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BILL WUNDRAM

For the ultimate fan, a Hawkeye casket

Now that the football season is rah-rah-rah in full swing, it is time to get serious. Wout if you're a die-hard Iowa Hawkeye fan, and you die, how would you want to be put to rest? Now, you have the choice for the final score of life, a Hawkeye casket.

This is no spoof. A casket company in Michigan is making Hawkeye caskets, with the black and gold Hawkeye emblem on the silky interior to look down upon the deceased. At the exterior end of the casket is an embossed Hawkeye emblem to remind pallbearers and other mourners — after the casket is closed — that therein is a Hawkeye fan, unto the end.

The first advertisement for Hawkeye caskets appears in the current issue of Voice of the Hawkeyes, a tabloid telling all you ever wanted to know about Iowa's Hawkeyes. The color advertisement displays a Hawkeye casket, as shown here, and some pyramids and the message: "Enduroglas, the strongest burial idea in history."

This is not a laughing matter," said the owner of the casket company, James Kieszkow of Manistee, Mich. "The Iowa Hawkeye casket is so new that we have yet to receive an order, but we are in business making caskets for any number of colleges."

As a casket-maker should be, Kieszkow is dead-serious. In a phone conversation from his office (Oak Grove International) he told me, "The idea for college stuff came from the Texas Aggies. They had some alums who were interested in customized caskets. They wanted something more significant than simply putting their personal memorabilia in the casket." His company made its first one for an Aggie alum, and the idea has gone on from there.

"Other campuses inquired. Ohio State called, saying there was a customer. We needed guidelines, and we had the matter of licensing the college logos for our caskets. It was no laughing matter. We wanted to do this with dignity."

A Hawkeye casket: Next-day delivery, $2,300, including shipment by air.

The manufacturer spieled off colleges with whom they do casket business: Arkansas, Tennessee, Alabama, Duke, Kentucky.

"Florida State is pending and we're working with the Purdue Boilermakers, but that arrangement has not been finalized. We'd like to hear from University of Illinois.

"Duke has a nickname, the Blue Devils, and their logo has a devil. Certainly, it would not be appropriate to put a devil on the casket lining, and an embossed logo devil on the exterior would not be proper. We've come up with an alternative, simply using the name Duke."

The owner of Oak Grove International Casket Co. has found the customized caskets are not for sports fans alone.

"We've sold some to universities for people who were major financial contributors to academia, or who had spent their lives on a college faculty. Our caskets are done with taste, and it's a nice way for a university to say thank you to the deceased."

But when a dyed-in-the-wool fan dies, how does the casket company get the casket to the funeral home in a hurry? And how much does it cost?

"A college casket costs $2,300, and that includes shipping by air. It will arrive the next day after the order.

The company is small, turning out about 3,000 caskets a year. The college business is only a sideline, but a growing one. He is proud of his full line of Enduroglas caskets, but at the moment, the fame is coming farm the college caskets.

"Our caskets are so permanent that a sports fan inside could sense, forever, the game scores," Kieszkow says.

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Powerball: **40**
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UNITED STATES CELLULAR

Schools walk fine line to prepare, not scare, kids

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thing I ever thought I would have to do," she said. "We don't want to create fortresses in our schools. No one wants to see that happen. But we are well aware that (such a tragedy) could happen, even in Bettendorf. We wanted to create a plan to avoid it and respond to it if that becomes necessary."

The task force includes representatives from the Bettendorf and LeClaire police departments, Scott County Sheriff's Department, Bettendorf and Pleasant Valley school districts and St. Katharine's St. Mark's College Preparatory School in Bettendorf.

Its job is to discuss security measures, review the policies in effect and "brainstorm to make sure we are doing all we can to make sure kids are as safe as possible," Bettendorf Police Chief Phil Redington said.

"This gives us a chance to get a large group of people together to see what is being done, to check if anything is being overlooked and decide how far security and safety should go. We want to be proactive while making sure we are letting the school be a school, not a prison."

No Quad-City school districts are considering installation of metal detectors. While the idea may be discussed, school administrators want to find other measures to keep buildings safe.

Bettington has met a DARE officer from Virginia who teaches students what to do if they hear gunfire. "We are not necessarily at that point where that is needed," he said. "That will be something we will consider if, as a community, we decide that is something we want to address."

Davenport North High School parent Lynn Bohlmann is not sure she wants schools teaching her two high school-age students how to duck or run for cover. "But it would be nice if it was in the back of their minds," she said.

She remembers how, when she and her children went on a class trip to Washington D.C., the chaperones gave the students and parents a list of rules and tips. "We went through a whole lot of things, that if this should happen, this is what you should do. And, thank goodness, nothing happened. But at least it was touched on, not dwelled on," she said.

Pat DeLuca, the superintendent of the North Scott School District, absolutely believes that students should be taught what to do if someone begins firing a gun or wielding a knife. He foresees the day when schools will hold safety drills, simulating an incident in which violence erupts.

Something like that is less likely to happen at the elementary school level, but those students need to know what to do, too, he said. Not only are North Scott faculty and staff constantly talking about safety and security in the buildings, but also about threats from the outside. Divorced parents who are fighting over custody, family members feuding over the care of a child or someone who is just upset with the world all can show up at a school. "All of those situations have potential to become unsafe," DeLuca said.

