



The Register

THE OLDEST SCHOOL PAPER WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI

Central High School~Omaha, Nebraska~Volume 108~Number 4~December 21, 1994



Homeless affected by new library rules

By Jacob Slosburg

It's the holiday season. People are in the spirit of giving. Contributions to non-profit organizations significantly increase during this time of the year. A feeling of love for mankind permeates.

It's also the coldest part of the year. The time of year when the homeless enter public buildings, for example, the downtown library, just to stay warm. But wait, don't the shelters that Omahans contribute to take care of these individuals? According to Omaha Public Library director Mr. Lon Dickerson, there is no shelter for the homeless during the day.

However, Mr. Paul Koch, executive director of the Sienna House, said, "In the summer, and when it's warm outside, people need to leave the shelter. In the wintertime, when the weather is bad, we have a more liberal policy." He said that many people stay at the shelter on cold, winter days.

Pastor Tom Beatty, who works at the Open Door Mission, said that their shelter is open 24 hours a day. He said that they have buses which transport people back and forth from downtown seven times a day. Pastor

Beatty said that most people leave the shelter during the day because "if they stay here [at the Open Door Mission,] during the day, we ask them to help us work. They don't want to work." Pastor Beatty said that he knows many homeless people go to the downtown library during the day.

However, the library refuses to be their home. Under the new library policy issued on Nov. 9, the Omaha Public Library does not permit patrons to "sleep or utilize the library as a hotel," solicit or panhandle, bring in alcoholic beverages, or come into the library intoxicated. To the average citizen, these policies seem fair and reasonable. Some Central students believe they are necessary after encountering difficulties at the downtown library. Sara Boro, junior, was disrupted from her studies when a transient kept asking her if "he could be [her] boyfriend." Boro eventually left and went to another floor. Junior Crystall Travis had a similar experience when a man approached her. "He was staggering, and looked drunk. Then he said, 'Can I see you smile?'"

The new rules will ask these members of the library to leave, how-

ever, they will also affect sleeping homeless people who go to the library just to get warm. Mr. Kenny Wells, homeless person, said, "I only warm up in here."

According to library security guard Mr. Jeff Holt, some employees of the public library have already expressed their attitude towards the homeless. Holt said that a poem hanging in the employee breakroom, left there anonymously, shows the feelings of some. The poem in part reads:

"Forty-seven noisy, noisome drifters/Looking for a place to settle in./When the wind doth blow and the snow doth snow./They all become book-lovers in a minute."

Holt said that he is going to write his own poem in response to the above one. His will be compassionate toward the homeless. Holt also said that it is difficult enforcing a policy he doesn't believe in. He said that he can easily kick out a person who is drunk but said, "If the person is tired and sleeping, I have a hard time waking them up and asking them to leave, especially when it is cold outside."

Ms. Jacqueline Kirksey, the

Continued on page 12.



Megan Anton

Family tree: When senior Matt Kingery started kindergarten, his parents planted a three foot fir tree in front of their house. Today the tree is 40 feet tall, and 22 feet in diameter. The tree is no longer in front of Matt's house but can be seen in the Western Heritage Museum, decorated with 9,000 lights.

"The tree was getting too big," Matt said. "It was about to hit our house. We've always wanted to decorate it, but we couldn't because it was so big." The Kingerys discovered that it would be expensive to cut the tree down, so they called the Western Heritage Museum who came to look at it.

Central receives passing grade

Students grade their school, teachers

By Angela Parks

Central's academic excellence far exceeds any minor imperfections," junior April Christiansen said. As part of a course requirement for marketing, students of Mrs. Vicki Wiles, marketing teacher, did market research on Central for the Register.

A total of 290 Central students were surveyed on issues concerning Central High School. Students were to give a grade of 1-5 to evaluate many aspects of Central High School. Central received a passing grade. Out of 290 students, 212 gave Central a grade of a 3 or better. The average grade Central received was a 3.

Another question that students were asked was "In your opinion, do you feel you are getting a quality education at Central?" Eighty-eight percent of students said that they were receiving a quality education at Central.

Students were also asked whether or not they would still select Central as their high school. Seventy percent said they would still choose Central and 30 percent said they would not. Participants in the survey were 58 seniors, 59 juniors, 109 sopho-

mores and 64 freshmen.

Students were also surveyed on what grades they thought Central should earn in the areas

of parking, cleanliness, cafeteria, library, study halls, teachers and course offerings.

The majority of students gave Central a

failing grade for parking. Twenty-eight percent of the students polled gave Central a 5 in this area. Junior Mark Gilmore said that there is a major problem with parking at Central. He said, "We need another lot."

The building of Central received a passing grade in cleanliness, with an average grade of a 3. The cafeteria also received a passing grade with the majority of students giving it a 3.

Central's library earned a passing grade. Most students gave the library a 2. Students surveyed gave a grade of a 3 to study halls. Central's study halls received seven percent 1's, 18 percent 2's, 29 percent 3's, 21 percent 4's, four percent 5's and four percent did not respond. Sophomore Nichole Newell said that she feels that study halls are both good and bad. "If you have all your homework done, but are really tired, you should be able to sleep. You wouldn't be bothering anyone. If someone is sitting around it's [the study hall is] a waste of time and tends to be a distraction."

Teachers and course offerings at Central received passing grades. Teachers received an average grade of a 2. Only one percent of the 290 students surveyed gave Central teachers a failing grade of a 5. Course offerings also received an average grade of a 2.

Freshman Roselyn Hudson said, "The other schools are the same as Central." Junior Sarah DeWitt said that she thinks Central is way above the other schools in academics and athletics.

IT IS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE THAT PARENTS MAKE PHONE CONTACT WITH THE ATTENDANCE OFFICE TO INFORM THE SCHOOL OF THE ABSENCE FROM OR LATENESS TO SCHOOL OF THEIR CHILD. THIS INFORMATION IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE SCHOOL AND IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE STUDENT. YOU MAY CALL THE ATTENDANCE OFFICE AT 557-3330 OR 557-3331.

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Question Students Polled

WHAT GRADE WOULD YOU GIVE CENTRAL? 241

ARE YOU RECEIVING A QUALITY EDUCATION AT CENTRAL? 290

12.5% 44.4% 31.1% 6.2% 5.8%

1 2 3 4 5

88% 11% 1%

YES NO NO RESPONSE

Ban on outside smoking unfair

The Great American Smoke Out, held annually on November 17, is a day sponsored by the American Cancer Society to encourage tobacco users to stop smoking. Recently, the Omaha Public School District decided to hold a long term "smoke out", effective Dec. 26. On this date and thereafter, Omaha Public School buildings and property will be smoke-free.

The Omaha school board decided to impose this smoking ban after a new federal law stated that school districts can be fined and denied funding if they do not make policies banning smoking in their school buildings. This month, the school board decided to take the ban one step further by

By banning smoking on school grounds, OPS violates the smokers' rights.

restricting smoking on school property.

OPS took a positive, though overdue, step by banning smoking in district-owned buildings. Years ago, researchers confirmed their suspicions about the negative effects of second-hand smoke. Justly, it is a non-smoker's right to breathe clean air before it is a smoker's right to contaminate it. Our own Central student body has been subject to second-hand smoke. The room set aside for teachers to smoke opens into the courtyard, the part-time lunch-

room, and puffs of smoke burst out every time the door opens. Although the amount may not be enough to give a second-hand smoke victim lung cancer, the comfort factor of non-smokers, asthmatics and people who are allergic to smoke makes this type of arrangement unfavorable. A policy prohibiting smoking inside schools and administration buildings is simply ensuring the rights of non-smokers to breathe clean, healthy air.

However, the ban on smoking outside, on school property is a different issue, and the same arguments do not apply. When an individual smokes outside, there is not a health problem for bystanders and non-smokers' rights are not violated. The School Board may believe that the students will learn by example and that is the reason the district needs the ban extended to school grounds, but the example the school board has set by denying individual rights to smokers is worse than the glimpse of teacher and a cigarette. By banning employees from smoking on school property, OPS violates the smokers' rights. This ban virtually forces smokers to stop smoking during the day. It should be the teacher's right to choose if they want to smoke in the inconvenient view of their students. It should be the individual's right to decide if they want to bear the winter weather to go outside to smoke. The School Board does not have the right to make such personal decisions for its employees. The School Board should honor the right of the smoker as they honored the right of the non-smoker in banning smoking indoors.

A challenge to be honest

It was a typical school day, second hour. Students in room 259 were anxiously scribbling history notes. One floor down, Mr. Johnson's class was reviewing their arithmetic answers. While, next door, Mrs. Smith's English class was taking a quiz over the reading homework from the night before.

The class was completely silent until Tommie leaned over to Sally. "Psst...number six," Tommie said. Sally gave him a questioning look.

"What's the answer to number six?" insisted Tommie.

Sally looked down at her answer sheet and debated. She thought to herself, "No, I can't do that. I can't give him the answers. That's cheating." Sally shook her head, "no," and Tommie got the message.

The bell rang, and class was dismissed.

Three hours later, Sally met Rachel and Jesse at their usual lunch table. After discussing the special of the day, Jesse said, "What was last night's reading about?"

Sally replied, "You, didn't read?" The others shook their heads "no." "We have a quiz today you know."

Rachel turned pale for a minute, and then she remembered the help, Sally gave her on last week's test. She said, "Do you remember any of the questions, Sally?"

Sally relayed all the questions she could recall, and the others guessed at the answers.

This scenario occurs every day. It is an example of how students rationalize cheating. Many teachers make different tests for different hours or give tests on different days to prevent students from cheating in this manner, but teachers should not have to go to the trouble of making two tests. It is the student's responsibility to be honest and honorable when it comes to schoolwork. Telling someone who has the same class as you do, but in a different hour the composition of a test is cheating, just like telling the person behind you or next to you the answers during the test. We challenge all students to live up to their responsibilities and accept the consequences thereafter. Central does not have an established "honor code" as many schools do, but each student should have enough respect for themselves and others to live by a personal "honor code."



By Cynthia Montgomery

Shades of Gray

This issue: Affirmative Action

Affirmative action was originally made law to help minorities have equality in many aspects, especially the workforce. Affirmative action started with President Lyndon B. Johnson's Great Society plan. After time, women were added to affirmative action laws because of the discrimination in the workforce. Affirmative action has advanced democracy in many ways.

Affirmative action has given many people opportunities they would not have without affirmative action. These laws were made to stop discrimination in the workforce against minorities, especially in the areas of pay and time given to each worker. The United States would not be as advanced as it is today without affirmative action. Many people of minorities and many women have made such great advancements that might never have been discovered if we did not have affirmative action laws.

Thus, it can be seen how affirmative action has advanced democracy in the United States. It gives many people chances they would they would never have if it were not for affirmative action laws.

Affirmative action started out as being a way to get more minorities in the work force. The special affirmative action is good, and one may contend that it has opened up many doors for minorities. Also, way, affirmative action has been side-lined by proportional quotas, and that is where the problem lies.

Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "Men should be judged by the content of their character and not by the color of their skin." The warped evolution of affirmative action goes against what he said and believed.

A practical example of warped affirmative action occurs in the workplace using proportional quotas. An employer has ten openings. To meet proportional quotas, the employer must hire five whites and five of color. This is not fair to applicants that were not the job because of the color of their skin. To proportional quotas implemented in the work makes the struggle for equal rights insignificant. Everyone should have an equal shot whether they are black or white. If this occurred, true cultural diversity would be achieved.



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Register Your Opinions.

How many opportunities do you feel will be open to your generation in comparison to the previous generation?

More opportunities	52%
Same number of opportunities	23%
Fewer opportunities	25%
292 students polled	



"We'll have more opportunities if we have the skills to manage the technology."

-Nicole Motack, junior



"Fewer, because machines are taking over jobs."

-Julie Johnson, junior



"There will be a lot more opportunities for women and minorities in education and careers."

-Summer Miller, senior

REFLECTIONS IN THE WATER BY CLIFF HICKS

"Buddy, can you spare a minute?"

Cliff A. Hicks

Money makes the world go 'round, and there's no such thing as "too much." In this dog-eat-dog age in which we live, we have no time to waste on dilly-dallying, as it costs.

"On time, all the time."

In the age of television, everything occurs simultaneously. See Haiti on 3, health care on 6 and O.J. on 7. Want to know about sports? Turn to ESPN any time of the day. Stock results run through cable TV every minute of every hour. Buy products by phone, so you never have to leave the comfort of your own home.

"The time has come," the Walrus said, 'to talk of other things.'"

As people dash through the rat-race called modern life, they forget to stop and contemplate the beauty of existence, even if only for a split second. They simply don't have the time.

"There is a time to live, a time to die, a time to laugh, a time to cry."

Where has life's excitement gone? The joy when surprised-has been replaced by the fear of something unplanned occurring. No more time for romantic walks on moonlit beaches. No more time for savoring success. No more time for pondering the hidden mysteries of life. We must savor life while we have it and not be held in check by the clock and the calendar.

"I'm having the time of my life."

We as a society need to stop planning out our lives years in the future and simply live as it happens. When we rush through everything, we cannot appreciate the finer points of life that make it worth living.

"Buddy, can you spare a minute?"

"Sure," I say smelling the yellow flower in its intricately-carved crystal vase on the oaken desk, taking in its heady scent.

"I've got all the time in the world."

"Can I have a few moments of your time?"

We've become the generation of the day after tomorrow. We live days, months and years in the future. No one lives in the present anymore, and the biggest reflection of this is the telecommunication industry.

"Excuse me, sir, this will just take a minute."

AT&T, Sprint and MCI are in a tug-of-war to control the phone networks, 1 out of 4 people has a cellular phone in either their car or their pocket, and the Internet has become a hotbed for everyone from Wall Street brokerage firms to 12-year-old kids.

"The new system is seconds faster than the current line of computers."

Collect-calling, something once thought to be a paltry trade, has become a highly profitable enterprise among all this progress. It all comes down to a matter of time.

"Time is money."

-THE CENTRAL FILES-

A look at Central's proud history through past Editorials

1929 - Popularity problem? Try being nice

"It is only human nature to want to be liked. How to achieve popularity seems to be the universal problem of modern youth. It is, oh, so simple- the answer to this problem. In search for the truth, boys and girls are constantly overlooking what is near them. Psychologists write books on how to be popular disguised under the name of self-expression, personality, and individuality. Modern fiction writers have coined such words as "it" in trying to explain why some people are popular and some are not.

People have achieved success, have sacrificed both physically and mentally to win respect, the sincere regard of another. What is this elusive quality that makes some people more popular than others? Stop

searching for a moment and ask your self a question. Judge yourself as you would another. Are you kind to others? Do you criticize or condemn? Do you forget yourself in order to give others pleasure? Do you contribute your share? Do you meet your social obligations to your school, your parents and the people with whom you come in contact with daily? Are you yourself? There we have the most important fundamental of popularity. Be natural, find, your "it," your personality-or what have you.

But after all, there is nothing new under the sun and some one has expressed it better-"Do unto others as you would have them to unto you."

