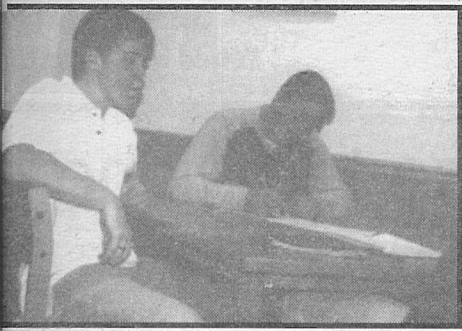


Ames High School The Web

October 24, 1997 • Volume 58, No. 1 • 1921 Ames High Drive • Ames, Iowa 50010



"Sing Alleluia..."



Photo By Arlene Birt/The WEB

Soloists sophomore Leo Ziebol and juniors Daniell Spencer and Bryan Allen sing "He Never Failed Me Yet" with Members of the Concert Choir at the Fall Choral Music Concert Oct. 20. The group also sang "The Promise of Living" and "Soldier Won't You Marry Me?"

Home schooling: An enrollment option

By JANE KLOCKE
STAFF REPORTER

Home schooling is alive and well in Ames. There are 126 kids in grades kindergarten through twelfth in the Ames home-schooling community.

"The participants are just wanting to do education differently," Mary Terpstra, Coordinator of Ames home-based schooling said.

"You get to concentrate more on the subjects that you are interested in."

-freshman
Cal Osmundson

"People think we're all very alike, but in fact we're a very diverse group," Terpstra said. "It ranges from the last of the hippies all the way to the far right." Terpstra believes that the home-schoolers are reflective of the whole Ames Community, therefore it's hard to speak and express opinions as a group.

They are separated into two basic groups. One is more structured and has more planned out curriculum. The others are the "unschoolers," who focus more on projects. The one

thing they all have in common is that the curriculum meets the students' individual needs.

Dual enrollment is another option for those who wish to home school. This enrollment provides an opportunity for an individual to take some classes at home and some at school. Ames High allows these students to take up

to two classes during the day.

Also available is an enrichment program

offered by Terpstra. Grades kindergarten through sixth meet on Friday mornings at Kate Mitchell Elementary School for two and a half hours. The first hour is physical education. The remaining time is used for enrichment activities such as field trips, music and art.

According to Terpstra, there are two new trends for home schoolers. One is that people are staying with it longer. Traditionally, home-schooling was for the younger students,

but now there are twelve high school age and fourteen middle school age home-schoolers in the Ames area. The other noticeable trend is toward the growth of the curriculum. *Explorers Who Got Lost* is a simple, geographical studies book and *A History of Us* is a history book used by the homeschoolers.

Students that are home-schooled seem to have similar views about their schooling. "Home schooling is neat because it's a very one-on-one basis and you get all the attention that you need," home-schooler Simon Miller said.

"You get to concentrate more on the subjects that you are interested in. For example, I've learned a lot more detailed information about the Civil War, which I'm very interested in," freshman Cal Osmundson said.

Although home-schoolers may be viewed as a curiosity, their numbers are growing and will become a larger part of the community. "We're hoping for a movement towards something, not away from it," Terpstra said.

Red ribbon week kicks off Oct. 23-31

By JANE KLOCKE
STAFF REPORTER

Red Ribbon Week is a small, yet effective way of getting the students involved and informed about eliminating drug and alcohol use from Ames High. It will be

Red Ribbon Week

*drug awareness and *alcohol awareness

from Thursday, October 23 to Friday, October 31. Red ribbon week is about drug and alcohol awareness.

Thursday, Friday and Monday, there will be a banner with the pledge on it in the lobby. Students can sign their name and will receive a red ribbon.

Students with red ribbons will be put in a drawing for donated prizes.

Tuesday signatures on the banner will be tallied. They will be giving away rainbow colored suckers with quotes on them. On Wednesday students are encouraged to wear red to support S.A.D.D. (Students Against Drunk Drivers). Prizes for wearing red

will also be awarded.

All day on Thursday there will be a video in the multipurpose room about the affects of drug and alcohol abuse.

There is no school on Friday, but there will be an announcement at the football game about the events and students will be tying red ribbons to cars in the parking lot.

"I want to get as many people involved as possible because things seem to work out better with more participation," junior Katherine Acker, chairman of Red Ribbon Week, said.

Students will have many opportunities to show their support throughout the week and get involved in S.A.D.D.'s projects in the future.



Elementary home schoolers participate in craft projects at Kate Mitchell Elementary School. The students meet for two and one half hours once a week for PE and enrichment activities.

photo courtesy of Mary Terpstra

Bring on the Blimpie's... Lunch committee serves-up Subs

By HEATHER McELVAIN
FRONT PAGE EDITOR

Looking for some variation in your noon-time meal? Look no further—the Student Council lunch committee has come through.

After frequent summer meetings, the lunch committee's hard work has finally paid off. Subs from Blimpie's became available at the Little Cyclone Express on Wednesday, Oct 15.

"We had to have a lot of meetings and discuss a lot of things before we could actually make it happen," senior Katherine Anderson said.

After they decided what they wanted from the company, they had to inform the businesses.

"We sent a notification to many local sandwich restaurants letting them know how many sandwiches we would need and other information, asking the company to get back to us if

they were interested in the job. Three companies sent bids," said Mary Mahoney, director of food services.

The committee had many things to consider when selecting the company to cater the sandwiches.

"We had to consider the initial price for the food and delivery as well as where to sell them, how many to order, what kinds of sandwiches to order and how much to charge the students," Mahoney said.

In order for the school to cover the costs of overestimating the number of sandwiches to order as well as the paper work involved, the price had to be increased from \$1.90 to \$2.40. Although this seems like a large increase, sandwiches at Blimpie's usually cost \$2.40-\$2.60.

"The students are paying for the brand name on their food. We have the staff and the capability right here at

Ames High to make sub sandwiches. We have made them before, but students seem to really want that brand name," Mahoney said.

As far as the selection of sandwiches goes, the committee decided to have one meat choice—thin sliced roast turkey, and one vegetarian—three-cheese.

"One thing we were worried about was the crowding at the Little Cyclone express," Anderson said. "We didn't know how many people to expect as far as the subs go, but there is already a bad crowding problem."

"Wednesday was really a trial run to see what we needed to

change and do in the future," Mahoney said. "I think it was very successful although we did run out. We could have easily sold all of the subs during the first lunch but we felt it was important to make them available at each lunch period. In the future we are going to purchase 100 sandwiches instead of 50," Mahoney said.

Members of the Lunch committee include seniors Anderson, James Grant and Darcy White, juniors Katherine Acker, Claire Gilchrist, Sarah Kitchell and John O'Connell and sophomores Patrick Finn and Gina Russell.

