

# The CHRONICLE

Des Moines Area Community College

FEBRUARY 28, 1992



**\$10,000 & VCRs  
For Every American**  
See page 5

**'Freedom Fighter' from Nepal  
Persian Gulf Memoirs**  
See page 8

**Where's the Rock?  
Crue Cuts & Changes**  
See page 9



# Our Two Cents



## Celebrate Germany



To buy a shirt on the Ankeny Campus, see Gordon Rowe, Building 6, Room 30, ext. 6266. Shirts will be sold until current supply runs out. Contact Dan Hilgers at Urban Campus (248-7219) for information on clothing purchases.

short-sleeved T-shirts — \$7  
long-sleeved T-shirts — \$9  
sweatshirts up to XL for \$12  
XXL for \$13  
oversized sweatshirts \$19  
nightshirt \$12

## Orville Redenbacher's Second Start Scholarship

Orville Redenbacher (of popcorn fame) has established a Second Start Scholarship program for the 1992-93 school year. To be eligible for this scholarship, students must meet the following criteria: 30 years or older at time of application, enrolled or planning to enroll in a degree program, attending an accredited college or university as a full-time or part-time student.

Applications are available in the Financial Aid office, Building 1. All applications must be postmarked by May 1, 1992.

## Equipment on Loan to Students



Number Available	Item	Department/Location
3	4-track Tape Recorders (fast-talkers)	Academic Achievement Building 6-14
2	Book Carts	Academic Achievement
2 sets	Crutches	Nurse's Office Building 6-19
	Wheelchairs	Nurse's Office
5	Automatic Door Openers	Nurse's Office
1	Lumbar Support Chair	Machine Drafting Classm. Bldg. 4-14
2	Portable/Adjustable Tables	

The Des Moines Chapter Iowa Council of the United Blind is pleased to announce availability of one \$750 special needs scholarship grant for the 1992-93 school year. The program is open to any post-secondary, full-time blind Iowa student who expects to be involved in a training program during the 1992-93 school year -- including college, trade or mechanical schooling. The completed application should be submitted no later than April 15, 1992. Applications are available in the Financial Aid office.

The Student Action Board has been pretty busy lately.

On Friday, Jan. 31, from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m., there was a panel discussion in Building 7 with members of DMACC's administration and students from all four campuses concerning issues related to the school. There was a dinner for those who attended, after which Des Moines businessman Bill Reichardt spoke.



On Wednesday, Feb. 12, three alumni and 17 students attended a legislative seminar held at the Des Moines Holiday Inn South. Doug Gross, a member of Gov. Branstad's Educational Task Force, was the featured speaker. Gross covered topics concerning community colleges such as budget cutbacks and how they will affect schools.

Tuesday, Feb. 18, Mary Lonsdale took four SAB students to Dallas, Texas for a National Association of Campus Activities convention. One of their activities was to search for entertainment acts to line up to perform here next year.

The SAB-sponsored dance on Feb. 10 was a huge success, with over 500 people attending. There will be another dance on Friday, March 13, at The Distillery, featuring Reggae artist John Bayley. Keep your eyes open for more details.

Coming up on Wednesday, March 11, at 11:30 a.m. in the Building 6 Auditorium, is Suzi Landolfi. She calls her program "Hot, Sexy, and Safer" and it is about the importance of safe sex and the dangers of AIDS.

## Sixth Annual Summer Writing Festival at University of Iowa Literary Sojourn in Writers' Country

by Bryon Preminger  
Staff Writer

This summer writers from all over the world will gather in Iowa City for the Sixth Annual Iowa Summer Writing Festival at the University of Iowa which runs from June 7 through June 24 with most classes scheduled as week-long or weekend workshops.

The Writing Festival offers 75 workshops including poetry, short fiction, free-lance writing, children's literature, play writing, and the art of novel writing among many others. To participate you must be 21 years of age or older. It is not necessary to have writing or college experience to attend and there are no prerequisites.

A one-week course costs \$265 and the course is non-credited, though the experience is invaluable for the beginning writer. There is a \$90 deposit for each week-long course and this fee is due with your registration. Selection for classes will begin March 5. They will be made by lottery selection to give early registrants equal opportunity to attend the courses of their choosing. After March 5, it is advised that you contact the University of Iowa for class availability at (319) 335-2534.

A typical week commences on Sunday night where a deli supper is served followed by orientation and the important first class meeting. The following day begins at 7 a.m. in the River Room of the Iowa Memorial Union Hall with a breakfast and lasts until 11 a.m. They recommend this time for writing, researching, reading, responding and conferring with other writers. At eleven a.m. the "Elevenes" Literary Hour begins -- it includes special presentations, lectures, discussion panels of interest to all writers. Every day a new and different presentation is given. During the afternoon, individual classes will be held in workshop sessions.

A wide range of lodging is provided on and off campus. A list of area hotels is available on request.

### By-line Correction

The story about plans to build a Casey's General Store on campus that ran on page 3 in the Feb. 10 issue of The Chronicle, should have been credited to both Suriaya Rahaman and Daniel Adams. I would like to thank Suriaya for her assistance in reporting the story and apologize for the oversight.

-- the Editor

## THE CHRONICLE

The Chronicle is a monthly lab publication at Des Moines Area Community College. The views expressed in editorials and articles are those of individual staff writers, students, or faculty and are not necessarily representative of The Chronicle staff, faculty, or student body.

Please direct comments, concerns, or questions to:

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### About the Cover:

photo by Phillip Morgan

The garage of the automotive programs in Building 13. From tearing down engines and transmissions to changing break pads and fixing air conditioners, students of DMACC's automotive and diesel programs learn by doing and get a lot of practice in "doing." There are over 200 students enrolled in either the diesel or one of the automotive programs.

See pages 6 and 7 for a feature of these two programs.

February 28, 1992

Volume 16, Number 2

**DMACC** DES MOINES  
AREA  
COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE



## DMACC Program Offers Careers in Thriving Iowa Industry

There are 120 independently owned telephone companies in Iowa, more than any other state in the nation. Iowa is also the first state to network its telephone companies to a central switching location for connection to national carriers like AT&T, MCI, Sprint, and others.

With the state on the cutting edge of telecommunications technology it is important to offer good educational programs to train people in the installation, maintenance, and operation of telecommunications equipment and systems.

DMACC's two-year Telecommunications Technology program offers its students good training and the potential for solid career opportunities.

The program starts by teaching the fundamentals, such as how to connect a basic switch -- just as your local phone company does it. But by the end of the program, students work with fiber optic cable and other high-tech equipment.

Gordon Hotchkiss, who heads the program, stresses the importance of telecommunications networks as "superhighways" for information. "Telecommunications is the driving force of the information age," he says. "We could have no business or government transactions without it."

Hotchkiss says that the program, which currently has eight students enrolled, is not too demanding but to work in the field requires good hand-eye coordination, color vision, and the ability to comprehend technical materials and diagrams. Prospective students should also be able to work well with limited supervision.

Employment opportunities vary from technician to managerial positions. Hotchkiss says he knows of one graduate of the program being considered for a \$38,000 per year position. Typical hourly rates for entry level positions range from \$7.50 to \$9.75. The telecommunications field has both indoor and outdoor jobs.

## Telecommunications Enters New Age

by Dave Long  
Graduate of DMACC Telecommunications Program

For 116 years, telecommunications has remained basically the same. Copper wire has linked one generation of telephone service to the next.

But the changes that are taking place in telecommunications today could barely have existed in Alexander Graham Bell's imagination.

We are entering the information age and the telephone has taken on a new role.

We now share our phone lines with computers that "talk" to each other in digital code. And it's the same technology that has given us these machines that now transforms the way we communicate.

Push a few buttons on a pad or spin a dial and your voice is routed to the party you called -- that much is still the same. But the copper wires and the electric circuits and signals that once carried our voice across the miles are being replaced by strands of glass and pulses of laser light that instantly reproduce our voice rather than carry it.