The Mailbox

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

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

Dear Editor:

I think you need to focus more on girls' sports! You guys took up more than a page and a half on football, not only high school, but Pro. Who cares about Pro football? I know I don't, and a lot of people I have talked to don't either. I think the reason why we do so bad (although we try) is because there is not enough emphasis on us.

If we had more support from the school, then I know we would do better. The whole season of volleyball, you guys never wrote that much about us. I really don't think that is fair. I hope to see more improvement in the winter. I do not want to open up the paper and find two pages of boys' basketball! Please help support your girls' teams!

Nadia Blazeovich and Olivia Armenta, juniors

Dear Editor:

The story "Group Guidance for Sophomores" in the Nov. 16 *Register* was very revealing. A number of students felt these programs were a waste of time. The guidance department justifies these programs by saying, "Even if only one in a hundred, or even one in a thousand learns something, then we've been successful."

What the young people have realized is that the cost of mandated programs are far more expensive than the benefits of being able to choose an academic course. If Central is to remain successful, we must give students the ability to select from a wide menu of course offerings. The various departments, including guidance, should provide course offerings, but non-academic offerings should not be required. They "cost" too much.

Brian E. Watson, social studies teacher

Editor's Note: Group Guidance for sophomores will meet five times each semester during students' study halls.

Dear Editor:

If the dude I board with hadn't used your yellow rag to protect his precious carpet from the litter I kick around occasionally, I wouldn't have noticed the article featuring my recent move.

Yes, I am getting along well in my new home and am getting them trained rather well; but I couldn't help noting that you referred to me as a "she," probably as a result of you-know-who's carelessness during interviews. He does ramble on doesn't he? I am a male, despite the surgical procedure inflicted upon me by Herr Rohrig during a weekend when I'm sure what's-his-name told me I was supposed to get "tutored." Sometimes he pronounces things funny.

Anyway, thanks for the column inches. It is a truth universally acknowledged that a newspaper with sixteen pages must be in want of a cat, but why the picture of that smelly goat? I can send eight by ten glossies on request.

Sincerely yours,

Austen (Cats don't have last names)

Editor's Note: This letter refers to an article printed in the Nov. 16 issue of the *Register* entitled "Central High teachers admit to keeping 'pets.'" Mr. Daniel Daly's cat, Austen, was featured in the article.



CHS clubs help Omaha with civic service

By Carrie Parrott

Central clubs participate in numerous activities throughout the year. From hayrack rides to ski trips, students are almost constantly enjoying themselves at club activities. But Central students aren't just interested in having fun. Many Central clubs are helping the community through civic service activities.

According to Mrs. Vicki Wiles, DECA sponsor and marketing teacher, civic service is an important part of Central that benefits many people.

"Most of Central's students are rather fortunate," she said. "Through civic service, students see what needs other individuals have. It makes them more appreciative of what they have."

DECA has participated in numerous civic service activities so far this year, among them: Keep Omaha Beautiful, food service at the Francis-Sienna House and Salvation Army bell-ringing.

"I think bell-ringing is one of their favorites," said Mrs. Wiles. "It's easy to get them to volunteer

for the activities."

Another Central group that participates in public service activities is the Student Council. Student Council has participated in Honey Sunday, the United Way fund drive and the canned food drive, raising 1,500 pounds of food for the needy. Also, this month Student Council will adopt a family for the holiday season, whom they will provide for.

Cate Townley, senior and Student Council president, said that Student Council enjoys volunteering immensely.

"We have a lot of fun doing the projects," she said. "Everyone loved going out to buy things for the family we adopted last year. It was fun making their Christmas better."

Townley said that along with the students having a good time, civic service makes Central students look better to adults.

"It gives Central a better reputation," she said.

Mrs. Wiles agrees with this aspect of civic service. "Adults like to see kids volunteer," said Mrs. Wiles.

Another group that frequently

participates in civic service activities is PPC, Central's Positive Peer Culture group. PPC, sponsored by Mrs. Diane Pfeiffer, physical education teacher, is a group of students that helps each other with problems and issues, as well as helping their community.

PPC recently served dinner at the Francis-Sienna House, where less fortunate people can go for food, shelter and clothing. According to Mrs. Pfeiffer, it was a wonderful experience.

"I observed the kids and I was really proud of them," said Mrs. Pfeiffer. "They really appreciated what they had and where they came from. I think that community service should be a graduation requirement."

On Nov. 28, six students from Central's French Club also served dinner to those less fortunate at the Francis-Sienna House. Mrs. Veronica Ulrich, French teacher and French Club sponsor, served with the students and believes that it was a good experience for all.

Mrs. Ulrich said that French



Salvation army volunteers Jon and Jeff Driscoll, juniors, ring bells.

Club decided to do a civic service project just to show that it is interested in contributing to the community and to increase students awareness of Omaha's special needs. "For people of a middle class background, it's easy not to realize that there is anyone in need in Omaha that we can help. The activity encouraged the students to get involved in community work," she

said.

Kim Boylan, sophomore, participated in French Club's civic activity and had a special time.

"It was fun. I'd never volunteered before and now I want to do it more," she said. "There are a lot more homeless people than I thought there were. I definitely go back again if I

Central students practice the art of self-defense

By Angela Parks

Would you like to spend your free time smashing cement blocks in half with your bare hand?

Five Central students have done the unthinkable by using their free time to smash wooden boards and cement blocks. The five students practice tae kwan do, which is the best known Korean Karate.

Karate is a system of unarmed self-defense, originating in East Asia, that involves the use of the hands, elbows, knees or feet for kicks and blows to the temples, throat and groin.

The highest rank one can earn in tae kwan do is their black belt. Starting tae kwan do at age eight, Senior Herb Hartman earned his black belt at age 12 in tae kwan do and is currently working on getting his second degree in black belt. Herb gained his enthusiasm and initiative to practice karate when he

was little.

Herb said he usually competes in two or three national competitions during the year. He has won two first place trophies in the heavy-weight division after earning his black belt. In September of this year Herb competed in a national tournament that was held in Omaha. "For the first time I won two first place trophies for sparring and forms at the same tournament," Herb said.

Sparring is when two people try to get the other person's defense down with little or no physical contact. Forms are movements of the body in a certain pattern.

Herb said that his goal in tae kwan do is to earn his second degree before being a sophomore in college.

Another Central student that has earned a black belt is senior Jasmine Sooriarchi. Jasmine earned her black belt when she was in eighth

grade.

"I enjoy the artistry of karate," Jasmine said. She said that she has gained confidence and self-discipline from practicing tae kwan do. "Tae kwan do keeps you in shape and gives you mental stamina."

Senior Melanie Chambers also practices tae kwan do along with her brother Matthew, who has a fourth-coup purple belt. Melanie has not yet earned her black belt, but she said her goal is to earn it as soon as she can. "I have a long way before

getting my black belt because I currently have my coup-five green belt."

Melanie started practicing tae kwan do after she watched her brother at tae kwan do tournaments. She, like Jasmine, also wanted to have some type of defense.

Melanie has won five trophies, two first place, one second and two fourth places. Melanie also competed at the tournament held in Omaha in September, winning a first place trophy in sparring and a fourth

place in forms.

The fifth Central student who likes to smash wooden boards is sophomore Sean Baxter. Sean started 12 years ago practicing tae kwan do and earned his black belt seven years ago. "I hold the title of the youngest person to earn a black belt in the country," he said. He is currently working on his second degree black belt.

Sean's future hopes include making the United States tae kwan do team at 18.

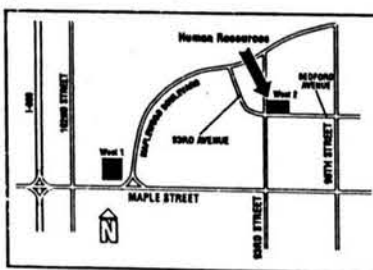
HOLIDAY CASH

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STEPPING OUT



Happy Holidays!
Register Dec. 21



Hollyscopes

Virgo Dec. 22-Jan. 19

You will have lots of fun with friends this month. Business plans will be successful with the help of others. 1995 will be an uncomplicated year.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18

You will communicate well the month of January. You might spend a lot of time on the phone, too. 1995 will be what you make of it.

Pisces Feb. 19- March 20

You will receive an award for a job well done. Friends and acquaintances will support you in all your efforts. 1995 will be a fantastic year for you.

Taurus March 21-April 19

This is an exciting month for you, with travel a possibility. Romance is in the air near the middle of the month, but be wary of admirers. You will have a lot in 1995.

Leo April 20- May 20

You will have to show responsibility late in January. Someone with an interest in you might give you a token of their affection.

Scorpio May 21- June 21

You will start out the month very seriously. But, later in the month, you will relax with close friends. A relationship may turn serious very quickly.

Cancer June 22- July 22

You will spend a lot of time with relatives this month. Your romantic life will become more clear to you later in the month. 1995 will be a very easy year for you.

Sagittarius July 23-Aug. 22

You will be extremely energetic this month, so put much of your energy into a new romance. Try to get some time by yourself during the middle of the month.

Libra Aug. 23- Sept. 22

You will have an easy first week of January. The second week you will be very happy. Take things month by month in 1995.

Capricorn Sept. 23- Oct. 23

Guests at your house may cause some confusion. Don't worry, you will be able to take care of any problems. 1995 will be a normal year with few surprises.

Aries Oct. 24- Nov. 22

Your life may feel like it is on the "pause" setting, but it will soon pick up the pace. You might have a few problems at home this month.

Gemini Nov. 23- Dec. 21

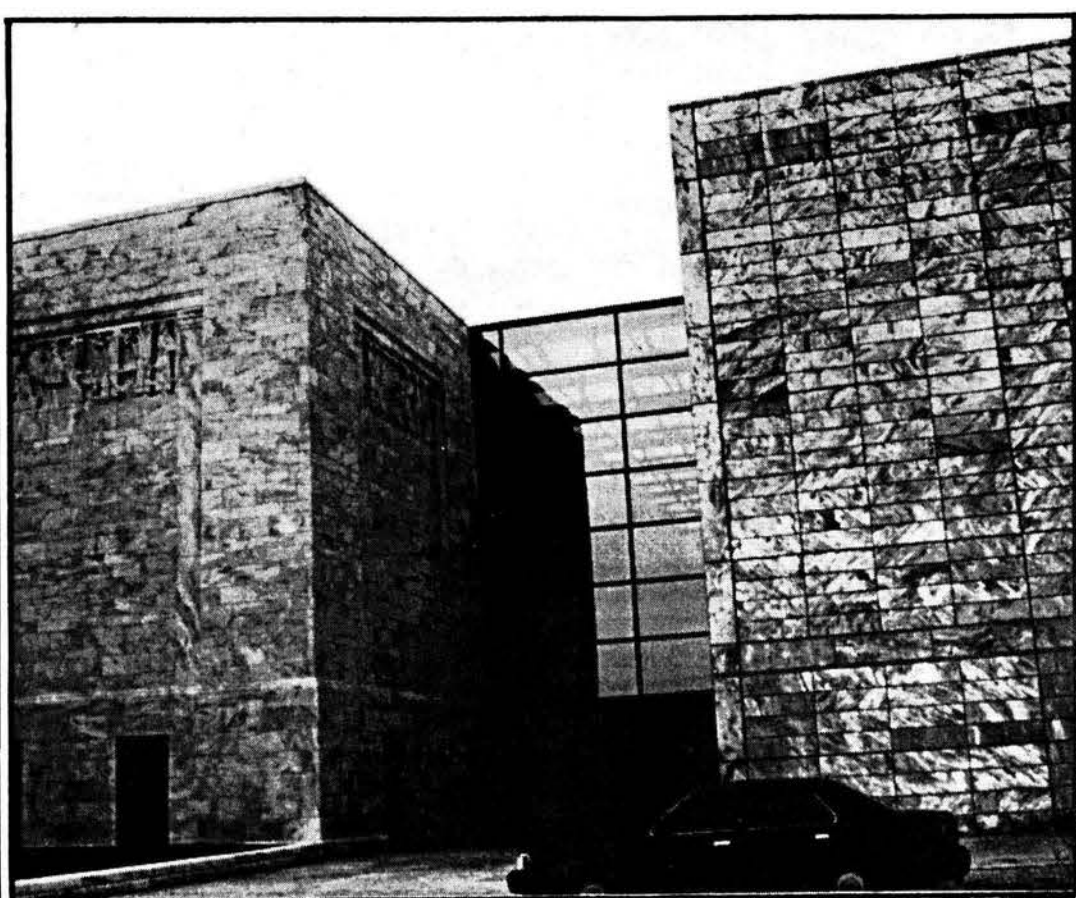
You may feel nervous, as something new is about to begin. School and work, and other demands may cause some frustrations.

INSIDE:



The Professional, "hits" theaters, p. 8
Oh, Humbug!, Green Eggs and Spam ® spreads Christmas cheer, p. 6
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The New Joslyn Art Museum



Andrew Kammerer

\$16 million, The Joslyn Art Museum completes its latest addition, The Walter and Suzanne Scott Pavilion. This addition will house the 20th century art collection along with traveling exhibits.

By Andrew Kammerer

After a solid year of digging, welding, and sculpting precious Georgian marble, Joslyn Art Museum is ready for admission. The new building was named, The Walter and Suzanne Scott Pavilion in dedication to the chairman of the museum's Board of Governors and prime benefactor.

The Pavilion was designed by the world famous architectural firm Sir Norman Foster and Partners of London who worked in collaboration with the Omaha firm, HDR Inc. After final plans were approved, the Kiewit Construction Co. began renovation in September of 1993 and were ready to open the pavilion doors on Nov. 19, 1994.

The new \$16 million addition measures 58,000 square feet, and is located on the north side of Joslyn's original building. The pavilion adds nearly double the exhibition space that it had before and enables the museum to keep its large collections of 20th century and Western-American art on view permanently.

The courtyard is a unique feature that connects the old gallery with the new pavilion. This glass atrium is 45 feet high with skylights that provide a naturally lit atmosphere for touring visitors to congregate in. This open style contrasts with the darkness of the original museum. As you walk on the bridge from the old

building to the new, there is a transformation from the classic to the contemporary which can be seen in both the architecture and the art displayed.

Also located in the atrium is Le

the hall's acoustics by lowering the ceiling, upgrading sound equipment and replacing lights and sound booth.

Other aspects that may have been over-looked to the untrained eye also had their share in the overall cost. More than 6,000 grey granite tiles were used in the atrium to provide a universal look to the new gallery. The addition also added an enclosed loading dock at the west side of the pavilion. Now, precious pieces of art can travel without ever being exposed to the outside environment.

Hoping to match the original building, the Georgian marble used on the exterior of the Scott Pavilion was quarried 50 feet below the site where the original marble was taken. The contractors also sand-blasted the weathered exterior of the original to make its color as pink as the new addition.

Although this renovation has increased the price of admission, the new space will allow more art to be viewed for your money.

You can visit Joslyn's new addition 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday; noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

Admission prices are \$4 for adults and \$2 for children. Membership fees are \$30 dollars for individuals, \$40 for families, and \$17.50 for students.

The pavilion adds nearly double the exhibition space that it had...

Cafe Durham. This cafe seats 120 and offers a self-service lunch buffet Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Refreshments are available from 2-4 p.m.

