

## in brief

### East St. Louisan heads department

EAST ST. LOUIS — U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland has named Donald L. Houston, an East St. Louis native, as administrator of the department's Food Safety and Quality Service.

Houston had been serving as the deputy administrator of the department.

Duties of the department include: inspection of meat and poultry; standardization and voluntary grading services for meat, poultry, fruit, vegetable and dairy products; inspection of egg products and supervision of the various food purchasing operations for the department's school lunch and other domestic food programs.

### Allman Brothers asked to leave

EDWARDSVILLE — Members of the Allman Brothers Band and their traveling entourage wore out their welcome at the Holiday Inn in Edwardsville Saturday.

Madison County sheriff's deputies said they were called to the hotel about 2 p.m. Saturday after hotel manager Tom Perice complained that the members of the band were causing trouble with his cleaning maids and had refused to check out of six of the 23 rooms the band had rented. Check out time is noon.

Perice said the maids complained that Gregg Allman and road manager Don Bua were using foul language and interfering with their work.

Deputies said they met with Allman, Bua and Steve Mussorsky, an attorney for the band, and explained the problem. The band then checked out of the remaining six rooms and boarded a bus for the band's next engagement in Ohio, deputies said.

No complaints were filed.

### Edwardsville man drowns in shale pit

EDWARDSVILLE — A 19-year-old St. Louis man drowned Saturday while swimming in a shale pit

in Edwardsville.

Edwardsville Police reported Daniel Joseph Marchant of St. Louis was swimming with three friends in the pit, an abandoned rock quarry, when he started to complain he was having trouble swimming.

Two friends attempted to pull him out of the lake but Marchant went under the water and could not be recovered, police said.

The Bubblemasters Underwater Recovery Team of Edwardsville found Marchant's body in 35 feet of water in the spring-fed quarry after searching for an hour.

Marchant was pronounced dead at the scene at 6:30 p.m. by Madison County assistant coroner Ed Rodney.

Police said they were already en route to the scene to remove the swimmers after residents in the neighborhood complained that they were trespassing in the private quarry.

### Alton man drowns in farm pond Friday

WORDEN — An Alton man drowned late Friday night in a farm pond on a farm where he was living.

Madison County Sheriff's deputies said Kenneth E. Jones, 28, 1309 Milton Road, Alton, drowned on a farm pond on the farm of Lloyd Wyman of Worden.

Wyman told deputies he returned from work about 4:15 p.m. Friday and he and Jones consumed a fifth of liquor. Wyman said he left to go to town to buy farm supplies. Jones told Wyman he was going fishing in the pond and was going to try to recover some fishing lures he had lost in the pond last week.

When Wyman returned home about 5:30 p.m. he was unable to locate Jones, he said. Wyman and two neighbors searched the area until about 10 p.m. when they found a pack of cigarettes floating in the pond.

The Alton Emergency Corps recovered Jones body about 12:04 a.m. Saturday in 8 feet of water. He was pronounced dead at the scene. Police said footprints indicated Jones had waded into the pond.