

The Register

Central High School ~ Omaha, Ne. ~ Vol. 108 ~ Issue 2 ~ October 19, 1994

Central Authors



Collegiate programs for students Special scholarships

by Sarah Danberg

Central students are participating in two all-time scholarship programs.

One such program for youth was started by Walter Scott, Jr. of the Kiewit Foundation and graduates of Sacred Heart Elementary. The about 41 students in the Metropolitan area are involved with this program, ten at Central.

Mr. Michael Boston is a mentor with the program. He travels to 13 schools weekly to meet with students. He helps students by arranging job shadowing programs, checking on grades and doing all he can to get them admitted to the college of their choice.

Mr. Boston also builds friendships with students, by talking to them and doing activities with them, such as taking them out to lunch.

"There are lots of connections going on," said Mrs. Sharon Cipperley, guidance counselor. "He serves as a mentor, he serves as a support system."

In high school, students must keep up with work, attend class and do their best to graduate on time. They must also keep out of trouble.

According to Mr. Boston, the four years of high school are critical. "Peer pressure is stronger now than it ever was. That makes this opportunity more important."

If the students maintain good standing, when they go to college the Kiewit Foundation will pay whatever scholarships and financial aid do not. In order to keep the scholarship in college, the student must maintain a G.P.A. of 2.5 or higher.

Although this is the first year of the program, Mr. Boston is optimistic. "It's

going to be a success. It gives kids an opportunity they didn't have before," he said.

Jerrett Tunstall, sophomore, agreed. As a result of this program, he has set high goals for himself: "to go to college, be successful, and go on to do [his] duties." Jerrett added, "If it weren't for this I wouldn't be doing work," he said.

Another first year scholarship program was started by Mr. Phil Schrager, Central graduate and owner of Pacesetter Corporation.

According to Mr. Schrager, the program is for fourth through twelfth graders and is "focused on minority kids." It involves 108 students from OPS.

Two freshmen students from Central, Jeremie Cobb and Angela Burson, are involved with the program. Angela said that counselors recommended students to be considered for the scholarship. She went to an interview, and the next day was told she had been accepted into the program.

All students involved meet three times a week at different locations. There "they participate in cultural events, sporting events, and artistic events, such as the symphony," said Mr. Schrager.

Angela said that academic tutoring is available. "It'll help me keep my grades up."

Students in the program who graduate from high school "will receive a scholarship to the college of their choice," said Mr. Schrager. The Pacesetter scholarship will pay \$2000 a year for four years.

Angela said the opportunity for a scholarship is what motivates her to get good grades. "I know it'll be worth it in the end," she said.

Campaigning at CHS



Photo by: Jenny Hurst

Meeting the next mayor?: KFAB reporter interviews Mr. Hal Daub during the Central Student Forum held in the courtyard on September 25. This forum allowed students to meet with candidates and/or their representatives for all of the political offices available this election. The social studies department also put on a School Board Forum. This forum was held on October 5. School Board candidates attended this forum. This forum gave students the opportunity to talk to the candidates in their district who are responsible for governing their schools. For more information on the candidates for School Board, see page 13.

Building renovations remain on Central's wish list

by Carrie Parrott

Numerous OPS elementary schools, junior highs and high schools have been remodeled in the past few years. Many students have heard of the shiny new floors, the air-conditioned classrooms, and the brand new weight-lifting rooms that many schools have received. Central's new gym was added in 1977, and the main part of the building was last renovated in 1981-1982. But when is it Central's turn to be remodeled again?

According to Dr. John Smith of OPS business services, Central is the next OPS high school in line for remodeling. The bad news: the school board recently took a look at all OPS schools to see which ones will be needing the most repair in the next five years, and Central is not at the top of the list. It could be five to ten years before any major renovations are made. But don't despair, Dr. Smith said that Central's needs are certainly being considered by the school board.

One matter that OPS officials have been considering quite a bit lately is the apparent need for air-conditioning at Central. Suggestions have been made by school board members to install window air-conditioning units in all classrooms, to attempt to install central air-conditioning or to completely forget about installing a cooling system at all.

Many Central students feel that air-conditioning is a must during the hot, sticky days at the beginning of the school year. Mary Hill, sophomore, said, "I think Central needs air-conditioning because the classes are very uncomfortable at the beginning of the school year. Kids would probably end up learning more if there was air-conditioning because they would be comfortable and not side-tracked by the heat."

John Duffek, freshman, agrees with Mary's feelings that the amount of learning

Gina D'Accio, junior, said that she feels that Central doesn't need air-conditioning as long as the school year doesn't start very early. "I don't think it (air-conditioning) is necessary. If we don't start school too early, it's not that bad."

Some Central students and teachers feel that more than Central's cooling system needs to be renovated sometime soon. Miss Joy Morris, physical education teacher and department head, said that one of her primary concerns is the lack of classroom space available during the school day.

"There's a major concern with everybody—there's not one empty classroom at Central during any time of the day." Miss Morris feels that more classrooms should be added to Central so that there would be a place besides the gymnasiums for P.E. teachers to lecture when needed.

Miss Morris also said that although Central is very well-built, it "needs to be dressed up a bit." She stressed the fact that she does not wish to change any of Central's traditional look, such as the wooden floors, only repair the places that need a little fixing.

Miss Morris also feels that the area around the old and new gyms need to be repaired. She said that she has noticed falling ceiling plaster and a general need for repainting in these areas.

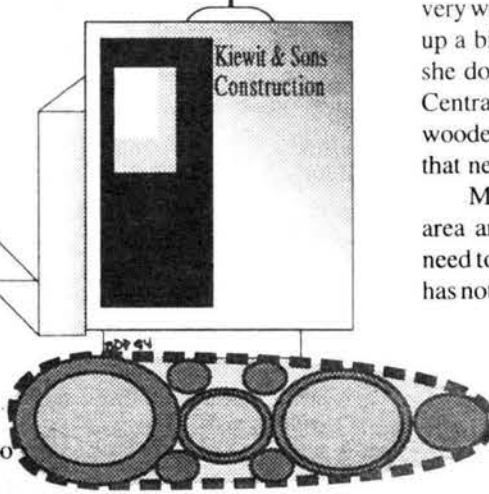
Mrs. Diane Pfeiffer, physical education teacher, also feels that
Continued on page 14.

O.P.S. Major High School Renovations

Bryan-	1971 (Built)
Central-	1981-82
Burke-	1992
Benson-	1992
South-	1993
North-	1994
Northwest-	1994

taking place at Central would

increase if classrooms were cooler at the start of the school year. He said, "I think we need air-conditioning because it gets extremely hot in the summer. It gets too hot to learn."





Opinions

Central High School Register

Teachers' value unmatched

"The youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow." True, but what is often overlooked is the fact that without professional educators, the future is dim. Knowledge is the greatest gift one person can give to another, and teachers hand out presents every day in classrooms across the country. So, if teachers are our greatest resources, why are they so unappreciated, so underpaid? Good question.

Teaching is an extremely demanding profession. A good teacher must be highly intelligent, patient, dependable and a good communicator. In addition to dealing with ungrateful pupils and inquiring parents and administrators during the day, most teachers spend evenings and weekends planning and grading. In private business, individuals with these skills and talents are regarded as highly valuable, and more importantly, their salary reflects their value. But with disregard for monetary success, it's safe to say that no one goes into teaching for money. Teachers do what they love to do, teach. Yet, it is grossly unfair that the Board of Education, who is elected by the citizens of Omaha, takes advantage of the dedication teachers have to their profession and denies them just compensation for the essential work they do.

Representatives from the Omaha Education Association, the teacher's union, negotiate a "master agreement" contract with OPS almost yearly. The contract is made between OPS and the teachers as a group. Teachers receive pay according to a salary index, which is based upon level of education and tenure, years of experience. Currently, the starting salary for a teacher in OPS is \$22,000 a year. Sizable raises are few and far between. It is unfortunate that the union has to force OPS to raise teachers' salaries.

Since the contract is made for teachers collectively, individual performance is not taken into account. OPS does have an extensive evaluation process for its teachers, but those evaluations have no effect on

a teacher's salary. Consequently, teachers have a generous amount of job security and no incentive to elevate their performance as educators. The process is unfair to all teachers, but especially to the teachers who go above and beyond the contents of their job description. We all know these teachers. They are the ones who are energetic about what they teach. They open their doors before and after school so students can receive extra help. These are the teachers who get to know their students individually, write college recommendations, coach sports teams and sponsor clubs. These are the professionals being cheated out of the financial appreciation they deserve.

OPS needs to devise a plan to gradually change the pay system to merit-based pay. Accordingly, salaries would be based on individual job performance. Although the process would be incredibly complicated, the change would result in heightened mutual respect between the teachers and the OPS administration and increased incentives for teachers leading to better education in the classroom. Currently, District 66 employs a form of merit based pay. In 1971, the administration established a "merit pool," a fund to give extraordinary teachers a bonus raise in addition to their minimal annual raise. The "merit pool" money is built into the budget, and the amount varies from year to year. A committee decides who receives a bonus raise based on quality classroom teaching, curriculum, professional development and additional activities. A similar system can work for the OPS.

OPS can begin by acknowledging that teachers deserve more respect and more money. It is essential that the OPS administration be convinced of the relationship between the treatment of their teachers and the quality of education their students receive. With that ideal in mind, a merit-based pay system can work, and the education in Omaha can only move one way, forward.

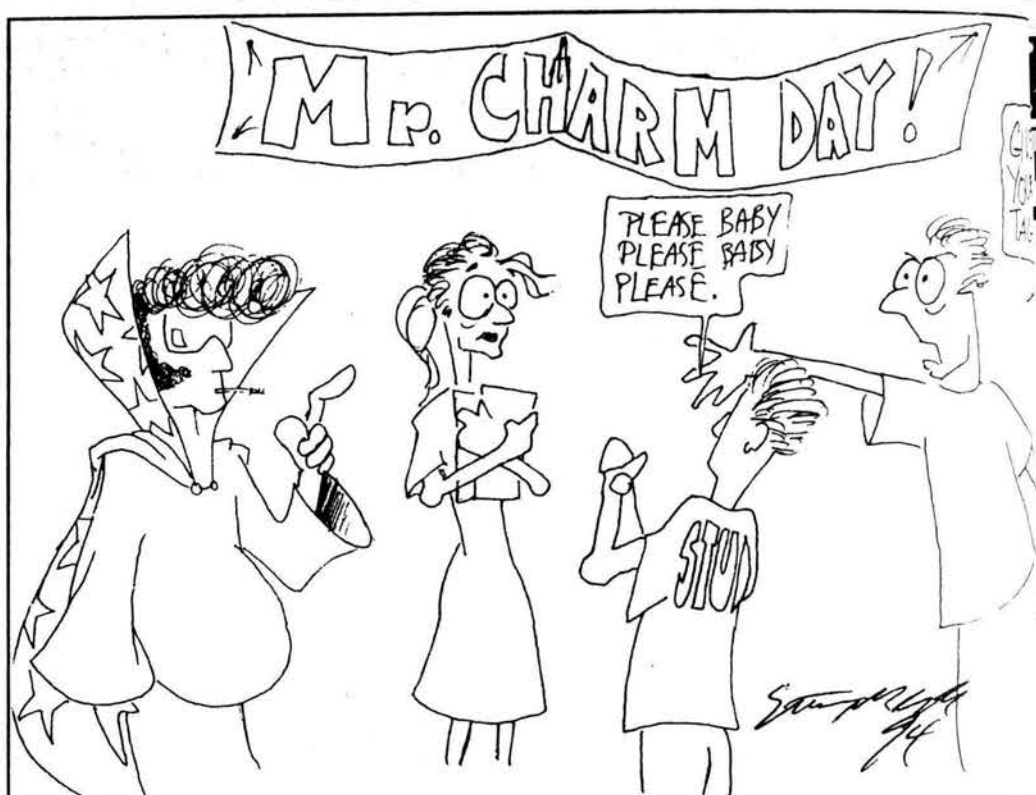
Study halls need adjustments

It is Thursday. You are two hours away from that one class, you know the one you are going to fail if you don't get that assignment done. What are you going to do? Basically you are faced with two options. Not doing it or faking sick and spending that hour in the nurse's office. Wait a minute. You have a study hall right before that class. You are saved...or are you? Here you are in study hall. Okay, so what if your book doesn't fit on the desk and your notebook is in your lap. As long as it is quiet so you can concentrate. Wait, it isn't quiet. The guy next to you is talking to that girl next to him and they are both talking to that girl across the room. The kid behind you is making those really annoying machine gun noises and the study hall teacher is yelling at some kid in the back who is whistling. It's so noisy in that big crowded room you have no hope of getting anything done.

To most students this is a common experience. A study hall is a time in school set apart for study-

ing. In order for a study hall to be productive, the proper learning environment is key. Study halls at Central are far from ideal. Most are noisy and full of distractions. The noise in study hall does not go down when the noise makers are yelled at by the teacher. The threat of a referral does not reduce the noise either because the student knows that they will usually not get a very harsh punishment. When a student gets a referral for being disruptive, the student is usually given the choice of in-school suspension or Saturday school.

Study hall disrupters waste their own time as well as the time of teachers, classmates, and administrators. The punishment for this waste of time should be a good use of time. One option for disciplining study hall disrupters would be to make a session of Saturday school the minimum punishment every time a student is given a referral for disrupting study hall. Study halls should be a quiet place free of distraction where students can study.



Shades of Gray

This issue: Marion Barry for Mayor

By Josh Cohen

Marion Barry was the mayor of our nation's capital, Washington D.C. A few years back, he was caught on video tape smoking crack cocaine with an F.B.I. agent. Today, he is rehabilitated. He has just won the primary election's Democratic nomination for mayor of Washington D.C. The question is, should he be re-elected mayor considering what happened earlier in his life. In my opinion, yes, he should be allowed to be re-elected mayor.

First of all, it is every citizen's right to run for public office. If he thinks he is capable of being the mayor he is entitled to run. There are no just laws prohibiting a person who made mistakes in his/her past to suffer greatly from them in his/her future. If Barry believes he can win the election despite his past, more power to him.

Secondly, if the citizens believe in his capabilities, they can vote him into office. There are no laws prohibiting one for voting for someone who has made mistakes in his past. Just look at who our President is. Third, what is past is past. All the things he did during his past term as mayor are over with. He has a new life now, a clean one. All in all, he should be voted for and trusted if he has changed.

By Mary Beth Stryker

Four years ago, Marion S. Barry, Jr., then mayor of Washington D.C., was arrested for cocaine possession and perjury. He spent six months in jail, paid a five-thousand dollar fine, and was treated for drug and alcohol problems. Now, Marion is once again running for mayor of Washington D.C. and he has just won the Democratic primary. I believe that Marion Barry should not be re-elected.

First, Mr. Barry would be a public figure. He would set an example for the people of Washington D.C. Since Washington D.C. is the capital of the United States, its politics take on a national significance. I do not think America's goal is to encourage people to do drugs while in office and believe that there is always a second chance.

No one knows if Barry has made a full recovery. He might turn to cocaine for a release from the pressures of being mayor of such a large city. The privilege of being able to make decisions on behalf of the capital of our nation should not be given to someone who has messed up in such a position before. Washington D.C. needs someone who can handle problems head on. Therefore, Marion Barry should not be re-elected mayor of Washington D.C.



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Register Your Opinions.

In some states, such as Wisconsin, law requires citizens to recycle. Should Nebraskans be required to recycle by law?

Yes 53%
No 46%
Undecided 1%
166 students polled

"Yes, because not very many people do it voluntarily." - Nathan Perilo, 9th grade

"Yes, because the government should not tell people what to do with their trash."

-Colleen Cleary, 11th grade

"Yes, because a law would raise awareness and help fix the problem." -Mrs. Kristina Bertch, teacher

"No, no one should tell me I need to recycle. It takes away my individual rights."

