

## NEWS JOURNAL

### IOWA CITY

#### Sit-in over apparel is possible

■ A co-founder of the organization called University of Iowa's United Students Against Sweatshops said his group has not ruled out the possibility of staging a sit-in like one that began Monday at the University of Pennsylvania.

"It depends on how recalcitrant the university wants to be," said James Tracy, a graduate student in journalism.

Members of the UI group oppose using sweatshop labor to manufacture licensed UI garments and other products and say the UI should end its alliance with an organization called the Fair Labor Association, an apparel industry group that monitors conditions under which the products are made.

The group would like the UI to affiliate with the Workers Rights Consortium (WRC), which monitors clothing manufacturers through human rights groups.

"It's not as easy as signing onto the WRC," said Vice President of University Relations Ann Rhodes. "It's a fairly complicated issue."

Rhodes said UI administrators plan to hold a public forum in the next month to bring together people interested in talking about the issue.

### CORALVILLE

#### Offer brings prostitution charge

■ A Harper man is accused of offering to perform oral sex on a teen-ager he accosted in the arcade Jan. 15 at Coral Ridge Mall and also offering to pay the teen to allow him to do it.

Gregory Redlinger, 30, is charged with prostitution. He is free on his own recognizance following an initial appearance in Johnson County District Court.

Police said Redlinger admitted his actions and said what he had done was wrong and uncivilized. Redlinger was arrested on a warrant.

### NORTH LIBERTY

#### Council rejects rezoning

■ The Westside Neighborhood Association won its battle against a rezoning request at last night's City Council meeting.

Three council members — Matt Bahl, Bill Dorst and John Soukup — voted in favor of the rezoning and two — Tom Ries and Ron Bandy — voted against it. Even so, the request was defeated.

Because the association had filed a petition against the rezoning, the motion required affirmative votes from four of the five members in order to pass.

"All along I've felt it was time for someone to represent the people — not the developers," said Ries.

Jim Stetzel, owner of the proposed Harvest Estates Development, said the vote was a setback. But Stetzel said he is not giving up on developing 44 lots on his 20 acres on South Jones Boulevard.

The association's concerns included water runoff in an area residents say is already overburdened, along with traffic and safety problems.

### CEDAR RAPIDS

#### Readings set at Ushers Ferry

■ Darrin Crow of the Ushers Ferry Historic Village staff will be joined by three other performers to present an evening of "Love Letters and Lamplight" on Saturday at 7 p.m.

The evening will include short stories by O. Henry and Mark Twain, as well as humorous and romantic poetry.

The performance will be held in the village church. Following the performance, guests will go to one of the historic homes for dessert and coffee.

Price is \$12 per person. Reservations can be made by calling (319) 286-5763.

### BUCHANAN COUNTY

#### Board sets April 25 tax vote

■ Several towns and the rural area will be going to the polls for a third time in five years to decide whether a local option sales tax will be put into effect.

The Buchanan County Board of Supervisors Monday approved a resolution setting April 25 for the option sales tax election, according to County Deputy Auditor Janet Payne.

Payne said towns participating in the election must decide how the tax will be used and submit that information to the Auditor's Office by Feb. 18.

Stanley, Aurora and Lamont will be voting on renewing the tax, which expires for those towns this year, Payne said. Independence, Quasqueton, Rowley and Brandon also will vote.

# Tumey found not guilty

## Jury exonerates man of 1980 murder of 17-year-old Sandra Jo Pittman

By Rick Smith  
Gazette staff writer

TIPTON — After nearly 20 years of suspicion, nine months of jail and two trials, a now-aging man with a long history of mental illness has been exonerated in the 1980 beating and strangulation murder of 17-year-old Sandra Jo Pittman.

Dean Tumey took the announcement of his not guilty verdict Tuesday morning in Cedar County District Court here without emotion.

"Stoic," Brad Norton, Tumey's attorney, said in characterizing his client's courtroom reaction.

The 54-year-old Tumey, who has suffered from paranoid schizophrenia since the mid-

1970s and whose delusions and paranoia are controlled with a heavy regimen of psychotropic medication, should never have been charged, Norton said.

