

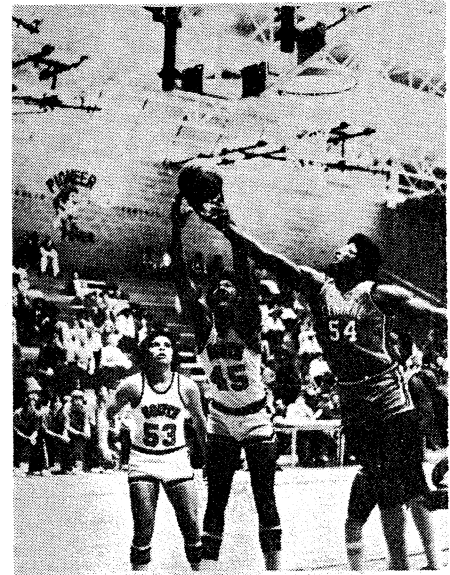
Pioneer Basketball: From begin,

Central has a long tradition of excellence in basketball. Since the first year Weston W. Mitchell placed five players on a court in 1918, Central has been a strong, stable force in city conference basketball. Even today, in Central's final year, the cagers were in strong contention for a state berth, losing only to their big rivals, North.

Part of the Central basketball story lies in its great players. Central's first great player was Martin Norton, class of '21. Norton was truly an all-around athlete. He was captain of the football, basketball and tennis teams, and also starred in baseball, track and cross

country. Norton received a total of 18 varsity letters while at Central. But basketball must have been his favorite. In 1920, Norton led the team to city and twin-city titles, and a 4th place at a national high school tournament in Chicago. The next year, 1921, Norton and other starting guard, "Pud" Moore ('24), led the quintet ("Quints" as they were called in the newspaper) to Central's first and only state basketball title. Norton and Moore, a freshman, were both awarded All-State honors.

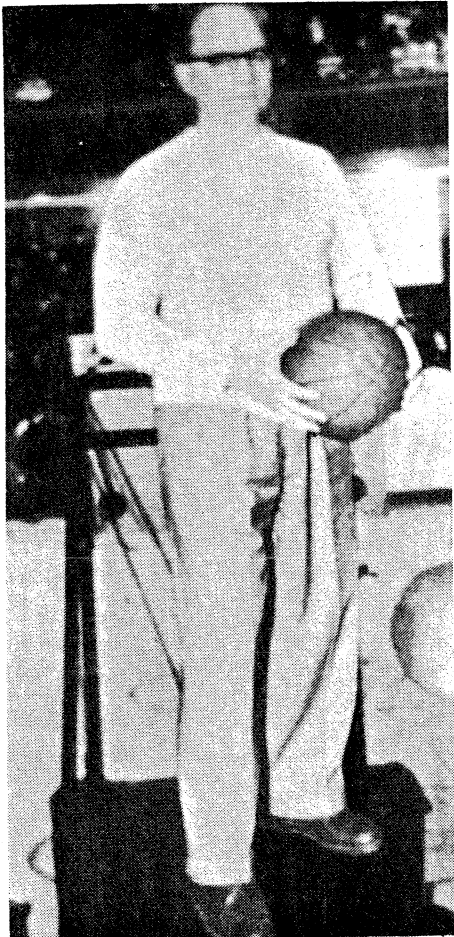
The Pioneers returned to power in 1923 with a city title and another state berth, and a city title again in 1929. Then a state berth in 1949 and a 2nd place in city in 1950, with players like John Patzwald on *Tribune's* All-Star team, and John "Buddy" Blanchard, captain, high point scorer, and later professional baseball player. He helped lead the Pioneers to a fourth place in the state tournament of 1949. Central tied for City in 1958, and returned to the state tournament in '71, '77 and again in '79. Andra Griffin, of the '77 team, went on to



David Thompson goes for the ball.

professional basketball, and is currently playing with a Canadian team.

