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Suspect's escape attempt thwarted

State Journal staff

A Madison man, who faces extradition to Texas for automobile theft, was captured by authorities after he tried to escape from two police officers in the garage of the City-County Building Wednesday afternoon.

Charles D. Puccio was captured by two Madison police detectives and a Dane County sheriff's deputy about 2 p.m., moments after escaping, police spokeswoman Dorothy Spicer said.

Puccio, 30, of 1601 Adams St., was tentatively charged with auto theft, escape and bail jumping, Spicer said. He had been arrested Wednesday on a bench warrant when he failed to appear for a court date in September.

Puccio, who had wriggled free from one handcuff, fled from the two officers after the squad car stopped in the garage, Spicer said. She said Puccio was wrestled to the ground at the intersection of West Wilson and Carroll streets by the two officers with the help of the deputy, who drew his gun.

Puccio had been free on $1,000 cash bail following an initial appearance in August seeking his extradition to Tarrant County, Texas, on charges of unauthorized use of a vehicle and indecent exposure.

SCENE/HEALTH

Want a new diet? Snack on odors

The Smell & Taste Treatment Foundation (honest to God, that's its name) says you can lose weight by sniffing a Fritos substitute.

Now, the efficacy of sniffing Fritos may not be immediately apparent.

Indeed, until coronary bypass surgery earlier this year convinced me that Fritos were not a good idea for me, personally, I tended to gain weight by sniffing Fritos. Of course, I did also eat them.

WILLIAM WINEKE

At any rate, the fine researchers at the Smell & Taste Treatment and Research Foundation have somehow packaged the Fritos smell into an "odorant" (which, as you might guess, is the opposite of a deodorant) called 2-acetylpyridine.

People who sniff 2-acetylpyridine three times in each nostril when they are hungry lose weight faster than people who don't.

Frito-Lay, incidentally, doesn't seem to have anything to do with this research, except to make a snack food with an odor the researchers like to mimic.

"This study suggests that weight loss may occur without dieting," crows Dr. Alan Hirsch, neurological director of the Smell & Taste Treatment and Research Foundation.

"Everyday experience tells us that odors influence appetite," Hirsch said. "We salivate at the smell of freshly baked cookies or become nauseated with a whiff of sewer gas. Our study results suggest that smell can also trigger a loss of appetite, making people think they have eaten when they have not."

Hirsch's study included 105 volunteers who were at least 10 pounds overweight. They were assigned to a double-blind study, which means they didn't know whether they were receiving 2-acetylpyridine or a placebo.

Half the people who received 2-acetylpyridine lost more than 2.1 pounds but the mean weight change for those who received the placebo was 1.2 pounds.

But, the mean weight change for people who had "positive hedonics for Fritos" (don't you love the way these people talk?) was more than four pounds.

On the other hand, people who have trouble smelling lost more weight on the placebo than they did on the Fritos sniffer.

Now, the researchers admit their numbers may not be perfect. In the real world, those of us who sniff Fritos when we're hungry might be powerfully tempted to taste them as well.

Nevertheless, a diet that consists of sniffing snack foods certainly seems a more pleasant way to diet than one which emphasizes eating healthy foods in moderate quantities.

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LOTTERIES

WISCONSIN – Wed. Powerball drawing:
6-8-9-22-30 and Powerball 36
Est. jackpot: $12 million
Odds of matching all six numbers: 1 in 54,979,155
Wed. Megabucks drawing:
11-14-20-21-35-44
Est. jackpot: $8 million
Odds of matching all six numbers: 1 in 6,991,908
Wed.: Supercash: 6-8-13-16-24-32
Odds of matching all six numbers for $250,000: 1 in 973,896
Wed.: Pick Three: 9-5-2
Odds of matching all three numbers for $500: 1 in 1,000
ILLINOIS – Wed.: Daily Game: 2-2-5; Pick Four: 6-5-6-5; Little Lotto: 9-15-16-28-30; Lotto: 19-20-22-25-37-52. Est. Lotto jackpot $2 million.
IOWA – Wed. Lotto: 11-12-15-22-29-35; Est. jackpot: $2.1 million.
LOTTONEIDA – Wed. Big Green: 5-7-9-27-30-31; Cash Three: 3-2-1.
MINNESOTA – Wed. Daily Three: 3-6-6.

Soglin warns of fiscal crises

Businesses asked to chip in to ease tax crunch

By Patricia Simms
Wisconsin State Journal

Paul Soglin

Madison is facing "one of the most serious fiscal crises in its history," Madison Mayor Paul Soglin said Wednesday.

