


Sports

What a way to win

A.J. takes one for the team

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Big Picture  DuPage County Focus

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Time out!

Is it a killer thriller?

Dann Gire reviews "Grindhouse"



The infamous feud between William Anderson "Devil Anse" Hatfield and his descendants and the McCoy family may be partly explained by a rare, inherited disease that can lead to hair-trigger rage.



ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Did disease fuel famous feud?

Associated Press

The most infamous feud in American folklore, the long-running battle between the Hatfields and McCoy's, may be partly explained by a rare, inherited disease that can lead to hair-trigger rage and violent outbursts.

Dozens of McCoy descendants apparently have the disease, which causes high blood pressure, racing

hearts, severe headaches and too much adrenaline and other "fight or flight" stress hormones.

No one blames the whole feud on this, but doctors say it could help explain some of the clan's notorious behavior.

"This condition can certainly make anybody short-tempered, and if they are prone because of their personality, it can add fuel to the

fire," said Dr. Revi Mathew, a Vanderbilt University endocrinologist treating one of the family members.

The Hatfields and McCoy's have a storied and deadly history dating to Civil War times.

Their generations of fighting over land, timber rights and even a pig are the subject of dozens of books, songs and countless jokes. Unfortunately for Appalachia, the feud

is one of its greatest sources of fame.

Several genetic experts have known about the disease plaguing some of the McCoy's for decades but kept it secret. The Associated Press learned of it after several family members revealed their history to Vanderbilt doctors, who are trying to find more McCoy relatives to warn

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Looking to make point on the war

DuPage group wants referendum on ballot

By ROBERT SANCHEZ

Daily Herald Staff Writer

An anti-war group is taking its push for a countywide ballot question on pulling troops out of Iraq to next week's annual township meetings.

But getting Republican Party leaders in all nine townships to put an advisory referendum on next year's primary ballot could be an uphill battle.

"I can't wait to debate the war with them," Addison Township GOP Chairman Patrick Durante said. "I'm looking forward to it."

DuPage Against War Now, or DAWN, is mustering supporters to attend Tuesday night's annual meetings, where residents traditionally can show up and vote on issues ranging from budgetary matters to issues of the day.

"We're hoping that the people who feel the way we do — that they would like DuPage County to have a voice — will show up," said Kathy Slovick, the group's co-founder.

Under state law, residents attending their townships' annual meetings can ask that an issue of public policy be put to an advisory referendum.

If a majority of the residents at the meeting vote for it, it's the township's responsibility to put it on the ballot.

DAWN's leaders are hoping to use that method to force DuPage County's townships to place a nonbinding troop withdrawal question on the ballot.

"The people of DuPage County have never been asked their opinion about whether or not the war was a good idea," Slovick said.

"It's not a partisan issue anymore," she added. "If you speak to the general population, I think, they would like to express their opinion."

Last November, roughly 53 percent of the voters in Downers Grove Township passed an advisory question in favor of bringing the troops home.

But that was the only township in DuPage where activists could get the issue on the ballot.

In the remaining townships, the item was rejected during the annual meetings or not considered at all.

Slovick claims Lisle Township

See BALLOT on PAGE 7

JUSTICE through GENETICS

At least 15,000 inmates could be forced to provide DNA samples under legislation aimed at clearing old cases



DAILY HERALD PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY PATRICK KUNZER

By CHRISTY GUTOWSKI

Daily Herald Legal Affairs Writer

Her murder remains one of the suburbs' most haunting mysteries.

Kristy Wesselman walked through a field near her Glen Ellyn home almost 22 years ago after buying a candy bar and soda at a local store.

In broad daylight, the 15-year-old girl was repeatedly stabbed and raped July 21, 1985, along the well-worn shortcut, not far from where a family barbecued and a clerk gathered grocery carts.