Just as the digital perfection of the compact disc has rendered the turntable a technological dinosaur, so has fiber optics treated the copper wire. The increased speed, efficiency, clarity, and capacity of optical cable makes it a better medium for voice and data transfer than copper.

What the interstate highway system did for transportation, fiber optic networks have done for telecommunications. Like a mass transit system for information, huge quantities of data and literally thousands of conversations can be transmitted simultaneously over these

"highways" of light -- a quantum leap over the best performance of copper.

The gigabit -- 100 billion bits of data -- is the unit of measure for data transmission over optical cable. With such a capacity, the entire content of the DMACC library could be sent in perhaps 20 minutes.

The implementation of this technology is just in time. Data sent in binary streams may soon rival voice transmission as the dominant traveler of telecommunication lines and as networks expand across the world, the greater capacity of optical cable will be essential.

For the individual, fiber optics hold a future of in home convenience, a virtual pipeline of information straight to your personal computer. Home banking, video teleconferencing, and cable and pay TV are all areas that will someday benefit from the use of optical cable.



Gordon Hotchkiss displaying fiber optic cable.

## Fashion Merchandising Program Sells Jewelry to Meet Budget

by Pete Hunter  
Staff Writer

Budget cuts. These two words have been commonly heard at DMACC since the beginning of 1991. Reduced budgets are the result of state funding cuts and they have adversely affected many organizations and programs on campus.

Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) is one of those affected organizations, and Fashion Merchandising, who receives its funding from DECA is one of those affected programs.

"The DMACC division of DECA has lost 3 percent of its funds from the state this year which caused them to lose some valuable staff members," says Jim Athen, an Iowa Department of Education counselor.

For its part, the Fashion Merchandising program is trying to deal with its financial problem by utilizing the very skills taught to its students: merchandising.

The Fashion Merchandising Club will sponsor Richard Bell from Desert Products, a jewelry company out of Rock Island, Ill., to sell native American and other various styles of jewelry from March 16 - 20 in Building 5.

The club hopes that sales such as this will generate enough money to make the DECA program self-reliant and eliminate worries over state cutbacks.

Fashion Merchandising has been able to operate this year due to the sponsorship of Lady Footlocker, a women's sport shoe chain. The chain was pleased with employees who had graduated the program and wanted to see it remain in operation.

Desert Products has a direct sales line of jewelry in various styles that are 100 percent authentic and finely-crafted. The average price for the jewelry is \$10-\$20 and checks will be accepted.

### STYLES INCLUDE:

Native American  
Peruvian  
Brazilian  
14 karat gold chains  
Italian sterling silver  
Crystals

Richard Bell, from Desert Products, will be at DMACC March 16 - 20 in Building 5. His hours will be 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri., and 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. on Wed.

## Former Patient Speaks About Life in Mental Institutions

by Brad Dagger  
DMACC News Editor

At 9 months of age, Don Loumis was taken from his mother along with his three brothers. He spent the next 31 years in mental homes and institutions. Although Loumis was released from the system in 1972, one of his brothers still lives in a home in Sioux City and another is in one in Omaha. The third brother shares a house with Loumis and his wife, who have lived in Des Moines since 1980.

Loumis spoke to DMACC psychology instructor Bob Emley's abnormal psychology class on Feb. 7 about his experience with mental institutions. He has also spoken to classes at Drake University.

Emley has worked as a volunteer for a Salvation Army breakfast program in Des Moines for about a year and met Loumis through the program.

The lengthy institutionalization of his brothers and himself, says Loumis, is not atypical. He has a 63-year-old friend who has been living in institutions since he was 7.

### Forms of Mistreatment

During his class presentations, Loumis describes the conditions of some of the facilities he has been in. He says he has witnessed staff members mistreating patients by "throwing them around," or "beating" them.

In one instance, says Loumis, a 12-year-old girl was shoved under scalding water for punishment.

In another, a patient died when a staff member tried to force feed him. That staff member was convicted for the death and is currently serving a prison sentence, says Loumis.

Loumis believes that mistreatment is sometimes disguised as medical treatment. He points out that patients are often forced to take several medications at once and says shock treatment is still used in some institutions, although not as often as in the past.

"Society is blind to what goes on in the homes and institutions," he says.

One of the many institutions in which Loumis has been interred is Anamosa State Prison, where he spent 6 1/2 months in the Critical Insane Ward.

"That was a scary time," he says. "You didn't know if you'd live to see the next day."

Loumis met his wife, while they were both at Woodward State Hospital-School. He was 20 and she was 15.

She was required to be sterilized in order to be released from the hospital. She was told that her mother had given the state permission to do that, says Loumis. "They were lying to her."

After she was released, Loumis says his wife was raped in Des Moines and sent back to Woodward, "as if it were her fault."

### MENTAL INSTITUTION —

continued to page 11



# VIEWPOINTS

**G**reetings from Aunt Edna -- world-renowned socialite and one snappy advice columnist.

I am so pleased to finally be here at DMACC and to have the chance to help those of you who really need it.

I find some of my stories by roving the halls, classrooms, and the infamous Bldg. 5 and listening -- always listening -- to complaints and gossip. You don't know me, but I know you and you never know when I will turn up. I could be the person who is sitting behind you in your history class, or I could be the person who serves you in Bldg. 7.

I'm looking forward to hearing from you and helping you deal with your problems. Drop your letters in the suggestion box at the south entrance to Bldg. 5 (by the bookstore) or send them to me in care of *The Chronicle*, Bldg. 3, room 15.

Dear Aunt Edna:

I suggest the people who are associated with the gym and weight room, reword/remove the snotty message about ID Cards being required.

I see their point and I understand the message, however, I don't think we need to be treated as if they're doing us a big favor to let us use the facilities our fees pay for (as their message implies.) They wouldn't dream of posting such a sign at a facility with a more obvious fee arrangement -- it would be bad business.

Unsigned

Aunt Edna says:

I decided to do some investigating of the matter and you're right -- it should be reworded. Thank you for bringing this to my attention.

I went to the gym and copied the sign in question. Here it is for other readers to see:

*As a student, staff or alumni of DMACC, you are required to have a current DMACC I.D. to use this facility and its equipment. You should be prepared to produce that I.D. when asked.*

*If you are not comfortable with this policy, we suggest you exercise somewhere else.*



*Ask Aunt Edna*

Boy, talk about pent up anger. I get the point in the first paragraph.

However, there is no need for the second. Whatever happened to the sign that read: "All students must show current I.D. to use this facility?" What point is being made by having a sign that is -- you're right -- so "snotty?"

I realize that your activity fees pay for the use of the facilities. However, there are individuals who use the facilities without an I.D. This makes the college liable for any accidents that may occur. The gym personnel are protecting themselves and the college.

Unfortunately, the rules that prevent unauthorized people from using the gym do make it difficult for the rest of the students. The end result is signs like this.

*Toodles -- Aunt Edna*

**I** was over in the bookstore in January buying my books for this term (looking to get fleeced along with the other sheep) when I noticed oodles and oodles of overpriced, used ethics books -- about the only used books in the store. That stands to reason; an ethics book isn't something I'd want to keep either. Of course, I'm interested in politics, so ethics is one of the furthest things from my mind.

It's not much on the minds of the bookstore personnel either -- as I discovered when I laid my stuff on the counter and two burly clerks threw me to the ground, emptied my pockets, and held me down as another one approached with a pair of pliers. "Open his mouth," he said. "I'll get the gold in his teeth." I left the store naked, bleeding, bruised, and broke -- but I had my 50 pounds of books.

I have a suggestion for the Iowa Republican party. How about a picture book for young Republicans called "Where's Terry?" based on the popular "Where's Waldo?" format -- with no big words and no critical thinking skills required.

"Readers" would attempt to find the elusive governor, who when last seen was muttering incoherently while cutting ribbons and necessary social programs at the same time.

Try to spot Terry over Russia; or at a convention of Des Moines insurance executives, where everyone wears the same elegant dark suits and striped ties.

