920's and is about Clara's dream of becoming a movie star, she said.

In the party scene, Clara meets her uncle's friends, a movie star, two starlets, and Charlie Chaplain who will be performing at the grand opening of the Orpheum Theatre in Omaha.

She said that Clara falls in love with the movie star.

In her dreams, Clara is saved when her nutcracker doll comes to life. He then transforms into the star she fell in love with and takes her to the land of film instead of a world of sweets.

Welsch said Clara is then introduced to other actors and actresses, and the movie star she fell in love with in the beginning becomes the star of her dream movie.

Although the "Nutcracker" is a classical ballet, the break in tradition was extremely successful.

Every show was nearly sold out and the cast received a standing ovation after their Friday night performance.

Lending a hand

As the holiday season approaches, Central students find ways to help the community



CLAIRE DEVNEY/THE REGISTER
ABOVE: CENTRAL DECA MEMBERS Seniors Katie Spoonhour and Andrew Ludwig cut ribbons for Mothers Against Drunk Driving.



RIGHT: STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS sell tickets to their dance to raise food for the homeless. Students got a discounted ticket for donating a can of food.

CATHY COLLING/THE REGISTER

Central teacher receives award for performance

By Talya Greenspoon

As a tribute to her many years of dedicated teaching, Central French teacher Bev Fellman received the Outstanding French Teacher of the Year Award from the Nebraska Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of French, she said.

Fellman said that she was chosen for the award by a committee of students, teachers and parents.

"I am incredibly grateful to all of them [the committee]," she said.

Fellman said after leaving Central years ago to take care of her kids, she has been back teaching for 10 years.

"My goal is to keep the kids stretching their abilities and the curriculum challenging," Fellman said.

Fellman said that some of the techniques she applies in her classes are based on methodology classes that she still takes today.

"Right now, we are employing a technique called TPRS, which is based on a theory that

people are always telling stories to each other in their conversations, and we apply this idea to the foreign language curriculum," she said.

Junior Robert Fogarty, a student in Fellman's 7-8 class, said that he agrees that Fellman deserved to win the award.

"Her [Fellman's] teaching style is unique and she incorporates many activities into the study of the French language which

makes us want to further pursue our knowledge of French," Fogarty said.

Fellman said that her interest in French was sparked by a college professor.

She said the professor could speak perfect French, in many different dialects.

"I was amazed by his skill in languages, and that is why I decided to go into the field," she said.

This decision is reinforced every time a former student comes back to visit, or goes into the same field, Fellman said.

"About twenty former students of mine majored in French in college," she said.



Fellman

Sweatshirt keeps Math Club tradition alive

By Courtney O'Malley

Since 1989 the math club has continued a tradition that is unknown to most students, the tradition of the blue sweatshirt, Math Department chair said.

John Waterman said the dark-blue headed sweatshirt, is a ten-year old sweatshirt that is passed down from year to year and is worn to every math competition.

The sweatshirt originated in 1989 by a former math club member. The student, Mike Lawler wore the sweatshirt to every competition he went to.

Along with the sweatshirt, he

also entered into the competitions caring a boom-box, playing the song "We will rock you", Waterman said.

"It was a psyche factor, and was used to scare our opponents," Waterman said.

Since then the sweatshirt has been passed down to the one student chosen as the most mathematically talented, Waterman said.

Dave Rennard, Class of 1999 gave the honor of the sweatshirt this year, to senior Andrew Lieben, Waterman said.

Although Lieben has the power to decide whom to give the sweatshirt to next, he is undecided, Waterman said.

Along with passing the sweatshirt down the former owner tears a piece of the sweatshirt away and keeps it, Waterman said.

The giving of the sweatshirt is given at an award ceremony at the end of the year, Waterman said.

"It is a very prestigious award to have a piece of the shirt," Waterman said, "A piece of the shirt is sometimes also given to those almost worthy students."

The sweatshirt is traditionally worn to every math competition, Lieben said.

"It is the closest thing we have to a mascot," Waterman said.

The sweatshirt along with being

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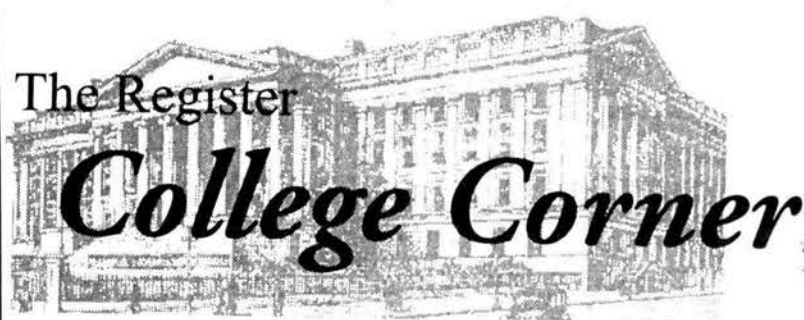
106

THE CITY

CLONING IS FOR SHEEP,

NOT MUSIC.

FREE FORM RADIO



A closer look at KU, Santa Clara, University of Colorado, and Yale.

University of Kansas

Location: Lawrence, Kansas
Tuition: \$9,120.59 plus average room and board: \$4000 (out of state)
Admissions: ACT composite score of at least 24 or an SAT score of at least 1090 (for out of state residents)
Enrollment: 18,701 undergraduate students
Athletics: KU belongs to the Big 12 athletic conference and offers nine varsity sports for both men and women, plus an intramural program.
Greek System: KU boasts one of the largest greek systems in the nation. Many students are involved in the Greek life.
Housing: The KU Department of Student Housing offers three types of accommodation to students: residence halls, scholarship halls, and apartments. A unique feature are KU's ten scholarship halls which emphasize cooperative living. Each houses about 50 undergraduate students. Everyone shares cooking and household responsibilities.

Santa Clara University

Location: Santa Clara, California, just outside of San Jose
Tuition: \$19,095, plus room and board \$7, 544
Admissions: Average SAT Verbal-601; Math-618 . Average ACT 26-27
Enrollment: 4200 undergraduate
Athletics: 7 NCAA Division I teams, six club sports, and an extensive program of intramurals
Greek System: About 13 percent of the campus is involved in the Greek system. National sororities: Alpha Phi, Delta Gamma and Delta Zeta. National fraternities: Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Sigma Pi, Theta Chi and Pi Kappa Alpha.

University of Colorado

Location: Boulder, Colorado
Tuition: \$25, 936 (non-resident)
Admissions: Average SAT 1070-1250, ACT 23-28
Enrollment: 20, 595 undergraduate
Athletics: CU is a member of the Big 12 conference. Sports offered include both men's and women's intercollegiate competition in basketball, golf, tennis, alpine and nordic skiing, track and field, and cross-country; women's competition in volleyball and soccer; and men's competition in football. In 1998 CU-Boulder's ski team won its 15th national championship.
Greek System: More than 2,500 CU-Boulder students are involved in fraternities and sororities. Most of the organizations have chapter houses where some members may live after their freshman year. CU has 19 fraternities and 13 sororities.
Housing: CU-Boulder's campus has been called one of the most beautiful in the country. Most of the residence halls offer wonderful examples of Italian Renaissance architecture-the only student housing in the nation constructed in this style. Despite their cohesive design, each of the 22 residence halls has its own look, feel and personality.

Yale University

Location: New Haven, Connecticut
Tuition: 1999-2000 tuition: \$24,500, plus room and board \$7,440
Admissions: SAT's generally fall in the low 700s, and ACT composites in the low 30s
Enrollment: 10, 990 (total)
Athletics: Yale offers 16 intercollegiate sports for men and 17 for women. Yale's intramural sports program revolves around the 12 residential colleges, with over 1,600 contests scheduled in over 33 sports. 20% of students participate in intercollegiate sports, 50% of students participate in intramural sports.
Greek System: none
Housing: Each Yale undergraduate belongs to one of the residential colleges. Most students live there after their freshman year. Freshman and sophomores are required to live on campus, however, most freshman do not actually live in their colleges: freshman from 10 of the 12 colleges live together on Old Campus, a quadrangle of Victorian Gothic Revival dormitories.

Perspectives

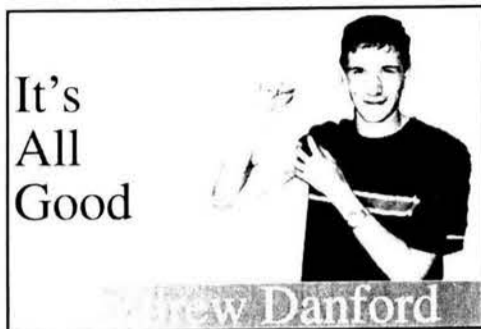
Gratification

Y2K

Christmas



Instant gratification damages society



When did it get so easy? Just answer 15 questions and you too could win \$1 million.

I guess that it really is not that easy. You do have to put up with Regis for about an hour. (Oh, by the way, "Is that your final answer?")

This seeming ease with which people can win money on ABC's "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire" does point out a major flaw in society today—the need for immediate gratification.

In just a couple minutes, a person can win

a cool million and happiness for a lifetime. I don't think that is what life is all about.

What about the casinos and lotteries? Just scratch and win. It's almost too easy.

Even here at Central, the theme of immediate gratification echoes through the halls.

People cheat on tests. Students can get papers with just the click of a mouse. Hey, why read the book when Cliff can tell you everything that you need to know?

In addition to taking these academic shortcuts, students find immediate gratification through other means.

Drugs and alcohol provide a way for students to briefly escape the pressures of life. However, their troubles are still waiting for them when they return to reality.

All these shortcuts seem like solutions in the short term but leave people empty in the long run.

Nothing is really gained. The only way to accomplish anything is to confront problems head on.

There are no lifelines to help you. You can't cut corners by asking the audience.

But why aren't people able to wait in today's society?

You can microwave dinner in less than five minutes. You can take an airplane from Los Angeles to New York in just a couple hours. You can phone a friend anywhere in the world just a couple of seconds.

Infomercials promote products that will make people's lives easier through only eight easy payments of \$24.99. (By the way, they accept credit cards in case you don't have enough cash to pay for it now.)

All these items contribute to

the problem. But it is just not the advance of technology that has caused people to become less patient.

Parents push their kids to read and write to get ahead of their neighbor's kids. They pay thousands of dollars so that their child can get ahead.

It is this selfish attitude that people have taken that leads to this need for immediate gratification.

If you can't have it now, then your competition will get it first.

People need to stop thinking about their competition. They should go at their own pace and not try to impress anyone.

This would certainly decrease the need people have for immediate gratification and eliminate the countless problems that result from it.

Oh well. It still would be cool to win the million, and we all are only 15 questions away. Maybe it is all good.

Top ten ways to spend a million dollars

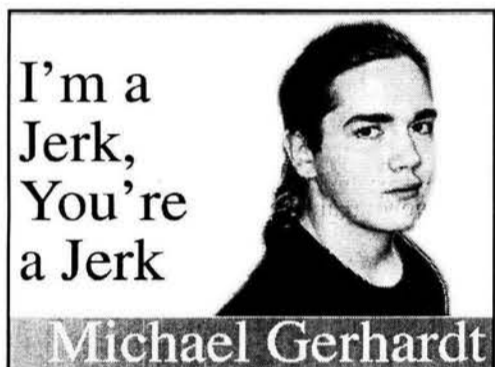
1. Forget about the new car, just add \$16,000 of chrome to your 1993 Festiva.
2. Buy a very small house, fill it with money, then pretend to discover it everyday.
3. Finding out how many kegs can be purchased for \$32,000.
4. Paying the legal fees after Regis sued you for smacking him when he asked, "Is that your final answer?" for the tenth time.
5. Buying a pool and filling it with Cavartier and other fine \$10 wines.



6. Making 100 new "friends" down on the street corner.
7. Betting it all against the Huskers—you'll double your money.
8. Really super sizing it the next time you get fast food.
9. Picking up the car parts and Bud Light cans from your front yard and putting in those classy pink flamingos.
10. Making a significant donation to your Uncle Sam.

Principal
Dr. Gary Thompson
Advisor
Matt Deabler
Opinion Page Editor
Michael Gerhardt

Y2K will bring fiery death to all



Y2K is coming. We're all going to die. You can't avoid it; you're going to die. While you're drinking you Champaign in your expensive parties and partying like it's 1999, I'll be preparing for the upcoming apocalypse.

It's true. First, all the computers in the world will crash. So, no more selling kidneys or children on E-bay. People may tell you that things are Y2K compliant, but that's just a ruse. Nothing is Y2K compliant, except a generator, a shotgun and some canned food.

After the computer crash, the worst will come. Airplanes will fall from the sky. Hospitals will explode when their equipment fails.

Although this doesn't need to be said, the stock market will crash along with the rest of the world's economy. Before you know it, you'll be bartering barrels of flour for a large rock of salt. Then you can exchange that salt for all you need.

No, wait, no you won't. All the nuclear, atomic, neutron, etc. bombs will explode at that exact same time. We will all die at the same time, in a horrible orgy of fire and death.

And if that doesn't happen, society will be broken down into its heathen base again. Feudal lords will rule the land, and petty disputes will be solved by one thing only, the sword. Duels will once again become legal, and a new black plague will come. As if the computer crash won't be bad enough.

