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# Wisconsin State Journal

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PACKERS AT SEAHAWKS | TV: ESPN, 7:30 P.M. | PREVIEW IN SPORTS, C1

## Holmgren-field advantage



TOM OATES

In Green Bay and now in Seattle, Mike Holmgren's teams win big at home, something the Packers must overcome tonight.

SEATTLE — Guess who graces the cover of the Seattle Seahawks' media guide in the season following the franchise's first Super Bowl appearance? Is it NFL MVP Shaun Alexander? Is it coach Mike Holmgren, who finally got Seattle to the big game in the seventh year of his eight-year megadeal? Is it billionaire owner Paul Allen holding the Halas Trophy the Seahawks earned for winning their first NFC title? Actually, it's none of the above.

Instead of a person, it's simply the number 12. That's 12 as in 12th man, a tribute to the Seattle fans that clearly demonstrates the importance Holmgren places on the home-field advantage. You remember home-field advantage, don't you? When Holmgren coached Green Bay from 1992 to '98, the Packers had the NFL's best home record. Now, that honor belongs to the Seahawks. Talk about tough tasks, Green Bay has

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Coach Mike Holmgren's Seahawks went undefeated at home last season, when they went to the Super Bowl, and are 4-1 at home this season.

## THE INVISIBLE WOUND

Nightmares, depression and blackouts from post-traumatic stress disorder have torn one soldier's family life apart as he battles the condition that affects about one-third of soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan.



Christopher DeLara was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder following his discharge from the Army after having served in Iraq for a year, leaving him unable to hold a job. With him in their Albany, N.Y., home are his wife, Cathy, and daughter, Lauri.

By DENNIS YUSKO Albany (N.Y.) Times Union

ALBANY, N.Y. — For nearly a year, Christopher DeLara sped ruthlessly around Baghdad's lawless streets, riding adrenaline and paranoia as he dodged hidden bombs and insurgents. But 18 months after his return to the U.S., doctors no longer allow the Army administrative specialist-turned-gunner to get behind the wheel. The 33-year-old veteran's readjustment to civilian life is tormented by sudden blackouts, nightmares and severe depression caused by his time in Iraq. Since moving to Albany in June, DeLara accidentally smashed the family minivan, attempted suicide, separated from and reunited with his wife and lost his civilian driving job. "I go from a job where I'm taking care of everything to coming back and being lucky if I know who the hell I am, or don't have a breakdown," DeLara said from his living room couch, his eyes glazed and droopy from prescription drugs. DeLara is among more than 38,000 Afghanistan and Iraq veterans fighting war's invisible wound — post-traumatic stress disorder. The twin post-9/11 conflicts are generating a record



DeLara served with the 1st Cavalry Division Engineer Brigade and was stationed at Camp Liberty near Baghdad International Airport.

number of PTSD cases. The skyrocketing number of troops seeking care has Veterans Affairs hospitals, including the one in Madison, scrambling to provide increased services for the disorder. Known previously as shell shock or soldier's heart, psychiatrists officially labeled PTSD in 1980. While almost all combat veterans experience stress, PTSD patients suffer long-lasting trauma and relive their

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### Recognizing post-traumatic stress disorder

PTSD stems from identifiable trauma. The trauma witnessed is life-threatening and causes intense fear and horror. It keeps coming back into the person's consciousness in the form of recurring nightmares or flashbacks. It creates an avoidance syndrome. The person avoids thinking about anything associated with the trauma and avoids sounds and smells associated with the trauma. Physical symptoms include an exaggerated startle response and severe sleep disturbances. The traumatized person is in a state of hyper-vigilance and continuously searches for signs of danger.

### For help in Madison

Veterans Hospital 2520 Overlook Ave. Madison WI 608-264-5342 National Center for PTSD www.ncptsd.va.gov

SOURCE: Dr. Eileen Ahearn, Madison Veterans Hospital

## Meeting to focus on Well No. 3

Near East Side residents can ask questions about the contaminated water in a city well and what will be done.