Katherine Anderson's helpful rules of Little Cyclone Express etiquette:

- *Form four distinct lines.
- *Have your mind made up by the time you reach the counter.
- *Have bills less than \$20.
- *DO NOT stand in line with your friends unless you are going to buy something!

Dance terpsichore

By HEATHER McELVAIN
FRONT PAGE EDITOR

Terpsichore: terpin meaning to delight, and chorus meaning to dance.

Terpsichore, Ames High's student choreographed, directed and produced dance production held auditions before and after school on Wednesday, Oct. 22.

The audition was broken into four main phases. The first part was a combination that was taught to the auctioneers to test sequence memory ability. Second was an improvisation to music. Leaps were third. And finally, the students were asked to perform a special talent. The last component was the only time during the auditions that students were asked to perform alone.

"In the auditions we are looking for a number of things. We don't expect everybody to be good at everything, so we try to give everyone a chance to show us their best dancing self," Mary Kautzky said. Kautzky teaches modern dance classes and

is the adult supervisor for Terpsichore.

The auditions were witnessed by the student choreographers (who must be full time juniors or seniors, have completed Modern Dance I and have participated in Terpsichore before).

"The choreographers were looking for qualities that would make a student work well in their dance. Both personality characteristics and dancing ability were taken into consideration," Kautzky said.

After the auditions the choreographers got together and cast the dances.

"Usually about 80 students try out and we try our best to place everybody," Kautzky said. "Terpsichore is a great opportunity for Ames High students. To have an all-student choreographed and produced show is fantastic. Generally, you would have to wait until college to get an opportunity to take part in something like this. That's what makes it so unique."

'The roof, the roof, the roof will not drip...'

Leaky roof construction causes racket

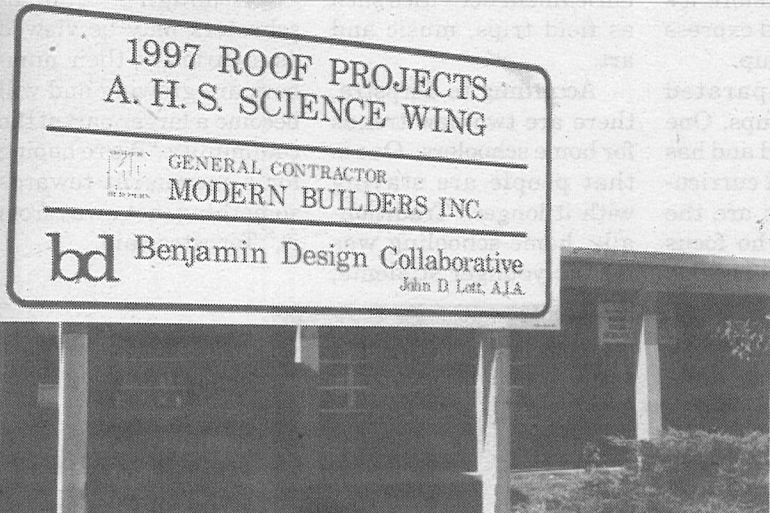


Photo by Arlene Birt/ The WEB

Project sign for the new AHS roof. Construction started in August and is scheduled to be finished in November.

By ARLENE BIRT
NEWS EDITOR

There won't be anymore buckets in halls to catch water dripping from the high school roof this winter. That is, if students can concentrate enough to remember which class to go to.

Workers are in the process of constructing a sloping metal roof above the English and Foreign Language wings to confront leakage problems. (Workers finished the science wing roofs in mid-October.) And it has not been a quiet job.

While keeping class from

the distraction of waterlogged text books, the continual pounding and drilling of construction does little for student concentration.

The administration is apologetic to any inconvenience the construction has caused students.

"We're not happy about the disruption it causes," Principal Chuck Achter said.

Construction was originally scheduled to start in June, to be finished by Sept. 1. But due to insufficient workers and excess projects, the construction company was unable to start until August. Head Custodian Vince Simon estimates the project will be completed by the end of November.

Leaks in the original, flat roof, built as long ago as 1961, were caused by snow and drainage problems. The new 'standing seam roof' is composed of a framework cov-


ered with special sheet metal built atop the existing roof. The roofing comes to a angle at the top to allow snow and rain to drain.


"Last year we had quite a few leaks that couldn't be patched any longer," Simon said, "So instead of putting on another flat roof, or spending any more money on patches; it was decided that they put on a standing seam metal roof."

Originally the district planned to repair only the sci-

ence wing roof this fall. However, due to excessive leaks, the English and foreign language wings were included in this year's renovation.

According to Assistant Superintendent Ralph Farrar, the joint projects carry a price tag of \$260,000. Money was taken from the district's physical plant and equipment fund which is designated for school roof repair and maintenance. No money was taken from the high school budget.





CAB 4
Available in
Black Suede &
White Smooth

Archies
SHOE SALES & REPAIR
107 Welch Ave., Ames • Campustown • 292-8535

Cheering their way to the top

By **Theresa Nassif**
STAFF REPORTER

Hard work, determination, dedication and togetherness are all necessities on the path to a state championship. The state cheersquad has been striving towards these goals since June. On Nov. 1 they'll be prepared to show they have what it takes to be the best in the state.

This year's squad consists of 12 girls. They are the reigning champion in the coed division, but this year they'll be competing in the all girls Class 4A division. "There's a lot tougher competition this year, like Mason City who won last year," senior cheerleader **Lizz Hallam** said.

The cheerleaders have devoted a lot of time to preparing for this year's competition. Their hard work includes practicing Monday through Saturday, conditioning, and concentrating on improving their jumps. Each girl has also been attending a tumbling class at Iowa State. Just recently, they spent two days in Minnesota working at choreographer **Mark Bagon's** gym.

In order to rise above the competition, the squad has added more difficult stunts to their three-minute routine. "Without the guys on the squad, it makes the stunts twice as hard,"

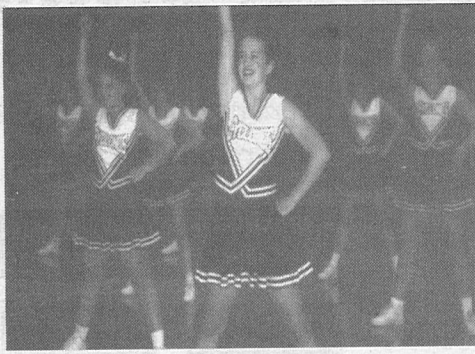


Photo by Theresa Nassif

The AHS varsity cheerleaders lead the crowd in a cheer at the fall pep assembly.

senior **Katie Finn** said. Coach **Sharon Litchfield** said they have sped up the entire routine and added another level of difficulty.

