

## New Health Center Offers 1-Stop 'Shopping'

By Dr. Kim Glow

### Student Health Center

The Student Health Center located in Urbana High School is a comprehensive health care facility offering a variety of services for students enrolled in the Urbana School District. The health center staff strives to support families by encouraging parental involvement in all aspects of the students' health care. However, for convenience, if parents are unable to attend appointments with their child, the staff will be happy to see the child with a signed parental consent form and follow-up with the parents via telephone.

The center opened in October and offers the following services:

- Behavioral Risk Assessment.
- Prevention Education.
- Medical Evaluation and Treatment.
- School and Sports Physicals.
- Immunizations.
- Dental Services.
- Mental Health Services.
- Substance Abuse Services.
- Nutritional Counseling.
- Community Outreach.
- Collaboration with school personnel.
- Subspecialty referrals.

The health center is the result of a successful community collaborative partnership involving a variety of local organizations. Through various donations of time and money, fundraising activities and generous contributions in terms of the facilities construction from local area contractors; the health center is able to offer a compre-

hensive health care experience individually tailored to each student's unique health care needs.

The *medical center* is operated under the direction of the Community Health Improvement Center (Decatur) through a partial grant funded through the Department of Human Services and is an extension site of Frances Nelson Community Health Center. It is staffed by an Adolescent Medicine Specialist, Physician Assistant, Nurse Practitioners and a full-time office coordinator.

The *dental suite* is operated under the direction of the Champaign Urbana Public Health Department and currently staffs a dentist one day per week.

The *mental health services* are operated under the direction of Provena Behavioral Health and include two licensed social workers and an advanced practice nurse.

The *substance abuse evaluation, treatment and counseling services* are provided by Prairie Center for



**UHS Clinic Architect Vic Isaksen and Dr. Kim Glow**

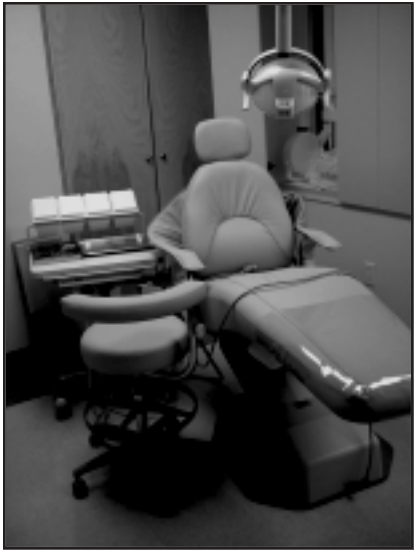
Substance Abuse and the *nutritional services* are provided by the Champaign Urbana Public Health Department through a grant supported by Kraft Foods.

The center offers affordable medical services on a sliding fee scale based on income and accepts most forms of medical insurance including Health Alliance, Personal Care, and Medicaid. Hours of operation are by appointment:

**8 a.m.—4 p.m. M-T-Th-Fr  
and 8 a.m.— noon on  
Wednesdays.**

Parents must sign a consent form for children to access most services offered through the center. The clinic staff is available

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**The new Health Clinic is outfitted with modern dental and medical equipment, thanks to donations from a variety of local sources. Parents are invited to call and make an appointment to visit and meet the staff.**

## Student Health ...

*Continued from page 1*

to answer your questions and we encourage you to call and make an appointment to visit the center and meet the staff.

Parent consent forms are available in the clinic during office hours and we will also make them available after the first of the year in all school front offices for your convenience.

## Important Health Center Announcements

- The **dental clinic** is currently accepting appointments for evaluation and cleanings! Please call today to make your child's appointment.

- The nutritional counseling program, *Fit Tigers*, begins after the New Year! Call today to receive an informational packet and register for the program.

- We are a designated *Kid Care* enrollment site and would be happy to assist you with the paperwork.

## Math Teams Take On Extra Problems

On Saturday, Nov. 13, 35 students representing the Urbana High School Math Team traveled to the Rose-Hulman Institute in Indiana.

In the Sophomore Division, Jungyun Wee won eleventh place, Artem Rogachev won sixth place.

