

## Guerillas attack as U.S. continues raids

Former Iraqi planning minister claims Saddam still has access to billions of dollars in skimmed oil revenues

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Guerillas attacked a police station in central Iraq on Thursday, wounding six people, while U.S. forces kept up their daily raids against suspected rebel strongholds with an overnight raid in Saddam Hussein's hometown of Tikrit.

Meanwhile, a London-based Arabic newspaper quoted Iraq's former planning minister as saying that Saddam might still have stashed

away in foreign banks tens of billions of dollars that he skimmed for years from oil revenues.

Jewad Hashem, Iraq's planning minister in the late 1960s and early '70s, who now lives in Canada, said that 5 percent of oil revenues was ordered deposited abroad in accounts under Saddam's supervision when Iraq nationalized its oil industry in 1972. Two rockets struck the Ramadi

Police Directorate, 100 miles west of Baghdad, as officers gathered inside to receive their monthly salaries, said Maj. Samir Habib. Two policemen and four civilians were wounded, he said.

Ramadi, a town on the main highway between Iraq and Jordan, is part of the so-called Sunni Triangle — a region north and west of Baghdad that has seen fierce resistance to the U.S.-led occupation.

The U.S. raid in Tikrit netted several illegal weapons. Such counterinsurgency operations have come under increasing criticism recently, with many analysts warning that the U.S. military was risking alienating significant segments of Iraqis through heavy-handed military responses to hit-and-run attacks by the insurgents.

Hashem's assertion is in his autobiography, which is being ex-

cerpted in the Ashraq Al-Awsat pan-Arab daily. In Wednesday's except, he wrote that Iraq's former Revolutionary Command Council issued the decree to create a sort of war chest for Saddam's Baath Party.

There was no way to independently confirm Hashem's story. International efforts are under way to track accounts around the world in the name of Saddam,

the Baath Party and other former Iraqi officials.

The former minister said Saddam did not want to repeat the mistake of 1963 when a military coup toppled the first Baath government after nine months and it could not return to power quickly because it lacked money.

Hashem said that by his calculation the 5 percent revenues from See IRAQ on Page A-8

## Election machine starts up

Criticism mounts as John Piland runs again for state's attorney

BY DAN FARNHAM  
Staff writer

Champaign County State's Attorney John Piland declared his intention to run for re-election Thursday morning at the Champaign County Republican Headquarters, 106 W. Springfield Ave., Champaign.



PILAND

Piland has served as state's attorney since 1995.

Local Republicans and community supporters attended the 10 a.m. meeting at which Piland talked about his past accomplishments as state's attorney and hopes for the future.

Piland said he plans to continue his goal of making Champaign County a better and safer place to live by making sure dangerous criminals go to jail.

State Rep. Chapin Rose (R-Charleston) who formerly was an intern in Piland's office, made a brief introductory speech.

Rose lauded the job Piland has done in office, saying he is willing to take the initiative to ask the state legislature to change statutes in order to help the county.

However, Piland has been criticized by his opponents in the race: Republican Bruce Ratcliffe, an Urbana attorney and former Illinois assistant attorney general, and Democrat Julia Rietz, an Urbana attorney and

## Naomi Jakobsson seeks 2nd Illinois House term

BY DAN FARNHAM  
Staff writer



JAKOBSSON

State Rep. Naomi Jakobsson (D-Urbana) announced her re-election bid Thursday morning at the Illini Union.

Jakobsson is seeking her second term in 103rd Illinois House District, after defeating incumbent Republican Tom Berns during the Nov. 2002 election.

Jakobsson said if she was elected to a second term, she would continue to fight for the University, the economy

and environmental protection, among other things.

But her critics say she has not been protecting the University's interests, as promised.

"If you take a look at her voting records, particularly on higher education bills, you see she has not voted in the best See JAKOBSSON on Page A-8

former assistant state's attorney in Champaign.

Both Ratcliffe and Rietz said they are concerned about the state's attorney's office excessively and inconsistently charging people.

For instance, sometimes cases of shoplifting become charges of burglary for some people while the charges are dropped for others, Ratcliffe said.

Rietz said convicting people of felonies over more minor offenses unnecessarily overcrowds the judicial system, creating a backlog of cases.