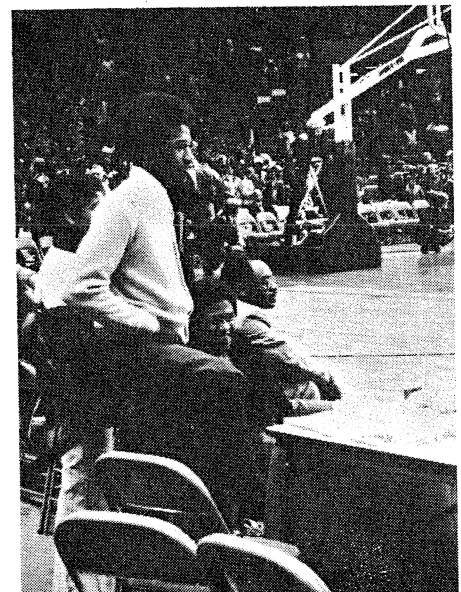
The other part of Central's basketball story is with its coaches — since 1918, Central has had only four basketball coaches: Weston Mitchell, Loris "Whitey" Thoreson, Al Nuness, and Levain Carter.



"Whitey" Thoreson



Al Nuness coaches while Heywood Smith looks on.



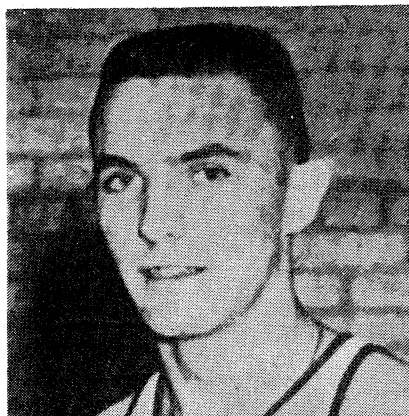
Manager Michael Brown and Coach Levain Carter watch Pioneers in state tournament.

ing to end, a great tradition

Mitchell, known to the staff and students as "Mitch," coached the team from 1918 to 1945. During the 27 years Mitch was coaching, the team won Central's ONLY state basketball title, in 1921. In addition to teaching and coaching, Mitch was the author of a mechanical drawing book. He said "I am proud of Central... Yes, proud to have been associated with such a great school and fine faculty." One of Mitchell's great products, John Kundla, went on to coach the Minneapolis Lakers in the 50's.

The second of Central's basketball coaches was Loris "Whitey" Thoreson. He coached from 1946 to 1971. While in high school, Whitey lettered in basketball, football and track. Whitey said his most satisfying coaching experience came when Central played in the state basketball tournament in 1949. He was quoted as saying, "Central is a good school to coach at."

Al Nuness coached at Central from 1972 to 1976. He was a graduate of the U of M and later played semi-professional basketball for the Pillsbury Kings.

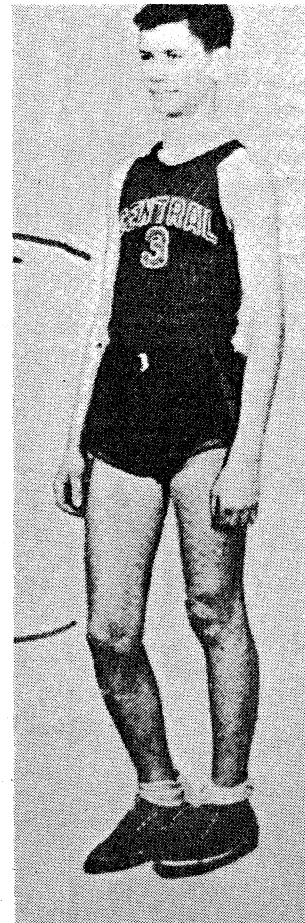


Johnny Blanchard

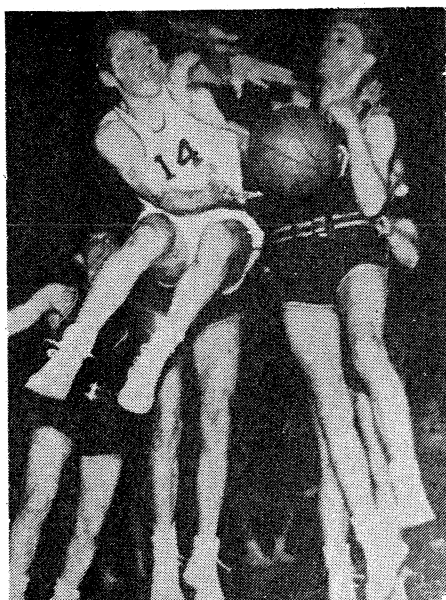
Central's present men's basketball coach is Levain Carter. Levain first coached basketball at Magnolia, Arkansas, at the high school he himself attended as a teenager. When he began his coaching career at Central in 1977, he was quoted as saying, "I haven't lost many basketball games and I'm not going to start." His prediction proved to be true for his teams.

