

WisCon 27

WELCOME!

So you're planning to attend WisCon 27, you've sent in your registration, and now all that's left is to show up and enjoy the weekend, right? No? You've still got questions? This should help. See you at WisCon!

Registration

If this progress report is addressed to you, don't worry, you are already registered. But if you know anyone who has yet to register, urge them to come and register at the door. All mail-in registrations must have been postmarked no later than 4/30/03.

Schedule of Events

Thursday. Events will get started the day before WisCon's official opening ceremonies. Volunteers are encouraged to lend a hand at the **packet stuffing** (5:00 P.M. Thursday, 2nd floor, Concourse Hotel).

Madison's feminist bookstore, A Room of One's Own, will host its annual **reception** honoring authors attending WisCon (6 P.M. Thursday, 307 W. Johnson St.). Both Guests-of-Honor, China Miéville and Carol Emshwiller, will give readings at the reception.

Afterward, you are welcome to join many WisCon **concom** members and attendees gathering for supper across the street at the Angelic Brew Pub. Or gather your own group together and sample one of the many fine nearby restaurants.

Friday. Pre-registered writers will divide into small groups and critique one another's manuscripts during the **Friday morning writers' workshop**. Sorry, the workshop is already filled this year.

Everyone will be able to **register** and pick up their name badges at 2:00 P.M. Friday. From 2 to 5:30 P.M., the **Gathering** will open its doors. We invite you to enjoy games, demonstrations, exhibits, massages, make-overs, tarot readings, and much more in the two ballrooms that will be devoted to the afternoon's entertainment. You can stroll around the room stopping at booths along the way, or you can pull up a chair in the lounge area in the middle of the Gathering and enjoy a cup of tea (or coffee or juice and maybe a cookie) with your friends as you catch up with them and watch for the arrival of new attendees. We hope you will have fun at this event. We'll be eager to hear your comments about this first time attempt at a sociable sort of Friday afternoon

programming. All profits raised at the Gathering will be donated to Broad Universe and the Carl Brandon Society.

Opening ceremonies will be held at 7:30 P.M. Friday night. The ceremonies will be fun and lively in the best fannish tradition, welcoming the guests of honor and officially kicking off the weekend with laughter and bad acting.

Parties will open their doors on the sixth floor at this time and one of them will be a **Carl Brandon dancing party**. It should be a fun evening! Don't stay up too late though! Programming starts up again at 8:30 A.M. Saturday morning.

Saturday. Baked goodies will be available for \$1 a plate at the **Tiptree bakesale** Saturday afternoon, with all proceeds donated to the Tiptree Award. Ellen Klages will entertain and raise money for the Tiptree Award at Saturday night's **Tiptree auction** (7:30 P.M.). Parties on the sixth floor will also be open at this time.

Sunday. Sunday night will feature speeches by Guests of Honor **Carol Emshwiller** and **China Miéville**. Following the speeches, **John Kessel** will accept his 2002 **Tiptree Award** and be serenaded by the Tips' rendition of this year's Tiptree song.

A **dessert salon** will precede both the **GoH speeches** and the **Tiptree ceremony**. If you haven't already ordered a dessert ticket, we urge you to do so now. We expect to sell out before the convention. Send WisCon a check for \$9 per ticket by May 15, 2003, so we can process your order before we need to give a final count to the hotel. The GoH speeches and Tiptree ceremony are open to everyone; you do not need to purchase dessert salon tickets in order to attend. (Tickets will guarantee a better seat however.)

Monday. The last program on Monday afternoon will be followed by the traditional **dead dog party**. Details will be announced at the convention.

A schedule of programming will be available on the WisCon web site sometime in mid-May. Its posting will be announced in *eCube*. Excel files, readable with a Palm Pilot, will available at the convention.