The world will come to a living end. Horrible, horrible things will develop in our sewers. Children will grow three legs and six

arms and all kinds of terrible stuff. It'll be really bad, I swear.

Radiation poisoning from the nuclear plant meltdowns will cause millions of new forms of cancer to emerge.

Then the Commies will come, in droves. Hundreds of millions of Commies, here to plunder and ransack what is left of our broken nation. They'll steal our women and deformed, mutant children. It will be horrendous.

But something can be done to delay all of this pain. You can build a Y2K survival kit. Nevermind all the 4967350968725095 other survival books published, this will be the only list you'll ever need.

- To be prepared for Y2K, you'll need...
- A Shotgun
- A Handgun
- Another shotgun
- Lots of canned food
- Five or six generators, besides your back up 13

You've got a shotgun, right?

A stinger missile launcher

A hair drier, obviously

A goat

Pineapple wedges

One more shotgun

Now, you'll be prepared for anything: comes your way, be commie or collapse of known world.

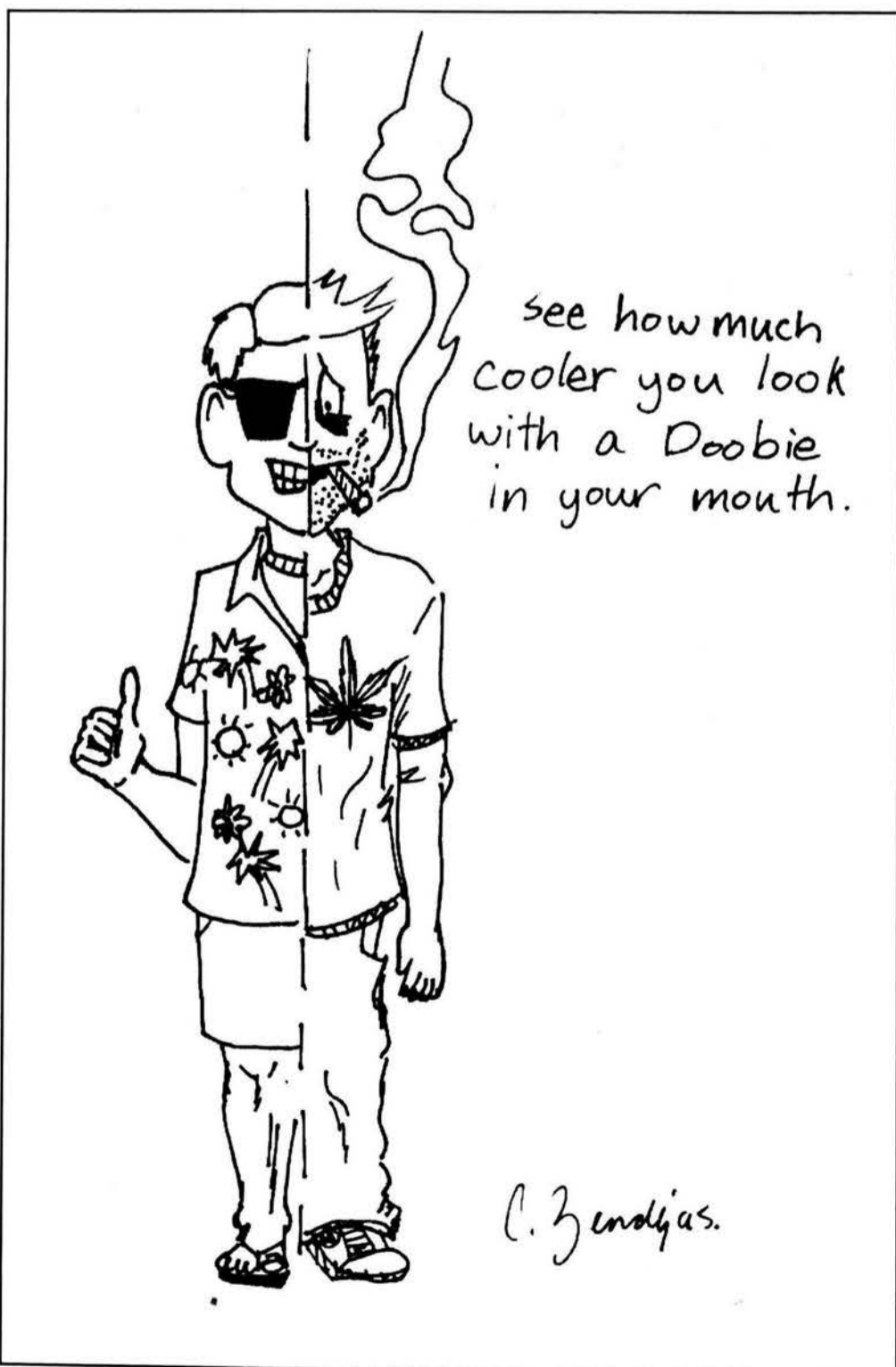
No, wait, that was a lie! That's all we

Nothing is going to happen with Y2K. Sure, maybe there'll be a few problems here and there, but for the most part, everything going to be just fine.

No planes will fall from skies, hospitals will not explode, and I'm pretty sure there'll be no orgy of nuclear death and destruction.

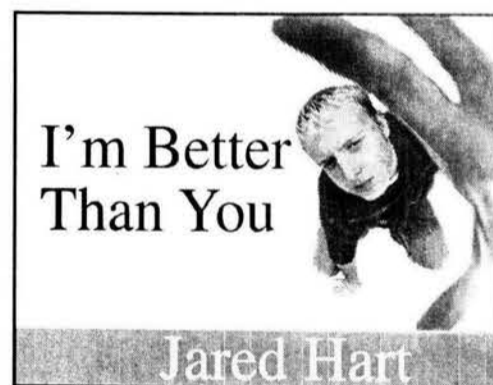
Enjoy your New Years Eve.

By the way, I know a few of you wonderful kids out there a long with a lot of adults are going to be enjoying (being defined as consuming an amount of alcohol equal to your body weight) on your New Years. Just remember a designated driver, OK?



C. Z. endigas.

Christmas ruined by holiday cheer



Christmas doesn't have anything to do with religion any more.

People are constantly be bombarded with the holiday hype. This is detrimental to society.

Not that there is anything wrong with the holiday season. Only that 500 thousand people are suddenly your closest friend for a week before the twenty fifth and not a minute after.

But please don't stop the Christmas spirit because of me.

So many people buy enough pointless merchandise to feel they have done enough for their souls this year. This is also known as buying off their conscience.

And in doing so they have managed to dig themselves into enough credit debt to have to work for Visa until next year. Isn't that what Christmas is all about?

It's the wasting of salary and Christmas bonus' that get's me. It's the holiday love that helps pay the wages over at the oh-so loved Pokémon.

I have always loved the elaborate methods of buying the love of children of all ages. You know, the look in a child's eyes when you give them everything they ask for and a little more.

Or even better, the way a child smiles when they are opening the secret present they have been waiting months to receive. And somehow know is a video game even through all that wrapping paper.

Then how enraged they get when they see their "loving" parents goofed and bought the 85 dollar wrong version. Now what you should have done was shell out the 50 dollars for the new super version.

Yeah, that's the bitter holiday cheer. Oh I get it, so either you're trying to love or you really like paying way too much for something you can purchase at half off week. People could save all kinds of money they just took a deep breath and bought their holiday gifts a few days after that special day.

Did I miss something or has Santa become a pop icon? Every time a person turns on boob tube he sees another Chris C. pushing some ad campaign or new cereal.

Or the great parents waiting in line for the just so they can give up ten smackers to their teenager in an elf costume. Then let their get his picture snapped with "the real Santa" while screaming for his parents.

These are the photo's that some people resurface on dates or when running for public office.

How exactly does one go from being a guy who gave candy to the right kid, to a saint and doesn't stop, from saint to a miraculous super-human who can fly please every gentile under the age of 12?

Maybe I'm the one out of the loop. Maybe I should sellout and cash in on a little merchandise. Or maybe spoil a sibling has everything anyway. Or even change sunny disposition for a matter of days wouldn't that be nice.

I guess I could turn on TBS and watch hours of "A Christmas Story" day in and out, for all of my winter break. Or record Christmas version of Power Rangers and lucky go out and buy all the action figures the new Santa Zord.

Happy Holidays.

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Perspectives

Y2K

Letters to the Editor

Drugs

Y2K hysteria overplayed by media

As the year 2000 quickly approaches, the media is widely publicizing and over exaggerating the Y2K phenomena.

The much hyped computer glitch, Y2K, will supposedly cause computers all over the world to shut down. Thus, anything run by computers will cease to operate, since they will not understand the conversion between 99 and 00, relating it back to 1900.

This problem is a valid concern. The world as it is today is almost solely reliant on technology. Practically everything people do is in some way or another generated by computers. The thought that all the computers in the world will malfunction simultaneously presents a major problem.

Many, if not close to all, technology run businesses or services have been updated to be Y2K compliant, contrary to popular belief.

Once the Y2K problem was established, computers were manufactured to be Y2K compliant. The Y2K hysteria is purely a media by-product. At the end of the last millennium, people feared the apocalypse was imminent. They placed their fears in their religious beliefs.

Yet, they weren't bombarded by an ever-mounting pile of books, videos and seminars on the approaching New Year.

Now that society is not as religiously based, people must find something to put a name to their apprehensions.

The first warning for Y2K happened six years ago and people started to worry about it in 1998.

If people would have started to prepare then, there would be fewer problems now.

The Y2K media mania is just a waste of energy, resources and time. The world has more important problems to deal with rather than a computer bug that only a small percent of the population is able to fix.

Editorial

The opinion of The Register

What year is it?



The Media's New Y2K Analyst

American teenagers lack perspective

Y' All Ready for This



Rennard

Teenagers blow everything out of proportion.

Trust me, I understand being stressed out all too well, but what you are going to do this weekend is not a major problem.

It could always be worse. Consider a woman, Sara*, from China who just had a baby.

It was her second. In China, because of problems with overpopulation, the communist government will severely punish anyone who has a second child.

Sara has been living and working in the U. S. for the past year or so, but is supposed to return to China and to her family shortly.

Upon her return with the new baby, she will risk the loss of her job and her older daughter, who is now about five, will have difficulty finding a school that will accept her. This first daughter, who still lives in China

with her dad and grandparents, knows nothing of the newborn baby.

Children in China are taught at a young age that having multiple children is terrible and wrong. Sara said she is afraid to tell her own daughter, because she fears the reaction she will receive.

In addition, if her daughter tells too many people, she may be punished even before her return.

Not being able to receive U. S. citizenship, Sara has been frantically searching for a place she may seek refuge. She is trying to find another country where she may be able to work after her visa has expired.

Even then, she is not sure she will be able to get citizenship in another country or even officially emigrate from China.

So far, she has not been terribly successful, and Sara is trying to find a way for her parents to come to the U. S. and stay with her new

baby, while she returns to China and to her older daughter.

Try to imagine the thoughts, the fears going through her head. She understands the true meaning of being in a bind.

Try to imagine how she felt when she first learned she was pregnant, trying to decide whether or not to keep the baby.

Try to imagine how she felt when she had made her decision, trying to figure out where to go from there, knowing the fate that awaits her in China. Those are tough decisions.

They would affect the outcome of not only her life, but also the life of her five-year old daughter and new baby.

Most people in the U. S. will never have to make a decision like that. Most teenagers wouldn't even know how.

I used to think my life was hard. I know other teenagers with lives that are harder still, but now I realize how lucky we are.

Drop in drug usage stems from many sources

According to a recent study from the Partnership for a Drug Free America, the popularity of drugs and those who use drugs are going down. Peer pressure and an expensive ad campaign helped to bring this about, which is a positive change and needs to continue.

Peer pressure is the main cause of these changes. It is well known that peer pressure works better than any television or magazine ads. In a survey among teenagers aged 12-15 by the

Partnership for a Drug Free America, less than half of the teenagers surveyed had been offered drugs, and only 11 percent said it was hard to reject marijuana from a friend. This shows that teenagers are withstanding peer pressure to do something they don't want to do.

That same survey said 41 percent of teenagers had tried to talk a friend out of doing drugs, compared to 38 percent last year. Along with the ease in which kids are rejecting drugs, this is a clear sign that

teens are thinking about drugs and their consequences. Teens are thinking for themselves, and the "herd" mentality that teens are often portrayed with is being shattered.

The popularity of teens who use drugs is also falling. The percentage of teens who strongly agree with the statement "in my school, marijuana users are popular" dropped from 17 percent to 10 percent. Forty percent of teenagers strongly agreed with the statement "kids who are really cool don't use drugs," compared to 35 percent in 1998.

While peer pressure is the largest part of these wonderful changes, the new ad campaigns helped a great deal. When people are saturated with positive ads designed with them in mind, it has to have a positive affect on them. With these ads running as frequently as they do, teens are told repeatedly that drugs are not "cool," and it is easier than one would think to say "no!"

But while these steps are in the right direction, this is only the foundation, which needs to continue to grow.

The Register

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LETTERS, E-MAIL & FAXES

Paper lacks content

I want to show you a freshman's perspective of the *Register*, or rather my perspective of the *Register*. I will start with explaining why I do not read the newspaper. It is not interesting! Your stories need to excite the reader. Yours however, do not.