In the Junior Division, Fernanda Mendes won sixth place and Fan Huang won second.

The Junior Team won third place. The entire team did a great job, according to Mary Klein, co-chair of the PTSA parent volunteer committee.

### What Is Math Team?

The Rose-Hulman competition is the first of several math contests in which UHS students participate. There are two in-school contests, each consisting of six one-page tests given after school about a month apart over the course of the year. We participate in the ICTM/Parkland Regional Math Contest and a part of our team is usually invited to the ICTM State Math Contest. Last year the whole team earned the right to compete.

Another in-school event is the American Mathematics Competitions sponsored by The Mathematical Association of America. This contest is administered in high schools through-out the United States on the same day. Each year for the past several years, some of our students have done well enough to be invited to take the American Invitational Mathematics Examination. This is a prestigious but grueling test that lasts several hours.

Finally, in the spring, we take the TRIG\*STAR math contest which is sponsored by the East Central Chapter of the Illinois Professional Land Surveyors Association (IPLSA). This contest is administered by Todd Horton from Parkland College. IPLSA sponsors the contest to promote

## FROM THE CLASSROOM

awareness of the growing demand for surveyors. Last year, UHS student Luiz Mendes was the Illinois state winner of the 2004 Trig Star Competition.

Students can practice after school every Friday on which there is a full day of school. Practice usually consists of solving problems from previous contests, but special sessions may be devoted to topics such as good calculator use, probability, or geometry reviews. Refreshments are available. Any UHS student may join the practice sessions. Competition is open to all, usually at no cost.

### Support Math Team

#### By Shopping At IGA, Meijers

The UHS Math Club receives support from Jerry's IGA and Meijer. Parents can help by stopping by the service desks of both stores and designating the Urbana High School Math Club as the organization they wish to support. You will need to supply the following I.D. numbers:

Our organization number for Meijer is **127184**.

At Jerry's IGA, you need to supply the registration number **055070** to ensure that your purchases are credited to the UHS Math Club.

"You only need to remember these numbers to sign up initially," Klein said. "After that, it's all automatic. When you make purchases at one of the stores and show the appropriate card, a small percentage of the purchase will be automatically donated to the UHS Math Club. And these percentages add up!" We would appreciate your support.

"This year we are short of funds and are also applying for grants," she said.

# New A.D. Aims To Reinstate Community Pride In Tiger Sports

By Marilyn Upah Bant

PTSA Newsletter Co-Editor

Some coaches like to play the odds. Others try to figure out all the angles. Urbana's new Athletic Director Jeff Isenhower can do all that and more because he's spent four years as a math teacher at Champaign Centennial High School before assuming the reins as A.D. and assistant principal only a few days before the fall semester started.

He recalled that he had planned to teach math again during the 2004-2005 school year and had his Centennial classroom all set up and ready to go late last August. He had even worked a few days of registration and took a day off to go golfing with his father when he received a message on his cell phone from Stan Lewis, the athletic director at Centennial.

"Stan told me that Dr. Woodward had called to say that Urbana High School was in a bind and wondered if he knew of anyone who might be willing to take on the challenge," Isenhower recalled in an interview over winter break. "I talked to Dr. Woodward on a Wednesday morning, had an interview at 8 a.m. on Thursday morning, got a job offer by 9 a.m. and accepted it by 5 p.m. that same day. I also turned in my letter of resignation by 5 p.m. on Thursday and started cleaning out my classroom at Centennial and came over here and started at about 2 in the afternoon on Friday. School started the next week."

He termed the whole experience a "whirlwind" and admitted he didn't sleep very well for a few days. "It's been a challenge but I'm loving every minute of it."

One reason for the whirlwind conditions under which Isenhower was hired was that although Alec Anderson, the previous long-time Urbana A.D.

## FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

and football coach, had resigned at the beginning of the previous summer, his successor, Jeff Starwalt, had only stayed five days before announcing in late August that he was returning to his previous position as assistant principal and athletic director at Mahomet-Seymour Junior High School. (He will become principal of MSJHS next school year.)