Contacting WisCon

concom@sf3.org

www.sf3.org/wiscon/

WisCon 27, PO Box 1624 Madison,
WI 53701-1624

eCube: www.sf3.org/wiscon/news

Phone (recording): 608-233-8850

Programming

Programming is scheduled to run from

2:30 P.M. to 1:00 A.M. Friday

8:30 A.M. to 1:00 A.M. Saturday and Sunday

8:30 A.M. to 2:30 P.M. Monday

Lunch breaks: 11:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

Dinner breaks: 5:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.

Programs will last 75 minutes, followed by a 15-minute hiatus between programs.

Why is Broad Universe Sponsoring the Gathering?

Broad Universe is excited to be bringing this new event to WisCon. Broad Universe motherboard member Amy Hanson, one of the co-planners (with **concom** member Jeanne Gomoll), and our members have been instrumental in getting all the booths up and running. It's a natural fit for us, as Broad Universe aims to get more visibility for women's writing in SF/F/H, and the proceeds will help us get more visibility in our genre.

Most of our activities are based on the web right now, at www.broaduniverse.org. We have an online newsletter with articles about writing and writers, a statistics page detailing the award and review status of women, an online book catalog listing members' books, and a separate email list for conversations during the week. Last year, our members held group readings at SF/F conventions, and staffed an information table at Worldcon in San Jose.

Proceeds from the Gathering will help pay our web hosting fees and the costs of shipping info table items to Worldcon in Toronto and elsewhere. Future goals include placing ads in trade magazines and staffing informational tables at publishers' conventions.

More information about booths at the Gathering, and a list of donated castoff items you can bring is at www.sf3.org/wiscon/gathering.html.

The Carl Brandon Society will be part of the Gathering too, as their goals of helping support minority writers in SF/F/H are so closely allied with our own. The Tiptree Award will have an auction preview table, but will have their bake sale and auction later in the con. Questions about the Gathering can be directed to Amy: info@broaduniverse.org

John Kessel will be honored at Tiptree Award ceremony at WisCon!

The James Tiptree, Jr. Award will present \$1000 in prize money to John Kessel for his novella, "Stories for Men." Kessel won the 2002 award with M. John Harrison, whose novel *Light* has already been honored at the first 2002 Tiptree ceremony at Seacon in Hinckley, England, on April 18. Since John Kessel was unable to attend that ceremony, he will receive the award in an unprecedented *second* Tiptree ceremony. Kessel will also receive a fabric cake created by artist Zhenne Wood. For more information about the Tiptree Award go to www.tiptree.org

Expected to Attend

Brian Attebery
Marleen Barr
Elizabeth Barrett
Christopher Barzak

Judith Berman
Suzanne Alles Blom
Janice Bogstad
Lois McMaster Bujold
Suzy McKee Charnas
Ted Chiang
Richard J. Chwedyk
Bill Clemente

Leah Cutter
Beverly DeWeese
Candas Jane Dorsey
L. Timmel Duchamp
Carolyn Dunn
Suzette Haden Elgin
Heinz Insu Fenkl
Karen Joy Fowler

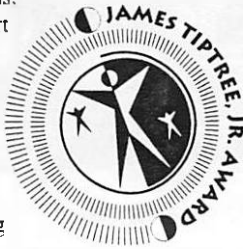
Diana Pharaoh Francis
Jim Frenkel
Gregory Frost
Terry A. Garey
Sally Miller Gearhart
Molly Gloss
Joan Gordon
Angelica Gorodischer

Hiromi Goto
Gavin Grant
Susan Marie Groppi
Eileen Gunn
M.J. Hardman
Jorjet Harper
Anne Harris
Jed Hartman

Eric Heideman
P.C. Hodgell
Elizabeth Anne Hull
Kij Johnson
Steven Vincent Johnson
Pam Keesey
Sylvia Kelso
Peg Kerr

Tiptree Auction, Bake Sale & T-Shirts

The Tiptree Award raises funds through auctions, bake sales and t-shirt sales. You can help support the awards before the convention by donating items for sale at the auction. Of course, you can also participate by bidding on auction items.