The *Register* should write about things that will interest students. Things that they will want to gossip about as they pass each other in the halls. A newspaper is not just making sure that you capitalized correctly and use the right tense. It is also about content.

Jacob Priluck, 9

Respect 1st amendment

It seems no one cares about religion until a heated debate discussing homosexuality comes up. Even then, there are so many different views nobody wants to believe. That is what is occurring between Reverend Jimmy Creech and Husker Coach Ron Brown.

Reverend Jimmy Creech performed a same sex union between two women and now two men. He has received a lot of harassment from the Methodist church for this act. In the first incident, he was removed from the church. He performed the second union in North Carolina and will be put on trial again through the church in Grand Island.

Assistant Coach of the Nebraska Cornhuskers, Ron Brown, is speaking against homosexuality. Brown has a radio show on a Christian

radio station, KGBI, called "Huskers Sports Report".

Critics are saying that he is using his position to voice his religious beliefs.

They say it sounds as though he is representing the whole university and should only be able to do so with the permission of the university. Brown has now agreed to remove the "Husker" from the title of his program.

Coach Ron Brown has just as much freedom of speech as anyone does. It makes sense that people are upset that he is using "Husker" in his program title because it does sound as though he is representing the whole university or the athletic program.

It does not make sense that people object so much to Coach Brown stating his views. They would want to do the same if they had the opportunity.

It seems that Reverend Creech is also using his right to free speech, in a way, by performing the ceremony. Reverend Creech got in trouble from the church for going against their beliefs. Therefore, if the university feels that Coach Brown is taking advantage of his position they can ask him to remove "Husker" from the program name.

Erin Van Putten, 10

ESL Article lacks respect

I am proud to be a current ESL student. For this reason, I disagree with the person who was interviewed for your

recent article about the ESL grant. First of all, the ESL program, got this money to be used to improve the equipment that is necessary in the classroom.

The article talked about the parents of ESL students. Some people think that the parents of these students just do not get the ideas that their children have to learn English, to speak English. Some think they do not even make the effort to help them. This is not true. Most of the parents do not speak English. They are also learning the language, just like us.

Therefore, they cannot really help us a lot.

We do, in fact, buy materials to learn English. It is just that it takes longer for some people to learn the language.

Some people enter the ESL program without knowing the alphabet in any language, much less English. Some do not know how to count or distinguish colors.

This is why we need all this money. The point is not to spend money on the parents to make them help their children learn English! The program now is going to help the parents, but the students are the ones who attend school.

People should consider that many families want to keep their own language and keep their culture alive. All ESL parents want their children to know how to speak both languages. They know that it is very important to know your own culture as well, because if you do not know where you came

Register Your Opinion

"Register Your Opinion" is not meant to represent the view of the entire student body or the staff of the Register.

Do you think Y2K will have a big impact on the world?



No. Because all the banks and the governments are prepared.

Ben Iwen, 12



No. It's just another year, it won't change anything.

Shanae Nared, 11



No. Everyone has already fixed their computers

Justin Pops, 9

from you do not know where you are going. It is a privilege to speak both languages.

I thought the article gave the impression that the ESL students are lazy, and come just to warm up the desks. This is not true. Central's ESL students have gone on to attend universities and have done very well there.

The effort exists, and the learning spirit exists. The majority of ESL students do their best. Unfortunately, learning a new language and culture is not an easy thing to do.

In addition, if I were the interviewer, I would have spoken to a current ESL student, rather than someone who has been out of the program several years. The person who has interviewed does not have any present experience with the program for several years. The person who was interviewed does not have any present experience with the program.

I think that respect should exist and it should be shown to everyone. I felt that parts of this article were insulting to members of the ESL. In ESL, we learn to respect other cultures. I wish everyone else would learn to do the same.

Maria Olvera, 11

When writing a letter to the editor, please include your name and grade.

Millennium

Top 20 Events of the Millennium

1. Gutenberg prints the Bible, c. 1455 A
2. Columbus discovers the New World, c. 1492
3. Luther launches Protestant Reformation, c. 1517
4. Industrial Revolution begins, 1769
5. Galileo proves Earth revolves around Sun, 1610 B
6. Germ theory of disease proved, 1882
7. Gunpowder weapons invented, c. 1100
8. U.S. Declaration of Independence, 1776
9. Hitler takes power, 1933
10. Earliest account of Nautical Compass, c. 1117 C
11. Edison opens laboratory, 1876
12. First slaves brought to New World, 1509
13. Small pox vaccine discovered, 1796 D
14. First regular TV broadcasting begins, 1939
15. Darwin's theory of evolution, 1859
16. U.S. drops atomic bomb on Hiroshima, 1945
17. Ford builds Model T, 1908
18. Crusades begin, c. 1095 E
19. Magna Carta signed--seed of democracy, 1215
20. Alexander Graham Bell invented telephone, 1876

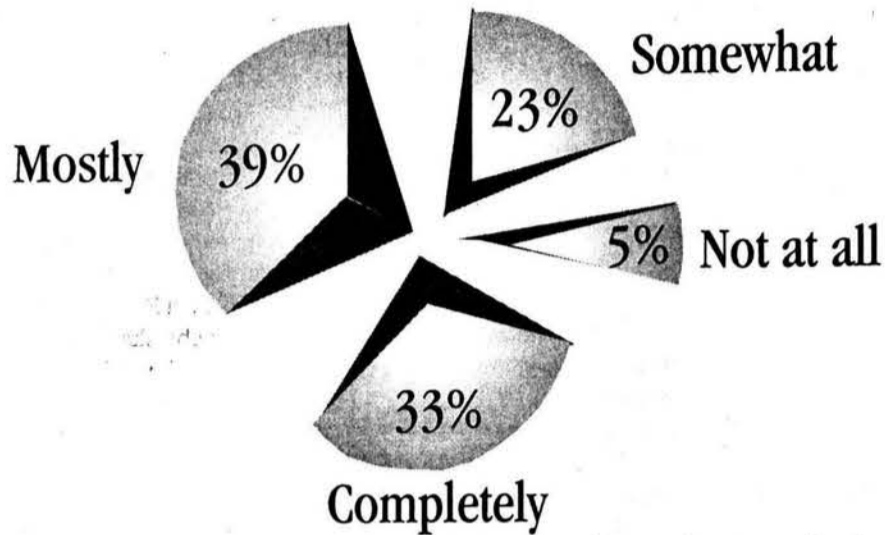
KEY

- A. The Bible (1)
- B. A Germ (6)
- C. A compass (10)
- D. Small-pox vaccination (13)
- E. The Crusades (18)

JARED HART/THE REGISTER

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE LIFE MILLENNIUM

Do you believe you understand what Y2K means?



168 students polled
JENNIFER FRIEDMAN/THE REGISTER

Society prepares for possible computer glitch

By Monica Narducci

The countdown is in its final stages. The year 2000 is approaching at the speed of light--and Y2K along with it.

The Y2K problem is not a new phenomena. Scientists have known about it since the early days of the computer.

Y2K is a result of programmers using a two-digit code for the year dates instead of using a four-digit code. For example the year 1982 would be simply "82".

The two-digit code poses a problem with the main computer systems, in that the computers will think it is 1900 instead of 2000.

This means that there could not only be problems with the things main computers control but also with things people don't even associate with computers.

The two-digit code also was used in embedded chips, which are used in many everyday appliances.

JoAnn Merrigan, marketing consultant for the American Red Cross, said major problems are not anticipated.

"We [the American Red Cross] have put out a pamphlet regarding Y2K and how to prepare," she said.

Merrigan also said that the American Red Cross has been working with the Omaha Public Power District (OPPD) and Metropolitan Utilities District (MUD) for about a year.

"The storm of October 1997 helped prepare

OPPD and MUD for Y2K," Merrigan said. "From it they learned what a real emergency was and how to handle one."

Merrigan said the pamphlet shows individuals how to prepare, but stresses not panicking.

Ron Vredevel, senior project manager and 2000 coordinator, and Gordon Christensen, senior quality assurance analyst, from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska agreed with Merrigan that it is important not to panic.

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska, a corporate sponsor of the Omaha Public Schools, has worked on Y2K issues.

"We [Blue Cross Blue Shield] started year 2000 efforts in 1995. We have four concurrent efforts going to make conversion [to Y2K ready systems]," Vredevel said.

Blue Cross Blue Shield completed critical systems early in 1999 and since then has been testing, Vredevel said.

"We spent a large part of 1998 to 1999 deciding what could possibly go wrong in every area of the company and

every department," Vredevel said.

Christensen said that they were involved in the Medicare testing, called Med A Testing.

Blue Cross Blue Shield was certified as being compliant, Christensen said.

"On a scale of one to ten, Omaha could probably be rated a two or a three," Vredevel said.

He also said that the United States historically has been at the forefront of this issue, along with England and Western Europe. Less developed countries are going to have more serious problems.

Christensen agreed that the countries that don't have the funds to fix their computers probably will have problems.

"What you put into this is what you are going to get out," he said.

Vredevel said the only problems that will be seen right at midnight on Dec. 31 are problems that are caused by embedded systems.

Vredevel also said the location of the embedded chips will determine the severity of the problems.

"If an embedded

chip is in your calculator, you throw it away and buy a new one that works," Vredevel said. "But if it's located thousands of miles out in space or in a drilling rig in the Atlantic far below the ocean, you have a lot bigger problem."

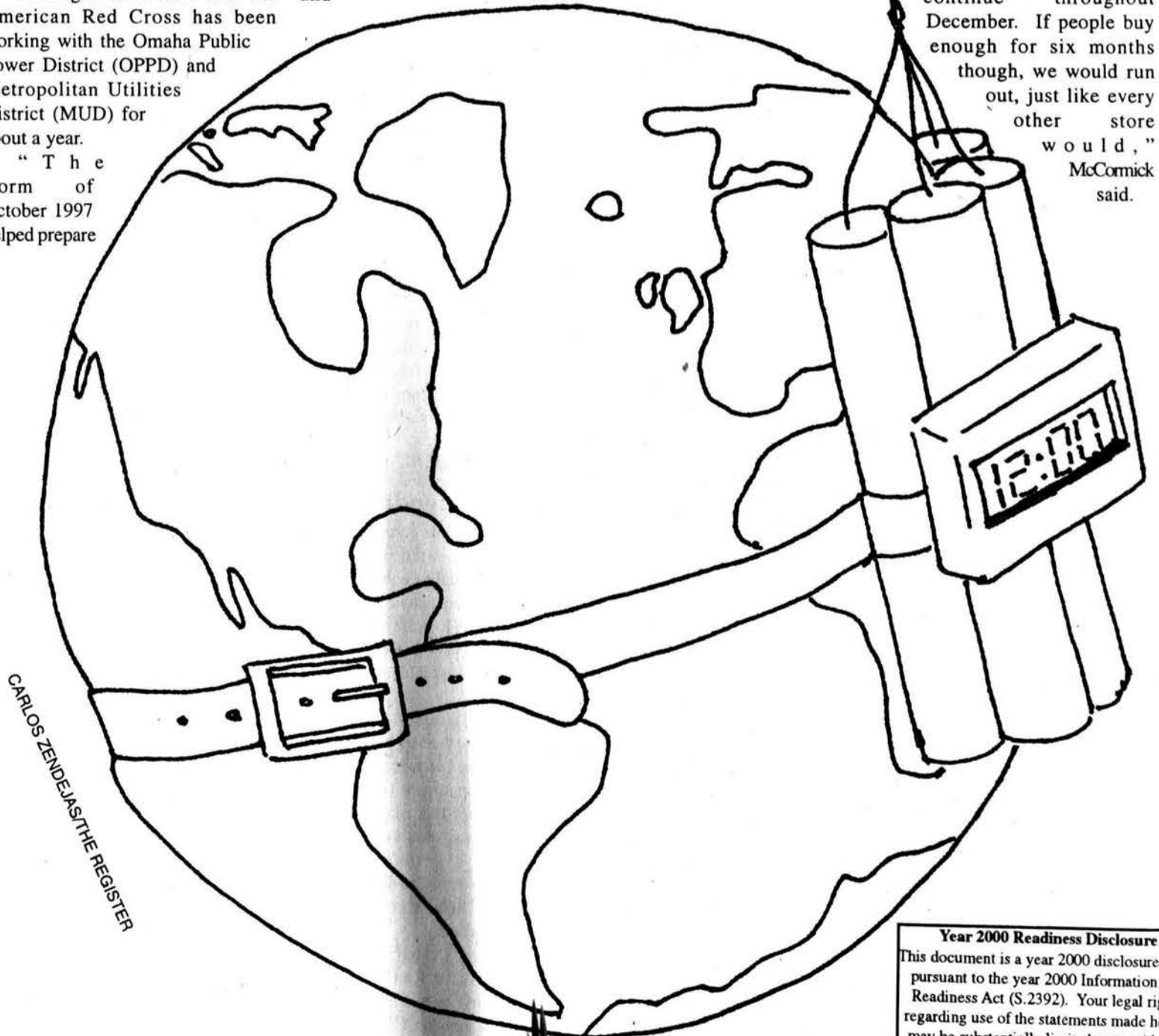
Some predictions say we will see problems over the next month or maybe even years, Vredevel said. The worst problems probably won't be obvious for some period of time.

