



SPECIAL CENTENNIAL EDITION

Turn to **pages 27-30** for a special four-page look at **one hundred years of CHS**
Are kids eating healthier? Dieticians say no. Turn to **page 5** for story.

TUESDAY
MAY 22, 2001
VOLUME 114,
ISSUE 7

the Omaha Central High School REGISTER

Oldest High School Newspaper West of the Mississippi, Established 1886

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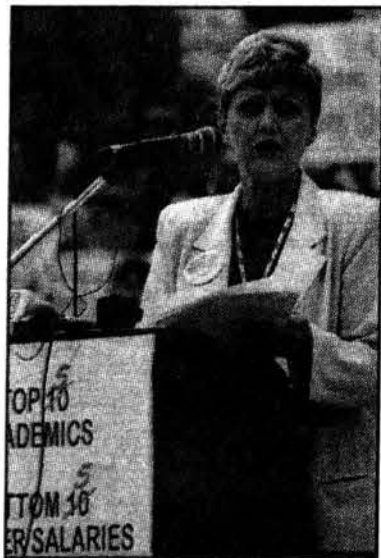


IT'S UP TO YOU: NSEA president Duane Obermier gives a rousing speech to the 500 teachers who showed up for a rally to increase teacher pay in Nebraska. A group of NSEA members met at a nearby hotel and marched on the Capitol where they were joined by other supporters.

Teachers rally for higher pay at Capitol

INSIDE

Turn to page 7 for an in-depth look at the teacher pay dispute in Nebraska.



SPEAKING OUT: Spanish teacher Vickie Anderson gives a speech on Apr. 21. Over 500 supporters showed up to the march.

By Joe Meyer

"1-2-3-4, See us walking out the door.
"5-6-7-8, Higher pay or leave the state."

These lines echoed through downtown Lincoln April 21 when hundreds of teachers gathered at the State Capitol to rally for higher pay. After speeches at the Capitol, the crowd of teachers walked over to the Governor's Mansion where they chanted, "Governor Mike, give us a hike."

The main goal of the rally was to increase support for Legislative Bill 305 and to bring public awareness to the current state of teacher pay, vice president of the Nebraska State Education Association and Central Spanish teacher Vickie Anderson said.

Legislative Bill 305 would allow the state to subsidize the salaries of teachers and lift spending lids on local school districts so they can raise teacher salaries. This bill has been approved by the education committee and has moved on to house debate.

"The problem we are having is they [the legislatures] spent a whole year studying the problem," Anderson said. "We're stalled. This is to let them know we mean business."

The average teacher salary for a teacher in Nebraska currently ranks forty-fifth in the coun-

try. This statistic is getting worse everyday, a teacher said.

"We were forty-third six months ago," social studies teacher Carol Krejci said. "That's how fast we are dropping."

Other teachers agree that the Legislature should fix the problem now, before it gets any worse.

"It's the Legislature that helped to create this problem, they should fix it," speech teacher Kris Jonyka said.

Omaha Public Schools Superintendent John Mackiel said the teacher salaries do not allow for Nebraska schools to compete. Mackiel said OPS recruits teachers in 32 different states, but the school district can no longer compete to attract enough qualified teachers.

"If we can not compete nationally, we can not compete locally either," Mackiel said.

Denise Rockwell, a member of the National Education Association executive committee, said Nebraska teachers can earn \$8,000 more in Colorado and they can teach in Iowa for \$3,000 more per year.

"Nobody's going to come here with these low salaries," Rockwell said.

Because of what Mackiel described as a

Turn to **TEACHER RALLY**, page 6

Member says joining gang came naturally

By Matt Wynn

Nice cars. Lots of money. Lots of blue clothes. Lots of drugs and guns and violence.

To Central junior Kenny Newman, that's life.

Newman is a Crip. A gang member. And as far as he's concerned, people can guess that after taking one look at him.

"I look like a thug," Newman said. "Everybody judges a book by its cover. If you're going to be judged, why not actually be the thing everybody think you is?"

Even though his "set," the 40th Ave. BG Gangsters, is Crip, Newman said they can tolerate some Bloods, the traditional enemies of Crips.

"We don't really so much like the Bloods," he said. "But if they cool with us and don't start no trouble, we cool with them."

Gang-related crimes in the metro area, 2000:

Homicides - 1
Drug possession - 16
Defacing property - 134
Vehicle theft - 5
Suspected number of gangs - 19

ALL INFO/ OMAHA POLICE DEPT.

Newman said he joined Crip because it was made up of his friends. It was just what came naturally, he said.

"Everyone got their little clique. I got mine. Some people like

Turn to **GANGS**, page 4

Officer's patrol far from uneventful

By Matt Wynn

Taking an intoxicated woman in for treatment, giving a gang-banger a court appearance and dealing with a disturbance of the peace are all part of a day's work for Omaha Police Officer Tim Huffman.

Huffman, who has only been patrolling the area around Central for about eight weeks, said he has already had several interesting experiences.

The most interesting, he said, are the ones that start out as simple traffic stops, but escalate into something much more exciting.

He was also one of the officers to appear at the scene of the first shooting of the year.

"That was probably the most newsworthy thing I've done," Huffman said.

But the night of May 10, Huffman was just another officer on

patrol duty. He hopped into his car, turned on his radio and began to take calls to duty.

The first call he received was to an alleged car accident near 42nd and Leavenworth.

Though the location was out of Huffman's district, he still went to check it out.

"We're officers," Huffman said. "We patrol a certain area, but if we come in contact with a situation, we're supposed to respond to it as if we were in our own district."

As he approached the scene, Huffman quickly realized it was a false alarm. So he started to head back downtown.

It didn't take long before there was another call. This time it was a report of a woman lying down near 24th and Leavenworth, less than eight blocks from Central.

Sure enough, when he appeared on the scene, a woman was lying

Turn to **PATROL**, page 7

Homework important to keeping Central competitive, principal says

By Ally Freeman

Glancing at the clock, the red numbers seem blurry, it's three hours until your alarm is set to go off and you are struggling to finish a math assignment. Up late after an afternoon of sports practice and

work, it is hard to find the energy to complete your daily assignments.

To many of today's students, the scenario is a familiar one. Students are finding themselves up late at night, getting little sleep while struggling to complete daily homework assignments.

Not only are the late nights affecting their school performance, but parents are becoming increasingly stressed as well.

While some districts, such as one in New Jersey, have recognized this problem, many districts still see quantitative homework as a necessity.

ty.

Piscataway Township School District in New Jersey has adopted a policy restricting the amount of homework teachers can assign students.

The guidelines include rules that daily homework will not be

graded. Only projects such as research papers and long-term projects will be graded.

Weekend and holiday homework is discouraged and shall only be assigned if a new concept is introduced on a Friday or the day before a holiday. Make-up home-

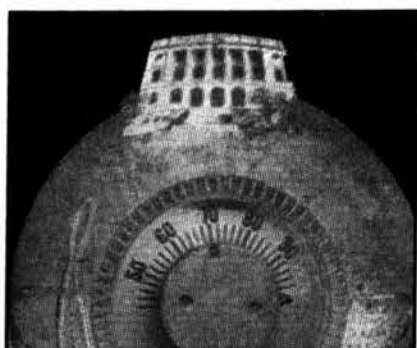
work, long term projects and research papers could be assigned over periods that include weekends and/or holidays.

The district has also outlined suggested total times for daily homework which includes a limit of

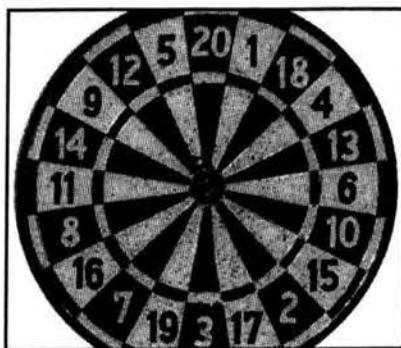
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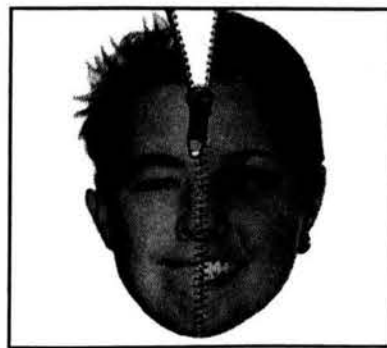
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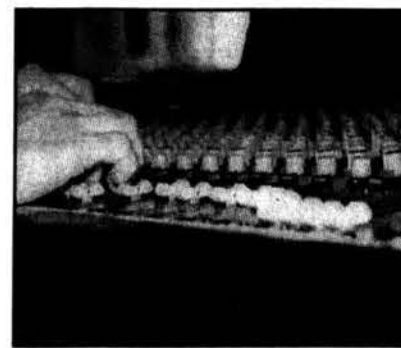
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Recording studio - Pg. 26

The Battle for Mayor

Although Mike Fahey came away with a 496 vote lead after all the votes were counted on Election Night, Mayor Hal Daub still thinks the absentee and conditional ballots may allow him to pull ahead in the race. A recount also threatens to delay the process of swearing in a mayor by June 11.

MIKE FAHEY: His surprising climb from a first time candidate to a formidable opponent allowed him to register more votes than Daub on May 15.

By Joe Meyer and Michael Gerhardt

Mike Fahey believes he won while Hal Daub thinks he didn't lose.

After the Election Night results were released, Fahey led Daub by 496 votes.

"Tonight, we're gonna celebrate," Fahey said after hearing the news. "Tomorrow, we're gonna start to work."

While Fahey was claiming victory at the Fireman's Union Hall on 60th and Grover, Daub was doing everything but conceding at the Regency Marriott. The mayor said he did not concede because absentee and conditional ballots need to be counted and added to the total.

"This race is indeed very close," the mayor said minutes after Fahey's victory speech.

At most, 2700 absentee ballots will need to be counted along with about 1100 conditional ballots. Daub believes these votes could mean the difference in such a close election. He also knows these ballots could hurt him, but he did not want to act quickly and concede.

"I guarantee that, should when all the votes are counted and the numbers are the same as they seem tonight, I will concede to my opponent," Daub said.

He said that although May 15 marked the end of the campaign, it was not the end of the race. All the votes need to be counted before it can be decided.

During the April primaries, in which Fahey collected 977 more votes than the incumbent, Fahey's lead grew after the absentee and conditional ballots were counted.

Michael Scarpello, chief deputy election commissioner for Douglas County, said a recount might also be needed if the margin of victory is still less than one percentile after the absentee and conditional ballots are counted.

"If today were the final results, then there would need to be a recount," Scarpello said.

He said that, all together, the official count may not be known until the end of the week, and a recount could delay the process even further.

The small margin in the primaries was a symbol of what was to come on Election Day, Daub's press secretary Jennifer Windom said.

"It's going to be close, it was close in the primaries," Windom said before the polls closed. "Right now, it's a matter of turnout."

Many Central students commented on who should be elected mayor.

Junior Eric Jacob supported Daub at his victory party. He said he should have been re-elected because of his experience with the issues. The fact that he has lowered property taxes and reduced crime proves that he is a good mayor for the city.

Other students disagree.

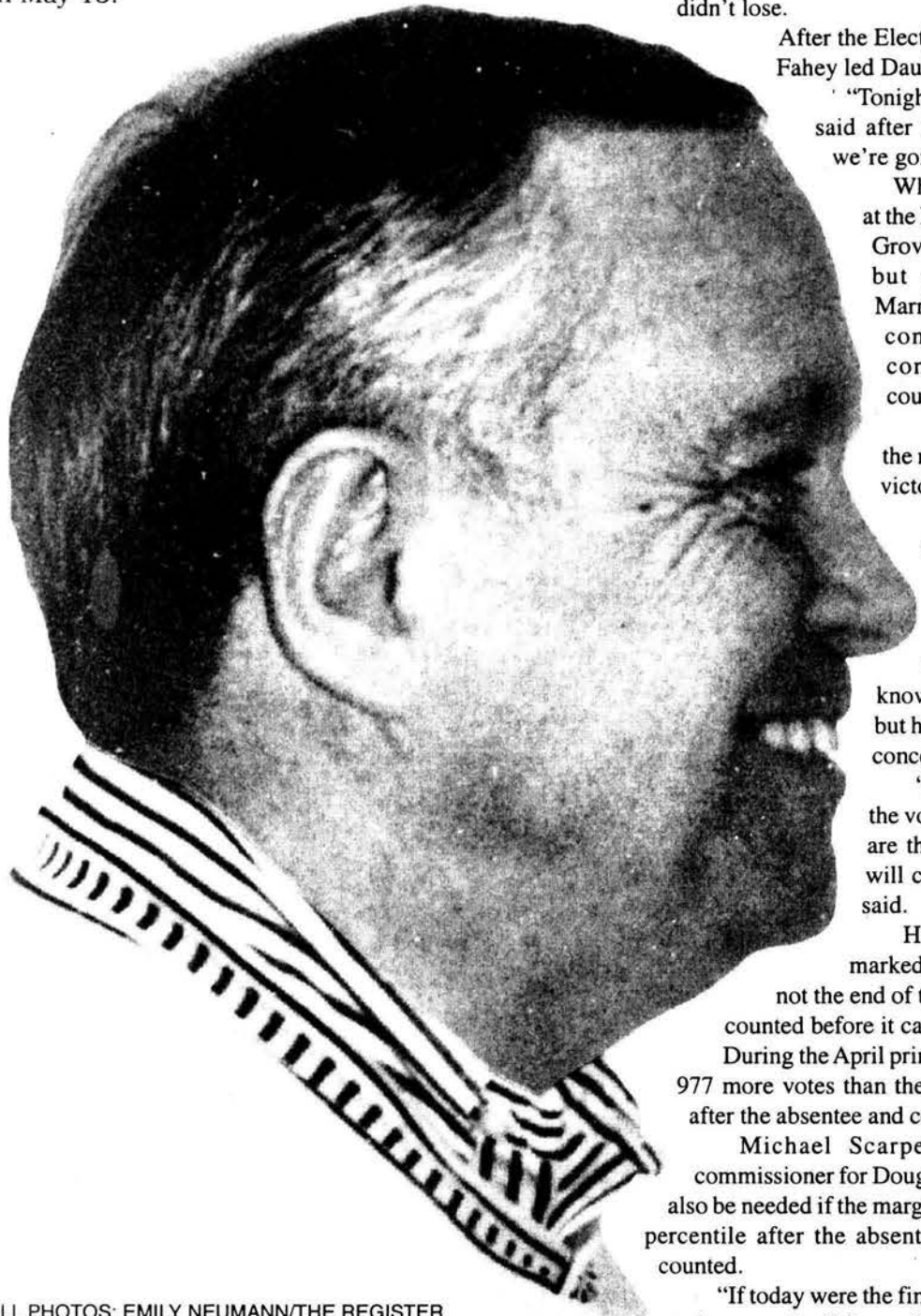
Sophomore Brian Fahey, who is Mike's nephew, said his uncle deserved the office because of his hard work during the campaign and he was a better candidate.

"When I saw we were down this evening," Brian said, "I became nervous that my uncle, this great man that I've known for all my life, would not get the chance to do all these great things that he said he would do in the campaign," Brian said. "My second thought was 'Oh no, four more years of hell!'"

Daub said that he will always be involved in city politics, no matter what the final outcome of this election turns out to be.

"I will continue, whether in or out of office, to have one city, not a divided city," he said.

HAL DAUB: He said he will concede to Fahey if he is losing after the final votes are counted.



ALL PHOTOS: EMILY NEUMANN/THE REGISTER

Alumnus learns about political system by running for city council

By Joe Meyer

Jon Shradar's political career started when he was 10 years old.

Shradar, who graduated from Central in 1996, remembers walking door to door with his grandmother shaking hands and meeting people to support Hal Daub's congressional bid.

Shradar's latest political venture was running in the primary election for the third district City Council seat. Shradar said the

decision to run for the city office was mostly an accident.

Shradar, now a senior at the University of Nebraska at Omaha who will graduate with a major in public information in December, said he and his mother were eating dinner and discussing the candidates who had already registered. His mother and he were not impressed with the choices and she asked, "Why don't you run for City Council?"

"I figured I did not have anything to lose and I had time and money, so I went ahead

and did it," Shradar said.

When he started off, he thought his age, 23, would be an advantage to his campaign.

"I thought it was important to get some generational diversity on the council," he said.

Shradar said although he only collected 286 votes (4.25 percent) and did not qualify for the general election, running for the office allowed for him to become more involved in the community. He said he thought it was interesting to learn about everyone's concerns and how they could differ, even though they

live in the same area of the city.

"I thought I learned a lot of the people of the city," he said.

He also did not have a lot of money to spend on his campaign. He said he only used about \$700, which was mostly out of personal money and small donations from family and friends. He also said most of the help he received for his campaign came from members of his fraternity, family and friends.

Shradar said his age and the fact that he is still in college might have hurt him at the

polls. He said people are more willing to vote for someone who owns a house and has an established occupation rather than someone in college who is living paycheck to paycheck.

Shradar said he was not sure if he would like to run for a City Council position in the future. Right now, he is focused on graduating from college and entering law school. No matter what he does, he said he always wants to be a public servant who helps people.

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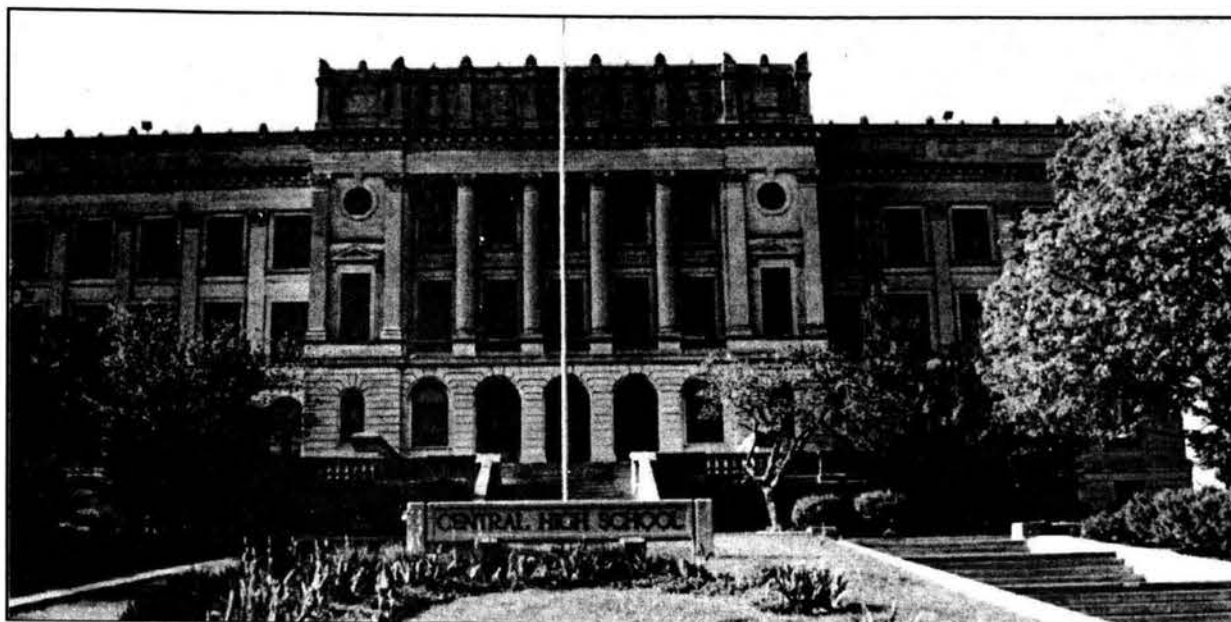
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Seniors 2001

Central is known for its great diversity.

What this year's graduating seniors are doing after high school is a good example of this. Below is a list of what some seniors are doing after graduation.



Central High School-May 2001

EMILY NEUMANN/THE REGISTER

Aagesen, Kathryn
Abels, David
Abersfeller, Sarah
Ackley, Elizabeth
Allard, William
Alee, Jennifer
Anderl, Christine
Anderson, Vincent
Andrews, Luke
Angelo, Melissa
Backman, Nicholas
Backora, Adam
Bahr, Benjamin
Baker, Andrew
Baker, Sean
Banks, Nolan
Barajas, Yesica
Barnhard, Alyssa
Barrera, Froylan
Bass, Tamicee
Beck, Benjamin
Bell, Brent
Bensalah, Eric
Berzins, Aleksander
Bhakti, Advait
Bieber, Joshua
Bierman, Kyle
Billings, Daniel
Billings, Drew
Binswanger, Alexandra
Blazek, Bridget
Boatright, Colin
Bonham-Carter, Daisy
Booth, Karyn
Brewer, Candice
Brooks, Carla
Bullion, Summer
Burghardt, Erin
Cannon, Erin
Cannon, Ryan
Carbonell, Sharra
Carlson, Kelsey
Carter, Louis
Cavanagh, Matthew
Ceron, Brandi
Chalkley, Jeffrey
Chamberlin, Cari
Chandler, Rebecca
Chaney, Laura
Christensen, Anders
Ciaccio, Matthew
Clark, Aaron
Cleveland, Sarah
Coatsworth, Leigh
Coleman, J Thomas
Collins, Jeffrey
Connor, Jeremiah
Connor, Paula
Contreras, Joshua
Cook, Ashley
Copenhaver-Evans, Christie
Corbin, Quinn
Crabtree, Michelle
Czornyj, Sylvia
Daffer, Mikala
Danford, Andrew
Danner, Ashley
Darlington, Adam
Davey, Timothy
David, Alison
Davis, George
Davis, Shiyla
Delgadillo, Benjamin
Denny, Shayna
Devney, Claire
Dobmeier, Alan
Doty, Michelle
Drickey, Kathryn
Durham, Sean
Duros, Matthew
Ebanks, Robert
Edens, Jeremy
Edmonds, Miranda
Ellis, Freddie
Engdahl, Graham
Farber, Charles
Fehrman, Joseph
Fielding, Erica
Fischer, Christopher
Fisher, Kitrina
American Academy of Dramatic Arts
Iowa State University at Ames
UNO
UNK
Undecided
UNO
Creighton University
UNO
Dana College
Creighton University
UNO
Augustana University
UNL
UNO
Iowa Western Community College
Lincoln School of Commerce
Undecided
Nebraska Methodist College
UNO
Pacific University
UNL
Lincoln School of Commerce
U.S. Merchant Marine Academy
Metro Community College
UNO
University of Oregon at Eugene
Metro Community College
UNL
Going to Switzerland
College of the Holy Cross
University of Northern Colorado
Creighton University
Undecided
Undecided
UNO
Creighton University
UNO
UNO
Military
Creighton University
UNO
UNO
Capital Hair Design
UNL
Creighton University
UNL
Luther College
Undecided
Clarkson College
UNO
Indiana University
Iowa State University
University of Memphis
Dana College
Undecided
UNO
Work Force
Metro Community College
Iowa State University
University of Pittsburgh
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Metro Community College
Other
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
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UNO
University of Kansas
UNO
Harvard University
UNO
Work Force
Southern Oregon University
University of Southern California
UNK
Undecided
Texas Christian University
UNO
Colorado Institute of Art
Penn State University
UNO
Fort Lewis College
UNO
University of Minnesota
University of Arizona
University of Pennsylvania
Creighton University
Carnegie Mellon University
Metro Community College

Fitch, Alissa
Fogarty, Robert
Francisquez, Martha
Fredericksen, Angela
Freeman, Allyson
Fry, Ashley
Fujimoto, Tadao
Fuller, Ashley
Furby, Justin
Gamble, Anisha
Garcia, Alexander
Gatzke, Andrea
George, Chalee
Gerhardt, Michael
Gintz, Clifton
Gofta, Jessica
Goossen, Jason
Gould, Candace
Gould, Chad
Gould, Calvin
Grant, Kailey
Griess, Ty
Gutman, David
Guyton, Demario
Hall, Daneisha
Hall, Mary Jo
Halpine, Michelle
Hamilton, Eric
Hankenson, Joshua
Hansen, Kelli
Hargrove, Roy Jr.
Harper, Clyde
Harris, Chateau
Harris, Samantha
Harris, Tyrone
Haskell, Elisabeth
Heafey, Nicole
Heithoff, Steven
Hendec, Laura
Hendershot, Timothy Jr.
Henderson, Twania
Henkel, Kristina
Hepburn, Travis
Hicks, Tiana
Himelic, Mary
Hoagland, James Jr.
Hoeger, Christian
Holzapfel, Andrea
Houlden, Steven
Hunter, Timothy
Ingraham, Christopher
Jackson, Tinesha
Jacob, Analisa
Jansen, Elizabeth
Jenkins, Paige
Jensen, Christopher
Jimenez, Alejandra
Jimenez, Laura
Jimerson, Marcus Jr.
Joerz, Nicholas
Johnson, Aubri
Johnson, Carmilia
Johnson, Dominique
Johnson, Kyle
Johnson, Noah
Johnson, Victoria
Johnson, Nichole
Kellogg, Jermaine
University of Kansas at Lawrence
Going to France
UNO
Dana College
Northwestern University
Metro Community College
Going to Japan
Brymann University
UNL
Washington University
Creighton University
St. Olaf College
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University of Missouri at Columbia
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Creighton University
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College of Wooster
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Creighton University
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Iowa Western Community College
Indiana University
University of Puget Sound
Undecided
UNO
Utah State University
Peru State
Augustana College
Work Force
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Valparaiso University
Undecided
Iowa Lakes College
Undecided
UNO
Pore University
UNO
Military

Kelly, Kelvin
Keppler, Catherine
Kess, Erica
Kidder, Rebecca
Klausen, Andrew
Knave, Chudney
Knott, Amanda
Konfrst, Erica
Krell, Michael
Kruger, Michael
Kucirek, Jaclyn
LaCroix, Andrew
Lamm, Sandra
Langenfeld, Jennifer
Leavitt, Blake
Lee-Regier, Kristen
Leslie, Jeffrey
Leu, Matthew
Lewis, Lailoni
Li, Hanhan
Li, Ningning
Lloyd, Chai
Lloyd, Clinton
Lolley, Kara
Lykke, Emily
MacCallum, Joshua
Maliszewski, Brianna
Mancuso, Melissa
Matyja, Alexandra
Mauk, Robert
Mayhew, Joanna
McCarthy, Michelle
McClinton, Tobias
McClure, Marisa
McGrane, Matthew
McLaurine, Brooke
Meier, Taylor
Mercado, Cinthia
Militti, Jacqueline
Miller, Julia
Miller, Matt
Mitchell, Margaret
Moe, Noah
Monge, Stefanie
Moore, Adam
Moore, Chanel
Moore, Jessica
Morrison, Michelle
Morton, Rondi
Mosby, Lori
Moses, April
Moyer, Dustin
Murphy, Karen
Murphy, Maureen
Musk, Anne
Myers, Christopher
Naikelis, Thea
Narducci, Monica
Nared, Shanae
Nelson, Jennifer
Newsome, Kyla
Newsom, Grace
Northcutt-Oliver, Myisha
Novelo, Violeta
O'Malley, Courtney
Olbertz, Abigail
Olesh, Mara
Olvera, Maria
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University of Redlands
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Iowa State University
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University of Kansas
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Creighton University
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University of San Diego
Kansas City Art Institute
Boston University
Creighton University
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Work Force
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Hastings College
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Vanderbilt University
DePaul University
Going to New York
University of Arizona
College of Saint Mary's
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University of Iowa at Iowa City
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Creighton University
Portland State University
Loyola University of Chicago
University of Michigan at Ann Arbor
Oregon University
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Xavier University
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Metro Community College
Going to Denver
Wayne State College
Indiana University
UNO

Oropeza, Tanya
Palmer, Amanda
Pargo, Laticia
Patlan, Michael
Patten, Kathryn
Pearson, Scott
Perry, Arianna
Peterson, Sarah
Piskac, David
Plummer, Erika
Ponac, Chad
Porter, Brendan
Potts, William
Prest, Emily
Priluck, Noah
Pryor, Katie
Puenchompoo, Nutdanai
Queen, Amanda
Quinlan, Alyssa
Quiroz, Jazmin
Radi, Amanda
Rafferty, Anna
Rafferty, Mitchell
Rahaman, Gina
Reed, Janette
Rhoe, Francis
Rider, Joseph
Riedler, Kristopher
Rinaker, Meredith
Ritsch, Jessica
Ritsem, Jennifer
Roberson, Kelli
Roberts, Carisa
Rock, Sara
Roman, Jose
Romberg, Benjamin
Roser, Sebastian
Rountree, Jermaine
Rumbaugh, Jason
Ryks, Joshua
Sanchez, Yanelly
Sansom, Ian
Schulte, Timothy
Shulze, Eric
Scott, Ramsey
Seefus, Christopher
Serrant, Lisa
Shepard, Gary
Sheffield, Chad
Simmons, Arland
Sird, Carmen
Slauter, Adam
Slowik, Sarah
Spilker, Emily
Spracklin, Joshua
Stacy, Benjamin
Stahl, Tyler
Stennis, Tierra
Stober, Jennifer
Storm, Jennifer
Taylor, Dru
Taylor, Keyon
Thom, Andrew
Thomas, Tara
Timberlake, Lakeya
Traudt, Sara
Urbanovsky, Jeffrey
Vacanti, Fred
Vacek, Hanna
VanBecelaere, Tarah
Varkony, Tammy
Vencalek, Brian
Viveros-Pena, Mariel
Walburn, Caroline
Ware, Tiffine
Washington, Sharce
Washington, Toccara
Watters, Gina
Wells, Monique
Wheeler, Marsha
Whitbeck, Angela
Whitchall, Angel
Whitmyre, John
Wieland, Jocelyn
Wigger, Brian
Wiley, Quentin
Wolf, Erin
Woods, Kimberly
Wright, Lamesha
Wynne, Jarvis
Yin, Tyler
Young, Heather
Zendejas, Carlos
Zoll, Julie
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Creighton University
Macalester College
Iowa State University
Wayne State University
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University of Kansas
Pacific Lutheran University
Stanford University
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Spring Hill University
Nebraska Wesleyan
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DePaul University
Concordia University
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Iowa State University
Dartmouth College
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Nebraska Wesleyan
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University of Iowa
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Wichita State University
Airline Academy
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University of Missouri at Rolla
Going to Mexico
University of Michigan
Metro Community College
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Metro Community College
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Colorado State University
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Peru State College
Work Force
Iowa State University
Metro Community College
Brigham Young University
UNO

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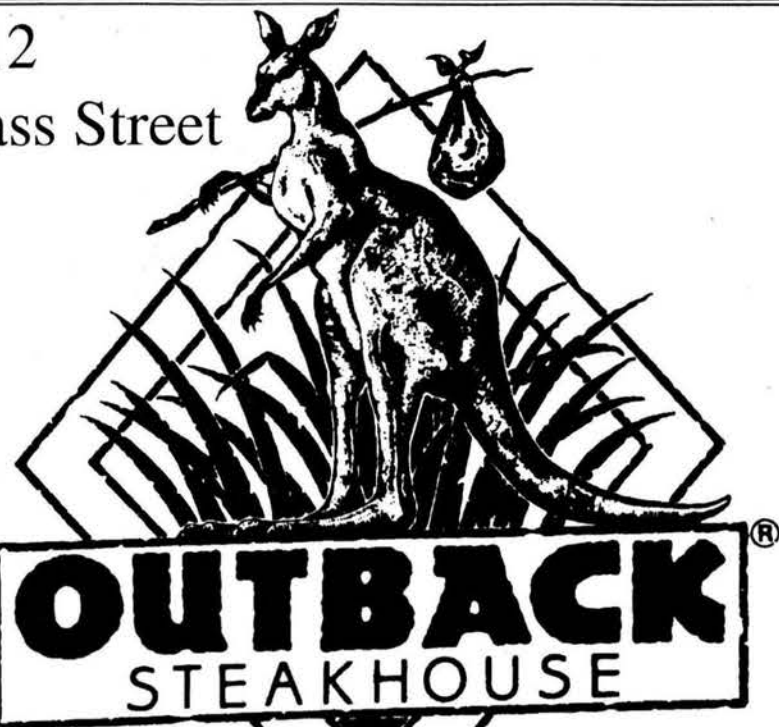
CREIGHTON
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Creighton graduate
Johnny Torres.

