

# ADISON METRO DANE COUNTY

Obituaries 2C  
Weather 10C

City editor: Ron McCrea 252-6419  
E-mail: citydesk@madison.com

The Capital Times ■ Wednesday, Dec. 31, 2003

Assistant city editor: Chris Murphy 252-6420  
Assistant city editor: Karyn Saemann 252-6484

## Slammin' Sammy in Brewer blue?

OK, so it's hokey, sophomoric, inane. But what's New Year's Eve without a predictions column? Here then are a few things you can bet the farm will NOT happen in 2004:

**Jan. 6:** Admitting that "we should have listened to John Stauber all along," a chastened Rod Nilsestuen, secretary of the state Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, says he's asked federal officials to "quit behaving like wienies" and start taking drastic steps to combat mad cow disease. Foremost, he says, is to ban the use of slaughterhouse waste as a feed supplement — a step that Stauber, author of "Mad Cow USA," advocated six years ago.

Nilsestuen emphasizes that a cow recently diagnosed with the disease in Washington state poses no risk to the U.S. meat

**Rob Zaleski**  
UP CLOSE



supply. But he issues a terse "no comment" when asked about reports that he was spotted at Woodman's last week loading his cart with Boca Burgers and Tofurky.

**Feb. 11:** At a hastily called press conference, Ho-Chunk Nation officials announce they've dropped plans to convert the DeJope bingo hall into a full-fledged casino.

"Upon reflection, we decided we didn't want Madison to become the Gomorrah of the Midwest," Ho-Chunk spokesman Wade Blackdeer tells stunned reporters. Another factor, he admits, was last-minute pleas from recovering gambling addicts William Bennett, Pete Rose and Biff Tannen.

**March 4:** In a shocking turn of events, the Brewers apologize for even contemplating slashing their payroll and announce they've acquired Sammy Sosa from the Cubs. "I hope this demonstrates that we are

See ZALESKI, Page 3C



ALAN DIAZ/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sammy Sosa a Brewer? Read on for all the (unlikely) headlines of 2004.

## Medical School closes clinic

Risk to patients, supervision cited

Associated Press

The University of Wisconsin Medical School has closed a neurology clinic after investigators said critically ill patients were put at risk because of sloppy handling of patient records, inadequate employee training and poor supervision.

Paul DeLuca Jr., the school's vice dean, said Tuesday no patients were physically harmed during the lab's muscle strength tests. Most suffered from multiple sclerosis or Lou Gehrig's disease.

"However, patient/subjects have been inconvenienced and put at risk, which is unacceptable," DeLuca wrote

neurology department Chairman Thomas Sutula on Nov. 21.

The lab saw about 500 patients and administered about 2,000 tests a year, said Dr. Benjamin Brooks, the lab's medical director for 12 years.

Brooks said he would take the dispute to court. He said patient safety and privacy never were issues.

"The report does not reflect the excellent management of the lab," he said.

But DeLuca said some people administering the tests had little knowledge of what to do if a patient had a medical emergency during the test. Sutula said some patients may not have realized they were test subjects.

"I think one of the concerns is that patients weren't sure when the tests were intended to produce useful data for clinical management (of their cases) and when they were part of a research protocol," Sutula said.

An internal investigation was sparked by a whistleblower in July, as well as an incident on Aug. 18 in which Dr. Carl Getto, a UW Hospital associate dean, was notified that an unsupervised student was preparing to test patients in the lab.

Getto told investigators he discovered that the student was not a Medical School employee and did not know appropriate emergency medical and safety procedures. In addition, the student had the confidential patient database open on a computer.

"We saw no evidence of privacy being breached," DeLuca said. "On the other hand, the way the lab was functioning, breach of privacy was a serious concern."

The whistleblower, whose name was not released, was a former student employee who said students had access to confidential patient records through a commonly borrowed password.

But Brooks said lab workers needed to access the information and the department failed to properly issue them passwords.

Sutula said in addition to research and clinical services questions, "the lab had also run out of money."

Brooks said the Medical School in 2002 restricted his ability to apply for grants, creating the financial crunch.



DAVID SANDELL/THE CAPITAL TIMES

### Handsome new ladder truck

■ Cottage Grove Fire Department volunteer firefighters admire the new E-One ladder truck that arrived Tuesday morning. The \$632,141 vehicle is also a water truck and will replace a 20-year-old tanker. Volunteers are raising \$40,000 toward the purchase price, and the village and town will share the payments, starting in 2005.

## Dog's best friend left big legacy

Crash victim remembered

By Judith Davidoff  
The Capital Times

To those who knew her best, it was unclear when Terri Tinsley took time to sleep.