With racism rearing its ugly head in our state and outside agitators roaming the hills of old Dubuque, there are a couple of good books on the civil rights movement available for those few people who still read: *A Testament of Hope -- The Essential Writings of Martin Luther King*, edited by

**Ron Jones**

The  
*Chronic*  
Curmudgeon

James Melvin Washington (Harper & Row, 1986) and *Parting the Waters -- America in the King Years, 1954-63*, by Taylor Branch (Simon and Schuster, 1988). These two books are a great way for seedy, "flatline," *emp-T-Vee* junkies to break their filthy video addiction.

Readings by amateur poets are being held monthly at Border's Book Shop in West Des Moines. Stop in or call them to get this month's schedule and ask them to put you on their newsletter mailing list.

On the subject of poetry, an old friend -- an aging hippie -- recently sent me his latest feeble attempt at verse. Though not worth reprinting, it will serve to fill some space:

*The Old Guy Rap*

*Your brains are made of day-old mush  
Your belly's gone to pot  
Your socks will stand up by themselves  
Other things, alas, will not.  
Middle age? Right on!*

*Your eyesight's on a downhill slide  
Your backside blocks the sun  
Your children drive you crazy  
New Age women make you run.  
Middle age? Right on!*

**Life in the Hood, Too**

by Mary Murrane  
Staff Writer

**T**he following is a response to a letter from Dwight Saunders, an Urban campus student, published in the February 10 issue of *The Chronicle*.

I am not from the hood, but by your definition some of my friends are.

I drive down 6th Ave. too -- daily, in fact. I also went to Urban campus last semester and felt the sense of community was overwhelming.

In your letter you implied that men living "in the hood" dress to "conceal" while the women dress to reveal. Yes, I saw men in their "Raiders jackets," but it's funny how those I saw were whites. And when you go to the bars don't you see how those girls dress?

As far as cars go -- be for real dude. As though whites don't have their "pride and joy," music machines.

HOOD — continued to page 5

## .....Post-Valentine's Wake-Up-and-Smell-the-Commitment Blues.....

**M**y father is in love. I became aware of this during a recent telephone conversation with him. Talking with my dad isn't exactly something I do at the drop of a hat, but with all the moving I've been doing I figured (conceding to my girlfriend's arm twisting) he would need to hear from me about the usual things -- where I live now, what I'm doing, what he's doing -- all the recent news that you talk about with relatives who live far away. My father lives in Arizona.

Dad's a quirky kind of guy and the one probably most responsible for my odd ways of reasoning, which I find strange because I rarely talk to him much less see him. It's some kind of genetic defect I guess. I imagine my son will be even more absurd to me than I am to my father now. After a few generations of our bizarre behavior, they'll have to start some kind of colony for us -- like lepers.

At any rate, the topic of his most recent lecture on life improvement is my ability to find a life-long mate. After admittedly screwing up the first half of his life, he's since gone beyond cleaning up his act and found bliss with the person he can spend the other half of his life with. The way he describes it, they aren't completely compatible, but both are strong enough to overcome that. Peanut butter and jelly couldn't compliment each other better.

His goal is to convince me of my evil faults before I screw up the first half of my life. These are the times that try my soul. The conversation usually tumbles into an hour-long lecture (although he reassures me that it isn't a lecture) as I try to change the subject while rubbing my ear, which stings rabidly from being pressed against a telephone receiver. By the time we hang up I have a crook in my neck and two swollen beets for cars!

I can understand my father not wanting me to follow the wretched paths he walked. But I don't like to be lectured. I don't like to be reminded that what I'm doing may very well be wrong when I'm so confused and uncertain about what the world is doing, much less my own actions. Nobody likes to be told what to do, especially for as long as it takes to do a load of laundry -- or for that matter, when it's about as much fun as laundry.



**Ron Gabaldon**

He is my father, though. I may not like the ideas he tries to impose on me or the childish feeling I get when I hear his spiel, but I love him for thinking enough of me to waste the time and breath. He doesn't want me to make the same mistakes he did -- I know. No parent wants to see their children in pain. Especially not the same pain they felt.

I cannot learn from my father's mistakes. I want too much and I am too curious to be cautious based on his experience. The only way I seem to learn is from the my own experience. Eventually, I will figure my life out. I'll know what I want and how I want my world to respond. I'll find my place on this earth and possibly someone with whom to share my space and time. But I'll do it on my own, at my own pace, and in my own way. I cannot shield myself from hardship with my father's words. All I can do is consider the possibilities, take or toss advice, and ultimately make a my own decision.





# 'A New Bag for Our Leadership Vacuum'

by Aaron C. Petty  
Liberal Arts Student, Urban

The handshaking, the smiles, the photo ops, the promises, the scandals, the bashing, the polls -- the race for the presidency. Yes, the joys of the national campaign are back. Once again it's in the best interest of the American people to choose a man who will lead us down that path to greatness.

But who? The new faces of presidential contenders only make the choice more difficult as all seem to be lacking in charisma. An underlying theme of the '92 election is that the public wants change. They want a president who is in touch with the people of America.

I agree there is a need for change, but I say we need a leader who is not in touch with the people. Better yet, a leader who isn't even in touch with reality. No, I don't mean Jerry Brown. What this country needs is to rally behind the man of '92: Dave Barry.

The American voter doesn't take elections seriously any more. So why should we take our president seriously?

Hard economic times are hurting many families. If we can't employ these people, the least we could do is give them a good laugh every day for the next four (or possibly eight) years. Sometimes laughter is the only cure for a problem.

In the event that laughter doesn't solve the problem, Barry has released a brilliant economic package that can be implemented during his term.

*Barrynomics* has four key elements. First, every middle-class American would receive \$10,000 from the federal government. Second, make that \$20,000. Third, Air Force bombers would occasionally fly over randomly chosen middle-class communities and drop bales of money. Fourth, there is no reason the IRS has to know about the first three parts of this plan.

**"No president has ever taken a stance on the VCR issue, which has plagued our country for over a decade."**

That's *Barrynomics* -- a plan that will make America a land of prosperity. No loopholes, no misleading rhetoric, no need for tax breaks for the middle-class or extensions of unemployment benefits.

*Barrynomics* is a solution to the recession that no other presidential contender would dare offer and it's a solution that no citizen can resist.

Now that you're satisfied with his domestic proposal, you're probably wondering if Barry has an international policy. Again, he has formulated a plan and it deals with foreign competition.

As with his economic package, Barry's foreign policy is based on the brilliance of simplicity. It has one key factor; as President of the United States of America, Dave Barry would conduct tough, high-level talks with Japanese officials and demand that they make VCR's a normal person can program.

Such action would establish Barry as a global force to be reckoned with. No president has ever taken a stance on the VCR issue, which has plagued our country

for over a decade. Japanese officials have openly criticized American intelligence and integrity. With Dave Barry as president, the Japanese would be forced to respond to such criticism by reducing the sophistication of their products to the true level of American intelligence.

I realize that not everyone is convinced Dave Barry is the man for America in 1992. Even after he has dazzled us with an economic package and proposed his plan for foreign policy, certain individuals want to know if he has a vision for our nation. I must admit, *Barry* has no vision. But, as Barry might say, "Visions? Who needs visions? I have VCR's that record on time."

The time for change is now. We must not let the message die. Dave Barry for president: "A new bag for our leadership vacuum."

Aaron Petty was the editor of The Chronicle last semester.

If you wouldn't be forgotten,  
As soon as you are dead and rotten,  
Either write things worth reading,  
or do things worth the writing.

— Benjamin Franklin  
Poor Richard's Almanack

HOOD — continued from page 4

Thanks for all the black stereotypes. How about some about white Iowans?

Like you, I'm white (as if it matters, but of course it does), but when I drive down 6th Ave., I think: "If people would give others a chance instead of a glance; we would probably end up as friends."

