



SPORTS

BOYS BASKETBALL

CLASSIC EIGHT

Arrowhead 58, Catholic Memorial 38
Kettle Moraine 59, Mukwonago 43
Oconomowoc 59, Waukesha West 55

SOUTHERN LAKES

Burlington 58, Wilmot 49
Badger 88, Delavan-Darien 82
Elkhorn 65, Westosha Central 45

More Wisconsin Universities To Offer Varsity Video Gaming

Lakeland University's newest varsity athletic team will play in a renovated, state-of-the-art space. But it won't need a net or a court. These student-athletes play in a different kind of arena. The Sheboygan County-based university announced this week it will add esports to its varsity athletic offerings in 2020. It's one of a growing number of Wisconsin schools to offer competitive gaming. Since Lakeland announced the addition of esports Monday, the school has already received inquiries from almost a dozen students interested in the program, according to Lakeland's director of external relations David Gallianetti. "We know that competitive gaming is one of the nation's fastest growing activities," he said. More than 700 prospective Lakeland students from Wisconsin, Illinois and Michigan's Upper Peninsula have identified esports as the collegiate sport in which they're most interested, Gallianetti said. Lakeland is renovating an existing building to house its new co-ed esports team. It will include 18 gaming stations, six consoles, a lounge and an area for spectators. It'll be open to intramural teams and recreational players, in addition to the varsity squad. "We didn't want to make it exclusive just to the esports varsity team," Gallianetti said. "We want it to be inclusive to all of our students." Currently, Lakeland has an esports club with more than 30 members, according to a news release from the school. It's not the only Wisconsin university planning to add esports to its athletic program next year. The University of Wisconsin-Stout and Carroll University will both launch esports programs in the fall of 2020, according to their websites. All three schools will belong to the National Association of Collegiate Esports, which has more than 170 member schools. More than 5,000 student-athletes have played in NACE-sanctioned competitions, according to the organization. Several Wisconsin universities already have esports programs. Bryant & Stratton College in Milwaukee launched its team this fall. It was the first school in the state to join NACE, according to a Bryant & Stratton news release. Marquette University also fielded an esports team in the fall of 2019 making it the first major-conference Division I athletics program to enter the world of esports. Competitive gaming is already popular in Wisconsin high schools. According to the Wisconsin High School Esports Association, more than 80 schools have expressed an interest in competing in tournaments. Some high schoolers have even received scholarships to play esports in college. According to NACE's website, its member schools have awarded \$16 million in scholarships and aid to esports student-athletes. Esports is currently a billion-dollar industry. Popular games include "League of Legends," "Overwatch" and "Rocket League."

WEATHER

- **Today:** A slight chance of snow between 1pm and 3pm. Cloudy, with a high near 23. South wind 7 to 13 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.
- **Tonight:** A chance of freezing rain before 1am, then a chance of snow and freezing rain between 1am and 3am, then a chance of snow after 3am. Cloudy, with a low around 20. South wind around 7 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40%. New snow accumulation of less than a half inch possible.
- **Tuesday:** A 20 percent chance of snow before 7am. Cloudy, with a high near 27. South wind around 6 mph.
- **Tuesday Night:** Cloudy, with a low around 19. South southeast wind around 5 mph becoming calm in the evening.



- **Wednesday:** Mostly cloudy, with a high near 29. Light west wind becoming southwest 5 to 9 mph in the morning.
- **Wednesday Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 22. Southwest wind around 10 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.
- **Thursday:** Partly sunny, with a high near 35. Southwest wind 8 to 10 mph, with gusts as high as 18 mph.
- **Thursday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 31. West wind around 10 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

NATIONAL

Trump Opens Door to Cuts to Medicare and Other Entitlement Programs

President Trump suggested he would consider cuts to social safety-net programs like Medicare to reduce the federal deficit if he wins a second term, an apparent shift from his 2016 campaign promise to protect funding for such entitlements. Despite promises to reduce the federal budget deficit, it has ballooned under Mr. Trump's watch as a result of sweeping tax cuts and additional government spending. Asked in an interview with CNBC if cuts to entitlements would ever be on his plate, Mr. Trump answered yes. "At some point they will be," Mr. Trump said, before pointing to United States economic growth. "At the right time, we will take a look at that." Mr. Trump suggested that curbing spending on Medicare, the government health care program for the elderly, was a possibility. "We're going to look," he said. The interview left many questions unanswered, including whether Mr. Trump would consider touching Social Security or what part of Medicare he would be willing to shave. The president veered from answering the question about entitlements to talking about the robustness of the American economy and how his policies have helped alleviate poverty and boost jobs for minorities, perhaps suggesting that the need for entitlement programs at their current levels had waned. The president has already proposed cuts for some safety-net programs. His last budget proposal called for a total of \$1.9 trillion in cost savings from mandatory safety-net programs, like Medicaid and Medicare. It also called for spending \$26 billion less on Social Security programs, the federal retirement program, including a \$10 billion cut to the Social Security Disability Insurance program, which provides benefits to disabled workers. Spending on Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid is expected to cost the federal government more than \$30 trillion through 2029, according to the Congressional Budget Office.

