

Herald & Review

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Tuesday

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Decatur, Illinois

Quick Take



The Shortcuts crew plays with lovable, huggable dolls.
Shortcuts C10

S.T.E.P.S. for learning

Programs developed by Forsyth women help children discover that science is fun.
Celebrate! / C1

Pair of wins

Both the Illinois women's and men's basketball teams come out on top Monday.
Sports / D1

1999 UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN

Goal \$2.5 million
Raised \$2,269,662.03
Needed \$230,337.97
Days left 3

Lottery

Here are the winning numbers selected Monday:
Pick Three-Midday: 6-2-6
Pick Three-Evening: 0-2-1
Pick Four-Midday: 6-8-3-2
Pick Four-Evening: 8-5-9-5
Little Lotto: 02-11-16-19-23
Lotto jackpot: \$2 million
Big Game jackpot: \$7 million

Weather

Today: Sunny and cool. High 54.
Tonight: Clear skies. Low 32.
Details / B6

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Celebrate 2000

Sponsored by:
Archer Daniels Midland Co.
Decatur Memorial Hospital
Hirova Power Co.

50 cents

Our 120th year
Issue 320 • Four sections



ADM plans to power up with AmerenCIPS rather than IP

Company takes advantage of 1997 state deregulation law that allows customers to choose providers.

By SUSAN REIDY
Herald Staff Writer

DECATUR — Archer Daniels Midland Co. will link to AmerenCIPS, not Illinois Power Co., to supply electricity for its world headquarters in Decatur starting August 2000. The company is the first Illinois Power customer to publicly announce it's choosing another provider under the 1997 Illinois deregulation law that took effect for some nonresidential customers on Oct. 1.

Next summer, ADM will be a 300-megawatt-load customer of AmerenCIPS, a subsidiary of St. Louis-based Ameren Corp. with 225,000 electric and 160,000 gas customers in Central and Southern Illinois. AmerenCIPS will supply the power, but Illinois Power will deliver it to ADM.

ADM spokeswoman Karla Miller said the switch to AmerenCIPS was made for economic reasons. She said ADM would continue meeting some of its electricity needs with its coal-fired, on-site plant.

The terms of the contract between ADM and AmerenCIPS were not disclosed. AmerenCIPS spokeswoman Susan Galagher said it is a multi-year contract.

ADM's energy demand represents 5 percent of Illinois Power's total load, said Steve Stengel, spokesman for the Decatur-based utility. The company will continue to supply power to some of ADM's other facilities in the state, Stengel said.

"It was a business decision that was made on the part of both companies, and we're going to do our best to ensure that the transition from where we are today to ADM's new supplier works as smoothly as possible," he said.

ADM's switch to AmerenCIPS will have a financial impact on Illinois Power, but it won't be that significant, said Merrill Lynch analyst Sam Brothwell.

"Would Illinois Power rather not have lost ADM as a customer? Yes. But it's not going to have a devastating financial impact on them," Brothwell said.

ADM is a big enough customer that Illinois Power will see an impact if it doesn't replace the company with other users, said Linda Byas, an analyst with Dredner, Kleinwort, and Benson, but Illinois Power will be able to attract new customers.

"You always have to lose a hometown customer. Without the details of the contract, it's hard to tell the financial impact on Illinois Power and AmerenCIPS," Byas said.

Deregulation

Continued on A5

RAINBOW/PUSH SUPPORTERS SIGN UP

Schools brace for rally



SIGNING UP: Volunteers line up to put their names on lists stating their willingness to cross police lines today at Eisenhower High School. At a rally Monday evening, the Rev. Jesse Jackson called on supporters of the seven expelled students to force the issue.

Jackson, students prepared for arrests

By BRAD MUDD, TOM COLLINS
Herald Staff Writers

DECATUR — About 115 people signed up Monday night saying they were willing to be arrested at Eisenhower High School this morning to protest the expulsion of a group of high school students. Decatur school Superintendent Kenneth Arndt said the high schools will be open, even with the threat of a demonstration.

The volunteers stepped forward during another rally at the Church of the Living God, PGT Temple 3, where the Rev. Jesse Jackson said he will send people to Decatur high schools to get arrested in the coming days.

"This is not a one round, one kick fight. We're fighting powers unseen," Jackson said to the boisterous crowd of about 500 gathered at the church. "Come forward if you're willing to sign up and go to jail for a new Decatur and a new America."