Things get rather chaotic at the convention, so if you intend to donate something to the Tiptree auction, we ask that you send it ahead, or at least notify auction coordinator, Scott Custis, through the WisCon email address, phone or mail. Let us know how to reach you and please include a short description of the item and your best estimate of its market value.

What better way to sponsor the Tiptree than through a Bake Sale? If you'd like to prepare some baked goods or other treats for the bake sale, please send a message to the WisCon email address and we will tell you where to bring your goodies. And come to WisCon ready to munch!

Tiptree t-shirts (year 12), designed by silk-screen collage artist Freddie Baer, will be on sale again this year at WisCon in the Art Show/Tiptree Display room. They often sell out, so be sure to look for them early!

Late-breaking news and tips

Subscribe to eCube, an email list service/electronic newsletter available free to all WisCon members. To sign up, go to: www.sf3.org/wiscon/news.html

We'll let you know when the program schedule gets posted, about additional attending luminaries, and any other last-minute details about the convention.

Looking for a Ride or a Roommate?

Several people have requested that we provide a way for people looking for rides to/from WisCon or for roommates at the convention to contact one another. As a service to the community we have set up an electronic bulletin board for this purpose. Use this message board to contact other WisCon attendees at your own risk. WisCon takes no responsibility for agreements made between individuals who contact one another using this message board and does not vouch for anyone who posts to it. www.sf3.org/wwwboard/index.html

Volunteers

There's a deep dark secret about volunteering, and that is: it's fun, especially at WisCon, where you like almost everyone you meet and you wish you could have more time just to catch up with old friends and make new ones. Volunteering often provides the chance for long cheerful chats while getting something done—or for that rare commodity, time alone to reflect without feeling like you're Missing Something. So you not only help build the community and take the load off the organizers, you also get very personal benefits. Plus, you get a \$20 refund after the convention. Send an email to volunteer@sf3.org and let us know you're interested in volunteering or sign the volunteer sheet when you arrive at WisCon.

Child Care

We are pleased to have been able to hire professional child care providers for daytime child care for infants and toddlers (ages 0–6 yrs.). This service is fully subsidized by WisCon. No fee will be charged for child care services for any child in the care of a registered WisCon member. However, parents or guardians MUST have registered for child care by April 30, 2003. Child care will be open 10:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. Friday through Monday. Parents will be responsible for removing their children from the child care room for meals or for providing bottles for infants. Snacks will be provided.

Hotel Information

The Concourse Hotel has already filled up, although it is possible that a few rooms may be made available through cancellations. Unreserved rooms from a few small non-WisCon room blocks will be released in early May. Reservations made before the official close of WisCon's block on May 5, 2003 will be at the WisCon rate. Room prices will increase after that date.

The Concourse (1 W. Dayton, Madison, WI 53703; 1-800-356-8293 or 608-257-6000; www.concoursehotel.com) is the main convention hotel. The room rate is \$89 per night for up to four people; \$114 for Governors Club rooms. Check-in time is 3:00 P.M.; check-out time is 12 noon. Be sure to mention "WisCon 27" when you reserve your room.

The Concourse does have a swimming pool (open till 1:00 A.M.!) so bring your suit. There is also a whirlpool, steam room and exercise equipment.

The hotel has one bar (called "The Bar") and one restaurant. The Dayton Street Café and Bakery is open from 6:30 A.M. to 2 P.M. We've

Parking

Free underground parking is available to all registered guests. You can unload in the hotel parking garage and take the elevators up to the lobby. Clearance in this ramp is low! Just 5'6". Additional parking for vans and other vehicles is available in the public parking ramp a half block down Dayton St. at Carroll St.

Restaurants

There are dozens of fine places to eat within walking distance of the Concourse Hotel, but if you wish to dine at one of the fanciest restaurants in Madison, you should probably make reservations before arriving at WisCon. You can check the dining web sites, but some of the restaurants that might fill up early are: L'Etoile (608-251-0500), Harvest (255-6075), Blue Marlin (255-2255), Tomado Club Steak House (256-3570) and Restaurant Magnus (258-8787).

