

BACKING STUDENTS: University of Illinois students march toward the federal courthouse in U.Sana on Monday, supporting the expelled Decatur high school students.

Continued from A1

Continued from A1

would be a one-time extension, and that if the case would be dismissed if he didn't meet the deadline.

Outside the courthouse, Myers said the students' case remains sound.

"This in no way indicates that the complaint was in such defect that it didn't merit a hearing," Myers said.

Kelty didn't see it that way. McCuskey denied Kelty's request to have the case dismissed.

"We believe we have a strong (flawed) case," Kelty said afterward, "but in all fairness the court was giving them an opportunity to clean it up."

After the hearing was over, a prayer vigil outside the courthouse. The Rev. Jesse Jackson was not present and was said by his spokeswoman to be in Chicago, doing what he always does.

Dozens gathered in support — mainly students from the University of Illinois at Urbana.

"We were so glad to get the most assistance often receive the

blast," said Chandra Gill, a university graduate and local activist, reading from a prepared statement.

Opponents of higher education in the state of Illinois, we stand firmly in protest of a school policy that strips our children of due process," she said. "We believe that this opposition that is occurring all over the nation and is highlighted by the incident in Decatur."

The lawsuit was settled on Dec. 27 if McCaskey rules in the students' favor, they should have sufficient time to re-enroll for spring semester.

McCaskey will be back in federal court before Dec. 27, however. He filed another motion Monday, opposing school district efforts to force students and others from school property.

The school board filed a petition Wednesday in Macon County Circuit Court to dismiss the lawsuit, restraining order against Jackson, the expelled students and some Rainbow/PUSH Coalition affiliates.

The lawsuit was moved by the circuit court, Jackson and company

would be prohibited from coming within 50 feet of any district property without written consent.

The hearing is to begin at 10 a.m. today before Circuit Judge Jerry L. Patton.

"We feel that the plaintiffs [the school board] filed that suit basically to harass us," Myers said. "We are going to fight against the temporary restraining order when he appears before Patton. With the new motion, however, he will try to move the hearing from the 10 a.m. Decatur to federal court in Urbana."

The "federal removal action" Myers filed would take the matter out of the state's hands and force it to be decided by the federal court. McCune said the hearing date in federal court has not been set.

According to the federal removal action, the school board is acting under color of state law "to deprive the defendants of their rights to freedom of speech, expression, assembly and association as guaranteed by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution."

use facility

Subcommittee concludes Forsyth could raise \$14 million for proposed project.

BRETT WILCOXSON
H&A Staff Writer

FOYHSITY — The village of Foyhsity could raise \$1 million toward the construction of a joint-use facility, and the state would likely contribute \$4 million, says a committee of residents and officials that examined the project.

That's one of several proposals reported by the Foyhsity Village Committee to the Village of Foyhsity-Marathon-Foyhsity School District Joint Use Committee.

The committee formed in July to evaluate the feasibility of a joint-use community recreation center on the site of the old Foyhsity school building in the school district.

Construction of a new high school would allow the junior high to move into the current high school and the aged, overcrowded Maraga grade school to be finished.

But before any moves can be made, a new building must be built. And that's where the \$5 million comes in. Not only is it a challenge in the near future if voters approve home rule in the November 20 election, but it also could be a challenge in the future if voters could raise state tax to generate funding for the project.

Village Board President Robert Bischoff offered the finance committee's most recent report on the project. It says the village would need \$1 million dollars over a 20-year period, a sales tax would have to be hiked by three-quarters of a cent, and the state would have to raise \$1 million.

presented the site subcommittee, which is charged with finding a location for the facility. He said they have narrowed the possible sites from 19 to two, and that the two remaining sites are "not going to be much more expensive — making 'site one' the economic choice."

"There is a overwhelming difference," he said. "Even if you're not a math major, you can see 'site two' is going to cost about \$1 million more."

Gilbert said that the two sites are in the same area, as the village has not secured either property.

School board member Sue Kowa reported for the design subcommittee, which has sent letters to 32 businesses and residents in the area, asking for their input. She said the field will be narrowed to 10 through the firms' responses and further reduced to five through the design process.

The promotional subcommittee was represented by village board member Diane Ritterer, who focused on the need to get the word out about the project. Her message of what home rule entails, in large part to win the support of senior citizens.

The "community coffee" subcommittee "coffees," where committee members could get together with the community to answer questions. Ritter also said that the committee took a "community tour" to get the facts about home rule up to voters.

"Site facts are the only way to alleviate the concerns," she said. "The village has already gone overboard if granted the power of home rule," which takes powers normally held by the legislature.

