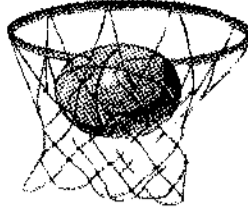


## State Champs

See the Varsity boy's basketball team's road to victory.

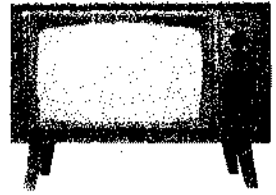
SPORTS, PAGE 3



## Media Influences

See both sides of the long-term debate over who truly is in control of our choices.

OPINION, PAGE 13



Thursday 4.8.10

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# REGISTER

## Central High School

4 TIME NEPA/IBA BEST-OF-SHOW WINNER A HIGH SCHOOL NEWSPAPER PRACTICING PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISM NATIONAL FACEMAKER AWARD WINNER

## Teachers visit IB programs to learn more about the IB process

BY ALEX TRAN

Central High took its next step in the long journey of becoming an International Baccalaureate (IB) school by touring Millard North's IB program last month, Feb. 8.

Central High department heads, with Assistant Principal Dr. Edward Bennett, Guidance Director, Cathy Andrus and Technical Administrator Kelley Means, visited Millard North. Stand-in teachers were chosen if department heads were unavailable.

Central High teacher Greg Sand said that Central administration had decided that it "needed a team of people to start laying the groundwork for IB." At the moment, there is no official IB team, but Central administration is tentatively planning for an official team by

the end of March.

"My hope is to be on the team of teachers," Sand said.

During the meantime, department heads are being asked to review the IB program because their better knowledge of the department as a whole.

When he visited Millard North, Sand noticed that the student body was "a different group." Central High had visited other IB programs earlier this year with more similar demographics as Central's - Lincoln High's and North Kansas City School District.

Despite differences between Central and Millard North, Central High teachers still toured Millard North in hopes of learning more about the IB process and IB program.

Central High faculty spent the afternoon

at Millard North. Millard North first presented a history of IB and then presented information regarding student participation.

Millard North students were enthusiastic when IB was first implemented. During its initial three years, Millard North's IB program had a high turnout and strong scores. During the next three years, however, scores dropped, most likely after lowered enthusiasm in light of IB's rigorous program.

After the presentation, Central High teachers shadowed several of Millard North's IB classes. Sand was able to shadow an IB math class and talk with two math teachers and the IB coordinator.

A large question that surfaces concerning IB is its effects on Advanced Placement enrollment.

Sand says there should be little animosity between IB and AP, and that each "meets needs of different kids."

IB courses attempt to show what the students know, unlike AP, which tests students on what they do not know. Sand believes that IB will require students to let go of grades and that the weight of the IB diploma will be looked more highly upon than grades.

"IB carries its own philosophy," Sand says.

Using math courses as an example, Sand says that while AP Math courses attempt to get students ready for college courses, IB Math is broader, deeper, and not as singularly focused.

Central High is now in the process of writing and submitting its letter of intent to apply for the IB program.

## Basketball team wins State Championship Title

The Boy's Basketball team defeats Lincoln High, Lincoln Southeast and Norfolk to capture the Class A State Championship.

BY ALEX TRAN

To top off its high school's 150th year of excellence, Central High's Varsity Boy's Basketball team won its fourth State Championship in five years.

"As a team, we stayed together," senior and team captain Sean McGary said.

After qualifying for the State Tournament, the Boy's Basketball team played and beat Lincoln High School, Lincoln Southeast High School and Norfolk High School to capture the State Championship title. The team's semi-finals round was by far the closest and the toughest.

The team breezed through its first round, winning 71 to 44. The second game was closer, with Central winning by a measly one point: 53-52. The Boy's Basketball team made the finals look easy, staying in the lead the entire second half and winning by 71 to 58.

Freshman and starter Akoy Agau commented, "I didn't think it was going to be that easy."

Earlier this season, the team lost to Lincoln High School 72 to 76 in overtime.

Senior Deverell Biggs said that the team's play during the finals was very different than the beginning of the season.

"We played better as a team," he said. "We actually came out hard in the beginning of the game."

When asked why the first match seemed relatively easy, McGary answered, "I think the first one was easier because we got a whole week to prepare for the first game."

McGary said the later matches were tougher because the team only had 24 hours to recuperate in between plays.

The second round was an entirely different story than the first. Central High struggled to stay ahead and drifted during

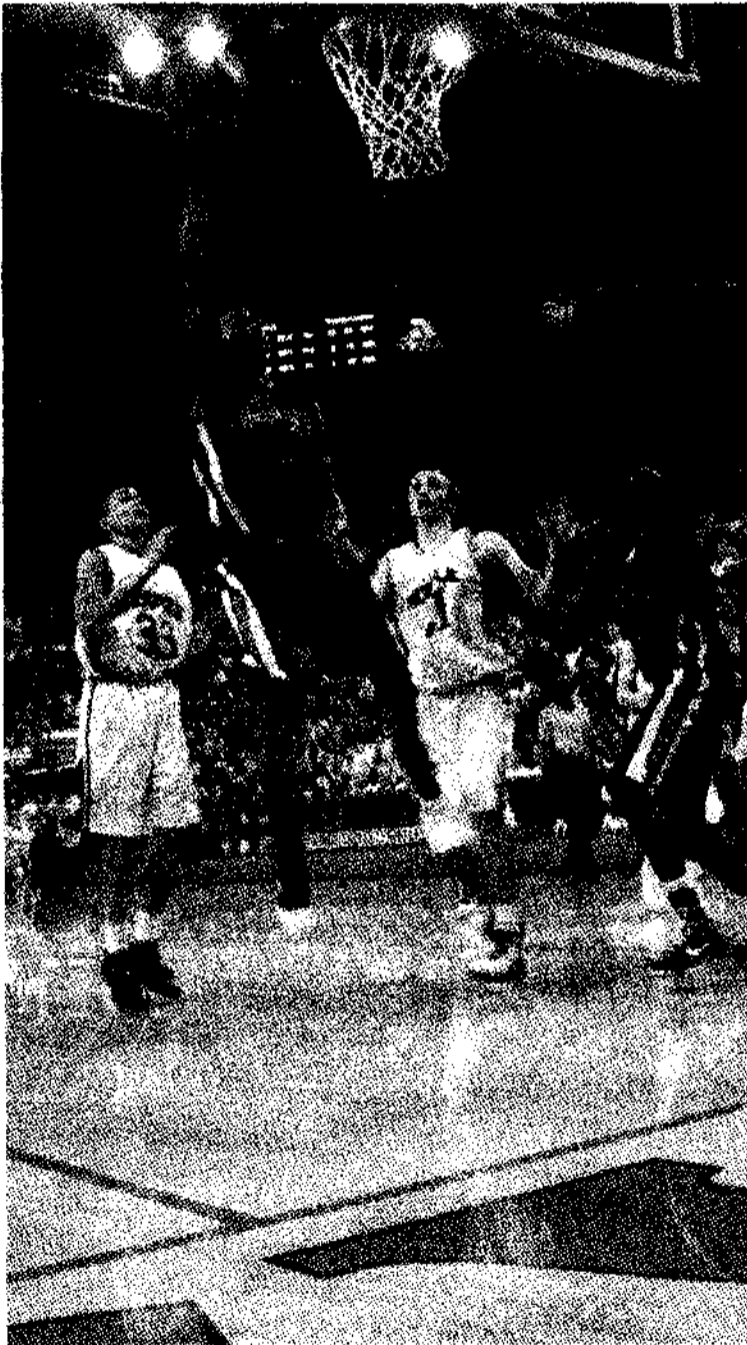


PHOTO BY CAITLIN SORICK/O-BOOK

The boys basketball team along with coaches celebrate their victory over Norfolk at the awards ceremony that followed the State Championship game. Central has taken the State Champion title in 1912, 1974, 1975, 2006, 2007 and 2008.

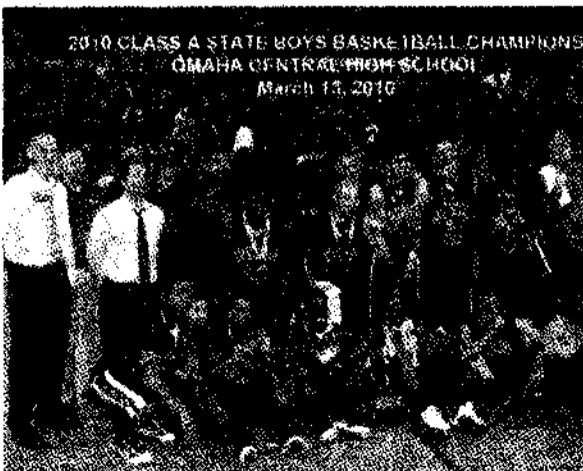


PHOTO COURTESY OF CENTRAL ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

## Math students advance to AIME after AMC

BY ALEX TRAN

Seniors Caleb Koch, Eric Jizba, and Wei Zhou and freshman Clark Ikezu qualified for the American Invitational Mathematics Examination (AIME) after receiving a 104, 99, 93 and 91.5, respectively, on the American Mathematics Contest (AMC) last month, Feb. 9.

Two tests, the AMC 10 for freshman and sophomores and the AMC 12 for juniors and seniors, were offered to Central High students and prospective Central High eighth graders. The AMC 10 is "easier," not requiring knowledge past advanced algebra and geometry. The AMC 12 asks questions requiring information up to Pre-Calculus. All qualifying Central students had taken the AMC 12.

The test is 25 questions and scored according to right, wrong and unanswered questions. Right questions earn six points, unanswered earn one and a half and wrong earn no points.

The Mathematical Association of America American Mathematics Competitions, based in Lincoln, Neb. and which administers the AMC, takes the top 5 percent who take the exam. This year, the cut off for the AMC was 120 points out of 150 points possible. When too few students qualified, the qualifying score was dropped to 118.5. The cut off for the AMC 12 was 100 points but was also

Qualifying Seniors:

Caleb Koch  
104

Eric Jizba  
99

Wei Zhou  
93

Clark Ikezu  
91.5

Qualifying Score:

AMC 12  
100  
Dropped to  
88.5

AMC 10  
120  
Dropped to  
118.5

Continued to 'Students advance on AMC on page 2

## Omaha breaks record with recent murders

BY DARIA SEATON

After several recent shootings in the Omaha area, the Omaha World Herald reported that Omaha has reached its peak with gun violence deaths and now ranks as the third highest in the nation for black homicides.

A concern for many is that blacks have accounted for nearly 40 percent of Nebraska's homicide victims over the past three years, but of that number 55.5 percent have been in Omaha, according to the paper.

Among the string of murders, one that hit close to home for Central students was the death of 15-year-old Everett Williams, a former Central student who was shot and killed Feb. 9 at a bus stop near Benson High School.

Many have spoken out against the murders and Omaha's City Council declared the week of March 21 Violence Prevention Week. The goal was to inform the community of the seriousness that is occurring and try to figure out ways to stop it.

One group working for the same cause is the Omaha Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. which will be hosting a Teen Violence forum at the TAC building on Tuesday, May 4 at 5 p.m. All students all welcome, but must register to attend online at [www.dstomahaalumnae.com](http://www.dstomahaalumnae.com).

Not only have activists been encouraging change, but family members of recent victims have begun speaking out as well like William's family and the family of 19-year-old Maurice Parker, another recent murder victim.

The families held a joint press conference speaking out against the epidemic. Through tears both families told people that what is going on in Omaha is not worth it.



Everett Williams

### TAKE A PEEK:

#### Registration

"Alice in Wonderland" amazes audience with a new twist  
Page 10

#### Sports

Senior Chris Reed signs with University of Minnesota at Mankato.  
Page 5

#### Insert

Central High celebrates 150 years in the making.  
Pages 17-20

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Vol. 123, No. 3, 16 pages



## College Corner

### Future Plans...

See what the future means for some of our seniors.

#### Sean McGary

**Intended College/University:** Kansas University

**Location:** Lawrence, Kansas

**Type:** Public four-year university

“It’s been a dream of mine to attend this college for a really long time. They have a good basketball team, also.”

**Application dates:** Deadline: April 1

#### Ashley Ziska

**Intended College/University:** University of Nebraska Omaha/UNO

**Location:** Omaha, Nebraska

**Type:** Public four-year university

“It’s a great college for business. They recently built a building strictly for business majors.”

**Application dates:** Deadline: August 1

## News in Brief

### Concert band performs at Benson High School

Concert band adjudications was held at Benson High Thursday, April 8. At the adjudication, members played their instruments in front of a panel of judges consisting of music educators from different schools.

Players talk to a judge face to face so to receive insight on their performances. After about a week or so, the students will receive a disc in the mail with the judge’s comments. Each year, the event is open to the public to come and watch.

### JROTC holds annual American Red Cross blood drive

Central High’s JROTC held a blood drive March 19 to stock up on the shortage supply of donations. In any situation someone needs blood, blood can only come from a volunteer donor since there is no such thing as synthetic blood.

### Academic Decathlon takes third at State

Central High’s Academic Decathlon team placed third at the State Competition.

# CALENDAR

## April

**09 Rock the Nest Dinner**  
Central will hold its annual fundraising event at the Jostyn Art Museum.

**10 Rock the Nest**  
Central will hold its annual festival complete with entertainment and music.

**16 School Play**  
Debut performance of the spring play “The Invalid.”

**22 NSAA District Music Competition**  
Music students will perform at the District Music Contest, the last competition of the year.

**24 International DECA Competition**  
Chosen students will represent Central at the annual DECA Competition in Louisville, KC.

## May

**03 No School**  
No school for OPS students.

**12 Last Day for Seniors**  
Seniors will attend their last day of classes.

**21 Last Day for Students**  
Students will attend their last day of classes before summer break.

**23 Central Graduation**  
Central will hold its 2010 Commencement at Civic Auditorium.

# Principal plans to retire after 33 years in district

BY DARIA SEATON

“I have been with the district for 33 years and I feel like I’m ready for a new venture in life.”

After 33 years in OPS and four years at Omaha Central, Principal Greg Emmel ends his principal career and is retiring this year. He started with the 2006-2007 freshman and will end with the senior class of 2009-2010.

Emmel received his education from Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. He started off as a core Language Arts (English) and Social Studies teacher at Monroe Middle School in 1977.

He remained there for 12 years before becoming assistant principal at Northwest High School. Some of the students remember him as principal of McMillan Magnet, a position he held for 10 years starting in 1999. He then made his final transfer to Central High School in 2006 and will now retire from OPS.

Emmel did not decide to be in education until he was a senior in college. Before that point he was undecided. One thing for sure, he liked History and English, therefore wanted to pursue a career which involved one of the two or possibly both.

Even though he was a teacher for quite some time, it takes a whole different responsibility to be a principal.

“As a teacher you worry about your students and trying your best to help them succeed and be successful,” said Emmel. “As a principal the focus is slightly shifted as your worries are beyond the classroom.”

As the principal Emmel’s responsibilities consist of 2,462 students, staff members, school maintenance, school athletics, and other school funds.

Despite his many responsibilities, Emmel enjoys his job especially working in the Omaha Public Schools district.

“I love OPS and the diversity,” said Emmel. “I love the family and students; OPS is a great school system.”

Although he loves what he does, he has worked his way up the education ladder and is now ready for a change, though the decision has not been easy. It is possible that after retirement he will work in education again.



PHOTO BY ALEX TRAN/REGISTER  
Principal Greg Emmel, who plans to retire after the 2009-2010 academic school year, and other 150th Anniversary committee members discuss commemorative activities.

Emmel said the decision was very challenging and “leaving was not easy.”

Emmel has created a bond with his whole staff; he said they have been nothing, but nice and supportive to him.

Emmel will remain at Central until the summer, but according to him there won’t be a “big fanfare.” Emmel said he is trying to make his departure from OPS as quiet as possible.

OPS, does, however, honor all retiring staff members with a retirement tea. Emmel is set to be among those who are retiring this year as well. He doesn’t plan to stop working after this. When he retires officially he will continue to work and spend more time with his family.

Central has been known for its great academic excellence over the years and no matter who the principal is, Emmel believes that Central will uphold the greatness they have attained over the years.

A new principal has not been announced, but Emmel is confident the board will make the right decision.

# Accredited classes offered to OPS students

BY DARIA SEATON

The University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) and the Omaha Public Schools have merged together to form the Health High School Alliance, which offers unique and inventive science classes to supplement juniors and seniors high school classes. Several Millard and Council Bluffs schools will be participating in the program with OPS.

In the beginning of the 2010-2011, school year students were given the privilege to choose classes which would not be available in a normal high school environment. The classes are accredited and will be taught by UNMC faculty, alongside certified high school teachers on the UNMC campus.

Students who are accepted into the program are given the opportunity to observe, shadow and work with renowned health care professionals and researchers at UNMC. Student may be eligible to dual enroll their UNMC classes through the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO).

Not all students are eligible to apply. To be a part of the Alliance, the student must be 16 years old at the beginning of the school year, have completed and received the grade of a B or higher in Algebra 1, Biology, and Chemistry. The student may also be currently enrolled in chemistry. Along with that, the student must turn in two letters of recommendation, one of which must be recommended by a math or science teacher. A complete essay of why the student is interested in the alliance and a health care career, parental consent and on the right track for graduation is also required.

Different classes will be offered for the different semesters of the Alliance. In the 2010-2011 fall semester, classes like Biomedical Research I, Medical Decision Making and Bioscience Innovation I will be offered. The classes are taught by an expert in the certain field, using the latest technology available.

Students must provide their own transportation if their schools do not provide it.

Although the deadline for the 2010-2011 school year has already passed, students can get more information about the program at [www.unmc.edu/alliance](http://www.unmc.edu/alliance) and apply for the following year.



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY OF NEBR. MED CENTER

# Students advance after AMC, face difficult test next round

Continued from ‘Math students’ on page 1

dropped, down to 88.5.

Greg Sand, the Enrichment Mathematics instructor, said that this test was a “much harder contest this year than in the past.”

Sand says that lately, the AMC has been extremely hard and the qualifying score lowered after students’ results are calculated. He accredits an easy 2005-2006 AMC test, when too many students qualified. That year, seven students from Central High advanced.

Last year, only Koch, Jizba and a graduated senior, Ben Susman, qualified for the test. Only 13 students from Nebraska advanced from the AMC to the AIME.

Sand says that the AMC is difficult because there is no short term way to get ready. He does prep work with his students so they don’t get shocked, but “it’s not like an AP test.”

“Kids who are that good at math will always get high scores,” Sand generalized.

Sand asked Clark, freshmen Ross Harding and Avery Clark and sophomore Adam LaCroix to take the AMC 12, although they qualify for the AMC 10 test, because it has a lower cut score and the topic is more within their present knowledge.

Students who were dissatisfied or unsure of their first performance had the opportunity to take the AMC 10 and 12 B test. Ikeu, Clark, Harding and LaCroix took the AMC 10 instead of the AMC 12.

Sand says that Zhou, who is a transfer student from China, is on par with Koch and Jizba in terms of math ability, but language is an obstacle. Zhou was a Probe qualifier at UNI’s Math Day, and Sand said that she felt she could do better if she wasn’t hindered by the language barrier and her translator.

Reflecting on his performance, Jizba commented, “It went well considering the difficulty of the test.”

