

THE CHRONICLE

Des Moines
Area
Community
College

Vol. 15 No. 22

September 27, 1991

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Traveler's Notebook: Germany
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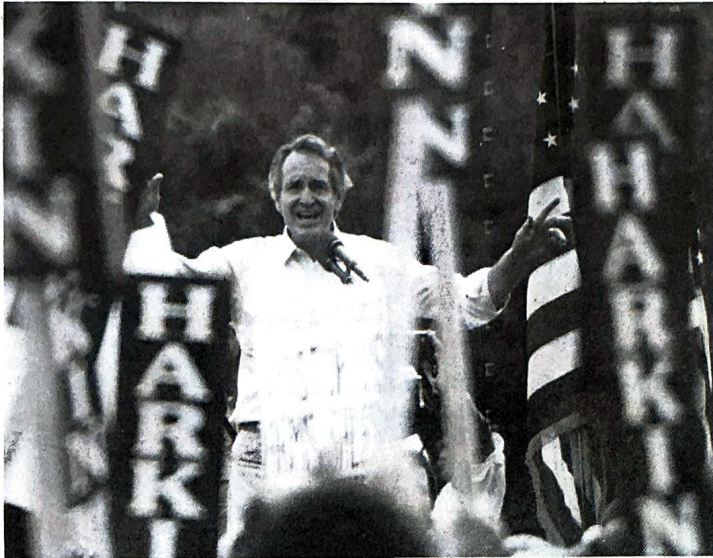


photo by Phillip Morgan

An excited crowd greets Senator Tom Harkin before his official announcement as a presidential candidate.

Harkin, Steak and Politics

-- A Voter's Impression --

by Phillip Morgan
Staff Writer

Between I-35 and the George Mueller farm near Winterset, County Road G-4R meanders like the North River that flows near it. It was almost noon as I drove down that road, guided only by an occasional little blue arrow posted along the way. It was going to be a muggy Sunday afternoon and I could tell already that I had overdressed.

I was enroute to see Iowa Sen. Tom Harkin make official his bid for the presidency. Nearly 3,000 other supporters made the trip as well.

Although this length of road is only a few miles, it seemed much further at the time and I wondered more than once if I had lost my way.

I can't help but form an analogy between my drive and Harkin's drive for the presidency. He has a long and winding road ahead of him and could easily lose his way. At least I had the advantage of those little blue arrows.

If there are two things that appeal to Iowans, it's steak and politics. Tom Harkin has been mixing

both for 14 years now. But I had never attended a Harkin steak fry and wasn't sure what the flow of events would be, so when I arrived earlier than planned I wondered what I might do with myself for the more than two hours that remained before Harkin would speak. But with 3,000 Democrats to talk politics with, it was no trouble keeping occupied.

As I approached the registration table, I was less than certain that I wanted to part with the \$20 bill in my wallet -- crisp, clean, and fresh from the cash machine -- that it would cost me to get in.

I had planned to go to the pops concert at Living History Farms and there was still time to make it. It would have only cost me \$7 and would've been more entertaining (some might argue with that). But to me, politics is more important than pops, so there was no turning back.

Even as I wrestled with my final doubts, however, I began to feel a sense of community. I was there with so many other Democrats, all for a common cause. Of course everyone had their own motivation, their own special interest, but we were all united -- at least for those few hours.

Tom Harkin emerged from a mobile home a few

DMACC Student Poll: Do you plan to vote for Senator Tom Harkin in the '92 election?

Yes: 48% No: 50% Undecided: 10%

Results obtained during the week of September 16 during a randomly conducted unscientific poll of students on the Ankeny campus. A total of 200 students participated. Some faculty were also asked to respond to the question. Thank you for all replies received.

minutes after I arrived. I knew he was there not because I saw him, but because I saw the swarm of journalists, and photographers that engulfed him.

I watched the group move slowly through the woods of hay bales and wooden planks that served as tables for the thousands of steak eating supporters. For almost an hour this group plodded through the aisles, pausing now and then when the senator saw someone he recognized

Tuition Hike 'Likely' Due to Budget Cuts

by Greg Thompson
Staff Writer

"If the economy as a whole doesn't make a complete turnaround, more budget cuts are likely for next year. This could result in tuition increases for the '92-'93 school year," said Darrell Roberts, Vice President of Business Services.

Gov. Terry Branstad's recent 3.25 percent across the board budget cut has reduced DMACC's state money by nearly 50 percent. About \$500,000 had to be cut from the DMACC budget to correspond with the state reductions.

"We had to conduct an analysis of our budget," said Roberts. "It was difficult to make any reduction since DMACC is still growing as a whole."

Roberts indicated salaries make up nearly 80 percent of state funds to education. Eliminating some positions was seemingly the easiest way to cut the budget without greatly affecting the students.

"We wanted to stay as far away from students as possible," Roberts said.

A total of 14 positions were eliminated, nine as of August 8. A few employees were reassigned to federally-funded positions.

Students will notice some minor changes as a result of the budget cuts. Fewer class sections will be available next semester. An increase of 3 to 5 students per class is anticipated in some areas.

College-Labor Union Agreement

Courtesy of DMACC Institutional Relations

One of the first college-labor union agreements in the nation was made between a central Iowa community college and a local union. Cooperation between the two allows students more career options, the opportunity to increase their wages and receive employment benefits after graduation.

Des Moines Area Community College and Trustees of the Local Union #106 Joint Apprenticeship & Training Committee are working together to provide this opportunity.

Trustees of the Local Union #106 Joint Apprenticeship & Training Committee offer graduates of DMACC's one-year Building Trades program the option of entering a carpenter apprenticeship at a higher wage than if they did not have the Building Trades diploma.

