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LOCAL/STATE

PSSST!

Compiled by The Capital Times staff

A group of 14-year-old basketball players from the Madison area who earned the right to compete in a national AAU tournament in Florida have been chased across the Sunshine State by the threat of Hurricane Bertha.

The Merrill Lynch Bulls, coached by **Pete Brey** and **Scott McCallum**, were evacuated Wednesday from their oceanside hotel in Cocoa Beach to safer quarters in Orlando.

The Bulls, who boast a 3-1 record in the weeklong tournament play, hope to resume the competition when weather permits.

In the meantime, **Brent Meier**, **Dave Hrnclirik**, **Justin Anderson**, **Brian Kennedy**, **Lewis Monroe**, **Zach McCallum**, **Pablo Payan**, **Ryan O'Rourke**, **Justin Creech**, **Derek Prochaska**, **Justin Hollenzer** and **Ben Brey** will force themselves to have a little fun in Orlando.

Congratulations to E.W. Parker Jewelers. The business started in La Crosse in 1857, and moved to Madison and the Capitol Square in 1917. On July 6 the firm celebrated its 139th anniversary.

Eunice Henderson, whose husband **John's** grandfather started the business here, says that their store is one of the oldest businesses in Madison, and the oldest surviving retailer.

"In 1964 there were 60 retailers on the Square," Henderson says. "Now only three of the originals — us, Badger Candy Kitchen and Walgreens (formerly Rennebohm's) remain."

Matt Joseph, whose car talk program "About Cars" was dropped from Wisconsin Public Radio three months ago, will be on the air again soon.

Joseph and Lori Skelton will make their debut on WTDY News-Talk 1480 on Saturday, July 27, at 9 a.m.

The show will be broadcast for two hours.

The two will also appear 15 times per week on the station with "Auto Briefs" — short reports about various aspects of automotive topics.

Bill Vancil, WTDY executive vice president and general manager, has offered to provide the first hour of "All About Cars" free of charge to all the public radio stations in Wisconsin Public Radio's Ideas Network, outside the Madison market.

No decision by WPR has been made so far.

Mounds Pet Food Warehouse has donated \$1,000 to the city parks division to help pay for fencing in parks where unleashed dogs will be allowed.

Tamara Rulison, director of marketing for Mounds, said the company donated the money as part of its deal with the city to use Warner Park for the company's first Dog Fest.

She said last month's free event was a success and there are plans to repeat it next year. Nearly 1,000 dogs and many more of their owners attended, she said.

If you have an item you'd like to see in PSSST, call **Kathy Foster** at 252-6427 or e-mail her at Foster@Captimes.madison.com

PET ELIGIBLES



I'm a 2-month-old gray domestic longhair cat. I'm a big boy, but I'm awfully shy. I like people, but prefer to be in a home with children at least 10 years old. I'm lonely here. I'm No. 2073 and available for adoption at the Dane County Humane Society, 2250 Pennsylvania Ave.

The shelter offers low-cost spay and neuter services to eligible families. For shelter hours or more information, call 246-3340.

Dunagin's People will resume soon.

Fitchburg fire chief job up in smoke

By Gwen Carleton

Correspondent for The Capital Times

FITCHBURG — The fire chief of the town of Madison has declined a job offer to head Fitchburg's Fire Department.

A glitch developed because Fitchburg officials said they are not interested in a pact between the two fire departments.

David Bloom, the town of Madison's chief, accepted the Fitchburg's chief position June 27, contingent on a degree of future cooperation between the town and city departments.

But Fitchburg officials say they understood the joint agreement to be a suggestion, not a requirement.

Wednesday night, the Fitchburg Police

and Fire Commission decided against pursuing any new arrangement between the two departments.

"The Police and Fire Commission reviewed what had been offered to Mr. Bloom and felt we in effect were hiring a fire chief for the city," said Fitchburg Mayor Douglas Morrisette.

"We called Mr. Bloom, and he said he is no longer interested if it is not a joint operation."

Bloom said he had been upfront about his interest in combining some administrative functions of the two fire departments.

"I'm disappointed," he said. "I don't understand why they would make a decision after making an offer and my informing

them from the beginning what my intentions were."

Bloom said joining the administrations would benefit both departments, allowing them to combine full-time employees, hold cooperative training programs and investigate other money-saving ventures.

"I think there was a misunderstanding from the beginning," he said. "But I will work closely with them with whatever administration they put in. . . . There are no hard feelings," he said.

