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INSIDE

SAY WHAT?

Read the best of the comments about last week's stories on sj-r.com.

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COVER UP

A few squeezes of the sunscreen bottle isn't enough protection against the sun.

Page 11



ARRRH, MATEYS

The lowly Pirates complete a sweep of the Cardinals.

Page 27

TOMORROW

CARPE DIEM

The Voice has a guide to help cram as much fun as possible into summer's last week.



WEATHER

A storm is possible in the morning, high 86. Cooler tonight, low 55.

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WEB SITE

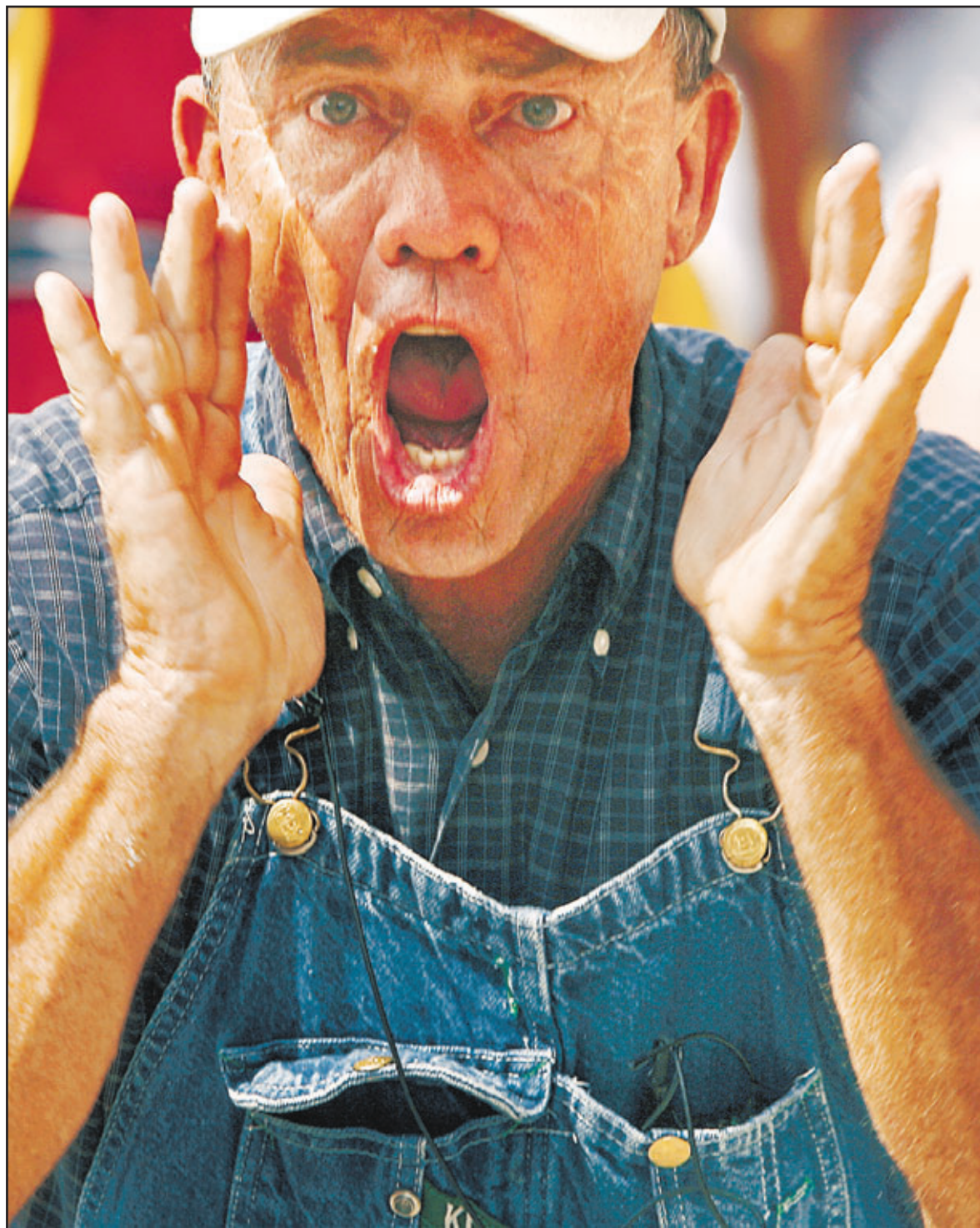
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VOICE MALE



Photographs by Justin L. Fowler/The State Journal-Register

Chris Karr of Seymour belts out his call Sunday as he competes in the Hog Calling Contest at the Illinois State Fair. See page 10 for the story.



VISIT SJ-R.COM for more photos from the fair.

Fair fare

Fried ravioli join various stick-bound delicacies

By KATHRYN REM
FOOD EDITOR

Looking to eat something other than a corn dog at the Illinois State Fair? Toasted ravioli, meatballs-on-a-stick, Polish sausage panini sandwiches and deep-fried corn-on-the-cob are among the artery-clogging delicacies offered by this year's vendors.

Mama Mia Concessions on Coliseum Lane is selling a basket of breaded and deep-fried ravioli with a side of marinara sauce for \$5. The tender pillows are filled with a choice of either Italian sausage and cheese, spinach and artichoke or four cheeses.

Owner Bill Nichols of St. Charles, Mo., said he's been trying to get his toasted ravioli — named best new food at state fairs in both Oklahoma and Florida — at the Illinois fair for three years. This year he was able to get a spot.

"They're precooked and fried here," he said.

