

# THE HEADLINER



Network Cable Systems, Omaha Works

April 14, 1993



Photo by Linda Ryan

When  
it  
rains...

*...It rains and rains and sometimes even turns to snow (like it did two hours after this photo was taken). This April, Agnes Peterson (from left), Fred Cormaci and Pauline Smith--like many of us--have grown accustomed to overcast skies, rare appearances by the sun, and sidestepping lots of worms (lots of 'em!) on the sidewalks. (One employee's been bringing the robins Alka-Seltzer®.) But things could be worse--we could be looking ahead to winter instead of summer, right?*

## Sheet metal team takes step toward "culture change"

You might have heard about it, whispered about it or maybe asked about it.

"It" is the self-directed work team concept that promises a complete change from tradition.

And now a team of nine Omaha Works employees has taken the initial step to put the concept into practice in the sheet metal shop, where a numerically controlled (NC) turret press is being installed. The press has an automated loader and unloader.

Earlier this month team members visited Hussman Industries manufacturing plant in St. Louis, Mo., where they observed the operation of sheet metal fabrication equipment similar to the Works' new NC turret press. Hussman makes refrigeration cases.

The tour was an opportunity to see how the equipment and teamwork fit into the work process at Hussman. Works team members sought to bring back ideas on possible applications here.

The self-directed work team concept is one in which each member

has an equal say in how the team's work process is to be managed. No more of the "boss" telling employees what to do. The supervisor becomes a "coach" for the team, but with no more say on a matter than the team's machine operators.

"One member, one vote," is how Butch Ott describes his role as coach for the team. Other team members

include Al Ott of production control, and operators John Palu (lead operator), Rita Kahnk, Shirley Roberts, Lou Griffin, Bill Campbell, Claude Welch and Jolene Possinger. (Engineering support comes from product engineer Kevin Keller and systems engineer Julie Nielson.)

The team is responsible for  
(Continued on next page)

## New joint venture in Japan

AT&T Network Systems and Yazaki Electric Wire Co., Ltd. of Japan have formed AT&T Yazaki Fiber Optic Cable Company Ltd. The new company is a joint venture of Yazaki of Japan and AT&T's Network Cable Systems (NCS), a unit of Network Systems.

The company was to begin operations earlier this month in the existing facility of Yazaki Electric Wire Co. in Numazu City, Japan.

With AT&T owning 51 percent and Yazaki owning 49 percent, AT&T Yazaki will manufacture and sell fiber optic cable used in telecommunications and data communications markets in Japan.

Luther Boggs, product management director of fiber optic products at NCS in Norcross, Ga., is chairman of the AT&T Yazaki board of directors. The executive vice-president of the Yazaki Corporation, Sinji Yazaki, is president of the joint venture.

"Our goal is to achieve a significant market presence and meet the needs of the Japanese fiber optic market," Boggs said. Success in Japan and in other countries in the

Asia/Pacific region is a key element in Network Systems' "Strategic Intent" plan.

Yazaki Electric Wire has been manufacturing a wide range of fiber optic products for more than a decade. Its parent company, Yazaki Group, was founded more than 50 years ago and manufactures and markets a wide range of products, including instruments and components for automotive use, solar energy systems, gas meters and air-conditioning systems.

The Yazaki Group has operations on four continents with annual sales of more than \$5 billion. ■

### THE HEADLINER

The Headliner is an internal publication of the Omaha Works, produced monthly by the public relations department. It is printed by the Works print shop.

Your comments and suggestions are welcome and should be directed to:

**Linda Ryan, Editor**  
Ext. 3795.

*The next issue will be published on **May 12, 1993**. All news items should be in to the PR office by no later than 9 a.m. Monday, **Apr. 26, 1993**.*

### NOTICE:

For the time being, the Headliner will be published monthly instead of twice a month. We are in the process of reviewing the Works' various communication vehicles.

