



WHY NO ONE CAN ESCAPE NYC'S CONGESTION TOLL

SEE
PAGE 7



Migrants free to stay
in US as 350,000
asylum cases closed

BIDEN'S MASS AMNESTY

The Biden administration is running a "mass amnesty" program, terminating more than 350,000 asylum cases since 2022 "without a decision on the merits of their asylum claim" — effectively removing the migrants from the legal system and no longer requiring them to check in with authorities.

SEE
PAGES
4 & 5

Mayor Adams, Speaker Adams in ‘bitter feud’

By CRAIG MCCARTHY
and MATT TROUTMAN

They may share a name, but they’re no happy family. Mayor Adams and City Council Speaker Adrienne Adams grew up together, walked the same Queens high school hallways and even grieved alongside each other after their mothers died within a year of both reaching the summit of city politics. But the long-standing camaraderie between the no-relation Adamses has devolved into a bitter power struggle, more than a dozen sources with knowledge of the fallout have told The Post. “This thing with the council is not going to go away and it’s going to get even more snippier,” one Democratic operative said. “There are going to be more and more headlines.”

Eric vs. Adrienne

Fierce feuds and bratty back-and-forths between their factions in City Hall and the council have become increasingly frequent and public. Just last week, New Yorkers watched the two bizarrely hold dueling meetings over a bill that would expand lawmakers’ oversight over mayoral appointees. On the mayor’s side, insiders say officials feel threatened by loud, lefty council members who have been emboldened under the speaker and are actively working against Eric Adams’ re-election. The speaker feels disrespected by the mayor, who repeatedly touts their teamwork but privately flip-flops on promises and has staff who operate in a chaotic and petty manner, sources said. To hear Mayor Adams tell it, the two have always been close. When the mayor took a victory lap after his first 100 days in 2022, he touted the partnership with his “amazing friend.” “We were high school students together,” he told Adrienne Adams. “You and I both lost our mommies this last year. They’re looking down on us and they’re telling us, ‘You got this, baby. You got this.’ I thank you so much.”



NOM DE GUERRE: Speaker Adrienne Adams and Mayor Adams smile for the cameras outside City Hall.

They’re friends in ‘name’ only.

While both went to Bayside HS, they didn’t run in the same circles, sources said. “It’s a complete joke,” one council source said. “They were not good friends in high school.” Said another source, “These two people took two totally different life paths.” Eric Adams became a prominent NYPD captain who founded the 100 Blacks in Law Enforcement

Who Care advocacy group. After he left the force in 1996, he served as a state senator and Brooklyn borough president before he was elected mayor. Adrienne Adams had a more low-key rise, cutting her teeth on a Queens community board before joining the council in 2017. By 2021, she was one of two top candidates to succeed then-outgoing Speaker Corey Johnson —

a race that sources said sowed the seeds of the current clash. The mayor’s backing Queens lawmaker Francisco Moya was seen as meddling by some in the council, City Hall insiders said. “There is still resentment with the mayor’s political team over the speaker’s race,” a source said. The rupture widened when Eric and Adrienne sat down in 2022 to hash out a budget, which

cut school funding by \$215 million — a deal that outraged teachers, prompting lawmakers to walk back their support. “Council members claimed they were shocked,” the insider said. “They started pointing fingers at the administration. It was a turning point.”

Widening rift

Budget battles escalated with the migrant crisis, which the mayor said would cost the city \$12 billion as he pushed a spate of sweeping spending cuts. Council members last year overrode Eric Adams’ veto of a housing voucher plan, then sought to join a lawsuit to force him to comply with their reforms. In January, they slapped down his veto of the How Many Stops Act, a bill to make cops record all street stops. Lawmakers who sided with the speaker found themselves uninvited from events with the mayor, sources said. Then when City Hall tried to crack down on communications between government agencies and elected officials in April, the speaker told council members to not fill out the requested form. City Hall feels that progressive critics of the mayor’s have been roused under the speaker, including Deputy Speaker Diana Ayala (D-Manhattan/Bronx), a former ally of the mayor who ripped him as a “slumlord.” Then last week the mayor’s top council liaison, Tiffany Raspberry, turned her back on the speaker and stormed out of a hearing, insiders said. “No one expected it to be this level, the vitriol ... especially when [the mayor] is out there saying, ‘I love you,’” a Democratic council source said. The mayor and the speaker declined to be interviewed. Eric Adams’ top spokesman, Fabien Levy, maintained they have “a strong, long-standing relationship.” A council spokesperson said lawmakers have “constructively” worked with City Hall. *Additional reporting by Carl Campanile*

William Farnington

INSIDE TODAY

News Columns

Don Barnett 4
Miranda Devine 11
Adam Andrzejewski 12
Gossip
Page Six 14
Cindy Adams 16

Weather p. 16

Post Opinion p. 23-25

Fun & Games

Horoscope 22
Su Doku 26
Crosswords 26

Business p. 27-30

Classifieds p. 33

Sports p. 34-53

Television p. 54-55

LOTTERY

NEW YORK

■ Midday Nos. Sun.: 697
■ Midday Win-4 Sun.: 3656
■ Midday Take-5 Sun.: 6, 11, 24, 27, 31
■ Evening Nos. Sun.: 378
■ Evening Win-4 Sun.: 5031
■ Evening Take-5 Sun.: 8, 15, 20, 25, 29
■ Pick-10 Sun.: 3, 5, 12, 14, 16, 19, 25, 36, 38, 41, 42, 46, 48, 56, 62, 66, 72, 73, 76, 77
■ Cash-4-Life Sun.: 9, 23, 25, 38, 56; Cash Ball: 2

■ Lotto Sat.: 15, 20, 36, 41, 51, 52; Bonus: 26;
■ Powerball Sat.: 28, 38, 52, 54, 68; Powerball: 8;
Power Play: x2

NEW JERSEY

Pick-3 Sun.: 242; Fireball: 4
Pick-4 Sun.: 4253; Fireball: 4
Cash-5 Xtra Sun.: 12, 25, 31, 39, 45; Xtra: 3

CONNECTICUT

Play-3 Sun.: 659; Wild: 4
Play-4 Sun.: 0482; Wild: 6
Cash-5 Sun.: 2, 13, 25, 26, 30

POST CONTACTS

Editorial

Main Office (212) 930-8000
News Tips (212) 930-8500
Sports Desk (212) 930-8700

Circulation and Home Delivery

Customer Service (800) 552-7678

Mail subscription & back issues only:

Phone 1-888-208-4157 or contact
New York Post, P.O. Box 1407,
Bellmawr, NJ, 08099. Foreign and
domestic mail subscription rates
available upon request to the
Publishers Information Center, Inc.

Postmaster: Send address changes to The New York Post, 1211 Ave. of the Americas, NY, NY 10036-8790.
Vol. 223 No. 201 Copyright 2024, NYP Holdings Inc. (USPS-383200)
Published daily by NYP Holdings Inc., 1211 Ave. of the Americas, New York, NY 10036-8790.



Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY, and additional offices. The Post uses recycled paper.

Teach out over kids' cell hell

An Arizona high-school teacher blamed his students' rampant use of their phones in class for the decline of his mental health and his decision to quit.

Mitchell Rutherford, who taught biology at Sahuaro HS in Tucson, Ariz., for over a decade, says he called it quits after multiple failed attempts to pry his students from their devices.

"I have been struggling with mental health this year mostly because of what I identified as basically phone addiction with the students," he told KVOA.

Rutherford said in October, half of his students were failing his class and told him they didn't want to be at school or care about their grades.

"I was beginning to think I was the problem," Rutherford, who says he was growing anxious and depressed, told The Wall Street Journal.

Rutherford's final day was May 23, which he called bittersweet, but best for himself and his family.

"Part of me feels like I'm abandoning these kids. I tell kids to do hard things all the time and now I'm leaving?" he said.

"But I decided I'm going to try something else that doesn't completely consume me and drain me."

Nicholas McEntyre

A snack for crime

A potato chip-loving thief almost ended up in the can after a series of burglaries in Nottinghamshire, England, including one in which the sneaky snacker pilfered 17 tubes of Pringles.

After his arrest, Adam Spencer, 40, attempted to explain his actions to cops by telling them, "Once you pop, you can't stop," à la the snack brand's slogan.

He pleaded guilty to burglary and theft.

On Wednesday, Nottingham Magistrates' Court handed Spencer a six-month prison sentence suspended for one year.

Chris Nesi

Future of SI? Go ask Alix!



YUTSAI/SPORTS ILLUSTRATED

WHO'DA \$UNK IT IN QNS. 100G find in lake

By PATRICK REILLY

A Queens couple pulled a safe with \$100,000 in cash inside from the bottom of a lake in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park while "magnet fishing," according to a report.

The two anglers, James Kane and Barbie Agostini, tossed a line with a strong magnet on the end into the water on Friday afternoon. When they felt something bulky on the end, they pulled out an old safe.

They were able to pry the safe open and find the discovery — which was unfortunately ruined by the water — wrapped in plastic.

"It was two stacks of freaking hundreds. Big stacks," Kane told NY1.

Kane said as veteran magnet fishermen he and Agostini had found plenty of safes before — most of which are empty, save some plastic bags used to hold cash. He expected this one to be the same.

Kane said he swore in shock. Agostini thought he was joking.

"He showed me and once I saw the actual dollars and the security ribbons, I lost it," she said.

Unfortunately, the bills were "soaking wet, pretty much destroyed," Kane said.

They called the NYPD to avoid any legal trouble, and numerous cops arrived just to check out the bizarre call that'd come over the radio. They told the couple they'd never seen anything like it.

Cops say 'keep it'

With no way to ID the owner of the safe, which was likely stolen, Kane and Agostini were allowed to keep what they found.

"I guess the finders keepers rule worked for us," Kane said.

The couple first got into magnet fishing during the pandemic.

"We were bored during COVID lockdown and I've always had this itch to become a treasure hunter . . . so we discovered something called magnet fishing," Kane said.

It's "the poor man's treasure hunting," he joked.

The couple's finds include a WWII-era grenade they pulled out of Sheepshead Bay in Brooklyn and six or seven guns, some dating back to the 19th century, in Flushing Meadows alone.



Sports Illustrated unveils its first-ever digital Swimsuit Issue with a Web sensation for the debut cover model — "Hot Mess" podcast host and TikTok "It Girl" Alix Earle. "The secret is out," the 23-year-old influencer said on Instagram of her Miami photo shoot for the mag. She also made her catwalk debut in the Magic City over the weekend for an SI Swimsuit runway show.

BORDER CRISIS

WH bends law
on work permits

BIDEN'S

DON
BARNETT

THE Biden administration is doing an end-run around the nation's immigration laws — by giving migrants work permits in record numbers.

Since President Biden took office, more than 3.3 million migrants have been given an Employment Authorization Document (EAD), commonly known as a federal work permit, even though many didn't legally have the right to be America.

And as of February of this year, pending EAD applications stood at another 1.4 million. In many cases, migrants are given the right to work *before* they are given asylum, a green card or other legal documentation that allows them to stay.

Permit manipulation

Not so long ago, the work permit rightly was considered an unwanted immigration “pull factor” and a key to managing immigration flows.

In 1996, the Immigration and Naturalization Service introduced a new rule: Asylum-seekers had to wait 180 days before applying for work.

Asylum is meant for people fleeing legitimate claims of persecution, not just looking for better jobs.

Reviewing the previous year's immigration statistics, then-Immigration Commissioner Doris Meissner announced that new rules removing this “primary incentive” resulted in asylum claims dropping from 122,589 in 1994 to 53,255 in 1995.

“With this attack on fraud, we have closed a back door to illegal immigration” she added.

But Biden has chipped away at that six-month waiting period rule.

In a blizzard of rules and more than 530 immigration-related executive actions — already blowing past the previous record compiled by Trump over 4 years — the Biden administration has expanded admissions or created brand new admission pipelines under eight distinct and significant programs.

These include population transfers from Afghanistan and Ukraine, “family reunification” programs featuring direct flights to the US for those who qualify from Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti and Honduras.

For all others there is the CPBOne

app, which allows foreign nationals to book an appointment online with US border authorities. As of fall 2023, about 2.3 million had entered through these various programs.

‘Parole’ gray zone

None of these programs confers lawful immigration status on the new arrivals, whose “twilight” status cannot lead to a green card or legal permanent residency. Most are entering under the wildly novel and likely illegal use of the administration's “parole authority.”

To illustrate the impact of this policy, consider that between 2013 and 2020, immigration authorities granted parole to a mere 479 individuals crossing illegally, reflecting the case-by-case, emergency nature of the administrative tool.

In contrast, under the Biden administration immigration authorities paroled in nearly 700,000 illegal border-crossers in 2022-23. Most have immediate eligibility for a work permit and Social Security card.

In some cases, those receiving parole apply for asylum later, after already getting a work permit — nullifying the 180-day wait rule.

In 2022, 1.279 million work permits were handed out. By 2023 that number had risen to 2.139 million and 2024 is on track to break 3.3 million.

Parolee is not a category the government keeps numbers by, but perhaps up to half of work permits went to parolees. Without congressional action, most of these parolees will remain stuck in a legal nether world, dependent upon executive actions to keep renewing their temporary right to be in the country. But no one is moving to deport them.

In fact, this “Green Card Lite” was the key element in the actions of California and Illinois to allow non-citizens to become police officers.

Republican states are on board too, with many granting professional and trade licenses to anyone with a work permit and the qualifications necessary for the license.

The Biden administration is creating facts on the ground that it feels will force Congress to bend to its vision of the border.

The establishment's acceptance of the temporary work permit as proof of lawful immigrant presence is a statement that it accepts Biden's demographic and political revolution as a fait accompli.

Don Barnett is a fellow at the Center for Immigration Studies.

A trailer for
horses jams
27 migrants

By MEGAN PALIN

A routine traffic stop uncovered 27 “distressed” migrants who were “sweating profusely” while being smuggled in a horse trailer, according to the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Officials posted a video on X showing a DPS trooper stopping a Ford F-250 towing a horse trailer on US-281 in Hidalgo County, Texas, on Friday.

The clip shows an officer approaching the truck driver, Jose Guadalupe Salinas, and asking what is inside the trailer.

“Two horses,” he responds.

Officers then ask to see the horses and Salinas agrees to open the trailer, but warns the animals “are aggressive” before opening the door.

A group of people — and no horses — can be seen crammed inside.

The migrants were “distressed and sweating profusely” and three individuals “were severely dehydrated and required medical attention due to extreme heat and no ventilation,” DPS said.

Salinas was immediately placed in handcuffs and a trooper can be seen and heard asking the migrants if they need water.

Troopers referred the individuals from Mexico to the US Border Patrol, Fox News reported. USBP took custody of Salinas and will be filing federal charges for the smuggling of persons.



Turkish crossings in Mexico

The number of Turkish migrants crossing the southern border illegally has skyrocketed under the Biden administration, invited by smugglers who sell and organize crossings on social media boasting about how easy it is,

The Post can reveal.

There were roughly 1,400 Turkish migrants encountered by border agents along the US-Mexico border in fiscal year 2021, which exploded to more than 15,000 each in fiscal years

2022 and 2023, according to federal data.

Most Turkish border crossers last year crossed into the San Diego border region — which in 2024 has become the busiest entry point in the nation for mi-

INSANE ASYLUM

Policy of 'mass amnesty' for 350,000 just since '22

By JENNIE TAER

While the Biden administration is attempting to look like it's getting tough on the border, behind the scenes it's operating a program of a "mass amnesty" for migrants, The Post can reveal.

Data show that since 2022, more than 350,000 asylum cases filed by migrants have been closed by the US government if the applicants don't have a criminal record or are otherwise not deemed a threat to the country.

This means that while the migrants are not granted or denied asylum — their cases are "terminated without a decision on the merits of their asylum claim" — they are removed from the legal system and no longer required to check in with authorities.

The move allows them to legally, indefinitely roam about the US without fear of deportation, effectively letting them slip through the cracks.

Indefinite stay

"This is just a massive amnesty under the guise of prosecutorial discretion," according to Andrew Arthur, a former immigration judge who now works for the Center for Immigration Studies.

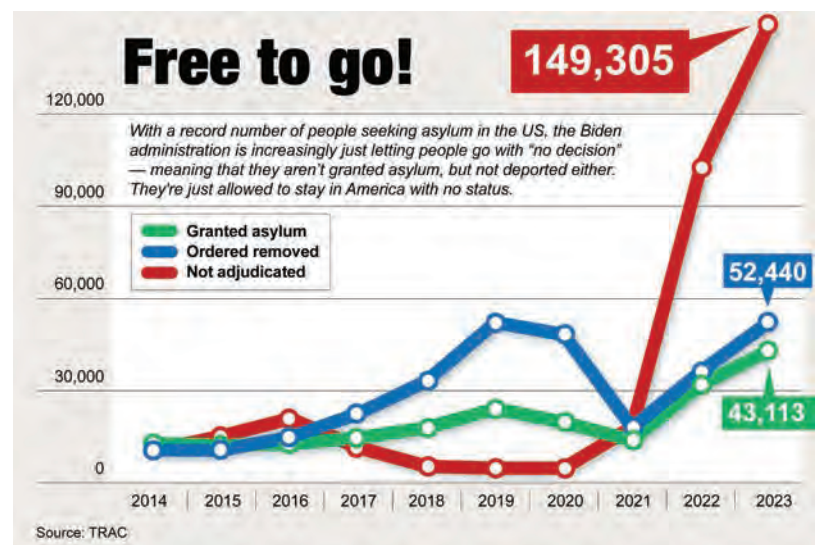
"You're basically allowing people who don't have a right to be in the United States to be here indefinitely," he added to The Post.

ICE officers add that they have seen an increase in cases of such migrants committing crimes after their asylum cases have been dismissed, forcing agents to restart removal proceedings — which typically take years.

"Please let everyone know what's really going on," an ICE officer told The Post.

