

the **Westerner**

OMAHA WORKS

FEBRUARY 16, 1978



Part bowler, part flamingo?

Butch Colanino's bowling form paid off in lucky strikes, while other sports enthusiasts suffered one strike too many.

Pages 4, 5

Also inside:

The graduates put away their textbooks.

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for your information

... Company employees had a chance to put their feet up and rest awhile Feb. 8 and 9, and later were treated to refreshments. Three times a year employees are asked to donate blood to the Red Cross. Donors lie on tables set up in the auditorium. Afterward, they may have rolls and coffee or juice.

Since the donor program began at the Works in August 1961, employees have donated 23,536 pints of blood — that's 2,942 gallons — through last year. Several employees each have donated as much as eight gallons of blood.

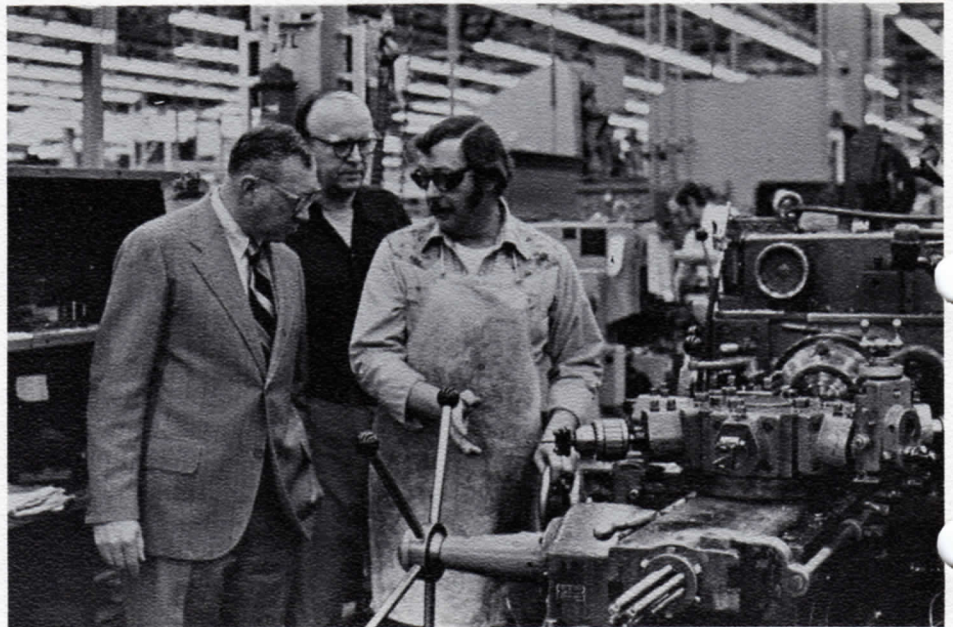
The generosity of all the donors is to be commended, but the Red Cross could use more "helping arms." Blood is needed for cancer research and heart surgery as well as to meet everyday demands, Red Cross officials say. Employees' next chance to donate blood will be around June . . .

... Omaha Works' engineers have scheduled speakers and events in observance of National Engineers Week, Feb. 19 through 25. Guest speaker Alan Glines, of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), will base his talk on this year's E-Week theme, "Strength in Crisis." Glines is an orbiter integration engineer who works with astronauts and flight controllers in the testing of the space shuttle "Enterprise."

Engineers Week traditionally is observed the week in which George Washington's birthday falls. Because he was a land surveyor and designer of roads, fortifications and other structures, he is considered the father of engineering.

Why safety glasses?

You can walk with a wooden leg,
You can chew with false teeth,
But you can't see with a glass eye.



SAFETY FIRST . . . Haase (right) explains what precautions one should take when operating a turret lathe, while Lefebvre and Trouba listen.

Two million hours of safety

If you don't think two million man-hours on the job without a disabling injury is a lot of hours, consider this: If an individual worked eight hours a day, seven days a week and 50 weeks a year (with two weeks off for vacation), it would take 714 years and four months to reach the two million mark.

