DUTCH DUTCH GOOSE





GO AHEAD — SCAN THIS.

This is definitely not the admission page.

We would never be that obvious.

Central College® 1853

central.edu/admission | admission@central.edu

Phone: 641-628-7616 Text: 641-416-4414

INFO

4 **ABOUT CENTRAL**
Just the highlights.

6 **PROFESSORS**
They're super cool and actually really approachable.

8 **ATHLETICS**
Do you even ball?

10 **PELLA**
We love our town.

12 **AFFORDABILITY**
Spoiler alert: Tuition is affordable. All admitted students get scholarships.

14 **MEET PIERRE BALDWIN '26**
A cool guy on campus.

16 **ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**
We probably have your major but it doesn't hurt to check.

18 **FOUR-YEAR GRADUATION**
It's the norm.

20 **CAMPUS LIFE**
Students have fun here.

22 **SUPERLATIVES**
Discover the best places to nap and yap.

24 **ACADEMICS**
You're gonna learn lots.

26 **FOOD**
We recommend the cookies.

28 **THE POND**
It's best to be wary of the geese.

30 **ALUMNI**
We have some very impressive alumni.

32 **ATHLETICS**
We have a lot of sports.



This paper is gluten free, cruelty free, vegan and 0 calories.

Central College of Pella, Iowa,

known for its academic rigor, en

formation, experiential learnin

engineering and math), athleti

experience is rooted in explora

enhanced by life in an academi

OLD!

Founded in 1853, the college pa

athletics and is a member of th

Central is an active part of the

just minutes from Lake Red Roc

think corn fields

is a private, four-year college

Basically, academics actually matter here.

ngaged citizenship and character

g, STEM (science, technology,

community

cs and service. The Central

tion and self-discovery and

small

c community of 1,100 students.

articipates in NCAA Division III

d3 in A-R-C

e American Rivers Conference.

near Des Moines

Greater Des Moines region and

ck, Iowa's largest lake.

Forget boring lectures. Meet **Shelley Bradfield:** professor, mentor, dirt bike legend.



At Central, you don't just take classes — you level up with professors who actually get you. Shelley, communication studies professor, doesn't just teach communications — she lives it. In her classes, you'll analyze social media trends, decode media messages and own your voice in any situation. Oh, and she shreds dirt bike trails on weekends.

Her mission? Ignite your potential. She'll push you past your comfort zone, challenge your assumptions and give you real-world skills for internships, grad school or launching your career.



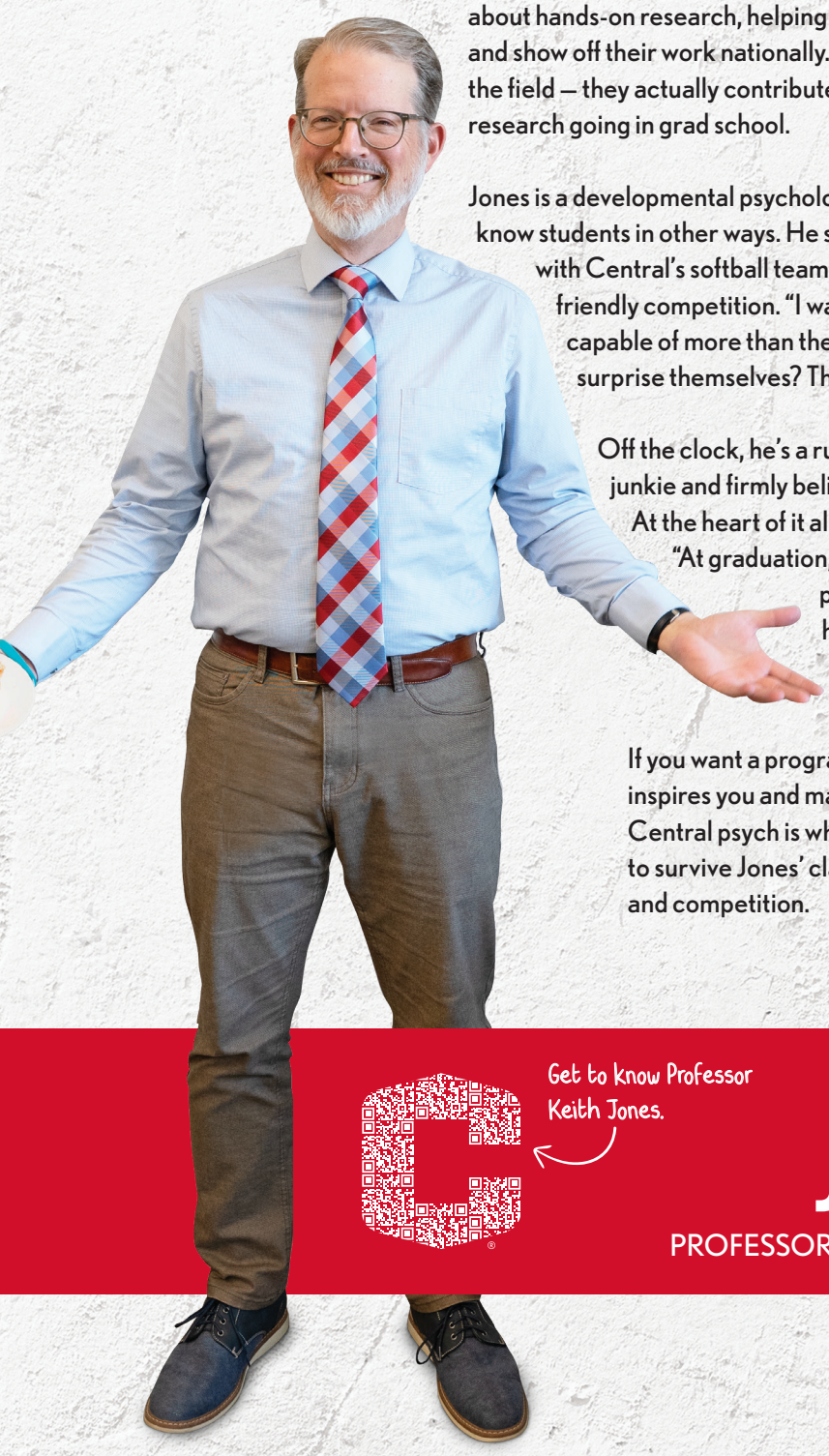
Want a professor who's as passionate about your future as they are about tearing up trails? Shelley's your guide. Central's your place.