Isenhower said he was not a candidate for the Urbana post when it initially was advertised but is elated to have it now. At age 36, Isenhower previously coached freshman basketball at Centennial but has decided he will not coach at Urbana. When asked what else is different about the way he is doing the job from the way that Anderson did it, Isenhower said, "My personality is really different from Alec's. Alec had his hands full because he was the football coach, too. When I was interviewed, I made a point of saying I will not coach any one sport because I don't think it's fair for the A.D. to do that for the other sports. Even if you say you're going to be fair and even if you go out of your way to try to be more than fair, it's almost impossible. You just can't do it.

"By not coaching myself, I think I have more time to devote to all of the other sports; I think that the parents and the athletes alike realize that there is someone at the top who cares about their sports. Before, there were a few sports that that happened for, but maybe not all of them," he said.

Isenhower himself played basketball and baseball in high school and "dabbled" in football. He said he misses coaching basketball and thinks he will "always be a coach but for now, I'll keep it to myself. Once you're



**New Urbana A.D. Jeff Isenhower**

a coach, though, you're probably always watching the game as a coach would."

However, he didn't hesitate a second when asked which team he cheers for when Urbana plays Centennial: "I root for Urbana. Always. My former players know that. I support them, but I will root against them when we (Urbana) play against them (Centennial)."

When asked how he thinks Urbana students describe him, Isenhower grinned and said, "Well, I'm sure there are some who don't like me. Some have broken some of the rules and I've held the line on them. Others do like me because they do what's asked of them and they know I'm fair.

"I want kids to know that they can come to me if they have a problem. And if they have a great idea, I want them to come to me, too, and say, 'Hey, do you have few a minutes? I want to run something by you...'. No one person has all the great ideas. They come from different sources. I want to be a facilitator of those great ideas."

When asked if he were a tougher A.D. than Anderson, Isenhower said he was reluctant to

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## New Urbana A.D. ...

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compare himself. "Alec did some very good things when he was here... and I was on the other side of the tracks, so to speak, at the time."

Isenhower grew up in Mahomet and did not set out to work with high school students initially in college. In fact, after his first year in college, he said he was uncertain about what he wanted to study so he went to work for a few years and held a variety of jobs, including several at Kraft and several man-aging bars and restaurants in Chicago. In the summer of 1991, "on a whim," he took a position as a summer camp counselor in New Hampshire, where his specialty was teaching the campers to water ski. It was that experience, he said, that helped him decide he wanted to be a teacher and he decided to return to college at Eastern Illinois University and get a degree in education.

Now that he is the A.D., Isenhower said he misses seeing the same group of kids every day and establishing the kinds of relationships teachers have with their students but doesn't really miss writing or grading math tests.

In describing his goal for the athletic program at Urbana High School, Isenhower said it is focused on "getting community pride back in the place. I feel Urbana has a lot to offer in its athletic programs, and it's just a matter of time before we get the public support back behind us and get people interested in what the school is putting out there. Being in a university town, it's a challenge.

"I want students, teachers, parents and alumni to be proud of what we have here. It's not about me—I'm just the mechanism to keep things running smoothly. But we want to have a top-notch program that every one can be proud of. I know a lot of people are still skeptical because they aren't seeing the most winning program but in my mind one doesn't necessarily equal the other.

"For example, a lot of people are still proud of the Illinois football program even though the (win-loss) record doesn't stack up too well right now. That's how I'd like them to feel about us.

"Of course, if Ron Turner had been able to turn out a winning record, there would have been even more people proud of them.

"So I want people to come out and say, 'I'm proud of what's happening at Urbana,' whether we're winning or losing. We're going to do it the right way. We're want the kids to buy in from a very young age — we want them saying, 'Urbana football is cool. That's what I want to do when I get to high school.'

He added that he wants teams to look forward to coming to Urbana to play because "we will treat them with respect—and I hope we spank them and send them home—but I hope they still like coming here because they were respected and treated well."

Isenhower and his wife of seven years, Caryn, make their home in Philo. She works for Urbana High School alum Jason Coombs, whose Urbana business is called Strategic Marketing and Mailing. The A.D. is the father of a 20-year-old son, Kyle, who is the manager of the Jiffy Lube on South Neil Street in Champaign.

