

Nation/World

From the Associated Press

Wisconsin is 21st state to sue tobacco companies

MADISON, Wis. — Wisconsin became the 21st state Wednesday to sue tobacco companies for smoking-related profits and health costs.

The lawsuit accuses eight tobacco companies and three industry groups of conspiring to mislead, deceive and confuse the public about the negative health effects of tobacco use and secondhand smoke.

"We must do it to stop future generations from being misled and hooked by dangerous products which will lead to disease and death," Attorney General James Doyle said.

In addition to recouping money spent treating smoking-related illnesses, the state is seeking all profits the companies have made in Wisconsin since 1953, the year researchers' discovery of a possible link between smoking and lung cancer was first widely reported.

Swiss to open Holocaust fund

\$71 million meant to encourage more contributions, bank official says.

and during World War II.

"We have launched this as a beginning," said a Union Bank of Switzerland spokeswoman, Gertrud Erismann. "The intention is that others will also take part."

The \$71 million the banks contributed was meant as a symbolic gesture, she said.

Sen. Alfonse D'Amato, who has accused Switzerland of acting as Adolf Hitler's banker, called the announcement an important first step and an acknowledgment of Swiss wrongdoing.

In New York, World Jewish Congress executive director Elan Steinberg welcomed the action as a long overdue good-faith measure. He said he is confident that more action will follow to make "full moral and material restitution."

He added that the \$71 million did not reflect what may eventually be found in dormant accounts of Jewish victims of Nazi crimes. Swiss officials say the actual amount in its accounts from the Holocaust era is a small fraction of the billions alleged by Jewish groups and D'Amato, R-N.Y.

Jewish groups called last year for a fund 2½ times as large as Wednesday's as a "gesture of goodwill" to Holocaust victims and their families who have been trying to trace the whereabouts of loved ones' assets unclaimed since the war.

D'Amato has accused Switzerland of laundering gold and valuables looted from the central banks of occupied countries and from the 6 million Jews sent to their deaths by the Nazi regime.

The New York senator accused the Swiss of intentionally stalling and deliberately using their famous bank secrecy laws to outlast Holocaust survivors who are growing old and dying.

Sizzling Jazz!

Christian McBride & Joe Lovano

Jazz Bass & Saxophone




Photo: © Jimmy Katz

LIED 1997

Saturday, Feb. 8, 8pm

Locally sponsored by Berman Music Foundation.
A New Voices program supported by Target Stores.

Merger mania hits Wall Street

Dean Witter, Morgan Stanley combine to make world's largest securities firm.

NEW YORK (AP) — Dean Witter, the brokerage and credit-card company, agreed to a \$9.9 billion merger with investment banking giant Morgan Stanley to create the world's biggest securities firm.

The announcement Wednesday brings Wall Street directly into the merger frenzy that has swept corporate America. Once again, the driving force is the strategic advantage of combining with a company that has complementary strengths.

Dean Witter, Discover & Co. is strong in the "retail" brokerage business, selling stocks, bonds and such to the public. Morgan Stanley Group Inc. is a powerhouse in mergers and in underwriting securities.

The stock-swap merger will create a new company called Morgan Securities mega-merger

Morgan Stanley Group Inc. and Dean Witter, Discover & Co. will merge to create the largest securities firm in the world.

DEAN WITTER DISCOVER		MORGAN STANLEY	
Market capitalization (2/3/96):	\$12.3 billion	Market capitalization (2/3/96):	\$9.0 billion
1996 pre-tax income:	1.5 billion	1996 pre-tax income:	1.6 billion
1996 net revenue:	6.2 billion	1996 net revenue:	5.8 billion

Source: companies

AP/Wm. J. Castello

High Voltage!

KODO Drummers of Japan




Photo: © Jack Vorboogian

Tuesday, Feb. 11, 8pm

Locally sponsored by Union Bank & Trust Company.

Tickets: 402-472-4747 or 800-432-3231
M-F 11-5:30pm On the UNL Campus, 12th & Q

LIED CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS

Lied Center programming is supported by the Friends of Lied and grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, Mid-America Arts Alliance and the Nebraska Arts Council.

Working up a drool

LOS ANGELES (AP) — On a trendy stretch of Santa Monica Boulevard, Eron hops out of a black Jaguar, runs across the parking lot and enthusiastically enters the gym.

Strong, lean and confident, he fairly ignores Chayla, an aspiring actress begging her personal trainer for another round on the treadmill.

Eron — a German shepherd — is the epitome of fitness chic as he dives into the lap pool.

At The Total Dog Inc., Eron and about 25 other clients pound their paws on a treadmill, swim laps in the pool and navigate an outdoor agility course.

Their owners swear by it.

"I think animals probably get that exercise high more than people," said Esther Solomon, Eron's owner.

The athletic center, one of the first of its kind, opened last fall and boasts physical therapists to massage achy muscles, personal trainers who develop workout and weight-reduction programs, a certified chiropractic staff and even acupuncture.

While the dogs work up a drool, owners can sweat right along with them on a stair climber or exercise bike.

Although some may howl at the prospect, owner Annie Wald said her new business is a serious way to keep young dogs healthy and rehabilitate the old and injured.

"We truly are committed to the total health of dogs," she said.

It's not a place for the vain or lazy pet owner.

"We're not a kennel," Wald said. Staffers encourage owners to work with their dogs during each session — generally 20 to 30 minutes — and any dog coming in for rehabilitation needs a veterinarian's recommendation.

Solomon brought Eron, 10, in to halt muscle atrophy in his hind legs. The shepherd has been working out twice a week for a little more than a month.

"The veterinarian noticed he had put on four pounds, and most of that was muscle mass," said Solomon's husband, Theodore.

The lap pool is equipped with an overhead track and cable system that attaches to a flotation vest worn by the dog. It's a low-impact workout for Eron.

Total canine fitness isn't cheap. Most exercise sessions run between \$12 and \$20 each. Wald recommends at least two sessions a week. Therapy — massage, chiropractic or acupuncture — ranges from \$32 to \$200 per session.

Staff chiropractor Anita Sant'Angelo said animals are excellent candidates for alternative health care.

"They don't have any of the mental blocks against it that people often do," she said.

Daily Nebraskan

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The Daily Nebraskan (USPS 144-080) is published by the UNL Publications Board, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St., Lincoln, NE 68588-0448, Monday through Friday during the academic year; weekly during summer sessions.

Readers are encouraged to submit story ideas and comments to the Daily Nebraskan by calling 472-2588. The public has access to the Publications Board.

Subscription price is \$55 for one year.

Postmaster: Send address changes to the Daily Nebraskan, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St., Lincoln, NE 68588-0448. Second-class postage paid at Lincoln, Neb.

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MATT HANEY/DN