The seven new galleries in the Scott Pavilion provide ample room for modern sculptures and mobiles.

Also available to the public are two self-service VCR stations. The videos are set up and correspond with the exhibits on display.

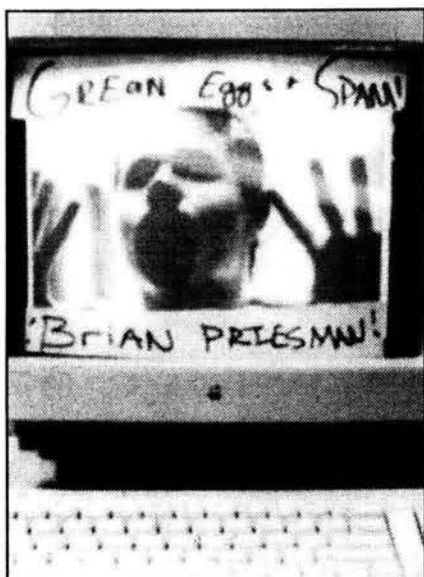
You may ask how \$16 million was spent on an addition, but a million dollars alone was spent on improvements to the Witherspoon Concert Hall.

The money was used to improve



Stepping Out

Central High Register



When I was growing up, I never had many friends. I had a few, but never any that I considered really close. I still don't. No one likes me. Which is why I hate this time of year.

Hanukkah dreams and Christmas desires

Christmas bites. Hanukkah blows. All of the "glad tidings" and "Merry Christmas!" and "mazel tov!" It drives me crazy!

At times I just wish I could be like Ebenezer Scrooge, and just give up all of this holiday stuff. I'd get rid of charity and give all of my money to the workhouses and the prisons and the orphanages. Heck, maybe I could get elected as Speaker of the House!

It's not actually the holiday that gets me down, or even my lack of friends, but the overcommercialization of the season! You can't go 10 minutes without hearing some jazzed-up carol as the anthem for some cheesy department store. Why can't they get back to the true mean-

ing of the season? Buy now, pay later.

It's true! Why else do you have Christmas in July sales in early June? So we don't have to pay until early next year, and then with 0 percent financing.

This entire giving thing confuses me as well. I understand all of the religious background behind it, but why would anybody give a kid myrrh? Gold, I can understand. Heck, I can even comprehend frankincense. But myrrh?

And that Hanukkah thing. Get real! If I want gifts, I want them all at once, not spread out over eight days.

Besides, why should I buy gifts for people who I only see a few

times a year and who make more money in a week than I make in a year? I'm not going to waste my money on people who don't want what I'm going to give them and who don't need a new pair of socks anyway!

And all of those Santas, collecting money on the street corners. Come on, do you really think that Santa can be in that many places at once? I think not. Everyone knows Santa hires a bunch of fat guys to help him out.

But since everyone is going to give gifts anyway, I have my own wish list of what I'd like. For starters, I'd like a flo-bee. And then I'd like my very own suitcase. With wheels on it. And lots of grape

Kool-aid and Oreo cookies. I have a subscription to *Investor's Quarterly*.

But to be serious, this time of year. There's a feeling in the air. It's a feeling we really do look at our lives as people, as individuals, just fellow passengers on this earth.

It's a feeling of warmth towards everyone, no matter what race, religion, sex or sexual orientation. It's a time when we wish each other. I just wish the feeling wasn't so unusual around all year long, from Nov. 22 to Jan. 1.

Merry Christmas to all and Hanukkah everyone. Eat lots of Spam.

The Samples sample Omaha

By Libby Broekemeier

"Our world is getting smaller, while their walls grow taller, spider monkeys cling to falling trees as the water rises higher, ten thousand years shall drown."

That was a "sample" from the many songs played by the band Samples, an alternative rock band, who visited Ranch Bowl Dec. 10. Samples' music touches on the issues of today's world, and appeals to younger minds.

Samples started out as a small group from Boulder, CO, and travelled fast with their hit song "Nature." This song caught the ears of Colorado listeners and soon became a Midwest favorite.

Samples ended their fall tour in Omaha, where they featured new

music from their latest album, *Autopilot*. They played their groovin' style which is one that can only be created by them. Their distinct sound is hard to be labeled under any music type except maybe "feel good" music, in other words, music that makes you want to dance and feel good.

Samples' most popular album, *No Room*, describes the night at Ranch Bowl. The crowd was revved up causing an intense show. Samples played to the mood of the crowd which was pretty much crazy. A rendition of "Seany Boy" had a harder sound than usual. The crowd's movements seemed to be most intense with this song. The night had its unique moments aside from a traditional Samples show. Samples broke

out their song "Giants" in acoustical style giving a somber effect to the song. At one point, guests from the crowd were invited to take the place of Samples' band members and play their own style of the band's song "Underwater People."

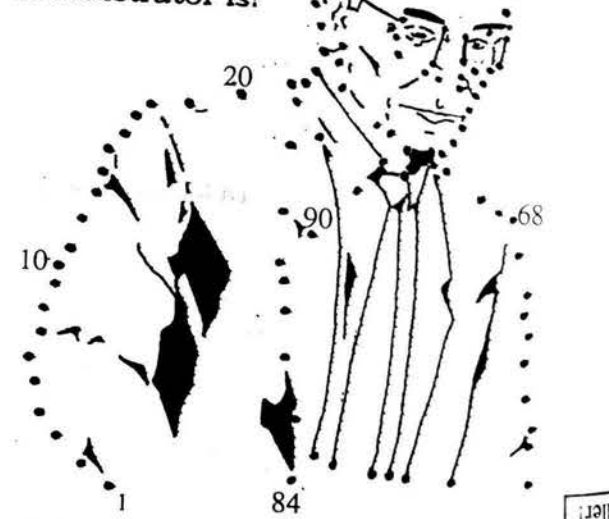
After having wild fans passing over everyone's heads, the Samples controlled the crowd by easing into a mellow mood with the song "Nothing Lasts For Long."

Like the song, the show didn't last long enough. Thanks to a friend of mine, I received a backstage pass and talk with Samples' lead guitarist, Sean Kelly. Sean said "I'm anxious to get home to Colorado and take a break for the holidays."

The Samples took home with them an impressive last show.



Connect the dots to find out who Central's favorite administrator is!



Pearl 'Jams' with Vitalogy

By Andrew Kammerer

What is *Vitalogy*? Well your handy friend the biology major may spit out a long drawn out answer like, "of or relating to the study of the characteristics of life."

My definition is this: *Vitalogy* is the strongest and most powerful Pearl Jam album to date.

Vitalogy, Pearl Jam's third album, combines the heavy, hard-hitting, (if nothing else, let's-start-a-really-cool-mosh-pit) rock sound of *Ten* and the experimental, lighter sound of *Vs.*

Although Pearl Jam's Epic label encouraged the band to postpone the release of *Vitalogy* in hopes of finishing off the continued sales of *Vs.*, the band held off long enough. They decided to release the full length, special edition LP two weeks before the actual release date of the CD and cassette.

Included in the *Vitalogy* package is a 35-page booklet containing pictures relating to the songs, along with all of the lead vocalist's, Eddie Vedder's, trademark doodlings that were present in the bands past two albums.

Vitalogy starts out its first three

songs, "Last Exit," "Spin the Black Circle," and "Not for You," in furious fashion showing that Pearl Jam can still write an amazing song to perform during their energetic



shows.

And then it happens. "Nothingman." This, I believe, is the album's strongest song. It's packed full of harmonious acoustic rhythm only to be set off by the power of Vedder's. It says, "And he who forgets, will be destined to remember. Caught a bolt of lightning, cursed the day he let it go."

(I'm hoping to enjoy these lyrics before all of our local radio stations play them into the ground. I can hardly wait.)

Another song in which the music finds a way to hold back, despite the power of the lyrics, is "Immortality." In this song, Vedder describes the life of the American Indian with phrases like, "A truant finds home./ Victims in demand for public show./ Surrendered... executed anyhow. Immortality." (Song much more effective when sung aloud. Buy the album, you'll know what I mean.)

Vitalogy is one of those albums that show that the band is transforming their sound to give their listeners refreshing originality each time a new album is produced.

Because of this fact Pearl Jam fans old and new will enjoy this album to its fullest extent. The holidays are coming up, so if you haven't had a chance to listen to it yet add it to your list. (It makes a great stocking stuffer.)



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Winter snow brings fun for less

by Libby Broekemeier

You and your friends are sitting around thinking what can we do this evening implying that it can't be the same old repetitive thing you always do. Several ideas come into mind but one thing cancels them out, money!

With the winter approaching fast, the days outdoors are getting hard to come by. You're hard-core and can take the cold. But when I've got suggestions and ideas for ways to spend your time this winter, it's expensive.

So you aren't hard-core but want to be outdoors, then put on about three layers of clothes and strap on the tennis rackets to your shoes with duck tape and go walking. You're now a master of the snow and your feet are not cold. Don't worry about what you look like, just do it to say you've done it.

Still want to be outside but the "tennis" shoes are too weird? Then how about rounding up the sleds and going sledding? Pile up some snow or jumps, crash into a snow man,

go crazy!

To top it off, if you're feeling hungry then make snow cream. You've got to have a bowl and some ingredients handy. Add some powdered milk, brown sugar and a little bit of vanilla to a bowl of snow and

your swank. If your parents might have burned all their clothes from the disco era, then check out the thrift stores and you'll have no problems finding something groovy.

Should there be a blizzard coming and you're stacking up on the

cool pattern.

A fun thing to do in the kitchen is to go blender crazy! Make every kind of drink you can imagine. Combine strawberries, raspberries, blueberries, bananas, etc., or make your own V-8.

Okay, maybe you're not going to spend all your money on Christmas presents, and you have some cash to spend. Then I've got suggestions for you. Try going ice skating. Cost is \$2 per adult and \$2 for skate rental at Benson Ice Skating Rink. It's okay if you can't skate, you'll give your friends a good laugh.

Light displays are always cool to look at. Check out the 250,000 lights at the Henry Doorly Zoo this month. Cost is only \$2. Or go see the tree of lights at the Western Heritage Museum. Adult tickets cost is \$3.

Too cold and tired to get out of your car? Get a quick spurt of hot caffeine. Go to the drive-in cappuccino place at One Pacific Place.

A pool game ranges from about \$.50 to a \$1 at Sharky's Brewery and Grill, Ranch Bowl or Center Mall. If you and your friends each throw in a buck, it could be a night for pool.

One of my favorite places to eat out is Don Carmelo's Pizza. They give you big slices of good New York style pizza. The restaurant located on Farnam St. is spread out enough so you have your own privacy while you eat.

This winter just remember you're never at a loss for ideas.

Heard in the Halls...

Natalie Shepard, senior, was one of about 25 Omahans called back for *The Real World*. Now Natalie has to send a five to ten minute video for the final selection. This January, the filming will begin in London.



Kate Ross, junior, is in the Diner Theater's production of "I'll Be Home for Christmas." The show is nearly sold out, with performances running through Dec. 20.



CHS Singers have had a busy holiday season. Along with the Madrigal Singers concert Dec. 9, they have had over fifteen other performances. Performances have been for Adopt-A-School partners and at hospitals.



JB Jones, senior, is directing an original film. *Rigormortis* is about a group of eight "friends" and their reactions to life's problems. JB hopes to have the film completed by May.



* * If you have any entertainment news, drop it in the mailbox in the courtyard or bring it to 315.

Winter Calendar

Henry Doorly Zoo 250,000 Lights - Dec. 9-23, 5-8 p.m.

Western Heritage Tree of Lights - Dec./Tues-Sat 2-5, Sun 1-5

Secret Skin - Dec. 27/ Ranch Bowl

The Kind - New Year's Eve/ Stockyards Ballroom

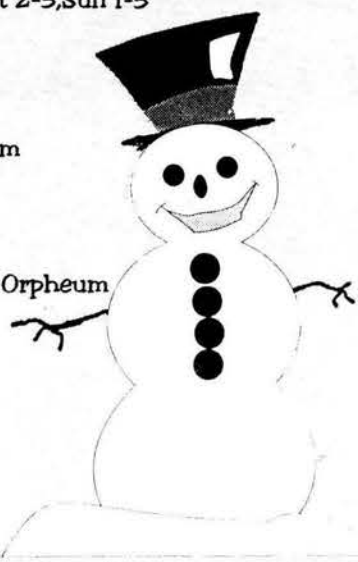
Mt. Crescent Ski Resort- Dec. 15- March

Manheim Steamroller Chip Davis - Dec. 26-31/ Orpheum

Omaha Racers game- New Years Eve

Eagles - Feb. 28, Des Moines Civic Center

Have A Great Winter Break!



voila! If you're into chocolate flavor substitute the powdered milk for cocoa mix. Even better break off some icicles and dip the icicles into flavored Jello powder. Popicicle!

Feeling in the party mood? Throw a disco party! Dress up in funky outfits and dance all night in

groceries, grab some wheat flour. In a bucket mix enough wheat flour with water to make a really gooey paste. Then rip pieces of construction paper and dip completely in the paste. Stick these pieces on a glass Coca-Cola bottle layer by layer. When the layers dry, paint over a

Pen Pals; students write friends in foreign nations

by Mary Hill-Guest Writer

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to keep correspondence with someone you have never met or had only known for a short time? Or what it is like to share inside jokes that no one else knows about, and to be able to share your thoughts and aspirations to a virtual stranger through letter writing? These are some of the reasons why some Central students enjoy having pen pals.

Carrie Parrott, junior, has a 16-year-old international pen pal from France. Carrie said her grandmother had been a host family for the father of her pen pal, and gave Carrie their address to write to for correspondence. Because Carrie was in French and her grandmother felt she could benefit from talking to a French family, Carrie sent a letter. Carrie then later received a letter from the 16-year-old boy in their family.

Carrie also said that so far she has been very faithful in writing to him and hopes this will continue on a long-term basis. "It is so easy to lose touch with someone so far away," Carrie said. "I'm also gaining a better understanding for the French culture and the language, and it is really helping in my studies. We both agreed to write half of our letters in English and half in French," Carrie said. Carrie also said, "Hopefully I'll see him sometime in the future if one of us visits each other's country."

essarily work out well," said Gina D'Accio, junior. Gina also had a distant cousin from Virginia as a pen pal. Gina said that she decided to start writing her after she visited her once because she really wanted a pen pal. "I like to write and I love getting mail," Gina said.

Gina said she and her pen pal wrote back and forth for about two years and then gradually stopped writing. She explained that they both were busy, and said she was getting frustrated in writing her. "I used to get frustrated when I would write her long, well-thought-out letters and I would, in return, get back short, stupid, boring letters. One time she just only wrote on how her cat had hung himself for the whole letter," Gina said. She also said that now she regrets not having a person she can write to, that doesn't have prejudiced notions about her. "I miss being able to write things down that I normally wouldn't be able to talk about," she said.

Sarah DeWitt, junior, also has many pen pals that she keeps in touch with. "I met people from several different countries at camp, although my friend Magnus Mustad from Norway particularly comes to mind. He was a Norwegian punk rocker!" Sarah said.

