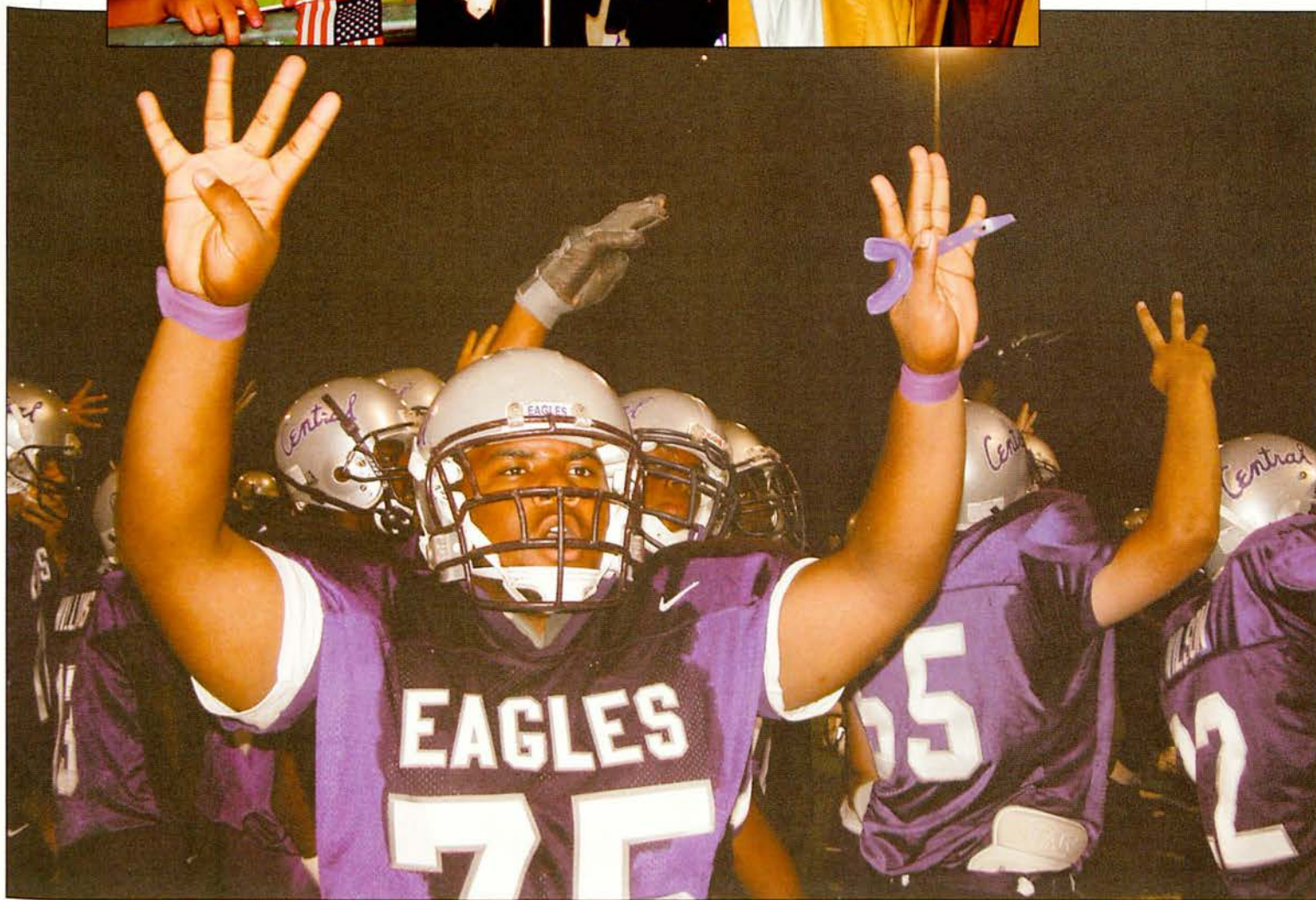


COMMENCEMENTS

connections

freshmen: 912
sophomores: 526
juniors: 501
seniors: 433
students: 2372
teachers: 155
support staff: 67

O-Book
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Above. Donald McPherson (10) holds up four fingers to signal to the home crowd it is the fourth quarter and the Eagles' victory is secure. The Eagles won 35-13 over North. **Top (from left).** Morgan Wetterstrom (10) holds one of many flags that were given out to the audience to show the patriotic theme of the dedication ceremony of the new stadium. JROTC practiced multiple times before actually performing. (From left) Cpl. Everett Welch (10), Cpl. Derek Schuler (11) and Sgt. 1st Class Princeton O'Neal (11) discuss how the ceremony is going so far. Richard Holland (left) and Lee Seemann enjoy the donors' dinner before the formal dedication. Photos by Patrick O'Malley, Molly Mullen and Zach Pluhacek.



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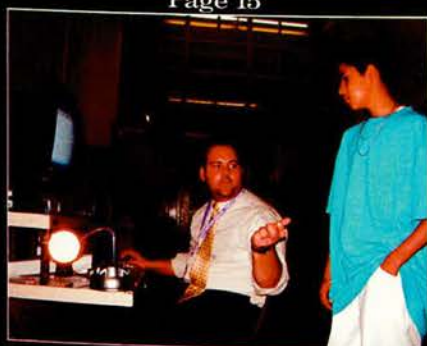
Connections. Everybody who attends, or used to attend, Central is connected in some way. The yearbook is no exception. There has always been some confusion on what year the first **O-Book** was published. The staff discovered through time-consuming research that the yearbook has been around since 1897. Not only that, the yearbook wasn't even called the **O-Book** back then. When it first started, it was called the **Annual**, or **Annual Register** to be precise. That version was created by the graduating senior class of that time. In 1922, teacher Maybel Burns suggested the staff change the name of the **Annual** to the **O-Book** because at the time Central was known as Omaha High School. Although the name of the yearbook has changed, the purpose of it remains the same. With this discovery, we decided to change our volume number on this year's publication to show a connection with the very first yearbook, not with the first **O-Book**. From the 19th century to the 21st and beyond, to this school we will always have connections.

Mia Edwards (12) and Timothy Gaskin (12) leave school during 7th hour because they had early release. Edwards is holding a teddy bear she received for her 18th birthday. Photo by Molly Mullen.

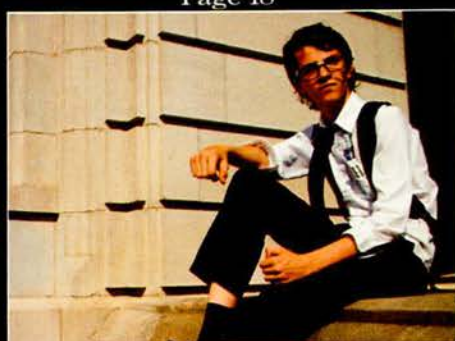


Students were filled with many emotions. From the great feeling of having a home to call our own to the mixed opinions brought on by the new student identification badges, we saw it all. The pep rallies brought on pride and school spirit for many of the students and athletes. Excitement came from spirit week to homecoming and from senior dances to tailgating before games. Depending on the clothes we wore, many could tell if we were feeling happy or depressed. Still we managed to show our national pride by donating to help victims of Hurricane Katrina. These are our emotions.

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From Left. Administrator Mark Smith takes Isaac Moreno's (9) name and photo for his identification badge. Christopher Pecha (9) sits outside of school on Nerd Day. Aja Anderson (12) and David Jones (12) dance in celebration of being crowned king and queen at homecoming. *Photos by Tanika Cooper and Stephanie Wilhelm.*

Opposite page. The courtyard has always been a symbol of the school. When alumni come back for reunions, they all ask when that part of the school was enclosed. It not only offers a place for lunch, but it offers a place for people to meet between classes. *Photo by Molly Mullen.*



Kenneth Dupree (9) stands by the flag after it was raised by member of JROTC in the early morning hours. Photo by Clay Lomneth

all in a day's work

Nebraska's largest high school is a busy place outside of the school from the early morning hours

1. 7:05 a.m. Dantae Potter (11) goes through the breakfast line. There was a slight change in the food served for breakfast. **2.** Kquerra Brown (11) signs in students who are tardy to school. Many students volunteered during their free hours to work with attendance. Photos by Clay Lomneth, Tanika Cooper.



3. Julian Egger (10) discusses his classes with personal and social counselor Ron Moore. **4.** 8:30 a.m. Principal Jerry Bexten announces to the school to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance. The senior class officers and Latino Leaders often gave announcements to the school. Photos by Tanika Cooper, Clay Lomneth.



5. Teacher Jennifer Rotherham grades final exams in the courtyard. She was the student teacher for French teacher Kristin Lawton. **6.** 9:38 a.m. Stephanie Gleason (9) works on her social studies worksheet in the hall outside of room 122. The worksheet was on the Great Depression. Photos by Tanika Cooper.



7. Heather Caldwell (9) rides the cycle in Aerobics. Students in Aerobics were often required to ride the cycles to get a better workout. **8.** Shuona Wang (11) (left) and Yvette Butler (12) work through their lab together. Most of the labs required the students to work with a partner. Photos by Tanika Cooper, Stephanie Wilhelm.



9. Besides talking in the hallway during passing period, Jessica Lewis (12) also tried to get in some extra study time before her exams. **10.** Physics teacher Matt Hamill explains universal gravitation to his AP Physics students Frank Marescalco (12) and Antonio Lopez (12). Photos by Patrick O'Malley and Zachary Pluhacek.



24 hours at CHS

Some students and staff even work inside and to midnight. Here is a typical day in Eagle territory.



At midnight, one can see the lights on as the custodians prepare to lock up the building for the night
Photo by Clay Lomneth



11. CHS has been around for a long time, therefore it requires many repairs. 12. 12:58 p.m. Patrice Parker (11) works in the kitchen during seventh hour lunch. She said she was paid \$5 a day to wash dishes. Photos by Clay Lomneth.



13. 1:45 p.m. Louis House (10) lifts weights. He was in John Moran's weight training class. 14. Lt. Col. Mike Melvin runs the weekly inspection for the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC). The inspections took place every Wednesday and involved practicing marching. Photos by Clay Lomneth.



15. Kelly Wiczorek (11) gets a pass from secretary Vivian Rostermundt. Wiczorek was an office aide. Like Wiczorek, many students used their free periods to serve as office aides. 16. 2:18 p.m. Amanda Pintore (11) and Brittany Krijan (11) are in their German class discussing the controversy of the "I love OPS" T-shirts. Photos by Clay Lomneth.



17. 2:54 p.m. Andrew Shirley (10), a member of JROTC helps fold up the flag. A few members were selected to fold up the flag. 18. 2:58 Security personnel Mike McWhorter watches the students as they file out the building at the end of the day. Photos by Clay Lomneth.



19. 5:02 p.m. Clarence Crader, custodian, vacuums in room 119. He was in charge of cleaning some of the rooms after school let out. 20. Frank DeGeorge puts some garbage in a bag. Custodians had to clean the stadium after the games were over. Photos by Clay Lomneth and Stephanie Wilhelm.

at the top of their lungs

Cast members of fall musical deliver fun, lively performances

by emma phillips

It was the final scene of the last performance of "The Music Man." The actors all danced and sang in jubilation. Harold Hill, played by Timothy Battafarano (12), proved he was the good guy everyone wanted him to be.

Hill took Marian Paroo, played by Lindsey Goding (12), in his arms and as the final kissing scene began, the curtain was closed. Instead of swishing by as it was supposed to, it hit Battafarano in the back causing both actors to stumble.

This was one of the many memorable moments from this year's musical, which was performed Nov. 4 and 5 in the auditorium.

Drama teacher John Gibson said he enjoyed putting on musicals despite the many challenges.

"All musicals are difficult because they are so big and include so many people," he said.

The musical had 56 cast members who had to attend 38 rehearsals for the musical to flow smoothly.

Battafarano also played the scarecrow in "The Wizard of Oz," which the drama department

he said.

Sarah Burford (10) was a chorus member and a dancer in the musical.

She said she had not taken drama and this was the first time she was involved in a drama production.

Burford said she wasn't in the production last year because she was too nervous to try out.

"I thought that because I was a freshman I wouldn't get in," she said.

Burford said she was a little nervous to perform in front of her classmates, but had experience singing, so that element of the production didn't bother her.

Sarah Potts (10) also participated in a drama production for the first time. Potts was in the chorus and was a dancer.

She said she was in four big dance numbers and although she's been dancing for 11 years she was still worried about her footing on the stage.

"I was afraid that I was going to fall knowing me and my clumsy self," she said.

Battafarano said his role did not require him to learn as much choreography as the chorus. He said he thought the supporting cast and dancers did an excellent job playing their roles and were instrumental to the musical.

Potts said before trying out, she hadn't known the story of "The Music Man," but after she learned it, she said she liked the premise.

Battafarano also said previous to getting his role he also was unfamiliar with the play, but said once he knew the story he liked it.

Gibson said he was glad new people were showing an interest in drama.

"It's always fun to bring in the new crop of performers," he said.

Battafarano said he thought the new cast members did well and any mistakes they made could be attributed to inexperience.

"They were probably just not as aware of how it worked," he said.

Gibson said the students were responsible for every aspect of the show.

The backstage crew was entirely made up of students. Many were not enrolled in drama, but said they enjoyed lighting and building sets.

Gibson said he thought the stage crew did a wonderful job changing scenes quickly and efficiently and they improved each time they practiced.

He also said the entire production improved with each performance and the actors related to the audience very easily.



Jennifer Castello (12) applies makeup before a dress rehearsal.

Most actors in the musical were responsible for their own makeup.

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

produced last year.

Battafarano said there were similarities between his role in "The Wizard of Oz" and "The Music Man," but he said having the lead gave him a new perspective.

"It was sort of a different take on the whole thing," he said.

He also said getting the lead in the musical was demanding because he had to memorize more lines and choreography.

Gibson said the musical's cast was a mixture of newcomers and seasoned thespians. He also said most of the actors in lead roles were in his Advanced Drama class.

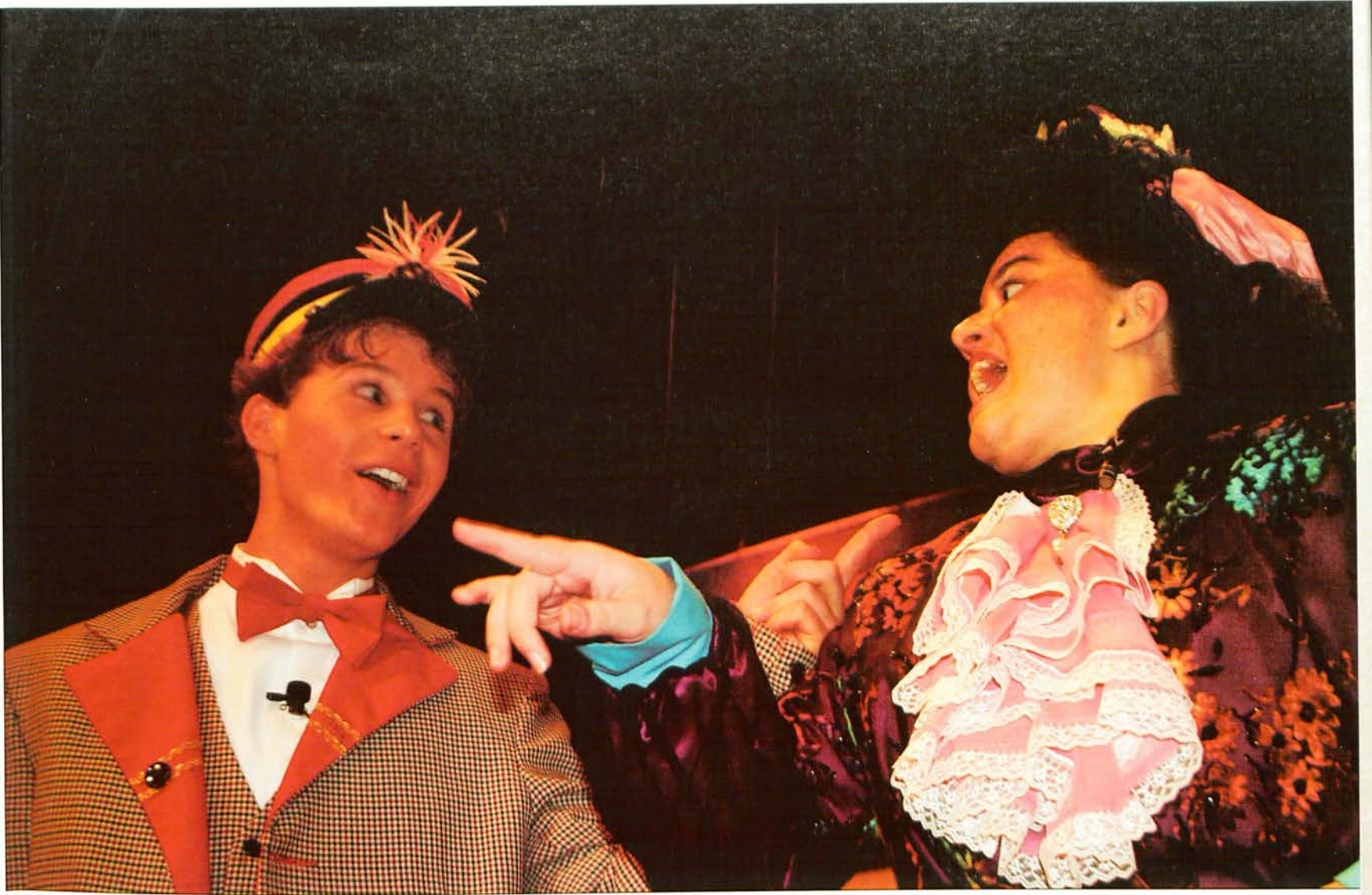
Battafarano said he tried out for the play not knowing what part he would be given.

Battafarano said he was glad he got the part he did and enjoyed the experience very much.

He said the element of the play he enjoyed the most was the opportunity to grow as an actor.

Gibson said he also enjoyed watching Battafarano's progress.

"It was so fun to watch Tim grow throughout the process,"



Left. Timothy Battafarano (12) tells Lindsey Goding (12) of his love through a song during a scene in the library. Goding played the role of the town librarian. Most of the characters in the musical held normal jobs and that was a big reason why a majority of the scenes were set in everyday places.
Photo By Emma Phillips.

Above. Battafarano sings with Jennifer Castello (12), another member of the cast. Battafarano was the lead and he interacted with most of the other actors involved in the musical. Drama teacher John Gibson said musicals typically have very large casts.
Photo by Emma Phillips.



back to his alma mater

Former I-back returns home for class reunion, first game

by patrick o'malley

Along with the buzz and excitement of the first varsity football game at Seemann Stadium, a 10-year class reunion was held for the graduating class of 1995 in the courtyard before the game.

Much of the attention was drawn to alumnus Ahman Green who currently plays for the Green Bay Packers.

"It (the game) was a great event to host another event," Green said.

Green said the reunion was enjoyable because he was able to see how some of his former classmates were doing.

"I'm proud to be an Eagle on the field and in the classroom," he said.

Shian Bashkillff, vice president of the 1995 class, said the planning began about a year ago.

Bashkillff and the class president Clark Laurton did some of the organizing, but left most of the planning to the CHS Alumni Association.

One hundred and seventy alumni and guests attended the ceremony. The CHS Alumni Association sent invitations to every up-to-date registered graduate who were told to RSVP. Only 92 people from the graduating class responded.

Bashkillff said there were many options for when to hold the reunion. Around the time of the College World Series was a popular vote for the ceremony, but the opening game night against the North High Vikings became the unanimous choice.

"Genius timing by the president (class of 1995)," Alvin Samuels (12) senior class president said.

Bashkillff also said the courtyard was a

good place to hold the party because it would make it easier for everyone to see all of the recent renovations of the school.

A \$15 cover charge for the dinner was included with the \$5 needed to get into the game.

That was the first time Green and many of his classmates had seen the stadium.

In addition to the reunion and the sideline view of the game, Green led the team in an encouraging pep talk prior to the game.

Green said he hoped the students would really take advantage of the stadium because he wished he would have had the opportunity to play on it.

Jamie Peck (12) said Green was very enthusiastic in his pregame pep talk.

"It got me pumped for the game," Peck said.

He said Green talked about respect and how the players should take advantage of having a field at Central.

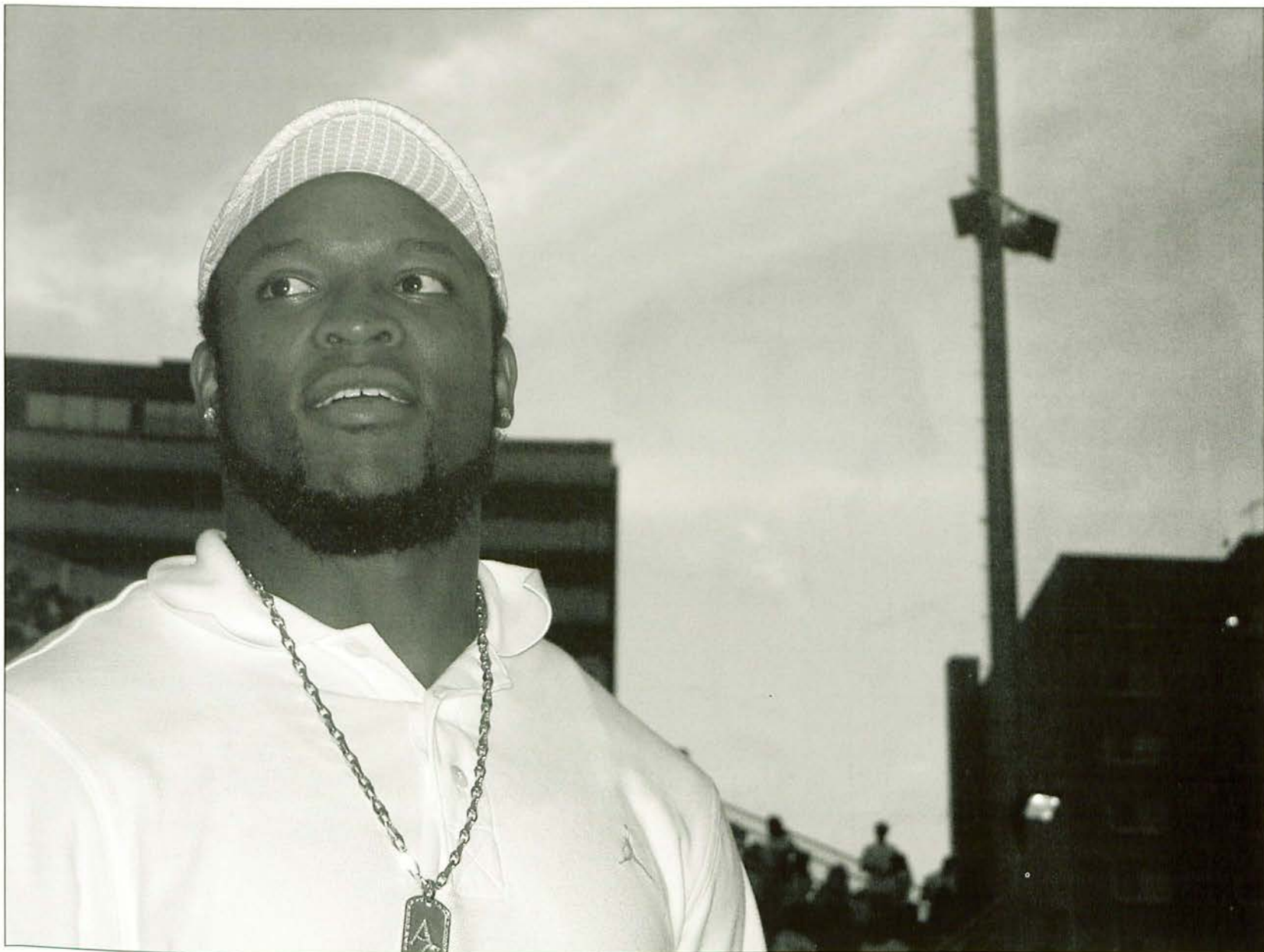
Green said he hoped the students would take advantage of having the new stadium available.

Being an icon to all of the young football players was something very exciting to Green.

In honor of Green's success as a professional football player, Samuels presented a new jersey with his retired number 34 to him during half-time.

Samuels said Green knew something was going on and that he was going to be honored with something, but he didn't know exactly what he was going to get.

The Eagles ended the night with a victory over North.



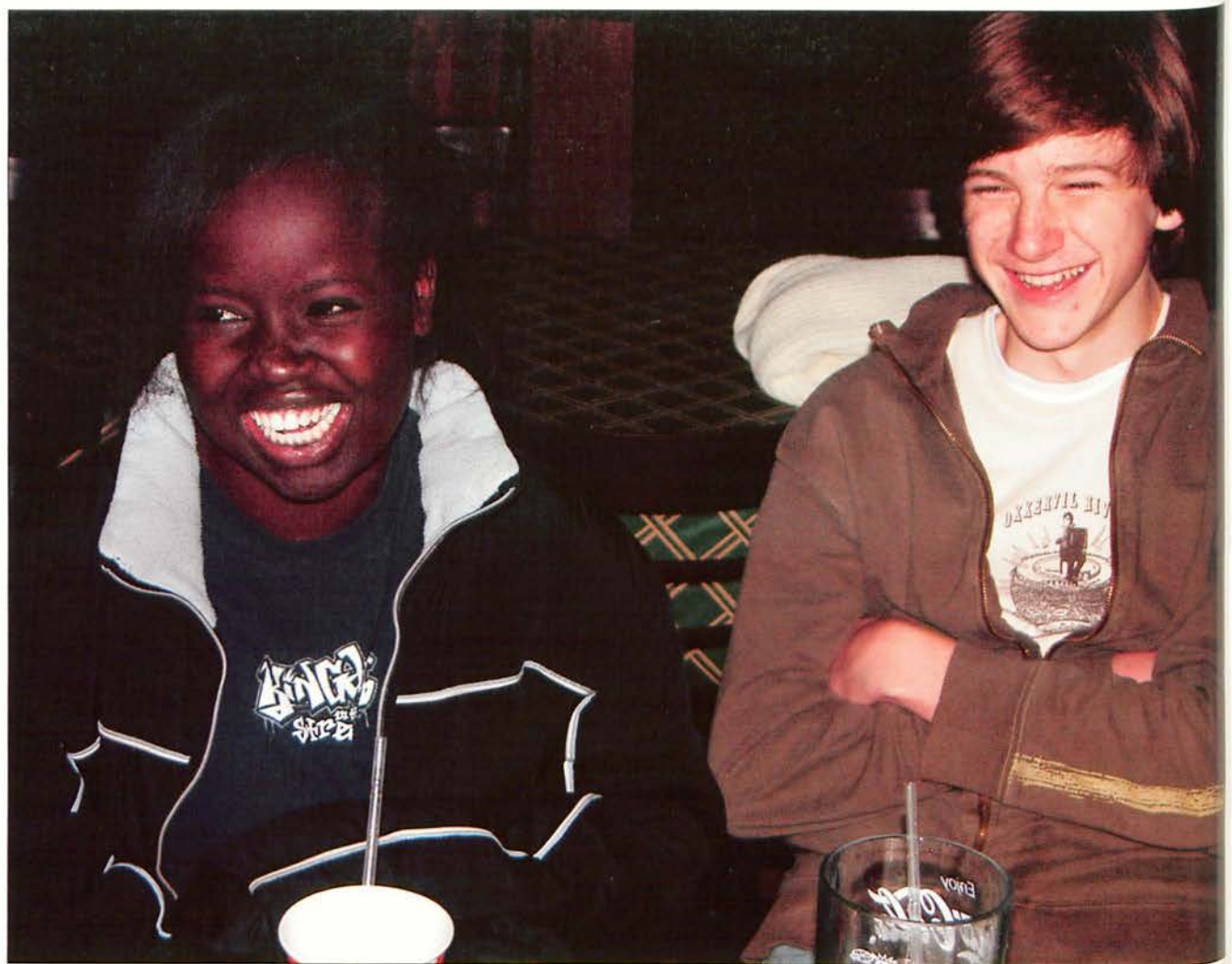
Left. Ahman Green receives a replica of his retired jersey from Alvin Samuels (12) during half-time. Green's jersey was retired in honor of his recognition as one of the many famous I-backs from Central High School. Photo By Todd Healy.

Above. Green watches the first football game against the North High Vikings from a sideline view. Green led the team in a pre-game pep talk after his 10-year reunion that was held in the courtyard. Photo by Tanika Cooper.

Raja Philip (10) (left) and Tyler Magnuson (11) enjoy pizza at Zio's Pizzeria along with the other students. The students all remembered personal experiences of their first day at school.

Some recalled when they got lost searching for their classrooms.

Photo by Clay Lomneth.



Above. Joshua Wilson (11) (left) and Sean Mitchell (9) browse through the vinyl records. Mitchell said metal and country were just some of his preferences for music.
Photo by Clay Lomneth.



Right. Jared Spence (10) (left) and Deborah Rennard (12) discuss their favorite music. All students said they considered themselves open to most kinds of music.
Photo by Clay Lomneth.

finding things in common

Teens come together for an evening of conversation, pizza

by tanika cooper

Over 25 students were invited, only eight showed up. These eight had something to say.

The purpose was to bring students together who may not have known each other. However, what they found out was they had more in common than they thought.

Jared Spence (10) was first to arrive at the Antiquarium. He was a little nervous about the whole thing, but as soon as he and Pedro Cruz (10) got together, he loosened up.

Raja Philip (10) also seemed a little at ease when she got around Spence and Cruz.

When she saw them gathered around the old movies, she immediately went to talk with them.

Benjamin Brich (10) didn't seem to know the other three. He looked at the old records by himself.

Tyler Magnuson (11) joined Brich and Spence broke away from his group and joined the two of them browsing at the vinyls.

Sean Mitchell (9) and Joshua Wilson (11) bravely introduced themselves to one another and talked about their music preferences.

The only senior who chose to attend was Deborah Rennard. She didn't know any of the others, but Philip decided to introduce herself to Rennard.

They gave each other a friendly smile and looked at the vinyls together.

Philip tried to get to know everyone early. After she talked a little with Rennard, she went over to introduce herself to Mitchell.

They talked about their music preferences.

The students all spent about 30 minutes looking at the vinyls and Cruz tried to talk with Brich. They later moved upstairs to the book section.

Philip, Cruz and Spence ended up together again talking about something that occurred at school.

Magnuson started a conversation about the war in Iraq.

"I think it's (the reason for the war) more on image," he said.

He said the United States must go in to clean up Iraq to set a good example for the rest of the world.

Wilson and Rennard also started talking about the war. Wilson said he believed the war was justified.

"If you, yourself, have the power to stop that (terrorism), you should," he said to Rennard.

Rennard said she had mixed feelings about the war because she didn't know much about it.

"I don't think violence is the right way," she said.

Wilson agreed, but made sure Rennard knew he was for the war, while Rennard said she was against it.

Cruz and Spence ended up looking at books and talking about school again.

Brich, Wilson and Magnuson took a quick walk through the art gallery.

They spent 30 minutes upstairs and then the group walked to Zio's Pizzeria. They left the Antiquarium not noticing Rennard wasn't with them.

Rennard found a DVD she had been looking forward to purchasing.

The cashier was using an antique register that wasn't working too well. It kept Rennard from keeping up with the rest of the group.

She was so excited about finding a DVD for only \$5 and said she had been searching for it for a long time.

The students were more than half way to Zio's before Rennard caught up with them.

They walked into Zio's as one big group. The eyes of the other customers looked at them in a confused manner.

They found seating located in the back that was set off from the rest of the restaurant.

Spence sat across from Cruz, Philip from Wilson, Magnuson from Mitchell and Rennard next to Brich.

They all agreed the diversity at school was better than any other school in Omaha.

"People at Millard actually think past 72nd is the ghetto," Magnuson said.

Rennard said even though there was diversity at Central, the students still segregated themselves.

Wilson said he believed people didn't choose their friends by race. He said the decision was more on likes and dislikes, such as music.

One student thought differently.

"Blacks associate with blacks, whites with whites and Mexicans with Mexicans," Philip said.

Some students thought it was the students' who separated themselves. They said teens cared a lot about what others thought of them.

"By your junior year, you stop thinking about what others think of you," Wilson said.

Philip and the others agreed.

She said she thought high school was going to be just like she'd seen on television and in the movies.

She tried to impress people by wearing the latest trends and tried to hang out with the "cool people" her freshman

Continued to 'TOGETHER' on page 24

badges here to protect

Officials say IDs used to help with security, behavior problems in school

by stephanie wilhelm

"It's kind of like we were a bunch of materials that they were putting barcodes on like we were cans of food," Christopher Pecha (9) said.

This was the first year all CHS students had to wear official ID cards.

Some teens couldn't stand the thought of wearing IDs around school every day. Others developed this latest security measure into somewhat of a



The badge of Shannon Stennis (10) is an example of how some students chose to change the look of their badge. Styles ranged from school spirit to random stickers to Stars of David in order to protest the IDs. Out of 250 students polled, 81 percent said students shouldn't have to wear IDs. Photos by Stephanie Wilhelm.

fashion trend like Stasha Carpenter (11).

"I figured if I had to wear them, I'd give it a special touch to have some reason to wear it," Carpenter said.

She said she really did not care if she had to wear her ID, but thought it was unnecessary for the badges to be required just because intruders snuck in last year.

"If they (school officials) are not going to say anything about (wearing) them, they might as well not have them," Carpenter said.

Carolina Escobar-Hellbu (9) said fewer students wore the IDs as the year went on because wearing them was not enforced.

"I did not wear it since the first day and I have never been in trouble," Escobar-Hellbu said.

Pecha said the IDs were not a great idea because students just would not wear them.

The administrators such as Lynne Slobodnik and teachers

were concerned with the safety of students.

"They let us make sure all the students belong (here)," Slobodnik said.

She said some students in the past refused to give their name when stopped in the hallways.

She also said in most businesses, employees were required to wear IDs and many students already experienced this at their work, so it was nothing new to them.

Brianna Hankins (10) said she liked knowing everyone belonged and strangers could not walk around.

Another security issue was students from different schools going inside the building.

Assistant principal Dionne Kirksey said the badges allowed faculty to make sure unwanted guests were not wandering around the school.

All students were required to pay for the badge if they lost it twice.

Administrator Mark Smith had a problem with that.

"The administration does not want to start allowing waivers because it could get out of hand," he said.

Librarian Sue Devlin said the IDs had barcodes to allow students to check out books.

"The IDs will be quicker than manually typing in students' numbers and will be more accurate," she said.

Devlin said using the badges helped protect student privacy because before anyone could hear a student number when the student told it to the librarian.

Kirksey said there were many changes this year including attendance procedure and having eight chairs to a table in the courtyard and the IDs were just something to get used to.

Smith said if students refused to wear the badges, the faculty treated it the same way as if students chose not to follow any other instruction.

"The administrators hope the students will realize it's easier to just cooperate," he said.

Smith said he hoped students continually losing their IDs would not be a problem.

"I don't know if any set of people will have a harder time dealing with wearing the badges," Smith said. "Most students seem pretty receptive to them."

He said administrators also hoped freshmen and the next incoming classes would become used to the badges, so it would become second nature.

Shokhrukh Dadajanov (11) said it did not matter what grade people were in, students still did not want to wear the badges.

He said if students were reminded the IDs were for their own safety, they would not care as much about wearing them.

"The administrators are not out to get you," Smith said. "It's for the good of everybody."

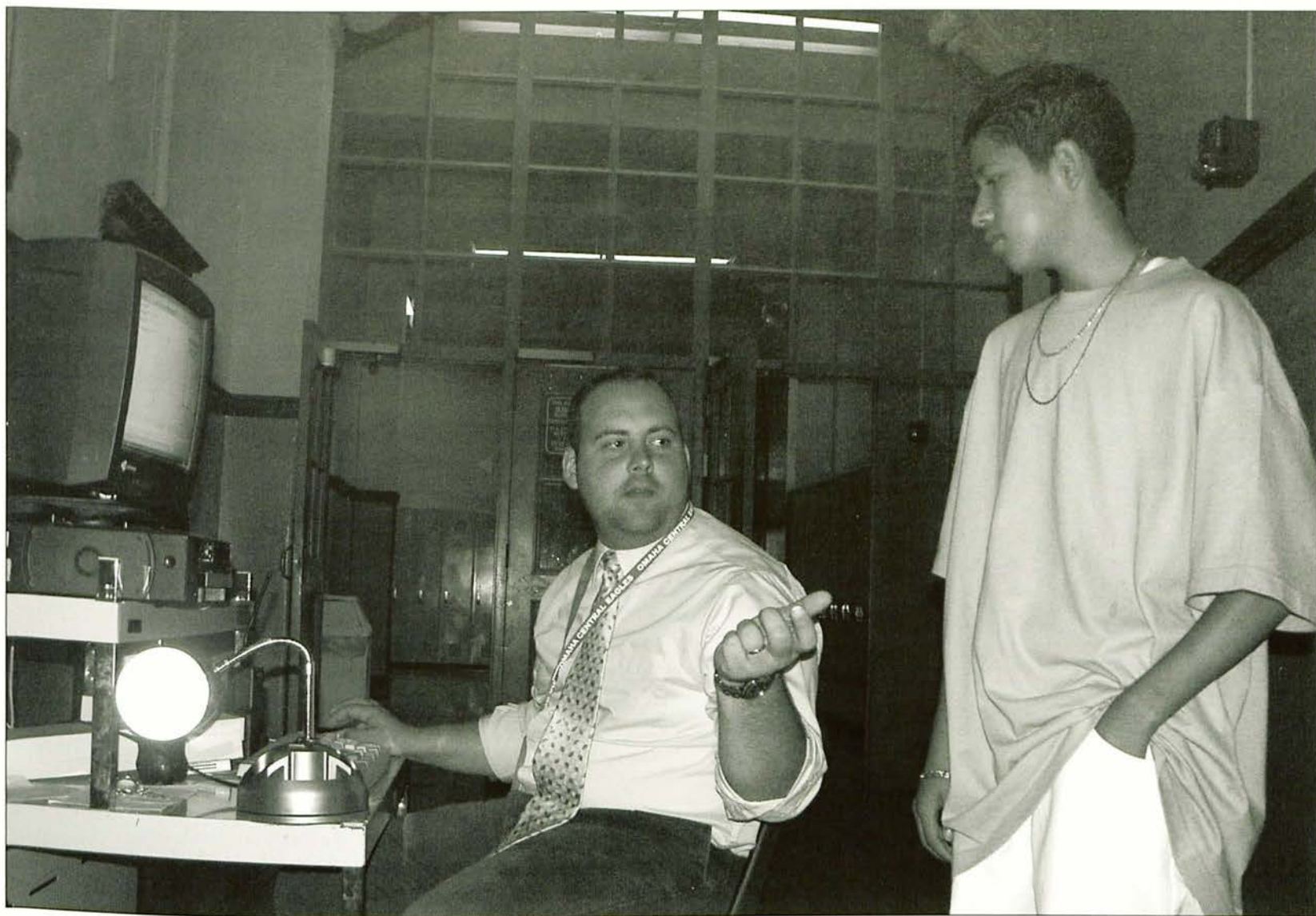
Slobodnik said other schools including North, South and the Bellevue High Schools have already instituted IDs.

She said the administration in those schools have said they were a great success.

Students had the option of wearing their IDs around their necks on lanyards or clipping them visibly on the front part of their bodies.

The administrators plan on having the badges replace punching in student numbers for lunch.

Student activity cards and ID badges will eventually become one card.



Left. Rita Ryan, Latin teacher, writes a temporary ID for one of her students. Teachers were required to keep a record every time they wrote an ID for a student. After the fifth time, students were sent to their administrators. Students received their first and their replacement ID for free. They were charged \$5 for any other IDs if they lost their badge a second time. "The school is not making a profit," administrator Mark Smith said. "Five dollars is the cost to make the ID." He said the biggest problem with the ID was students losing their cards which the administrators spent a lot of time replacing.
Photo by Stephanie Wilhelm.

Above. Smith prepares to take a photo of Isaac Moreno (9). He was about to hand Smith the piece of paper with his full name that was placed into the computer system to be placed on the ID badge along with his photo. Students' pictures were taken during English classes by administrators who brought the portable computer system and camera to the hallways. Smith said administrators went into classrooms and if all the students had their badges, students received doughnuts.
Photo by Stephanie Wilhelm.

a change of plans

Nebraska art students no longer compete at Nationals

by emma phillips

Instead of competing in the Scholastic Arts Competition, schools in Nebraska participated in a similar event exclusive to Nebraska.

Art department head Larry Andrews said the reason for Nebraska's withdrawal from the competition was due to a change in the competition's procedures.

"They are charging for every entry this year," Andrews said.

He said previous to this year, entries had been free. Public schools did not have the funding to pay a fee for each entry.

Art departments across the state decided unanimously it would be better to establish an in-state competition for the students to compete in rather than making the national competition the only option.

Andrews said there was a committee meeting to decide where this in-state competition would be held.

Angie Fischer, the Omaha Public Schools' art supervisor, said the competition was held in Omaha and the students' art would be exhibited at the Teacher Administration Center (TAC).

She said the art was shown at the TAC building for one week longer than in the past.

She said there was only one difference the new competition had proposed compared to the one students competed in last year.

"The works were not sent on to a national competition," Fischer said.

Fischer said the new competition was called The Nebraska State Visual Arts Competition and participants were eligible to receive more prizes than what was offered at the national level.

She said the prizes included certificates, similar to the Scholastic Arts competition, but also included scholarships from local art schools and cash prizes.

Andrews said his students were upset because they enjoyed getting national recognition and Central didn't have very much in-state competition.

"We are probably one of the best, if not the best in the state," Andrews said.

Andrews said although students cannot send entries through the school any longer, they could still independently submit pieces by paying the fee themselves.

Alex Carlson (9) had submitted pieces to the Scholastic Art Competition before and said he planned to submit his work to the Nebraska competition.

He said he would probably also submit independent pieces to the national competition.

Fischer said she understood why students might be disappointed that they were no longer able to submit work through the school to be judged at a national level, but she thought students should be proud of any work submitted to a competition.

"We hope the students are still proud of their work and get more benefits from the state competition," she said.

Nebraska declining to participate in the competition would not only result in students not being nationally recognized, it may also affect students who apply to art schools.

Carlson said he hoped to attend The School of the Art Institute of Chicago and said he thought not having awards from a national competition would negatively affect him.

Andrews said he did not think the absence of national awards would affect his students detrimentally.

He said most art schools do look at awards from the Scholastic Arts Competition, but overall the quality of work was more important than the awards won.

He also said the quality of a student's portfolio was very important to art schools.

Andrews said recruiters from art schools had come into his advanced art classes to try and convince students to attend the school they represented.

"Our art department is known all across the nation," he said.

Andrews said students are drawn to Central because of the quality of the instructors and the department's good track record.

He also said student work played a major role in garnering Central's national praise.

Fischer said students who received awards from the Nebraska State Visual Arts Competition would notice similarities between the new awards and ones of the past.

They were still awarded in a first, second and third ranking. Carlson said the art department was a factor in his decision to come to Central instead of his home school, Burke.

Andrews said although he believed the Nebraska competition would be just as good as the national one, he thought his students wouldn't get as excited.

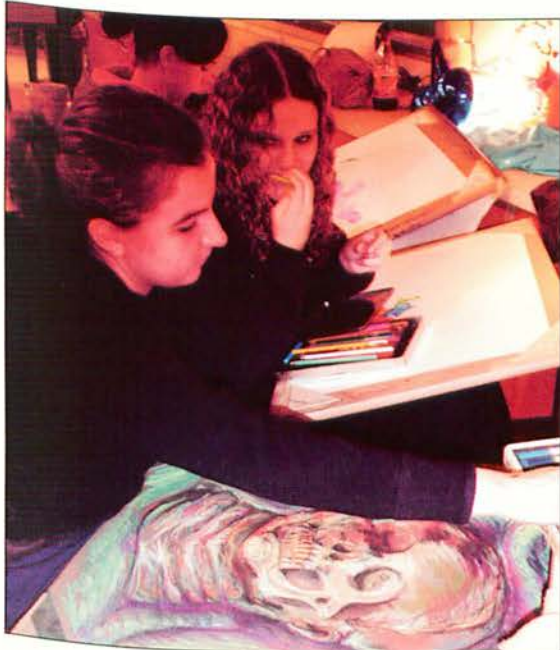
He said just having a piece of work selected to be sent to the national competition was a big deal for the students, even if they didn't win.

Fischer said she hoped the same level of excitement would come with the Nebraska competition.

"I think it's important that students understand that it is still a juried competition and it is still an honor to have a work included," she said.



James Hubbard (12) works on a chalk drawing for his art class. Hubbard was one of the many students who were unable to enter their art nationally due to Nebraska's withdrawal from the annual Scholastic Art Competition. Nebraska public schools did not have the funding to sponsor the entries for the competition. Photo by Todd Healy.



Above Left. Nicole Roberts (11) sits in her art class and looks at a classmate's art. Most public schools did not submit art to the national competition due to financial restraints. Photo by Todd Healy.



Above Right. Michaela Bradley (11) works on her chalk drawing. Some students were going to submit their art to the Nebraska State Visual Arts Competition. Photo by Todd Healy.

what do you say to a little change?

Altering format of homecoming week causes concerns

by tanika cooper

Spirit Week not only brought spirit to the athletes, it also brought along some problems for the students and administration.

Shazale Ramsey (12) said she wished more students would have participated in the week-long celebration.

She participated in Spirit Week every year with her brother.

"It's mostly only the seniors who seemed to participate," she said.

She said one of the reasons many students didn't participate was probably because the administration changed "Switch It Up Day" to "Twin Day." This disappointed many of the students because so many of them were planning on dressing up like the opposite gender.

"I was bummed because I wanted to dress like a man," Chelsea Smith (10) said. "I wish they would have left the choices the way they were before."

Ramsey said she believed the administration changed the themes because they thought the students would take it too far.

"The privileges had to be taken away because some (students) over step the line," she said.

Administrator Dionne Kirksey was in charge of the themes for Spirit Week.

The students expressed which themes they wanted and she approved them.

When she approved the choices the first time, she said she didn't think how some ideas might offend anyone.

Kirksey said a few staff members brought it to her attention that some of the choices, particularly "Switch it up Day," may be offensive.

"Since we didn't clearly define it, we didn't want teachers or students to be offended by costumes," she said.

Although the administration changed the theme to "Twin Day," some students still chose to dress up for the previous theme.

Smith said not all the students were fully aware of the sudden change of themes so that's the reason why there were still some students who dressed for "Switch

It Up Day."

Christopher Pecha (9) said he liked the choices of the themes.

He said one of the reasons he liked this school was because they participated in activities like Spirit Week.

Smith said she knew a lot of people were looking forward to "Switch It Up Day."

Another popular theme that was not changed was "Nerd Day." Many of the students said this was their favorite day to express school spirit for.

Pecha said he only dressed up for "Nerd Day" because he had a wide variety of clothes to choose from.

Ramsey and her brother participated in all the themes. She said she did her best on "Nerd Day."

"I think we do it (participated) because after a while people started to expect us to do it," she said.

For "Nerd Day," Ramsey wore a white sleeveless shirt with a geeky red tie.

She had two pretty pony tails and topped her outfit off with nerdy glasses and a metal retainer that stuck out of her mouth.

Many said she was the best dressed for "Nerd Day."

As for Pecha, he said he chose to wear his little brother's clothes. Since the pants were too small, he had to pin them up, but even then they revealed his undershorts.

For a little touch, he added tape to his black-rimmed glasses.

Pecha even had all the pens and pencils in his shirt pocket just like a nerd may be pictured to have.

He said he enjoyed "Nerd Day" because it made many people laugh.

"It's good to get smiles out of people once in a while," Ramsey said.

Many of the students said they liked the themes, but hoped for more expressive themes for next year.

Smith said she would appreciate themes that were original.

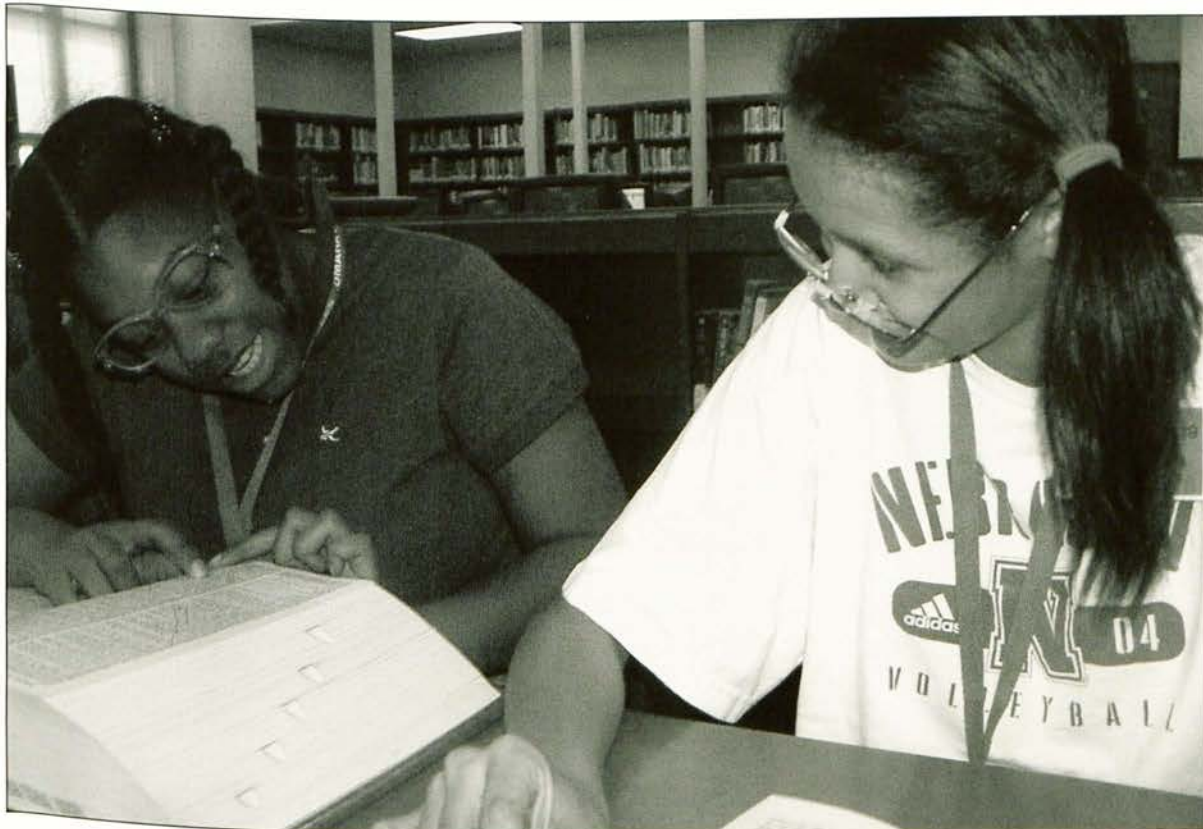
She said they had some of the same themes at her old school.

"I think it's better to pick themes that are more noticeable," Ramsey said.

Continued to 'SPIRIT' on page 20 for photos and descriptions



Above. Christopher Pecha (9) sits outside after school let out. He said he liked the laughs he got about his outfit. He was one of the few freshmen who dressed out for Spirit Week.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.



Left. Zakiya King (11) (left) and Stephanie Hines (10) decide to have some fun by spending the afternoon in the library acting as their version of a nerd. Students' nerd outfits consisted of geeky glasses, pocket protectors, head gear and uniforms. "Nerd Day" had the biggest participation by the students.
Photo by Todd Healy.

bright
colors,
painted
faces and
daring
clothing
for spirit
week



Above. Christopher Parker (12) said his wardrobe is from the '70s. He called it his "gangsta fit." "I borrowed them from my pimp uncle," he said. Photo by Tanika Cooper.

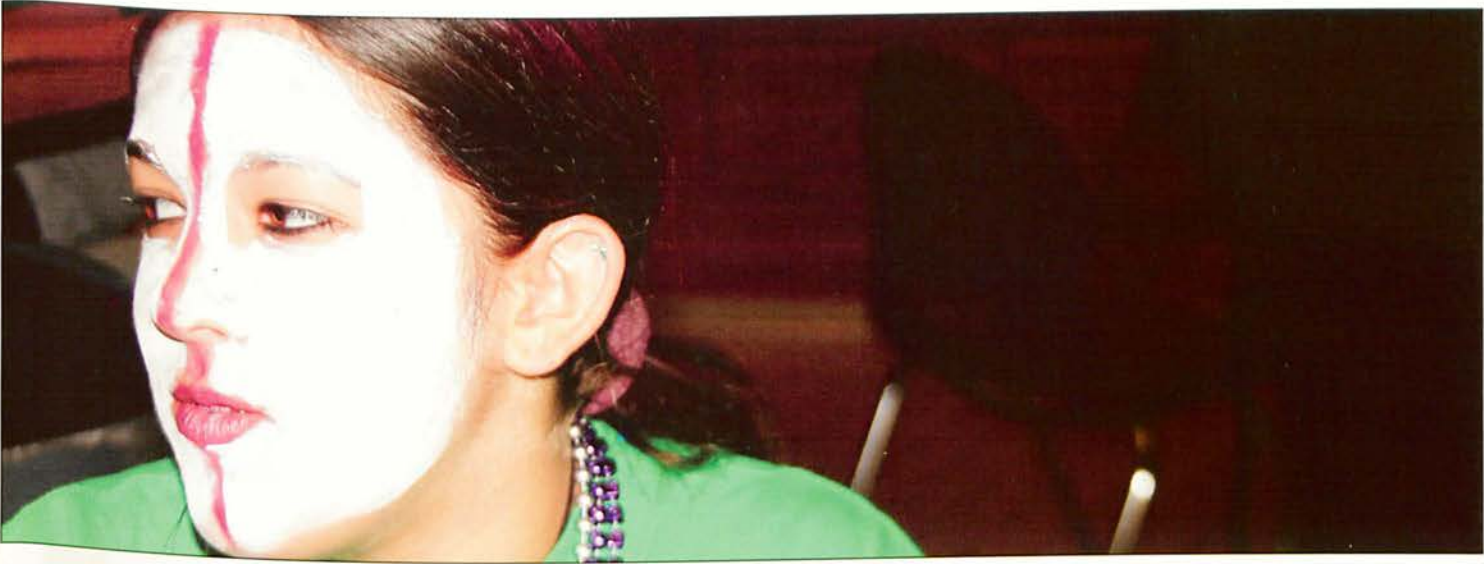
Below. Karmen Holmes (12) laughs with some friends on "Flashback Day." The most common years represented were the 1960s and 1970s. However, some students took it far and dressed up in Roman togas. Photo by Tanika Cooper.

Left. Matthew Cronin (11) sits in his Honors English class as his version of a nerd. Some students went all out and even wore metal retainers that stuck out of their mouths. Many of them had the glasses with the tape wrapped around them. Photo by Tanika Cooper.





Left. Brianna Huddle (10) and Chelsea Smith (10) were both a little upset about the sudden change of themes. They were a little disappointed about the choices for spirit week. They said they wish they would spice up the choices. They said they still enjoyed dressing out to show their school spirit.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.



Above. Alexandra Greene (9) painted her face for "Purple and White day." "I think it's a really cool school," Greene said. One of the reasons she thought this was because of Spirit Week. Many students said that day was easy to dress up for.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.



Left. Rodney Grace (12) pretends to shoot the basketball which was a part of his ensemble. He said he chose to be a basketball player from the '80s. Many of the students who decided to dress out for "Flash Back Day" decided to where clothing from the '70s or '80s.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

Left. Lydia Stern (9) arrives to school on the morning of "Flash Back Day." She said her ensemble is from the '80s. She said her mom helped her come up with the idea. "My mom let me use her sweatshirt," she said. "I cut the sweatshirt to make it look like it's from the '80s," she said.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

a night of joyful tears

Senior comes out with crown after brief delay

by tanika cooper

Along with a home stadium to call their own, students also had a home gym to hold homecoming in. Along with the new additions came a few problems.

Administrator Dionne Kirksey received a message saying Aja Anderson (12), a nominee for homecoming queen, would arrive late due to car troubles.

"I needed an oil change," Anderson said. "I had to go to the gas station and get some oil."

After about 40 minutes, she made it to the king and queen ceremony safe and sound.

Kirksey did not want to continue the

ceremony without everyone present so she postponed that part of the night's activities at least for a little while.

After Anderson finally arrived, she had to prepare for the walk down the aisle accompanied by Bryant Cotton (12).

Five senior couples were in the mix: Aja Anderson with Bryant Cotton, Lindsey Anderson paired with Ian Danielson, Craig Ecabert with Jessica Carl, David Jones paired with Jasmine Elmore and Allison Gorga along with Jamie Peck.

Just before they went out, Kirksey made sure everyone was looking their best.

The boys with their boutonnieres in the correct spot over their hearts and the girls holding their bouquets walked down the aisle

couple by couple.

Aja Anderson and Cotton walked up first, followed by Lindsey Anderson and Danielson. Finally, Gorga and Peck took their spots on the center stage.

"I just wanted to hurry up and get down there to find out the results," Jones said. He said he could hardly wait to see who won.

Pom squad coach Jane Luethge and cheerleading sponsor Jennifer Fotsch announced the courts.

"I felt relief," Jones said. "This is what I was hoping for."

He said he didn't want to have too much confidence, even though many people said he would win.

Finally, they announced homecoming queen as Aja Anderson.

Anderson began to cry after she was crowned by 2005 alumna Casey Bigsby.

"I couldn't believe I won," Anderson said. "I started to cry because I was so happy."

The new location of the ceremony allowed the parents to take better photos of their children.

"(This way) I think it's beneficial for the parents to see their kids and take pictures," Fotsch said.

Luethge said the other students were given a choice of whether or not to attend the crowning.

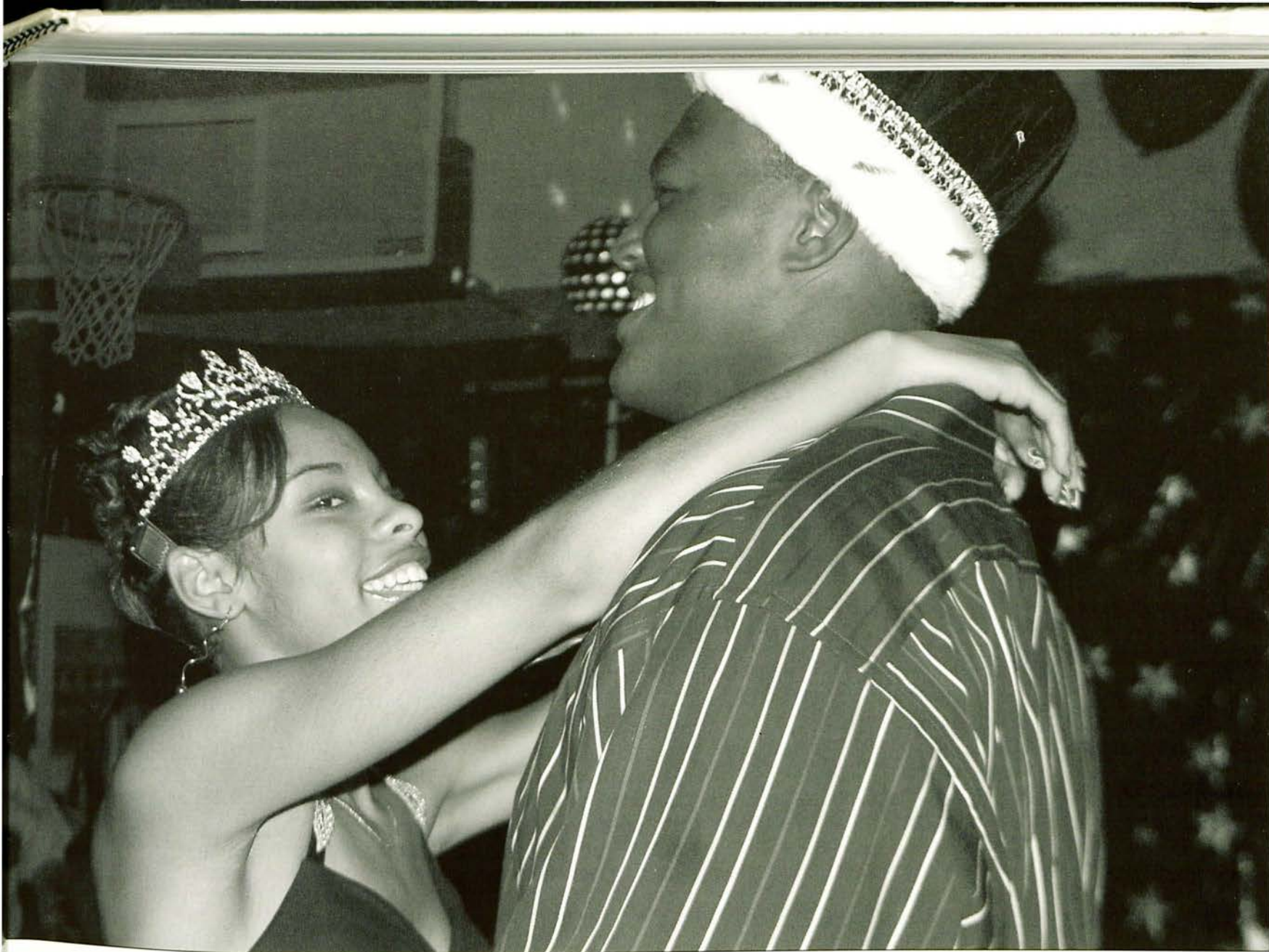
This helped avoid any unwanted distractions.

"I think it was fabulous," she said. "I think it turned out really well."

Luethge said the parents, staff and students all were able to hear, see and take photos.



David Jones (12) hugs his mother after he was crowned homecoming king. She said she was very happy for her son. After photos were taken in the auditorium, the king and queen went to the gym for the first dance. Jones' mother watched him with proud eyes.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.



Left. Allison Gorga (12) and Jamie Peck (12) walk down to the stage before the crowning of the king and queen. "I was a little nervous," Gorga said. She described the night as smelly and loud, but a lot of fun. "(This homecoming) was one of my most favorite homecomings," Gorga said.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

Above. Aja Anderson (12) and David Jones (12) dance the first dance together after being announced king and queen. Anderson said she was invited to participate in Nationals for homecoming queen. "Aja and I are really cool friends and it was a good thing we both won," Jones said.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

Teens discuss experiences of their first day of high school

■ 'TOGETHER' continued from page 13

year.

Philip said she hated her freshman year because it was hard to make new friends.

She went to Beveridge Magnet Center and all of her friends went to Burke High School.

She said most of her peers came from Lewis and Clark or Norris Middle School and she didn't know anyone from those schools.

Philip said she tried to make friends with the other students, but they didn't seem to accept her.

She said her sophomore year was great because it didn't start off like her previous year.

"I just didn't care about what I wore to school anymore," she said. "I sometimes would throw on sweat pants and a T-shirt."

Wilson also talked of his experience on his first day in high school.

He said he previously went to a small school where there were about five students in each class.

"You don't realize

how big 2,500 is until you see 2,500 (students)," he said.

He said he had a hard time finding one of his classes because of the construction that went on. When he did find it, he thought his teacher was a woman, but actually his teacher was a man.

Everyone laughed when he said he called his teacher a woman.

Mitchell said he came from a very small school, also, where there were about five students in each class.

"I got a better view about black people (my freshman year at Central)," Mitchell said.

He said there weren't any African Americans at his old school and all he had seen about the race was

from television.

He said he really appreciated the diversity found at Central.

Spence transferred from Bellevue East in the middle of the semester.

He said he didn't fit into the environment at all.

Spence classified himself as being preppy and said not many people accepted him.

Brich said he changed from being a really big sports fanatic his freshman year to getting into music.

He said he really liked music from the '60s and '70s.

A couple of his favorite artist he said were Led Zeppelin and Frank Zappa.

Brich said he liked artists who experimented with music.

He and his family held concerts at their home and usually invited about 40 people to enjoy the concerts he said.

Philip said she liked a variety of different music. She said her favorite music was hard rap.

She said anything she could dance to was also a favorite.

Cruz agreed with her and said he liked music that made him dance.

He preferred Reggaeton which he said was a Latin Rap genre.

Magnuson said he could get into any kind of music.

"I have to be in the right mood," he said.

He said depending on how he felt would determine what kind of music he would listen to.

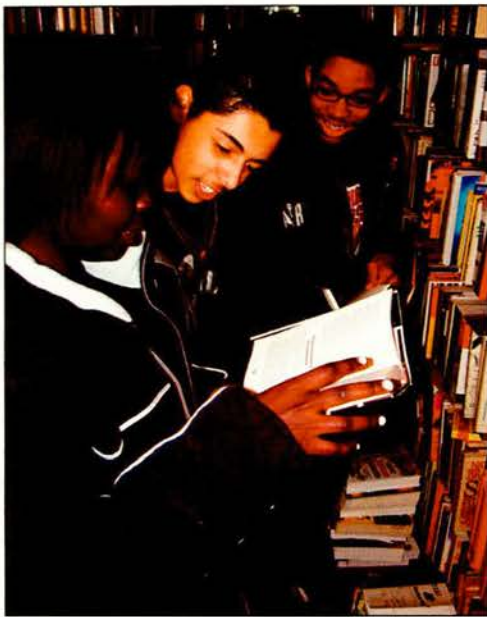
After about three refills of soda, they ended their time together with a conversation about music.

Everyone left Zio's and went back to school to wait for their rides. They seemed to part on good notes.

Cruz and Mitchell needed a ride home. They said they lived close to each other. They continued to talk about music and why they attended Central.

Mitchell was taken home first and he and Cruz said their farewells and it seemed they had become friends.

Maybe they weren't as different as they once thought.



Raja Philip (10) (left), Pedro Cruz (10) and Jared Spence (10) browse through books at the Antiquarium. The Antiquarium was filled with a variety of books, music and art. Neither of the three had ever been to it before and said they enjoyed themselves. Photo by Clay Lomneth.



Left. Tyler Magnuson (11) and Benjamin Brich (10) laugh at the discussion about a teacher. They talked about music and Magnuson said he liked a variety of music. "I have to be in the right mood," he said. Brich also said he was into a lot of music. He said he and his family held concerts at their home. Photo by Molly Mullen.

Above. Pedro Cruz (11) and Jared Spence (10) browse through the DVD section. They said they were friends prior to the gathering. Spence transferred from Bellevue East in the middle of the semester. He said it was a difficult transformation. "It was hard to stand out," he said. Photo by Clay Lomneth.



bring out the 'ol skates

Senior class comes together for night of rollerskating, laughs

by patrick o'malley

As the students waited in line to enter the roller rink, some said they hadn't skated since grade school.

Others already had tied up their laces and were ready to roll around for a night of entertainment.

Senior class president Alvin Samuels and sponsors Fairouz Bishara and Cherie Barg put together a Skate Night for the Class of 2006 at Skate City.

Samuels said they held a skate night as their first event because it was a somewhat simple, fun and safe activity.

Senior class representative Devin Croffer also went to skate night.

"I think skate night was a good idea because not everyone had done it in a while, so they wouldn't laugh at you when you fell," Croffer said.

Croffer said he didn't think he would be able to skate because it looked challenging, but he still gave it a shot and had fun doing it.

With the exception of a few, many seniors had little to no experience in the roller rink.

Along with the amusement of skating around with friends and the joy of watching them fall, other games were provided for an enjoyable experience.

Laser Tag and arcade games were both popular activities as well as the games the employees

held like "Red Light, Green Light" and "The Limbo."

Teresa Stubbs (12) said although her team lost in the first game of Laser Tag, it was a lot of fun participating.

She also said "Red Light, Green Light" was a good way to get everyone together and laughing more.

Samuels said he learned planning far in advance was a key to finding a location.

Samuels began the planning months before the occasion and had trouble picking out a single night when there weren't any other activities going on.

He had to get permission from assistant principal Dr. Keith Bigsby and principal Jerry Bexten to hold the event.

That was the easy part. He still had to find out where to hold the event.

Stubbs said Samuels did a good job of organizing and promoting it.

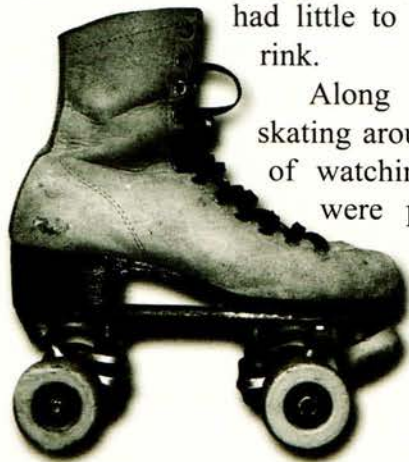
Samuels also had to get the sponsors to go to make sure everyone was behaving.

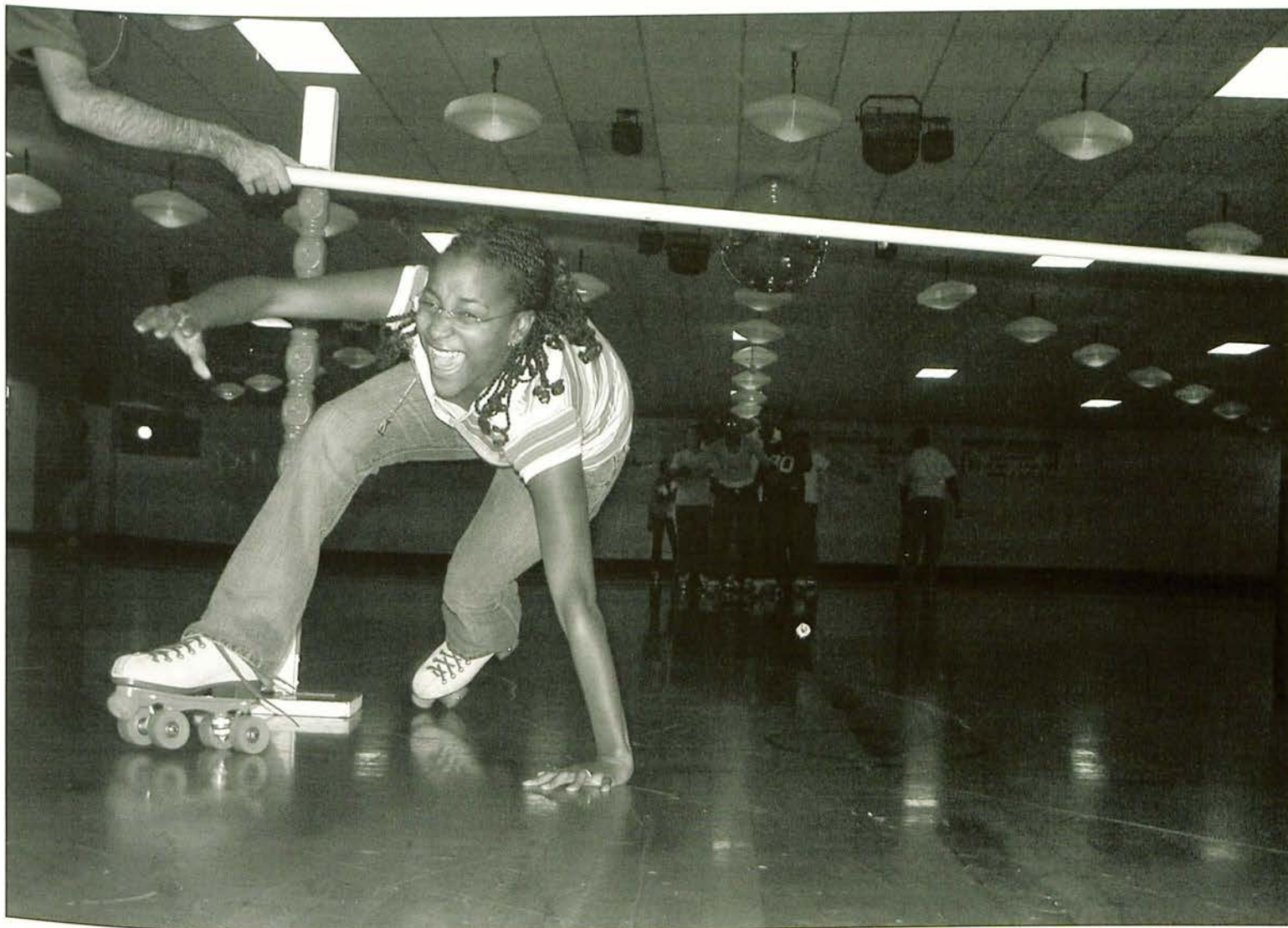
Out of the \$4 cover charge, 50 cents went to the senior class. Samuels said roughly \$50 was raised from the activity.

"It's a game of whose toes am I going to step on today," he said.

Samuels said although a band activity was going on that night, there was a pretty good turnout, but he would have liked to see more people there.

He estimated there were about 65 people who showed up.





Above. Karmen Holmes (12) falls after attempting to do the limbo in roller skates. Many games were provided for the entertainment. Some of the students said they hadn't been skating since grade school.
Photo by Patrick O'Malley.



Left. Teresa Stubbs (12) suits up to battle her friends in a game of Laser Tag. Stubbs said her team lost horribly to the other team, but still had a great time. "The Limbo," "Red Light, Green Light" and Laser Tag were some popular games as well as the arcade games and air hockey.
Photo by Patrick O'Malley.



Above. Andrew Wahl (11) auditions for the Band Aid tryouts. He started playing the guitar in eighth grade. He said at the end of eighth grade he had no social life because he wanted to take guitar lessons. His mother, father and step father were all involved in music.
Photo by Lauren Crist.

Right. Wahl and his band member Stephen Bils, a student from Benson High School, audition for Band Aid. Wahl said he wanted to learn more about the guitar whether it was in college or not. He said he plans on taking a year off to do more with his band.
Photo by Lauren Crist.



playing

in the band

Junior goes extra step to achieve desired mastery of guitar

by zachary pluhacek

Every day Andrew Wahl (11) picks up one of his five guitars and sits hunched over it for hours, picking away at the strings over and over into the night. He is always chasing a form of energy in his music, an energy that is all-important—almost an obsession.

“It’s what it’s supposed to do,” he said. “Animalistic. You just feel so arrg, just going crazy,” he said. “That’s what I love about it.”

Wahl had been working towards this feeling for the past three and a half years, since the time he first picked up a guitar. Now one of the best guitarists in his age group, he had managed to surpass many musicians who had been playing for a much greater period of time than he had.

He understands, as someone with a musical mother, stepfather and father, the hard work and dedication that being the best takes.

At the end of eighth grade, Wahl disappeared from his social life. He wasn’t around to hang out with his friends like he had been in middle school and no one really spoke to him.

For that summer, he spent around eight hours a day in his house practicing tabs, reading music and running over the same basic tunes his teacher gave him.

“At first it was really hard, I hated going to lessons. I hated playing the guitar,” he said.

His mom, a flute and piccolo player in the Omaha Symphony, told him to keep working at it; she knew his effort would pay off in the end.

When Wahl showed up for his first day of high school, he had changed almost completely. His hair was long and shaggy. He listened to completely different music and, most of all, he was good.

Trevor Moore (11) had known Wahl for four years and was friends with him around the same time he started playing guitar.

“His style has changed a lot,” Moore said. “He’s gotten a lot more technical. He writes songs a lot better.”

Moore and Wahl are both members of VirginiaJoyce, a hard core band featuring four Central students and a vocalist from Benson. Even though Wahl is also familiar with jazz and flamenco guitar, two difficult styles of music, he had chosen to devote his time to writing hard core songs.

“I love everything about jazz,” Wahl said. “You have to be really talented to play it...but there’s nothing like playing for a crowd of people. There’s nothing like the energy you get. I’d really like to ride this hard core thing out and see where it takes me.”

Whether or not he keeps playing with the band after high school, Wahl said he was almost certain he would be involved in music as an adult. He said he believes he has found his “niche” in the guitar, one of the seven instruments he has played, but he still wants to learn more, whether it’s in college or not.

“I’m planning to take a year off (after high school),” he said. “If this band thing works out, I’m not planning to go to college.”

He likes the freedom he has in writing his own music, especially given his experience in jazz and musical improvisation. Wahl starts out by working over improvised riffs and preparing them to show to his friends.

“What I try not to do is go listen to music to try and get inspiration,” he said. “I kinda just go down into my basement that’s where I have my little amp, and I just start messing around. It just kinda comes out.”

Music to him is like words are to a lot of other people. He was torn between sticking with just writing for instruments, something he is more comfortable with, and attempting to attach meaningful lyrics to his music.

“War bad. Peace good. Ooo, me like steak. (Writing) lyrics...that’s just not for me,” he said. “I’ve been thinking about taking vocal lessons. I’ve found the hardest thing I’ve ever done in my life is write lyrics.”



Above. John Sprinkel of American Lift and Sign Service welds together the metals to help support the back of the scoreboard. The welding will also help keep the scoreboard from tipping forward. It took the workers more than half a day to put the scoreboard up. The back rails were uneven so it took some time to fix.

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

Right. Sprinkel helps keep the scoreboard from swinging uncontrollably.

Mike Gordener (not pictured) was guiding the scoreboard with a crane. They had to go up and over a fence to get the scoreboard in the proper place.

When they were finished, Gordener had to hook up the electrical wires of the scoreboard controls.

Photo by Tanika Cooper.



Stadium Focus

This is just another phase in the renovations of the school, maybe even the last.

Who would have thought the empty plane could be transformed into a beautiful stadium?

The stadium provided many uses. It wasn't just occupied by the athletes, the band made good use of it also.

The stadium will lend itself to new records and goals the Eagles may not have dreamed of.

No matter what may come next, Central will always have a field and a court to call home.

In a way, the stadium was the connector. It brought the faculty, the alumni and the students together.



Page 33. Marquis Spencer (12) shows his school spirit in the mandatory fall sports pep rally.

Photo by Tanika Cooper.



Page 36. Alvin Samuels (12) was the only student to give a speech at the stadium dedication.

Photo by Tanika Cooper.



Page 42. A construction worker welds a beam that would help hold the gym lobby together.

Photo by Molly Mullen.



Page 45. Kent Ullberg was the sculptor of the eagle outside of the stadium.

Photo by Molly Mullen.

rally brings in the future

Seemann Stadium unveiled to eager audience

by clay lomneth

The students finally had a chance to see the new stadium.

They flooded into the Seemann Stadium during 9th hour for a mandatory pep rally led by senior class president Alvin Samuels.

The pep rally included an introduction of the football team and performances by pom squad and cheerleaders.

"I thought it was a successful pep rally," Samuels said.

Not only was the football team introduced to the school, but so were all the other fall sports teams.

Samuels said he thought the students enjoyed the pep rally and

had a very positive reaction.

"A lot of them didn't know what to expect," he said.

The idea behind introducing all of the fall sports, Samuels said, was to get the students used to them.

He said everybody knew about the football team, but not enough people knew about the other sports.

"I had more fun at volleyball games than some football games," Samuels said.

He said the pep rally helped raise school spirit. The stadium itself, he said, also helped raise school spirit because students did not have to travel to another field to play sports.

"Now it's just Central," he said. "I can look out the window and see the stadium."

Samuels said planning the pep rally was pretty intense.

He planned with the senior class and the administration. He said planning was a big

responsibility and challenge.

Athletic director Darin Williams said he was pleased with both the pep rally itself and how the students behaved.

He said it was important because it set the tone for the year, the first football home game and for all fall sport games.

He said he thought it was a good way to improve the school spirit and he saw a lot of positive reactions.

In the future, Williams said he hoped there would be more pep rallies at the stadium. He said it was a good tradition to start for the school.

"We'll probably have a winter one, too," he said.

Samuels said although he was looking forward to future pep rallies, the big issue was whether or not they could fit enough students in the gym. He said school officials needed to get more bleachers before that happened.

Williams said Samuels did a really good job planning and leading the events. He said Samuels was the one administrators went to when they wanted to communicate with the rest of the senior class.

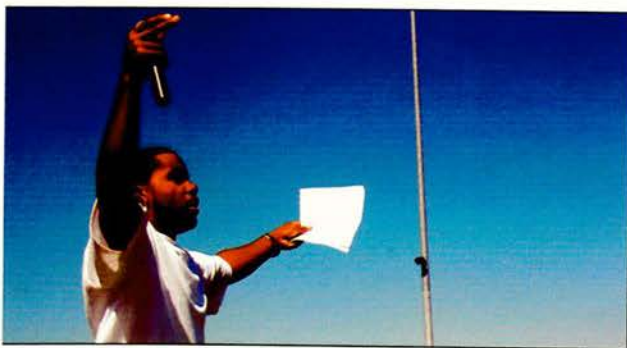
"He was like the middleman," Williams said.

He said the pep rally offered students a chance to be some of the first ones into the stadium.

Johnathan Taylor (12) attended the pep rally and said he liked seeing the fall sports teams introduced, especially the football team.

Taylor said he thought the students weren't really cheering as loud as they should have been.

Overall, Taylor said seeing the new stadium got the students really hyped up.



Senior class president Alvin Samuels hosts the first pep rally of the year. The new stadium not only was a place to hold games, it also provided enough space to allow the students to get together for a rally. Samuels introduced all the fall sports and also tried to get the students excited for the new sport seasons.

Photo by Molly Mullen.



Left. Marquis Spencer (12) yells at the crowd to get the students fired up for the game. The stadium provided a chance for the students to have an actual pep rally. The administration dismissed the student body during their 9th hour to attend the first official pep rally of the year.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

Above. Brittney Ruffin (11) performs with the cheerleaders for the pep rally. It performed a few routines some of which got the student body involved. The point of the pep rally was to hype up the students and athletes before the first home game against North.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.



Above. Natalie Lynch (12) (left) passes out leftover cookies to seniors left at the tailgate. Katherine Gorga (12) was grabbing food from a friend who was sitting on a car. Senior class officers were required to clean up the parking lot and make sure all supplies were taken away.
Photo by Stephanie Wilhelm.

Right. Deborah Rennard (12) (left) and Annaturi Maher (12) enjoy eating and chatting before the game. Even though they showed up late, they still had a great time getting ready up for game. "The tailgate was a nice way to get out of homework because teachers knew we were going so they did not give us any," Rennard said. "It helped psych everyone up for the game."
Photo by Stephanie Wilhelm.



partying in the backyard

Tailgating by the new stadium seen as a must for all involved

by stephanie wilhelm

"We were hanging out just before the game and everyone was getting pumped up," Lindsay Meyer (12) said.

The senior class held its official tailgate party in the teachers' parking lot before the last home football game vs. South.

Chelsea Hubbling (12) said she had a great time.

"It was a cool way to spend the last game of your senior year together," Hubbling said.

Bailey Smejkal (12) said it was a social event.

"I went because everyone else was going to be there," Smejkal said.

Natalie Lynch (12) said the committee for this activity was made up of senior class officers who volunteered.

She said she volunteered because she loved tailgating and wanted to help raise school spirit.

"I remember when I was an underclassman and we depended on the seniors to set the tone for the game," Lynch said. "I wanted to help set the tone."

She said everyone had cliques they belong to, but the tailgate helped break those barriers. Everyone hung out together.

James Hubbard (12) was one of the key officers involved with organizing and running the tailgate.

"It was very successful," he said. "Everyone had a good time and there was no food poisoning or (students) getting sick."

Hubbard said students could do whatever they wanted.

"It wasn't too long," sponsor Fairouz Bishara said. "It was a maximized period of time to dance, listen to music and eat."

Hubbard said seniors ate food, threw around a football, listened to some music provided by cars and just talked with friends.

The mascot was also there to help pump up the students.

"We have had unofficial tailgates before," Hubbard said. "However, it's harder when it is official because we need sponsors."

Hubbard said his biggest worry was not having enough parent support, but in the end enough parents became involved.

Hubbard said Bishara and Cherie Barg also supervised the tailgate because a certain ratio of sponsors to students needed to be present.

"They had to supervise and make sure the food and grills were going safely," Hubbard said.

Bishara said she and Barg let the students handle the tailgate and they just checked to make sure everything was going right.

Hubbard said his father helped out with the grills.

Lynch said her mom, Alvin Samuels' (12)

parents and Jessica Lewis' (12) parents also helped out.

Deborah Rennard (12) said the worst part was the weather because it was very cold outside.

Ian Danielson (12) and Hubbard were responsible for setting up the grills.

"(The hardest part was) getting the grills to work and start cooking," Hubbard said. "One of the grills ran out of propane and we had to get more."

He said they went to Sam's Club on Tuesday night to buy the food, which included chips, Coke, cookies, hot dogs and hamburgers. They spent around \$150.

Hubbard said the profit went to other senior class events.

Lynch said seniors had an unofficial tailgate party before the first game.

She said no one had to pay then, but students donated money to Brian Benes (12) and Danielson who set up the party.



Dave Hubbard, father of James Hubbard (12), helps out with the tailgate. He was in charge of grilling. Natalie Lynch (12) said they had the senior class officers' parents volunteer because they needed adult supervision and it was easier than finding teachers to help supervise.

Photo by
Stephanie
Wilhelm.

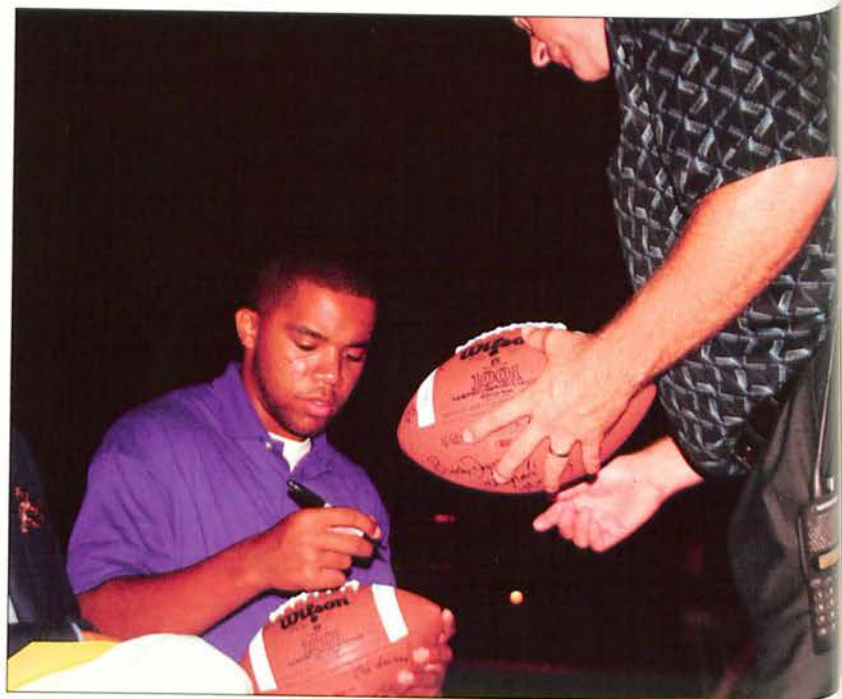


Top. Aja Anderson (12) (right) and other cheerleaders and varsity football players get ready to throw footballs to the crowd. Vice President of Heritage Services Calvin Sisson said the footballs were donated by alumni. Along with throwing footballs to the crowd, many of the athletes ran across the field to help open the dedication.

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

Right. Alvin Samuels, senior class president, autographs footballs for fans. Samuels was chosen by principal Jerry Bexten to accept the stadium on behalf of all the students. Samuels said he didn't want anyone to write his speech, he wanted to do it himself. He said it was an honor to be the one to accept the stadium on behalf of the students.

Photo by Tanika Cooper.



finally, a place to call home

Dedication ceremony for new stadium proves to be uplifting for all

by molly mullen

Fireworks, hundreds of footballs, students storming the field and fiery speeches of gratitude all marked the Seemann Stadium dedication ceremony.

The event was monumental.

It was a celebration starting at noon with events at Joslyn Art Museum. Later in that day, there was a dinner in Joslyn's fountain rotunda. Surrounded by classic art and modern Dale Chihuly glass sculptures, the alumni were thanked for their support of CHS.

Even the mid-evening thunderstorm couldn't keep people away.

For less than an hour, people in attendance were transported to the auditorium while a thunder storm drenched the bleachers.

The donors waited patiently in the museum. CHS Singers and the cheerleaders gave improvised entertainment.

Lee Seemann said he enjoyed the students' enthusiasm during the storm.

"Everyone just loved the girls cheering," he said.

They then marched behind the band into a full stadium of fans. It was a night to remember. From morning until evening, there were events for family, students and alumni so all could share in the opening of the stadium.

Congressman and former University of Nebraska at Lincoln Cornhuskers' coach Tom Osborne said the term I-Back High still applies to Central today.

"If I needed an I-Back, I went to Central," Osborne said. "Calvin Jones, Keith Jones, Curtis Cotton, Gale Sayers and DeAnte Grixby, to name a few."

He said this stadium was important because of what athletics can bring to a school. He said athletics unified a school and brought a sense of pride.

"The football team should be glad to not have any more road games," he said.

Director of Heritage Services' Board of Directors Mike Yanney described the event as a very proud day, not just for Central, but also for the community.

"When we started this process over five years ago, we were confident that we would be able to develop a project that would meet the needs of Central High School, Joslyn Art Museum and Creighton University," Yanney said. "I stand before you tonight and see the color, pageantry and electricity that is being generated by the students on the field and the fans in the bleachers."

He talked about the difficulties of building the stadium on such a confined space.

A site that had a level difference of around 70 ft. and was built in between a school building and an interstate.

"Susan Thompson Buffett was such a person and she was interested in making this move forward," he said. "Sadly, she is not here to receive our appreciation."

Yanney said after the dedication, the actual ceremony was beautiful. He said it was overwhelming to see members of the Central's marching band in their uniforms team up with University of Nebraska at Omaha's marching band to put on a great and patriotic show.

"Before (the ceremony) you never know how people are going to react," he said. "I think it turned out terrific."

Sue Morris, director of Heritage Services, said it was amazing to finish the stadium on time and on budget. She said members of her team put their heart and soul in raising money for the project.



Richard Holland (left) and Lee Seemann greet each other before the donors' dinner at Joslyn Art Museum. Before the dinner and dedication ceremony, the alumni were invited to mingle in front of Dale Chihuly's famous glass sculpture. Photo by Molly Mullen.

right back at home

Alumnus serves as architect of new stadium

by tanika cooper

"I was excited," John Dineen from HDR Architecture Incorporation said.

Dineen said he was glad to be chosen to return to his alma mater to be the architect of the Eagles' new Seemann Stadium.

This project was very important to him because the last time CHS won a State football championship was his senior year.

He said building a stadium would help the school get to that level again.

Dineen graduated in 1986. CHS was where he said he got his first taste of architecture.

During his senior year, he joined a drafting class. Later in the year, he had an opportunity to intern at a local architecture firm.

"I basically got people coffee, but I got to hang out with architects," he said.

He said the position wasn't glorified at all and he was one of the only people who actually applied for it.

Dineen said he started off working various architecture jobs, but finally settled at HDR, where he has been working for about six years.

Throughout the planning, he said he encountered many obstacles.

After the planning and laying out the ideas on paper, Dineen said the first step was to remove the houses from the area.

Those included the Creighton House and a few private homes.

Dineen said they just didn't remove the houses, they had to buy them and the property which they sat on.

One major problem was determining how they were going to position the field and he said they had a couple options.

Orienting a true north and south position, which would mean the field would be perpendicular to the school wouldn't allow any room for the track.

Dineen said positioning the field north and west was more of a natural choice for competitive play.

After they came up with a solution to the positioning of the field, they had to get started on the grading of the site.

The grading of the field Dineen said was one of the more difficult task they had to get through.

"From top to bottom, there was a difference of 72 feet," he said.

He said it was a very difficult job because the land had hills before.

The choice of field position also allowed for more seating.

The home side included 3,586 seats and the opponent's side included 1,800 seats.

"(The) idea leaves the paper and actually locates itself on the site," he said.

He said it was exciting to see how all the construction came together.

"I had no idea that my career would take me back to Central," Dineen said.



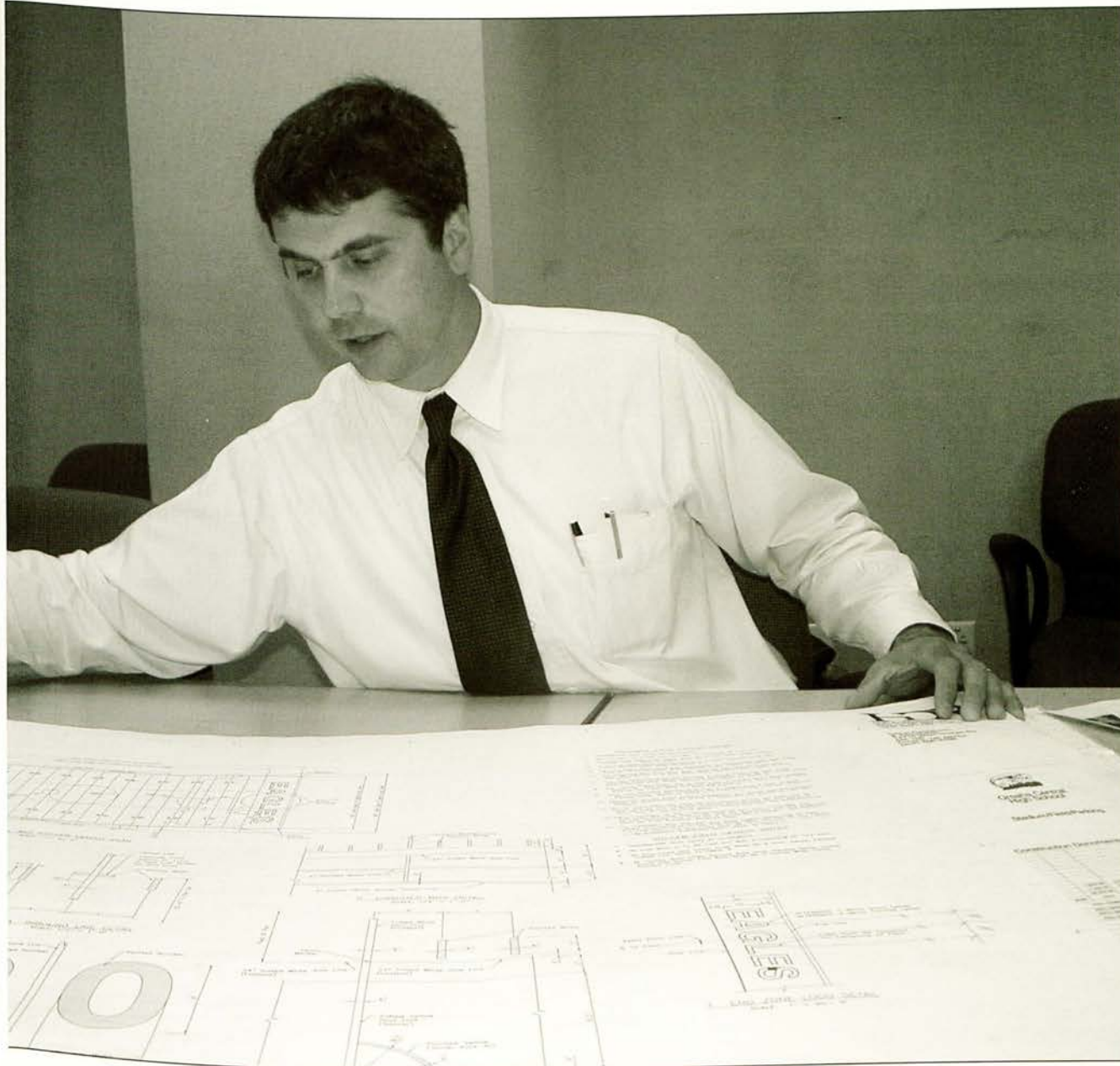
The plans of the stadium were drawn out and then finally put together with miniature pieces. It was a much smaller model of what the area would look like when finished. John Dineen said he had an intern put together the 3-D replica.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.



Molly Mullen contributed to this story



John Dineen explains the plans they made for the stadium. He said he had many previous jobs before deciding to stay at HDR. Also, he said he wished they would have had a stadium for his graduating class.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

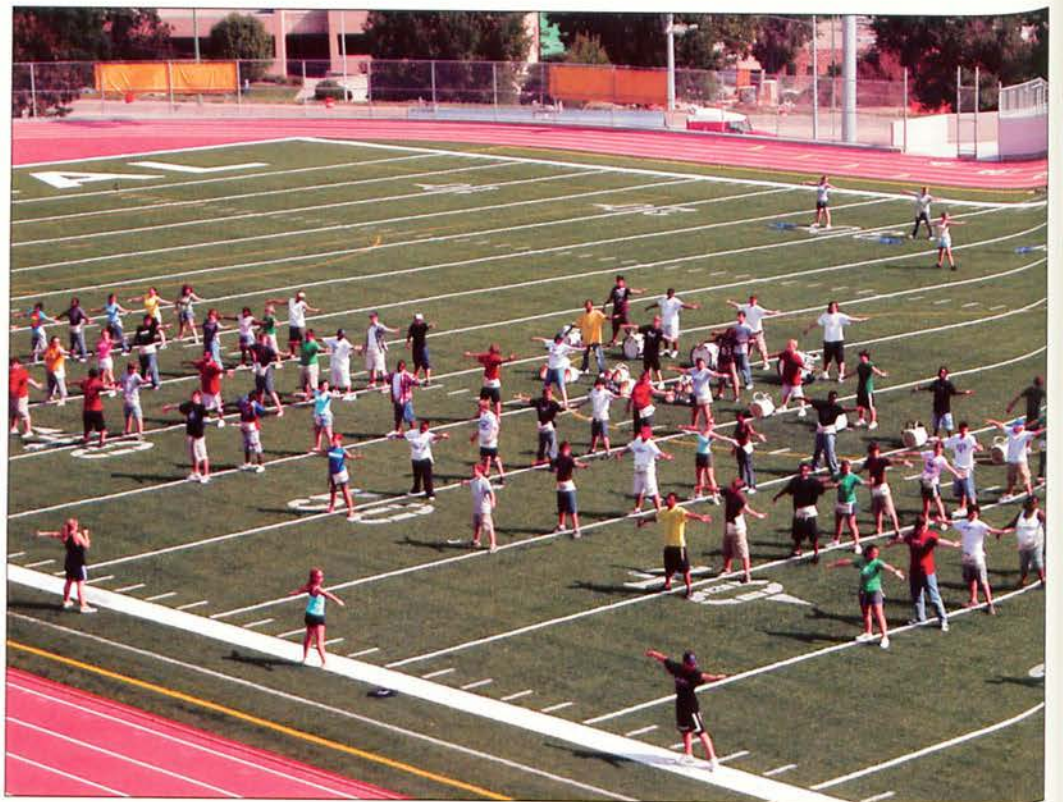


Dineen shows the stadium structure on blueprints. He said they had every detail on the prints including the shrubs. For things they added later on, they had to add it to the plans.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.



Above. William Chaney (12) practices with the marching band on its first day on the field. The practices were in the morning and evening, five days a week for two weeks in August to prepare for the stadium dedication.
Photo by Astrika Wilhelm.

Right. The band warms up to music while stretching. Some students learned the warm-up at Bands of America (BOA), a summer marching band camp, and taught the rest of the band when they came back.
Photo by Molly Mullen.



new experience, same success

Students march in new stadium for the first time

by lauren crist

In the two weeks before the stadium opening, the band and color guard learned the marching show for the opening of Seemann Stadium.

Band director Pete Wilger said the band did a good job of learning the show and preparing for the opening.

"They really stepped up," he said.

Wilger said he had been preparing for the stadium opening since last year. He chose several pieces for the show, including "Hymn to the Fallen," "Flight," "Silverado," "Fanfare for the Common Man" and "Get Ready."

The band performed with University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) marching band for the stadium opening. Wilger said the bands did well together on the field.

"It was neat to see how the two bands worked together," he said.

The UNO band framed the Central band in the forms, surrounding it in the back and around the sides. Wilger said he got the idea from the Bands of America, when the students who attended the camp encircled the cavalier. He said the UNO band was a good model for marching.

"It was easy to feed off their energy," he said. "The Central band had a lot of energy as well because it was on our field."

He said the opening went smoothly and the only trouble it had was with the weather. Shortly before the opening, it started raining. The band was practicing in the auditorium and remained there for a while before heading down to the band room.

The stadium opening was slightly delayed due to a thunder storm. Wilger said he thought the students handled it extremely well and remained focused.

"It was a huge undertaking, but it was worth it," he said.

Jennifer Stober helped the guard prepare for the marching show. Stober, class of 2001, said she was excited about having the chance to work with students again. She said she was proud of the guard's performance.

"The guard did phenomenally, especially since several had never twirled before," she said.

She said the guard did an excellent job getting the show done quickly as well, and it prepared in the same two weeks the band did.

She said members did well with the flag features "Flight" and "Hymn to the Fallen," which she choreographed to be more difficult. She said for "Hymn," she used slow, big movements.

"I wanted it to stand out," she said. "For 'Flight,' I used quick,

flowing movements similar to something soaring or flying."

She said even with the limited time, the guard was very flexible and understanding.

"I really had to push people, but they're there because they want to do well," she said. "I was impressed with their discipline and dedication. At the opening, I actually started crying I was so proud of them."

She said she particularly enjoyed seeing how the guard improved and worked together.

"When it just clicked and made sense musically, it was the coolest moment to see," she said.

Matt Ronan designed the show. Ronan had known Tom Cosby, assistant band director at Central, beforehand. He had taught him as a student when he played bass drum at Shawnee Mission North in Kansas.

He saw the performance the Saturday night before the opening, and said he thought the band worked well together.

"They came together really fast, especially since they just started marching," he said. "If someone didn't know beforehand the band had never marched a show before, they wouldn't have been able to tell."

He said when he designed the show, he focused on making a visually appealing show, but he said it was also important the instruments were placed so they would sound good.

Abigail Prest (12) has been in the marching band since her freshman year. She went to Bands of America, which was a camp several people attended over the summer where they worked with bands all over the United States.

She said this year was very different from previous years in the band, but she liked it more.

"I feel like we're doing something," she said. "This year, we're performing instead of being on hold."

She said she thought the stadium opening went well, even with the delay due to the rainy weather.

She said some people were worried for a while the opening would be cancelled, but they waited and everything worked out fine. She said she thought the band's performance at the football games created more excitement this year than in the past.

She said she thought attending Omaha Marching Exhibition and Omaha Marching Invitational were good ways to get the band back into marching.

"We've been gone for a long time and an exhibition was a good way to ease ourselves into it," she said. "It's a different atmosphere; we've never done anything like this before."

Right. A construction worker gets one of the north walls of the lobby in place. The lobby architecture was based on the additions made to the building in the last few years and the original architecture of the building.

Far Right. A worker welds a beam for the gym lobby to be completed for the December deadline. Athletic director Darin Williams said some of the basketball games would be able to be held in the new gym for the first time this year. In past years, they were all held at Norris Middle School.

Photos by Molly Mullen.



Davis Erection construction worker Patrick Kill welds a beam to hold up the second floor of the lobby where the concession stands were built. This was completed after the multi-million dollar stadium project was completed before the football season began.

Photo by Zachary Pluhacek.

tickets

disappearing fast

Finishing touches completed the new gym lobby just in time for winning

by molly mullen

A perfect complement to the new stadium was the new gym lobby complete with training room and concession stands.

Both basketball and volleyball teams had the opportunity to hold tournaments and home games in the new gym.

Athletic director Darin Williams said the first two varsity basketball home games were played at Norris Middle School, which had been Central's home court for quite awhile.

However, things changed in December when the new lobby for the new gym was completed. Home games for basketball and volleyball were finally played at Central.

Principal Jerry Bexten said he was involved in the initial planning quite a bit.

He called in certain coaches and physical education teachers to get their input.

"Initially it was supposed to be finished in November," Bexten said. "We ran into some problems with concrete panels and that slowed it down some."

He said since the lobby construction was being done by DLR Group instead of HDR Architecture Inc., the architecture would be different.

"It reflects the building more than it reflects the stadium," he said.

He said just like the stadium, the lobby had problems and constraints.

Architect Mark Brim with DLR Group said there were several renderings in the beginning and his team started eliminating the ones that would obviously not work.

"We had to be very sensitive to the different structures and the new stadium," he said. "We had to be careful with different designs."

It was definitely a challenge, Brim said, but also provided an opportunity to work with an interesting place.

Along with the lobby construction, DLR had been involved with Central's renovations for years.

It was the architecture firm that put the skylight on the courtyard in 1982, added the air conditioning

and made the old gym into a cafeteria, among other projects.

Brim said he used the existing building to make his plans for the lobby. Mimicking the main entrance at the south side of the building, Brim decided to use pillars to hold up the second floor.

He said when originating the plans, he had to think of the people using it.

There had to be enough space to hold fans in the stands at the game, as well as half-time and afterwards.

The lobby consists of three floors. On the top floor, there is a main lobby looking out onto the stadium.

"You can look from the gym to the stadium," Brim said.

On the ground floor, there are now concession stands and a door for players to get from the locker room to the stadium where Davenport Street used to cut through.

Bexten said the basement has a locker room leading into a training room.

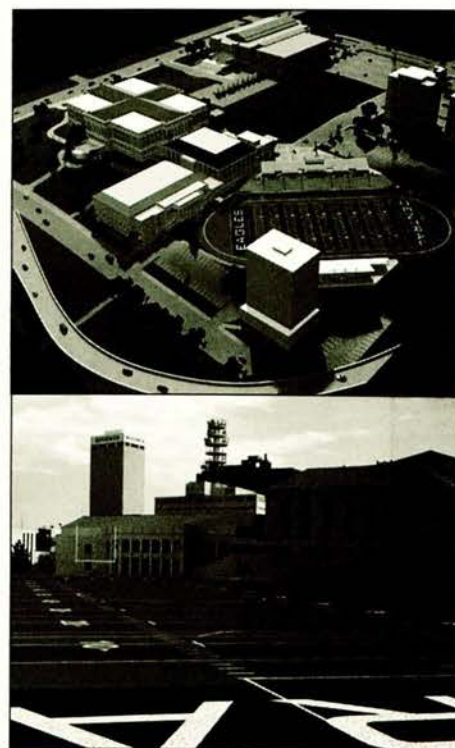
"Trainers can meet and tape ankles," he said. "There will be a couple of whirlpools, everything they need for a training room."

Bexten said the old training room was just a closet outside the girls locker room.

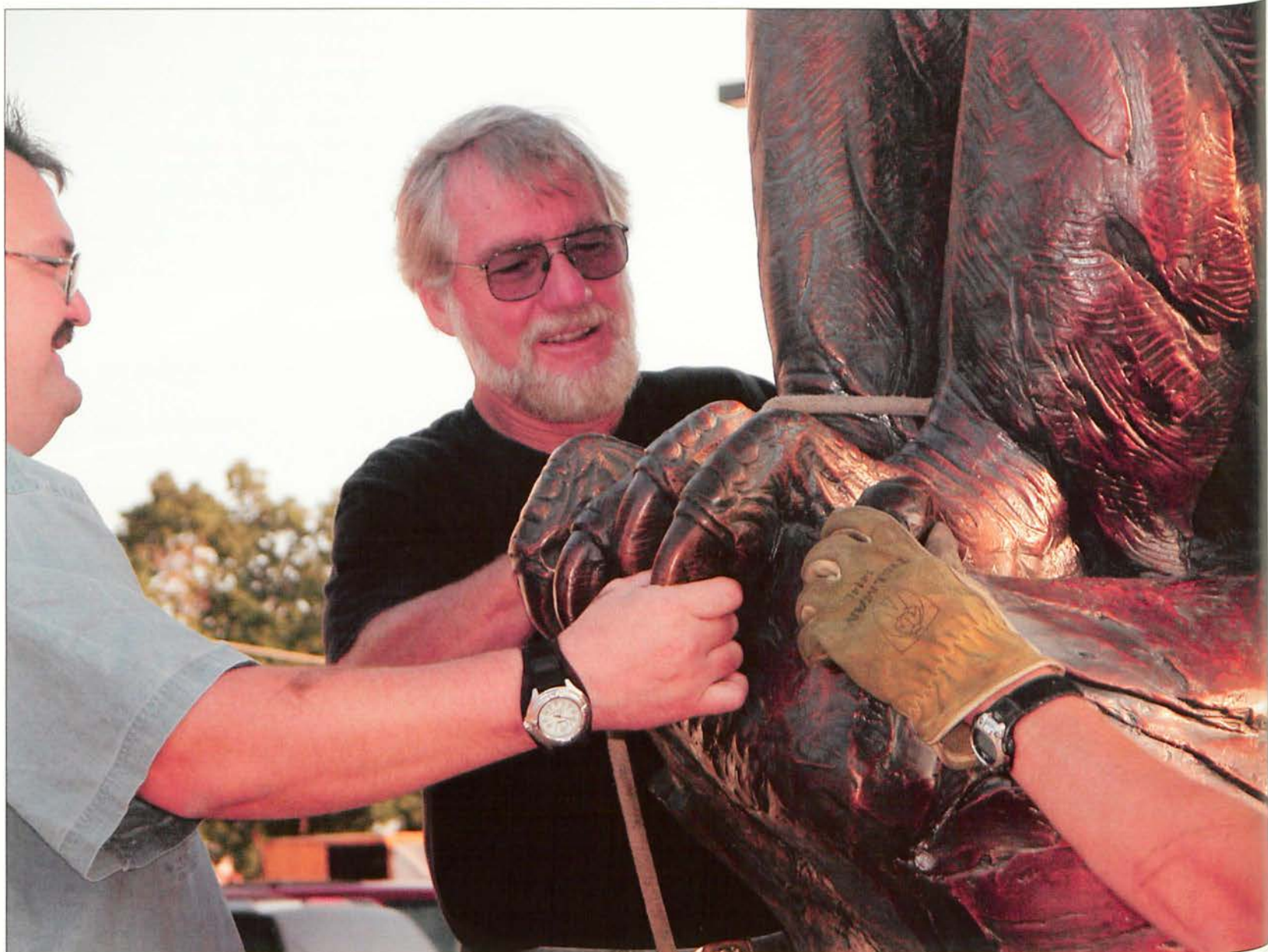
"It was completely inadequate, totally inadequate," he said.

Brim said after all the original planning was done, there were aspects they were able to add onto the original plans, instead of being confined or having to cut things down.

"The lobby can be used for a number of things," Brim said. "It can host quite a few people."



The top is a computer-generated view of the campus after construction was completed. It contains both the stadium and addition to the gym. The bottom photo shows a view of the lobby from the north end zone. It is two stories tall and has a training room and concession stands. With permission of DLR Group.