Although the AMC had been much harder than several years ago, Jizba says that the AIME was “about the same compared to last year.”

Because of the test’s difficulty, Jizba answered three questions and guessed on the remaining.

“I think I got at least two out of the three right,” he said.

To advance to the next round, the USAMO, students have to accumulate 220 points on the AIME during rounds one and two. To make matters more difficult, students can only score a maximum amount of 150 points, forcing them to earn the remaining 70 points on round two, where each question is worth 10 points.

The highest scoring student in Nebraska is chosen to advance to the USAMO, regardless of score. In the past 10 years, only one student has legitimately qualified. Senior Alex Churchill from Lincoln East broke 220 points in 2007.



PHOTO BY ALEX TRAN/REGISTER  
Senior Eric Jizba qualified for the AIME the past two years, the next round after the AMC. He scores a 99 on the AMC 12.

1850 - Nebraska Territorial legislature authorized free grade school system. Omaha's 1st high school students attended in the old territorial state house.

1886 - The Register begins. It's the oldest, continuous student newspaper in the Midwest.



# TIMELINE

1872 - Building declared unusable, and was torn down. The new structure was built for \$225,000, and housed both elementary and high school students.

1912 - Current building, designed by John Latenser in a French Renaissance Revival style, was completed.

THURSDAY 4/8/10

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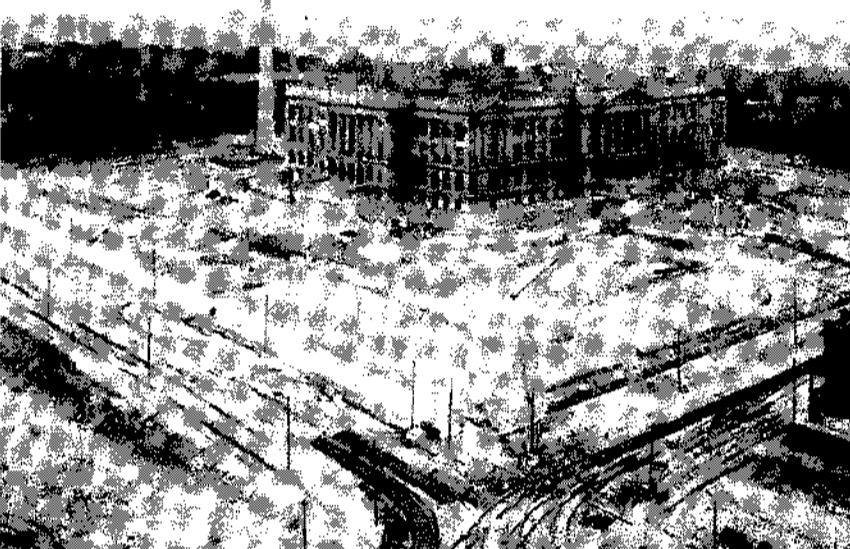
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# 150 YEARS

## CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

IF TIME SPANIA BEST-OF-SHOW WINNER HIGH SCHOOL NEWS PAPER PRACTICING PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISM NATIONAL ACEMAKER AWARD WINNER

# 150 Years



## Celebrating 150 Years

BY ALEX TRAN

Omaha Central High School is celebrating its 150th year academic excellence. Central High, originally Omaha High School, first opened its door in the fall of 1859 as a city renowned college preparatory high school. It continues that tradition today, offering a multitude of honors and advanced placement classes.

Central High first opened as an all grade school until the city donated the old capital building to be used as a high school. The building was torn down and rebuilt to the Central High building today.

Central High is the first high school established in Omaha.

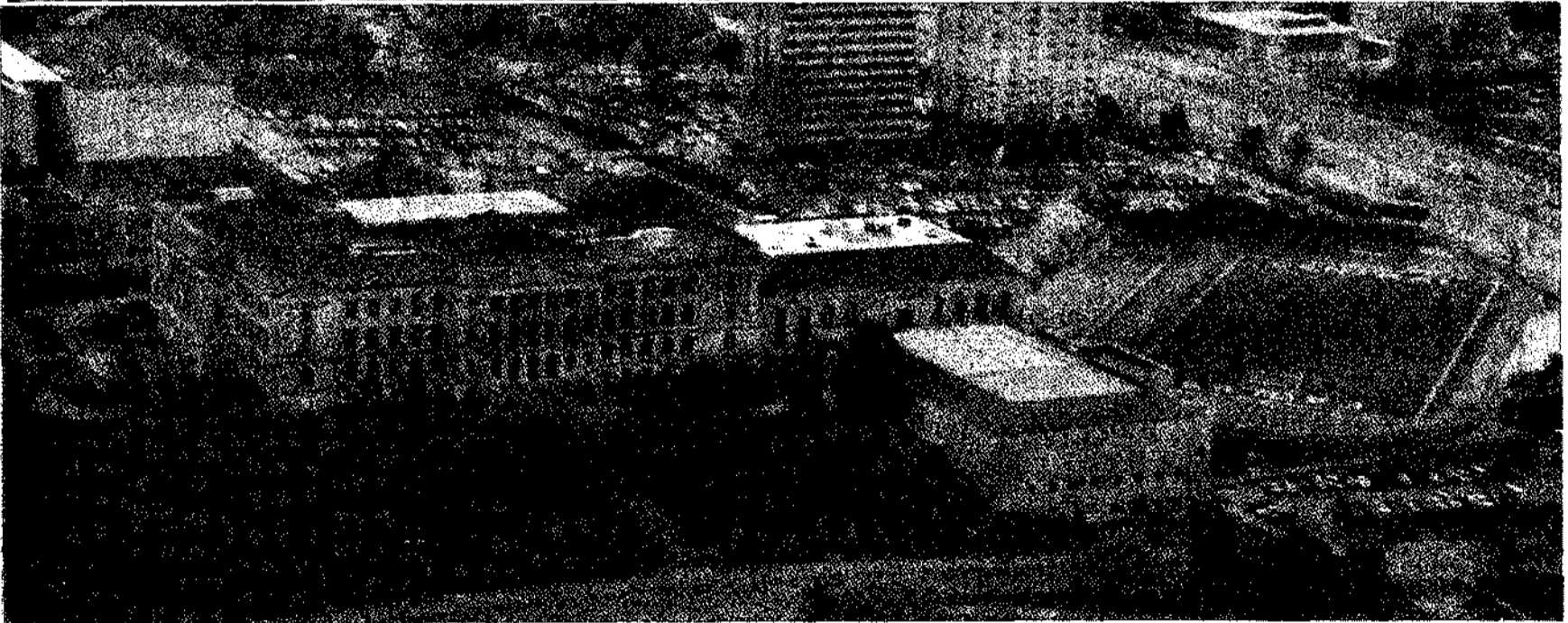
The school has undergone extensive

changes since the 1800's.

In the late 1890's, Central High was remodeled by having new walls built around the old. The building's old heating and ventilation system was later torn down and an open courtyard was installed. The courtyard since then has been covered and artificially lit.

A full-sized gym has also since been installed. Before then, basketball practices and games were held in the school's cafeteria. Seaman Stadium was also installed. It is Central High's first on-campus home football and track field.

Central High administration is actively celebrating its 150th year by hosting the third annual Rock the Nest, tours of Central High and other similar activities over the course of the year.



Central High School has changed significantly since it first opened in 1859. Top left, Central High undergoes grading and Dodge Street is near completion. Middle left, Central High is still undergoing remodeling. The east and south wings are complete, but the old school has yet to be torn down and the statue of Abraham Lincoln is still visible. Top right, the photo, taken in 1939, was named "Running for Classes," a tradition students performed to register for classes. Bottom, present day Central High school has been completely renovated and sports a new gym and football and track field.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TOM O'HARA

## Mayor proclaims official Central High School Day

BY ALEX TRAN

Major Jim Suttle officially proclaimed Saturday, April 10, 2010 "Central High School Day" to help celebrate its 150th year anniversary. April 10 is Central High's annual Rock the Nest event.

The Central High Foundation, in conjunction with Central High administration, has organized a full day of events for "Central High School Day."

Rock the Nest, the CHS Foundation's largest fundraising event, will begin Friday, April 9 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. It will include a performance by "The Grease Band" at the Joslyn Art Museum, a dinner and a silent auction.

The day events begins at noon Saturday, April 9 with a free open house tour of Central High. After the 30 minute tour, activities are available for visitors. In the courtyard, students are holding an art exhibit and figure drawing activity and the alumni association is selling CHS merchandise,

raffle tickets and serving snacks and condiments.

In the auditorium, instrumental music performances will be held from noon to 1:30 as well as a "Slam the Nest/Rock the Slam" poetry event. This year, sophomore Natalie Wilkinson won the State Poetry Slam.

At 4 p.m., the Acapella Reunion Concert, named A Century of Singing at Central, will be held in the CHS auditorium.

In room 129, Central High history teacher Scott Wilson will be giving a history presentation of Central High from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The CHS Foundation has been planning and fundraising for the past three years to hold this year's 150th anniversary celebration.

The fundraising campaign has raised over \$750,000, the Foundation's initial goal. The money will go to improving Central High and helping its students.

### INSIDE

- PEGGY GEORGESEN, CENTRAL ALUM AND FORMER TEACHER
- CENTRAL ALUM JOSH JONES RECOGNIZED FOR BASKETBALL
- ROY KATSKER RECOGNIZES TIME AT CENTRAL HIGH



**1923 - Central's own radio station KFCZ began broadcasting.**

**1945-1958 - Central is threatened with moves. School board, later city planning groups suggested razing or transforming the building into a museum. Volunteers opposed.**

**1915 - Legendary English teacher Sara Vore Taylor drafted the 1st version of the Style Book.**

**1926 - Central's team name became Eagles. Before they were the Purple or Hilltoppers.**

**2004 - Air conditioning completed**

**2007 - Central wins state in football, basketball and track took state the year before and after.**

## Former student and teacher continues living Central legacy

BY EMMA MINCER

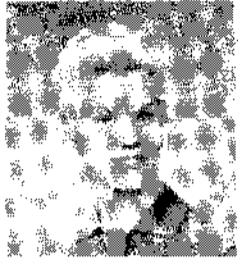


PHOTO COURTESY OF O-BOOK

Central alum and former drama teacher, Pegi Georgeson, still comes to Central to sub for teachers and proves the age old saying: once an Eagle, always a Central Eagle.

Georgeson, who graduated in 1961, began to teach at Central for the drama department in 1976 while, a year before, she worked with ESL for Vietnamese and Cambodian speakers.

"The students, the talent, and the staff," said Georgeson describing the great aspects of Central, "are some of the best things I remember when I was teaching drama."

Not only did Georgeson graduate from Central, but so did her father, her siblings and her two daughters. When she was younger, Georgeson described coming to Central around the age of five because her older brothers were involved with activities. "It was like a second home to me," Georgeson said recalling the times she spent in the long corridors of the building.

Many memories have accumulated over the years Georgeson was a student such as the placement of the sacred "C" and the role of Katisha in the musical "The Mikado". These were just "wonderful," she said. In high school, Georgeson did many extracurricular activities such as A Cappella Choir, opera, All City Music Clinic and cheerleading. Then, over the 25 years of teaching, Georgeson said the memories of the blessing to be around such talent and good people were amazing. "On stage to watch them blossom, was truly an experience," she said.

John Gibson, the current drama teacher at Central, said that Georgeson changed the way Central's plays and musicals were supposed to be. "She did current and up to date plays and musicals that were on the 'cutting edge' such as 'Pippin and Sweet Charity,'" said Gibson.

Georgeson said when she was working at Central, she was happy to be able to choose the musicals and plays she liked, and the enthusiasm and talent the students brought with them. Even now, she talks with former students who have made it in the entertainment business.

While subbing once at her former alma mater, Georgeson sang roll call to take attendance, junior Beverly Duff recalls fondly. Many students who have had Georgeson sub for their class enjoyed her personality and said she was not one to easily forget.

Georgeson is the perfect example that even if you do graduate, some part of you will always be with Central.

"She's always singing, always on stage," said Gibson with a smile.

## Alum Josh Jones makes Omaha World Herald All-Decade Team

BY ALEX TRAN

Central High alum Josh Jones was chosen as one of five players by the Omaha World-Herald for its All-Decade team, with Antoine Young and Josh Dotzler from Bellevue West, Matt Hill from Lincoln Southeast and Wes Wilkinson from Grand Island.

Jones was chosen because of his record - he was the school career scoring leader. He was also a two-time All-Nebraska player.

He now attends and plays basketball for Creighton University.



PHOTO COURTESY OF O-BOOK

In the fall of 2008, Jones was diagnosed with bacterial endocarditis, an infection in the lining or the valves of the heart. The infection can travel through the person's blood and affect the kidneys and the brain.

Although Jones had not been feeling well, he had attributed it to a small cold. But when he went to the doctor after not being able to play basketball, an MRI of his heart showed that bacteria had eaten away one heart valve.

Jones in Sept. 2008 underwent a five and a half hour surgery to correct a heart condition.

Jones came back in to win another state championship title, his third in high school.

Jones recently returned to Central High to give the Varsity Boy's Basketball team its State Championship award at the spring pep rally.

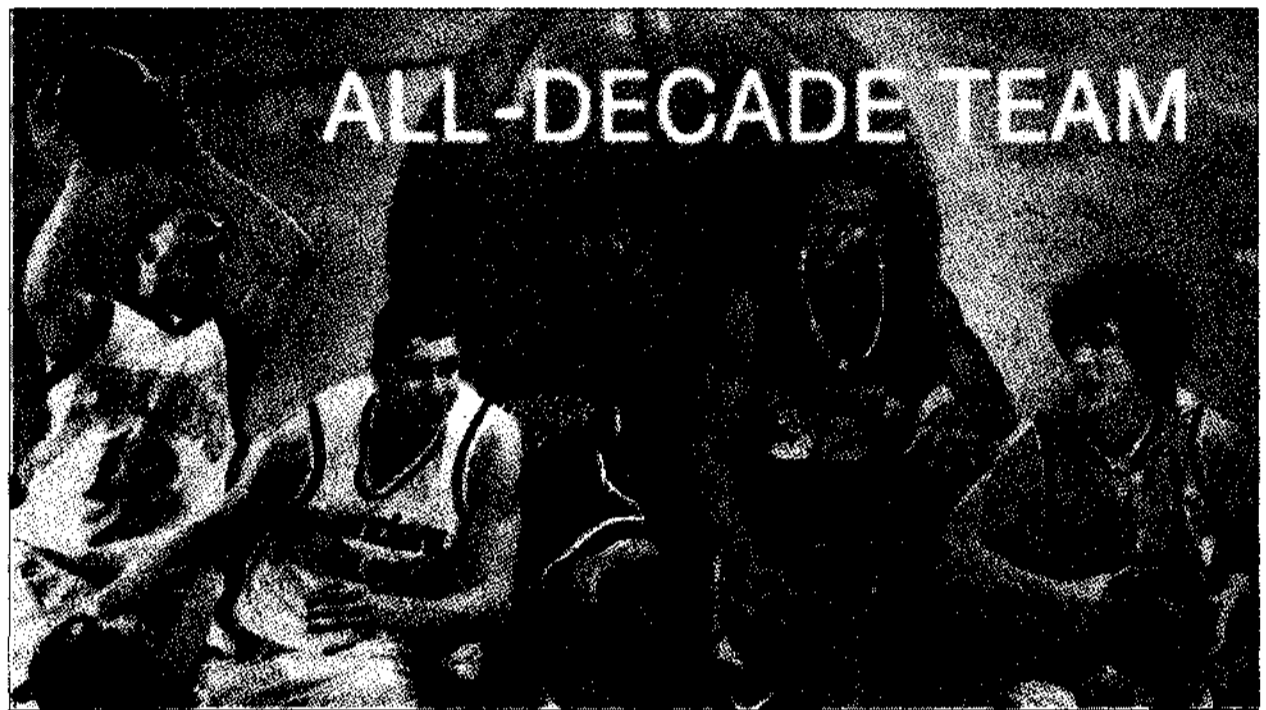


PHOTO COURTESY OF OMAHA WORLD HERALD

## Central's Hall of Fame Nobel Laureates

Alan Heeger -  
The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2000

BY ALEX TRAN

Lawrence R. Klein -  
The Nobel Memorial Prize in Economics 1980

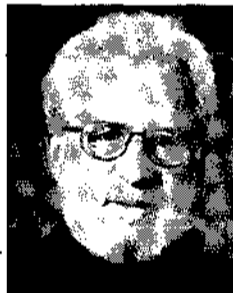
Central High alum Alan Heeger won the 2000 Nobel Prize in Chemistry jointly with two other scientists, Alan G. MacDiarmid and Hideki Shirakawa, "for the discovery and development of conductive polymers"

He is currently the Professor of Physics and Director of the Institute for Polymers and Organic Solids at the University of California at Santa Barbara.

It is commonly thought that plastics cannot conduct electricity. However, Heeger and his colleagues discovered that, with certain modifications, plastic can conduct electricity.

Heeger, MacDiarmid and Shirakawa made their first findings in the 1970's and have since then successfully developed conductive plastics.

Conductive plastics are now used today in film and monitors.



NOBELPRIZE.ORG

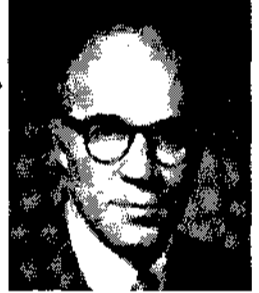
Central High alum Lawrence R. Klein won the 1980 Nobel Memorial Prize in Economics "for the creation of economic models and their application to the analysis of economic fluctuations and economic policies."

He is currently a professor at the University of Pennsylvania.

Klein has made breakthroughs in the field of economic science which deals with the construction and analysis of models of business fluctuations.

According to the Nobel Prize's press release, Klein wanted "to make an instrument for forecasting the development of business fluctuations and for studying the effects of economic-political measures."

Klein created his own model, "The Wharton Econometric Model," which predicts fluctuations in macroeconomics aspects, and its effects on "taxation, public expenditure, rising oil prices, etc."



NOBELPRIZE.ORG

## Alum reflects on changing alma mater

BY ALEX TRAN

Roy Katske, a 1960 Central High graduate, and former president of the Alumni Association still comes back during every academic school year to help Central High and the Alumni Association with its activities.

Katske continues to return because "we had a very good experience going to school."

He said he developed lifelong friends at Central, and it is fun for him to come back to the school that was a large part of his life. He likes Central's environment, he says, and enjoys seeing the students and helping out the staff.

Much has changed since the 60s, Katske says. The student body changed significantly, he feels, because Omaha is moving out west and mostly midtown and downtown students attend Central. When he was in high school, he said, there were only a few high schools available, like South and Benson High. Now, with high schools in almost every district, students tend to go to schools near them.

Katske also says Central High was strictly a college preparatory school. "Students had aspirations to go to college. [it was] the place to go," said Katske.

Katske also says Central High's physical look has changed radically. A street that had ran north and south between Joslyn and Central High has been demolished and replaced. The parking, which has always been terrible, is better now. The old smoke stack located on the southwest part of Central has been demolished. Central High now has a football and track field and a home basketball court.

Katske fondly remembered old basketball games in the cafeteria, which was small compared to the gym now.

