

The Gazette



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Rock University named one of state's top high schools

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JANESVILLE — Rock University High School in Janesville has been named one of the best high schools in Wisconsin.

The charter school, that operates as a partnership between the School District of Janesville and Blackhawk Technical College, was ranked the twentieth best high school in the state by U.S. News & World Report, out of more than 460 public high schools in Wisconsin.

Janesville School District Superintendent Mark Holzman called the ranking “a tremendous validation of our innovative, collaborative model.”

“It is a powerful testament to what can be achieved when a public school district, a charter high school, and a technical college commit to a shared vision for student success,” Holzman said.

Rock University High School Principal Patty Hernandez expressed excitement and humility about the ranking, which placed the school in the top 5% of the 464 public high schools evaluated statewide.

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AUTUMN PLAY DAY



HANNAH POWELL / HANNAH.POWELL@APG-SW.COM

Modiste (Modi) Mchale, 3, is pushed on a swing by his grandmother, Donna, at Camden Playground in Janesville, Monday, Nov. 3, 2025.

UAW strike ends as union, Mercyhealth reach deal

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JANESVILLE — A four-month-long strike by more than 130 union workers at Janesville's Mercyhealth East clinic is over.

UAW Local 95 and Mercyhealth have reached a tentative contract agreement, the union announced Monday evening.

The agreement brings to a close the walkout that began July 2, with striking workers immediately returning to their roles

as nurses, medical assistants, X-ray technicians and maintenance staff.

The union had cited as key issues in the strike rising healthcare costs, inadequate wages, and a lack of security measures for employees, particularly those working evening hours. The standoff drew support in recent months from state legislators and labor leaders who stood in solidarity with the UAW members.

Specific terms of the new contract were not immediately released.

However, signaling

that the union may not have gotten everything it sought, Sandy Welch, UAW Local 95 vice president, in a statement

called the deal “not the best outcome” and said workers’ “insurance (costs) would be doubled.”

LOCAL

Plan Commission OKs southside neighborhood expansion

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SPORTS

Badger men defeat Fighting Camels

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TODAY'S WEATHER

HIGH LOW

62 | **48**

Partly sunny
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