

THE DISCOVERER



Columbus Senior High School

Columbus, Nebraska 68601

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Students heavily restricted under new attendance policy

by Terry Krepel and Danna Gratzl

The days of "skipping out" for CHS students have ended.

A new attendance policy in effect beginning this year forbids unexcused absences without suffering the consequences.

"I feel that this will be better for the students in the long run," stated Richard Patton, Columbus Senior High School assistant principal.

The penalties for skipping out are as follows:

1st unexcused absence — parents will be notified.

2nd unexcused absence — one-day in-school suspension (104B).

3rd unexcused absence — three-day in-school suspension.

4th unexcused absence — five-day out-of-school suspension.

Any additional unexcused absences will result in further out-

of-school suspension or expulsion.

There were 4,861 unexcused class periods and 198 unexcused days recorded by the attendance office in the second semester of last year. "If you have a job, you just can't come and go whenever you want to," Patton said.

"(The policy) should really cut down on unexcused absences... if it doesn't, we won't have any students left."

Answers to the Question:

What do you think of the new attendance policy?

SOPHOMORES:

Gretchen Steinsberger, 15, "I think it's pretty strict."

Sarah Novicki, 15, "I don't like it."

Marilyn Kucera, 15, "I think it's pretty good but I won't be late or anything so it won't bother me."

Linda Nettland, 15, "Well it's strict but I guess it's fair."

SENIORS:

Robin Small, 17, "I think it's good."

Chris Hentges, 17, "I don't like it."

Tracy Tuma, 17, "I think it's unfair."

JUNIORS:

Nancy Skouby, 16, "It'll keep everybody in school and it'll keep the classrooms crowded."

Diane Engquist, 17, "It's alright."

Karen Ablard, 16, "I think it's a little strict."

Ship's Log

Sept. 11	7:30	Football at Kearney
12	8:30-11:30	Student Council Toga Dance
14	4:00	Girl's Golf with Grand Island, here
	4:00	Cross Country at Beatrice
	6:30	J.V. Football with York, here
15	6:00	Volleyball At Lakeview
17	3:30	Boy's Tennis at Fremont
	3:00	Girl's Golf with Aurora and York, here
	7:00	Volleyball with Scotus, here
18	7:30	Football with Beatrice, here
19		Boy's Tennis at Papillion Invite
21	6:30	J.V. Football with Lakeview, here
22	4:00	Girl's Golf at Norfolk
	4:30	Cross Country with Norfolk, here

Carson's reunion makes problems

by Terry Krepel

Whe-e-re's Johnny?

Will he be coming to the CHS football game against Norfolk October 23, or will just stay in Norfolk that night?

That's the big question concerning the return of "Tonight Show" star, and Norfolk native Johnny Carson to Nebraska.

According to CHS Principal Robert Dierman, the story, as it stands, goes like this:

Carson and NBC-TV are coming to Norfolk the week of October 18 to film a one-hour TV special "Johnny Comes Home". It seems that Johnny's birthday is the 23rd (the

same night as the CHS-Norfolk homecoming game), and a reunion and dance has been planned for Carson's Norfolk High graduating class. The folks at NBC came up with the idea of filming his alma mater's football game that night, so he could do a routine with the Norfolk cheerleaders.

However Norfolk is scheduled to play the Discoverers at Pawnee Park that night.

As a result, the Norfolk school superintendent asked the Columbus Board of Education if the game could be moved to Norfolk. The Board voted to keep the game here in a meeting August 26.

So, the next move is up to NBC, according to Dierman. Carson and the NBC crew can come here if they want to, though, seating and crowd control may be a problem.

"If they do come, we won't have much choice on how we want it," said Dierman.

The CHS homecoming ceremonies may be moved back two weeks to the Grand Island game October 9, depending on what NBC decides to do. So far, there has been no work from NBC.

So, just in case Johnny comes, we'd better start working on our golf swings and "Hi-yo-o-o's".

