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JOURNAL SENTINEL



Huh huh, huh huh huh huh huh mmm, uh huh huh huh

Mike Judge brings back 'Beavis and Butt-head'
Encore



State scientists discover what's killing bats

Local



Why Packers are puttin' on the blitz

Sports

PULITZER PRIZE WINNER: 2008, 2010, 2011



2 builders let others observe, critique on webcast as they build an airplane in an Oshkosh basement

IN PLANE VIEW



MARK HOFFMAN / MHOFFMAN@JOURNALSENTINEL.COM

By MEG JONES
mjones@journalsentinel.com

Oshkosh — Ever since the invention of the internal combustion engine, and probably even before that, guys have stood in garages and basements tinkering on vehicles of one sort or another. Brady Lane and Caleb Ihrig are no different; they get together every Tuesday night to work on the plane they're building and chat and kibitz with a dozen or so friends.

But in the 21st century, the guys looking over their shoulder giving unsolicited advice are in Texas, Florida, Germany and Canada. Lane and Ihrig are building their four-seat Bearhawk in Ihrig's Oshkosh basement while their acquaintances — most of whom they've never met nor know their real names — watch on their video blog at *dreambuildfly.com*. Since the video blog went live late last year, they have attracted a small but dedicated following of plane builders and enthusiasts who tune in every Tuesday night to watch them cut, hammer, saw and drill. Lots of people spend thousands of hours in basements and garages building planes — it's what EAA was founded on — but until now none have built their aircraft under the watchful gaze of anyone with a Wi-Fi connection.

Please see **AIRPLANE, 8A**

Top: Brady Lane wears a video camera attached to a baseball cap Tuesday for the webcast.

Middle: Caleb Ihrig (foreground) and Lane work on structural parts for the wing of the airplane.

Left: People go online and chat while watching the airplane-building webcast. Ihrig and Lane work on their plane on Tuesday evenings.



Taking flight
To see a photo gallery of Brady Lane and Caleb Ihrig building their airplane, go to jsonline.com/photos

Charter schools could expand

Bill opens independent option in a quarter of state districts

By JASON STEIN and ERIN RICHARDS
jstein@journalsentinel.com

Madison — An independent charter school program would expand to medium and large school districts around Wisconsin, under a bill passed Wednesday by Republicans on the Legislature's budget committee.

The proposal passed 12-3 on a party-line vote, with Republicans voting in favor and Democrats against. Republicans also approved 12-3 another bill that would overhaul the state's tax enforcement system.

Charter schools already exist all over the state but are now authorized entirely by local school boards, except in Milwaukee and Racine. The schools bill would allow independent charter school programs, which are authorized by a body other than the school board, to start up in other districts. The bill would largely apply to districts with more than 2,000 students, which account for roughly a quarter of the districts in the state.

Republicans said it would help provide other options for students whose schools are failing them.

"The bill we are taking up today is truly something that is going to help the long-term prospects of Wisconsin," said Rep. Robin Vos (R-Rochester), a co-chairman of the committee.

But Democrats said the program would under-

Please see **CHARTER, 7A**

State GOP may try to move up district changes

Redrawn voting maps could favor Republicans in recall elections

By PATRICK MARLEY
pmarley@journalsentinel.com

Madison — A key Republican senator said Wednesday she favors using new legislative maps for the next round of recall elections — a change that she said would prevent logistical headaches in conducting elections.

The change would also give Republicans a better chance at protecting their majority in the Legislature in the next batch of recall elections.

"I don't see a clear path to getting out of this mess other than clarifying these districts," said Sen. Mary Lazich (R-New Berlin), chairwoman of the Senate Transportation and Elections Committee.

Republicans drew new legislative maps this year, and because of that action they now represent a new set of voters. But any recall elections between now and November 2012 will be conducted in their old districts because of the way they wrote the law adopting those new maps, according to the state's top election official.

The issue is important because the new maps generally favor Republicans. By holding recall elections

Please see **MAPS, 8A**

State seeks exemption for health insurers

By GUY BOULTON
gboulton@journalsentinel.com

The state's insurance regulator wants to exempt health insurance companies from the new federal requirement that they spend 80% of premiums on medical care.

The Office of the Commissioner of Insurance has asked the federal government for approval to phase in the new regulation over three years for health plans sold to people who buy health insurance on their own.

Reprieve sought for rule that 80% be spent on medical care

In his request, Commissioner Ted Nickel contends that requiring health insurers to spend 80 cents of every dollar on medical care could force some companies to exit the market, potentially harming consumers.

Six of the 24 companies that sell insurance in the individual market could be affected by the federal regulation, according to the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance.

Federal health care reform requires health insurers to spend 80% of premiums on medical care for health plans sold to individuals and to small employers. Health

Please see **INSURANCE, 8A**

NATION

Student debt relief pushed

President Barack Obama unveils a plan that could give millions of young people some relief on their student loan debt. **3A**

HEALTH

Hunger hormones?

A study finds that after dieters shed weight quickly, their hormones conspire to gain back the pounds. **3A**

LOCAL

Walker policy allows guns in Capitol

The public will be able to carry guns into most parts of the state Capitol, under a policy being developed by Gov. Scott Walker. **1B**



Gonzalez

Decision helps accused killer

The judge presiding at the homicide trial of gun rights advocate Jesus Gonzalez will instruct the jury on self-defense even though Gonzalez didn't testify or even raise the issue at trial. **1B**

POLITIFACT WISCONSIN

Flip or no flip on collective bargaining?

We use the Flip-O-Meter to test Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett's words and actions related to Gov. Scott Walker's collective bargaining limits. **2A**