

Candidate's forum...

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The abortion issue is not one of rights or freedom or whether the fetus is a person, he said.

"The whole question is how to best support a strong family relationship," Beutler said.

Abortions should be legal only in case of rape or incest, when the pregnancy would harm the mother psychologically or physically or when there is no family structure or financial support for the child, he said.

Butler, however, said he would favor a constitutional amendment restricting abortions.

One of the most critical issues in the Nebraska Legislature in the past few years has been child care, Wesely said. More than 45 percent of the children in Nebraska have both parents working, according to Wesely. Legislation for child care has a "long way to go," he said.

Beutler said child care ways should be licensed and required to meet the minimum needs of the children.

"We license barbers, physical therapists and people who do our hair and fingernails," Beutler said. "If we license these people, then we should license the people who take care of our children."

"It is the parents' responsibility to take care of the children if they are financially able," VanValkenburg said.

Candidates for Lancaster County Commissioner at the forum were incumbent Bob Colin, Mike Booth, Mike Johanns and Jim Ritzman.

Each candidate said they would maintain the level of county funds for child care, increase funds for delinquent child care as the federal program is phased out and continue funding the Lincoln-Lancaster Commission on the Status of Women. They also recognized the need for a county advisory board.

Colin said he is seeking re-election because he is concerned about county services and wants to be on the commission when the federally funded programs are returned to the county level.

Apathy is the major concern of Ritzman, who said he would improve communications with his constituents to better serve their needs.

Booth, who lives in rural Lancaster County, said he is seeking election to provide equal representation for rural portions of the county.

Johanns said he takes an activist role concerning people and that his priority as a commissioner would be government efficiency.

Computers called fun, friendly tools

By Willis Gray

Computers are not enemies, but "fun and friendly" tools that can be both practical and entertaining, according to the president of the Omaha Atari Home Computer Federation.

Glen Flint was at the home computer fair in Mueller Planetarium Saturday.

Flint said he was impressed by the number of people at the fair.

"We didn't expect this many people," Flint said. Computer enthusiasts crowded into the planetarium's lobby, where members of the federation had six displays that included their personal computers. Inside the planetarium itself, a computer was connected to a projection television.

The displays demonstrated various uses of home computers, including word processing, graphics and financial management.

The most popular displays at the fair were the games. Young and old alike lined up to take turns blasting aliens from space or guiding Pac Man through the maze.

Flint said games are the most popular aspect of home computers.

He said home computers are becoming popular now because they are becoming smaller and more economical. The computers demonstrated at the fair ranged in price from \$400 to \$800.

In the future, computers will be used more in everyday life, Flint said. He predicted there will be computers in nearly every house, just as calculators are now. He also predicted computers will become even smaller and more powerful.

Flint, a computer programmer, said he became interested in computers because he wanted to experiment with his own programs. About four years ago, he and a group of friends got together and formed the Omaha Atari Home Computer Federation. The reason, according to Flint, was to allow Atari computer owners to get together and exchange ideas. He said the federation has 15 members and is open to anyone with an Atari home computer.

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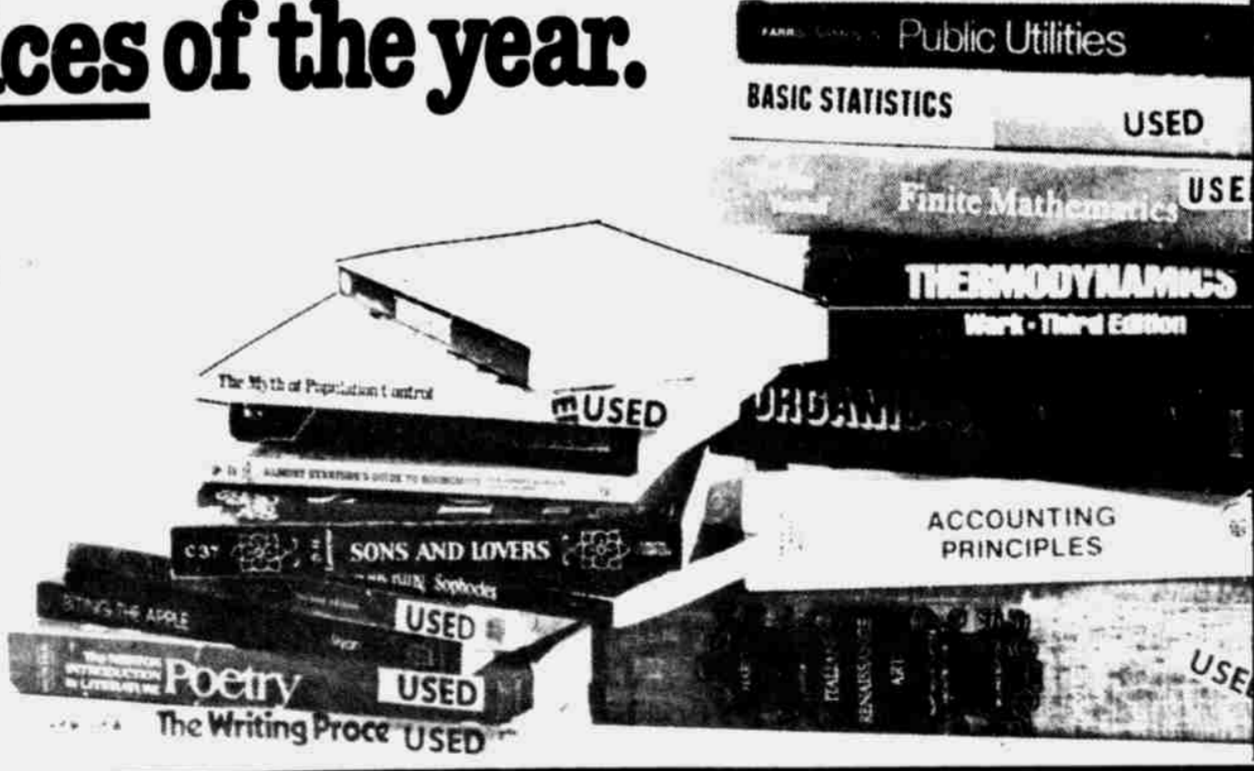
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