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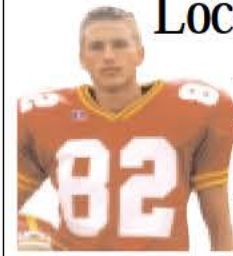
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Former Charleston Trojan Matt Shonk moves across town to play football at Eastern.

Page 8 Sports

Quilt in Booth is a symbol of Midwest past

◆ *Library worker, Jackie Worden helped in the making of the quilt, sponsored by Grand Prairie Friends of Illinois*

By Angela Harris
NEWS EDITOR

A piece of Illinois' past hangs in the north foyer of Booth library, portraying a time when the buffalo roamed and the prairie grass was tall in a peninsula full of color hues of purple clover, and black-eyed susans.

Jackie Worden, who works under Booth Library General Operations has a special connection to the quilt display. Worden helped in the making of the quilt display.

"We had this expectation of having the quilt pieced, quilted and on display by Sept," said Worden. However, the seven month project became a seven year project. One maker of the quilt spent 80 hours alone on the Indian Grass block of the quilt.

"The quilt is sponsored by Grand Prairie Friends of Illinois, which recognized that a lot of prairies were getting plowed under," said Worden.

Grand Prairie Friends is a not-for-profit grassroots organization formed in 1984 to save Shortline Railroad Prairie, a six acre prairie in Champaign County.

"The prairies were being paved over to make way for malls and super centers, and highways and what not and we were losing a lot of our natural heritage.

They started restoring a prairie that had been run-down and had non-native species, and establishing new ones in park districts," said Worden.

The quilt's blocks include native seasonal prairie plants and animals of the past and present, constellations, a Potawatomi Indian sun design, a gardener planting and showing the root system of the planting, and other "little things" hidden in the prairie friends quilt.

"You have to look closer and take time for other of these smaller things to show forth in the quilt stitching just like in the actual Illinois prairie," said Worden.

Worden said that in 1994, Sharon Monday-Dorsey came up with the idea that it was a natural blending to use quilts since they were a cultural heritage of the area as an educational tool.

The quilt idea came from a book "Gem of the Prairie," about Illinois quilts by historical administrator Dwayne Elbert. in collaboration with Champaign County Forest Preserve Dist. Early American Museum's Cheryl Kennedy.

"Great facilitating by the project coordinator Dorsey brought about the funding for the quilt project's material and things along the way because good material isn't cheap, especially nice materials and cottons that have the special textures and colors we were looking for," Worden said.



BY ANGELA HARRIS/STAFF

Jackie Worden stands next to the quilt she helped to produce with the Grand Prairie Friends of Illinois

Bush turns down requests to declassify section of congressional 9-11 report

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush refused on Tuesday to release classified passages from a congressional report on possible links between Saudi Arabian government officials and the Sept. 11 hijackers. Saudi Foreign Minister Saud al-Faisal agreed to let U.S. investigators question a suspected Saudi agent who befriended the hijackers.

Bush said he would not comply with a Saudi request to declassify 28 pages from the 850-page report because it could compromise national security. Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala., the former vice chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, disagreed, reiterating Tuesday his view that "90, 95 percent of it would not compromise, in my judgment, anything in national security." Bush ignored a reporter's question on Shelby's assessment.

The Saudis saw publication of the 28 pages as a chance to clear their kingdom's name after suggestions by some U.S. officials of an official Saudi connection to the attacks.

"Saudi Arabia is indicted by insinuation," Prince Saud told reporters at the White House. "It is an outrage to any sense of fairness that 28 blank pages are now considered substantial evidence to proclaim the guilt of a country that has been a true friend and partner to the United States for over 60 years."

"The kingdom of Saudi Arabia has been wrongfully and morbidly accused of complicity," he said. "This accusation is based on misguided speculation and it is borne of poorly disguised, malicious intent."

After the White House meeting, Prince Saud spoke for about an hour with national security adviser Condoleezza Rice. He said later she told him U.S. authorities

want to question Omar al-Bayoumi, an employee of the Saudi aviation authority who befriended two of the Saudi hijackers on their arrival in California.

Unclassified sections of the report released last week said that al-Bayoumi paid many of the expenses of two hijackers, "had access to seemingly unlimited funding from Saudi Arabia" and was suspected of being an agent for Saudi Arabia "or another foreign power."

Several lawmakers, including Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., have urged Bush to request that al-Bayoumi be returned from Saudi Arabia for questioning.

Prince Saud said he replied to Rice that FBI and CIA agents in Saudi Arabia could freely question al-Bayoumi, who has been questioned already by American, British and Saudi investigators.

"We are glad that the president has asked Saudi Arabia to let the FBI question Omar al-Bayoumi, but the devil will be in the details," Schumer said. "Saudi Arabia needs to allow the FBI to interrogate al-Bayoumi here in the United States and without any Saudi officials present."

Prince Saud met with Bush for about 40 minutes. Vice President Dick Cheney, Secretary of State Colin Powell, Rice and Elliott Abrams of the National Security Council were present, he said. Afterward, Saud met with Rice.

"He made a strong case for not publishing it," Saud said of Bush's refusal to release the 28-page segment. But, he added, "we have nothing to hide."

Bush said disclosure of the 28 pages "would help the enemy" by revealing intelligence sources and methods.

"There's an ongoing investigation into the 9-11 attacks, and we don't want to compromise that investigation," Bush

said during a news conference with Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon. "If people are being investigated, it doesn't make sense for us to let them know who they are."

Senior intelligence and law enforcement officials recommended keeping the 28 pages classified, said White House spokesman Scott McClellan.

A chorus of Democratic lawmakers demanded that Bush declassify the material, charging that Bush was trying to shield the Saudi royal family from possible embarrassing revelations.

"Classification should protect sources and methods, ongoing investigations and our national security interests," said Rep. Nancy Pelosi of California, the top Democrat on the congressional investigation. "It is not intended to protect reputations of people or countries."

"This administration has an obsession with secrecy, and this report is over-classified," she said.

Sen. Bob Graham, D-Fla., a presidential candidate and the co-chairman of the congressional committee investigating the Sept. 11 attacks also called for declassification, as did fellow presidential contenders Sens. John Kerry, D-Mass, and Joe Lieberman, D-Conn.

Graham said he thought Bush was motivated more by politics than by national security in refusing to declassify the material. He said he plans to press for release of the 28 pages through a law that would allow the Senate to vote to publicize the material despite the opposition of the president.

Shelby said on CNN, "I think we ought to try to do it the easier way," by persuading the Bush administration to declassify it.

The ground will shake in Library Quad on opening weekend

By Holly Henschen
STAFF WRITER

'Quakin' in the Quad,' a free University Board event, will welcome students on opening weekend. The event begins Saturday, August 23 in the Library Quad at 6 p.m. and ends at midnight. "All students are invited to attend for fun, games and food."

"'Quakin in the Quad' is an exciting, bonding experience for the first night on campus," said University Board Student Events Coordinator Theresa Outman.

A collection of activities is available from 6 p.m.-10p.m. Spin Art and airbrush tattoos will add color to the evening. A caricature artist, photo keychains and name beads will leave students with mementos of 'Quakin in the Quad.' Bingo, with a multitude of prizes will be played as well.

Papa John's is scheduled to serve free pizza to complement the cotton candy, slushies and popcorn that will be available.

92.1 FM, The Edge, will broadcast live from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the mini-carnival.

A foam-dance party, including a DJ, starts at 8 p.m. and will run the evening until its conclusion at midnight.

"'Quakin in the Quad' is a good way to get out and meet people. There will be all kinds of entertainment," said, Thargie Tucker. Tucker, a University Board graduate advisor, helped plan the event.

Today Mostly sunny 83° HIGH 65° LOW	Thursday Partly cloudy 85° HIGH 65° LOW	Friday Isolated storms 86° HIGH 66° LOW	Saturday Isolated storms 87° HIGH 66° LOW	Sunday Partly cloudy 85° HIGH 64° LOW	Monday Partly cloudy 85° HIGH 64° LOW	Tuesday Partly cloudy 86° HIGH 66° LOW
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Feds warn about possible new hijackings

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal officials are warning of the possibility that al-Qaida will attempt new suicide hijackings but said Tuesday they have no plans to raise the nation's terrorism threat alert level.