Sixth Floor Nighttime Parties

Friday: OdysseyCon, LA in '06, Carl Brandon Society Dance, RatBastards, Book Launch (Leah Cutter & Naomi Kritzer)

Saturday: Club Vampire, Xena, Tor Books, KC in '06, Haiku Earing

Sunday: Calgary in '05, Book Launch parties: Brian Attebery and Small Beer Press, Wyrdsmith, Dress-Up Party

made special arrangements this year for a breakfast buffet in The Bar for WisCon attendees on Sunday. Here is a list of nearby alternative hotels (See downtown map, p. 4.):

▼ **The Inn on the Park** is the closest—only 2 blocks from Concourse; mention "WisCon" to get special rate of \$99 per night for either 1-bed or 2-bed sleeping rooms. (22 S. Carroll St.; 800-279-8811 or 608-257-8811; www.innonthepark.net).

▼ **The Edgewater** (666 Wisconsin Ave.; 800-922-5512 or 608-256-9071; www.theedgewater.com)

▼ **The Hilton Madison Monona Terrace** (9 E. Wilson; 608-255-5100; www.hiltonmadison.com)

▼ **Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel** (525 W. Johnson, 608-251-5511; www.hjplazamadison.com).

▼ **Hotel Ruby Marie** (524 E. Wilson; 608-327-7829)

▼ **The Madison Hostel** is the best bargain—\$19/night shared, \$38 single room, less for Hostel International members (141 S. Butler St.; madisonhostel@yahoo.com; 608-441-0144; www.madisonhostel.org)

▼ **The Madison Inn** (601 Langdon St.; 800-589-6285)

▼ **University Inn** (441 N. Francis St.; 800-279-4881)

John Kessel
Greg Ketter
Paul Kincaid
Ellen Klages
Naomi Kritzer
Ellen Kushner
Justine Larbaestier
Ursula K. LeGuin

David Levine
Kelly Link
Catherine Lundoff
Nick Mamatas
Laurie Marks
Louise Marley
Elise Matthesen
Susan R. Matthews

Elizabeth Matson
Farah Mendlesohn
Mary Anne Mohanraj
Nancy Jane Moore
Lyda Morehouse
Jim Munroe
Pat Murphy
Vera Nazarian

Debbie Notkin
Susan Palwick
Emily Pohl-Weary
Katya Reimann
John Calvin Rezmerski
Carrie Richerson
Diana Rivers
Lori Seike

Nisi Shawl
Delia Sherman
Diane Silver
Kristine Smith
Midori Snyder
Maureen Kincaid Speller
Caroline Stevermer
Susan Stinson

Amy Thomson
Charles Vess
Joan D. Vinge
Elizabeth Vonarburg
Scott Westerfeld
Terri Windling
Laurel Winler
Patricia Wrede

Getting to Madison

By Air

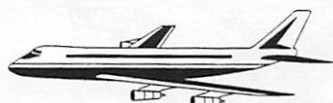
This is easy, since Madison has only one airport. There has been no special discount arranged for air travel to WisCon. Ask your travel agent whether Midwest Airlines has flights from your airport—it's a smaller company that provides excellent, comfortable service.

Flights into Milwaukee (90 miles away) or Chicago (150 miles away) are often much cheaper, but you'll need to take a bus into Madison. (See: "By Bus" below.)

The Madison airport is small, with eight gates plus a commuter gate for the puddle-jumpers. There are two baggage claim carousels right next to each other. Outside the baggage claim area and slightly to the right is the taxi rank. See the section "Getting Around Madison: Cabs" for, you guessed it, information about cabs.

If you arrive by plane and are staying at the Concourse, use the express courtesy phone in the airport baggage claim area to call for the hotel's courtesy shuttle. Allow 15 to 20 minutes for it to arrive; meet the shuttle directly outside the baggage claim area. Runs from 7 A.M. to 11 P.M.