In 2020, during the Trump administration, 48,000 migrants were ordered removed from the US by immigration court judges.

Fewer than 20,000 people were granted asylum, and 4,700 people had their cases



closed or were otherwise allowed to remain in the country, according to data collected by the Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse (TRAC).

In 2022, under Biden, a memo issued by Immigration and Customs Enforcement's principal legal adviser, Kerry Doyle, and seen by The Post instructed prosecutors at the agency to allow cases to be dismissed for migrants who aren't deemed national security threats.

In 2023, there were 149,000 cases in this latter category, and so far in financial year 2024 — which ends Sept. 30 — the data is certain to surpass that, with 114,000 cases closed already.

Since Biden assumed office, 77% of asylum-seekers have been allowed to remain in the country, according to TRAC. That equates to 499,000 of the 648,000 who applied for asylum in the US in that time.

The current backlog of asylum cases stands at 3.5 million, and shaving more than 100,000 people a year off it makes the administration look better, sources told The Post.

Once cases are closed, migrants are no

longer in "removal proceedings" and subject to deportation — the government's default position for all migrants admitted at the border.

Cases erased

"If the case gets dismissed, you're basically back to nothing," Washington-based immigration lawyer Hector Quiroga told The Post, clarifying that migrants with dismissed cases can't receive benefits or a work permit.

Quiroga said for clients with "horrible" cases — ones where they are unlikely to ultimately prove they need asylum — "that's better than having a deportation order." Once a case is terminated, the person can re-apply for asylum or seek other forms of legal status in the US.

The Biden administration's attempts to tighten things up at the border have included issuing a rule in May that asylum claims must be resolved within 180 days for migrants who list their final destination in the US as Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles and New York City. The administration is also poised to issue an order to close the border once the number of crossings reaches 4,000 per day, sources said.

Editorial / Page 24



Texas DPS



HEAT TRAP: Driver Jose Guadalupe Salinas (inset) is accused of smuggling 27 people in Texas who were found "distressed" and dehydrated.

spike under Joe

grants entering illegally. Translated Turkish language Telegram channels reviewed by The Post provide detailed accounts of the help migrants receive to make their journeys.

The smugglers' advertise a route to Tijuana via Cancun, offering secure flights and travel across the border, encouraging migrants to not "delay your dreams." Jennie Taer



The starting gun

Blood banks 'too dry'

By RYAN KING

With former President Donald Trump convicted in his Manhattan hush money case, the 2024 political-legal spotlight will shift to Delaware, where jury selection begins Monday in the federal weapons trial of First Son Hunter Biden.

Hunter (right), 54, faces three counts accusing him of illegally possessing a firearm while addicted to crack cocaine after lying on a federal gun-purchase form to obtain the weapon in the first place.

Here's everything you need to know about the trial.

What is Hunter Biden charged with?

Officially, he is charged with three felonies: making a false statement in the purchase of a firearm, making a false statement related to information required to be kept by a federally licensed firearms dealer and possession of a firearm by an unlawful user of or addict to a controlled substance.

If convicted on all charges, the first son faces up to 25 years in prison and fines totaling more than \$750,000 — though he is very unlikely to receive the maximum sentence if found guilty.

Ironically, when Joe Biden was a senator, he helped pass legislation that shaped the law Hunter now stands accused of flouting.

The application asked, "Are you an unlawful user of, or addicted to, marijuana or any depressant, stimulant, narcotic drug, or any other controlled substance?"

Hunter answered "no," despite knowing, according to prosecutors, that the statement was "false and fictitious."

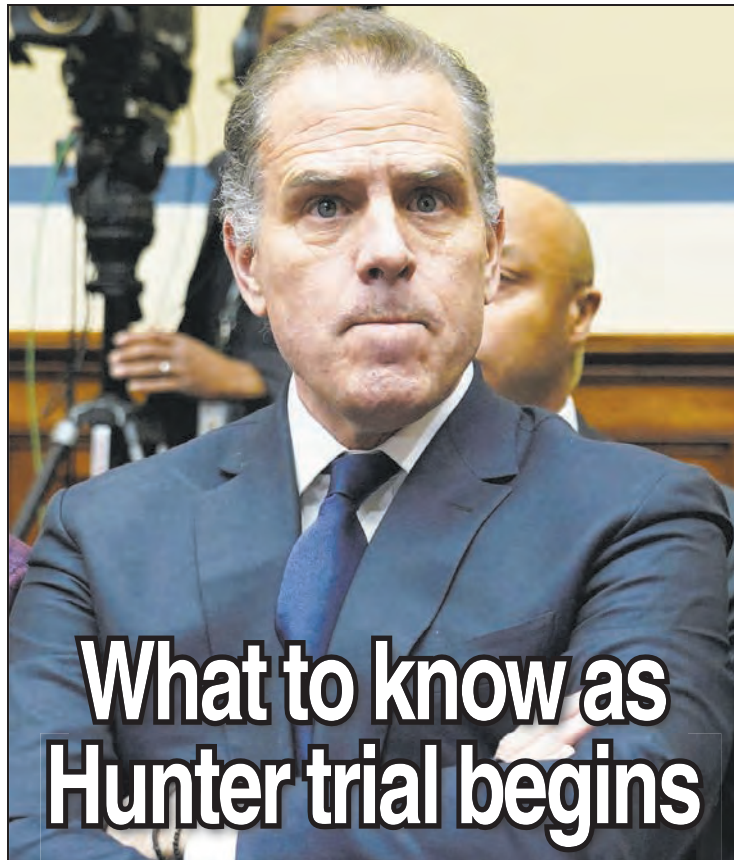
Why did he acquire the gun?

Hunter Biden told friends that he made the gun purchase on Oct. 12, 2018, on a whim and believed that time at a shooting range could help him avoid a drug relapse, according to a New York Times report from January last year. He also claimed to have believed that he was sober the day he filled out the form.

Images from the first son's laptop show him asleep with what appears to be a crack pipe in his mouth on Oct. 8, 2018, The Post previously reported.

Hunter Biden later told The Daily Beast that the photograph depicted a meth pipe rather than a crack pipe and alleged that the picture had been staged.

Hunter ultimately purchased the



Reuters

handgun, a .38-caliber revolver, at StarQuest Shooters & Survival Supply in Wilmington, Del.

He also bought a HKS Speed-loader and 25 rounds of ammunition, according to prosecutors, who don't have to prove that the first son was intoxicated on the day he made the purchases.

What happened to the gun?

Hunter Biden held onto the weapon for 11 days before it got tossed into a trash can.

At the time, Hunter was in the midst of a tryst with Hallie Biden, the widow of his late brother, Beau.

On Oct. 23, 2018, Hallie, frustrated with Hunter's drug use, discovered the gun in his unlocked car and discarded it — wrapped in a black shopping bag — behind a supermarket across the street from a high school.

This did not go over well with Hunter, who launched a barrage of profane text messages at her upon learning what she had done.

Hunter demanded that Hallie return to the trash can and retrieve the revolver, but when she did, it was gone, according to a police report unearthed by Politico in March 2021. Hallie then contacted the store's management, which drew in law enforcement.

Hunter told cops that he used the firearm for target practice — and dodged questions about whether he was using drugs by suggesting Hallie had thought "I was gonna kill myself," according to the report.

Days later, the gun was turned in by an older man who regularly went through the store's trash for recyclable items.

Who's prosecuting the case?

David Weiss has been the US attorney for Delaware since 2018; he was nominated to the position under Trump, with the support of the state's Democratic senators.

Weiss' office has been investigating Hunter Biden on a number of tracks, including the gun charge, tax evasion and allegations of unregistered foreign lobbying.

Who are the key witnesses?

In their trial brief, prosecutors teased plans to call at least nine witnesses, mainly officials from the FBI, Delaware State Police and Drug Enforcement Administration — along with "an employee of Starquest Shooters," possibly the store gun shop owner Ron Palimere, and three other individuals listed as Witness 1, 2, and 3.

The Post has identified those

witnesses based on the description provided by prosecutors as Hunter's ex-wife, Kathleen Buhle, ex-girlfriend Zoe Kestan and Hallie Biden.

Will President Biden pardon Hunter?

While the president has not spoken publicly about the case, the White House has insisted that he would not pardon his son.

"I've been very clear; the president is not going to pardon his son," White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre reiterated back in December.

Behind the scenes, President Biden is reportedly very anxious that his son could wind up in prison. And there have been some conspicuous crossing of paths on the eve of the trial.

On May 26, President Biden met with Hallie, a move that raised some eyebrows given that she's expected to be a star witness.

Three days earlier, Hunter was present at a White House State Dinner honoring visiting Kenyan President William Ruto — which was also attended by Attorney General Merrick Garland, who approved Weiss' appointment to special prosecutor.

Who is the judge?

Maryellen Noreika was nominated to the bench by Trump and confirmed by the Senate in August 2018 — again with support from both of Delaware's Democratic senators.

A Pittsburgh native, Noreika holds an undergraduate degree from Lehigh University, a master's degree in biology from Columbia University and a law degree from the University of Pittsburgh.

Noreika has given campaign donations to candidates on both sides of the aisle, with Sen. Tom Cotton (R-Ark.), a particular favorite.

What are the other charges against Hunter?

In addition to the firearm case, Hunter Biden is also staring down a tax indictment that Weiss secured from a grand jury out of Los Angeles in December.

He is facing six misdemeanor and three felony counts for allegedly stiffing Uncle Sam of \$1.4 million in federal taxes between 2016 and 2019. He has pleaded not guilty to all charges.

Miranda Devine /P. 11

The New York Blood Center has issued an emergency as hospitals scramble to fill their blood banks.

In the past three weeks, donations were 2,100 pints short of what is needed at area hospitals, according to the blood center, the main provider for hospitals in the New York metro area.

The problem stems from a seasonal drop in donations before and after Memorial Day weekend.

This is the blood center's second emergency this year — the other was in January following low donor turnout and inclement weather.

The news is particularly troubling as there is generally a spike in traumatic injuries in the summer, the blood center said.

"The summer months, often called 'trauma season,' bring about significant challenges to an already limited blood supply," said Dr. Alexander Indrikovs, senior director of transfusion medicine at Northwell Health.

"With more hours of daylight and increased outdoor activities during the warmer months, people are more likely to sustain injuries that may require blood transfusions."

For more information on how to make a donation, visit nybc.org/donate-blood.

Lauren Elkie Schram

Teen attacks at sleepover

A 16-year-old boy forced his way into a Florida home and fatally stabbed a 15-year-old who was hosting a sleepover with friends, cops said.

Alexander Hernandez walked nearly six miles Saturday night to the victim's Wildwood home where he showed up unannounced and "banged" on the door at around 10 p.m., the Sumter County Sheriff's Office said.

Connor Michael Gill, 15, opened the door, and Hernandez fought his way inside and allegedly stabbed him. A 48-year-old adult in the home was also stabbed.

Hernandez was charged with murder. The motive remains unclear. Patrick Reilly

There's no escaping the MTA's new \$15 congestion toll to enter Midtown — even for local residents who don't drive a car.

A Brooklyn-based air-conditioning and ventilation service firm is already alerting customers below 60th Street in Manhattan that beginning June 30, it will impose a \$15 surcharge for all work orders to compensate for the toll, which kicks in that day.

"Note: Starting June 30 all NYC calls below 60th Street will be charged a \$15 surcharge for NYC congestion fee," says Mechanical East, a firm that installs and cleans heating, ventilation and air-conditioning units, in a bill sent to a Manhattan customer after cleaning AC units.

Daniel Flancraich, vice president of Mechanical East, told The Post, "This announcement to my clients is self explanatory."

Opponents of the toll have been warning for months that companies will pass along its cost to customers while making deliveries of goods and performing service calls.

Car drivers will be charged a \$15 toll. Large trucks will be charged between \$24 and \$36 per trip, depending on their size.

Tolls will be substantially lower during off-peaks hours — \$3.75 for cars.

"Hold onto your wallets, because the price of everything is about to go up even more in New York, especially within the congestion pricing tax zone," said Keep NYC Congestion Tax Free spokesman Joshua Bienstock, whose group got a copy of Mechanical East's bill from a customer.

Fear of exploiting

Bienstock said companies may exploit the toll.

They will be paying the toll when entering Midtown but could perform several jobs once there for the day — yet charge numerous customers the same fee.

"Service and delivery businesses are now realizing that they can add a congestion tax surcharge to every stop they make below 60th Street, which any thinking person could have foreseen," Bienstock told The Post.

"But not the MTA. All they care about is squeezing more money out of hardworking New Yorkers; they could care less about the inflationary nature of their tax," he said.

Congestion pricing is being implemented because of a state law designed to curb congestion and pollution in Midtown while generating revenue to boost mass transit.

The MTA said the new tolling will generate \$1 billion annually to pay for new subway trains, signal overhauls, a new expansion of the Second Avenue subway



HELL TO PAY: A camera-tracked (below) congestion toll for Manhattan means higher prices for bike shop owner Frank Arroyo (right), too.

into East Harlem and other major projects, while reducing Midtown congestion.

The law was championed by former Gov. Andrew Cuomo and the Democrat-controlled legislature in 2019 and is backed by current Gov. Hochul.

"It's hard to blame delivery and service companies for identifying this new money-maker, courtesy of Governor Hochul and the dolts at the MTA," Bienstock said. "How can a customer know how many stops a delivery or service vehicle is making in the zone? [Businesses] will profit from this fiasco, as will Uber and Lyft, while everyday citizens are caught holding the bill as usual. This is Governor Hochul's New York."

'Going to increase costs'

Kathryn Freed, who lives in a co-op building on the FDR Drive in Manhattan and is a plaintiff in a lawsuit aimed at blocking the toll, said apartment dwellers — including those on fixed incomes in public housing — will particularly feel the pinch of the pass-along-toll cost.

"There is no rail freight in Manhattan," Freed said. "Officials didn't look at the economic im-



part of the congestion toll."

Frank Arroyo, the owner of Frank's Bike Shop on Grand Street, said he already pays \$90 to \$105 for bike delivery services — and the congestion toll will just be piled on top of it.

"It's going to increase the delivery costs. The bikes are all warehoused outside the zone," said Arroyo, 79, who has been in business for 48 years.

He said the congestion toll will also discourage longtime customers who moved elsewhere from coming back to the shop.

Queens Chamber of Commerce



John Foca

President Tom Grech said that such issues should not come as a surprise.

"You can't do service deliveries on the bus and subway," Grech said.

The MTA insisted on Sunday that the congestion toll will be a money-saver.

"The Partnership for NYC estimates businesses are losing billions of dollars each year on long commute times and stalled deliveries of goods and services in the Central Business District because of gridlocked traffic. How they pass savings from congestion relief on to customers is up to them," said John McCarthy, the MTA's chief of policy and external relations.

Critics argue the toll will only divert traffic and pollution elsewhere, pick motorists and businesses' wallets and turn over their dollars over to a much-

maligned agency with a documented record of massive overspending on capital projects compared to other large transit systems across the globe, while fare beating is rampant.

Last-stand lawsuits

A recent poll found New York voters across the board overwhelmingly oppose the new congestion toll.

Legal challenges to the toll have been filed by Staten Island Borough President Vito Fossella and the United Federation of Teachers, lower Manhattan residents such as Freed and small businesses, New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy and truckers.

Barring court intervention, the MTA plans to start collecting the toll June 30.

Hochul's office did not respond to a Post request for comment.

ISRAEL UNDER ATTACK

ISRAELI PRIDE &

'Squad' hopeful's WH block

An anti-Israel "Squad" wannabe running in a New Jersey Democratic primary Tuesday was denied security clearance to a White House event last year, according to multiple reports.

Mohamed Khairullah — who is running against veteran Rep. Bill Pascrell — was quoted in Politico as saying he believes he is on a terror watchlist "with no due process" to clear his name after he was denied entry.

He was also arrested in 2002 for allegedly attacking his then-wife, according to police reports viewed by The Post. The domestic violence charge was later dropped.

Khairullah is mayor of Prospect Park, outside the city of Paterson, which has the largest population of Palestinian-Americans in the US. He accused Israel of genocide and recently posted pictures online with "Squad" members Rep. Jamaal Bowman and Rep. Ilhan Omar. *Carl Campanile*

NYPD order: Don't hesitate to arrest

The NYPD took no chances with Sunday's Israel Day parade, ordering cops to arrest any protesters without hesitation if they crossed the police perimeter.

An internal police memo obtained by The Post shows that New York's Finest were told to bust any intruders on the parade route for trespassing but being careful not to violate protesters' free speech.

The parade was officially over by midafternoon, and the NYPD reported no arrests by that time.

Tina Moore

Hostage hope in Midtown

By VALENTINA JARAMILLO,
HALEY BROWN
and JORGE FITZ-GIBBON

The annual Israel Day on Fifth parade hit Midtown on Sunday with a massive show of support for the Jewish state amid heavy NYPD security.

Marchers repeatedly called for Hamas terrorists to release the remaining Israeli hostages.

"I wake up every morning and think we lost all people of my family," said Sharon Sharabi, whose two brothers are among the hostages still held by Hamas.

"We are feeling that the people of America sympathize with us and the NYPD [are] here with us," Sharabi said.

"It's a really good feeling, that it's very safe here."

The event went off despite a tense climate of antisemitism looming over the five boroughs in the wake of the Oct. 7 attack on Israel by Hamas.

"I came out to support my dear and beloved country and to show that we're never going to back down," said Jacob, a 21-year-old student at the Staten Island Hebrew Academy who declined to give his last name.

"It's horrific," he said of anti-Jewish hate in the city. "You gotta look over your shoulder and live in fear."

Brooklyn resident Rita Malikima said the mood in the city scares her but that she felt compelled to show up to support fellow Jews.

"If we don't speak up, we can come back to the Holocaust in Germany in the 1940s," Malikima, 52, told The Post.

