

# Wisconsin State Journal

Inside

## Pink Floyd rocks tonight

Pink is the color, Floyd is the name and at the Stadium, there's a new game: It's the rock 'n' roll game at Camp Randall tonight, and the players, Pink Floyd, will be the first to sound test the neighborhood. For the latest on the concert and a look at the band from drummer Nick Mason's eyes, turn to Look.

## Fight rages on

Despite efforts by Syria and Iran to quell the unrest, rival Shiite Moslem militias battled for the 14th day in Beirut. Details on 7A.

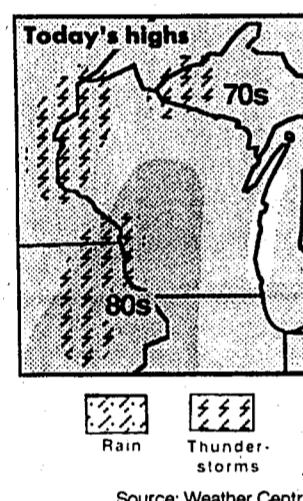
## Birth by phone

The calm voice of a Madison Fire Department dispatcher early Thursday helped a difficult breech birth end successfully. Details on 1B.

## Cummings OKs pact

Milwaukee Bucks forward Terry Cummings has signed a four-year contract, the club said Thursday. Cummings led the team in scoring this past season. Details in Sports.

## Weather



Today: Partly sunny and warm. High of 80 degrees with southeasterly winds 5 to 12 mph. Tonight: Partly cloudy with a low of 50. Light southeasterly winds. Details on 18A.

## Consultant called back to end tiff

By Joe Beck  
Wisconsin State Journal

Dane County Executive Richard Phelps said Thursday he is calling back the consultant who condemned the county's new emergency warning sirens last fall.

Phelps said he is calling W.M. Montgomery back in June at a cost of \$450 in an effort to stop the feuding between the Department of Emergency Planning and Department of Public Works.

Phelps said Montgomery is needed to explain in person the controversial report that cited numerous failures in design, operation, maintenance, and safety of the siren system.

"I want him to do what's necessary to review the present situation as well," Phelps said.

The two county departments have different opinions about the system's performance. Public Works wants the county to pay the siren installer, Federal Signal Corp., the \$28,000 balance remaining on the \$375,000 system. The Department of Emergency Planning wants the money withheld until the system proves more reliable.

Phelps is withholding the \$28,000 until he hears from Montgomery.

The county paid Montgomery, of Minnetonka, Minn., \$3,500 for his evaluation last fall.

Montgomery recommended that the county require Federal Signal to make extensive improvements in the system before paying any more of the balance on the system.

Montgomery found paper strips placed between some fuse clips to prevent short circuits. He also cited fuse panels that were inaccessible and so close together they could not be removed.

## Early retirement bill dies

By Doug Mell  
and David Stoeffler

State government reporters

An early-retirement bill for public employees died early today as the state Senate sustained Gov. Tommy Thompson's veto of the measure.

At 1:30 a.m., the Senate voted, 18-14, to sustain the veto. That was four votes short of the two-thirds majority needed to override.

Two hours earlier, the Assembly voted, 71-28, to override the governor's veto. That marked the first time in dozens of attempts that either house has voted to override a Thompson veto during his 15 months in office. Approval by both houses is needed to override a veto.

Sen. Robert Jauch, D-Poplar, chided the Republicans for not being "sensitive enough to how this issue impacts on human lives" and break with Thompson.

Sen. Alan Lasee, R-De Pere, disagreed, saying, "You (public employ-

ees) ought to try working for a while in the real world."

Thompson vetoed the pension and government cost-control bill earlier Thursday night, but worked out an alternative plan with the state's largest teachers union.

Majority Democrats balked at the plan and said they would come back after November elections to try again.

"The governor at some point has to live with the consequences of his actions," said Assembly Speaker Thomas Loftus, D-Sun Prairie.

"Democrats have worked hard and in good faith," said Senate Majority Leader Joseph Strohl, D-Racine.

"We thought there was a deal with what we had," he said, referring to the bill Thompson vetoed.

Loftus added that the general polarized atmosphere between Democrats and Thompson sealed the fate of any alternative.

"If the governor would sign the minimum wage bill . . . and several others, we might consider it (the new plan)," Loftus said.

But it was too late for that, he said.

"It's not over," responded Assembly Minority Leader Betty Jo Nelsen, R-Shorewood, who hoped that while work continued this morning on other bills — including a state anti-obscenity law — that a deal could be worked out on the pension bill.

