

# The State Journal

FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY ■ 50c ■ STATE-JOURNAL.COM



## Drug ring targeted, 14 charged

### 'Memphis Crew' big part of drug trade in town

STATE JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

Frankfort police say they've charged 14 people with mostly drug trafficking after an 18-month investigation led to several suspects affiliated with the drug organization known as the "Memphis Crew."  
"These people are responsible for a lot of the drug trade in Frankfort," Maj. Fred Deaton said today.

The investigation resulted in 12 charged in sealed indictments returned last week by the Franklin County grand jury for trafficking in cocaine, prescription drugs and marijuana, according to the press release and local officials.

About \$50,000 and various quantities of controlled

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## Teacher evaluations may get tied to student success

System proposed by local representative would start in 2014



SUBMITTED BY LRC  
Rep. Carl Rollins, D-Midway, discusses legislation on the floor of the Kentucky House of Representatives with Reps. Hubert Collins, D-Wittensville, left, and Sal Santoro, R-Florence.

BY KATHERAN WASSON  
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Legislators are again considering a bill to partially tie teacher evaluations to their students' success in the classroom, prompting mixed reactions locally.

The proposed system would evaluate teachers based on classroom observations, surveys of teachers' colleagues, parent feedback and evidence of their students' academic progress.

It would take effect statewide in the 2014-2015 school year. Kentucky's 174 public school districts now develop their own evaluation sys-

tems following broad state guidelines.

Democratic Rep. Carl Rollins of Midway is sponsoring the bill with minor changes from the version he pitched unsuccessfully last year. That bill cleared the House easily with a 92-2 vote, but it died without a Senate committee hearing.

Rollins says he hasn't spoken with Senate leaders about the bill this year, but believes it has a better shot at becoming law.

He's added the option to waive the new evaluations in school districts that

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## Story behind sniper killing airs Thursday

### Parents of slain UK student still angered by injustice

BY LAUREN HALLOW  
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An episode of Investigation Discovery's "Sins & Secrets" airing Thursday night will profile the murder of University of Kentucky football player Trent DiGiuro, nearly 18 years after he was gunned down by Frankfort native Shane Ragland.

"There's still people interested in remembering Trent," Mike DiGiuro, Trent's father, told The State Journal.



Trent DiGiuro

"(The TV show) helps keep the story around, helps people remember, but at the same time, it is hard because you have to relive the whole thing."

"Sins & Secrets" is a TV series that looks into "notorious crimes" that have deeply affected a particular community.

DiGiuro said the show's producers contacted him and his wife about featuring their son.

"They asked us if we were interested (in appearing on the show), and I wasn't, but my husband was," Ann DiGiuro told The State Journal. "I get too emotional."

"I'm willing to do the hard part to keep his memory alive," Mike DiGiuro said.

The DiGiuro murder rocked the Lexington and UK community in the 1990s as investigators struggled to find the killer.

It wasn't until 2000 when Ragland was identified as the murderer after his ex-girlfriend Aimee Lloyd came forward and said Ragland told her about the shooting while they were dating.

A Fayette County jury convicted Ragland in 2002 of murdering DiGiuro sniper-style with a rifle, and he was sentenced to 30 years.

But the Kentucky Supreme Court overturned the ruling four years later because of a comment made by the prosecution during its closing argument implicating Ragland's guilt because he chose not to testify. The high court also said some of the evidence was not sufficient to war-

See **KILLING**, A7



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## PRESERVATION LOOKING UP

Paul Greenwell stands on scaffolding as he works to preserve the ornate iron inserts on the facade of 315 St. Clair Tuesday afternoon. Greenwell has also been contracted to repaint the front of the building in the spring.

## Few on board with bus ads

Measure would OK space on outside of buses for advertising

BY KATHERAN WASSON  
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A lawmaker is trying again to get legislation passed that would allow advertising on the sides of school buses – but so far local officials aren't jumping at the chance.

Democratic state Rep. Terry Mills of Lebanon presented the proposal to the House Education Committee Tuesday, where it passed with a near-unanimous vote.

He unsuccessfully pressed for the same legislation last year.

The measure would give school districts the option of selling advertising space on the exterior sides of school buses. Money generated from the ads would stay in the district, and the local school board would decide how to use it.

It would prohibit political advertising. Ads for tobacco and alcohol products would also be barred.

Franklin County Board of Education Chairwoman Michelle New said she hasn't spoken to the other board members about the legislation, but she opposes it personally.

"I think it's a sad day when we have to advertise to make enough money to take care of our students," she said. "It would have to be a last resort."

Mark Watson, director of transportation for Franklin

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### WEEKLY POLL Gambling vote

Do you believe the legislature will authorize a referendum on expanded gambling?

Yes, 65% No, 34%

Total votes: 118

Vote on state-journal.com, or mark your vote here and return to The State Journal.

Yes  No



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