He and his wife, Karen, also offer toasted cannelloni (tubular pasta stuffed with beef and pork) for \$5 and a combo basket for \$6. For dessert, there's deep-fried cheesecake for \$5.

Until this year, Bidwell Concessions of St. Joseph sold soft pretzels at the Illinois fair. This year, the stand on Illinois Avenue across from the carnival midway has broken out



A basket of breaded and deep-fried toasted ravioli is available for \$5 from Mama Mia Concessions on Coliseum Lane.

heartier fare: meatballs-on-a-stick, pot roast sandwiches and Reuben hot dogs.

A skewer of four hefty beef meatballs comes with marinara sauce and parmesan cheese and sells for \$4. The seasoned, shredded pot roast comes on a brat bun and costs \$5. The \$4 Reuben is a quarter-pound hot dog slathered with kraut, Monterey Jack cheese and Russian dressing.

See FARE on page 6



■ Fair schedule and almanac / Page 10
■ Fair results / Pages 10, 15

Downtown church buildings for sale

First United Methodist's presence in Springfield dates to 1821

By PETE SHERMAN
STAFF WRITER

First United Methodist Church, a fixture in downtown Springfield for about 185 years, is selling its place of worship at Fifth Street and Capitol Avenue.

The downtown sanctuary, which seats about 850 people, connects to a separate, three-story classroom and office building. All together, the buildings total about 68,000 square feet.

Just a few blocks from the Capitol, the church's departure will leave behind a prime piece of property, according to Steve Myers, who specializes in downtown real estate and has been a member of the church for as long as he can remember.

"The prominent location is wonderful," said Myers, who suggested the corner is just right for a large state association that would prefer being closer to the Capitol and other important state

offices. Myers also said the space could, of course, remain a place of worship, perhaps a downtown meeting center shared by multiple congregations.

The property is one of the largest available in the Springfield commercial real estate market, according to a list of properties available on the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce's Web site.

"Certainly there is another opportunity for another church — it's already set up," said Victoria Clemons, director of Downtown Springfield, Inc. "In the ideal world, we would love to see it somehow adapt into additional residential space. With that, we can entice more service businesses to the area."

Clemons also suggested that a college could use the classroom space for a satellite campus.

See FOR SALE on page 4



Kendra Helmer/The State Journal-Register

Michelle Tjelmeland and her 8-year-old daughter, Ellie, left, each recently had surgery for their second cochlear implants. Tjelmeland's husband, Joel, and 6-year-old daughter, Lucy, also are pictured.

HEAR, HEAR

Mother, daughter each receive second cochlear implant to improve hearing

By AMANDA REAVY
STAFF WRITER

Michelle Tjelmeland has probably opened thousands of products and each time discarded the wrapper without a second thought.

But last Tuesday, when she unwrapped a piece of gum, she stopped and listened to the crinkling noise of the wrapper as she crumpled it in her hand. She repeated the motion over and over again until her left ear grew accustomed to the sound.

It was one of many times Tjelmeland, 32, froze with amazement during a seemingly mundane activity that day.

She nearly fell off her chair with surprise when she heard the sound of water running on the upstairs level of her family's Springfield home while she was downstairs.

And when Tjelmeland was using a can of hairspray to put the finishing touches on her hairstyle later that evening, she couldn't get enough of the subtle

hissing noise. "I just stood there and sprayed it into the air, and I was just smiling, because I haven't heard that (before). So all those things that people totally take for granted, I'm appreciating," Tjelmeland said.

The new sounds came alive only a few hours after Tjelmeland and her 8-year-old daughter, Ellie, had their second cochlear implants activated for the first time.

The mother and daughter underwent surgery at Carle Clinic in Urbana on July 18 to have the electronic devices implanted in their non-functioning left ears. The latest procedure was another chapter in the Tjelmelands' quest for hearing.

Ellie, who was born profoundly deaf, received her first cochlear implant in 1999, when she was about 1 1/2 years old. Tjelmeland, who grew up with poor hearing and started to become deaf in her early 20s, right

See IMPLANTS on page 4

Terror arrests highlight Britain's measured approach

By PHILIP SHENON
and NEIL A. LEWIS
N.Y. TIMES NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — The disclosure that British officials conducted months of surveillance before arresting 24 terrorism suspects this week highlighted what many terrorism specialists said was a central difference between American and British law enforcement agencies.

The British, they say, are more willing to wait and watch.

Although details of the British investigation remain secret, Bush administration officials

Months of surveillance contrast with U.S. policy of moving as quickly as possible

say Britain's domestic intelligence agency, MI5, was for at least several months aware of a plot to set off explosions on airliners flying to the United States from Britain, as well as the identities of the people who would carry it out.

British officials suggested that the arrests were delayed to gather as much information as possible about the plot and the reach of the network behind it. Although it is not clear how

close the plotters were to acting, or how capable they were of carrying out the attacks, intelligence and law enforcement officials have described the planning as well advanced.

The U.S. Justice Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation have suggested in the past that they would never allow a terrorist plot discovered here to advance to its final stages, for fear that it could not be stopped in time.

In June, the FBI arrested seven people in Florida on charges of plotting attacks on American landmarks, including the Sears Tower in Chicago, with investigators acknowledging that the suspects, described as al-Qaida sympathizers, had only the most preliminary discussions about an attack.

"Our philosophy is that we try to identify plots in the earliest stages possible because we don't know what we don't know about a terrorism plot," Attorney General Alberto Gonzales said at the time. "Once we have sufficient

See APPROACH on page 4

