

# THE HEADLINER

Lucent Technologies  
Bell Labs Innovations



Omaha Works

February 1997

Initial classes start

## Machine tool program affords unique opportunity

**T**hey got an offer they couldn't refuse. Now some Omaha Works union-represented employees are enrolled in an on-site, two-year Machine Tool Technology Program that is unique within Lucent Technologies and unmatched anywhere in our industry.

With fifteen participants per class on each of three shifts, since early January an initial group of 45 students have been meeting for instruction twice a week after work hours in spacious new classroom and lab facilities, formerly the site of the Works' gold-plating room. Located in the southwest corner of Building 30, the classroom and lab occupy a total of 4,130 square feet. Classes are scheduled to begin July 14 this summer for a second group of 45 union-represented employees.

### Earn a certificate

When students successfully complete their two-year training regimen, they will have earned 50 credit hours and a Machine Tool Technology Certificate of Comple-

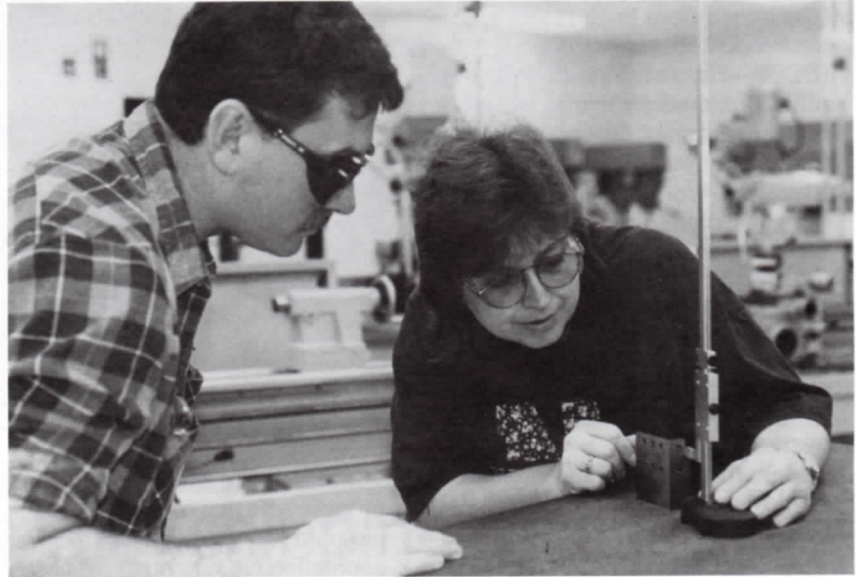


Photo by Linda Ryan

*ACCURACY! ACCURACY!...Machine tool technology students Charles Boger and Judy Meier use a vernier height gage to get precise measurements—to one-thousandth of an inch—of and angle plate.*

tion, making them eligible to take an exam to qualify for the Works' two-year machinist/toolmaker apprenticeship program. As openings become available, qualified students are admitted to the apprenticeship program on the basis of seniority. Students who successfully complete that program earn the title and rank of journeyworker, Lucent's highest-paying union-represented position.

"I'm not aware of any on-site training program like this elsewhere

in the company or even the country," said George Schabloske, machine maintenance manager. Already Lucent manufacturing locations in Oklahoma City and Atlanta, Ga., have looked into the program as a benchmark for their own training programs, and Columbus and Reading Works locations have expressed an interest.

The program was developed in response to a renewed need for machinists and toolmakers at the Omaha Works, stemming from workforce attrition and growing business needs. Estimates show the Works will have an average of 12 openings annually—six machinists and six toolmakers—in the years ahead.

The program is the culmination of three years of joint planning by Works management, IBEW Locals 1974 and 1614 and ETOP, with support and assistance from Southeast Community College (SCC) and

(Continued on Page 2)

### 80D, HRISLU cabinets

## Whole order delivery begins

**A**s construction of its new Global Provisioning Center (GPC) nears completion, the Omaha Works already has made its first whole order deliveries.

The first whole order delivery within the continental United States was sent late in January to Southwest Bell. The order consisted of an 80D bulk power cabinet, batteries and a mounting bracket. Ordinarily, South-

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# Initial classes begin in machine tool technology

(Continued from Page 1) the Works' Diversity Council. (ETOP—Enhanced Training Opportunities Program—is a joint educational program of the company and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.)