A native of Colombia,
Johnny was named 1997
Player of the Year by Soccer
America. He is now a pro with
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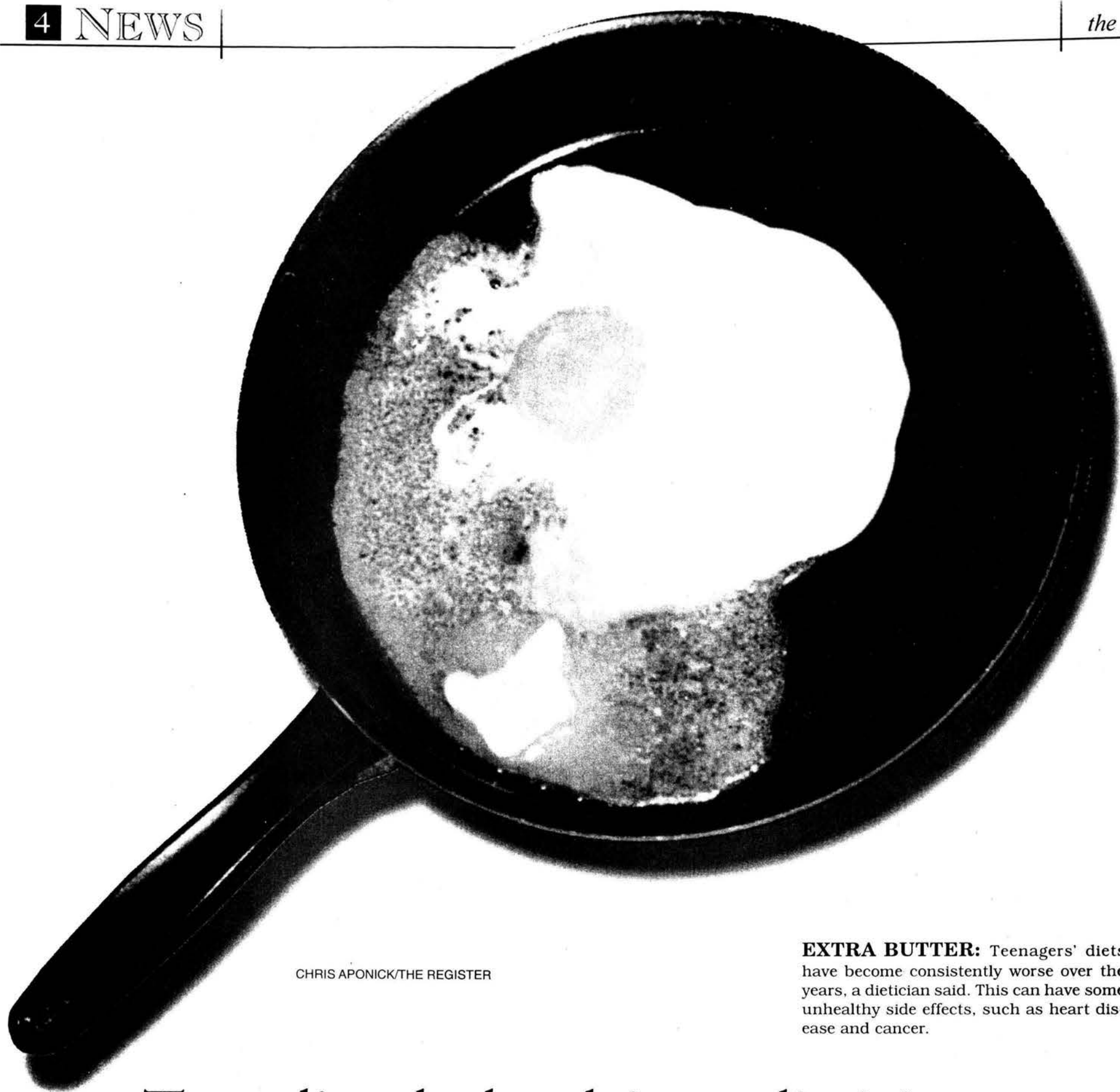
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CHRIS APONICK/THE REGISTER

EXTRA BUTTER: Teenagers' diets have become consistently worse over the years, a dietician said. This can have some unhealthy side effects, such as heart disease and cancer.

Teen diets lack calcium, dietician says

By Joe Meyer

Because of the growing popularity of the fast-food industry, teenagers of all ages are not eating as healthy as they should, registered dietitians say.

Pam Schaefer, director of nutrition education at the Dairy Council of America, said teenagers do not eat with their families anymore, and are instead eating fast food.

"It's so much easier to pick up food away from home," she said.

Schaefer said teenagers are "off the charts" in the amount of fat that they intake. This can also lead to

heart disease and cancer. Also, students do not receive enough calcium and fiber, which causes many problems. She said the adolescence years are the most important for developing bones. If a teenager does not consume enough calcium, they put themselves at risk for having osteoporosis later in life.

Kim Rubey, a dietician at St. Joseph Hospital, said most of the effects of not getting enough calcium show up later in life.

Schaefer said teenagers do not consider these problems during their adolescence.

"A lot of times, people do not think about osteoporosis when they

are 15," she said. "They think it's a disease for old people."

Calcium deficiencies cause a decrease in bone mass and can lead to stress fractures in athletes, Schaefer said. Overall, teens need to carefully monitor how much calcium they intake.

"It is a big issue for teens because they are not getting enough calcium," she said.

Freshmen Chris Boro and Jim Dunn said they think they consume enough calcium to stay healthy.

"I drink a ton of milk," Boro said. "That's all I drink."

Dunn said he tries to watch what he eats and consume an equal

amount of foods from all the food groups, although it is sometimes a hard thing to do.

Boro said he can eat whatever is in front of him without worrying about his weight.

Although he does this, he still tries to watch what he eats.

It is important for teens to establish healthy eating habits when they are young, but it will require a lot of change, Schaefer said.

"The eating habits that you establish when your young will carry through to adulthood," she said. "I think people's attitudes have to change. The food industry has to change."

Omaha gangs losing ground quickly, police officer says

From GANGS, page 1

the Huskers... I like the Crips," Newman said.

Sgt. Dan Cisar with the Omaha Police Department said people like Newman are becoming fewer and fewer.

"We had a pretty extensive crackdown," Cisar said. "You're seeing a lot more cooperation between agencies [FBI, OPD, etc.] and that's leading to more arrests."

Cisar said he attributes the drop in youth gang involvement to more active neighborhood associations and increased cooperation with the schools.

"At this point, we can tell who's the wannabes and who the big players are," he said.

Newman said he does not think gang members are worth any special attention from the police department. He said being in a gang is just a matter of being with his friends and doing what he does with them.

He said violence isn't really an

issue, as he has never fought because of the gang and doesn't plan to.

But he knows people who are so afraid of the gangs that they feel they need to protect themselves.

Former student Alex Lowry was one of those people.

"Lil' Alex" as his friends called him, wasn't in a gang. Newman said Lowry was new to Omaha, and hadn't joined one yet.

"But everyone knew him," Newman said. "Everybody was cool with Lil' Alex."

Lowry died of a gunshot wound to the chest on Nov. 11.

According to official police reports, Lowry's death was accidental and self-inflicted.

Newman said he thinks Lowry's death was only somewhat related to gang involvement.

"That's no Crip or no Blood, but he carried a gun around for protection. You gotta protect yourself," Newman said. "Then he shot himself in the stomach, accidentally. That's the way it goes,

sometimes."

Newman said he was so broken up about Lowry's death that he got a shirt specially made for him.

On the back of the shirt is a picture of Lowry and Newman in the Courtyard. Flanking the photo is the phrase, "Lil' Alex, R.I.P. On BG."

Newman said the main reason gangs exist is money. He said violence within the gangs isn't as large a problem as most people would believe.

But most gang members make money illegally.

"Almost all of them hustle," he said. "Any way they can get their cash. They sell dope. Not any of them got a job. They steal. Whatever it takes."

Cisar disagreed.

"I think a level of violence has always been there and always will be there," Cisar said.

Newman said he might agree with Cisar on that.

"If they [gangsters] don't know you, they'll shoot you," Newman

said. "You ride through their set, you'll get shot."

He said life for a gangster is dismal at best.

"It's about the money and who can fight the best. Who can shoot the best. Who's got the biggest gun," Newman said.

He said that often the biggest problems in gangs arise when those guns meet the drugs that the gangsters sell.

"When they drink that beer and smoke that weed... they start thinking they're bigger than they are. That leads to being in jail, being shot or being dead. Maybe even paralyzed," Newman said.

Cisar said he can attest to the fact that more gang members are ending up in jail.

"There's always a small group that causes most of the problems," he said.

Under a new program, Operation Peacekeeper, that small group has been identified and steps have been taken to get them into

custody, Cisar said.

"There were about 12 gang members who we identified as the biggest problems. The ringleaders," Cisar said. "Almost all of them are in custody now. There are two or three outstanding, but we assume they've left town."

Newman said he would hope those gangsters have left town. He said it isn't right for gang members to have to have so many dealings with the authorities.

"Only authorities a gang member supposed to see is the ambulance, when they get shot," Newman said. "Otherwise they'll be in jail or dead. That's the risks we take though."

Cisar said he had only one thing he would like all gangsters and wannabes to know.

"They're never going to take over," he said. "They may try to recruit more and more of these kids, but we'll keep them under control. The numbers have been whittled down."

Liaison attempts to get kids off the streets

By Matt Wynn

James Parsons started counseling Omaha gang members in 1988.

He doesn't have any formal counseling education. He simply knows what it takes to get kids off the streets.

Parsons is a "street counselor." He said he deals with mostly South Omaha gangs, but to him all gangs are the same.

In fact, Parsons said most gangs today are easily comparable to the gang he was in during the 1970s.

"I was a South Family Blood. The oldest gang in the city," Parsons said. "I wasn't a rag-wearing, platinum-toothed, glorified gangster, but I was a gangster."

Parsons said his gang started strictly selling drugs. In fact, by the time he got out of the gang, they were still strictly a drug-selling operation.

He said they didn't really start to get violent until the Lomas came to town.

The Lomas started out innocently enough, Parsons said.

"The Hispanic gang members in Omaha, when they were in big cities like Chicago and LA, their brothers, their cousins, their family was made up of real gang members," Parsons said.

So when they came to Omaha, just made sense to start a faction of their own, he said.

But creating the Omaha faction of Lomas resulted in the murder of a 17-year-old gangster from LA who only known as "Diamond."

"He came into town and started this gang. But then, when he came back to LA and told the real Lomas they didn't appreciate that much," Parsons said. "They shot him. Dead on the spot. In California gang life, you have to ask permission to do something like that."

Because of stories like Diamond's, Parsons said he dedicates much of his extra time getting kids out of the gangs.

Parsons said his reasons for trying to help gangsters is apparent when looking at a list of Lomas from about ten years ago.

Out of the 235 Lomas that were in Omaha in '96, Parsons said 224 are dead. Sixty-five are in the state penitentiary. Sixty are pending to go to jail.

The rest, he said, are fairly successful.

"They're at least out of trouble," Parsons said. "For most gang members, that is success."

Parsons said gangsters need help in three main ways. One of those ways is education.

He also said they need jobs.

The hardest part, Parsons said, is getting the kids to want to get out of gang life and culture.

But that's his specialty.

"I walk the streets. I see a kid hanging around. I ask, 'Did you graduate from high school?' Most of them didn't, so we get them a GED or into JobCorp, or back in high school," Parsons said.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays Parsons runs a gym for kids who simply want something to do. He gives them a stereo, a place to sit and something to drink, then lets them do as they please.

"They can get whatever they need there," Parsons said. "Free music, free pop, basketball, talking a place to go and have fun."

Parsons said some kids occasionally use the gym for the wrong purposes.

"If they're caught using dope in our building, I kick them out for a couple days, maybe a week or two," Parsons said. "But when I let them back in, it's like coming back home to your dad. I yell. I scream. They get them back in."

Parsons said he hopes kids will see what he is trying to do for them and try to set themselves up to succeed in life. He said that all too often, kids choose the easiest route.

"The easiest thing to do in this world," Parsons said, "is to do something wrong. I don't want these kids to do that."

DECA students make nice showing at international competition, adviser says

By Michael Gerhardt

Central's DECA team recently won over 20 awards at the International DECA competition in Anaheim, California.

Marketing teacher Harry Gaylor said it was one of the most successful showings in the hundred-year history of Central. Three students finished in the top ten and 27 people qualified.

Over 13,000 students attended the conference.

Students who finished in the top ten were seniors Noah Priluck, Claire Devney and George Davis. Many other students won awards, too.

"It was a learning experience if nothing else. I enjoyed many aspects of the conference and I believe it was well-coordinated," junior Brett

Brokaw said. "The location could not have been better from a teenager's perspective."

Gaylor said the competition helps students learn to compete with other students from all over the country and measures the school's DECA program.

Senior Ty Griess said the competition was one that he could use in many real-life situations.

"The competition was a lot tougher than at the district or state level," Griess said. "It was a lot more competitive."

Students took a comprehensive written test over marketing, management and entrepreneurship. After that, the students did a role-play regarding their sections of marketing, which was judged by business leaders from many

different companies.

The two scores are combined and the top ten contestants then do a second role-play which are judged by the same judges.

Besides the competitions, Gaylor said the students had plenty of time to relax and see the sites. Students went to Universal Studios, Disney Land and the New California Adventure theme park.

Morphine pill abuse causes dozens of deaths nationwide

By Joe Meyer

Illegal use of Oxycontin, a synthetic morphine used as a pain reliever to ease patients with chronic illnesses and cancers, has caused more than 50 deaths in eastern Kentucky, but the drug has not been seen in Omaha, a police officer said.

Sgt. Mark Langan with the Omaha Police Department's narcotics division said the department has not made any arrests or seizures because of Oxycontin.

"Since we're located in the middle of the country, we do not see the presence of the drug before the rest of the country," the sergeant said. "I'm sure we'll see it, though."

Langan was confident that the police department would be able to handle the drug if it started appearing in the city. He said the department has received many reports of Oxycontin and is aware of the possible problem.

The US Justice Department of Eastern Kentucky said the effective three-year crackdown on cocaine might be why many users have turned to this prescription drug.

Doraine Reynolds, director of outpatient pharmacy at Creighton University, compared Oxycontin to heroin. She said the drug is preferred over heroin because it is a prescription drug and users think it is pure.

Kevin Payne, commander of public affairs for the Kentucky State Police, said abusers illegally manipulate prescriptions to gain access to the drug. They usually choose to remove the outer casing of the tablet, crush the drug and snort

it. The drug can also be injected and swallowed.

Reynolds said the drug is the most dangerous when it is snorted, because the body absorbs the drug very quickly.

Reynolds said the drug is designed to be long lasting. In the tablet form, the drug is released gradually over a period of eight to ten hours. But, when it is crushed, the user receives all the potency at once, which leads to a deadly overdose.

Oxycontin depresses the central nervous system and a user's intestinal track, Reynolds said. The worst effect is the respiratory rate slows down.

"In an overdose situation, a person just stops breathing completely," Reynolds said.

Payne said the state decided to establish a special force to stop drug use, named Operation Oxyfest 2001 because the drug was a constant presence of the drug in the agency's raids.

He said Oxyfest resulted in the arrest of 280 people. According to the US Department of Justice of Eastern Kentucky, this was the largest roundup of persons charged with illegally buying and selling drugs in the state's history.

Reynolds said Oxycontin is classified as a class two controlled substance, which is controlled by the Drug Enforcement Agency. It is in the same category as many prescription drugs like morphine and other illegal drugs like cocaine.

Because of its classification and monitoring as a controlled substance, Reynolds said the drug is sometimes

hard to procure.

"It is tough, but it can be done," she said. "It takes some thought."

Reynolds said robbing pharmacies or getting the drug directly from the wholesaler are ways that the drug can be illegally trafficked.

Robberies have been documented in Kentucky because of the drug, Payne said. The drug is habit forming and users become frustrated when they run out of it.

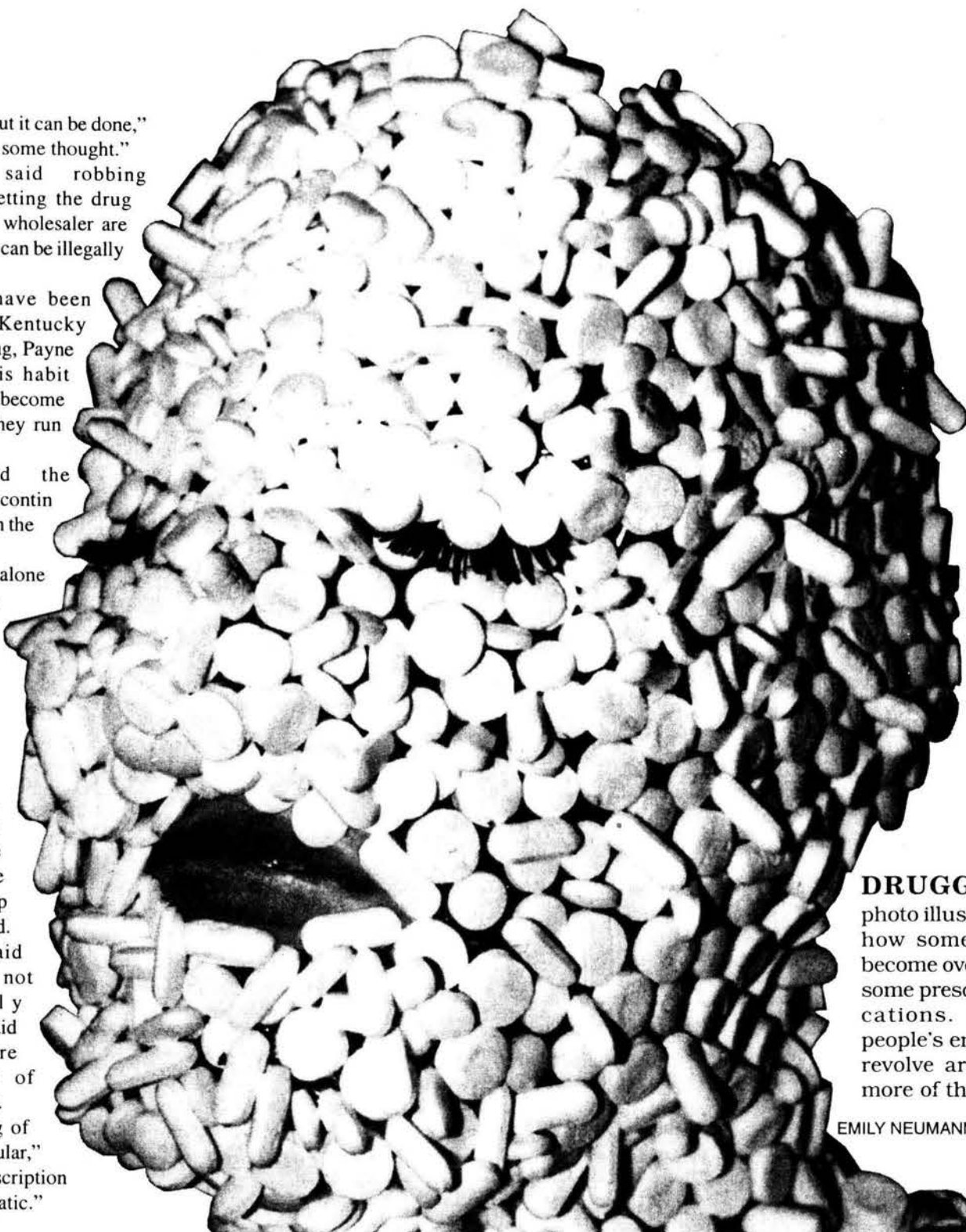
Payne said the problem with Oxycontin will not go away in the near future.

"The arrests alone is the tip of the iceberg," he said. "Unfortunately, I don't think the Oxycontin problem will go away."

Treatment options and community education will be needed in the state to completely stop the use, Payne said.

Reynolds said the problem is not exclusively Oxycontin. She said drug addicts are misusing a lot of prescription drugs.

"The snorting of drugs is really popular," she said. "All prescription drugs are problematic."



DRUGGED: This photo illustration shows how some people can become overly reliant on some prescription medications. Sometimes, people's entire lives will revolve around getting more of the drug.

EMILY NEUMANN/THE REGISTER

Doctors' reliance on Ritalin leads to misuse of drug, psychiatrist says

By Joe Meyer

Because of the new awareness of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Ritalin, the drug that is used to treat the disorder is sometimes over prescribed, a local child psychologist said.

"This isn't a new disease," Michelle Cassidy, a child psychologist at Children's Hospital family support center, said, "people have described it for more than hundreds of years."

School Nurse Jenny Conahan

said she has seen a slight increase in the number of students who are prescribed anti-depressants during her five years at Central.

She said she has also dealt with many kids who are prescribed two or three different types of drugs, but this is normal with all medications that are prescribed to kids.

"That's hard for kids because kids are so hard to give drugs to," Conahan said.

Cassidy said the fact that any doctor can prescribe Ritalin, which has been in use for more than 30

years, leads to some faulty diagnoses.

She said, sometimes, pediatricians and family practitioners simply give children drugs without totally examining the patient.

It is better for trained psychologists to examine children who might have this disorder, Cassidy said.

She said she prefers to try alternative ways of solving this disorder, rather than immediately prescribing drugs.

She said things can be done at the child's school and home to solve the problems. If these procedures are unsuccessful, then she prescribes Ritalin to the child.

"If those things will help, there is no reason to use drugs," she said. Dr. Steven Starr, a private child psychologist, said diagnosing a child with ADHD is a tough call to make. He said that because the diagnosis is not a clinical one, mistakes are sometimes made.

Starr said a medical diagnosis can only be correct when the child

is observed in school, at home and alone.

The best way to treat the disorder is by using medication, Starr said.

"It is sometimes not a clear diagnosis, but 75 to 90 percent respond to medication," he said.

This medication, Starr said, allows the children, who are usually between 3 and 7 years olds, to think clearly before they act.

Because of the use of drugs, most children who are diagnosed with ADHD improve, although some

symptoms continue throughout a patient's life.

Cassidy said the medications have side effects that can sometimes be harmful to the children that take them.

She said because of this, the medical community has become aware to the dangers of prescribing drugs to children that might not have the disorder.

"I think there's a lot more awareness out with these medications and the abuse potential," Cassidy said.

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NSEA sponsors teacher march

From **TEACHER RALLY**, page 1

a "mass exodus" over the last two years, OPS had 60 vacancies for qualified teachers at the beginning of this year. When this happens, the school district is forced to increase class sizes and drop some courses.

"The Legislature must focus on the educational problem," Mackiel said during his speech outside the capital. "The public does not want and the children do not deserve larger class sizes."

Anderson said the shortage in teachers has caused the state to even look internationally for teachers to fill roles. She said 15 teachers from Spain who are currently in the state to teach the international language.

Krejci, who is also a NSEA board member, said trying to increase teacher salaries is a major focus for the organization.

"This [teacher salaries] has been a primary focus of the association," she said.

Anderson said she thought the day was a success that gave the teachers a chance to have their voices heard.

Whatever effect the day had will show later, Krejci said.

"Whether that [the rally] will turn into votes in the Legislature is another issue," she said.

Creighton offers online courses

By **Ally Freeman**

This fall, Creighton University will begin a program unique to its campus.

Starting in August, students will be able to complete the majority of a pharmacy degree online.

Dr. Pat Malone, director of the web-based distance education pharmacy program, said before a student goes to pharmacy school he must complete two years at pre-pharmacy school, before beginning in a 4-year pharmacy school.

He said there were many reasons Creighton decided to implement the program, including the current shortage of pharmacists.

One of the main goals was to make achieving a pharmacy degree more available to those interested.

"It is a way to expand the number of pharmacists graduating and going into the workforce," Malone said.

Malone said that under Creighton's program, students would be able to complete the first three years of the program over online courses, with a few exceptions.

He said there are laboratory classes that require students' presence.

"They cannot do things like make an injectable solution over the

Internet," Malone said.

He said for these classes, students would need to be present on campus for two weeks, where they could complete all the lab classes.

The last year consists of 10 different clerkships, which include working at different pharmacy locations or hospitals.

Malone said the program is not limited to residents of Nebraska, but the students must be able to complete the two weeks of lab-classes on the Creighton campus.

He said in the future, depending on where the students are located, they might be able to offer the classes closer to where they live.

"This is the first one anywhere, where you can begin from day one as a pharmacy school student," Malone said.

He said they have received interest from people who wanted to go back to school but have other things forcing them to stay close to home.

"[The program] allows people to go back to school, but not tear them away from their family."

There are also many medical professionals currently in other fields who interested in changing careers that have expressed interest.

Malone said there are both

advantages and disadvantages to the program.

One of the major difficulties is that people not used to taking courses on the computer will have apprehensions.

He said the course would benefit individuals in different ways.

"It really depends on the person, some students find they get more work done on their own," Malone said.

Malone said while many students benefit by having the opportunity to ask class in person, others have difficulty talking to a teacher.

For these type of students e-mailing question and receiving a personal response would be advantageous.

"It takes a little getting used to, but once you do people will find that its not different than what you are used to now," Malone said.

He said they have started accepting a handful of students and hope to have 60 in their first class.

Malone said he thinks many people will view the online course as an easy degree and sign up without realizing the effort involved.

"It takes a lot of work to become a pharmacist," Malone said.



ONLINE DEGREES: To try to increase the number of people entering the field, Creighton University has decided to offer pharmacy courses online.

WALDEN/THE REGISTER

Low salaries cause many teachers to leave state, teacher says

By **Matt Wynn**

Reading teacher Donna Noll paints a bleak picture of teaching in Nebraska.

Noll went to school and earned a bachelor's degree and two masters. She wanted to be a teacher all her life because, "that's what people did. It was a respectable position."

But now, Noll said, being a teacher in Nebraska is hardly worth the trouble of getting up every morning.

"If I were starting to teach now, I would drive across the river in Council Bluffs," Noll said.

If Noll did begin to teach in Council Bluffs, she would make \$7000 more than a teacher starting in Nebraska.

"You just kind of get here and you don't leave," Noll said.

The teacher pay issue has been causing problems over the past

decade but recently the problem has spiraled out of control, American Government teacher Carol Krejci said.

Krejci said the problem is especially evident when Nebraska's teacher pay is compared to other states. Currently, Nebraska is the forty-fifth lowest paying state in the nation for teachers.

Six months ago, Krejci said, Nebraska was only forty-third.

Krejci said the problem can be traced back to the state government. She said the governor simply refuses to pay teachers in the state.

But the legislature, she said, is constantly trying to pass new bills to pay teachers more money.

"The problem is in order to fund that [a pay increase] they're proposing a quarter cent sales tax increase," Krejci said.

She said that the governor has already said he will veto any bill that

comes to his desk that proposes a tax increase of any kind.

She said that his stance on this issue does not accurately reflect the wishes of Nebraskan citizens.

In fact, the Nebraska Schools Activities Association recently released a poll that found that 79 percent of Nebraskan citizens would be willing to pay more in sales tax if the money went to increase teacher pay.

But Chris, a representative of governor Mike Johanns who would not give his last name, said there is a very good reason for not raising sales tax to fund higher teacher pay.

"The governor ran in '98 on a platform of tax relief," Chris said. "For the governor now to turn around and say, 'Tax relief, but this is a special case,' doesn't make any sense. He will continue to veto any proposed tax increase, no matter what its purpose."

Chris said the governor has very little power over public education. He also said the governor believes that education issues should not be his main concern.

"Public education has been driven primarily by local control and local decision makers. So it goes to reason that certain issues - like teacher pay - would be and should be addressed at the local level," Chris said.

Chris said when people look at the way Johanns has budgeted his money, they will learn that the teacher pay issue has not been ignored.

Chris said 25 percent to 50 percent of the total cost of K-12 education has been allocated for teacher pay. The governor has also recently proposed spending \$200 million on K-12 education in the near future.

In fact, 52 percent of all state spending is dedicated to education,

Chris said.

"When people look at the numbers, they will see that the state has not been miserly when it comes to funding public education," Chris said.

Chris said the governor has recently proposed three public education plans to help relieve the teacher pay problem without raising taxes.

He said the governor has supported the Loan Forgiveness Program, the Mentoring Program and the Master Teacher Program. All of these programs addressed teacher pay, he said.

Chris said altogether, these three programs have budgeted \$500 million a year.

But some teachers believe the implementation of these programs may not be enough to keep teachers in the state. Krejci and Noll both said they know of at least a few teachers

who have left the district for higher paying jobs.

Krejci said the Social Studies Department is a good example of exactly how bad the situation in Nebraska is.

At the beginning of the year, she said, the Social Studies Department was understaffed, so the district made classes larger in order to accommodate.

At semester, two teachers from OPS and one from Central left to take better teaching jobs in the private sector.

The worst part, she said, is that Social Studies is considered to be an oversupplied staff. Departments such as Math and Science are having much bigger problems, she said.

"A lot of the new teachers just stay in the profession for a year or two," Noll said. "More and more people are deciding not to go into the profession at all."

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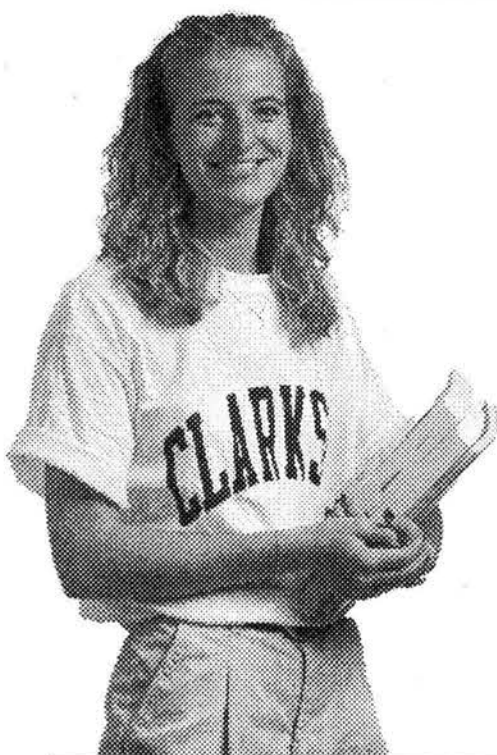
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Weight obsession leads to deadly behavior

by Joe Meyer

Bulimia nervosa, an eating disorder that includes binge eating and purging, quickly consumes a person's life, a woman who has been battling with the disorder for more than 14 years, said.

"At the time, I really didn't know what was going on," Beth, 31, who did not want to give her last name, said. "It was a real peculiar thing. I just wanted to lose weight."

Sarah Ruma, a licensed mental health practitioner who counsels at Omni Behavioral Health, said bulimia is a life-threatening illness that affects the heart, teeth and decreases muscle strength.

Most of the time, people who suffer from bulimia binge on food and then purge themselves to avoid gaining weight.