-Andrea Friedman, 10th grade

REFLECTIONS IN THE WATER BY CLIFF HICKS

Separate still isn't equal

"prominent black" were chosen by an African American?

Why is it that, while society complains about the separation between the genders and races, it reinforces these barriers? Is the fact the music is written by a woman more important than the music itself? Does the fact that the writer is black make the work any more or less important?

The key word in this issue is "equality." Even though people claim they want to be "equal," they insist that it is important that they be recognized as "separate." Well, this "separate but equal" doctrine was set up by the *Plessy vs. Ferguson* case back in 1896, but as the Supreme Court would decide more than 75 years later in the *Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka* case, separate is not equal.

Ideas hold the same value, no matter who they come from. If an important medical discovery was made and a cure for AIDS and HIV had been found and you were someone with the disease, would you really care what kind of person had saved your life?

People in general seem to have difficulty

THE CENTRAL FILES-

A look at Central's proud history through past Editorials

1959-Spirit above all at Central

"Cheer, Cheer, for Central. Shout the praise of your school- urge your team to victory!"

All Central students have sung this cheer, but how many have considered what the familiar words mean. The athletic teams and coaches, the hours spent in the hot sun; the afternoons in front of a basketball hoop perfecting aim and balance- these are the things for which the pep squad and the students cheer at pep rallies.

We are all proud to claim a winning team, but how about our loyalty to a team which doesn't always win? True loyalty is shown for the effort put forth, not for the end

result; be it winning or losing.

Shout the praise of your school- its scholastic record, students, faculty, the boys on the athletic teams represent all these.

Central, as one of the largest high schools in Nebraska, is looked up to and judged by other schools, both local and out of state. By our courteous behavior and wholehearted support of our teams, we can renew the tradition of outstanding school spirit at Central High School.

Support your teams! Attend the game! "Cheer, cheer for Central." Urge YOUR team to victory!"

1938-Smoking in the boy's room

"This is the story of the three musketeers and Ray-future Centralites. Their ages range from eight to ten, and are veterans in the art of smoking cigarettes. Charles, Jim and Edward are the musketeers; Ray was with them. The four mighty men have turned the northeast side of Central high school into the proverbial woodshed or rather the barn behind which small boys used to light their first cigarettes, and get sick. Four small boys- two of them eight years of age; another nine; and one ten- were delightedly jumping around with smoking cigarettes in their hands as they bragged to the writer of this editorial, "We've been smoking since we were six."

Like all well written editorials this one

should have a moral. Well, there is no moral to this story. All we ask is that you note the ages of these boys, and consider the effect tobacco has on young growing bodies. Then think of the strong influence it will exert over them as they grow older, and draw your own conclusions. We have already drawn ours- that is why this is being written.

Of course tobacco will not hurt pupils of high school age; no of course not, why, we are practically grown up. We say this as if high school pupils were no longer merely older children, but those were no longer merely older children, but those were the sentiments of Ray as he said- "Who, me? Oh, I'm in the third grade."

The Mailbox

Send all letters to room 315 or look for the mailbox in the

It is the policy of this newspaper not to print unsigned letters.

Dear Reader,

The 1994-95 *Register* staff hopes to inform its readers accurately with issues of importance to Central High School's students and faculty. Our goal is to publish the best high school newspaper in the area. To do this, the '94-'95 *Register* staff has made some changes. First, the *Register* will try to publish additional and more timely issues during the year. Second, the *Register*, "the oldest high school newspaper west of the Mississippi," is determined to cover more interesting stories, features and in-depths. If there is ever any story that you feel we

should be covering, please contact us in the journalism office, room 315, or drop us a note in our mailbox which is located on the "two" side of the courtyard. You may also send us signed letters to the editor for publication in the *Register*. We are proud to be your news source for the '94-'95 school year.

Sincerely,
Jacob Slosburg
editor-in-chief



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Central argues over school spirit

By Marcus Woodworth

Each fall, in the week before Homecoming, Central High participates in what is known as "Spirit Week." Each day of the week has a new theme where each student can dress according to the style of the day. This year's Spirit Week saw such themes as: Blast From the Past Day, Pajama Day, Clash Day, Mr. Charm Day, and the ever traditional Purple and White Day.

Spirit Week this year was held September 25 through September 30. It is an annual festival in which students are coerced into dressing in such attire as pajamas, bell-



Photo by Jenny Hurst

Groovin': Senior Jake Bond proves that while the '60's may be gone, the clothes aren't.

bottoms and other off-the-wall clothing. These activities are all supposed to boost morale and school spirit. But do they?

The Cheerleaders, members of sports teams and the perhaps even majority of the student body believe that School Spirit is a necessary part of Central High School. Many feel that Spirit Week is a way for students to show their pride in school. Senior Tami Minikus said that "it is a way to promote the school."

"It's a way to make people aware of their school and get everyone to try to support it," added senior Kris Berg. Members of

Pom Squad and Cheerleading feel that this is a way to celebrate the Homecoming events. Senior Sara Anderson said that Spirit week "is for fun". According to Sara "It is just a way for students to dress differently than they normally would." Senior Maureen Kelly said "I think people have a lot of fun with it."

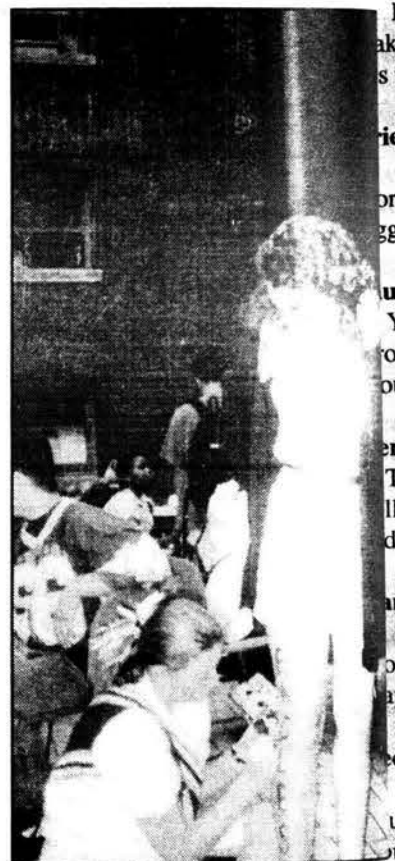
Some students feel, however, that they have to participate or that the themes of spirit week are less than desirable. Senior Seth Farrington said that "Mr. Charm Day was "stupid." "I don't think it showed very much school spirit when Mr. Charm got booed."

Maureen said that "people should keep in mind [participation in Spirit Week is] not mandatory."

"People can participate when they want to," added senior Andrea Wieduwilt. Senior Monique Huston said that Spirit Week allows her to "dress like a fool and most people won't laugh at me." She also said the purpose is just to boost school spirit and get ready for the football game.

This statement is the general opinion of Spirit Week for most students. Little is said about the other sports such as tennis, volleyball, cross country and golf. Senior Jessica Wiksell, varsity volleyball member, said, "I think the school overlooks the other sports." Andrea

stated, "Traditionally, female sports have not been sanctioned until recently. It is also hard to watch sports or tennis for long periods. That is why football might get more recognition because it is always been the more popular sport."



Eagles everywhere: Senior Kristen Calinger's painting of an eagle on the wall in the gymnasium.

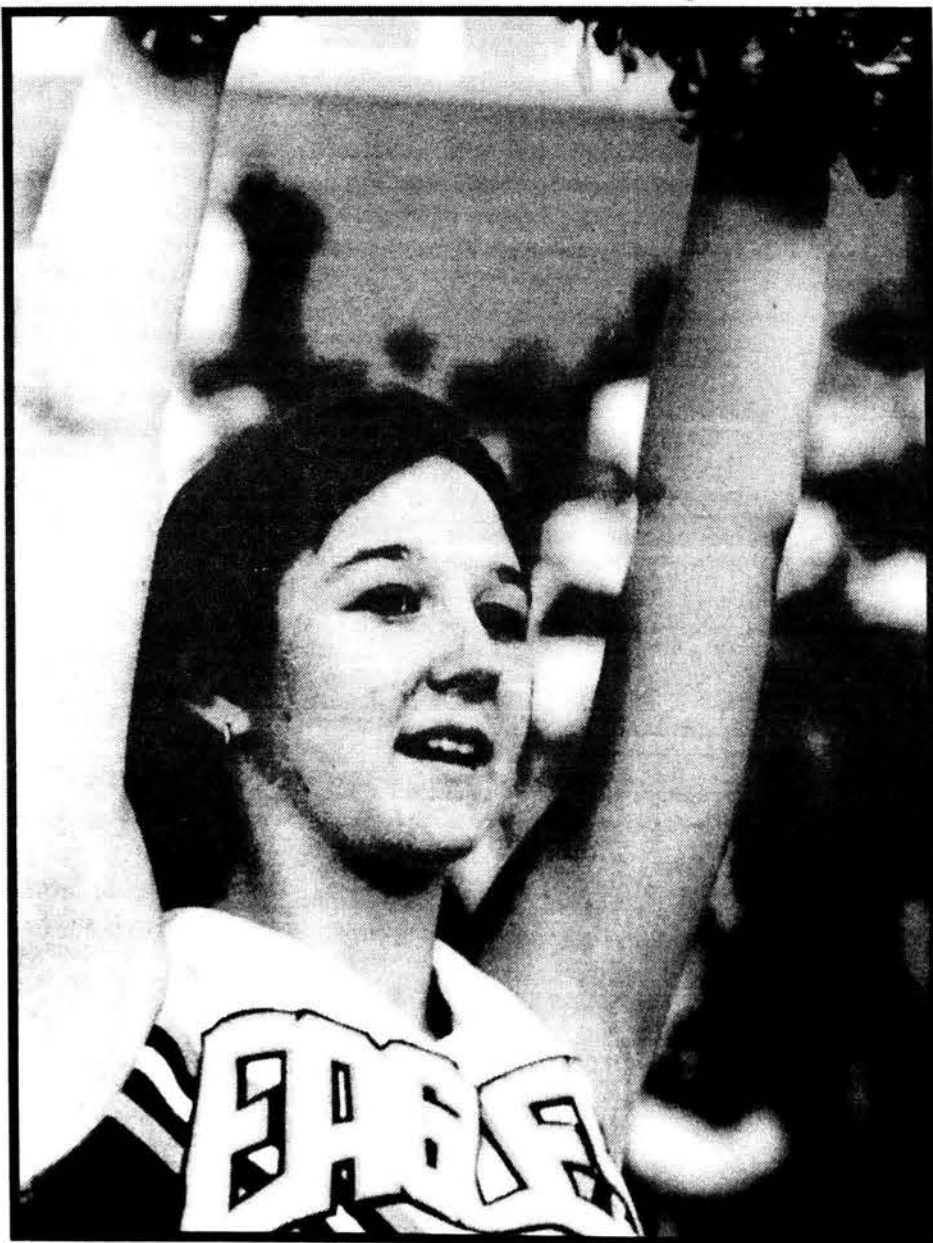


Photo by Jenny Hurst

Raising her hands because she is sure, Tami Minikus cheers on her team.



Dave Thomas, Founder of Wendy's

WOULD DAVE BE GREAT TO WORK WITH OR WHAT?

Central Students !

You can earn up to \$6.00 per hour in flexible, fun environment. Start earning credit toward college tuition **NOW !** In addition you'll receive :

- *Free uniforms
- *Bonus Program
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Stop in and ask for Linda at Wendy's, 4308 Dodge St. 558-1111, or call 593-1419 for more information.

***Bring in this ad and receive a free Biggie Drink or Fry, AND.....if you are hired, receive a free T-shirt !



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Horrorscopes

Capricorn December 22- January 19

Problems are less threatening than previously thought. Keep your schedule flexible- you may have to correct some errors you made last month. Business matters are dominating the end of October.

Aquarius January 20- February 18

Keep up with your work, or you'll fall very behind. Relationships are very active. Avoid taking responsibilities, instead try to finish what you've already started.

Pisces February 19- March 20

Rumors have some flaws- correct them before they get out of hand. Make up for lost time this month. You are in control of your own future this month.

Aries March 21-April 19

Seek advice if it will help you and don't be afraid to ask questions. Work out the details in a relationship. You might have to do some financial juggling to keep out of the red.

Taurus April 20- May 20

You'll be able to speak to others a lot easier this month. You might hit rough spot in a relationship, but by the end of the month, the situation should be improved.

Gemini May 21- June 21

Take good care of yourself and keep some time to be alone. A new skill will come in handy. You'll have lots of things to talk about to your family and friends.

Cancer June 22- July 22

Extra money may make an appearance at the right time. Take care of problems now to give yourself a break later. But some of the problems have been blown out of proportion.

Leo July 23-August 22

A conflict is a possibility, so try to take everyone's feelings into account. Communication should be good after the conflict is resolved. Emotional resentment may linger from the conflict.

Virgo August 23- September 22

Don't take everyone's advice to heart- it may not be right. A relationship will soon be resolved. Try to get away from others to be alone with your thoughts.

Libra September 23-October 23

An intellectually stimulating month. Get in touch with someone whose mind you admire. Be sure to hold on to your money. Don't pay more than you have to.

Scorpio October 24- November 22

Problems aren't always as serious as you make them out to be. Take a break to relax. Goals might be set back by a month or two.

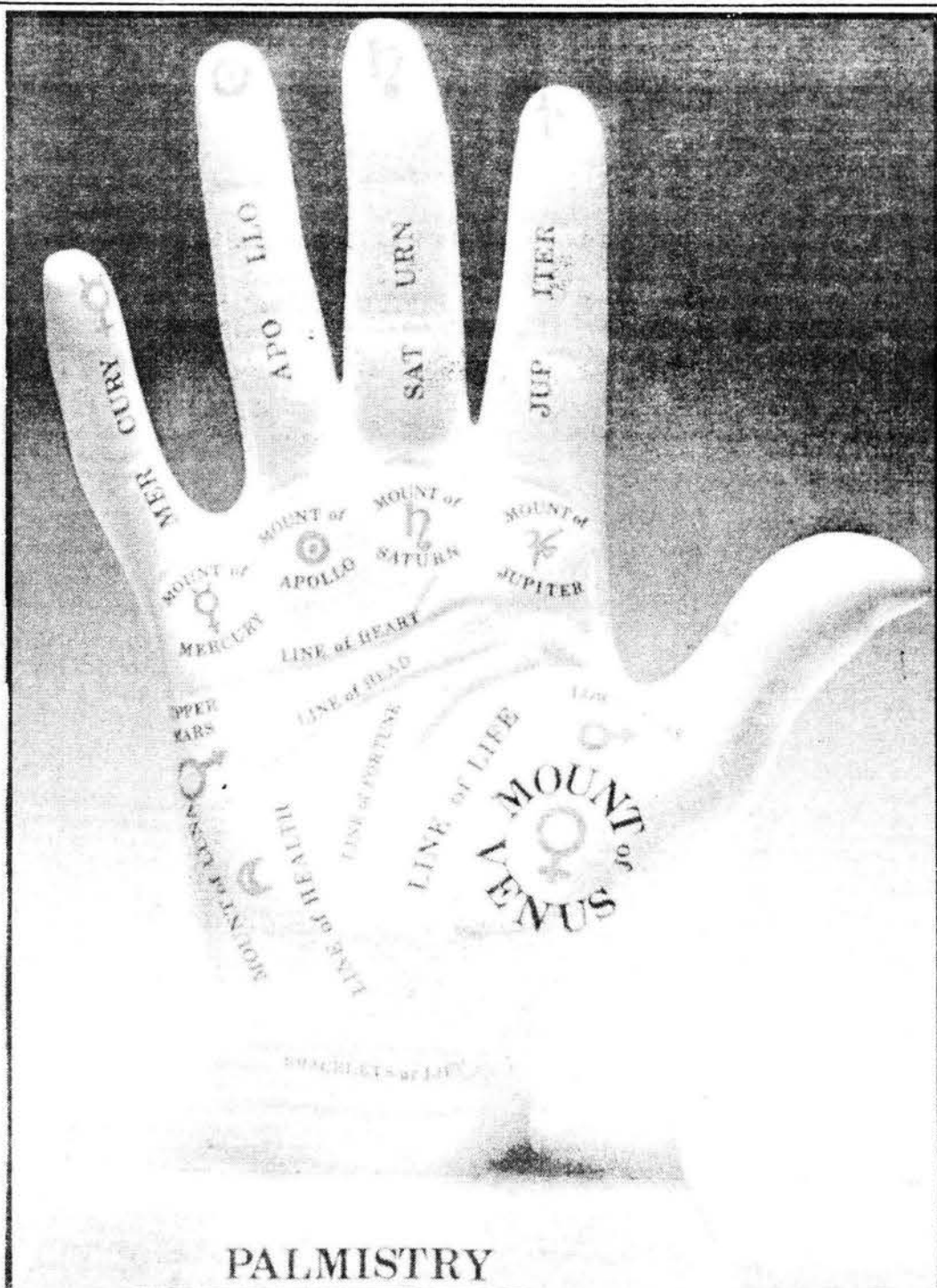
Sagittarius November 23- December 21

You can't always control everything, and nothing is always perfect. You might be traveling soon and that will break up any monotony.

