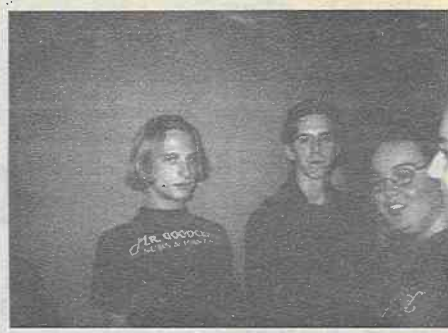


# Ames High School The Web

May 1, 1998 • Volume 58, No. 10 • 1921 Ames High Drive • Ames, Iowa 50010



## JORG GETS READY TO RETIRE STUDENTS SAY GOODBYE TO LOCAL LEGEND

**MICHELLE MAXWELL**  
STAFF REPORTER

From rooming with the former prime minister of Ireland to playing the piano with Wonder Woman, social studies teacher **Tom Jorgensen** uses stories of his life to explain sociology and government to his students.

Jorgensen, known as 'Jorg' by his students, will retire at the end of this year. After 38 years of teaching, thirty one of those years have been in Ames.

Along with teaching he has coached every sport imaginable. Jorgensen has coached baseball, football, wrestling, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls track and girls cross country. He was also the athletic director at Ames High from 1979-1985.

Before coming to Ames, Jorgensen taught at Coon Rapids, Northeast Clinton and Beloit Wisconsin and served in the Army.

"Teaching and coaching is a wonderful profession which has many rewards," Jorgensen said. "Satisfaction, friendships, and relationships are far more important than any trophy or plaque."

Personal rewards also come with teaching. "I enjoy being around young people and helping kids," Jorgensen said. "I enjoy watching them grow and develop. They're more fun to be with than adults."

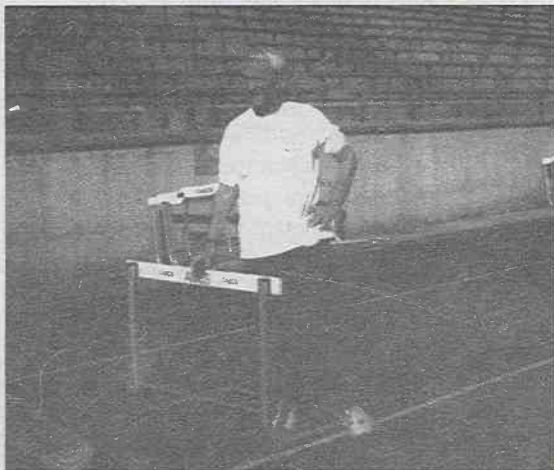


photo by Michelle Maxwell

**Tom Jorgensen contemplates one last hurdle before he retires this spring.**

Since his liver transplant in 1989, Jorgensen feels he has been fortunate to have had nine good years of health. In addition to his recovery from the transplant, his love for life, his family and religion have led to his positive and grateful outlook on life. "It made me more appreciative of all the things that I had taken for granted," Jorgensen said.

He has a variety of reasons for retiring. "The early retirement program is inviting," Jorgensen said. "There are also other things and challenges I want to do while I am able to do them."

His plans include; working a lot more with organ transplant programs, traveling around the country and playing the piano more. "I want to stay in Ames," Jorgensen said. "It's a wonderful town and home."

Throughout his years of teaching, Jorgensen has learned a lot about people. "Kids haven't changed much, but parents and the life around them has changed considerably," he said.

Jorgensen has been an asset not only to the staff at the high school but he also holds a special place in students hearts. "He's somebody you meet and remember for the rest of your life," junior **Emily Duffelmeyer** said. "He's an amazing and wonderful person."

Jorgensen's charming piano playing and sweet smiles at the girl's cross country spaghetti clubs will always be remembered. "Whenever I hear the song, 'Sitting on the Dock of the Bay,' I always think of Jorg," Duffelmeyer said. "I'll always remember him when I go running."

Jorgensen has definitely made a lasting impression here at Ames High. When asked how he wants to be remembered he said, "A nice guy who helped kids."

## ART STUDENTS HONORED FCA DISCUSSES RELIGION

**TIFFANY BELZ**  
STAFF REPORTER

Four senior art students are getting nationally recognized for their art portfolios. **Ben Heinen, Mei Ling Shaw, Jesse Walton** and **Jennifer Varnado** entered their art portfolios into the Scholastic Art Awards. Shaw also entered some of her work in the photography area. These portfolios consisted of eight to ten pieces of all types art. They could include drawing, print making and painting, but no photography in this area. These artists portfolios were taken from a group of 2000 from all over the United States and are now in the running with just 114.

"Having four from one high school is outstanding," Art teacher **Dorothy Gugel** said. "We are very happy and they should be too."

To get to the national level their portfolios had to be judged at the state, regional and national level. The students compiled art from the last two years to put the best show as possible together.

The students all received silver portfolio awards in the competition. These awards have opened up even more opportunities for them. Scholarships from schools that are involved with the scholastic awards can help picking college a little easier.

"It was really stress-

ful trying to decide what to put together, especially when I was applying for college at the same time," Walton said.

Varnado already graduated and was off to art school in San Francisco after first semester. She already has gotten a better offer for next year. Varnado will be attending an art school in New York next year on a \$25,000 a year scholarship.

Walton and Shaw are headed for The University of Iowa and Heinen still trying to decide between Minneapolis or San Francisco.

The school will be able to see these fine artists receive their awards in the upcoming assembly in May.

**ARLENE BIRT**  
NEWS EDITOR

I am a child of God. (Matt 5:14)  
*I am reconciled to God and am a minister of reconciliation (2 Cor. 5:18,19)*

Ames High may have several ministers of its own.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), which has been at Ames High for four years, gives students an opportunity for religious fellowship and learning.

The group typically has one activity per week, alternating host speakers, religious videos, student-led discussions and socials. The group also has a "Praise and Prayer Night" every two months.

In addition to these weekly meetings, FCA also participates in area faith rallies and conventions.

The group of 25-30

members welcomes anyone who would like to attend, no matter what denomination.

"We try to keep it non-denominational," senior **Christy Rippey** said. "We want to center it around Christ and the Bible."

Contrary to "Athletes" in the name, the group does not require any athletic participation. FCA advisor **Sue Nebbe** said the significance of the name is because of a common interest when the group was started. FCA is a national organization out of Kansas City for junior highs, high schools and colleges across the US.



photo by Arlene Birt

**Senior Zack Keller plays christian melodies on the guitar as Rachel Randall, and Christy Rippey sing along.**

Senior **Kris Achter** said he attends for friendships as well as religion. "It's a good place to get together with other believers," he said.

Leadership team members who meet to plan each week's activities include seniors Rippey, Keller and Achter, juniors Lindsay Heiligenthal and Brian Jensen and sophomore Kristin Niehof.

## Vote in hairy leg contest

### Smooth legs need not apply

**THERESA NASSIF**  
STAFF REPORTER

It's time to get out your spare change and let it go towards a worthy cause. The third annual Key Club hairy leg contest is now, and time is running out to vote for the hairiest legs in the school.

Two-time defending champion Jon Sedgwick is representing the senior class. Other contestants include junior Parsa Fattahi, sophomore Shawn Sebastain and freshman David Larson. There are plastic containers with a picture of each contestant's legs located in the back lobby. Today is the last day to vote, so drop your change in a container to place your vote.

This year's money is going towards a different cause than usual. "In the past we used the money to help the national program supporting Iodine Deficiency Disorder," sophomore **Jill Larson** said. IDD is the lack of salt in the body and occurs most often in third world countries. "Each year we have a goal of donating \$250 to IDD

and we already reached that goal this year, so we decided that the hairy leg contest money should somehow benefit the school."

Money raised in the contest will be donated to senior Mindi Carlson, who was diagnosed with leukemia earlier this year. "When we found out about Mindi's situation, we knew we wanted to do something for her," senior **Robbie Smalling** said.

Holding the annual hairy leg contest is only a small part of the work that Key Club does. On Saturday May 2, they will be walking in the "Great Strides for Cystic Fibrosis" program. They volunteered to walk to raise money and are hoping to get a lot of non-Key Club members to join in the walk.

Key Club meetings are held every Tuesday morning at 7:15 and are open to everyone. "Everyone is welcome and should stop by," Larson said. She will be next year's Key Club President. "It's a great way to meet a lot of different people and get involved with the school and community."

## German students experience culture abroad

**ERIK GUFFY**  
STAFF REPORTER

Living in our isolated society, it is often easy to forget the culture and life of the outside world. But Ames High students taking German as a foreign language had the opportunity to expose themselves to these different lifestyles.

For 13 years, the foreign language department has held an exchange program where Ames High students can travel to, and host students from Wülfrath, Germany. This year 10 students traveled east



photo courtesy of Betty Furr  
**Ames students and their host students in Germany. Ten Ames students went abroad for two weeks.**

across the Atlantic, and 20 were hosts for the visiting Germans.