This purging can be done many ways, Ruma said, including induced vomiting, laxative abuse, excessive exercising and fasting.

Beth said her battle with bulimia started when she was 15. She said she was insecure about her self-image and had a low self-esteem.

She would binge on food and then purge herself. She would force herself to vomit, exercise for hours and even fast for days at a time.

She said her attempts to lose weight quickly got out of control.

"It went from just trying to lose weight to a total obsession," she said. "I just sort of fell into it."

Beth said her obsession quickly took over her entire life. She said she was forcing herself to vomit twelve

times a day during the worst times.

"It kind of takes over your life. Your breathing and every part of your life is centered around food," she said.

After some time, Beth said the practice became second nature. When she was bulimic, she said she did not even realize what she was doing.

She was so obsessed with losing weight that she quickly forgot about the rest of her life.

"It just became an instinctual type of thing, it became automatic," she said. "I really didn't know what was happening and that's the scary thing about this disease."

When she was 17, her parents pressured her about her eating habits and she decided to go into treatment for her eating disorder.

"I guess we should do something about this," she told her parents.

She weighed a little more than 80 pounds at that time.

Beth said the first time she went to a treatment center, she was not completely willing to be there. She enrolled in an outpatient program, but she quickly relapsed into her old habits.

She said her eating disorder interfered with all parts of her life and she had to address the problem on its own.

Her parents then placed her in a hospital against her will.

Treatment of bulimia focuses more on educating patients about their problems, Beth said.

Doctors, psychiatrists and dieticians all work with the patients to try to allow them to control their cravings.

Beth said the treatment focuses on giving patients valuable information about foods.

She said she has learned this like the fact that eating fatty foods makes her brain and muscles work better.

"That perfectionistic mode of thinking somehow enters into how you think of food," Beth said. "A lot of it [the treatment] is just learning where your place is in the world and accepting it."

Beth said her constant battle with bulimia has caused many health problems.

She is partially paralyzed, she has experienced some memory loss and she sometimes has an irregular heartbeat.

She also said the stomach acid from when she vomited wore away the enamel on her teeth, which caused most of her teeth to decay.

Although she has been in treatment ever since she was diagnosed 14 years ago, she still reverts back to her old behaviors during stressful times in her life.

"It kind of goes in spurts. Sometimes, if there's a lot more stress in my life, the eating disorders are harder to control," Beth said.

But being more mature allows her to handle her lifelong problem better and she now is not ashamed to ask experts for help with her disease.



EMILY NEUMANN/THE REGISTER

BULIMIA: This disorder causes victims to binge eat and then purge themselves. Along with forced vomiting, exercise and fasting are ways they can do this.

Problems exist with homework, Thompson says

From **HOMEWORK**, page 1

120 minutes for high school students each night. In addition, incentives are given to complete assignments.

Thompson said neither Central nor the district has a policy regarding homework.

Thompson said he requests that most teachers give homework in every class for every night, but the school does not have a time specification on how much work should be given.

He said he will occasionally receive complaints from parents regarding heavy loads of work loads, but he said the additional work comes with school.

"This is school," he said. "There are important lessons [to be learned] and expectations here."

He said he sees no perfect way to regulate homework. Thompson said he is more concerned about overloading students with tests than homework.

He said he has considered creating a schedule where certain departments would give tests on specified day of the week, ensuring that students will not have multiple tests on the same day.

While he offers this as a possible solution, no plans have ever been made, he said.

Thompson said he thinks many teachers give students busy work.

"It's unfortunate," Thompson said. "Students are being assigned 20 math problems, when maybe only five are necessary."

He said the school continuously works with teachers to make sure quality assignments are given.

While Thompson said he knows many students have full days complete with jobs and after-school activities that limit time available to spend on homework, he said students need to make choices.

He said freshman should not be given as much homework as upperclassmen because they are still involved in a range of activities and are often deciding what to concentrate on. "As they get older they need to make more choices," he said.

All activities, whether music or sports, are important, the principal said. But students need to maintain a balance between their schoolwork and extracurricular activities.

Thompson said he would be very surprised if OPS ever developed a homework policy. He said one of the strengths of Central is that we have more homework than other schools.

"[At Central] students are trained well for what is to come in college," he said.

Patrolling officer deals with alcoholics, traffic stops, personal disputes

From **PATROL**, page 1

down on the meridian of 24th and St. Mary.

"She's a drunk Indian that wants to have a nap," he said as he got out of his patrol car.

A second officer, patrolman Harrison, pulled up to the scene a couple seconds later.

The officers asked a couple questions, then Huffman leaned over and picked up a water bottle less than two feet away from the woman.

He opened it up, smelled it and made a face. Then he proceeded to pour the contents of the bottle onto the ground.

Harrison and Huffman decided the best thing to do for the woman would be to take her to either the Lydia House or Campus of Hope.

"This isn't a thing where we just pass them off," Huffman said of the woman. "It's a place they can go to get the help they need, where they can get detox."

Huffman said he assumed the woman

was well beyond the legal Blood Alcohol Level (BAL) of .1, but he couldn't say for sure just how intoxicated she really was.

"With many of the people we run into down here, .3 and .4 is not unheard of," Huffman said.

Harrison cuffed the woman and put her into the front seat of his car. He then drove her to Campus of Hope, where she tested for a BAL of .27.

As she was being prepared for care at the Campus, the woman thanked officer Harrison for his help.

"No problem," Harrison said.

Huffman then headed back into the squad car and started his typical patrol of the area.

But it wasn't long before a report of a disturbance at 19th and Jackson called him back to duty.

When he pulled up to the apartment complex, two other patrol cars followed him. Huffman met Officers Frieden and Officer

Woolman at the building.

A man walked out of the backyard of the apartment and summed up the situation for the officers.

He claimed he was playing his music when his neighbor upstairs, who was intoxicated, began to get irritated and started banging on the floor telling him to quiet down.

The officers went into the downstairs apartment to see just how loudly the music was playing.

"Is that too loud? That guy's trying to tell me it's too loud!" the downstairs neighbor asked.

"Doesn't sound that way to me," Huffman said. "But remember, you're in an apartment. One of the downsides to that is you have to pay attention to what your neighbors say."

That's when the man from the upstairs apartment, who had been complaining about the music, came out of his apartment.

"Can you hear that sh—?" he asked the officers. "Tell him he's playing that sh— too loud."

As the officers walked up to the man's apartment, Huffman said to Frieden, "This guy's drunk."

"I know," Frieden said. "But that other guy's high. So what do we do?"

Huffman sent Woolman and Frieden off. Then he went downstairs, told the man to turn down his music, and went back to the station.

"Jesus," he said, "you could smell the pot rolling out of his room. And I know it was him, because I didn't smell it until he opened his door."

Huffman said that's the worst part of his job: knowing that he can't get everyone.

"Sure, I could arrest every 17-year-old kid who's smoking a cigarette, but they're a dime a dozen," Huffman said. "So what's the point? We've got to focus on the tougher crimes, the crimes that are really hurting somebody. Sometimes it can get you down."

RESEARCH STUDY FOR ADOLESCENTS WITH DEPRESSION

This study, sponsored by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) and coordinated by UNMC, evaluates the effectiveness of psychotherapy and medication treatments for depression in adolescents. Adolescents, ages 12-17, may be eligible for the study. Symptoms of Clinical Depression may include:

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Central looks into IB options

By Ally Freeman

The International Baccalaureate (IB) program has received wide attention in recent years as many schools have adopted it.

Dr. Gary Thompson said that Central has considered the IB program, but it is very expensive and there is no school district support. He said the absence of long-term financial support from the district will make it extremely hard to establish the program which can cost between \$50,000-\$100,000 per year to run.

Paul Campbell, associate director of the IB program in North America said the diploma program began at international schools in the mid-1960s.

He said 90 percent of the 340 schools that offer the program in the U.S. are public. This is an unusual occurrence because internationally the program is predominantly offered in private schools.

He said that in the very extensive application process, 15 percent of the schools will be turned down the first time. If denied, most schools will take what they learned, reapply and eventually are accepted.

Thompson said Central has been researching the issue for two years and knew the district had been looking to put it in one OPS high school.

He said the IB program looks for a diverse population, which Central has.

However, Thompson said he had concerns about the extensive process IB requires. He said it would be incredibly time consuming and would require changes in the lengths of the periods at Central.

He also had concerns that it is a highly elective program and would only benefit a small number of students.

Renee Kehrberg, director of secondary education for the Omaha Public Schools (OPS) said after having studied the IB program for a year, the administration has made a recommendation for Crestridge Elementary School, Beveridge Middle School, and Benson High School to receive district funding to implement the program. Kehrberg said that if other schools want to pursue establishing the program they must develop their own initiative to find funding for the program.

She said that in researching the program, schools did visitations and educators went through training to learn more about it.

IB had initially been brought to the attention of the district because of information they had gained from articles and periodicals across the country, she said.

Thompson said he hopes that Central will be able to expand on its honors course offerings and is looking at putting an Advanced Placement diploma system very similar to the IB offering. He said the College Board is conducting a pilot program this year to see how it works, which Thompson has been greatly encouraging.

Campbell said the IB and AP programs are very similar in the course difficulty and rigor. The current difference is that IB is a complete diploma program.

He said IB students are required to take six courses their junior and senior year in all disciplines, not just their areas of strength. They are also required to do community service, additional activities, take a critical thinking class and write a 4000-word essay.

He said that normally other country's students have performed better at the secondary level, and an American school with the IB program can be compared to schools all around the world.

Advanced programs such as IB and AP are known to greatly benefit students at the university level.

Bev Keller, project assistant in the Admissions Office at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln said that currently they only accept a few IB courses for college credit. When looking at admissions decisions, she said the department treats students with IB credit the same as students with regular courses.

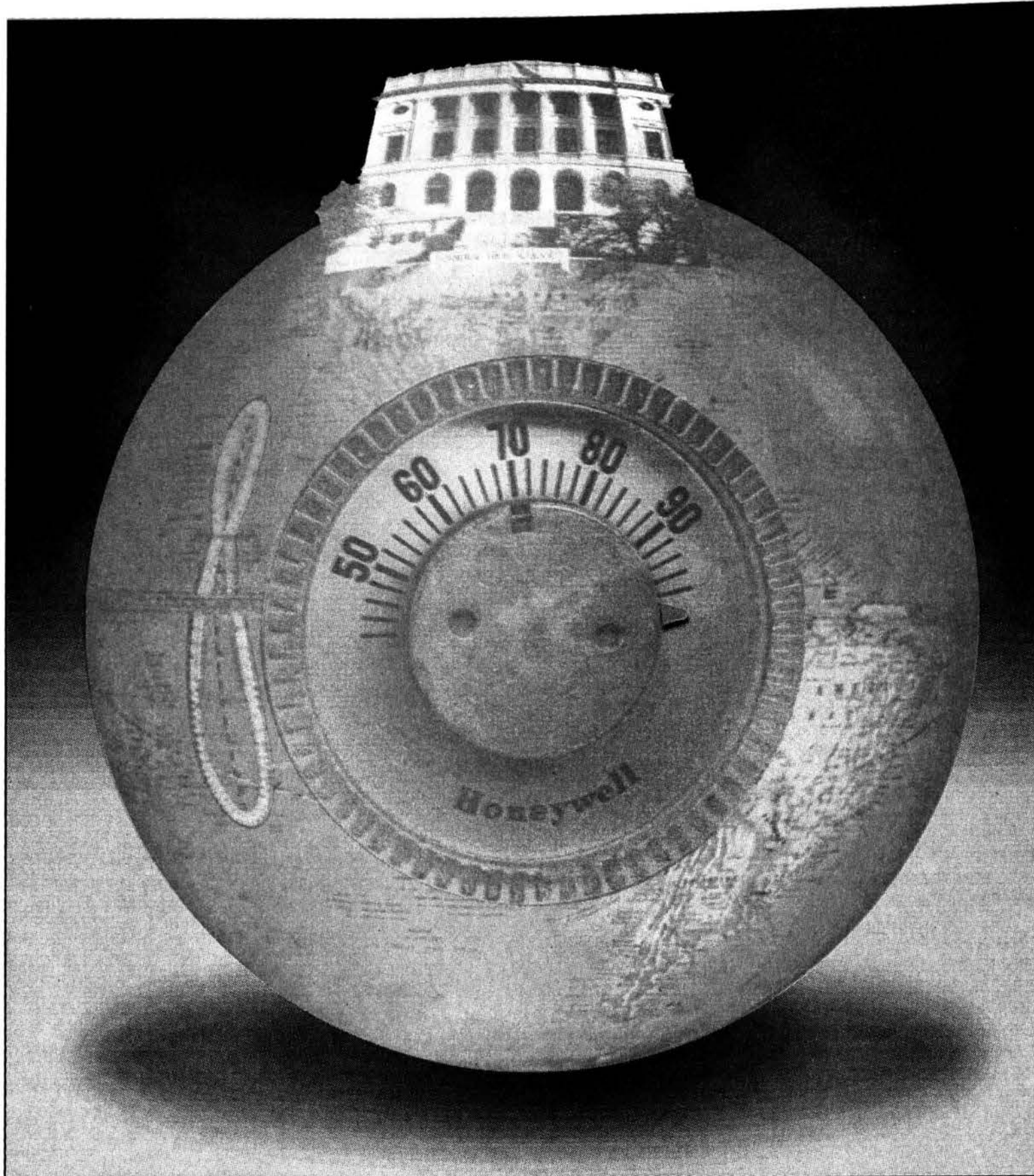
She said there have been no applications this year with IB courses on transcripts. This is primarily due to the fact that no high school in Nebraska offers the program, Keller said.

Campbell said he sees the continuing importance of the IB program as colleges are becoming more selective and professions are becoming more demanding.

He said he believes the IB program will continue to grow.

They currently receive 70 applications a year to apply for the IB programs; compared to the 10 they were receiving a year in 1988.

"The need for a well-recognized, rigorous secondary school curriculum is as great as every right now," Campbell said.



LUENINGHOENER/ THE REGISTER

THE HEAT IS ON:

This illustration shows that Central is known for being extremely hot during the summer months. At both the beginning and ending of every school year, the heat in the school becomes almost unbearable. But soon, after the proposed renovations, the school will have a fully-functioning, air-conditioning system.

• RENOVATIONS

Future will bring cooler temperatures

By Ally Freeman

Fans, water bottles and notebooks have all served the same purpose at Central—keeping the students cool.

Yet the hundred-year tradition Central students recognize as enduring unbearable heat and tedious conditions is slowly coming to an end.

Dr. Gary Thompson, principal, said work on the new air-conditioning system will begin this summer, although it will not be finished until 2003.

After the school year ends, workers will begin construction on a cold water pipe running into the building on both the two and four sides.

Initial work will be completed this summer and during the summer of 2002, the pipes will be connected on each level and an air conditioning unit will be put in each classroom.

"The problem is not lack of air, but too much heat," he said.

Not only will the air conditioning offer cool air during the summer, but much better climate control overall, Thompson said. Currently there is little control because a

single thermostat controls several classrooms.

Thompson said this has been a long anticipated and much needed project.

But not all people are excited about Central receiving air conditioning.

Thompson said some people have questioned if it is a priority in the renovation, since Central only received \$15 million. Others think it will take away from the charm of the school.

Thompson said the heat serves a connection that all former Central students can relate to.

Senior Shayna Denny said that after four years at Central she has learned to adjust to the temperature in the building, and thinks the air-conditioning will detract from the charisma of the school.

"Half the battle of going to Central is dealing with the heat," Denny said. "You know when you come here the academics are hard and the heat sucks."

However, most believe the advantages of air-conditioning will surpass the disadvantages.

Thompson said the inside of the building can reach past 90 degrees, especially upstairs. Almost no activities

can be held in the building during the summer months because of the heat.

Thompson has had to decline organizations from using the auditorium during the summer because temperatures can reach 95 degrees.

"Everything is limited [in the building] during the hot part of the year," Thompson said.

He said the heat has significantly affected the learning environment of the school.

"It's harder to study in a 90 degree classroom," he said.

However, Thompson said both the staff and students have learned to adjust and handled the adverse conditions very well.

"Students learn to adapt, and they may complain about it, but they learn to dress for the temperature," Thompson said.

Denny said the heat obviously was distracting in classes. She said she always would use a notebook or other available object for a fan.

"You just deal with it, because you don't have a choice," Denny said.

Here they come!

Despite Central's current pest problems, contractors say there are no plans for any special extermination during renovations

By Matt Wynn

While some people hope the renovations will bring air-conditioning, better wiring and more gym space, others hope improvements will be made on a much smaller scale.

"One time I was picking up this book out of my locker," sophomore Valerie Niemeier said, "and this cockroach the size of my palm ran out and almost hit my foot. So I screamed. It was really disgusting."

Niemeier is only one of many students who has had a close call with one of Central's not-so-cuddly creatures. However, students are not the only people with worries about the bugs.

"The bugs might just put a dent in the renovations," night lead custodian Frank DeGeorge said.

DeGeorge said Central has a very real bug problem.

He said at night, if he goes into a custodial room and flips on the light, sometimes he can see up to eight cockroaches, and maybe even a mouse

scurry off to safety.

"Wherever there is food, or warmth, or moisture, you will find cockroaches," DeGeorge said. "They're everywhere."

He said he couldn't give an estimate as to how many pests the school has.

All he knows, he said, is that there are a lot of them.

And when DLR group, the architectural firm hired to do the renovations, comes to school, they may find more than they bargained for, he said.

"You break a wall, you'll find bugs. You go under a sidewalk, you'll find bugs," DeGeorge said.

He said that the school has a variety of animals.

He listed off cockroaches, bats, mice and said occasionally there are even some ants.

James Dahlin, an architect for DLR group said pest control is not a major concern for the company.

He said as of right now there are no plans to do any special extermination over the summer.

"Of course any project we do has some sort

of extermination," Dahlin

said. "It's part of the process. I'm not aware of any extra part of this project, though."

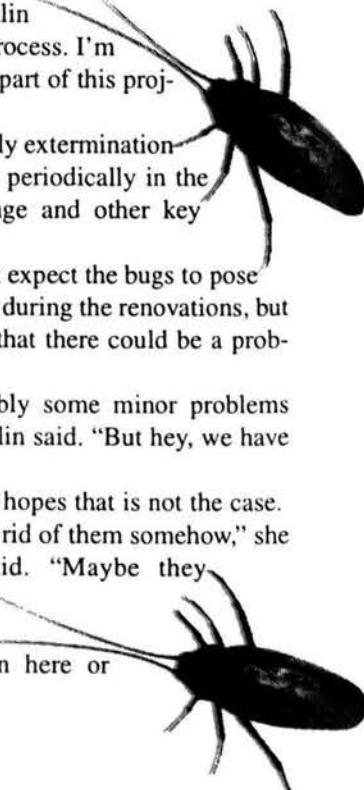
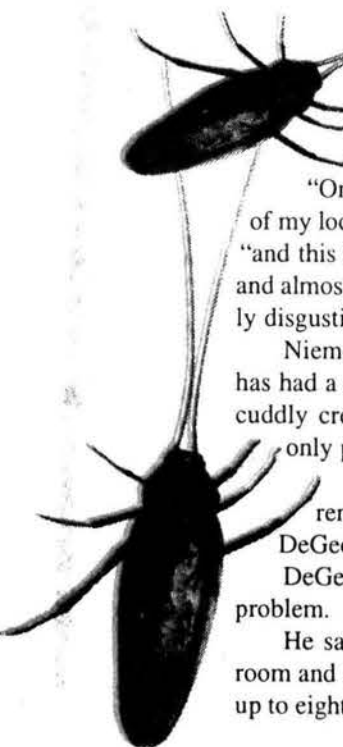
Dahlin said the only extermination he is aware of is done periodically in the kitchen, teachers lounge and other key areas.

He said he doesn't expect the bugs to pose too much of a problem during the renovations, but he does acknowledge that there could be a problem during the project.

"There are probably some minor problems that could occur," Dahlin said. "But hey, we have to live with them."

Niemeier said she hopes that is not the case. "They need to get rid of them somehow," she said. "Maybe they

could hire an exterminator, or get the Orkin man in here or something."



In-Depth

B-9

The Register
Tuesday, May 22, 2001

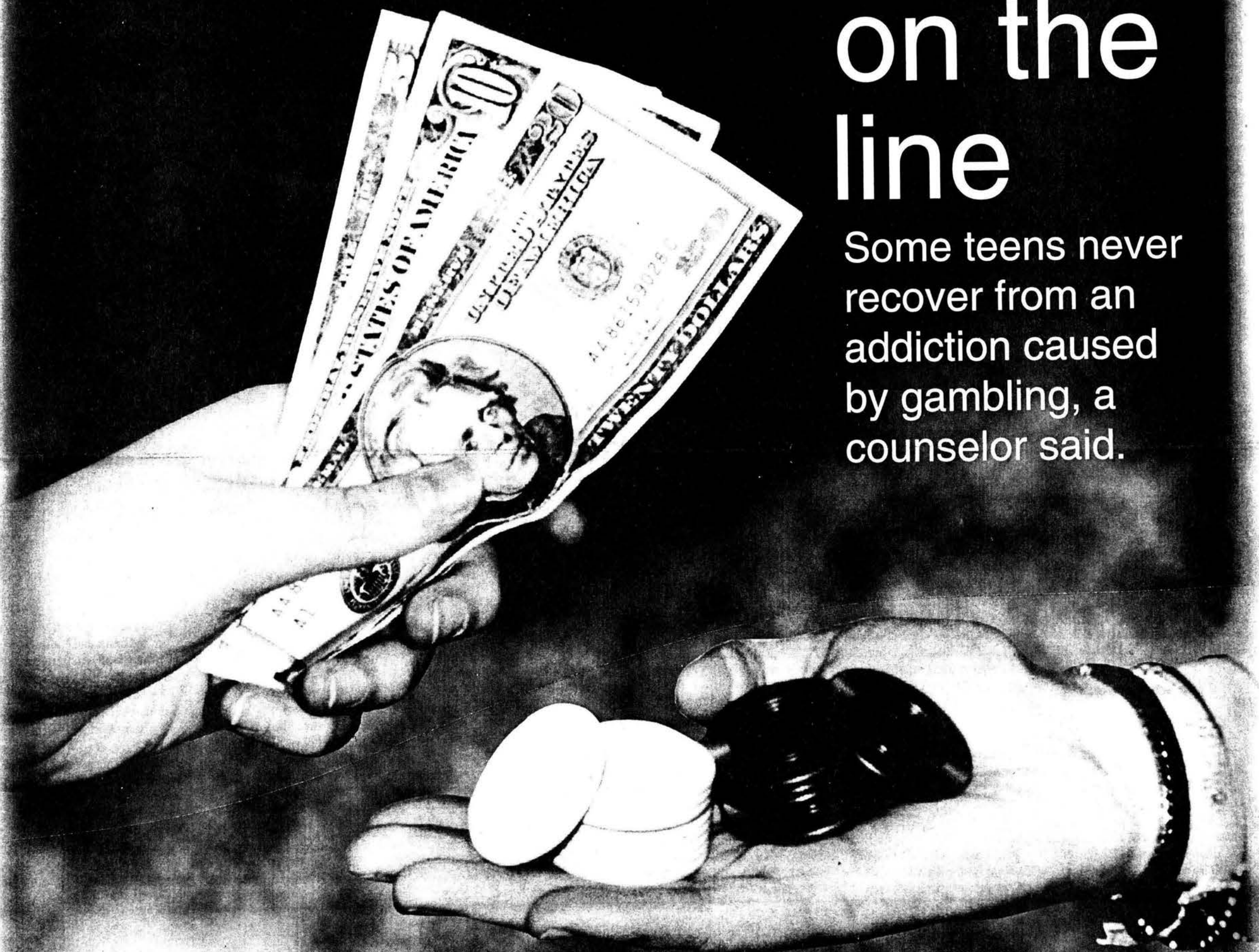
Your Money

\$ Watching the trends of teenage finance



Laying it all on the line

Some teens never recover from an addiction caused by gambling, a counselor said.



LUENINGHOENER/ THE REGISTER

INSIDE:

More about how teens spend their money...

\$ THEFT:
Students are faced with the consequences of stealing.

\$ DRUG SALES:
Marijuana raises money and trouble.

\$ TEEN JOBS:
Workforce provides money and experience for younger generation.

\$ MARKETING:
Businesses take notice of teen fashion trends, styles.

By Ally Freeman

Gambling. It's a bigger problem than many are aware of.

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, in 1998 between 76 percent and 91 percent of all teens will have gambled by the time they are seniors in high school.

Linda Zitek, a gambling counselor at Council Bluffs Family Service said her organization offers individual and group counseling to gambling addicts.

Zitek has noticed a severe increase in the number of adolescent

gamblers around the area in the last year and a half, most likely a result of the Winna-Vegas Casino in Sloan, Iowa lowering the admittance age to 18, she said. The legal gambling age is 21, but since Winna Vegas is on government land the age can be lowered.

Zitek also said sports' betting is extremely popular among teenagers. Zitek remembers a case she had where a student lost all of his loan money and 'maxed' out all his credit cards from a gambling addiction.

In cases like these, Zitek said they find a responsible adult to take

over financing for the individual and set up a strong support system. Family Service provides counseling for teens at no charge.

She said the duration of recovery varies for each individual, but usually takes between six and 18 months.

"Some people never recover," Zitek said.

Therapy cannot cure every addiction, she said, but if there is a case where counseling has not been successful they will focus on ensuring that the gambling addiction does not multiply and lead to other addictions.

Senior Graham Engdahl said he participates in a monthly poker game and a sport betting pool at school, but otherwise has done no serious gambling.

He said he has no interest in buying lottery tickets because there is such a slim chance that you will win.

"There's not enough payback," Engdahl said.

He said with poker, it's just a fun time and you never lose more than \$5 a game.

Zitek said gambling addictions

Turn to **GAMBLING**, page 12

Counterfeiter regrets actions



LUENINGHOENER/ THE REGISTER

By Danielle Rollins

He wanted to have a little spending money.

He wanted to have something to do.

He wanted to be a legend.

But what Luke Stecker, a Central graduate, didn't want, was to get caught.

"The tough part isn't getting the money past the banks," Stecker said. "All you got to do is get it past the person who is taking it."

When Stecker was 17-years-old, he and a friend manufactured counterfeit money with his home computer.

He planned on spending it in the cafeteria at school the next day.

"Twenty dollars or larger is too suspicious," Stecker said. "A \$1 or a \$5 isn't worth the risk, that's why I did a \$10."

Paul Johnson, resident agent in charge at the United States

Secret Service, said many high school students think about counterfeiting money.

He said that most students are not aware of how serious a crime counterfeiting money is.

"It is important to know that manufacturing and passing around counterfeit money is a federal offense," Johnson said.

Stecker said he had thought about making fake money before, he never expected it to be difficult.

He played around a little on his computer and realized he was right, it was relatively easy, so he decided it was worth attempting in real life.

"I tried making some [counterfeit money] one day and thought, this has potential," Stecker said.

He said his plan was simple. Spend the money in one day, at one time.

By the time anyone caught on it would be too late. Others were

allegedly involved, though they would not go on record.

Stecker said he could figure it out. He went through with it. He thought he could get away with it, but the next day his friend allegedly did it again.

"The banks had caught on the day before, so they were on the lookout for it," Stecker said.

Stecker did not want to be a thief. He thought it would be a good joke.

Johnson deals with many high school students who counterfeit money.

He said that they, like Stecker, think of counterfeiting money as nothing more than a good school prank.

Because most of the teens Johnson deals with have not counterfeited money before, he said that the best way to handle the problem is to explain to them the consequences of their actions.

Although this dilemma has

grown among high school teens, Johnson said that the real problems starts, not when the teenagers manufacture the money, but when they start using it and trying to pass it off as real money.

"It goes from, 'let's see if I can be funny' to 'let's see if I can make money off of this,'" he said.

Stecker said he never expected to make money off of it. He just wanted to see if he could actually pull it off.

"We were not going to make much money, it was just something to do," he said.

When he realized that he had been caught, Stecker said he really did not believe what was happening.

He said that he saw two men from the Secret Service walk into the courtyard.

He immediately knew that they were coming for him.

"I was sitting in the courtyard and I saw two guys in suits,"

Stecker said, "I was just like, 'Oh sh--'."

He said the agents told him that they knew someone was passing counterfeit money in the school, and that his friend had already been caught.

Then they told him his friend had turned him in.

Stecker was not prosecuted because he was a minor at the time.

Because he was not prosecuted, the Secret Service did not have his case on record.

The agents instead talked to him about how serious a crime counterfeiting money is.

He said that they tried to 'scare' him by telling him that they could take away his computer, his car, even his house, because that is where the money was manufactured.

"They just tried to scare the sh-- out of me," Stecker said.

Johnson said this is a common procedure used when high school

students are caught with counterfeit money.

He said because they can't be prosecuted, this method helps to show the students just how serious the crime is.

"You are hoping that the time you are having with them [the students] helps turn the light on," Johnson said.

Though Stecker was not prosecuted, he did not walk away from the experience unscathed.

He was suspended from school and forced to work at the school during the summer, Darrell Lahmann, dean of students, said.

Johnson said that he hopes those who are caught manufacturing counterfeit money learn that the consequences are severe and decide the benefits are not worth the punishments of such crimes.

"I would not recommend counterfeiting money," Stecker said.

Drug sales provide money, trouble for one student

By Paula Salhany

*Name changed to protect identity.

Like many other students, junior John Smith* needs money to get through the day.

Unlike other students, Smith goes to illegal measures to get the money he needs.

"It was common knowledge that I sold [drugs]. So I would set up in the OEA parking lot and people would just come up to my car and hand me ten or twenty bucks," Smith said. "I had a little scale and I would measure out marijuana."

Smith said dealers buy marijuana from people who grow it at their households.

Dealers can make a profit from running a business like this because they buy a bulk amount for a lower

price and sell it in small quantities at a higher price.

Although it is profitable for sellers to grow their own marijuana, it is fairly difficult to grow it in Nebraska, Smith said.

He said it can also be very dangerous to grow marijuana because it gives off heat and is very easily detected by the police helicopters.

"Marijuana is definitely the most widely sold illegal drug," Lt. Erick Buske of the Omaha Police Department said.

He said most of the information leading to drug busts in Omaha are from citizen informants.

Without alert citizens, he said, the police department would have a lot more difficulty arresting drug pushers.

"We will get a call from someone saying that they think someone is selling drugs or have evidence of this," Buske said.

From this information the police will check out the address given to them, he said. Before the police department performs a bust, it first must have

probable cause to obtain a search warrant at an address that the police believe drug sales are taking place at.

"After we get the search warrant, we may put up surveillance or other bugs to find more information before actually going in and arresting people," Buske said.

It is a felony to sell drugs and punishable by prison time ranging from a year to life in prison, Buske said.

The length of the sentence depends on the quantity and type of drug being sold.

"A sentence can also depend on if someone died during the deal," Buske said. "If someone dies there is the chance that the dealer can be tried for murder or get a life sentence."

Smith said the risk of getting caught, plus the attention police give to drug sales are the main reasons he stopped selling.

"I didn't want to risk getting in trouble," he said, "it was too risky."

Marketers target teens

By Lydia Coleman

With over \$140 billion in spending power, the teen market has become impossible for advertisers to ignore, Diet Coca-Cola Media Relations Director Susan McDermott said.

"Even though this generation does not earn as much as the generations before them, the money they do make, they spend," McDermott said. "On average, teens spend about 84 cents of every dollar they earn."

