

Register follow-up

Four-year high school provides flexibility

Amy Buckingham

On January 4 the Omaha Board of Education voted to close Horace Mann Ninth Grade Center and enroll the ninth graders in the seven Omaha Public High schools for the 1988-89 academic year.

The proposal, introduced in late November, will allow ninth graders living in the Beveridge, Bryan, Horace Mann, MacMillan, and Monroe attendance areas to attend their area high schools or to attend Central.

Those ninth graders residing in the Lewis and Clark, Nathan Hale, and Norris attendance areas will have the option to attend their area

junior high school for ninth grade or to attend North, Benson or South respectively.

Dr. Gary Bennett, assistant superintendent and author of the proposal, feels "very positive about (the proposal). I think that a four-year high school will provide for more flexibility in scheduling, reduce the number of schools a student has to attend, enhance counseling opportunities."

Central High School Principal Dr. G. E. Moller said, "I think that (the proposal) has been thought out very thoroughly. And because of decreasing senior high school enrollments and some junior high and grade school needs, four-year high schools are a

good move."

The incoming ninth grade class will add approximately 176 more students to Central's classrooms. Dr. Moller is working with Assistant Principal Mr. Wilson, and Dr. Bennett to find some viable solutions to the "space problems. We need space," Dr. Moller said. "We are looking at partitioning larger classrooms, using the cafeteria for study halls part of the day, and adding more zero-hour classes."

Erik Gerlings, senior, said, "The addition of the ninth graders will make the school much more crowded. Most

classroom space is already being used."

"We will strive to keep the ninth grade enrollment under 200," Dr. Moller said. "If we do not, it will increase the general pressure of the building."

Dr. Moller feels that, although the number of students in the building will increase and the age range will increase, "most ninth grade students are ready for the challenges and experiences of a senior high school setting."

Junior Kimberly Gossin agreed, saying, "It is necessary for everybody to reach their full potential, and I do not believe that exists for freshmen in a junior high

school. Senior high school exercises challenges that ninth graders are capable of accepting."

Dr. Moller wishes that the schools had more time to "get organized. I would prefer to wait another year. There would be more room and less enrollment. But I am pleased that Central will have ninth graders," he added. "Central could have been exempt from the proposal, and that was given serious consideration. That would have decreased our recruiting efforts considerably."

Recruiting this year consists of a newsletter sent out to the 2300 eligible eighth and ninth graders.



Senator Carol Pirsch, Mr. Dean Neff, and Central seniors David Bentz, Wes Vogel, and Charles Tomlinson discuss their strategies to gain support for the pending legislative resolution.

Voting amendment creates controversy

Renee Besançon
Amy Buckingham

The involvement of a Central High School teacher and students in the introduction of an amendment to the Nebraska State Constitution recently sparked a controversy due to the amendment's political nature.

The resolution would allow those Nebraska residents who would be 18 on or before the final election to vote on the day of primary elections. The resolution would include all city, state and federal elections.

Central government and history teacher Mr. Dean Neff and seniors David Bentz, Wade Peterson, Charlie

Tomlinson, Rich Vogel and Wes Vogel are working with State Senator Carol Pirsch to pass the amendment.

This event marks the first time any Central class has been actively involved in the introduction of a legislative resolution.

Mr. Neff had planned to use the introduction of the resolution as a learning tool to teach his government classes about the workings of the legislature.

Dr. Moller praised this action, calling it "creative, innovative and generous."

The controversy arose when Mr. Neff sent out a memorandum to the area high schools with the idea that "all

high schools should be involved."

The following day, Mr. Neff said, he received word from Dr. Gaughan, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction and Special Education Services, (by way of Mr. Jack Blanke, Central social studies department head), who suggested that Mr. Neff check policy before continuing his in-class work on the resolution.

"The Board of Education has a policy, and I have a book called *Practices and Procedures* that outlines what we can and cannot do," he said.

The book states, "Employees of the School District of Omaha may not

engage in any activities in support of or in opposition to any candidate for public office or take any stand on an election issue during the time they are engaged in the performance of their official duties except with the specific authorization of the Board of Education."

"That (resolution), to me, was a non-partisan issue, and I cannot see anything political in it," said Mr. Neff. "If we supported a person, it would become political."

Mr. Neff said that he was "somewhat upset because I thought it was an excellent way to involve students." However, he remained optimistic, saying, "we can always go to the Board of

Education."

The group held a press conference on January 5 to explain what they have been doing for the past two months.

Mr. Neff said that he had at first planned to start work on the amendment with his first semester American government class.

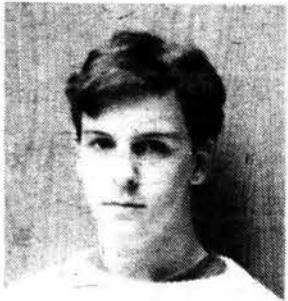
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Inside:

Freedom of speech, Red China, insanity, and snow days.

Forum

Do you think that students whose eighteenth birthdays lie between the primary and general elections should be able to vote in the primary?



Dave Littrell, senior: "Yes, there might be some discord in the constituency, but people still need to vote. People that age don't usually vote anyway."



Mark Narrufo, senior: "Yes. Most 17-year-olds have had government classes, so they know what's going on, and most of them are responsible."



Nick Cyronek, junior: "Yes, because if there is a candidate you want in the general election, you should be able to vote so he or she can make it to the primary."



Mary Budny, junior: "Yes, because they should have an opportunity to vote for their candidate to help them get past the primary."



Kiri Soares, sophomore: "Yes. You aren't going to mature much in that six months."



Jenni Williams, sophomore: "Yes. I think 17-year-olds should be able to vote because it's been proven to be successful in other states."

Jeff Howard

Supreme Court attacks student papers, legalizes censorship

Judging by its most recent controversial decision, it is becoming quite obvious that the United States Supreme Court cares very little for the personal freedoms of each and every U.S. citizen, and it is slowly moving towards the suspension of all civil rights in the United States.

On January 13, the Supreme Court, or the "Reagan Court" as it is affectionately known, ruled that public school officials have the constitutional right to censor high school newspapers. This, in reality, denies our First Amendment right of free speech.

The decision ended a five-year battle between the staff of a Hazelwood, Missouri, high school newspaper and their principal, Mr. Robert Reynolds.

The students claimed that Mr. Reynolds had violated their civil rights when he halted the publication of two stories, one about teenage pregnancy and the other concerning the effects of divorce.

The Supreme Court denied the students' contention and stated that "school officials were entitled to regulate the contents of the *Spectrum* (their school newspaper) in any reasonable manner."

In other words, the superintendent of a school district, who has little affiliation with the journalism department, has the power to strike articles and editorials from the newspaper on the grounds that they "contradict the basic ideas taught in school." The Supreme Court, in effect, has legalized censorship.

Further, the Court

took it upon itself to fully define the purpose of a high school journalism class. A school newspaper, as stated in the majority opinion, written by Justice Byron R. White, is "a supervised learning experience for journalism students."

And to pour salt on the wound, the Court declared that a school paper is not a public forum, not a real newspaper. It is an excellent practice exercise and hobby, but that, according to the Supreme Court, is all that it is.

"Clearly, this is not only a blatant violation of our First Amendment rights, but discrimination based upon our ages."

Clearly, this is not only a blatant violation of First Amendment rights, but discrimination based upon our young ages.

Mr. White and the other four justices who handed down the ruling (three dissented), appear to believe that teenagers, as a rule, lack the maturity and responsibility to adequately run a newspaper, that they are unable to distinguish between right and wrong.

The truth is, in both high school papers and professional ones alike, certain

articles are rewritten or stricken all together for various reasons. But such decisions are made by the editors and faculty advisors, the knowledgeable ones, not by an uninformed superintendent.

Central students are very fortunate to have peacefully collaborated with both Dr. G.E. Moller, principal, and with the Board of Education throughout the years, and the *Register* staff hopes that the status quo will hold, leaving control of the paper in the hands of the students.

One interesting facet of the Court's ruling is that of a high school paper's liability. Before the verdict, individual students could be charged with libel and found guilty, and since they were mostly underage, then parents were forced to pay the fine.

But since the Court decided that the school principal or superintendent is the final authority, it is, in reality their paper, their responsibility, their burden. All aspects will reflect upon them, and therefore, all legal charges must be sent to them, for in the opinion of the *Register*, the Supreme Court has unwittingly acquitted the staff of blame.

The "Right to Censor Act" of the U.S. Supreme Court is a travesty of American justice. It is a mockery of what a high school newspaper should be and an insult to all teenagers, implying that they are second class citizens.

And, as Reagan has recently nominated his third Supreme Court Justice, rectification does not appear to be close at hand.

Worthy of the privilege

What many have considered to be the most democratic of elections, the primary election, may soon be open to a broader base of people due to the actions of a few Central students.