Junior **Laura Heideman** was involved in both the trip and hosting. "It was incredible," Heideman said of Germany, "everything is so different there."

"Living in a different culture is a really eye-opening experience," she said, "it made me a lot more aware of American culture."

Heideman and the other Ames students were in Germany for two weeks, including

spring break. While there, they absorbed and experienced as much of the German culture as possible. "I came back and everything here seemed so foreign to

me," Heideman said.

After returning to Ames, it was the Germans' turn to experience a new lifestyle. Exchange students **Patric Niewalda** and **Grischa Kohn** were among those visiting. "Ames is very big, when you compare area," Niewalda said.

"There are more fast food restaurants," Kohn added.

Other differences the German's noticed were of transportation. "[In Germany] we have a better bus system," Kohn said, "and we have as many cars, but yours are wider and bigger."

Among the activities German and Ames students participated in were hacky-sacking, eating out, shopping, playing baseball and a trip to see an Iowa Cubs game. "Shopping was good," Niewalda said.

Overall, both Germans and Americans felt it was good exchange. "It was a very good trip," Niewalda said, "It was a great experience to meet another lifestyle."

## Graphic SADD assembly vivid, effective

**MICHELLE MAXWELL**  
STAFF REPORTER

On April 16 SADD (Students Against Drunk Driving) held an assembly dealing with the reality of drunk driving.

"The purpose of this assembly was awareness," SADD advisor **Elizabeth Middleton** said, "I believe the SADD members accomplished their objective."

SADD organized a mock car crash to be staged before school. A previously crashed car was brought to the school courtesy of Butch's Amoco. Officer Bob Selby, the fire department, Ames police department and the Mary Greeley rescue squad were also involved in the mock crash. "No matter how the assembly went, people will

remember the disaster because it's not something you see everyday," junior SADD member **Anila Persaud** said.

Chicago resident Marti Belluschi was the main speaker, chosen because she had been a victim of a drunk driver. Belluschi's graphic story of her crash gave students a shocking view of reality.

"I don't think that telling graphic, scary stories is the right way to go about stopping people from drinking and driving," sophomore **Ava Golchin** said, "It temporarily affected people but not those who need to stop."

Even though the assembly may not have affected everyone who needed it, the student body accepted the presentation. "I'm proud of the SADD students who partici-

pated and helped organize this assembly," Middleton said, "I'm also proud of the student body for the way they received it and responded to the presentation."

The tone of the assembly was very serious to get people's attention. "The fake crash and assembly was SADD's way of presenting the reality of drinking and driving," SADD president junior **Meagan Norlin** said. "We hoped that it would have an impact on the students, and judging by the reactions so far, I think it did."

By giving the students a vivid picture of the pain involved in drunk driving crashes, SADD is trying to lower the number of disasters. "Hopefully teenagers will think before they respond to the temptation to take a

drink of alcohol," Middleton said. "Hopefully we will see a decrease in drinking and driving."

No matter how many graphic stories are told, pictures are shown and warnings are given, some people's minds can't be changed. "I think that some people will always be ignorant to the problem, but our goal is to lower the deaths," Norlin said.

Overall, SADD believes the assembly was a convincing and a positive experience. "I think it had a positive affect on people and they went away with better attitudes," junior SADD member **Aaron Weiss** said.

**33%** of deaths for people age 15-20 resulted from motor vehicle crashes.

**36.6%** of motor vehicle crashes involving youth were alcohol related.

**1** young person dies in a traffic crash every hour during the weekend and one every two hours on weekdays.

People between the ages of 15-20 accounted for one fourth (**22%**) of all passenger fatalities from drunk driver crashes.

In alcohol related crashes, almost **4** times as many youth died unrestrained than restrained.

Source: U.S. Department of Transportation National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

## News Analysis

# Drugs: Do parents know what goes on?

MARY RUSSELL  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Parents and their teenagers rarely think alike, but the difference in their opinions about drug use is especially wide. A survey done by the Ames Police Department shows that parents are far less aware of alcohol and illegal drug use in schools than students.

"The students' perceptions were that the drugs were readily available and the parents' perceptions were that they were not," District Resource Officer **Bob Selby** said.

The survey illustrates what many students already know.

"If I just asked around and asked the right people, I could get anything I wanted," freshman **David Melby** said. "I don't think it's as common as some people would like to believe it is, but it's pretty evident."

"There are so many people that have access to drugs in the school, especially acid and marijuana you could get really easily," junior **Abbey Hagert** said. "I talk with my parents about the

drug problem at Ames High, but I think a lot of other parents are really naive and don't want to believe it."

A lack of communication between parents and students is obviously part of the problem. "Parents want to believe that they have an affect [on their kids], but in reality kids aren't going to tell their parents if they're using drugs," Hagert said.

In response to the parent survey, Selby started a twice-yearly forum to inform parents and teachers about drug use. The forums include a panel of speakers from the Ames community and schools to educate parents so "they are able to talk to their kids with a more informed perspective," Selby said.

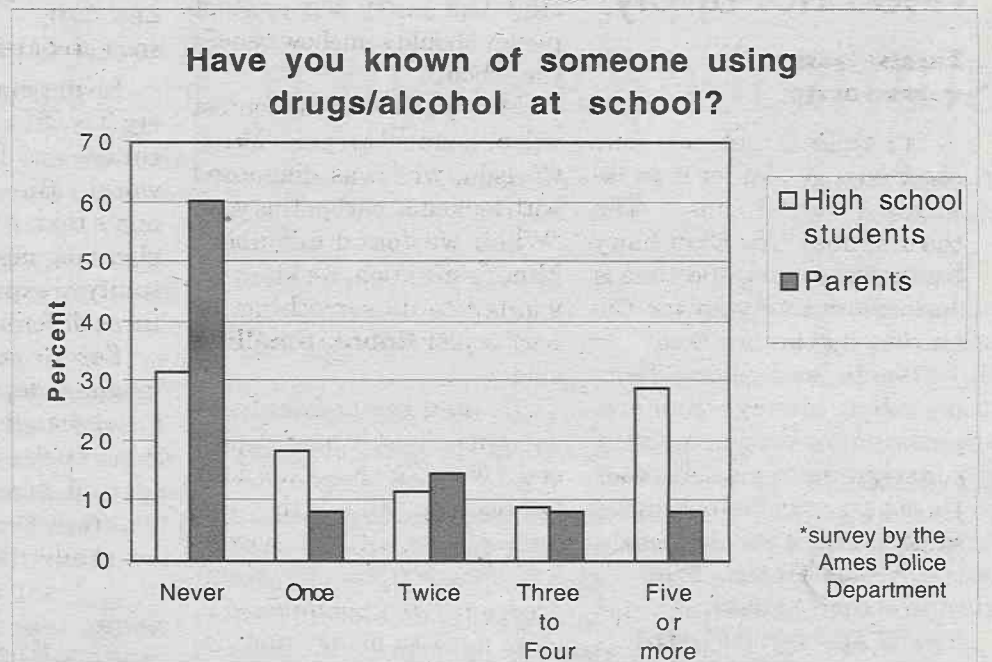
"A lot of parents want to believe that Ames is immune to or above all that," he added. "Through the forum we're giving parents a more realistic picture of what's happening." The next forum will be held in the fall.

The forums aim to teach parents about drug and alcohol abuse so they

can prevent their kids from abusing them. Parents need to be aware of the situation in order to make a dent in the problem. "Some parents think Ames High has a good reputation for education so they don't have to worry about drugs," junior **Cherise Rollins** said. "They just assume that if their kids are getting good grades, they must not be doing anything bad."

Some students believe that educating parents will have an impact. "I think parents don't want to believe it or something, or they just ignore it," freshman **Bryant Bear** said. "I think it would make it very hard to get marijuana if parents got involved."

In addition to his parent education programs, Selby discusses alcohol and drug abuse in tenth grade Health classes and advises awareness groups, including SADD. Each month one counselor organizes a substance abuse activity. These programs are reinforced by the presence of Molly Mart, the drug counselor at the middle and high



schools.

Parents, teachers, staff members and counselors inform Mart when they have a concern about a student's substance abuse and she meets with them. This is done confidently, but not all students are aware of the help she can provide.

Despite the differences between the responses of parents and students, the survey results make it clear that drugs are present in the high school. Parental involvement may or may not be the answer, but there is an obvious need for student education.

"To a point parents might have an impact on individuals, but I think the drug problem as a whole at AHS is too big for just parents," Hagert said. "There needs to be a program within the school that students could anonymously be involved in."

