

# METRO/IOWA

## CITY COUNCIL

### Students protest police funding plan

By Lonnie Zingula  
Gazette City Hall reporter

Three elementary school students stole the show last night and may have prevented the City Council from taking action on a controversial plan to fund new Cedar Rapids police officers with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds.

Johnson Elementary students Linnea Ogden, Matt Krewer and Logan Klug joined several adults in speaking out against the funding plan. But they left no doubt about their feelings on the need for more police, recalling the gunfire that interrupted recess at their school in October.

"Kids shouldn't have to worry about getting shot or killed, especially at recess," said Linnea.

Matt said the CDBG funds are already put to good use on such things as a summer playground program at Johnson. He said the city could pay for police by dipping into its cash reserves, using lodging tax revenues or by having each council member come up with funds from the departments they oversee.

Klug presented the council with letters supporting the hiring of additional police — but not with CDBG funds — from 87 Johnson students. The students initiated the effort in November,

Ogden said, motivated in part by the October shooting.

CDBG funds totaling \$102,631 are part of a plan previously approved as part of the fiscal 1995 budget to add 10 officers. Four officers would be paid with CDBG funds, provided the officers hired are assigned to qualifying neighborhoods, with the rest coming from the general fund and lodging tax revenues.

The plan has run into stiff opposition from residents of the city's six CDBG neighborhoods and the CDBG Priorities Citizens' Committee refused to recommend specific cuts to the CDBG budget, leaving it to the council to amend.

That action was scheduled to occur during last night's meeting, but was tabled at the suggestion of Safety Commissioner J.D. Smith.

If CDBG funds must be used, he said, they should come from money allocated for street and sewer improvements, which would instead be funded by money saved through the suspension of sewer solvent purchases. Otherwise, Smith said the money could come from uncommitted lodging tax revenues. Smith's third alternative called for using Building Department revenues that have exceeded expectations.

### City makes room for Quality Chef growth

By Lonnie Zingula

Quality Chef Foods obtained a vital ingredient last night for its expansion plans.

The City Council agreed to vacate the alley between 11th and 12th avenues and Third and Fourth streets SE to Quality Chef in exchange for payment of \$10,500. The company must also bear the cost of relocating a sewer in the alley at an estimated cost of \$12,000 to \$20,000, said Streets Commissioner Don Thomas.

The council also released the company from obligation for the cost of demolition of a building formerly located at Third Street and 12th Avenue. In exchange for waiving the \$18,900 bill, Quality Chef agreed not to build on a portion of the Fourth Street corridor, which city officials want maintained for potential transportation uses.

Quality Chef is planning a 43,000 square-foot addition to its facility at 1100 Third St. SE, encompassing the entire city block bounded by 11th and 12th avenues and Third and Fourth streets. Another 27,000 square feet of existing building space will be remodeled.

The expansion is expected to result in 100 additional jobs

with the frozen food manufacturing company. Quality Chef employs 60 workers.

By agreeing not to build in the corridor, using it instead as a truck staging area, the company has kept options open for its future use.

The 80-foot-wide strip from A Avenue NE to 12th Avenue SE was established in the early 1800s for rail operations, which are now confined to a 20-foot easement. The city controls 30 feet on either side of the tracks.

Seven parcels between 15 feet wide and 35 feet wide within the corridor have been vacated to private parties since 1979. However, except for city parkades at Third and Fourth avenues — both of which extend 20 feet into the corridor — no buildings or permanent structures have been placed within the Fourth Street right of way.

City officials want to prevent additional building within the corridor so it is available for alternative modes of transportation — such as walking, bicycling, light rail or overhead conveyance. Thomas said the Quality Chef project would leave a 60-foot clearance in that portion of the corridor, a sufficient amount for the city's needs.

## 1991 killing still a mystery

### Wife remains suspect in Springdale murder

By Rick Smith  
Gazette staff writer

Tom Mather's murder at his rural Springdale home in September 1991 is still unsolved, the investigation into it has stalled, and Mather's widow, Dawn, remains a suspect, said Cedar County Sheriff Keith Whitlatch on Wednesday.

Among the aging case's newest developments is a year old, previously unreported, and shows more what investigators think than what they can prove.

