

Doug Moe  
THE TALK



IT IS ironic that Marshall Cook is a huge baseball fan, because Cook is living proof of the fallacy of baseball icon Leo Durocher's famous dictum that "nice guys finish last."

Cook, author of some two dozen books and a longtime writing professor at UW-Madison, just received notice that he is the recipient of the Van Hise Outreach Distinguished Teaching Award, which includes a \$5,000 prize and will be presented in a ceremony in April at the Fluno Center.

Cook, whose enthusiasm and encouragement has helped so many beginning writers find their voices over the years, said Tuesday he's grateful for the award and thinks it is particularly well-timed.

"The most recent thing I've been involved with is the best thing I've done in teaching," Cook said.

Cook has been working with the Odyssey Project, which was started four years ago by UW-Madison professor of English Emily Auerbach. The project offers weekly classes for university credit to adults living at or below

# Award winner's on an odyssey

the poverty line. They meet at the Harambee Center on South Park Street. Cook calls himself the "writing coach," and said the students have some incredible stories to tell.

"It has been amazing," he said. "I keep thinking that these are minds were close to losing. We just had our first four-year graduate. She graduated from Edgewood College. That was thrilling."

Cook continues to spend a lot of time at the keyboard himself, and has a new mystery novel — his third — due out soon. ...

**THE WISCONSIN** Chamber Orchestra is dedicating its Friday night performance at the Capitol Theater to the memory of its founder, Gordon Wright, who died last week in Alaska at 72.

A native of New York City, Wright came to Madison to study for a master's degree. In 1960 he founded what was then known as the Madison Summer Symphony Orchestra. Wright served as its conductor for a decade, when he left for the Fairbanks Symphony in Alaska and David Lewis Crosby took over the Madison job. In 1974, the Summer Symphony changed its name to the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra.

Wright made a return visit to Madison and the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra in September 1998, after Crosby suffered a fatal heart attack. A special Concert on the Square was held Sept. 9 in Crosby's memory. The first

piece that night was performed without a conductor, in honor of Crosby. Then, Wright took the stage, where he would remain the rest of the evening, and said, "It's a sad occasion. But we're going to make it joyous."

During his time in Alaska, Wright "took on legendary status," according to a story last week in the Fairbanks News-Miner:

"Flutist Dorli McWayne recalls the Halloween concert where Wright, encased in a pine coffin made by Birch Pavelsky to fit his 6-foot-6-inch frame, was brought onto the darkened stage. As the music started, Wright opened the coffin and emerged, baton first, in a sweeping black cape and Dracula teeth, to conduct Moussorgsky's 'Night on Bald Mountain.'"

The paper reported it was that same coffin that friends used to carry Wright's body from the small cabin south of Anchorage where he was found dead of natural causes last week. Wright came to love the wilderness nearly as much as music, friends said.

UW-Madison genetics professor emeritus Jim Crow told me Tuesday that he'd played viola for Wright in those early Madison concerts, which were outdoors, weather permitting, at Edgewood. "He was tall, gentle and more or less informal," Crow recalled. "It was never tense." ...

UW Law Professor Ann Althouse, best known for her lively blog, has moved to the printed page, at least for a month. Althouse is

writing a series of guest columns for the New York Times, the second of which — taking "Paper Chase" author John Jay Osborn Jr. rather gently to task — appeared Tuesday. ...

Speaking of the Times, Dan Barry on Sunday had a lovely column on former Madsonian Meinhardt Raabe, best known for playing the coroner of Munchkin City in "The Wizard of Oz."

Now 91, Raabe is living in a retirement community in Florida, and told Barry that he still gets mail about his famous role, in which he reported that one of the wicked witches was "not only merely dead, she's really, most sincerely dead." Born near Watertown, Raabe attended UW-Madison and worked as Little Oscar for the Oscar Mayer Co. here, returning to the company after the "Oz" filming to train other Little Oscars. ...

**MOE KNOWS:** If the weather has you (finally) thinking golf, you'll be glad to know Madison writer Jeff Mayers has co-authored the book "Golf Wisconsin: The Official Guide to the State's 25 Top Public Courses, and 50 More Fun Places to Play," due out this spring from Madison-based Jones Books. The striking cover image is from — where else? — Whistling Straits, which will host the U.S. Senior Open this summer.

Heard something Moe should know? Call 252-6446, write PO Box 8060, Madison, WI 53708, or e-mail dmoe@madison.com.

## Hip surgery set for Gov. Doyle

Associated Press

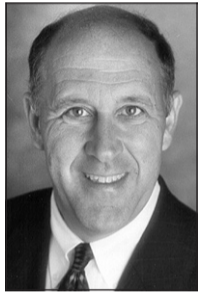
Gov. Jim Doyle is scheduled for hip surgery this week.