Mr. Dean Neff and four Central students, in cooperation with state senator Carol Pirsch, are currently lobbying for a state constitutional amendment.

Such an amendment would give teenagers, whose eighteenth birthdays lie between the primary and general elections, the right to vote in the primary election.

Twelve states, Kansas included, have already enacted the change, and it is time for Nebraska to join such ranks.

While the general election basically decides who will serve in office, it is the primary election in which voters ultimately determine whom they want to represent them.

The November election is nothing more than a formality, for most contests have already been settled back in May.

In a non-partisan race, a battle between non-politically aligned candidates,

the primary narrows the list down to just two; the two whom the voters have indicated that they want.

The partisan elections, however, would experience the greatest impact. In the general election, the two candidates represent two political parties; most Republicans usually vote for the Republican candidate, and the Democrats generally vote for the Democratic candidate.

The real battle occurs in May when party nominations are up for grab. For instance, out of five possible Republican candidates, only one may advance to the general election; the same goes for the Democrats. Therefore, every vote is important.

Swift passage of the proposal would change many things, for more people would be able to vote.

Many statisticians cite that younger age groups have poor voting turnouts, but if the law allowed more people to take part in the voting process, the figures would most likely change.

And more importantly, an increase in voters could have a significant effect upon the results of the primary election.

While all involved should be commended for their work on the proposed amendment, their methods have drawn criticism from both Central High School and the school board.

Attempting to pass an amendment through the state constitution is an excellent means of gaining hands-on experience with state government.

However, the *Register* staff, in accordance with the superintendent, feels that an alternate route should have been taken.

Just as students who have a desire to drive must take drivers' education outside of school, those involved with the proposal should have done likewise; the classroom is no place for a politically-oriented activity.

Despite the course of action, the proposed amendment, which would allow certain seventeen-year-olds to vote in the primary election, is an excellent one.

The *Register* staff backs its supporters' cause and calls upon the Nebraska State Legislature for a sympathetic and understanding ear.



Superintendent Smith on a teenager's right to freedom of the press: "PSYCHE!"

Bennett's plan has flaws

Secretary of Education William Bennett recently released his plan for an "ideal school" with the intention of eventually incorporating this plan into the American Educational System.

One of the more notable aspects of his plan is fewer elective courses and more required courses.

School systems usually require mandatory courses to make sure that their students receive a broad understanding in basic fields such as English, social studies, mathematics and the natural sciences. However, they have let students choose electives with which to supplement their standard studies.

Mr. Bennett obviously realizes that some students enroll in the absolute minimum of required classes.

He states that the rest of their school day centers around electives that are important, but that the student chooses certain classes only because he may easily "slide by" in them. Thus, he achieves an average grade and little education with minimum effort.

Understandably, Mr. Bennett hopes to keep the United States at "the head of the class" as far as international education goes. He does not want to witness the education of American youth falling behind that of the Japanese or the Soviets or the British.

According to a recent *Time* magazine article, foreigners are "swamping" U.S. graduate schools of engineering, science and math. "...bright young Americans seem less interested in higher technical education," writes Mr. Ezra Bowen.

Certainly, U. S. educators are doing something right. American students, on the other hand, appear to be turning down the opportunity to receive an education while greater numbers of foreign students are capitalizing on American ignorance.

For the simple reason that the United States needs well-educated young people, Mr. Bennett's plan is a good idea. His proposal would encourage growth in many basic classes by making student participation

mandatory.

Still, the old saying, "you can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink," haunts the halls and school yards of America.

Students need exposure to a little variety. In school, high school especially, they need to practice making choices, an experience which can affect students later in life.

High schools with a wide range of electives are supporting the students' freedom of choice and teaching them how to go about making these important decisions.

In addition, adequate college preparation stems from a diverse spectrum of elective classes. Such classes provide a broad view of the world outside the classroom.

Having taken a variety of classes, students are better able to pinpoint areas of interest, move toward educational goals and establish careers more suitable for them.

Perhaps Mr. Bennett overlooked the most important lesson the American schools may teach today: freedom of choice.

King serves as reminder

Americans observed Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday on Monday January 18, 1988. They will commemorate the twentieth anniversary of his death on April 4.

These are days that spark the memories of members of older generations, but it appears that our generation does not fully appreciate or understand the greatness and the achievements of Dr. King.

It is an easier task for our parents to remember the marches, the speeches, and the ideas that were King, because they were a part of the racial turmoil and civil unrest that the '50's and '60's brought to this country.

Our generation has grown up in a different time. The '70's and '80's are comparatively safer, better

organized, and definitely more secure. We are soft and have an increasingly poor perspective of events long passed. But it is important that we remember, that we learn from our mistakes and never repeat the injustices of our nation's past.

Dr. King's push for social, political, and economic equality for all Blacks through "nonviolent resistance" was extremely successful from 1955 to 1965 when his rallies drew widespread support from religious, labor, and civil rights organizations.

Prominent demonstrations included the march in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1963 to protest city discrimination; the march from Selma, Alabama, to Montgomery, the state capital, in 1964 to guarantee universal Black suffrage; and most memorably,

the march from the Washington Monument to the Lincoln Memorial on August 28, 1963, in Washington D.C. There, King told 200,000 people that he "had a dream" that someday all men would finally be treated equally.

Martin Luther King, Jr. died on April 4, 1968, assassinated by a hidden rifleman in Memphis, Tennessee.

His crusade did not die with his own death; the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 finished some of what King had begun.

It is our generation's responsibility to keep in mind the past and to be concerned with the present and future so that King's "dream" will never die.

Letters

Dear Editor,

I am writing to voice my opinion of a column that was run in your December 18th edition of the *Register*. One of your more talented writers, Chris Vachaud, wrote a column on the subject of the apartheid. I usually enjoy his column very much, but this time I think he went a little overboard. Columns may be used for personal opinion, but I felt he abused his right of free press. It's not that I endorse Apartheid (I agree with him on that), it's just that his methods of expression were a little unorthodox. His comments were slanderous, and could almost be construed as an attempt to incite a revolution. I believe in the freedom of press, the right of expression, but I feel his comments were extremely biased, and not in good journalistic style. In the future if you receive a ticking box from a *transvaal*, don't open it.

Concerned about the freedom of the press,

Daniel Corcoran

Letter to the *Register* Editor:

I am writing in response to the December 18 column, 'Over time,' by Lance Grush.

It seems very funny to me that Mr. Grush's article, filled with name-calling, was written only three weeks after Nebraska lost to Oklahoma, thus losing their Orange Bowl berth! It sounds like some definite sour grapes there. Could it be that this grudge goes all the way back to January 1, 1984, when Nebraska lost the National Championship Game to Miami 30-31 and has not yet returned to the Orange Bowl?

Mr. Grush then refers to South Carolina. The score between Nebraska and South Carolina was 30-21, while the score between Miami and South Carolina was 20-16. All three teams play rough and hard, but I would hardly call it "extreme unsportsmanlike conduct."

Surely, an undisciplined, rough team with attitude problems, like Miami could not win two National Championships! Yes Lance, in 1984 and in 1987!

Now Lance, don't you think that you let that little green-eyed monster called envy cloud your sight?

University of Miami sophomore

Jackie Hyneck (Central '84)

Pulse

Do you think that students whose eighteenth birthdays lie between the primary and general elections should be able to vote in the primary?

Yes 84%

No 16%

Total Questioned: 184 Students

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Students commit to political parties

Ann Kay

While the highlight of the year for most sophomores is getting their driver's licenses, that for most seniors is receiving the privilege of voting.

At the age of eighteen this right may not seem as significant as driving or legally getting into R-rated movies. However, the right to vote is a responsibility to which every United States citizen is entitled.

Family influence

Central High School senior Scott Focht already registered to vote as a Republican. According to

Scott, his family influenced his choice in the various political affiliations.

"I didn't review all the candidates [before deciding to support Robert Dole for president], but I know a little about them. With Vice President Bush, it's proven that vice presidents don't make good presidents," said Scott.

When giving his support, Scott looks for proof that all candidates stand behind their promises and are conservative.

Stressing his belief that voting is important, Scott said, "I read an article that said 'bad officials are elected by good people that don't vote.'"

Senior Michelle Roth stated, "I'm eighteen, but I have no interest to vote."

Sue Herman, senior, hasn't registered yet, but she intends to do so before the primary elections. "I'll register as a Democrat. I was influenced through what I learned in my American Government class," she said.

Inflation rate

Senior Todd Weddle also has not registered to vote. He said that he will register as a Republican. "They're doing something right; look at the inflation rate," he added. Todd plans to put his support behind presidential candidate Vice President George Bush.

Mr. Jack Blanke, Social Studies department head, is in charge of registering

voters at school each year.