Christensen said the crux of the problem is data corruption.

"It's when a file gets out of sync with processing," Christensen said. "It's not bad enough to stop the program from executing. The system allows the error to propagate throughout the system and it is several days before anyone realizes there is a problem. This is why testing has been so important."

Mike McCormick, director of Year 2000 at Fleming [Baker's Supermarket] also said that they are prepared for Y2K.

"Baker's will be prepared for people stockpiling food for five to ten days. We started stocking extra in November, and will continue throughout December. If people buy enough for six months though, we would run out, just like every other store would," McCormick said.



CARLOS ZENDEJAS/THE REGISTER

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Reality or Hype?

'Millennium Year' to celebrate past, imagine future

By Sarah Peterson

The coming of this New Year's will bring about the dawning of the "Millennium Year," a year of celebrations of the past and future before the end of the second millennium, a Public Affairs Consultant for the United States Naval Observatory said.

Geoff Chester said that the next millennium officially begins on Jan. 1, 2001. However, "Millennium Year" celebrations will begin this New Year's.

A millennium is a time span of 1000 years. Because the Gregorian calendar goes from 1 B.C. to A.D. 1 (there is no year zero), the next millennium will not begin until the year 2001.

Despite the fact that the new millennium officially dawns on Jan. 1, 2001, many people around the world are planning to celebrate on Dec. 31, 1999, when the calendar flips to the year 2000.

Junior David Gutman said that he doesn't believe the event is as important as many believe.

"It's an important event," Gutman said. "But it's been overplayed by many—especially the media. It's just a date—nothing to get over-excited and paranoid about."

The first millennium was from 1 to 1000 A.D. Our current millennium began in 1001 A.D. and will continue through the end of the year 2000 A.D.

Many celebrations have been planned to celebrate the dawning of a new millennium, and the end of the past millennium.

A White House Millennium Council has been set up to plan special events for our nation, with the theme "Honor the Past—Imagine the Future."

During the "Millennium Year," the White House will lead a National Millennial Program that will engage Americans in a wide variety of activities.

A special celebration on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., will begin on Dec. 31, 1999, and continue until Jan. 2, 2000. During the opening ceremony Hosted by First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, a National Time Capsule will be unveiled.

Special exhibitions will be put on by the Smithsonian Museum and various guest artists, such as Aretha Franklin and Chuck Berry, will perform.

Many other countries have set up special committees to plan celebrations for their nations.

The Ronald Reagan International Trade Center will be the site of a worldwide broadcast feed following millennium celebrations around the world. The international community will gather there to welcome the year 2000 as it arrives to their home countries.

Throughout the second millennium countless events and inventions have changed the lives and life-styles of people around the world, Dr. William Pratt, a Professor of History at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, said.

Pratt said that inventions such as the printing press, electricity, modern plumbing and modern means of communication such as the telephone and the computer have been important to this millennium.

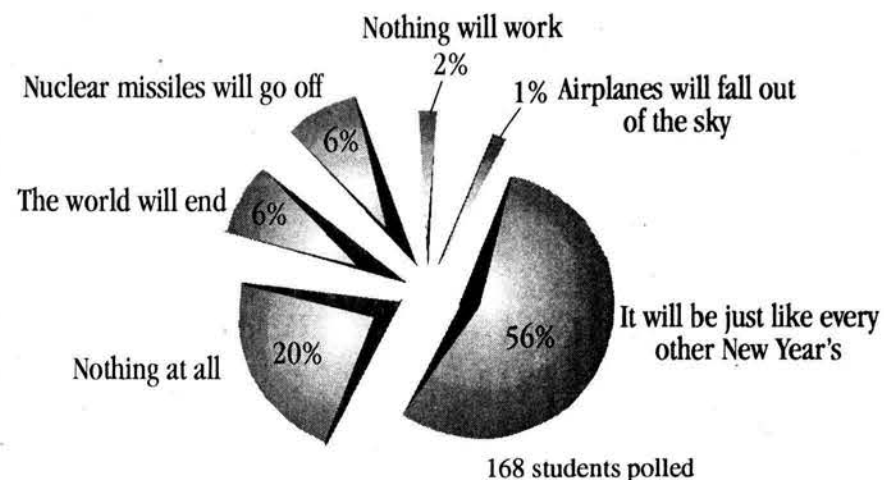
He also said that new ideas have changed the way people live.

"The belief that individuals and groups should be treated equally regardless of race, religion, gender or so on, has been an important concept in this millennium," Pratt said.

He said that this belief wasn't established everywhere in the world, but was becoming more evident around the globe.

Pratt also said ideas such as nationalism, democracy and retirement have changed modern societies during this millennium.

Which do you think will be most likely to happen after midnight?



JENNIFER FRIEDMAN/THE REGISTER

Year 2000 concern for some, joke for others

By Jenny Nelson

The approaching millennium year is causing concern for many people across the nation and around the world, a senior analyst at Political Research Associates in Somerville, Mass., said.

Chip Berlet said that according to a newsweek poll in October, 40 percent of all Americans believe that the world will end with Armageddon—a fight between Jesus and the Antichrist.

Fifteen percent of these people believe that Jesus will return in the year 2000 for this fight.

Junior Elisabeth Haskell does not believe that Armageddon will occur in the year 2000. "I just don't think the end of the world is coming," Haskell said.

According to the Bible, Armageddon will occur, but it does not specify when.

Sophomore Mervine Opere said he believes that the world will end someday, but not the year 2000.

He emphasized the point that God said the world would end, but that no one would know when.

Opere said that since everyone says the world will end in 2000, it probably won't.

Brenda Brasher, assistant professor in the department of Religion and Philosophy at Mt.

Union College in Alliance, Ohio, said that the word millennium has many different meanings. She said that a millennium is simply a time period of 1000 years. But what Christians view it as the end of history.

Others see the end of every 1000-year period as bringing peace and hope, she said.

Beth Forrest, coordinator for the Center for Millennial Studies, said that there are two main groups of people that believe something big will happen with the approaching millennium year, and that these two groups break down into many other subdivisions.

One main group is called the militia group. They are people who are stockpiling food in preparation for the end of the world, Forrest said.

She said they see the American government as the Antichrist.

They see the rise of technology and the breakdown of civil liberties as signs of the coming end of the world.

Brasher said that the reason people stockpile food is that they are afraid that the refrigeration and distribution of food and the maintenance of the water supply will be slowed.

"So much of that is computerized," she said.

Brasher said that people are not stockpiling food because they think it will all be gone with the coming of the new millennium.

"It's not like the food is going to vanish," she said.

Junior Andrea Gatzke said that she does not understand why so many people are stockpiling food for the new millennium.

"Even if the computers crash, why would we have no food?" Gatzke asked.

Haskell said that she is not worried about whether there will be adequate food in the new millennium, but that her mother is saving water.

Forrest said that the other main group is called Christian Fundamentalism.

These people believe that the year 2000 will bring the return of Christ. They are planning on traveling to Jerusalem to see the coming of Christ, she said.

A further division of the Christian Fundamentalists is the people who believe that the next millennium is the coming of a more beautiful age, Forrest said.

Y2K is a different point of view from the millennium, Berlet said. He said that Y2K is the society's mania.

Brasher said that Y2K is a computer glitch that is thought to disrupt the social fabric.

"That may or may not happen," she said.

Brasher said that the concern is not so much the disruption that would be caused by the computer glitch, but for the people who would take advantage of the hysteria to cause

more disruption.

"Our computer is ready, so we [my family and I] aren't freaking out too much," Opere said.

Gatzke said she doesn't know whether the world will end or not. She said the Bible gives signs, so she believes it's possible.

"I can see why people would think so, but I don't know for sure," Gatzke said.

She said that her family is not saving any food for the supposed end of the world.

Brasher said that she thinks the number of "end-of-the-world" movies is very interesting.

"I think it's a sign of our times," she said.

"We seem to like and be more comfortable with things in story form, and these movies might be helpful."

Berlet said that the media plays an important role in the coming of the millennium.

He said that it could either help people work together or create hysteria. It all depends on the approach, Berlet said.

"Those [end of the world] movies freak me out," Haskell said.

A recent survey at Central found that most teenagers do not believe that the world will end in the year 2000. They plan on partying to celebrate the New Year.

"I'm going to have fun—it's the New Year!" Opere said.

Lights to brighten downtown Omaha, sponsors say

By Monica Narducci

Downtown Omaha will soon be ablaze...ablaze with lights, to mark the end of the Millennium. Over one million lights will glimmer on more than 700 trees in the Gene Leahy Mall this New Year's Eve.

Bill and Barb Fitzgerald, co-chairs of "Millennium Lights," coordinated the efforts of local businesses, schools and community leaders.

When the mall is finished it will be completely decorated from 10th to 14th St. between Farnam and Douglas. An animated holiday scene will adorn the Mall's entrance arch on 14th St. Special lighting displays will also be on the 13th St. Bridge.

A 30 foot tree will be placed on the island in the center of the lagoon. Fitzgerald said the tree will be fully decorated, with ornaments

and lights.

Nineteen Omaha schools, including Central High, will be participating in "Adopt-a-Tree" program. These trees will be displayed at the corner of Farnam Street and 14th St.

Jeffrey Zindel works for TruGreen Interior Plant Care, the company in charge of putting up the lights.

"This is the biggest and most exciting project I have been involved with," Zindel said. "Millennium Lights has attracted national attention."

Artwork by Omaha students will also be featured at the W. Dale Clark Library. This artwork centered around the "Millennium." The ceremony itself will be located at the west end of the Mall at 6 PM. Mannheim Steamroller musician Jackson Berkey has composed "Ring in the Millennium," to be performed by the Millennium Choir: 2000 choral perform-

ers, 200 trumpets, 40 snare drums, 20 bass drums, 20 cymbals and 400 hand bells will participate.

"Anyone interested in participating is welcome," Berkey said.

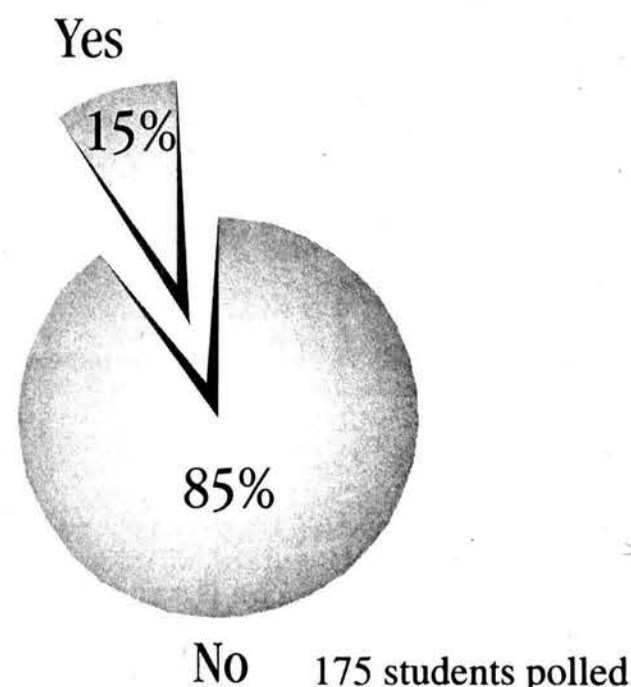
The area's largest fireworks show, sponsored by ConAgra, will be provided by Sunset Fireworks/Harvey Productions.

Millennium Lights 3D commemorative glasses are available at Baker's and HyVee Supermarkets and Commercial Federal Bank lobbies. The glasses superimpose an image of surrounding light. They have three designs: Noel, 2000 and Snowflakes.

The Omaha Community Foundation will distribute proceeds from the sale of the glasses to local youth groups.

"Millennium Lights" 3D commemorative glasses are a lot of fun for everyone," Fitzgerald said.

Do you think the end of the millennium will bring about the apocalypse?



JENNIFER FRIEDMAN/THE REGISTER

Burton's *Sleepy Hollow* creates creepy image for childhood story

KISS ME, YOU FOOL... Johnny Depp and Christina Ricci star in 'Sleepy Hollow,' which hit theaters Nov. 19. Depp plays Ichabod Crane and tries to solve the mystery of the scary Headless Horseman.



COURTESY OF CLIVE COOTE/PARAMOUNT PICTURES

By Sandi Czapl

Blood, gore, rolling heads and so much more.

What else could I be talking about but the famed children's story "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow?"

The movie version of the story is just a little bit different than the book.

Well, correct me if I'm wrong, but aren't most children's stories full of make believe characters that live happily ever after?

"Sleepy Hollow" is definitely full of make believe characters, but the happily ever after part is twisted and flat out weird.

To be truthful, however gory it was, I loved it. The story and plot were great and for the most part easy to follow.

The plot, in case you were curious, is about Constable Ichabod Crane, played by Johnny Depp, who is sent to Sleepy Hollow to find out who is decapitating so many of its citizens. There he meets a variety of characters that try to tell him about the Headless Horseman and the theory surrounding him.

The movie's director, Tim Burton, decided to create a town from his own image of Sleepy Hollow rather than make a movie out of an existing place.