Doyle spokesman Matt Canter said Tuesday that the governor will have the surgery this week, but he would not release any other details, citing security concerns.

Doyle, 61, will miss the upcoming meeting of the Na-

tional Governors Association in Washington, D.C., scheduled for Saturday through Feb. 28.

More information about the surgery will be released later this week, Canter said.



Doyle

## Assembly to scrap sick leave

Associated Press

The state Assembly gave preliminary approval Tuesday to a bill that would strip elected officials of sick days.

The Republican-controlled Assembly voted 60-38 to move the GOP-authored bill to passage, but Rep. Marlin Schneider, D-Wisconsin Rapids, objected to the final vote.

Under Assembly rules, an objection at that stage requires a two-thirds vote to overcome. The Assembly voted 51-47 to move the bill to passage, short of the 66 needed. The objection means the bill will appear on the next Assembly calendar, likely next week, for a vote on

### Bill aimed at elected officials

passage.

Still, the plan is unlikely to become law.

Senate Majority Leader Judy Robson, D-Beloit, said her chamber had no interest in taking up the legislation. Instead, she said the Senate would update its policy manual to require members to report in writing when they are sick.

The moves follow published reports last year showing only a few lawmakers, elected officials and judges ever claim sick leave. They then earn benefits under a program in which state

employees convert unused sick days into credits to cover health insurance premiums when they retire.

The Assembly bill would end sick leave for any elected official, including lawmakers, judges and district attorneys. They would not lose sick time already accumulated, however.

Schneider offered no reason for his objection on the Assembly floor. When reached at his office, he said he objected because he didn't like the bill. He declined to elaborate, saying he was too busy for an interview.

Robson said the policy change in the Senate, which is expected to receive approval soon from Senate leaders, would bring elected officials in line with other state employees required to report their sick days.

"This reporting mechanism will ensure accountability," she said in a statement.

Gov. Jim Doyle has also backed a strengthening of the reporting requirements and not the elimination of the benefits.

Lawmakers accrue the credits at 65 percent of the rate of other state employees. The benefits come from a \$1.9 billion state fund.

## Driver

Continued from Page A1

He has also had numerous arrests in the past for driving after revocation or with a suspended license, and at least one conviction for driving in a stolen car. His most serious accident came when his car plunged off the Stoughton Road bridge, landing him on Cottage Grove Road in 1993. No one else was injured in the wreck, but Skare spent two weeks in the hospital.

His latest arrest came Monday night after Stoughton police got a tip from a clerk at Kwik Trip on the city's east side that a individual with blood all over his face had just left the parking lot and was driving a pink Chevy Geo Tracker.

Stoughton Police Officer Sean Poole spotted the car several blocks away at the intersection of Main and Seventh streets as it was pulling out of the parking lot of El Loco Burrito.

Skare was still bleeding from the face when he was pulled over by Poole, and Skare explained that he had been at the VFW club and was injured while attempting to

break up a fight.

The criminal complaint filed against Skare on Tuesday said he smelled like he had been drinking and when the officer asked him how much he had had to drink, Skare replied, "Way too much."

A preliminary breath test registered a blood-alcohol percentage of 0.18, more than two times the limit of 0.08 for most drivers, and nine times above the 0.02 limit for those convicted of multiple drunken driving offenses. Results of a blood test taken later at the Stoughton Hospital were not included in the criminal complaint.

Skare was sentenced to three years behind bars and two years of extended supervision in 2001 for his 14th conviction, and that sentence was consecutive to a three-year prison term for a 1999 conviction.

In the latest case, if Skare is convicted he could be sentenced to up to six years of prison and extended supervision and fined \$10,000.

After his court appearance Tuesday he was released on a signature bond, ordered not to drink or drive and to turn in the license plates from his vehicle within 48 hours.

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## Porn avenger charged in swordplay

**OCONOMOWOC (AP)** — A 39-year-old man who says he broke into a neighbor's apartment with a cavalry sword because he thought he was overhearing a woman being raped faces charges in the incident after it turned out the neighbor was actually watching a pornographic movie.

"It was a woman screaming," James Van Iveren of Oconomowoc said Tuesday of the Feb. 12 incident. "She was screaming for help."

He grabbed the sword, a family heirloom, bounded up the stairs to the other apartment, kicked in the door and confronted the man who lived there.

"I intended to hold it behind

my back and knock. But I froze and instead, what happened happened," Van Iveren said.

"Now I feel stupid. This really is nothing, nothing but a mistake."

Van Iveren said that he does not have a telephone, so he could not call police when he heard the calls for help. He said he barely knew the upstairs tenant.

"It had nothing to do with him," he said. "I didn't even know if he was there. It was the woman. I thought there was a woman."

