

the **Westerner**

Omaha Works

June 1981



In defense of freedom—Page 4

for your information

Good deeds don't go unnoticed.

Barb Gray of Dept. 472 and Larry Young of Dept. 437, who were featured in the last issue of *The Westerner* for their efforts to give cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) to a heart attack victim, have been honored by the Nebraska chapter of the American Heart Association.

They were recognized at a CPR instructors' appreciation night reception held June 15. Each received a certifi-

cate of recognition for assisting in giving CPR to a man who suffered a heart attack as he rode in a car driven down busy West Center Road last April.

Both Barb and Larry had learned CPR through classes offered at the Omaha Works. In fact, the Works itself was honored at the reception for its efforts in teaching CPR to employees. John Tompkins of Dept. 514, who conducts the CPR courses here, accepted a certificate in behalf of the Works. An estimated 400 employees have taken CPR courses at the Works.

Omaha Mayor Mike Boyle presented the certificates . . .

. . . C. F. ("Zuke") Zoucha, a planning engineer in Dept. 472, has been presented an outstanding service award

by the Nebraska Society of Engineers, Eastern Chapter. The award was given in recognition of his work for three years as chairman of the group's Young Engineers Committee. He is now serving a two-year term in the organization as a state director . . .

. . . AT&T expects to raise about \$1 billion in new equity from the sale of up to 18.15 million common shares offered at \$57 per share. On June 8, AT&T increased the size of the stock offering from 15 million to 16.5 million shares. The underwriters also have the option to sell 10 percent more shares than offered, or 1.65 million shares to accommodate any additional demand.

Tom Saunders, managing director at Morgan Stanley & Co. — the lead underwriter in this offering — cites favorable market conditions as the reason for its recommendation to the company that the offering be increased. He noted that since the initial announcement on June 1, there has been strong demand for the issue from individual and institutional investors . . .

. . . Just a follow-up on the April issue's article on quitting smoking: Depending on the insurance company, non-smokers can qualify for discounts on almost every kind of life insurance plan available. For example, Phoenix Mutual (who has representatives on Works premises) offers insurance discounts of up to seven percent to non-smoking employees. If you want to save more money in addition to what otherwise would have been spent on cigarettes, the non-smokers among you might want to look into what your insurance company has to offer.

BSSP/SSP results

The following are the April unit values for both the Bell System Savings Plan (BSSP) and the Savings and Security Plan (SSP) for non-salaried employees:

| | BSSP | | | SSP | |
|------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| | Units Value | Units Credited Per Dollar | | Units Value | Units Credited Per Dollar |
| AT&T | 2.3741 | .4211 | AT&T | 1.1080 | .9024 |
| Government Obligations | 2.2962 | .4354 | Guaranteed | | |
| Equity Portfolio | 1.9777 | .5056 | Interest Fund | 1.2306 | .8125 |
| Guaranteed | | | | | |
| Interest Fund | 1.1388 | .8780 | | | |




Grim but thought-provoking

THE CRUMPLED REMAINS of a truck caught the attention of Barb Spain (left) and Marilyn Boston, both PRAM operators in Dept. 725, as they were preparing to leave work from the Building 30 parking lot. The wrecked truck was placed in the parking lot by the safety department, as was another accident-damaged vehicle in the Building 50 parking lot. They were displayed during June to remind employees to drive safely, especially since we have entered the vacation season when traffic is heavier.

**the
Westerner**
VOL. 25 NO. 6

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Editor

Published for employees of the Omaha Works
For information write: Editor, *The Westerner*,
P.O. Box 14000, West Omaha Station, Omaha,
Nebraska, 68114; or telephone 691-3553.
Member
IABC/Omaha
International Association of Business Communicators
Printed by the Omaha Works
Reproduction Department

 **Western Electric**

service anniversaries

June

20 years

J. D. Blair
M. M. Bruno
T. D. Cerny
C. M. Davenport

J. R. Hoffman
A. L. Lessig
M. R. Lubash
A. R. Myers

E. S. Ohara
J. A. Okupski
T. J. Pluta
R. R. Socha

A. E. Szczykowski
T. J. Vandyke
B. H. Warner

15 years

E. Acoff
D. D. Arndt
R. B. Ash
M. A. Barges
H. L. Bass
J. L. Boothe
H. Boyles
G. M. Dethloff
N. L. Dorsey
J. S. Dropik
H. W. Eliuk
R. H. Gewinner