Above. Kent Ullberg and Bryant Wright help harness the eagle so it could be lifted by the crane. Then they placed the eagle on the stoop which stood 20 feet in to the air. Photo by Molly Mullen.

Right. Ullberg and Wright help lift the eagle. The next step was to place the eagle on the stoop. The Kiewitt workers put the stoop for the bird up the day before its arrival. Photo by Zachary Pluhacek.



it's a bird, no it's an eagle

Main attraction to stadium created by artist from Sweden

by tanika cooper

"My dad was a painter and my mother a weaver," Kent Ullberg said. "She was studying sculpture while pregnant with me."

Ullberg was the sculptor of the eagle, that sits in front of Seemann stadium.

He had the honor of sculpting one of the main attractions to the school.

Ullberg said he probably received most of his talent from his mother.

"V is for victory," Ullberg said excitedly. "That's (victory) my wish for your school."

He had created a few eagles before, but said he made this one especially for Central.

"Nature is my true passion," Ullberg said smiling. "It's a tremendous honor to have created a statue for a beautiful stadium."

He said he attended an art school in Stockholm, Sweden, but received his artistic ability from his parents.

Ullberg made sure he was there to help display his eagle to all the excited viewers.

A little before the crane arrived, Ullberg arrived to help unload the eagle.

Bryan Wright transported the eagle to Omaha all the way from Loveland, Colorado.

"It (the drive) was a little over ten hours, which was longer than what we were expecting," Wright said.

The grand eagle stands about 20 feet into the air, weighed 1700 pounds, and had a wingspan of 9 by 14 feet wide. The pedestal stands, the eagle stands on, is 12 feet high.

Wright unstrapped the cords that sustained the enormous eagle.

He said he had to get the eagle ready for liftoff. They used the crane to help lift the eagle on to the stomp.

Wright said a lot went into the production of this eagle. It started off with a design.

Then the building process started.

"First, you start off with an enlarged structure of clay," he said.

Next he said the process moved on to a mold foundry where they cast metal, which also involved a lost wax process.

Wright said one of the final steps was to reassemble the eagle from bits of pieces.

"It ends up to be 18 by 20 when welded; then we grind the sculpture until perfect," Wright said. "Then

patina, which is a chemical cobbling process, next you seal it with a sealer, and then finally wax."

He said the base of the eagle is 4.5 feet in diameter and has a wingspan 9 by 14 feet wide.

One bystander cheered at the crane's arrival. There were only a few people who were able to witness the arrival of the eagle.

"It's artistic and it makes our school look majestic and powerful," Aaron Hough (10) said.

Hough transferred to Central from South High.

"The stadium is really nice," Hough said. "It's a lot nicer than what we had at South."

He said he believed the stadium gave the band and the athletes a little more confidence.

"It's even more than what I expected," principal Jerry Bexten said. "I think it looks great."

Bexten said the eagle was a permanent loan from Joslyn Art Museum.

"It's quite an eagle," Gonzalo Domingez from Dadlus services said.



Kent Ullberg pulls down the statue to where it was supposed to be on the stoop. The eagle was one of the first things people saw when they went to the school or attended the games. Photo by Molly Mullen.



Above. Alumnus Lee Seemann talks with his daughter at the dinner held at the Joslyn Art Museum before the dedication. The stadium was named after him. He wasn't comfortable with it in the beginning, but it needed a name, he said. The offer was first offered to Susan T. Buffett, but she declined it.
Photo by Molly Mullen.

Right. Seemann looks at a model of the bomber plane he flew over Omaha Beach on D-Day during WWII.
Photo by Molly Mullen.

Far Right. Seemann on the day he received his wings in 1943. He was a United States Air Force pilot in World War II.
With permission of Lee Seemann.



IMPORTANT FACES



MIKE YANNEY
Director of Joslyn's Board of Directors

"As you look around this stadium, did you really think a stadium could be built on this site?"



SUZY BUFFETT
Alumna of '71

"Her (Susan T. Buffet) love for Central carried on through the years. It came to define my mom's life."



JOHN SCHLEGEL
President of Creighton University

He was the dean from Creighton who was involved in the land swap between Creighton, Joslyn and CHS.



ROLAND BARRETT
Composer

He wrote a song called "Flight." It was performed during the dedication ceremony.



MIKE FAHEY
Mayor

He supported all the renovations at CHS and the updates made in the downtown area.

flying with great honors

WWII Veteran donates money for new stadium

by molly mullen

She was voted prettiest in her class during 1942. He flew 33 missions during World War II, three on D-Day over Omaha Beach.

After lives of philanthropy, they are giving back to Central. Lee and Willa Seemann made a donation to the stadium project that got them the honor of having it named for them.

Susan T. Buffett made the first \$5 million donation to the project, but didn't want the stadium to be named for her. She had donated a great deal of money over the past decades, much of it anonymously.

"Susie and her mother have done more for Central than anyone," Lee said.

When Calvin Sisson, vice president of Heritage Services, and the rest of the company decided to name it for the Seemanns, Lee said he wasn't thrilled about the idea.

"It bothered me for awhile," he said. "But someone's name had to be on it."

In 1999, Gen. Lee Butler of Offutt Air Force Base told Lee of his accomplishment. Up until then, he said he had no idea.

Lee was very proud of his duties in the war.

"We almost lost World War II; it was so close," he said. "Many, many people have said if it wasn't for the Air Force to help the British, the Germans would have won."

He said he was very lucky not to be one of the 30,000 Air Force pilots to die. He said he bombed all night and all day.

He flew three missions on D-Day, although it was only counted as one on his record.

Everyone had to do 25 missions, at first, in order to go home, but when they knew they were going to invade on D-Day, they upped the requirements.

"It was the greatest sight in history," he said.

Lee saw 6,000 ships appear on the shores,

as he flew overhead, bombing the Germans at a dangerous 11,000 feet.

"The first day was brutal," he said. "I wished we could have done better, but they were so protected. It had to be an exact hit."

He returned home in 1944, after flying 33 recorded missions.

He also came home with 12 medals, including the Purple Heart and Silver Star.

After returning to the United States, he said he was selected to attend the armed services' most prestigious school, the Command and General Staff School in Leavenworth, Kentucky.

He was one of the very few Combat Air Force pilots to be honored at the young age of 24.

In high school, he was involved in many activities. He said he could remember practicing football on a cinder field where the portable classrooms used to be. He was also a basketball player and in JROTC.

The rest of his life was spent in philanthropy, both in Omaha and Okaboji.

He said he was very impressed with the stadium, and only saw it once before the formal dedication.

"You have no idea what this will do for your school," he said. "It will help recruiting for Central and is very impressive to the players."

He said he enjoyed the dedication dinner and entire ceremony.

Willa said she thought the music was very fitting.

"The patriotic theme was wonderfully timely and just right for Lee," Willa said.

Both Lee and Willa said they plan to attend football games at the new stadium, as well as basketball games when the lobby is finished.



Lee and Willa Seemann enjoy themselves at the dinner prior to the stadium dedication. A bouquet of flowers was given to Willa during the stadium dedication.
Photo by Molly Mullen.

Here are just a few medals Lee Seemann won during WWII



Air Medal



Combat Victory Medal



2 Distinguished Flying Crosses



2 Group Presidential Medals

Student Life



There were many different students at our school. Many belonged to some organization. Whether it was for academics or just for fun, everyone had a unique way to express themselves. Many students felt the need to really get into the new learning styles in the classrooms. The organizations were filled with difficulties and fun. Many tried to get out good messages such as stay away from drugs and learn about discrimination. In the classroom, many students tried their best to get through with the most knowledge they could obtain. This is organizations.

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From Left. Jeanee Weiss gives Nicholas Pierce-Cramer (12) a bottle of water at the JNCC. Jeremy Gipe (12) cleans off his face after scrounging around in one of the Latin Club's "Fear Factor" dishes for about 45 seconds. Ashlee Atwell (11) and pom squad attended the Red Ribbon walk. *Photos by Tanika Cooper and Molly Mullen.*

Opposite page. Evelyn Celmar (11) uses the new headphones in her Honors Spanish 5-6 class. The technology started to arrive last year, but this was the first year many of the students had ever used the headphones. The headphones were provided to help with different learning styles in the language department. *Photo by Clay Lomneth.*



Above. To celebrate other cultures, the students tried other foods they wouldn't normally eat. Each dish was brought by students and teachers representing their culture or another culture.
Photo by Theresa Vacha.

Right. Natalie McClellan (12) (right) dances a folk dance. The dancers had been performing at the banquet for over six years. They said they liked to perform with the students because they weren't afraid to try the dances. Many of the students were excited about the folk dances.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.



eating, celebrating

Students come together to experience different cultures

by theresa vacha

"It was a good way for kids to get a taste of culture...literally," Spanish teacher Susana Lara said.

She was one of the many participants who came together to celebrate cultural differences not only in the world but also within the school itself.

Beverly Fellman, department head of the International Language Department, said the International Dinner was a celebration that had been held annually since the 1980s.

Each year, students and staff from each of the four foreign languages (German, Spanish, Latin and French) brought a dish or recipe prepared for the culture of their language.

"It is really a big cultural event," Fellman said. "One that makes an impact on the community, parents and siblings by bringing them all together in a diverse cultural atmosphere."

Fellman, who spent months preparing and organizing the event along with fellow teachers, said she believed the International Dinner was a fun way for everyone to experience a variety of different customs and ethnicity.

"It is a fabulous way to take the study of language out to the community," she said. "The entire department comes together to organize it."

Organization for the event took the combined efforts of many people.

"The teachers all worked together and divided the tasks," Lara said. "But what made it successful was the kids, their organization and responsibilities."

Both Fellman and Lara stressed how outstanding the students behaved.

"The behavior and the support of the students was fabulous," Fellman said. "The kids were quick to come together and participate."

Lara also pointed out how experimenting with recipes also benefited the students because they learned more about the culture they were studying.

"I liked that I got to interact with everybody," Maria Harris (11) said. "It was fun to eat the different cultures' foods and dance their moves."

Harris was one of the many students who

enjoyed participating in the international dance.

The Omaha International Folk Dancers had been performing at the banquet for over six years and planned to continue coming due to the appreciation of the students and the teachers' enthusiasm and eagerness to participate.

Jennifer Forbex-Baily, a professor at University of Nebraska at Omaha, has been dancing with the International Folk Dancers for over 25 years.

The dance company travels to Minnesota, Iowa and a variety of cultural festivals throughout Nebraska.

However, Forbex-Baily said Central had always been one of her favorite performances because of the students' eagerness to participate.

"Unlike many high schools, we never had to beg the students," Forbex-Baily said. "They were all up before we were and were so enthusiastic."

The teachers' behavior also struck Forbex-Baily.

"One of the positives about Central was that the teachers were very supportive of the students," she said. "They accepted the students' enthusiasm, unlike other schools where teachers often suppressed the students, told them to settle down. Central teachers really gave the students a chance to make it (the dancing) their own."

The freedom granted to the kids paid off in the end.

"The dancing was my favorite part," said Harris. "I think it was definitely good for the community."

Spanish teacher Jane Boeka also appreciated the enrichment brought on by the dancing.

"The dancers were an excellent experience," Boeka said. "There were so many positive comments by the parents."

Although the banquet involved delicious foods and fun dancing, it really came down to the fact that so many teachers, students and families wanted to and enjoyed coming together for a celebration of cultures.

"It was a terrific event" Fellman said. "Everybody came together and by eating and dancing together, really got to share one another's cultures."

International Language

Department Head

Beverly Fellman

Other Teachers

Fairouz Bishara

Jane Boeka

Jennifer Fotsch

Melissa Kuskie

Susana Lara

Kristin Lawton

Alfonzo Lopez

Erica Meyer

Rita Ryan

Marta Serrano

Jeffrey Sill

Courses Offered

French 1-10-

Beginning with basic speaking, reading, writing and listening, these courses build up to advanced proficiency in communication structure.

AP French-

This course emphasizes authentic materials and can earn students, who take the AP test, college credit.

Spanish 1-10-

Students learn how to speak, read, write and listen to Spanish. Native speakers could take Spanish for Spanish speakers.

AP Spanish-

Students study authentic materials and prepare for the AP exam.

German 1-10-

These courses help students read, write, listen to and speak German.

AP German-

This course is taught as a college class and reviews everything students have learned in preparation for the AP exam.

Latin 1-8-

These courses cover everything from grammar to translation. The honor classes translated Latin works including "The Aeneid."

Word Study-

Students studied the Latin and Greek roots of words and derived vocabulary. This course prepared students for the ACT and SAT exam.

Below. Jeanee Weiss, Family and Consumer Science teacher, passes out water to Nicholas Pierce-Cramer (12). Weiss was in charge of handing out bottle water to those who needed them. She had one volunteer, December Muhammad (11). Weiss said it was very important for the students to be educated about discrimination.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

Right. Ashli James (left) (12) and Akeyda Rogers (12) led the Walk as One in a march through Heartland of America Park. They were both part of the Salem Baptist Church drill team. They were in charge of leading the whole walk, along with the other team members. The drill team also led the Walk as One the year before.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.



walk against discrimination

Community comes together at Heartland of America Park

by tanika cooper

"I think it's vital for our students to be educated on how to fight and deal with hate and prejudice," Family and Consumer Science teacher Jeanee Weiss said.

The National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ) sponsored the Walk as One in the Heartland of America Park in Downtown.

Weiss said the goal of NCCJ is to try and educate the students about the different forms of hate and prejudice.

Many organizations from Central along with many people of the community came out to walk 1.8 miles through the park.

It's very important for NCCJ to promote unity and understanding among the races, said Kelli Priebe, one of the sponsors of Future Educators of America (FEA).

Members of the drill team from Salem Baptist Church led the walk in their purple and white outfits, holding their purple and silver banner.

"I think it's very important (to learn about discrimination) because it's still in society today," Ashli James (12), a drill team member, said.

They put on a performance with their drummers through the whole walk.

The point of the Walk as One was not to just educate students about discrimination, but also to raise money

to help support Unitown.

Priebe said it (NCCJ) accepted many donations and those who donated \$25 or more received a T-shirt.

A few members from FEA participated in the walk along with Priebe who said this was her first year in the walk.

Weiss said she brought a few students to help her. They were in charge of distributing the bottled water to those who wanted it.

"We should all learn about it so we could live up to the dream of the people who fought for us, such as Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rosa Parks," James said.

James said the walk went very well and she was very pleased with the number of participants.

Akeyda Roger (12) was a member of the Salem's drill team.

She said she thought the performance went much better than the previous year. She said members led the walk well.

"After the walk we received many compliments," she said.

Roger also said she was pleased with this year's crowd.

She said it's nice to see more people were getting into the walk.

Rogers said it was very important to be aware of what to do in any given situation where discrimination takes place.



An elementary school who raises the most money for the Walk as One gets to have this J. Doe present at its school for one year.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

English

Department Head

Jodi Martinez

Other Teachers

Diane Allen

Jane Boeka

Kami Boje

Matthew Deabler

Christy Flaherty-Colling

Jennifer Fotsch

John Gibson

Christine Heckman

Cristina Hiddleston

Deron Larson

Jane Luethge

Marcella Mahoney

Jamie Miller

Susan Oles

Ellen Plath

Ginger Riffel

Greg Schroeder

Melissa Smith

Jeanette Spees

Jennifer Stastny

Courses Offered

English 1-8-

Students read a variety of books in these courses and focus on writing.

Honor courses and AP level courses are also available.

Basic Reading-

Priority is placed on students who have difficulties reading.

Journalism I-

This course introduces students to the basics of journalism.

O-Book/Yearbook-

Students produce one yearbook

and one magazine. The students worked with Adobe InDesign CS2.

Register/Newspaper-

Students produce the *Register* newspaper seven times a year. They also work with Photoshop. It is seen by many professionals as the best high school paper in the country.

Creative Writing-

This course develops writing techniques.

Speech/Debate-

A competitive class where the students learn the fundamentals of presentation.

Performing Arts/

Drama-

Students develop the fundamentals of speech and acting.

Theater/Stage Survey-

This course covers the technical side of theater.

character is everything

Editor fights prior review while doing real journalism

tanika cooper

Molly Mullen (12), editor in chief of the *Register*, said she stood up for her First Amendment rights because administration imposed prior review on the newspaper.

Adviser Matthew Deabler said Mullen was relentless in her pursuit of what she thought was right.

"It (prior review) took a lot away from what the *Register* was and that really hurt," she said. "It hurt in the fact that no one really cared that we worked really hard to make sure the newspaper was a quality publication."

She said she couldn't believe a paper as good as the *Register* could be put through something like that.

She called past staffers, parents and current staffers. She asked them to write letters to the principal saying they didn't agree with prior review. Deabler said not many people would have done that, but Mullen was just the journalist who would and did.

Principal Jerry Bexten said Mullen had always kept him informed about upcoming issues.

"She handled it fine, I had no problems with how she's handled that (prior review)," he said.

The letter-writing campaign worked because prior review was lifted.

Mullen said she didn't always know she'd be a journalist. She knew she wanted to write and do something to help others, but that was it.

She had been at Saint Margaret Mary's all her life and on a whim she said she and her mother decided to go to CHS's Freshmen Open House. After visiting the journalism room, she said she knew she wanted to be a part of that department.

She's been editor in chief of the *Register* for two years. Mullen said Deabler has helped her accomplish many things and has taught her never to give up.

Since she's been editor, the *Register* has won Best of Show (nationals) in Seattle and Chicago.

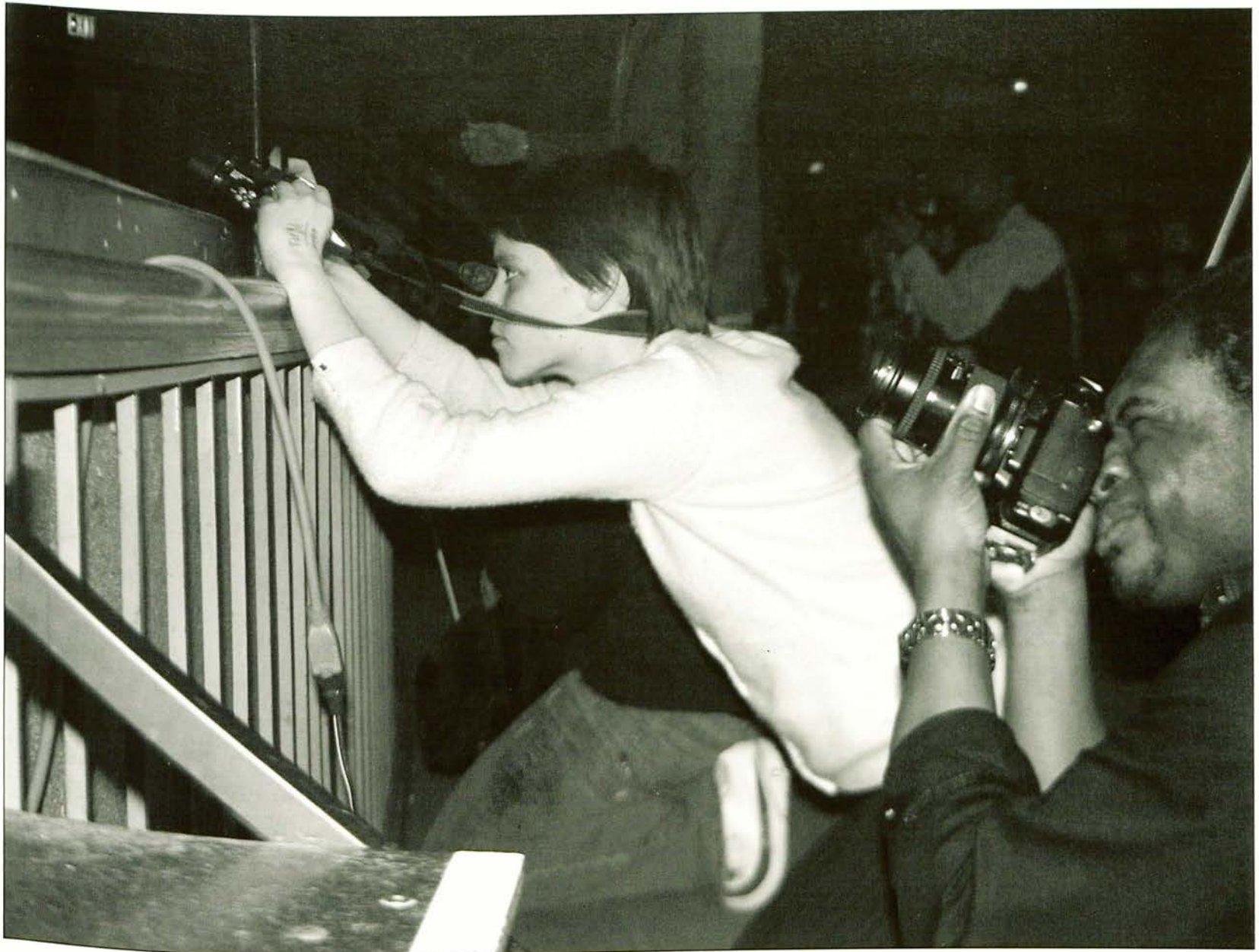
"I felt like I was a part of something that was going to be remembered," she said.

The feeling of going from a junior staffer to editor in chief and winning nationals was cool she said because she could actually feel all she'd accomplished.

"Molly has a big heart, a big intellect and a big appetite to win," Deabler said.



Editor in chief Molly Mullen (12) stands in front of the journalism trophy case by the main office. The *Register* has won 10 NSPA Best of Shows in the last six years. Mullen said she will be majoring in print journalism at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Photo by Tanika Cooper.



Above. Molly Mullen (12) takes a photo of the North High School Boys Choir during the Omaha Public School (OPS) rally for One City, One School. She was not only required to take photos, she had to write stories and create layouts as well.
Photo by Clay Lomneth.



Left. Mullen discusses story ideas with some of the *Register* staff members after school in January. They often held meetings after school to get a jump on the next issue or to push for another win at nationals. Adviser Matthew Deabler (back left) listens while Patrick O'Malley (11) (left) and Clayton Lomneth (12) wonder how many pages the *Register* will be that the staff takes to nationals in San Francisco in April.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.



Above. Art teacher Margaret Quinn helps Anthony Smejkal (12) with his clay project in his Advanced Pottery course. Quinn and art teacher Larry Andrews took their art students to see alumnus Connor Meigs' artwork. *Photo by Anna McMahon.*

Far Right. Meigs' self-portrait was displayed at his art show. Many students were inspired by his artwork. *With permission of Linda Meigs.*

Right. Students viewed the artwork at the Florence Mill. Meigs' mother organized the show and contacted his past teachers. *Photo by Emily Harrison.*



a glimpse into the past

Art students gain new perspective during field trip

by emily harrison

Art students had an opportunity to see the work of an alumnus at the Florence Mill during a field trip on Oct. 28.

Art teachers Larry Andrews and Margaret Quinn took their Art 5-6 and Studio Art students to "Meigs: Retrospective Dialogue." The students saw the work of Connor Meigs who graduated in 2003.

Connor died on Christmas Eve after a car accident in 2004. The exhibit was a collection of his life's work.

His work included editorial cartoons, impressionist paintings, sculptures, a number of self-portraits, and other work from his years at Central and later on in college. The exhibit was assembled by Linda Meigs, Connor's mother, who collected his work and assembled it for a memorial show.

Shuona Wang (11) and Deborah Rennard (12) were two of the students who saw the exhibit.

"It was really inspiring," Rennard said. "It made me want to go home and start working."

She said the exhibit was humbling and it gave her a goal to strive toward. She said she would be happy if she could ever be at his level.

Wang also said seeing the exhibit made her want to work harder on her art and showed her students her age could produce great art.

Quinn said it was a good experience for the students to see the work of an artist who attended Central and see how he progressed in college.

Andrews said many pieces in the show were created at Central and some were actually assignments for class. Wang said she had seen some of Connor's work as examples in her art classes before.

The large self-portrait he (left) painted of himself holding a canvas was his first painting at Central. A book including Connor's cartoons and some of his writings Linda had made for him as a gift were also included in the exhibit.

"His cartoons were really inspiring. The ideas behind them and the ways he convey them were really amazing," Rennard said. "That's the hardest part in my opinion."

Connor's last comment to his mother on his future was he wanted to make monumental sculptures. Linda said he could have been a painter, an editorial cartoonist or a variety of other things.

"This is just a portion of what we have," Linda said. "He was very prolific."

She said she went through and picked out the works she liked the best. Linda and Connor's brother Doug started assembling the exhibit in April. Linda promised Connor an exhibit at the Mill once he graduated from college with his Bachelors in Fine Arts.

The Mill was the only appropriate place to display Connor's work. Linda said he could not have had a show at a gallery because none of his works were for sale and he could not have an exhibition in a museum.

Andrews found out about the accident when Linda called him at home on Christmas Eve. Linda asked him to call other teachers.

"Connor's death was a profound loss for our family, but also a loss for the world," she said. "He had a lot more he could have given."

Andrews said he thought hearing Connor's story made students think about the decisions they make, their art and what is really important to them.

Rennard said Connor's unexpected death made her think about the way she lived her life.

"It makes me stop and think about if something happened to me, would I be happy with the life I've had," Rennard asked.

However, even without his story, Connor's work stands on its own. Linda said many of the people who saw the exhibit over the summer did not know the story when they came, but stayed an hour or two looking at the work.

Linda and Doug created a bench in memorial of Connor for the Bench Marks Project, a collaboration between artists and writers. They used images from Connor's work for the bench. They also used the quote which was written on the cover of one of Connor's journals: "Art is not communication, it is dialogue."

Art

Department Head

Larry Andrews

Other Teachers

Margaret Quinn

Tanya Simmons

Jane Taureti

Courses Offered

Art 1-8-

Beginning classes focus on the basics of art and were prerequisites for the other courses.

Honors Studio Art 1-4-

Students have to apply for the course. Once selected, students focus on art production, art history, art criticism, portfolios, exhibitions, scholarship preparation and aesthetics.

AP Studio Art 1-2-

Students who enrolled in this course were pursuing post-secondary art experiences at a university or at an art school.

Beginning Pottery 1-2-

Students learn the basic techniques of handcrafting functional and creative pottery.

Advanced Pottery 1-4-

The course focuses on technical individualization, processing of clay and glazes and knowledge of kiln functions and techniques.

Technical Problems

Applied Design 1-2-

The course centers on the application of design principles in two and three-dimensional media.

Students use fibers, textiles (paper making, bookbinding, batik, utilitarian) and jewelry.

Advanced Applied

Design 1-2-

This course is an extension of Applied Design 1-2. Students were required to have individualization of lessons and multiple media processes.

Technical Problems

Advanced Applied

Design 3-4-

Students focus on advanced problems in design, media and process.

Social Studies

Department Head

Charles Hinkle

Other Teachers

Jodi Anselmo
Eric Behrens
Richard Behrens
Patricia Brizendine
Vicki Deniston-Reed
Lisa Donahoe
Jimmie Foster
James Galus
Carol Krejci
Derek Leslie
Rod Mullen
Peter Pham
Michelle Pleiss
Tim Shipman
Shannon Stenger
Bob Tucker
Scott Wilson

Courses Offered

US History-

This course studies the development of the nation.

Geography-

Students study natural environment and physical geography.

Economics-

Students learn the effects of the economy.

World History-

Students study the cultures of people worldwide.

American Government-

This course studies the foundation for our government.

Psychology/Sociology-

Students study human behavior and examine how people interact.

American History-

This course uses primary sources to analyze history.

Law and Justice-

Students learn knowledge and skills for survival in society.

African-American History-

Students learn about the African-American population.

Latin-American History-

This course is an overview of Latin America.

AP European History-

Students analyze issues and themes in history.

“I’m just a bill ...on Capitol Hill”

AP Government students learn to push in politics

by stephanie wilhelm

“We put pressure on Congress and while they deserve some, it is not as easy as everyone thinks,” Anna Wiksel (12) said.

Social studies teacher Carol Krejci said her AP Government class turned into a mock House of Representatives because it was a good exercise to learn about the legislative process.

“The truth is anyone can write a bill, but only a member of Congress can present it,” Krejci said.

Laura Mabrouk (12) said she learned about committees and that they have a more important role than she knew and they make very important decisions.

“This was the most involved the class has ever been and probably the most it will ever be,” Mabrouk said. “Even the quiet people were making comments.”

Wiksel’s favorite part was the debating because a person could see other people’s views.

“I was very impressed with the quality of debate and the arguments. The debates were spirited, intelligent and fun,” Krejci said. “Everything I had thought of before hand, the students brought up themselves.”

Mabrouk said the project took longer than what Krejci had anticipated because the debate was so intense. She presented a bill on same-sex marriage.

She said the stance was to legalize same-sex marriage for the whole country.

“It’s really important. I don’t understand why people are so against it,” Mabrouk said. “They use the Bible as an excuse, but it’s religion and it’s not a good enough reason for me. They are trying to make religion part of the government.”

She said they had to research their topic and write the bill up as if it was actually going to Congress.

Mabrouk said with most bills a person has to think about cost and how much money she can get from the government. She also has to think about whom it will affect and the wording has to be light tight.

“I had a problem with the working so it was amended,” Mabrouk said. “It (the bill) said ‘the U.S. would recognize same-sex marriages’ and it had to be changed to ‘the U.S. would recognize same-sex marriages and all states would allow it.’”

She said in the real House, the committees are divided into subjects, but there weren’t enough

students to do that in the class so they were divided into three committees.

Mabrouk said after the bills were written up, they went to committee and the committee had to decide whether to recommend the bills to the House of Representatives, kill them or amend them among other actions.

Krejci said about 20 bills were written, but the committees were only allowed to recommend two bills because of a time constraint.

Mabrouk said the bills that were recommended to the House were presented by its sponsor and then debate reigned. After that, the bills had to be passed by the majority of the House (class).

Krejci said all six bills recommended to the House were passed.

Mabrouk said most of the class supported her bill.

“The people against the bill didn’t say much,” she said. “The class at the very beginning of the year was very liberal, so they (conservatives) didn’t say much.”

She said even though all the bills passed, some topics were not as highly debated as expected.

“I wish they had argued because I would’ve loved to hear what they would have said,” Mabrouk said. “It’s sad, but they don’t care to argue the issues.”

Wiksel said she was happy to see Mabrouk’s bill go through.

“It (marriage) is just a word and everyone’s equal so who cares,” Wiksel said.

Krejci said the bill with the most intense debate was Andrew Bratcher’s which was for cutting military aid to Israel.

She said the topics were really diverse and ranged from school lunches to the Patriot Act to canceling all standardized testing to a ban on censorship.

Krejci said the bill raising minimum wage was of course not controversial.

“Jim Hubbard’s bill was to require nutritional food in school lunches,” Krejci said. “I was impressed they (students) weren’t looking for just fast food!”

She said while it was easy for students to say they didn’t want standardized testing, the student actually debated the consequences of getting rid of the testing.

“I tell my students my goal is to vote for one of my students for president (of the United States),” Krejci said.



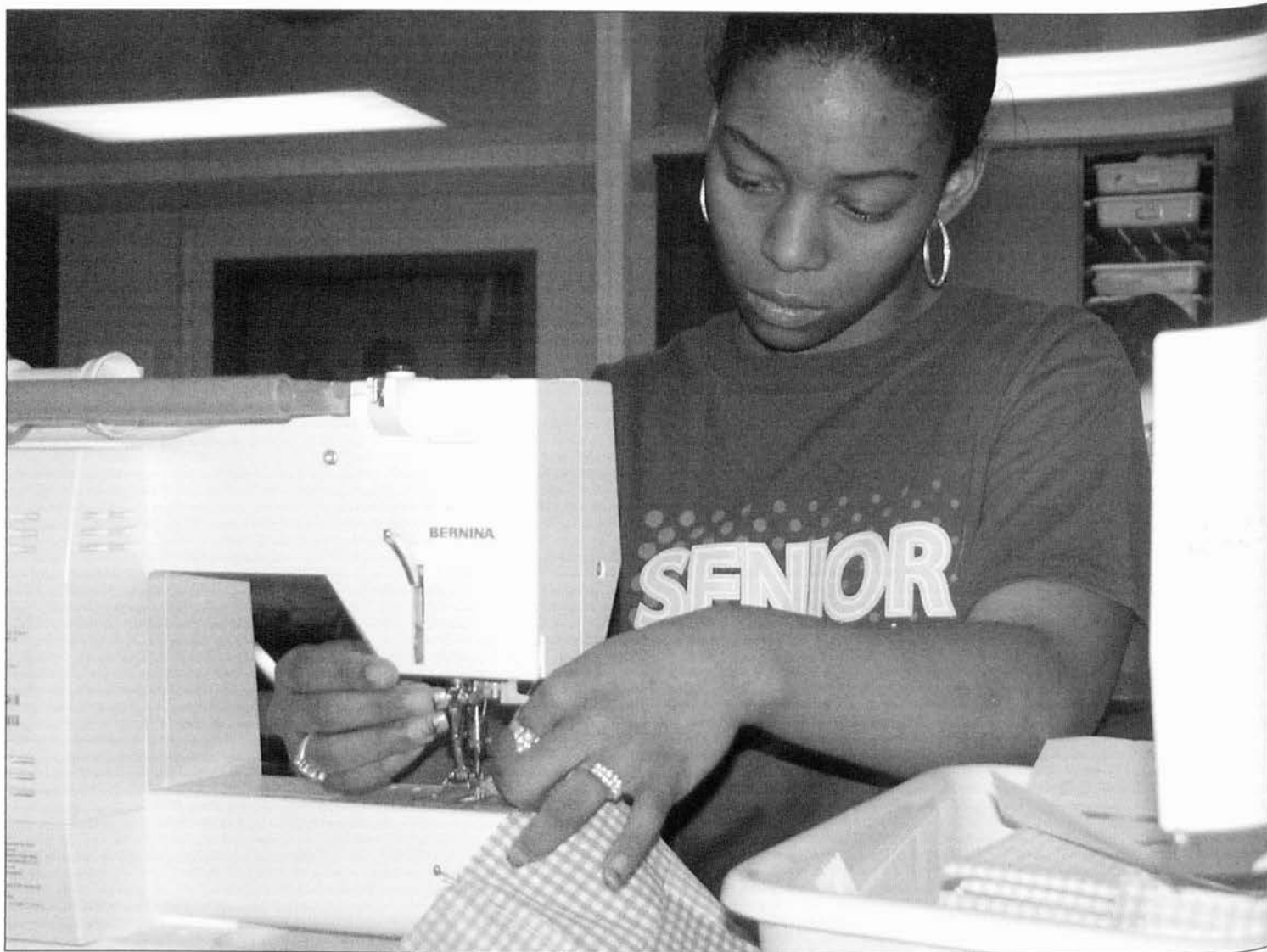
Above. Laura Mabrouk (12) presents her bill on same sex marriage to the class. She said surprisingly it generated less debate than she expected. Photo by Patrick O'Malley.



James Whelan (12) presents his bill to the class. Krejci said the bill that generated the most intense debate was cutting aid to Israel. Photos by Patrick O'Malley.



Government students break off into side debates during a presentation of a bill. Krejci said the debates were very informative. Photo by Patrick O'Malley.



Above. Biaunca Cromartie (12) sews a quilt for her clothing class. Cromartie said she would some day like a career as a fashion designer. Though best at casual clothing, Cromartie said she would someday like to create formal gowns.
Photo by Anna McMahon.

Right. Family and consumer science teacher Linda Milliken instructs Alma Vega (11) on how to cut fabric. Milliken instructed the students on how to become a designer, saying one should know her own style and where she would want to be located.
Photo by Anna McMahon.



casual expressions

Aspiring designer prepares for career in fashion

by anna mcma hon

Biaunca Cromartie (12) said she wanted to create outfits and other items for her family, but hadn't done so, yet.

"I like fashion," Cromartie said. "It (the class) sounded interesting."

She took a clothing and textiles class, hoping to advance in fashion.

Cromartie said she found the sewing to be relaxing and did not bore her.

"I like working with my hands," she said.

Family and consumer science teacher Linda Milliken said Cromartie was one of her most promising students.

"She's so interested in it," Milliken said. "It shows in the way she dresses."

Despite having had only a year of practice, Cromartie became involved in her sewing projects.

Milliken said students learned about fibers and textiles, including cotton and wool, while continuing to improve sewing skills.

"Students learn the history of fashion, where it came from, where it's going and how it repeats itself," Milliken said.

Students were assigned a variety of projects.

Cromartie said she has made a quilt, pillow and jacket.

"I've kept all my projects," she said.

The class allowed students to express themselves and take a break from the normal routine of the day.

"She sometimes likes to change patterns and does a nice job on her sketches," Milliken said.

Milliken said she encouraged her students to be creative and have unique ideas.

"It's not boring," Cromartie said. "You're not writing all day."

Milliken and Cromartie formed a bond during the class.

"She's not impatient," Cromartie said. "She takes time to help those who need it and is very one-on-one."

Milliken guided Cromartie by telling her how to get into the business.

"One needs to focus on design and take an art class in order to be successful," Milliken said.

Milliken advised future designers to have a specific idea in mind.

"One needs to know his or her individual style," she said.

She said location was another factor that played a large role with careers in fashion.

"One should know where he or she wants to be located," Milliken said. "One's career depends on the city."

However, she also warned that the world of fashion was not as glamorous as presumed.

"It's not all this glory," Milliken said. "It's hard work."

Cromartie said she planned on taking other classes in order to better prepare herself to be a fashion designer.

"I'm going to take business classes in college," she said.

Cromartie's love for fashion helped her to develop her own style.

"I'm a little hip-hop, a little wild," she said.

Though she did not like to emulate any particular designers, Cromartie liked some designers' taste.

"I'm looking into different designers," she said.

The aspiring designer has many ideas for the future.

"I'm better at doing casual clothes, but I want to make pretty gowns," Cromartie said.

The clothing class helped Cromartie and other students improve their sewing skills.

Family and Consumer Sciences

Department Head

Linda Milliken

Other Teachers

Robin Hanus

Ann Pratt

Kelli Priebe

Beth Staskiewicz

Jeanne Staroski

Jeanee Weiss

Courses Offered

Human Growth and Development-

Students were taught the physical, social and emotional aspects of personal maturation, human sexuality and family life.

Clothing and Textiles

1-4-

This course introduces basic sewing techniques and consumer-related issues.

Computer Design

Fashion 1-2-

Students explored the fashion industry and the design process.

Sports Nutrition-

This course taught students a healthy lifestyle and better nutrition.

Child Development 1-4-

Students were given the opportunity to study children and their needs.

Honors Child

Development 1-4-

Students completed research projects and organized and participated in volunteer projects working with children.

Family Living-

Students learned to better understand themselves and their relationships with others.

Foods 1-2-

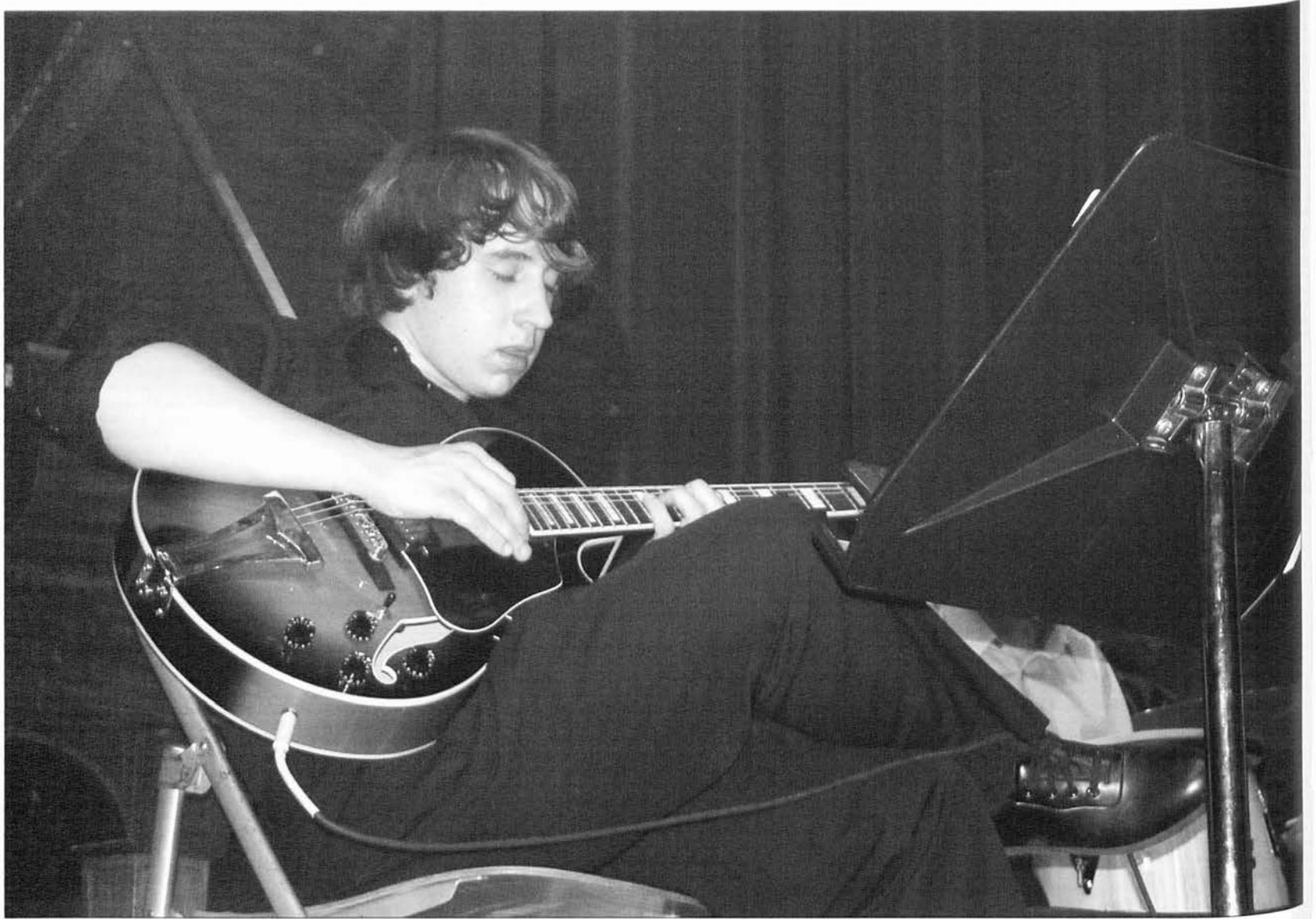
Students were taught how to prepare food and practice proper nutrition.

Culinary Skills 1-2-

This course covers the multicultural aspects of food.

Teen Parenting-

Students discovered the roles of caregivers.



Above. Andrew Wahl (10) plays for the Jazz Band during the fall concert.

Right. Radell Young (12) plays a solo during the concert. Band director Pete Wilger went around to each person doing a solo and held the microphone for them.

Far Right. Judy Rosas (9) (left) and Andrea Mauseth (9) play for the orchestra during the concert. Photos by Stephanie Wilhelm.



worries unfounded

Musicians hone skills to prepare for future performances

by stephanie wilhelm

"It (the fall concert) was a chance to get the two orchestras and the Jazz Band playing before winter," orchestra teacher Molly Moriarty said.

Violin player Michael Walsh (9) said the concert was just a fun event in which to do their best.

Susan Mayberger, mother of Benjamin Thomas (10), said she was impressed with the kids who came out and played.

"I think it is fabulous that they have these opportunities for us to come out and see the bands," Mayberger said.

She said the Jazz Band music, which included a waltz, a ballad, Latin rhythm and a combo, was very catchy.

"I thought it (the concert) was phenomenal, especially the last part," Hattie Wahl, Andrew Wahl's (10) sister said. "During the solos, it looked like everyone was having such a great time."

Moriarty said she usually worries more than the students do, but they did very well for their first time out and they practiced every day in class and sometimes outside of class because not everyone could be in the 6th hour class.

"It was not the greatest," Walsh said. "We all had our own tempos mainly during the second piece."

Lauren Alston (10), who plays the violin, said the orchestra did a lot better than many of the members thought it would.

"I thought they (the Jazz Band) did very well," band director Pete Wilger said. "They are getting used to playing together and improving on their weaknesses."

The orchestra nailed down the songs the last couple of weeks before the concert.

"The songs were a mixture of easy ones and ones that were a challenge, so they (the students) would raise their standards for the year," Moriarty said.

She said the songs the orchestra performed were songs she had used before that worked well or songs she had never used before, but the musicians this year clicked with the song.

"They sight read a lot of music and if they (orchestra members) really like the song, they will

usually end up playing it for concerts," Moriarty said.

She said performances were like term papers and the rehearsals like homework.

For the winter concert, Moriarty said the students really liked pirates and decided to go with the theme from "Pirates of Caribbean" instead of the usual winter theme with sleigh rides.

Students usually dress up with antlers, Santa hats and more. Instead, students placed eye patches and pirate hats underneath their chairs.

"It will be a surprise for some people in the audience," Moriarty said. "It's a cute

addition and something a little special."

Some wind, brass and percussion members from the band played with the Orchestra to create a fuller sound.

"I like to give the Orchestra a full experience," Moriarty said.

She said the biggest worry was the winter weather.

"It's hard to reschedule with so many events going on," she said.



Matthew Waszak (11) carries up his instrument and cleaning implements. While the Orchestra played on stage, the Jazz Band waited in the audience and enjoyed the performance. Most students wore all black, while several students decided to add a flair to their outfit.

Photo by Stephanie Wilhelm.

Music

Department Head

Pete Wilger

Other Teachers

Lyn Bouma

Tom Cosby

Molly Moriarty

Sharon Smith

Courses Offered

Concert Band-

This course emphasizes music skills and requires students to show up for performances. Students who do not qualify for Concert Band take Pep Band.

Orchestra-

This class is offered during 6th Hour only and is open to all strings, winds, bass and percussion players. Freshman take Intermediate Strings

Jazz Band-

This course is a musical group that performs at several concerts and competitions. It focuses on different Jazz styles.

Instrumental Lessons-

This class provides students with the opportunity to improve. Students have time to practice and perfect. Private lessons are given every two weeks.

Concert Choir

(A Cappella)-

This course is a very selective mixed choir that performs many types of choral literature.

Chamber Ensemble

(CHS Singers)-

This course emphasizes performing and is also very selective.

Treble Chorus-

This course is for females. It is a beginning course that focuses on sight-reading, singing and appreciation.

Men's Chorus-

This is a course for beginning singers designed to train male singers.

“you want me to eat what?”

Club members play sponsor's version of "Fear Factor"

by tanika cooper

They didn't come for the dessert contest, they came to see who would win the Latin Club sponsor's version of "Fear Factor."

"I love 'Fear Factor' (the TV show)," Latin teacher Rita Ryan said. "It's my favorite show."

Members usually play games such as football and Frisbee at the club's annual picnic, but this year was different.

It staged a version of the popular television show at Elmwood Park called "Ryan's Factor of Fear."



James Hubbard (12) and Francesca Hannah (10) gasp at the sight of a student searching through the dish for critters. Many viewers couldn't help but cringe at the sight of the participants searching through the special dishes. Photo by Tanika Cooper

Ryan's version of "Fear" only included eating something one wouldn't normally eat. It included five eating stations.

She said her sister helped her come up with five dishes: Brutus' Brain, Cicero's Entrails, Cleopatra's Asp, Medusa Locks and Rita's Rodents.

None of the dishes looked like they could please anyone's appetite, but the Brutus'

Brain dish, which contained cottage cheese and gummy worms looked the worst.

The Medusa Locks and Cleopatra's Asp consisted mostly of spaghetti noodles.

Rita's Rodents was made of Jell-O and gummy worms.

"She (Ryan) warned us that it (the eating contest) wasn't going to be really pleasant," Francesca Hannah (10) said.

Hannah was one of the participants who placed third in the contest.

"I didn't even expect to place in the top three," she said, "but I'm was glad about those who won the two places; they're really nice people."

Ryan said those who chose to participate in the game would have to pull numbered cards.

These cards would determine what two dishes they would have to scramble through.

Each dish contained rubber critters such as thick night crawlers, black mice and spiders.

Jeremy Gipe (12) said he liked how the picnic and the eating contest went.

He was also a participant in the eating contest.

"It wasn't easy to breath, I was trying my best to get the worms," he said.

Some dishes contained gummy worms and big plastic eyeballs. The large rubber worms were worth the most points.

"'Fear Factor' food was disgusting as it should have been," Gipe said.

No one was allowed to use their hands so they had to place them behind their backs.

The object of the game was to see who could gather the most critters and place them into a separate dish while under a time limit of 45 seconds the first time and 30 seconds the second time.

"Time went by fast," Gipe said. "I really wanted to win."

The participants had to choose two cards, which indicated the station they had to search through.

Out of 13 participants, Ryan said the top two winners would win two tickets each to the Oakview movie theater.

Sterling Fox (12) won first place and Tyler Payne (9) won second.

"I just tried all the desserts," Ellen Danford (10) said. "I didn't care for the pizza."

Ryan said the point of the picnic was for everyone to socialize and enjoy themselves.

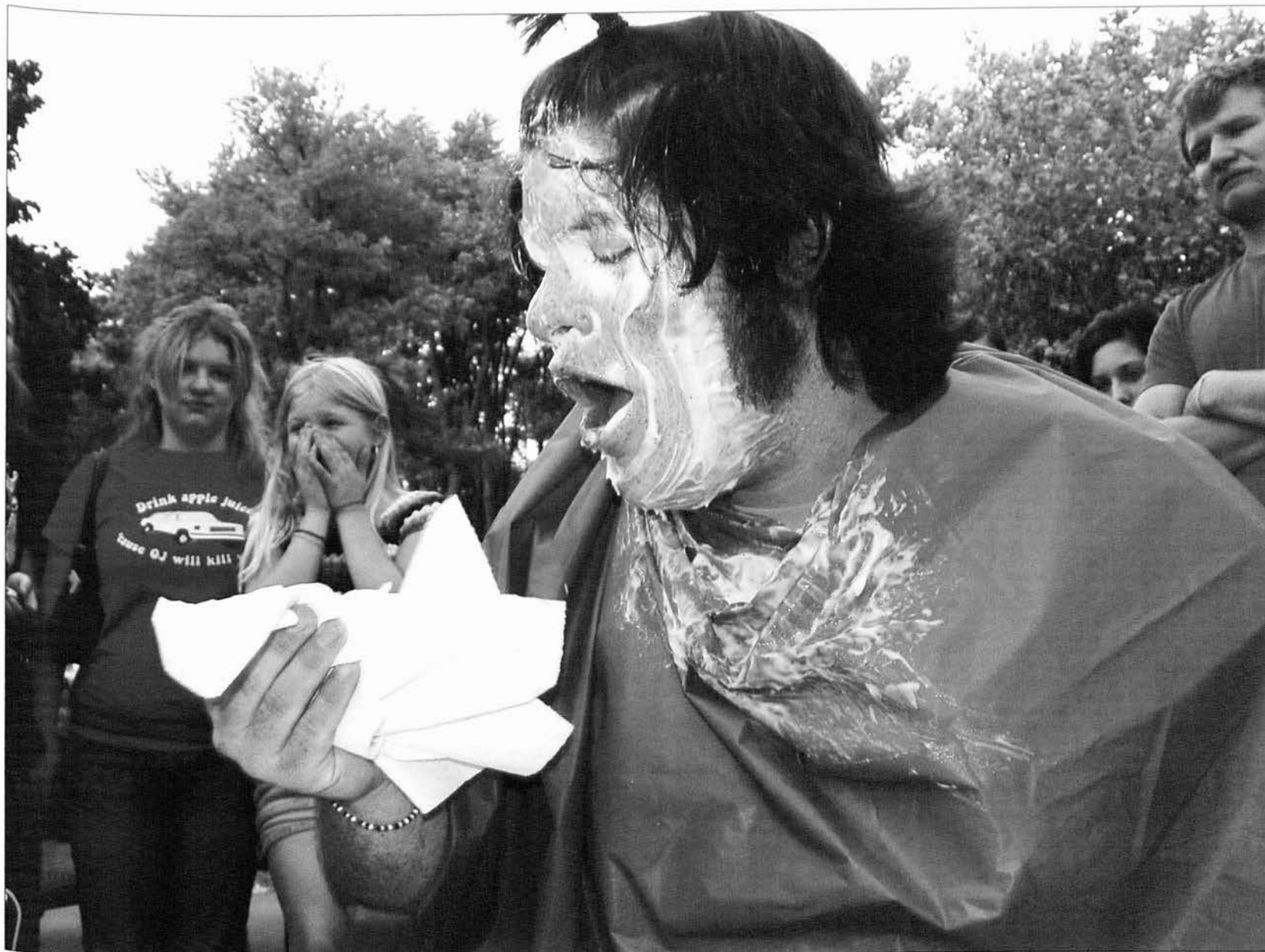
"The picnic was a huge success," she said. "Close to 55 to 65 people came."

She said everyone seemed to have a good time and everyone survived.

As for next year, Ryan said she won't do "Ryan's Factor of Fear" again.

"It did take a lot of work," Gipe said. "(As for next year) if someone wanted to dedicate themselves to it (holding the eating contest), it'd be really fun for them."

Maybe fear is a factor.



Left. Latin Club sponsor Rita Ryan mixes up the cards the students will draw from to determine which dish they must eat. Her sister, Ryan said, helped her prepare the dishes and come up with the object of the game. She said she was happy everyone seemed to have a good time.
Photo by Molly Mullen.

Above. Jeremy Gipe (12) wipes the gravy off of his face after he ate through the dish to try and find the most critters. Jeremy said he had a great time even though he didn't win the contest. He also said he was pleased with the choices of the dishes.
Photo by Molly Mullen.

Walking to show support

Members participate in "Red Ribbon" anti-drug campaign

by tanika cooper

"I think it's important to represent Central in the community," Ginger Riffel, the Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) sponsor, said.

Members of SADD had been attending Red Ribbon Walk, an anti-drug campaign, for three years. This was its fourth year.

Ashley Lidgett (12) said she attended the walk the year before.

Lidgett said the walk allowed the organization to grab the attention of the media.

Many people were involved in the campaign, including children.

"We were hoping to convey to them (children) that it's OK to say no to drugs," Lidgett said. "And when they get to high school, they don't have to do drugs."

She said she hoped this message was reaching the children.

"Our club is Students Against Destructive Decisions," Riffel said. "This (anti-drug campaign) further promotes our anti-drug stand."

Riffel said she decided to invite the Pom Squad, sponsored by Jane Luethge, because other schools that participated invited other organizations as well.

"Because South's Pom Squad participated, Riffel thought it would be a good idea to ask us," Luethge said.

Margaret Baumann (11), a member of Pom Squad, said she thought the anti-drug campaign was definitely a good idea and wanted to participate in it.

"Even though quite a few students do drugs, there's still people that don't," Baumann said.

Making the SADD organization was a good idea, and she said if she had more time she would join the club.

Many activities presented at the walk were for children.

The sponsors of the walk built a cigarette out of a tunnel.

The children crawled through the tunnel that was filled with signs against drugs and glitter.

The idea of the cigarette tunnel was to show children what happened if they started smoking cigarettes.

Lidgett said she hoped the rate of students who did drugs would go down.

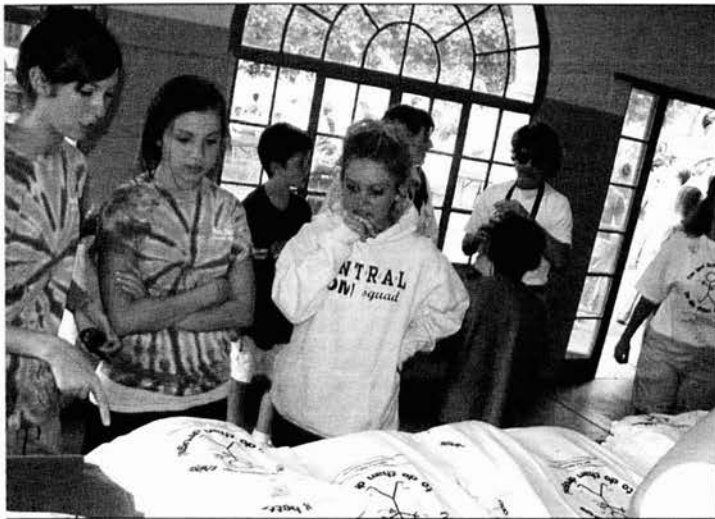
She said even though the awareness of drug use was getting around, peer pressure would still be out there.

"I was (satisfied), but at the same time I was hoping more people would have showed up," Lidgett said. "I hope the numbers will rise next year."

She said even though the numbers could have been better, she was satisfied with the variety of groups that came.

Lidgett said staying drug free will allow people to have a better life and allow them to have a lot more opportunities.

"As part of the walk, we made a pledge," Lidgett said. "And I think that part of that pledge was not only for us to be drug free, but to encourage other to be drug free also."



Erin Schultz (10) (left), Casey Christensen (9) and Elisabeth Garvin (11) members of Pom Squad select a T-shirt. The T-shirts were given out free to those who attended the walk. The shirt featured a stick person and surrounding him was "I've got better things to do than drugs."

Photo by Tanika Cooper.



Left. Ashlee Atwell (11) and Margaret Baumann (11) look at the huge ashtray sculpture. The sculpture was a wired ball with a variety of ashtrays wired onto it. Club members were invited to participate in the Red Ribbon Walk. *Photo by Tanika Cooper.*

Above. Ginger Riffel, sponsor of SADD, pledges to stay free of harmful drugs. Many people from the community participated in the Red Ribbon Campaign. The Omaha Police commissioner also attended the Walk. *Photo by Tanika Cooper.*

another quarter, please

NHS members raise money for Hurricane Katrina victims

by stephanie wilhelm

"Since I had never done a fund-raiser, I set a goal of \$500," co-sponsor of National Honor Society (NHS) Jennifer Stastny said. "It was surpassed on the first day."

She said counselor Karen Cirulis asked principal Jerry Bexten to find someone to raise money for Hurricane Katrina's victims.

NHS president Brianna Brei (12) said Stastny emailed her saying teachers wanted to do something for the victims.

Brei said originally she wanted to do a penny drive in homerooms. However, it would have taken too much time.

Stastny said NHS ran the campaign because the society is a community service organization.

"It's what we (NHS) do," Stastny said.

Brei said it was important the students did something to show generosity toward each other.

"A lot of the people will be going into NHS," Brei said. "So we need to get them involved."

NHS members and volunteer students collected money in used folders and coffee cans during lunch hours.

Stastny said the biggest problem was students' schedules because some did not have lunch. Instead, English teachers collected money during their classes.

"Most volunteers were from NHS and some other very nice people who wanted to help," Stastny said.

NHS alone raised just under \$2,800 for

the Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund.

"They (the students) were very generous and positive," Stastny said.

Students also raised money for the effort through a penny drive during the day.

The "Penny War" was a race between the classes to see which grade could raise the most money.

Jeramie Colvin (10) came up with the "Penny War."

"We did it in junior high because we had a student with a tumor that was spreading," Colvin said. "It was a good way to raise money."

Colvin said sophomores donated the most money.

"He really genuinely believed we needed to help those people (the Katrina victims)," Stastny said.

Colvin said he talked to counselors Angela Meyer and Cirulis.

"I felt bad for all of the people whose houses were destroyed," Colvin said.

Stastny said Colvin got a company to donate the big water jugs the money was collected in.

The money collected was donated to the Salvation Army because it was the schools district's destination point.

She said the vast majority of the money was collected in three days.

Teachers helped raise money by donating \$5 to wear jeans on Friday.

Stastny said the teachers received a sticker that said they had helped Katrina victims. This identified teachers that could wear jeans.

Teachers also helped raise money for Relay for Life. They donated \$5 for the privilege of wearing jeans.

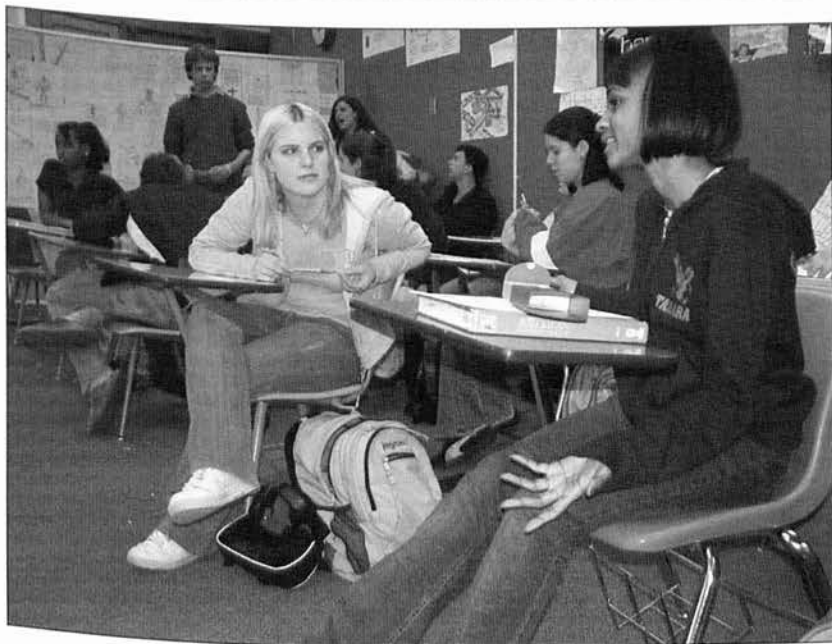
Brei said NHS gave teachers a break by hosting a teachers night out.

She said NHS members participated in this group activity by baby sitting teachers' children. The members played games and hosted activities for the children in the gym and courtyard.



Brianna Brei (12) divides tasks with Abigail Prest (12) (not pictured). NHS members were required to participate in five group activities and seven group activities for honors. Members were also required to have 35 individual hours.

Photo by Stephanie Wilhelm.

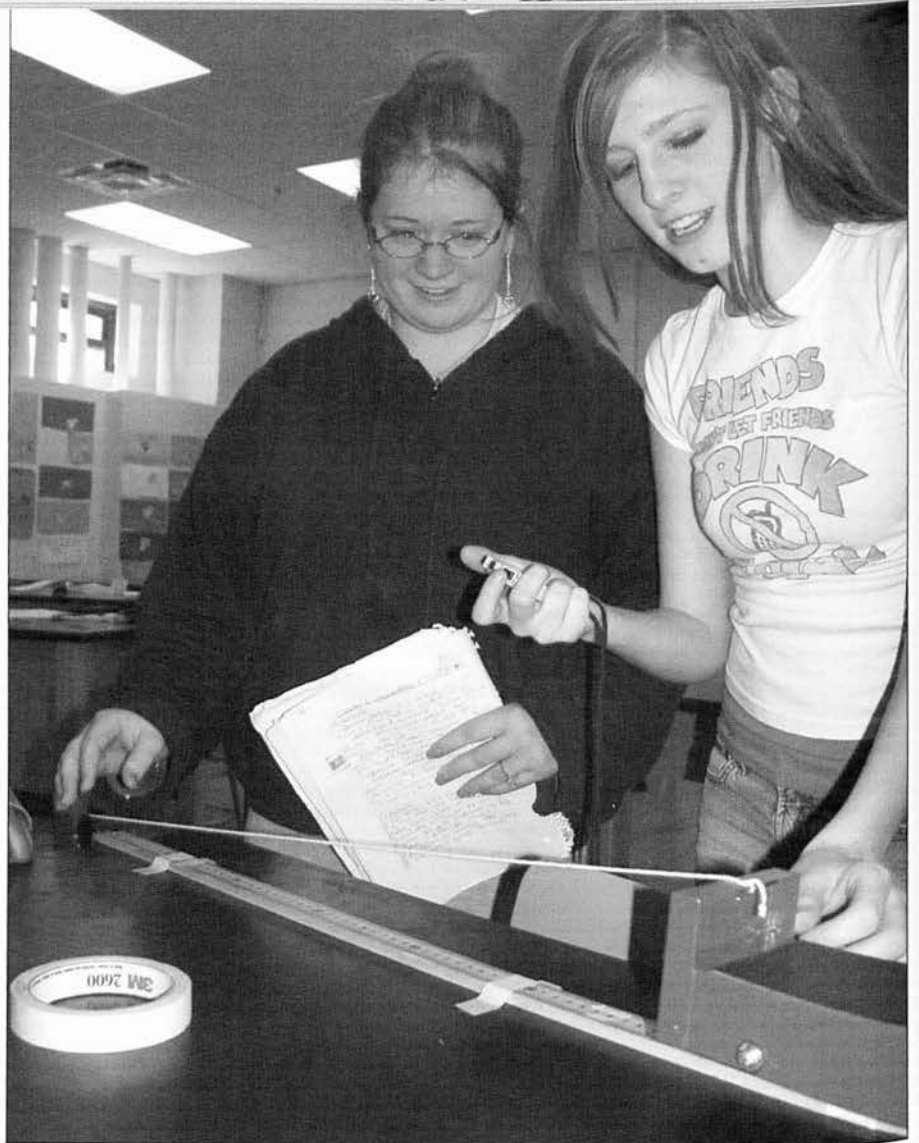


Right. Kelleyanne Alt (12) and Tamara Cooper (12) talk about the list of NHS group activities coming up, which included a teachers night out and volunteering at Open House. Brianna Brei (12) said it was important to get students involved in volunteering and give back to the community. Underclassmen helped NHS out by collecting money during lunch hours. *Photo by Stephanie Wilhelm.*

Above. Ashley Lidgett (12) and Joseph Albright (11) ask for donations for the NHS Katrina Fund at the varsity football game against North High School. During the school day, students donated spare change for the cause. Counselors held big jugs in the hallways during passing period for donations. *Photo by Stephanie Wilhelm.*

Right. Melissa Weatherford (11) and Megan Bogatz (11) time their cart to see how long it would take it to reach the end of the table. The hanger at the other end of the string pulled the cart toward the end of the table. Members of one group put a bowling ball on their cart. *Photo by Tanika Cooper.*

Below. Physics teacher Bryson Wiser observes his students while they were doing the experiment. He said the object was to find how fast the cart was moving from one end to the other. The students had to pile weights on the cart to cause more friction. They were also in charge of keeping track of each trial. *Photo by Tanika Cooper.*



the outdoors of science

Teacher hikes with students in early mornings

by teresa vacha

One early Saturday morning, when most teens were still sleeping, seven guys piled into a van outside the school, accompanied by four teachers, loaded down with backpacks and gear.

Excited voices, jokes and laughter carried through the air around them. A van stuffed full with nine mountain bikes waited behind them.

When they finally took off, cornfields and hills soon flicked past either side of their windows, while coming adventures stretched out before them, ones they were all excited to take.

The new Earth Science Club, sponsored by science teacher Bryson Wisner, started the year with a good omen after its successful trip to Indian Caves.

The club captured the attention of students looking for outdoor adventures and to learn more about the hands-on aspect of science.

"It was wonderful bonding and a great workout," Jim Hubbard (12) said. "We kind of got lost sometimes, but it was successful."

Wisner had been thinking of forming a club that would involve students experiencing first-hand more about earth science and learning to enjoy it.

"I started talking about the idea to some of my students," Wisner said, "And the idea interested a lot of them."

Wisner began teaching during second semester last year, but his reputation as a proficient teacher had already started to spread.

"He was a very good teacher," Rebecca Briles (12) said, "He kept control, but we still had fun."

Wisner said he wanted to be a teacher because he wanted to work with students and earth science was the subject that worked for him.

"I like earth science," Wisner said, "I like learning about the outside and enjoy getting out into the environment."

Wisner's motivation definitely rubbed off on his students.

"In a lot of ways, he was an inspiration for me because not only did we share similar interests, but he really worked hard to include everyone," Briles

said.

For Wisner, he has always appreciated the outdoors.

"When I was a little kid, I used to go biking and fishing by myself," he said. "As I got older, it started to get that I could travel to different places."

Wisner said he has gone on hikes for weeks at a time and traveled on foot for 50 miles, completely cut off from modern conveniences.

"Any time you get out of the city, you see the world is not so small," he said, "And whether you're stressed or depressed, it really gives you some perspective."

Wisner said the club was a good idea because not everyone gets the opportunity to experience the outdoors like he has.

"We never did anything that intense though," he said referring to his 50-mile walks. "But this club will hopefully make people want to take that initiative and do something bigger."

Places the club visited were Indian Cave, Preparation Cannon and Utah Plateau.

"There's nothing like having a great time out of the city," Andrew Ritsch (12) said.

In addition to hikes, however, the club also focussed on other earth science interests.

"We did astrology, learned about the constellations and the Big Bang Theory," Briles said. "We also got guest speakers for learning more on the weather."

Wisner's help in creating this club gave students a chance to see another side of science not taught in class.

"I have always gone camping since I was little," said Nicholas Pierce-Cramer (12) who became interested in the club when he heard Wisner talking about it in class. "I knew the club would be really fun and he would give us a lot of freedom while still keeping control."

"I just enjoy being outside," Wisner said. "And I wanted to get students who feel the same way to get a chance to experience new things."

Science

Department Head
Jean Whitten

Other Teachers
Matthew Aguilar
Erik Albertine
Richard Bode
Linda Brock
Jesse Busse
Jane Colling
Jeff Fredrickson
Matt Hamill
Amanda Karpf
Marlene LaRue
Doug Martin
Sandy McCreight
Meghan Meshbesh
Jackie Morales
Amy Sanford
Jean Whitten
Bryson Wisner

Courses Offered

Biology-

Many levels are offered ranging from Biology Fundamentals to AP Biology.

Students learn about topics from the five kingdoms to genetics to the cell cycle.

Chemistry-

Courses range from Chemistry Fundamentals to AP Chemistry. Students learn about elements to orbital theory to thermodynamics.

Physics-

The courses vary from Physics Fundamentals to AP Physics. Topics taught range from energy to acceleration to vectors.

Earth Science-

It explains the human relationship with the Earth. Topics include geology to oceanography to astronomy

Honors Anatomy and Physiology-

This subject is ideal for students wishing to enter the medical field. Topics taught include the functions of the organ system and medical problems that might affect these systems.

Children in need

Key Club volunteers for organization during the holidays

stephanie wilhelm

"I am very passionate about Child Saving Institute (CSI) because it saves so many lives," secretary of Key Club Janice Baker (11) said. "We should do everything we can to make them feel comfortable because they were basically ripped from their homes."

President of Key Club Sara Martin (12) said the club gave Halloween bags to the children at CSI, an organization that helps children out of abusive or neglectful situations.

Martin said the people who fund CSI do not have enough money to give the children

movies or eat out unless they find a job," Baker said. "So we made bags for them with candy to make them feel a little bit more comfortable."

Baker said they were not allowed to give the candy personally to the children because they were under 18, so they gave it to their contact at the institute.

She said the club member received thank-you cards from the kids and their contact told them how happy these projects made the kids.

"It was not only a fun project for club members, but exciting for the children at CSI," Polly Briles, sponsor of Key Club, said. "It's one of those projects that both those who do it and receive it got something from it."

Briles said the club members bought the candy and were very artistic in the project. The members really had a great time.

Nadia Al-Absy (9) said it was fun to actually do something to help the children out.

"I think more kids should get more involved in these projects," Al-Absy said.

Baker said they raised money for CSI throughout the year because of how strongly some members felt about it.

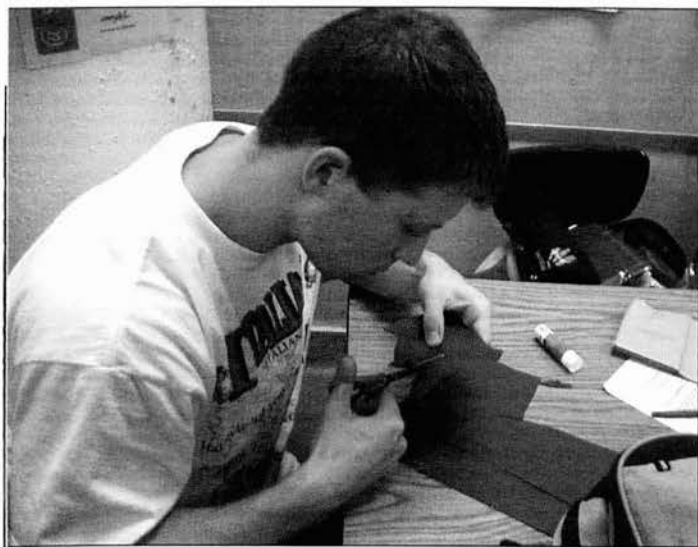
She said for Christmas, Key Club members volunteered their time at Barnes and Nobles to gift-wrap presents.

The members volunteered four hours of their time on any of two dates during the beginning of break.

Baker said Barnes and Nobles gave them the wrapping paper. The members were just required to show up and gift-wrap.

Baker said the money they raised from donations was used to buy the children movie certificates.

"It (the Christmas project) was something that didn't require anything complicated," Baker said. "It was a lot simpler than most fund-raisers."



Frank Marescalco (12) spends his time cutting out Halloween shapes for the bags. Members also helped by putting the candy in the bags.

Photo by Stephanie Wilhelm.

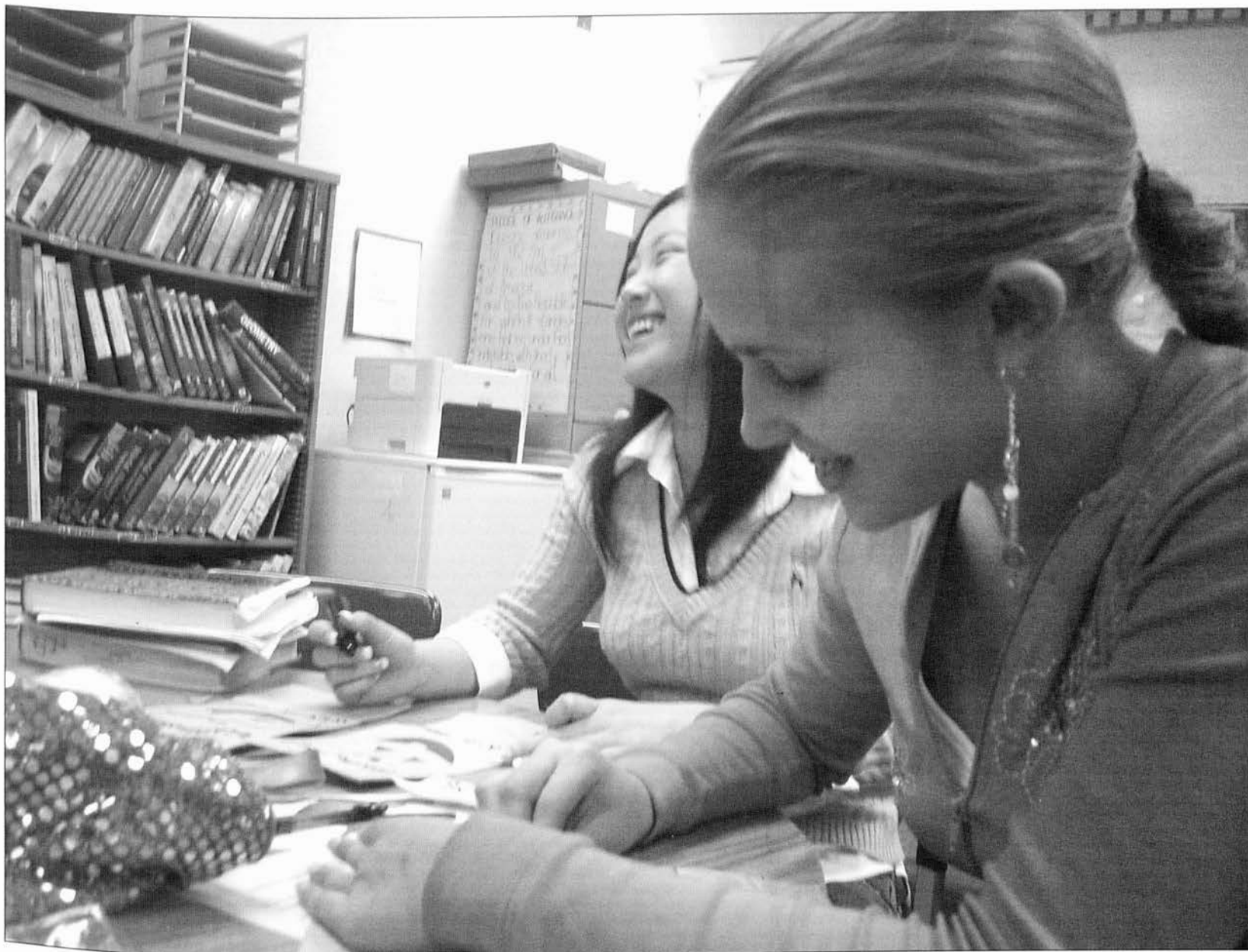
special treats so the club members decided to help out.

Baker was in charge of the project. She said they decided to do this because they had done a similar project before, but it was for Easter.

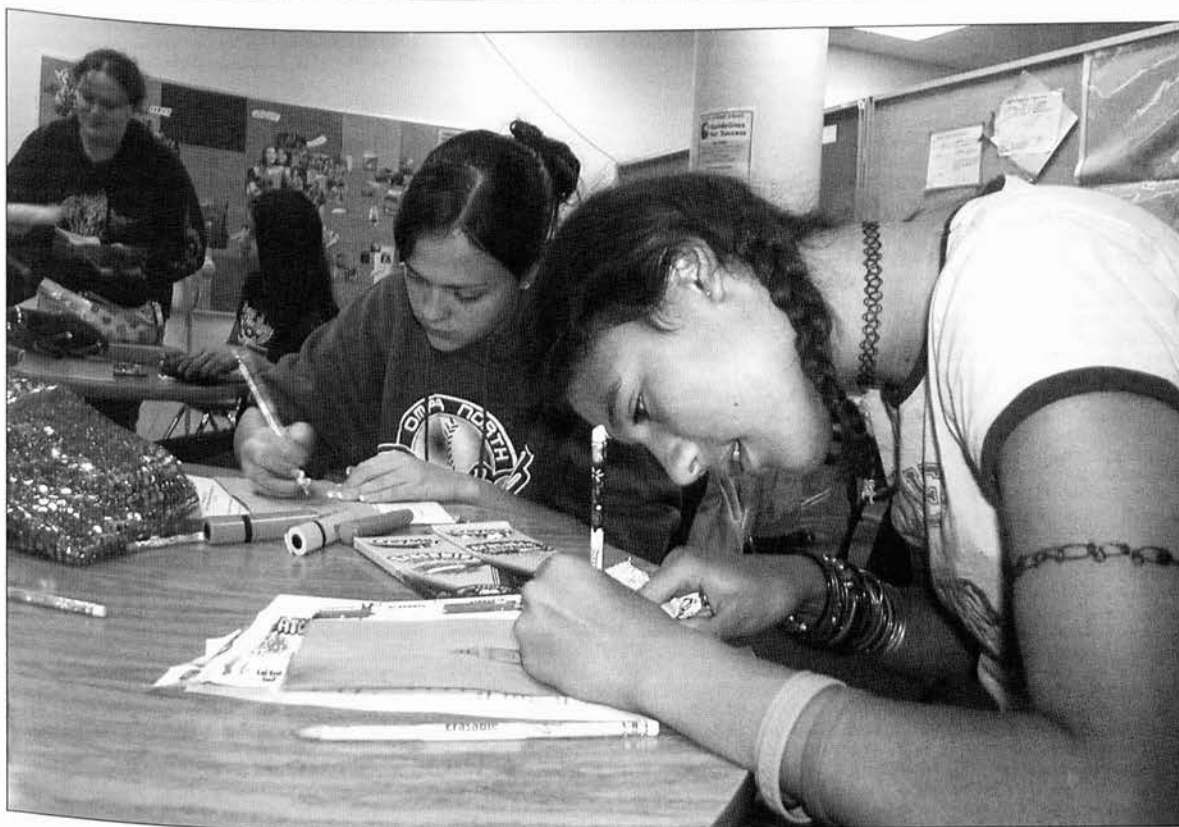
She said CSI had over 60 children and the members made a bag for each child.

Martin said club members decorated lunch bags in a Halloween theme and then stuffed them with candy and little trinkets. The club members donated candy ranging from chocolate to lollipops.

"These children don't have a chance to go to



Above. Shuona Wang (11) (left) and Sasha Zdan (11) have fun while decorating Halloween bags for Child Saving Institute (CSI). Some students used cutouts for their bags, while the more artistically inclined drew different Halloween figures on the bags. Polly Briles said the students wanted to add personal touches to help the children at CSI have a better holiday. *Photo by Stephanie Wilhelm.*



Left. Jordan Wagner (11) and Linda Hannah (9) draw Halloween figures on their bags. Students brought in Sour Patch Kids, lollipops and more for the bags. The members spent two meetings working on the project and had all of the bags done for the kids in CSI. *Photo by Stephanie Wilhelm.*



waking up the neighborhood

Senior's passion for drums carries him through high school

by anna mcMahon

Since the age of 12, Michael Greenberg (12) has been making noise on his drums.

"It's one of the few things I enjoy 100 percent," Greenberg said.

He has been involved in music for seven years, six of which he played the drums.

"I started taking guitar lessons and just thought I should play the drums, too," he said.

Greenberg's parents were supportive of their son from the beginning.

"I got my first drum set for my birthday six years ago," he said.

He said there was an initial fascination after receiving his drums.

"I was obsessed with playing drums all the time," Greenberg said.

"When everyone plays everything correctly, it's very intense and very energetic," he said. "Everyone loves the drum line."

Greenberg said the drum line was essential to the band.

Tom Cosby was the drum line teacher and guided Greenberg for the past four years.

"Nobody puts in that much time without wanting to continue in the future," Cosby said.

Band director Pete Wilger has seen Greenberg evolve through the years.

"He's a quiet leader," Wilger said. "He doesn't get in people's faces."

Unlike the past, this year involved an increase in marching fundamentals because of the stadium opening.

"Before, we could sit in the auditorium," Cosby said.

"Now the challenge is to play the same stuff marching on the field."

Wilger said the drum line spent more time learning to march and play.

"They keep a pulse with a band that moves around," he said.

Wilger had many goals for the band in general.

"We opened the stadium and had an excellent performance," he said. "We want to get the crowd fired up and represent the school in a good way."

Wilger focused mainly on the performances at home games and competitions.

"We want to present the best possible halftime shows," Wilger said. "We want to get the best positive judges comments we can get."

Drum line rehearsed every two weeks in the summer to prepare the group for future performances.

"We practiced how you stand, what your feet do and how to use your sticks," Cosby said.

Monday and Tuesday nights the drum line rehearsed.

"We don't do a lot of marching, but the rest of the time we make sure it sounds good," Greenberg said.

He said each year a new set of players come in with a new set of challenges.

"The whole drum line is basically new," Greenberg said.

Despite the rigorous new training regime, the drum line handled the pressure well.

"Everyone has to pull their weight," Cosby said. "Everyone has a responsibility to the group."

In general, Wilger was very pleased with how the drum line performed.

"I'm pleased with the work ethic," he said.

Cosby said Greenberg was an excellent role model for others.

"He leads by example," Cosby said.

Wilger said he knew Greenberg affected the drum line in a positive way.

"His section knows he cares about them," he said.

As for the years ahead, Greenberg realized how careers can be unstable.

"Ideally, I'd be in a touring band," he said. "But it's hard to make a living off it."

As a backup plan, Greenberg would like to be an A&R (Artists and Repertoire) person.

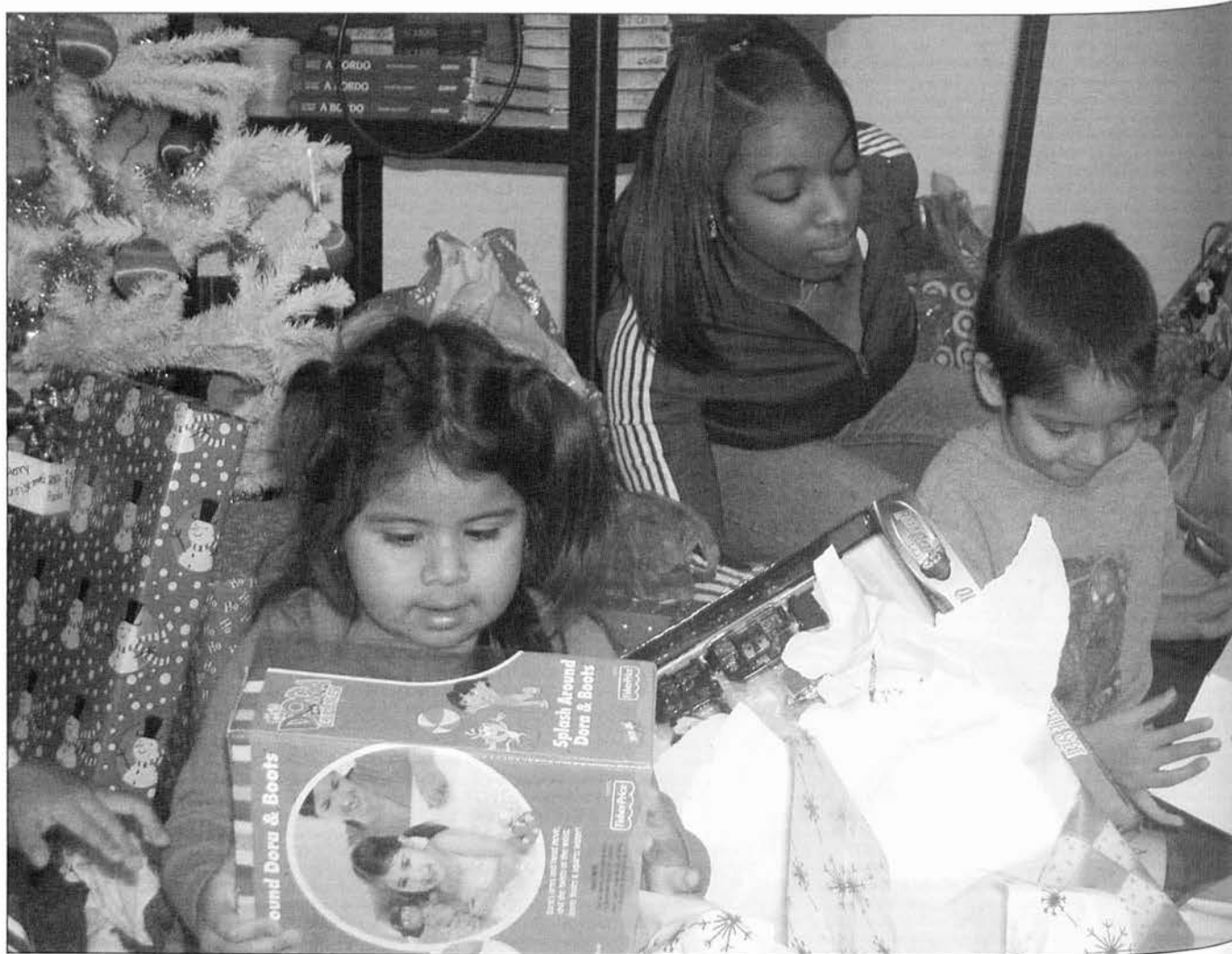
"I'd go out and find new bands and music for labels," he said.



The drum line performs a solo at a football game. The drum line had to learn new drills and fundamentals for the opening of the new stadium, as well as band competitions. Photo by Anna McMahon.

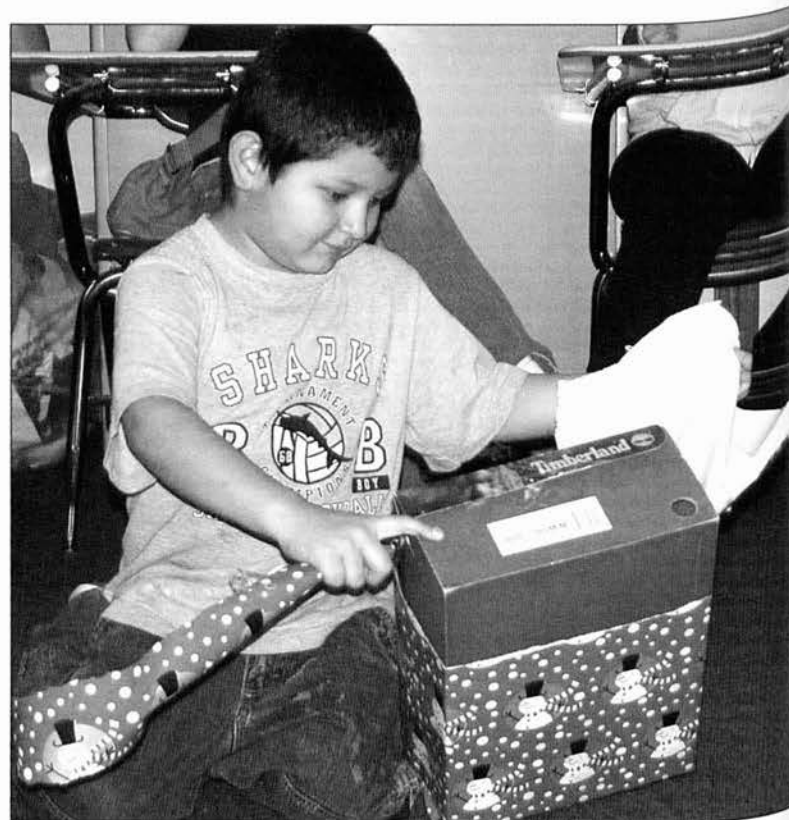
Opposite page. Michael Greenberg (12) performs at the final home football game. Greenberg has played the drums for five years and has been involved in the marching band for the past four years. In addition, Greenberg has his own band. Photo by Anna McMahon.

Right. The daughter of the Jose Lara family opens one of the many gifts provided by Susana Lara's second hour Spanish class. Although they were only required to give gift cards, the students donated much more. Lara said they exceeded her expectations.
Photo by Patrick O'Malley.



Above. Jaime Gustafson (11) (left) and Elisabeth Garvin (11) wrap gifts for the family their class "adopted." Many students stayed after school to help wrap the gifts.
Photo by Emma Phillips.

Right. Lara asked her students in her Spanish class and the Latino Leaders to donate to the families. They adopted three families all together. She said she invited the families to the school to make the gift giving and receiving more personal.
Photo by Emma Phillips.



showing we care

Spanish classes, Latino Leaders adopt families for Christmas

by molly mullen

"Muchas gracias, Feliz Navidad," a mother said to Susana Lara's Spanish 5-6 class.

Lara's Spanish classes as well as the Latino Leaders "adopted" families for Christmas and gave them each gifts.

Caitlin Farrell (10) bought José Lara toy trucks. She said he didn't open them in the classroom because the family wanted to save some for Christmas morning. She said there were well over 30 gifts for the mother and three children adopted by the class.

"It felt really good," Farrell said. "It didn't take a lot of time and we got to give something to a single mom and three kids."

She said José was the most excited. He was running around the room giving hugs and thanking everyone.

"It was really rewarding," she said.

Luisa Trujillo (12) said she was glad to see the family accept the gifts from the Latino Leaders. This club also adopted a kindergarten class at Saint Agnes and threw the children a Christmas party.

She said every two students took one kindergarten to play with and make hot chocolate with.

"It was fun," Trujillo said. "We sang with the kids."

She said most of the students were Spanish speakers, so it was nice to make that connection with them. Although at first the students were quiet and shy, Trujillo said by the end of the event, they were having a great time.

Along with being a member of Latino Leaders, Trujillo was also in AP Spanish with Lara. She said that way she got to see two families receive gifts.

The family the Latino Leaders adopted was a husband, wife and two children. She said only the father was able to make it, but he was very gracious

for the gifts.

"We got to see the good impact it had on the father," she said.

Lara organized both events. She said Latino Leaders didn't adopt a family last year and this was the first time they adopted a kindergarten class.

She said she chose St. Agnes because many of the students were Hispanic and came from low-income families.

She said she wanted to choose a parochial school so there would be no problems with throwing a Christmas party and singing Christmas songs with the students.

Lara said she adopted three families total. Two she split up between her 2nd, 3rd, 7th and 8th hour classes.

She said she had gotten the idea to have her students adopt a family from the radio station KBBX 97.7. They were working with the Salvation Army she said asking the community to adopt a family for the holidays.

"I thought it was important for the youth to help the youth," she said.

She said she wanted people to see the things she sees every day, young people doing something positive. She said that was one of the reasons she invited the family to the school to receive their gifts.

"It just made it more personal," Lara said.

Her students exceeded her expectations she said. She didn't expect them to go out and buy numerous gifts for every member of the family. They were only required to raise \$45 for a gift card and \$25 for each member of the family.

She said this gave adults a chance to not only see CHS students giving to others, but also for people to see young people doing for others.

Tanika Cooper contributed to this story

Mathematics

Department Head
Jennifer Gregor

Other Teachers

Mark Allner
Marnie Best
Chad Burns
Shannon Craddock
Susan Drumm
Ebi Ekpere
Nathan Hill
Brent Larson
Carrie Laughlin
Kelly Murphy
Mindy Murphy
Paul Nielson
Christie Pfeifer
Mary Beth Polivka
Greg Sand
Elizabeth Wessling

Courses Offered

Gateway to Algebra 12-

This course prepares students for Algebra 12. It prepares students for Algebra 12.

Algebra 1-6-

The courses include honor sections and cover topics relating to equations.

Geometry 12-

This course covers the basic properties of points and angles and emphasizes proofs.

Pre Calculus/ Trigonometry-

The class studies analytical geometry and trigonometry.

AP Calculus-

Two levels are offered and both are aimed at the AP Exam.

Differential Equations-

An extremely challenging class offered only those who take Calc BC as a junior.

AP Probability and Statistics-

An introductory class on collecting and analyzing data.

Discrete Math/ E-Math-

Alternative math classes studying a wide range of topics.

math goes high tech

Instructor uses computers in teaching practices

by anna mcMahon

As part of a study for his graduate program, Precalculus/trigonometry teacher Brent Larson organized an experiment.

Students made the transition from the chalkboard to the computer.

For the first time, students were able to use computers in their math class allowing them to enter into the technological era.

"My first class uses Excel spread sheets, my second class uses CD-ROMs and Internet resources that came with the text and my third class uses regular instruction without computers," Larson said.

Larson said at the time students were learning a lot of the same material.

"It will be more interesting when they see lessons they haven't before," he said.

Larson said he was working computers into the curriculum at an increasing rate.

"They get to experience what each piece has to offer," he said.

Tucker George (12) was undecided as to whether the new equipment was useful to him.

"In the type of person who needs to write things down," he said. "If I need to work out an example, it's easier to do it in the book than log onto a computer."

George said the software was visually helpful for him.

"It helps showing graphs to see how the graph transforms," George said.

However, there were still malfunctions here and there.

"It takes a lot of time to get through the

examples," Larson said.

Particularly the computers were causing the most stress.

"People don't remember disks," he said. "In using the Excel program, it's seeing if people mis-typed stuff."

The marketing department allowed Larson to use the computer labs and there was no cost to the students.

"I burned computer disks at home and that was the only cost," Larson said.

Students generally seemed to enjoy the new teaching style and equipment.

"Students enjoy the CD-ROMs," he said. "It allows them to see animated examples."

The excel program didn't solve any huge issues, but let the students view math in a different way.

"I think the whole point is to cater to peoples' learning styles," George said.

Whether or not the different programs had an impact was uncertain.

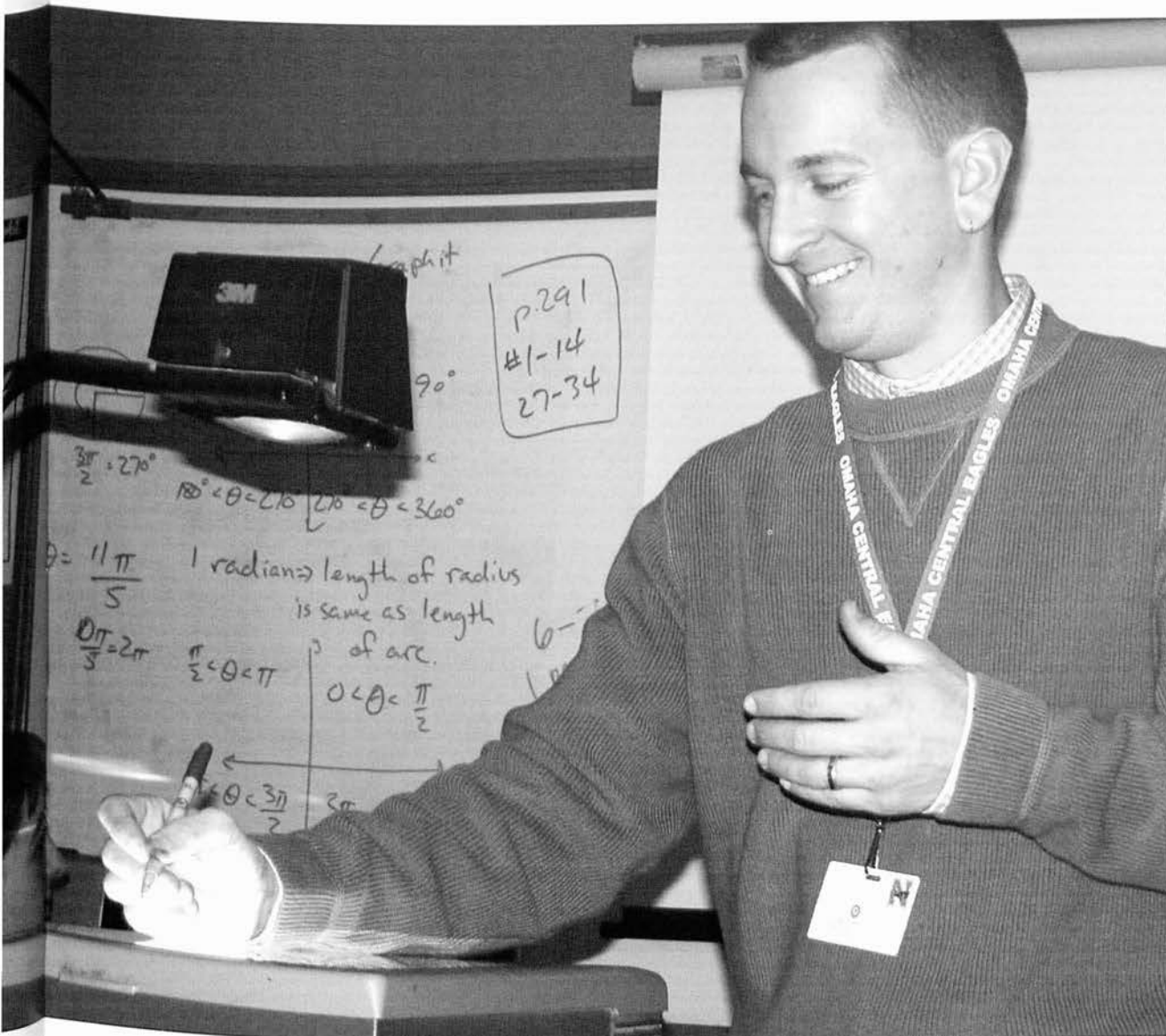
"All are understanding it (the material) the same," Larson said.

The experiment didn't need any improvements and was implemented throughout the year.

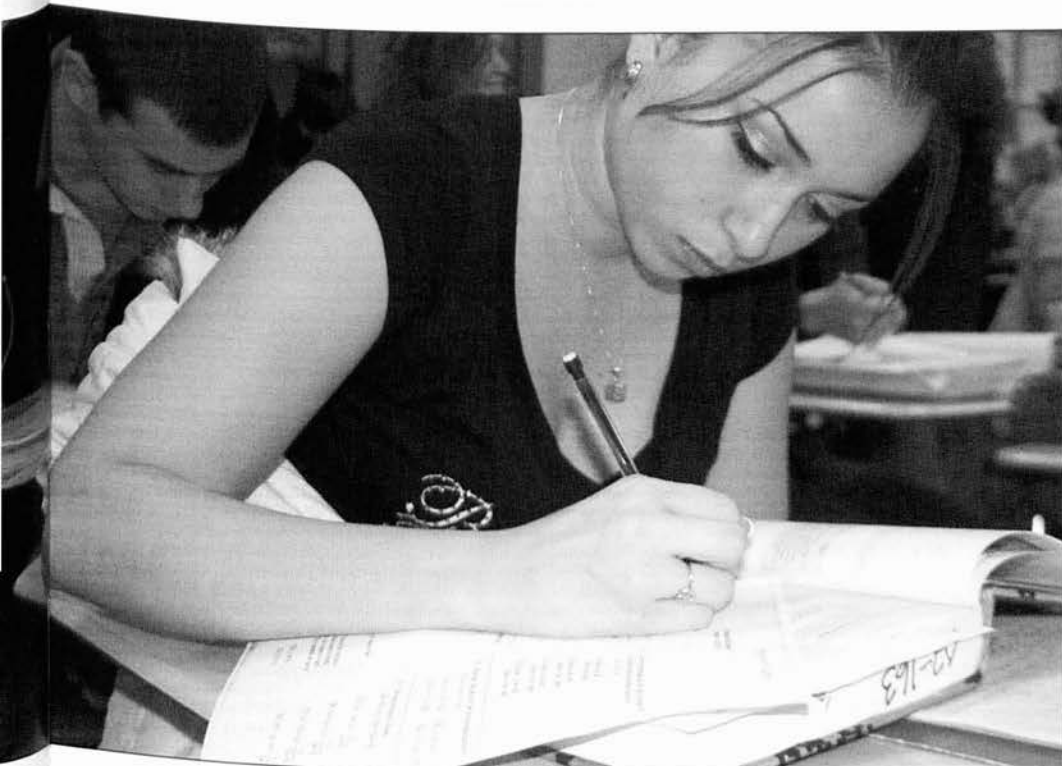
"It's just another way to look at it like chalkboard notes and calculators," Larson said.

He said there were some obstacles that might prevent him using this method later.

"There aren't enough computer labs," he said. "It depends if other teachers would want to use computers in their classes."



Left. Brent Larson writes some examples on the overhead. His sixth period class used spread sheets, while his other classes used the CD-ROM and regular instruction. The goal of the experiment was to see how students handled different ways of learning Precalculus and Trigonometry. Photo by Anna McMahon.



Left. Esmeralda Lucero (12) works on her worksheet after Larson finished explaining the instructions. The class had finals the following week. The worksheet went over everything on the final. Many of the students chose to work together on the study guide worksheet. Photo by Tanika Cooper.

politics, teenager's style

Teenage Republicans support local, national candidates

by emma phillips

Sarah Beck (12), president of Teenage Republicans, said she had been a Republican since the 4th or 5th grade because she understood politics then.

"I've been a Republican ever since I was old enough to ask my parents what politics were," Beck said.

She said the club had contacted and campaigned for many Republican candidates, including Sen. Tom Osborne.

"We'll work for any Republican candidate who wants us to," sponsor Sgt. Maj. Dwaine Sutter said.

He said the club didn't fixate on their individual stances. As long as the candidate's beliefs were in line with that of the Republican Party, he would get the club's support.

The Teenage Republicans were relatively a new club. It became active in 2004.

Beck said Central used to have a Teenage Republican club, but it died out before she attended high school. She said she had tried to revive the club her sophomore year, but couldn't find a sponsor.

Sutter said the club had averaged around 15 members, he also thought there were more Republicans in the school, but they just didn't come to any meetings.

Sutter said the members of Teenage Republicans were as active as they could be. They members went to a football game to pass out flyers for gubernatorial candidate Tom Osborne.

He said the club contacted all campaign managers for major Republican candidates and it supported any campaign supporting a Republican.

Sutter said last year the only major event the club was able to coordinate was a carnation sale in February.

"We sold carnations for Valentine's day last year to raise money for the American Heart Association," he said.

He said the major reason the club wasn't more visible in its early stages was because members couldn't set a specific meeting schedule and other issues were still being worked out.

Beck said she thought the reason the club wasn't very active in the beginning because it took so long to find a sponsor.

Sutter thought it was important for young people to be involved in the political process.

"The younger they get started in that process the more involved they'll be in the decisions that not only

affect them today, but also as they get older," Sutter said

He said club members were looking forward to the 2006 senatorial race, but he said it was hard to make plans of support very far in advance because candidates could change.

Beck thought all the contact the members of the club had with politicians was a good thing.

"Were out and were around politicians a lot, we do a lot for them and they do a lot for us," Beck said.

Sutter said he thought being a part of a politically-themed club was good, even if members choose to discontinue their association with that political party.

"These young men and women may not choose to be Republicans later in life," he said.

He said as people age they begin to form their own beliefs, ideals and will usually align themselves with the corresponding party.

"Young people should say, I chose this party because I believe in their ideas and their vision for the future," Sutter said.

Beck said there were members of the club that weren't sure about their political party and just wanted to see what being a Republican would be like.

Sutter said he and the members of the club were looking forward to the upcoming elections because it was hard to become involved in the process when not much was happening.

"Once elections start coming closer we'll become more involved in the process," he said.

Sutter said he knew most of the student body leaned toward the Democratic Party. He also thought Nebraska would not become a swing or democratic state in the foreseeable future.

He said even though Nebraska only has five electoral votes, it was still nice when major political candidates came to speak.

He said it was mainly Republican candidates who came to Nebraska, so that was why Nebraskan citizens leaned toward Republican beliefs.

Beck said although she thought Republicans were outnumbered in Central, Nebraska would most likely remain a red state.

She thought this was because Nebraska was an agricultural state.

She said people in the club might change their minds about being a Republican and that was okay.

"Over time things change," she said.

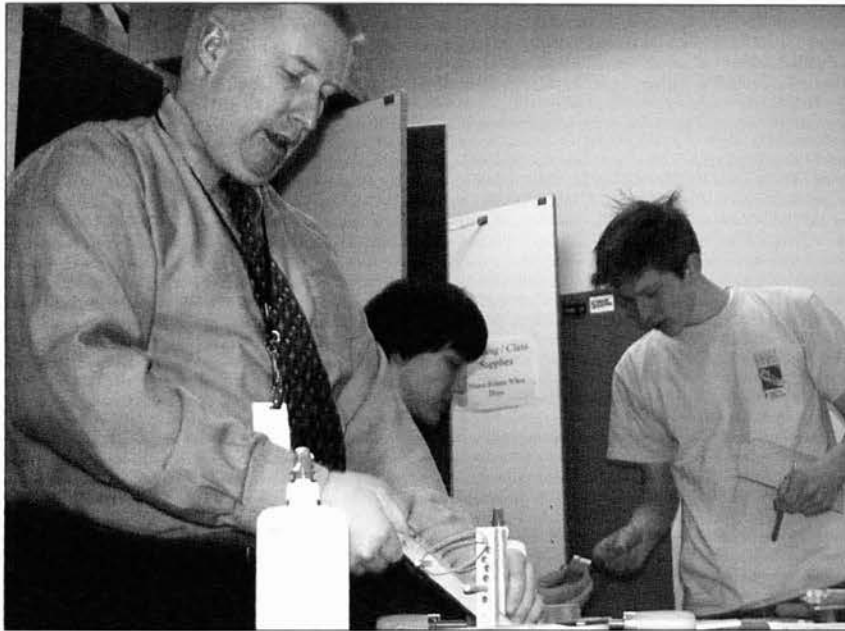


Left. Teenage Republican members Mark Pokorny (12) and Joseph Albright (11) discuss issues during a meeting. The club met every Monday in the JROTC room. Sponsor Sgt. Maj. Dwaine Sutter noticed most of the student body leaned toward the Democratic side, but did not think Nebraska would become a democratic state in the foreseeable future. *Photo By Emma Phillips.*

Above. Sutter has been the sponsor of Teenage Republicans for two years. He said he hoped the club would encourage teenagers to be involved in politics. He said the club didn't fixate on individual stances. As long as the candidate's beliefs were in line with that of the Republican Party, they would get the club's support. *Photo By Emma Phillips.*

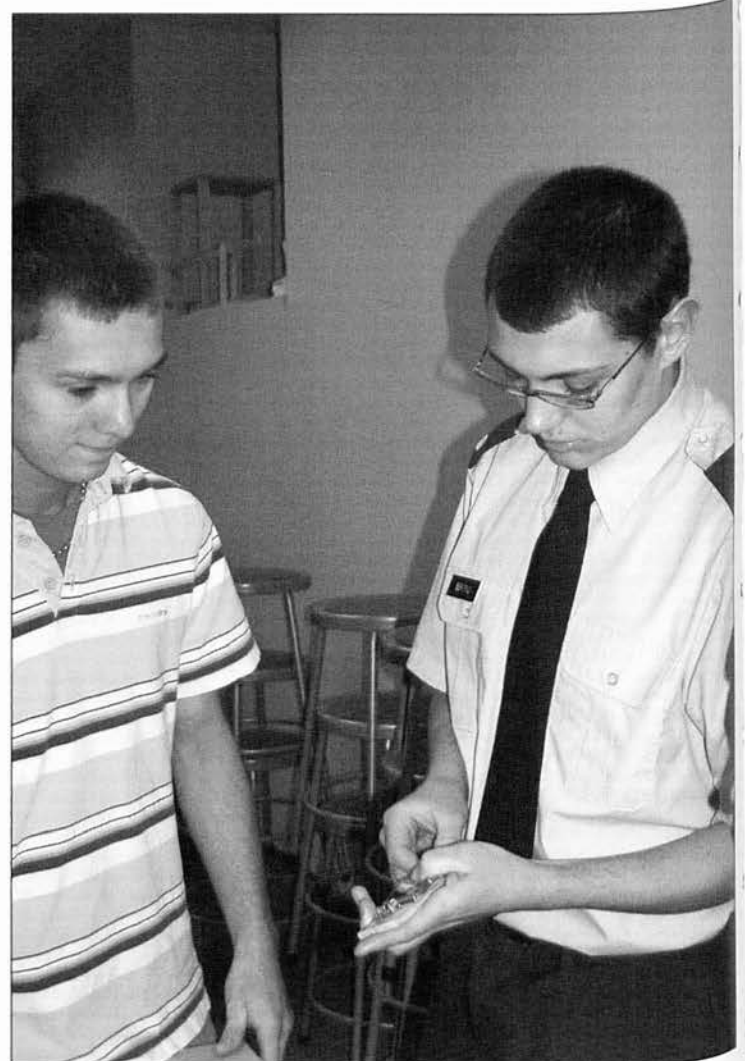


Right. Ian Danielson (12) and his group partner Jasmine Johnson (11) make a hole in a wood block. They were going to use the block for a part of their nickel launcher. Danielson decided to make the launcher using parts from a treadmill. There wasn't a set way they had to go about making the launcher.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.



