



QB questions
Badgers football coach Paul Chryst and his staff have several quarterback options at their disposal with season set to begin. **Page 1B**

Light reading
SHINE turned in a 3,700-page operating license application to federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission this week. **Page 3A**

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The Gazette

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Mueller takes a turn with Congress

Dems hope hearings will be revealing for Americans who haven't read report

By **Mary Clare Jalonick and Eric Tucker**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Democrats are pretty sure America didn't read the Mueller report. They're hoping the nation

will be glued to the TV version today.

Former Trump-Russia special counsel Robert Mueller's appearance before two House committees promises to be the TV event of the year in the U.S. House, where

lawmakers will question him for roughly five hours about the book-length report he released in April.

Democrats hope that by putting Mueller on television and highlighting the parts of the report that they believe describe President Donald Trump's most egregious behavior, they will be able to ignite new outrage and renew public interest in their

investigations.

But Republicans will be there, too, defending Trump and turning some of their fire on Mueller's investigation, which the president condemns as a "witch hunt." Trump himself first said he wouldn't be watching, then he conceded, probably "a little bit."

Though Trump keeps talking about the probe, many Americans seem to have moved on. That's

why the Democrats hope a day-long presentation, with Mueller repeating out loud some of the findings that might have faded in print, will revive interest.

Whether they will be able to accomplish that is unclear. The House will leave town two days after the hearings, possibly blunting any legislative

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ROCK COUNTY 4-H FAIR: DAY ONE

Sampling the styles found in the fair barns

4-H'ers get animals looking their best

By **Catherine W. Idzerda**
cidzerda@gazettextra.com

JANESVILLE

The road to journalism hell is paved with good intentions, extra soft bunnies and a rooster with a comb-over.

I intended to write a Rock County 4-H Fair diary. You know the kind of thing: 10:30 a.m., tour pig barn and meet award-winning Hampshire; 11 a.m., eat corn dog and speculate about amount of actual pork encased in cornmeal topping.

But I was distracted by the fascinating world of chickens, cows and Flemish giants and lost track of time. Instead of a tour of the grounds and all its attractions, you'll get a tour of the first four barns I found interesting.

Sheep

Entering through Gate 4, I immediately encountered Dalissa Moser, 17, of Clinton FFA, finishing up some sheep grooming. Leroy the sheep was standing still, and Moser said it's because he

gets the sheep equivalent of a wash and set on a regular basis. She left the wool on top of his head just a little bit longer, and it's a good look for him. Moser washes him with Ivory soap, just like a sweater.

Poultry

If a chicken is in the "continental cockerel" class, shouldn't it look like other young roosters in its class? Caleb Baker's birds in this class have feathers ranging from deep orange red to brown. Two pens down, Joshua Banasik's continental entry has orange, red and shimmering green feathers. It's not a color you'd expect to find in nature.

Fortunately, Hannah Pautsch, 17, of Avon 4-H was there to explain.

"It depends on the breed," Pautsch said. "Like for Polish, they can be any color, they just have to have the poof on their heads."

The "poof," or crest, springs out like a hat worn by a member of the royal family. Alternatively, they look like they might be roadies with a metal band.

Silkie must also have five toes. Other breeds have only

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Photos by **Anthony Wahl**/awahl@gazettextra.com

Above: Local botanist Kevin Kawula points out features of the property along County G south of Janesville, where the Humane Society of Southern Wisconsin wants to build its new headquarters. The land contains a prairie remnant that Kawula hopes will be preserved. **Top left:** St. John's wort grows in the prairie remnant Kawula discovered along County G south of Janesville. **Top right:** Purple prairie clover is among the plants growing in the prairie.

Pocket of prairie discovered in Janesville's backyard

Local botanist found 40 acres off County G

By **Frank Schultz**
fschultz@gazettextra.com

TOWN OF ROCK

Travel back in time about 13,000 years to when the receding glacier left mounds of sand and gravel

here in southern Wisconsin.

Over the millennia, plants evolved to thrive on this quick-draining soil, followed by bison and other grazers. The first peoples probably followed the game or the rivers into this area.

French explorers named the grasslands prairie. Europeans began to settle and farm the area in the 1800s.

Over the next 100-plus years,

plows and pavement destroyed most of the prairie.

A few scraps remain.

Most of them have been identified, so finding 40 acres of it in Rock County was a surprise to longtime prairie preservation activists.

"This is a time capsule, is what this is," said an excited Kevin Kawula last week as he walked

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Angela Major/amajor@gazettextra.com

Nick Lambert, left, and his son, Tyler Lambert, put a band on a chicken Tuesday at the Rock County 4-H Fair. **See today's fair schedule on Page 3A and more photos at gazettextra.com/galleries.**

OBITUARIES AND DEATH NOTICES, 6A

- Lois A. Allen
- Louis "Louie" Amerpohl
- Joseph Cairo
- Barbara Ozburn
- James W. Roehl

- Florence "Flo" Senn
- Reece E. St. John
- Rebecca "Becky" Stevenson
- Roger Lee Wunderlin

TODAY'S WEATHER

High 83 | Low 62
Sunshine mixing with some clouds
More on 7A

Classified.....7B-8B	Lotteries.....6A	Puzzles.....8B
Comics.....5B	Nation/World...6B-7B	State.....2A
Legals.....5A	Opinion.....4A	TV/Advice.....8A

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