



STATE

Wisconsin Bill Would Require DNR To Notify Counties Of Water Quality Violations

A bill recently introduced in the state Legislature would make sure county health officials know about groundwater contamination in their area. The Water Pollution Notification Act would require the state Department of Natural Resources to notify a county government within seven business days of a water quality issue discovered through the Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System. The system issues permits to facilities discharging wastewater, like municipal waste facilities, industrial facilities and concentrated animal feeding operations, or CAFOS. The bill would also require the DNR to create a notification system for county health departments, county land conservation departments and residents who sign up for alerts of water standard violations. The measure comes after La Crosse county officials struggled to get information about a local CAFO that had been violating water quality standards for years. Jen Rombalski, director of the La Crosse County Health Department, said the county learned about the problems through a Legislative Audit Bureau report in 2016. And she said the county board chair had to file an open records request to receive details of the violations after the DNR failed to respond to their initial request for information. After testing 540 private wells in the area, the county health department found 30 percent of tested wells exceeded federal standards for nitrates, a compound linked to a variety of health problems. "That is sort of the process in place that hasn't been working and we need to have assurance that there's a better process," Rombalski said. "We make decisions based upon the best information that we have available at any point. So there cannot be a decision made to notify the public if we're not aware of a problem." State Rep. Jill Billings, D-La Crosse, is an author of the bill. She said she worked with the DNR and Rombalski to come up with the notification system. "We want to make sure that we set up something that worked for (the DNR) with their budget and with the number of employees that they have working there now. And so this was a system that we could all agree on that would make sure that people could get notifications if they signed up for them so that more people would be aware if there were possible pollutants in their water," Billings said. She said the bill doesn't add regulations for permit holders, nor does it punish those who violate water standards.

Madison's Small Tech Sector Is Growing Rapidly

Dreams of Madison becoming a national technology hotspot got a boost recently when a report from the Brookings Institution listed Wisconsin's capital city as having the most potential for growing into a technology hub. But that could drive up housing costs in what Zach Brandon, of the Greater Madison Chamber of Commerce, calls "aspirational cities." "We've seen that in Silicon Valley, San Francisco, even Denver and Portland, also recently Austin. These are places where the median wages no longer allows you to afford a median-priced home," Brandon said. Madison's comparatively low housing costs are a selling point when trying to attract tech talent from bigger cities. "It is easy to say to somebody from San Francisco for a one-bedroom apartment in San Francisco, you're going to pay \$3,400. That same apartment is \$1,100 in Madison. That becomes a no-brainer for people who are doing the math," said Brandon. But at a presentation in downtown Madison on Thursday, where experts assessed the region's chances of becoming a tech leader, a national economist cited lack of housing inventory as an obstacle. "The reason why inventory is short is very simple: builders are not building enough," said Lawrence Yun, chief economist for the National Association of Realtors. Multi-family dwellings are coming back from recession lows, he said but not single family homes. While housing might be tight, experts say the city has the elements for a strong tech workforce. Madison is the third most educated city in America, with 57 percent of residents having a bachelor's degree or higher, according to CBRE, a San Francisco investment company that tracks national real estate trends. Madison is considered a small tech market with a labor pool of 31,000. However, tech labor grew by 47 percent over the last five years, said Lexi Russell, associate director of Research and Analysis for CBRE's western region. That includes recruiting talent from bigger markets — and places where the winter is mild compared to Wisconsin. That can be a deterrent for some potential employees. "If you are in Salt Lake or Denver and it snows and gets cold, it's time for winter sports. If you're in Minnesota or Wisconsin, you said it's time to hunker down," said Yun. But



Brandon doesn't buy it, saying it's all just a state of mind. He dismisses the weather and cites other factors as a bigger deterrent in becoming a nationally-recognized tech hub.