INSIDE!



- Sweeney Todd's opening. p. 6
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- Eric Clapton's new release *From the Cradle*. p. 8
- Central students give new meaning to hot lunch. p. 8



The intriguing art of Palmistry

By Libby Broekemeier

Have you ever wished to know who you are going to marry, how many kids you are going to have, what you're going to be? Well, we did, and we even did something about it!

Libby: I'm so nervous- what if she tells me I'm going to die in three days?

Valerie: I think J.B. should go first.

Libby: Me too.

J.B.: Thanks, guys.

(Madame X ushered J.B. into the back room where she handed over her \$25.) While J.B.'s psychic future was being mapped out on a kitchen table (J.B. was disappointed to find a distinct absence of beaded curtains and incense) Libby and Valerie discussed the inventive decor of the house, noting the prominent glitter wallpaper and enough religious icons to open a national chain store.

When J.B. came back \$25 poorer but enlightened to her future, Valerie was escorted back to the dining room where she was questioned as to whether she wants the \$25, \$30 or \$40 reading. J.B. and Libby discussed the strange phenomenon that the price had levitated to \$25 from \$20.

Next it was Libby's turn to find her destiny, which was strangely similar to both Valerie's and J.B.'s.

J.B., Libby and Valerie then

made their escape from the house as Madame X called out her promise to pray for their spirits. In the car they all broke their promise not to tell what their reading was:

Libby: So what'd she say to you?

Valerie: You first.

Libby: She said I was going to have a long life.

J.B.: I'm going to be 88.

Valerie: Nuh huh, me too!

Libby: What else did she tell you?

Valerie: I'm going to have twin girls and two boys- I can hardly wait.

Libby: I am going to have two kids.

J.B.: I'm gonna have three kids.

Libby: She told me I like animals.

Valerie: Me too!

J.B.: Let's join PETA, cause she told me I like animals, too.

Valerie: She told me that sometimes when I'm laughing on the outside, I'm really crying on the inside.

Libby: Ditto! Like a flame!

J.B.: I'm not going to be rich, but not poor, either. Madame said I would have "plenty," and be happy.

Libby and Valerie: This is getting old!

J.B.: Whoa, we must be clones!

Valerie: Are you guys sensing a pattern here?

Unison: No wonder she told us not to tell anyone!

So went our experience. Since we didn't have much luck, we thought we'd teach you how to read your own palms. The printed palm tells you where the lines and mounts are located.

In a right-handed person the lines in the left hand indicate the qualities you were born with and those of the right hand indicate qualities that you developed by the efforts and activities in your life. In a left-handed person this is reversed.

The most common and easiest line to see is the life line. It runs below the Mount of Jupiter and above the Mount of Mars. A deep sharp cut life line suggests health, energy and determination. A shorter line may suggest a lack of energy. If the life line is really broken it is possible that a severe illness or accident occurred at some point. If your life line starts from the Mount of Jupiter it is a sign of ambition.

The heart line starts under the Mount of Mercury and runs across the palm ending somewhere under the Mount of Jupiter.

The more curved the line indicates more sexuality and sex appeal is apparent. A small fork in the line on the Mount of Jupiter indicates a long lasting marriage. The little lines that branch from the heart line are romances and affairs. If the heart line is high on the palm this suggests the subject has a possessive nature.

We'll pray for you.

Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street kills, thrills



Sweeney Todd decides "We all deserve to die."

By JB Jones

Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street

October entertainment means haunted houses, horror movies, trick-or-treating and, if you're wise, a trip to the Omaha Community Playhouse to see Stephen Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd*.

Sweeney Todd is the story of a barber who is shipped off on a

trumped up charge. He returns home to find his wife has poisoned herself and his daughter is now the evil Judge Turpin's ward. Sweeney becomes hell-bent on revenge and Mrs. Lovett, who owns the pie-shop downstairs, decides to help him kill people to get meat for her pies, which soon become all the rage in London. (They taste like chicken, honest.)

Paul Tranisi plays Sweeney with exhausting raw emotion. His grief and hatred on "Epiphany" alone would tire most people. He rises to the challenge of the vocally demanding score and creates a characterization of the barber that leads towards a feeling of pathos from the audience.

Susan Beck is brilliant in the role of Mrs. Lovett. She plays the role with gusto and comic flair. With perfect comic timing and a full grasp of the character, she is obviously born to play the role of the pie shop proprietor and partner-in-crime.

Kevin Gibbs gives a phenomenal performance as Toby, a boy who is mentally slow but well-meaning. He plays the role with such finesse that he actually steals scenes from Sweeney at times. His voice is a gem, particularly in Toby's ballad, "Not While I'm Around," and his characterization of the boy is absolutely perfect.

Anthony, the sailor who rescues Sweeney then falls in love with his daughter, is portrayed excellently by Richard Shackelford.

Mr. Shackelford is well-suited to the romantic lead and he sings the role fabulously.

Johanna, Sweeney's daughter is

played by the wonderful Becky Jones. Ms. Jones is perfect as the ingenue and is well-paired with Mr. Shackelford.

Gordon Krentz is wonderfully funny in the role of Pirelli, the Italian/Irish barber who sells phony remedies for baldness. He plays the role with zest and flair, making Pirelli a character to watch.

Jerry VanHorn is perfectly vile and evil as the judge. It is almost possible to find yourself wanting to boo and hiss at his arrival like the show's early melodramatic predecessors would have us.

Beadle Bamford is played with panache by Gary Bosanek. He refuses to let the character be just the Judge's side-kick, and his voice leaves you wishing he had more songs.

Dawn Buller-Kirke is fantastic as the beggar woman. She keeps up her energy throughout scene after scene of tiring, screeching insanities that the role demands.

Also adding terror to the show is the ensemble, a well-tuned singing greek chorus imported into 19th century England.

Jonathan Cole is fantastic in his orchestrations of a complex score, full of wild dischords and jangling

tempos.

Carl Beck, director, is absolutely brilliant. He shows to life with vividness his creative vision could be a

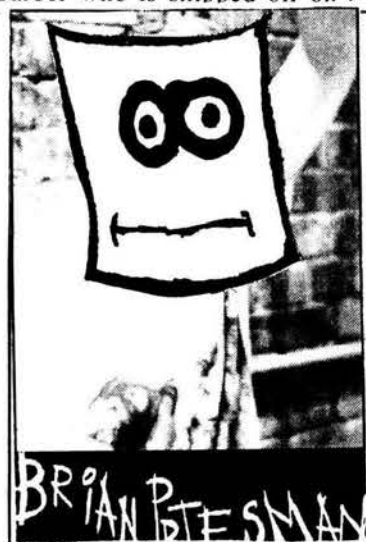
Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street, is a \$18 ticket prices just to see "Fire," a number so perfect and choreographed by Mr. Stud Kathy Wheelon, that gooseflesh prickling and flesh and ice-water trickling your spine.

"A Little Priest," is a black comedy number that us with a little relief from the intensity of the show.

Lighting designer Othuse effectively captures mood of the show with stark and bleak lights and deep, gasp

There are several guaranteed to sit you on the your seat, shaking in your they are best left a surprise

If you see nothing *Sweeney Todd*. It is a brilliant wonderful show that is likely you scurrying back to see and again.



Grocery shopping. That wonderful thing that all mothers dread, all little children love, and all fathers think they can do. I personally love to shop! I adore the hustle and bustle of the malls. The crowds are invigorating; the impatience of little old ladies, the rush on sale items at Younkers, the free makeovers at Dillard's. It makes me feel alive!

But I'm digressing. I wanted to talk about grocery shopping. I love buying groceries. Especially when they give out all of those little samples of microwave pizza and cheese dip.

But anyway; dad's shouldn't be allowed to go grocery shopping. This is a rule as old as

Green Eggs and Spam® goes shopping

time, but it's a rule my mother never learned. Until now.

My mom decided to get sick on us, the ungrateful woman! So she was incapacitated for several days, including Saturday, the day that she refers to as "my trek to hell". You see, Saturday is the day that my mother usually makes her weekly trip to our local supermarket, where she buys all of the necessary items to run a house successfully—Yoo-hoo, Cocoa-puffs, and peanut-butter (the Yoo-hoo is mine).

So my mother was unable to go to the grocery store. My father, being the oh-so chivalrous hero, volunteered me to go to the store with him. I had no choice. I agreed.

At first, everything was fine. My father pushed the cart, and I filled it with everything on the list plus a few additions of my own.

But then it happened. My father decided that he wanted to fill the cart. If it had been anyone but my father, I would have agreed, but again, this is my father we're talking about.

After a brief scuffle in the produce section, my father wrestled control of the grocery list, leaving me to push the cart. Dejectedly, I followed.

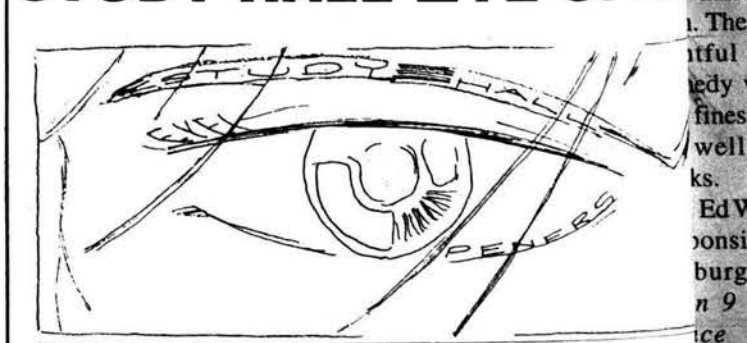
My father attempted to fill the cart, but, as I have said before, this is my father we're talking about here. After several spilled cartons of milk and crushed loaves of bread, my father seemed to get the hang of it. But hey, this is my father we're talking about here.

My mother needed sugar, so my dad took us to where the sugar is. Now this week they were having a sale on sugar, so the stock-boys had made a beautiful isle display of the sugar. Now my father, since he is my father, foolishly grabbed a bag of sugar from the bottom. Now anyone who has ever built a house of cards knows that if you remove one, the entire thing collapses. Obviously, my father has never built a house of cards.

Twenty-five minutes and several stock-boys later, my father had managed to re-build the wall of sugar. Granted, it didn't look very similar to the one that had been there before, but it was standing. Somewhat.

So I grabbed my father by the arm and forced him to the check-out lanes, so we could make it home in time for my next birthday. But this is my father we're talking about here, and that's another story.

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JB's quotes of the issue

I thought we were going to get T.V. but T.V. is going to get us in the end.

-- Rob Morrow Quiz Show

It used to mean something to be crazy. Nowadays everybody's crazy.

-- Charles Manson

Sometimes you have to team up with the monsters under the bed to defeat the Bogeyman in the closet.

-- Georgie Stone

Alternative lunch ideas

Something's brewing in Central's courtyard; it's a crockpot

By J.B. Jones

When most students hear the words school lunch they picture brown wilted lettuce, jello with a Doulet-proof film on top and over-riced juice, but not a group of innovative Eagles who have brought a new meaning to the words hot lunch. Students eating in the courtyard at fifth hour might notice the odd appearance of crockpots and toasters plugged into the north wall merrily cooking sausages or toasting waffles.

Joe Foldenauer, senior and mascot, traced the smorgasbord to CHS singers. Apparently very Friday the class is allowed to bring food and "one day Ryan McGrane was singing a song about sandwiches. Mrs. Lynn Poma, vocal music teacher, said sandwiches would be too messy

so I decided to bring it to lunch, and the rest is history"

Joe Lupo, junior and co-conspirator, told of a scare the group had with Dr. Moller, Central principal. "He came over with a look that said 'that can't be here', looked at it and said, 'I thought it was a radio,' so it was okay."

The next day the toaster reappeared with a bag of Eggo blueberry

The idea of finding alternatives to school lunches started out small but it

to eat signs up for the day they want to eat and contributes to the purchasing of ingredients.

The main problem that the lunchers have experienced is people who were scheduled to bring meal components fell through. One such instance came on "waffle day" prompting a quest for butter and syrup which were liberated from the math office. On the third day a mix up led to the purchase of approximately 25 bratwurst but no sauerkraut in which to cook it. Many people expressed feelings that the lunching practices were illegal by school rules. Joe L. disagrees. "Just think of it as an extension of cold lunch."

Joe F. says that they have "passive consent" from lunch ladies and other faculty members and that the activity is "Drama Club doing improvisational cooking."



■ Plug it in: Central's drama students find a creative way to avoid long cafeteria lines.

waffles. According to Joe F. the band of lunch enthusiasts doubled at the second toasting.

menus for the week." The idea of the program is that one person signs up for a menu for a week and each person who wants

have

Ed Wood hits box office

By J.B. Jones

Who other than Tim Burton could, or for that matter would, direct a film paying homage to the "worst director of all time"?

Well Burton's newest film *Ed Wood* certainly does it and it is that certain "je ne sais" that makes the film a cinematographical

The film is a delightful and quirky comedy with the perfect finesse that makes it well worth five

Ed Wood, director responsible for such burger films as *Plan 9 From Outer Space* and *The Bride of Frankenstein*, is a character of zest and energy. Johnny Depp, in a refreshing, believable, and well-performed role which is his best performance on screen. He also looks darn good in an angora sweater!

The film, totally black and white like the "B" movies it parodies, also features a gem performance by Martin Landau as Bela Lugosi, the washed

star of *Dracula* whose tract house brings to mind Norma Desmond's mansion in *Sunset Boulevard*.

He pulls off the old man with believably deep emotions making you feel sorry for the faded film actor and wish him better objects than sitting in a shallow puddle fighting with a large stuffed octopus in Wood's funny, but considerably less than Oscar-material movies.

Brilliant in small supporting roles are Bill Murray, Jeffrey Jones and Patricia Arquette. Murray plays Bunny, Wood's transvestite friend who always wanted a sex change but never got around to doing it. Jones is conning as a goofy psychic who's not very psychic, and Arquette shines as one of Wood's

dingy leading ladies.

Burton's genius as a director/writer is apparent in a film that actually makes you almost want to go out and rent *Plan 9 From Outer Space*, almost. It is clear that Burton feels a special place in his heart for the dedicated if untalented Ed Wood like all film buffs.

After all if there were no Ed Wood movies, what would MST3K fans do?

Wood's dream of making *Plan 9* is realized when he cons his landlord, leader of a baptist church who really wants to make a film about the apostles, into funding his science fiction film.