"They never, never had any direct evidence connecting him to this crime," the defense attorney said.

Tumey's sister, Patty Sorgenfrey of Onslow, agreed, and called on the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation to do a better job of reexamining old cases before they decide to prosecute the next one.

Pittman was beaten and strangled and her body placed in a Highway 30 rest area west of Clarence on Sept. 17, 1980.

Tumey, who was twice Pitt-

man's age at the time and was acquainted with her through a Davenport rooming house, was a suspect from the start.

Sorgenfrey said she and Pittman's mother, Eleanor Strong Miles of Montpelier, prayed together for a moment Tuesday morning when it was apparent the jury had reached a verdict.

They embraced afterward, she said.

Max Pittman of Bettendorf, the father of the victim, said he believed Tumey killed his daughter.

If he didn't, Tumey knew who did because he knew so much about the crime, Pittman said.

Prosecutor Alan Ostergren, assistant Muscatine County

attorney, had told jurors just that in closing arguments: Tumey knew too much to be innocent.

Ostergren could not be reached after the verdict.

The Cedar County jury deliberated eight hours before concluding Tumey was not guilty on Tuesday morning.

Long said juror doubts centered around the absence of a sure link between Tumey and Pittman in the hours leading up to her death and around a controversial confession that Tumey allegedly provided authorities in 1990.

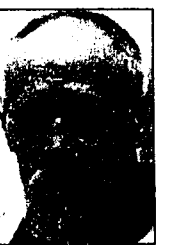
The confession was the heart of the prosecution's case.

Long said some jurors weren't sure if the purported

confession, which the prosecution said was an accurate paraphrase of Tumey's comments to investigators, was a paraphrasing or an investigator's interpretation of what Tumey said.

Tumey did not sign the confession and neither Cedar County Sheriff Keith Whitlatch nor a DCI agent taped the meeting with Tumey or made notes about it.

Tumey will stay with his sister and her husband on their farm for a few days and then resume his life in Knoxville, where he has lived successfully in recent years near the Veterans Affairs Medical Center there.



Dean Tumey  
Jury deliberated eight hours



Gazette photos by Miranda Meyer



## Company dances with C.R. elders

ABOVE: Ann Pusateri (left) and Helen Carr, both of Cedar Rapids, perform dance gestures Tuesday along with the rest of the group at Cottage Grove Place. AT LEFT: Sarah Grieco (center) and Alana Shaw (far right) of the Turning Wheel Dance Company of Boulder, Colo., lead Cottage Grove Place residents and children from Bethany Lutheran Preschool in the interactive dance program, "Dancing with elders." Cedar Rapids is one of 12 U.S. cities to host the dance company Feb. 4-12, through part of the Neighborhood Arts Project by Leglon Arts.

## Computer addiction to rise: UI study

By Jim Jacobson  
Gazette staff writer

IOWA CITY — In much the same way people get hooked on cigarettes or alcohol, people are becoming addicted to their computers, a new study from a University of Iowa researcher shows.

And with the increase in the number of people who



Dr. Donald Black  
UI professor

own personal computers, the problem of compulsive computer use only will become more widespread, said Dr. Donald Black, a professor of psychiatry in the UI College of Medicine.

"As computer usage expands, we're going to see more and more people with this problem," Black said.

He studied 21 Eastern Iowans — 16 men and five women — who thought they might be compulsive computer users and found that on average they spent 27 hours a week in front of the computer screen, playing games, surfing the Internet or in chat rooms.

The fact that he had no trouble finding people to participate in the study indicates to him how prevalent the problem actually is.

The study's results appeared recently in the Journal of Clinical Psychiatry.

But it's not just the amount of time a person spends with a keyboard and mouse, Black said.

The true mark of a compulsive computer user is that the usage causes some kind of distress and leads to family, marital, legal or financial problems, he explained.

One person he studied spent as much as 12 hours a day during the week and 18 hours a day during the weekend on his computer. "That was an extreme," Black acknowledged.