*"This ain't no game..."*

## Strategic gaming club formed

JASON CLARK  
FEATURES EDITOR

Conquering enemy countries, building mighty empires and doing battle with thousands of soldiers seem like tasks that are beyond the abilities of most high school students. For the newly formed Strategic Gaming Club, however, this is just another club meeting.

"The Strategic Gaming Club is an open forum for people to express their strategic gaming desires," junior **Nate Ginder** said.

The club was created when juniors Ginder,

**Nate Hostetter** and **John O'Connell** were playing a strategy game together. "We said 'hey, this would be fun to do as a club,'" Hostetter said. And so the Strategic Gaming Club was born.

The club is sponsored by history teacher Marv Scott. "Mr. Scott is really good at strategy games," O'Connell said. "He shows no emotion whatsoever when he's playing."

At their meetings, the club plays strategy games such as Axis and Allies, Settlers of Catan, Blood & Iron and Othello. "We have guest and celebrity gamers

that come to some meetings," Ginder said. "We're hoping to get famous gamers like Gary Kasparov (international chess champion)."

The club also sports a motto created to illustrate the club's serious atmosphere. The motto reads: "This ain't no game."

Members of the club enjoy playing strategy games for a variety of reasons. "Playing strategy games helps me plan for my future occupation of 'World Dictator,'" O'Connell said.

The next meeting for the club is May 9. "Newcomers are always welcome," Ginder said.

## Senior book offers advice

HANNAH DOBBS  
STAFF REPORTER

Many students graduate from high school wishing they had done things differently. Senior **Robbie Smalling** realized this and is taking action so others will not make the same mistakes.

Smalling is leading a group of 50 seniors who are working on a senior advice book for incoming students.

"I want it to happen so I have to do something," he said.

Smalling got the idea to do this because he

wished he had been more informed about classes and activities when he first came to the school.

The book will be an opportunity for seniors to share what they have learned and it will be different from anything the administration has ever put together.

This advice book is a gift from the class of 1998, so there will be no cost.

Smalling hopes that every student will be given a copy.

Included in the book will be information on what classes are good

and when and why to take them, and what activities are worth getting involved in.

There will definitely be humor, but the book will be edited for blatant slander.

"I think it's something that can really be helpful," Principal **Chuck Achter** said.

The group is hopeful that the project will be completed by mid-May.

"This comes from experience," Smalling said. "It will tell students how to make AHS the best experience it can be."

*Feeling the pressure...*

## Students get help in summer job search

THERESA NASSIF  
STAFF REPORTER

Summer's almost here and as school ends students are on the lookout for something to do and a way to make extra money. Some are looking for employment just for the summer vacation while others may be looking for a permanent job, but either way the best time to begin the search is now.

There are services that help people find a job that best suits them. The Iowa Workforce Development Center (IWDC) in Ames offers a computerized system that tries to match people up with jobs. "We do job placement, unemployment, and are a resource for nationwide job searching," workforce associate **Karla Pennington** said. "We assist both the employee and employer." There is no charge for their service and it is open to anyone who registers.

The job service is open year-round, but don't wait until the last minute to apply for summer jobs. "There isn't really a best time to apply," Pennington said. "If you want to work, plan ahead."

Those who already have jobs advise others to start

looking early. "I applied in February when I first got a job," senior **Lizz Hallam** said. Hallam has worked as a lifeguard at the Gateway swimming pool for four summers. "Apply early and be sure you met all the requirements for the job," she said.

While many employers are looking for experienced people, it's always a good idea to apply. The most common types of employers that use the job service in Ames are construction, retail sales clerks and housekeeping.

The IWDC also offers one day service opportunities for those looking to make money without a commitment. "We call those 'spot jobs,'" Pennington said. "They are usually lawn mowing or cleaning jobs and are a good way for people to earn money."

Those students who already have jobs may be looking for a second one. "I already have a job, but I'll probably get another one because I need extra money," senior **Jessica Larson** said.

Whether you are looking for extra money or just something to do in your spare time, a summer job just could be the thing that will bring you both.

## Check out the checkout

A measure of the friendliness factor at three local superstores

MIKE MEIER  
FRONT PAGE EDITOR

We see them all the time, they can drastically help or hinder our day, they are the superstore checkout people.

I visited all three major discount stores in Ames, Target, K-Mart and Wal-Mart. I retrieved something from the shelf and went up front to pay for it. I tried to test these people on not just how they did their job, but how kind they were to me, the customer, in the process.

As I came up to the counter with my Goldfish crackers and Gatorade at Target, Bill was already engrossed in conversation with a gentleman over coffee tables. Bill politely

brushed him off and began to ring up my materials.

An extremely lively and excited man, Bill has been working at the Target on east Lincoln way for a little over 5 years, and still enjoys working there. "If it wasn't for the people, I would not be here," Bill said. He truly does bring a certain element to that Target uniform.

At the end of isle one in Kmart, you can find Cindy. Cindy likes to take her

time and pull off a thorough job. It took some work by me to strike up a conversation, so much work that I am afraid she might have thought I was flirting with her. So if you are reading this Cindy, I was not hitting on you, just trying to test your skills in the friendliness department.

Heather, from Wal-Mart, was quite different from all the other checkout personnel. She was very involved in her job. She was there waiting at the end of the isle, ready to "help me on isle 3." She was fast and furious, and did not seem the slightest

bit ticked off when I offered to pay for my pack of Bubblicious with my Mastercard. Had I been in a hurry, I

**"If it wasn't for the people, I would not be here."**— Bill, a cashier at Target

would have been greatly appreciative of her speed.

In a world of turmoil, it is nice to know that we can still count on the kindness and professionalism of these special people, these checkout people. They are not gods, they are not even the store managers, but they still have the potential to be important people in our lives.

## Unplanned Pregnancy?

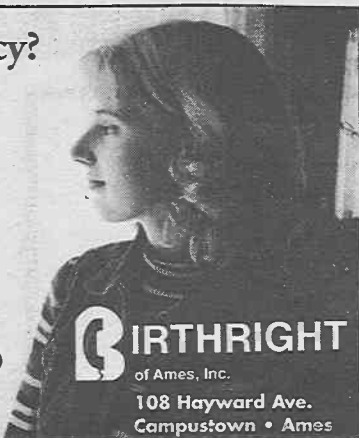
*There is concerned and confidential help available.*

- FREE Pregnancy Test
- Crisis HOTLINE
- Confidential Counseling
- Material Resources
- Community Referrals

292-8414 • 1-800-550-4900

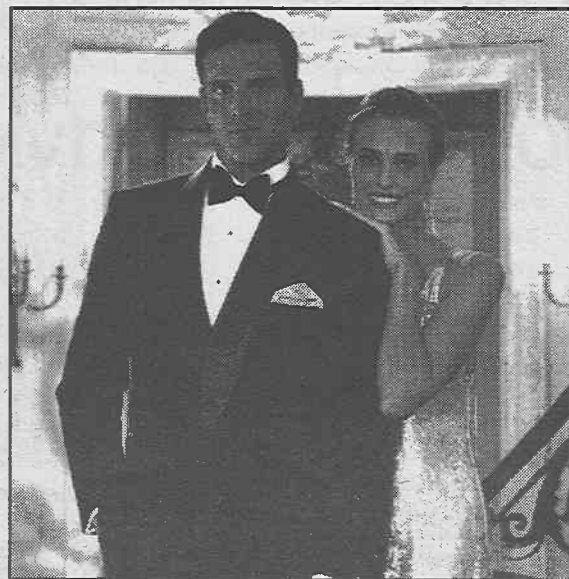
www.birthrightames.org  
An International Pregnancy Service

**BIRTHRIGHT**  
of Ames, Inc.  
108 Hayward Ave.  
Campustown • Ames



Prom Is May 16th

*Look Your Very Best*



Rent Your Tuxedo At



**JOHN HUBER CLOTHIER**

404 Main • 233-4948 • Mon. 9:30-8, Tues.-Fri. 9:30-5:30, Sat. 9:30-5

## To be or not to be a Greek: Choosing the Greek system

SHAWNEE KINGSBURY  
STAFF REPORTER

The seniors are coming down to the final stretch of their high school careers. Now is the time they have to start thinking about next year and being those tiny freshman all over again. One major concern they will have to face next year is where they will live. Choices are often limited to either living in the dorms or fraternities and sororities. Some senior guys and girls have already begun looking into the Greek system.

"Since I applied to Iowa State, I got an invitation to come and look at the fraternities," senior **Jake Burgduff** said. "I also got a lot of calls about joining."

Iowa State has 35 fraternities and 15 sororities. They are very different from the dorms. There is a living room, den, kitchen, dining room, laundry room, computer room, etc. in each room. However, according to the Iowa State bulletin catalog, the average cost of living in a

chapter house is \$100 more per year than living in the residence halls. This cost includes room, board and social dues. Another factor that is a concern with girls is when pledging a sorority is that they can't move in right away because of the amount of space available. However, the brotherhood and sisterhood found in fraternities and sororities often outweighs these negative factors.