Most importantly is the factor of team work. "We've had our ups and downs working together, but we're hitting our peak now at the right time," Finn said.

The cheersquad will compete on Saturday, Nov. 1 at Southeast Polk High School around 3:30 p.m. "We've been working hard so we can win state, and we want everyone to come out and support us," Hallam said.

Alyssa Culbertson: Diving with grace

By **Mary Russel**
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Diving requires grace, power and nerve. Sophomore **Alyssa Culbertson** has developed all of these skills to become the second varsity diver on the Swimming and Diving team.

Culbertson and Gilbert senior **Jami Sharp** have both been major factors on the team this year, diving coach **Karen Youngberg** said.

She also added that they have each finished first, second or third at every dual meet this year.

"Alyssa is a very consistent diver and has a lot of guts to do some of the dives," said swimming coach **Nancy Svein**.

Overcoming fear is an important step for any diver. "Hitting the board is a major fear of most people," Culbertson said. "If you don't have that fear you can pretty much do anything."

Culbertson started diving last year as a freshman. She did not start with any diving experience, but her skill as a tumbler has helped her.

"I could do the flips already and all I had to do was make them into dives," Culbertson said. "Tumbling kind of gave

me a base instead of learning everything from scratch like everybody else."

Culbertson has improved since her first season. "Her poise on the board has grown and developed well," Youngberg said. "Her average meet score has probably increased by 25 points, and she is usually between 185 and 200 points."

Diving is a unique sport because the scores are based on the decisions of judges. "They judge you on your takeoff from the board, how high you are, how close you are to the board, and your entry," Culbertson said.

The judges are not always consistent. This makes Culbertson's positive attitude important.

"She is a very upbeat person, but she is also realistic," Svein said. "She is a good team supporter."

Her attitude helps her keep her scores in perspective.

"I feel good if I beat my high

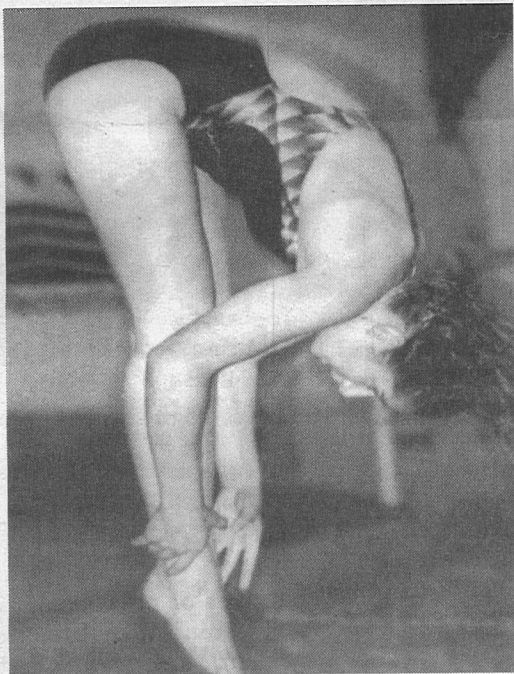


Photo by Arlene Birt

Sophomore Alyssa Culbertson practices her pike a recent practice. Culbertson is the second varsity diver on the AHS swimming and diving team.

score, but you can't always know how the judges will score you," Culbertson said. "If I feel I've improved on a dive, I feel like I've accomplished something."

Jim Martin: Man or Missile?

By **Mike Meier**
STAFF REPORTER

Senior **Jim "The Human Missile" Martin** has always wanted to succeed in sports. Martin plays outside line backer for the football team. He has had 8 sacks in 7 games this year.

"I love to hit more than anything," Martin said. "I also love to win."

Martin is admired by many members of the team. "Martin's a tank," said senior **A.J. Wilson**, a fellow team member. "He is simply programmed to kill."

Jim got his nickname of "The Human Missile" last year when, as a junior, he was on all special teams. On kickoffs he would take off down the field recklessly, intent on killing the guy with the ball and anyone else in his way.

"I would really not want to play against him," said junior **Jeff Happe**, "because of his exceptional toughness, and ability to get into your head."

Martin has also made quite an impression on his coaches. "Jim is one of the finest players to watch on

the football field," said head coach **Kirk Daddow**, referring to Martin's kickoff abilities. "When he goes flying down field, you know something is going to happen."

Although Martin's desire to win and his reckless attitude do him well on the field, they are not his only strengths. Martin is quite the powerhouse. He is able to bench press over 300 pounds, making him among the strongest members of the team.

Along with being one of the top football players, Martin is a successful wrestler.

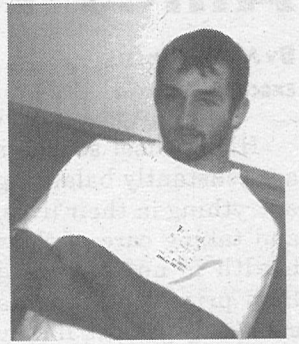


Photo by Mike Meier

Senior Jim Martin takes a time out from football to pose for a picture. He is a linebacker for the AHS varsity football team.

Ames golf team scores a hole in one

By **Jason Clark**
FYI EDITOR

Senior **Kyle Youngberg** and the rest of the golf team have waited three years to go to state. That's why the golf team's advancement to the state meet this year meant so much to them.

"My being able to be a part of this team was awesome," Youngberg said. The state meet took place at Willow Creek in Des Moines on Oct. 10 and 11. AHS competed against twelve other teams from across Iowa. The Ames High golf team placed ninth on Friday and finished in sixth place overall on Saturday. "[The team] moved up the most number of slots of any team on the second day," Coach **Robert Shahidi** said.

The Ames High golf team competed in the district meet against

twelve other teams from around central Iowa on Oct. 7 and 8. Ames High finished first, advancing the team to state along with Fort Dodge and Urbandale.

Part of the golf team's success can be attributed to Shahidi, their new coach. Shahidi is a PGA golf professional and a 1982 graduate of Ames High School.

"We had a good time as a team," senior **Mark Ellingson** said. "We became good friends doing things together, besides just on the golf course." The members of the varsity team that went to district and state are **Mark Ellingson, Kyle Youngberg, Jon Olson, Aaron Wheelock, Bronk Harms, Dan Jeong** and **Brandon Hageman**, as an alternate. "You're not going to find a closer group of guys than this," Youngberg said.

Don't sweep away your future because you got swept up in the moment.

If you choose to have sex, plan ahead.

No one enjoys interrupting a romantic moment.

But, imagine the interruption an infection or unwanted pregnancy would cause in your life.