The warning by the Department of Homeland Security was sent to airlines and law enforcement personnel. After media queries it was placed on the agency's Web site.

The warning was based on information gleaned from interviews of at least one al-Qaida prisoner as well as intercepted communications, said one intelligence official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The State Department revised an existing Worldwide Caution, notices issued for American travelers, to take into account the perceived hijacking threat.

"Terrorist actions may include, but are not limited to, suicide operations, hijackings, bombings or kidnappings. These may also involve commercial aircraft," the revised statement said.

The previous Worldwide Caution, distributed on April 21, did not refer to hijackings.

The national terrorist threat level remains at yellow, signifying an elevated risk of attacks. The five-level, color-

coded system was last raised to orange, or high risk, for 11 days in May. Officials said they do not plan to raise it to reflect the possibility of suicide hijackings.

There was no specific information on potential targets, nor did officials know who in al-Qaida might attempt any attacks. The officials said al-Qaida could launch strikes in the United States or Europe. There was no specific date, only a general sense that an attack could take place in the late summer, officials said.

Gordon Johndroe, Homeland Security spokesman, said the intelligence community continues to receive information about al-Qaida's interest in using the commercial aviation system and to investigate its credibility.

Some complained the government still is doing too little to alert the public and key industries to terror threats.

"Our concern is that there will be bulletins put out that will not be made available to us," said Capt. Jon Safley, president of the Coalition of Airline Pilots Association, a pilots union. Safley, who doesn't fly, said he hasn't been getting warnings and isn't sure whether every pilot did.

"In this specific case, the guys will be getting the information," he said. "Since it's become public, they'll be fight-

ing to get the information."

Jim Schwartz, director of emergency management for Arlington County, Va., which includes both Reagan Washington National Airport and the Pentagon, said his agency had received no warning from Homeland Security. He said he would need more specifics before increasing security based on published reports.

Since the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, Congress has taken a number of actions to limit the possibility of suicide hijackings, including arming commercial pilots, boosting the number of air marshals and hiring an all-federal work force to screen airline passengers.

Last week, House and Senate negotiators agreed to arm cargo pilots as part of a Federal Aviation Administration funding bill. The bill also would require that commercial airlines teach flight crews how to deal with terrorists, including self-defense, and Homeland Security and the FAA would have to review security at facilities that repair and maintain aircraft outside the United States.

Lawmakers are expected to pass the bill in September.

Alleged Hussein tape refers to dead sons

TIKRIT, Iraq - In a new audiotape attributed Tuesday to Saddam Hussein, a calm voice acknowledged the deaths of the ousted dictator's two sons and called them martyrs. U.S. forces searched for clues to Saddam's whereabouts in documents and photo albums seized in his hometown.

If confirmed, the tape — the third attributed to Saddam this month — could put to rest any remaining doubts among Iraqis that Oday and Qusai Hussein were killed in a firefight with U.S. soldiers in the northern city of Mosul on July 22.

The audiotape was broadcast Tuesday on the Arab satellite station Al-Arabiya, five days after the U.S. military released grisly photos of their bloodied bodies in an effort to convince Iraqis that the sons were dead and to weaken support for an anti-American insurgency.

U.S. forces on Tuesday interrogated 12 suspects arrested in Saddam's hometown, Tikrit, and examined identity cards, bound notebooks, Baath Party records and other documents found in their homes to try to fill in the picture of his desperate flight.

In Baghdad, meanwhile, Iraq (news - web sites)'s U.S.-appointed Governing Council of 25 prominent Iraqis appointed a nine-member presidency, failing to agree on a

single leader for the beginnings of a new Iraqi government.

In the nine-minute audiotape, a voice resembling Saddam's said he was glad Oday and Qusai Hussein were killed because such a death "is the hope of every fighter."

"Even if Saddam Hussein has 100 sons other than Oday and Qusai, Saddam Hussein would offer them the same path," said the calm, even voice. "That is the hope of every fighter for God's sake, as another group of noble souls of the martyrs has ascended to their creator."

The tape also referred to Mustafa, Qusai's teenage son, who was killed in the gunfight in Mosul. "Oday, Qusai, and Mustafa died in Jihad field ... in a brave battle with the enemy," the voice said.

"The aggression armies surrounding them with all kinds of weapons and ground troops were not able to conquer them until they used their warplanes on the house that they were in," the speaker said.

The speaker said the recording was made in July 2003, but the exact date was not clear. Al-Arabiya said it received the tape Tuesday. The widely watched satellite station, which broadcasts across the Middle East, including in Iraq, aired the tape at least twice more after the initial play.

The CIA was reviewing the new message to determine if it was

authentic, a U.S. intelligence official said. The speaker sounded like the voice in other recordings attributed to Saddam, with the same vocabulary and tone.

The last audio recording attributed to Saddam was broadcast by Al-Arabiya on July 23 and claimed to have been recorded July 20. U.S. intelligence officials said it was probably authentic.

The other recording said Saddam was speaking on July 14 and referred to the new Governing Council of Iraq. U.S. intelligence officials said that recording also was probably authentic and was further evidence that Saddam survived the war.

U.S. commanders, meanwhile, said the documents seized in Tikrit gave clues to Saddam's flight from American forces, who have reported at least two near-misses in the past week.

"Each time we do something, we get information, even if we don't get the people," said Lt. Col. Steve Russell, who led the raids in Tikrit. "It slowly leads to pieces of the puzzle, and it keeps filling in."

Russell, commander of the 22nd Infantry Regiment's 1st Battalion, led simultaneous pre-dawn raids on several homes in the heart of Saddam's hometown, 120 miles north of Baghdad. Soldiers blasted open doors with shotguns, leading away dazed occupants in blindfolds and throwing photographs

and documents into the street.

Similar raids have occurred daily across Iraq. A coalition military official said American forces conducted 58 raids between Monday afternoon and Tuesday afternoon, detaining 176 people. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, gave no other details.

Among those captured was Adnan Abdullah Abid al-Musslit, a stocky man commanders said was one of Saddam's most trusted bodyguards. Al-Musslit, who is Saddam's cousin, was believed to have detailed knowledge of Saddam's hiding spots.

Al-Musslit had retired from his job, but Saddam called him back into service before the war started, Russell said, citing intelligence gathered from Tikrit residents.

The soldiers had to overpower al-Musslit, who several soldiers said was quite drunk, wrestling him to the ground and dragging him down the stairs. Al-Musslit tried to make it out of his bedroom to grab a submachine gun, but the soldiers were too quick, said Lt. Chris Morris, a sniper on the raid.

Outside, soldiers tied a tan cloth over al-Musslit's eyes and stripped him to his underwear, searching for weapons. Blood seeped through the blindfold — Morris said from a broken nose suffered in the scuffle — and an Army medic examined him.

Russell said the resistance was to be expected.

"Were we surprised? He's a bodyguard," Russell said. "That's why we went in with our steely knives and oily guns."

Eleven other suspects were taken away from the Tikrit raids, including Daher Ziana, responsible for security at Saddam's Tikrit palaces, and Rafa Idham Ibrahim al-Hassan, another Saddam cousin and bodyguard who led the Saddam Fedayeen militia in Tikrit.

Outside Ziana's yard, six women wailed as soldiers tossed photographs and documents into the driveway. A large portrait of Saddam lay alongside a picture of Ziana in uniform. One album featured a photograph of women posing with Kalashnikov rifles.

Among the documents was something called a "Saddam Privilege Card," Russell said.

Soldiers took the men to an Army detention facility in Tikrit for interrogation.

Although President Bush declared major combat over nearly three months ago, the chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Richard B. Myers, said Tuesday the area from Baghdad to Tikrit was "still a war zone."

"Eighty percent of the security incidents are happening there," Myers said at a news conference in New Delhi. "It's fair to say it's still a war zone in that area."

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CORRECTIONS

Cutline's on page three of Monday's paper incorrectly identified Coles County residents as Sadie the Clown. A cutline on page five of the paper incorrectly credited the photo of Angelina Jolie. The photo is in fact a movie still provided courtesy of rottentomatoes.com. *The News* regrets the errors.