"We're going to say 'OK, we'll give you the OK to do this, but then what else are you going to do."

Continued from A1

Nobody knew how the cat would react when Gillen climbed a ladder and approached it. He was prepared for the worst, wearing heavy gloves and a sweatshirt. But the cat came to him as soon as he called.

As Capt. Mike McAdams of Station 4 said, "Scott has just got

When help did arrive, it came in numbers. About the time Gille was climbing up for Neighborhood Cat, Illinois Power Co. linemen Dan Giles and Jon King answered a radio call about the cat and arrived in bucket trucks. Those trucks would have been used if the ladder climb had failed, they said.

"If we had known, we would have come earlier," McAdamis said. "Our last (animal) rescue was about two to three weeks ago."

It is not normal fire department procedure to rescue tree cats, he said. "Our No. 1 priority is not to worry about cats," said Battalion Chief Jim Gillen. He explained that committing equipment to that kind of use might make it unavailable for an emergency. But if a unit is free, some times those calls can be answered.

Neighborhood Cat is grateful and so are its "owners." With the cat out of danger and its howling at an end, they planned a peaceful night's sleep Monday.

Decatur aviation official remains optimistic solution will be found

BY BRAD MUDD
1645 Staff Writer

DECATUR — Great Lakes Aviation Ltd. has set Jan. 4 as the last day for air service to Decatur.

The carrier, flying as United Express, announced the cancellation of service Monday to Decatur and Quincy, Ill., and the termination of its operations at the airport. The company also said it is pulling out of Fairmont, Minn., because of the end of a sublease with the city.

Great Lakes had left Decatur in uncertainty in early September when a midmorning flight to Chicago was cancelled because of a problem with the pilot, intending to end service by Halloween. Great Lakes' president, pledged to stay in the city until the end of the year, but the airline's flight in early October, George Marcinkowski, director of Decatur Airport, said, "We're not going to be there."

"The point is, we can still fly United out of here until that Jan. 4 date. And we would continue to fly to Chicago," he said. "We're not going to be viable here," Marcinkowski said Monday evening.

"We've always got our fingers crossed for several things to happen," he said.

Marcinkowski listed as possibilities for the near future a different airline taking over service, a dif-

Great Lakes saying.

One hope for keeping Great Lakes had been the passage of lawmakers lifting restrictions at O'Hare, but Congress has not taken action.

Access to O'Hare is limited by federal rules that require airlines to compete at one of the country's busiest airports.

Marconicko maintains that Decatur can support more passengers than O'Hare, with more than 1,200 passengers who flew Trans World Express in October, one of that company's best months here.

Decatur is also a good location for training flight service, and we're a little disappointed that Great Lakes hasn't been better to Decatur," he said. "We're focused on things happening in the future, and to me that's a good thing."

Decatur's airport will coordinate with United Airlines to rebook passengers with tickets after United Express service ends. Refunds without penalty will be given for alternative arrangements are not satisfactory.

Great Lakes Aviation provides United Express service at Grand Rapids.

The Associated Press contributed to this story.

Continued from A1

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is an syndrome that's been around for decades. It's called "Dowry Syndrome." It's a condition where a woman is so dependent on her husband that she can't function without him. It's a condition that's often the result of a woman being raised in a traditional, patriarchal culture where the husband is the head of the household and the wife is expected to support him. It's a condition that's often the result of a woman being raised in a culture where the husband is the head of the household and the wife is expected to support him. It's a condition that's often the result of a woman being raised in a culture where the husband is the head of the household and the wife is expected to support him.

BRIEFS

Stockard postpones marches for holiday

DECATUR — City council members will be asked to authorize the city to accept two planned "Stop the Violence" marches because of the Thursday and Friday holidays.

Stockard's marches planned for today at 5:30 p.m. and on Saturday, Jan. 13, at 1:30 p.m. will not be held, but the marches will resume on a weekly basis at 1:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 4. The marches will be announced later.

Internet auction benefits Windsor cancer patient

SULLIVAN — An Internet quilt auction will be held to raise money for Vanessa Cook's breast cancer medical bills.

The auction, which will continue until Saturday afternoon on www.ebay.com. On Monday afternoon, the highest bid was \$255.

Doug Dougl of Sullivan, a member of the outreach committee of the Sullivan United Methodist Church, is working for the purchase of the quilt and the Internet auction. Cook, of Windsor, is a 42-year-old mother of two.

Donations should be sent to the Vanessa Cook Benefit, First National Bank, Decatur, 1 South Main, Sullivan, IL 61951.

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