Ratcliffe said the state's attorney's office compels people to go

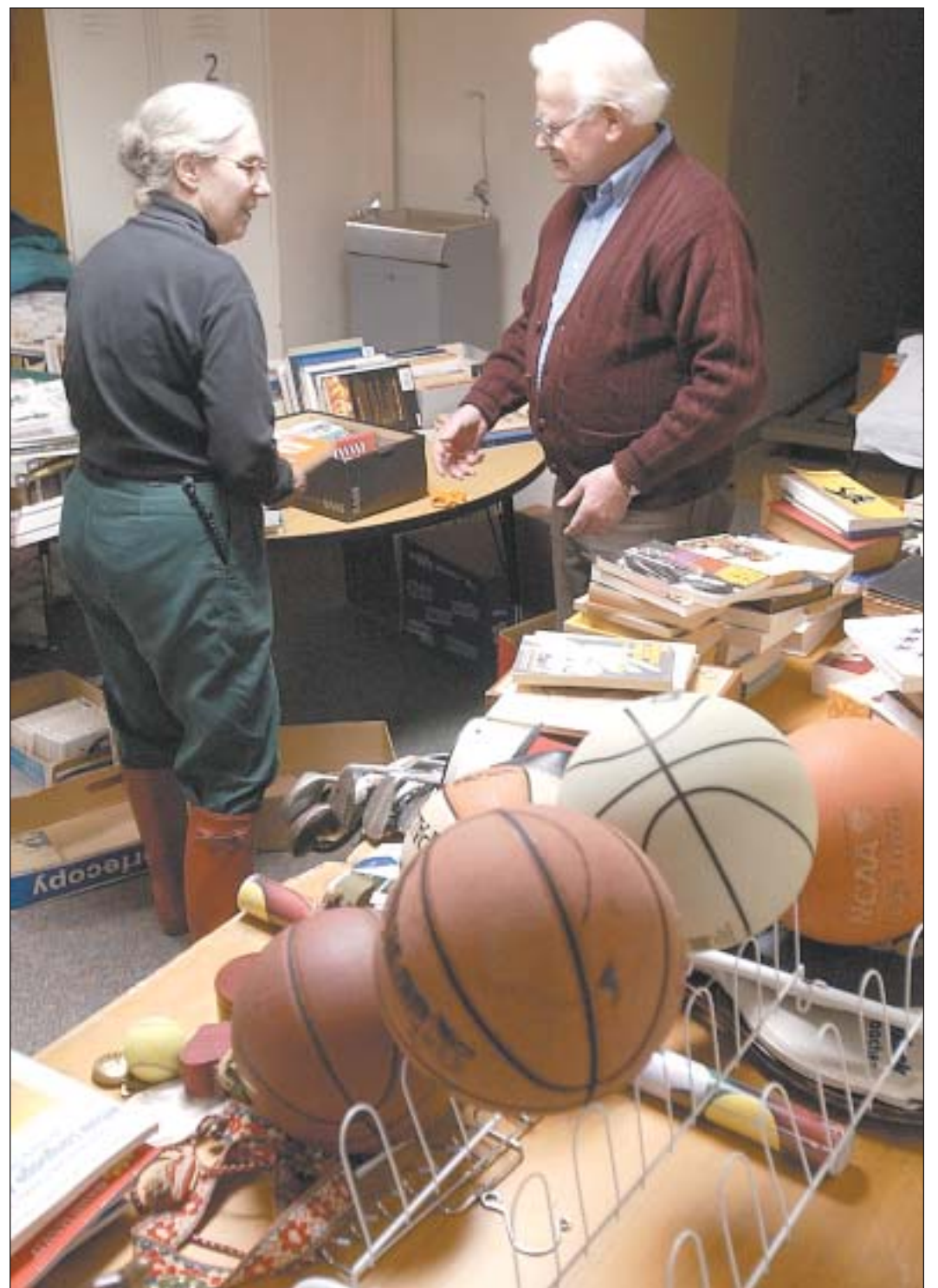
to trial when it is not necessary or to plead guilty to a charge that makes them a felon.

Rietz said she is also concerned about communication breaking down between the state's attorney's office and other areas such as the judiciary, law enforcement and defense attorneys.

Piland said criticism by opponents will not affect him much since his opponents seem to criticize any stance he takes.

"Yogi Berra once said, 'When you come to a fork in the road, take it,'" Piland said. "My opponents say 'When Piland comes to a fork in the road, whatever path he takes, criticize him.'"