J. B. Horton
J. L. Johnsen
P. J. McPherson
M. L. Parizek
M. S. Riley
R. I. Schaupp
M. V. Stava
G. E. Stock
G. W. Swoboda
K. C. Tuttle
D. V. Updegraff
P. D. Warren

10 years

C. M. Knudtson

S. L. Wainwright

Not pictured:

Marian Dick
25 years
6/1/56

Tom McNulty
25 years
6/13/56

Pauline Smith
25 years
6/24/56

Raymond Alley
35 years
6/13/46



Bob Dostert
45 years
6/22/36



Bob Barton
40 years
6/13/41



Bob Pierson
40 years
6/16/41



Leo Scheibhofer
25 years
6/18/56



Neil Zimmer
30 years
6/4/51



Jack Zelenka
30 years
6/18/51



Donald Walker
35 years
6/28/46



Len Lowder
25 years
6/11/56



Richard Dormer
25 years
6/13/56



Gino Betti
25 years
6/22/56



Dick Christensen
25 years
6/18/56

suggestion box

Three Works employees are the recent recipients of suggestion awards totaling more than \$4,000. In a year's time, their ideas will save the Works more than \$26,000.

Vernon Wheeler of Dept. 741 received an award for \$1,910; **Jim Brainard** of Dept. 439 received \$1,065; and **Keith Fink** of Dept. 435 received \$1,055.

This is the first suggestion award of more than \$1,000 that Vernon has earned, he said. His suggestion consisted of a method to renovate worn out details on wire inserter machines used in Dept. 444 in the manufacture of load coils.

Jim Brainard submitted an idea

involving securing the lids to all wooden boxes used for packing in Dept. 439. With the award he received, Jim and his wife plan to take a trip to the Grand Tetons in Wyoming.

Keith Fink proposed that adjustable tensioners be used on color coding machines. He's already used his suggestion earnings to buy new power tools.

Other recipients of suggestion awards include:

Allen Schwab, Dept. 437, \$635.

Dennis Fleming, Dept. 723, \$450.

Heinz Feuerberg, Dept. 741, \$445.

Gene Sautter, Dept. 746, \$431.25.



Keith Fink



Jim Brainard



Vernon Wheeler

Double-duty citizens

Some call them "weekend warriors." But if Omaha Works employees are any example, the weekend warrior label is hardly an accurate description of the service provided by our country's armed forces reserves.

As backup for regular armed forces personnel, they stand ready to augment the defense needs of a nation in the event of war. Toward that end, reservists attend monthly drills and scheduled summer camps, working side by side and sharing the same peacetime duties of armed forces "regulars."



"The last few years it's changed," noted Grace Johnston, a medical technician specialist in the Air Force Reserve. Whereas reservists may have found their weekend drill responsibilities limited in previous years, that's not the case today, Grace said.

A mini wire spring relay adjuster in Dept. 728, Grace's weekend drill duty at the Offutt Air Base hospital may be in the obstetrics ward. Or, she may assist with training medical technicians or help with motivation counseling. It's not unusual to take work home, too,

Grace added.

Tom Rickard, a 13-year veteran of the Sea Bees, agrees with Grace. An Omaha Works millwright on weekdays, Tom is a steelworker chief petty officer in the Sea Bees, the construction battalion unit (thus, C.B. or Sea Bee) of the Navy.

Tom currently serves as safety chief for 16 detachments in one Sea Bee battalion, amounting to about 1,000 men and women. It's a job whose function is not unlike that of the Works' safety department.

"I HAVE a lot of responsibility," Tom said. "If someone were to get hurt or killed (on duty), it falls on me." When one considers the heavy equipment Sea Bees use — earth movers and such — safety is no small task.

Why an employee who works full time at a civilian job would want to take on the responsibilities of the military reserve really isn't difficult to understand, Tom said. "My job at Western relates to my job in the service, and I like the kinds of things I do" in the Sea Bees, he explained.

Some of those things have included service in the civilian community, such as installing playground equipment for a non-profit day care center and building bunk buildings and shelters for the Boy Scouts' Camp Cedar. On another occasion, Tom was in Panama helping construct government office buildings.

According to Tom, the number of people joining the reserves appears to be on an upswing compared to recent years. The number of women in the reserves is growing, noted Grace, and a greater number of people in their 40s with prior military experience are signing up for an average of six years of reserve duty.