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HOW TO DEAL (PG13)
Daily 2:30, 5:00, 7:45, 10:00

JOHNNY ENGLISH (PG)
Daily 1:30, 4:30, 6:30, 9:00

LEAGUE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENTLEMEN (PG13)
Daily 1:00, 4:15, 7:00, 9:40

LAURA CROFT TOMBRAIDER: THE CRADLE OF LIFE
Daily 1:15, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10 (PG13)

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN (PG13)
Daily 12:20, 3:15, 6:50, 9:50

SEABISCUIT (PG 13)
Daily 12:00, 4:30, 7:30, 10:10

SPY KIDS 3-D: GAME OVER (PG)
Daily 12:20, 3:30, 6:40, 9:45

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Bush seeks probe of Saudi link to 9/11

WASHINGTON - President Bush refused on Tuesday to declassify 28 pages of a congressional report on possible links between Saudi government officials and the Sept. 11 hijackers, saying that "would help the enemy" by revealing intelligence sources and methods.

Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Saud al-Faisal called suggestions of such links "an outrage to any sense of fairness" and said his country had been "wrongfully and morbidly accused of complicity in the attacks."

"Twenty-eight blank pages are now considered substantial evidence to proclaim the guilt of a country that has been a true friend and partner of the United States for over 60 years," the foreign minister said.

The Saudis have complained that they cannot respond to a report they cannot see. But Bush made plain he has no intention of declassifying the material.

"I absolutely have no qualms at all, because there's an ongoing investigation into the 9-11 attacks, and we don't want to compromise that investigation," Bush said at a news conference with Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon in the Rose Garden.

"If people are being investigated, it doesn't make sense for us to let them know who they are," Bush told reporters before meeting with al-Faisal.

Moreover, Bush said, "declassification of that part of a 900-page document would reveal sources and methods that would make it harder for us to win the war on terror. ... It would help the enemy if they knew our sources and methods."

The top Republican senator on the 9-11 inquiry, Richard Shelby, said Sunday that 95 percent of the classified pages could be released without jeopardizing national security. Bush ignored a reporter's question Tuesday on Shelby's assessment.

But he did leave the door open to declassifying portions of the report at some point.

"Perhaps at some point in time, down the road, after the investigations are fully complete, and if it doesn't jeopardize our national security, perhaps we can declassify" the material, he said.

The dispute centers on 28 pages

of redacted material in the congressional panel's report. The information is widely believed to center on Saudi Arabia, birthplace of Osama bin Laden and 15 of the 19 hijackers. Saudi Arabia has vehemently denied supporting the hijackers.

The Saudi government, some members of Congress and at least two presidential candidates have sought declassification of the section.

Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., during a campaign stop Tuesday, called on Bush to make public the section at issue. Kerry said his proposal was timed to coincide with the president's meetings with Saudi officials in Washington, which he said provide an opportunity "to make the record clear."

Sen. Bob Graham, D-Fla., a presidential candidate and the co-chairman of a congressional committee investigating the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, also called for declassification.

Graham had said that releasing the report would "permit the Saudi government to deal with any questions which may be raised in the currently censored pages, and allow the American people to make their own judgment about who are our true friends and allies in the war on terrorism." Graham made the request in a Monday letter to Bush.

But White House spokesman Scott McClellan said that section in question contains information about ongoing investigations, counterterrorism operations and sensitive sources and methods.

After the report was released last Thursday, Saudi Ambassador Prince Bandar bin Sultan issued a statement saying that "28 blanked-out pages are being used by some to malign our country and our people."

"Saudi Arabia has nothing to hide. We can deal with questions in public, but we cannot respond to blank pages," he said.

House and Senate members released the full, 850-page report finding a series of errors and miscommunications kept U.S. authorities from pursuing clues before the attacks. The 28-page section dealing with "sensitive national security matters" was almost entirely redacted.

Hussein shadow still felt in Iraq

SAMARRA, Iraq (AP) - Police in this town refuse to hunt down those responsible for a mortar attack that killed a civilian and wounded 24 others for a simple reason: They fear holdouts from Saddam Hussein's regime will brand them as traitors and exact vengeance.

That fear persists despite the assurances of a U.S. brigade commander.

"Tell him our message is simple: Stop waiting. The past regime will not return," Col. Frederick Rudesheim, commander of the 4th Infantry's 3rd Brigade, told Samarra's mayor through an interpreter late last week.

The Army hopes graphic photos showing the dead bodies of Saddam's sons, Odai and Qusai — killed on July 22 in a firefight with U.S. troops — will help drive that message home.

The fear felt by police, once one of the main organs of repression in Iraq, underscores the fact that fear of Saddam's regime lives on.

Even grisly attacks against civilians like the one in Samarra, about 40 miles north of Baghdad, are not persuading local authorities to help U.S. soldiers. The town is inside the area to the west and north of Baghdad known as "the Sunni Triangle" where Saddam's support runs strongest.

Insurgents fired four mortar rounds into a residential area just before 11 p.m. on July 19. Women and children suffered the worst injuries and a child was crushed to death when one blast caused a house to collapse, residents told soldiers.

The army suspects the intended target was a nearby army civil affairs office.

"These bastards are killing Iraqis. The Iraqi police should go in and grab them," Rudesheim told the mayor. "A traitor is someone who betrays his country."

The Americans believe those behind the mortar assault, and similar guerrilla attacks, have sought

shelter in the homes of local residents who refuse to turn them in because of the Arab and Muslim tradition of protecting guests.

Help is hard to find even in Samarra where residents quickly painted over portraits of Saddam — in contrast to some parts of the Sunni Triangle — demonstrating the long-standing grudge residents hold against the former leader. Once the capital of the Abyssinian empire, the dictator revoked the town's provincial capital status to bestow the title and accompanying privileges to his hometown of Tikrit.

The coalition aims to make Samarra a model for Iraq's postwar potential and has worked hard to restore the town's electricity and water. A telephone exchange is the last piece needed to bring the town's infrastructure back to prewar levels, Rudesheim said.

Yet soldiers patrolling the dusty town are attacked with rocket propelled grenades and homemade explosives about four times a week.

"Our biggest struggle is not in the streets of Samarra, it's in the minds of Samarrans," he told the mayor.

Mayor Shakr Mahmoud nodded in agreement. His brother was assassinated on July 18 and Mahmoud was granted a permit from the U.S. Army to carry a pistol for protection after receiving repeated threats on his life after his appointment by local tribal leaders on April 20.

"I have been called a traitor for working with Americans," he told the colonel.

The Army has appealed to the townspeople for help in rooting the shadowy middlemen who deliver orders and paychecks from Saddam's Baath party officials and Islamic extremists to the local people who execute the attacks on soldiers and civilians.

The brigade has begun offering rewards of up to \$250 for information leading to the seizure of the type of weapons used in the attacks, Rudesheim said.

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EDITORIAL

First gay high school to open doors in New York this fall

The Supreme Court's recent decision in *Lawrence v. Texas*, which guaranteed gay couples the legal right to engage in intimate acts in the privacy of their homes, has ignited a rhetorical powder keg.

Gay rights advocates exulted in the decision, and many turned their attention to the next great hurdle in the struggle for homosexual equality: marriage. Opponents of gay rights have been equally vocal following the *Lawrence* ruling, as a constitutional amendment aimed at keeping marriage a heterosexual institution gathers steam in Congress. While sentiments are divided, issues of gay rights are now closer to the forefront of the American consciousness than ever before.

Often forgotten amid this raging debate over very adult issues are gay teenagers. High school

is psychologically taxing even for heterosexual students; those struggling with sexual identity are forced to cope with added pressure, and those teens who identify themselves to their peers as gay routinely endure harassment and physical abuse. Of any age group in the gay community, high school students stand to lose the most by publicly embracing their sexual orientation.

Several maverick educators have adopted a novel approach to protecting gay high school students from discrimination: they simply remove heterosexual students from the equation. This fall, the nation's first public high school for gays, bisexuals and transgender students will open its doors in New York City.

Harvey Milk High School, whose officials project an initial enrollment of 100 students, will offer gay teens "an opportunity to obtain a secondary education in a safe and supportive environment," according to its Web site.

It's been nearly 50 years since the Supreme Court rendered its decision in *Brown v. Board of Education*, rejecting the notion of "separate but equal"; while the acceptance of their lifestyle choices by fellow students would be ideal, their protection takes precedence. At the present time, the physical and emotional well-being of gay students is more important than their assimilation into the mainstream teen-age community.

Harvey Milk High School will provide a safe learning environment for gay students; in this case their very separation will foster equality.

