

THE CHRONICLE

Des Moines
Area
Community
College

MARCH 31, 1989

VOL. 14 NO. 5

Students Learn First-Hand in Leipa's American History Classes



Photo Credit: Mark Geller

Lucky Leipa Lands Newspaper Collection

His American History Students Study Events & Learn Facts From Newspapers Like The Ones Featured Above

by Michelle Smiley
Editor

John Leipa, history and political science instructor at DMACC, provides his students with first-hand accounts of happenings of the past. True "muckraker" stories, accounts of General Custer's Last Stand, full-page shots of the Spanish-American War, and the highlight of the Chicago fire started by Mrs. O'Leary's cow are just a few of the examples that students can research or study for extra credit projects.

Due to his interest in preserving history, he started his own newspaper collection and has gathered an increasing number of "collector" print items for the past 20-30 years. Then, four years ago, with a stroke of good luck, he landed former reporter Dale

Buhl's collection of newspapers -- a pile that stood six to seven-feet high.

Walt Shotwell, in one of his columns, had announced the dilemma of Buhl who had tried to sell or give the newspapers away to a library, but no one would take them.

Leipa explains, "In today's society, most newspapers are burned in fires after being saved on microfilm, but me, if it's old, I'll use it!"

It was then up to Leipa and other bidders to prove to Buhl how the newspapers would be used. Leipa thought it provided the perfect opportunity and one

of the best teaching methods to approach different time periods in America's history. He would allow students in his classes

who were getting C's or better to receive extra credit by studying these true artifacts of our past culture. He visited Buhl at his home several times, and made several follow-up calls on the telephone.

Because of his determination, perseverance, and the method for which the papers would be introduced to the classroom, Leipa won the stack of papers over Drake University instructor Dr. Bob Woodward, the last competing individual for the collection.

"I can still remember the day I got the call -- it was a Thursday and Dale said, 'How much will your van hold?' and I went to pick up six feet of newspapers which were being stored in suit clothing bags."

Leipa now stores most

of the newspapers in his home, but some he brings to school.

"They are wonderful visual aids for teaching and primary sources of actual history accounts that we all read in history texts."

DMACC has also proven

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EXPRESSIONS XI

Pick Up Your Copy

DMACC's literary magazine, *Expressions XI* has arrived. The 50-page issue may be picked up in the Student Activities Office (Building 5). The piece features art work and creative talent of DMACC students. It also highlights some of James Schell Hearst's accomplishments.

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Expressions--

continued from page 1

Faculty advisor Rick Chapman sent copies to the National Critical Service of the National Scholastic Press Association and *Expressions XI* was awarded four marks of distinction and the honor rating of "All American".

Thanks extended to the 1987-88 staff included editor Michelle Smiley, art director Troy Clark, and assistants Cathie Van Wert, Rick Walker, Keith Adams, Kim Corder, Cindy Gates, Scott Koeneman, Jeff McDowell, Styles Sass, Mimi Senn, and Kathy Tyler.

PLANS FOR THE NEXT...

Any DMACC student interested may submit creative writing examples for *Expressions XII* to Rick Chapman, Building 2. The advisor asks that work be double-spaced on 8 1/2 x 11 sheets. Deadline for submissions will be May 31, 1989. The best entries, by determination of the 1988-89 *Expressions* staff, will be published.

Second-Shift Students' Perspective

by Cindy Ruttenburg
Staff Writer

As the sun goes down and the day has ended, the day is not quite over for the second-shift student. These are students who work those extra hours in DMACC's night classes.

Night classes start after 5 a.m. and can run until 10 p.m. After an eight-hour day at work, this can make for a very long day. Most night students do hold full-time jobs.

"I'm glad night classes are available," says night student Cheray Schuter, "especially when most people have day jobs and cannot afford to work part-time."

Another night student, Angela Mokosak, finds night classes are an advantage. "I am able to remain employed full-time and still further my education."

"Night classes allow people with obligations the opportunity to take them," agrees night student Toni Roosz.

With the strong demand from employers for their employees to have a higher education, most students feel these extra hours of hard work will pay off in the end. Even if they are only enrolled in a few classes, the course work may still help students get a jump in their careers.

Night classes often have a small class size that can play to students' advantage.

Night student Rick Schnackel says, "Night classes have the smaller class size and you are more apt to receive one-on-one instruction."

When the long hours become a strain, sometimes a student's real potential breaks through. "The main

advantage to the night classes is that the students seem to be more dedicated and eager to learn," says night student Bev Anderson.

Even though there are a number of night classes offered, some students feel there isn't a wide enough variety of night classes available.

"The night classes offered leave a lot to be desired," says night student Christina Blodgett. "There are many classes required for my chosen field that are only offered during the day."

"We are unable to attend seminars because we work during the day and they are not offered in the evening," says Christina about the lack of privileges the night students' experience. Some night students feel they should receive the same benefits as day students since they are paying the same price.

Another complaint is that most night classes only meet once or twice a week for a long period of time. "It's more difficult to learn," says night student Denny Griffin, "because for some classes you need more dividing of material instead of cramming in one or two nights."

Even though there are some complaints about night classes, most students feel satisfied to have the chance to further their education while working full-time. Night student Alice Thompson sums up this article perfectly. "I've felt very welcome at DMACC in the evening classes. It's geared for people of all ages and walks of life."



To Students, Staff, and Faculty at DMACC

"We will always remember with grateful appreciation your great kindness to our family in our bereavement. Your thoughtfulness, caring, giving, and support was so much that we were overwhelmed. There is no way we could thank you enough."

"With Love and Appreciation,
The Family of James Bosler"

Scholarships Available

P.A.D.A. (People Aware of Drug Abuse) Scholarship applications are being accepted from any adult in Marion County who is continuing education in the drug related fields.

Anyone interested in the scholarship should write:

Ms. Michelle Hatch
1218 West Robinson
Knoxville, IA. 50318
842-7360 (home) or
828-7555 (work)

Top Ten Excuses For Extending Break

The editors of Dateline realize you may not have an excuse for extending your break. So, as a welcome back gift, we offer some of ours.

- 1) "I lost my clothes in the jello pool."
- 2) "I got too caught up in searching for belly button lint."
- 3) "The food made me sick."
- 4) "The drink made me sick."
- 5) "School made me sick."
- 6) "My pet pig 'Edgar' bit the farm." (Sorry about that.)
- 7) "I worked too much."
- 8) "Mr. Roger's Neighborhood had a three day special."
- 9) "Me and Elvis had a jam session."
- 10) "I was sure Spring Break was next week."

Russian Week Omission

The following scheduled Russian art seminar was mistakenly omitted from the Russian Week Schedule:

Time: 11:15-12:20 a.m.

Event: "Art In The Soviet Union" presented by Peggy Patrick, former assistant director of the Des Moines Art Center. There will be a slide show and a discussion on how Russian innovative art has influenced modern art.

Where: Building 6 Auditorium

Automotive Department Needs Cars

Does your car have transmission, differential, or drive problems, and need some fixing? The Automotive Department can help. The department is currently seeking cars with these problems to fit into the training program workload. If you are interested, call 6579 or 6546 between 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Lectures About AIDS/Apartheid

Ian Robertson, author of the sociology text, currently used at DMACC, will be a guest speaker on Thursday, April 6.

He will speak at these times:

Time: 8:05 a.m.
Subject: "Sociological Aspects of Aids"
Where: Building 2, Room 25B
Time: 8:40 a.m.
Subject: "South African Apartheid"
Where: Building 2, Room 6

Go Into The Woods

You've heard about it and it's finally here. "Into the woods" will appear at the Des Moines Civic Center. Watch your favorite fairy tale characters come to life in a truly enchanting setting of magic and mystery as they take a musical journey into the woods. The musical can truly be best described as a story book unfolding before your eyes.