Above. Trent Lodge builds a nickel launcher along with his students. He said they were getting a head start on their competition in April.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

Right. Timothy Bertino (12) and William Gier (12) test out a mouse trap. They were thinking of using the mouse trap as their nickel launcher. The mouse trap springs helped shoot the nickel far.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.



bridge over new water

Teens learn to build in new technology class

by tanika cooper

"It's neat to have a class to work with your hands rather than sitting in a desk all day," Timothy Bertino (12) said.

The class was Architecture and Engineering Design. Bertino would be one of the students to set the basis of the class for the future students.

The first project to design was a bridge. They had to design a bridge using manila folders, wood glue and rubber cement. The manila folder was a very thin sheet of cardboard that would wilt when it came in contact with water.

"We had no idea they'd (manila folders) be pretty strong," he said.

When their bridges were complete they had to test them out using a chain, some books, a bucket and sand.

The first test only involved the chain, the bucket and sand. They extended the bridge over two stools. Then they hung a chain to the middle of the bridge while attaching the bucket to the other end of the chain. Bertino said they filled the bucket with sand to test how much weight the bridge could withstand.

The second test, called the load test, involved books. Bertino said they sat the bridge on the table and piled books on top of the bridge to see if it would collapse.

"The class shows us the perspective of someone who works in the field, but on a lower scale," Bertino said.

Another project they designed and tested was the Oil Well Derrick (toothpick tower). In the real world, these devices are used to pump oil from the ground to be utilized by many people.

Being a hands-on class, Bertino said their instructor Trent Lodge gave them guidelines.

Jeffrey Hunter (12) was also in the new class. He said there was only one requirement for the tooth-pick towers. The base of their project had to be 10 cm sq. in diameter.

The students could have developed their projects in many different ways, but Hunter said he and his partner, Vasil Hnatkivskyy (12), decided to wing it.

He said he knew the project's requirement so they built that part first and decided to have a three-sided structure, unlike some students who chose to build their base using four sides.

They were allowed only two weeks to complete their projects and in the end Hunter and his partner's tower was the last standing.

"I thought the project was one of the best because it was more an individual project," Hunter said.

He said this project allowed the students to create the structure so they could see whose tower came out the best.

"It wasn't like the bridge-building project, where we had to follow the guide book," he said.

Hunter said one of the reasons he liked the class was because it was different from other classes. Students actually built things.

"It's a hands-on environment instead of book work," he said.

He said he and his partner didn't really plan out their project although he wished they would have thought it through.

Business/ Marketing/ Technology

Department Head
Barbara Malhiwsky

Other Teachers

Cherie Barg
Barry Branson
Jodi Brown
Harry Gaylor
DeLayne Havlovic
Colleen Lenner
Trent Lodge
Kelly Means
Denise Powers
Jodi Rackliffe
Cindy Thomsen
Drew Thyden
Pat Wallington
Vicki Wiles

Courses Offered

Keyboarding/Word
Processing 1-2

Accounting 1-4

Business and
Consumer Law

AP Computer Science
AB

Honors C++
Programming 1-2

Visual Basic 1-4

Computer Information
Management 1-2

Computer Graphics

HTML/Web Design 1

Business Management
and Technology 1-2

Multimedia 1-2

Desktop Publishing
Marketing 1-4

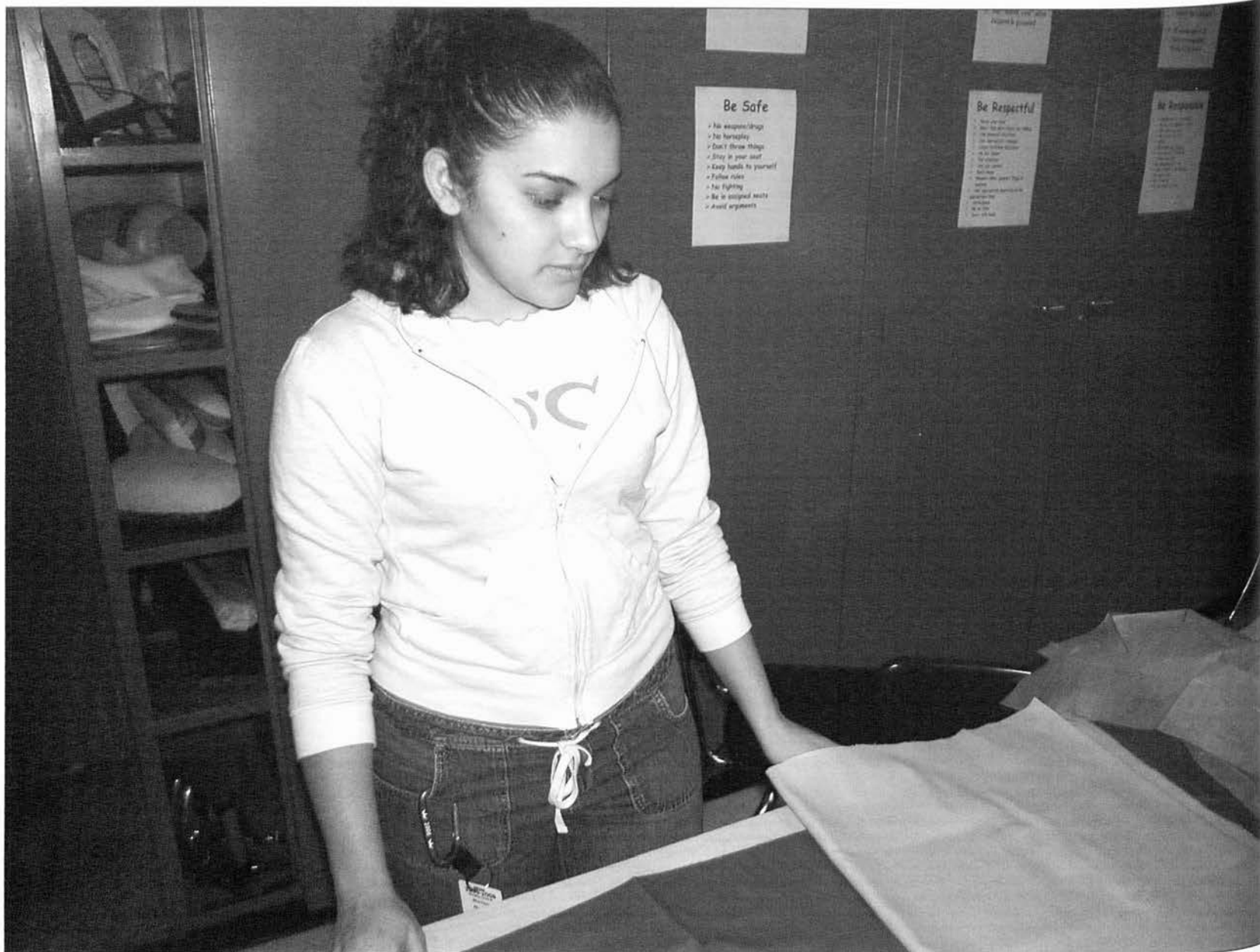
Personal Finance

Pathways 1-2

DECA

FBLA

Most of these classes prepare students for a future career in business and technology. DECA students compete in competitions and sell cookies during the school day.



Above. Marleny Navarro (12) prepares measurements for a skirt she would soon be sewing in her clothing class. ESL helped Navarro to better understand her school work and the college application process. After high school, Navarro planned on attending Metropolitan Community College for nursing. *Photo by Chester Lovegren.*

Right. Victoria Oliver (11) and Nyapine Chuol (11) discuss their assignment in their science class. Later, their teacher came over to help them. Chuol said she also helped other students if they needed it. *Photo by Clay Lomneth.*



a brighter future

ESL students give back to others from family to friends

by tanika cooper

"I don't know how to repay them for what they've done for me," Marleny Navarro (12) said. "They've done a lot."

She moved from El Salvador when she was 13 and said ESL (English as a Second Language) had been a great help for her.

She said ESL helped her better understand her school work.

If she had a problem with anything, she said she knew she could go to the ESL teachers.

One essential problem the ESL teachers helped her with was filling out college applications.

She said they also helped her write college essays.

Navarro said the teachers tried to send her to college with confidence.

The teachers kept telling her she should not give up because there were always programs to help her.

After traveling to the United States, she said they assured her she could make it through anything.

With all the help she had received from the ESL department, she said it made her want to help others, too.

Even though she wasn't in ESL anymore, Navarro said she would sometimes work as a translator for the other students.

There were many students who did not understand much English so she tried to encourage them to ask the ESL teachers for help.

"Once they told me I was leaving ESL classes, I was so happy," Navarro said.

She said she felt she had accomplished a lot after hearing the good news.

With their help, she decided to attend Metropolitan Community College for nursing.

"I don't plan to be here all my life," she said.

She said the main reason she moved here was for a better life so she could help support her family in El Salvador, especially her grandmother.

"My grandma did everything for me and I want to repay her," Navarro said.

She said many immigrants who come here feel it is their responsibility to pay their family back for all they have done for them.

Former ESL student Nyapine Chuol (11) said her family decided to move to the United States because other family members told them they could find good jobs here.

Chuol moved here from Sudan, Africa in 1995 and has been in the ESL program ever since grade school.

During her junior year, she said she was only in the tutoring program because she wanted be able to receive help if she needed it.

She said she could not believe how much she learned and how much her skills had improved.

"(First year in ESL) it was kinda weird. I couldn't pronounce or write my own name," Chuol said. "When I think back on it, it was funny. Now I can write all kinds of things."

She said the transformation was really hard to go through.

The new faces, environment and lifestyle were a bit scary, she said. It was hard for her to make friends.

"First you had to speak the language the others spoke and that was kind of hard," Chuol said.

One of the things she loved about the ESL program was the teachers took it step-by-step and they made sure she understood what she was learning.

She said the teachers did a great job with the program.

They inspired other students to go out into the world and made them feel they had the power to get the best education possible.

She said she liked the South Sudanese Club because she liked being able to help others when they needed her.

"In a way, they (ESL teachers) led me into the right passage," she said. "They set the stage for me."

ESL

Department Head

Linda Ganzel

Other Teachers

Marnie Best

Catherine Kennedy

Martha Williams-Hayes

Courses Offered

ESL English 1-6-

These courses offer an introduction to the English language.

ESL Writing Lab 1-2-

Students focus on specific areas of writing.

Fundamentals-

This course was for students in between ESL 1-2 and 3-4.

ESL Basic Reading 1-6-

Students covered new reading skills.

ESL Math 1-2-

Students were taught math vocabulary in English.

Math Essentials 1-6-

This course was for students not prepared for the regular sequence math courses.

ESL Social Studies

Preparation 1-2-

Students covered U.S. history.

ESL Science Preparation 1-2-

This course introduced scientific concepts.

US History 1-2 for

English Language

Learners-

Students continued to learn about U.S. history.

Biology 1-2 for English

Language Learners-

Students learned inquiry-based problem solving.

ESL Technology

Preparation-

Students learned the basics about computers.

Tutorial-

Resources were offered to students.

Newcomer Center-

This course was for those who did not speak any English.

Career Center

Department Head
Dr. Gloria Aden

Other Teachers
Steve Bross
Ken Brueggemann
Lisa Burkhardt
Theresa Geraghty
Jack Harkey
David Hawks
Janet Helms
Larry Johnson
Jeff Koneck
Andrew Naikelis
Janet Oiler
Bobby Overman
Mickey Reilly
Jay Rebensdorf
Ramon Rutledge
Irene Simoneko
Doug Smith
Jack Taff
Dan Trerice
Carol Tschampl-Diesing
Lanny Walker
Stacia Weaver

Courses Offered

Auto Technology 14
Auto Collision Repair &
Refinishing 1-4
Broadcasting 1-4
Commercial Design 1-4
Construction Academy
Industrial Materials and
Processing 12
Construction Partnership
1-4
eBusiness 12
Culinary Skills 3-6
Graphic Arts/Printing
Technology 1-4
Health Occupations 12
Photography 1-4
Theatre Technology 1-4
Zoo Partnership 12

express yourself

Teens earn credit for hobbies at Career Center

by anna mcMahon

Career Center classes allowed students a freedom not found in their required classes.

"You have the ability to get to know people from other schools," Elizabeth Kendrick (12) said.

Before Kendrick entered into the class, she said she didn't know anything about photography.

"Now I know how to load and process film," she said.

Kendrick signed up for the course her sophomore year and was put on a waiting list.

"The girl dropped out, so I got to take her place," Kendrick said.

Kendrick was in the advanced class, which enabled her to go out and explore more.

"There are two photo labs where you can process film and a studio to shoot in," Kendrick said.

Of the various options available to her, she said she enjoyed taking natural lighting portraits the best.

Jordan Hostetter (11) was involved in auto technology.

Students fixed the cars of people associated with Career Center.

"We do engine work, transmission, body work and electronics," Hostetter said.

He said he enjoyed working with his hands, tools and different cars.

"I like being able to actually fix something and have it run," Hostetter said. "(I like) being able to put an engine back in a car and have it start."

Hostetter began working on cars at the age of 12 after watching his grandfather.

"I watched him and he'd show me some of

the little things," he said.

More recently, Hostetter has been looking toward his neighbor for advice.

"We work on cars and build stuff," Hostetter said.

Hostetter's parents were supportive of their son's hobby.

"They are glad that I found something I enjoy and really like to do," Hostetter said.

In order to be sufficient in his area of expertise, Hostetter said it would take quite a while.

"It takes about 10 to 15 years to become a master auto technician," he said.

The environment of the class allowed Hostetter to work with other auto technicians, yet still have time for himself.

"We usually work in a group of two to three people to a car," he said. "We work on separate parts, then work together to finish it."

Some of the classes available were photography, auto technology, e-business and commercial design.

Both Hostetter and Kendrick said they loved their classes, but wished a few aspects could have changed.

"Longer class periods would have been nice," Hostetter said.

Kendrick wanted better funding for the courses because she thought they didn't get enough money.

Both students wanted to continue with their respective hobbies, yet pursue other opportunities as well.

"I'll never give it up," Hostetter said. "I'll do stuff out of my own garage, but I'd like to own a construction business."



Left. Elizabeth Kendrick (12) tries to focus her camera in on something in the room. Before Career Center, Kendrick knew nothing about photography now she can load and process film.
Photo by Anna McMahon.

Below. Kendrick sets up a shot with her camera. She said she enjoyed natural lighting portraits the most.
Photo by Anna McMahon.



Physical Education

Department Head

Joe McMenamin

Other Teachers

Scott Hodges
Meredith Kinman
Josh Montzingo
John Moran
Jodi Reeder
Joe Shimerdla
Lisa Studer
Chad Townsend

Courses Offered

Weight Training/ Conditioning 1-2

Students learned the proper techniques to improve muscular strength, flexibility and endurance.

7 a.m. Weight Training 1-2

This course added individual competitive dimensions while continuing the lessons from beginning weight training.

Aerobics 1-2

Students were taught the methods for developing cardiovascular physical fitness through a designed program of continuous activities.

Lifetime Sports 1-2

Students were offered instruction in tennis, pickle ball, badminton, aerial darts, table tennis, archery, bowling and golf.

Team Sports 1-2

This course offered activities with continuous motion and were highly aerobic.

Health Professions 1-2

Students received hands-on experience in Community CPR and First Aid, while learning about human anatomy and physiology.

7 a.m. Lifetime Fitness 1-2

Students learned about the development and maintenance for physical fitness through fitness activities and cardio-respiratory workouts.

room to roam

New facilities bring state's largest high school up to date

by theresa vacha

"It's time that we have nice facilities here at Central," said physical education (PE) teacher Lisa Studer. "It's good to have our facilities reflect and correspond with the courses and academics we provide."

In the past, PE teachers have been forced to attempt to teach sports such as football, frisbee, golf and baseball in the confines of a basketball court.

Finally, the long-awaited stadium and track were available for use.

"(A positive of the stadium) is that it can be used for a variety of different purposes," Studer said. "It affects the PE classes because it gives more variety. The students can enjoy the weather and still get a workout."

The last couple of years have been difficult for the PE department.

"When there are two classes in the gym, that's approximately 80 kids," PE teacher Jodi Reeder said. "When you put them on the field, we don't have to cut ourselves short."

Students also felt the effects of the overcrowded PE classes.

"When you have to do classes in the gym, it is harder," Terriona Adams (11) said. "(With the stadium) there is more fitness in the class."

Not only is it easier to teach the gym classes outside, but also the whole curriculum for the classes can be changed.

"My classes are affected a lot," Team Sports teacher John Moran said. "It provides more flexibility. The curriculum can be expanded and we can do many more things in a shorter period of time."

While team sport classes have drastically changed, all PE courses, including aerobics, have had the advantage of being able to go outside.

"Going outside is good for the class because aerobics is all about getting your heart rate up," Studer said. "You can do cardiovascular activities in the stadium."

Not only is it easier and more thorough to have PE classes outside, but in the long run

fitness results are expected to rise.

"Fitness has already gone up" Moran said. "In three to five years, you'll be able to see the results even better."

Reeder said fitness testing has improved because classes are able to run the mile and are expected to complete it. The fresh air and change of scenery also has an impact on their fitness condition.

"Lots of kids prefer to work outside," Studer said. "They get so tired of being inside the stuffy building and look forward to going outside."

Adams said she looks forward to going outside in her PE class because she could socialize with different people in her class.

Other students also appreciate the chance to stretch their legs in the stadium. Although Stacie VanCleave (9) didn't like going outside, she said it had its advantages. Taking PE classes outside, however, have created a few drawbacks or consequences in the transition.

"One negative is the students not respecting the track, like leaving trash or spitting their gum out on the field," Studer said. "Also, there is a greater risk of injuries and not being able to call on the speaker."

Moran said although security problems are not a major risk, students sometimes attempt to take advantage of the situation and skip class.

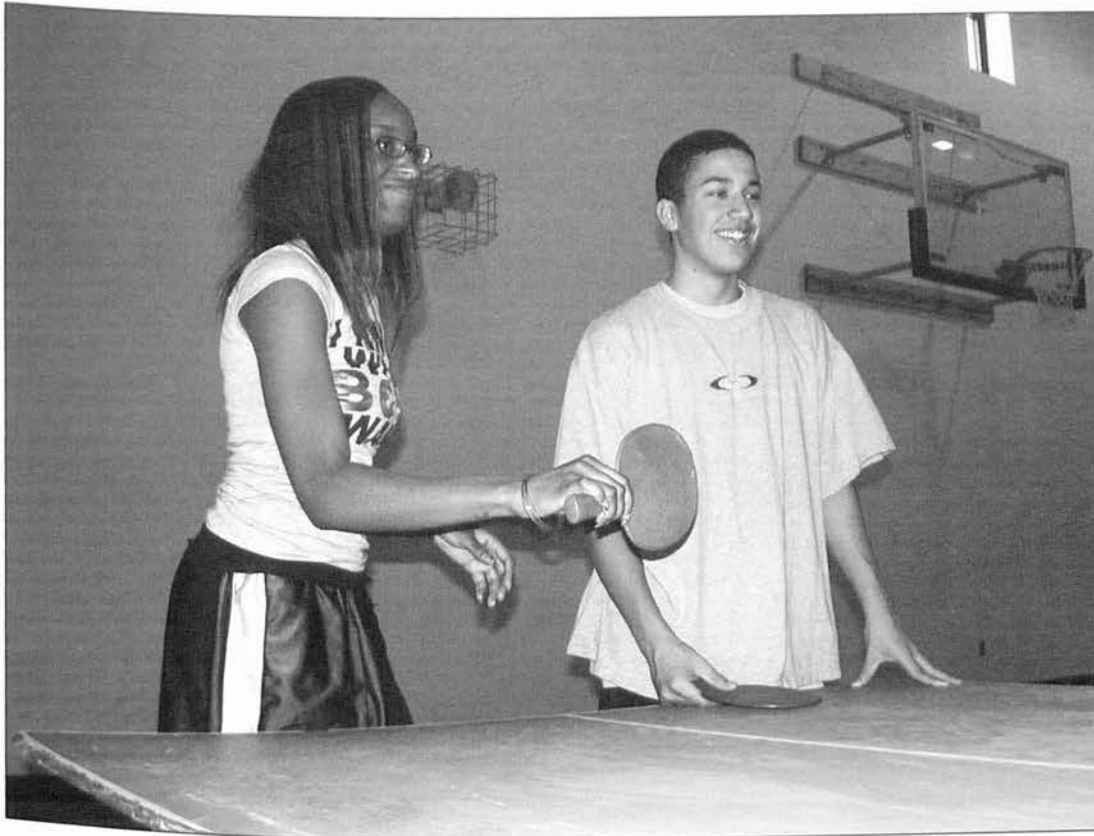
"We know right away if they're not there, though," Reeder said. "And for the most part they're pretty well behaved."

VanCleave said she did not like going outside because she believed the activities for aerobics classes have decreased, not improved.

"I hate going out," she said. "All we do is walk or run stairs. If it was for an actual game, it would be good."

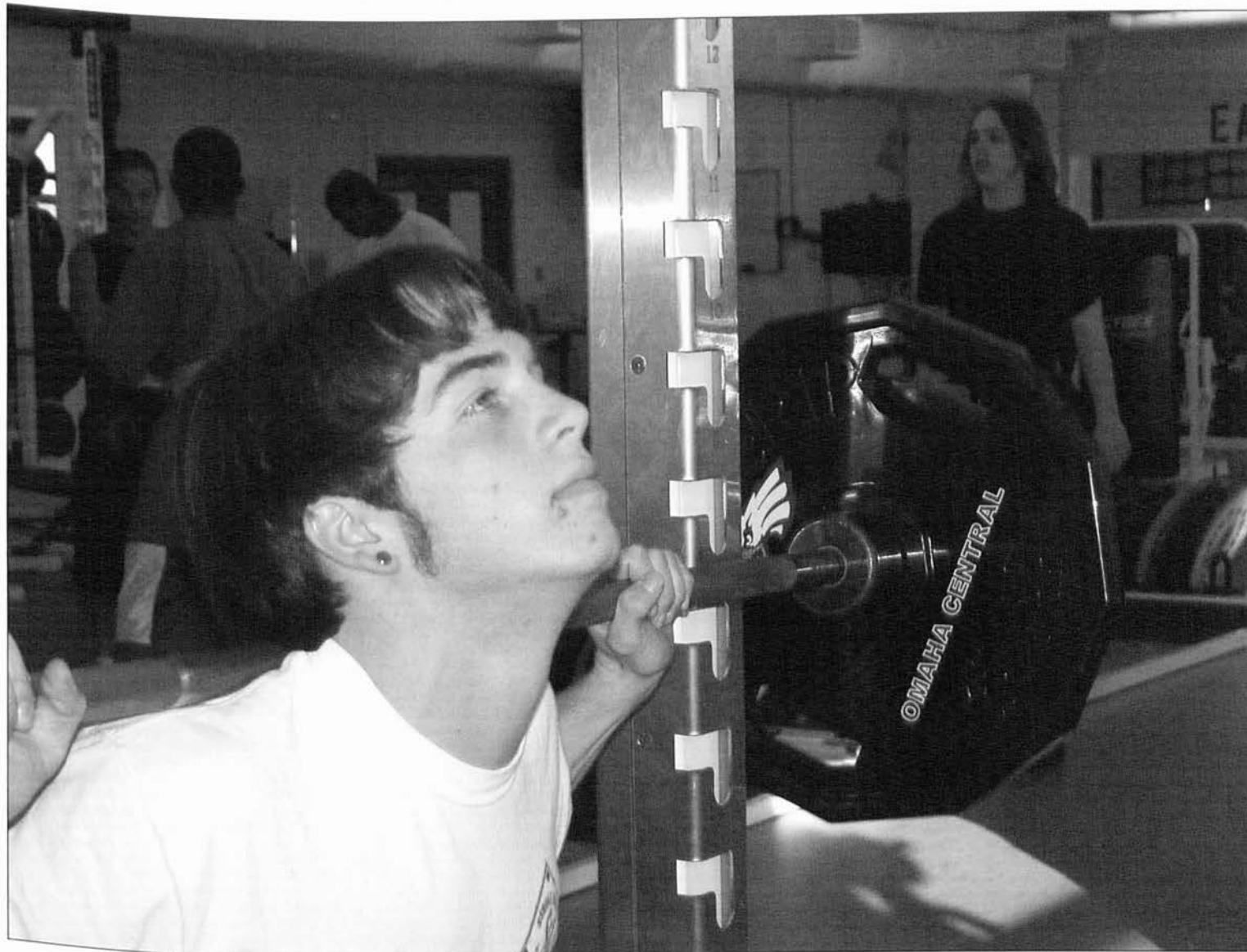
In general, the new stadium has affected PE classes positively both in fitness and enjoyment.

"With the area given, everyone is able to participate and get involved," Moran said. "I would say the positives definitely outweigh any negatives."



Left. Lifetime sports was just one of the options students could take to earn a physical education credit. The course consisted of various units and one was Ping-Pong.
Photo by Chester Lovegren.

Below. Sean Olson (10) lifts the barbell in his weight lifting class. He said one of the main reasons he took this course was to condition for baseball season. Many students took a zero hour gym class to condition for sports and stay in shape.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.



Military Science

Department Head

Mike Melvin

Other Teachers

Dwaine Sutter

Courses Offered

JROTC 1-2-

Students were introduced to leadership skills and principles, foundations of JROTC, diversity appreciation, basic first aid and drug awareness and abuse prevention. In addition, students learn about the Constitution, duties and responsibilities of citizenship, flag courtesies and customs, weapons and basic marksmanship.

JROTC 3-4-

In continuation from the previous course, students learned tobacco and alcohol awareness, dietary guidelines and an introduction to maps. This course also covered the powers of the three branches of government, the political party system, voting and the electoral processes.

JROTC 5-6-

Students were taught time management, planning, career planning, civilian and military career opportunities and financial planning.

JROTC 7-8-

This course included project management, mentoring, supervising, advanced communication and military history in World War II and the Cold War.

Marksmanship Team

1-2-

This course covered advanced methods of marksmanship in preparation for rifle competitions.

Drill Team 1-2/ Color Guard 1-2-

Highly motivated students took this course in order to learn advanced methods of drill for competition.

not too

late to start

Teen joins JROTC, moves up ranks during senior year

by anna mcMahon

Timothy Bertino (12) has risen through the ranks to become the Supply and Linguistic Officer for JROTC (Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps).

"The job involves taking a weekly inventory of the clothing record," Sopil Bhattarai (12) said. "He has to keep track of the uniforms loaned out to cadets."

Lt. Col. Mike Melvin said Bertino's job was difficult.

"He works hard to account for uniforms," he said. "There are over 100 cadets and they (uniforms) all need to be cleaned."

Despite the heavy responsibility that comes with his position, Bertino said he was proud to be a part of JROTC.

"It's taught me to trust and rely on people you work with," he said. "I've learned a lot about responsibility and organization."

Bertino decided a year ago he wanted to join JROTC in preparation for joining the military.

"I joined JROTC because it defined what career I'd like," he said.

Though initially intimidated about being the new kid, Bertino eventually fit right in.

"It was difficult to adapt, but everyone was very helpful and I could go ask him or her for help," he said.

Melvin said most of the other students had more experience than Bertino.

"He was a late starter; most of the others have been doing it all four years," he said.

However, Melvin described the ease with which Bertino integrated into the group.

"He's a hard worker, very focused and personable," he said. "He's mature for his age and has a good sense of humor."

Bhattarai was extremely helpful in teaching Bertino the basics.

"I helped him learn the drills and he picked it up fast," he said.

Melvin described some of the objectives

Bertino had to study.

"He was focused on formal inspection and had to do a brief in his area," he said.

Bertino also had to assist the underclassmen and was always available.

"He does his job," Bhattarai said. "When you ask him to do something, he does it."

The class itself taught students specific techniques that would be vital in the military.

"In class we covered map reading and also had to pass the test for first aid, so we could be certified in CPR," Bertino said.

JROTC required a lot from Bertino, both before and after school.

"Before school the teams practiced and after school there was drill team and color guard," he said.

Bertino earned his Supplies and Linguistics position after the prior S-4 had some conflicts and wasn't able to fulfill his duties.

"I watched Tim for a few months and asked him if he would be interested," Melvin said.

Bhattarai said it was Bertino's attitude and morals that won him the position.

"Because of his dedication and motivation, we decided to give him the position," he said.

Melvin said Bertino was a very conscientious worker and made sure he performed all his duties.

"He had to know about rank structure, attributes, as well as leadership, values, time management and organizational skills," Melvin said.

Bertino said one of the biggest reasons he wanted to join the military was for the camaraderie.

"I've watched all the war movies," Bertino said. "I wanted to know the history of the military and about duty, honor and country."

Bhattarai said Bertino had accomplished a lot in a short amount of time.

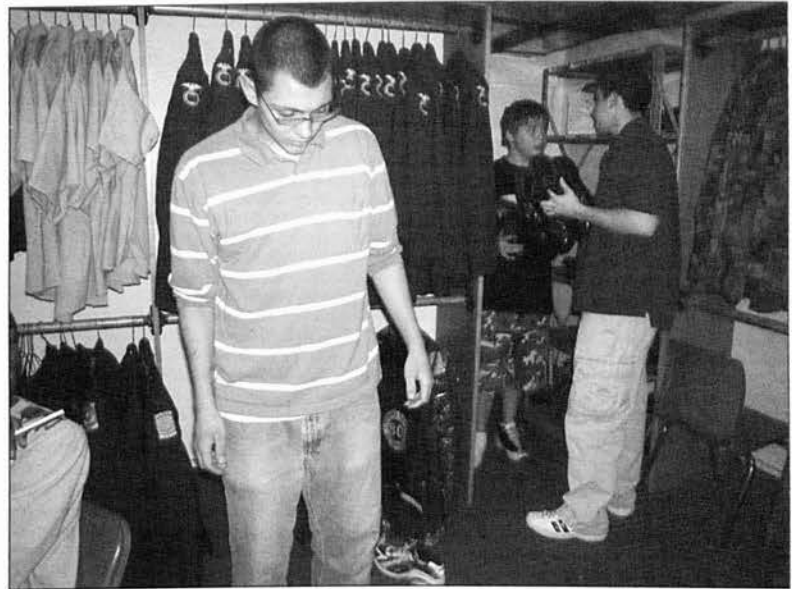
"You can't teach someone leadership," he said. "Tim is a leader."



Left. Members of the color guard march on the field. It was the first home game. From left: Cpl. Derek Schuler (11), Maj. Sornil Bhattarai (12), Cpl. Everett Welch (10) and Sergeant 1st class Princeton O'Neal (11). *Photo by Clay Lomneth.*



Left. Timothy Bertino (12) and his assistant Kenneth Dupree (9) look over the uniform records. Bertino displayed responsibility and determination to earn his role. *Photo by Anna McMahon.*



Above. Bertino checks out boots to the other officers. He also had to assist the underclassmen in their inspections. *Photo by Anna McMahon.*

Academic Decathlon

Front Row. Aaron French (11), Shuona Wang (11), Seth Rich (11), Delaney Kunz (10) and sponsor Vicki Deniston-Reed. **Back Row.** Matthew Cronin (11), Bailey Jensen (11), Mai Zhang (11), Joseph Delich (12), Sajmir Gasa (12) and Tyler Magnuson (11).
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

Some members took a trip to Washington DC. to see the art they studied. All students in the class were required to compete at scrimmages. The sponsor then picked 12 students to compete at regionals in the different subject areas ranging from science to history to art.



African American History Club



Front Row. Christopher McLucas (10), Starr Brown (9) and Olivia Griffin (10). **Second Row.** Michaela Moore (9), Frantasia Brown (11), Adryanne Orduna (10) and Shannon Stennis (10). **Back Row.** Sponsor Patricia Brizendine, sponsor Rod Mullen, Candyce Hill (12), Danita Summers (12) and Alyssa Shanklin (11).
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Christopher McLucas.

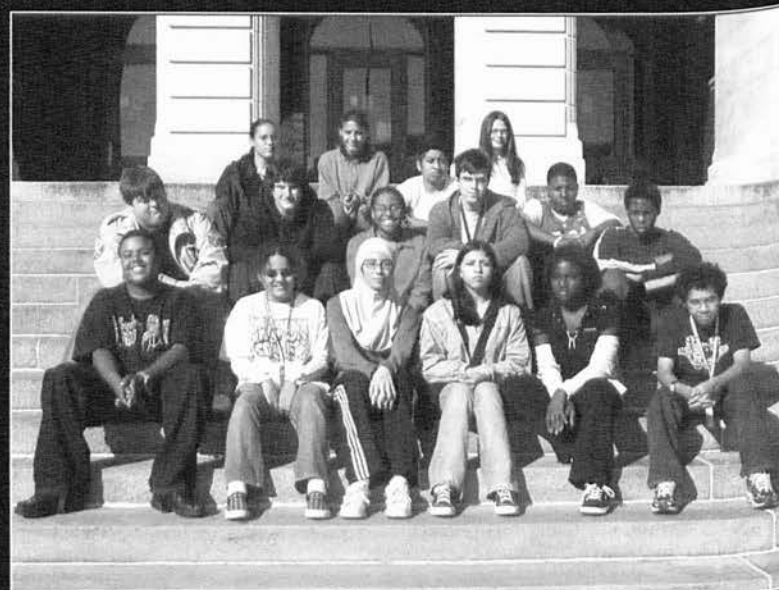
The club collected clothes and food for Sienna Francis House during Thanksgiving. It also promoted Black History Month by making announcements during homerooms.

Anime Club

Front Row. Donte Smith (9), Erika Santiago (9), Karima Al-Absy (11), Paola Bautista (9), Chinyere Dickson (9) and Tristan Bernth (9). **Second Row.** Jacob Koenig (9), Steven Pelish (9), Michaela Bradley (11), Kevin Gibbs (10), Joshua Griffin (10) and John Green Jr. (11). **Back Row.** Francesca Hannah (11), Linda Hannah (9), Eric Roman (12) and sponsor Kami Boje.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Bryan Hirschman (9).

The club was founded in 2005 by the club's president because of an interest in Japanese animation. Members viewed and discussed drawings, books and videos about Anime.



Book Club

Front Row. Mya Dantzler (10), Timothy Bertino (12), Linda Hannah (9), Francesca Hannah (11), Karima Al-Absy (11), Kim Buckley (10) and Christopher White (11). **Back Row.** Fuschia Tyler (10), Ellyse Juranek (10), Olivia Griffin (10), Patrice Parker (11), Michaela Bradley (11) and sponsor Sue Devlin.

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

Book Club started as a part of the Kaleidoscope book discussions sponsored by Omaha Public Schools and KETV in 2002. Club members read and discussed books, hosted a bookmark contest and learned calligraphy.



CHEETA Club

Front Row. Alexandra Greene (9), Brittany Wilson (9), Shuona Wang (11) and Karima Al-Absy (11). **Second Row.** Ellyse Juranek (10), Jessica Crandall (11), Gerson Manriquez (12) and sponsor Catherine Kennedy. **Back Row.** Ariadna Ortiz (10) and Perla Islas (10).
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Shuona Wang.

Most members are female, however the club always has a few males who are confident enough in their masculinity to commit to helping animals. They collected food for the Humane Society for Hurricane Katrina.



Chess Club #1

Front Row. Jomarcell Nguyen (10), Matthew Bower (10), Roy Jones (9), Emma Bell (9) and John Green Jr. (11). **Back Row.** Hannah Niebaum (9), Alexandra Hubbard (9), Kaiya McCormick (9), Jesse Tye (10), Mark Briggs (10) and sponsor Doug Martin.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: George Blazek (12).

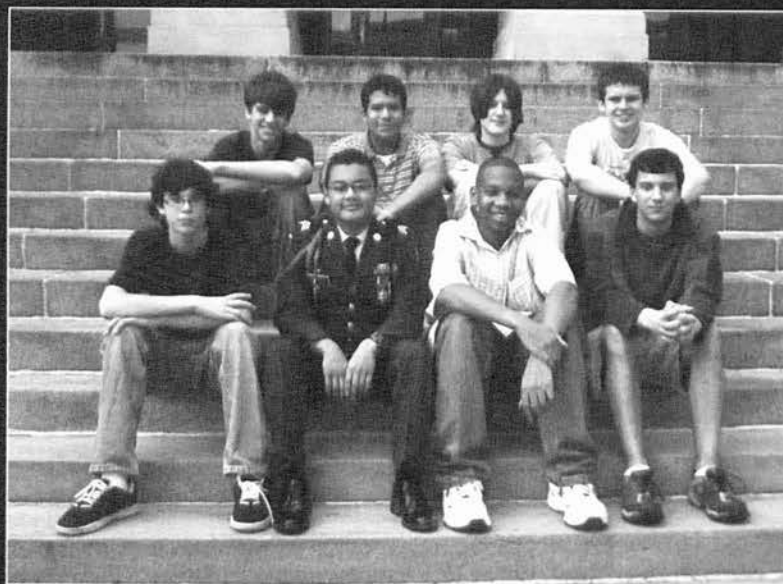
The club has been around since 1938.



Chess Club #2

Front Row. Alek Erickson (10), Benjamin Polk (9) and Elizabeth Rockwell (10). **Second Row.** George Yin (9), Kevin Kennedy (11), Anna French (9) and Dantae Potter (11). **Third Row.** Sponsor Stephen Bouma, George Blazek (12), Andrew Monbouquette (12), William Monen (11) and Anthony Stubbs (11). **Back Row.** Andrew Pirruccello (9), LaVel Sterling (11) and sponsor Drew Thyden. *Photo by Tanika Cooper.*

The club hosted a tournament at Central and competed in the Metro Chess League.



Front Row. Alek Erikson (10), Elvis Servellon (10), LaVel Sterling (11) and William Chaney (12). **Back Row.** Anthony Stubbs (11), Antonio Lopez (12), Kevin Kennedy (11) and George Blazek (12). *Photo by Tanika Cooper.*

Captain: George Blazek.

It has been state champions for the last three years. It also has a Metro League winning streak of 44 consecutive matches since 1997.

College Bound Club

Front Row. Michaela Bradley (11), Jade Franklin (9), Asia Smith (10), Valyn Gipson (10), Darryl Johnson (9), Antone Green (10), Maria Harris (11) and Antwaun Stewart (9). **Second Row.** Lindsay Schulz (11), Brittany Lytle (9), Shantel Straughn (11), Janisea Shields (11), Cara Beck (10), ShaFon Jones (9), Fabiola Nomenyo (11), Chardenay Davis (11) and Perrin Adams (11). **Third Row.** Brittley Holland (10), Kristalee Caldwell (11), Erica Jones (11), Ashley Jones (10), Christina Croffer (10), Janelle Conyers (11), Raisha Crockron (11), Ti Naisha Jackson (9), Kieralynn House (9) and Shem Woods (11). **Back Row.** Sponsor Trish Marcuzzo and tutor Jennifer Stastny. *Photo by Tanika Cooper.*

The club is a mentor group that is a continuation of Math Science Upward Bound. It supports first generation college attendance that is funded by a grant from the federal government through the Applied Information Management Institute.

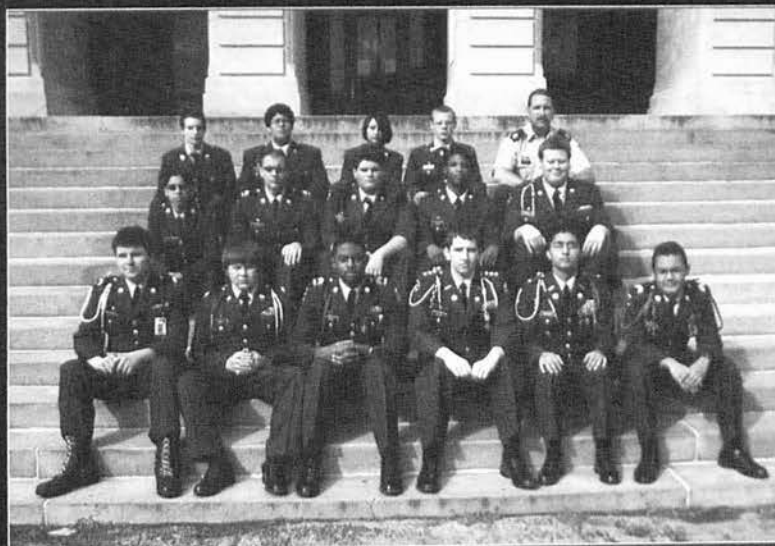


Color Guard

Front Row. Derek Schuler (11), Andrew Shirley (10), Princeton O'Neal (11), Jonathan Kersigo (12), Sopnil Bhattarai (12) and Elvis Servellon (10). **Second Row.** Kaitlyn Walgrave (9), Timothy Bertino (12), Drew Roberts (9), Kenneth Dupree (9) and Alex Prue (10). **Back Row.** Joshua Crist (9), Hugo Corado (9), Carmen Ruiz (9), Anthony Gardner (9) and coach Sgt. Maj. Dwaine Sutter.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

Commander: Princeton O'Neal.

The Color Guard has been around since 1893. It presented the colors for the Seemann Stadium dedication. The club has become more actively involved in the community. It presented the colors at football and basketball games.



Computer Programming Team

Front Row. Anthony Stubbs (11), Antonio Lopez (12), Kevin Kennedy (11) and William Chaney (12).
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Antonio Lopez.

It competed at UNL, USD and NWMSU. They founded the club in 2000 because students wanted more practice to improve their results at competitions.



Courtesy Patrol

Front Row. Derek Schuler (11), Brenton Donaldson (11), Princeton O'Neal (11), Andrew Shirley (10), Sopnil Bhattarai (12) and Timothy Bertino (12). **Second Row.** Kevin Gibbs (10), Kenneth Dupree (9), Carmen Ruiz (9), Anthony Gardner (9), Drew Roberts (9) and James Palmer (10). **Back Row.** Zaccheus Parker (9), Rico Chavez (9), Victoria Abeyta (9) and coach Sgt. Maj. Dwaine Sutter.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Ashley Minshall (12).

It has been around since 1973. The club originated to give exposure to cadets outside the JROTC classroom. The club has become more involved in events including the Hall of Fame, Open House and parent teacher conference.



C.U.T.

Front Row. Blake Cantrell (9), Tyler Barry (9), Mike Messick (9) and Nicholas Messick (9). **Back Row.** Sponsor Derek Leslie, Peter Rafferty (11), William Monen (11), Jacquelyn Pirtle (11), Jared Dittman (11) and Mark Arehart (11).

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

Co-presidents: Jared Dittman and Peter Rafferty.
The club was founded this year by students who played Ultimate Frisbee in Elmwood Park.



Debate

Front Row. Ashlee Atwell (11), Paloma Nazar (10), Jennifer Castello (12) and Brittney Johnson (10). **Second Row.** Alicia Bender (11), Kimberly Nguyen (9), Rebecca Briles (12) and Traea Bowden (11). **Back Row.** Drew Roberts (9), Joseph Pollock (11) and sponsor Greg Schroeder.

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Jennifer Castello.

The team has gone through three coaches in the past three years. Its focus: it was mighty even if it was small. The team holds an annual tournament at Central.

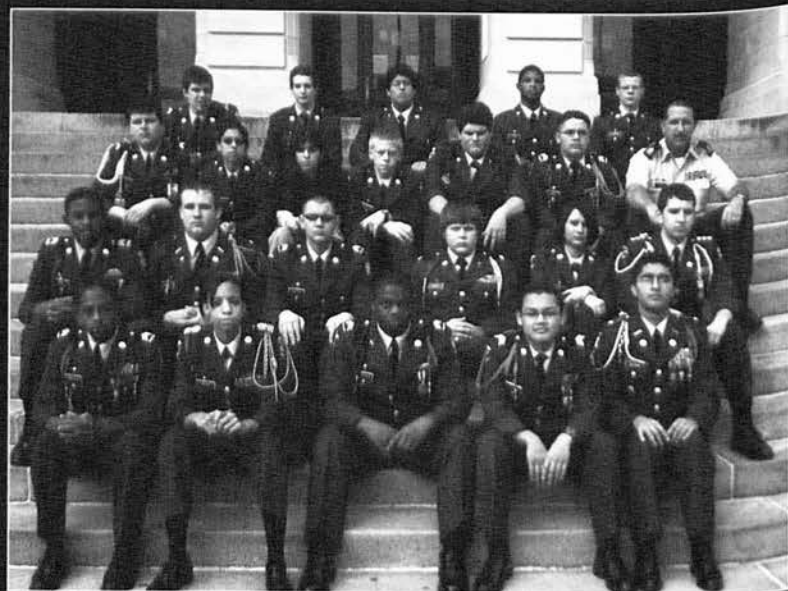
Drill Team

Front Row. Israel Pommells (11), Alicia Bender (11), Brenton Donaldson (11), Elvis Servellon (10) and Sornil Bhattarai (12). **Second Row.** Princeton O' Neal (11), Jeremy Smith (12), Timothy Bertino (12), Andrew Shirley (10), Carmen Ruiz (9) and Jonathan Kersigo (12). **Third Row.** Derek Schuler (11), Kaitlyn Walgrave (9), Aelea Armendariz (9), Randy Robertson (9), Drew Roberts (9), Juan Gomez (11) and Sgt. Maj. Dwaine Sutter. **Back Row.** Kevin Gibbs (10), Joshua Crist (9), Hugo Corado (9), Kenneth Dupree (9) and Anthony Gardner (9).

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

Commander: Elvis Servellon.

It practiced in the mornings from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m.
The team originated with the establishment of JROTC in 1893.



Earth Science Outdoor Lab

Front Row. Josue Amaya (10), Rebecca Briles (12), sponsor Bryson Wisser, Kyle Samuelson (12) and Nicholas Pierce-Cramer (12).
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

The club was founded this year. Members went biking and hiking.



ESL International Club

Front Row. Sponsor Linda Ganzel, Rosalba Andres (11), Nadia De Santos (11) and Veronica Salgado-Altamirano (10). **Second Row.** Rico Chavez (9), Yolanda Gonzalez (10), Jessica Hernandez (10), Jacqueline Villalobos (9), Maria Alvarado (10) and Deniss Ceja (10). **Back Row.** Cesar Smith (12), Jazmin Hernandez (10), Jessica Ozuna (10), Perla Islas (10) and Fernando Andres (9).
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Nadia De Santos.

The club gave ESL students a chance to experience some of the American culture. It was a stepping stone to greater extracurricular involvement by the students.



FBLA

Front Row. Justin Young (11), Shuona Wang (11), Lien Rosas (10), Dantae Potter (11), and Jason Herrera (11). **Back Row.** Autumn Drickey (12), Mai Zhang (11), sponsor DeLayne Havlovic, Mykola Klymchuk (11).
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

The club went to the fall leadership conference in Kansas City and attended the State Conference in April. It toured companies such as the *Omaha World Herald* and did a number of business competitions at Fremont and Wayne State College. Members also did community service with Mothers Against Drunk Driving.



FEA

Front Row. Karmen Holmes (12), Ariel Ramirez (12), Ashley Lidgett (12), Sarah Beck (12) and Scarlett Blake (10). **Back Row.** Clarissa Lovegren (9), Debra Ramirez (10), Maria Navarro (9), Raja Philip (10), Victoria Czerwinski (9), Simone Gould (11) and Chester Lovegren (10).

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Ashley Lidgett.

The club focused on volunteering in educational activities with children and mentoring them. It participated in University of Omaha Education Conferences, Omaha Public School reading program and Teacher Appreciation Week. The club started in the 1960s and was revived in 2000.



Film Club



Front Row. Francesca Hannah (11), Sonya Rhine (11), Crystal Ramirez (11) and Janice Baker (11). **Second Row.** Linda Hannah (9), Emily Wall (11), Michael Schneider (11) and Selene Lopez-Ramos (10). **Back Row.** Donte Smith (9), Steven Watkins (11), Phillip Washington (10), Victoria Washington (12) and sponsor Derek Leslie.

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Crystal Ramirez.

Members tried to produce one short film that was either a documentary or fiction. This was the second year of its existence.

French Club #1

Front Row. Aaron French (11), Katherine Hartig (11), Emily Waldo (11), Lindsey Goding (12), Jane Hartig (11), Abigail Prest (12) and Natalie McClellan (12). **Second Row.** Shuona Wang (11), Fatima Flores (10), Emily RiceBaltzell (10), Sarah Burford (10), Arielle Donner (11), Emily Harrison (11) and Rebecca Briles (12). **Back Row.** Pascale Roussel (11), Benjamin Brich (10), Andrew Taylor (11), Brittney Johnson (10), Raja Philip (10), Victoria Czerwinski (9), Alexandra Greene (9) and Derek Schuler (11).

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Lindsey Goding.

Members attended performances at the opera and symphony that were in French and plays including "Les Miserables."



French Club #2

Front Row. Nema Philip (11), Brianna Brei (12), Laura Mabrouk (12) and Sopil Bhattarai (12). **Second Row.** Sponsor Beverly Fellman, Jacquelyn Pirtle (11), Katherine Shuster (11), Leslie Stryker (11), Emily Brich (11) and sponsor Kristin Lawton. **Back Row.** Joshua Wilson (11), Alexander Henriquez (12) and Gerson Manriquez (12).

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

Members painted pumpkins that it donated to the Children's Hospital, participated in UNL Language Fair and had a film and fondue night.



French National Honor Society

Front Row. Sponsor Beverly Fellman, Arielle Donner (11), Emily Waldo (11), Brianna Brei (12), Abigail Prest (12) and Jane Hartig (11). **Back Row.** Shuona Wang (11), Sopil Bhattarai (12), Lindsey Goding (12), Leslie Stryker (11), Natalie McClellan (12) and sponsor Kristin Lawton.

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

Co-presidents: Shuona Wang and Abigail Prest.
Members tutored before and after school because of a more community service focus. Students needed at least a 90 percent average in French for three semesters, 20 points earned in French Club activities and six recommendations.



Gay/Straight Alliance

Front Row. Kimberly Guzman (9), Juan Gonzalez (11), Pedro Cruz (10), Adam Hankins (9), Megan Kreigler (10) and Lauren Alston (10). **Second Row.** Sergio Montanez (9), Elizabeth Crnkovich (12), Lauren Debo (10), Nicole Roberts (11) and Christopher Bergner (11). **Third Row.** Elizabeth Pozzi (11), Anna Keeney (11), Samantha Chesters (11), Erin Crnkovich (10) and Roy Jones (9). **Back Row.** Sponsor Rick Richards, Kenneth Chandler (9), Michelle Morgan (9) and sponsor Kami Boje.

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Lauren Debo.

The club's focus was to increase its visibility and to cooperate with other groups to work for acceptance of diversity and social justice issues.



German Club

Front Row. Astrika Wilhelm (10), Allison Wells (12), Ann Widdershoven (11), Martina Kolobara (11), Kara Lambrecht (11), Bailey Jensen (11), Sasha Zdan (11) and Adell Zdan (11). **Second Row.** Lyndsey Bullis (10), Stephanie Huetter (12), Kirsten Brown (12), Stephen Wilhelm (12), Philip Lomneth (10), Matthew Cronin (11) and Will Robbins (10). **Back Row.** Stephanie Wilhelm (11), sponsor Erica Meyer, Rachel Glissmann (12), Lauren Kinkead (12), Allison Wells (12), Brenna Rosenberg (12) and Amanda Pintore (11).

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Lauren Kinkead.

The club made gingerbread houses for the holidays and participated in the International Banquet.



German National Honor Society

Front Row. Stephanie Wilhelm (11), Ann Widdershoven (11), Adell Zdan (11) and Bailey Jensen (11). **Second Row.** Stephanie Huetter (12), Kirsten Brown (12), Stephen Wilhelm (12) and Sasha Zdan (11). **Back Row.** Sponsor Erica Meyer, Rachel Glissmann (12), Lauren Kinkead (12), Allison Wells (12) and Brenna Rosenberg (12).

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Rachel Glissmann.

It held a Kaffee und Kuchen and also went to a German restaurant.



Key Club

Front Row. Rebecca Briles (12), Janice Baker (11), Sara Martin (12), Autumn Drickey (12) and Nema Philip (11). **Second Row.** Judy Rosas (9), Kim Buckley (10), Astrika Wilhelm (10), Sonya Rhine (11), Crystal Ramirez (11), Sornil Bhattarai (12) and Sasha Zdan (11). **Back Row.** Nadia Al-Absy (9), Stephanie Wilhelm (11), Raja Philip (10), Lien Rosas (10), Shuona Wang (11), Amrit Kandel (10) and sponsor Polly Briles.

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Sara Martin.

The club is the high school component of the Kiwanis Club, which is an international group that focuses on the community. It participated in Trick or Treat for Cans, volunteered at the Hope Center and helped with the Downtown Cleanup.



Latin Club #1

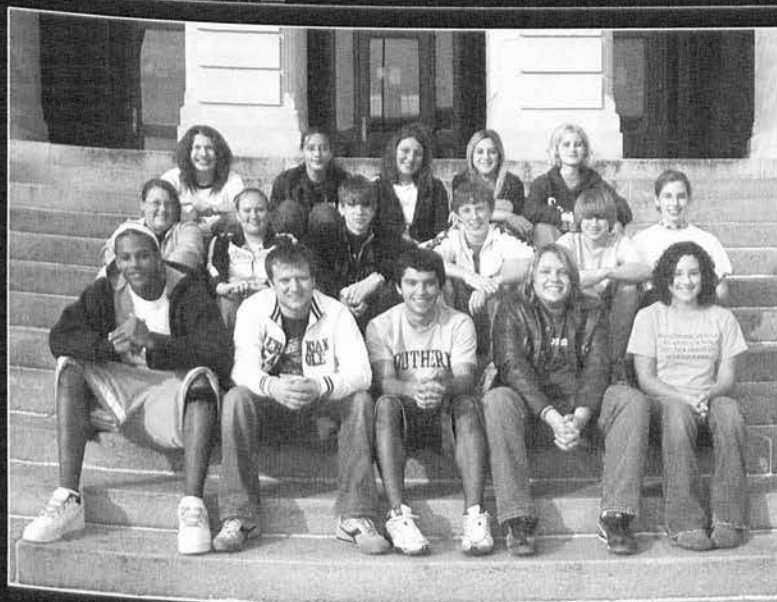
Front Row. Astrika Wilhelm (10), Lyndsey Bullis (10), Carli Culjat (10), Chloe Greguska (10), Huong Vu (10) and Rachel Minier (10). **Second Row.** Emilio Barrientos (10), Sean Olson (10), Erin Crnkovich (10), Mattie George (10) and Elizabeth Rockwell (10). **Back Row.** Stephen Wilhelm (12), Sarah Medeiros (9), Alexandra Oltrogge (10), Alexandra Hubbard (9) and Sara Bennett (9).

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

The club was founded in 1903 and is the first established Latin Club in the United States. The club had a haunted hay rack ride, dinner at the Greek Islands and went to a Fun Certamen and the State JCL Convention.



Latin Club #2



Front Row. Rodney Grace (12), James Hubbard (12), Zackary Breazeale (12), Chester Lovegren (10) and Jennifer Baratta (10). **Second Row.** Kayla Kros (10), Ashley Hall (10), Dusty Davis (9), Derek Porter (9), Connor Magnuson (9) and Stephanie Wilhelm (11). **Back Row.** Sterling Fox (12), Francesca Hannah (11), Alicia Durkan (11), Melisa Dellutri (11) and Ashley Gunia (10).

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

The club's focus is to promote interest in Latin and the classical civilization, promote friendship among members and provide a means by which students may meet Latin students from other schools.

Latin Club Officers

Front Row. Sarah Potts (10), Jessica Saligeh (12), James Hubbard (12), Carli Vincentini (12), Zackary Breazeale (12), Carolyn Croskey (11), Eliza Cowan (11) and Anna Wiksell (12). **Second Row.** Mattie George (10), Lyndsey Bullis (10), Astrika Wilhelm (10), Jeremy Gipe (12), Joshua Kiepke (12), Chloe Greguska (10), Huong Vu (10), Kevin Mitchell (10) and Carli Culjat (10).

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

Consuls: Jeremy Gipe, Carly Vincentine, James Hubbard. The 18 officers were in charge of meetings, planning activities, providing food and recruiting new members.



Latin Natinal Honor Society

Front Row. James Hubbard (12), Carly Vincentini (12), Lyndsey Bullis (10), Astrika Wilhelm (10), Stephen Wilhelm (12), Anna Wiksell (12) and Adrienne Anderson (10). **Second Row.** Eliza Cowan (11), Zackary Breazeale (12), Sarah Potts (10), Jennifer Baratta (10), Chloe Greguska (10), Huong Vu (10), Carli Culjat (10) and Elizabeth Crnkovich (12). **Back Row.** Erin Crnkovich (10), Jessica Saligheh (12), Stephanie Wilhelm (11), Francesca Hannah (11), Samantha Chesters (11), Kevin Mitchell (10) and Matthew Waszak (11).
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Stephen Wilhelm.

The club was founded this year by upperclassmen who wanted to have an honors society just like the rest of the foreign languages.



Latino Leaders



Front Row. Crystal Ramirez (11), Christopher White (11), Nadia De Santos (11), Anthony Gonzalez (10), Maria Morales (12) and Pablo Roman (12). **Second Row.** Brenda Cruz (12), Jessica Ozuna, Monica Herrera (9), Jazmin Torrez (11), Hector Velasquez (10), Vianey Alonso (9) and Daisy Lopez (9). **Third Row.** Sponsor Susana Lara, Alejandro Gonzalez (9), Moises Arrillo (10), Renne Mayorga-Alvare (9), Jesus Mayorga (11), Jason Herrera (11) and Mariateresa Ortiz (9). **Fourth Row.** Dionne Aquino (12), Luisa Trujillo (12), Perla Islas (10), Josue Amaya (10), Juan Gomez (11) and Joel Amaya (9). **Back Row.** Yolanda Gonzalez (10), Jessica Hernandez (10), Reyna Vales (10) and Gerson Manriquez (12).
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

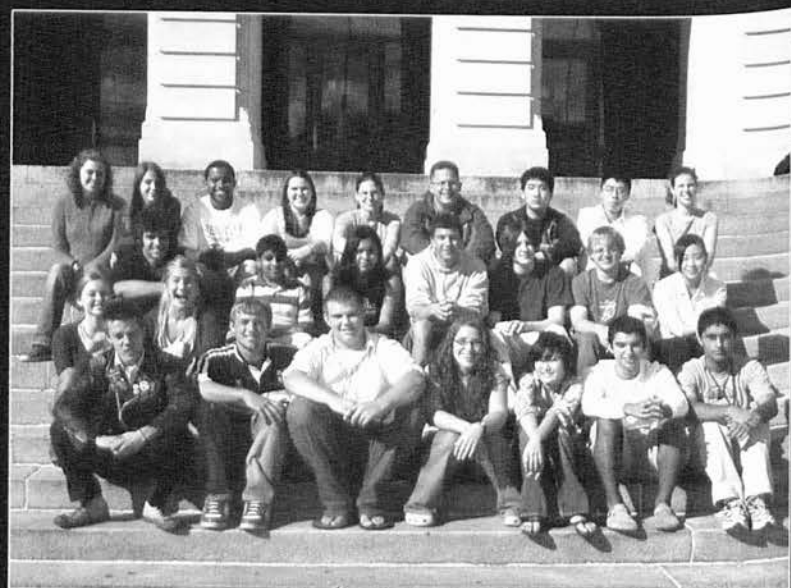
Committee: Josue Amaya, Luisa Trujillo, Dionne Aquino, Juan Gomez, Yolanda Gonzalez and Pablo Roman. The original club was founded by the sponsor's brother. The club awards scholarships to its members.

Math Club

Front Row. Ian Danielson (12), Nicholas PierceCramer (12), Tess Mandell (12), Jeehyun Yoe (12), Zackary Breazeale (12) and Sopil Bhattarai (12). **Second Row.** Bailey Jensen (11) and Kara Lambrecht (11). **Third Row.** Joseph Delich (12), Amrit Kandel (10), Jessica Huynh (9), William Chaney (12), Kevin Kennedy (11), Andrew Haskins (12) and Shuona Wang (11). **Back Row.** Jessica Sieff (11), Angella Mertz (11), Alvin Samuels (12), Ashley Lidgett (12), Adell Zdan (11), sponsor Greg Sand, Gue Soo Yoe (10), Mai Zhang (11) and Sonya Rhine (11).
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Tess Mandell.

The members had meetings every month to practice and plan for competitions.



Minority Scholars Fifth Hour

Front Row. Melissa Gray (12), Camille Ehlers (12), Randi Paul (12), Stephanie Evans (11) and Briana Armendariz (10). **Second Row.** Judy Rosas (9), Brittani Avery (10), Olivia Griffin (10), Kailah Bailey (9) and Ashley Pruitt (9). **Back Row.** Kieralynn House (9), Lonzale Ramsey (11), Rashele Sharkey (11), Shantel Straughn (11), Chardenay Davis (11) and Brittany Gossett (10).

Photo by Patrick O'Malley.

Minority Scholars started in 1997.

They spent their lunch hours writing resumes, scholarships and learning better study skills.



Minority Scholars Sixth Hour

Front Row. Todd Alba (9), Aminata Fall (10), Audrianna Edmonds (10) and Dantae Potter (11). **Second Row.** Courtney Webster (9), Jasmine Washington (10), Ana Gaspar (10), Michaela Bradley (11), Crystal Ramirez (11) and Brandon Contreras (10). **Back Row.** Sponsor Jimmie Foster and sponsor Diane Allen.

Photo by Anna McMahon.

The class helps minorities to excel in high school and prepare for honors classes. It served as a transition into high school.

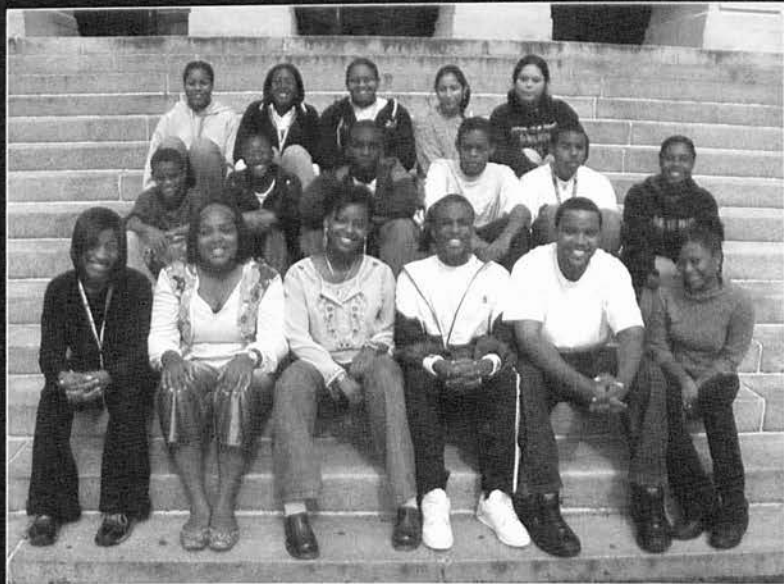


Minority Scholars Seventh Hour

Front Row. Yvette Butler (12), Morgan Conley (12), Shazale Ramsey (12), Radell Young (12), Alvin Samuels (12) and Melisha Potter (12). **Second Row.** Edward Pierce (9), Franecia Moore (9), Justin Young (11), Aaron Gregory (11), Mychal Davis (11) and Tanika Cooper (12). **Back Row.** Zakiya King (11), Chloe McPherson (9), Satera Nelson (9), Mariateresa Ortiz (9) and Janice Baker (11).

Photo by Molly Mullen.

The members sponsored a can food drive. The food was donated to Stevenson's House. English teachers helped collect cans and gave extra credit to students. They also helped with the Downtown Cleanup.



Mock Trial

Front Row. Lonzale Ramsey (11), Joshua Wilson (11) and Patrick Breen (10). **Second Row.** Stephanie Wilhelm (11), Elizabeth Pozzi (11), Everett Kladstrup (11), Tyler Magnuson (11) and Stephen Wilhelm (12). **Back Row.** Astrika Wilhelm (10) and Sajmir Gasa (12).
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

The students participated in a mock court case. Three students played the role of witnesses and three students played the role of lawyers. The teams played both sides of the case.



O-Book Staff

Front Row. Adviser Matthew Deabler, Mark Areheart (11), Theresa Vacha (11), Stephanie Wilhelm (11) and Tanika Cooper (12). **Second Row.** Todd Healy (10), Patrick O'Malley (11), Emma Phillips (10), Jared Dittman (11) and Anna McMahon (12). **Back Row.** Kristen Kendall (11), Deanna Whitmyre (11) and Claudia Silva (12).
Photo by Molly Mullen.

Editor: Tanika Cooper

The *Annual* was the original name of the yearbook. The first yearbook was printed in 1897 by the graduating seniors. In 1922 teacher Maybel Burns suggested changing the name *Annual* to *O-Book for Omaha High School*. Central High School used to be called Omaha High School. The current yearbook has the lowest price for its size in the country. The journalism department has won state the last five years.

Orchestra

Front Row. Denise Hearity (12), Kirsten Brown (12), Stephanie Huetter (12), Rachel Glissmann (12), Lauren Kinkead (12), Shazale Ramsey (12), Leslie Stryker (11), Jacqueline Prosocki (11) and Rashele Sharkey (11). **Second Row.** Nathaniel Fairbanks (9), Kelsey Kroeger (12), Laurence Deboer (10), Alexandra Oltrogge (10), Adrian Monge (10), Jennifer Baratta (10), Maya Doghman (10), Claire Hansen (10), Katherine Hartig (11), Brittany Krijan (11) and Angella Mertz (11). **Third Row.** Elizabeth Pozzi (11), Catherine Venditte (10), Scarlett Blake (10), Shelly McLaughlin (10), Brianna Huddle (10), Jon Roberson (10), Chardenay Davis (11), Monique Johnson (11), Natalie Lynch (12) and Emily Boston (12). **Back Row.** Matthew Ross (11), Johann Johnson (10), Emily RiceBaltzell (10), sponsor Molly Moriarty, Courtney Dewitt (10), Lauren Alston (10), Francesca Hannah (11), Marcella Brown (11) and Lewis Culliver (11).
Photo by Anna McMahon.

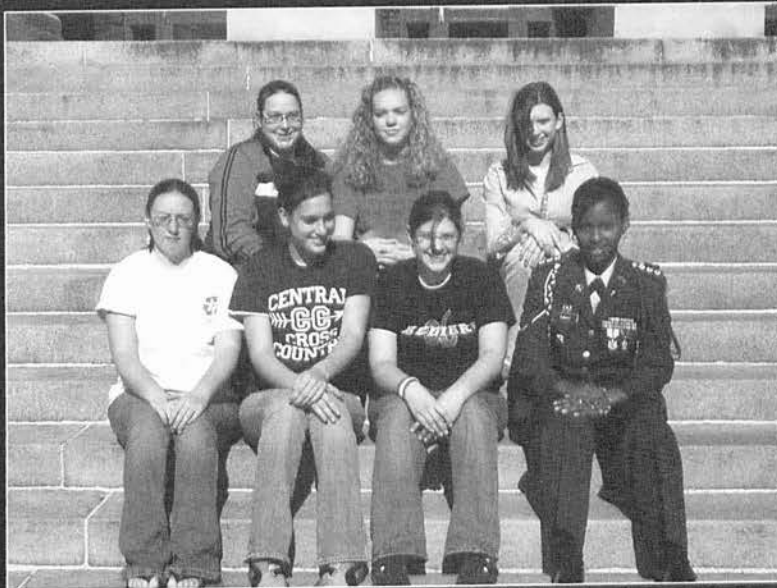
Orchestra performed at a fall, winter and spring concert.



Orchestra Officers

Front Row. Stephanie Huetter (12), Rachel Glissmann (12), Lauren Kinkead (12) and Shazale Ramsey (12). **Back Row.** Denise Hearity (12), Kirsten Brown (12) and Leslie Stryker (11).
Photo by Anna McMahon.

Orchestra also performs at the district music contest, an adjudication and Roadshow.



Philosophy Club

Front Row. Eliza Cowan (11), Zackary Breazeale (12), Carolyn Croskey (11), Astrika Wilhelm (10), Stephen Wilhelm (12), Anna Wiksell (12) and Chester Lovegren (10). **Second Row.** Sterling Fox (12), Everret Kladstrup (11), Elizabeth Pozzi (11), Samantha Chesters (11), Carli Culjat (10) and Stephanie Wilhelm (11). **Back Row.** Dusty Davis (9), Joshua Kiepkke (12), Hibā Ahmad (12), James Hubbard (12), Carly Vincentini (12) and Lara Zott (10).

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Anna Wiksell.

Members visited Creighton University and UNL's philosophy classes. David Rennard was a Latin student who organized the first meeting a decade ago.



Photography Club

Front Row. Winslow Dumaine, Ariana Peppers (9), sponsor Melissa Kuskie, Lien Rosas (10), Mai Zhang (11). **Back Row.** Brandon Contreras (10), sponsor Jodi Rackliffe, Anna Adams (11).
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

The club focused on both digital and manual photography. They also took trips to the Career Center.



Primary Staff

Front Row. Timothy Bertino (12), Sopnil Bhattarai (12), Jonathan Kersigo (12) and Shazale Ramsey (12). **Back Row.** Alicia Bender (11), Jeremy Smith (12), Talaya James (12) and sponsor coach Sgt. Maj. Dwaine Sutter. *Photo by Tanika Cooper.*

Battalion Commander: Sopnil Bhattarai.
They obtained the Yellow Star. The staff was in charge of battalioon formal inspection and Brigade Review.



Register Staff



Front Row. Adviser Matthew Deabler, Stephen Wilhelm (12), Lauren Crist (12), Molly Mullen (12), Clay Lomneth (12) and Zachary Pluhacek (12). **Second Row.** Pascale Rouseel (11), Callie Messick, Kim Buckley (10), Emma Phillips (10), Kristen Kendall (11), Astrika Wilhelm (10), Courtney Dewitt (10) and Emily Harrison (11). **Back Row.** Robert Al-Greene (11), Andrew Reinwald (12), Justin Valentine (11), Todd Healy (11) and Joseph Delich (12). *Photo by Tanika Cooper.*

Editor: Molly Mullen

The *Register* has won 10 NSPA/JEA Best of Shows (nationals) in the past six years. The paper has also won five national Pacemaker awards, which is even higher than Best of Show. It is the oldest high school newspaper west of the Mississippi, established in 1886. It is the reason judges have now labeled CHS J-Head High, for Journalism Head High.

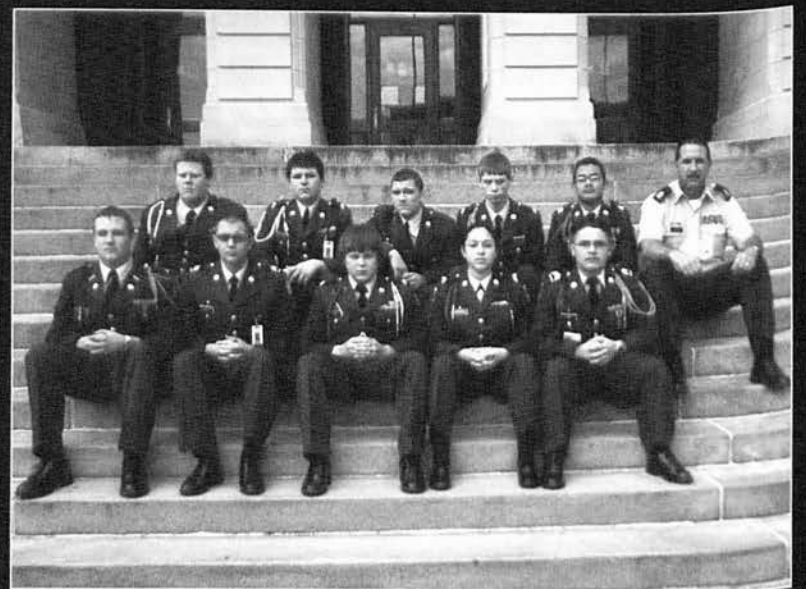
Rifle Team

Front Row. Jeremy Smith (12), Timothy Bertino (12), Andrew Shirley (10), Briauna Armendariz (10), Juan Gomez (11). **Back Row.** Alex Prue (10), Derrick Schuler (11), Sebastian Garner (9), Zachary Pope (10) Elvis Servellon (10), coach Sgt. Maj. Dwaine Sutter.

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

Commander: Juan Gomez.

Members were required to have safety certification starting in 2005. They participated in the Pistol League and OPS Shoulder-to-Shoulder matches.



Rock Climbing Club

Front Row. Lauren Crist (12), Grace Krause (10), Elizabeth Rockwell (10), Sarah Burford (10) and Sara Bennett (9). **Second Row.** Joshua Crist (9), Jennifer Barratta (10) and Elizabeth Wallace (10). **Back Row.** Sponsor Erik Albertine and sponsor Jean Whitten.

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Tucker George.

The members climbed rock walls at the SSW YMCA and UNO. They learned how to belay.

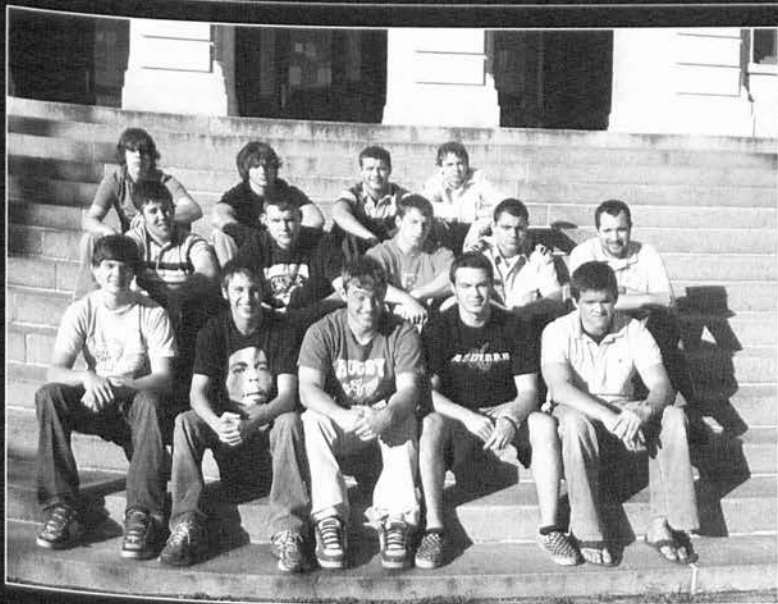


Rugby Club

Front Row. Jeffrey Hunter (12), Nathaniel Hall (11), Ian Danielson (12), Elias Bloom (12), Jason Kock (11) and Christopher White (11). **Second Row.** Sponsor Kelly Murphy, Timothy Bertino (12), Frank Morescalco (12), David Saniuk (11) and Robert Dowd (11). **Back Row.** Andrew Frenking (11), Trevor Bissell (12) and Charles Mulligan (12). *Photo by Tanika Cooper.*

Presidents: Benjamin Zimmer and Nathaniel Hall.

It started off as a Creighton Preparatory group, but was taken over by Central students.



Saber Team

Front Row. Derek Schuler (11), Brenton Donaldson (11), Princeton O'Neal (11), Andrew Shirley (10) and Drew Roberts (9). **Back Row.** Coach Sgt. Maj. Dwaine Sutter, Kevin Gibbs (10), Anthony Gardner (9), Carmen Ruiz (9) and James Palmer (10).

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

Saber Team comes together every couple years.



S.A.D.D.

Front Row. Ashley Lidgett (12), Stephanie Huetter (12), Lauren Debo (10), Chelsie Hirsh (11), Joseph Hike (11), Bianca Perez (11), Brandy Gordon (11) and Amanda Rausch (11). **Second Row.** Kim Buckley (10), Nicole Roberts (11), Jordan Wagner (11), Sasha Zdan (11), Natalie Zdan (11), Elizabeth Crnkovich (12) and Shouna Wang (11). **Back Row.** Victoria Washington (12), Gail Plouzek (12), Alicia Durkan (11), Erin Crnkovich (10) and sponsor Ginger Riffel.

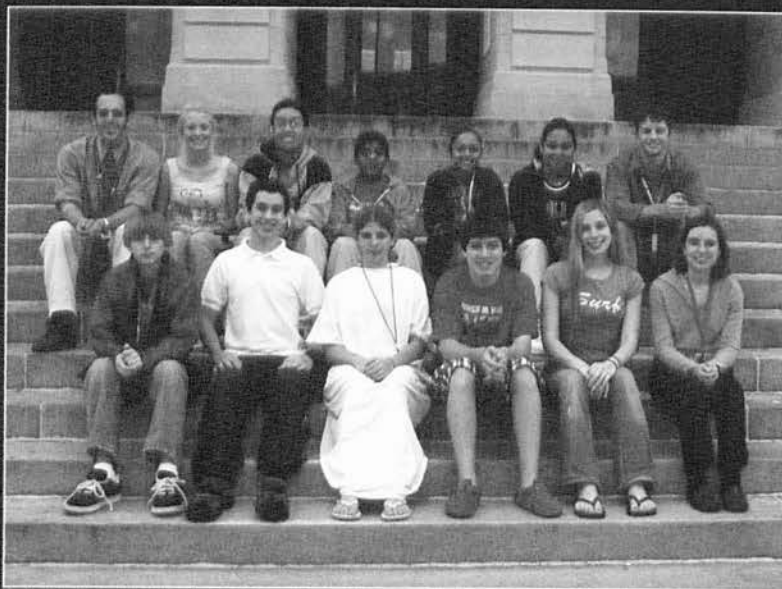
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Ashley Lidgett.

The organization was founded as a support group for friends of a student who was killed by a drunk driver. The organization has become more service and education oriented.



Science Olympiad



Front Row. Benjamin Polk (9), Stephen Wilhelm (12), Astrika Wilhelm (10), Benjamin Susman (9), Stephanie Wilhlem (11) and sponsor Meghan Meshbesher. **Back Row.** Sponsor Erik Albertine, Rachael Larington (10), Jomarcell Nguyen (10), Amrit Kandel (10), Michaela Moore (10), Tyler Faulkner (9) and sponsor Jeff Fredrickson.

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

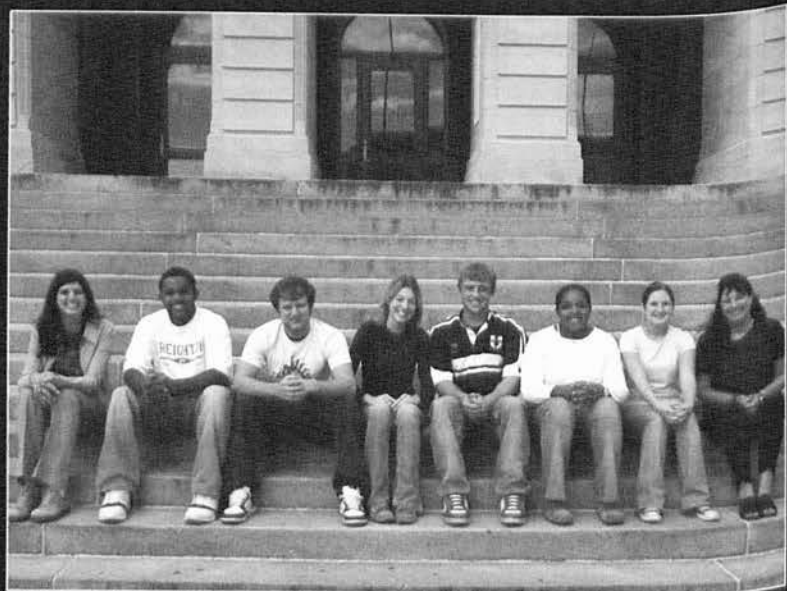
The club is an academic competition club that practiced bimonthly for its competition in April.

Senior Class Officers

Front Row. Sponsor Fairouz Bishara, Alvin Samuels (12), Hannah Andahl (12), Ian Danielson (12), Morgan Conley (12), Jessica Lewis (12) and sponsor Cherie Barg.

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

Officers had to complete a school and community-related activity each month.

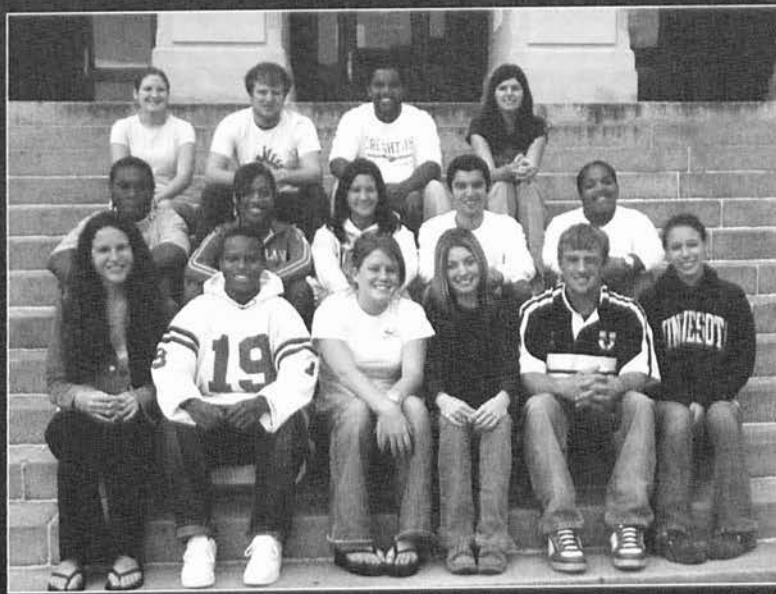


Senior Class Representatives

Front Row. Natalie Lynch (12), Keelend Smith (12), Lindsey Anderson (12), Hannah Anderson (12), Ian Danielson (12) and Maceal Jеспerson (12). **Second Row.** Devin Croffer (12), Yvette Butler (12), Carly Vincentini (12), Zackary Breazeale (12) and Morgan Conley (12). **Back Row.** Jessica Lewis (12), James Hubbard (12), Alvin Samuels (12) and sponsor Fairouz Bishara.

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

Representatives helped to organize and govern all senior activities. They met on Wednesdays.



Spanish Club

Front Row. Matthew Cronin (11), Bailey Jensen (11), Kara Lambrecht (11), Moises Carrillo (9), Raja Philip (10) and Betsy Wallace (10). **Second Row.** Danielle Costello (10), Meeae Tillwick (10), Devan Hardy (10), Ruchala Conway (10), Elizabeth Alfaro (9), Daisy Lopez (9) and Abigail Sjogren (10). **Back Row.** Isabel Benjamin-Alverado (9), Hannah Niebaum (9), Jamillah Hinson (9), sponsor Jane Boeka, Anna Adams (11), Julia Nelson (10) and Mark O'Donnell (11).

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

Co-presidents: Kara Lambrecht and Matthew Cronin. The club focused on using community resources to support its activities.

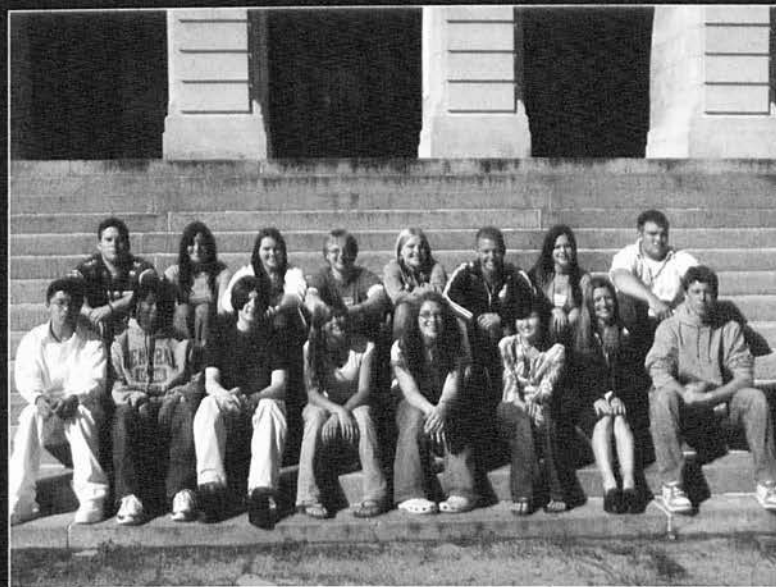


Spanish National Honor Society

Front Row. Mai Zhang (11), Shazale Ramsey, Kevin Kennedy (11), Andrey Madison (12), Tess Mandell (12), Jane Yoe (12), sponsor Melissa Kuskie and James Whelan (12). **Back Row.** Jacob Hansen, Aryza Adams, Ashley Lidgett (12), Andrew Haskins (12), Kelleyanne Alt (11), Benjamin Bilyeu (12), Jordan Wagner (11) and Nicholas PierceCramer (12).

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Ben Bilyeu. The club had its induction in the spring. The club focus has become more community oriented.



Student Council Sophomores

Front Row. Rachel Reno (10), Sean Olson (10), Will Robbins (10) and Adrian Monge (10), Maya Doghman (10) and Mattie George (10). **Back Row.** Philip Lomneth (10), Carli Culjat (10), Chloe Greguska (10), Abigail Sjogren (10) and Jennifer Grant (10).
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

The members' biggest activity was prom. They participated in Honey Sunday, Visually-Impaired Shopping Spree and were timers for Swim Kan.



Student Council Juniors



Front Row. Kelsey Storm (11), Crystal Ramirez (11), Aaron Gregory (11), Carolyn Croskey (11), Kara Lambrecht (11), Mark Arehart (11), Chardenay Davis (11) and Margaret Baumann (11). **Back Row.** Ann Widdershoven (11), Mai Zhang (11), Rochelle Finnigan (11), Courtney Griffith (11), Matthew Cronin (11), Amanda Pintore (11), Joshua Wilson (11) and Nema Philip (11).
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

Members participated in the NASC Leadership Conference and they helped feed the homeless.

Student Council Seniors

Front Row. Benjamin Zimmer (12), Natalie Lynch (12), Allison Gorga (12), Yvette Butler (12), Alvin Samuels (12) and Jessica Lewis (12). **Back Row.** Mary Croskey (12), James Hubbard (12), James Watson (12), Katherine Gorga (12), Bailey Smejkal (12), Zackary Breazeale (12) and Morgan Conley (12).
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Allison Gorga.
The members completed a school-related and a community-related activity monthly.



Student Democrats

Front Row. Chester Lovegren (10), Nicole Roberts (11), Shuona Wang (11), Eliza Cowan (11), Carolyn Croskey (11), Hiba Ahmad (12), Jane Yoe (11), Elizabeth Pozzi (11) and Samantha Chesters (11). **Second Row.** Emily Waldo (11), Jeremy Gipe (12), Mary Croskey (12), Meredith Beaver (12), Aaron French (11), Seth Rich (11) and Jane Hartig (11). **Third Row.** Matthew Cronin (11), Rachael Farhat (10), Erik Frey (12), Andrew Bratcher (12), Jennifer Castello (12), Ricardo Machado (11), Bailey Jensen (11) and Delaney Kunz (10). **Back Row.** Sponsor Carol Krejci, sponsor Rita Ryan and sponsor Tim Shipman.

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Aaron French.

The club held its annual coat drive. Members helped campaign for Democratic candidates and went to benefit dinners to hear speakers.



Teenage Republicans

Front Row. Joseph Albright (11), Erin Bottger (11), Sarah Beck (12) and Stephanie Wilhelm (11). **Second Row.** Stephen Wilhelm (12), Mark Porkorny (12), Astrika Wilhelm (10), Anthony Evans (9), Kevin Mitchell (10) and sponsor Sgt. Maj. Dwaine Sutter. **Third Row.** Dante Potter (11), Dana Bottger (9), Andrew Kroeger (10), Alexa Fuhs (11). **Back Row.** Conner Magnuson (9) and Bradley Benes (9).

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Sarah Beck.

The club doubled in numbers from the previous year. David Bywater, a former Nebraska Republican Field Representative, helped start the club. Members volunteered for Republican candidates and campaigned at Husker football games.



The Light

Front Row. Lindsey Pruitt (11), Joshua Wilson (11), Lewis Culliver (11), Emily RiceBatzell and Astrika Wilhelm (10). **Second Row.** Rachel Woolward (10), Maggie Yablonski (11), LaVel Sterling (11), Nema Philip (11) and sponsor Jesse Busse.

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

The club was started this year. Members discussed certain aspects of the Bible and how teens should act in school.



Thespians

Front Row. Katherine Shuster (11), Tess Mandell (12), Emily Waldo (11), Margaret Baumann (11), Jennifer Castello (12), Ashley Lidgett (12), Audrey Madison (12) and Deanna Whitmyre (11). **Second Row.** Janice Baker (11), Lindsey Goding (12), Adrienne Anderson (10), Megan Bogatz (11), Joseph Albright (11) and Samuel Agree (11). **Third Row.** Crystal Ramirez (11), Sonya Rhine (11), Timothy Battafarano (12), Stephanie Christensen (12), Sarah Beck (12) Aaron French (11) and Amy Wall (10). **Fourth Row.** Emily Wall (11), Anna Keeney (11), Lara Harbet (12), Kaitlyn Rathman (10), Jeramie Colvin (10), Derick Nelson (11). **Back Row.** Jesse Moore (12), Erik Frey (12), Grant Anderson (12) and Corey Lynch (11).
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Jennifer Castello.

The current chapter first meeting was in the fall of 2005. Members worked with the Road Show and the community theaters of Omaha.



Tri-M #1



Front Row. Ashley Lidgett (12), Jennifer Castello (12), Stephanie Christensen (12), Audrey Madison (12), Stephanie Huetter (12). **Second Row.** Shazale Ramsey (12), Brianna Brei (12), Abigail Prest (12), Hiba Ahmad (12), Natalie McClellan (12), Jane Yoe (12) and Anna McMahon (12). **Third Row.** Joanna LeFlore (12), Krystal Curry (12), Emily Boston (12), Lindsey Goding (12), Ariel Ramirez (12) and Andrew Haskins (12). **Back Row.** Sarah Beck (12), Kirsten Brown (12), Grant Anderson (12), Christopher Nelson (12) and Laurie Rabiola (12).
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Stephanie Christensen.

Originally chartered in 1962, the Tri-M Music Honors Society was renewed in 2000.

Tri-M #2

Front Row. Gregory Clements (12), Sornil Bhattarai (12), Lonzale Ramsey (11), Leslie Stryker (11), Jordon Wagner (11), Brittney Ruffin (11), Margaret Baumann (11), Emily Waldo (11), Erin Bottger (11) and Dante Potter (11). **Second Row.** Nolan Keebler (12), Amy Koenig (11), Jill Dougherty (11), Tyler Magnuson (11), Aaron French (11), Jane Hartig (11), Joseph Albright (11), Sonya Rhine (11) and Lauren Crist (12). **Back Row.** Timothy Battafarano (12), Aaron Smith-Shull (11), Emily Brich (11), Brittany Krijan (11), Katherine Hartig (11), Nicole Roberts (11), Matthew Wazak (11) and Ryan David (12).
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

Designed to let the vocal and instrumental departments interact with each other, Tri-M members participated in the hayrack ride and bonfire at the Bellevue Berry Farm, the Tri-M State Convention in Lincoln, interschool potluck with another local chapter and were ushers for Opera Omaha.



Concert Band: Flags



Front Row. Janice Baker (11), Adrienne Anderson (10), Ana Gaspar (10), Kylie Walgrave (10) and Jessica Hollenbeck (12). **Back Row.** Tess Mandell (12), Ashley Welty (12), Kelsey Kroeger (12), Katala Kimball (10), Lindsey Goding (12) and Amanda Flemmer (10).
With permission of Marc May.

Those who participated in Flags rehearsed during the summer to open the new Seemann Stadium. They also performed at OMI and OME.

Bel Canto

Front Row. Debra Ramirez (10), Jennifer Grant (10), Stacey Pirtle (10), Nicole Gipe (10), Ana Gaspar (10) and Samantha Decamp (11). **Second Row.** Raja Philip (10), Mya Dantzler (10), Amanda Flemmer (10), Sarah Burford (10), Adrienne Anderson (10), Katala Kimball (10), Kerry Rosenberg (10), Grace Gillespie (10) and Grace Krause (10). **Back Row.** Elizabeth Erikson (10), Anne Newman (10), Ashley Meyer (10), Candice Rabiola (12), Hannah Kelsey (10), Rachel Reno (10), Sarah Potts (10), Elizabeth Wallace (10) and Lien Rosas (10).

With permission of Marc May.

Established in 1993 as an extra-curricular activity and eventually becoming a class, Bel Canto is an all-female ensemble for select sophomore girls and upperclass women from A Cappella. The group performed at the Madrigal Dinner, Roadshow, District Music Contest, Holiday Under Glass Concert at the Joslyn and the winter and spring concerts.



CHS Singers



Front Row. Ariel Ramirez (12), Ashley Lidgett (12), Emily Waldo (11), Brianna Brei (12), Lindsey Goding (12), Natalie McClellan (12), Sarah Beck (12), Jennifer Castello (12), Natalie Lynch (12), Meredith Beaver (12), Joanna LeFlore (12) and Emily Brich (11). **Back Row.** Stephanie Christensen (12), Joseph Albright (11), Timothy Battafarano (12), Nolan Keebler (12), Mark Pokorny (12), Aaron Smith-Shull (11), Corey Lynch (11), Grant Anderson (12), Ryan David (12), Jasmine Elmore (12) and David Horrocks (11).
With permission of Marc May.

CHS Singers began in 1973 under the direction of Robert McMeen. Comprised of select members of A Cappella Choir, CHS Singers performed at Roadshow, Madrigal Dinner, District Music Contest, College World Series and Holiday Concerts.

Men's Chorus

Front Row. Dantae Potter (11), Aaron Smith-Shull (11), Anthony Evans (9), Nicholas O'Bradovich (9), Patrick Kilcoyne (10) and Macklin Evans (9). **Second Row.** Tyler Magnuson (11), Joseph Albright (11), Mark Pokorny (12), Grant Anderson (12) and Timothy Battafarano (12). **Back Row.** Kendall Taylor (11), Darryl Williams (9), David Rubio (9), Nolan Keebler (12), Ben McGuire (10), Jeremy Gipe (12), Christopher Nelson (12), Brandon Contreras (10), Jesse Moore (12) and Matthew Waszak (11). *With permission of Marc May.*

Men's Chorus existed on and off throughout the history of vocal music. In its current form, it has been in place since 1999. The choir is open to all freshman through seniors and is directed by Stephen Bouma. The club originated when male CHS Singers wanted an opportunity to perform in a small group. It allows underclassmen to sing with upperclassmen, as well as giving those who could not fit a choir class into their schedule a chance to sing. The group rehearsed Tuesdays and Thursdays. It performed at the UNL Men's Chorus Festival, Madrigal Dinner, Spring and Winter Concerts, Roadshow, Eighth Grade Recruiting Tour and the District Music Contest.



A Cappella

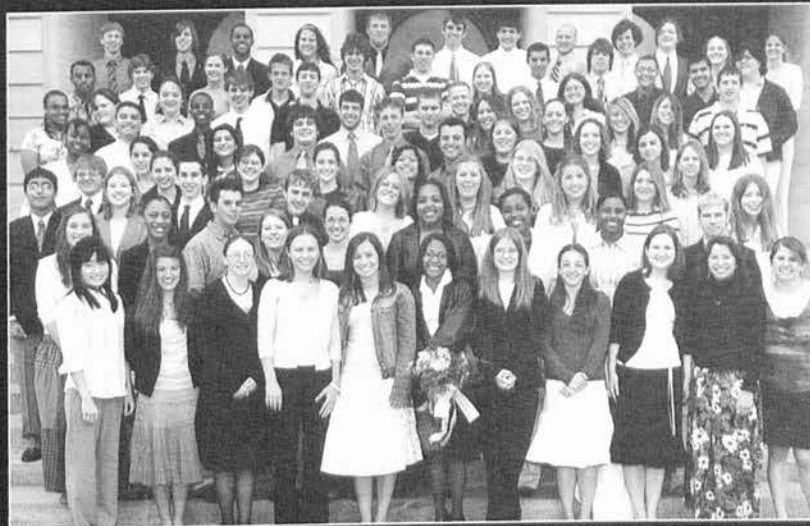


Front Row. Megan Kreigler (10), Samantha Decamp (11), Stephanie Christensen (12), Stephanie Huetter (12), Jordan Wagner (11), Stasha Carpenter (11), Jennifer Castello (12), Melinda Matthies (11), Crystal Ramirez (11), Ashley Lidgett (12), Natalie McClellan (12) and Emily Brich (11). **Second Row.** Jessica Volker (11), Nicole Roberts (11), Sarah Beck (12), Lindsey Goding (12), Audrey Madison (12), Sopil Bhattarai (12), Anna McMahon (12), Margaret Baumann (11), Jessica Saligeh (12), Timothy Battafarano (12), Meredith Beaver (12), William Smith (12), Krystal Curry (12), Jeremy Gipe (12), Jasmine Elmore (12), Candice Rabiola (12), Jacquelyn Pirtle (11), Ariel Ramirez (12), Brittney Ruffin (11), Brianna Brei (12), Abigail Prest (12), Erin Bottger (11), Jeramie Colvin (10), Nema Philip (11), Zachary Cutler (10), Matthew Waszak (11), Mark Wilder (11), Patrick Kilcoyne (10), Nolan Keebler (12), Brandon Contreras (10), Joanna LeFlore (12), James Bowles (11), Lara Harbert (12), Joseph Albright (11), Laurie Rabiola (12), Andrea Thompson (11), Emily Waldo (11). **Back Row.** Mark Pokorny (12), Kendall Taylor (11), Natalie Lynch (12), James Rubio (12), Kyle Matthews (10), Corey Lynch (11), Aaron French (11), Aaron Smith-Shull (11), David Jones (12), Erik Frey (12), Grant Anderson (12), David Horrocks (11), Ryan David (12), Christopher Nelson (12) and Devin Croffer (12). *With permission of Marc May.*

Started in 1932, A Cappella is celebrating its 75th year. Created by Carol Pitts, it originally consisted of 75 boys and girls from Senior Glee Clubs. The 1928 *O-Book* reported that A Cappella "has given performances of unusual merit." Robert McMeen reestablished "Salvation is Created" as the A Cappella signature song. It performed with other schools at the opening of the Holland Performing Arts Center.

National Honor Society

Front Row. Jee Hyun Yoe, Allison Gorga, Stephanie Huetter, Bailey Smejkal, Kaitlyn O'Banion, Karmen Holmes, Kaitlin Waterman, Katherine Gorga, Jessica Lewis, Stephanie Christensen and Anna McMahon. **Second Row.** Tess Mandell, Yvette Butler, Derek Hamilton, Sarah Beck, Kelsey Kroeger, Morgan Conley, Tara Dorsey, Tanika Cooper and Curtis Hicks. **Third Row.** Sopnil Bhattarai, Anna Wiksell, Stephen Wilhelm, Samuel Zaccone, Lindsey Anderson, Teresa Stubbs, Abigail Prest, Jessica Hollenbeck and Brenna Rosenberg. **Fourth Row.** Andrew Haskins, Deborah Rennard, Lauren Kinkead, Rachel Glissmann, Jenny Rosas, Craig Ecabert, Ashley Welty and Leah Meyer. **Fifth Row.** Shazale Ramsey, Laura Mabrouk, Hiba Ahmad, Keenan Page, James Whelan, Allison Wells, Annaturi Maher, Elizabeth Crnkovich and Ashley Lidgett. **Sixth Row.** Jose Navarro, Radell Young, Robert Stoffel, William Gier, Tricia Soares, Lindsey Goding, Natalie McClellan, Jessica Cederblom and Jonathan Kersigo. **Seventh Row.** Melissa Gray, Sara Martin, Autumn Drickey, James Rubio, William Chaney, Benjamin Bilyeu, Kirsten Brown, Jennifer Castello, Timothy Bertino and Sajmir Gasa. **Eighth Row.** Gregory Clements, Timothy Battafarano, Brianna Brei, William Stacy, Tucker George, Brian Benes, Emily Boston, Zackary Breazeale, Patrick Olsen and Candice Rabiola. **Ninth Row.** Randall Woster, Alexander Wanitschke, Alvin Samuels, Natalie Lynch, Nicholas PierceCramer, Kevin Kuzelka and Daniel Susman.



Names continued. James Hubbard, Kyle Samuelson, Christopher Nelson, Kelleyanne Alt and Susan Sailors. *With permission of Marc May.*

President: Brianna Brei.

One of the oldest National Honors Societies in the country, NHS began in 1921 and members were selected for their grades and references. Members volunteered for the Hope Center, Botanical Gardens, Salvation Army Bell-Ringing, Ronald McDonald House Cookies and Teachers' Night Out for Valentine's Day.

Concert Band: Brass



Front Row. Jourdan Kellogg (9), Julian Jones (9), Preston Temple (9), Audrey Madison (12), Nathan Whittle (10), Kevin Mitchell (10), Daniel Ohren (11), Alexander Haskins (10), Justin Young (11), Mark Vondrasek (9) and Connor Magnuson (9). **Second Row.** Dana Bottger (9), Ellen Danford (10), Samuel Kincaid (10), Brianna Brei (12), Timothy Clough (10), Tyler Magnuson (10), Samantha Friesz (10), Samantha Lang (9), Jade Franklin (9), Gregory Clements (12) and Matthew Waszak (11). **Third Row.** Micheal Vian (9), Andrew Minturn (11), William Chaney (12), Joseph Iwen (12), Grant Anderson (12), Andrew Haskins (12), Dantae Potter (11), Andrew Kroeger (10), Shannon Stennis (10), Connor Bailey (10), Adryanne Orduna (10) and Joel Amaya (9). **Back Row.** Jessica Volker (11) and Rashad Johnson (9). *With permission of Marc May.*

The marching band helped open Seemann Stadium. It performed a new song, "Flight," for the event.

Paintball Club

Front Row. Elvis Servellon (10), Raja Philip (10), sponsor Nathan Hill, Briauna Armendariz (10) and Andrew Shirley (10). **Back Row.** Aelea Armendariz (9) Christopher Manzer (11).
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Daniel Baker (10).

The club was founded by students this year who wanted to go and shoot paintballs. The club was a place for friends to hang out together.



Concert Band: Percussion



Front Row. Aaron Hough (10), Mychal Davis (11), Jonathan SeEVERS (10), Kevin Anderson (12), Sean Olson (10), Israel Pommells (11) and Morgan Shumaker (11). **Second Row.** Jamar Fraction (9), Todd Alba (9), Dusty Davis (9), Danniell Ciembor (10), Trevor Moore (11), Kolbey Wallington (9), Eldon Rowlett (11) and Michael Greenberg (12). **Back Row.** Michael Schneider (11), Tyler Payne (9), Aryannah Conrad (9), Nicholas O'Bradovich (9), Andrew Wahl (10), Jane Hartig (11), Benjamin Brich (10), Sonya Rhine (11) and Francesca Hannah (11).
With permission of Marc May.

President: Abigail Prest (12). This was the first year the band marched. It helped with the opening of the Seemann Stadium.

South Sudanese Club



Front Row. Sponsor Martha Williams-Hayes, Regina Antony (10), Nyapine Chuol (11), Nyachang Gatluak (9), Tethloach Jock (10) and Tethloach Ret (9).

Photo by Tanika Cooper.

President: Nyapine Chuol.

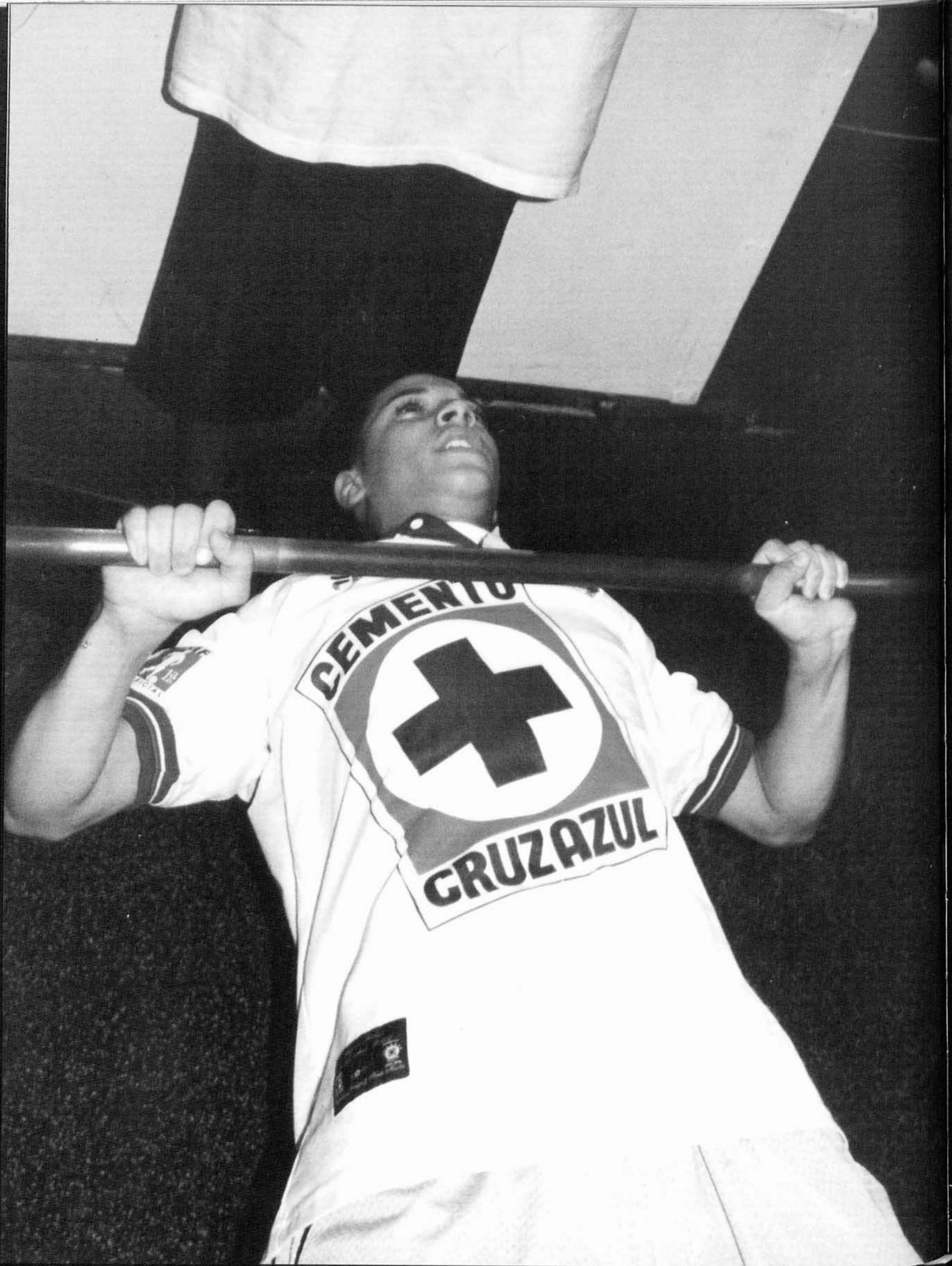
The club was founded four years ago by six Sudanese seniors who wanted to explore opportunities in higher education and to help support their efforts to graduate. The club went on college tours and in the past has had classes to teach written Nuer, the first language of many of its members.

Concert Band: Woodwinds



Front Row. Alexandra Greene (9), Paul Fey (9), Abigail Prest (12), Jeehyun Yoe (12), Hiba Ahmad (12), Erika Koenig (9), Anna McMahon (12), Emily Waldo (11), Stephanie Huetter (12), Kaitlyn Rathman (10), Tiffany Culton (10) and Sandra Carroll (9). **Second Row.** Linda Hannah (9), Shelly McLaughlin (10), Derek Noel (10), Ben McGuire (10), Lashae Young (9), Asia Smith (10), Leah Meyer (12), Aimee Koenig (11), Jill Daugherty (11), Alexandria Hodge (9) and Chloe McPherson (9). **Third Row.** Zachary Lahowetz (9), Crystal Overgaard (9), Elizabeth Erikson (10), Robert Al-Greene (11), Christopher Nelson (12), James Nielson (11), Jennifer Mach (12), David Rubio (9) and Aaron Smith-Shull (11). **Back Row.** Jennifer Rue (12), Kailah Bailey (9), Devan Hardy (10), Nicholas Banks (9), Martin Kaplan (11), Anthony Lopez (9), Radell Young (12) and Benjamin Thomas (10). *With permission of Marc May.*

The band played at football and basketball games and practiced before school.



it started with conditioning and moved to practices. All the athletes were filled with confidence, hopes and dreams. They received their motivation from their coaches, their parents and friends. Some had to start the season off with new coaches, and many of the sports teams had inexperienced players. They all got through the season as best they could. No matter what the outcome of their season, they kept their heads up. Their team spirit flowed through each other and through us as well.



From Left. Junior Varsity player Patrick Byrne (10) kneels down while trying to watch the action on the field. Courtney Griffith (11) (left) tries to tag Amber Hamilton (11) before she touched the base. Coach Larry Andrews gives his players some tips before tennis practice was over. *Photos by Stephanie Wilhelm, Tanika Cooper and Clay Lomneth.*

Opposite page. Beauchamp Alejandro (12) lifts weights in his weight training/lifting class. While training, the instructors played music from the popular radio stations. The weight training/lifting equipment was some of the best in Nebraska. Many students took the class to help them keep in shape when they were not playing a sport. *Photo by Molly Mullen.*

Scoreboard

Varsity Football

9/2/05-
vs. Omaha North
35-13 W

9/9/05
vs. Omaha Westside
34-0 L

9/16/05
vs. Omaha Burke
26-14 L

9/23/05
vs. Omaha Benson
16-0 W

9/30/05
vs. Bellevue West
56-42 L

10/7/05
vs. Pap/LaVista South
21-13 W

10/14/05
vs. Millard West
33-7 L

10/21/05
vs. Creighton Prep
28-7 L

10/26/05
vs. Omaha South
34-26 W

11/2/06-Districts
vs. Creighton Prep
24-0 L

Season Record: 4-6

the time has come

Football coach retires after leading Eagles for nearly three decades

by clay lomneth

One of the biggest highlights over the last 32 years was 1984 when Central beat Burke in the State playoffs in football. The man who was behind that win, the only one of its kind in the Omaha Public Schools (OPS), is retiring at the end of the year.

Football coach Joe McMenamain qualifies for the 85 rule or early incentive retirement. When a teacher reaches the age of 55 and his experience with the school district added together is 85, then he can retire.

"Just about everyone in OPS when they hit 55, they retire from the school system," McMenamain said.