'Two by Two' musical auditions successful

The auditions for the fall musical "Two by Two" were held Sept. 1 in the choir room from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. The play is to be held Nov. 13 and 14. Ruth Schlobohm CHS Theater instructor said that Friday Nov. 13 "Two By Two" will be performed at CHS in the auditorium and on Saturday Nov. 14 it will be staged at the Holiday Inn as a dinner/theater performance.

"We had a real good experience last year with the dinner/theater and we would like to try and repeat it with the light hearted musical

about Noah's Ark," Schlobohm said.

Boyd Bacon vocal music instructor explained that the story of the musical with the idea of an old man (900 years old) building a boat. One son is single and they have to get him married off.

There are three acts of the play. One is before Noah takes his trip. Another is during this trip and lastly is after the trip is over.

The people chosen for the fall musical "Two By Two" were Nathan Smith, Laurel Brunken, Jay Augustin, Frank Bartushock, Liz Laux, Cathy Lococo, Colleen Goering, Mickie Senften. The student Director is Sheila Schulz.

The rehearsals were scheduled to start September 3rd from 6:30-9:30. They will be held every week up until the play date on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

AFS Student from Equador

by Amy Zywiec

Ricardo Ayala, the new foreign exchange student, is from Guayaquil, Equador. He arrived in Columbus August 22. He'll be staying with Jeff Powley and his family.

Ricardo is seventeen years old and is enrolled in CHS as a senior. This year he'll be taking classes in basic math, pottery English skills, typing and U.S. History. When asked what he thought of CHS he said, "It's a nice school, but there are too many classes."

When asked what he thought of American people, Ricardo said, "The people are different here, they don't think the same."

Some of his hobbies include soccer, playing cards in study hall, and hunting. He's very fond of guns. He doesn't know much about football. He does like soccer though, they play it often in Equador.

He doesn't know much English but he's fun to talk to anyway, so stop him in the hall sometimes and say HI!

Microprocessors course offered

by Eric Peterson

Among the new course offerings this year at CHS is a class called Microprocessors taught by Mr. Ron Veal. According to Veal, the class is intended to teach students who are interested in electronics about the inside workings of a computer. The class has a prerequisite of Computer Basic, since the student must

already know how to operate and program a computer.

Veal explained that the inside workings of a computer are extremely complex, because all words and instructions must be broken down into two numbers, 0 and 1. This is known as machine language.

Although the class is somewhat small this year, Veal said that the size was an advantage in some ways, because as a new class it is still in the experimental stage.

Veal thought that the class would be particularly useful to students who plan to go into engineering or computer repair after high school.

Student enrollment on the decline

by Chris Bleacher

With the 1981 graduating class being one of the largest to depart from CHS, one would think that high school enrollment has gone up. But according to CHS records, enrollment has been on a sharp decline.

At Columbus High in 1979-1980 there was a total of 840 students enrolled. That total included 240 sophomores, 314 juniors, and 286 seniors.

At the beginning of the fall school term in 1980, 217 sophomores, 237 juniors, and 303 seniors enrolled to make a total of 757 Columbus Senior High students. (The reason the senior class was so large was because the junior class was even larger one

year earlier.)

This year, CHS is starting off with 658 students, a loss of almost a hundred students from 1980 and 182 since 1979.

Columbus Senior High Principal, Robert Dierman, said the decreased senior high enrollment is caused by the amount of students enrolled in junior high and even elementary school, but he said he does not feel it has to do with competition between public and private schools.

"The amount enrolled at Scotus," Dierman said, "will depend on their tuition cost... But both Scotus and CHS will stabilize as the students from elementary and junior high move up."

Dierman said he doesn't believe that the larger the student body the more money there may be available to the school.

"In the State of Nebraska," he clarified, "enrollment and finances have absolutely nothing to do with each other."

What does that leave for the future? Quite possibly a much larger school enrollment and a need for larger schooling facilities. The percentage of new families moving to Columbus has reached 12.0% since 1970 while births have gone from 475 in 1970 to 645 in 1980 (a 26.0% increase, approximately), according to Mrs. Sander, the Director of Nurses at the community hospital.