When asked to assess the fall season, Isenhower said he was actually quite proud of what all of the Urbana athletes accomplished but he really didn't feel as if he had had a lot to do with it because he was just overseeing what was already in place.

"The cross country team really surprised some people, I'd say, and the soccer team got knocked out a little earlier than they should have. The playing conditions they had at the end were tough, no way around that. The girls'

volleyball team had a lot of positive things even though it seemed like a down year—I saw a lot of growth in the players, especially a lot of growth in the lower levels.

"For football—I am tickled pink with the coaching staff that we had this last year, and I

think the kids responded very well. In the playoffs, we lost to the eventual state runners-up, which isn't too bad," he said. "And girls tennis had a great year. Girls swimming had a phenomenal year—we sent a couple of girls off to state and Maria Mendosa finished second in diving in the state—that's a phenomenal accomplishment. We really had a lot of great things going on."

Isenhower said he was grateful for the support of parents and alumni via the Booster Clubs that enable many sports at Urbana High School to operate at a higher level than would be possible without their involvement. He invited parents and fans to call him at 384-3522 or e-mail him at:

[jisenhower@usd116.org](mailto:jisenhower@usd116.org)

with comments, questions, suggestions or ideas.

"Like I said earlier, one person can't have all the ideas and I'm always willing to listen," he said. "I'm the new guy. I'm more than willing to listen."

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**Editor's Note: You can find schedules for all UHS Winter Sports under the Athletic tab on the UHS web page or by accessing:**

<http://www.usd116.org/uhs/athletics/winter.htm>

**Schedules also are available in the Athletic Director's office.**

**I want people to come out and say, 'I'm proud of what's happening at Urbana,' whether we're winning or losing. We're going to do it the right way... .**

**— Jeff Isenhower, A.D.**

# No Child Left Behind Act: The Rest Of The Story At Urbana

By Dr. John Woodward  
Principal

If one mentions the No Child Left Behind Act, one will hear school personnel whine, complain, and find fault with the mandate.

But listen more closely and one will hear that working to improve student performance is a good thing and leaving no child behind is an important goal.

As a parent it is important to look at the data and remember that data are facts for you to think about and draw your own

## FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

conclusions. For the media, data are commodities to package, and for defensive school personnel data are ideas to manipulate or fear. I suggest that data are sources for celebration and improvement. Listed below are data about Urbana High School and how we performed in spring 2004.

**Fact:** There are 21 Annual Yearly Progress performance areas on which Urbana High School was judged and Urbana High School met or exceeded the state standard in 20 of those 21 areas. The only area we did not meet the state standard was for economically disadvantaged students in mathematics.

**Fact:** The No Child Left Behind Act focuses on reading and mathematics even though Illinois tests students in other areas as well. In 2004, we were required to have 40 percent of juniors meet or exceed the state standard. Urbana High School had 66.5 percent meet or exceed the state standard in reading and 58.5 percent meet or exceed the standard in math.

**Fact:** 39 Chicago suburban high schools had a higher percentage of their juniors meet or exceed the state standard in reading than did Urbana High School, and 77 Chicago suburban high schools had a lower percentage of their juniors meet or exceed the state standard in reading than did Urbana High School.

**Fact:** 65 Chicago suburban high schools had a higher percentage of their juniors meet or exceed the state standard in math

than did Urbana High School and fifty-one Chicago suburban high schools had a lower percentage of their juniors meet or exceed the state standard in math than did Urbana High School.

**Fact:** Urbana High School scores improved the following amounts from 2003 to 2004:

- There was an increase of 12.6 percent in the students who met or exceeded the state standard in reading for all students.

- There was an increase of 10.7 percent in the African-American students who met or exceeded the state standard in reading.

- There was an increase of 12.0 percent in the students who met or exceeded the state standard in math for all students.

- There was an increase of 11.7 percent in the African-American students who met or exceeded the state standard in math.

- One Chicago suburban high school improved more than Urbana High School in reading and 115 Chicago suburban high schools improved less than Urbana High School, for all students. (Fifty-four of the suburban high schools did worse in 2004 than in 2003.)