Van Iveren was charged with criminal trespass while using a dangerous weapon, criminal damage to property while using a dangerous weapon and disorderly

conduct while using a dangerous weapon, misdemeanors which carry a maximum total penalty of 33 months in jail.

The complaint said the woman was on a DVD being watched by the neighbor, who later played part of the movie back for police to point out what he believed Van Iveren heard downstairs.

The neighbor told police that Van Iveren pounded on the door and kicked it open without warning, damaging the frame and lock in the process, according to the complaint.

"Where is she?" Van Iveren demanded, thrusting the sword at the neighbor, the complaint said. "Where is she?"

The neighbor told police Van Iveren became increasingly aggressive as he repeated the question, insisting that he had heard a woman being raped. The complaint said that, with the sword pointed at him, the neighbor led Van Iveren throughout the apartment, opening closet doors to prove he was alone.

But Van Iveren said it was not nearly that dramatic.

"I walked in the front room and looked around. When I saw there was no woman, I left," he said.

Van Iveren insisted that he never threatened the neighbor with the sword.

"I had the sword extended. But that was all," he said.

## Man in custody after brother stabbed

A Sun Prairie man is in custody for allegedly stabbing his brother, and the victim and a friend were also arrested when they became uncooperative with officers investigating the incident Monday night, Sun

Prairie police said today.

Police were sent to a disturbance in the 900 block of Bird Street at about 10:45 p.m. Monday and found that brothers Jeffery and Christopher Boyce had gotten into an argu-

ment at a party.

Christopher Boyce allegedly stabbed his brother in the chest and back, leaving minor wounds, and cut him on the forearm, then fled the area, police said.

"The victim of the incident and witness, Terrance Vance, were very uncooperative with the investigating officers and were subsequently arrested for disorderly conduct and resisting arrest," Sun Prairie police said.

Officers used K-9 units to

search for Christopher Boyce but were unable to find him Monday night. On Tuesday they received information that he was at a residence in the 900 block of North Bird Street and found him hiding under a bed.

Christopher Boyce, 23, was tentatively charged with causing injury by negligent use of a weapon, disorderly conduct, criminal damage to property, aggravated battery and domestic battery.

— Mike Miller

## su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

1	8	2	7				
9	7			3			6
				9	8		1
	9	7		4			8
	3			2		4	6
7	3	8					
2			3			9	8
				5	2	1	3

EASY

# 27

## Yesterday's solution

4	7	1	9	8	6	5	3	2
9	2	3	5	1	7	4	6	8
8	5	6	2	4	3	7	1	9
1	9	5	4	3	2	8	7	6
6	8	4	1	7	5	9	2	3
7	3	2	8	6	9	1	5	4
2	6	9	7	5	4	3	8	1
3	1	7	6	9	8	2	4	5
5	4	8	3	2	1	6	9	7

### HOW IT WORKS

Here's a puzzle with numbers. Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

Solutions, tips and computer program at [www.sudoku.com](http://www.sudoku.com)

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### TODAY

**Author appearance:** Rigoberto Gonzalez will read from "Butterfly Boy: Memories of a Chicano Mariposa," 7 p.m., Borders Books and Music West, 3750 University Ave.

### THURSDAY

**Yoga in the Gardens:** 7:30 a.m., Olbrich Botanical Gardens, 3330 Atwood Ave. \$10 per class. 246-4550. [www.olbrich.org](http://www.olbrich.org)

**Global Sustainability Lecture Series:** "Is Global Warming Affecting Hurricanes?" The lecture will be given by Kerry Emanuel, professor of meteorology at MIT. Emanuel, part of Time magazine's list of the 100 most influential people of 2006, will analyze historical records of hurricane activity. 4:30 p.m., 1800 Engineering Hall, 1415 Engineering Drive.

### LOTTERY

Numbers Tuesday, Feb. 20: SUPERCASH: 2-6-10-15-23-31.

Doubling: Yes. BADGER 5: 1-2-18-24-30. Estimated jackpot: \$36,000. PICK 3: 4-0-9. PICK 4: 9-9-1-3.

ILLINOIS LOTTERY: Pick 3 Midday — 6-0-5; Pick 3 Evening — 0-1-4; Pick 4 Midday — 4-6-5-4; Pick 4 Evening — 0-7-5-7; Little Lotto — 18-19-25-34-39. Estimated Lotto jackpot: \$2 million.

### CORRECTION

**Lussier Community Education Center:** A story in Tuesday's newspaper incorrectly identified The Evjue Foundation, the charitable arm of The Capital Times, as the primary donor for the new Lussier Community Education Center to be built near Jefferson Middle School. While the foundation has given \$150,000 for the project, the primary donor is John H. "Jack" Lussier, who has given \$600,000. Lussier is both chairman of the board of The Capital Times Co. and president of The Evjue Foundation.



## HOW TO REACH US

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