As a group, members of Dept. 441 have been able to work during their lifetimes two million man-hours without a disabling injury. A plaque in recognition of the achievement was presented by General Manager Frank Lefebvre at a coffee last month attended by Ralph Beisner, current department chief; Wayne French, department chief at the time the achievement was reached; and Doug Haase and Charlie Trouba, department employees.

"It's really something for others to emulate," Lefebvre said in presenting the plaque.

According to Rudy Rudolfo, safety coordinator in Dept. 524, "Whenever you have machining operations or material handling, there is a good chance that a disabling injury will occur." So, the two million man-hour safety record is no small matter.

It took from Jan. 31, 1976, to Oct. 19, 1977, to achieve the safety record. Of the 166 employees in the department at the time the record was reached, a few were newcomers to the crew. Most, however, had been in the department a number of years. It's over long periods of time that "there is a tendency to quit respecting the machine — and that's when they jump out and bite you," French said at the presentation.

Safety on the job requires a conscientious effort, and "the supervisors can't do it — it's the employees," French added.

Manager Dick Iaffaldano agrees. "You know," he said, "when you walk back there (in the department area) you'll notice how everybody wears safety glasses."

Apparently, employees keep an eye on visitors to the department, too. "Even if I'm just approaching the department area but don't yet have on my safety glasses," Iaffaldano continued, "someone will come up to me, tap me on the shoulder and remind me."

**the
Westerner**
VOL. 22 NUMBER 2

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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 334-4132.
Member
Nebraska Association of Business Communicators
International Association of Business Communicators
Printed in the U.S.A.

 **Western Electric**

service anniversaries

march



Glenn Pardee
40 years 3/16/38



Edward Gembica
35 years 3/3/43



John Maul
30 years 3/1/48



William Rose
30 years 3/8/48

20 years

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| R. F. Berge | S. J. Marasco |
| H. C. Bergstrom | R. V. Melies |
| W. E. Bystrom | C. L. Miller |
| W. J. Caddy | L. L. Mongar |
| C. G. Chiburis | O. K. Rothery |
| E. J. Franks | J. R. Salkeld |
| W. A. Hollingsworth | R. A. Spethman |
| D. W. Hunt | D. A. Suhr |
| O. H. Jensen | J. D. Swift |
| M. J. Jones | K. Szekeres |
| B. L. Kocanda | T. J. Larocca |
| H. J. Konichek | D. E. Cox |
| E. D. Kucera | D. E. Whitehill |
| R. W. Lowe | J. B. Wolverton |

15 years

| | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| J. A. Chiavetta | R. F. Morisch |
| S. H. Dolezal | D. Perry |
| B. W. Gibb Jr. | R. A. Powell |
| R. H. Hoffmann | M. M. Renner |
| M. V. Johnson | L. L. Richards |
| M. L. Molek | P. M. Stoddard |

10 years

| | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| P. G. Abdouch | A. J. Pfeiffer Jr. |
| M. H. Boston | P. M. Raabe |
| M. T. Cochrane | R. L. Slobodnik |
| T. A. Cutler Jr. | B. G. Spain |
| G. L. Hurt | C. E. Taylor |
| L. E. Killian | L. S. Wilbur |
| J. J. Perryman | |



John Frazier
25 years 3/25/53



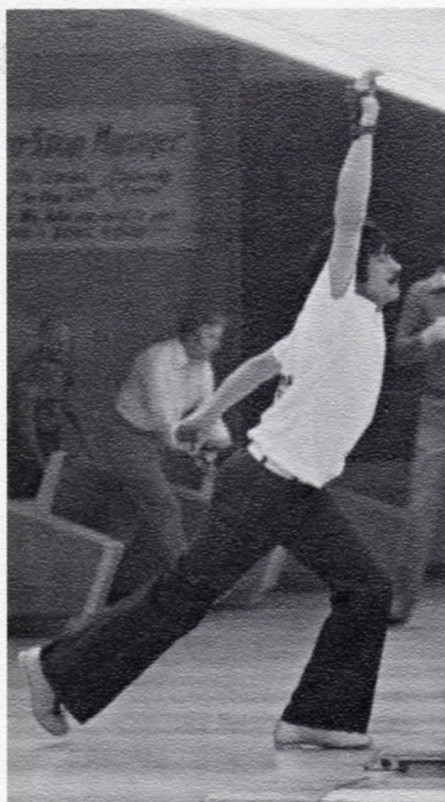
Richard Panek
25 years 3/23/53

Three strikes . . .