When Central first started its basketball program in 1918 only four other schools were in the Minneapolis conference — East, West, North, and South. By 1923, Northeast (later called Edison), Vocational and Roosevelt joined the conference. During these years all basketball games were played in the school gyms. From 1931 through the 50's and into the 60's all of the conference basketball games were played at the Minneapolis auditorium, with occasional games at the U of M field house or William's Arena. Central then played in the Washburn gym for homegames until 1978, when they finally got their own modern gymnasium. Central's girls began playing conference basketball in 1975, by the 1980-81 season the girls became contenders of the City Title. Basketball has been a great school and community tradition and almost a cultural experience.

-Peter Hanson and Andrea Gross



John Kundla, who went on to coach the Minneapolis Lakers



John Patzwald makes a grab



Basketball players, Circa 1910

Sports Scrapbook

Although football, basketball, track, and hockey have already been covered, we can't overlook Central's other sports.

The first mention of Red and Blue organized teams appears as far back as 1886, whose yearbook spoke of a pennant winning baseball team.

Central's first teams were baseball, followed by football, and soon after that athletics widened to include a variety of sports.

Some more unusual teams through the years at Central include speed-skating and fencing, both occurring in the 30's and 40's.

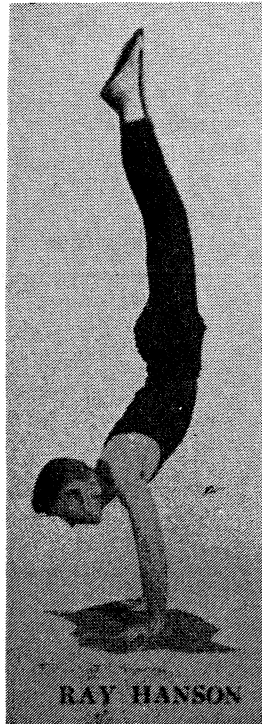
During the early 1900's Central had a men's gymnastics team which won state championships in the 1920's. The more recent girls' gymnastics team won the 1979 city championship, headed by all-arounder Chris Moses, who placed third in state on vault.

Central has had a very successful men's tennis team through the years, including a state team championship in 1957, and between 1929 and 1981, three singles and nine doubles state championships.

The men's swim team, which dates back to the early 1900's owns two city championships.

The men's and women's golf teams have only recently come to fame, with a city championship for the men in 1979 and a very high chance of a city championship for the women this year.

The rosters' of the Central sports at the beginning of each decade are listed to give a sample of how Central's teams have changed during its history.

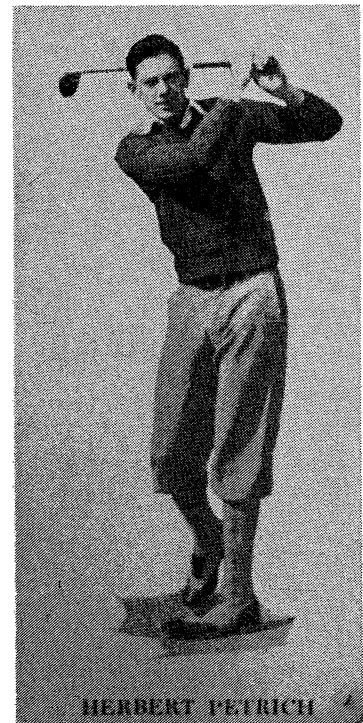


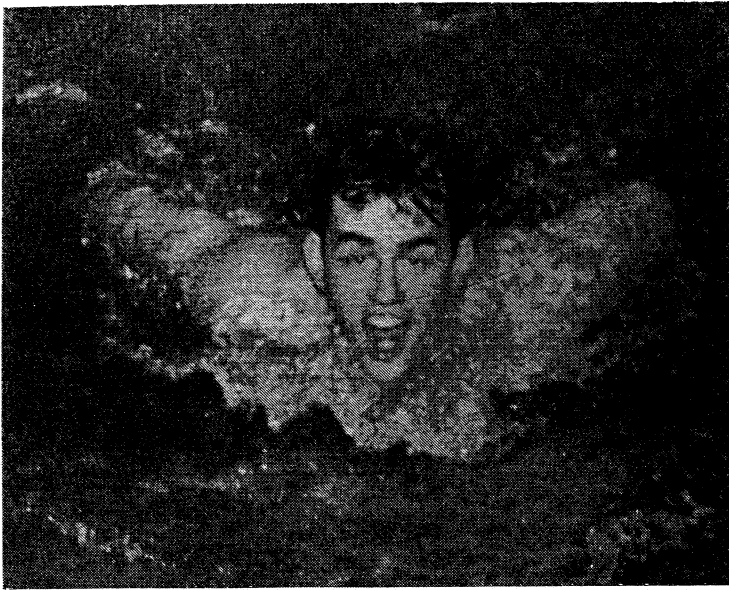
- 1950
LIST OF TEAMS
- 1) baseball
 - 2) basketball
 - 3) cross-country
 - 4) football
 - 5) golf
 - 6) hockey
 - 7) swimming
 - 8) tennis
 - 9) track
 - 10) wrestling