Trump Says He'll Add 'A Few Countries' To Controversial U.S. Travel Ban

President Trump says he'll widen a controversial travel ban that prohibits nearly all people from seven countries from traveling or immigrating to the U.S., calling it "a very powerful ban" that's necessary to ensure national security. "We're adding a couple of countries" to the ban, Trump said when asked about his policy shift at a news conference at the Davos World Economic Forum in Switzerland. He added, "We have to be safe. Our country has to be safe. You see what's going on in the world. Our country has to be safe." According to The Wall Street Journal, which first reported on the White House plan to expand the ban, the Trump administration wants to double the scope of the ban by blacklisting seven more countries: Belarus, Eritrea, Kyrgyzstan, Myanmar, Nigeria, Sudan and Tanzania. Trump did not share any more details about the ban's expansion, saying, "it's going to be announced very shortly." When a reporter asked Trump about the plan to expand one of the signature pieces of his immigration policy, Trump criticized how the legal battles over the ban have been portrayed, emphasizing that after some losses in lower courts, the Supreme Court sided with him in 2018. Trump signed the original version of the travel ban in his first week in office three years ago, triggering confusion and chaos in airports and legal challenges in federal courts. The Supreme Court upheld the Trump administration's third version of the ban, which bars nearly all travelers from five majority-Muslim countries as well as North Korea and Venezuela. The intense legal battles over the ban were resolved in 2018, when the Supreme Court backed Trump's assertion of presidential power under the Immigration and Nationality Act – the 1965 law that originally abolished the U.S. quota system that limited immigrants based on their national origin.



CDC Confirms A THC Additive, Vitamin E Acetate, Is The Culprit In Most Vaping Deaths

A health-surveillance system put in place after the terrorist attacks of September 2001 has been used to pinpoint the cause of the vaping-related lung injuries that have killed 54 Americans and sent more than 2,500 people to the hospital. Using this system, researchers at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have found that the lung injuries rose sharply in June. Dr. Anne Schuchat, the CDC's principal deputy director, says this sharp spike strongly points to a single culprit for most of these cases: vitamin E acetate, an additive found in illicit cannabis-containing vapes. "That doesn't mean that there aren't other chemicals that can or are causing lung injury," Schuchat said. But backed with additional data about vitamin E acetate found in lung samples from people who were injured after vaping, she attributes the bulk of the outbreak to that additive. The CDC is still trying to understand the mechanism by which this substance injures lung tissue. It may interfere with a natural fluid in the lung called surfactant, which helps make lung tissue stretchy. Or a byproduct may be a toxic chemical. Emergency-room doctors in Wisconsin first noticed an outbreak of these lung injuries in June. They alerted state and federal health officials, who quickly started investigating the extent of the outbreak as they looked for what could be causing it. Investigators homed in on vaping products containing marijuana extracts, specifically those that were purchased online or on the street, rather than through dispensaries. Further research focused on vitamin E acetate, which is used in some of these preparations to dilute the much more expensive THC oil. It was important to understand the timing of the outbreak as part of this investigation. Health officials wanted to know when exactly the problems first cropped up, and whether they had missed many cases before those initial reports. That's why they turned to the surveillance data, collected from more than 3,200 emergency rooms from most states. They found a gradual increase in emergency-room visits among people who vaped or used e-cigarettes, starting in January of 2017. Narrowing their search to people under the age of 35, they detected a sharp spike in June of 2019 — the same time that the doctors in Wisconsin reported their first cases. The number of cases climbed from June into September, when they peaked. They have since declined, but the CDC still reports about 100 cases a week, and the death toll continues to tick up. "While electronic health data are increasingly powerful, they really can't yet replace the experience of clinicians like the ones in Wisconsin, who most definitely saved lives when they... reported these first cases," Hartnett says.