"In looking at the Greek system," senior **Hillary Barta** said. "I really liked how much everyone cared about one another. They seemed almost like a family."

Others also say they want to join because it would give them the chance to meet a lot of new people.

"I knew I wanted to be in a sorority because my older brother always talks about how much fun the Greek system is," senior **Trisha Dau** said. "I think it would be so much fun to be a member because you would meet so many people and have a friendship that would last a lifetime."

"The reason why I would want to be in a frat is you would be able to meet a lot of people quicker than you would if you lived in the dorms," Burgduff said.

The Greek system is a great way to meet people and become involved in a variety of activities. For 1997 Ames High graduate **Amy Van Slyke** her choice to join Gamma Phi Beta was easy.

"It was a great way to meet a lot of people and it's so much fun to be a part of the Greek system because of the many activities you get to be involved with, like making a Veisha float," Van Slyke said.

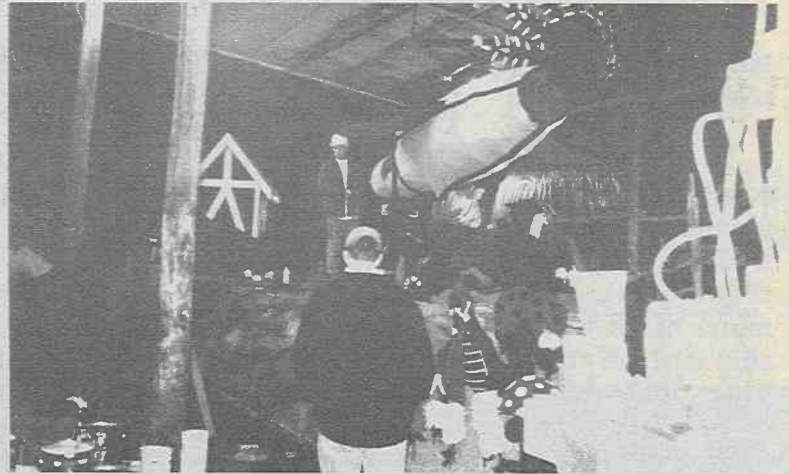


photo courtesy of Shawnee Kingsbury  
Members of Delta Sigma Phi fraternity and Gamma Phi Beta sorority work on a float for the Veisha Parade. The parade is a big activity for members of the Greek system at Iowa State.

### THE LANGUAGE OF THE GREEKS

Greek Lingo

Phone dog

The Racks

Crush parties

House parties

Definition

Person in charge of answering the phone.

What frats call their rooms

Greeks invite members of the opposite sex, but the person who is invited doesn't know who invited them.

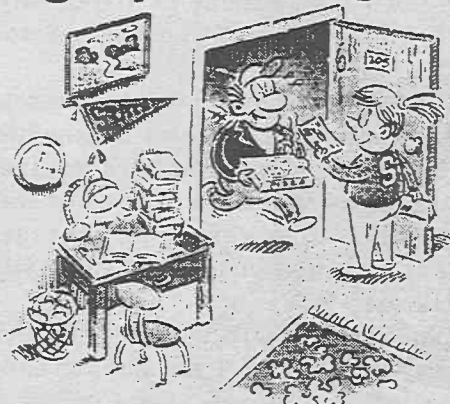
Parties with a theme, such as "Jail Break."

### Robotics team goes to national competition



Left: "Team Ardvaark" member Derek Watson escorts *Ardvaark II* as it is moved. Above: Team members show their support at the competition. The team built the robot in six weeks and competed against 150 other teams from across the country. The team was comprised of AHS students, ISU students and professors and engineers from John Deere.

## We'll get you to college. We'll get you through college.



Norwest Student Loans  
1-800-658-3567

You probably already know you can finance your college education through the Norwest Student Loan Center. Remember to give us a call as you make your college plans. And keep in mind you can also access

other financial services available through Norwest, such as:  
• Norwest Free Checking  
• Instant Cash™ Card  
• Phone Banking  
• Norwest Visa® and MasterCard®



(Insert copyright and legal entity name.)

To The Nth Degree™

Member FDIC  
Equal Opportunity Lender

# 20% OFF

all in stock shoes

Archies 107 Welch • 292-8535

Looking for a movie to see? Keep looking

## Object of My Affection too sappy

HEATHER McELVAIN  
A&E EDITOR

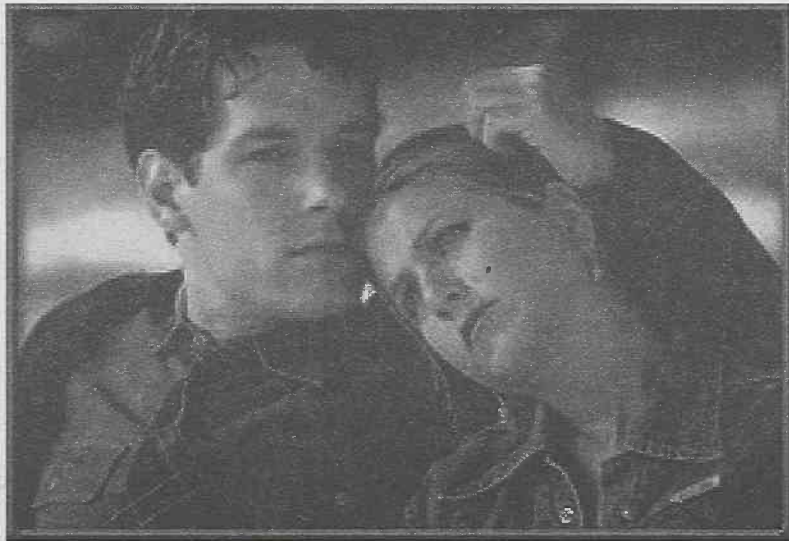
*The Object of My Affection* is the sappy tale of a young woman, Nina (Jennifer Aniston) who falls in love with her gay roommate George, (Paul Rudd). This all occurs in the midst of an unsatisfying relationship with an obnoxious man named Vince (John Pankow).

In the beginning of the movie George is in an unconvincing relationship with a professor named Dr. Joley. The body language between the two actors was uncomfortable, very unlike two adults who had been together as a couple for some time. Early in the film, George is dumped by Dr. Joley and left looking for a place to live. Predictably, even though Nina and George had just met, she offers him her extra bedroom, to the dismay of the jealous Vince.

When Nina wants to take her relationship with George beyond the platonic level they were at (questionably—they were the most lovey-dovey pair of buddies I've ever seen), George is unable to return the feelings. (Come on, you didn't expect it to work, did you? Let's not forget that George is gay.)

Nina becomes pregnant with Vince's baby and asks George to raise it with her (after Vince was given the boot.) George agreed and was excited to be a parent. But when George falls in love with a Paul—who was the boy-toy to a much older man—Nina asks George to choose between them (oooooh! I wonder what happens!)

There were some amusing moments such as when Sidney (Alan Alda) says to Nina, "If I



wasn't happily married and you weren't my wife's step-sister, I'd have an affair with you in a second." George's playboy brother with his constantly changing fiancée was kind of funny, and I must admit that I was a bit choked up at a few points. But the strained dialogue (i.e.: "Oh Nina, I just adore you!") and the sickeningly perfect ending made this movie icky-sweet and less than enjoyable.

Aniston's character was 2-dimensional and not at all unlike every other character I've seen her portray. Rudd was very good as George, but at some points it seemed like they said to themselves, "Hmm...how can we make him more gay?" To achieve the right amount of femininity, they would have him cross his legs or stick his pinky up when he drank.

Observing the audience at this movie was far more entertaining than the actual movie. When George and Paul were enjoying a sweet sunshiny day there were coos of "Oh! How cute!" But when they kissed there were gasps and cries of "Gross!" Were these people not expecting an actual homosexual relationship in this movie about a gay man? Jennifer Aniston, on the other hand, was intimate with her troll-like boyfriend and was not subject to any cries of disgust (except from me).

*The Object of my Affection* has a few good points, but it was lacking in the genuine emotion that could have made it worthwhile. Plus, an ending that didn't cause nausea would have been helpful.

## Ally McBeal a hit on Fox



TIFFANY BELZ  
STAFF REPORTER

*Ally McBeal* is Fox's hit show this year. McBeal (Calista Flockhart) is a working woman in a Boston law firm where work and love intertwine. This hit series is produced by David E. Kelly, producer of *Picket Fences* and *Chicago Hope*. The network needed a show to fit the slot after *Melrose Place* on Mondays to keep young women entertained. FOX knew that they needed a show with a strong female lead, so this fast-paced, romantic and touching comedy was born.

McBeal is single, in her late twenties, can never find the right man and is always having a major life crisis. She lives with her best friend who is also a lawyer. The law firm is filled with jealousy and lots of old memories. Smart yet emotional, Ally represents the modern female trying to conquer a harsh male world.