McMenamin said he thought the football team had a successful season this year. He said seven of the 10 teams it played were ranked in the top 10.

"You can't really judge our season by wins and losses, necessarily," he said.

McMenamin said the hardest part about retiring would be leaving the team. He said this year he had fairly young players and he would miss them.

"I'll for sure follow the guys and give them support," he said.

After spending four years at Horace Mann Junior High, McMenamain started coaching at Central in 1978.

Coming into Central, McMenamain said he liked it because of its history and reputation for academics.

He said the football program at Central was weak and the school was more known for basketball.

"I was a little bit nervous," McMenamain said. "Maybe I was anticipating how we were going to do."

From 1978 until 1984, McMenamain said each year the football team got better.

He said it qualified for State nearly every one of those years.

But, in 1984, McMenamain said things fell together for the Eagles because they had a group of talented players.

McMenamin said he did not remember what the exact score was, but he knew Central beat Burke by two or three touchdowns.

McMenamin said there wasn't any additional pressure to win more State championships after that game.

He said expectations at Central were to just put forward a good football team and improve, no matter what happened the previous year.

McMenamin said he didn't know what he would end up doing after the year was over.

"I'm not sure, yet," he said. "I'll be doing something."

Ronnell Grixby (10) has played football for McMenamain for two years and said he has gotten to know the head coach. Grixby said with the players they will have next year the Eagles will have a fairly strong team, but the new coach could take some time to get used to.

"It's going to take time for us to rebuild," he said.

Grixby said McMenamain was a good coach to work.

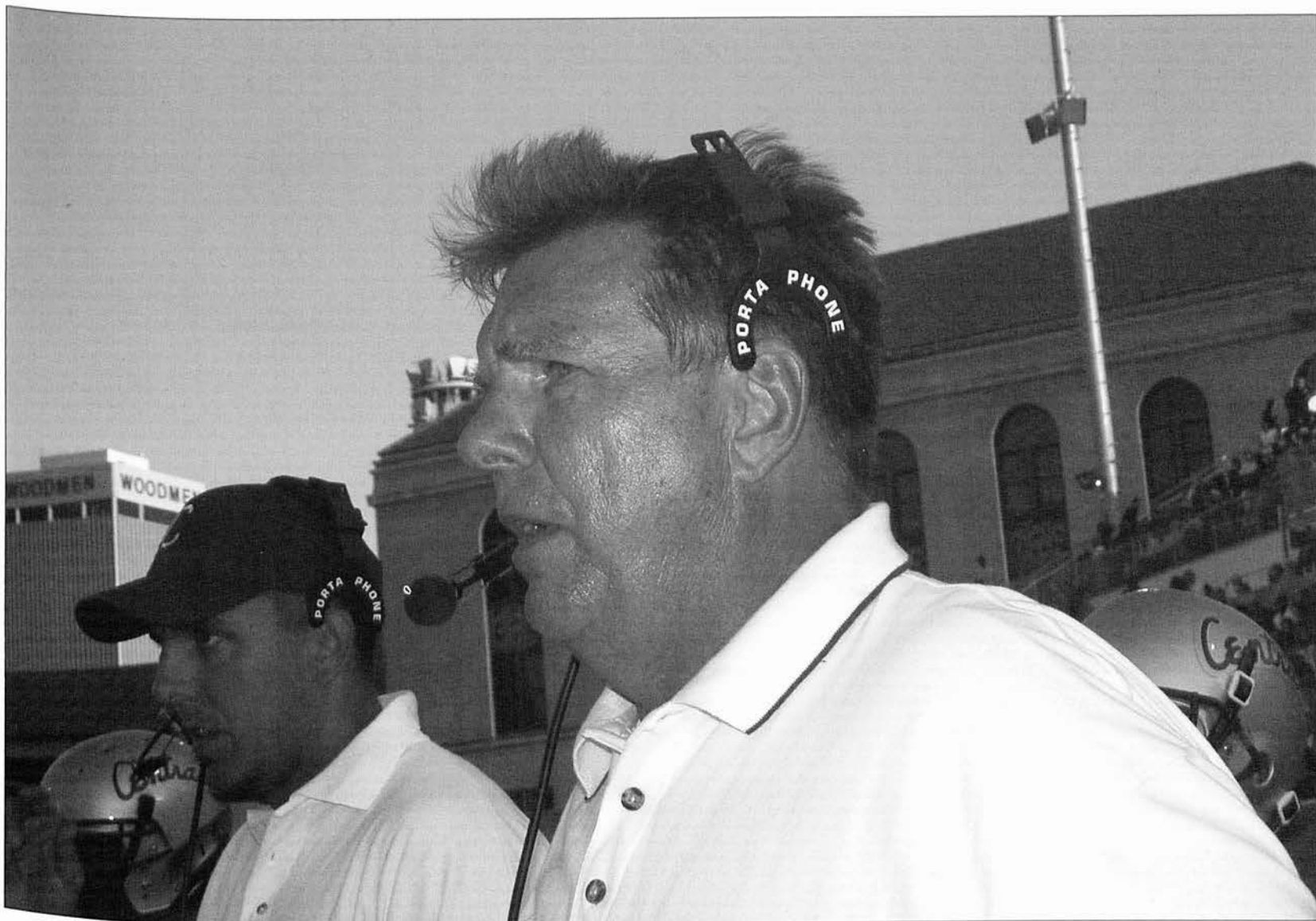
"He really cares about his players," he said. "He's a good person to know."

Grixby said McMenamain has helped him improve his football game by giving him a more positive attitude about things.

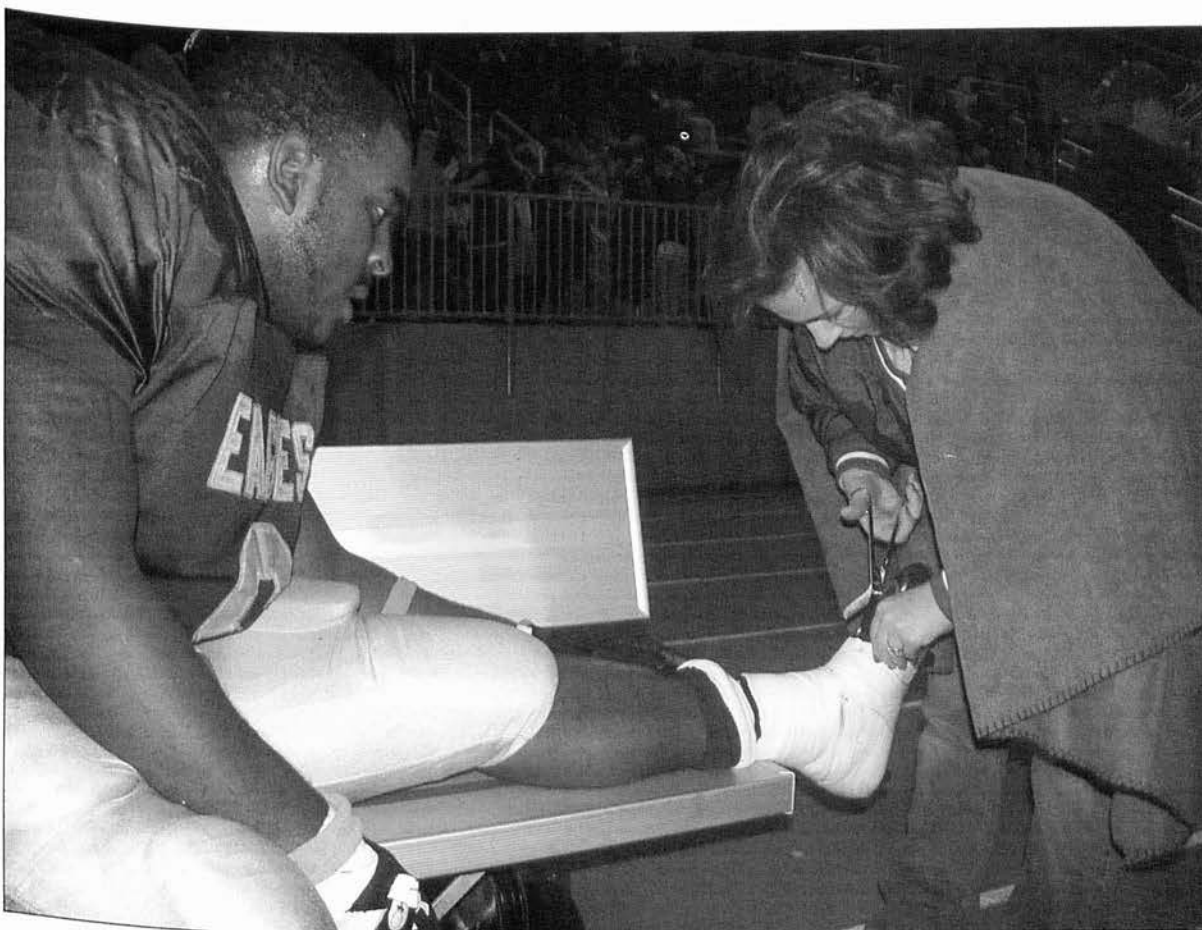
"He's made a leader out of me," Grixby said. "He makes a leader out of everybody."

Grixby said it would be strange without McMenamain next year.

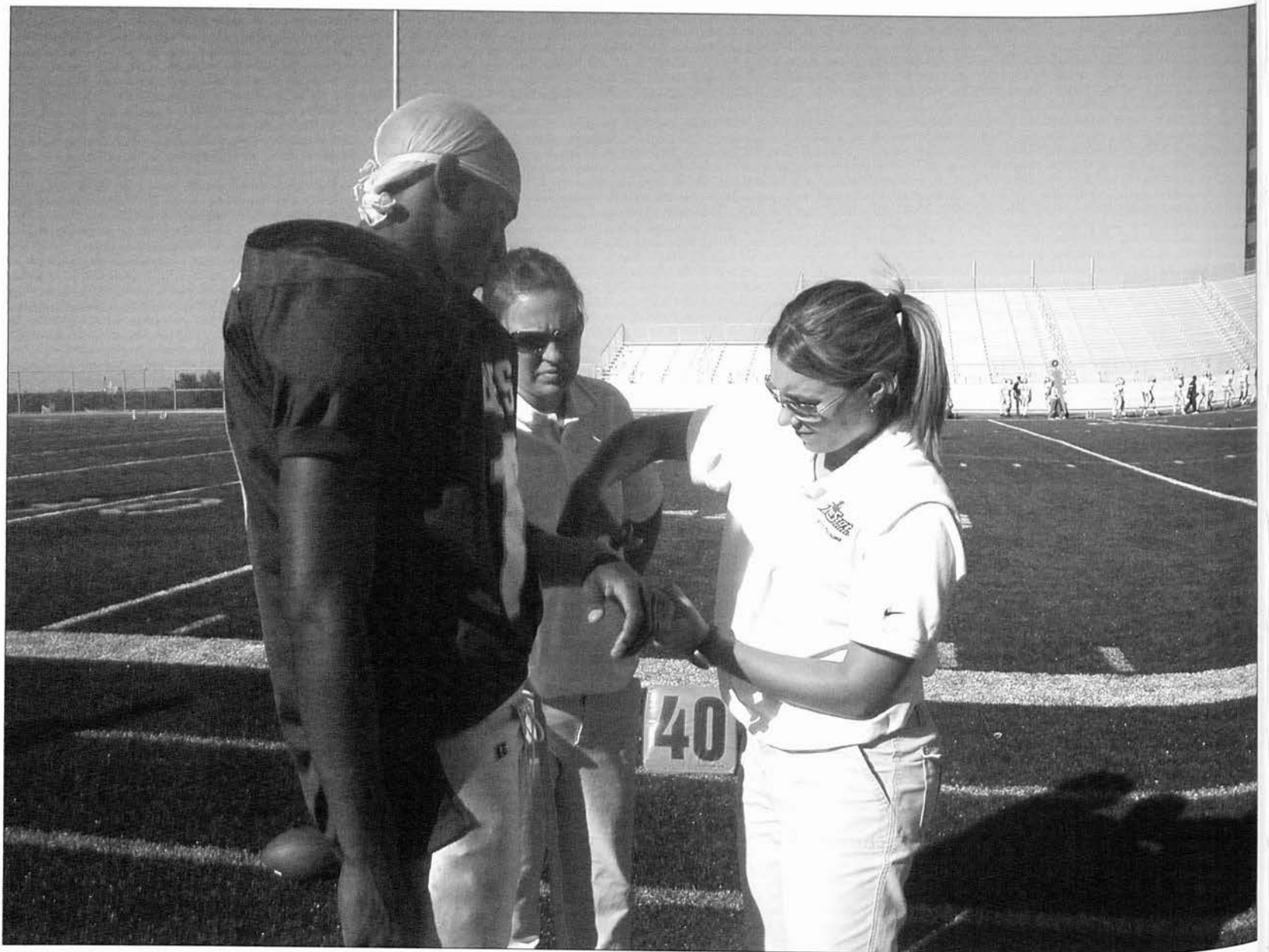
"A lot of players are attached to coach Mac," he said. "It should be interesting."



Above. Coach Joe McMenemy talks to another coach through his headset. The coaches used their headsets to relay messages between all the coaches on the sideline.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.



Left. Athletic Trainer Suzzi Young cuts off the bandage off a player's ankle because his foot was throbbing. During that same game, another player hurt his ankle and was on crutches for several days after the game.
Photo by Stephanie Wilhelm.



Above. Athletic trainer helps JV football player Vondrae Tostenson (9) who has sprained his wrist. The school had a doctor from Creighton Medical Center who helped out CHS athletes with physical therapy.
Photo by Stephanie Wilhelm.

Right. JV football player Patrick Byrne (10) kneels because a fellow teammate has been injured on the field. This tradition was done by all football players and the cheerleaders at the games.
Photo by Stephanie Wilhelm.



football, it's in the family

Despite pressure, student becomes one of the main running backs

by tanika cooper

He went from playing little league football on the Lil' Vikings to playing three positions on junior varsity (JV) and varsity football team.

Terrell Mayhue (10) said football coach Joe McMenamain scouted him when he was playing on the little league team.

One position Mayhue performed well was the point after the touchdown (PAT) kick. He was chosen for the kicking position because he was already experienced in that skill.

When lining up to kick, he said he had only a simple strategy. He took three steps back and two steps to the left because he was left footed.

"I don't kick with the inside of my foot like most kickers," he said. "I'm more comfortable kicking with the tip of my toe."

He said he tried to picture himself successfully making the kick.

"My visions happen in a matter of seconds," he said. "I developed that form of kicking myself."

When the games were close and the game depended on if he made the kick or not, he said his heart pounded, he would sweat and was very nervous.

"I held all my excitement inside," he said.

Mayhue said he was very quiet and when it came to showing emotions, he rarely did.

Although he said he felt very disappointed when he missed kicks, his teammates would always try to build up his confidence.

"He's a very, very talented young player," McMenamain said.

Not only was Mayhue the JV kicker, but he was also the running back (RB) for JV and varsity.

He said the job of the RB was to run through the opponents defense and gain some yards.

McMenamin said Mayhue was able to play in a few varsity games.

Mayhue said his favorite play was the "pro back 52 gut."

This meant the quarter back would hand the ball off to the RB and then the RB would run straight up the middle.

If they were in a situation where it was the third down and they had to gain two or three yards, they would use the "pro back 52 gut" play.

He said there weren't too many trick plays, but one of the main trick plays was the "58 jet." This play called for him to run with ball to the outside of the field. He said the numbers signified which side of the field he would have to run.

McMenamin said he had a couple runs off the "58 jet."

All even numbers meant he would have to run to the right and odd numbers meant he had to run to the left.

Mayhue said he had a lot to live up to because practically his whole family had gone to Central at one point. He said he was an only child so he didn't have to deal with sibling rivalry.

He said coach McMenamain had been the coach for everyone in his family.

Mayhue's mother had coach McMenamain as a track coach and while she was on the team she set a few records, which still stand.

He said the good thing about his family members all having the same coach was they warned him of how McMenamain always expected the best from his players.

McMenamin said the future looked bright for the young star.

"I wouldn't be surprised if he's our starting kicker and running back (next season)," McMenamain said.

Mayhue said he had no problem with coach McMenamain's determination because he understood his coach and wanted to do his best like his teammates.

"(The season was) good for me because this was my first year on varsity and I helped the team a lot in certain situations," he said.

Scoreboard

JV Football

9/1/05
vs. Bellevue East
14-6 L

9/8/05
vs. Omaha Benson
19-0 W

9/15/05
vs. Omaha North
14-23 W

9/22/05
vs. Omaha Burke
24-14 L

9/29/05
vs. Westside
21-8 L

10/6/05
vs. Omaha South
21-0 W

10/13/05
vs. Pap/LaVista
27-24 W

As of 10/15/05

Scoreboard

Freshman Football

8/31/05
vs. Creighton Prep
54-14 L

9/7/05
vs. Bellevue East
35-34 L

9/15/05
vs. Omaha Benson
16-8 W

9/21/05
vs. Omaha North
26-20 L

9/28/05
vs. Omaha Burke
24-12 W

10/5/05
vs. Westside
43-12 L

10/13/05
vs. Omaha South
52-18 W

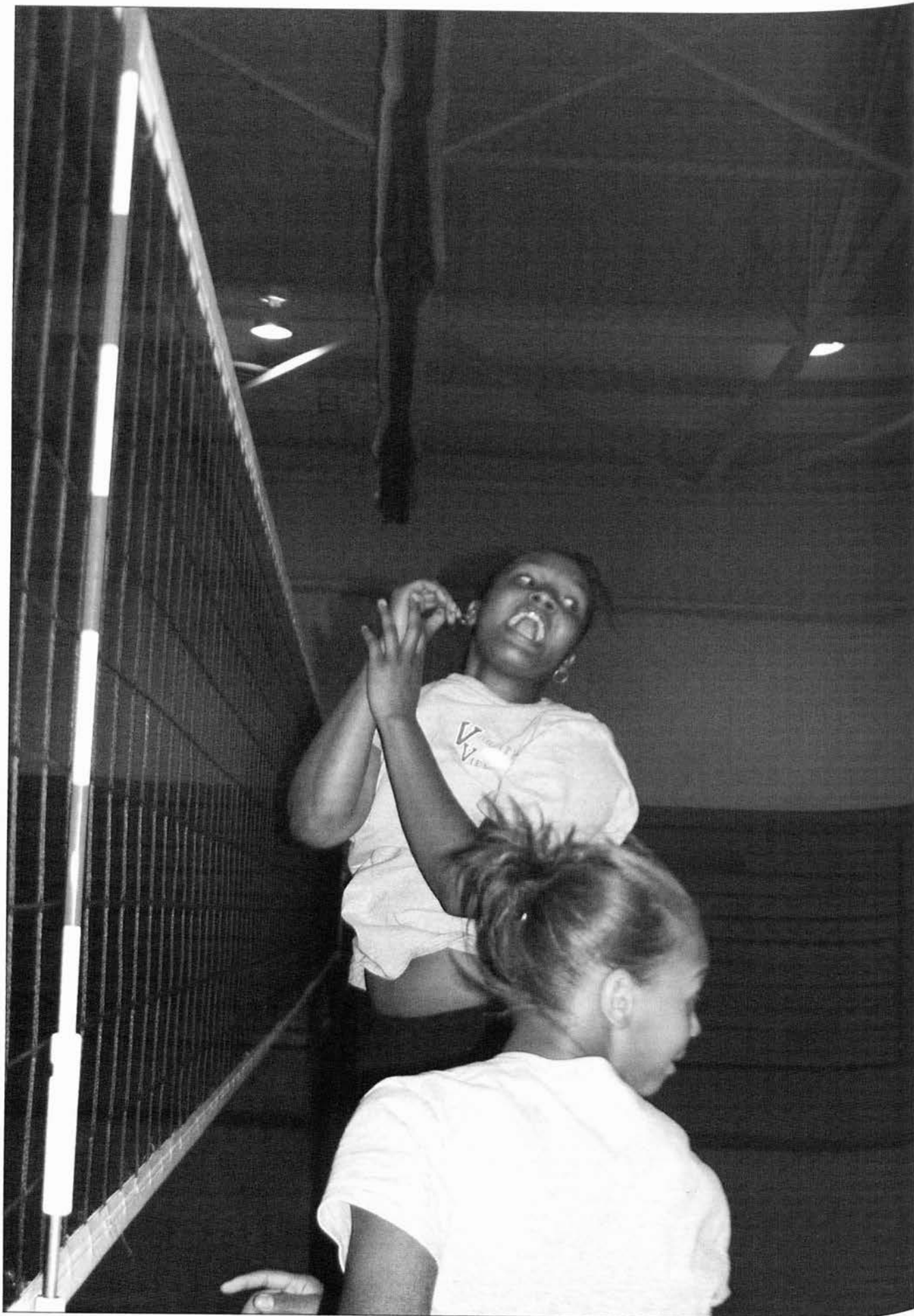
10/20/05
vs. Pap/LaVista South
34-31 W

As of 10/21/05

Scoreboard

Varsity Volleyball

9/3/05
vs. Millard North
0-2 L
vs. Omaha North
2-0 W
vs. Millard South
2-1 W
9/6/05
vs. Millard North
0-2 L
vs. Lincoln High
2-0 W
9/13/05
vs. Burke
1-2 L
9/22/05
vs. Bellevue East
0-2 L
vs. Omaha North
2-0 W
9/23/05
vs. Papio South
0-2 L
vs. Millard North
0-2 L
9/24/05
vs. Omaha Burke
1-2 L
vs. Papio South
1-2 L
9/27/05
vs. Pap/LaVista
1-2 L
9/30/05
vs. Northwest
2-0 W
vs. Ralston
0-2 L
10/1/05
vs. Crete
2-1 W
vs. Ralston
0-2 L
vs. Nebraska City
1-2 L
10/6/05
vs. Omaha Westside
1-2 L
vs. Omaha Benson
2-1 W
10/11/05
vs. Omaha South
W
10/14/05
Roncalli
2-1 W
10/15/05
vs. Omaha Benson
1-2 L
vs. Omaha North
2-0 W
10/17/05
vs. Millard South
0-2 L
vs. Bellevue West 0-2 L
10/20/05
vs. Millard North
0-2 L
vs. Omaha Northwest
2-0 W



Varsity player Cherylle Leffall (12) (jumping) gets ready to spike the ball. The team was led by Jessica Carl (12) and Leffall (12). They are best friends and had been playing on varsity together since freshman year.

Photo by Jared Dittman.

opposites attract

Volleyball captains play, lead together as best friends

by stephanie wilhelm

"It (volleyball) is something I never thought I'd be good at," Cherylle Leffall (12) said. "I do it for my mom."

She said when she was playing, all she was thinking about was that she had to win.

Coach Jodi Brown said they were voted captains by their teammates.

She said they got along very well.

"Team chemistry was our strength," Brown said.

Manager Zakiya King (11) said the team got along really well. There were no problems and if there was one, it was squashed and did not matter.

She said Leffall is a great person.

"I like her attitude," King said. "She's one of the nicest people I've ever met."

Leffall was captain along with Jessica Carl (12).

"Carl was a great leader. She was more of a vocal leader," Leffall said. "I led by action."

Carl said she's very vocal and when she got frustrated she said Leffall calmed her down.

"We're opposites," Carl said. "It's perfect."

They have been playing together since freshman year when they both made varsity.

"Everyone's different, but they were really positive," King said. "Cherylle made it easier, though."

Leffall said when she made varsity freshman year she was really surprised.

She said she never expected to make varsity, but thought she would make junior varsity (JV).

Carl also said she did not think she would make varsity.

"I was ecstatic," Carl said. "It was exciting being a little freshman on the team."

Leffall said someone at the YMCA asked if she'd be interested in playing volleyball.

She said she agreed and was on a select team through YMCA at the age of 8. She had been playing volleyball for 11 years.

She said she liked team sports because she liked working with people, which she said was the best part of volleyball.

She said the hardest part was conditioning because she had to run stairs, lift and a lot more. For club teams, she said conditioning lasted all year long.

Leffall was recruited, for the first time, to be on a club team called Nebraska-Iowa Top 10.

It was a club volleyball team through Iowa Western Community College (IWCC). The season started in November and ended in June.

The team played other club teams that for the most part had college coaches in Nebraska and Iowa.

Carl also played on club teams.

She said she started in fourth grade on a team called River City. When she tried out, she said she didn't expect to make the A team.

She said she was unsure if she would play volleyball in college.

"Basketball is a contact sport," Leffall said. "In physical and volleyball isn't."

She said the main struggle she had on the school's team was people not getting along, but team members were closer this year.

Carl said she preferred volleyball to softball because she played with girls she liked and it was fun being on the court.

"Not winning is hard to deal with," Leffall said. "We're all from different levels; some are collegiate and some are beginners. It's hard to click."

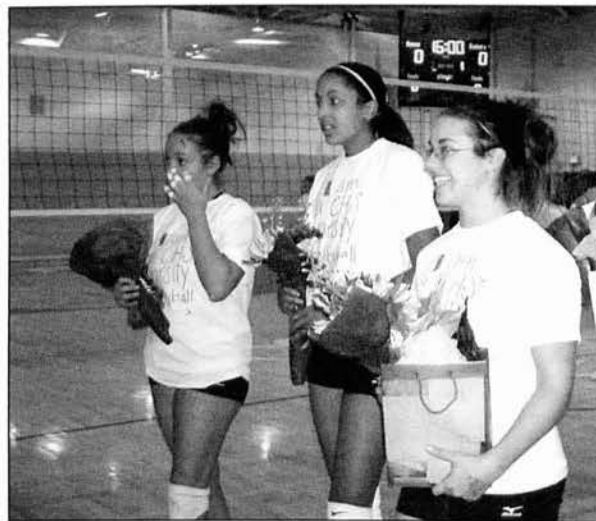
She said her goals were team oriented, win the majority of games and make it to State.

Leffall said she never suffered any injuries.

She said it's hard to balance time in between practices and homework, but there usually was not a conflict because the club team practiced three times a week and on Sundays.

Carl said she learned about hard work and time management. She said she learned how much people depended on her.

Brown said the overall season was good, but it was a tough schedule. She said the 10 losses were to teams that made it to the State tournament.



Jessica Carl (12) (left), Jocelin Ford (12), Kelsey Kroeger (12) and fellow varsity volleyball players receive flowers, teddy bears and other gifts. Many of the girls also played on a club team. They learned to balance school work with their many practices and other obligations. Photo by Patrick O'Malley.

Scoreboard

Reserve Volleyball

9/3/05
vs. Millard South
2-1 W
vs. Omaha North
2-0 W
vs. Millard North
0-2 L
9/6/05
vs. Lincoln High
2-0 W
vs. Millard North
0-2 L
9/13/05
vs. Omaha Burke
0-3 L
9/22/05
vs. Omaha North
2-0 W
vs. Bellevue East
0-2 L
9/23/05
vs. Pap/LaVista South
0-2 L
vs. Omaha Burke
1-2 L
vs. Millard North
0-2 L
9/24/05
vs. Pap/LaVista South
1-2 L
9/27/05
vs. Pap/LaVista
0-0 T
9/30/05
vs. Ralston
0-2 L
vs. Omaha Northwest
2-0 W
10/1/05
vs. Nebraska City
1-2 L
vs. Ralston
0-2 L
vs. Crete
2-1 W
10/6/05
vs. Omaha Benson
2-1 W
vs. Westside
1-2 L
10/11/05
vs. Omaha South
3-1 W
10/14/05
vs. Roncalli Catholic
2-0 W
10/15/05
vs. Omaha North
2-0 W
vs. Omaha Benson
1-2 L

high fives

all around

Volleyball players focus on the positives, unity

by theresa vacha

"Our team really needed help resurfacing as a team, and coach Larson was the one who could do that for us," Rachel Woolard (10) said.

Woolard said she found inspiration in reserve volleyball coach Brent Larson's focus on team unity throughout the year, which helped improve the team as a whole.

"We were having problems working together last year, which is why we didn't do so well," Woolard said. "He (coach Larson) found ways to get us motivated; he promoted team unity, which is one of the most important things on a team."

Woolard said Larson brought the team together by talking to them before every practice, going over recent games and pointing out their positives.

Unlike the former coach, Larson didn't get upset when they had difficulties, he simply stopped to talk with them and worked on improving instead of focusing on mistakes.

"He keeps up the good spirit and gets us motivated," Samantha Friesz (10) said.

Coaching is not always easy, but Larson made sure he did not get angry with any of the players.

"No matter how much we mess up," Woolard said. "He could get frustrated, but he didn't take it out on us."

Larson said the sophomores who made the team knew what was expected of them when they tried out.

"With the summer training and a week of tryouts, I think they started to see what it was going to take to have a successful team," he said.

Patricia Cobb (10) said Larson provided firm but helpful instruction in the beginning which she knew would last all season.

"He made us very disciplined," she said. "During a drill, if we didn't get it right, we would have consequences."

The teammates agreed that Larson's undivided coaching policy and positive attitude made all the difference when it came to learning volleyball.

"I played better when I was on the same page as the other girls," Woolard said.

She added that Larson had a very effective way to coach every practice.

"Coach Larson calmed us down by stopping to talk to us to get us motivated," Woolard said. "Then, when we were calm, we were able to work on our skills better."

She said Larson coached one-on-one with the players to help them improve personal weaknesses.

"I was having trouble hitting, so he gave another option while working on things I didn't do well," she said.

Woolard said she was glad she made reserve because she has become a better player individually with Larson's coaching.

Although Larson coached a new group of sophomores every season, team spirit has always been one of the most essential principles for him.

"Having girls learn the game is one thing," Larson said. "But even if you have girls with good talent, if there is not team unity, you won't go very far."

Woolard said one way Larson persuaded the team to work together was by encouraging them to give positive feedback to each other.

"Small involvements like that made all the difference on the team," she said. "I tried to follow Larson's lead and keep the spirit, too."

Woolard's enthusiasm for practicing this kind of team unity was apparent to the team.

"It was fun to watch her play," Larson said. "Throughout practice and in games, she was always trying hard."

Larson said Woolard was one of the key members when it came to making sure everyone was included and working together.

"Rachel was one of the hardest workers that we had," Larson said. "She was always hustling and moving and was often the first to start the high fives."

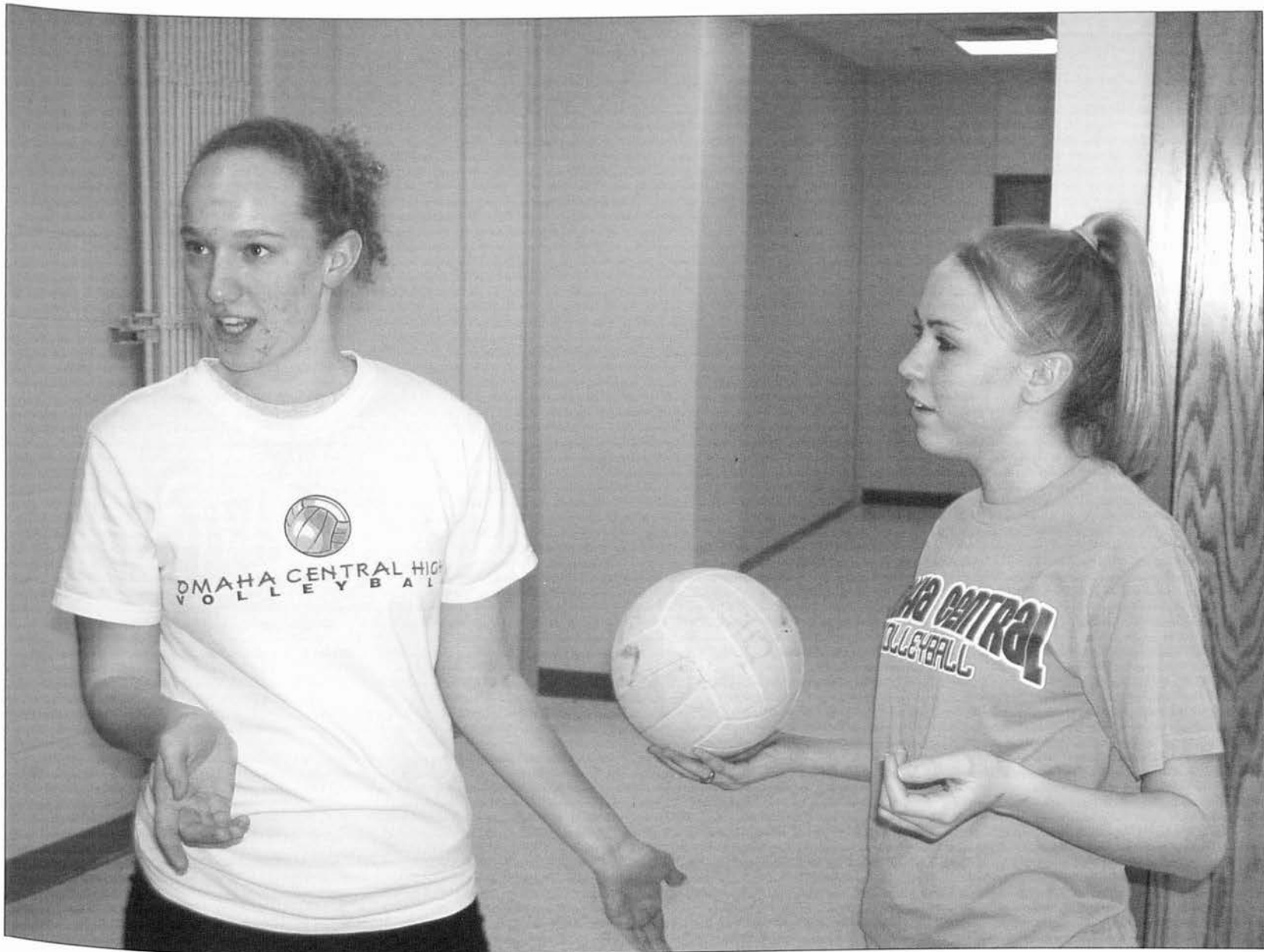
Larson was not the only one who noticed Rachel's dedication.

"Everyone always has their place on the team," Friesz said. "But Rachel really tried hard to get people motivated."

Cobb added that Rachel never had any negative thing to say and helped keep the team spirit.

Working hard at improving personal and team goals was what the whole season was about for Woolard.

"We had a lot of talent, but it had to combine together to make us better," Woolard said. "Coach Larson was really the one who showed us that was possible."



Inspiration from the players

What was good about the JV team?



"There wasn't any fighting this year, we all got along really well."

-Maya Doghman (10)



"(Volleyball) gives you something to focus on."

-Devan Hardy (10)



"Coming into JV volleyball was good because we played as a team."

-Wynter Davis (9)

Patricia Cobb (10) and Angela Carbonell (10) discuss strategies for next season. Many girls played on club teams throughout the year.
Photo by Theresa Vacha.

Scoreboard

Reserve Volleyball

10/17/05
vs. Millard South
0-2 L

vs. Bellevue West
0-2 L

10/20/05
vs. Millard North
0-2 L

10/25/05
vs. Westside
2-1 W
vs. Bellevue East
0-2 L

11/03/05
vs. Bellevue East
0-3L

vs. Omaha Benson
3-2W



running

never stops

Cross country starts practice during summer with big push

Scoreboard

Boys cross country

9/1/05
Pap/LaVista South Invite

Boys: 6th Place
Girls: 2nd Place

9/3/05

Burke Invite
Boys: 4th Place
Girls: 4th Place

9/9/05

Central Invite
Boys: 3rd Place
Girls: 1st Place

9/12/05

Class of Metro
Boys: 4th Place
Girls: 6th Place

9/20/05

Creighton Prep Invite
Boys: 4th Place
Girls: 3rd Place

9/24//05

Omaha Bryan
Boys: Sophomores 2nd
Juniors 3rd
Seniors 3rd
Girls: Seniors 1st

9/30//05

Millard West Invite
Boys: 5th Place
Girls: 9th Place

10/6/05

Metro Invite
Boys: 13th Place
Girls: 7th Place

10/13/05

Districts
Boys: 5th Place
Girls: 4th Place

by jared dittman

It's not how fast a person can run, it is how long he can run fast. There is only one way to get that prize and that's with practice.

"No matter how hard I thought the workouts were at the time, they were essential to a good team," Morgan Shumaker (11) said.

Members of cross country started training in June to prepare for the season that did not start until September. The practices were all non-mandatory yet many of the athletes who were planning to be on varsity were there every day.

"The biggest thing in cross country is putting in the mileage during the summer," boys cross country coach Shannon Stenger said.

This was the first time the runners practiced during the summer. In previous years, many athletes would not come until a week before school would start, which made it difficult to reach the amount of training the runners needed to get in.

"We had to go into the season with a good base," Stenger said. "The season does not give us much time to get into shape because it is too short."

Stenger said the workouts changed because he knew most of the guys pretty well and he knew what they were capable of.

The returning runners knew this year would be different because it was Stenger's second year and he had high expectations.

"It really helped out that Stenger knew most of us from last year and what each runner was capable of," Dylan McMahon (10) said.

Stenger ran cross country and track in high school and throughout college.

"As being a runner, I know exactly what they were going through," Stenger said.

This was Robert Stoffel's (12) fourth year on the team and from running in previous years he said he felt like it was time to change.

"We had to get better as a team," Stoffel said.

Many of the athletes who went to the summer workouts thought they had changed a lot from the previous year.

The distance they would run each day was increased and the intensity of the speed workouts went up.

"We ran four times a week and it was a lot better; it was more like real practice except all summer long," Stoffel said.

Joseph Shaw (11) said Stenger was really serious like the runners.

He thought the attitude change helped the runners accomplish more.

All of the workouts in the summer had the runners running long distances.

The mileage would go up as each week until the start of school when the team was running an average of six to eight miles a day.

"Coach Stenger definitely took out some speed and added more distance runs," McMahon said.

The team went into the season with over two months of training.

"The fact that a lot of people came during the summer just made it an easy transition," Stoffel said.

Once the season started, the results were seen almost immediately.

Many of the runners could not believe they were competing with guys they had never dreamed of running with.

Shaw said his times wouldn't have changed if it weren't for the summer training.

"Everyone improved at least 45 seconds or more," Stenger said.

The team members thought the structured practice schedule made them try harder.

"I was just running more, and I didn't give up," McMahon said. "In the end, it paid off and I took two minutes off of my time."

With spending such a large amount of time with the team, many of the runners thought they got more than just a workout out of practices.

"We built motivation from each workout," Shumaker said. "That is the most important thing."

The runners said they felt a lot more comfortable running with each other because all of the training had brought their times a lot closer together.

"I think the workouts that coach picked out were essential to how the team performed as a whole," Shumaker said.

By the end of the season, the team was faced with its biggest challenge.

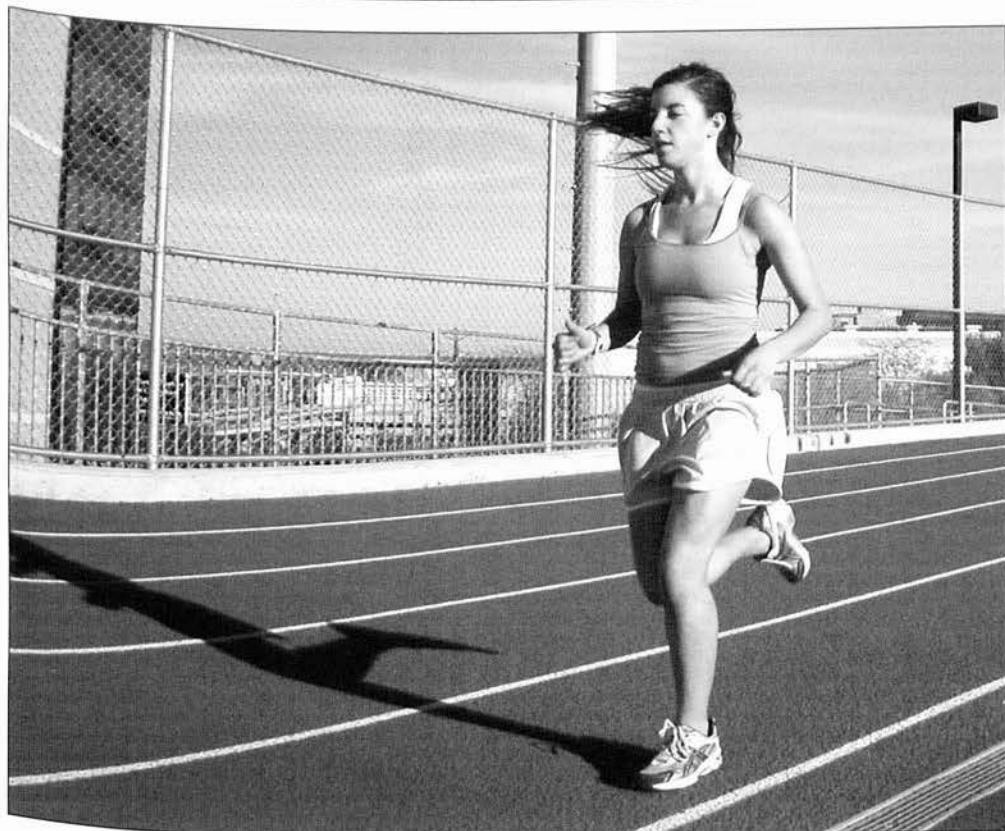
It all came down to districts to see if they could make it into State.

The team did not make it to State, yet the coach was still pleased with the performances.

"The team made huge improvements," he said.

Many of the varsity runners ran track in the spring and continued training through summer.

"The training we did put us in a good position for next year because we can build on what we already have," Stenger said.



Left. Allison Gorga (12) practices on the new track. Track members no longer had to travel to a park to practice. CHS however, was not able to host any invites at the new track because it was not regulation. *Photo by Jared Dittman.*

Above. Daniel Susman (12) and Diego Ledesma (11) compete in an invite. Because of summer practices, runners' times improved by at least 45 seconds. *With permission of Trent Lodge.*

Scoreboard

Varsity Softball	
8/25/05	Omaha Benson 15-0 W
8/26/05	vs. Omaha Bryan 5-7 L
	vs. Bellevue East 0-7 L
8/30/0	vs. Bellevue East 4-7 L
8/31/05	vs. Omaha Mercy 4-8 L
9/1/05	vs. Omaha Benson 16-1 W
9/3/05	vs. Omaha North 5-1 W
	vs. Elkhorn 0-10 L
	vs. Omaha Bryan 6-3 W
9/6/05	vs. Pap/LaVista 2-11 L
9/8/05	vs. Bellevue West 2-9 L
9/10/05	vs. Omaha South 4-3 W
9/13/05	vs. Omaha Northwest 14-0 W
9/15/05	vs. Omaha North 3-7 L
9/16/05	vs. Gross Catholic 3-1 W
	vs. Ralston 1-11 L
9/17/05	vs. Lincoln Southeast 1-5 L
	vs. Pap/LaVista South 3-4 L
9/20/05	vs. Omaha South 5-3 W
9/22/005	vs. Westside 2-8 L

stephanie wilhelm

tripping it up

Junior works through injury to develop softball skills

"I broke my collarbone before school started because I tripped," Kelly Wiczorek (11) said.

She said she had to wear a brace to keep her shoulders straight.

"I couldn't tell I broke my collarbone till I was in the emergency room," she said.

Wiczorek said she was out for about a month, but it didn't affect her play.

"I was upset and disappointed because it was my first year playing for Central," Wiczorek said.

Amber Hamilton (11) also suffered an injury after the season ended. She tore her ACL, a ligament in her knee.

"It hurt too bad to start crying," Hamilton said.

Wiczorek said she transferred from Burke because she had some problems with some of the girls there.

There were also six different pitchers on varsity, so she wasn't able to play much.

She said she had been playing varsity since freshman year.

"Central all around was better," she said. "When we played Burke it was very close, but we lost because we fell apart at the end."

She said she chose Central instead of a different school because some of her older sisters graduated from Central and they talked about how good Central was and how much better it was than the rest of the schools.

She said she has been pitching since she was 8.

"I grew up around it (softball)," Wiczorek said. "All of my older sisters played it."

Hamilton said she started playing softball in fourth grade.

She said her school offered it and her friends played, so she joined the team at

Our Lady of the Lourdes.

Hamilton has played since freshman year and since sophomore has played on varsity. She said in the past three years, the team has gone through three coaches.

She said the new coach Richard Bernstein had fun drills.

"He kept it fun," Hamilton said. "We learned something new. It was never the same routine."

Wiczorek said she had no previous injuries, just a couple of times the ball came back at her.

Wiczorek said her favorite part was having fun and making new friends.

"(My goal is) to work with everyone and to kick butt coming back next year," Wiczorek said.

She said she is playing for Suburban Pride during the summer.

She said she heard about it from some old coaches and heard the summer league team was looking for a player.

"I was going to have to tryout," Wiczorek said. "They talked to my old coaches and took me without a tryout."

She said she also played for Echoes Extreme.

"My sister coached the team," Wiczorek said. "I started when I was under 14."

Wiczorek said the players all really liked Central's new coach and were really excited for the upcoming year.

She said they wouldn't be losing any seniors like they had the previous year.

She said she was hoping the team would do better, but it did not have enough wild card plays (points for each game).

Hamilton said the players meshed well together.

"I've learned not to stick (worry) about the bad plays, but just to move on and fix it next time," Wiczorek said.



Above. Courtney Griffith (11) (left) and Amber Hamilton (11) play a mock softball game at a summer practice.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.



Left. Amanda Logan (11) practices catching during summer. The team had to adjust to a new coach, the third one in three years. Coach Bernstein did not work at Central.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.

Scoreboard

Varsity Softball

9/27/05
vs. Omaha Burke
2-6 L

9/30/05
vs. Millard North
2-11 L

10/1/05
vs. Westside
2-9 L
vs. Millard South
0-1 L

10/4/05
vs. Pap/LaVista South
3-4 L

10/6/05
vs. Lincoln Northeast
0-7 L
vs. Bellevue East
0-3 L
vs. Omaha Benson
12-0 W

Lora Kolobara (9) stretches her calf muscles. Coach Jodi Reeder scheduled the conditioning. Any member of the softball team could have worked out. They worked out their leg muscles a lot by running up and down the stairs and jumping rope. Reeder was excited for the early conditioning because she said she had just come from a training camp.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.



Xan Burgess
 Sarah Davis
 Melisa Dellutri
 Alicia Durkan



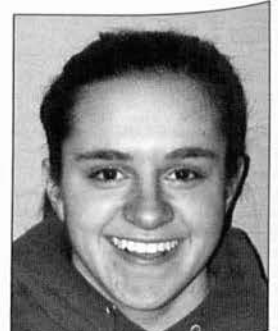
Caitlin Farrell
 Ashley Gunia
 Lora Kolobara
 Laura Kraft



Kayla Kros
 Reanna Limely
 Sarah Medeiros
 Rachel Newberry



Samantha Sheridan
 Kristi Spargen
 Hannah Spielman
 Catherine Venditte



practicing

the fundamentals

Players adjust to new season without a reserve squad

patrick o'malley

New adjustments were made to the scheduling and selection of players and teams this year, setting the junior varsity team (JV) team up with many young girls.

"We were a young team with a young team comes no experience," head coach Jodi Reeder said.

Rachel Newberry (11) said this year was completely different than the previous year because there were only two teams instead of three.

She said she felt this year was unlike previous ones because there weren't any cuts made during tryouts.

It was the first year without a reserve softball team.

Reeder said the reason was other schools did not have reserve teams and not as many girls tried out.

"Everyone was there making new friends," Newberry said.

Reeder said she had a lot of fun coaching the girls JV team.

She was an assistant coach for the varsity team as well.

"I think we progressed a lot from the beginning," Newberry said.

Newberry said she practiced with the varsity team so she didn't get a chance to see the girls in practice, but the team improved

tremendously.

"We did fundamentals every day to try and improve," Reeder said. "Tournament play was a major step up from the regular season play."

She said the team won the Bellevue tournament at its home field.

"They played with more enthusiasm," Reeder said.

She said they worked harder because of the pressure and competitiveness.

She said she felt most of the girls were there to have fun and did so.

"The girls are really nice; everyone got along pretty well," Reanna Limley (9) said.

Newberry said a lot of the girls had some previous experience before the season.

"Most of the girls that had played played for a recreational team," she said.

Limley said she had been playing softball since the first grade for her old school.

She said she sat in on the varsity games, but did not play.

She said she felt the girls were not very social outside games and practices.

Limley said she thought the JV girls needed to be more open. She said they didn't do as many outside activities as they should have.

She said she thought most of the girls were going to come back.

Schedule

JV Softball

8/25-26

South invite

8/30

Bellevue East

8/31

Omaha Mercy

9/1

Omaha Benson

9/2

Burke JV invite

9/3

North Invite

9/6

Pap/La Vista

9/8

Metro

9/10

Metro

9/13

Omaha Northwest

9/15

Omaha North

9/16-17

Pap/LaVista invite

9/20

Omaha South

9/22

Omaha Westside

9/27

Omaha Burke

9/29

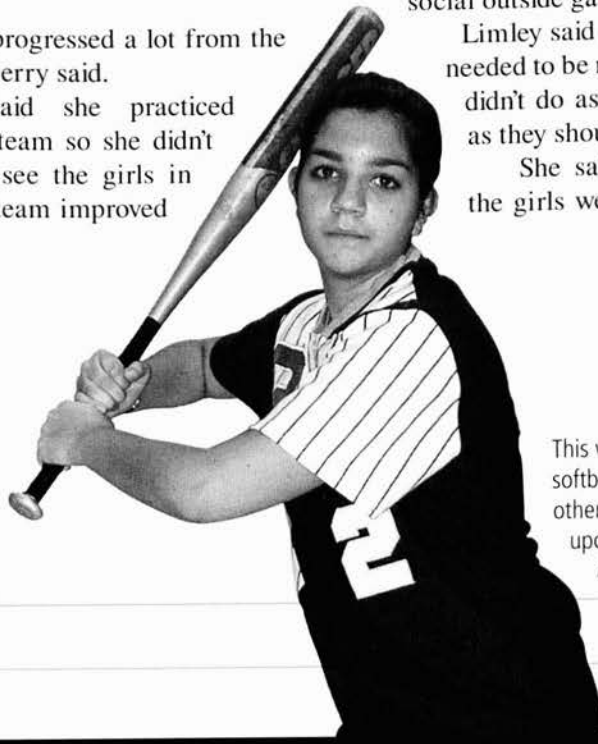
Millard North

10/1

Millard South invite

10/4

Pap/LaVista South



This was Kolobara's first year on the JV softball team. She conditioned with the other members in February to prepare for the upcoming season.

Photo by Tanika Cooper.



play hard or go home

Contributions from young players helped boys tennis team

by patrick o'malley

Slight changes, hard work and more experienced players characterized the boys varsity tennis season.

Head coach Larry Andrews had previously been coaching girls varsity tennis and was in his second year coaching the boys team.

He said he thought the season went really well.

"This was definitely the year to improve," Antonio Lopez (12) said.

Andrews said he had never had any freshmen before, and the two he received this year were two of the top players.

"We had two freshman players who contributed a lot," he said.

He said he felt the young and older more experienced players meshed together very well.

"I thought we played very competitively," he said.

Tournament play consisted of six players.

Andrews chose who played in the singles and doubles matches on how the duels and practices went or simply rotated who didn't play in the tournament.

"We played better in tournament because that's where we needed to play better," Kent Drickey (11) said.

Benjamin Bilyeu (12) thought tournaments were

harder because there are multiple matches to play so he got tired faster.

Bilyeu said it was the first year he had played doubles for the whole season and enjoyed it more than singles play.

"You're playing with someone else and if you get down they can pick you up," Bilyeu said.

Lopez said he stood out on the team for his singles play.

Practices were held every day at Tranquility Park and would usually last between one and a half hours to two hours.

They would work on singles and doubles play, serves and returns.

"This year Mr. Andrews focused on the drills instead of playing a lot of matches," Bilyeu said.

Bilyeu said he felt he focused on drills because they improved their game tremendously.

During the tryouts, only one person was cut completely and half played for the junior varsity team.

Lopez said players really worked hard during the summer.

Benjamin Bilyeu (12) said he felt it was the best season he had played.

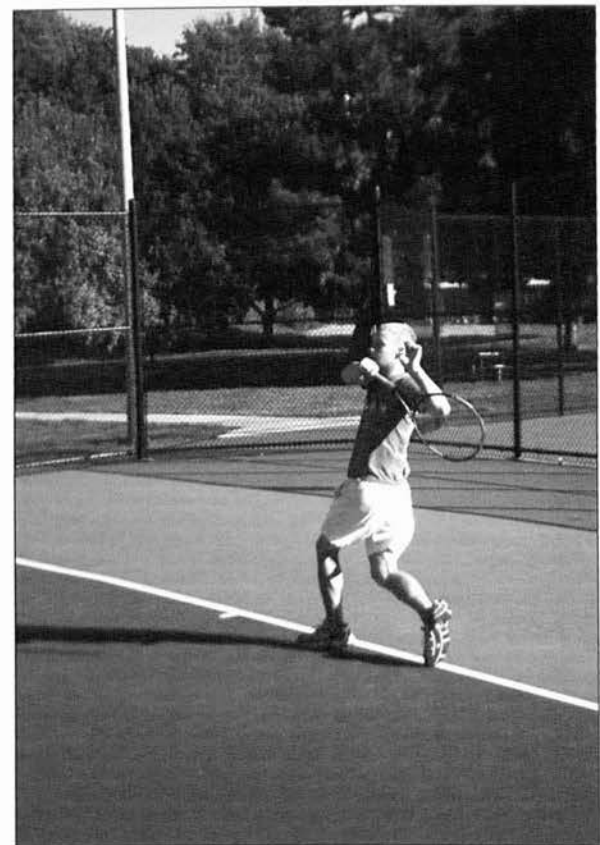
Tennis coach Larry Andrews talks to his players about their performances. When they practiced, they tried to concentrate on aim and consistency. Many of the players improved by the end of the season.

Photo by Clay Lomneth.



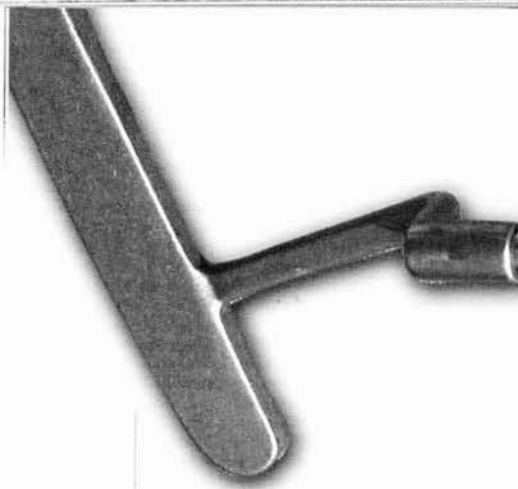


Left. James Powell (12) practices his aiming and consistency with a tennis drill. A teammate on the other side of the court would hit the ball at different heights and speeds, forcing the other player to act quickly and adapt for the swing.
Photo by Clay Lomneth.



Left. Antonio Lopez (12) said he is looking at Division I and Division II schools for college. Some of his prospects included: University of Nebraska at Lincoln, University of Nebraska at Omaha and Northwest Missouri State University.
Photo by Molly Mullen.

Above. Benjamin Bilyeu (12) practices his swing. Along with practicing their swing, players had to make sure their swings were accurate when hitting the ball.
Photo by Clay Lomneth.



putting for the purple

Despite lack of experience, players use year to build skills

by patrick o'malley

Schedule	
Girls Golf	
	8/25/05
vs. Millard North	8/30/05
vs. Millard South	9/6/05
vs. Omaha North	9/8/05
vs. Pap/La Vista South	9/13/05
vs. Omaha South	9/14/05
	OPS invite
	9/15/05
vs. Westside	9/20/05
vs. Bellevue West	9/22/05
vs. Omaha Bryan	
Season's Record	
Win/Loss	1/8

Head coach Linda Brock said there were only two out of eight girls who had played golf prior to the season. The rest had no experience with the sport.

A new wave of beginners and few returning players aided Brock's girls golf team to an enjoyable season.

It was Brock's first year coaching the team. The team gained many fresh players as the season progressed.

"I think we needed it because when we started we only had three people," Maxine Price (10) said.

Brock said the team was mostly sophomores and they picked up the game quickly, worked hard and had fun doing it.

"They were a fun group of girls to work with after school," Brock said. "They were always upbeat and encouraging."

Ashley Bryant (10) said she joined the team because her mother wanted her to try some sports and meet new people.

"I think I was good for a beginner," Bryant said.

She said she felt golf was a great sport for her to try and had lots of fun playing. Practices were held every day after school at Elmwood Park.

Price said the experienced girls would play a round of nine holes, while the new girls practiced on their technique, putting and driving with the

coach.

"As the season went on, we improved tremendously," Brock said.

The regular season ended with a record of 1-8 in duel matches. The team played very competitively in the Districts and Metro tournament and placed higher than the players expected.

"In tournaments, us not finishing last is a good thing because we had so many rookies," Linda Brock said.

Price said she was very pleased with the tournament play, but was upset because she didn't get to play.

"I think they did really, really good," Price said.

Brock picked the girls by experience and who ever had the lowest scores in a round. She said she liked that the Nebraska School Activities Association had the girls' season in the fall because of the continuation of the weather.

"I thought the season went very well," Price said.

Bryant said she would be practicing her technique and fundamentals over the summer because she was contemplating playing next year.

"I think it's fun because you get to go outside and have fun instead of sitting around watching TV," Price said.

Inspiration from the players, coach

What would you tell someone who is just starting golf?



"Don't worry about perfecting it, it takes a lifetime."

- Coach Linda Brock



"Definitely try it before you make assumptions."

-Huong Vu (10)



"I'd tell them to practice a lot and not to get discouraged."

-Sarah Ferguson (10)



"Every hole is a new beginning."

-Jaimie Lewis (10)



"Don't give up."

-Ashley Bryant (10)



Left. Coach Linda Brock speaks about the upcoming season of golf at the first official pep rally. She started off with only four students interested in golf. Later the team advanced to eight girls on the team. She said there was only one girl who had actually played golf before and that was Deborah Rennard (12). She was on the team last year too.
Photo by Molly Mullen.

Above. Huong Vu (10) was one player who made a huge improvement. This was her first year ever to play golf. She said she had different perspectives about the sport, but soon came to enjoy playing it. Brock said Vu was a natural. She was the third best player on the team.
Photo by Clay Lomneth.



switching it up

Due to confusion, more girls put on varsity cheerleading

by todd healy

With confusion during varsity tryouts to preparing over the summer with other cheerleading squads from across the nation, it's been an interesting year to say the least.

Over the summer, the squad went to National College Athletic Association (NCAA) Cheerleading Camp.

Brittney Ruffin (11), who is on the varsity cheerleading squad, said a few of the girls on the squad were nominated for cheerleading awards when they were at the camp. Ruffin received an Individual Leadership Award and the squad also earned the top team award.

The trophy was an actual spirit stick.

"There were a lot of little schools that went," she said. "There was an elite squad that went as well!"

Ruffin said the squad learned some new things from the elite squad.

"We learned some helpful tips and some other summer courses we could take to improve our cheerleading program," Sarah Kyler (11) said.

She also mentioned some small schools that went were from Nebraska.

"Central High and Millard South were probably the only schools that went from the Omaha area," Ruffin said.

The squad had a new sponsor this year.

Latin and English teacher Jennifer Fotsch took over the spot.

"I'm really glad to be doing this," Fotsch said. "Not only does it give the girls help for me being sponsor, but I will also learn from

them in the future."

"The new sponsor was very organized and was disciplined as well," Ruffin said.

The tryouts did not go as successfully as the camp did. Problems included deciding who was supposed to be on varsity and who was not.

"I thought there was a misunderstanding in the scoring system," Jaime Gustafson (11) said.

Gustafson said she and a lot of the girls on the team did not know what was going on or what was going to happen.

"Some of the girls that were suppose to be on varsity were put on JV because they were juniors," Gustafson said. "The seniors who scored the same as them, were put on varsity."

She said the squad usually had eight to 16 members.

However, by the time the problems were sorted through, the squad had 18 members.

"Even though it probably took a little longer than it should have to pick who was on the squads, it was all straightened out in the end," Fotsch said.

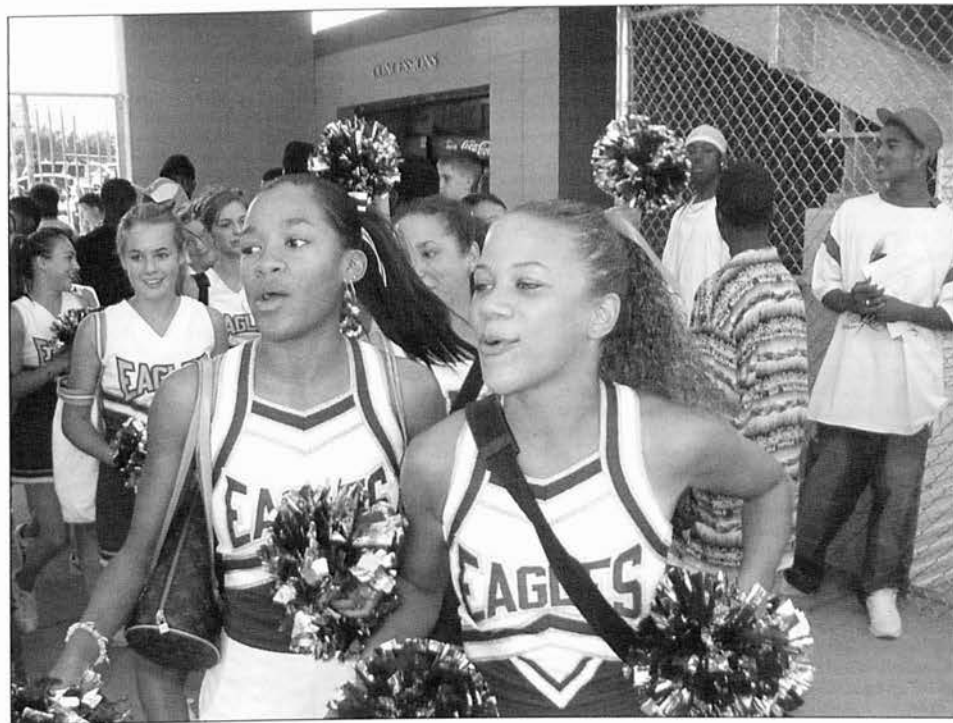
Ruffin said the sponsor, administrators and teachers from all different schools were in charge of judging the girls during tryouts.

She said she liked the idea of judges from other schools judging her.

"It is better when you are being judged and they don't know who you are so that everyone going out has a fair shot of making it," Ruffin said.



Above. Varsity cheerleader Jaime Gustafson (11) performs at the district playoff game vs. Creighton Prep. Even though the Eagles lost, Gustafson did not let that bother her. She laughed with her fellow teammates on the sideline during the first quarter of the game.
Photo by Mark Arehart.



Above. Jasmine Elmore (12) (left) and Brittney Ruffin (11) run through the crowd to get to the sidelines so they can start cheering for the first varsity home game at the new stadium. This is Jasmine's second year on varsity and Ruffin's first. The first game was one of the most emotional and crowded games.
Photo by Zachary Pluhacek.

Far Above. Many members of the cheerleading squad celebrate together as the Central football team starts its first game during the regular season. The Eagles won the game against the North Vikings. Not all of the cheerleaders were on the varsity team, some JV girls were also cheering on the sideline for the first game.
Photo by Zachary Pluhacek.

let the games begin

Pom squad builds for future in experiencing competitions for first time

by jared dittman

The pom squad had been preparing for competition all year trying to get the dances perfect.

The squad participated for the first time in the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) dance competition, where it finished 3rd.

Many of the girls were nervous with this being the first time they have competed as a team. Some had a background in competition with their own studios, but not with CHS.

"We were all really nervous, excited and wanted to do well," Erin Schultz (10) said.

The pom squad sponsor and English teacher Jane Luethge thought the girls were prepared, very capable of winning and she was confident they would do well.

"A lot of the girls were filled with nervous excitement, but wanted to have fun," Luethge said. "Once they got on stage they looked calm, relaxed and they did a good job."

The squad had only five minutes to do its dance, that time included coming on and getting off the stage and it had to do all ground dances.

"The dance was two minutes long, which gave us time to cheer on, get our positions, dance, then get off stage," Elisabeth Garvin (11) said.

Team captains Garvin and Kaitlyn O'Banion (12) made each of the girls CDs with the music on it so they could practice outside of school.

"I wanted the girls to be confident in themselves and in their practice and it showed in the dance," Garvin said.

The squad also competed in the Ralston High School competition. The second competition was different with only Papillion and Millard schools competing.

"The schools that we competed against were really into their dance teams," Erin Schultz (10) said.

Many of the squad members were in awe by how much support the other dance teams had. Schultz said she saw an all-around large amount of support for their dance teams not only from the parents but the schools themselves.

CHS did not have huge support for the dance team mostly due to its lack of competition in the past, Garvin said.

"I hoped that people would come and watch us because it is easier to dance if you know someone in the crowd," Garvin said.

The girls went to the competitions not knowing what to

expect.

"Of course we wanted to win, but it was our first time competing," Luethge said. "We gave it our best effort."

Schultz said it was a good experience and taught her a lot for her first year on pom squad.

"I think we worked really hard, but we were up against some tough schools," Schultz said.

"It was a nice start to the basketball season," Luethge said. "It got the girls ready to dance in front of large crowds."

While at the competitions the girls were able to watch other schools perform and see other kinds of moves.

"It was good to see what really competitive schools did in their dances and try to use it in our dances in the future," Schultz said. "It's a universal rule to take other teams' dance ideas and try to use them."

After the competition, the squad had to go strong into basketball season.

"The competitions made us work harder for the rest of the year," Schultz said.

The pom squad had a very young group of girls this year, with only two seniors.

"We had a young squad, which is good because we will improve a lot and will have the same girls back next year," Garvin said.

The captains thought it was good to get the younger squad members in competition and get them more experience.

"This was the first time I competed for Central and I'm a junior," Garvin said.

Regardless of how inexperienced the squad was, it was able to put together dances and compete with schools that had been doing dance competition for years.

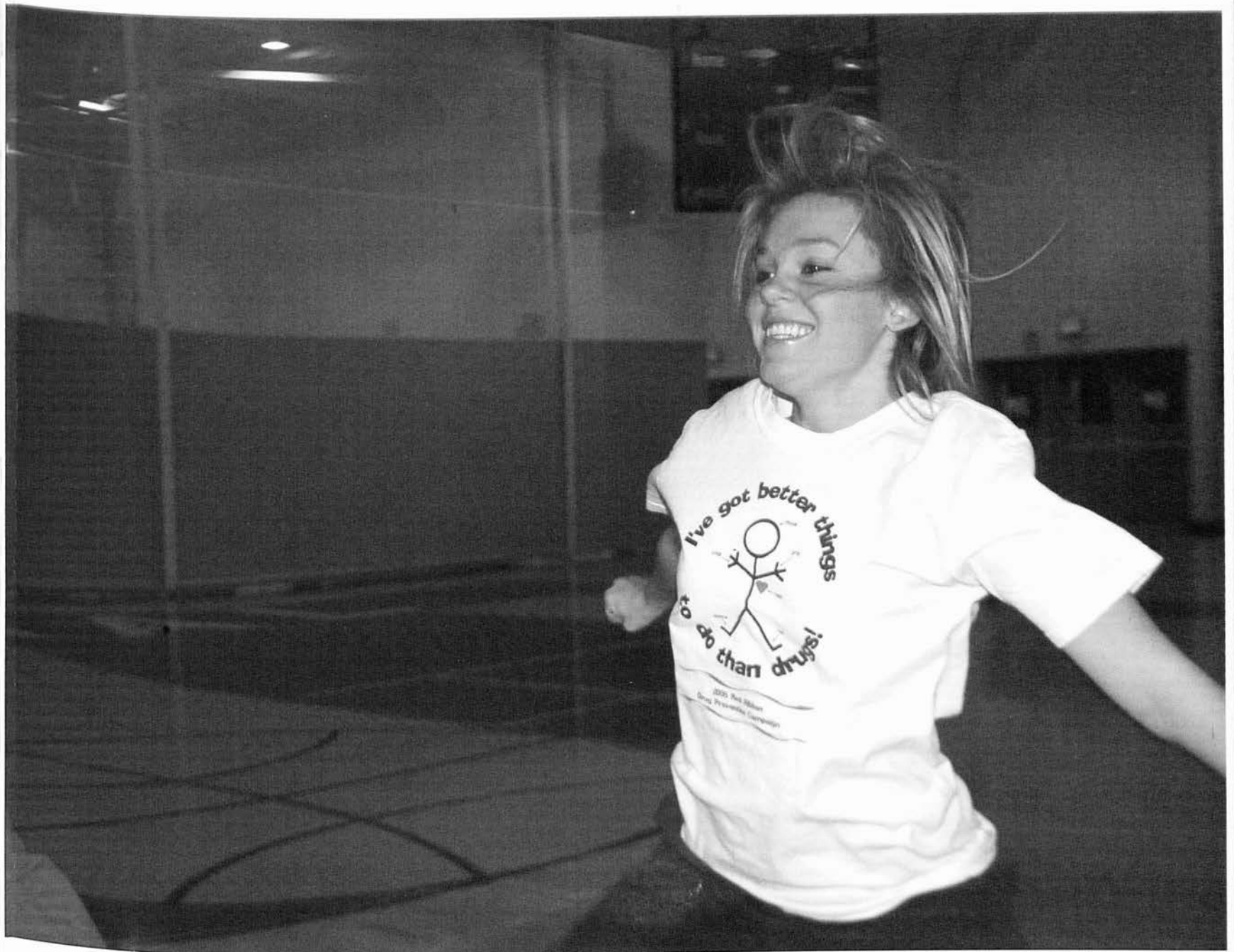
"As a squad we got along really well," O'Banion said.

Central was the only Omaha Public School (OPS) that had entered these dance competitions.

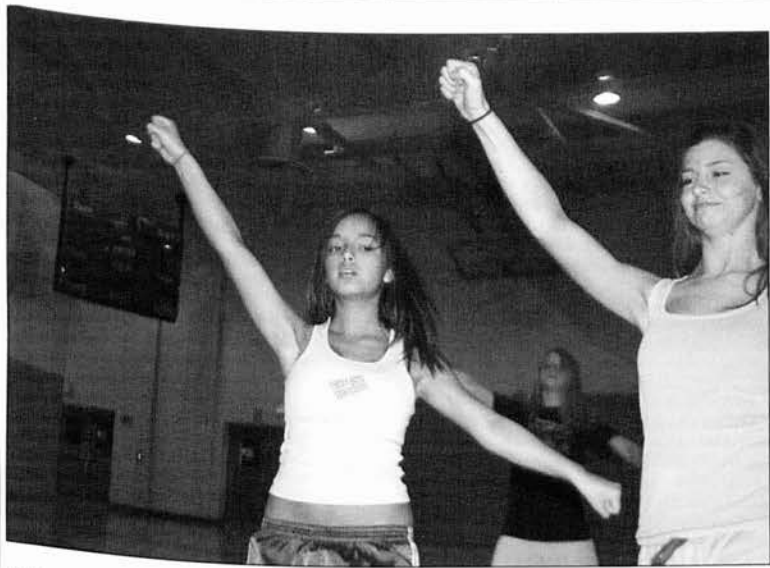
"It was reassuring for the younger girls to see that we can compete with other schools that have had more experience," Luethge said.

With CHS being the only OPS school, it had to somewhat represent all of the other schools in the district.

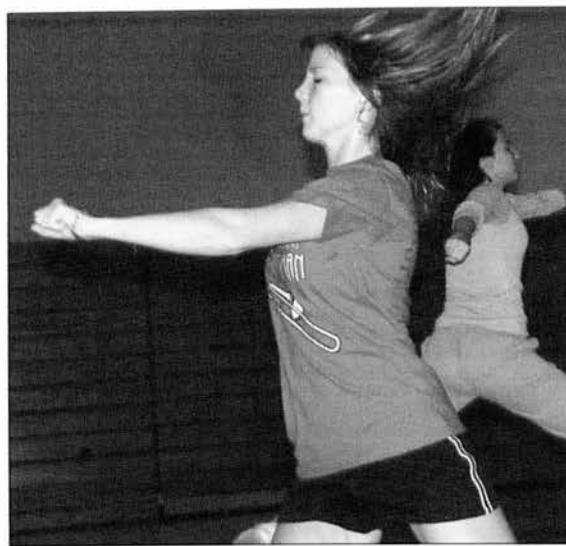
"It was good to be the only dance team from OPS competing because Millard schools put a huge emphasis on competitions," Luethge said.



Above. Elisabeth Garvin (11) finishes a dance during practice in the gym before school. Garvin was a captain this year which was rare because she was only a junior. Yet, because of her experience in dance, it was an easy decision for sponsor Jane Luethge. *Photo by Jared Dittman.*



Ashlee Atwell (11) and Andrea Thompson (11) practice in the gym before school. Pom squad practiced almost every morning before school and on the weekends. *Photo by Jared Dittman.*



Margaret Baumann (11) and Arielle Donner (11) do jumps, one of the many moves in their dances. The squad could only do ground-bound dances. *Photo by Jared Dittman.*

Scoreboard

Varsity Basketball

12/2/05	vs. Millard West	77-68 W
12/3/05	vs. Fremont	87-51 W
12/9/05	vs. Omaha North	74-72 W
1/7/06	vs. Creighton Prep	49-50 L
12/13/05	vs. Lincoln North Star	69-55 W
12/15/05	vs. Omaha Burke	65-61 W
12/17/05	vs. Omaha Northwest	68-58 W
12/28/05	vs. Omaha North	76-58 W
12/29/05	vs. Omaha Bryant	60-57 W
12/30/05	vs. Bellevue West	75-86 L
1/6/06	vs. Millard South	57-38W
1/10/06	vs. Lincoln East	87-86 W
1/12/06	vs. Omaha Westside	79-72 W
1/14/06	vs. Omaha Bryan	54-62 L
1/20/06	vs. Bellevue West	82-74 W
1/27/06	vs. Omaha Northwest	75-64 W
1/28/06	vs. Lincoln High	62-57 W
2/4/06	vs. Bellevue East	68-50 W
2/7/06	vs. Omaha Benson	77-74 W
2/10/06	vs. Omaha South	59-50 W
As of 2/16/06		

the final attempt

Varsity reloads talent pool, make another run at State

clay lomneth

They would make one last push for State before next year, and then the underclassmen would take over. Six seniors had one last chance to take it all.

Varsity basketball head coach Eric Behrens said the shootout against Louisiana Reserve Christian at the Qwest Center on Feb. 11 was a good stepping stone before their shot at Districts to try for State.

Behrens said the Eagles chance at State was about as good as it was the year before, if not better. Last year, in the most successful season since 1975, the Eagles fell to Creighton Prep and were ousted from the tournament.

For the State attempt, Behrens said he would not only need younger players to step up, but also the seniors, even though they were leaving.

"We're going to still need those guys," he said.

To get ready, Behrens said the boys needed to work on rebounding, limiting turnovers, defending and taking better shots overall.

"That's basketball," he said. "You do all those things and you probably won't get beat."

If no state title turns up this year, Behrens said the team will try again next year, as usual. He said he needed the players coming back to work on their game over the summer.

"If everybody works hard in the off season... we're going to do better as a team," Behrens said.

One major difference from the years

before was the fact CHS had its own home gym for the first time in years. Instead of traveling to Norris Middle School, fans and players could walk down to the lobby for the game.

"It's huge," Behrens said. "It's a home court."

Rodney Grace (12) said he could have had a better season overall. He said due to a minor injury, his season started off slow but gradually improved.

He said he felt the need to improve because he was a captain on the team and wanted to push and lead the team to whatever was in front of it. Also, after losing BJ Valentine (class of 2005), there was a place for him to step up into.

Looking back at the year, Grace said he didn't accomplish everything he wanted to. He said he had set

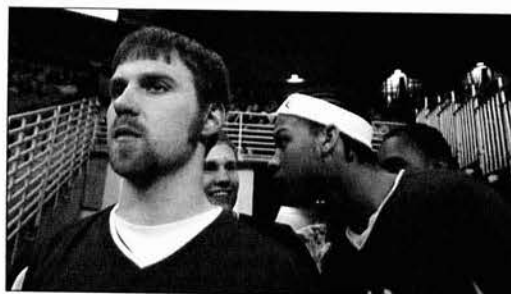
a goal for himself to have an average of 20 points and 10 rebounds a game. He said his average was closer to 15 points and 10 rebounds. But where he lacks, Grace said, the other players make up for it.

"I don't need to average 20," he said. "I got teammates that will step up."

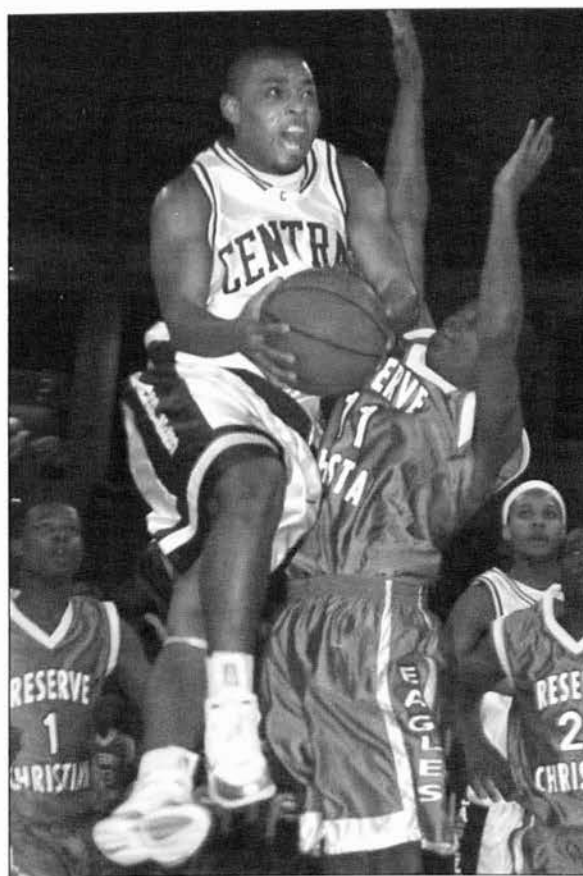
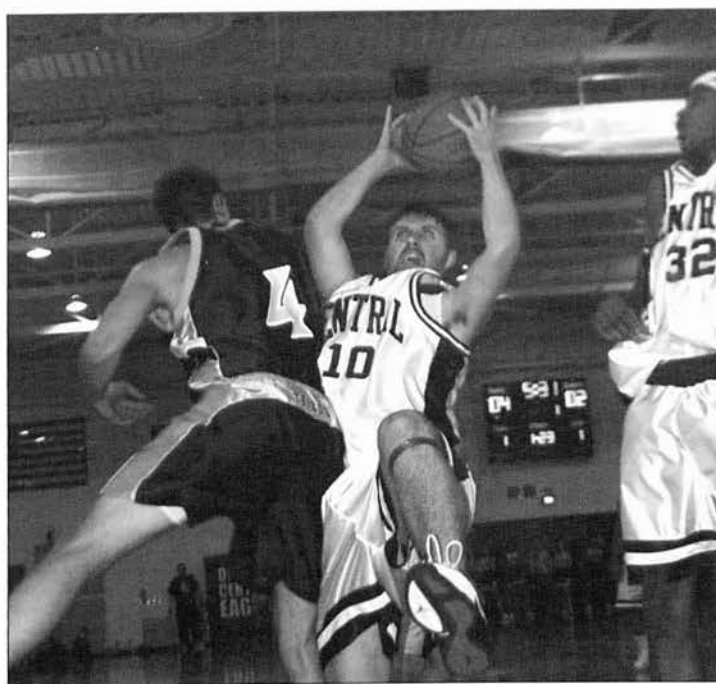
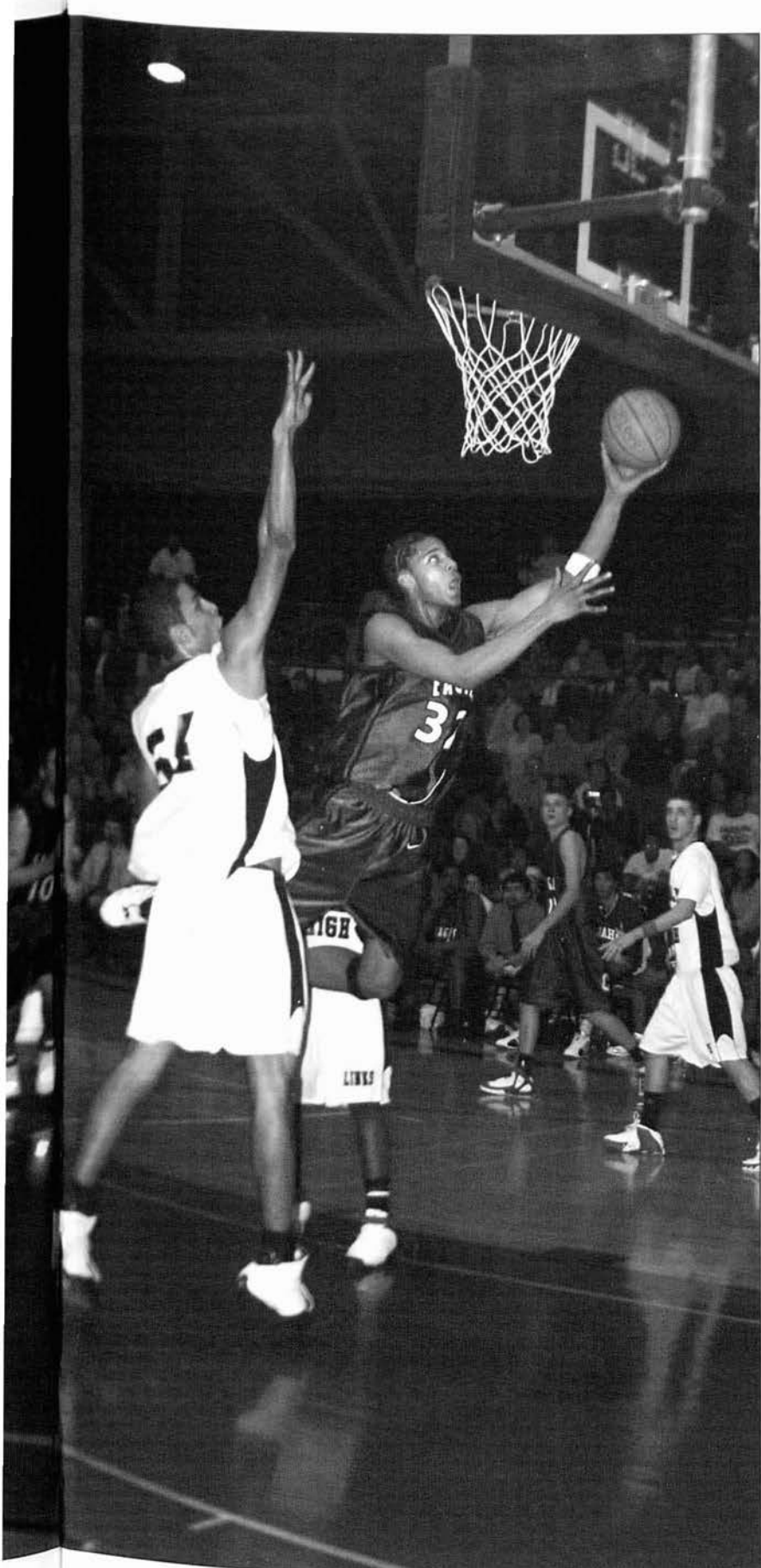
Grace said next year there will be some challenges for those coming back. He said his height gave the team an advantage this year, but the younger players needed some more experience down by the basket.

"They're going to be lacking," he said. "They're going to be lacking in inside performance."

As for himself next year, Grace said he wasn't sure whether or not he wanted to go into a Division I school right away or wait a while.



Timothy Kanger (12) watches the game before his at the Omaha Shootout, where Central played Louisiana Reserve Christian. Rodney Grace (12) and Benjamin Kline (11) talk behind him. Photo by Clay Lomneth.



Above. Timothy Kanger (12) attempts to shove past Bellevue West Jake Meyer (12) for the shot. Along with Grace, Kanger was a captain on the team. Photo by Clay Lomneth.

Left. Rodney Grace (12) makes a layup past a Lincoln High player. The Eagles won the game 62-57. For the season, Grace's average was about 15 points and 10 rebounds a game. Photo by Clay Lomneth.

Above. Ronnell Grixby (10) leaps over Reserve Christian's Eddren McCain. Central played Reserve Christian during a shootout at the Qwest Center, but lost 81-70. Photo by Clay Lomneth.

preparing for domination

JV players get ready to fill the three open spots on varsity

Scoreboard

Boys Junior Varsity Basketball

12/1/05 vs. Millard West 67-61 W
12/8/05 vs. North 56-55 L
12/15/05 vs. Burke 78-57 L
1/3/06 vs. Westside 64-48 W
1/5/06 vs. Millard South 51-43 L
1/10/06 vs. Lincoln East 64-42 W
1/14/06 vs. Pap/La Vista South 73-59 L
1/17/06 vs. Bryan 70-56 L
1/19/06 vs. Bellevue West 52-36 L
1/21/06 vs. Benson 51-48 L
1/26/06 vs. Northwest 61-60 W
1/28/06 vs. Lincoln 63-52 W
2/1/06 vs. Creighton Prep 59-55 W
2/4/06 vs. Bellevue East 64-51 L
2/9/06 vs. South 55-34 W
2/14/06 vs. Pap/La Vista 62-48 W
2/18/06 vs. Millard North 80-45 L

clay lomneth

Starting off, the junior varsity (JV) season looked bleak. Players left the team and the record didn't look too good.

"It started out pretty bad," coach Jason Jackson said. "Two and five I think."

John Hill (9) said things eventually got better. The players started playing together on the court, so the team began winning games, ending in a 9-10 season.

"It was a frustrating season," Hill said. "But we played through."

Jackson said he also noticed a difference in the playing. He said players said they noticed how well they began to play with each other and said it was because of team unity they won games.

"I think they got to know each other by the end of the year," he said.

Hill said a game against Creighton Prep really turned the season around. The win, he said, gave them confidence.

"It was big; that got us going," Hill said.

Jackson said one problem the team had was the fact that no player was trained to be a point guard. Steven Fiscus (11) did a good job playing that position for someone who hadn't done it before, he said, but that did not change the fact they had nobody experienced with the position.

"That hurt us," Jackson said.

Fiscus said he has plans to try out for varsity next year.

Fiscus also played football and baseball and said his focus would be basketball when the season came.

"At the time, that's what I focus on, whatever sport it is," he said.

Next year, he said he and his teammates would need to step up and work for the three spots that will be open on the varsity team.

Fiscus said they would need to work together for it.

"It's going to be pretty hard to fill those spots," Fiscus said.

Jackson said whether or not the players were going to go on to varsity depended on them. He said it depended on what they worked on and how often they worked to improve.

"It depends on their summer improvement," Jackson said.

He said the JV team does give them a good starting ground for going on to varsity. He said the teams it played this year will be something like what it will see in the future.

"There were some good JV teams this year," Jackson said.

Vondrae Tostenson (9) already moved on this year. After a few games on JV, he was moved onto the varsity team.

He said the coaches saw how he performed during the JV games and then placed him in a varsity game to see how well he would play.

"It was basically just a test," he said.

At first, Tostenson said he wasn't comfortable on varsity, but after more playing time with JV, he got the hang of it.

He said the time he played on JV gave him the experience he needed to play varsity.

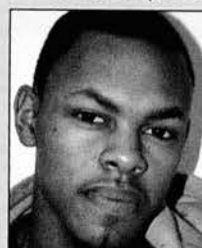
Inspiration from the players, coach

How important is team unity?



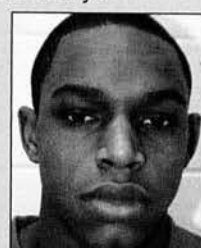
"It's probably the most important thing your team needs."

-Jason Jackson, coach



"That's what you need to have a successful season."

-Obadiah Davis (11)



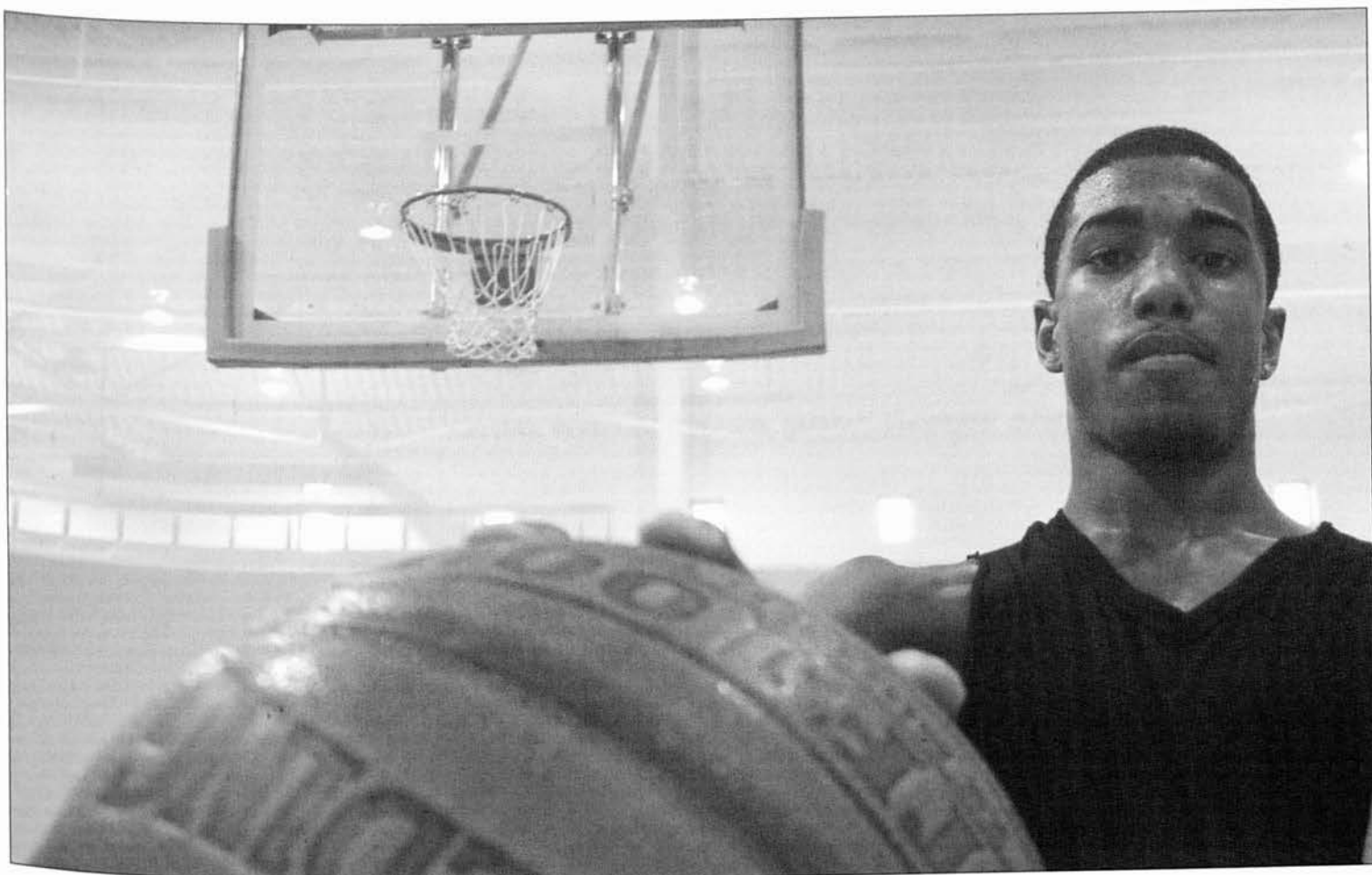
"It's everything."

-John Hill (9)

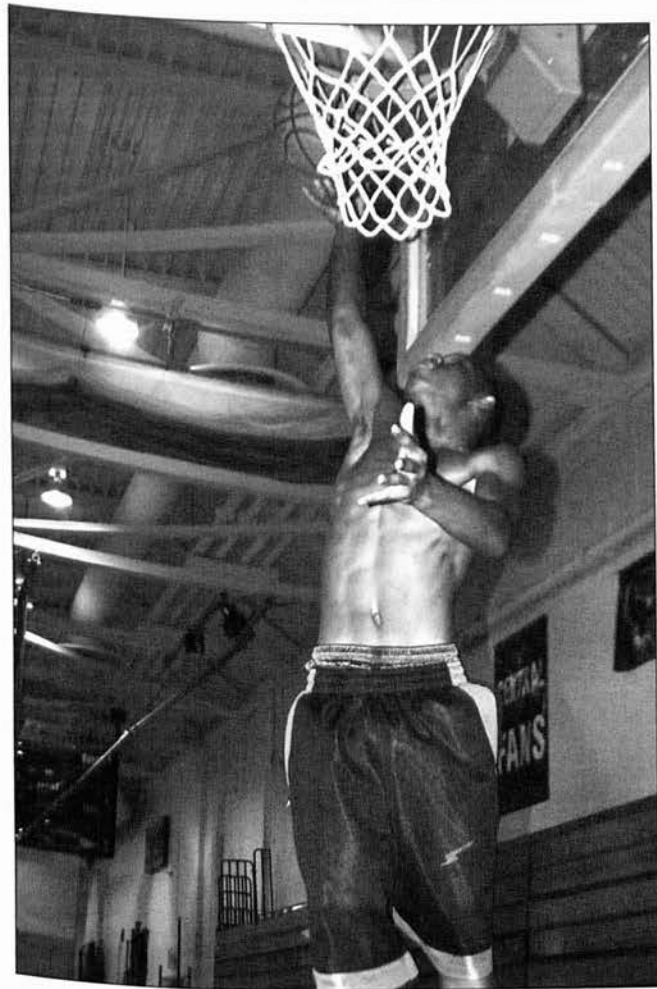


"Very important. Team unity is going to take you far."

-Steven Fiscus (11)



Above. Vondrae Tostenson (9) played on JV for a few games before moving up to varsity. He said he gained a lot of experience that made him more comfortable playing on varsity. *Photo by Clay Lomneth.*



Left. John Hill (9) makes a layup at practice. Hill said although the season didn't start off too well, the team got better as the year progressed and players learned to work together. *Photo by Clay Lomneth.*



Above. Steven Fiscus (11) practices a defensive drill at a varsity practice. Some JV players, including Fiscus and Hill, played on varsity. *Photo by Clay Lomneth.*

Scoreboard

Varsity Basketball

12/2/05	vs. Millard West	40-72 L
12/3/05	vs. Fremont	52-48 W
12/9/05	vs. Omaha North	60-48
12/13/05	vs. Lincoln North Star	59-64 L
12/15/05	vs. Omaha Burke	43-46 L
12/17/05	vs. Omaha Benson	62-58W
12/28/05	vs. Omaha Westside	50-58 L
1/6/06	vs. Millard South	53-45
1/14/06	vs. Omaha Bryan	77-23 W
1/20/06	vs. Bellevue West	52-67 L
1/27/06	vs. Omaha Northwest	41-46 L
1/28/06	vs. Lincoln High	56-49 W
2/2/06	vs. Omaha Marian	56-59L
2/4/06	vs. Bellevue East	61-73 L
2/7/06	vs. Omaha Benson	43-60 L
2/10/06	vs. Omaha South	47-50L
2/11/06	vs. Lincoln East	65-55W

As of 2/16/06

Motivations

stronger

every minute

The varsity girls team bonds during a rebuilding season

by clay lomneth

Though the record didn't show it, Cherylle Leffall (12) said this year the girls basketball team had a successful season.

What the players succeeded in, she said, was bonding. Though many of them were already friends before the year began, the team still spent time together off the court. With young players coming back next year, unity is what they need.

"That'll help a whole bunch," Leffall said. She said she was friends with all of them.

Before the year even started, Leffall said she was getting ready for the season. She attended camps with a few other players to hone her skills over the summer. She said she suggested returning players do the same.

"I think they'll be even better next year," Leffall said.

Though the season didn't turn out as well as Leffall expected, she said there were bright spots even in defeat.

"They were close games, but our team from last year, we would have been able to go in and win," she said.

What caused the Eagles to lose games, Leffall said, was little mistakes made early on in the game and poor execution on defense.

Coach Chad Townsend said the only real problem he had with the season was the record.

"I think we put a pretty competitive group on the floor this year," he said.

He said he managed to get some younger players on the court, which would give the team more experience for the future.

Some of the key younger players he said were Nakya Clark (10), Bianca Smith (9) and Kailah Bailey (9).

Townsend said although the team made a push for State every year, he hoped next year it

would have a better chance.

Townsend said this season was the rebuilding season to prepare to make a push to the next level.

The amount of injuries on the team was another factor in how well they did.

Townsend said he didn't want to make any excuses, but Amber Hamilton's (11) injury in the beginning of the year hurt the Eagles. Injuries continued throughout the year and minor ones were inflicted on Jasmine Johnson (11) and Alicia Bender (11).

Townsend said the team did succeed in improving every day.

"You always want to win more, but it's not always about that," he said.

Turnovers, Townsend said, were an issue for the year. If the turnovers continued, he said it would be hard for them to win.

"I don't care who you're playing, that makes it tough to win any game,"



Millard South Airecel Cisneros (10) attempts to dribble past Jasmine Johnson (11). At the first game in the gym, the Eagles won against Millard South 53-41.

Photo by Clay Lomneth.

he said.

He said other little things affected their games.

"We just couldn't seem to put a full game together," Townsend said.

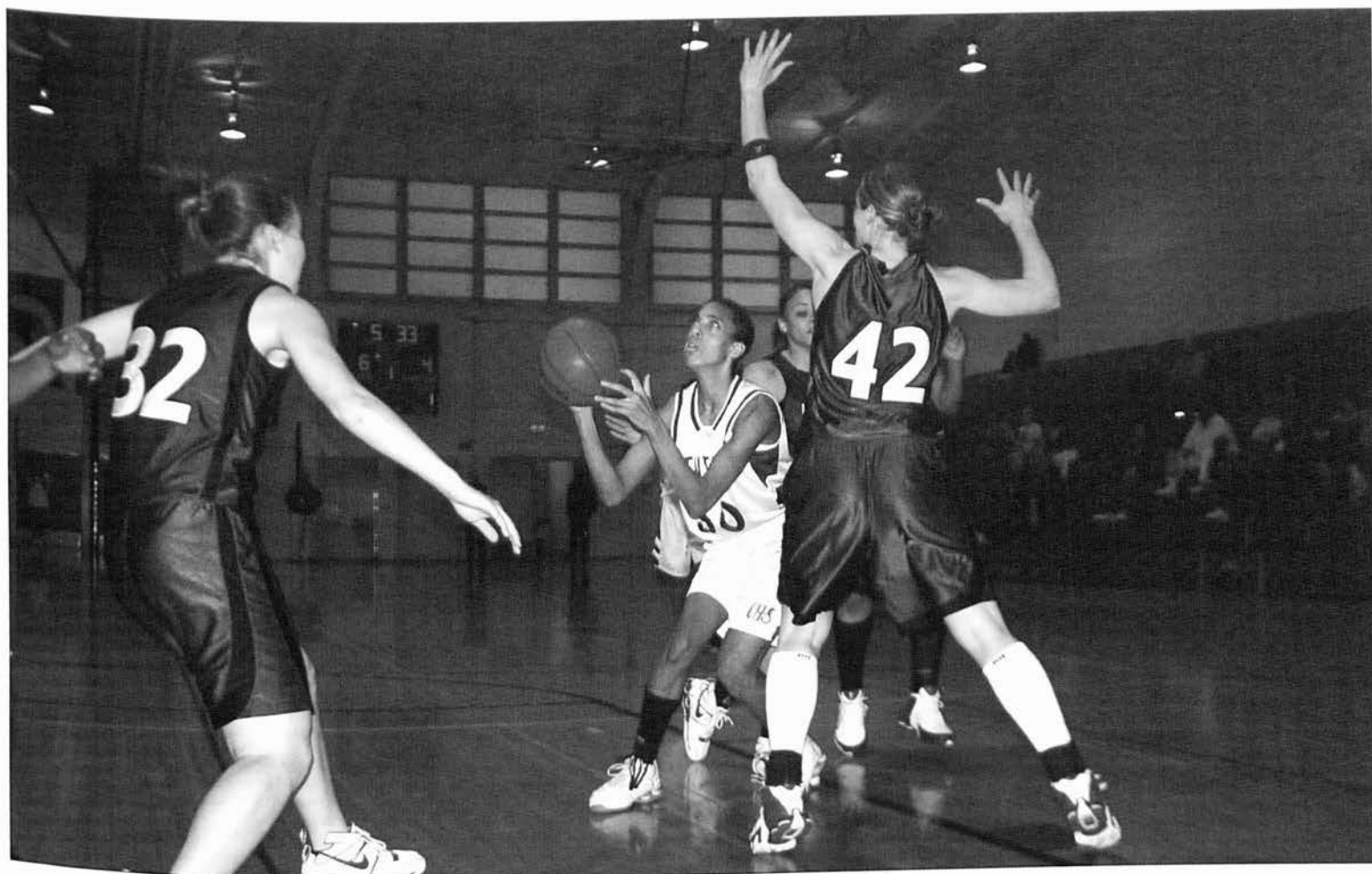
He said what worked this year was the team's capacity to bond together.

He said a sign the team bonded very well was the fact it never left the game without a team huddle, win or lose.

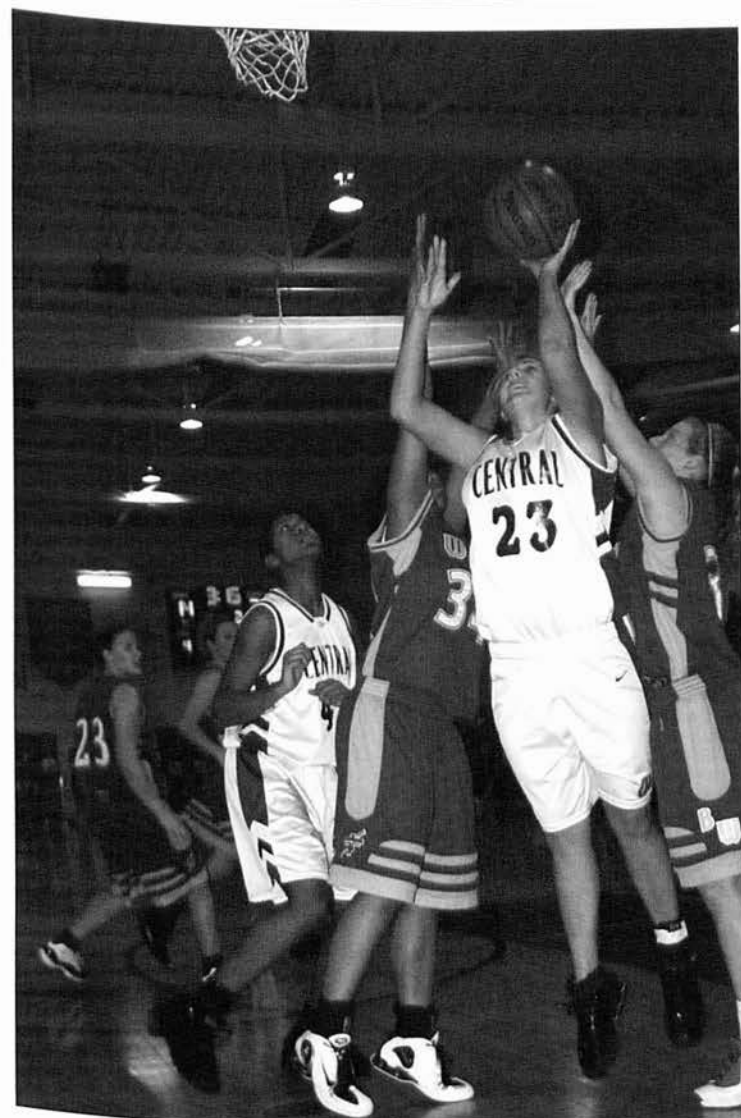
"I've been very impressed by the team's ability to hang together," Townsend said. "That makes it extra special."

He said the "stick together no matter what" mentality would help the team next year.

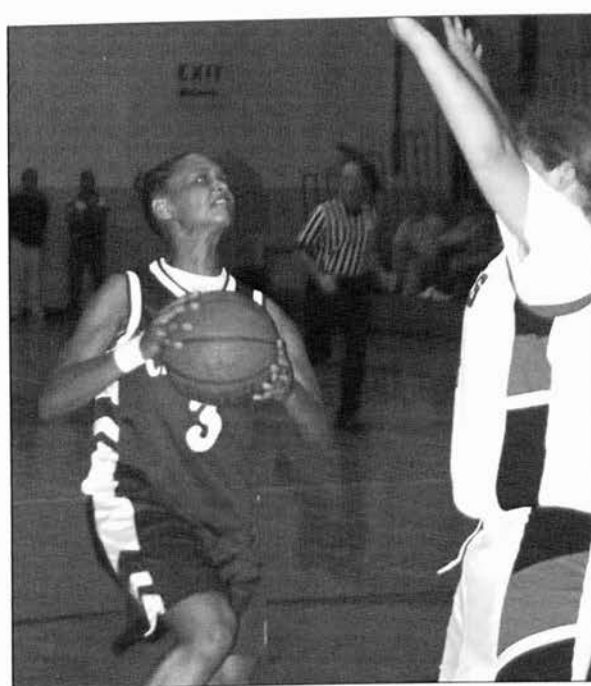
"Whatever team you're on, you have to be on the same page," he said.



Above. Alicia Bender (11) tries to put the ball up past Bellevue East's Amber Quinn (12). It was the last home game that would take place at Norris Middle School. Photo by Clay Lomneth.



Left. Alexa Fuhs (11) makes a layup in the Jan. 20 game against Bellevue West. Fuhs, a returning varsity player, became a starter partway through the season. Photo by Clay Lomneth.



Above. At a game against Lincoln High School, Brienne Tapley (12) tries to make a layup. Her first year joining varsity, Tapley became the team's captain. Photo by Clay Lomneth.

keep on building

Girls JV team prepares players for road ahead

Scoreboard

Girls Junior Varsity Basketball

12/1/05
vs. Millard West
43-33 L

12/8/05
vs. North
53-32 W

12/15/05
vs. Burke
39-32 L

12/28/05
vs. Northwest
60-38 W

12/29/05
vs. Northwest
56-24 W

1/5/06
vs. Millard South
49-31 W

1/7/06
vs. Westside
50-48 L

1/14/06
vs. Pap/LaVista South
51-34 W

1/17/06
vs. Bryan
51-32 W

1/19/06
vs. Bellevue West
52-36 L

1/21/06
vs. Benson
51-48 L

1/28/06
vs. Lincoln High
57-38W

1/10/06
vs. Lincoln East
52-25 W

2/2/06
vs. Marian
49-44 W

2/4/06
vs. Bellevue East
57-54 L

2/9/06
vs. South
56-30 W

2/11/06
vs. Lincoln East
36-32 L

2/16/06
vs. Pap/LaVista
38-33 L

clay lomneth

Improvement was the name of the game.

With a 10-8 season, junior varsity (JV) coach Ryan Hanson said there were some things the girls could have improved on, but what really mattered was the fact that they improved as the season went on.

"JV's a development level," Hanson said.

Ozioma Onyeuku (9) played on the JV team. She said the team played pretty well, but one thing kept following them throughout the year.

"We had great defense as a team. We had some good rebounders," she said. "It's just our shots. Free throws."

What the team needed to work on before moving on next year, was freethrow shots. The girls were about 42 percent from the line this year and Hanson said he wasn't satisfied.

"Wed like to see 75 percent," he said.

Hanson said the theme for this year was rebounding.

The team had a saying, "They only get one shot," emphasizing the need to rebound before the opponent gets their hands on the ball again. He said this appeared to work.

He said his players really improved on their rebounding.

The team took pride in the slogan, Hanson said, even drilling it in as far as yelling "one shot" at huddles.

"That was our rallying cry," he said.

Hanson said rebounding was where the players improved the most. He said he could see the team improving game by game. This experience, he said, would be used by the players next year if

they went on to varsity. Two to four girls would be moving to fill spots on the varsity team.

"There'll be a little bit of competition between the girls," Hanson said.

The competition would be healthy for them, he said, and it would cause them to play at their best before the actual season started.

Hanson said the playing was more intense than the reserve or freshman teams.

Basically, he said what the JV team does is sculpt varsity players. The more games it played, the more ready players would be for varsity.

"We try to get them into situations with a lot of intensity," he said.

Kailah Bailey (9) was one of those JV players. She was also one of the only two freshmen to make it on the varsity team. She said she got the chance to put her knowledge of the game gained by JV into action.

Coming into the season, Bailey said she was a bit scared.

She was afraid of how she'd do and how she'd fit in as one of the only freshmen, but she said later on she learned more and did fine.

Part of the reason she adapted so quickly, she said, was because of how close both the teams were.

"JV had a lot of unity," Bailey said.

Bailey said she planned on returning to varsity the following year.

Onyeuku also said she would be coming back. Compared to the beginning of the year, Onyeuku said she was a lot better. Using her JV skills, she said she would do much better in the future.

Inspiration from the players, coach

What have players learned that will help them in the future?



"We had a lot of close games, so we learned how to win late."

-Ryan Hanson, coach



"We learned how to play together. We learned how to be a team."