At issue

This fall, the nation's first public gay high school will open its doors in New York City.

Our stance

The school and others like it will create an urgently needed safe haven for ostracized gay students.

OPINION

Don't blame our intelligence agencies, blame our unprincipled foreign policy

By Onkar Ghate

The 900-page Congressional report criticizing the operations of the FBI and CIA in the months prior to the September 11 attacks misses the fundamental point. Whatever incompetence on the intelligence agencies' part, what made September 11 possible was a failure, not by our intelligence agencies—but by the accommodating, range-of-the-moment, unprincipled foreign policy that has shaped our government's decisions for decades.

September 11 was not the first time America was attacked by Islamic fundamentalists engaged in "holy war" against us. In 1979 theocratic Iran—which has spearheaded the "Islamic Revolution"—stormed the U. S. embassy in Tehran and held 54 Americans hostage for over a year. In 1983 the Syrian- and Iranian-backed group Hezbollah bombed a U.S. marine barracks in Lebanon, killing 241 servicemen while they slept; the explosives came from Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement. In 1998 al-Qaeda blew up the U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, killing 224 individuals. In 2000 al-Qaeda bombed the USS *Cole* in Yemen, killing 17 sailors.

So we already knew that al-Qaeda was actively engaged in attacking Americans. We even had evidence that agents connected to al-Qaeda had been responsible for the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center. And we knew in 1996 that bin Laden had made an overt declaration of war against the "Satan" America.

But how did America react? Did our government adopt a principled approach and identify the fact that we were faced with a deadly threat from an ideological foe? Did we launch systematic counterattacks to wipe out such enemy organizations as al-Qaeda, Hezbollah and Fatah? Did we seek to eliminate enemy states like Iran? No—our responses were short-sighted and

"We knew in 1996 that bin Laden had made an overt declaration of war against the 'Satan' America."

self-contradictory.

For instance, we initially expelled Iranian diplomats—but later sought an appeasing rapprochement with that ayatollah-led government. We intermittently cut off trade with Iran—but secretly negotiated weapons-for-hostages deals. When Israel had the courage to enter Lebanon in 1982 to destroy the PLO, we refused to uncompromisingly support our ally and instead brokered the killers' release. And with respect to al-Qaeda, we dropped a perfumery bomb or two on one of its suspected camps, while our compliant diplomats waited for al-Qaeda's terrorist attacks to fade from the headlines.

At home, we treated our attackers as if they were isolated criminals rather than soldiers engaged in battle against us. In 1941 we did not attempt to indict the Japanese pilots who bombed Pearl Harbor—we declared war on the source. Yet we spent millions trying to indict specific terrorists—while we ignored their masters.

Despite emphatic pronouncements from Islamic leaders about a 'jihad' against America, our political leaders failed to grasp the ideology that seeks our destruction. This left them unable to target that enemy's armed combatants—in Palestine, Iran, Iraq, Syria, Saudi Arabia—and the governments that assist them. Is it any wonder then that, although our intelligence agencies prevented many planned attacks, they could not prevent them all?

Unfortunately, little has changed since September 11. Our politician's

actions remain hopelessly unprincipled. Despite the Bush administration's rhetoric about ending states that sponsor terrorism, President Bush has let the most dangerous of these—Iran—untouched. The attack on Iraq, though justifiable, was hardly a priority in our war against militant Islam and the countries (principally Saudi Arabia and Iran) that promote it. Moreover, when Bush does strike at militant Islam, he does so only haltingly. Morally unsure of his right to protect American lives by wiping out the Taliban and al-Qaeda, Bush feared in Afghanistan world disapproval over civilian casualties. Consequently, he reined in the military forces (as he also did in Iraq) and allowed numerous Taliban and al-Qaeda fighters to escape. Bush continues to allow their comrades-in-arms in the Mideast to go unharmed. He pretends that the Palestinians and Islamic militants attacking Israel—and who have attacked Americans in the past and will try again in the future—are, somehow, different from the killers in Afghanistan and deserving of a "peace" plan.

Instead of taking consistent, principled action to destroy our terrorist adversaries, politicians from both parties continue to focus on details like reshuffling government bureaucracies and haggling over how much criticism of Saudi Arabia the 900-page Congressional report can contain. Thus, too unprincipled to identify the enemy and wage all-out war, but not yet completely blind to their own ineffectuality, our leaders resignedly admit that we're in for a "long war" and that there will be more terrorist attacks on U.S. soil.

There is only one way to prevent a future September 11: by rooting out the amoral, pragmatic expediency that now dominates our government's foreign policy.

OPINION

Federally controlled of road building should be a state and local responsibility

by Ronald Fraser, Ph.D.

In 1758, philosopher David Hume wrote: "Nothing appears more surprising...than the easiness with which the many are governed by the few; and the implicit submission with which men resign their own sentiments and passions to those of their rulers."

Today, Hume would surely marvel at how easily each year a few highway barons on Capitol Hill, with help from like-minded special interest groups, collect hundreds of millions of dollars from Illinois motorists and then parcel out highway funds to Springfield with all kinds of costly strings attached.

Authority for the Federal Highway Program expires in September. But the new authorization winding its way through Congress to extend the program six more years does not fairly address an issue costing American motorists over \$20 billion each year. What will happen to the federal gas tax?

Most members of Congress simply assume the federal tax will either stay where it is, at 18.4 cents per gallon, or go up. The American Road and Transportation Builders Association, of course, is lobbying hard to increase this flood of taxpayers' money with a two cent per gallon federal tax hike in each of the next six years. And Rep. Don Young (R-Ark.) goes even further. He recently proposed raising the federal gas tax to 33 cents per gallon over six years—a whopping 79 percent increase.

But there is another option. Last year Sen. James Inhofe's (R-Okla.) offered a bill to return all but two cents of the 18.4 cent federal gas tax to the states in the form of a block grant. Under Inhofe's plan, Uncle Sam's take would have been only \$80 million in 2001 instead of the \$732 million Illinois motorists actually paid into the Federal Highway Trust Fund.

"Members of Congress keep federal gas taxes flowing through Washington for selfish reasons."

Right there, on page S.7929 of the Congressional Record for August 1, 2002, Inhofe says his bill "restores to states and local communities the ability to make their own transportation decision without the interference of Washington...I have long believed that the best decisions are those made at the local level. Unfortunately, many of the transportation choices made by cities and states are governed by federal rules and regulations. This bill returns to states the responsibility and resources to make their own transportation decisions."

The two cent federal tax would be enough to maintain the interstate system, build roads on federal lands, address highway safety issues and conduct some research.

So why haven't Illinois' two U.S. Senators and Gov. Rod Blagojevich, along with elected officials from other states, rallied around Inhofe's proposal and demand its passage this year? Why would Illinois' governor and state legislators resign their own self-interests and welcome Washington's intrusion into their affairs?

One answer goes like this: the federal government is very keen on launching new programs. Special interest groups are equally skilled at capturing federal programs and tax streams and making sure they grow over time, and the taxpayers are all but forgotten.

Members of Congress also keep excessive federal gas taxes flowing through Washington for selfish reasons.

Each year appropriations committee members, with an eye on attracting votes in the next election, skim millions of dollars from the Federal Highway Trust Fund for pet pork projects back home.

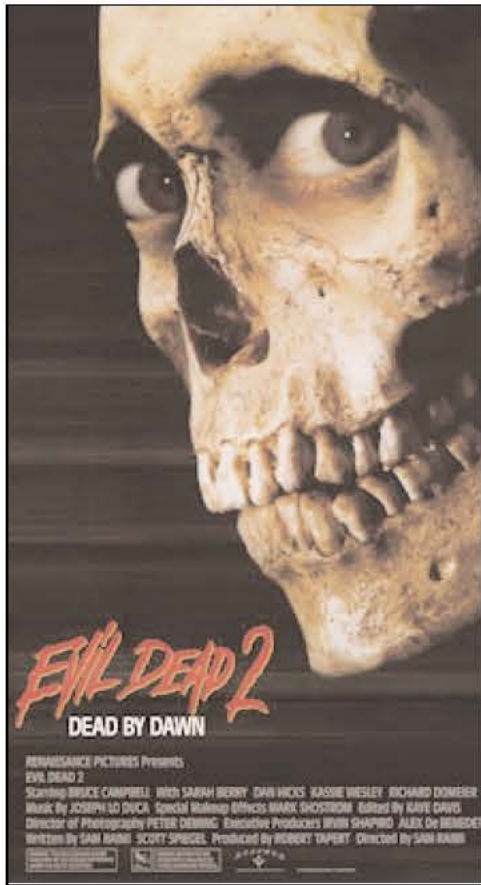
Egos also play a role. For example, signs along the federally funded I-99 in central Pennsylvania proclaim the road "Bud Shuster Highway." Former Rep. Bud Shuster (R-Penn.), you may have guessed, personally channeled gas tax dollars into the state to build the road. Under Inhofe's plan, highway signs would honor state and local officials, not highway barons in the U.S. Congress.