Like you, I have felt a little uncomfortable being the only white at a party with 20 or 30 blacks. But when you sit and talk to people, or even crack a smile, you soon realize we are all "just kids" and we are all just alike.

I feel sorry for you and all the other narrow-minded racists who have jumped on the *Duke DePuke* bandwagon. You are a racist and you haven't come to grips with it. My advice is to take a sociology class at Urban so you can realize there's another world out there besides white rural Iowa.

February is Black History Month. Maybe this is the time we all can stop stereotyping and start learning about each other.

## Forum for Ideas

The key to learning is the free flow of ideas, which is a two-way process. We learn not only by listening to the views of others but also by expressing our own. You may not always agree with the ideas of others but you always gain from the exchange.

That is why *ViewPoints* is such an important part of The Chronicle; it is a forum for ideas and opinions. Use it to express yours.

-- the Editor

Send your comments to The Chronicle, 2006 S. Ankeny Blvd., Ankeny, Iowa 50021 or drop them in the suggestion box in the south entrance to Building 5 on the Ankeny campus. All letters must be signed and accompanied by a telephone number for verification. The editor reserves the right to use all or part of your comments in the paper.

## College and the Working World

by Dennis Frye  
Sports Writer

I hope the following will benefit other students so that they will not make some of the mistakes that I made. Take full advantage of everything that is offered to you now.

I graduated from Lincoln High School in 1977 and came to DMACC that fall. (I might add that I don't feel as old as some of you might think.) After three semesters I quit school to take up a full-time job. Now, 13 years later, I'm back.

I can't suggest to you strongly enough to get into something that you really want to make a career of and to work hard to achieve your dreams and goals. Working for a living at a job you do not enjoy can make life pretty miserable.

Some people, after working for a few years, decide they need a change or realize that with some education to back them up they can go after that promotion at work that will help their career.

Now, while you have the opportunity to map out what your future will be, make the most of your time and you won't be like me -- and many others -- spending eight hours a day at work while wishing I was doing something else. I am grateful to have a job in these extremely tough times but it is a long shot from what I would rather be doing.

So along with my full time job and other business ventures, I am back at DMACC trying to get into a line of work I truly enjoy instead of the dead end job that pays the bills but brings so much dissatisfaction.

If only I'd known then what I know now, as the old saying goes, I would have made my first trip to the Ankeny campus count for much more.

## The Selling of Integrity

by John Wilson  
Liberal Arts Student

It has been proposed that Casey's General Stores open a convenience store on the Ankeny campus. In looking at this proposed business venture, a few questions immediately come to mind.

Should the Chief Executive Officer of Casey's go into a business operation with a college where he sits on the board of directors?

Should a college approve the sale (and therefore condone the use) of alcohol?

Should a college approve the sale (and therefore condone the use) of tobacco?

DMACC, as an institution of higher learning, must maintain an impeccable reputation of integrity. Isn't the meaning of integrity to have and use high principles? Shouldn't an institution of higher learning be above any questions of impropriety?

Is DMACC's integrity for sale to Casey's?

**Editor's Note:** Mr. Don Lamberti, CEO of Casey's General Stores, has never sat on the DMACC Board of Directors, nor does he currently sit on any DMACC board. Lamberti was the chairman of DMACC Foundation for two years, a term that ended last fall. The Casey's store to be built at DMACC will be purchased by Foundation, not the school.



# Automotive and Diesel

## Mechanics

Stories and Photos by Phillip Morgan



First-year diesel student Scott Swanson decided to come to DMACC for diesel training after a blown hydraulic line caused him to be pinned between the cab and chassis of a cab-over-engine tractor.



First-year automotive student Jeff Thompson works on an automatic transmission in the automotive garage in Building 13. Students work on new model foreign and domestic cars. Many of the cars are donated by manufacturers but students can also work on their own cars, those of other DMACC students, or faculty and staff members. The only stipulation is that the car cannot be over 5 years old and the repair must be on a topic of current study.

### Auto Mechanical Technology — Using Computers to Fix Computers

There was a time -- not all that long ago -- when auto mechanics was a weekend "sport" of dabblers and tinkers. Nearly every car owner knew a "mechanic" whose "garage" was the one attached to their house. Only the most serious problems required a attention of the dealer's service department.

Beginning in the late '70s and early '80s, however, that situation began to change. Today, even the most die-hard of do-it-yourselfers often defer to a trained mechanic for anything other than an oil change on cars less than 10 years old.

In the passing era of the auto hobbyist, "diagnostic tools" usually meant the five senses and a degree of intuition -- with serious amateurs occasionally employing a voltmeter. But today's "automotive technician" must have a variety of computerized test equipment, special tools, and a lot of training.

"The days of walking up to a car, listening to it and knowing what's wrong are gone," says John Nelson, director of Automotive and Diesel Education and Training.

The General Motors 1990 Corvette, says Nelson for example, has more "on-board computing power" than the Apollo spacecraft that landed on the moon in 1969.

While Corvettes don't have satellite up-links to NASA in Houston, the mechanics who fix them do have computers on-line with GM in Detroit.

That type of sophistication may at first seem like overkill, but when you consider that many cars on the market today contain over eight separate microprocessors, you begin to understand why auto mechanics is such a different field today than it once was.

Today's auto technician uses computers to fix computers," says Nelson. And that means they

must have a "high thinking level," he says, to be able to think like the computer they are using.

Training students to work with computerized, high-tech equipment to fix computerized, high-tech cars and pickups is the goal of the DMACC automotive programs: Auto Mechanical Technology, ASEP (General Motors Corporation), ASSET (Ford Motor Company) and Auto Collision Repair.

Nelson says that students work on only new model cars when possible and never on cars more than 5 years old. Older cars are only discussed for their "historical" significance.

Nelson has a supply of around 80 new-model cars for students to work on. Car manufacturers keep his inventory current by donating new cars -- often having some minor body damage -- strictly for in-shop student use.

The automotive programs also use the latest equipment, which is also often supplied by manufacturers.

Ford's ASSET program and GM's ASEP operate as cooperative educational programs with technical and community colleges throughout the country. DMACC is the only school in the state of Iowa to offer these programs.

Both companies supply the school with the cars, equipment, and training of instructors that is necessary to run the programs.

Students in the ASSET and ASEP programs receive product specific training. Students in DMACC's Auto Mechanics Technology program receive training on many makes, including imports. All three programs offer 2-year associate of applied science degrees.

DMACC also offers training in auto body work. The Auto Collision Repair program is currently being changed to allow it to award AAS degrees like the other automotive programs.



Don Wales, a second-year diesel mechanics student works on a John Deere tractor in the "live lab" of the Diesel Equipment Mechanics program in Building 14. Wales wants to work for a farm equipment dealer when he graduates.



An automotive student works underneath a truck on a raised stand. Automotive students receive training in all aspects of automotive maintenance. This student was part of a class working on computerized alignment.



Retired DMACC diesel instructor Marlow Rummans assists second-year diesel student, James Davis. Rummans started DMACC's diesel program in 1967 when the school was located in West Des Moines. He moved the program to Ankeny in 1969 and stayed on to watch it grow. Rummans retired as an instructor in 1981 but continues to work as a substitute and lab assistant.

### Diesel Equipment Mechanics —

### More Jobs Than Students

Diesel engines are used in construction equipment, trucks, tractors, buses, and increasingly in cars and pickups. Because they require specially trained mechanics to fix them, it's no wonder Heavy Equipment Technology instructor John Harris can safely say he sees more diesel-related job openings than students to fill them.

Harris currently has 50 students enrolled in the two-year, Diesel Equipment Mechanic program, but would like to see that number at 70.

Even with numerous job opportunities, which offer average starting salaries between \$15,000 and \$18,000, the program doesn't draw large numbers of students.

"We have a bad image," says Harris, with a smile. "Black shoes, white socks, and dirty fingernails" is the stereotype, he says. That image and a poor attitude toward hard, physical labor on the part of many young people, work together, Harris believes, to keep the number of students entering the field low.