Sarah said that her pen pal and she have a lot in common and that is why they are able to have such a nice relationship. She said that they have a lot of inside jokes, and whenever she is stressed or feeling bad about something, it is a great relief

to know that she instantly has someone to write to." "We like to reflect on camp memories, I hope we'll both go back to camp as counselors sometime soon," Sarah said.

Although Sarah says there is a little bit of a language barrier, she normally can understand what he is trying to say. She also said she has learned a lot about the Norwegian culture in being his pen pal. "It is fun to see how other countries perceive the United States, and I have had the opportunity to see this in having so many different pen pals from other nations," Sarah said.

Sian Israel, senior, has had her pen pal in Australia for around four years. "I obtained my pen pal through a club you could write to and they sent me their name and address," she said. Sian also keeps in touch with a few of her friends from the Philippines, where she previously lived. "I have been in touch with them for about six years now," Sian said.

On the contrary, when one writes pen pal agencies around the country, many agencies' prices are very high and the ads can be deceiving. Carrie said that she wrote to International Pen Friends, sending a dollar, and got back some information that explained how much money is needed to join. "I personally thought it was too much money to spend for questionable results," Carrie said, "and you don't even get a pen pal for the dollar that you sent as International Pen Friends would like you to think."

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Stepping Out

Central High Register

WOODY ALLEN'S *BULLETS* REALLY HITS THE RIGHT MARK

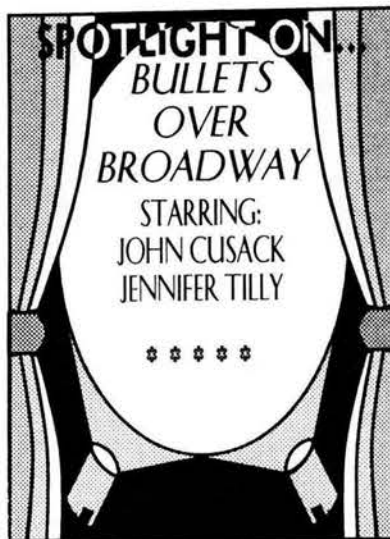
By JB Jones

Woody Allen's *Bullets over Broadway* is not a typical Woody Allen film. Sure it's got the same neurotic characters, witty dialogue and brilliance, but what it doesn't have is Woody on camera. He chose only to direct. Instead, John Cusack plays the sensitive, neurotic hero that is Allen's trademark, and he does it well. Cusack is David Shayne, a budding playwright trying to get his work to Broadway unmangled. His agent finds a backer. Two problems: The backer is a gangster who will give them money only if they give his girlfriend Olive (Jennifer Tilly) a part. Problem two, Olive can't act.

Diane Wiest is fantastic as a Gloria Swanson-esque Broadway star, who wants a juicier role. (OK so maybe there are a few more problems.)

Yet another problem; his male lead eats so much he makes Moby Dick look like Kate Moss by the time the show hits opening night. Tracey Ullman is hysterical as the "other woman." Her chihuahua, Mr. Woofles, who just happens to "have a little Doberman in him, so be careful," is also darling.

Tilly is brilliant and refreshing



as the gangster's moll. She is the perfect choice for the whiny, nasal, wanna-be actress with a voice like a steel file and about as much talent as a rock. She's very "charmed, charmed, charmed, charmed" to be there, and it shows.

Chaz Pallmanaro is well-suited to the role of Cheech, the hitman poet laureate, who endlessly tells Shayne everything that is wrong with the play. (Jeesh, everyone's a critic now!) He brings a life, a warmth to the role, which makes him incredibly engaging to watch. He is obviously destined for a long fertile acting career.

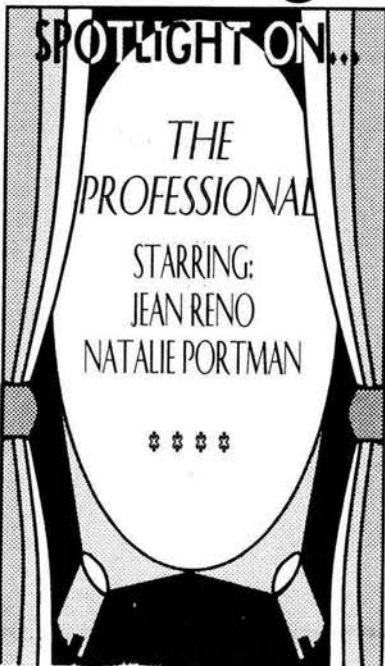
In a side plot, Shayne wins if his girlfriend loves him as the artist or as the artist.

Sure it helps to be theatrical to catch some of the hysterical jokes but even the acting neophytes can find themselves rolling in the aisles-victims of lethal wit. I think of a better film to spend at than *Bullets Over Broadway* witty, charming, a visual treat well-acted, well-directed and well cast. Bravo Woody Allen await your next film experience. My suggestion to the denizens of Central High, grab a five dollar ticket and just see it!

'Professional' acting makes Besson's American debut hit

By JB Jones

Blood, guns, murder, guns, crooked cops, guns, hitmen, guns, friendship, guns, bazookas, guns and did I mention guns? This is the cinematographic wonder that is *The Professional*. *The Professional* is the American debut of Luc Besson, the creator of *La Femme Nikita*. Besson is a gifted director and writer. His interesting use of camera angles and bleak settings gives the film its moody art exterior, but inside it's a film that even Dirty Harry lovers can enjoy. The movie also boasts impressive acting by Jean Reno, Natalie Portman and Gary Oldman. Reno is Leon, the hitman. Portman was quite impressive in her first as Mathilda, the street-smart heroine.



Gary Oldman is of course phenomenal as Stansfield, the crooked cop.

It's a little disconcerting at first that the hero calmly knocks off ten people, but hey hitmen have feelings too. My only problem with Reno was that he was supposed to be an Italian but his accent was still a bit French. Otherwise, he was superb and had an excellent screen presence.

Gary Oldman is the comic relief in the grim movie, believe it or not. In one scene he continues to shoot a man whom he has already killed. When one of his toadies tells him to calm down, Oldman quips drolly, "But he ruined my suit!"

Portman was brilliant in her first feature film role. If her performance

is any indication, her career should be long and rewarding. I smell Oscar nomination, or I should.

Danny Aiello was faboo in a cameo appearance as Tony, restaurateur and Mafia gun-o-gram booker extraordinaire.

Eric Serra's score lent an appropriate tone to the overall mood of the film.

Besson's original screenplay, while it lacked the luster of other films in the action genre, had the gloomier atmosphere of a good art film. It's nice when you can find a film that successfully blends the action movies of pop culture with the art films that I prefer. This movie is a good choice for all those who love art movies, but whose boyfriends, or

girlfriends, are the classic Arnold Schwarzenegger fan.

Melay (for those of you known to the life of JB, Melay is one of my best friends and a movie companion.) I liked the movie because Gary Oldman was a few other actors seem to relish the psychotic role, with the exception perhaps Dennis Hopper, who relish of Gary Oldman.

I really liked this movie. Melay didn't fall asleep. What it essentially means he loved it. I drank too much caffeine. If you see any action-hitman movie this year make it *The Professional*, its got a big thumbs up from the JB/Melay team. Coincidentally Melay is not really a fluff boy.

News of the Avante Garde... SOMETIMES, THE TRUTH IS STRANGER THAN FICTION.

Compiled by JB Jones and Brian Priesman

Civil Rights at Work

-According to Department of Justice figures, in New York an inmate in a maximum security prison sued the state, claiming that a limit on the number of Kool-Aid refills is "cruel and unusual punishment". Also, prisoners sued claiming that the scrambled eggs were cooked too hard and that the prison toilet seats were too cold.

Records Held Hostage

-Former hostage Terry Anderson, who was kidnapped by terrorists in Beirut in 1985 and held for nearly seven years, filed a lawsuit against 13 federal agencies in September because they refused to release U.S. government documents pertaining to the kidnapping. Among the agencies rejection letters was one from the Drug Enforcement Administration, which said it would not release record unless Anderson provided "an original notarized authorization" from his captors waiving their privacy rights.

Drive By's—The Next Generation

-Ronald Warren Switzer, 39, flew a small paraplane over the home of Mike Parsons in July and fired several rifle shots—perhaps the nation's first fly-by shooting. And in March, FBI officials charged that James A. McClelland, 48, of Spokane Wash., hired a man to murder his wife with a poisonous needle in a skate-by shooting.

The Democratic Process at Work

-Residents in Osage, W. Va., voted to disband the police force earlier this year, and in June, they voted to disband the entire town government. -A proposed welfare-reform amendment had a unique way to help cut back on the number of single parents. The amendment would have required the government to study the possibility of establishing a dating service among single parents, thus

potentially getting them married and off of welfare. The amendment was defeated 44-2.

Courtroom Shenanigans

In June in London, lawyers for convicted murderer Stephen Young filed an appeal after learning from one juror that three other jurors had conducted a Ouiji board seance during jury deliberations and "contacted" the dead man, who named Young as his killer. Perhaps they should contact the OJ prosecution.

Keeping Teenagers Off The Streets

Among recent suggestions by municipal governments to restrict teen-age "cruising" in public places at night was one by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. To get kids off the street, The New York Times reported in August, Florida is considering installing low-pressure sodium street lamps because they render caucasians' complexions a "sickly" color and make acne look grotesque.

Abortion Police

A state trooper, in Seattle, stopped a couple on their way to an abortion and detained them for 90 minutes so they would miss their appointment, while attempting to talk them out of the abortion. They were then forced follow the trooper to church.

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Dine In - Carry Out

Happy Holidays, to all of
our friends at Central High!

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You said what !?!?

"My husband and I are either going to buy a dog or have a child. We can't decide whether to ruin our carpet or ruin our lives."

-Rita Rudner

"The trouble with children is that they are not returnable."

-Quentin Crisp

"Christmas is when you have to go to the bank and get crisp money to put in envelopes from the stationery store for tips. After you tip the doorman, he goes on sick leave or quits and the new one isn't impressed."

-Andy Warhol

"There is a remarkable down of taste and intelligence at Christmas time. Mature, sensible grown men wear neckties out of holly leaves and drink holic beverages with raw eggs and cottage cheese in them."

-P.J. O'Rourke

"You can't say civilization is advancing; in every war you win in a new way."

-Will Rogers

"Civilization is the distance between himself and his excreta."

-Brian Aldis

Cleanliness is almost godliness.

-Samuel Butler



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Smoking Section

*Names have been changed to protect anonymity

Teenagers smoke.

They smoke for a variety of reasons: to rebel, to be cool, or because they are curious. In the United States, 20 percent of

teenagers smoke, according to Mr. Russell Koos of The American Lung Association. At Central, 26 percent of students polled smoke. "Each day 3,000 teens smoke their first cigarette," Mr. Koos said. "Of all adults who smoke, 90 percent started by the age of 18."

"I started smoking regularly this summer at work," a senior said. "It calms me," she said. "Whenever I'm tense, if I take five minutes to smoke a cigarette, I can forget about everything else." She said that she smokes about two packs a week.

Chris Jacobs, junior, started smoking when he was 14 years old. "Back then it was the hip, cool thing to do. Now I smoke because I have to."

Junior Matt Smith also started smoking when he was 14 years old. "I started because second-hand smoke got to me. I really

liked the smell of it," he said. "Now I smoke about a pack every two days."

Many students who smoke find it difficult to refrain from smoking during the school day. Matt said that he "smokes in the bathrooms or outside during lunch" while in school. "I've gotten caught a couple of times," Matt said.

Shannon Rourke, senior, said that she smokes. "I like it. When I've tried to quit, my concentration level plummets. I would sit in school and all I could think about was having a cigarette. [Smoking] is a part of me. I think I will quit someday, but I don't know if that'll happen soon."

*John, a senior, started smoking when he was a freshman. "Everyone I hung out with at the time smoked. I hated it, and I thought it smelled bad," he said. "When I went out with them, it was always a big deal for them to get me to smoke one drag. Then the one drag turned into one cigarette, and soon I was smoking a pack a week. During the summer, I started smoking about a pack every two days."

John said that when his parents found out he smoked, they were constantly trying to convince him to quit. "I would come home from school, and everyday there would be a different poster on my door telling me the effects of smoking," John said.

"Once my mom put up a poster that showed a healthy lung and a lung of a person who smoked. I threw it away, but my mom took it out of the trash and put it back on my door."

Another time, I was going to school and decided I wanted a cigarette. When I opened my pack, all of the cigarettes had been cut into tiny pieces. It really made me mad," John said.

"Everytime I walked in the door, my mom would tell me I smelled," John said, "and my dad who is a nurse was constantly lecturing me. Eventually I told them that I would quit because I wanted to, not because they wanted me to."

John said that he tried to quit several times during the three years he smoked. "It got to the point where I would wake up every morning coughing and I couldn't breathe. I also started hanging out with different people who don't smoke. The people you hang out with really have a big influence," he said.

"It wasn't even the nicotine I was addicted to," John said. "I was addicted to having something in my mouth and in my hand all of the time. I really regret the obscene amount of money I spent on cigarettes and lighters. I smoked for about three years, 3 packs a week at a price of two dollars a pack. That is a lot of money."

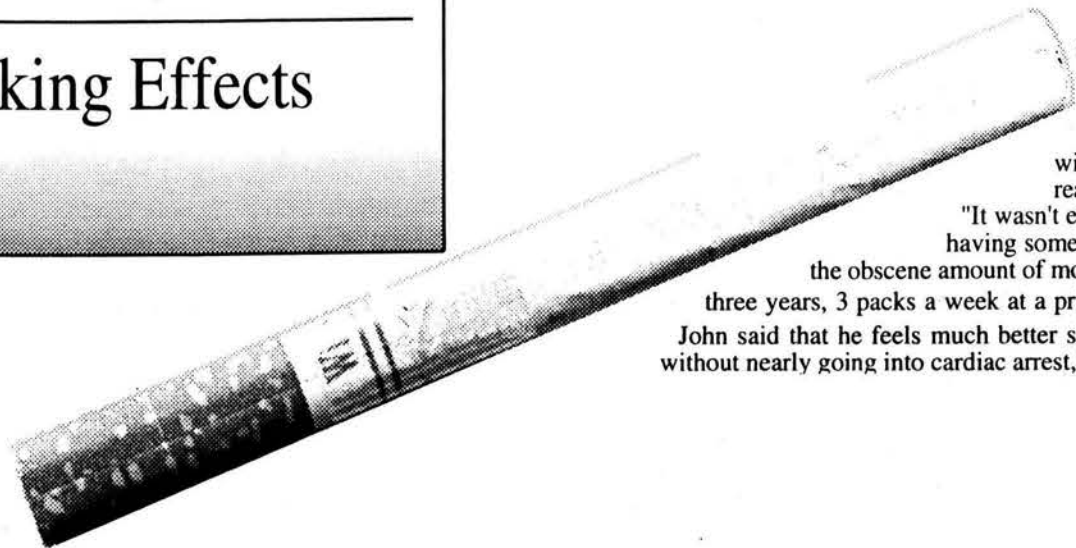
John said that he feels much better since he quit smoking. "I can walk up stairs again without nearly going into cardiac arrest," he said.