-Bianca Smith (9)



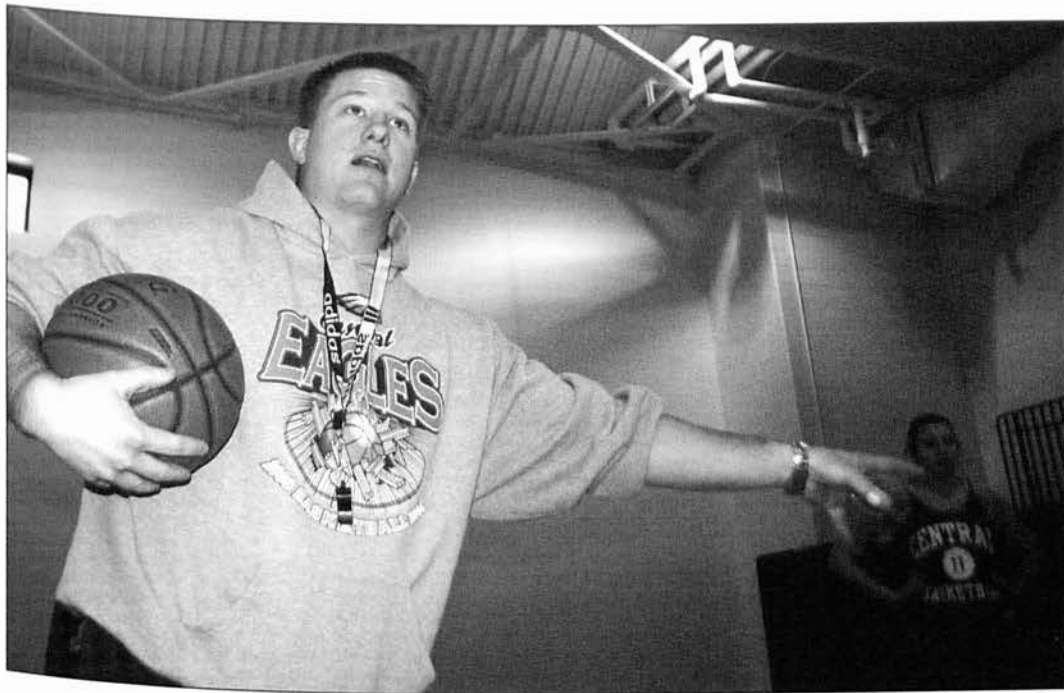
"They learned a lot of things about having (game) experience."

-Brittney Ruffin (11)



"We learned that we have to stick together and not be selfish on the court."

-Kailah Bailey (9)



Left. Junior varsity (JV) coach Ryan Hanson directs the varsity team at a practice. He said the goal of JV was to have each player improve game-by-game. Hanson said one of the major areas that needed work was free throws. *Photo by Clay Lomneth.*

Below. Kailah Bailey (9) was one of two freshmen to make the varsity team this year and she also played on JV. Bailey said the experience she gained on JV would help her in future varsity games. *Photo by Clay Lomneth.*



Scoreboard

Varsity Wrestling

12/1/05

North invite

Charles Mulligan 4th
Anthony Wilwerding 4th

12/5/05

Northwest

47-28 W

12/9/05-12/10/05

Boystown invite

Guy Smith 3rd
Charles Mulligan 4th

12/12/05

North

36-45 L

12/17/05

Ralston invite

Guy Smith 2nd
Michael Cold 3rd
Charles Mulligan 4th
Anthony Wilwerding 4th
Blake Cantrell 4th
Joshua Cowdery 4th

1/7/06

Lincoln North Star invite

Guy Smith 1st
Michael Cold 2nd
Anthony Wilwerding 4th
Charles Mulligan 4th

1/10/06

Westside

37-38 L

1/13-14/06

Metro Conference

Guy Smith 4th
Charles Mulligan 4th
Michael Cold 8th

1/17/06

South

27-42 L

1/28/06

Skutt

Guy Smith 3rd
Anthony Wilwerding 4th
Charles Mulligan 4th
Michael Cold 6th

2/11/06

District Competition

Guy Smith 2nd
Samuel Almazan 4th
Charles Mulligan 4th

2/16-18/06

State Tournament

Guy Smith 1st

taking it

all the way

Wrestler hopes State win gives more attention to sport

by molly mullen

All that was going through his head after he won the final match was, "I've got to see my mom."

Guy Smith (12) was the first Eagle to win first at State wrestling since 1999 when Ray Cazell won in the 140 pound weight class.

"She (my mom) was in tears," Smith said. "There are no words to explain how happy my family was."

Not only was his family glad to see him take first, but the student body was glad to show their support, too.

When Smith walked into the Millard North game, he received a standing ovation from the student section. He said he didn't expect that kind of treatment; he was just planning on sitting quietly and watching the game, but he was glad students took notice.

Smith said wrestling usually takes a back seat to sports like basketball and football.

"I hope to get more light on the (wrestling) program," Smith said.

He said his goal is to help Coach Jimmie Foster recruit and build up the program. If he could win State and do well, maybe other people would take an interest.

Smith said he was ready for his last match against Creighton Prep's Anthony Salsido, an opponent who he had lost to in Districts.

"The whole match, I flat-out dominated," he said. "After he took me down in the first period, I was ready to win."

Foster said earlier in the season he expected Smith to take State, but after a rough season, this was a nice surprise.

"He led from the beginning to the end," Foster said. "He ended up getting a nice fall."

He said Smith had not been wrestling up to his ability before State.

"I knew he had it in him," he said.

Before his big win, Smith said he had no intention to wrestle in college. Now he is planning on wrestling and playing football.

He said he tried to be the best leader he could for all the younger wrestlers coming back next season.

"It was tough; a lot was riding on me," he said.

He said he reached his goal of making the younger wrestlers better by the end of the season.

Samuel Almazan (9) competed at State this season, and Smith said he expected Almazan to return next year and do much better.

Charles Mulligan (12) wrestled at State after fracturing his wrist before the season started and tearing some ligaments during Districts.

He had to tape up both his wrists before competing so his opponents wouldn't know which hand was injured.

He said the sport is about wrist control and positioning and he didn't want them to go right for the injury to get an advantage.

"Against the trainer's opinion, I wrestled my final match," he said. "It was a lot of pain."

He did not place at State. He said he didn't wrestle as well as he could have.

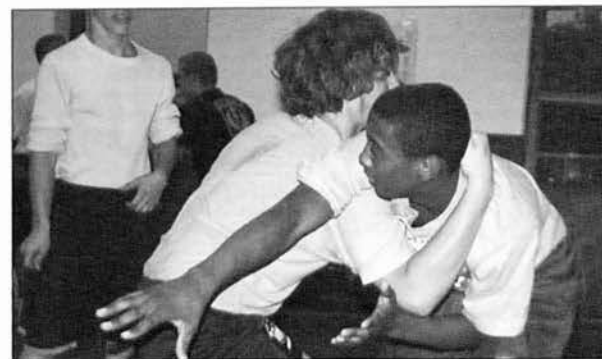
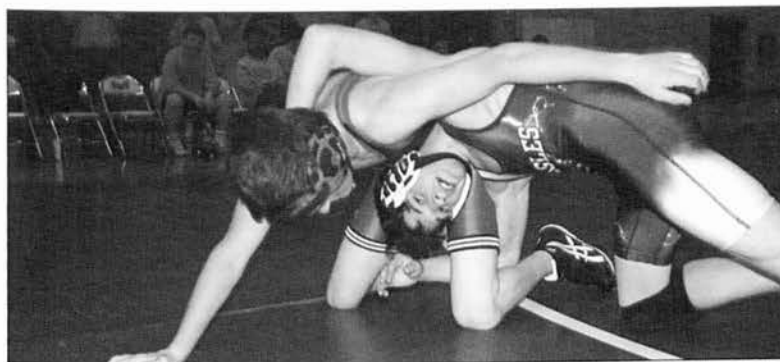
"I was down on myself for not making it to the finals," Mulligan said.

He said wrestling changed his outlook on life.

"You have to give 100 percent to everything," he said.

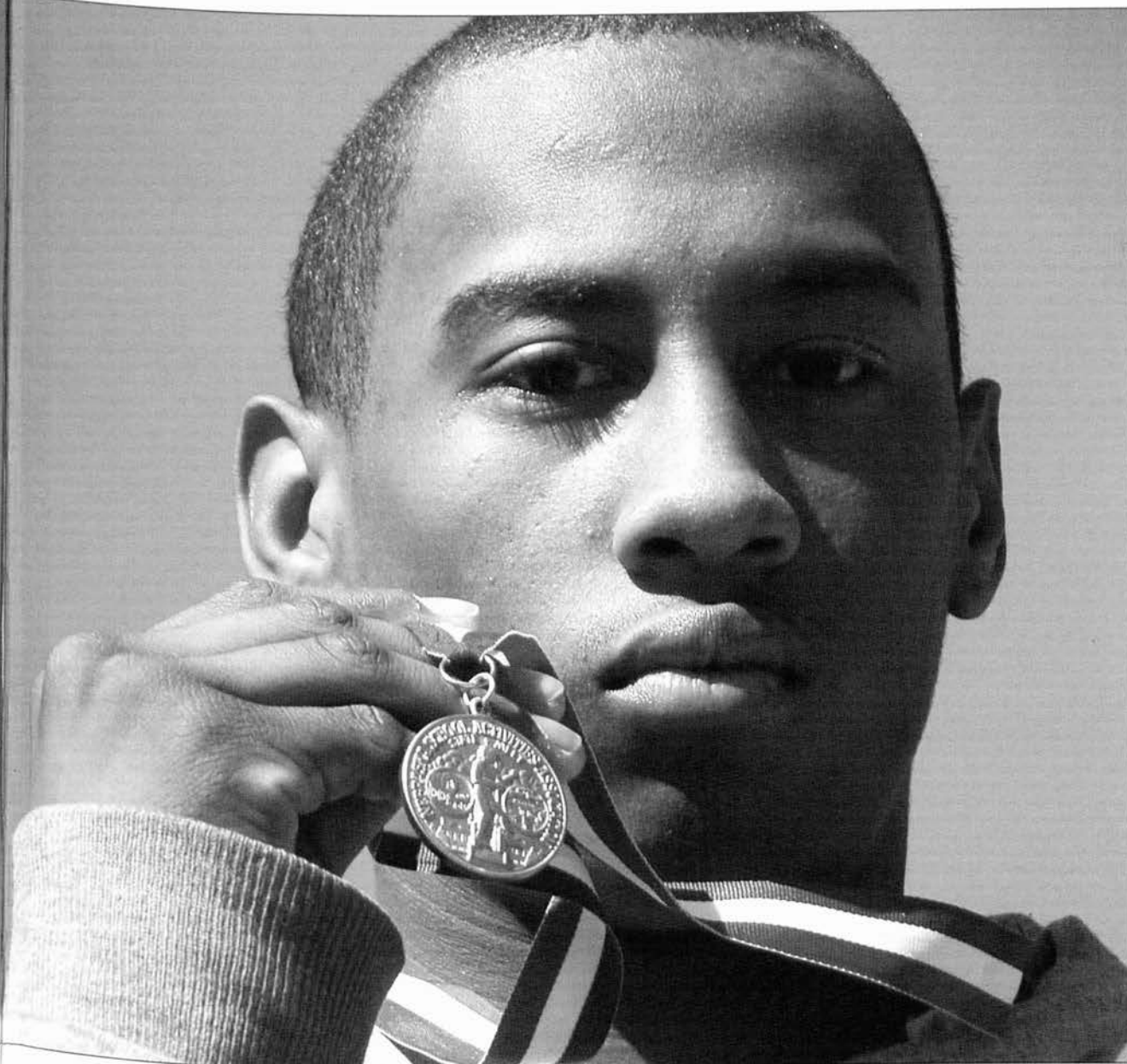
He said non-wrestlers didn't understand how difficult it was.

Right. Blake Cantrell (9) gets a hold of South's Colin Riley. He was the star of the evening, but the Eagles lost the duel 54-49 due to the lack of wrestlers.
Photo by Clay Lomneth.



Above. Guy Smith (12) and Charles Mulligan (12) practice at the beginning of the season in the Wrestling Club. This was an opportunity for the entire team to get ahead before the season started. Students even younger than high school level were welcomed to participate.
Photo by Lauren Crist.

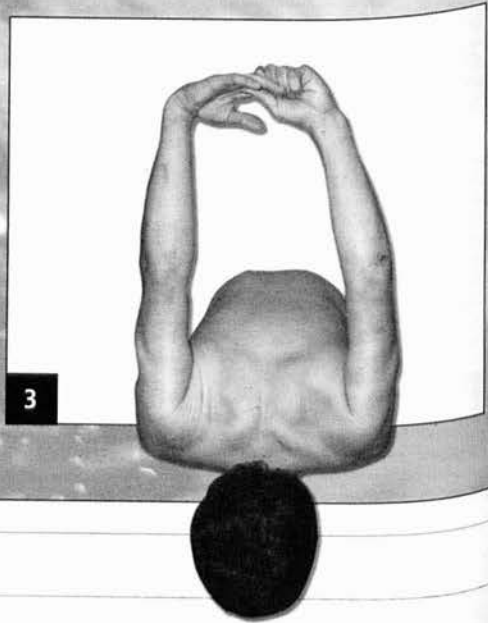
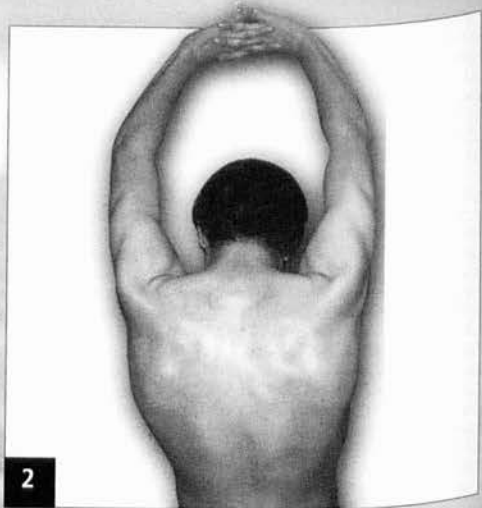
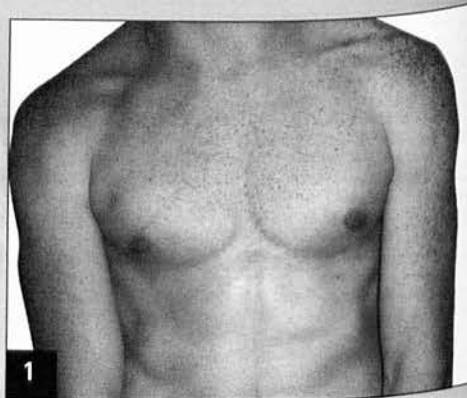
Left. Smith holds up his 1st place medal for the State wrestling competition. He beat Creighton Prep's Anthony Salsido who he lost to in Districts. He said he got all his nervousness out at Districts and was ready to dominate on the mat in the final match.
Photo by Molly Mullen.



Left. Kolbie and Nicholas Foster, the team's youngest club members, practice their moves while Smith helps them with their techniques.
Photo by Lauren Crist.

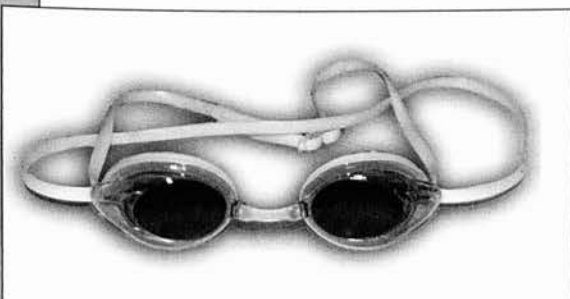
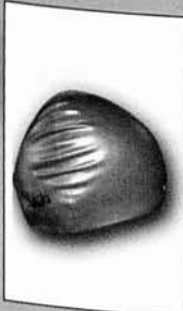
Coach Meredith Kinman said Lindsey Anderson (12) was the captain of the swimming team this year and the team was one of the largest teams in the past few decades. Photo by Lauren Crist.

Having the right stuff:



Special Swimming Extra

Biggest team in decades has high standards for future



From Left. The one piece has always been popular because two-piece suits can fall off or add drag to the body. The trends recently for men were the Speedo Jammers, or the shorts, although the briefs were coming back in style because they had the least amount of fabric to reduce drag. The cap and goggles need to be tight as well.

Photo illustration by Molly Mullen.

by molly mullen

Sara Hallgren (11) was one of a few of the State qualifiers from Central and although she was nervous, she was mentally prepared.

She ended up swimming in a conciliation round for the 200 free stroke. This was just the beginning for Hallgren, with a bigger and better season of high school swimming coming up next year as well as aspirations to swim in college and beyond.

With a new coach came new expectations and techniques. The team would meditate before its meets and would visualize each part of that meet.

"Mostly, I think about my races and how well I want to do," she said. "And, since I'm a junior I think about how I can make up for my races next year."

She said she loved swimming. She used to be in other sports like softball, but she gave everything up to concentrate on the one sport.

She was on a year-long team and plans on doing it in college as well. She said she wanted to attend Stanford because it had the best

team. Swimming was not something new to the Hallgren family.

She said her mother, aunt and grandfather all won medals and awards for swimming. She has surpassed them, however, swimming in high school on two teams and winning on both. She said she has made her family proud.

She competed in the 200 freestyle, 200 medley relay, 100 fly and 200 individual medley.

"Sara is one of the hardest working people I ever met," Lindsey Anderson (12) said.

She said even though she was going to college out of state, she wanted to come back to see Hallgren compete.

Coach Meredith Kinman said the team should improve a lot next year.

Kinman said this was one of the biggest teams she had ever seen. It had over 60 people. Out of those swimmers, only four were seniors.

"This season took a lot of getting used to for the freshmen," she said. "Middle school (swimming) is only six weeks versus our four months."



1. Tight abs will allow the swimmer to push off the wall during dolphin kicks. 2. Broad shoulders are helpful because they use so much upper-body strength. 3. Arms are the big source of upper-body strength. When stream-lining, the swimmer can swim smoothly when one hand is over the other. 4. When they kick, it's an ankle motion and they don't want to bend their knees. Calves should be strong for jumping off the starting block. 5. Long fingers help touch the wall sooner and cuts time. 6. Big feet are more like flippers, and it helps to have really long legs, too.

Photo illustration by Molly Mullen.

Scoreboard

Swimming

12/06/05

Burke

Girls 72-148 L

Boys 85-138 L

01/10/06

South

Girls 117-25 W

Boys 108-30 W

1/20/06

Lewis Central

Boys 81-88 L

1/21/06

Duchesne

Girls 71-97 L

1/17/06

Papillion

Girls 68-102 L

Boys 71-96 L

1/24/06

Westside

Girls 48-133 L

Boys 38-142 L

1/26/06

Bellevue East

Girls 78-88 L

Boys 93-75 W

1/31/06

North

Girls 76-93 L

Boys 90-76 L

2/9-11/06

Metro Conference

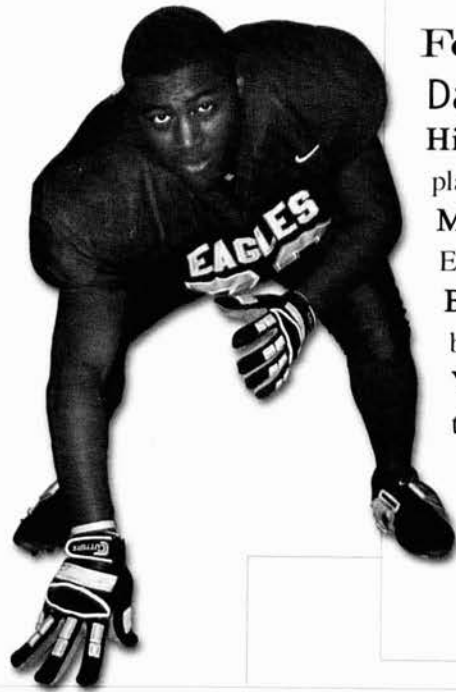
2/23-25/06

State

Sara Hallgren swam in a

conciliation

200 free stroke.



Football

David Jones (12)

History- He has played football since he was 7 years old and plans to continue when he goes to UNL for the upcoming season.

Motivation- "Watching pro football players every night on Sports Center. Every player in the NFL motivates me."

Best Part- "Being physical and not getting an assault charge because of it."

Worst Part- "Being tripled teamed is the worst thing, but it's ok knowing that you can overcome it."

Strategy- "Play your hardest from the first whistle to the last whistle."

Boys Tennis

Kent Drickey (11)

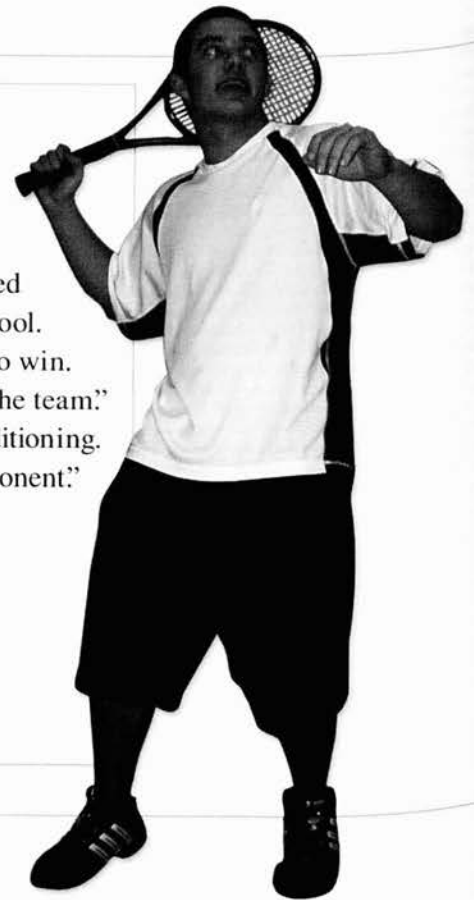
History- He said he had played tennis for three years. Unlike many students who played their sport in middle school, he said he just started tennis once he got to high school.

Motivation- He said he plays to win.

Best Part- "I like playing with the people on the team."

Worst Part- He said the worst part of tennis is the conditioning.

Strategy- "I try to outlast the opponent."



Girls Golf

Deborah Rennard (12)

History- She has been playing golf her whole life. When her family used to go golfing, she would go along with them using her plastic clubs.

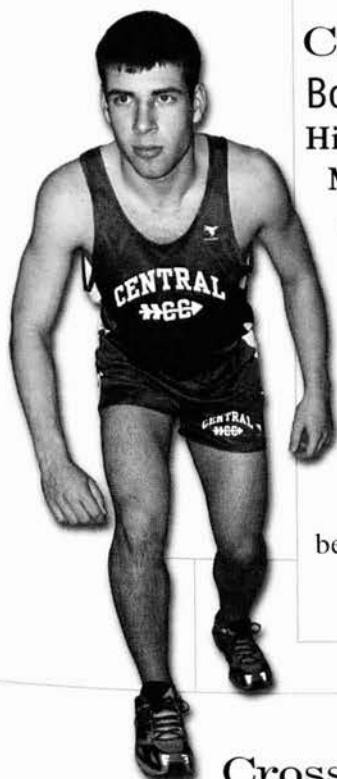
Motivation- "Playing with my dad. Also, playing on the school team with the rest of the girls."

Best Part- "It is a mental game. When you concentrate and relax, you'll play well."

Worst Part- "It is easy to get frustrated and it is challenging to hit the ball. When you mess up, it is difficult to stay calm."

Strategy- "I try to stay positive about my game. I've learned that if I let a bad hit get to me my whole round is ruined. Golf truly is a mental sport."





Cross Country Boys- Robert Stoffel (12)

History- He has ran cross country and track since freshman year.

Motivation- "I run because I like it. Running makes me feel like I am worth something. Running as a team competing is my motivation and our team has a future."

The Best Part- "I like the team atmosphere because it is an individual sport, but we work together as a team. You run for yourself."

The Worst Part- "When it gets really hot or really cold. Other then the weather, it is all good"

Strategy- "In the race, I start out slower then build up. I pace off of the runners ahead of me. I do what the coach tells me. If he doesn't think I should be doing something, then I don't do it."

Cross Country Girls- Allison Gorga (12)

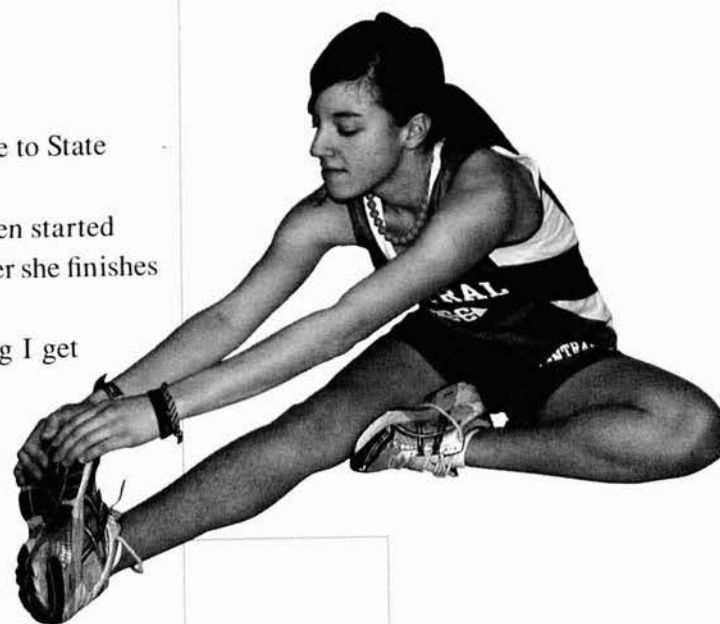
History- She has run varsity since freshman year and has gone to State twice in the last three years.

Motivation- Started out running to get in shape for soccer, then started to like running more. She said she likes the feeling she gets after she finishes a hard work out.

The Best Part- "I like the satisfaction and the healthy feeling I get from running."

The Worst Part- "I really don't like when negative teammates bring me down. Also, when we have a really hard workout."

Strategy- "The most important part is stretching and eating right and most of it is mental and not so much physical, she said. "You have to want to do well to run well."



Volleyball Jessica Carl (12)

History- She started to play volleyball at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School when she was in 4th grade and has been on CHS's varsity team since she was a freshman.

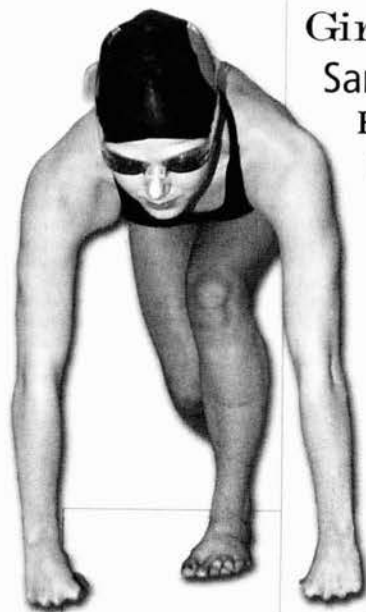
Motivation- "I absolutely love being on the court. Anything can happen. There is never a play that happens more than once. I love the rush."

Best Part- "I could play all day if I wanted. You can play up to six games in a tournament."

Worst Part- She said playing against girls much taller than herself.

Strategy- "Before every game, I listened to some kind of rap to get me hyped. I always wanted to picture myself on the court before my game setting."





Girls Swimming

Sara Hallgren (11)

History- She swam first at Elmwood Elementary in 4th grade and joined McMillan's Middle School swim team. She was the only girl to compete individually at State.

Motivation- "Try to beat the clock."

Best Part- "Improving your time and making State. Making friends and hanging out with the team."

Worst Part- Having one race right after another.

Strategy- "Practice all the time, try hard and have fun!"

Softball

Kelly Wiczorek (11)

History- Broke her collarbone over the summer and missed half of the season. She came back and pitched in almost every game.

Motivation- Her sister got her into playing softball and she has been growing up around it.

Best Part- "Having fun with your teammates."

Worst Part- "Injuries"

Strategy- "My first pitch to the batter. I always try to make it a strike."



Girls Basketball

Jasmine Johnson (11)

History- She has been playing organized basketball since the 4th grade.

Motivation- "My motivation is to win. Even when it's a game we are losing, I always go hard."

Best Part- "Playing defense is what's best for me. Yeah, we all like to score, but playing good defense creates the offense."

Worst Part- "Losing makes you stronger because you learn, but I am very competitive. I strongly dislike to lose."

Strategy- "I try to stay focused. Even though the crowd is nice to have, I always keep in mind that it's my job to keep my composure and take care of business. I have to be a leader for my team so I stay positive and keep everyone involved. We always go hard."





**Boys
Swimming
John Johnson
(10)**

History- He started swimming competitively in the summer of 5th grade and then joined his junior high swim team.

Motivation- "My parents started me on swimming and making them proud is always a goal."

Best Part- "The best part is the feeling of invincibility when you win a race."

Worst Part- "The 5:30 a.m. practices during the week. They are physically and mentally draining."

Strategy- "Go 100 percent once that gun fires. Sometimes you have to literally swim yourself to the point that you can't take a steady breath."

**Boys Basketball
Benjamin Kline (11)**

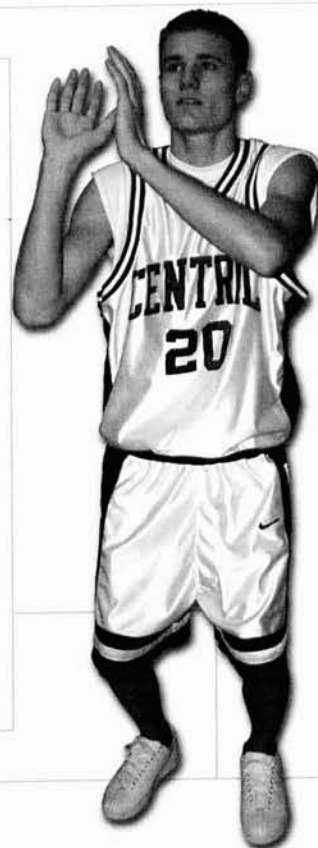
History- He has been playing basketball since the age of 4. He said he'd been playing with Timothy Kanger (12), Bryant Cotton (12) and Drew Meier (12) since the 4th or 5th grade.

Motivation- He said basketball scholarships motivate him. He hopes to attain one by playing and working hard. He said his parents, coaches and friends motivate him, too.

Best Part- He said hanging with the team and coaches is one of the best parts of basketball. "The games, especially the big ones (against highly ranked opponents)."

Worst Part- "Practice everyday, conditioning for the season (running) and lifting weights. Otherwise there is no bad part of the season."

Strategy- He said he tries to rebound more than his opponents and have less turnovers. "My goal- do whatever I can to help the team win."



**Wrestling
Guy Smith (12)**

History- He has been wrestling for five years. He started wrestling in 7th grade and has been on CHS's varsity team since his freshman year.

Motivation- "The will to win."

Best Part- "The best part is when you win and come out on top knowing you are the best at that time."

Worst Part- "Knowing you are better than the man across the mat and you still lose."

Strategy- "Practice hard everyday. Take it one match at a time."



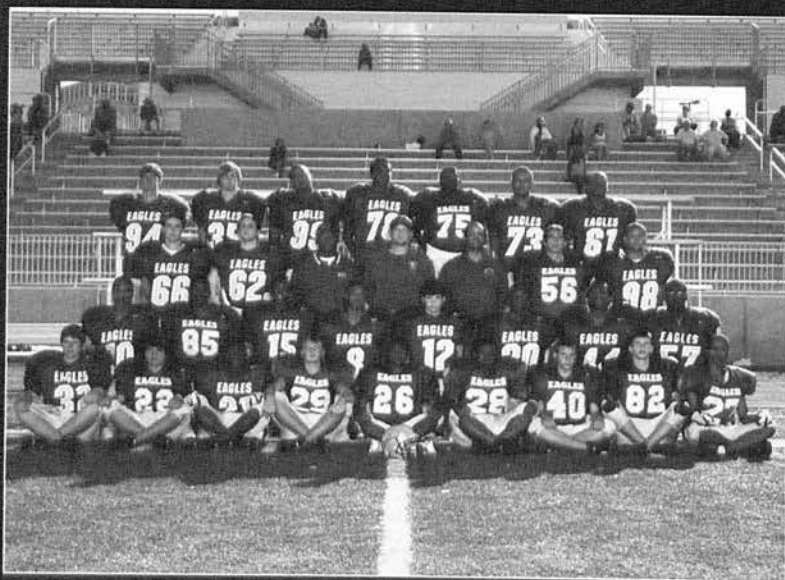
Varsity Football

Front Row. Robert Clay, Ronnell Grixby, Benford Hill, Beauchamp Alejandro, Marquis Spencer, Christopher Thomas, Willis Williams, William Smith and Terrell Mayhue. **Second Row.** Jason Wright, Justin Wilson, Guy Smith, Patrick Olson, Stanley Smith, Ramel Thompson, Joshua Krehoff, Jermaine Blackson, Jamie Peck, Steven Fiscus and Brian Flowers. **Third Row.** Michael Aguilar, coach Eric Anderson, coach DeAntae Grixby, coach Joe McMenamin, coach Josh Montzingo, coach Jodi Phillips, coach James Knight, coach John Rupe and Kathleen Byrne. **Fourth Row.** Bartan Samuel, Donald McPherson, Taylor Cook-Ofstead, Nicholas Pellman, Randy Burns, Christopher Griffin, Damon Peters, Andre McIntyre and Matthew Woster. **Fifth Row.** Mavrice Kirnsey, Craig Ecabert, Leonard Parker, Justin Allen, Charles Thompson, Ryan Steffen, Michael Kammerer and Benjamin Olbertz. **Back Row.** Kevin Kuzelka, Dustin Ziesel, Tom Daffer, Bret Briggs, David Jones, Phillip Morrissey, Granson Falkner, Harland Gunns and Vondrae Tostenson.

With permission of Photographic Enterprise.



JV Football



Front Row. Colin Robertson (10), Anthony Distephano (10), Ian McKizia (9), Tyler Kros (10), Robert Bradshwa (10), Jabari Tilman (9), Josh Frazier (9), Nathan Queen (10) and Dominique Johnson (11). **Second Row.** Shane Prater (10), Kylan Ross (10), Chaz Brown (10), Shaun Prater (10), Tim Jacobs (11), Taz Brewer (9), Walter Dudley (10) and Lewis House (10). **Third Row.** Anthony Rushing (10), Samuel Kincaid (10), coach Grixby, coach Shimereda, coach Anderson, Paul Plozek (10) and Stephen Johnson (10). **Back Row.** Patrick Byrne (10), Benjamin Chonis (10), Chase King (10), Mykeil Shan (10), Phillip Cooley (10), Jessie Vessar (10) and Gabriel Robinson (10). *With permission of Photographic Enterprise.*

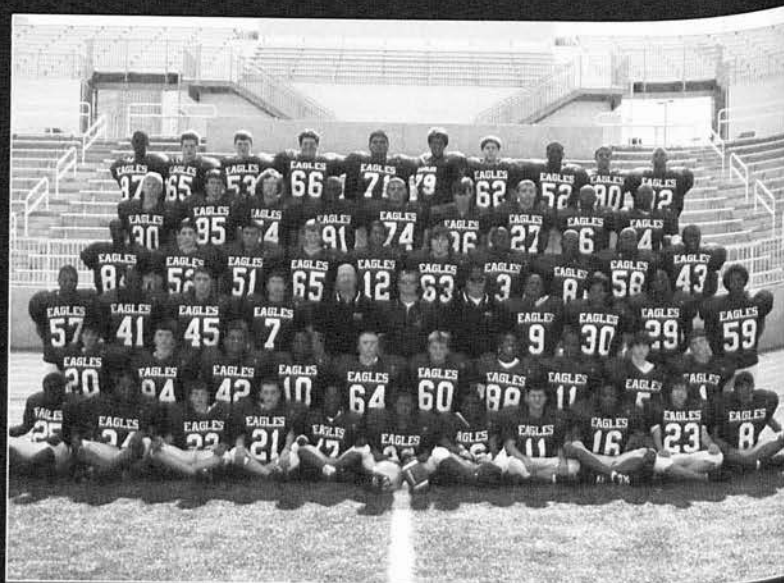
Captain: Taz Brewer.

This was head coach Joe Shemerdlas first year. JV's record was 4 -4, and was the team's first time of having a .500 record in a long time.

Freshman Football

Julian Jones (9), Dillion Jessen, Bryant Giles, Kenneth Cribbs, Stefan Dwornicki, Ryan Harless, Devin McDonald, Darin Sherrod, Jordon Frezell, Victory Davis, Frankie Sosnowski, Jourdan Kellogg, Kelan Fontroy, Leandre Ballew, Robbie Owens, Mark Vanek, Zach Andre, Ryan Stoffel, David Rainey, Devin Taylor, Marcus Oliver, Jake Weishapo, Adam Thramer, Tremaine Williams, Micheal Lee, Anthony Fielding, Joante Dancer, Kevin Wells, Julius Sanders, Daniel Fields, William Jorgensen, Zach Grunke, Nick Jackson, Emil Finch, Andrew Hearn, Chris Latta, Josh Cowdry, Corey Newburg, Evan Qualheim, Jared Soll, Drew Roberts, Richard Bustillos, Brian Bell, Josiah Gauff, and Brandon Hendersen. *With permission of Photographic Enterprise.*

The football team finally had a place to call home. The team was able to hold home games at the new Seemann Stadium.



Varsity Softball



Front Row. Amanda Logan (11), Hannah Spielman (10), Catherine Venditte (10) and Rachel Newberry (11). **Second Row.** Samantha Sheridan (10), Amber Hamilton (11), Courtney Griffith (11), Jacquelyn Whelan (10) and Carli Culjat (10). **Back Row.** Ashley Rose (11), Rochelle Finnigan (11), coach Bernstein, coach Jodi Reeder, Kelly Wiczorek (11) and Kelsie Maslo (11).
With permission of Photographic Enterprise.

Captains: Amber Hamilton and Hannah Spielman.
The team had to deal with injuries of its valuable players. Members just wanted to play with the highest level of intensity during all their games and they did not have a main rival.

JV Softball

Front Row. Rachel Newberry (11), Hannah Spielman (10), Catherine Venditte (10), Kayla Kros (10) and Sarah Medeiros (9). **Second Row.** Lora Kolobara (9), Reanna Limley (9), Ashley Gunia (10), Alicia Durkan (11), Kristi Spargen (10) and Melisa Dellutri (11). **Back Row.** Xan Burgess (9), Sarah Davis (9), coach Jodi Reeder, Samantha Sheridan (10), Caitlin Farrell (10).
With permission of Photographic Enterprise.

Captains: Hannah Spielman, Alicia Durkan and Ashley Gunia.
The team was made of young players who improved very much throughout the season. It changed its practice location from Lynch to Dill.



Boys Varsity Tennis



Front Row. JR Powell (12), Mike Walsh (9) and Ben Bilyeu (12). **Back Row.** Kent Drickey (11), Antonio Lopez (12), coach Larry Andrews, John Lloyd (9) and Mark Pokorny (12).
With permission of Photographic Enterprise.

Captain: Antonio Lopez.
Kent Drickey suffered a severe ankle sprain and was expected to be out for the season. However, he came back after just a few weeks and played even better. The team practiced at Tranquility Park. Antonio Lopez was the number 1 singles consolation winner in the Metro Tournament.

Boys JV Tennis

Front Row. Samuel Woolard (11), Benjamin Thomas (10), coach Alfonso Lopez, coach James Galus, Ben McGuire (10) and Erik Mabrouk (10). *With permission of Photographic Enterprise.*

The team practiced at Dewey Park.



Girls Golf



Front Row. Maxine Price (9), Deborah Rennard (12), Ashley Bryant (10) and coach Linda Brock. *With permission of Photographic Enterprise.*

Captain: Deborah Rennard.

Deborah Rennard was the only returning player. This was Linda Brock's first year as head coach. The team had eight members, but only two had prior golf experience.

Girls Varsity Volleyball

Front Row. Laney Rosenbalm-Penry (11), Maya Doghman (10), Jennifer Grant (10), Samantha Bennett (11), Kelsey Kroeger (12), Jessica Carl (12) and Martina Kolobara (11). **Second Row.** Bridgette Hines (11), Kathryn Humphreys (10), Brianne Tapley (12), Stephanie Hines (10), Jocelin Ford (12) and Cherylle Leffall (12). **Back Row.** Coach Jodi Brown.

With permission of Photographic Enterprise.

Captains: Cherylle Leffall and Jessica Carl.

The team beat Westside High School in the Metro tournament. The team's main rival was Omaha Burke. The players practiced Monday to Fridays from 3 p.m. through 6 p.m. and practiced for two hours on Saturday.

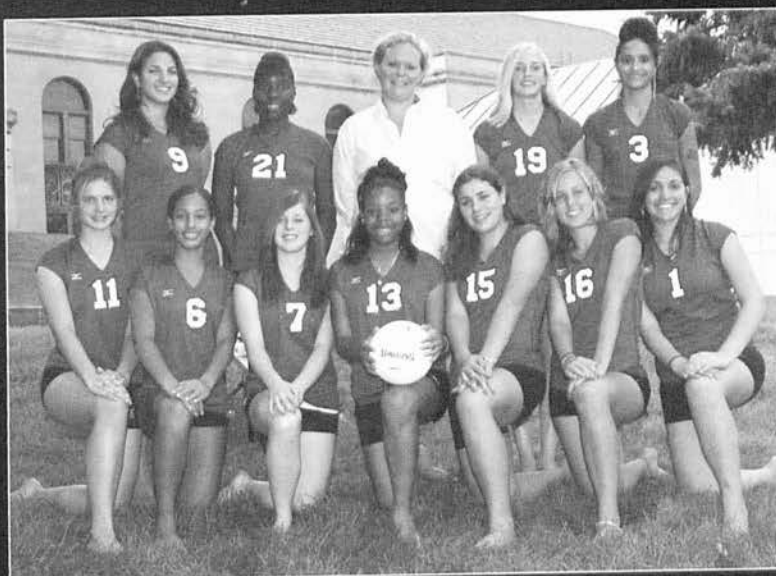


Girls Junior Varsity Volleyball

Front Row. Alyssa Bell (9), Ashley Pruitt (9), Jennifer Grant (10), Nakya Clark (10), Lauren Trummer (10), Theresa Vacha (11) and Maya Doghman (10). **Back Row.** Martina Kolobara (11), Wynter Davis (9), coach Erica Meyer, Ann Widdershoven (11) and Stephanie Hines (10).

With permission of Photographic Enterprise.

They didn't have a captain because all of the juniors acted as leaders. The team's main rival was Omaha Burke. Coach Erica Meyer has been the head coach for four years.



Girls Reserve Volleyball

Front Row. Brianna Huddle (10), Rachel Woolard (10), Samantha Friesz (10), Angela Carbonell (10), Stacey Pirtle (10) and Amber Rowan (10). **Back Row.** Patricia Cobb (10), Chloe Greguska (10), coach Brent Larson, Devan Hardy (10) and Janelle Kellberg (10). *With permission of Photographic Enterprise.*

Captain: Patricia Cobb.

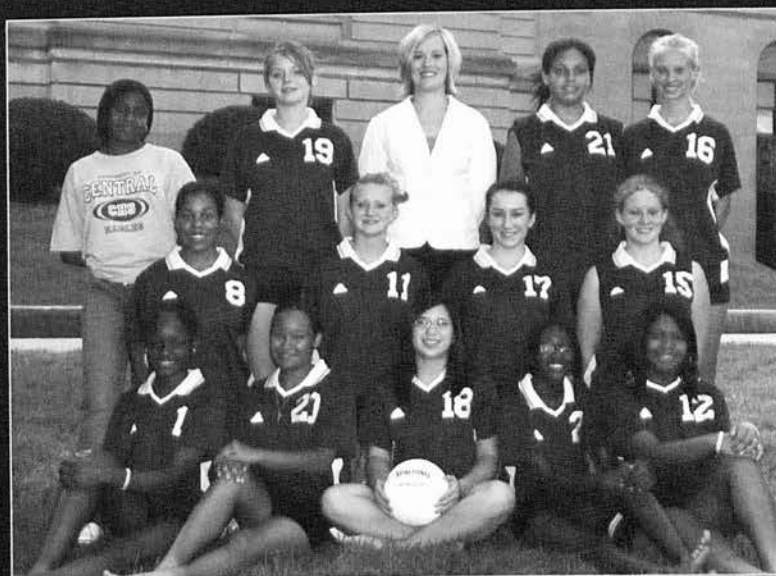
This was the first year high school teams were allowed to use a libero (defensive specialist). Rachel Woolard stepped into that role. The team had three transfer girls, so players said they were very excited to play Millard North and Omaha South.



Girls Freshman Volleyball

Front Row. Shanique Hampton (9), Bianca Smith (9), Michelle Rieger (9), Franecia Moore (9) and Adrienne Jimerson (9). **Second Row.** Zalika King (9), Crystal Overgaard (9), Kelsey Cronin (9) and Bailey Cullen (9). **Back Row.** Brittani Tucker (9), Melanie Musick (9), coach Mary Beth Polivka, Andrea Brooks (9) and Sara Vacha (9). *With permission of Photographic Enterprise.*

While the team did not have an official captain, setter Franecia Moore acted as captain during games. The team beat last year's record of wins. The team placed 3rd at the OPS tournament. The girls were out to have fun and to keep their spirits up even if they lost.



Boys Cross Country

Front Row. Diego Ledesma (11), Joseph Iwen (12), Jeffrey Mell (11), Andrew Zimmer (9), Todd Alba (9), Dylan McMahon (10), Morgan Shumaker (11) and Anthony Gardner (9). **Second Row.** Jamie Rubio (12), Robert Stoffel (12), Everett Welch (10), coach Shannon Stenger, Jared Dittman (11), Michael Lynch (10) and Benjamin Zimmer (12). **Back Row.** Mark Wilder (11), Plamen Petkov (11), Nathan Whittle (10), Joseph Shaw (11), Daniel Susman (12), William Stacy (12) and Philip Lomneth (10).

With permission of Photographic Enterprise.

The team did not have a captain because the coach expected the upperclassmen to take on leadership roles. The runners practiced at Elmwood and Memorial Park. The team placing improved in every meet.



Girls Cross Country



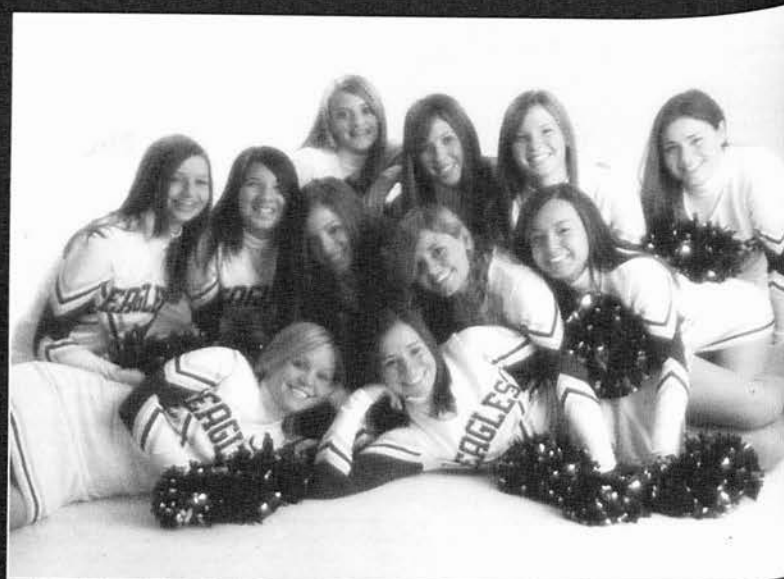
Front Row. Bailey Dilocker (9), Ilda Gasca (11), Monique Eberlein (9), Rebecca Sevela (9), Allsion Gorga (12), Jacquelyn Pirtle (11) and Adrian Monge (10). **Second Row.** Stephanie Jamieson (9), Annaturi Maher (12), Ellen Danford (10), Allison Hartnett (12), Maceal Jespersen (12) and Leah Meyer (12). **Back Row.** Linda Hannah (9), Rachel Glissmann (12), coach Trent Lodge, Lindsay Meyer (12), Antea Gatalica (10) and Rachel Reno (10).

With permission of Photographic Enterprise.

Pom Squad

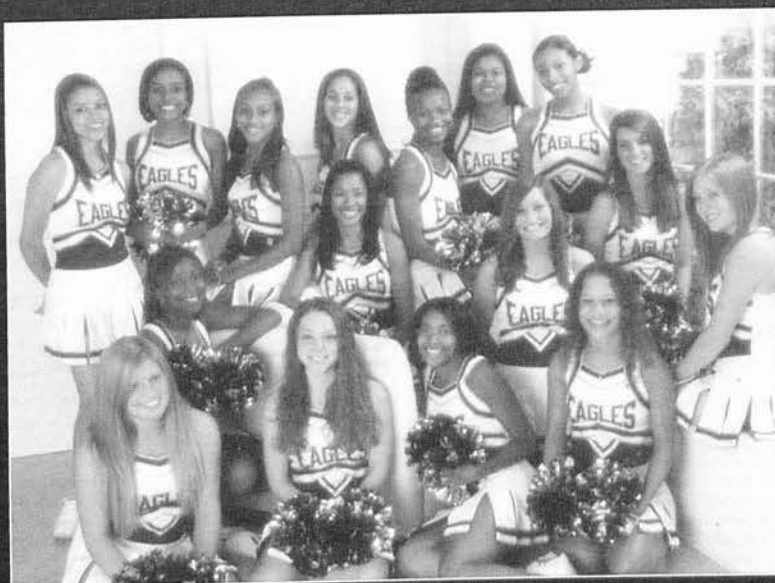
Front Row. Elisabeth Garvin (11), Kaitlyn O'Banion (12), **Second Row.** Andrea Thompson (11), Arielle Donner (11), Grace Gillespie (10), Audrey Madison (12) and Ashlee Atwell (11). **Back Row.** Katie Johnson (10), Erin Schultz (10), Margaret Baumann (11) and Lauren Trummer (10). *With permission of Photographic Enterprise.*

Captains: Katie O'Banion, Audrey Madison, Elisabeth Garvin. The members competed at UNO and earned 3rd place. Elisabeth Garvin won first place in Leaps/Jumps at UNO. This was the first time the squad competed. Margaret Baumann and Grace Gillespie were selected to go to a pom camp in Hawaii due to their academics and their dance ability.



Varsity Cheerleading

Front Row. Sarah Kyler (11), Sarah Maxey (11), Karmen Holmes (12) and Brittney Ruffin (11). **Second Row.** Shanesha Mapp (12), Jasmine Elmore (12), Jaime Gustafson (11), Carolyn Croskey (11) and Alexandra Herskind (11). **Back Row.** Ashley Weich (12), Keaira Goodwin (12), Rashele Sharkey (11), Ashley Greenwood (12), Chardenay Davis (11), Jessica Sterling (12), and Aja Anderson (12). *With permission of Photographic Enterprise.*



Captains: Brittney Ruffin and Jasmine Elmore.

They bonded at the National Cheerleading Association over the summer. A select few cheerleaders won an All-American Nominee ribbon. This year the captains had more of a responsibility because they no longer had a coach, they had a sponsor.

JV Cheerleading

Front Row. Alexandra Pearson (10), Jennifer Baratta (10) and Britani Avery (10). **Back Row.** Meeae Tillwick (10), Rachael Larington (10) and Michelle Negrete (10). *With permission of Photographic Enterprise.*

Captains: Brittney Ruffin and Jasmine Elmore.

This was the first year the cheerleaders had the chance to perform at the pep rallies. All the cheerleading squads have a constitution book they have to abide by.



Freshman Cheerleading

Front Row. Allison Koehler (9) and Breanna Harrison (9). **Second Row.** Elizabeth Wells (9), Monika Heater (9) and Lydia Stern (9). **Back Row.** Briche McNair (9), Alexandria Wayne (9), Alana Brunow (9) and Chelsie Thurman. *With permission of Photographic Enterprise.*

Captains: Brittney Ruffin and Jasmine Elmore.

Jennifer Fotsch was the head coach of all the cheerleaders. They all went to the Spirit Awards Camp over the summer. They received a spirit stick while at the camp.



Varsity Boys Basketball

Front Row. Joshua Jones (10), Christopher Griffin (9), Steven Fiscus (11), Ronnell Grixby (10), Michael Wilson (12) and John Hill (9). **Second Row.** Vondrae Tostenson (9), Timothy Kanger (12), Frederick Perry (12), Bryant Cotton (12), Benjamin Kline (11) and Lorenzo Wilson (10). **Back Row.** Rodney Grace (12), Jason Jackson, head coach Eric Behrens, asst. coach Herb Welling, asst. coach Chad Burns and Drew Meier (12).

With permission of Photographic Enterprise.

Captains: Rodney Grace and Timothy Kanger.
The team competed at the Qwest Center Shootout on Feb. 11. The team practiced Monday and Thursdays at Central and at Norris Middle School Tuesdays and Wednesdays.



JV Boys Basketball



Front Row. Joshua Bruning (9), John Hill (9), Steven Fiscus (11), Michael Partee (9), Jerry Dorsey (10), Obadiah Davis (10) and Deion Sherrod (10). **Back Row.** Kyle Lynch (10), Douglas Knickrehm (9), asst. coach Jason Jackson, head coach Chad Burns, Justin Allen (11) and Shem Woods (11).

With permission of Photographic Enterprise.

Captain: Steven Fiscus.

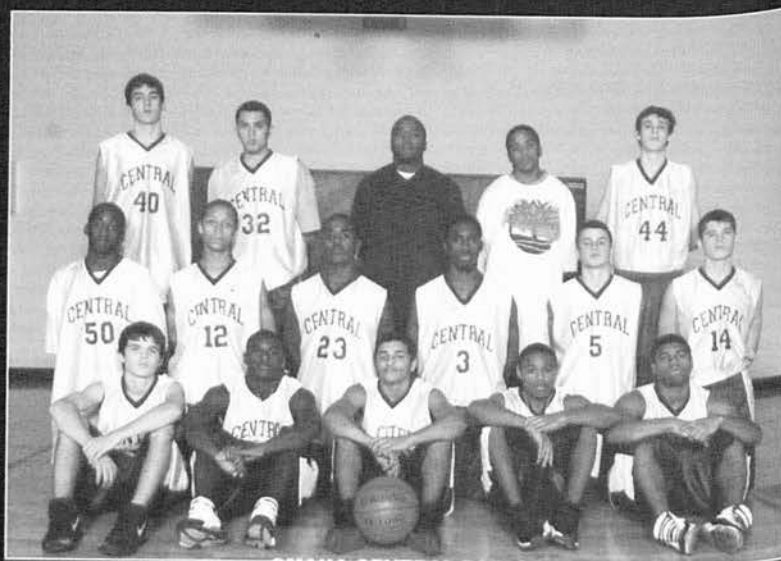
Chad Burns had been coaching the boys for three years. Some times they had to practice at Norris Middle School. Burns started three freshmen this year. Obodian Davis was a transfer student from New Orleans.

Reserve Basketball

Front Row. Michael Guinn (10), Ian McKizia (9), Jacob Lindsey (10), Kevin Smith (10) and Terrell Mayhue (10). **Second Row.** Terel Thorton (10), Anthony Davis (10), George Thompson (10), Loyal Brown (10), Jason Peck (10) and Ryan Steffen (10). **Back Row.** Anthony Dinoff (10), Jason Felici (10), head coach James Knight, Brandon Thorpe (10) and Kevin Mitchell (10).

With permission of Photographic Enterprise.

The team did not have a set captain. It switched every game. Instead of practicing at Central, the team practiced at Druid Hill and Dundee Elementary School. They beat Bryan High School by 30 points.



Freshman Boys Basketball

Front Row. Denzell Cook (9), Devin McDonald (9), Andrew Zimmer (9), Dylan Saferstein (9), Leandre Ballew (9), Jordan Frezell (9), Heath Ryks (9) and Michael McNeely (9). **Second Row.** Antwaun Stewart (9), K'Hail Holmes (9), Rashad Middleton (9), Bryant Giles (9), Marcus Oliver (9), Kenneth Cribbs (9) and Carlos Carroll (9). **Last Row.** David Anderson (9), Paul Simms (9), Alfonzo Straughn (9), head coach Ryan Hunter, volunteer Bill Urban, Josiah Gauff (9), Cameron Bedford and Derek Porter (9).
With permission of Photographic Enterprise.

Captain: Marcus Oliver (9).

Ryan Hunter has been coaching the boys for three years. This team holds the record for freshman teams with making 63 layups in a row.



Varsity Girls Basketball

Front Row. Alexa Fuhs (11), Brianne Tapley (12), Bianca Smith (9), Brittney Ruffin (11), Nakya Clark (10), Rachael Dryver (11) and Kathryn Humphreys (10). **Back Row.** Cherylle Leffall (12), Amber Hamilton (11), head coach Chad Townsend, asst. coach Ryan Hanson, Alicia Bender (11) and Kailah Bailey (9).
With permission of Photographic Enterprise.

Captain: Jasmine Johnson (12) and Cherylle Leffall.

Chad Townsend has been the coach for three years. The girls practiced every day in the gym and sometimes at Norris Middle School. This year it only had two seniors. Two freshmen, Bianca Smith and Kailah Bailey, contributed quality minutes.



JV Girls Basketball

Front Row. Isabel Benjamin-Alvarado (9), Cydney Dorsey (9), Bianca Smith (9), Franecia Moore (9), Nakya Clark (10) and Jasmyn Flowers (9). **Back Row.** Oziona Onyeuku (10), Stephanie Hines (10), head coach Ryan Hanson, Brittney Ruffin (11) and Kailah Bailey (9).
With permission of Photographic Enterprise.

Captain: Brittney Ruffin.

The team had great team chemistry this year. It had a 14 point comeback against Marian High School. Westside High was the team's main rival.



Reserve Girls Basketball

Front Row. Cydney Dorsey (9), Cara Beck (10) and Breana Sneed (9). **Second Row.** Isabel Benjamin-Alvarado (9), Floresha Thomas (9), Taylor Carodine (9) and Franecia Moore (9). **Back Row.** Rachel Jurgensen (10), Oziona Onyeuku (10), Stephanie Hines (10) and Jasmyn Flowers (9).

With permission of Photographic Enterprise.

The team practiced every day in the gym unless there was a varsity home game scheduled. The team also switched captains for every game like the Reserve Boys Basketball team. The coach said there were more intense players this year.



Freshman Girls Basketball



Front Row. Megan Casses (9), Zania Thomas (9), Andrea Mauseth (9), Alecia Steed (9), Sarah Medeiros (9) and Ravyn White (9). **Second Row.** RaeLynn Preston (9), Lashae Young (9), Sabrina Andersen (9), Leila Phillips (9) and Anna French (9). **Back Row.** Alyssa Bell (9), De'Onsha Lewis (9), head coach Eldon Johnson, coach Jodi Rackliffe (9) and Martisha Harris (9).

With permission of Photographic Enterprise.

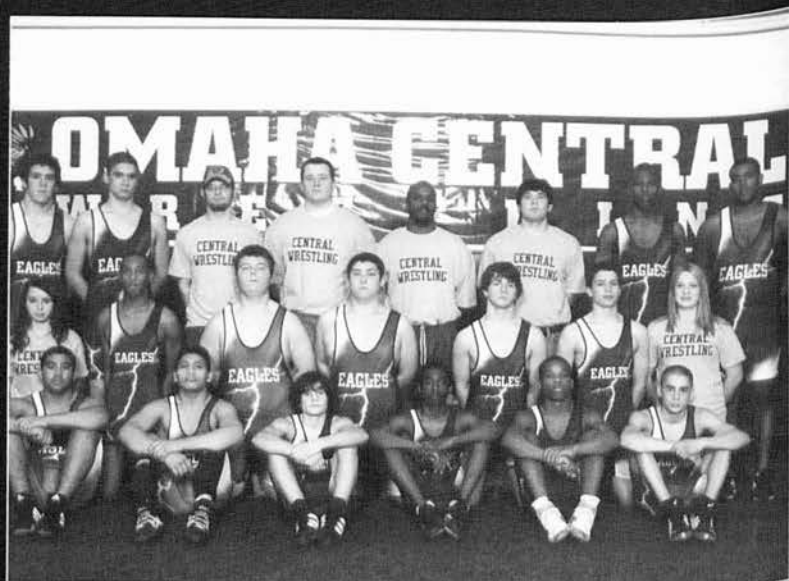
The team practiced at Dundee Elementary on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. It practiced at Kellom Elementary on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Both coach Johnson and Rackliffe have been coaching the team for two years.

Wrestling

Front Row. Anthony Fielding (9), Pedro Andres (11), Blake Cantrell (9), Quintyn Evans (9), Keilen Fantroy (9) and Jeffrey Mell (11). **Second Row.** Manager Jillian Swotek (11), Guy Smith (12), Joshua Cowdery (9), Samuel Almazan (9), Charles Mulligan (12), Anthony Wilwerding (11) and manager Amber Bischof (9). **Back Row.** Michael Cold (11), Nicholas Almazan (11), asst. coach Blake Gayer, asst. coach Dan Hoeck, head coach Jimmie Foster, asst. coach Ryan Dunham, Lonza Ramsey (11) and Andre McIntyre (12).

With permission of Photographic Enterprise.

Captain: Guy Smith and Charles Mulligan.
Guy Smith moved into the top five on CHS's all-time pin leaders. Smith also won State. He was the first wrestler since 1999 to do this. The wrestlers practiced from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. every day. Jimmie Foster has been the head coach for nine years.



People Focus

Connecting life's activities, new and old clubs, hobbies and sports are the people. The people hold all this together. They're the glue and parts of the past, present and future. Imagine how people on the next 90 pages will seem 100 years from now.



From Left. Sara Kohn (standing), William L. McCague, Marcia Manning (seated) and Fannie Herron in 1878. This was the second graduating class of Omaha High School. Omaha High is now called Central High School.



The people at CHS were very talented. Some demonstrated their talents at school and some outside of school. With the diversity, we've seen many things. Things that range from hair styles to teaching styles. Some talents were original and some were not, but even the original talents were connected with the past. The people are all connected. Everyone is an individual, but we are all still connected. The people section bring the past, present and future together.

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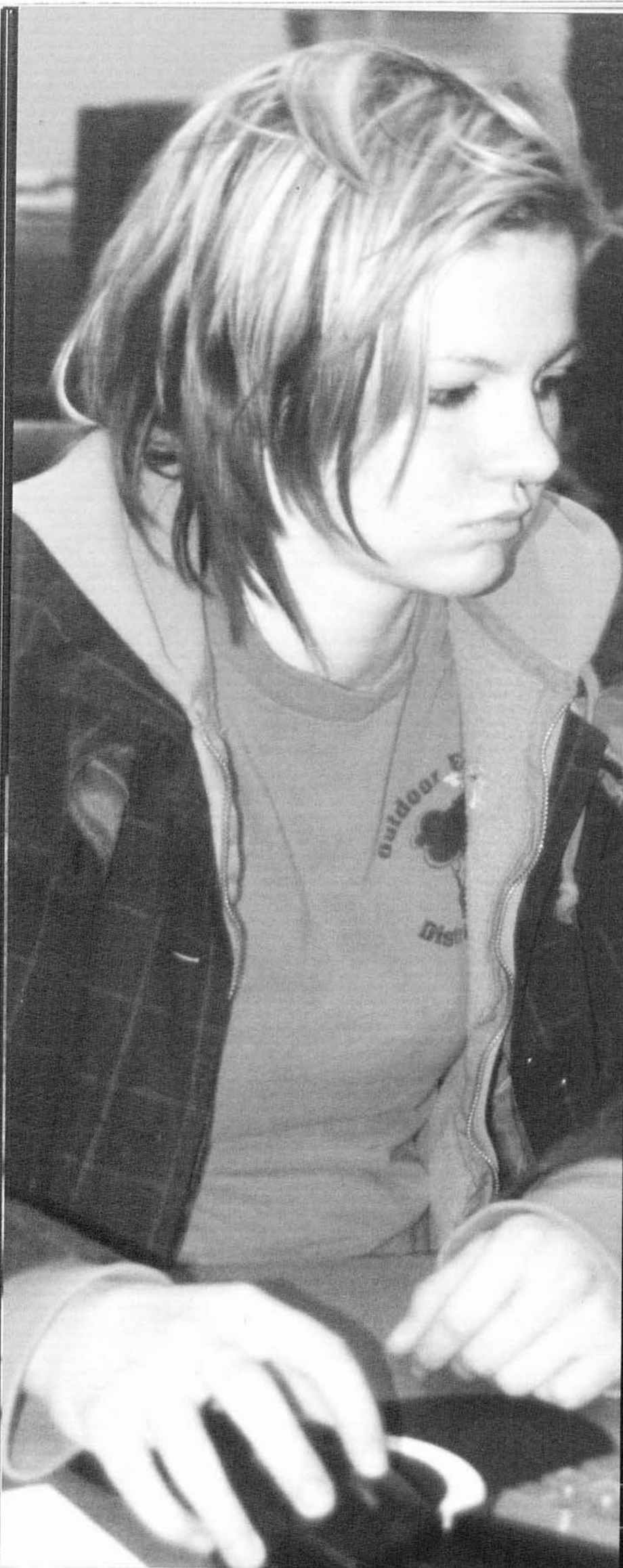


From Left. Samuel Zaccone (12) prepares his mascot suit before putting it on. There was a device in the suit that helped him breathe. Michaela Bradley (11) works on a project in her art class. She was involved in Anime, a club that students who liked to draw the Japanese characters joined. Catherine Venditte (10) recites a poem in her Advanced Drama class.

Photos by Stephanie Wilhelm, Patrick O'Malley and Chester Lovegren.

Opposite page. Janice Baker (11) is relaying a message to another student using the walkie-talkies provided by the drama department. Baker was one of the students in charge of the sound controls during the Road Show performances.

Photo by Clay Lomneth.



Seniors had many relations throughout their years in high school. These connections helped them get through the year. They helped them become the people they would be for the rest of their lives. Things have changed for the better and for the worse since freshmen year. They had a stadium to call home and a court that belonged to the them. They will always have connections with each other and the school for a long time to come. These are our seniors.

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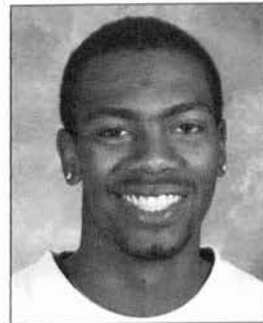


From Left. Nicholas Hug (12) plays his guitar. Christopher McLucas (12) looks at books in the library. Charles Mulligan (12) prepares himself by stretching before wrestling practice.
Photos by Patrick O'Malley.

Left. Susan Sailors (12) works on an assignment in her Desktop Publishing class. She said this was her first year in the class.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.



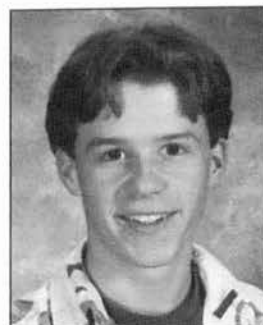
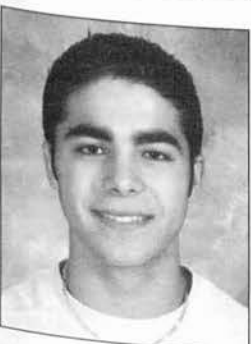
Tamara Adams
 Laura Adler
 Hiba Ahmad
 Kelleyanne Alt



Sarah Amason
 Hannah Andahl
 Aja Anderson
 Brandon Anderson



Grant Anderson
 Kevin Anderson
 Lindsey Anderson
 Dionne Aquino



Esteban Arias
 Kristina Avant
 Prenisha Barfield
 Timothy Battafarano

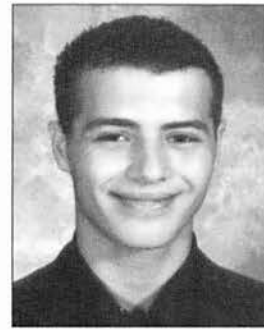


Stephanie Bauer
 Meredith Beaver
 Sarah Beck
 Allen Beckman



Brian Benes
 Warren Bennett
 Timothy Bertino
 Sognil Bhattarai

Benjamin Bilyeu
Trevor Bissell
Megan Blankman
George Blazek



Elias Bloom
Ashley Boadwee
Emily Boston
Brittanica Box



Zackary Breazeale
Brianna Brei
Katelyn Biggs
Brett Briggs



Javona Briggs
Rebecca Briles
Amanda Brown
Kirsten Brown



Christian Buckley
Toiyana Buckley
Steven Burns
Yvette Butler



Kathleen Byrne
Cassandra Campbell
Brian Cannon
Jessica Carl



inspiration comes standard

Students were asked a series of questions concerning their likes and dislikes. The questions ranged from what was their favorite class to what was the worst movie ever.



Krista Killion

thought physical education was a useless class.



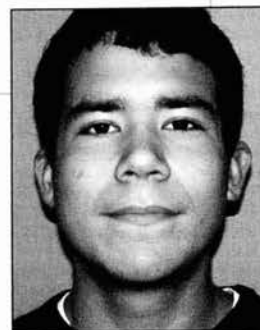
Rebekah Decker

said she liked charities for breast cancer. Like Killion, she thought physical education was a useless class.



Jessica Saligeh

said Oprah inspired her. Like Decker, she said she liked charities for breast cancer. Saligeh said she didn't have a car.



Antonio Lopez

thought "Jeepers Creepers" was the worst movie ever. Like Saligeh he said he didn't have a car.



Curtis Hicks

said he liked the band Blink 182. Like Lopez he said "Jeepers Creepers" was the worst movie ever. He said his favorite quote was "If you stand for nothing you'll fall for anything."

improvisational melodies

Senior forms progressive cassette recording label from his house

by patrick o'malley

Playing unique melodies and forming his own progressive cassette recording label, Two House Recordings, was Nicholas Hug's (12) constructive way to spend time.

Whether it was singing songs while playing acoustic guitar or creating unique improvisational sounds with organs, violin bows, whistles, chains, short-wave radios, oboes or any other interesting household items, Hug said he enjoyed playing them all.

"I don't play in some rock band or sing some crazy outrageous ballads," he said.

Hug based his style of music off of a low fidelity solo singer/ songwriter genre, but he thoroughly enjoyed playing in an Avant Garde (experimental) fashion with his friends.

"(While listening to Avant Garde) one might feel the need to convulse on the floor while banging on your instruments," he said.

Avant Garde is a non-traditional style that follows no plan. Free jazz, jam bands or any other type of improvisational music could be considered Avant Garde.

Hug's Saturday mornings were spent working on his "Noise Project" with his friend Brian Day.

"I think I'm going to stick to the singer/ songwriter music, but the Avant Garde is a lot of fun," Hug said.

Hug called himself "Nicki Hugini" on his albums and produced his own cassette entitled "Songs." He sold them downtown at the Antiquarium and through the mail.

"It's the only place that will sell homemade cassette tapes and they're good to me there," he said.

The Antiquarium sold "Songs" for \$3 a piece and kept 50 cents. Once the price exceeds \$5, the store kept \$1.

"We ask the artist how much they want," Antiquarium employee David Sink said.

Sink said it sold the music if the artist was serious and played organized concerts even if these venues were at home because the nature of underground music tended to hold shows at someone's house.

There were a few different recording methods he used.

There was a hand-held recorder generally used for taping conversations and a four-track and eight-track recorder in which he could loop additional instruments in to add more effects.

He said he used to use a four-track recorder most of the time, but moved up to using his computer and 8-track recorder in order to save money and tapes.

He recorded over old tapes lying around the house to produce "Songs."

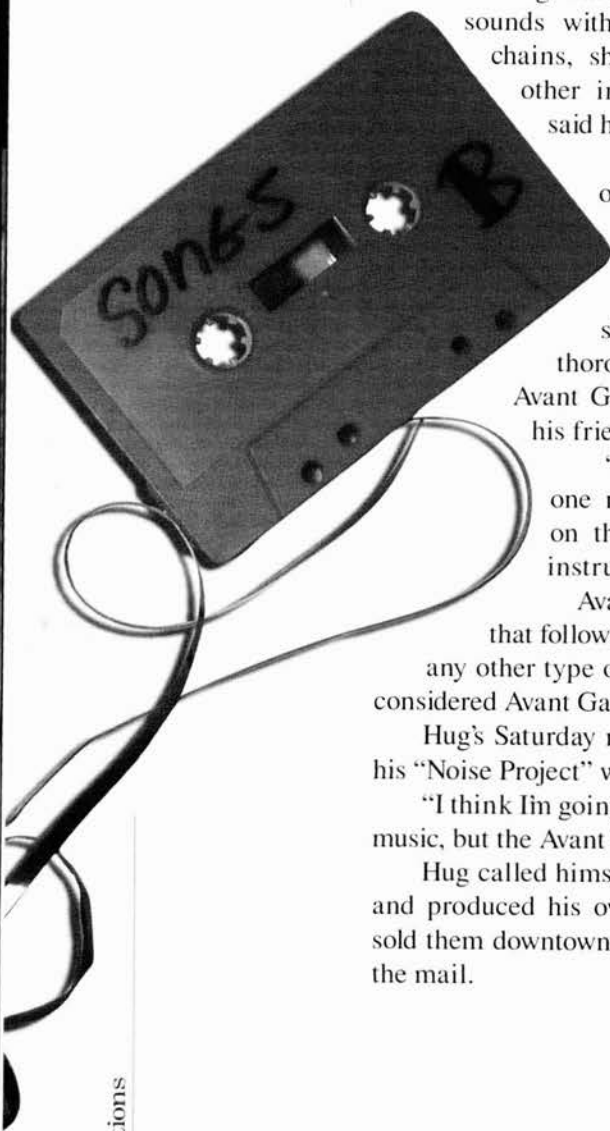
Hug said he would like to switch formats and convert to a seven-inch vinyl system instead of cassettes.

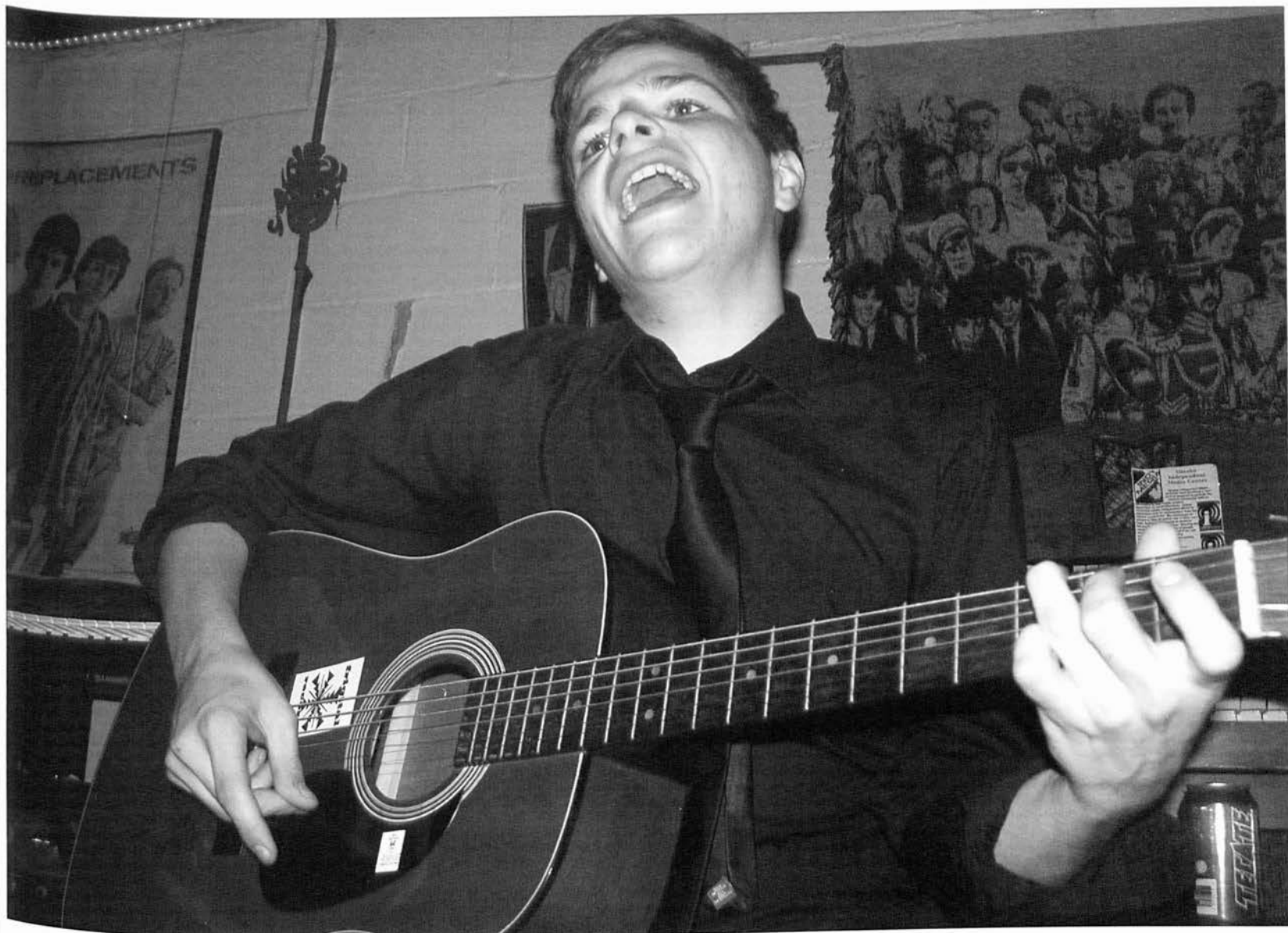
Along with producing his own music, Hug produced music and gave a concert with Burdie Hilltop, an artist from Philadelphia.

"I bought 50 cassettes off the Internet and now I'm releasing a cassette by a musician that influences me," he said.

He sent 25 of the copies to Hilltop in the mail and was left with the other half to distribute.

"I hope people hear about it and want to produce something by Two House Recordings," he said.





Left. Brian Day sets up all of his instruments such as a typewriter that he hooked up to a microphone for the concert. Day's band Q'Pier Mache had an Avant Garde style. Avant Garde is an improvisational genre consisting of loud noises and unique melody played with various instruments. Nicholas Hug (12) and Day formed a "Noise Project." *Photo by Patrick O'Malley.*

Above. Hug sings one of his songs and plays acoustic guitar at a concert at his friends house. Hug enjoyed playing Avant Garde style music, but stuck to a basic singer/songwriter style on his cassette "Songs." Hug produced his own music on cassettes along with other influential artist like Burdie Hilltop. *Photo by Patrick O'Malley.*



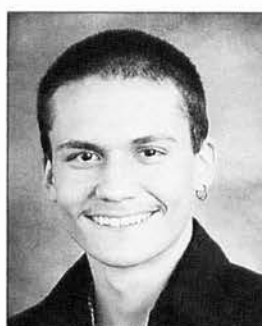
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 Jennifer Castello
 Jessica Cederblom



Evelyn Celmar
 William Chaney
 Areli Chavez
 Stephanie Christensen



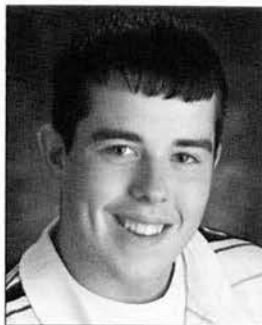
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 Travis Clayton
 Gregory Clements
 Jethro Comstock



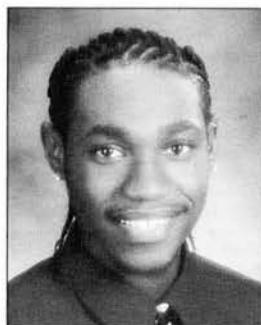
Morgan Conley
 Shmeika Connerly
 Caina Cooper
 Tanika Cooper



Cydney Coppock
 Trevor Cordonnier
 Bryant Cotton
 Alexandra Coughlin

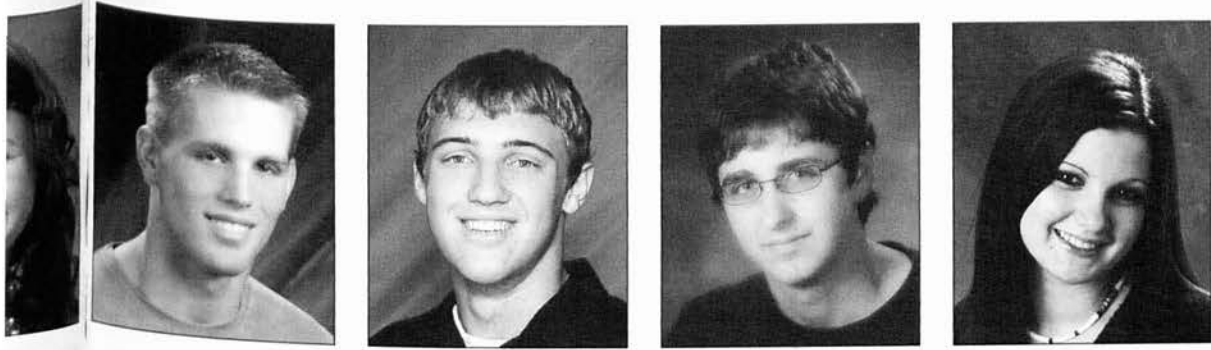


Lauren Crist
 Elizabeth Crnkovich
 Devin Croffer
 Bianca Cromartie





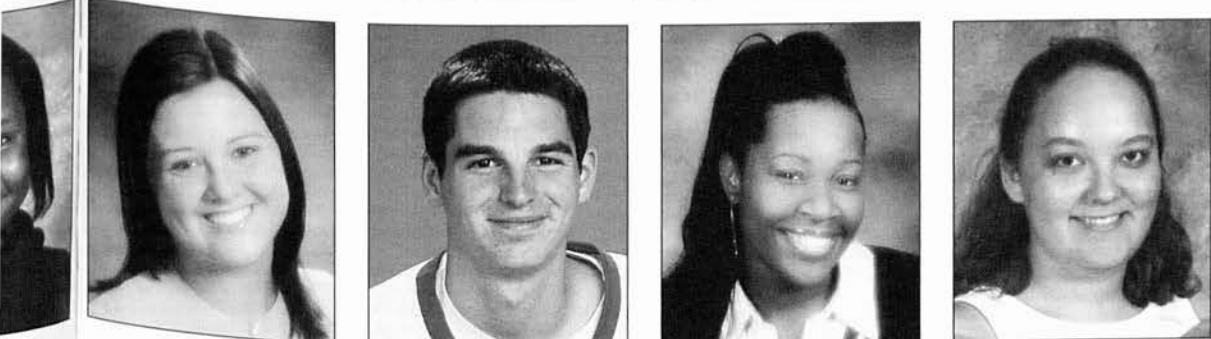
Mary Croskey
Brenda Cruz
Krystal Curry
Aric Curtice



Thomas Daffer
Ian Danielson
Ryan David
Courtney Davis



Dominique Davis
Rebekah Decker
Joseph Delich
Alyssa Denne



Allison Denton
Derek Dinoff
Tara Dorsey
Autumn Drickey

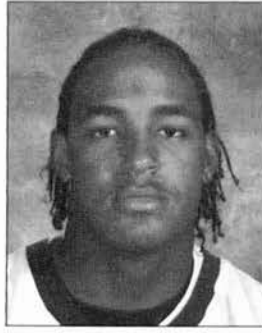


Craig Ecabert
Mia Edwards
Camille Ehlers
Ana Elizondo



Jasmine Elmore
Kurtis Evans
Stephanie Evans
Aundrea Ewing

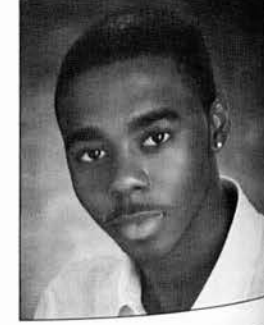
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 Tammy Fickler
 Matthew Fisher
 Melissa Forster



Chloe Fortina
 Logan Foster
 Sterling Fox
 Erik Frey



Kirsty Frizzell
 Shannon Galdeano
 Sajmir Gasa
 Timothy Gaskin



Tucker George
 William Gier
 Jeremy Gipe
 Rachel Glissmann



Lindsey Goding
 Natalie Goergen
 Joshua Goers
 Anthony Gonzalez



Keaira Goodwin
 Allison Gorga
 Katherine Gorga
 Stephanie Gorham





Above. Samuel Zaccone (12) unhooks cables from his mascot suit. Zaccone cleaned the mascot suit before and after games. He had to make sure the battery was charged, so he would not run out of air to breathe. *Photo by Stephanie Wilhelm.*

passion within himself

Student represents the comic side of football games

by stephanie wilhelm

"I liked being able to act like a complete idiot and get away with it," Samuel Zaccone (12) said.

He said he just did what he was.

Zaccone said when he was in the mascot, he was thinking where should he go, what obstacles did he have to deal with and whose view was he blocking.

He said the only thing negative about being the mascot was when people messed with him, which was not a major problem.

"I think some kids are shocked, but also pleased that there's a new look to the school's mascot," Judy Storm, the Student Council sponsor, said.

Zaccone said he believed since the mascot and costume were new,

students were excited and liked what he had done.

"I think it's cool he volunteered to do it and he had prior experience," Luis Knotek (10) said. "It made us look like we know what we were doing."

Jase Andersen (10) said he never knew it was Zaccone until he saw Zaccone putting the costume away.

"He [Zaccone] gets excited," Andersen said. "It's just looked like Sam."

Knotek said the mascot was very different from before and helped pump up the crowd.

"I think he did a remarkable job in a short amount of time," Storm said.

He said he practiced on his own,

but a lot of the stuff he did he knew he was able to do it.

"My biggest worry was not stepping on anyone because I couldn't see the ground, so I ran people over all the time," Zaccone said.

One of his stunts that was a favorite with the crowd was the mascot walking on its head.

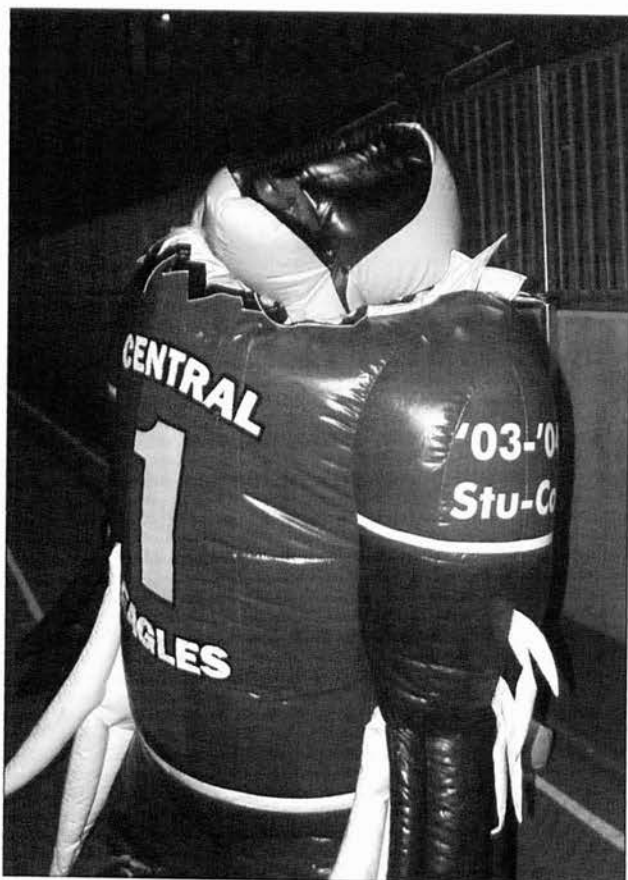
Zaccone said he would first free fall and then he would pull his feet out of the shoes in the costume.

He said then he would spin around inside the costume.

"I had to make sure the hose did not

Continued to 'STUNTS' on page 180

Below. Samuel Zaccone (12), who is inside of the costume, starts one of his stunts. He had to make sure the wires inside were not pulled out. Photo by Stephanie Wilhelm.



Left. Zaccone begins the process of cleaning and putting away the mascot. Zaccone was unzipped by one of his aides and the suite deflated. He then unstrapped himself from the battery and hoses. Photo by Stephanie Wilhelm.



Student entertains crowd with special stunts during halftime show

■ 'STUNTS' continued from page 179

come unplugged because it provided air," Zaccone said.

Zaccone said then he would move to the head on his knees and stand up in it.

"I have to drink a ton of water before because it gets really hot in the suit and I can get dehydrated," he said.

He dressed up into the costume ten minutes before he had to be on the field.

Zaccone said his parents were used to him being a mascot because he had been doing it for four years.

"Sam came to me and he had heard through the grapevine from Student Council that we were buying the mascot," Storm said.

She said he had previous experience and had already gone through training.

"He told me his skills and said he would be willing to be the mascot," Storm

said.

She said she did not open it up after Zaccone approached her because they had their man.

"I expected him to be well prepared, trained and have knowledge of the walk around (mascot)," Storm said. "He was willing to commit, to be at home games and any other time we ask him to."

Several students acted as the mascot's security and attendants including Chester Lovegren (10), Knotek and Brenton Donaldson (11).

"Knotek volunteered to be an eagle attendant," Storm said. "He had Sam teach him how to use the mascot."

The old mascot was a furry body and molded head that had been purchased over ten years ago.

The new one is a blow up called a

walk-around.

Storm said the new mascot was a sizable gift from the Student Council of 03-04 and 04-05 in anticipation of the new stadium.

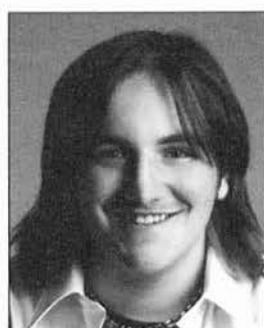
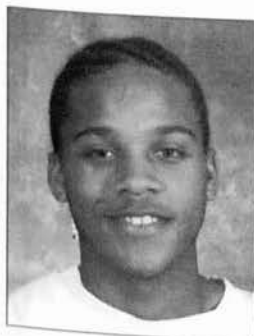
She said Student Council members wanted to give a gift because of the new stadium.

They saved money from fund-raising and prom to purchase the mascot from Signs and Shapes International, which has done other schools' mascots in Omaha including Bellevue West.

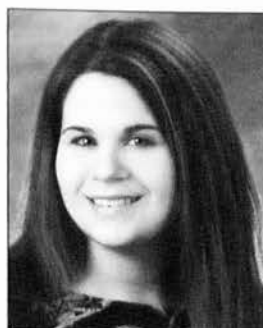
Storm said since the company was located in Omaha it made it a great place to buy the mascot.

Zaccone used to work for Omaha Royals as its mascot during summers.

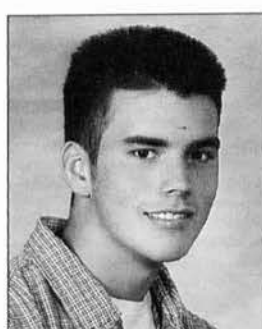
He said he met a man in management who got the job for him.



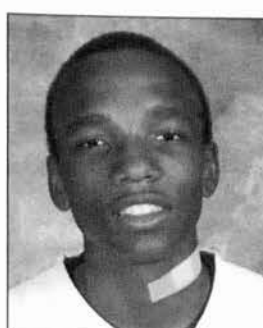
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Melissa Gray
Michael Greenberg
Ashley Greenwood



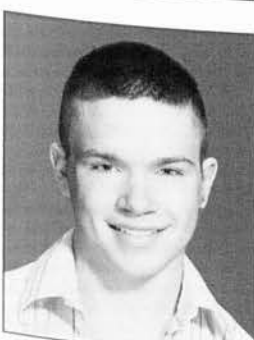
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Jennifer Griffin
Krystal Griffin
Sade Griggs



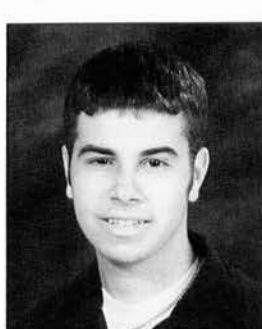
Patricia Guhde
Joel Haas
Nathaniel Hall
Derek Hamilton



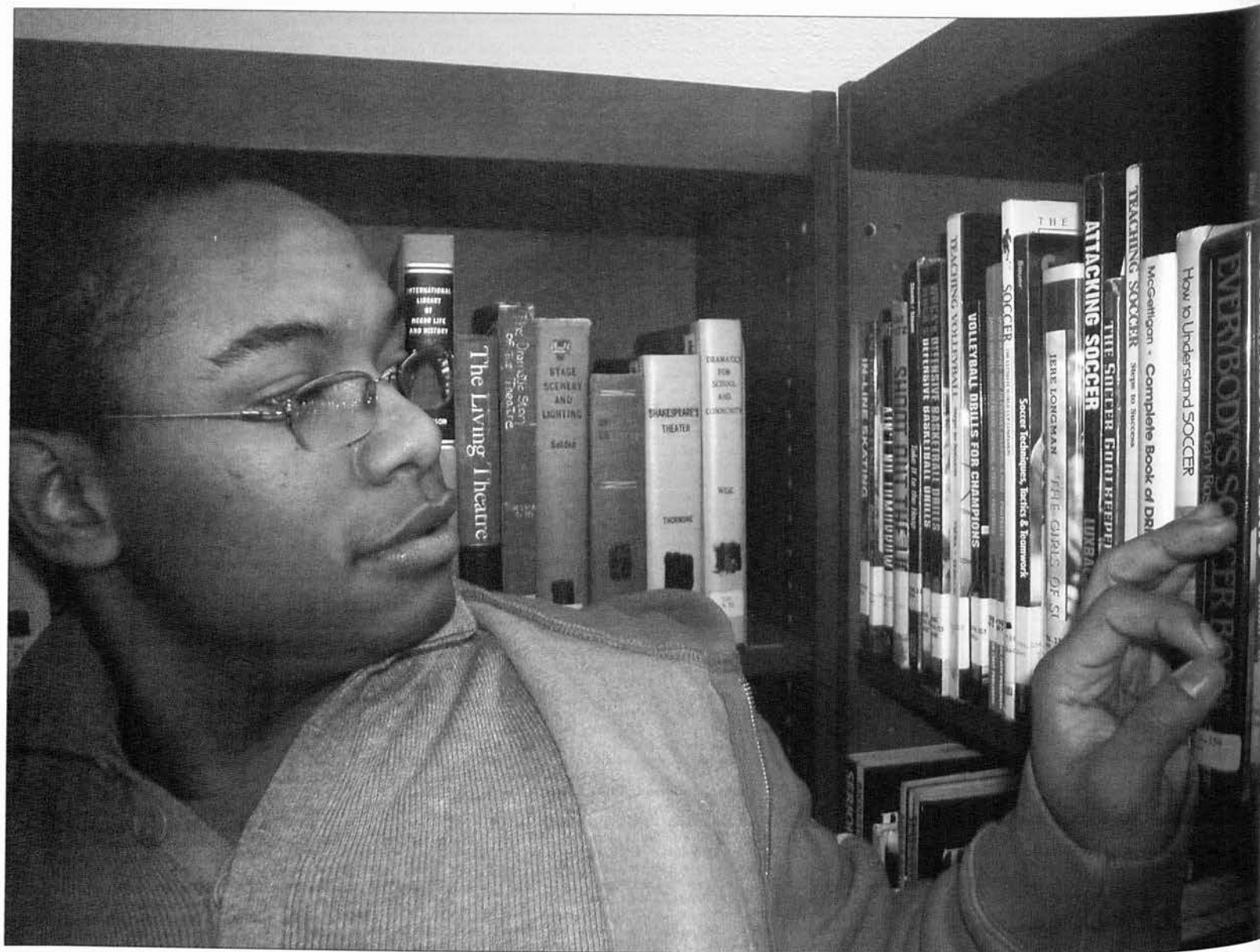
Benjamin Handlos
Jacquez Harper
Natasha Harper
Tanisha Harrison



Michael Hartig
Allison Hartnett
Kylie Harwan
Andrew Haskins



Shane Hatcher
Nanisha Hayden-Jackson
Shirley Henderson
Curtis Hicks

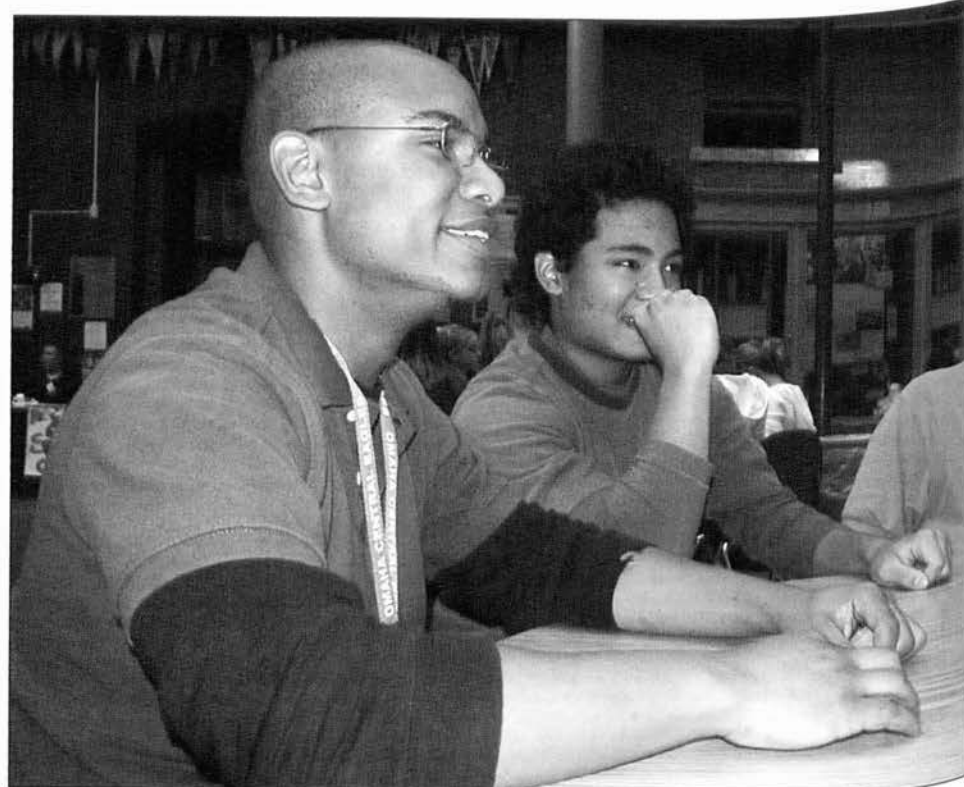


Above. Christopher McLucas (12) looks at various books in the library. McLucas who is president of the African American History club, made an announcement on the intercom about his beliefs on the use of the "N Word." He said the word had no place in the hallways, the classrooms or anywhere else in your life.

Photo by Patrick O'Malley.

Right. McLucas sits with his friends during 5th hour lunch. McLucas said he received positive feedback from many teachers and students. After hearing the announcement, many students took into consideration what he had said. He said he and the African American History club had been planning the announcement two weeks prior to the announcement.

Photo by Patrick O'Malley.



preaching

his beliefs

Senior takes stance against use of racial slurs in school

by patrick o'malley

Christopher McLucas (12), president of the African American History Club, spoke his mind to the whole school over the intercom on a morning announcement about his view of the use of the "N Word."

McLucas said the word had no place in the hallways, the classrooms or anywhere else in your life.

"The term is hateful and dehumanizing," he said. "I ask everyone, mainly the black students at Central High to help stop the use of this word," he said over the intercom.

The announcement was a combined agreement made by the African American History club, but had contemplated doing it for two weeks prior to the announcement, due to the feedback they would have received.

Olivia Griffin (10) said not many students heard the announcement, but she received good feedback from the students and teachers who did.

She said her friends who heard it took it seriously and wanted to make a change.

African American History teacher Rod Mullen said he had been thinking about it since day one.

There were many things that had to be done before the announcement could be made.

The club had to elect an officer and come to an agreement on an appropriate announcement.

McLucas ran against one other person for the position of the club president.

He said when he heard about the idea he "grabbed the bull by the horns per say."

McLucas said they had to make sure the announcement was appropriate so no one would have taken it the wrong way.

"If you say things in certain ways some people might get offended," Mullen said.

"No matter what letters you drop or add it's still a slur. It's not a term of endearment. It's racism at its worst," he said.

Many students were in favor of what he had to say.

"It was kind of getting old, I'm glad someone finally stepped up and said it," James Marcum (10) said.

However, other students thought the term was not derogatory, it was just another word.

Mykel Shaw (10) said he thought the word would mean the same thing no matter how it was said.

"I'm going to always use it," Shaw said.

Shaw thought it was a playful word that's meaning had changed over the years.

"Back in slavery times, I could see using it as bad, but now it's just another word," Shaw said.

Shaw said he had been hearing it often and he didn't think many people would stop using it.

After the announcement, some people came to new realizations and decided to make some changes in their vocabulary.

Alexander Elliott (11) said he used to say it playfully, but after he heard the announcement he saw it was a filthy and disgusting word for a person of any race to say.

"A lot of rappers try to use it as a positive word, but it still shouldn't be used in any type of term," Elliot said.

McLucas said he had been getting a lot of positive feedback and was glad to hear that some people care. "We want a step up so we can better ourselves, and get the respect we deserve," he said.

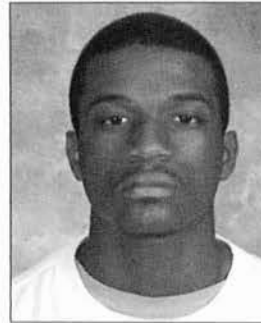
Mullen said he didn't think it would have been necessary because if the students were to keep hearing it they would stop listening.

"The message is important," he said. "The important thing is it's out there, now the important thing is that it is implemented."

Mullen said you can't change people over night, but at least you can get them to think about it.

"Even though people said they didn't care, they heard it," he said.

Candyce Hill
 Rashad Hill
 Marica Holland
 Jessica Hollenbeck



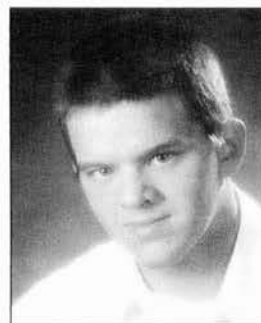
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 Karmen Holmes
 Oshnah Holt
 Matthew Holzapfel



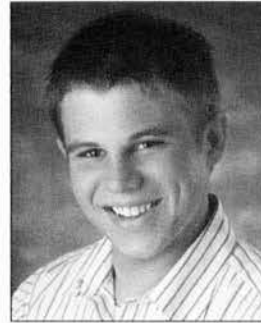
Cara Horn
 Chelsea Horne
 James Hubbard
 Chelsea Hubbling



Stephanie Huetter
 Jeffrey Hunter
 Joseph Iwen
 Talaya James



Maceal Jespersen
 Aaron Johnson
 Latasha Johnson
 David Jones

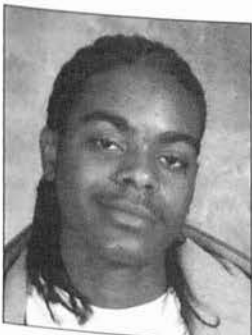


Ronell Jones
 Stephine Jordan
 Kyle Judevine
 Timothy Kanger

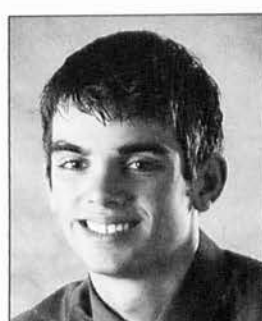




Nolan Keebler
Elizabeth Kendrick
Thomas Kerns
Jonathan Kersigo



Scyrus Keys
Joshua Kiepke
Krista Killion
Lauren Kinkead



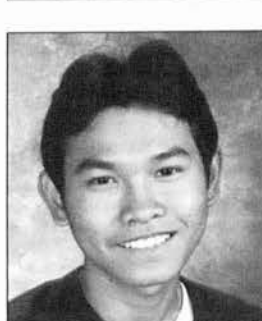
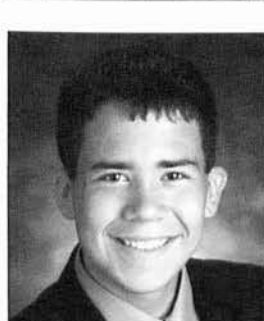
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Joshua Krehoff
Kelsey Kroeger
Kevin Kuzelka



Daniel Labenz
Margaret Lawton
Cherylle Leffall
Joanna LeFlore



Justin Leu
Wesley Levison
Jessica Lewis
Ashley Lidgett



Clayton Lomneth
Antonio Lopez
Long Luong
Esmeralda Lucero

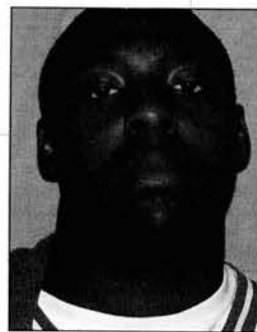
music brings joy to the ears

Students were asked what types of characteristics in others they despised. They were also asked who was their favorite cartoon character.



Kenneth Sunata

said his favorite Disney character was Simba because he had hardships and he won his kingdom back. He also said he disliked people who told lies.



Johnathan Taylor

said he did not like a class in family and consumer science. He like Sunata said he disliked people who told lies. His favorite radio station was 107.7 he said.



Rochelle Tanksley

said she didn't like a class in family and consumer science. She said she liked church and her favorite television show was "Law and Order."



Toiyana Buckley

said her Grandma inspired her. Like Tanksley, she said she liked church. She said if she could go anywhere in the world she'd go to Paris.



Yolanda Romero

said the worst movie in the world was "Freddy vs. Jason." She said she wanted to go to Paris like Buckley. Her favorite magazine was "Seventeen."



Natalie Lynch
Laura Mabrouk
Jennifer Mach
Audrey Madison



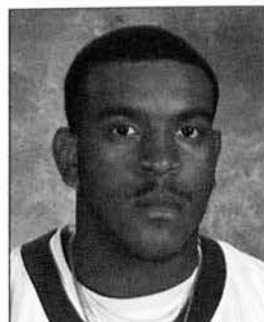
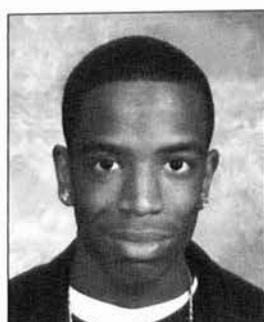
Erica Madrid
Annaturi Maher
Nicholas Maley
Tess Mandell



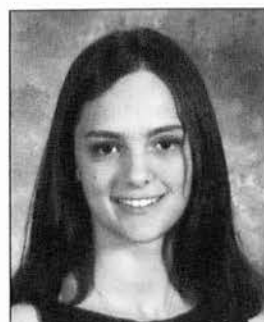
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Shanesha Mapp
Joseph Marcuzzo
Caitlyn Margrave



Miranda Margrave
Tra' Von Marshall
Sara Martin
Natalie McClellan

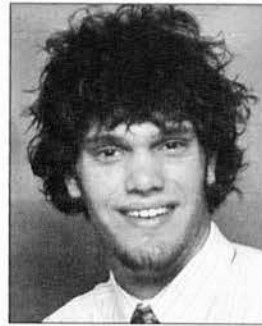


Mary McDermott
Chaeli McDonald
Gregory McDougale
Andre McIntyre



Christopher McLucas
Anna McMahon
Bridget Meade
Alexandria Meador

Drew Meier
 Kimberlyn Mercer
 Leah Meyer
 Lindsay Meyer



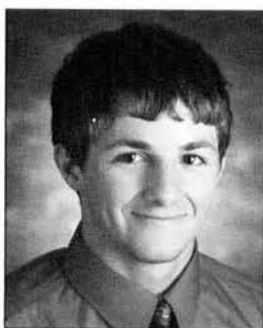
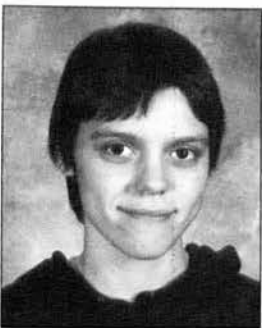
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 Ashley Minshall
 Andrew Monbouquette
 Jesse Moore



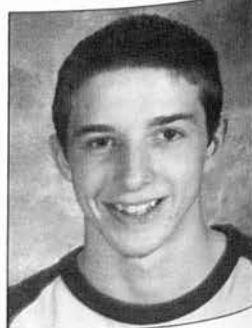
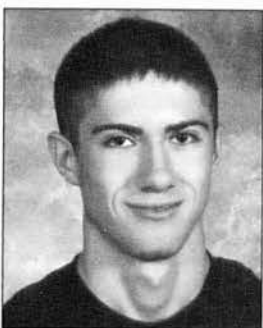
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 Alejandro Morales
 Maria Morales
 Phillip Morrissey



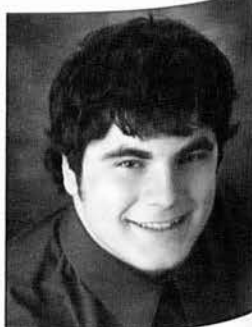
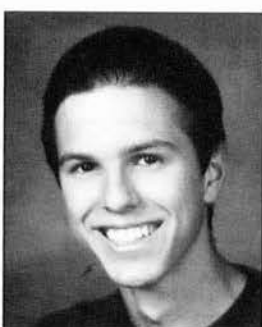
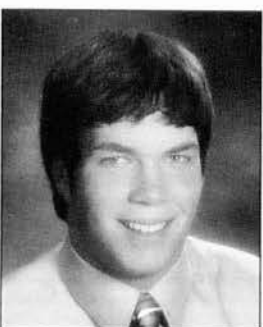
Molly Mullen
 Charles Mulligan
 Alejandra Najera
 Elizabeth Napravnik

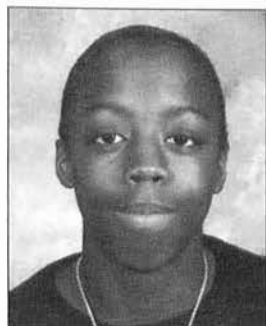


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 Matthew Neneman
 Kaitlyn O'Banion
 Luke Ohlrich

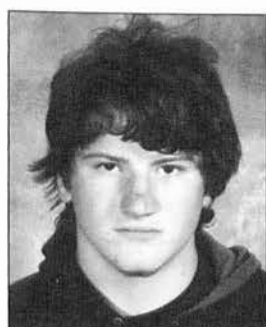
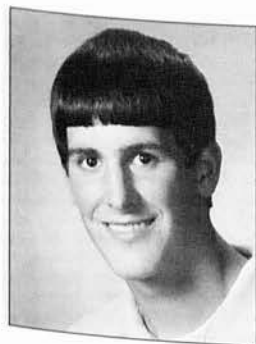


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 Patrick Olson
 Robert Opiela
 Keenan Page





Christopher Parker
Leonard Parker
Brent Pauba
Randi Paul



Nicholas Pellman
Nicholas Pellman
Ashley Pensyl
Ryan Peppers



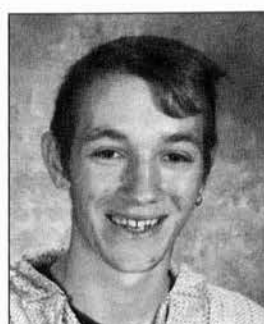
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Joscheena Phelps
Nicholas PierceCramer
Mark Pokorny



Melisha Potter
James Powell
Tiera Powell
Abigail Prest



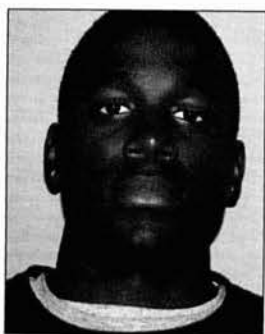
Candice Rabiola
Laurie Rabiola
Ariel Ramirez
Shazale Ramsey



Kayleigh Redlinger
Erin Reilly
Andrew Reinwald
Deborah Rennard

dishonesty is not the right policy

Some students were connected by what kind of car they drove or what was their favorite proverb or book.