Women of the nineties are uniquely portrayed in this comedy series. Special effects help exaggerate the little things in life. When an embarrassing moment arises Ally's face literally turns red just like anyone would feel at such a time.

She is just another female actress, but the fact that she is from Iowa makes her a star to the Midwest. Her grandparents live in Boone, and she was friends with one of Ames High's own. When they were kids, art teacher Shelli Hassabrock was out on the farm with Calista Flockhart.

"She was really skinny in junior high," Hassabrock said. "I am about ready to write her a letter so I can prove to my students I knew her."

*Ally McBeal* has become one of my favorite shows on TV today. McBeal is always getting embarrassed and is always finding something wrong with the man she is dating. No matter how cute or funny the man is she can not seem to keep him under her wing. The way she handles her problems and expresses what she feels just makes me laugh.

*Ally McBeal* airs on FOX on Monday nights at 8 p.m. If you're lucky it is sometimes aired on Wednesday also, so keep your eyes open!

# Andrea's Story People Summer concerts

HEATHER McELVAIN  
A&E EDITOR

We used to go visit my grandma on the train & on the way my sister and I would talk to people we met & tell them we were from Hawaii & could speak Polynesian & I'd hold up a 7-up and say this is called a puka-puka-wanni on the Big Island & we'd make up longer & longer names until it took about 10 minutes to say one & about that time we would be there & we'd say aloha & go off to have lunch at my grandma's & my sister would hold up a Mrs. Paul's fish stick and say in Hawaii they call these molo-molo-pooey-pooey & I'd try not to choke on my fruit punch.

Brian Andreas' national best-seller *Story People* is a wonderful collection of poems/stories (they are somewhere in-between) that originally corresponded with sculptures he creates. He explains the transformation from sculpture to book in the introduction, "I did these books at the request of many of my collectors, who told me they didn't have room to own all of the sculptures and prints. Even when I was willing to work out reasonable terms, they said they'd rather have a book to carry around with them. It's hard to argue with the logic here so I did the books."

The stories are so simple they are almost childlike but they are filled with the perception and humor of a person who has spent years analyzing the world around him. They are the types of stories that can make you smile unexplainably when you think of one in the hallway or at the grocery store. In my opinion, to read them is to love them and want to share them with everyone you care about.

Andreas' work is displayed throughout the country including 5 locations in Iowa. Check out his web site for more information: <http://www.storypeople.com>.

Most of the stuff I say is true because I saw it in a dream & I don't have the presence of mind to make up lies with I'm asleep.

AMBER ERICKSON  
SPORTS EDITOR

I attempted to find some information about summer music festivals so our summer wouldn't have to be the same bland summer we have all had since we were 10 years old. Unfortunately, not all of the tours have released the dates of their concerts or the names of their performers. However, I did manage to find a few.

### Ska Against Racism

\*Sunday, May 3, 1998 @ 2:00 p.m.  
\*ISU Arboretum  
\*Less Than Jake, The Toasters, Mustard Plug, MU330, Five Iron Frenzy, Kemuri, The Bruce Lee Band.  
\*Tickets are \$15.00 at the door.

### DOT fest II

\*Friday, June 12, 1998 all day  
\*Ankeny Airfield  
\*Everclear, Marcy Playground, Fastball, Goldfinger, Sister Soleil, The Atomic Fireballs, Slipknot.  
\*Tickets on sale at all Ticketmaster locations. The first 5,000 tickets are \$7.50 and only \$12 thereafter.

### Lilith Fair

\*August 21, 1998 (and other dates around the country)  
\*Minneapolis, Minnesota  
\*Sarah McLachlan, Natalie Merchant, Bonnie Raitt, Missy Elliot, Sinéad O'Connor, Erykah Badu, Shawn Colvin, Paula Cole, Sheryl Crow, Indigo Girls.

### Horde

\*July 14, 1998  
\*Kansas City, MO Sandstone Amphitheater  
\*Blues Traveler, The Smashing Pumpkins, Barenaked Ladies, Ben Harper & The Innocent Criminals, Alana Davis, Danger Bob, Gov't Mule, David Garza, Emmet Swimming  
\*Ticket Central: 800-771-3666

I hope this helps you in your summer planning. If you are interested in any other festivals, run to a computer and connect to the Internet. You can find just about everything on there. At least you are supposed to be able to.

# Natalie Imbruglia: A wonderful new artist

ERIN WENTWROTH  
MANAGING EDITOR

Due to the recent release of her first single, *Torn*, Natalie Imbruglia's album *Left of the Middle* has been on the Billboards top ten list for the last five weeks. That's a wonderful run for a new artist.

*Left of the Middle* uses all different styles of music. On some tracks Imbruglia uses her soft voice to portray a sad sense of life and on other tracks she sings loudly with angst. She also uses some new techno beats in the background music, giving a real dark side to the music on some tracks.



Her first single *Torn* is about a girl who fell in love too fast and feels as if she doesn't know the person anymore.

*I thought I saw a man brought to life he was warm he came around like he was dignified. He showed me what it was to cry. Well you couldn't be that man I adored. You don't seem to know or seem to care what your heart is for, and I don't know you anymore.*

She expresses her feelings in very strong words and she makes you think about your own life. In *Wishing I was there* she makes you think about current and past relationships you've had with people and how they made you feel. If they said they loved you or not and if they meant it.

In her second single (not yet released) *Smoke* her message is simple, about living in a daze that is somehow a reality, living your life not knowing what is going on or where you are headed. She repeats the phrase *Why bleeding is breathing you were hiding underneath the smoke in the room*. It describes how people hide themselves from other people so they don't know who they really are.

I think this is an absolutely wonderful CD. Imbruglia gives the listener many new things to think about while listening to her music. She always seems to find just about any mood and put it into words that make your head bob up and down.

## Where to be:

**What:** One Acts  
**Where:** AHS auditorium  
**When:** May 12-15 @7:30  
**Why:** To see graduating seniors show off their directing talents

RACING SPEEDING ROARING ZOOMING HURLING

# THE FLASH

You can catch the Flash at your local comics shop in:

**FLASH—EVERY MONTH!**

And book collections including:  
Terminal Velocity • The Return of Barry Allen • The Flash Archives Vol 1.

**MAYHEM**  
COLLECTIBLES  
COMICS, CARDS, AND GAMES

2532 Lincoln Way, Ames  
(515) 292-3510  
Fax: (515) 292-3510  
<http://www.mymayhem.com>

The end of an era

# Posegate resigns after 14 years as AD

HANNAH DOBBS  
 STAFF REPORTER

After 29 years at Ames High School, Activities Director **Dave Posegate** is calling it quits.

Posegate has been involved with the school since 1946, when he was a five-year-old fan of the Little Cyclones.

Since then, "all of my dreams have come true," he said.

Before becoming athletic director, Posegate was an athlete, graduate, teacher and coach at the high school.

Postage's resignation has nothing to do with the students. He simply believes now is a good time to make a change in his career.

"I'm always going to miss it, but it's time to get back to a normal life," Posegate said.

In fact, he would still like to work in the

Ames school system, possibly as a driver's education teacher or a middle school basketball coach.

"I love kids," he said. "In this position I'm removed a lot from kids."

Many things have been accomplished during Postage's 14 years as athletic director, including a great increase in student participation in all programs.

Seven of every 10 students are involved in at least one athletic team, and over 50% of the student body participates in co-curricular activities, including music, drama and numerous other activities, clubs and intramural sports.

Another improvement made during Postage's tenure is in the area of gender equity. Girls sports now have other levels of

competition than varsity.

"All sports are treated equally and with the same importance," he said.

Also, he developed an athletic booster club that provides parent involvement, financial assistance and volunteers. The AHS Booster Club has been named the number one club of its kind in Iowa four different times.

After all his years at AHS, Posegate is happy to see how much student participation



photo by hannah Dobbs

Activities Director Dave Posegate will be finishing up his career at AHS along side the graduating seniors.

and positive results came from the various programs.

"I would like to thank all coaches and people involved in the activities that work with kids," he said.

Although he is retiring, Posegate plans to remain an avid AHS sports fan.

"I will still be bleeding orange and black when I leave," he said.

## Girls Golf

# A few under par

JASON CLARK  
 FEATURES EDITOR

The 1998 girls golf team teed off their season just a few weeks ago with a desire to win. The team, composed mostly of underclassmen, faces a tough season in the weeks to come.

There are 17 girls on the golf team, only two of whom are returning letter winners.

Those letter winners, senior **Stephanie Knop** and sophomore **Bridgett Rhodes**, will lead the team this season.

Most of last year's letter winners graduated last year. "Last year's team was very experienced," Knop said. "Of course, the

more we practice, the better we'll get."

