

## IOWA / ILLINOIS

## New school standards said costly

## Officials warned that tiny schools will face pressure

By Mike Glover  
The Associated Press

DES MOINES — Tough new standards proposed for Iowa's schools will cost millions of dollars and put even more pressure on tiny schools to close, state education officials were warned Wednesday.

"The decision you make cannot be made in an educational vacuum," said Boyd Boehlje, president of the Iowa Association of School Boards. "There is a relationship between the requirements that you will establish and the legal and financial constraints

within which local schools must operate."

Particularly coming under fire was one section of the new standards which would force schools to offer pre-kindergarten classes.

Rep. Horace Daggett, R-Lenox, argued that would be a huge financial burden for struggling school districts for a program of questionable educational value.

"The cost of these new pre-kindergarten programs statewide will run into the millions of dollars," Daggett said. He argued that hundreds of private pre-school programs are handling the

job nicely "without costing the taxpayers a cent."

The exchanges came during a public hearing held by the Department of Education to hear arguments over new standards it is proposing for Iowa's more than 400 local school districts.

The hearing is the first in a series to be held around the state this month. A legislative committee is expected to review the final product this fall.

Schools will have until 1990 to meet the tougher standards, or education officials could step in to close them.

The proposed standards toughen virtually every aspect of a school's offerings.

The basic curriculum a school must offer would be increased from the current 27 units to 41, pre-school would have to be of-

fered, programs for both talented and "at-risk" students bolstered and there are new standards for administrators.

In addition, more vocational education programs would be required as well.

The Iowa Farm Bureau Federation, the state's largest farm organization, was wary, though a spokesman stopped short of condemning the effort.

"Newly adopted standards should not become so financially burdensome to districts as to make compliance impractical or impossible," said Bill Behan, a lobbyist for the Farm Bureau.

"We recognize that almost any standard can be met if sufficient revenue is available," Behan said. "We will be concerned, however, if the new educational standards are found to be too costly to im-

plement, resulting in wholesale school reorganizations."

"Iowa schools have gone through a difficult period and some tough and controversial challenges are still ahead," said Boehlje.

But Boehlje advocated one step that is likely to generate controversy, by calling on education officials to extend the same tough new standards to private schools.

Some religious fundamentalists have pushed hard — with Gov. Terry Branstad's blessing — to move in precisely the opposite direction by exempting their schools from state regulation.

"The state board should take this opportunity to make the new standards apply to all schools — public and nonpublic — that desire to be accredited," Boehlje said.

## Bob Wilson



Hawk Eye editor-at-large

Because their places are easily accessible to the handicapped, Dick Abernathy and Larry Bush may have Clem Hoffeditz as a customer the next time he needs a haircut.

Dick operates Dick's Barber Shop at 615 Jefferson St., while Larry practices his craft at Bush's Hairstyle Salon at 701 E. Mount Pleasant St.

Clem has been in a wheelchair for about two years, and the place where he's been getting his hair cut has steps. That meant his wife, Ruby, literally needed a lift whenever Clem went for a haircut.

Ruby called Tuesday and asked if I knew of any shops in town where there wouldn't be that hassle. I posed the question in a column.

Marie Larson called to say her husband, Ralph, suggested Dick's, whose regular customers include four or five confined to wheelchairs. His shop is on ground level and its front door is wide enough to accommodate a wheelchair.

Harry Darrah called Ruby and suggested Larry's place, also accessible to wheelchairs.

If there are other shops similarly accessible, let me know and I'll pass the names along.

## Parking problems

Twice within the past week I've found a small red envelope on the windshield of my car.

Both times I was parked on Jefferson Street (or Steamboat Walk, if you prefer), and both times I was charged with illegal parking. In both instances, my car was ticketed for extending over the white lines on the pavement.

I've paid both \$1 fines grudgingly.

That because each time I parked there were vehicles both in front and back of the space I chose. And both of them were also parked over the lines. On both occasions, those vehicles were gone when I returned to mine, so I have no idea if they were ticketed or not.

My question to the city is this: Are we to ignore parking in open parking spaces if the bordering vehicles are parked such that it is impossible to put your car within the lines?

Or are we supposed to call police and report the violators?

Neither idea is practical. Maybe we should be granted the right to ram the illegally parked cars back within the lines.