### Join Joslyn!

Joslyn Art Museum family memberships are available for just \$35; individual memberships may be purchased for \$25. Plus, other plan options are available. Buy memberships from:

**Norma Korff, Ext. 3801**  
**Rae Cacioppo, Ext. 3652**

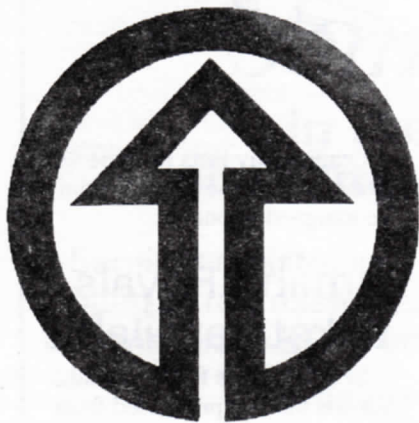
**Linda Enterline, Ext. 3714**  
**John Hazuka, Ext. 3395**



(Continued from previous page) producing parts for the DSX, 40-type and 80-type cabinet areas. The NC turret press they will use offers such technologically advanced options that the team literally must rethink every step of its operation, from punching to break press to spot welding. They will employ the self-directed work team concept in making their decisions.

"The throughput will be much faster," noted Al Ott, and production will be by smaller lots, requiring less inventory. The new press makes possible a dramatic reduction in setup time, she indicated, because many different comcodes (or parts) to be punched out can come from the same piece of sheet metal.

Before, only one comcode could be punched from a sheet. When all of those parts were made, the operator would have to set up the machine with new tooling before beginning on another comcode. Each changeover took about 30 minutes, said engineer Keller, which can add up when 100 to 200 different



comcodes are involved. By using the new NC turret press, production is expected to double.

The challenge that the self-directed work team faces, said Al Ott, is deciding how to maintain a "continuous flow of product from one process to the next."

Operators will not wait for an entire lot size to arrive before they begin work on their phase of the operation. Machines must keep

running once they are started. Bottlenecks will have to be avoided. "This involves coordination between everyone involved...it affects ordering, how parts will be 'nested'" so that the right parts get to the right process in proper order and on time, said Al Ott.

In short, it involves a "culture change" from traditional sheet metal shop operations.

Will it work? In a future issue, the Headliner will give a progress report on the team's efforts.

## "A" ratings awarded to shop areas

Quality Assurance has awarded the following IBUs the grade of "A" for their product quality achievements for the March rating period. They are listed by IBU manager and/or number:

**Bob Wustrack, 228--710** connectors; 700-type connectors; 105 cable terminals, N-type cable terminals; 8, 9 and 142-type cable terminals.

**Steve Alloway, 226--DSX;** 11-type cable stubs; 300-type C.O. connectors; 78, 89 and 112 connecting blocks.

**George Parkerson, 223--110** wiring blocks; 66 connecting blocks.

**IBU 222--188, 189, 190 and 300** building entrance protectors; plug-in protector units; screw-in protector units.

**Steve Condra, 23H--76 and 108** terminal blocks.

**Wayne Andersen, 256--Plenum and LAN cable.**

**Mac Curbeam/Wayne Andersen, 254/256--Ground wire.**

## Works participates in OSHA program

The Omaha Works seeks to "reach for a star," and it has nothing to do with the space program.

The Works has decided to participate in OSHA's Voluntary Protection Program (VPP), which is designed to

recognize and promote effective safety and health management.

In the VPP, management, labor and OSHA establish a cooperative relationship in the workplace where strong programs have been adopted to significantly reduce workplace injuries.

Participation means that the Works has volunteered to undergo a comprehensive site visit by OSHA. The goal is to be awarded "star status" by OSHA, which means that the Works' health and safety programs meet all VPP requirements.

During April, employees will see a videotape during safety meetings about the VPP program, and learn what they can do to help reach star status.

Mike Parizek, environmental health and safety engineering manager, said that management and the IBEW union will be working together in the months ahead to ensure that the Works has an effective program that meets OSHA's criteria. He encourages employees to use the Safety Hotline (Ext. 3733) to report problems or ask questions on safety issues.

Parizek said the Works seeks to reach star status tentatively by December 1993.

## Toiletry items are needed

The Cornhusker Pioneers have started a new project aimed at helping elderly citizens and homeless



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people in the community.

A container has been placed near the Pioneer Porch in the Employee Activities Mall to collect unused toiletry items such as shampoo, conditioner, hairspray, soap, deodorant and other personal care products.

The items will be donated to Douglas County Hospital for distribution to nursing care residents and homeless individuals unable to care for themselves.

Dee Kelly, who is helping to coordinate the project, suggests that employees check their bathroom cabinets for all those free samples and complimentary items from hotel stays that we never seem to throw away but never use. Clean brushes and combs and facial cosmetics also are acceptable.