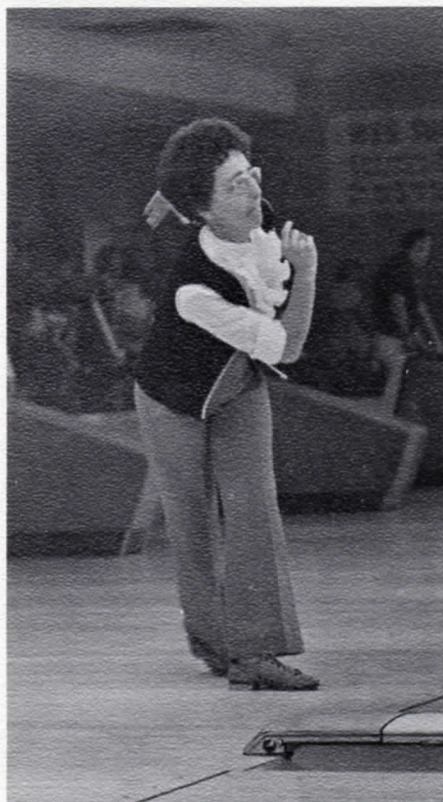
. . . and you're rolling



THE GLIDE . . . If only Ron Siwa (Dept. 745) had ice skates, away he'd go.



THE STRETCH . . . Does bowler Carl Kenney (Dept. 439) have a black belt in karate?



THE TWIST . . . You should see Berny Kunce (Dept. 441) with music.



"WATCH THIS" . . . Scottie Krambeck is sure his dad (Jim Krambeck, Dept. 333) will get a strike.



"OH, NO! GUTTER BALL!" . . . Jimmy the Greek's been wrong before, too.

Tennis elbow, football knee and shin-splints . . . but, bowling thumb?

If a person bowls enough lines, it's possible a sore thumb would result — not to mention stiffened leg muscles or a bruised ego after having rolled a gutter ball.

But if there were injuries during the 19th annual WEOMA Club Bowling Tournament, they went unnoticed. Everybody was too busy competing at Cougar Lanes Jan. 28 and 29.

Two hundred and thirty employees, spouses and friends entered the tourney, some entering as many as nine singles, doubles or team events.

For some of the entrants, like Butch Colanino (Dept. 289), the tourney was

the high point of their bowling years. In the seven years he has been bowling, Colanino bowled his first 615 scratch series at the tourney. That score helped him and his partner, Dave Burrell (Dept. 722), win first place in the men's double event, with 1341.

Others at the tourney weren't faring as well. Pat Reding (Dept. 435), was disappointed in her bowling scores. She entered the tournament with a 127 average, down from a 139 average last year. "But I was pregnant last year," she said, "and you always bowl better when you're pregnant."

All winners received trophies and many earned cash awards. The top winners and their divisions and scores

follow:

WOMEN

Team: First, 2997 — Marilyn Goodell, Rita Kaczmarek, Virginia Cornelius, Rut' ung.

Doubles: First, 1219 — Grace Johnston, Linda Sellin.

Singles: First, Class A, 669 — Joyce Burrell; first, Class B, 683 — Rea Sayers.

All events: First, 1913 — Rea Sayers; second, 1833 — Carol Rangel; third, 1830 — Betsy Church

High scratch game: Grace Johnston, 231.

MEN

Team: First, 3007 — Darrell Lieber, Terry True, Joe Opryszko, Pete Heim, Steve Prerost.

Doubles: First, 1341 — Butch Colanino, Dave Burrell.

Singles: First, Class A, 702 — Pete Heim; first, Class B, 701 — Gary Reimers.

All events: First, 1957 — Pete Heim; second, 1930 — Gary Reimers; third, 1911 — Robert Szymanek.

High scratch game: Dewey Ehrenberg and Archer Witherell, both 255.

MIXED DOUBLES

First: Robert A. Taylor, Carol Taylor, 1207.