SHELLEY BRADFIELD

PROFESSOR OF COMMUNICATION STUDIES

Meet Professor Shelley Bradfield.

Think psychology is just textbooks — or, like, reading minds? Think again. "At Central, we don't just learn psychology — we do it," says **Keith Jones,** a professor since 2006. He's all about hands-on research, helping students tackle big questions and show off their work nationally. "Our students don't just study the field — they actually contribute to it." Many even keep the research going in grad school.



Jones is a developmental psychologist who also loves getting to know students in other ways. He spent 12 seasons volunteering with Central's softball team, mixing mentorship with a little friendly competition. "I want students to realize they're capable of more than they think. Watching them surprise themselves? That's the best part," he says.

Off the clock, he's a runner, BBQ fiend, live-music junkie and firmly believes cake can be breakfast. At the heart of it all? His dedication to students. "At graduation, I think, 'Wow, parents, you're proud, but you have no idea how amazing your kid is. I got to see it daily for four years."

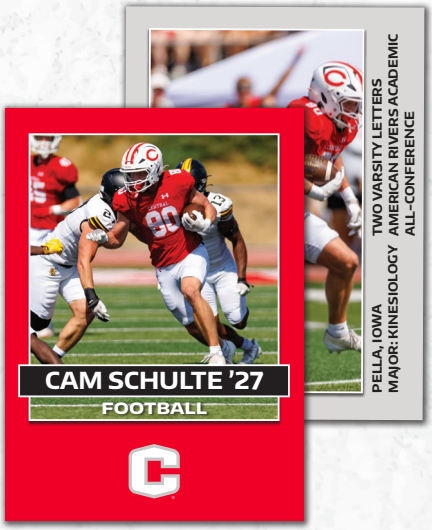
If you want a program that challenges you, inspires you and maybe makes you laugh, Central psych is where it's at. Just don't expect to survive Jones' classes without a little sarcasm and competition.

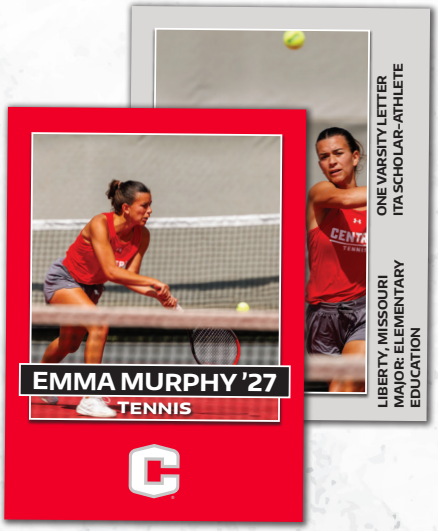
Get to know Professor Keith Jones.