"You had to get there at 4 p.m. to get a seat," he said. Central High's curriculum has changed, too. Now that classes put more emphasis on accelerated learning, Central High now offers higher classes.

Katske says that Central still required language, math and English in the 60s, but GPA was not as important then.

He feels that the academics now are better, stronger and more demanding, overall. The teachers at Central High are "very, very good," he says. Even in the 60s, Katske's teachers were very demanding, "extremely demanding."

"They would hold your feet to the fire," he said. "The worst feeling in the world was when I was not prepared the night before."

Katske participated avidly in sports, playing basketball for three years and varsity football



PHOTO COURTESY OF O-BOOK

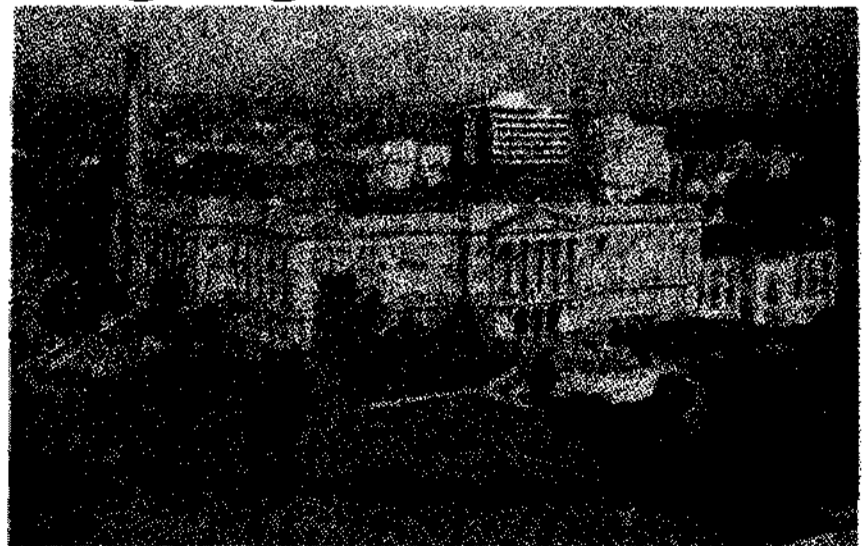


PHOTO COURTESY OF CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL  
Central used to harvest energy from coal and had a smoke stack in the southwest corner of the building.

and baseball.

Katske feels that Central High's athletic program is very strong. When he attended Central, it always ranked high in sports in the state. Central was the runner-up champion in baseball and a top 10 football team in the state. Central High won the State Football Championship the fall after Katske graduated.

Katske was schooled under Principal J. Arthur Nelson, who he said "was a strictly academic guy."

According to Katske, Nelson had little interest in athletics, drama or band. His main interests were getting seniors into the top colleges in the nation. He always pushed his teachers to push their students and during Katske's time; several students went to Harvard, Princeton and Yale Universities.

Katske thinks the Central has excellent students and a strong history of academics. "I think it's a perfect place at Central," Katske said.



# BRIEFLY

## Omaha World Herald to recognize students

The top two students of their class, who have an SAT score of 2080 or higher or an ACT of 32 or higher will be included in the Omaha World Herald's student recognition insert printed near Mother's Day.

Central High School had 18 students qualify.

## Latin Honor Society inducts Latin students

National Junior Classical League Honor Society inducted the following students: sophomores Yaniv Azeriel, Michaela Bigsby, Torrell Booker, Michael Carter, Bridget Clayborn, Emma Harwood, Grace Hendrick, Adam Lacroix, Paige Nussrallah, and Amanda Schneiderman; juniors Sara Dogmat, Kyleigh Dunn, Nyachang Johnson, and seniors Kandice Donner and Stephen Keeler, to join the prestigious Latin Honor Society. To qualify students must have three semesters with an "A".

## Music Department travels to Chicago

Central High's music department traveled to Chicago, Ill. over spring break from March 19-22.

The band and choir were adjudicated and critiqued while in Chicago.

While on the trip, the group also attended the Medieval Times Dinner and Tournament, a theater which offers dinner and Medieval style games, sword-fighting and jousts.

## Central High drama department hosts Imaginary Invalid

Central High's drama department is performing "The Imaginary Invalid," this year's annual play, on Friday and Saturday, April 16 and 17.

## Yearbooks on sale

The Central High yearbook staff is selling its annual O-Book, which documents the past academic year.

This year's O-Book marks Central High's 150th year open to students.

Yearbooks cost \$50 and can be purchased online at [yearbook.foxnews.com](http://yearbook.foxnews.com), after school near the "C" on April 12-13 and 15-16, or in room 029.

Yearbook prices will increase once books arrive in early May.

## Central students receive Eagle Scout Award

Several Central High students, including seniors Josh Dobse and Joe Daley, were awarded the Eagle Scout Award, the highest level in Boy Scouts.

The Boy Scouts of America is one of the nation's largest youth development organizations. The BSA provides a program for young people that builds character, trains them in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and develops personal fitness.

For approximately a century, the BSA has helped build future leaders by merging instructive activities and lifelong values that can also be fun.

According to the Boy Scouts of America, helping youth is a key to building a more reliable, responsible, and practical society.

# Science Olympiad places first at Districts, prepares for State

BY ALEX TRAN

Central High's Science Olympiad team placed first at the District Competition at Northwest High School late last year.

Science Olympiad is a national science competition which allows students from different high schools to compete against each other in a variety of science related topics. Key competitions throughout the year include Districts, Regionals, State and Nationals. The State Champions are allowed to advance to the National Competition.

Students earn points by competing in different events. The team encourages members to do different events to rack up as many points as possible. Medaling earns

more points.

Senior Catherine Haorei is team captain and senior Madeline Haug is vice-captain.

Regionals were held at the Henry Doorly Zoo, where Haorei competed in the Sumobot category.

The game's objective is to push the opponent's robot outside the six-by-six foot boundary.

The objective of Sumobots is to build a robot to compete against other players. The game's main objective is to push the opponent's robot outside of the six-by-six foot boundary.

For Regionals, Haorei built a Lego robot which Dewitt drove. Haorei's team placed third.

Freshman Brevan Jorgensen built a robot which Lau drove. Jorgensen and Lau placed second.

Haorei feels that she and Dewitt will do better at State than they did at

Regionals. Her robot was built to turn fast and accelerate quickly. However, violating Science Olympiad regulations, Regionals held the Sumobot competition on carpet, which hindered her robot's advantages.

Haorei was disappointed that Jeff Frederickson, the former Science Olympiad sponsor, left last year, but feels the team is still running smoothly.

"Mr. Albertine is really on top of it, and Mr. Aguilar comes to the meetings," she said. "He and Mr. Albertine and Mr. Frerichs are good."

The 2010 events include Anatomy and Physiology, Astronomy, Cell Biology, Chem Lab, Disease Detective, Dynamic Planet, Ecology, Egg-o-Naut, Elevated Bridge, environmental Chem, Experimental Design, Fossils, It's About Time, Mousetrap Vehicle, Ornithology, Physics Lab, Picture This, Remote Sensing, Trajectory, Write It Do It, Quiz Bowl, Protein Modeling and Sumobots.

## Teacher receives Education Award

BY MCKENZIE KERR

Bilingual Liaison Specialist Giovanna Zermeno was shocked and humbled when she learned that she had been awarded the Latino Heritage Award for Education.

The award is given to different Latino leaders throughout the area, honoring them for their work in the community.

The 5th Annual Latino Heritage Awards Banquet was held on Oct. 15, at the Harper Center at Creighton University.

The banquet was held to honor the winners of the Latino Heritage Award as well as a way to raise money for the Barrientos Scholarship Foundation.

The Barrientos Scholarship Foundation's goal is to raise money to help fund students' college tuition in the form of academic scholarships, but also honor those who inspire the students.

This year's banquet had over 250 guests that were there to honor community leaders, as well as give 13 students \$500 academic scholarships.

Not only flattered to have won the award, she was also surprised due to the fact that the award is generally given to teachers.

"Well, I actually feel very humbled (to be awarded) and thankful that my work was noticed," said Zermeno.

Zermeno has worked at Omaha Central High School for seven years. She was formerly a bilingual liaison, which she said she enjoyed very much.

This position required tutoring students, finding scholarships for them, encouraging them to keep up their good work, and pushing students to do their best overall.

As a bilingual liaison, Zermeno

also called home for teachers and administrators who do not speak Spanish. Whether reporting positive or negative news to the children's guardians, she was able to gain connections with students.

Through working closely with students, she said that she was able to build relationship and help out with many different students.

Soto, who worked alongside Zermeno since November 2006, said that a lot of college students recalled Zermeno as the reason they were able to get into college and pursue their dreams. The college students always went back to her for their reasons of success.

"Working with students was one of my favorite parts," said Zermeno when asked what her favorite thing was about being a bilingual liaison.

Though she now misses the relationships she was able to make, she is enjoying her new job as a Bilingual Liaison specialist, and still works to pursue relationships with her students.

Zermeno now works with other schools to make sure that their bilingual liaison programs are working well. She still is able to meet and talk with students like she used to do.

"I do this [bilingual liaison] because I like it, and to be recognized for my hard work is great," said Zermeno.

As she moves into her new position, she continues to try and motivate students to do their best, and encourage relationships.

Though she is flattered that her hard work was recognized, she knows that this means an even bigger job on her part.

"I know that I have a big responsibility, and it shows me just how much of an influence I have on students," said Zermeno.

## French teacher given STAR Award by National Language Association

BY EMMA MINCER



JEFFERY SILL

The Nebraska International Languages Association (NILA) presented the STAR Award to French and Spanish teacher

Jeffery Sill for his contribution to education and exceeding expectations above and beyond the classroom.

The STAR Award, stands for four areas: Study, Travel, Achievement and recognition, which Sill strived to excel by using efforts to learn outside the classroom and showing great leadership. NILA promotes the teaching of international languages to prepare students to become world citizens, and that is exactly what Sill has helped attribute to.

After accumulating 125 points for his application, Sill also had to write an essay describing why he thought he deserved the award. Accumulate the points, however, proved to be a Herculean task as Sill had numerous assignments and deadlines to meet, which can at times prove to be a bit of a challenge.

"That was the most difficult task," said Sill. "You really have to be on the ball to get all the things out and meet the deadlines."

To qualify, Sill had to do many of the assigned deadlines such as making sure some of his students participate in competitions, having them participate in the National French Exam, and attend the UNI Language Fair, which gave him points towards his goal.

However, Sill is not new to this award. This is the sixth year he has won the award. Still, he says that he enjoys participating for the STAR.

"I always feel good that I am doing the best I can do in order to reach language to students," said Sill.

Even after 38 of years teaching, Sill says that teaching is a job he enjoys.

"I wouldn't still be doing it if I didn't," Sill said laughing.

## United States conducts decennial Census

BY EMMA MINCER

The United States held its 23rd national census, known as Census 2010, this year.

A census is a count of all the people in the country and to decide on how to better fund different areas in a city based on population.

Forms began to be delivered March 15, 2010 with an insert in bold reading: "Please complete and mail back the enclosed census form today."

The government used April 1 as the reference date as to where the person was living.

Then in May, census takers will begin to collect census information from non-responding households through the door-to-door operation called "Nonresponse Follow-Up."

Many community services agencies and organizations, including OPS, are participating in the "March to the Mailbox" campaign to encourage the community to return their forms.

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# Student receives award

BY MEKENZIE KERR

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, which is a nationwide program that recognizes young people for superior acts of volunteerism, just recently chose America's 102 most outstanding volunteering youth.

Jordan Somer, 16-year-old junior, was among the two exemplary teen volunteers chosen in Neb. to receive this honor.

Somer said she was shocked to have found that only two teenagers were chosen from each state, making the award an even bigger deal.

She is already Miss Douglas County Outstanding Teen, and plans on adding the Prudential Spirit of Community Award to her resume for an upcoming pageant in June.

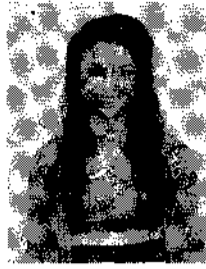
As a winner, Somer, along with the other 101 winners, will receive a \$1,000 prize, trip to Washington DC, and an engraved silver medallion.

She already has plans for the money, its direct destination is straight into Somer's college fund.

The Prudential Spirit of Community Award is for teens who have donated to the community, and those who qualified needed 50 hours of service for ages 14 and younger, and 100 hours for those above 14. Those who won the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, also won the President's Volunteer Service Award.

Somer applied online by writing an essay on her project that she has poured out a lot of time into, which is the Miss Amazing Pageant.

"I feel extremely honored to receive the Prudential award," said



Jordan Somer

**Q** How does winning this type of award make you feel?

**A** The biggest reward from Miss Amazing is making a difference in the lives of the girls.

Somer. "The biggest reward from Miss Amazing is making a difference in the lives of the girls, but it's always great to have these kinds of award to recognize the work put into it."

Somer is the one who has planned, coordinated, and run the Miss Amazing Pageant. She has been doing this since her idea to benefit and boost self-confidence in girls and young women with mental and physical disabilities became real in 2007. She is already planning the fourth annual pageant that will be held in November 2010.

She will take a break from planning to go on the trip to Washington, D.C. from May 1 to the 4. Somer plans on going straight from prom to hop a plane to D.C.

The national recognition event will include a gala award ceremony, which will be held at the Smithsonian's National Museum, of Natural History along with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, tours of the capital's well-known monuments and other landmarks, Congressional visits on Capitol Hill, a fancy dinner cruise on the Potomac river, and many other experiences for the State Honorees to engulf in.

Not only do the honorees get the privilege to visit so many new and historic places, they also get to hear from distinguished public figures. The past speakers have included Jimmy Carter, Magic Johnson, Whoopi Goldberg, Colin Powell, Peyton Manning, Laura Bush, and many other well-known people.

Somer said that she is looking forward to meeting all of the other honorees from across the nation.

"I'm sure that every one of them has done something fantastic and unique to deserve the award," said Somer.

Somer is anticipating her trip, and is also very honored to be receiving this award.

"Overall, I expect the trip to be very inspirational," says Somer.

## National Merit Semifinalists advance to Finalist standing

BY LEMMA MINCER

The National Merit Semifinalists, seniors Rosemary Brusnahan, Emily Epperson, Eric Jizba, Catherine Larsen, Carmen Lau, Theresa Lomneth, Taylor Olson and Alexandria Tran, have made it to the level of National Merit Finalists.

Earlier in the year, these eight students were semifinalists out of 15,000 other semifinalists. They then have advanced to the finals due to meeting academic and other requirements.

"I'm excited to be a finalist. The scholarships I will receive because of it will really help pay for college," said enthusiastic senior Eric Jizba.

To reach the final level, Jizba said that he had to not only score well on the PSAT, but when he was a semifinalist he had to fill out an application with an essay, course work, a recommendation and had to take the SAT.

In March, around 1,500 of the finalists will become Special Scholarship recipients and somewhere around 8,200 will become one of three Merit Scholarship Winners; National Merit \$2,500 Scholarships, Corporate-sponsored scholarships, or College-sponsored scholarships.

"I have applied to three colleges. My top choice is Northwestern University," said Jizba.

## Chess club places close second at State Tournament

BY ALEX TRAN

Central High's Chess Team lost by a slim margin to Gross High School at the State Chess Tournament to win second place.

"I did okay, but I could've done better," junior Isaac Thomas said. "We had a lot to live up to."

The Chess Team had won five consecutive State Championship titles before placing second in 2008. The team recaptured the championship title in 2009.

The Chess Team is ranked according to skill level from Board 1 to Board 8. The 2009-10 Chess Team members were, in order, seniors Caleb Koch, Thomas, Tim Gulizia, Krissada "Matthew" Tanpaotoonditi, senior Josh Dewitt, Mitch Hezel and Edna D'Souza. The Chess Team did not list an eighth player.

At the State competition, the highest scoring board players' points were counted.

Players earn one point for a win, one-half point for a draw and zero points for a loss.

The points players win go towards their high school's composite score.

The State competition consisted of five rounds, including the finals. Each round allowed 40 minutes on each clock for a maximum of 80 minutes, except for the final round, which allowed 60 minutes on each clock for a maximum of 120 minutes.

Koch, Thomas, Dewitt, Gulizia and Hezel all won three matches and lost two.

The highest score for individual players was three points.

This year's defeat was especially bitter for Thomas.

"I'm disappointed in my performance," he said. "We were winning up until the last round, but then we all lost our last round matches."

He feels he played better last year and under-performed this year.

If he had to change something about the State competition, he said, "I would've focused more."

"We had a lot to live up to."

Isaac Thomas, junior



PHOTO COURTESY OF CENTRAL HIGH'S CHESS TEAM  
From left to right, senior Caleb Koch, junior Isaac Thomas, Mitch Hezel and senior Matthew Tanpaotoonditi pose before the chess meet.

## Science Bowl wins third place

BY CHELSEA THOMAS

Omaha Central High School's science bowl team placed runner up in the 16th annual Nebraska High School Science Bowl, held over the weekend at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln student union. The Science Bowl team members are Josh DeWitt, Caleb Koch, Qianli Wang, Eric Jizba, and Alexandria Tran.

About 40 teams from across the state participated in the competition that tests students' knowledge of math and science.

The Science Bowl is a nationwide academic competition that tests students' knowledge in all areas of science. High school and middle school students are quizzed in a fast paced question-and-answer format similar to game shows like Jeopardy.

Competing teams from assorted backgrounds are made of four students, one alternate, and a teacher who serves as a mentor and coach.

The National Finals for middle school

students have a featured event called the Hydrogen Fuel Cell Model Car Challenge. This invites students to design, build, and race model cars.

This competition stimulates the creative engineering skills of many of the brightest math and science students in the nation as they gain hands-on experience in the automotive design process and with hydrogen fuel cell technology.

DOE launched its National Science Bowl competition in 1991 to encourage high school students to excel in science and math and to pursue careers in those fields.

The National Science Bowl's high school competition now involves more than 13,000 students. DOE introduced the National Science Bowl's competition for middle school students in 2002. It now involves more than 5,000 students.

The National Science Bowl is the only science competition in the United States sponsored by a federal agency.

## Senior Dance admits seniors as famous reality stars to party

BY LEMMA MINCER

Wendy Williams, Paris Hilton, John and Kate Plus Eight and even Kim Kardashian attended the Senior Dance held on Jan. 29. However, these famous stars were actually seniors who dressed up for the dance planned by the senior class officers and representatives and held in Central's courtyard.

The officers designated the dance theme as Reality TV Stars, and all the attendees dressed up as a star from their favorite reality television show.

To spiff up the courtyard in preparation for the dance, the decorating committee had a purple and silver theme with candy and confetti on covered tables and balloons.

Besides homecoming and prom, there is no other Student Council sponsored dancing event, especially one only for seniors.

"The dance was just another reason to have a senior event," said senior Brianna Foster, "and get the seniors involved in something that would be fun."

To keep the party going, the officers hired Hot Boy from the radio station, Power 106.9, to play a mix of rap, R&B and pop. The music selection was a hit with the dancers.

"They had great music," said attendee Porsha Hall. "The DJ was really good."

Many people bought tickets but Foster said, "I don't think that as many people who bought tickets actually showed up, but I know that it wasn't packed, but it wasn't empty."