## CHURCH PROMOTES PEACE WITH BAZAAR



ADRIANA D'ONOFRIO The Daily Illini

Volunteers Linda Lorenz (left), and Conrad Wetzel, both Urbana residents, organize books Thursday night in the basement of the Community United Church of Christ in Champaign for the 33rd annual Peace Bazaar being held Saturday. The Peace Bazaar is a fundraiser for groups promoting peace and social justice. FOR THE COMPLETE STORY, SEE PAGE 3.

## Two cities see little change after semester of increased bar hours

Official reports still needed to see effects, if any, of 2 a.m. cutoff

BY CRAIG COLBROOK  
Staff writer

While it's been nearly a semester since the Champaign and Urbana city councils extended bar hours, the predictions of the measure's opponents and supporters have yet to come true. In fact, little seems to have changed.

While the councils voted to extend their hours in late August, both councils have yet to see a comprehensive report on any changes the extended hours may have had on behavior in the cities. However, many officials think there will be few dramatic changes. Urbana Mayor Tod Satterthwaite said he was unsurprised that the changes had been minimal so far, but he understood the fears of the measure's opponents.

"I know there was a lot of concern about safety and changes in behavior, but my prediction was that things would be exactly the same with the extended hours as they were before, only an hour later," Satterthwaite said. "We haven't seen any behavior changes in Urbana bars. Of course, Urbana bars never had a problem to begin with."

Paul Berg, the assistant city manager of Champaign, said that the lack of a comprehensive report made it hard to identify specific changes.

"Until the data is assembled, we just don't have a whole lot of hard information," Berg said. "We put some information together after a couple of months because the media was hounding us but we haven't assembled all the data yet."

Berg said the initial report was based on six different types of calls to the police — battery, disorderly



DAN LUCAS The Daily Illini

Daniel Tankersley, bartender at White Horse Inn, pours drinks Tuesday night. Preliminary reports show that the later Champaign and Urbana bar hours approved in August have shown minimal changes in the behavior of patrons.

conduct, domestic violence, driving under the influence, fighting and loud music or noise — that are typically associated with alcohol. The report compared the number of each type of call in August and

September of this year with the same month of the last two years.

Just for September of this year and last year, the report showed that many of the calls that in- See BARS on Page A-8

## Kidnapping suspect bail set at \$5M

Alfonso Rodriguez, Jr. asks to stay in custody

GRAND FORKS, N.D. (AP) — The man charged with kidnapping in the disappearance of a University of North Dakota student who remains missing said through his lawyer Thursday that he wanted to remain in custody for his own safety.

Alfonso Rodriguez Jr., 50, a three-time convicted rapist, appeared at his bond hearing court wearing a brown parka over orange jail clothes. He spoke briefly in response to the judge's questions and only then to acknowledge that he understood the charges against him. The judge set bail at \$5 million.

Rick Brown, an assistant state's attorney for Grand Forks County, asked for the high bond because, he argued, Rodriguez didn't have deep ties to the community and there was a strong likelihood that he would commit more crimes.

"We feel that this case represents a very classic case of danger," he said.

Brown didn't discuss the state's evidence against Rodriguez, but said "this case was charged out with confidence that the state has a substantial likelihood of conviction should this go to trial."

Defense attorney David Dusek said Rodriguez would not contest the high bail. He said that before Thursday's court appearance, Ro-



The Associated Press

Polk County, Minn., Deputy Sheriff Sgt. Mike Murray organizes a group of searchers setting out on all-terrain vehicles to look for missing University of North Dakota student Dru Sjodin Wednesday morning, northwest of Crookston, Minn.

We feel that this case represents a very classic case of danger.

RICK BROWN  
Grand Forks County assistant state's attorney

driguez "agreed that for his safety he should remain in custody."

Rodriguez was not asked to enter a plea in the case. His preliminary hearing was set for Feb. 4, and arraignment was scheduled for Feb. 6.

Law enforcement officers continue the search for the missing woman, 22-year-old Dru Sjodin,

on Thursday.

About 1,700 volunteers on Wednesday had searched miles of roadsides and snowy fields from the Grand Forks mall where Sjodin works and was last seen Nov. 22 to Crookston, Minn., about 30 miles away, where Rodriguez lived with his mother. The search came up empty.