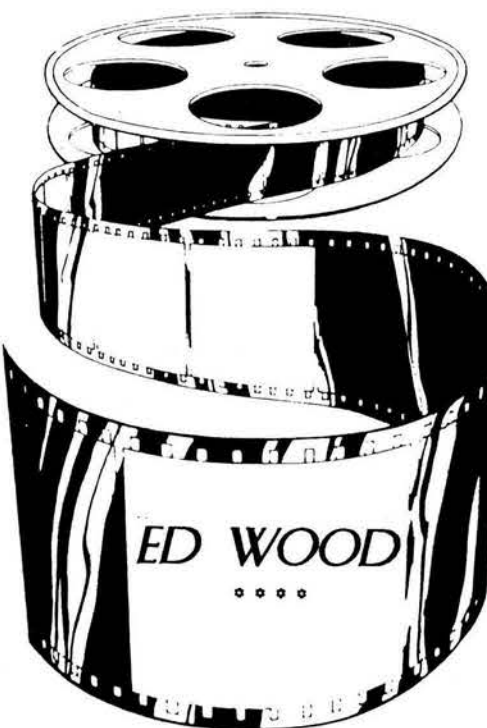
After finding a chiropractor to play the late Lugosi's double, they set to work with cardboard tombstones and paper-plate U.F.O.s.

His Baptist producers are somewhat confused though as Wood never makes a second take of anything even when obviously fake tombstones fall over (Spielberg he ain't!) They even go so far as to question whether he knows anything at all about the art of filmmaking. Disenchanted Ed is about to give up when a chance meeting with Orson Wells (his idol) gives him hope.

With his "cinematic triumph" complete, Ed goes to the premiere and, smiling ecstatically says, "This will be the one I'll be remembered for." (How right he is.)

The dialogue is witty and the laughs are plenty. But Johnny Depp's acting alone makes this film a must see and definite treat.

STAR SUMMARY



The haunted corners of Omaha

By J.B. Jones

?: About as frightening as an episode of Mister Rogers
@: Faint of heart welcome
\$: Worth the money
!: A must see

Fright Zone (139th and Q) (!)

JB: The best haunted house I've ever been to. I was actually scared at this one. If you go to visit any of the houses of hell in Omaha make sure this is on your list. I warn you though make it the last one you see because after the thrills and chills *Fright Zone* offers all other houses pale in comparison.

Andy: I was a little weary at the strip mall appearance, but soon forgot it when I entered. Being the fearless leader of the *Fright Zone* experience, I thoroughly got my share of frightful encounters-lets just say clowns and I don't mix. The *Fright Zone* never has a dull moment and I heavily recommend it. Don't let the hefty drive discourage this experience. It's a must see.

Valerie: After watching Andy and JB play video games in the *Food Zone*, anything would have been a welcome change. The *Fright Zone* was very entertaining, but I left with a feeling of disappointment: no monsters ever try to scare me.

Maybe they think I just can't handle it. But I can! Really I can!! I definitely recommend going there, even if the monsters won't scare me.

Libby: You may scream, you may cry, and you might even wet your pants.

In all my years of seeing haunted houses *Fright Zone* is the best I've seen. The horror effects got better with every

room. If you are afraid of slimy moving things and furry moving things I recommend you go.

Stone Castle of Terror (48th and Leavenworth) (@)

JB: This spook house was in a terrifying location but it just didn't live up to my expectations.

The frights were too obvious in coming and there just weren't enough monsters per capita. My disappointment was probably compounded because we went to *Fright Zone* first.

Libby: Where have all the monsters gone? *Stone Castle of Terror* was a nice walk in the dark. The warehouse scene was perfect, but everything else did not seem to blend with it. The dinosaur ate it all up.

Valerie: The two times I was scared were: outside the door when a guy with a chainsaw attacked us, and when the guide came to lead us through. I didn't feel bad about not being scared there- no one was.

Andy: Two words: Stay away. The quality of the location may be deceiving, but don't be fooled. The *Stone Castle of Terror* is a nice effort but falls short of its powerful name. Unless you have nothing better to do with with five American dollars, *Stone Castle* is not for you.

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Music stores compared; service, price and selection all add

By Valerie Newhouse

What do you look for in a music store? Service, selection, prices? I went semi-undercover for a look into four Omaha music stores.

Dirt Cheap Recycled Sounds is located at 10th and Jackson in the Old Market. If you like searching for good deals, here's your place. Dirt Cheap buys, sells and trades new and used LPs, tapes and CDs. Their prices for records and tapes are from \$0.25 to \$5.00, while CDs range in price from \$1.00 to \$8.00. Posters abound in all sizes, including large movie posters. Dirt Cheap also carries videos, magazines and basic music supplies. If you want to visit the friendly folks at Dirt Cheap, their hours are:
Sunday 12PM-6PM
Monday & Thursday 11AM-8PM
Tuesday & Wednesday 11AM-7PM
Friday & Saturday 10AM-10PM

Stop in often to check out the wide and changing selection.

RATINGS-DIRT CHEAP

Service *****
Selection *****
Prices *****

Blockbuster Music is the newest member of the Omaha music scene. Blockbuster Music is located at 70th and Dodge. It has a new slant on purchasing music: you can listen to any selection before you buy it. There are listening stations set up for each of the week's top 20, and other stations are set up for non-top 20 titles. A separate room with listening stations is reserved for classical music. Prices for the top 20 in tapes are \$7.99, while CDs run about \$11.99. Prices for other music selections tend to be a little pricey compared to the other stores. Blockbuster

Music also sells videos, video games, laser disks, headphones and a few CD players. But if you're looking for LPs or any used music, look elsewhere; Blockbuster's 35,000 titles are all new. Hours are convenient:
10AM-Midnight every day
When you visit Blockbuster, try not to get too many fingerprints on the doors!

RATINGS-BLOCKBUSTER

Service *****
Selection *****
Prices *****

Homer's Records, Tapes, and Compact Discs is located at 11th and Howard in the Old Market. The employees aren't always the most helpful, but the merchandise helps make up for them. Homer's sells lots of items besides music such as: posters, jewelry, tape racks and other

gift items. Tapes will run you from \$5.98 to \$10.38, while CDs cost \$9.98 to \$16.98. Used CDs and some used LPs can also be found. Hours are:
Sunday 12PM-6PM
Monday-Thursday 10AM-9PM
Friday & Saturday 10AM-10PM
Homer's is the store for all your music needs.

RATINGS-HOMER'S

Service **
Selection *****
Prices ***

Best Buy has recently dominated the music market in Omaha. The location at 78th & Dodge puts them in direct competition with Blockbuster Music. Seven listening posts with six titles per post have been added. Lots of titles are available. Tapes cost between \$0.99 (if you like off-beat music like me)

to \$8.88. CDs are \$2.99 (once handy if you don't just like 20s) to \$13.99. There is a classical room for those of you inclined. Of course, Best Buy has lots of other electronics, appliances and some entertainment furniture. Hours are:
Sunday 11AM-6PM
Monday -Saturday 10AM-9PM

RATINGS-BEST BUY

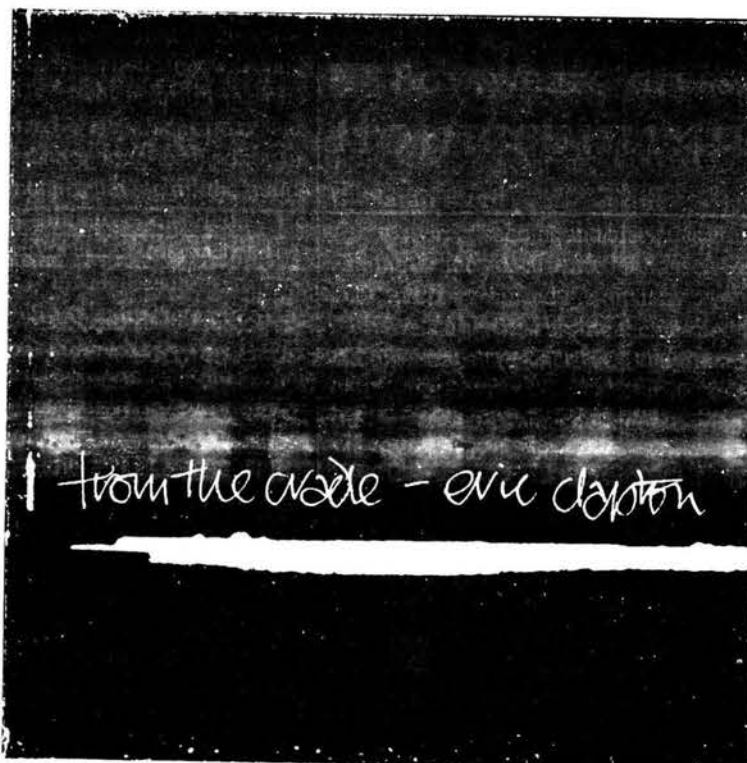
Service ***
Selection *****
Prices *****

OVERALL WINNERS

Service- Dirt Cheap
Selection- Blockbuster Music
Prices- Dirt Cheap and Best Buy

* all ratings are based on a scale

Clapton's *Cradle* rocks



By Andrew Kammerer

From the Cradle

**** (of Five possible)

"All along this path I tread, my heart betrays my weary head, with nothing but my love to save, from the cradle to the grave..." reads the inscription in the front cover of Eric Clapton's latest, *From the Cradle*.

History shows, when Eric Clapton wants to try something different, traditionally, he has gone right ahead and done it. And traditionally, he has done it well.

The diversity of Clapton's music ranges from his revolutionary rock songs like "Layla," to his cover version of Bob Marley's reggae classic, "I Shot the Sheriff," to his more recent tragic ballad, "Tears in Heaven."

Clapton's mastery of an entire spectrum of music is taken to a new plateau on his new release *From The Cradle*, a strictly blues album.

From The Cradle, brings him back to the roots of his professional music career with his first band, The Blues Breakers.

The album is written and performed in dedication to the blues greats that inspired Clapton. *From the Cradle* almost more than

pays his dues to the originals Clapton believes are the reason for his enormous success.

Songs redone from such artists as Willie Dixon, Leroy Carr, and Eddie Boyd appear on Clapton's latest work in

there original style and sound. Clapton made it a point to mention that *From the Cradle* is "a live recording with no overdubs or edits."

From the Cradle is a blues album that appeals to music fans of all tastes. Finally, something you and your parents can agree on.

From the Cradle is a blues album that appeals to music fans of all tastes.

TOPPING THE CHARTS

TOP 10 ALBUMS

1. BOYZ II MEN--*MOTOWN*
2. THE LION KING--*SOUNDTRACK* WALT DISNEY
3. FORREST GUMP--*SOUNDTRACK*
4. CARRERAS, DOMINGO, PAVAROTTI--*THE 3 TENORS*
5. GREEN DAY--*DOOKIE*
6. STONE TEMPLE PILOTS--*PURPLE*
7. ACE OF BASE--*THE SIGN*
8. CANDLEBOX--*MAVERICK*
9. COUNTING CROWS--*AUGUST AND EVERYTHING AFTER*
10. WARREN G--*REGULATE...G FUNK ERA*

TOP 1965 ALBUMS

1. THE BEATLES--*HELP!*
2. SONNY AND CHER--*LOOK AT US*
3. THE ROLLING STONES--*OUT OF OUR HEADS*
4. THE SOUND OF MUSIC--*SOUNDTRACK*
5. HERMAN'S HERMITS--*HERMAN'S HERMITS ON TOUR*

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Teen mothers adopt new lifestyle with rail

By Elizabeth Kaplan

When faced with an unplanned pregnancy, teenage mothers basically have three options. Thirty-seven percent of pregnant women under 20 terminate the pregnancy, six percent place their child up for adoption and the other 57 percent decide to parent the child. In this article three teen mothers experience motherhood in various ways.

Alina Ceballos, junior, has a nine month old boy named Marcos. When she became pregnant, she had been dating her boyfriend, now 23, for two and a half years. He wanted her to get pregnant, but Alina said that she wanted to wait.

"He thought that if I had his baby I would be with him forever. I was using birth control pills when I got pregnant," Alina said. The doctors had changed her prescription several times due to side effects she experienced. Alina said that she was "very surprised" when she became pregnant. "I was taking care of myself and taking [the pill] right."

During Alina's pregnancy which she described as "difficult," she and her boyfriend lived with her parents. "My mom wanted to watch me until he was born," Alina said. After the birth of Alina's son, however, they moved into their own apartment because "there was not enough room" at her parents' house, Alina said.

"[My boyfriend] spoils Marcos," Alina said. "He is happy to have him." Her boyfriend supports the three of them. "He gets paid okay, so it's not too hard," she said. "If we had a problem, I know my parents would help us." Alina said she does not work because any

money she would make at a part-time job would go to paying for a babysitter.

Alina is a participant in the Head Start program which provides free day care for mothers who stay in school. A bus picks up Alina and Marcos in the morning before school

and takes them to the Head Start day care center. Alina spends 15 minutes with her son there; then a bus takes her and other mothers to their high schools. She said that the program is very helpful, but she has to miss the first period of school.

Alina said that school has become difficult to balance since she had her child. "I can't do homework when I get home," she said. "I have to meet his needs first. It really messes up my homework hours."

"I want to go to college, but I don't know in what yet," Alina said. "It'll be hard because I don't have a lot of extra money, but my parents will probably help some."

Christina Martin, senior, is also a teen mother. She had her son Devonte two years ago when she was 16 years old. She decided to parent the child because she doesn't believe in abortion and did not want to relinquish her child for adoption.

"I did not want to get pregnant,"

Christina said. "When I found out, I was scared at what my mom would say. She didn't react mad like I thought she would. She just said that I had to support my baby and stay in school."

Christina said that her relationship with her boyfriend was good at first, but he never really helped with the parenting of her child. They stopped seeing each other after the baby was born, and he moved about three months ago. Christina said that the father provides them with "some" financial support. "He was never really a father to Devonte," she said. Christina does not talk with

the father anymore, but said she hears from him indirectly through her cousins occasionally.

Christina now lives with her cousins because her mother moved back to the small town in Oklahoma where Christina is originally from. "I decided to stay because there are more opportunities here," she said.

"I have a very nice boyfriend

now," Christina said, "who has been around since Devonte was born. Devonte calls him 'daddy'. He helps support him financially." Her boyfriend is 19 and works full time. They live together "off and on," she said.

Christina also is a participant in the Head Start program and is in the teen parenting class at Central, both of which she said are "very helpful." Since she had Devonte, she said that school is "a little hard, but it's not making me fail. I have a lot of support."

Christina works for four hours a day, but she said it is not hard for her to find day care for Devonte because her aunt is "certified to watch kids so the state will pay for it" or her boyfriend's mom will watch him for her. However she is not able to go out with her friends very often since her family moved. "There is no one to watch him, so I either have to find a sitter or I don't go out," Christina said. "I also have to find time for my son and my boyfriend" which she said limits the time she is able to spend with friends.

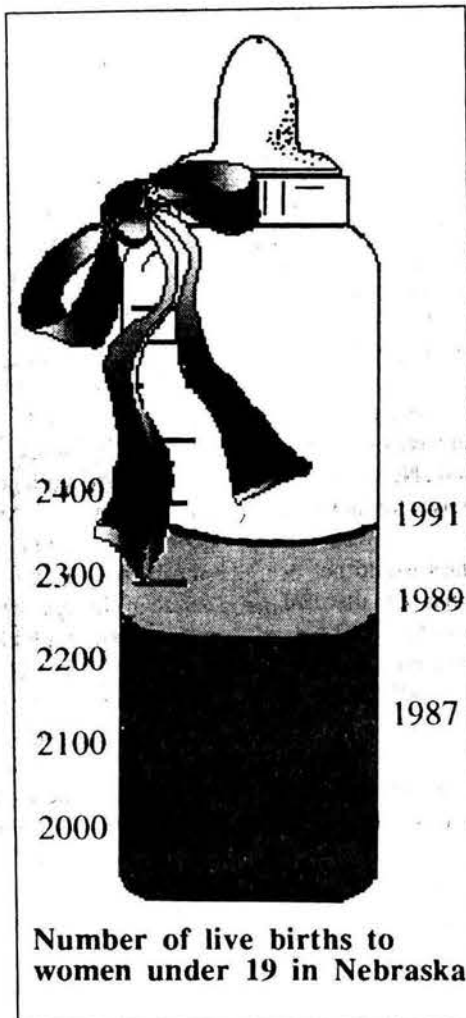
Since her child was born, Christina said that "the only thing that has changed is my social life and having another person to take responsibility for. I also have to have more money to support us." After high school, Christina plans to go to college and become a nurse.