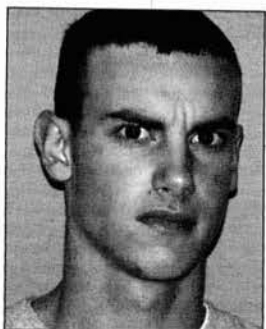


Mark Toliver

said "Holes" written by Louis Sachar was his favorite book. He said he liked generous charities.

Michael Aguilar

said "The Ring" was the worst movie ever. He liked generous charities just like Toliver.



Kyle Judevine

said he didn't like jealousy as a characteristic in others. He like Aguilar said "The Ring" was the worst movie ever.

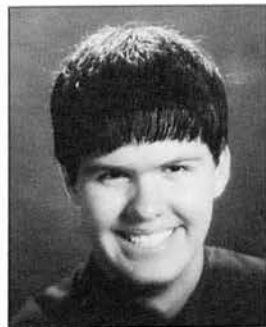
Molly Mullen

said her favorite Disney character was Pinnochio because he didn't have any strings. She like Judevine said she didn't like jealous people.

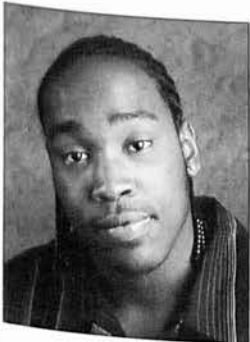


Clay Lomneth

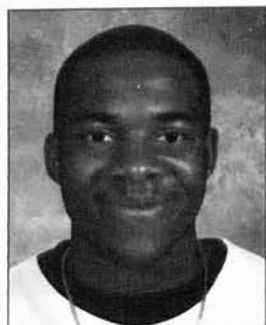
like Mullen said Pinnochio was his favorite Disney character. He also said journalism was the best class ever.



Colin Rennolet
 Laura Riggs
 Tommi Ripton
 Andrew Ritsch



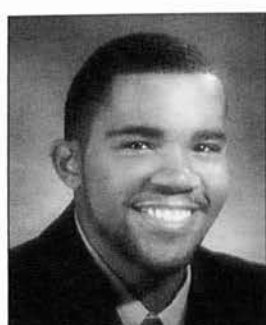
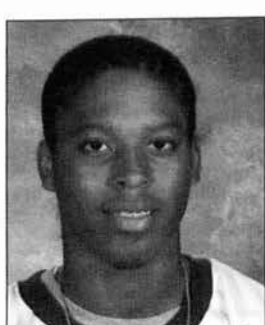
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 Pablo Roman
 Nicolas Romano
 Yólanda Romero



Jenny Rosas
 Brenna Rosenberg
 James Rubio
 Dalon Rucker



Jennifer Rue
 Kathryn Runnels
 Paige Rushlau
 Susan Sailors

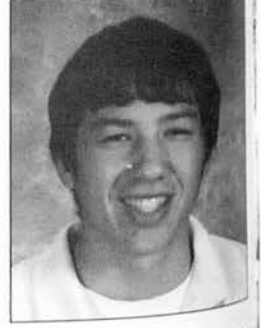
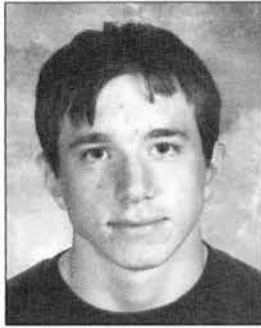


Jessica Saligheh
 Benjamin Salzinger
 Darian Samuel
 Alvin Samuels

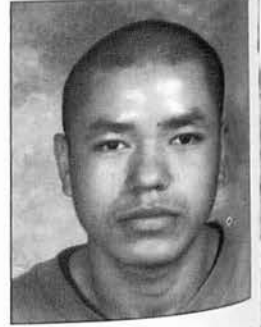
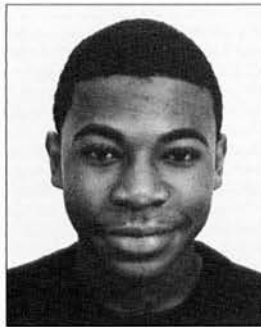


Kyle Samuelson
 Allyson Savoie
 Margaret Scheibeler
 Dezi Schilling

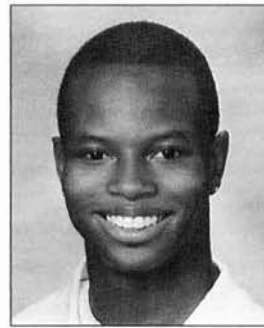
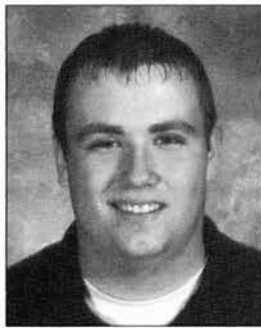
Joshua Schlotfeld
 Carla Schneider
 Claudia Silva
 Peter Simon



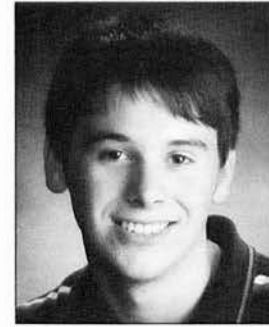
Matthew Sledge
 Anthony Smejkal
 Bailey Smejkal
 Cesar Smith



Jeremy Smith
 Keelend Smith
 William Smith
 Christopher Snider



Tricia Soares
 John Soethout
 James Spielman
 William Stacy



Jessica Sterling
 Robert Stoffel
 Mark Stubbs
 Teresa Stubbs



Danita Summers
 Kenneth Sunata
 Daniel Susman
 Brittney Swoopes





Rebecca Briles (12) sits in her room which is filled with many posters featuring Harry Potter. When she watched the movies she said she would write down everything the characters said and all their actions. Photo by Theresa Vacha.

Potter extravaganza

Senior says book series gives her reason to escape into another world

by theresa vacha

Young and old, subtle and bold, left and right there is a Harry Potter fan bubbling inside with a secret that only magic can reveal.

Many people have puzzled over why these books by J.K. Rowling, turned movies, have captured such avid fans from all over the world, why has this series found such success...what is it with Potter?

The answers can be found through the words of a student fan who walks down the same halls and sits in the same rooms as all those "nonreaders."

This certain fan is unique in her Potter enthusiasm because the books not only entertained her, but changed her life.

"There's just something about them," Becca Briles (12) said, "I really go off into another world, leave behind reality and find happiness."

Briles, began reading the first book in fifth grade said she became increasingly "Harry Potter crazy" as the years went on.

"I would watch the movie over and over and write down everything they said and their actions," Briles said, "It took me about a month. But then I had to stop because I realized I did not have enough different colors for all of the characters."

Briles' Potter devotion began at an early age when she found comfort in the books.

"Back then people made fun of me and Harry Potter let me escape into another world," she said.

From that point on, Briles formed a connection to Potter.

Others also echo Briles' fondness for this book series.

"I used to get in about 10 hours a day," Jennifer Castello (12) said, referring to the summer she began writing her 118 chapter

fan-fiction story, "Forever Alive."

Castello's fan fiction narrates the 20 years before Harry was born.

Cristina Hiddleston, English teacher, said she believes the Potter series became widely known because everyone likes to believe in magic.

"It's appealing that magic exists in our world, and that the kids are using it for good," Hiddleston said, "It appeals to adults because it's a nice, wholesome clean-cut good versus evil!"

Hiddleston said she believes the main message is, "If you have integrity and seek out the right path, you will conquer whatever is less good than that."

Castello discovered two main messages in the stories.

"One of the messages is an underline theme of tolerance," she said. "And then there is the spine of the book- good versus evil, right versus wrong."

If a series of books hold all of these lessons to be learned, and are read as widely as Potter is, obviously fans are not as outlandish as often assumed.

Castello used to read the books out loud to her little brothers and said that doing so was a type of bonding experience for them.

Hiddleston found inspiration in one of the main characters, Albus Dumbledore, (headmaster of Potter's school), because of his traits, which would be ideal for a school administrator, a position Hiddleston would like to occupy.

"I believe people that don't read they can't believe in a magical place," Briles said, "For others, there's always that voice in your head, 'hey, who knows, it could've been me instead of Harry that got that letter of acceptance...'"

teaching wrestling

Teen expresses interest in showing young people techniques

by patrick o'malley

Charles Mulligan (12) not only put the time and effort into improving his own wrestling skills, he found the enjoyment of teaching young kids new techniques on the mat.

Mulligan had been wrestling for two years before he realized how much he liked helping the younger students.

His love for the sport grew tremendously over the past couple years.

Mulligan said when the club The Dirty Eagles originated, he started helping young wrestlers.

When the idea of having a wrestling club came up he was interested right away.

Every Tuesday and Thursday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., young wrestlers from schools all over Omaha came to work on their moves in Central's wrestling room.

Once he started going to the club he soon realized how much he enjoyed the teaching aspect of the sport.

The club began in the 2003-2004 school year.

He said the club was mostly for younger kids, but the older ones mostly went for an extra workout for the season.

"It's a feeder program," head coach Jimmie Foster said. "We get about 30 kids," he said.

Mulligan said the age range of people who attended the club was 4 to 18.

Mulligan said the turnout of kids was much better this year than the year before.

Foster said the older kids were helping themselves by sharing their knowledge with the younger kids.

"When you show a kid, you're helping yourself at the same time because you are reinforcing it to yourself,"

Foster said.

Mulligan said teaching someone was helpful because it helped the wrestler remember what he might have forgotten and when he educated a kid he really wanted to see them succeed at it.

"We are also there to help kids boost their confidence and maybe, if we can encourage them, to come to Central," he said.

Blake Cantrell (9) said Mulligan was a really good teacher and helped him out with his techniques.

Mulligan said he taught simple moves that win the tournaments, not the extremely fancy moves.

"I wasn't very good my freshman year, so I wanted them to be able to be the best they can," Mulligan said.

Mulligan said some of the kids would also learn by attending the team's tournaments.

He said he had been receiving offers from some schools like Dakota Wesleyan University to wrestle.

He had loads of determination to keep himself affiliated with the sport as long as he could.

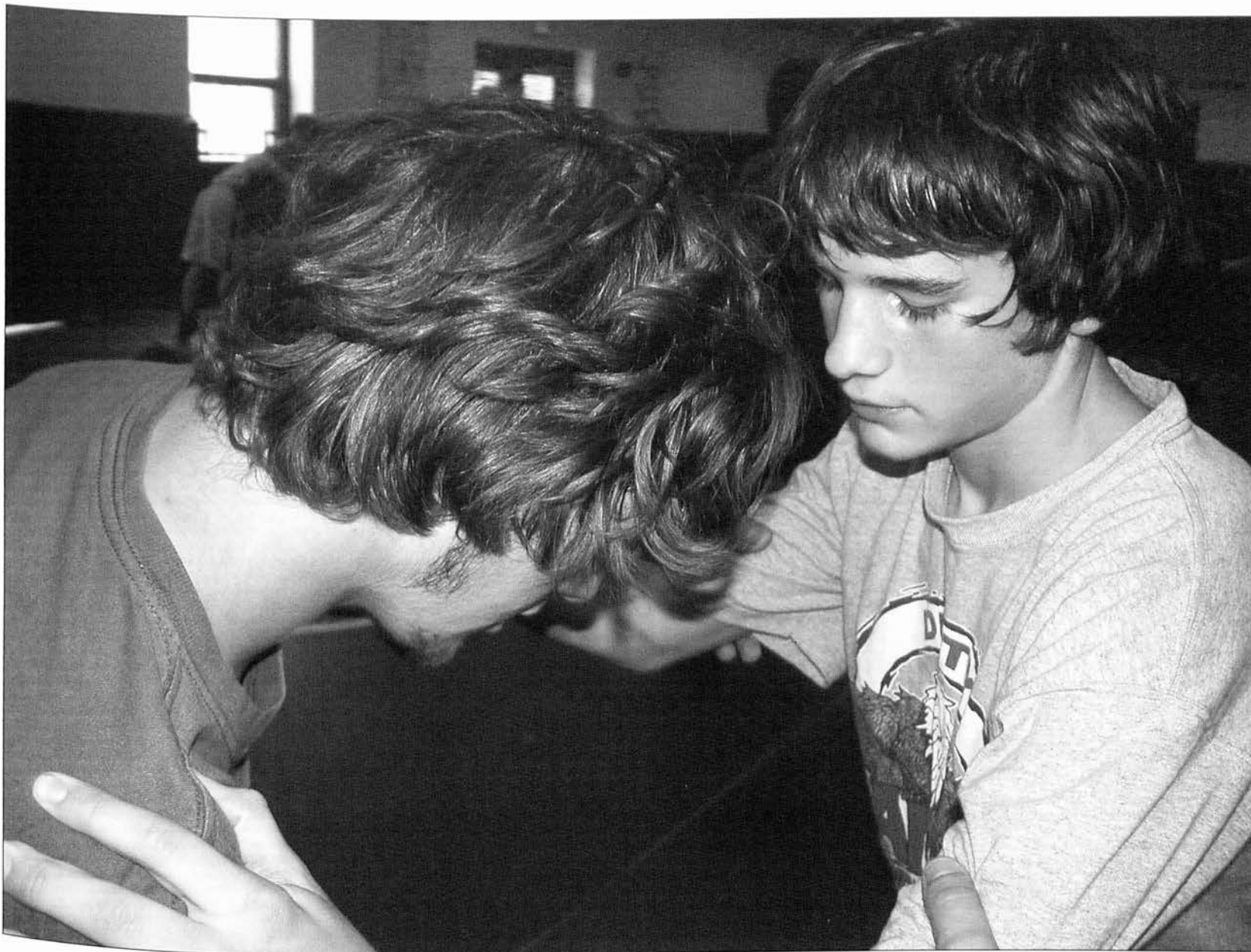
There were not many options for wrestlers after college besides the Olympics.

Therefore he expressed an interest in being a high school coach because he wanted to further himself in the sport in some way.

Mulligan decided he wanted to teach a gym class and possibly help coach at Central because he loved the program.

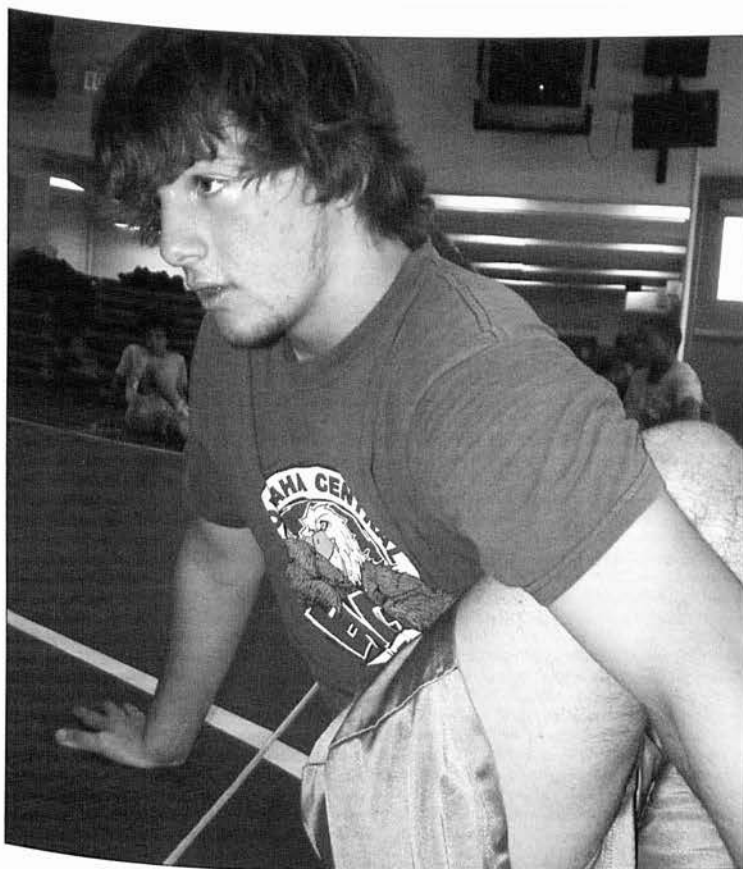
If teaching didn't work out he said he would also be interested in becoming a trainer.

He said he would rather work with younger kids as opposed to high school students because he wanted to inspire them more than push them.



Left. Charles Mulligan (12) stretches before helping the younger children. He used the wrestling club not only to help the children, but also to keep up on his own wrestling performance. Many of the children seemed to appreciate the help from Mulligan. They all looked up to him as if he was their personal coach. One could see the children really wanted to learn the moves and they were determined to get them right.
Photo by Patrick O'Malley.

Above. Blake Cantrell (9) and Mulligan practice on one of the moves they learned. Cantrell said he started wrestling in the 8th grade at Lewis and Clark Middle School. He said he and a friend decided to join the wrestling team, but he didn't do so well. He said one of his goals he hoped to accomplish by participating with the wrestling club was to help him improve his wrestling skills.
Photo by Patrick O'Malley.



Kari Szczepanowski
 Joshua Tapio
 Stefanie Tapio
 Brianne Tapley



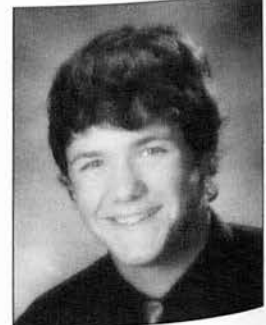
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 Justin Taylor
 Jessica Thomas
 Sonia Toledo



Tia Traylor
 Luisa Trujillo
 Samantha Vaughn
 Catherine Velez



Carly Vincentini
 Benjamin Walden
 Frances Walker
 Joseph Wallace



Lena Walton
 Victoria Washington
 Kaitlin Waterman
 James Watson



Stephanie Wax
 Ashley Weich
 Allison Wells
 Ashley Welty

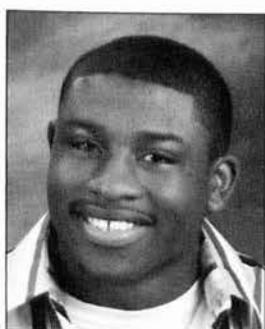




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Adam White
Anna Wiksell
Stephen Wilhelm



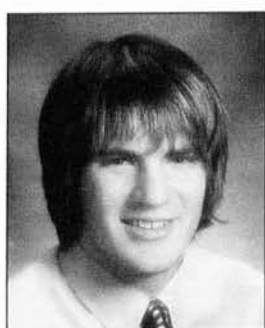
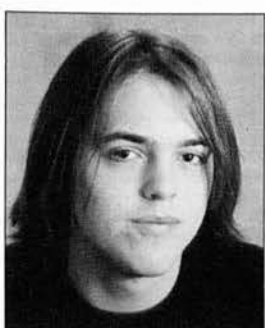
Stacy Wilkerson
Jalis Williams
Sonja Williams
Holley Willits



Ariel Wilson
Justin Wilson
Kelly Womochil
Randall Woster



Laronda Wright
Quavanti Wright
Jee Hyun Yoe
Radell Young



Samuel Zaccone
Ryan Zill
Benjamin Zimmer



Juniors made many connections through a changing building. They received advice from seniors over which classes to take, advice from faculty how to better prepare for college, advice from parents about why they should get a job and advice from friends of where to spend the weekend. They strengthened relations with friends and faculty. Although the juniors are unique, they, like all of us, are connected. These are our juniors.

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From Left. Kevin Kennedy (11) teaches fifth graders how to play chess. Grace Gibson (11) was one of the many students connected to her peers. Michaela Bradley (11) works on her art assignment which involved red paint and a roller.

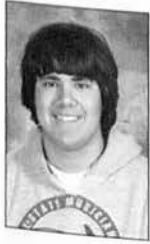
Photos by Emma Phillips and Mark Arehart.

Left. Trevor Moore (11) performs an experiment involving gravitational pull in his physics class.

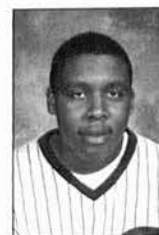
Photo by Tanika Cooper.



Anna Adams
Perrin Adams
Terriona Adams
Samuel Agree
Jacob Akin
Karima Al-Absy
Beth Albrecht



Joseph Albright
Dante Alexander
Robert Al-Greene
Justin Allen
Nicholas Almazan
Daniel Amaya
Pedro Andres



Rosalba Andres
Mark Arehart
Melisa Arias
Ashlee Atwell
Allen Baker
Janice Baker
Dominique Barfield



Brian Barnett
Dustin Barr
Jamar Bass
Margaret Baumann
Ebony Beckwith
Alicia Bender
Ronell Bennett



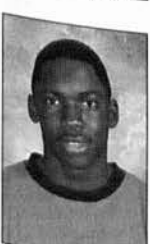
Samantha Bennett
Christopher Bergner
Jermaine Blackson
Carissa Boand
Megan Bogatz
Marissa Bonar
Lucious Booker



Erin Bottger
Traea Bowden
Terrance Bowens
James Bowles
Khiana Branch
Michaela Briardy
Emily Brich



Kquerra Brown
Marcella Brown
Robert Brown
Cameron Bruckner
George Buck
Natalie Buckner
Ashley Bugay



Randy Burns
Breland Butler
Reasha Butler
Vaughan Byars
Kristalee Caldwell
Dyllon Cantrell
Stasha Carpenter

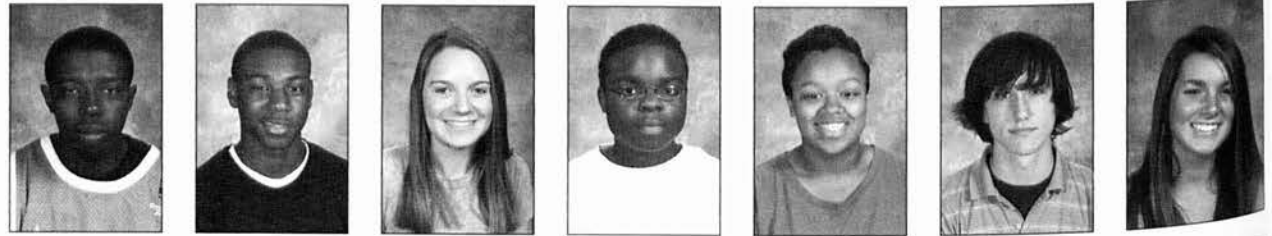
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Nyapine Chuol
Adam Clark
Robert Clay
Michael Cold



Taja Coleman
Tristen Coleman
Shawna Collett
Whitney Collins
Colin Conn
Janelle Conyers
Taylor Cook-Ofstead



Phillip Cooley
Jayson Cornelius
Eliza Cowan
Khambrel Crawford
Raisha Crockron
Matthew Cronin
Carolyn Croskey



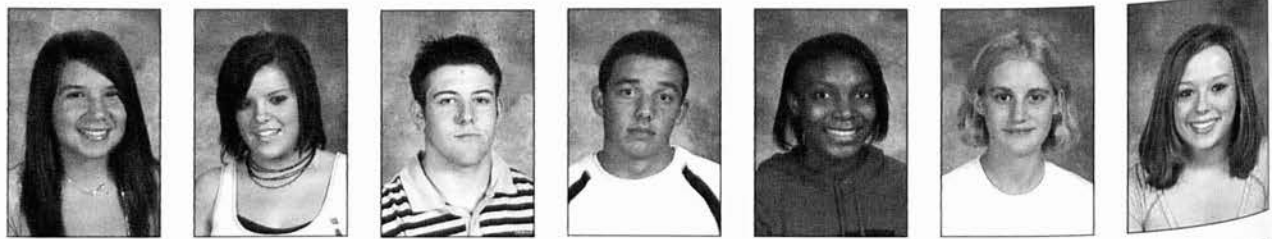
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Jill Daugherty
Chardenay Davis
Mychal Davis
Sha'Vaughn Davis
Nadia De Santos



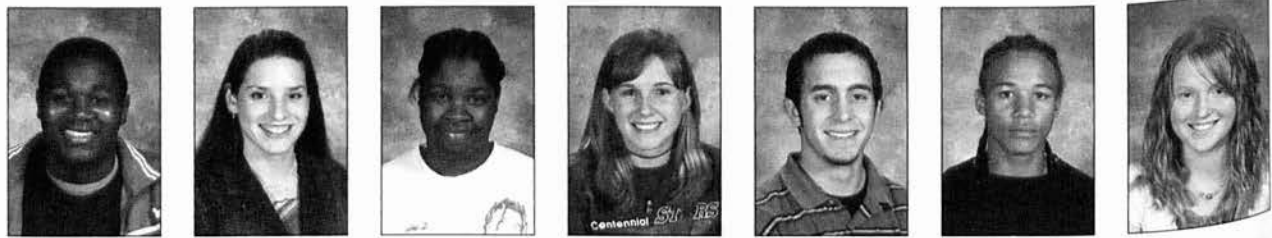
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Melisa Dellutri
Max Delman
Geraldine Diaz
Jared Dittman
Jenna Dittmer
Brenton Donaldson



Arielle Donner
Keara Doocy
Robert Dowd
Kent Drickey
Rachael Dryver
Alicia Durkan
Alyssa Eledge



Alexander Elliot
Natasha Fields
Erin Finch
Rochelle Finnigan
Kenneth Fischer
Steven Fiscus
Amanda Fisher



Timothy Fisher
Abby Fleek
Steven Fowler
Pedro Francisco
Alexander Freed
Aaron French
Andrew Frenking





Kevin Kennedy (11) teaches chess to a fifth grade student at Dundee Elementary. He said he decided to help tutor the students after being asked to by Chess Club sponsor Drew Thyden. Kennedy taught the children along with three other members. Kennedy said when he was learning to play chess, he never thought about teaching the game to anyone else. Photo by Emma Phillips.

making the right move

Junior excels in chess, teaches elementary students

by emma phillips

Kevin Kennedy (11) said he liked chess because of the logic involved. Without abstract concepts, he said things were more direct and easier to understand.

"Things are clearer that way," he said.

Kennedy said he started playing chess two years ago after being encouraged by his computer programming teacher Drew Thyden. At the time, he had been competing in computer programming contests when Thyden recognized his potential for chess.

"I did some programming contests for Thyden and then one day he asked me to play chess," Kennedy said.

Thyden said as the sponsor of Chess Club he was always on the lookout for a prospective player. He said he thought Kennedy would excel at chess because of his reasoning and problem-solving skills.

"He has a good analytical mind," he said.

Thyden said when Kennedy first joined the Chess Club, he was not a very good player.

"I think he lost every match for a month," he said.

He said he was very pleased Kennedy stuck with chess. Thyden also said Kennedy improved so much, he became the second best player on the team.

George Blazek (12) was also on the Chess Team and said he was impressed with Kennedy's skill.

"I thought he was really good," Blazek said. "He had a lot of talent and he was very competitive."

Kennedy also shared his love of chess with students at Dundee Elementary School.

"Someone from Dundee Elementary contacted Mr. Thyden and asked for players to teach chess," he said.

Four members of the Chess Club were chosen to help teach the children how to play. Kennedy said his teaching technique depended on the experience of the child.

He said if the student was more advanced, he concentrated on teaching techniques and strategies, but if the student was still a beginner he would devote most of his efforts to teaching the basics of the game like where each piece could move and what they could do.

Kennedy planned on being involved in chess for the rest of his high school career and he said he might play competitively as an adult.

Both Thyden and Blazek said they thought Kennedy would improve as he continued to play chess.

Kennedy was also involved in the Math Club, where he competed in state and nation-wide contests. He said he liked math now, but he did not always like it.

"I didn't particularly like math until last year when I was a sophomore, then it got interesting," Kennedy said.

He said the state contest was held at Central and his end results were good. He said the national contest was done as a class and said students competed over the Internet. He said this contest was called "E-Math" and his team placed high.

Kennedy said he enjoyed creating programs, but he didn't think he would pursue a career in that field. He said he enjoyed it more as a hobby than something to do professionally for the rest of his life.

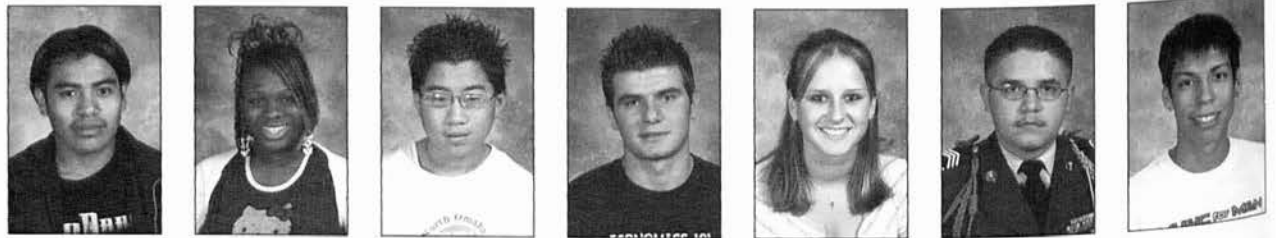
Thyden said he thought Kennedy would do well in the future regardless of what career he chose.

"He'd be very good at computer programming, but he'd be very good at a lot of things," he said.

Ian Froemming
 Alexa Fuhs
 Marissa Fusek
 Erica Gardner
 Elisabeth Garvin
 Ilda Gasa
 Tigist Gebremichael



Octavio German
 Grace Gibson
 Charles Gier
 Besmir Gjoka
 Casie Goforth
 Juan Gomez
 Juan Gonzalez



Maria Gonzalez-Jurado
 Danielle Goodwin
 Brandy Gordon
 Simone Gould
 Kiara Grace
 John Green Jr.
 Aaron Gregory



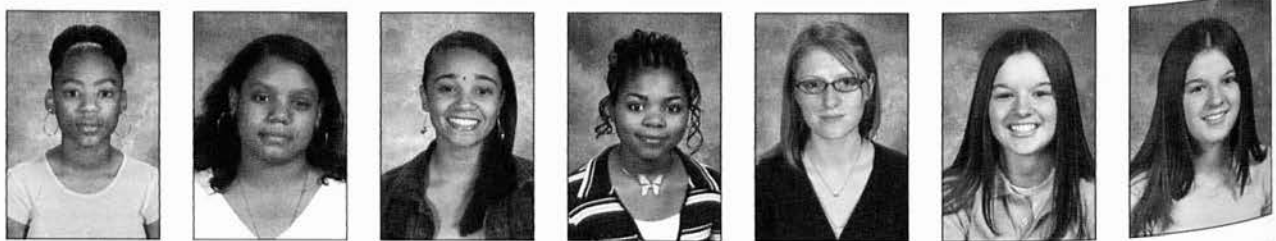
Courtney Griffith
 Zaira Guerra
 Harland Gunn
 Iresha Gunter
 Jaime Gustafson
 Laura Gutierrez
 Sara Hallgren



Tavieal Halliburton
 Jimmy Hallmark
 Amber Hamilton
 Gabrielle Hampton
 Francesca Hannah
 Jacob Hansen
 Marina Hardy



Alicia Harnage
 Felicia Harris
 Maria Harris
 Chayla Harrison
 Emily Harrison
 Jane Hartig
 Katherine Hartig



Donald Hattix
 Latoyce Henry
 Jason Herrera
 Alexandra Herskind
 Megan Hess
 Joseph Hike
 Ann Hildebrandt

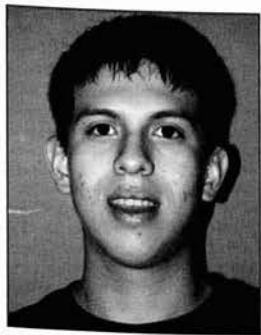


Deborah Hildebrandt
 Bridgette Hines
 Chelsie Hirsh
 Virginia Horrell
 Timothy Jacobs
 Bailey Jensen
 Aaron Johnson



what's that

Juniors were asked a series of questions regarding their favorite radio station, their favorite saying and what they thought about blogging. Just like seniors, they had connections they hadn't even realized.



Daniel Amaya

said his favorite Disney character was Pluto the dog. He does not like the political process and the government.



George Buck

also does not like politics and the government. He said his favorite radio station was 107.7.



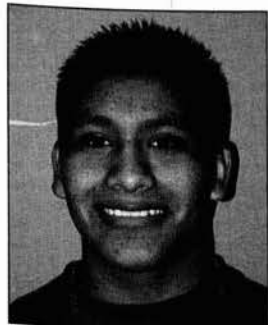
Grace Gibson

said her favorite radio station was 107.7, like Buck. She also said she didn't know anything about blogging.



Victoria Oliver

said she didn't know what blogging was, like Gibson, but she checked her e-mail every day.



Pedro Andres

said he, like Oliver, checked his e-mail every day. He said his favorite saying was "hasta la vista, baby!"

hard work pays off

Eagle becomes Miss Junior Teen Nebraska due to talent, toughness

by stephanie wilhelm

"I wasn't the average pageant person, just myself," Franque Thompson (II) said.

Thompson was named Miss Nebraska Junior Teen over the summer.

Thompson said because she is a well-rounded person, she loves diversity.

As the reigning queen, she said she spoke at different places and volunteered.

She said she helped promote the different functions during the Heritage Day on "Positive HAVOC".

Beverly Thompson, Franque's mother, said in the parade the little girls were looking up to Franque and holding her

hand. She said her daughter wanted to serve as their role model because of all the negative influences with rap and degradation of women.

"I just wanted them to see themselves as queens and princesses," Thompson said. "You need to think and feel you are important for others to see you as important."

She said she also was chosen to be a junior counselor at MESA, an academic summer camp at UNL that focused on Math, Engineering and Science Achievement.

Contestants in the pageant donated books and bears for the winner to donate to a charity of her choice.

"I donated the books and bears to the Rainbow House because I used to be a Girl Scout and it is important you show kids you love them and you care," Thompson said.

She also gave books and bears to Police Chief Tom

Warren at the Northeast Police Precinct to help abused and abandoned children.

She said she helped host the Second Annual Youth Conference YMCA Powerful Choice Abstinence.

Thompson said she basically played Oprah and entertained

questions, while pointing out how important abstinence is.

"I believe abstinence is very important because you can throw your life away and put it on hold if you're pregnant," she said.

Thompson said the judges recalled girls they believed had the potential to win and she was one of them.

"Oh man, words cannot describe how I felt (when I won)," Thompson said. "I cried for like five minutes."

She said she didn't think she had what it took to win because the other contestants had been doing pageants longer and were really polished.

"I was really shocked, truly honored and blessed (to win)," Thompson said.

She said her favorite part about the pageant was dressing up, doing her makeup and fixing her hair. She said she loved all the glitz and glamour.

She said her mom signed her up at a casting booth at a national pageant.

"I was very surprised when they (the casting people) called me up," Thompson said. "I thought they would pick random people."

She said she had thought about being in pageants before, but she never intended to because she's more the athletic type.

"The worst part was going through the process because everything had to be perfect," Thompson said. "You had to make their image, do so much memorization and focus on what to say because there were such things as stupid answers in pageants."

She said a contestant did not want to regret what she said or did.

Thompson said she competed against two of her friends Lauren Steirs (II), who goes to Marian, and Nicollete Green, who lives in Lincoln.

"We know how to react to each other, so we knew what to do better," Thompson said. "There was no intense competition."

Thompson said her mother walked her into winning and convinced her that she could do it. After talks with her mom she said she became more focused on winning.

"My mom was truly a trooper," she said. "She was there when I had to be up at 6:30 a.m. helping me do my makeup and putting my dress up and she would go back to the room if I forgot anything."

Thompson's mom was Miss Black Nebraska in the 1970s. "She saw herself through me and wanted me to experience that same feeling," Thompson said.

breaking it down

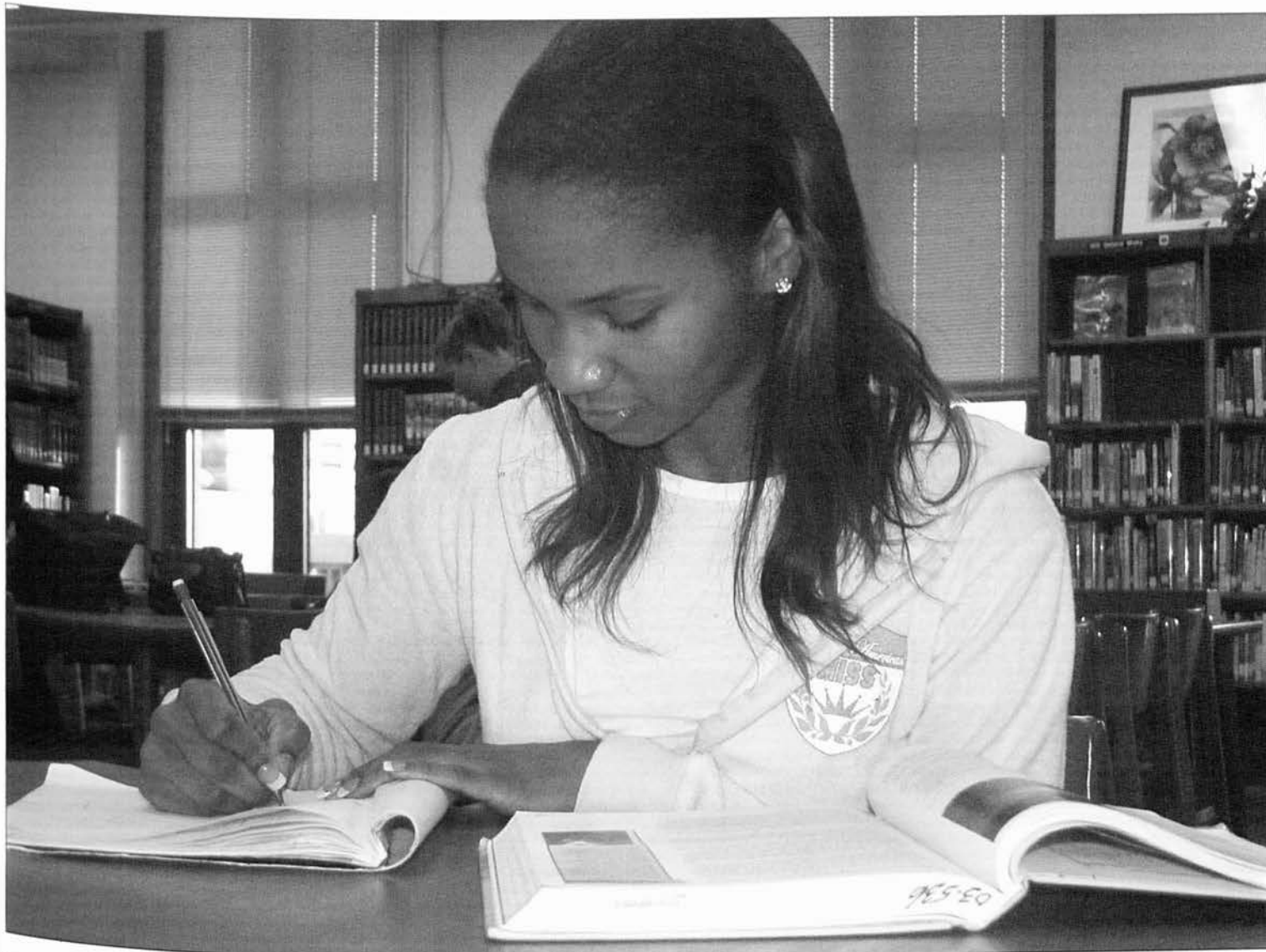
Ten percent of the pageant was community service.

Thirty percent of the pageant was a personal introduction to the audience and judges. It was a memorized speech, 30 to 45 seconds long.

Another 30 percent was formal wear that was judged on poise and grace.

The last 37 percent was an interview with the judges that lasted one minute with each judge.

Questions ranged from what your pet peeves were to what your goals were and what special power you wanted and why.



Above. Franque Thompson (11) watches fireworks at the stadium dedication. She said she was honored to take part in the dedication because it was a new beginning and such a big part of the school's history.
Photo by Zachary Pluhacek.

Far Above. Thompson studies hard for her classes. She wanted to be a well-rounded person and balanced her schedule to include academics and volunteering. She volunteered at an academic summer camp, MESA, at UNL that focused on math, engineering and science.
Photo by Lauren Crist.

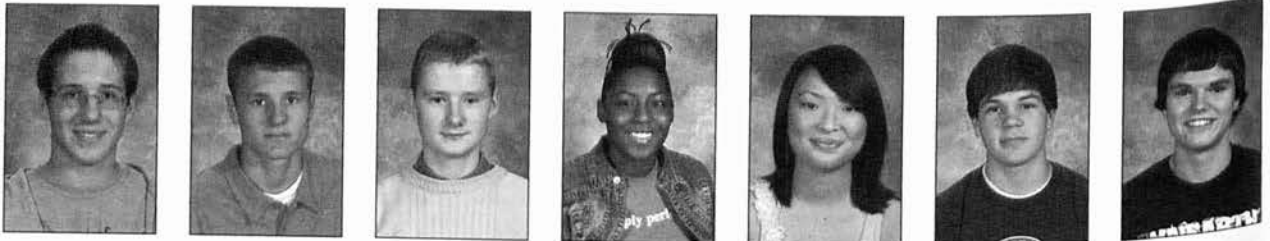
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 Monique Johnson
 Ashley Jones
 Cherry Jones
 Erica Jones
 Martin Kaplan
 Anna Keeney



Kristen Kendall
 Wesley Kendall
 Kevin Kennedy
 Christina Kepler
 Scott Kielion
 Chase King
 Zakiya King



Everett Kladstrup
 Benjamin Kline
 Mykola Klymchuk
 Sharnay Knight
 Anna Knotek
 Jason Kock
 Shane Kock



Aimee Koenig
 Martina Kolobara
 Wade Kotschwar
 Brittany Krijan
 Sarah Kyler
 Kara Lambrecht
 Alyssa LaRosa



Leslie Leach
 Diego Ledesma
 Erin Lee
 Patricia Lee
 Martina Lewis
 Amanda Logan
 Tomi Longoria



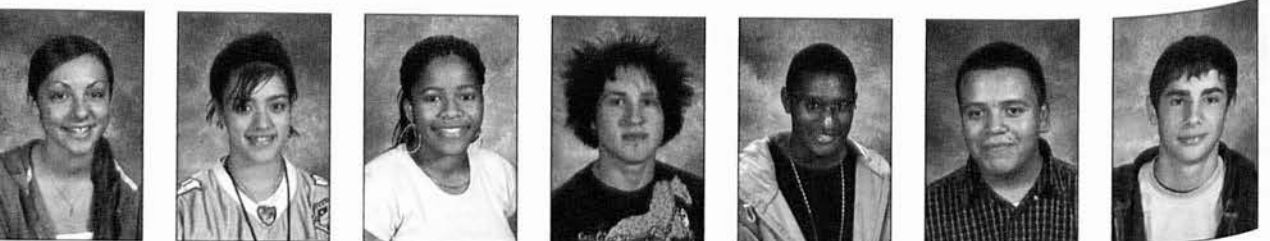
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 Luis Lopez
 Dulce Lorenzo
 Corey Lynch
 Britney Macdonald
 Kyle Macdonald
 Ricardo Machado

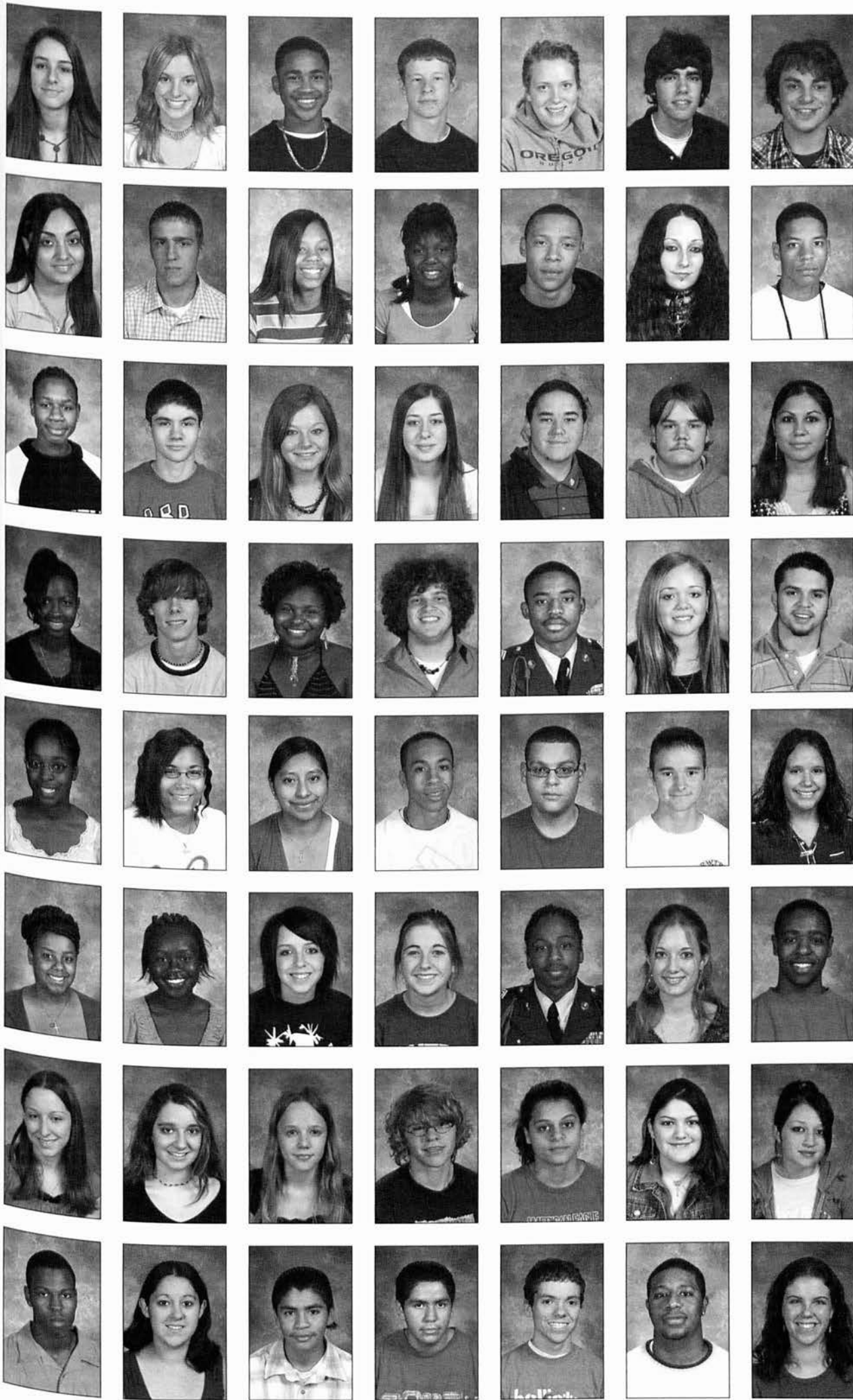


Tyler Magnuson
 Amber Martin
 Abraam Martinez
 Gabriela Martinez
 John Martinez
 Kelsie Maslo
 Melinda Matthies



Sarah Maxey
 Jessica McAfee
 Brittany McCain
 Mark McClellan
 Bruce McDougald
 Hector Medrano
 Jeffrey Mell





Angella Mertz
 Callie Messick
 Jacob Mickles
 Christopher Miller
 Michelle Moats
 William Monen
 Trevor Moore

Dina Moreno
 Stephen Morrow
 Zuri Mosley
 December Muhammad
 Patrick Murray
 Christina Nash
 Christopher Nash

Derek Nelson
 Joseph Neneman
 Rachel Newberry
 Laura Nickisch
 James Nielson
 Steven Nightingale
 Melissa Nims

Fabiola Nomenyo
 Mark O'Donnell
 Victoria Oliver
 Patrick O'Malley
 Princeton O'Neal
 Chelsea Osbahr
 Michael Owens

Patrice Parker
 Sie Partee
 Maria Pascual
 Ishmael Patterson
 Zachary Paul
 Christopher Peare
 Bianca Perez

Karis Perry
 Nema Philip
 Amanda Pintore
 Jacquelyn Pirtle
 Israel Pommells
 Alexandra Porter
 Dantae Potter

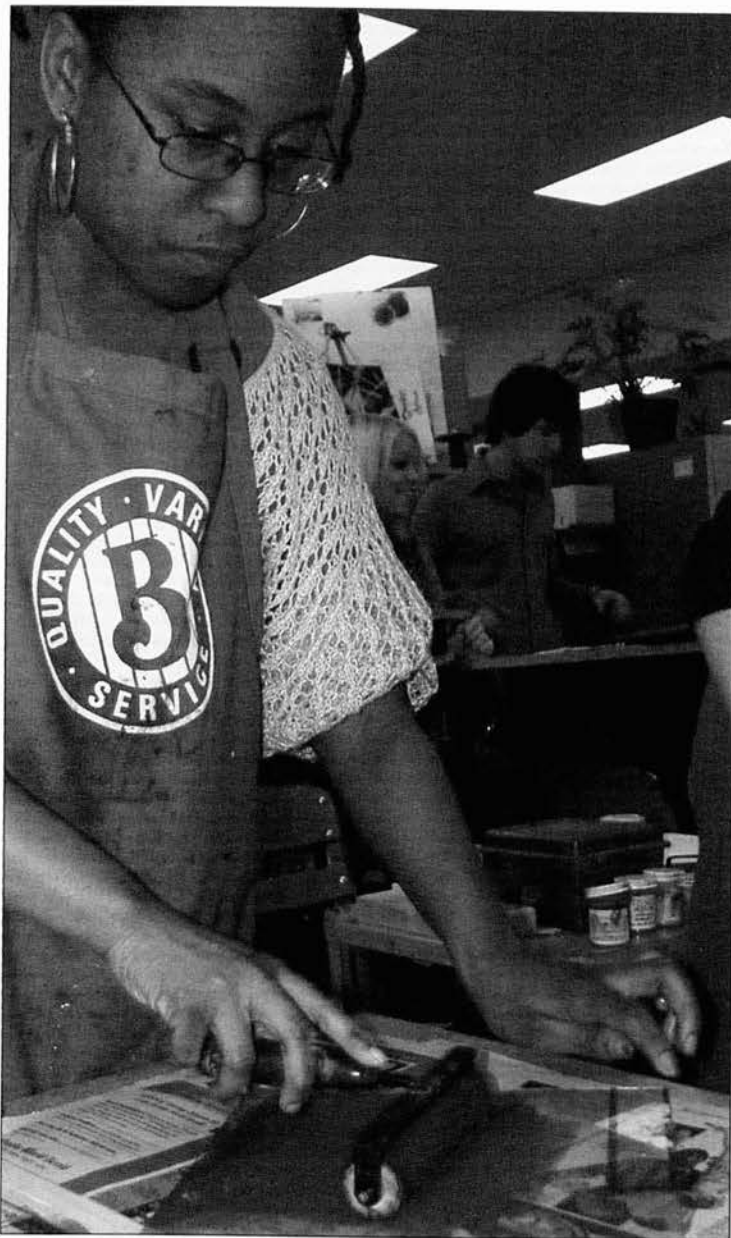
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 Peter Rafferty
 Sara Rahaman
 Crystal Ramirez
 Danielle Ramm

Lonzale Ramsey
 Amanda Rausch
 Francisco Regalado
 Juan Carlos Regalado
 Michael Reily
 Antonio Reis
 Sonya Rhine

drawing

attention

Aspiring cartoonist shares love of art through volunteering



Michaela Bradley (11) works on one of her art projects. In addition to art classes at school, she was also part of the JAMBassador program at Joslyn Art Museum. Photo by Patrick O'Malley.

by mark arehart

In her spare time she volunteered to help children with their art skills.

Michaela Bradley (11) said she has been drawing cartoons for as long as she can remember.

"I think I was born with a pen in my hand," she said with a smile.

Bradley said she draws mostly Manga, a Japanese version of cartooning.

Cartoons and sketches were scattered across class assignments and notes, no matter what the class was.

The JAMBassador program was a venue that allowed high school students to help kids with art and was put on by the Joslyn Art Museum.

Bradley said she has been volunteering in the program since the spring.

She said JAMBassador helped an art teacher run the class.

"It's really fun because the instructors were really neat and the kids were fun to work with," she said.

Bradley said she had to be recommended to be a part of the program.

"You sign up for whatever class you want to teach," she said.

Bradley said she liked the flexible schedule the program

offers.

"She has been a regular, hard working volunteer," JAMBassador program coordinator Suzie Severson said. "She was eager to jump in."

She said the program had about 30 high school volunteers who offered help in the classroom and did other jobs such as taking tickets.

"We could not offer art classes to the public without the help of the JAMBassadors," Severson said.

Not only was Bradley a JAMBassador, she was involved in many clubs.

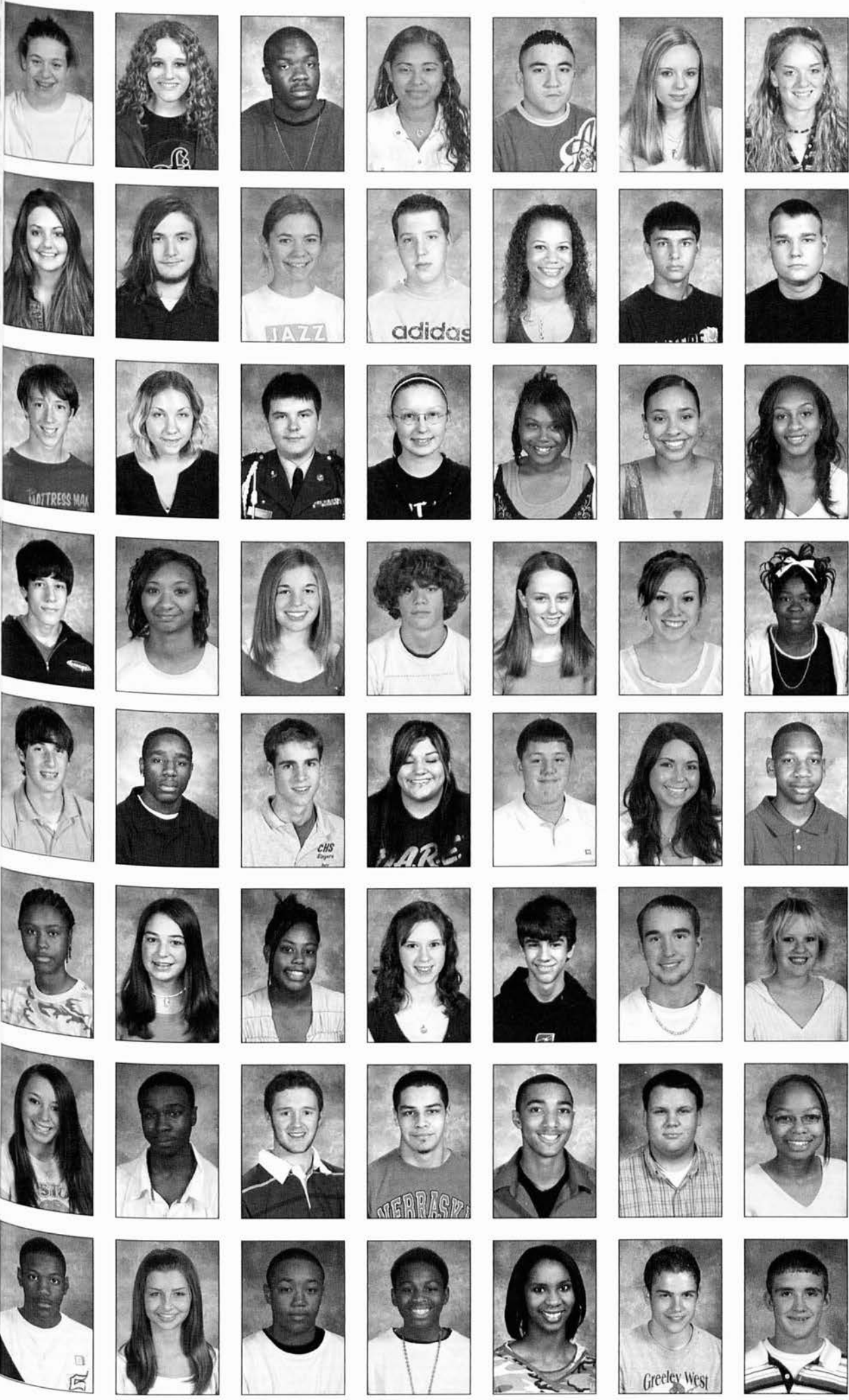
Bradley said she was involved in Anime Club, which focused on Japanese cartoons, Fine Lines, College Bound Club and Minority Scholars.

She said she liked Fine Lines because of the creative freedom it allowed.

"I like it because you get to do things you don't get to do in a regular class," she said.

She said she gets to express herself and be creative at the same time.

Both College Bound Club and Minority Scholars showed her how to write a resume and gave her skills to get into and be successful in college.



Anne Rips
 Nicole Roberts
 Rashad Robinson
 Arendi Rodriguez
 Edwin Rojo
 Jade Romaine
 Ashley Rose

Laney Rosenbalm-Penry
 Matthew Ross
 Pascale Roussel
 Eldon Rowlett
 Brittney Ruffin
 Joshua Sandoval
 David Saniuk

Michael Schneider
 Lucy Schroeder
 Derek Schuler
 Lindsay Schulz
 Erica Scott
 Alyssa Shanklin
 Rashele Sharkey

Joseph Shaw
 Janisea Shields
 Lisa Shirk
 Morgan Shumaker
 Katherine Shuster
 Jessica Sieff
 Brittany Smith

Daniel Smith
 Stanley Smith
 Aaron Smith-Shull
 Stephanie Sousa
 Ryan Stander
 Mikayla Stark
 LaVel Sterling

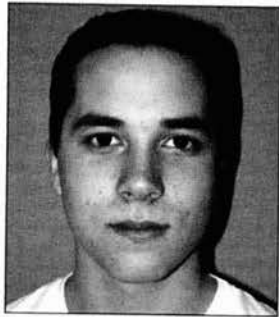
Janesa Stewart
 Kelsey Storm
 Shantel Straughn
 Leslie Stryker
 Anthony Stubbs
 Ian Sweaney
 Margaret Sweany

Jillian Swotek
 Michael Tafe
 Andrew Taylor
 Jay Taylor
 Kendall Taylor
 Matthew Teeters
 Andria Thomas

Christopher Thomas
 Andrea Thompson
 Charles Thompson
 Deleon Thompson
 Franque Thompson
 Aaron Tischhauser
 Trever Tomes

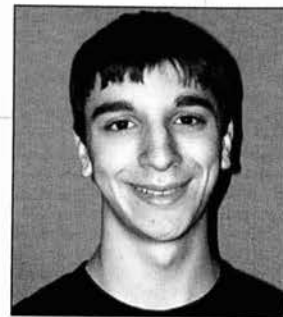
just like mom

Juniors were asked about their plans after high school, the daring question about who was their favorite teacher and who inspired them.



Steven Watkins

said he is inspired by his father. He also said his favorite chick flick was "The Notebook."



Ian Froemming

said his favorite chick flick was "The Notebook" like Watkins. He also said he was planning on going to college after graduating.



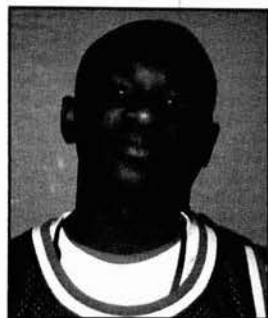
Michael Toney

said he also wants to go to college after he graduates. He said he admires his mother.



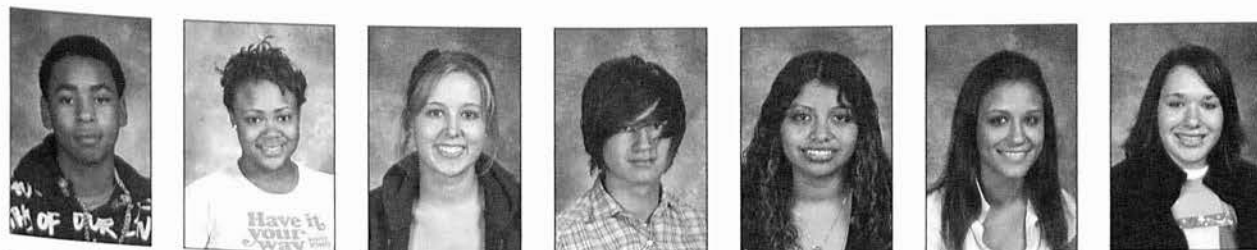
David Rognlie

said he admires his mother like Toney. He also said his favorite teacher was Jimmie Foster who taught Geography.



Donald Hattix

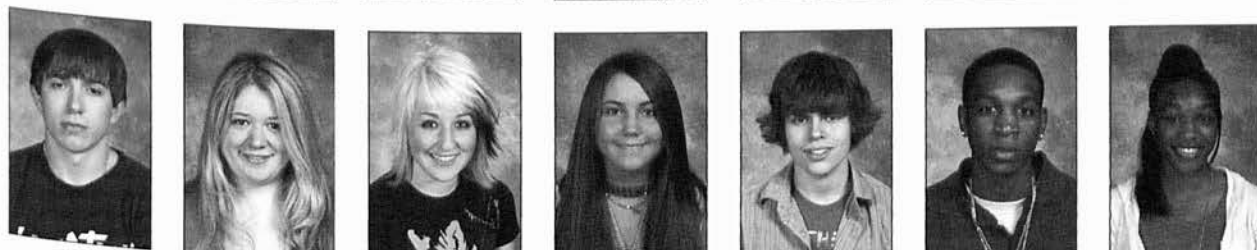
also said his favorite teacher was Jimmie Foster. He also said he didn't have a favorite action hero.



Michael Toney
Tierra Turner
Theresa Vacha
Justin Valentine
Alma Vega
Chiara Viecelli
Jessica Volker



Jordan Wagner
Emily Waldo
Emily Wall
Shuona Wang
Matthew Waszak
Michael Watke
Steven Watkins



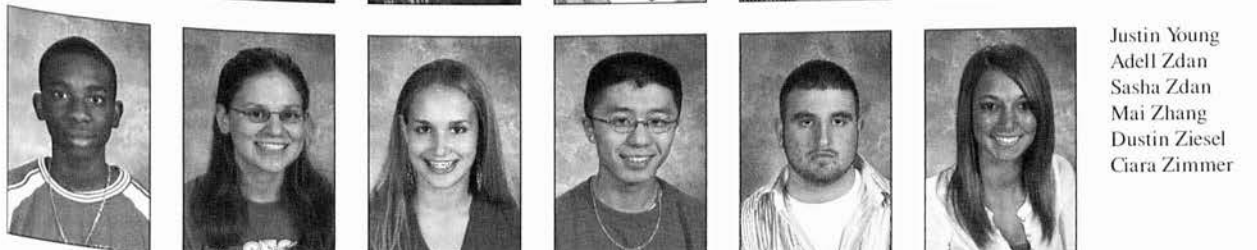
Matthew Watson
Melissa Weatherford
Hanna Weeks
Emily Wence
Christopher White
Clenant White
Shannon Whitley



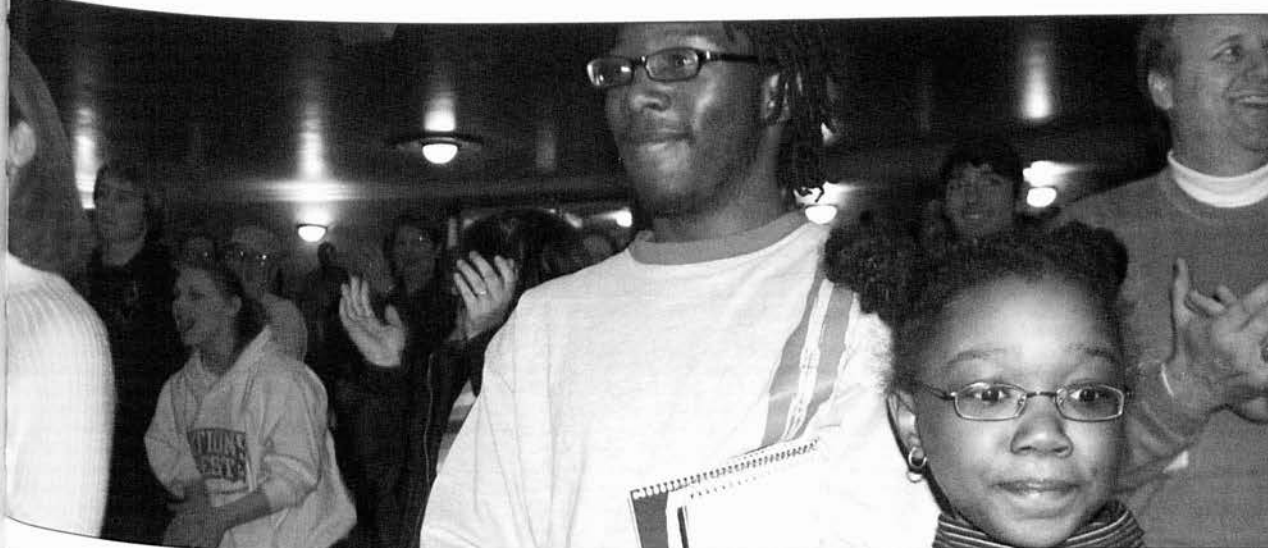
Deanna Whitmyre
Nicholas Whittinghill
Ann Widdershoven
Kelly Wieczorek
Matthew Wiley
Stephanie Wilhelm
Willis Williams



Ciera Wilson
Joshua Wilson
Anthony Wilwerding
Sha'Niece Woods
Shem Woods
Samuel Woolard
Maggie Yablonski



Justin Young
Adell Zdan
Sasha Zdan
Mai Zhang
Dustin Ziesel
Ciara Zimmer



Lewis Culliver (11) and his sister applaud at the end of the OPS rally that was designed to show support for a One City, One School district. Photo by Clay Lomneth.



Sophomores were no longer the new kids of the school. They formed strong connections with each other and were no longer scared of getting lost in the building. They had a place to eat lunch and the teachers knew who they were. Halfway through their high school career, some had started to think about careers, while others lived in the moment. Remaining connected with us all, these are our sophomores.

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From Left. Adrienne Anderson (10) sings in her vocal music class, Antoinia Edwards (10) poses in traditional Native American dress and Catherine Venditte (10) acts in her advanced drama class.

Photos by Claire Anderson, Theresa Vacha, Chester Lovegren.

Left. Andrew Kroeger (10) plays his bass guitar at the pep rally. Many students played instruments at this event.

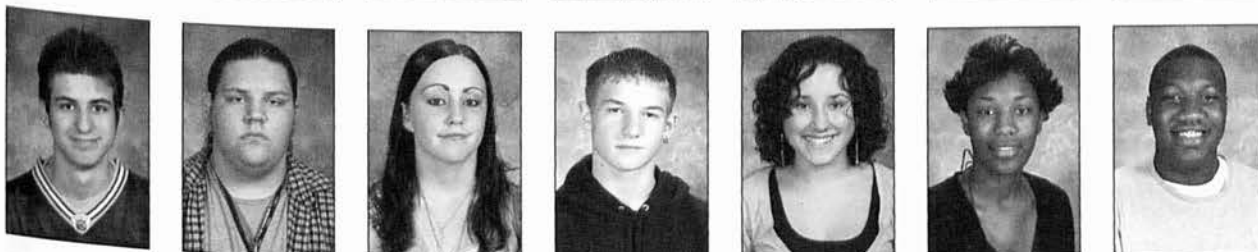
Photo by Tanika Cooper.



Tianna Abram
Corey Adkison
Lauren Alston
Taylor Alston
Maria Alvarado
Josue Amaya
Jase Andersen



Adrienne Anderson
Claire Anderson
Geovana Angelito
Regina Antony
Briauna Armendariz
Brittani Avery
Tanganee Ayer



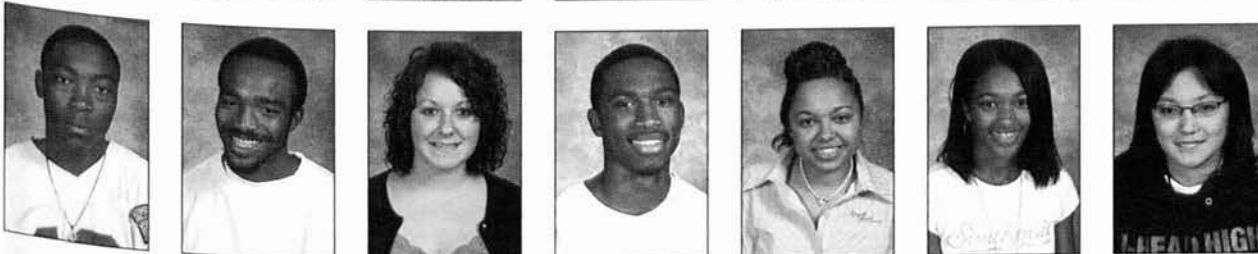
Connor Bailey
Christopher Baird
Alisha Baker
Daniel Baker
Jennifer Baratta
Rakeesha Barber
Raysean Barber



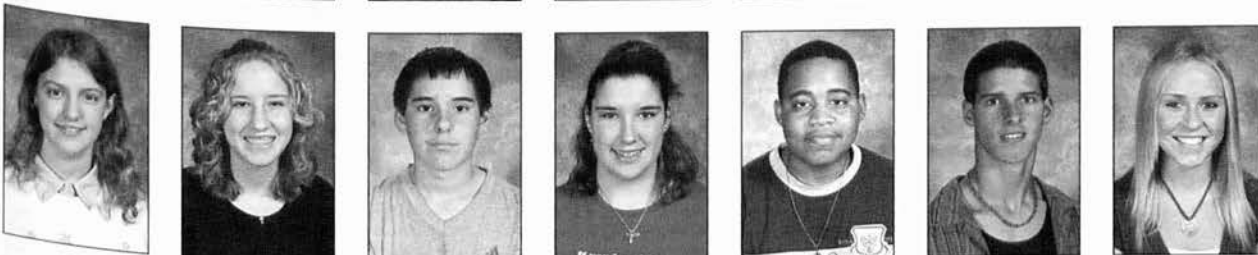
Cody Barr
Mackenzie Barrett
Emilio Barrientos
Cara Beck
Scarlett Blake
Matthew Bower
James Boyd



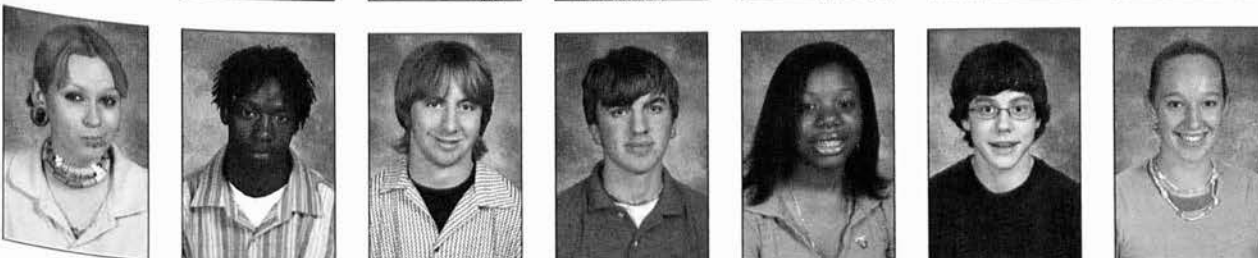
Brandon Bradford
Robert Bradshaw
Patrick Breen
Benjamin Brich
Mark Briggs
Alexis Bromley
Brittany Brown



Domuniqu Brown
Everett Brown
Jennifer Brown
Loyal Brown
Natalie Brown
Ashley Bryant
Kim Buckley



Lyndsey Bullis
Sarah Burford
Derek Burton
Cassandra Busch
Jonathan Butler
Patrick Byrne
Angela Carbonell



Brittany Cedar
Kalumba Cheneau
Benjamin Chonis
Danniel Ciembor
Nakya Clark
Timothy Clough
Patricia Cobb

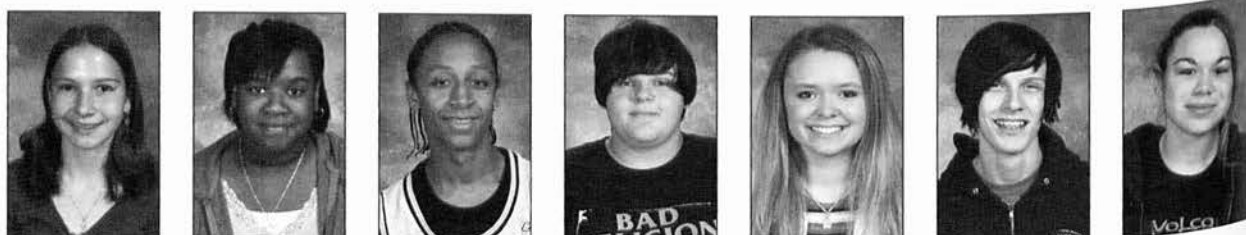
Heather Collins
 Jeramie Colvin
 Andrew Coniglio
 Chelsea Conn
 Brandon Contreras
 Ruchala Conway
 Lauren Cordonnier



Erin Crnkovich
 Pedro Cruz
 Carli Culjat
 Tiffany Culton
 Sophia Cunningham
 Quianna Curry
 Zachary Cutler



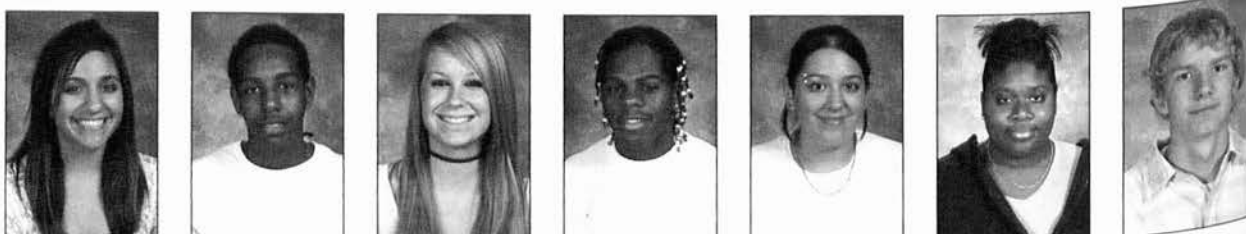
Ellen Danford
 Mya Dantzler
 Anthony Davis
 Jeffrey Davis
 Lauren Debo
 Laurence Deboer
 Jaime Defore



Uriel Degante
 Andrew DeLeon
 Jourdan Denne
 Courtney Dewitt
 Andrew Dickey
 Anthony Dinoff
 Kayleigh Dittmar



Maya Doghman
 Jerry Dorsey
 Kariann Dorste
 Walter Dudley
 Nicole Duhan
 Yolonda Duncan
 Timothy Dunn



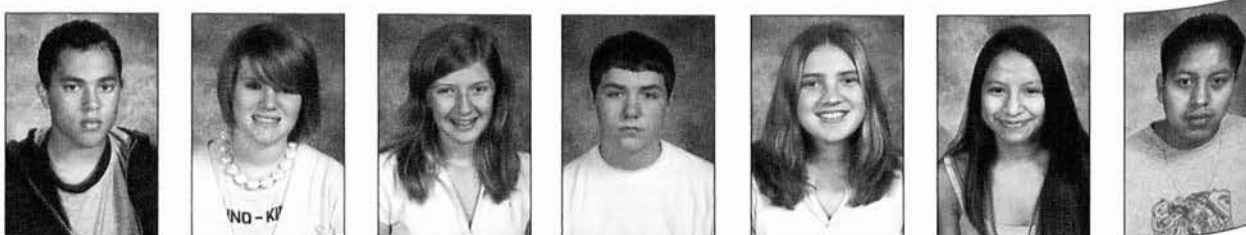
Audrianna Edmonds
 Antoinia Edwards
 Julian Egger
 Hannah Elliott
 Samuel Elliott
 Araceli Enriquez
 Alek Erickson



Timothy Eriksen
 Elizabeth Erikson
 Elijah Estes
 Christopher Fales
 Aminata Fall
 Rachael Farhat
 Caitlin Farrell



Jason Felici
 Emma Ferber
 Sarah Ferguson
 Patrick Fischer
 Amanda Flemmer
 Fatima Flores
 Pedro Francisco



always on the move

Sophomores were asked a series of questions regarding their favorite subjects, favorite time of day and how many times they had moved. Their connections to others were forged in time.



Dustin Wright

said he liked all horror movies. He said his favorite class was gym because he thought it was fun.

Timothy Gannon

said his favorite class was gym, like Wright. He also said he was a night owl because he liked the night and was more energized.

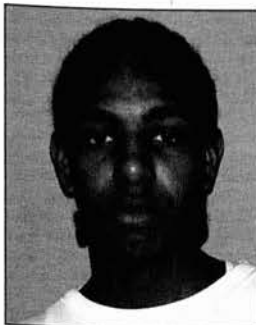


Timothy Dunn

also said he liked the night and classified himself as a night owl like Gannon. He said his favorite subject was Chemistry.

Luis Knotek

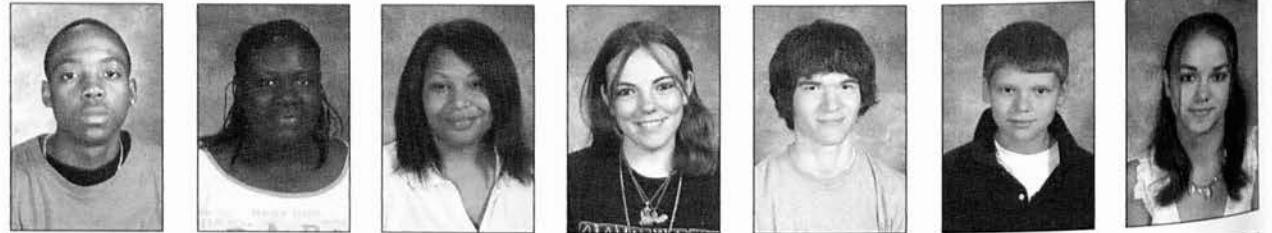
said his favorite subject was Chemistry, like Dunn. He also said he had moved four times.



Jerry Dorsey

said he like Knotek had moved four times. He also said his hidden talent was basketball.

Devron Franklin
Shameka Franklin
Samantha Friesz
Misty Fritz
Jacob Frost
Nicholas Fueston
Tammy Fuller



Christopher Galdeano
Nicholas Galdeano
Francisco Galindo
Timothy Gannon
Luis Garcia
Cari Beth Gardels
Ana Gaspar



Antea Gatalica
Nancy Gaytan
Sibhat Gebremichael
Mattie George
Kevin Gibbs
Grace Gillespie
Nicole Gipe



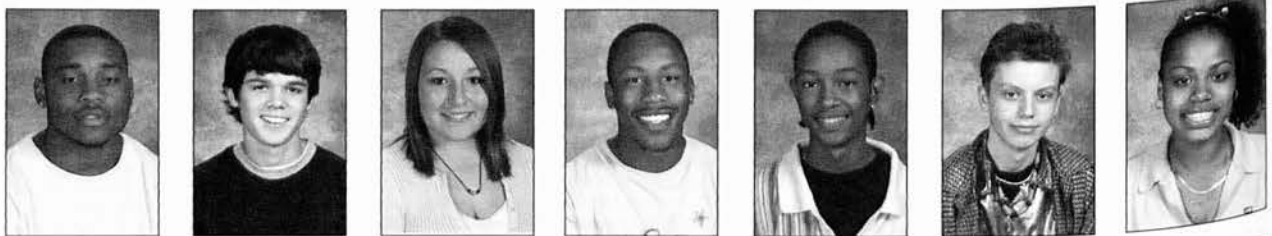
Valyn Gipson
Carlos Gonzalez
John Gonzalez
Yolanda Gonzalez
Chelsey Goodwin
Anthony Gordon
Brittany Gossett



Jesse Graaf
Jennifer Grant
Antone Green
Shaneda Greer
Chloe Greguska
Joshua Griffin
Olivia Griffin



Ronnell Grixby
Michael Guinn
Ashley Gunia
Terence Hall
Donnell Hampton
John Handlos
Brianna Hankins



Claire Hansen
Joseph Hanson
Alicia Hardin
Devan Hardy
Stephanie Harriman
Darius Harris
Yuri Harris



Richard Harrison
Amber Harvey
Alexander Haskins
Donsurae Hawthorne
Sakiera Haynie
Matthew Hebert
Eric Heldenbrand





Adrienne Anderson (10) sings in Bel Canto, a choir students must audition to join. Bel Canto teacher Sharon Smith said she thought Anderson had a God-given gift.
Photo by Claire Anderson.

the sound of being mighty

Sophomore selected to participate in All-State for vocal music

by emma phillips

Ten vocal music students were selected to participate in the All-State singing competition this year. Among them was Adrienne Anderson (10), who was not just the only first soprano selected, she was also the only sophomore.

"I started singing when I was 8 in my church choir," she said

She said she loved music in any form and her understanding of the complexities of sheet music helped her develop as a singer.

"It's so much easier to learn songs quickly when you can read music," she said.

Vocal music teacher Sharon Smith is the director of Bel Canto. Bel Canto is a class Anderson had to audition for before being accepted.

Smith said from the first time she heard Anderson sing she was very impressed. She said she thought the reason Anderson excelled to the degree she did was not only because of hard work and dedication, but also because she had a God-given gift.

Smith said she thought Anderson's ability to read music helped her to accomplish things faster in Bel Canto.

"She has an understanding of how to make the music work," she said.

Anderson said her dedication to music extended outside of school. She said she took private voice lessons from vocal music teacher Lyn Bouma and she was always thinking about music or singing a song that was stuck in her head.

"I sing all the time," she said.

Anderson said she thought the vocal music program was directly related to helping her achieve her goal of singing at All-State. She said she thought the program and the people involved were incredible.

She said she had wanted to try out for All-State as a freshman, but because of her grade level, she was excluded.

After being accepted into Bel Canto, Anderson said she immediately started practicing for the All-State auditions. She said she received the music a few months in advance and practiced the songs all the time.

Smith said for a student to succeed at All-State, she must dedicate a lot of time and energy to learning and pre-learning the material. She said the way the auditions were set up was each student was required to have the song completely memorized and then the judges would select part of the song for the student to sing.

Anderson said when she was informed she made the cut, she was elated.

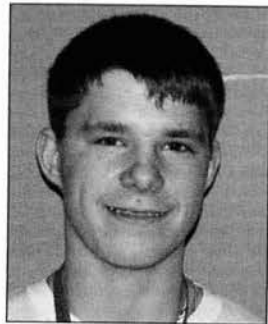
"I basically screamed my head off in the hallway," she said. "I felt incredible, I didn't even expect to go."

Anderson said the experience of going was a really positive one for her and she hoped to be selected to go again the following year. She said her favorite part of the experience was when all the singers were in the choir together. She said the sound was magnificent and she would never forget it.

"The instant we all started singing, it was like an explosion," Anderson said.

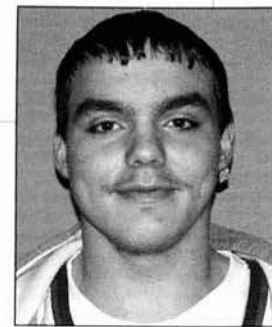
college bound

Sophomores were asked a series of questions about their favorite action hero, what time they woke up on Saturdays and their after-graduation plans.



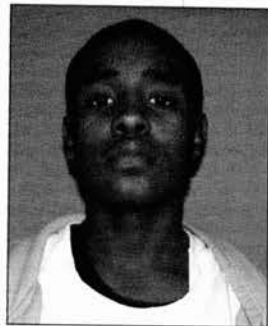
Ryan Steffen

said he wakes up at 7 a.m. on Saturdays. He also said his favorite action hero was Spider Man.



Vaughn Taylor

said his favorite comic book character was Spider Man. He also said he wanted to go to college after graduating.



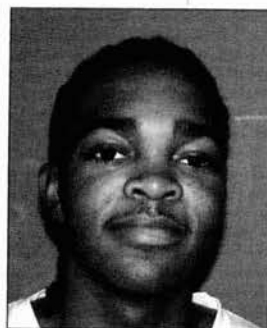
George Thompson

said he wants to go to college after graduating. He also said he wanted to learn Spanish.



Stacey Simet

said she also wants to learn to speak Spanish. She said she was inspired by her family.

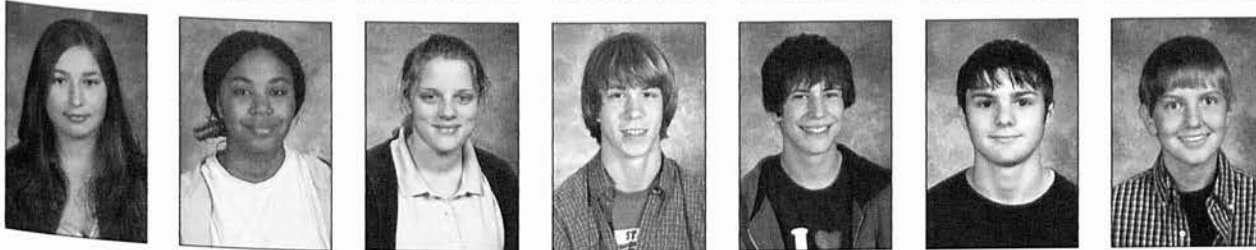


Deion Sherrod

also said his family inspires him. He said his favorite action hero was Scooby Doo.



Daniel Henrich
Jazmin Hernandez
Jessica Hernandez
Yvonne Hernandez
Tatanka Herrera
Benjamin Hinchik
Stephanie Hines



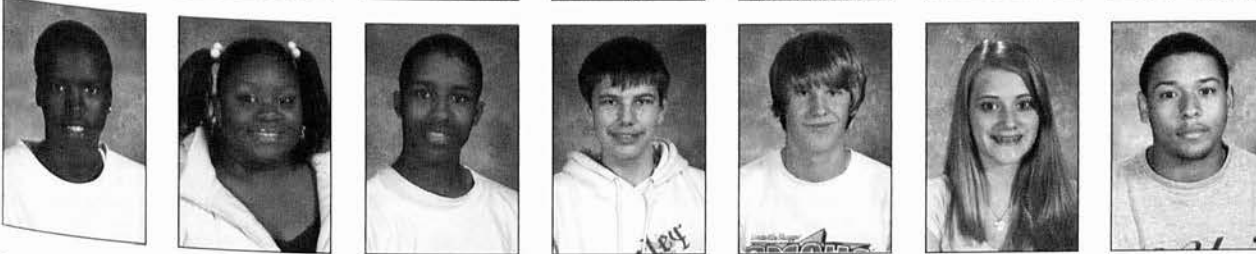
Miroslava Hnatkivskyy
Brittley Holland
Rachel Holmstrom
Daniel Holst
Dillon Holst
Jory Houfek
Aaron Hough



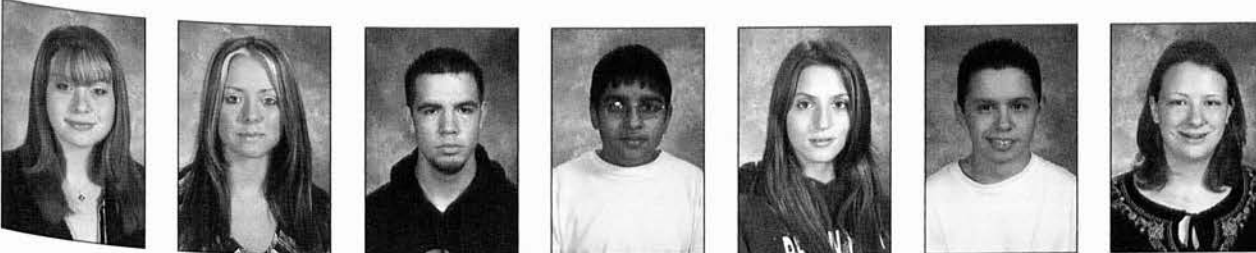
Louis House
Brianna Huddle
Kathryn Humphreys
Ashley Hustak
Crystal Huynhcao
Corey Iltzsch
Perla Islas



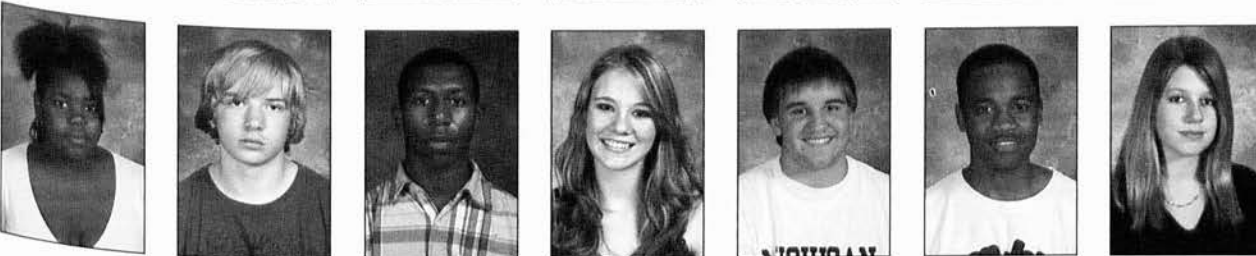
Julian Jackson
Leanna Jackson
Brittany Jefferson
Chavonne Jenkins
Makayla Jenkins
Tyler Jenkins
Amanda Jensen



Tethloach Jock
Brittney Johnson
Dominique Johnson
Johann Johnson
John Johnson
Katie Johnson
Steven Johnson



Ellyse Juranek
Rachel Jurgensen
Michael Kammerer
Amrit Kandel
Sonia Kasady
Mark Keeley
Janelle Kellberg



Hannah Kelsey
Patrick Kileoyn
Carlos Kilgore
Katala Kimball
Samuel Kincaid
Ishod Kirksey
Elizabeth Klima



Luis Knotek
James Kraft
Samantha Kratochvil
Grace Krause
Megan Kreigler
Andrew Kroeger
Kayla Kros

Antoinia Edwards (10) poses in her traditional Native American jingle dress. Edwards said she has participated in pow wows since she was 5. A pow wow is a traditional Native American dance in which many participate.

Photo By Theresa Vacha.



appreciating ancient culture

Teen starts club to celebrate heritage

by theresa vacha

"She has a silent strength," Native American sponsor Myles Jones said. "She can walk into a room and doesn't have to say anything; people know she's around."

Antoinia Edwards (10) has a strong Native American heritage and background, aspects that have not only affected her life activities, but also influenced her to bring about better Native American awareness.

"A lot of people don't know about the (Native American) culture," Edwards said. "Having others see and experience it would make them appreciate it more."

Edwards, who is of the Omaha and Ogalala Sioux tribes, has been influenced by family traditions all her life.

"I have been dancing in pow wows since I was 5," Edwards said. "One of the goals of the club was to raise money so we can have a pow wow here at Central in the future."

A pow wow is an annual tradition where all tribes come together to celebrate their culture.

"Lots of people don't know the culture," Edwards said. "Letting them see it would lead to more respect for it."

Edward's ideas shared by other students were put into effect when they organized a Native American Club virtually on their own. The club is an organization open for everyone to learn more about the American culture that is often under-represented. Edwards and others such as Paige Drapeau (10) felt it was important for everyone to come together for the club, not just Native Americans.

"It doesn't matter what culture you are as long as you have

the Native American spirit," Drapeau said. "It's something sacred and special!"

Initiating the club was something Jones said Edwards reminded and asked him about regularly until it was started.

"The students were the ones who did all of the work and wanted it started," Jones said. "Antoinia really helped get it organized and encouraged people to come."

Club members throughout the year also saw Edward's natural efforts as a leader.

"She has done a lot for the club," Drapeau said. "She is smart and has a good future ahead of her."

Besides the goal of having a pow wow at school, the club also focused on communicating the history of Native Americans.

"The club is good because you get to learn about the culture and how it has influenced everything," Edwards said.

Many members agree that a better understanding of the ethnicity and traditions lead to acceptance and open-mindedness.

"It defiantly provides tolerance," Drapeau said. "I don't think people realize how much respect Native Americans need."

The club served as an example of the effects that students actively involved in history can have. Edwards' efforts in the club and her role as a leader were key in conveying that message of universal acceptance.

"She doesn't know it, yet," Jones said. "But she'll be an awesome leader someday."



Tyler Kros
Delaney Kunz
Rachael Larington
John Larochele
Maxwell Larson
Christopher Leach
Jose Ledezma



Robert Lee
Britney Lewis
Jaimie Lewis
Jacob Lindsey
Jessica Loera
Philip Lomneth
Benita Lopez



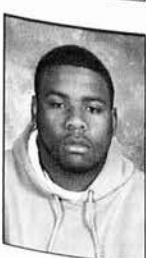
Gerardo Lopez
Selene Lopez-Ramos
Chester Lovegren
Carmela Lucio
Kyle Lynch
James Marcum
Ashley Marion



Erica Marshall
Shyriah Marshall
Hector Martinez
Ivona Masic
Gabriella Massey
Jerome Matthews
Kyle Matthews



Michael May
Connor Mayfield
Terrell Mayhue
Nathaniel McGhee
Ben McGuire
Shelly McLaughlin
Dylan McMahon



Donald McPherson
William McWilliams
Guadalupe Medina
Adam Melgares
Ashley Meyer
Hakeim Miller
Rachel Minier

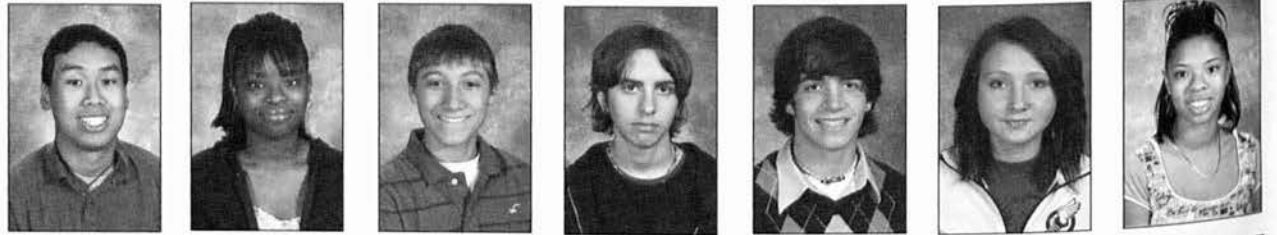


Kevin Mitchell
Melissa Molina
Adrian Monge
Ja Leya Montgomery
Christina Moore
Aaron Moreno
Rakeem Morrison



Amber Moses
Daniel Munoz
Paloma Nazar
Daniel Negrete
Michelle Negrete
Julia Nelson
Anne Newman

Jomarcell Nguyen
 Charnell Nichols
 Derek Noel
 Daniel Ohren
 Sean Olson
 Alexandra Oltrogge
 Adryanne Orduna



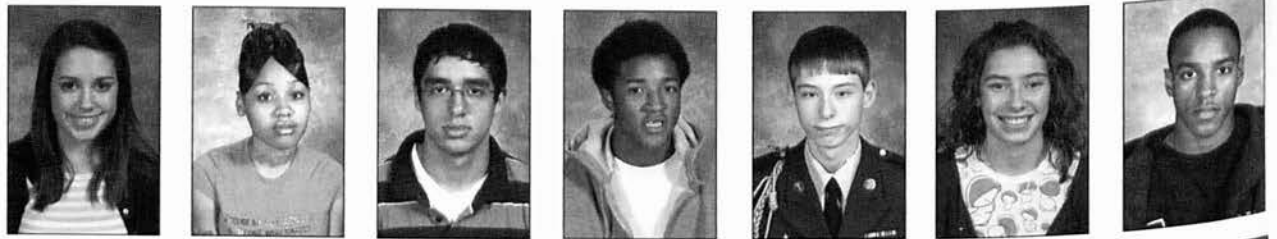
Yaneth Orozco
 Diamond Osayande
 DaMarcus Osborne
 Jessica Ozuna
 James Palmer
 Andrew Patterson
 Brian Peak



Alexandra Pearson
 Jason Peck
 Janaye Pegues
 Raja Philip
 Emma Phillips
 Janae Pierce
 Michael Pierce



Stacey Pirtle
 Laketa Plater
 Paul Plouzek
 Rochele Pointer
 Zachary Pope
 Sarah Potts
 Shane Prater



Alex Prue
 Thomas Ptacek
 Nathan Queen
 Debra Ramirez
 Alyssa Rathbun
 Kaitlyn Rathman
 Lisa Raymond



Prentiss Reddick Jr.
 Rachel Reno
 Emily Rice-Baltzell
 Else Richards
 Lindsay Richards
 Albert Richey
 Darcy Robbins

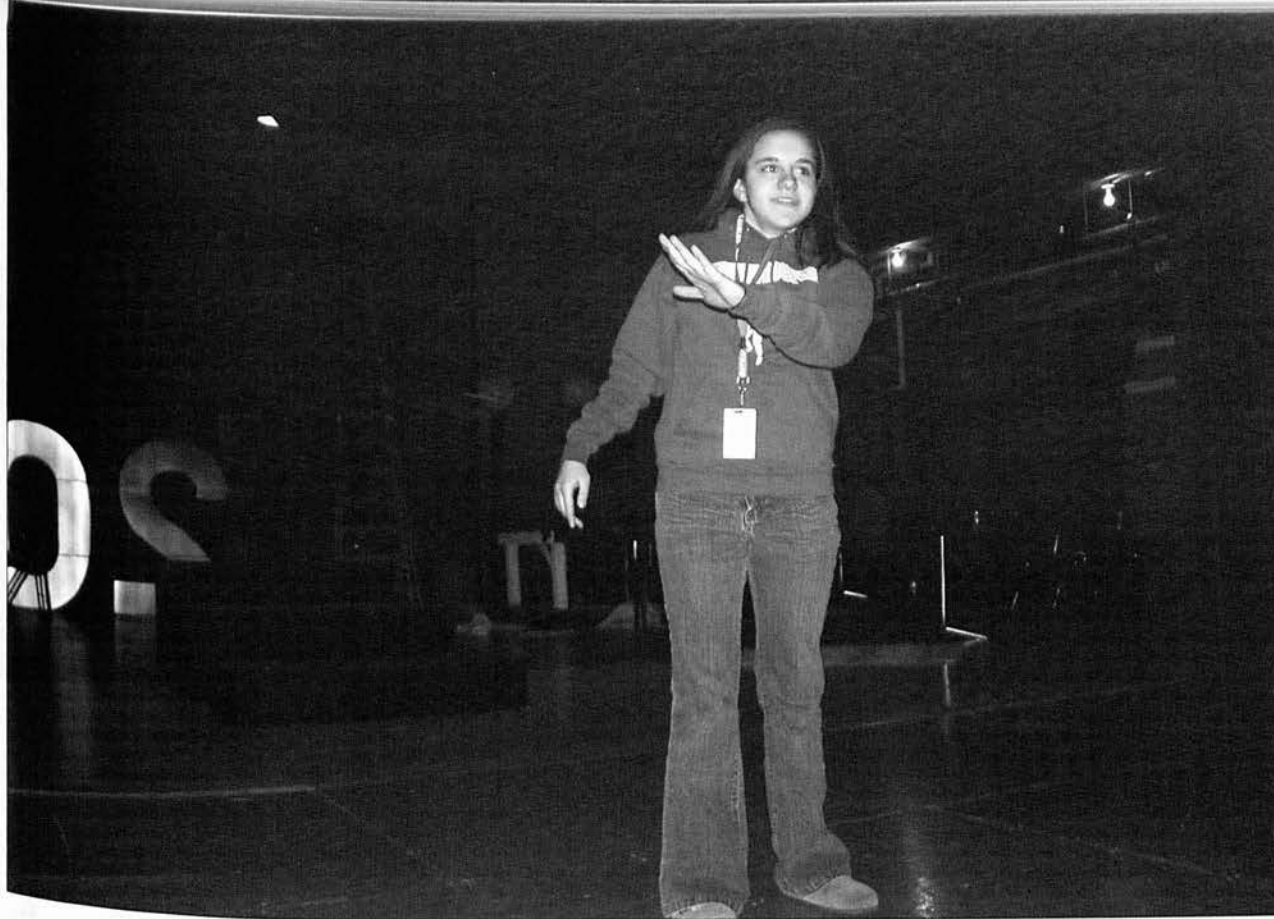


Will Robbins
 Jon Roberson
 Colin Robertson
 Timothy Robertson
 Elizabeth Rockwell
 Carmen Rodriguez
 Cierra Rodriguez



Marissa Roe
 John Roebuck
 Kevin Rooney
 Lien Rosas
 Kerry Rosenberg
 Kylan Ross
 Amber Rowan





Catherine Venditte (10) acts out a poem during her Advanced Drama class. She said she has been acting since she was very young and she has only been in two productions without her sister.
Photo By Chester Lovegren.

sister act

Teen actor excels in drama while performing with sister

by stefanie tapio

Standing only 4'11, Catherine Venditte (10) uses her height as an advantage to getting roles in plays. Acting along side her sister since she was 5 years old, Venditte was excited to bring her talent to Central.

"I was an extra in "The Music Man" when I was just 5 and my sister was only 3.

"That was my first play," Venditte said.

She began acting due to the encouragement of a neighbor. Venditte's first class was taken at the Rose Theater with her younger sister, who she does many shows with.

"Me and my sister are really close, we have only done two plays without each other," she said.

Venditte had a lot of chances to audition at such a young age due to being home schooled until freshman year. It was a choice her father made for her and her younger sister to try. Her mother worked as their tutor.

Being home schooled gave her the opportunity to be in many shows at The Rose, The Bellevue Little Theater, The Omaha Community Playhouse and several other theaters. Venditte was given many lead child roles at all of these theaters.

"I played Susie Walker in "A Miracle on 34th Street" when I was 11, because of my height and face," Venditte said.

However, the biggest show Venditte ever took part in was the 2002 Omaha Community Playhouse tour of "A Christmas Carol." Doing this show Venditte, her mother and younger sister traveled the east coast for several weeks performing at

different theaters.

Venditte won the part of Mrs. Crachit and her sister the part of Tiny Tim. Her mother went with as their tutor to keep her and her sister up on schoolwork.

After the tour ended, it was almost time for Venditte to start school for the first time.

"I enjoyed being home schooled because I was so shy, but high school is a great experience," Venditte said.

She said you are offered a lot more at a public school and meet a lot more people. There are also sports at school, which Venditte takes a big part in. She plays basketball and was on the softball team.

Venditte still takes part in acting as well at Central in her Advanced Drama class.

Drama teacher John Gibson said Venditte was a very loyal student and a pleasure to have in class.

"Katy will be a success in anything she chooses to do in life just because she follows the rules of the game of life," Gibson said.

Venditte was uncertain of what career she was planning to go after. She said she was looking into teaching, but was not sure, yet.

"My sister wants to pursue acting, while I do it more for fun," Venditte said.

However, whatever Venditte chooses to do in the future, she plans on taking all the skills she learned at home, in the theaters, on the road and at school with her sister.

Jeremy Roxburgh
DeJaniera Rucker
Anthony Rushing
Veronica Salgado-Altamirano
Trevon Sams
Micheal Sanders
Andrea Scarpello



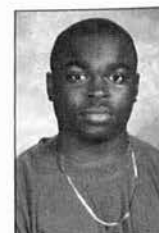
Elizabeth Schooler
Erin Schultz
Jonathan SeEVERS
Timothy Seffron
Elvis Servellon
Mykel Shaw
Michael Shepherd



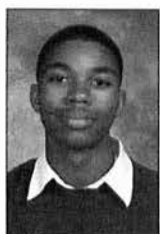
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Stacey Simet
Abigail Sjogren
Patrick Skanes



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Keegan Smutz
Raymond Snell
Elizabeth Soll



Rosa Sotelo
Kristi Spargen
Jared Spence
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Jessica Staller
Samone Starks



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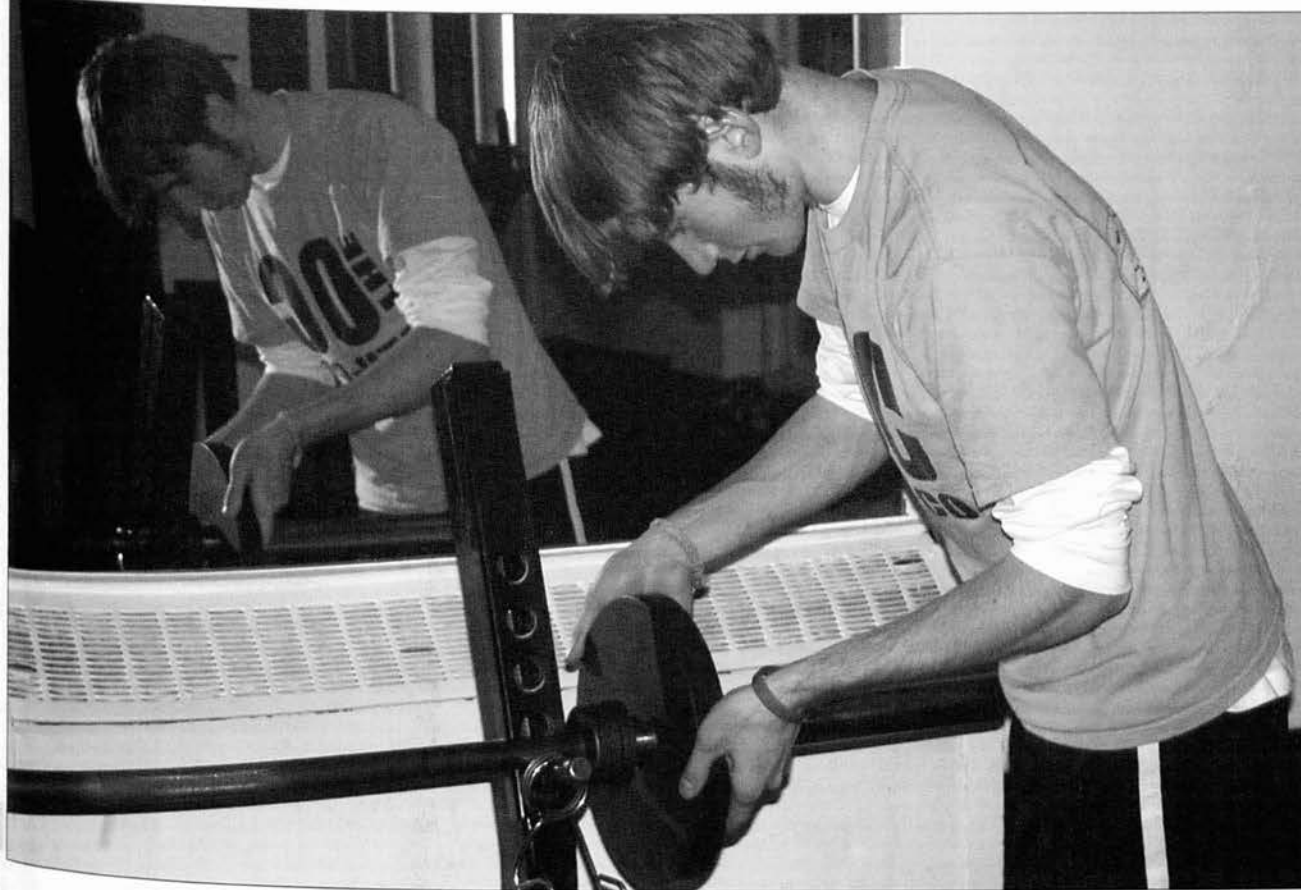


Vaughn Taylor
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Benjamin Thomas
George Thompson
Jasmine Thompson
Makala Thompson
Sharlay Thompson



Coty Thornburg
Brandon Thorpe
Kadye Thorpe
Meeae Tillwick
Omar Tornez
Ana Torres
Christina Trout





Philip Lomneth (10) puts a weight on the bar in his weight training class. He said he wants to be a Jesuit priest when he is an adult. Cross country coach Shannon Stenger said he thought Lomneth could achieve anything he put his mind to. Photo By Mark Arehart.

off the beaten path

Active student wants to become a Jesuit priest

by mark arehart

During their sophomore year, most high school students do not have any idea of what they want to do when they grow up.

That would not be the case for Philip Lomneth (10). He said he wants to be a Catholic priest.

He said he was inspired to choose this career path by a Catholic priest from Uganda, Africa.

Lomneth said he was excited about his faith and wanted to inform others about it. He said he was inspired by other priests while he attended Saint Margaret Mary's Catholic School.

"The priests there were great," he said.

Lomneth said the atmosphere at Central was much different than at the smaller school.

"The people at my old school never seemed to appreciate what they had and the time they had," Lomneth said. "But the people here at Central seem to take advantage of what they have, instead of missing what they don't."

He said he was pretty open with

his faith.

"People kind of always bring up the bad things; I just put that aside," he said. "I want to show them that there are good people in the Catholic Church."

After high school, he said he plans on attending a four-year college and then pursue becoming a priest.

"I probably would want to go to a Catholic university," he said.

He said he is interested in going to college in the Midwest. He said it was doubtful he would pursue another career.

"I realize things change," he said. "Right now I really feel like I want to be a priest."

He went on to say he would do whatever God wanted him to do.

Lomneth said he wanted to become a Jesuit priest. The Jesuits are a special sect of the Catholic Church that refer to the Society of Jesus.

"Jesuits tend to be the more radical priests," Lomneth said. He said the Jesuits were more free-thinking priests.

"They come up with different ideas," he said.

He said the Jesuits sometimes are not stuck to traditional Catholic ideas.

Lomneth said they tend to be more educated than regular priests and also teach in many high school and college settings. He said the process entails going to Novitiate for more schooling and doing mission work in foreign lands.

He said Novitiate is like a seminary. It is the beginning of schooling to become a Jesuit priest.

The entire process of becoming a Jesuit priest, including the additional schooling and mission work, takes about 14 years.

He said he wanted to spread God's word and travel.

"Whenever I make a difficult decision, I always ask God to help me make the right choice," he said.

Cross country coach Shannon Stenger said Lomneth would be successful.

"He's a great guy," Stenger said, "He's motivated!"

Sophomores

Alek Erickson (10) plays his acoustic bass during a practice with his family. He said he and his family had been playing together as a band for several years. He also said it was very easy to have a cohesive sound.