According to a report by the U.S. Department of Labor, 4 million youth between the ages of 15 to 17 are in the workforce receiving income.

Among them is sophomore Cassie Torres who has held a job at Godfather's Pizza for over a year.

Torres said that advertisements on television and in newspapers do

not affect the way she chooses to spend her money.

"I buy the things I like," Torres said. "They [advertisements] fail to captivate me."

Peter Zollo is the author of "Wise Up To Teens," a book dedicated solely to teaching companies the right way to succeed and earn a huge profit in the teenage market.

"Few companies know how to reach this segment [teenagers] successfully," Zollo said.

Market research is needed to find the target range that would make the most money for the company, McDermott said.

"Money has to be made to keep the company on its feet, and if the company has to invest hundreds of dollars from a budget it doesn't have, just to find the right target market, then it [the company] will do it," McDermott said.

She said most companies start with a research team to help find a target market that will bring them a profit. The company then finds appealing advertisements once the target market is found.

"Once the product is created, the company brainstorms every possible way of implanting the importance of their [product] into your head," she said.

Diet Coca-Cola has started a new campaign using the slogan, "That Certain Something."

"It's important that the product relate to the consumer in a strategic way because [the product] only has thirty to sixty seconds to grab the consumers' attention and to keep them curious," McDermott said.

Advertisements range from television to newspapers to billboards, McDermott said.

She said some companies may

even bring the product to the potential customer using free samples.

"The commercials that are really unique and catchy, like the new Taco Bell ones, are aired so often that I feel like I'm being brainwashed," Torres said.

McDermott said while the advertisements may seem extreme, the results are actually very predictable.

She said the United States is a capitalist society and advertising is inevitable.

McDermott said it is really up to the consumer to think hard about what products to buy because otherwise the ads will suck them in and dupe them very quickly.

"It's their business," she said. "Nothing's wrong with it. They're doing it very creatively and successfully. Make sure you [the consumer] understand the message."

Internet shopping popular with teens

By Paula Salhany

Kym bought a blouse today, she bought a pair of shoes and a pair of sunglasses, even a purse. Kym never left her living room.

Sophomore Kym Pitlor uses the Internet to buy most of her clothing.

Pitlor said while it depends on her mood, she prefers shopping on the Internet to shopping at a store.

"It's a lot easier to go to a site and plug in a credit card number rather than fight crowds and stand in long lines at a store," she said.

Gap on-line provides shoppers with not only the normal merchandise you would find at an off-line store, but also other items and discounts, said Jamey Edgerton, a Gap Company spokesperson.

"When someone places an order, it is sent to our distributing plant where the order is

categorized and packaged up by workers and sent to the address provided to us," he said.

Besides shopping at well-known companies like Gap, there are many other ways money is spent on the Internet.

Sites like Yahoo provide advertisements to companies and auctions to people. According to Yahoo, Yahoo Auctions was started in 1998 to provide "rare and extraordinary" items to customers.

Buyers are able to search under a variety of categories including sports memorabilia and entertainment.

Yahoo also provides different ways to pay for items sold. These include credit cards, and Yahoo PayDirect, which allows users to link to bank accounts directly.

"Using a credit card is easier than having to deal with cash," Pitlor said.

She said that while she does not have her own credit card, when she is online she is able to use her mother's credit card to make any necessary purchases.

Pitlor said while there is always an issue of security in the back of her mind, it is not a very large concern for her.

"All of our sites are protected by security systems that are updated frequently to keep up with technology," Edgerton said.

Yahoo Auctions also take precautions to protect the money of consumers. Brian Martin, spokesperson for Yahoo, said "levels" protect winning bidders.

Pitlor says she plans on using the internet more in the future.

"I think that making and spending money on the Internet is something that will become even more popular with time," Pitlor said.

-Girls aged 13 to 15 years-old had an average of \$45.10 at their disposal in 1997 of which they spent \$41.20

All statistics courtesy of Rand Youth Poll

Theft brings cash, leads to punishment

By Paula Salhany

"I don't really like stealing all that much," junior Bobby Deane said. "I don't think I'd do it again."

Deane was caught stealing soda from broken cases in the back of Shop-Ko, where he worked in February of this year.

He said he had seen a lot of other employees stealing from the store and thought he would give it a try.

Over the course of the year he had stolen around \$20 worth of merchandise.

"That was all I really stole," he said, "except I did steal a stick of deodorant and a tube of toothpaste. But that was only because I needed it. I did feel bad about that though."

He said the Shop-Ko he worked at was closing.

"They pulled me and the other people into the back and sort of asked us all sorts of questions. I mean it was just soda," he said.

Shop-Ko took Deane to court in February, but because of the improper interrogation that he was given at the store the case was dropped. He still ended up paying \$500, including court fees.

"They just recently sent me a new bill for \$300 saying it was some sort of civil action," he said.

This was not the first time Deane had stolen something. When he was in sixth grade he said he and his friends would go to a store and steal cigarettes out of the cabinets.

"It was kind of stupid and I really don't know

why we did it," Deane said.

Cindy Bassett McGann, attorney at law for Bertolini, Schoeder & Blount said most teens steal, not because of financial need, but because of a dare or the excitement of stealing something.

"Most teens will have money in their pocket, and are able to buy a tee-shirt or pants at Target, but they can't afford to get the \$80 designer clothing they see in the mall," McGann said. "So instead of buying what they can afford they simply go and steal the designer clothing."

She said punishment depends on the dollar amount of the item stolen. The categories range \$0-100, \$150-300, \$350-500, and \$500 and above. The teen can be fined and/or they can serve a sentence given to them by the juvenile courts.

For a lot of stores like Shop-Ko or Target, stealing is a big problem, Shop-Ko supervisor "Bill" said. Bill was unable to give out his last name due to company policy.

"Internal theft is probably more of a problem than external theft at Target," he said.

Bill said theft is noticeable when employees are stocking shelves and they come up with a shortage of merchandise. When this happens, it affects the overall prices of goods and the wages of the workers.

"Prices will go up to compensate for the merchandise lost, and the wages earned by workers

will go down," he said.

Despite problems, Target continues to grow and expand. In recent years the amount of people getting caught stealing has gone up, Bill said. This is due to advances in technology such as video cameras and other surveillance equipment.

"So far this year, we have caught twenty thieves," he said.

While Target has problems with internal theft, which is when employees steal, Best Buy has more of a problem with external theft, which is when people not associated with the store steal from it, said Tyler Tiffey from Best Buy.

"Teens mostly steal CDs and DVDs. Occasionally they'll go for big stuff but not usually," Tiffey said.

Best Buy has many different methods to prevent theft, he said.

"We have a person that stands at the front of the store and stops people that beep as they go through sensors," Tiffey said.

Along with sensors and people, Best Buy also has twelve surveillance cameras.

"Most of the time we don't really do anything to teens except put a little scare in them," Tiffey said. "Just enough scare that they won't do it [steal] again."

-The total market of teen spending in 1996 was \$108 billion, including \$36.7 billion on clothing, \$23.4 billion on entertainment, \$9.2 billion on personal care and \$6.7 on sporting goods.

-Girls aged 16 to 19 earned an average of \$53.25 while their allowances provided an additional \$36.55



Students learn about money

By Danielle Rollins

The Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), an organization geared toward students who have an interest in business and economics, teaches financial responsibility to the many students involved, DeLayne Havlovic, Central business teacher and FBLA advisor said.

Central junior Angel Starks said that she enjoys being an active member of the FBLA. She started her freshman year and has become more involved this year.

"I just step in and do whatever I can do," Starks said. "I am there always."

Starks joined the organization because of her interest in business.

"I want to own my own business," Starks said. "I thought, 'this is the club for me.'"

Havlovic said that the students involved yearn to better grasp the world of investment and savings.

"Most of our students have a strong financial well being," he said. "They have a competitive edge, they want to compete and succeed."

Havlovic said that much of the students' knowledge of finance comes from their involvement in FBLA, which teaches them about budgeting and encourages them to become involved in their community.

Central junior Luke Kielion has participated in stock market competitions and even attended a question and answer session concerning investment.

He said the organization helps its students gain a better knowledge of money.

"I don't spend it [money] on everything," Kielion said. "I spend it on my needs instead of my wants."

Beverly Newton, Nebraska FBLA state advisor, said the organization is a lot broader than other economics clubs associated with the school. FBLA focuses on strengthening the students' knowledge of the business world.

"It [the FBLA] was developed to enhance the business education curriculum in secondary schools," Newton said.

She said that each chapter is encouraged to focus its activities around one of the nine primary goals of the organization.

This year alone many activities have been focused around the sixth goal, to encourage and practice efficient money management.

This includes stock market competitions, investment conferences and community service projects.

The Enron project, a grant program sponsored by the United Way, was a major customer service project the FBLA took part in.

The FBLA was to choose specific organizations to receive the grants based on specific standards set by the organization.

"We had to select agencies that met our criteria," Havlovic said.

He said the business had to be in Douglas County, they could not be biased, or based on a certain religion, they had to be associated with the United Way and they had to deal with either youth or the elderly.

The FBLA conducted interviews in order to decide which business or organization would receive the money.

Starks said the Enron project was a learning experience for her as well as many of

the other students involved.

"When you have the chance to help others, it feels good when you actually complete it," Starks said.

Among the companies that the FBLA chose were the Child Saving Institute, the Social Settlement Association and the Ollie Webb Center.

Starks said that the companies are spending their money on books, chairs and other things that would benefit their organizations.

"We wanted FBLA to be known," Starks said. "We weren't just sitting around chillin'. We were doing something for the community."

(LEFT) MADE OF MONEY FBLA adviser DeLayne Havlovic teaches students how to better manage their money

LUENINGHOENER/THE REGISTER

Money spent on gambling

From GAMBLING, page 9

depend on different personalities.

Lorraine Grymala, vice president of the North American Training Institute, said while gambling among teens has not increased, there has been no decrease either.

She said that adolescent gambling has remained steady.

"Research has shown that the level has stayed pretty consistent," Grymala said. "Pathological gamblers account for about 4 percent of the adolescent population." Grymala said the North American Training Institute offers prevention education and clinical training on gambling issues for adolescents, senior citizens and clinicians.

Grymala said her organization is "gaming neutral," meaning they do not take a stand on sides of issues relating to casinos and other gaming venues.

The public has several widely held misconceptions about gambling. One of these is that gambling is unavailable to teenagers in Nebraska because there are no casinos.

Not only are there nearby casinos in Iowa, but Nebraska has lotteries and other gambling opportunities available to teens.

Steve Schatz, manager of the Policies and Licensing department for the Nebraska Charitable Gaming Association, said that in Nebraska, 18-year-olds can legally participate in pickle, bingo and the lottery. In addition, the legal age for Keno is 19.

Schatz said if students were illegally caught participating in any of these activities, they would be prosecuted for committing a Class misdemeanor. Teens who violate gambling laws could also be referred to an assistance program.

Grymala said the main issue is stopping the problem before it starts. Another priority is giving students the information they need to make good decisions. Teenagers are often in gambling, hoping to detract from the mystique that the media often glorifies.

"It looks easy [to gamble] on television, and we try and dispel these beliefs," Grymala said.

The most common forms of gambling for teens are card playing and sports betting.

Another common way for students to get introduced to gambling is by parents and grandparents providing lottery tickets for gifts.

"They [adults] don't realize the long-term consequences," Grymala said.

According to the Family Service, indicators of problem gambling in teens include an unexplained need for money and frequent card or dice games at home.

Zitek is most concerned with the availability of gambling opportunities and casinos available to teenagers today.

She said students now have social permission to gamble, where before there was none.

Volunteering allows for friendships, success

By Paula Salhany

It has taken juniors Tammy Steele, Michael Heller and Jessica MacDonald two years to start a Red Cross Crew. The Red Cross Crew is a volunteering club that is directly affiliated through the Red Cross.

"It was mainly Tammy who went and talked to the Red Cross and got Michelle Dwarick [Red Cross Representative] to help us out," Heller said.

He said that because the club

started later in the year than most other clubs it was hard to get things going. But with the help of Dwarick and the club's staff sponsor, Karen Hatch, the Red Cross Crew began doing more and more activities.

"The Red Cross is a very structured organization and they helped to set up the club," Hatch said. "I think if you were starting a club from scratch it might be a lot harder."

They club has been involved in activities such as trick-or-treat for

cans, Veteran's stand down day, and National Aids awareness day.

"National Aids Awareness day is going to be our big, annual event," Steele said.

On Dec. 1, the club wore Aids awareness shirts and handed out pins that were attached to an information card that gave information about the disease.

"We actually ran out of pins," Steele said referring to the success of the event.

The club's last event of the year was a noodle night at the Heartland Chapter of the Red Cross. This event benefited the earthquake victims in India. Steele, Heller and MacDonald started the Red Cross Crew at Central because they wanted a volunteer club that was more active than Youth Council.

"We had all done Youth Council in junior high and wanted to stay involved in high school," Steele said.

Steele said volunteering is a

rewarding activity.

"I really enjoy being able to make people smile," she said.

Steele is also involved in the high school division of Big Brother Big Sister.

"It's great to be able to hang out with kids and know that you're helping people out at the same time," she said.

Steele said this year has been a success and the club is looking forward to another one.

Work causes time-management problems, counselor says

By Danielle Rollins

The benefits of allowing teenagers in the work force are often overshadowed by the time-management problems many teens experience once they have an after-school job, Cathy Hanrahan, career counselor, said.

"Their [the students'] priority should be their education."

Junior Andrew Maxey has been a grocer at Baker's for two years now. He said that he started working because of the additional money and added responsibility he would acquire with an after-school job.

"With the money I earn I can save for a rainy day," Maxey said.

He said that although he has to struggle to get everything done, he feels it is something he must work around.

"I try to get my homework done at school," Maxey said. "I do things when I get home from work; I plan things."

Hanrahan said that after-school jobs are

an efficient and responsible way for many teens to obtain money. Many, however, allow their jobs to interfere with schoolwork and other important areas of life.

Once after school jobs interfere with a student's studies, she said, that job is no longer beneficial and that it becomes a hazard to the student's life instead.

"Students are blinded by the money they can make," Hanrahan said. "If they would focus on their education they could make more money down the road. They increase their chance of doing that by staying in school."

Maxey said that he plans on becoming a manager at Baker's after high school. He said the things he has learned at Baker's have helped him to see that he wants to continue working there after school is done.

"I work there all the time," Maxey said. "Next thing you know I'm going to work it as a career."

Hanrahan said that by using their time

wisely many teens could achieve much from an after school job.

Junior Jennifer Stober, shelf specialist at Bakers, said that she first started her job because she wanted to make money to buy a car and save up for college.

"It gives me more money and more responsibility," she said.

Stober said that although other teens may have difficulty balancing schoolwork and a job at the same time, she finds that having added responsibility challenges her to work harder.

"When I work during the school week, my grades go up," she said. "I know that I have to get my school work done."

Hanrahan said jobs promote more responsible behavior, work ethics and an increased knowledge and appreciation of where money comes from.

"It is all apart of growing up and growing away from the parents," Hanrahan said. "Part of that is being able to afford things on





You're a Jerk
Michael Gerhardt

Policy sends wrong message, solves nothing

The zero tolerance policy erases all reasonability in education and very obviously doesn't work.

For those of you who live in little cedar boxes in your attics, zero tolerance is the policy which causes instant expulsion or suspension of students caught with guns, drugs or making threats of violence.

And second graders who make their hands shaped like guns, third graders who bring candy to school and Millard students who hand out Ibuprofen at school.

Yes, I know this isn't very tactful (and I never am), but expelling a student, a second grade student, for forming his hand into the shape of a gun isn't going to stop anyone from running into their school with a shotgun and a lot of pent up rage.

If anything, it will make it worse. I know I would be bitter over that.

I could sit here and list off millions of different examples of students being expelled for silly things, but I would like to give one short personal example of a friend of mine who got expelled last year.

My friend, a straight edge (no drugs, no drinking, no promiscuous sex) devout Catholic, accidentally brought a pocketknife to school.

He forgot to take it out of his pocket. In order for him to actually harm anyone with this knife, it would take 15 minutes and 400 stab wounds in order to draw a trickle of blood.

Regardless, without a thought, he was expelled.

I carry medicine on me everyday. I'm epileptic and I have to be able to take my medicine whenever I feel the need.

Yet I can get expelled for carrying it with me. I know, I know, I could leave it down in the nurse's office.

Then comes the attack of the horrible governmental bureaucracy.

If I were to leave my medicine in the nurse's office and I suddenly needed some, I would first have to get my pass from my teacher, take the mandatory 30-minute jaunt down to the nurse's office (it takes 30 minutes because I always get lost), wait in line, argue and finally get to take it.

I also can't fathom why this would stop school violence or curb drugs in school. Find a completely irrational teenager and explain to him about his possible expulsion, and see what happens.

The people who will actually commit such a crime are the people who don't care if zero tolerance is in place.

The solution? End it, flat out end it. Judge each case on its individual basis and put the thinking back into high school. In the end, it would fix a lot.

Look at it this way. I could take a book and throw it at somebody, so you better get rid of all the textbooks. And pencils and pens are out because it would be very easy to go after someone with those necessary school supplies.

Hey, while we're at it, backpacks are out too because I'm sure somebody could find a use for them, other than to carry books.

If I really wanted to, I could carve out a few eyeballs with my SA ticket. Yep, it's really not safe to be in school anymore.

Oh well, by the time you read this, I will already have been gone for two weeks.

Editorial



Pg 16: Unicameral misses mark concerning teacher salaries

Proceed with CAUTION



LUENINGHOENER/ THE REGISTER

Abstinence-only HIV education fails to give real-life solutions

When adopting an official policy concerning how to teach HIV prevention, the state Board of Education should dedicate itself to providing as much information as possible in order to stop the spread of this deadly disease.

The last policy the board considered would have allowed the board to teach about the use of other ways to help prevent HIV, along with abstinence.

The board rejected this measure by a 4-4 vote. Now, the board is left without an official policy, even after months of diligent work.

Abstinence is the only guaranteed way to prevent the spread of HIV, but limiting the access of information to the public is similar to censorship.

The department's current policy concerning sexual education is abstinence-only and it looks like the board is moving toward this policy now.

In today's society, abstinence-only education is an impractical teaching method.

Instead, the board should reconsider a more comprehensive program.

Abstinence-only programs promote ignorance. Other ways are proven to help prevent this disease and need to be taught if the board wishes to accomplish this goal.

The board should not limit the amount of information it gives to people.

It should not decide to only tell one side of the story, especially when dealing with such a dangerous subject.

The main ingredient in HIV prevention is information, and the state should dedicate itself to dispensing as much information to as many people as possible.

Also, abstinence-only programs present this important issue as strictly black and white, which is inaccurate.

Abstinent people can contract HIV and

others can have sex without contracting HIV.

Because of this, the board should look to adopt a program that tells the entire story about this deadly disease.

If the department decides to take an abstinence-only approach to this subject, many people will not receive enough information to protect themselves.

If people do not have viable alternatives that they can use, more people will have unsafe sex, increasing their chances of contracting the disease.

Because of these reasons, the Nebraska Board of Education should follow the lead of many school districts, including Omaha Public Schools and established a more comprehensive program.

A program like this would have many benefits for the department, the state and its citizens.

This way, people would be more knowledgeable and better equipped to avoid contracting this disease in the future.

The program that the board finally approves should stress abstinence as the best way to prevent contracting HIV, but other options should also be presented.

Contraceptives should be explained and instructors should inform the groups about the other ways that HIV is contracted.

This is the best way that HIV can be prevented because it would promote responsibility.

Abstinence is the ideal way to prevent HIV, but a comprehensive program would be more practical.

It is essential that the Nebraska Board of Education reconsider a program like this to try to stop the spread of this disease.

EDITORIAL The Opinion of the Register

Holding grudges makes for enjoyable day

It's almost summer, which means once again it's time to count our blessings, forgive our enemies and fill our hearts with joy at the everyday miracles we all take for granted.

Screw that.

I don't know why I'm wired this way, but I hold grudges forever.

But before you hurry to add me to your Christmas card list, please understand that I have no trouble forgiving the generic myriad of everyday slights and oversights committed by friends and colleagues as the result of carelessness or thoughtlessness.

However, when someone attacks me gratuitously and without provocation, there's no turning back.

I will hate that person until one of us dies, or until I get even, and hopefully they'll die before I exact my revenge so I can chortle madly and cackle like a villain in the old "Batman" TV series while toast-

ing the happy news of their (ideally painful) death.

When I was in the fifth grade at Dundee Elementary School, a boy made bullying me his primary after-school activity. I never found out why he was predisposed to bullying — he certainly lived in a much bigger house than I did — but he loved to chase me home from school and he'd beat me up if he caught me.

Seven years later, I hope that he developed a crack habit and a taste for unprotected sex with hookers.

That's just the way I am.

It's hard to talk vengeance in America. The very same people who'd shoot a guy for cutting them off on the highway take on a stance of aghast militant meekness when anyone else remembers who did what to them and theirs.

Unless you're African-American, Latino or Native-American, you probably haven't suffered such Old World indignities as genocide, systemic rape, forced servitude or the

brutality of social discrimination.

I'm a middle-class white male. So neither have I. But for some reason, I can hold a grudge almost as long as these cultures that have lived through these horrific things.

Perhaps the greatest breakdown in late 20th-century civility is the notion that forgiveness is given freely to people who have never asked for it.

"Hate eats up the hater," the New Age bromide goes. "Move on with your life. Get over it."

I simply refuse to agree with that. "Hate the hater," I say. "Stay at equilibrium, stay angry."

The greatest contribution of Catholicism to the West is the sacrament of penance; the penitent not only must regret his sins, but must make every effort to repair the damage he has caused in order to ask for forgiveness.

Older cultures understand that this plan will never work. Arrogance makes resolution impossible.

For instance, four men sentenced to death by an Iranian revolutionary court over last summer's civil unrest in Tehran stand to get off the hook: one for insanity, the other three

if they express remorse.

"It depends on whether or not they ask for forgiveness. That will change their circumstances," said court head Gholamhossein Rahbarpour.

So if they admit they are wrong, they can get a lower sentence. That's fine. In that culture, admitting you're wrong is simply unheard of. If you admit you were ever wrong, at any point during your lifetime, you lose self-respect and the respect of others.

And that loss of respect will haunt you until the day you die.

In a recent survey of Japanese crime victims, 64 percent said that they couldn't forgive those convicted of murder, manslaughter or theft.

It would be great if this was the case in America.

But when the Japanese criminal offered a sincere apology, that number dropped by a third.

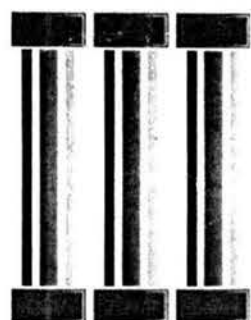
It didn't make any difference to rape victims, however, whether or not the rapist said he was sorry. Rape is one of those things, in that society, which is simply unforgivable.

Maybe I should move to Japan.

Read Between The Lines



Matt Wynn



Editorials

“Congress shall make no laws respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or of the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.”
FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES, RATIFIED 1791

Acceptability of teenage gambling leads to addiction

Gambling is a very real problem for teens today. With few jobs available, the lure of easy money is almost too much to handle.

The problem cannot be blamed solely on the students. Casinos, parents and the Nebraska Lottery all should be held accountable, and made to pay the price.

In a culture that has come to accept gambling as a recreational activity, it is not surprising that youths are placing bets.

But it may also be a sign of real trouble for many of them.

This

change has become really noticeable during the last two decades. The Nebraska Lottery has been established and, with flashier games and catchy advertising, has grown large.

Teens hear about how profits gained from this pastime help pay for their schools. Casinos have sprung up across the Missouri River, with more on the way. Las

Vegas has transformed itself into a family vacation center as well as a gambling Mecca.

This problem is not as easy to see as some may think. Gambling often takes on the veneer of a good cause with charity raffles and bingo games.

It is no wonder why kids find it attractive and easy to gamble.

The extent was shown in survey results reported this month by the National Gambling Addiction Treatment Foundation. The study suggests that two-thirds of youths ages 13 through 17 gambled in some way during the past year.

A third of boys and a fourth of girls in that age group gambled on state lotteries. The survey found that even though it is illegal for

youths under age 18 to bet the lottery, half of the gambling teens said they obtained tickets from a parent, sibling or other relative, while a third bought tickets in stores.

Other frequent forms of gambling among youths include charity raffles (41 percent bought tickets), sports bets with friends or family (32 percent) and card games (31 percent).

This is a problem that must be dealt with swiftly and confidently.

The main concern is problem gambling. There are some indications that youths become addicted to gambling more easily than adults. The study found 9 percent of young boys were classed as pathological gamblers. A fourth of juvenile offenders were pathological gamblers, and many admitted to stealing from their families to gamble.

Compulsive gambling has been labeled the nation's third-largest addiction. Those afflicted face such troubles as heavy debts,

depression, disrupted families and temptation to steal.

About 15 percent of the youths showed at least one sign of problem gambling and 4 percent showed multiple signs, such as stealing money for their wagers. The report calculated that some 25,000 to 43,000 children in the age group show behaviors that are often connected with problem gambling.

This report was a first step, highlighting the problem.

Lottery officials need to consider such issues as whether unattended vending machines give children too-easy access to tickets. Should lottery advertising campaigns be shifted to appeal less to children, either in content or placement?

Parents and other adults can look at the examples they set. Do they overspend on lottery tickets, or talk a lot about gambling? Do they provide lottery tickets to children?

Letting children get sucked into gambling is a sure bet for trouble. Parents should take more

steps to protect youths from the

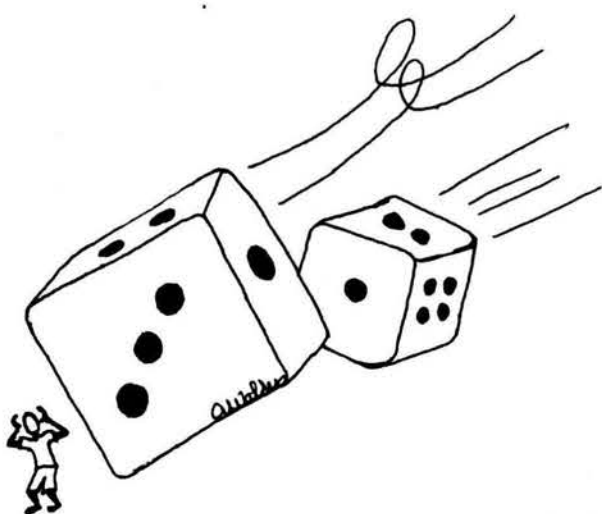
But the blame does not rest solely on the shoulders of the children's caretakers. Perhaps casino and lottery officials are blame as well.

The party atmosphere of casinos certainly appeals to teens. The fact that companies that make most of their money from gambling push that image is probably not coincidental.

Teens, after all, are the new generation of paying, legal gamblers. If the casinos can get to them now, then why shouldn't they stay off young?

The only way to stop the gambling epidemic is to educate. Teens need to be shown the pitfalls of gambling, much in the same way teens are shown the pitfalls of a promiscuous sexual life in the Human Growth and Development curriculum.

If teens are expected to resist the temptation of a easy money then expectations are too high. This is a problem that needs to be taken seriously by everyone, and direct action must be taken.



EDITORIAL The Opinion of the Register

Dr. Gary Thompson
Principal
Matt Deabler
Adviser
Matt Wynn
Opinion Page Editor

HEROES

- Class of 2001

After years of hard work in elementary, middle and high school, the class of 2001 is finally graduating today. Congratulations and good luck in the future. A diploma from Central should start the graduating seniors off on the right track.

- David Morlan

Thanks to Morlan for maintaining the campus grounds. Because of him, the lawn, trees and other features of the yard always give Central a pleasing aesthetic quality. His work is sometimes underappreciated, but his hard work is always noticed. Good work, Mr. Morlan.

- Central's centennial

On April 29, the current school building celebrated the 100th anniversary since its cornerstone was placed. During the celebration, the school pulled out all the stops. It included a performance by the band in full regalia, displays in the courtyard and even a compilation of old Road Shows. If this celebration was any sign, Central tradition should live on forever.

- OPS' summer school policy

The way the district's program is set up, only students who have failed classes can re-take them. This is hypocritical. OPS should change its policy so that students can advance their studies during the summer and not only be limited to making up credits that they have already failed.

- Senior graduation ceremony

This year, as well as in past years, searching for graduation tickets resembled hunting for eggs on Easter morning. The school should really look for an alternative way to try to make this experience enjoyable for more people.

- Millard School District

Recently, the Millard School District decided to install security cameras in all of the high schools in the district. Although trying to increase school safety is an admirable task, cameras would not stop any serious violence. This money, a little more than \$50,000, could be used in other ways. Hiring an extra security guard or two would be more efficient.

HEROES

Proposed drinking bill hurts rights, allows for biased laws

Assuming that teenagers are criminals before they have been found guilty is a constant problem today.

Legislative Bill 828 (LB828) would give police the opportunity to investigate crimes in a manner that would tarnish some of the most coveted rights of the United States.

If this was passed, whenever a police officer discovers a place where alcohol is being sold or distributed without a permit, he can legally assume that all minors in the area are under the influence of alcohol.

But, as the bill explains, this conclusion can be reversed by the results of a breath-alcohol test. The police officer or the suspected teenager can request this test.

Right now, trying to discover if a teenager is under the influence of alcohol is a challenging task.

But this bill is not the correct way to fix the problem. This bill gives too much power to the police when investigating these cases.

Giving law enforcement personnel the ability to administer breath-alcohol tests to anyone they please is

bordering on tyranny.

Eliminating the necessary steps to establish probable cause and allowing police to suspect every teenager of drinking will give police officers too much room to manipulate the law.

There is no reason why personal decisions should be allowed during the process of enforcing the law. Allowing for personal decisions during this critical process makes for

discrepancies in the law. This bill has a good aspect though.

This bill also deals with the current way that compliance checks are made.

If this bill is passed, teenagers who help police officers in testing the compliance of liquor stores will not be able to be prosecuted for attempting to purchase alcoholic beverages.

This bill gives police officers the right to assume that minors are guilty before being proven so reversing the mindset that the United States has had for centuries.

The Legislature has a great track record when dealing with teenage drinking, but allowing law enforcement agents to police the streets with these regulations would be disastrous.

Corporate sponsorship helps schools raise needed funds

Corporate sponsorship of school activities and events is a great idea.

Abraham Lincoln High School in Council Bluffs recently agreed to allow businesses to design advertisements that will be painted on their gymnasium floor. In total, the school raised \$95,000, which will cover the majority of the expenses for the new gym floor.

Omaha Public Schools does not look for corporate sponsorship as a way to receive funding. The district is missing out on this valuable opportunity.

Like at Abraham Lincoln, this can sometimes be the only way to raise money for necessary projects. In most school districts, money for new materials comes along once in a blue moon, leaving the school with outdated materials for many years.

Encouraging school groups to look outside the district

budget for other sources of funding would solve this problem. Not only would this help athletic programs, but others would also benefit.

For example, if the athletics program was to raise enough money to buy new uniforms, the district could pay for the chess team to compete in a tournament instead of paying for the new uniforms.

Corporate sponsorship would have many more advantages than just an increase in funds.

By allowing businesses to sponsor schools, this would increase community involvement in public education.

The school districts would receive funding from alternative sources, but the community would also become more involved in the school.

More school districts should look toward this valuable option in order to fund more school activities and provide for a better school environment.