Costs to build classroom and lab facilities, including all new state-of-the-art equipment ranging from grinders and milling machines to drill presses and saws, were borne by the company. ETOP administers the program and funds all student costs including tuition, books and instructor's fees.

More than 200 union-represented employees took a basic skills (ASSET) test to enter the program. Of those who passed, 149 said they were willing to commit to the two years of training. Selected to fill classroom openings based on seniority, students can expect an average of nine hours of homework per week in addition to nine hours of class and lab instruction beyond their full-time jobs.

## THE HEADLINER

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

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

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

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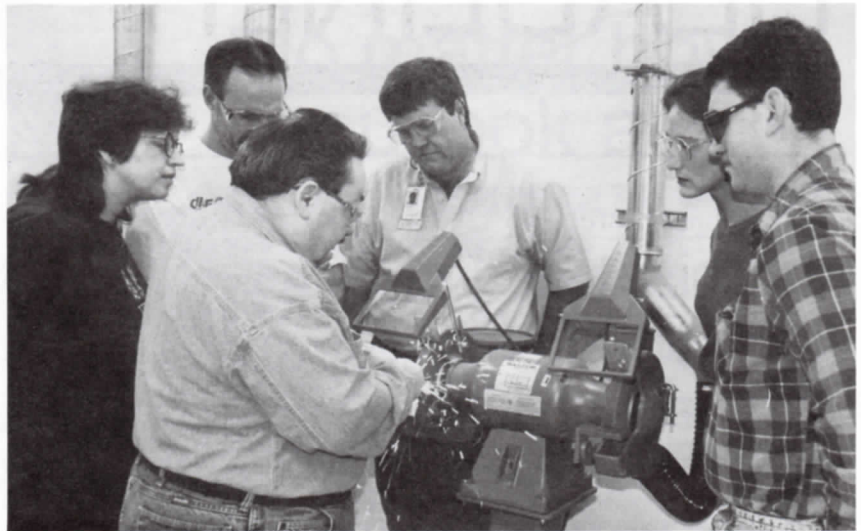


Photo by Linda Ryan

*ADDING SPARK TO THEIR LIVES...Instructor Millard Carnes demonstrates precision grinding to his students Judy Meier (from left), Al Pickering, Vern Klaumann, Linda Nutting and Charles Boger.*

"Students are told up front there is no guarantee that completing the program will get them into the Works apprenticeship program," said Mary Liska, of the Works ETOP staff. "But they will be well positioned for machinist and toolmaker jobs inside and outside of the company."

### Skills in demand

Nationwide, there is a shortage of machinists and toolmakers, Liska said. In Nebraska alone, an estimated 51 job openings are created each year for machinists and another 23

openings for toolmakers.

A diploma or an associate's degree in machine tool technology—meaning extra credit hours beyond a Certificate of Completion—generally are required to qualify for such jobs. The demand for skilled workers is such, however, that some companies may waive those requirements and hire applicants who have Certificates of Completion, she noted.

She said plans are being discussed to expand the Works' machine tool technology program to include courses on site for students who want to earn an associates's degree. ■

## Free time becomes study time

Students in the Machine Tool Technology Program are brushing off old study habits and adapting to being "back in school" again. Only this time, they're adults with full-time jobs and home and family responsibilities.

"It makes for a long day," said Richard Suverkubbe, who attends classes twice a week before going to his second-shift job as a process checker in the cable shop. Dinner breaks are for studying. So are Sunday afternoons.

Judy Meier, whose father Frank

Holecek officially retires from the Works in March as a toolmaker after 38 years, gets "grilled" by her three children. "They ask me, 'Mom, have you done your homework?'"

Midnight shift worker Jeanett Bogue has found a study method at home that works best for her: "I go upstairs and read out loud. It helps me to understand the lesson better."

Bob Delgado prefers to "make some time to get away and come back refreshed" when he gets in a studying stalemate.

(Continued on next page)



## Students say class is time well spent

(Continued from previous page)

Despite changes to their daily personal routines, every one of the students interviewed said being in the program is time well spent.

"It's an excellent opportunity," said Charles Boger, whose commitment to the program seems a natural outgrowth of his fondness for working on cars. "I think it's going to open doors for people," he said. His classmate, Meier, agreed adding that she thinks the program is a good opportunity particularly for women, who traditionally have not pursued better-paying machine tool trades.

"They've made the program so convenient," said Trudy DeKuester, who admits she likes to "tinker with machines." It's free, classes are held here at the Works and the schedule is tailored around students' working hours. Comparable programs outside of the Works require full-time attendance, making it difficult for those working full-time jobs, she explained.