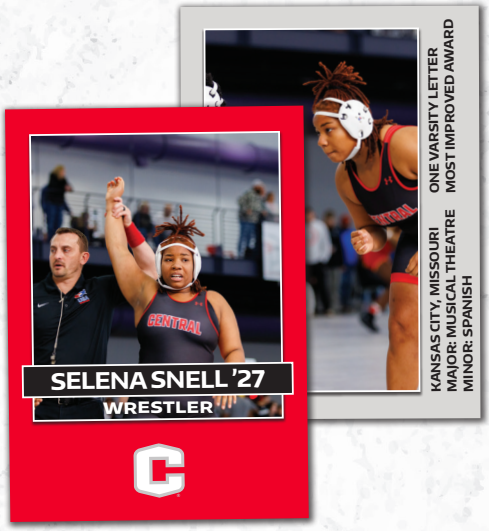
KEITH JONES

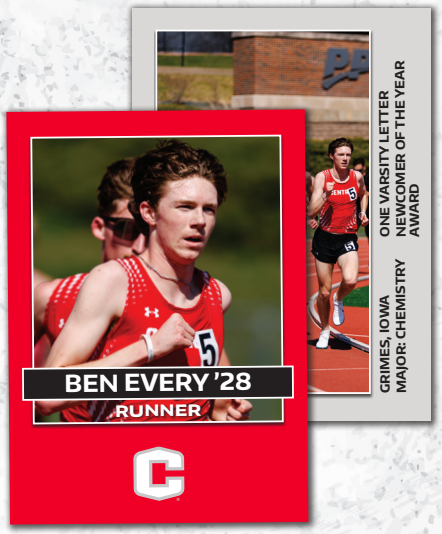
PROFESSOR OF PSYCHOLOGY

PLAYERS GONNA PLAY









- 500+ All-America Awards
- 190 Conference Team Championships
- 11 NCAA Division III Titles
- 80 CSC Academic All-America Awards
- 27 NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship Winners
- Spacious men's and women's varsity team locker rooms

BAUTISTA VALEIRAS '28
GOLFER
NAPLES, FLORIDA
MAJOR: PSYCHOLOGY
ONE VARSITY LETTER
CECE MOORE '27
FORWARD
WATERLOO, IOWA
MAJOR: ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
TWO VARSITY LETTERS
AMERICAN RIVERS ALL-CONFERENCE, HONORABLE MENTION
TEAH MILLER '27
RUNNER
IOWA FALLS, IOWA
MAJOR: BIOCHEMISTRY
ONE VARSITY LETTER
AMERICAN RIVERS ALL-CONFERENCE
GRANT FLETCHER '28
BACK DEFENDER
NORWALK, IOWA
MAJOR: EXPLORING
ONE VARSITY LETTER
LANDRY PACHA '27
SETTER
WELLMAN, IOWA
MAJOR: BUSINESS MANAGEMENT
TWO VARSITY LETTERS
AMERICAN RIVERS ACADEMIC ALL-CONFERENCE
RYLEE DUNKIN '27
CATCHER
HAMILTON, IOWA
MAJOR: ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
TWO VARSITY LETTERS
NFCA DIVISION III ALL-AMERICA, SECOND TEAM


MORE DUTCH THINGS.
THE POND. PEACEFUL. SERENE. FULL OF GEESE WHO ABSOLUTELY DO NOT RESPECT PERSONAL SPACE.
CENTRAL COLLEGE. BRING QUESTIONS. LEAVE WITH ANSWERS ... AND MORE QUESTIONS.
AND THERE.
YOU'RE JUST GOING TO HAVE TO EXPLORE FOR YOURSELF.
THERE ARE ALSO SO MANY SHOPS AND RESTAURANTS OVER HERE.
AND OVER HERE.
WELCOME TO
PELLA


WE CALL IT THE SQUARE BECAUSE IT'S A SQUARE. JUST WANTED TO PREPARE YOU FOR THAT.
CENTRAL'S BEER (21+)
CENTRAL'S COFFEE
CENTRAL'S CHOCOLATE
LOW KEY SWEET.
JAARSMA = DUTCH LETTERS
VANDER PLOEG = DONUTS
OK, THIS, BUT X 100,000.
WE'VE GOT REALLY BIG FANS IN PELLA.
A DUTCH GUY LIVED HERE AND EVERYTHING IN PELLA IS SUPER DUTCH NOW.
CENTRAL ALUMNI MAKE UP MORE THAN 10% OF PELLA'S POPULATION. SO, YEAH. WE LIKE IT HERE.
PELLA HAS EIGHT COFFEE SHOPS. IF YOU DON'T HAVE A CAFFEINE ADDICTION NOW, YOU WILL SOON.

Here's how Central keeps tuition simple. (Really.)

Many colleges pad their tuition so they can slash it later with big-looking awards. That's not transparency — that's theater. Central prices itself honestly from day one. Our tuition reflects the real value of our top-tier academics, not an inflated number designed to be negotiated down.

OTHER SCHOOLS

COMPLICATED PRICING

+

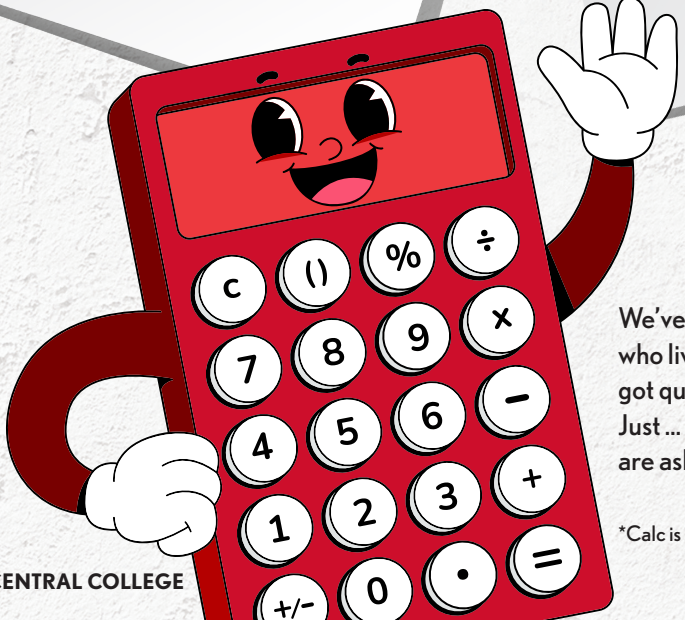
CONFUSING MATH

CENTRAL COLLEGE

AFFORDABLE TUITION FROM THE START

+

REAL SCHOLARSHIPS ON TOP



We've got an entire squad of math geniuses who live for scholarship numbers. If you've got questions, hit them up by email or phone. Just ... don't text after 9 p.m. Their calcs are asleep.*

*Calc is short for calculator btw.

