

# Herald & Review

Thursday  
November 18, 1999  
Decatur, Illinois

Serving Central Illinois Since 1873

## Quick Take



### Reading and rating

For one teen, the pursuits of his peers — MTV and video games — are not challenging enough. His book reviews have caught the attention of publishers and authors.

### Our Style / D1

### Powering up

Shelby County is the target of two companies looking to build power plants.

### Central Illinois / A3

### Illini women win Sports / B1



**1999 UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN**

Goal ..... \$2.5 million  
Raised ..... \$2,292,834.86  
Needed ..... \$207,165.14  
Days left ..... 1

### Lottery

Here are the winning numbers Wednesday in the Illinois Lottery:

- Pick Three-Midday: 3-5-7
- Pick Three-Evening: 0-6-8
- Pick Four-Midday: 6-0-4-4
- Pick Four-Evening: 2-9-2-7
- Little Lotto: 01-03-06-14-25
- Lotto: 01-11-13-16-28-30
- Lotto Jackpot: \$2 million
- Big Game Jackpot: \$70 million

### Weather

■ Today: Sunny, High 67.  
■ Tonight: Partly cloudy, Low 48.

### Details / B6

### Inside

Ann Landers ..... D5  
Business ..... C1-3  
Classifieds ..... C4-10  
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Puzzles ..... A8-9  
Sports ..... B1-5  
Television ..... D2

### countdown:

44



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### 50 cents

Our 128th year  
Issue 322 • Four sections



## Teutopolis spawns basketball dynasty

Brother-sister act has college recruiters drooling.

By MARK TUPPER  
H&R Executive Sports Editor

TEUTOPOLIS — Nearly 30 years ago, when Jerry Gray was the basketball coach at Millikin University, he drove to Teutopolis in search of a center and returned convinced he'd traveled to another land.

"He couldn't believe it driving around town," said Leon Gobczynski, the object of Gray's attention, who laughs about it now. "He said every house in Teutopolis has a basketball hoop in the driveway and a Mother Mary in the front yard."

And why not? In this largely Catholic community of 1,300, located just a couple of full-court passes east of Effingham, two religions are held sacred. One is worshipped in the church, the other in a gymnasium. Attendance at each seems mandatory.

The trophies of five girls state basketball championships and one boys title glisten like golden statues and are the centerpiece of an athletic shrine that rings the high school cafeteria. It is a constant reminder of a sports legacy long and proud.

And although that legacy includes some great names — Niebrugge, Kreke, Funneman, Carie, Zerrusen, to name a few —

this season Teutopolis' first family of basketball resides on the northeast edge of town, where brother and sister twins are receiving the attention of college recruiters while their father, a legendary player in his own right, calls much of the action as the play-by-play announcer on the local radio station.

The son, Andy Gobczynski, is a 6-foot-7 senior forward who stands as a kind of miracle of modern science, the beneficiary of a breakthrough surgical procedure that has required a career-threatening knee injury. He's drawing serious looks from colleges at all

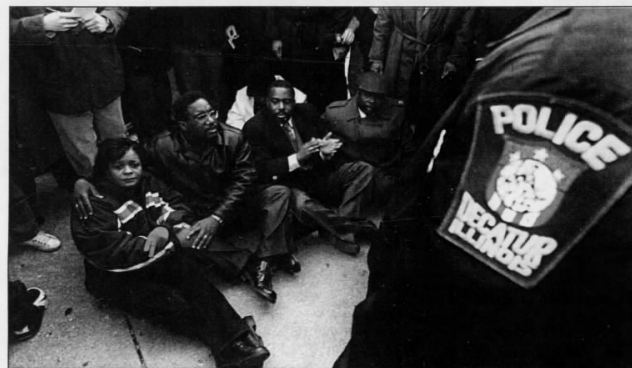
T-TOWN  
Continued on A5



**THE LEGEND GROWS:** Stephanie and Andrew Gobczynski are carrying on a tradition of basketball wizardry started by their father, Leon, at Teutopolis High School in the '70s. Their mother Becky's role in all of this is keeping her family, friends and guests stuffed with wonderful cakes, pies and a wide assortment of other goodies.

## DECATUR EXPULSIONS

# Fight moves to court



SEATED AT THE DOOR: Brenda Carson, the Rev. Marshall Hatch, the Rev. James Meeks and the Rev. Jimmy Waddell staged a short sit-in to protest their inability to enter MacArthur High School early Wednesday. City and state police were on hand, but there were no arrests.

## Expelled students going to alternative school; PUSH, school board file lawsuits

By BRAD MUGO, BILLY TYUS and TONY REID  
H&R Staff Writers

DECATUR — The Rev. Jesse Jackson vowed Wednesday to once again take steps to return six expelled students to class.

Only this time his plans call for a trip to the Macon-Putt Regional Office of Education to enroll the students in an alternative school.