DMACC Establishes Exchange Program With Soviet Union

Courtesy of DMACC Institutional Relations

Des Moines Area Community College has received a \$60,010 grant from the United States Information Agency to establish a partnership exchange with a four-year teacher's college in the Stavropol region of the Soviet Union.

The grant enables 12 representatives from the Stavropol State Pedagogical Institute (SSPI) to visit DMACC October 18-November 2, 1991. The exchange continues in May 1991 when DMACC President Joseph A. Borgen and history professor and project director John Liepa lead a 16-member delegation to SSPI.

Student Action Board Approved Clubs

As a new or returning student you probably want to broaden your scholastic horizons as well as have some fun. There are many extracurricular activities that enable you to do both, plus fill some lines on your resume.

The clubs listed below are wonderful opportunities to meet people with the same interests. They also offer activities that enable you to get experience in your field of study.

Many of the clubs offer networking with professionals in your area of interest. Conferences where you can learn life and job skills such as time management or professionalism are also offered.

There are also club projects such as Kids With A Wish and Adopt a Highway that enable you to benefit the community as well as have fun. Contact the advisers listed or for more information call 964-6200 and ask the operator to direct you to the adviser requested.

Adviser

Jean Clark
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Sharon Hann
Dee Johnson
Dennis Lowry
Bob Mann
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Dick Silver
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Sandra Leggett
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Curt Stahr
Gordon Hotchkiss
Monte Ballard

Club Name

Administrative Secretary
Agri Business
Arch Drafting
Art Club
Artery Club
Auto Body
Campus Crusade
Carbide Kids
Clerical Secretary
Collegiate Music Society
Criminal Justice
DMACC Conoert
DMACC Diesel
DMACC Educators
DMACC Electronics Club
Electrolytes
Executive Aasistant
Fashion Merchandising
Finance Club
French Club
Great Exploration
Horticulture
Hospitality Arts
Human Services
Info Word
Junior American Cullnary
Machine Drafting
Management Club
Medical Assistant
Medical Secretary
Nursing 1st Year
Nursing part-time
Nursing second year
Phi Beta Lambda
Piston Polishers
Plaque Busters
Pressman
Psychology
Quality Craftsman
Retail Management
Retail Merchandising
SADHA
Spanish Club
Stutter Strobes
Telecommunications
VICA

Ankeny AA Meetings to be Held

Starting Monday, September 30, AA meetings will be held on a weekly basis on the Ankeny campus. Meetings will convene in Building 5, Room 10 from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. For more information, call Student Health Services at 964-6352.

DMACC Open Forum: The Mature Student

How long have you been away from an academic setting? Two years? Five years? Ten years or more? You are invited to an open forum sponsored by the DMACC Chronicle and organized by Sue Heysinger of the Counseling department. Come to an informal gathering to share your experiences and voice your opinions about programs and services. Bring a sack lunch. Beverages provided. Friday, October 4, 1991. Time: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Place: Building 5, Room 25. Contact Sue Heysinger, Building 1, for more information.

Editor's Note: If you can't make this meeting, please send your comments to the DMACC Chronicle, Building 3, Room 15. The staff plans to write about returning students during 1991-92.

Join PBL at Urban for Business Experience

The PBL Club at the Urban Campus is looking for new members. Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) is a professional business organization for college students. PBL President John Salazar says the club provides opportunities for business students and others to get involved in various activities such as state leadership conferences, field trips to leading businesses and social gatherings.

PBL can help students develop ties with the business community.

For more information, students may contact Dan Hilgers at 248-7219 or stop in at room 222 on the Urban Campus.

Contributed by Nancy Downey, Urban Campus.

Scholarship Available Computer Science Field

The Des Moines Chapter of the Association for Systems Management is offering a \$500 scholarship.

Applicants should be entering their final year of class work in a major relating to information systems, data processing or computer science.

Applicants should also be graduates from an Iowa high school with a GPA of 3.0 or better and should have interest in pursuing career goals in the Des Moines area after graduation.

Deadline: November 1
Applications are available in the Financial Aid office, Building 1.

Get Involved!

The most valuable resource to a political campaign is people (with money running a close second). If you would like to help out your favorite candidate give their office a call.

The Harkin campaign is looking for volunteers interested in the following:

- * Travel out of state
- * Make phone calls
- * Write letters to editors
- * Write out of state voters
- * Be a precinct captain
- * Host a video party
- * Serve of President Steering Committee

If you are interested in doing any of the above, call the Harkin campaign office at 262-9222.

Suriaya Rahaman
Dateline Editor

Did You Know...

A part of your student activity fees goes to pay for the Student Assistance Program.

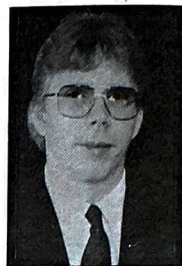
The Student Assistance Program is located at 218 Sixth Avenue, Fleming Building, Suite 706, in Des Moines.

If you are faced with problems you don't want to deal with alone, whether it is a problem involving school, relationships, work, substance abuse/use, you can arrange to visit with a counselor.

All involvement is confidential and referral services are offered to you at no cost. The office hours during the week are from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. But there is always someone to talk to 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

For more information call 244-6090.

Phi Beta Lambda: Learn Leadership Skills For Life



William B. Lembke
Iowa Phi Beta Lambda
State President

PBL is an international professional business organization promoting positive business attitudes in students.

Currently one of the largest organizations on the Ankeny campus, PBL wants to help you develop competent and aggressive leadership skills and establish career goals. There are chapters of PBL on the Boone and Urban campuses also.