Play it safe.

Call Planned Parenthood today.

Planned Parenthood
of Greater Iowa

2530 Chamberlain Street • Ames • 292-1000

Check us out on the Internet! <http://www.netins.net/showcase/ppgi>

Ames High gets a bad dose of sickness

By MARY RUSSELL
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

High school students are constantly balancing everything in their lives, and taking care of their health is not always a high priority. Students can easily get sick if they disregard some simple prevention measures.

"Not eating right or getting the right amount of sleep makes the body more prone to infections when they do come along," said Dr. Jack Swanson, a pediatrician at McFarland Clinic.

According to Dr. Swanson, more high school students are getting sick this year than in recent years, due to a variety of reasons. "There's been lots of colds and sore throats. I've seen more infections this fall than usual," he said. "We're not sure why, but it is probably the virulence of the particular viruses."

Prevention measures are important because everyone is exposed to these germs. "Most of these illnesses are caused by viruses you pick up because you are with other kids. You can't avoid that," Swanson said. "But the body's defenses go down when they don't get enough sleep or

eat regularly."

Lack of sleep is a problem many students face, but the possibility of getting sick is not usually a concern when they decide how to spend their time.

"I think a lot of kids get sick because they don't get enough sleep, but I don't usually worry about it," freshman Roy Maghsoodi said.

Maghsoodi also added that students don't have enough time to get the right amount of sleep because "school starts too early and the teachers expect too much of us; we also have too many after school activities."

Other students agreed that the strains of high

school took away their time, preventing them from taking care of themselves. "I have too much to do, so I have to stay up late and do my school work," junior Ross Wirth said.

This makes students more productive, but it can catch up with them in the long run.

"If you sleep only four hours tonight and don't sleep well another night, it can start to add up," said Karleene Smith, R.N., the Ames High School nurse. "Just going to bed early on one night is not going to take care of it. You have to have consistent sleep patterns."

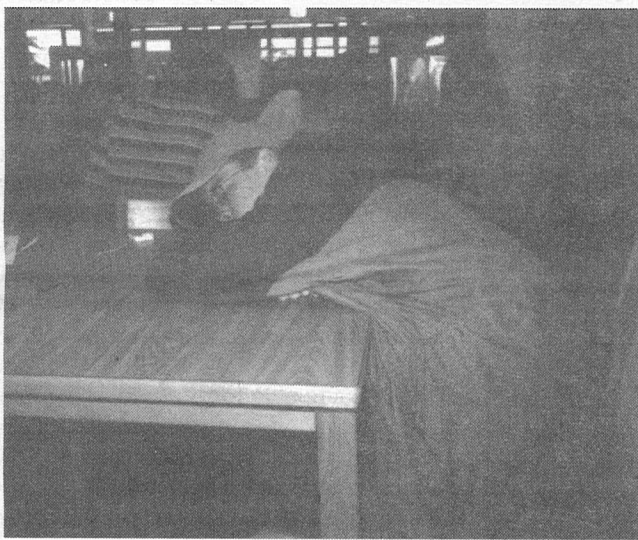
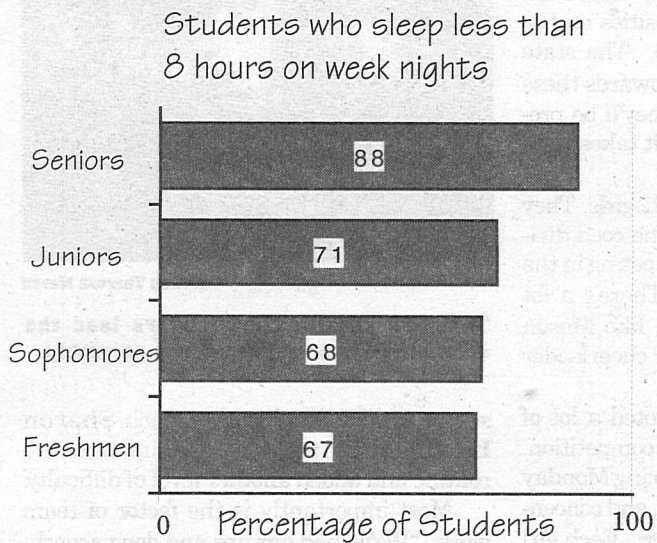
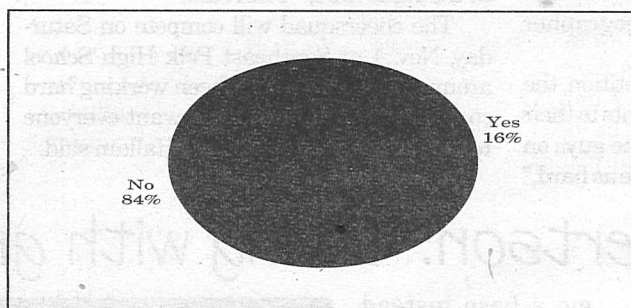


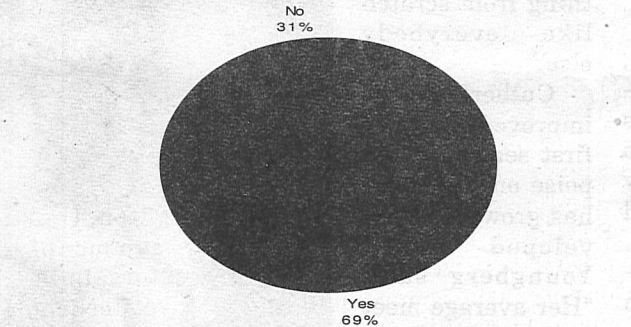
Photo by Erin Wentworth
Senior Reed Larson takes a snooze during a free period.



Do you get enough sleep?



Do you fall asleep in class?



162 Ames High students were surveyed from all grades.

An interview with freshman Erin Martin

By ERIN WENTWORTH
MANAGING EDITOR



Photo by Erin Wentworth

Freshman Erin Martin

Q: Who is the most intimidating senior in the high school?

A: Janell Hutchison is a scary senior if she doesn't like you.

Q: What kind of music do you like?

A: I like whatever is on the radio.

Q: Who is your favorite teacher?

A: Mr. Lofgren he is awesome during Algebra!

Q: What is your favorite sport?

A: Volleyball.

Q: What do you do for fun on the weekends?

A: I hang out with my friends and I like to dress up in blue tutus.

Q: What is your favorite color?

A: I like the color blue.

Q: What is your favorite cereal? Why?

A: I like Honey Nut Cheerios because they have cool commercials.

Q: What is your favorite word?

A: Mas o menos.

