



77 SQUARE

# BALLPARK BOPPERS

All-star musicians honor the national pastime in song



"MIDNIGHT IN PARIS"

★ ★ ★ 1/2

Woody Allen's nostalgic trip is a delightful dream.

## WISCONSIN

# STATE



# JOURNAL

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### WEATHER

Partly sunny, much cooler. High 71, Low 51  
Details on back of section

### SPORTS



### Wilson's UW visit called a 'grand slam'

Former N.C. State quarterback Russell Wilson, who is considering transferring to UW, meets with coaches and players. **PAGE B1**

### Heptathletes on their marks

UW's Dorcas Akinniyi and Jessica Flax take part in today's NCAA outdoor track and field championships. **PAGE B1**

### LOCAL

### Senate OKs election dates

The state Senate approves moving the 2012 presidential primary to April and the 2012 fall partisan primary to August. **PAGE A3**

### NATION & WORLD

### Gadhafi the emancipator?

Some of Libyan ruler Moammar Gadhafi's most ardent supporters are women, who say his regime opened up career opportunities they didn't previously have. **PAGE A10**

### Troops rebuke Delta on policy

A YouTube video showing soldiers complaining about \$200 luggage fees leads to a hasty retreat by the airline. **PAGE A10**

### BUSINESS



### Financing still tough to get

Two years after the recession's end, Madison-area developers say it's still hard to obtain financing for commercial projects. **PAGE D1**

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### GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD

# Green light given to Dem recalls

Board OKs petitions against Hansen, Wirsch and Holperin.

By MARY SPICUZZA  
mspizzu@madison.com  
608-252-6122

All three Democratic state senators targeted for recalls will have to fight for their seats this summer after election officials on Wednesday refused to throw out petitions circulated against them, despite finding evidence of fraud.

That means nine Wisconsin senators could face recall elections in the

coming months, although all six Republican senators targeted are fighting their recalls in circuit court.

The Government Accountability Board expressed concern about fraud and forgery committed by some signature gatherers, and voted to reject hundreds of signatures it determined were collected by people who misrepresented the petitions.

Please see **RECALLS**, Page A8



Judge Gordon Myse, a member of the state Government Accountability Board, pressed attorneys Wednesday about evidence of fraud in the petitions filed to recall Democratic senators. **M.P. KING - State Journal**

Madison La Follette High School's youth court program has shown so much potential that similar programs are being considered for adult offenders.



Photos by CRAIG SCHREINER - State Journal

A student ticketed for fighting faces a jury of peers as part of Madison La Follette High School's youth court program. On the jury, from left, are junior Alexis Gardner, senior Kayasia Blake, senior Tylor Galloway and junior Janise Tucker.

# PEER PRESSURE

By MATTHEW DeFOUR  
mdefour@madison.com  
608-252-6144

When Madison La Follette High School senior Burnett Reed got into a heated argument with another student during his sophomore year in 2008, he faced a choice.

He could take a disorderly conduct ticket that would stay on his court record. Or he could participate in the school's new youth court program in which a jury of fellow students would assess the case. He chose youth court and was sentenced to writing an apology letter, tutoring and four hours with a life coach.

He so liked the option he soon became a juror, and now is helping Madison West High School start its own program next year.

"It's a better way to keep youth out of the

Please see **COURT**, Page A6



Madison La Follette High School senior Burnett Reed, right, enjoys pizza and a root beer float as he and other members of a student jury determine the sentence for a fellow student. As a sophomore, Reed faced similar peer sentencing, which inspired him to get involved in the program.

### F-16 CRASH

# Training flights grounded for now

An investigation will try to make sure there are no problems that could cause another mishap.

By STEVEN VERBURG  
sverburg@madison.com  
608-252-6118

Training flights from the Air National Guard base in Madison are grounded indefinitely while Air Force inspectors make sure there's nothing wrong with fuel, procedures or equipment that could cause a repeat of Tuesday's F-16 crash in Adams County.

The crash destroyed a home and forced the evacuation of 50 people, but no injuries were reported, Wisconsin National Guard spokeswoman Lt. Col. Jackie Guthrie said Wednesday.

Guthrie said she won't identify the pilot because he asked that his name not be released.

"He has approximately 20 years' experience flying the F-16, including several tours of combat in the global war on terror," Guthrie said.

The pilot was one of two who took off Tuesday from the Air National Guard base at Truax Field and flew to the vicinity of the Volk Field training base about 85 miles northwest of Madison to perform training maneuvers. They were

Please see **CRASH**, Page A7

• Pilot recalls crash in 1995. **PAGE A7**

### MEDICAL MARIJUANA

# A growing debate: Grannies and ganja

The issue takes root in retirement communities.

By GILLIAN FLACCUS  
Associated Press

LAGUNA WOODS, Calif. — Joe Schwartz is a 90-year-old great-grandfather of three who enjoys a few puffs of pot each night before he crawls into bed in his Southern California retirement community.