Togas back in style

Student Council is sponsoring a toga dance for the night of Sept. 12 from 8:30-11:00.

All students are encouraged to attend wearing a sheet-made-toga as the Romans once did in everyday life. However, unlike the Romans, clothing must be worn beneath the sheets.

A live band will not participate in this activity, but Doug Pennington will be the appointed disk jockey.

The price of admission will be one dollar for singles and \$1.75 for couples.

Why attend? Because according to Susan Fendrick, "It's different. It's something to break the monotony."

Make your youth center a success

by Chris Bleacher

Have you ever noticed where the kids in Columbus hang out? Down by the river, in a friend's house or just about any place where booze can be drank. This applies to not only teens, but junior high and even elementary school students. The situation is so bad that first, second, and third graders are actually beginning to drink alcoholic beverages. That seems a little too young, to me.

But even if you're not a drinker, or if you don't want to drink just for something to do ('cause, really folks, that's a bad way to live) what else is there to do?

You could hang out at the Family Y, but that gets old after a while. Besides, space is limited there and it's not easy to get a tennis court or such things.

What Columbus really needs is an active Youth Center. Believe it or not, we do have one, but nobody knows much about it because it's used mostly for Scout, Senior Citizen, and 4-H meetings. Which is all fine-and-dandy, of course, until you consider the thousands of kids not involved in those groups.

What I propose is to take that "youth center" and turn it into a real center for the youth. Programs could be established that would keep the youth involved in fun, money raising projects such as a dog wash, etc. The proceeds could go towards bettering the Youth Center. After a while and with a little help from the community, maybe a game room or a dance hall could be installed. To have both would be great!

There would have to be some sort of governing body, too, to keep things in order. A committee of responsible teens could be voted in to run this center with the help of the City Council or an adult staff. No liquor should be permitted. All rules should be obeyed, and if one should feel a certain rule was unfair, it could be brought before the committee of teens and the City Council.

Of course, the youth would have to work for these. This idea must be proposed to the City Council. We have to push them for this. Getting a Youth Center is our responsibility. Getting parents to help would increase the chances of a youth center being established even more.

I propose that all students and grown-ups alike join forces to get this center by meeting at the following City Council discussion and proposing this idea to them. The more students and family members attending, the better.

I know that the students at CHS have more to give to themselves and their community than what they've shown in the past.

Back to the old grind

It's that time again. No more sleeping in late, sluffing off and for that matter staying out late. What a drag!

There are those first period classes. You know. The one nobody can stay awake in. Especially when you get lucky and have a teacher who talks the whole period.

Then there's the last class of the day which everyone can't wait to get out of.

Let's face it, it's time to get back to the basics. Opening the textbook, getting out the notebook, listening to the teachers (trying to anyway), and also knowing how to do it. Now that we have the basics detail won't be necessary.

We do get one good thing out of it all (Which isn't much.) Clothes go on sale and mom and dad fork over the money just so we look good for school and we can put all our new clothes in the same closet with our old ones. They should give us money to go out and buy a new closet to match our new clothes.

Formal dining can be fun

by Shelly Fowler

I was recently invited to a formal dinner, and when I say formal, I mean formal! When I got there, there were so many forks I thought I was at an Oneida silverware convention. I was escorted to a chair and sat down. I was totally at a loss for what to do, so I turned to an elderly woman next to me and said, "Excuse me, I've never been to a dinner like this before — would you give me some advice?"

"Of course," she said with a cheerful smile. "Just find some proper-looking people and watch what they do and copy them. But don't look conspicuous."

I thanked her and glanced about for some other guests that looked half-way decent to watch. Soon, I was dining properly (or so I thought). First, I tucked my napkin into the collar of my dress (which was interesting because it had a plunging neckline.) I underwent surgery on my salad tomato and got seeds all over the centerpiece. I was soon lining up my peas on my knife like little soldiers going off to the ultimate destiny and then kamkaze-ing them down my throat. One pea fell in my water glass, and trying to remove it, I spilled water all over my steak. Oh well, it was too done, anyway.