"Still, she said that it looked like people had fun and enjoyed themselves.

Class president Sierra Hogan stated that even though it is a tradition to have a senior dance, the hardest aspect was trying to get seniors to attend.

"Most seniors tend to think these kinds of things are boring so they decide not to go," said Hogan.

To advertise and appeal to the crowd better, the officers and representatives decided to give prizes for best costume and crowns for the king and queen.

Hogan also said that these promises and kind of advertising seemed to work well in getting students to join in on the dancing.

"It sounded like a lot of fun and my friends were going as well," said Hall. "They also promoted the dance well."

The weather the night of the dance only lessened incentives even more. Cold temperatures and blizzards lessened some students' incentives.

"They had great music. The DJ was really good."

Porsha Hall; senior

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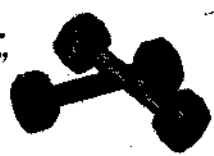
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PHOTO COURTESY OF BRIANNA FOSTER  
Students (from left to right) Alisha Knox, Brianna Foster, Jaquiah Bell, Kia Oliver, and Ciara Richmond enjoy the evening at the senior dance where their favorite reality star's came to party alongside them.



# sports

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11 TIME NSPA/TEA BEST-OF-SHOW WINNER A HIGH SCHOOL NEWSPAPER PRACTICING PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISM NATIONAL PACEMAKER AWARD WINNER

## Senior athlete signs with Minnesota State at Mankato

BY INDYA WALDEN

Central's tradition of revealing some of Nebraska's greatest athletes had no exception this year. Chris Reed was the only senior to publically sign with a college or university this year.

Reed has chosen to attend and play for Minnesota State at Mankato, Minn. He received his full ride scholarship for football, but he will be participating in track and field events as well.

On the gridiron, Reed plays both offensive and defensive tackle. He currently competes in both the shot-put and discus throw. Reed plans on continuing these events in college as well as participating in both the weight throw and hammer throw.

Before choosing Minnesota State, Reed was also considering Doane College as well as UNL (University of Nebraska-Lincoln). Doane offered to pay 80 percent of

his tuition, while UNL offered him a walk-on. This meant that Reed would be allowed admission to the University, but would have to try out to play football and would have a possibility of receiving a scholarship for that school year. Needless to say Reed took the full ride in Minnesota.

"The first time I went there it had the right feeling," said the senior. "I liked the dorms, the field and the programs they have. Also,

I would never have to go outside during the winter."

Another incentive that the school has is that when an athlete receives an award or honor such All-American, the athlete gets his or her photo put one a vending machine on campus.

While thinking about his first year of college Reed said, "I'm gonna need help grade wise, but with sports, I think I'll do well."

But no matter how ready he

feels he knows "there's always a lot more expected of you in college."

Although it can be a little daunting thinking about making the transition from high school to college, Reed is more than ready.

"I can't wait for football and track," said Reed. "I'm excited to be there and see where I'm at. The coaches are really nice too."

It seems like Reed is quite prepared for both his academic and athletic career next year.

### Central High School Basketball

#### Boy's B-Ball Season Results

- Omaha Burke (OPS Tournament) 64-66 loss
- Omaha South (OPS Tournament) 76-71 win
- Omaha North (OPS Tournament) 75-38 win
- Papillion-La Vista South Lincoln 67-45 win
- 72-76 loss (OT)
- Millard West 57-40 win
- Millard West 58-34 win
- Omaha Bryan 57-50 win
- Creighton Prep 65-60 win
- Omaha Benson 79-70 win
- Lincoln North Star 61-50 win
- Bellevue East 51-46 win
- Omaha Skutt 79-54 win
- Bellevue West 61-52 win
- Millard North 51-49 loss
- Omaha North 62-53 win
- Omaha Bryan 62-60 win
- Omaha Benson 80-64 win
- Creighton Prep 77-65 loss
- Omaha Westside 52-50 win
- Omaha Northwest 79-54 win
- Omaha South 59-57 win
- Columbus 55-26 win
- Kearney 62-42 win
- Lincoln 71-44 win
- Lincoln Southeast 53-52 win
- Norfolk 71-58 win

## Central's Boys Basketball team wins State Championship



Junior Domanique McKinzie makes a hard cut to the basket as the team warms up for State Championship games. Central won state overall beating the Norfolk Panthers with a score of 71-58.

PHOTO BY CAITLIN SORICK/O-BOOK

#### Continued from 'State Championship' on page 1

the last quarter. With only ten seconds left on the clock, the team was behind by one point but managed to make a layup with only nine seconds left.

Reflecting back, Agau said, "Deverell kept us in that game."

Senior Jake Fuhs said, "Without him [Deverell], we would've been killed. He scored 16 points in a row."

The third game began close, but Central High eventually pulled ahead and confidently held the title towards the end of the last quarter.

"I just think we played good defense," McGary said. "I think we were so relaxed that, that, I mean, we even knew it was a championship game but we went into it as if no pressure at all."

Norfolk had an outside game, constantly shooting three pointers given any chance.

Norfolk had a similar game as Creighton Prep. They never missed "behind the arc" Biggs said.

"Every time you gave them [Creighton Prep] a little bit of space, they just threw it up there," said Biggs.

Despite Norfolk's precision and accuracy, Central's players' superior defense eventually wore their opponents down, forcing their opponents to shoot father away from the net. Norfolk had few layups in the fourth quarter.

"They couldn't get a shot in the paint because of Akoy," Biggs said.

The Boy's Basketball team also faced some gamesmanship in the third round. Central players were elbowed by their opponents which, according to some players on the team, was unnecessary and more than simply defense.

"It was just some dirty play going on," McGary said.

The team made some personal victories over the season. Agau said

that during the beginning of the season, the team's chemistry wasn't up to par.

"We knew we had to have good chemistry to win the championship," he said.

Agau said the team worked together greatly during the season to improve its chemistry.

Biggs said that the team worked a lot on maturity.

"Since we were a young team, we were busy trying to have too much fun," he said. "At certain times, when we needed to be serious, we played around."

Despite these small problems, McGary said accurately, "As a team, we stayed together."

While the team is losing several key seniors this year, McGary believes that the team will still have a solid start up line.

McGary said confidently, "They'll be able to come in and produce" because they're really talented."

#### Boy's Varsity B-Ball coach voices opinions

BY INDYA WALDEN

"It went really well," said Varsity Coach Eric Behrens while thinking back over the season. "The guys played well and they were very dedicated in bettering themselves during the off season."

After a year of upset, Central's Varsity Boys Basketball team once again took their place as state champions.

Since last year's upset the team had been putting their all into this year's championship, and on Saturday, March 13, the eagles did exactly that.

"I think last year's loss motivated us," said Behrens. "Last year was disappointing and I think that's what drove the players to keep up their work during the off season."

Although there were times when the game got really close, Central took the win with a final score of 71-58. They beat out the Norfolk Panthers, the number top rated team in the state of Nebraska. Even with a few missed shots and turnovers Coach Behrens was able to lead the team to victory.

"The panthers are very good," said Behrens. "At any given night they could have been the champs. They have good players and good coaches."

Even with this being so, it is quite plausible that Behrens, the team and all of Central are extremely proud of their 2010 state champions and hope that their reign will continue.

After a year of upset the eagles have brought the trophy back to the nest where it will hopefully stay for years to come.

"He has a good coaching style," said freshman Akoy Agau. "He stays involved with us outside of basketball as well as on the court."

Coach Behrens has completed a successful season. With the continued hard work and efforts these boys put into the game, it is safe to say that the eagles will soar high again next season.

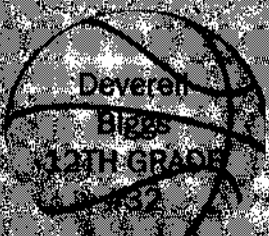
## Varsity Starters

### BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL BALL OVERALL POINTS

Coaches: Eric Behrens

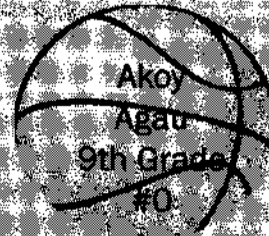
ASSISTANT COACHES: Jay Landstrom, Ben Holling

Guard



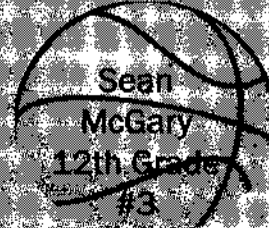
569 Points Scored

Power Forward



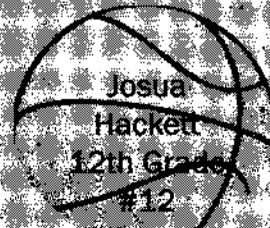
183 Points Scored

Shooting Guard



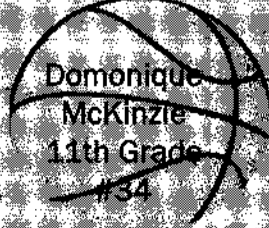
324 Points Scored

Small Forward



219 Points Scored

Center



205 Points Scored



# Wrestling team finishes strong at Class A State Tournament

Although the wrestling team did not manage to take the State Championship title, several key wrestlers finished first and second at the State Wrestling Championships in their respective weight divisions.

## Wrestling Information and Statistics

**Coaches:** Jimmie Foster, Johnny Galloway

### Team Roster

Weight Division	Name
103	Keygan Foster
112	Ronald Wells
119	Tyrone Wesley
125	JJ Baratta
130	Tyrell Galloway
135	Mike Gregerson
140	Skylar Galloway
145	Fonte Hamilton
152	Cristian Ruiz
160	RJ Jones
189	Jermame Kelly

### End of Year Category Leaders

- Most Falls:** Keygan Foster (23)
- Team Points in a Season:** Keygan Foster (214)
- Most Wins Season:** Keygan Foster (33)
- Most Takedowns:** Skylar Galloway (174)
- Bronze Medal Winners (15 or more wins):** JJ Baratta (17)
- Silver Medal Winners (20 or more wins):** Ronald Wells (23)
- Gold Medal Winners (25 or more wins):** Tyrell Galloway (26), Skylar Galloway (29)
- Platinum Medal Winners (30 or more wins):** Keygan Foster (33)

## Wrestling team finishes in top 10

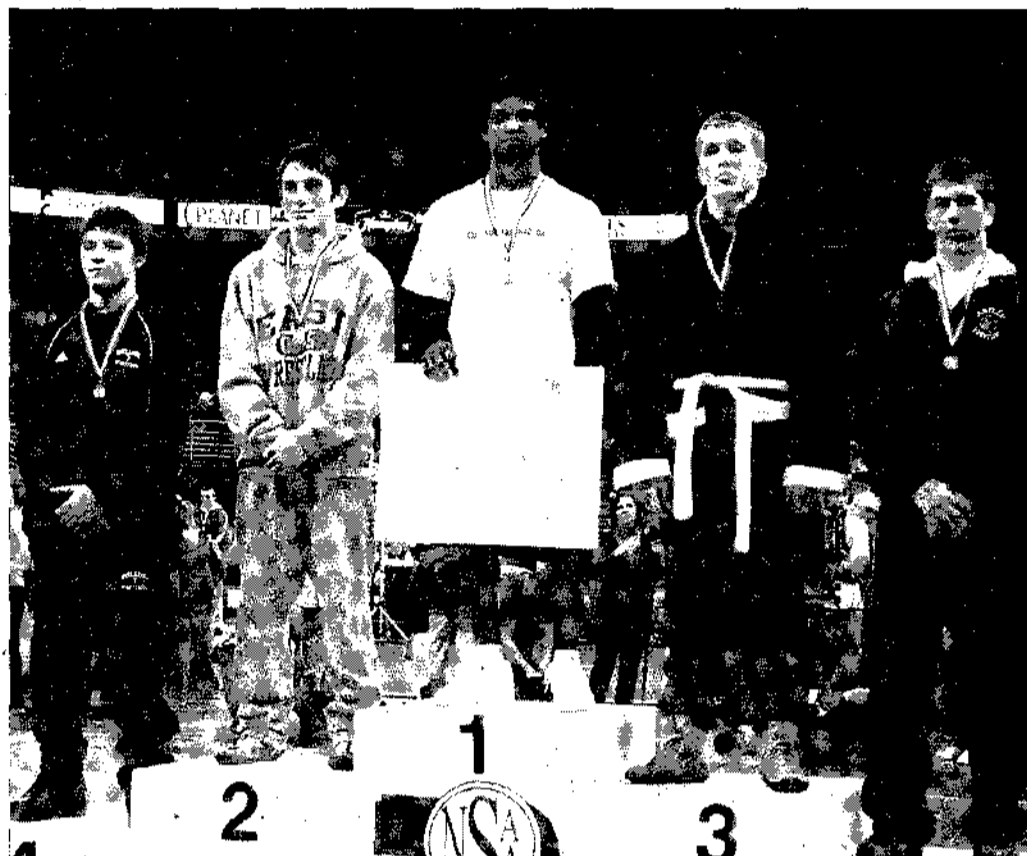


PHOTO COURTESY OF CENTRAL'S WRESTLING TEAM

Senior Skylar Galloway receives his championship medal and stands for the first time on the State Wrestling champion podium.

BY ALEX TRAN

Central High's wrestling team finished strong at the State tournament with one State championship and two State champion runner-ups. Senior Skylar Galloway won the State championship in the 140 pound weight class and junior Tyrell Galloway and sophomore Keygan Foster were State champion runner-ups in the 130 and 103 pound weight class, respectively.

The wrestling team finished eighth overall. "I wish I would've gotten first," Foster said, "but it was a good experience." Earlier in the season, Skylar, Tyrell and Foster were District Champions in their respective weight divisions. Tyrell and senior Ronald Wells, in the 112 pound weight class, won first at the Metro Competition and JJ Baratta was runner-up in the 125 pound weight class.

The wrestling team has made improvements from last season. "I've definitely gotten a lot better since last year," said Foster. Foster attributes his success this season to more practice, harder training, better focus and extra work outs. He hopes to win state his next two years in high school. Foster tied Central's career pin record with 33 pins and strives to beat the season pin record, 25. Foster was two pins away from tying the season pin record, 23.

## Senior wrestles his way to his first State Championship

BY ALEX TRAN

Senior Skylar Galloway wrestled his way to the State Championship title by beating Kearney, Millard South and Lincoln East High Schools in his 140 pound weight class. Galloway was seeded first with a record of 29 wins to three losses during the season. He lost to wrestlers from Skutt, Bennington and Lewis Central High Schools, which all belong to Class B wrestling. Galloway wrestled in a 16 round bracket at State. When asked if his first round was easy, Galloway answered humbly, "Yea, kind of." Galloway pinned his first opponent from Kearney High, automatically ended the match.

In his following rounds, Galloway did not pin his opponents but scored more points during the match. Wrestlers earn points by a take down (two points), an escape (one point), a reversal (two points), a near fall (two or three points) or penalty points (one or two points). He won the quarterfinals and semi-finals against Elkhorn and Millard South High Schools decisively with 16 to eight points and 12 to six points, respectively. His championship round was more evenly matched. Galloway won his first State Championship by defeating Lincoln East's wrestler with three to two points. Although the score was closest in his finals, Galloway says the mind block of never

making it past the semi's was most difficult part of his championship journey. "My toughest match was the semi's," says Galloway, "because the three previous years, I never won the semi's. I always lost." Galloway says the most difficult obstacle he had to overcome during his last couple wrestling seasons was injuries and of course his semi-final mental barrier. "I always was so close but I lost," Galloway repeated. "I think I probably just choked. The pressure got to me." Galloway says he excels in "taking people down," or wrestling his opponent to the mat. Galloway also wrestles in tournaments outside of school. While there are only unofficial rankings in magazines which don't

carry much weight, he competes in national tournaments every year. Galloway comes from a long line of wrestlers. His two older brothers both won State wrestling in Iowa, and his younger brother, Tyrell Galloway, won State his freshman and sophomore years. "I started wrestling when I was in kindergarten," Skylar says. "I started getting serious when I was in fifth grade." While his father did not wrestle in high school, he coaches Galloway. Skylar plans to wrestle in college at either the University of Nebraska at Omaha, the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Iowa State, or the University of Maryland. His top choice is Maryland.

Right, Senior Skylar Galloway wrestles his opponent from Millard South in the semi-finals of the Class A Nebraska State Wrestling Tournament. Below, Galloway is announced the State Champion after defeating the Lincoln East wrestler in the finals.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SKYLAR GALLOWAY







# Coach Foster takes down the best



PHOTO BY CHELSEA THOMAS/REGISTER  
Coach Jimmie Foster takes a break from grading papers. The teacher has worked at Central for 13 years.

BY CHELSEA THOMAS

Coach Jimmie Foster, a true two times All-American, could be considered a role model of strong and rare character.

"A coach, a teacher, and a father," are some of the many titles that describe Foster.

Being a teacher as well as a father of two could be hard for some to handle, but for Foster he has just enough strength to tackle both jobs.

He started his teaching career around 13 years ago, but had been wrestling for 23 years when he started in high school.

"I loved having Mr. Foster as a geography teacher," said junior Amber Micklonis. "He is honestly one of the funniest teachers I've ever had."

Being a coach for the 13 years is an honor for Foster.

Foster began his journey through the

wrestling world at the age of 14. He enjoys the experience of coaching.

"To me, coaching is a more effective way to help students make good decisions," said Foster. "I enjoy watching the athletes reach their goals."

But, the jobs just keep on coming. Not only is he a father and teacher he is also the coach of Central's wrestling team.

Over the years, he has coached many students, but a few have stood out like Andrus Christiansen, Ray Kizzee (who was his first state champion) and Kendel Dorsey.

For some, teaching the same wrestling team that both of your sons take part in would be challenging, but to Foster it's "not difficult at all."

He has helped many students excel over the past 13 years of teaching.

"I swear," said sophomore Jordan Christiansen. "I think Foster is such a teenager at heart."

**"To me, coaching is a more effective way to help students make good decisions."**

Jimmie Foster

## Central's Power Lifting team breaking school records

BY MATTHEW VONDRASEK

The Power Lifting team successfully competed at the State Power Lifting Meet at Omaha South High School March 13.

The following team members placed in their individual weight classes. Mckayla Cutler, Sydney Gard and D'Nasha Jackson 1st. Keenan Williams and Tyrell Jones 5th. Dillon Dnoso, Neal Brown and Navar Christiansen placed 3rd. Kevin McNear placed 2nd. Lupe Carrazco, Randall Owens and Adonis Johnson 1st. Including placing in her weight class D'Nasha Jackson won the Outstanding Female Lifter Award. Adonis Johnson broke 3 state records and two school records this year.

The power lifting team competed in The O'Gorman meet in Sioux Falls, SD. The boys team placed 2nd overall in the meet. Randall Owens, Kevin McNear, Lupe Carrazco and Adonis Johnson all came in first place in their weight classes. Adonis Johnson broke the Sioux Falls record squat that stood at 600 lbs. with a squat of 615lbs. At the meet Randall Owens won the Outstanding Lifter award.

A few weeks later the team competed in the Fremont Invitational meet. At the meet the girls team came in second place overall. D'Nasha Jackson and Makayla Cutler won first place in their weight classes. The boys team came in second place overall. At the meet Randall Owens, Kevin McNear, Lupe Carrazco and Adonis Johnson all came in first in their weight classes. Kevin McNear won the Outstanding Lifter award at the meet. Also at the meet Adonis Johnson broke his previous squat record of 615lbs. with a 640lbs. squat. Johnson also broke the total weight record of 1465 with 1485.