One of the keys to student safety is creating an atmosphere where kids will feel comfortable telling an adult about something they heard, saw or believe. "Kids know who has drugs in a building, know who has a gun in the building, but they are afraid to tell. We have to get them to the point of where they feel safe in telling an adult, even if it is just a rumor," he said.

That is why the district is hiring a juvenile court liaison to work at the high school. He also would like to see the Eldridge, Iowa, police establish a substation in the building.

Bohlmann isn't sure student tips would help, "but short of turning our schools into armed campgrounds, I hate to think we need metal detectors when kids walk in the school doors. But I don't want my kids growing up and being afraid to walk out front doors every morning."

Area school does hold safety drills

Bettendorf Middle School students know what it means when they hear "This is an e-drill" over the intercom.

The emergency drill was created four years ago after an out-of-control student had to be restrained in a hallway. School administrators wondered what would have happened if the bell had rang and the hall filled with students. "We knew we needed to have a procedure in place," Principal Richard Herrig said.

While the safety drill does not simulate any specific situation — such as a tornado or fire drill — it can be used if there is a stranger walking around the halls or a fight has broken out in the building.

If a student is in the hall when they hear the announcement, they know to go into the first classroom they see. Then the teachers immediately lock the classroom door so no one can enter or leave the room. The hall does also are locked as a protective measure.

Teachers are instructed to continue teaching, unless they receive another directive, Herrig said.

If it is a drill, that is announced afterward. If it is not a drill, teachers are briefed about the incident after school.

The drill is practiced at least twice per semester. Herrig said it has only been used once for a student who was injured in a hallway.

Roundy invested well and wants to reinvest in community

Continued from Page 1A

That's all the money to buy grocery stock with. It bought quite a few groceries and our rent was $75 a month. Being the height of the Depression, it was a pretty tough time to start. We didn't think about that. We had enough confidence that we could be successful."

Within a few years, they branched out. They eventually opened several grocery stores under the Economart name until they sold it to the Nash-Finch Co., a larger grocery store chain.

They owned stores in Columbus Junction, Wapello, DeWitt, Muscatine, Fairfield and Morning Sun, he said, and those stores remain in business today.

In the early 1980s, they purchased a winter home in Arizona. But they also spent several months a year in their Columbus Junction home.

During the late 1970s, the Roundys donated the land on which the Columbus Junction Medical Facility now sits. They also were major contributors to the American Legion Hall built in 1961, and their recent $100,000 gift kicked off the Columbus Junction library fund-raising campaign.

"I made some good investments in Arizona. I invested in land," he said.

The Roundys, who never had any children of their own, also established a $200,000 scholarship fund through the school district six years ago. Roundy said his wife had a wonderful outlook on life. "She never met a stranger," he said. "We were married 67 years, almost 68.

"She had a gall bladder operation in 1985 and they discovered a tumor. It was malignant. Doctors said they had it all. Eventually, it is what took her life."

She died in January, but Roundy has not slowed in his efforts to see the bond issue approved. Nor did he alter his commitment, which assumes the community comes through.

An influx of Hispanic families, most working at the IBP Inc. plant in town, have increased enrollment, O'Toole said about 40 percent of the district's students are Hispanic.

"My personal feeling is there are a lot of things going in favor of this one," said Tom Sands, a member of the committee studying overcrowded district schools. "We are optimistic. This is more community-driven. But there's also the challenge of $1 million and land.

"If it does get defeated, it doesn't change the need. We'll have to turn right away and try again. But the time, we would lose the land and the $1 million gift and it could cost substantially more."

Such offers are unusual, but not unheard of, O'Toole said. Similar arrangements have taken place in the Williamsburg and Lisbon school districts in Iowa. In Albia, a private group is matching public funds on a bond issue.

Without Roundy's $1 million gift, O'Toole said, taxpayers would pay an additional 50 cents per $1,000 of taxable evaluation for each of the next 20 years.

True to form, Roundy found a simple way of explaining his and his wife's consistent generosity to the community over the years.

"We tried to pay them back for the good support we received over the years," he said.

Longtime Clinton ally says some action should be taken

Continued from Page 1A

Clinton should resign, only that it was now a possibility. Most party officials still argue that Clinton has had little impact on congressional races — and need not step down.

"There are always people who want to cut and run, but Bill Clinton should be permitted to move forward," said Ed Maccia, chairman of the Connecticut Democratic Party.

At the White House, where aides say Clinton is giving no thought to resignation, spokesman Barry Toiv said most of the evidence suggests that Clinton's problems are not hurting Democratic candidates.

But interviews with Democratic leaders across the country show a clearly growing anxiety that Starr's report may reveal new details that weaken the president's grip on office or create a congressional frenzy that freezes out the Democrats' message to voters.

Whispers of resignation surfaced last week as party operatives fretted over ominous signs in polls that could portend a strong turnout for Republicans in Nov. 3 elections — and significant losses for Clinton's party. Several key Senate Democrats voiced their concerns about Clinton in remarks from the Senate floor and House members return from August recess this week carrying concerns from their constituents and eager to see a new set of pre-election surveys.

The tide began to turn against Clinton when Democratic U.S. Sen. Joseph Lieberman, a longtime Clinton ally, declared on the Senate floor Thursday that the president's actions demanded a formal "public rebuke."

Some Democrats are worried about what shoe might drop next.

Clinton "knows what's going to come out in the report. We don't," said Pauline Woods, a DNC member and former vice chairwoman the Georgia Democratic Party. "If it's something that will hurt every candidate, he needs to step down. If not, he needs to stay and fight."

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