

# Journal Register

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INSIDE

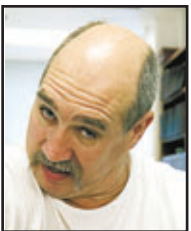


## 25 IN A ROW

Sacred Heart-Griffin beats Kankakee  
McNamara to advance to the state 5A quarterfinals.  
Page 49

## WELL DONE

U.S. Sen Dick Durbin helped honor several people for their service to the Springfield Urban League.  
Page 9



## UP IN SMOKE

Former major-league pitcher Sammy Stewart replaced baseball with crack cocaine.  
Page 41



WEATHER

Cloudy today and tonight with a chance of rain late.  
High 56, low 41.  
More on page 24

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## CORRECTION

To complain about spam text messages to your cell phone, the Federal Communications Commission can be reached at (888) 225-5322.  
The phone number was listed incorrectly in a story in Monday's State Journal-Register. The newspaper apologizes for the error.

## ELECTION 2006

### Poll hours

Polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

By **BERNARD SCHOENBURG**  
POLITICAL WRITER

### Governor

Can months of negative television advertisements, coupled with a smattering of new programs — including some that have yet to prove they are useful or can be paid for — overcome a previously well-liked opponent and a steady stream of troubling questions about ethics in your own administration and family? Democratic Gov. Rod Blagojevich will find out.

Will a long alliance with the disgraced George Ryan, plus a habit of ungovernor-like comments — like calling primary opponents “morons” or saying Blagojevich has “little weasel eyes” — keep state Treasurer Judy Baar Topinka from ascending to the governor's office?

Can disgust with the two established political parties provide a vote bonanza for a third-party candidate with some provocative opinions? The Green Party's Rich Whitney will find out.

### Other statewide races

■ **ATTORNEY GENERAL:** Have enough

people heard of Stewart Umholtz for him to make a race of it against incumbent Lisa Madigan? David Black is on the ballot for the Green Party.

■ **SECRETARY OF STATE:** Jesse White has a longstanding reputation as a good guy, dating from his children's tumbling team days, and he hired a former U.S. attorney as his office's inspector general. Will that be enough to withstand state Sen. Dan Rutherford's attempts to link White to allegations of nepotism and cor-

See **QUESTIONS** on page 4

## Gaulding: Man of mystery

Little known of man accused of stealing from youth league

By **BRUCE RUSHTON**  
STAFF WRITER

Gary A. Gaulding enjoys the trappings of a rich man.

Enjoys expensive cars and fine cigars. Lives in a home near Illini Country Club valued at \$467,000 by the Sangamon County supervisor of assess-

ments. Keeps company with an attorney with ties to Gov. Rod Blagojevich and a former Canadian Air Force general who was once second-in-command of that country's armed forces.

In a charcoal pinstriped suit, a yellow tie and burgundy wingtips with tassels, Gaulding was the best-dressed person in the courtroom when he first appeared in September to face charges of stealing as much as \$165,000 from a youth baseball league. After promising to come back and enter a plea, he strolled away, still free on \$2,000 bond. Gaulding smiled easily in the corridor and posed for a photograph, but left the talking to his lawyer, who didn't say much.

Gaulding pleaded not guilty a month later. He didn't return phone calls from The State Journal-Register, and his lawyer says he won't be talking to the media. His trial is scheduled for Jan 22.

People who have crossed Gaulding's path say he's friendly and well-spoken. Easy to get along with.

“Gary was a guy who was hard not to like,” says Richard Adkins, former president of the Springfield Southwest Baseball Association.

See **MYSTERY** on page 5



Photographs by Kendra Helmer/The State Journal-Register

About 150 people in support of night bus service attended Saturday's meeting with Urbitrans, a New York-based engineering and planning firm tasked with determining the feasibility of local evening bus service.

## Night riders

About 150 turn out to support extending SMTD service

By **DANIEL PIKE**  
STAFF WRITER

Evening bus service would substantially boost the academic prospects of Julianne Smith, a graduate student in counseling at the University of Illinois at Springfield.

Smith, 26, who uses a wheelchair, is concerned about next fall, when she'll juggle classes and an internship required to complete her degree. So she needs a reliable way to get to and from the UIS campus in far southeast Springfield.

The Springfield Mass Transit District's current bus service, which ends about 6 p.m., seriously complicates Smith's schedule and opportunities.

“The other options I have are to delay my pro-



**Don Carlson, executive director of the Central Illinois Organizing Project, spreads some holiday cheer during Saturday's meeting.**

gram,” Smith said Saturday after a public meeting on the issue at First Presbyterian Church, 321 S. Seventh St. “Or (I could) try to hire somebody who could drive me around.”

“I'm looking into all these things right now.”

See **NIGHT** on page 7



VISIT **SJ-R.COM** to cast your vote: Is there enough to justify evening bus service in Springfield?

## Tax problems piled up, then vanished

By **BRUCE RUSHTON**  
STAFF WRITER

Three years ago, Gary A. Gaulding owed the Internal Revenue Service more than \$100,000.

Most of that debt has vanished, with no sign it was ever paid — even though Gaulding drove luxury cars and owned an upscale home alongside The Rail Golf Course that he sold three years ago without the government getting a dime.

Gaulding's unpaid income taxes piled up between 1990 and 1995, resulting in liens of nearly \$84,000, according to records in the Sangamon County recorder's office, where the IRS files notices of lien and corresponding releases when debts are paid. With interest, the debt by 2003 had grown to nearly \$125,000, according to court files in a foreclosure action filed that year by Illini Bank.

See **TAX** on page 4

## Events of 2006 have put strain on some families

By **AMANDA REAVY**  
STAFF WRITER

Trying times have touched the lives of many local residents through the course of 2006.

A pair of tornadoes that ripped through Springfield on March 12 transformed parts of the capital city into disaster areas, affecting more than 1,700 homes and businesses and displacing at least 35 families.

Families have also felt the strain of skyrocketing gas prices earlier this year and a potential energy rate hike.

Even local charities are struggling to pro-

vide help as the holiday season approaches.

Organizations such as the Salvation Army have put out special appeals to help combat shortages plaguing their pantries.

Now more than ever people in our own community need a helping hand as they prepare to face Christmas without presents, warm clothing or even a decent meal.

Friend-in-Deed, The State Journal-Register's not-for-profit charity organization, gives area residents the perfect opportunity to provide such assistance.

Through the generous support of volunteers and the monetary donations of readers, Friend-in-Deed distributes toys to chil-

dren ages 12 and younger, clothes to youths 15 and younger and food for families in need.

This year's campaign kicks off with the goal of \$285,000. September's 16 annual golf outing benefiting Friend-in-Deed and Contact Ministries raised more than \$73,900 to contribute to that goal.

A list of contributors to the Sept. 7 golf outing is on Page 6.

Friend-in-Deed began in 1960, serving 99 families with \$2,492. Last year, the charity

See **FID** on page 6



WEB SITE

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