



The chairman of the Taliesin Commission says the state should pay at least \$1 million to help preserve Frank Lloyd Wright's home near Spring Green.

\$1 million sought for Taliesin

By Kris Kodrich

Wisconsin State Journal

Marshall Erdman, chairman of the state's Taliesin Commission, will ask the state for more than \$1 million to help restore Frank Lloyd Wright's deteriorating home near Spring Green.

On Monday, Erdman told the commission the state has a responsibility to help preserve Taliesin, which served as the late architect's Wisconsin home and studio.

"Such a commitment should be considered an investment that will pay off many times over in revenue, prestige and regional pride," he said.

Asked after the meeting how much the state should contribute, Erdman answered, "considerably more than \$1 million." The state will get the money back through taxes associated with tourism and development, he said. "I honestly feel that for every dollar the state puts in, it will get more than \$10 back."

The commission is finishing work on a final report to Gov. Tommy Thompson recommending that Taliesin be repaired at a cost of \$13.5 million to \$16.4 million.

A non-profit private corporation would be organized to operate Taliesin. The board of directors would oversee the restoration project, as well as raise the necessary money and operate a new visitors center.

The commission is scheduled to approve the report in November. Taliesin is used during warmer months as a workplace, home and

Erdman sees no conflict as owner of nearby land

Although Marshall Erdman owns 3,000 acres adjacent to Taliesin, he said Monday it is not a conflict of interest for him to serve as the chairman of a state commission studying restoration of the property and the creation of a major tourist center there.

Erdman said he has no plans to develop his property, and wants to donate 2,500 acres of it to UW-Madison, provided the university doesn't sell the property. The other 500 acres are being preserved for the recreational use of top employees of his Madison design and construction firm, Marshall Erdman & Associates.

All landowners in the area, including himself, will benefit from improvements at Taliesin, said Erdman, who added that he will "swear on a stack of Bibles" that he has no development plans for the area and does not foresee any such plans in the future.

Philip Lewis, a professor of landscape architecture and director of UW-Madison's Environmental Awareness Center, said Monday the university plans to accept the property provided it can raise an endowment to pay for its management.

The property could be used as a model for appropriate land use, Lewis said, including agriculture, woodlands and recreation.

— By Kris Kodrich

classroom for students and architects who follow Wright's style of architecture. They spend the remainder of the year at Taliesin West in Arizona.

James Carley, chairman of the physical preservation committee, said restoration of the Taliesin home and studio, the Hillside School, Midway Farm and other parts of the compound will cost \$14.7 million. The cost could be reduced to \$12 million if Midway Farm were not included.

An additional \$1 million would be needed to restore furnishings and artwork. The historical structures report, or master plan, would cost an additional \$500,000 to \$700,000.

The master plan normally would take about one year to complete, Carley said, but much of the work already has been done by Taliesin architects. The restoration itself would take a minimum of two years.

The commission also will recom-

mend that a visitor center, costing an estimated \$3.9 million, be built near the Hillside School.

Nicholas Muller, chairman of the public access committee, said the center, which could handle 200,000 visitors a year, should not interfere with existing structures or the landscape. Land acquisition and a \$400,000 tram system would be additional expenses.

After five years, Muller estimated, about 161,000 persons would visit Taliesin annually. Gross revenue, including souvenir and food sales, would be \$2.7 million annually, he said.

The corporation that would take over the operation of Taliesin would include a board of directors of 15 to 25 persons, 20 to 40 percent of them nominees of the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation. The foundation would transfer ownership of the property to the new entity. Taliesin Associated Architects and the Frank Lloyd Wright School of Architecture would then lease the property back and continue to use it for their work.

In a related development, the Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation of Milwaukee has given the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation \$73,000 to help with the restoration.

The Wright Foundation raised an additional \$341,000 to qualify for the Bradley challenge grant.

Several hundred donors nationwide contributed, the major ones being Marshall and Joyce Erdman of Madison and Mrs. Alden Dow of Midland, Mich.

Black students are struggling

Study of four city high schools finds majority averages C-minus

By Ron Seely

Wisconsin State Journal

Is the Madison School District moving quickly enough to solve the educational problems faced by the city's black youth?

A report Monday from the Madison Urban League showed the academic performance of most of the city's black high school students is well below that of non-black students.

Some school officials, responding to the bad news, wondered whether the school district is working hard enough to improve minority achievement.

