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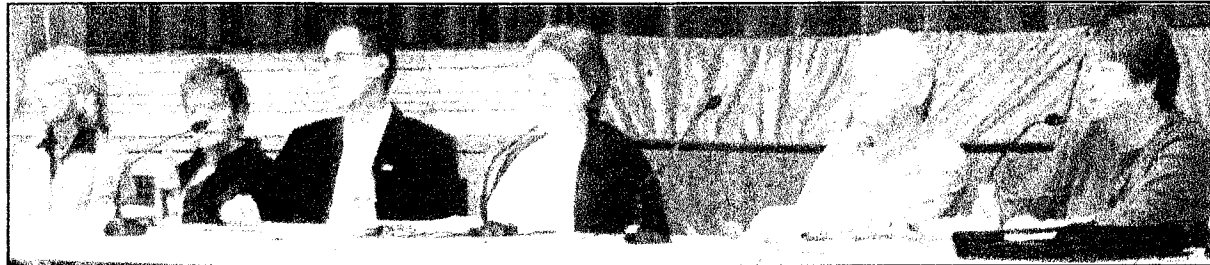
NEWS

LITTLE LEAGUE
UW band at summer
kick off party June
13. See page 13.



The annual Action in Jackson festival will feature music, an arts fair, games and so much more for families to enjoy. See pages 5-9. **Photo by Nikki Ackerman**

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Members of the West Bend Library Board listen to comments from various speakers during a meeting at McLane Elementary School July 2. Photo by Thomas J. McKillen

Library Board opts against restrictions on specific materials

The West Bend Library Board rejected a request June 2 to limit access to specific materials in the young adult section. An organization called West Bend Citizens for Safe Libraries sought to have specific books shifted to the adult section and have advisory labels placed on them. An organization called West Bend Parents for Free Speech sought to keep the books in the current location and counter efforts to limit access to them.

The issue spilled over into the West Bend Common Council, which rejected the reappointments of Ald. Nick Dobberstein and residents Mary Reily-Kliss, Tom Fitz and James Pourous to the board. They will serve until the council approves their replacements.

Residents and non-residents representing both sides spoke during a meeting in the McLane Elementary School gym.

Robert Deters, husband of Library Board member Barbara Deters, took issue with those seeking to move the books and the criticism directed toward the Library Board. He specifically took issue with statements that specific materials

constitute "child pornography." He cited the legal definition of the child pornography and stated nothing in the library meets that criteria.

"You know that accusation is false (and) mean-spirited," Deters said to members of the audience.

West Bend resident Todd Feitkou supported the effort to move the material to a different section of the library and limit access to it.

"These folks have asked you a request that is perfectly reasonable. We do it with cigarettes, we do it with alcohol and we do it with pornography. If it was my choice, I would have asked you to get rid of the books completely," Feitkou said.

West Bend resident Dan Arneson opposed the attempt to move the books

"We cannot let one segment of our society dictate to everyone their views - we are a free society. We all have our own opinions

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SPORTS



Slinger's Jay Allen leads the Owls to a 5-4 win over Germantown June 2. Photo by Thomas J. McKillen.

...Petitions presented to board

From page 1

and ideas," Arneson said.

Ginny Maziarka, who has been leading the effort of West Bend Citizens for Safe Libraries, said she doubted the event was "an informational or teachable moment" and took issue the Library

Board's "lack of response and compliance to community standards."

She said that if the board rejected the request to move the materials, "it will no longer be a safe library."

Maziarka then presented the board with a petition signed by 700 people supporting the Safe Libraries position.

Mark Peterson warned the board that "sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander," telling the board that if they complied with the request from the Safe Libraries organization it would have to respond to similar requests from other groups. He then presented a petition signed by 1,068 people urging the board to keep its current

policies in place.

-By Thomas J. McKillen, Managing Editor

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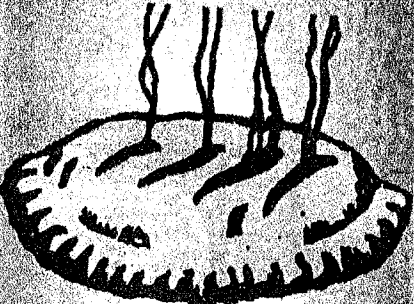
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