Wisconsin lawmakers aim to stamp out hair-based discrimination

About a year ago, a New Jersey teen was forced to cut his dreadlocks in order to participate in a high school wrestling match. The wrestler, Andrew Johnson, received a hurried haircut after he was told by a referee that his hair violated wrestling rules. He won the match and state officials opened a civil rights investigation, *The New York Times* reported. Now members of Congress are trying to make sure that never happens again. Wisconsin Democratic Rep. Gwen Moore and other lawmakers are pushing a bill that would ban discrimination based on hair textures and styles. The bill, known as the CROWN Act, would clarify that discrimination based on race or national origin encompasses hair texture and style. Backers say the bill — which names styles commonly associated with black people, such as dreadlocks, cornrows, twists and Bantu knots — would improve equity in education, employment, housing and other public programs “Black women and men have lost job opportunities and been kicked out of school for simply wearing locks, curls and braids,” Moore said in a statement. “This isn’t just about fashion or style. These incidents illustrate why laws explicitly banning this type of discrimination is necessary.” Introduced in December, the bill has the support of more than three dozen House Democrats, including Moore. No other Wisconsin lawmaker has signed on to the bill at this point. “The whole thing is to stamp out discrimination,” Rep. Dwight Evans of Pennsylvania — a co-sponsor of the bill — said in an interview. “That’s the message to it all.” The issue is of particular concern to black women, whose hair is more likely than white women’s hair to be perceived as “unprofessional,” according to a 2019 study of 2,000 black and white women. It was supported by Dove, a beauty company that came under fire in 2017 for an ad that featured a black woman who took off her shirt and transformed into a white woman. The study finds that black women are also more likely than white women to be sent home from their workplace because of their hair and more likely to report harsh judgments based on looks. Four out of five said they have to change their hair from its natural state to fit in at the office. “Unfortunately, presenting yourself in a natural way can be difficult as an African-American woman,” Moore said. “We are more vulnerable to criticism and discrimination at the workplace, and that can hinder our success.” But women aren’t the only victims of hair-based discrimination. “This is about men as well,” said Michigan Democratic Rep. Brenda Lawrence, citing Johnson, the high school wrestler from New Jersey. Another example: Last October, Penn State football player Jonathan Sutherland received a letter calling his dreadlocks “awful” and “disgusting.”

Oscar Mayer Wienermobile pulled over in Waukesha County

Following the rules of the road is important -- even if you're the Oscar Mayer Wienermobile. The Waukesha County Sheriff's Department pulled over the Wienermobile for not following the Move Over Law. The driver of the Wienermobile was given a verbal warning. The Waukesha County Sheriff's Department would like to remind motorists that when a vehicle is on the side of the road with its emergency lights flashing, the motorist is required to move out of the lane closest to the vehicle if possible. If a safe lane change is not possible, or the motorist is traveling on a two-lane roadway, they are required to slow their vehicle, maintain a safe speed for traffic conditions, and drive at a reduced speed until completely past the vehicle.

INTERNATIONAL

Chinese Universities Are Enshrining Communist Party Control In Their Charters

It wasn't just the fact that one of China's best universities had changed its charter last December to emphasize loyalty to the ruling Communist Party that raised eyebrows. Shanghai's Fudan University also deleted principles like freedom of thought, and did so publicly, as if expecting praise. Furious students staged a rare and risky protest in the school cafeteria in December. They sang the school's anthem, which praises academic freedom. "Everyone was enraged," one of the student protesters told NPR. She



withheld her name because of the almost certain repercussions for speaking publicly on the matter. To disguise their protest plans, the students publicized the event as a marriage proposal. Fudan is one of at least three universities that have revised their charters since 2018, emphasizing unswerving loyalty to the Communist Party, an NPR analysis found. They have downgraded or erased language about academic freedom from their charters, while adding a new clause: "The university Communist Party committee is the core leadership of the school." The move is part of a broader trend that has been growing since 2013, the year Xi Jinping became China's president. From 2013 to 2017, at least 109 universities unveiled their first-ever charters, affirming party leadership, according to NPR's analysis. The new charters effectively hand the party ultimate control over the schools' administration, mirroring how the party dominates government agencies. Some of China's most prestigious universities, including Beijing's Peking University and Renmin University, have new charters. And Nanjing University, which amended its charter in December, has a prominent international studies program jointly administered with Johns Hopkins University. Academic freedom has always been precarious in China, although the 2000s saw a brief liberalization. But since Xi took office, academics say, ideological constraints have intensified, stifling discourse and innovation at home even as China seeks a global footprint in academia. There are still some holdouts. For example, East China Normal University and Wuhan University — which have joint-venture campuses in the Shanghai area with New York University and Duke University, respectively — have not amended their charters, which still contain commitments to academic freedom.

