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Racine County's Daily Newspaper

The Journal Times

Let the chips fall

Menominee tribe planning casino with Hard Rock LOCAL, PAGE B1

Up close, up high

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Graham named All-County Player of the Year SPORTS, PAGE C1



ABUNDANTLY SUNNY 90 • 66 FORECAST, A6 | THURSDAY, JULY 21, 2022 | journaltimes.com | \$2.00

Trump again pressures Vos

MITCHELL SCHMIDT
Lee Newspapers

Donald Trump has again applied pressure on Assembly Speaker Robin Vos for not following the former president's demand that Wisconsin Republicans move to decertify the results of the 2020 presidential election, something Vos and others have said is constitutionally impossible.



Trump



Vos

While Trump has previously pressured Vos and other state Republicans to do more to address his unfounded claims of widespread fraud in the state's presidential election, the former president's comments Tuesday also warned Vos of potential consequences in his upcoming Aug. 9 primary against Adam Steen, a Trump supporter who has been critical of the speaker for not taking the 2020 election more seriously.

"This is not a time for him to hide, but a time to act!" Trump said. "I don't know his opponent in the upcoming Primary, but feel certain he will do well if Speaker Vos doesn't move with

gusto. Robin, don't let the voters of Wisconsin down!"

Trump has asserted that the Wisconsin Supreme Court's ruling earlier this month barring the use of absentee ballot drop boxes in the state means any ballot dropped into a drop box in the 2020 election should be deemed illegal. State Rep. Timothy Ramthun, who is running for governor this fall, has echoed Trump's comments, but has focused his efforts only on the presidential election, and not the dozens of other races, including his own, on the 2020 ballot.

The decision by the state's high court applies to future elections, not past ones, including the 2020 presidential election that Trump lost to President Joe Biden by close to 21,000 votes. A recount, reviews and court decisions have found no evidence of widespread fraud in the election.

Speaking with WISN on Tuesday, Vos said Trump called him last week in another effort to have the Rochester Republican pursue decertification of the now 20-month-old election's results. "It's very consistent," Vos said of the call. "He makes his case, which I respect. He would like us to do something different in Wisconsin. I explained to him that it's not allowed under the

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HOLLY MYRUP, HOLLY.MYRUP@JOURNALTIMES.COM

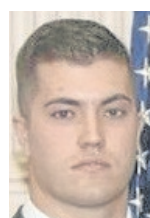
Natasha Mullen, sister of the late Da'Shontay King, cries outside the Racine County Courthouse after meeting with the district attorney on Tuesday.

What the video shows

King appeared to have dropped gun, tried to pick it up when he was shot



King



Brenner

"Da'Shontay King made a series of decisions that had tragic consequences."

Maurice Robinson,
Racine Police Chief

ADAM ROGAN, RYAN PATTERSON, DEE HÖLZEL AND HOLLY MYRUP
The Journal Times

RACINE — Body camera footage of the moments surrounding the May 20 fatal police shooting of Da'Shontay King shows King drop a handgun as he ran away from an officer, then bend over and pick up the gun before being shot.

The video was released along with a 27-page decision issued by Racine County District Attorney Patricia Hanson Tuesday, in which Hanson announced her decision not to file any criminal charges against Brenner.

May 20

"Stop! You're going to get shot! You're going to get f---ing shot!" Racine Police Officer Zachary Brenner yelled at the outset of the foot pursuit, body camera video and audio shows.

The video and audio were played in public for the first time during a press conference Tuesday evening. They have now been released and are online.

Racine Police Chief Maurice Robinson said during a press

conference Tuesday evening that Brenner believed from the outset of the foot chase that it appeared King had a gun because of how King reached to his waistband. It was not until after King dropped the gun and tried to pick it up again, and after King ignored multiple demands to stop running away, that Brenner opened fire.

Four shots were fired, at least three of which hit King, according to a preliminary autopsy report.

Atlas

"Da'Shontay King made a series of decisions that had tragic consequences," Robinson said; after dropping the gun, King "made the decision to re-arm himself"

The chase began because, according to police, King was in a 2021 Volkswagen Atlas for which there was an active search warrant. The Atlas, which was a rental, was associated with King and another individual who has not been publicly identified other

than by their initials, E.A.S., and month of birth, May 1980.

"Officer Brenner stated that he reviewed the search warrant (for the Atlas) and that he recognized the names (King and E.A.S.) from other recent shooting investigations where the names had been mentioned as being involved, but that he had never had contact with the two people mentioned in the warrant," the DA's decision stated. "Officer Brenner was aware at the time he located the 2021 Volkswagen Atlas, driven by Mr. King, that he was executing a stop of the vehicle to search it and its occupants for firearms. A judge had already found probable cause authorizing the search."

Officers reported that the Atlas had a prior bullet hole in the rear passenger door and that inside the vehicle there was a black balaclava and a baggie with 9.3 grams of cocaine, as well as King's wallet and other personal items.

"This was not a vehicle stop

Please see **DECISION**, Page A6

BURLINGTON SCHOOL BOARD

No charges to be filed

Complaint alleged open meeting laws were not followed; DA says there was 'no violation'

RYAN PATTERSON
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BURLINGTON — Members of the Burlington Area School Board will not be charged with violating an open meeting law on Aug. 9, 2021.

Racine County District Attorney Patricia Hanson wrote in an email that "the investigation revealed no violation of the open meetings law. No charges will be filed."

Attorney Tom Kamenick,

president and founder of the Wisconsin Transparency Project, confirmed that Hanson's office decided not to file charges.

Kamenick filed the civil complaint with Hanson's office on June 2 on behalf of Adrienne Melby whose husband, Aaron Melby, unsuccessfully ran for BASD Board in April. The Melbys' children previously attended Burlington public schools.

Kamenick said Adrienne Melby "is reviewing her options" regarding other legal action against the school board.

The complaint alleged that the BASD board acted improperly in two ways during an Aug. 9, 2021,

Please see **CHARGES**, Page A3

CITY OF RACINE

Voters to weigh in, again, on legalizing marijuana

HOLLY MYRUP
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RACINE — City of Racine voters on Nov. 8 will get to weigh in, again, on whether they believe marijuana should be legalized. The vote will have no direct effect

on actual laws.

"It gives us a good litmus test of where our voters are at right now," District 11 Alderman CJ Rouse said.

On Tuesday evening, the Common Council passed a resolution

that will allow an advisory referendum to be placed on the Nov. 8 election ballot.

The referendum, passing with a vote of 10-2, will give the electorate an opportunity to vote "yes" or "no" on the legalization and reg-

ulation of the adult use of marijuana in the State of Wisconsin.

This referendum will essentially be a repeat of a 2018 county-wide referendum where nearly 59% of Racine County residents said marijuana should be legalized for

recreational use for adults.

The upcoming referendum only serves an advisory purpose. It could be used to gauge public opinion, but the city cannot

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