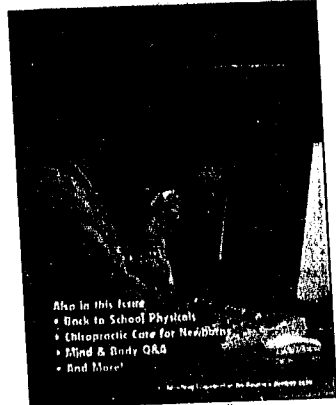


**Healthy living in Eastern Iowa**  
New magazine helps you be your best



**SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION**

**Grant reflects**  
Outgoing athletic director a pioneer in women's sports

**SPORTS**

**Harry Potter casts his spell**  
New book mesmerizes area children

**IOWA TODAY, 1C**



**Country charm**  
Rural roots influence C.R. home  
**HOME/REAL ESTATE**



# The Sunday Gazette

TODAY		MONDAY	
Isolated storms Wind: SW 10-18		Isolated storms Wind: NW 8-12	
High 91	Low 70	High 88	Low 72

Weather Report, 3C Latest forecasts online  
<http://www.kcrg.com>

METRO / VOL. 117 NO. 182

SUNDAY, JULY 9, 2000

THE NEWSPAPER OF EASTERN IOWA

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA \$1.75

## Continual hunt for closure

Can a detective count a murder solved when the suspect is dead?

By Rick Smith  
Gazette staff writer

CEDAR RAPIDS — When it comes to homicide, Americans like a jury or a judge to determine guilt before they start calling a suspect a murderer.

And for good reason. Surely there would be fewer unsolved murders if only a police detective's opinion mattered.

But what of the case in which there can be no judge or jury?

### CEDAR RAPIDS

The case, for instance, when the principal suspect has died before detectives have had a chance to make their case?

In that instance, can a police detective ever close the case file? Can the victim's family ever know the truth?

Or as R. Dean Wright, professor of sociology at Drake University, puts it: How does a detective walk the precipice between his own career need to have an investigative victory and a community's need to have some kind of credible verdict.

Longtime Cedar Rapids homicide detective Sam McClurg is wrestling with just such a case — the

1997 murder of Traci Evenson, a 22-year-old Cedar Rapids woman who was attending Kirkwood Community College while working two jobs at the time of her death.

The strangulation was an act of viciousness, McClurg says, and police photographs of her beaten face prove it.

Early on, McClurg said publicly that he believed Evenson knew her murderer and let him in her apartment before the killing.

One person emerged as a principal among suspects — Evenson's 28-year-old brother-in-law, Anthony D. Jackson. He knew Evenson well, McClurg says; he had been convicted of assaulting a woman; he did not appear upset about the death at the murder scene; and he obtained a lawyer as soon as McClurg asked to question him.

Another factor began to figure in, too. The Police Department had a troubling unsolved case of intruder rape at knifepoint from a year earlier that gained a new perspective — Jackson knew the rape victim. She was the girlfriend of one of Jackson's relatives.

Investigators now felt they were on to something



Traci Evenson  
Murdered in 1997

when events suddenly turned.

Five months after the murder, the man who had become the principal suspect died in a late-morning car crash in Howard County, north of Waterloo. Also killed were Anthony Jackson's wife — Evenson's older sister Jodi — and their two young children. Jodi Jackson was driving at the time, trying to pass another vehicle, when the Jackson vehicle went out of control, slid and was rammed broadside by a semi-trailer truck.

It seems the second Evenson family tragedy within months could have been good reason for a detective to bring the murder probe quietly to an end. Principal suspect dead; case closed.

Sam McClurg didn't do that.

Instead, he headed north to Howard County and obtained tissue and fluid samples from the dead man to use in the murder probe.

Two and a half years later, and McClurg now can show that DNA samples obtained from Jackson's corpse point the finger at him — not for his sister-in-law's murder, but for the unsolved intruder rape of his relative's girlfriend 13 months before the Evenson murder.

DNA taken from semen left at the rape scene matches Jackson, 1 in 17 million whites, 1 in 20



Gazette photo by Miranda Meyer

Sam McClurg is a homicide detective with the Cedar Rapids Police Department who is working on the 3-year-old Traci Evenson murder case.

million Hispanics and 1 in 130,000 blacks, according to testing by the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation. Jackson is black.

The Police Department now counts the rape solved based on Jackson's familiarity with the victim coupled with the DNA evidence.