Addressing the Downtown Madison Rotary, Soglin said a combination of declining state shared revenue aids and state-imposed cost controls have created a property tax nightmare.

Property taxes continue to pay a larger and larger portion of the Madison city budget, he said, giving Madison property owners an "awesome burden."

"This is one of the most difficult city budgets that has been prepared in my memory," the mayor said.

Soglin asked Rotary members, many of whom own businesses and head corporations, to put private money in the public pot, encouraging them to go back to their offices and "figure out how much you can write a check for."

Soglin suggested that such donations, for example, could be used to pay for $10 million in capital spending for neighborhood services.

"There must be 10 million more dollars for our city," the mayor said. "That's what we need in our operating budget."

In the wake of a victory Tuesday night for the proposed Monona Terrace convention center, Soglin said the effort on behalf of the referendum demonstrated that individuals with diverse backgrounds outside city government can have an enormous impact.

"If we can do it for the convention center, we can do it in other aspects of city life and of county life," Soglin said.

The mayor also put Dane County officials on the line. The convention center project can stay on track only if Dane County will commit $12 million to the project by mid-January. "Something we can take to the bank," he said.

"If we miss that mid-January date, we will then be looking at setbacks."

Soglin said the promised city budget crisis is not the result of excessive municipal spending. Madison, he added, spends $563 per capita, compared to a state average of $610.

"We are not big spenders," he said. "In fact, we are getting rather modest about it."

But, he said, the state must reevaluate its formulas for redistributing wealth. "I have no quarrel with the concept of redistribution of the state tax dollar," he said.

But the formulas penalize communities like Madison, he said. "Something must be done about it."

Only collectors' items, now

They're not worth much to George Bush and Dan Quayle anymore, or to Andy Heidt, Mary Kay Baum or Russ Feingold. But yard signs were worth $94.90 to Waunakee High School's Social Studies Club, which gathered 371 signs and turned them in to the WOLX radio studio Wednesday. WOLX's morning disc jockeys, Larry Seiferth and Sara James (above), gathered the signs through its on-air contest. "Larry and Ted's Campaign Clean-Up '92." The 1,500 signs collected will be recycled. Missing from the pile are Ross Perot signs, which were nowhere to be found in Dane County. Clinton-Gore signs also were snapped up, apparently by souvenir hunters.

State Journal photo/L. ROGER TURNER

Sen.-elect Feingold: The day after victory

By Jeff Mayers
State government reporter

MIDDLETON — Election night message to U.S. Senate winner Russ Feingold from Minnesota Sen. Paul Wellstone:

"He said he was tingling in his fingertips. He knew it all along. He's glad to be working with you."

Welcome to the U.S. Senate, Mr. Feingold.

One of the first tasks Wednesday for Feingold, who handily beat two-term incumbent Republican Bob Kasten for a six-year term, was sorting through such messages from Wellstone, Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell and other new contemporaries. No word if Mitchell's fingertips were tingling.

Some of Feingold's other happy postelection duties included satisfying a new

The unofficial final tally for U.S. Senate was:	
Russ Feingold	1,281,589
Bob Kasten	1,119,065
Others	33,363

avalanche of requests for press interviews and catching up on family matters, reading material and mundane things such as trying to get in some golf before Midwest courses close for good.

The annual informal friend-and-family gathering called "The Edmund Fitzgerald Classic" has yet to be played, you understand. Better hurry.

We don't know how Kasten spent the day. His campaign didn't return telephone calls, but it's a good bet he wondered what

his future will be after leaving the Senate in January. Most GOP insiders say he'll have to ponder a future outside of politics — some business executive spot is expected to come along.

"Relaxed" is how the normally keyed-up Feingold described himself. "It's a good feeling not to have that edge," he said after a five-year campaign spent for a lot of the time in the back of two beat-up campaign vans.

He started off Wednesday with a live-shot to CNN from the near-empty Holiday Inn-West ballroom where he celebrated victory last night. Next came laid back — let's say "relaxed" — interviews with the curious media. Some tidbits:

■ The transition from Middleton state

Klug stresses GOP moderation

By Phil McDade
Wisconsin State Journal

Fresh from his first re-election win, Republican U.S. Rep. Scott Klug pledged Wednesday to work with Democrat President-elect Bill Clinton on issues such as the deficit and health care.

Klug

Klug said if Clinton holds to his pledge of being a fiscal moderate, the Democrat will need support from moderate Republicans like himself to get legislation passed in the Democratic-controlled Congress. That's because Clinton could see defections from his party's liberal wing on fiscal issues.

"He's going to need moderate Republicans," Klug predicted. "The moderate Republicans are really going to be a key group for him."