The show is a rare piece of lively theater that will capture the hearts and fancy of children of all ages. Catch the fantasy on these dates: March 31, at 8 p.m.; April 1, at 2 and 8 p.m.; and April 2, at 3 p.m. For advance tickets or more information, call the Civic Center at 243-1888.

Weddington Awakens Consciousness On Controversial Abortion Issue

Photo Credit: Mark Schaefer



Journalist Christa Schauf cordially welcomes the honorable Sarah Weddington to DMACC.

by Christa Schauf
Staff Writer

At a time when the controversial abortion issue is reaching yet another climax, DMACC was honored March 9, with the arrival of the highly-esteemed Sarah Weddington. This respected lawyer had her most acclaimed case in the Supreme Court in 1973, *Roe vs. Wade*. This is the case that gave women the right of privacy extending to the right to choose the outcome in the event of an unwanted pregnancy.

Weddington has been deeply involved in government since then, and holds many unique accolades. For instance, she was one of the first women to graduate from the University of Texas Law School, and was also the first woman ever elected from the Austin capitol to the state House of Representatives.

Although she had originally planned to discuss a variety of constitutional issues, due to the gravity and publicity of the upcoming *Webster vs. Reproductive Health Services* case in the Supreme Court, she instead dedicated her talk to the topic of abortion. The U.S. Justice Department has high hopes that the *Webster* case will be the case that will overturn *Roe*, making abortion illegal. Weddington explains the magnitude of this case: "The reason the *Webster* case is so important is because *Roe vs. Wade* was decided by a vote of 7 to 2. Then there were issues in the seventies involving regulation, and it was 6 to 3. Then, in the mid-eighties in the cases involving regulation the vote was 5 to 4. Then, Powell, who was one of the five, left the court. Now

nobody knows who's got five votes now." The votes of the Supreme Court justices that keep abortion legal have been declining through the years amidst the ongoing surge of conservatism. Therefore, the outcome of the *Webster* case is one which cannot be foreseen.

Beginning by explaining how she had originally come into the position of taking on the *Roe vs. Wade* case, Weddington set the mood and background of the times prior to 1973. Some states had legal abortions, however, most did not. Self-induced abortion was legal as long as a doctor did not assist. Many women were forced to take unhealthy risks by attempting to get illegal abortions. Others sought abortions in Mexico, where abortion was also illegal, yet readily available. These women returned with infections, perforations, hemorrhages, or worse yet, were attacked on the operating table.

Beverly Drinnin, a psychology instructor on the Ankeny campus, tells of her concern, "One thing that I find disturbing is that traditional college-age students don't remember when abortion was illegal, and therefore have no idea of the consequences of making it illegal. I am frightened that the Supreme Court may actually make

abortion illegal. I am appalled that women may again feel forced to risk illegal abortions and possibly even death."

Since many of the women who were having medical complications from illegal abortions in Mexico were Texas residents, the adverse physical and psychological health affects were becoming increasingly evident to Weddington and her colleagues. In concern for the well-being of these women, this was the first question which was raised: "Could we legally give these women information concerning which doctors in Mexico were safe, and which ones were injuring their patients?" This was the inquiry which began the rolling of the ball that did not stop until reaching the halls of the Supreme Court.

Sarah delved into all of the attainable information involving the standing laws regarding abortion. Through intense research, she found out that many important aspects of the issue were being ignored by much of the law-making bodies of our government.

For instance, she found that a couple of states had "liberalized" their abortion laws by working through the state legislatures to make abortion generally available. Weddington then explained how major

medical groups and governmental organizations felt the profound need for change. "I discovered that there were a lot of professional groups that said having abortion illegal is creating so many problems that the laws ought to be changed. They were groups like the American Medical Association, and the American Public Health Association. There was a group called the Uniform Commission on State Laws who had said the same."

The dawn of this case was beginning to reach its probing rays over the bleak horizon as Weddington realized that there was an urgent need and growing desire of the people to have the right of choice, and the right to have safe surgical procedures performed. It came down to one basic issue: What rights are we, as Americans, going to allow our government to control, and which rights do we feel must be strictly up to the individual?

Having a case, and having found a client, the determined, young lawyer took her stand in the case *Roe vs. Wade*. Not anticipating the high level of controversy surrounding the case, it unexpectedly landed in the hands of the Supreme Court.

Within this case, three principle issues emerged, the same issues which are currently being argued by the diverse voices rising across the country. The paramount question for debate asks the Supreme Court Justices to decide if pregnancy is fundamental. Does a pregnancy interfere enough with a woman's life to give her the right to choose the option of abortion?

Prevalently at that time in our country's history, women were either forced to quit their jobs if they became pregnant, or were kicked out of school. There was no form of alternate

education for those women told to quit school, and the possibility of no income if the women were forced to quit their jobs. These, along with the many other factors, made it become evident that, indeed, pregnancy was fundamental.

The next issue raised by *Roe* is whether the rights of privacy established in the 14th and 9th Amendments to our constitution extended to the women's right to choose an abortion. The final issue inquired of the state if it had a compelling reason to regulate abortion. Weddington illustrated this point by saying, "The state felt it should protect fetal life. So, the court tried to look at how we have traditionally not decided when life begins, because that's biological, that's fact. But, rather, when do rights attach, when do we recognize certain legal rights as being there."

The highest court of our land decided that, indeed, the rights of privacy do reach into the realm of choice involving abortion.

"You know," Sarah stated, "when *Roe vs. Wade* was decided, everybody thought that issue was over. But, exactly the opposite has been the case."

The *Webster* case could have four possible consequences. The first possibility is that the Supreme Court could overturn *Roe*, just as the Justice Department has asked. The repercussions of this would be far-reaching. Discussing one of the implications if *Roe* is overturned, Weddington explained, "Women who have sophistication and money could travel to get the services they need. Yet the women who are younger or poorer, or less sophisticated, would resort to the traditional methods of illegal, or perhaps, self abortion. What I'm sure of

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A friend will tell you:

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Des Moines, IA 50311

Slow Suicide By Choice

by Brad Meyers
Freelance Editorial Columnist

The quest for perceived reality started innocently enough. The folks at the next table in the bar-aterium were having a serious, and somewhat heated discussion. Suddenly a single forceful statement slammed through the layer of smog and into my consciousness. "Smokers have rights too."

Because my mind works in a literal fashion I found myself thinking about that statement. Webster's New World Dictionary states that "right" means "in accordance with justice, law, morality, etc.; upright; virtuous [right conduct]." In political science class the instructor once stated that a "right" was something given or conferred by a higher power, such as God, a court, or a legislative body.

My frontal lobes ground on that for a while. I could not think of a single instance where a "higher authority" had actually conferred the right to smoke on the masses. There had been a certain amount of freedom to smoke conferred by the lack of negative action, but no legislative body has said that under any and all conditions people could smoke.

What is a smoker? Someone who smokes. What is smoking. It would seem that smoking is a way of introducing a chemical into the human body. Recently the Food and Drug Administration, who has not had a traditional right to address the questions around cigarettes, attempted to label the smokeless cigarette as a "device for the introduction of a substance into the body" which would have given it jurisdiction. That sounds just like the description of a syringe and needle.

C. Everett Koop, the former Surgeon General of the United States, has stated that nicotine is one of the most addictive substances known to humankind. Right up there with crack, heroin and the Valium derivatives. The logic of that point of view would indicate that people who smoke might be considered addicts. That would explain why people have so much difficulty stopping in the face of overwhelming evidence of negative consequences. As explained by Dr. Koop, smoking causes many different health problems, some fatal. Why would someone continue to practice a habit that has such clear-cut results as heart attack and lung cancer? It is well known that while smoking may cause these problems, it will absolutely cause emphysema if continued long enough.