INSIDE

Smoking Policy

Quitting Options

Smoking Effects



Central Focus

by

Ann Rickerl, Elizabeth Kaplan, Sarah Pugh, Brian Priesman

New OPS policy creates smoke-free campuses across the city

By Elizabeth Kaplan

A new Omaha Public School smoking policy will go into effect on Dec. 26. The new policy prohibits smoking in all OPS buildings. It also includes all grounds and OPS owned or leased vehicles. The new policy complies with a new federal law that says public schools must be smoke-free by Dec. 26, or the school's federal funding may be suspended.

"The question [with the federal law] is whether or not smoking was prohibited on grounds," said Mr. Stan Sibley, director of general administration for OPS. "We thought it would be best if this was included. We are an educational institution."

The Omaha Board of Education read and voted on the policy twice. The policy received only one opposing vote from school board member Anne Palmesano. She said that she voted against the policy because it prohibits teachers from smoking on grounds, and "I am against that."

She said, "I feel the teachers have so little time for breaks. It is better for them to have a place to smoke besides outside. At least we should let them go out back on the loading docks, so they won't have to go to a public sidewalk [to smoke] in view of children."

Dr. G.E. Moller says he "understands" the new policy. "We are an educational institution," he said. "We are trying to teach people to avoid things that aren't good for them. Having smoking in the building is contradicting what all of our science and home economics people are teaching."

Mrs. Vickie Anderson, Spanish

teacher, said that the policy is "pushing it." She said that the smoke-free building policy does not bother her, but that "extending it outside the building is beyond what is necessary. We have enough problems with students smoking in bathrooms, without worrying about policing the grounds. The policy needs to be enforceable."

"It's really a dilemma for teachers who smoke," Mrs. Anderson said. "I do my utmost not to smoke around students. I don't want to set a bad example. I know smoking is bad for me, and I don't want young people to start smoking."

Dr. Moller said that he has "an awful lot sympathy" for teachers who smoke. "It'll be tough on them," he said. Teachers are not supposed to leave the building without informing Dr. Moller or another administrator.

Dr. Moller does not know yet if teachers will be allowed to leave on breaks to smoke. "I hope we will know more when we get written guidelines from the central office," he said.

Mrs. Anderson said that she and some other teachers had considered going to their cars to have a cigarette

during the day, but under the new policy smoking will not be permitted in school parking lots because they are on school grounds.

The few teachers who smoke," Mrs. Anderson said, "will have to go stand in the middle of the street in order to smoke. Soon you're going to see adults sneaking around like students."

Teachers have 25 minutes for lunch breaks, but Mrs. Anderson said that "there is nowhere to go near Central."

I'm going to have to leave during lunch," she said. "I will probably not be able to go all day without a cigarette. I don't want to leave the building; I'm going to try not to. Maybe I will quit smoking."

Mrs. Anderson

said that she has tried to quit two or three times. "Smoking is an addiction," she said.

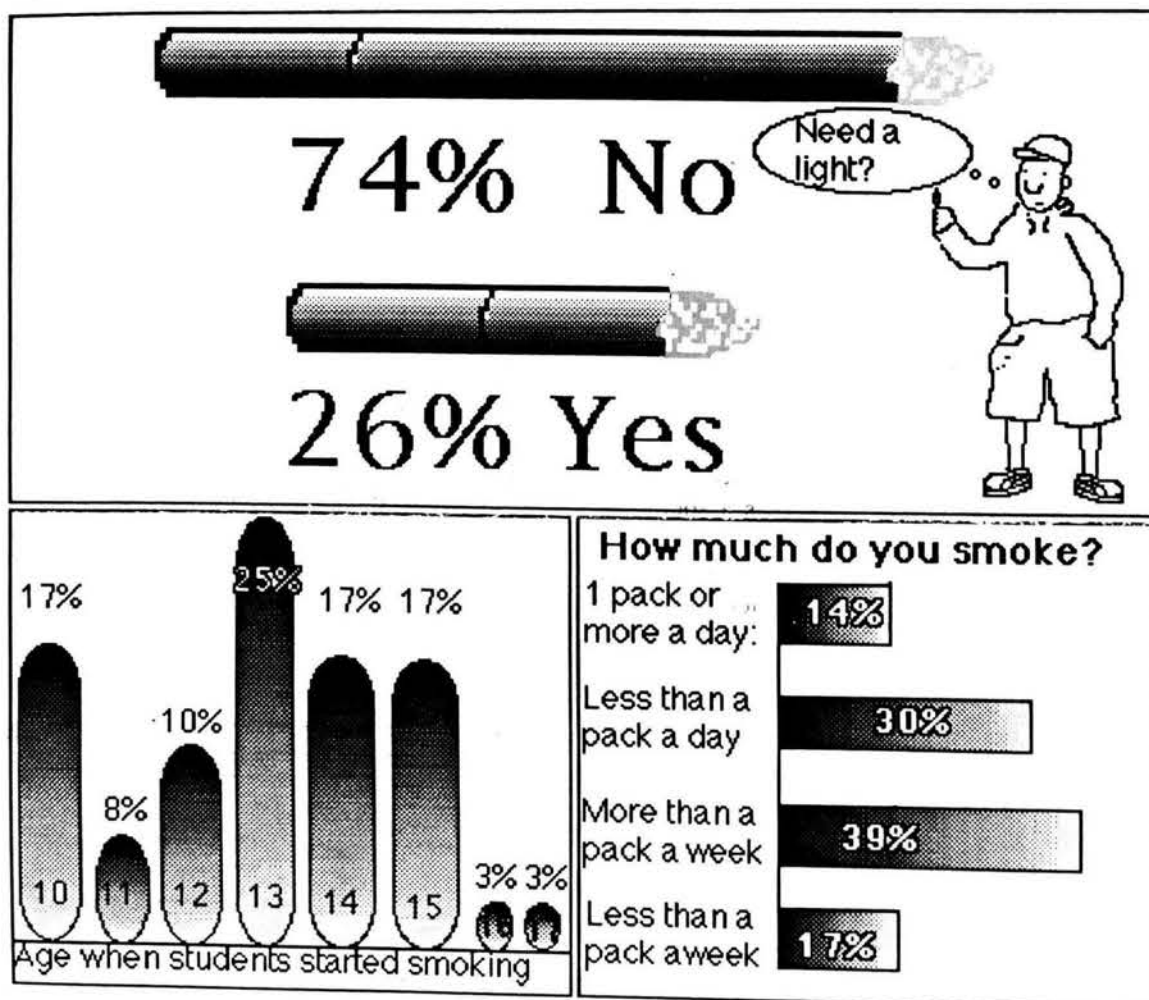
"John Hopkins did a study that said smoking cigarettes is harder to quit than a heroine habit. I don't like people thinking that if they keep telling me to stop, I will. It's an individual, personal decision."

Soon you're going to see teachers sneaking around like students.
-Mrs. Anderson



Smoke Break Central students take an hour and the open west porch to get their fix for smoking. Although against school rules which prohibit smoking on grounds, many students still manage to get their fix.

139 Central students were asked if they smoke. The results:



Smoking

By Sarah Pugh

*Names have been changed to protect anonymity.

The effects of smoking are widespread and hard to measure. Cigarettes affect a person's health, reputation and school life, and yet 26 percent of Centralites light up every day.

"Nicotine is a drug. Nicotine is addictive," said Mrs. Mary Applebee, program director for the American Lung Association. Mrs. Applebee said smoking is a total body experience, with the heart and lungs most affected. "Within 10 minutes of smoking, blood pressure goes up, heart rate increases and circulation drops," she said.

"It's an unhealthy habit but I like doing it," Scott Mullen, senior, said. "It relieves my nerves."

"Nicotine is only a part of it," Mrs. Applebee said. "Over 200 carcinogens enter the body with every cigarette."

Mr. Harry Gaylor, business teacher, said the greatest growing percentage of smokers is teenage girls. "I have no sympathy," he said. "Have you ever been around someone with emphysema or lung disease? Nothing good can come of smoking. It's really expensive."

Kicking the habit

Cold turkey not the only option

By Ann Rickerl

"It is hard to quit, I'm addicted," said Michele Cabrales, freshman, when asked about her smoking habit. Michele said she started smoking when she was ten years old. She started when she saw her cousins smoking and she wanted to try it. She said that she has just recently quit because her boyfriend is allergic to smoke and also because her mom does not like it. Michele said she is desperately trying to quit and said, "I chew gum constantly, but it doesn't help."

Mr. Peter Jefferson, registered nurse and director of the Wellness Clinic, is one person who specializes in the area of smoking and knows how to help people with their struggle to quit. Mr. Jefferson said the first thing he does for his patients is to "help them identify if they really want to quit." Mr. Jefferson said he has his patients compile a list of reasons why they should quit and why they should continue smoking. Mr. Jefferson said he then asks them to prioritize the list.

Mr. Jefferson said, "You have to be mentally prepared, you have to want to do it for yourself."

Mr. Jefferson said a lot of people

say they want to quit because someone else wants them to quit. He said, "you should be doing it because you want to do it, not because someone else wants you to do it." Mr. Jefferson said the "motivation has to come from within, not externally."

Mr. Jefferson said the most common methods he uses for his patients include the nicotine patch and also "cold turkey." He said he also uses nicotine gum for his patients, but said it

black lungs. Mr. Jefferson said he avoids this and only presents positive ways which show how to quit.

Some of the benefits that Mr. Jefferson said he has over other similar clinics is his experience. Mr. Jefferson said that he has been teaching a class on how to quit since 1986 and has two degrees in nursing.

"The best way to stop smoking is whatever works for the person," said Mr. Jefferson.

He said the two ways he highly favors would be first "cold turkey," which is to withhold nicotine from the body instantly, and next the Nicotine patch.

Mr. Jefferson said many people believe that the nicotine itself is the hardest part to break, "but actually it is the easiest." He said the most difficult part to break is the habit.

Mr. Jefferson said it is very common for people when they get stressed or excited to smoke. He said, "After [smoking] for so many years it becomes very entrained in you." He said many people believe smoking reduces stress, "but actually it is a stimulant."

Anyone can quit "if they have their mind set," said Mr. Jefferson. One reason why women have an especially hard time quitting is because of the fear of gaining weight. He said

these people find other ways to deal with stress, which sometimes can be eating.

He said he finds that people are too quick to put themselves down. He said, "positive attitude and own outlook for yourself are very important" in the quitting process.

Another method that is used to stop the smoking habit is hypnosis. According to Mrs. Jeanette Laitner, master hypnotist at A Plus Hypnosis, the program is "custom made to fit the needs of the individual."

Mrs. Laitner said, "This program only works if the patient wants to quit."

Mrs. Laitner said she feels that hypnosis is the "easiest and quickest" way to quit. Mrs. Laitner said both she and her husband, Dr. George Laitner, are nationally certified.

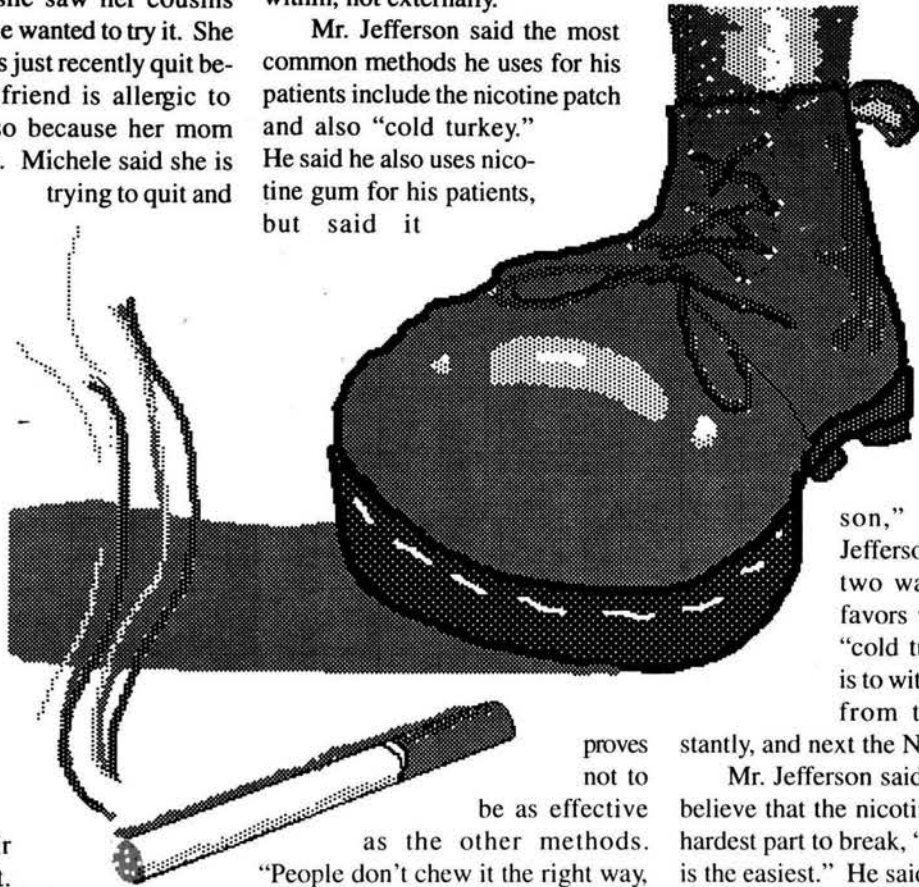
During hypnosis, Mrs. Laitner said they talk to the subconscious, "because that's where all the emotions and habits are stored." She said that during the session the hypnotist gives the patient suggestions on how to quit.

She said she recommends this program because "there is very little withdrawal and the patient does not have to worry about weight gain, because those suggestions are given also to the subconscious."

Beth Katz, junior, said she recently quit smoking. She said one way that helped her quit was to tell herself, "I don't need a cigarette."

Mrs. Mary Applebee, program director at American Lung Association, said neither she nor the Lung Association favors one method over the other as far as quitting.

She said people are different and should do whatever works for them. "Different strokes, for different folks," Mrs. Applebee said.



proves not to

be as effective

as the other methods.

"People don't chew it the right way, and they end up getting more nicotine in their system than if they were smoking a cigarette."

The national success rate, according to Mr. Jefferson, of the percentage of people who actually quit smoking is 26 percent. Mr. Jefferson said his success rate is 61 percent.

Mr. Jefferson believes his success rate is higher than most because he avoids negativity in his sessions. He said a lot of programs used to show negative things on why you should quit, like showing a smoker's

lasting impression on teenagers

summer to lung cancer. His father started smoking at age 14 and died at 75.

"If it hadn't been for modern medicine, a quadruple-bypass heart operation and a physically intense job, he probably would have died at 40," Mr. Martin said.

According to Mr. Martin, the last 10 years of his life were spent fighting cancer. Mr. Martin Sr. didn't stop smoking when

the cancer was discovered.

Only after open heart sur-

gery did he quit.

"He almost died on the operating table," Mr. Martin said. "[The doctors] collapsed both lungs to get to the heart. His lungs were so black and weak it took seven days to reinflate them. It takes one day for a normal person to recover. The doctors had almost given up."

Yet teenagers still won't give up on cigarettes, even when they realize the health effects. "I'm supposed to be able to do what I want now," *Brian, sophomore, said. "Smoking is fun. Later I'll deal with the consequences."

