



Big guy, big heart

Meet an Xavier student who is a role model for the hearing impaired

YOUTH PLUS

The Gazette

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TODAY



Solon airman shares military stories

Solon native Tyson Gosnell, a 20-year-old Navy airman, faced questions from Lakeview Elementary School fifth graders about his military experiences. **DETAILS, 1B.**



Super Bowl ads have old-time feel

Products from Anheuser-Busch and Pepsi, including a new commercial for reformulated Lipton Brisk (above), dominate a Super Bowl advertising field focusing on nostalgia. **DETAILS, 8B.**

Gazette Super Bowl coverage continues

The Gazette's Mike Hlas continues his Super Bowl XXXVI coverage from New Orleans, spanning big-time entertainers like U2 to little known back-up quarterbacks like Jamie Martin. **DETAILS, 1C.**

Early retirement could reduce budget

Officials expect 700 of the 2,300 eligible state employees to take advantage of a one-time early retirement program. **DETAILS, 5A.**

2002 Ford Mustang a pleasure-filled ride

Although it's more practical than its classic predecessors, the 2002 model of Ford's famous muscle car is meant to be enjoyed. **CLASSIFIED.**

TOMORROW



10 Who Counted kicks off Black History Month

From politics to exploration, Leonard Pitts Jr. profiles 10 influential African-Americans you might not have heard of. **ACCENT.**

FOR UPDATES on local news throughout the day

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GAO to sue White House

Congressional investigators demanding records from Cheney's energy task force

Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Setting up a historic test of presidential power, the investigative arm of Congress announced plans Wednesday to sue the White House for records of Vice President Dick Cheney's meetings with Enron Corp. and other industry interests that sought to influence the administration's energy policy.

As expected, the General Accounting Office, a non-partisan agency that investigates federal spending at the request of law-

makers, announced it will file suit in federal court in the next two to three weeks in an effort to obtain records of the task force that developed the industry-friendly energy policy President Bush announced on May 17.

"The formulation and oversight of energy policy and the investigation of Enron-related activities represent important institutional prerogatives of the Congress," David Walker, the U.S. comptroller general, wrote in a letter announcing the



Vice President Dick Cheney
Led energy policy task force

plans to sue. The GAO announcement came on the same day that the San Francisco Chronicle reported that Enron chief executive Kenneth Lay had used an April meeting with Cheney to present a three-page memo of eight "priorities" on national energy policy for the task force that was preparing the policy. White House officials said they could not say if

A precedent

■ The lawsuit would be the first in the General Accounting Office's 80-year history against a government official or federal agency to get information wanted by Congress.

Cheney had received the memo, and said two of the priorities were included in the report.

One of those was a rejection of federal price caps on California electricity prices. "That's always been our position," a senior administration official

said Wednesday. "That was going to be in the report, whether someone handed it to him or not."

Details of such meetings are the goal of the suit promised by the GAO. White House press secretary Ari Fleischer Wednesday told reporters aboard Air Force One that Bush "believes very strongly that this White House and all future White Houses should have a right to receive the advice and the thoughts of citizens and to do so without those thoughts being turned into virtual news releases."

■ Turn to 9A: **Lawsuit**

This could be the start of something big



Gazette photo by Jim Slosiarek

A pedestrian travels a walkway in front of the Ground Transportation Center in downtown Cedar Rapids on Wednesday afternoon as light snow falls. Cedar Rapids escaped the brunt of a winter storm, receiving about 1 inch of snow by late last night. Compare that with Lamoni, in Decatur County, which had 2 feet of snow. Today, Cedar Rapids could accumulate as much as 7 inches, according to KCRG-TV9 meteorologists.

■ Winter storm roundup, 3B

■ Weather forecast, 10E

Vision Iowa chief praises C.R.

Common sense displayed by city leaders has earned credibility with board, he says

By Rick Smith
The Gazette

CEDAR RAPIDS — This city has earned great "credibility" with the Vision Iowa board for the "grace and common sense" it showed last May in admitting it did not yet have an idea that deserved a big state grant, Michael Gartner, Vision Iowa board chairman, said Wednesday.