Once I realized that this is an addiction it became much clearer. Addicts do not have any control over

their addictions. As long as the disease is running out of control they are powerless. Ask any recovering drunk or drugie and they will tell you that until they hit bottom and became willing to change their lives nothing could be done about their addictions. They were totally powerless and their lives were out of control.

Talk to people who have tried to stop smoking and you will hear much the same things. Very interesting!

If smoking is an addiction, then it must be a very privileged one. I know of no other such chemically addictive behavior that is allowed to go on in public. Even drinking is quickly curtailed in most environments and not allowed on DMACC grounds [within certain limits, such special dinners in Building 7]. Yet nicotine addicts not only prowl the grounds practicing their habits, but are allowed to do so inside one of the main buildings.

It suddenly struck me that possibly there was a question of discrimination here. What is good for one addictive behavior is good for another. If smokers are allowed to openly practice, then other addicts might have a civil right to ask for equal protection. The administration might spread them around. Let's see: Smokers are already in Building 5. The opium den could be put in Building 12. The meal area in building 7 could be converted into a high class bar and gin-joint after normal hours. The banana peel smokers could use the automotive areas for airplane hanger sized bong.

Of course there is another course of action. We could acknowledge that the courts and legislative bodies have bestowed on non-smokers the right to breath in public buildings without being attacked by someone else's self-destructive behavior. That may be the crux of the issue. Various legislative bodies have given non-smokers the right to Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness without being injured by someone else's sick behavior. That may be the prime and only difference between smokers and other addicts: By its very nature their behavior attacks others in the same environment.

We could treat smokers as we treat other addicted person until they get into recovery and stop this slow-but-sure march to suicide. Sheer numbers do not confer respectability and acceptance. No other chemically addicted person is allowed to openly practice his/her addiction within the boundaries of DMACC. Why should nicotine addicts?

Give The Best Gift Anyone Could Ever Give --

Give a Part of Yourself...Become a Donor

by Michelle Smiley
Editor

This year on my birthday, instead of just renewing my driver's license, I also designated that I wanted to become an organ donor. The process was simple and painless. To think that someday a child may see because of the time I took to put a sticker on the back of my license, or that a human life might be saved and extended because that person received my heart or liver, makes me feel worthwhile. And all it took was the time for me to sign an organ donor release form in the presence two legal adults who acted as witnesses.

What a wonderful feeling, and the part I like best is the fact that if one day I decide differently, I simply peel back up the sticker and discard my organ donor release form. I am free to make that decision.

Once you have decided to become an organ donor, you must always have the card/release form with you. In the event of an emergency, doctors do not have permission to remove any organs unless the release form can be found in your belongings. Because certain organs deteriorate in the time a physician and family member may debate over the issue of organ donations, it is important to always carry the organ donor card so that your wishes will be carried out.

You also have a choice to make on which organs you'd like to donate. You could donate just your eyes, all internal organs, your skin, etc. My feeling is that the best you good give another person would be a gift of life.

I would like to share a poem that was printed in the Ankeny Press Citizen newspaper and was sent by the Iowa Lions Eye Bank in Iowa City, Iowa, to a family whose daughter was

recently killed in a car accident. The family donated the young girl's eyes.

The poem was written by Katherine Johns:

I leave to one-
I know not who
The right to see and
live anew
I will not need the
sight I give
For I will have another
place to live.

I cannot leave a
thought, a dream--
Only the chance to
see a beam
Of light that touches
each new day
And a chance to find
"a way".

I cannot help, or
touch a hand
Or point to wonders
of this land,
I only leave a chance
to see
Because I gave a part of
me.

Knew not the donor--
nor the name--
It makes no difference
whence it came.
Just use it well for
all mankind,
For now you see, who
once was blind.

And I shall watch
from where I live
To see you use the
gift I give

To fight for truth,
defy the lies--
For no one really
dies who gives his eyes!

For further information on organ donations, please contact The Kidney Foundation of Iowa at 8611 Hickman Road, Des Moines Iowa, 50322. Or, the Iowa Lions Eye Bank at University Hospitals in Iowa City Iowa, 52242.

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The DMACC Chronicle is a bi-monthly publication. The views expressed in editorials, articles, are comments made by individual staff writers, students, or faculty are not necessarily representative of the DMACC Chronicle staff, faculty, or student body. Please send comments, concerns, or questions to: DMACC Chronicle Office, Bldg. 3, Room 15, Des Moines Area Community College, Ankeny, Iowa 50021.

Should We Trust the Soviets?

by Dave "Ace" McMichael
Chronicle Columnist

This year, DMACC has chosen the Soviet Union as the country to be celebrated through "Soviet Union Week." April 3 - 7 will be devoted to lectures and seminars on this campus. The purpose will be to educate students on the culture(s) of the Soviet Union. I feel that this is good for our school to try to learn about the peoples of the Soviet Union but let's not forget, despite the fact the Soviet Union is a superpower, that we should not blind ourselves to how repressive the Soviets have been in the twentieth century.

From November 1917 to the present, even with Gorbachev's alleged reforms, the West should still be wary of the political side of the Soviet Union.

This political side seems to only be concerned with the expansion of communism. In recent decades, communism has had a firm grip in the third world where political instability may allow any strong-arm to gain a bloody political control of the country. Examples range from Central America to Ethiopia to Afghanistan. Vietnam and Korea are lost battles of the fifties, where China has long adopted its brand of communism.

But the heart of communism still beats in the country where the revolution took a bloody toll in human life. Lenin's Communist Party started in 1917, where until 1922 Lenin would eliminate the opposition -- not unlike the dictator who followed. Stalin's reign from 1922 - 1953 was especially bloody. Estimates of his murders ranged from 20 - 60 million of his own citizens. It is understandable why this country went through a "Red Scare" in the middle fifties; these murders were not unlike the Nazi exterminations of the thirties. W.W.II was still fresh in the minds of Americans, Stalin was very threatening. It had just been a few years earlier that the "Iron Curtain" swallowed Eastern Europe.

Behind this bloc lay one our allies. Poland was the only allied country of the war to be conquered. Attacked in 1939, Poland was devastated by Blitzkrieg, then divided in half by the Nazi-Soviet pact. In June 1941, Poland was completely overrun by the German's attack on the Soviet Union, Poland had acted as Hitler's passive ally. The Nazi invasion of Poland was the reason that France and Britain mobilized against Germany. This threat, too, lead the United States into the war. Despite the reason why we went to war --to save our allies --Poland did not escape. The Soviets took Poland and reshaped their political system to be submissive to Soviet interests. The fate of Poland after the war was equal to the fate of Eastern Germany, which had been conquered as the aggressive nation. Poland was treated as a defeated axis power even though it was not.

I feel that it is important to realize that the Soviet Union as a political unit has not historically been honest in their diplomatic affairs. It would not surprise me if the Soviets are just launching a publicity campaign to put the West off guard. In addition, I don't think we should celebrate a political system that has meant oppression and death to millions of innocent people. If we want to learn about the culture of Eastern Europe, we should have a week devoted to a certain region of the Soviet Union or have a "Slavic" week to better understand the cultural ties of that part of Europe, a region that has always looked to the West.

Pornography No Excuse for Bundy

by Lyn Anderson
Staff Writer

Pornography -- Writings, pictures, etc. intended primarily to arouse sexual desire.

Murder -- The unlawful and malicious or premeditated killing of one human being by another.

The two obviously have nothing in common and yet, they are the base of why Ted Bundy became a serial killer.