Right down to the mist that hangs in the air, Burton creates the perfect creepy image that is set right off the bat.

However, this image of an intricate

creepy town was soon spattered with blood.

Now granted, I'm kind of a wuss when it comes to scary movies, but really.

I guess this says something about Burton though. It takes a lot to keep me involved in a movie that I'm pretty much disgusted by.

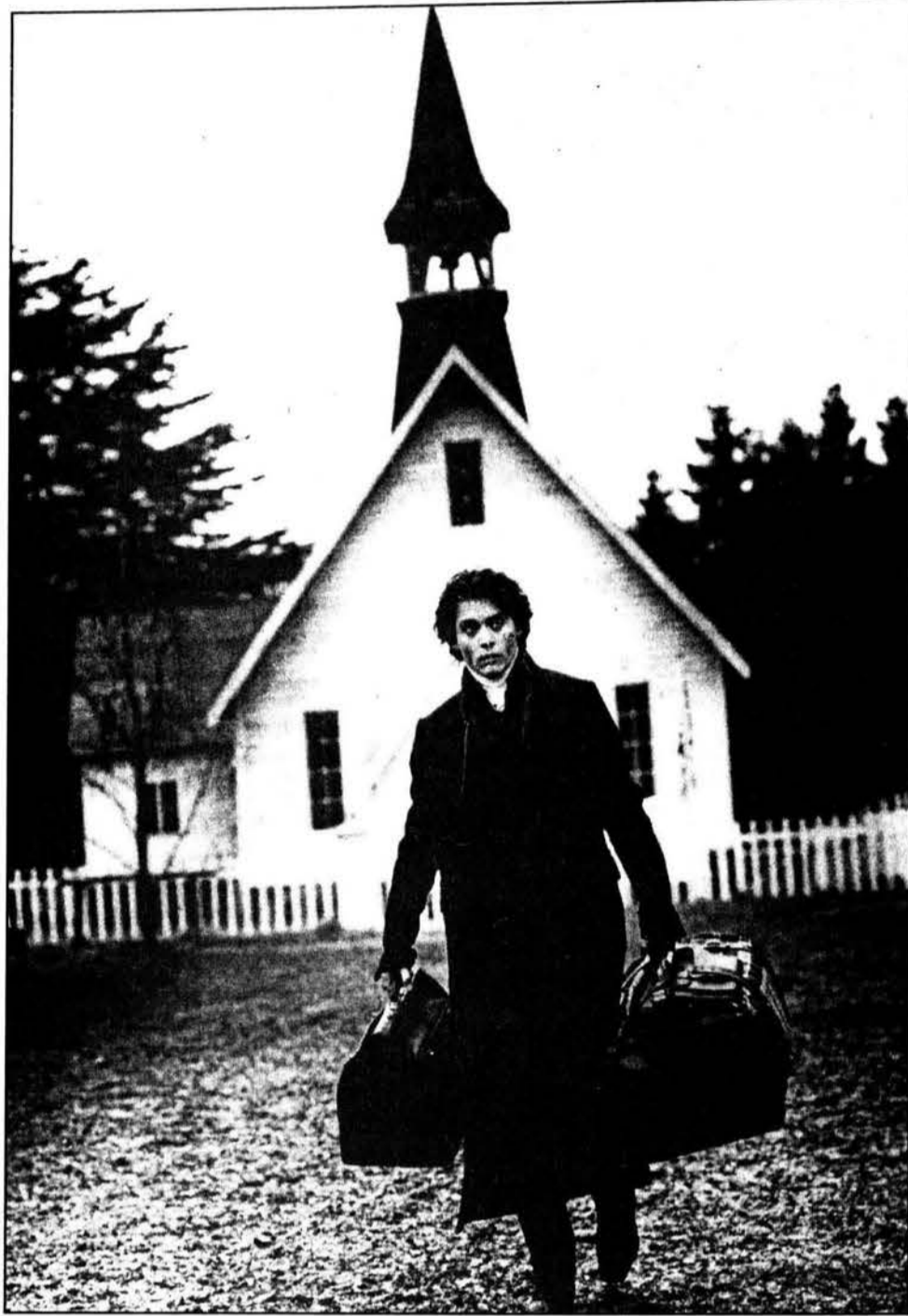
I don't know if it was the fact that I knew the story behind it or if I was drawn by Depp's handsome appearance. Either way, I found it to be very difficult to take my eyes off of the screen.

Depp, who plays a fantastic and intriguing Crane, wasn't the only star that appeared in the film. Beside him throughout the whole movie was Christina Ricci who plays Katrina Van Tassel.

And how can I forget the horribly scary Christopher Walken? He played the most horrifying Headless Horseman I could have ever pictured. His teeth were sharp and his eyes gave a simple blank stare that made me become involved in the movie right away.

That's another thing about the film that amazed me. The costumes seemed so authentic and detailed that I was immediately taken back to that era riding beside Johnny Depp. Oh wait, that's not the movie, that's my fantasy.

"Sleepy Hollow" was well written and made for a very enjoyable evening. However, I do have one word of advice for you. If you're expecting a prince to carry the love of



COURTESY OF CLIVE COOTE/PARAMOUNT PICTURES

Something spooky's going on... Johnny Depp stars in 'Sleepy Hollow,' Tim Burton's film version of Washington Irving's classic story, 'The Headless Horseman.'

his life off into the sunset, that's another story. But if blood, rolling heads and decapitated

bodies are more your thing, then this is definitely a must see.

Diverse performance is positive addition to Samples concert

By Meredith Kalina

A couple of guitars, a set of drums and a keyboard. What more can you ask for?

The only possible addition are great vocals and an entertaining show, which is exactly what The Samples concert on Nov. 22 provided.

I had never heard The Samples in concert and only knew who there were by listening to the album and had no idea what to expect.

Upon arriving at the Ranch Bowl, my friend and I immediately were stamped as minors and directed around the building for the back doors to the concert area.

We walked in the doors and were greeted by a bright flashlight held by a really big man. He focused in on our stamped hands, and then motioned for us to head to the left side of the room.

Angry Salad opened for The Samples and played for an hour or so (which was a pretty long time) but they were good. They

had a hard rock sound and a sense of humor.

One song they sang, the lead singer sang about a girlfriend he had for quite a while who dumped him and turned lesbian.

The audience cheered, and the show went on.

A lot of the band's songs sounded the same which can get old, but the crowd seem to enjoy their performance.

What I liked the most about The Sample's concert was its variety in music types and the sense of humor and openness they had with the audience.

The first three-fourths of the concert was a rock type of sound, which consisted of some really funny songs.

The second song they performed was a song about Nebraska and it got the whole

crowd cheering.

Also, later in the show, they sang to a guy named Nick whom was celebrating his twenty-first birthday that night. They sang "Happy Birthday" and a

player got back from the restroom. He then began to scream really loud to the guitar player to hurry up.

The band was so open and comfortable, which allowed the audience to feel the same way.

After about an hour of music, the band left for a while except for the lead singer.

He got out his acoustic guitar and told us it was his first guitar he bought when he was young. He then played a few folksy, lighter classic songs and then the crowd joined in and began to sing.

These songs sounded more like the songs that I had heard on the album.

This change in types of music sounds, and mood was very positive and added a lot of the performance.

The Samples were very diverse and entertaining and I enjoyed the show very much.

It was a great way to spend a Tuesday night and my money.

I didn't mind sampling this band at all!



COURTESY OF WILD THINGS

song about being twenty-one and drinking.

They brought him up on stage, had him show his new identification and dance for us.

Another funny moment in the show was when the band finished a song and the bass player ran off stage.

The rest of the band acted like nothing had happened and the lead singer began telling a story of when he turned twenty-one.

He started rambling on and on, then told us that he was just wasting time until the bass

O'Donnell makes 'Bachelor' worth the boot

By Sandi Czapl

Poor writing, poor casting and some decent acting. Mix them together and what do you get? "The Bachelor."

That's right. The best part of watching this movie was seeing Chris O'Donnell back on the big screen. Yes ladies, he's back and better looking than ever.

He and Renee Zellweger were fine, and they did have some on screen chemistry.

However, I have to say that Mariah Carey should never become an actress.

Does it make anyone else sick, that she got into the "business" because she's good looking and has slept with the right people?

She played the overly dramatic opera singer that O'Donnell once dated. It was obvious that while she was performing, her voice was being dubbed over by someone better than she was.

Then there was Brooke Shields who played a character that did not fit my image of her at all.

The plot revolves around this one guy who has to get married within a 24-hour period so that he can inherit \$100 million from his dead relative.

The plot is totally unrealistic and obviously made up. I know that you're supposed to go into a movie and set yourself up for an unbelievable plot. But give me a break.

Everything works out so perfectly and falls into place just so that you know the end

ing 15 minutes into the movie.

What seems disappointing to me was the fact that some of the one liner extras were better than some of the actors and actresses that had real parts.

Though I must admit that the whole idea of someone falling in love and finally realizing the value of it is sort of sweet in a barfy kind of way.

There was one more redeeming factor in the film.

Besides Chris O'Donnell's studly charm, the soundtrack to the movie will also be great.

Me, being a die hard oldies fan, found the music to be one of the most entertaining parts of the whole movie.

I guess the film was supposed to be a romantic comedy, but it turned out that there was no romance or comedy in it at all.

Some of the points and lines made by some of the actors were so vague and hard to understand that I was lost throughout the whole movie.

I was extremely disappointed in O'Donnell.

He's so cute and adorable that it makes me sad to see him perform in such a horrible film that he co-produced.

If you're looking for a romantic comedy, go watch a rerun of "Cheers" or something because you

Sushi, it's what's for dinner

By Stefanie Wulff

When my friends first told me we were eating sushi for dinner, I thought they were joking, so I laughed.

After I realized they weren't laughing, me I became embarrassed and spit out words, "Oh, you're serious?"

On the way to the Sushi Factory on Dodge Street I was very quiet while trying to think of an excuse of why I didn't want to eat sea products.

I thought of many good excuses like, "I ate so much when I was a kid, I hate it now."

However, my friends knew something on my mind and told me not to worry.

They told me it wasn't all uncooked products and that there was American stuff like beef teriyaki.

Beef, it's what I had in mind for dinner. The restaurant was in a prime location in the middle of Omaha.

It was nicely decorated, a comfortable atmosphere topped off with the choice of food at the bar or a table.

If you sat at the bar you could see food being prepared, so we chose the bar. The service was absolutely perfect.

The waitress poured our drinks whenever glasses ran empty.

She even gave us a side of Californian which is pressed rice and crab wrapped seaweed, for free. (However, that's probably because the guys I was eating with were frequent customers and they know every body name).

I ordered one of the few things I can pronounce, beef teriyaki. It was choice cut, marinated in wine and cooked just right. I also had meso soup (seaweed soup) and a salad of carrot dressing all for \$11.95.

Excellent.

However, my friends, being expert eaters, ordered the dinner box which included California rolls, crab, cooked shrimp, teriyaki, meso soup and steamed rice with all for \$14.95.

The bill came and totaled \$80.47, but I will definitely go back.

It was definitely a mouthful and took a while to chew, but it wasn't bad. However, I thought I'd stick with my beef teriyaki.

The Sushi Factory offers many different dinner combinations at different prices. The prices are a bit high, but for the full belly sure is a good deal.

For dessert, the boys and I split sherbet seaweed on the side. Good 'ol fashioned sherbet hit the spot after my filling meal.

The bill service and full bellies, definitely worth it.

On the way out the door, after the Sushi Factory all said good-bye to the main cook stopped us.

He thanked my friends for their sushi eating habits and gave me two flowers from the vase on the counter tied up in a ribbon. I will definitely go back.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MYLES ARONOWITZ/TOUCHSTONE PICTURES

'Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo'

HEY BABY, Wanna clean my fish tank? (Top) While working as a male escort to earn money to pay for damages, he caused to a gigolo's apartment, Deuce Bigalow (Rob Schneider, right) falls in love with one of his clients, Kate (Arija Bareikis, left).



ALL THE RIGHT MOVES.. Oded Fehr (far right) and Gabrielle Tuite co-star in Touchstone's 'Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo.'



COURTESY OF NEW LINE CINEMA

DRESSED TO IMPRESS... Chris O'Donnell stars in 'The Bachelor.'

Ghetto Claus funks Millennium Theatre holiday production

By Stefanie Wulff

The holidays... Christmas... Ghetto Claus?

Bad Rep Productions is proud to announce its second theatrical performance, "How Ghetto Claus Funked Christmas," showing at the Millennium Theatre, writer and director, Tim Siragusa said.

Siragusa and partner, Jill Anderson, wrote the play together and founded Bad Rep Productions for only one reason, to make money, he said.

The one-and-a-half-year-old partnership produces shows with characters that do not behave on stage like people do in real life, he explained.

They act more like cartoons, he added.

"The play is like an 'R' rated Fat Albert cartoon and is definitely not intended for children," he said.

"How Ghetto Claus Funked Christmas" has sexual themes and bad language and drunken politicians, therefore, he said they will not admit anyone under the age of 18 to see the show.

The idea for the play evolved from watching many 1960's and 70's black and white African American action films about black heroes in urban life, he said.

Sappy 1940's holiday movies were also watched.