It's a problem that needs attention if the city intends for unmetered stalls to be utilized.

## Crazy with the heat

"Mad dogs and Englishmen," according to a Noel Coward lyric, "go out in the noonday sun."

Well, they aren't the only ones, as I learned Sunday at the Collectors Paradise Flea Market on the fairgrounds at What Cheer. From 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., under a broiling sun, more than 300 dealers offered everything from windup toys of the '30s to cattle skulls.

But lest you think I was the only local who was loco with the heat, I'll tell on five others. The overheated herd included Dale and Mary Anliker, their daughter, Dawn, and Bill and Peggy Ell. Bill, being Burlington's fire chief and therefore a city official, is accustomed to heat. I don't think the rest of us are.

My most sensible purchase of the afternoon was a utilitarian one — a 25-cent bottle opener so my companion could partake of a cold beer she had brought with our picnic lunch.

When she realized I (not she, of course) had forgotten an opener, her temper went to well above a hundred. So I bought the opener as a defense against her opening the bottle over my head.

## Art-in-the-Park

Ever heard of an art medium called cynatype?

I hadn't either, until Barbara Mansheim of the Lee County Arts Council explained it is a technique involving blueprints and exposure to the sun.

Carol Mann of Iowa City, one of the 40 artists registered for Art-in-the-Park Sunday in Fort Madison's Central Park, will be exhibiting cynatypes.

The fair, which will run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., will feature entertainment by the Old Fort Players and weaving and watercolor painting demonstrations.

Barbara says there will also be concessions available.

Artists from as far away as Des Moines and Missouri's Lake of the Ozarks are registered.

Rain site is The Iowan Motor Lodge, U.S. 61 South.

## Recovery payments

\$95,000 received by farmers from sales lost at SRL

By Judy Goldberg  
The Hawk Eye

Local farmers have already received more than \$95,000 in state recovery payments for grain sales lost at SRL Grain Inc., West Burlington.

SRL had its license temporarily revoked June 4 for failure of payment. The company filed for bankruptcy the next day.

The elevator could not pay for 60,000 bushels of corn and soybeans, which it collected from local farmers and agreed to pay for, according to Iowa Department of Agriculture spokesman Wayne Messerly.

On July 31, the revocation became permanent.

"We revoked their license because they couldn't correct the problem," Messerly said.

Jeff Bradley, former manager of SRL, was unavailable for comment.

Fifteen farmers received partial payments from a state fund for their losses and 20 farmers have cases pending concerning lost money.

State grain elevators are taxed for a state indemnity fund, which serves as insurance for farmers.

The fund was approved by the legislature last year and currently amounts to more than \$3.5 million. Farmers are paid 90 percent of their losses.

In addition to the initial loss, SRL had contracted to buy about 800,000 more bushels of corn and soybeans.

"The farmers will have to look for someplace else to sell," Messerly said.

## Booby trap set in home

MUSCATINE (AP) — Police have arrested a man for setting up a booby trap with a 12-gauge shotgun in his home.