"I think the more we support and the more we speak out, the more people will understand that Israel has the right to exist and

the right to defend themselves."

The war has riled up anti-Israeli sentiment and led to massive — and often violent — protests and anti-Israel encampments on college campuses in the Big Apple and throughout the nation.

The NYPD heightened security for the parade, ordering police officers to arrest anyone who crossed security perimeters.

Before the march, Democratic Long Island Rep. Tom Suozzi held a press conference with other officials calling for Hamas to release the Israeli hostages.

The Israeli government, led by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, has defied international calls, including appeals from the US, for a cease-fire in exchange for the hostages' release.

"Put the pressure on Hamas where it belongs to bring these American citizens home," Suozzi said.

Free our loved ones

The congressman was accompanied by the families of Itay Chen, a sergeant with the Israel Defense Forces, and 22-year-old Omer Neutra, who were both captured by Hamas on Oct. 7.

"As New Yorkers, we stand together," Itay's father, Ruby Chen, told reporters. "And what we need now from our fellow New Yorkers is to stand by us and stand with us and support all that's been said here."

"We need this to end. We're just family folks, we just want our kids back. And on Oct. 7, this was also an attack on the United States," Chen said.

Other relatives of Hamas hostages echoed the pleas for freedom.

"For eight months, my little brothers, my two little brothers, have



been held hostage by Hamas," said Liran Berman, referring to his adult twin siblings, Gali and Ziv Berman.

"Now it's been more than 150 days with no new information about them. But we know in our hearts that they are OK and that they will be OK."

Noam Safir said his 86-year-old

grandfather, Shlomo Mantzur, is the oldest hostage.

"The past four months have been exhausting," Safir told The Post. "We've tried to get any piece of information we can get, and we still have nothing."

"Stay hopeful," he said to those in captivity. "We'll get you back and you'll be home soon."



PAIN ON PARADE



NOT FORGOTTEN: Fifth Avenue marchers on Sunday put the focus on hostages still held by Hamas, with groups like the Friends of Israel Scouts (bottom right) showing their support.

OLGA FEDOROVA/EPA-EFE/Shutterstock



Getty Images

BRAZEN: A provocateur wearing a Palestinian flag for a cape holds up a sign reading "Kill Hostages Now" at the Israel Day parade Sunday.

The masked sign menace

A masked maniac tried to disrupt Sunday's Israel Day parade, taunting marchers and supporters with a vile sign reading: "Kill Hostages Now."

The protester, in a black mask, black shirt and wearing a Palestinian flag as a cape, was part of a group of anti-Israel demonstrators who faced off with pro-Israeli New Yorkers near the route.

This year's parade featured were family members of hostages who were kidnapped by Hamas on Oct. 7.

At one point, an Israeli supporter came face-to-face with a man whose face was covered with a keffiyeh — a traditional Palestinian scarf.

"Don't step up to me," the man is heard saying on a video.

The NYPD then stepped in to

separate the two individuals before any violence broke out during the tense exchange on Fifth Avenue between 79th and 80th streets.

The annual Israel Day on Fifth pride parade took place under heightened police security this year amid a recent spike in antisemitic incidents and protests, including several that have led to clashes with NYPD officers.

The protests followed the October attack on Israel by Hamas terrorists, which sparked an Israeli counteroffensive in the Gaza Strip that has left thousands of Palestinians dead and more homeless.

Sunday's march was also marked by calls for Hamas to release its remaining Israeli hostages.

Jorge Fitz-Gibbon



Necklaces stolen from B'klyn sisters Monster chokes 6-yr.-old

By RONNY REYES

A man choked a terrified 6-year-old girl while stealing her and her sister's gold necklaces, which were birthday gifts from their mother, in Brooklyn, cops said.

Police released images of the wanted suspect Saturday, saying he is the man who approached a 14-year-old girl and her little sister Wednesday at their apartment building at Eastern Parkway and Ralph Avenue in Crown Heights.

The older girl said they were walking home from school when the man suddenly cornered them in the building's tight lobby, demanding the girls give up the jewelry.

"The man grabbed me by the neck, and then my sister looked, and she started getting scared," the 14-year-old told ABC 7.

"I didn't have time . . . I couldn't react. I only looked at my sister, and she was screaming."

Police said the suspect choked

the 6-year-old with one hand while using the other to yank off her necklace. He then snatched the older sister's jewelry and fled, they said.

Taken to hospital

The two girls were taken to the Maimonides Medical Center and were both listed in stable condition.

The suspect is between 25 to 40 years old, about 5-feet-8 inches tall and with dark hair tied into a ponytail.

Officials said he wore a white T-shirt while carrying a Target shopping bag, but then took out a gray, hooded sweatshirt from the bag to cover himself.

Anyone with information in regard to the incident is asked to call anonymously the NYPD's Crime Stoppers Hotline at 1-800-577-TIPS (8477) or for Spanish, 1-888-57-PISTA (74782). The public can also submit their tips on Twitter @NYPDTips.

rreyes@nypost.com



DASTARDLY FIEND: Police are looking for this man, who they say choked a 6-year-old girl in Crown Heights on Wednesday and stole gold necklaces from her and her 14-year-old sister.

NYPD

Teen is slain at housing project

A 14-year-old boy was fatally shot at a Brooklyn public housing project Sunday morning, police said.

The victim, who has not been identified, was found with a gunshot wound to the chest after cops responded to a 911 call at the Howard Houses in Brownsville shortly before 10:30 a.m., the NYPD said.

The teen was rushed to Brookdale Hospital, where he was pronounced dead, cops said.

A suspect is in custody, and a weapon — a shotgun — has been recovered, according to law enforcement sources. The sources said detectives are looking into the possibility that the shooting was accidental, but the investigation is continuing.

The Big Apple has seen an uptick in violence targeting teens in recent months, including during a bloody week last month that saw two youngsters killed and six others wounded.

An NYPD supervisor told The Post at the time that 11% of gun arrests last year involved minors — up 120% from 2018 — while about one-quarter of youths arrested with guns in 2021 went on to be a perpetrator or victim of a shooting within two years.

Larry Celona and Jorge Fitz-Gibbon

'Good Samaritan' shot in hand on 4 train

A straphanger was shot on an uptown 4 train on the Upper East Side early Sunday after he intervened in a couple's dispute, law enforcement sources said.

The victim, 31, was hit in his left hand on the train at East 86th Street and Lexington Avenue around 2:30 a.m., police told The Post.

Police sources said the suspect and his girlfriend

were fighting on the train when the good Samaritan intervened. The argument quickly became physical and the suspect pulled out a gun and fired a round.

Police said the unidentified suspect fled.

Two workers at a Krispy Kreme shop next to the train station where the shooting occurred said they were terrified to hear of the violence because

they both take the train to work from The Bronx.

Maylene Sanchez, 33, said she had to take an Uber into Manhattan on Sunday morning because the subway was still delayed after the shooting.

"I wasted \$20 on a damn Uber," said Sanchez, who is eight months pregnant and saving everything she can for the baby. "It sucks. It's not fair I had to spend \$20,

but I had to open the store."

Both workers complained the MTA has raised subway prices, yet they still have to contend with the "craziness."

"It's like the more the price goes up the more dangerous it is," Sanchez said. "And it doesn't matter what time of day either. It's always crazy."

Her 21-year-old coworker, who asked not to be named,

said a group of police officers came into the store early Sunday morning to buy donuts but didn't mention the shooting.

Both women said they were surprised to hear there was a shooting since they always see a lot of cops in the station.

"It's scary. We're in the city. We're not in the ghetto, so I'm surprised," Sanchez said.

It was unclear if police officers were in the station at the time of the shooting, but at least five NYPD officers were stationed at subway entrances for both North and South trains Sunday morning.

EMS took the unidentified victim to a hospital in stable condition.

Joe Marino, Haley Brown, Larry Celona and Isabel Keane



Miranda Devine

mdevine@nypost.com

THE president flew into Wilmington, Del., on Sunday night, where his 54-year-old son's felony gun trial begins Monday, and will spend the whole day there with no official duties.

Joe Biden's looming presence in the strange small city leaves nobody in any doubt of the message he is sending to Delaware special counsel David Weiss, to the prosecutors, the judge, and the jury pool being chosen Monday. You mess with my son; you mess with me.

It's all very subtle, in a flagrant way, much like Joe's impromptu visit to Hallie Biden, the widow of Beau and former lover of Hunter, just nine days before his son's trial, at which she is the star witness for the prosecution.

It was Hallie who threw Hunter's new handgun in a trash can in October 2018 out of concern for his drug-addled mental state, creating a ticking legal time bomb that would propel him into court six years later. It was Hallie who found drugs and drug paraphernalia in his truck. Hallie, 50, even shared his crack addiction for a time, amid multiple drug rehab efforts.

'Word as a Biden'?

In a trial based on the allegation that Hunter lied on the gun shop's federal background form on Oct. 12, 2018, when he checked "no" to the question, "Are you an unlawful user of, or addicted to" various narcotic drugs, Hallie's understanding of his drug use will be key. Hunter's defense is that the day he bought the gun was a rare day of sobriety in a period during which he admitted in his memoir, "Beautiful Things": "I was smoking crack every 15 minutes."

The potential for witness tampering in Joe's late night visit to Hallie was obvious, and must have caused conniptions for the prosecutors, Weiss' towering deputies Leo Wise and Derek Hines. Yet, again, we are commanded to take Joe's "word as a Biden" that nothing untoward went on. Joe's ever present suite of family tragedies was offered to explain the visit, in this case the upcoming anniversary of Beau Biden's death, not that previous anniversaries had occasioned a high-profile presidential late-night visit.

Nor did Joe and Hallie need to discuss the trial in their 15-minute private meeting.

The president's mere unscheduled presence said it all.

As part of this wise-guy messaging, conspicuous Hunter sightings alongside his father have accelerated the last two weeks.

Joe's eye on Hunter's trial is a bad look

FATHER AND SON: President Biden has been conspicuously hanging around with son Hunter, here in Rehoboth Beach, Del., on Saturday and elsewhere, ahead of Hunter's felony gun trial.



AP

There was Hunter at the White House, wagging his finger at staff, or attending an event in the Rose Garden. Here he was, getting on and off Marine One and Air Force One with his father, flying for long weekends from Washington to Wilmington to Rehoboth Beach, Del., and back again, hopping in and out of the presidential motorcade, his own Secret Service detail in tow.

On Saturday morning came a new iteration: Hunter riding a bike with dad in Rehoboth, sticking close behind as they passed the waiting media.

Perhaps the most flagrant of all was the May 23 State Dinner for the president of Kenya where, yet again, the indicted first son rubbed shoulders with Attorney General Merrick Garland.

A dozen Biden family members and hangers on also attended, including Hunter's three daughters and niece plus boyfriends and a husband.

It's the second state dinner Mer-

rick Garland has attended with Hunter at a crucial moment in the first son's legal odyssey.

Before IRS whistleblowers revealed the corrupt Justice Department and CIA obstruction of the five-year criminal tax fraud investigation of Hunter last year, he sealed a sweetheart plea deal with then-plain old Delaware US Attorney Weiss, and a few days later was swanning around triumphantly at the state dinner for the Indian prime minister. Garland was there in his penguin suit, warily trying to keep a discreet distance between them.

The optics were terrible, and you'd think that Garland, who claims to be such a stickler for propriety, would have recused himself from all future state dinners or White House shindigs where Hunter was present. And yet here he was again, days before Hunter's gun trial.

The AG should have recused himself from the dinner as an assertion of his own integrity, such

as it is, and a statement of disapproval for the president's subterranean manipulations because, whatever anyone says, they are not proper or normal.

Nothing about Joe Biden's presidency is proper or normal, despite his insistence that he has restored norms and dignity to the White House. It is simply an extension of the grifting entitlement he and his family have enjoyed in the small incestuous state where he has ruled the roost for 50 years.

Two trials

In fact, if he showed up at the Caleb J. Boggs courthouse in Wilmington on Monday to eyeball District Judge Maryellen Noreika and watch the jurors being sworn in, his defenders in the media would fall over themselves to excuse him, saying he is just there to support his surviving son. Ethics take a back seat in the plausible deniability of Joe's everlasting tragedies.

In the shadow of the Trump conviction, Hunter's trial takes on an outsized status, politically, even though the charges are the only ones from the compromised five-year criminal investigation that don't touch on Joe.

By contrast, Hunter's California tax trial in September is high risk for Joe, as it will encompass 2014 and 2015, during which Hunter was earning \$1 million from Burisma and his VP father had the Ukrainian prosecutor who was investigating the corrupt energy company fired.

But if Hunter is acquitted in the gun trial in Delaware, Joe will have a neat talking point to throw at Trump at their first debate: "My son was tried in the very system you claim is weaponized against you. Unlike you, a jury found him not guilty."

Hunter's pricy lawyer, Abbe Lowell, is a master at jury whispering so it's possible that Hunter gets off, even given the poor odds for defendants in federal trials.

TIME TO TELL THE

**ADAM
ANDRZEJEWSKI**


COVID docs' Big Pharma booster \$hot

DURING the pandemic, the American people started to feel that Big Government was very cozy with Big Pharma.

Now we know just how close they were.

New data from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) reveals the agency and its scientists collected \$710 million in royalties during the pandemic, from late 2021 through 2023. These are payments made by private companies, like pharmaceuticals, to license medical innovations from government scientists.

Almost all that cash — \$690 million — went to the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), the subagency led by Dr. Anthony Fauci, and 260 of its scientists.

Information about this vast private royalty complex is tightly held by NIH. My organization, OpenTheBooks.com, was forced to sue to uncover the royalties paid from September 2009 to October 2021, which amounted to \$325 million over 56,000 transactions.

We had to sue a second time, with Judicial Watch as our counsel, to pry open this new release.

Pandemic effect

Payments skyrocketed during the pandemic era: Those years saw more than double the amount of cash flow to NIH from the private sector, compared with the prior 12 years combined.

All told, it's \$1.036 billion.

It's unclear whether any of the COVID vaccine royalties from Pfizer and Moderna, the latter of which settled with NIH by agreeing to pay \$400 million, is even included in these new numbers. NIH isn't saying.

The American people have one last crack at getting some candor from Fauci, the face of our COVID response, when he testifies Monday before the House Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic.

There's plenty to answer for.

He's spent years scoffing at questions about potential conflicts of interest between COVID policymakers, who relentlessly pushed vaccines, and recipients of private royalties.

Now he'll also need to account for bombshell emails sent by one of his deputies, which described in-house strategies to circumvent the federal Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Fauci won't be able to misspell words to evade scrutiny or have folks physically courier messages — just two of the FOIA-avoiding actions described by Dr. David Morens, a key Fauci deputy.

Instead, cameras from around the world will be trained on Fauci and he'll be answering for information he gave in a sworn deposition earlier this year.

It's a chance to either come clean or further cement the public's perception of him and NIH as secretive and self-interested.

Beyond this small cabal of scientists covering up discussions of the virus' origin, NIH has consistently treated FOIA requests like viral attacks of their own. No wonder, then, that we're plaintiffs in six ongoing FOIA cases.

Characteristically, NIH is still redacting pieces of the data that would help us more easily connect therapeutics with their government-paid inventors. For example, they refuse to show us the amount of royalties paid to each individual scientist.

So we still can't entirely follow

the money.

In the meantime, Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.) has sponsored the Royalty Transparency Act, which sailed unanimously through the committee process and deserves a floor vote immediately.

There's plenty Fauci could do in the meantime, too. He could indicate he supports bills like Paul's. He could call on NIH and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to voluntarily "unmask" the royalty payments. Then we could see whether their decisions have advanced the general welfare or their own.

Real consequences?

Fauci could also support fixes to the FOIA law that create real consequences for those who purposely violate it.

At minimum, he must apologize for the utter contempt for FOIA, and the transparency war waged by his colleagues that's now been revealed in private communications.

Among the government's most basic duties to the public are providing for the general welfare and reporting its income and spending.

As Dr. Fauci wraps five decades in government having become its highest-paid bureaucrat, he should consider ticking those boxes again. For old times' sake.

Adam Andrzejewski is the CEO and founder of OpenTheBooks.com, the largest private database of public spending.

Future Publishing via Getty Images



By JOSH CHRISTENSON

Federal public health officials and others who have covered up information about the origins of the COVID-19 pandemic could face prosecution, the chairman of a special House subcommittee investigating the outbreak tells The Post — with Dr. Anthony Fauci due to appear before the panel on Monday.

"We want the DOJ to weigh in; hopefully they can do something honestly and fairly," Rep. Brad Wenstrup (R-Ohio) said in an exclusive interview Thursday. "But at the same time, we can make criminal referrals. I think we should."

The House Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic has already recommended a criminal probe of Dr. Peter Daszak, the disgraced president of Manhattan-based EcoHealth Alliance, which received millions in US grants that helped fund experiments on modified bat coronaviruses at the Wuhan Institute of Virology (WIV).

Origin shockers

The panel has also unearthed shocking information about the origins of SARS-CoV-2, the failures of the US pandemic response and taxpayer-funded gain-of-function research in Wuhan, China — the city where the virus emerged more than four years ago.

"The work they were doing was risky," the chairman noted of the

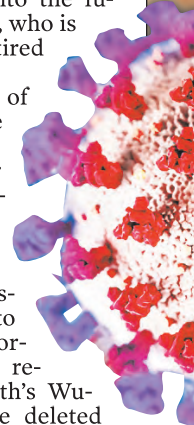
Wuhan experiments, "and, you can see through reverse engineering, was capable of creating something like COVID-19."

"I started looking at this when we were in lockdown in 2020, through the [House] Intelligence Committee, and what creating a chimera was all about, and what gain-of-function research was about, and it kind of frightened me as far as bioweapons and that's a new threat going into the future," added Wenstrup, who is also a doctor and retired US Army colonel.