Suverkrubbe offered three more "pluses" of the program: "The facilities are brand new, and I'm in class with people I know. And with better pay, it has to be good for the pension."

Delgado summed it up: "I've always wanted to be in trades. I find the program very challenging and interesting. It's like a dream come true." ■

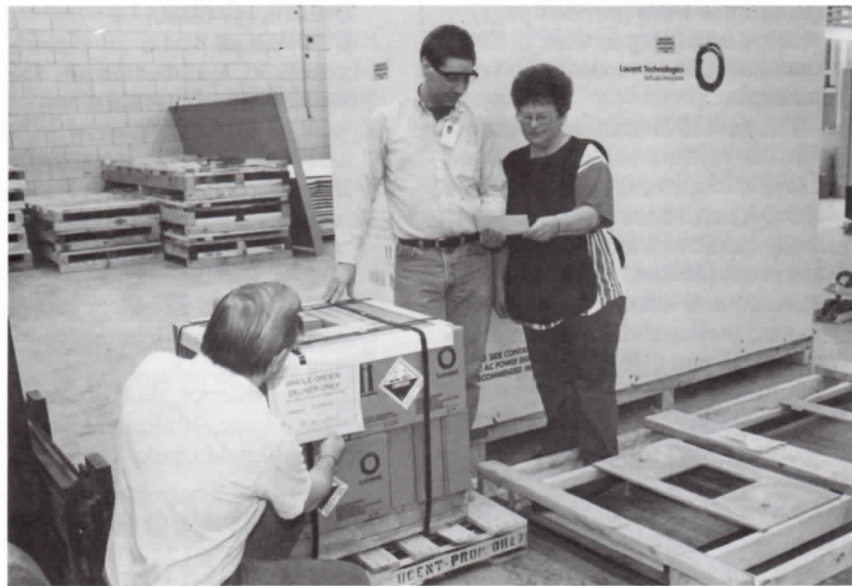


Photo by Steve Miller

*EVERYTHING IN (WHOLE) ORDER...Don Landholm (back to camera), Paul Nicholson and Emma Epperson oversee the Works' first whole order delivery of an 80D cabinet to Southwest Bell.*

## Works sends first whole orders

(Continued from Page 1)

west Bell would have received the cabinet from Omaha, with batteries and bracket sent separately from Dallas, Texas, and Montgomery, Ala., respectively.

The first whole order, international delivery went out Feb. 7, 1997, to Saudi Arabia. Two HRISLU (hardened remote integrated switching line unit) cabinets were shipped, each packed with these components: circuit packs from Oklahoma City and Dallas, batteries from Dallas and a mounting bracket from Montgomery.

Whole order delivery implies that all of the components of a final product are packed and shipped to customers at the same time.

The feature is particularly appealing to customers because they do not have to hold up an installation job, for example, waiting on parts to arrive at different times from different places.

Consolidating warehouse and distribution operations at the new GPC for products made at the Works will facilitate whole order deliveries. The GPC will be open and operating by early this March. ■

## Athletes needed for Lucent team

The corporate Lucent Running and Fitness Club is looking for company athletes to compete in a variety of track events at a regional meet at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, on May 3, 1997. Qualifying times from the event will be used to form a corporate team to compete in the 1997 Corporate Nationals track competition to be held in San Diego

on July 19 and 20.

Events include 5K men's and women's road races, relays, mile runs, long jump and shotput. The corporate team needs employees in all age groups, including the Masters group (ages 40 - 50) and Seniors (ages 50+).

Other companies expected to have teams at the Nationals include Lockheed Martin, General Electric, Exxon, Enron, Pacific Telesis, US WEST and AT&T.

Anyone interested in competing should contact Tom Bogue, Ext. 3536, or Judy Stroy, Ext. 3736, for more information.

## Next ISO audit slated for Works

The ISO surveillance audit conducted in late January at our copper apparatus and wire facilities in Whippany, N.J., and Atlanta had good

(Continued on next page)



## NEWS IN BRIEF

(Continued from previous page)  
results, according to Cheryl Cincetti, manufacturing excellence and quality manager.

The next ISO audit will focus on the Omaha Works when auditors from Lloyd's Register Quality Assurance (LRQA) visit here this July 16 - 18.