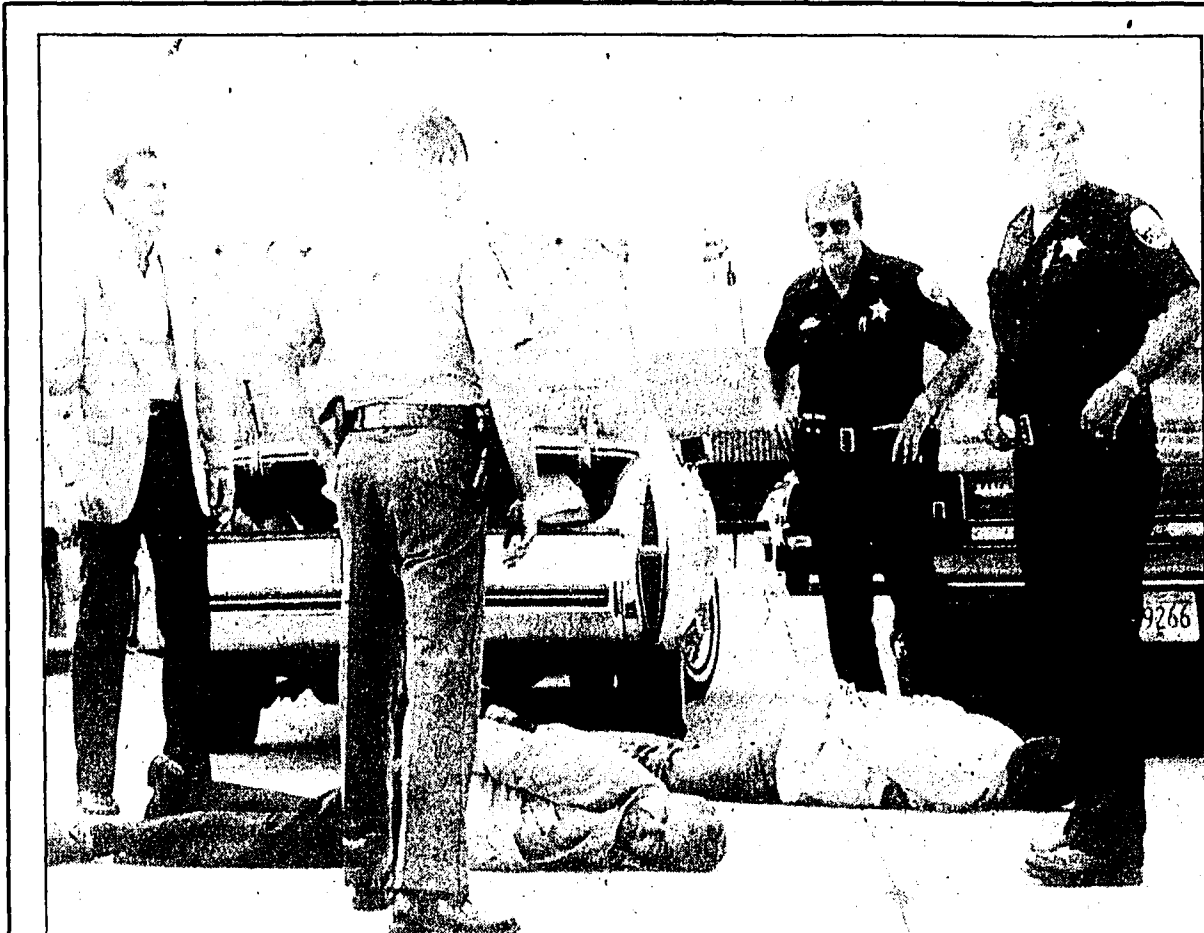
Police executed a search warrant Tuesday afternoon at the home and found the booby trap.

Larry Turner, 30, of Muscatine was charged with having a spring-loaded gun and possession of marijuana, both aggravated misdemeanors. Martin was released on bond and will appear in court.

The device was taped to a banister inside a door leading to an upstairs apartment, police said. The cocked gun was pointed at the door, and a string led from the trigger to the door.

Police said a visitor stumbled on the booby trap when he went to the apartment and reported it to police.

Turner said he set up the device because he claimed someone had been getting into his apartment, police said.



AP Laserphoto

## Suspected robbers held

Moline, Ill., police hold 2 men suspected in the robbery Wednesday of a Davenport jewelry store. Police found Thomas R. Vogt of Park Forest, Ill., and Willard D. McClanahan of Madison, Wis., in the trunk of a car driven from the scene. Jewelry and cash from Howard Jewelers also were found in the car.

## 'Jail team' is put together by local architectural firm

By Natalie Pearson  
The Hawk Eye

A local architectural firm has put together a team to design, build and finance a new Des Moines County Jail directly south of the Courthouse.

Craig Novak of Midland O.P.N. Architects met with Des Moines County Supervisors this morning to introduce members of his design-build team for the jail. He was given 60 days to provide a jail proposal to the supervisors.

Novak said he will spend the first two weeks of that time meeting with Sheriff Gary Beckman, the supervisors and Gordon Plepa, Commissioner for the South Iowa Area Crime Commission, to discuss jail requirements.

"We are excited about this

project, and we know we are going to be competitive," Novak told the supervisors. "There is expertise right here in Burlington, Iowa, to do this project, and we are going to do our best to be the team that does it."

