



LADY RAIDERS' DOMINANCE CONTINUES

The Quincy Notre Dame girls soccer team clamps down defensively in a 2-0 victory over Quincy High School, extending its unbeaten streak in the intra-city series to 16 straight games.

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SUCCESSFUL TESTING TAKES HELP

When Quincy High School juniors take the Prairie State Achievement Exam April 25-26, sophomores, seniors and parents will have an important role to play as well, according to Principal Terry Ellerman. "This is a community event," he said.

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Thursday
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50 cents

DURA to close Hannibal South plant

Sixty-five employees will lose their jobs when work is moved in September to Tennessee; no changes planned for North facility

By Ann Pierceall
Herald-Whig Staff Writer

HANNIBAL, Mo. — Sixty-five employees will lose their jobs when DURA Automotive Systems, Inc., closes its Hannibal South plant by the end of September.

The plant is one of four DURA plants to close as part of its "strategic restructuring" plan. The Michigan-based company filed for bankruptcy Oct. 30.

Ellen Gonda, a DURA restructuring communications representative in New York, said there are no plans for changes at the Hannibal North facility. That plant employs about 230 people who manufacture automobile control

cables.

Hannibal South is a 70,000 square-foot facility that manufactures parking brake cables. All primary operations will be transferred to Milan, Tenn., to be integrated with final assembly work. Some Hannibal employees will be offered jobs there.

"We recognize the impact that these announcements will have on our employees and these communities," said Larry Denton, chairman and chief executive officer of DURA Automotive. "The decisions to consolidate facilities and transition assembly lines are extremely difficult but necessary.

"Our restructuring programs are designed to improve our long-term competitiveness and assist the organiza-

tion to emerge from Chapter 11 protection in an expedited time frame."

The announcement follows a company layoff last fall of 120 of DURA's 420 employees at its Hannibal facilities. Those jobs were moved to Matamoros, Mexico.

In addition to the Hannibal South facility, manufacturing plants in Brownstown, Ind., Bracebridge, Ontario, and Selinsgrove, Pa., will close by year's end, affecting about 426 employees.

In February the company announced an operational restructuring plan that called for five to 10 facilities to be closed and 2,000 jobs eliminated

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H-W Photo/Steve Bohnstedt
DURA Automotive Systems South plant in Hannibal, Mo., will close in September, the company has announced. DURA is moving its parking brake manufacturing to a final assembly plant in Tennessee.

TRI-STATE DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT: Planning begins for next meeting



H-W Photo/Michael Kiple
Jack Schultz, author of "Boomtown USA," in the foreground, has members of the Youth Leadership Academy stand during his speech about the secrets of successful rural communities. Schultz told members of the Tri-State Economic Development Summit that young people are the future for this region and nation.

By Doug Wilson
Herald-Whig Senior Writer

CANTON, Mo. — Within minutes after the 2007 Tri-State Development Summit ended, Shelby Crow was looking toward the next gathering in 18 months to two years in Iowa.

"We're actually going to be e-mailing a survey to all the participants and asking their thoughts and how we're going to improve on the next summit," said Crow, who was hired as summit coordinator last June.

Summit coordinators and steering committee members will then start looking at when they could schedule the next gathering at one of several

INSIDE

A look at the task force reports presented at the summit.

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Iowa communities that want to host it.

About 430 community and business leaders from Northeast Missouri, Western Illinois and Southeast Iowa attended Wednesday's summit. That was just short of the record attendance of 450 set in Burlington, Iowa, in 2001 and Quincy in 2003.

U.S. Sen. Christopher "Kit" Bond, R-Mo., got a brief standing ovation when he took the stage during the afternoon session. Bond was the first U.S. senator to address the summit, which held its first meeting in Canton in 1996.

Bond gave a quick overview of

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Progress in ACTION

About 430 community and business leaders from Northeast Missouri, Western Illinois and Southeast Iowa share ideas for future plans on key issues ranging from transportation to economic development in the region

Feds charge Beardstown company with hiring illegal immigrants

■ Two executives of Quality Service Integrity Inc. are also charged with aggravated identity theft.

By John O'Connor

AP Political Writer

SPRINGFIELD — Executives at a Beardstown cleaning company were arrested Wednesday on federal charges that they hired illegal immigrants and helped them steal the identities of U.S. citizens.

Federal immigration agents arrested Gerardo Dominguez, the plant manager for Quality Service Integrity Inc., and Maria del Pilar Marroquin de Ramirez, the company's personnel administrator. The charges against the two Beardstown residents include aggravated identity theft.

Authorities also charged 25 other QSI employees with identity theft, and have arrested 11 of them. The 13 employees who were arrested were scheduled to appear in federal court today.

"Evidence uncovered during the investigation indicates that valid identities of U.S. citizens and U.S. permanent residents were illegally obtained and used to employ illegal aliens at QSI," said Lindsay Murphy, assistant special agent-in-charge for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Another 49 workers were taken into custody as illegal aliens.

Officials claim Dominguez had access to several assumed identities, which he provided to new employees.

Authorities say one informant, who wore a recorder, told plant officials his documents were fake. Dominguez and others allegedly told him and other informants to get better documents, saying good

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ABOUT THE COMPANY

Quality Service Integrity Inc. is a contractor that cleans a Cargill meat-processing plant in Beardstown. About 100 QSI cleaning employees worked at the plant, which can process up to 18,000 hogs a day.

information, please

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48-Hour FORECAST

Friday
... partly cloudy and breezy, high around 40, low around 19. Saturday
... partly cloudy and cool, high around 40, low around 20.



NEWS Maker

NEW YORK — Gina Glocksen, who had her share of good and bad "American Idol" moments, kissed the show goodbye Wednesday, becoming the latest casualty in viewer voting. The exit of Glocksen, 22, of Naperville, trimmed the number of finalists to eight. The winner will be chosen in May. Judge Randy Jackson had said on Tuesday's program that Glocksen — the show's resident rocker girl, with her red highlights and all-black outfits — gave a "nice, controlled performance" of the classic song "Smile." His colleague Simon Cowell, who has griped that Glocksen was not in the same league as other finalists, sported a frown. Glocksen let out a sob when she heard the result but managed to sing through her tears while performing on "Idol" for the last time. Glocksen and Phil Stacey had the next-lowest vote tallies in the phone balloting, which drew about 33 million calls and text messages. Wednesday's program also featured a performance by Michael Buble, who sang "Call Me Irresponsible."



Glocksen