CENTRAL VALUES TRANSPARENCY



WHAT YOU SEE IS WHAT YOU GET!

Scan to see the most up-to-date information on our tuition price.



Central College awards **EVERY NEW STUDENT** with a renewable, donor-funded scholarship. We call it the Journey Scholarship.

Every Journey Scholarship can be traced to real donors. That means the money is coming from actual people, like **Jason '10** and **Tayler Wessels Hassman '13.** Everyone say, **"Thank you, Jason and Tayler."**

Jason, Tayler and Family

"We seriously love Central."
– the Hassman family

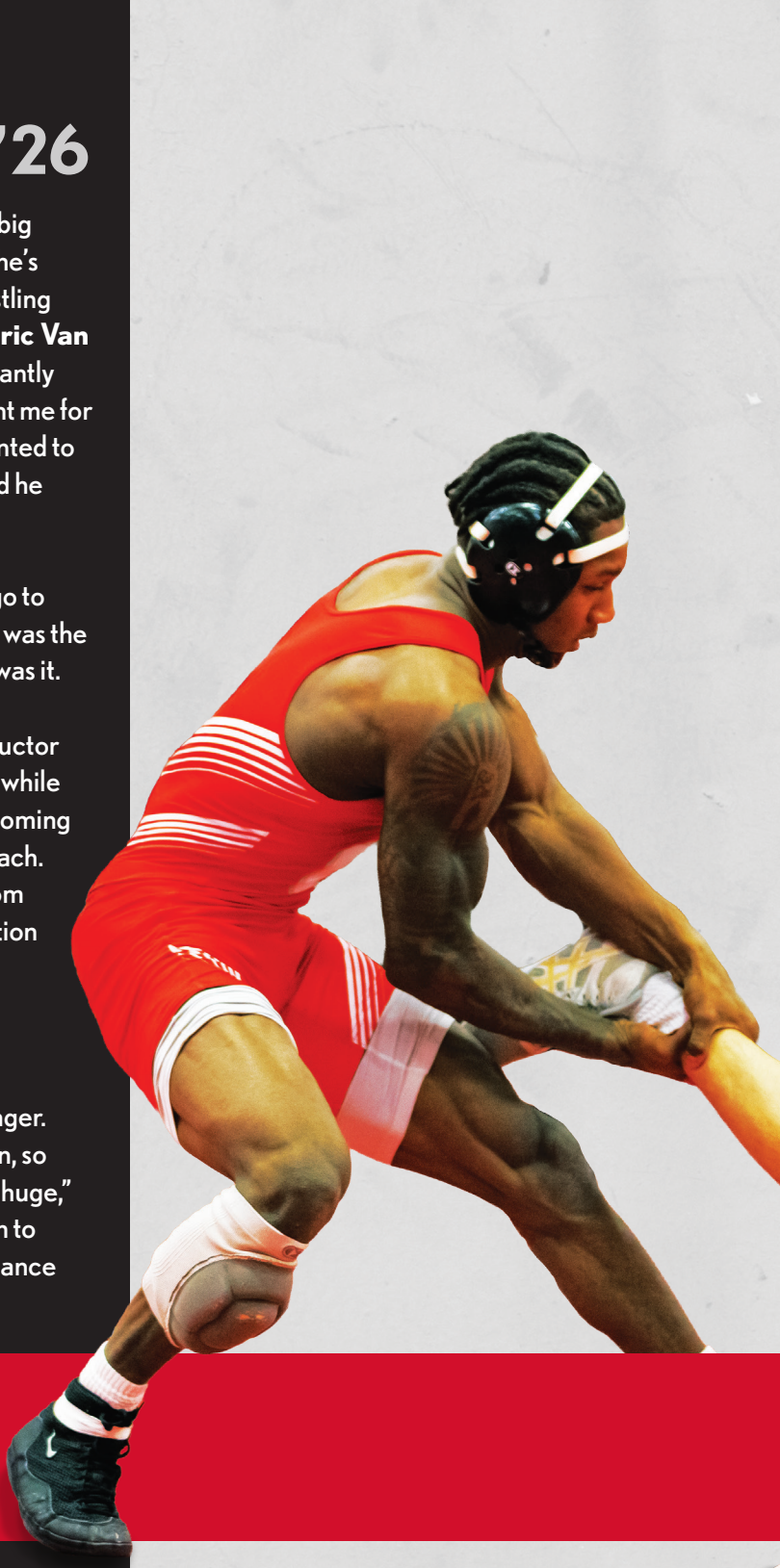
PIERRE BALDWIN '26

For **Pierre,** life's basically one big match — and Central is where he's leveling up. When former wrestling coach (now VP for Athletics) **Eric Van Kley** recruited him, Pierre instantly felt the vibe. "He didn't just want me for wrestling," Pierre says. "He wanted to help me grow as a person — and he still does."