Some teens

who become pregnant decide their last name, chose adoption and I'm not

Laura and her boyfriend adopted the family who would adopt her child, an organization which

After her daughter's birth to take her



Number of live births to women under 19 in Nebraska

Teen fathers face the responsibilities of

By Ann Rickerl

As a typical high school student, you have hours of homework to do tonight, numerous tests tomorrow, a job, plus extra-curricular activities to go to. What else could you possibly add to your growing list of things to do? Imagine having to do all these things on top of dealing with the responsibilities that come with being a parent.

One teenager who has to deal with the reality of teen parenting is Jason Bradley, Benson graduate. Jason said he became a father when he was 17 years old. "My initial feeling when I found out was that I was extremely scared. I was more scared of what my parents were going to say and having to deal with them than anything else."

"It took my parents a while to get used to the idea," Jason said. One reason why he believes parents get upset is that their children are having children making them grandparents at such a young age.

Jason said that he and his girlfriend had discussed the options. He said that abortion was not an option for them, but they had considered adoption. "The adoption process came all the way up to the day we were supposed to turn the baby over,

and we just couldn't do it."

Jason said sometimes he wishes they could have changed the way things happened. "Sometimes I wonder if the baby might be better off."

Jason said that as a father he does not have as many responsibilities as his girlfriend. "The baby lives with the mother so I do not have the responsibility of having her day after day after day." Jason said that he can do just about anything he wants, but she can not. "It is a lot harder for her than myself."

Jason said no matter how much a couple can prepare for the possibility of a pregnancy, they cannot prepare enough. "It is a whole lot of work, not to mention the expenses." Jason said that he believes they made the right decision. "Maybe not the best one, but I don't regret it, I'm glad that we kept her."

Another student who has gone through teen parenting is Ben. (His last name is not used at his request). Ben is a junior from South Dakota. Ben said he was "shocked" when he was told that he was a father.

He said his mom wanted his girlfriend to get an abortion, "but I felt adoption would be the best." Ben went through the open adoption process, which allows the biological parents to see

the child after it is given up for adoption.

"Open adoption is real good. I probably wouldn't have done it if it was not an open adoption."

Ben said he got to bring the baby home and hand her over to her adopted parents. "It broke my heart to want to relinquish her, but I knew it was the right thing to do." Ben said he even had a hard time signing the baby over. "It was pretty painful. It is something you go through again."

Ben said he thinks it is wrong for the biological parents to have the responsibilities on the mother. He said, "I don't want my girlfriend like that."

Another student, who attends Central High School, has experienced teen fatherhood. The student said he became a father when he was 16. He said that he did not tell his parents that his girlfriend was pregnant until the baby was seven months old. "I was shocked when I found out."

He said the most difficult part of being a father is that "you just can't do everything you want to do. You have to take responsibility for the child. He has gained more responsibilities than he had before."

ANG CHILDREN



al of baby

decide children for adoption. Laura, junior who wished to withhold her
ion because I'm not ready to be a parent," she said. "It wouldn't have been

friend on adoption, which means that they were able to meet and choose
adopt and her boyfriend received counseling at the Child Saving Insti-
which is, "Well, our counselor was great. I would've had a really hard time

er's birth to take her home for four days and named her Shelby Marie. "I
liked having those four days. It made me posi-
tive I was doing the right thing. She wanted
to stay up all night, and I had to be at school
the next day," Laura said.

Since their daughter was relinquished,
Laura and her boyfriend have visited her four
times. They exchanged numbers with the fam-
ily. "It was unusual at first, but now I feel
pretty good about it," Laura said. "I feel like
they're part of my family. They're wonderful."
As Shelby gets older Laura said she does not
foresee visiting her as much, but that right
now it is helpful for her to be able to visit
Shelby.

All three girls said that they wanted to
wait a long time before having more children.
"I don't want more children right now," said
Christina, "but maybe after college."

"I've heard a lot of people say they want
to have a baby because they're cute and to
have someone to love them. They think hav-
ing a baby is just fun. I want to say to all teens,
don't get pregnant. It takes a lot to be a

mother,"
Christina
said. "It's
not that
easy. You
need to be
educated
first. You
have to
know your-
self. If you
don't know
yourself,
you can't
take care of
someone
else too."

arenting early

to see the baby and baby-sit if needed."

He said that this experience has changed his life. "I
don't feel like I should at this age. I cannot just go out and do
anything I want like I could before."

He said sometimes he wishes that he could change the
way things happened. "I wish what happened never happened
until later on in my life."

"At first I wanted my girlfriend to get an abortion," he
said. He said he wanted her to get an abortion so he wouldn't
have to deal with the responsibilities of being a father. He said
they never discussed adoption because "if she was going to
keep the baby, we were going to keep it. I didn't want to hand
it over for someone else to raise."

He said the main reason they decided to keep the baby
because he believes it is "wrong to give something up that
you created. If you do the act, you should accept the responsi-
bilities that come along with it."

He said for teenagers to "wait unless you are willing
to have a kid and accept the responsibilities." He went on to
say that "nobody is ready at a teenage age" to raise children.
"Right now at this age, having kids is not a party," he said.

Students learn about parenting at Central

By Sarah Pugh

Every day Central students meet in room 011 and talk about
their kids. They talk about daycare and babies sleeping through
night. But just as likely to be in the conversation are questions
about homecoming dresses or who did what last weekend. Wel-
come to the world of teen parenting. This is Central's teen-
parenting class. Its only prerequisite: having a child.

"Central was one of the first in Omaha Public Schools to of-
fer a teen parenting class," said Mrs. Linda Milliken, home eco-
nomics teacher. "I've taught the class for the last four years."

The curriculum is set up just as any other class, with assign-
ments and grades. The focus is on self-esteem, parenting and ful-
filling the dual role of teenager and parent. Those enrolled also
form a type of support group simply by meeting together every
fourth hour.

"Others don't know the stigma attached to these kids," Mrs.
Milliken said. "Here they can have open talks."

"I like it a lot," said Ronetta Newby, a senior with a baby girl
nine months old. "It's definitely a lot more comfortable than any
other class."

In the 1950's, such a class would not even be considered.
Yet, the teen pregnancy rate has actually dropped since then. In
1955, there were 90 births for every 1,000 females between the
ages of 15 and 19. In 1986, 51 teens gave birth.

"The adoption rate has dropped to below five percent," Mrs.
Milliken said. "A lot more teens are choosing to have their babies
and raise them."

In fact, 95 percent of teenage mothers decide to bring up their
child themselves. This is true of the half a million teenage girls
who give birth every year.

Thirteen girls in the teen parenting class made that decision.
And there may be more. "There's no way to know how many
people at Central, especially males, have children," Mrs. Milliken
said. "No 'typical teen parent' exists."

The age of teen parents is dropping too. Half of the people in
Central's teen parenting class are freshmen or sophomores. Mrs.
Esther Farmer, health educator for the State of Nebraska Health
Department, is "seeing younger kids coming in," she said. "One
girl was sitting in front of me pregnant, with a sexually transmit-
ted disease and sucking her thumb."

According to Ms.
Farmer, more than half of all
teenagers are sexually ac-
tive. "Parents just don't talk
to their children. The young-
est I've seen in here is a sev-
enth grader."

And the problem con-
tinues. "The class is always
bigger second semester,"
Mrs. Milliken said. "But
there are programs out there
for teens. You have to go
through a lot of red tape to
get help. It's also hard know-
ing what forms to get and
how to fill them out."

Head Start is one pro-
gram in Omaha designed to
keep teen parents in school.
A bus picks up both parent
and child in the morning.
They are then taken to one
of four Head Start daycare
centers. After spending time
with their child, the parents
are taken to school. At the
end of the school day, the
bus retraces its steps, pick-
ing up the students, then re-
turning to the daycare before
dropping them off at home.

Mary Welch, coordinator for Head Start, says OPS looked at
providing daycare facilities but realized financially it was not fea-
sible. They then joined with Head Start, and together developed
the current program.

"There are two requirements for the program," Ms.
Welch said. "A student must be enrolled in the school's
teen parenting class, and spend a minimum of two hours
per week with their child in the morning."

Due to difficulties with bus drivers, Central students
currently spend only fifteen minutes each morning with
their kids. Central students are spread out, and the bus
would need to pick the students up at an earlier time than
the bus station opens. "We're looking for a bus driver
who can work with our schedule," said Ms. Welch.

Three Central students are involved with Head Start.
Christina Martin, senior, is enrolled in Head Start with
her two-year-old son. As long as she stays in school, the
service is free.

"My son goes to the Head Start center," Christina
said. "Some people say 'I don't want my kid there,' but I
think it's pretty good. The daycare will allow me to go to
college too."

Amanda Smiley, junior, has a thirteen-month-old girl
and is trying to get into the Head Start program. Amanda
is presently living in a group home with other teen moth-
ers, where her daughter is the oldest. "She'll be better
with kids her own age," Amanda said.

Hamilton Cook, an employee at Head Start, said
about 160 students are in the program. "We've got a
couple of fathers too."

According to a recent article in *Kiwanis Magazine*,
the role of males in teenage childbearing has received
too little attention. Ms. Milliken said "There is one guy
in my class right now."

According to a special report issued by Kappan, the
majority of fathers born to adolescent females are not
adolescents; they are men older than 20.

Shauna Armentrout, sophomore, is eight months
pregnant. She has no contact with the father. When she
told him about her pregnancy, he denied any involvement.

"That really hurt," Shauna said, "because I thought
he was more mature than that."

Christina has no contact with her son's biological
father either. There is
another man, Christina
said, that "I consider his
father. He's the one
who's there for us; he
acts like a father."

Lisa Hoggarth, se-
nior, works after school
and has a son two-
months- old. She sees
the father only in school.

"He doesn't make
enough money to help
out. He's only seen his
son twice," Lisa said. "I
want him to know his
son, but I don't like him
anymore. How can you
see that, a living, breath-
ing human being that
you created, and not
care?"

Amanda and her
daughter's father broke
up when she was preg-
nant. They have been
apart for nineteen
months, but are "work-
ing towards a relation-
ship. I'm taking it real
slow; I mean, he didn't

even meet his daughter till she was a year old."

"Teen-age relationships are not meant to be perma-
nent," Mrs. Milliken said. "Even if both parents want to
stay together, it usually doesn't work out."



Head Start: Lisa Hoggarth and her baby

Photo by: Jenny Hurst

Central High School Register

"Most of the people in the Omaha area who want jobs, have jobs," said Ms. Cheryl Straub, vice-president of business research at the Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce, "but we are currently in a labor shortage."

According to the Chamber of Commerce, there are approximately 10,600 people looking for employment, a small number when compared to Omaha's hefty 656,000 populus.

As stated in an August report, Nebraska currently has the lowest unemployment rate in the country, three percent, with Omaha ranking extremely high among cities of its size. This rate is nothing new; the state has been among the lowest for the past few years.

This help-wanted index is at the highest point since November

This dilemma shows no signs of abatement; contrary, it will be getting worse. "There's going to be a huge rush in the next few months, with [the Christmas] season coming up," Ms. Straub said.

Mr. Batt is referring to the numerous billboards which read "The planet has 5,423,000,000. We need 60," an attempt to increase applicants to fill the slots for the new "Mega Mart."

"Our sales jobs aren't available to minors because they aren't prepared to work. They have no skills," Mr. Batt said. "They lack good preparation and basic communication skills."

According to Mr. Batt, the only jobs available at Nebraska Furniture Mart for minors are "clerical jobs." He agrees, "we are in a severe labor shortage. We have the positions and no people to fill

Now hiring: Nebraska Furniture Mart, like many Omaha businesses is attempting to fill several open positions by advertising in billboards around to

The Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce currently has "no concrete program" to draw people. "The only solution to fill all these openings is to get more people to move here," Ms. Straub said.

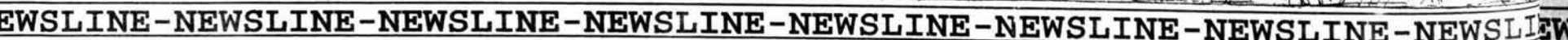
While some jobs such as construction and sales are unavailable to minors because of labor laws or required experience, "there are lots of jobs available to minors," she

These jobs range from grocery and retail stores to entry level positions, such as telemarketing. "Over the last year to eighteen months, employers have increased their starting [salary rates] up anywhere from \$1 to \$1.50 an hour," Ms. Straub said.

A lot of the advertising on television, radio and in publications is aimed at high school students. "These companies need to get an

While the number of positions available is going up, there are also "many people hired each day." According to the Chamber of Commerce's *Pro*, there were over ten thousand people working last year in Ju

With the Christmas season coming up and dozens of jobs being added to the "to be filled" each day, Omaha's "labor shortage" could easily become, according to Ms. Straub, a "sea of Now Hang signs stretching as far as the eye can see."



0-1 7 1991 3 1

The students not only had a perfect attendance for the year, but also fewer than four tardies.

Students had doughnuts and juice at the breakfast. All products for this recognition for the students with perfect attendance was donated by Robert's Milk and Dairy Co. and Perkins on 38th & Dodge.

The National Merit Scholarship is a prestigious award for high school seniors.

These seniors are Jeremy Fenton, Tami Minikus, Jacob Slosburg, Jasmine Sooriara, Robert Tepley and Alex Yale.

Seniors visit DeSoto Bend, Fort Atkinson

Hundreds of Central High seniors boarded school buses, on October 5, to attend a

Half of the seniors went to DeSoto Bend, a wildlife refuge, in the morning. The other half went to Fort Atkinson to learn about Nebraska's first military compound. In the afternoon, the students ate lunch then switched places.

At the end of the day many weary seniors returned to Central and went back to their respective homes.

By Kayla Swanson

There are six subdistricts altogether. Running for subdistrict 1 is Mrs. Irene Burnside and Mr. Nick Galusha. Mr. John Langan and Mrs. Kenda Smithers-Slavin are seeking the subdistrict nine seat. Mrs. Teresa Damasauskas and Mr. Bernard Kolasa are competing for subdistrict seven. Mrs. Nancy Ratley is challenging Mr. Steve Bloch for subdistrict five. Subdistrict three candidates are Mr. Peter magacz and Mrs. Shirley Tyree. Mrs. Ann Mactier and Mrs. Bernice Piefer are both in the race for subdistrict one.

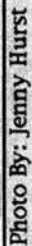
Mrs. Smithers-Slavin, seeking the subdistrict 9 seat, used statistics to support her statement that there is a problem with discipline. She said there was an "incredible problem." She also stated that in

In subdistrict 7 Mrs. Damasauskas is challenging incumbent, Mr. Kolasa. Mrs. Damasauskas said that parents have

Mrs. Damauskas, running for subdistrict seven, has gone door to door for her campaign. Her major concern is the breakdown of communication lines between the administration, parents and community. She said "We are all partners on trying to get our kids' education."

Mrs. Kratky, running for sub-district five, said the most important issue affecting high school students is discipline. Six years ago she implemented a discipline program for elementary students that included time-out rooms. She said, "We must empower teachers to make decisions and reach students. Her opponent, Mr. Pitlor, said that

1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 26



■ Boy wears dress Homecoming a success

"[Girls in slacks] are not a problem," said Mrs. Nared. "We felt some people were making a mockery of male/female persons."

Mr. Yu also said that he hopes "many students learn about China." Next semester, Mr. Yu will work at Ralston High School.

Mike McWhorter, another member of the security staff, regarded her as "firm but fair, she will positively be an asset to the staff."