For more information contact Larry Saville, Susan Mitchell or Verlyn Noring. (All offices are located in Building 8)

DECA: Shaping Your Future



Russ Moorehead
DECA Advisor,
Marketing
Instructor

The mission statement of Iowa DECA is: To enhance the education of students with interests in marketing, management, and entrepreneurship. Members benefit from increased civic consciousness and building social and leadership skills.

On October 11, Marketing Students from DMACC will attend workshops related to their career interests and network with business professionals at the Airport Hilton-Inn Hotel. They will have a chance to meet students from eight other colleges across the state plus elect their state officials for the 1991-1992 year.

For more information contact Rick Guidicessi, Karen Heuer, Cindy Stewart, Russ Moorehead, Pete Everett or Jerry Manning. (All offices are located in Building 6)

Harkin Hungry for Presidency

continued from page 1

or someone to pose with for a good photo op.

The drone of country music was an ever present background, interrupted with brief pleas for money and support by various party officials.

The challenge lies before us, the White House must be taken back, but we can't do it without support ... Give us your money!

The buckets were passed, money went in -- my money went in. (What could possibly make a college student so easily part with money? I had worked hard to borrow that money from my parents!)

Finally, Harkin took the stage. There was nothing new or unexpected about his speech. No one was in suspense waiting for his words, "I'm Tom Harkin and I'm running for president." Yet his speech was revealing in spite of its content, or lack thereof. It revealed the simple strategy of a grass roots campaign.

The language that he used and the tone of his voice spoke to his desire for acceptance by the down-to-earth average American. The implication is that a politician who speaks in the vernacular can understand the needs of the people.

Over the next 13 months we can expect Harkin to play heavily on that belief and on the pessimism, either real or perceived, of the average American.

As he said in his speech, he will measure the Republicans with "their own yardstick" by asking the American people if they are better off now than they were four years ago -- for that matter, why not 11 years ago?

This is of course the strategy that was used by Reagan against then President Jimmy Carter. While the answer to this question may be no more accurate as an measure for presidential effectiveness now than it was then, it may prove as useful, considering the decline in the standard of living in the latter part of the 1980s.

Harkin's speech followed a typical format: cast doubt on the incumbent (not that it isn't warranted), tell the people what you'll do for them, give a brief personal history, and then repeat what you'll do for them.

Then, with much cheering, the speech ended. The events of the day had peaked and the crowds

headed for their cars.

As I walked to my car across the pasture-turned-parking-lot, I considered the coming campaign. I'm sure that Tom Harkin was doing the same.

Back in my car, I headed for Des Moines. Harkin headed to New Hampshire.

He had said in his speech that there is "a hunger in America." Harkin is hungry for the presidency. Maybe Harkin and America can satisfy each other's hunger. Maybe. All I knew was that I was hungry -- I didn't get any steak. I wonder if Tom got his?

Traveling for Harkin

by Phillip Morgan
Staff Writer

If you've always wanted to see New Hampshire in the winter, you're in luck. That is if you're a Harkin supporter.

Plans are underway in the Harkin campaign for a delegation of Iowans to travel to New Hampshire in January to campaign before that state's primary in February.

Details are few right now but as soon as arrangements are finalized, reservations will be taken.

Costs are usually kept to a minimum to encourage participation in such political excursions. A Wisconsin group paid \$25 for their bus fair to the recent steak fry.

Paul Nelson of Ames, who was taking names of Iowans interested in the New Hampshire trip at the Harkin steak fry, Sept. 15, said that with organizers planning private housing, the total cost for participants should be \$100 or less, with flexible departure and return times.

The purpose of these trips is to show solid support and encourage people from other states to support Harkin in primaries or get involved directly in the campaign.

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Phone (515) 223-9332 (515)223-9719

This is a paid advertisement.

Dear Student Job Applicant:

Campaign Telecommunications, Incorporated employs phone surveyors to do a variety of projects including national political polling and volunteer recruiting for major charities. No sales are involved. Due to upcoming elections throughout the nation for which CTI will do polling as well as increased charity work that has been contracted with us, CTI's personnel needs are increasing.

Our goal in September and October is to hire 200 new permanent part-time and full-time employees each month for upcoming political charity seasons. We would like to offer these positions to you and your friends.

CTI is an equal opportunity employer. We consider anyone who is at least 16 years of age or older. Applicants should have excellent communication skills: Be able to speak English clearly, use correct grammar and be able to read well. Previous on-the-job experience, computer experience and typing

skills are NOT required. Phone etiquette and computer training is provided during a paid training session.

CTI's phone surveyors simply ask 1 to 5 questions from a script on their computer monitor and input the coded answers into a computer keyboard. The surveyors use a phone or a headset to answer outbound calls dialed by our automated dialing system. No manual dialing is involved. The surveys are all done in-house at our West Des Moines telecommunications center.

CTI offers 4-hour daytime and evening shifts seven days a week. Employees choose their own schedules and may mix and match daytime, evening and weekend shifts including a minimum of three shifts (12 hours) or a maximum of 10 shifts (40 hours). Shifts are from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Monday - Friday; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 3 to 7 p.m. Saturday; Noon to 4 p.m. and 5 to 9 p.m. Sunday.

Employees are free to change their schedules on a weekly basis if necessary.

All shifts pay \$5.50 per hour except Friday night, Saturday and Sunday shifts which pay \$6 per hour. Employees are paid weekly on Mondays. Benefits are not offered at this time.

Campaign Telecommunications, Inc. would appreciate your help with this recruitment project. Please refer all interested parties to apply at the above address M-F 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Marina
CTI Personnel Director

--- Paid Advertisement ---

You'll be surprised by all the things that come connected to an IBM Personal System.