Van Kley even drove to Chicago to meet Pierre and his mom. That was the moment Pierre knew Central was it.

Now Pierre's an RA, peer instructor and wrestling team captain, all while grinding toward his goal of becoming a strength and conditioning coach. Between coaching, weight-room practicum and his communication studies, he's stacking skills and building real connections with teammates and future clients.

And scholarships? Game-changer. "My mom raised me on her own, so having that financial support is huge," Pierre shares. "There's so much to learn here and every day's a chance to get better."



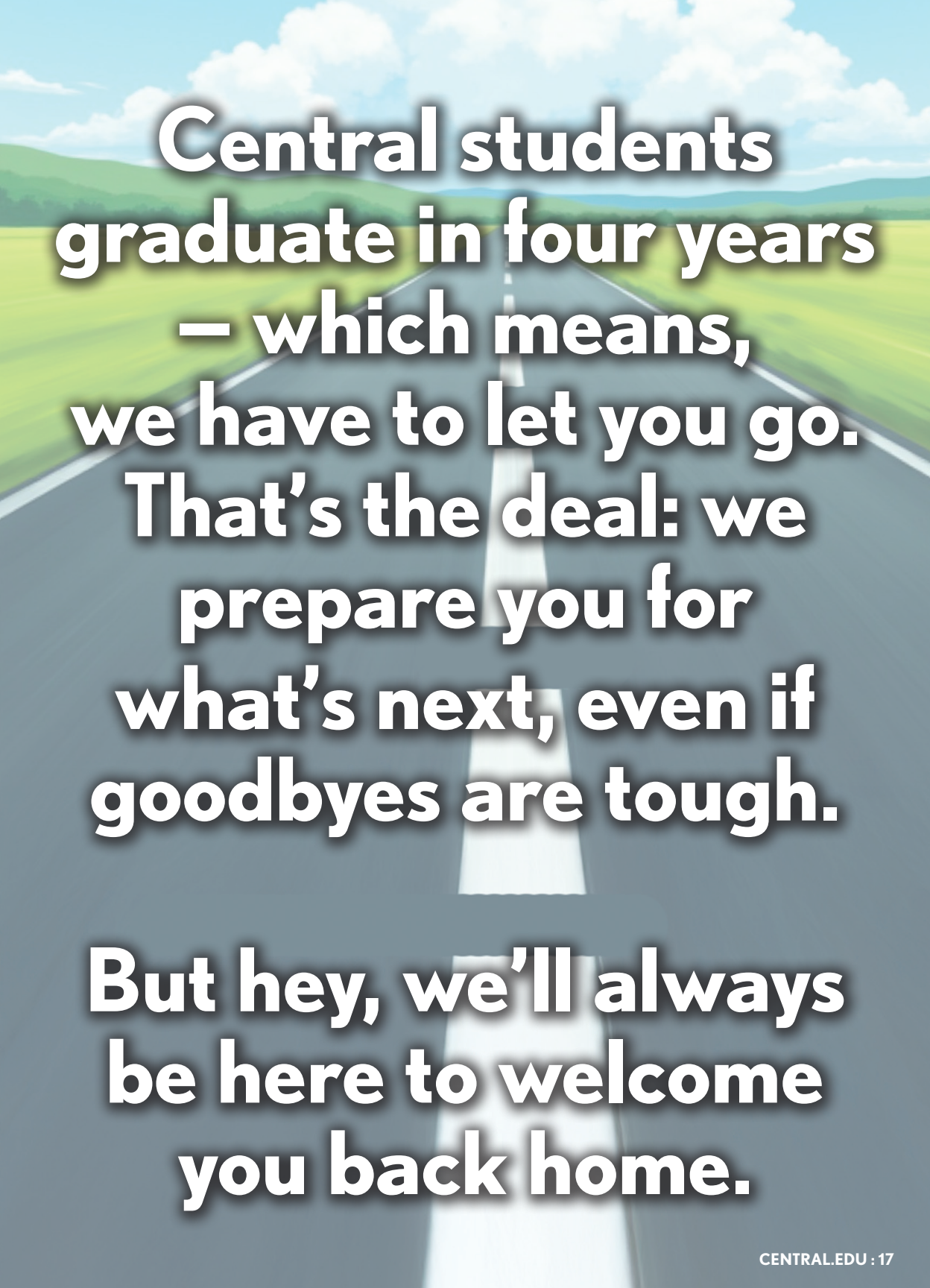
Central's prepping me for everything — staying organized, managing my time, getting ready for my career.

Hometown: Carol Stream, Illinois
Major: Strength and Conditioning
Minor: Communication Studies
Scholarships: Yes!!!
Career Goal: Strength and Conditioning Coach



See more of Pierre's story here.


FOREVER DUTCH®
FAM FOR LIFE
Central College® 1853


Central students graduate in four years — which means, we have to let you go. That's the deal: we prepare you for what's next, even if goodbyes are tough.
But hey, we'll always be here to welcome you back home.