It was the second time Thompson had vetoed a bill improving public-employee pensions, an issue that has often overshadowed others in the rancorous legislative session.

Late Thursday, Thompson and Republican legislators came to an agreement with the Wisconsin Education Association Council (WEAC) on a new package for pension changes covering nearly all state and local government employees.

The major controversy centered on a part of the bill that was intended to control local costs and tax increases. In return for slower pension increases for public employees, Thompson dropped his demand for limits on public-employee salary increases.

Thompson told a news conference that he was vetoing the measure because "I think it's too expensive for the taxpayers at this time."

The increase in benefits would cost taxpayers \$35 million a year, Thompson said.

Thompson said he would be willing to accept the increase in benefits if the proposal also would control local costs and tax increases.

"This bill does not do that," the governor said. "It makes cost controls something of a mockery. They are doomed to fail."

Strohl said Thompson's vetoes mean "there are a whole number of losers."

The losers include the public employees, who won't be able to retire

Friday

May 20, 1988

Madison, Wisconsin

★★★ 35 cents

50¢ outside Dane County

## Colombian drug chief convicted

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — Carlos Lehder, reputedly a leader of a violent Colombian drug cartel responsible for most of the cocaine imported to this country, was convicted Thursday of smuggling more than three tons of cocaine into the United States.

The verdict capped a seven-month trial on a federal indictment charging him with taking over the island of Norman's Cay in the Bahamas to smuggle cocaine into Florida and Georgia from 1978 to 1980.

"This is truly a major victory in the war on drugs," said U.S. Attorney Robert Merkle, the lead prosecutor.

Authorities say Lehder, 38, is a key figure in the Medellin Cartel, responsible for up to 80 percent of U.S. cocaine imports, and Merkle said the case threatens the cartel's operations.

But Lehder's attorney, Edward Shohat, said the conviction "sadly means nothing at all." He accused the government of creating hysteria, even convincing jurors their security was threatened. He promised an appeal.

Drug Enforcement Administration spokesman Jack Hook called the operation the world's largest drug trafficking ring.

Lehder faces up to 150 years in prison and \$350,000 in fines for his convictions on all 11 counts, ranging from possession of cocaine to running a continuing criminal enterprise. His co-defendant, Jack Reed, 57, of San Pedro, Calif., was convicted of one conspiracy count and faces a maximum 15-year sentence.

Asked if Lehder will spend the rest of his life behind bars, Merkle said, "I certainly hope so. That is going to be my recommendation."

The seven-month trial included 22 weeks of testimony from 115 government witnesses, along with mounds of documents. Lehder was extradited to the United States last year following a gunbattle and his arrest by the Colombian army at a Medellin mansion.

During the trial Merkle called Lehder the Henry Ford of drug trafficking, the man who turned cocaine smuggling into a modern, high-tech operation, using airdrops and speed boats.

Prosecutors and government witnesses described Lehder as a one-time New York street hood who put together a vast cocaine-smuggling empire after he was deported to his homeland, becoming a key figure in the Medellin cartel.

The cartel has been blamed for a wave of violence across Colombia, including the assassination of a former justice minister and the slaying of top U.S. DEA informant Adler "Barry" Seal in Baton Rouge, La. Up to 10 armed marshals were visible in court during Lehder's trial.

Witnesses talked of his flamboyant personalities, which included admiration for Adolf Hitler and slain former Beatle John Lennon.

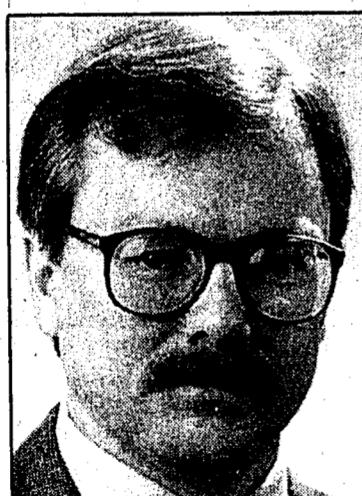
They said Lehder, after initially smuggling the drug himself and paying "mules" to fly between Colombia and the United States, earned a stake that allowed him to fly his own shipments.

He allegedly paid off Bahamian Prime Minister Lynden Pindling to look the other way.

## Remembering a tragedy



Three women embrace as they pay respects at the casket of Mary Catheryn Daniels during a funeral service at St. Christopher Church in Radcliffe, Ky. Daniels was one of 27 people killed when their bus was rammed by an apparently drunken driver Saturday night. Details of funerals on 3A.



