

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

The MAC West is strong, but the champ may be from East

Sports, B1

DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE

New principal brings world view to Sycamore school

Faith, C1

D-428 adjusts school start times

By DAVID THOMAS
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DeKALB – DeKalb School District 428 has announced new starting and ending times for classes for the 2012-2013 school year.

The district's schools are reverting to the hours they had two years ago, said Andrea Gorla, District 428's assistant superintendent for business services. All elementary schools will have students arrive at 8:15 a.m., with classes starting at 8:45 a.m. and ending at 3:30 p.m.

Students at DeKalb High School, Huntley Middle School and Clinton Rosette Middle School will arrive at their schools at 7:15 a.m. Classes will start at 7:45 a.m. and end at 2:45 p.m. DHS students will be dismissed at 1:35 p.m.

Wednesdays.

The district, which is expecting to lose at least \$300,000 in transportation reimbursements from the state, has consolidated school bus routes to reduce costs. Gorla could not say how much the new routes would save the district.

"We looked at what other districts were doing in order to find a more efficient way of transporting students," Gorla said. "At the end of the day, those efficiencies should garner you some savings."

But those savings will not equal \$300,000, Gorla said. Rising gas prices also can cut into any potential savings,

she added.

Superintendent Jim Briscoe said the state often will say one thing but do another in regards to funding. The state often prorates its payments, Briscoe said, meaning it will not pay the last couple of payments that are owed to school districts for transportation and general state aid. And the \$300,000 shortfall remains an estimate.

"We're trying to guess how much the state is going to give us," Briscoe said.

Gorla said the district's transportation provider, First Student, is mapping out the new route locations. She added that district parents will receive an automated phone call within the next week or so with information about the new routes.

New schedule

School	Est. Arrival Time	Start Time	End Time
DeKalb High School	7:15 a.m.	7:45 a.m.	2:45 p.m.*
Clinton Rosette Middle School	7:15 a.m.	7:45 a.m.	2:30 p.m.
Huntley Middle School	7:15 a.m.	7:45 a.m.	2:30 p.m.
Brooks Elementary School	8:15 a.m.	8:45 a.m.	3:30 p.m.
Cortland Elementary School	8:15 a.m.	8:45 a.m.	3:30 p.m.
Founders Elementary School	8:15 a.m.	8:45 a.m.	3:30 p.m.
Jefferson Elementary School	8:15 a.m.	8:45 a.m.	3:30 p.m.
Lincoln Elementary School	8:15 a.m.	8:45 a.m.	3:30 p.m.
Littlejohn Elementary School	8:15 a.m.	8:45 a.m.	3:30 p.m.
Malta Elementary School	8:15 a.m.	8:45 a.m.	3:30 p.m.
Tyler Elementary School	8:15 a.m.	8:45 a.m.	3:30 p.m.

* DHS students are dismissed at 1:35 p.m. on Wednesdays.

For information, parents can visit the school district's website, www.dist428.org, or contact the district's transportation coordinator, Brenda Jergens, at brenda.jergens@dist428.org or 815-754-2199.

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County Board contemplates transparency

Recent low grade from Illinois Policy Institute prompts discussion

By JEFF ENGELHARDT
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SYCAMORE – A recent D-minus grade in transparency given to DeKalb County by the Illinois Policy Institute did not sit well with some County Board members and officials, and changes could be coming.

Scott Newport, R-DeKalb, raised the issue of transparency to Finance Committee members, referencing the conservative think tank's report and asking whether its suggestions should be followed.

The county had low scores in categories such as employee salary and benefit information and Freedom of Information Act standards. Although salary and FOIA information is available on the county's website, the IPI said the site should list salary and benefits on an individual basis and have clearer information on how to contact FOIA officers.

Newport said he thought the county's grade should have been higher, but he agreed that some suggestions, such as listing lobbying organizations and organizations that lobby the county, could be listed.

"I think the county actually did quite well in some areas," Newport said.

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Obama, Romney have tough sell to undecided voters

By CHARLES BABINGTON
The Associated Press

PURCELLVILLE, Va. – Undecided voters in swing states hold the key to the presidential election, but neither Mitt Romney nor Barack Obama has an easy recipe for winning them over.