Letters, E-mails and Faxes

Review misinforms readers

I am concerned about the article written in the March 27, 2001, *Register* about Sneaky Fitch. The article had many false statements and the author did not seem to understand the way a play works.

This was the last play Ms. Georgeson was directing at Central High School and she decided she would find a spot for everyone who tried out. The author thought that the actors were not diverse. If there wasn't diversity, it was because the students did not try out for the play. There was probably more diversity in this play than most I have seen at Central.

Another comment about the play made in the article said that the author was upset about the three acts. This is how the play was set up. Ms. Georgeson cannot change this. There are reasons for the breaks and they were decided on by James L. Rosenberg, the author of "The Death and Life of Sneaky Fitch."

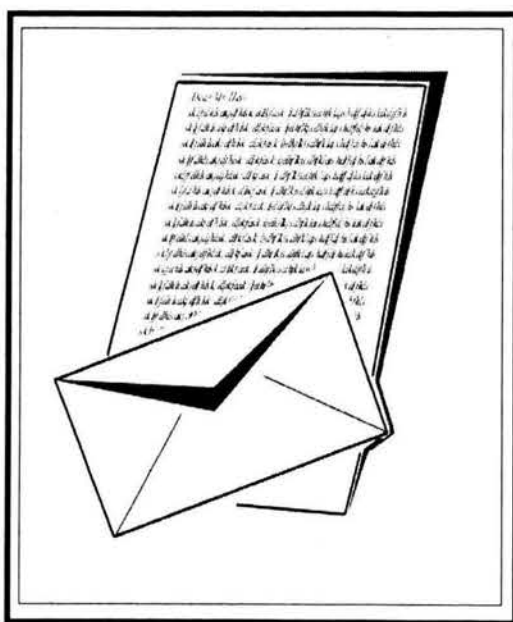
The most upsetting thing about the article written was the criticism of Ms. Georgeson and the students in the play. Ms. Georgeson has a college degree in drama, and has taught at Central High School for many years and is an expert in her area. When the author (Daisy Bonham-Carter) becomes an expert then she can be allowed to make the comments made in her article. The next time an article is written in the Central High School *Register*, please be considerate of all staff members and students at Central.

Linda Milliken, Family and Consumer Science chairperson

Newspaper prepares students

I would like to congratulate the *Register* staff for courageously producing an engaging, balanced and well-designed publication.

I use the term "courageous" because, as a former editor-in-chief of the *Register*, I know how difficult it can be to print



stories perceived as "negative" in a high school setting. Many teachers and school administrators would like high school publications to act as public relations firms. They believe student newspapers should only print stories that cast a favorable light on their schools, such as a profile of an academically successful student.

Such a blatantly biased approach to journalism education is counterintuitive to the goals of a college preparatory school such as Central. The courses at Central, or any quality college prep school, are designed to help students succeed at the collegiate and professional levels.

In order to succeed in journalism, students need a solid foundation in making editorial decisions. Journalism students also need experience in tackling controversial topics. Students gain nothing by simply regurgitating surface-level stories about other students doing well in school. Journalism students need to learn how to dig deep and that often means unearthing unpopular issues.

So again, I extend my hand to the

staff of the oldest high school newspaper west of the Mississippi. You are doing a marvelous job. I have a feeling I'll be seeing many of your bylines for years to come.

Brian Joseph, class of 1999

School maintains great history

*Originally written in 1911

I am glad to respond to your request of May 12th and send my most cordial greetings to the remaining members of the class of 1876 as well as to the alumni of the years that have followed. Among the latter I am proud to group my own sons and daughters. It is a far cry from '76, but they were happy school days. The school was small, the teachers capable and kind and the friendships made there were deep and lasting. The old red brick building, with its fine Central tower dominating the landscape for many miles, stands out in our memory as a picture to be cherished as a part of the formative days of dear old Omaha.

Binchad M. Connell, class of 1876

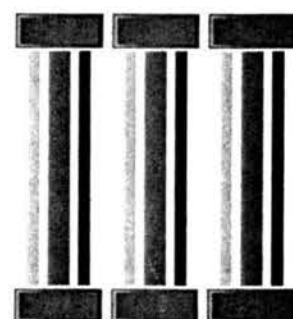
Paper's partisanship obvious

It is very frustrating to read Central's own newspaper and see it badmouth the president of the United States. Not just in our school newspaper, but throughout the media as well. President Bush was indeed elected by the people of the United States, not appointed. The Supreme Court made a decision based on the law.

I don't quite understand how certain writers of the *Register* can badmouth President Bush. In the three months he has been president, he has already done more for this country than Clinton did in eight years. And he was never a "zero" on the Heroes-Zeros column. Get off Bush's back! Bush won fair and square and is doing a great job of returning honesty and honor to the White House.

Colin Boatright, 12

Opinion



Dishwashing brings life to hopeless teen

So, it finally happened.

I was sitting in my kitchen, feeling sorry for myself while trying to figure out how I could possibly pay my insurance company for my next month of service. Then it happened.

After six months of waiting, my phone finally rang.

I picked it up, fearing who was on the other line.

Would it be one of my sister's insane friends, my father's boss or one of my mom's friends who will clog my phone line for hours on end? "Hello," I said, fearing the consequences ahead.

"Hello, I'm (so and so) from (so and so

place)," the man said.

Thinking he was a solicitor, I almost hung up on him. Just as I was making this crucial decision, I heard something I was interested in.

"I was wondering if you were still interested in working for us," he asked.

I responded with an affirmative response so fast that I was lucky to remember where he called from.

Luckily, I remembered, went to the interview and ended up working two hours after my interview was

completed. As I left, I was overcome by a slight sense of fear.

It hit me. Like jumping from a high dive without any clothes on, I realized I was now employed. I finally regained some responsibility of my life. I can no longer try to explain the rest of my failures with the fact that I am unemployed.

I no longer have the right to answer with a generic "Yeah, I know. I don't have a job and I'm a deadbeat," when being criticized.

My gradual climb to employment reminds me of the fall of the

Soviet Union. In a way, unemployment is like communism: everyone despises it and even the unemployed know it is not the way to live, but laziness takes over and the practice is continued.

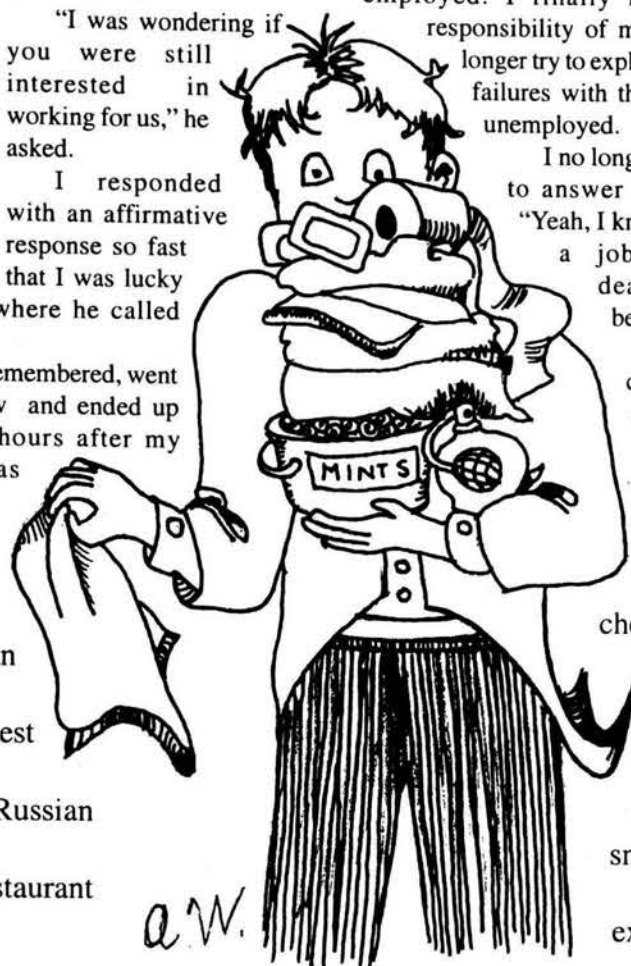
Once I got a job, I didn't know what to do. I remember when I got my first job. I was ecstatic and couldn't possibly dream of enough ways I was going to spend my first paycheck. Back then, a job was not a necessity. Back then, responsibility had not been constantly pounded into my brain by dozens of adults. Back then, life was easier.

Don't get me wrong, I enjoy working. My job allows me to do something respectable on weekend nights instead of playing with my six-year-old brother.

Maybe I wouldn't have to work if I lived in the Bahamas. It's a paradise down there. At least, so I've heard.

Welcome to the Bahamas

Joe Meyer



a.w.

Top 10 worst jobs to apply for:

1. Crash-testing industrial forklifts in high-speed collisions.
2. Being a human lighthouse by standing on an island with a small lantern.
3. Swimming in a plutonium-enriched pond to test the effects of radiation.
4. Reporting the effects of the re-entry of a Russian space station while onboard.
5. Waiting in a bathroom at an expensive restaurant for people to give towels and cologne to.

6. Taste-testing the latest brands of cherry-flavored vinegar.
7. Counting ballots in Palm Beach County, Fla. for 1,436 consecutive hours.
8. Selling sunscreen as a street salesman in a remote part of Greenland.
9. Playing with the sharks at the zoo while smelling like chum.
10. Being a chimneysweep with an extremely sensitive allergy problem.

Most teenagers deserve society's stereotype

Teenagers whine too much.

High school students don't realize how good they have it. Yet most still feel "victimized" by ageism for some reason.

Teenagers aren't being victimized. I'm a goody-two-shoes and even I can tell that teens deserve most of the flack they take from their elders. And its not simply because of their age.

This fact remains: an unusually high percentage of teenagers steal, cheat, smoke and lie.

Although this percentage might not be a majority, it's high enough to create a noticeable trend.

Most students who say they should be given respect from store owners and teachers

really don't deserve it.

I'm sure that in every circle of friends, there is at least one person who either drinks or abuses drugs, shoplifts, cheats on tests or drives erratically on a daily basis.

Personally, I know of at least one person who is involved in each of the above activities and I know there are a lot more like them out there.

It's sad that those few bad apples spoil the entire perception of teens, but they do. It's time for students to get over it and focus their attention on other things instead of whining about society.

The only way to stop this stereotype is to prove authority wrong.

As much as I would love to preach how to do that and how the world would be a better place if we all worked together, I know

it's not practical, so I won't.

Really, how big of a problem is this so called "discrimination?" I tend to believe it doesn't hurt anyone.

How big a deal is it to be followed by someone in a department store, anyway? If they're not going to shoplift, there's no problem.

How offensive is it for teachers to make sure students don't have a cheat sheet up their sleeve? As long as they aren't trying to receive an unfair grade, there won't be a confrontation.

How much does it anger you if an authority figure tells you to put out your cigarette? Teenagers should not be angered at all.

In fact, they should be happy that they didn't get caught earlier, since they are probably under 18.

It really comes down to that. Most teens who complain about being discriminated against set up a bit of a double standard.

Not only do they cry about not being

given enough respect at home or school, but they usually smoke a pack a day and haven't paid for anything from Homer's for a year and a half.

Given, there are probably a few students who are "discriminated" against because of their appearance.

Maybe the tattoos and piercing made the guy at Mr. Bulky's suspicious more than their age.

Even those people don't have much room to talk. When those people picked up the trend of chains and piercing, they knew exactly how people were going to react to it. It's impossible not to.

Yeah, that doesn't make the "discrimination" right, but it comes with what people wear, and everyone should know that by now.

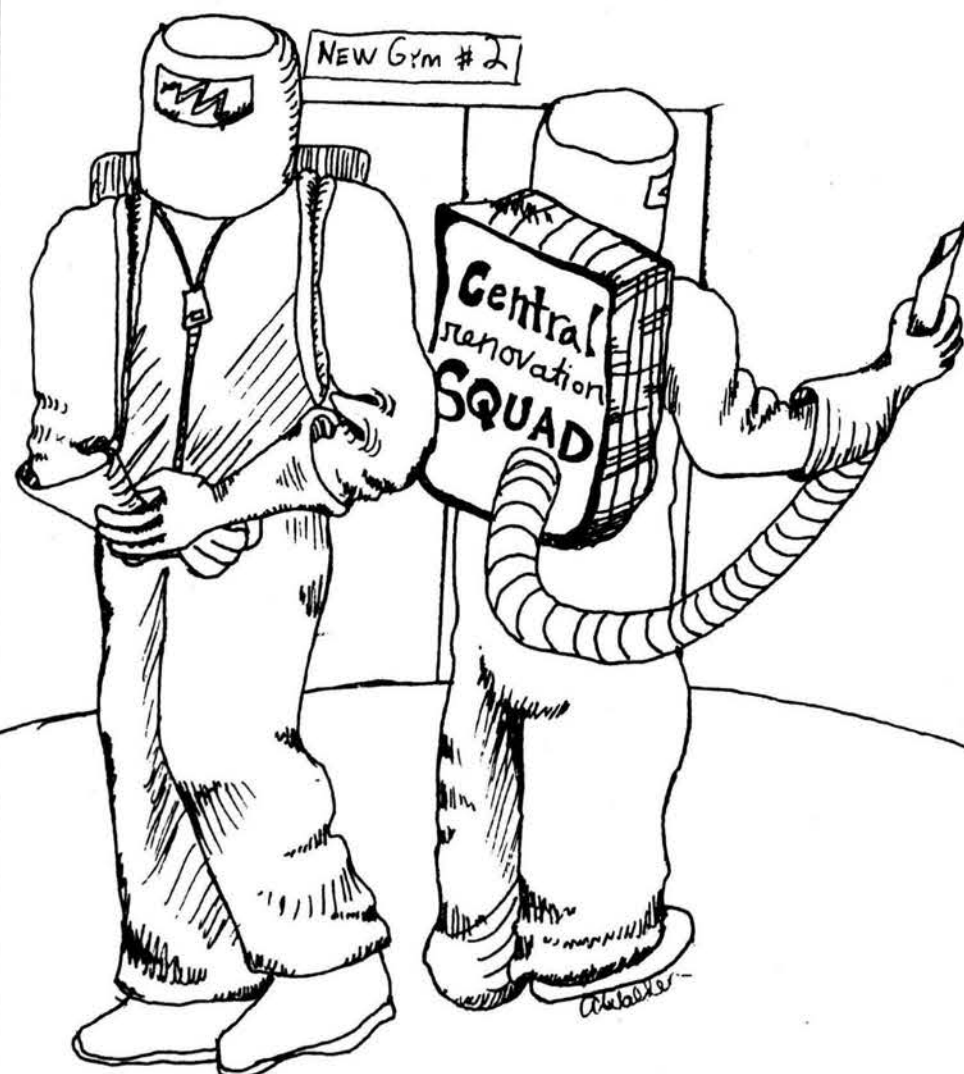
Maybe there are a few teens out there who were truly victims of discrimination, but it's a shame that all the whiners dilute the legitimacy of those claims.

Never Look Back



Quentin Lueninghoener

Two major hurdles



Rodents and asbestos

"Hey Rick, I don't know what is worse- the carcinogens or the mice."

Procrastination makes completing projects harder, more enjoyable

Every teacher is thinking about the same things: projects, tests and research papers.

I have a week to finish about twelve of each. I would have had a couple of months, but instead of studying and researching, I slept and watched pointless reruns of "Saved by the Bell" and "Family Matters."

I have a basic system when it comes to long term projects. I generally go through about four steps:

For the first month, I ignore the project completely. I pretend that it does not exist and do other, more amusing things that don't make very much sense.

I fly a kite or walk my dog. This creates a carefree feeling that helps me remain at ease.

Then, as the project deadline narrows a bit more, I stall. This is where the sleeping and "Saved by the Bell" come in.

This step of the process has no real value in the end. It does not make my project better, it doesn't help me think and it simply wastes a lot of time.

I'll tell myself that I am going to work. I'll get out all of my little materials and set them on the table. I'll even organize them in neat piles and sharpen my pencils. Then, as I am about to start working, it will become absolutely essential for me to leave.

There will be some incredibly ridiculous show that I have to see or I will develop an urgent need to do my laundry. I will do anything to keep from actually sitting down and doing my work.

This is the beautiful process of procrastination and I my friends have perfected it.

It happens with every project and nearly every high school student. Some say that they

don't have the time, others say that they don't understand the directions.

I don't generally make up reasons to explain my procrastination. I'm lazy and I'm not all that bright so, at that time, staring blindly at the tube of death (commonly referred to as a television) procrastination seems like a good idea.

After I have finally decided that procrastination is getting me nowhere, I proceed into the third stage.

I stare aimlessly at a blank piece of paper.

This lasts approximately 12 hours, after which I go and find a pen.

The last and final stage I refer to as the "I'm going to die" stage. During this time, I run around frantically, attempting to finish a month long project in two hours.

I go through a lot of coffee, I break a lot of pencils and I spend a lot of time saying, "I'm going to die."

This process only works if the student does not care about his final grade.

I actually care, but not enough to force myself into spending all of my time doing projects and research papers that, in the end, mean nothing.

Every student I know does this. Of course, most of the students I know aren't much more motivated than I am. No one wants to research their projects. No one wants to do anything, period.

I will never figure out why teachers insist on assigning projects at the same time. I do not see the logic in teachers cramming all of the most important grades of the year into such a small time period.

But I have never been one for logic.

They'll all Laugh at You



Danielle Rollins

REGISTER YOUR OPINION

Should the Nebraska Board of Education adopt an abstinence-only or a comprehensive program to teach about HIV prevention?



"If they use condoms, then they won't be so careless."

I'Shauntone Lindsay, 9



"People are going to have sex, but there are ways they can protect themselves."

Adam Hopewell, 9



"It would be a little more efficient with contraceptives."

Jill Glissmann, 10



"I think they should have an alternative way to protect from AIDS. Not very many people go through life not having sex."

Matt Engler, 9



"There is no way you can convince someone to be abstinent."

Angela Fredericksen, 12



"The only thing you can say is to have safe sex."

Uniquika Hollins, 10

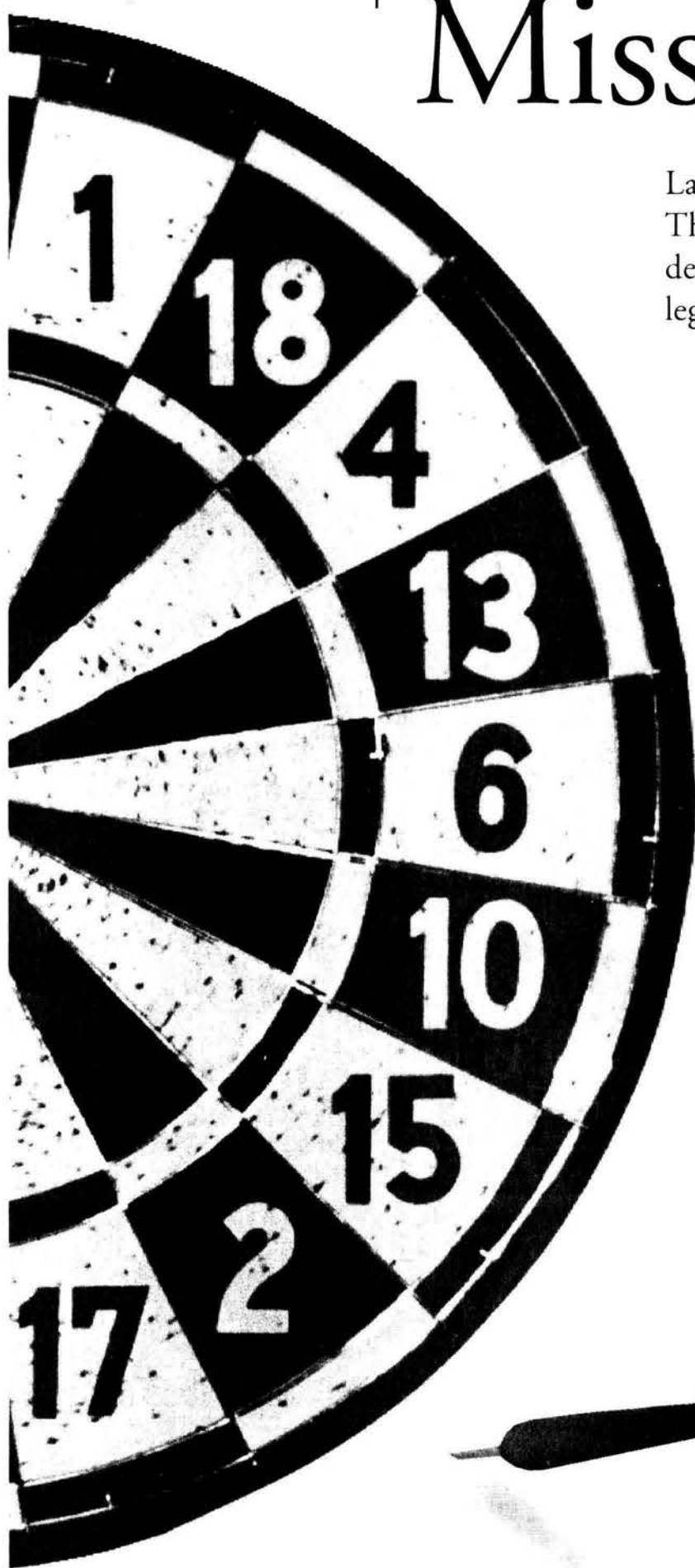


"Kids won't listen if you only tell about abstinence."

Melissa Made, 10

Missing the *Mark*

Lately, the state has been faced with a growing problem: teacher pay. The Legislature has not remedied the current problem and it could destroy the state's educational system. But this session, a piece of legislation would give the Unicameral a chance to *hit the target*.



LUENINGHOENER/THE REGISTER

The Unicameral needs to fix the teacher pay problem now before it gets out of hand and destroys the state's educational system.

Last year, the Unicameral decided to establish a group of educators to study teacher pay and to see if the situation is a problem.

This action was absurd. The state obviously has a teacher-pay problem. The average teacher's salary ranks forty-fifth in the country. Teachers have marched on the Teacher Administrative Center in Omaha and even the state capital in Lincoln.

The state does not need a committee to see teachers rallying for more pay. The state does not need a committee to see that teachers are upset about the current situation.

This committee became even more worthless when the Legislature threw out its findings earlier this year.

The Legislature sabotaged itself. One year, it establishes a committee that it says will bring a solution. The next, it stabs the committee in the back by still allowing the problem to continue.

Because of this failure to act, school districts around the state have experienced severe teacher shortages.

For example, Omaha Public Schools was in need of 60 certified teachers on the first day of school this year. Most of these positions were not filled, which led to larger classes and less qualified teachers.

Legislative Bill 305 (LB305) would fix this epidemic before it gets any worse. The Legislature needs to

pass this bill to try to keep the qualified teachers that it still has in the state.

If LB305 is passed, the state would be able to subsidize teachers' salary. No matter how much the local school districts pay the teachers, every one would still be subsidized by the state.

The state's checks would start at \$2000 for beginning teachers and increase based on the teacher's experience and education.

Under this plan, each teacher's salary would increase by at least \$2000 - no questions asked.

With this supplemental salary, every teacher's income would be increased to a reasonable level. Also having the state act will guarantee that teachers receive this money.

This bill does not only deal with state action, though. If this bill is passed, teachers would also receive money from their school districts. LB305 would allow these school districts the opportunity to exceed

EDITORIAL The Opinion of the Register

current budget parameters for the purpose of increasing teacher pay.

This way, the school districts would be able to use money that they already have.

The bill allows for local school districts to increase teacher salaries, but it also gives every teacher in the state a check worth at least \$2000.

This may be the last time that the Unicameral has to fix this problem. If the state does not act, dozens of teachers will leave the state and decide to teach in neighboring states.

If this happens, the state will not have any qualified teachers to take their place and the state's education system will suffer.

LB305 would avoid these problems and get the Legislature back on track.

One Strike Against Me



Jon Lathan

Athletics valued over academics

The fact that I am actually going to achieve something bothers some people. Encouragement coming from anybody who actually respects is slim to none. Of course, I get encouraged to run fast on the track and break tackles on the field, but no one cares I get high grades on my report card.

The truth is no one wants athletes to achieve, unless they are related to them or are close friends. The world could not care less what we do. We need to think about that. I got some very good advice from a Central parent the other day. He was talking about how kids either become dumber as they go through high school, or become stars.

He told me to bring those kids up with me, and not to go down to their level. We all need to take that advice. If we do, then success will not be an issue.

Maybe if we didn't spend all of our time badmouthing each other, calling each other sellouts for doing something with our lives and wanting to get out of Omaha, we could actually accomplish something. I don't want to stay here with a GED and flip burgers or sell drugs. Why should you want that for yourself, or anyone?

"Go out long" and "Go to Harvard" are two sayings that rarely appear in the same atmosphere. There are those who do promote athletics and academics, and others who promote ethics and family.

But find me someone who promotes all four.

Sure parents do, but they don't count. Teachers all say that they promote everything but everyone knows that mirrors are two-way. Ministers and other religious figures are probably the only ones who will tell you the absolute truth about anything.

I know people who want to get out of Nebraska, but they waited too long to decide that they wanted to do something, and now they are stuck in this dismal place.

The time for decision is now. People can either continue to make fun of others and let themselves slip, or they can worry about themselves and get it together. Whatever other people say, it is construed to fit their own wants and needs.

Do you want to be a player or a puppet? Figure it out, and figure it out soon.

the Omaha Central High School REGISTER

Oldest High School Newspaper West of the Mississippi, Established 1886

The Omaha Central High School *Register* seeks to inform its readers accurately and fairly as to items of interest and importance. The *Register* (USPS 097-520) is published monthly, September through May, by Central High School, 124 N. 20th Street, Omaha, NE, 68102.

The *Register* is a member of the National High School Press Association (NSPA), the Nebraska High School Press Association (NHSPA), the Journalism Education Association (JEA), Quill and Scroll and the Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA). Recently, the *Register* won a National Pacemaker from the NSPA and a Cornhusker Award from the NHSPA. In April 2001, the *Register* was awarded the first place prize in the Best of Show competition for the best high school newspaper in the country at JEA's annual competition.

Unsigned editorials are the opinion of the *Register* staff and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the students of Central High School or its faculty. Signed editorials are the opinion of the author alone, and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Central High School or the *Register*. Readers are welcome to send letters to the editor to room 315. Letters must include the author's full name and grade. The use of pen names is not permitted. Unsigned letters will not be printed. Letters may be edited for length, clarity, accuracy and taste. Letters containing substantial misrepresentation of fact are not considered. The *Register* is self-sufficient.

To place an advertisement or to inquire about ad prices, call the business manager at (402)557-3357. Periodical postage paid at Omaha, NE postmaster. Send subscription information or address changes to the *Register*, care of Omaha Central High School.

the Omaha Central High School *Register* May 22, 2001

Volume 114, Issue 7



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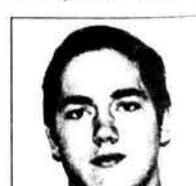
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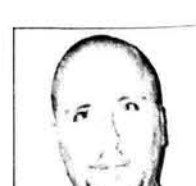
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Sports

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What does the trainer do about "fake" injuries? **Page 19**

What does it take (right) to hit a home run? **Page 21**



Hit&Run

Taking a look inside.



Girls' Soccer Team
page 18

Junior Libby Dyer develops defensive skills on the field of play.



Women's vs. Men's Athletics
page 19

Troy Schulte looks at the problems with Title IX and what should be done to fix them.



Face the Heat
page 20

Teacher Scott Wilson knows that intensity is very important in racketball.



Baseball Coach Feature
page 21

Coach Hodges talks about his days as a college baseball player and how he started coaching.

Quick Briefs

Girls' track coach Trent Lodge was named the new coach of the cross-country team, athletic director Paul Pennington said. He will replace Tim Shipman, who stepped down from the position this winter.

At districts on May 10, Central's boys' and girls' track teams were able to qualify 11 people for individual state events. The team also had four relay teams qualify. See **Page 18** for complete list of how Central did at the district competition.

Colleges recruit running back

By Chris Aponick

Several major Division I universities are gearing up for a full-scale recruiting battle for one Central player, head football coach Joe McMenamin said.

The only thing they share is their purpose: they want Central running back David Horne to come to their school in 2002.

Some of them are offering full-ride scholarships, while others bring promises of starting positions and national championships.

"It's almost like a fire sale with all the people going after him. Once one school wanted him everybody did," McMenamin said.

So far Horne has received letters from 12 schools including Nebraska, Colorado, Wisconsin Michigan, Penn State, Notre Dame, Florida and Tennessee. On March 5 Colorado was the first school to offer a scholarship. McMenamin said getting scholarship offers early recognizes Horne is one of the best high school running backs in the nation.

Horne said he was surprised at the first full-ride scholarship offer (from Colorado) and is enjoying the attention he is getting right now.

Horne's impressive statistics have attracted plenty of attention from recruiters, McMenamin said. Horne led the state in rushing last season with 1,486 yards in 255 attempts over ten games. He also caught 22 passes for 135 yards.

While the statistics get college coaches interested, McMenamin said the highlight films give schools a better look at an athlete's ability and ultimately help decide whether a university will continue to pursue an athlete. In Horne's reels, McMenamin said he tried to highlight his speed and toughness.

"I put in several broken tackles and break-aways, as well as some plays where Horne faked an opponent out," he said.

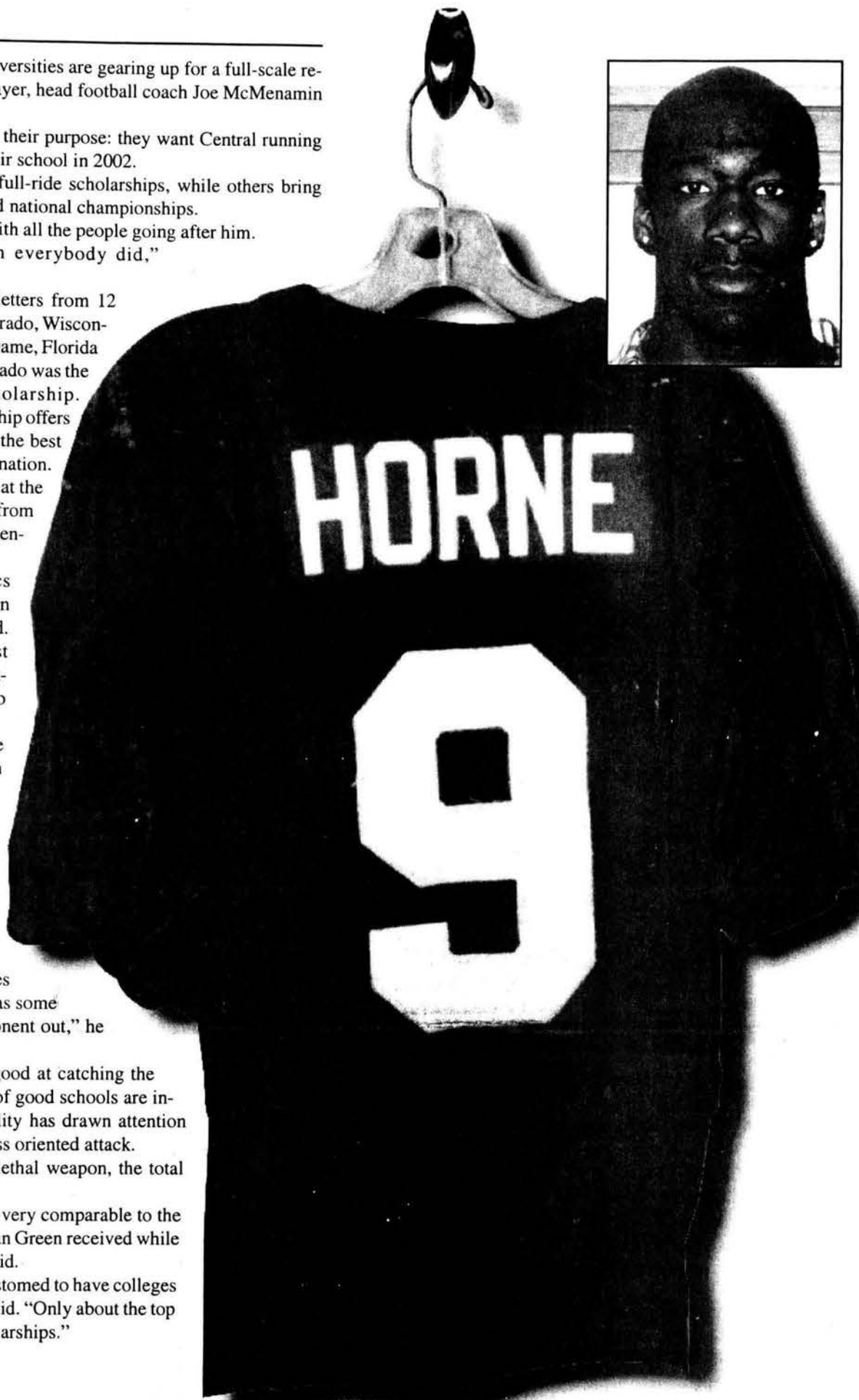
He said Horne is also very good at catching the ball out of the backfield, so a lot of good schools are interested in him. His catching ability has drawn attention from Florida, a school that has pass oriented attack.