## Central celebrates win with rally

1) Coach Behrens, introduces the State Championship team at the pep rally in the teams honor 2) Central Alumni and previous basketball players Lorenzo Wilson, Ben Kline, and Ronnel Grixby hold up three of the 5 State trophies aquited over the year 3) The Varsity team is presented at the pep rally

PHOTO BY DARIA SEATON/REGISTER



# SPORTS CALENDAR

## April

8 Girls Metro Soccer Tournament @ Bellevue West

23 Central Track Invite @ Burke High

23 Lincoln East Baseball Invite

26 Boys Golf vs Omaha Northwest @ Shoreline

## May

3 Burke Boys Golf Invite @ Knolls

6 Boys Golf OPS Invite @ Benson

8 Baseball vs Papio/Lavista (home)

13 Girls Tennis Against Marian

22 Track Harold Scott invite at Lincoln High

## 2010 Spring Sports Key Players



Sport: Baseball  
Name: Kayden Kuhn  
Grade: Junior  
Coach: Steve Russell  
Position: Pitcher/Outfield  
Other Key Player: Aaron Kuntz



Sport: Track  
Name: Arby Agar  
Grade: Freshman  
Coach: Brian Davis  
Event: Long Jump, 400m, 800m  
Other Key Player: Taylor Johnson



Sport: Soccer  
Name: Anna Vondrasek  
Grade: Freshman  
Coach: Christie Coetz  
Other Key Player: Abby Vanden



Sport: Golf  
Name: Miley Dabson  
Grade: Freshman  
Coach: Chad Towne  
Other Key Player: Caleb K...



## Spring Sports are Heating up

BY MATTHEW VONDRASKEK

Now that the snow has finally melted spring sports teams have started to get the first few weeks of practice in. Even though most teams have only been practicing for a few weeks many teams have already started competing. Here is a look at what's been going on for Central High athletics.

### Boys Golf

Boys golf has been practicing a few weeks now and Coach Townsend has made the final cuts for the teams. The team competed against Papillion South on March 29 and lost 175 to 173. The team's next match will be the Central Invite at Shoreline Golf Course on April 5

### Boy's Soccer

The boys Soccer team so far this season holds a 2-3 record after defeating Omaha Northwest and Lincoln and suffering a few losses from Omaha North, Bellvue East and Westside.

### Girls' Soccer

The girls soccer team has a 1-3 record after being defeated by Mercy, Gross Catholic and Bellevue East. Central defeated Omaha North 4-1 at home. Central's game against Omaha Bryan that was scheduled for March 20 was rescheduled for April 6.

### Girls' Tennis

Coach Christine Goetz says that girls tennis has some really good players this year and she is looking forward to a successful season.

The team was put behind schedule in practicing due to snow cover but the past few weeks the team has been practicing on a daily basis. The team won its first match 7-2 against South Sioux City and lost 1-8 against Westside. The teams next match will be against Bellvue East Apr. 6 at Tranquility.

### Track

The track team has competed in four meets so far this year. The boys team placed 3rd and the girls team placed 5th at the Burke relays March 20, the boys' team placed 5th and the girls placed 5th March 27 at the Millard North relays. The boys team placed third and the girls placed fourth at The Bellvue East Invite Apr. 1. The next meet will be held April 9 at Millard South.

### Baseball

The Baseball team is coached by Steve Russell with assistants Jerry Frerichs and Ryan Neel. The team has a losing record so far this year but is showing improvement. The team suffered losses to Omaha North, Omaha Northwest, Elkhorn and Lincoln Pius X. The team defeated Benson in a 10-0 shutout and Grema 9-5. The teams first two games against Burke and Millard South were postponed.

## Pom squad loses graduating seniors, team plans ahead



PHOTO COURTESY OF MISTY FLOWERS/YEARBOOK

The entire team poses for the camera for their last year together before the seniors who will be graduating will leave the team to go on and do other things.

BY EMMA MINCLIK

The beat pounds out the music to the steps as seven pairs of feet move and dance their last year on Pom Squad before they graduate.

For Olivia Bishop, Catherine Carter, Kandice Donner, Jenny Kaefer, Jasmine Kitchen, Olivia Tarry and Clair Turbes, this year will be their final year leaving seven dancers to pick up where they left off and begin again with new incoming dancers for next year.

"It's good to know I have a group of girls who always support me," said junior Alyc Beasley. When she made the team last year, Beasley gushed about how happy she was that she made the team. Even with the long hours and complex dance routines, she enjoyed performing with her teammates. She said that what she loved most about Pom Squad was that she could dance every day, not

always have to pick out clothes for the day, and she could go to the games for free.

"I think it'll be so weird when they leave!" said Beasley. "We're going to miss them so much." Still, she believes that they will be even better next year.

"There's a kind of camaraderie that is really good for a team," said Beasley.

Senior Catherine Carter said that even though she and other seniors will be leaving, every year it seems like half the squad leaves. As students become

older, trying out for things like Pom Squad is a lot harder. Also, Carter said that this year for recruits, they are going to take incoming freshmen as well.

"I loved seeing how excited the younger people were when they heard they'd be on the

team," Beasley said.

To Beasley, Pom Squad is commitment and helps her to learn to juggle her life with sleep, homework and other activities that come her way.

"We're going to have to practice a lot to fill the void from the seniors leaving," Beasley said.

Carter, who began with cheerleading in her junior year, soon moved to Pom Squad and has been there since.

"Dancing helps me express myself," said Carter. "Cheer just didn't do it." Additionally, Carter said that Pom is a "way better experience" than last year. It has more leadership, a new sponsor, higher expectations, better communication, and a lot less drama which she said makes being a team more fun.

Next year however, both Beasley and Carter believe that Pom Squad will do even better.

"We're here to dance, not to make drama," said Carter.

We're here to dance, not to make drama.

Catherine Carter

## Boys pep squad performance

BY DARIA SEATON

February 20 Central competed in their last game before districts. South proved to them that they were not going to go out without a fight.

Starting out the game Central and South were going back and forth point after point neither team trailing behind for too long. About half way through the first quarter, South upped their momentum and took the lead by as much as ten points. From then on out it was a constant battle between the eagles and the packers. Within the last three minutes Central managed to beat South with a score of 59-57.

Pom Squad performances are usually the most entertaining part of the games. Even

though the game came extremely close, this game was especially anticipated due the senior boys dance with the girls of the Central pom squad. It started off as just the girls for the first half but then it got even more exciting and a lot wilder as the boys rampaged the stage with the girls.

They did various dances such as doing the tango with the ladies, jerkin, and even pulling their pants down while dancing to "pants of the ground." A song which got instant fame after being written and performed by an older gentleman on the TV show, American Idol.

Rumors swarmed that because of the great feedback the performance received, they were going to do another performance at one of the half times during the State Championship games



PHOTO COURTESY OF JASMINE KITCHEN

The Pom Squad along with the boys get ready to do the annual boys pom performance at the Central vs. South Basketball game.

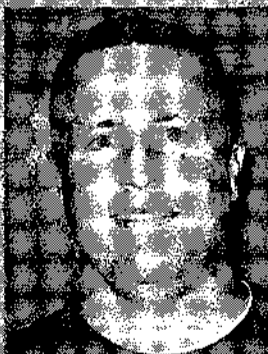
## SPORTS Q & A

As the winter season ends and spring season starts, take a look at coaches' new aspirations and expectations.

Q: What kind of things do you do to keep your players motivated?

A: "I keep our practices competitive. The motivation should come from their desire to play."

-Coach Chad Townsend



Q: What is the biggest challenge that your team will face this season?

A: "Getting some of my players to believe the best about themselves and to think positively."

-Coach Christine Goetz



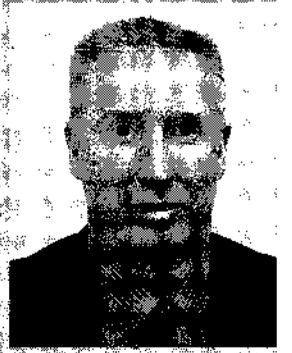
A: "Being able to stay together and play as a team through adversity."

-Coach Jason Page



A: "The biggest challenge for our team is that we are very young. We have a lot of freshmen and sophomores this year."

-Coach Trent Lodge



### “Madea brings the humor”

Tyler Perry creates and stars in new play that emphasizes the funny demands of family

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### “Blackberry Craze”

This cellular device triumphs over other cell phones and is still growing in popularity

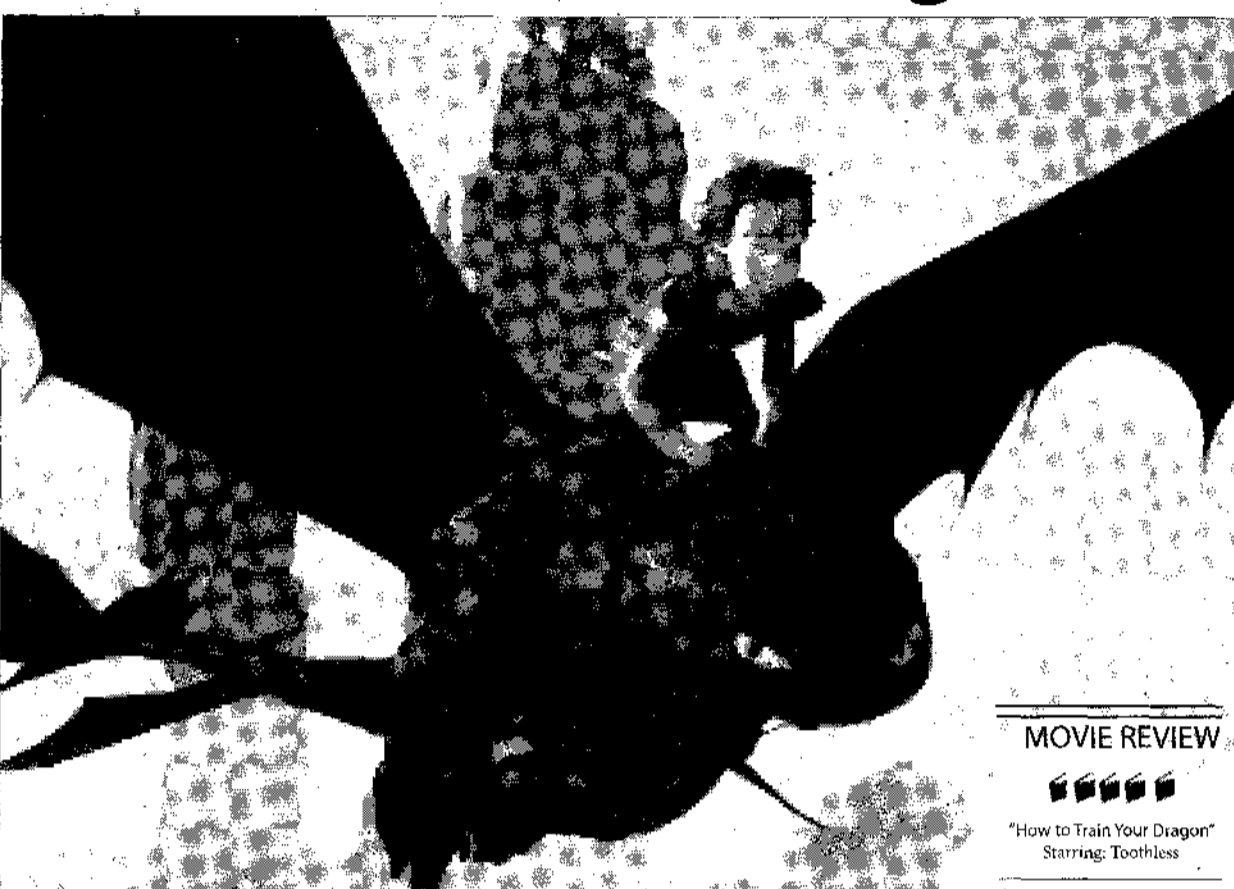
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# REGISTRATION

The Register | Thursday, 5.8.10 | central.register@ops.org

IT TIME NSPA / IFA BEST-OF-SHOW WINNER, A HIGH SCHOOL NEWSPAPER PRACTICING PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISM, NATIONAL PACEMAKER AWARD WINNER

## DreamWorks' animated dragon a hit



MOVIE REVIEW  
★★★★★  
“How to Train Your Dragon”  
Starring: Toothless

In Dreamwork's new 3D family adventure animated movie, How to Train Your Dragon, Hiccup learns to ride his dragon, Toothless. On Hiccup's Island, Berk, he and his fellow Vikings have waged war on dragons for centuries, until Hiccup learns the truth that dragons are harmless and attempts to intervene.

BY ALIX FRAN

I first saw the preview for “How to Train Your Dragon” (I watched it multiple times) while waiting for Avatar 3D to start in a theater in California on vacation. The moment I saw DreamWorks' cute dragons running across the screen, I was hooked.

I immediately worked it all out. I planned to drag my friends to the opening show, which was at midnight at the Rave on March 25, and remember, this was a kid's movie. Although the first showing only attracted 20 people (all adults), it was the highlight of my spring break.

“How to Train Your Dragon” was originally a children's novel by the British author Cressida Cowell, and the first in a series of nine books.

The movie opens with a peaceful scene of the island of Berk, home of the Vikings and where killing dragons is the way of life. Just before bedtime, the island is attacked by dragons, who are trying to raid the Viking's flock of sheep. The Vikings only manage to drive the dragons away their village sustains substantial damage, caused by Hiccup, the Viking chieftain's son and village mess-up.

Hiccup is the oddball of the village. Unlike his burly father, he is scrawny, high-pitched and effeminate and most of all, is terrible at killing dragons. To make up for his physique and lack of dragon killing skills, Hiccup is constantly inventing machines and concocting plans to capture dragons, which typically end up in failure.

But in this particular dragon invasion, Hiccup test runs a machine which will capture dragons for him to kill. Out of sheer luck, he manages to capture a Night Fury, the most dangerous dragon in existence.

Sans the developing plot, Hiccup ends up befriending, training and riding Toothless, his Night Fury dragon. From his interactions with Toothless, he learns that dragons are harmless and misunderstood, a fact which he vainly attempts to convince his village. So as not to give away the ending, a secondary plot surfaces, and it's up to Hiccup to save the day.

Keeping in mind this is a children's movie, I feel like I haven't given away the ending.

This movie is fabulous.

While I agree that the plot is so-so in its originality, I couldn't say no to those cute baby dragons that DreamWorks artists have running across the screen. The animation is truly amazing, greatly improved from “The Land Before Times Days.” The movie managed to have many “Hiccup flying with Toothless” scenes without straining to make up for its lack of plot, like the ridiculous movie, “Harry Potter on Buckbeak,” which was idiotic enough to get itself sentenced to death. Hiccup, who also gets captured and sentenced to death by the Vikings, was trying to save Hiccup's life.

Although the ending and plot are borderline cliché, in the end, the American audience likes happy endings where the underdog triumphs and (cute) animals end up saving the day. Hiccup even ends up getting the girl of his dreams. (Sorry for the plot spoiler, but this is a kid's movie, so don't expect any real surprises.) The script wasn't half-bad either, being much more interesting and less boring than it could have been.

Overall, I have no qualms with the movie whatsoever and recommend the movie to anyone who wants a break from crazy remakes of “Alice and Wonderland” or thrillers like “Shutter Island,” although I do recommend it.

However, from reading book synopses of “How to Train Your Dragon,” the movie is way off, a blatant Hollywood remake. In the book, Vikings don't kill dragons, but purposefully capture them to train. In addition, Hiccup, still ordinary and useless, captures an ordinary dragon, not a dreaded Night Fury, and lies to his friends about its true ancestry to gain popularity. Toothless, in the book, is also actually toothless, unlike the much toothed dragon in the movie.

Truthfully, the movie is much more interesting than the book synopsis. What can I say? Those animated dragons really caught my eye.

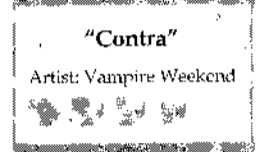
While I usually advocate reading book versions in addition to the movie counterparts, I'll stick to the movie versions and hope DreamWorks has the sequels in store.

## Vampire Weekend's Contra Review

BY MEKENZIE KERR

Vampire Weekend first took the music scene in 2009 with little bits of their unusual sound. The band gained a small stream of attention via a variety of Web sites and blogs.

The indie-rock band released the song, “Cape Cod Kwassa Kwassa” in 2007, and ranked 67th on the Rolling Stone's list of 100 best songs of the year.



Then their debut album, Vampire Weekend, hit store shelves on Jan. 29 of 2008. Vampire Weekend then gained popularity with their songs: A-Punk, Cousins, and Oxford Comma.

They have continued to soar in popularity especially with their release of, Contra, Vampire Weekend's latest album.

It was just recently released in the UK on Jan. 11, 2010, and in the United States the following day. Although iTunes already had Contra up for grabs on Jan. 8.

I, for one, had been anticipating this album since Vampire Weekend announced the potential of a new project. After an agonizing two year wait, I was ready for some new music from these guys.

Although, like many of my other favorite bands are doing, I worried that Vampire Weekend would change their sound. That instead of sticking true to their originality, that they would form to fit the mold of what sells-out. This would have ruined their whole album to me.

Fortunately, I was not at all disappointed by Contra. Rather, I felt satisfied with the albums sound. The 10 songs are all creative and entrancing in their own ways.

Whether you are sitting down and chilling with Contra as your background music, or in the mood to conquer the world and then some, their music can fit either atmosphere.

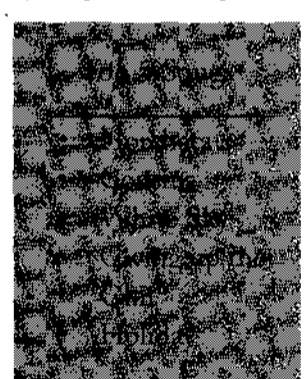
My personal favorite songs are: White Sky, Horchata, and Cousins. All their songs have a new feel to them, and none of them disappoint.

Like any album, certain songs stuck out to me. White Sky is upbeat and fun, and makes you reminisce on the good old days of summer.

Horchata has a mellow tempo, and the tune washes over you as lead singer Ezra Koenig sings of his memories about drinking a refreshing drink in Spain.

Cousins, on the other hand, is a mesh of sounds. Some may call it sound, nothing close to what music should be defined as. While some people have their negative opinions, I say that it's a work of art, creativity and quirkiness at its peak.

Vampire Weekend claims to be inspired and influenced by both African popular music and Western classical music. Which I suppose translates into; “indie rock” for their genre.



This concept of music style shines through in Contra. Contra shows their musical and lyrical talent as yours ears start to realize that they cannot get enough.

Their lyrics, on the other hand, may not make any sense to you. They might be describing a drink native to Spain during the summer, how your dad's dad was a shoemaker, or that some people might find your sweater on the ocean floor.

The lyrics are jumbles of thoughts and feelings, and Contra has the best set of lyric and music power packed into one.

Even if they're not extremely solemn and serious, they have the power of boosting your mood.