By RON SEELY rseely@madison.com 608-252-6131

Residents of Near East Side neighborhoods whose water needs were served by a well that was shut down because the water contained high levels of an industrial carcinogen say they have plenty of questions about the safety of their water and the fate of the contaminated well. They will be looking for answers tonight at a neighborhood meeting scheduled by six area neighborhood associations. At issue is water quality and the city's plans for Well No. 3, the contaminated well. "It's about the water," said resident Satya Rhodes-Conway. "This is what's coming out of people's taps. It's what they drink. They're giving it to their

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### If you go

What: Neighborhood meeting on water quality on the Near East Side and the city's plans for Well No. 3, now shut down because of contaminants.

When: 6 tonight.

Where: Cafeteria of Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 2670 Milwaukee St.

## Analysis: Oil companies limit supplies

Associated Press suggests companies use methods that tend to increase prices

By JEFF DONN Associated Press

BAKERSFIELD, Calif. — An Associated Press analysis suggests that big oil companies have been crimping supplies in subtle ways across the country for years. And tighter supplies tend to drive up prices. The analysis, based on data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration, indicates that the industry slacked off supplying oil and gasoline during the prolonged price boom between early 1999 and last summer, when prices began to fall.

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5 ON THE FLY Remembering Diana: Britain's Princes William and Harry plan to stage a concert with performers including Elton John next year to mark the 10th anniversary of Princess Diana's death.

2 Decaf caffeine: An analysis of 16-ounce decaffeinated coffee beverages from nine national chains or local coffee houses found every serving but one had caffeine ranging from 8.6 to 13.9 mg. An 8-ounce cup of coffee typically contains 85 mg.

3 Religious debut: "The Nativity Story" made its world premiere Sunday at the Vatican, the first time a feature film has debuted there.

4 Business bonus: Nicaragua is set to receive \$175 million over five years to help rural businesses as part of the U.S.-sponsored Millennium Challenge Corp.

5 Digging out: Citigroup, Goldman Sachs and Deutsche Bank have submitted bids to restructure Eurotunnel's staggering debt.



Cloudy with showers likely



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# Massive tumor removed from face

After surgeries, a Haitian girl is no longer hiding.

By JENNIFER KAY  
Associated Press

MIAMI — The 3-year-old in the photograph had her mother's nose, big brown eyes and two baby teeth showing in her wide smile.

But by the time Marie Casseus was 14, what she saw in the mirror bore no resemblance to the girl in the picture — or any girl. Whatever was under Marie's skin looked like a basketball, or two eggplants. All that remained of her nose were two distended nostrils. A single tooth poked through the stretched membrane of her upper lip. She had one good eye.

One night last year she stood at the mirror in her family's home in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, making slashing motions with a knife, as if she wanted to cut the massive deformity out of her face.

Instead, that has been accomplished by a team of Miami doctors who performed four operations to cut away the 16-pound monster, replace bone and release the girl inside.



LYNNE SUADY - Associated Press

Marie Casseus writes down which foods she would like to eat once she has recovered enough to eat real food instead of her liquid diet while in her room at the Ronald McDonald House in Miami. Marie has undergone several surgeries in Miami to remove a tumor-like mass that engulfed her face.

Dr. Jesus Gomez, the maxillo-facial surgeon leading the teams operating on Marie at Holtz Children's Hospital, says the mass that engulfed her face probably started growing when she was as young as 5.

"She didn't have any mouth. She didn't have any nose," said Gomez.

He said her condition is a rare form of polyostotic fibrous dysplasia, a nonhereditary genetic disease, which affects every

bone in her body, though not to the severity with which it distorted her face.

Marie's mother, Maileine Antoine, says her daughter never spoke clearly, and her permanent teeth weren't appearing, but she didn't worry until Marie was 8 and she noticed two small bumps on either side of the girl's nose. Marie also was beginning to complain that her mouth and throat hurt when she ate.

Haitian doctors could do nothing. With no advanced medical imaging in the impoverished Caribbean country, no one could see that the bumps weren't growing on the bone — the bumps were the bone ballooning and tumbling to jelly, riddled with pockets of liquid and air.

At school, Marie mostly learned to hide behind walls and trees to avoid the other students who pointed at her face. Passengers on city buses backed away from her.

She retreated home for good when she was 12 and could no longer speak.

In the summer of 2005, Marie's father saw a news broadcast about Gina Eugene, a Miami woman who runs a Haitian children's charity with her twin sister.

Eugene says the father called her the next day, but only mentioned "something little" growing on his daughter's face.

"Something little" was a 16-pound mass under Marie's skin. Her upper lip protruded like a second forehead, and the wheezing girl supported her head with her hands.