The audit will focus on the following areas: EW&C receiving and storeroom; EW&C twist, strand and jacket; premises distribution products (C15 and C16); cabinet metal fabrication (D13 and D14); and quality assurance.

Lloyd's also will audit the cabinet assembly area to review the status of a previously issued non-compliance note which pertains to expired paint.

### February service anniversaries

The following employees have been celebrating milestone service anniversaries (in five-year increments) during February. The anniversary date is given with service years after the employee's name.

2/6—Gustav Stefan, 25.  
2/12—James Mack, 35; Byron Maxwell, 35; William Vinson, 35; Kenneth Sharpnack, 45; Emma Epperson, 35; Michael Kelly Jr., 40.  
2/13—Robert Wustrack, 30.  
2/19—Stephen Harlow, 35; James Plevniak, 35; Sharon Dubas, 20.  
2/20—Aleather Jackson, 30.  
2/21—Larry Rudesill, 30.  
2/26—Richard Skrok, 35; Norma Golden, 35; Dale Wichman, 40; Steven Dormer, 15.  
2/27—Frederick Wolski, 35; Warren Moore, 30; Ronald Rice, 30.  
2/29—Ronald Clark, 25.

### Recent Works retirements

The following employees have officially retired from the Omaha Works. Their service years follow their names:

Darvin Janousek—43 years.  
James Jershin—38 years.  
Jesus Pagan—32 years.  
Joyce Patrick—27 years.  
Dennis Portrey—34 years.



Shirley Tate  
31 years

Dale Snyder—37 years.  
Shirley Tate—31 years.  
Evelyn Winters—32 years.

### Product quality rates an 'A'

Quality Assurance has awarded the following IBUs the grade of "A" for their product quality achievements for the January 1997 rating period:

**IBU C14**—DSX; 11-type cable stubs; 300-type central office connectors; 78, 89 and 112 connector blocks.

**IBU C15**—110 patch panel assembly; 110 wiring blocks; 110 patch cords.

**IBU C12**—188, 189, 190, 300  
(Continued on next page)

## COME OUT OF HIBERNATION!

Sign up for spring classes at the ETOP Enhanced Learning Center. The spring program starts March 31 and continues through June 6, Mondays through Thursdays. Classes to accommodate all three shifts.

**COMPUTER CLASSES:** Beginners for scaredy-cats ♦ Windows 95 Adventures on the Internet ♦ Works 4.0



**SKILLS ENHANCEMENT:** B-Tab Grammar and writing skills ♦ Phonics I Basic math ♦ GED/Basic skills lab

Details are available at the ETOP Center.

**REGISTER BY MARCH 21, 1997**

(Classes open to union-represented employees only.)



## NEWS IN BRIEF

(Continued from previous page)  
building entrance protectors; screw-in protector units.

**IBU D19**—710 connectors; 700-type connectors; N-type cable terminals.

**IBU D17**—76 and 108 terminal blocks; 40-, 42-, 841- and MSDT-type cabinets.

**IBU D12**—710, 788 and miscellaneous tools.

**IBU D13**—Metal fabrication.

**EW&C**—Inside wire cable; plenum/LAN cable.

### Lucent begins co-branding phones

Since the beginning of the year, Lucent has been co-branding all of its consumer telephone products with both the Lucent and AT&T logos, except for leased equipment and cellular phones.

Leased products retain the AT&T brand. Wireless products are branded either with the Lucent name or the name of the network service provider.

Co-branding is a big step toward gaining consumer recognition of our phone products under the Lucent name. Co-branded products feature a

permanent Lucent logo, but the AT&T logo is on a mylar label that can be removed.

The co-branding agreement with AT&T runs through the first quarter of the year 2000, with an option to renew.

### Lucent reports a record quarter

Lucent Technologies reported a record net income of \$859 million, or \$1.35 a share for its first fiscal quarter of 1997. During the year-ago quarter ending Dec. 31, 1995, the company reported a net loss of \$1.017 billion, or a loss of \$1.60 per share including the effect of restructuring charges of \$1.847 billion, after tax.

Lucent also reported record quarterly revenues of \$7.938 billion, which topped the previous record set in the same quarter of 1995 when revenues were \$7.427 billion.

The primary drivers in the quarter were Network Systems revenue, which climbed by 10 percent; Business Communications Systems revenue, up 14 percent; and Microelectronics revenue, which rose 20 percent.

"This record quarter completed a great 1996 for Lucent and starts off our 1997 fiscal year with tremendous momentum," said Henry Schacht, Lucent's chairman and CEO.