Although no firm figure is available, the number of Works employees in the reserves is estimated to be about 250. Western Electric supports participation in the reserves by paying the difference in salary a reservist draws during active military duty and what he or she makes at the Works, for the equivalent of 10 working days (and in cases where the Works pay scale is higher).

"YOU MEET people from all walks of life," Jim Kvetensky suggested as another reason why joining the reserves is attractive. Jim has served 18 years in the Army Reserve and is now company commander of the armored cavalry troop. He's responsible for assisting the regular Army with its basic training program and advanced individual training (AIT).

People who are in the reserves are there because they really want to be, said Jim, an accountant in Dept. 333. That makes for a healthy attitude among reservists. A recruiter will tell you that a reservist is twice the American,

(Continued on Page 6)

Employees count freedoms

Aldai Stevenson once said, "A free society is one where it is safe to be unpopular."

Indeed, one of the ironies of American free society is that although the majority may rule, the rights to differing beliefs and lifestyles are strongly defended. Otherwise, if we were to restrict a person's free thoughts or speech just because we didn't agree with him, it could be — to quote Justice William O. Douglas — "the one un-American act that could most easily defeat us."

With the importance of this nation's freedoms so underscored, several Works employees were asked to express which freedom or freedoms they most appreciated. Their responses follow:

"Freedom of speech. I can say what I want. I can criticize politicians without getting into trouble. My father went to Czechoslovakia to visit, and they can't say anything about the politicians to anyone without getting into trouble."

—Gary Mortensen, Dept. 276.

"Freedom of religion is a privilege that too many Americans take for granted. We are free to search for a church where we can worship the Lord and fulfill our spiritual needs. People in communist countries who own a Bible consider it a most prized possession and not a dust catcher as it is in so many American homes. If we consider our Sunday morning worship as the most important part of the week, then we can be sure that 'The family that prays together, stays together.'"

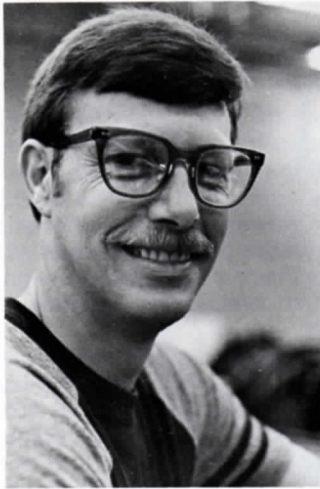
—La Vonne Stamp, Dept. 413.

"I would hate to give up my freedom to vote." —LaRoy Campbell, Dept. 252.

"Freedom of religion. I'm free to attend any place I wish to worship. I'm free to respect others' beliefs and still believe in my own." —Larry Duros, Dept. 441.

"Being able to go places and not have

(Continued on Page 6)



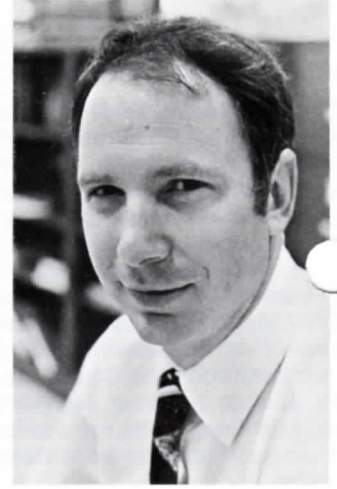
David Hamlet



Tom Rickard



Grace Johnston



Jim Kvetensky

Reservists note boost in attitude

(Continued from Page 5)

Jim said, because both civilian and military duties are combined.

While responsibility and meeting people are advantages to joining the reserves, no less a reason is that "bit of a patriotic feeling" one derives from being a reservist, said David Hamlet, a storekeeper second class in the Navy Reserve.

Unlike the other three interviewed,

David had no prior military experience before joining the reserve two years ago. Because he had worked in the Works storeroom (he's now a stub cable floorhand in Dept. 445), his job experience allowed him to enter at an advanced pay grade to be a storekeeper.

He is responsible for keeping inventory and issuing stock items to incoming Navy Reserve personnel — anything from clothing to cars. His work is not

confined to the Omaha area, he said, which brings up another plus in joining the reserves: travel. In addition to inland summer camp duty at various spots in the country, about every three years David reports for duty aboard a ship.