It was in April 1993 when investigators obtained a warrant and searched Dawn Mather's Coralville apartment for an aqua or mint-green shirt and skirt outfit with small dots. They found the outfit.

Whitlatch explained Wednesday that a witness reported seeing a woman in a similar dress talking to a man outside the Mather's rural home the day of Tom Mather's murder. The woman and man were near a blue Pontiac Grand Am.

If Dawn Mather were outside the home talking to someone before the murder, that would conflict with her statement to authorities.

It also would further one theory that she may have been talking to a friend who subsequently murdered Tom Mather, said Whitlatch.

If nothing else, the search for and seizure of Dawn Mather's green outfit



Tom Mather  
Killed in 1991



Dawn Mather  
Under suspicion

tigative allegations — that his client did not have bruises on the bottom of her feet after she ran naked on a gravel road to a neighbor's for help the night of the murder; and that she did not sufficiently grieve after her husband's death.

Kutmus emphasized that Dawn Mather cooperated with investigators after the murder. But later, investigators announced she was a suspect, "a target," said Kutmus, and at that point he ordered her not to talk to investigators or the media.

Kutmus said investigators have little evidence so they have had to fall back on a "gut feeling" and valid statistics that indicate that spouses do murder spouses.

Dawn Mather has told authorities and her husband's family that she and he were watching television about 8:40 p.m. Sept. 30, 1991, when a naked man appeared in the living room, pointing a gun, holding two pieces of rope in his hand, and announcing he was there to rob them.

Tom Mather was tied up with the rope, and Dawn, ordered to strip, was tied up in her clothes. But she was able to free herself, and fled up the gravel road, naked, to a neighboring farmhouse for help.

Arriving sheriff's deputies found Tom Mather dead from a shot to the head with his neck and wrists slashed. Money was strewn around the living room, and tire tracks were left outside.

Attorney Kutmus said Dawn Mather moved out of Iowa because she has felt harassed by news reporters.

indicates just how focused investigators have been on her as a suspect in the case.

"I've said all along, we've never eliminated her as a suspect because there's no way we can get her out of the picture," Whitlatch said.

Still, the seized woman's outfit clearly has not considerably advanced the investigation.

"There's nothing new," said DCI special agent Ken Sandy on Wednesday.

Whitlatch said finding the blue car remains crucial to the case.

Dawn Mather's attorney, William Kutmus of Des Moines, on Wednesday declared his client's innocence, called the green dress "meaningless," and termed any suggestion of her guilt "cavalier."

Kutmus also dismissed two other inves-

## Pianist enchants with dance music

By Helen Chadima  
Free-lance writer

IOWA CITY — How dance music has changed over the centuries! That was demonstrated dramatically at Hancher Auditorium on Tuesday night by pianist Emanuel Ax, who gave a benefit performance for Hancher.

Ax charmed the audience of 900 with his interpretations of dance music by Bach, Debussy and Bartok.

But first he delivered a friendly apology to the audience for a glitch that is not uncommon to performers in the touring world:

■ A band of Australian aboriginal musicians amazed a Hancher Auditorium audience last night. Helen Chadima's full review will be in Friday's Gazette.

He forgot to bring his suit for the performance. He also apologized for a mistake in the program. He was not planning to play the Bartok Suite No. 14, as printed. In fact, he said, "I can't even play it." After much laughter and applause from the audience, he continued with the program.

Ax began the concert with the

whimsical Suite Bergamesque by Debussy. Hearing Debussy under Ax's fingers is a thoroughly enchanting experience. The clarity of his runs, the balance of tones in the chords and his contrast from the bright chords to the soft, muted passages all contributed to the piant, impressionistic images in Debussy's music that Ax achieves so well.

That Ax has an intimate relationship with the music he performs is clear. His music seems to come from the inside out. He brought out a lively playfulness in Debussy's minuet as his fin-

gers hopped and leaped around the keyboard. He played "Clair de Lune" with the mystical quality that Debussy surely intended. Moonlight was never more clearly painted by any poet.

A Baroque dance suite by Bach, Partita No. 2 in C minor, was in great contrast to the colorful Debussy. The formality of Bach's music was handled with superb control by Ax.

Although Ax frequently is involved in ensemble playing, his performance Tuesday demonstrated that he is still equally at home in solo performances.