In a shocking trove of emails obtained by the subcommittee, Fauci's former senior adviser at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), Dr. David Morens, admitted to using a private account to evade Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests about EcoHealth's Wuhan grant, claimed he deleted records related to it — and said he helped his boss to do the same through a "secret back channel."

"At one point, Dr. Morens said that he never talked to Tony Fauci about the Wuhan Institute of Virology and EcoHealth Alliance," Wenstrup said in reference to Morens' congressional testimony of May 22, in which he confirmed the emails were sent but dismissed them as "jokes."

"But he did do that, and we have



TRUTH, DR. FAUCI



Heat's on as House panel chair floats prosecutions



SEEKING ANSWERS: Dr. Anthony Fauci (center) will have a lot to talk about on Capitol Hill, including NIH funneling of money to the Wuhan Institute of Virology (left), as Rep. Brad Wenstrup (R-Ohio) presides over the COVID subcommittee.

The US Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Inspector General determined that the research on lab mice resulted in a modified virus that was 10,000 times more infectious, which EcoHealth failed to report.

Chinese 'military needs'

A June 2023 report from the US Office of the Director of National Intelligence also found that WIV was conducting pathogens research between 2017 and 2019 "for defensive and biosecurity needs of the [Chinese] military."

Dr. Lawrence Tabak, principal deputy director at NIH, testified to the House COVID subcommittee in May that the experiments constituted gain-of-function research — the first agency official to have publicly said so since more than 1.1 million Americans have been killed by the virus.

In previous congressional testimony, Fauci and former NIH Director Dr. Francis Collins repeatedly denied that the research occurred. Wenstrup told The Post he has not seen "nearly any evidence" that the coronavirus emerged from nature.

"I think we have to set a higher standard for people that work within our agencies," Wenstrup also said. "... In this case, with Dr. Fauci, he didn't seem to have much oversight over the billions of dollars that he was OKing to go out the door."

the proof of that now, and he talks about how he did," he added of the more than 30,000 records Morens handed over.

When asked whether Fauci's two-day transcribed interview from January with the COVID subcommittee also included false claims about not being "involved" in EcoHealth's funding of gain-of-function research, Wenstrup would only say: "Somebody's not telling the truth."

Fauci said at the time that he did not "recall any specific inter-

action" with Daszak before the pandemic — and denied having "back-and-forth discussions" with EcoHealth's president.

'A lot of questions'

But the Morens emails reveal the ex-Biden White House medical adviser expressing "concern" for Daszak and the suspension of EcoHealth's research grant.

"Peter, from Tony's numerous recent comments to me, and from what Francis has been vocal about over the past 5 days, they

are trying to protect you, which also protects their own reputations," Morens wrote to Daszak on Oct. 25, 2021, just days after a National Institutes of Health (NIH) official disclosed to Congress that EcoHealth violated its grant terms for WIV.

"I had face to face meetings with Tony to discuss science issues," Morens also said in a Nov. 18, 2021, email. "He asked how Peter was doing, as he often does, and seemed to commiserate with him to a degree."

Wenstrup said the subcommit-

tee had "a lot of questions" for Fauci — and has requested his private email and cellphone records — based on disclosures about high-level discussions to hide and allegedly destroy records critical to investigating the origins of COVID.

The NIH funneled more than \$500,000 in taxpayer funds to WIV for a project titled "Understanding the Risk of Bat Coronavirus Emergence" between 2014 and 2021, according to a Government Accountability Office report released last year.

AP; Reuters

@Page Six

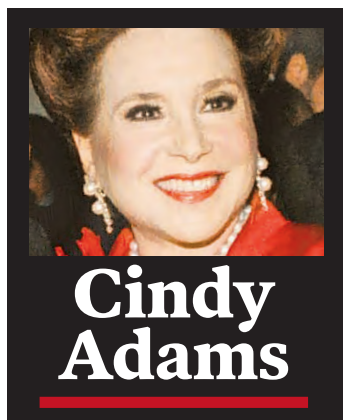


Page Six *Style*

YOUR DESTINATION FOR STYLE INSPIRATION.

[PAGESIX.COM/STYLE](https://pagesix.com/style)

Film festival's still relevant



Cindy Adams

TALENTWISE, **Robert De Niro** should be chiseled into Mount Rushmore. OK, so we got Washington, Lincoln, Roosevelt — but Jefferson? He got two Oscars? Last week, curbside, Bob read a speech. A Bidenized pre-written pee-athon smashing trashing **Donald** and lionizing Blubber **Biden** while never mentioning that Joe's allegedly semi-crooked son is facing multiple lawsuits. As cameras and mikes covered De Niro he hollered at us that Donald's dishonest. Somehow, within that same time frame, I was seeing Bob about his annual Tribeca Film Festival which began 2002 and this year

starts Wednesday. He showed with equally respected co-founder **Jane Rosenthal**, who never removed dark glasses and whose hair remained slightly unkempt. De Niro about the festival which contributes millions to NYC economically: "Who knew

this idea would become such a major attraction? We did it to help resuscitate downtown after 9/11. Who knew what to expect? It was just an idea. A first thought of some plan to resuscitate downtown again after COVID.

Women are front & center

JANE Rosenthal: "Of 110 movies, 96 premieres and a look into **Diane von Furstenberg's** life, it's projects by **Scorsese, Dakota Johnson, Sean Penn, Jude Law, Alicia Vikander, Rooney Mara** and half this year's projects are directed by women. But they're not turning in tearjerkers." Now, about Tribeca Film Festival headquarters. The Élysée Palace — not! A guy in jeans guarded the glass-paned front door. Another pointed to creaky wooden stairs that might've been live trees in Clara Bow's great-grandma's era. Reporters sat on the hard wood floor in front of a closed door which held De Niro and Rosenthal. I, treated deferentially, was

popped onto the wooden steps. One young man stood in front of a closed door balancing a heavy tray with a teapot and cups. Didn't knock. Didn't try the knob. Didn't open the door. Just stood balancing this tray. Standing at the closed door until 20 minutes later it opened and this young man plus tray and teapot made it into the ceremonial chamber where reigned De Niro and Rosenthal. Their tiny room was crammed with wooden benches and seats, cables, cameras, techies behind the cameras. The proceedings being filmed by Junket Productions.

"Look, I love movies. And I edited them in those days in parking lots.

"And I love popcorn. And I ate the popcorn when I

watched the movies. And so we got this first festival on. This year, we received 13,000 films from 50 countries. Shorts, TV shows, full-screen films. So many came in that we had to work to cut it down.

"Sometimes the most successful things just don't work. I don't know much about when the time is right. I go to an opening. I stay five minutes. I right away know what it is, and if it isn't great I leave in five minutes."

Big, bold names

THIS week's festival drops names like **George Clooney, Dolly Parton, Emilio Estevez, Demi Moore, Rob Lowe, Jon Bon Jovi, Brooke Shields, Jake Gyllenhaal, Melissa McCarthy**, plus a career-spanning 300 bits from De Niro's personal archive. Kissing me goodbye, De Niro said: "Here's an exclusive for you. Nobody knows this. I'm going to make 'Meet the Parents 4.' We made that first one 24 years ago. Who knew it was going to be that good?"

For this I will sit on his crappy staircase a second time.

Are you talkin' to **Robert De Niro**?



Dimitrios Kambouris/Getty Images

Post Weather Report

Monday

Today: A morning shower; sun and clouds. High 80 to 86.

Tonight: Mainly clear. Low 58 to 64.

Tuesday

Tomorrow: Nice with times of clouds and sun. High 72 to 78.

Tomorrow night: Partly cloudy. Low 58 to 64.

Wednesday

Partly sunny. High 73 to 79.

Evening

T storms. Low 63 to 69.

Thursday

T storms. High 76 to 82.

Evening

Cloudy. Low 63 to 69.

Almanac

YESTERDAY'S CONDITIONS AT CENTRAL PARK THROUGH 6PM

Temperature
High: 81, Low: 67, Mean: 74

Departure from Normal
Yesterday: +6 degrees

Precipitation
Yesterday: 0.00 , Month: 0.00 , Year: 23.97 , Normal year to date: 19.62

Cooling Degree days yesterday9

Total for the month (normal)16 (8)

Total since Jan. 1 (normal)125 (89)

Last year to date108

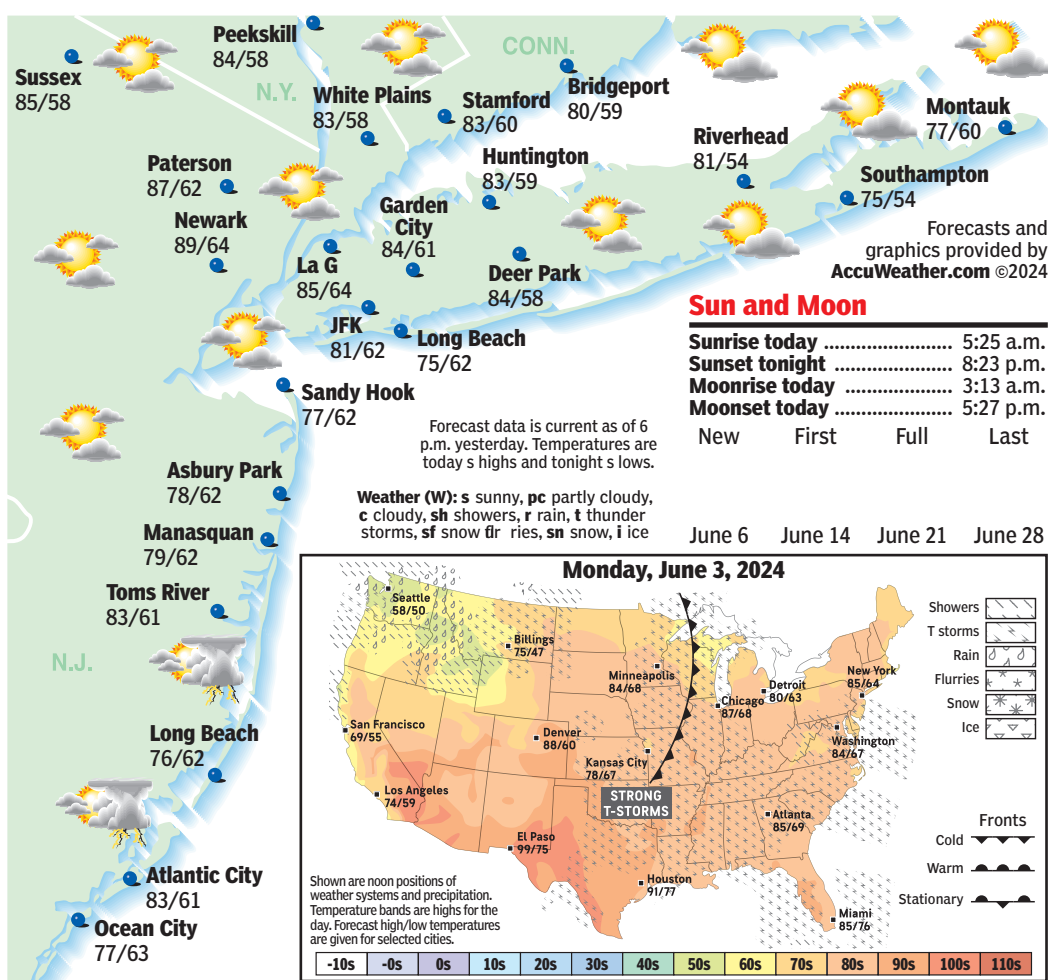
Heat Index (at noon yest.) 76

UV index (for Mon.) 7 (High)

Humidity (at noon) 50%

AIR QUALITY
Pollen: Moderate Predominant pollen: Pine, Oak, Hickory, Pecan

AQI rating: (for Mon.)Moderate



AccuWeather Visit AccuWeather.com

New York Tides	TODAY	TOMORROW
High Tide for	1st 2nd	1st 2nd
Coney Island	5:33a 6:05p	6:31a 6:56p
Fire Island	5:38a 6:16p	6:29a 7:06p
Hempstead	9:42a 9:57p	10:37a 10:48p
Huntington	9:29a 9:46p	10:24a 10:37p
Jones Inlet	5:17a 5:49p	6:15a 6:40p
Montauk Point	6:45a 7:19p	7:38a 8:08p
Port Washington	9:51a 10:04p	10:45a 10:55p
Sandy Hook	5:37a 6:09p	6:35a 7:00p

Regional cities	TODAY	TOMORROW
Albany	85/61/pc	88/59/s
Danbury	84/56/pc	79/59/s
Glens Falls	83/54/pc	84/57/s
Gr Barrington	83/57/pc	83/55/pc
Kingston	85/59/pc	83/58/pc
Liberty	78/57/pc	79/58/pc
Monticello	79/57/pc	79/58/pc
Newburgh	85/58/pc	83/60/pc
Poughkeepsie	86/57/pc	85/59/pc
Saratoga Springs	85/57/pc	85/58/s
Stroudsburg	83/59/pc	80/59/pc
Torrington	85/56/pc	80/58/s
Syracuse	83/61/pc	86/65/pc

World cities	TODAY	TOMORROW
Athens	88/72/pc	92/72/s
Baghdad	109/80/pc	113/83/s
Beijing	92/64/sh	90/66/pc
Berlin	69/53/c	72/55/c
Cairo	98/73/s	101/75/s
Dublin	65/54/sh	61/41/pc
Geneva	68/53/sh	73/53/pc
Hong Kong	84/76/r	82/76/r
Jerusalem	96/68/s	92/67/s
Kabul	88/59/pc	86/58/pc
London	68/57/pc	68/50/pc
Madrid	82/61/s	87/64/s
Mexico City	90/62/pc	87/61/s
Montreal	86/60/pc	85/64/s
Moscow	76/60/sh	74/60/sh
Paris	70/54/c	72/56/sh
Rio de Janeiro	80/71/s	77/70/r
Rome	74/55/s	76/57/s
Sydney	65/47/pc	65/50/pc
Tokyo	77/62/s	79/62/c

All style post-trial for Ivanka

Ivanka Trump was spotted out Sunday for the first time since her father, former President Donald Trump, was found guilty of 34 felony counts in his historic hush-money trial.

The former first daughter, 42, who served as an adviser to the president during her father's administration, wore form-fitting gym attire, pink sunglasses and white sneakers with athletic socks outside the swanky Four Seasons Hotel in Miami.

The ex-president's elder daughter has kept a low public profile since Thursday's verdict.

On Instagram that day, she posted a photo of her as a young girl sitting in her father's lap with the caption "I love you dad" and a red heart emoji.

The Manhattan verdict made Trump the first sitting or former president in US history to be convicted of a criminal offense.

He is due to be sentenced July 11.

Chris Nesi



EX-D.A.'S BALK AT HUSH \$\$ Cy: Wasn't 'best focus'

By RYAN KING

Former Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance Jr., has revealed why he never charged Donald Trump over his hush money payments — and suggested that it wasn't the strongest case to bring against the ex-president.

Vance, a Democrat, was the borough's top prosecutor before Alvin Bragg took over in 2022. Vance opened an investigation into Trump around 2018.

"I ultimately believed that our investigation was best focused on financial crimes" related to the Trump Organization, Vance told NBC's "Meet the Press" on Sunday — rather than the payment to porn star Stormy Daniels. "Unfortunately, we ran out of time."

He said Trump's conviction will result in "strong appeals."

"I'm confident that we made the right choice for us at that time in pursuing the financial crimes investigation," Vance said.

Vance said he doubts Trump will be given any time behind bars, though Manhattan Supreme Court Justice Juan Merchan's multiple contempt-of-court rulings could stiffen the sentence.

"With the proximity of the Republican [National] Convention four days after his sentencing — and then, if he is the candidate for the Republican Party, the proximity of the election — I would be surprised that he would be sentenced to any im-

prisonment," he continued.

"That said, the court could adjourn sentencing until after the general election and essentially decide then."

Trump's sentencing is slated for July 11 and he could face up to 20 years behind bars.

Merchan, who will oversee the sentencing, found Trump in violation of a gag order against attacking key players in the case as well as the judge's daughter, who has links to the Democratic Party.

Moving target

When Vance was DA, his office initially looked into the hush money payments, but the probe veered off into a larger and more complicated case about potential business fraud.

When Bragg took the reins, and ultimately shifted back to the hush money focus, multiple prosecutors resigned in protest.

Bragg has defended his decision to pivot to the payment issue. Last week, he took a victory lap after winning the case. Trump is the first former US president to get convicted.

Vance's efforts led to convictions on several counts of tax fraud against two Trump Organization entities and a guilty plea from its former chief financial officer, Allen Weisselberg.

Trump has vowed to appeal his hush-money conviction.

Trump 'yuge' on TikTok Paterson: A par-Don would be nice

Former President Donald Trump joined TikTok — despite trying to ban the app in the US.

Within a matter of hours, the presumptive GOP nominee racked up more than 22 million views on his debut video,

which he posted from UFC 302 in New Jersey.

He's also had more than 1.1 million followers as of Sunday morning.

"It's my honor," Trump, 77, replied during a mashup of him greeting fans.

Ryan King

Democratic ex-New York Gov. David Paterson says he would have wanted President Biden to consider pardoning Donald Trump in his hush-money conviction if the prez had the power.

Paterson, speaking Sunday

on 77 WABC radio's "The Cats Roundtable," agreed with Trump's gripes that the case was "rigged."

"There are a lot... of erroneous qualities to that trial," Paterson said. "Some of the people who are involved: A

person who worked at the White House somehow wound up in the Manhattan DA's Office.

"All of it, when it adds up, really looks very much like what the former president describes it as," the top Dem

told host John Catsimatidis.

A US president cannot pardon someone of state crimes — such as the felony raps involving falsifying business records that Trump was convicted of in Manhattan court last week. Carl Campanile

2 yrs. in Russia hell



HOME AT LAST: Mariana Checheliuk (in her police uniform, left) weeps (right) upon her release in a prisoner of war exchange Friday.