However, technology is changing the diesel industry and the traditional "grease monkey" image of mechanics is becoming increasingly inaccurate.

### Higher Training Required

As engines, their components, and the equipment required to fix them become more and more computerized, the level of training required of mechanics rises dramatically.

The DMACC program offers an associate's of applied science degree after completing six terms. Students can enroll in any term and have the option of getting a diploma after completing the first three terms.

Harris says that of the five area colleges in Iowa that offer diesel training, DMACC is the only one to offer a truly "stand alone" program. It has its own

curriculum and facilities -- located in Building 13 -- and, except administratively, it operates independent of the automotive program.

### Industrial Support

The program receives industry support in the form of donations of equipment and technical updates. Harris, who has taught at DMACC for 11 years, says the program's goal is to keep as up-to-date as possible with engines, equipment, and tools.

The school also gets input from the diesel industry on what should be offered or emphasized in the curriculum. A 25-member advisory council of diesel equipment manufacturers and dealers meets regularly to keep the program up to date. In so doing, these companies assure themselves a steady supply of well-trained graduates.

In addition to mechanical and technical training, degree students also take classes in shop management, communications, and human relations.

### Competency Certification

Students are graded on their performance of specific tasks and receive competency certificates for prospective employers to see. Attendance is also recorded on the certificate, and Harris says employers use that as much as the competency rating in judging applicants.

Although Harris doesn't characterize the program as difficult -- "the failure rate is almost nil" -- he emphasizes that basic skills are important.

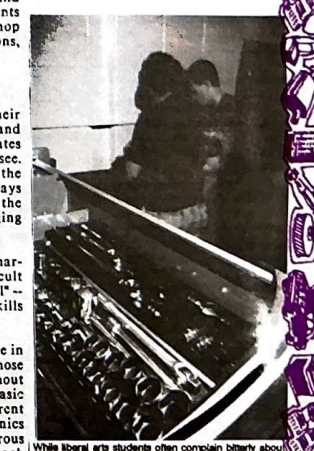
The people who have trouble in the program, he says, are those who graduate high school without being able to read or do basic math. In order to keep current with factory changes, mechanics must be able to read the numerous technical manuals that each company puts out.



James Davis, Diesel Equipment Mechanics program.



Auto Collision Repair students work with severely damaged automobiles to learn and apply body work techniques. The program currently offers a diploma, but will switch to offering a two-year, AAS degree in the fall.



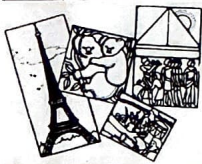
While liberal arts students often complain bitterly about the high cost of textbooks, auto mechanics students are required to spend at least \$1,100 for tools during their six-term program. Diesel mechanics students must spend close to \$1,800 for their tools.

Second-year automotive students Mike Blandi (front) and Duran Giesler use the program's CD-ROM computer system to quickly locate vehicle specifications and diagrams. The menu-based system is easy to use and students can figure it out "with a couple of questions," says John Nelson, director of the automotive programs.



First-year students like Russell Bill (background) in the Diesel Equipment Mechanics program get practical experience in tearing down and rebuilding heavy equipment transmissions in the program's transmission lab.





## Elsewhere...



This page is to help DMACC students do their part in understanding other cultures which will eventually lead to a more unified, peaceful world. If you take a moment to learn about others, you soon will discover how alike all cultures really are. Do your part to keep us together.

— Mary Murrane  
International Editor

### Winning Democracy for Nepal DMACC Student Remembers Peaceful 'Moment'

by Daniel Adams  
Staff Writer

When Americans think of "freedom fighters" they usually think of Third-World guerrillas waging long, bloody civil wars against communist regimes.

Beginning in February 1990 in the Asian country of Nepal, a democratic reform movement -- dubbed "The Moment" by its participants -- worked to change the traditional image of the freedom fighter.

More than three decades of authoritarian rule by King Birendra Bir Shah Dev, whose policies were considered corrupt and repressive by many Nepalese, were ended by a coalition of democrats and communists demanding representative government through nonviolent protest.

Yet, "The Moment" was not without bloodshed. Marked by the death of over 900 people, it serves as a reminder that the banner of freedom does not fly without sacrifice.

Chitra Poudel, a 23-year-old DMACC liberal arts student and native of Nepal, was one of the "freedom fighters" in Nepal.



Chitra Poudel participated in national protests in Nepal for democratic reforms in the monarchy. Nepal is a small Asian country sandwiched between China and India.

"We shouldn't really call ourselves freedom fighters," says Poudel, "because we didn't take up arms. Like Gandhi, we used the principle of nonviolence."

"I use the term freedom fighter because we fought against the dictatorship to establish liberty and justice in our country." But it was done, says Poudel, without "taking up arms."

Poudel, who came to the United States eight months ago to study space engineering, and other protestors used civil disobedience

to show their opposition to the government. Their methods included blackouts throughout the cities; late payment of bills, distributing pamphlets and making speeches in the streets.

Despite efforts on the part of the the protesters to keep the movement peaceful, conflicts with the police proved violent. Poudel says the protesters did throw "bricks and stones" after being "beaten" with "sticks" by the police.

"The government suppressed the people in such a way that the whole country felt like a prison," says Poudel.

Indeed, many of the protestors were actually put in jail, says Poudel, who spent four days in one himself.

On the 45th day of "The Moment," Poudel says a large crowd, perhaps 500,000, gathered in the streets of Katmandu to protest and grew "very aggressive."

Clashes with the police led to the death of 80 "freedom fighters" when the live ammunition was used to suppress the crowd. Lead bullets had been banned in Nepal since World War II.

The deaths did not quell the movement, however, and by the 50th day the king was ready to negotiate.

The strength of the movement was due in part to its unity. The Nepal Congress Party and the United Marxist-Leninist Party, the two largest political parties in Nepal, stood together against the throne. They have since become enemies but for the 50 days of "The Moment," they shared a common cause.

Members of the Nepal Congress Party did not seek the ouster of the king. They wished instead to place him under the constitution and strip him of most of his official powers.

"The king realized that he should give us democracy," says Poudel. "He had only one choice."

Poudel believes that the violence would have escalated rapidly had the king resisted reform any longer.

In the end, under both domestic and international pressure, the King officially announced his desire to rule under a constitution.

Nepal now has a parliamentary system in which the Nepal Congress Party holds a narrow majority over the United Marxist-Leninists Party.

Poudel believes the communist party wanted to carry the reforms further than a constitutional monarchy and that the death toll of "The Moment" would have been much higher if they had their way.

### 'War Makes Men Do Strange Things'

[The author of the following account served as a combat Marine in the Persian Gulf one year ago and is currently completing his two-year degree in liberal arts. He prefers to remain anonymous.]

February 21, 1991: The ground war was nearly ten hours old and we were about to become part of it. We were told to take only what we could carry in our ALICE (All-purpose, Lightweight, Individual, Carrying Equipment) packs. There was a real sense of danger, excitement, and fear in the air that day. We didn't know what was ahead for us, but we were all preparing for the worst.

I sat packing my gear in my hand-dug, sandbagged fighting hole. First, I packed the necessary equipment: an extra pair of camouflage utilities, hygiene gear, two pairs of socks, two pairs of underwear. Oh, to hell with the skivvies, they'd just give me crotch rot anyway. I knew I also had to take my wet weather suit, poncho liner, three drums of 5.56 Squad Automatic Weapon ammunition and six hand grenades. I packed a few personal items -- like 20 cans of Kodiak chewing tobacco, six packs of Marlboros, letter writing gear and a Kodak camera with seven rolls of film. I looked out over the barren, sand-swept Saudi Arabian desert and noticed a caravan of busses coming towards me.

As the busses got closer, I saw they had red crosses on them. When they pulled up to my checkpoint, I climbed on board the lead bus and told the driver how to get to the next checkpoint. As I gave the directions, I looked in the back of the nearly empty bus. I saw a Marine sitting in one of the rear seats. He was pale and had a blank look on his face.