Second: Carol Rangel, Victor Romero, 1198.

Third: Jay Ridenour, Sally Behrendt, 1195.



LONE SPECTATOR . . . Charlene Martin cheers husband Sam to keep warm.

. . . and you're out

Games have been called on account of rain, but neither snow nor sleet kept softball players off the diamonds during the Snowball Tournament held last month.

To passersby, it may have appeared that players were suffering from a severe case of frostbite (of the brain). Who in his right mind would play a shirt-sleeve

weather sport in the dead of January?

Actually, softball in the winter isn't as off-base as it may seem — at least, not when it's a benefit for the March of Dimes. Entry fees from the 146 teams entered in the two-day tourney boosted the March of Dimes fund by \$4,200. About 1,500 players participated in the

tournament, the first of its kind in Omaha. Games were played on diamonds throughout the city, beginning at 8 a.m. on a Saturday and continuing until a winning team emerged on Sunday afternoon.

A dozen Works' employees, organized by John Tompkins (Dept. 514), formed one of the teams competing. While the temperature hovered at zero, the team won its Saturday morning game. By mid-afternoon, two other games were lost and the team was out of the tourney.

But the wounds of a good loser heal quickly. By Sunday morning, "it felt kind of good knowing I didn't have to go out" and face the chilling winds in another game, Tompkins confided.

Despite its loss, the team had adjusted well to the peculiarities of winter softball. For example, the tourney was probably the only time a softball player would be allowed to wear two gloves, not one. Except for curious youngsters taking a break from sledding, and a lone spectator in the bleachers who guarded the portable heater, few persons were on hand to cheer the good plays. Players

(Continued on Page 8)



FUTILE WARM-UP . . . Terry Moore (Dept. 437) tosses the ball to the disbelief of a young sledder.

School days without recess

The dunce cap has no place in Western Electric's apprentice training program for tool and die makers or machinists. The Idiot of the Week Award does.

Few students escape receiving the dubious honor at least once during the 183 weeks of study, said four recent graduates of the program. Toolmaker Bob Dinslage (Dept. 741) and machinists Phil Stroy, Jim Richardson and Ray Warren (all of Dept. 745) described the award as a kind of trophy made up of a piece of steel or "whatever was messed up that week" by a student.

Since the program began in 1956 — that's before the Works began its manufacturing operations — 136 employees have become journeymen, including Dinslage, Stroy, Richardson and Warren. The four were honored at a luncheon last month when they were presented with diplomas and cards identifying them as journeymen. Because the program is registered with the U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Apprenticeship, each also received a certificate signed by Secretary of Labor F. Ray Marshall.

The four men, like others who have been in the training program, had to pass initial tests to qualify. But the problems encountered in those tests were just the

beginning of what Ray Moulis (Dept. 471) described as "very close and exacting work." Exactness to the degree of .0001 of an inch is required, Moulis said; in comparison, the hair on one's head measures .002 of an inch.

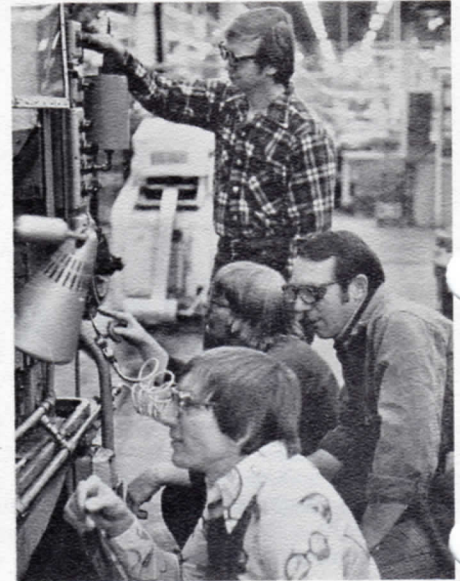
It was during the on-the-job training portion of the program that Richardson came to a full understanding of the need for exactness.

"I tried to drill a hole with a six-flute end-mill," when he should have used a two-flute end-mill, Richardson recalled. "It stalled the end-mill" and welded the drill to the workpiece.