Freed Ukr. POW: I was starved, beaten

By RONNY REYES

A Ukrainian police officer who was captured by Russian forces two years ago sobbed when finally freed last week, saying she had been “starved, beaten and abused.”

Mariana Checheliuk, 24, an investigator for the National Police of Ukraine, was released Friday during the 52nd prisoner exchange between Kyiv and Moscow, *Ukrainska Pravda* reported.

Checheliuk could be seen weeping as she was presented with bouquets of flowers wrapped in her nation’s flag and embraced by her fellow Ukrainians for the first time in two years after suffering unspeakable hardships.

Checheliuk and her sister were both taken captive while hiding from Russian bombardments at the Azovstal steelworks mill in April 2022, with the officer held at POW camps while her sister was eventually rescued.

Checheliuk’s family said she suffered a litany of abuses as her health condition worsened while in captivity, with the officer developing bronchitis.

“Despite treatment in the pre-trial detention center, including antibiotic injections, her health did not improve,” her mother, Nataliia, told the ZMINA human-rights news outlet in January, citing letters her daughter was allowed to send to the family while in detention.

“She lost a significant amount of weight, her immune system weakened, her hair began to fall out, and she suffered from amenorrhea,” the mother said.

Refused to defect

Checheliuk also relayed how she had been starved and beaten inside the camps.

While Checheliuk’s letters got to her family, Nataliia said the letters she sent to her daughter never made it to her, keeping the officer in the dark of what happened to her sister.

After the sisters were split up, Checheliuk was sent to the Donetsk pre-trial detention center and later held as a POW in the Olen-

ivka, Taganrog and Mariupol camps when the Kremlin learned of her status as an officer.

Nataliia said Moscow tried to get her daughter to defect, but she courageously rejected all their offers and continued to suffer in the camps.

“They were trying to lure my daughter to the Russian side with both sweet promises of a big salary and intimidation,” Nataliia told ZMINA. “But she refused.”

Checheliuk was one of 75 Ukrainians freed Friday as part of the latest prisoner swap.

The exchange saw 75 Russian prisoners freed as well, with the exchange being the first of its kind since February.

rreyes@nypost.com

Trailblaze editor out at WaPo

Sally Buzbee, The Washington Post’s first female executive editor, abruptly stepped down after three years at the helm, CEO William Lewis announced.

Lewis confirmed Buzbee’s departure to staffers in an email Sunday evening. Matt Murray, the former editor-in-chief of The Wall Street Journal, has been tapped as her replacement, according to The Washington Post.

It’s the biggest shakeup at the newspaper since Lewis took over as CEO in January.

Lewis said there are plans to launch “a new division of the newsroom” by the end of the year emphasizing “service and social media journalism” targeting audiences who “want to consume and pay for news differently from traditional offerings,” WaPo reported.

It will offer “millions of Americans — who feel traditional news is not for them but still want to be kept informed — compelling, exciting and accurate news where they are and in the style that they want,” he wrote.

Buzbee’s exit comes amid major financial struggles at the newspaper, which lost \$77 million last year, according to the publication’s own reporting. In October, WaPo offered buyouts to hundreds of its employees in a dramatic effort to cut costs. *Patrick Reilly*

MIA couple’s slay-suicide

A North Carolina man who disappeared with his estranged wife is accused of killing her and then himself after police discovered their bodies in the woods with gunshot wounds Friday.

The tragic discovery comes after an Ashanti Alert — similar to an Amber Alert but for adults — was issued for Cynthia Goble, 60, on Thursday with her 59-year-old husband, Greg Goble, identified as a suspect in her disappearance.

Police located both bodies in a wooded area in Iredell County. Officials said the two were going through a divorce, WFMY News reported. *Ronny Reyes*

Prosecutor’s big mouth lets baby’s ‘killer’ go free

A Colorado man who allegedly murdered his girlfriend’s 10-month-old baby had his charges dismissed this week after a judge ruled the lead

prosecutor violated his right to due process by telling a reporter he only babysat the infant to “get laid.”

William Jacobs, 22, was

accused of shaking baby Edward Hayes to death in Cañon City in May 2023.

An order granting the motion to dismiss was filed

Wednesday by Fremont County District Court Judge Kaitlin Turner after 11th Judicial District Attorney Linda Stanley told KRDO in

August, “I’m going to be very blunt here . . . He’s watching that baby so he can get laid.”

Stanley is facing potential disbarment. *Parick Reilly*

Adria's hot lady in red

How did Adria Arjona shoulder her sex scenes? She tells InStyle Now she prepped for steamy moments in new movie "Hit Man" by sending inspiring images to her costar Glen Powell. "That was really beautiful that they allowed me to have a space to bring something that I feel comfortable with," she said.

Cruise jumper's 90-ft. fall

The passenger who jumped from the world's largest cruise ship fell a staggering 90 feet to his death, sources said — and staff on board knew exactly what had happened practically before he hit the water.

The man, who has not been identified, jumped from the running track on the fifth level of Royal Caribbean's Icon of the Seas on the first day of its weeklong voyage, a security team member told The Post when the ship returned to Miami on Saturday morning.

Each deck is about 20 feet high, so the man fell from approximately 90 feet, the staffer explained.

The man's body was transported via van to the Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner's Office, according to crew members.

Cops also met the ship and took statements at the docks, and they retrieved a copy of the surveillance footage of the fatal incident, crew said.

When the man jumped on May 26, the overboard-detection system was activated almost immediately — prompting onboard staff into action, the security team member continued. *Steve Helling and Olivia Land*

RUDY'S BETTER B'DAY

No rap this time

By CARL CAMPANILE

Embattled ex-Mayor Rudy Giuliani celebrated his 80th birthday Friday night with family and close friends from his days at City Hall — a marked departure from a previous bash earlier this month.

Friday's celebration at Amata restaurant on Manhattan's East Side was less dramatic than the party held for Rudy on May 17 in Palm Beach, Fla. — when he was served a legal notice of his Arizona indictment for allegedly being involved in a plot to overturn the 2020 election in favor of ex-President Donald Trump.

"I don't know how he does it — God bless him," a close pal who attended Friday's event said, noting the legal and financial woes that have engulfed New York City's ex-mayor.

"I was happy with what I saw. It wasn't the Palm Beach crowd. It was strictly family and old friends," the source said.

Giuliani's son Andrew, granddaughter Grace, daughter Caroline and daughter-in-law Živilė Rezgyte all attended.

His lawyers — Barry Kamins and Arthur Aidala — were also there.

"It was an honor to be with the mayor and celebrate his accomplishments," said Tom Von Esen, who was the city fire commissioner under Giuliani during 9/11.

Other attendees included former Deputy



Mayor Rudy Washington, ex-Police Commissioner Bernie Kerik and City Hall aide Robert Harding.

But other former City Hall aides — turned off by Rudy's antics in recent years — did not attend.

Giuliani said it was a fabulous affair, arranged by longtime confidant Anthony Carbonetti. "Everyone had a great time. My spirits for what I'm going through is terrific," he told The Post on Sunday.

Troubles

Trump, whom Giuliani served as a legal adviser, beamed in a video he filmed to wish Rudy a happy birthday — a day after he was convicted of felony criminal charges in Manhattan court.

As for Giuliani's troubles, he has filed for bankruptcy while appealing a defamation suit in which he was ordered to pay \$148 million to two Atlanta election workers he falsely accused of ballot fraud. He also was indicted for alleged election tampering in Georgia.

WABC radio owner John Catsimatidis recently fired him for failing to heed station policies.

InStyle

Drown in the dumps



William Farrington, Stephen Yang

5-year pool closure has Village folks furious

By GEORGETT ROBERTS
and RONNY REYES

Another summer down the drain. Greenwich Village residents' heads were swimming as they found out they'd go another year without a beloved neighborhood pool, famous for a Keith Haring mural, that has been closed for five years.

The Tony Dapolito Recreation Center pool, which is still "in need of extensive renovations," was a fixture of the community sandwiched between Greenwich Village and Hudson Square before it was shuttered for repairs in 2019.

Resident Kitty Hegeman, who had been using the pool for a decade, railed that progress appears slow at the site since it was closed five years ago.

"Years and years go by and nothing happens," Hegeman told The Post. "Each summer it looks worse."

"It's just a waste just sitting there for so long. If you are not going to fix it then make it useful," she added.

Plans to renovate the rec center for \$4 million began in 2017, but the scope soon ballooned to a budget of \$17 million, with only 72% of the construction completed as of May 2024, according to the city Parks Department.

"This is one of our highest priorities and it is under active con-



sideration," Mayor Adams' office said in a statement. "We are evaluating several scenarios to ensure we make the best investment for the neighborhood, maximizing recreation space in a cost-effective manner."

But residents say they feel the pool is anything but a priority for the fifth summer in a row as they're told to go use other facilities instead.

"It's horrible," said Cristina Diaz, 41, who lives in the area with her two young sons. "They have to fix it."

"The damage from being closed defeats the purpose of getting it fixed soon — you leave it long enough and it deteriorates and

takes longer to fix," she added.

Becca Quinn, 35, said the pool, which was used as a scene in the film "Raging Bull," was once the pride of the neighborhood, along with the mural by Haring, the city artist whose pop art popularized Big Apple graffiti style in the 1980s.

State of frustration

Quinn called the current state of the pool an "outrage and disservice" to the community, adding that she now sees cracks and paint peeling away on the mural, despite the city's insistence that it keeps a close eye on the artwork.

"They can't get it together. It looks awful," Quinn said. "Every-

thing here is expensive and people work very hard to live here . . . they should have access to these services."

Several other residents echoed the frustration over the closed pool and feared that the lack of summertime amenities will have negative consequences for the children.

"In the summertime we need services for the kids so they have something to do, to be occupied and not hanging out . . . to be in a structured, supervised environment," resident Andrew Leong said.

Lloyd Dennis, 58, agreed, noting that parents need places like the pool and rec center to keep their kids busy.

"You are gonna have lots of kids running around without guidance, you know, expect the crime rate to spike as it normally does in the summer," he said.

With the pool closed for yet another summer, the city has instructed residents to go to the Hamilton Fish Pool at 128 Pitt St. on the Lower East Side to fill their needs, but many have complained that the alternative is already too crowded and out of the way.

"I want it back," Hegeman said of the Tony Dapolito pool. "A public outdoor pool in the Village would be wonderful."

Additional reporting by Craig McCarthy and Alex Oliveira



REP. LAUREN BOEBERT
Words with moderator.

'Touchy' Boebert debate

Rep. Lauren Boebert flipped out at the Republican primary debate moderator after he asked her about her frisky "Beetlejuice" groping session last September — blaming him for putting her "very private moment" on display for the world to see.

9News Denver's Kyle Clark broached the touchy subject with Boebert (R-Colo.) on Friday, and she fired back.

"I'm apologizing for you. . . getting footage and releasing that — people seeing this in a very private moment," Boebert said. "You were saying how disgusting it is to record someone without their knowledge and you did that very same thing in releasing [the footage]," she added, referencing a recent interview Clark did.

Last September, Boebert and Quinn Gallagher, her then-beau, were booted from a "Beetlejuice" showing in Denver after getting very handsy with each other, blowing up a plume of vape smoke into the air and otherwise making a scene. *Ryan King*

'Drunk' plows into a house

A 21-year-old drunken driver smashed his pickup truck into an upstate New York home early Saturday, according to police.

John Osetkowski crashed his black full-size Ford pickup into a home in Wheatfield in Niagara County around 2 a.m., according to the Niagara County Sheriff's Office.

Police responded to the crash site and pulled Osetkowski and another passenger from the vehicle. Both suffered minor injuries, police said.

Patrick Reilly

‘N-word’ teach is on leave

A Boston-area fifth-grade teacher who held a mock slave auction, used the “N-word” in class and then called out the student who reported them for using the slur has been placed on paid leave, school officials said.

The unidentified teacher at Margaret A. Neary Elementary School in South-borough, about 30 miles west of Boston, made examples of two children of color during an impromptu “au-ction” during a January history lesson on the economy of the Southern colonies.

“The educator asked two children sitting in front of the room, who were of color, to stand, and the educator and class discussed physical attributes (i.e., teeth and strength),” Superintendent Gregory L. Martineau wrote in a letter to parents.

The school’s student body is 68% white and less than 1.5% black, per state data.

In his letter, Martineau said holding a mock slave auction was “unacceptable,” trivializes the experiences of victims, and is disproportionately traumatizing for students of color.

During a second incident in April, the same teacher was reading aloud from a book and used the “N-word,” which didn’t appear in the book.

Isabel Keane with Wires

Search for Tex boaters ends

The US Coast Guard called off its search for a 50-year-old Texas man and his son, who disappeared off the Gulf Coast while on a shrimping expedition Saturday.

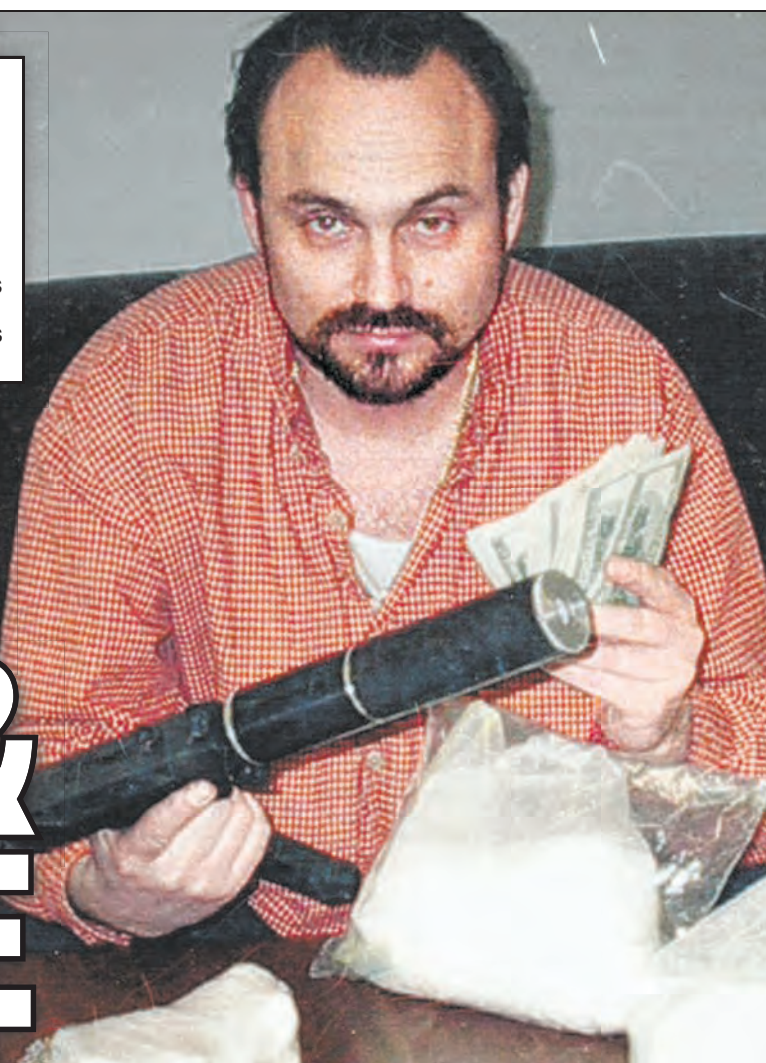
The man and his 15-year-old son — identified as Benedicto Jaramillo and Angel Alejandro Jaramillo by family — cast off aboard the boat “My Possum” from Port Lavaca at about 5 a.m. Saturday and were due back around 10:30 a.m.

Worried over stormy weather, relatives reported them missing shortly before 11:30 a.m., sparking a search by a flotilla of Coast Guard and local agencies that was suspended at 7:55 a.m. Sunday. *Jorge Fitz-Gibbon*

Cop pastor life of law and Lord-er



TWO PATHS: Retired DC cop Dale Sutherland (at right working undercover on the narcotics beat) is now just a pastor, and he’s telling all his tales on podcast “Cops, Criminals and Christ.”



Courtesy of Dale Sutherland (2)

MAN OF JESUS & JUSTICE

By STEVE JANOSKI

Dale Sutherland lived many lives during his lengthy career as an undercover cop with the Washington, DC, police.

Once, he posed as a body shop owner. Another time, it was a Philadelphia mobster. On other occasions, he was in the import/export business — or just another heroin addict scoring drugs on the corner.

But though it all — including his 29-year run on the force — he treasured one role above all else: preacher.

“I was a pastor and a policeman,” Sutherland, 60, of Vienna, Va., told The Post last week. “So I would be in Washington at night, making drug buys posing as a guy who owned a recording studio, and I’d be getting calls from church about a counseling meeting I had the next day.”

“Or, I would be at the church getting ready for a sermon, and I’d be getting texts or phone calls from drug dealers coming down with a large shipment of drugs,” he continued. “So it was like both worlds were really crazy together. It was a little confusing.”

Now, 11 years after he retired from the DC police, Sutherland has started his own podcast — appropriately

dubbed “Cops, Criminals and Christ” — in which he explores not only how those three worlds intertwined but also the peculiar dichotomy of being a God-fearing, Bible-toting man who lied for a living.

“The thing that I’m really good at is lying,” Sutherland, now a pastor at the CityLight Church in Falls Church, Va., said with a laugh. “I’m really good at that. Which is not exactly what you want from your local pastor. I scammed people for 22 years — I was telling them somebody I was not.”

Bible and ‘bad guys’

“But the way we look at it is, the Bible is very clear about society needing protection from bad guys,” he said. “And this was a way to faithfully help the community to rid themselves of really bad people.”

“That was the way I mentally saw it,” the married father of three continued.

“And spiritually, I thought it was okay to go to the strip clubs or buy drugs and hang around these really rotten people with that goal. Because I really believed it was the best way to catch these guys. Nobody else is going to get them like we got them.”

Sometimes that meant simple street buys in DC or Manhattan’s Washington Heights, where the job sometimes took him.