MAJORS

ACCOUNTING
ACTUARIAL SCIENCE
BIOCHEMISTRY
BIOLOGY
BUSINESS MANAGEMENT
CHEMISTRY
COMMUNICATION STUDIES
COMPUTER SCIENCE
ECONOMICS
EDUCATION
ENGINEERING
ENGLISH
ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES
EXPLORING
INFORMATION SYSTEMS
KINESIOLOGY
MATHEMATICS
MULTIMEDIA DESIGN
MUSIC
MUSICAL THEATRE
NATURAL SCIENCE
PHILOSOPHY
PHYSICS
POLITICAL SCIENCE
PSYCHOLOGY
RELIGIOUS STUDIES

NOT SEEING YOUR MAJOR?

THAT'S THE POINT.

THE FULL LIST LIVES HERE.



WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO JOIN?*

ARTS

- ❑ A Cappella Choir
- ❑ Dutch Boom Drumline
- ❑ Flying Pans Steel Drum Band
- ❑ Symphonic Wind Ensemble
- ❑ Theatre

ATHLETICS (beyond the DIII sports)

- ❑ Pickleball Club
- ❑ Rugby Club
- ❑ Student-Athlete Advisory Council

FIND YOUR COMMUNITY

- ❑ The Black African American Student Union (TBAASU)
- ❑ Campus Ministries
- ❑ Central's Asian and Pacific Islander Club
- ❑ Common Ground (LGBTQ+)
- ❑ Organization of Latinx-American Students

LEADERSHIP

- ❑ Campus Activities Board
- ❑ Student Senate
- ❑ Student Orientation Staff Leader

MAJOR-BASED

- ❑ Chemistry Club
- ❑ Education Club
- ❑ Health Professionals Club
- ❑ Mock Trial Team
- ❑ Psychology Club

THE RANDOM ONES

- ❑ Beekeeping Club
- ❑ Bridge Club
- ❑ Board Games Club
- ❑ Climbing Club
- ❑ Students Concerned About the Environment (SCATE)
- ❑ Toothbrush Club

*We have way more clubs than this. Hit the Involvement Fair during Welcome Week. Bored? Couldn't be you.

"I don't want to do clubs my first year. I'm going to focus on academics." Don't be that guy.





"I accidentally joined 20 student organizations."
– Most Central students

"Ironically, I'll probably be most remembered for helping create Lemming Day when I was a Central sophomore. Apparently, I peaked at age 19."
– Larry Happel '81
Multiple Halls of Fame





"Breakfast of Champions is when professors come serve us a really good breakfast at night. It's a de-stressor before finals and I love it because I'm actually awake for breakfast."
– Trey Hull '26

"Headphone Disco is my favorite event! It's such a fun concept. Everyone is wearing headphones and listening to a different song, but you're all dancing and vibing together. It's awesome."
– Amber Santana '25





CLASSROOM:
IQ flex zone

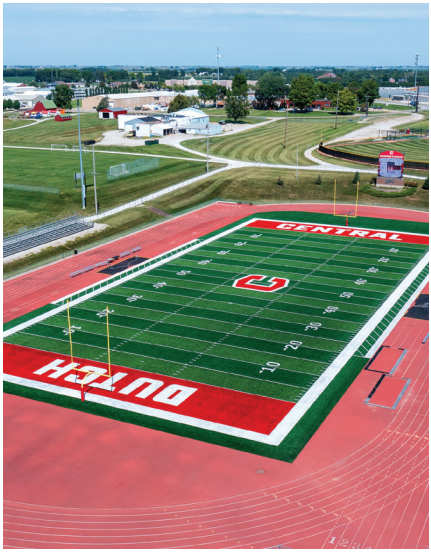


MAYTAG:
Best place to trauma dump

CAMPUS SUPERL



FOOTBALL FIELD:
Most likely to be famous



GOOSE:
Worst poops



CENTRAL MARKET:
It's pronounced "kweefs"



SCHOLTE HALL:
Best first-year friendships

ATIVES



GLASSBLOWING STUDIO:
Where heat meets art



KRUIDENIER CENTER:
Where all the drama happens

CENTRAL COLLEGE, EXPLAINED IN STATS

(WE DIDN'T MAKE THESE UP. OK, MAYBE ONE OR TWO.)

THE IMPORTANT NUMBERS. THE UNNECESSARY FACTS. ALL TRUE.

NEARLY
100%
STUDENTS EMPLOYED OR IN GRAD SCHOOL AFTER GRADUATION.
(Please don't be the exception.)

Yes, this is real.

0%
CHANCE YOUR PROFESSOR DOESN'T KNOW YOUR NAME.
(Seriously, we're so much better than a state school.)

100%
WEARING RED IS SHOWN TO INCREASE YOUR ODDS AT WINNING.
(Maybe, maybe not. But we do know you'll look good in it.)

— OUR ACADEMIC SUCCESS DEANS PROGRAM

Support every step of the way.
(Whether you want it or not.)



— RESEARCH WITH PROFESSORS

Presentations. Publications.
Actual discoveries.
Grab your safety goggles.

— INTERNSHIPS

So many connections, it's harder NOT to get one.