Over the past year, Marie has undergone four operations in Miami, the latest in October to replace a titanium plate previously implanted to replace her jaw.

Her features have been repositioned and hard polymer has been used to replace other facial bones.

Marie still cooks her head to the right as if the 16 extra pounds still weighed down her head, but she no longer hides.

"She's happy she will go back to school," Antoine said, "because she will be like everyone else."

## Well

Continued from Page A1

kids. And they're concerned about what's in it.

The well, one of the city's oldest, has been closed because of high levels of carbon tetrachloride, an industrial carcinogen. Tests of water from the well have also shown high levels of manganese, a naturally occurring mineral that can cause health problems if ingested at high enough levels.

R h o d e s -  
Conway, responding to concerns she said she heard from many in the area, organized tonight's meeting. She's with the Eken Park Neighborhood Association, one of the associations that sponsored the meeting.



Rhodes-Conway

Officials from the Madison Water Utility, the city of Madison and the Public Health Department are expected to be on hand to discuss problems and answer questions about both contaminants in the well and about what might happen to it.

Use of the well was curtailed this summer because of high manganese levels. It was turned off permanently in September after tests showed levels of carbon tetrachloride at 6.2 parts per billion, above the health standard of 5 ppb set by the federal Environmental Protection Agency. Utility officials said they don't foresee it being put back into operation.

Officials with both the utility and the state Department of Natural Resources said it is unlikely that water contaminated with high levels of carbon tetrachloride reached homes because the well was operated so infrequently over the summer.

Despite such assurances, Lily Irvin-Vitella, with the East Isthmus Neighborhoods Planning Council, said she has heard from many residents who have questions.

"In talking with the neighborhoods, they've expressed a whole range of concerns — everything from 'Am I going to get cancer?' to 'How do I get my water tested?' to 'Why weren't we told about this sooner?'" Irvin-Vitella said. "These are all very legitimate questions and the city needs to hear them."

David Denig-Chakroff, general manager of the Madison Water Utility, has indicated the utility is considering three alternatives for the well, which was built in 1928. Those include abandoning the well entirely and relying on adjacent wells to serve the area, installing a filter, or drilling a well in the same area.

The preferred alternative, Denig-Chakroff has indicated, is to abandon the well and build a new well nearby, though that may be difficult because of contamination in the aquifer beneath the formerly industrialized area.

Such questions are likely to become familiar as the water utility struggles to provide clean water for a growing city. A master plan being considered by the utility calls for building a well every two years over the next 20 years.

Whatever the decision on Well No. 3, Rhodes-Conway and other neighborhood leaders said residents should be kept informed and involved in deciding how to proceed.

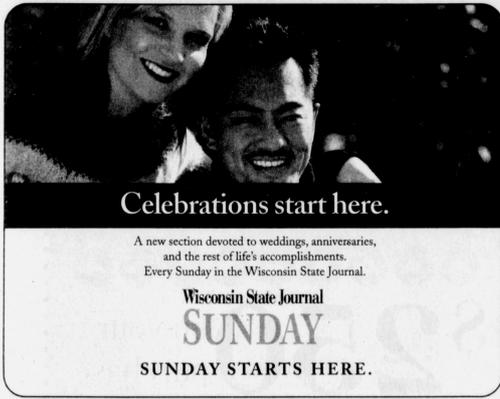
"It's absolutely appropriate for neighbors to have a role in talking about this," said Rhodes-Conway. "People need to know that something is going to be done. They need to know what that is and need to have a say before it's a done deal."

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## Oates

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a monumental one tonight against Seattle.

In addition to facing a team that will have Alexander and quarterback Matt Hasselbeck in the lineup together for the first time since Week 2 and a team that's smarting after being upset by San Francisco in its last game, the Packers will have to contend with the league's best home-field advantage when they meet the Seahawks at Qwest Field.

That's not by accident. Playing in the NFL's loudest outdoor venue due to Seattle's vocal fans and a roof that covers most of the seating area, the Seahawks are 30-10 regular season and playoff games since Qwest Field opened in 2002. Over the last season and a half, Seattle is nearly invincible at home, going 14-1 at Qwest and

7-7 on the road.

"I don't know (why that is)," Holmgren said. "I just know it's very, very important."