The World War II veteran smokes the drug to alleviate debilitating nausea and is one of about 150 senior citizens in this sprawling, 18,000-person gated campus who belongs to a thriving — and controversial — medical marijuana collec-

tive operating here, in the middle of one of the largest retirement communities in the United States.

The fledgling collective mirrors a nationwide trend as more and more senior citizens turn to marijuana, legal or not, to ease the aches and pains of aging.

But in Laguna Woods Village, tucked in the heart of one of the most conservative and wealthiest counties in California, these ganja-smoking grandparents have stirred a heated debate with their

Please see **MARIJUANA**, Page A11



CHRIS CARLSON - Associated Press

Medical marijuana user **Joe Schwartz**, 90, grows pot plants on the patio of his home in a retirement community in Laguna Woods, Calif.

# Blog entries lead to stalking charge

Man altered photos of the prosecutor who convicted his wife, complaint says.

By ED TRELEVEN  
etreleven@madison.com  
608-252-6134

A Madison man whose wife was convicted of child abuse plucked photos from her prosecutor's Facebook page, altered them and posted them on blogs he operated, according to a complaint filed Wednesday charging the man with stalking.

Michel "Ki" Moller, 53, posted a photo of the home of Assistant District Attorney Karie Cattanaach, photos of her children and a representation of Cattanaach as a Barbie doll with a black eye, the complaint in Dane County Circuit Court said.

Moller was charged with one count of stalking. One of the photos of Cattanaach's toddler

Please see **STALKING**, Page A11

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# Pilot: In crash, 'Everything happens pretty quick'

F-16 bomber crashed near Eau Claire in 1995.

By **STEVEN VERBURG**  
sverburg@madison.com  
608-252-6118

The F-16 fighter-bomber was roaring over a hilly Wisconsin landscape at more than 600 mph on June 25, 1995. When the jet's engine stalled, there was no mistaking what happened, said John Wasserburger, who was the aircraft's Wisconsin Air National Guard pilot.

"It makes a pretty loud shudder, and then you get almost every warning light on in the cockpit," Wasserburger said Wednesday.

No more than four or five minutes after the engine stalled, Wasserburger ejected and his jet crashed into woods south of Eau Claire.

It was the last military training crash in Wisconsin before

Tuesday, when a pilot from the Madison-based 115th Fighter Wing ejected over Adams County before his F-16 slammed into a vacant vacation home. The pilot escaped with minor injuries and nobody on the ground was hurt.

Wasserburger, who retired from the Guard as a colonel in 2007 after 20 years of service, said he has fought in many simulated dogfights with the pilot who went down this week.

"He's the best pilot at the 115th, by far," Wasserburger said, describing the man as a close friend. "Air-to-air dogfighting, he is the toughest guy to beat. With him, you've got your hands full."

Guard officials and Wasserburger wouldn't release the name of the pilot.

Wasserburger, who lives in Poynette and is a pilot for Federal Express, said he remembers his crash vividly.

## WEB EXTRA

**Essay:** Read the pilot's account of his 1995 crash south of Eau Claire.  
**Go to:** madison.com

"Everything happens pretty quick," he said. "You immediately have a sick feeling because a \$20 million jet just crashed. You feel sick that you lost that much of the taxpayers' money. Next you think, 'Did I do everything I could have?'"

Wasserburger said when his engine quit, he pulled the jet up to gain altitude and give himself more time to try to restart the engine. But as the jet slowed and began to fall, he had to bail out. Just before ejecting, he pointed the jet's nose down to minimize the distance it would travel before crashing.

"You try to steer away from any area that's populated, but you can determine only so much," he said.



John Wasserburger poses in 1997 with an F-16 during a Wisconsin Air National Guard deployment to Kuwait. He ejected during a flight near Eau Claire in 1995.

## WISCONSIN AIR NATIONAL GUARD Q&A

**Q.** How many men and women serve in the Wisconsin Air National Guard?

**A.** About 2,300 men and women. About 1,100 are part of the 115th Fighter Wing in Madison.

**Q.** How many are pilots?

**A.** 34.

**Q.** What is the frequency of training flights by F-16s based at Truax Field?

**A.** During periods of routine local training, 12 flights a day with six in the morning and six in the afternoon. That number may be reduced when the unit is deployed for training or in support of contingency operations.

**Q.** Do most of them fly over densely populated areas such as Madison?

**A.** All aircraft operations are under the direction of air traffic control when traversing to and from military training airspace. As a general rule, they make every effort to avoid populated areas.

**Q.** Can you describe the hours of training and flight simulation pilots undergo before they go up in an F-16?

**A.** Before a pilot reports for duty to the 115th, he or she goes through a training program that is almost two years long. Training progresses through a range of aircraft before they fly the F-16. When pilots report for duty after training, they have approximately 200 hours of military flying experience, including almost 100 hours in

the F-16. In addition, they go through, and continue to experience throughout their career, an extensive academic and ground simulator training curriculum in addition to their flight time in the F-16.