"With every cigarette you smoke you pound another nail in your coffin," Mr. Martin said. "Young people who smoke are a living metaphor of someone who doesn't care about life."

One consequence smokers must deal with is a change in how people perceive them. "Well obviously something is wrong with their self-control, self-discipline or their background,"

Mr. Gaylor said. "Healthy people do not smoke."

For some teachers, knowing a student smokes doesn't change their opinion about them.

"I don't think it has any effect," Mr. Paul Semrad, administrator, said. "On any given day people have decisions to make. If they decide to smoke, they take the risk of getting caught and punished."

Smoking is a social act. Although peer pressure has been blamed for getting young people started, it is a choice ultimately left to the individual.

"All my friends smoke," Brian said. "It's just easier for me to when I'm around them. I usually smoke on the weekends when I go out."

Mrs. Applebee said, "When given a choice, 80 percent of teens said they would prefer to date a non-smoker. Cigarettes make your hair smell, burn holes in your car and clothes, and give you wrinkles prematurely."

Deciding to smoke in today's world also means taking on responsibility for others. Numerous businesses and corporations are moving towards a smoke-free environment.

"In public places, who wants to get sued for being negligent about another person's health?" Mr. Gaylor said. "Some restaurants are already smoke free."

Mrs. Alice Bunz, business teacher, does not smoke, nor does her husband. Last year her husband's company offered employee assistance programs designed to help them quit smoking. For those who didn't, the company offered to help them find another job. Since this was a large corporation providing health insurance for their employees, this was within their rights.

"It's happening more and more," Mr. Gaylor said. "Co-workers are going to demand business not risk their quality of life." Smokers affect non-smokers through second-hand smoke. Recently the issue has forced its way into the media and courtrooms.

"I grew up in a house with second-hand smoke," Mr. Martin said, "I wonder if I'll have any problems." Mrs. Bunz said that the family influence is strong. "Teenagers are old enough to make these choices for themselves."

Elizabeth Kaplan

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-Mr. Martin

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By Sarah Pugh

All Omaha Public Schools use a one to five grading scale, with a five indicating failure. For every grade received in every class, "grade points" are assigned as follows;

Grade	General	Academic	Honors/AP
1	3	4	5
2	2	3	4
3	1	2	3
4	1	1	1
5	0	0	0

All earned grade points are added and then divided by the number of classes to get the G.P.A. At the end of senior year, all class grades from the previous four years are taken into consideration to figure a cumulative, or total, G.P.A.

Or doing more than grades portray. Debate has risen in recent years over how G.P.A.s are figured, especially for those in honors classes. The following two schedules, from juniors Jennifer Diesing and Ryan Shelstad, illustrate the problem.

Possible Grade Points			
Jennifer Diesing		Ryan Shelstad	
Class	GP	Class	GP
Decathlon	5	Decathlon	5
Honors English	5	Honors English	5
AP World History	5	AP World History	5
Honors Physics	5	Honors Physics	5
Honors Spanish	5	Honors Spanish	5
Enrichment Math	5	Enrichment Math	5
AP Calculus	5	Honors Trig.	5
Study Hall	0	Adv. Wt. Training	4
Total G.P.A.	5	Total G.P.A.	4.8

"So I do more work and still have a lower G.P.A.," said Shelstad. "Like that makes sense. I'm punished for doing everything I can."

"Grades aren't accurate," Diesing said. "I deserve to be recognized because I do more work than someone getting straight 1's in regular classes. Besides, the chances of me getting all ones is really small."

"It's worth looking into," Mrs. Maniscalco said. "The only option so far has been to make a class pass/fail like the one semester keyboarding class."

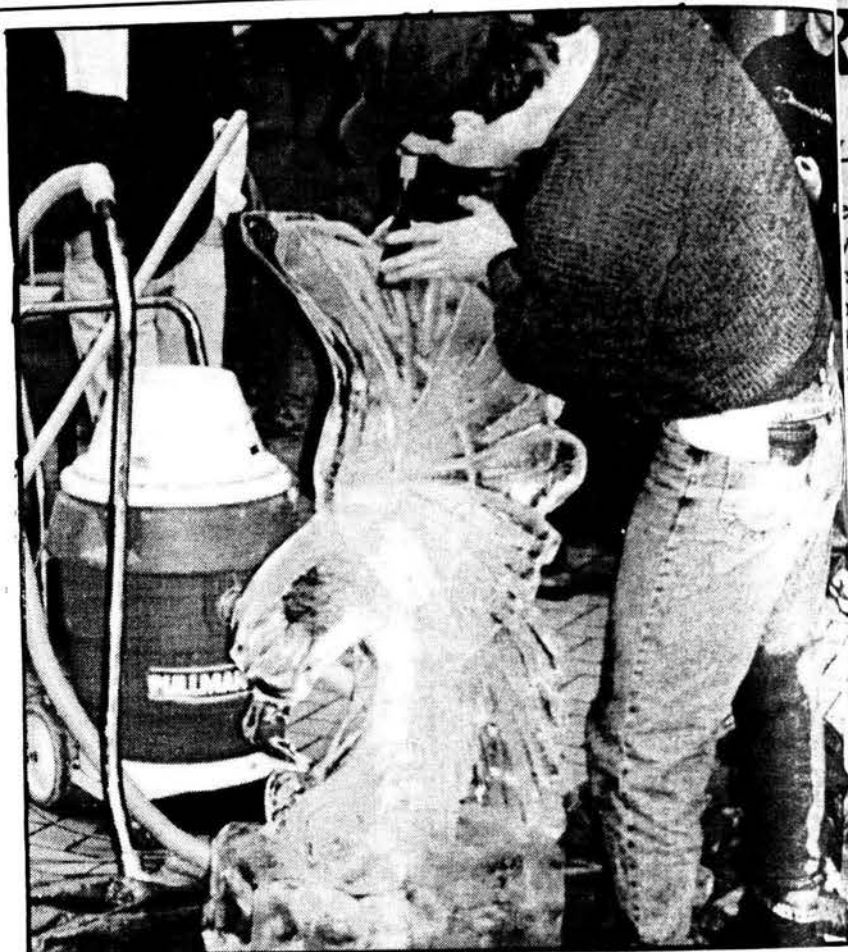
"Gym is just a single example," Ryan said. "I know a lot of people who don't take other classes because it will hurt their G.P.A."

Librarian suffers heart attack

Mrs. Majeski had to undergo surgery after her stroke, and is now recovering. Mrs. Rose Kobza, librarian, recently visited Mrs. Majeski, and said, "She smiled a lot, and she is making great progress." Cards are welcomed at the address: Immanuel Hospital, 6901 North 72nd Street, Omaha, NE, 68122.

On Dec. 8, several departments at Central collaborated to produce the Cultural Fair that took place in the courtyard from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

There were two harpists, Spanish singers, Russian dancers, French musicians and a puppet show. Other displays included pottery making, historical figures, and artwork.



Freshmen learn about ice sculpting and other careers at the Freshman Career Fair.

Dec. 13 and Dec. 20 are two days that will be different for freshmen. They are ninth grade career exploration days.

Over 40 career representatives will come to Central High to introduce freshmen to 36 different forms of higher education.

The career areas represented range from doctors to hair stylists. There is a representative from each of the careers mentioned in Group Guidance.

Careers are separated into categories and subcategories. Ninth graders select the categories that best suited them in Group Guidance earlier this year

By Sarah Danberg

Mrs. Sharon Cipperley, guidance director, said that there could be a number of factors influencing a student's behavior. She cited "differences in society," stating that today's society might not hold educational values as high as they have in the past. "Kids lacking basic skills" are also a problem. Mrs. Cipperley said that there are a number of students who hold jobs instead of choosing to do their homework. "The lack of parent involvement" in the school is also another major factor.

In fact, the superintendent just sent out a study to the high schools, which Mrs. Cipperley plans to publish in Central's next

The study, done by Education Week, found that there is a sharp dropoff in levels of parent involvement between elementary and middle school, as much as 73 percent. According to the study, parent involvement reduces a student's risk of repeating a grade or having behavioral problems. Parent involvement also encourages the student to take part in extracurricular activities.

To show the administration's
Mrs. Cipperley said that the academi-
sors have plans to meet with ever-
who failed a class first quarter.

A variety of resources are available to help students that are having trouble in their classes, such as: National Honor Society tutors, the Creighton Talent Search, numerous workshops held at Central Hall during lunch hour on test-taking and study

Central has a "faculty committee of students," said Mrs. Cipperley. "We have resources, but kids don't come to work."

Continued from page 1

other security guard at the downtown library, said that she found it very difficult to put people out into the cold. She said that she finds the homeless respond better if "you treat them like humans." Kirksey then said, "The politicians ought to do something, but they don't know what it's like to be down and out."

Wells, on the other hand, does. A man probably in his 40's, Wells believes the policy should be enforced. During this interview, an intoxicated homeless man and had to be escorted out of the library by city police. Wells said that there should be an addendum to the policy which would ban anyone for a period of six months who came to the library intoxicated. Wells also said, "[The library should not ban them] indefinitely if they have nowhere else to go." Currently there is no mandatory ban for transients.

Dickerson summed up their position by saying, "If you come to a public library to make sure you are able to use library facilities and resources."

Central High students speak out on driving

By Carrie Parrot

Teenager + driver's license = freedom. This is the theory most teenagers have about driving. To students, a driver's license means independence, freedom from parents and the ability to go where you want, whenever you want to.

But driving isn't all fun and games. Teenagers face parking problems, car trouble, high insurance rates and car accidents every day.

With winter already here, many students have already had to call AAA for help with car troubles.

Winterizing your car

Drivers have already begun to face hazardous snow and ice when on the road. Accidents occur virtually every day in Omaha during the winter months.

According to Mr. Darrel Smith, head mechanic at the Amoco gas station located on 120th and Pacific, drivers must take certain precautions to insure safe driving during the winter months.

"Make sure your tire pressures, fluid levels, transmission, oil and power steering are checked," he said. "Also, make sure your anti-freeze is clean and has a good protection level." Mr. Smith said that for harsh Nebraska winters, an anti-freeze with protection for up to 25° below zero should be used.

"Also, have your belts and hoses, wiper blades, windshield wiper system, brakes and exhaust system checked," he said.

Chris Walters, junior, recently took his Jeep for a routine winter service check. "I went in and had my four-wheel drive looked at," he said. "There were a few problems, so I was really happy that I got it checked before winter came."

Other students haven't taken the time to get their vehicles looked at so far this winter.

Katie Kasher, senior, said, "I haven't really made any preparations (for winter). If something happens then I'll take care of it." Katie said that she has somewhat of an it-won't-happen-to-me attitude. "I'm not too worried about getting into any accidents, but I have had a few close calls."

Jodie Cramer, senior, has had more than a close call this year. Jodie was in a car accident on the evening of the first snowfall of the season. Though she was not injured,

out their years at Central is parking. Only one student lot, reserved for seniors, and a limited number of spaces on the street are available for Central students to park free of charge. Lack of parking is considered a major problem by some students.

Parking is a concern to Jordan Acker, Central junior. Jordan does not live in an area that provides free busing, so she is forced to drive to school.

"There's not enough of it (park-

ing lot." Central's senior lot was just added in the last few years, and according to Dr. Moller, O.P.S. has no plans for adding parking to Central property in the future.

Insurance

No matter how good of a driver you are, you must insure your car in case of accidents. But many students face the problem of high auto insurance rates when attempting to insure their cars.

Emily Lamb, senior, pays her own auto insurance through

Cliff said that although teenagers are probably more responsible while driving than he thinks that teenagers should have to pay such a large sum to insure their cars.

The reason for these high insurance premiums? On average, teenagers are in up to three times as many fatal car accidents as adults. According to State Farm Insurance's *Reflector* newsletter, there are approximately 24 16-year-old passenger vehicle crashes per million miles, compared to approximately seven for adults.

Many attribute the high number of teenage fatal accidents to drinking and driving, lack of safety device use, inexperience behind the wheel and poor judgment.

In a study of high school students, nearly half of the male students and a third of the female students said they had driven after drinking, although they were not old enough to purchase a license. Twenty-five percent of the students said that they drive once a week or more.

A survey in Canada stated that only twenty-five percent of people ages five to 19 wear seat belts.

Maybe you also notice that female teenagers' insurance rates are significantly lower than male teenagers' rates. The reason for this difference is the fact that males are in up to fifty percent more car crashes than females.

So how can you keep your automobile insurance rates as low as possible?

If you have your driver's license and need some kind of car to drive, if possible, it is best that you drive the family car. Farm Insurance says that a teenager is a part-time driver of a family car, insurance rates are significantly lower than if he or she is an owner or full-time driver.

Also, if purchasing a new vehicle, check what the insurance rates will be on the car you buy. Certain automobiles, such as performance vehicles, have higher premiums than others.

Insurance discounts are available from many companies for school students with an "A" average, or for those who have completed driver's education classes.



approximately \$1900 damage was done to her car.

"I was going down the street and the guy wasn't paying attention so he hit my back right door and I spun around," Jody said.

Jody said that weather, as well as ignorance on the other driver's part, was a factor in her accident.

"He wasn't paying attention, and when he finally saw me, he tried to stop but slipped. But if he would have seen me sooner, he would have been able to stop."

Parking

One driving dilemma that numerous students have faced through-

ing," said Jordan. "They need more spaces."

Jordan said that Central's lack of parking has caused her parents to waste their money. Jordan parks in the Omaha Education Association parking lot, which costs \$100 a year to use.

"My dad paid \$100 for a space in the OEA parking lot because he knew I wouldn't be able to park anywhere else. Since I just turned sixteen this month, I was not able to start driving to school until the second quarter. So, we basically wasted money all because of the parking problem at Central High."

Jordan also feels that there are traffic problems at Central after the school day is over. "The yellow buses are in the way after school so students can't leave their parking spots. This causes a lot of frustration," she said.

Dr. G.E. Moller, Central's principal, said that he wishes there was more parking available for students. "We don't have enough for the students," he said. "I wish we had more, but at least now we have a

Farmer's Insurance. Emily pays \$248 every six months to guard against the high cost of accidents, a price she feels is almost too large to pay.

"I don't think they (teenagers) are all irresponsible," she said. "People just assume that they're very reckless and that they joyride all of the time. That's why teenagers' insurance rates are so high."

Emily said that because of her high insurance rates, she sometimes has trouble making payments, especially during the holiday season when she spends money on other items.

Cliff Baldwin, senior, also thinks that teenagers' auto insurance rates are too high. When asked the reason for the high rates, Cliff said he believes that insurance agents "don't give teenagers enough credit. They think we're inexperienced in driving." Cliff, who also insures his car through Farmer's Insurance, pays \$435 every six months to insure his car, receiving a small discount for having taken drivers' education classes.

