### Homicide: 6th in C.R. in '94

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dropped Lacey's two young children at a service station and told the clerk to summon police to the Second Avenue address.

The two children were uninjured and are staying with relatives. Funeral arrangements for Lacey are pending at Turner Chapel East.

As a crowd of neighbors, friends and relatives gathered outside Lacey's home Friday, some expressed fear about the neighborhood, which has seen other tragic events in recent years.

But the notion that the southeast-side neighborhood known as Wellington Heights is a dangerous, crime-ridden place is one many are trying to dispel.

"The problems always have been more of a perception with people," said Nate Pollock, president of the Wellington Heights Nèighborhood Association.

Two of the city's six homicides were in the neighborhood, while three occurred in northeast-side residential areas and one near the Cedar River.

Directly across the street from Lacey's apartment, tragedy was narrowly averted this summer when several people were rescued from an arson fire in a seven-unit apartment house.

But residents and police say the neighborhood has been quieter over the last year than in the past.

The whole year has been real good," Pollock said. "We've had time to concentrate on other things, on crime prevention rather than reacting to situations."

Pollock said the public should view Friday's homicide "as a setback, not just for the southeast side but for Cedar Rapids as a whole."

-Ron Walton, who lives in the 1400 block of Fifth Avenue SE, said Saturday there's little reason for neighbors to be afraid. L'It can happen anywhere, really," he said. "I think the general public thinks this is a bad area, but it's cleaned up some here.

Chief Byrne agrees.

""I think there's better communication than two or three years ago between citizens and officers," Byrne said. "There are a lot of people that are more open to the officers."

Byrne cited foot patrols that went on duty in the neighborhood this year, as well as the

# MURDERS IN C.R.

19824	19895
19833	19901
19845	19916
19852	19923
19862	19933
19873	19946
19882	

continually active neighborhood association.

THE OTHER unsolved homicide is one case in which the police haven't gotten enough

On Feb. 7, Louis Chambers, Jr., was shot to death on a sidewalk in the 1400 block of Fifth Avenue SE, in Wellington Heights.

The Waterloo man had crack cocaine in his mouth at the time of his death, and investigators have said they believe several people know what happened. So far, no arrests have been made.

The other 1994 homicides

• Jan. 14 — Postal carrier Gloria Heising was shot to death while on her mail route in the 300 block of 36th Street NE. A former boyfriend, Ronald Downs Sr., is serving a life sentence for first-degree murder.

• May 2 — Tammi Wilson, mother of two young children, was shot to death in her home at 3612 Houston St. NE. Her live-in boyfriend Brian Sillick is scheduled to stand trial Jan. 30 for first-degree murder.

• Sept. 15 — Michael Heiderscheit was beaten to death near the roller dam on the Cedar River. Bennie Pierson Jr., who had met Heiderscheit earlier the night of the slaying, is scheduled to stand trial Feb. 13 for first-degree murder.

• Dec. 25 — Two-year-old Rylee Marie Gray died at St. Luke's Hospital of severe head injuries. Matthew Lewis, live-in boyfriend of Rylee's mother Elise Gray, has been charged with first-degree murder for allegedly inflicting the toddler's injuries two days earlier at their home at 1614 Park Towne Lane

For updates on this story call 363-7000 or 337-7000, category 2552.

## 1995: 'Bridges of Madison County' will make Eastwood famous

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particularly nasty fistfight."

Maybe Hlas would like to referee. He'd probably rather do that than attend the premier of the film version of Robert Waller's "The Bridges of Madison County." Hlas sees the movie turning "obscure actors Clint Eastwood and Meryl Streep into household names."

Speaking of household names, Elvis was spotted in an Iowa City manger in 1994 where he reclined in a pink Cadillac. Where will Elvis be spotted in '95?

"Elvis is going to be appearing increasingly all over the place," says Peter Nazareth, instructor of "American Popular Arts: Elvis as Anthology" at the University of Iowa. The course focuses on Presley's influence on popular music and the pioneers of rock 'n' roll who influenced Presley.

Eight books on Elvis came out in September, another was released in December, and still another — "Elvis's Man Friday," by close friend Gene Smith — will appear in early 1995 with a forward by Nazareth.

In addition, Elvis' current Christmas album is his first appearance on the record charts since 1985, the release of old Beatles' recordings features four Elvis tunes, and the college course, limited to 30 students, is already full for spring semester.

"Elvis' presence is going to get much, much stronger," Nazareth predicts. "I think we will see less mockery of Elvis."

When it comes to ridicule, weather forecasters have always managed to receive their share. But since this winter's weather has been cooperative, we don't want to jinx the future.

So, KCRG meteorologist Joe Winters, you're in the business of predicting. Forget about the weather. What do you think will happen in 1995? "Due to the baseball strike, the Cedar Rapids Kernels will be moved up to major-league status and Cedar Rapids will host its first World Series ever in October," Winters says.

Becoming the center of the baseball universe might be a stretch, but Monsignor out.

