

LOCAL B1

Kennels, vets, dog owners prepare for arrival of canine flu

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LATE NEWS/SPORTS 50 CENTS

Up Front

Must reads inside today's Enquirer



Crowd rivals fashion models at Ebony fair

At the annual Emerald and Diamond Gala featuring the 48th annual Ebony Fashion Fair Friday, the crowd rivaled the models on the runway. We'll look at what people like Louise Garr (above) of Silverton were wearing.

LIFE D1

Uptown group evaluates progress

The public will get its first look Wednesday afternoon at the big changes being discussed for how people get around in 11 Cincinnati communities known as uptown.

LOCAL B3

Delta Air Lines faces pivotal week

A pivotal week is ahead for Delta Air Lines. The carrier may release more details about its finances in a regulatory filing today, its pilots plan a rally Tuesday to defend their contract, and a bankruptcy hearing is Wednesday.

BUSINESS B8

Finding a gift for an engineer

GiftsforEngineers.com sells everything from circuit board coasters and a Geek Man action figure to a crumpled blueprint paperweight. The inspiration for Elizabeth Naramore's business was her father.

BUSINESS B6

Also...

Nationwide, Asian students say they're often beaten, threatened and called ethnic slurs by other young people, and school safety data suggest the problem may be worsening.

NATION A3

COMING TUESDAY

As tipoff approaches, the Enquirer's college basketball preview looks at what's ahead.

SPORTS

WEATHER

High 58°
Low 51°
A shower

COMPLETE FORECAST: B16

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9-0 Colts next up for Bengals (Grrrr)

By Mark Curnutte
Enquirer staff writer

Bengals won respect the last time that happened

For the second time in franchise history, the Bengals will play a 9-0 team when Indianapolis visits Paul Brown Stadium on Sunday.

The Colts improved to 9-0 Sunday with a 31-17 victory against Houston.

The Bengals are 7-2, and at worst, woke up this morning tied for the AFC North lead with Pittsburgh. The Steelers

were 6-2 going into their Sunday night game against Cleveland.

The marquee matchup within the Colts-Bengals game will be at quarterback. Peyton Manning (1998) and Carson Palmer (2003) were the first overall picks in the draft. Both quarterbacks are league MVP candidates.

Palmer will face a chal-

lenge against the improved Colts defense, which has allowed just 10.4 points a game.

The Bengals were 4-5 entering their game Nov. 16, 2003, against 9-0 Kansas City. The Bengals won 24-19, and the victory earned the Bengals a measure of national respect in coach Marvin Lewis' first season.

The game also was the first

Playoff hopes

Next Pittsburgh game critical. C1

Online: Whom do you pick to win Sunday? Tell us at Cincinnati.Com. Keyword: Bengals

of 15 consecutive sellouts at Paul Brown Stadium.

Rushing defense will be important against the Colts. India-

napolis running back Edgerrin James has 1,027 yards and nine touchdowns on the ground.

Lewis did not go into detail last week about what he expects from the Colts. But his players have followed his lead of playing one game at a time.

"Every week ... is a new game, new opponent," he said before his team left for its bye weekend. "We'll come back



Peyton Manning (left) and Carson Palmer are both MVP candidates this year.

and prepare and be ready for the Colts."

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SPECIAL REPORT: THE COST TO COMPETE

PACKAGING PLAYERS TO MAKE A PROFIT



The Enquirer/Glenn Hartong

Tom Elias of College Prospects of America addresses a group of student athletes and their parents at Borders Books & Music in Tri-County. For a fee, his and similar services help high school athletes find colleges to play at.

Services coach kids in search for colleges

By Shannon Russell
Enquirer staff writer

Four days into October, Paul Roch was frantic.

His son, Tony, was halfway through his senior football season as Covington Catholic's kicker. Roch was desperate to get college coaches to notice his son, but he didn't know how.

"I'm flying by the seat of my pants," he said. "I know that's risky, but I'm not seeing a lot of results. That makes me think I need a professional service."

He's not alone. Hundreds of local parents are spending thousands of dollars on professionals who promise to find sports scholarships, other financial aid or the best colleges for their kids.

In a growing trend, the pros advertise know-how, connections and time most parents lack.

Nationally, the businesses are making millions. But are kids



The Enquirer/Jeff Swinger

Covington Catholic senior kicker Tony Roch labels tapes to send to college coaches as his father, Paul Roch, helps with a college database. The Roches hope to get Tony a scholarship.

and their families well served?