Madison Metro Bus #16 stops at the Madison airport terminal on weekdays only, 6:17 A.M.–8:38 P.M. Getting to the Concourse from the airport by bus involves making a transfer. Contact the Madison Metro for more information. (See "Getting around Madison: Metro Buses.")



By Bus

Van Galder (800-747-0994; www.vangalderbus.com) runs regular service from Chicago's O'Hare and Midway Airports and from the Chicago Amtrak station to the Memorial Union in Madison. The bus also stops along the way in Rockford, IL, Beloit, WI, and Janesville, WI. One-way tickets (\$22) can be purchased from the bus driver.

Badger Coaches (608-255-6771; www.badgerbus.com) make trips from the Milwaukee airport (Mitchell Field) and Madison, dropping off at both the Memorial Union and Badger Bus Depot. Tickets cost \$14 one way, \$25 round trip.

Once at the Union you may call the Concourse to catch a ride on the hotel's courtesy shuttle (257-6000). This service is usually only for guests arriving at the airport but they will pick you up if they're not busy. If you feel like walking one mile up State Street to the hotel, follow the map on the next page.

By Car

Use the regional map on this page to plan out your route to WisCon.

From Chicago: north on Hwy 90 to Hwy 12/18 West (also called the "Beltline"). Take the John Nolan Drive exit north—you'll get a nice view of the skyline and eventually pass underneath the Monona Terrace Convention Center. At the first traffic light after the Center, continue straight through the light onto Blair (look at the downtown map). After two blocks, turn left onto East Washington Ave....

From Minneapolis: south on Hwy 90/94 to Hwy 151 South, which becomes East Washington Ave....

From Milwaukee: west on Hwy 94 to Hwy 30 West. Follow signs for Hwy 151 South/Capitol/Campus (it's a tight right-hand exit off Hwy 30). Hwy 151 South becomes East Washington Avenue....

From Iowa: East on Hwy 151 to Hwy 12/18 East (also called the "Beltline"). Take the John Nolan Drive exit north—you'll get a nice view of the skyline and eventually pass underneath the new Monona Terrace Convention Center. At the first traffic light after the Center, continue straight through the light onto Blair (look at the downtown map). After two blocks, turn left onto East Washington Ave....

...head down East Washington Ave. toward the Capitol building. (See downtown map on next page.) Admire the skyline. Two blocks before the Capitol turn right onto Webster St. (almost everyone will; two lanes go right and one goes straight); after two blocks turn left at traffic light onto Dayton St. (90° angle to Dayton; don't take Hamilton which is a 45° angle to Capitol Square); the Concourse is on your left after two blocks between Wisconsin Ave. and Carroll St.