ALTHOUGH reservists are paid for attending monthly drills, summer camps and seminars, they come out ahead another way, too. The reserves provide the opportunity to learn skills other than those used on a civilian job, Grace pointed out.

At the urging of her three children, she joined the Air Force Reserve with an interest in the medical field. When the reserve told her she would be given complete training as a medical technician, she saw it as "an opportunity for a change" from her daily job.

Once in the reserve, she made a discovery similar to that expressed by Tom, Jim and David. "I found myself putting more into my job (at the Works)," she said.

"I think it helps me in my job, too," Jim said of the reserve. "It improves your attitude."

In an attempt to explain the boost in attitude, Tom mentioned how he felt when he became a Sea Bee chief petty officer. When a problem arose, "We always used to say, 'Go get the chief — he'll know what to do.' Then all at once I was one," Tom said.

Being thrust into a job with greater responsibilities made him aware of his ability to oversee operations and resolve problems. Applying that experience to his job at the Works, "I think it gives you initiative to do more," Tom said. Now when something needs immediate attention at work, rather than wait for someone else to handle it, "you do it yourself."

Americans are free to be

(Continued from Page 5)

someone tell me what to do all of the time. There are a lot of countries where people are confined. Here I can travel as I please." —**Berdeena Chase, Dept. 444.**

"Freedom of speech (I like to say what I feel, good or bad), freedom of religion and freedom of the press." —**Mary Nowak, Dept. 287.**

"Freedom to make my own decisions." —**Milo Borden, Dept. 253.**

"Freedom of speech. I like to share my ideas with others and to get theirs, and the only way you can is through freedom of speech and freedom of the press. The only way people can grow is by exchanging their views." —**Tim Raasch, Dept. 743.**

"Not only freedom of speech, but to live my life the way I want to. I have the freedom to have my own home, the one that I choose. I'm able to do the work I want, not the type the government would give me. I have my own choice of occupation." —**Edythe Leslie, Dept. 443.**

"My freedom to worship where please." —**Lynette Tipler, Dept. 435.**

"Freedom of speech and religion." —**Maxine Gerke, Dept. 723.**

"Freedom to vote. It gives me the opportunity to participate and select people who run my government. Here, I can have a part in what happens. I've been in Europe during the War and have seen how they don't have the freedom in some countries like we do in the states." —**Mary Hansen, Dept. 1231.**

"Freedom to work for the things you want without fear of losing them to government control." For example, in his native Cuba, "the government may decide you don't need a second car and confiscate it to give to someone without a car." —**Art Cruz, Dept. 741.**

"I'm thankful that we have basic all-around freedoms. Compared to many other countries, we have many more. We take them for granted." —**Daryl Reitmaier, Dept. 444.**

"Everything! This is the only place (country) to be." —**Mary Rushing, Dept. 287.**

Bob Denton heads Pioneers

Effective July 1, new officers head the Omaha Works' Cornhusker Chapter of the Telephone Pioneers of America.

Bob Denton, of Dept. 475, is the new president, succeeding Tony Ciullo of Dept. 523. Don Hanrahan of Dept. 521 is senior vice-president and Guy Godios of Dept. 726 is vice-president. Bob Pierson of Dept. 501 continues as pioneer administrator.

Although plans for the next year are in the formative stages, the new administration expects to emphasize fund-raising efforts during 1981, according to Bob Denton. The fund raising would supplement the existing Pioneer budget and permit expanded charitable service to be provided to the Omaha community. For example, already the Cornhusker Pioneers have ordered

three hand-operated tricycles designed especially for handicapped youngsters.

Other plans in the offing include opening the Pioneer workroom more days of the week and possibly some evenings. Currently, the workroom — located in the rear of the main cafeteria — is open in the daytime on Tuesdays.

Expanded workroom hours is expected to attract more Pioneer volunteers who may want to work on such projects as teaching aids for handicapped youngsters or items for the benefit of nursing home residents. Last year — from June 1980 through May 1981 — Cornhusker Pioneers donated a total of 5,099 volunteer hours, combining workroom projects and services rendered in the community.



Bob Denton



Don Hanrahan



Guy Godios



Bob Pierson

Fellowship for Buddenhagen

Dave Buddenhagen, a senior engineer in Dept. 735, has been selected as one of 10 Western Electric employees to participate in the company's 1981 Engineering and Science Fellowship Program.