Pornography is a part of our society -- a tasteless form of entertainment -- but linking it to murder is ridiculous. Ted Bundy had an abusive upbringing and had lived as a sociopath for years. He lived in a home where the woman he believed to be his sister

actually was his mother. And the man he knew to be his father, in reality was his grandfather who, incidentally, was a violent man who beat anyone that angered him. Bundy had a life of incest and abuse that could cause anyone to go over the edge.

However, Rev. Ray Smith, general superintendent of Open Bible Standard Churches, is quoted as saying, "Bundy was not just some bozo out there. He was very articulate, and he had what most of us would consider a good American Christian upbringing."

WHAT? The man had a history of mental problems, suicide attempts, and physical and emotional abuse. If that is the criteria for a good upbringing than

our society is in worse shape than I thought.

In 1986, a study was done about sexual murderers. Of the 36 killers surveyed, 81 percent were pornography fans. Okay, but, the people surveyed were criminals. Had the survey been done with 36 executives instead, the percentage probably wouldn't be much different. But the executives aren't killing people. What we see and hear does affect what we think and do, but I do not see the connection between watching people engaged in intercourse and brutally killing human beings.

I am in no way condoning pornography. In fact, I think it's disgusting but it's a person's choice whether or not to watch it. But in my opinion, pornography did not cause Ted Bundy to kill. It's much more complex than that.

Terror TV

by Ken Duesenberg
Staff Writer

Sunday morning and somebody had to go and turn on the television. From the depths of slumber a raucous voice obtrudes upon me, disturbing the peaceful air.

"We were born sinners, we deserve eternal damnation and eternal separation from God!"

And a pleasant "Good Morning" to you Mr. TV evangelist.

It seems to me that some

of these mega-buck hungry prophets have some very serious personality disorders.

Look if we believe that God created us, an act that we presumably had very little to say about, then why does God now want to punish us? And if God has such great animosity towards his creation, why does he bother with it?

Just as millions of Moslems do not support the Death Threat of the "terror-exporter" Khomeini, millions of Christians do not support the views of

these self-righteous, right-wing fundamentalist fanatic evangelists, implementing terror on a psychological level.

There are as many ways to look at and approach God as there are people. And there exist many doctrines of a more compassionate and loving God than the one that certain groups would have us believe in.

So what about the Sunday morning bombardment from my raucous-voiced friend on TV? Pull the plug on him.

How Important is Politics?

by Kim Kirkman
Staff writer

Do you ever wonder how political systems of other countries are run? Do the words "perestroika" or "glasnost" have any meaning to you? If not, *Comparative Political Systems* is a course for you.

The political systems class compares other countries' governments and ideals to America's, so a good understanding of one's own government is necessary. Some of the countries that are analyzed include the Soviet Union, West Germany, Britain, and Italy.

The Soviet Union seems to be a country that is talked about more these days since Mikhail Gorbachev has introduced policies of "perestroika" (reconstructing) and "glasnost" (openness). The United States has been dealing with the Soviet Union in a different light since the positive Reagan-Gorbachev summit talks.

One might think that summits and politics are boring and unnecessary, but if a person would stop and think how these issues affect their lives directly, then maybe a course like *Comparative Political*

Systems would be a good idea.

Tom Beck, the instructor for the course, says, "A person who is getting a college degree should have some kind of course that would relate them to what goes on in other countries as opposed to their own." Beck says, "Most students are not going to make a career out of politics, so they choose not to take the course."

Students who are interested in European politics should take the time to investigate what goes on during Soviet Union week.

MAP OUT YOUR WEEK PLAN TO ATTEND THE SOVIET UNION ACTIVITIES

Des Moines Area Community College Presents Soviet Union Week

April 3-7 1989

A brochure with the entire planned schedule of Soviet Union Week has been completed. Students and staff are encouraged and reminded to stop by the Student Activities Office in Building 5 to pick up their copies so they can "map" out the events they wish to attend. Many instructors have planned to dismiss classes or incorporate the weeks' activities into the classroom so all interested people may participate and learn about the U.S.S.R.

THEMES

Monday, April 3, 1989: The Implications For World Peace

Tuesday, April 4, 1989: The Fine Arts And The Soviet Union

Wednesday, April 5, 1989: Mikhail Gorbachev (And Impressions of His Power and the U.S.S.R.)

Thursday, April 6, 1989: Agriculture In The U.S.S.R.

Friday, April 7, 1989: (Continued) Museum Display in Building 7, 9-4; and Visiting Soviet Scholar Roundtable Luncheon with Alexander and Olga Khomenko in the Lakeview Inn, 12:05-1:15.

Bikin', Bird Watchin', Board

DMACC Student Brings Biking to Des Moines

by Mark S. Gedler
Staff Writer

DMACC students can feel proud as they watch the 6th annual Mercy Classic Road Race this year. The reason? The race was initiated and is still run by a full-time DMACC student by the name of John Thompson.

It was over 10 years ago that Thompson, having a strong interest in the sport of biking, conceived the idea of a criterium and road race for the Des Moines area and started talking to people, including the girl-next-door, in order to assess their responses. The reactions were fantastic, especially from the girl-next-door, after working with Thompson for some time on the project, fell in love and eventually married him.

And so was born the Mercy Classic, one of the top road races in the U.S. for professional bicyclists. Since its first running in

1984, the race has continued to grow in popularity and size, now awarding thousands of dollars to bikers who dare to meet the challenge and come out on top.

This year the race is to be held on July 15-16, a week after the Gran Prix and other festivities in the downtown area.

"Every year I put in about 2,500 hours working for the coordination of this event; soliciting sponsors, coordinating the route with local businesses, and arranging for the volunteer support needed to run the race. It's not an easy task. Though some businesses initially had some problems with the race the first few years, I think that most of those same people now recognize that their businesses benefit substantially from the race."

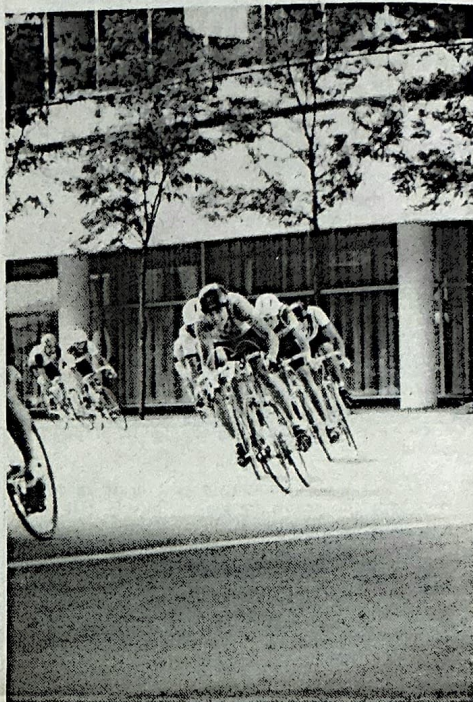
Thompson's wife, Sara, is

also a biking enthusiast, joining Thompson on seven of twelve RAGBRAI trips that he has participated in and helping with race preparations throughout the entire process.

"There is never too much help," says Thompson. "The race requires 100 volunteers a day to run successfully. Many of our volunteers are John's bikers solicited from local and surrounding bike clubs who bring the needed experience to successfully organize the event."

Thompson and his wife hope that the 1989 will draw the biggest crowds ever for the race.

Amidst all the preparations though, Thompson still finds time to continue towards his degree in elementary education. He will complete his degree at Drake University.



Bike racers charge around a corner at last year's Mercy Classic.

Cedar Waxwings Dine at DMACC

by Mark S. Gedler
Staff writer

It's a shame that most people don't realize what it means to be a true "earth person;" one who interacts with the world in which he lives and looks with appreciation and respect at for the living and nonliving

things that make up his environment.