"It's too bad we couldn't reach an agreement with Dave," Morrisette said. "I think we had a super-good candidate who would have been a tribute to the city."

The Police and Fire Commission, which

began the search last November, has experienced previous setbacks. In May, when only three out of five finalists showed up for scheduled interviews, the commission went back and re-examined its file of applicants.

This time, the commission has decided to start over and post the job opening for a second time.

"It's a pain in the behind," acknowledged Ald. Jay Allen. But he said the process is no more time consuming than the police officer recruitments that the commission handles routinely.

Allen said the Fire Department's interim chief, Simon Hertzler, has indicated he is willing to continue in the position. Hertzler has been in charge of the department since Chief Larry Huber left last fall.

Doc gets a push out door

By Scott Russell

The Capital Times

Expressing concern about retaining patients in its health maintenance organization, Physicians Plus has asked a doctor who plans to join the UW-Madison Medical School in the fall to step down immediately.

Dr. Michael Thom, who worked at Physicians Plus-West Towne Clinic, was told at work Friday that it was his last day to see patients for Physicians Plus.

Thom and three other internal medicine physicians resigned on June 28, giving 90 days notice as required by their contract. All four will go to work for the University of Wisconsin-Madison Medical School beginning Oct. 1.

The resignations of the four doctors are a significant loss to Physicians Plus. They represent

Asked if Physicians Plus was concerned about the possibility of losing patients to the UW, a spokesman for Physicians Plus said 'to say we were unconcerned would be naive.'

more than 10 percent of all the internal medicine physicians employed by the medical group.

The UW Medical School hired the Physicians Plus doctors to expand its primary care network and provide more teaching sites for students, said Dr. Philip Farrell, dean of the school. The doctors will work at a west Madison clinic.

Bill Salvin, a spokesman for Physicians Plus, said the decision to ask Thom to stop seeing patients was not retaliation. Thom would continue to be paid through Sept. 30, he said.

The reason for ending Thom's patient visits was that it gave the HMO the best way to provide a smooth transition for its patients, Salvin said.

"It is not a matter of picking on Dr. Thom or singling him out," Salvin said. "Our main concern was to provide continuity of care."

"We have made arrangements to take care of his patients," he said.

Salvin, asked if Physicians Plus was concerned about the possibility of losing patients to the UW, said "to say we were unconcerned would be naive."

Thom said today he did not leave the practice of his own accord July 5.

"I was told I would be prohibited from seeing patients," he said. "I am not out to create any

Continued on Page 4A

Kipp neighbors protest

By Paul Norton

The Capital Times

Pickets protesting pollution at Madison Kipp Corp., 201 Waubesa St., marched outside the company's east-side factory this morning under a company banner proclaiming Kipp's "Neighborhood improvement project."

Kipp plans to start venting air from inside the building directly through its roof, instead of open side windows, starting in November. Kipp is a small foundry that makes aluminum castings.

Some of the company's neighbors question how much of an improvement the project will be.

Organized as the Atwood Clean Air Committee, the residents staged the second of two pickets this morning between 7 and 8:30.

The chief Kipp critic is Ann Chacon, who has been complaining about problems at the company since 1990.