Among other findings, Black reported two-thirds of the participants said that when they tried to cut back on their usage — which indicates they perceive a problem — they reported they experienced anxiety.

Like any person with a compulsion or an addiction, "They have to get their daily fix," Black said.

And most of the people who suffer from the compulsion, also have other personality disorders.

More than 50 percent of people in the study had at least one disorder while the percentage in the general public is 12 percent.

Black cautioned that not all people who spend a lot of time in front of a computer screen are necessarily compulsive about it. "It has to lead to impairment and distress" to be considered a compulsion, he said.

## Police, firefighters memorial idea OK'd

### Fountain in blue granite would bear honored names

By Steve Gravelle  
Gazette staff writer

CEDAR RAPIDS — A park memorializing a dozen Cedar Rapids police officers and firefighters could be finished by summer.

The city's Visual Arts Commission has approved a design concept for Brett Sunner Memorial Park, which will occupy part of present Riverfront Park along First Street SW near the Police Station.

The design by Christopher Bennett of Keosauqua features a fountain in blue granite bearing the names of six Cedar Rapids police officers and six firefighters who died in the line of duty.

Police Lt. Bernie Walther said a citizens' committee has raised \$25,000 for the project, "and we've got some money

above and beyond that for any contingencies."

"Being a fountain, there will be some ongoing maintenance," Walther said.

Walther was a friend and co-worker of Sunner, who was 25 when he was shot to death June 8, 1984, while responding to a domestic disturbance in southwest Cedar Rapids. The memorial effort began in 1996, while the new Police Station was under construction.

The design should go to the City Council for final approval within a month, Walther said.

Parks Commissioner Dale Todd said completing the project this summer "is real doable. They've got funding in place and a plan. If the weather cooperates we should be able to have it in place."

Walther said Bennett's design was among three finalists culled from about eight submissions.

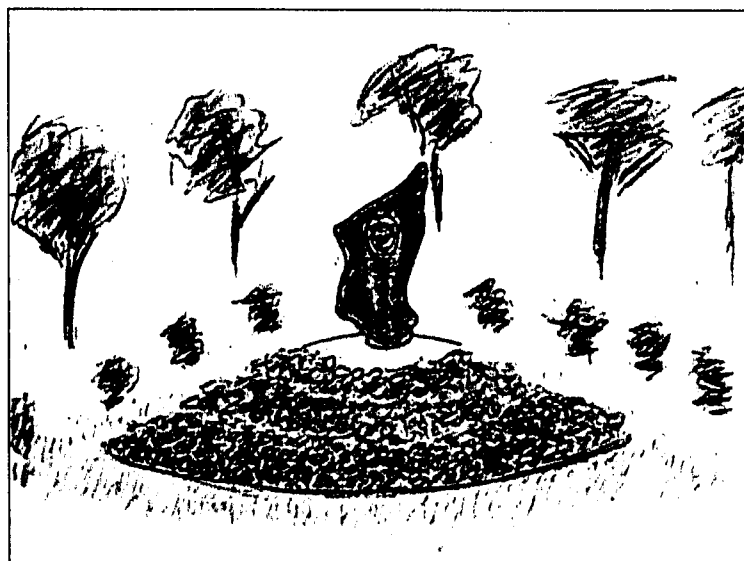
The design's traditional nature appealed to the commission and fund-raising commit-



Lt. Bernie Walther  
Sunner friend



Brett Sunner  
Slain in 1984



This design concept for Brett Sunner Memorial Park was approved by the Cedar Rapids Visual Arts Commission. The park, which will occupy part of Riverfront Park near the Police Station, will honor Cedar Rapids police officers and firefighters who died in the line of duty.

tee. "We didn't want to go way off the wall on it," he said. "One of the comments was that this was something we'd want more traditional."

Six Cedar Rapids police officers have been killed on duty since 1885: William McDaniels (1885); Charles Gillin (1913); Henry Arends (1914); Francis Wilson (1921); Felix Barta

Contact writer Steve Gravelle at (319) 398-9819 or stevegr@iowajournal.com