— DECLARING MAJORS

Sophomore year.
(Because odds are, you'll change it anyway.)

— OFF-CAMPUS STUDY

Flee the country – or don't. Off-campus experiences take you to Washington D.C., Costa Rica and beyond.

— SERVICE LEARNING

Get your hands dirty with service learning. Make a mess. Make a difference.

— FREE TUTORING

First test didn't go as planned? We've got you.

— TUITION, MEET TINY

The best private college education in Iowa ... without selling a kidney.



FUN FACTS

+ Geese can remember faces.
+ Bananas are technically radioactive.
+ Lions' roars can be heard 5 miles away.



VOTED BEST FRESH COOKIES*

THIS IS OUR MASCOT,
BIG RED.

*Only on Tuesdays

WELCOME TO ADULTHOOD.

We don't judge how you fill your plate and we won't stop you from eating only dessert for dinner.







Hungry? We've got you covered. Dig into a full buffet at Central Market, grab convenience foods or frozen favorites at Fred's or swing by the Global Café for a latté, quick breakfast, salads and sammies on the go.







There's always plenty of ranch, too.
(It's an Iowa thing — trust us.)

Don't stress if you have dietary restrictions. Our dining staff members are amazing at providing a variety of food options. If you need to request specific accommodations for your situation, you can do that too.

YOUR FOUR YEARS HERE WILL BE ONE BIG POOL PARTY.



Respect the geese.

Make a splash during the Lemming Race each Homecoming.

With the spring comes Final Fling — so grab your paddles and race across the pond!

Grab your ice skates in the winter! Just make sure to actually check the ice first. You do not want to fall through.





HEY, LOOK, MOM – I MADE IT!



Curiosity met opportunity — and Central took it from there. Now our grads are everywhere that matters. These shelves don't hold trophies. **They hold proof.**



WINNERS GONNA WIN



MICKEY MARTENS '27
GOLFER

VILLA PARK, ILLINOIS
MAJORS: BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