COMMERCIALS

Picture your dream house. For you, it might be a sprawling lakefront property with mature trees and a winding driveway through a wrought-iron gate... or, perhaps it's something more cozy and closer to the shopping mall - we're not just talking picket fences here! Come in and chat with one of our mortgage specialists. Tell us about your dreams. We'll make them a reality.

Recycling is the easiest thing we can all do to save energy, conserve natural resources and create green jobs. Show your support for recycling in (CITY: _____). Join (ORGANIZATION: _____) on (DATE: _____) from (TIME: _____) to celebrate America Recycles Day and learn more about how and what we can recycle in (CITY: _____). Call (PHONE: _____). or go to americarecyclesday.org for more information. This is a public service message of (ORGANIZATION: _____).



STATE

A Forgotten Presidential Candidate From 1904 With Wisconsin Connections

In 1904, George Edwin Taylor — often forgotten in the discussion of black American political pioneers — ran for president as the candidate of the National Negro Liberty Party, sometimes known as the National Liberty Party. A journalist by trade, Taylor — who lived in Iowa — gained distinction, according to the Tacoma, Wash., *Times* on Aug. 17, 1904, as a leader in the Republican national convention of 1892, "to which he was an alternate delegate-at-large from his state. The next campaign he was delegate-at-large to the Democratic convention." In 1904, 36 states sent representatives to the Liberty Party convention. According to the *Times*, the party denounced the Democrats' disenfranchisement of black Americans. It questioned Theodore Roosevelt's fidelity to African-Americans and it stood for "unqualified enforcement of the constitution," reparations for ex-slaves and independence for the Philippines. The candidate Taylor, the paper announced, was one of a dozen children whose father was a slave and his mother was born a free person in the South. "When his mother died," the paper notes, "young Taylor was left a waif and slept in dry goods boxes. He finally drifted north and attended the Baptist academy at Beaver Dam, in Wisconsin. Feeble health and an exhausted pocketbook caused him to leave school within a year of graduating." To support himself, the *Times* reported, Taylor took a job as a newspaper reporter in La Crosse. He eventually became editor of the La Crosse *Evening Star*. In the 1880s, according to the Murphy Library at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, Taylor was a key player in both the Wisconsin's People's Party and the Union Labor Party. "His *Wisconsin Labor Advocate* was the voice of Wisconsin's labor party in 1886-1887," the library explains. "From 1891 to 1910, Taylor lived in Oskaloosa and Ottumwa, Iowa, where he published a national magazine called the *Negro Solicitor*. During this period he rose to prominence in national black politics, acting as president of the National Colored Men's Protective Association and the National Negro Democratic League and served high office in various other black organizations." The library adds: "From 1910 to 1925, Taylor retreated from the national stage and lived an active life in Jacksonville, Florida."

Dairy farmers are caught in an economic system with no winning formula

Wisconsin continues to lose dairy farms at an alarming pace — two to three a day — with Wisconsin leading the nation in farm bankruptcies for each of the last four years. The fallout continues as farmers, on the cusp of spring planting, decide whether to invest in seed, chemicals, fertilizer and other supplies needed to raise the crops they feed to their cattle. The state's smaller average farm size, particularly in dairy, is at least partly the reason. Family dairy farms are at the mercy of trade wars, economies of scale and a complex, often opaque pricing system. Farmers don't know what they'll be paid until weeks after their milk leaves the farm. Sometimes the only way to stay in business is to put off much-needed farm improvements and produce ever-higher amounts of milk — which adds to the surplus. The economic forces are more powerful and unforgiving than ever. The dairy crisis worsened last year when China and Mexico imposed steep tariffs on U.S. dairy products in retaliation for President Donald Trump slapping tariffs on foreign aluminum and steel. Trump's criticisms of Mexico, the largest foreign market for American dairy products, heightened trade tensions. When the president threatened to close the Mexican border, it alarmed former U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, now president of the U.S. Dairy Export Council. Closing the border would be a "gut punch" that could set the dairy industry back 20 years, Vilsack said. More than one in seven days' worth of U.S. milk ends up in products sold in foreign countries. Trade wars, and the failure of the United States, Mexico and Canada to ratify the U.S.-Mexico-Canada trade agreement — meant to replace the North American Free Trade Agreement — worries the industry. "We shipped \$1.4 billion in dairy products to Mexico last year, which accounts for more than one-fourth of U.S. dairy exports," Vilsack said. "Without a trade treaty with Mexico in place, the dairy industry would be hard-pressed to maintain and expand these sales, as our competitors in Europe are expected to implement a lucrative trade deal with Mexico by next year."