- Three Chicago suburban high schools improved more than Urbana High School in math and 113 Chicago suburban high schools improved less than Urbana High School, for all students. (Sixty-four of the suburban high schools did worse in 2004 than in 2003.)

When you hear or read in the media that Urbana High School did not make Annual Yearly Progress (AYP), please place that fact among the additional facts listed above. We have a good school that is striving to be great for every student. We truly want no child to be left behind academically.

### About This Newsletter

The Urbana PTSA newsletter is published five times a year in the months of the regular Parent-Teacher-Student Association meetings—September, November, January and March and May. Costs are underwritten by the Urbana PTSA.

Co-Presidents: Joe Vitosky  
Harvey Welch

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Secretary: Nicole Roberts

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Yvonne Vitosky

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Woodward

Faculty

Representative: Matt Sly

Student Senate

President: Kati Pisula

The newsletter is photocopied at the Urbana District 116 Office and mailed from Urbana High School, 1002 S. Race St., Urbana, IL 61801. The Urbana Student Senate assists with mailing this newsletter.

# Division Dialogue: Spotlight On The Humanities Division

**Editor's Note:** This article from the UHS faculty focuses on the new division structure at Urbana High School. For this issue, the spotlight shines on the Humanities Division, which is composed of the former English, social studies, foreign language, reading, music and art departments.

The new Humanities Division is an extremely large division that now includes 30-plus teachers. It is led by two division leaders, Greg Johnson and Susan Gleason, both former study group leaders during the 2003-2004 school year. Due to the large number of faculty encompassed, it is difficult to recognize all of the changes in staff that now are part of this division. However, the seemingly divergent foci of these groups have led to some meaningful discussions and considerations of educational efforts at Urbana High School.

One effort taking place at the division level is the creation of SMART goals to guide UHS efforts of improving student performance. While these are being utilized in all divisions, the Humanities Division has taken the lead by creating departmental SMART goals.

## FROM THE FACULTY

A SMART goal is a goal that is:

- Specific,
- Measurable,
- Attainable,
- Results-driven, and
- Time-bound.

The SMART goal process highlights a key aspect of all UHS divisions: departments are still a vital part of our school. For the purposes of creating SMART goals, each department tried to address those areas which seemed to be significant to student achievement. Below, you will find the goals that each department is working on for this year, each trying to focus on measurable achievement.

### Art Department

The Art Department is looking at the performance of African American students in the program, and has set the goal of decreasing the number of D and F grades by 5 percent overall.

### Music Department

The Music Department is

focusing on minority enrollment in Concert Orchestra, Band and Choir and has set goals for minority enrollment for each course.

### Foreign Language

The Foreign Language department would like to lower the D/F rate by 5% for students in non-weighted foreign language classes. An additional goal is to increase minority enrollment in foreign language classes by 5%.†

### English Department

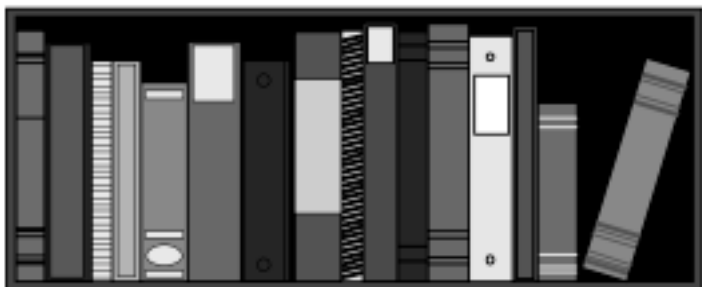
The English Department aims to decrease the number of second-semester students (Spring 2005) who earned Cs, Ds and Fs first semester (Fall 2004), as these numbers have historically risen in past years.

### Social Studies

The goal of the Social Studies Department is to reduce the failure rate for African American students by 3 percent from the rates realized in the Fall semester of 2003.

In developing these goals, each department also has created a number of interventions to help teachers achieve their goals.

Each department and division will examine their goals and determine needs on a regular basis, in an effort to make UHS the best it can be for all of its students.