**METRO PLAY:** Jess DeGroot, as the interviewer, questions Emily Brown, as Mrs. Treplachley in Metro High School's presentation of "Was He Anyone?" Performances are today and Friday. Call 398-2028 for reservations.



Gazette photo by Chris Stewart

### Linn-Mar teacher honored for work

Jean Seehusen, a second-grade teacher at Wilkins Elementary School in the Linn-Mar School District, has been named 1994 Linn County Educator of the Year by local units of the Iowa State Education Association (ISEA).

The award was made by the Cedar Wood and East Central UniServ units of the ISEA in cooperation with Farmers State Bank of Marion.

Seehusen was honored for her work as a "master" teacher who works closely with parents of students.

Seehusen was scheduled to receive the award in a reception Tuesday at the Longbranch Restaurant.

## DAILY NOTEBOOK

**TEL•US**

To answer today's question call CITYLINE, 363-7000 or 337-7000 and enter category 1111 between 6 a.m. and 8 p.m.

**YESTERDAY'S QUESTION:** Dan Quayle has indicated an interest in running for president. Would you vote for him? (275 responses)

**Yes: 52% No: 48%**

**TODAY'S QUESTION:** A member of the Iowa Civil Rights Commission made ethnic jokes during a public meeting. Should he resign?

TEL•US is a non-scientific sampling of public opinion

### TODAY/May 5, 1994

**MEETINGS**  
4:30 p.m. — Linn County Regional Planning Commission Executive Committee, council chambers, Cedar Rapids City Hall.  
7 p.m. — Marion City Council, formal meeting, City Hall.

**OUTDOORS**  
Master gardener Ken Lafferty will discuss the use of woodland and prairie plants in yard landscaping, and free plants will be distributed, 7 p.m., Squaw Creek Park Lodge.

**THEATER**  
"A Tantalizing" by William Mastrosimone; featuring Nina Swanson and Marty Klein, with original music composed and performed by Matthew Burrier, 8 p.m. at Liars Theatre, Marion. Tickets \$12. Reservations required.  
"Children of a Lesser God," 8 p.m., Theatre Cedar Rapids. Tickets: \$10.  
"Blood Bondage," a play written by Coe College senior Jeffrey Seidman, 8 p.m., Mills Theater, Dows Fine Arts Center, Coe College. Seating is limited, reservations are advised.  
"Rumors," benefit performance presented by Iowa City Community Theater, 7:30 p.m., Johnson County Fairgrounds,

Iowa City. Proceeds to Systems Unlimited Inc. Tickets \$9.

**MUSIC**  
Thomas Hampson, classical baritone, 8 p.m., Hancher Auditorium. Program includes songs by American composers Charles Griffes, Samuel Barber, Leonard Bernstein, Charles Ives and Aaron Copland, and settings of texts by Walt Whitman and Tennessee Williams. Tickets \$30, \$28 and \$25; senior citizens \$24, \$22.40 and \$20; youth \$15, \$14 and \$12.50.  
Guardabarranco, a Nicaraguan brother and sister folk duo, 8 p.m., CSPS. Tickets: \$9.

**LECTURES**  
"America's Role in the Post-Cold War World," Phi Beta Kappa lecture by University of Chicago political science professor and author John Mearsheimer, 11 a.m., King Chapel, Cornell College, Mount Vernon.  
Coe College seniors' creative honors thesis, with readers by Kendy Wazac and Don Perry, 7 p.m. Perrine Gallery, Stewart Memorial Library.

**BOOKS**  
Live from Prairie Lights: reading by poet Claudia Keelan from her first book of poetry, "Refinery," 8 p.m.

**WORKSHOP**  
Kids Count, Tool, education series for children ages 3-12 to learn to cope with changes that occur due to chronic illness, 5-7 p.m., Hall Radiation Center, Mercy Medical Center. Preregistration required. Presented by American Cancer Society and Mercy Cancer Center.

**RECYCLING TRUCK**  
The Cedar Rapids recycling truck, at Econofoods East, 1800 51st St. NE, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**FARMERS MARKET**  
Cedar Rapids Riverside Roundhouse Market at Riverside Roundhouse, 3 to 6 p.m. Sponsored by the Cedar Rapids Recreation Commission.

**CLINIC**  
Venereal disease examination and treatment, 6 to 9 p.m., Linn County Health Department, 501 13th St. NW. Appointment required, call 398-3551.