"It makes me a much more lethal weapon, the total package," he said.

The early interest in Horne is very comparable to the attention NFL running back, Ahman Green received while he was at Central, McMenamin said.

"Central has grown very accustomed to have colleges recruit athletes this early on," he said. "Only about the top half percent receive full-ride scholarships."

Turn to **HORNE**, page 18



EMILY NEUMANN/THE REGISTER

Who has Horne's number?

These universities(below)have all recruited heavily to get David Horne to come to their respective schools.



LUENINGHOENER/THE REGISTER

Pro baseball player credits career at Central for his success

By Troy Schulte

Playing four years of high school baseball and learning valuable life lessons from attending Central has helped Kimera Bartee achieve his lifelong dream of playing Major League Baseball.

Bartee, who graduated from Central in 1990, said his career at Central has helped him adapt to life after high school.

"Central is a very high quality school. And when you bring people together from all over the city to one school, people learn a lot about each other and different types of people," he said.

Bartee played four seasons on the varsity level at positions all over the field. Second base, first base or any of the outfield positions, Bartee played anywhere former assistant coach Steve Eubanks asked him to.

"He really was an outstanding player," Eubanks said. "He worked both ways. He was both vocal and led by his efforts on the field and by the respect from other players."

Bartee said he never tried to be one of the leaders on the team. He said he just tried to lead by example and it was a role he gladly accepted.

"I was never that fiery, in-your-face kind of guy," he said. "It was just something I inherited over time by them [teammates] watching how I go about things."

Eubanks, who is now the athletics director at Omaha Northwest, said he could tell even during Bartee's high school days that he had what it took to play in the Majors.

"He had the God-given ability," Eubanks said. "What he had was speed. If he hit a ground ball in the infield and it bounced two or three times to third base or short, he was going to be safe."

During his senior year, Bartee's leadership and natural ability helped him lead Central to one of its most successful seasons in history.

"Although we were not always one of the most talented teams. I feel we were one of the most athletic teams in the state," he said. "We were overachievers."

Their athleticism and heart made them one of the best teams in Omaha that year. And they came within a game of heading to the state tournament, losing 4-2 to Omaha Gross in the district A-1 finals.

"He almost single-handedly brought the team back," Eubanks said.

In that two-run loss, Bartee hit two doubles and scored a run. His second double came in the fifth inning, when Central was mounting a comeback. Todd Reger then hit a double to left field which would have scored Bartee and brought them within one run.

But Reger missed first base and was called out, ending the inning and the Eagle threat.

Bartee said having three mediocre seasons while at Central made him realize that you can't win every game and that made him even more ready for professional baseball.

"I never take losing lightly," he said. "But me being there during a bad time made me realize you can't win every game you play."

After he graduated Bartee had to decide on what college he wanted to attend while furthering his baseball career. Bartee's decision to stay close to home and go to Creighton, he said, was an easy one. He said a trip to a Creighton baseball game and talking with the players is what finally convinced him to attend Creighton.

"They [the Creighton players] didn't really say anything to me. I just liked how they went about things," he said.

Bartee knew he had made the right decision when in his first season as a Blue Jay he helped them get to the College World Series for the first time in school history.

"That [going to the College World Series] is something I will never forget as long as I live," he said. "For the whole week the entire city was excited. We could barely go anywhere without people recognizing us, it was almost like we were rock stars."

Bartee and the Blue Jays never reached the College World Series

Turn to **BARTEE**, page 21

Central hires basketball coach

By Troy Schulte

Central High School recently ended its hunt for a new men's basketball coach when athletics director Paul Pennington hired former junior varsity coach Eric Behrens.

Pennington said he chose Behrens, who is the son of former coach Rick Behrens, over a number of candidates, some of which were also Central coaches.

Ongoing support from players, parents and other coaches from around the league was one of the reasons he was chosen.

"He was recommended by some of the top coaches from around the state, some parents called and showed their support and I think all the players like him," he said.

Behrens, who graduated from Central in 1992 after playing varsity basketball for three seasons, thinks of taking over for his father as both an honor and a challenge.

"I love Central and I loved playing basketball for Central and I think it is quite a unique situation, coaching for the school you played at," he said.

Junior guard Schyler Thomas and Behrens don't think the team will have a hard time adjusting to the changes. Behrens said the team's biggest challenge would not be a new coach, but their rebounding of the ball.

"Of course there are differences about us [he and his father]. But I've already been a coach for three years, so the players already know me," he said. "I think our biggest problem is going to be rebounding. We are not very big and if you can rebound the ball well you will be able to beat good teams."

Thomas played for Behrens on the JV team and said he thinks he is the type of coach that can have an immediate impact.

"He's sort of a laid-back coach he lets you go out there and play and if you mess up, he doesn't really get in your face. He lets you know what you did wrong and how you can improve," Thomas said.

In the early '90s, Behrens played for his father on the varsity team for three seasons. During his junior year as point guard in 1991, Behrens and the Eagles came within a game of the state tournament. They lost to Bellevue West in the district finals.

After high school Behrens went on to Central Community College in Columbus, Neb. Behrens played point guard for two years. In his second season he was named the team's Most Valuable Player.

Behrens then decided his days as a basketball player were over and decided to pursue other options.

He thought coaching sounded like something he wanted to do. So he returned home and finished his degree in secondary education at the University of Nebraska-Omaha.

He returned to Central for the 1998-1999 season where he took over as the head coach of the junior varsity team.

His first season the team did not have much success, finishing with a losing record of 8-12. But his last two years they had a combined record of 31-7, including a 17-2 mark in the 1999-2000 seasons, the best record ever for a Central junior varsity team.

Despite being an assistant coach for just three seasons, both Pennington and Behrens believe he is ready to make the jump from assistant to head coach.

"I don't think it will be real tough," Behrens said. "I have been in the program for three years and I have also done some coaching in the summer."

Pennington also thinks Behrens will make a smooth adjustment and be able to lead Central to a productive season.

"He has excellent potential and desire to learn along with great enthusiasm," Pennington said. "I just think he's ready to be a head coach."

Central's district results

In order for the Eagles to reach their ultimate goal of winning a state championship, all of these teams had to get through districts first. Below are Central's district results.

BASEBALL

May 5 Beat Roncalli 3-0
May 8 Lost to Ralston 12-1

BOYS' SOCCER

May 7 Beat Bryan 3-1
May 8 Lost to Millard South 4-0

GIRLS' SOCCER

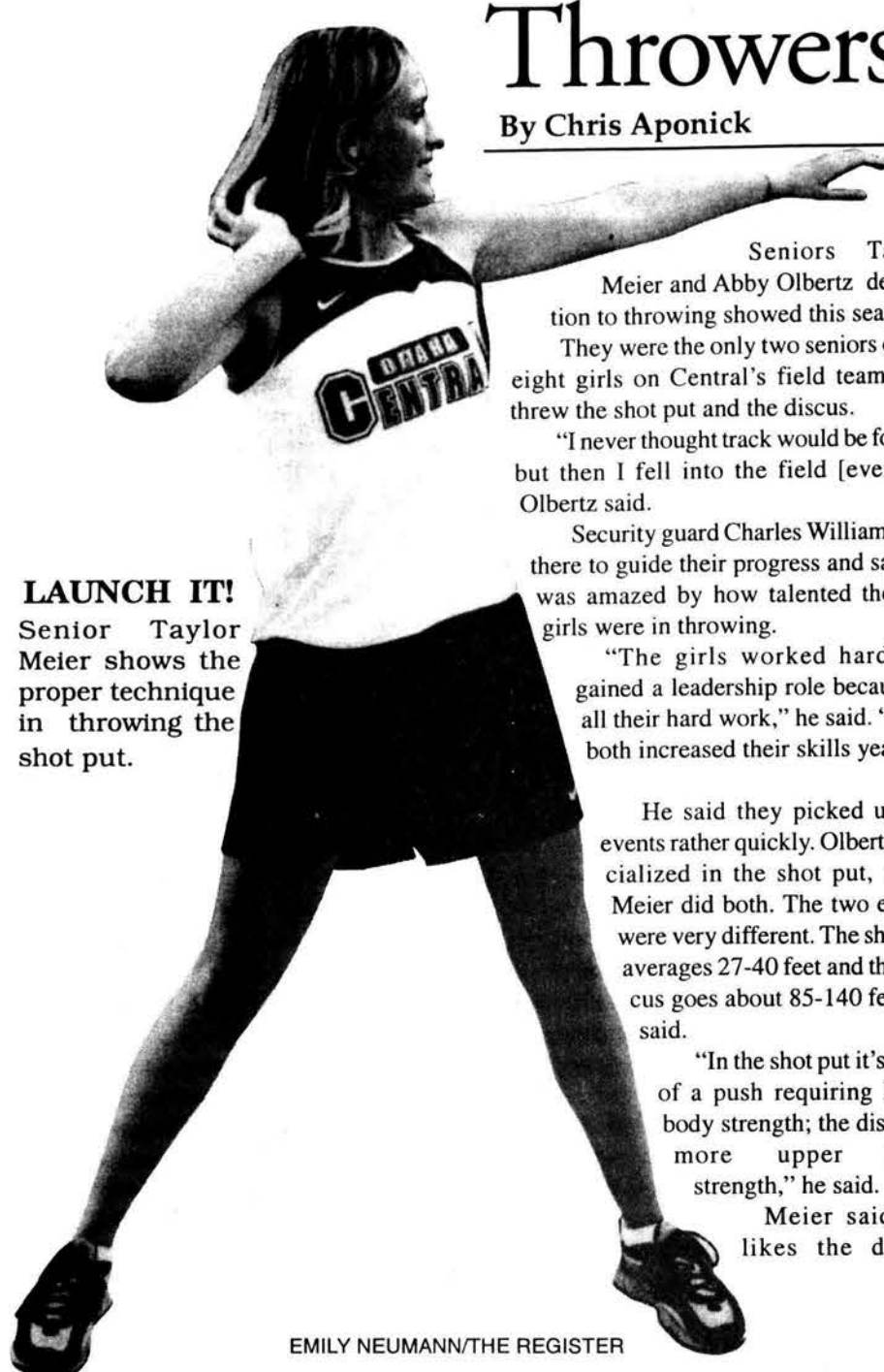
May 5 Lost to Omaha Marian 8-0

BOYS' TRACK

May 10
Finished first in team scoring with 125 points.
The state qualifiers include:
Kris Kuhn (11), long jump and triple jump
Noah Johnson (12), shot put and discus
Mark LeFlore (11), 100 and 200-meter dash
Brandon Gunn (9), 100-meter dash
E.J. Faulkner (10), 200 and 400-meter dash
Reggie Terry (11), 200 and 400-meter dash
Chris Gorga (10), 3,200-meter run
The team qualified in both the 400 and 1,600-meter relay

GIRLS' TRACK

May 10
Finished sixth in team scoring with 58 points.
State qualifiers include:
Shauntel Vaughn (9), 100-meter dash
Norma Reynolds (10), 200 and 400-meter dash
Emily Monen (11), 200 and 400-meter dash
Kayana McCants (9), 100 and 300-meter hurdles
The team qualified in both the 400 and 1,600-meter relay



EMILY NEUMANN/THE REGISTER

Throwers help team, learn plenty

By Chris Aponick

Seniors Taylor Meier and Abby Olbertz dedication to throwing showed this season. They were the only two seniors out of eight girls on Central's field team who threw the shot put and the discus.

"I never thought track would be for me, but then I fell into the field [events]," Olbertz said.

Security guard Charles Williams was there to guide their progress and said he was amazed by how talented the two girls were in throwing.

"The girls worked hard and gained a leadership role because of all their hard work," he said. "They both increased their skills yearly."

He said they picked up the events rather quickly. Olbertz specialized in the shot put, while Meier did both. The two events were very different. The shot put averages 27-40 feet and the discus goes about 85-140 feet, he said.

"In the shot put it's more of a push requiring lower body strength; the discus is more upper body strength," he said.

Meier said she likes the discus

more than the shot put because of the techniques.

"I've had more trouble with the shot because it requires more strength," she said. "In the discus, it's how you spin. I enjoy it more because it's like a dance step."

Williams said her hard work with the discus showed.

Williams said he hoped Meier would break the Central High record for the discus. Meier's personal best of 115' is only 10' shy of the record. Long hours of practice helped increase their distances, as well as helping Central's team gain more points in the area meets, showing that Central has a field team that could compete with everybody else in the Metro.

"It's nice when they can score points from the team, especially since Central hasn't been that strong in the shot put or the discus before," he said.

The girls focused their practice hours on learning the proper technique for throwing and on increasing their arm strength. Williams said the throwers usually need a good weightlifting background, as well as being strong and quick.

"These were still very hard events. It required a lot of training and discipline," he said. "The athlete has to concentrate on the form needed in each event."

The biggest challenge for Olbertz was getting "an oomph behind the throw." She said that at first she didn't think throwing a 10-lb ball for the shot put would be very hard until the first time she tried it.

Meier also said she thought she could toss it, but she really did not know the actual skill it took until she joined the team her freshman year.

"When I first held the ball, I couldn't really do it until I got the technique down," Olbertz said. "My first year I tried my own technique and threw about 27 feet, but then I learned a new technique [that increased my distance]."

She now tosses the shot put around 35 feet but she said she hoped that having to practice with a 10-lb ball, even though the girls throw an 8-lb one in competition, would help her distance.

"The Columbus High School girls throw around 41 feet," she said. "I throw about 35 feet and I think that's great, so being able to get ten more feet on the throws is awesome."

Despite the challenges of learning a new sport, Olbertz said she has been glad to learn with her friend, Meier. Meier was able to tell Olbertz on the team two years ago by telling her she looked like someone "who should be a shot put."

"Last year after the first two practices the new throwers were dropping, but I stuck with it," Olbertz said. "It's an awesome sport."

The two girls give a lot of credit to coach Williams for all they have accomplished. Even though their season is over, Olbertz said they have laid the groundwork for a successful team in the future.

"We've never really had a field team before, but we're trying," she said. "Hopefully next year's team can hack it."

Junior leads defense for girls' soccer team from start

By Chris Aponick

While most athletes want to be the team's leading scorer, junior Libby Dyer has been content to be the backbone of the girls' soccer team's young defense, head coach Joe White said.

"Most people want to play forward because they like to score, so they overlook the defensive positions," Dyer said.

Dyer has played on varsity since her freshman year and was selected to be one of the team's assistant captains this year. Dyer said her varsity experience led to her being selected.

She has always been a vital member of the team ever since she stepped in to be the left wing fullback. She is a very valuable defensive player because of her extensive experience. Dyer was able to get playing time as a freshman because nobody wanted to play as fullback. Since then Dyer has increased her skills and has become one of the team's top defenders, he said.

Dyer had to learn many things in order to be effective on defense. Some players will try to attack the ball,

but playing defense requires patience and the younger players have to practice at it, White said.

"The younger players can get nervous," he said. "Holding back is a learned trait because most players have a natural tendency to go away with the ball."

Her high defensive skill level made it an easy decision to make her a captain. Hopefully her level of play will rub off on the other players, he said.

"She has become more aggressive and her touch on the ball is better. She knows the ropes and has a good intensity level," he said.

Her experience will help out the young players get used to playing varsity. Next year, she will be one of the team's most experienced players, he said.

Dyer has had an extra challenge this year, as well. She had to lead a young defense with a new goalkeeper, junior Kristin Kruger. Despite the fact that the team started the season with a new goalkeeper, Dyer said the defense has had an easy time adjusting.

"Having a new goalie has not been a big issue because she has been here on the team the whole time," White said.



FAITH LYNN/THE REGISTER

TAKING INSTRUCTION: Libby Dyer (11) listens to head coach Joe White during the halftime.

Many colleges recruit Horne

From HORNE, page 17

Despite the attention he has received, Horne said he still has a lot to do over the next year to make his choice of the school he will commit to.

During the summer months, Horne will evaluate the schools and narrow it down to about five schools that he will visit this winter, McMenamin said.

"It's really David's decision. I just give him suggestions to what schools might highlight his talents," McMenamin said.

Horne said McMenamin has helped him sort through the process and attract recruiters from all over.

"Coach Mac has opened a lot of doors for me," he said. "I didn't think it would come so soon."

Despite the fact that he has already received these offers, Horne said it adds pressure on him to maintain his game.

"I want to let them know that I am as good as everybody thinks I am," he said.

Horne said he will use next year to try to bulk up and increase his speed for the college game.

Golfer hopes to follow in father's footsteps by playing in PGA

By Steve Packard

Steve Hogan Jr. wants to follow in the footsteps of his father, who has a PGA tour card and his own golf course. He also wants to play Tiger Woods.

"He's always running around saying he wants to play Tiger Woods," Steve Hogan Sr.

said. "I've always told him, if you have a dream and you follow it, it can come true."

The younger Hogan has been following his successful golfing career with the help of his father.

Ever since early childhood to his current place on the golf team as a freshman with a four handicap.

"My dad started to teach me maybe when I was three," Hogan Jr. said. "He's taught me everything I know."

The elder Hogan fondly recalled memories of teaching Hogan Jr. his very first golf lessons.

"He would travel around the golf course with me," Hogan Sr. said. "One day, I gave

him his first club, and he's been playing since."

In fact, the younger Hogan has been playing in his father's junior golf program in the most elite class of golfers. The program is known on a national scale, competing all over the country. It is called Hogan's Junior Golf Heroes Foundation.

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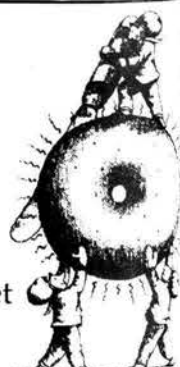
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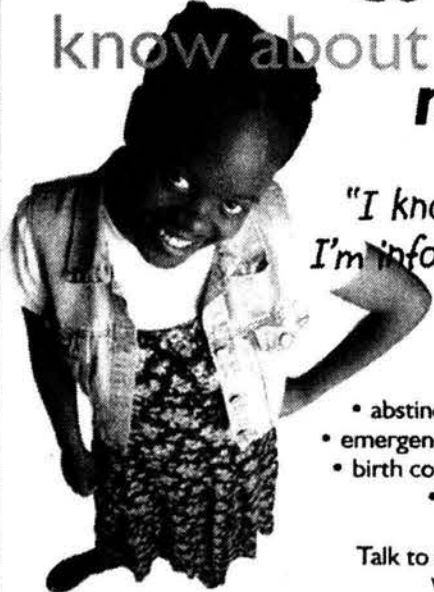
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JEANEE WEISS

Dealing with fake injuries part of job

How often do you get complaints about things that are not really injuries?

On a daily basis, athletes come with standard aches and pains that tell me they are receiving when competing in athletics.

Some of these "aches" may be indications of large problems, so I do need to take the time to evaluate all of them. It's part of my job to distinguish non-injury pains from those that may be caused by a true injury, therefore I do not mind that athletes asking.

Have you ever had a situation where athletes have used injuries as an excuse to get out of practice?

Of course, as an athletic trainer, it is my job to communicate with the coaches and make them aware of athletes who should be able to practice, may it be a full practice or a portion in which their activities are limited. Very few injuries hinder an athlete from practicing all together. There is usually something they can do, such as riding a stationary bike, stretching, and drills that use different body parts that are not injured.

Have you ever had to send for an ambulance? Why? How many times?

Yes. Should an athlete become unconscious for any period of time, have an open or compound fracture, have a spinal injury or breathing difficulties that are uncontrollable, an ambulance must be called.

While here at Central, I have called an ambulance twice, both injuries occurred this year.

The first injury was for a suspended spinal injury, and the second for a fracture of both the bones of the lower leg.

I'm not against giving women the right to participate in the same sports as men.

But, Title IX, which was adopted in 1972, has done more harm than good.

Title IX states that no federally-funded institution is allowed to discriminate because of gender. This means each school has to have the same number of women's varsity sports as men's and also distribute the funding equally.

It has increased interest in sports among high school girls, but it also has done some damage to other sports.

Not only do athletic directors have to make sure their sports are successful, but they also have to do some serious budget crunching to meet the requirements set by Title IX.

The only way to make sure sports turn a profit is to cut programs and because of Title IX, they can't cut women's programs, but cutting men's programs is acceptable.

That is exactly what happened recently to the University of Nebraska and Iowa State University. Those universities had been losing money for years and had come to a conclusion that the only way to solve it was to cut programs.

Thanks to Title IX, they couldn't cut the programs that lost the most money (which in Nebraska's case was women's swimming and diving), but had to get rid of the men's team because of Title IX. This also happened at ISU with its baseball program.

That's the part about Title IX

that really upsets me. Instead of doing the most logical thing and cutting the programs that are the biggest drain on the school's budget, they have to automatically cut the men's program that loses the most money.

So now, at schools all over the country, sports are being cut that have been a part of that school forever and have established tradition (Iowa State has fielded a baseball team since 1898).

The women who support this say they aren't out to get men's sports cut, but they just want to compete.

Maybe their intentions are good, but why get rid of men's programs that are athletic and can compete; for poorly played women's sports that just want to compete?

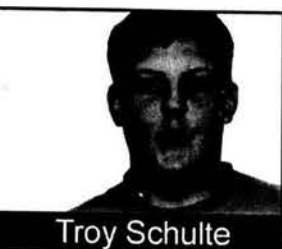
I'm not saying Title IX should be abolished and discrimination based on gender should be allowed. I'm saying schools should be allowed to discriminate on the basis of performance. If a school's football team is the most successful and makes the biggest profit, give the majority of the money to them. If a school's women's volleyball team is the most successful and makes the most money, give the money to them.

And it works both ways. If a school's football team has gone 3-50, in the last five years, get rid of it.

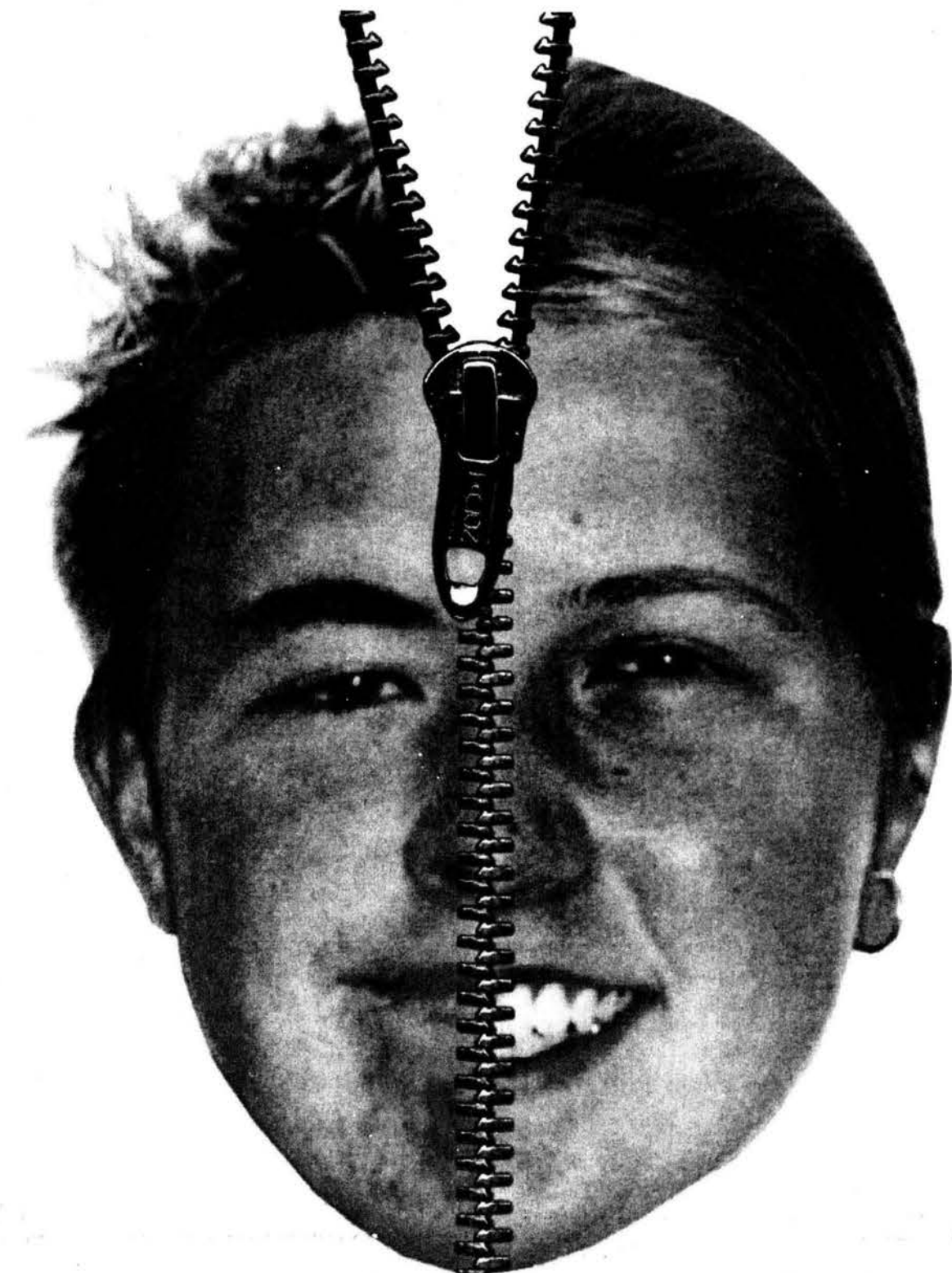
I'm all for giving women the right to participate in athletics because they are very talented, but Title IX is not the answer. Somebody needs to come up with something that allows talented women to compete without having to cut other programs at the same time.

Until that happens, schools like NU and ISU will continue to have to cut valuable programs. This will start to happen in high schools, too.

Charging the Mound



Troy Schulte



LUENINGHOENER/THEREGISTER

HALF AND HALF: This photo illustration, with sophomores Steven Rue (right) and Mary Michalak (left), shows how Title IX requires schools to split fundings for athletic programs.

Changes in selection rules only allow two players to play in Shrine Bowl

Troy Schulte

Two Central football players were recently selected to play in Nebraska's high school all-star game Shrine Bowl, played at Memorial Stadium in Lincoln on July 28.

Seniors A.J. Anderson and George Davis were first nominated by Central head coach Joe McMenamin and then selected by Shrine Bowl coaches to play on the South team. The head coach for the South team, Don Tesar from Tri-County High

School, selected 33 senior football players from around the state to play in the game.

"It [to be selected] is truly an honor for both the players and the coaches," McMenamin said.

Three years ago, Shrine Bowl officials changed the maximum number of players who can be selected from each school from three to two.

Also, a coach must select a player from each class and a player that plays eight-man football. Both McMenamin and Davis said the new

rule has left out players in the past couple of years who deserve to be on the team.

"There are definitely a number of seniors on the team that could have been selected," Davis said. "I don't think they're upset [the players not selected], but anytime you get selected to something, it's quite an honor."

McMenamin said the rules were changed so they could get players from all over the state in the game.

"They wanted to try and spread

it out a little bit," he said. "Teams were being dominated by schools like Central, Lincoln Southeast, Papillion and then there would only be five or six schools represented by each team."

McMenamin said he would rather see the best players from around the state chosen, than have to limit the number of participants.

"It's a good idea and concept, but this way it is not a true all-star game," he said. "You don't have all the best players in the state in one game."

The players who were selected, Davis said, are all glad to be able to be getting back on the football field after a nine-month hiatus.

"I'm excited about it [playing again]," Davis said. "But, I have been working out getting ready for college [football] so it won't feel too foreign to me."

Although the players main interest is playing in the game, that is not all they will be doing. On July 19, all the players and coaches, from both teams, will fly into Minneapolis, MN

to visit sick children at the Shriner's Hospital.

Going to the hospital and visiting children is an experience that both the players and coaches enjoy, McMenamin, who was the head coach of the South team last year and an assistant in 1994 said.

"It really is a moving experience," McMenamin said of the visit to the hospital. "The kids there really get excited about having the football players come. They think of these guys as NFL stars."

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Teacher conquers racquetball, stays intense



EMILY NEUMANN/THE REGISTER

INTENSITY Social studies teacher Scott Wilson demonstrates the aggressiveness necessary to succeed in the sport of racquetball. Wilson said he and several other Central teachers often get together on days off from school to play the game.

By Chris Aponick

A few trickles of blood and several bruises have not prevented Central teacher Scott Wilson from playing racquetball.

Wilson said he has acquired hundreds of bumps and bruises in over two years of playing "the second greatest game on the planet" against several Central teachers. However, his match against English teacher Dr. Jurgen Shawver was the only one that he got bloody in.

"Shawver knocked some of my teeth out because his follow-through caught me in the face," he said. "I kept playing and toughed it out. I put my teeth in my free hand."

All of the blood in his mouth after the injury made it appear that Wilson had a "cherry snow cone in his mouth," he said. Wilson has also been hit in his face, but his protective goggles helped him avoid injuries.

After his first couple of injuries and some tough games against Shawver, he said he has learned to always stay aware on the court.

"If you don't like to move around, you might as well stay home," he said.

Wilson plays with a group of Central teachers as often as possible and has formed what he said is a nearly unbeatable doubles team with Matt Shafer. They are able to beat their opponents by playing of the corners of the court and by being more physical, he said.

"We carve people up," he said. "We work more corners than Julia Roberts in *Pretty Woman*."

Shafer and Wilson have built up a duo that will take on all comers in doubles. Aside from doubles, Wilson

said he has played in the other two versions of racquetball: singles, and "cut-throat," which is three guys all playing against each other.

He said he likes cut-throat the best, but that doubles is the most physical and the players often run into each other while playing.

He has developed a lot of power behind his swing and has started to develop some strategy that has been met with opposition from the other players, he said.

"The other guys might say that it's bush league but sometimes I'll fake swing at the ball," he said.

Wilson said his game has improved drastically over the years he has played and said his other activities have helped his game.