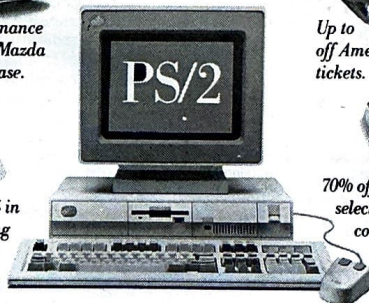
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A PASSPORT TO PARTY

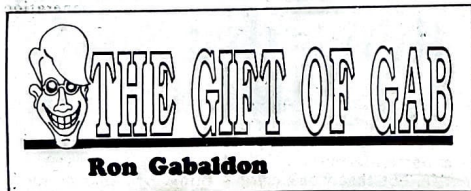
by **Ronald Gabaldon**
Editorial Columnist

When the army told me I would be stationed in Germany, that was what I expected to see -- Germany.

You know, happy dancing men with handlebar mustaches wearing little green hats; well-rounded barmaids wielding eight steins of beer in each hand; polka music; big-bosomed women who said "YA," Julie Andrews twirling amidst a vast meadow surrounded by rolling hills, lush green forests, and small cozy villages -- the real Germany. And so I nudged and scooted my way to the front of the 747 and waited expectantly to gaze on this wondrous foreign country I had only seen on travel agency posters. Clutching my carry-on bag I braced myself as the stewardess beamed a bright, sunny smile and with the grace of swans caressed the cabin door open.

I was sorely disappointed.

In true military fashion I was shoved into the concourse of the Frankfurt/Rein Mein Air Base and into a mighty sea of busy, rushing military personnel. I was quickly ushered onto an awaiting bus and whisked away for inprocessing.



Later that evening, after being given a place to sleep and to relatively unpack, I stood outside the barracks and looked around. Sniffing at the air and tapping my foot at the ground I began to feel like the butt of some sick joke. How childish of the Army, I thought, to fly me in circles for nine hours and then drop me back down in St. Louis. This couldn't be Germany.

Indeed it was. Eventually I came to know the country where I would spend the next two years of my life. It all seemed so ... common. I knew I was in Germany, but I didn't feel like I was in Germany.

But for all the parties, clubs, pubs and bars; for all the cobblestone streets and framework houses, for every "Guten Tag" and "Aufwiederzehen" I still could not grasp that truly German feel -- that Bavarian mystique that eluded me on that first dismal day at the air base.

Time ambled on (as it will in quasi-captivity) until my friend York came to me with an intriguing plan.

"Oktoberfest, man."

Of course! Oktoberfest, one of the most celebrated events in America and here we were smack-dab in the middle of where it all started! After some hurried packing and a trip to the bank to empty our accounts, we were on our way to the originating city of Oktoberfest -- Munich.

It didn't take a lot of negotiating to get me to go anywhere. York could have said, "Hey, Gab! The pope's in town!" and I would have gone with as much zeal. We were all infantrymen and our job was to kill people. Well, seeing as how there wasn't anyone to kill at the time, we had a lot of time and money on our hands.

The only real plan York had was word from his mother about a relative who lived in Munich. They weren't exactly sure what to make of us, but received us openly (thanks to a rather prudent phone call from York's mother). Having achieved a place to stay I anxiously inquired as to where this grand event of beer and food could be found. Andreas, York's cousin, looked at me quizzically and spread out his arms. With a thick German accent he mumbled, "Ist everywhere."

And so it was. I had expected some kind of fairgrounds or stadium lined with kegs and food stands much like our State Fair, but no, the *entire city* was Oktoberfest. The spirit of celebration thrived in every pub and dance club I stepped into. Carnivals and street parties dotted the city and throngs of people gathered here and there. York and I sat at many bars laughing and talking with people we had never seen before and would never see again. We danced and sang German folk songs with groups of total strangers. We became nameless lasting friends with the hundreds of people we met and talked to.

Standing in a cobblestone street as the night wound down, I looked around me. I sniffed at the air and tapped my foot at the ground. I had found Germany.

I wanted something to let me know that I wasn't in America and I had found it. Germans *know* how to party. I've been to Court Avenue and some of Des Moines' so-called "hot spots" trying to find that same celebratory spirit and camaraderie. So far I have come up empty. I see the same casually-dressed people, holding glasses of beer nonchalantly and exhibiting an incredibly bored look (or is it "cool") -- I get those mixed up -- on their pale, drab faces. Maybe once in a while they'll eye someone suspiciously or look down on someone. No smiles, no open cavorting with good friends, just one huge attitude.

We can learn a very valuable lesson from the Germans on how to have fun. Let's stop being so uptight and self-conscious and start *living*. Anyone who agrees with me or would care to join me in my quest for an insanely good time, get a hold of me through the Chronicle office. What have you got to lose except your image?

The Myth of Political Correctness

by **Cory Nyberg**
Editorial Columnist

The right wing has done it again. Every time a label becomes passe, they change the label so they don't get labeled a reactionary. They did it with the term "communist" when they changed the label to "socialist." So it is with political correctness. It became out of fashion to gripe about the liberal establishment, so they came up with a new catchphrase that would ignite the masses.

The conservative camp moans and groans about the pervasiveness of liberal ideology when they have had control of the presidency 19 out of the last 23 years; control of the supreme and federal courts; effective control of the senate (there is no such thing as a

southern Democrat). The hottest talk show in America is the Rush Limbaugh show, a conservative AM radio program. Abortion clinics around the country are being blockaded left and right, and President Bush has a 70 percent approval rating. Yet to the conservative mind, political correctness is on the verge of bringing down western civilization.