Other times, it meant lengthy cases where he’d create an identity, then stay in character for months at a time.

To Sutherland, though, it was all the same.

“You’re using the same kind of skills,” he said. “But if you can buy drugs from a crowd at 178th and Broadway — to me, that’s the heart of undercover work.”

Sutherland loved the job — he said he would do it again right now, if he could.

But a life on the street is not without heartbreak — or danger.

He was nearly killed more than a half-dozen times, he said.

And in 1992, an informant with whom he had grown close was gunned down by a vicious street gang he was investigating, in an incident that nearly claimed Sutherland’s life as well.

“This informant and I went to make a buy,” Sutherland said. “We were late, which was typical for me. But that ended up saving my life because they had planned that when we arrived, they were going to shoot us both in the car.”

“But because we were so late, they had given up,” he said. “So [the informant] got out of the car to go find them. And when he found them, they killed him . . . they shot him 28 times.”

“I had just been with this fella, I’d shared Jesus with him, I’d really got to know him,” Sutherland said. “We’d been together 10 minutes earlier. And now he’s riddled with bullets. It was a tough time, it was very sad.”

That’s where his faith came in, he said. In fact, it’s the reason he became a cop in the first place.

“The basic deal was we really believe that everybody can have a personal, close relationship with Christ,” Sutherland said of the non-denominational church at which he preaches.

“That’s what I’ve been chasing my whole life. And I actually joined the police department so I could get better at it.”

Along the way, he saw the worst of humanity. But that only reaffirmed his beliefs.

“I mean, I was seeing sin alive,” he said. “When you’re driving around the city as a policeman, you see all the broken lives and the kids and what addiction does, what violence does, you’re like man, the Bible’s right. It’s actually right.”

Serial killer vic ID'd

Cops still eyeing '80s-'90s remains

By ISABEL KEANE

For years, a peaceful million-dollar farm in Indiana hid a dark secret: it was a serial killer's playground.

When cops finally raided Herb Baumeister's 18-acre property in Westfield, north of Indianapolis, they uncovered some 10,000 pieces of human remains — mostly crushed and burned skeletal fragments of the teenage boys and young men whom he had abducted and murdered in the 1980s and '90s.

Nearly 30 years after Baumeister killed himself while on the run from police, authorities are still sifting through the remains and identifying victims.

The Hamilton County coroner announced last month that human remains recovered from Herb

Baumeister's Fox Hollow Farm in 1996 were positively identified as belonging to Jeffrey A. Jones, who went missing in 1993.

Jones is the third victim to be identified in recent months.

There are an additional four DNA profiles found at Baumeister's property that have not been identified, bringing the total number of confirmed victims to 12, Coroner Jeff Jellison said.

"Because many of the remains were found burnt and crushed, this investigation is extremely challenging; however, the team of law enforcement and forensic specialists working the case remain committed," Jellison said.

Baumeister, a businessman and married father of three, hunted gay teens and men in central Indiana beginning in at least 1980. He's believed to have killed at least 25



HERB BAUMEISTER
Targeted young, gay men.

people, Fox News Digital reported.

He reportedly used the fake name "Brian Smart" and targeted young gay men he met at bars.

Jones was the third victim identified by the coroner's office in the past six months. Before him, officials identified Allen Livingston, who was 27 when he went missing in August 1993, and Manuel Resendez, who was 34 when he vanished in 1996.

Baumeister's wife, who initially blocked law enforcement from searching their property, later divorced her husband as more evidence began to pile up against him.

Authorities eventually searched the property while Baumeister wasn't home and found the bodies of several victims.

Baumeister, who was 49 at the time, fled to Ontario, Canada, in 1996 after a warrant was put out for his arrest and fatally shot himself.

He was never charged with the murders and he did not admit to any of the crimes in his suicide note.

The remaining unidentified bones and bone fragments had been sitting in storage until Jellison decided it was time to re-open the case in 1996, according to WRTV.

The Hamilton County coroner's office along with the FBI, Indiana State Police Laboratory, Dr. Krista Latham of the Biology & Anthropology Department at the University of Indianapolis and DNA experts from Texas-based Othram Lab, are all working to identify the additional remains.

Tulsi kin killed in stab-beat

Ex-Democratic Hawaiian Rep. Tulsi Gabbard's aunt was stabbed multiple times and beaten with a hammer during a fatal fight with her protege in Samoa last month, according to a report.

Dr. Caroline Sinaviana-Gabbard, 78, was found dead on May 25 inside award-winning Samoan playwright Papalii Sia Figiel's home in Vaivase-Uta, Spectrum News reported.

The two women reportedly were alone inside the home which doubles as the community's local playhouse named GaluMoana Theater, when the deadly confrontation took place.

Sinaviana-Gabbard is believed to have been Figiel's mentor.

Figiel reportedly fled to a friend's house following the brutal attack and turned herself over to the police.

Figiel was initially arrested for manslaughter last Sunday, but her charges were upgraded to murder following an investigation.

Nicholas McEntyre, Wires

Sally Brompton Daily Horoscope

♊ GEMINI (May 22-June 21)

A positive attitude is a must if you are to make the most of some amazing activity in and around your birth sign. So much will come easy to you now but that is not an excuse to sit back and let life drift by. You must get active.

♋ CANCER (June 22-July 23)

Don't worry if your confidence takes a bit of a dive today because this is one of those times when you will somehow achieve more if you actually do less. Find yourself a safe and quiet place where you can hunker down and watch the passing parade.

♌ LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)

Cosmic activity in the friendship area of your chart reaches a peak this week, so take every opportunity to get out into the world and meet new people. Also, don't hesitate to get involved in social issues if you

DISCOVER MORE ABOUT YOURSELF AND WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS AT SALLYBROMPTON.COM

feel you have something worthwhile to offer.

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)

Focus all your thoughts on your long-term ambitions and don't doubt for a moment that the universe will bring new opportunities your way. If you believe in who you are and what you can do there is no power on earth that can possibly deny you.

♎ LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)

Don't limit the adventurous side of your nature today because this is one of those occasions when taking risks is not only permitted but essential. Whatever takes your fancy today just go for it and don't give a moment's thought to what the consequences might be.

♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)

You may need to be ruthless over the next 24 hours, especially when dealing with matters related to your wealth and your earning power. No one is going to give you anything for free, so just reach out and take what you think you deserve.

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)

Good fortune will come your way through other people over the next few days, so don't try to go it alone but do strive to stay on good terms with partners, loved ones and colleagues. That won't always be easy but it will be well worth the effort.

♑ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)

The more you prepare the ground before embarking on a new project the more likely it is to be a success. As an Earth sign you know how to be patient, so take your time, focus on the

details and pick the right moment to make your big play.

♒ AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)

What occurs today should confirm that everything is going your way and that creative activities of all types are under excellent stars. Close your ears to the critics and cynics and push ahead with those daredevil plans to make a name for yourself.

♓ PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)

Challenges will come thick and fast as the new week begins but you have what it takes to deal with each and every one of them and still find time to enjoy yourself. Even your rivals will be impressed by the way you deal with the constant pressure.

♈ ARIES (March 21-April 20)

As Mercury moves into the

communications area of your chart today words will come a lot easier than they have done in recent weeks. Remember though that while it might feel good to express yourself, what you have to say must be honest and also make sense.

♉ TAURUS (April 21-May 21)

Cosmic activity in the money area of your chart emphasizes the need to get on top of your financial situation. The events of the next few days will work out in your favor and if you make good use of them the big bucks should start rolling in.

BIRTHDAY MONDAY

Not only does Mercury move into your sign on your birthday but luck planet Jupiter is very much on your side as well, so aim higher, push harder and don't doubt for a single moment that you are destined to accomplish something that is not just good but great!

Tourist Trouble

Broadway woes another sign of economic lag

THE Trump verdict last Thursday overshadowed a far more disturbing portent for New York: yet another daytime attack in the heart of Times Square, the second in a month, this time a machete assault outside a McDonald's at 45th and Broadway.

New York's failure to control crime — regular crime, not Trump crime — is slowing its tourism recovery, as new statistics from Broadway's theater industry show.

Like New York overall, Broadway is having a slow rebound from the COVID-19 pandemic. Ahead of the Tony Awards in mid-June, the Broadway League has released annual stats for the playing year that ended last month.

Through May, annual attendance was 12.3 million people — nearly 17% below the 2018-19 level of 14.8 million. Revenue was down 16%, to \$1.5 billion.

Though a few blockbusters — “Merrily We Roll Along,” “Hamilton” and “The Lion King” (still) — command nosebleed-ticket prices of \$200 and up, costs overall aren't deterring visitors. The average ticket is \$125 per person, not far off the \$124 paid in 2019, despite 25% inflation since then.

It's not for a lack of variety: 21 shows opened this spring, from Ibsen to a musical based on the novel “The Outsiders” — enough to meet everyone's taste.

And people haven't lost their love of theater: London's West End recovered its pre-pandemic crowds way back in 2022, with attendance up 7% versus 2019.

The real problem is the bigger stage of New York City — whose government policies have made it far more expensive to come here and stay for a few days, even as public safety and quality of life have declined.

Last year, the average New York hotel room cost \$301, real-estate analysts at CoStar tell me, up 22% since 2019. A big reason is squeezed supply: We're missing 7,900 hotel rooms, or 6% of the total, thanks to President Biden's border crisis.

The city has taken major mid-budget hotels, from The Row on Eighth Avenue to the Roosevelt, a 10-minute walk from Times



Matthew McDermott

Broadway blues: Fewer visitors to NYC means economic pain.

Square, off the market, booking them entirely for non-paying migrants. The Adams administration, which pledged to support New York's post-COVID recovery, has instead replaced a tax-paying tourist population with a tax-consuming migrant population.

And the city's failure to police these “newcomers” harms the area's public safety. In February, a 15-year-old shoplifting migrant shot and wounded a tourist in a Times Square store. Not exactly great for business.

You can't blame the migrants for thinking they can get away with lawlessness; they're just following a “when in Rome” philosophy. Thursday's attack outside McDonalds involved three of Times Square's notorious CD hawkers, who allegedly stabbed and wounded a rival with a machete.

The CD crews are a known menace, obstructing sidewalks to hit up tourists for “tips” for supposedly “free” CDs, and even rifling through tourists' wallets for large-denomination bills when the victims try to find a few dollars. But New York failed to stop these chronic low-level crimes before they escalated to a near-murder.

Then there's our failure to deal with the disorderly and dangerous mentally ill, even after they've racked up multiple warning-sign arrests. Last

month, a shelter resident with 14 previous arrests randomly stabbed a Pennsylvania woman who was leading kids on a class trip to New York.

Overall, felony crime in Midtown South, which includes Times Square, remains 50% higher than it was in 2019. Serious assaults — many of them random — have nearly tripled, from 74 during the first four and a half months of 2019 to 202 this year.

Midtown South hasn't seen this level of felony assault in at least a quarter-century: Even in 1997, halfway through Rudy Giuliani's first crime-fighting term, such assaults in the early part of the year reached only 154.

All this chaos impacts people's livelihoods. As of April, New York was still missing 26,300 leisure and hospitality jobs, or 6% relative to 2019.

The mayor says New York is booming, because we *might* recover our 2019 tourist numbers by next year. But the truth is we are way behind: The country as a whole has 2% more tourism-related jobs than it had in 2019.

And \$15 congestion pricing, set to start June 30, is yet another deterrent to regional visitors who might not want to take transit home late at night after a show.

Yes, the show must go on, so it is going on — but with fewer butts in Broadway seats than New York needs to recover.

Nicole Gelinias is a contributing editor to the Manhattan Institute's City Journal.



NICOLE GELINAS

FAST TAKES

From the left: The Endless Language War

“We're in an era in which every news controversy devolves into sub-controversies about language, often accompanied by rushes of instructions on improved terminology,” grumbles Racket News' Matt Taibbi. Like “referring to ‘undocumented’ instead of ‘illegal’ immigrants.” But now even those are too offensive: “today's sensitivity to victimized status may become tomorrow's callous indifference to social conditions.” Yet “with words, people always choose character over correctness, which is how you know *Lat-inx* will end up a slur for something, if academics succeed in forcing it on the population.” And the “Year Zero fascination with rewriting history is all of a piece. Change is fine, but when we start changing the changed changes, those are signs on the road to Crazyville. And we're flooring it.”

Libertarian: Lefty Flag Lies

“The idea that either the Pine Tree flag or flying the American flag upside-down” are “endorsements of Trump's election-related malfeasance is ludicrous,” yet “Democratic politicians and media figures” cite the flags as reason Justice Samuel Alito “should sit out from January 6 cases,” fumes Reason's Robby Soave. “The American flag is commonly turned upside-down by activists representing all sorts of issues,” while “the ‘Appeal to Heaven’ flag has equally broad usage” — “The Black Lives Matter movement was using it just a few weeks before January 6,” and San Francisco's City Hall flew it “for decades,” removing it only “in response to the Alito controversy.” “That picture of a pine tree is not a right-wing symbol of hate; cowards are turning it into one.”

Eye on Albany: Why Protect ‘Cadillac’ Benefits?

The latest drive “to block any change to retiree health coverage for state and local public employees” would be the broadest and most costly yet — and more than two-thirds of state lawmakers are supporting it,” warns the Empire Center's Ken Girardin. Nearly all public employees in New York can keep “their (typically gold- or platinum-level) health insurance plans” on retirement, “with little or no required personal contribution” — a perk that's “vanished from employee compensation packages in most of the private sector.” NY “public employers have promised over \$300 billion in retiree healthcare benefits and have set aside little to pay for it.” The legislation would prevent efforts to reduce those outlays, such as by moving retirees to Medicare Advantage. Gov. “Hochul must prepare to use her veto pen to protect taxpayers.”

Budget experts: Joe's Bide To Slam Workers



President Biden

President Biden's White House “complains that ‘corporations received an enormous tax break in 2017,’” and vowed to raise it in the interest of fairness, note Kevin Brady & Douglas Holtz-Eakin at The Wall Street Journal. “Yet the Trump tax cuts were a boon” for workers, spurring “businesses investment” and restoring US companies' global competitiveness. “For workers, the 9% increase in inflation-adjusted earnings between Jan. 1, 2018, and Dec. 31, 2020, was the fastest growth since the government began publishing data in 1979,” yet “corporate-tax revenue today is higher than it was projected to be at the 35% rate.” A hike “would be financed” by shareholders, workers and customers. “This is a pivotal moment for preserving the opportunities” for US workers.

Liberal: Inflation the Top Voting Issue

Inflation looks to be the issue likely to “animate the most politically disinterested Americans,” reports The Liberal Patriot's John Halpin, as polling shows 47% cite “inflation as their number one most pressing issue.” That “makes sense when we examine the state of personal finances for these politically disinterested Americans,” as “six in ten voters who pay attention to public affairs only now and then or hardly at all say their personal finances are either poor or very poor these days, compared to less than half of the people who pay attention to politics either some or most of the time.” To win these voters over, the “best path forward is to offer a viable and believable plan for addressing their deep concerns about the high cost-of-living.”

— Compiled by The Post Editorial Board

Joe ♥ Border-Jumpers

For all President Biden's talk about trying to address the border crisis, we keep discovering new ways he's encouraging the tide. The latest:

• The Post's Jennie Taer reports that Biden's team has quietly closed some 350,000 asylum cases over the last 2½ years — terminating the cases while neither granting asylum nor ordering deportation; the illegal migrant is free to move freely around the country as if he or she was never intercepted at the border.

• Don Barnett of the Center for Immigration Studies found that Biden has created at least *eight* different programs that allow 3.3 million migrants, most of the illegal entrants, to get work permits, end-running laws that supposedly require a half-year wait before even applying — with another 1.4 million cases in the pipeline.

It's hard to say which is more outrageous: On one hand, he's pretending to resolve dubious asylum claims while really just wiping them off the official record; on the other, he's handing work permits to illegal migrants he shouldn't ever be letting in.

The wipe-the-record-clean program is accelerating since ICE acting Deputy General Counsel Kerry Doyle ordered a new approach in 2022. Just 4,700 people saw their cases dismissed in 2020; then 102,550 in 2022

— more than 10 times the 2014 level.

It was 149,000 the next year and 2024 is set to pass that level when the fiscal year ends Sept. 30. Dismissed cases get cut loose — no longer monitored by ICE or anyone.

The number of asylum cases OK'd is also way up under Biden, to an average of 40%, with most of the rest dismissed and less than a quarter ordered to leave.

A few of the fast-track work permits make some sense: for Afghan allies allowed in after Biden handed their country to the Taliban and for Ukrainians temporarily fleeing the Russian invasion. But *most* go to illegal migrants from Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Venezuela, Nicaragua and Honduras under various Biden-enabled programs to quietly admit illegal migrants, as well as ones from everywhere let in simply because they used the CPBOne app to schedule their illegal entry.

Bottom line: As cities across America are overwhelmed by the unending flood of illegal migrants, Biden keeps making it far easier for illegal migrants to enter, to stay without being tracked and even to work "legally."

The White House knows the issue is killing Biden in the polls, but keeps working to reward as many border-jumpers as it can.

Yet they keep insisting Donald Trump is the great threat to our democracy.

What Does Iran Have on Biden?

With all the troubling news about President Biden and his team's inexplicable support for Iran, you'd surely expect media outlets to be screaming "Iran, Iran, Iran" — just as they harped on "Russia, Russia, Russia" in reporting on Donald Trump.

Nope: It's been crickets.

The latest: GOP lawmakers uncovered evidence suggesting Biden special Iran envoy Robert Malley improperly shared sensitive or classified documents with Tehran.

Malley had his security clearance suddenly canceled last year, and the FBI launched a probe into whether he mishandled classified documents.

He worked with and hired affiliates of the Iran Experts Initiative, a group Tehran used to push its agenda across the West. What did Biden know about it, and when did he know it?