- 1960
LIST OF TEAMS
- 1) baseball
 - 2) basketball
 - 3) cross-country
 - 4) football
 - 5) golf
 - 6) hockey
 - 7) skiing
 - 8) swimming
 - 9) tennis
 - 10) track
 - 11) wrestling

- 1920
LIST OF TEAMS
- 1) baseball
 - 2) basketball
 - 3) football
 - 4) swimming
 - 5) tennis
 - 6) track

- 1930
LIST OF TEAMS
- 1) baseball
 - 2) basketball
 - 3) football
 - 4) golf
 - 5) gymnastics
 - 6) hockey
 - 7) swimming
 - 8) tennis
 - 9) track





1970
LIST OF TEAMS

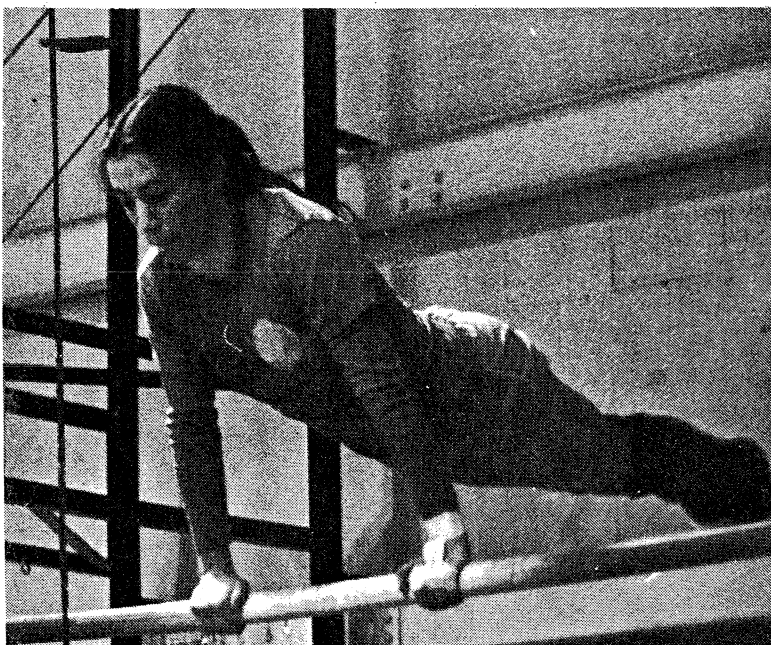
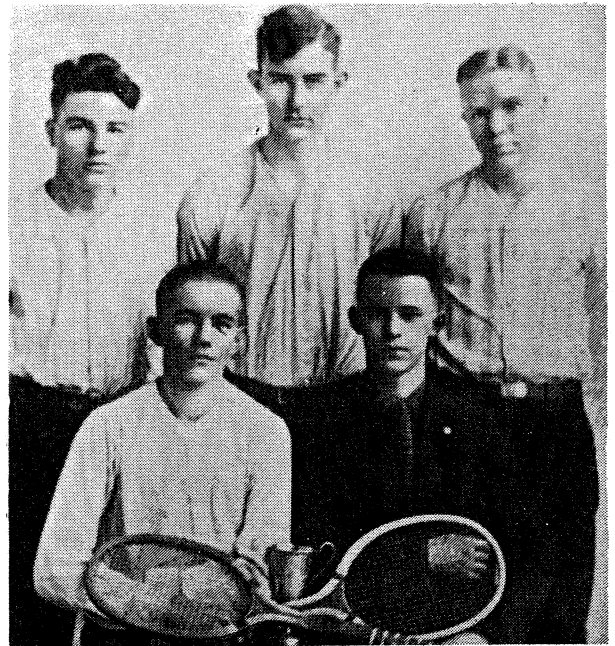
- 1) baseball
- 2) basketball
- 3) cross-country
- 4) football
- 5) golf
- 6) hockey
- 7) swimming
- 8) tennis
- 9) track
- 10) wrestling