Mrs. Polston: Making food science fun at AHS

By THERESA NASSIFF
STAFF WRITER

Within the past year, the number of Foods and Nutrition classes increased from two to six. This drastic increase is probably due to the popularity of the course and of the enthusiastic, caring teacher: Lynda Polston.

Polston has a deep caring for each student that goes beyond just the

classroom. "She's more than just a teacher, she's a great friend," senior Ginny Cronin said. "You can talk to her about anything and she won't judge you."

Polston believes that the best thing about Ames High is the students, and by teaching an elective she has the opportunity to



Photo by Theresa Nassiff

Mrs. Polston helps a student in class.

see the best side of them. "I have an advantage because in Foods there is no

stress or pressure," Polston said. "Students are going to learn what they want without having to focus on a grade."

Along with her six sections of Foods, Polston is the senior senate advisor. This enables her to work more closely with students. She especially enjoys working

with senior senate because it is an exciting time for the seniors and she is glad to be a part of it.

It is Polston's outgoing and considerate personality that makes her fun to be around. "She's enthusiastic about teaching," senior Janell Hutchison said. "You can tell that she truly enjoys being with the students."

Pregnant? Need Help? 292-8414

BIRTHRIGHT
of Ames, Inc.

"Let me tell you a story": A review of *Two or Three Things I Know For Sure*

By GINA RUSSELL
STAFF WRITER

The Boston Globe called Dorothy Allison "without question, one of the finest writers of her generation." This is proven in her most recent book, *Two or Three Things I Know For Sure*. The book is a memoir of her life and family, as rich and terrible as the red South Carolina dirt upon which they lived. Recognizing and fearing the immense pain and strength in her mother and aunts, Allison writes of the stark truths she has learned through stories of herself and her family.

The title comes from something her aunt told her as a child: "Aunt Dot was the one who said it. She said, 'Lord, girl, there's only two or three things I know for sure... Of course, it's

never the same things and I'm never as sure as I'd like to be."

From the first sentence, "Let me tell you a story," Allison weaves memories and reflections, tying them together with a summary after each passage. After a story about the difficulty she had making a family tree in fourth grade, Allison writes: "Two or three things I know for sure, and one of them is just this- if we cannot name our own we are cut off at the root, our hold on our lives as fragile as seed in a wind."

Family is a major topic in the book, and how her family shaped who she is now. She says of the women in her family: "The women I loved most in the world horrified me. I did not want to grow up to be them. I made myself proud of their

pride, their determination, their stubbornness, but every night I prayed a man's prayer: Lord, save me from

while protecting her, crippled her soul. "Behind the story I tell is the one I don't. Behind the story you

of hard truth, the way fiction can be a harder piece of truth... The story becomes the thing needed."

This book is beauty. Even the physical layout adds to the collective splendor. Within the text are pictures from the author's past: her family and herself in different stages of life. There are no captions, save for a list at the end of the book. At first it feels slightly uncomfortable not knowing the exact names and stories of those in the photos, but after a while this begins to add to the understanding of the book. Without frames separating the pictures and text, the faces and words blur somewhat, deepening the effect of her stories.

The book is written with eloquent understanding. Allison sees who she and

her family are, has searched for and discovered why they are who they are, and tells it with rare grace.

Though her pain has been great, growing up poor, hungry, abused, misunderstood and seen as worthless, Allison writes as one who has made peace. This peace is a long time coming after a hard-fought battle between her and her past. Such power and fury is captured in her words, and the stories she so well portrays and offers.

This book is one of few where every word holds and teaches something great. I am profoundly affected by every story, and must take a moment to pause and let the truth and emotions sink in. I feel refreshingly stripped of knowledge as I realize how few things I know for sure.

"There's only two or three things I know for sure. Of course, they're never the same things and I'm never as sure as I'd like to be."

--Dorothy Allison,
Two or Three Things I Know For Sure

them. Do not let me become them." These women taught her stone strength to be "unbreakable, an animal with animal strength."

She needed this strength to survive the physical and sexual abuse of her stepfather. The years of shame and silence built into a hard wall, which

hear is the one I wish I could make you hear."

The words "Let me tell you a story" appear many times throughout the text. Not only does Allison tell her story, she writes on the act of telling stories. She writes on the use and effect of the story here: "I know the use of fiction in a world

Making some noise: A preview of STOMP

By ERIN WENTWORTH
MANAGING EDITOR

Boxes of matches, aluminum trash cans, ten gallon drums and ordinary brooms are just a few of the items

used in the production of STOMP. The performers of STOMP create a combination of percussion, movement and visual comedy with common household items.

STOMP was created in

Brighton, United Kingdom in the summer of 1991. The two creators, Luke Cresswell and Steve McNicholas, worked on prior theatre works before starting STOMP. A group of 10 men and women make up the cast, all of which are very fit and all are experienced dancers.

The performance consists of members using brooms and broom handles to create a drum beat. The performers do a variety of voiceless skits. The cast can't speak because of the extra sensitive microphones used on the stage. These microphones pick up the smallest sound, even a pin drop.

STOMP has been nominated for several awards and won "Best Entertainment" in the 1994 Olivier awards. They also won "Best Choreography" and "Most Unique

carefully. It was obvious to me that lots of time and commitment went into this production. Each one of the cast members came out after the show, said a few words about the crowd and took some questions. I encourage anyone who has a chance to see this production. It is absolutely amazing. It really got me motivated to go out and try those little tricks that they used. My favorite part was when they used bungee cords and hung themselves from the ceiling on the stage and swang back and forth hitting tops of garbage cans that hung from the ceiling.

STOMP is will give three performances this weekend. Tickets are still available for certain shows. Call Ticket Master or the Civic Center for more information.

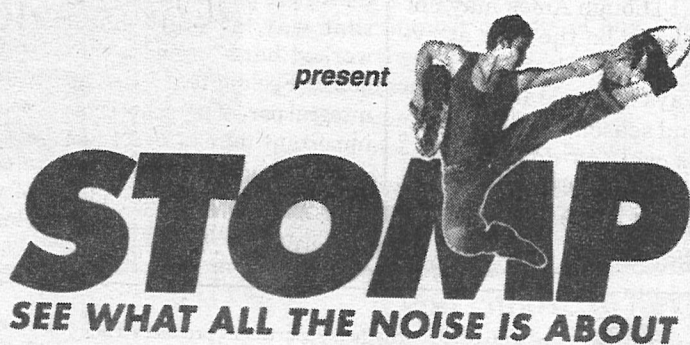
Worried that your family isn't picture perfect?

If your family doesn't resemble the Cleavers, you're not alone. Lots of families have problems. If things could be better between you and your parents, maybe we can help. We often talk to parents about relating to their teenage kids. For help with a family problem call: (515) 233-2250.