"We'll be registering eighteen-year-olds to vote before the primary election, probably in February or March," said Mr. Blanke, adding that the primary election is in April.

Mr. Blanke explained that ordinarily there are two periods of registration, one in the fall and one in the spring. This year there was not a fall election, so students will have the opportunity to register in early spring.

"Each year we register about 115 to 120 students," said Mr. Blanke.

"Students should know which party affiliation they will choose when they register (Republican, Democratic, or Independent).

"At the time they register, they will declare their party, and the choice they make will remain with them unless they re-register," said Mr. Blanke.

Scott feels that the right to vote is a privilege. Senior Gina Orduna, as well, feels that everyone should vote.

Minority

"I take voting really seriously. Everyone should vote, because everyone counts. Being a minority, I feel it's important to vote for who I think will be fair," she explained.



Seniors, Jennifer Gottschalk, Jennifer Andersen, Sophie Wehbe, Kimm Reitz, Kate Broekemeier, and English teacher, Mrs. Bernstein pose after returning from England [not pictured, Bob Fuglei and Ann Gentle]

Group tours England

Joel McCulloh

Imagine spending New Years Eve in London, England; late nights in the Hard Rock Cafe and busy hours spent shopping up and down the streets of the British.

Eight Central students flew across the Atlantic Ocean with Central English teacher Mrs. Marlene Bernstein. They spent two weeks of their Winter Recess in England.

The students: seniors Jennifer Gottschalk, Sophie Wehbe, Jennifer Andersen, Ann Gentle, Bob Fuglei, Kate Broekemeier, Kimm Reitz and Joan Jorgensen, left on December 20 and returned to "The States" on January 1, 1988.

"This broadened their horizons and gave them an opportunity to explore their cultural roots," said Mrs. Bernstein. Mrs. Bernstein spent time in England seven years ago, and she wanted to "share with them" her experience.

She and her husband went with the Central students through a program called Seminars International.

"It's a good program," said Mrs. Bernstein. "We spent

time in Stratford, Bath, Canterbury and London, to name a few."

According to Joan, the entire group really appreciated the Bernsteins giving their time. "They were really fantastic," said Joan. "We were given structured time and individual time when we needed it."

The only downfall of the whole trip was the fact that the group was overseas for Christmas. "I think it was hard for the kids," Mrs. Bernstein stated, "but we spent Christmas Eve in Canterbury and attended midnight Mass at the Canterbury Cathedral."

Jennifer Andersen said that Christmas Eve and Christmas Day were the only times she was homesick. "It wouldn't have been so bad if I didn't call home, but I felt I should."

Despite the holiday away from home, all the students felt very fortunate to be going. "I never thought I'd get to see England until I was an adult, if even then," said Bob.

Sophie has a sports outlook. "I wanted to go to the All-England Tennis and Croquet

Club and touch the grass of center court where Boris Becker has rolled around," she said. "I did go, but they had center court roped off," she added.

The students visited Oxford, attended Shakespeare's play, *Twelfth Night*, at the Royal Shakespeare Theater, visited Shakespeare's birth place and Anne Hathaway's cottage, drank *lager* in local pubs, and went out for a wild time at Hard Rock.

"Hard Rock Cafe was really cool," said Kate. "Only four of us wanted to go, and I'm glad we did."

Television was also an experience, according to Ann. "Batman" aired every morning," she said. "And clips of the news would come in between, like commercials. I guess that is the only way to get people to watch the news, show it with 'Batman'."

So now we all know why there have been a few happy faces roaming the halls of Central, clothed in colorful *Hard Rock* shirts and prestigious European college sweatshirts.

Financial help provides students college option

Steve Likes

Number four in a series

Who here really likes to talk about financial aid? Just how many people out there actually lie awake at night dreaming about how much money they are going to have to pay for college?

While it is hardly one of those joys of life, financial aid is not a four-letter word, both figuratively and literally. And whether you view it as good or bad, it is something that all college-bound students must complete.

In reality, financial aid is the amount of money that a student will need to attend college. The aid, or financial need, is the cost of attending a college minus the ability to pay. The remainder is a student's demonstrated financial need.

According to Phil Shreibes, the director of financial need for UNO, there are a number of different methods to obtain financial aid, but for most, he added, the first step is filling out the FAF. The FAF, the financial aid form which is put out by the College

Board, the same organization that administers the SAT, is a standardized form which helps to determine financial need. Many people fear filling out this form, but it is not the end of the world, and it must be done.

Both the applicant and the parents must share the burden of completing the FAF, for both have their own respective sections to fill out. The College Board accepts the FAF after January 1, but it cannot be sent in until tax returns have been filed.

Shreibes said that many of the FAF's questions are personal ones, and therefore, the government has little way of checking to see if the applications are correct. However, he said, the federal government selects 30 percent of all forms for verification, a kind of deterrence to fraud.

Another form similar to the FAF is the FFS, the family financial statement published by the ACT. While both forms accomplish the same goal, Shreibes said that it is important to find out which

Continued on page 5

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Student battles leukemia Friend takes active role

Jennifer Andersen

"My name is Andrew Meyer, and I'm a friend of Danny Wiese."

These words begin a letter written to Mrs. Gerry Zerse, Central High School counselor.

In the letter, Andrew Meyer, senior, asks for permission to help his friend Daniel Wiese, also a senior, who has leukemia.

After being diagnosed in seventh grade, Daniel has been in remission until last July, when he had to go back to the hospital for a month and start chemotherapy again.

Visited every day

During his hospital stay, Andrew visited Daniel every day for four to five hours.

"His family told me what a good thing I was for him, but they don't realize what he does for me," said Andrew.

Recently, Daniel returned to school after being at home with a tutor to keep him up with homework.

For a week after

Daniel's return, Andrew helped him around school. In his letter to Mrs. Zerse, Andrew specified what he wanted to do for Daniel.

"When he returns to school on Monday, I'd like to make sure he gets around okay. I'd also like to make sure no one 'messes' with him, if you know what I mean," he said.

Impressed with both

Mrs. Zerse is impressed with both Danny and Andrew.

"Danny is impressive by the way he handles the leukemia; it seems like an ordinary situation in his family." She added, "I never laid eyes on him [Andrew] before, and then he sent me the letter, which was very notable."

One of Daniel's interests is wrestling. "I wrestled last year, but now I go to watch my brother compete in matches," he said.

Andrew concluded, "Anybody who went through what Danny did and came out okay has got to be an extraordinary person."

Aid provides option

Continued from page 5

colleges and universities want which forms.

Besides standardized financial aid forms, many schools have their own aid applications. While they are not as detailed as the FAF and the FFS, such schools want their own form to accompany the national one, and most have deadlines to which the student must strictly adhere.

After one submits the FAF to either California or New Jersey (Nebraska residents send theirs to California), the College Board processes the application and sends the results to the schools that the student indicated. Once the Office of Financial Aid receives the results, it is up to the director to put together a financial aid package which states how much money the student will receive.

A financial aid package is composed of many different facets. It may contain certain scholarships and grants which are non-repayable gifts to the student, student loans which are repayable shortly after graduation, and work-study, in which the student receives money that takes care of a part of his college bill. Most packages are a combination of the three.

The amount of aid that a student receives varies greatly depending upon the individual student and school. Parental incomes, part-time jobs, family size and savings accounts all have a direct bearing upon a student's aid. No two cases are alike.

Even among the colleges, the amounts of aid that they grant are different. Large, state-supported schools generally award less money, but the cost of attending is substantially lower than a private college. Private schools, on the other hand, usually offer more in terms of aid, but, again, their tuition is very high.

Shreibes emphasized that the size of a financial aid package can be deceiving. A public university costing \$3,000 may only award a package of \$2,500, while a private college may offer \$12,000 in aid, but the total bill is around \$18,000. Thus the school with the most aid is not necessarily the best deal.

Shreibes said that financial aid is not the only answer to paying for college. Most schools have their own scholarships based upon anything from athletics to music to academics. Private organizations also offer certain awards which can help to foot the bill.

Most importantly, according to Shreibes, never let the cost of a college or university dictate where you will go to school. Usually something can be worked out if that is where you really want to go. Remember, it's four years of your life; choose wisely.

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In briefs

Latin College Bowl

Latin Club will participate in the city-wide Certamen, or "College Bowl," held at Westside High School on February 9.

Temporary Assistant Principal

While Mr. Richard Jones, Assistant Principal and Athletic Director, recovers from heart surgery, Mr. Cecil Stutzman is his temporary replacement.

New student council members

The Central High School sophomore class recently elected Jennifer Baum, Sabra Bull, Jenny Collins, Teresa Galligher, Kim Horne, Barb Ivis, Justin McWhorter, Ebony Smith, Monica White, and Brett Willenborg to the Student Council.