Had Malley worked for Donald Trump, Dems would have already compiled a dossier on the dirt Iran has on Biden and it would be

wall-to-wall coverage.

Add in Team Biden's push for Britain and France *not* to censure Iran over its nuclear program. And Biden's bid to strongarm Israel *not* to retaliate after Iran launched more than 300 missiles and attack drones against it, directly from Iranian launch sites. Plus his own lame-to-nonexistent retaliation when Iran used its proxies to attack US soldiers.

All that on top of Biden's waiving of some Iran sanctions and dropping enforcement of others — providing billions to the regime.

What gives? Iran is not America's friend — and won't be anytime soon. It's looking to dominate the entire Middle East, developing nukes, backing Russia's war on Ukraine. It wants to wipe out our close ally Israel.

Yet Biden seems to be doing everything he can protect, fund and kowtow to Tehran. It's all enough to make you wonder whose side he's really on, but our media elite only ask such questions about leaders they despise.

The Council's Rx for City Dysfunction

The City Council is moving ahead with demands for an unprecedented power of approval over chiefs of the NYPD, FDNY and other key agencies.

Speaker Adrienne Adams actually says the city should operate more like the federal government, where the Senate must OK every Cabinet member and their top assistants. That's nuts: That arrangement is one big reason why Washington's grown so dysfunctional; why should the city go down that road?

Mayors won the sole power to appoint

agency heads and commissioners 140 years ago. Why change that now?

The mayor is elected citywide; he (or she, someday) will take the sole heat for any appointees who fail. Council members' interests are purely parochial or ideological.

New Yorkers need their mayor and his top aides focused on doing their jobs, not jumping through arbitrary hoops to please councilmembers with too much time on their hands. City government would run more smoothly if the council had less power.

Trump's Felony Conviction: A Rigged Kangaroo Court

THE ISSUE: The landmark guilty verdict ruled against former President Donald Trump in his hush money trial.



Donald Trump

• Trump's guilty verdict has many of his supporters claiming that the trial was "rigged" ("End to end, the case was rigged!," Rich Lowry, May 31).

Is there merit to this claim? The prosecution's decision to charge Trump with 34 counts of falsifying business records in the first degree raised eyebrows — with critics validly pointing out that the charges were based on a technicality.

The guilty verdict therefore represents a travesty of justice, revealing a corrupt system that sacrifices truth and fairness at the altar of political expediency.

Ronald Beaty
West Barnstable, Mass.

• Effective criminal prosecutors focus on pursuing crime rather than targeting individuals.

Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg claims he simply did his job when he led a coordinated and partisan political sham trial against Trump. This, despite the latter leading President Biden in several election polls.

Crime statistics from 2022, where only 4,217 out of 154,617 arrests in New York City resulted in prison sentences, suggest that Bragg is a failure of a DA.

Michael Mulhall
Moseley, Va.

• Not only did Lady Justice have both eyes wide open, but she also had her foot firmly planted on the scales against Trump.

I am truly scared by what's happening to this country. Wake up, America.

Dan O'Hagan
Coram

• I'm saddened by the state of my country.

I'm also deeply disappointed in the city I used

to call my home. It seems the patients have been running the asylum for far too long.

Shame on those responsible for allowing this unfortunate reality. I pray for a swift and successful appeal.

Peter Goldring
Freehold, NJ

• If you consider yourself a reasonable person and yet fail to acknowledge the weaponization of the justice system against Trump, it's because you're choosing not to see it.

Paul Jablonski
Rockaway Beach

• Thankfully, we no longer have to refer to Trump as the "former president."

Even though it takes twice as many syllables to say, it's far more appropriate and satisfying to refer to him as the "Twice-Impeached Convicted Felon-For-Life."

Bob Canning
Petaluma, Calif.

• Trump's conviction might lead President Biden to believe he'll win big in November.

In reality, however, that belief may falter when millions of voters become enraged over this wrongful guilty verdict. This event could actually

prove to be Democrats' most significant mistake come Election Day.

It would also lead to Attorney General Merrick Garland's downfall after Trump inevitably wins in November.

Carl Merz
Hartford, Conn.

• The fix was in from the start: From the judge to the prosecutor and then finally to the jury.

Among the prosecution's witnesses were a convicted liar and a porn star. And with this, the jury reached a guilty verdict on all charges against Trump.

Dan Gardner
Staten Island

• Everyone should tone down the exaggerated rhetoric surrounding Trump's conviction.

Both sides are using it as a fund-raising tool. In reality, though, an ex-president is unlikely to be incarcerated due to a felony conviction. The worst Trump might face is a fine or, in an extreme case, home confinement.

But prison? Not a chance. This is likely going to be a felony conviction that is treated like a civil judgment.

Ken Byrnes
Hackensack, NJ

• This disgraceful miscarriage of justice is one more nail in the coffin of American democracy.

Max Wisotsky
Highland Park, NJ

• Bragg considers it a far more serious criminal offense if an adult film actress is paid to keep quiet than if a police officer is beaten, a pedestrian is attacked or a woman slashed. So, who's the real criminal here?

Anthony Parks
Garden City

E-MAIL: letters@nypost.com or **WRITE** to The Editor, The New York Post, 1211 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036. Include name, address and daytime phone number. No unverifiable letters will be published. The Post reserves the right to edit all letters.

The New York Post is published by N.Y.P. Holdings Inc., 1211 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036. Lachlan Murdoch, Chair; Rupert Murdoch, Chairman Emeritus; Sean M. Giancola, Publisher; Keith Poole, Editor-in-Chief; Stephen Lynch, Print EIC; Mark Cunningham, Editorial Page Editor

DR. FAUCI LIARLIAR

TRUST ME

NIH NEVER FUNDED
GAIN-OF-FUNCTION



Gary Varvel
DELAWARE

Dems Can't Fool Us On Lousy Economy

H EY, you there eating ramen out of the paper cup, have you heard the economy is doing great?

Yes, your lying eyes deceive you every time you go to the supermarket. While you see a sharp spike in food prices, President Biden sees an economy that's going gangbusters.

A month ago Biden released a statement praising the "strong" economy and its "steady and stable growth."

"The economy has grown more since I took office than at this point in any presidential term in the last 25 years — including 3% growth over the last year — while unemployment has stayed below 4% for more than two years," he insisted.

Unemployment is low, sure — but people are working more than ever to afford the things they need. Biden supporters have taken to calling it the "vibecession": There is no recession, it's just the vibes are off.

A Thursday article in The New York Times blamed everything except the policies coming out of the White House for the American people's dissatisfaction.

"Call it the vibecession. Call it a mystery. Blame TikTok, media headlines or the long shadow of the pandemic," the Times' Jeanna Smialek fretted. "The gloom prevails."

The mysterious gloom prevails specifically because things are gloomy — and blaming TikTok doesn't change that. People know things cost much more than they did four years ago. We might not be experiencing an official recession, which economists define as a decrease in gross domestic product for two successive quarters, but that's not the only reason why families feel a financial pinch.

Vibes matter, but the actual numbers are bad, too.

Inflation remains painfully high. On X, Heather Long of The Wash-



ington Post pointed to a graph showing cumulative inflation under each president.

"Why are Americans still upset about inflation?" Long asked. "A: The cumulative price change under Biden is the highest since Jimmy Carter. What we've just experienced is rare in recent history."

But Biden's defenders couldn't let that data stand! Chris Hayes of MSNBC retorted, "The difference between 'Morning in America' and 'Everything Sucks!' is, apparently, the last .8% of cumulative price change."

Well, not quite. Ronald Reagan's cumulative inflation rate was about half that of his predecessor Jimmy Carter. Meanwhile, Biden's number is something like four times Donald Trump's.

Joe Biden can't run on that. Instead, Biden's friends in the media massage the data to claim that everything is rosy when it clearly isn't.

In October, Democratic cheerleader and economist Paul Krugman posted a graph of decreasing inflation and noted, "The war on in-

flation is over. We won, at very little cost." But the graph's statistics excluded food, energy, shelter and used cars. In other words, the things you want to buy still cost astronomical amounts, but prices on the things you don't want to buy aren't increasing quite as fast. We win!

The current average interest rate for a 30-year fixed mortgage is 7.17%. When Biden took office it was 2.7%. People lucky enough to have bought homes in 2020 or earlier are stuck in them — and so many others are forgoing the homeownership dream.

The joke used to be that Millennials were eating too much avocado toast to be able to afford a home. Now the avocado toast is out of reach, too.

Yes, your lying eyes deceive you every time to go to the supermarket. ♫

ington Post pointed to a graph showing cumulative inflation under each president.

"Why are Americans still upset about inflation?" Long asked. "A: The cumulative price change under Biden is the highest since Jimmy Carter. What we've just experienced is rare in recent history."

But Biden's defenders couldn't let that data stand! Chris Hayes of MSNBC retorted, "The difference between 'Morning in America' and 'Everything Sucks!' is, apparently, the last .8% of cumulative price change."

Well, not quite. Ronald Reagan's cumulative inflation rate was about half that of his predecessor Jimmy Carter. Meanwhile, Biden's number is something like four times Donald Trump's.

Joe Biden can't run on that. Instead, Biden's friends in the media massage the data to claim that everything is rosy when it clearly isn't.

In October, Democratic cheerleader and economist Paul Krugman posted a graph of decreasing inflation and noted, "The war on in-

Trans-form Sports?

I T'S the preeminent civil rights issue of our day: the protection of girls in women's sports.

Last month's stolen victory by a male runner in the girls' 400-meter dash at the Washington state championships underscores a heightened sense of urgency for current and future generations of female athletes.

Lauren Matthew, West Valley School District's top-seeded runner, is just the latest young woman to lose a title to a mediocre male claiming to be female. Naturally, the boy secured the championship by one second.

It follows a similar victory over 100-meter gold medalist Aster Jones by a male runner in the girls' 200-meter race in Oregon — another girl who, like Matthew, deserves to be recognized as the rightful champion in her state.

These instances are not isolated; they are part of a growing trend that raises significant questions about fairness in sports.

I'm so proud of the girls who valiantly stood on the podium despite likely feeling disparaged and belittled.

Video from Washington shows how they cheered for Lauren Matthew, the rightful state champion. When the boy's name was called, the female runners' body language said more than words ever could.

Their stiff yet stoic stance shows they didn't approve of their opportunities being stripped from them, but that their voices had been silenced by the adults.

I know this because I've experi-

enced it too. I saw it firsthand when I competed against a man, William "Lia" Thomas, in the 2022 NCAA 200-yard freestyle swimming championship.

My "a-ha moment" came when I was denied the trophy that Thomas received, even though our times were tied down to the hundredth of a second.

It's not sexist to acknowledge biological differences. Men, on average, are stronger, taller, and faster than women — it is fact. These advantages do not disappear because an individual wills it to be so.

To tell young girls that they must compete against athletes who possess these inherent physical advan-

tages is to tell them that their efforts and achievements are less valuable. It is to tell them that they are not worthy of calling themselves champions, that they must resign themselves to competing for second place.

It's a devastating message to send to the next generation of female athletes.

We are a nation in decline largely due to weak-kneed, cowardly leaders who find it more important to protect the feelings of males than to defend the sex-based rights of all.

Each sex is deserving of privacy, safety and fairness, as guaranteed in federal law by Title IX.

But the law is only as good as the adults, coaches, teachers, judges and

officials willing to enforce it. When adults fail to speak up, children, specifically young girls, get hurt.

I have dedicated myself to this cause, which is why I founded the Riley Gaines Center at the Leadership Institute. The center empowers young women by providing them with the knowledge, tools and support to advocate for fairness and integrity in women's sports.

This issue transcends athletics; it touches on broader societal values. It is about recognizing and respecting the unique experiences and attributes of women.

It is about ensuring that girls and women are not sidelined — or told their sole purpose is to validate the feelings and identity of males. It's time for a generation of brave girls willing to stand up and say: "No, I will not compete against a boy."

It's not just about winning races; it's about a shift in how we value female athletes — a shift that I believe is detrimental to the progress and empowerment of women.

Every girl who wants to end this nonsense once and for all has a place at the Riley Gaines Center.

We can be a powerful, unstoppable force for good in protecting women's sport, ensuring that the next generation of female athletes can compete with dignity and equal chances of opportunity and success.

Riley Gaines, a 12-time All-American swimmer and five-time SEC champion, is founder and director of the Riley Gaines Center at the Leadership Institute.

Riley Gaines, a 12-time All-American swimmer and five-time SEC champion, is founder and director of the Riley Gaines Center at the Leadership Institute.

Riley Gaines, a 12-time All-American swimmer and five-time SEC champion, is founder and director of the Riley Gaines Center at the Leadership Institute.

Riley Gaines, a 12-time All-American swimmer and five-time SEC champion, is founder and director of the Riley Gaines Center at the Leadership Institute.

Riley Gaines, a 12-time All-American swimmer and five-time SEC champion, is founder and director of the Riley Gaines Center at the Leadership Institute.

Riley Gaines, a 12-time All-American swimmer and five-time SEC champion, is founder and director of the Riley Gaines Center at the Leadership Institute.

Riley Gaines, a 12-time All-American swimmer and five-time SEC champion, is founder and director of the Riley Gaines Center at the Leadership Institute.

The Post Puzzle Page

SCRABBLE

G₂R₁A₁M₃S₁

Hasbro and its logo, SCRABBLE®, associated logo, the design of the distinctive SCRABBLE brand game board, and the distinctive letter tile designs are trademarks of Hasbro in the United States and Canada. ©2024 Hasbro. All rights reserved. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

A₁

U₁

L₁

B₃

F₄

L₁

R₁

E₁

E₁

O₁

N₁

R₁

L₁

L₁

A₁

O₁

Y₄

N₁

F₄

P₃

F₄

E₁

E₁

O₁

Y₄

T₁

N₁

K₅

Triple Word Score

RACK 1

RACK 2

RACK 3

RACK 4

3rd Letter Double

SCRABBLE

G₂R₁A₁M₃S₁

SOLUTION

RACK 1 =

L₁O₁

RACK 2 =

L₁N₁F₄T₁

RACK 3 =

A₁E₁F₄O₁

RACK 4 =

B₃L₁O₁N₁

TOTAL

228

TODAY'S ANSWER

SCRABBLE

G₂R₁A₁M₃S₁

RACK 1 =

L₁O₁

RACK 2 =

L₁N₁F₄T₁

RACK 3 =

A₁E₁F₄O₁

RACK 4 =

B₃L₁O₁N₁

PAR SCORE 155-165

Directions: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7 Letter words get 50 point bonus. "Blank" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE players Dictionary, 4th Edition.

PAR SCORE 155-165
BEST SCORE 228
FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

Bridge

South dealer
N-S vulnerable

NORTH
♠ 7 3
♥ Q 9 3
♦ A Q 6 3
♣ 8 7 4 3

WEST
♠ Q J 10 9 8 4
♥ 6 2
♦ J 4
♣ A J 10

EAST
♠ 6 5 2
♥ K 7 5
♦ K 10 9 7
♣ 9 6 2

SOUTH
♠ A K
♥ A J 10 8 4
♦ 8 5 2
♣ K Q 5

South 1 ♥
West 1 ♠
North 2 ♥
East 2 NT
Pass 3 NT
All Pass

Opening lead — ♠ Q

©2024 Tribune Content Agency, LLC

The hardest thing to say -- other than "Worcestershire sauce" -- is "I was wrong." That is especially true of bridge players.

A club player showed me today's deal from a penny game. He was North. Even if South had been willing to open 1NT with a five-card major, he judged his hand too strong. At 3NT South won the first spade with the king and led a diamond to dummy's queen.

East won and returned a spade. Declarer then went to the ace of diamonds and returned the nine of hearts, winning. He led the queen and ran five heart tricks, but when he led the king of clubs next, West claimed the rest with the ace plus good spades. Down one.

"I can't convince my partner that he misplayed," North told me. "He's adamant."

Even if the diamond finesse works, South needs a winning heart finesse to make 3NT. Hence, he should go to the ace of diamonds at Trick Two, then finesse in hearts. After he picks up the hearts, he leads the king of clubs to set up his ninth trick.

Word Force

MENTIONED

From the word or phrase above, form **AT LEAST 11** five-letter words, without using more than one form of the same word. For example, drink or drank (not both).

ANSWERS IN TOMORROW'S POST
Saturday's word:
REFECTORY

corer	force	refer
coyer	forte	refry
croft	forty	retro
erect	foyer	retry
ferry	freer	terry
fetor	fryer	

Wonderword

How to play: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **Circle their letters only. Do not circle the word.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

PEBBLES Solution: 6 letters

I	S	E	C	A	L	K	C	E	N	A	T	U	R	E
N	N	T	L	A	C	I	G	O	L	O	E	G	G	A
S	I	O	R	O	S	E	A	S	H	O	R	E	Q	S
E	S	A	R	E	R	M	T	T	G	R	O	U	N	D
L	R	D	T	G	A	F	I	O	T	N	A	L	P	E
B	E	O	R	N	A	M	E	N	T	T	N	W	P	B
B	T	S	H	R	U	N	A	E	I	A	E	A	T	R
O	S	S	C	V	E	O	I	C	E	A	V	L	I	E
C	A	S	G	U	R	R	F	C	T	E	T	L	P	V
D	O	R	O	O	L	F	O	H	E	N	O	U	E	I
H	C	A	E	B	N	P	E	S	L	I	W	P	R	R
C	I	A	S	O	M	R	T	E	I	L	E	O	I	E
L	F	O	S	S	I	L	I	U	T	O	R	O	F	L
U	R	O	U	N	D	E	D	A	R	I	N	L	A	Y
M	S	E	G	A	S	S	A	M	C	E	S	N	E	D

© 2024 Andrews McMeel Syndication www.wonderword.com 6/3

Aquatic, Beach, Bedrock, Cairn, Coasters, Cobbles, Crafts, Dash, Dense, Erosion, Firepit, Floor, Fossil, Fountain, Geological, Ground, Inlay, Inorganic, Line, Messages, Miniature, Mosaic, Mulch, Nature, Necklace, Ocean, Ornament, Pave, Plant, Pool, Riverbeds, Rounded, Rugs, Sculpture, Seashore, Stone, Stream, Tile, Tower, Wall, Weathering

Last Saturday's Answer: Touching

To purchase WONDERWORD books, visit www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480. (In Canada, call 1-855-232-2367)

POST SUDOKU

To solve a Su Doku, you must put a number from 1 to 9, in each empty box.