**"One man was blown in half. He had been shot in the abdomen and his guts were strewn throughout the bed of the truck. I could see the pink meaty flesh of his midsection."**

It wasn't a blank look -- like he was bored; no, it was the look of the "1000-yard stare," the look a man gets after he sees battle. His eyes seemed to see right through me and his face was expressionless. I just sat there dumbfounded at the sight of his pale, sand-covered face. Then I noticed he was missing part of his right arm from the elbow down. Next to him was a medic who was tending his wound and filling out some paperwork on a dead Marine in a body bag on the floor of the bus. The bag was partially unzipped, revealing the Marine's face. I could see his sandy-blond hair and a funny smile on his face. His eyes were staring blindly into space.

I could hardly finish telling the driver where to go. I got off the bus and the driver roared the engine and slowly pulled away. I went back to my packing and my mind began to play "head games" with me. What if I get a part of me blown off or get killed? It was a hard concept to grasp. When I had finished stowing my gear, there was still an hour before our helicopter to arrive. That was a long hour...

As I climbed aboard the roaring beast, I shoved those bad thoughts as far back into my head as I could because I had a job to do and I couldn't let anything interfere with that.

February 24, 1991: We had been in Kuwait for three days and hadn't fired a shot. We sent out squads to look for the enemy. We were all anxious to get our "baptism of fire" over with. Waiting for something to

As a result of democratic elections in May 1991, the Nepali Congress Party and the United Marxist-Leninists Party now control Parliament but have become bitter enemies.

### Mexican Trip Planned

Lloyd Miller, Anthropology and Spanish instructor, has had many requests from students and faculty about a trip to Mexico.

Due to these inquiries, Miller decided to set the trip up and see who is really interested.

The trip will include:

- 1) Visiting archaeological and Historical sites of Mexico.
- 2) Traveling through mountains, forests and balmy beaches.
- 3) Experiencing the cultural diversity of international shops, small towns and markets with hand made crafts.
- 4) Sandy beaches and evening light shows will also be included.

The travel dates are tentatively set for August 10-21. The cost will be approximately \$1,400, which includes airfare, meals, and transportation. If you are interested, contact Lloyd Miller in Building 2, room 3; or phone at 964-6435.



# At Your Leisure

## Where's the Rock?

by Dieah Horst-Morrison  
Entertainment Editor

When Don Henley cancelled his scheduled Ames concert last summer due to low ticket sales, he made a statement: Central Iowa is not the place to stop for a concert tour. This statement was heard loud and clear by the music industry.

Except for the recently announced Van Halen concert set for April 18, the local rock concert agenda is near nil. Some of the best rock shows touring the Midwest aren't playing central Iowa. Ozzy Osbourne, Skid Row, U2, and Guns 'n' Roses are just a handful of the bands that aren't planning a stop in the Des Moines/Ames area.

*What is this folks, does the capital city have cooties?*

Actually, the Des Moines/Ames area is ranked 75th for "playability," says Tim Berry, advertising manager for ISU Center, which operates Hilton Coliseum and C.Y. Stephens Auditorium. "While that is a good position," says Berry, "Guns 'n' Roses is only playing the top 25 markets."

Berry also cites a poor economy as a reason for tighter tour routes. He says concert attendance is down 25 to 30 percent nationwide.

Although large arenas like Hilton Coliseum and Veteran's Memorial Auditorium in Des Moines seem well suited to handle the large crowds of rock concerts, their size seems to work against them.

The Steve Miller Band is scheduled to play Hilton on April 11, utilizing half of the coliseum's capacity. If all goes according to the plan, this could be the wave of the future.

Don Sullivan, a talent buyer for Chicago-based Jam Productions, says that facilities with large seating capacities, such as

Hilton's 14,000 plus, aren't conducive to new or lesser-known bands who can't come close to filling them. Only bands long-established -- like Van Halen, whose Hilton concert is virtually sold out -- can hope to draw capacity crowds.

While he likes the facilities in Ames and says the management are "great people to work with," Sullivan believes that low attendance at Hilton is causing some bands to by-pass central Iowa.

For reasons unknown to Sullivan, some bands, such as Skid Row, will not play in a facility with a seating capacity over 6,000. The management company for Tesla and Queensryche has had poor attendance problems in Ames and now, "prefers not to put developing acts in the college arenas," says Sullivan. The two bands sold 2,700 tickets to their most recent Hilton performance.

The same company is willing to book Des Moines, which offers bigger crowds and smaller, easier to fill facilities. Metallica doubled its attendance figures from one year to the next merely by making the 30-mile move south from Ames to Des Moines.

That may seem like a simple solution, but conventions and other events book dates at the Des Moines facilities months in advance; most concerts are scheduled with six weeks notice or less and their tour route affords them little flexibility on dates.

Despite the current rock dry spell and his arena's apparent size and location problem, Berry foresees a brighter future for the concert-goer. He believes the bands will be touring together more, offering fans more music for their money. Bands might also seek less money per show, resulting in lower ticket prices -- which is, of course, very good news for starving students.

## 'Change Now It's Time For Change'

by Dieah Horst-Morrison  
Entertainment Editor

Motley Crue fans will recognize these lyrics from their 1989 album, *Dr. Feelgood*. Change itself is the only constant in the rock music industry. Here is the latest change.

Elektra Entertainment released a statement last week announcing that after nearly a dozen years together, lead vocalist Vince Neil and the remaining members of Motley Crue had "parted company." It further stated that "auto racing has become a priority in Neil's life." This led to many reports that Neil was leaving the music business to pursue racing.

In a statement just released, Vince Neil disputes the earlier reports. "It is true, says Neil, "I didn't share the enthusiasm for the band's new musical direction." Neil prefers the heavier sound of early Motley Crue.

Neil is "excited" at the prospect of a solo effort and will begin working on an album for Elektra

The remaining members of the band: bassist Nikki Sixx, drummer Tommy Lee, and guitarist Mick Mars are hard at work on their forthcoming album and searching for Neil's replacement.

Looks like it's the "Same Ol' Situation" after all.



## Tears of a Clown



The Late JOHN BELUSHI

by Dieah Horst-Morrison  
Entertainment Editor

Ten years ago on March 5, actor-comedian John Belushi was found dead in a rental cottage in Los Angeles. He died from an overdose of a combination of drugs and alcohol. He was 33.

An original cast member of the *Not-Ready-For-Prime-Time* Players on *Saturday Night Live* and as Joliet Jake of the famed Blues Brothers, Belushi brought laughter to millions.

His death shocked fans, friends, and family and he is sadly missed by all.

## FARM AID V DRAWS MANY STARS

Singer Paul Simon has added his name to the star-studded roster of the fifth Farm-Aid concert. Benefit founder, Willie Nelson will host the 12-hour extravaganza and be joined by Simon, Neil Young, John Mellencamp, the Black Crowes, Tracy Chapman, and John Hiatt. Farm-Aid V will be held in Dallas on March 14.