Members of the Midland group include Novak, Barney Bishop of the Durant Group of Architects in Dubuque, Burlington contractor Carl A. Nelson and financial consultants Piper, Jaffray and Hopwood of Des Moines.

The Bishop firm has designed a jail in Scott County and is working on jails in Pittsfield, Ill. and Mercer County, Ill.

"Any facility we do takes into account that crime is on the rise and there may be a need to add on at some time," Bishop said.

A Nebraska corrections firm has already proposed to design, finance and build a 43-bed facility in the same space at a cost of \$8.1 million.

General Correction Corp. of Broken Bow, Neb., made the first proposal to replace the county's 19-bed facility. The actual cost for building that jail would be \$2.98 million. Under the proposed agreement with General Corrections, however, the county would pay the builder monthly installments of \$45,000. After 15 years the county would then own the facility.

Concern over the high cost of that proposal led the supervisors to ask for plans from five other firms. Only Midland responded to the request.

## Cline granted work-release status

DES MOINES (AP) — The Iowa Board of Parole has granted work-release status to Teresa Cline of Burlington, who allegedly was raped by a state prison guard who committed suicide in April.

Cline is being assigned to the Davenport work-release center because she has had a good prison record since she was last reviewed by the board in early May, said Parole Chairman Walter Saur of Oelwein.

Cline is serving a five-year term for writing bad checks and theft and is currently assigned to the Dwight Correctional Center southwest of Chicago.

She alleges she was raped in February and March by prison guard Tommy Gott while she was an inmate at the Iowa Correctional Institution for Women in Mitchellville.

The Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation began an in-

vestigation of the alleged rape, but Gott died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound before the probe was completed. He denied any wrongdoing in a suicide note.

Saur said Cline probably will spend three to six months in the Davenport work-release program before she is seriously considered for parole.

He also said she will likely be required to participate in a substance abuse treatment program.

## Sheriff interviews dad as old murder case re-opens

COUNCIL BLUFFS (AP) — Michael Kerns grew up wanting to solve the Club 64 double-murder case. A policeman was one of the victims and Kern's father was a detective on the case, but no arrests were ever made.

Now Kerns is Pottawattamie County sheriff and he announced Wednesday that new information from people in Missouri has enabled police to reopen the case.

Night manager Paul Rayer, 55, and off-duty police officer John Stephens, 32, were murdered on Dec. 5, 1967, in an apparent robbery. Kerns declined to provide details about why the investigation was reopened, or whether authorities had any suspects, saying officials were still seeking information on the crime.

But he said investigators were sent to Missouri late last week to conduct interviews, and the information they received was determined to be valid, Kerns said.

"We've got a lot of people to talk to," he said. Stephens, who was the club's security guard, was scheduled to accompany Rayer to the Council Bluffs Savings Bank after the business closed at 2 a.m. the day of the

murder. Their bodies were found at the club about five hours later.

The case received considerable attention at the time and Kerns said people who had no knowledge of key details have even confessed to the crime.

Kerns said the investigation will be a challenge because the city has completely changed — the route, for example, from the club to the bank no longer exists — and everybody involved with the investigation but three people are dead.

He said the last report on the case was dated in 1975. Kerns recently conducted a formal interview with his father, Francis "Mike" Kerns, who was then a police detective assigned to the case.

But it wasn't the first time father and son had talked about the case.

"I've lived with this case since dad was involved," he said. "I'd like to solve this case for a whole bunch of different reasons. No. 1, a police officer was killed."

The victims were discovered shortly after 7 a.m. Dec. 5,

1967, when an employee of the club came to clean up.

Stephens was found sprawled in a chair. Rayer was on the floor, behind a desk. Powder burns indicated both had been shot at close range, officers said.

About \$1,500, receipts from the night's business, was missing. There were no signs of forced entry; no witnesses were found.

Stephens's job was to accompany Rayer to the night depository at the bank with the day's receipts. Officers said he often carried a small chrome-plated revolver, but the gun was missing.

Deputy sheriffs said a check of time cards at the club showed the last employee had checked out at 2:06 a.m.

Stephens had been a member of the police department seven years. He was assigned to the traffic bureau on motorcycle duty. He had been employed as a security guard at Club 64 for nearly a year.

Rayer had been employed at the club 13 years. He started a year after it was opened in 1953 and was a close friend of the owner.