Students of the Month

January Students of the Month are sophomore Eric Neal, junior Jennifer Mayer, and senior Chris Johnson.

Youth leadership

Sophomore Jennifer Henning has been selected as Central's ambassador to the Nebraska Hugh O'Brien Youth Foundation Leadership Seminar.

Scholarship nomination

Senior Chandra Freeman has been selected as Central's nominee for the 1988 National Association of Secondary School Principals Leadership Award and Scholarship program.

DECA

Seventy-five Central DECA members will participate at the All Metro competition on February 6, at Bellevue West High School. This will be preparation for the State competition.

NHS Induction

On January 24, new members of National Honor Society attended an induction brunch at the Red Lion Inn, paid for by Enron, Central's adopt-a-school partner.



Mrs. Anderson, OEA president and Spanish teacher, helps a student during class.

Anderson balances teaching, leadership

Robin Leavitt

OEA, the Omaha Education Association, is a professional organization formed through the teachers' union. OEA's primary function is to represent teachers and education in the community and state.

Mrs. Vicki Anderson, Central High School Spanish teacher, is the president of OEA. Mrs. Anderson has been an active member of OEA for twelve years and has served on every OEA committee. She also served on the board of directors during the last six years.

When Mrs. Anderson first decided she wanted to run for OEA president, she submitted a letter expressing her interest in that position. Other OEA members then elected her based on her extensive knowledge of the association and her excellent writing and speaking skills. Her term began on August 1, 1986 and will end on July 31, 1988.

"I spend an average of at least five hours a day (in order to fulfill my responsibilities as OEA president)," explained Mrs. Anderson. Her duties include

writing letters, attending meetings, visiting schools and speaking on pending issues.

Members of the OEA also spend a considerable amount of time lobbying issues in front of both city councils and the state legislature. Two of the major conflicts in which OEA has taken part are the fight to save the high school requirement for firemen and divestiture in South Africa. According to Mrs. Anderson, OEA has had great success with such matters.

Currently, Mrs. Anderson and OEA members are working on reforms of federal guidelines concerning special education. Class size is still a major concern of OEA.

OEA also provides a few social services, including bowling leagues and tournaments, as well as softball.

"If the bylaws permitted it, I would (run for the presidential position) again," she commented. Bylaws, however, state that one person cannot be president for two consecutive terms. Mrs. Anderson added that she would probably not run again due to the stipulations of that bylaw.

TEENAGE PREGNANCY: WHOSE RESPONSIBILITY IS IT?



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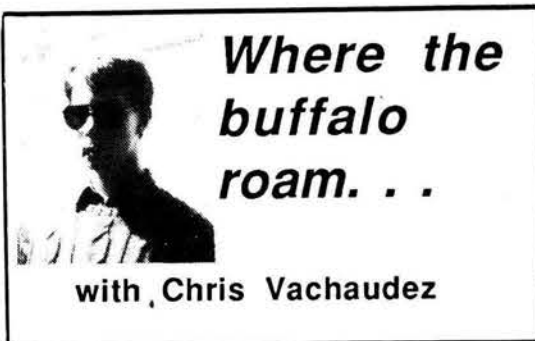
Here we are. The holidays are gone and behind us, thankfully, and now it's time to settle down - or belly up, if you will - to some serious educational reform. Or is it?

I personally wouldn't know. That's not really my field, but Joe Clark - the famous bandit-terminator/ principal at Eastside High School in Patterson, N.J. - is definitely up to something. Precisely what, I don't quite know; neither does the Patterson school board, obviously, because they're bringing Clark under investigation for insubordination, with the possibility of Clark's dismissal.

This is a very touchy subject, naturally, as is everything having to do with education, so the school board is watching its step. If things aren't bad enough for the poor devils, they are plagued by nightmares consisting of *large numbers* of Joe Clark look-alikes: crowds of right-bent administrative enforcement squads standing in the lobbies of school board offices everywhere - looking for jobs as the co-principals of high schools. Bullhorns blare conversation back and forth across the room as they wait for their interviews. This thought, even for me, is slightly unsettling, so why think about it? Why, indeed - it's probably worth a thought, anyway.

Getting back to the subject, Joe Clark has been doing his thing (his thing being to raise strange bedlam with the hoodlum element) for a while now. Four years ago he was applauded for "renovating" a high school similar to the one he is taking on right now, but now he seems to be getting into a little trouble. But who isn't?

Clark entered Eastside High School and, as is his general practice, gathered all the hopeless losers and chronic bad-guy types together in the school gymnasium and, in what



with Chris Vachandez

I'm sure was a thoroughly entertaining bullhorn session, ousted them all from his school. Just like that.

He gave some of them additional choices such as individual study centers, alternative schools, special training and surgery to become Musk Oxen. . . but the basic idea is that none of them would again return to Eastside High - for good or ill.

It's all probably a good idea, though - arguably unconstitutional perhaps, but who's to argue? Definitely not the people involved in The Purge because further investigation into their cases might prove to be embarrassing, to say the least. Besides, what's so unconstitutional about taking away a person's right to create disciplinary problems and sell drugs? I suppose we shall soon see.

In any event, firing Clark is certainly not the answer for Patterson, N.J. He would, no doubt, have so many job offers from all over the country upon his release that his head would most likely explode into a billion tiny half-human,

half-bullhorn bits. Perhaps if they were to let him

loose in the White House for a while. . .

That's not my point, however. I haven't reached it yet - and may never - but it's worth a try.

I guess the thing that really worries me is the visual picture of Dr. Moller pricing megaphones:

". . . and you say this thing puts out over 95 watts? Sssssaaaay, that's more than enough to damage human hearing, isn't it?"

Then, "Oh ya, man! That's a *bad* little mamma! Look, man, I'll tell you what - since you're my man - I'm gonna set you up with my cousin, Jerome. He'll get you the *same* thing for 25 bucks! (momentary pause coupled with uneasy silence, then:) Ya, man. He'll even throw in a nice set of chrome rims for your car!"

But that could never happen. The situation at Central couldn't be *that* bad, could it? No, of course not. I mean, people at Central don't sell drugs. *Trade* maybe, but not *sell*.

No, no. There's no need for weirdness like this. Besides, we live in Nebraska - "The Good Life," remember? Joe Clark is in New Jersey right now, and I figure it'll take him at least five to six years to make his way cross-country to Omaha, and we'll all be gone by then, right? Right.

So why worry? No need, probably, but just to be safe, I'd watch out for Dr. Moller, Mrs. Littlejohn, etc - good administration is something you must care for, much like a good pet, and if not treated well, they can get strangely twisted on us *real* quick. So be careful and Watch especially for changes in dressing habits - fatigues, beards, side arms. . .

Tae Kwon Do becomes art, not violent sport

Rob Glasser

It is late at night; you are going home by yourself; it is dark, and people around you don't seem that nice.

Suddenly, from the bushes springs a man with an eye patch and a hook where his hand should be.

"Come here, you little rat," says the vile, evil man. "Mr. Hook" is slowly walking closer and closer, laughing the evil laugh "Bwooo ah ah ah ah."

There is nowhere to run; there is nowhere to hide. What do you do, faint?

Central High School junior Karen Lee would definitely feel more confident in this situation, for she has earned a "black belt" in Tae Kwon Do a Korean martial art.

"My brother was very interested in it, and that got me started," said Karen who has trained approximately four years for her "black belt."

There are eight belts in all, the eighth being the black belt. A student receives a belt when he or she achieves certain designated skills.

However, when the FT-T6 martial arts student obtains a

"black belt," he has not reached a peak. "Black belts" come in several degrees. A student continues to learn new techniques and many branches of the art, such as Hapkido, self defense with weapons.

To earn her "belt," Karen had to demonstrate to her "Master," or instructor, that she had learned the skills she needed.

She also had to remember all the skills she mastered for her previous "belts," and had to pass oral tests. One test entailed reciting the Tenants of Martial Arts, a sort of chivalrous code.

"You have to demonstrate kicks, blocks, and combinations [of the two]," said Karen. "You also have to break some boards, one with a kick and one with a punch."

Karen added that she only had to break one board at a time. As of yet Karen has not been instructed in Oriental philosophy through her class. She has, however, learned the history of Tae Kwon Do and some Korean terms.

Why would someone want to learn what seems to be a very violent sport?

Karen said that she

had many reasons: self-defense, self-discipline, self-respect, self-confidence, self-control, courtesy, and the fact that it is much more than just a violent sport. It is an art.

Karen also said that due to the workouts, an average of three a week, she is in better physical shape. She earned the satisfaction of two second-place medals in the one, and only, competition she has ever entered.

Karen has even performed before her church group, demonstrating moves and showing her skills in the martial arts.

Tae Kwon Do has not been extremely popular with women, but the female enrollment is picking up, especially with the growing emphasis on self-defense.