U.S. Plane Goes Down In Afghanistan, Prompting Wave Of Questions, Contradictions

A plane crashed Monday in Afghanistan's eastern Ghazni province, and within hours, a swarm of conflicting reports had coalesced around the wreckage. According to a U.S. official, the plane — a U.S. Bombardier E-11A — had two people on board, both of whom died in the crash. The official told NPR that the plane went down because of mechanical problems. But that's not the only account of the incident. A spokesman for the Taliban, Zabihullah Mujahid, told NPR that insurgents with the group shot down the plane and that it had CIA officials on board. Earlier Monday, Mujahid referred to the plane on Twitter as an "enemy intelligence aircraft" and said the bodies of the intelligence officials were still lying near the crash site in the Sado Khelo region of Ghazni. The militant group frequently exaggerates battlefield actions, and the claims could not be confirmed. Col. William "Sonny" Leggett, spokesman for the U.S. forces in Afghanistan, said that "Taliban claims that additional aircraft have crashed are false." "While the cause of crash is under investigation," Leggett said in a tweeted statement, "there are no indications the crash was caused by enemy fire. We will provide additional information as it becomes available." Meanwhile, a spokesperson for the Afghan Ministry of Defense, Ruhallah Ahmadzai, told NPR that the aircraft was not Afghan — neither civilian nor military. Ahmadzai said Afghan special forces have been deployed to the crash site. Journalists in the area posted purported images of the charred, smoldering wreck, which NPR has not independently verified. The plane shown in several different videos bears markings that appear to be a version of U.S. Air Force insignia. Confusion around the crash has swirled since virtually the moment it occurred. Initial reports, citing local government officials, said the plane was operated by the state-owned Ariana Afghan Airlines — only to be rebutted quickly by the company's acting chief executive, Mirwais Mirzakwal. "It does not belong to Ariana because the two flights managed by Ariana today from Herat to Kabul and Herat to Delhi are safe," Mirzakwal told Reuters. And the airline itself, in a Facebook post, also pushed back on suggestions that its plane was involved. For the past couple of years, Ghazni province has stood at the epicenter of friction between the Afghan military and the Taliban. The militant organization recaptured control of much of the region after launching a series of attacks that left hundreds dead in 2018. And just last month, a Taliban infiltrator killed roughly two dozen Afghan soldiers at a military base in the province.

US House of Representatives Support Tibetan Sovereignty

The US House passed an update to human rights policies that strengthens the sovereignty of the autonomous region of Tibet. The Tibet Policy and Support Act assures that the succession of Tibetan Buddhist leaders be left solely to the Tibetan Buddhist community, without interference from the Chinese



government. Tibet is an internationally recognized autonomous region within the People's Republic of China, and the update to US policies on the region sends a message about American efforts to address human rights and national security concerns in China. The House has recently passed legislation holding China accountable for the well-being of citizens in Hong Kong and the country's treatment of Uyghur Muslims.

NATIONAL

Trump rolls back US water pollution controls

The Trump administration is scrapping protections for America's streams and wetlands, repealing Barack Obama's Waters of the United States regulation. The move will dismantle federal protections for more than half of wetlands and hundreds of small waterways in the US. The White House says the change will be a victory for American farmers. But critics say the change will be destructive - part of Mr. Trump's wider assault on environmental protections. Under the new regulations, landowners and property developers will be able to pour pesticides, fertilizers and other pollutants directly into millions of miles of the nation's waterways for the first time in decades. The administration's new rules replace the Waters of the United States regulations put in place during the Obama administration. Mr. Trump vowed as soon as he took office to repeal the regulations. The president has angered environmental activists and conservationists since he took office by siding with the agriculture and mining industries in rolling back environmental protections. Speaking at the American Farm Bureau Federation's annual convention in Texas on Sunday, the president called the existing waterways rules "disastrous." "That was a rule that basically took your property away from you," he told the assembled farmers. The White House says that farmers will be a primary beneficiary of the change. Some farmers rejected the protections, claiming they were too broad and required the industry to go to great lengths to protect small bodies of water on their properties. But the administration's own data shows that real estate developers and those in other non-farming industries are poised to reap the greatest rewards, by applying for permits to develop on previously protected waterways, the Associated Press reported. According to the data, real estate developers and other business sectors outside farming take out substantially more permits than farmers for projects impinging on wetlands, creeks and streams. The new rules are already facing court challenges from environmental groups and Democratic-led states. "This will be the biggest loss of clean water protection the country has ever seen," Blan Holman, a federal water policy specialist at the Southern Environmental Law Center, said. "This puts drinking water for millions of Americans at risk of contamination from unregulated pollution. This is not just undoing the Obama rule. This is stripping away protections that were put in place in the '70s and '80s that Americans have relied on for their health," he said.