Women:

- 1) badminton
- 2) swimming
- 3) tennis
- 4) track

1940
LIST OF TEAMS

- 1) baseball
- 2) basketball
- 3) boxing
- 4) football
- 5) golf
- 6) swimming
- 7) tennis
- 8) track
- 9) wrestling



1980
LIST OF TEAMS

- 1) baseball
- 2) basketball
- 3) cross-country
- 4) football
- 5) golf
- 6) hockey
- 7) skiing
- 8) swimming
- 9) tennis
- 10) track
- 11) wrestling

Women:

- 1) badminton
- 2) basketball
- 3) cross-country
- 4) golf
- 5) gymnastics
- 6) skiing
- 7) swimming
- 8) tennis
- 9) track
- 10) volleyball

HOCKEY: Memories of some great years

“Weak,” “lame,” “sorry;” these are just some of the remarks made toward recent Central hockey teams.

In years past when hockey was “the” winter sport, our hockey team was respectable, and respected at state tournament level.

Back-to-back seasons, Central represented Region 5 in the State Hockey tournament in '49 and '50. We failed to claim the State title, having an over-all 2-year record of only 1 win and 4 losses in the Tournament. But the real accomplishment was getting there. Two years in a row at that.

Central's hockey team started approximately in the 1900's, although no exact date could be found.

At this time our team played in a four-team conference...For many years hockey was an on-and-off sport, record-wise and season-wise because of World War I and II. It would be cut for ROTC programs. After an eight year absence of hockey, Central came back in '46 with a 4-3 record and three years later, Central was in the State Tournament.

In earlier years our team was called the “Pucksters.” Some hockey greats from Central were Leo Schatzlein ('29) and Ted Breckheimer ('27). Both were



Captain Leo Schatzlein, 1929

of the U.S.'s first homegrown professionals, and are on a huge plaque in the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame in Eveleth, Minnesota.

Dick Burg, three-year all-city player was named to the U.S. National team in '59. Former Central player and graduate Bob Johnson is presently coach of the U. of W. His team finished second in the NCAA tournament this year, and was named Coach of the Year. Many professional teams are after his coaching skills.

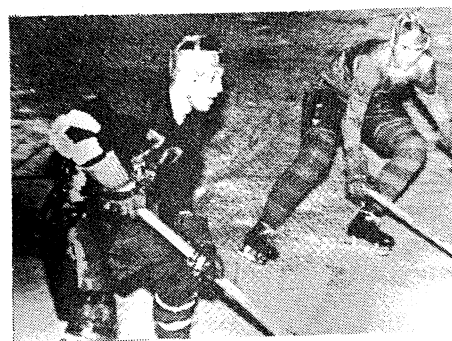
-Greg Gustafson



Coaches Markley and Bennet instruct new goalie Bob Johnson



1949 Central High Hockey team that went to state.



Dick Burg, All-City player, later on U.S. National team.



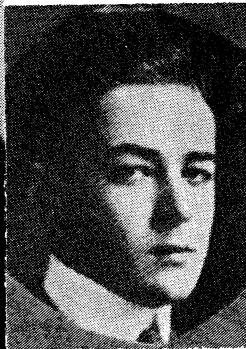
The Seal of Central High School represents the four main divisions of education. The two symbols in the lower left hand corner, the book and the lamp of wisdom, represent languages. The figure in the upper left hand corner is the symbol of science and industrial arts. In the upper right hand corner area are the artist's palatte and the harp representing art and music, below which is the glove, the symbol of history.