Karen said that in her class of approximately thirty males, there are five or six females. Only one is close to her age.

This current unpopularity does not, however, create any problems for Karen.

"My parents are very supportive," she said, "and my friends accept it. Nobody is scared."



Shawn Coleman

Junior Karen Lee practices her martial arts techniques. Karen says that the sport emphasizes self improvement.

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A few of my favorite things

Oompadity mau mau

with Rob Glasser

The subject, television and movies. The element, sex and violence. The opinion, human beings cannot live without them. The other night I celebrated my first mole of murders. That is right, 6.02 EE 23 murders, and along with this I saw a stupendous succession of blood-curdling rapes and a delicious assortment of other atrocious brutalities.

Master piece

The show was a master piece of suspense, action, creativity and insurmountable cruelty. The show started off with your typical blue-eyed, wavy-haired, indestructible stud, graciously named Rock Steele. Throw in a very buxom, bow-legged, blitzed, blonde, bombshell named Kitten and mix it all together with a wide variety of weapons, whips, chains, drugs, psychotics, explosives, criminals and cars. As a final touch, add some really degrading material pertaining to race, sex and physical appearance. Glorious, simply glorious; I could not ask for more.

The plot was of such an artistic caliber that it made Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes look like Jim Henson's Sherlock Hemlock. Our hero, Rock Steele, systematically beats the tar out of a two hundred and fifty-four-person line up of possible suspects, figures out it was the butler, and then pursues Kitten like a satyr that overdosed on some form of aphrodisiac while in heat.

I was thoroughly impressed. Not only did I fall in love with this movie, but I called up Siskel and Ebert and demanded it be put on the all-time top-ten movie list. You know what? They already had. My smile was profoundly huge.

Horse floggings

Head shots, chest wounds, decapitations, disembowelments, dismemberments, eye gouges, breasts, thighs, sweating bodies, maniacs with hatchets, hangings, crushings, smashings, blastings, massacres and even indiscriminate horse floggings have all been displayed to me in a gigantic panorama of blurred sit-coms, television dramas and especially the Hollywood Blockbuster.

Thanks to them, I roll with laughter every time the bad guy is tortured and eliminated. I cheer insanely for my favorite pistol-wielding hero as he empties his endless magazine of hollow point, high power bullets into the heads and bodies of countless villains.

Violence isn't new, and sex is by far a well-known facet of being a reproductive

organism (you reproductive organism you!) However, it seems that the graphics involved have gone from "bang, you're dead" to "bang, your head has exploded most sloppily about the room," and from a simple closed-mouth kiss to a quick romp in bed (or on the floor or in the woods or wherever).

Of course, I don't mind this. But what about the little people, the future, the children. The violence on TV may be too intense for them, and it is definitely too educative. Alluding to a hanging or dismemberment is usually adequate for the normal viewer, but the producers and directors or writers or whomever feel that the atrocity must be displayed in completeness.

Step by step

It's kind of like step by step butchering...an evil twist to instructional viewing. When we are all older, will the TV entertainers of today be the creators of a homicidal strain of demented viewers that know what they are doing? Is mass media trying to imitate Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World*? I don't know.

I'm not saying sex and violence should be eliminated, by any means. If that were to happen, I would probably never watch television or a movie again. But this could be the time to use a little style, restraint, charisma and judgement when it comes to these elements on the prime time airwaves. After all, what are we trying to tell them?

Sophomore finds America 'different'

Justin Kerr

Imagine stepping off a plane at Los Angeles International Airport, coming from a country with drastically different customs and traditions, a dissimilar language, political system and way of life.

Ziyang Wu, Central High School sophomore, lived this experience. He is a student from Communist China, dwelling in Omaha with his family.

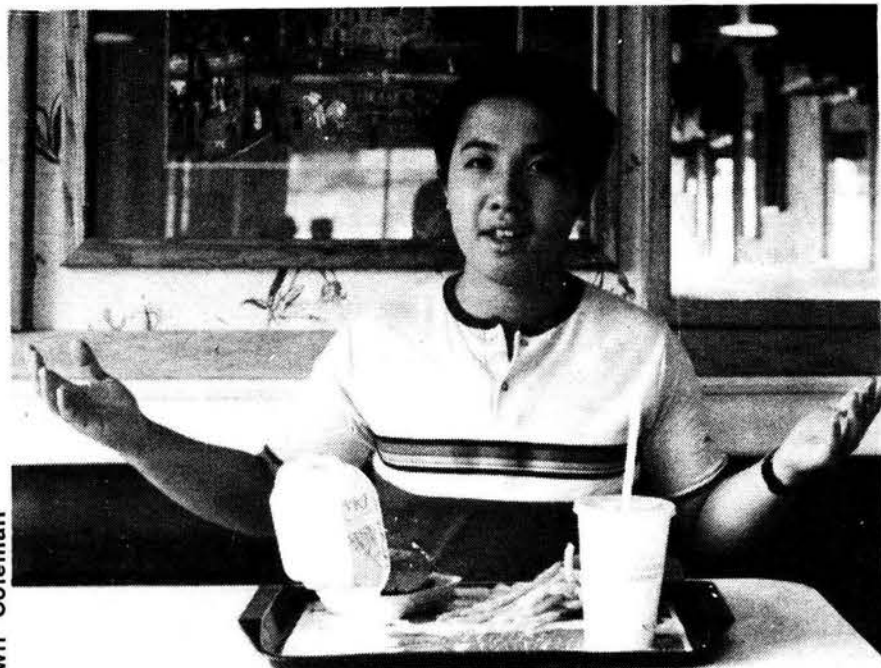
Wu arrived September 1, 1985, in Los Angeles with his mother. His father and older brother had come earlier, because they received entrance visas at different times.

All three other members of his family came to do research at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, with Wu's father researching microbiology, his mother pathology, and his brother pharmacy. Ziyang, called Zi for short, came along to study in America.

Among Zi's strongest first impressions of the United States were the automobiles. "There are a lot more cars and many more highways than in China," he said.

As for the first time he tasted American food, Wu recalled, "I don't remember what it was, but I remember that I hated it." Now Zi likes "some of the food" in America.

When asked about the level of difficulty of his school in China compared to that of Central, Wu replied that it was more difficult in China "because the teachers tend to want you to memorize



Shawn Coleman

Sophomore Ziyang Wu wonders why Americans find fast food so appetizing. Zi plans on attending college in the states and hopefully finding a job.

everything."

The courses are also different, with no choices as to which subjects the students may take. The pupils are assigned a group consisting of 40 to 50 people with whom they spend that entire school year. This difference in school customs is especially apparent in the grade school years of first through sixth grade. A student stays with the same group for the entire six years, and during this time "absolutely nothing

changes," said Zi.

Wu described the advantages of this system. The students are "closer together" and "everyone is more equal," he explained. "There is no bullying or pomposity between students," he added.

Another difference between the two school systems is a six-day school week and a lengthy break in the middle of the day for Chinese students.

A typical Chinese school starts at 7:45 in the morning and begins with 15 minutes of reading, moving on to four 45-minute periods with 10 minute breaks in between.

Around noon the students "go home, eat lunch, and maybe take a nap," he said. They return to school again at around 2:30.

According to Zi, there are "anywhere from one to three more periods in the afternoons," and then homework in the evenings.

Zi said that the social life of teenagers in China is practically nonexistent. "There are no movies, nightclubs, or those kinds of things to go to....If students go out together, it's usually boys with boys and girls with girls....(In China) you don't have dates," he said.

Zi attributed this to the fact that it is "a kind of custom" and that "parents and students are much more linked in China....Whatever the parents want the students to do, that's what they usually do."

He added that "parents kind of take over the students' lives." Students normally start dating after college, but in order to marry, "men must be at least 21 and women 20 years old," said Zi.

In comparing money and the standard of living, America is much better," stated Wu, but "the people are much more isolated here and crime is more of a problem in America." He added that buying luxury items is "hard to do" in China and that "they're very expensive compared to salaries. In particular, cars present two practical problems," said Zi.

"The first is that they are 'too expensive,' and the second is 'you can never find a place to park it. A car occupies a big space, so everyone has a bicycle instead of a car." Wu reasoned that this is because it is "eight times as crowded, in China as it is in America."

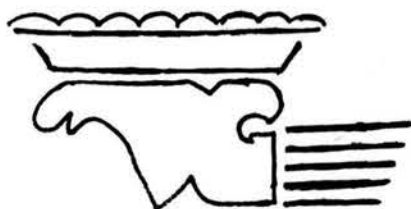
Concerning returning to his homeland, Zi is unsure of when he will go back. "As long as I study here, I can stay here." He plans to "stay in America for college and maybe get a job," but in order to get any type of job outside of assisting in a school, Zi must be accepted for a work permit visa.