Former Faces of MOTLEY CRUE

left-right  
NIKKI SIXX, TOMMY LEE,  
VINCE NEIL, MICK MARS

## What's Hot? At the Box Office

- #1- Hand That Rocks the Cradle
- #2- Fried Green Tomatoes
- #3- Shining Through
- #4- Father of the Bride
- #5- Grand Canyon
- #6- Beauty and the Beast
- #7- Hook
- #8- JFK
- #9- Prince of Tides
- #10- Juice

Thanks to Todd Kelly at KGGO 94.9 FM  
Source: Radio & Records Magazine

## Around Town

Upcoming Events in Central Iowa  
Comedy/Rock/Country

3/7 Hank Williams Jr.  
3/10 Jeff Altman  
3/13 Hank Williams Jr.  
3/14 Tesla/Firehouse  
4/11 Steve Miller Band  
4/18 Van Halen

Hilton, Ames  
Furry Bone, Clive  
Five Seasons, CR  
Five Seasons, CR  
Hilton, Ames  
Hilton, Ames

## Symphony/Classics

3/1 Ivo Pogorelich  
3/7 - 3/8 M. Torme/M. McGovern  
3/10 San Francisco Mime  
3/11 Jean-Efflam Bavouzet  
3/14 - 3/15 Des Moines Symphony  
3/17 St. Louis Symphony

Hancher, Iowa City  
Hancher, Iowa City  
Hancher, Iowa City  
Hancher, Iowa City  
Civic Center, DM  
C. Y. Stephens, Ames

## Theatre

2/29 - 3/1 Romeo & Juliet  
3/8 - 3/7 Ethel Blue  
3/10 - 3/15 Les Miserables  
3/2 Mazowsze Dance

Civic Center, DM  
Playhouse, DM  
Civic Center, DM  
C. Y. Stephens, Ames

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## K660 Tops in Rock

- #1- I Can't Dance-- Genesis
- #2- Ghost of a Chance-- Rush
- #3- Mama I'm Comin' Home-- Ozzy Osbourne
- #4- Again Tonight-- John Mellencamp
- #5- King's Highway-- Tom Petty
- #6- Empty Arms-- Stevie Ray Vaughan
- #7- Tears in Heaven-- Eric Clapton
- #8- Until the End-- U2
- #9- The Bug-- Dire Straits
- #10- Mysterious Ways-- U2

## MTV Tops in Video

- #1- Vibeology-- Paula Abdul
- #2- I Can't Dance-- Genesis
- #3- Live and Let Die-- Guns & Roses
- #4- Do Not Pass Me By-- Hammer
- #5- The Untouchables-- Madonna
- #6- Remember the Time-- Michael Jackson
- #7- Again Tonight-- John Mellencamp
- #8- To Be With You-- Mr. Big
- #9- Home Sweet Home (#1)-- Motley Crue
- #10- Smells Like Teen Spirit-- Nirvana



# LET THE GAMES BEGIN!

## Bucs Shoot For USHL Title

by Bryon Preminger  
Staff Writer

The hottest thing in Des Moines this winter has come from the Metro Ice Sports Arena, home of the Des Moines Buccaneers.

The Bucs have secured a birth in the United States Hockey League playoffs for the second year in a row. Currently running away with second place in the standings, the Bucs are giving the defending league champions, Thunder Bay, all they can handle.

The Bucs play every weekend, packing in fans from all over central Iowa as they add to their record setting victory total of 28 wins and 10 losses.

Their success over the last two seasons can be attributed to the arrival of Bob Ferguson, head coach and general manager.

As a former NHL player turned coach, Ferguson has in the past 10 years achieved two USHL championships, two playoff champion-

ships and a national title in his teams' four appearances in the national tournament.

In his first year as the Bucs head coach, Ferguson lead the team to its best winning season ever and was named USHL General Manager of the Year.

This year's team has six USHL all-stars, led by goalie Kevin Deschambeault, who set a team record with his second shutout of the season.

Newcomer Nick Krueger is a native Iowan from West Des Moines and follows in three brothers' footsteps in playing for the Bucs. Krueger played for his coach-father on the Valley-Dowling team in high school last year.

With the season winding down and the playoffs right around the corner, tickets are becoming hard to come by. For the remaining season's schedule and ticket information, contact the Metro Ice Sports Arena at 278-9757.

## Sports Talk

by Dennis "Sportsnut" Frye  
Sports Writer

What's happening in today's world of sports?

The XVI Winter Olympics are over -- as I write, the closing ceremonies are being performed. These last ten days have flashed past us, as if time were on skis.

You couldn't help but get caught up in the excitement, as the athletes performed.

Didn't your eyes get moist watching the Kerrigan family as their daughter, Nancy, skated toward a bronze medal? Didn't your blood pump as you watched downhill skiers lose their balance and crash into the safety fence?

To watch and listen as the American flag was hoisted into the air and the National Anthem was played. All told, we brought 11 medals home to the good ol' US of A.

How can we forget the U.S. hockey team? Although coming up short for a medal, they won the hearts of many Americans.

Many names and faces that we did not know before shine in our memories of the XVI Olympics.

It's heart warming to see athletes from a diversity of backgrounds compete against and work with one another, maybe we should take a lesson.

Balls are bouncing and shoes are stomping as the tournament trail starts for high school basketball players.

Many young hoopsters will be gearing up for the AAU tournaments. This gives kids a chance to enhance their skills and enjoy the game before reaching the level of "win at all costs" as they grow older.

Pep rallies, window writing, and car decorating are top priorities as the high schools are preparing for the district meets to start.

College basketball is looking toward March and the NCAA TOURNAMENT. Sixty-four teams and their hoop-happy fans traveling the countryside in order to pursue the title. Its amazing with the economy the way it is how we find the extra money for tickets, hotel rooms, and the entertainment that goes with an NCAA basketball game.

Baseball fans are going to tanning beds and planning their trips as they invade Florida and Phoenix during the NL and AL spring training.

If you are into grappling (minus the Hulkster), the state high school wrestling tourney is at Veterans Memorial Auditorium.

And, as stated in another article, you can catch the exciting hockey action at the Des Moines Ice Arena.

Boys and girls will soon flock to Little League games at a ballpark near you.

Track will be starting, and runners will be on streets and sidewalks all over town.

The fish are waiting and are hungry for your worms.

Golf balls are about to set sail, and the sound of "FORE" will be heard throughout the golf courses as the hackers refresh their golf talents.

And best of all --

It will soon be warm

Talk to you next month -- until then, may you score often and enough to win your battles.

## DMACC Intramural Sports

Week #4 Results

### Basketball

National Conference	American Conference	
Air Prog. 63	Bruiser 88	
Hit or Miss 58	Cellar Dwlr 56	<b>Soccer</b>
Built Del. 83	N-Your-I 97	Kickers 10
The Heat 69	Carpet Munch 68	Stud Boys 5
Unbuckle 86	Higher Net 92	Lazio 5
Rastus 61	No Names 44	S.A.T. 3
Onarly Dudes 69	Alumni 86	Killers 5
Noles 61	Feed Frenzy 54	Stud Boys 5

### Volleyball Standings

	Wins	Losses		Wins	Losses
National Conference			American Conference		
6-Silver 3	0		License to Kill 3	0	
The Tigers 1	1		Stark Naked 3	0	
The Hellslammers 1	1		Jugs & Thugs 2	1	
Spikers 1	2		Wuu Gurs 2	1	
Six Pack 1	2		Up-set 1	2	
Roscoe #2 1	2		The Crushers 0	3	
In Your Face 0	3		Net Servers 0	3	

### Sports Commentary --

## Does Your Hero Know Your Name?

by Dennis "Sportsnut" Frye  
Sports Writer

As young children, some of us had visions of growing up and becoming rich and famous. For some, that became a reality and for most others the dream lives on. In life it is strange that some choose to want to be someone else.

*Who is your hero?* How many of you thought of your parents? Don't laugh. Where would you be without them? Your Mom and Dad probably did more for you than any sports star. At least they are fully aware that you do exist.

To be realistic, all of us have those we admire other than our parents. Most of us look up to a celebrity we will probably never meet. Can you imagine talking with that special person whom you have admired all of your life?

I have always loved to play baseball. I have been addicted to the game from the time I was two years old. My Uncle Ed got me started. I played in little league, high school, semi-pro, and I now play fast-pitch softball.

George Brett and Paul Molitor are two of my heroes. They both play major league baseball. I have been lucky enough to meet them both and yet, if you asked, I'm sure they would not know me from anyone else.

In August of 1980, when I had the privilege of meeting George Brett and Paul Molitor, I felt like the luckiest kid at the ballpark. That was also the first time I had the chance to see a major league game in person. To be able to see my favorite teams (the Kansas City Royals and Milwaukee Brewers) plus my favorite two players -- all in one trip -- was quite a thrill! It sure beat going to Sec Taylor here in Des Moines.

