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By MIKE CONDON The Daily Nonpareil

Twenty people have been selected to participate in the sixth Lead-ership Council Bluffs class, spon-sored by the Council Bluffs Chamber of Commerce.

According to Ron Tekippe, chairman of the membership committee, interest remains strong in the program.

"We had about the same amount of interest this year as we did last," said Tekippe, who is marketing director at HGM Associates Inc. "We send out nomination forms, but only a certain percent of those are turned back in."

Leadership Council Bluffs is designed to sharpen leadership skills. Participants take a nine-month program that focuses on their own skills, helping them sense current and future needs of the community and exploring strategies to positively confront and deal with these challenges.

Tekippe heads up a five-person selection committee. An individual is allowed to be in the program just once, but an alumni association of past participants does meet regularly and gets involved in various programs to benefit the community.

The 1994 class is one that has Tekippe and his committee feeling very positive about the leadership in Council Bluffs.

"It's exciting to continue seeing so many highly qualified Council Bluffs leaders being recommended and involved after five years of this program," said Tekippe.

By offering opportunities to interact with former and current community, county and state leaders, the program gives participants a chance to exercise their skills benefit from the experience of seasoned leaders.

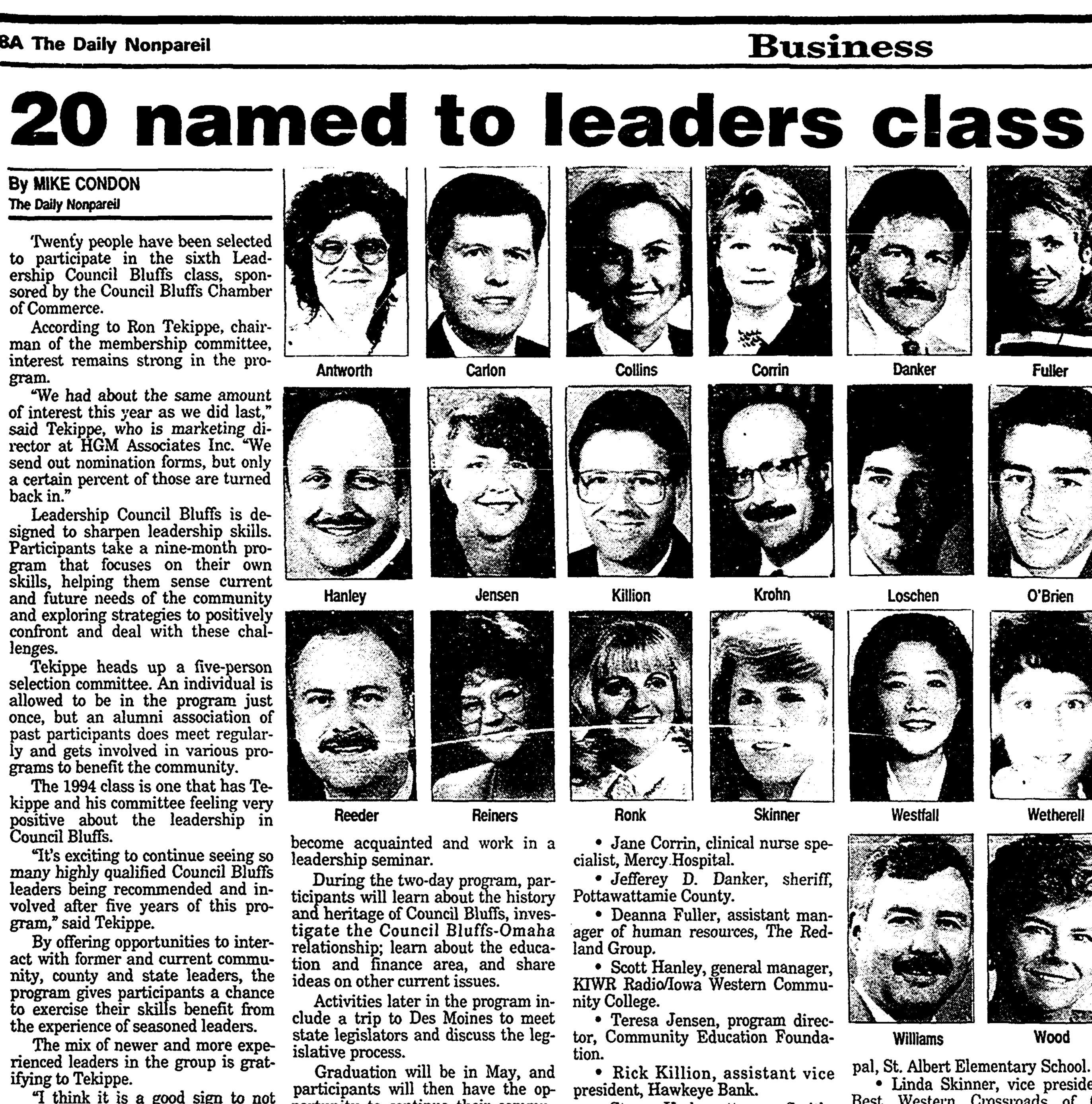
The mix of newer and more experienced leaders in the group is gratifying to Tekippe.

"I think it is a good sign to not only have some newer community leaders, but some older ones as well," he said. "That provides a good mix for ideas."

Participants in the program will meet once a month, from September through May in a variety of activities designed to focus on the individual and group leadership development.

The opening session, slaied for Sept. 10-11 at Iowa Western Community College, will be a retreat to

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portunity to continue their community involvement in the alumni association. Here are the members of the

Class of 1994 and their occupations: • Marcia Antworth, executive di-

rector, Volunteer Bureau. • Roger Carlon, account exec-

utive, Investment Centers of Ameri-

• Sharon Collins, principal, Lewis Central Elementary.

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• Steven Krohn, attorney, Smith, Peterson, Beckman and Willson Law

Firm. • David Loschen, urban planner, City of Council Bluffs.

• Tyler O'Brien, president, True Gas. Wheel Bicycle Co.

• Greg Reeder, city engineer, City of Council Bluffs.

• Janet Reiners, manager/customer service, Midwest Power.

• Laurel Ronk, assistant princi-