Klug won impressively over Democrat Ada Deer, taking 63 percent of the vote. Even Klug campaign officials, who had internal polls showing the Republican up solidly in the campaign's final weeks, said they never expected to win by such a wide margin.

After his victory, Klug turned his attention to the coming session in Congress. During the campaign, he said he would be a "speed bump" in a Democratic-controlled Congress if Clinton won the presidency.

But Klug said he expects Clinton to quickly begin negotiations with Congress on two major issues — health care and the deficit. On those issues, Klug said, Clinton could play the role of former President Ronald Reagan, who needed the support of Southern conservative Democrats — the Boll Weevils — in 1980 to get his tax cuts and budgets passed.

"If he's smart, he says these are the two things . . . he really wants to do," Klug said. "Clinton has got to reach out to moderate Republicans if he's going to get anything done."

Klug reiterated his desire to see if a seat is available on the Energy and Commerce Committee, which will likely tackle issues such as automobile fuel standards and telecommunications regulation.

With nearly a third of the House's 435 members new this year, Klug says his seniority could land him a better committee assignment. He has said Wisconsin needs representation on the energy and commerce panel because of the range of issues it oversees.

But Klug was hesitant to speculate about his political future beyond returning to Washington for two years. There has been occasional talk in political circles in Madison that Klug could be a candidate for a statewide office, like governor or U.S. senator. Tuesday's big victory is unlikely to dampen that talk.

"I think it's one step at a time," he said. "I don't have any kind of timetable. It's not this today and nine other races tomorrow."

Klug's victory, as you might expect for someone winning nearly two out of every three votes, was dominating in every respect.

He won each of the nine counties in the district, most impressively in Sauk and Columbia counties, where he took about 70 percent of the vote.

He won Dane County by almost 42,000 votes; he took 60 percent of the county's vote, compared to 48 percent two years ago.

The election also saw the political equivalent of the parting of the Red Sea — a Republican carried the city of Madison. Klug won the Democratic stronghold by almost 7,500 votes. He won by a 53-47 percent margin in Madison, the same margin he won by districtwide in 1990.

Center could open by May '95

By Joel Broadway
Wisconsin State Journal

It took more than 50 years, but the city of Madison is finally ready to build the Monona Terrace Convention Center designed by Wisconsin native Frank Lloyd Wright.

Madison residents on Tuesday approved building the center, which stems from Wright's 1938 design for a civic building along Lake Monona. The final vote was:

Yes	51,484
No	45,666

If everything goes as scheduled, the center could be ready for graduation parties in May 1995 and summer conventions, city officials said Wednesday.

According to the proposed timetable, construction would begin in February 1994 and end in May 1995. The opening is slated for May 22, 1995.

"Get your passes for the party," said George Nelson, chairman of the 28-member commission that studied the center for two years.

Before construction starts, however, local officials must still make several major decisions on how to pay for and run the medium-sized convention center:

■ On Nov. 24, the city council is expected to create an interim board to oversee construction and advertising of the center and to hire an acting director.

■ In late November or early December, the state Department of Administration is expected to hold a public hearing on the environmental impact study of the center.

■ By January, city officials hope to know whether Dane County will contribute $12 million toward the $67.1 million financing plan. (See story/7B.)

■ Also by January, the city must sign a $1-million contract with Taliesin Architects, Wright's architectural firm, to design the details of the center.

Taliesin, which has been paid $91,000 so far, is scheduled to finish the working drawings by Nov. 15, 1993, according to the proposed timetable.

Contractors would bid on the building in January and February 1993, and the city would borrow the construction funds in December 1993 or January 1994.

On Tuesday, voters approved approved building the center if the cost does not exceed $63.5 million in 1992 dollars, or significantly harm the environment.

They also approved a second question authorizing the city to borrow $12 million to build the center. The vote was even closer:

Yes	47,149
No	44,876

Nelson said he's confident that the center will be built on schedule. "The people are very excited; they want to do something."

But Monona Terrace has encountered many obstacles in the past. In 1954, with Wright's 1938 design in mind, voters approved building an auditorium at the foot of Monona Avenue (now Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard) and endorsed Wright as the architect.

Some Madisonians opposed the center, however, because they believed it would mar the lake. Even after Wright redesigned the building, the opponents convinced state lawmakers to outlaw the building and then fought it in court.

The lawsuit dragged on until January 1961, nearly two years after Wright's death. City leaders eventually let the project drop.

"This is about our last chance," said Otto Festge, who was around when Wright first proposed the building in 1938.

"If it's delayed again . . . ," Festge said, "we may be beyond the students of Frank Lloyd Wright, to the students of the students."