

IN BRIEF

Hatchet murder suspect to get new attorney

WAUKESHA — A Waukesha man accused of murdering a local artist in his apartment last year with a hatchet will be getting a new attorney following the retirement of his public defender.

Philip Holland, 58, is charged with first-degree homicide, theft and possession of an illegally obtained prescription after the Sept. 14, 2015 murder of Tim Minkley in his apartment after an argument about Minkley being late for work. Holland allegedly hit Minkley in the head with a hatchet as many as nine times, telling investigators he went into “kill mode” and then threw the weapon into the Fox River, where authorities recovered it a few days later.

Holland was evaluated for a possible plea of not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect, but a doctor gave the opinion that the information available does not support such a plea, court records indicate.

Late last month, public defender Anthony Rosario asked for time to discuss a new plea agreement offered by the state with Holland, but on Wednesday, Rosario said the defense plans to file several motions in the case.

But, court records indicate, due to Rosario's retirement, a new attorney will be appointed. Rosario did not return a call seeking comment Thursday.

Holland is to return to court Jan. 5.

Brookfield police look for cellphone thieves

BROOKFIELD — Early Wednesday morning, Brookfield police officers were dispatched to the US Cellular Store, 15010 W. Greenfield Ave., where they found that a window had been smashed and cellphones stolen.

According to a release from the Brookfield Police Department, at about 4:15 a.m. Wednesday, officers were dispatched to an intrusion alarm at the store. Upon arrival, officers discovered that a “window smash burglary” had occurred, according to the release.

Stolen from the store were a number of cellphones. The incident was caught on surveillance video, which the department is using to look for the suspects.

The release said it appears the Wednesday incident is related to at least one other similar incident, possibly two in Waukesha County, in the past week or so.

People with information about the burglary can call the police department at 262-787-3702.

Man allegedly sold heroin to undercover officer, fled bust attempt

WAUKESHA — A 20-year-old Milwaukee man could face over 43 years in prison

after allegedly selling heroin to an undercover police officer on two occasions and fleeing police recklessly when they tried to detain him.

Rodney Robbins was charged in Waukesha County Circuit Court on Thursday with two felony counts of manufacturing/delivering heroin, one felony count of maintaining a drug trafficking place and one felony count of first-degree recklessly endangering safety.

According to a criminal complaint, on Nov. 21 an undercover deputy from the Waukesha Sheriff's Department met with Robbins in the parking lot of Golden Corral, 1673 Arcadian Ave. The first time, the deputy purchased 2.6 grams of heroin for \$440. Two days later, the undercover deputy made contact with Robbins again, inquiring for five grams of heroin for \$655 in the same parking lot.

On Nov. 29, the deputy requested three grams of heroin and one gram of crack for \$490. Prior to the deputy entering Robbins' vehicle, a black DEA van struck the rear bumper while another van pulled in front of the car to try and block it from leaving while executing a “buy bust.”

Robbins allegedly accelerated at high speed, nearly striking the two vehicles before going off the road, passing the pursuing officer's vehicles and entering New Berlin before losing contact with him.

Two Florida men charged with ID theft

WAUKESHA — Two men from Palm Springs, Fla. allegedly used the identities of at least six people to make purchases at a Delafield Walmart store last month.

Jose Ortiz Caballos, 29, was charged with two counts of identity theft and Ernesto Rodriguez, 27, was charged with four counts of identity theft on Thursday in Waukesha County Circuit Court. ID theft is a felony, which carries a maximum penalty upon conviction of six years' imprisonment.

A criminal complaint said police were dispatched to a Pewaukee Walmart store Nov. 29 regarding suspected fraud when a man, later identified as Rodriguez, turned the volume off at a self-checkout. It was later determined he used the name of another man to load \$150 on a gift card, the complaint said.

When officers stopped the suspects' vehicle, they learned the men rented the car at O'Hare Airport in Chicago that day. A search of the car revealed four phones and 254 Walmart gift cards. An investigation showed the man bought seven of the gift cards at a Delafield Walmart in a few minutes, using cloned credit cards belonging to seven different people, the complaint said.

Oconomowoc teen charged in ex-girlfriend's heroin overdose

By Jake Meister
Freeman Staff

WAUKESHA — An Oconomowoc teen has been charged with first-degree reckless homicide after the 15-year-old girl he allegedly supplied heroin to overdosed and died.