Then came dessert. Oh golly-lolly! Strawberry Shortcake! I picked it up and licked off all the whipped cream from the top. Then, one-by-one the tiny beings



from the planet Strawberry were speared through the heart by Lt. Col. Hand U.S. Army, and thrown mercilessly into the "Cave of Terrors", where they were chopped alive and swallowed. All this, of course, had sound effects. At once, I realized I was completely alone, except for the three gentlemen I had picked to teach me the social graces. I assumed the meal was over and

promptly left. Later, I found the courteous woman I had met earlier and asked her how I had done.

"Well," she pondered, "O.K., I suppose, but next time pick someone to watch other than the highest standing members in the Three Stooges' Club."

You mean, throwing mashed potatoes at the chandelier is'nt socially acceptable? Oh well, I like McDonald's better anyway.

Bleacher's Babble

by Chris Bleacher

I think this nation's teens have finally hit upon their paradox. We've finally drifted into the dreaded "Answer-em'-back" syndrome, better known as the "But, Mom!" plague.

Scientists can't explain it. In over 20 years of research they've discovered that the teenage mind has a bounce-back answering

service, something similar to Howard Cosell talking turkey with Betty Crocker.

This plague seems to hit the last suspecting at odd intervals, such as when the victim's brother is lying on his death bed. When mom asks what's wrong with brother, the victim may be bound to reply: "Who am I? My brother's keeper?!"

The plague can not be cured, just grown out of. In about fifteen years the victim may begin to be released of this fever. Then again, it may continue through the rest of the victim's life, shifting targets to the spouse, children, and family pet.

But the disease generally hits it's worst in the first 10 years, during the teen ages.

Occasionally, during this crisis, the victim may be seen foaming at the mouth and running off several smart-aleck-type answers to absolutely no questions at all. Such as:

Implied Question: Are sleeping?

Answer: "No, dying. Leave the flowers and get out!"

I.Q.: How can I go shopping if you take the car? We live five miles out of town!?

A.: "You've got two legs, haven't you?"

I.Q.: Here's your dinner.

A.: "Stick in your ear!"

As you can see, even some of your best friends may be stricken with this disease. A word of caution to the wise — Stay away from anyone who is suspiciously foaming at the mouth, diving into a sauna filled with madly churning lettuce leaves, or choking on a spatula. These symptoms are also common to the teen who has been studying too hard, so use discretion, please. These people are extremely dangerous.

I should know. I'm an avid victim.

— the outside lane —

by Terry Krepel

I've OD'ed on records.

With the advent of my own personal income (in other words, I got a job) I've been buying stuff left and right, including a whole bunch of those black plastic discs. I have purchased at least ten albums since May, which comes out to about one record for each biweekly paycheck.

I'm so ashamed. Let me tell you the whole sordid story:

I made a real haul at Tempo's going-out-of-business sale, where I picked up albums by Pat Benatar, Neil Young, and Jean-Luc Ponty. I bought three more through my record club, one each by Police, Jim Carroll, and Rodney Dangerfield. I scoured the rummage sales and came up with records by Foreigner and the Moody Blues. Other albums purchased include those by Styx, AC/DC, and the Firesign Theater.

I have decided to go through withdrawal. It was a tough decision, but one that had to be made, mainly to save my money, as well as my parents' sanity.

I need help desperately. Could somebody please send me the address to Recordholics Anonymous, before it's too late?

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Sportshorts

Tennis Team Ready for Action

The Columbus High School boys tennis team is ready for competition. Returning letterman, Marty Sipple, expects the team to be a better team than last year. Coach, Gary Duranski, has been having the team practice since August 17, two times a day, one in the morning and one in the evening.