But can McClurg now leap to this: Did Jackson do bad things to two women in or close to his family? Is

■ Turn to 9A: **Closure**

## Missile failure puts pressure on White House

Chicago Tribune

WASHINGTON — A malfunction so basic that Pentagon officials hadn't even considered it led to failure in a crucial test of a prototype national missile defense system.

Stunned and disappointed Pentagon officials described the failure in a post-midnight news conference Saturday, shortly after a missile interceptor launched from a Pacific island failed to separate from its booster rocket, rendering it incapable of homing in on a dummy warhead launched minutes earlier from a Southern California Air Force base.

The test failure gives even greater impetus to the push for President Clinton to put off a decision on national missile defense and leave the issue to his successor.

Clinton has said he will base a decision on deploying missile defense on cost, feasibility, the nature of the threat and the implications for arms control and U.S. relations with Russia.

"This is something we will have to take into account as we look at the technical feasibility of this program," P.J. Crowley, a spokesman for the National Security Council at the White House, said Saturday.

The test late Friday marked the second time in three tries that the missile defense system failed to intercept its target. The lone successful intercept last autumn has been called into question because of the way the test was conducted.

The Pentagon has 16 more flight tests planned, and later tests will use a different type of rocket than the one used Friday. But the next test won't take place until fall, too late for the Clinton administration's self-imposed deadline for key feasibility decisions.

"We are disappointed," Air Force Lt. Gen. Ronald Kadish, head of the missile defense effort, said Saturday at the Pentagon. "What this tells me is we have more engineering work to do. This is a very difficult, challenging job. This is rocket science."

So unlikely was failure in the basic step of payload separation that top military officials hadn't considered it a possible problem in the \$100 million test.

Kadish and Jacques Gansler, the Pentagon's acquisition chief, declined to say whether they thought Defense Secretary William Cohen has enough information to recommend soon that Clinton approve the first phase of construction of

■ Turn to 9A: **Missile**

## Spittin' image from Heritage Days



Gazette photo by John F. Martin

Jenna Nicol, 14, of Mount Vernon, launches a watermelon seed into the air Saturday during Heritage Days in Mount Vernon. The activity was sponsored by the Seeds of Faith Lutheran Church. See story, 5B.

## UI credit card deal sours student groups

By Jim Jacobson

Gazette staff writer

IOWA CITY — A new University of Iowa decision to grant a Wilmington, Del., bank exclusive on-campus rights to market credit cards at the Iowa Memorial Union could hurt the money-raising ability of student groups.

For more than a decade, student groups have hosted credit card companies' on-campus sales efforts. In exchange for setting up and staffing a table at the IMU for the companies, the groups were paid for each completed credit card application, usually between 50 cents and \$1.

"It was one of our major sources of revenue," said David Agum, treasurer of the UI's African Association.

MBNA signed a five-year deal in January for an undisclosed amount to have access to the UI Alumni Association's mailing lists and to issue the association's official credit card. On-campus exclusivity, which will go into effect this fall, was not originally part of the agreement and did not require MBNA pay an additional fee.

Under its agreement with the UI, MBNA will pay student groups that sponsor and staff its table at the IMU \$4 per completed application.

The higher rate will benefit only those groups that sponsor the MBNA table early in the semester,

University officials said they limited access to the IMU to one vendor because students were being barraged with credit card offers and some students were saddling themselves with a lot of debt before they graduated.

Agum said. By September or October, he said, most students who want a credit card from MBNA will have applied for one.

Last year the African Association raised \$1,700 by contracting with credit card marketers, which paid the group 50 cents per completed application and between \$50 and \$75 "cover charge" for setting up the table, Agum said.

UI officials and student government officials acknowledge that Agum's prediction could prove correct.

"I can see where they're coming from," said Chris Linn, vice president of the UI Student Government. He said he and other elected student leaders will keep an eye on the situation.

Alice Mathis, UI director of

■ Turn to 9A: **Credit**

## Venus Williams makes history with Wimbledon victory

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — At the tournament revered for its history and tradition, Venus Williams staked her claim to the future of women's tennis.

With an extraordinary display of power and athleticism, the 20-year-old Williams overpowered defending champion and fellow American Lindsay Davenport 6-3, 7-6 (3) to become the first black women's champion at Wimbledon since Althea Gibson.