The People of Central High

Famous Alumni:

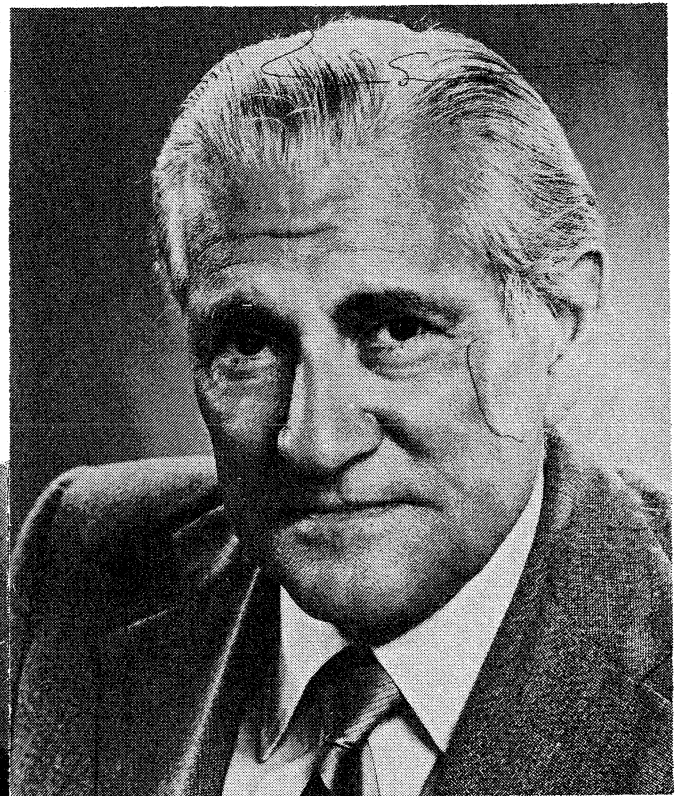


Cedric Adams - 1919 graduate. While at Central he joined the Hi-Y Club Class Play; *News Staff*. During his lifetime he was a newspaper columnist for the *Star* and the *Tribune*. His famous column, "In this Corner" ran for a number of years. He was a famous radio and television star for WCCO. He died at the age of 58.



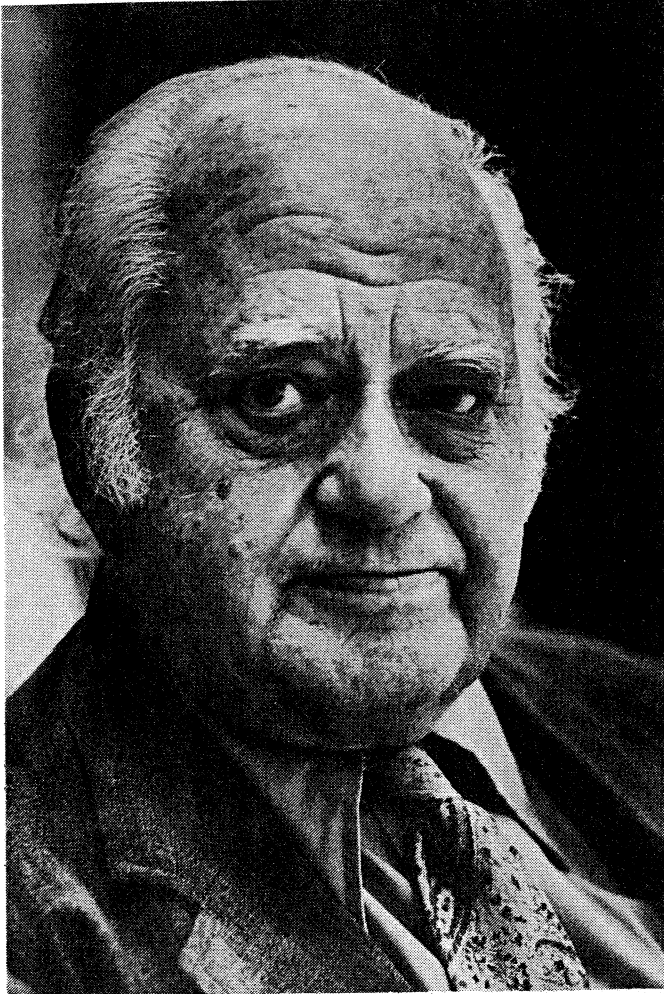
Cedric Adams graduated 1919

Eric Sevareid - 1930 graduate. While at Central he was on the *New* staff (Editor in Chief); *Quill and Scroll* (Pres.); student council (Pres.); footlights; Swimming 1930; Class Cabinet. In over 40 years as a newsman, Sevareid has been a war correspondent, radio news broadcaster, television commentator and columnist, as well as a newspaper reporter and editor for the *Paris Herald* and the *United Press*. He has been regularly involved in CBS News. In a letter to him concerning the closing of CHS, he said, "I'm glad you're trying to memorialize the students who went to Central."