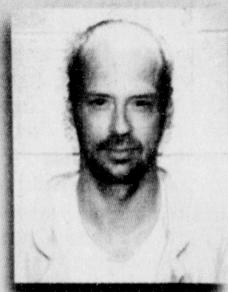
Police never nabbed her killer, despite comparing the DNA evidence he left behind with that of suspects and thousands of convicted sex offenders whose genetic profiles are in state and national databases.

A proposal pending in Springfield hopes to crack such "cold cases" by requiring a DNA sample from every imprisoned felon to be entered into the state database.

DuPage County State's Attorney Joseph Birkett proposed the legislation. It expands upon a 2002 law he spearheaded that required all newly convicted felons to submit a DNA sample.

That law did not require the thousands of felons already

See JUSTICE on PAGE 5



Caught by DNA

Eric Michael Bruhnson was in prison on unrelated charges when a DNA match two years after the crime led to his conviction for the rape of a Gurnee bartender.



Unsolved

15-year-old Kristy Wesselman was raped and murdered in 1985 near Glen Ellyn. Authorities hope the DNA of a convict will solve the case. "I can't believe this man did it only once," says her mother, Sandra.

Time capsule transports a select group to Wheaton circa 1896

By JAMES FULLER

Daily Herald Staff Writer

Freshly pulled from a 111-year-old time capsule, the motto on the masthead of The Wheaton Star Critic read, "Unnecessary taxes is unjust taxation."

Some sentiments never change in Wheaton.

Buildings, however, do evolve.

Construction workers recovered the time capsule from the bowels of the old DuPage County Courthouse in Wheaton. The building will soon reopen after being transformed into

condominiums.

History buffs, students and local officials gathered to view the contents of the time capsule for the first time Thursday afternoon at the nearby former state's attorney's offices.

Center for History President Alberta Adamson peeled back the lid of the metal container. Latex gloves covered her hands as she commenced the delicate operation.

The box, about the size of a large truck battery, contained several pieces seemingly geared toward summarizing commu-

nity activities in 1896.

Old newspapers — the Elmhurst Courier, Hinsdale Doings and Wheaton Illinoisian — encased photos and business cards of the day. The Sept. 30, 1896, edition of the Naperville Clarion advertised hats for 65 cents and men's underwear from 35 cents to \$1.

The inclusion of the Naperville paper raised some eyebrows in the audience, given the history of Wheaton becoming the new county seat over



ED LEE/eleee@daillyherald.com

Among the artifacts found in a time capsule from 1896 opened in Wheaton were a Naperville business directory, planning documents for the old DuPage County Courthouse, a list of local Civil War soldiers and photos of prominent officials of the day.

See TIME on PAGE 7

Weather



Still chilly

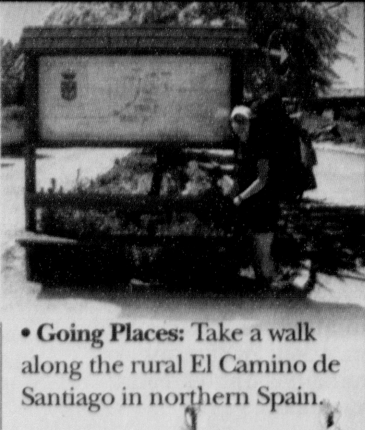
High of 36.

See the back of Business.

Coming Sunday

• USA Weekend: Top experts in housekeeping give you 11 tips and tricks to getting

your home in tiptop shape this spring.



• Going Places: Take a walk along the rural El Camino de Santiago in northern Spain.

Local Focus

Today's headlines

• Mustang Sally? You, too, could vote for Wheaton's new 'stangs. Neighbor.

• Did Lombard override the DuPage Theatre veto? Check page 3.

• Legendary White House correspondent Helen Thomas at College of DuPage. Page 3.

Big Picture

A happy return

British sailors finally return home to their families. Page 2.

Sports

A sad loss

The sports world loses Darryl Stingley at age 55. Section 2.



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