



Brookfield East



Kettle Moraine



Pewaukee

Trio of area teams advance to state championship games ▶ SPORTS, 1B

WAUKESHA COUNTY



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Saturday, March 11, 2023

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WCTC celebrates 100th anniversary



Students prepare for graduation in the 1970s.

Photos courtesy of WCTC

President discusses new projects

By Isabella Kostolni
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In the spring of 1923, a small group of students gathered in the basement of Waukesha High School. These learners made up the newly established Waukesha Vocational School, which was launched with enough funding for 20 manual training benches and 20 mechanical drawing benches. For their first assignment, the students assembled those benches.

Over the past 100 years, the Waukesha Vocational School has transformed drastically, becoming what the community recognizes today as Waukesha County Technical College. WCTC President Richard Barnhouse explained that the school was founded because “there was a need for additional education beyond a high school diploma, but not necessarily a four-year degree. Many two-year institutions like WCTC started as a thirteenth year of high school.”

WCTC has witnessed many milestones between then and now. For example, the school reached 800 students in 1958. In 1961, the institution was renamed the Waukesha Vocational Technical and Adult School. Two-year programs were offered beginning in 1962. The licensed practical nursing path of study was introduced in 1966. A year later, the school was renamed again, this time becoming the Waukesha County Technical Institute. The main campus in Pewaukee was built between 1968 and 1969 and opened its doors to students in 1972. WCTI became WCTC in 1988.

Today, the college offers more than 100 programs across five different schools: applied technologies, business, health, protective and human services, and the newly launched liberal arts school in partnership with the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Among the most popular areas of study are cybersecurity, construction management, criminal justice, graphic design, cosmetology, and nursing.

See **WCTC**, PAGE 8A



The old WCTI sign hangs outside the school's main campus in Pewaukee.



WCTI became WCTC in 1988.

Man, 20, charged with homicide in Delafield shooting

Incident took place Wednesday

By Karen Pilarski
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DELAFIELD — A 20-year-old man is accused of shooting his roommate after allegedly playing around with a gun. Justin Koier, of Hartland, was charged in Waukesha County Circuit Court on Friday with first-degree reckless homicide, use of a dangerous weapon. If convicted, Koier faces up to 60 years in prison.

A \$5,000 cash bond was posted, according to online court records. Koier's next court date is April 5.

Koier, a witness and the victim lived in the home for one year. Koier told police that he and the victim got along very well and were good friends.

See **HOMICIDE**, PAGE 8A

Suspect in downtown sexual assault bound over for trial

Crime committed a day after release from probation hold

By Brian Huber
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WAUKESHA — The man accused of raping a downtown shopkeeper last month was bound over for trial following a preliminary hearing Friday.

Kendrew Wilson, 23, was charged last week with first-degree sexual assault of an elderly person, and bail jumping as a misdemeanor after he allegedly sexually assaulted the woman, 68, on Feb. 23.

During Friday's preliminary hearing, Waukesha Police Det.

See **WILSON**, PAGE 8A



Brian Huber / Freeman Staff
Kendrew Wilson looks around the courtroom before the start of his preliminary hearing Friday.

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WEATHER



Tomorrow:
Snow likely
High 36 / Low 25

See complete forecast on Page 8A



How sweet it is!

Assessing the value of some cookie jars

▶ **Barbara Eash, 8B**

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Attorney Kevin Bublitz

FIVE-DAY FORECAST

TONIGHT
Snow Likely
30

TOMORROW
Snow Likely
36/25

MONDAY
Mostly Cloudy
31/14

TUESDAY
Sunny
32/15

WEDNESDAY
Mostly Cloudy
41/33

REGIONAL FORECAST

COMFORT INDEX
7
What the air will feel like tomorrow, based on the temperature, humidity and wind speed.
1 poor, 10 excellent.