The whole controversy behind PC is that the conservatives claim that liberals are silencing -- or abridging the free speech of people who say things that are not *politically correct*. These politically correct ideas are ones of racial equality, gender equality and

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Des Moines Area
Community College

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Heartland Gangsters: Des Moines' Crime Syndicate

by Aaron C. Petty
Editor

Organized crime. Those are two words that I've taken to heart since my childhood. While most young boys were dreaming of becoming astronauts, firemen, policemen, or cowboys, I was dreaming of being part of the Mafia. To have the power, wealth, weapons and control over an entire city was the ultimate goal of this aspiring youth. As most young boys do, I grew out of that phase. There aren't many places in Iowa where a person can readily become a member of a Mafia family.

Luckily for the youth of the Heartland there is a new breed of criminal moving its way into Iowa. Organized crime in the form of street gangs has crept its way into Des Moines' inner city and surrounding suburbs. Granted, we're not dealing with South Central L.A., but the rising number of youth involved in gang activity is alarming.

Yes, the child in me has feelings of admiration, respect, and even envy of the gangster lifestyle these youth lead, but that is the child. I've grown, I've been educated, and I've witnessed the reality of troubles that arise from gang mentality. There is nothing to envy about losing one's life over the color of a jacket. There is nothing to envy about being shot because you are on gang territory. There is nothing to envy about killing or being killed, period.

So as the number of youth involved in gang activity continues to grow, Des Moines is forced to accept the gang culture and eventually be subject to the presence of such a lifestyle, or to fight the looming possibility.

Proposing a plan to rid Des Moines of gangs is easy. Proposing a plan that will work is not. I'll be straightforward by saying that my ideas are in no way a breakthrough to solving the problem, but over the course of the past five months when the fear of gangs was at its height, I heard and read much debate on how to "clean up" Iowa's streets. Rarely did someone mention emphasizing the ideas that I will. Maybe people think my ideas are impossible to reach as a universal solution. They most likely are, but still should be expressed. I offer simple and basic solutions that can be followed to strengthen poor American communities. Not by the end of the week. But definitely in the future.

There is nothing to envy about killing or being killed period.

The first step that should be taken is the reconstructing of the family as the primary positive agent of socialization. Nothing is more fundamental to an individual than what is learned from his family. There should be expressed love, a sense of security, and a strong set of morals implemented in every child's life. The family-unit is a unit of decay in recent times and it is the most necessary of all things that need be strengthened. If a child does not get what he needs from the family, then there is always brotherhood awaiting in a gang. Children need reassurance for their future.

Political Correctness --

continued from page 4

concern for our environment, among others. The right wing believes that liberals are "brainwashing" the public to have the correct opinions and attitudes concerning these issues. What this really means is that the right wing believes liberals are brainwashing incorrectly by promoting ideas that conservatives do not agree with.

The problem here is that the right wing is indifferent -- or actually applauding -- actions such as ridding biology texts of Darwin and evolution, or arresting citizens who burn the flag. Well, isn't throwing someone in jail for burning the flag enforcing one kind of political correctness? Isn't this saying love our country or else go to jail?

The right wing has no qualms about banning speech that goes against their agenda, such as talking about abortion -- a legal activity -- in family planning clinics. Yet they cry foul when people try to promote

People speak of children needing role models. Parents could be that role model necessary for the survival of America's youth. If it's not the parents, it will be the hustler making at least \$50,000 a year by using kids to push his dope.

In addition to strengthening the family, there needs to be outside help. The family cannot work alone in saving the children. Government needs to put more money into poor communities and there are two essential places that the money can be directed; schools and teachers. Give the youth the resources and the tools to be successful. By letting education decline, the government is stripping individuals of their chances to succeed.

In Detroit there is an all-male school created for the African-American youth. President Bush has endorsed this program. I rarely agree with Mr. Bush, but find myself honoring the man for his support of this project. Women's groups and fearful civil rights activists should be more tolerant of the school. The school was not created for reasons of segregation or sexual discrimination; the school was created with the sole intention of the survival of the African-American culture. This not only protects the youth, it also benefits their chances of making it in society. Education is the only means of escape from the poor communities that now entrap them. Each generation should intellectually exceed the previous generation. By not making an effort to improve education, America takes a step backward.

Many people believe that one way to deter gang violence and drug-related crimes is to increase jail sentences and give greater power to the police. That is a waste of money. You can jail any drug dealer for life, but that won't solve a thing. Another person is always waiting to take control of the leadership and continue the sale of drugs while millions of wasted tax dollars pay for the overflowing jails.

Giving greater power to the police should also be avoided. The American police are the white man's guard. It appears that the majority already abuse their powers and there is noticeable racism within police departments. Using force to combat gangs will only result in more unnecessary deaths and a deepened resentment toward the police.

But I've gotten irate so I'll come back to grips with my point. In Des Moines the gang activity is minimal compared to other midwest cities such as Omaha, Kansas City, or Chicago. Here the drug and weapons sales are present, but there isn't enough unity within the gangs to make them work efficiently. The members are too loosely organized to make a serious threat. Given time that can change. The fate of Des Moines rests in the minds and actions of its citizens.

I learned as a boy that the only form of enjoyment when dealing with organized crime is in the form of nostalgia. By combating today's gangsters we may solve the problem. Then, in future generations, a deranged offspring of mine can have young dreams of being part of a crime syndicate that no longer exists.

awareness of "liberal" issues and use the First Amendment as their war cry -- as well they should -- if someone is actually inhibiting speech. It seems the right wing believes in the First Amendment when it promotes their dogma, but trash it when it doesn't.

There is another side to this. I have heard many times, from many different conservatives, that the people of America are generally conservative. If we take that as a given, what is the threat of so called political correctness? Is the conservative public political orientation so shaky that the liberal establishment is going to make everyone Democrats? Or, perhaps, does the right wing believe that the public is so stupid that they will fall for any pitch laid upon them?