After 2 Years, Trump Tax Cuts Have Failed To Deliver On GOP's Promises

In December 2017, Republicans in Congress passed a sweeping tax cut on a party-line vote. The tax cut is the signature legislative accomplishment of President Trump's first term. He had campaigned hard for the measure, promising it would boost paychecks for working people. "Our focus is on helping the folks who work in the mailrooms and the machine shops of America," he told supporters in the fall of 2017. "The plumbers, the carpenters, the cops, the teachers, the truck drivers, the pipe-fitters, the people that like me best." In fact, more than 60% of the tax savings went to people in the top 20% of the income ladder, according to the nonpartisan Tax Policy Center. The measure also slashed the corporate tax rate by 40%. Boosters of the tax cut insisted the economy would grow so fast, it would more than make up for the revenue lost to lower rates. "The tax plan will pay for itself with economic growth," Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said. It hasn't worked out that way. "It was unbelievable at the time, and it's proven to be absolutely untrue," said Maya MacGuineas, president of the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget. "The tax cuts were never going to — and have not — come anywhere close to paying for themselves." Corporate tax revenues fell 31% in the first year after the cut was passed. Overall tax revenues have declined as a share of the economy in each of the two years since the tax cut took effect.



"Not surprising, if you cut taxes, you get less in revenues," MacGuineas said. "And what we've been doing at the same time is we've been increasing spending. And no surprise, our deficit has exploded." The federal deficit this year was \$984 billion — an extraordinary figure at a time when the country is not mired in recession or widespread war. The tax cut also failed to produce a permanent boost in economic growth, despite promises from Republican supporters. "After eight straight years of slow growth and underperformance, America is ready to take off," Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said when the tax cut passed two years ago. In fact, the economy grew 2.9% last year — exactly the same as in 2015. The tax cut, along with increased government spending, did give a short-term lift to the economy and businesses temporarily boosted investment. Business investment declined in the last two quarters.

Deceased GOP Strategist's Daughter Makes Files Public That Republicans Wanted Sealed

More than a year after his death, several computer files saved on hard drives of Thomas Hofeller, a prominent Republican redistricting strategist, have become public. Republican state lawmakers in North Carolina fought in court to keep copies of these maps, spreadsheets and other documents from entering the public record. But some files have already come to light in recent months through court filings and news reports. They have been cited as evidence of gerrymandering that got political maps thrown out in North Carolina, and they have raised questions about Hofeller's role in the Trump administration's failed push for a census citizenship question. Now more of the files are available online through a website called The Hofeller Files, where Hofeller's daughter, Stephanie Hofeller, published a link to her copy. "These are matters that concern the people and their franchise and their access to resources. This is, therefore, the property of the people," Hofeller told NPR. "I won't be satisfied that we the people have found everything until we the people have had a look at it in its entirety." In September, advocacy group Common Cause won its legal challenge to political maps in North Carolina, where a state court cited some of the files as evidence of gerrymandering designed to unfairly give Republicans an advantage in winning elections and maintaining control of the state legislature. "The Court finds that in many election environments, it is the carefully crafted maps, and not the will of the voters, that dictate the election outcomes in a significant number of legislative districts and, ultimately, the majority control of the General Assembly," a three-judge panel of the Wake County Superior Court wrote in their ruling. Other files have become intertwined in the federal lawsuits over the Trump administration's push to add the now-blocked citizenship question to the 2020 census, raising questions about Thomas Hofeller's role and the administration's true motives.