ALMANAC
Statistics for Yesterday
High/Low, Waukesha 36/30
High/Low 37/33
Normal High/Low 42/27
Last year's high for date 27
Last year's low for date 18
Precipitation, Waukesha 0.04"
Precipitation 0.46"
Precip. month to date 1.67"
Precip. year to date 8.00"
Snowfall Yesterday 5.2"
Snow season to date 39.2"
*Precipitation source: Gen. Mitchell International, Milwaukee. Precipitation is the liquid equivalent of snow, ice and rain.

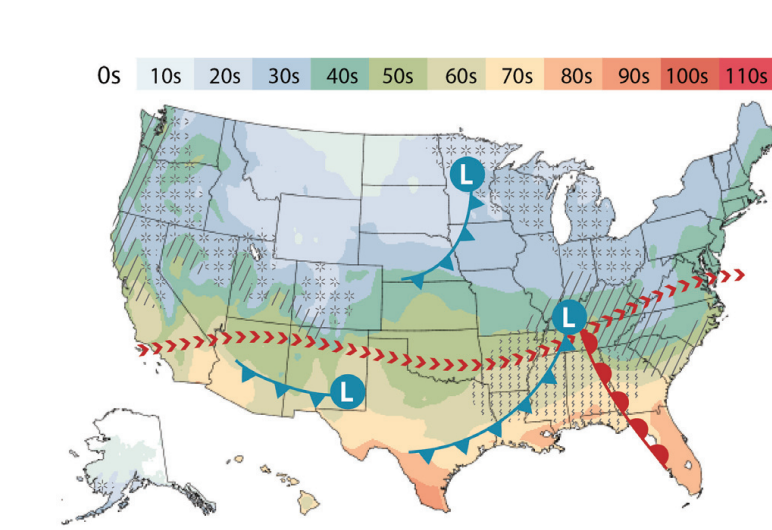
WIND CHILL TOMORROW
A composite of the effects of temperature and wind on the human body
8 a.m. 25
Noon 28
4 p.m. 28
8 p.m. 24

HEATING DEGREE
An index of energy consumption indicating how many degrees the day's mean temperature was below 65 degrees.
Yesterday 30
Month to date 270
Season to date 4419
Normal season to date 4975

SUNSET
Sunset today 5:54 p.m.
Sunrise tomorrow 7:10 a.m.

MOONRISE
Moonrise tomorrow Prev Day
Moonset tomorrow 9:27 a.m.

NATIONAL FORECAST



SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN

Tonight: Chance of light snow in the evening, then light snow in the late evening and overnight. Snow accumulation of 1 to 2 inches. Near steady temperature in the lower 30s. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph. Chance of snow 90 percent.

MARINE FORECAST

Lake Michigan near shore forecast:
Tonight: SE wind 10 to 15 kt. Snow, mainly after midnight. Waves 1 ft building to 4 ft. Sunday: SE wind 10 to 15 kt. A chance of snow. Waves 2 to 4 ft.

ULTRAVIOLET INDEX FORECAST

The UVI forecast for Sunday is 3
UV scale and warnings on possible skin damage: 0-2 low risk, 3-5 moderate risk, 6-7 high risk, 8-10 very high risk, 11-over extreme risk.

TRAVEL ADVISORY FOR TOMORROW

ATLANTA High: 59 Low: 45	CHICAGO High: 38 Low: 28	DALLAS High: 65 Low: 45
DENVER High: 48 Low: 27	LOS ANGELES High: 66 Low: 53	MIAMI High: 82 Low: 72
MINNEAPOLIS High: 35 Low: 21	NEW YORK High: 47 Low: 35	PHOENIX High: 79 Low: 54
SEATTLE High: 51 Low: 43	ST. LOUIS High: 49 Low: 30	WASHINGTON High: 47 Low: 40

WCTC From Page 1A

The student population has expanded remarkably in the past century. Enrollment has witnessed significant growth recently, and Barnhouse is "happy to say that spring semester we are up 5%. It is the biggest increase in 13 years."

The institution's president credits many programs for this upward trend, especially the new liberal arts school and WCTC Excelerate. This program is offered to juniors and seniors in high school, allowing them to attend WCTC courses full time while receiving both high school and college credit.

