



IN LIFE

Bengals fans singing a different tune

Les Gaines among those who have penned tributes

AT CINCINNATI.COM: Hear the songs, vote for your favorite



THE KENTUCKY ENQUIRER

CINCINNATI.COM

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2005

AN EDITION OF THE CINCINNATI ENQUIRER 50 CENTS

Up Front

Must reads inside today's Enquirer



Houston slams Braves in 10-5 win

Morgan Ensberg (above) knocked in five runs as the Houston Astros beat the Atlanta Braves, 10-5, in Game 1 of the National League division series. **SPORTS B1, 4**

1918 flu duplicated to battle bird kind

Scientists have replicated the deadly flu of 1918 to help understand the bird variety – and fight it, if need be. **NATION A2**

Plans offers tax break for farmers

Campbell County Commissioner Mark Hayden proposes county property tax relief for farmers. But he faces an obstacle: State law. **LOCAL C1**

Like sawhorses? They're on sale

Bellevue's decorated sawhorses, on sidewalks this summer, will be auctioned for charity, starting with 20 tonight and another 10 on Friday. Money from the sale of the whimsical creations goes to charity. **LOCAL C3**

Also ...

YUM Brands Inc. credits a 16 percent surge in third-quarter profits on growth in China and good performance in the United States by Taco Bell and KFC restaurants. **BUSINESS D1**

COMING FRIDAY

Enquirer wine critic Rebecca Goodman shares her Top 10 list of very good wines for \$10 or less. **LIFE**

WEATHER

High 82°
Low 50°
Warm, a few clouds.

COMPLETE FORECAST: C12

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104-year-old school gets new life

By Cindy Schroeder
Enquirer staff writer

Building in Peaselburg will house senior citizens

COVINGTON – More than a century after it was built, the former Fifth District School in the city's Peaselburg neighborhood is finding new life as apartments for senior citizens.

The years-long search for a developer apparently ended Tuesday when the City Commission unanimously ap-

proved a \$400,000 loan to Academy Flats LLC to convert the vacant building at 18th Street and Holman Avenue into 30 apartments for low- to moderate-income residents 55 and older.

On Oct. 19, the Housing Authority of Covington is expected to OK the use of \$490,000 in federal replace-

ment housing funds for the \$4.1 million project.

"This school was built in 1901," Mayor Butch Callery said. "It seems like we've been working on (developing) this about that long," he said, referring to attempts to convert the school into market-rate apartments or condos.

Construction of Academy

Flats Senior Housing is scheduled to start in February, and it should be finished by the end of 2006, said Stephen Smith, president of the Cincinnati-based Model Group.

The one-bedroom units are expected to attract seniors looking for affordable housing so they can stay in the

neighborhood, city officials said.

City Commission delayed a vote on the project three weeks ago largely because of questions about the financing arrangement, including how much money the city would get back.

See **SCHOOL**, Page **A8**



Oct. 7, 2002: President Bush comes to Cincinnati's Museum Center at Union Terminal and makes ...

THE CASE FOR WAR



Enquirer file

Some present for President Bush's speech three years ago say they never figured the war in Iraq would last this long.

Today, some local GOP loyalists have second thoughts

HOLDING FIRM

By Howard Wilkinson
Enquirer staff writer

"I was not convinced that we had the justification to go to war with Iraq. I certainly have not changed my mind. I think we should start withdrawing troops from Iraq. Our focus should be on financing and rebuilding the areas hurt by the hurricanes and helping the victims."



Steve Love, Symmes Township, Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky African American Chamber of Commerce

"Anytime we have our young soldiers in a hostile situation, you want it to be over as soon as possible. You wish that these young lives could be spared. But we are committed to this now. We have to finish it."



Gary Cates, West Chester, state senator

"I was convinced by what the president said and believed we were justified in going to war. I haven't changed my views. Remember, we have liberated 50 million people. I don't think we should withdraw our troops until the job is finished. This would send a message that the United States is a paper tiger."



David Owens, Newtown, advertising executive, Justice & Young
MORE REACTIONS, A7

Whether they favored or opposed going to war, many of the 800 who filed into the rotunda of the Museum Center at Union Terminal three years ago this week to hear President Bush make the case for invading Iraq now agree on one thing:

They could not have imagined then that, three years later, the war would still be going on.