Youth & Shelter Services
Family Counseling Center
420 Kellogg Ave. Ames, IA 50010

24-hour crisis hotline:
233-2330 in Ames, or 1-800-600-2330 outside Ames



STOMP is playing at the Civic Center this weekend.

Theatre Experience." The cast of STOMP also recorded music for the movie "Tank Girl." Since the 1993 opening day in New York, the cast of STOMP has had nothing but sellout crowds across the U.S.

STOMP was amazing. They timed everything very

Viewpoints

We've got spirit...

Community shows support

ARLENE BIRT
NEWS EDITOR

"Students of Ames Senior High,
Proud of our school are we...."

Though not all students know the school song and the "pep" rallies don't always live up to their name, the brightest star of Little Cyclone spirit may shine from beyond the 8-3 academic day.

As a new student to Ames this year, the local effort put into the high school impressed me. Nearly all groups nationwide can support their youth with donations or money, but not every community can contribute such a sense of encouragement to their students.

Maybe it's the charisma of all AHS students, but more likely it's the lifestyle of a small, close-knit community that care what is happening in the lives of their youth.

Even coming from the largest of the nine Omaha public high schools, I have never before experienced the large quantity or enthusiasm of Little Cyclone football fans. It's like the community drops everything to congregate at the high school stadium.

But what really knocked my socks off was the number of season ticket holders there are. SEASON TICKETS! At a high school game! According to athletic director Dave Posegate, 280 season tickets were purchased by athletes' parents and com-

munity members.

What the unranked football team doesn't have in talent, the crowd of cheering fans more than makes up for in spirit.

And it's not only the football games that are an amazement to me. Other athletic events enjoy the same fan support, though not always to the extent or passion that the football crowd displays.

From orange "AHS golf" lawn flags to entire football games laid-out on front lawns, I've seen more Little Cyclone spirit from the Ames community than I have from the entire student body of some high schools.

Take for example, Mary Young, 1329 Grand Ave, who creates wooden holiday stake-ups to display in her front yard.

Though recently replaced with ghosts and witches for Halloween, Young's yard displays the layout of an AHS football game every fall; complete with cheerleaders, players and fans.

Though Young's grandson (the football player from whom she shaped the idea) graduated long ago, she continues to exhibit the pride she feels for the team.

Though Ames may not always be the best at everything, there will always be the Mary Youngs' and season ticket holders, as well as donations to "...cheer the orange and black, on to victory. Rah, rah, Rah!"

Winter Formal: New alternatives to bad solutions

AMBER ERICKSON
SPORTS EDITOR

It has been brought to my attention several times since the beginning of the school year that Winter Formal is going to be on Dec. 27. This is only two days after Christmas. This does not create a problem for me. My social calendar is pretty much free until...well, lets just say I'm free then. The Senior Girls' Club, the people in charge of decorating and planning, believe that there is a problem with this date. For some reason it has become a big deal.

Because it is only two days after Christmas, certain members of the Senior Girls' Club believe that there will be too many people on vacation and they will not make a profit. What I don't understand is that people will be gone during any part of Winter Break. If people who feel that this dance is all that important should have arranged their vacation around it. The date is in the school calendar, which was distributed in the middle of August, so it is not like it was a surprise. Also, didn't the Senior Girls' Club meet late last year? Was the date not discussed then?

Apparently the alternative is to have it in the Ames High Gym in the middle of December or the beginning of January. I don't know about the rest of you, but I don't want to spend my money on a dress to go to a

dance in the gym. Isn't Winter Formal supposed to be a little more special than Homecoming? I don't think the gym will create the same ambiance as the Sun Room in the Memorial Union. The smell of dirty gym socks and water in a cooler just doesn't do it for me.

I realize that the administration is opposed to having it in a hotel, but wouldn't that be a better alternative? They believe that having Winter Formal in a hotel would promote people to get a hotel room. Don't you think that if a group of people were intending to get a hotel room they would get one no matter where the dance was held? I understand that it is not discouraging them from renting a hotel room but teenagers have been getting hotel rooms since hotel rooms were created. It is a tradition that was most likely started by those who want to discourage it now.

I really don't see a need to change the date of Winter Formal. I don't think anyone will die because they were unable to go to one dance out of the 12 that are possible to go to in the four years that they attend AHS. Do you really think you'll remember it in 10 years? I certainly hope that your life will not be that boring and you will have to dwell on what you did in high school.

Ames High needs to aim high for all students

GINA RUSSELL
STAFF REPORTER

Ames High School-1600 students, 1600 identities. We are like grains of sand held together by the hand of the school we attend, a hand that does not squeeze us in an effort to make us one but just holds us all in our unique differences. We're learning together, "comrades in work and in play," without a doubt, all feeling like an important and valued part of the Ames High community.

How many of you really feel we are "comrades in work and in play"? How many feel they are a part of this school that if missing would affect the whole picture? I do feel that way, actually, but I worked hard to get to that point. Feeling that I was an integral part of my school was important to me. I feel like Ames High is more than just the place I go every Monday through Friday. Cheesy as it may sound, I guess I love my

school.

But a lot of people don't, which makes me really sad and a little angry. I am not angry with those who do think of Ames High as merely a place they are required to go every weekday, but at those who feel as I do. A grain of sand held in someone's hand, if large enough, is safe. At Ames some of the smaller grains sometimes slip through, though. And if there is nothing there to catch them, they are lost.

Take our recent homecoming celebration. Don't get me wrong, it was really well put together, and I commend the homecoming committee for their hard work. But homecoming week always makes me sad. The kickoff assembly is especially representative of what I don't like. The class olympics are one of the highlights, but this year

it just didn't sit right with me. The people who were selected were the cream of the crop, the most popular of them all. Yeah, I'm sure this was done because those were the people most of the student body would know. But really, it sent an interesting message to me. Here we were, the unworthy, sitting on the bleachers watching the select play and enjoy themselves. Is this not a little symbolic? I hate to sound bitter, as I would have felt self-conscious being down there, but the whole thing left a bad taste in my mouth.

A really big reason why I feel like I'm a part of Ames High is because I'm involved in many activities. When we come into the school, we are told over and over to "get involved," but I must admit, it's hard to go to a meeting when you don't know if they want you there. Granted, this is mainly the fault of those who choose not to go, but couldn't

we, as the ones who are already involved, do more to be welcoming?

The Activity Fair was a good start in theory, and I think with time it will help. In addition, Fine Arts Week last year was a big step toward inclusiveness and showing that we value art as well as football. So yes, I believe there are things being done to try to make all of us part of this school, but there is more to do. Invite people in your classes to a group or club you're in. If other students ask when and where a meeting is, don't just tell them what they asked, but assure them that they are wanted there and would be welcome. And the next time you're at an assembly, look around at all the students sitting, watching, especially those hidden in the shadows. They are Ames High, too.