The problem facing us today is that we have created "monsters" out of entertainers. Sure, they are men and women, as all of us, and they have families and children just as we do. But, unfortunately, all the fame and adoration goes to their heads. So, to all of you celebrities out there, please remember: *We put you on a pedestal. We work all year long just to take a vacation so that we can maybe get close enough to you for a picture or a handshake. Please take the time out of your busy schedule so that our dreams can be fulfilled. We need the entertainment and you need our support. We are in this together.*

*As much as I love athletics and the competition that it brings, it saddens me to watch some professional athletes and entertainers. I think that they are larger-than-life individuals created due to the everyday citizen having an abnormal desire to relate with or rub elbows with them. Is that what's taking place?*

We all work for a living and some of us have better jobs than others. At age 32, I still find it unbelievable that in the entertainment business new millionaires are being born at a record pace. When, in the real world, people are losing their jobs, homeless, or going hungry. Who said that life is fair?

I would suggest that the rich and famous be creative in helping making sports and entertainment more affordable for the masses. What seats? The stars must not forget who got them where they are and they should remember that as quickly as they "got it," they can also "lose it." Fame and fortune are fleeting.



## Recycling: It Makes 'Cents'

by Mary Murrane  
International Editor

If you're like most people, when you think of metal recycling you think of aluminum beverage cans that you take to the store and get nickels. But what about soup cans? And used aluminum foil?

If you haven't noticed, the very same drop off sites that you take your newspaper to (*you do recycle your newspaper, don't you?*) also take the aluminum and cans for which you can't get a nickel. They usually take steel cans right along with the aluminum ones.

Okay, you say, but what if my blender breaks? Or my toaster, or most any other major or minor appliance? Where do you take those items? There are many places to take your recyclable would-be throwaways.

If it is made out of or has parts made of copper, aluminum, tin, cast or iron, somebody can recycle it. Appliances, bathtubs, sinks, and car parts all contain recyclable metals.

So, are you looking for a new home for your old bathtub? There are places that can help.

Companies like Alter Trading Corporation, 2233 Maury Street in Des Moines, might even pay you for your extra metal. Rates aren't high -- approximately \$5 for 20 pounds of aluminum -- but it's a little extra incentive for doing your part to keep the environment clean.

Keep in mind that, as with anything you recycle, metal should be as clean as possible. Paper labels should be removed from cans that you take to drop off sites.

## The Smell of Death Lingers On

WAR —

continued from page 8

happen is one of the strangest feelings an infantryman can have. In one sense you want it to happen so you can see how you'll react under fire, but in another sense you're scared shitless at the possibility of getting killed.

At night we could hear the war raging all around us. The sounds of automatic gunfire and 100-pound artillery shells crashing to the ground were common. Then we got word to go check out a small town that had already been liberated. Reports said there were Iraqis who hadn't been caught. We learned they might have moved back into the town. We got into our vehicles and drove until we were about a mile from the town, and then dismounted and lined up in tactical columns and fire team formations and headed into the village.

As we cautiously searched all the houses and buildings, we saw that everything was torn up. The windows were all shot out. There were bullet holes in the buildings. Piles of tires that had been used for fighting positions were on fire. There were a lot of dead animals -- camels, chickens and dogs -- and numerous blown-up vehicles. I can say now that I have never been so INTENSE in my life. There were so many things racing through my mind at once that it was like an information overload.

I kept thinking there would be an Iraqi at the next turn. I was aware of all that was going on around me and my mind was thinking totally like an infantryman. *Watch the doorways for trip wires; walk heel to toe to detect for mines; don't pass in front of windows, but underneath them; keep a low profile; and -- whatever you do -- don't think about Susie Rottencrotch back home.* I had my finger on the trigger of my weapon and all I wanted was to see my enemy because I wanted nothing more than to kill IT.

After we had searched the town and deemed it enemy-free, my buddy motioned for me to take a look at something. As I rounded the corner of a burned-up, bullet-ridden building, I saw a pickup truck that was blown apart by a 50-caliber machine gun. There were five or six dead Iraqi soldiers inside. It was the most grotesque sight I have ever seen. One man was blown in half. He had been shot in the abdomen and his guts were strewn throughout the bed of the truck. I could see the pink, meaty flesh of his midsection. Judging by the smell, they had been there a few days, rotting in the hot desert sun.

The smell of a dead man is strange -- it is one smell I will never forget. It is a sweet ammonia smell that entices you to approach. The odor permeates your nostrils and says, "Come closer and take a good, long look." Then when you get too close, it smacks you right in the face and goes down into your gut, causing the "gag reflex." I can smell it still.

I stood there looking at the dead men and noticed they had all been shot in the head because their brains were blown out the sides and backs of their skulls. They had obviously been wounded badly and then put out of their misery at close range. They also had scared looks on their faces and, as I studied them, I thought back to the Marine on the bus. He had looked peaceful and at rest. These men looked like they had seen the devil.

Then I noticed the demolished truck had some writing on it in yellow spray paint: "Fuck with the bull, you get the horns. Golf 113." Golf Company, First Marines had wasted these guys.

I stood there and started laughing hysterically. I read the words in yellow paint again out loud and said, "Yep, they got what they deserved." Then I just stood there over their dead bodies, watching the flies crawling into their mouths and ears, and laughed.

*I guess war makes men do strange things.*

## Is This Really a Home?

MENTAL INSTITUTION —

continued from page 3

Loumis says he and his wife lead much happier lives now. They are off the street, out of the "homes" and into a house. They each receive \$269 per month on welfare and \$46 each in food stamps. Loumis also visits what he calls the "stab labs" twice a week to sell blood for \$10 a visit.

Loumis and his wife are required to report any monthly income over \$85.

"I feel great about myself," he says, now that he is no longer a "loner." Now he speaks out for others that live like he once did.

"We need to get off of our butts and help the homeless," says Loumis, who once spent his nights sleeping under bridges in Sioux City. "Just being homeless doesn't mean you should be forgotten."

For his part, Loumis offers to share with the needy if he should win the lottery. Until that happens, he will have to find other ways -- such as talking to college classes about institutionalized life -- to help the people that only someone like himself can truly understand.

*I want to thank Don Loumis for allowing me to write this article. We need to treat everybody with respect -- the homeless and mentally ill are no exception.*

*Don -- take care and God bless.*

Note:

Salvation Army breakfasts are held on Tuesday and Friday mornings from 5:30 to 8:30. For more information, contact Bob Emley in Building 2, Room 5aa, or call John Kuhn with the Salvation Army at 280-7421.

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## Making Every Drop Count

by Daniel Adams  
Staff Writer

Don't you love those long, hot, massaging showers? Don't you like it when everything that you flushed down goes down? Don't you like those long wide streams of water flowing from your sink as you are washing your hands? Who doesn't enjoy these things? Well, all those sweet things add up in the end to make for a big bill.

The city of Ankeny is giving out a water conservation kit.

Tim Shanahan, assistant city manager of Ankeny says there are two principal reasons for the city to offer the kits. The first is to conserve water and the second is to conserve your money.

When you open the kit you might think it's a joke. A dye tablet, a plastic bag, two washer like objects, a strip of plastic. That might not seem like much, but they may detect or prevent

several common causes of water waste.

First, save thousands of gallons of water per year from silent leaks by dropping a dye tablet into your toilet bowl. The water in your toilet's reservoir tank will turn blue. If the water in the toilet bowl turns blue -- bingo -- you've detected a leak.

Silent leaks may be caused by the toilet tank flapper, a bad trip lever and chain, or from too high of a water causing drainage through the overflow pipe.

Next, save approximately 1,200 gallons per year by filling the

plastic bag included with the kit with water and placing it in toilet tank. This will displace a quantity of water equal to that in the bag, which can save up to a 1/2 gallons of water per flush.

Finally, save by reducing the flow of your faucets and shower by 50 percent by placing a washer like object, included in the kit and called a restrictor, in your faucet and shower head.

The water conservation kit is free from the City of Ankeny at 211 South West Walnut