"Baseball has helped my game because it provides good hand-eye coordination," he said.

There is always a fierce competitive spirit on the court and that the teachers all hate to lose, he said.

"We all get frustrated or upset," he said. "I've thrown my racket and broken it before."

Wilson has also learned the importance of equipment. Eye goggles are necessary. He uses a racket that shares his last name, a Wilson Extreme, but he has taken exception to Jeff McCune's racket that he said is some sort of a "souped up GTO racket."

"It's like illegal in 43 states," he said. "The ball comes off of it at about 300 mph; it's huge."

Despite this controversy, Wilson said nothing would take him away from the game and he plays every chance he gets.

"Whenever there is a snow day it's understood that we're going to get together to play racquetball," he said.

Senior fills void of last year's All-State goalie, head coach says

By Chris Aponick

At the beginning of this season boys' soccer coach Tim Herbert thought senior Tim Davey was more than ready to replace last year's All-State goalkeeper, Justin Galaska.

Herbert said that Davey and Galaska are two very different players.

But, he said considering Davey was taught by Galaska, he was very comfortable with Davey replacing him this season.

"Davey is a classic player physically," Herbert said. "Galaska was small and very quick, but Davey has long arms and legs and he covers a lot of area."

Davey said his height let him reach shots that were high or wide.

It also allowed him to control the ball in

the box better. Despite their differences in playing style Davey said he learned a lot of things from training with Galaska.

"Galaska had quickness and good reflexes," Davey said. "He was quick to the shot and he knew the game."

He said even though the team was very young and inexperienced this year, they were very successful.

"I think this team was just as strong as last year's team," he said. "The whole defense has provided a solid foundation."

Herbert said because of the teams strengths, they had a new strategy heading into this season.

"We've changed our philosophy from relying on our defense to trying for more offense," he said.

He said more offensive production came from the midfielders and defenders because the team lost experienced forwards to graduation last year.

"For the first time, the team has defenders with good offensive skills," Herbert said. "We will use them more in the offense to push the ball up the field."

Ball control was another focus for the team.

"The motto for the offense and defense was patience," Davey said.

Having a capable back-up goalie in junior Matt Niemeyer was also a key asset to the team this season.

However it took the team awhile to adjust.

"Obviously we can't use youth as an excuse for not winning," Herbert said.

Central had more talent than many Metro high schools. However, Creighton Prep and Millard West were also a challenge to play, Davey said.

He said their goal going into these games was to bend, but not break. And to also play harder and more aggressive on their half of the field.

The senior members of the varsity team provided leadership because they had been playing together for two years and communicated well, Davey said.

He said the team was not intimidated by any team they played.

Because, he said, they had a better defense than most of their opponents had an offense.



FAITH LYNN/THE REGISTER

FINE REPLACEMENT Head coach Tim Herbert said senior Tim Davey has done a fine job of replacing last year's All-State goalie.

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Mallory Prucha
UNOmaha Sophomore

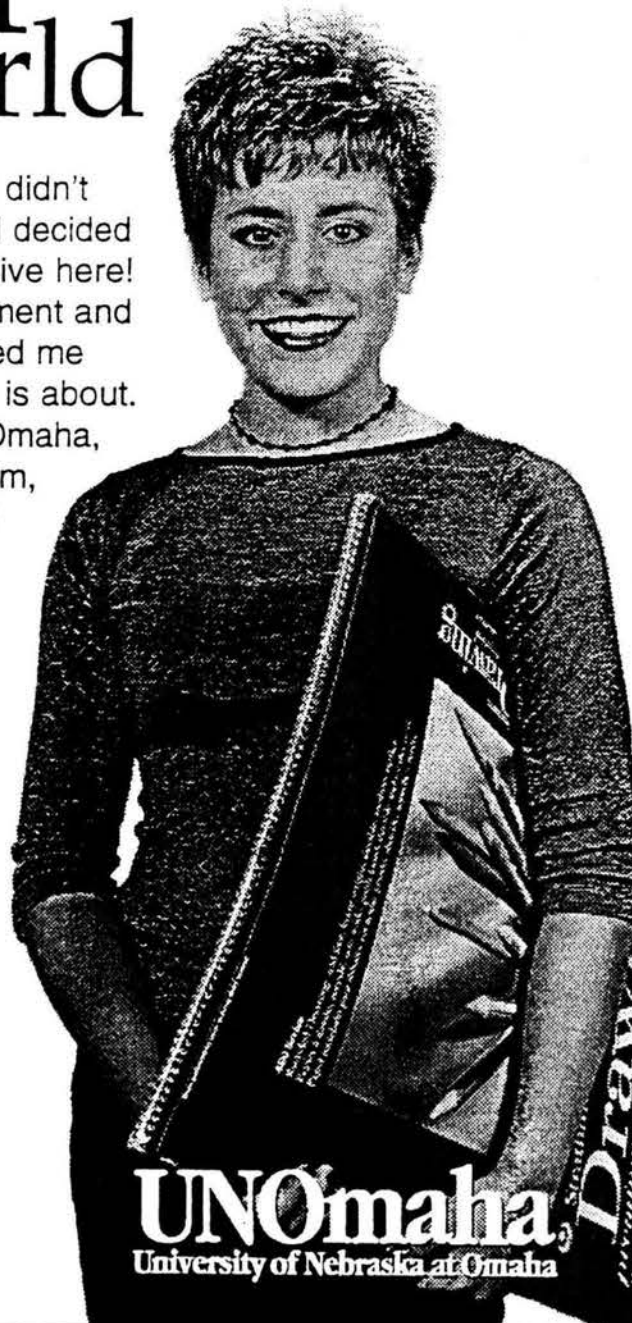
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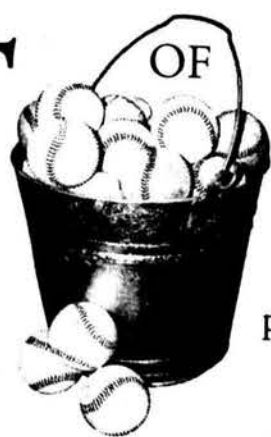
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THE ART OF HITTING



To those who are not familiar with the sport of baseball, hitting seems like a simple task. But, as any baseball player knows, the art of hitting is a very difficult process.

Step 1: The Stance



A well-balanced stance is the key ingredient for a good swing. The batter's feet should be shoulder length apart, the knees slightly bent. Shoulders are even and the hands are near the back shoulder.

Step 2: Load-Up



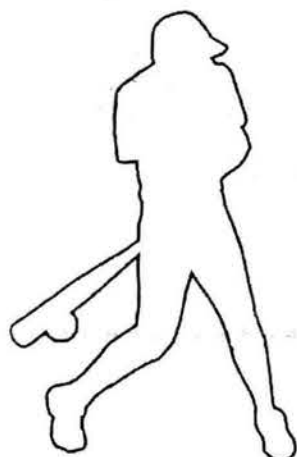
The batter takes a small step with his front foot, which allows him to transfer his weight to the back leg. He cocks his hands back from their original position. This allows him to store power in the arms.

Step 3: Trigger



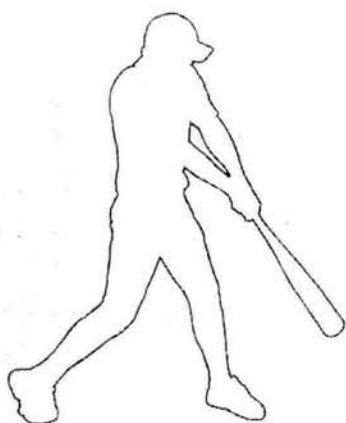
The back foot pivots and begins to shift the weight back to the middle, and the hands take the knob of the bat to the oncoming ball. His head remains down watching the ball all the way into the strike zone.

Step 4: Contact



The batter now snaps his wrists, which allows the barrel of the bat to come around meeting the oncoming ball at the sweet spot. The batter's head still remains down the whole time watching the bat meet the ball.

Step 5: Extension



To allow the batter to utilize the power in his arms, he must roll his wrists and fully extend his arms. He now finishes transferring his weight to his front foot, hitting the ball with maximum power.

Step 6: Follow-Through



As soon as the ball is hit, the batter can't stop there. He must continue with his swing, bringing the bat around toward the back. The swing finishes with the hands at the opposite shoulder and the bat behind the head. The batter then drops the bat and heads to first base.

ALL GRAPHICS LUENINGHOENER /THE REGISTER



EMILY NEUMANN/THE REGISTER

FIELD OF DREAMS Baseball coach, Scott Hodges looks out over Orval Smith Field as his team gets set to play Ralston High School.

Coach's journey teaches him roles of school, sports

By Steve Packard

Although many know head baseball coach Scott Hodges for his work on the baseball diamond, his friends said they know him best for his sense-of-humor and competitiveness.

"He's very, very competitive," coach Josh Montzingo said. "If there's a tinker toy contest to win, he'll go out and make the meanest, baddest tinker toy there is."

Hodges has a love of baseball going back to his high school days, where he held a 13-0 record as a pitcher.

"My father was a Sears manager, so as a child I moved around a lot. By the time I was a freshman in college, we had moved eight times," Hodges said. "I thought moving as a senior would be hard, but it actually opened up new athletic opportunities. It opened up opportunities to compete at a higher level."

Hodges first attended the University of Minnesota at Duluth, but he soon dropped out. He then managed a restaurant for three years.

During this time, Hodges filled in his free time by playing extracurricular softball instead of baseball because of an arm injury which had developed during his senior year.

Eventually, Hodges began to disprove of his hours and wanted to make a more positive impact on the community. He decided to return to baseball at Blackhawk Community College in Illinois.

"You know, when you haven't picked up a ball for a few years, your skills are a little

rusty," Hodges said. "But the coaches liked my attitude and work ethic."

The Braves' coaches decided to hire him for a year, launching his coaching career. After graduating from Blackhawk, Hodges moved on to Bloomington High School in Bloomington, IL.

"I liked it, it was a nice community. They had better facilities than we have," Hodges said.

Hodges got his first coaching experience attending Bloomington for four years, coaching freshman one year, two years on sophomore and one as the assistant varsity coach.

Eventually, Hodges moved on to Central High where he is currently coaching varsity baseball and has been since last season.

"I like coaching the game," he said. "I relish the opportunity to build the program. The time I put into the program doesn't go without sacrifice. I miss a lot of time at home."

However, Hodges knows from personal experience, that academics are equally important, if not more important than the sport.

"He stresses academics," Montzingo said. "He knows baseball ends somewhere and you've got to have somewhere to go."

As for his team, Hodges said he has many more games to go.

"I can't lose. Whether I'm playing chess or athletically, I just hate to lose," Hodges said. "The coach doesn't give up. Ever."

Baseball team loses second-round district game to Ralston

By Emily Neumann

The varsity baseball team lost its final game of the season 12-1 to Ralston High School in the second-round of the district A-3 tournament on May 8.

Central advanced to play Ralston after beating Omaha Roncalli High School 3-0.

After staging a defensive victory, the team knew it had to depend on its defense to do well against Ralston, head coach Scott Hodges said.

"Ralston probably has the best hitting team in Omaha," junior Ian Waterman said.

Starting pitcher Justin Tatum, junior, gave up a run in the first inning and set the pace for the Ralston lineup.

Tatum said the team made some early errors in the field and was not able to get the bat on the ball.

"I was proud of the kids. They played hard and never gave up," Hodges said.

Senior Rob Fogarty agreed the team could have played better, but felt it was outmatched.

Hodges said that in spite of the loss, the Eagles have slowly begun to improve. They finished the year 5-21, two wins better than last year's record.

The Eagles scored victories over Omaha, South, Valley, Omaha Benson and Nebraska City.

Hodges said he is hopeful for the future because he has a young team and it is constantly

improving.

"I think Hodges is a good coach. When the freshmen now are upperclassmen, the team will be good," Fogarty said.



EMILY NEUMANN/THE REGISTER

THE WIND UP Junior Justin Tatum gets ready to deliver a pitch in the Eagle's district game against Ralston on May 8. Central lost the game 12-1.

Alumnus attributes success to days at Central

From BARTEE, page 17

again.

At the end of his third season he declared himself eligible for the 1993 Major League draft. He was selected by the Baltimore Orioles, but did not reach the big leagues until 1996 with the Detroit Tigers.

On Opening Day 1996 Bartee suited up with the Tigers. That year, he said, was one of his best as a baseball player.

"I think those were some of my happiest times in baseball," Bartee said. "Being in Detroit and putting on a big league uniform for the first time."

Bartee's enjoyable years in Detroit did not last long. Prior to the 2000 season he was traded to the Cincinnati Reds.

Initially, Bartee said he went to Cincinnati to be their primary center fielder. Then the Reds were able to make a deal for one of the best players in the game,

Ken Griffey Jr. He said he was a disappointed when he heard about the signing of Griffey because he knew he would not play much.

"Anytime you play on the same team and the same position with one of the best players in the game you are going to get frustrated," he said.

After a season of playing in Cincinnati's minor league organization Bartee looked at his options and decided to sign a one-year contract with the Anaheim Angels. Bartee said he signed with the Angels because they would give him the best opportunity to play.

"I was basically just playing a numbers game. I looked around and finally came to a conclusion that Anaheim was the best fit for me," he said.

Bartee went in to the Angel's spring training thinking he would compete as a starter. But then he felt a pain in his back.

On March 23, he was diagnosed with a bulging disc in his back. Bartee then found out he would have to spend over a month rehabili-

tating his back in order to get back on the field. Instead of heading with the team to Anaheim, he instead stayed at the Angel's spring training facility in Peoria, AZ.

"I think me being here [in Arizona] makes me concentrate more on my back and maybe if I was in Anaheim I would get the itch to play and try and come back to early," he said.

Currently Bartee is at his home in Peoria, AZ rehabilitating his back on his own. He expects to return to the Angels around June and said he hopes to make a big contribution to the team as a reserve.

"I probably will get the chance to play about two to three times a week, to give the starters in the outfield a break. When you are playing 162 games and you play two to three a week, that's still a lot of playing," Bartee said.

Bartee said that even though he has only been there a couple of months Anaheim seems like a good fit for him.

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Completing the Circle

A Perfect Circle bassist Paz Lenchantin speaks of her experiences being the only girl in an all-guy band, as well as her solo endeavors.



COURTESY OF PAZ LENCHANTIN

SUCH AN INSPIRATION: Paz Lenchantin, bassist and violinist for A Perfect Circle, is the youngest member of the band. Her favorite A Perfect Circle song is "Rose" off of the album "Mer De Noms."

By Layne Gabriel

Her name may not be as familiar as that of her band, but at 27, Paz Lenchantin is the youngest member, bassist and violinist for A Perfect Circle.

Born in Argentina, Lenchantin was raised in California with two siblings.

She went to art school and studied piano and violin.

She began playing bass on her own.

"[I had] a need to express myself without classical perfection," she said.

She began playing music with her brother, who is in the band Big Milk, and they have continued to play music together.

Lenchantin's first major job was the video for Tool's song, "Aenima," where she met A Perfect Circle founder Billy Howerdel through Tool guitarist Adam Jones. Howerdel had been writing songs since he was 17 and never created a band. Lenchantin said that she was amazed at his work and A Perfect Circle began.

"It just kind of manifested," she said.

Being the only woman in A Perfect Circle does not discourage Lenchantin.

"I love making music with guys. There's something sexy about it to me," she said.

Work on A Perfect Circle's album, "Mer De Noms," took two years. The band began work on a website, which was Lenchantin's job.

"Everyone kind of had their job

as a gear or a wheel of the machine," she said.

Lenchantin's experience making the video for A Perfect Circle's first single "Judith" was long and grueling but one of her best, she said.

The video was directed by David Fincher, who also directed "Fight Club."

She said the video took a week of 13 to 15-hour days to complete.

"We were just playing nonstop 'Judith' over and over," she said.

A Perfect Circle began touring and was picked up by Nine Inch Nails' Trent Reznor as the opening act for the Fragility tour in 2000.

"I respect him [Reznor] a lot as an artist," she said. "It was a really great tour."

Members of both bands were mutual friends and Nine Inch Nails was a fan of work done by A Perfect Circle.

"For me it [the tour] was my first out and about," Lenchantin said.

Although she was new to the tour experience, Lenchantin was not overwhelmed by the tour, but said she was constantly learning.

"And it was exciting and amazing and great, but I was probably the one making the most mistakes," she said.

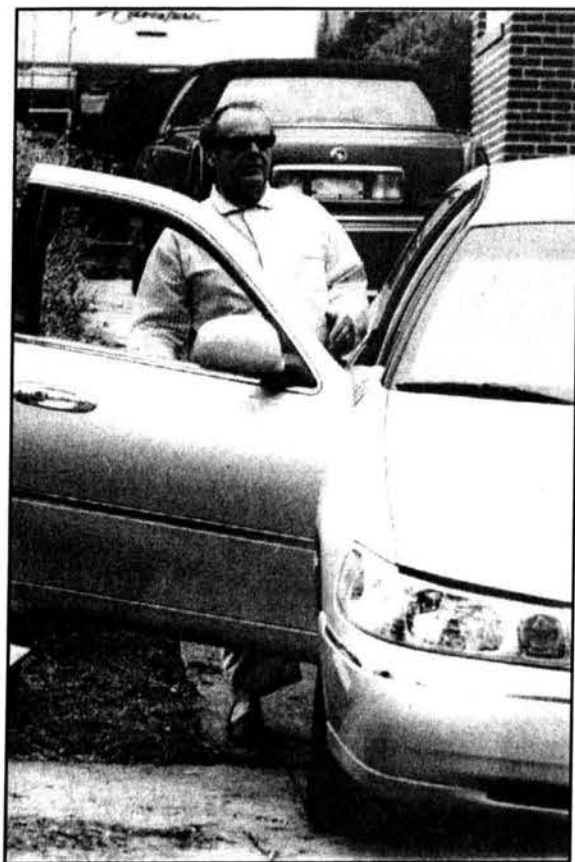
Her mistakes were not during her set onstage, but she left equipment behind on a few occasions. A Perfect Circle wrapped up its own tour in late April and the band is planning to get together and record another album, which should be available by this time next year.

"We are all in our writing mode," Lenchantin said.

Lenchantin's first solo album, "Yellow My Skycaptain," was released earlier this year in hopes to support her upcoming solo release.

"My solo album... is mainly the stuff I was doing as a teen," she said.

Jack Nicholson works on filming in Dundee home



PAULA SALHANY/THE REGISTER

By Paula Salhany

"Here's Johnny!"

That's right, Jack Nicholson is in town filming a new movie, "About Schmidt."

In the movie, Nicholson plays a retiring actuary named Warren Schmidt. Schmidt is dealing with the death of his wife and the marriage of his daughter to a man whom he does not like.

The film is being produced by Avery Pix, Inc., a division of New Line Cinema.

"Currently we are just about half-way through a 58-day shooting schedule," Kendra Leidle of Avery Pix, Inc. said.

Filming at 5402 Izard Street took place on April 30 and May 1.

To find this house, representatives from Avery Pix, Inc. walked around the neighborhoods and took pictures of various houses, she said.

She said after they took pictures they went up to the houses and asked the owners for a tour. They mapped out the floor plans and looked back at the layout of the house in the script.

"They came up to my mom's house and she gave them a tour. Her floor plans just happened to matched the script exactly," Susan Ogborn a Central graduate said.

Ogborn is the daughter of Bess Ogborn

who owns the house.

Ogborn said preparation for the film started in January and February of this year.

"They came into the house and took pictures of all the wallpaper and curtains in the house and went and hand-painted replicas of all the wallpaper," she said.

Along with curtains and wallpaper, all new furniture was bought for the indoor set.

"Once they were ready to film the house, they took all my mom's furniture out of the house except for the bedroom and put all the furniture from the indoor set in," Ogborn said.

The indoor set, once finished, cost as much money as it had cost Mrs. Ogborn to buy the house in 1964.

A lot of the crew, including director Alexander Payne, are natives of Omaha.

"I really like seeing people from Omaha go away and make something of themselves and then be able to bring their talent back," Ogborn said.

Ogborn is not the only person who is excited about the movie. There were about forty people standing around waiting for Nicholson to show up hoping that they would get a glimpse of him or maybe even an autograph.

Caryl Drennan was one person who did get an autograph.

"He was very pleasant and I was very

excited," she said.

When Nicholson was about to arrive, the crew at the set was told that "Number One is coming" and within three minutes a silver Lincoln pulled up and Nicholson stepped out.

"I've been just overwhelmed with all that goes into the production of the movie," Drennan said.

Drennan was referring to the great amounts of equipment and communication between the crew to get everything perfect.

"It's amazing how the cast can communicate and know exactly what is going on without saying anything at all," Ogborn said.

"About Schmidt" is due to be released in January or March of 2002.



PAULA SALHANY/THE REGISTER

SCENERY: One of the chairs on the set of "About Schmidt."

Gold Exhibit
page 24



Summer Calendar
page 25



JV Allstars
page 26



Rainbow
Recording Studio
page 26





COURTESY OF WESTERN HERITAGE MUSEUM

MONEY MONEY: Over \$20 million of gold is on exhibit at the Western Heritage Museum in downtown Omaha. The exhibit will be on display until the end of June. The gold was discovered in a sunken ship, retrieved and has since become a travelling display at national museums.

'Lost Treasures' gold on display

By Daisy Bonham-Carter

The \$20 million exhibit displaying gold recovered from the sunken S.S. Central America simply sparkles at Durham Western Heritage Museum.

This exhibit "Lost Treasures," is about the historic gold coins bars that are displayed in the 40-ft. long replica of the ship's hull.

The exhibit also has rare and antique photographs of Gold Rush-era miners and their mining.

"[This exhibit] is like a time-capsule: it turns back the clock to the Gold Rush's miners and what their life was like back then," Donn Pearlman, spokesman for the Gold Marketing Group of Newport Beach, Calif., said.

The Gold Marketing Group of Newport Beach acquired some of the intact \$100 million of the sunken treasure from the team that discovered and recovered the famous load.

The expedition to go down 8,000 ft. to retrieve the gold took a total of five years to do.

Inside the portholes of the hull's replica, a viewer can see stacks of gold coins

and gold bars standing in distilled water, Pearlman said.

The San Francisco Mint has freshly cleaned the bars and coins.

On each gold bar in the exhibit, a small part of one corner has been removed. Pearlman said it is because of the inspector who took some a nugget every gold bar that was handled for payment.

The S.S. Central America transported an estimated one-third of the total gold excavated during the California Gold Rush. On Sept. 3, 1857, the ship left Colón, Panama carrying almost 600 people and three tons of gold. That's when it sank in a hurricane.

An estimated \$20 million of the recovered gold is in the Museum's display, including a \$20 Double Eagle gold piece, made at the San Francisco Mint in 1857 and valued at more than \$10,000 today.

Besides all of these artifacts, such historic and government-supervised San Francisco Gold Rush assayers produced nuggets, called ingots, and privately made gold coins.

The largest ingot ever made was weighed in at almost 80 lbs. and was made by the examiners of Kellogg & Humbert.

The ingot was named "Eureka," Latin for "I have found it."

"When the ship went down, it fired off its flares," Pearlman said. "One ship came to the rescue, and between four and six hours, more rowboats came to the rescue."

Because the S.S. Central America had sunk with an enormous amount of gold, all banks and factories had to close, beginning a financial crash in both European cities and in the United States.

Pearlman said this exhibit has been traveling for over a year.

This exclusive exhibit has gold collectors bidding between \$10,000 to \$100,000 apiece for pieces of gold.

"More than a million people have seen the exhibit already," Pearlman said.

After visiting Omaha, "Lost Treasures" will go to Atlanta, Ga. It will then be shipped to Newport Beach where the Gold Marketing Group will hold it.

Five California assayers are represented in the exhibit of the S.S. Central America: Blake and Company, Kellogg & Humbert, Justh and Hunter, Harris, Marchand & Company and Henry Henstch.

Roadshow captivates audience

By Layne Gabriel

Roadshow 2001 was as stunning as every other production this year and every act was worthy of being included.

Seniors Mitch Raftery and Analisa Jacob did a series of hilarious skits marketing their collection of favorite songs. Dressed in the most outrageous outfits possible, the duo sang some hilarious songs including "Party Up" by DMX.

Seniors Evan Thompson and Kathryn Aagesen did a phenomenal performance of a beat poem that was most likely misunderstood by the audience but incredibly intense.

There were plenty of piano acts, which was to be expected, but the variety of piano acts kept the audience's attention.

Seniors Quinn Corbin and Andrea Gatzke performed the Cranberries' song, "Dreams," which was one of the best songs of the show. Senior Chalee George's song "Fancy" was also wonderful. Her stage presence was very dramatic and it was clear she had great talent and enjoyed what she did.

Many of the dances this year brought a different style to the Central stage. "Los Merengeros," a Latin dance, was interesting to watch. Three pairs of partners showed off Latin dancing moves that many students are not exposed to in every day life.

The group dance act "Too Kosmopolitan" had the audience hooting

and hollering in approval. The dancers were very animated and had a lot of attitude. They picked great songs to dance to and were fun to watch.

Returning from the Roadshow 1999 was "Central B-Boys," the breakdancing act featuring juniors Rafiq Kamal and Ben Huston. Their talent was incredible and their contortions never ceased to amaze the audience.

Brittani Dutton, freshman, did a wonderful belly dance that was tasteful, but still kept the mood of the music.

The skit "Spelling Bee" with Raftery, Jacob and junior Braden Nelson was ridiculous, but funny. Raftery and Jacob were kids in a spelling bee and Nelson was to give them the words but lost the cards, so he made words up. The scripting of it was entertaining.

"Toast," performed by junior Ben Bahr, was incredibly amusing. He beat on a toaster with spoons and sang. It was one of the more creative skits and the audience enjoyed it.

Of course, what Roadshow would be complete without a drum duet? This year senior Blake Leavitt reprised his position from last year's Roadshow, and senior Eric Bensalah joined him. This year's drum duet was just as interesting as last year's and talent was oozing from their sticks.

Every act selected by the panel of judges in late March was spectacular. Central is a very talented school and Roadshow just proved that the talent extends far beyond the band room, chorus room and the stage.

— A look back —



A Register Review

Appeared Fri., April 7, 1933



Two comedians— one who cannot laugh and the other who cannot cry— combine their comedy talents in "What! No Beer?," starting at the World theater today, starring Buster Keaton and Jimmy Durante.

Alternating between excitement and hilarious comedy, the picture centers around the current problem of legalized beer.

Buster is a taxidermist and "Schnozzle" the town barber, but by accident they are involved in the operation of a wholesale brewery.

They are not only caught between the wets and the dries on the beer question, but

they are also between the fire of two beer-running gangs who seek to control the output of their brewery.

The whole political panorama of the beer issue is covered in this story, from the recent election to the agitation in Congress over legalized beer.

It is a timely picture treated with a humorous mood, but with plenty of excitement in it. In the supporting cast are Phyllis Barry, John Miljan and Roscoe Ates.

The second feature on the program will be Barbara Stanwyck in her latest screen offering, "Ladies They Talk About." This is the drama of women who live in the headlines, with Preston Foster and Lyle Talbot.

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Summer proves to be packed with fun

Check out the calendars below. The Register's entertainment staff compiled a list of events during the summer months in the Midwest.



COURTESY OF WARNER BROS. RECORDS

June

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					beef vs. trent reznor @ civic	jerry seinfeld @ orpheum minneapolis 1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
album release: radiohead "amnesiac"	album release: radiohead "amnesiac"	album release: radiohead "amnesiac"	album release: radiohead "amnesiac"	album release: radiohead "amnesiac"	album release: radiohead "amnesiac"	album release: radiohead "amnesiac"
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
album release: slipknot	album release: slipknot	album release: slipknot	album release: slipknot	album release: slipknot	album release: slipknot	album release: slipknot

July

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU
1	2	3	4	5
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26	27	28	29	30
album release: slipknot	album release: slipknot	album release: slipknot	album release: slipknot	album release: slipknot



"Crazy/Beautiful" opening June 29.



anna hathaway, heather matarazzo and robert schumacher star in the princess diaries opening august 3.

michael j. fox voices milo thatch, a museum cartographer in the animated film atlantis: the lost empire opening june 15.



Album prices skyrocketing

I got three albums for less than \$25. I was happy.

In the never-ending whirl of obscenely high prices for albums in the music business, some stores seem to forget that paying \$17 for one album is insane.

Consider the fact that it costs practically nothing to produce the actual disc. It costs less than ten cents to make one, so the record company gets something like 17,000 percent of the initial cost. Maybe it's just me, but that's obscene.

Of course the artist and the company and everyone need to get paid, but the business generates so much cash that lowering album prices a couple bucks is not going to cause much damage.

No wonder teenagers are looking to programs like Napster to gather songs and create their own CDs at about one percent of the original price. If it can cost me 20 cents to make the same CD that I can buy for \$17, then I have some serious considering to do.

Look at national record chains. Stores like Sam Goody, the Virgin Megastore and Borders have a tendency to rip off the unknowing consumer.

Even CDNow seems to have bought into the obscenely high prices. Once you order an album and pay for shipping and handling, all the money you thought you saved miraculously went to other stupid little fees.

Standard shipping is \$3, which eats up the couple of bucks you saved buying it for \$15. Then there's the drawback that you don't get the album for like a week. It'd be cheaper and quicker to get it at Borders. I want my CD now. Isn't that why it's called "CDNow?"

Depressingly, Omaha does not have many choices when it comes to buying cheap music and getting the selection you want. Regardless, I'm an advocate of supporting local record stores, not appealing national chains.

San Francisco is fortunate to have stores like Amoeba Music, which was where I fed my Nine Inch Nails and Pearl Jam fix. Obviously Amoeba had the music biz down pat with new albums priced right around \$13 and vinyl and used albums priced even cheaper.

They offered the selection for any taste and they also knew that teenagers do not have thousands of dollars to spend on CDs.

If you purchase one album per month at the price of \$17, you spend \$204 a year on CDs alone. If you purchase one album a week, you spend almost \$900 a year.

Considering the fact that my allowance is \$60 a month, I am too much of a putz to get a job and my car eats a tank of gas about every four days, I never get to buy CDs. If I blew all my cash on CDs, I could get 42 of them at that price.

Forget eating and clothes, I want my music!

LUENINGHOENER/THE REGISTER

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The University of Nebraska-Lincoln put Sarah Baker in the right frame of mind.

Sarah Baker of Omaha has a passion for writing—so much so that she earned a Hearst writing award. The senior in journalism at the University of Nebraska is editor of the Daily Nebraskan campus newspaper. Her NU connections placed her in internships at the Minneapolis Star Tribune, The Des Moines Register and the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette. Courses in art history and criticism opened up the world of art for her, and she's now planning to use her journalistic skills as the framework for a career writing about the arts.

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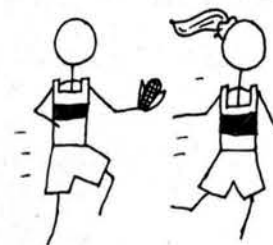
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Internationally Published
Award Winning Artists



EMILY NEUMANN/THE REGISTER

TAKING A BREAK: Rainbow Recording Studio founder Nils Erickson sits in the control room of the studio. Rainbow Records has the capabilities to produce analog or digital recordings with up to 24 tracks.

Recording studio maintains rich history

By Layne Gabriel

Back when it was a local band, 311 recorded at Rainbow Recording Studio. Lately, visits from Boyz II Men and other bands have kept it popular.

Former Central student Nils Erickson's studio was founded in 1976 and has continued recording albums and singles for local bands and national acts, as well as his band, Paddy-O-Furniture.

