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Regional News Briefs

From the Journal Sentinel

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Bush to hold fund-raiser for Green

President Bush is planning to do a \$1,000 per-person fund-raiser for GOP gubernatorial candidate Mark Green in Milwaukee on July 11, according to a Republican source who confirmed it on the condition of not being named.

A White House spokesman would not confirm the trip, which was first reported by the WisPolitics.com Web site. The White House normally doesn't comment on travel that far out, in part because it is subject to changing schedules and intervening events. The Green campaign referred a reporter to the White House for comment.

While President Bush has suffered sustained low approval ratings, GOP candidates have welcomed his fund-raising prowess. One recent Wisconsin poll put Bush's approval rating at 26%. The poll was taken just before the killing of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi.

Melanie Fonder, a campaign spokeswoman for Democratic Gov. Jim Doyle, said of the reported Bush visit, "Whether it's standing with big oil companies, big drug companies or slamming the door on stem cell research, Mark Green and George Bush are identical twins."

Green campaign manager Mark Graul said: "This campaign is about Jim Doyle's failed four years as governor and Mark Green's optimistic vision to create good jobs, lower taxes and give every child in the state real education opportunities."

Office to release Balistreri documents

The Milwaukee city attorney's office said it will release documents relating to complaints against former Milwaukee School Board member Tom Balistreri to the Journal Sentinel on Friday.

Balistreri, 66, unexpectedly announced his resignation over the weekend, citing serious health concerns. But the decision came immediately before the school district was expected to release to the newspaper complaints (of an unspecified nature) made against the board member.

Reporters had asked for information relating to any complaints through an open records request in May.

Balistreri had 10 months left of a four-year term. He said on Sunday that the pending release of the complaints had nothing to do with his decision to resign. Balistreri is a diabetic who had open heart surgery a year ago. He said doctors have told him repeatedly to slow down.

City police name man fatally shot

Milwaukee police identified a man fatally shot late Tuesday as Antoine E. Taylor, 23, of Milwaukee.

Two women were arguing and then fighting over a cell phone in the 3600 block of N. 3rd St. when more people arrived, including Taylor and the assailant, who is still at large, said Anne E. Schwartz, department spokeswoman.

The assailant fired into a crowd at 8:30 p.m. and hit Taylor in the back, she said. Police have identified a suspect and are seeking him, she said.

It was the 42nd homicide this year, compared with 50 at this time last year.

Teen gets 10 years for shooting injury

A teenager who fired a bullet that struck a 9-year-old girl on a playground was sentenced Wednesday to 10 years in prison.

Demetrius Boyce, 18, of Milwaukee was charged in the Jan. 11 shooting of Shauntae Evans, who was grazed in the neck while outdoors with about 100 other children at Mary McLeod Bethune Academy near N. 35th and W. Cherry streets.

Boyce pleaded guilty in April to second-degree recklessly endangering safety and second-degree reckless injury in exchange for having an additional count dropped. Circuit Judge David A. Hansher sentenced Boyce to five years in prison and five years extended supervision on each count and made the sentences consecutive.

Commission moves meeting site

The Fire and Police Commission will take its regular meeting to the south side tonight. There will be presentations on the commission, the Homicide Review Commission, the community prosecutor program and other initiatives. Police Chief Nannette Hegerty and Fire Chief William Wentlandt are expected to speak. The meeting begins at 6 p.m. at SER-Jobs for Progress, 1644 S. 9th St.

Man's leg caught in machine

Oconomowoc - A man's leg was caught in a skid-steer loader at a construction site in the 300 block of S. Elm St. Wednesday, officials said.

Bystanders disentangled the man from the machine, but his leg was seriously injured, said Oconomowoc Deputy Fire Chief Glenn Leidel.

Crews from Oconomowoc and Delafield worked to stabilize the man and remove him from the machine.

The man was taken by Flight for Life to Froedtert Memorial Lutheran Hospital in Wauwatosa. His condition and identity were not released.

The accident occurred at 2:17 p.m.

UW settles gender discrimination suit

Madison - The University of Wisconsin-Madison settled a gender discrimination claim filed by its top attorney for \$90,000, according to documents in the case.

Melany Newby, 57, said in the notice of claim she filed in April that the university hadn't given her a raise since 1999, though it had given several large pay adjustments to her fellow vice chancellors, all male.

The university admitted no liability or wrongdoing as part of the settlement.

Newby, the vice chancellor for legal and executive affairs, left the university last month as part of the settlement. She will remain on unpaid leave until her official last day on July 31.

The settlement, dated May 11, said the university would pay her \$90,000.

From Journal Sentinel staff and The Associated Press

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