Contra does not only personality Vampire Weekend at its best, it also demonstrates the passion and thought they put into their work.

I usually don't like buying whole CD's; it seems much more reasonable to me to buy single songs on iTunes as opposed to a \$10 album.

Though with Contra, I was willing to buy the entire CD, none of the songs disappointed me.

The songs range from up-beat melodies to chill songs that you'd hear at a store. All of them are perfect for the album.

Vampire Weekend did not only not disappoint me, it impressed me beyond what I had imagined the album would turn out like. Definitely an album worth taking out time of your schedule for.

If indie-rock, mildly obscure music appeals to you, even if not, taking the time to sit back and close your eyes while Vampire Weekend plays in the background, you will definitely feel like you had a good time.

## Barnes & Noble's Nook rivals Amazon's Kindle

BY LINDA MINCER

The Nook from Barnes and Noble, is similar to Amazon's e-reader, The Kindle, is a great gadget for readers who find their bookshelf utterly cluttered.

What the Nook does is act like a book that can store up as many as 1,500 books; if more space is needed, add a memory card. The big difference is that the Nook is a better reading experience than let's say using a computer. Most people complain about the harsh screen lighting, but the Nook uses electronic ink on top of a 26-level gray scale display screen which then appears to the reader as a crisp and clear page one might find in a book.

The Nook came out around Christmas time of 2009, which is where I first saw it at Barnes and Noble. However similar to the Kindle it may be, the Nook is in my perspective much better. About the same size and weight of a paperback book, the Nook is lightweight and comfortable to travel with.

Better yet, the Nook stays charged for 10 days if the wireless feature is turned off. Just turn the wireless back on again to go shopping without ever having to go to the bookstore or using the computer to find over one million titles on books.

You download the book of your choice via the actual Nook itself. All that is needed is a wireless internet connection or to be right in any Barnes and Noble store. It is then your book and you never need return it. It is a simple

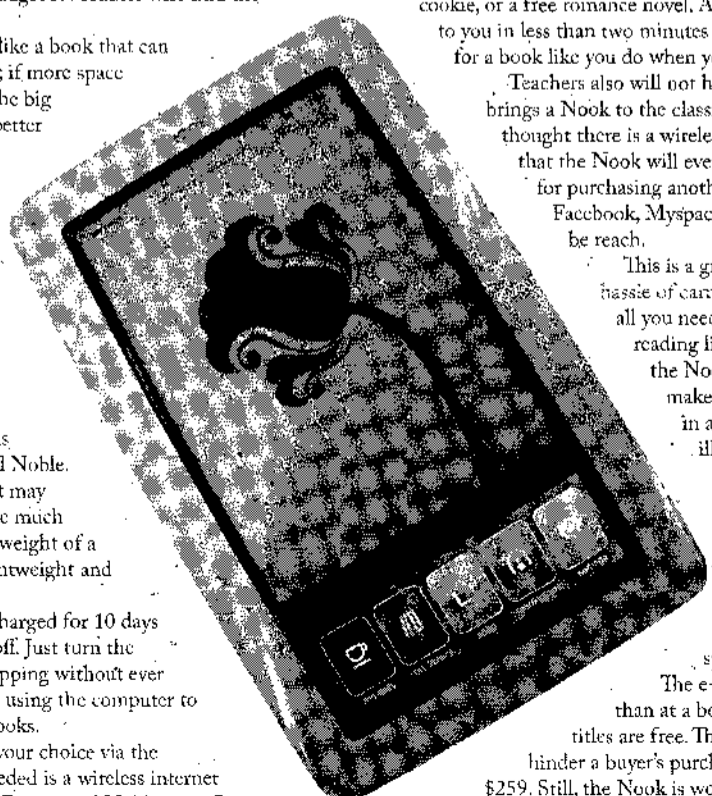
method and for an extra awesome feature, when an e-book is bought in the store, there are daily discounts such as a free cookie, or a free romance novel. Also, the e-book is delivered to you in less than two minutes so you do not have to wait for a book like you do when you order online.

Teachers also will not have to worry if a student brings a Nook to the classroom because even though there is a wireless gadget, the only place that the Nook will ever go to is the online store for purchasing another e-book. No Twitter, Facebook, Myspace or any other site will ever be reach.

This is a great way to read without the hassle of carrying five plus books around; all you need is the Nook and maybe a reading light for at night. Because the Nook uses electronic ink to make the text look like a page in a book, the screen will not illuminate so reading lights may be needed to read at night.

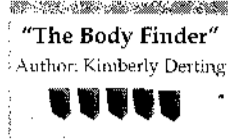
This is most assuredly the best way to read a book and buying the Nook not only saves you shelf space, but money as well.

The e-books are at a cheaper price than at a book store and over 500,000 titles are free. The one drawback that may hinder a buyer's purchase is the initial price of \$259. Still, the Nook is worth every penny and I recommend it to anyone with a passion for reading.



## Romance and mystery intensify teen book

BY EMMA MINCER



Filled with suspenseful thrills, murder mysteries, and teen romance all carefully interwoven into one great story, "The Body Finder" by Kimberly Derting instantly captures readers in the whirlwind story of a girl who has a secret ability and a secret crush.

As the story unfolds, Violet Ambrose is trying to struggle with two major issues: her newfound feelings for her best friend Jay Heaton and her even more disturbing ability to sense dead bodies of those who have been murdered. Ever since she was a little girl, Violet feels the echoes the dead leave behind and the imprints they mark their killers with.

Normally, Violet thinks nothing of her strange talent to be anything more than a curse but now, a serial killer is on the loose and Violet is feeling haunted by the echoes of the local girls the killer has claimed. Now, Violet realizes that she may be the only one to stop him, the only problem is that Jay has a fierce protectiveness over her and is reluctant to help her find the murderer. Violet is hoping that Jay's intentions toward her are more than friendly but as she is falling in love, she is getting closer to finding the killer, and becoming the prey herself.

This book was filled with exquisite writing as the words just flew off the page and filled my head with danger, suspense and teen romance. Derting has a way of taking words and writing in such a fashion, to where reading the book is like watching a movie on high definition at home.

The characters as well as the setting and apprehension in the plot are genuine and Derting uses each character individually to unpredictably change what the reader thinks will happen. As Violet struggles with herself over Jay, it speaks in the universal language of teenage love and how having a crush is never an easy thing.

Page after page I was entranced with the writing style and the emotions Violet, Jay and even the serial killer brought to the world of imagination. I strongly recommend this book to all teen romantics who have a love for a mystery as well.

## Remake of Alice in Wonderland continues unfinished adventure



PHOTO COURTESY OF PHOTOBUCKET

BY MEKENZIE KERR

Since we all last saw Alice, in the 1951 animated Disney Movie, Alice in Wonderland, she was a young girl being absorbed in this magical world she knows as "Wonderland".

Alice chased the peculiar white rabbit with the pocket watch, and the result was falling in its burrow into a place she fondly called Wonderland. She meets many different fantasy characters from smoking caterpillars, crazy disappearing cats, a hatter who loves tea, and the despicable Queen of Hearts.

Up until now, we have no idea what happens to Alice after her visit to Wonderland. Does she ever return? Was the adventure all just a figment of her imagination?

Tim Burton's, Alice in Wonderland, recently released on March 5, eerily depicts the continuation of Alice's life and visitations in Wonderland.

All the characters from the original movie are there: the blue caterpillar, the Red Queen (Queen of Hearts), Tweedle Dee and Dum and the Cheshire Cat.

Although the original characters are there, audiences are also introduced to numerous new characters that Burton sprinkles throughout the movie. We meet the White Queen (the Red Queen's 'perfect' sister), Bayard and Stayne (Knave of hearts).

The movie begins with Alice, at a young age, telling her father of the dreams she has about a crazy world. Then it switches to her engagement party that she had no idea was to happen, still reminiscing about the "Wonderland" she dreams of as a child.

Then the hypnotizing fantasy world begins when Alice, just like when she was little, falls into a rabbit hole while chasing the white hare. Once in Wonderland (for what she believes to be the first time...), she is constantly being questioned if she is the "correct" Alice.

Throughout the movie, her character slowly matures. It is especially

shaped when she learns that she is supposed to kill the Jabberwocky and be the hero of Wonderland.

During her journey she meets the Red Queen and is forced to deal with many obstacles. Though along the way she meets the Mad Hatter (played by Johnny Depp), who is constantly her advocate.

The hour and 49 minute long movie has jaw-dropping, over-accentuated quirkiness throughout. The characters are just as wild and unimaginably mad as they were in the first movie.

Like in any Tim Burton film, Johnny Depp starred in Alice in Wonderland as the Mad Hatter. Depp did good job playing the Mad Hatter, though I feel his character was given more of a spotlight than necessary. Though Depp's character did add a little bit of enlightenment to the whole plot.

Most of the Wonderland characters had a shock factor to them. Whether it was the Red Queen's abnormally enlarged head, The Mad Hatter's huge eyes and ridiculous make-up, or Tweedle Dee's and Tweedle Dum's short and fat

posture.

The characters add to the movie's essence, enhancing its insanity. Though, if you are willing to shell out a rough total of 12 dollars to see it, 3D is worth the extra money.

Alice in Wonderland is just as good as any other run-of-the-mill new century animated movie, but if you see it in 3D, it's even more realistic.

When I was watching it, I felt like everything Alice was fearing, anticipating, and rejoicing about were my feelings. I wanted (and half the time felt like I practically was) running alongside her.

Overall, the movie is one worth seeing, especially if you were a fan of Disney's old animated version.

### MOVIE REVIEW



"Alice in Wonderland"  
Starring: Johnny Depp

## Foreign film captures audience

BY EMMA MINCER

The Maid, a foreign Spanish film from Chile and a Sundance-prize winner, tells the story of a domestic servant on the verge of a physical and mental breakdown who feels she is as much a part of her employer's family as the old furniture she cleans every day. Director Sebastián Silva envisioned a movie that is bleak and even sad at times. Yet, it is quite funny with moments of tenderness and one of the best films I have seen so far.

The main character of the film was the maid, Raquel, played by Catalina Saavedra, who has served the Chilean upper-class Pilar (Claudia Celedon) and Mundo Valdes (Alejandro Goic) and their family for 23 years. Because she is becoming older, the rightly wound Raquel is plagued by spells of dizziness and migraines yet never the less, she devotes herself to serving the Valdes's and looking after their four children whom she adores; Camila (Andrea Garcia-Huidobro), Lucas (Agustín Silva), Tomás (Darok Orellana), and Gabriel (Sebastián La Rivera).

Raquel, is moody, tense and perpetually cranky due to the strenuous work that the house needs and the fact that she is not as young as she used to be. At an attempt to try and improve the maid's attitude, Pilar hires other domestic help to try and help Raquel take care of the household. Raquel, feeling usurped, then sabotages each maid until they become tired of her antics and quit. However, the last maid, Lucy (Mariana Loyola) is just what Raquel needs to rediscover herself if only Raquel would accept friendship.

The movie was full of powerful acting

and believable circumstances. The emotions that Saavedra puts into Raquel's character are intense, especially when you see Raquel's grim-ficed expression as it reflects her position in the household. As a maid, Raquel is limited in love, joy, and even freedom because of her social circumstance and low education; so when she works, her movements and expressions often show her outlook on life. Even the arguments between Raquel and Camila seem passionate and believably angry.

Like many foreign films, Silva directed the movie to be in his native Spanish language with English subtitles. In my opinion, foreign movies are usually one of the best and have the most believable acting; I was not disappointed by "The Maid." One of the best qualities the flick had as far as looks was the realistic camera lighting look. It seemed like one could walk right into the movie and not be blinded by strong, fake lighting that I find is present in most movies.

Although this film was awarded by the Sundance Film Festival, some viewers may be disturbed by the nudity of the characters, which occurs quite often throughout the story. "The Maid" is a great movie, but I even saw some nudity I was not especially thrilled about. This is definitely a mature movie and I would strongly recommend it for mature high school students and older.

This story of a woman who is beaten down by the hardship of life, who retreats into her work and then transforms to find hope and desire to find herself, is a must see. After seeing "The Maid," you'll maybe find the boost of hope to pursue your own dreams.



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## Eminem new album does not dissappoint

BY DARIA SEATON

Recognize this, "Look, if you had one shot, one opportunity. To seize everything you ever wanted—One moment. Would you capture it or just let it slip?"

Or maybe this, "I said I'm sorry mama, I never meant to hurt, you I never meant to make you cry but tonight I'm cleaning out my closet." These are some lyrical quotes said by one of

the best, or possibly the best, rapper in the game, Eminem.

In 1999 Eminem hit the music scene with his first album *The Slim Shady J.P.* and received major hype since he was a white MC and was on the label with producer Dr. Dre.

Since then Eminem has been gracing hip-hop with his lyrical blows and the beef that he has acquired over the years.

His crazy lyric have been known to turn a few heads because sometimes you wonder is he just that lyrical or is this guy crazy. The first time I really noticed it was in his 2000 release "Stan."

Since then he has come out with a multitude of albums along with 2 number one hits in the U.S. as well as another 42 other number ones in other countries.

His success is far beyond what anyone human could possibly fathom and at his rate, he won't be stopping anytime soon.

On his upgraded version of *Relapse: The Refill* he compares his self to some strange characters, such as buffalo bill and a modern day Jack the Ripper and talks about doing something's that you couldn't even imagine.

For those who don't know Jack the Ripper was an infamous serial killer among the British community in the late 19th century.

"But you're no match for Dracula Prolonging her plight As I go back to stabbin' her Dismember her limbs Simple as that cadaver here Zoom in with the lens Then pan back the camera Stand back 'cause here comes your man Jack"

For someone who does not understand the type of person Eminem is you would believe that he needs to be in a mental institution.

One thing to remember is that this man has battled with a drug problem for years, hence the name *Relapse*, to even be able to come back to the game after a metaphorically speaking eternal absence from the music scene this guy has proved himself way beyond a lot of the other rappers in the music industry.

Whether is be the case or not Eminem is a lyrical genius. For those that believe that Lil Wayne is the best, they can have there opinion, but before anyone tries to push Eminem off, there is one thing that you need to do: Listen to *Relapse* and *Relapse: The Refill* and try so say that the way he says things and how he puts them together isn't just pure gold. It may not mean much to someone else but to me it means the world.

## Shutter Island: suspenseful thriller sans excessive gore



PHOTO COURTESY OF FILMOFILIA.COM

BY ALEX TRAN

*Shutter Island* is the quintessential thriller. It reminds me of "The Sixth Sense" or "The Prestige" combined with the action of "The Bourne Identity" or "Mission Impossible."

The movie begins with U.S. Marshall Edward "Teddy" Daniels, played by Leonardo DiCaprio, and his partner U.S. Deputy Chuck Aule, played by Mark Ruffalo, traveling to Shutter Island in search of a lost patient. Shutter Island is a small island dedicated to keeping and rehabilitating mental patients who are dangerous to themselves and those around them.

Daniels believes that the psychiatric institution on Shutter Island is testing on its patients and uses the excuse of the lost mental patient to investigate. His main protagonist is the institution's supervisor, Dr. John Cawley, played by Ben Kingsley.

Daniels' true reason for being on Shutter Island is to find his wife's killer. Daniels' wife died in an apartment fire purposefully set by a psychotic man, who became a patient on Shutter Island.

However, at some point in time, his records completely disappeared. Daniels believes that he is being tested on.

Halfway through the investigation, when Daniels life is threatened and he tries to leave the island, a freak storm hits and traps both his partner and him on the island. The plot is forced to move on.

The movie follows Daniels' discoveries, which I can't say without giving away too much of the movie.

But the best part of the movie is the ending. It takes the audience completely by surprise and explains the entire movie without leaving any holes.

When I first saw the movie, I was a little disappointed, probably because I didn't understand what had happened in the end. After it was explained to me, I loved it.

The movie is more a thriller than a horror movie, but still isn't too gory like many of today's movies are. The plot actually has real antagonists, not some random kids visiting some haunted house with the phone lines down.

The plot development is the best aspect of the movie. The movie begins deliberately vague with the initial plot focused on the missing patient. The plot quickly develops to more than that -- Daniels private investigation of patient testing. This begins to be the main plot of the movie.

The costumes are surprisingly real and add much to the thrill of the movie. As Daniels meets psychotic patients, they are purposefully and successfully revolting, probably because they look so similar to humans.

The cinematography is excellent. The scenery shots of oceans and forests are excellence (the movie is based on the island). The panning and close ups definitely enhance the suspense in the movie.

While the ending is great, the biggest problem I have is with the ending. While trying not to give it away, it's unclear. Remember, someone had to explain the ending to me several days after seeing it. It's nice in the sense that the ending is up to interpretation, but at the same time it leaves me hanging.

Despite these negative aspects, this movie is the best legitimate thriller that's been released in the last several years. I can't wait to more good thrillers, however few and far between they are.

### MOVIE REVIEW



"Shutter Island"  
Starring: Leonardo di Caprio

## Senior graces cover of upcoming novel

BY INDYA WALDEN

Author and Omahan Lawson McDowell's newly released novel, "Omaha Gold: A Story of the Transcontinental Railroad," has more than Omaha's rich history between its pages.

This book features one of Central's own seniors, Venice Washington, on the cover.

Set to release in April, "Omaha Gold" is the story of how America's first transcontinental railroad. With its mysterious plot and historical photographs, this novel is sure to be a good read. The novel crosses the paths of students' stories from the past and present with the story of Gene Davenport, a disabled soldier who is pressured to rebuild his shattered life.

Davenport's story intertwines with that of Brandon and his friend when they come upon a mysterious box during a fishing trip out at what is now known as the Lewis and Clark Landing.

Washington's character's name in the book is Jamal Lucas, a football player at Central High School. Although Venice is not a football player in real life, one of his former teachers thought he looked the part.

English teacher Jennifer Srastry nominated Washington for the character portrayal.

"She said I looked buff and that I fit the look of the

character," said Washington.

He along with Gaven Hefing from Omaha Westside High School and Joslyn Brugh from Millard North High School all graced the book's cover portraying its characters within.

Even though he is on the cover of the novel, Washington says that he doesn't feel any different than before. Although Venice is on the cover of this book he is still a down-to-earth teenager.

"I don't feel any different than I did before I took the picture," said Washington.

After being on the cover and having a great final season of basketball, being a part of the state champions of Nebraska, he has truly had a great senior year.

It would truly be a honor for anyone to be on the cover of a novel, but to have a student from Central only adds to the excitement of the 150th anniversary.

Along with the other events and accomplishments such as the \$750,000 raised at the Rock the Nest Fundraiser, this has truly been a momentous occasion and anniversary for Central and the Omaha Public School District.

This is just a little more icing added to the top of the 150th anniversary cake. Central is doing more than continuing on in its great legacy.