The controversy behind political correctness is make believe. The road goes both ways, folks, and the American people should be smarter than to fall for this public relations scam called political correctness.

the other side

by Doug McHone
Staff Writer

So here we are. It's another new year at DMACC, and the adjustments I see myself making are shocking. Like many of you, I am a freshman, just out of high school and am facing the unmistakable trauma of "college shock." It really does matter how you've prepared for this new transition, the changes from high school are both comforting and stressful.

This new liberty of an open campus just blows me away. I remember how dangerous the trip was during high school just to eat lunch in the nearby town of Ankeny. We'd sneak out of the school and quickly head for our cars -- keeping our heads low and our eyes open for any faculty member who might turn us in. Then we'd quietly drive out of the parking lot and set the course toward Ankeny for our half-hour of freedom. Those were the good old days!

But freedom isn't the only difference I've noticed. I share classes with fellow students who are old enough to be my parents! Students smoke openly on campus! You can catch up on your favorite soaps without "catching the flu." There's even a game room, for Pete's sake!

But the most stressful changes have to do with parking. It really doesn't matter where your first class of the day is. If you don't arrive by 8:15 a.m., you can forget about parking anywhere near your classes. This results in a desperate race against time. It's you vs. the clock and the odds aren't in your favor. Twice now, I've had to sprint across campus to make a class. This is not only a pain in the butt; it's also sharp pains in the side.

If finding a parking space is tiresome, finding my car after all of my classes is exhausting. I may know which parking lot it may be in and I might remember about where I parked it, but I still often find myself on yet another scavenger hunt for my little red Escort. I know I'm not stupid and I know I'm not blind so what's the deal?

If anyone has a suggestion, I would really like to hear it. It's not that I don't appreciate the exercise, I just need to improve my "sedan spotting skills." You can submit any ideas to me by writing them down and inserting them into the suggestion slot for the Chronicle in Building 5 or 6 or you can just look for me in the parking lot. I'll be the guy who looks lost.

So until next time, save the whales, save the ozone, save the trees, save the planet, and save yourself!



Editor's Note: We would like to hear from our readers. If you have any comments or suggestions, drop them off at the Chronicle office in Building 3, Room 15 or in the Chronicle "suggestion box" in the entrance of Building 5. Letters to the editor are welcome.

— Aaron C. Petty



INTERNATIONAL Page

Photo by Phillip Morgan

Simpson Professor Predicts Success for German Economy

by Phillip Morgan
Staff Writer

Simpson College's Professor of German Language, Glen Buhr, spoke to DMACC students and faculty on September 18 in the first of many planned presentations for DMACC's Germany Year.

In his lecture, Professor Buhr addressed the present economic conditions in the newly-reunified nation with particular emphasis on the differences between what were formerly East and West Germanies.

"It's an interesting time to be alive and I'm glad I survived it," said Buhr in his opening remarks as he spoke of recent changes in the world following the decline of communism.

"It's a God-awful place"

Having traveled in what was formerly East Germany since the reunification, Buhr gave a firsthand description of conditions there. He summed up his observations simply and with candor: "It's a God-awful place." He went on to say that the situation there is improving.

While East Germany used to be the "crown jewel" of the Soviet bloc -- the best place to live with the best manufactured goods -- values have now changed and today even former East Germans don't want to buy what was made in their factories, preferring instead products from the West. Buhr illustrated his point with a story about the Trabant, a small East German car that seats two and is notorious for the thick, black smoke it emits. In communist East Germany "you had to wait 13 to 14 years to get a Trabant ... now they stand abandoned on the road sides."

Economic Woes

Industry in eastern Germany has been severely affected by reunification. Of some 8,000 industries that existed in former East Germany, only 1,600 are still in operation. Business is further inhibited by antiquated technologies such as the pre World War II telephone system.



Professor Glen Buhr of Simpson College spoke during Germany Year's opening presentation.

The new German government is trying to ease the economic hardships faced by former East Germans. The government provides each of them 9,000 Deutsche-marks per year to try to bring them up to Western standards of living and to compensate for heavy unemployment. The telephone system is also being replaced by the government.

Despite official enthusiasm for unification, Buhr states that many West Germans are not united in the cause. Many resent the government stipend received by East Germans. Others fear the overall cost of unification is too high. For example, the German government will be spending about two billion dollars just to move and retrain Soviet troops that were once stationed in East Germany. The government will probably also have to bear much of the cost of cleaning up land that was severely polluted by East German industry.

Forty-five years of separation have produced two quite different societies that must now come to terms with the differences between them. One such difference is the attitude which workers from each approach their jobs. The inefficiencies of East German industry often left workers without raw materials with which to produce their products, and consequently little work could be done. Workers grown accustomed to this slow pace seem somewhat lazy by western standards. Regarding this phenomena as a misconception, Buhr said, "West Germans say that East Germans don't know how to work; well, they do. They just haven't had much to work on."

In spite of the problems faced by the new Germany Buhr says he believes it will hold together and "will probably remain the largest exporting country in the world."

Ankeny Octoberfest

The Ankeny Campus will host an Octoberfest in honor of the International Year of Germany celebration.

Date: Wednesday, October 16
Time: 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Where: Patio/Lakeside Inn, Building 7

Brats, German-style potato salad and saurkraut will be served. Cost is \$3. Black Forest cake or apple strudel and Bavarian coffee will also be available for \$2. Beer tasting: four, 3-oz. glasses at \$1.25. [Beer varieties offered: St. Pauli Girl, Moosehead, Dos Equis, and Pils Urquell.]