Sometimes Wonder, Beebe, Moment of Release and Clever have also graced the rooms that were designed by the same people that designed A&R Studios in New York.

For the same price as the studio opened - \$65 per hour - bands and soloists can come in and record on a 24-track analog or digital setup.

The analog recording, an older style of recording, is done on a two-inch reel to reel tape.

Digital recording is done on an Alesis system that places material on super VHS tapes.

He said that the digital recordings are placed on tapes because they sound more like analog and do not have the squeaky metallic sound that most recordings that were done digitally have.

Recordings done on computer often run the risk of sounding inferior to albums that

are made by either the analog or digital process.

The singer usually begins with what is called a "scratch vocal" that they plan to never use, but Erickson often chooses to use it because it is when the singer is most raw and full of emotion.

The band records the rhythm tracks and then overdubs guitar, keyboards, percussion and horns.

Vocals are rerecorded and backup vocals are also recorded. The tracks are compiled and the final product is mixed.

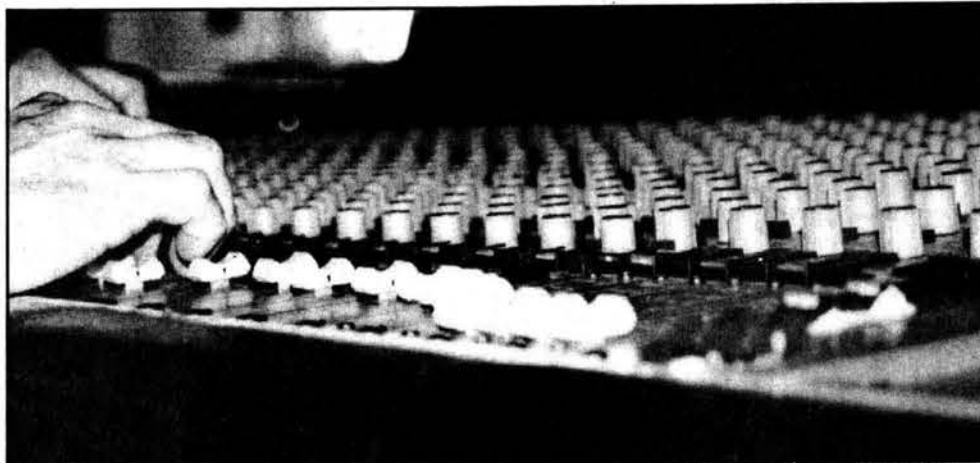
It is put on a two-track digital audio tape or Alesis' masterlink, which is a hard disk, that can be modified or burned on to disc.

This process usually takes a few hours, Erickson said. One band that has recorded at the studio, JRZ, featuring former members of the '80s band Ratt, cut four songs in seven hours.

Anyone that chooses to record at Rainbow is allowed to keep their masters, or original recording, and retain ownership of their material, something that is not common when recording.

A record deal is not signed and therefore the musicians do not lose money due to bad contracts, he said.

Most notably, 311's "Omaha Sessions" was recorded at Rainbow, as well as the band's other album "Unity."



EMILY NEUMANN/THE REGISTER

UP AND DOWN: Erickson adjusts the levels on the sound board. Erickson has owned the studio since 1976 and the prices for recording remain the same, \$65 per hour. A majority of local artists have recorded in this studio, including former local band 311 and national act Boyz 2 Men. Even Erickson's own band, Paddy-O-Furniture, has used the studio's facilities.

"It cost them [311] between two and three thousand dollars to get a product that ten years later they got 200 thousand out of," he said.

The studio is booked about half of the time, and engineers are willing to work around schedules.

"Most people would say we have the best vocal booth between Chicago and L.A.," Erickson said, which brings musicians from other cities to Omaha.

He said engineers compliment Rainbow's consistently good product. Erickson is happy with all of the work he has done in music.

Erickson was playing instruments since he was little. His interest in music caused him to open Rainbow, he said.

"Music is the common denominator through the whole world," Erickson said.

JV Allstars prove pop-punk bands are here to stay

By Layne Gabriel

Sean Jervey and Nick Tarlowski of the Lincoln band JV Allstars sat on the bed in Jervey's room.

After a few minutes of small talk, Tarlowski, guitarist and singer, picked up the phone and dialed Eric Mello, the band's bassist and singer. Jervey, drummer, put away his World History homework.

"What's up? You busy?" Tarlowski said over the white portable phone.

Tarlowski decided he would translate for Mello and the discussion began in the room with walls plastered with posters of pretty females like Britney Spears and the worn orange-yellow carpet.

He paused and listened to the phone.

"Mello says, 'Well, we were front row at a Hanson concert and we all just wanted to rock as hard as those boys,'" Tarlowski said. "Well, Sean and me met in a bar... Sean wrote a bunch of songs and me and him jammed."

Tarlowski met Mello through a mutual friend because he was trying to get his band shows to play. The two of them played a few times, and the band was formed.

"So one time, I was over at Virginia's [my girlfriend's] house and I was playing 'APSAG' on her guitar, that was a song Sean wrote, and Mello was harmonizing to it," Tarlowski said. "He came and jammed with us one time and I think we nailed out two or three songs that first day."

The guys decided that they were a band and then the search for a name began.

"Basically it was like we all came up with names and names... and nobody could agree," Jervey said.

Of course the guys went through plenty of names, including "The Short Bus Kids" and "Laminated Beard Hair."

"There was a time when we were thinking about changing our name to 'Sorry About Your Couch,'" Jervey said.

Jervey's parents were not too fond of the guys using his room as their practice space, but they learned to live with it.

"One time they came out and they saw us play," Jervey said. "My parents happened to be in the back and they just kinda saw how, like, we were up there and the people were there to see us and ever since that night, they changed their mind about me being in a band."

It seems that the Jerveys adopted Tarlowski and Mello, as they quickly stopped caring if they were over.

"We do the mom and poppa Jervey thing. They're mom and poppa Jervey, they take care of us and they feed us," Tarlowski said.

Besides support from the folks, the band has huge support from fans - especially girls, Jervey said.

"When you're in band with Nick and Eric, you have no chance of getting chicks after shows because girls have their hopes up for Nick, but then they see him with Virginia and they just flock to Mello, and I'm just in the back sweaty and nobody wants to talk to me," Jervey said.

Tarlowski's girlfriend, Virginia, is really supportive of the band, he said.

"Me and Virginia are cool at shows, I met her at a show. She's cool. She's really supportive, she's never, like, getting in the way. And that is so cool," Tarlowski said.

Mello said he is sort of dating someone, but not very seriously.

"Mello just commented that he really enjoys the fact that the girl he's kinda seeing isn't into the scene. He's like me, I don't think I'd want a girl in the scene. I go to school and see lots of trendy hot sorority girls, that's what I want. She can, like, never come to

shows and never even know I'm in a band," Jervey said.

Girls never seem to make it far from the guys' minds though, since most of their songs are about women.

The JV Allstars also play songs that have been co-written by female friends.

"It's like, come on, we're 19-year-old, 20-year-old boys, what else are we going to sing about?" Jervey said.

As for cover songs, the band plays a few and would like to cover some songs that are a little less punk.

"I've always wanted to cover Billy Joel's 'For the Longest Time.' That song is amazingly tough. We try to sing as best as we can, but we are no Billy Joels," Tarlowski said.

Being punk rock sometimes labels bands as automatic sell-outs, but the JV Allstars disagree.

"If you are in a band and you have mild success, and record companies say 'Well, you know, you should change from this style to more this style because this is what's on the radio right now,' and you change that and become popular, then you're selling out," Tarlowski said.

The roots of punk were not created with



PAULA SALHANY/THE REGISTER

I'M AN ALLSTAR BABY: Nick Tarlowski, Eric Mello and Sean Jervey are members of the Lincoln pop-punk band the JV Allstars. The band has one album, 'Joyo'

the thought of musicians selling out, but with the thought of art school kids playing different music and still expressing a feeling.

"It came from the pasty white [art school] kids that were just like, 'Okay, here's how we feel about things. If it's obnoxious and terrible or horribly crass, it's like that's the way it's supposed to be,'" Tarlowski said. "It was a very avant garde way of thinking about things."

The JV Allstars would never think about changing its style, though.

Tarlowski said he thought bridging the gap is important for the band to do, which is why the band plays at shows with bands that are not punk.

"You play what you like. If you don't like that music, why would you put your name to it?" Jervey said.

Filthy Few gains fanbase

By Daisy Bonham-Carter

Local band, The Filthy Few, has had a history of music and friendships throughout the years.

Before calling it the Filthy Few, all but one of the original members were in a band named Diabolic Possession, which broke up in 1994.

"We broke up because of college, mostly, and relationships with other people," vocalist Chad Lottmann said. "Then we got back together, but with one less of a person."

The Filthy Few has been making rock alternative/pop music for two and a half years, getting some of their lyrical content from both fictional and past experiences, bassist Steve "Tuco" Jacobs said.

"It's pretty impulsive," Lottmann said when asked how he writes lyrics.

The members of the band have all been playing their instruments since they were young. Jacobs said he was raised in a very musical family. His uncle taught him the mandolin when he was only five.

The band Celtic Frost inspired Lottmann to become involved in music. He was listening to the band's album at a friend's house. The local go-go bars around Omaha inspired many band members.

"Omaha is a very strong and easy scene to be in," Jacobs said. "There are lots of very cool people around here."

Lottmann said he has met many interesting people because he was in a local band.

"To be a fan of [The Filthy Few], you have to be outgoing," Jacobs said. "We don't really go for any age-group but the ones that understand us more are the 21 and over ages."

Lottmann said that whoever has the ears, The Filthy Few will be glad to play for them.

Student teacher plays in band

By Daisy Bonham-Carter

Being an instrumental music student teacher is not enough for Michael Cain's love of music; he is also in local band Planet Butter.

Cain, 22, said he got addicted to music because of his seventh-grade jazz band. Cain then went to the University of Nebraska at Lincoln to major in music. He wanted to student teach at Central.

"I love teaching but I love to play as well," he said.

Cain was involved with the band The Mediums three years ago. These days, Cain has been busy playing saxophone and singing in Planet Butter, a funk/jazz band.

"The main focus, I guess, is funk-rock," Cain said. "But it's got a jazzy and funky influence to it."

Planet Butter is made up of seven members, each playing authentic jazz instruments.

Cain said the band's name included "butter" because the members were looking for a jazzy and greasy sound.

Planet Butter has two guitarists, Matt Richardson and Brian Morrow, who also sings. Kirstin Froshaiser sings and Scott "Zip" Zimmerman sings, as well as plays percussion. Todd French plays the trombone and Jim Dodson plays flugelhorn and trumpet.

"[Froshaiser] is our elegant lady who is followed by a bunch of guys," Cain said. "but I'm still the youngest [in the band]."

All members except Cain are in their late twenties to early thirties.

Cain said Morrow writes and arranges all music parts, but friends of the band write some of the lyrics.

When Planet Butter performs in Omaha, it usually accompanies The Get. Music or The Nines.

"[Planet Butter] first started out as a band for college kids," Cain said. "but because I'm student teaching, a lot of Central kids and their parents want to support us too, which is great... It's a younger crowd [now] with parents as well as the college kids."

Planet Butter recorded its first album, "More Crash Less Burn," in Dec. 2000.

"Actually, we started [to plan] the album last summer because we wanted to know what songs were going on it and who was going to sing the solos," Cain said. "It was very fun. All we did was hang out and play, all day and every day."

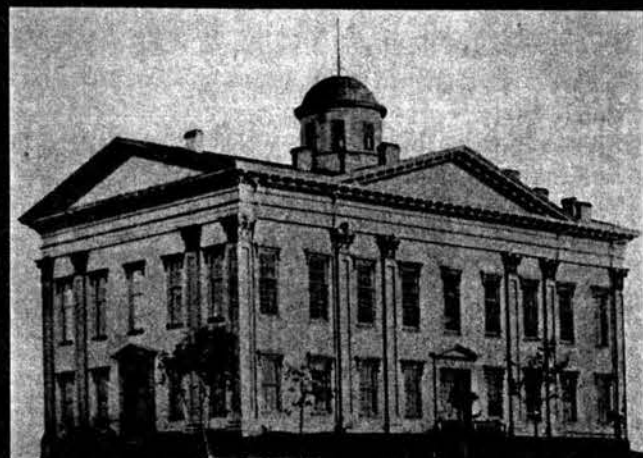
The band is going on tour throughout the Midwest, but eventually, Cain said, Planet Butter would like to hit every music scene in the nation. Following the local is important to Planet Butter's success.

Cain said that he would like to go back to school later on, to get his jazz-performance degree and move to the East Coast.

A History of Excellence

Central High School recently celebrated the centennial of the placement of the cornerstone of the current building. However, Central's history goes back much farther. The following is an in-depth look at some of that history since the school's beginning.

1857



Territorial Capital - Circa 1857 - From 1857 to 1870, Nebraska's territorial capital resided on the hill where Central now sits. The land was donated by the Nebraska Legislature in 1869 on the condition that it be used for a high school. However, the building was never used as a school. It was declared unsafe and torn down in 1870 to make way for a new building.

1899



Omaha High School - Circa 1899 - The new high school building was completed in 1871 and consisted of a main structure with North and South wings and a 150-foot spire that dominated the horizon. Destined to become known as Central High School, the building was a source of pride and almost all important visitors were sure to be given a tour of the school.

1900



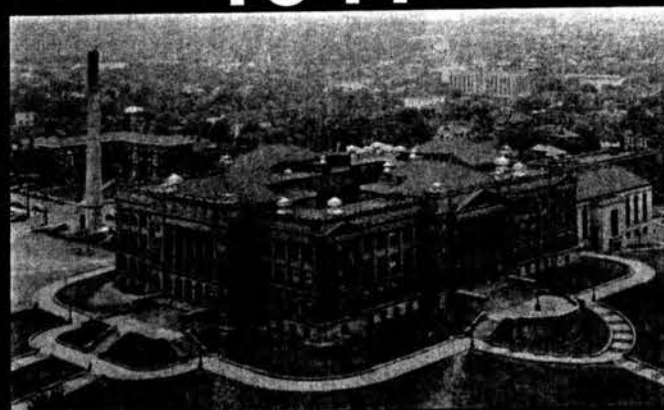
Plans for Omaha High School - Circa 1898 - By 1897, overcrowding and inadequate ventilation became serious problems for the school, and the board of education approved construction of a larger building. This drawing was one of the plans for the new school building. Under this plan, the existing tower would be torn down and a new tower would be constructed in the middle of the proposed building. It was never completed.

1907



During Construction - 1900-1912 - During these years the school grew one side at a time with each section constructed around the original tower building. Classrooms in the old building continued to be used during construction of the new one. The tower building itself was demolished before the fourth side was added. Removal of the old building created a courtyard in the middle of the building that is still used today.

1941



Central High School - Circa 1941 - After the dramatic lowering of Dodge Street in 1920, the school board approved the addition of a gym and auditorium wing to the North side of the building in 1925. The addition was completed in 1930, giving Central the Old Gym and auditorium wing, seen in the background here. Also note the football field on the middle of the left side.

2001



Central High School - Today - After the auditorium and gym were added in 1930, the school remained basically unchanged until 1977, when a full-size gym was added north and east of the main building. In 1981-82 the entire building underwent renovation while school was in session. Near the end of the project, workmen used a helicopter to lower supports in place for a translucent dome that covers the courtyard. This addition ended the need to close the hub of the school at the first sign of snow and ensured its year-round popularity among students. The building is up for another renovation this year.

Celebrate the Greatness



1859 – The Territorial Capital used to sit on the hill where Central is now. The land was donated in 1869 by the state.



Below is the lead editorial from the November issue of the Register, published in 1900. The topic was the placement of the cornerstone. (Written as originally published.)

The laying of a corner stone seems to us of the present age very formal and is considered by some unnecessary.

But to us, who saw the laying of the corner stone of our New High School, it seemed as if the dead past had opened her sepulchre and had poured forth her giants with their customs and manners.

It was a sight that made us feel as if the past was as yesterday and the present a dream.

The march of the cadets, the music of the band, the impressive exercises of the masons laying the stone, all seemed to tell the march of the tribes and their labors in building the Holy City.

The eloquent oration by Rev. Trefz in which he encouraged the multitude to continue the battle against ignorance, the mother of woe, seemed very like the words of the leader of the mighty hosts, when he bade his people be of good cheer for the world was yet full of joy.

May the pupils who will fill the halls of this great building, when it is finished, feel that the love and adoration of the past members of this old High School is breathing in their ears the words, "Be of good cheer. We conquered, so can you."

Hundreds attend centennial eve

By Matt Wynn

Over 1,000 Central alumni attended the centennial anniversary of the cornerstone of Central High School in the auditorium and courtyard on Apr. 29.

Bev Fellman, organizer of the event and chairman of the Alumni Association, said she thought the event was a huge success.

"It was a program with a lot of inspiration and dignity, both of which personify this building," she said. "Many many people put many many hours into this... we are grateful and pleased with the results."

The Central Marching Band kicked off the program at 1:40 pm on the Dodge St. portico.

The band played several songs, ending with the school song, "Go Central Go."

It then led the crowd into the auditorium for a presentation.

The presentation began with a

showing of a documentary video, closely followed by a welcome speech from Principal Gary Thompson.

"We are very proud today," Thompson said. "We have several things to be proud of. We are without question the most diverse school in the state... we are also the largest in the state. Next year we approach 2500 students."

Thompson commented on the rich history of the school and the upcoming renovations planned for the next few years.

Fellman gave a speech about alumni involvement. She said Central is privileged to have such a long history, and students of all generations should be proud.

She said Central has always been one of the best schools, and that its alumni prove that.

"Someone once said to me that being a doctor or lawyer is only an entry level position [for being at

Central]," Fellman said.

After the speeches, Pegi Georgeson and the stage crew produced a special Road Show in Retrospect, a collection of the best acts in Central's road show over the past 25 years. Seven acts were performed, including three solos by current Central students Sarah Welch, Mitch Raftery and Noah Moe.

An act by Peter Buffett and Lars Erickson was a special treat, Fellman said.

"That act was special," she said. "Peter Buffett composed the music for Dances with Wolves."

The duo recreated their road show act from 1976, playing a piano duet called "High School Inventions," Fellman said.

Buffett and Erickson composed the song during their senior year at Central.

The road show in retrospect ended with a performance by the CHS singers, who sang, "Salvation" a song

that has been taught at Central for years, Lyn Bouma, vocal director said. The CHS Singers joined on stage by graduates.

In the end, almost 500 alumni and students took the stage for a special rendition. After the audience filtered into the courtyard for refreshments and several speeches.

"All in all, the day was a success," Fellman said.

She said she thought the graduates were happy, and she was very proud with the results.

Perhaps alumnus Orin O'Connell summed up the day best.

"It [the celebration] was beyond my expectations. The expectations were high," he said. "After all, that is the legacy."

Turn to TROPHY on page 30 for more on the centennial celebration.



1873 – Omaha High School is completed. Within a few years the first class is let into the new building. The graduates from the class of 1878 were Fannie G. Heron, Marcia J. Manning, Sarah Jacobs, William L. McCague.

1876 – One of the original graduating classes of Omaha High School had only four members.



1886 – The first issue of the Register, the oldest high school newspaper west of the Mississippi, is published.

1897 – The Board of Education deemed Omaha High School as too crowded. Renovation plans were begun for present building.



1900 – On Nov. 20 the cornerstone for the new Central High School was placed on the second story of the North side of the school.

1907 – The statue of Minerva, dedicated in 1902, was one of the statues that decorated the early years of the school.

Alumni hold fond memories of old school

By Joe Meyer

When Sam Cooper started attending Central High School, he had recently emigrated from Poland and did not speak a single word of English.

The school did not have an English as a Second Language program, so Cooper had to learn the language on his own.

"You just picked it [English] up by coming to school," Cooper, who graduated in 1941, said.

To this day, he can still point to the place where his Public Speaking course was held. He said he took the class to help him learn the language quickly.

"If you could speak English, it was a big asset," he said.

Stories like Cooper's were plentiful when hundreds of former students came to the school to celebrate the centennial of the current school building on April 29.

"There's only one time to celebrate 100 years," John Sundberg, who came from his home in California to experience the event said. "It was just important to come and celebrate."

Sundberg, who graduated in 1927, said the biggest difference in the school is the discipline.

Once, he said, a group of seniors

came to school with their shoes shined different colors.

They were sent home and were not allowed back until they fixed their shoes.

He also said that male students wore shirts and ties to school everyday and the young women were not allowed to wear slacks.

Another aspect of the increased discipline was the role of the Student Cadet Regiment.

Sundberg, who was also president of the student association and in the orchestra, said the Cadet Association had six companies each of which contained 50 students.

"That [the cadets] was the heart and soul of the male population of our school," he said.

Being in the Cadet Association, Sundberg said, allowed for him to enter the Army as a 2nd Lt. Infantry in

the Army, where he served for three and a half years in the South Pacific administering military hospitals during World War II.

Central alumni also said the changes that have been made to the school are very impressive.

The courtyard was one of the most noticeable changes that the former students noticed.

Also, the former students were quick to tell about the segregated stairways with bathrooms on the landings.

"The only time we were allowed to go down the boys stairway was during a fire drill," 1937 graduate Charlotte Floyd said. "So, we all went down the boys' stairs and the boys went down the girls' stairs."

Allison Latenser, who graduated in 1973, said she liked some of the older features of the school.

She said she missed the wooden lockers, the small auditorium that is now the vocal music room and the wooden desks in the study halls.

All of these things have been

removed or modified because of a growing student body and concerns.

"It would be nice to see the way we went here, the good," Sarita said.

Floyd said that although features of the school have changed, the strong reputation has always remained the same.

She said the school was especially strong in English. For example, when she attended the University of Nebraska, she was required to take an English placement exam because she was a Central graduate.

"I've always felt I was educated of my friends anywhere else," Floyd said. "It was a wonderful school."

Sundberg said he was surprised that the current building is still around today.

He said he thought the school would not survive the post-war shift in the population toward the west.

Floyd said the city and district has made a good decision to keep the history for so long.

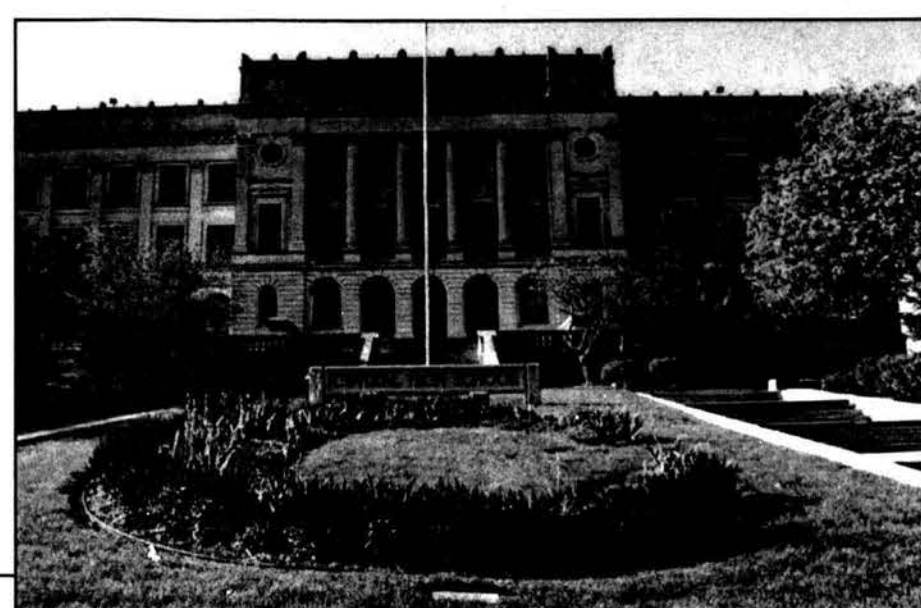
"I heard they almost decided to keep Central and demolish it," she said.



SUNDBERG
class of 1927

Right: A Central High diploma from 1892.

Below: A study hall in 1907 is now the computer lab in room 215.

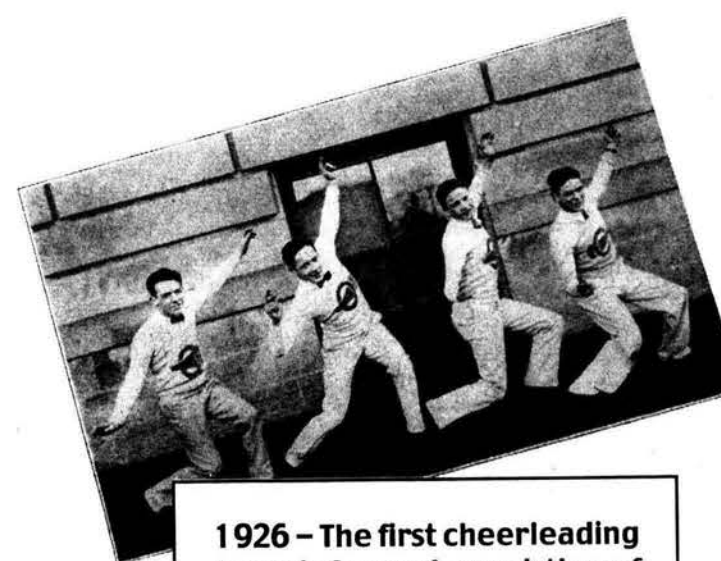


2001 - Several plans for the future of CHS are currently being looked over. Most involve an addition to the new gym and all include an air-conditioning system.

1977 to 1982 - Central underwent major renovations to achieve its current look. Between 1947 and the present, Central has undergone two major changes. One of which, the addition of the New Gym, was completed in 1977. The other major milestone of the CHS building was the covering of the courtyard, which was completed in 1982.

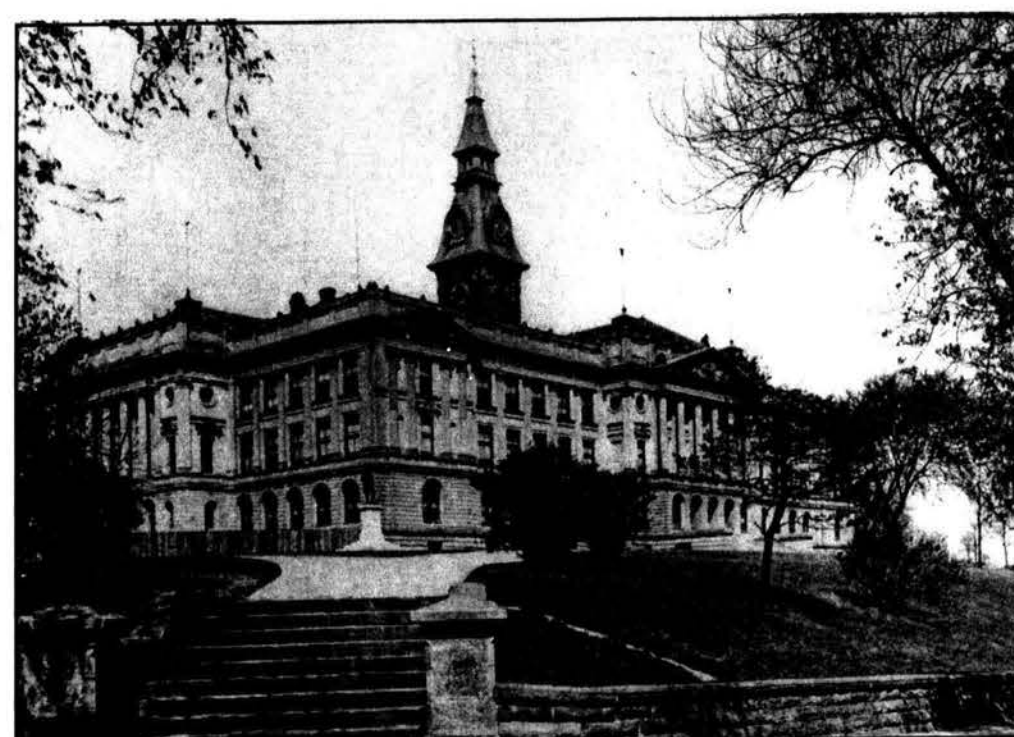


1947 - The old building had been torn down, and Dodge Street had been lowered to make a lower grade to the school. The school retained this outer appearance for over 25 years.



1926 - The first cheerleading team is formed, consisting of only four men. Several other after-school activities were organized at the school as well, such as ROTC, a band, a basketball team and football team.

Left: Senior Walter Epplen 1st Lieutenant, Company C 1904. Military, on the high school level, was a big part of many students lives.



1909 - This picture of Central shows the building during the middle stages of its renovation. The old building had not yet been torn down, yet most of the new building had been constructed.



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TROPHY CASE

Central's glory on display

By Matt Wynn

A very special part of the centennial celebration was the unveiling of a case that showcases interesting artifacts from Central's history.

Bev Fellman, chairperson of the Alumni Association, said the case was specially designed to reflect Central's image.

The contents of the case vary widely, from microscopes to beanie caps.

But all of them share one special bond.

"Everything in the case exhibits something very interesting about the history of this school," Fellman said.

Photos adorn the back of the case, showing such scenes as Central during various stages of its renovations, or the halls of Central back when they were filled with statues.

The floor of the case is covered with trophies, fliers and other interesting pieces of Central's history.

"The case is something we are all very excited about," Fellman said. "We hope the students will agree."

Two banners are in the case. One is from the old Omaha High School which is estimated to have been made almost 100 years ago. The newer pennant is believed to be from around the late 1920s.

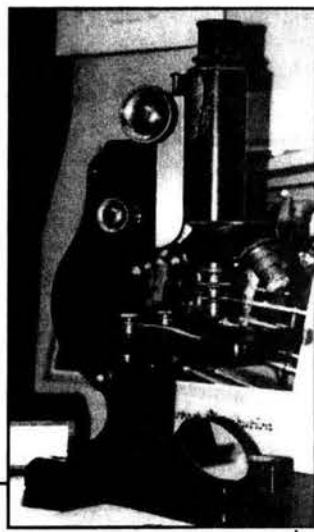


"The Woodchopper's Ball" by Woody Herman was adopted as the school's main song during the 1940s and '50s. A 78 rpm record of the song is posted to the wall of the case.

A cheerleading outfit from 1949, complete with pom poms and skirt, is also included in the contents of the case. The outfit is flanked by a wool baseball uniform from 1919.



A cheerleader gave this "beanie" cap to classmate Eddie Treller. Treller graduated in '63 and wore the cap to every CHS football game until his death in 1999.



A microscope from the early years of the CHS science department is also included in the case.



ALL PHOTOS NEUMANN/ THE REGISTER

Then & Now

Undoubtedly, several things at Central have changed over the years. Teachers, students, activities, and even the building itself has changed significantly over the years. Here is a look at just a few of the changes that have taken place.

The Register

2001



1918



Girls' Basketball

2001



1920



Central Faculty

Terrie Saunders



Pegi Georgeson



Dr. Gary Thompson



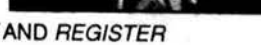
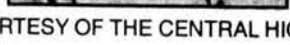
Vicki Anderson



1977



2001



PHOTOS ARE COURTESY OF THE CENTRAL HIGH O-BOOK AND REGISTER

A LOOK BACK

These are some of the students/faculty who went to or worked at Central High.



Florence Degraff, 1904



Florence True, 1904



Helen Woodward, 1904



Olive Carpenter, 1900



Marion Hughes, 1900



Joseph Masters, principal 1933



A.H. Waterhouse, principal 1900