*Parents: Don't miss this one!  
Curriculum Orientation Night will be  
held at 7 p.m. Thursday, January 27,  
in the Urbana High School Auditorium*

**THE NEXT REGULAR  
MEETING  
OF THE PTSA  
WILL BE HELD  
AT 7 P.M. MONDAY,  
JANUARY 10,  
IN ROOM 2141 OF UHS  
(Meetings are open; all are  
encouraged to attend)**



**Thanksgiving Dinner Gobbled Up Without A Hiccup!**

*The 32nd Annual Urbana High School Thanksgiving Dinner held at 5 p.m. Thanksgiving Day was a great success, thanks to the efforts of many students and parents as well as the generous support of many area businesses and service clubs. At top left, UHS alumna Dorothy Dunn of Urbana, Class of 1928, won the prize for oldest person attending the event, though she certainly fooled the judges. At center left, parent Tom Bassett and Student Senate Vice President Becca Bassett, a senior, take a break from cooking turkeys. At lower left, two guests reminisce about Thanksgivings Past. At top, Senate President Kati Pisula, a*



*senior, hams it up with junior Carly Eifert dressed as a turkey to entertain children at the dinner and U.S. Senator Tim Johnson dressed as himself. Bassett and Pisula were in charge of organizing the dinner. At center, supremely well-organized volunteers carry piping hot turkey, potatoes and gravy and cranberry sauce to dinner guests. The insert shows just one of the many paper decorations made by Urbana grade schoolers for the event.*

*(Photos by Marilyn Upah-Bant)*

# URBANA SCHOOL DISTRICT #116

## MEMO

TO: Building Principals  
PTA'S

FROM: Carol Baker, Director of Business and Financial Services

SUBJECT: School Speeding and Bus Violations

CC: Kathy Wallig, Laidlaw

The Urbana Schools Safety Committee is distributing the following information for your publication in school and PTA newsletters. Please alert parents that Urbana Police will be issuing tickets to drivers who commit school bus stop-arm violations on or off school property.

**SPEEDING IN A SCHOOL ZONE (ON SCHOOL DAYS WHEN CHILDREN ARE PRESENT).** This violation is a petty offense, which carries a fine that is twice that of a standard speeding ticket. This is a minimum \$150.00 fine plus court costs.

**PASSING A SCHOOL BUS WITH FLASHING RED LIGHTS AND STOP ARM EXTENDED.** This violation is also a petty offense for which the drivers license of the person convicted will be suspended by the Secretary of State for three months (one year if second or subsequent conviction within five years). There is also a minimum fine of \$150.00 for the first conviction (\$500.00 for second or subsequent conviction within five years).

There has been some confusion on exactly when you are required to stop for a school bus with its flashers and stop arm out. The statute clearly states that the only times you are **NOT** required to stop for a loading or unloading school bus are the following:

1. When the bus does not have its stop arm and red flashing lights activated, or
2. If the bus is stopped on the road with four or more lanes of traffic, with at least two through lanes in each direction and the bus is going the opposite direction of you (i.e. anywhere on Lincoln Avenue in Urbana), or
3. When the bus is on a controlled access highway (Interstate), going in either direction, if the bus is stopped "...in a loading zone adjacent to the surface or improved part of the controlled access highway where pedestrians are not permitted to cross." (i.e. on I-74 if the bus was pulled off the roadway and onto the shoulder).



## Are you a card-carrying member of the Urbana PTSA for 2004-2005?

If you didn't pay your dues during registration, you're not and we need you to join. Please clip this coupon and return it with a payment of \$10 for each parent member and \$5 for each student member. (Make check payable to Urbana PTSA.) Your dues cover the cost of this newsletter as well as teacher and administration needs throughout the year.

Please return the form and your check to: PTSA, Urbana High School, 1002 S. Race St., Urbana, IL 61801. Forms may be mailed or dropped off in the Attendance Office.

Copies of this newsletter are posted electronically on the school website:

[HTTP://WWW.USD116.ORG/UHS/PTSA/](http://www.usd116.org/uhs/ptsa/)

YOUR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR UHS STUDENT(S) NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

ANY PARTICULAR AREAS IN WHICH YOU'D LIKE TO VOLUNTEER? \_\_\_\_\_

Urbana High School PTSA  
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Urbana, IL 61801

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