There will be three returning letterman, junior Clarey Castner and two sophomores, Brad Scheidegger and Marty Sipple. The first opponent will be at Crete Sept. 3. Unfortunately, for the tennis fans this year, in order to watch the matches, you will have to do a lot of traveling because there are only two home meets and nine matches out of town. Sophomore Marty Sipple added that it wouldn't be a problem for the team because the team would be tough wherever they played.

The two home meets will be held Sept. 25 at 4:00 against Norfolk and October 6 at 3:30 against Fremont.

Luebbe Plans on Successful Season

Fall has arrived which means CHS gridiron action gets under way. Head football coach Dick Luebbe and company are very enthusiastic about the upcoming season.

"I'm very impressed with the way it is working and improving," said assistant coach Jack Young.

Although there is a lack of players with varsity experience coach Luebbe is optimistic about the season.

"I'm expecting a very good year," said Luebbe complimenting the team on their hard work and enthusiasm.

Luebbe also said that team leadership is strong. The captains which will be leading the team through the 81 season are Tom Alt, Mark Bellum, Jay Bullington, and Rick Podraza.

Columbus' toughest opponent will probably be Grand Island and Fremont, but coach Luebbe expects to be very competitive with these teams.

Harriers set high goals

by Scott Arnold

Columbus Senior High Cross Country Coach Ron Callan gave his 1981 runners a good review for the oncoming season. It is the youngest team with the greatest potential Callan said he has ever had.

Callan said the young harriers have two main goals in mind. First of all, they want to go to state. Secondly, Callan said once they reach state, they want to place with the first six teams, which would better last year's finish, (seventh in the state). A personal goal of Callan's is to develop leadership and spirit within his team.

Callan says every runner will contribute to his team. He doesn't really have any "best" runners. Lettermen and first-year runners will be a great asset to the team. "We just have super potential all the way down the line," said Callan after a few practices.

The harriers have two practices a day. For the first few weeks, they will run three and a half miles in the morning and 6-10 miles in the afternoon. Afterwards, for the next few weeks they'll run up to five and a half miles for the remainder of the cross country season. Six to 10 miles will be run on Saturdays when there are no meets. After running three and a half miles the returning lettermen were ready to talk about their season.

Senior runner John Arlt said, "With hard practices we will become a much more competitive team. The first-year runners are going to have to work hard and help pull us through. It will be hard for them but it has to be overcome."

Junior Jeff Powley said, "If we work during practices we ought to

have a good season. We have a young team with just three returning lettermen and also Joe Hoffer who's looking good with just a year's experience. First-year runners look good and will really contribute. We want to go to state and improve last year's finish."

Sophomore Mike Whiting said, "I think we're looking at a good season. We need to run a lot of hills if we are going to improve last year's finish. I feel we have enough talent to make up for last year's loss in Ron Hare and Tom Ryan, both graduating seniors."

First-year runner Greg McGillivray said, "Our major goal is to get better than seventh at state. The experienced runners are going to have to push us through these hard workouts so we can help them at the state meet."

The harriers' first meet is with Columbus Scotus Central Catholic on Sept. 8.



Dan Aerni searches for an opening at the CHS Soap Scrimmage August 28. Also pictured are Dave Staroscik (52), Rick Padroza (51), and Chuck McCarthy (49). Discoverer photo by Judy Kreifels

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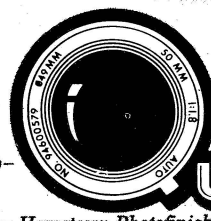
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Discoveries

Guidance

by Eric Peterson

The Columbus High School Guidance Department provides many valuable services to CHS students. One of the most obvious things the Guidance Department does is to prepare schedules. According to Mr. Goos and Mrs. Wibbels, the guidance counselors work on schedules starting in the spring when students register for the next year's classes. The list of classes are then sent to a computer and come back as schedules during June. During the summer, the counselors meet with students to help resolve conflicts in the class schedules.

Making up schedules is not the only thing the guidance department does, however. According to the guidance counselors, one of the most important things they do is to help students plan for the future. They do this by helping students to take courses that will benefit them, whether they intend to go to college, to go to a vocational school, or go to work after high school. The counselors take a group of seniors who are interested in college to the Kearney State Campus to visit and give students information on taking standardized college tests.