Richard Phelps

He reported antenna ground wires that were improper or non-existent.

Montgomery's report went on to cite 17 other problems, many of which involved Federal Signal installation and operation as being "far off the mark" or inadequate."

He predicted malfunctions on hot days because the cabinets containing radio equipment for receiving signals are uninsulated or poorly ventilated.

Phelps said he is trying to stay above the fray involving Public Works and Emergency Planning until he hears from Montgomery. He said he has no opinion on which side is right, although he noted much work has been done on the system since the Montgomery report.

He also declined to comment on the quality of Montgomery's report and former Dane County executive Jonathan Barry's refusal to submit copies of the report to the full Public Protection and Judiciary Committee.

"I don't feel I'm in any position to second guess what other people did," he said. "I'm more worried about getting the sirens to work."

■ Barry says he followed consultant's advice/4B

## School administrator rips plans for minority students

By Joyce Dehli

Education reporter

Madison School Superintendent James Travis is moving too slowly to improve the education of minority students, the district's highest ranking black administrator said Thursday.

At a meeting of the Madison Urban League, Herman Moody, district director of human relations and affirmative action officer, criticized Travis' three-year plan to better minority students' academic performance.

Moody also said Travis' recent plan to reorganize his administration would hurt efforts to better serve minority students because it diminishes the role of Moody and his department.

Moody said he should be named an assistant superintendent in the reorganization plan, as were three other department directors.

"The superintendent has taken me off the highest decision-making body," said Moody, who would be a "special assistant to the superintendent" under the plan.

In a phone interview late Thursday, Travis said his plan, which has not been made final yet, does not diminish Moody's stature in the district. Travis said he could not make Moody an assistant superintendent without raising his pay, which was not necessary for the other three directors.

Travis said Moody had told him previously that he was satisfied with the reorganization.

Travis also defended his plan to improve minority academic achievement, which calls for focusing on elementary pupils in 1989-90, middle school students in the next year and high schools in the third year.

Moody, however, said, "We can't afford to wait three years to address the high school problem."

Moody's remarks followed a preliminary report by the Urban League's Deb Ptak that high percentages of Madison's black high school students have grade point averages below the "C" level.

Ptak is conducting the second annual report for the Committee on the Academic Achievement of Black Students, a task force of the Urban League.

Although her report won't be complete until late summer, Ptak said data provided by the school district for the first semester of 1987-88 shows that the needs of black high school students are urgent.

Seventy of East High School's 130 black students had grade point averages below 1.99 (a "C" is equivalent to 2.0) as did 48 of La Follette's 83 black students, 88 of Memorial's 145 blacks and 84 of West's 146 black students.

Very few black high school students in Madison attained a grade point average of 3.0 or higher during the 1987-88 first semester, Ptak said.

"That's unbelievable," Moody said after hearing the statistics.

Betty Franklin-Hammonds, executive director of the Urban League, agreed. She said Travis' plans to improve minority achievement aren't good enough.

"It's as if we have to keep beating the district over the head with this," Franklin-Hammonds said. "The district hasn't been able to address the academic needs of black students — that's all there is to it."

Franklin-Hammonds said the Urban League should not have to supply the district, for the second consecutive year, with a report on how its black students are faring. The district

itself should be keeping track, she said.

Last year, the Committee on the Academic Achievement of Black Students reported that the median grade given to black students in 1986-87 was almost one point lower, on a four-point scale, than that of the overall high school population.

Based on this school year's information, Ptak said, "it looks like the trend is getting worse."

That is because an increasing number of black freshman are getting low grades, she said. For example, 40 of Memorial's 49 freshmen had grade point averages below 1.99 for 1987-88's first semester as did 40 of West's 59 black freshmen.

Earlier this year, Travis and the Madison School Board, in response to criticism from black parents and community leaders, made improving the academic achievement of minority, low-income and educationally disadvantaged students its top goal for the next three years.

As part of his plan, Travis created the Minority Student Achievement Committee and gave it two primary charges: to "define achievement" and how it should be measured (whether through grades, standarized tests or teacher reports) and to determine what strategies may improve achievement.

On Thursday, Travis said time is needed to study the problem.

"It's not an easy task," he said.

Travis said the district can learn more by concentrating its efforts in one area — elementary schools — rather than by trying to attack the academic problem at all levels simultaneously.

Moody, however, said the problem requires immediate and forceful action, not study.