



Some members of the Edgerton Tiders High School bowling team are Austin Sabroff, Aren Tonstad, Rachel Pavlik and Max Yocom.

**Bowling**

# Edgerton opens with win

The Edgerton Tiders High School bowling team opened its season with a 1114-911 victory over Beloit Memorial on Nov. 11.

Bowling for the Tiders were Austin Sabroff, Max Yocom, Kaitlyn Meyers, Brandon Tanke, Jeryn Strouse and Javier Martinez.

<b>Game 3</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>110</b>		
<b>Game 4</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>140</b>		
<b>Game 5</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>127</b>		
<b>Game 6</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>174</b>		
<b>Game 7</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>144</b>		
<b>Series</b>	<b>1114</b>	<b>911</b>		

In junior varsity action, Beloit was a 871-703 winner.

Bowling for Edgerton were Aren Tonstad, Jessica Petersen, Rachel

Pavlik, Tyler Larson and Taylor Ihle.

	<b>Edgerton</b>	<b>Beloit</b>
<b>Game 1</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>95</b>
<b>Game 2</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>116</b>
<b>Game 3</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>111</b>
<b>Game 4</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>170</b>
<b>Game 5</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>113</b>
<b>Game 6</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>150</b>
<b>Game 7</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>116</b>
<b>Series</b>	<b>703</b>	<b>871</b>

**Wrist Wrestling**

# Two locals win championships

Two men with Edgerton ties won titles in the 2013-14 World Wristwrestling Championships, which was held on Nov. 9 at the Countryside Inn.

Chad Cox of Edgerton won the men's right-hand lightweight class.

Rollie Christenson, an Edgerton native who now resides in Stoughton, won the left-hand open champi-

onship for competitors weighing 206 pounds or more.

Christenson also finished second in the same class for right-handers.

Cox and Christenson were members of the Wisconsin Intimidators team with wristwrestlers from Janesville and the surrounding area, which easily won the tournament with 165 points.

The Plainfield Power wristwrestling team finished second with 66 points.

The Countryside Inn will also host the 2013 Milton Area Open on Dec. 14.

Weigh-ins will be held at 8 p.m. with the wristwrestling to follow.

# Farm bureau reminds hunters about trespass law

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation wants to remind hunters and landowners about Wisconsin's trespass law on the eve of the 2013 gun deer season, which opens Nov. 23 and runs through Dec. 1.

"Good communications between hunters and rural landowners can help ensure a safe and enjoyable hunting season," said Paul Zimmerman, Farm Bureau's Executive Director of Governmental Relations.

"Wisconsin's trespass law states that you must have permission to hunt on someone's land," Zimmerman explained. "Some people still

think that landowners must post a sign to prevent hunting on their land, but that law was changed in 1995."

The one exception, which applies primarily in northern Wisconsin, involves in-holdings. An in-holding is a piece of private land surrounded by public land. The owner of an in-holding must post a sign to prevent hunters from entering his or her land.

Zimmerman also said that while hunters are required to make a reasonable effort to retrieve game they have killed or injured, they may not trespass to retrieve game.

"If a landowner has a problem with trespassers, he or she should call the sheriff," said Zimmerman. "DNR wardens do not have the authority to respond to trespassing complaints."

"I wish hunters a successful hunting season, because they're the best tool we have to manage our state's deer herd," Zimmerman said. "Landowners also have property rights, which hunters must respect. Following the law and maintaining open lines of communication will result in a successful hunt for everyone."

**New hunting licenses**

By Mark Aquino, director, Department of Natural Resources South Central Region

At DNR we've created new license types to encourage new hunters and recognize current hunters. New hunters can buy a deer license. Current hunters who recruit three new hunters can get a half-price license the following year. For more information on these programs contact one of our customer service representatives at (888) 936-7463.

**Dartball News**

Monday November 18th, 2013

The Faith Crusaders beat the Fulton Frogs 6 to 3 and 2 to 1 but lost game three 3 to 0.

The Faith Cougars swept the Central Possums 2 to 1, 4 to 3 and 9 to 0. Al hit 7 for 11 to lead the Cougars while Ward chipped in with 6 hits in 11 at bats..

Busseyville led by Fred Punzel beat the East Koshkonong Norskies 10 to 2, 12 to 2 and 3 to 1. Fred hit

two home runs, a double and a two-base single in game two and followed that up with a two-run home run in the 6th inning of game three. Keith Marsden chipped in with 10 hits in 12 at bats while Larry Whitmore hit 6 for 12.

# Rule change would protect white deer in CWD zone

By Jeff Brown Reporter staff

"Therefore, in his other moods, symbolize whatever grand or gracious thing he will by whiteness, no man can deny that in its profoundest idealized significance it calls up a peculiar apparition to the soul."

-Herman Melville, *Moby Dick*

They move through the trees like ghosts, soft and silent and glowing: the white deer of Leland, Wisconsin, a hamlet of 38 people located in the middle of Sauk County and surrounded by steep wooded ridges. The white deer are treasured by area residents for their beauty, their grace, and their regal bearing.

