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# NEWS

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## Doctors Issue Warning About

# Button Batteries

June 29, 2011 5:19 PM

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If swallowed, a button battery can completely erode the esophagus in less than five hours. (Credit: CBS)

**CHICAGO (WBBM)** – Two children in the last three weeks have been treated at Children's Memorial Hospital after they ingested button batteries.

One child was hospitalized after the battery perforated the esophagus.

Pediatric resident Dr. Karen Maul of Children's says swallowing batteries can be the equivalent of ingesting bleach.

**LISTEN: Newsradio 780's Lisa Fielding**

### reports

"Button batteries aren't like coins when they are swallowed in that they produce an electric current and that generates hydroxide ions so if you can imagine swallowing bleach, it's kind of similar."

Studies show that small, coin sized batteries found in products such as remote controls, flashlights and greeting cards are now landing in the hands of children and with some devastating consequences. Dr. Maul says this injury is 100 percent preventable.

A study by the National Capital Poison Center found that battery related incidents resulting in severe injury and fatality have increased sevenfold since 1985. Data shows that there used to be a dozen cases a year and that has jumped to an average of 100 cases per year on a review of 56,000 cases.

If the battery is stuck in the esophagus there is only a two hour time window to remove before a chemical burn causes significant tissue damage.

Doctors are advising parents to take an inventory of their home. Maul says look through the different products and determine if you have any

Reporting [Lisa Fielding](#)

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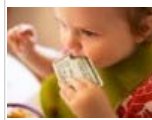
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It appears a man from the Chicago area has been arrested for slipping onto a cross-country flight from New York to Los Angeles, raising major concerns for air travel safety and security.

### [McDonald's Fares Poorly In New Fast Food Survey](#)

Oak Brook-based McDonald's may have more locations, but customers are not thrilled with their offerings, according to a new survey.

### [Girl, 15, Ticketed For Crash That Killed Friend, Dog](#)

A traffic ticket has been issued against a 15-year-old girl, who was driving in a crash last week that killed her friend and a sick dog.

### [Watchdog Group: Prison Inmates Rarely Get To Change Underwear](#)

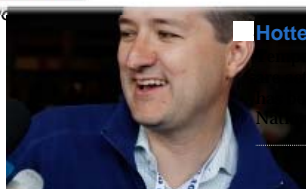
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Cedar Point's Ultimate Summer Giveaway!

This summer Cedar Point Amusement Park in Sandusky, Ohio is giving Chicagoans the chance to experience the park and some of their newest features for Free! Register for a chance to cash in on an Ultimate Family Getaway and a VIP Road Trip Package.

670 The Score's Ultimate Tailgate Contest presented by General RV

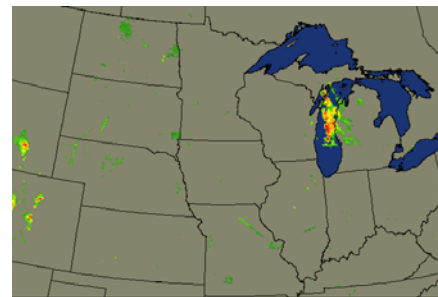
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## VIDEO NEWS

### HOTTEST SPORTS STORIES

#### [NBA Players Officially Locked Out](#)

Union chief Billy Hunter said Thursday afternoon that owners had locked out the players after failing to reach a new collective bargaining agreement.

#### [Holmes' Morning After Blog: The Chicago Baseball Season By The Numbers](#)

Here's a look at Chicago's 2011 baseball season by the numbers, on both sides of town.

#### [Bernstein: Cubs Put On A Happy Face](#)

Every next thing we hear from the Cubs is crazier than the last.

#### [Wisch: Illinois AD Clocks Out, Leaves Weber, Zook Ticking](#)

The University of Illinois is on the clock. But it's Bruce Weber and Ron Zook who can hear theirs ticking. At about 5 p.m. this evening Illinois will be without an official athletic director for the first time since 1992.

#### [Gamble Pays Off As White Sox Beat Rockies 3-2](#)

A.J. Pierzynski drove in his second run of the game with a sacrifice fly in the ninth inning and the Chicago White Sox hung on to beat the Rockies 3-2.

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- 6:30 PM** Entertainment Tonight
- 7:00 PM** The Big Bang Theory
- 7:31 PM** Rules of Engagement
- 8:00 PM** CSI: Crime Scene Investigation
- 9:00 PM** The Mentalist
- 10:00 PM** CBS 2 News at 10:00PM
- 10:35 PM** Late Show with David Letterman