## Remember: Report your volunteer hours

Another note from the Pioneers:

Are you a Pioneer? Do you or your spouse do volunteer work in the community? Do you give blood on your own time, help a disabled neighbor with shopping, assist in flood relief work?

The hours it takes to perform these charitable acts and many more like them qualify to be counted along with all of the other volunteer hours that are tabulated during Pioneer activities.

Chapters keep track of their members' volunteer hours as a gauge of Pioneering's contributions to the community.

You can call in your hours to Ext. 3454.

## Organ donor list is growing

Jerry and Betty Golmanavich report that 23 more employees have signed organ donor cards. Twelve are first-shift employees who signed up during the last signup day on March 25, 1993. Eleven of the signers were on second shift.



The total number of employees who have signed up now stands at 133. The Works organ donor signup campaign began last July, said Jerry Golmanavich.

Signups are held once a month and each time a T-shirt is awarded to one of the program participants. Sandy Viner won the March drawing for a T-shirt.

## Sand volleyball league to begin

The Thursday afternoon (4:30 p.m.) "Just for Fun" sand volleyball league will begin May 6.

Anyone interested in participating--employee or non-employee--is encouraged to sign up by calling one of the following: Cindi Kern, Ext. 3346; Brian Rademacker, Ext. 3727; David Beccard, Ext. 3391.

League play lasts for nine weeks. Those who do not have a team will be assigned to one.

## Omaha Royals tickets available

Season tickets for the Omaha Royals may be purchased from Carmen Vacanti, Ext. 3549.

Plan options include the "American Association Mini-Plan," which provides admission to 15 games for just \$45. The "Super Seven Mini-Plan" offers admission to seven of the most popular 1993 games for just \$42, including the July 4th fireworks spectacular.

Also available are "Bonus Books" for adult general admission and senior citizen general admission.

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## Golfers, mark your calendars

The following are some dates that golfing enthusiasts will want to remember:

**April 25, 1993**--Pioneer Mixed Golf Tournament. The tourney will be at the Valley View Golf Course with a noon shotgun start. It's an 18-hole tournament with a steak-fry

dinner to follow and prizes to be awarded.

**June 26, 1993**--Kansas City-Omaha Works Invitation Golf Tournament.

**Aug. 30, 1993**--Pioneer Men's Golf Tournament.

## Plan ahead for fall outing

Spring's barely begun, summer's not started, but it's still not too early

to think about an autumn excursion to Branson, Mo., sponsored by the WEOMA Club and the Cornhusker Pioneers.

The trip, slated for Oct. 28 through 31, includes transportation and accommodations and tickets to such attractions as the Wayne Newton show and the Osmond Brothers show.

For more information and prices, contact Ron Thomas at World Travel, 733-0167. ■

*April showers...*

*...bring May seminars in the ETOP computer classroom*

Seminar registration is on a first-come, first-served basis, open to represented employees only. Pick up registration forms in the ETOP boxes.

**Saturday topics**  
9 a.m. - noon

**May 8**--Personal PC repair. (Personal tool kit required.)

**May 15**--Hard drive format and loading software.

**May 22**--Batch file menu system using MS-DOS.

**Weekday topics**  
8:45 a.m./12:45 p.m./4:15 p.m.

**May 18**--Print shop deluxe. Learn to make banners, signs, cards and much, much more!

**May 20**--Desktop publishing with Wordperfect 5.1. Learn the techniques for making newsletters, business cards and personalized stationery.





# CLASSIFIED ADS

*Classified ad deadline for the next monthly issue (May 12) is at 7 a.m. Tues., Apr. 27, 1993. Submit Headliner ads in the Employee Activities Mall.*

## TRANSPORTATION

Need ride from Fremont, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. shift. x-3649 or 1-721-1699 after 4:30 p.m.

## WANTED

BABYSITTER: for 4 year old, from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. 496-1517.

STAR WARS TOYS & ACCESSORIES: any condition, even bits and pieces. 733-8361.

## FOR SALE

## REAL ESTATE

HOME: 4937 So. 50th St., 3 bedroom, finished basement, F/P, 1 3/4 bath, family room, garage under house plus 2 1/2 heated, detached garage, shed, fence, high efficiency (new) furnace & water heater, new paint, carpet, many extras, \$74,950. 733-6627.

## PETS

RABBIT: grey dwarf, \$25 or exchange for large floppy-eared rabbit. 330-3020 after 4 p.m.

GERMAN SHORT HAIR PUPS: AKC, females, white and liver champion bloodlines, can hunt this fall, shots. \$200. 330-1852.