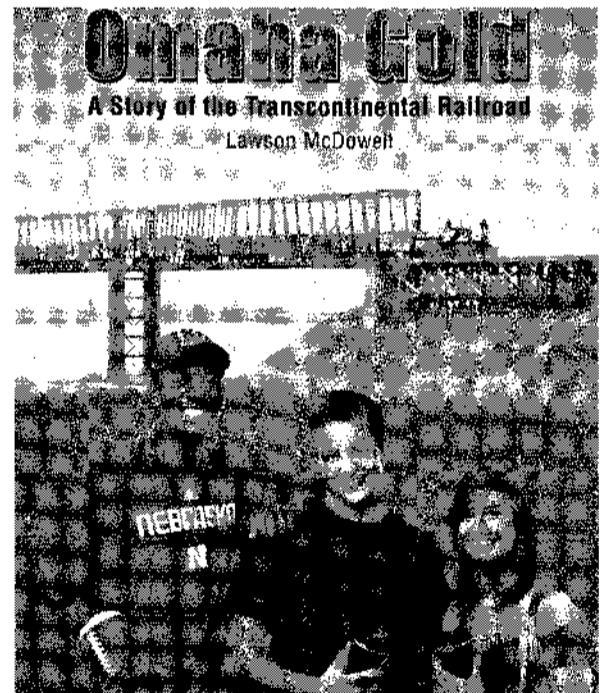


PHOTO COURTESY OF LAWSON MCDOWELL

## Tyler Perry's newest play brings laughs, tears and hope

BY DARIA SEATON

"The best revenge you can get on a person who tells you something like that is to prove them wrong." This is just one of the messages Tyler Perry delivers as Madea in "Madea's Big Happy Family."

Many know Perry as the highly famous, funny, and successful independent film and play director. Although he is famous for directing several plays and movies, he is also known for playing the overgrown, sometimes, belligerent Madea who at the end of the day always has a good message to tell, but may go about telling it in an off-the-wall kind of way.

For the first time in five years after his mother's death, Perry has decided to grace the stage with his presence and bring a message that everyone can relate to in one way or another. Though Omaha has received Tyler Perry plays before, not one of those has included Tyler Perry himself starring as Madea. On March 9, Perry brought a very lively, humorous cast with him to the Qwest Center, that displayed many vocal styles that many Omahans had never before seen.

There were a few recognizable faces as the curtain lifted and the cast immediately started displaying their vocal talents. Never seeing the one of his plays in person, I thought that maybe this play would be a little different than I was used to his plays being. When they stopped I soon noticed that I was wrong.

Aunt Bam, played by Cassi Davis, is the outlandish character that I have ever seen her play in any play, movie, or show. She is hilarious especially while touching, feeling and flirting with the doctor. She may be 72-years-old, but she is still the vibrant and outgoing lady that she probably was at 25.

Perry definitely took a new approach when he made this play. Not only did he make it funny, but where he reenacts the part of his mother's death I don't believe that he left a dry eye in the Qwest Center. Even with the death and the tears he made it all seem worth it after we seen the angel on its way to heaven. Chandra Young who plays Shirley gets a true standing ovation from me. She played the part so well; as she does every other part she has ever played.

If you have ever seen Madea you know that if something goes bad you don't cry about it, but you find the positive and try to be happy. Songs in memory of his mother were sung and the performers put their hearts into the songs.

This could by far be one of the most talented of vocal stylings there has ever been in a Tyler Perry play. He took a new level with his play and you will never expect anything but the best. As people were leaving, there were multiple people saying that "Madea's Big Happy Family" was the best one so far.

If he continues to push himself and make more plays such as this, he could go down in history as being one of the best. There is truly no end to his talent on and off the stage.

### Movie Review



"Madea's Big Happy Family"  
Starring: Janet Jackson



PHOTO COURTESY OF DOWNFRONT.COM



# RIM's Blackberry trumps all touch screen, smartphones on market

The Blackberry craze continues to run full-strength in the United States and worldwide because it beats the iPhone and other smartphones in contest.

BY AIFX TRAN

Fondly nicknamed the "Crackberry," the Blackberry has become the second most popular smart phone worldwide today, commanding 20.8% of smart phone sales, according to an article published last winter in ComputerWorld online news. In the United States, Blackberries dominate smart phone sales among business users, with an astounding 61%, according to InformationWeek last winter.

What makes, and is making, the Blackberry so popular? Let's narrow it down to a couple categories, before comparing the Blackberry to the iPhone and other copycats: keyboard, operating system (OS), applications and free perks.

To candidly put it, the keyboard is more ergonomic than any other QWERTY keyboard available, including touch screen keyboards. Blackberry is the prime example of paying more for better quality. Although it costs substantially more, including the initial costs, contract and required data plan, the Blackberry's keyboard serves its user well.

While some believe that the future lies in touch screen, there is simply no substitute for a real keyboard. Physically, humans were designed to respond to touch, and the Blackberry's QWERTY keyboard allows its users to type faster without looking at the keys - like a regular computer keyboard. Plus, the newer versions the Blackberry have ergonomically designed keyboards that cater to faster texting and e-mailing.

The Blackberry's OS is superior to any other smart phone because it gives its users greater freedom to personalize their phones. For example, users can control screen lighting, the speed of the scroller and personalize ring tones for certain

people.

In addition, the Blackberry's OS caters to e-mails and texts. It has an "Autotext" program which allows the user to program and save acronyms that will expand when typed. For instance, programming "I don't know" in the Auto text program as "idk" spells "I don't know" when the "idk" is typed. Programming "too much information" to correlate with "tmi" will spell the former when the latter is typed. Other simple keyboard tricks (clicking the spacebar twice spells a period) makes text and email fast and efficient. Finally, Blackberries have spell check programs (automatic spell check for newer models) which will underline and fix incorrectly spelled words, like Microsoft Word.

Email is one of Blackberry's most important abilities. This smart phone allows its users to reliably sync emails to their phones. The Blackberry email application is so useful because of its reliability. My emails have always synced to my phone one-hundred percent of the time, and my phone often notifies me of an email even before my computer, which is on with my email open: does. And I've never had a dropped email - all my emails have always gone through.

The Blackberry email does have one downside. To every outgoing email, "Sent on the BLANK Network from my Blackberry" appears at the end, letting know the email is being sent from a Blackberry. However, this is easily fixed by installing the Gmail application, which gives Blackberry users the option to omit the footnote.

In addition, Blackberries can now open Word documents and PDF's attached to emails.

The Blackberry has a powerful internet browser which

conveniently converts and compresses information into a readable, scrollable page. Unlike other touch screen and smartphones, users can cut, copy and paste information from Web sites.

The Blackberry has many applications, but it is known for its signature Blackberry Messenger App. Exactly like an instant messaging system, it allows Blackberry users to instant message one another even faster than text.

Because of the Blackberry's growing popularity, businesses unassociated from Blackberry have created Blackberry applications. Google Mail, or Gmail, has created its own mail application which automatically syncs emails to Blackberries and allows users to check their email without going through the internet browser. Pandora, the most popular Blackberry application, once installed, will play music on the phone just like it would on the computer.

And for the money that its users have forked over for so many years, the Canadian company Research in Motion (RIM), Blackberry's creator, offers its customers many, many perks. For example, RIM offers the free internet download, Desktop Manager, which allows its users to do three things: update their Blackberry OS systems, transfer music, pictures, videos and voice notes onto their phones, backup and restore data and transfer information from one Blackberry to another.

Overall, RIM's Blackberry is unrivaled in its user-friendliness. It is physically ergonomic, aesthetically pleasing and has amazingly useful applications.

Compared to the iPhone or other smartphones, the Blackberry still wins by a wide margin. The iPhone is, and will always be, a music and video electronic device, despite its attempts to become a phone. Its touch screen does not accommodate lengthy emails, one of the Blackberry's signature aspects, and its OS does not allow easy and fast browsing.

There isn't even a competition between the Blackberry and the old Palm smart phone. Besides looking horrid, the Palm's program was inefficient and ugly. The only plus is that the Palm did not require the more expensive data plan.

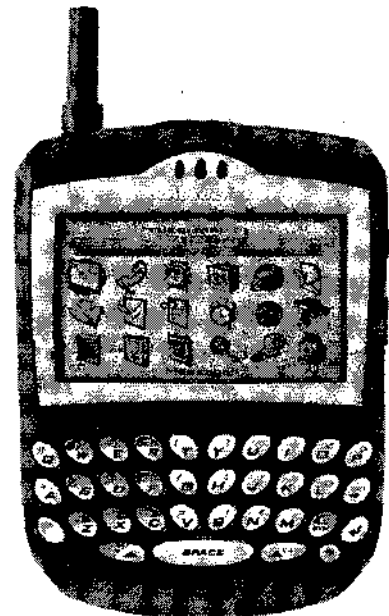
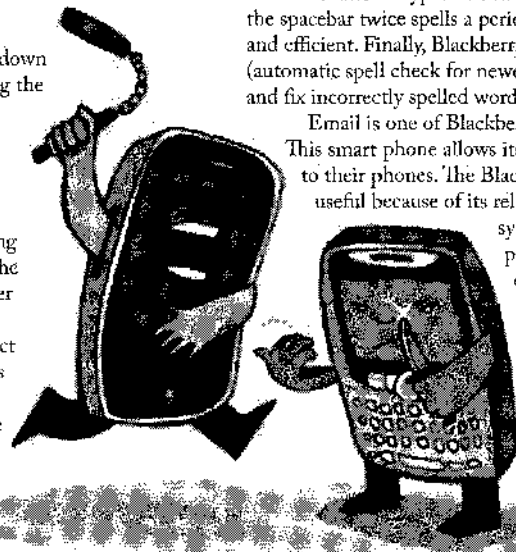


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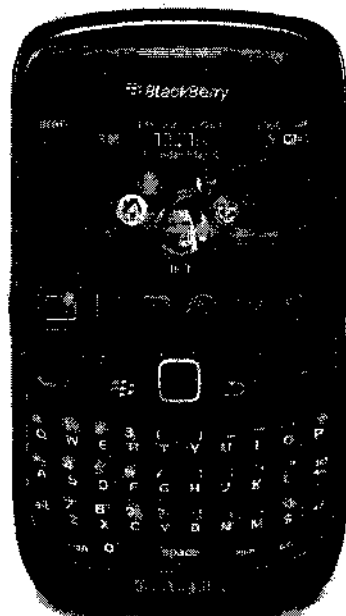


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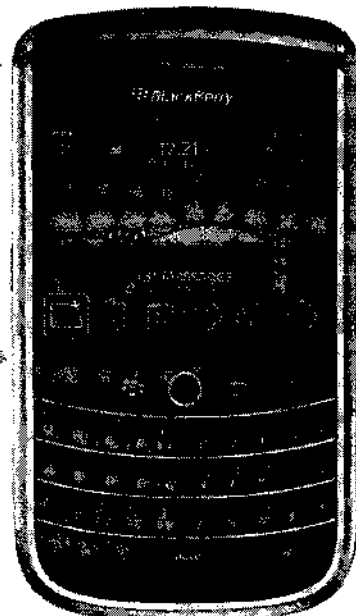


PHOTO COURTESY OF POCKETBERRY.COM

Above, from left to right, are chronological models of the Blackberry smartphone. The 7520, was one of Research in Motion's (RIM) first smartphones, originally called a PDA cell phone. The newer and most popular version, slowly being usurped by an even newer version, is the BlackBerry 8350. The newest Blackberry is the 8530, which has a touch pad instead of a trackball.

The top far right and bottom right are RIM's WorldWide Blackberry models, which are sold and work in other countries including the United States. The top right is the BlackBerry Tour, and the bottom right is the BlackBerry Storm.

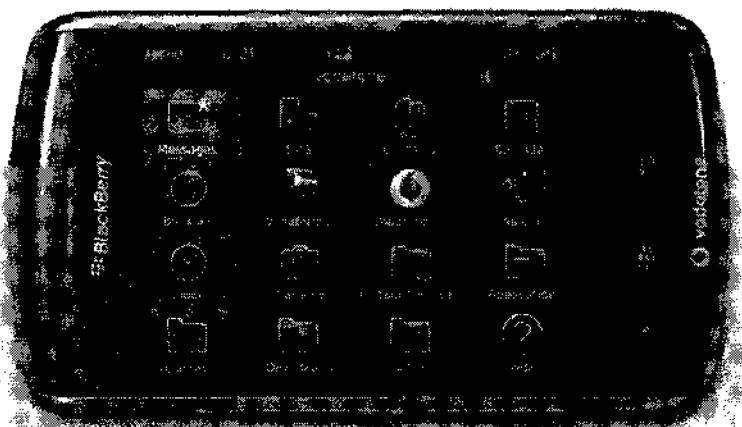


PHOTO COURTESY OF WORDPRESS.COM

# North of Beautiful follows map to true beauty

BY EMMA MINCER

"North of Beautiful" by Justina Chen Headley, is a powerful novel written in lively, artful prose about a fractured family. She focuses on love, courage and the real meaning of beauty. The story is expressed through the eyes of shy teenager Terra Cooper who desperately wishes to be normal. But the real question the novel asks is what is normal, and who defines it to be so?

Terra, herself, is not hard to notice. She is a gorgeous, tall blonde with an envious body, yet with one turn of her cheek, people only notice the birthmark that mars and envelops her otherwise perfect appearance. Her life, however, is far from perfect. Her household is hardly what she would call a family as her controlling father not only verbally abuses Terra and her mother Lois, but steers Terra off course from her one escape from her small town - an acceptance to an East Coast college.

But as fate decides to intervene, an unexpected collision with Jacob, a handsome quirky Goth boy, alters her direction in life once again. Even though she has a boyfriend whom everyone thinks is perfect, she can't help but fall for Jacob. He challenges Terra's assumption about herself, the life she leads and her fear of changing her oh-so regimented plans, which forces her to try and find a new path.

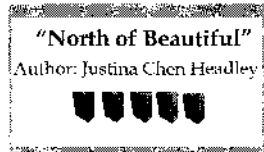
Terra's struggle not only with her "flawed" self but with her father's dictating chokehold on her family is a daily obstacle she must overcome. Her otherwise perfect face "disgraced" by a port-wine stain keeps Terra from reaching out and finding her true potential and only discourages her as she tries various surgeries to reduce the birthmark. Her distaste for her face is often expressed in anger, self pity, or lack of self worth.

"While my face couldn't launch a thousand ships, it has the power to make any stranger wince around for a thousand look. Trust me, this mixture of curiosity and revulsion is nothing Helen of Troy would ever have encountered," said the story's unhappy protagonist.

Although extremely motivated to keep up her healthy body, Terra finds that she is fed up



PHOTO COURTESY OF STACKEDBOOKS.BLOGSPOT.COM



with her life at home as she is now the last of her siblings still living at home. She and her mother are the victims of her father's criticism. Her mother, however, has little to no confidence about herself anymore and suffocates Terra with her attitude that the birthmark will go away after many medical treatments. The problem is that even though Lois is trying to help Terra, she is terrified of being alone with her husband without any children to serve as buffers for his criticism. Her hope to have Terra's face "fixed," is her underlying hope that if Terra is fixed, their whole family will be fixed as well. To try and escape her life at home, Terra looks towards art to express her emotions without having to say them out loud.

Making art is a passion of Terra's that I found to be strong, still her insecurity about her art bugs at the reader's heartstrings as she explains why she has little confidence. Her father repeatedly puts her down with snide comments making her mother's and Terra's lives miserable. Headley puts passion into Terra's voice as she tells about her daily life with her "family" in which her mother is submissive and her father makes any of the real decisions.

"No, Dad could never be accused of ordering Mom outright, he was so careful how he phrased anything. His comments may have sounded innocuous to the untrained ear, but make no mistake about it. They were poison-tipped darts," Terra says. Her father's character is a perfect illustration of how abuse is not only limited to physical, but mentally as well when he makes snide comments, but not once does he ever raise his voice, which only makes it easier for the reader to find great distate for him.

When Headley describes Terra's heart wrenching thoughts about her life and the issues she goes through, they sounded so "real" that I could relate the anger and other emotions Terra has to my own experiences. Her dialogue between characters is vivid as it paints the story with strong emotions that are tense and tear-jerking at certain points. They were like that part in a movie when the main character gets in a huge argument with his or her girlfriend/boyfriend/best friend/family member and you cannot watch it because it is so sad, yet you cannot tear your eyes away.

Over all, the book was well written and the words not only brought the pages to life, but put me inside the mind of Terra as she follows the map to true beauty. I recommend that those who love inspirational books that tie into a bit of teen romance should go out and search for this. It is a treasure to surely cherish.

# OPINION

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or of the right of the people to peaceably assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."  
First Amendment of the United States, ratified Dec. 15, 1791

11 TIME NSPA/JEA BEST-OF-SHOW WINNER. A HIGH SCHOOL NEWSPAPER PRACTICING PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISM. NATIONAL PACEMAKER AWARD WINNER

## Is the Media a Good or Bad Influence?

BY INDYA WALDEN

Safe sex campaigns like "Just Say No" on the popular television show Secret Life of an American Teenager are all the rage in today's primetime. Everyone knows that sex is what sells, but what message it is sending out to the impressionable teens in the world? From Trojan commercials to the late night television station Cinemax, which has been dubbed "Skinemax" after 9 pm, there is way too much provocative innuendo being placed in front of teens today. Since these types of shows aren't going anywhere any time soon, television stations should reconsider what time they choose to air these shows.

Some teens may say in defense that what they watch on TV doesn't affect what they do or say. According to Rand Corporation, a research development group stated that the average teen watches at least three hours of TV every day. During this time, teens are bombarded with varying levels of sexual content such as touching and kissing, as well as conversations and portrayals of sexual activity. Rand Corporation recently did a study with over 1700 adolescents between the ages of 12 and 17, where they were asked about their sexual experiences as well as their television watching habits, and then one year later they were surveyed again. After talking to the teenagers a second time, studies showed that high exposure to sexual content increases the chance of teens initiating sexual activities.

With this being true, shouldn't television stations as well as parents be more aware of what is broadcasted during hours when children as young as 10 are watching a 16-year-old torn between the mother of his child and a girl who has willingly given herself to him countless times, even when he has cheated on her on numerous occasions. Just a week ago I was at Walgreen's, and as I was walking down an aisle a little girl frantically checked her phone and then turned so her mother and said, "Mom hurry up so that we can get home! Secret Life started five minutes ago!" This pre-pubescent child was about to have a meltdown if she didn't get home to see her show.

Why should watching sex and the betrayal of friendships to get "it" be that important? If parents allow their younger children to continue to be exposed to such shows at younger ages, more kids will be tempted to have sex and run the risk of getting pregnant or contracting an incurable STD.

In conclusion, I'm not saying that all shows are bad because I myself was one of the hundreds of thousands of viewers of Secret Life, but as the show progressed, I couldn't continue to watch this extreme sexually charged version of life. It is unrealistic and gives children and teenagers the wrong idea of what life is truly like.

Gregory Emmel  
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BY CHELSEA THOMAS

Over the last few decades the media influence has grown profusely with the advancement of technology, first the telegraph, then the radio, the newspaper, magazines, television which then brings us to our beloved internet.

We live in a time period as well as a nation that makes it so we must depend on communication and information to survive the day as well as night.

With the media came the television which provides channels that exposes people to sex, violence, subliminal messaging advertising, celebrities, and much more.

California State University Science Department in a 65 year life span the average person will have spent at least 9 years in front of the television.

Taking a look at who pulls the strings behind the television, there are five major companies that dominate Time Warner, VIACOM, Vivendi Universal, Walt Disney, and News Corp. Those five companies are said to "own about 95 percent of all media that we take it upon ourselves to receive every day," says Karen Sternheimer, author of "It's Not The Media: The Truth About Pop Culture's Influence On Children."