For those who are a bit unaware though, it seems that mother nature has her own ways of making them sit up and take notice. Whether it be in the form of acid rain, smog infested cities, or dwindling populations of our national

bird, sooner or later mother nature will take recourse.

Take for instance the time I was walking out of the library. I couldn't help but notice that starlings, robins, and waxwings who, having been disturbed during their feeding, were chirping crazily at me as I walked by.

However, the student in front of me was not nearly as observant. The only thing on his mind was probably the quick ride home, dinner and some television, and then bed. As he strode down the sidewalk, he carelessly skipped from berry to berry, smashing them into the sidewalk for the lack of anything better to do.

Little did he realize the consequence of his actions. The few remaining berries on the shoveled sidewalks represented the only area where the wintering birds would be able to scrap together a meal to protect them from the harsh wind and bitter cold.

Even though he would have thought me a fanatic, I should have stopped him on the spot and pointed out the atrocity that he was committing. However, I went on my way, thinking that it would be better to mind my own affairs.

As I continued to walk to my car, I suddenly felt a

tap on my right shoulder. Turning around to see who was there, I was amazed to see a white gunk (with a splash of green) running down my shoulder. I couldn't help but chuckle; mother nature sure has her ways.

The culprit who had bushwhacked me was a Cedar Waxwing, one of the many species of animal life who take refuge on the DMACC Ankeny Campus during the winter months. Though some Cedar Waxwings will migrate south for the winter, a good percentage of the birds often spend their winters in their normal territories, choosing to fight the harsh elements of winter.

Those who are looking can easily identify the Cedar Waxwing. It is a trim, crested bird with a black mask and chin. A yellow under belly with a yellow terminal tail band also make the bird easily recognizable.

Throughout the winter and summer months, the birds can be found near alders, maples, and dogwoods. City parks with berry-bearing trees and shrubs are some of their favorite habitat.

During the winter months flocking occurs, with groups reaching 40 or more. They are often seen in their

groups, perched in or near the trees that make up their food source.

Through the years the birds have become a tradition at the Ankeny Campus. Hawthorn trees outside of building six and along islands that separate the parking lots make up the main food source for the birds during the winter months. It is important that these trees and their surrounding areas be recognized and protected as they form the livelihood of these beautiful birds.

Other species of birds found on the Ankeny Campus include the English or House Sparrow, American Robins, Starlings, Red-winged Black birds, and Cardinals. A quick walk down to Future Lake will allow one to view Canada Geese, Mallards, and a variety of other waterfowl.

Stop and observe these wonderful creatures in their natural habitat. If you don't, just be sure to keep an eye out for the feathered avengers; just waiting for a chance to make you sit up and take notice!

Reporter's Note: I wish to extend my thanks to Rick Chapman and Gary Nelson who provided me with valuable insight needed to write this article.



Photo Credit: Mark Gedler

A Cedar Waxwing plucks a berry for its dinner.

Gamin'--Plans For Pastimes



K.C. Morrison and "E" Martin play a challenging and high-blood pressure game of M & M Shuffleboard.

by E. Scott Martin
and K.C. Morrison
Staff Writers

Take an M & M Break Today!

Are you bored with all the homework you've been doing? Or maybe you are just looking for a break from the ordinary. Well, have we got the solution for your problems, try a game of M & M Shuffleboard with a friend. The game is not only challenging but very satisfying, especially if you're the winner. Now, you're probably asking yourself just exactly what is this game and how is it played? First of all, you'll need the following materials to play the game:

Materials

- King size package of plain M & M's
- An official DMACC cafeteria lunch tray
- Two people who are willing to make the other person starve, and have a fun time doing it.
- A strip of masking tape for the half court line
- Now you're set!

The battlefield looks like this, with a piece of masking tape dividing the field into two zones. Game boards can become as advanced and detailed as the players want it to be. Here is the copyrighted version of the DMACC SALAMANDERS game board invented by a couple of creative students here at DMACC.

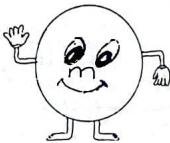
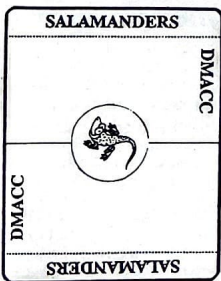


Photo Credit This Page: Annette Nelson

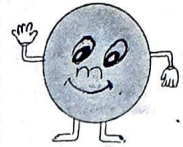


The first annual M & M Shuffleboard invented at DMACC

Start the game off by separating all the M & M's by their color. Each opponent gets an even number of M & M's. For example one opponent may get all the red, green, and yellow M & M's while the other opponent gets the red, brown, and black M & M's; just as long as there are an even number of M & M's on each side.

Second, each opponent places two M & M's of their choice on their own baseline. The object of the game is to take turns at shuffling your M & M across the board with a flick of the finger and trying to hit your opponent's M & M. If you should hit your opponent you take their M & M and eat it with a smile on your face. You then place your M & M back behind the shot line and your opponent takes a turn; in revenge of your shot, of course! The game goes back and forth in this manner until one of the players has eliminated the other by capturing and eating all of the opponent's M & M's.

Of course! With any game there are a set of rules to play by, or it wouldn't be very sportsman-like. The rules are simple and look like this:



Official Rules for M & M Shuffleboard

I. The Playing Area.

A. Dimensions.

1. The battle zone is an area $12\frac{1}{2}$ inches long by $9\frac{1}{4}$ inches wide.
2. This area is framed by a wall which is angled away from the battle zone at a 45 degree angle. The wall should have a height of 1 inch.
3. The shuffleboard court plus the wall makes up the playing field. If the above dimensions are correct, the length of the field (from the tops of the walls) should be $13\frac{3}{4}$ inches. While the width should be $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

B. Lines.

1. The half-court line should be $6\frac{7}{8}$ inches from both endlines, and also it should be perpendicular to the sidelines.
2. The shot line is to be positioned $1\frac{5}{8}$ inches from either endline.

C. Alternatives to building your own playing area.

1. DMACC has purchased many M & M Shuffleboard playing fields for all students to use at their leisure. These high-quality courts are available at no cost in the cafeteria. They have no lines so you will have to employ a line judge, and we at *The Chronicle* really must insist that if you check out a court, be sure to return it. In order to keep our courts safe from enemy schools who might want to get in some practice on top-notch playing surfaces, our courts are disguised as lunch trays (don't tell anyone).
2. As another alternative, first find your opponent, then ask him/her what kind of surface he/she would like to play on. Whatever your opponent agrees to is a regulation playing area.

II. Pre-Game activity.

- A. First of all, you must wash your hands.
- B. Secondly, you must purchase the players you will be using. Players may be any color, nationality, or flavor.
- C. Assemble all the players on the field so that teams can be chosen. When you choose teams, try to keep from mixing the colors, as long as the teams have about the same number of players, then everything is cool.
- D. The official then must flip a coin to determine which team gets the high honor of the first shot.

III. Rules of Play.

- A. Two players from each team must be on the court at all times except when the team only has one player left.
- B. The teams must alternate taking shots at each other.
- C. When your team is shooting, both players must be behind the shot line. When a player hits his opponent, the opponent is declared edible, and the player from the shooting team is returned to his side of the half court line.
- D. When your team is receiving, you may place the players at any location on your side of the half court line.
- E. A player can only bounce against a wall one time, but may slide around the corners. If a player hits a wall once, hits the opposing player, hits the wall again, and then the second opposing player, he will only receive credit for hitting the first player.
- F. If a player on team A leaves the field on the opposing side and the coach/trainer/owner of team B makes no attempt to stop the player from hitting the ground, team B is penalized 2 players.
- G. If a player hits the ground, he is edible.
- H. Play continues until one of the teams runs out of players, at that time, the team which still has players is declared the winner.
- I. In order to avoid contract disputes, and players unions, the surviving players are executed by consumption after each game has been completed.