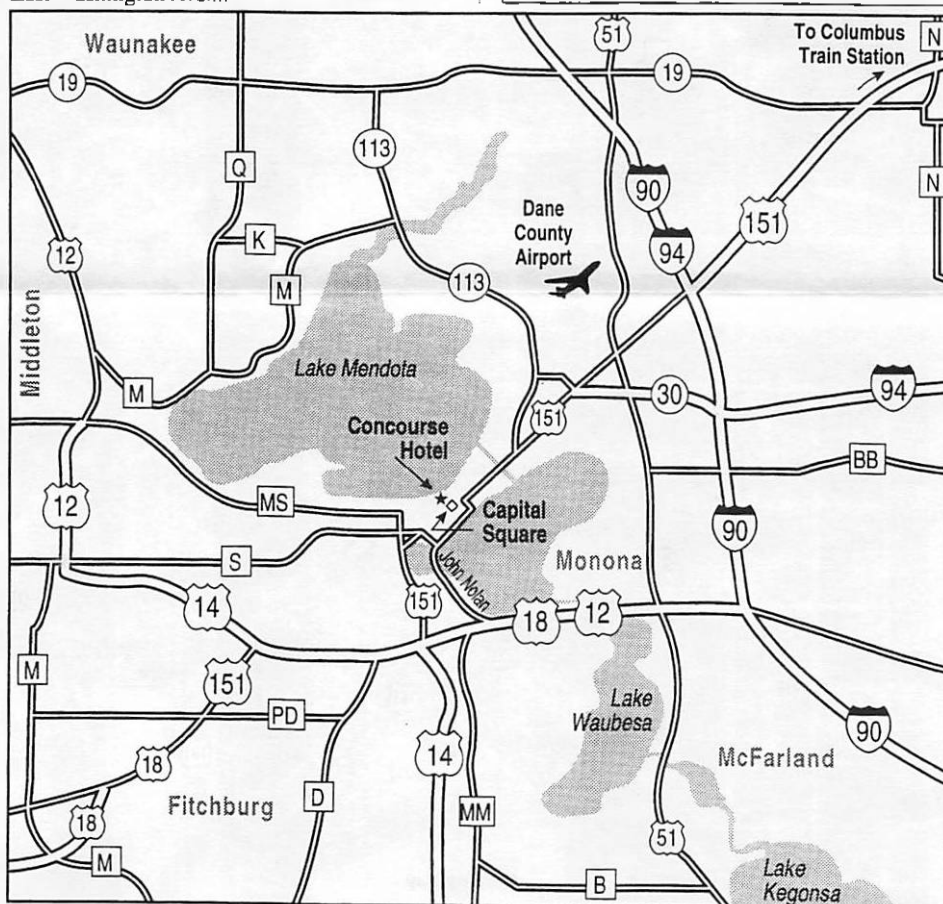
By Train

The nearest Amtrak station is in Columbus, 25 miles north of Madison on Hwy 151. There is no direct transportation from there, so be sure to make plans to have someone pick you up in Columbus.

See you at WisCon!



Road construction (Wisconsin's second season, the first being winter) will be happening on the near west side of Madison. Be careful, bring a map, and leave a little earlier if you need to travel by way of University Avenue (MS) or Johnson Street in this area of town!



WisCon 27

WisCon 27
 PO Box 1624
 Madison, WI 53701-1624

After your name on your mailing label is a code for the type of membership you have. The categories are:

- A** = Adult attending membership
- Y** = Youth membership
- C** = Child care membership
- K** = Kid-in-tow
- G** = Former Guest of Honor
- S** = Supporting membership
- N** = Haven't joined yet
- D:#** = number of dessert salon tickets ordered

These data include registrations received by May 11 if you sent in your registration shortly before that date, it's probably not included.

Getting around Madison

There are plenty of restaurants near the hotel (www.thedailybeast.com/going-out/eats/) (www.madison.com/rhythm/restaurant/). The downtown area has plenty of shops, including drugstores for necessities. Generally speaking, you won't need to rely on extra transportation unless you are planning to sightsee or need to shop for an evening party.