Front page photo credits

Left: Students relax and study in the Junior-Senior room.

Mrs. Polston teaches her Foods and Nutrition class.

The Web

The AHS journalism department produces The Web 11 times a year. It aims to inform, educate, entertain and provide a variety of viewpoints for the Web's audience. The Web seeks also to provide an open forum that encourages an exchange of ideas and opinions on issues of prominence of students, the newspaper staff and the faculty.

The entire student body, the primary audience of 1600 readers, receives the paper free of charge. Secondary audiences that receive the paper include the local community, faculty, and other school journalism programs throughout the country.

The Web staff strives to practice the ethics and skills of responsible journalism by following the Society of Professional Journalists' Code of Ethics. The Web will not publish material which is legally obscene, libelous or intended to cause a material and

substantial disruption of school activities. As credibility is essential to good journalism, the Web will strive to honestly, accurately, fairly and impartially report news that the staff deems important, interesting and relevant to its audience.

The Web will emphasize school news but will cover any community, state, national or international news affecting the student body.

Editorials will appear regularly in most issues. Stands taken in the editorials represent the opinion of the Editorial Board. Other opinionated pieces, including those differing with the editorial, will be handled through regular columns, letters to the editor and reviews.

Letters to the editor are encouraged and should be put in the adviser's mailbox in the high school main office, given to the executive or opinion

editor, or mailed to the Ames High Web. All letters considered for publication must be less than 250 words and must be signed. Letters may be edited for length or libelous content, but the original meaning will not be knowingly altered. Among criteria to be used in selecting letters is diversity or viewpoint and stylistic presentation.

If the staff discovers, from any source, that a mistake bypassed the editors, a correction of major errors will be printed upon request in the next issue in the section in which the mistake appeared.

Executive Editor: Mary Russell **Managing Editor:** Erin Wentworth **Front Page Editor:** Heather McElvain **News Editor:** Arlene Birt **FYI Editor:** Jason Clark **Sports Editors:** Amber Erickson **Reporters:** Jane Klocke, Mike Meier, Gina Russell, and Theresa Nassif **Advisor:** Darin Johnson.



Halloween + Cold Weather



Halloween + No School



Halloween + Report Cards



Editorial

Drugs: Student problem with student solutions

The substance abuse information meeting at the high school on October 6 was designed to give parents information about the drug problem in the Ames schools. The discussion following the presentation made it obvious that the parents there also wanted solutions. Easy solutions.

For example, one parent was convinced that the school should have a dress code. She thought the students would be more disciplined and therefore less likely to do drugs. Unfortunately, spending seven hours of the day wearing "respectable" clothing is not going to change a person's opinion about drugs. The idea that something that simple would solve a complex issue like teenage substance abuse is unrealistic.

The student body needs to make it clear that solutions don't come from strict rules; they come from trust and communication. If the students decide they are concerned about drug abuse, they need to get involved in the discussion of solutions. When the committee holds another forum, they need to have students there to answer questions. They are the ones that know what needs to be done.

Fortunately the parents have finally acknowledged that there is a drug problem at the high school.

That seems like a small step, but apparently it was pretty difficult or they would have done it a long time ago. Now it is time for them to look at the real issues behind the problem.

This meeting was a good start to educate the community about substance abuse. The panel did a good job of telling the parents what is and is not possible to solve with simple measures. If our school really wants to face the problem they will have to work with students, not against them. They will also have to do more than have one meeting every year.

Most of the solutions the parents suggested for stopping high school and middle students from using drugs involved control. They discussed tracking devices, fewer choices at school and dress codes as ways to regain control of their children and for the school to regain control of its students, but it is obviously too late for that.

The issue that needs to be faced is why people do drugs, not the rules the school can make to prevent it. If parents spent as much energy considering the real problem as they spend trying to get the school to make changes, they might be able to make some progress.

GET OUT OF OUR WAY

By ERIN WENTWORTH AND JASON CLARK
MANAGING EDITOR AND FYI EDITOR

All right, that's it. We've put up with this long enough. The time has come to kick some serious booty. Don't act like you don't know what we're talking about. We've seen you blocking the hallways and staircases, going out for lunch, parking in the lot, and giving us that nasty attitude.

We've accepted the fact that the administration doesn't have enough manpower to deal with this predicament. Yes, it's up to the senior class to enforce the law of Ames High School. We are writing today in order to rally members of the senior class into asserting their natural-born right. Ever seen 21 Jump Street?

Problem #1: Students blocking the hallway/stairway.

Our Solution: A little game we like to call freshman bowling. We don't believe in bumper lanes.

Legal Solution: M-O-V-E. The hallway is for walking.

Problem #2: PDA

Our Solution: We all love each other. Do we really need to show it that much? Get a room.

Legal Solution: Holding hands is okay. Necking is another story. Take it off school grounds.

Problem #3: Underclassmen going out to lunch.

Our Solution: We think that all underclassmen should wear electrified collars. Walk through the doors during lunch time and ZAP! Electric shock to the neck.

Legal Solution: Sorry, there is no legal solution to this one. We want to see sparks.

Problem #4: Underclassmen parking in the lot.

Our Solution: Remember that Mentos commercial where the construction workers pick up that car? We could persuade the varsity football players to make it reality.

Legal Solution: Number the spaces in the lot so that the permit number matches the space. If someone parks in your spot, you have their car towed. This also solves the problem of the administration overselling the number of permits each year.

Problem #5: That nasty attitude.

Our Solution: Pepper spray.

Legal Solution: Blowing up embarrassing photos of you and pasting them all over the school.

Maybe our solutions aren't the greatest, but you were laughing, weren't you. There are some truths to our solutions, so please read them, memorize them and don't let us catch you in any of these situations again.

Thank you, come again.

Why The Web exists

By DARIN JOHNSON
ENGLISH TEACHER & THE WEB ADVISER

Watching a substance abuse information meeting on Channel 7, I heard the following: "As a school teacher, I find it [*The Web*] embarrassing. And as a parent, I find it appalling. And I'm not a prude."

After the laughter subsided another woman spoke: "Is there any particular reason why *The Web* has to exist?"

The Web exists to promote democracy, to build understanding and to convey important information about our school. If democracy is to continue in this country, each generation must be given the opportunity to learn and to experience the rights and responsibilities surrounding the ideals of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

While it is easy to believe in First Amendment rights for those who advocate our point of view, it is more difficult to support First Amendment rights when we hear or read words that trouble or even appall us. Yet this is the very lesson that we must teach our young people. Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes conveyed this lesson best when he said: There must be freedom not only "for those who agree with us, but freedom for the thought we hate."