"Our position is still the same," Jackson said. "We want them in the alternative school in a preparatory period while we're still fighting" for the students' return to their regular classrooms.

Jackson announced the change in strategy Wednesday night from the pulpit during a rally at the Church of the Living God, PGT Temple 3.

During the same rally, he

also canceled plans for a Sunday march through the streets of Decatur to garner support for the students' return to regular classes. He instead told supporters to rally at the U.S. District Court in Urbana on Monday morning for a hearing stemming from a civil lawsuit filed on behalf of the expelled students last week.

When asked why he was taking the students to enroll in an alternative school today instead of last week when it was first made available, Jackson said, "We don't want the board to be able to say they can't go because it's too late. We think they're that deviant."

The rally Wednesday night took on a different tone when two of the students and two mothers went to the front of the church, hugged Jackson



BACKUP: Decatur police turned out in force Wednesday but stayed indoors at MacArthur High School.

and thanked him for his efforts. Jackson's speech revolved around several Bible lessons and some advice at the end for the expelled students.

He told the young men to study three hours a night, to work on their character and to become people who can be trusted.

"The eyes of the world are upon

you. Tonight, all over the world, they're discussing you," Jackson said. "Remember, you are at the eye of the storm."

Jackson's comments came at the end of a day that saw lawsuits filed in Macon County Circuit

FIGHT  
Continued on A4

## Group says zero tolerance is a philosophy, not a policy

By ARVIN DONLEY  
H&R Staff Writer

DECATUR — Zero tolerance of violence in schools would seem to be a straightforward concept.

But members of the Macon County School Anti-Violence Focus Group, which last year created a zero-tolerance resolution for violence in all of the county's public schools, say the concept is somewhat misused.

### ■ Jackson's goals

The Rev. Jesse Jackson outlined three goals Wednesday before the Herald & Review editorial board.

### ■ Story / A5

### ■ Today's developments

### Summary / A4

stood.

Gloria Marshall, a member of the focus group, said the prima-

ry goal of zero tolerance is to send a message to parents, students and teachers that any type of violent act or threat is not acceptable and will be dealt with.

Nowhere in a zero-tolerance resolution that was signed by officials from 12 Macon and Putt county schools last November did it state that harsher penalties must be meted out for students who threaten or commit violent acts.

In October, the Decatur school board, which has emphasized its commitment to a zero-tolerance policy, expelled six students for two years for fighting in the stands amid spectators at an Eisenhower High School football game.

The Rev. Jesse Jackson, saying the punishment didn't fit the crime, was successful in getting

TOLERANCE  
Continued on A4

## EgyptAir crash probe focus turns to co-pilot

WASHINGTON (AP) — A relief co-pilot alone in the EgyptAir cockpit said "I made my decision now" I put my faith in God's hands" just before the joltier began its fatal plunge, officials close to the investigation said Wednesday. Moments after the plane began to dive, the pilot returned to struggle — futilely — to pull out.

As Egyptian officials won time to send their own experts to review the cockpit voice recorder tape, a federal law enforcement official and other sources close to the investigation described the evidence on Wednesday that led the United States to the verge of putting the FBI in charge of the inquiry as a potential criminal matter.

The current theory of the fate of EgyptAir 960, the Boeing 767 that plunged into the Atlantic Ocean off Massachusetts, killing 217 people, is both tentative and incomplete, the law enforcement official stressed. Further electronic enhancement of the tape recording and input from the Egyptian experts could alter the sketchy understanding of what went on.

With no sign of any mechanical malfunction or explosion, investigators have been drawn to actions of the crew as captured on the cockpit voice recorder and synchronized with the plane's movements preserved in the flight data recorder.

The law enforcement official, commenting only on condition of anonymity, and other sources close to the case gave this account what those reporters show:

Relief co-pilot Capt. Gamal el-Batouty, scheduled to take over much later in the 11-hour New York-to-Cairo flight, enters the cockpit and asks to fly. His request is accepted.

The cockpit door is opened later, after which there is no conversation, leading investigators to conclude el-Batouty is alone.

He says in Arabic: "I made my decision now, I put my faith in God's hands."

Shortly thereafter, the autopilot is turned off and the jet begins to descend steeply from 33,000 feet.

The cockpit door opens again. Investigators believe the pilot, Capt. Ahmed Mahmoud el-Habashi, has returned because he is heard to ask what's going on. They believe he tries to regain control because he is heard to say, "Pull with me. Help me. Pull with me."

There is no sound of struggle, but some investigators believe that phrase is said in an argumentative tone.

The National Transportation Safety Board reported Wednesday that 35 seconds after the autopilot was turned off at 33,000 feet, there was an unusual split in the plane's elevators. The pilot's side elevator moved up, which would push the nose up, but the co-pilot's side elevator was in the nose-down position. These flaps on either side of the tail usually move up or down in unison to lower or raise the plane's nose.

EGYPTAIR  
Continued on A2