Gibson won the title in 1957 and 1958.

■ See full coverage of Saturday's Wimbledon title match, 5E

By joining kid sister Serena as a Grand Slam champion, Williams served notice that the American siblings could dominate the game for years to come.

Eighteen-year-old Serena Williams, who lost to Venus in the semifinals Thursday, won last year's

U.S. Open.

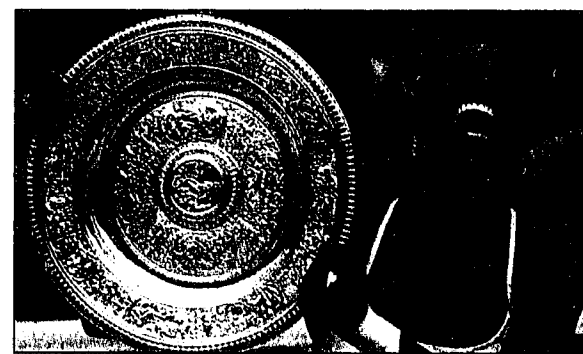
It's the first time in tennis history that two sisters have each won a Grand Slam championship. They will be seeking their third Grand Slam doubles title when they meet Ai Sugiyama and Julie-Halard-Decugis in the women's doubles final today.

"We're breaking records and we're moving forward," Venus Williams said.

"I always expected to win Grand Slams. This was meant to be."

Williams said she was honored to equal the achievement of Gibson, now 72 and living in East Orange, N.J.

"I know she's somewhere watching this," Williams said. "She was watching when Serena won the Open. ... She said that she was happy that she got to see another black person win it in her lifetime. So now I think it's really a privilege for me to win this Wimbledon while she's still alive."



AP photo

Venus Williams laughs as she holds the Venus Rosewater Dish at Wimbledon on Saturday. Williams defeated fellow American Lindsay Davenport in the women's singles final.



**INDEX**

Arts..... T  
Automotive..... H  
Births..... 5B  
Body..... 2D  
Books..... 6F  
Classified ... H-K  
Crisscross .... 7I

Crossword .... 7I  
Deaths ..... 4-5B  
Deupree ..... 2A  
Editorial .... 6-8A  
Family ..... 3F  
Farm ..... 10D

Home ..... G  
Horoscope ... 11J  
Iowa Today .. 1B  
Jumble..... 7I  
Life/Leisure... F  
Lottery ..... 5B

Milestones .... M  
Money ..... D  
Movies..... 5F  
People ..... 10A  
Real Estate ... G

Sports ..... E  
Tel/Us ..... 5B  
Travel ..... T  
TV list ..... 4F  
Weather ..... 3C  
Wuzzles ..... 7I



**TOMORROW**

Many vacationers roll the dice with their health on a Las Vegas vacation  
**HEALTH**

**Gazette**  
ONLINE  
[www.gazetteonline.com](http://www.gazetteonline.com)

## Closure: Detective aims to give family answers

■ From page 1A

a man who allegedly rapes a relative's girlfriend capable of killing a wife's sister?

That investigators have used samples of Jackson's DNA in both the unsolved rape and the unsolved murder shows they came to think it was possible.

"It tells you something. And we were right in the (rape) case," McClurg says.

Stephen Evenson, the brother of murder victim Traci Evenson and crash victim Jodi Jackson, says he has come a long way toward believing that Anthony Jackson murdered Traci because of the DNA evidence in the earlier rape case.

Stephen Evenson suspects Traci caught Jackson, who he says was possessive of Jodi, cheating on his wife and was about to tell her.

"He didn't want to lose Jodi," says Stephen Evenson, of West St. Paul, Minn. "That might have been the motive (for killing Traci).

"You want to say yes, but there's still some doubt. Because you know him."

In May, the Federal Bureau of Investigation agreed to perform sophisticated DNA testing on hair samples found at the Evenson murder scene using a technique not available to the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI). For now, the DCI has concluded only that the hair found at the murder scene is that of a black person, the detective says.

McClurg repeats that the perpetrator of the rape must have known the victim as the murderer must have known Evenson. In the rape, the attacker entered an unlocked front door and maneuvered with familiarity around the apartment in the dark. In the murder,

there was no sign of forced entry. McClurg suggests the murder happened when Evenson rebuffed a sexual advance.

The murder scene revealed no semen and, McClurg contends, it was staged to look like a stranger rape. The injuries to Evenson, he says, suggest rage, not rape.

