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THE STATE
Journal Register

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2025 | SJ-R.COM THE OLDEST NEWSPAPER IN ILLINOIS | PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Report: 3 central Illinois liberal arts colleges among best in the U.S.

Tom Ackerman
Springfield State Journal-Register
USA TODAY NETWORK

U.S. News & World Report has released its annual list of best universities and colleges. Several central Illinois colleges are ranked highly. We took a look at how the region and the state fared in the category of Liberal Arts Colleges.

Here's which colleges made the short list within Illinois.

The publication

U.S. News & World Report publishes news stories while they also publish rankings and consumer advice. The publication ranks universities and colleges in multiple categories, with ranks such as Top Public Schools,

Best Value Schools, and Engineering Programs, for example. The 2026 edition looked at more than 1,700 U.S. colleges and universities. Their website notes, under the About section, that reporters and editors who produce the rankings are independent of the publication's business. See COLLEGES, Page 2A

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Sal Martinez (left), a directional bore drill locator and Chris Halvorson, a foreman with Northwest Cable Construction, Inc. out of Mayville, contracted by TDS Telecom, work on drilling holes for duct work that will eventually house broadband internet cable in the Easttown Manor subdivision of Elkhorn on Dec. 5, 2022. MIKE DE SISTI/MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

Comcast work halted in Sherman after damage throughout the village

Claire Grant
Springfield State Journal-Register
USA TODAY NETWORK

SHERMAN – Utility companies are no longer allowed to dig into the ground for utility work in the Village of Sherman without the approval of the village.

A resolution introduced and passed 25-17 at an emergency Sherman Village Board of Trustees meeting Sept. 23 to halt boring, a construction process of digging a hole using specialized machinery to place utilities. The ordinance effects all boring permits going forward, so previously or

processing permits remain are not impacted. The resolution was introduced after a confrontation between Mayor Trevor J. Clatfelter and village supervisors with Comcast over damage throughout See COMCAST, Page 2A

Springfield man faces charge of impersonating a police officer

Steven Spearie
Springfield State Journal-Register
USA TODAY NETWORK

A Chatham man who tried to repossess a car in Taylorville was charged with impersonating a police officer on Sept. 18. Jordan J. Monroe, 34, is the owner and CEO of Urgent Rent-a-Car agency in Springfield. Monroe also was charged with unlawful restraint at a first appearance before Judge Brad Paisley on Sept. 19. Both charges are felonies. He was released under conditions of the SAFE-T Act. According to Taylorville Police Chief Dwayne Wheeler, Monroe was in an Explorer SUV when he activated an app on his cell phone to mimic police lights. Monroe, who was wearing a safety vest, also used a spotlight on the car that was pulled over on East Main Cross Street in downtown Taylorville. Monroe was attempting to repossess the 2004 Chevrolet Cobalt that was registered to Urgent Rent-a-Car, Wheeler said. During the stop, Monroe maced one of the car's occupants, according to Wheeler. Officers seized Monroe's phone. Monroe has an Oct. 23 preliminary hearing in Christian County court. According to online documents,

See CHARGE, Page 2A



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