Then the two were blended together to make something unique, Siragusa said. And that creation was Ghetto Claus.

It's a story about a candy plant in the small Chocolate City where everyone was employed, Siragusa explained.

The candy plant was then shut down making everyone jobless and ghetto which caused the sex clubs to thrive in Chocolate City, he added.

Then a mysterious stranger, who calls himself G, visits the city with his special "talent" to make the sex clubs more popular and to try to bring more social "togetherness" amongst the people, he explained.

However, the plot thickens when the people of Chocolate City are told that the city will be bulldozed on Christmas Day, and everyone will have to move, he said.

A few citizens suspect that G is the notorious Ghetto Claus and was actually sent to save Chocolate City.

Ghetto Claus, Siragusa said, is Santa Claus for poor people, bringing what poor people need like, soap, jobs and clothes.

Near the end, G transforms into Ghetto Claus and forms a posse to help save the city before it is destroyed, he explained.

The ending, of course, will not be given away, he said, only the ones who attend the show will know.

Performers in "How Ghetto Claus Funked Christmas" are eight of the best actors in Omaha including Amber Ruffen, Kevin Williams, and Matt Thompson, Siragusa said. Each of the actors play several parts in the comedy.

Thompson, who has been in many plays around Omaha and in traveling caravans, plays one of the leads in "How Ghetto Claus Funked Christmas," he said.

"It's a great show and everyone's really excited to get it rolling," he said.

Thompson and the seven other cast members have been working with the show for several months, he said.

"Hopefully, we'll have a good turnout," he said, "I'm sure we'll give everyone what their hoping for."

"How Ghetto Claus Funked Christmas" is showing until Dec. 19th, on Fridays and Saturdays and 8pm and 10pm and on Thursdays and Sundays at 8pm.



COURTESY OF DISNEY/PIXAR

TOYS WILL BE TOYS... Buzz Lightyear, Woody and a bright cast of toys are now joined by a delightful group of characters for an adventure that is loaded with laughs, emotion and surprises.

'Toy Story 2' captures child at heart

By Sandi Czapla

The lovable characters from "Toy Story" have hit the big screen once more just in time for the holidays.

That's right. Cowboy Woody, Buzz Lightyear, Hamm, Slinky Dog, Mr. Potato Head and Rex have returned for yet another enjoyable adventure.

Simply put, I absolutely loved it. Going into it I was semi-prehensive, but then again what

was I supposed to think about seeing a children's movie?

This "Toy Story" is a tad bit different from the first however.

In the first one, the toys had to save Buzz from getting lost.

But in this one, Woody is the one that needs to be saved from the evil toy collector.

Woody is accidentally put up for sale at a garage sale where he is taken by the owner of Al's Toy Barn. The other toys find it necessary to save Woody from this evil man.

The writing in this one is just as hilarious and clever as the first one.

It may be a children's movie, but there are minor suggestions towards adults that make the film more enjoyable than

seeing something with a restricted age limit.

I have to say that you need to be in the right mood and the right state of mind to fully grasp the concept of films like these.

There is absolutely no other experience like sitting in the theater with little children all around you, wondering if they will ever shut up.

Well they do.

Give them one glance at a toy or something that excites them, and they are in a trance for the whole movie.

After finding out that the showing I was going to see was sold out, I knew that there had to be something that was drawing all these people to the theater with their children.

I think part of it had to do with the hype that was built up to it.

Well, there wasn't any.

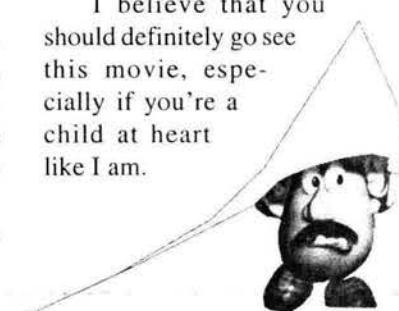
Expectations were not as high for the movie to be good, so it appeared to me to be better than any Disney cartoon that I had ever seen.

Another thing.

Pixar Entertainment is very creative in getting the viewers' attention even before the movie begins.

They have these little skits involving a bouncy ball and a light, that are often more creative than the movie itself.

I believe that you should definitely go see this movie, especially if you're a child at heart like I am.



Blood, metal tears through audience, stage

By Michael Gerhardt

"So, are you going to breathe fire tonight?" I asked him.

"No, they won't let me. But I am going to play with blood," he responded.

That's quite a foreboding statement. It was Downshift, Row 8 Plot 30, Fornever, Entranced and Reprobate at the Ranch Bowl on Tuesday Nov. 30. It was \$2. It sounded like the perfect show. In some ways, that was right; in others, wrong.

Starting off the evening was the Korn-like Downshift. They weren't much. One thing that made them semi-unique was their Disc Jockey, even though that's becoming common. Yeah, that's about it.

If you're a fan of Korn or Limp

Bizkit, you'll like Downshift.

Next was Row 8 Plot 30, and I'd have to say, I was sorely let down. They tried a mix of Old School Hardcore, New School Hardcore and Rock, which came across miserably. They had a good beat, the vocals sounded good, but it never meshed into what everyone else had told me it could.

Next up were the first of the shows heavy hitters, Fornever. Fornever crushed through their entire set, with a heaviness that not too many bands in Omaha can get across. Losing a guitarist to tour with Broken Hope didn't hurt their sound at all. They sounded great, the vocals cut through the mix clearly, the drums sounded punchy and the guitars heavy.

The climax of their set was definitely Purify, with the entire front row chanting along with the singer.

After a few more songs, the band covered a Sepultura song off of Chaos AD, invited everyone on stage, and let it go as it went. It was fantastic to see the stage crowded with people, and it was a very clear sign of how they appreciated their fans.

Finally, the moment I had awaited. Entranced exploded on to the stage, their singer draped in chains beside an ominous container of red liquid. The haunting vocals, technical drums, beautiful keyboards and phenomenal guitars meshed together perfectly to make an atmosphere that stayed throughout their set. Their mix was perfect, without a single flaw. It proved what I had always thought:

Entranced is the best band in Omaha, without a doubt. In my personal opinion, the highlight of the entire show was during one of Entranced's long instrumental interludes, when the singer finally made good on his promise to play with blood.

Soon, blood was on his hands, his microphone, the microphone stand and the floor. His chains and spikes made him more impressive. And yes, it was real blood. It flowed like blood, had the exact same color as blood and didn't wash off like blood does.

After their set, I went and talked to the guitarist from Entranced and the singer for Fornever and didn't end up really seeing the last band, Reprobate. I did hear them from outside though, and they sounded like a very heavy hardcore band, which is always good.

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..... you ask I think I might be pregnant. What should I do? - Melinda J.

Diva B answers

Melinda, dear -- The answer varies according to how long it has been since you had sex and what you want to do. If you had unprotected intercourse within the last three days, you can prevent pregnancy with emergency contraception. If it's been more than three days, and maybe you've even missed a period, call Planned Parenthood for a confidential pregnancy test and information about all your options.

Facing an unplanned pregnancy can be scary, especially for a teen. Find someone you trust to talk to. It helps to think things through with another person, so that you can make decisions that are best for you.

Equally important is to think about what you could do differently to avoid another pregnancy scare. Abstinence is the only sure way to prevent pregnancy. If you are sexually active, birth control and condoms can protect you from unplanned pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. There's a lot you can do to take care of yourself. -- Diva B

..... know more Ask Diva B at divab@navix.net.

teenwire.com for more Q & A on hot topics.

See **Planned Parenthood** for pregnancy tests, emergency contraception, birth control, condoms, information about abstinence, and STD/HIV testing. Four health centers in Omaha, one in Council Bluffs. We're in the White & Yellow Pages. Or call 1-800-230-PLAN.

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WHAT'S UP HOME SKILLET? (LEFT TO RIGHT) Day-Day (Mike Epps) and Craig Jones (Ice Cube) star in the New Line Cinema production of "Next Friday." This new comedy will be released on Christmas Day. "Next Friday" is the sequel to Ice Cube's popular 1995 comedy "Friday." This hilarious new film reunites many of the original cast members, however, the absence of Chris Tucker may leave you disappointed, but the film is sure to make you laugh.



COURTESY OF NEW LINE CINEMA



Cartoons haunt teenage memories

The '80s. A time of feathered hair, afro puffs, stirrup pants, flamboyant colors, bad music and bad dancing. Yet during this tumultuous time of senseless fashion, one thing remained strong throughout the whole decade. The cartoons that you and I know and love.

Whenever I am asked to recall my favorite childhood TV show, my memory automatically goes back to "Fraggle Rock." How could any child from the '80s forget those adorable little animals that lived behind the wall of Inventor Doc's and his dog Sprockets house?

In case it's not coming back, maybe you'll remember their theme song:

"Dance your cares away (clap, clap), Worries for another day. Let the music play (clap, clap) Down at Fraggle rock (clap, clap) Down at Fraggle Rock."

That's right. It's coming back clear as a sunshiny day now isn't it? If you were deprived as a child, the plot focused around a Fraggle named Gobo who had to venture outside of the wall every week to retrieve a letter from his relative, Traveling Matt.

But who would Gobo be without the other characters? My personal favorite was Wembley, the yellow Fraggle that often found it difficult to decide anything for himself.

Then there was Red, the most energetic and exciting Fraggle, Mokey, the pale older Fraggle that was the most poetic and Boober, the

shaggy Fraggle that was afraid of a type germ that could possibly enter his body.

These creatures called the "Fraggle Five" would venture out the wall and try to get around Gorgs to get food and get some knowledge from the wise trashhe Marjorie.

Moving on to another favorite mine, the "Smurfs."

Those blue creatures with wacky pants and annoying voices will never stay in my memory bank.

I always made sure that I was early enough on Saturday morning watch the adventures of Papa Smurf, Smurfette, Vanity Smurf, Brain Smurf, Greedy Smurf and Grouchy Smurf.

How often do you get the La La La La tune in your head?

There was one thing that really irritated me about the Smurfs. How can it be that the word "smurf" can be used as a noun, verb, adjective and an adverb?

I'm sure all the boys are wondering why all I'm talking about are lissay cartoons, but I'm about to enter into a cartoon that could very well be the standard of great cartoon making.

He-Man and She-Ra are definitely the two cartoons that changed my life forever.

I'm sure that I'm not the only one who ran around the house practicing saying "She-Ra, Princess of Power. OK, so maybe I was the only one. Did you not worship them?"

I always wanted to be She-Ra. Halloween and if someone would tell me where to find the costume, I would still want to be She-Ra for Halloween.

Now He-Man. He was a mess. A student.

When Prince Adam would go into He-Man to fight off Skeletor, I found him to be extremely saxalicious.

Well, I hope your little trip back down memory lane was as grand mine was and that you have come to realize that even though you were watching the shows in style, you were watching the shows nonetheless.

Entertainment Briefs

'Holiday lights' up downtown

On New Year's Eve there will be a display of holiday lights in Downtown Omaha's Gene Leahy

Stefanie's Prophecies



Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) The holidays leave you run down, so take a nap to relax and one more gift is headed your way.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan 19) Love hurts, but it doesn't hurt you. Love treats you well this holiday season and you're going to get a nice holiday surprise.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Confusion rules all this holiday season. Don't even try to understand. Wait for a while, it'll pass.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) Call a friend you haven't spoken to in a while to catch up on old times.

Aries (March 21-April 19) Come clean with a friend. It's not good to keep secrets, especially if they could hurt someone in the end.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Give your problems a chance to relax. Take your mind off them for a while which

Mall. This is Omaha's way of celebrating the new millennium.

The display will be held from 6 pm to 7 pm. The show is supposed to be spectacular. So spectacular, in fact, that there is going to be a special kind of viewing glass for the show being sold for \$2 at any Bakers, Hy vee, or Commercial Federal location.

The sponsors for this display are KKAR Newsradio, WOWT Channel Six, *The Reader*, and Sweet 98 Radio

will give you a chance to figure them out.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) Have a good time this month, you're too tense. Loosen up and hang out. You're the center of attention and everyone knows it.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) Prepare for the Millennium celebrity style! Buy a new outfit, gas up your car and go out on the town to celebrate the occasion.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Only your friends can burn you so be careful about what you say and do this month. Someone's watching you and it may not be Santa.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) While the rest of the world parties, you must watch. Something's brewing in your future that requires rest now.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) A holiday crush will enlighten your mood. As the crush comes closer to you, remember to take everything with a grain of salt.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) The man with the plan is always the man in command. Make a plan to lend you a hand because your dream is closer than it seems.

Play hits 'home' this holiday

"Home for the Holidays" will be showing at the Alliance High School Auditorium in Alliance, Neb.

The show is about a mismatched bunch of travelers stranded by a blizzard at Omaha's Eppley Airfield who are able to find the Christmas spirit in the cocktail lounge. The

performers are all high school students.

The show is based on a script written by Opera Omaha's executive director Jane Hill.

Tickets are available at Thiele Pharmacy and Gifts, Elaine's Art Gallery, Carnegie Arts Center and the Hemingford Ledger.

Tickets will also be available at the door. So load up the car and make the trip to Alliance to see the show.