Central High students collect little for United Way of the Midlands/CHAD's annual campaign

By Jacob Slosburg

The United Wave is washing up at Central. The United Wave is the theme for the 1994 United Way of the Midlands and CHAD's (Combined Health Agencies Drive's) annual campaign. Last year, Central's student body of 1,820 raised only \$205.

This year, many efforts are being made to increase the donated dollars from Central students. Posters are being placed in the schools; many individual schools are holding rallies and informational meetings to boost student and teacher contributions.

Other campaign possibilities include competing schools within a district against one another and rewarding the school that collects the most dollars with a day off of school.

According to Mrs. Carla Patton, division director of campaign for the United Way, the United Way of the Midlands Youth

Leadership Committee, a volunteer committee made up of high school students from across the area, is talking to their principals and teachers to find innovative ways to promote the United Wave and CHAD.

"I think it is really important that we're trying to involve the students. All of the students are really involved this year."

Mrs. Bernice Nared, administrator, is in charge of the campaign at Central. She said, regarding last year's campaign, "Our students are not good at giving. Students don't give very much to the United Way although we've never promoted anything that's truly ex-

citing."

She said that in past years, homerooms would compete against

This year, a different approach is being taken. United Way/CHAD jars will be located in the cafeterias and courtyard. In addition, Student Council will get involved.

Mrs. Patton, division director of the campaign, said that this year's goal is \$14.7 million. She added, "This year we are shooting for a nine percent increase."

Mrs. Nared is not pleased with student contributions. "I don't think we're asking for that much." She also said that she is not sure if students are aware of the many United Way/

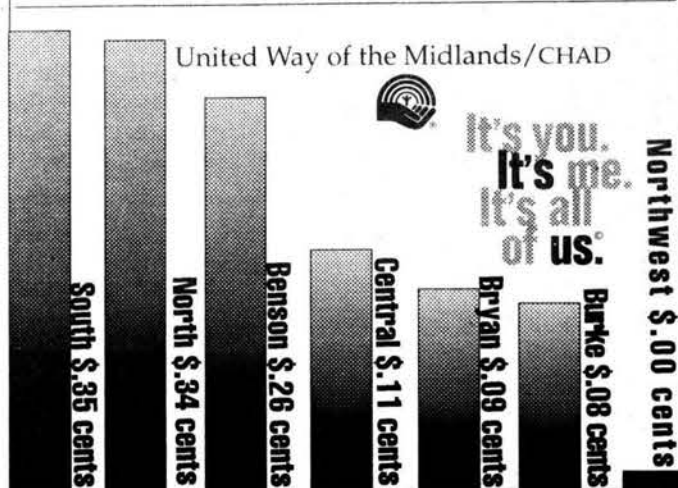
CHAD services that cater to

According to Mrs. Patton, United Way/CHAD supports agencies in the area. Some agencies that help youth include Boys Club, Girls Inc., Boys, Girls Scouts and Big Brothers. Mrs. Patton said that she wants students to become "more educated about United Way and CHAD." She feels that the United Way/CHAD can meet its goal and "Omaha is a really giving community so I don't think it will be a problem."

However, Mrs. Patton thinks that the schools could raise more money. For example, West High School, with 1,100 students, did not raise money (from the students) for United Way/CHAD last year.

This year's student campaign will end on October 20. Students can donate to the United Way both cafeterias. They will receive stickers for their contributions.

Amount per student given to United Way of the Midlands/CHAD during the 1993-1994 school year



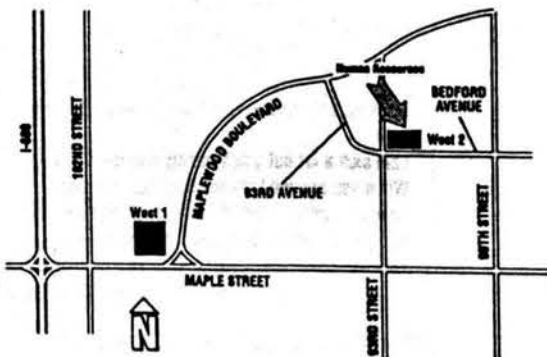
one another, and the homeroom that would give the most received a free continental breakfast in the courtyard. "Mrs. Anderson's homeroom won every year."

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Central facility improvements

Continued from page 1. Central needs to be repaired in certain areas. "The building has a really neat structure, it just needs to be maintained a little bit," she said.

Mrs. Pfeiffer also said, "Our facilities are also a little outdated." She feels that new equipment should be purchased to "accommodate the staff."

Both teachers agreed that although the custodial staff is doing a wonderful job maintaining the school, Central still needs to be renovated in certain areas.

Damion Smith, senior, said that he feels that "the old gym should be redone. It's really tacky looking." Damion feels that the bars on the windows of the old gym should be removed and that the floor should be replaced.

Damion also thinks that, if major renovation were to be started at Central, Central "should get a much better stage and replace some of the auditorium chairs that are

broken." Damion said that he thinks a new sound system should be installed in the auditorium. "The school is old, but it's a really neat structure," he said.

Our facilities are... outdated. --Mrs. Pfeiffer

Mrs. George said that Central's facilities are also a little outdated. She feels that new equipment should be purchased to "accommodate the staff."

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CHS authors remember high school days

By Carrie Parrott & Andrew Kammerer

Perhaps you've seen the display of books written by Central authors in the library. The subject matters range from accounting to poetry. But have you ever wondered what those authors are doing today?

Central alumna Ms. Tillie Olsen, who prefers to be called Tillie, has a book in that library display case. In fact, she has had several books published including *Silences*, *Tell Me a Riddle* and *Yonnondio*. Her short story "Tell Me a Riddle" from the book bearing the same title won the \$25,000 Rea Award for Short Story in 1994.

Tillie has six honorary degrees, has taught at colleges such as M.I.T., Emerson College and Stanford, and was recently a guest at the fourth annual Nebraska Literary Festival, an event that took place Saturday, September 24, at the Kiewit Convention Center.

The guest of honor at a Literary Festival luncheon, Tillie read from and discussed her book *Yonnondio* and later hosted a book signing. Her short story "I Stand Here Ironing" was dramatized at the festival as well.

Tillie certainly remembers Central High School. Although she attended nearly 69 years ago, she still can recall quite a bit about the school.

One thing Tillie remembered about Central is the students. She recalled that when she was in high school, most of Central's students were the "sons and daughters of the Omaha aristocracy." She said that

Omaha during that time had a feeling of resentment toward the expensive eastern [high] schools of the time, and that Central was Omaha's answer to the eastern schools. "It [Central] is true college prep," she said.

Although many Centralites back then were from aristocratic Omaha, Tillie said that she and others from a different background who "crossed the tracks" to Central learned a lot about different ways of living. "We learned about class, we learned the wonders and beauties of what was in the world of culture," she said.

Tillie also had some first experiences at Central such as being in a cafeteria and seeing the Greek statues that stood in the hallway. "I'll never forget my first taste of whipped cream on the Jello," she said.

Another aspect of Central that Tillie remembered was the teachers. "The teachers at Central were a great breed of human beings in teaching," she said.

Tillie especially remembered one teacher that made a great difference in her life, English teacher Ms. Sarah Vore Taylor, author of Central's *Stylebook*. Tillie remarked that "if it were not for her and for others at Central, I would not be the writer that I am today. I probably had a better English education at Central High than most college English majors."

Tillie was a writer on the Central High *Register*. She authored a humor column called "Squeaks" and won a Quill and Scroll national

prize for her work. Tillie said that staying after school and working on the *Register* and participating in other Central activities was a tremendous experience.

Another Central graduate, Ms. Jonis Agee, was also present at the Nebraska Literary festival. Her two novels, *Sweet Eyes* and *Strange Angels*, and her collections of short prose works, *Pretend We Never Met* and *Bend This Heart*, are becoming nationally recognized works.

In both of her readings in Omaha, Central High was not forgotten and even heavily praised by the native Nebraskan fiction and poetry writer.

"Central High taught me how to write right," said Ms. Agee. Without that experience and support from the English Department, "I don't think I would be doing this today."

She also stressed how important the English Department's faith in her work was.

Ms. Agee said that even though a formal creative writing class was not in existence during her years at Central, some assignments in her formal English classes allowed her to express her creativity.

"These (assignments) made it possible to explore my unconscious imagery. It would just come bubbling up," said Ms. Agee.

"During the late fifties, early sixties, a woman being told she can be a writer was an important thing to me. All my teachers said, 'You can do this. Go ahead, be a writer.' I was treated as seriously as any-

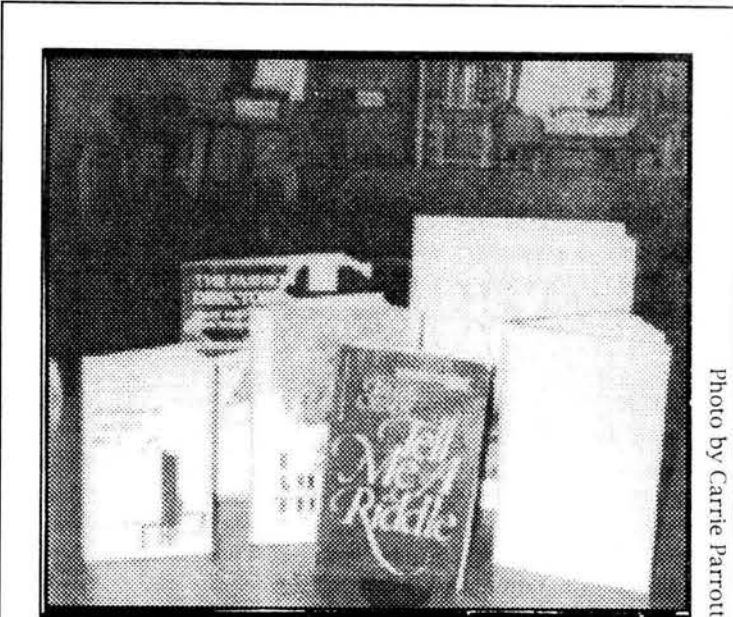


Photo by Carrie Parrott

'Read your heart out': Central authors' works fill the shelves.

one else."

Ms. Agee also said all of the tools that she needed to succeed in college and in her writing career were obtained during her years at Central.

"The reading gave me the groundwork I needed as a writer," said Ms. Agee, "but the most important thing, of course, was the conjoining of the literature and the writing that supported it. I learned how to write all kinds of things, and that writing could be easy."

When asked what young writers should do to prepare themselves for a future in writing, Ms. Agee

said, "Read your heart out. Read every form you can get your hands on. You must be able to understand the language you're using before you can trust yourself to use it."

She also said to keep a writer's notebook and write in it as often as you can.

"Go out and listen. Listen to the language and the way people talk to get the rhythm of dialogue. Rhythm is poetry," she said.

Aside from Ms. Agee's professional writing career, she is also a creative writing teacher at the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Senior 'Staying Strong' in struggle with cancer

By Carrie Parrott

You see her walking down the street. A pretty girl, seventeen years of age. You would never guess that there was something different about her. You would never guess that she had cancer.

Yolanda White, a senior at Bryan High School and the granddaughter of Central cafeteria manager Peggy White, has been battling osteosarcoma for almost a year now.

Osteosarcoma is a type of bone cancer mainly affecting the large, long bones of the body, especially the knee area. Affecting many people yearly, symptoms include pain, swelling and limitation of joint movement.

Osteosarcoma is the most common form of sarcoma (a type of cancer that develops in connective tissues such as bone, fat, muscle and cartilage).

Osteosarcoma is highly lethal before anti-cancer drugs are taken, which triples survival rates.

Yet throughout her struggle, Yolanda has remained strong. Now, she may be cancer free.

"Staying Strong", a poem of Yolanda's was recently published in the Candlelighters Cancer Foundation's youth newsletter. The poem tells of her struggle, her anx-

ieties and of the positive attitude she maintained throughout her treatments.

Yolanda was first diagnosed with osteosarcoma on November 1, 1993. She was put into a hospital for nine and a half months, where she was tutored for an hour each day so she could keep up with her schoolwork. She underwent numerous, frustrating and "really painful" surgeries to rid her body of the cancer, and later went through chemotherapy, a process in which chemotherapeutic drugs are put into the body to destroy un-

wanted cancer cells. The drugs often produce unwanted side effects,

Staying Strong

How many times did I shed a tear?
How many times have I been scared?
Although I do not shed tears I am still in pain
After everything I'm going through I should be insane
Life isn't getting easy yet I'm okay
I just wish I could have one normal healthy day
I see people playing ball, laughing,
and rollerskating in the street
Not even the least bit upset
because they had a game and got beat
I see and hear a lot of things I cannot do
No I don't cry, But I am lonely and awful scared, too
I wanna dance, I wanna run, skip and be free
I wanna do everything I did when I was healthy
But I can't now and I don't understand why
So there's no need to be upset, pout, or cry
I keep on being the same person I used to be
I feel almost the same, but not so happy and not so free
I am sick a lot but you'll barely see me down
When you see me I try my best not to frown
I keep a positive attitude, I try to be strong
It seems I've been suffering for a lifetime
and it really hasn't been that long
Backaches, stomachaches, headaches, breaking out
into sweats
I try to stay positive but the worse it gets
But that doesn't bring me down I keep fighting and trying
Being strong, staying healthy, no time for crying
When it's over I'll be happy I stayed strong
Because the battle's all over and the cancer's all gone.

—Yolanda J. White

and when Yolanda had an allergic reaction to a treatment, she was taken off of it. Now Yolanda only has to visit the doctor once a month, and she undergoes tests once every three months to make sure that the cancer has left her body for

good. She leads the same type of life as any teenager. In fact, she was recently crowned Homecoming Queen at her high school.

But how did Yolanda remain so strong and positive throughout her ordeal?

Yolanda said that what helped her through her cancer was "people." She said that her family, friends, doctors and others aided her throughout her treatment, and she was therefore able to try her hardest to stay strong.

Yolanda said that a few good things have also come out of having cancer. "I got to meet a bunch of great people," she said. "I became really close with them."

Yolanda also said that because of her experience, she has decided to become a psychiatrist when she gets older. "I have a psychiatrist to help me get through my problem. She didn't know what it [having cancer] was like. Now I want to work with people that have cancer since I understand what they're going through," she said.

Ms. White, her said that she and the rest of Yolanda's family are "very proud of her."

Yolanda has one piece of advice to give to anyone who is struggling to get through hard times—"Stay positive."

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455-2121

Pregnancy Helpline
553-0661 or
1-800-669-8086

Facts-of-Lifeline
558-PLAN
(recorded information)



Westside finds cafeteria food alternative

By Angela Parks

Imagine you are in your fourth period class, and you feel like you're going to die of starvation. The jingling of the bell signals the end of fourth period, and you race out of your class towards the cafeteria. When you step into the cafeteria you smell the aroma of sizzling hot pizza. Then you remember suddenly that today is the day for Pizza Hut pizza. (See picture A)

Now get back to reality. You're in fourth period and you feel like your starving to death. The jingling of the bell signals the end of fourth period, and you race out of your class up the never-ending stairs to finally reach the cafeteria out of breath to find some indistinguishable food staring back at you. You are then told by a fellow student that what is being served is the usual, fish sandwiches. All of a sudden you have then lost your appetite. (See picture B)

Which would you rather have, a slice of pepperoni pizza or an indistinguishable fish sandwich? Well, if you attended Westside High School, your choice could be pepperoni pizza, but here at Central your only choice is to have the fish sandwich or the choice of the day.

Westside students every week have Pizza Hut, Burger King and Little King come in on one day of every week to serve their main course.

On Tuesday, Pizza Hut delivers to the school 110 medium hot pepperoni pizzas. The cafeteria charges \$1.25 for one single slice of pizza. If a student wants a full meal, which is a slice of pizza, fruit or vegetable and milk, the cost is \$1.50, the same as the cost for a full meal at Central.

On Wednesday, Burger King delivers to Westside hot hamburger patties and buns which the cafeteria staff has to wrap in the wrappers provided by Burger King. The cost for a single hamburger is \$0.80. This is approximately the same price the hamburgers would cost at Burger King. A full meal still costs \$1.50 on Wednesdays.