The team performed better at their first four meets than expected, surprising even the team members themselves. "The first meets have gone really well," Rhodes said. At an invitational

"Of course, the more we practice, the better we'll get."  
 - senior Stephanie Knop

meet on April 24, Ames placed fourth out of 11 teams. The team is getting along

with each other pretty well so far this year. One of the hardest parts of golf is making it into a team sport, since golf is played on an individual basis, Rhodes said.

The girls golf team has high hopes for the rest of the season.

"We're good now," Rhodes said. "But we're going to get better."

# Khorsravi: Working for game, set, match

TIFFANY BELZ  
 STAFF REPORTER

Junior **Houdy Khorsravi** is setting a good example on the courts this year. Khorsravi started playing tennis seriously about 4 years ago. He now travels and plays year-round to prepare for the climax of the year: high school tennis' season.

As a freshman Khorsravi played varsity doubles, but has since earned the second spot on the team for singles.

"He has moved up to the second position and is a very good player for us," coach **Merrill Tam** said.

Khorsravi likes to play a serve-volley type of game and usually succeeds when he

does. He has a 3-1 record already this season.

"Houdy is a big team leader this year," junior **Mike Shrum** said. "He can overcome people mentally."

Khorsravi travels all around Iowa playing singles and doubles and is ranked 15 in the Iowa District U-16 singles and 2nd in doubles. Khorsravi plays about six extra hours a week with a pro coach at the Racquet Club in addition to the five day a week high school practice schedule.

He just returned from Oklahoma City where he competed in a large tournament. He played two rounds and placed very well.

Khorsravi takes his game very seriously.

"Houdy likes everything to be perfect for him or he gets pissed," Shrum said.

"We lost a couple of key players last year," Khorsravi said. "If we play up to our ability we can win conference."

Come watch the tennis team play at Brookside park throughout the spring season.



courtesy of Houdy Khorsravi

How far out do you have to go before you come in for help?

Being a teen today can be tough. Need help? Give us a call.

Family Counseling Center.....233-2250

24 hour crisis phone:  
 Ames: .....233-2330  
 Outside Ames: ...1-800-600-2330

Youth & Shelter Services, Inc.  
 420 Kellogg Avenue, Ames, IA 50010

## Working up a sweat

SHAWNE KINGSBURY  
STAFF REPORTER

When most people decide to tone up they usually lift weights, run, swim or attend aerobic classes. But wouldn't it be nice to find a unique way to burn those calories?

Some students and teachers have found the answer to this question. They have used their creative minds and learned new ways to stay fit.

Three times every week English teacher **Keith Carlson**, PE teacher **Bob Heiberger** and counselor and PE teacher **Mike Wittmer** go to the Ames Racquet and Fitness Center to compete in racquetball.

If you like	Try
Swimming	Kickboxing
Weight Lifting	Spinning
Running	Tai Chi
Aerobic Class	In-line skating

"I always look forward to the days I play racquetball," Carlson said. "It's just a great way to relieve stress while getting soaked in the process."

While teachers are sweating through intense competition with one an-

other, students are working on their game to one day be as good as these athletic teachers.

"Racquetball is a good way to have a lot of fun," junior **Devin Wetzel** said. "Some-day I want to be as good as Mr. Wittmer."

However, if you're not the type to want a competitive exercise, you can always try other exercises.

Seniors **Elizabeth Hallam** and **Erin Carter** go to the Racquet Club but find another way to exercise and have fun. Have you ever considered of kickboxing?

"Kickboxing is half aerobic, half defensive moves," Carter said. "I like it because it's something new for me to do and it keeps me in shape since I'm not in a school sport."

Whether it's playing racquetball or showing your defensive moves in kickboxing, there are a lot of other unique ways to stay fit for anyone. Just simply find something new and interesting and try it. You may come to love it like these students and teachers.

"If it wasn't for my love of racquetball I would probably be a three hundred pound overweight man," Carlson said.

## Larson: Serving growth and improvement

ERIK GUFFY  
STAFF REPORTER

As a sophomore on the Ames High girls tennis team, **Jill Larson** has found herself competing at the varsity level. But not only is she playing with the top girls in her conference, she's winning.

So far, Larson has gone undefeated in singles. Much of her success is due to development during the off-season. "I've put a lot of effort into it this winter," Larson said.

In doubles, Larson has had several partners, most recently junior **Megan Sweeney**. Together they overpowered Marshalltown to help the team to a convincing victory. "She's an awesome doubles player because she can play well at the net as well as the baseline," Sweeney said. "She's always positive and never lets herself get down."

Last year, Larson lettered as a freshman by playing the number 5 doubles spot. This year, she has moved up to the number 4 singles and number 3 doubles positions. "I feel I've made lots of improvement," Larson said.

Coach **Len Thiede** has also been pleased with Larson's progress. "Her all around game is much improved," Thiede said.

Along with the change of her team position has come a change in attitude. "She's more confident," Thiede said. "There's no doubt about it."

With an improved game and a better attitude, Larson has established herself as a team leader. "I think Jill's become someone the rest of the team respects," Thiede said. "She has many fine qualities as a leader."

Being a sophomore, Larson will have two more years to compete at Ames High. Hopefully, her game will continue to grow and more success will come. "We'll get nothing but better," Thiede said. "She will have an outstanding career."

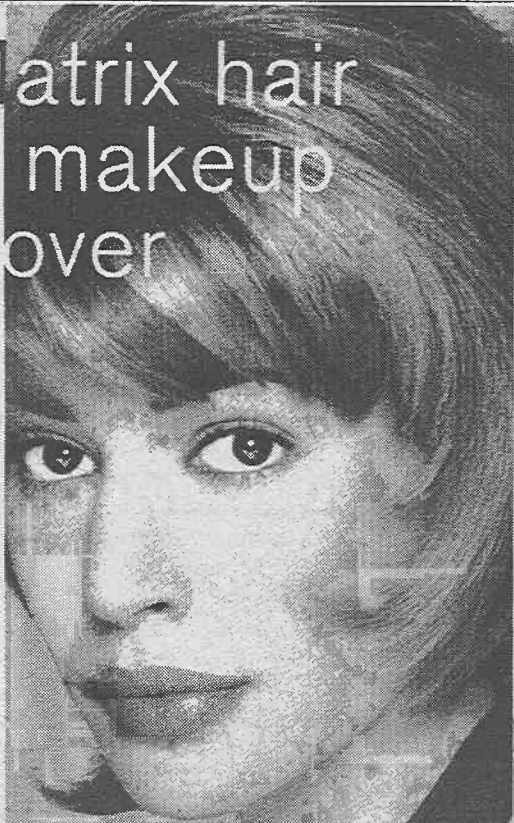


courtesy of Jill Larson

## the Matrix hair and makeup makeover

A cut that's in style and flattering. And makeup techniques that are soft and natural. It will change your look. Call for your appointment and be beautiful.

- Make-up Makeover
- Nails
- Unique Hair Styles of your Choice



Hey Gals, Schedule Your Prom Appointment Today!

HEY GUYS...  
Get Your Hair Cut  
For Only \$9.95

**Susan's**  
hair, skin & beauty resources  
your full service salon

RECEIVE A  
FREE  
GIFT !!!

Open M-Sat  
T-W-Th Eve.