Photo By Emma Phillips.



finding a groove

Sophomore plays jazz with family band

by emma phillips

Almost weekly, Alek Erickson (10) goes to Nebraska City with his family to perform at the Lied Lodge. Erickson said his family has been performing as a band for three years.

The band is comprised of his father, little brother and himself. His father plays jazz piano, his brother plays the drums and he plays the bass. Erickson also said his mother occasionally played with the band.

"For bigger concerts, my mom plays with us on flute," he said.

Erickson said his entire family was musical and his father had been playing the piano for over 30 years. He said he thought it was easier for the band to practice since all the members were related.

"A band that's your family is more reliable than other musicians," he said.

Erickson said the band had played at many different venues other than the one in Nebraska City. He said he has played at The University of Nebraska Medical Center, and also at Caffeine

Dreams, a small coffee house.

Zachary Cutler (10) has known Erickson for nine years and has seen him perform. He said he saw Erickson play at Caffeine Dreams and was impressed by his musical skills.

Erickson was not only involved in music through his family band, he also was in Jazz Band, and has recorded and released two albums which he recorded at his house on his computer.

Cutler said he had heard both records and although he enjoyed both said his favorite was the second release.

Erickson and his family performed at Purple Feather Day the year before and he said he enjoyed performing in front of his peers.

He said Purple Feather Day was the second time the band had performed at the Joslyn Art Museum. He said the first time it played there it performed in the main hall.

Erickson said he thought the main function it served at Purple Feather Day was to entertain the students. He

said he was used to playing in front of people because the band also played during parties.

Erickson said he liked performing with his family because each member communicated so well.

"We can pretty much read each other's minds when it comes to music," he said.

He also said he liked the amount of time he got to spend with his family and the only times things got difficult was when he had conflicts in his schedule and had to pick between several activities.

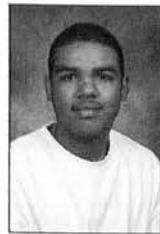
Despite all the time Erickson spent on music, he said he doesn't want to be a professional musician when he gets older. He said he wasn't sure what he wanted to do as an adult.

Cutler said he wasn't sure if Erickson wanted to play music professionally, but if he did he had the skill.

"I think he's probably one of the most musically talented people I know," Cutler said.



Lauren Trummer
Fantasia Tucker
Paris Turner
Jesse Tye
Fuschia Tyler
Nyela Vaughn
Hector Velasquez



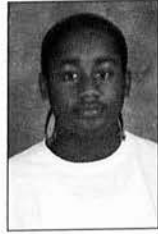
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Andrew Wahl



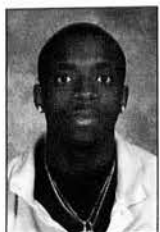
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Morgan Wetterstrom
Jacquelyn Whelan
Nathan Whittle



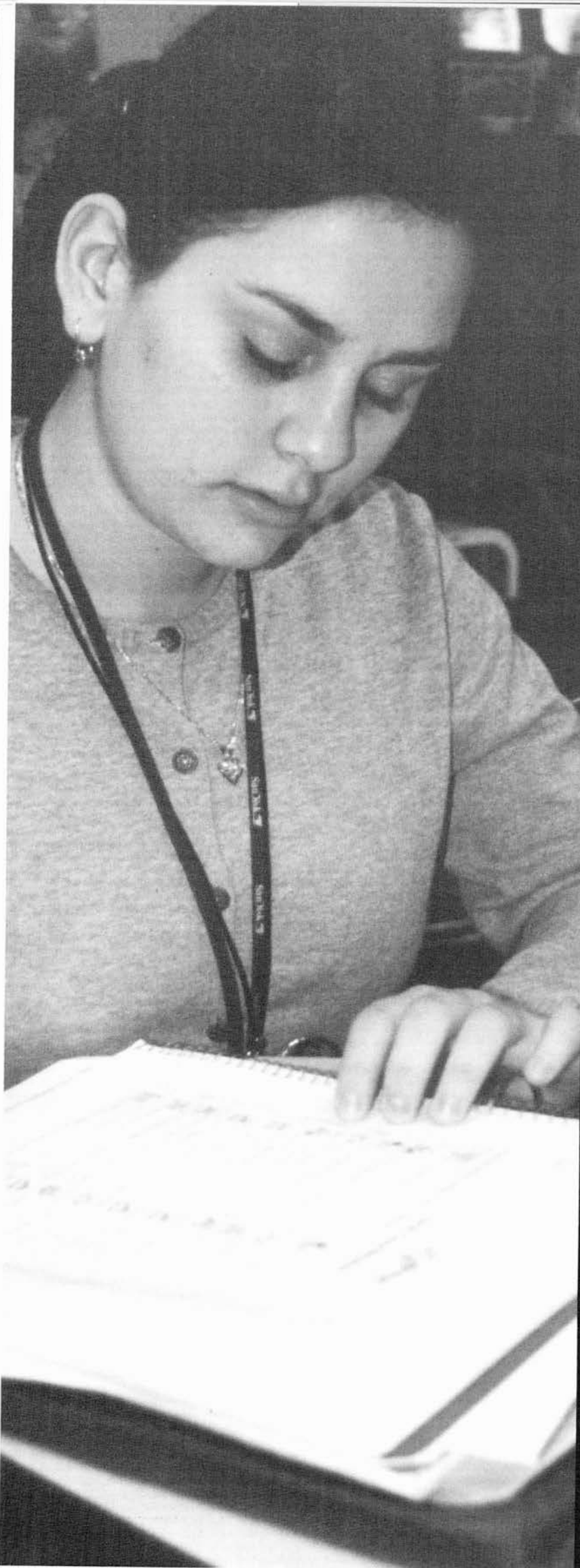
Astrika Wilhelm
Jareila Williams
Michael Williams
Bryan Wilson
Jarez Wilson
Lorenzo Wilson
Keerica Woods



Teathlach Wool
Rachel Woolard
Matthew Woster
Dustin Wright
Jason Wright
Charlene Yoakum
Gue Soo Yoe



Jorge Zarate
Lara Zott
Olga Zurita



F

reshmen were the new kids in the school. Most of them didn't know the upperclassmen or each other. Some may say this was the hardest year to get through, but all it took was some readjusting. They attended different middle schools, but all came together in a huge, unfamiliar building. Although they may have gotten lost, eventually they found their way and became connected with the rest of us. These are our freshmen.

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From Left. Savannah West (9) applies her makeup before a rehearsal for the musical, Alecia Steed (9) was one of the many students connected to her peers and Claire Goodwillie (9) practices ballet. She has been dancing for eight years.

Photos by Emma Phillips and Theresa Vacha.

Left. Daysi Flores (9) studies in her English as a Second Language class. Although many students took this class, they often used it as a study hall. *Photo by Tanika Cooper.*



Magdi Abdelrahman
Abdirahman Abdi
Ahmed Abdi
Victoria Abeyta
Devonte Abram
Nadia Al-Absy
Todd Alba



Teresa Albrecht
Francisco Alcantara
Elizabeth Alfaro
Abdullah Ali
Delores Allison
Maria Alonso
Christina Altie



Joel Amaya
David Anderson
Joshua Andre
Zackery Andre
Fernando Andres
Samuel Anez
Edwin Aquino



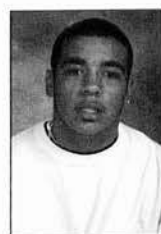
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Aelea Armendariz
Jackie Arriaga
Dominique Austin
Neoshon Avant
Clara Baber-Etzrodt
Kailah Bailey



Aaron Baker
Ashante' Ball
Leandre Ballew
Nicholas Banks
Nichole Banks
Rebecca Barajas
Sarah Barazi



Tyler Barry
Shinead Bashor
Paola Bautista
Cameron Bedford
Richard Beister
Alyssa Bell
Brian Bell



Emma Bell
Bradley Benes
Isabel Benjamin-Alvarado
Kenneth Bennett
Sara Bennett
Bryan Berka
Tristan Bernth



Anthony Bigger
Richard Bigelow
Alexandra Birkes
Amber Bischof
Demetrius Blackburn
Nicole Bolden
Dana Bottger

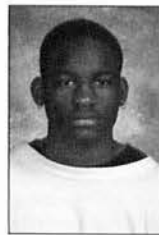
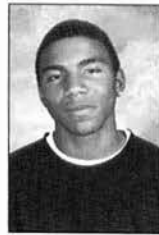
Lawrence Box
Elizabeth Boyer
Andrea Rose Boykin
Shauna Brayman
Dymonique Brewer
Jamesa Brewer
Jess Brewer



Sade Brewer
Tajh Brewer
Diamond Briggs
Marquita Broadway
Andrea Brooks
Laura Browder
Devon Brown



Dustin Brown
Monisha Brown
Robert Brown
Shaves Brown
Shawn Brown
Starr Brown
Tobiesen Brown



Alana Brunow
Bailey Buller
Xan Burgess
Diamond Burrage
Mason Busboom-Piercy
Ricardo Bustillos
Valerie Butler



Englysh Byrd
Heather Caldwell
Blake Cantrell
Tyanna Cantu
Jose Cardenas
Alex Carlson
Alexander Carlson



Taylor Carodine
Lizzette Carrizosa
Carlos Carroll
Sandra Carroll
Roxanne Carter
Megan Casses
Valerie Castro



Janeth Cazares
Miguel Cerna
Edgar Cervantes
Kyle Chamberlain
Ariona Chambers
Christian Chapman
Tubuok Char



Katyn Charging Thunder
Rico Chavez
Jacob Cheloha
Christina Chesters
Osmani Chica
Puok Chop
Nellia-Denise Choto





Casey Christensen
Jacob Christensen
Natalie Christiansen
Duol Chuol
Nhial Chuol
Christina Ciembor
Alicia Clark

Robert Clark
Bonnie Cobb
Amara Cole
Duan Cole
Jerlisa Coleman
Christina Coniglio
Aryannah Conrad

Jordan Conway
Richard Conway
Adam Cook
Denzell Cook
Rachel Cool
Hugo Corado
Leo Corbin

Leann Cordonnier
Samuel Core
Ganesha Cosey
Danielle Costello
Delaney Coughlin
Joshua Cowdery
James Crawford

Jessica Creighton
Kenneth Cribbs
Leighla Cribbs
Madison Crispin
Joshua Crist
Kelsey Cronin
Bailey Cullen

Nathan Cunningham
Angel Curry
Victoria Czerwinski
Johnte Dancer
Sara Danielson
Mark David
Andrea Davis

Ann Davis
Brandon Davis
Brittania Davis
Curry Davis
Dominic Davis
Dusty Davis
Sarah Davis

Trae' Davis
Victory Davis
Wynter Davis
Luis Delgado
Victor Delgado
Brandon Deming
Jacob Derry

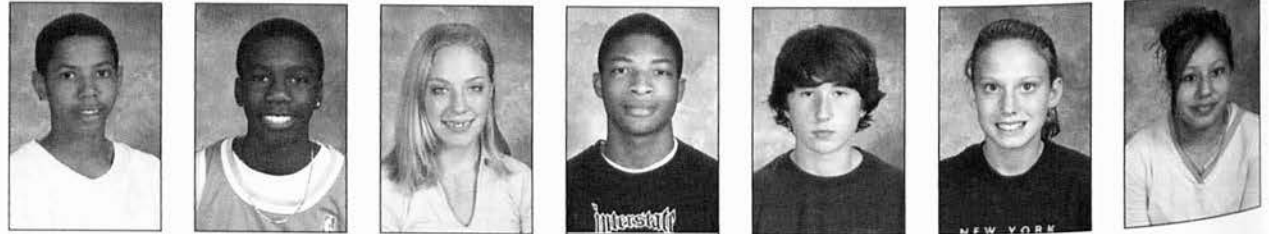
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Chinyere Dickson
Christian Dillon
Bailey Dilocker
Chuol Ding
Kevin Dolphin
Alan Dominguez



Mario Doolittle
Cydney Dorsey
Dalton Dozier
Paige Drapeau
Andrea Draper
Maxine Druliner
Winslow Dumaine



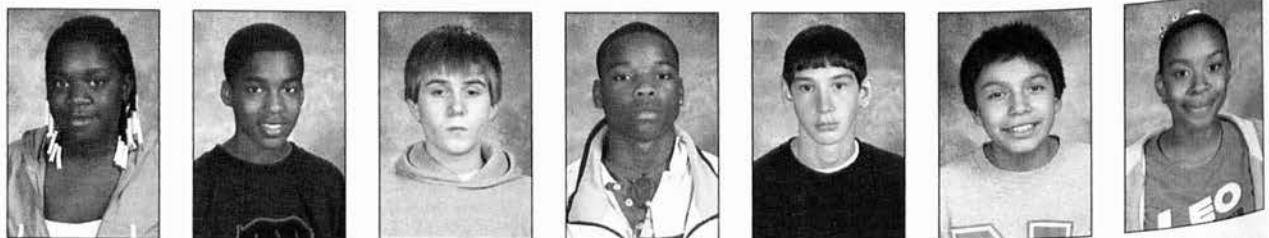
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Nena Edwards



Macklin Emas
Grace Encinas
Ebonie Epinger
Carolina Escobar-Hellbu
Michelle Estrada
Clara Etzrodt
Anthony Evans



Candace Evans
Christopher Evans
Nathaniel Fairbanks
Keilen Fantroy
David Farnsworth
Andre Fast Horse
Brittani Faulkner



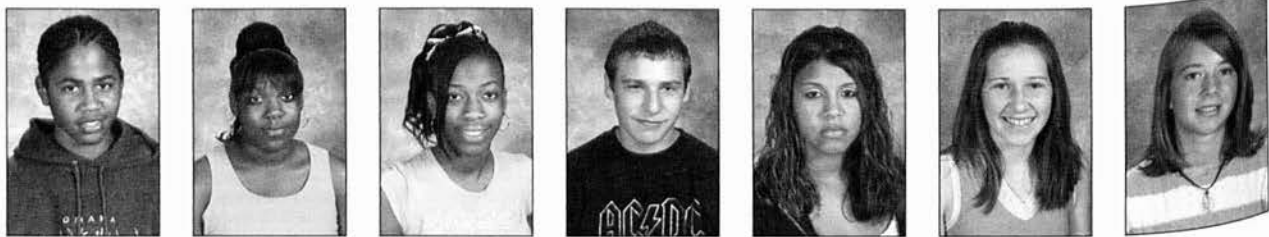
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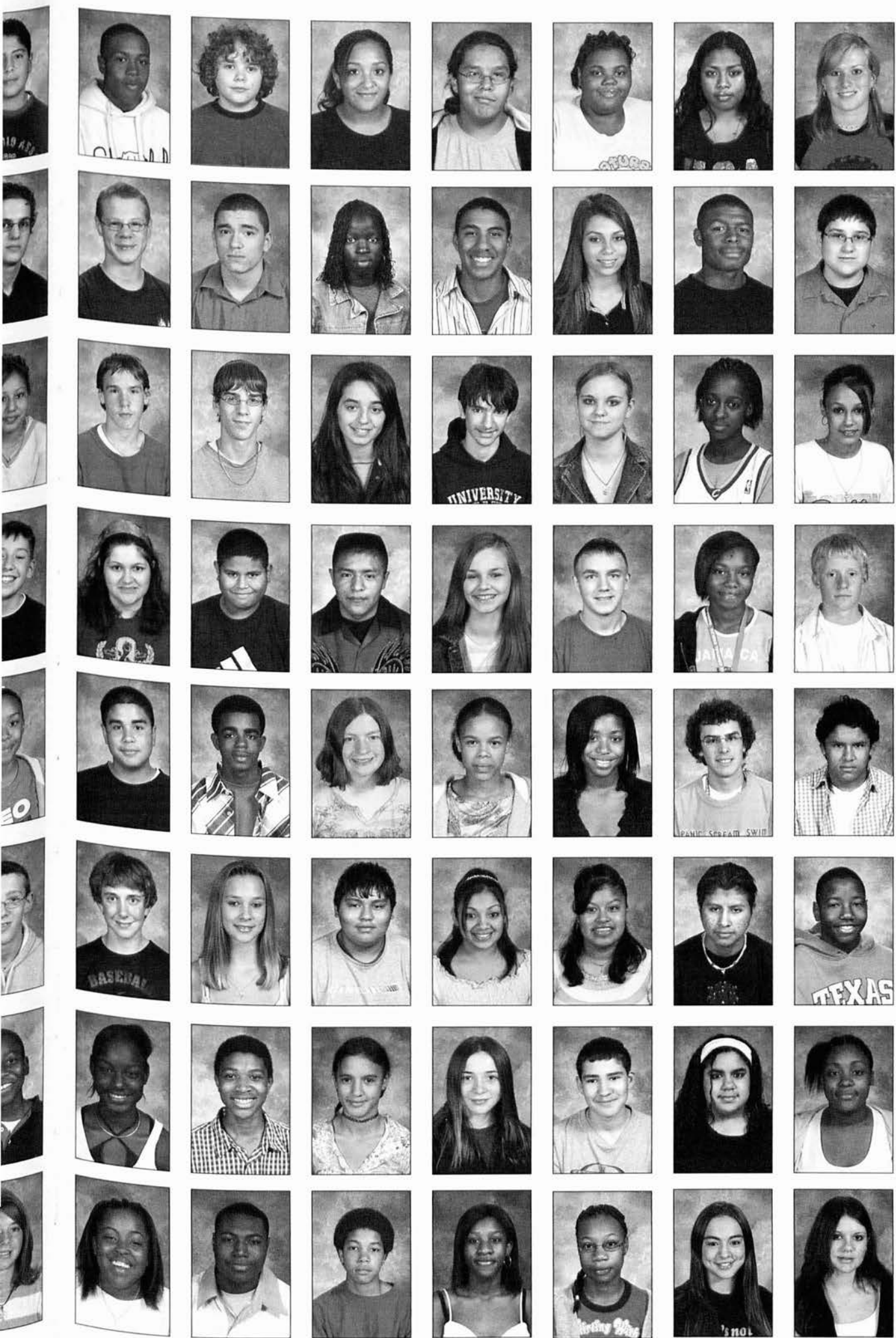


Daniel Fields
Emil Finch
Jasmine Fitch
Mattie Fitch
Brian Flowers
Jasmyn Flowers
Larry Fountain



Jamar Fraction
Jade Franklin
Alexandra Frazier
Joshua Frazier
Emmily Free
Susan Freeman
Anna French





Jordan Frezell
Neil Frizzell
Taylor Furgison
Andrew Galligo
Markeasha Gamble
Dinora Garcia
Gabrielle Gard

Anthony Gardner
Sebastian Garner
Nyachang Gatluak
Josiah Gauff
Angelica Genovesi
Bryant Giles
Justin Gipe

Nicholas Girouex
Vincent Girouex
Borana Gjoka
Nathaniel Glandon
Stephanie Gleason
Jasmine Glover
Stevie Goin

Tiffany Gonzales
Alejandro Gonzalez
Filiberto Gonzalez
Claire Goodwillie
Paul Gordon
Shaka Gordon
Daniel Graalfs

Daniel Graham
Zechariah Green
Alexandra Greene
Kiharia Greene
La Tonya Greene
Zachary Grunke
Alexis Guerrero

Joshua Gusak
Alyssia Gustafson
Angel Gutierrez-Guil
Kimberly Guzman
Norma Guzman
Yobani Guzman
Marcus Hall-Oliver

Shanique Hampton
Adam Hankins
Linda Hannah
Caitlin Hansen
Ryan Harless
Olivia Harness
Naquieta Harper

Paris Harper
Curtis Harris
Justin Harris
Keona Harris
Martisha Harris
Breanna Harrison
Rebecca Hatch

starting something new

Freshman adjusts after attending school with enrollment of 65

by emma phillips

It was the only high school Savannah West (9) seriously considered attending.

When West was considering high schools, she said Central was the only choice because it was near her house and provided lots of diversity.

"I really liked the stuff that was here (at Central)," she said.

West used to attend Mount Cavalry Lutheran for middle school, a private school with a population of 65 students and five teachers.

She said she liked her old school because of the friendly environment.

"I liked the size personally because I got to know everyone and you got to know your teacher," West said.

She said the class size was typically about 20 students per classroom with two grades sharing one teacher.

She said there was a noticeable difference in the teacher to student ratio at Central when compared to Mount Calvalry.

West said she thought some of her teachers this year were spread a little thin, but they still did a good job instructing their classes.

West said uniforms were not required like in most private schools, but the students were expected to attend a chapel service every Wednesday.

West said the religious influence of the school was good because it taught the students good manners and how to behave.

She also said at her middle school, students were more actively supervised by teachers, which she thought also helped to encourage better behavior.

She said although she liked her middle school she wanted to meet new people and she knew Central would be the best place to do that.

"The fact that I get to meet someone new everyday is fun," she said.

West said the amount of people who attended Central was intimidating at first, but after talking to some of her friends who attended public schools she

said she felt better.

She said it was easy for her to make friends and although some people were rude, the vast majority of students were friendly.

She said one of the biggest things she worried about before starting school this year was lunch.

She said she was nervous because she didn't know who she was going to sit with, but on the first day she found a table and it wasn't hard to make friends.

West also said she thought her private school education had helped her prepare for the work load of honor courses.

She was enrolled in Honors US History. Her teacher, Robert Tucker, said he expected her to do well.

"Typically the students I've had in the past that come from small private schools have done very well," he said.

He also said he didn't see any difference in West's behavior or social interactions as opposed to his other honors students.

He said he thought she had good study habits and she always completed her classwork.

He said overall West fitted in very well.

West was also involved in the drama department and was a chorus member and townsperson in "The Music Man".

She appeared in large dance numbers and took part in the group songs.

There were several scenes in "The Music Man" and West appeared in most of them.

"Her part was a compliment to all the leads and the story," drama teacher John Gibson said.

The chorus in "The Music Man" helped to move the story along without spoken dialogue.

West said she enjoyed participating in the musical and hopes to be in more drama productions.

Although some things about Central were hard for her to adjust to, like cursing in the hallways or the lack of religion in the curriculum, West said she was glad she decided to come to Central for high school.



Left. Savannah West (9) acts in a library scene in a dress rehearsal for the musical. In this scene, the male lead tries to convince the librarian that he is deeply in love with her. West was in the chorus and participated in most dance numbers included in "The Music Man." Photo by Emma Phillips.

Above. West applies her makeup before dress rehearsal for "The Music Man." Chorus members started getting into costume 30 minutes before the rehearsal was set to begin, while the leads usually got into their costumes very quickly and went to the stage. Photo by Emma Phillips.

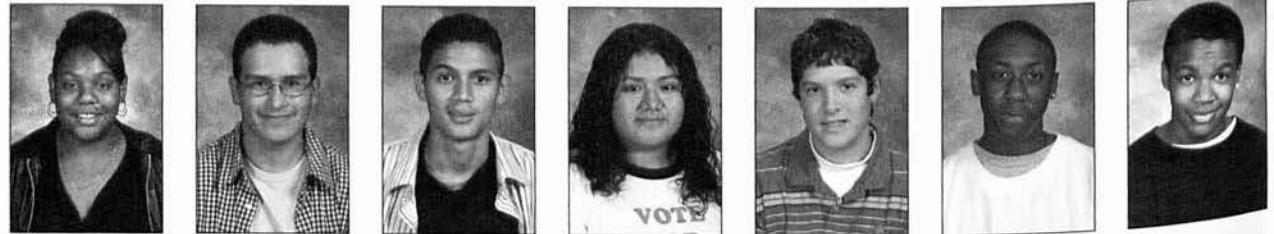
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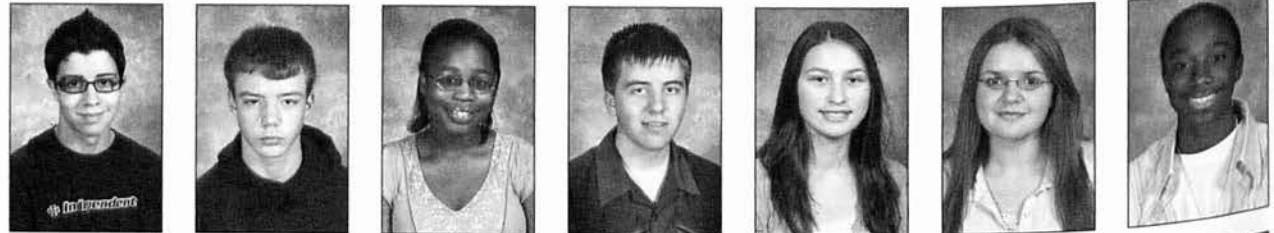
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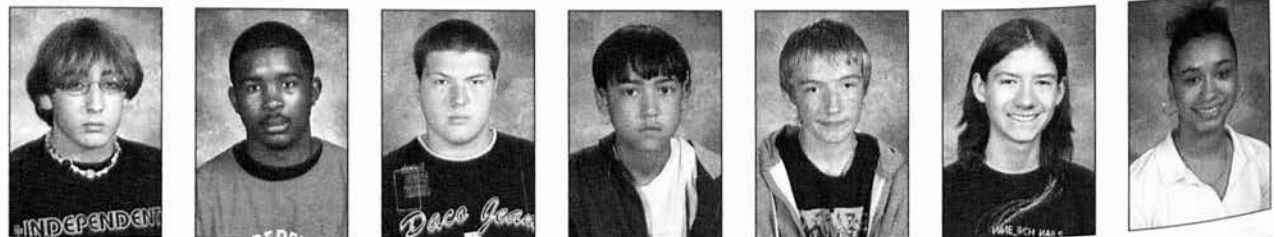
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 Alexandria Hodge
 Thomas Hollingsworth



Eric Holmes
 K'Hail Holmes
 Justin Holzapfel
 Daniel Honeycutt
 Ronald Horn
 Dakota Horrell
 Sallie Horton



Benjamin Hotchkiss
 Kieralynn House
 Hannah Howell
 Alexandra Hubbard
 James Hughes
 Desirae Huisman
 Brittany Hustak



Jessica Huynh
 Jennifer Inzauro
 Dyllon Ishii
 Hanifah Jackson
 Ti Naisha Jackson
 Daja Jamerson
 Bre Aunna James



Stephanie Jamieson
 Frances Jamrozy
 Douglas Janousek
 Samantha Janousek
 Nadia Jefferson
 Dillon Jessen
 Noel Jimenez





Adrienne Jimerson
 Jerron Jimerson
 Brandon Johnson
 Brionne Johnson
 Darryl Johnson
 David Johnson
 Leeza Johnson

Alesia Jones
 Catherine Jones
 Dominic Jones
 Julian Jones
 Kiara Jones
 ShaFon Jones
 William Jorgensen

Norma Juarez
 Joseph Kammerer
 David Karlo
 Melaina Katrinak
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 Jourdan Kellogg
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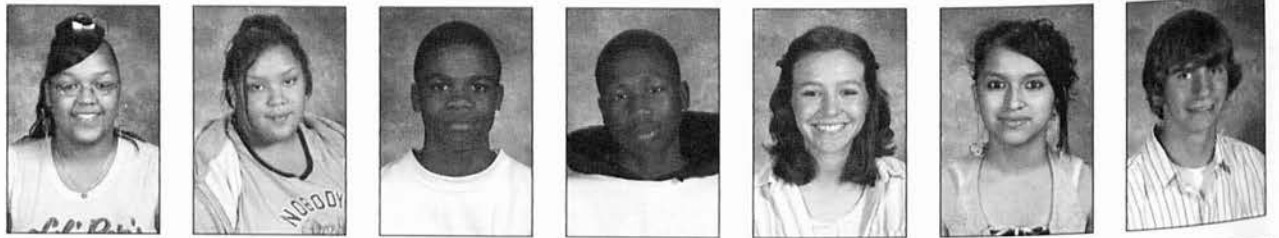
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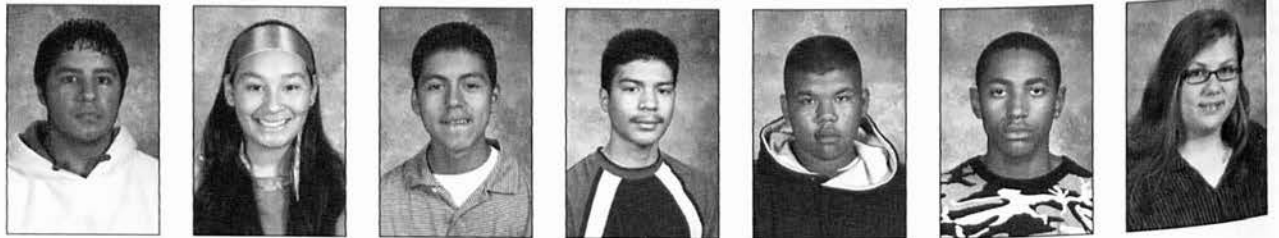
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 Kimesha Legon
 Bryan Lett

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 Taiveon Lewis
 Tyson Lewis
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 Sarahi Linares
 John Lloyd



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 Gerson Lopez
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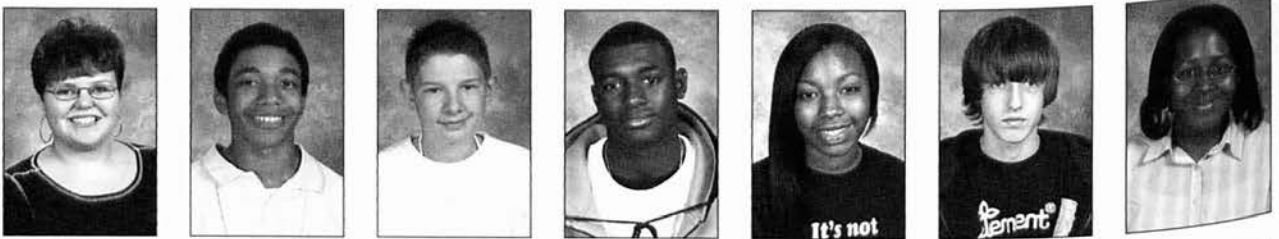
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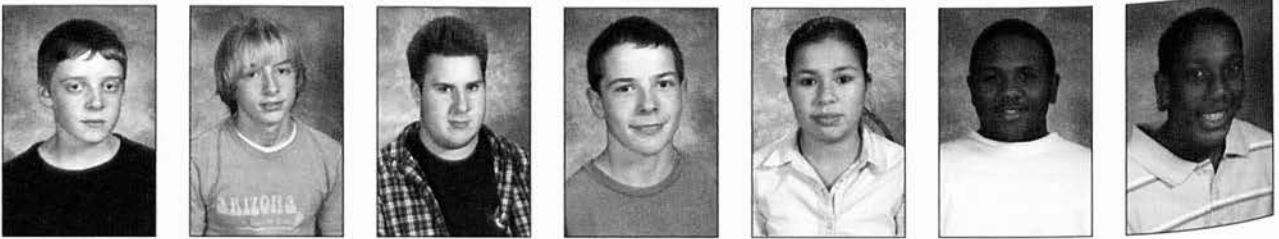
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 Caitlin Mercier
 Herbert Merino
 Alaina Merrill
 Daniel Mesa



Russell Mesenbrink
 Nicholas Messick
 Benjamin Meyer
 Gregory Meyer
 Natalin Meza
 Raj Midder
 Rashad Middleton





Brittney Miller
 Carl Miller
 Nicholas Miles
 Jesse Mincey
 Alexander Minor
 Caroline Mitchell
 Cornesha Mitchell

Domonique Mitchell
 Sean Mitchell
 Victor Mitchell
 Mia Montana
 Sergio Montanez
 Frederick Montgomery
 Angel Montoya

Franecia Moore
 Khanita Moore
 Michaela Moore
 Savanna Morgan
 Callan Morris
 Kathryn Morrissey
 Sergio Munguia

Melanie Musick
 James Nance
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 Latoria Neal
 Nathan Neal
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 Joel Nelson

Kathryn Nelson
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 Skyler Newsome
 Keiondre Newton
 Kimberly Nguyen

Hannah Niebaum
 Stephanie Nielsen
 Aaron Noble
 Lynette Noble
 Cody Norris
 Al-Nadim Nowwara
 Zachary Nutt

Nicholas O'Bradovich
 Shaxhime Ogazi
 Kevin Ohlrich
 Oryem Oringa
 Mariateresa Ortiz
 Patrice Osborne
 Amber Ostergaard

Crystal Overgaard
 Michael Overgaard
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 Dylan Page
 Luz Maria Palma
 Stephanie Palmer-Motykov

Morgan Kaibun
Amber Kausch
Jameiah Kay
Marcus Rechtenbach
Brandy Redden
Julius Reed
Kenrell Reed

Evan Qualheim
Omar Quintana
Aaron Quirk
Darrisa Rainier
David Rainey
Emilee Ramirez
Juan Ramirez

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Kiyanna Pryor

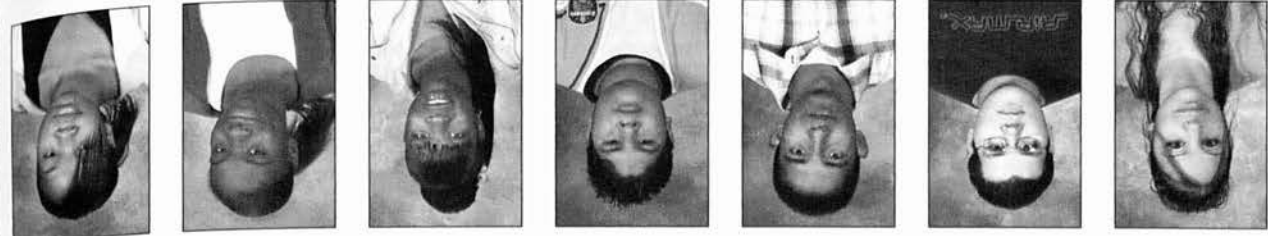
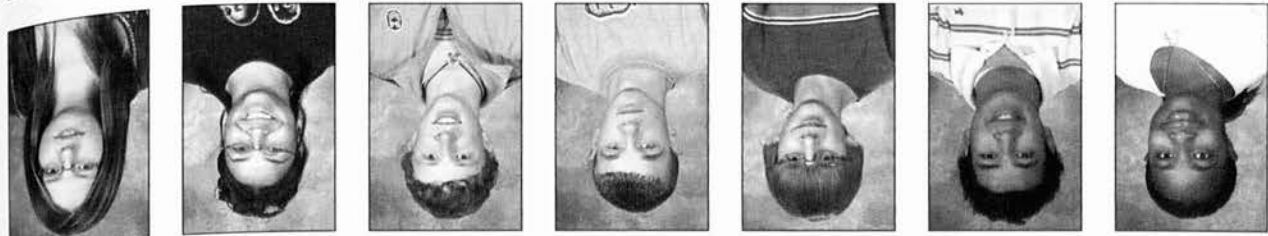
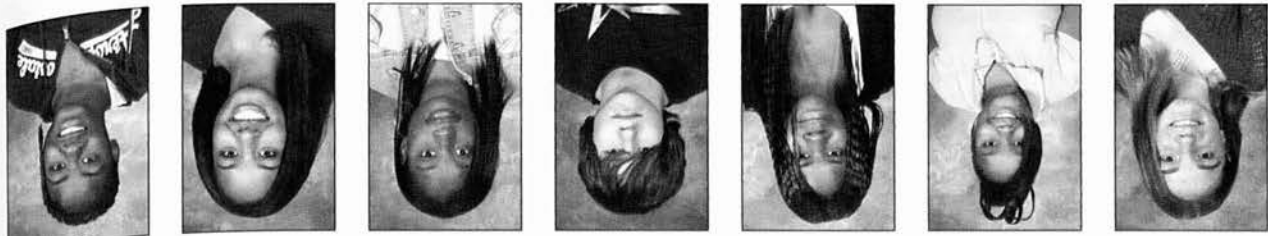
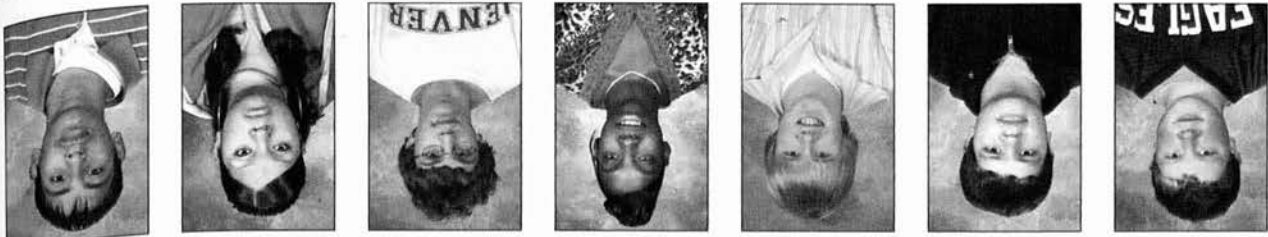
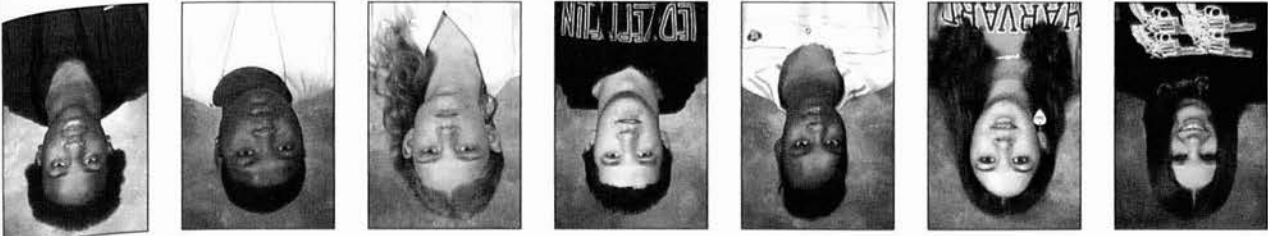
Samone Plater
Jerson Polanco
Benjamin Polk
Zachary Popjoy
Derek Porter
Sydni Powe
Kaelynn Preston

Rakeyia Pettis
Chenelle Phillips
Lella Phillips
Edward Pierce
Jasmine Pierce
Andrew Pirruccello
Tory Pittman

Cristal Perea
Eduardo Perez
Gregorio Perez
Jorge Perez
ShantE Perkins
Constance Perry
Jannia Perry

Keith Peak
Christopher Pecha
Hector Pena
Quentin Pena
Terquize Penn
Ariana Peppers
Jose Peralta

Josiah Pappan
Zaccheus Parker
Dillon Parks
Michael Parice
Aaron Partridge
Andrew Pauda
Tyler Payne





Cecelia Reinwald
 Anna Remus
 Elizabeth Reynolds
 Rachel Reynolds
 Krystal Rice
 Danielle Richards
 Matthew Richey

Elliot Rideout
 Michelle Rieger
 Christina Ritchie
 Jennifer Rivera
 Bradley Roberts
 Drew Roberts
 Randy Robertson

Adrian Robinson
 Anthony Robinson
 Ambreial Rogers
 Laron Rogers
 Terrell Rogers
 Brenda Rohlfis
 Shelby Roman

Judy Rosas
 Nicholas Rose
 Brittany Rountree
 David Rubio
 Joseph Ruf
 Carmen Ruiz
 Heath Ryks

Dylan Saferstein
 Angelita Salazar
 Samuel Salzinger
 Johnathan Samuelson
 Joshua Samuelson
 Maria Sanchez
 Mayra Sanchez

Pedro Sanchez
 Dexter Sanders
 Julius Sanders
 Erika Santiago
 Shampaine Saxton
 Travis Scheibeler
 Kevin Schlotfeld

David Schneider
 Jaymie Schroeder
 Dominique Scott
 Denisha Seals
 Kyle Seastedt
 Jacob Seefus
 Rebecca Sevela

Emily Sevick
 John Shanahan
 Quintin Sherrill
 Darin Sherrod
 Jarrett Shields
 Michele Siderewicz
 Paul Simms

charitable hearts

Freshmen were asked a series of questions regarding their favorite chick flicks, charities and after-high-school plans.



Kieralynn House

said her favorite charity was the Salvation Army because the organization has helped a lot of people.



Michelle Thomsen

also said she liked the Salvation Army. She also said her favorite chick flick was "The Notebook" because it was very sweet.



Caitlyn Dunn

also liked "The Notebook" because it was sweet. She said after graduating she plans on going to college.



Stephanie Roll

said she is also planning on going to college after high school. She said she wanted to learn to speak Spanish.



Alecia Steed

said she wants to learn to speak Spanish as well. She also said the person who inspired her was her mother.



Danette Sims
Bianca Smith
Briana Smith
Britney Smith
Carluis Smith
Courtney Smith
Donte Smith



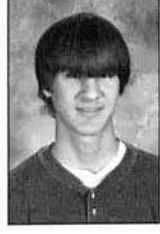
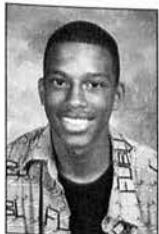
Melissa Smith
Rahjee Smith-Pinneke
Jessica Smolinski
Breaua Sneed
Terrell Snell
Jared Soll
Lizbeth Solorzano



Alec Sommer
Francisco Sosnowski
Robert Sotello
Sara Southard
Makayla Spears
Jessica Stechenfinger
Alecia Steed



Ashley Steinhauer
Lydia Stern
Antwaun Stewart
Jamie Stewart
La'roya Stewart
Capricessia Stoehr
Ryan Stoffel



Madisen Stoler
Alfonzo Straughn
Tina Stuart
Krista Stutzka
Edward Suprenant
Benjamin Susman
Jared Swenson



Joseph Swiercek
Jaime Tapia
Caitlyn Tapio
Devon Taylor
Jordan Teamer
Preston Temple
Cody Tenczer



Ronaldo Tercero
Kevin Thomas
Terrie Thomas
Za'nia Thomas
Jasmyn Thompson
Jevé Thompson
La'Tressa Thompson



Mathew Thompson
Michelle Thomsen
Terel Thornton
Adam Thramer
Chelsie Thurman
Stephen Tillery
Jabari Tillman

graceful form of dedication

Dancer says she loves how movements of ballet are athletic

by theresa vacha

"Dancing helps build character, it teaches you dedication and discipline," Claire Goodwillie (9) said.

For eight years, Goodwillie has felt the love of dance from hours of intensive practice to the lights of performing in the Omaha Theater "Nutcracker."

"It's busy and my feet hurt," she said. "But besides that, everything else is fun."

Professional coaches such as Deborah Carr gave Goodwillie one-on-one correction and still taught the class as a whole.

"They're really good coaches," Goodwillie said. "I have fun in the class."

Goodwillie began dance when her mom saw early signs of her abilities.

Her mom enrolled her in a beginning class at the Omaha Theater Company after taking a year of gymnastics.

"After the very first day, Claire didn't want to do anything else," her mom, Cheryl Goodwillie, said.

Cheryl knew there was a gracefulness about her daughter's arms other people just did not have.

Ballet coaches had obviously noticed Goodwillie's talent, too because for the next few years Goodwillie advanced up levels, one

a year, while other children took two years to finish the same course.

"It was apparent to many of us," Carr said. "You could tell she had talent even as a very young dancer."

Alicia Taubert, 16, another ballerina who had been at the company with Goodwillie for seven years, said Goodwillie was an excellent dancer for her age.

"She has the right body for dancing," Taubert said. "She is tall with long legs, really beautiful."

She said dancing together, starting at very young ages and improving right next to each other has been a bonding time for both girls.

"When you get to know a person, you have more fun dancing with them because they're your friend," Taubert said.

While Taubert attended Rock Ballet School in Philadelphia over the summer, Goodwillie traveled to Seattle for the Pacific North Ballet Program, where prestigious ballet dancers such as Peter Bowl and Patricia Barker trained her.

Before beginning the program, the Pacific North Ballet traveled around the United States on an audition tour where dancers could try out for a place in the camp.

Goodwillie said only 200

people made it out of thousands of competing participants.

"I learned so much there," she said. "It was so fun to learn so many things from different people. Everyone had their own style to teach."

Goodwillie gave up long hours once again for the Omaha Theater Ballet "Nutcracker." She practiced, in addition to her regular classes, on Saturdays, Sundays and on Wednesdays after school.

Goodwillie performed the role of a maid, an Arabian dancer and participated in the dance of the flowers.

"It was busy," Goodwillie said. "But we just had to organize time and plan ahead."

Goodwillie said as she gets older it will be easier for her to do dance because she will be able to drive herself to and from practice each night.

She said she would like to continue dancing ballet through college and hopefully one day become a professional.

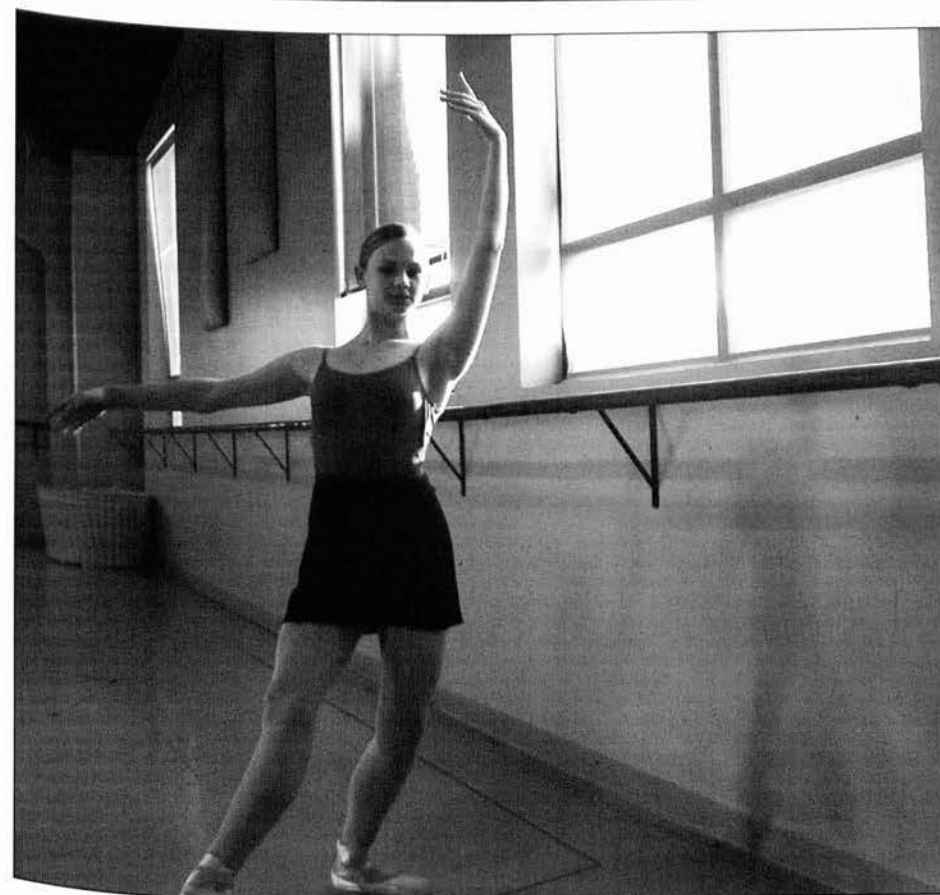
Deciding on which college to go to did not really concern her, yet. At the moment, her only interest was that she loved to dance.

"I like the movement of it, how athletic it is," Goodwillie said. "I just love to move."



Left. Claire Goodwillie (9) poses in a Tendu. She had been taking classes from professional ballet dancers since she was 6 years old. She used her talent in the Omaha Theater Ballet "Nutcracker." Her mother said she knew her daughter would do great after noticing early signs of her abilities. Goodwillie knew she would have to spend countless hours practicing.
Photo by Theresa Vacha.

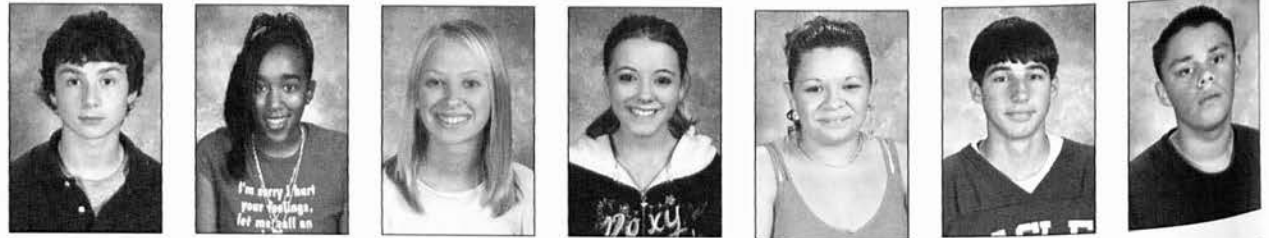
Above. Goodwillie extends into a graceful Arabesque. She attended dance class at the Omaha Theater Ballet Company five nights a week where she was one of the youngest pre-professionals in the athletic dance training. She said she would like to move forward in dance.
Photo by Theresa Vacha.



Tiera Tolbert
Haleigh Tomasek
Vondrae Tostenson
Jonathan Traver
Luis Trejo
Zachary Trocha
Brittani Tucker



Nicolas Turone
Shannon Twyman
Sarah Vacha
Stacie VanCleave
Maria Vandewark
Mark Vanek
Ernesto Vasquez



Christopher Vaughn
Jamar Vaughn
Najee Vaughn
Victor Vela-Chaidez
Jonathan Venclauskas
Joie Venditte
Micheal Vian



Shauntelle Vian
Karen Villa
Daniel Villalba
Jacqueline Villalobos
Roman Vizcaino
Mark Vondrasek
Brian VoorVart



Tyler Wagner
Michael Wahl
Benjamin Wais
Kaitlyn Walgrave
Cynthia Walker
Kolbey Wallington
Heather Walmer



Michael Walsh
Chaz Walters
Mercedes Washington
Douglas Watts
Alexandria Wayne
Courtney Webster
Paul Weeden

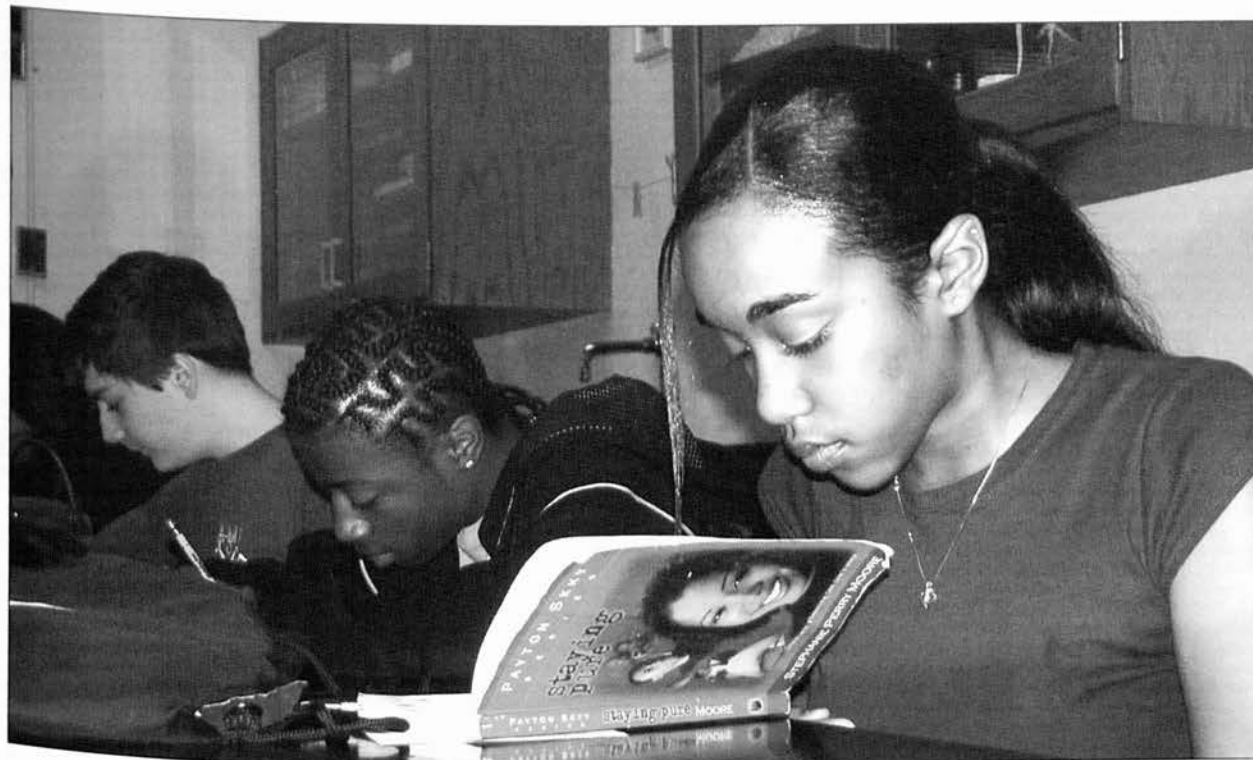


Justin Weers
Michael Wegner
Jacob Weishapl
DeAira Welchen
Ba'Trell Wells
Bianca Wells
Elizabeth Wells

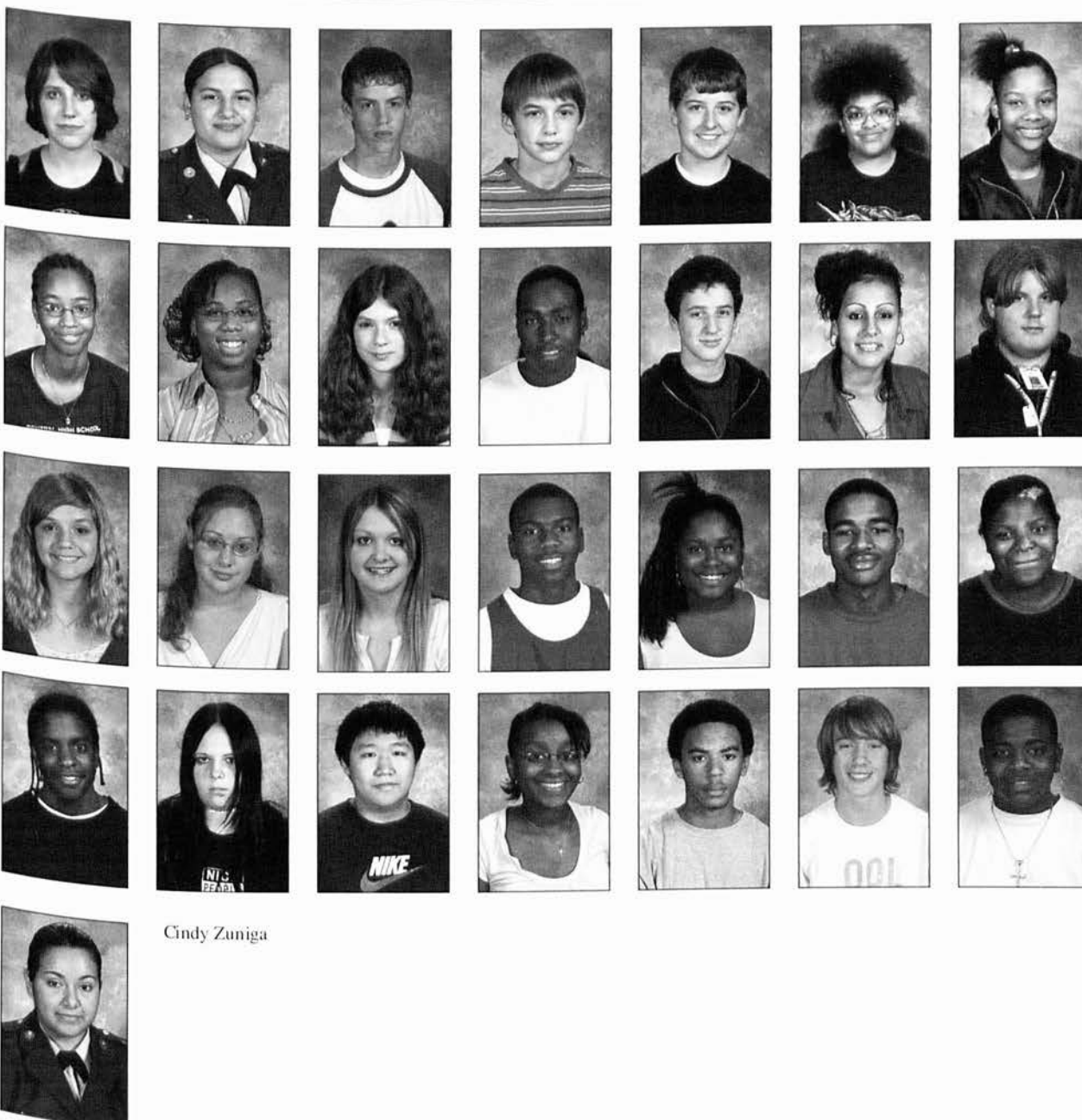


Kevin Wells
Alaya West
Savannah West
Yolanda West
Alexander White
Melissa White
Ravyn White





Left. Shannon Twyman (9) reads a book about a teen struggling to make a decision involving her relationship with her boyfriend. Twyman was in Marlene LaRue's class and the students had just finished taking a CRT for their Biology course. Biology was one of the required classes for freshmen. They spent a large amount of time learning about DNA.
Photo by Tanika Cooper.



Samantha White
Amber Whitten
Matthew Whittinghill
Thomas Widdershoven
Nicholas Wilcox
Christina Williams
Patricia Williams

Shawnte Williams
Jazmin Willis
Brittany Wilson
Jared Wilson
John Wilwerding
Jessica Winborne
Albert Winkler

Kristin Wipfler
Raquel Woodcock
Sarah Woods
Anthony Wright
Breanna Wright
Casey Wright
Quashera Wright

Xavier Wright
Amber Yates
George Yin
Lashae Young
Aaron Zenon
Andrew Zimmer
Terence Zollicoffer

Cindy Zuniga



Teachers teach, but that's only part of what they do. They have always been there for students through the good and the bad. Teachers have taught social skills and many other things needed to succeed in life. They are role models. They will always have a special place in the hearts of students and a special connection with everyone. This is our faculty.

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From Left. Kelly Murphy keeps stats at a volleyball games. Debate coach Kris Janyka assigns an assignment to her debate class. Marta Serrano is the new Spanish teacher from Spain.
Photos by Theresa Vacha, Tanika Cooper and Patrick O'Malley.

Left. Para-professional Mary Andrews uses the computer to check a book out to a student. They needed to know the students' ID numbers in order to check out books to them properly. *Photo by Tanika Cooper.*



Matthew Aguilar
Erik Albertine
Diane Allen
Mark Allner
David Andersen
Larry Andrews



Mary Andrews
Cherie Barg
Ginny Bauer
Eric Behrens
Richard Behrens
Marnie Best



Jerry Bexten
Fairouz Bishara
Richard Bode
Jane Boeka
Kami Boje
Deb Bolas



Barbara Bonacci
Sandy Bornhoft
Jodi Borosko
Lyn Bouma
Zettie Branch
Barry Branson



Polly Briles
Patricia Brizendine
Linda Brock
Jodi Brown
Chad Burns
Jesse Busse



Nancy Caraballo
Linda Casey
Karen Cirulis
Jane Colling
Jennifer Conahan
Judy Cooks



Tom Cosby
Shannon Craddock
Jennifer Cruz
Genevieve Davis
Matthew Deabler
Frank DeGeorge

Kelly and Mindy Murphy keep stats at a volleyball game. Due to their shared job and after-school activities, they were able to support each other throughout the day. "I always look forward to eating lunch with him," Mindy said. "If I'm not having a terrific day, I get to see him." Photo by Theresa Vacha.



enjoying the job

Married couple share experience of teaching math classes in same school

by theresa vacha

"Central has a special place in my heart because that is where I met my husband," mathematics teacher Mindy Murphy said.

Five years ago, after Mindy had already been teaching mathematics for one year, Kelly Murphy began teaching the same subject right next door.

In a short time, they were introduced to each other at a teachers' conference, and soon began to see each other outside of school. Within a few years, they were engaged.

"One of the best parts of Central is my wife," Kelly said. "She was and is definitely an extra incentive for me to stay."

Since the summer of 2004, Kelly and Mindy had been the school's only married couple and both plan on staying for a long time.

"I've never really thought about leaving," Mindy said. "It seems so normal to see so much of each other around Central on a daily basis; it's what I've always know."

Mindy and Kelly have formed a particularly firm and understanding relationship due to their similar schedules and coinciding activities.

"Some people say they could never work with their spouse, but we enjoy it,"

Kelly said.

Both Kelly and Mindy said they liked working together because they always had somebody there for support and encouragement.

"It's tough teaching kids when they're unruly," said Kelly. "It's nice to have someone who understands what your going through there with you."

Mathematics teacher Carrie Laughlin knows how well Mindy and Kelly work together.

"I really have respect for them," Laughlin said. "They know each other's boundaries, know when to give each other space."

Laughlin had noticed from the beginning what excellent teachers they were not only in their talents for describing math concepts, but in the way each one formed personal relationships with their students.

"They got involved with us," Kendall Taylor (11), a student from both of their classes, said. "Mr. Murphy had a way of making class more interesting."

The Murphys go above and beyond even teaching math classes together. They both are active in after-school activities and sports.

"I have a good time seeing the kids

in another situation," Kelly said. "They are more themselves."

Having that same commitment after school was helpful to both of them in more ways than one.

"It's great to go to the game afterwards because I know he'll be there," Mindy said. "It makes it that much better, so it's not so much work."

In addition to teaching mathematics by day and book keeping for sports in the evening, Mindy also coaches girls junior varsity soccer, while Kelly keeps statistics at the games. Mindy said she has always loved sports, but coaching soccer while Kelly was present brought out another side of her to her players.

"He's more outgoing than me," Mindy said. "Having him here, the girls get to see another side of me."

Being together so often can have some negative aspects for both Mindy and Kelly. Both agreed all relationships have times where partners get on each other's nerves.

"We're together 24 hours a day" Mindy said. "Being with anyone that long, it's sometimes challenging."

"It's nice to walk by her room and see her smile," Kelly said. "I'm glad that we get to be around each other so much."



Vicki Deniston-Reed
Sue Devlin
Raymond DeWaele
Lisa Donahoe
Susan Drumm
Annie Duncan

Jean Enger
Beverly Fellman
Christy Flaherty-
Colling
Jimmie Foster
Jennier Fotsch
Jeff Frederickson

James Galus
Linda Ganzel
Harry Gaylor
Theresa Geraghty
John Gibson
T.J. Greenlee

Jennifer Gregor
Paul Gunter
Deanne Haffke
Carl Hall
Robin Hanus
DeLayne Havlovic

Jane Hawkins
Thelma Haywood
Christine Heckman
Melissa Henderson
Tim Herbert
Cristina Hiddleston

Leslie Hill
Charles Hinkle
Scott Hodges
Amanda Karpf
Catherine Kennedy
Curtis Kent

Dionne Kirksey
Lois Koehn
Carol Krejci
Liz Kubat
Melissa Kuskie
Deborah Lane

something to talk about

Teachers were asked questions that ranged from what kind of volunteering they do and what was their favorite bands.



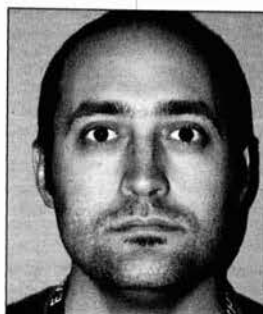
Jeanee Weiss

Has been working here for six years. She did volunteer for the NCCJ Unitown and Walk as One. She said she took classes at UNO over the summer break.



Greg Schroeder

Like Weiss he said he also took summer classes. This was Schroeder's first year at Central. He taught English and sponsored Speech and Debate for a short time. He said he liked Rock and Roll.



Derek Leslie

Like Schroeder he said he liked Rock music. Leslie attended Nebraska Wesleyan University. He was the sponsor for Film Club. He has been here for five years.



Jane Boeka

Has been working here for five years like Leslie. Boeka attended UNL. She sponsored the Spanish Club. She said her favorite television show was "Law and Order."



Jane Luethge

Also attended UNL like Boeka, but she also went to UNO. She said her favorite band was Dave Matthews.



Russell Lane
 Susana Lara
 Brent Larson
 Deron Larson
 Marlene LaRue
 Carrie Laughlin



Kristin Lawton
 Colleen Lenner
 Derek Leslie
 Trent Lodge
 Alfonzo Lopez
 Carletha Lowery



Jane Luethge
 Vicki Lund
 Marcella Mahoney
 Barbara Malhiwsky
 Doug Martin
 Jodi Martinez



Sandy McCreight
 Joe McMenamin
 Mike McWhorter
 Kelly Means
 Vicki Mease
 Mike Melvin



Nita Merrigan-Potthoff
 Angela Meyer
 Erica Meyer
 Jamie Miller
 Linda Milliken
 Lynda Molyneaux



Jan Monico
 Josh Montzingo
 Ron Moore
 Jackie Morales
 John Moran
 Molly Moriarty



Rod Mullen
 Kelly Murphy
 Mindy Murphy
 Barb Nazarenus
 Cindy Newberg
 Paul Nielson

Kris Jonyka explains the assignment to her debate class. She had a debate class during 9th hour. She explained what they should do for their upcoming competition. Photo by Tanika Cooper.



Debate, old-school style

Coach comes out of retirement to help get program back on its feet

by stephanie wilhelm

"I live what I teach," debate and speech coach Kris Jonyka said. "I am an active member of the Democratic Party and on the board of directors for the Omaha Lithuanian Society."

She said the Lithuanian Society has seats in the Lithuanian Congress and they enact legislation.

"I put everything I teach into practice," Jonyka said.

Jonyka said the previous debate coach quit in the middle of the school year.

She said she came out of retirement for the year and was a permanent substitute because the students needed a coach and someone to take them to the tournaments.

"I was a permanent sub for the year, so the school has enough time to find a good coach the students deserve for next year," Jonyka said.

She said she had retired before because she had been teaching for 32 years and could not keep up the pace.

"I needed some operations and needed to rest," she said.

Joshua Wilson (11), a member of the debate team, had Jonyka his freshman year.

He said Jonyka was a very nice teacher who knew what she was talking about and knew the strength of all the students.

"It's awesome she's teaching it; more people will sign up," Wilson said.

Zakiya King (11) said Jonyka was really nice and a good teacher.

King said she joined debate because it helped her be organized and her goal was to be a lawyer.

Jonyka said she started debating in junior high.

She said debate shows the working of government.

"Debate is the ultimate subject. It teaches you everything

from how to apply math to research and speaking skills," Jonyka said. "Debate makes people put to use things they learned in their other classes."

She said debate helps give students a jump-start on college because most people fear speaking in public.

"Students who can express themselves well and know what they are talking about are the future leaders," Jonyka said.

She said students who join the team must be willing to work outside of class, go to the competitions and be self-reliant, independent and responsible.

She said she expected the team to do well because members were so bright.

She said she also hoped every student who wanted to debate had the opportunity.

"If they say they are going to the competition, they must go," Jonyka said.

King said members were required to go to competitions every weekend. Jonyka said members learn what democracy is and how the government works.

She said students come into debate expecting it to be hard, but once they get going it's fun.

"You know a large number of people because it is just a big community of people in it," she said. "Debate gets you out there and talking to people in the community."

She said the students learned to play to their strengths.

There are different kinds of debate. Jonyka said Congress, one form of debate, was a secondary event for all the members.

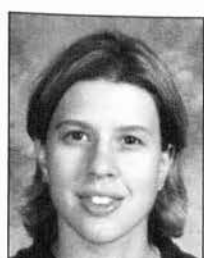
King participated in the Lincoln-Douglas debate. She said the topics they argued were changed every two months.



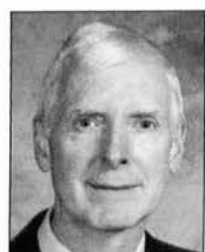
Susan Oles
Cindy Perez
Jodi Petersen
Christie Pfeifer
Peter Pham
Jody Phillips



Ellen Plath
Michelle Pleiss
Joy Plummer
Mary Beth Polivka
Denise Powers
Kelli Priebe



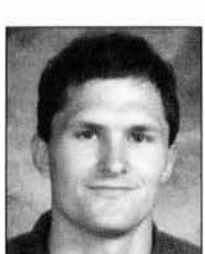
Margaret Quinn
Jodi Rackliffe
Jodi Reeder
Clyde Richards
Ginger Riffel
Vivian Rostermundt



Andrea Russo
Rita Ryan
Greg Sand
Amy Sanford
Greg Schroeder
Kelly Scott



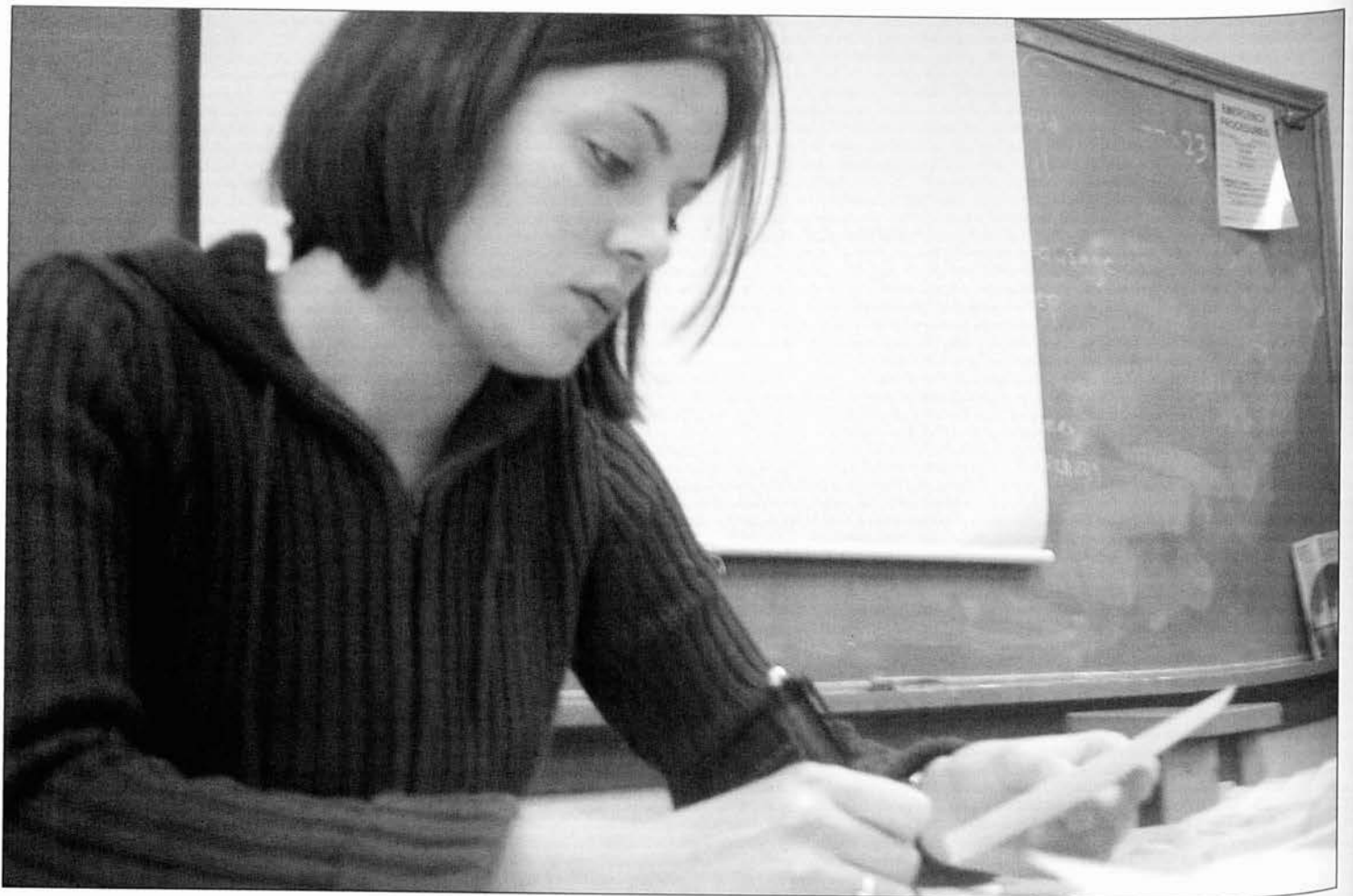
Marta Serrano
Tim Shipman
Jeffrey Sill
Tanya Simmons
Mark Smith
Melissa Smith



Sharon Smith
Jeanette Spees
Anita Stapleton
Jeanne Staroski
Jennifer Stastny
Shannon Stenger



Mary Stiverson
Jesse Stokes
Judy Storm
Lisa Studer
Dwaine Sutter
Kathy Tapio



Marta Serrano, new Spanish teacher, sits and records students grades. Serrano came from Spain in the summer of 2005. This was the first time Serrano had been to the United States. She had to adjust to a new lifestyle in a short amount of time.
Photo by Patrick O'Malley.

a new beginning

Spanish teacher starts life in Midwest at state's largest high school

by stefanie tapio

Spanish teacher Marta Serrano arrived to the United States for the first time last summer. Unsure of the exact location in which she would be teaching, she knew she was heading somewhere in the Midwest.

Shortly after arriving in Omaha she was excited to discover that she would be the new Spanish teacher at Central. Serrano came from Spain and was brought here as a type of foreign exchange program.

"I was excited to find out that my Spanish teacher was actually from Spain," Tucker George (12) said.

This was George's first year in Spanish and he said he believes that having a teacher from Spain would be very beneficial.

Serrano said she was unsure of how long she would be here. She may be here for just a year or a few years.

When she first arrived, Serrano had to find a place to live and get accustomed to the new surroundings.

"The biggest schools in Spain had only half of the students that Central has," Serrano said.

Serrano also said when she first arrived she didn't have much time to go around and see Omaha due to her hectic schedule.

However, despite the location difference, her teaching techniques remained the same.

Serrano said she wanted to get to know her students first to make sure the whole atmosphere was comfortable for everyone.

"I think she'll be able to teach us more since she's been there; she's lived it," George said.

George and other beginning Spanish students said their biggest concern was understanding everything since Serrano has such a thick accent.

Serrano said she was excited for the new school year and had high hopes. She planned to carry on her skills from Spain and maybe learn a few new ones here and hoped for a successful year.

"I'm hoping to learn a lot this year and I think I will," George said.



Jane Taureti
Cindy Thomsen
Kathy Thompson
Drew Thyden
Chad Townsend
Bob Tucker

Raylyn VanDyke
Delores Vaughan
Joe Venditte
Chris Viselli
Pat Wallington
Sara Wehbe

Jeanee Weiss
Herb Welling
Elizabeth Wessling
Jean Whitten
Vicki Wiles
Pete Wilger

Martha Williams-Hayes
Darin Williams
Scott Wilson
Carol Zavorka
Frank Zavorka
Gioranna Zermeno

Buffett Award Winners

List only includes faculty still teaching at Central.

English/Journalism-
Matthew Deabler

ESL-
Linda Ganzel

Guidance -
Karen Cirulis

International Language-
Beverly Fellman, Rita Ryan

Marketing/ Technology-
Cherie Barg, Harry Gaylor, Vicki Wiles

Mathematics-
Susan Drumm, Christie Pfeifer

Music-
Sharon Smith, Lyn Bouma

Science-
Jean Whitten

Social Studies-
Vicki Deniston-Reed

Student Support-
Nita Merrigan-Potthoff

Central High teachers have been honored numerous times through this award. Students, parents and other faculty nominate the teachers. The high number of awards can only show how dedicated and caring the teachers are.

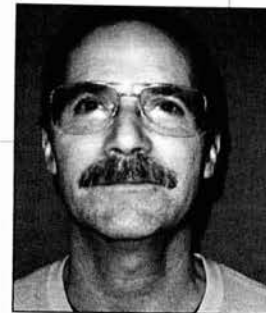
many stops on a journey

Some teacher are at the start of their careers, while others are near the completion. Along the way there have been many peaks and valleys.



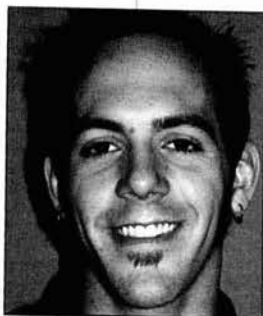
Sharon Smith

Has been teaching for 35 years and is retiring. She said she would like to spend time with her family over the summer. She also said she liked to travel.



Richard Behrens

For summer vacation, he like Smith, liked to travel. He said he liked music from the 50s and 60s and said his favorite author was Joseph Heller.



Erik Albertine

Sponsored Rock Climbing Club. He taught Biology for two years. He said his favorite author like Behrens was Joseph Heller. He said he liked to read over summer vacation.

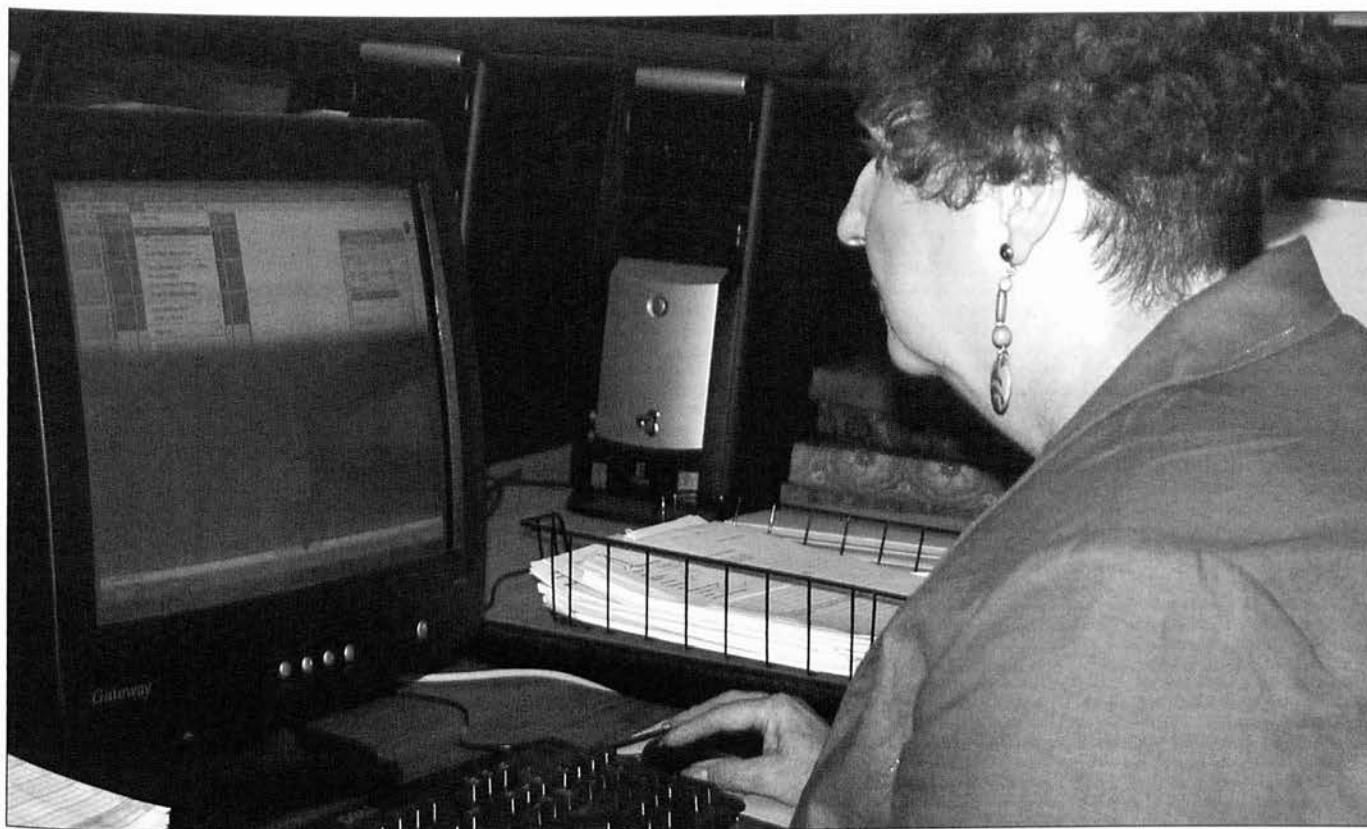
Sue Devlin

Had been here for eight years and worked in the Library Media Center. She said Journey was her favorite band and she liked jazz. She said, like Albertine, she liked to read over summer vacation.



Linda Ganzel

Like Devlin, she has been working here for eight years. She said she volunteered as a horsemanship instructor in Ashland, Neb.



Social Studies teacher Carol Krejci took attendance on the computer through a Student Administrator System of Information. She said taking attendance on the computer caused her to rework how she conducted her class. *Photo by Patrick O'Malley.*

Moving forward

Officials says improvements in technology make attendance more efficient

by patrick o'malley

Students threw away their admits as teachers logged on to their computers to take attendance through a newly installed advanced program.

The program was called Student Administrator System of Information (SASI), which the Omaha Public School (OPS) District purchased. Many OPS middle and high schools have been using it in years past.

Principal Jerry Bexten said Central would have used the program before, but not every classroom had a functional computer available.

"The capability has been there a long time, but the availability hasn't," Bexten said.

Along with not having a computer in every class, teachers also had to share rooms with one another.

Many teachers said they were pleased with the installation of SASI because it's easier for them and parents to keep track of where their students were. Attendance was shown for every class on students' report cards.

Before the school year started, a brief training session was held for the teachers to learn to use the program. Though it was a helpful tool, it took some planning and getting used to.

"I've got to do attendance and then start my lesson," social studies teacher Carol Krejci said. "It's causing me to rework how I conduct my class."

Starting the program and getting it all ready during the passing periods was Krejci's new roll-taking methods.

When taking attendance in the classroom, each student was listed on a block according to his or her assigned seat. The teachers

then entered the information and could see if past absences were excused.

When a student approached the attendance office, all of his information, including phone numbers and addresses, was only a mouse click away.

Attendance secretary Deborah Lane said if a student gave her a fake telephone number, she would know right away because each student's information was stored. Twenty minutes into each period all of the attendance showed up on the administrator's computers, allowing them to look for their students during that period.

SASI was a very quick and accurate program. The only mistakes with the program were if the teachers entered in the wrong information.

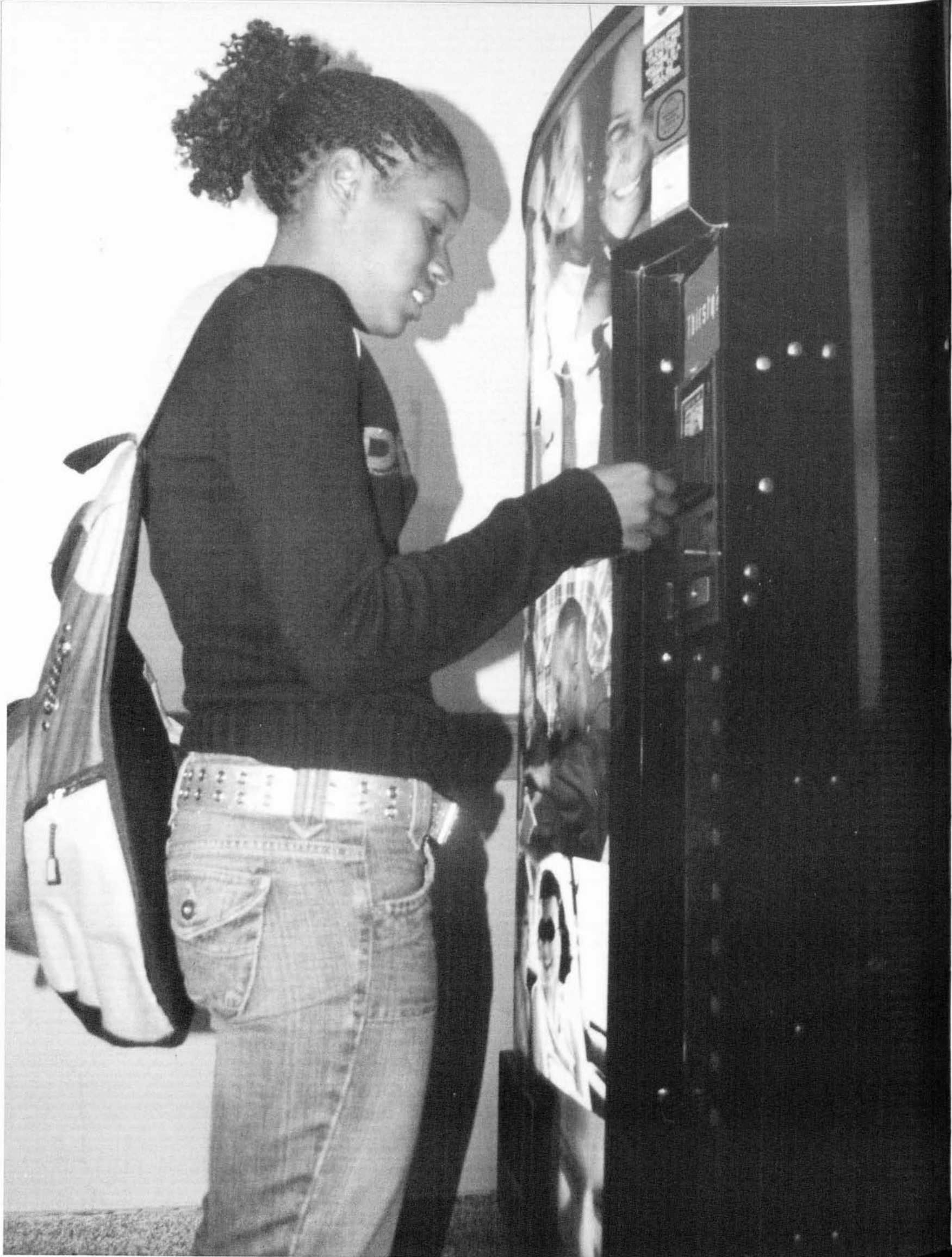
"It will probably help the students because they will go to class more," Astyn Fellows (9) said.

Micheal Sanders (10) thought not using admits was a good idea because so many kids could just go ask their friends for admits at the attendance office or steal them.

"I think it will cut down on a lot of skipping," administrator Mark Smith said. "The students will soon catch onto how fast we know they are gone."

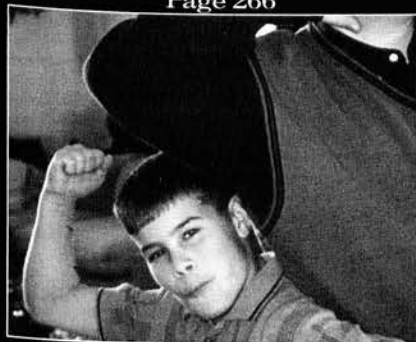
Smith said if and when SASI received a virus or shuts down, the administration would have to figure something out, possibly manually take attendance depending on how long the system was down.

It wouldn't really worry them, unless they knew it would be down for a long time.



Other than the people holding this all together, money was a big help when it came to funding the many different activities at our school. The sports teams weren't the only ones in need of money. Many of the organizations got involved in selling candy. We can't forget the huge donations made by Susan T. Buffett and Lee Seemann in support of our new stadium and our new lobby. Money isn't the most important thing in our lives, but when it's there it sure does help. Many students and organizations chose to represent themselves in the personal ads.

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From Left. Curtis Hicks (12) flexes his muscles with his older brother. Hicks has two ads in this book. Ashley Greenwood (12) as a little child. She was on the varsity cheerleading squad. Morgan Conley (12) poses for her senior photo. She not only had her personal ad, she was in the Minority Scholars ad and the Senior Class Representatives ad as well.

Opposite page. Brittney Taylor (12) was one of the many students who stopped at the soda machines during passing periods. The vending machines were on throughout the day except during breakfast and the lunch periods (5th, 6th and 7th). The vending machines always seemed to cause problems. Many people thought the things in the vending machines weren't healthy and should be replaced with healthier snacks and drinks. *Photo by Molly Mullen.*

Journalism Head High (J-Head High) consisted of the *O-Book*, *Register* staff members and the students of Journalism I. We all had our talents and strengths that made us journalists. We were there to continue to carry on the honors of J-Head High. Although we lived on Dew (nectar of the gods), it did not make us who we were; it was only there for the ride. Each staff member did everything on staff. We were always there for each other. We were connected by one common goal. Just win, baby.

Matthew Deabler (adviser), Molly Mullen, Tanika Cooper, Clay Lomneth, Stephanie Wilhelm, Robert Al-Greene, Patrick O'Malley, Astrika Wilhelm, Angella Mertz, Matthew Wiley, Jared Spence, Elizabeth Wallace, Stephen Wilhelm, Pascale Rousset, Zachary Pluhacek, Emma Phillips, Theresa Vacha, Mason Busboom-Piercy, Claire Anderson, Kim Buckley, Chester Lovegren, Anna McMahon, Joseph Delich, Courtney Griffith, Kristen Kendall, Justin Valentine, Patrick Breen and Mark Arehart





J-Head High



Katie,
 We are so very proud of the young lady you have become. Always cherish your visions and your dreams. Always remember that you can achieve anything you set your mind to, as long as you believe in yourself the way we believe in you.

Love always,
 Mom and Dad

Kathleen Byrne



"...That would be harsher penalties for parole violators, Stan.....and world peace."
 -Gracie Lou Freebush in "Miss Congeniality"

Always leave them smiling, Sweetheart. It's one of the best gifts you can give them. You are an amazing person and such a blessing to us, Jessica!

All our love,
 Dad, Mom and Jamie



Jessica Lewis

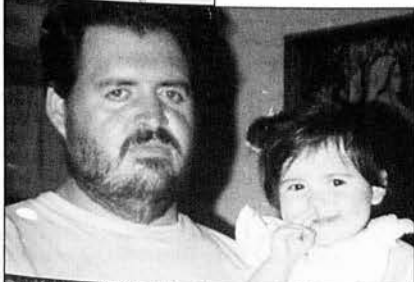


To: My son LeAnthony, my boyfriend Davis, and last but not least, my beautiful mother,

Mami muchas gracias por todo lo que has hecho por mi. Sin ti no estuviera aquí logrando todos mis sueños.

Davis, we have been through many things together these past two years, from skipping to just getting away from problems to after school suspension together to the birth of our beautiful son. I know our love for one another is getting bigger and bigger as we go on. I love you and forever will.

LeAnthony, although you can't read this quite yet, I'm writing this for you. You made a great impact in my life from the time I found out I was having you till just last night when you were sound asleep. You mean the world to me and all of what I am accomplishing is for you. Mommy loves you and always will.



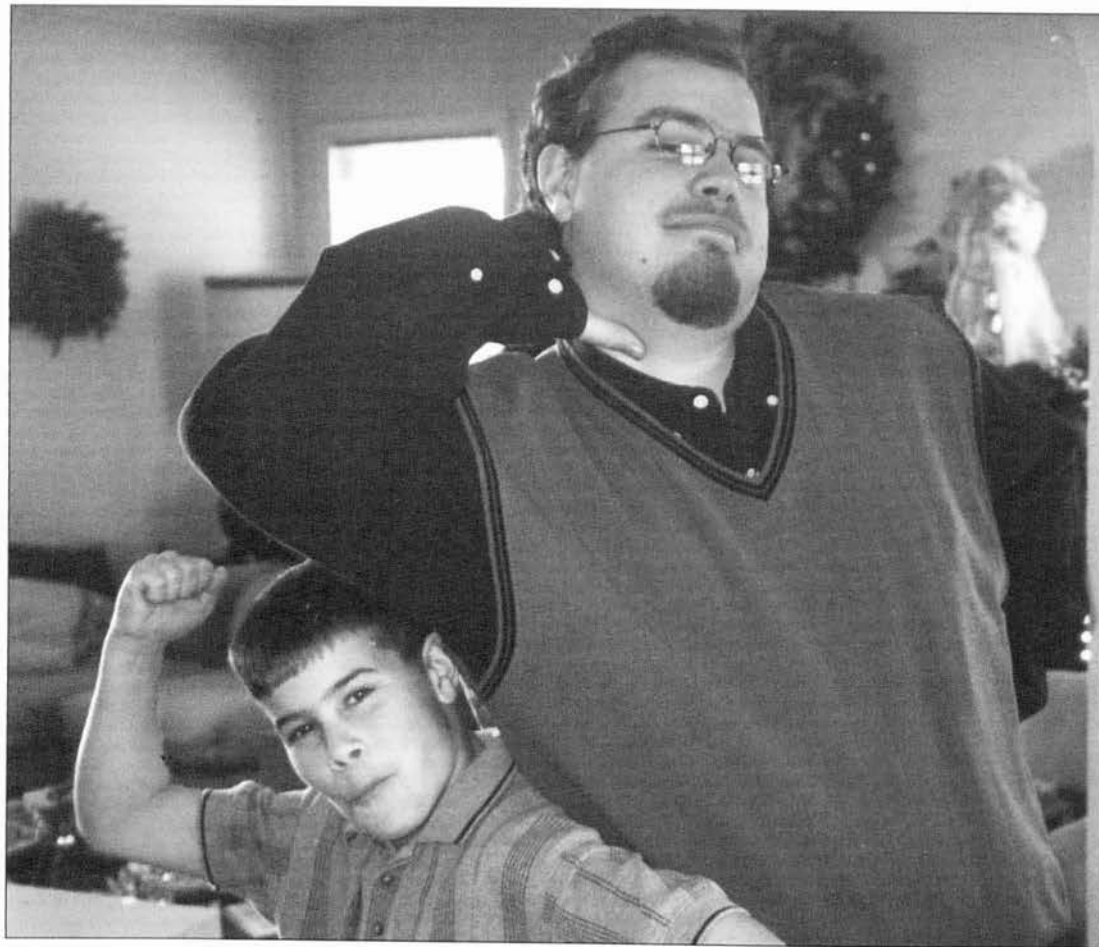
From crowded hallways to fire alarms going off, Central has been the place that I have grown into being who I am right now. Now, it's time to move on so I say goodbye and good luck to all.



Mariana me siento muy orgullosa por lo que has logrado. Yo sé que vas a lograr lo que te propongas ya que tú sabes todo se puede hacer con voluntad, constancia, y dedicación. Vas a llegar muy lejos. Me siento muy orgullosa de ti. Recibe mi bendición, y mi amor, mi apoyo y admiración. Con todo mi amor tu mamá, María Ortiz



Mariana Lopez



CJ Hicks

Keep making me proud, Squirt.
You haven't let me down, yet.

~C

Curtis Hicks



Isa: Sólo quiero que sepas
que eres una buena hermana.
Gracias por tus consejos y por
escuarme cuando lo necesito.
¡Nunca dudes que te quiero!

Gaby

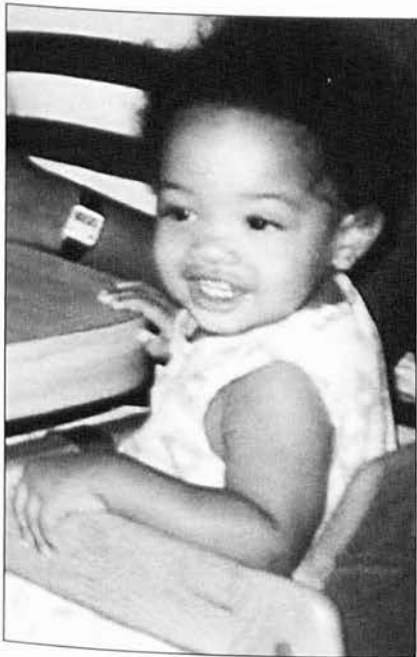


Hija: Siempre trata de dar lo
mejor de ti. Eso te dará muchas
satisfacciones. Estoy muy
orgullosa de tener una gran
mujer como hija. Con mucho
amor, tu mamá.

Gloria



Luisa Trujillo



"Now you understand
Just why my head's not bowed.
I don't shout or jump about
Or have to talk really loud.
When you see me passing
It ought to make you proud.

I say

It's the fire in my eyes,
And the flash in my teeth,
The swing in my waist,
And the joy in my feet.

Phenomenal woman,

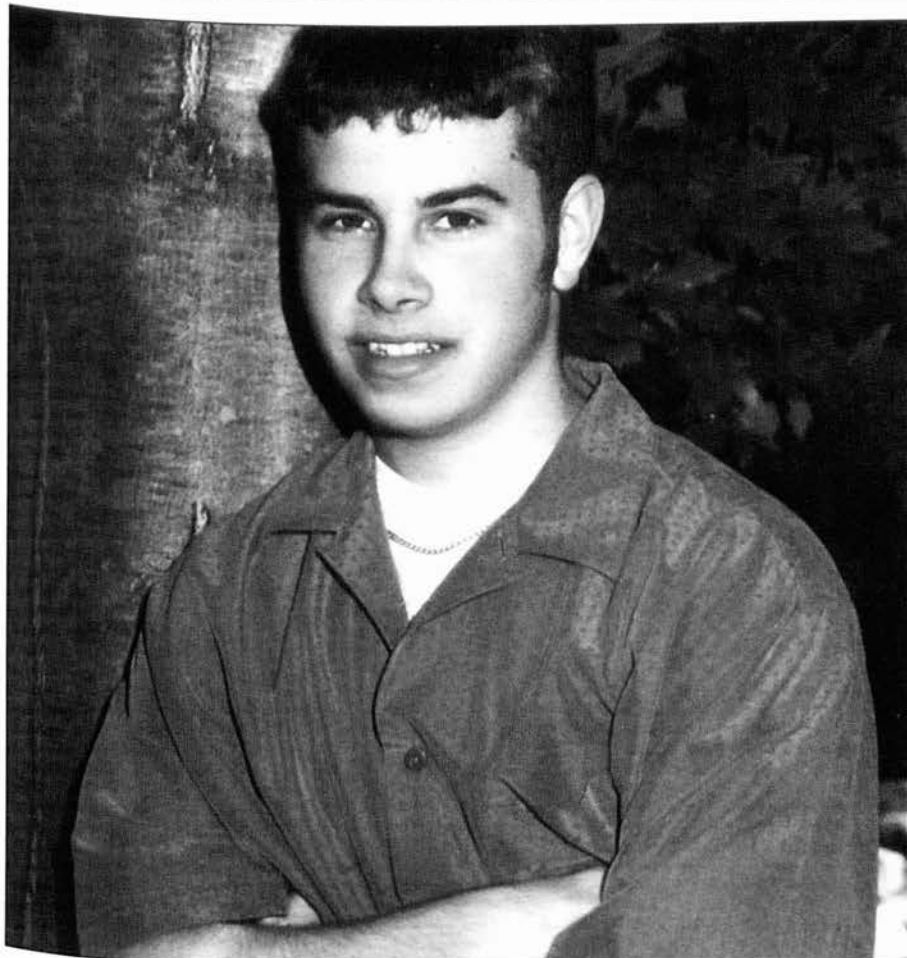
That's ME."

-Maya Angelou

We love you,
Daddy, Mami, Sissy, Ik & Mik



Danita Summers



Congrats CJ Hicks

Class of '06

From "sa-sa & geen pop" to rap music, it's been a glorious journey watching you grow up. The journey was much too short for us, but probably plenty long enough for you. As you graduate and head out on your own, remember always that you have made us extremely proud, every step of the way.

Love,
Mom & Dad

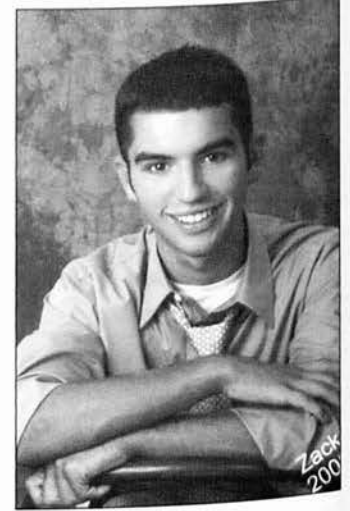
Curtis Hicks



Every year you and I celebrate July 27, the day you came to live with me when you were 8 months old. You have grown into a beautiful person. I'm so blessed to have had you with me all these years. I love you, Stephanie.
-From Grandma



Stephanie Christensen



Zack,
May sunshine and happiness surround you when you're away from home. May good fortune be with you and may your guiding light be strong. No matter what path you choose, do it wisely and never settle for less. And always remember, whatever happens in life, never lose sight of who you are.

Love always,
Mom and Dad

Zackary Breazeale

Bright,
Beautiful,
Loving

Patient, Smart

Strong,
Creative,
Adventurer



Congratulations,
Jennifer!

Love,
Mom, Dad &
Steve



Jennifer Rue



Congratulations! We are so proud of your accomplishments and of the wonderful person that you are.

Love always,
Mom, Dad and Betsy



"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."

- Eleanor Roosevelt

Allison Wells



Dear Stephen,

You have grown into a true gentleman. You are compassionate to all and are always willing to lend a hand out of true generosity and kindness. Your face radiates with your friendliness while your heart shines with warmth and cheerfulness. You have always been brave and courageous by standing up for what is right. Your faith in God and your values have always guided your actions. Continue to use your God-given gifts for the good of all. May God and fortune follow you where ever you go.

Love, Mom, Dad, Stephanie, and Astrika

"There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The second is as though everything is a miracle."

- Albert Einstein



Stephen Wilhelm



CONGRATULATIONS!

We are so very proud of you.
Love,
Mom, Dad & Sam,
Kyle, Kelly & Grandma



Benjamin Salzinger

Korie,
Your
enthusiasm
is only
exceeded by
your extreme
powers of
concentration!

Love,
Your family



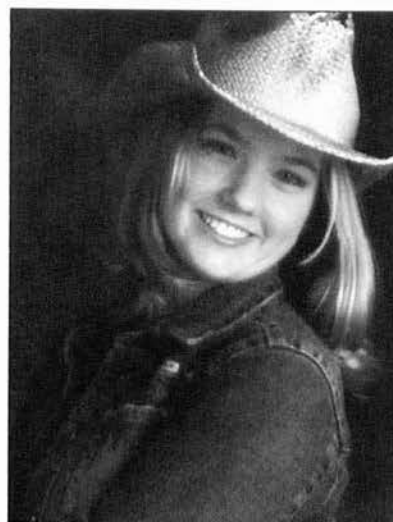
Korie Christiansen

Andrew,
Congratulations on all you have
accomplished! We are very proud of
you! Live life to the fullest, set your
goals high and go after them!

Love,
Dad, Mom, Alex & Ryan

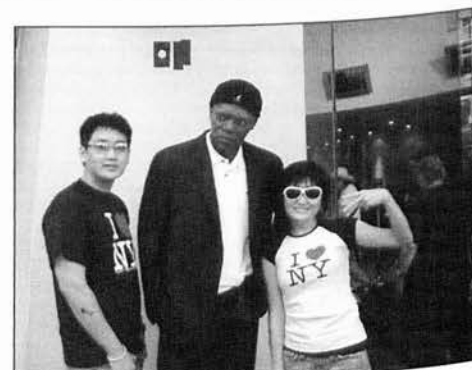


Andrew Haskins



Anna Lee,
You are a caring, smart,
charming young lady and
we're very proud of you. The
world is open to you and
your future is waiting.
Love, Mom, Dad, Jessica
and Susan

Anna Wiksell



Dear Jee Hyun,
It's a gift to have a
daughter like you.
Hope you always
know how much
you're loved!

Congratulations,
Jee Hyun!
We are so very
proud of you.

Love always,
Mom, Dad &
Guesoo



Jee Hyun Yoo

Lindsey,

You never cease to amaze us. Ever since you were a little girl, you have had this incredible persistence whenever you set out to accomplish something. We have loved watching you grow into the bright, talented young woman you are, and we look forward to seeing you make your mark on the world.

Love,
Mom, Dad, & Nick

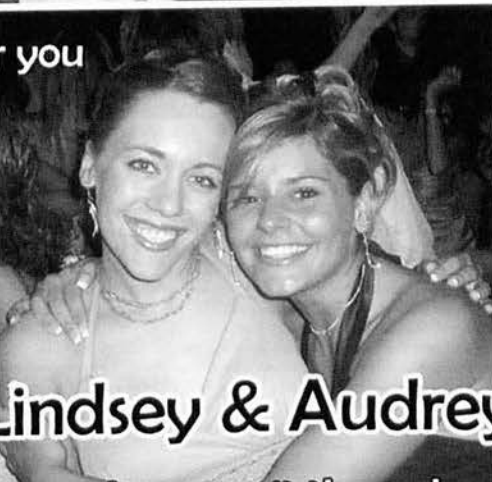
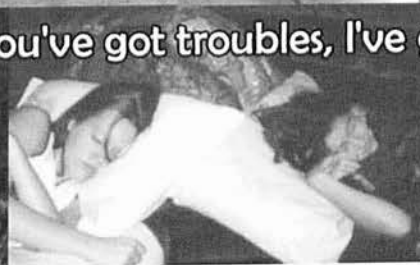


Arnold Clark ©

If you've got troubles, I've got 'em, too



There isn't anything I wouldn't do for you



Lindsey & Audrey

We stick together and can see it through



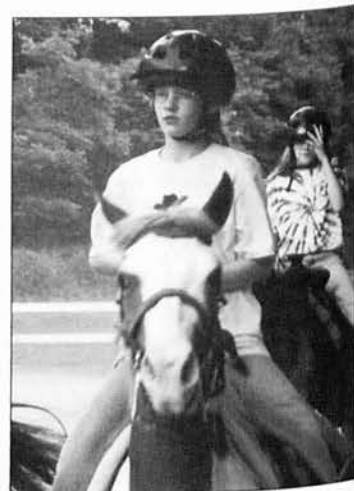
'Cause you've got a friend in me.

Audrey,

We are so proud of who you are and all you've accomplished. You have an amazing ability to juggle many things and do them all well. We're constantly impressed by your leadership skills, your love for others, and your awesome creativity. Keep caring. Keep laughing. We'll be here, cheering you on!

Love,
Mom, Dad, & Megan

Lindsey Goding & Audrey Madison



Kaitlin

To our sweet, sassy red-head,
From the day you came into our
lives, you've had us all wrapped
around your finger. You make
every day an adventure with
your humor and spontaneity.
We are proud of your many
accomplishments and of the
young woman you've grown to be.

Congratulations!

We love you!

Mom, Dad, and Ian



Kaitlin Waterman



The future is hard to see.
Who would you turn out to be?

Brianna Brei,
You've grown up to be the
nicest young woman for
which we could have ever
hoped. We are very proud of
you for who you are. We love
you! Go get 'em Tigger!



Mom & Dad

Brianna Brei



Dear Bailey,
We are so very proud of the
person you are. We look forward
to your bright future and hope it
is full of happiness.

Love,
Dad, Mom, Nathan & Daniel



Arnold Clark ©

BAILEY
2006

Bailey Smejkal



Congratulations,
Anthony!
You made it.
Love,
Mom, Dad &
Family



Anthony Gosch



The light changed and I threw up my hands and hit the ceiling with my fingertips. Slamming on the gas, I flew through the intersection and swerved into the right lane. The car veered out of control, and I screamed. The dawn's light cut through the trees and hit the windshield, blinding me.

I was flying into the sun.

Sopnil Bhattarai and Jennifer Castello



To My Favorite Person

Anna Banana

These are the things of what memories are made of...
 Your contagiously cute laughter,
 Your beautiful green/blue eyes,
 Your giant, warm bear hugs,
 Eyelash Kisses,
 Cuddling on the couch after dinner,
 Monsters in your closet and wrestling with Ed,
 Pillow fights across the room,
 The Girls Army at Washington,
 Standing by the backyard tree in pouring rain,
 Softball games, Your Art on a downtown building,
 The Spice Girls in Kansas City
 and at your elementary school,
 The Annual Halloween Party,
 "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" and "Gilmore Girls".
 You will never know how rich you have made all our
 lives,
 and how yours saved mine.
 I am truly your BIGGEST FAN.
 And you are undoubtedly my greatest MIRACLE.

Love,
Mom

P.S. It could have been "Ithaca."



Anna McMahon



Congratulations, Stephanie!

We all love you!

Stephanie Christensen



"Be satisfied with nothing but your best."

-Edward Roland Sue

We love you!
Mom and Betsy

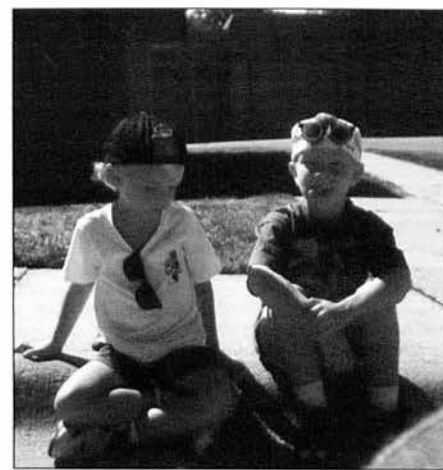


Joseph Wallace



Alex,
From Blink 182 to Prince, from Los Angeles to New York City, and from Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles to Dance Dance Revolution, we have always been there for each other. Nobody in the world can say that they know you as well as I do, and vice versa. You and I have developed a brotherhood that nobody could ever break and nothing could ever get between. No matter what your future has in store for you, I will always be your big brother, even if you are taller.