The program provides corporate funds to supervisors and technical-professionals to pursue graduate work in the fields of engineering or other applied sciences. Dave will seek a master's degree in computer science at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. Over the next two years, he will devote half his workdays to his regular duties at the Works, and the other half to studies at the university.

A 1963 graduate of Augustana College in Sioux Falls, S.D., Dave applied for the fellowship by submitting a resume — listing experience and education — for corporate review. Accompanying it was a statement from the Omaha Works, documenting a need for the particular skills that could be acquired through the fellowship.

In Dave's case, a master's in computer science will augment his job involving manufacturing computer applications.

The fellowship will pay for tuition and all schooling expenses. When asked



STUDENT-TO-BE . . . Dave Buddenhagen will devote half his time to his work in manufacturing computer applications, and the other half to studies toward a master's degree at UNL.

how he feels about "burning the midnight oil" come fall semester, Dave said he's not worried: "In fact, I'm looking forward to it."

energy . . .

less is more

So you thought the last energy crossword puzzle was a little too easy?

Charley Johnson of Dept. 733 has put together this new one that should test your skills further. As with the last puzzle, answers are words pertaining to energy and conservation. Turn to Page 8 for the solution.

ACROSS

1. British gasoline.
6. Emits radiant energy (abbr.).
7. Nineteenth Century rail splitter.
9. Clue.
11. Oil baron (abbr.).
12. Prevaricator.
13. Residue of combustion.
15. Refusal.
16. Clue.
19. Elevated railroad.
20. Arab leader.
22. M _ _ , Boston transit system.
23. Usually fueled with gasoline.
25. Side sheltered from wind.
27. Methane is a combustible _____.
28. Oil prospectors could use it.

DOWN

1. Liquefied petroleum.
2. Possible fuel of the future.
3. Expression of encouragement.
4. City plagued by airborne products of combustion (abbr.).
5. State where interest in gasohol is high.
8. Fluffy scarf.
10. Auto fuel in Brazil.
14. Sun.
16. Weather strip (abbr.).
17. Prefix meaning to do over.
18. These are wind powered.
21. Operates cafeteria at Omaha Works.
24. Silver (abbr.).
26. Electrical engineer (abbr.).



Computer graphics by Fred Cormaci

Attendance records in double digits

Ever wonder how it is that some people come down with a bad case of bronchitis during the so-called flu season, while others never have so much as a sniffle?

If one could determine the secret to perfect health and had it patented for sale, he would probably make Howard Hughes's million look like small change. Whatever the secret to good health, approximately 870 Works employees appear to have taken a step in the right direction toward its discovery. That's how many employees were on record as of the end of May for having at least one year of perfect attendance. By perfect attendance is meant no lost work days due to sickness or injury.

Of the more than 800 employees with perfect attendance, 31 have accumulated at least 10 consecutive years of perfect attendance.

One of those employees, Roland Michaelsen of Dept. 741, has managed to stay so healthy that he hasn't taken sick leave in 24 consecutive years. The toolmaker couldn't single out any major

cause of his good health, but admitted he makes it a practice to avoid pain and illness.

Roland walks to work daily from his Millard home and he likes to jog. He believes moderation in physical activity as well as not overindulging in food and drink support good health.

Ken Wild, a millwright in Dept. 744, agrees. In addition, "I think you have to have the right kind of attitude," Ken said. "You can worry yourself right into sickness."

Although Ken said he hasn't had a cold in 12 years, sometimes he feels the threat of a headache. But through the power of suggestion — and especially "if I want to go play golf" — Ken said he tries to relax. Soon, the tension-caused headache is gone, or at least alleviated.

