

## Metro Edition



## WHAT'S FOR BRUNCH?

SOME OF THE BEST COMFORT-FOOD OPTIONS IN TOWN • GET OUT

## CLIP CASH. WIN BIG.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE  
TO PLAY MILLIONAIRE



# ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

THURSDAY | SEPTEMBER 20, 2007 | FOUNDED BY JOSEPH PULITZER IN 1878 | STLTODAY.COM | 50¢

## TOP NEWS

### PENALTY IS \$15 MILLION

The maker of an air mask blamed for the death of a St. Louis firefighter must pay \$15 million in punitive damages, a jury decided Wednesday, on top of \$12 million in actual damages already awarded.

METRO | B1

## LOCAL NEWS

### SECOND CRASH

The driver of the SUV that slammed into a restaurant's outdoor eating area in Clayton was involved in a crash in St. Louis less than two months ago.

METRO | B1

### BUYOUT BID

Town and Country-based apparel maker Kellwood Co. receives an unsolicited takeover offer from its second-largest shareholder.

BUSINESS | C1

### CARDS WIN IN 10

Yadier Molina drives in the winning run in the 10th inning as the Cardinals edge the Phillies 2-1 for their second win in 14 games.

SPORTS | D1

## ELSEWHERE

### O.J. CASE

O.J. Simpson posts bail and flies home to Florida, as law professors say that prosecuting him won't be easy.

NATION | A2

### RATHER SUES

Dan Rather sues CBS and others, saying he was let go unjustly and defamed.

NATION | A2

## ONLINE



Get the latest traffic information, including real-time updates on accidents, construction and lane closures. Go to [STLtoday.com/traffic](http://STLtoday.com/traffic).



### TUBE TALK

Wondering what's hot on the tube this fall? Join TV critic Gail Pennington for a live discussion at 1 p.m. today at [STLtoday.com/tv](http://STLtoday.com/tv).

## THE JENA SIX • Charges fire up racial tension

# Protest could recall those of civil rights era



High school seniors from Centreville talk Wednesday while they wait for buses in East St. Louis to take them to Jena, La., for a protest over charges against the Jena Six. They are (from left): Kaila Belle, 16; Khyla Arnold, 16; and Essence Henderson, 16. Their sponsor, Valerie Hych, gets bottled water ready for the trip. J.B. Forbes | Post-Dispatch

## 'It's about treating people the same'

By Amanda St. Amand  
ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

**EAST ST. LOUIS** • When the three charter buses pulled into the grocery store parking lot Wednesday night, 90 minutes late for a 10-hour ride, the people who had waited under the late-summer sun let out a cheer. They were bound for a small town in Louisiana most of them had not heard of a few months ago.

But in the past few months, many of the 100-plus people

who paid \$80 for the bus ride and box lunch, organized by the East St. Louis branch of the NAACP, had done their homework on Jena, La. And they were eager to join the thousands of protesters expected today in the town now best known as home to the Jena Six — a group of black high school students facing criminal charges in connection with a fight in a high school hallway.

Gary Britt, a 31-year-old from St. Louis who works at Scott Air Force Base, and his

fiancee were among those ready for the long ride. "We've read everything online about this. We know the issues," Britt said. "This isn't about black or white, it's about treating people the same."

Most of the protesters bound for Jena from across the nation on an estimated 500 tour buses were spurred to action by outcries on the Internet and a nationwide urban radio program by a popular disc jockey.

PLEASE SEE **JENA** | A7

### Talk

[STLtoday.com/curent](http://STLtoday.com/curent)  
Why do you think Jena, La., is drawing so much attention? Talk about it in Current Affairs.

### Keep up

[STLtoday.com/nation](http://STLtoday.com/nation)  
Get updates on today's demonstration in Jena.



By Tim Townsend  
ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

**ST. LOUIS** • The Rev. Larry Rice was walking the streets of Dutchtown, looking for support for his latest grand enterprise — a center that would assist the homeless by giving them skills in the burgeoning field of renewable energy.

"Do you live in the area?" Rice asked a man last week at a Philips 66 gas pump at Grand Boulevard and Delor Street. The man, startled at first, recognized Rice and smiled at the pastor, who handed him a pen and a petition.

Moments later, the station's manager shooed Rice off his property. Rice eagerly explained

how his petition would build support for his latest venture and offered the manager his pen.

"I'm not interested" was the reply.

And with a smile, Rice was off to a row of homes across the street.

So goes the life of St. Louis' polarizing champion of the homeless.

Rice's New Life Evangelistic Center has been one of downtown's most popular and active homeless shelters for years, but critics contend Rice attracts too many homeless people to one area and exploits the very souls he claims to be supporting.

PLEASE SEE **RICE** | A3

## Rice ruffles feathers in Dutchtown

**Residents worry** he will turn purchased property into a homeless shelter.  
**Pastor says** he will use area to train the homeless in renewable energy.

**Talk** [STLtoday.com/current](http://STLtoday.com/current) • Would you welcome a center like Rice's in your neighborhood? Talk about it in Current Affairs.

## Bill to extend leave fails

### Democrats fall short

Measure to assure troops more time at home was part of push on Iraq.

By Renee Schoof  
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

**WASHINGTON** • In another defeat for Democrats trying to change President George W. Bush's Iraq policy, the Senate on Wednesday blocked legislation requiring that members of the active-duty military must spend at least as much time in the United States as they've spent in Iraq or Afghanistan before they can be sent back to the war zones again.

Democrats plan several more bills in the next few weeks to try to speed troop withdrawals, but the one on "dwell time" was considered their best chance to get the 60 votes needed under Senate rules to shut off debate. It fell four votes short: 56-44.

Of the 56 senators voting to advance the measure were 49 Democrats, six Republicans and Vermont Independent Bernard Sanders. Voting against it were 43 Republicans and Connecticut Independent Joseph Lieberman.

PLEASE SEE **TROOPS** | A12

### Inside

Iraqi leader says U.S. contractors will be held responsible for shooting deaths. **A12**

## Gov. Blunt takes heat from GOP

**Health coverage plan's cost and scope concern some Republicans.**

By Virginia Young  
POST-DISPATCH  
JEFFERSON CITY BUREAU CHIEF

**JEFFERSON CITY** • Gov. Matt Blunt's plan to pay for health insurance for low-income parents faces stiff resistance from some of his fellow Republicans, who are worried about the plan's price tag and scope.

Two House members with expertise in health care said the governor is setting up a huge government program that goes far beyond what legislators authorized last spring. Reps. Doug Ervin and Rob Schaaf said Blunt would have trouble getting legislators to fund the plan next year.

Ervin, R-Kearney, called the program's \$600 million price tag

PLEASE SEE **INSURANCE** | A7

## NEWSTRACKER | UPDATES ON CONTINUING STORIES

**KHMER ROUGE** Highest-ranking surviving leader charged with war crimes **World** | A8

**WARNING** Israel tells Hamas it might restrict power, fuel to Gaza Strip **World** | A9

**ASSASSINATION** Car bomb kills anti-Syrian lawmaker in Lebanon **World** | A11

**CHEAPER GOODS** Consumer prices fell in August **Business** | C1

**RAMS** Jackson apologizes to teammates for sideline outburst Sunday **Sports** | D1



French toast of the town  
POST-DISPATCH  
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**'BACK TO YOU' VS. TV NEWS**

Real-life news anchors find some parallels

COMPLETE INDEX ON PAGE A2 | WEATHER • TODAY 87° TONIGHT 75° TOMORROW 91° FORECAST PAGE D10

1 2 3 4 5 6