So the next time you and a pal need a break from the ordinary, grab some M & M's (and please pay for them) and play a competitive game of M & M Shuffleboard. Keep your eyes in the Chronicle for future M & M Shuffleboard tournaments, there will also be a Skittles playoff, so until then practice your shot because you're dealing with pros...



The Chronicle/8 March 31, 1989

Weddington--

continued from page 3

is that abortion would not stop."

The other options the Supreme court could choose include: the affirmation of the initial Roe decision; deciding the Webster case without saying anything about Roe; or, they could conclude that Roe should prevail, yet the states should have more room to regulate abortion.

Weddington told of the absurdity of the notion that all Americans even have the possibility of agreeing on this issue. She asserts, "To me the basic issue is: Who has the right to decide? I think the key to it right now is that those people who are opposed to abortion are much better organized than those who are for choice being available." She later added, "Biology we don't debate, but the issue is: What are the legal ramifications? I don't think

that they [the unborn children] should have the right that completely outweighs the woman's interests at this point. The issue is when rights attach."

Sarah has been spending much of her time recently visiting and lecturing at college campuses. Revealing the reason, she states, "The other thing I really would like to say is that I think that one of the things that I have really learned throughout my life is that people who are really concerned about an issue can have a real impact. They can do it by signing petitions, by being visible on campus, or by just being informed. And so what my life really to me represents is that young people ... have that opportunity. See, I was 25 when I argued the [Roe vs Wade] case, I was 26 when I went into the state

legislature. You don't have to wait to have an impact until you're 50, 60, or even 70. And that's why I'm speaking on college campuses. Because I think what young people think is important."

Liepa--

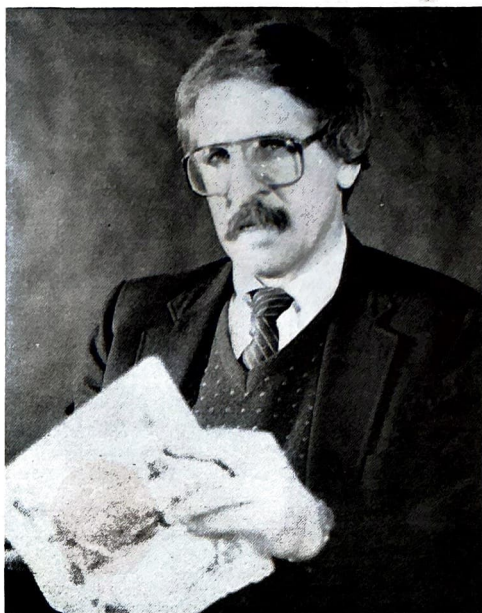
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than they may have already. The process involves making an air-tight sleeve, which will keep out sunlight and allow the paper to be saved for 100 years. "There isn't any lamination done, really, because it's harder to turn the pages, obviously," says Liepa.

Another reason the newspapers add so much to Liepa's class discussions is because of the topics reported by the journalists. "We know history repeats itself...look at the articles on political scandals in Washington, riots in the streets, feminism, and the interest in Americanizing Japan and other foreign countries -- examples from the past that are still in the news today," Liepa emphasizes strongly.

Liepa feels lucky to be a part of a newspaper collecting organization. He receives many different catalogs once a month from dealers across the United States. From Phil Barbor, a dealer in Boston, Massachusetts, and a fee of \$20, he received the original newspaper of former President Buchanan. It was sent along with a letter from the estate.

Shown in some of his collection are "Letters to the Editor" written by Mark Twain; an original issue of The Revolution where the owner was Susan B. Anthony and the editor was Elizabeth Cady Stanton; a 1789 paper rag which cost him only \$40; all of the Dallas, Texas papers which reported the day of



John Liepa: History Teacher & Newspaper Collector

Photo Credit: Mark Guller

President Kennedy's assassination; and many others with "different headlines which evoke different emotions."

Liepa says he really doesn't have a favorite newspaper, but he does especially like the first-hand accounts. "In particular, there is an 1870's baseball story with the box scores of the first players and it's impressive to look at."

Some papers might be worth \$100-200 if he would

decide to sell, but Liepa remains firm, "I buy and use them. I don't plan on selling any to make a profit."

And who knows where more newspapers might be. The collector pieces may be in estates in trunks, grandmothers' attics, and homes of antique collectors. Say thanks to the pack rats of society -- they've made my job more interesting," Liepa says with a laugh. Thanks to the pack rats and John Liepa, students might say learning history this way is more fun.

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COMMUNITY

Ankeny's Substance Abuse Project -- It's Everyone's Problem

by Michelle Smiley
Editor

"Short of living in a cave, everyone will soon be affected by the problem of

substance abuse," says Linda Whitehead, who serves as the Substance Abuse Coordinator for the Ankeny area.

Whitehead, a former county director for Wisconsin's Drunk Driving Program and a past assessment counselor at Our Primary Purpose, was hired last November to serve ANkeny area citizens who had banded together to fight against the growing number of cases of substance abuse in schools and businesses of our community.

Her position is paid for by the public and private sectors of the community. As long as there are concerned citizens, Linda will be kept busy.

The goals of the Substance Abuse Task Force are 1) prevention-a matter of education and awareness,

continued on page 9

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DMACC Blood Drive Facts Box

On Friday, February 24, 83 people showed up at the Blood, Sweat, and Tears Concert--locally, known as the DMACC Blood Drive. Due to circumstances, The Blood Center of Central Iowa allowed only 68 participants to donate a pint of blood each. Of that number, 21 were first time donors. Here are some facts about the blood donation process:

*The Blood Center needs

more than 1,000 donors weekly.

*Actual donation time is only 5-7 minutes; the rest is time spent filling out your medical history and enjoying refreshments after donation.

*A person may donate every 8 weeks, up to 6 times a year.

*Donors must be in good health, weigh at least 110

pounds, be between the ages of 17 and 76, and have eaten a meal prior to donation.

*All blood is tested for blood type, Rh factor, unexpected antibodies, syphilis, hepatitis, the antibody to HIV (the AIDS virus) and other retroviruses.

*The arm of each donor is scrubbed with an antiseptic solution to ensure cleanliness and all materials (needles and bags) are clean and sterile. There is no danger of contracting AIDS by donating blood.

*One donation can help save the lives of three people.

*80% or more of the blood donated is separated into the components of red cells, plasma, and platelets because each has a specific purpose and can help more than one person.

*People who donate blood give of themselves.



Photo Credit: Jim Palmer

A student gives her time, her blood, and a little of herself at the blood drive.

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Substance--

continued from page 8

especially in children of young ages; 2) intervention--helping those people who have a problem and realize it exists; 3) referral to

treatment--helping the people get the direct service and guidance they should; and 4) direction of after call service--helping individuals feel strong and confident again.

This remarkable and friendly lady was on the DMACC campus Tuesday to talk with the automotive program participants on the importance of recognizing the signs of substance abuse.

"Can you imagine the dangers of working in the field of tool and die, automotive, or even the dental health area if a student was working under the influence? This situation could happen, and the damage would be horrifying, if not recognized," she states.

This discussion is similar to the many speeches she gives to high schools, businesses, and the like. She stresses the first thing to learn is release the ethical and moral judgements and beware of any existing negative attitudes.

"This is a disease--alcoholism and chemical dependency...it is the leading cause of death for 15 to 24 year olds...and we have to prevent it."