"Just the viciousness of it," McClurg says.

It is true that murder happens so infrequently in Cedar Rapids — on average a few times a year — that one case perceived as unsolved can leave a blemish on the Police Department's detective bureau and on the detective in charge of a case.

There is an incentive for a homicide detective to want to clear a case.

McClurg concedes the Evenson murder probe has some complications:

- Jackson's wife said he was home with her at the time of the murder.

- Maybe Jackson had reason not to talk to detectives. Maybe he was right to fear being railroaded because of a criminal record that included assault of a woman.

- Jackson moved his family to West St. Paul, Minn., soon after the murder. But that's where his wife's mother and other relatives lived.

There is always a danger, says Drake University's Wright, in letting police departments set the standard for deciding when a crime is solved. It lets them become enforcer, judge and jury, he says.

At the same time, though, Wright says police departments have a duty in this day of victim's rights to make public the details

of investigations into their community's most heinous crimes.

"The police have a moral obligation to ensure the public that they are safe and that (investigators) have solved the crime 'beyond a reasonable doubt,'" the professor says.

The concept of reasonable doubt can be the standard for investigators even when, because of a suspect's death, the case never can make it into a courtroom, Wright says.

"Homicide," the TV detective show set in Baltimore, features a huge scoreboard in the detective squad room with the names of each detective on it and each of the cases for which he or she has been responsible. The last names of victims whose murders have been solved are written in black on the board and those of victims whose murders remain unsolved are in red. The board serves as a constant reminder of which detective has too much red — too much yet to solve.

"This has nothing to do with the scoreboard or another point in my favor," McClurg says of his continued pursuit of Evenson's murderer.

In this case, with no access to arrest or trial, McClurg says he is left with one standard to meet: That he knows so certainly of a suspect's guilt that he one day can walk into the Evenson living room and tell the family this is who killed young Traci Evenson in 1997 and why.

"What counts is having the satisfaction of telling the family that when they counted on us, we came through," the detective says.

He hasn't made that visit to the living room yet.

## Credit: Exclusive deal with MBNA scrutinized

■ From page 1A

student life, said it is her understanding that MBNA will address the problem, should it arise. "But I guess in my mind (the new arrangement) will be a positive in terms of financial gain," she said.

In addition to possibly hurting student groups financially, Agum said the MBNA's exclusive deal won't solve the problem it was meant to.

University officials said they limited access to the IMU to one vendor because students were being barraged with credit card offers and some students were saddling themselves with a lot of debt before they graduated.

But students will still receive telephone and mail solicitations for credit cards. So taking away the tables at the IMU will do little to help those students who don't

know how to use credit cards wisely, Agum said.

However, an important component of the MBNA deal with the UI is that it will provide educational materials about the proper way to use credit cards when students sign up for the card.

"Clearly that's the piece we're excited about," Mathis said.

The UISG's Linn raised some questions about the quality of the educational materials from MBNA that he has seen.

He said they address "obvious" issues, like what signs a student might look for to indicate he or she has amassed too much debt. But "I don't think the materials do a very good job of explaining how interest accrues," Linn said.

Another credit card issuer that targets college students has ques-

tioned the impact of having an exclusive credit card marketer.

Who is to say that the card being offered is the best product out there? asked Dennis Meunier, president of United College Marketing Services of Oak Brook, Ill.

His firm markets by going directly to a student group, having that group host what he described as an educational seminar presented by his company. After the seminar, his representative seeks to get people to apply for the credit card, he said.

While he doesn't particularly like the new UI-MBNA arrangement, he acknowledged that it probably will help his business at the UI because he conducts his education-marketing seminars off campus and the policy will limit competition.

## Parents schooled on credit info at UI

By Jim Jacobson

Gazette staff writer

IOWA CITY — University of Iowa officials hope that when it comes to consumer credit, they can begin to reach students by reaching parents.

As part of the university's annual orientation, parents of incoming students are receiving a little schooling themselves in how to talk to their children about the pros and cons of buying on credit.

National statistics show that when students graduate they carry more than \$2,000 in credit card debt at interest rates ranging from 18 percent to 22 percent. That is in addition to student loans they accrue.

The Christian Science Monitor reported last year that one in five college students has \$10,000 or more in credit card debt.