**Q.** How far do the jets range on typical flights? What's the farthest they might go?

**A.** The majority of our training occurs in central Wisconsin. The Federal Aviation Administration has identified blocks of airspace for use by high performance military aircraft. At times, the 115th Fighter Wing sends air crews and maintenance staff to other locations to train with other organizations or to complete unique training requirements, including the process of practicing to deploy.

Source: Wisconsin National Guard Lt. Col. Jackie Guthrie, State Journal research

## MILITARY PLANE CRASHES

Until Tuesday, the last crash of a Wisconsin Air National Guard plane was in 1995. The Guard operates at Truax Field adjacent to the Dane County Regional Airport in Madison.

### June 25, 1995

An F-16 fighter-bomber crashes in Trempealeau County while on a training mission originating in Madison. Capt. John Wasserburger safely ejects. The jet crashes in woods about 300 yards from a farmhouse.

### March 30, 1994

An Air National Guard F-16 crashes at Madison's Truax Field. Lt. Michael Wahlin ejects and is slightly injured.

### June 15, 1964

F-89 Scorpion jet crashes during takeoff at Truax, killing a radar observer.

### April 1963

F-102 crashes through a barrier at end of runway at Truax. No fatalities.

### May 5, 1958

F-102A fighter jet fails and crashes into Lake Monona west of Olbrich Park, killing the pilot.

### March 1, 1958

T-38 jet trainer crashes in a swamp north of Truax shortly after takeoff, killing pilot Raymond H. Varnum Jr.

### March 14, 1957

F-102A runs out of fuel on a training flight. The pilot bails out near Ashton Corners north of Middleton and is not seriously injured.

### July 5, 1955

Lt. John P. Churchill circles his faltering F-86 away from Highway 51 to avoid hitting cars and skids the plane to a stop along the grass turf at Truax Field. He escapes injury.

### June 1954

F-89C Scorpion jet crashes

and explodes near Gest's Corners, Highways 51 and 19, killing the pilot.

### March 29, 1954

F-86D Sabre crashes in the front yard of a house on Highway CV. No fatalities.

### Nov. 23, 1953

F-89C Scorpion crashes in the Arboretum shoreline of Lake Wingra, killing the pilot and radar observer.

### Nov. 3, 1953

An F-86 Sabre and F-89 Scorpion collide in mid-air. One plane attempts to make it back to Truax but crashes in a farm field near Deerfield, injuring the pilot. The other plane crashes near Watertown, injuring the pilot and killing the radar operator.

### Oct. 11, 1953

A National Guard propeller plane crash-lands at Truax, injuring the pilot.

### Jan. 30, 1953

Four jet interceptors take off from Truax in a blinding snowstorm. All four are unable to find the field during the return trip, run out of fuel and crash. Two pilots bail out, while two others are killed.

### Sept. 21, 1952

A C-47 transport plane approaching Truax Field crashes into an auto on Highway 51, killing all four of the car's occupants.

### Sept. 9, 1952

An F-51 fighter plane crashes in flames at Truax, spraying the area with 600 rounds of .50-caliber slugs. Nine houses are struck and two people are injured by the bullets.

### February 1952

An F-80 Shooting Star crashes in a farm field near Cottage Grove, killing the pilot.

Compiled by Dennis McCormick. Source: State Journal archives

## Crash

Continued from Page A1

returning to Truax when the crash occurred, Guthrie said. The other pilot stayed near the crash scene until he confirmed the pilot who ejected was unharmed, then returned to Truax, Guthrie said.

The Air Force is investigating the cause of the

crash. It was the first time since 1995 a state Guard jet has gone down, Guthrie said. The 1995 crash was caused by a mechanical problem, Guthrie said.

She said the 115th Fighter Wing based at Truax has flown F-16s since 1993 and has an exceptional safety record. About 34 pilots are assigned to the wing along with 18 of the F-16s. During typical training periods, the jets take off 12 times a day,

she said.

Last year, the Air National Guard honored the wing with an award for its strong safety record in 2009. At the time, wing commanders said they logged more than 60,000 accident-free flying hours in the previous 14 years, including almost 500 combat flights without mishap by the wing's F-16s and RC-26 turboprop aircraft in 2009.

In the mid-1990s, Madison Mayor Paul Soglin said the flights out of Truax were an unacceptable risk to Madison residents.

On Wednesday he praised the Guard for its safety precautions.

"I know that the Air National Guard is concerned for the safety of civilians and the dedicated men and women who serve our country," Soglin said in an email to the State Journal. "I am confident that Wisconsin Air National Guard ... is taking appropriate steps to ensure everyone's safety. We are all grateful that the pilot was not seriously injured."

At the crash site, town of New Chester evacuees were allowed to return to their homes Tuesday night, although some areas will remain closed to the public for safety reasons and to preserve evidence for the investigation, Guthrie said.

Ember Avenue from 2nd Drive to 2nd Avenue will continue to be inaccessible for several weeks except to residents who show photo identification and a wristband issued by police, said Adams County Emergency Management director Jane Gervais.



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