Happenings

- Dec. 13-26—Holiday Wild Lights, laser light show at the Henry Doorly Zoo
- Dec. 17—International Sweatpants Day!
- Dec. 18—Tina and the B-Side at the Ranch Bowl
- Dec. 21—Juror 13 at the Ranch Bowl
- Dec. 21—Lead and Fornever at the Ranch Bowl
- Dec. 23—3 Day Meat Sale, Beebe, Driven at the Ranch Bowl
- Dec. 27—Settle for Less, Chop at the Ranch Bowl
- Dec. 28—Pomeroy, Twitch and Jank 1000 at the Ranch Bowl
- Dec. 29—Lower Case I, Theory at the Ranch Bowl
- Dec. 31—Millennium Lights celebration Downtown

Top Five Picks

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| New Year's Resolutions | Y2K Worries |
| 1. Stop smoking | 1. No electricity |
| 2. Graduate | 2. Riots |
| 3. Lose weight | 3. Commies |
| 4. Do well in school | 4. Bank Failure |
| 5. Become independent | 5. World ends |

*90 students polled

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Westside football season erased from the records

By Jeremy Scurlock

The Westside High School football team in Omaha believed it had finished its regular season on what was assumed to be a winning streak winning their final eight games losing their opening game to Omaha Creighton Prep. But, the 8-1 record, which was good enough to get the team into the playoffs, would not go down in the record books due to what has become a controversial topic, Head Coach of Central Football, Joe McMenamin, raised a red flag to somebody to double check.

It seems that Westside Warrior fullback Andy Makoid, senior and former Central High School student, was ineligible to participate in high school athletics. Makoid said he was allowed to play after being cleared by the Nebraska School Athletic Association (NSAA) before the season. Makoid said the NSAA explained to him that the transcripts they had originally received contained a clerical error of some kind. According to Makoid, his records were released by an unknown source to the NSAA, and the conflict in records

was brought to the attention and dealt with by depleting the Warrior's record to one win and eight losses. Makoid said he was unaware that he had been enrolled in school for too long to be eligible for high school sports in Nebraska. He said that an athlete is only allowed to participate in athletics for eight semesters, and if a student is enrolled in any school for more than 30 days, he or she is has used up a semester of eligibility. "I was enrolled in another school for 34 days, it was actually at Central, so I guess I used up a whole se-

mester of my eligibility," Makoid said. "I had no idea." McMenamin said that besides losing a mark in the loss column and adding another to the win column, it has very little affect on the outcome of Central's season. "The officiating in our game against them [Westside] was the worst I saw all season, and we only lost by two points," McMenamin said. "It was nice to get that eighth win." McMenamin also said that he couldn't imagine that the head coach of Westside football, Coach Larry Morrissey, would play an athlete that

he knew was ineligible. "The team they [Westside] had this year was too strong to, no head coach would risk a season for one player," McMenamin said. "Imagine if someone had caught it earlier in the season, they would have had no chance of making the play-offs. I can't believe he [Morrissey] would consider him [Makoid] worth that kind of risk, he's not that good." When a new student-athlete enters a school, McMenamin said, generally the administration checks into their remaining eligibility and that the fact that he was senior should have

raised a red flag to somebody to double check. "When a student-athlete transfers from another school, sometimes it can get kind of tricky," Central Athletic Director, Paul Pennington, said. Pennington said the white cards athletes are required to obtain are the deterrent to this kind of thing happening at Central. By getting a white card, it proves that the player's eligibility has been checked and approved, thus hopefully avoiding a similar situation at Central. "It wasn't something which was done on purpose," Makoid said.

Swimmer strokes into state



CLAIRE DEVENEY/THE REGISTER

MARISA MCLURE (11) swims the 100-meter breaststroke; her unofficial time of 1:13.00 meets qualifying standards for the state meet.

By Caroline Walburn

Speak with your actions, not with your words. This is a concept that Varsity Swim Team Member Marisa McClure has conquered, Varsity Coach Heather Dunbar said. McClure, who has been on Varsity since her freshman year, motivates this year's swim team in very non-vocal ways, Dunbar said. "She attends every practice and is always at the dry-land and weight-training sessions," Dunbar said. Not only is McClure dedicated to the practice schedule, but she also remains focussed and gives 100 percent no matter what, teammate Aubri Johnson said. "She kicks my butt in practice everyday," Johnson said. McClure has already made a State qualifying time in the 100-meter breaststroke, her best event, while swimming at Brownell-Talbot during the off-season, Dunbar said. "I've been able to meet the time consistently, so now I just have to make it during one of the meets this season," McClure said. In order for her to officially qualify, McClure

has to meet the State time in an NSAA (Nebraska School Activities Association) sanctioned meet, Dunbar said. McClure, a State qualifier last year in the medley relay, also hopes to qualify in the 50-meter freestyle, the 100-meter freestyle, and once again in the medley, she said. "I need to drop less than two seconds from my 50-meter freestyle time to qualify, so I'm working towards that," McClure said. With McClure's dedication, dropping two seconds shouldn't be too much of a problem, Dunbar said. "She really knows what she wants and works hard to achieve it," Johnson said. In addition to swimming in State last year, McClure finished last season ranked 16th in the state in 100-meter breaststroke and is likely to be in the top twelve this year, Dunbar said. Looking towards the future, McClure said she would like to swim in college but isn't sure. "Marissa will always find success because she goes above and beyond the standards in every situation, whether it is at school, in sports, or any of the many other activities she is involved in," Dunbar said.

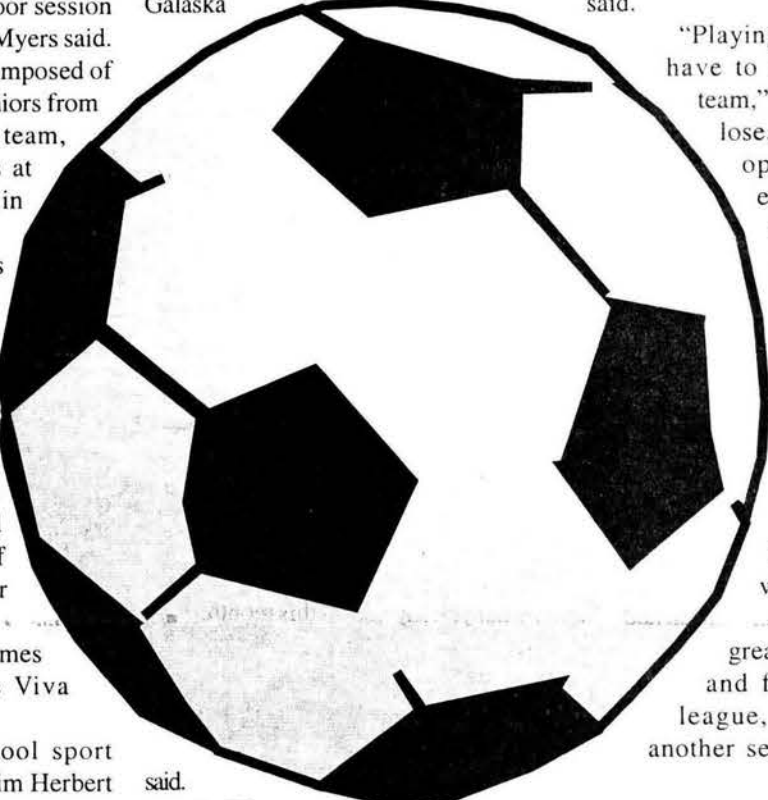
Men's indoor soccer develops experience, unity team members say

By Caroline Walburn

Excellent senior leadership and the overall strength of the team led the Varsity Men's Soccer team to a second place finish in their first indoor session of the year, midfielder Chris Myers said. The team, which was composed of sophomores, juniors, and seniors from last year's Varsity soccer team, played on Thursday nights at The Indoor Center beginning in late October. The team's opponents ranged from other high school teams to select club teams from the Metro area, Myers said. The toughest competition was usually from the club teams, who are used to playing together and usually have a lot of experience, senior goalkeeper Justin Galaska said. "Our most difficult games were usually against the Viva teams," Galaska said. Because of high school sport regulations, Varsity coach Tim Herbert isn't allowed to actively coach the boys from the sideline. However the seniors have stepped up their leadership to guide the team on the field, Myers said. "With Erik Smith (Senior) and Andrew Ludwig (Senior) playing forwards we have a lot of experience up front, and Jeff McWhorter and Chris Oschner lead an experienced defense," Galaska said. The strength of this year's team didn't just lie in just one area, Myers

said. Everyone worked at providing offense, and the defense stayed organized and applied a lot of pressure on opposing team's forwards, Galaska

soon, also, to make sure everyone is in shape once the season starts," Galaska said. Another benefit of playing indoor is the team unity that is built, Galaska said.



JARED HART/THE REGISTER

"Playing indoor, you really have to work together as a team," Myers said. "Win or lose, we've still had the opportunity to gain experience playing together and recognizing each other's strengths and weaknesses." Although conditioning and building team unity is the main goal of participating in the indoor season, the boys also focussed on winning every game. "It would've been great if went undefeated, and finished first in the league, but we still have another session where we can improve and hopefully win," Myers said. The boys will begin another session sometime after winter break, Galaska said. "As the season draws nearer, we want to do everything we can to prepare and get ahead," Myers said. The goal of the second session remains the same--finishing in first place--but the intensity of the team will step up to the next level.

Valley schools stress sportsmanship, superintendent says

VALLEY, continued from page 1

"I think that it is something that we need to address before it gets out of control," he said. However, Riley said that he did not want the policy to be very strict. He said that Kansas has adopted policy that allows the schools to select people from games for minor infractions and even regulates the cheers that students can use.

Central Athletics Director Paul Pennington said that he has seen an increase in the amount of unsportsmanlike conduct at events over the past several years. However, he said that often this conduct was limited to just a few students and not a very widespread problem. He said that this unsportsmanlike conduct includes using profanity, heckling and booing the opposing

team and illegal activities such as drug and alcohol abuse at games. "That's not sportsmanship," Pennington said. "That's being a jerk. It's almost like people don't know what it is anymore. It's OK to cheer for the other team when they make a good play." Also, Pennington said that the increase may also be because attendance has decreased at athletic events over the course of the past

couple decades. He said that because there are fewer people in the crowd, it might be easier to spot someone acting in an unsportsmanlike manner. Pennington said that at a recent meeting a proposal similar to the one in Valley was discussed and rejected by athletic directors in the district. "It was funny to me because it was a zero tolerance plan that had three levels of punishment," he said. Pennington also said that a major

flaw in the proposal at the meeting was that it allowed for the officials to decide whom to remove from games. He said that this would cause the officials to have to focus both on the focus both on the field and the stands. Also, he said that an official with a particular bias against one school would be able to exercise that bias by removing people from the game. "We don't want the officials to be doing our job," he said.

Sibley said that he believes other districts and the entire state will soon adopt a sportsmanship policy similar to the one in Valley. "I think that a lot of school boards will be looking at it," he said. "Let's solve the problem before it gets out of hand." Pennington said that he and the other athletics directors in the district thought that the conduct can be best handled by the school administrators.

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Post-season honors awarded

By Jeremy Scurlock

Central High School is very well represented in this year's fall season post-season honors.

Kari Rider, senior and four-year starter on the Central High volleyball team, was named to the Nebraska All-State team. All-State teams are composed of players which are selected from every class and every school in the state.

Rider was also given All-Metro honorable mention at the end of the 1999 season. This season saw Rider break the school record for most service aces, a serve which lands untouched on the oppositions side of the court resulting in a point, with 45, head Coach of volleyball at Central, Jodi Dierks, said.

"Kari was definitely very deserving of the honors she received," Dierks, said. "She was are setter,

which makes her like our quarterback, she touched the ball on nearly every play."

Rider was given the same All-Metro honorable mention at the completion of the 1998 season, she said.

"I was kind of expecting something higher than honorable mention," Rider said. "I've improved since last year, but any post-season honor is special, they don't give them to just anybody."

Liz Kieffe, senior and a four year starter on the volleyball team was honored with by being named to the All-State team and given All-Metro honorable mention. This season Kieffe the school record for most kills in a season with 214, six more than 1999 graduate Cara Steffensmeier's, Dierks said.

"Liz was our outside hitter and a very aggressive attacker," Dierks

said. "She had a definite impact on the team's season."

With the announcement of post-season honors at the completion of the 1999 football season comes a bit of controversy, several members of the 1999 Central Football team said. Although, the team had 18 players which were honored in the Omaha World-Herald's post season line-up.

Lornel McPherson, senior, was named to the Nebraska All-State offensive team and the Class A All-State offensive team. JaMaine Billups, senior, was named to the Nebraska All-State and Class A All-State defensive teams as a defensive back

"I'd say he [Billups] contributed more to our team offensively than he did defensively," Head Coach Joe McMenamin said. "He probably got put on the defensive team to make room for somebody else on offense who didn't play on both sides of the

ball." Billups said that despite the fact that he feels he should have been on the Herald's offensive team, he's gracious for the honor of defensive captain which was granted to him by the Herald in addition to being named the Lincoln Journal Star's offensive player of the year.

Ernest Harrington, senior, was named to the Class A All-State team as a linebacker, McMenamin said.

"Ern [Harrington] deserved most of the credit for our powerful defense," Billups said. "Being named player of the player of the year by the Star kind of made me feel better about being overlooked by the Herald offensively."