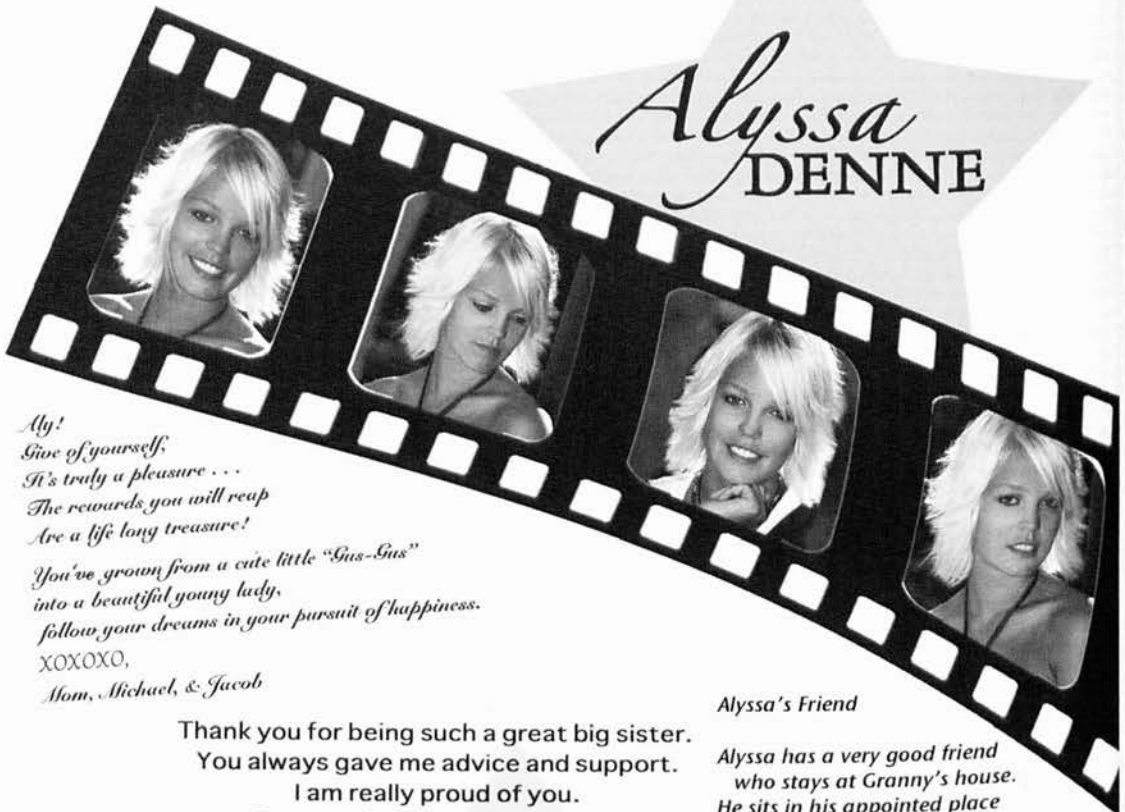
Forever Your Big Bro,
Adam



Alexander Hopewell



Alyssa DENNE



Aly!
Give of yourself;
It's truly a pleasure . . .
The rewards you will reap
Are a life long treasure!
You've grown from a cute little "Gus-Gus"
into a beautiful young lady,
follow your dreams in your pursuit of happiness.
 XXXXXX,
Mom, Michael, & Jacob

Thank you for being such a great big sister.
 You always gave me advice and support.
 I am really proud of you.
 Congratulations and Good luck.
 Love, Jou

You've never been an ordinary miss! You are smart,
 beautiful, funny, thoughtful, and incredibly gifted-
 both as a writer and as an artist. What a package!
 I can't wait to see where life will lead you!
 - Love always, Grandma Schultz

Alyssa,
 From the moment you were born you have held a special
 place in my heart. I can hardly believe that
 you are already graduating! Yeah!!!
 You have grown into such a beautiful and talented young lady,
 we are so proud of you!

As you embark on life's next journey, embrace every opportunity,
 set no limits and reach for the stars.
 I know you can accomplish anything.

Congratulations!
 Love, Corrie, Bill, Shelby & Colton

As a career artist and creative director,
 I reviewed hundreds of art portfolios.
 It was easy to recognize true talent
 blossoming in you when you were very little.
 Now the future is yours.
 - Love, Donna Swenson

Alyssa's Friend

Alyssa has a very good friend
who stays at Granny's house.
He sits in his appointed place
as quite as a mouse . . .
Till Alyssa comes to visit
and puts him in her chair . . .
He's so soft and cuddly,
his name is Mr. Bear.
Sometimes they laugh and giggle,
for no reason, so it seems,
Perhaps they are discussing
some fantasies or dreams.
Whatever it is they talk about,
it's apparent for all to see . . .
Their friendship is very special,
one that was meant to be!

Love,
 Granny & Grandpa

**MY LITTLE RAINBOW BRIGHT,
 I AM ENVIIOUS OF YOUR TALENT,
 CONTINUALLY IN AWE OF YOUR BEAUTY
 AND TREMENDOUSLY PROUD
 OF YOUR STRENGTH. AS ALWAYS,
 I LOOK FORWARD TO WATCHING
 YOU FROM THE "STAGE DOOR"
 IN THE NEXT CHAPTER OF YOUR LIFE.
 MY LOVE FOREVER-TESSA (SMM)**





"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."
-Eleanor Roosevelt

**Think deeply
Speak gently
Love much, laugh often
Work hard, live freely
And be kind.**

We are so proud of you, Lindsey!
Love always, Mom and Dad

Lindsey Anderson



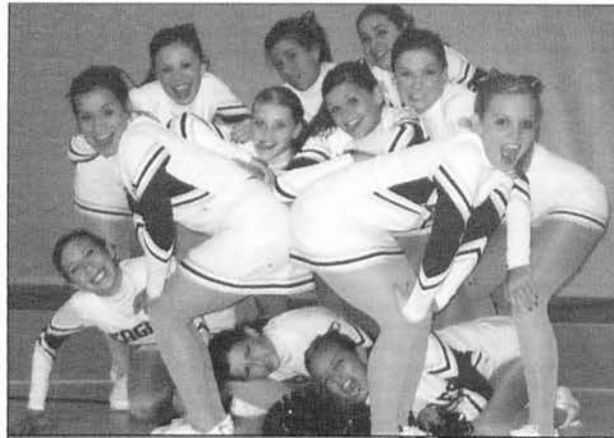
Ashley,

We are so proud of you and the choices that you made along the way to the special young woman that you are today. We consider your time with us a gift that we will cherish forever, along with lots of great memories of watching you grow and change. We hope that you will continue to embrace life with all the passion that we have come to know and love!

We love you so much,
Mom, Dad and Katie



Ashley Greenwood

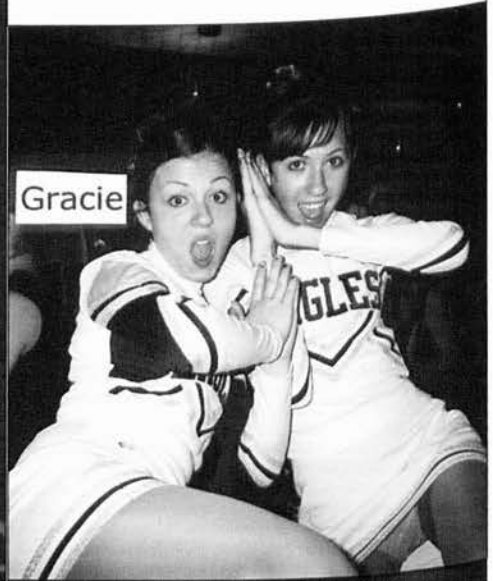


POM 05-06 squad

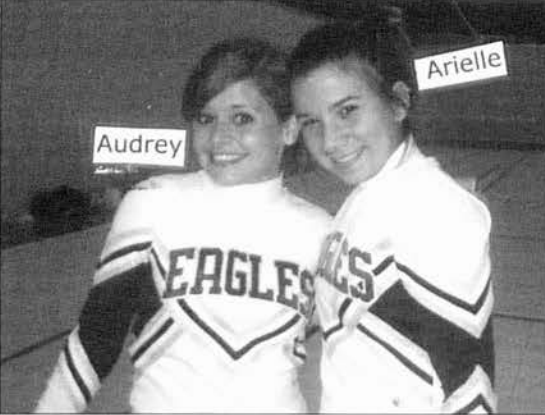


Katie O.

- Elisabeth Garvin
- Kaitlyn O'Banion
- Andrea Thompson
- Arielle Donner
- Grace Gillespie
- Audrey Madison
- Ashlee Atwell
- Katie Johnson
- Erin Schultz
- Margaret Baumann
- Lauren Trummer



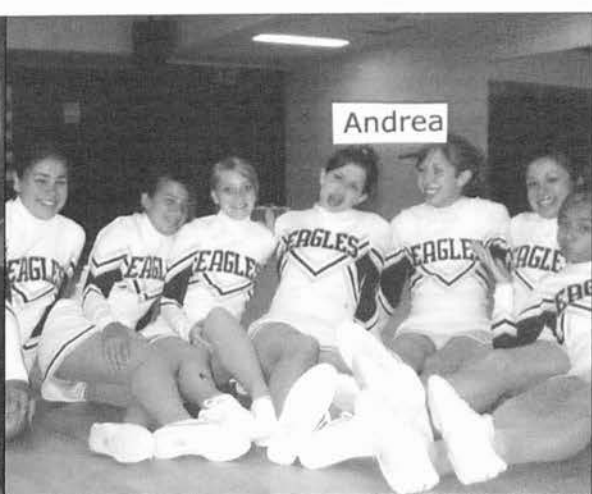
Gracie



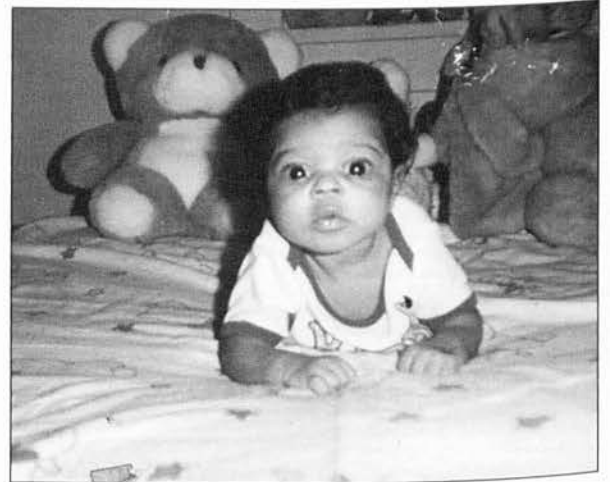
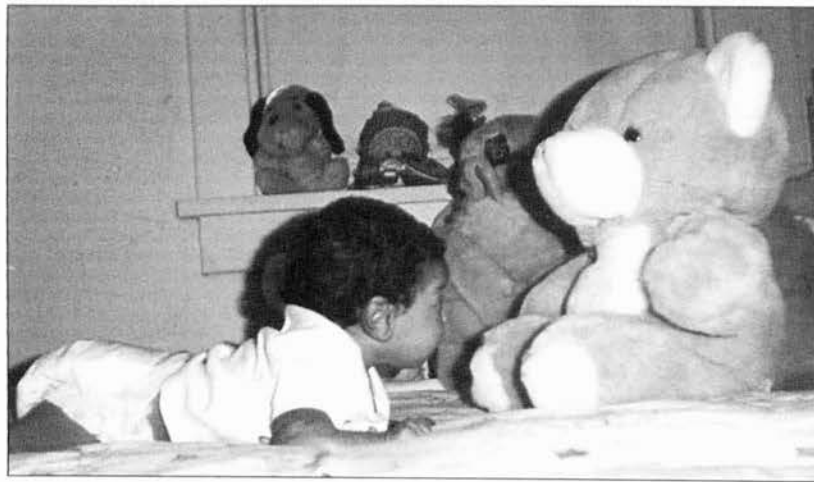
Audrey

Arielle



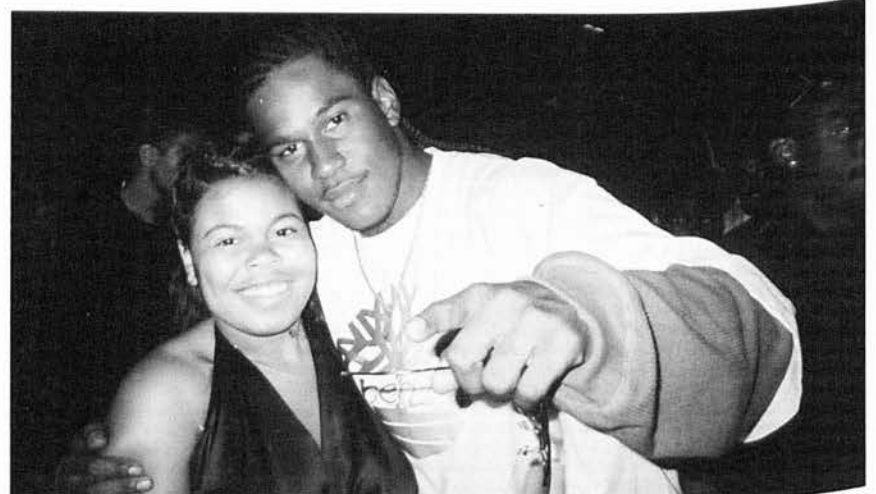


Pom Squad



Jessica,
 Just 17 years ago, I was holding you in my arms not knowing how beautiful you turned out to be. I am so proud of you and I love you so much it's hard to put into words. You are a bright young lady and I know you will go far in life. I have big dreams for you and I know you will achieve those dreams because you are strong-willed and with that you can be and do anything you want.

Love,
 Mom



Jessica Sterling

Rabbit, Our little Rosebud, Abbey (with an "ey")-

It's such a long way from...
...there to here.



But it happened all too quickly! We are so proud of you
and can't wait to see what comes next.

Love, Mama and Papa

Abigail Prest



Andy,

We are so proud of you. We hope
that you continue to work hard
as you follow your dreams.

Keep 'em laughing!

Lots of Love,

Mom, Dad, and Marc



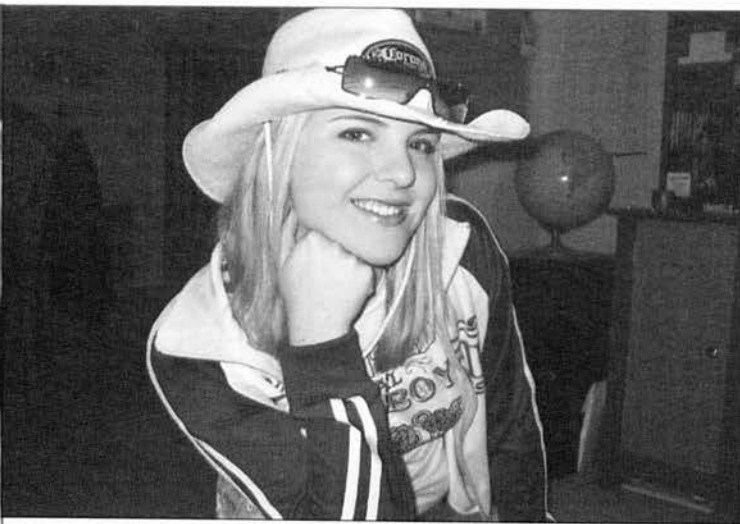
Andrew Monbouquette



Aja,
My youngest, "My Little Bug."
I am so very proud of you! I
know you will accomplish all
your goals and do your best
to make this world a better
place. Remember what's really
important- God and family.
Congratulations.
Love,
Mom



Aja Anderson



Avoid sea urchins, geckos, sunburns, seagulls, and getting totally legless. Keep laughing, traveling, and dancing!

Love,
Therese

From a class of one to being in the top part of your graduation class, you have proved your ability to yourself and others.

God bless and protect you as you continue on your journey into adulthood and throughout the rest of your life.

Love,
Mom, Jacqueline, Joseph, and Frederick



Kelleyanne Alt



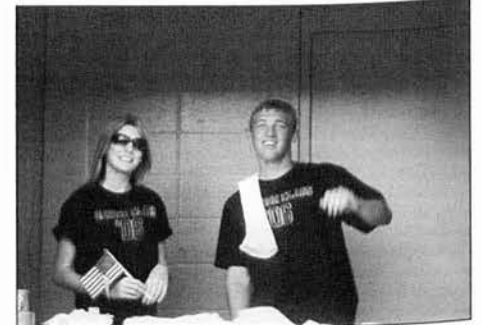
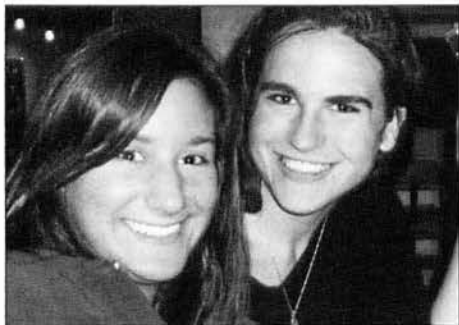
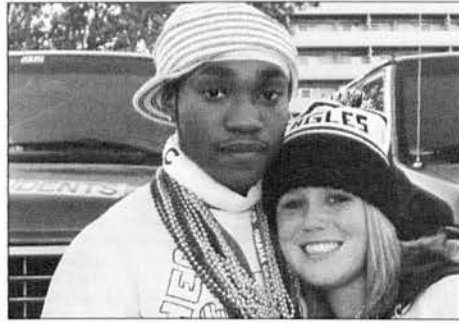
Dear Natalie,
Like Dorothy, as you venture off in
search of
knowledge, courage, and love.
May home be no further away
than a few clicks of your heels.

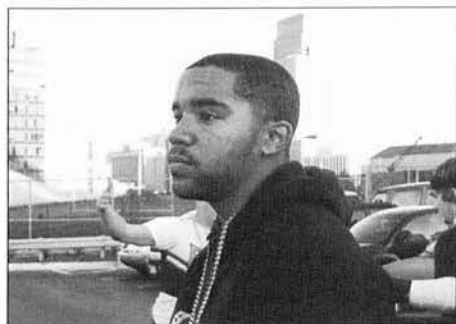
Love, Mom and Dad

Congratulations!
Central High School
Class of 2006



Natalie McClellan





senior class 2005-2006



President: Alvin Samuels
 Vice President: James Hubbard
 Secretary: Hannah Andahl
 Treasurer: Morgan Conley
 Historian: Jessica Lewis
 Activities Coordinator: Ian Danielson

Representatives:
 Lindsey Anderson
 Zackary Breazeale
 Devin Croffer
 Keelend Smith
 Maceal Jespersen
 Natalie Lynch
 Carly Vincentini

Sponsors
 Cherie Barg
 Fairouz Bishara

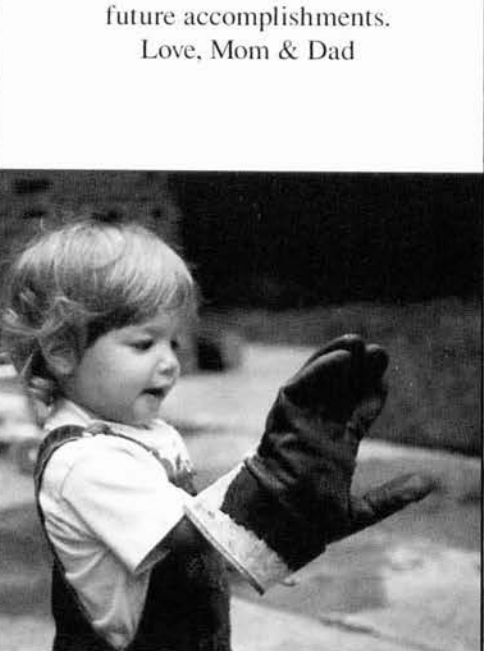
Senior Class



Katie

What a wonderful child you have been. Even as a baby, you could make us laugh. And, you've grown into such a beautiful, confident young woman. You have enriched our lives in so many ways. We know that you will accomplish great things. We look forward to watching you embark on the next stage of your life, knowing that we will always be proud.

Love, Mom & Dad



Ally

It has been so much fun watching you grow into a beautiful young woman. This isn't surprising because you were a pretty cute kid. Our lives are so much better because of you. We are so proud of you and look forward to your future accomplishments.

Love, Mom & Dad

Katherine and Allison Gorga



Dear Ashley,
We are very proud of you and know that this is a first step of a great life. We know that you will do well in life because you are a caring, loving daughter who knows what is important in life. We will be there for all the good times and the bad times. Enjoy this time of your life and have fun.

Love,
Mom and Dad



Ashley Welty



Congratulations, Annaturi

From Mom, Al, Dana, Caesar, Eloise, & Charlotte

A youth to who was given
So much of earth, so much of heaven.

-William Wordsworth

Annaturi Maher



From way back then, and every moment till now. Every second of everyday you've made us proud.

-Taria, Christopher, Melanie, Ronald, Jayden and Jordon

Morgan, you deserve all the happiness and joy life brings you because that is what you've given to me.

Thanks for being my lil' sis.

-Taria

To my little sister, I love you for all you are to me: honest, kind, intelligent, strong, and beautiful.

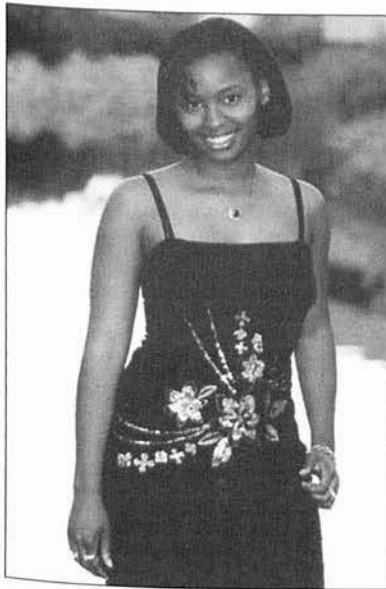
-Melanie

When people look at you they see a successful, confident, stunning young woman, I will always see my baby sister, Mo Mo.

I love you.

-Your big brother Chris

Morgan Conley



First and foremost, Lonzale... lil' bro... Jr... I want you to know when I leave, you won't be losing me.... I'll be around. I've watched you grow as you entered the high-school realm. I want you to know your big sister is proud of you, I love you, and keep doing what you're doing.... break that glass ceiling.

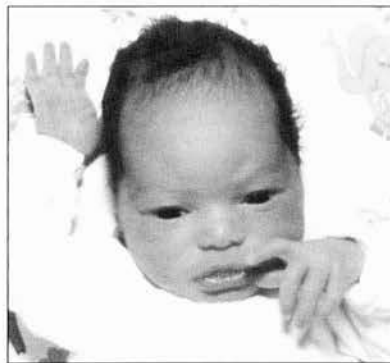
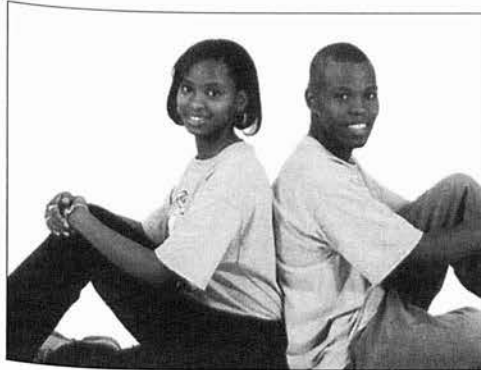
Mom, Dad, you've helped another child reach college, two down, one to go. I will take your lessons with me and apply them to all my endeavors. Our differences in opinion mean nothing but we think differently.

I love you.

Last but not least, my Minority Scholars crew. Mrs. Allen and Mr. Foster, I would like to thank you first. All of us came knowing you as just another adult, another teacher, but we will leave knowing you as our parents away from home. Your knowledge and influence I will take with me wherever I go.

My friends, I haven't forgotten you..we made it through the homework, the stress, the grades, the drama.... and all that has done has brought us closer. You are my friends, but over the years you have also become my family, and even if your picture isn't here, you know who you are.

~Shazale Ramsey

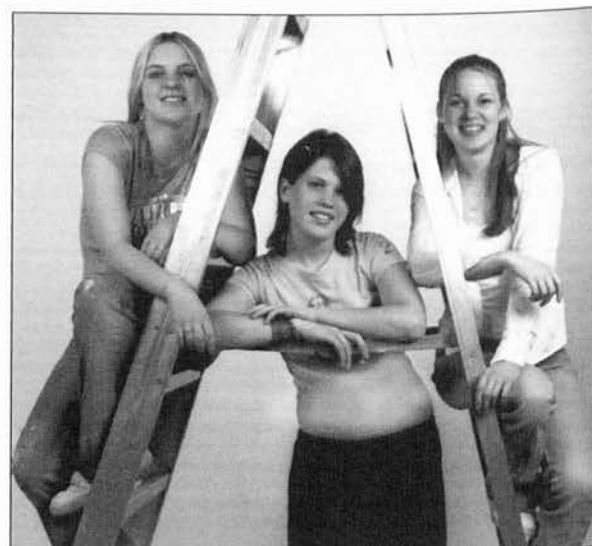


Shazale Ramsey





2006
It's our time to
shine.
Okay thanx!



Kelleyanne Alt, Kirsty Frizzell & Miranda Margrave



To our dear sweet Lauren,
It has been a true joy to
watch you grow up to the
beautiful woman you have
become. Congratulations on
all you have accomplished.

Much love,
Mom, Dad, Jacob, Josh,
Tucker, Grace, and Teller



Lauren Crist



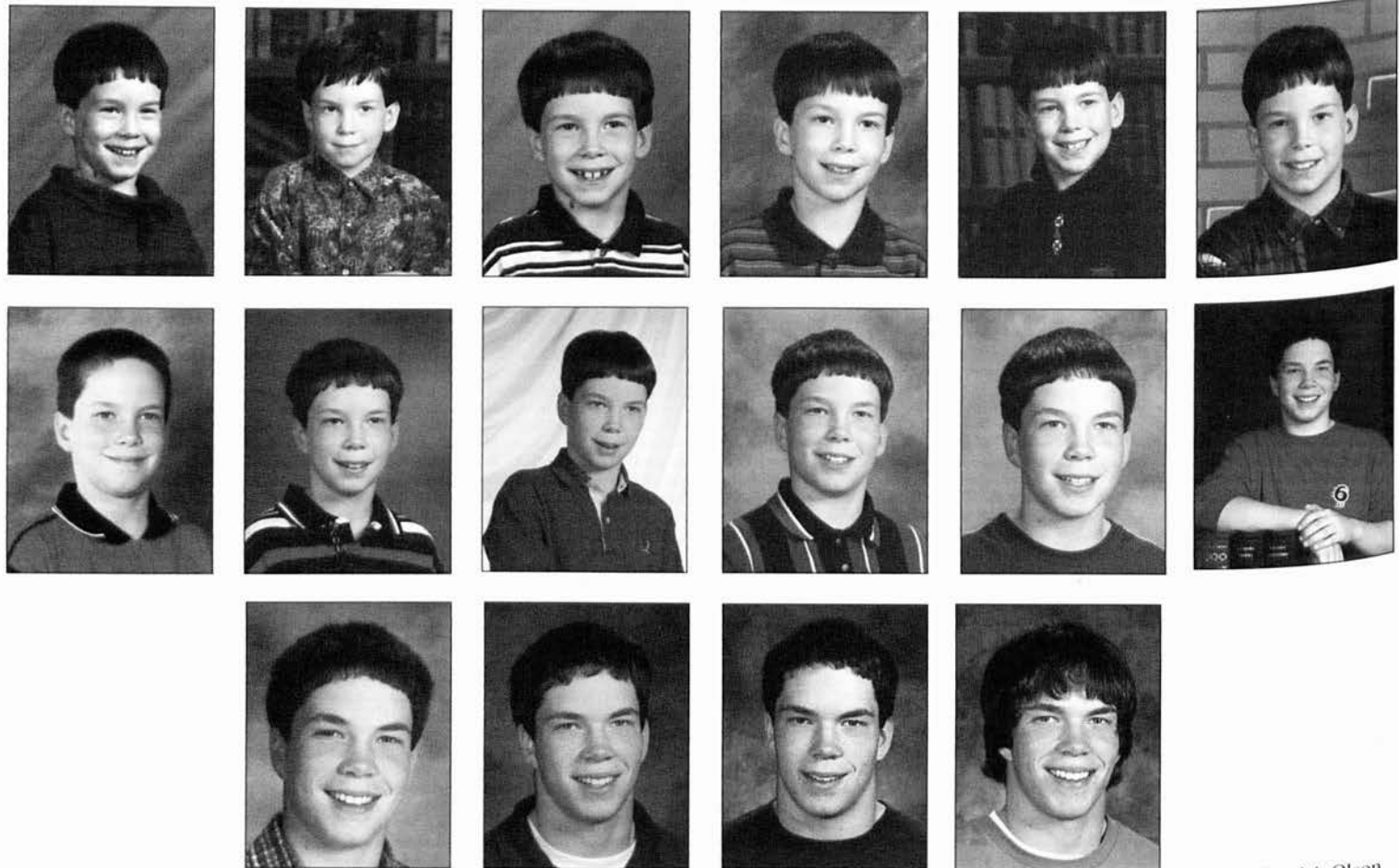
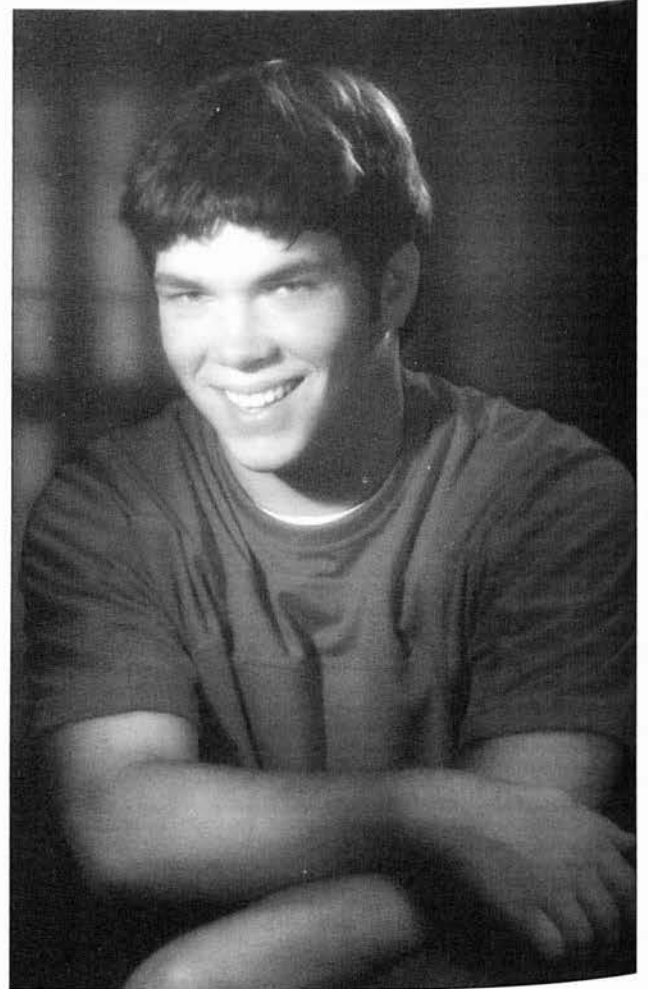
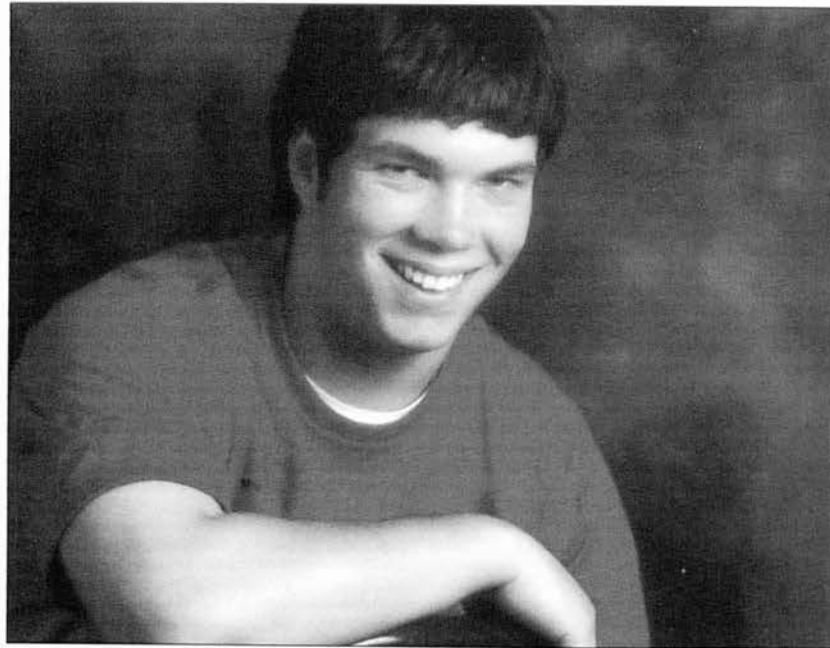
Baby Girl,
 You have blossomed into a wonderful young
 lady. We are very proud of you! Remember,
 the world is your oyster and you are the pearl...
 not bad for a rookie.
 Love forever,
 Mom, Dad, Moe, and Richard



Melissa Gray

“What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us.”
-Ralph Waldo Emerson

Patrick David Olson
2006 Congratulations,
Mom, Dad & Sean



Patrick Olson



Dear Krystal,
 Words cannot express how proud I am.
 You have been my "Boo" since the day you
 were born and you are the wind beneath
 my wings. You are destined to do great
 things.

Love,
 Mommy



Dear Krystal,
 Congratulations on your
 graduation. You've worked so
 hard.

We love you always,
 Mom, Dad, and Brother Brian



Krystal Curry

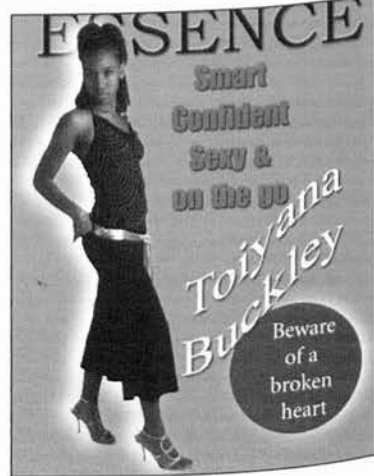
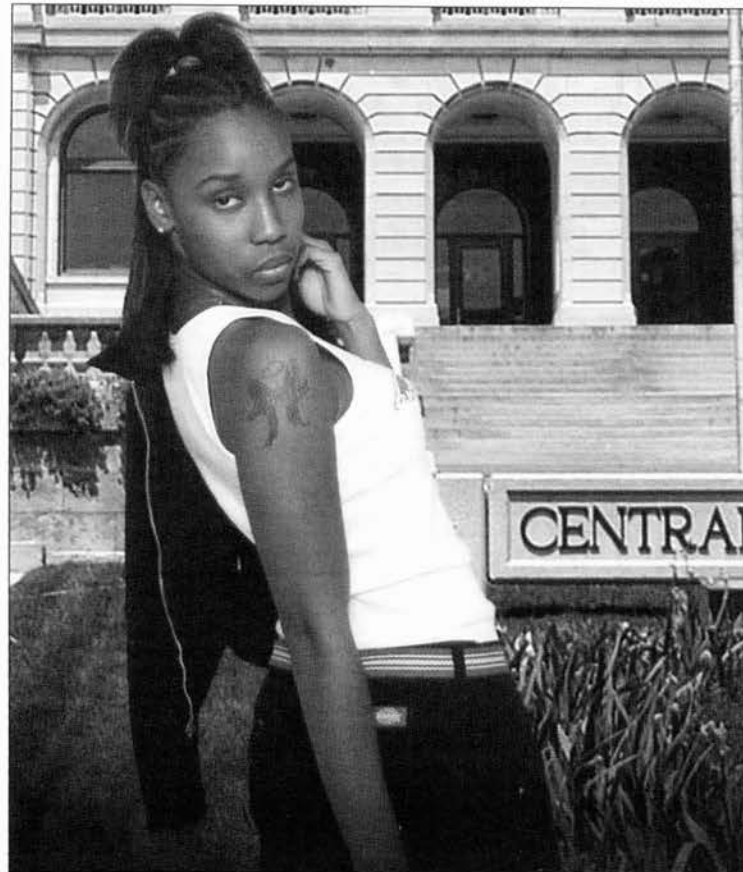
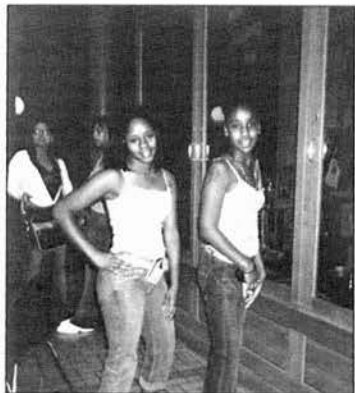


Audrey Madison, Allison Gorga, Katherine Gorga and Jessica Lewis



The years have past so quickly. You've grown into a beautiful young lady. As you take the next steps into adulthood, be courageous and willing to try new things. Set new goals and conquer all obstacles on your road to success. Above all, remember through God all things are possible.

Love you,
Aunt Stephanie and Dad



Toi, it has been a wonderful exciting experience watching you grow from a pretty, cuddly little baby to the vibrant, intelligent, strong-willed young lady that you are today. Continue to put all your faith and trust in God for he has all power. He will protect you, keep you strong and guide you down the paths of life that will ultimately lead to success. Set your goals high and don't accept any less than you deserve and you deserve the very best. I am very proud of you.



Love you,
Grandmother Rodgers

Toiyana Buckley

To my dearest daughter,
 I'm so proud of you. I wish you well. You are one of the smartest people I know. I am your father, you are strong, so you always go for what you want, be careful, and keep on keeping on. Life is short so don't take anything for granted. Keep on going because you have family love and you have a friend in me. There is nothing in life better than family.

Love Always,
 Dad, Mom, and Family
 We're proud of you!



Rochelle Tanksley

Buckley

Ads

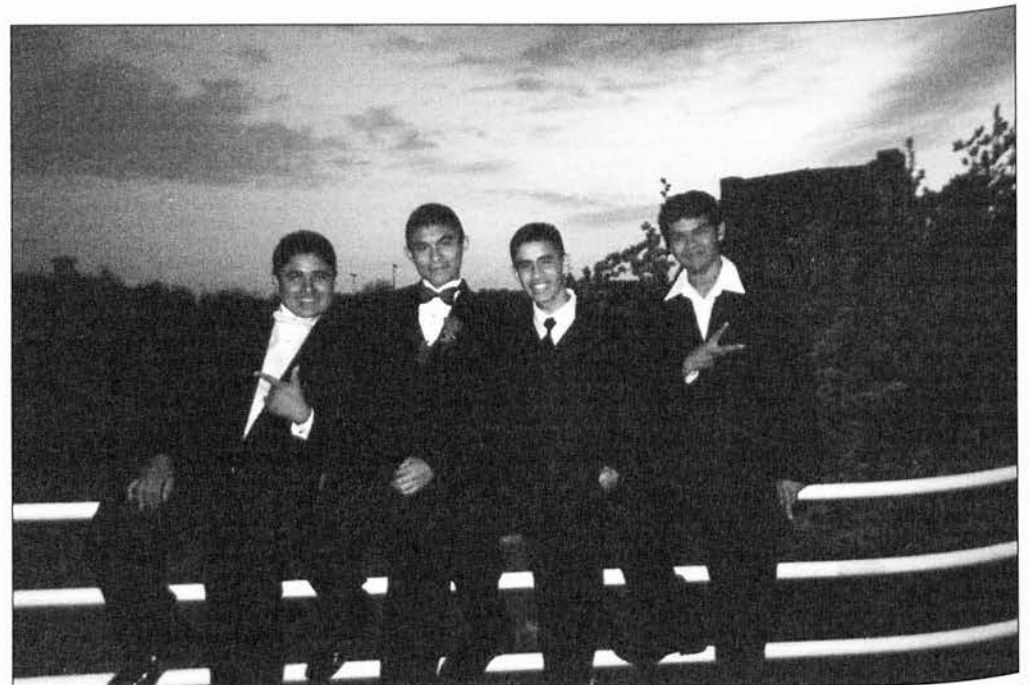
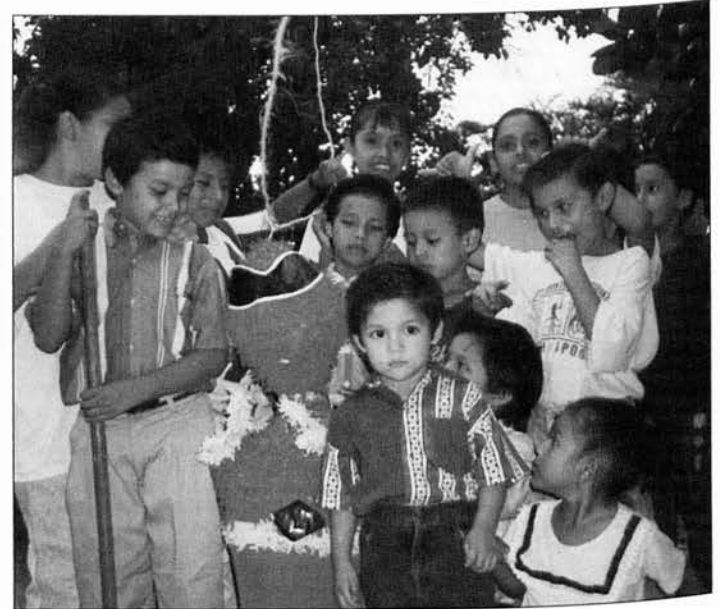
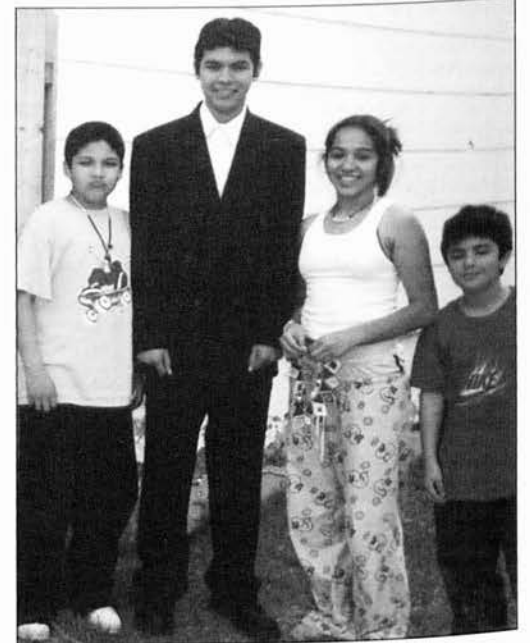


2006 will be an important year to you my son. Not only because you graduated, but because this year you will be starting the path of your development as a leader in our community.

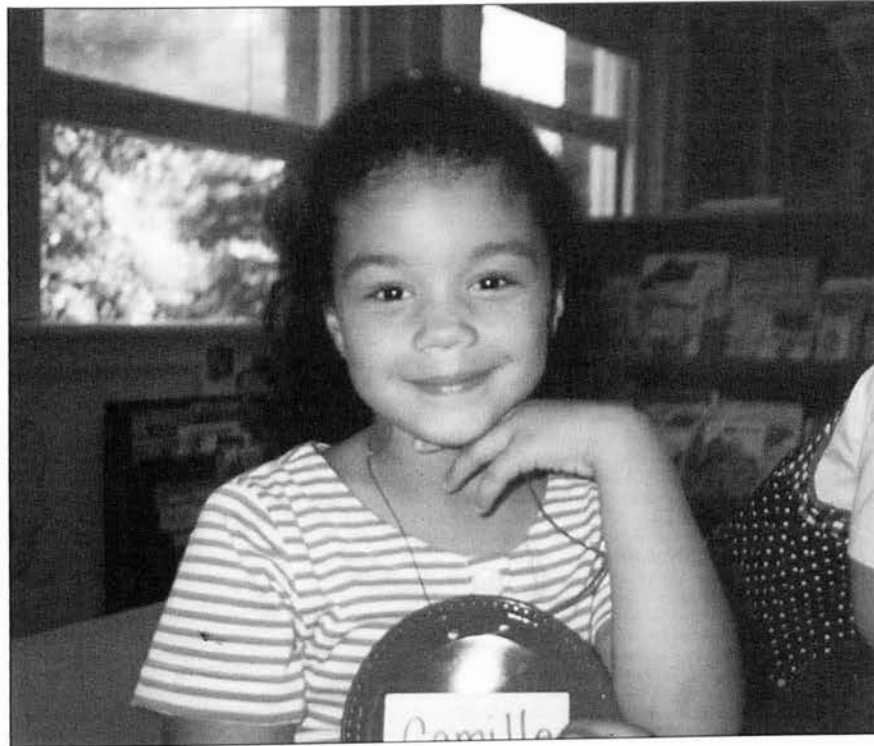
Has completado una de las Fases que se requiere para poder sobresalir en esta vida.

Sigue tus metas, porque eventually it all pays off.

Te deseamos lo mejor, toda tu familia y amigos.

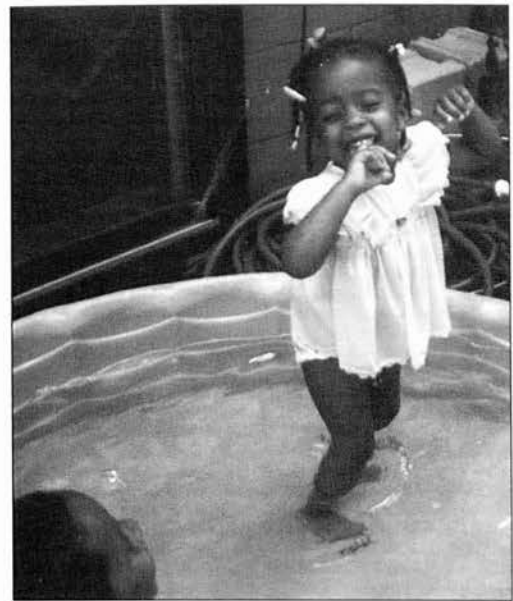


Gerson Manriquez



Nesha and Camille => true friends,

We used to think friends were the people you could laugh and talk to. Now we know friends are more than that. They are the people who touch your heart. Friends are the people you can share your secrets with, cry with, laugh with and have fun with. They will never judge you or make you change. Even though it's been hard to get through day-to-day, friends we are, and friends we'll stay.

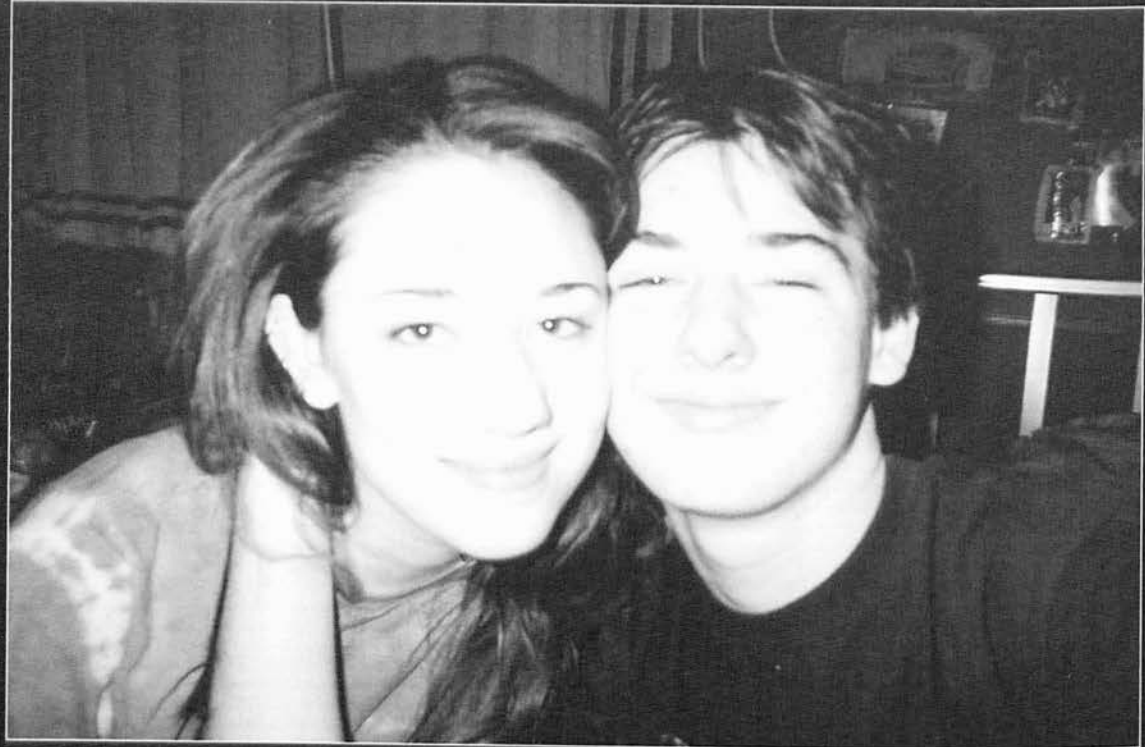


Camille Ehlers and Shanesha Mapp

riquez

ICP vs Dave Matthews. Hotwheels and Strawberry Shortcake. Think Safety, Hit the Target. Wanna nather chocolate.

Uh ha ha ha duude. You Promise?! Forever & for always. I can't eat too many crackers or else I can't whistle. Star Wars. You look cute like that.



Honey,

You should know that I will always be here for you, for better or for worse, through sickness and in health. I'll always be here for you! No matter what!

I love you, baby,

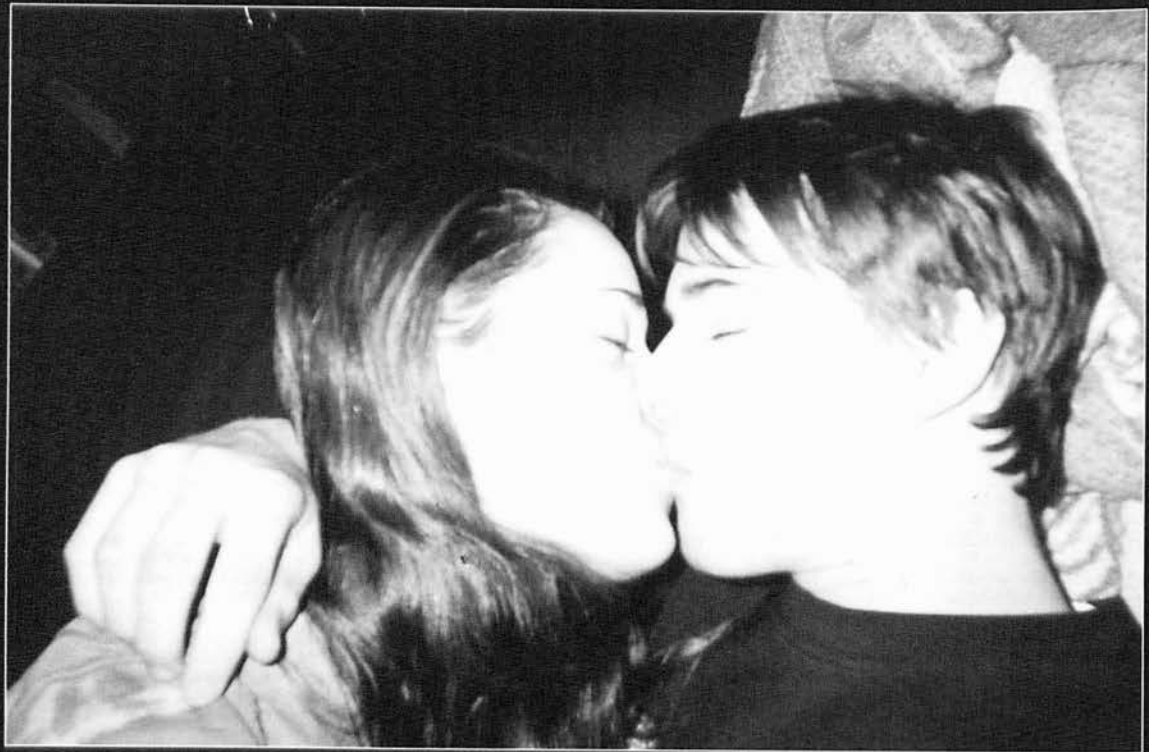
James

Sweetheart,

I am so proud to stand by your side each and every day. In our time together, we have grown as "one" and I have loved every minute of it (the good and the not so good). I can't wait to give you forever.

I'll love you always, as I do now,

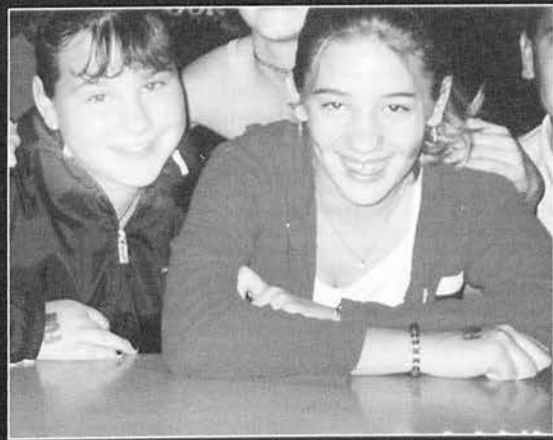
Malisa



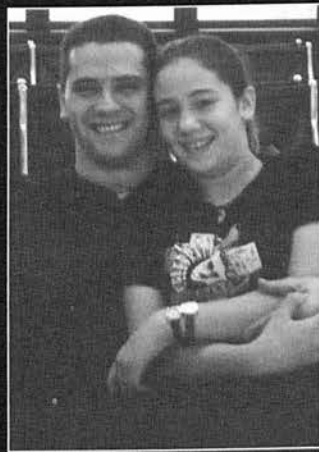
Don't you think it's more than coincidence? How did I know you were gonna say that? Guys are ticklish, too. I Do.

Whatever you! I love you...too. I don't wanna close my eyes. Psycho Moment! Oh look...a taxi. Football vs. Tennis. I'm just kidding...gosh. It's the love bug.

late. Whatever you! I love you...too. I don't wanna close my eyes. Psycho Moment! Oh look...a taxi. Football vs. Tennis. Im just kidding...gosh. It's the love bug.



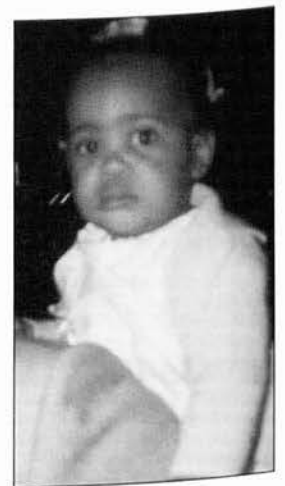
"Blessed are those who suffer for my sake for heaven will be theirs." -Beatitudes



Ja zuchy tobi schastja nazavshdu.



Malisa Militzer



Our Dear Karkar,

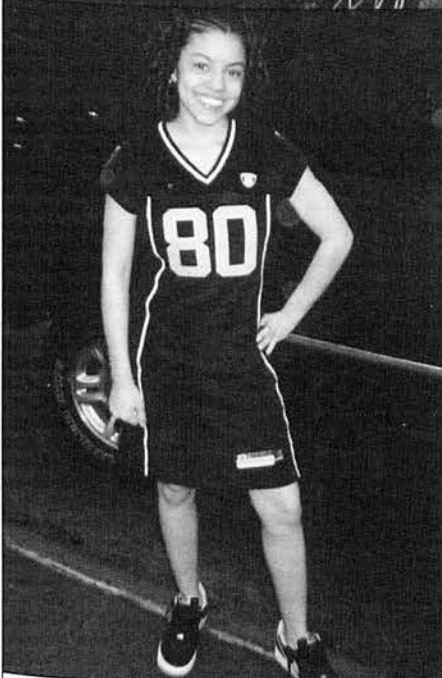
How time does fly when we're having fun trying to keep up with you!
Was it really 18 years ago when you were born on your mom's birthday?
Now isn't that just double fun?

From being born our "special" baby, having some health problems, then going off to school "as cute as a button," you loved reading and being read to, always wanting to please, especially your elementary teachers.

So now what a contrast. Strong-willed, bright, intelligent, responsible and beautiful! We are very proud of you and love being *your* parents!

"Go Karmen and be the very best teacher that you can be!"
Love you Forever,
Mom & Dad



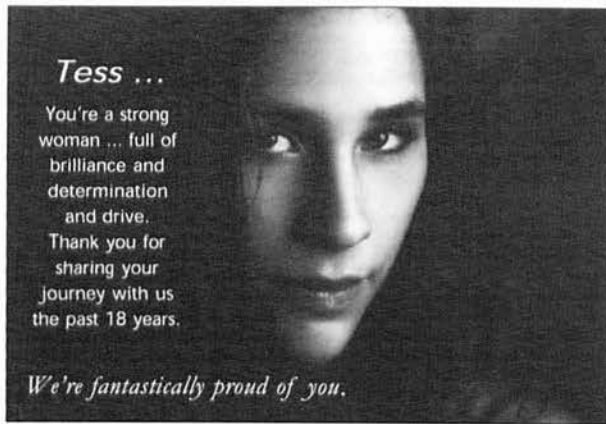


Ashley Nicole,
 Eighteen years ago you came into my life and almost took it, but God saw differently. He knew what a jewel you were and are going to be so he allowed me the opportunity to live so I could grow with you. In essence, you have really raised me. Raised me to instill all my knowledge skills and mistakes in and upon you.
 Raised me to raise you in the fear of the Lord. Raised me to become the woman, mother and the mentor I am because you always loved me unconditionally vowing to never leave and loving me for my presence and not the presents I could and could not buy. It helped shape you into the phenomenal young lady you are today. Thank you for coming into my life and making the journey much better and happier. You can and will achieve all you set your mind to because it is your destiny.
 Love always, Mom

“Let your light so shine before you that they may see your good work and glorify your father which is in heaven.” -Matthew 5:16
 Congratulations from Nana (Sylvia Caffee, Aunt Keisha, & Aunt Ava)



Karmen Holmes & Ashley Weich



Tess ...

You're a strong woman ... full of brilliance and determination and drive.

Thank you for sharing your journey with us the past 18 years.

We're fantastically proud of you.

Tess Mandell



Congratulations, Brenna

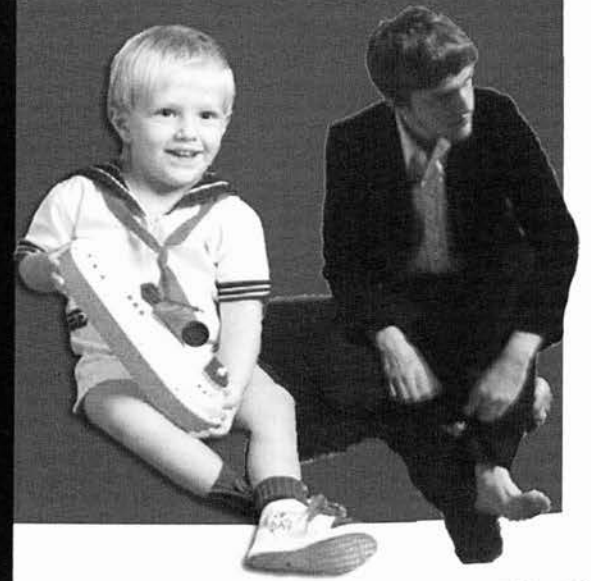
We're proud of you!

Love,
Mom, Dad, &
Kerry

Brenna Rosenberg

**Sam,
Congratulations, we are so proud of you!
Love, Mom and Dad**

**"It used to be that hours
seemed like days,
let's just press rewind."
- Statistics**



Samuel Zaccone

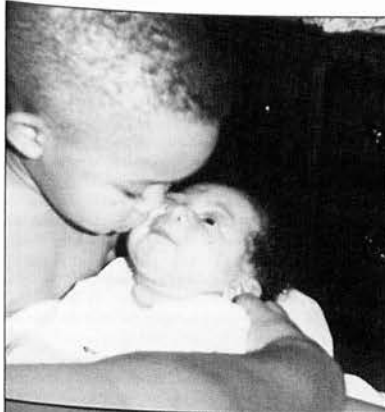
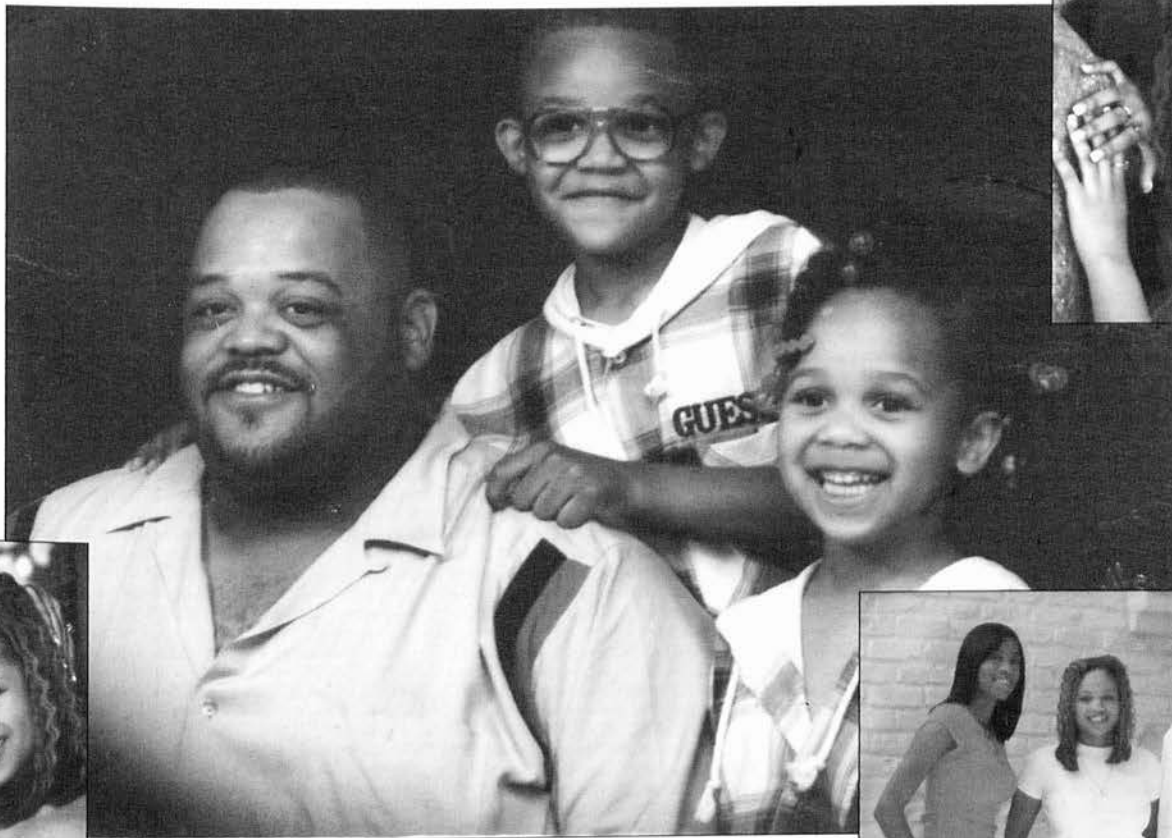
A day without laughter is a day surely wasted.



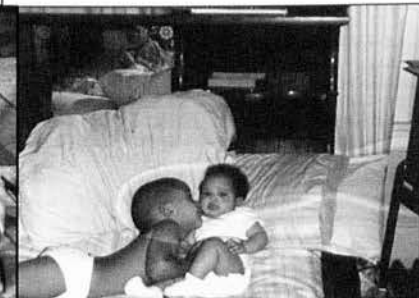
Katie and Lindsey,
Together forever; never
apart. Maybe in distance,
but never in heart.



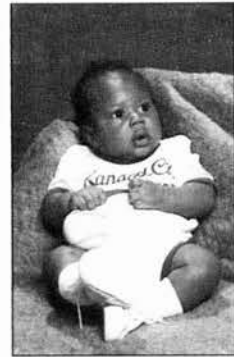
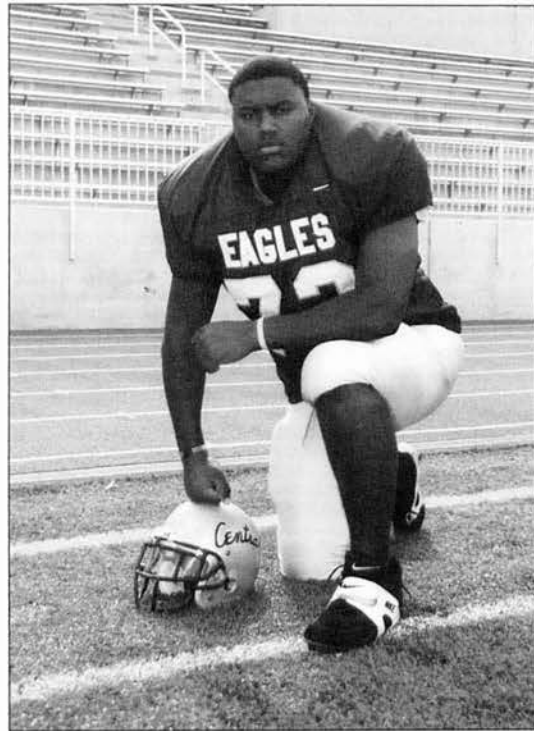
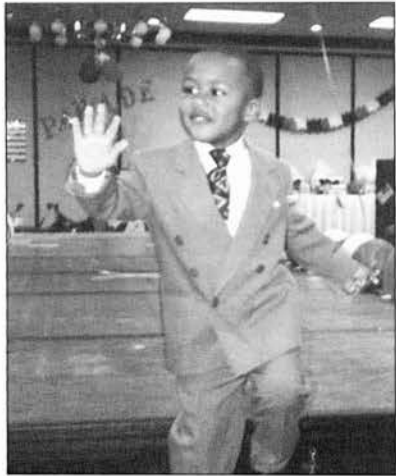
Kaitlyn O'Banion & Lindsey Anderson



Rolonda,
 Congratulations, you have completed a
 milestone in your life. As you go out into
 life, persevere. When you do, good times
 are sure to follow.
Keep On Keeping On!
Mom



Rolonda Allen



DJ, I am so proud of the young man that you have become.
 But always remember:
 I'll Love you Forever
 I'll like you for always,
 As long as I'm living
 My Baby You'll be.
 Love, Mom



DJ, My Pride is surpassed only by my Love for you! Good luck in all you do.
 Love, Dad

David Jones



BRIAN PIKE

GRAIN MERCHANDISER

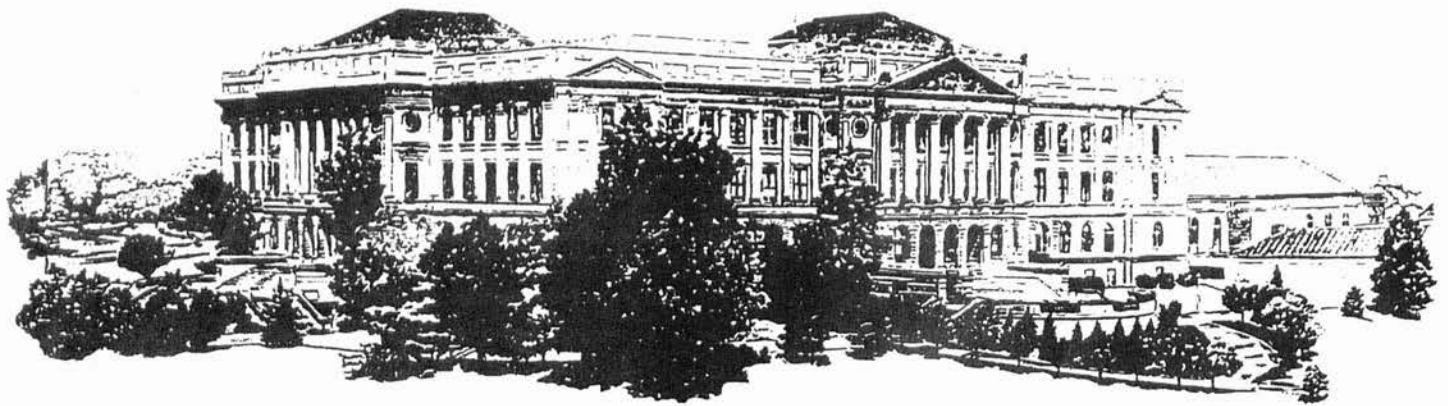
“I’m Scoular.”

The Scoular Company is dedicated to serving customers in the worldwide food supply chain, connecting agricultural producers, first processors and manufacturers by providing them with the quality service and products they need.

In addition to serving customers, The Scoular Company is dedicated to the communities where Scoular offices are located. We are proud to support Central High School of Omaha.



Scoular Grain Co.



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When you are a Central High School **YOU ARE PART OF A 147-YEAR TRADITION**

The Central High School Foundation is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization that supports Central by serving as an "umbrella" for these groups that also help make Central so remarkable:

- Alumni Association
- Athletic Boosters Club
- Band Parents
- PEP (Parents, Educators, Pupils)
- V.O.I.C.E.
(Volunteer Organization Investing in Choral Excellence)

The Central High School Foundation

- Raises money to support Central and to make sure that Central remains the BEST high school in Omaha
- Our Mission: to improve the education of present and future students at Central High School

Stay involved! When you give your volunteer time or a financial donation, your contribution will help us to

- Provide college scholarships to students
- Give grants for teachers to attend workshops and purchase special supplies for their departments

Central High School offers an education that is enhanced by diversity and enriched by its tradition of excellence. Around the globe, both near and far, Central High School students represent the very best of Omaha.

CHS Alumni include outstanding scholars, athletes, educators, musicians, parents, mathematicians, artists, Nobel Prize winners, healers and helpers, peacekeepers, entrepreneurs, friends and neighbors, scientists, writers, poets and performers . . . all making a positive difference in the world.

Top student, A CHS ALUMNI OF EXCELLENCE

- Offer special funding for improvements to technology and other ways to make Central better
- Sponsor awards events like "Student of the Year" and "Teacher of the Year"
- Enrich extracurricular activities
- Maintain a database of alumni, staff, parents and friends
- Support Alumni Association activities
(a newsletter to help you stay current with CHS, and assistance in planning reunions, for example)



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CHS CLASS OF 2006!

We hope you'll remember those who helped you along the way . . . and that you will share your success with future generations of Central Eagles with a contribution to the Central High School Foundation.



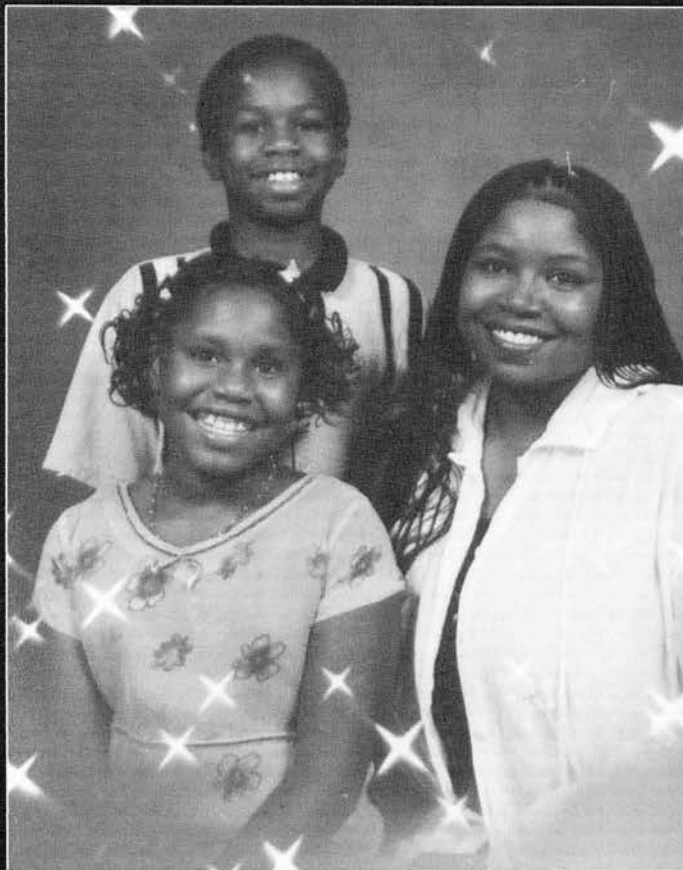
JOIN

the Central High School Alumni Association! This annual membership fee provides funds to help Central keep in touch with its alumni. You choose the level you would like to give.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Check out the Foundation's website at www.centralhighomaha.com and you'll find links to the CHSAA and other groups under the Foundation's umbrella.

www.centralhighomaha.org
P.O. Box 31610, Omaha NE 68131

**Congratulations
Tanika La-Sha Cooper,
you've made it to the next level.**



You've changed a lot in the past years...

Your eyes used to be huge, but you have grown into them. You used to be terrified of the dark, now you no longer need that night light. It's so funny, now you can take those training wheels off that bike (what bike, you can drive now). You were so shy, but now you don't just say hi (you practically tell your whole life story). You've grown from a little princess into a strong young woman. A woman with self-respect, values, and confidence. You know where you're going and whatever comes along remember, you know yourself better than anyone else. Keep smiling, keep striving for the best, and never settle for anything less.

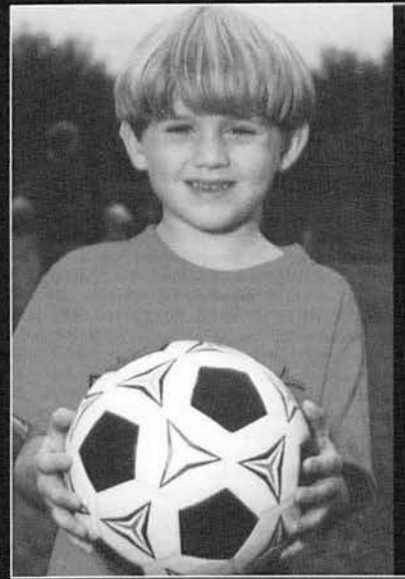
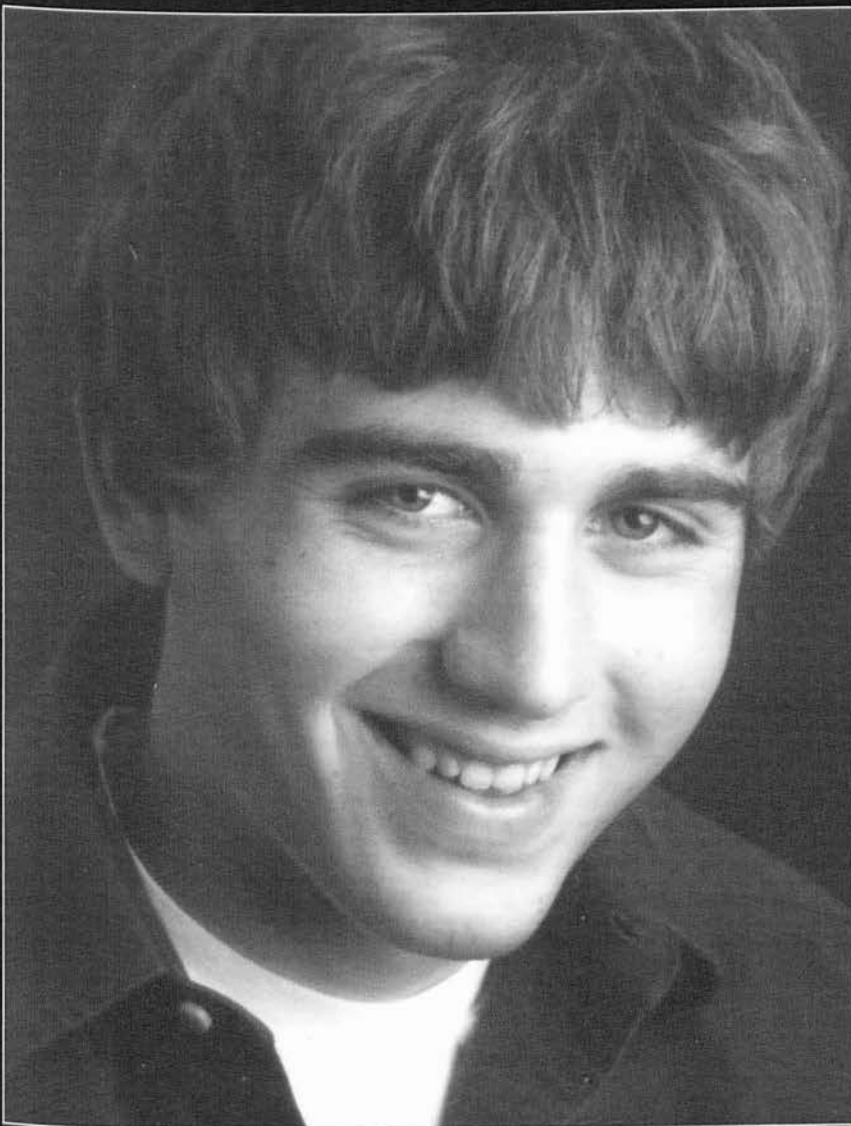
... You've changed for the better.

Tanika Cooper



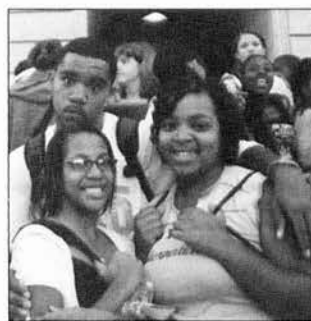
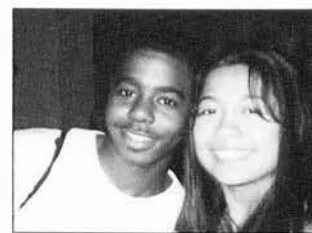
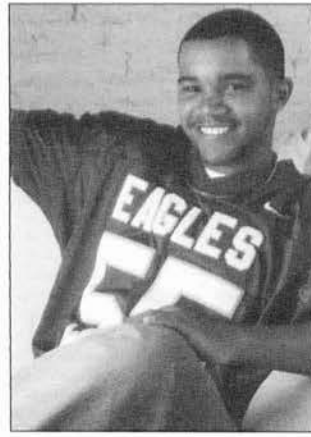
James,
We are all so proud of you. You can accomplish anything you put your mind to. Remember to always keep in mind the most important things- God, family, and friends.

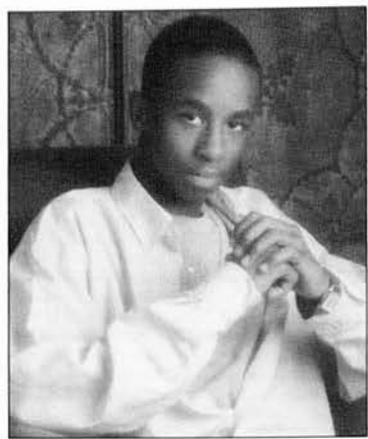
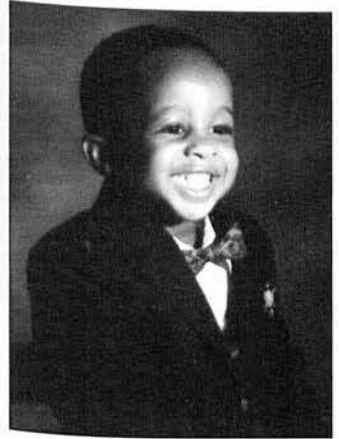
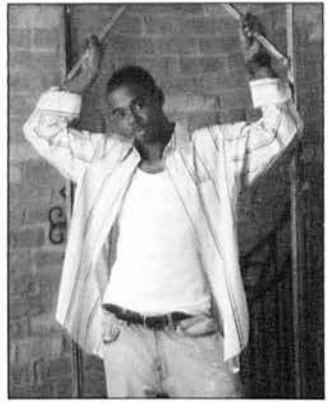
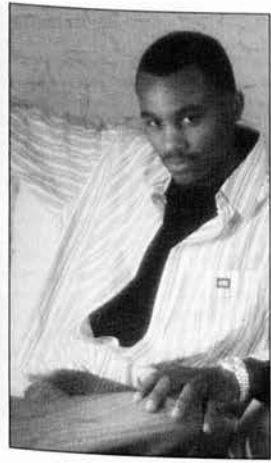
Love Mom, Sara, John, and Matt



James Watson

Minority Scholars 2005-2006





Minority Scholars



Tanika Cooper

Editor in chief

This has been a great year. I've changed so much... I would like to thank my Mom for all she has done for me. I know I can be a pain, but somehow you managed to deal with me. Thank you, Mom.

I would like to thank my Stepfather because he was always there when I needed him (even when he had just worked a 13 hour shifts).

I must also give thanks to my Grandma. She has always been there for me, we've always had a special connection with each other.

I owe you all so much and one day I will repay you for everything.

King, King, I owe so much to you. You were always there to help guide me into a better editor, student and person. You believed in me when I didn't even believe in myself. I admire your strength to come to school every morning at 6 a.m. and to stay until 11:30 p.m. just because Molly and I needed you, despite all the B.S. you were put through. I will never be able to thank you enough for caring so much about us all. You deserve a Nobel Peace Prize for all the time and patience you put into your job (regular hours and after hours). Thank you for pushing me to go beyond my best. Thank you again for believing in me, giving me a chance and for showing me what a real journalist is. I can never thank you enough. "Okaay, bye, bye!"

Molly, I want to thank you for being a good friend to me. Thank you for putting up with my attitude. You were there when I couldn't count on anyone else. Thank you for having one of the biggest hearts ever. Thank you for the encouragement to do better. You've been more than a friend to me, if I had a sister I'd hope she'd be like you (although that would be awkward if you know what I mean). I can't wait to see you change the world.

Stephanie, thank you for all the hard work you put in this past year. Thank you for being yourself. You were a very good executive editor. I wish you well next year. Emma, you surprised me. Thank you for being the bright and colorful person you are. I know you will do well next year. O'Malley, thanks for the time and effort you put in the senior section. You handled that very well. When I wanted to hang out and I had no one to hang out with you were there, thank you. Even though I wasn't always pleasant to you, thank you for never holding grudges against me.

Clay, I would like to thank you for always being there when I had questions about photos, Photoshop, and other unmentionable things. You have been a true friend to me. Thank you for encouraging me to be myself. Thanks for always being there when I needed you (you were better than some of my staffers). I know you'll make a great photojournalist someday. Did he really die of food poisoning (inside joke). FYI- I'm doing fine (now laugh). We had a lot of good times, didn't we?

Natashia, thanks for being a good friend to me and listening when I needed to sort out my issues.

I would like to thank my mother again because I wouldn't be in this world if it wasn't for her.

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Stephanie Wilhelm

Executive editor

"Friends in your life are like pillars on your porch. Sometimes they hold you up and sometimes they lean on you." -Elizabeth Foley

We built a system from scratch. I never realized how hard it was to complete a yearbook on time. Even though I was on staff last year, I realized even more this year how time-consuming it is and what problems can occur.

I would like to thank Mr. Deabler for the advice, support and leadership he provided me. Even at the time when it didn't look like I would come back and I started fading into the background, he had time to talk and get me back on track. I can't wait for more memories, laughs and hard work next year.

I would also like to take Tanika Cooper. We made it through the year even with problems. Thank you for spending so much time on this publication for us. I've learned so much from you leading this year and hope to come back stronger. Don't forget to smile and take it easy. Good luck in college, sweetheart.

I thank my family for their support. Without my parents' support, I wouldn't have been able to stay late and work on the yearbook. They sacrificed their time for me and showed me their love throughout it all. Stephen, I'll miss you while you're off in college. When I wasn't feeling too sure about myself, I could always talk to you in my classes. Astrika, we finally had a class together. Thanks for late nights we spent talking into the wee hours. I love you all more than you'll ever know.

Pootie, I look forward to working with you next year. I miss how big your hair used to be. It was always fun talking to you.

Thanks Molly for helping us out and advising me for what I should do this year and next year. Good luck in your journalism career. You showed all of us what it means to be a journalist through your dedication and aspirations in all aspects.

Emma, I looked forward to your outfits everyday. Never knew what to expect. I look forward to watching you expand your abilities next year. You were always the one that wanted to talk.

Thanks Theresa for sticking it through. Even though there was turnover and negative attitudes outside, you came through for us. Let's see what you can do next year.

Chester, you were the new guy on the block and showed so much enthusiasm. It was great to watch and answer your questions.

I thank the guys on both staffs for lightening it up, especially Clay, Pat and Bob. It was always interesting when Nic showed up. You always knew what to say.

I would like to thank my friends outside of journalism who let me talk as much as I needed.

I would like to thank my teachers, especially Mr. Shipman for your stories. Frau Meyer, thanks for listening to all of us and not caring what we said.

God bless ya'll. Thanks for the memories and laughs. I'll always remember all of you who helped shaped my life.



Anna McMahon

Organizations

What a year....

I would like to thank my mother for being a great support system and standing by me, even when I wasn't the most pleasant person to be around.

When necessary, you put me in my place, but you were always there for me.

Whether you believe it or not, you are a wonderful mom and I love you.

Dad, thanks for all the Saturdays at Barnes n' Noble. Sometimes you seemed like the only calm person in my life.

You were always there, always patient, helpful and supportive.

Thanks for helping me with all of the challenges that go along with college and scholarship applications.

Leah, you kept me sane this year. You never minded when I complained to you about all of the trivial problems that were occurring.

I don't think anyone knows me like you do; you tell me the truth and accept me for all my faults.

I honestly have no idea what I'll do without you next year.

You are a beautiful, wonderful, hilarious person and I love you.

Mike, I love getting advice from you and hearing about all of your "experiences." You're always straightforward with me.

Thanks for the U2 tickets and everything else.

Stephanie, Abbey, Jessie L., Jessica H., Jenni, Hiba, Natalie M and all of my friends: You guys suffered through all my bad jokes and pretended not to be embarrassed while around me and that's why I love you all.

To Deabler, Tanika and Stephanie: let's be honest, you guys are the reason this book was finally completed. All your hard work, perseverance and talent helped make this book wonderful.

Thanks for your guidance and patience.

To the rest of the O-Book staff: I hope everyone is proud of our work.

Emma, you were always cute and positive.

Theresa, you always finished your stories promptly and were never afraid to ask questions.

Pootie, you made me laugh. Thanks for the good times.

Stephanie, you should also be credited as the Clubs and Academics Editor. You're the reason that section was finished. Thank you for always answering my questions and keeping me positive.

Tanika, I hope you take care of those boils.

We all made mistakes and procrastinated, but we got it done.

To the Class of 2006: It's finally over! Even though there were a lot of bad times, I hope everyone can leave Central on a positive note.

We grew up together and now it's time to part ways. Goodbye!

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Sports
Kristen Kendall

First of all I would like to thank Mr. Deabler for giving me the opportunity to be a part of both staffs. There was always something in that room to lighten my mood. I would also like to thank him for being there to listen when it seemed like everything was getting to be too much for me to handle.

The entire yearbook staff really pulled through second semester even though we lost some people. I want to thank everyone who worked on sports with me and everyone who made working on this yearbook a good time.

Tanika, even though I didn't always deserve it you always kept your cool with me. You were an awesome editor in chief and I want to thank you for everything you've done for this book and definitely everything you did that I should have. Good luck next year!

I want to thank Stephanie because I always ended up venting to you and you would listen to it even though you didn't have to. You're going to do great next year and this yearbook wouldn't be the same had you not been a part of it.

I want to thank the rest of the O-Book staff. You guys were awesome this year. I know those who are returning next year are going to do a great job as well.

I'll always remember one night when I spent an hour talking to someone I didn't know, but who knew me... Chester! You came in and did great. Thanks for the laughs.

Jared and Todd, thanks for everything first semester. I don't know what would have happened to sports without you two.

Stefanie and Deanna I love you girls. I don't know what I would do without you. I love you, Snickers!

Thanks to all my friends outside of Journalism you know who you are, but especially to those who helped me when I couldn't help myself.

Brian Lee, you have given me some of the best advice I've ever gotten.

Thank you for all of the good times (This Taco Bell is backwards!) and for showing me how to shuffle the deck and start again.

Heather, we had our problems, but we made it. It's different but still the same and I know you know what I mean by that.

Ben, what would I have done without you and all of our good times (Kelly Clarkson?! What's up with that?). You know I love you.

Raychel, Lizz and Paige, I don't know how I could have gotten through this year without you. I love you girls! Putting the first thing last, Lara and Chris I love you both. You are not just my best friends, you are my family. Chris, you have done so much for me and I owe you everything. I miss you and I'm so proud of you. I know I don't say that enough. Lara, I don't know where to start.

I love you, girl. We have been through so much this past year, and I wouldn't be here without you. You are my top dawg and NOTHING can touch that.



Patrick O'Malley

People

First of all, I would like to thank Mr. Deabler for putting up with all of those days that I had to miss for various reasons, and for pushing me. It has been a good year and I'm very proud of this book. Every day has been another learning experience and a fun one at that.

Tanika we both joined staff at the same time last year and you have become a fantastic editor in a short period of time. I admire your passion for the work you do and the things you have taught me, thank you.

Next, my parents I would also like to thank you guys for being there for me through all the trouble, stress and anything else I've gotten into. Also for being supportive of journalism and not making me get a job.

Natalie, You have made it a wonderful year. Thank you for being there and supportive; you are the greatest. I definitely could not have gotten through some of the things I have this year without you.

All of my friends like John, you are a great friend. Jake and Cory, you guys are absolutely hilarious and good people to be around.

Ned, I have thoroughly enjoyed hanging out with you all through the year, good luck with the aviation.

Tim, you are also a great friend.

Stephanie, I am proud to see how much you have learned, and next year we will make another great book.

Emma, I was surprised how well you could keep up with being on both staffs. I know the underclass section was a pain, but it got done because of you. I am also looking forward to next year with you.

Molly, I believe you truly are the journalist of the year.

You have fought and fought for what you believe was right that is something I am learning from you. I have also learned so much about motivation from you. You are a really down-to-earth person. I dig it.

Clay, You have tons of great photos in the book. I absolutely enjoyed hanging out with you, and I hope you succeed as a photographer.

Bob Al-Greene, thank you for helping me out with all of those drawings. You are an excellent artist. I can't wait to spend next year with you.

Plaid, I must say you are a good journalist even though you annoy me I have to admit it.

The rest of the O-Book staff, I hope you guys enjoyed creating the book, you should be proud of it, and are excited to make another one.

The Register, all the issues this year were great, I don't really need to say much more about that.

Reinwald, I still want to thank you for persuading me to take journalism. I really enjoyed hanging out with you.

Christian, it has been a rough year and I miss you, man. I love talking to you and I have learned so much from everything that has happened with you and my own experiences.

I am always here for you and I can't wait to see you. Keep your head up high and stay positive.

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Emma Phillips

People

I would like to thank Mr. Deabler for helping me to manage being on both staffs and also for showing me how much I can do if I try. Tanika for being amazingly sweet, making me laugh and for being a great editor. Everything I know about InDesign you taught me.

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I'd also like to thank Anne for listening to me talk about nothing for these past seven years, (I think we'll still be living in hypothetical situations when we're in nursing homes), for laughing at my jokes, and for being pleased when I dropped in on your Latin class. Even though I could only stay for 60-90 seconds, I think we had some great conversations. Having to run from 221 to 311 was a great workout and I also improved my dodging skills.

Remember spending 30 minutes following innocent people around downtown, and the only reason we stopped was because we lost them? You're the only one who would do that with me.

Liz for being my ray of sunshine and being everything I wish I could be and for introducing me to the New World that is the fourth floor and letting me hang around in your math class before I had to run to my second hour. No matter how many times my moccasin fell off, it was worth it to stand in your math classroom and marvel at the sky window.

Anne and Liz, there are many more wonderful memories that I would like to recount, but because they are so ridiculous and so far-fetched that I don't think I can do them justice in print.

My parents for loving me and Dad for finding joy in making me sound crazy, Tyler for "existing" (Yeeeeeaaahhhh, you know...), King Titus, may you reign forever and Kayleigh for being the most awesome lab partner ever and also understanding my fascination with penguins and not making fun of me for inventing a history for them.

Corey, Elli, Courtney, Nema and Nicole for being cool in math. Sandra, Zach and Jon for giving me the most socially-active weekend of my life and Alek for being the coolest jazz bassist ever and also helping to revive the art of conversation. Debra for chillin' in English, even though it was first hour and you didn't like your song very much, even though you really did. I'd also like to thank Lauren even though I didn't get to see you very much this year.

And finally, I'd like to thank the CHS band. I'd especially like to thank the Drum Line for giving me a reason to go to football and basketball games, for putting on a killer performance at Road Show and for giving me a new appreciation of percussion.



Mark Arehart

People

I thank God for giving me so many opportunities, for giving me strength and for making me a stronger person. Without your grace and patience, I would be truly lost.

Mr. Deabler thank you for believing me. Thank you for your drive, poise, words of encouragement and sense of humor. There was never a dull moment with you around. Thank you so much for giving me this opportunity.

The O-Book Staff, thanks guys and gals. Without you, there would be no yearbook. You all always had my back. Thanks for putting up with my chronic raisin consumption. We've come far this year. Thank you for being a part of this with me.

To The Register Staff, thanks a lot for letting me hang out with you all seventh hour. I enjoyed doing movie reviews more than you can imagine.

Mom, Pops and Scott, I love you all so much. Thank you for all your help. Thank you for your encouragement when I didn't have any for myself. You want the best for me and you show it. Even when we don't agree on everything, you are always there for me. I'm growing up with a smile.

Jennifer, I have you to thank for always putting a smile on my face.

I would like to give a special thanks to Brad, Jeff, Bo and Andrew for being there to teach me. I not only think of you guys as mentors and friends, but also as family.

Ron, thank you so much for helping me find my way. You are truly a great friend.

Matt, you have always had my back no matter what. I remember chilling on the trampoline in your back yard on those warm summer nights, dreaming of what high school would be like. You have given me many nicknames, many good laughs, and most importantly some of my fondest memories. You are truly a great friend.

Morgan, when I think of all the times you and I just sat and vented about everything from girls and geometry to growing up and finding ourselves, I can't help but laugh. I hope that no matter how old and grey we get, we can still feel like there are still mountains to climb and fun to be discovered.

Jared, high school has been a wild ride and it isn't close to being over, yet. Our late night car rides were the best. I'll always be here for you no matter what goes down because I know you'll be there for me. Any time any place, I'll be there.

Peter, through all of our silliness, inside jokes and rousing games of ping-pong, we have formed a wonderful friendship. Thank you for always being there for me when I needed a laugh or a hug. You are my brother in Christ.

I would like to thank all of my other family and friends for being the glue that holds me together. Thank you all so very much.

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Theresa Vacha

People

Thank you everyone on staff for the opportunity to help make the yearbook. I learned from the experience, and I appreciate all of your hard and dedication.

Thank you Tanika and Stephanie for all of your effort till the end. You guys put so much time into this book!

There are many "behind the scene" tasks needed to finish a yearbook that often go unnoticed and it really takes patience and commitment to do that work late into the night- so thank you.

In addition to that, both of you still put in the extra thought in order to make this yearbook unique; it paid off.

Thanks Mr. Deabler for helping with stories, and for your dedication to creating a finished yearbook at the end of the year that everyone is proud of.

All other staff members- way to stick it out (-cough- Jared), and giving it your time and effort. It's one of those things where you have to, as my Dad would say, "suspend your gratification" and know that in the end - you'll remember why you did this.

Anna- thank you for your support and humor. You have such a pleasant, funny personality; I'm glad you were there to help me throughout the year. Good luck in college, you'll do great in Chicago.

Pat- thanks for being in 030 to lighten the mood with your humor and open acceptance of everyone.

I think your new ideas really helped the book as a whole. (I was going to write this in Spanish, but I knew that neither one of us would understand it even though we probably should by now, huh)

Kristen- thanks you for all of your stories- both in the book and out- and for your enthusiasm on staff. You really helped make the book what it is.

I know your efforts will continue to help out the staff next year.

Mark- thanks for eating raisins every day, oh ya, and thanks for your time and effort on staff, too. No, really, I mean that; you put a lot of time and thought into your section. Also, you were good about helping everyone out who needed it each day.

Emma- thanks for your patience and devotion to the yearbook. You can tell you put your mental and physical energy exerted in order to achieve your purpose (I got tired of writing the word effort) into the yearbook. I know you'll continue to help out a lot on both staffs.

Chuck- good to have you second semester. You are so positive everyday, and I know your effort will continue to carry out in room 030 for the next couple of years.

So, good job on Connections everyone.



Chester Lovegren

Junior Staffer

First of all, I'd like to thank God for being my Saviour. He's helped me out so much and kept me safe and he deserves thanks above all.

Deabler, you are the KING! I seriously thought that I was going to die after the third day of Journalism, but luckily I made it through.

Mark, thanks for helping me with story ideas and teaching me about the cameras.

Emma, thanks for giving me the opportunity to take photos for yearbook stories. I look forward to working alongside you the next few years.

Kendall, thanks for being my best friend. I'll always remember talking to you online to the early morning hours. Pootie, thanks for helping me with uploading photos and showing me around the place.

My family, for supporting me and helping me with any problems I had. Thank you very much or driving me from place to place.

Tanika, it was great getting to work with you. You are a great editor in chief. I wish you the best of luck on your future goals, may you achieve them with great success.

Clay, thanks for showing me some cool things about photos. You are a great photographer and I wish we could've gotten to know each other sooner. The best of wishes on your future goals.

Molly, I wish I could've done some Register stuff sooner so that I could've worked for someone as awesome as you. I wish you the best of luck with your future goals.

Stephanie, thanks for allowing me to write some stories and helping me out with them. I think next year is going to be awesome.

Mrs. Allen, for being a very helpful English teacher and helping me achieve a higher work ethic than I could've ever imagined.

Ms. Ryan, thanks for giving me good advice on how not to fall asleep during my classes and telling me all about "The Ryan Method."

Philip Lomneth, thanks for helping me with all of the homework I needed help with. We've had some good times and I hope they only multiply in the years to come.

Breen, zero hour was by far the coolest hour of all. Thanks for helping me with the journalism homework. Those packets were hard, thanks for the help.

Mark O' Donnell, we've had some good times at lunch. Thanks for giving me the good advice that I always needed.

Sam, thanks for all the rides home you've given me. It was fun being the mascot bodyguard for you this year. Good luck in college and I hope you achieve your goals with great success.

Plaid, thanks for driving me home when I had to stay after school. Remember that time the big SUV almost hit you, that was a close call.

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Connections to the Past



Far Above. This is the Nebraska Territorial Capitol Building in 1857. It was torn down in 1870 because it was proven to be unsafe for it to be made a school.

Above. "Don't ask me why Margot never changes her dress!" This was an act put on by a French studying club in 1967. In their club, members studied the French language, history and culture. During this time the club really focused on the French culture. Members held their annual French Banquet in May.

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Connections to the Past



Far Above. J. Arthur Nelson was the principal in 1966. He was said to have been very supportive of the programs and activities going on during his term. He also served as principal at Monroe Middle School. A lot of students went there before coming to Central.

Above. Coach Knapple helped lead his team in a defeat against Lincoln in 1926. The team had to worry about who would be the next aspiring players, same as the present coaches. Although it didn't win the championship, it was said that Cheek and Lepicier were two of the most promising players throughout the season.

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Connections to the Past



Above. Joseph G. Masters was principal for over 11 years. He was deeply appreciated by his students. In 1924 sports editor, Eudora Jones wrote a poem to Masters to show how much the students appreciated him.

Far Above. G. E. Moller was the vice-principal in 1966. He had served with principal Nelson for three years. It was said he was a valuable addition to the faculty in 1966. In 1968, Moller became principal of Central and would serve until 1995.

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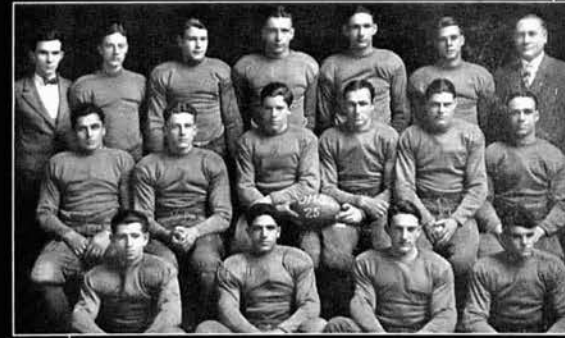


Far Above. Oscar Hallquist (left), George Blaetus and Mary Claire Johnson were members of the Interclass Debate and they were coached by Byron Dunham in 1926. These champs defeated the said-to-be-strong sophomore team and won the championship. It was seen as one of the strongest interclass teams in history.

Above. Helen McChesney (left), Mariam Wells, Frank Ackerman, Virginia Chamberlin and Billie N. Matthews were members of the Purple and White Handbook. They created a book for all students to refer to on basically how to survive high school.

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Far Above. The players of the 1926 football team won six out of the eight games played. The team consisted of many great players. Raymond Lepicier was one of the promising players and in 1925 it was said his all-around ability won him the all-state recognition. Manny Robertson was the halfback for three years and it was said he was a good field runner, passer and end skimmer.

Above. Marguerite Walmer, Muriel Gibson, Othelia Uhler, Eda Warren, Lillian Anderson, Frances Schwalenberg, Henrietta Sterns and Adaline Huller were all players of the 1920 basketball lineup. They held a basketball tournament against the other classes and won against the juniors and won the championship from the freshmen.

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Far Above. It's 1966 and here are only six members of the A Cappella Choir out of 87 total. They had just received a new director L.D. Schuler. That year it performed songs like "My Fair Lady" and "Bye Bye Birdie". It was said it had a busy successful year with performances for the Road Show and at the All City Musical.

Above. Richard Britnell (front row), James Runyon, James Truell and Michael Dunn, Ronald Stein (second row), Darrell Dennis, Leif Erickson and Robert Yage were members of the 1965 Hussars. Every year the Hussars served as guests for the king and queen of the Ak-Sar-Ben ball.

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Connections to the Past



Far Above. Jack Melcher (left), Cowdery, Robert Brown, Craddock and Herbert were members of the 1931 Cheerleaders. They were the ones to start the chants at the athletic events. Unlike the girl cheerleaders they didn't have to dance, but they played a big part in keeping up the school's spirit.

Above. 1967 was the second year of the Entrepreneurs Club. The club's goal was to teach students interested in national and local economics of general business dealings. Members wanted to make sure students knew of the planning and dangers involved with starting a business.



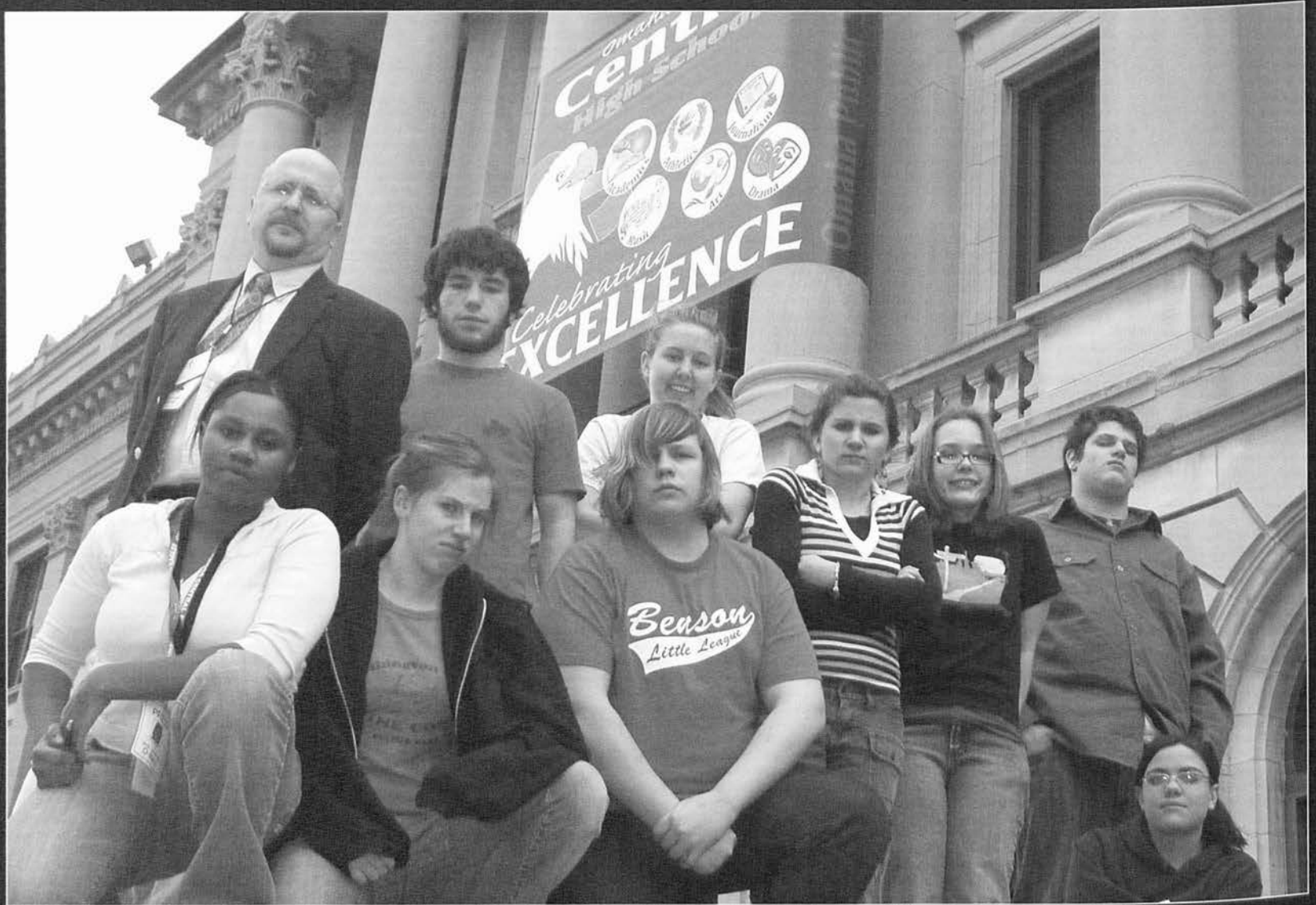
Above. JROTC member Andrew Shirley (10) (background) helps Kenneth Dupree (9) fold up the flag. The JROTC members put the flag up in the morning and took it down every day after school.
Photos by Clay Lomneth.

We have ended this year on many notes. Some good and others not so good. While many of our heroes were overseas fighting for what they believed in, many of our fellow students were signing up for the service. Instead of returning next year, some of us will be starting our career paths next fall. At the home front, we finally got down to two people per locker. And hopefully, we never have to see another portable as long as we're here. The games held in the new stadium and the new lobby stirred many emotions. New clubs and academics helped form permanent organizations. Earning an A or just to get through the class, were just a few motivations. The new friends we made created life-long relations. Many went through a lot of scrambling to make the money for their ads (foundations). Whether the year was good, bad or somewhere in between, we will all go down in history as being the first class to utilize the stadium and the lobby.

Kevin Gibbs (10) (at right) and Kenneth Dupree (9) salute the American flag and the flag of Nebraska. Saluting the flags before they pulled them down was a JROTC tradition.
Photos by Clay Lomneth.



O-Book 2006



Front Row. Tanika Cooper (12), Stephanie Wilhelm (11), Chester Lovegren (10) and Kristen Kendall (11). **Back Row.** Adviser Matthew Deabler, Mark Arehart (11), Theresa Vacha (11), Anna McMahon (12), Emma Phillips (10) and Patrick O'Malley (11). *Photo by Molly Mullen.*

We were a unique. Each staff member did it all. We didn't believe one person should be in charge of one thing. The best learning took place by simply jumping in and trying all areas of journalism.

We started off the year with 12 people on staff, but ended the year with nine. We may have started off slow, but we finished strong. Each staffer was connected throughout the school with their other classes. We had a very strong connection on staff.

When one staffer was having problems, we were always there to help. We'll always be connected to each other, the school and past yearbook staffs.

Adviser

Matthew Deabler

Editor in chief

Tanika Cooper

Executive editor

Stephanie Wilhelm

Staffers

Mark Arehart

Kristen Kendall

Chester Lovegren

Anna McMahon

Patrick O'Malley

Emma Phillips

Theresa Vacha

connected to past yearbook staffs



1964



1965



1932

1979



They were like us in many ways. The obvious connection was they were students like us. They were yearbook staffers. They knew how hard it was to create a yearbook. They understood the drive and dedication it took to put out the best publication possible. They were all very hard-working students, but yearbook staff members will always be a big cut above the rest because the good ones will have HEART.

2005-2006 colophon

O-Book Volume 109



This product was published by the student press for the students of Central High School. The *O-Book* staff can be reached at Omaha Central High School, 124 N. 20th Street, Omaha, NE 68102, (402) 557-3357 or by email at central.journalism@ops.org.

From the editor in chief

Stress, dedication, passion, Dew and HEART were all necessities for getting through this year.

We all started the year off fairly new, but at the end no one could even tell how little we knew in the beginning.

I can't even imagine going through this without my staff and especially Mr. Deabler. You were like a father to us all.

Remember all the yearbook sessions we went to. We couldn't wait to get started and do things our way.

One of my favorite times was when we talked about various topics that can't be mentioned.

The bats and the mice added a very special touch to the room. I'll never forget the late nights especially the couple times we had to run out of the building before they set the alarms.

The good, the bad and everything in between will never be forgotten. This is a great publication. We put a lot of time and dedication into this yearbook. I hope everyone enjoys it.

-Tanika Cooper

Adviser
Matthew Deabler
Editor in chief
Tanika Cooper
Executive editor
Stephanie Wilhelm
Staffers

Mark Arehart
Kristen Kendall
Chester Lovegren
Anna McMahan
Patrick O'Malley
Emma Phillips
Theresa Vacha

General Information

The *O-Book* was printed by Jostens Inc. 29625 Road 84 in Visalia, Cal. The 332 pages were submitted to Jostens on a CD and were printed on 100 pound Matte paper stock. To help support the 100 pound paper, we needed to use a special, reinforced binding. We had over 30 pages of color. The cover was custom made with Polaris 526 colored material. The cover had Cordova grain in select areas. Parts of the text on the cover were blind-embossed.

In addition to the regular sections of the *O-Book*, the staff added an 18-page specialty section about the new stadium and lobby. The focus was not only for the stadium and lobby, but it included many features on those involved in the building process. It showed how everything was connected. Interstate Studios was responsible for taking all the underclass and faculty mugs. Photographic Enterprises provided all the sport group shots.

The faculty and the students paid \$25 for this 332-page yearbook, which is arguably the lowest price for this size of book in the country. This publication could not have been completed without the help and dedication from adviser Matthew Deabler, thank you. We want to thank Mike Carl our Jostens representative and Marie Schiro our Jostens consultant for all their help.

Theme Development

Connections was the theme for this publication. We chose to use this in various ways. For the folio we used gray and sometimes white lines to show how the pages were connected.

We renamed the traditional sections to carry out the **tions** in the word connections. The words we used help explain how all the faculty, students and community were connected.

We decided on Connections for the theme because we wanted to show how the students and teachers were connected not only to each other and the present time, but they were also connected to the past as well. Connections lent itself to be carried out in all ways: words, photos, graphics, people and the non-physical things. We even changed the volume number to reflect the *O-Book's* connection with the first Central High yearbook, which wasn't even called *O-Book*.

Fonts

There were only three families of fonts used for this publication. The cover used AYTFastpardon and Frutiger. AYTFastpardon was used for the kicker. The deck font was Frutiger, 57 condensed. AYTLynn was used for the body copy. All the captions used different parts of the font Frutiger. All our fonts except Frutiger were provided by Jostens Inc.

Equipment and Programs

5 G5 Apple computers	2 Nikon Coolpix cameras	InDesign CS2
6 G4 Apple computers	1 Canon Rebel camera	Adobe Photoshop CS
3 G3 Apple computers	1 Minolta 35mm camera	Microsoft Word 2004
1 G4 Apple Server	1 Minolta camera	Adobe Illustrao 9
1 HP 4050N Laserwriter	2 compact refrigerators	Adobe Illustrator CS
1 Epson Stylus C62 printer	1 Tappan Spacesaving microwave	
1 HP Scanjet 3500c scanner	1 GE microwave	
1 Asanti hub switch	1 Haier oscillating fan	