When asked about his outlook for the future and if he is glad he came to America Zi stated, "When I first came to America, I regretted that I came, but then slowly I got used to the system and everything. Now it really doesn't make any difference to me if I go back or not."

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Molly Ringwald and Randall Bantikoff goo and gaa over their newborn baby in the movie *For Keeps*.

Another baby movie?

Joël McCulloh

Oh great another Molly Ringwald teeny-bopper flick. Just what the world needs. Well world, prepare for this: *For Keeps*. Molly's latest wonder, is far from the usual cliches of her past movies.

So here we have a couple of kids having a kid. Not a new idea, but the situation is more realistic than any other movie portrayed. They fight, laugh, cry and most of all, they realize what love is all about. Many people will be stunned by the reality of this movie. It really doesn't follow the basic outline of typical movies.

Register Review

For Keeps is a new movie with a lot of new approaches to old ideas. Molly Ringwald stars as Darcy Elliot, a senior in high school who gets pregnant and turns down the abortion her mother is pushing. Randall Bantikoff, a new face on the screen, plays Stan Bobrucz, the husband, boyfriend, father; and watch out, this guy is good!

The director, John G. Avildsen, has taken society's "no-no's" and put them on film in a realistic manner, in fact, maybe a little too realistic. The beginning credits flash while the camera takes a trip down a vaginal canal, and we see a typical biology film of an egg being fertilized by millions of tiny little sperm.

Situations may be realistic, but the film still falls into that hopeless Hollywood stereotype of the "and everyone lives happily ever after" category.

The movie is a beginning, and it may open doors for a new outlook on cinema, and maybe a changed view of society.

Williams is spirit of the radio

Rob Glasser

GOOOOOOOOOO
Morning VIETNAAM!!!! This is the cry you hear when radical Air Force disc jockey Adrian Cronauer receives a job as a wild, misfit d.j. on an Army radio station.

The station is presently the capital of boredom and polka music, but Adrian is assigned to change all of that.

Perry Como, out! Lawrence Welk, out! Jim Nabors, out! The fighting G.I.s will listen to the Beach Boys, the Coasters, and even Louis Armstrong.

This program change is all to the disgust of two orthodox officers who cannot control this new d.j. shipped in from Greece. In fact, these two officers turn out to be the antagonistic nemesis of the fun-loving Adrian.

Register Review

Many other horrifying and glorifying situations help

the movie-goers get a glimpse of both the atrocities of the war and the beauty of the natives' lifestyle.

Fairly exciting, emotionally stirring, and considerably humorous, *Good Morning Vietnam* is a fair portrayal of a celebrity comedian dealing with the American brass and the Vietnamese society.

Do yourself a favor, and drop in to see this movie. Take some friends, take some animals, whatever trips your trigger.

Aquarius... This is the month to try and break the "Stuff the Cheeseballs into the Mouth" record. The star charts reveal that all Aquarius' mouths will expand on January 29. So if you are a serious "cheeseball stuffer," the 29th will be your night of triumph. Floyd is waiting.

Pisces... Oh fishy fishy fishy fish. Did you miss me? You have angered both me and the stars with your blatant and idiotic behavior. In order to reconcile yourself, you must beat me at underwater tic-tac-toe while wearing a metallic green toga and singing Jethro Tull's "Aqualung"...backwards. Floyd knows when you are sleeping.

Aries... Things are not quite as dismal this forecast. I might if you ask nicely, tell you a thing or two about yourself. You are about two foot three, long floppy ears, big padded feet, a cute little button nose, and have a pocket watch on a long, golden chain. Furthermore, you like cold champagne on a warm summer's eve and a friendly tickle beneath the chin. Did I hit the nail on the head, or what? Floyd knows when you're alone.

WHAMOSCOPIES!

Rob Glasser

Taurus... Oh Bull! It must be getting tough walking around with those big bull... feet. Yeah. Have you ever thought of giving up on everything and running away to a hidden-lake paradise and living on a lily pad? Well, you might start now. When Floyd is around, no one is safe.

Gemini... I have foreseen in the stars a great fortune waiting for you. All you have to do to receive this just reward, for such a hard life, is play the Ecuadorian National Anthem. But there is a catch; you must play the anthem by placing your hand in your armpit and emulating a very vulgar sound. Floyd loves Gemini Blood.

Cancer... A forecast flash has just come in on my super-high-density-never-fail-bowling-surrogate crystal ball that you, my friends, are about to embark on a journey, a pilgrimage to the land of happy beans, where all fruits and vegetables live a long and harmonious existence without the fear of being devoured. In this land of happy beans, the King Bean will tell you the secret of Floyd so you can avoid him.

Leo... Rowr, rowr. "Kiss my grits," as the immortal Florence Jean Cassleberry used to say. Your last forecast was uneventful, so I'm making up for it this time. If you want to know your future, you must answer a question that has puzzled me for two years. What happens when you put pasta and antipasta in the same bowl in the same proportions? Floyd may be under your bed.

Virgo... You are a Virgo, you are a Virgo, nya, nya, nya, nya, nya. Hey, where's your brain? How come you didn't do the chicka boom boom chant? Are you nuts? I'm not putting my integrity, not to mention my talent, on the line like that if you are not even going to take advantage of the opportunities I place before you. I'm telling Floyd where you live.

Libra... Do you want a cowboy cookie? A well-balanced diet this month will make you a much happier person. Tell your mom, dad or whomever that you must avoid cafeteria food, and concentrate on the good stuff, Burger King. Who is Floyd, you dare ask?

Scorpio... I wish to make all your wildest fantasies come true, but I'm sorry; I'm booked solid all the way through next November. Good mediums are hard to come by. This is the month to push the guacamole envelope. Find out just how much guacamole it takes to completely fill one Yugo "sports" car. Floyd the notorious has his mind set on you!

Sagittarius... If there was ever a time to enter the Publisher's Clearing House Sweepstakes, this is definitely the time. You won't win, but playing with the entrance form will keep you blissfully occupied for about an hour (thereby saving you from the hideous wrath of Floyd). This will be a good month for you to make those decisions you were too "chicken" to make last month.

Capricorn... An awful disease that afflicts only unprotected Capricorns is descending from the stars. If you do not perform the charm I'm giving to you (free of charge), you will turn bright, cherry red with large yellow zig zags. The charm is to lick two dimes and one quarter; press them against your forehead until they stick, and take a bath without losing one coin (technical advice: eat some Skittles first). You must also beware Floyd.



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David Letterman gains audience

Teachers, students await snow days

Robin Leavitt

"The only thing that makes the winter season bearable is a snow day!" revealed Central High School senior Peter Pirsch.

When even the slightest chance of snow fall exists, both teachers and students hope for a school cancellation.

In times of prevailing weather conditions, Dr. Norbert Schuerman, Superintendent of the Omaha Public Schools, decides whether or not to cancel school.

OPS weather service

Dr. Schuerman receives pertinent information directly from an OPS weather service, which provides a

complete forecast as well as a report of road conditions.

"I think the windchill factor and the temperature should be considered, not just the amount of snow, because lots of people have to stand outside and wait for a bus," commented junior Stephan Dietrich.

Cancellation factors

Dr. Schuerman does take into consideration the windchill factor, temperature, road conditions, and the amount of ice and snow.

Dr. Schuerman must make his decision before 6:00 a.m. to ensure that the information reaches the public by a reasonable time.

"It's a great feeling when you wake up in the

morning and you think you have to go to school; then you see the snow and you hear the cancellation announcement," said senior Mark Austin.

Planning ahead

Many students and teachers plan for a snow day if there is even a reasonable suspicion that officials will call off school.

"I stay up and watch David Letterman, and I don't set my alarm or do my homework, so if we do have school, I'm really late," admitted senior Mike Charlesworth.

In the morning students, parents and teachers said that they all listen to the radio with anticipation.

"I don't take any chances. I do my homework and set my alarm, but when I get up, I fly to my radio and listen hopefully," explained senior Mark Narrofo.

Teachers often plan ahead for possible snow days. For example, Mr. John Keenan, English teacher, in one instance gave his students two assignments, one which was to be done if school was cancelled.

Junior Tammy Macaffee added, "My teachers all assume we won't have school. They want snow days as much as we do."

According to students, transportation problems also abound in bad winter weather.

"I ride the bus, so if it's really bad out, even if we

have school, I might not go. It's terrible to have to stand outside in the cold," explained sophomore Eric Neal.

Automobile difficulties

Several Central students said that even those who drive run into difficulties.

Cars won't start, traffic is dense and slow, and, they said, travel time is often doubled. Accidents are common, for people are often hurrying to work or school, and don't take the extra necessary precautions.

Senior Kim Stinn summed up the feelings of many students when she complained, "I hate driving to school in bad weather. It takes twice as long, and lousy drivers drive even worse on snowy, icy days."