Via video conference from Winnebago Mental Health Institution, Seth D. Moretti, 17, made his initial appearance in Waukesha County Circuit Court Thursday. Court Commissioner Laura Lau administered a \$50,000 cash bond in the case.

According to the criminal complaint, an Oconomowoc police officer and emergency medical service professionals were dispatched the morning of July 9 to the 500 block of South Lapham Street in Oconomowoc for a possible drug overdose.

Upon arrival, the officer was directed to a bedroom where two teens — identi-

fied as Moretti and his girlfriend — lay upon a bed. The officer, who spotted “reddish material” on the girl's right eye and face and white foam surrounding her mouth, determined she was no longer breathing, according to the complaint.

Upon arrival, EMS declared the girl deceased.

Moretti, according to the officer, was demonstrating shallow breathing and unconscious. After receiving first aid, he was transported to Oconomowoc Memorial Hospital, and eventually, Children's Hospital of Wisconsin.

A search of the bedroom recovered corner-cut plastic bags commonly used to hold heroin and cocaine.

According to the criminal complaint, Moretti's grandparents told investigators that they had confronted him July 8 about what they believed was his heroin use. Moretti allegedly told his

grandparents that he had in fact used heroin earlier that day.

An examination conducted by Waukesha County Sheriff's Department detective concluded that Moretti had withdrawn \$160 from his bank account on July 8 — which another detective found to be consistent with the common cost of a gram of heroin, the complaint stated.

A search warrant for the examination of Moretti's cellphone yielded phone call and text message records that a detective believed were related to drug trafficking.

According to the criminal complaint, a security guard at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin contacted a detective July 18 after hospital staff reported overhearing Moretti admit to giving his ex-girlfriend heroin. At least one of the staff members reported that Moretti told

his ex-girlfriend the heroin was cocaine, although he knew it was not.

According to the criminal complaint a detective later spoke to a hospital staff member, who said Moretti willingly told her he had purposefully deceived his ex-girlfriend by telling her the heroin was cocaine.

The father of Moretti's ex-girlfriend said his daughter wrote in a July 8 Facebook post that Moretti had lied to her, further specifying that he had tricked her into consuming heroin.

A detective's examination of the victim's Facebook page revealed it did contain several posts alluding to Moretti's efforts to mislead her into using heroin. A similar post was on the victim's Instagram account, according to the complaint.

A hearing in the case is scheduled for Jan. 26.

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Local United Way branch raises \$60.13M

WAUKESHA — The United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County announced Wednesday that it exceeded its goal by raising an organizational record of \$60.13 million during its annual fundraising campaign.

The contributed money, part of United Way's annual Community Campaign, eclipsed its goal of raising \$60.12 million in funding in late August.

The funds will further help mobilize local resources and also assist in providing health and human services to thousands of families in southeastern Wisconsin.

United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County President and CEO Mary Lou Young wrote in a statement on the organization's website that she is overjoyed with the response the nonprofit continues receiving from its campaign.

“Our 2016 campaign puts United Way on pace to



Submitted photo

Members of the United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County with a poster showing the \$60.13 million that was raised in 2016 during UWGMWC's annual fundraising campaign.

invest more than ever into changing lives in our four-county region in 2017,” she said.

“In addition, the achievement of 21,124 volunteer hours served during the 2016 Season of Caring indicates your willingness to roll up your sleeves and

give a hand where it is needed most.

“Thank you for investing your time and resources to make our community a better place to live.”

In 2015, United Way raised \$60.07M as part of the annual campaign, once again

going beyond its goal of \$60M.

The United Way has over 200 programs and 110 partner agencies, focusing on education, income and health.

— Chris Bucher, Freeman Staff

Woman seeks injunction against ex-Packer Dotson

By Brian Huber
Freeman Staff

WAUKESHA — Less than a week after filing a civil suit against Santana Dotson over money he allegedly owes her, a Town of Mukwonago woman on Thursday requested a temporary restraining order against the former Green Bay Packers player.

The request for the TRO

by Kristin Magolan against Dotson, of Houston, Texas, was denied in a Thursday hearing. But a hearing on a long-term injunction was slated for 9 a.m. Dec. 29.

Last Friday, Magolan, 44, filed a civil suit against Dotson, alleging she has loaned him at least \$290,000 in the past three years and he refuses to pay her back. She also alleged he used her credit cards without her permission. No court date has yet been set in that case.

Magolan said her civil suit was directly connected to her Thursday request for a restraining order. She identified Dotson as her ex-

boyfriend in the petition.