Eric Sevareid-graduated 1930

The people up in lights



Halsey Hall - 1916 graduate. While at Central, he was on the *News* staff for three years as a reporter. He lettered in track (he was half miler) and managed the hockey team. After graduating, Halsey frequently visited Central at the assemblies. He was quoted as saying, "I was in the last freshman class at the old Central...and the first sophomore class in the new building." He wrote sports for several different Twin City Newspapers, including the *Tribune*, the *St. Paul Dispatch*, and the *Star*. As a radio and television figure he was a member of the Twins broadcasting team. Directly following his retirement, he was made "Ambassador of Baseball" by Twins' president Calvin Griffith. He died at the age of 79.



Halsey Hall
(photo courtesy the Minneapolis Tribune)



Orville Freeman - 1936 graduate. While at Central he was on the Honor Roll; National Honor Society; Football 1934, 35; Class Memorial Committee; "C" Club (sec'y, treas.); Mimes and Mummies. During his lifetime he was elected governor three times, starting in 1954 and was Secretary of Agriculture under presidents Kennedy and Johnson. He is currently president of a world-trade consulting firm in New York City.



Orville Freeman graduated 1936

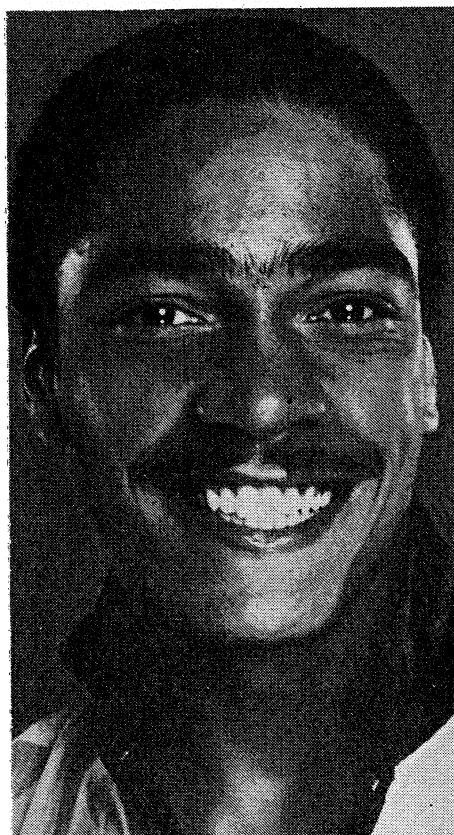


Eddie Albert graduated 1926

Eddie Albert/Eddie Heimberger: Actor. Graduated, 1926. Born in Rock Island, Illinois, he later moved to Minneapolis. He helped to support himself by working the 'graveyard shift' in a soda fountain. While attending Central he performed in many plays and theater productions. He is known for his roles in: "Brother Rat," "The Boys from Syracuse," and "Four Wives." He had many more roles in movies, and television, such as "The Honeymooners." Since 1945, he has had his own production company that makes 16mm educational films. Television, he says, is his favorite.

Lorraine Bunker Baeyen: Dancer. Graduated, 1929. She, while attending Central, was hard working in her dance, taking many classes. She was very diversive with buck and wing, tap, toe, arcobatic and soft shoe. She was in the Broadway Melody of 1929, a member of the New York City Rockettes, and late a member in Publix Theater Circuit.

Gary Lewis: Actor, Dancer. Graduated, 1974. Gary has spent nearly all his free time in the performing arts since he was thirteen years old. While attending Central he was in Urban Arts, and the Children's Theater Company studying; acting, pantomine, dance, karate, and voice. He has been in many plays at Children's Theater and was in the Broadway version of *The Wiz* touring to New York, Montreal, Cincinnati, etc. He currently is dancing on Broadway.