That's not just lip service, either. This is a franchise that retired the number 12 in honor of the fans. Last season, Holmgren even awarded a game ball to the fans after they made so much noise that the New York Giants committed 11 false-start penalties.

Holmgren's secret is getting the fans and players to partner in creating a hostile atmosphere for visiting teams.

"Teams with great home records... have kind of created this thing with their fans that, 'You're in this with us,'" Holmgren said. "The second thing is, I think you somehow instill in talking to your team that they're coming into your house and trying to take something from you. You emphasize that enough and pretty soon you get them to believe a little bit."

Holmgren should know: He wrote the book on home-field advantage in the NFL.

The Packers have won only four of their last 15 games at Lambeau Field, but it wasn't always that way. Including playoff games, Holmgren's seven-year record at Lambeau was 47-5. From 1995 to '98, the Packers won 25 straight games, the second-longest regular-season home winning streak in NFL history, including playoff games and it was 29 in a row.

Of course, the Packers were one of the NFL's premier teams during that time, just as the Seahawks are now. That suggests another reason some teams are very good at home.

"They," Packers coach Mike McCarthy said, "are a great football team."

One that's going to be very difficult for the Packers to beat tonight.

Contact Tom Oates at toates@madison.com or 608-252-6172.

## Oil

Continued from Page A1

The industry counters that it's been working hard to meet uniting demand. It faults output quotas set by Mideast oil powers, global competition for oil from booming economies like China's, and domestic challenges like depleting wells, clean-air rules, and hurricanes. They do make things harder.

Yet the AP analysis found evidence of at least an underwhelming industry performance in supplying the domestic market, when profits should have made investment capital plentiful.

• During the 1999-2006 price boom, the industry drilled an average of 7 percent fewer new wells monthly than in the seven preceding years of low, stable prices.

• The national supply of unrefined oil, including imports, grew an average of 6 percent during the high-priced years, down from 14 percent during the previous span.

• The gasoline supply expanded by 10 percent from 1999 to 2006, down from 15 percent in the earlier period.

The findings support a conclusion already reached by many motorists. Fifty-five percent of Americans believe gas prices are high because oil companies manipulate them, a Pew Research Center poll found in October.

Though set back temporarily by the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, the oil business has profited handsomely since then. For example, the biggest six refiners ran up \$400 billion in profits

since 2001, according to the consumer group Public Citizen and corporate reports. Even compliance with complex clean-air rules hasn't spoiled business.

The industry also protected profits by not building any refineries, instead expanding existing ones when it could.

It turns out that the industry exerts quite a bit of control over supply.

For one thing, it decides to invest in new wells and refining equipment — or not to. Though reserves have kept pretty steady, the oil industry taps those resources to varying degrees from year to year. The long price run-up first took off as the number of new wells abruptly dropped by 59 percent in 1998-99, federal records show.

One consumer advocate, Mark Cooper, refers to industry-induced supply bottlenecks as "strategic underinvestment." He views references to "discipline" in annual corporate reports as a code word for going easy on supplies.

"Anytime someone talks about 'discipline,' this suggests to me that they have market power. They're choosing what investments to make," says Cooper, research director for Consumer Federation of America.

This year, the FTC reported that some oil companies were storing oil, instead of selling it right away, to await higher prices anticipated in the future.

The industry has shelved an average of 21 percent more unrefined oil from the start of 2004 through last June, the AP analysis indicates. Last spring, stocks of shelved crude reached their highest level in eight years, despite the fabulous riches at hand in high prices then.

Such a strategy could conceivably extend to drilling too. "If you set prices 10 years from now are going to be \$100 a barrel, you might not be that enthused about producing as much as you can now," suggests energy economist Allan Pulsipher at Louisiana State University.

However upsetting to drivers, such tactics are usually viewed as legal. "A decision to limit supply does not violate the antitrust laws, absent some agreement among firms," regulators wrote in one FTC report.

Also, individual companies are free to bottle up supplies without fear of losing business to competition, because fewer companies now control a production choke point: refining. Thanks to mergers, the top 10 companies now control three-quarters of national refining capacity, up from half in the early 1990s.

"I don't think they're sitting around a table smoking cigars and price fixing, but I think there are sophisticated ways to manipulate the market," says Tyson Slocum, an energy expert at the consumer group Public Citizen, founded by Ralph Nader.