For five hours a week during the program, students meet in a classroom in the lower level of the administration building. They spend one hour on math problems, two hours on mechanical drawing and two hours on theory. The rest of their course time is spent working in the plant.

The classroom sessions are reminiscent of earlier school days, complete with tests to judge one's progress and grading a student's drawings. Students receive report cards, too.

"You even have to learn a whole new language," said Stroy. For example, never say "drill bit," he explained. "A bit is something you put in a horse's



ON THE JOB . . . Dinslage, Richardson, Stroy and Warren (front to back) work on a punch press.

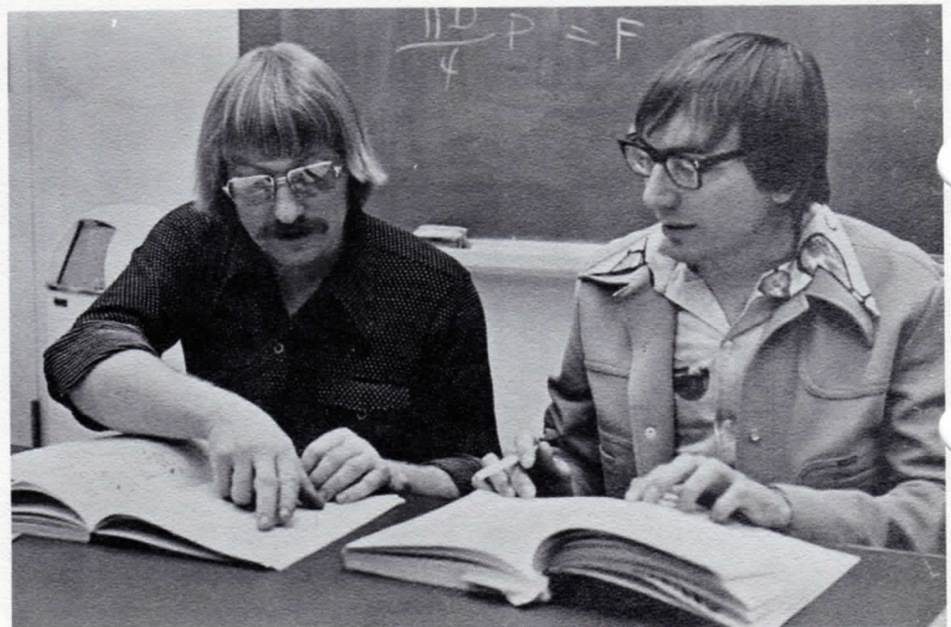
mouth." A journeyman leaves off the "bit" and calls it simply a "drill." And a ruler isn't a ruler: "It's a scale."

However frustrating it might have been for an adult to "hit the books" again so long after being out of traditional school, there was incentive. "We could see the money ahead," Dinslage said, referring to the increase in salary a journeyman's training would bring.

It also helps to have an instructor like Dave Pfeifer (Dept. 741) who has good rapport with his students. . . well, almost good rapport. Complained the four graduates (they were teasing, weren't they?), "He'd never buy the coffee."



QUICK DRAW? . . . Warren (left) and Richardson at the drawing table.



SAYS SO HERE . . . Stroy (left) and Dinslage discuss the fine points of theory.

Near or far, talk's the same

When Gerry Hauck (standing) of Dept. 443 began working on 710 coil cases last March, she and four other persons turned out five coil cases a week. Now she and Brenda Hixson (on the cutter presser) are two of the 143 persons in the 710 operation who turn out 1,100 coil cases per week.

The 710 coil case consists of 25 individual loading coils and works like this: The telephone of every subscriber — say, a homeowner — is connected by two wires (a pair) from his home to a central office (a large building of switching equipment) which, in turn, is hooked up to other central offices. Over long distances from subscriber to central office to other central offices, the pair's transmission capabilities tend to differ.

By installing a loading coil every 6,000 feet along a pair, its transmission characteristics are the same over a long route as they are over a short route. It's one reason why you can talk to and understand a person over a long distance just as well as you can talk to your next door neighbor.

The Omaha Works manufactures two varieties of the 710 coil case, one of which has a plug-in feature that eliminates splicing and makes installation easier.