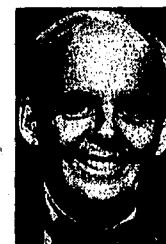
Gartner was in town to speak last night to the local Vision Iowa Planning Committee, a 75-member group that hopes in the next year to identify a big-ticket community project worthy of Vision Iowa program money.

Tonight, the local committee

will meet again at the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library to conduct a public forum to elicit project ideas. The meeting begins at 7 p.m.

For now, most of the \$215 million in Vision Iowa funds has been earmarked for nine or 10 projects, including \$40 million for a riverfront arena/museum in Dubuque and \$70 million for a group of projects in downtown Des Moines.

Four other cities — Clinton, Newton, Waterloo and Vedic City — have proposals in front of the board competing for the \$27.5 million remaining for big projects. The fund was created in 2000 by the Iowa Legislature.



Michael Gartner
Vision Iowa board chairman

Any Cedar Rapids project that is embraced by the local planning committee will depend on the Iowa Legislature approving additional Vision Iowa funding.

The 63-year-old Gartner said the Legislature should do just that for a program that has brought about the fourth "monumental" change in Iowa in his lifetime.

The others: creation of the community college system; selling liquor by the drink; and former Gov. Robert Ray's initiative to bring immigrants to Iowa.

In an appearance before The

Forum today

■ The local Vision Iowa Planning Committee will hold a public forum at 7 p.m. today at the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, 30 16th Ave. SW, to gather ideas for developments desired for Cedar Rapids.

Gazette's editorial board, Gartner argued that a slow economic time is the right time to invest more in the program. He compared it to tomato soup, saying he'd add tomatoes now, not thin the soup with water. That's better for the long run, he said.

By the time the Vision Iowa board hands out \$215 million,

■ Turn to 9A: **Vision Iowa**

Old case, new hope

DNA test cinches charges in 1981 Coralville murder

By Erin Jordan
The Gazette

CORALVILLE — The 1981 Vicki Klotzbach murder was one of several mysterious cases across the state that was unraveled by DNA testing, first used in Iowa in the mid-1990s.

"It gave us that extra piece that shored up what we thought was a strong case," said Coralville Police Chief Barry Bedford.

When Klotzbach, 22, was raped and murdered on Oct. 20, 1981, between Interstate 80 and Highway 218, police could only rule out suspects by determining their blood type through saliva, Bedford said.

In 1996, investigators took advantage of the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation's new capability to do DNA testing, which could match a DNA sample taken from a crime scene to that of a known suspect.

In April 1996, DNA testing revealed Klotzbach's rapist.

Richard D. Dodd, 45, will make his initial appearance in Johnson County District Court on Friday afternoon on charges of first-degree murder and kidnapping. Dodd has been serving a life prison term at Fort Madison for a Polk County rape-kidnapping in 1984.

Investigators believe Klotzbach was attacked when she



Vicki Klotzbach
Slain in 1981.

■ Turn to 9A: **Murder**

McLeodUSA bond deadline passes without comment

By George C. Ford
The Gazette

CEDAR RAPIDS — A deadline for McLeodUSA Inc. bondholders to accept a cash-and-stock offer for \$2.9 billion of debt passed Wednesday without any statement regarding the company's or bondholders' future course of action.

McLeodUSA proposed the swap Dec. 3 as part of a recapitalization plan that would also eliminate \$300 million in interest payments on the bonds. The original deadline was Jan. 15, but the company extended it to 4 p.m. Wednesday.

McLeodUSA did not return calls Wednesday seeking comment.

McLeodUSA shares closed at 18 cents



per share Wednesday, down 1 cent from Tuesday.

On Dec. 12, a committee representing bondholders, who represent the majority of McLeodUSA's debt structure, recommended rejection of the plan. McLeodUSA extended the deadline as it continued negotiations with the bondholders.