ONE VARSITY LETTER



DONOVAN KLISH '28
TENNIS

LIBERTY, MISSOURI
MAJORS: POLITICAL SCIENCE AND SOCIOLOGY

ONE VARSITY LETTER
ITA SCHOLAR-ATHLETE



AVA PARKINS '27
RUNNER

MONMOUTH, ILLINOIS
MAJORS: ENGINEERING AND PHYSICS

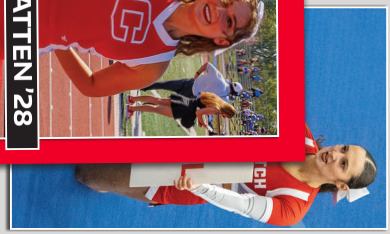
ONE VARSITY LETTER
AMERICAN RIVERS ALL-CONFERENCE



GARRETT GUENTHER '27
PITCHER

VOLO, ILLINOIS
MAJOR: KINESIOLOGY

ONE VARSITY LETTER
AMERICAN RIVERS ALL-CONFERENCE SECOND TEAM



EMILY PATTEN '28
CHEER

MOUNT VERNON, IOWA
MAJOR: KINESIOLOGY

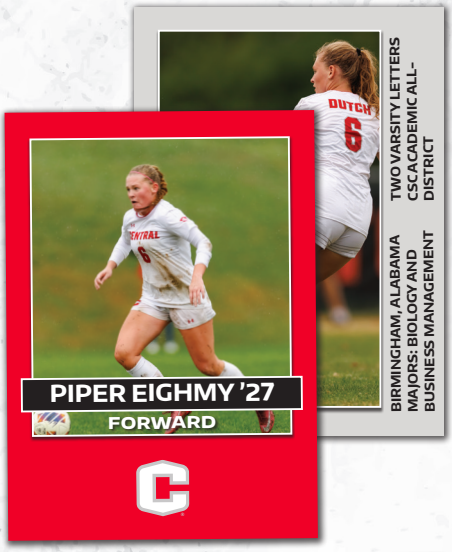
1X SPIRIT RALLY CONFERENCE CHAMPION

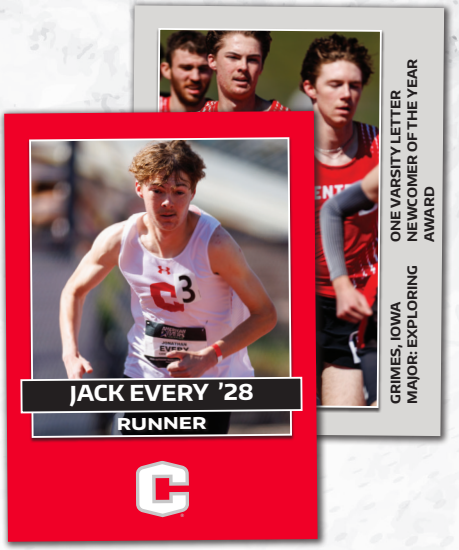


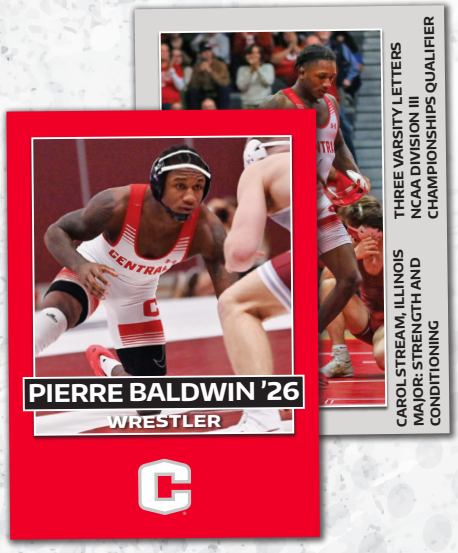
OWEN SCHIPPER '28
FORWARD

WAUKEE, IOWA
MAJOR: BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

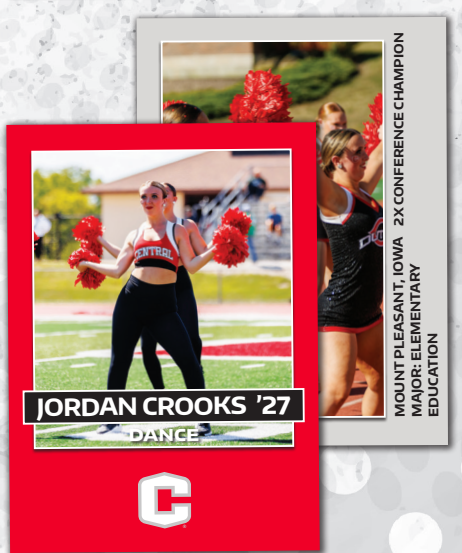
ONE VARSITY LETTER
AMERICAN RIVERS ALL-CONFERENCE, SECOND TEAM











+ **Enhanced athletic training room**
+ **Expansive wrestling center**
+ **Central is one of just two NCAA Division III colleges in Iowa and fewer than 40 nationwide with a triathlon program**
+ **Former Central College president authored Division III philosophy**

MORE SPORTS INFO HERE.

~~What do you want to be when you grow up?~~ You don't have to have it all figured out.

Try something new here and see what sticks. We promise it'll surprise you.

These words below? They're part of the process.

HARD LAUNCH EDITION WORD SEARCH

GO DUTCH
GO BIG RED
RED PRIDE
PELLA
IOWA
DUTCH
DUTCH DUTCH
GOOSE
FRESH COOKIE
TUESDAY
SCHOLARSHIPS
AFFORDABILITY
RESEARCH
PROFESSORS
ATHLETICS
CAMPUS
MAJORS
GRADUATE
STUDY ABROAD
FRIENDS
WELCOME WEEK
THE POND
GEESE
LION
KNOW YOUR NAME
CENTRAL ERA

K T A P I X S N Y R W S W T V K S L H P
R H P M O I T X N J T L I V C A M P U S
E E F S W X U R C O U I C P G K D P P U
D P R P A K D W E L C O M E W E E K B O
P O I E J V Y R V D K N F H O A A S K Q
R N E L P M A J O R S E R E S E A R C H
I D N L B P B A F F O R D A B I L I T Y
D Q D A F B R D W R C O K N Q B V S D G
E V S V K N O W Y O U R N A M E E C E O
Z S D M E L A J C E N T R A L E R A O D
D O P K E A D O A T H L E T I C S J V U
W F R E S H C O O K I E T U E S D A Y T
P R O F E S S O R S M M H L S S I D S C
U C T Y S X P B N D X Z V J A D R V E H
N E R S C H O L A R S H I P S G E E S E
G R A D U A T E X D T S J H E Q M S Y Y
P H Z J T S Z B Z U P G Q I S R M O Y V
H W F P O E U K H V Y D U T C H A O R D
M Q Z C E J G O B I G R E D V P X A S U
J V G T E D U T C H D U T C H G O O S E

You didn't just find the words. You found your people.

Circle answers in red pen only (obviously).



FAQs

WHAT IS YOUR MASCOT?

Big Red is a lion. We know he's gray. Apparently, that's confusing to some people. Do not call him a wolf in front of us.

WHO IS HARRY SMITH?

Google is free. (Yes. That Harry Smith.)

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO APPLY?

Zero dollars.

WHAT IF I DON'T KNOW WHAT I WANT TO MAJOR IN?

Figuring out your future is literally what college is for. Besides, we don't have students declare their major until sophomore year.

IS IT HARD TO MAKE FRIENDS HERE?

There's something about living next door to people who are your age, share your interests and also don't know anyone else that makes meeting people super easy.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO ATTEND?

You can visit **central.edu/tuition** to see the most up-to-date tuition information. We also guarantee scholarships and have the best director of financial aid who can help you figure out your specific situation.

I HAVE A QUESTION BUT I DON'T LIKE CALLING PEOPLE.

Send us a text at **641-414-4414** and we'll make sure it gets to the right folks.

I'M A FAMILY MEMBER AND I WANT MY CHILD TO SUCCEED. WHY SHOULD WE CHOOSE CENTRAL?

We have a track record of success. Students graduate within four years and find great jobs. We're affordable. If you want more details, you'll have to read beyond this page.

Central College®
1853



central.edu | P: 641-628-7616 | T: 641-416-4414