Signs to look for: obvious signs including alcohol on the breath or outrageous forms of disruptive behavior. Also a change in attitudes, appearance, type of friends or peer group associations. An item that "should cause the red flag to go up" would be disappearances from school or the workplace or numerous amounts of tardiness.

Some people feel they shouldn't get involved or there isn't anything they

can do. Whitehead has a job ahead of her as she relates an analogy between cancer and alcohol:

"If someone is ill or a family member is dying of cancer, organizations are there and many types of support are offered. However, in the case of alcoholism or chemical dependency, people engage in waiting periods, hoping it will disappear or ignoring the whole issue--the earlier someone, anyone, intervenes, the better it is for that person and his/her family."

Her job is to help people feel comfortable in dealing with their problems in a process where loved ones are invited to present reality in a receivable way. Not judgemental, not asking whys, not accusingly interacting with the, perhaps addictive, individuals will increase the chances of success.

"In example, a parent who yells at a child for throwing up on the front lawn again will definitely not get a positive response. I suggest, the phrasing similar to this, 'I feel angry and hurt because of your repeated behavior--how can I help you?' might be a better statement in a situation like that."

Whitehead hopes to establish a rapport with the Abuse Office and help in mainstreaming people into the Des Moines end of both the student and employee assistance, of which any DMACC student or employee may become a part. This is a form of conjunction with the already existing services available.

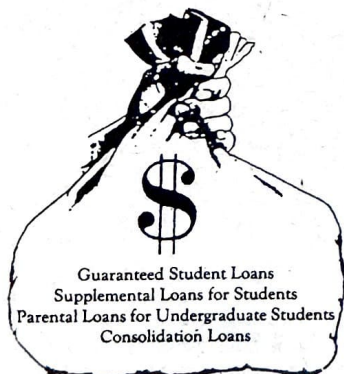
When asked why the problem has grown in such proportionate numbers, Whitehead commented on the media: misinformation, doublestandards, and the laws.

One classic example she says is the marketing of beer by a dog. "The Spuds" image was geared at 10-12 year olds. We don't condone young people to break other laws, yet the concept of a legal drinking age seems to slip by...

Think about this next statistic, every 20 minutes someone dies in a drunk driving accident. People who are intoxicated get behind the wheel of a car and they may just as well be driving down the highway with a loaded gun, shooting randomly at people...

The time is now to start thinking, the time is now to start acting on our thoughts, the time is now--contact Ankeny Substance Abuse Project (ASAP) and see how you can help in this problem.

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EYE

by Dan Dahle
Chronicle Columnist

The people in the apartment above you are constantly fighting at two a.m. Or they're having a party every third Friday of every month. What can you do? You've complained time after time, no good. You bang the ceiling with a broomstick, but move, now there're holes in the ceiling. Do you kill them? Do you move? No! Take control of your life and buy a C.D.

Let me explain, first, bolt your stereo speakers to the ceiling, preferably where the broomstick holes are, then turn up the bass and the volume. Now you're ready for the sweet taste of revenge.

Come on, put in Metallica's "And Justice For All." Go outside. Look in the window, and watch your neighbors float two feet off the floor.

Metallica is omnipotent, without question. Every track of... "And Justice For All" is a geiger of energy that could easily melt your entire Bon Jovi collection in seconds.

The immediate standout of the album is "One." The song was derived from the cult classic, "Johnny Got His Gun," a controversial movie about a young man who loses his limbs, sight, hearing, and speech to a mortar shell. The lyrics cause one to question the validity of the belief that war is honorable.

Although "One" is an attention grabber, no single song musically outweighs the others. The whole album is a metal masterpiece that should satisfy the headiest headbanger.

There was a certain awards ceremony that was a bit ridiculous in my eyes. As a result, the first annual "Third Eye Awards" were created. The list is only a basic summary of the more noted awards, along with a few additions that may upset someone. So remember, these are my choices, not the actual winners that received the awards.

Best new band -- the Sugarcoats; best rap act -- Public Enemy; best heavy-metal band -- Metallica; best R&B artist -- Robert Cray; best country artist -- Dwight Yoakam; best jazz artist -- David Sanborn; best new female singer -- Sinead O'Connor; worst new female singer -- Taylor Dane; best new male singer -- Corey Glover (Living Colour); worst new male singer -- Rick Astley; best single -- "Crash! The Primitive"; worst single -- "Don't Worry, Be Happy" -- Bobby McFerrin; nausea of the year -- Tiffany, Debbie Gibson (lie); comeback of the year -- Cheap Trick; best of show -- Pink Floyd; artist of the year -- Tracy Chapman; worst artist of the year -- Kylie Minogue; worst album of the year -- "New Jersey" by Bon Jovi; "Small World" by Huey Lewis and the News (lie); album of the year -- "Appetite for Destruction" -- Guns n' Roses.

Not to be forgotten: Sonic Youth, Jane's Addiction, 2 Live Crew, the Waterboys, Love and Rockets, the Ploies, REM, Transvision Vamp, Midnight Oil, U2, Cowboy Junkies, the Yellowjackets, the Fall, and many, many more.

Ah, another weekend and nothing to do. You could clean the grout in the bathroom with your toothbrush. But if that doesn't sound appealing to you, here're a couple alternatives.

March 31, at the Laughing Iguana, 2000 Forest, Material issue will allow you to enter into their realm of madness. If you're a Material issue virgin, then this would be the perfect opportunity to experience the strength of their musical embrace.

Short Dogs Grow and Fieldtrip will play April 1, at the Iguana. You more than likely haven't heard of them, but take a chance. After all, what would life be without risks?

Hungry for a little theater? You can satisfy your appetite completely at the Ingersoll Dinner Theater, 3711 Ingersoll Avenue. "Guys and Dolls" runs March 30 through May 20. Call 274-4666 for ticket information.



by Christa Schauf
Staff columnist

'Tis the dawn of spring. As the promising glow of the warming sun gives hope of a palmy summertime, one can hardly escape that overcoming urge to fly out amidst the birds and the butterflies in the intoxicating sunshine.

While almost everyone else was out tanning their buns in the Acapulco golden rays, yours truly was stranded in this wonderful state of ours -- "Yippee..." (I'm sure you can just imagine the thrills and spills I had.). I'm not going to complain too much, however, for I did get to spend some rare time with my grandma in Bayard.

Just keep that catchy name in mind the next time you find yourself in the middle of nowhere, and, needless to say, have absolutely nothing better to do than to seek out the more mysterious wonders of the corn belt.

Anyway, I'll get to make up for my nonexistent trip during spring break by spending this weekend in the glove-shaped, exciting state of Michigan. However, don't envy me too much, for this mini-vacation will only be a mere three days, whereas your break could have extended up to nine days and three-quarters if you would have played your cards, (or plane tickets), correctly.

Now that our weather is absolutely gorgeous, mother nature is portraying to us the wondrous renewal period of the year. But just tell me one thing, kiddos: Why is it that "ole Jack Frost decided to get his jollies by bringing on the freezing weather in February? Why is it that this horrible winter of ours had to hit us so frigidly just when we were beginning to think that we had escaped? If he wouldn't have been such an old stick in the mud, I wouldn't be going stir-crazy right this very moment.

You see, it is extremely difficult to endure these long hours spent indoors after such an excessively icy season. I was born to lounge about on the sandy beaches, cocktail in hand, peering at all those cute little buns of those scantily clad men.

Hopefully, this vacation will relieve my symptoms, which appear to have the wicked intention to keep me from attending classes or work. Gosh, wouldn't that be a drag? Furthermore, just keep that drooping chin of yours lifted because time, my friends, is on our side. For classes are reaching their long-awaited end, making way for the season of frivolity, frolicking, and pleasure. And if I can wait it out anyone can. So just get out your imagining equipment, (you know, a freely open and transcendental mind), And start out by practicing on the vision of tossing a frisbee about and hearing the sounds of children playing in the background as your trusty hound jumps up and makes a perfect catch. Then you can graduate to stellar imagining of delicious kisses from sun chapped lips as you sail across the sparkling, rippling lake....