At least 95 percent of the bondholders must approve the exchange for a mini-

mum of \$560 million in cash and 14 percent of the company's post-recapitalization common stock.

McLeodUSA has said that any agreement with the committee could result in significant changes to the terms of the proposed restructuring. Bondholders reportedly are seeking more cash and a greater say in the proposed sale of non-core assets.

McLeodUSA has said it reserves the right to pursue all alternatives if bondholders balk at the deal, including filing for Chapter 11 bankruptcy reorganization.

McLeodUSA has not paid the Jan. 1 interest payment on its \$750 million 11 percent senior notes due in 2009, nor

the Jan. 15 interest payments on its \$150 million 12 percent senior notes due in 2008 and its \$225 million 9 1/4 percent senior notes due in 2007.

The Jan. 1 obligation was subject to a 30-day grace period.

McLeodUSA employees contacted by The Gazette declined to comment on how financial pressures have affected employee morale, citing a warning from management about talking to the media. They said employees are concerned about potential layoffs and the company's future.

Contact Financial Editor George Ford at (319) 398-8366 or georgef@iowa.com

Vision Iowa: Public forum in C.R. tonight

■ From page 1A

a total of \$1.5 billion in direct investment will have been made once the local matching funds are figured in, he said. Communities with grants will spend another \$750 million for ancillary development such as hotels, he added.

Gartner said nothing that could discourage the Cedar Rapids committee as it works over the next year to come up with a grand idea worthy of a large Vision Iowa grant.

He said cities that sit on a river — most large ones do — have an advantage because a river is something a project can embrace.

He suggested that applied to modest Cedar River in Cedar Rapids as much as to the Mississippi River at Dubuque, the site of what he said was his favorite Vision Iowa project to date.

"I think they have recaptured the river," he said.

Gartner singled out Ron Corbett, president of the Cedar Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce, for the city's decision in

May to drop out of the race for Vision Iowa funds until it had a better idea for a project.

"That got him huge credibility with the Vision Iowa board," Gartner said.

He predicted that Cedar Rapids will duplicate Dubuque's effort in approaching the Vision Iowa board one day with a project that is "well-thought out."

Gartner had less-sure predictions for two Coralville projects in front of the Vision Iowa board.

Gardner's reaction to the Iowa Child rain forest/aquarium project is one that has dogged it since Des Moines industrialist Ted Townsend first suggested it for Des Moines, then Cedar Rapids and now Coralville: Where will the money ever be found for it?

Gartner did some quick math and figured that the scaled-back, \$230 million project would need to raise at least \$110 million in private donations to go with any large state and federal grants.

"(Raising those private funds) would be a miracle," Gartner said.

Gartner said a second Coralville project — a \$63.2 million convention center/hotel — also has "some question marks: It has no county money and no private money to date and includes a novel bonding plan that needs review."

He said the project stands on its own independent of the Iowa Child project and cannot be "a stalking horse" for the larger project.

Gartner admitted that maybe not all the projects funded by the Vision Iowa board seem like visionary ideas.

What is visionary, though, he said, is the way those in a community have learned how to work together to get a project funded.

Gartner also said he has been surprised to see how few counties are using their bonding capacity to fund projects.

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Murder: DNA technology did not exist 20 years ago

■ From page 1A

was on an evening walk Oct. 20, 1981, down a dirt road south of the Knollridge Garden Apartments, where she had lived for several months.

She was found dead Oct. 23, 1981, naked from the waist down. Her hands were bound behind her back and her mouth and eyes were covered with tape.

Johnson County Attorney J. Patrick White would not say specifically why the Klotzbach case took five years to prosecute after the DNA match was made.

"It was a combination of reasons," including a complicated investigation, efforts to make sure the evidence was solid, and Dodd's remaining behind bars, White said Wednesday.

White said the role of DNA technology was critical in the Klotzbach case.

Prior to DNA testing, investigators were limited to using saliva to discover a perpetrator's blood type — A, B, O, or AB, said Michael Peterson, a criminologist supervisor at the DCI who specializes in DNA.

