# **WISCONSIN** JOURNAL STATE

### **Access to** facilities

Conservative group sues UW-Madison over policy to allow campus visitors to use restroom of their choice

### **LOCAL&STATE. A3**

Saturday, November 15, 2025

## **EVOLVING APPROACH**

Wisconsin offensive coordinator Jeff Grimes continues to adjust game plan

SPORTS, B1



WHERE YOUR STORY LIVES

### **War in Ukraine**

Russian missile and drone attacks on Kyiv leave several dead, dozens injured

**NATION&WORLD. A10** 

#### **Chinese hack**

Anthropic says it disrupted cyber attack directed by artificial intelligence

**NATION&WORLD. A10** 



(\*) MADISON.COM

### **STATE REPORT CARDS** | DANE COUNTY SCHOOLS



**AMBER ARNOLD PHOTOS, STATE JOURNAL** 

Paraprofessional Elizabeth Mac Kenzie works on a reading lesson with third graders outside the sanctuary at High Point Christian School in Madison on Friday. State report cards released this week show the school "exceeds expectations." The report cards gauge student achievement, growth in student achievement, achievement by students who tend to struggle academically and the extent to which students are on track to graduate.

# Wide range of results

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The success of Dane County's private voucher and independent charter schools on the state report cards released this week varied greatly, with scores oftentimes reflecting differences in student body demographics.

Among the 10 schools rated, scores ranged from a high of 84.7 at Eastside Evangelical Lutheran Elementary in Madison, to a low of 56.3 at Westside Christian School in Middleton. The scores correspond to a rating of "significantly exceeds expectations" for Eastside and "meets few expectations" for Westside Christian.

Both schools are in the state's

parental choice, or voucher, program, and the scores only include those students whose families receive vouchers to cover the cost of tuition.

A closer look shows that the schools have wildly different demographics: Eastside Evangelical reports having no economically disadvantaged students nor any with disabilities, and only 2.2% are English language learners. By contrast, at Westside Christian, 98% of students are classified as economically disadvantaged.

That pattern was also evident to some degree with the second-highest and -lowest-scoring schools among the county's



Karen Lively teaches a math lesson to her third grade class at High Please see **VOUCHER**, Page A6 Point Christian School on Friday.

### **WORLD CHEESE AWARDS** | YOUNG CHEESEMONGER OF THE YEAR

# Uplands worker takes top honor

28-year-old is the 1st American to ever win

**BARRY ADAMS** 

badams@madison.com

The company that makes one of the most awarded cheeses in the world can now boast one sored by the Dairy Farmers of of the top cheese experts in the Wisconsin, has been working world.

Hanna Lee, who joined Uplands Cheese Company north of Dodgeville last year, has become the first American to win the Young Cheesemonger of the Year award, from the Academy of Cheese at the World Cheese Awards in Bern, Switzerland.

The event, which recognizes

rising stars in the cheese world age 30 and younger, concluded on Thursday and featured five rounds of judging, including cutting and wrapping, cheese identification, pairing and a "MasterRind" quiz about cheese.

Lee, 28, whose trip was sponsince 2024 as a seasonal employee at Uplands, where she helps make Rush Creek Reserve and cares for Pleasant Ridge Reserve, a highly decorated aged alpine cheese made only from milk produced by cows on pasture.

very exciting and

Please see CHEESEMONGER, Page A6



Hanna Lee. 28, is the first American to win the Young Cheesemonger of the Year award from the Academy of Cheese. Lee, who works at Uplands Cheese north of Dodgeville, won the competition on Thursday in Bern, Switzerland. ACADEMY OF CHEESE

### **FEDERAL COURT**

**OPIOID CRISIS** 

# Judge to OK \$7B deal

**GEOFF MULVIHILL Associated Press** 

NEW YORK - A federal bankruptcy court judge said Friday he'll approve OxyContin-maker Purdue Pharma's latest deal to settle thousands of lawsuits over the toll of opioids that includes some money for thousands of victims of the epidemic.

The deal overseen by U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Sean Lane would require members of the Sackler family who own the company to contribute up to \$7 billion over 15 years. The new agreement replaces one the U.S. Supreme Court rejected last year, finding it would have improperly protected members of the family against future lawsuits.

The judge said he would explain his decision in a hearing Tuesday.

It's among the largest in a series of opioid settlements brought by state and local governments against drugmakers, wholesalers and pharmacies. It could close a long chapter – and maybe the entire book — on a legal odyssey over efforts to hold the company to account for its role in an opioid crisis connected to 900,000 deaths in the U.S. since 1999, including from heroin and illicit fentanvl.

Lawyers and judges involved described it as one of the most complicated bankruptcies in U.S. history. Ultimately, attorneys representing Purdue, cities, states, counties, Native

Please see OPIOIDS, Page A5

## DOJ to probe **Epstein's ties** to Democrats

MICHAEL R. SISAK and JESSE BEDAYN **Associated Press** 

NEW YORK - Acceding to President Donald Trump's demands, U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi said Friday she ordered a top federal prosecutor to investigate sex offender Jeffrey Epstein's ties to Trump political foes, including former President Bill Clinton.

Bondi posted on social media that she assigned Manhattan U.S. Attorney Jay Clayton to lead the probe, capping an eventful week in which congressional Republicans released nearly 23,000 pages of documents from Epstein's estate and House Democrats seized on emails mentioning Trump.

Trump, who was friends with Epstein for years, didn't explain what supposed crimes he wanted the Justice Department to investigate. None of the men he mentioned in a social media post demanding the probe has been accused of sexual misconduct by Epstein's victims.

Hours before Bondi's announcement, Trump posted on his Truth Social platform that he would ask her, the Justice

Please see EPSTEIN, Page A5

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Inside

Scoreboard Advice B11 B2 Take Five B10 Comics B10 В1 Television B13 Sports В4 Opinion A12 WSJ Legals