Out of My League

by Dave "Ace" McMichael
Chronicle Columnist

Everyday on my way to work, I pass the Meredith/Burda printing plant located on S.W. Park Ave. Usually I don't pay much attention to the activity that surrounds the plant, but from now on, I will look at the plant in a different light. On March 15, I was taken on a tour of the plant on the behalf of the International Association of Business Communicators (I.A.B.C.) Iowa chapter. My journalism instructor is on the board of this organization and she kindly invited me to attend the tour as a student journalist.

One of the things that I consider very industrious about the Meredith plant is that it never closes. I always wondered why people were constantly coming and going even at 3 a.m. I learned this plant operates 24 hours a day and seven days a week! Some employees actually work three twelve-hour shifts in one week then relax on the remaining four days. Other employees might even work one week then take the next week off. The printing never stops.

Meredith/Burda acquires its customers from all over the country. They come to this 15-acre industrial giant for its full-service commercial offset and rotogravure printing (4th largest in the U.S.). About 1,000 people are employed to service this plant's contracts.


Meredith/Burda is a partnership between Meredith, of Des Moines, and Burda, of Offenburg, West Germany. Meredith is famous for its publication of *Better Homes and Gardens*, *Metropolitan Home*, and *Successful Farming*, and many other books plus special interest publications. Meanwhile, Burda has injected the partnership with its development in rotogravure printing technology.

The most shocking statistic I learned from the tour was the plant uses about a million tons of paper a day! Can you imagine the amount of trees? A second eye-opening statistic I absorbed, revealed the huge 4,000 pound cylinders used in the rotogravure printing process. Each cylinder acts like a blue-print for the paper to run off copies. These cylinders are carefully designed involving sophisticated technology with skilled craftsmanship. Robots are the main transport of these massive cylinders. One point of interest is the use of only blue, yellow, red, and black with their mixtures and variations to print all their customers literature.

The tour, in my opinion, was a very interesting and successful journalism experience. In completing this tour, I discovered how friendly the employees were in answering on-the-spot questions. I give applause to the friendliness maintained in a very noisy working atmosphere. Some employees must wear ear-plugs to protect their hearing and their sanity. But, I do not know how they adapt to the smell of certain chemicals used.

Over in a brief 45 minutes, I went away with good feeling about the Des Moines printing industry. I hope we can keep our edge in this field of competitiveness.

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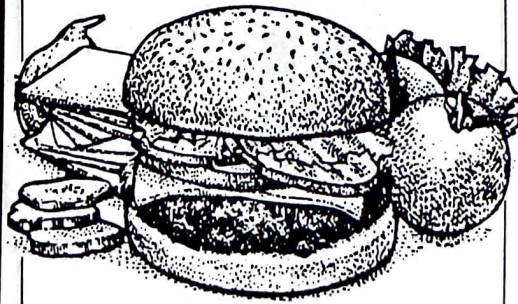
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A Good Movie For Him & Her

by Michelle Smiley
Editor

"Her Alibi" is a recent movie that is wrapped with comedy, adventure, mystery, and romance and is enjoyable to both males and females. The two main characters are both attractive and they play people with different personalities and backgrounds. Tom Selleck plays Peter Swift, a detective novelist, and Paulina Porizkova portrays a young Russian girl who is being held for the murder of an American man.

Tom's character hasn't been selling too many novels lately and his publisher is getting a little anxious for a new book. He seeks an opportunity to provide an "alibi" for the young Russian girl, who is being questioned by police and chased by Soviet agents. By becoming her friend, he creates a mysterious scenario for his upcoming book.

Movie Might Make Smiles

by Dave "Ace" McMichael
Staff Writer

If you are in the right mood, "Dirty, Rotten Scoundrels" will be sure to keep you smiling. It was not surprising that Steve Martin played, Freddy, the lower-class con-man while Micheal Caine portrayed a more sophisticated, upper-class con-man named Lawrence Jameson.

"Scoundrels" introduces you to Martin's character, Freddy, who is charming a young lady. The scene takes place on a train shooting through the south of France. Freddy hopes to get off at Port Sur Mer where he can charm rich ladies out of some cash. At the moment, Freddy is acquiring a considerable amount of cash from his charmed victim. He has told her that he needs the cash for his mother's emergency operation. Lawrence Jameson, played by Caine, observes Freddy in action. The two are brought together when Martin is seated with Caine, where they begin their new antics together. Lawrence feels that he could make considerable amounts of money if Freddy could refine his techniques. Being a man of high class, Lawrence decides that he should take Freddy under his wings.

Before you think that this is the main gist of the movie, wait til Glenn Headly shows a trick or two. Glenn plays a winner of a contest who is awarded a trip through Europe. She appears to be a very simple minded, easy going, and ripe for the pluckin' of a con-man. Caine and Martin make a bet to see who can con the money out of her first. This is where the movie takes the laughter to full throttle. You will be surprised about the outcome of who takes who. In the end, you will discover who is really a dirty, rotten scoundrel.

Between scenes of language miscommunication, suspicious glances on the Tom's part as he wonders at the girl's skill of throwing knives (to kill bugs crawling on the wall) and expresses amazement as she propels herself up the side of a barn to rescue a child from the roof, it gives the characters a chance to fall in love and come to the understanding of trust and honesty, especially when the young girl discovers she is being used as a type of living example as Tom writes a mix of reality, half-truth, and fantasies describing the exact process of their relationship and the turn of events which lead Paulina's family to defect from the Soviet Union.

Not wanting to spoil the outcome in detail, I'll just say that the ending is happy, as most movies are. If you get a chance, go see "Her Alibi" for some laughter and suspense and romance all at the same time. It is currently playing at the Century 6 and Valley 3 Theatres.

'Read' a Classic Novel in Two Hours: Go See It!

by David Champlon
Staff Writer

Once in a while a film is made that is called a "classic." I don't know if this movie, "Dangerous Liaisons," will be one of them, but it does have some elements of the classic romantic-era novel. Of course, it should because it was adapted from the French novel of that time, "Les Liaisons Dangereuses" by Choderlos de Laclos.

O.K. I can hear you saying, "Not another eggheaded, boring movie that wins all the awards, but nobody went to see." That is definitely not the case here. I think it will win awards, plenty of them. But it is far from boring or eggheaded. When I hear someone say, "This a great show with excellent

cinematography and outstanding performances," it doesn't make me want to run out and see the movie.

Today, we want action, car chases, chain saws, explosions. We want thrills, comedy, and lots of steamy scenes. We don't want "classic."

"Dangerous Liaisons" has action, and plenty of steam to go around. The story keeps you interested all the way through the movie. I didn't even look at my watch once during the show.

So, are you sitting on the edge of your seat wondering about some of these "classic romance period elements?"

I thought you would be.

One is represented in a scene where the Viscount is

about to take advantage of a virtuous young lady, and a raging storm starts up outside the window. This was also used in "Frankenstein" by Mary Shelly when Dr. Frankenstein was attempting to bring the monster to life. In many novels and poems of this period, nature is used to reflect on a character's emotions or to comment on something that is evil or goes against the laws of nature.

Another classic element used in "Liaisons" is the "garden scene." While in the garden, the characters are free from the restrictions of society and are able to speak their true feelings.

If, by chance, you go see "Dangerous Liaisons" and don't like it, well, "It's beyond my control."

BILLY AND THE BEAST



BY NICK SPANOSCHKE

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