Road building is traditionally a state and local responsibility. The 41,000 mile federal Interstate building era, a one-time exception to that tradition, was declared completed in 1991. But Congress forgot to turn off the federal tax spigot used to build the system. Since then, federal gas taxes have gone up and new ways to spend the tax have been found. In fact, a recent Heritage Foundation report found that only 61 percent of the federal gas taxes sent to Washington are actually used to build and maintain roads.

August is the month when the U.S. Congress shuts down so its members can get in touch with the folks back home. This would be a fine time for Illinois motorists to confront their Washington representatives and ask why the Inhofe proposal isn't part of this year's new highway bill.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: The Daily Eastern News accepts letters to the editor addressing local, state, national and international issues. They should be less than 250 words and include the authors' name, telephone number and address. Students should indicate their year in school and major. Faculty, administration and staff should indicate their position and department. Letters whose authors cannot be verified will not be printed. Depending on space constraints, we may edit letters, so keep it concise. Letters can be sent to *The Daily Eastern News* at 1811 Buzzard Hall, Charleston IL 61920; faxed to 217-581-2923; or mailed to avian_carrasquillo@yahoo.com

Camfield gets 'groovy' on the couch with cult classics



By Nic Camfield
VERGE WRITER

This week I decided to step back out of the theater's and sit at home on my couch with the DVD player. I think that a staple of the average college student's video library should be the work of Mr. Sam Raimi. Most people today know him as the big budget director of "Spiderman", "The Gift" starring Keanu Reeves, or even Kevin Costner's last good movie "For the Love of the Game." These movies are testaments to the ideal that a good director will rise to the top of the Hollywood food chain, no matter where it is that he comes from, even Michigan.

But it isn't Raimi's most current work that I recommend the average college student take a second look at. If you want to know how he got where he is today, I recommend you pick up a copy of Army of Darkness or it's prequel, Evil Dead 2. Now, be forewarned, anyone who has not yet seen these classic cult horror films, they are terrible.

The actor's are B, the special effects are C, but the results are A+ entertainment value. You see, they're supposed to be campy. By God, you can't have the hero of your films spouting off dialogue like "Groovy!" or "Gimme some sugar, baby!" and not expect your audience to be howling on the floor with laughter.

But that is the point of these two cinema gems. They were designed for a specific audience in mind — college kids. Basically, these movies were made by a bunch of childhood friends, to whom a major movie studio said, "Here's eight million bucks, try to at

least earn it back for us." But the films have since earned cult status with their cheesy one-liners and Jason and the Argonauts era fx (you know the one I'm talking about — from the 1960's with all the bad animation!).

They are already a must have for millions of young adults in America, and I would gladly recommend anyone who fondly remembers Freddy or Jason (we won't talk about their upcoming meeting next month) to at least give these two films a fair shake.

The plots center around the Necronomicon ex Mortis — the Book of the Dead. This "ancient Sumerian text" was bound in human flesh, and inked in blood, containing demon resurrection passages, and generally a whole lot of trouble for the movies' hero, S-Mart storeclerk Ash. That's just about all of the plot that you need to understand what is going on. Like good little Hollywood movies, though, both go ahead and give you a brief synopsis before hand, so you don't need anything else before sitting down to watch.

Both movies are under 90 minutes in length, so you don't even need to worry about sacrificing a whole evening just to the living room!

So don't hesitate! Go ahead pick 'em up! They're a lot more fun than sitting through three hours of NBC's Must Snore TV. But that is of course, my own humble opinion.

You won't need any of our whiskey shots for these two — you'll either love them to death, or you'll turn them off.

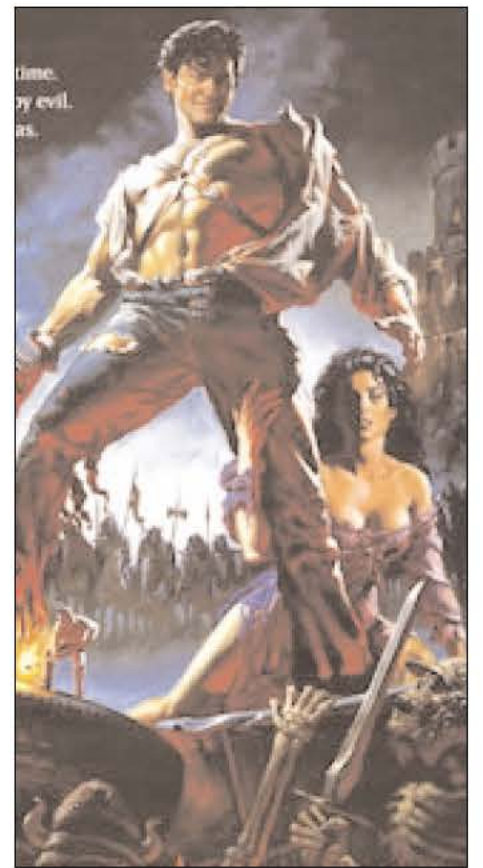


PHOTO COURTESY OF ROTTENTOMATOES.COM

The third installment of the Evil Dead series is probably the best known of all of the movies.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ROTTENTOMATOES.COM
Evil Dead 2 was the least well known of the Evil Dead trilogy but is still considered a cult classic

Jane's Addiction, back at it

By Holly Henschen
VERGE WRITER

Rock bands they just don't make em' like they used to. Well Jane's Addiction has yet to go obsolete. During a 13 year post-break-up interlude, members switched to Perry Farrell's Porno for Pyros and guitarist Dave Navarro's spread.

Jane's Addiction reunites with a new bassist on Strays. If you harbor any amount of affection for the band this CD send you giddily and wildly flailing about the place.

A band as anachronistic as Jane's Addiction was bound to make a timely comeback.

The rock world indelibly altered by the band has gone through cycles of grunge metal and punk CD's over a decade.

Now this collection of authentic rock stars has returned with an 11 song studio album to remind music that they were here first. And hopefully Jane's Addiction will become a future indefinitely. In "True Nature", Strays' driven opening track, vocalist extraordinaire Farrell gets vaguely political. Singing "For all the money in the world/ We'll go to war for you backward heroes/ ... How you treat the weak is / Your true nature calling, Farrell hits notes just like the early days.

"Price I Pay" is a classic Jane's song. The mellow intro slides into an attempt to establish a supportive bass line. New bassist Chris Chaney constructs a rapid fire



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.JANESADDITION.COM
Jane's Addiction is back after a thirteen year hiatus.

rhythm with drummer Stephen Perkins. Chaney can also stand up to Navarro's constant rifting and never ending solo's. The new guy does hold a candle to original bassist Eric Avery and yes even stand-in Flea.

Though Jane's declined to play new material in lieu of old favorites on this year's Lollapalooza tour, Stray's is a solid sound investment. Be not intimidated by the radio track "Just Because". Strays' picks off where Jane's left off, without those pesky, ahem habits.

Jane's Addiction continues to play in ways no band dares to imitate. Bands have their offshoots (Pearl Jam's Creed and Alice in Chain's Godsmack), but Stray's reinforces the fact that there will never be a Jane's Addiction sound alike. No one can do it like the guys themselves.



IMAGE COURTESY OF WWW.SURREAL.COM

Surreal brings their swirling classic rock sounds to St. Louis' Riverfront Landing Friday Night.

Look to 'the Lou' for Country fun

By Kenneth Bauer
VERGE & FEATURE EDITOR

Country music lovers wanting to escape the lack of local excitement can find a really nice weekend waiting nearby. Just two hours away, the UMB Bank Pavillion, formerly the St. Louis Riverport Amphitheatre, will be featuring Toby Keith this Friday night (as if Six Flags and the Landing weren't enough of a reason to make the trip.)