"They walk out as an 18-year old with a high school diploma and an associate's degree from WCTC," Barnhouse said. "They go directly into the workforce or transfer in as a junior to a (four-year) university."

New projects

WCTC also has many new projects underway. Barnhouse is glad to share that the college is developing an artificial intelligence program. WCTC hopes to offer degree programs in AI within the next year.

"We've worked with Intel, the chip maker, to get started on curriculum," he said. "And we've been working with businesses in the area that are either starting artificial intelligence or planning on starting artificial intelligence."

The institution is also growing its cosmetology department in order to adapt to the growing interest in the field.

"We're expanding cosmetology," Barnhouse said. "We're building a third lab so we can take in another full class of students because the demand is just unbelievably high."

WCTC is also in the process of building an e-sports lab and plans to offer it as a varsity sport.

"We intend that it will be the best e-sports lab in the state on



Students pass through the main campus's plaza in the 21st century.

any college or university campus," said Barnhouse.

When asked why a student should consider going to WCTC, Barnhouse said, "They are going to get the best possible experience in the classroom with our faculty. ... They're just unbelievably qualified."

And for Barnhouse, those people are also his favorite thing about the college.

"Don't get me wrong, the buildings are great, the technology is great, but it really comes down to the wonderful faculty and staff at WCTC," he said. "It's a tremendous place to be and you feel it when you walk in the door. Everybody is so committed, so dedicated, so hardworking, and really welcoming and cordial. It's one of the most welcoming and hardworking places that I've ever been as a professional. It's simply fan-

tastic and it's really because of the faculty and staff."

Celebrating a century

WCTC has a full roster of events to celebrate the institution's 100th anniversary. In January, it kicked off the year with a soft launch on campus to acknowledge the importance of this time in the college's history. A large celebratory gathering for faculty and staff was hosted in February.

In early March an event was held for the board of trustees, the foundation board, and all past board members who served WCTC throughout the years. On April 22, the institution will be hosting the Earth Day Campus & Community Clean-Up Event to beautify local green spaces. A golf outing to support the Child Development Center will take place at the Western

Lakes Golf Club on May 12. In July, WCTC will be hosting a celebrity chef dinner and fundraiser.

Finally, WCTC's 100th Anniversary Celebration Gala will take place on Nov. 9. It is a formal, black-tie event.

Barnhouse is thankful for the college's history, but is looking forward to what comes next.

"We're at a really interesting point in the college's history. We're at the end of the first century and right at the beginning of the second century of education at WCTC," he said. "Now, we're really focused on the horizon and building the programs and delivering the students that the workforce is going to need in the coming decades. As much as we appreciate the past, we're really excited about where we're going in the future."

Wilson From Page 1A

Shelly Fisher testified she was part of the team that investigated the matter. She said the alleged victim reported to police who met her at a Waukesha hospital she'd been assaulted. Fisher said Wilson entered the business after it closed and asked for money. The woman said she had none, and Wilson asked to use her phone, which she allowed.

The male said he'd been released from jail recently after an arrest for an incident on a Metro bus in Waukesha. Police were able to develop Wilson as a suspect, and the woman identified Wilson's photo as that of the man of assaulted her, Fisher said.

Fisher said the woman reported Wilson asked to see things around the store, "and he suddenly had put her up on a table and she was resisting him and he slammed her down to the floor and took off her pants and underwear and held her down and sexually assaulted her," Fisher said. "She said she was fighting him back. He had pushed her head down into the flooring and covering her nose and mouth and telling her not to fight him and that if she didn't stop that he would kill her and that he had something in his backpack that he would kill her with."

Fisher said Wilson admitted to having been at the business on Feb. 23, and having intercourse with her.

The woman sought medical treatment after the incident, and a sexual assault nurse examiner reported observing possible evi-



Brian Huber / Freeman Staff

Kendrew Wilson is led into court Friday for a preliminary hearing on charges alleging he sexually assaulted a 68-year-old downtown Waukesha shopkeeper last month. He was bound over to face trial, and also sought a different judge other than the one assigned to his case, Circuit Court Judge Jennifer Dorow.

dence of a sexual assault, Fisher testified.