"It's really hard to believe," said Pete Witte of Price Hill, a small businessman and former Republican candidate for City Council who was among the invited guests for the nationally televised speech.

"I felt he made a very good case for proceeding with the war," said Buck Niehoff, former Hamilton County Republican Party chairman and another of the guests. "We assumed we would go in, finish the job quickly and be done with it. But it didn't work out that way."

In what the White House described at the time as a speech to "the heartland," Bush laid out his rationale for a possible war with Iraq – a war that would come six months later and, thus far, cost the lives of nearly 2,000 Americans in uniform.

The audience that night was overwhelmingly friendly – made up of Republican elected officials, party workers, major GOP campaign donors (many of them top executives of major Cincinnati corporations), a smattering of local government officials, religious leaders, university administrators and a host of children of the Republican elite.

Many of them would later play key roles in helping Bush win Ohio – and thus, reelection – in 2004.

More than 20 of them were surveyed by The Enquirer. While most said they sup-

Reflections and excerpts

■ Many members of the congressional delegation from Greater Cincinnati remain committed to the war effort. **A6**

■ Excerpts from the speech President Bush gave at Union Terminal. **A7**

ported the decision to go to war, some now say their views have changed. For a White House struggling to keep the American people behind the war effort, keeping the support of the president's Republican base is crucial.

Democrats were few and far between in the audience that was cobbled together quickly to give a president who was known to be uncomfortable reading speeches into a TV camera a live audience he could make eye contact with and that would applaud at all the right moments.

Bush's aim was two-fold:
■ Put pressure on Congress to pass a resolution authorizing military action in Iraq.

■ Convince the American people that taking out Saddam Hussein's repressive regime was the logical next step in the war on terrorism.

See **IRAQ**, Page **A6**

High court apparently divided on suicide law

By Gina Holland
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON – New Chief Justice John Roberts stepped forward Wednesday as an aggressive defender of federal authority to block doctor-assisted suicide, as the Supreme Court clashed over an Oregon law that lets doctors help terminally ill patients end their lives.

The justices will decide whether the federal government, not states, has the final say on the life-or-death issue.

It was a wrenching debate for a court touched by illness.

Roberts replaced William H. Rehnquist, who died a month ago after battling cancer. And three current justices have had cancer, while a fourth has a spouse who counsels children with untreatable cancer.

Oregon won a lawsuit in a lower court over its voter-approved law, which took effect in 1997 and has been used by 208 people.

The Supreme Court appeared sharply divided in hearing the Bush administration's appeal.

Retiring Justice Sandra Day O'Connor seemed ready to support Oregon's law. Her replacement may be confirmed before the ruling is handed down, possibly months from now.

Roberts, 50, was presiding over his first major oral argument – and thrust himself into the middle of the debate. Over and over, he raised concerns that states could undermine federal regulation of addictive drugs.

"If one state can say it's legal for doctors to prescribe morphine to make people feel better, or to prescribe steroids for bodybuilding, doesn't that undermine the uniformity of the federal law and make enforcement impossible?" he asked.

He interrupted Oregon Senior Assistant Attorney General Robert Atkinson in his first minute, then asked more than a dozen other questions.

The Supreme Court concluded eight years ago that the dying have no constitutional right to doctor-assisted suicide. O'Connor provided a key fifth vote in that decision, which left room for state-by-state experimentation.

The two justices who seemed most conflicted were Anthony Kennedy and Stephen Breyer. Breyer's wife counsels young cancer patients.

Justices who have had cancer are O'Connor, Ruth Bader Ginsburg and John Paul Stevens.

Hamilton County softens on airport

By James Pilcher
Enquirer staff writer

Relations between Hamilton County and the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport appeared to thaw Wednesday after a presentation by airport officials to the county commissioners.

But even though both sides pledged to continue talking about disputed issues, a major point of disagreement – more and stronger representation from the Ohio side – will probably remain unresolved, officials from both sides conceded.

Several Hamilton County elected officials have been seeking more representation on the airport board.

See **AIRPORT**, Page **A8**

To watch Bush's 2002 speech, to see who attended and to comment on the speech, go to Cincinnati.Com. Keyword: Bush.