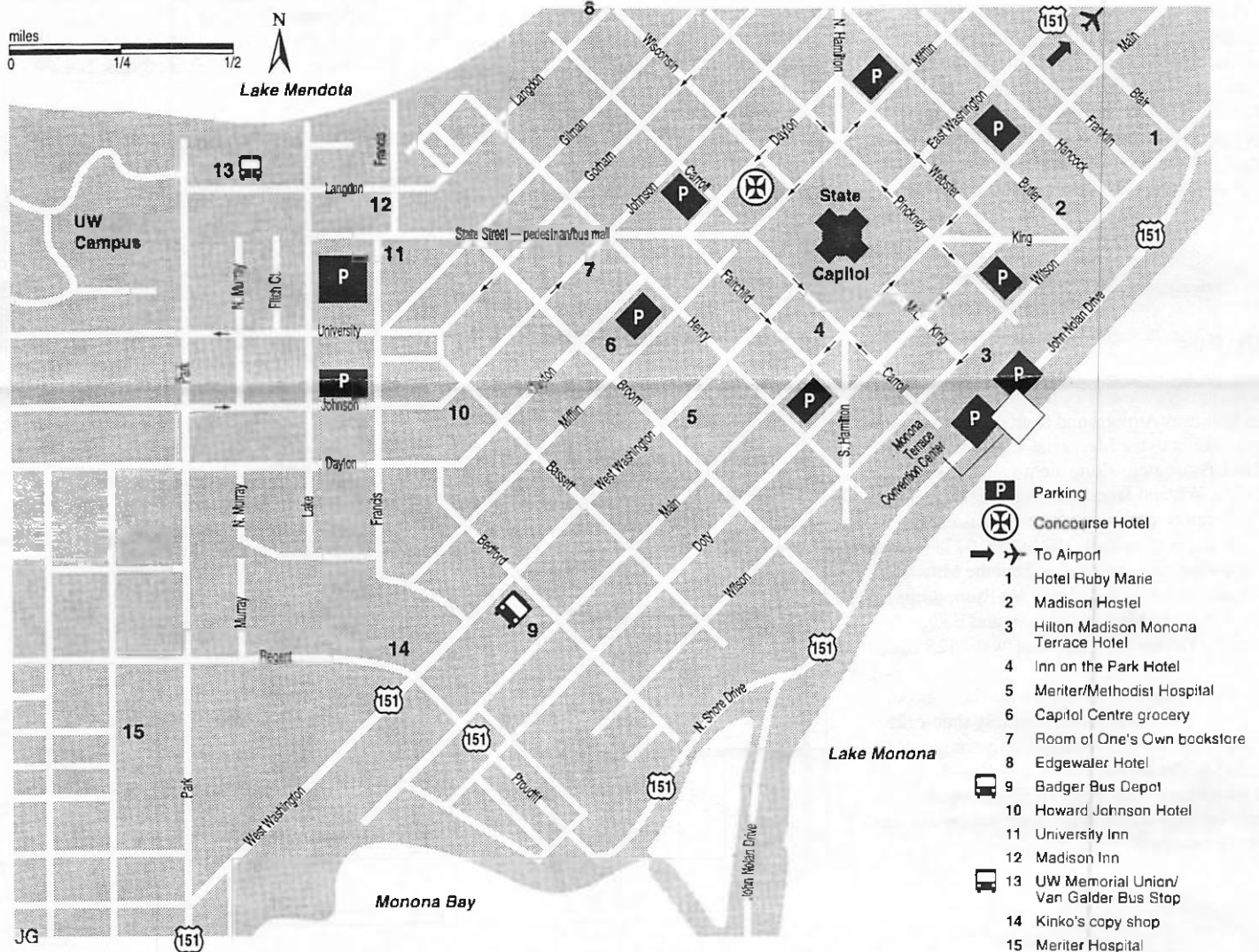
Cabs

Cabs from the airport to the Concourse will cost \$10 to \$15.

- Badger Cab 608-256-5566
- Madison Taxi 608-257-8294
- Union Cab 608-242-2000

Metro Buses

The Madison bus system channels most of its routes within a few blocks of the Concourse. Bus fare is \$1.50. Exact change is required. One-day VisiTour passes cost \$3.00. For routes and schedule contact Madison Metro: 608-266-4466. TDD 608-267-1143. www.ci.madison.wi.us/metro.



- P** Parking
- Concourse Hotel
- To Airport
- 1** Hotel Ruby Marie
- 2** Madison Hostel
- 3** Hilton Madison Monona Terrace Hotel
- 4** Inn on the Park Hotel
- 5** Meriter/Methodist Hospital
- 6** Capitol Centre grocery
- 7** Room of One's Own bookstore
- 8** Edgewater Hotel
- 9** Badger Bus Depot
- 10** Howard Johnson Hotel
- 11** University Inn
- 12** Madison Inn
- 13** UW Memorial Union/Van Galder Bus Stop
- 14** Kinko's copy shop
- 15** Meriter Hospital