The show starts at 7:30 p.m. with Blake Shelton taking the stage followed by Junior Brown. The event is part of the Budweiser Concert Series and as with most of their shows, it's scheduled to go on whether it be rain or shine.

And remember, there is always time to hit the gambling boats.

If country music isn't your thing, or if



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.THEPAVILLION.COM
Toby Keith will be performing at the Bank Pavillion in St. Louis on Friday

your just a fan of many kinds of music, check out Mississippi Nights down at LaCledes Landing on the riverfront Friday night. The doors open at 8 p.m. with Surreal (classic rock) taking center stage at 9 p.m.

Surreal is a five-piece band that jams (and I mean jams!) classic rock. If your into long-hair original rock you should make the trip for this cover band. Surreal covers bands like Boston, the Who, Journey, Styx and REO Speedwagon and they kick ass at it.

Saturday night's venue features Reggie & the Full Effect (pop punk.) The regular door price is \$12 and well worth it if your into pop punk. Reggie & the Full Effect do punk music not because it's an easy sell but because it's what they like to do and it really shows in their stage show. They've been featured on MTV news and alternative radio programs across the nation. The show starts at 8 p.m. and is open to minors with a \$1 surcharge.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.REGGIE&THEFULLEFFECT.COM
MTV featured band, Reggie & The Full Effect will be performing at Mississippi Nights on Saturday

Death to poochie

GERMANY- (AP) A giant catfish that ate a dog and terrorized a German lake for years has washed up dead, but the legend of "Kuno the Killer" lives on.

A gardener discovered the carcass of a five-foot-long catfish weighing 77 pounds this week, a spokesman for the western city of Moenchengladbach said on Friday.

Kuno became a local celebrity in 2001 when he sprang from the waters of the Volksgarten park lake to swallow a Dachshund puppy whole. He evaded repeated attempts to capture him.

"He was our Loch Ness monster," said Uwe Heil, member of "Kuno's Friends," a local rock band named after the fish.

Several fishermen identified the carcass as Kuno, but doubts linger.

"That's not the Kuno we know," said Leon Cornelius, another member of "Kuno's Friends." He said he had seen several huge catfish in the lake.

Low water levels and a summer heat wave probably killed the catfish, among the biggest found in Germany. The northern city of Bremen plans to stuff it and put in a museum.

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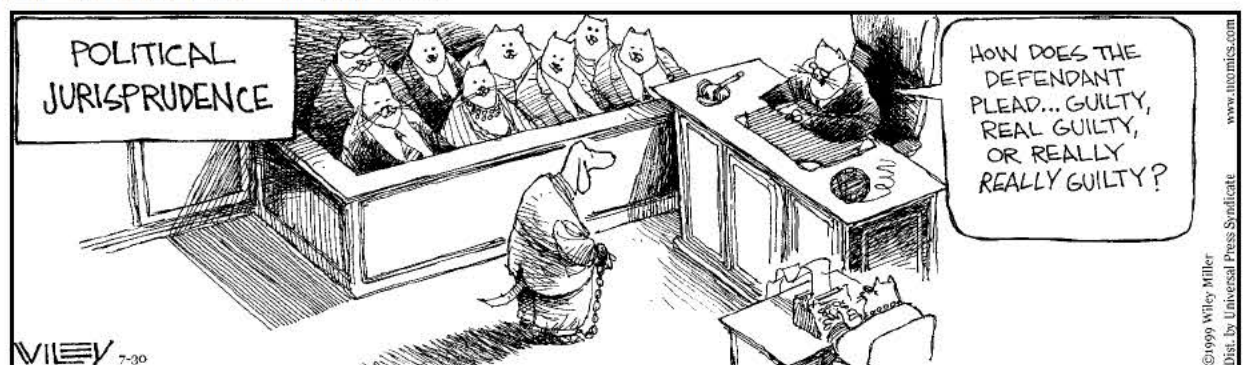
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Shonk: A strong work ethic will benefit freshman in first season at Eastern

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

ketball and I didn't really care that much about football," Shonk said. "All the guys on the team wanted me to play, but it was Halsey in the end that made me play."

"He sat down and talked to me one day in the weight room. He's got a persuasive way with words and he convinced me to play."

Eastern would even have to give thanks to a former Sycamore should Shonk blossom into an All-OVC performer.

Former Indiana State quarterback Steve Englehart coached at Charleston during Shonk's sophomore and junior seasons and got the current Panther pointed toward football after high school.

"My junior year, coach Englehart came up to me after practice and he said he thought I could play college football," Shonk said. "That's when I really started to have the idea that I may be able to play someday."

"Playing the teams we play, I never really got to compare myself with other kids in the

state. So before that I had never really thought about it."

Eastern started thinking about Shonk wearing blue and grey on Saturday afternoons last summer. At the Bob Spoo Football Camp, Shonk received recognition as the camp's Most Valuable Receiver.

"He was out in our camp a couple of years so we had a chance to see him over a three or four day period there," Spoo said.

"We offered him a scholarship, so that is what it's all about, bringing good players into your program and giving them a chance to succeed."

Roy Wittke primarily recruited Shonk to come to the Panthers. Last season at Eastern, Wittke received recognition as the NCAA I-AA Assistant Coach of the Year.

Wittke left Eastern to coach at Arkansas during the off season. Wittke saw from Shonk at camp and on Trojan Hill some skills that will help him to succeed in the Ohio Valley Conference.

"I think Matt will be a great fit at Eastern," Wittke said.

"He's a local product that was impressive during our camp last summer. With his ability, I can see Matt developing into a player that can make a solid contribution to Panther football."

Halsey agrees with Wittke that Shonk has the capabilities to contribute toward future success at Eastern.

"It's going to take him a little while to get acclimated, but with his work ethic, I think he's capable of contributing on down the road," Halsey said. "Matt's a good receiver in that he works very hard, he runs great routes and he has good hands."

"He's the gym rat that is always willing to get better and those are things that are going for him."

Last season, Shonk helped Charleston to a 7-4 record and the second round of the Illinois High School Association playoffs. Like for each of the Trojans' games, Halsey gave Shonk a game plan to use.

"What he told me was, when you go in your freshman year, go in and watch how everyone

else is doing things," Shonk said. "Learn the program and learn the system. Do what the coaches ask you and learn, mainly just learn your first year."

While working with the returning Panther players this summer, Shonk has picked up some tips on his own of what he must prepare for physically to play college football.

"I've noticed that it's a lot bigger and faster game," Shonk said.

"The guys are just so much better athletes and they hit a lot harder too."

Now Shonk knows what to work towards. His next objective will be to show the Eastern coaches what they need, a Trojan horse in their lineup.

"I know they've got a lot of guys back, so I'm just trying to compete and do whatever I can," Shonk said. "Whatever happens, happens. All I can do is go out there and do my best and then it is up to the coaches."

Wittke: Coach won't forget 13-year tenure at Eastern from his new Arkansas coaching post

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

ideas work because the former Eastern assistant already feels the pressure of the big college campus.

"Arkansas football is very important to everybody in the entire state here and there's a tremendous amount of media attention paid to everything we're doing," Wittke said.

A slight difference from an Eastern News and a Times-Courier reporter the entire media entourage attending O'Brien Stadium.

Aside from the media, the move from Charleston to Fayetteville has gone smoothly for Wittke.

"I feel very good, people have been tremendous," Wittke said.

"We haven't played a ball game yet, so I'm sure these things will change a little bit once we get to that point. My families made the transition smoothly

and we are looking forward to getting started with the 2003 season."

Arkansas football right now is Wittke's focus with practices starting shortly on Aug. 11. Charleston and Eastern though do manage to slip into his thought process now and then.

Wittke asked for an update on J.R. Taylor's status with the NFL and about the progress of the O'Brien Stadium turf project. Continued interest shows that those 13 years with the Panthers and head coach Bob Spoo will not be forgotten anytime soon.

"I wish coach Spoo and his staff the best of luck with the 2003 season," Wittke said. "We miss everybody at Eastern and in Charleston. We're looking toward following the Panthers this season."

Optimism: Summer's end brings welcome sights of friends and football in the fall

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

on campus, there is an abundance of teams students like on campus. One could probably find a person for every team in the NFL.