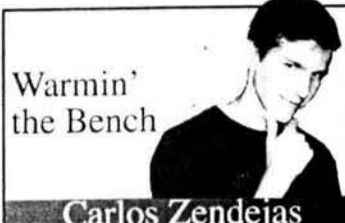
McMenamin said Harrington was the backbone of the eagle's defense this season.

Harrington said he doesn't want to seem ungrateful as he said, "I think

there's too much politics involved in the selection of these teams. Some players who really didn't deserve to be put on the team were and others who should have been, weren't."

Other post-season honors go to Central players include: Earn Harrington (12), Jerry Borzobohaty (12) and Will Gregory (12). Nebraska All-State second team, Borzobohaty and Gregory, All-Metro second team, Andy Mitchell (12), No. Johnson (11), Borzobohaty, Bill McPherson, James Roark (12), Gregory, Andy Ludwig (12), All-Division, a team derived from player from Central, Omaha Westside, Bellevue West, Millard North and Omaha Northwest.

Divisional honorable mention went to Ryan Colvin (12), Mark Brewer (12), Andre Jack (12), Justin Galaska (12), George Davis (12), Anderson (11) and Mike Patlan (11).



Warmin' the Bench

The Big Red Let-down

Let's talk about your mom for a second, or even more insulting to some of you, let's talk about Nebraska football.

Husker football is life in the grand ol' state of Nebraska.

Where else would a whole state literally shut down for half of the day just because of a college football team?

Why do the stores empty out of people and beer?

Is football that important, or is it just the only thing that Nebraska has to hold on to?

If it was not for the Huskers, as far as everyone else is concerned, Nebraska would be a black spot on the map, it already is during the offseason.

Is the Nebraska football team that good? I don't think so.

Is it bad when your quarterback is your leading rusher? Is it bad if your running back can't hold on to a ball to save his life? If Nebraska has such recruiting power, why can't they get a running back who is any good, you know, the type without little girly hands.

They should put a dress and little white and lacy gloves on Dan Alexander.

While you're at it, go ahead and put Correll Buckhalter in the same gettup, except for maybe his could baby blue, and maybe he could even wear a bonnet.

It surprises me that the talent at Nebraska in the I-back spot has been slowly declining.

Ahman Green passed the torch on to a bunch of talentless hacks such as Girly-Hands Alexander, Weenie Correll Buckhalter, and the Infinite Crybaby DeAngelo Evens.

I think that it is funny that the Infinite Crybaby could have such a big ego after just one good season.

Nebraska football is fine, don't get me wrong. But the recruiting is only getting worse.

Right now if you asked a lot of the best football players in the state where they planned on playing, Nebraska would only be an afterthought.

I have always thought that one of Nebraska's key elements to success was its ability to keep the states best players in the state.

Even in this school, look where our best players are going. Last year Brandon Williams went to Michigan; Terrell Gardner went to Colorado State.

This year, we have three of the best running backs in the state (something of which Nebraska needs a lot of), but yet only one of them is going to go to Nebraska.

Nebraska has some problems, and it stems from the state's monotony and boringness.

No one want's to come in and nobody who is here wants to stay.

And the people here in Nebraska have nothing to hold on to but a false sense of security that no matter how much life sucks, the Huskers will keep on winning football games.

And when Nebraska doesn't win games, guess who gets annoyed and irate.

That's why everybody like me is whining and complaining about losing to Texas.

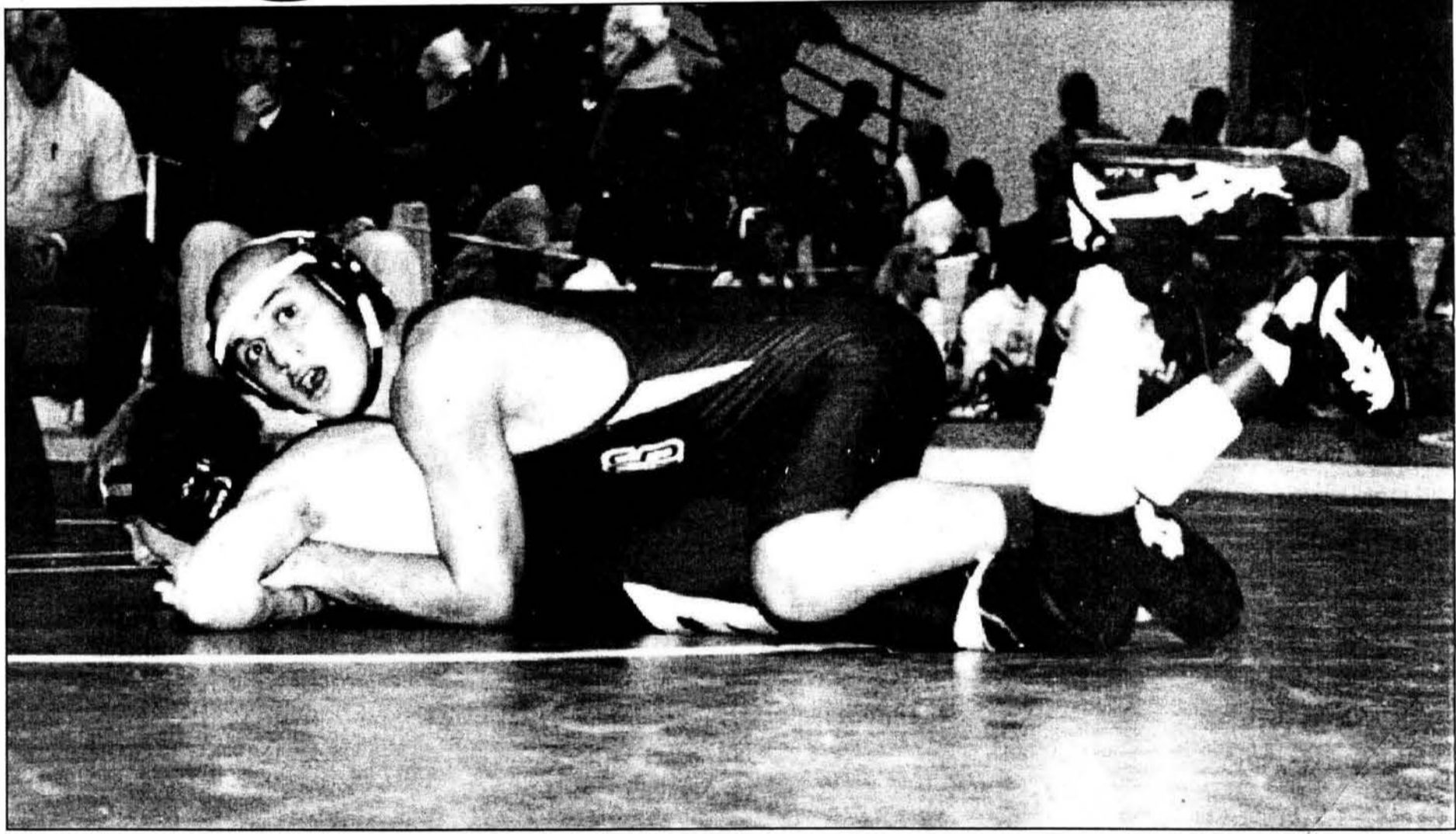
That's why all of the people are lusting after the blood of good old Frank Solich.

I don't know but I think that the state legislature is considering a law that if the current Husker football coach doesn't win a national title in his first year coaching, then he will be canned.

So don't you think Nebraska sucks?

■ CHS Wrestling

Weight Management



CLAIRE DEVNEY/THE REGISTER

WILL GARCIA (12) Takes down an opponent on his way to a second place finish at the Vern Ekfelt Tournament at North High

Competitive edge sought through weight management

By Carlos Zendejas

Does this singlet make me look fat? Many wrestlers on the Central High Wrestling team are losing weight, but it is not likely that this question is their motivation.

Junior Ty Griess, a returning letter-winner on the Wrestling team, said that wrestlers try to cut their weight during the wrestling season in order to wrestle at a lower weight class.

Griess said that in order to cut off extra weight before the season, he eats only one meal a day with small snacks in-between.

"Do you know what the hardest part is?" Griess said. "It is sitting up in the lunch room and watching everybody else eat lunch. But it's just part of the sacrifice that is made for the sport."

Along with abstaining from meals, Griess said that he does lose a lot of weight during practice.

"We give 100 percent at practice and work really hard," Griess said. "We also wear sweats and stocking caps the practice before the meet in order to sweat off our water weight."

Griess said that that is what most serious wrestlers do in order to get the competitive edge.

"[Cutting weight] is what we want to do. It is what we need to do to compete," Griess said.

On competition day, Griess said

that he doesn't eat at all until the weigh-ins in the morning. After the weigh-ins, he said that he eats food to build up his strength, and he drinks a lot of fluids to replenish his electrolytes.

Griess said that there are a lot of people who think that cutting weight is detrimental to their health, but he thinks that it is just part of the sport.

"People might complain how we cut weight, or how we are stupid for what we put our body through, but to me it is more mental, and a great way to build will power. I think that you need these things to succeed, whether it be wrestling or just life," Griess said.

Griess also said that he is not worried about any of the controversy involved with cutting weight.

"It's stupid for people to be stuck on the issue of cutting weight. I'm not saying that it is easy, but it is like telling a track star not to run his fastest, we do this to be the best and to beat the best," Griess said.

Griess also said that no one is forced to cut weight, and that only the serious wrestlers do it.

He said that there are just some people that don't have the mental strength or willpower to wrestle.

"Wrestling is not for everyone, we've had some big and bad football players come out, and for some reason they end up quitting. One of the most

important parts of wrestling is being the toughest, both physically and mentally. Or at least believing that you are," Griess said.

Junior Andrew Thom, a three year wrestling team member, said that he has already lost 18 pounds this season, and that he still needs to lose nine more pounds this season in order to get to the weight that he is comfortable wrestling at.

However, Thom said that he doesn't even make weight an issue.

Thom said that the most important part of wrestling is technique.

"Wrestling is 90 percent technique and only 10 percent strength," Thom said, "that is why in wrestling we try to cut weight and focus on the technique rather than bulking up and trying to overpower our opponents."

Also, Thom said that losing the weight is optional.

"No one is forced to lose weight, and all of the practices that are geared towards losing weight are not mandatory. If you don't want to lose weight, then you don't have to come," Thom said.

Head Coach Jimmie Foster said that the correct term is weight management.

Foster said that it is not cutting weight because it is not starving yourself, but it is more of a process of getting good workouts and eating sensibly.

"There are some idiots who try to starve themselves," Foster said, "but after they suffer and lose they end up listening to me."

If you manage your weight right, Foster said you should feel great while you do it, but it definitely won't be easy.

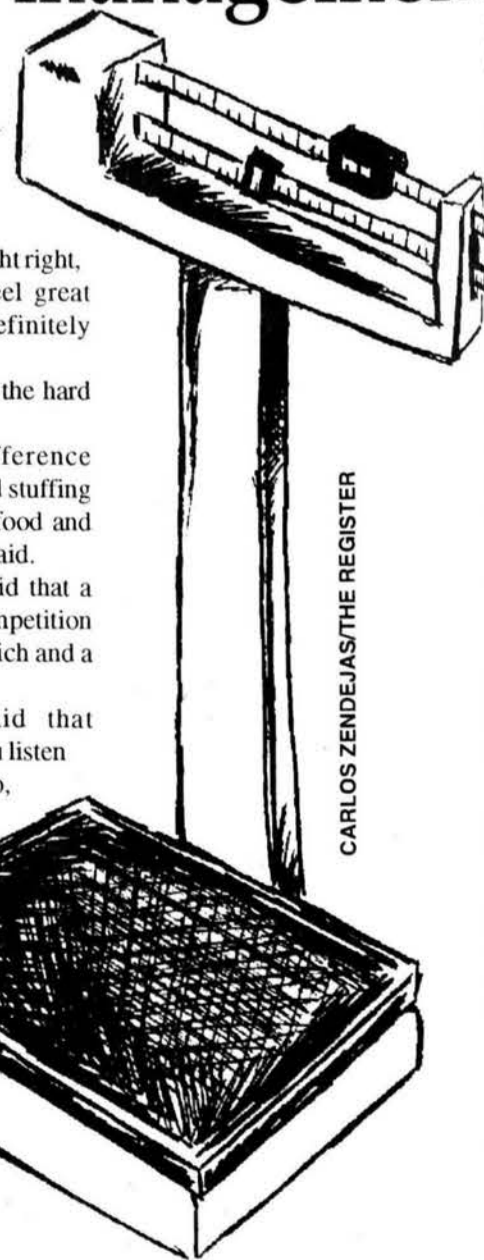
Foster said that one of the hard parts is eating sensibly.

"There is a big difference between eating sensibly and stuffing yourself. We eat healthy food and we don't splurge," Foster said.

For example, Foster said that a sensible meal before a competition would be like a ham sandwich and a piece of fruit.

However, Foster said that although it is not easy, if you listen to what you are told to do, and manage your weight properly, then there is nothing that is detrimental to your health about it.

"But as with anything, nothing worth attaining is done easily," Foster said.



CARLOS ZENDEJAS/THE REGISTER