But this was only effective in eliminating suspects, he said.

Law enforcement officers worldwide started using DNA in the mid-1980s, Peterson said. When the Iowa DCI started doing the matches in 1995, they could identify a perpetrator with certainty of one in 1 million, Peterson said.

New technology, added in 1997 or 1998, lets the DCI identify a DNA match that has less than a 1 in 100 billion chance of being wrong, he said. The Earth's population is about 6.2 billion.

"Since it is available today,

Unsolved murder cases

Here are some of the unsolved murder cases still pending in Eastern Iowa:

■ 2001: Timothy Becker, 42, rural Iowa City. Found at rural mobile home, 4494 Taft Ave. SE, dead of multiple blunt-force injuries to the head.

■ 2001: Tyrone Gilbert, 21, Cedar Rapids. Found fatally shot in the abdomen on front porch at 412 15th St. SE, Cedar Rapids.

■ 1999: Frances Bloomfield, 57, Iowa City. Believed strangled, bound with pantyhose and wrapped in plastic bound with duct tape. Motorist found body in a ditch about a half-mile south of Rockford, Ill.

■ 1999: Willie Junior Brooks, 49, Cedar Rapids. Found fatally shot in the head at 400 block of 15th Street SE, Cedar Rapids.

■ 1999: Judith Weeks, 44, Cedar Rapids. Body, nude from the waist down, found in the back yard at 1319 Second Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, with a wound to her forehead caused by a bladed object.

■ 1999: Jamar Maggett, 19, Chicago. Shot in the head and chest while standing in the 1400 block of Fifth Avenue SE, Cedar Rapids. Jury

acquitted Paul Gilbert, 18, of Cedar Rapids in the slaying.

■ 1997: Traci Evenson, 22, Cedar Rapids. Found suffocated in her apartment at 438 Ninth Ave. SW, Cedar Rapids.

■ 1996: Laura Van Wyhe, 21, Iowa City. Found barely alive along northeast Missouri highway but died in an Illinois hospital.

■ 1996: Donna Lee Marshall, 37, Iowa City. Died the day after she was found shot in the head at her Iowa City mobile home.

■ 1995: Susan Kersten, 38, Iowa City. Badly burned body found south of Iowa City in the charred remains of her car.

■ 1982: Denise Fraley, 30, Cedar Rapids. Feared murdered but never found.

■ 1979: Michelle Martinko, 18, Cedar Rapids. Fatally stabbed while in her car, which was left at Westdale Mall, Cedar Rapids.

■ 1975: Jane Wakefield, 26, Iowa City. Presumed murdered but never found.

■ 1972: Lynn Schuller, 26, Cedar Rapids. Presumed murdered but never found.

Source: Gazette files

Lawsuit: Cheney has refused requests

■ From page 1A

"The president will strongly promote that right, and fight for that right in court, and the White House expects to prevail," Fleischer said.

Cheney has been refusing the GAO's requests since May and said this week that he wants to "protect the ability of the president and the vice president to get unvarnished advice from any source we want."

Cheney's office told the GAO

in January that he and his aides had six meetings with representatives of Enron, the politically wired energy company that collapsed in bankruptcy in December.

The GAO originally made a broad demand for minutes and records from the task force, but in August narrowed that to a request to the names of attendees as well as the dates, locations and subjects of meetings.

White House officials have continued to portray the request as intrusive. The GAO has said it will keep the information confidential.

Bush said on Monday that a GAO victory could hamper his consultations on topics from stem cells to the war. "I view the GAO ... as an encroachment on the executive branch's ability to conduct business," he said.

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Steve Hoffman:
In-Fisherman Editor

Seasonal Catfishing: Sat. 2:00, Sun. 1:30

Panfish Patterns: Sun. 11:00

Stream Smallmouth: Sat. 7:00

PLUS—Gun Dog Training: Fri. 6:30, Sat. 10:30, Sun. 1:30

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