I went in and had my four-wheel drive looked at.
-Chris Walters

Need Someone To Talk To?
554-1000
Emergency Pregnancy Service
Free Pregnancy Test
Confidential Counseling

5001 Leavenworth
Mon. & Tues. - 6 pm to 8 pm
Wed. through Sat. - 10 am to 1 pm

Bergan Mercy Medical Center
Tues. through Thurs. - 2 pm to 5 pm



Student wins Optimist Youth of the Year

By Angela Parks

When there are so many challenges confronting the youth of today Central freshman DeAntae Grixby still maintains a positive outlook on life. In fact, he is so optimistic that on Nov. 15, at Anthony's Steak House, the North Omaha Boys' Club presented DeAntae with the 1994 Optimist Youth of the Year Award.

When asked DeAntae said that his optimistic outlook on life came from attending North Omaha Boys'

Club and from his parents, who he said are supportive of his efforts and activities.

North Omaha Boys' Club helps disadvantaged boys get good grades so they can go to college. He said that he has participated in both academic and athletic programs.

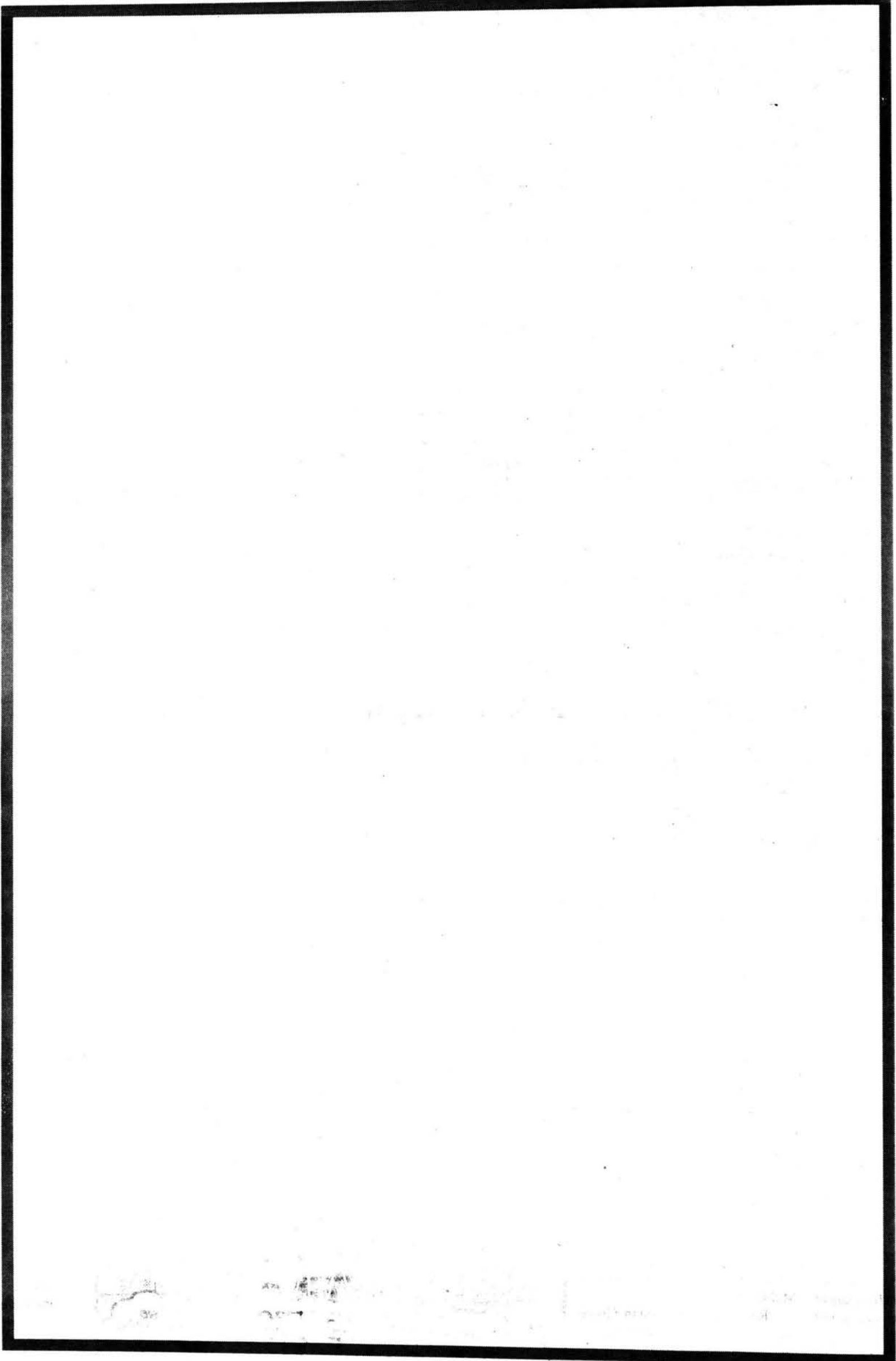
DeAntae's extra-curricular activities at Central include playing on Central's freshman football team, gospel choir, MESA [Math, Engineering, and Science Achievement club] and African history club.

Other extra-curricular activities outside of Central that he participates in are Youth Net, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Creighton University's National Youth Program and Creighton's Unbound Program.

Future plans, according to DeAntae, include going to college. He plans to be active in football at college but does not wish to become a professional because "pro football has too much drugs and sportsmanship."

OK Soda is
better than
artificial
wood-grain.

OK



WHAT "OK" THOUGHTS/FEELINGS HAVE YOU HAD SINCE DRINKING "OK"? PLEASE FILL IN THE "OK" RED BOX ABOVE AND SEND IT TO US, OR SEND PHOTOGRAPH OF SELF WITH RED BOX TO: "OK" SODA, P.O. BOX 4466, BLAIR, NE 68009. INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS, AS WE MAY WISH TO USE YOUR SUBMISSION FOR ADVERTISING PURPOSES, OR EXPLOIT IT IN SOME OTHER WAY WE HAVEN'T FIGURED OUT YET. (MUST RECEIVE BY 12/31/94.)

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Cross country team runs 'hog wild' over competition

By J. Specht

"Stupendous!" That is the word Kyle Small, senior, used to sum up what turned out to be one of the more successful cross country teams Central has fielded in the past few seasons.

This year's team passed many teams in its way producing what its players felt was a true winning feeling for all who participated.

Those who know about cross country running know that it takes more than just pure talent to be successful, it takes a great deal of hard work and determination for one to improve on their timing.

"I don't think I had ever done anything that required a whole lot of athleticism at any time in my life before until I joined the cross-country team," Small said. "It really helped me to get into what was probably the greatest shape I have ever been in, at any point in my life."

country running] really helps people, who have nothing else to do after school, get out and exercise."

Both Small and Townley agree that this year's team was very unified, and all the runners accomplished their particular individual goals.

"Even though not everyone on the team had a chance to go to the state meet, I think that every person on this team ended the season with a great feeling of personal satisfaction," Small said. "I mean, after all, it isn't that easy to run mile after mile, day after day. It's an accomplishment that a person just has to be proud of when it's all over."

"I think that we really had a great team-oriented season, and that will help to produce a lot of winning seasons for future teams," Townley said.

The team believed that its overall success really shined when early season times were shown in comparison to final season times. Small was excited with his times.

I think that we really had a great team-oriented season.
- Cate Townley

the physically demanding aspects of cross country running. "It [cross



TEN-MINUTE MISCONDUCT

Sports Opinion by
Michael Sigmond

I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate Ahman Green, Damion Morrow and Kevin Sayers on fantastic seasons. In fact, I would like to suggest the induction of these three students into the Central Football Hall of Fame. Well, if there was one, I think that these three surely would deserve induction.

Through its rich history, Central football has been blessed with several players who had extraordinary talent and athletic abilities. Players such as Gale Sayers, Larry Station, Leodis Flowers and Calvin Jones put the Central team on the map and led their respective teams to winning seasons. Central has made a point of acknowledging these players and their abilities through the annual football banquet, awarding letters and placing pictures of the best in the hallways. This just is not enough for some of the best.

The time has come for an addition to the ceremonial honors following a superb season by a player.

The administration and the football department should establish a Central Hall of Fame where a replica of such a player's jersey can sit with a picture and a special award. In addition, this player should be forever remembered for his contributions by the retiring of his number. In some cases, the establishment of this tradition is long overdue.

In November, the Chicago Bears retired the number of Central graduate and National Football League Hall of Famer Gale Sayers. Sayers shattered rushing records at Central in the early 1960's and continued to do the same at Kansas University and in the NFL. Many have considered Sayers to be the best player ever in the history of Central football, yet he has received little special recognition.

In a recent poll, only two-thirds of Central students favored the retirement of Sayers' Central number. Many wrote that they did not even know who Gale Sayers is. Central students should be aware of the athletic history as well as the academic excellence that Central is structured around. The only proper way is to recognize Sayers is by giving him this final congratulations.

Today, Gale Sayers is a successful businessman in Chicago, appearing in commercials for a popular men's wear company. Sayers should be invited back to Central this winter along with Jones, Station and Flowers when, in a grand ceremony, these players will have their numbers retired.

Following such a spectacular season, the numbers of Morrow, Green and Kevin Sayers should be retired as well. Some argue that it is premature to retire these numbers, but this argument is truly ridiculous. Now is the best time to retire the numbers because these players should be recognized for their play in high school, not for what occurs afterwards.

As football fans, we must recognize that Ahman could suffer a severe injury or not have a successful college or professional career, but that does not change his performance at Central. Ahman was truly special and it is not fair to him that anyone try to fill the shoes of being the next #34. There should never be another #34. Ahman should be the only #34 that we remember.

I want to urge Dr. Moller and Coach McMenamin to consider seriously taking the time and resources to give these men the respect and honor they earned every Friday night on the grass. Let them have their time once more and let that time live forever.

Tom Osborne speaks on youth values

Awards highlight dinner

By Michael Sigmond

The Central High annual football banquet was held in the courtyard on Nov. 17. The guest speaker was Nebraska football coach Dr. Tom Osborne.

The banquet is an opportunity to recognize the achievements of the Central players and honor the outgoing seniors.

The featured guest and speaker, Osborne spoke for over 30 minutes detailing his highlights and low lights

as a coach. Osborne also reflected upon his value system which he considers "essential to preventing family breakdowns."

Osborne was introduced by Head Coach Joe McMenamin as a crowd of an estimated 300 greeted him with a standing ovation. Osborne commented on his fears of speaking at Central because the last time he spoke at the Central banquet, his team was upset by Iowa State. Osborne's team had defeated Iowa State handily the previous week.

Osborne spoke on the NCAA rules that prevent him from speaking with the players at such an event. Osborne said that if he spoke to an individual prospect it would count as one of his limited recruitment visits. He apologized to the players for not recognizing them individually.

Osborne also spoke on the issue of the negative effects of sex,

promiscuity and controlled substances. He said, "Promiscuity has consequences almost every time, including suicide and violence." Osborne cautioned the players to avoid drugs and alcohol because

"they don't solve anything."

Osborne commented on his fears that students are finding happiness "these days" in "new shoes, jackets and cars" calling it a "crisis of character."

Several seniors were recognized for their achievements on and off the field. Offensive lineman Jeff Broom was recognized as having the highest G.P.A. on the team with a 4.2. "It is really great to have good students on the team," Coach McMenamin said.

Running back Ahman Green received an honor as the third best rusher in Class A history. "Ahman is a true gentleman and a great citizen," said Coach McMenamin.

Coach McMenamin also recognized the All-Division Team as voted on by Metro area coaches. Those players include seniors Brian Walters, Kevin Sayers, Ahman Green, Damion Morrow, Larry Lathan, Dominic Digiacomio and Tony Hudson. Juniors Kelly Allen, Ramon Johnson and Parnell Walton were also named to the team.

A hman Green is a true gentleman.
-Joe McMenamin

SPORTS QUIZ

Last issue's question:

Who is the oldest player ever to play in the National Hockey League?

Last issue's answer :

Gordie Howe

Who am I? In December, 1989, three months after signing what was then the richest contract in National Football League history, I kicked a 91-yard punt - the third longest NFL punt of all time.

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Anderson makes adjustment from court to classroom

By Mimi Douglas

"I've been involved with basketball for about as long as I can remember," said the new women's junior varsity coach Ms. Kristi Anderson. "I can't imagine not being involved with the sport."

Coach Anderson first started playing basketball in the third and fourth grades for a local youth organization. She watched her older sister play in college and was inspired to follow in her footsteps.

After that, Coach Anderson went on to compete very successfully for Kirn Junior High School and later, Abraham Lincoln High School. She started on the varsity team at Abraham Lincoln as a sophomore, junior and again as a senior.

She scored twelve-hundred and twenty-some career points. "One of my milestones occurred when I scored my one-thousandth point," Coach Anderson said.

Ironically, she scored that point in a game her senior year against Abraham Lincoln's rival across the river, Central High School. Abraham Lincoln went on to win the game at Norris Junior High; "Central didn't have a very good team that year," Coach Anderson said.

Her talent was spotted by recruiters from UNL, Oklahoma, Creighton, Iowa and "a bunch of schools in Illinois." She finally accepted the full-ride scholarship from Nebraska because, she "wanted to stay in this area and be near family." She "liked the winning tradition, and the coaching staff [was composed of] all women."

The highlight of Coach Anderson's career came in her senior year of college. That year Nebraska made it to the finals of the Big Eight Tournament, where they lost to Kansas. "It was probably one of the thrills of my life," she said. For the first round they played at the Bob Devaney Sports Center. "There were 6,000 people there; people were there when we were stretching out, an hour before the game started." From there the team went to Southern California, where they played in the L.A. Clippers' arena. "That's the best arena that I've ever played in," she commented.

Coach Anderson said that her college coaches were good role models. She sees herself as being a lot like her former assistant coach. "She [her assistant coach] was a positive person, a nurturer, an encourager."

Coach Anderson feels that these are important assets for a coach to have if carefully balanced with discipline. It is a "good experience for the girls to be involved with the team

and to learn how to improve." The coach is a very important part of this, she added.

"Times have changed," Coach

play year-round [to succeed]."

Regarding Coach Anderson's new challenge at Central, one of her biggest concerns for the season is the

lack of experience among the players. "We have girls on j.v. [for whom] this is their first year playing; that is just so odd to me."

She also said that the team's problem won't be "lack of experience, but will be playing against girls who have been playing together since fourth and fifth grade."

Coach Anderson goal is to eventually become "varsity head coach somewhere." She said that she could see herself teaching and coaching in a small town somewhere—"where [she] would be able to see the girls playing in elementary and junior high school."

In the meantime, though, she enjoys her new position at Central. She participates in many



Jenny Hurst

Keepin' cool: Kristi Anderson watches her J.V. players attentively.

Anderson said. It is "not just good enough to be talented anymore. Ten years ago you could just be talented, now you also need to practice and

sports, but especially enjoys basketball and volleyball. She currently takes part in adult basketball leagues and three-on-three tournaments.

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Junior Hockey in Omaha

FOR THE LOVE OF THE GAME

Gladiator bets on hard work, persistence for shot at NHL

Central brothers 'shoot and score' with Junior Lancers

By J. Specht

At Central, sports such as basketball and football are known to dominate the attention of most students and faculty. Often overlooked, however, are some very popular sports, such as hockey, not available on the high school scene. Probably the main reasoning for this unpopularity lies in the fact that hockey is not a high school sanctioned sport in Nebraska. But, several Central students are becoming recognized as rising hockey stars.