Whenever possible, the Guidance Department tries to help adapt students with special learning

curriculum. Special facilities for these students include Learning Disabilities, Alternative Education, and the Resource Room.

Choir

by Stephanie Weber

There seems to be a problem in the attendance of the vocal concerts at CHS. CHS choir director Boyd Bacon said he thinks the reason is because of the increase of activity in communities in general.

Bacon said he usually expects over 500 for the Swing Choir shown and 300-500 for the Christmas shows. The crowd comes mostly to see the more "showy" shows Bacon said, not the educational shows.

Another reason for poor attendance is because the students don't tell their parents about the event until the night of the concert. Bacon estimates 100 people are the parents of the kids, 200 people are the students of CHS, and 200 people are from the community.

The crowd usually come to see the groups who are singing pop songs, the parents go to see the groups their children are in, and the mixed choir.

Bacon said he would like around 500 people to attend because it's fun to sing to a full house.



CHS varsity cheerleaders competed in the All Star Cheerleaders Clinic this past summer on the UNL campus. The girls took three ribbons, each the highest in their division, and won the overall competition. Pictured are Lori Dohmen, Jolene Micek, Jody Stone, Chris Nielsen, Tonie Hockenberger, Teresa Kyster and Stephanie Zehring. Discoverer photo by Mike Freeman

Golf

by Scott Arnold

When Sarah Selig and Janet Jones played in the Jaycee Golf Tournament at Van Berg Park Golf Course they never expected to be restricted from playing girls golf for Columbus High School this season. However, under state rules a high school athlete may not participate in any tournaments during the season of play. Much to the disappointment of Columbus High Golf Coach Bart Bartholomew these two girls will be absent from the team roster this season.

a four-year basketball scholarship to UN-L. There she majored in Physical Education and minored in Biology and Social Science. She won the Harmon award in 1980 and was all-state and super-state in basketball in her junior and senior years. Tietjen holds the state individual scoring record for a single game, which is 57 points. When asked what her plans for the future are, she said, "I want a successful teaching and coaching career."

Next, I interviewed Nancy Ellis who teaches in room 24. Ellis teaches Beginning Journalism, Fantasy, American Materialism, two sections of Sophomore Composition, and is the advisor for the school paper, the Discoverer. She graduated from UN-L with a Bachelor of Science degree in Journalism and English. Her hobbies are jogging, water skiing, snow skiing, and photography. Ellis said, "Eventually, I'd like writing for a newspaper or doing

freelance work."

Rick Benson is the new Industrial Arts and Drafting teacher in room 211. He went to Sioux City East High School and then went on to do undergraduate work at the University of Northern Iowa, where he majored in Industrial Arts. In high school, he participated in varsity wrestling and wrestled on the UNI team for two years. Benson has been teaching professionally for the past six years.

He's taught drafting and woods for three years and also coached wrestling for two of those three years. Then he went on to teach metals and coach wrestling in Sioux City.

Roberta Uhrig is the new Distributive Education teacher in room 22. Her and her two children moved to Columbus with her husband who is employed by Funk Seeds. Uhrig has a Bachelor of Science degree in Education from Kearney State College. She also went to the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley and Northeastern Junior College in Sterling, Colorado. When asked what her plans for the future are, Uhrig said, "I'd like to get more education and get in more teaching. I like teaching."

Jacquelyne Dorminy is the new instructor for the Learning Disabilities Resource Room in 104A. When I asked her what interests her most about that teaching department, Dorminy said, "watching the students develop as their skills improve." This is her 5th year of teaching professionally. She went to Indiana State University where she got a Masters degree in Special Education. She and her four boys moved to Columbus with her husband who is employed at Sand Livestock.

I was unable to obtain an interview but there are two other new teachers. They are Don Kiser who teaches German and Sophomore Composition in room 109 and in room 26, Harold Weatherford, who teaches Health and coaches the swim team.

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