When Jackson was asked if he would be arrested, he responded "I intend to take the children back to school tomorrow."

Arndt said that even with the possibility of mass arrests, he hopes the school day can be as normal as possible.

"We're going to pray," Arndt said when asked about the district's plans for dealing with such a mass of people. "Our focus still remains. We want to make sure our kids are allowed



HOME-COOKED MEAL: The Rev. Jesse Jackson sits down Monday evening for a home-cooked meal at the home of Cynthia Howell, mother of one of the expelled students, Gregory. Another mother, Marilyn Jarrett, said the families organized the meal as a way of saying thank you to Jackson and the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition.

to get to school and we fully support our employees in the job they were hired to do."

Jackson also said his lawyers plan to file a lawsuit as early as today on behalf of the expelled students' parents against the school board for releasing confidential information about the students.

"We know ministers who were called in and shown these children's records," Jackson claimed. "That is against state law, it is against federal law, and they run the risk of being sub-

What's next

■ The Rev. Jackson vowed to return to Eisenhower High School this morning and "cross the line," in an attempt to have the expelled students returned to school.

■ Jackson and members of the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition plan to file a second lawsuit against the Decatur school board for allegedly releasing personal student information to the public.

Monday's developments

■ Jackson spent much of the day in Detroit participating in the funeral for the sister of Motown founder Berry Gordy but returned to Decatur for dinner at the home of the mother of expelled student Gregory Howell. Following dinner, Jackson led about 500 people at a town hall rally at the Church of the Living God, PGT Temple 3, where he asked how many attendees would be willing to risk arrest today in taking the students back to school.

■ Decatur School Board President Jackie Goetter said the board may have a special meeting as early as tonight to discuss a proposal from State Schools Superintendent Glenn W. McGee that includes alternative schooling and could result in the students returning to school by January.

Jeffrey Taylor, attorney for the school board, declined to comment on Jackson's accusations.

"That's the first I've heard about that," Taylor said. "So I don't know how I can comment on something I haven't heard before."

Jackie Goetter, school board president, declined to comment.

EXPULSIONS
Continued on A5

EgyptAir probe turns into criminal investigation

Officials say recorder may have taped co-pilot saying prayer before plane plunged.

Knight Ridder Newspapers

The FBI told Rep. Henry Hyde on Monday that the bureau will assume a leading role in the investigation of the crash of EgyptAir Flight 990, congressional sources said.

Hyde, R-Ill., was informed in his role as chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, the sources said, following a meeting between National Transportation Safety Board Chairman Jim Hall and FBI Director Louis Freeh.

The shift from an accident investigation to the possibility of a criminal case came as new details of the final moments of the flight emerged from a cockpit voice recorder.

Government officials familiar with the recorder tapes said that moments before the Boeing 767 began its plunge into the Atlantic, the captain left the cabin and his co-pilot began to say a prayer. The pilot returned, and, as he opened the cabin door, asked, "What's going on?"

Then, the plane's auto-pilot was disconnected. The aircraft began a steep descent, pulled back up and broke up in flight, killing all 217 aboard.

"We are concentrating our efforts on determining from the evidence, including the cockpit voice recorder, whether or not this investigation is to remain under the leadership of the National Transportation Safety Board," Hall said in a press conference Monday.

"I am well aware of the many rumors, theories, and stories circulating in the last 72 hours — indeed, in the last two weeks — about potential causes of this tragedy ... I am confident that many of the questions we have, you have, and the individuals following this investigation around the world have, will be answered," the chairman said.

A senior administration official, who asked not to be named, said, "It's fair to say the investigation is looking at the actions of the flight crew."

Officials stressed that further analysis of the tape and flight data recorder is needed, but said the prayer, in Arabic, began before there were any signs of trouble on the flight.

Officials are moving cautiously, but it is clear that the pace of the investigation is quickening. On Sunday, the NTSB's Hall said no conclusions could be drawn from the cockpit voice tape. Then, less than 24 hours later, Hall hinted that the FBI would assume jurisdiction.

There is still some question about the reliability of the translation and how one goes about putting this translation in the context of a particular culture," said the administration official.

"The body of evidence mandates a closer look at the flight crew," officials are focusing on the plane's first officer, identified by EgyptAir as Adel Anwar.

Safety board officials said the conversation between the two aviators — almost all of it in Arabic — appeared to be friendly during the first 25 minutes of the half-hour long tape.