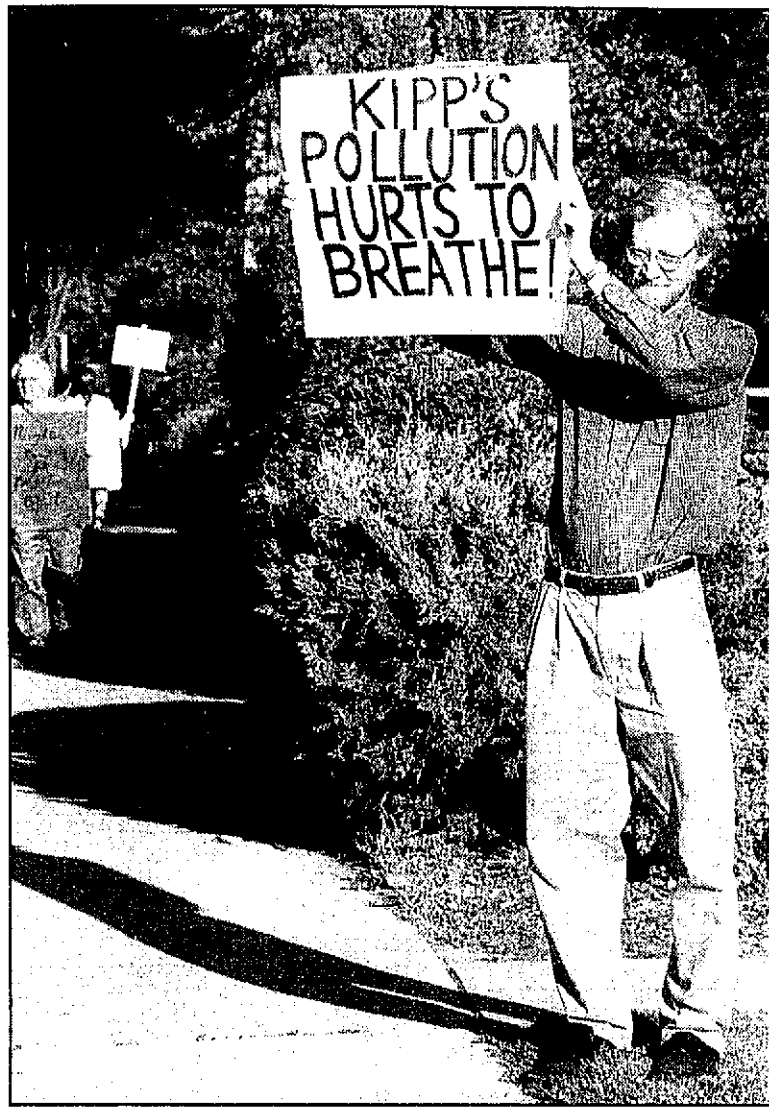
"They've been telling us for six years that they were here first, and if you don't like it, move," she said this morning amid about a dozen pickets. "Those are the words of a bully."

Chacon and others said they hoped that Kipp installs filters, scrubbers and tall stacks to clean the air that is to be vented through the roof.

Kipp is in compliance with air quality standards on volatile organic compound emissions and particulates, says Department of Natural Resources air management specialist Brian Barbier.

The only issue the company is required to address is the offensive odors produced by the chemical processes inside the die-casting plant, said Barbier, an environmental engineer and compliance inspector for the Dane County area.

Oversight of the pollution issues by the DNR may be satis-



DAVID SANDELL/THE CAPITAL TIMES

Tim O'Donnell protests at Madison Kipp Corp. this morning.

factory, but Kipp should do more anyway, says Ald. Judy Olson, whose 6th District includes the foundry.

While defending his neighborhood record, Kipp owner Reed Coleman said odors can be a problem. "I think that anybody who buys a house that's next to a manufacturing plant that is well-known to have operated for the last 60, 70, 80, 100 years, probably buys into the fact that there are going to be some aspects to it that aren't all that pleasant, and maybe one of them is an

occasional unpleasant odor," he said today.

Karen Milankass, a mother of two who owns the ArtHouse Cafe across the street, complains of feeling sick, faint and nauseous whenever she's in the vicinity of Kipp. She says her workers also report headaches.

Tim O'Donnell recently came to the neighborhood with his partner, Emma Czarapata, who he said has upper respiratory problems and headaches. "We really like the neighborhood and we want to make sure it stays healthy and safe," O'Donnell said.

Phelps praises Weakland

Staff/news services

Milwaukee Archbishop Rembert Weakland's insistence on guaranteed state support for poor children under Gov. Tommy Thompson's new welfare system has won applause from Dane County Executive Rick Phelps.

"Once again I have occasion to admire your courage and leadership. You have effectively focused on the single biggest flaw in the W-2 proposal," Phelps said in a letter to Weakland on Wednesday.

"Simple fairness and concern for children argues that if a person does everything required by law, the state must meet its responsibilities and include the family within the state program. By not doing so, the state forces counties to create new welfare programs on the property tax or ignore a family crisis."

"If a parent cannot feed or care for a child, state law requires us to remove the child from the home. Breaking up a family with laws that are insensitive and uncaring is a human tragedy."

Under the program designed by Thompson, welfare would lose its status as an "entitlement" under which anyone who qualified is to be included. Under Thompson's plan, some children could be excluded if money budgeted for the program ran out, or if the family needed help for longer than the program's time limit.

Weakland wrote an opinion article for the Washington Post last week asking the Clinton administration to reject Wisconsin's request for waivers in some welfare regulations, citing the children's issue and also taking the position that mothers should be helped to remain in the home to raise their children under 3.

Thompson called that an "incentive for them to remain on welfare."