On Thursday, Little King visits Westside and brings sub sandwiches. The sandwiches cost the same as a single slice of pizza, \$1.25 each. Little King offers two types of sandwiches; one with is everything on it, and the second containing a minimal amount of fat and calories. The program of offering low-fat and low calories food is a program Westside has with Methodist Hospital in working with helping teens reduce health problems. Westside's cafeteria staff also prepares a main meal everyday.

You might be wondering by now why Westside has this type of lunch program and Central or any other Omaha Public School does not. Well, the answers are not as

ity," a surplus of food that the government has too much of, and get reimbursement from the federal government.

"The surplus products are then incorporated into the menu," according to Mrs. Diane Zipay, Director of Nutrition Service of District 66. "There is not enough commodity food to make sure the

in to serve lunch because the price is about the same price if bought frozen through the school food dealer," Mrs. Zipay said.

Mrs. Zipay says having businesses come in to serve lunch is a lot easier for her school district because there is only one high school to worry about.

"I believe with having busi-

nesses coming to the school it helps them also have an open campus policy.

Mrs. Zipay says that she would like to have a greater variety of companies coming into the school, so fewer students would leave the building for lunch.

Westside junior Ben Cleveland said, "I used to go to Papillion and their cafeteria food was bad, so hav-

Many of you by now are probably asking yourselves why Central does not have this type of program?

Central could have this program according to Ms. Anderson, OPS Nutritional Director, if companies were to distribute their products to schools, and the school would have to pay for it.

The first problem is that there are many high schools in this district that do not have such a program. Every school, because of the cost, said Anderson.

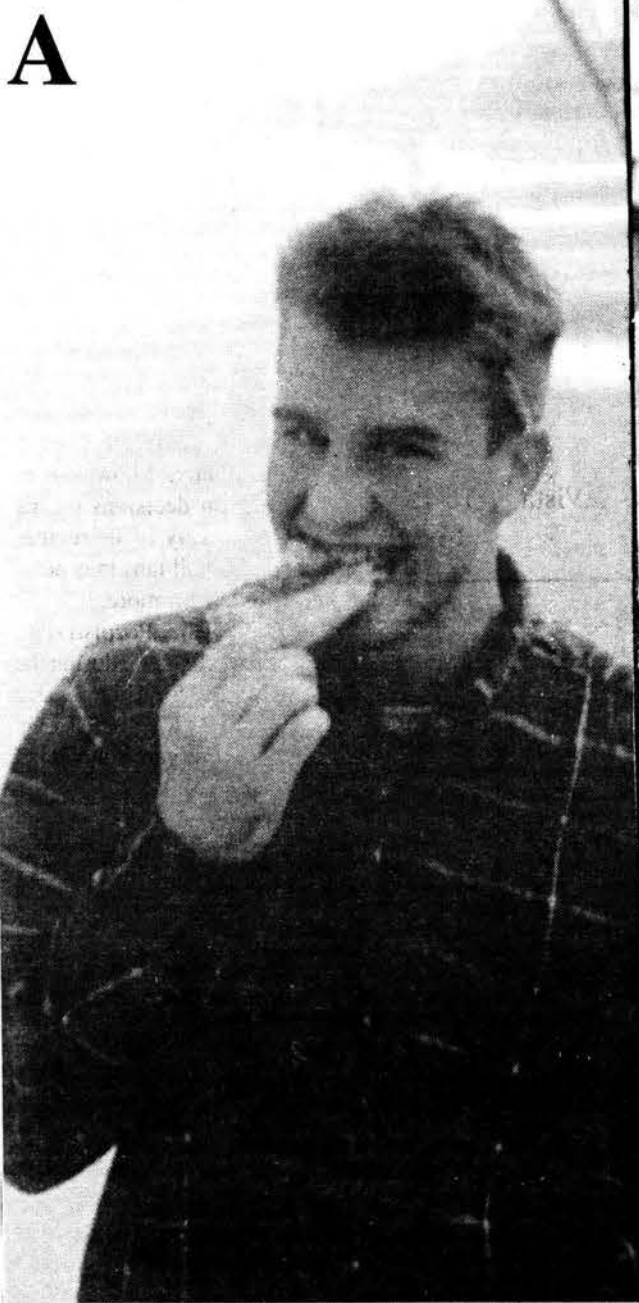
A second problem is that in 1996 a federal mandate requires that school cafeteria food has to meet federal requirements that no more than 30% of calories come from fat and no more than 10% from saturated fat. Ms. Anderson said that she would like to give the schools Westside type of lunch program and then take it to the next level because the food is meeting the federal mandate. These are only reasons why Central will not have this type of lunch program used at Westside.

However, Westside does not know if they will be able to keep current food providers because of this federal mandate. After evaluating the nutritional value, Westside wants to keep its current program, then will be legally able to adopt and keep programs.

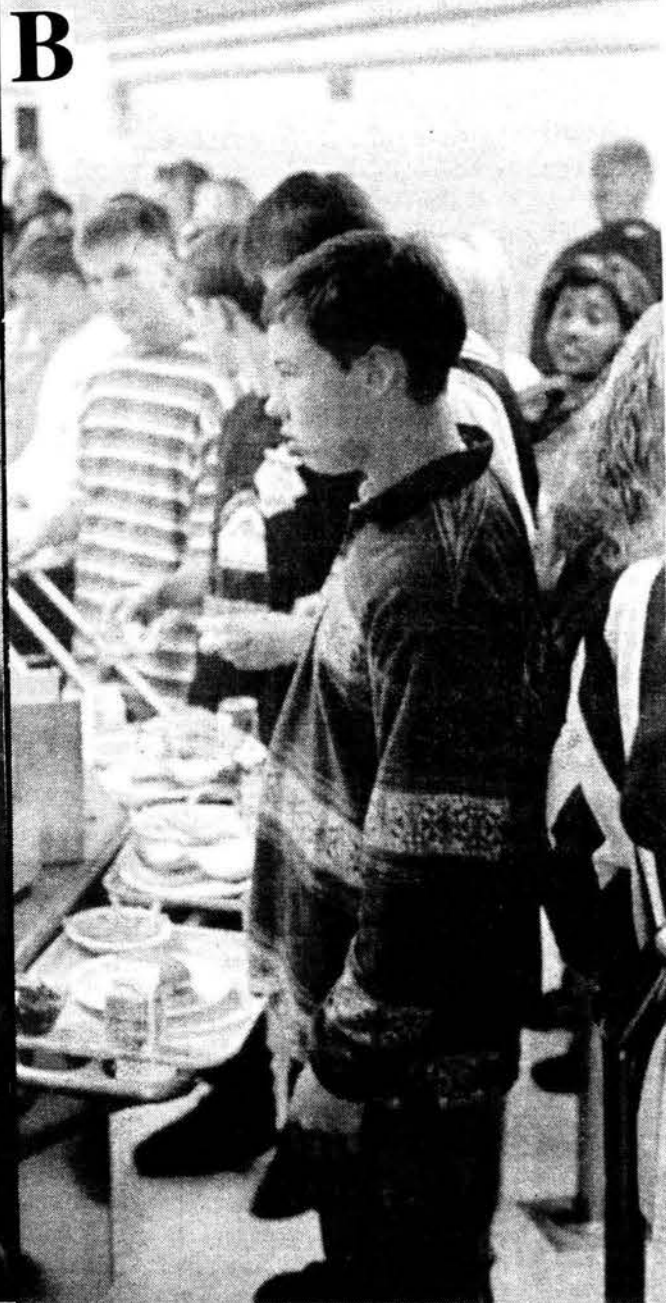
"I feel that the students are currently getting introduced to foods, which is

because many students eat the thing, fast-food," Ms. Anderson said.

Other schools that have similar lunch programs include Creighton Prep and Marian.



Food fantasies: Westside student in Picture A enjoys Pizza-Hut pizza over the lunch hour.



Reality check: Central student in Picture B gawks at the selections offered in the cafeteria.

Photos by Jenny Hurst

lunches meet the nutritional values," said Mrs. Zipay.

According to Mrs. Zipay, when a student is on the free lunch program, the school receives a medium-size reimbursement for providing lunch to the student. If a student is on the reduced-lunch program, the school district receives a smaller amount of money than if the student was on the free-lunch program.

The federal government's only requirement of District 66 is that the food must meet federal regulations on nutritional values. For example, Mrs. Zipay said that for District 66 to serve Burger King hamburgers, Burger King had to write a letter stating the nutritional values of their hamburgers.

"The school is not losing money by having companies come

nesses coming to the school it helps to encourage students to come into the cafeteria to get a balanced meal," said Mrs. Zipay.

Westside does not have only businesses come to serve food, but

ing companies come in is not so bad if you cannot leave the building."

Many Central students replied with a definite yes when asked if they would like to have a lunch program like Westside.



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SPORTS OPINION



TEN-MINUTE MISCONDUCT

Sports Opinion by
Michael Sigmund

FOOTBALL

Varsity	
Papillion-LaVista	28
EAGLES	14
Creighton Prep	20
EAGLES	17
EAGLES	28
Gross	7
EAGLES	40
Ralston	7

Junior Varsity

EAGLES	14
Benson	6
Creighton Prep	20
EAGLES	6
Reserve	
Millard North	28
EAGLES	0

Reserve (cont.)

Bellevue West	46
EAGLES	0
Creighton Prep	14
EAGLES	0
Freshmen	
EAGLES	6
Millard South	6
EAGLES	20
Bryan	6

SOFTBALL

Ralston	6
EAGLES	1
EAGLES	6
Lincoln East	4
EAGLES	4
Lincoln High	3

VOLLEYBALL

Millard South	15-15
EAGLES	10-12
EAGLES	15-15
Gross	6-11
EAGLES	15-6-15
Ralston	6-15-9
North	15-15
EAGLES	13-7
EAGLES	15-15
Burke	12-11
Thomas Jefferson	15-15
EAGLES	11-12
North	15-8-16
EAGLES	7-15-14
Papillion-LaVista	16-15
EAGLES	14-7

In my weight training class, the daily topic of conversation is what place the local teams are ranked in the latest poll by *Omaha World-Herald* sportswriter Stu Pospisil. The conversations are dominated by the football players themselves who complain that the Eagles are ranked too low and that the other teams, especially Creighton Prep, are ranked too high. One man, one sportswriter, has enough control over all *World-Herald* readers to have them believe that his rankings are absolutely correct, that if Norfolk is ranked number one, then they are the best team in the state, hands down. Wake up, Nebraska, Stu Pospisil really doesn't have any super-human knowledge to make these great decisions on his own. In fact, many of us regular high-school football fans may actually know quite a bit more.

The truth is that Pospisil does not attend one local game during the regular season. Those games are covered by Rich Kaipust, while Pospisil covers one game outside of the Metro area per week. Norfolk is undoubtedly a good team this year. They are 6-0 and have outscored their opponents 218-64, but most feel that Norfolk couldn't compete with the top Metro teams, that their record is only indicative of their easy schedule. Pospisil ranked Norfolk as the top Nebraska team on October 10, above Benson, Millard North and Papillion-LaVista. This vote was easy for Pospisil because he has probably seen Norfolk play several times this season, while he has not seen the others play once. The cold fact is that Pospisil should not be making such important rankings on his own, even if he viewed every game, every week.

Papillion-LaVista and Omaha Burke have played two difficult schedules and have lost only one game each. Yet, Pospisil ranks the teams fourth and seventh respectively. Despite questionable calls, Central did in fact lose to Creighton Prep and Burke but is ranked above them. As Central faithful, this ranking may seem like a moral victory, but in truth it is simply based on Pospisil's ignorance from not seeing these games take place. Had Central passed the ball effectively against either team, the Eagles wouldn't have needed to blame the loss on the officiating or thrown an embarrassing temper tantrum following the Prep game. Head-to-head competition should be the number one factor in deciding rankings and Pospisil showed a lack of perception by placing Central ahead of those teams.

The time has come for Pospisil to end the totalitarianism and allow others to contribute to the rankings system. Pospisil should accept votes

from the Nebraska high school sports editors and from the coaches. These are the people that see several teams and can fairly judge strengths and weaknesses. The other option is to have the *World-Herald* publish a computerized ranking system which I am sure the Central High math department, chaired by Mr. John Waterman, would be glad to accomplish. This would bring some conflict and contrast to a system that is based on one writer's opinion.

Rankings in football have also become a point of great controversy in the college football arena. The lack of a distinguishable national champion at the end of each season has left NCAA officials, sports writers, players, coaches and fans searching for solutions. Some have suggested a comprehensive playoff system similar to the NFL's. Others have called for revolving bowls that will host a number one versus number two contest. Still others have recommended deciding the national champion through the *New York Times* computer rankings.

The playoff system will never work nor be implemented because there is absolutely no reason to keep students out of classes for such an extended period of time. The revolving bowls idea will most likely be implemented next year, but it leaves a team like Penn State which is undefeated and ranked third without a bid for the championship. Most reject the computer rankings system because it relies too heavily on the quality of the opponents.

The computer system is truly the most accurate in a system where every team can't play every other team once. Of course the Nebraska faithful were quick to dismiss the computer when it ranked Kansas State, Penn State and Colorado ahead of Nebraska before the Kansas State-Nebraska showdown. Computer rankings are unbiased and rank teams on each one's ability on the field. Also, those rankings don't make pointless eliminations due to probation. The solution to the college football dilemma is to have number one play number two, number three play number four and so on.

This month, our Sports Poll let you do the rankings. Well, you the students helped support my point about how rankings are too biased and uninformed. More than 100 students were polled and the vast majority ranked Nebraska number one. The biggest surprise was UNO's showing at number 16 and the significant votes for Creighton and Pacific. UNO is one of the worst Division II teams with a record of 0-6 and Creighton doesn't even have a football team. I made the point to publish a national poll to show the differences. Thanks to all who contributed opinions.

Men's Tennis slowed by injury as State approaches

Mimi Douglas

The Central boys' tennis team finished its pre-season duals with a 3-8 loss to Ralston. This leaves them with an overall record of 6-3, which will prevent them from claiming their fifth straight championship.

A major cause for the decline in the results of the duals was the injury that befell number one singles player Alex Yale, senior. This same injury caused him to have to withdraw from Metro at the last second, giving up his fifth seeding in the tournament.

Sophomore Jason Hoberman,

I am very pleased with the way Central finished.
—Mr. John Waterman

ranked number six on the CHS line-up, made an impressive showing in Alex's place with a first round win.

All of the CHS players had at least one win, leaving Central with a sixth place overall.

Junior Charlie Yin, who was ranked second in his division, lived up to his seeding by making it all the way to the finals. According to Coach John Waterman, there were "no errors in the finals." The level of tennis that Charlie, and especially the Prep player, Carlie Hiene, who won, displayed was near perfection.

Coach Waterman was especially pleased with freshman Chad Powell who, along with senior Clark Lauritzen, played number one doubles. He "played outstanding tennis," Coach Waterman said.

Overall he was "very pleased with the way that Central finished in the tournament."

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18 Sports Central High School

Illegal fireworks leave damage, scare mascot at UNO, Bergquist

By Marcus Woodworth

On the evening of September 23 a loud noise ripped through Al Caniglia Stadium when a cherry bomb, about the size of an empty toilet roll, exploded near the student section of Central High.

The firecracker was thrown from the Central bleachers. It hit the Central Eagle on the shoulder, bounced off, and blew up. The firecracker left a mark on the astroturf. The administration does not know who threw it. Sophomore Chris Darst, who was the mascot at the game, said that he heard it was a former Central student.

Assistant Principal Paul Pennington said, "I have not seen anything this dangerous in my 23

years of being here." Dr. G.E. Moller, principal agrees saying that "nothing that serious has ever happened since I've been here." Both say that this type of activity is not typical for a crowd of students. Mr. Pennington suggested that they might have to spread out teachers down by the field in the bleachers. No drastic measures are going to be taken by administration as a result of this incident.