Main Street Station • 317 Clark • Downtown Ames • 233-3114

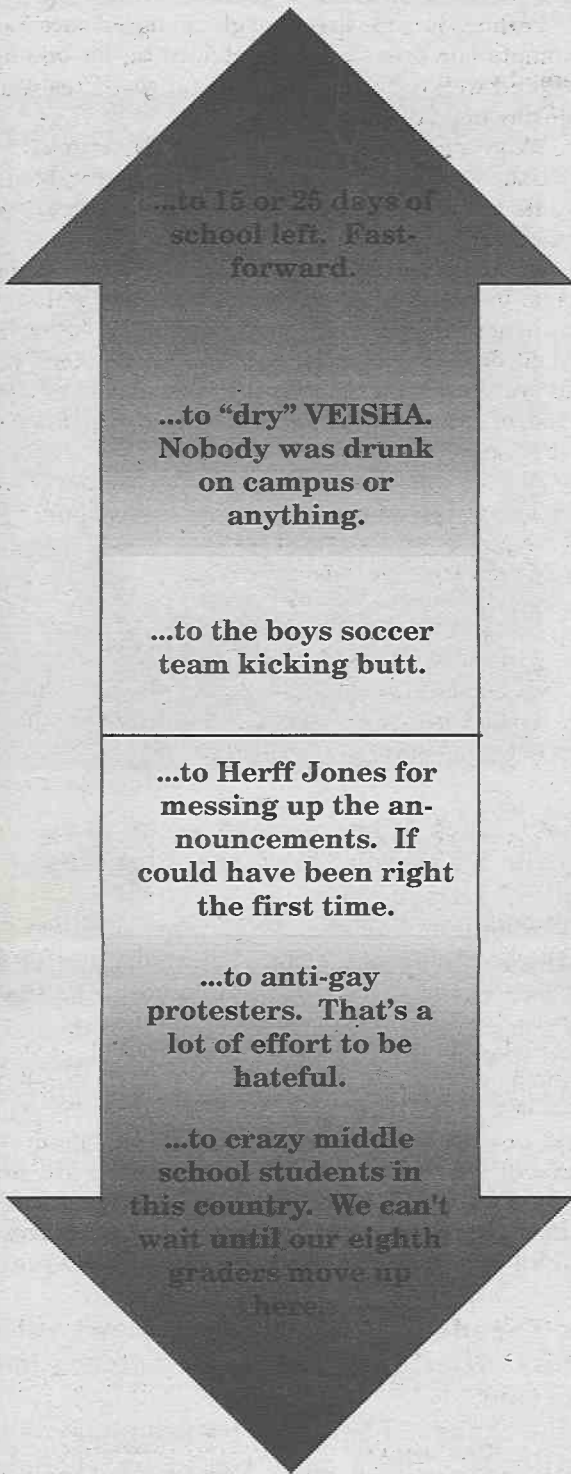
**Love Yourself First**

You deserve better than an unplanned pregnancy, sexually transmitted infection or HIV.

If you choose to be sexually active, be safe and smart. Visit an affordable place where people listen and give confidential nonjudgmental advice and answers.

**Planned Parenthood** of Greater Iowa  
Ames  
515/292-1000

**THUMBS UP**



**THUMBS DOWN**

Letters to the editor  
Assembly's message personal for English teacher

As a twenty-five year old teacher in this district, it is so very easy for me to recall the high school days of my own in which I felt immortal. It seemed as though nothing could bring me down or take me out. The words, "That will never happen to me," became so ingrained in the minds of my friends and me, that we tried everything, just simply to say we did and could. Drinking in a small town was a given. In fact, to cruise by the gas station hang out on a Saturday night, one would find the juniors and seniors asking older alumni to buy the alcohol for them. It was then transferred down to the sophomores who had just gotten their driver's licenses. As I look back, I can see that the stupidity was even greater than the desire to fit in with the older crowd. My eyes were opened as a senior in high school when one of my brother's friends had his life tragically ended by his own best friend.

Rich was at our house often, spending time with Tim's other friends by the pool in our back yard. He treated me as a sister, since he had none of his own. Then one day as Rich was walking home from the store on a sunny afternoon in August his best friend drove by, offering him a ride. Rich said he would walk; he liked the sun and was often found outside playing football or wrestling with his younger brothers. The friend insisted, and Rich climbed in thinking it would be easier to do so than to try to justify why he would have rather walked. His friend had been drinking since one o'clock that afternoon. It was four when Rich got in the vehicle.

The driver sped around the corner and they rode around for 20 minutes or so. Then Rich pleaded to be taken home so his mom wouldn't worry where he was or be late for dinner. His friend took the highway out of town and then turned back in on the curving road

leading to Rich's house. His friend lost control of the truck and hit a culvert. They flew 30 feet up in the air and hit a telephone pole on Rich's side of the truck. They were 50 feet from Rich's house. His mother heard the crash and dialed 911 immediately, having absolutely no idea she would be trying to save her own son's life. Rich was dead at the moment of impact.

"My eyes were opened as a senior in high school when one of my brother's friends had his life tragically ended by his own best friend."

-English teacher  
Tonja Sleezer

The assembly hosted by SADD with guest speaker, Marti Belluschi, was a reminder of the insanity of feeling immortal and the memory of a very special person who had an impact in my life. I know there were people at the assembly who felt no connection to what was being said. I also am very aware that some students found it a waste of their time. "Just because you are interested doesn't mean I have to be," were some words heard from the group in front of me. At the time I heard those words, I had no comment for I was in shock at a person's ability to be so insensitive and distant in the real world. So, to all of you who think I am "old" and out of touch or unaware of what is going on today, I have

only a few words.

I hope you never lose a friend to drunk driving or even worse, are the cause of a friend's death because of your own drunk driving. Rich's friend has had to live every day with the fact that his own stupidity and his need to drive drunk killed Rich. Imagine waking up to that every morning. I became a teacher to work with kids, to make a difference in your lives. I may be able to explain more easily why I don't want you to drink and drive than why I teach you *The Odyssey* or make you write in magic paragraphs, but I want you to be around to learn those things. I want you to be around to live your lives.

English teacher Tonja Sleezer

Students shouldn't have to pay for parking permits

I am writing in regards to the Ames High parking lot. I think that the parking lot should be expanded more to the eastern direction. There is a lot of vacant space in that area and I think the school should expand so there is more space for the people that actually have a parking permit. Not to mention the fact that a lot of sophomores park in the lot and get away with it. I am going to make suggestion. I think that all of the seniors and juniors should automatically get privileges to park in the lot regardless whether they have a permit or not. Then with the remaining spaces left then the sophomores and freshmen should pay for a parking permit.

I also think that \$30.00 is way too much for the students to pay for a little piece of plastic. \$15.00 should be sufficient. We already pay enough money to go to school here and \$30.00 is just another pointless expense we have to pay. What do you do with the \$30.00 everyone pays for the parking permits? Do you realize that is a lot of profit you make off the students of Ames High? I also have another question, where are the snow plows after it snows? That causes accidents and it is to our expense because nobody comes to plow. Hopefully something will be done, but if not, thank you for your time.

Junior Megan Popelka

Front page photo credits

Left: A car in the parking lot on Wednesday, April 22. 100th Green Butterfly placed fake parking tickets on cars to raise awareness on Earth Day.

Right: B.J Drake, Jason Weigel and Bri Newton socialize in the front lobby.

**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 es-

sential 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:** Mike Meier **News Editor:** Arlene Birt **Features Editor:** Jason Clark **Sports Editors:** Amber Erickson **A&E Editor:** Heather McElvain **Back Page Editor:** Theresa Nassif **Reporters:** Tiffany Belz, Hannah Dobbs, Erik Guffy, Holly Hampson, Shawne Kingsbury, Michelle Maxwell **Advisor:** Darin Johnson.

## Too many permits sold

This is concerning the parking lot and the overcrowdedness of the lot as it stands. In the beginning of the year our school officials decided to sell too many of the parking permits to students and ignored the fact that there would not be enough spaces for all of the cars. Depending on when you are able to get to the school, it can be a huge task to find parking spots left. The school has been nice enough to let students park illegally this year and not ticket them for this, but the problem still exists. There is a simple and easy way to solve this problem.

Instead of selling parking permits to students during registration they could sell the permits at the end of the previous school year. Starting with those who would next year be seniors, then juniors and so on down the line, keeping a count of how many they have sold. By selling them the year before they could eliminate the problem of the individuals who would like to purchase a permit but can not be present during registration. By keeping a close tab on how many are sold they could keep them from over crowding the lot.

Senior Jason Weigel

## Unnecessary requirement

It seems to me that the policy concerning the minimum of 27 contact hours a week is an unnecessary rule. I am a junior this year, and when I was signing up for next year's classes I found it hard to find classes that I wanted to take. I began to be discouraged, so in frustration I just threw up my hands and said, "Who cares?" I just didn't sign up for a full load of classes second semester. Little did I know that if you don't have 27 contact hours, you have to go to restricted study hall during the time when you would have had a class. I asked my counselor why, and he could only answer, "...because that's the rule."

"Little did I know that if you don't have 27 contact hours, you have to go to restricted study hall."

-Junior Dan Taylor

Why is it the rule? Can anyone tell me? I think it's a completely useless rule, especially since some people need to earn money for post high school plans.

I asked my counselor if emancipated students were excused from this rule and he said it didn't make any difference. Now what do we do? I say we abolish this rule so seniors don't have to waste time in a class they will probably fail from lack of attention, so they can spend their time productively at a job, or just enjoying life. Why should we have to sit around when we can get something done?

Junior Dan Taylor

## Skaters need skate park

Ames is a great town for skaters but that we don't have designated area for skating. A couple of years ago DPS and Ames Police said that they were going to build us a skate park for the skaters. They still haven't built one yet and we kids have to skate elsewhere.

We get kicked out of all the places that are good to skate in Ames. The Ames Police and the DPS tell us to get lost and to skate at our homes. That's no fun. I think that if the DPS and Ames Police don't want us skating on campus, they should build us a skate park.

Freshman Les Lepon

## Columns

# Prom: Much ado about nothing?

ARLENE BIRT  
NEWS EDITOR

It's that time of year again: Prom. And as high school seniors it is our night to shine, right? Our turn in the spotlight?