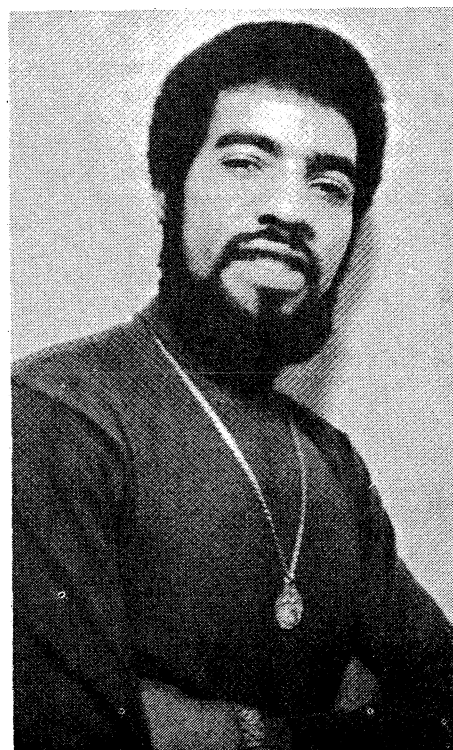


Garry Q. Lewis

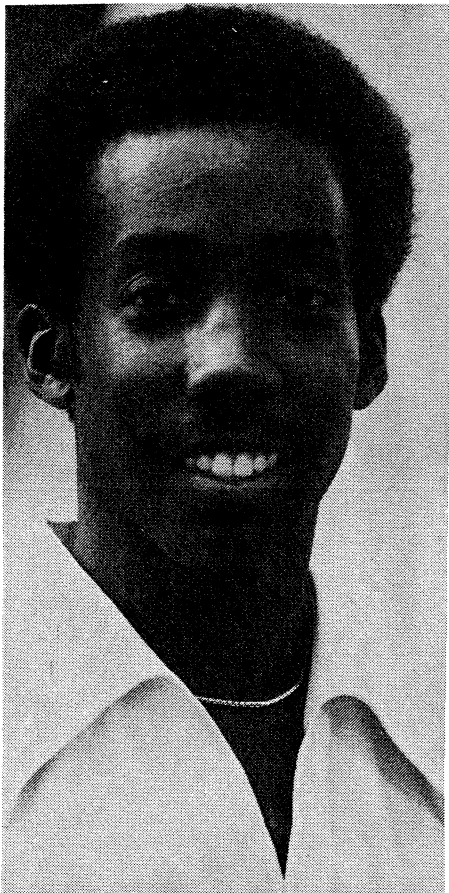
Noel Neill: Actress. Graduated, 1938. While attending Central Noel was very active in the school plays. She was a member of the National Honor Society, a varsity "C" member in Athletics, and assistant business manager in the newspaper. She was known as an 'all 'round girl.' She is best known for her role as "Lois Lane" in the Superman series.

Prince Nelson/Roger Nelson: Singer, Musician. Graduated, 1976. While attending Central he was very active in music, taking as many of these classes as possible. He was a member of the sophomore basketball team and he showed off his talent at the many talent shows. Prince didn't pay as much attention to his academic subjects because, he thought, he didn't need to because he was going to be a star. He was absolutely right. He has been called a musical genius with hits such as: "Soft and Wet," "I wanna be your Lover," "Dirty Mind," and "Controversy."

Bobby Lyle: Jazz Performer. Graduated, 1962. Bobby began his career with piano lessons from his mother Elise Lyle (who was once a teacher at Central) at age seven. While attending Central he was taking many music classes, including some at MacPhail music center. He was also active in the many talent shows at Central. Upon graduating he went to Macalaster College. In 1973 he won the National Yamaha organ contest in Japan. Currently he is a recording and performing artist.



Bobby Lyle-graduated 1962



Lewis Whitlock: Dancer, Actor, Choreographer. Graduated, 1967. Lewis started acting at age four. While attending Central he was active in drama and was in the school play, "The Rainmaker." While at Central he was taking classes at the Bloomington Civic Theater. He choreographed "West Side Story" at the Jewish Community Center, and at the Chanhassen directed "Tin Types" and choreographed, "Music Man." In Minneapolis he has been awarded by critics the 'Kudos' award for Choreography and Directing.



George Leach - 1894 graduate. While at Central he was on a committee of 12 boys who organized the "athletic committee." They chose red and blue as Central's school colors. He was a Republican mayor of Minneapolis 12 years — from 1921 to 1929 and again from 1937 to 1941. He died at the age of 79.

-Dan Lewis and Lisa Norman

Ann Sothern/Harriette Lake: Actress. Graduated, 1926. Born in North Dakota, she was very outstanding in high school, given many, many awards for original musical compositions. She was a member of the Central news staff, and was very active in the theater productions. Upon graduation she went to Hollywood, she joined MGM and later Columbia pictures. She is best known as "Maise" but has been seen in many other films such as "Cry Havoc." She also tried the Broadway scene with "America's Sweetheart" and "Everybody's Welcome."



Ann Sothern [Harriette Lake], graduated 1926