James Barta, the archbishop's vicar for the Archdiocese of Dubuque in the Cedar Rapids region, has no problem predicting Cedar Rapids will influence statewide lawmaking more than any other community. He points out that Wally Horn, D-Cedar Rapids, is Senate majority leader, and Ron Corbett, R-Cedar Rapids, will be speaker of the House.

On the national level, Barta sees that "Newt Gingrich is going to discover that it's easy to be in opposition."

J.D. Smith, Cedar Rapids Commissioner of Public Safety, thinks along similar lines. He sees the new congressional leader publishing yet another tome.

"I predict that Newt Gingrich and Clarence Thomas will co-author a book — 'The American Male's Guide to Courtesy, Marriage and Family Values' — edited by Dan Quayle," he says.

Believe it or not?

Who knows. Bring on 1995 and let's find



# Fax cut: Both parties have plans

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includes eliminating the 30 percent property tax on machinery & equipment (M&E) purchases and taking over a greater share of county mental health costs. The GOP plan calls for returning \$649 million in income tax reductions over four years, beginning with \$60 million in fiscal 1996. Also, \$234 million in property tax reductions would begin with a \$26 million installment next fiscal year.

The M&E approach under consideration would phase out the tax on new and existing equipment over six years. It would reimburse local communities \$200 million over 10 years.

The revenue reductions are expected to be offset by \$61 million in new taxes collected from the economic stimulation generated by the plan, Republicans say. The result will be income tax cuts ranging from \$25 for Iowans making at least \$10,000 annually to \$3,526 for taxpayers with income exceeding \$200,000 by the time the plan is completed.

"I'm going to fight for reducing taxes up front in a four-year plan to be passed right away, and we're going to get it done," said Branstad. He initially greeted GOP gubernatorial primary opponent Grandy's tax-cut plan with skepticism but later championed the idea en route to his re-election to a fourth term.

"This is an issue that has to be resolved early before they get about spending the money," he added. "I'm confident we can do it because we have the people of Iowa on our side. We have a mandate from the people of Io-

However, Democrats who hold a 27-23 edge in the Senate say the numbers won't hold up in the GOP's "smoke-and-mirrors" approach. They plan to unveil their own tax-cut plan within the next week for the state to take over up to \$100 million of mental health costs currently assessed to property taxpayers. Senate Majority Leader Wally Horn, D-Cedar Rapids, said mental health property tax relief is Democrats' top priority, followed by elimination of the M&E business tax and making good on \$126 million in tax credit obligations already on the books but underfunded by the state.

After that, Democrats would support income tax cuts targeted

at Iowans who carried the burden of the 1992 sales tax hike imposed to eliminate the state bookkeeping deficit, he said.

"Most of us want to get to the same place; it's the timing of it and to what degree," Horn said. "The governor wants the glory of lowering the income tax. We're not here for glory as far as I'm concerned; we're trying to do what's right for Iowans."

House Republican leaders translate that to mean that Democrats want to sidetrack tax changes that would make Iowa more competitive in attracting businesses and stemming the drain of people moving to other states with more attractive income and pension tax laws.

"I think what they probably, deep in their liberal hearts, are wishing is that we can't come to any agreement on taxes and then we'll spend it," said House Majority Leader Brent Siegrist, R-Council Bluffs.

"House Republicans are going to spend 3 to 3.5 percent more than we did last year," he said. "If we can't come to an agreement on taxes, we'll save it. We're not spending the money. That's the message."

House Speaker-elect Ron Corbett, R-Cedar Rapids, said Republicans plan to pass their tax plan during the first 30 days of the new session. They will take up a constitutional amendment supported by Iowans for Tax Relief that would place state and local governments under taxation and spending restrictions, he said. That measure would also have to pass the Senate and then be approved by the 77th General Assembly in the same form before it could go before

Senate President Leonard Boswell, D-Davis City, speculated that the taxpayers' rights amendment to the Iowa Constitution would win Senate approval. However, most tax cut proposals are going to get a hard look in the context of Iowa's budget position, unmet state needs, the farm economy outlook and possible changes coming from the Republican Congress that could have fiscal impacts.

"We're going to have to be looking over our shoulder (at Washington) for the first 100 days," Horn said.



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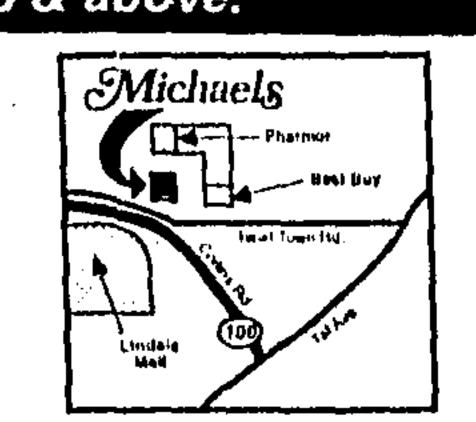
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