

Briefly

Plan to halt mandatory busing blasted

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — A proposal to halt mandatory busing for elementary students in Jefferson County has come under fire from school-desegregation authorities across the country.

After 16 years of mandatory busing for desegregation, county officials announced a week ago the best way to achieve the state's education reform goals would be to allow the students to attend neighborhood schools.

A former state senator has scheduled a public forum for Thursday on the proposal.

Georgia Powers, who represented western Louisville from 1967 to 1988, suggested that the Jefferson County school board was using education reform as a "smoke screen" to resegregate the schools.

Powers said she has invited about 275 ministers and community leaders, no elected officials, to the public forum.

Harvard University professor and a leading researcher on desegregation, Gary Orfield, said the proposal would be "a colossal mistake."

Boy dies after Sept. 21 pit bull attack

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — A 6-year-old boy has died of head injuries he suffered when he was attacked by the family pit bull, which had been chained in his back yard.

Steven Ray "Rocky" Oerther died about noon Sunday at Kosair Children's Hospital, said his aunt, Teresa Faith. The boy never regained consciousness after going into a coma during surgery after the Sept. 21 attack, she said.



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DREAM OF BOY KILLED BY DOG HONORED

LOUISVILLE -- A 6-year-old boy who died after an attack by a pit bull dog will be buried in a Navy flight suit today because he always dreamed of being a pilot, a family member said. Steven Ray "Rocky" Oerther died of head injuries about noon Sunday at Kosair Children's Hospital, said his aunt, Teresa Faith. The boy never regained consciousness after going into a coma during surgery, she said. Rocky was severely bitten on the face Sept. 21 as he was...

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