Students push for voting amendment

Continued from page 1

He wanted "to get them involved in a government activity," he said. Introducing a resolution to the legislature, he added, seemed to be a good way of getting the students' input.

However, a student teacher took the government class for most of the first semester, so Mr. Neff decided to use his second semester class for most of the work.

In the meantime Charlie, Rich and Wes began initial work on the resolution. David and Wade later offered their support and help. Senator Pirsch said, "I want to get (students) involved as much as possible."

According to Mr. Neff, 12 states already have similar amendments, and "the government book mentions a California group which tried (to pass the same amendment), but failed."

He went on to explain that a "clear Supreme Court decision on states' rights and the United States Constitution leave (the decision to institute) a younger voting age to the states."

Senator Pirsch explained that the idea itself is in the form of a resolution because it is a Constitutional change rather than a law.

If the resolution passes on the floor of the Unicameral, it goes directly to the voters for their approval.

"I'm hoping we can get enough grass roots-level support," Mrs. Pirsch said. "We're going to have to take our selling job to the public."

Mr. Neff agreed, adding, "this is where we really have to involve other schools."

One problem the group faces is the fact that a large number of young people do not vote. "There is great criticism that 18 to 24-year-olds are least likely to vote," said Senator Pirsch.

"Maybe this (resolution) will generate interest in their opportunity to vote while the young people are still in school," she added.

According to David, the major problem is that voters may not be willing to vote in favor of the amendment because "people don't like change."

Although they don't believe it will be a major problem, the group has no special interest groups to lobby for them. Mr. Neff stated that Mr. Gary Caldwell, Omaha Public Schools Social Studies Supervisor, "gave me some guidelines."

Several years ago, Mr. Caldwell and a group of South High School students worked to pass a law allowing studded snow tires on cars.

"He had tremendous help from the tire manufacturers," said Mr. Neff. In the end the group was successful, and the bill passed.

"We must stress (to students) the fact that the primary is the most democratic of all elections," said Mr. Neff. "The amendment gives 17-year-olds

the right to make a choice when the other election comes around," he said.

He appealed to his classes to call or to write their state senators and ask them to support the resolution.

According to Mr. Neff, the reasoning behind the appeal was to "put pressure on the senators."

Senator Pirsch hoped that other senators would "seize the opportunity" to sponsor the amendment.

She introduced Legislative Resolution 253 (LR 253) on January 6. State Senators McFarland (District 28), Chambers (District 11) and Ashford (District 6) co-sponsored the resolution.

The resolution will go through the Government and Military Affairs Committee, and Chairman David Landis will set the date of the hearing.

Before the school board ban, the group had planned to testify at the public hearing. Now, however, they are not sure whether or not they will be able to do so.

"The thing that's going to kill it is time," said Mr. Neff, acknowledging that the more time the committee takes with the resolution, the less chance it has of survival for public voting.

Picture this: Portrait provides immortality

Rob Glasser

Immortality... a "state of being" of which many people dream, a provision in all religions, and (as far as proven) impossible to obtain on this Earth.

Well, actually not impossible, for in an abstract way immortalization is possible while a person is still in the flesh.

Paintings, music, books, and other forms of art have immortalized their subjects since near the dawn of time.

The artist's pencil has, in a way, immortalized Central High School junior Danuta Golas. The subject of a portrait by artist Kent Bellows, Danuta has a larger chance of being an immortal object in the future than do most people.

Danuta received the chance to be the portrait's subject by mere coincidence. "I am friends with his daughter and asked him to photograph me for an art project. Later, he asked me to model," she said. After she briefly modeled for Mr. Bellows, he paid her \$100.

"I only had to sit for about fifteen minutes since he has pictures of me and I'm over there [visiting] a lot," she said. Danuta had to sit and hold position only a few times, in the middle of his work, and for finishing touches.

The portrait's media is pencil, and, according to Danuta, Mr. Bellows took into account every aspect, including position, expression and detailing of the physical and the spiritual. She said it has that "old fashioned look."

"It seems so real,"

Danuta said of the portrait when she saw it in its finished form. "He did a real good job."

The portrait sold for "a considerable sum," she said, though the artist, for his own reasons, did not wish to disclose the exact figure.

Danuta was excited when she was first asked to be the subject of the picture. "He

is one of the best in the world," she said, adding that the excitement hasn't faded away. She has hopes that it will be a popular piece when it shows in New York and also that it will become a timeless and ageless classic.

"It is an honor, and I am as happy as anyone would be (to have his portrait drawn)," said Danuta. She also said

that it made her more aware of art and will come in useful as she pursues a career in the art world.

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At the Summer Olympics in Seoul

Greatest rivalry renewed after twelve years



with Lance Grush

Team spirit is what brings high school students out to football games in the fall and to basketball games in the winter.

Everyone wants his team to end up number one and win the state championship.

At the same time most people in Omaha and throughout the state of Nebraska are cheering for the Huskers to win the Big 8.

Throughout the country some fans are so loyal that they attend intercollegiate sporting events year-round. And no matter how bad a team may be, their loyal followers will have them number one in their hearts.



Then professional sports come in. The Super Bowl, the NBA Championship and the World Series are the goals of the various professional teams each year.

Everybody has a favorite team and (hopefully) remains loyal to his team through both the good years and the bad years.

All of these levels of competition have created a large number of intense rivalries.

Central and Creighton Prep in high school football, Nebraska versus Oklahoma and USC versus UCLA in college football, Dallas and the Giants in professional football, and Boston versus the Lakers (and Philadelphia) in the NBA are a few of the major rivalries in sports today.

Greatest rivalry

But the greatest rivalry of all is one that people from all over the world experience every four years (at most). This rivalry unites more sports fans in the United States than any other. It is the United States of America and

the Soviet Union, and they will meet in Calgary (Canada) for the Winter Olympics and in Seoul (South Korea) for the Summer Olympics.

This year's Summer Olympics will be the first time the USA and the Soviet Union have gone head to head in the summer games since 1976.

Consecutive boycotts

In 1980 the United States boycotted the Summer Olympics in Moscow to protest the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan. Then, in 1984, the Soviets boycotted the summer games in Los Angeles to sort of "get even."

The Summer Olympics will most likely come down to the USA and the USSR competing for the most medals. The Winter Olympics is much more balanced since the European Countries tend to excel more in winter sports.

Miracle needed

It would take a miracle for the United States to win the Winter Olympics. We do tend to be consistently competitive

in all of the figure skating events, some of the skiing events, speed skating and hockey (gold medal in 1980).

Contend for gold

When it comes to the Summer Olympics though, look out! We excel in most of the events. Our basketball teams shouldn't lose to anyone.

Do you really think some Russian can guard Danny Manning or J.R. Reid? It is quite unlikely.

In basketball, track events, volleyball, gymnastics, swimming and baseball, you can bet that the "stars and stripes" will be in contention for the gold (too bad football isn't one of the sports they play).

The Olympics are great! And now we can bring out that patriotism that's been dormant for four years.

Not only are the Olympics great for the patriotism they bring out, but also for bringing the countries of the world together to throw aside their differences and have fun competing for the gold.

Sports brief

● Maurtice Ivy, a 1984 Central graduate, broke Nebraska's career scoring record in women's basketball last Wednesday night against Kansas State. Maurtice, sister of Central senior Mallery Ivy, is also the career scoring leader for high school girls in the state of Nebraska. Ivy scored 1,926 points at Central, leading the Lady Eagles to two state championships. She now has scored 1,868 points as a Lady Husker.

● Senior Johnetta Haynes scored 31 points against Bellevue East to lead the Lady Eagles to their third victory.

● Senior Jim Martin led Central with 23 points in their second victory of the season against Bellevue East. Junior Dennis Barfield scored eight of his ten points in the fourth period to break open a close game. The Eagles outscored the Chieftains 21 to 11 in the final quarter.

● Senior Jim Martin, is fifth in the metro in rebounding averaging 11 rebounds a game through nine games. Martin also is tied for seventeenth in scoring averaging 14.8 points a game.

● Junior James Maloney ranks third in the metro in field-goal percentage, shooting 60 percent from the field.

● Senior Trevis Sallis advanced to the semifinals of the metro wrestling tournament before losing 7-3 in a decision to Derrick Browder from Omaha North.

Senior class softball tournament 'a great idea'

Lance Grush

Participating seniors described the class softball tournament held at Elmwood Park on Saturday, January 16, as successful.

"It was fun," said senior Kim Reitz. "But some people took it too seriously."

"It was a great idea," said Rich Wingate. "I was surprised how many people showed up."

"I thought it went pretty well," said Sean Wilson.

"Everyone had a lot more fun than they thought they would."

Ten teams participated, each consisting of ten players with a minimum of four girls as a requirement.