For tickets to the Ankeny Campus Octoberfest, contact Rick Chapman at 604-6535 or Sandy Kolbeck, Hospitality Building 7. (Stop by the Hospitality Careers office on your way to lunch and get your tickets.)

Separate tickets will be sold for the main meal, desserts and beers. Tickets should be purchased in advance and no later than Monday, October 14.

Urban Octoberfest

Urban Campus will host an Octoberfest in celebration of Germany Year.

Date: Thursday, October 17
Time: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Brats, German-style potato salad, kraut, and root beer will be served. Cost \$1. The SAB is helping to sponsor this event. For more information contact Dan Hilgers at 248-7219.

Note: Entertainment for both events is being provided by Dwayne Pickelman, a musician who has been described as a "one-man Um-pah-pah band in the best German tradition." Pickelman has been a frequent performer at the Bavarian Haus restaurant in Des Moines.

Traveler's Notebook:

Deutschland

photos by Helen Kresse

International Editor's Note:

Since this is Germany Year, I will be writing a series of articles on different German cities where I have traveled. — Helen Kresse

From February 1985 to October 1986 I was stationed in Darmstadt, Germany as an army medic. As an air defense artillery unit the mission was similar to those units that deployed Patriot missiles during the gulf war.

Darmstadt is about the size of Des Moines, but the population is much more concentrated. Reminders of WWII were common. The building in which I lived once served as a police surveillance unit (better known as the S.S.) troop barracks. Swastikas had been carved above the entrances, but had since been chiseled out. The



Russian church in Darmstadt, Germany

three bases, one located miles from the other two, were connected by underground communication and supply tunnels. And a museum still had bullet holes purposely left as a reminder of the heavy allied bombing Darmstadt received during the war.

Despite this, Darmstadt is a beautiful city with many historical landmarks. One is a Russian church where Princess Alix, granddaughter of Queen Victoria, married Czar Nicolaus II of Russia. The church, built in the Russian Orthodox style, lies entirely on soil shipped from Russia. Like many of Queen Victoria's descendants, Alix transmitted hemophilia to her only son, which eventually was a contributing factor in the destruction of the Romanov dynasty.

I also liked to visit Frankenstein Castle; part of it had been rebuilt, but most of it was in ruins. The castle lies above the *altstadt* (old town) and was built in the early middle ages. I believe the name derives from the Franks, a Germanic tribe, and "stein" meaning stone. But the name has a sinister connotation and every year a Halloween is celebrated there.



Frankenstein Castle was built during the early middle ages.

Art-Ta-Go-Go

-- The New Arts & Entertainment Page

Nightclub Review:

Come aLIVE at Z

by Melinda Near, Entertainment Editor

How many times have you thought to yourself, "I can't handle another night at a trendy meat market. I can't stand to dance to 50's music anymore. Where do I go?"

Z International, or "Z" as the regulars call it, opened its doors in October 1989. Z was originally intended to be a yuppie-type dance club, catering to the young "suits" of Des Moines. It has evolved into what John Trost, manager of Z, calls, "A progressive, alternative, industrial dance club."

Z International is located in the old Iowa Casket Co. It took seven months to renovate, requiring almost total inner demolition and rebuilding to create the electric atmosphere it has today. A huge, two-floored room, complete with a dance floor and stage for live entertainment, a large bar atop glowing glass brick, and black and gray tables and chairs make up the spacious downstairs. Upstairs there are two pool tables, some video games and more tables and chairs all surrounded by a black, ornamental iron railing. Looking down from the upstairs you're given the perfect view of the dance floor and stage on the lower level.

The club is accented with eye catchers everywhere you look. There are mannequins dangling from the rafters, neon lettering, and blow-up prehistoric dinosaurs designed to keep the eyes and mind from becoming bored.



"I try to make sure that customers have a good time, that they leave here knowing they went somewhere different." -- John Trost, Z Manager

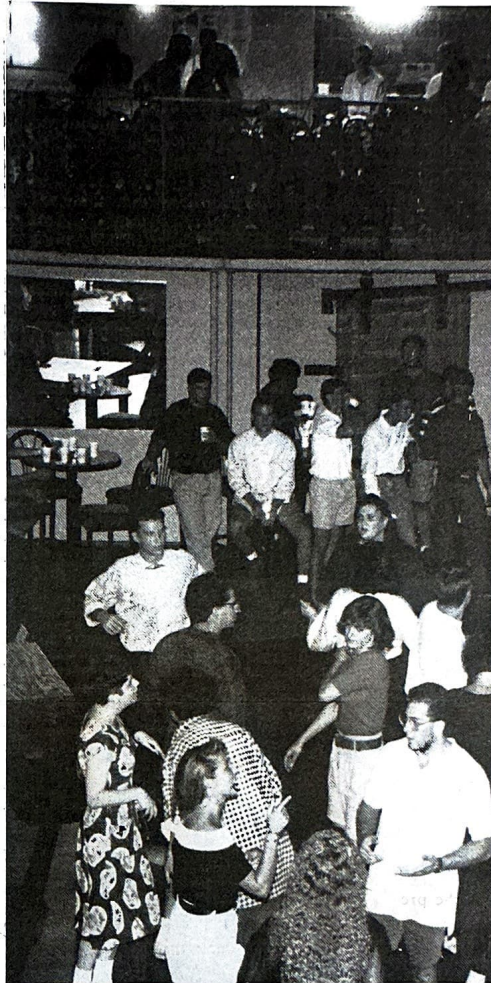
The owner, Jeff Mangold, and Trost never intended to go with the often risky, live-act entertainment. But when they started experimenting with a few local, progressive acts -- immediately deviating from the "norm" -- they discovered there was a market for this type of music in Des Moines. Some of the regular bands range from Drasbury, a funk, rock-type groove, to the ever-popular Blue Band, Iowa's own answer to the blues. They eventually got some national headliners such as My Life With The Thrill Kill Cult and the reggae band, Ipso Facto. Z International is considered one of the best rooms to play in in the central United States and was voted in the top 100 for nightclubs in the U.S. by Billboard magazine.