Holiday/vacation schedule 1978

Jan. 2 — Standard vacation day*

March 24 — Good Friday

May 29 — Memorial Day

July 3 — Standard vacation day*

July 4 — Independence Day

Sept. 4 — Labor Day

Nov. 23, 24 — Thanksgiving

Dec. 25 — Christmas Day

Dec. 26 — Christmas Eve holiday

Dec. 27 — Floating holiday

Dec. 28 — Excused workday or management personal day

Dec. 29 — Standard vacation day*

*The standard vacation periods for 1978 consist of three days: Jan. 2, July 3 and Dec. 29. The remainder of vacation days to which a person is entitled will be scheduled consistent with the needs of the business and considering the employees' wishes and term of employment to the extent possible.

retirements



Rose A. Kirkland
33 years



Irene Johnson
31 years



John B. Randall
30 years



Eugenia S. Paulisczak
25 years



Paul M. Heflin
21 years



Esther R. Roeber
21 years



Leon B. Norris
20 years

Now you see it, now you don't

Good news for taxpayers: Effective Jan. 1 the Nebraska state tax withholding rate changed from 18 to 16 per cent of the amount withheld for federal income tax.

Now the bad news: The boost one might expect to net income is offset by an increase in Social Security taxes. As a result, net income will be less.

Effective Jan. 1 the Social Security tax percentage changed from 5.85 to 6.05 per cent, and taxable wage base changed from \$16,500 to \$17,700. The maximum Social Security tax to be withheld will be \$1,070.85.

What this means to a married employee with three dependents and making \$192.31 per week, for example, is this: He will pay the same amount in federal taxes per week, \$14.54, but \$2.33 in state taxes (instead of \$2.62). Social Security taxes under the new rate come to \$11.63 (compared to \$11.25). Net wages for the week come to \$163.81, or 9 cents less per week than by previous rates. Yearly net pay amounts to \$8,518.12, or \$4.68 less than by previous tax rates.

Drewniak elected to committee

When Bob Drewniak received his bachelor of science degree from the University of New York at Buffalo, it didn't mean he no longer would haunt the ivied halls. As a member of Delta Sigma Pi, a professional fraternity that fosters the study of business in universities, the Buffalo native has made numerous visits to college campuses in Eastern states and in the Midwest.



Drewniak

The Dept. 443 section chief has served in various offices, but most recently he was elected to the executive committee of the fraternity's board of directors. On that committee and as the fraternity's North Central Regional director, Drewniak figures he will visit eight university chapters in a five-state region at least two or three times each this year. Among his duties, he will oversee the review of student loan procedures and help to rejuvenate the Gamma Eta Chapter at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

Drewniak will serve as regional director and executive committee member until August 1979.



WEOMA Club installs officers

Picnic, talent show, bowling tourney and Christmas party are just a few of the functions the WEOMA Club schedules each year. Overseeing the activities will be new officers and directors installed Jan. 20. Keeping an eye (above) on new treasurer Vi Rogers are (from left) Jim Krambeck, assistant treasurer; Bill Franzen, vice-president; and Gene Saab, president.

Pictured at right are directors who will serve three-year terms: Bob Ackley (left), Helen Solomon and Dave Burrell. Not pictured are those continuing in office: Dick Reida, executive vice-president; Virginia Holmquist, secretary; Charlene Van Hooser, Bob Eggert, Denny Karloff, Lou Carnazzo, Dona Richling and JoAnn Prokupek, directors.



"I GOT IT!" . . . Terry Godsey (Dept. 437) races for the ball.

Winter softball: Winners are left out in the cold

(Continued from Page 5)

used an orange ball so it could be seen in the snow, and their chatter on the field was of a non-verbal variety: Their teeth clicked rapidly in the freezing temperatures.

"It was a good cause and a chance for some good outside exercise," Tompkins said of the tourney.

"I thought it would be something different to do," said Sam Martin (Dept.

435), who pitched for the team. "And besides, John Tompkins made me do it," he added, only half jokingly.

The Snowball Tournament, co-sponsored by the Omaha Softball Association and the March of Dimes, is expected to be held again next winter. Will the Works' employees participate again?

Maybe that question should be asked in the warmth of June.