The report showed the majority of the 504 black students enrolled at West, Memorial, East and La Follette high schools earned less than a 2.0 grade point, or C, average during the 1987-88 school year.

School Board president Barbara Arnold said the board made improving minority achievement a priority for this school year. She said the district is "moving in the right direction" on the issue.

But Arnold also said that, in light of Tuesday's report, the district might not be moving quickly enough. She said she is "disappointed" that a committee to study minority achievement at the middle- and high-school level has not been organized — even though the board told the district in August to set up the committee.

Madison School Superintendent James Travis was unavailable for comment Monday.

Shirley Baum, the district's southwest area director, said recommendations about who should be on the committee are still being received from middle and high schools and that the committee should be named "within a month or so."

The Urban League's report stressed the serious nature of the problem and the need to act quickly.

"This study shows that black students, compared to all other ethnic group students, are experiencing an educational crisis that must be vigorously addressed," the report said.

The study showed that:

✓ The mean GPA (grade point average) achieved by black students in the 1987-88 school year ranged from 1.49 to 1.70. The district uses a four-point grading scale.

The study showed the largest percentage of black students achieving below a 1.99 GPA are at Memorial where, of the 145 black students enrolled, 88 — or 60.7 percent — are achieving below a 1.99 GPA.

✓ At all four high schools, black students are disproportionately enrolled at the remedial level in math, science and English courses.

At West High School, for example, 52.9 percent of the black students are enrolled in remedial-level math

'As policy makers, we have to set the trends and raise the issue. The numbers of poorly achieving black students is unacceptable. Therefore, we have to do more than what we're doing. And we have to come up with better results.'

Jerry Smith

courses compared to 11.9 percent of the non-black students.

✓ The academic achievement of all black high school students is lower than that of non-black students at all levels of math, science, English and social studies. In some instances, black students are achieving between 0.83 and 1.29 grade points lower than non-black students.

✓ Black students are disproportionately represented in exceptional educational need programs. The disproportionate enrollment is most pronounced in classes for the learning disabled, emotionally disturbed, educable mentally retarded and in school-age maternity programs. Black students represent 8.2 percent of the total high school student enrollment but 18.3 percent of the EEN enrollment.

Baum said the school district has taken several steps in recent months to improve minority achievement.

She said, for example, that more in-service programs have been organized to help make teachers aware of the problems. Also, more home school coordinators have been appointed. These are individuals who work closely with parents to make them feel more comfortable with the school.

A committee on minority achievement at the elementary level is scheduled to report to the board in February, Baum said.

But School Board member Jerry Smith said the Urban League report is proof that the district is not putting emphasis on student services and student needs.

"As policy makers, we have to set the trends and raise the issue," Smith said. "The numbers of poorly achieving black students is unacceptable. Therefore, we have to do more than what we're doing. And we have to come up with better results."

Rynes' sentence: Life plus 10 years for killing Worth

Jeffrey Rynes, 35, convicted early Sunday of murdering Amy Jo Worth, 32, was sentenced Monday to life in prison plus 10 years by Circuit Judge Gerald Nichol.

Rynes, who maintained his innocence throughout the week-long trial, told the court that citizens should beware, because Worth's murderer is still at large and the wrong man is being sent to prison.

Rynes said that evidence he offered in his defense was used against him and that he still loved Worth.

Worth's partially-clad body, bound and gagged, was found May 2 in the bedroom of the Cypress Way apartment she shared with Rynes. The apartment was set on fire. Rynes was also convicted of arson.

Worth was hit on the back of the head with a hammer hard enough and often enough to kill her but was alive when the fire was started. She inhaled a potentially lethal amount of carbon monoxide, pathologist Billy Bauman testified.

Rynes admitted arguing with Worth the night she died but said he left the apartment and spent the night at his parents.

Assistant Public Defender Dennis Burke tried unsuccessfully to convince the jury that someone else, probably a drug dealer with whom Rynes trafficked in cocaine, entered the apartment and killed Worth after Rynes left.

Although the evidence against Rynes largely was circumstantial, Assistant District Attorney Robert Kaiser crafted a case, weaving together seemingly unrelated bits of testimony and evidence. It took the jury six hours of deliberation to convict Rynes.