Schacht said the quarter was particularly noteworthy because revenue exceeded last year's record revenue quarter and included significant increases in purchasing by local telephone companies as a result of AT&T's restructuring. ■



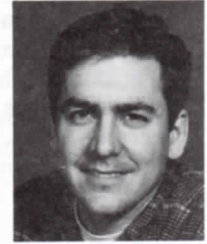
Lyndon Ensz



Michael Curley



John Tyrcha

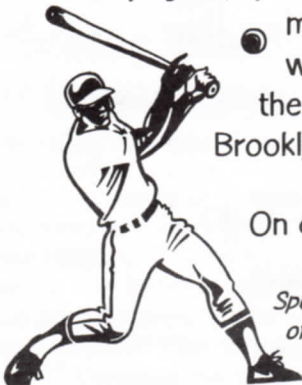


Richard Runnels

In observance of African American History Month

## "Just as Good!"

an exhibit featuring African American baseball players, spotlighting Jackie Robinson and marking the 50th anniversary of when the baseball legend broke the "color barrier" by joining the Brooklyn Dodgers team.



On display now in the main cafeteria!

Sponsored by the Omaha Chapter of the Alliance of Black Telecommunications Employees.

### One appointed, three promoted

One appointment and three promotions within the Omaha Works technical-professional staff recently were announced.

**Lyndon Ensz**, an MTS (member, technical staff), was appointed to a DMTS (distinguished member, technical staff) in premises distribution products engineering (C16).

**Michael Curley**, formerly an MTS1 (member, technical staff—level 1), was promoted to an MTS in engineering services (D1B).

**Richard Runnels** was promoted to an MTS in electronic equipment housings engineering (D16) from an MTS1.

**John Tyrcha** was promoted to an MTS in plant engineering (A16) from an MTS1. ■



# Patent recipients honored during E-Week

**O**maha Works tech-pros gathered in the auditorium Feb. 17, 1997, to kick off their week-long observance of National Engineers Week—also called “E-Week.” Copper Apparatus and Wire Vice-President Les Cole addressed the audience, giving official recognition to the 12 members of the copper apparatus and wire technical staff who have earned a total of seven U.S. Patents since 1995.

Guest speaker at the opening day event was Jim Chase, manager of the Fort Calhoun Nuclear Power Plant in the Omaha Public Power District (OPPD). His topic was nuclear power in the Ukraine.

The Works agenda for Engineering Week also included a tour of the plant Wednesday, Feb. 19, by some 90 area high school juniors and seniors who are interested in engineering careers. An engineering display set up in the main cafeteria for most of the week was scheduled to be on view at the Oakview Mall throughout the weekend of Feb. 21 - 23, in participation with the Omaha Engineers’ Roundtable.

Coordinators for this year’s E-Week plans were Kathy Perevosnik, Al Koenig, Gary Krichau and Craig Thompson.

Honored recipients of U.S. Patents (with those based at the Omaha Works pictured on this page) are as follows:

**Jim Chapman**—U.S. Patent No. 5,392,510 issued Feb. 28, 1995, “Method of mounting connectors to circuit board.”

**Ben Bass and John May**—U.S. Patent No. 5,520,347 issued May 28, 1996, “One-piece Reelex payout tube.”

**Ben Bass**—U.S. Patent No. 5,529,186 issued June 25, 1996, “Boxed pay-out reel for optic fiber cable or wire or the like, with smooth pay-out, high-impact and cable end holding features.”

**Harold Friesen, Philip Gardner**



Jim Chapman



John May



Ben Bass



Larry Bleich



Bill Meyers



Tom Wolterman



Steve Zerbs



Larry Josoff

(both of Atlanta) and **Tom Wolterman**—U.S. Patent No. 5,541,361 issued July 30, 1996, “Indoor communication cable.”

**Larry Bleich, Tommy Hardin** (Atlanta), **Bill Meyers and Warren Moore**—U.S. Patent No. 5,576,515 issued Nov. 19, 1996, “Fire-resistant cable for use in local area networks.”

**Larry Josoff** (retired)—U.S. Patent No. 5,595,354 issued Jan. 21, 1997, “Apparatus for storing a variable quantity of moving strand material.”

**Larry Bleich, Warren Moore and Steve Zerbs**—U.S. Patent No.

5,600,097 issued Feb. 4, 1997, “Fire-resistant cable for use in local area networks.”