**HOUSE TOUR**  
Designer Showcase '94: 529 Knollwood Dr. SE. Presented by Mercy Medical Center Auxiliary, the 12-room, three-level home built in 1914 features the latest of modern amenities

and trends. Hours: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. Tickets \$6; children under age 8 not admitted. Proceeds go toward purchase of ultrasound angiography.

**CITYLINE CALENDAR**  
More on CITYLINE'S Calendar of Events (Category 8000): Cedar Rapids, 363-7000; Iowa City, 337-7000.

**LOTTERIES**

**POWERBALL**  
22-23-39-44-45 Powerball: 6 Jackpot: \$5.2 million

**IOWA LOTTERY**  
Lucky Day: 11-10-1979 Lucky number: 36  
\$100,000 CASH GAME: 3-11-13-17-30  
No one won the Lucky Day drawing last night. The jackpot rises to \$700,000 for Saturday's drawing.

**ILLINOIS LOTTERY**  
PICK 3 MIDDAY: 1-2-6 PICK 3 EVENING: 3-4-4  
PICK 4 MIDDAY: 9-0-2-8 PICK 4 EVENING: 3-2-5-6  
LITTLE LOTTO: 3-14-16-26-30 LOTTO: 6-18-26-31-38-44  
6-of-54 JACKPOT: \$2 million

Lottery numbers available on CITYLINE, 363-7000 or 337-7000, category 2900.

### VITAL STATISTICS

**BIRTHS**  
MERCY  
May 3 — Shawn and Mike Naeve, 328 34th St. NE, a daughter.  
May 4 — Diane and Doug Ropp, 638 35th St. SE, a son; Sandy and Steve Brune, 4819 Montclair Dr. NW, a son; Cherien and Dan Kimball, 730 S. Seventh St., Marion, a daughter.

ST. LUKE'S  
May 3 — Tracie and Eric Hathaway, 7211 Sandhurst Dr. NW, a son.  
May 4 — Brenda and James Blackburn, 23 Leisure Blvd.

NE, a son; Julie and Tony Erceg, 1011 Dover St. NE, a daughter; Kristine and Richard Harger, Center Point, a son; Billie Hill, 324 Paula Lane NE, a son; Shellis and David Jellison, 606 Jonadel Lane NW, a son; Margaret and Craig Sears, 2630 Otis Rd. SE, a son.

UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS, Iowa City  
April 29 — Maajal and Brett Houdeshell, 4541 Mission Ave., Marion, a son.

**DISSOLUTIONS**  
Pamela M. and Richard C. Bales, Sharon L. and Richard A. Ciemnoczowski, Dennis W. and Nancy W. Bayless, Kimberly R. and Matthew P. Smith, Roseann C. and Robin J. Goettsch, Duane J. and Amy M. Brown, Paul J. and Nancy L. Troendle, Ronald W. and Virginia M. Zubrod, Sheri L. and David A. Brenner, Jeffrey M. and Janalyn M. Novak, Nancy J. and Dennis D. Selness, Marilyn K. and David P. Bowers, Amy D. and Jeremy A. O'Brien, Jane E. and Michael W. Jameson, Brian C. and Deborah A. Wilkins, Sandra B. and Douglas R. Burgess.

**THE LOG**  
Information for The Log is collected by The Gazette from public safety agencies in Linn County. Charges are subject to review by the Linn County Attorney's Office.

**DRUNKEN DRIVING**  
The following people charged with drunken driving are listed with time and place of arrest. Addresses are taken from court records.

Chad M. Brezina, 20, 3903 Council St. NE, at 1:07 a.m. Sunday in the 800 block of Blairs Ferry Road, Marion.  
Webb S. Hawkins, 20, 405 Cherrhill Rd. SW, at 2:08 a.m. Sunday in the 1100 block of 16th Avenue SW.  
Russell L. Lympus, 25, 3929 Roxbury Dr. NW, at 4:27 a.m. Sunday at Eighth Street and G Avenue NW (second offense).

### DEGREE-DAYS

Total for May 3, 1994	14
Year to May 3, 1994	7,229
Total through May 3, 1993	7,127
Percent of normal year	110%
Total normal year	6,558

Compiled by Iowa-Illinois Gas & Electric Co.