The first round games began at 12:30 pm and the finals ended around 5:30. Each game was played for four innings with a 'ten run' rule in effect.

Wingate, a member of the winning team, thought his team would be about average. "I thought we would lose our

first game, or win the first and lose the rest," he commented.

The other members of the winning team were; team captain Dan Corcoran, Chris Vachauder, Erik Hoiekvam, Kym Lauvitz, Sarah McWhorter, Rick Harris, Joe Salerno, Sophia Wehbe, and Trish Foster.

The only major problem in the tournament was the lack of organization and some minor rule disputes.

Reitz said, "They didn't have the rules decided

on a couple of things." She said the problem was they hadn't decided before the game if they were going to use baseball rules or the rules used in the Omaha softball leagues.

The senior class officers plan to have a second tournament in the spring.

"We'll probably try to have the same team in the spring," said Wingate. "It should be better organized and more fun in the spring," added Wilson.

Lack of team play contributes to 'disappointing' season

Bridget Buckley

Little things take success from the Central High School girls' basketball team.

The season has been disappointing to Head Coach Don Knauss. He feels that the team has had a tough schedule and hasn't improved as he thought it would.

"The team has had a chance to win three of its games, but mistakes are found, easy shots missed, and rebounds missed," said Knauss.

"We shouldn't have lost some of our games," said Mallery Ivy, senior.

The Lady Eagles were six points ahead of Marian with fifty seconds left and ended up losing.

"If everyone would rededicate themselves... we would improve," said Coach Knauss.

Coach Knauss said that the team is making many mental errors. He also said that a lack of

concentration has led to missed freethrows, simple passing and catching errors, and low shooting percentages.

"The girls must play as a team," said Knauss. "It is evident that the girls have not."

Ivy said that the team is a group of players who are each playing a one man game instead of playing a team game. It is rare for the team to pass the ball three times before the ball is shot.

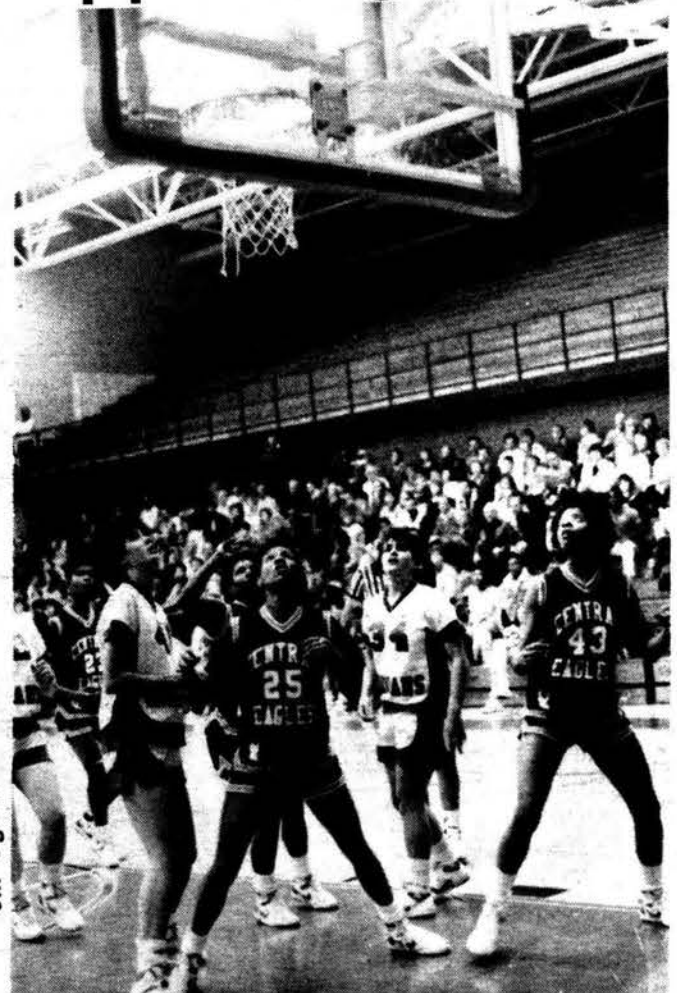
"We always go down and shoot, never working the plays," said Ivy.

According to Knauss, the girls do this because they think that by doing it this way they can make up the points they have lost.

At this point there is no chance for the girls to get a wild card in the play offs, but there is a chance for them to turn it around, said Coach Knauss.

"If everyone would rededicate themselves to getting better and would improve themselves of the little things, we would improve," said Knauss.

"I am not giving up, but sometimes when you lose, you get down, and you won't perform as well," said Ivy.



Senior Mallery Ivy positions herself for a rebound in a game against Millard South.

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Winter conditioning speeds and strengthens

Bridget Buckley

It is the first track meet of the season, and the Central High School track runners are lining up along the starting line with their opponents.

What gives the Central runners an advantage over the other teams? According to junior Marcie Reed, Winter conditioning gives Central an edge.

"Winter conditioning and weight training greatly enhance performance," said Mr. Joe McMenamin, boys track coach.

McMenamin said that out of a group of athletes with similar capabilities, those who started conditioning earlier will have the advantage.

"Winter conditioning helps me to get ahead and pick up speed," said Junior Abe Hoskins. Reed agreed, saying, "It gets you ready. You get things out of it that you would not get during the regular season."

The track teams concentrate on two main points during winter conditioning. The first aspect covered is improving the muscle strength of their upper and lower muscle groups. Team members do this by lifting weights. The idea behind strengthening muscle is that the stronger the athletes legs are, the faster they can run.

The second point of the conditioning is improving speed. This is often done by running sprints and improving form.

Track does not involve only running events;

Tess Fogarty



Mallory Ivy, senior, and Abe Hoskins, junior, prepare to race on the snow covered track during the winter conditioning program for the track team.

Team members work to improve their times and strengthen their muscles before the season begins so they can defeat their opponents.

field events are also part of the sport. A field event is one such as long jump, shot put, discus and the triple jump which are carried out in the center of the track.

"We watch films to give us technique ideas for our events," said Dan Stillmock, senior.

Hoskins runs the 200

and the 400-yard events. His winter program consists of an abundance of stretching and work outs with Mr. Reed, Central track coach. Hoskins said that Coach Reed had him run 1000 meters to build his endurance and 150-meter sequences to build his speed. Hoskins hopes that, with the help of winter conditioning, he

will increase from the top four to the top two in his events.

Stillmock competes in the discus and shotput. He lifts weights to improve his skill in these events. Weightlifting builds muscles throughout his body, but mainly in his legs.

Running cross country helps build endurance

for her 400 and 800-meter events, according to Reed. She also lifts weights and runs sprints to increase her speed.

The general consensus of the track team is that the conditioning is helpful. "Past successes (during) the spring seasons after winter conditioning prove its success," said McMenamin.

"The exhilarating sport of brooms and stones"

Juniors reach nationals in curling

Chris Vachandez

If you could invent a sport that was a sort of physical combination of shuffleboard, bowling, billiards, and golf played on ice with large, 42-pound stones, you would probably invent something kind of like curling.

Juniors Pete Festersen and Tyler McLeod, expert curlers and members of the regional junior men's team, will be traveling to Rochester, New York, soon, to participate in their third straight national curling competition.

Festersen and McLeod, two members of a four person team, placed fifth last year at nationals and seventh the year before that and, according to Festersen, are expected to place at least in the top three this year. Should they win in Rochester, they will go on to world competition in Germany.

"It's kind of like shuffle-board and bowling, but a lot more physical."

Festersen compared curling to other sports by saying, "I hate to say this because it makes it sound bad, but it's kind of like shuffle-board and bowling - but it's a lot more physical. You really have to be in shape."

Curling is an old Scottish sport in which four team members - the skip, curler, and two sweepers - slide the curling stone down the ice to a target, speeding up or slowing down the stone by sweeping the ice directly in front of the sliding stone, as the skip - the "quarterback" of the team calls out the signals.

In normal play, the curler begins by sliding the stone down the ice towards the target, and the skip then tells the sweepers to sweep according to where he/she wants the stone to rest.

Sweeping speeds the stone up and makes it travel farther - hopefully resting in the center of the target or knocking the opposing team's stone off the target.

Called "the exhilarating sport of brooms and rocks on ice" by the Ak-Sar-Ben Curling Club's information flyer, curling attracted over 20,000 enthusiasts in the U.S. and about 250,000 in Canada.

Supposedly, curling was introduced into the United States by lonely Scottish settlers whose only salvation from the complexity of pioneer life was a patch of ice and a stone to curl.

Since then, curling clubs have mustered a limited, but loyal fellowship of proud members all across the country and world.



Scott Drickey

Pete Festersen and Tyler McLeod, juniors, sweep the 42 pound stone during a game of curling at Ak-Sar-Ben. Sweeping is a technique used to speed up or slow down the stone.