"We start in October and there is a chance we might play all the way until April, if we

year we practiced at 5:30 in the morning everyday, but this year we practice everyday after school."

Jake Ortmeyer, junior, agrees. Jake, who serves as a defenseman for the team, said that hockey is the most time-consuming thing in his life during the actual season. "With all the time I spend watching films and playing there just isn't room for much else, except school, of course," he said. Jake also commented on the fact that he must always be in at a decent time on the weekends so that there is no time for him to get in any trouble.

In terms of playing at a higher level, Tony believes that both Jake and Jed have a good chance of playing for the Omaha Lancers. "Those guys [Jake and Jed] are really amazing," he said. "Jed Ortmeyer on the ice is like Ahman Green on the football field. He's that good. And Jake does things that I've never seen before."

Aside from the present time, these players have future goals as well. "It would be my dream to play Division II hockey," Tony said. "I know that it is really difficult to play Division I, so that's a goal I may not be able to reach," he said.

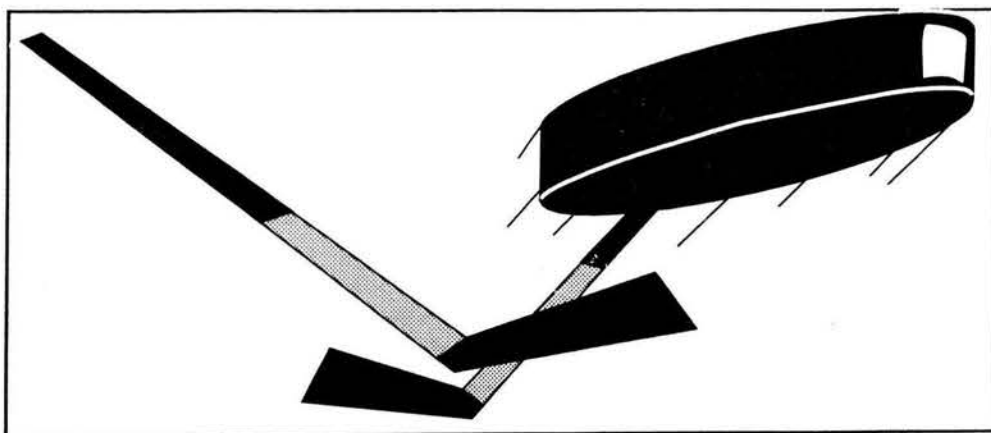
Jed Ortmeyer, sophomore, expressed some very lofty goals, as well. "Of course I'd love to play professional hockey, but so does every young hockey player, and that's why most don't get the opportunity," he said. Jed did say, however, that a realistic goal for him would be to play Division I hockey. "To play college or Junior 'A' hockey [the Omaha Lancers' division] would be great," he said.

All of the players agreed that getting fans to come out and watch the team's games has been a problem for the team. Their next home game will be at Aksarben on Jan. 28 at 1:15 p.m. This group of high-skating Eagles will work to keep their dreams alive of qualifying for the Midget AA National Tournament.

hard at physical therapy sessions to recover from numerous knee injuries. "I was determined to get back into my original form," said Kelly. "Dedication is key to playing at this level."

Along with practices, Mike's team plays games every weekend. "Playing games is worth all the practices I endure," he said.

As dedicated as Kelly is to hockey, he



focuses equal attention to academics. He takes honors classes and maintains a 3.8 grade point average. "Sometimes it's hard to balance both hockey and academics, but both are very important to me."

Kelly's goal is to play college hockey for a NCAA Division I team, something few Omaha players have ever achieved. "In order to reach my goal, I must never give up and always try as hard as I can every time I hit the ice!"

Although hockey doesn't receive the same recognition as football or baseball, Mike will not "ice" his dream of playing hockey.

can keep on winning," said Tony Swedburg, senior. Tony, who plays right wing, was commenting on the hockey team that he and a few other Central students play on, the Omaha Junior Lancers.

The team, usually referred to as simply the Junior Lancers, plays at a level much like that of the Omaha Lancers, Omaha's semi-professional hockey team. In fact, the actual time the two teams spend playing hockey is practically identical, according to Tony. "Hockey takes up so much of my time that I don't really have any spare time to participate in any other sports or clubs," he said. "Last

by Andrea Friedman - Guest Writer

If you ever see sophomore Mike Kelly waiting for a ride after school, you would probably assume he was going home for the evening. However, this is far from the truth. After school, Mike goes directly to Hitchcock Skating Rink for three and a half hours of evening hockey practice.

"I play football and baseball for Central, nothing prepares you for this," said a worn-out Kelly, after his last trip down the ice.

Kelly's practices consist of an hour of individual skills, an hour of team practice and an hour and a half of scrimmage. "The hardest part of practice is working on individual skills," said Kelly.

Kelly now plays for the Omaha Gladiator varsity team, but it has been a long, hard struggle to get there. Mike has experienced highs and lows of 6 a.m. practices, over-the losses, league championships and many injuries.

In first grade, Kelly brought home a flier about hockey and was determined to learn the game. "I begged my parents for weeks to let me play, and finally they signed me up," said Kelly.

The first time he hit the ice, he fell flat on his back and broke his skate. However, this early start did not discourage him. He rose above the level of his competition by always skating harder than everybody else.

The highlight of Kelly's young career was when he scored the winning goal in the Squirt league championship game. "All my teammates piled up on me, and I felt like I was on top of the world," said Mike.

Along with his many achievements, Kelly sustained many injuries. Mike has had to work



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SPORTS POLL

This month, we asked 71 Central students to look into the future and predict the winner of the Super Bowl in 1995. Next, we asked Centralites how long Joe Montana should continue to play. Recent injuries and lackluster performance have brought Montana's stock down and have sparked talks of new leadership in Kansas City.

Who will win the Super Bowl in 1995?

COWBOYS	45%
49ERS	39%
CHIEFS	15%

When should Joe Montana retire?

Immediately	7%
After this season	29%
1996	34%
Post-1996	30%

Basketball season underway

Women award new coach with debut victory, praise changes

By Michael Sigmond

"Change is always hard, but I think little by little we are improving," said head women's basketball coach Dave Felici following his debut win against Thomas Jefferson of Council Bluffs. The women held on to win 35-34 despite a late T.J. rally.

Central trailed 12-8 early in the second quarter after T.J. went on a seven-point run. Seniors Vanessa Bang and Jackie Jacobsen then drilled back-to-back field goals to even the score at 12.

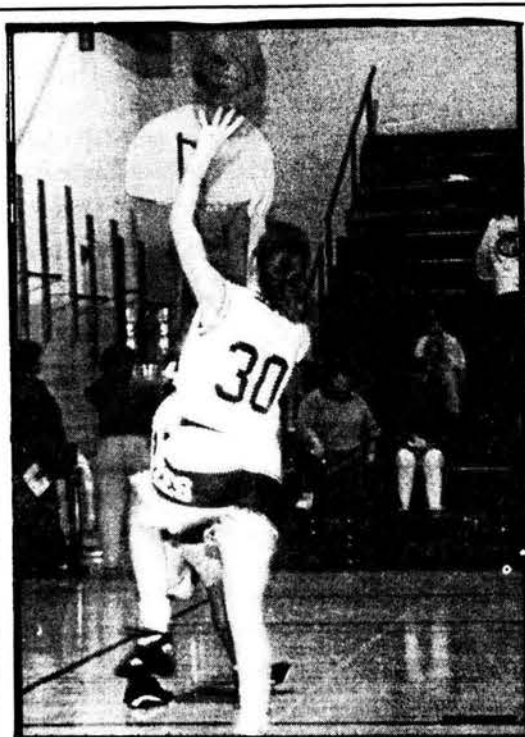
The last three minutes of the first half featured an eight-point run by the Eagles to give Central a 20-14 halftime lead.

"I think that everyone was pumped," said sophomore Sarah Deacon.

Junior Nikki Hollingsworth hit from three-point land early in the third quarter to give Central a 27-20 lead, their biggest lead of the night. Hollingsworth finished with a team high of 10 points.

T.J. struck back with five quick points to cut the lead to two as the game entered the third quarter.

Central raised its lead to 33-29 when sophomore Emily Broom hit from the field. T.J. answered with a field goal on their next trip up the floor to stay within two of the Eagles with 2:34 left in the game.



Martha Keene

Posting up: Emily Broom hits a 20-footer against Thomas Jefferson.

minute left and drew a foul. T.J. hit one of two shots from the charity stripe to cut the Central lead to one.

On the very next trip up the court for Central, T.J. intercepted another pass and scored to take a 34-33 lead with 17 seconds remaining.

Hollingsworth was fouled on the next drive and hit both free throws to give Central the final lead. She has shot 68 percent from the free throw line this season.

Central fouled T.J. with four seconds left and gave T.J. the opportunity to win or tie. T.J. missed both free throws and time expired.

Sophomore Quiana Mitchem led the team with 12 rebounds.

"I'm happy that we got the win because the girls have been working hard for three weeks," Felici said.

Central lost their second contest 63-43 at Lincoln East. Hollingsworth led the scoring with 19 points. Senior Vanessa Bang scored 11 and Mitchem had 13 rebounds.

Central lost its second straight at home against Millard North 68-31. Hollingsworth scored 17 to raise her season scoring average to 15.3 points per game. Bang is averaging 6.3 points per game.

Mimi Douglas

T.J. intercepted a pass with less than a also contributing to this story.

Johnson, Bartee lead men's wins over T.J., Millard North

By Michael Sigmond

The Central men's basketball team split its first weekend of games beating Thomas Jefferson of Council Bluffs 80-52 but losing to Lincoln East 66-62. The following weekend

Central upset Millard North 58-56 in a nail-biting finish.

Senior Donnie Johnson scored 18 and pulled down 11 rebounds against T.J. in the rout at Norris Junior High, Central's home court.

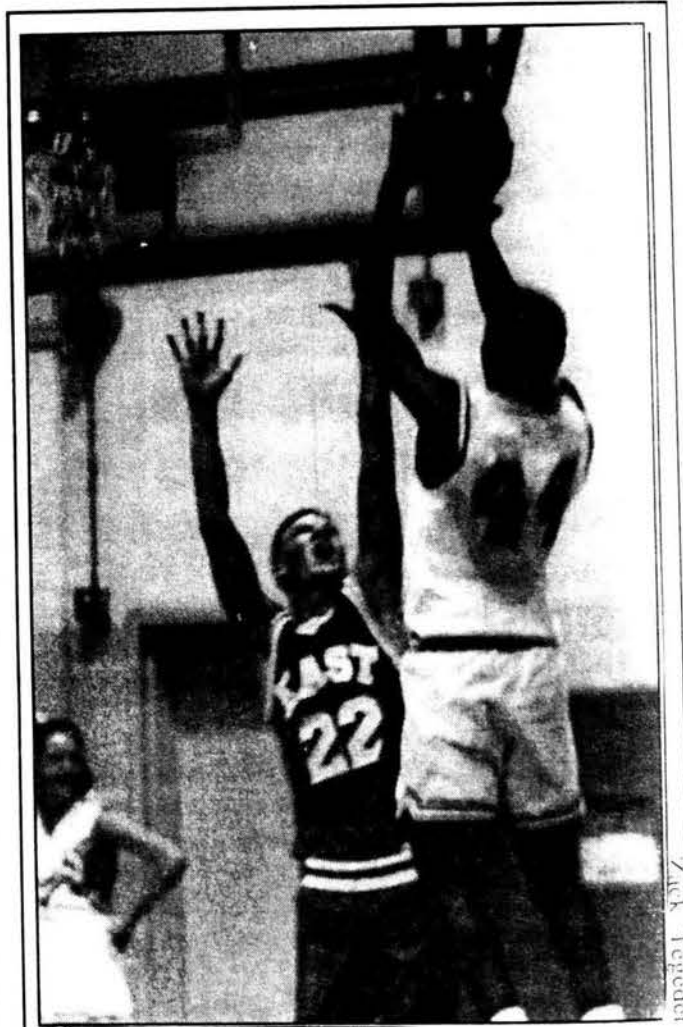
Johnson also led the team with six blocked shots and three steals. As a team, Central blocked 10 shots, prompting Head Coach Rick Behrens to dub it "a possible record."

Sophomore Ryan Behrens led the team with seven assists and added six points. Central ran over T.J. in the second quarter with runs of 12-0 and 10-0. Sophomore Kenny McMorris hit two key three pointers as the Eagles led 47-24 at halftime.

Central added 16 in the third quarter before being outscored by T.J. 21-17 in the fourth quarter. McMorris and senior Khareth Bartee shot 100 percent from the free-throw line, and Behrens, Bartee and junior Lawrence

Shields were perfect from the three-point line.

The Eagles lost its number seven ranking against Lincoln East. Central's team percentage dropped to 40 percent. The younger guys were missing shots they



Jack Trepeter

Khareth Bartee scores over a Lincoln East player.

scoring performance for Bartee. He 17, pulled down nine rebounds and 40 percent from the field.

J. Specht also contributing to this story.

Teacher, parent, coach: The jobs can be confuse

Departments

TEN-MINUTE MISCONDUCT

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By J. Specht

Over the years, many student-athletes have found the task of dealing with their coaches almost as difficult as dealing with their parents. Two Central students, Ryan Behrens, sophomore, and Kelly Custard, junior, have found that when dealing with their parents they are dealing with their coaches.

Ryan, the son of Mr. Rick Behrens, men's varsity basketball head coach, said that his father has done a great deal for him, in terms of both building his character and making him into a better player. "My dad has continued to work on my weak points ever since I was pretty young," he said. "In fact, he's been pretty tough on me my whole life, not just

when he's coaching me." Last season was the first in which Mr. Behrens coached Ryan on an organized level.

In terms of what goes on outside of the gym, Mr. Behrens said that basketball isn't as hot a topic around the house as some people think. "Ryan and I rarely even talk about basketball, except on the court, of course," he said. "I've heard that some kids think that all Ryan and I talk about at the dinner table is basketball, and that's not true."

Kelly, the daughter of Mr. Norman Custard, women's varsity softball head coach, said that her father has spent a great deal of time over the past years helping to make her a better player, among other

things. "He's really helped me overcome a lot of the pressure that goes along with being the coach's daughter," Kelly said. "We've been using the lot across the street for years to practice, and it has really done a lot for me."

Mr. Custard said he is very proud of Kelly and is glad to see she has overcome the adversity that stood in her way. "People can say that her achievements are a result of having her dad be the coach, but I have never relied on my own opinion as a part of my decision-making process," he said. "I have some great assistants who I feel give me a good opinion on who does what."

Mr. Behrens agreed with this and added that he credits all sorts of

different coaches for helping to develop Ryan as a basketball player. "I coached Ryan last year, and he worked as much individual with him as I did with my other players," he said. "In other words, I've coached him as well as all the other coaches before me, as well as this year's assistant coaches, have put together some great coaches and criticisms about Ryan."

In addition, both Ryan and Kelly believe that they may never have to prove their abilities to their parents, but that's something they said you just have to put up with.

"Worrying about what other people say is definitely the one problem I face every day," Custard said.