For instance, I have friends who are fans of everyone from the St. Louis Rams, Tennessee Titans to the Miami Dolphins and Green Bay Packers.

So whether you are cheering on the Packers or the Bears be happy about the end of the summer because not only does it mean friends are returning and the leaves are changing, but it also means the clash of the titans will start soon.

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

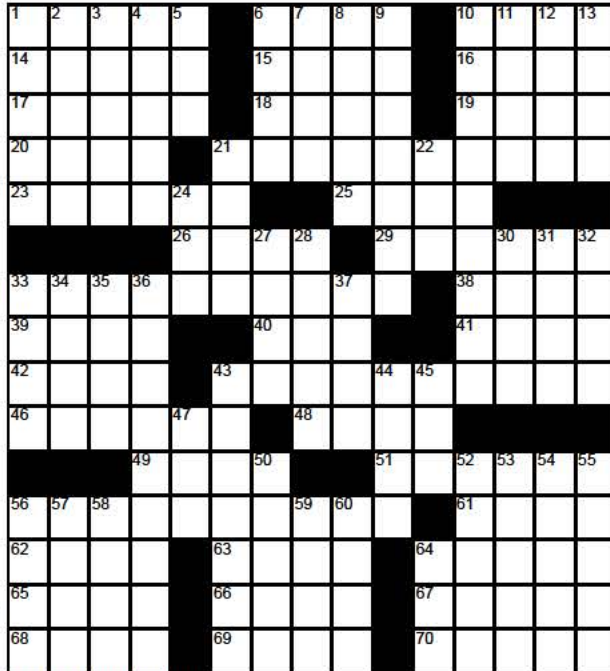
No. 0618

ACROSS

- 1 Where the mouth is
- 6 Offend
- 10 Exit, often
- 14 1975 Tony winner for Best Play
- 15 Hydrox rival
- 16 Alike, to André
- 17 Military brass?
- 18 Big screen name
- 19 Attend
- 20 They might require overtime
- 21 Theater usher's need
- 23 Stretch out
- 25 Jettison
- 26 See 53-Down
- 29 Protestant Reformation figure
- 33 Daily Planet chief
- 38 Harass
- 39 Skin cream ingredient
- 40 Suffix with Samson
- 41 Sea moss constituent
- 42 Ticket sales
- 43 "Anything Goes" composer
- 46 Alchemic mixture
- 48 Actor Jannings
- 49 Jewish month
- 51 Mailing supplies
- 56 Ox or pig

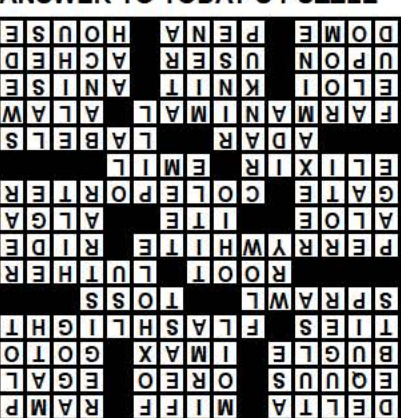
DOWN

- 61 "There oughta be ___!"
- 62 "The Time Machine" people
- 63 Wrinkled, as a brow
- 64 Pernod flavoring
- 65 Aware of
- 66 Abstainer's opposite
- 67 Felt compassion (for)
- 68 Capitol topper
- 69 Clinton cabinet member Federico
- 70 Word that can follow the end of 21-, 33-, 43- or 56-Across



Puzzle by Alan Arbesfeld

ANSWER TO TODAY'S PUZZLE



Sixteen answers rhyme: GOOEY, PTUI, DEWEY, CHEWY, LOUIS, SUEY, BUOY, etc.

More suspicion now surrounds Wheeler's death

CHICAGO (AP) -- Lawyers for the mother of a Northwestern University football player who died during a 2001 training session said Tuesday they will file an amended lawsuit alleging the school tried to cover up the circumstances of his death.

The new complaint, which attorneys said they plan to file Wednesday, also will add makers and sellers of dietary supplements containing ephedra as defendants -- a decision Northwestern says supports its claim that the supplements, not poor medical care, caused Rashidi Wheeler's death.

The planned filing comes just weeks after Dr. Mark Gardner, a former Northwestern physician, admitted in a deposition that he burned records of a physical he performed three weeks before Wheeler died.

"The destruction of this critical medical record followed Dr. Gardner's extensive consultation about Rashidi's death with Northwestern lawyers and officials," attorneys James D. Montgomery and Johnnie Cochran said in a statement.

The lawyers said they will name Gardner as a defendant in the new complaint.

Walter Jones, an attorney for Northwestern, called allegations of a cover-up "absolutely scandalous," noting that Gardner testified he acted alone without consulting anyone from Northwestern. Jones said the planned filing proves what Northwestern has said all along -- that ephedra caused Wheeler's death.

"These allegations against Northwestern are merely to save face and are no more than a subterfuge," Jones said.

Wheeler collapsed and died on Aug. 3, 2001, after participating in a conditioning drill. His parents sued Northwestern, claiming officials did not give their son, an asthmatic, timely or adequate medical treatment.

Northwestern argues ephedra-containing supplements Wheeler was taking caused an irregular heartbeat that led to his death. The university had added manufacturers and sellers of the supplements to the lawsuit as third-party defendants.

In their statement, Montgomery and Cochran said they still believe Northwestern's failure to provide proper care caused Wheeler's death. But they said because the statute of limitations to add defendants expires on Aug. 2, 2003, they decided to include the supplement makers and sellers as a precaution.

At a deposition earlier this month, Gardner testified that during a physical on July 12, 2001, Wheeler wrote on a questionnaire that he was taking an "energy shake." The doctor said he advised Wheeler to stop using the shake until he talked to the team trainer.

Gardner testified he was distraught after Wheeler's death and four days later drove to a lagoon, where he tore up the original and a copy of Wheeler's questionnaire and burned them.

Dick Donohue, an attorney for Gardner, said the destruction of the records, while tragic, should not affect the outcome of the case.

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KNOCK OUT



By Jamie Hussey
SPORTS EDITOR

Fall brings optimism to summer lovers

The statement "summer is ending" seems to be a common phrase I have been hearing lately. I am depressed about summer ending too, but we all have to start being optimistic and think of all the great things summer's end brings as well.

One thing the end of summer means is the return of mostly everyone back to Eastern's campus. I have been here all summer, and have made some great new friends. Although it has been very fun with those who have been here with me, I welcome the return of all of my other friends. The campus will be so much livelier once everyone gets back. I look forward to seeing freshman try to negotiate their way around campus, the way I did when I first got here.

The end of summer also brings forth a new season in weather, and my favorite weather season fall. Fall is awesome because the weather is great for grilling out, because it is hot but not overly warm. Fall is also great because of the changing of the leaves, which is a beautiful array of colors.

However, despite these two great things, fall is not the most important season, the most important thing the end of summer represents is the start of football season.

Football season means the beginning of the body slamming tackles, the Hail Mary passes and road to the championships.

I have been waiting ever since last season for preseason to start up again. It is time to find a new champion and knock the Tampa Bay Buccaneers off of their Super bowl pedestal.

Whether it is peewee, high school, college or professional football that one might enjoy, August brings the beginning of all.

It is time to see the blood and sweat of the players as they battle each other for a one more mark in the win column.

There will be new rivalries made and the old rivalries will be refueled.

Eastern students will probably watch the Dallas Cowboys a little closer to see if they can get a glimpse of former quarterback Tony Romo, or the Green Bay Packers to see if they spot former J.R. Taylor.

Having never taken a poll of Eastern students I do not know this for certain, but I would have to say that most Eastern students will be watching to see how their Chicago Bears do this year. Especially with their new quarterback former Pittsburgh Cordell Stewart. They will also probably be wondering how their draft pick "SEXY REXY" Rex Grossman (who was compared to the great QB Brett Favre) will do in his first year of professional play.

SEE OPTIMISM ♦ Page 7

Incoming Eastern receiver works toward first season

♦ *Charleston receiver signed to stay in town and play for Panthers.*

By Erik Hall
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

The summer after high school graduation for many graduates is enjoyed as the last time experiencing life as they know it with their high school friends.

Not for Eastern wide receiver Matt Shonk.

"I've been lifting and running with the team; sometime probably mid-June I started," said Shonk who signed in February to play football for Eastern.