DNR Shares Details On 2020-2022 Lake Michigan Fish Stocking Plan



The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources will launch a coaster brook trout stocking initiative in Lake Michigan next year. The agency will also increase stocks of coho, Chinook and steelhead salmon in the lake as part of its 2020-2022 fish stocking plan announced earlier this month. The DNR held four public meetings and two comment periods related to Lake Michigan fish stocks in 2019. Todd Kalish, deputy director of fisheries management, said the DNR also sought input from organizations across Wisconsin, other Great Lakes states and federal groups like the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. "We feel that this plan really acknowledges the diverse sources of input and expertise throughout Wisconsin's Lake Michigan shoreline that this world-class resource deserves," Kalish said. According to a news release, the DNR will add 1.2 million Chinook salmon, 500,000 coho salmon, 460,000 steelhead salmon and 450,000 brown trout to the lake each of the next three years. In 2020, the DNR will also launch a brook trout stocking initiative. Brook trout are native to Wisconsin. They tend to stay closer to shore, Kalish said, making them great for people who fish off riverbanks, piers and small boats. "We're hoping to really create and sustain and enhance this near-shore fishery that is enjoyed by so many of our anglers," he said. Kalish said the plans for the next three years aren't significantly different from past years, though the DNR has decided to discontinue stocking a strain of rainbow trout that's showed poor return for anglers. Most of the fish the DNR adds to Lake Michigan are hatched from eggs collected from the lake. The egg survival rate for Chinook and coho salmon is between 5 and 10 percent in the wild, Kalish said, but DNR hatcheries can see egg survival rates of over 90 percent. "We're just kind of helping natural reproduction along by raising those fish up in our hatcheries and then stocking them back into Lake Michigan," he said. The plan not only includes stocking fish but also restoring habitats and public outreach programs. Kalish said it's primarily paid for through the sale of salmon stamps, which anglers are required to purchase if they plan catch and keep salmon in Wisconsin.

Meet the Green Bay Woman Who's Opening The Nation's First Urban Snail Farm

People have been eating snails for thousands of years. "They're healthy," said Sandy McDonald — low in fat, high in cholesterol. "They have amino acids, Omega-3 fatty acids, niacin, iron, vitamin D complexes, magnesium. I could go on and on." Their taste, McDonald says, is rich and earthy, like a mushroom. Despite all these selling points, it's pretty likely that escargot, as cooked snails are known, isn't part of your regular dinner rotation. McDonald would like to change that. McDonald, 65, has spent the last four years researching and getting permits for her business, Cupid's Arrow Escargot LLC. She's submitted her initial permits to the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Food and Drug Administration. She's got a space near Green Bay's Titletown district, approved by the city for use as a site of heliciculture, which means raising snails. She's set to become the first snail farmer in the Midwest, and the first in the nation to do it in an indoor, urban environment. McDonald sees Cupid's Arrow as connected with the farm-to-table movement and the movement toward local food. Most of the snails served as escargot at American restaurants are imported, and it's illegal to import live snails, which means American diners are getting a less-fresh canned version. McDonald plans to sell snails to chefs around the Midwest for escargot, and to harvest snail slime for use by the cosmetics industry. Over time, she hopes to sell snail eggs, too, that can be served as escargot caviar. The reason for the government's strict controls on snail imports and cultivation is because snails are an invasive species that can harm natural ecosystems. One variety, the giant African snail, is banned from the U.S. in any form, and will be seized and removed by the government if found. Cupid's Arrow Escargot will be constructed with required security measures that keep the snails or their eggs from getting out of the building. The pens are escape-proof. The USDA requires the dirt to be processed before it's disposed of, but McDonald hopes to use vermicomposting to avoid having to dispose of much at all. It will be "a complete ecosystem," McDonald said. "They'll be born, raised and processed in the same building."

INTERNATIONAL

What will it take to stop the Wuhan coronavirus from spreading around the world?