"If you ever see one in person, you'll totally understand," said Amy Sprecher, whose family has operated Sprecher's Bar in Leland since 1900. "They are just magical." Sprecher, one of a group of Sauk County residents working to protect the deer, said she's gotten calls about them from people as far away as New York, South Carolina, and Texas. "They are so moved and feel so strongly about them they had to call me." Sprecher said the deer are "spiritual animals."

The deer need protection because an informal arrangement under which area hunters refused to shoot the white deer was violated last year by a hunter from Fond du Lac, who shot one of the white deer, a large ten-point buck, last year.

People in Leland were outraged, especially Sprecher, who said the hunter and his buddies had been hunting near Leland for years, knew about the arrangement, and were customers at her family's tavern. "They came into our business for years," said Sprecher. "The fall before I showed them a picture of the big buck, never thinking they would shoot him."

Before 2008, the Leland white deer were protected under a statewide rule promulgated by the state Department of Natural Resources that prohibited hunters from shooting white or albino deer. Albino deer are white over their entire body with red eyes and pink noses, the result of a rare pigment disorder caused by a double-recessive gene. Some white deer lack the double-recessive gene, but have white coats, with dark hooves, eyes, and noses like a normal deer. Piebald deer have coats splotted with white and brown. Some of the Leland white deer are albino, some are non-albino white, and some are piebald.

Scott Loomans, the regulation specialist with the DNR's Wildlife

Management Bureau, said there was no wildlife management purpose behind the rule prohibiting hunters from shooting white deer. "It was simply because the white deer had become a local celebrity, and the locals didn't want it shot."

The rule no longer applied to the Leland deer after 2008, when the DNR established a management zone in the south-central part of Wisconsin, including all of Sauk County, in an effort to stem the spread of chronic wasting disease, a fatal brain disease that affects deer, elk, and moose and was first discovered in Wisconsin in 2002.

The DNR established rules inside the zone designed to help thin the herd, including requiring hunters to shoot a doe before they could shoot a buck, allowing extra hunts in October and December, and lifting the ban on shooting white deer. That led to the informal arrangement among Leland-area hunters under which shooting the white deer was *verboten*.

Sprecher said she thinks lifting the ban on shooting white deer in the CWD zone was foolish. "It's a bad law, as far as we're concerned. Chronic wasting disease was around for years before they put the rule in."

Humans have regarded white deer with reverence throughout history. The ancient people of Ireland, the Celts, considered white deer an omen of doom. To the Anglo-Saxons of Arthurian England, during the sixth century A.D., the appearance of a white deer was a sign to embark on a quest.

White deer figure prominently in American Indian legends, too.

A Chickasaw legend tells how a chief required a love-struck brave, Blue Jay, to kill a white deer as the price for the hand of his daughter, Bright Moon, in marriage, believing the boy would be unable to do so because the white deer was magical. The chief was right—according to the legend, Blue Jay shot and struck the white deer, but never returned from the forest, where Bright Moon would, on moonlight nights, see the white deer, its red eyes glowing and its long, sharp antlers lowered, chasing Blue Jay.

Sprecher and other fans of the white deer, including many hunters, are relying on less mystical means to protect the Leland white deer. They've petitioned the DNR to adopt a rule prohibiting hunters from shooting white deer inside the CWD zone.

In May of this year, Sprecher and other white deer advocates asked area legislators, including State Rep. Fred Clark, D-Baraboo, and State Rep. Ed Brooks, R-Reedsburg, to pressure the DNR to adopt an emergency rule that would have protected the deer during the 2013 hunting season. But they started too late. Sprecher said she wishes they would have started their petition drive last fall, when the outrage over the killing of the white buck was still fresh.

Now, they're hoping a rule protecting the white deer in the CWD zone will be adopted as a part of a proposed package of rules recommended by the state's deer trustee, Dr. James Kroll, a Texan hired by Gov. Scott Walker in 2011 to conduct an independent review of the DNR's deer herd management practices.

Sprecher said a regional meeting of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress passed a resolution recommending the rule change by a 72-39 margin. "Many hunters were madder than heck they shot that white deer." The DNR held 35 hearings around the state to gather input from hunters and conservationists on the proposed rules, and conducted an online survey to gauge support for them this summer.

Sprecher says restoring protection for the white deer will lead to more tourism dollars flowing into Sauk County. "Ever since we've been on TV, we've had people coming up from Milwaukee to look at the deer. On a nice summer night, it's nothing to have 40 cars out there looking for deer."

Sprecher likens the white deer to the area's bald eagles, who for decades have attracted visitors to Sauk City, where the birds are visible from downtown as they fish along the Wisconsin River. Sprecher says the white deer are rarer than the eagles. "We have more bald eagles than we do white deer, and they're protected."

The rules won't be voted on by the Natural Resources Board until December 10, too late to protect the deer for this year's gun season, which begins on Nov. 23 and runs through Dec. 1. "We're close, but we're not there," said Sprecher. "It's very frustrating." Sprecher is worried more of the white deer will be killed during this year's hunt. "We're concerned. How many are we going to lose this year?"

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