The state needs the waivers for Wisconsin Works, which limits Aid to Families with Dependent Children eligibility and requires welfare parents to find work and job training.

Dad: Son must pay for crimes

By Joe Schoenmann

The Capital Times

STOUGHTON — This time, Kent Peterson hopes his son pays. "All of these kids are out of control," said Peterson, 46, a self-employed mechanical engineer in Stoughton. "We lost control of him two years ago."

Peterson's son is Justin Peterson, 17, of 2532 County N, Stoughton, who was arrested along with Adrian Toban, 17, and six other Stoughton juveniles. All are charged in the theft of several cars, a gun and a laptop computer, going back to early May of this year.

Toban and Peterson were released from jail Wednesday afternoon after initial court appearances. According to court records, it was the latest in a long string of juvenile and adult arrests that Peterson's father can't help but partially blame on the justice system.

Peterson explained how his son had been in trouble numerous times as a juvenile, had even skipped school for three months one time.

"But we weren't called until he had skipped three months," said Peterson, who admitted he doesn't think anything more can be done for his son.

"We tried everything we could possibly do."

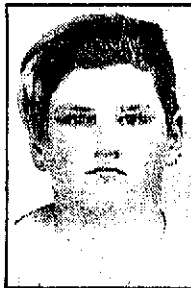
Peterson spoke candidly earlier today after the news media picked up his son's name and face Wednesday after his arrest in a series of strange car thefts over the last two months.

Peterson, Toban, two 13-year-old girls, three 14-year-old boys and a 15-year-old boy were all arrested. Police said the case began May 12 when Tina Everingham's car, parked with the keys inside, was allegedly stolen by the two 17-year-olds and others. After stealing the car, they abandoned it when it overheated.

On June 10, Peterson and two juveniles allegedly stole a Buick parked at an auto repair lot, drove to the town of Pleasant Springs, and took a \$2,700 laptop computer and .22-caliber automatic pistol from an unlocked car.

Police said the group used that same Buick almost every night for a month for joy rides and "carhopping," in which they'd go to other cars to steal from. Every night, they would return the Buick unscathed so that the owners didn't know it was being used.

An anonymous tip July 1 led Stoughton police to the stolen pistol, which led to the arrests.



Peterson



Toban

Unleashed dogs booted from Quarry Park

By Pamela Cotant

The Capital Times

One of the city's initial attempts to expand the number of parks open to unleashed dogs has failed.

Quarry Park on the west side was posted on May 15 to allow dogs to romp freely in some areas. But after a rash of complaints from neighbors, the signs were taken down after 11 days.

It now appears the signs will remain down until a master plan for the park can be approved by the city. The plan would set up a way for the variety of park users — hikers, dog owners and mountain bikers — to coexist.

About 30 people showed up at the Park

Commission meeting Wednesday to oppose an interim compromise proposed by Ald. Jean MacCubbin, District 11. Her plan would have changed the area in Quarry Park where people could walk unleashed dogs.

MacCubbin presented a petition signed by 35 people who believe that sufficient time wasn't allowed to see if having unleashed dogs at Quarry Park would work. At Quann Park, where unleashed dogs were allowed before the new ordinance, dog owners have worked out boundaries for their pets and other strategies for making the idea work, MacCubbin said.

But the Park Commission decided there were too many concerns to allow unleashed dogs before an agreeable master plan could

be worked out for Quarry Park, which is off University Avenue north of Hoyt Park.

Some of those opposed said they still were worried about how the dogs would mix with other park users, especially children.

"I would like to give a voice to my two children who are 1 1/2," said Colleen Hayes, 606 Eugenia Ave. "The parts of the park they can handle on their own little feet are the parts the dog owners would like to use."

Dogs off a leash are attracted to little children and can knock them off their feet, she said.

Lloyd Mueller, 633 Eugenia Ave., said he is worried that the unleashed dogs will leave the park and go into neighbors' back yards.

But Elizabeth Atsworth, 1509 Capital

Ave., supported MacCubbin's proposal and wants something worked out soon.

"My dog and I aren't getting any younger," she said. "I would like my little bit of your park."

But part of the problem with Quarry Park, some commission members said, is that they now realize no natural boundaries exist to keep dogs in the designated area.

Member Dorothy Borchardt said the ordinance allowing unleashed dogs in more parks says there will be natural barriers or fencing.

The commission voted unanimously to continue prohibiting dogs in the park until the master plan is done. The plan, being drawn up by the city Parks Division, is expected to be completed by the commission's Aug. 14 meeting.