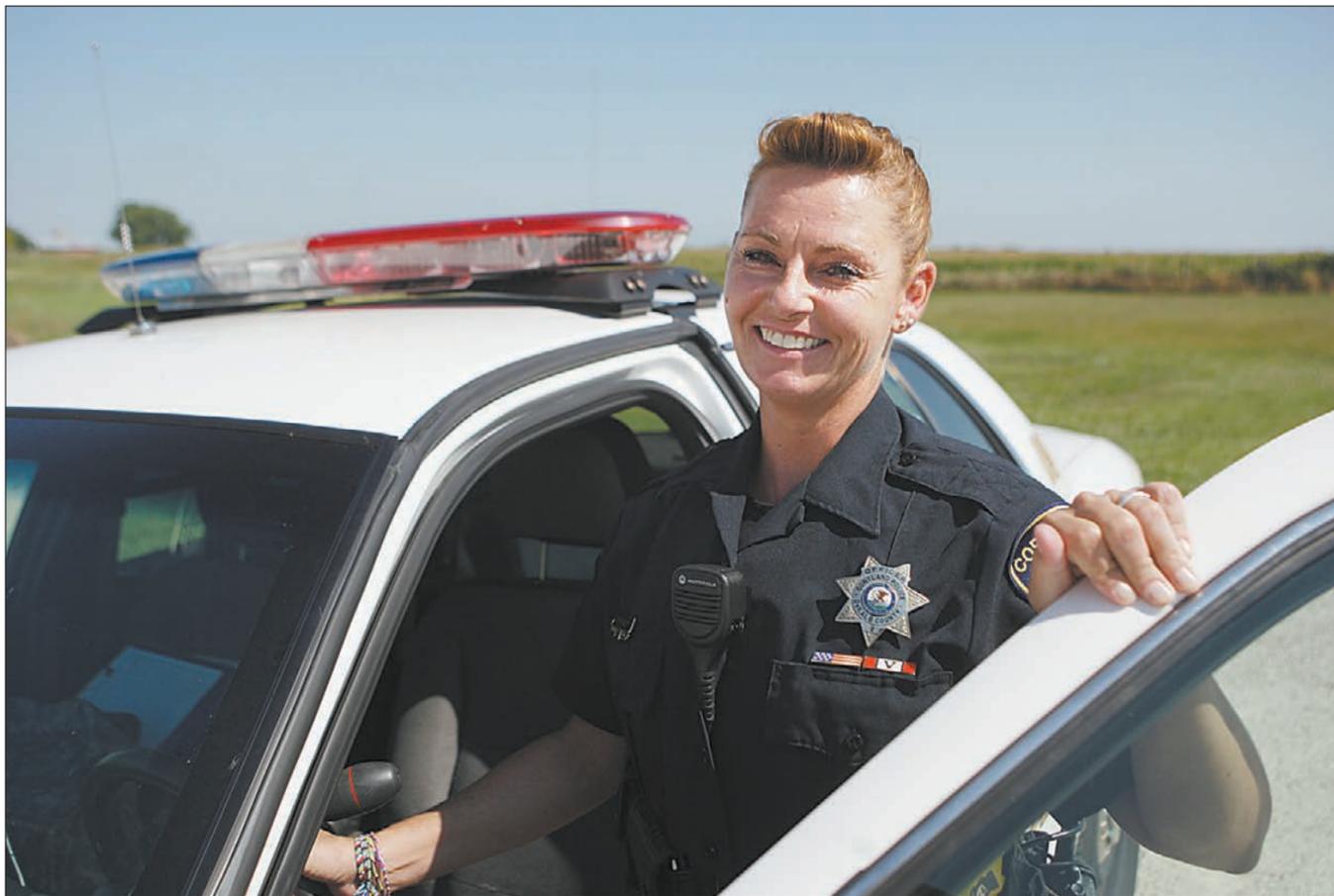
Today's new jobs report, even if dismal for incumbent President Obama, might do little to help challenger Romney with this group.

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Presidential race

Follow the road to the White House online at Daily-Chronicle.com/whitehouse.

HEROISM IN THE LINE OF DUTY



Cortland police officer Kimberly Everhart recently was recognized as Law Officer of the Year by Grand du Illinois for saving the lives of two people during a double homicide/suicide attempt in July 2011.

Cortland cop celebrated for her bravery

Everhart named Law Officer of the Year by organization

By JEFF ENGELHARDT
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CORTLAND – Not a day goes by for Cortland police officer Kimberly Everhart without at least a brief thought of the lives that were saved during a July 2011 double homicide/suicide attempt.

But she is not the only one who has been thinking about the night she ran into a Cortland home as gunshots rang out to escort a mother and her son to safety after they had been shot.

Everhart was named the Law Officer of the Year by the Grand du Illinois, a branch of the Fort and Eight – an international veterans organization with posts in every state and countries where American veterans reside.

Everhart beat out nearly 50 other nominees to win an award she said she holds close to her heart because one of her professional



Cortland police officer Kimberly Everhart was presented with this Law Officer of the Year award.

mentors was a previous recipient. "It was humbling to see the people that were honoring me are military people, and to be in their presence," she said. "I kept thinking, 'You're the heroes.' It was really a once-in-a-lifetime honor."

On the day of the July 2011 shooting, Michael Sebourn – who

had been living in Arkansas – was waiting inside the home of his estranged wife and son shortly before they arrived home at 10 p.m. Soon after, a struggle ensued between Sebourn and his son, according to police.

The woman ran outside and alerted Everhart, who was across

the street on patrol. Everhart entered the home as gunshots were fired and saw two men tussling. She used a Taser to stop Sebourn before leading the victims outside.

They were taken to a nearby ambulance and hospital, where the teenager was treated for a glancing shoulder wound and the woman was treated for a pelvic injury that was not life-threatening. Everhart never fired a shot.

"We know we may not come home when we put on this uniform," Everhart said. "I'm just grateful for all the assistance I got that night from other departments. When you're in that kind of trouble and see help coming, it's a huge relief. I don't know what I would have done without them."

Police were not able to make it back inside the home before Sebourn took his own life.

Frank Beierlotzer, head officer for the local Grand du Illinois post, said it was the first time he had nominated an officer for the award in his 23 years with the organization.

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Weather
High: **92** Low: **70**