She added on cross-examination that although Wilson threatened to kill the woman, there were no weapons that she knew of that were found in his backpack.

Wilson apologized and said he has needs and rage. He said he felt bad and wanted to come back and check on the woman, the complaint against him said.

Following Fisher's testimony, Court Commissioner Kevin Costello ordered Wilson bound over for trial after finding probable cause to believe Wilson committed a felony.

After that, defense attorney

Eryn Menden entered a plea of not guilty for Wilson. She filed a request for judicial substitution for a judge other than the one assigned to the case, Judge Jennifer Dorow, as well as a speedy trial demand, requesting a trial within 90 days. No new court date was set pending the new judicial assignment.

One day after release

The alleged crime occurred one day after Wilson was released from the county jail on a probation hold. Wilson was jailed after a January incident on a city bus at a time he was on extended supervi-

sion for a conviction of substantial battery, bail jumping, disorderly conduct and resisting or obstructing in a 2021 case. In that 2021 case, Wilson was sentenced in February 2022 to 15 months in prison and two years on extended supervision, with more than 9 months of credit given for time already served.

Following the January bus incident, he spent over 40 days in jail and was released a day before the alleged sexual assault. Although Wilson had another year of extended supervision yet to serve, it doesn't necessarily mean a violation while on supervision results in someone incarcerated for the maximum time available. Defendants who are sentenced to prison are routinely told that a violation of their supervision could result in a revocation of their release for a period of time "up to" the maximum.

When asked about the particulars of the Wilson case, a state Department of Corrections spokesman, John Beard, replied in an email:

"When responding to a client's violation of rules of supervision, the Division of Community Corrections (DCC) considers the risk of the offender and the severity of the violation behavior."

"Related to the January police contact, Kendrew Wilson admitted to violating his rules of supervision. Several pocket knives were found in his backpack, which he said he intended to pawn for cash. The response was a short-term sanction of 40-plus days. These sanctions are generally served in county jail. He released from his sanction on Feb. 22," Beard said.

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Homicide From Page 1A

A caller reported an accidental shooting on Wednesday evening in the area of Oakwood Road and Highway 83 in the Delafield shortly after 5 p.m. The victim, who was not identified in the complaint, was found in Koier's bedroom. After life-saving measures were performed, the victim was declared dead at the scene.

Koier identified the location of the gun, a Sig Sauer 320 M18 semi-automatic 9mm handgun, on his dresser in the bedroom, according to the criminal complaint.

The gun was a gift given to Koier a year ago from the witness.

Koier was still wearing the clothing from the shooting which had dried blood on his knee. He consented to a blood draw and urine sample, the complaint said.

He told police he is currently unemployed but had been previously employed as a security guard. On Wednesday he didn't leave the house all day but the victim went to work and came home at 2 p.m. At that time he and the victim smoked marijuana together, the complaint said.

The victim had used the gun four days prior to attend a firearms instructor class. The victim returned the gun to Koier, who performed maintenance such as cleaning and reassembled it. He put an almost full magazine in it but didn't remember if the bullet was placed in the chamber, the complaint said.

On Wednesday he went into the bathroom while the victim was smoking marijuana, the complaint said.

When Koier returned the victim had the gun slung over his shoulder. At some point, according to the complaint, the victim aimed the gun at him. Koier said the two had done this in the past.

Koier picked up the gun and pointed it at the victim when the gun fired, according to the complaint.

When asked if his finger was on the trigger, Koier said he couldn't remember.

Koier called out to the witness who was in her bedroom and heard him yell. Koier said he performed CPR and first aid.

The witness reported Koier said he and the victim were playing and the gun went off, the complaint said.

The witness told police she referred to the victim and Koier as "her kids" because they got along so well. She told police the victim and Koier played cops and robbers around the house and would handcuff each other. She never saw them point guns at each other.

An autopsy performed on the victim indicated a bullet entered the right side of his chest cavity and followed a path into the pulmonary artery from the heart. The cause of death was gunshot wound, according to the complaint.