"It is going good, it is going real good. It is hard work, but I actually enjoy it. It gives me a head start since most of the rest of the guys won't arrive until camp starts."

Eastern football head coach Bob Spoo knows of Shonk's efforts this summer to work with the returning players on his conditioning and lifting.

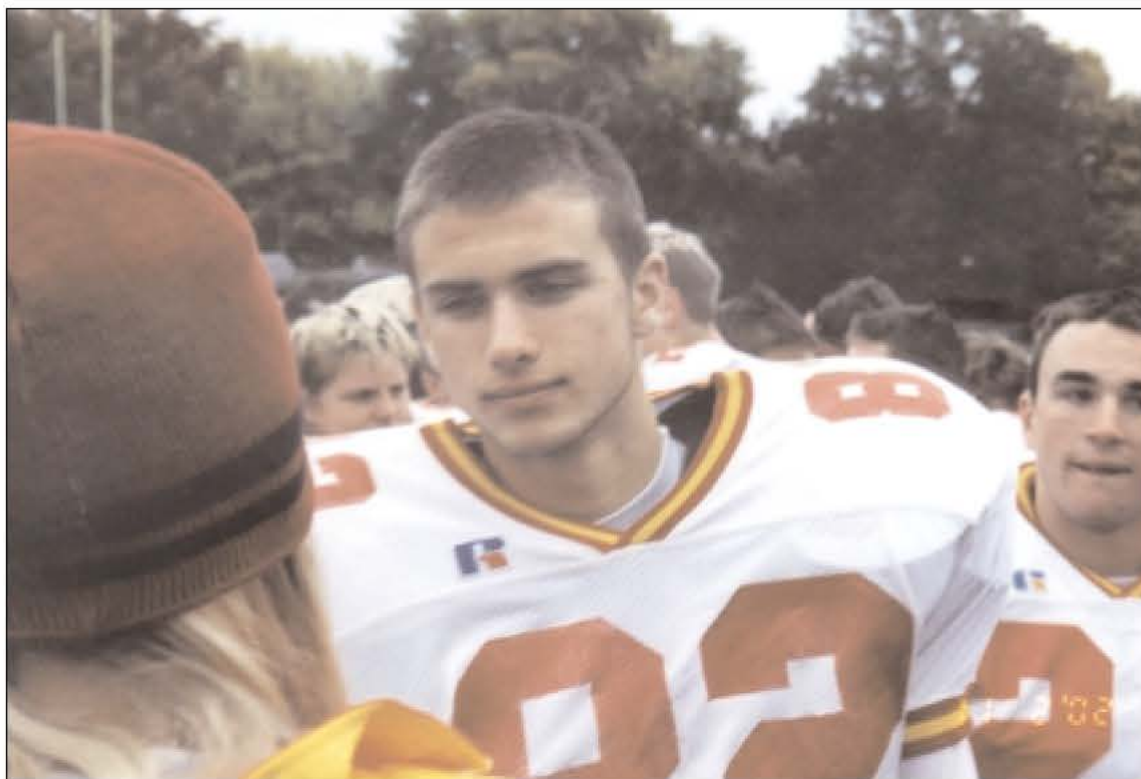
Spoo said Shonk's work in the summer gives an indication of his priorities.

"He's already indicated that he's very committed to his football career," Spoo said.

"I think we have an excellent player and I know that he's working hard at it."

Shonk worked hard to be the area's leading receiver each of his last three football seasons at Charleston High School. In each of his final two years playing for Charleston, Shonk earned All-Apollo Conference recognition for his ability to catch the football.

The Apollo Conference produced recent Eastern football star



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Charleston High School graduate Matt Shonk after winning a first round IHSA football playoff game at Waterloo High School last fall. In February, Shonk signed a letter-of-intent to play football at Eastern beginning in the fall.

J.R. Taylor, but even Taylor red-shirted his freshman year. Spoo said most freshman are red-shirted, but he hopes for Shonk to come in and contribute to the Panthers next season.

"I'd like to see him compete for a travel squad position which means he's in the six deep rotation," Spoo said. "We've got a pretty good receiving corps returning from last year and it is always difficult for an incoming freshman to

break that line-up. Hopefully, when the opportunities are there he will rise to the occasion."

Charleston varsity football head coach Brian Halsey coached Shonk each season he played football at Charleston. Halsey said the characteristics that made Shonk successful in high school are skills that will help him continue success in college.

"I think what makes Matt successful is a strong work ethic and

the fact that he's never satisfied," Halsey said. "He's always willing to get better and pushes himself harder than any coach ever could."

Eastern needs to thank Halsey, a former wide receiver at Milliken, for getting Shonk to play football because during Shonk's freshman year of high school he ran cross country to get in shape for his winter sport.

"Back then I was real into bas-

SEE SHONK ♦ Page 7

Wittke prepares for new season with new team

♦ *Former Eastern football coach Roy Wittke adjusting well to Arkansas*

By Erik Hall
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

Roy Wittke spent 13 years coaching Eastern's offense. As the reigning NCAA I-AA Assistant Coach of the Year, he decided to travel towards a warmer climate, bigger linemen and faster athletes at Arkansas.

"Everything's gone really well," said Wittke who now has the title of Arkansas's Quarterbacks coach and Passing Game Coordinator. "It's been a smooth transition and the people here have been really tremendous. It's really a quality staff and we're very excited about getting the season started here in a couple of weeks."

Arkansas plays in the 12-member Southeastern Conference which includes national powers Alabama, Auburn, Florida, Georgia and LSU. Despite the tough conference, Wittke sees the team having success this season.

"We feel like we have an opportunity to have a good year," Wittke said. "We have a very strong group of seniors. We have 23 seniors, including an offensive line we will start four fifth year seniors up front."

With games at Texas and at Alabama as two of Arkansas's first four games, this looks to be a grueling opening campaign for Wittke as a Razorback.

"We look to have one of the toughest schedules that they've had here in a long long time," Wittke said.

Last season, Arkansas enjoyed success fin-

ishing second in the SEC's Western Division, but received the SEC Championship game berth due to sanctions against Western Division champion Alabama that prohibited the Crimson Tide from postseason competition.

Games like the SEC Championship game caused a stir through college athletics as Big East schools Miami and Virginia Tech moved to the Atlantic Coast Conference hoping for a bigger pay day with a conference championship game in football.

"We've been very fortunate here in the SEC that we've done as good of a job as anybody in the country generating postseason revenue," Wittke said.

"It's certainly made people here in the SEC a little bit concerned about perhaps the Big East and ACC trying to come in and pick one of our schools out of our league."

SEC member schools South Carolina, Georgia and Florida were rumored earlier in the summer as candidates to move to the ACC.

"When you're dealing with millions of dollars people are going to do what they feel is best for their individual institutions," Wittke said.

Despite only being a part of the SEC for only a few months, Wittke sees the conference remaining stable through this transition time of athletic conferences.

"I think (the SEC's) extremely stable; we haven't heard any reports or rumors that anybody has made any contact with one of our schools," Wittke said. "There is some concern geographically that some schools would be a good fit out there."

"Because of the strength of our league, I think our league, and the individual institutions are very happy with our situation. We look forward to continuing our success as a conference."

Houston Nutt is Arkansas's football head coach. Nutt's entering his sixth season at the helm of the Razorbacks after serving as head

coach at Murray State from 1993 to 1996.

Despite a reputation recently for running the football, Wittke looks to bring in some of the passing attack that helped Tony Romo win the Walter Payton Award last season as I-AA's top performer.

"One of the things coach Nutt wants to emphasize is being more balanced in the passing game," Wittke said.

"Because of the personnel that they've had the last couple of years there's been more emphasis on running the football. They've done a tremendous job of doing that."

Arkansas led the SEC and ranked 12th in the nation in rushing offense last season averaging 218.9 yards per game. Despite rushing success, the team needs desperate help from Wittke with their passing game.

The Razorbacks averaged 134.6 passing yards per game finishing last in the SEC and 109th in the nation. A better passing attack could have prevented Arkansas from losing their six overtime game last season that went on forever against Tennessee.

"There are some similar things that we did at Eastern that we are doing here," Wittke said. "We are also placing a special emphasis on creating more movement and using different formations like we did at Eastern."

For Wittke's sake, hopefully his new passing



Roy Wittke

SEE WITTKÉ ♦ Page 7