But is all the fuss just much ado about nothing? We spend hours trying to find that perfect, unique dress. Shopping for the right matching accessories, not to mention going through the hassle and embarrassment of finding a date.

Only to discover the shoes we spent hours matching are five sizes too small and pinch the heel to blister, and our dream date is just as nervous as we are.

All for what? Four hours of fame? We get to prance around in our expensive, never-before-worn satins and rhinestones to feel beautiful and loose touch with reality.

What is it that is so magical about this night? What has held the fascination of so many for so long to make it a yearly tradition? Why is it so important to us not to have our senior prom in the school gym?

Prom will not likely be the most memorable moment of our high school lives and surely not the most exciting.

SO WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?

## Invasion of the telemarketers

MIKE MEIER  
FRONT PAGE EDITOR

It is almost borderline harassment, but it is perfectly legal. Telemarketers crawl into your home through your telephone, and invade your life at the most inopportune times.

It has become a ridiculous situation, from taking quizzes over a favorite Jello flavor to a 'real quick question' about a new super cleanser that can clean a stain composed of blood, sweat, mud and pooh all mixed together that will change your life. These telemarketers are out of control.

I find it quite funny how they always seem to call around 6, the most common time for a family dinner. They speak so excitedly about their special little product and seem amazed when you are not as impressed with it as they are.

Another little annoying telephone related problem seems to be on the rise—armed forces recruiters. I suppose it's just a right of passage for teenage guys, right along with growing facial hair and the deepening their voices, but these armed forces recruiters have gone way too far.

I get close to four or five calls a month from recruiters, asking me for a moment of my time to try to sell me on the great adventure known as the United States Armed Forces. It's not that these calls are unnecessary, I mean, we do need a much larger army and more money spent on it to add to

Perhaps it is the dream of glamour and success that prompts our dress-up. The chance to, for one night, pretend we are the rich, successful socialites that we one day hope to become.

We get to play make-believe; only this time it is not with the too-big hats and shoes from our grandmother's trunk. Now we are "grown-up" and "mature," acting out our dreams of fame and fortune.

Or maybe prom brings our current casual dating scene back to an era when going out on a date took hours of preparation. The "good old days" when Suzie would float down the spiral staircase in her Sunday best to meet John Doe (with the required flowers in hand, of course) waiting in the living room. Like a clip out of *Leave It to Beaver*.

Possibly our fascination with our senior Prom is about saying good bye to four long years of high school. Struggling to, in one fun-filled night, make up for all previous high school disappointments.

It's the last time of our high school years to feel on top of it all. One of our last chances to "rule the school," being the elite of our high school society.

But sometimes we build our expectations high for steep letdowns. As psychologist Sigmund Freud might have said, sometimes a prom is just a prom.

our already overwhelming deficit. I just think that there might be a better way to find 'a few good men' other than calling to make people feel like they are letting their country down if they don't devote 5 years of their life to it.

It's hard to believe, but the amount of calls are not the main part of my gripe; it is the rudeness and overall cruelty of their demeanor. I normally try to be very polite at first, saying 'I have already made plans for my future, and I am sorry but they do not involve the armed forces.' After a remark like that they shoot back with a somewhat sarcastic remark like, 'Well do you know any of your friends who would like \$40,000 for college and some spending money?' to which I cleverly retort: 'No,' and hang up.

It's just really hard for me to believe that our government would sanction an operation such as this. It does not at all give a good impression of the Armed Forces, or of the US government. There must be a better way of letting people know of the great opportunity that is available for everyone.

I do feel a bit sorry for these people; they are just trying to do thier job. I feel a little bit of remorse when I hang up on them and call them (tasteful) names, but not too much. But what are you going to do, this is the United States, freedom of speech and all, and these things happen.

## If you could be any teacher (or student) who would you be and why?



"Mr. Forssman so I could think how he thinks."

-Sophomore Carol Adams



"I'd be Mr. White because he teaches anthropology and he knows how to strut."

-Senior Mandy Rios



"I'd want to be Patrick Shields because if I 'accidentally' slept late my mom could lose the referral."

-Hall monitor Chuck Stevens

"Mrs. Carey because she always helps whenever I need help and she's just a nice person."

-Freshman Megan Eernisse



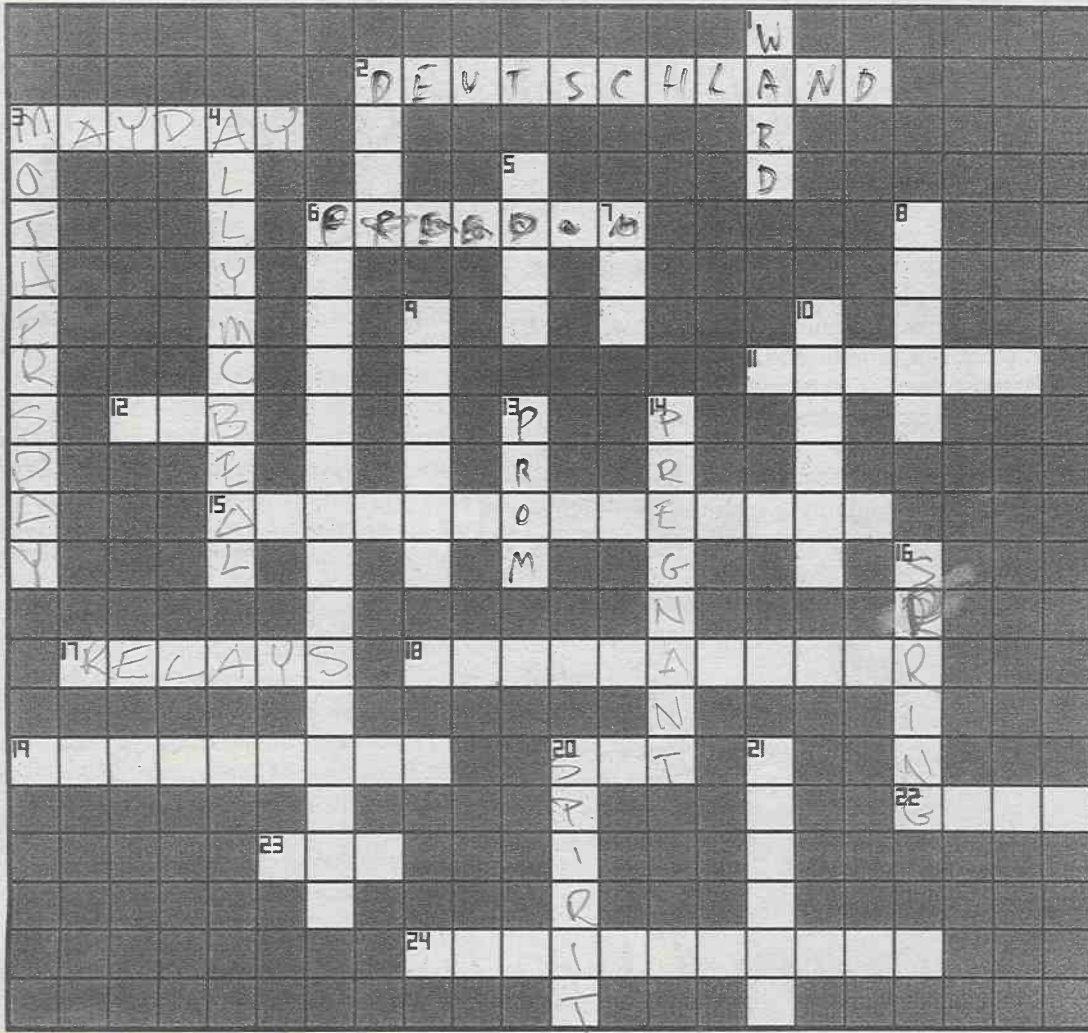
"I'd be Mr. White because I'd be able to dress cool and I'd get to lead discussion in anthropology."

-Junior Brigham Van Auken



BY THERESA NASSIF  
& ERIK GUFFY

## Competitive Crossword



### Across

- German for Germany
- Ding-dong ditching day
- 1400 McKinley
- No hands!
- Biggest word on the school newspaper
- May 16: Be all you can be
- Drake
- Spring Play
- Key Club contest
- On a scale of 1600
- Eagles and birdies
- On a scale of 36
- Roozbeh "Steven Spielberg" Ghaffarzadeh

### Down

- Joe
- Find one
- May 10
- 8:00 Monday, FOX
- Get one for the summer
- First amendment
- Against Racism
- Art of running around in circles
- Guys need to get one for the 16th
- Marshalltown mascot
- Atrium
- Mrs. Sullivan, Mrs. Jurgensen, & Mrs. Stevenson
- The season for growth
- Yearbook staff
- Fuzzy balls

PRIZE!!!! The first person to walk in Room 202 during fourth period with a correctly completed puzzle will win the official snack of the Web staff.

Help him dress for his big night

## Erik's prom adventure