"We thought it was just binge drinking and sex," joked Barbara Collins of De Witt, referring to the subjects she and her husband,

Doug, would have to cover before they sent their daughter, Alaina, off to college.

While she chuckled about having to add another topic to the must-cover list, the Collinses said after an orientation presentation in late June that they are well aware of the seriousness of the issue.

As insurance agents, they have access to credit reports. They plan to get a copy of Alaina's and talk about how important a good credit history is.

The material handed out during the orientation presentation by the Paper or Plastic project, a consortium of groups led by the UI's Women's Resource and Action Center, will be helpful to Ellen Tjarks of Aurora, Ill. "This gives me something to show her," she said, referring to her daughter Kalen, who will start college in the fall.

For instance, the information pointed out that an \$1,800 out-

standing credit card balance at 18 percent interest will take a person 22 years to pay off if the person just made the minimum payment.

It also pointed out that buying an item at a rent-to-own place will cost a student a lot more than paying cash for that item.

For instance, a \$380 television costs \$1,062 when someone pays \$59 a month for 18 months at a rent-to-own store, according to the information packet.

Eventually the university plans to offer a similar seminar for students during their orientation, said Monique DiCarlo, director of the Women's Resource and Action Center.

In addition, the Paper or Plastic project has received \$20,000 from the UI Alumni Association to have a credit counselor on campus 10 hours a week, beginning this fall.

The group has scheduled an advertising campaign that will feature financial tips to run in the UI's student newspaper.

## Missile: Supporters say Clinton's plan not enough

■ From page 1A

a radar station in Alaska.

The Pentagon wants a decision this summer so it can begin work on an X-Band radar system to be built on a remote Aleutian Islands site. Top military officials have said they wanted to achieve at

least two successful intercepts before passing judgment on the proposed missile defense.

Supporters of missile defense say Clinton's plan is weak and ineffective. They argue that a larger missile defense, one that would

include interceptors launched from ships, is needed.

"The technology is ready. Clinton's policy is not ready," said retired Adm. J.D. Williams. "We need a sea-based system as well as a land-based system."

Since you really care about your money, send it to a place where it can grow and thrive.

You've tended it. Nurtured it. Counted it. So, why keep your hard-earned money in accounts that treat it as a late-bloomer? We believe your money has great potential. And there's no better place for it than in a Wells Fargo Portfolio Management<sup>SM</sup> Account (PMA).<sup>1</sup> All you have to do is keep \$25,000 in combined deposits, credit balances or brokerage

**Wells Fargo Portfolio Management<sup>SM</sup> Account**  
Free Wells Fargo Platinum Rewards<sup>SM</sup> MasterCard  
Wells Fargo<sup>SM</sup> Gold ATM & Check Card  
A Combined Statement  
High-yield PMA<sup>SM</sup> Investment Checking

investments<sup>2</sup> in your Wells Fargo accounts, and you'll be reaping the rewards of prosperity in no time. The PMA account includes a PMA<sup>SM</sup> Checking Account that sweeps excess funds to an