The outbreak of the Wuhan coronavirus in central China has infected thousands and spread overseas, raising the specter of a potential global epidemic as authorities desperately try to contain it. Since the first case was identified in early December in Wuhan, capital of Hubei province, more than 5,900 people have fallen sick and at least 132 people have died in mainland China. In addition, there are dozens of confirmed cases in 17 locations outside of mainland China, including at least five in the United States. The number of total cases worldwide now exceeds 6,000. The world has never had more advanced medical science, but it's also never been so interconnected. So what can be done to stop it from becoming a global epidemic? There's still plenty we don't know about the virus, known officially as 2019-nCov, but Chinese authorities believe that it is spreading human to human, and that people can be infected before symptoms show. The World Health Organization (WHO) has stopped short of calling it a global health emergency, but there's no disputing that it is spreading. Over the weekend, Chinese President Xi Jinping warned the outbreak is accelerating. "Life is of paramount importance. When an epidemic breaks out, a command is issued. It is our responsibility to prevent and control it," he said, according to Chinese state media. Although it's scary to think of a deadly virus spreading, it's important to remember that the vast majority of cases so far have not been fatal. The mortality rate is changing as the numbers of people affected change. As of Tuesday, Wuhan coronavirus' mortality rate was about 2.3%. However a large proportion of the coronavirus cases are considered "severe" and very few people have so far been released from hospital after recovering, according to official numbers. There are no specific treatments for coronaviruses, which range from the common cold to SARS. But just like the common cold, doctors can treat the symptoms, said Dr. Maria Van Kerkhove, head of the WHO's emerging diseases and zoonoses unit. David Heymann, the WHO's Assistant Director-General for Health Security and Environment, said doctors would be making sure patients can breathe properly and give them life support if required. The benefit of keeping people in hospital would be isolating them from the general population, so they can't infect others.

Imagery Suggests Iran Is Preparing To Try To Launch A Satellite

New imagery from commercial satellites suggests Iran is making repairs and preparing for a space launch, following a recent string of failed attempts. The imagery, taken Sunday by the commercial firm Planet and shared via the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey, shows vehicles parked at a building used to assemble Iran's space rockets at the Imam Khomeini Space Center in northern Iran. A second group of vehicles is visible at a circular launch pad that was heavily damaged during failed launch preparations last year. "It looks pretty clearly to us like Iran is going to try and put a satellite into space," says Jeffrey Lewis, a professor at the Middlebury Institute who tracks Iran's space program. Iran has launched satellites in the past, but its program has been less than successful in the past year. Launch attempts in January and February of 2019 both ended in failure. And during preparations for a third attempt, in August, a rocket apparently exploded on the launch pad. President Trump later tweeted a high-resolution image of the wreckage that was taken by a spy satellite, adding: "The United States of America was not involved in the catastrophic accident during final launch preparations for the Safir SLV Launch at Semnan Launch Site One in Iran. I wish Iran best wishes and good luck in determining what happened at Site One." Evidence of the latest launch preparations doesn't shock those who watch Iran's space program closely. In fact, the nation's minister of information and communications technology, Mohammad Javad Azari Jahromi, tweeted on Jan. 18 that the country soon plans to put two small communications satellites, known as Zafar 1 and 2, into orbit. Lewis says he doesn't think Iran is necessarily using the launch to send a political message. "This isn't about the Iran nuclear deal or the killing of Qassem Soleimani," he says, referring to the U.S. drone strike on Jan. 3 that killed the Iranian military commander. "These programs have existed for a long time, and we have seen Iran do a number of launches in the past." Iran says its space program is peaceful. But the Trump administration insists that the program is a cover for developing intercontinental ballistic missile technologies. "Such vehicles incorporate technologies that are virtually identical and interchangeable with those used in ballistic missiles, including intercontinental ballistic missiles," U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said in a statement following last January's failed launch attempt. But other experts say Iran's space rockets would

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make poor missiles. "This is not a viable platform to use a ballistic missile," says Michael Elleman, who directs nonproliferation and nuclear policy at the International Institute for Strategic Studies. "It's large, it's unwieldy, and it doesn't add any capability to what they already have."

Trump signs revised trade deal with Mexico, Canada but shuts Democrats out of celebration

Still facing a divisive impeachment trial in the Senate, President Donald Trump celebrated a rare bipartisan achievement Wednesday when he signed into law a revamped trade deal with Mexico and Canada. Surrounded by business leaders wearing hard hats, Trump portrayed the new U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement, or USMCA, as "a colossal victory" for American farmers, manufacturers and other workers. "For the first time in American history, we have replaced a disastrous trade deal that rewarded outsourcing with a truly fair and reciprocal trade deal that will keep jobs, wealth and growth right here in America," Trump said during a signing ceremony on the White House South Lawn. Trump gave a shout-out to more than two dozen Republican lawmakers whom he credited with helping push the deal through Congress. Left off of his list of plaudits and missing from the celebration: Congressional Democrats, who put their own stamp on the agreement and whose support was pivotal to helping it secure congressional approval. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's office said no Democrats were invited to the ceremony.