BOXER PUPS: AKC, flashy fawn, flashy brindle, fawn & brindle. 733-8361.

## LAWN AND GARDEN

CHIPPER/SHREDDER: 5hp, M.T.D., less than one tank of gas used, \$325, before 3 p.m. 322-0142.

CRAFTSMAN LAWN MOWER: with bag, 20" Eager 1, \$35. 556-0869.

## RECREATIONAL

1979 GOLF CART: electric E-Z go, all new batteries in fall '92, charger included, excellent condition, \$400 firm. 1-234-7586 Cedar Creek, NE.

'72 STARCRAFT SUPER RUNABOUT: 16', '72 SNOWCO TRAILER: '72 MERCURY: 65 HP: plus extras, low usage, stored inside. 895-4953.

## APPLIANCES

REFRIGERATOR: 20 cu. ft., almond, very good condition, ice maker, make offer. 330-3020 after 4 p.m.

REFRIGERATOR: Hotpoint, \$235. 895-4097.

## MUSICAL

ALTO SAX/CASE: excellent condition, make offer. 455-5480 anytime leave message.

## HOME FURNISHINGS

BROWN COUCH: with (2) matching chairs, oak trim. 339-4740.

SQUARE END TABLE, COFFEE TABLE, CORNER SHELF (6' tall), & LONG SOFA TABLE: all match, black lacquer, bought at Nebr. Furniture Mart for a total of \$576, will sell all four pieces for \$150 firm! 496-3402.

KITCHEN TABLE & 4 CHAIRS: \$40. 895-4097.

## MISCELLANEOUS

DRAFTING TABLE: Ultima fold-a-way set up with a 30" x 42" table, it has a Vemco mechanical arm with 2 Vemco rules (12" x 18"), used less than 12 times, just like new, \$400. 1-789-3195 Greenwood, NE after 4 p.m. or leave message.

PICNIC TABLE: 8', \$30. 895-4097.

BRUMBERGER SLIDE PROJECTOR: and carrying case, \$35, (20) 36 slide Airequit magazines, \$.50 each, 556-0869.

AT&T 6300 COMPUTER: IBM compatible, 20 MB hard drive, phone modem, monitor & programs, \$200 or best offer. 734-6725.

QUILTED QUEEN BEDSPREAD: with matching drapes, 82" x 144", light background with peach and earth tones, CARPET: brown sculptured with pad, approx. 12' x 15', 721-9315 Fremont after 5 p.m. or leave message before 5 p.m.

WEIGHT BENCH: \$20, ROWING MACHINE: \$70. 558-5126.

DP WORKOUT BENCH: with plenty of bars and weights. 330-3020 after 4 p.m.

DEHUMIDIFIER: fully automatic, TRAVELING WATER SPRINKLER: PIONEER 10 1/2" REEL TO REEL: extra tapes, PRECOR ROWING MACHINE: fully computerized. 339-4740.

PROM DRESSES: (2) Alfred Angelo, sizes 4/6, heart-shaped opening in back, midnight blue or emerald green, \$65 each. 333-2381.

IBM EPSON APEX COMPUTER: includes color monitor, Epson printer, modem, mouse, joystick, computer desk and all software, only one year old, \$800. 895-7141.

## VEHICLES

1977 CADILLAC SEVILLE: silver with leather interior, high mileage but runs and looks great, loaded, 1984 CADILLAC: loaded, looks like new. 1-721-4506.

1972 MERCEDES: good condition, 280 SE model, blue 4-door, 6 cylinder, 92,000 miles, \$4000 or best offer. 896-3321 anytime.

1967 FIREBIRD CONVERTIBLE: 326 4b1, bold exterior, automatic console, deluxe interior pkg, power roof, PB/PS/AC, rally gages, hood tach, 6 yr old ground-up restoration, excellent shape. 328-9112.

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## CLASSIFIED ADS

1990 CHEVY 1/2 TON 4X4 Silverado, 350 V8, power windows/locks, tilt, cruise, air/AM/FM, Casaro, 50K miles. \$12,000 or best offer. 359-5171 ask for Barry or Mike.

1988 GTA TRANS AM: with t-tops and some extended warranty left, excellent condition, 7,700 miles. 334-2656.

1983 CHEV. CAPRICE CLASSIC: excellent condition, fully loaded, all power windows, seats, air, new tires, battery, see to appreciate, \$2200. 895-6993.