If a recruiter can muster a scholarship in the process, the deal is even sweeter, they say.

a degree and play sports.

If a recruiter can muster a scholarship in the process, the deal is even sweeter, they say.

See COMPETE, Page A8

SECOND OF THREE PARTS

Sunday: Thirty local families count costs; average last year for one high school athlete: \$6,100.

Today on A8: What \$2,500 buys

- Grades count more
- Ex-sports stars get in the business, too

Tuesday: Are costs creating an elite sports society that caters to the rich and shuts out the poor?

- Also, efforts are in works to change high schools sports.

ONLINE

Go to Cincinnati.Com to hear teens talk about being competitive today. Also, tell us your thoughts by answering a questionnaire.

Keyword: amateur

Woman: I failed as bomber

Tried to join spouse in Jordan attack

By Jamal Halaby
The Associated Press

AMMAN, Jordan - Wearing a disabled explosives belt and a white headscarf and wringing her hands as she spoke, the Iraqi woman calmly described how she tried and failed to join her husband in a suicide attack on a hotel wedding party.

Millions across Jordan and the region watched as Sajida Mubarak Atrous al-Rishawi gave her televised statement hours after she was arrested Sunday - in part from al-Qaida's boast of her "martyrdom."

Al-Rishawi explained how her husband helped plan Wednesday's attacks, fitted her suicide bomb belt and blew himself up.

"My husband detonated (his bomb) and I tried to explode (mine) but it wouldn't," said al-Rishawi, 35. "People fled running and I left running with them."

The three-minute segment showed her handling faulty trigger equipment that failed to set off about 22 pounds of RDX explosives and hundreds of ball-bearings.

The attackers killed 57 other people at the Radisson SAS, Grand Hyatt and Days Inn hotels.

Al-Rishawi said she and her husband, Ali Hussein Ali al-Shamari, 35, were wearing explosive-laden belts when they strolled into the Radisson ballroom where hundreds of guests, including children, were attending a wedding reception.

"My husband wore a belt and put one on me. He taught me how to use it, how to pull the (primer cord) and operate it," she said.

Deputy premier Marwan Muasher said the wedding was targeted because the bombers wanted to "inflict the biggest number of casualties and victims."



al-Rishawi

Inside

Al-Zarqawi trying to extend his bloody campaign. A2

International honor

Pigall's inducted into elite restaurant group

Jean-Robert at Pigall's in downtown Cincinnati has joined an elite group of hotels and restaurants by being accepted as a member of the international association Relais & Chateaux. Owner Jean-Robert de Cavel will be in Geneva, Switzerland, today for the induction.

LOCAL B1

Bridge climb a thrill ride above the river

By Mike Rutledge
Enquirer staff writer

Locals rave about Sydney Harbour version

NEWPORT - When Joe Hale climbed the Sydney Harbour Bridge in July, he said it was one of the most exhilarating things he'd ever done.

"First of all, I don't like heights, so I think you've got to kind of look your demons in the eye, and face them," said Hale, Cinergy's chief communications officer. "And I knew this thing was about 500 feet up in the air."

What he didn't count on were wind gusts exceeding 50 mph.

"It is the most panoramic, spectacular view of Sydney, the city and the harbor," Hale said. "Even if it is in a driving rainstorm, it's pretty incredible."

Amusement-park guru Dennis Speigel's Walnut Hills-based International Theme Park Services Inc. hopes to create a similar combination of tourism and extreme sports on the Purple People Bridge that links Newport with Cincinnati.

True, the Purple People

Bridge's highest point is only about 140 feet above the Ohio River - about one-third as high as the Sydney Harbour Bridge's 440 feet.

On the other hand, the Purple People Bridge would be the only place it can be done outside Sydney and Brisbane, Australia, and Auckland, New Zealand, Speigel says.

The proposed \$3 million "Purple People Bridge Climb" would let people walk along the top of the bridge, tethered safely to the structure.

Climbing is expected to start in May and should run about \$60. Special packages also will be offered, including post-climb meals at Pigall's. Ticket sales start in January.

Dale and Mary Pat Mullane, both 74, of downtown Cincinnati, occasionally walk the Purple People Bridge, but never thought about climbing it - even though they watched friends climb the Sydney Harbour Bridge once.

See BRIDGE, Page A9



BridgeClimb Sydney

Climbers on the Sydney Harbour Bridge in Australia, three times the height of the Purple People Bridge. The bridge overlooks the famed Sydney Opera House (left).