Chris said that he didn't think that the bomb was intended for him. "People were yelling at me to get away, but I couldn't hear them." He went on to add that he hopes that this isn't typical.

However, on September 30 at Central's homecoming game

another firecracker was thrown from the student section of Central. It did not hit anyone but was still a dangerous action that could have resulted in a serious injury. Senior Ryan Stowe said that he saw the firecracker thrown from a group of students back towards the parents. He could not distinguish who threw it. Other sources do claim to know who threw it. Neither of the perpetrators has been caught and no one is sure who did it. Chris said, "It makes me angry that no one saw who threw the firecrackers, that no one is coming forward."

However, Chris also stated that there isn't much the staff can do. "Searching everyone would be going too far."

Driving, chipping towards state: Women's golf swings into action

By Justin Specht

"I think this particular season really signified the emergence of the underclassmen and how successful they are going to be in the future, as well as establishing the older members as good team leaders," Kris Berg, senior, commented.

After beginning the season with two losses, the girls' golf team came back strong with a victory at Papillion. Liz Crossman, senior, pointed out the significance of getting back on the winning track. "We didn't expect to start off just demolishing everyone until we all had time to gel together, and we had such a young team that I was pretty happy we won our third match of the season." It was from that early point on that the team gained much needed strength and unity on the road to making its bid for a state championship.

According to Mrs. Jo Dusatko, girls' golf coach, consistency was the single factor she thought her team lacked early in the season. "I was having trouble trying to figure out which golfers to use on days we had matches," coach Dusatko said.

"But as the season started to take form, everyone seemed ready to golf on any given day." Coach Dusatko was also very knowledgeable of the younger talent which her team possessed, saying that it became clearly evident that the younger players did not seem so young.

Coach Dusatko went on to say that the team improved enough to become huge contenders, but were not able to piece everything together at the end of the season. "I was very happy that we were able to finish the season with a four(wins) and four(losses) record, and I was equally pleased that we finished seventh in our metro competition and fourth in what I would consider a very difficult district tournament."

One player who, according to all of her teammates, was unanimously known as the hardest worker on her team was state tournament qualifier Liz Crossman. Liz marked the second year in a row that a person from Central made it all the way to the girls' golf state tournament. Her teammates will

not deny the work ethic possessed by Liz as being probably the chief key to her success. "Liz plays golf on days we don't even have practice, and I think that its really this hard work and determination that got her to where she is now," Sarah Berg, sophomore, commented.

Liz summed up her performance by highlighting the fact that it was probably the toughest competition she's ever faced, as well as the fact that she's never surpassed so many other golfers in one tournament before. Liz placed third in metro competition on October 3, and fifth in her district on October 4. and "To tell you the truth, I'm really surprised that I made it to state, but I also think that I've earned it," Liz said. "I'm going to practice really hard the for the remainder of the time up until state, and I just hope that it pays off."

SPORTS QUIZ

Last issue's question:

What football team originally drafted Bo Jackson as number one pick?

The Answer: Tampa Bay Buccaneers

The winner: Senior Kyle Small

Kyle will receive a Central baseball cap

This issue's question:

Who was the losing goalie in the 1987 Stanley Cup Finals?

- a) Grant Fuhr
- b) Patrick Roy
- c) Ron Hextall
- d) Darin Puppia
- e) Brian Heyward

If you know the answer, please write it down along with your name and either your homeroom number or address. Deliver your entry to Room 315, mail it to Central or place it in the mailbox in the Courtyard. A winner will be chosen from a drawing of correct answers received by November 5, 1994. The winner will receive a Central hat or t-shirt. Limit one entry per person.

Athletes use junior varsity in preparation for the future

By Justin Specht

The junior varsity football team has worked through some rather rough times this far into the season but has high hopes it can turn things around and win its remaining games.

Before what might possibly have been the team's most important game of the year, against Creighton Prep, the Eagles were stuck with a record of one win and three losses. The players were very happy, however, with the way they had played in their lone victory of the season against Benson.

"I think we could be better than we are right now, but I also think that we do a lot of good things. We keep improving every day. We practice and get more to work together." Joel Moller, junior, commented. "But I think we're really looking at the future, especially since people that are eligible to join our team play on Varsity."

While this is the general feeling around the team, the players know that they can all improve. They strongly believe that the whole will do so.

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SPORTS POLL

Central students ranked their top 25 football teams. First place votes are in parentheses.

1. Nebraska - 1103 (95)
2. Florida - 674 (5)
3. Colorado - 525 (2)
4. Florida State - 493 (2)
5. Notre Dame - 381 (2)
6. Michigan - 356 (1)
7. Penn State - 251 (1)
8. Miami - 179 (2)
9. Auburn - 102
10. Oklahoma - 80
11. Texas - 77
12. Washington - 76
13. Arizona - 73
14. UCLA - 59
15. Alabama - 55
16. Nebraska-Omaha - 48
17. Kansas - 47
18. Wisconsin - 45
19. Wyoming - 44
20. Texas A&M - 42
21. Oklahoma State - 33
22. Minnesota - 28
23. Texas Tech - 25
24. USC - 24
25. California - 22

Associated Press Poll
First place votes in parentheses.

1. Florida (44)
2. Nebraska (12)
3. Penn State (2)
4. Colorado (4)
5. Michigan
6. Auburn
7. Texas A&M
8. Miami
9. Washington
10. Alabama
11. Florida State
12. Texas
13. Colorado State
14. Arizona
15. North Carolina
16. Kansas State
17. Notre Dame
18. Syracuse
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Green, Morrow lead Central to a two-game winning streak

By Michael Sigmond

Central football handily defeated Gross and Ralston to improve their record to 3-3. October has brought two wins and a glimmer of hope for a wild-card berth in the playoffs. This follows a September marred by a frustrating loss to Creighton Prep 20-17.

Central hopes to make the playoffs, but the Eagles know that Benson leads the division with a 5-1 record. Central failed to make the playoffs last year despite a 7-2 record.

The Eagles defeated Ralston 40-7 behind four touchdown runs by senior I-back Ahman Green and strong defensive showings by senior Shawn Shoemaker and junior Ramon Johnson. Senior Damion Morrow scored what proved to be the winning touchdown early in the first quarter with a three-yard-rush. The touchdown made the score 14-0 following the extra point by senior Dominic Digiacomo.

Ahman scored the first Eagle touchdown with 10:29 remaining in the first quarter on a 51-yard-rush down the sidelines. "I just gotta do what I gotta do," said Ahman following the game.

Central quickly regained possession and with 7:55 left in the opening quarter senior Jono Bradford hooked up with sophomore Brandon Myers for a 43-yard-pass to the Ralston three-yard-line to set up Morrow's only touchdown run.

Following the touchdown,

many Central fans, in mockery of a Ralston tradition, formed a "C" on the grass above the field. Senior Adam Johnsen said, "You could feel the spirit in the air and it was beautiful." Students were warned by security that they would be ejected if the act occurred again.

Early in the second quarter, it appeared Ralston would prove to be formidable opposition. With 10:51 to go, Jono was intercepted deep in Central territory. Two minutes later, Ralston completed an eight-yard touchdown pass to cut the lead to seven.

Central solidified its lead just three minutes later as Jono completed a 24-yard pass to senior Jake Bond. This set up a ten-yard touchdown run for senior Tony Hudson giving Central a 21-7 lead.

The Eagles threatened to score again late in the second quarter, as Damion ran out of bounds with one second left. Instead of playing what should have been the final play of the first half, Ralston players rushed off the field and the referees decided to end the half. "We thought they should have put one second back on the clock," said Head Coach Joe McMenamin.

Nebraska Head Coach Tom Osborne appeared in the Central stands at half-time amid speculation that he is scouting Ahman, Damion and senior Kevin Sayers. Osborne refused comment on recruitment but said, "Of course, Central has some great players."

In the second-half Ahman

scored three times on runs of 31, 48 and one yard to give Central a 40-7 lead over Ralston. "We executed better defensively and offensively," said Coach McMenamin.

Previously Central defeated Gross 28-7 in its annual Homecoming game. Damion had his best night of the season as he scored touchdowns on runs of 58, 43 and two yards. Ahman scored the first touchdown on a 26 yard rush. Dominic had a 40-yard interception return and junior Adam Rinn recovered a fumble.

Despite the win, Coach McMenamin scolded his players following the game because he felt the game should have been "better played." Jono said, "We mentally broke down because this should have been a blow out."

Senior Brian Walter registered seven tackles in the Gross game. Brian commented, "We are getting the job done."

A questionable call may have contributed to Central's loss to Prep. With six seconds left, Jono set under center and the referee blew his whistle. It appeared that the referee had stopped play but allowed the clock to continue and time expired. Had the referee not blown his whistle, Jono would have spiked the ball to give Dominic an attempt at a game-tying field goal.

Central will complete its season against Millard South. Millard South should be a challenge after last season's 44-0 upset, that eliminated Central from the playoffs.

Gymnasts win despite young team

By Mimi Douglas

Central gymnast Kelly Allen, sophomore, feels that this year is "going really well." The team is young, composed of all freshmen and sophomores, which has posed

some challenges throughout the season.

Mrs. Katie Heddens, who coaches the combined Central/North High gymnastics team, agrees and feels that this is to be a "building

year" for the entire team.

Coach Heddens says that she thinks that this year will serve as a base to build on for next year. "Since the team is so young and there is so much inexperience, [I try] to emphasize individual progress," she said. She hopes that this season will provide experience for new gymnasts and will provide additional practice for more seasoned members.

There has been much improvement in mental aggression and Coach Heddens sees that there is the potential for much more. She said that is turning out to be a "really fun year [because there are] some fun personalities on the team."

Sophomore Cori Mallenby agreed, adding that "gymnastics is really neat and we have a lot of fun."

The gymnasts have until October 28 to build and prepare for the state meet. Kelly hopes that more gymnasts will qualify this year. Only two seniors were able to compete last season, and they want to try to qualify as a team this year. Coach Heddens feels that they have a "good chance for the team to qualify" for state competition.

Individually, two of the strongest contenders are Kelly and sophomore Alicia Blanke. Both girls are returning members and co-captains.

Happy Halloween!

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'Fall Ball' : Major experiment deemed a significant success

By Mimi Douglas

"We've been manhandling everyone this fall, and we plan to [continue] in the spring," senior Jason Lawrence said. Fall baseball has always been popular with Central players, and this year is no exception. This season though, the goal of the team is more than just enjoyment.

Chuck Whitten, senior said, "Winning at all costs is what matters to us. There are plenty of other teams we could join if we wanted to lose."

Since "fall ball" is not a school-sanctioned activity, the teams are usually composed of students from various schools. This season, some of Central's spring baseball players got together and formed their own team—an all Central team.

This allows for a greater sense of unity and confidence in themselves and each other. Chuck demonstrates this by stating that, "Jason Lawrence is one of the most talented shortstops in the state. He is also doing great in his Foods 3-4 class."

The teams are given the names of Major League teams as nicknames, and hats with matching emblems. Central is known in fall baseball circles as the "Reds."

It is not just as simple as going out and playing baseball, though. The rules are different and they add a new challenge to the popular sport.

In this version, each game lasts for exactly one hour and 55 minutes, and is not dependant upon the completion of a set number of innings. Everyone on the team bats and when time is called, the game

stops after the last batter is finished.

The league is composed of 21 teams and each team plays 12 games,

about two games a week for six weeks. Central has been doing very well with an overall record of 7-2-1. Three of the teams that they have beaten were previously undefeated. The two teams that they lost to were the Tigers (Lincoln Northeast) and the Angels (Prep and a few Westside players). The one team the Reds tied were the Pirates (Lincoln Pius).

"The fact that we're winning most of our games makes it fun, but playing in a more relaxed atmosphere [than the spring season] is fun too," said Gus.

Jason feels a little bit more competitive about the success of the team. He says, "If we don't make it to Rosenblatt (where the state tournament is played) this season will [have been] a waste of our time. We might as well have joined the soccer team."

Playing over the fall will provide good practice and help to "keep [us] in shape," senior Gus Jespersen said.

Baseball does have its problems, though, or at least Chuck thinks so. He says, "Sometimes we feel that baseball has trouble competing with the popularity of football. But unlike the football team, we don't work hard and we won our first two games."

The team practices at Christie Heights. The league is sponsored by Charlie Rose Baseball, a baseball store located in Rockbrook Village.

The Charlie Rose Baseball Store also sets up contests among team members. The player with the highest batting average, by the end of the season is awarded a new bat. The pitcher with the most strikeouts to his name gets a new glove. At season's end, the team votes for its most valuable player.

Playing in a more relaxed atmosphere is fun.

- Gus Jespersen

Sports Staff fulfills dreams of Super Bowl, are they ready for some football

By Justin Specht

First there was Hoop-It-Up, and then Bluffs Run in Council Bluffs hosted a different sort of competition for people of all kinds of different backgrounds and ages called Air-It-Out.

Air-It-Out is the NFL's official four-on-four flag football tournament and although its popularity hasn't reached that of the Hoop-It-Up tournament, tournament officials were expecting a large turnout due primarily to the fact that the tournament took place the weekend of October 15-16, right in the thick of the NFL season.

However, those who expected this tournament's rules to be even remotely identical to those of the NFL, with the knowledge that any contact of any sort is illegal, should have taken the time to recognize just a few of the very significant differences between the two. First of all, there is no such thing as a fumble. Rather, the ball is considered dead at any time in which it may fall on the ground. Much the same is the fact that once a player has intercepted a pass, he must stop dead in his tracks, where his team will begin a new set of downs in an attempt to score a touchdown. In addition, games not only have a 30 minute time limit, but also a 28 point limit. In other words, once a team has scored 28 points, the game is over and that team is victorious. Also, a quarterback is not allowed to run and has only seven seconds to get a play off from the line of scrimmage. Dimension-wise, players are thrown

another twist from the norm in terms of the playing field itself. The field is 60 yards in length rather than the standard 100 yards, and no-run zones, in which handoffs and pitches aren't allowed, exist in certain parts of the field in an attempt to make more offensively-explosive games.

Aside from the many different rules and the competition itself,



there also exists a special set of events at the Air-It-Out competition called the NFL Experience. The Experience is usually referred to as "Pro Football's Theme Park On Tour." The Experience gives all of the players involved the opportunity to test themselves in the NFL's Fastest Man contest, measure the distance and accuracy of their arms in the Quarterback Challenge and Long Distance Throw, and even make the winning kick in the Field Goal Fantasy. For those not interested in these particular events, other competitions such as the agility-testing Obstacle Course and Pass/Punt Receiving Challenge are also available.

Central's Register Sports Staff (seniors Michael Sigmond, Justin

Specht, and Marcus Wood, along with Central senior Lawrence and Creighton senior Nestor Goutierre, decided to get a team together in an attempt to see how they might fare in the competition. The five men will be under the team name "The Mudds"

"I think that we'll do well because we've practiced a lot, and put a lot of work into this tournament," Jason commented before the competition. "It looks like a lot of fun because we are in a division (Recreation) that we think we can win our games." The players agreed, and unanimously decided that the experience would probably be the most difficult thing in the competition.

said that the large difference in dimensions was going to take getting used to. "The 60 yard field will be the biggest adjustment for me," he commented.

The cost of entering the competition is \$100, with each of the five participants paying an individual amount of \$20. This covers the costs of the official Air-It-Out t-shirts, party favors, other special merchandise and the winners.

So for teams involved in the Midwest, the NFL Air-It-Out competition provided a competitive and challenging experience, as well as a lasting memory. Make sure and find out what kind of an impact the Register made in next month's issue.



Spike-fest: After an opening loss the volleyball team concentrated on its mistakes and tried to improve as a team. The hard work paid off at the Bryan Invitational. The girls shut out Benson in two games. In the last game, the Eagles prevailed over the extremely talented North Vikings in three games.

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