



**Capitol Kids
8 S. Carroll Street
Madison, WI 53703**

**Press Release 3-18-07
For Immediate Release
Contact: Peg Scholtes – 608-280-0744**

Capitol Kids' mascot Webster the bear, disappeared on the afternoon of March 17th shortly after the St. Patrick's Day Parade on the Capitol Square.

He was last seen wearing a top hat decorated with shamrocks and had shamrocks hanging from his neck.

Webster has been standing guard on the Capitol Square, welcoming visitors to the city and customers to the store on Carroll Street and previously on Webster Street for almost seven years.

He is known for his flamboyant outfits. Last summer during Cows on Parade, he was dressed in a cow outfit replete with bovine riddles. He wore sporting clothing during Iron Man, a Santa suit during the holidays, patriotic gear on national holidays and was often gifted with political buttons from passersby.



Hundreds of people have posed for pictures with Webster, in fact, Mayor Dave's photo appeared with his arm around the bear on the cover of a Wisconsin State Journal supplement which featured an article on downtown parking. The store's website often features a photo gallery of the bear with his admiring fans.

Owner Peg Scholtes said that Webster was responsible for passing out hundreds of downtown maps published by Downtown Madison Inc. and has served as an excellent spokesperson for the community and the store. From reminding people to vote to advertising sales and fundraisers, Scholtes said Sunday that the bear has been a wonderful asset to the store and he is greatly missed.

Sunday his chair stood empty outside the store.

If you have any information about Webster's whereabouts, please call Capitol Kids at 280-0744.