### PARTS AND ACCESSORIES

TWO WHEEL TRAILER: 4' x 6', \$100. 558-5126.

80 LB SAND BAGS: for pickup. 339-4740.

HARD TOP FOR A C7 JEEP: brand new, never out of the box, sells for \$1300, will sell for \$800 or offer. 496-3402.



April 21  
is

*Secretaries  
Day!*

Remember your  
secretary with a gift  
from the  
**Pioneer Porch**

***Pssst...pass it on!***



ARA is planning a

***GRAND OPENING***

of the newly remodeled  
main cafeteria  
Monday, May 3

The cafeteria will sport its new name and the winner of the "Name the Cafeteria Contest" will be introduced at a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

***Plan  
on a  
celebration!***

**Absolutely  
free!  
No strings  
attached!  
While  
supply lasts!**

**1993  
AT&T  
Planbooks**

Pocket size  
Desktop size

There still are some good months left in 1993, so pick up a planbook in the Works Print Shop. Hurry!



# Ladder safety can prevent nasty falls and injuries

Most of us use ladders from time to time—at our worksites, in the office or at home.

A review of the basic rules for working safely with ladders may be in order, especially with spring “home improvement” projects now taking shape.

The guidelines that follow can help anyone who works with ladders prevent accidental falls, injuries and disability.

## Two kinds of ladders

When working on *step* ladders, remember never to climb past the second rung from the top. Make sure that the spreaders are functional and locked in place before climbing the ladder.

If the ladder is positioned by a door or walkway, make sure that the door is locked or the walkway barricaded to prevent collisions.

Do not overreach while working on a step ladder. Reposition the ladder to avoid leaning over the base of support.

When working on *straight* ladders, use the four-to-one rule: Position the ladder base one foot away from the wall for every four feet of ladder height (up to the support point).

Never climb past the third rung from the top on a straight ladder. A straight ladder should extend at least three feet past its support point.

Tie down your ladder Joyce Stark as close to the support point as possible. Make sure that straight ladders have safety feet, too.

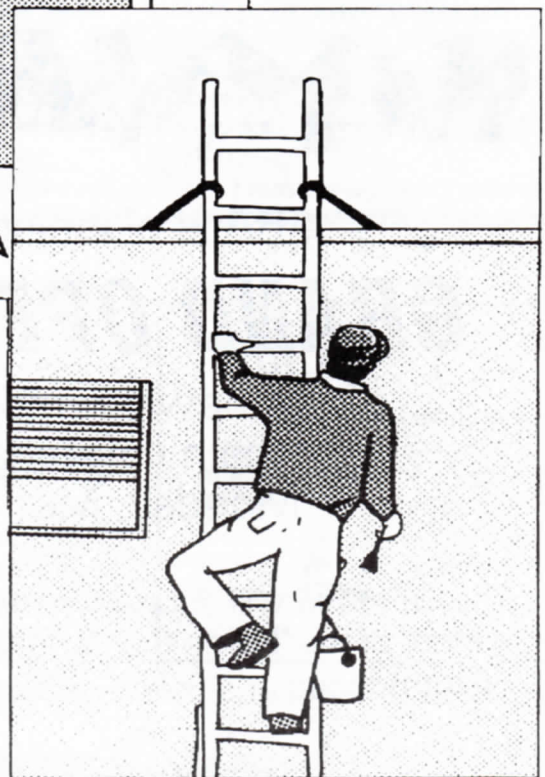
To avoid overreaching, do not let the trunk of your body extend past the side of the ladder.

## General guidelines

Persons who work on ladders should wear slip-resistant footwear and make sure that ladder rungs are free of oil, grease or other slippery substances.



*AVOID SURPRISES...If the ladder is positioned by a door or walkway, make sure that the door is locked or the walkway barricaded to prevent collisions.*



*MOVING ON UP...A straight ladder should extend at least three feet past its support point. Tie down your ladder as close to the support point as possible.*

Before climbing any ladder, check its condition: Are nuts and bolts tightened? Are rungs secure? Do spreaders work? Are safety feet functional?

If the ladder is in good condition, climb and descend it facing the ladder itself and holding on with both

hands. If you must carry tools, use a tool belt or a bucket attached to a hand line to pull tools up and down.

When working on ladders, hold on with one hand at all times. And remember, *never* use a metal ladder when you will be working with electrical current. ■