For the record, these U.S. patents were the first to be earned by Omaha recipients May, Wolterman, Meyers and Josoff. Bleich and Zerbs have a total of six U.S. patents each, while Chapman has five and Bass and Moore have three patents each. ■



Warren Moore

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## NEWS IN BRIEF



Photo by Linda Ryan

*WINNING RECORDS... Green Bay Packer Calvin Jones (third from right) took time for a photo with his mother and several of her co-workers in IBU D17, when he visited just one week short of the IBU's historic shipping record. With him are (counterclockwise from right) Mike Wenninghoff, Twana Bordelon, Keith Tooley, Jim Beach, Linda Jurgens and his mother, Ruth Ann Jones.*

### Calvin Jones meets mom's winning teammates

## Visit coincides with shipping milestone

Clearly, it was a “win-win” situation. There stood Calvin Jones, a former Nebraska Heisman Trophy nominee Husker starting I-back and now special team player for the Super Bowl-winning Green Bay Packers. Beside him were members of another winning team—IBU D17—who were about to mark an unprecedented 104

consecutive weeks (that’s two years!) of perfect shipping by commit date.

Jones was in town visiting his mother, Ruth Ann, who just so happens to work in IBU D17, where 40, 42- and 841-type feeder distribution interface (FDI) cabinets are assembled. When he requested a chance to tour where his mother works, the timing couldn’t have been

better, said supervisor Mike Wenninghoff.

IBU 17 team members were already in a celebratory mood when Jones visited their work area, just a few days short of the date when they actually achieved their history-making shipping milestone—Feb. 12, 1997.

They even presented Jones with a Lucent Technologies cap on which they had signed their names. Jones reciprocated, signing autographs for his mother’s co-workers.

By their calculations, no other IBU at the Works—and possibly within all of Lucent itself—even comes close to the cabinet team members’ shipping record. Jones’s unexpected celebrity visit was “icing on the cake,” making the occasion of their achievement even more memorable, noted Wenninghoff.

Jones told his Works fans that next year they can count on another winning season for the Packers.

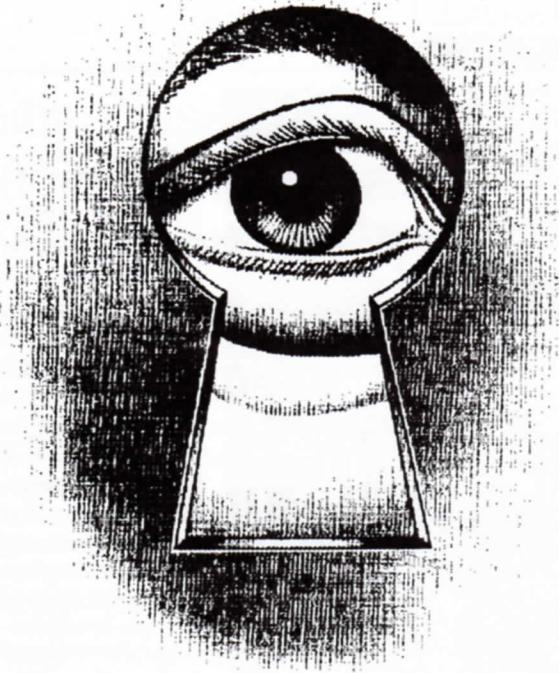
Ditto for the cabinet team. Members already have set their sights on reaching year No. 3 with a shipping record that’s still untarnished. ■



## Hold the phone!

The phone sale, with special discounts for Lucent employees, that was scheduled for late February in the Works auditorium has been postponed!

The sale has been rescheduled tentatively for sometime in April. Watch for details!



No matter how  
you look at it

# SAFETY MAKES SENSE

Show you have common sense  
when it comes to safety! Play  
**SAFETY MAKES SENSE**

a **safety awareness contest** sponsored by the  
Omaha Works' Union/Management Safety Committee.

**Starts Feb. 24, 1997!** Just answer a  
common sense question about safety when a  
committee member calls on you. **Be sure to  
wear proper safety gear for your work  
area**, or you'll miss your chance to play!

Each winner chooses  
one of these prizes!

- ✓Deluxe first-aid kit
- ✓Fire extinguisher
- ✓Great outdoors kit

- ✓Contest runs 12 weeks
- ✓6 prizes awarded weekly  
(72 prizes total!)
- ✓All employees on all shifts  
are eligible to play
- ✓Players' names chosen  
by drawing