But when dealing with the influences of others there are the good and the bad. The media makes billions of dollars from advertising and television shows that are exposed to us. However, there is a difference between bad media and blaming the media for a guardian's lack of parenting.

Some positive influence examples would be, the sports receive much attention by the media and gain popularity among your friends and society.

Other negative influences that affect the teenagers are the use of tobacco by celebrities in movie and television shows the constant exposure of sex images, the excessive images of violence and exposure to thousands of junk food ads.

But I disagree with this because it's not the celebrities putting the tobacco down your child's throats. It also is not McDonald's fault that you gained 50 lbs because you refused to put down the double cheese burger. Finally last time I checked it wasn't the television show that provided your son or daughter with that pack of condoms.

Media technology makes the reduces the distance between human beings. It makes human being closer to each other in terms of space and thinking. We are exposed to a broad range of ideas and thought from all kinds of people from all over the world. Through the media we know immediately about earthquakes, tsunamis, avian influenza outbreaks, etc that strike any arcaon earth. We know about the results of champions league which is tacking place far away in Europe.

Even though people say that the media is corrupt and judgemental the ones that truly have the last decision making step is them.

## Losing friend at such a young age changes viewpoint



UM, EXCUSE  
A column by Emma Mincer

Just recently, a guy I knew from middle school named Dillon, who died. He was only 15. I am still unable to find the right word to express how sad I feel, yet there is a part of me that is grateful to still be alive.

In general, when someone young dies, it seems to be sadder than an older person dying.

Death is inevitable, but the elderly have lived for 70 plus years and when you get old, you are supposed to die. However, people lets say under the age of 25 have not lived to the fullest yet and death should not reach its cold clammy hands out and take him or her away. Yet death does not strike at the elderly alone, death will come to anyone and at any given time or place. I'm not trying to preach and use a cheesy line, but don't ever take your life for granted, it is way too precious to waste.

When someone young dies, the world should stop to say goodbye for five minutes, but it doesn't. It keeps on turning, people keep on walking, talking, laughing; being so wrapped up with their own lives that the rest of the world does not notice one person dying. Only those who the tragedy hits notice the gaping hole of emptiness left by the one who died. And to me, I think that that is one imperfections of many that humans have yet to correct.

When someone young dies, the world should stop and say goodbye for five minutes, but it doesn't.

But, out of all human imperfections, we have gained two qualities that make up for them: love and compassion. For example, on Facebook, over 200 people added Dillon's page to their friends list in less than 24 hours and people who barely knew him expressed their condolences.

It was the people who barely knew him that got to me. They hardly knew this kid and yet, they were filled with grief and lamented their sorrow openly. It was the realization that someone young was actually gone and yet they were still on earth, living and breathing the frigid winter air. Even at his wake, people all over had puffy red eyes and tissues in their hands and talking about how young he was. I went half an hour before the wake was over and there still was a long line just waiting to get in. To me, that speaks a powerful message that young death can affect the living to a level that is way beyond the death of an older person to a great extent.

My perspective on death is not one of an expert but I do believe one thing; death affects everyone, even if they do not know it. Just hearing about someone young dying from some tragic cause makes one's heart hurt with sadness. Death can be positive as well as it brings people together, even if it is not for the best reason. Everyone in the family shows up, or at least really tries to. It's not like for a Christmas get together where one couple might say "Oh, we'll go next time"; there is not a "next time" for this. You only get to live once.

All I'm saying is please, enjoy your blessings of the day and be joyful that you are here on earth to experience them.

## Short-term energy: Is it worth the risks or worth nothing?

BY MEKENZIE KERR

You know the names: Rockstar, Red Bull, Nos, Monster, Full Throttle, Jolt, Hype and the hundreds of others that are daily consumed by teenagers and college students.

The energy drink industry has boomed the past few years. In 2005 alone, the energy drink industry got three billion dollars retail sales in the United States alone. Although some may think that energy drinks are a recent fad, they have actually been around for quite awhile.

In 1905, Scotland produced an energy-type drink named Irn-brue. The idea of an energy drink continued to form and appeal, and then in 1997 an Austrian company introduced a product called Red Bull.

I'll admit that I've had my share of energy drinks, ranging from Red Bull to the plethora of Monster flavors. Though I'm pretty sure if I was more informed of what was



in the drink itself, I probably wouldn't be drinking them.

You might be thinking, besides tons of sugar and caffeine, what could be worse? Your average energy drink contains a mixture of taurine, methylxanthines, ginkgo biloba, glucuronolactone, acai, and inositol. After hearing those, I'm starting to think that energy drinks are more of a crazy science experiment as opposed to something that will boost up my energy level.

The ingredients that are too hard to pronounce may have bad effects on its consumers, but the overdose of caffeine may have even worse affects. Studies show that an intake of too much caffeine can cause nervousness irritability, increased blood pressure and insomnia.

I love energy drinks, they may taste like medicine to some, but they get addicting. I think they are especially handy if you need a short, random burst of energy for something. Although I do like them, and also lean on

them to stay awake, in the long run, I am not for the daily consumption of them.

I know plenty of people who start off their school day with the biggest size energy drink you can find, and then go to one for a mid-day pick-me-up. Then to finish off their day, they chug down another Red Bull to keep them alive for the last few hours of homework they have to finish.

It is ridiculous to live off of energy drinks. Not only are the ingredients that provide a short-lived boost of energy bad for you, but if consumed enough, people can become addicted to the high amounts of caffeine in energy drinks.

If you are addicted, then you get the urge to buy more. The more you buy the more money you are losing. Energy drinks are basically a big ball of trouble for anyone who drinks them as a lifeline.

I am not opposed to drinking an occasional swig of Red Bull or Monster, but relying on them to help you sail through life is definitely not a good habit to get sunk into.

## 09-10 Register

The Omaha Central High School Register seeks to inform its readers accurately as to items of interest and importance.

The staff strives to uphold the principles of journalism in all its proceedings.

The Register is a member of the National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA), the Nebraska High School Press Association (NHSPA), the Journalism Education Association (JEA), Quill and Scroll and the Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA).

The Register is a 10-time Best-in-Show

winner for large newspapers at the JEA/NSPA national conventions in Philadelphia, San Francisco, Boston, Phoenix, Dallas, Washington, D.C., Seattle and Chicago.

The Register staff was also responsible for the publication of the EDGE feature magazine, which also won a first place Best-in-Show award for specialty publications.

The Register has won multiple NSPA Pacemakers.

The Pacemaker is considered the Pulitzer Prize of high school journalism.

It has also won many Cornhusker awards

from NHSPA.

It has been awarded Gold and Silver Crowns from CSPA for its overall work.

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# School days lengthened, students unhappy

BY MEKENZIE KERR

The Metro Area seemed to be buzzing when schools all over were closed for the first snow day. Although little did we know that five more snow days would follow the first. The six snow days would eventually start adding up.

I just recently found out about OPS' plan to make-up for lost time. Starting March 4, high schools will start at 7:30 as opposed to the usual 7:40 time. This change will last until the end of the year, which is May 21. Along with this change, OPS has opted to change Thursday, March 4 (half day) and March 5 (full day off) to full school days.

When I first found out about the change of school time, I really didn't care. A lot of my friends and other students seemed to be frustrated that they would have to get up a little bit earlier for the change. Personally, I'd much rather wake up fifteen minutes early than go to school into June, like Millard has to do.

After talking to a few of my teachers, I realized that students' schedules wouldn't be messed around with too much. Maybe a few minutes added here or there to the usual class times and passing periods, but other than that, not much of a difference.

My opinion turned around when I found out the main reason for the additional minutes was all thanks to the seniors. Now, let's get this straight, I have no harsh feelings, but the fact that the make-up days are because of the seniors' learning schedules, that's a little annoying.

Seniors must have a certain amount of instructional time, since they have to graduate by a certain time. Due to the snow days, and the fact that seniors' first day of school was the day after underclassmen's first day.

I understand the circumstances in which the additional time was added. Though I feel it was completely unnecessary for the underclassmen to have to make-up time that is technically the seniors'.

I feel that a better plan could have been worked out. In some ways it seems like the easy way out to just give everyone the extra time. I think it would be a better plan to just have the seniors come in fifteen minutes earlier than everyone else, as opposed to the entire school district.

Not only do students have to wake up earlier, but it seems as if other factors weren't taken into consideration. Students who ride Omaha's public buses will have to wake up an hour earlier to catch another bus, because the current one they are riding will get them to school late. Another affect of catching a bus an hour early, will be that students will then arrive at school an hour to forty-five minutes to early. This really ticks me off, because it's all about seniors' instructional time, and graduating at the correct time, that other students will have to suffer for.

I guess everyone will see how the change affects everyone in the district soon enough. Whether there will be an increase in late students, complaining, or even teachers defiant to the new changes, only time will tell. The sudden jolting change will definitely have some unknown effects on OPS high school students.

# G.O.P. scores victory in Massachusetts

BY MATTHEW VONDRASEK

In January Massachusetts held a special election for Ted Kennedy's senate seat. Republican Scott Brown beat Democrat Martha Coakley by a 5 percent margin, an outcome that stunned and irritated many Democrats. Massachusetts has one of the highest percentage democrat populations in the U.S. In the 2008 presidential election Barack Obama won the state with 56 percent of the vote, and a republican hasn't held the seat since 1953. Ted Kennedy held the seat for over 46 years, and he never had any trouble getting re-elected.

Many Democrats blamed the loss on Coakley's badly ran campaign. Coakley took an entire week off from her campaign during Christmas when Brown's popularity was on the rise. Coakley also only spent 5.8 million on her campaign compared to Browns 8.7 million.

Groups outside of the Massachusetts contributed to the election campaigns. Former Republican Governor Sarah Palin of Alaska sent out recorded telephone calls asking Massachusetts voters to vote for Sarah Palin's values. Other Conservative groups from all over the country traveled to Massachusetts to volunteer for Brown's Campaign. Many other Tea party groups from all over the country made phone calls to Massachusetts residents asking them to vote for Brown. Overall outside groups spent 23 million in Massachusetts for the elections.

Republicans have been saying the victory in Massachusetts is a reflection of voters anger with the democrats. Browns election to office will reduce the democrats number of senate seats from 60 to 59. This means that democrats in the senate will no longer be able to override

a filibuster from republicans and more compromise will have to ensure passage of bills.

Democrats are also worried about the popularity of their party after multiple republican victories in what were democratic states in the mid term elections last November. There is also concern over Democrat Roland Burris' Senate seat that will be vote on this November. It is expected that Republican Mark Kirk will win the election due to many Illinois voters frustration over former Democratic Governor Rob Blagojevich appointing Roland Burris after he tried to sell the seat. Brown was sworn in Feb. 4th by Vice President Joe Biden. Brown has spent his first few weeks in office meeting other senators and getting to work on jobs creation.

# Block scheduling: benefit or hindrance?

BY INDYA WALDEN

Unlike my very opinionated colleague, I find block scheduling to be rather beneficial. It really isn't as bad as some have made it seem.

Not having the same classes everyday gives students more time to process the information learned that day and write down questions they had for their next class period. It gives extra time for homework as well. Even though the class periods are longer, the amount of homework is about the same as having the class every day; it really does level out.

For example, compared to regular schools, if I could have block scheduling, I would have math every other day. True, I would have a larger amount of time to learn more material than an average class period, but in doing so the material is better understood. The teacher can be more thorough in the lesson planned for the day as well as being prepared for the arsenal of questions some students bring to the next class.

During my three years at King Science and Technology Magnet Center, I as well as many of my classmates, loved the block scheduling. It allowed us to partake in all of our activities as well as get our work done. Many kids were in clubs or sports and during down time, many of my classmates would work together to finish work faster than just doing it on their own.

Along with peer study groups, most teachers incorporated more hands-on activities that kept the interests of me and my classmates. In return, we were much more apt to participate in class and turn in work.

As for disciplinary actions, kids who choose to get in trouble make that choice on their own. It has nothing to do with the amount of time spent in class. If you have troubles staying focused find a way to do so that keeps you out

of trouble and allows you to do your best in your classes. And as far as lunch goes, is it really a big deal that your teacher takes you down to the cafeteria? What is so wrong about the teacher making sure you make it to lunch so that your body is well nourished so that you can perform well in school? If it's that big of a deal just transfer schools. Either way, there is most likely going to be someone in the cafeteria watching to make sure that no fights or any other chaos breaks out. So which would you rather have?

Many kids coming in to their freshman year of high school are completely lost on their first day of school; and they're the only ones here! It would be an easier transition from middle school to high school.

Even if the schedule was blocked for a set period of time, it would make many freshman students feel more at ease about switching classes instead of being forced into a world of running up and down several flights of stairs and having a melt down because they have no clue where they are going. Of course there is always a teacher, security guard, or nice student willing to help the innocent new comers, but why not make it just a little easier for the little eaglets to adjust to the giant nest that is Central High School.

In closing, when many of the eagles leave the nest, they go on to pursue post secondary education. Once on campus, many students will realize that college is nothing more than four years of student-chosen block scheduling.

So in actuality, if you go to a college or university you're going to have a block schedule, you just make it work to your advantage. So is this type of curriculum really a bad thing?

Does the thought of having the same class with the same people and same teachers for double the time we are now tend to make you a little uneasy? Well that's exactly what will happen if OPS decided to go through with the rumored, blocked scheduling next year. Personally I think that block scheduling is a bad idea. The idea of having to be walked down to lunch, having the same class for an hour and a half, and only having four classes a day does not sound like a good idea.

Someone may say that having the class every other day is better because you get two days to do the homework. In reality you have the same amount of homework in that one day that you would have in two. Double class periods just mean that the teachers get through twice the amount of work which means that there will be twice the homework as if there were no blocked schedules. Of course we would say that the two days is enough to get homework done but reality most people wouldn't. When I attended McMillan only about half the students did the homework on time even though they had two days to do the work. The extra time really doesn't do much for students but give them more time to procrastinate what they know they have no intentions on doing in the first place.

It might have been different if my experience with block scheduling experience had been of the same interest as my collaborator. Our teachers were focused on the work.

Also the two and a half hour class period will have many students to restless to pay attention. Some students can barely stay still and focused in a 42 minute class period let alone twice that time. I feel like if they do enforce block scheduling there will be a lot more trips to the administrator office because of little

things that could easily be prevented by not having blocked scheduling.

Along with the students getting fidgety and their irritation rising as the class goes along, it messes up all the plans that seniors have for their last year and diminishes the excitement they build up for three years.

As a freshman you are excited for high school and as the time continues the excitement begins to die down and then you just can't wait for senior year. All the hype comes into action. You go in thinking that you're going to get your car, leave school after fifth hour, be able to spend times with friends after school, and get a job to keep money in your pocket. Its really where you start gaining the independence you will need as you venture into adulthood.

With the thought of blocked scheduling come in into play, it ruins the plans that some have acquired. Only one of the two days will the senior be able to get early outs if he or she chooses to. In addition you will still have to take seven classes instead of the much anticipated five.

The thought of a job kind of gets ruined because only a couple days of the week will you be able to get there earlier, and it's kind of hard to plan a schedule working around the messy school schedule.

A last and very minor detail is that during lunch they have to treat you like a little kid. Your teacher has to walk you through the halls like a child, and give you assigned tables so they can come back and get you. Some people may have to cut in the middle of class to go to the shortened 30 minute lunch period and try to pick back up where they left off. It all gets so confusing and messy so even if they are considering blocked scheduling I think its best if they leave it out of Central.

# Co-education proves better than single sex school

BY INDYA WALDEN

Until a certain age in life, all kids have to attend school. Of course the age old debate of public versus private school is still apparent; the most recent challenge is co-education, or co-ed or single-sex education.

Personally, co-education schools have more to offer than single sex gender schools. My main reason for stating this is that kids need interaction. From the first day of kindergarten to walking across the stage to receive a high school diploma; interaction between both sexes is necessary to function in society.

True some parents as well as students may think differently, I choose this side not because I can sit and look at and talk to boys all day, but I am able to understand how others think and perceives things from a different point of view. When I was younger I attended a school that was populated predominately by girls. Although it was fun playing with Barbie dolls and hanging upside-down on the rainbow bars talking about how cute N-Sync was, what happened to our social skills may have possibly hindered us today. Around fourth grade boys in my class started talking to me in my friends with more interest than showing us worms. My friends as well as I

felt awkward and out of place when the boys would ask us to play or tell us we looked pretty that day. Doctors and parents may say that these would be normal feelings and that it is ok to feel that way, but once you come out of elementary and enter into middle school, it's a whole new playing field.

Middle school is a time where boys and girls star to figure out who they are and where they belong in the academic hierarchy. Guys start hanging out with each other and getting into sports while girls hit the books and leave the hard work to the guys. A study done by Rand Corporation showed that many students in single-sex schools allow kids to work at their own pace and be more at ease, but at the same time more students feel pressured to conform to the thoughts and ideas of their peers. Guys and girls alike try to "one up" and outdo each other to more extreme levels than in a school with both genders.

It also allows students to see thing in a different way than they thought of before. Girls mature faster than boys and may have a more intellectual view of a subject while a young man may have his view based of experience of rationalizing the situation. In both school and the workplace.

# Excessive potholes damage cars, create stress for drivers

BY MEKENZIE KERR

While enjoying a drive down the road the other day, my peace of mind was disrupted by a huge bump of the car. It was no surprise to find that a big-looking pothole was the cause of the horrific bump.

You may hear a pothole referred to as a "kettle" or a chuckhole. No matter what you call it, it will always be that annoying hole that can be detrimental to your car.

Not just cold climates receive the lovely gift of potholes towards the end of winter, but so do tropical areas. In an interview with KETV 7, Scott McIntyre, of the Omaha Public Works Department, said that potholes are a concern and filling them on heavily traveled roads is a top priority.

I'm assuming that the potholes are just going to get worse as the cold weather progresses.

Potholes always greet us when winter has taken some of its toll. They are made when the sub grade is weak because of high moisture content. Something called "alligator cracking" then occurs due to fatigue in the road, or to put it in simpler terms, the road starts to crack because the pavement has been weakened by the cold temperatures.

Potholes can be made worse when the water expands to freeze and then forms ice. It puts more stress on the

already cracked pavement or road. Potholes can also be made worse when broken chunks break off, or accelerated when the water runs over it creating an erosion type of effect.

The potholes that are already in the streets can be anywhere from 7-12 inches wide of caved in pavement. Though potholes have the capability of expanding even more. They can grow to feet in width, but usually stay only a few inches deep.

It only takes a few inches to damage your car when driving down the road. Some people swerve to miss the potholes, which could easily result in an accident or loss of control. Besides that, just driving over a pothole can cause trouble to your vehicle's suspension and tires. Just the other day I saw a car's hubcap fly off and roll across the busy street as it sped over a large pothole.

I know someone who rolled over a pothole and broke her front left tire. It made a squeaking noise and made handling terrible. Potholes are evidently hazardous to cars, and thus people, and must be fixed immediately!

I am hoping the city of Omaha chooses to fill the potholes as soon as they possibly can. On the way to school, I am getting sick of being tossed around in the car because of the continuous stretch of potholes. Now, I'm thankful whenever I see construction crew.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LINTONPC.KENTPARISHES.GOV.UK  
Potholes litter the streets of Omaha and damage cars. Some are larger than a foot in diameter.