In addition, free expression builds understanding in our school and in our community. Young people often feel they are unheard, that their voices are not important. *The Web* provides one forum for students to come closer to the American dream of lifting every voice. *The Web* also creates one of the best windows for us to see the thoughts and feelings of our students.

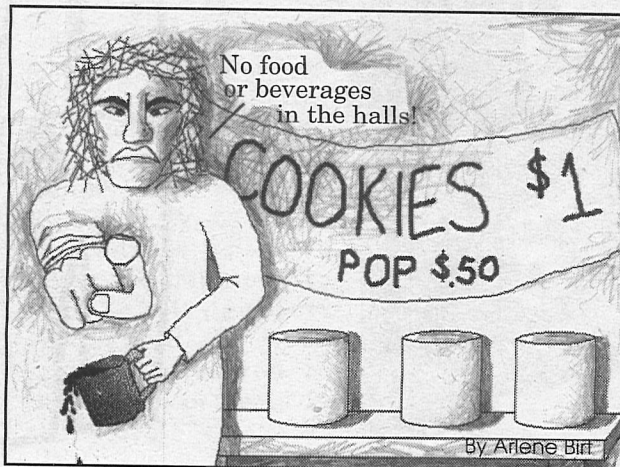
Finally, *The Web* conveys important information about what is and is not happening at the high school. Although some believe that the *The Web* should only promote all that is good at the high school, I believe that the staff should cover both the good and the bad so that we may celebrate the good and confront the bad.

For the record, I have objected to ideas, words, phrases and entire stories that have been printed in *The Web*. I realize that what my students have written has caused discomfort and anger in the community and in the school, yet it is my duty to defend their First Amendment rights. I also feel an obligation to clarify several points that were made at the substance abuse meeting.

In his comments to the parents at that meeting, Principal Achter said that the problems surrounding *the Web* have been heavy on him for a long time and that he is glad "to let people know the state law that we're really under." For the record, Mr. Achter is referring to Iowa Code Annotated Section 280.22, "Student Exercise of Free Expression." In summary, this code gives students the right of free expression in official school publications.

For the record, *The Web* staff received five letters of complaint from the community last year. Only one was a letter to the editor. The other four writers did not wish to have their letters printed.

As the adviser to *The Web* staff, I invite you to write letters to the staff about this column or about any other content in *The Web*. Please help us promote democracy, build understanding and convey important information about our school. Welcome to the forum!



Horoscopes

By AMBER ERICKSON, SPORTS EDITOR

Capricorn (12/22-1/20)

Don't go into the cemeteries on Halloween. Especially if you see zombies and skeletons walking around because you'll be their treat.

Aquarius (1/21-2/19)

Eating too much candy may cause you to throw up. In the worst case, you'll have candy corn popping out of every part on your body.

Pisces (2/20-3/20)

Watch out for those cute little kids dressed up in their Halloween costumes. They may look innocent but when you ask them to do a trick, it may involve flying produce.

Aries (3/21-4/20)

Dressing up in a Halloween costume for work sounds like a good idea. But is the guy in the corner your boss or Hannibal Lector?

Taurus (4/21-5/21)

Your new collection of Beanie Babies will come to life and start to take over the world. In order to stop them from doing this, you must slit their stomachs and let the beans fall out of them.

Gemini (5/22-6/21)

Going on a trip during your three day weekend may sound like fun but who knows what may happen. Seeing as it will be Halloween, watch out for mysterious road signs to unknown places.

Cancer (6/22-7/23)

You may want to stop before you drink your pop. The maker of the pop has put unknown substances in it. In addition, don't sniff it either.

Leo (7/24-8/23)

Superstitions will not pay off now. Black cats are running rampant and will lead to your demise.

Virgo (8/24-9/23)

Pez dispensers may look like a friendly toy, but when you give them the wrong candy who know what will happen. Note: They don't like the yellow ones.

Libra (9/24-10/23)

You may want to stay out of the haunted houses for awhile. With unknown hands grabbing at you, you may not come out alive.

Scorpio (10/24-11/22)

Don't stay home alone at night. The noises you hear are not the house settling. It is the ghost of John Denver wanting to serenade you.

Sagittarius (11/23-12/21)

With a number of famous people dying and Halloween rolling around, the air is ripe for poltergeists and ghosts.

Haunted house preview

By AMBER ERICKSON, SPORTS EDITOR
 AND ERIN WENTWORTH, MANAGING EDITOR

Ames Jaycees: This haunted house is located at the Cyclone Truck Stop on Highway 30 in Ames. All the proceeds will benefit the Ames Jaycees. The haunted house is open every weekend until the week of Halloween. The cost is around \$3 and you can win tickets from KASI/KCCQ. This is one of the typical haunted houses with men dressed up in grueling costumes and jumping out of corners trying to scare young people.

Goreville: This haunted house is located at Lambda Chi Alpha, 203 Ash Ave, Ames. The cost is around \$4. This is not a typical haunted house. It creates a scary atmosphere while you wait in line to enter the house. Other fraternities and sororities dress up in gruesome costumes and search for the "virgin" to sacrifice to the gods. There are hangings every 30 minutes outside the house. If you want be scared, this is the house to see.

Scream: This haunted house is one of the new additions on the tour of houses. It is located in an abandoned store located in Southridge Mall, Des Moines. The cost of the haunted house is \$7. The special effects come from Universal Studios in Florida. This is not the scariest house in the area for the holiday season. Check it out if you want to drive 45 minutes to Des Moines.

Sleepy Hollow: This haunted house is located in the Maze at the Ankeny Airfield. This is supposed to be the scariest haunted house in this area. People dressed in ugly costumes lead you into the maze/forest and people jump out from under bridges to grab your ankles. The goal for these creatures is to make you a part of the "game".

Halloween wordsearch

By JANE KLOCKE, STAFF REPORTER

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

- | | |
|--------------|----------------|
| BATS | KETTLE |
| BROOMSTICK | MASK |
| CANDY | MASQUERADEBALL |
| COSTUME | MONSTER |
| DEMONS | OCTOBER |
| DEVIL | PUMPKIN |
| FREDDYKRUGER | SKELETON |
| FULLMOON | SPIDERWEBS |
| GHOSTS | TRICKORTREAT |
| GOBLINS | VAMPIRES |
| JACKOLANTERN | WEREWOLVES |
| JASON | WITCHES |

Dress up Heather!

By AMBER ERICKSON, SPORTS EDITOR





Scratch and sniff
 It's a pumpkin. Don't you smell it?