NPR Seeks 'Clarification' From State Department About Reporter Dropped From Trip

NPR is asking the State Department to explain its decision to deny an NPR reporter press credentials to travel with Secretary of State Mike Pompeo on an upcoming trip to Europe, NPR President and CEO John Lansing announced Tuesday. "We have sought clarification from the State Department regarding Michele Kelemen being dropped" from the trip, Lansing wrote in an email to employees. He added, "We have also asked what it means for future trips." Saying the State Department has not responded to NPR's initial attempts to communicate, Lansing added, "Our SVP of News Nancy Barnes and I are now sending the attached letter to the State Department demanding answers." NPR will continue to pursue the issue, Lansing said, adding that access to people in power is fundamental to "the role of journalism in America." Last week, Pompeo became upset when questioned about Ukraine by NPR host Mary Louise Kelly. After the interview was cut off, Kelly was called to Pompeo's private living room where he cursed at her and challenged her to find Ukraine on a map. Lansing concluded his note to NPR staff by acknowledging the support the network has received: "Over the past several days, listeners far and wide have taken the time to write to us with praise for Mary Louise, Michele, and your collective work. They want us to keep going and not give up. I can tell them and all of you, that we are committed to supporting the great journalism and ethical values of NPR News." The letter laid out NPR's version of events and asked the State Department to explain its justification for barring Kelemen. Earlier Tuesday, President Trump waded into the controversy between Pompeo and NPR, appearing to publicly praise the secretary for



berating Kelly and for denying Kelemen's credentials. Kelemen, NPR's diplomacy correspondent, was barred from joining Pompeo's trip, days after he publicly accused Kelly of lying to him about the topic of the interview and the episode following it. Pompeo has said Kelly had agreed to discuss only Iran but has not offered any evidence to support that assertion. Kelly says she confirmed with Pompeo's press secretary that she intended to ask Pompeo about both Iran and Ukraine, a country that is key to Trump's impeachment trial. Kelly has produced emails that reflect those conversations.

COMMERCIALS

When you're looking for a new home, why not seek the counsel of a friend who happens to know the housing market better than the back of her hand? Janeice Jacobsen can answer all questions related to securing a mortgage and provide valuable information that is important to your family. Janeice will provide you with a detailed summary of area schools, nearby amenities, and homeowner testimonials live in your neighborhood of choice. Call Janeice at 555-9875 to start looking for your new home. How's this weekend for you?

It's right in your own backyard. While it may be hard to believe, roughly five million Americans don't even know where their next meal will come from. In communities just like yours, there are many who need help. Join people across the country who are coming together with AARP Create the Good, to end hunger. Start today. It can be as easy as giving food or money to your local area food bank, or getting tips to start your own food drive. Whatever level of involvement is right for you, we've made it simple to find and help people in your area. So get involved. Go to www.createthegood.org/hunger.

WEATHER

- **Today:** Scattered flurries. Cloudy, with a high near 30. Calm wind becoming northeast around 5 mph in the afternoon.
- **Tonight:** Scattered flurries before 7pm. Cloudy, with a low around 21. North wind around 5 mph becoming calm in the evening.
- **Thursday:** Cloudy, with a high near 30. Calm wind becoming south around 5 mph.
- **Thursday Night:** A 20 percent chance of snow after midnight. Cloudy, with a low around 25. Calm wind becoming south around 5 mph.
- **Friday:** 20% chance of snow. Cloudy with a high near 33. South wind around 5mph.
- **Friday Night:** A slight chance of snow before 9pm, then a slight chance of snow and freezing drizzle. Cloudy, with a low around 29. Southwest wind around 5 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.
- **Saturday:** Mostly cloudy, with a high near 37. West wind 5 to 10 mph.
- **Saturday Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 28. Southwest wind around 10 mph.

SPORTS

New Legislation Could Protect Wisconsin Referees

Aggressive parents, coaches and fans can make things tough on youth and amateur sports referees. State Rep. Don Vruwink, D-Milton, has experienced that firsthand. He's been officiating since the 1970s. Referees and umpires face more hostility today than they did when he was starting out behind the plate, he said. Vruwink is co-sponsor of a new bill in the state Assembly that aims to address the problem. The bill, co-sponsored by Rep. Todd Novak, R-Dodgeville, could make it a criminal misdemeanor to harass or intimidate a sports official in Wisconsin. Vruwink said the bill's purpose is to help address the national shortage of youth and amateur sports referees, which hasn't spared the state. At 67, Vruwink still serves as a softball umpire when no one else is available. At tournaments, he said, he's often one of the younger referees. More officials are over 65 than under 30, according to the bill's sponsorship memo. By protecting referees and umpires from aggressive behavior, Vruwink said he hopes Wisconsin will be able to attract and retain more young referees. Preserving access to youth sports is important, Vruwink said,