"She did enough for 100 people," said Sarah Kalnajs, a good friend of Tinsley's.

Tinsley, 39, of Fort Atkinson, died Dec. 9 in a car crash.

At the time of her death, Tinsley oversaw the Web site and e-mail "list-serv" for the Wisconsin Dog Rescue and Pet Rescue Network (an umbrella organization for groups caring for stray and homeless dogs), ran her own German shepherd dog rescue and updated annually a 125-page directory of contact information for rescue groups around the state.

She and her husband, Perry, also ran their own small business, Media Paws, which produces videos and Web sites.

And that was in her free time. Tinsley also held down a full-time job directing a distance education network for nine school districts, three area technical schools and a university in Jefferson and eastern Dane counties.

She left her biggest mark, perhaps, on Wisconsin Dog Rescue.

Friends and family credit her with creating a Web site for the organization, helping to establish screening rules for rescue groups and fostering better communication between shelters and rescues.

"Her big mission was to get rescues and shelters to play well together and she really got that to happen," said Perry. "She created strong bonds between rescues and shelters and even vet clinics."

"They were branching out big time," he added.

The listservs she monitored facilitated placement of abandoned dogs, added Kalnajs.



PERRY TINSLEY

In addition to her dog rescue work, Terri Tinsley worked full-time directing a distance education network for nine school districts.

**Perry Tinsley has created a memorial fund in Terri's name, through Premiere Bank, 70 N. Main St., Fort Atkinson, WI 53538, to place a bench or marker at the park.**

"If I hear of a beagle in need I write to one list and every beagle rescue in the state is contacted," said Kalnajs, political liaison for Wisconsin Dog Rescue and an animal trainer and behaviorist. Other states are modeling the system Tinsley oversaw, said Kalnajs.

Though a longtime animal lover, Tinsley's immersion in the dog rescue world was relatively recent.

It happened, said Perry, when the two attended an exotic pet show in 1999 and saw a sickly German shepherd pup being sold. Their intent was to put it in a reputable shelter before

placement in a good home.

They placed it in one rescue, then learned from a trusted source the home was not a good one.

The Tinsleys retrieved Pistol, as they named him, and intended to foster him for about eight weeks until another rescue group take him. But then they fell in love with the dog.

"He was the first dog we fostered and we failed because we stayed with him," Perry said.

A few years later, Tinsley decided to form her own German shepherd rescue. Her initial intent, said Perry, was to rescue about four dogs a year and educate the public.

Less than two years later, the rescue has successfully "adopted out" 52 dogs, Perry said.

Kalnajs said Tinsley was selflessly generous with her time and talents.

When Kalnajs was just getting her

See LEGACY, Page 3C

## Budget plan hits Monona middle school

By Nathan Comp

Correspondent for The Capital Times

MONONA — Winnequah Middle School students would shoulder much of the burden of a budget trimming proposal that Monona Grove School Board members hashed out at a work session Tuesday night.

The proposal, to come up for a School Board vote Jan. 14, would adjust Winnequah's academic schedule so that more class time is devoted to the core academics — English, math, science and social studies. Students would spend less time in elective courses like foreign language and music.

"The middle school is an area whose time has come for us to look at," said board member Nancy Allen after the meeting.

The move would allow the school district to eliminate three full-time staff positions at Winnequah, shaving \$150,000 from a projected \$450,000 deficit.

Four more jobs would be eliminated district-wide through attrition, easing the strain by an additional \$150,000. And refinancing of district debt would trim another \$110,000, Superintendent Gary Schumacher said.

The board unanimously endorsed the proposal even though it leaves the budget \$40,000 in the red. Schumacher said the board should be able to reconcile that by the time the final budget is adopted in the fall.

"We're within striking distance," Schumacher said.

The district's 2003-04 budget is about \$29 million. In 2004-05, it is expected to be trimmed to about \$26 million.

Board members said they were relieved that more painful cuts to educational programs and staff have been avoided.

See MONONA, Page 3C

---

# Legacy

---

■ Continued from Page 1C

---

animal training company off the ground, Tinsley designed and produced a Web site for it, free of charge and as a surprise.

She also created a hard-bound directory of Wisconsin's rescue groups at her own cost, Kalnajs added.

For now, Perry is taking over the reins of Tinsley's various rescue endeavors, made

somewhat easier, he said, by his wife's assiduous organizational skills.

He's also busy taking care of their own pets, which include Pistol, another dog and a parrot.

He said Tinsley had decided in late November to take a breather and not take in new rescue dogs until after Christmas. Three days later, he said, she processed nine dogs.

"So much for taking a break."

---

E-mail: [jdavidoff@madison.com](mailto:jdavidoff@madison.com)