An evening at Z will cost, on average, what any other club in town will cost -- without being average. Stepping away from mainstream top 40 music and wet t-shirt nights, you'll find a real difference in good, live music and a solid night's worth of dancing. A wide variety of people attend -- from construction workers, to "punks," to local college students. So if you are into people watching, this should be your bottle of beer. If you like dancing, but not with strangers, dance by yourself. Usually there are so many other single "groovers" on the floor it looks like everyone is dancing together.

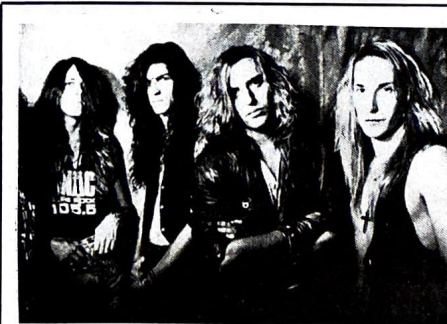
If you find yourself bored with the same old scene, try the "alternative." Go to Z, because as manager Trost says, "I try to make sure customers have a good time, that they leave here knowing they went somewhere different."

Z International opens at 9 p.m. Call for information at 246-1638. Events are updated weekly. Z is located at 216 E. 2nd St.

photos by Phillip Morgan



Looking for fun? How about Saturday from 9 p.m. until 1:30 a.m. for "Local Licks Live" sponsored by Z International and KDMG radio to benefit the Des Moines Art Center. \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Call Z International or 244-KDMG for more information.



Saturn Cats are a hard rock band originally from St. Louis. They will be appearing live at the Runway Lounge in Des Moines September 30 through October 5. So be ready to bang your head and wear your dancing shoes because "the Cats" enjoy seeing everyone have a good time. For more information call the Runway Lounge at 285-5971.

Band Recommendation:
by Leslie Frederick, a
DMACC student in the
Office Occupations
program.

SATURN CATS



The Commitments

movie review
by Helen Kresse
International Editor

Can a Dubliner sing American soul? Band manager Jimmy Rabbitte attempts to answer that question in the new movie "The Commitments." Soul music, explains Jimmy, came from the oppression suffered by blacks in America. "The Irish are the blacks of Europe and Dublin is the outcast of Ireland. Who better has the right to sing soul?"

Jimmy has no doubt of the band's talent and conducts self interviews assuring himself of the band's (The Commitments) destiny. The band is indeed talented and the actors are all accomplished musicians. Deco, the lead singer, is the backbone of the group. Basically he's a womanizing jerk that the band needs, but hates. Eventually, personal conflicts escalate at the height of the band's success, causing a breakup. In my opinion these clashes become monotonous and seriously detract from the movie.

The Register's movie critic, Joan Bunke, calls the language "earthy, Irish working-class brogue." Translated: the language is crude and will offend some. On the positive side the music itself was excellent. The band performs faithful renditions of such classics as "Mustang Sally," "In The Midnight Hour" among others.

Pleased to Meet You !!!

My name is Melinda Near and I am a new addition to the DMACC Chronicle as editor of the Arts & Entertainment page.

I've been attending DMACC off and on, part-time and full-time since the spring of 1984. I'm married and we have one child. I love the arts. I'm interested in music, theatre, movies, and books of all kinds.

I hope to accomplish two things while I'm with you:

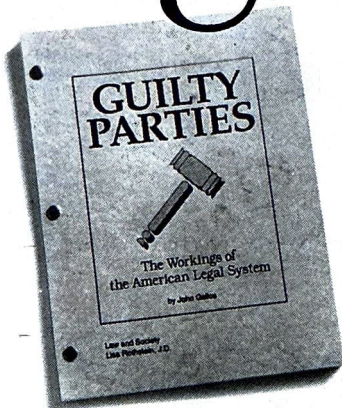
1. Educate myself and be enlightened by your suggestions.
2. Guide you into part of Des Moines and surrounding areas that some of you may not have explored.

So sit back, read and enjoy. Peace and have fun.

Melinda

P.S. Any Ideas? Write me at the Chronicle office, Building 3, Room 15. You can also put your suggestions in the Chronicle box located in the entrance of Building 5. Any student from campus is welcome to submit ideas.

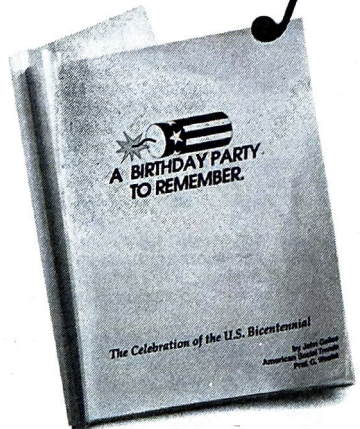
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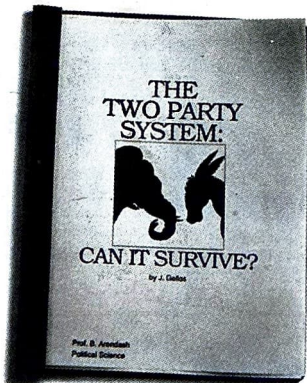
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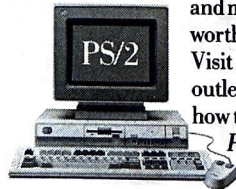


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Join our Party!
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 Stop by to see IBM Computers on display



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