FDIC-insurance eligible PMA<sup>SM</sup>

Investment Account that offers an

**6.25%**

APY  
PMA<sup>SM</sup> Investment  
Checking

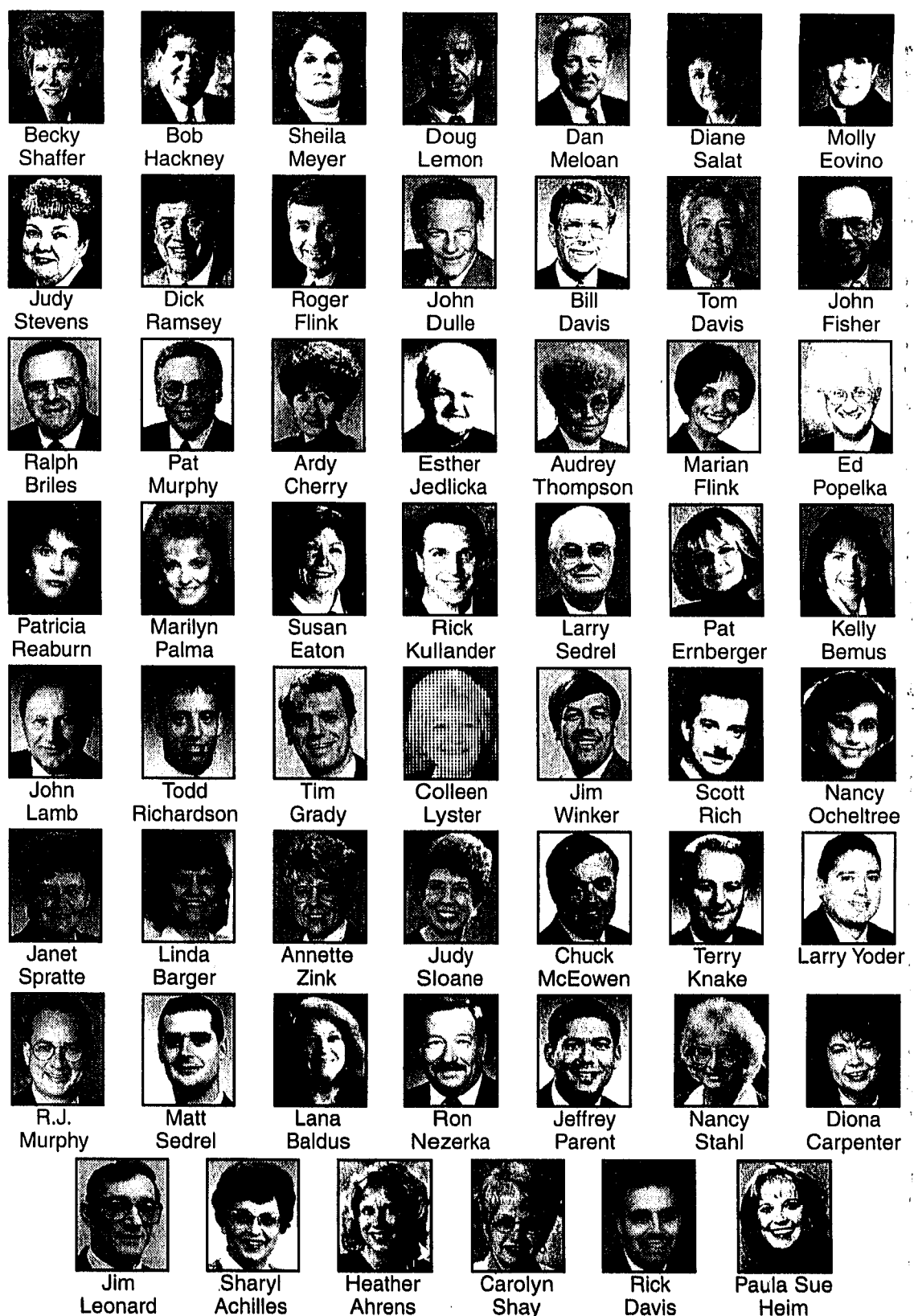
impressive APY. Other special benefits include a combined statement that makes it easier to track all your Wells Fargo accounts; a free Wells Fargo Platinum Rewards<sup>SM</sup> MasterCard<sup>3</sup> that earns points as your balance grows — points can be redeemed for free airline travel and a Wells Fargo<sup>SM</sup> Gold ATM & Check Card entitling you to no-fee transactions at other banks' ATMs.<sup>4</sup> The Wells Fargo PMA<sup>SM</sup> account is proof that there are great things in store for your money's future. And even more for yours. Visit a Wells Fargo location near you or call 364-0191.

**WELLS FARGO**

1 The PMA Account requires maintaining a PMA Checking Account. 2 Investment products available through Wells Fargo Brokerage Services, LLC (member NASD/SIPC/Chicago Stock Exchange), a non-bank affiliate of Wells Fargo & Company. 3 The interest rate and Annual Percentage Yield (APY) may change after account is opened. The PMA Investment Account is a checking account eligible for FDIC insurance. As of June 1, 2000, the APY for the PMA Investment Account was 6.25%. The yield floats 3.25% below the highest prime rate published daily in the Wall Street Journal "Money Rates" table. Fees could reduce earnings on the account. 4 Subject to qualification. 5 Other institutions' access fees may apply. © 2000 Wells Fargo Bank Iowa, N.A. Member FDIC.

Investment Products: • Not FDIC Insured • No Bank Guarantee • May Lose Value

## June Congratulations to Our PACE SETTERS!



**SKOGMAN REALTY**

411 1st Ave. SE  
366-6427

3700 1st Ave. SE  
364-3104

341 8th Ave. Suite A, Marion  
373-1323

1201 Edgewood Rd. SW  
297-7550