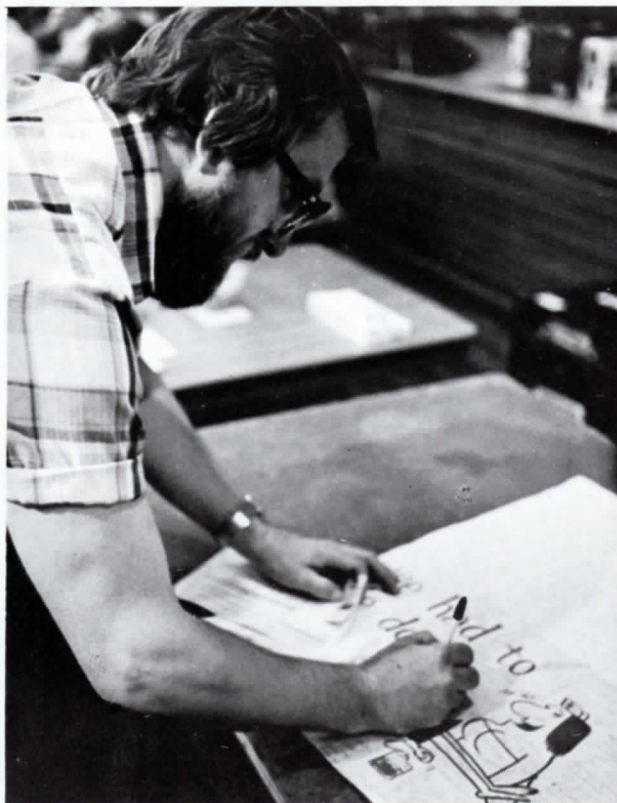
"I'm not trying for any record," Ken said of his 22 years of perfect attendance. "I just feel good," he said, and as such he sees no reason to let his obligations slide at home or at work.

Other employees with 10 years-plus perfect attendance are listed here. In

some cases, the number of years listed **may not be correct**, because Works computerized data on perfect attendance goes back just 11 years. Some employees already have notified the benefits office about having more than 11 years of perfect attendance, and those instances have been verified and noted.

If your name is on the list and you think the number of years given is incorrect, call Eleanor Hundt, Ext. 3605, for verification:

- J. L. Ellis—253, 11 years
- R. L. Krambeck—253, 11 years
- R. E. Nelson—282, 15 years
- B. Z. Hofmann—400, 13 years
- G. R. Danahy—411, 11 years
- K. D. Tracy—413, 13 years
- R. L. Hansen—413, 11 years
- L. G. Thietje—413, 13 years
- G. A. Waddell—435, 10 years
- J. D. Kennedy—437, 16 years
- G. L. Faller—437, 10 years
- D. L. Drews—439, 10 years
- D. A. Gorden—439, 10 years
- C. D. Trouba—441, 10 years
- P. T. Stubbe—472, 17 years
- L. D. Ensz—475, 11 years
- R. C. Reida—510, 25 years
- E. J. Bielenberg—521, 16 years
- C. E. Schroeder—723, 15 years
- G. J. Bures—723, 10 years
- J. R. McCallum—725, 14 years
- R. R. Richling—735, 14 years
- F. C. Brisbane—741, 10 years
- H. C. Bergstrom—745, 13 years
- J. M. Koch—746, 15 years
- R. B. Rican—746, 10 years
- A. F. Faltin—755, 11 years
- P. J. Loth—1231, 12 years
- M. E. Davis—1231, 10 years



*Greetings
to the
chief*

CARL MICHEL, who works in Dept. 728, signs his name on a specially designed card for President Reagan during May's Bloodmobile visit. Already sent to the president, the card stated, "We were so worried about ya — we had to lie down." By signing the card, employees indicated their willingness to donate blood to the Red Cross so people like the president can benefit in time of need. When the president was wounded in a March 30 assassination attempt, he received blood from a blood bank similar to the one that stores blood of Works employees and other Omaha donors. Carl, one of more than 400 employees who donated blood and signed the card in May, has given a total of eight pints or one gallon of blood in past visits, and is starting on his second gallon.

Crossword answers

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|
| 1 | P | 2 | E | 3 | T | 4 | R | 5 | O | 6 | L | 7 | N |
| 8 | R | 9 | A | 10 | R | 11 | A | 12 | B | 13 | E | | |
| 14 | O | 15 | M | 16 | A | 17 | H | 18 | A | 19 | O | 20 | B |
| 21 | P | 22 | S | 23 | L | 24 | I | 25 | A | 26 | R | | |
| 27 | A | 28 | S | 29 | H | 30 | C | 31 | A | | | | |
| 32 | N | 33 | O | 34 | W | 35 | O | 36 | R | 37 | K | 38 | S |
| 39 | E | 40 | L | 41 | S | 42 | H | 43 | E | 44 | I | 45 | K |
| 46 | | 47 | A | 48 | O | 49 | T | 50 | A | | | | |
| 51 | C | 52 | A | 53 | R | 54 | S | 55 | L | 56 | E | 57 | E |
| 58 | | 59 | G | 60 | A | 61 | S | 62 | E | 63 | S | 64 | P |



Computer graphics by Fred Cormaci