Kaiser, who called Worth's murder a "horrible crime," asked Nichol to sentence Rynes to the mandatory maximum of life plus 15 years as a repeating criminal. The judge, who gave Rynes life plus 10, ordered a pre-sentence investigation on the arson conviction.

Burke told the court that he was uncertain of the evidence against Rynes two days ago, before the guilty verdict was issued, and that his uncertainty had not gone away. Rynes came from a good and loving family, Burke said, and the outcome of the trial should not be a reflection on them.

Rynes will be eligible to apply for parole in 16 years.



New London Police Lt. James Edminister, left, escorted Timothy J. Puffe from a Neenah hospital on Monday.

Father held in sons' deaths

New London man to be charged with first-degree murder

NEW LONDON (AP) — A 29-year-old man taken into police custody Monday in the throat-slashing deaths of his two sons did not want to lose the boys in a divorce, his father said.

Bond was set at \$500,000 cash for Timothy J. Puffe at a bond hearing before Waupaca County Circuit Judge John Hoffmann.

District Attorney John Snider had filed no criminal complaint but said he indicated in court that he anticipated filing two charges of first-degree murder today. Snider said he wanted to review some police reports before filing the complaint.

Puffe, who authorities said sustained a self-inflicted knife wound to the neck, was released from Theda Clark Regional Medical Center in Neenah and taken to the Waupaca

County Jail, Police Chief David Neumann said.

Puffe's two sons, Timothy, 3, and Thomas, 2, were found late Saturday night, lying on a large bed in the family's home with their throats slashed. A knife with about a 4-inch blade was lying between the two bodies, said Dr. Lloyd Maasch, Waupaca County coroner.

Police were alerted to the small ranch-style home by Victoria Puffe, 27, the boys' mother, who said she received a phone call from her estranged husband saying he might harm the boys.

The couple apparently separated seven weeks ago and a court order gave the boys' father visitation rights on weekends, the police chief said.

"I think everything boiled down to

the divorce deal," said Puffe's father, Leonard. "He didn't want to lose his kids."

Mrs. Puffe told police her husband never threatened the children before but apparently had threatened to harm himself.

Police spoke to Puffe in the house by telephone twice and the man told authorities there was no problem. When a third telephone call went unanswered, Mrs. Puffe and an officer left the house to get her key to enter, Neumann said. Meanwhile, police received a call from Puffe, requesting an ambulance.

Mrs. Puffe's 5-year-old daughter was sleeping in another bedroom of the home and came out unharmed when she heard her mother in the house, police said.

Kastenmeier lists campaign surplus; Haney owes \$8,282

By David Stoeffler

Wisconsin State Journal

U.S. Rep. Robert Kastenmeier, D-Wis., was poised for the final weeks of his re-election campaign with more than \$80,000 in cash, while his Republican opponent, Ann Haney, owed more to creditors than she had on hand.

Kastenmeier, the 15-term 2nd District representative, spent \$234,765 through Sept. 30, compared to \$201,261 for Haney in the same period.

According to reports filed last weekend with the Federal Elections Commission, Kastenmeier raised \$197,834 in the nine-month period, slightly less than the \$205,366 raised by Haney.

But with cash carried over from the previous year, Kastenmeier came in to the final five weeks of the campaign with \$82,065 in cash and no debt.

Haney had \$3,761 in the bank, but owed \$8,282. Haney has drawn more in contributions from individuals (\$144,658 to \$128,344 for Kastenmeier), but the incumbent has drawn more money from political-action committees (\$68,790 for the year to \$44,539 for Haney).

The top contributors to Kastenmeier's campaign were the National Education Association PAC (\$9,550 in the year) and the Realtors PAC (\$9,050 in the year). Other PAC contributors included primarily public and private labor groups in addition to several agricultural groups, including \$3,100 from the Committee for Thorough Political Education of the American Milk Producers Inc.

Heading Haney's list of contributors was the National Republican Congressional Campaign Committee, which has donated \$9,627. The American Medical Association donated \$5,000. Other contributors included several business groups, including oil industry groups.

Leading individual contributors to Haney were her husband, James, who heads the state's Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce Association, Gary Comer of Lands End in Dodgeville, and Peter Ahrens of Ahrens Cadillac-Oldsmobile in Madison. All three gave \$2,000 each to the campaign.

The election is Nov. 8.

Kastenmeier defeated Haney in the 1986 election, collecting about 56 percent of the vote.