“On Dec. 9, a mutual friend overheard Santana state on a phone call, a) if I don't drop the lawsuit I should be afraid to look out my blinds; b) he stated that he had people in Houston and other places to scare me and make me watch out my window; and c) stated that he may have to go ‘Houston style’ on me. I believe these statements were a threat of physical pain and/or death,” the petition stated.

In a document accompanying the petition, Magolan said she was not sure if Dotson owns a gun or has owned one in the

past six months, but added she never saw a gun but he has “threatened one.”

Dotson, 46, was a defensive tackle for the Packers from 1996 to 2001 and was a member of the team that won Super Bowl XXXI.

In recent years, Dotson has made appearances in the area as part of his initiative, Santana's 71 Ways, to provide food and coats to southeastern Wisconsin children in need.

A message left on the Facebook page of the organization seeking comment did not receive a response Thursday.

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Ex-Milwaukee officer charged in fatal shooting of black man



Heaggan-Brown

MILWAUKEE (AP)—Prosecutors charged a former Milwaukee police officer Thursday with killing a black man in August, alleging the man had thrown his gun away and was unarmed when the officer fired the fatal shot.

Dominique Heaggan-Brown, who is also black, was charged with reckless homicide in the Aug. 13 death of Sylville Smith, which sparked two days of riots on Milwaukee's north side. In the days after the shooting, both the police chief and mayor had said police video clearly showed Smith had a gun and was turning toward officers when he was shot. Thursday's criminal complaint echoed that, but described a second shot, fired into Smith's chest after Smith no longer had his gun.

Police Chief Edward Flynn called the charge “a little difficult to understand” and said he hadn't seen any obvious wrongdoing by Heaggan-Brown in the footage.

Heaggan-Brown, who was fired in October over an unrelated sexual-assault case, shot Smith following a traffic stop. After fleeing police, Smith turned with a gun and was shot once in his bicep, according to the complaint. The second shot occurred less than two seconds later, after Smith was lying on the ground with his hands near his head, according to the complaint.

Milwaukee County District Attorney John Chisholm said

in the complaint that the video shows Smith throwing the gun over a fence after the first shot. Heaggan-Brown told state agents that he believed Smith's gun “flew” out of his hand over a fence after the first shot. The officer said he thought Smith was reaching for another weapon in his waistband so he fired the second shot.

Chisholm did not take any questions from reporters Thursday. His office said the video would not be released.

Heaggan-Brown was scheduled to make an initial court appearance today. His attorney, Jonathan Smith, said he hasn't seen any of the state's evidence but the criminal complaint raises “issues.” He didn't elaborate but promised a “vigorous” defense.

Smith's family issued a statement thanking Chisholm.

“We appreciate that the District Attorney has shown independence and sound judgment in prosecuting the officer who shot and killed Sylville,” the statement said.

'A combat situation,' chief says

Flynn on Thursday called the confrontation between Smith and Heaggan-Brown a “combat situation” and said the brain needs time to tell the finger to stop pulling the trigger. He said he hopes Chisholm has more evidence that hasn't been released

because he doesn't want his officers to face deadly offenders and get no allowance for stress.

“The officer doesn't get to act in slow motion,” Flynn said.

The night of the shooting, demonstrators burned six businesses and a police squad car and threw rocks and bottles at police. More violence broke out the next night, with one man being shot and injured and protesters again throwing rocks and bottles at officers. Police arrested about 40 people over the course of three nights. Flynn blamed protesters from outside of Milwaukee for much of the unrest.

The case that led to Heaggan-Brown's firing stemmed from an incident the night of Aug. 14. According to a criminal complaint, Heaggan-Brown and another man went to a bar where they drank and watched television coverage of the unrest. The man told investigators that Heaggan-Brown bragged he could do anything he wanted without repercussions and he woke up to Heaggan-Brown sexually assaulting him.

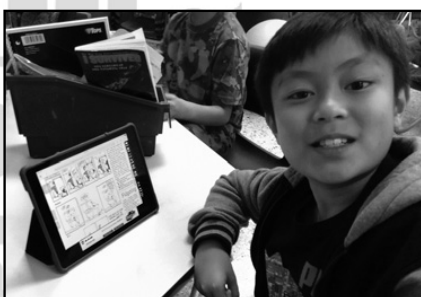
Heaggan-Brown also was charged with soliciting two other people for sex several times since December 2015 and with sexually assaulting another unconscious person in July 2016.

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