because they teach teamwork and discipline. "If we allow high school sports to die away because we don't have officials, we lose those chances to teach life lessons," he said. In 2017, the National Association of Sports Officials conducted a survey of more than 17,000 referees from across the country. It found that nearly 50 percent of officials have feared for their safety, while almost 60 percent felt that sportsmanship is on the decline. Earlier this year, a fight at a youth wrestling tournament in Outagamie County led to viral video and municipal citations for three adults, according to the Appleton Post-Crescent. Around the same time, former Green Bay Packers coach Mike McCarthy apologized for his behavior toward the officiating crew at his stepson's high school basketball game. Reports of confrontations and assaults on officials are increasing, said Dave Anderson, executive director of the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA). WIAA pushed for the legislation to be drafted, while NASO, the Wisconsin Athletic Directors Association and the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference has also expressed support for it, according to a WIAA news release. Anderson emphasized that the purpose of the bill isn't to have parents arrested. "The last thing anyone really wants to see is somebody to go to jail or going to prison because of their inability to control emotions in a kids' basketball game," he said. Rather, it will serve as a tool to make the environment more comfortable for referees and umpires at a time when it's critical to retain them, he said. Anderson said the legislation will not only benefit WIAA's member high schools, but also younger kids who play sports and adults who participate in recreational leagues. "We're hopeful that this will send a message that people have the backs of officials and that it is okay for new and young officials to venture into the vocation," he said.

No. 1 Wisconsin Faces No. 2 Minnesota In Women's Hockey This Weekend

The No. 1 University of Wisconsin-Madison women's hockey team will face the No. 2 Minnesota Golden Gophers in two games this weekend. The Border Battle games are scheduled for Friday night and Saturday afternoon at LaBahn Arena in Madison. Wisconsin and Minnesota have traded the top ranking this season. The teams faced off in the national championship game last year, with the Badgers winning 2-0. Senior forward Abby Roque said fans can expect to see fast and physical hockey this weekend. Wisconsin will need to use its speed and move Minnesota's goalie, she added. "These are obviously some of our biggest games of the year, especially leading into the playoffs," Roque said. "They really can make or break where we're standing when it comes to playoff time." Roque leads the team with six power-play goals this season. The Badgers are +32 when she's on the ice. Wisconsin is 21-2-1 on the season with just 10 regular season games remaining. The Badgers trail the Gophers by five points in the conference standings, with six points on the line this weekend. A team that wins in regulation or overtime is awarded three points. If the game ends in a shootout, the winning team gets two points and the losing team gets one. Wisconsin has won nine of its last 12 games against Minnesota, but the Gophers have gotten the better of the Badgers this season. In November, the teams met twice in Minneapolis, with Minnesota taking the first game 4-2.

Edgewood routs Monroe 7-0 to set up Badger South clincher

Six days removed from their last game, the Edgewood Crusaders didn't appear to have any rust to shake off at LaBahn Arena on Monday night. Edgewood's dominant 7-0 win on Monday over Monroe sets up the Crusaders for a Badger South-clinching game at McFarland Thursday night. After some back-and-forth early in the game, Edgewood lit the lamp late in the first period when Payton Smith took a pass from J.J. Wiebusch across the crease to make it 1-0 Crusaders. Only 74 seconds later, it was Cody Menzel knocking home a loose puck, with another assist tallied to Wiebusch, to give Edgewood a 2-0 lead after one period. In the second period, Wiebusch would get his goal, rocketing home a feed from Will Hartman to give the Crusaders a 3-0 lead. Near the midway point of the second period, Hartman took a shot from left point near the blue line, and the puck carried in just under the crossbar for a 4-0 Edgewood lead after two periods. Edgewood kept up the pressure in the third period, sending 19 shots in on goal with three getting across. Smith earned his second goal of the game just two minutes into the period. Less than two minutes later, Matthew Moyez got a great feed from Smith to get a short-handed goal to increase the lead to 6-0. Edgewood tacked on one more goal, the second of the game for

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Menzel, to give the Crusaders a power-play goal with a little more than five minutes left in the game. Thursday's game at McFarland represents a chance for the Crusaders to clinch the Badger South outright over the second-place Spartans, who they beat earlier this season 6-2. Monroe, meanwhile, will return to the SLICE for a non-conference showdown with Sauk Prairie, who they played back in November to a 5-2 loss, which before tonight was their biggest loss of the season. Monroe is also in action Thursday at Stoughton.