Each number must appear once in each horizontal row, as well as in each vertical column and in each of the 3-by-3 grids.

Impossible? Not once you get the hang of it. Tips and in depth strategies at

www.SudokuWiki.org

PLAY MORE GAMES!

NYPOST.COM/GAMES

Solutions on Page 36

© Syndicated Puzzles

Very Easy #6,568

	8					6	
	4		9		8	2	3
		6	7		4	1	
1		8					
	3	7	6		5	8	9
					2		5
		5	4		2	3	
9	2		8		1		7
	1					4	

Difficult #6,358

6		5				1		7
			7		5			9
			6		3	5		
	4							3
	3			7			5	
7							2	
		1	8		7			
3			5		4			
4		9				8		6

Quick Crossword

Across

1 ___ and flow
4 Gathers from the field
9 Braid
14 Language of Southeast Asia's only landlocked country
15 HS class for aspiring premeds, perhaps
16 Stranger, slangily
17 Bing's web portal
18 What sounds like a disk, but isn't a disk?
20 Cabinet part
22 Backed (away from)
23 Frito___ snacks
24 Lean a bit
26 Gets up
28 What sounds like a cube, but isn't a cube?
32 Rowboat blade
33 Like limes
34 Squads
38 Squeaked (by)
40 Spanish "I love you"
43 England's largest all-boys board-ing school
44 Passover meal
46 Uterus
48 Barnyard baby sound
49 What sounds like a circle, but isn't a circle?
53 Unhelpful RSVPs
55 Flatbread served with chana masala
56 Louisville Slugger product
57 Real gem
60 "All good on my end"
63 What sounds like a sphere, but isn't a sphere?
66 Wedding words
67 Diamond unit
68 Republic in the Himalayas
69 Duck sauce for egg rolls, e.g.
70 Minor mistakes
71 Speechify
72 UFO pilots

Down

1 Shade trees on the National Mall
2 Big party
3 Exhausted to the core
4 Fundraisers with tickets
5 Clean energy org.
6 Pre-K song subject
7 White part of citrus fruit
8 ___ butterfly: one with a busy calendar

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14				15				16					
17				18				19					
20			21		22				23				
24				25		26			27				
28	29				30	31							
32			33					34		35	36	37	
38			39		40			41	42		43		
44			45					47		48			
			49		50	51			52				
	53	54						55					
56				57			58	59		60		61	62
63			64					65			66		
67							68				69		
70							71				72		

9 Give a weather report, essentially
10 Fond du ___, Wisconsin
11 Lower leg joint
12 Mental flashes
13 Parliament conservative
19 Big sandwich
21 Not dark
25 Relaxed gait
27 Trademark in an arcade game name
28 Trials and tribulations
29 Leaf-gathering tool
30 Take to court
31 Barroom fight
35 Welcome sign at a cash-only market
36 Complain
37 Minor holdup
39 Refuse to obey
41 "Who, me?"
42 Saudi Arabia neighbor
45 Cottontails
47 Alphabet read with the fingers
50 Come together
51 "Thumbs down from me"
52 Ewe's mate
53 Taj ___

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER
(C) 2023 Tribune Media Services
54 Pong Quest maker
56 Covertly includes on an email
58 Lyft rival
59 Spanish appetizer
61 Correct a verb tense, perhaps
62 Dreidels, e.g.
64 Knock sharply
65 Long, crosser

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Oil rush

Saudi Arabia's sale of shares in oil giant Aramco drew more demand than the stock on offer within hours of kicking off Sunday, a deal that could raise up to \$13.1 billion in a major test of international appetite for the kingdom's assets.

Live breach

Live Nation is investigating a data breach at its Ticketmaster subsidiary, which dominates ticketing for live events in the United States.

Close call

Federal officials are investigating an incident in which an American Airlines plane canceled its takeoff from Reagan National Airport to avoid colliding with another plane landing on an intersecting runway.

Steel deal

Nippon Steel's vice chairman plans to return to the United States this week for more talks over the proposed acquisition of US Steel and would study selling some assets if necessary for the deal to go through.

Plane pains

The head of Dubai airline Emirates urged Boeing to pick an engineering and business heavyweight to lead a deep overhaul of the US aerospace giant.

Sources: Reuters, AP, Dow Jones

HADID 'HOODWINKED'

Accuses lender of Beverly Hills land grab

By LISA FICKENSCHER

Financially strapped real-estate developer Mohamed Hadid, celebrity father of supermodels Gigi and Bella Hadid, claimed he's the "victim" of a predatory lender after filing for bankruptcy over a prized California property. The Post has learned.

Hadid, who made cameo appearances on "The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills" when it featured his ex-wife, Yolanda Hadid, has been locked in a nasty legal battle with real-estate mogul Zach Vella, a fellow reality-TV alum of Bravo's "Million Dollar Listing."

Their knock-down, drag-out dispute stems from a \$31 million loan Vella's Skylark Capital gave Hadid's Tree Lane LLC in 2018 to develop a four-acre lot in an exclusive Beverly Hills enclave that counts Hollywood stars Ashton Kutcher and his wife, Mila Kunis, as residents.

Last month, Hadid, 74, a Palestinian born in the Israeli city of Nazareth and an outspoken critic of the Jewish state, pushed the property into bankruptcy. It's the fifth such filing in less than five years in Los Angeles to prevent a land grab by Vella, he told The Post in an exclusive interview.

"I believe I was a victim and now I have to fight my fight," Hadid said. "They gave us enough money to hang ourselves and then they stopped funding."

Vella, Skylark and its attorney Matthew Lewis did not return repeated calls and emails for comment.

'Outright theft'

Vella, who has developed properties in New York City, Miami and Los Angeles, is far from being media-shy. His 2015 wedding to jewelry designer Michelle Campbell took place at Ashford Castle in Ireland and was featured in Wedding Style magazine.

In 2022, he sued Hadid over the pricey plot in Bella Vista Estates at 2451 Summitridge Drive, next to gated homes that "boast expansive living space, gourmet kitchens, and lavish amenities such as custom movie theatres, game rooms, wine cellars," according to real-estate firm Ruby-Home.

A rendering of the 30,000-square-foot property supplied by Hadid to The Post shows he planned to build a four-level mansion with floor-to-ceiling windows, featuring infinity pools

Loan snark

Mohamed Hadid (far right, and with daughters Bella and Gigi, and "The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills" star and ex-wife Yolanda, near right) is accusing Zach Vella (cameo), also a reality TV personality, of cutting off a \$31 million loan after only \$21.4 million in an attempt to gain ownership of a Beverly Hills property Hadid plans to develop (below).



that overlook a private tennis court. The plans also include a spa, home theater and an eight-car garage with a car lift.

However, it remains undeveloped six years after Skylark signed the loan agreement as Hadid suffered several financial setbacks, including a \$100 million debacle over a Bel-Air mansion, nicknamed Starship Enterprise, that a judge ordered him to tear down in 2019 before it was completed.

Vella's suit accuses Hadid of "outright theft" and of being a "fraud."

"It was and is very important to Hadid that he present himself as a wealthy and successful real estate developer and to appear in the public eye as such," Skylark alleges.

Hadid regularly patronizes well-known Beverly Hills restaurants, "sitting in a place easily publicly observable and photographable, and surrounds himself with young women whose ages approximate those of his daughters," the complaint said.

Hadid sought bankruptcy protection on April 26, the same day a court hearing was scheduled to appoint an independent receiver for the property.

In a legal filing before a May 29 court hearing, Hadid asked the judge to approve an emergency loan for

\$7.7 million from a new lender, 364 Capital LLC, which will finance emergency repairs to the property as he vets other lenders to help him finish the project.

Complicated history

Once the property is fully developed it will be worth up to \$85 million and the sale will make everyone whole, Hadid claims in the filing.

The judge has yet to rule on Hadid's request.

Hadid and Vella's complicated history began with a meeting initiated by Vella in 2018, Hadid told The Post, at a time when he was desperate for funding to start work on an even more expensive Beverly Hills development at nearby 9650 Cedarbrook Drive.

The two discussed a deal while walking around the 37-acre site, which was later listed at \$250 million but was knocked down to just \$68 million last September.

According to renderings, the Cedarbrook compound would include a 78,000-square-foot main house with 19 bedrooms, a 36-person home theater, a Turkish bath, a wine cellar with a tasting room, a hot yoga room, staff quarters and a car collector's garage,

along with a guest house.

"We met across from the Beverly Hills hotel and [Vella] said, 'Let's go to the property,'" Hadid told The Post. "Vella said 'I have a lot of money that I want to invest' and I said 'That's music to my ears.'"

Shortly after the fateful tour, Vella formed Skylark and drew up two loan commitments, according to court records. Skylark agreed to a \$92.7 million loan for Cedarbrook for Hadid-owned Treetop Development and \$31 million for Summitridge to Tree Lane, according to Hadid and court records.

But their relationship soon soured. Hadid said he has received only \$21.4 million of the \$31 million loan, according to court filings. Of that amount, more than \$13 million went toward fees and paying off Hadid's debts, court records show.

He claimed in court filings that Skylark's goal all along was to force him into foreclosure in a "loan-to-own scheme" by not disbursing funds to Tree Lane in a timely manner.

"I was too anxious to get these projects going [and] didn't really ask where he was getting money from," Hadid told The Post.

"He was trying to take advantage of my demise," Hadid said of Vella.

POST FOCUS ON COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE

Office-ial tallies

Building visits on upswing

STEVE CUOZZO

REALTY CHECK

NEVER mind foreclosures and predictions of doom. The Real Estate Board of New York's latest analysis of office building "visitations" presents a less pessimistic take on the endlessly discussed and debated commercial-property market.

The past few months saw Manhattan office attendance continue its slow recovery as more companies call their employees back to their desks. The office market crisis is too often blamed on work-from-home. In fact, landlords are mainly squeezed between the crushing forces of high interest rates and less demand for space as companies downsize and consolidate.

REBNY cites current office attendance as a percentage of pre-pandemic 2019, when (contrary to widespread misconceptions) offices were much less than 100% full on any given day — due to the fact that some employees already worked from home and others were absent due to business travel and vacations.

Trophy worthy

According to REBNY, Manhattan office attendance in March reached 74% of 2019 levels and 75% of it in April. Both rates were higher than the 70% in March 2023. The rates are based on Placer.ai location data in 350 major Manhattan buildings, compiled from cellphone data.

The report from Keith DeCoster, REBNY director of market data and policy, found that:

■ The best, Class A-plus properties saw 82% visitation rates (relative to 2019) in March and

End of discussion

Manhattan office buildings continue to fill with workers and visitors to retail stores within those properties, negating the effects of foreclosures and unfounded doomsday talk, according to the Real Estate Board of New York's latest analysis. "Trophy towers" such as One Vanderbilt (right and far right), One Bryant Park, One World Trade Center and several Hudson Yards towers have seen daily attendance as high as 95%.



AFP via Getty Images; Christopher Sadowski

89% in April. But visitation was a healthy 72% even in Class B and C buildings.

The high occupancy in "trophy" buildings should be no surprise. We've reported that locations such as One Vanderbilt, One Bryant Park, One World Trade Center and several Hudson Yards towers have seen up to 95% daily attendance.

DeCoster said, "We are seeing office activity incrementally edge closer and closer to prepandemic levels, led by the highest quality properties."

■ Average visitation was not surprisingly highest in Midtown, with 76% and 78% in March and April. Downtown, rates improved from 54% in February to 66% in March and April.

REBNY senior VP for policy, Zach Steinberg, clarified that attendance data include visitors to retail stores inside office buildings, a fact that was not made fully clear previously.

"We're considering a building's

entire ecosystem," Steinberg explained.

But didn't that skew the office data? "No, because our data for 2019 also included visitors to stores and restaurants in office buildings, so we're still comparing apples and apples."

A recent survey by the Partnership for New York City had similar findings. The organization, which canvasses 130 major employers, found that between April 19 and May 6, office attendance was 72% of prepandemic levels.

So much for "barometers" that claim that only half as many people are working in offices as in 2019.

Fourth P.J. Clarke's

Brookfield's thriving Manhattan West complex already had Italian, Middle Eastern, Spanish and Japanese restaurants. Soon, it will add

Get more
Realty Check at
NYPOST.COM

hometown American favorite P.J. Clarke's to the mix.

The eatery, officially known as P.J. Clarke's Oyster Bar & Grille, signed a lease for 7,500 square feet at 424 W. 34th St., a k a 4 Manhattan West — a boutique office building between Ninth and 10th avenues. It's the only century-old property at the eight-acre Manhattan West site that Brookfield developed to the tune of \$5 billion.

The new P.J.'s is owner Phil Scotti's fourth in Manhattan, joining the 1884 original at Third Avenue and East 55th Street and locations in Lincoln Square on the Upper West Side and at Brookfield Place downtown. Going far beyond hamburgers, it will also sell dishes using local fish and shellfish.

Manhattan West, the smallest of Manhattan's three great new

See **REALTY CHECK** on page 30

Redstone deal gets sweeter

Skydance Media's revised offer to buy Shari Redstone's family company National Amusements and merge with Paramount Global gives the entertainment conglomerate's non-voting shareholders an option to cash out at a premium, according to people familiar with the matter.

Last week, David Ellison's Skydance made a sweetened offer to buy up to a certain number of nonvoting Paramount shares at roughly \$15 each, while also giving shareholders the option to roll into the new deal, the people said. The price per share, which could change, represents a 26% premium from where the stock closed Friday.

Under the proposed deal, Skydance and its backers would contribute funds to buy out National Amusements, inject cash into Paramount and allow nonvoting shareholders to cash out some holdings.

Other details of the deal, which is being reviewed by Redstone's camp, couldn't be learned. The two parties are still negotiating, and the deal could still fall apart.

Such a transaction would usher in a new chapter for Paramount, which owns one of Hollywood's storied studios, CBS and cable channels.

Dow Jones

Shein filing prospectus

Online fashion firm Shein is preparing to file a prospectus with Britain's Financial Conduct Authority for approval ahead of a potential London float that could value it around \$63.7 billion, Sky News reported on Sunday.

The confidential filing could take place as soon as the coming week, the report added, citing sources.

Shein, valued at \$66 billion in a fundraising last year, started engaging with the London-based teams of its financial and legal advisors to explore a listing on the London Stock Exchange early this year, sources told Reuters in May.

Reuters

1185 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS

WHERE **BIG IDEAS** TAKE OFF

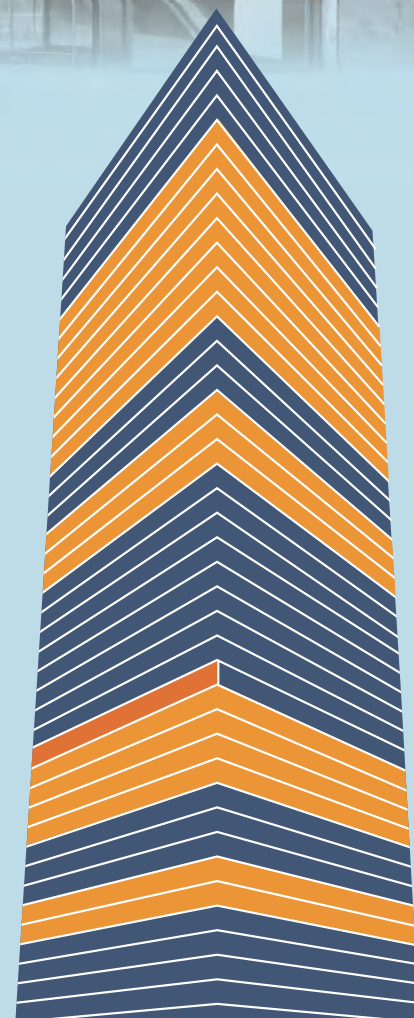
1185 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS

- Panoramic Tower Views
- Ideal Law Firm Layouts
- Transit-centric Location
- On-site Dining

236,000 RSF
TOWER BLOCK

26,000 - 29,000 RSF
FULL FLOORS

6,000 - 12,000 RSF
PRE-BUILT OPPORTUNITIES



NEWMARK

BRIAN WATERMAN
Executive Vice Chairman
212-372-2299
brian.waterman@nrmk.com

KEVIN SULLIVAN
Associate Director
212-850-5462
kevin.sullivan@nrmk.com

SCOTT KLAU
Vice Chairman
212-372-2244
scott.klau@nrmk.com

DAVID WATERMAN
Associate
212-372-2216
david.waterman@nrmk.com

BRENT OZAROWSKI
Executive Managing Director
212-372-2246
brent.ozarowski@nrmk.com

SL GREEN
REALTY CORP. SLG
LISTED
NYSE

GARY ROSEN
Senior Managing Director
212-216-1687
gary.rosen@slgreen.com

HOWARD TENENBAUM
Executive Vice President
212.216.1685
howard.tenenbaum@slgreen.com

BOMA
360



SLGREEN.COM



THAW OF THE TITANS

Elon, Dimon work it out

By DANA MATTIOLI
and DAVID BENOIT

Elon Musk and Jamie Dimon have been patching things up.

The two business titans have been feuding since a 2016 fallout. Musk's companies, including Tesla and SpaceX, have spurned JPMorgan Chase bankers, and the nation's largest bank hasn't wooed his business empire.

They have been moving toward a fresh start since a March detente, when Musk attended an inaugural JPMorgan technology conference and talked on stage with Dimon before a crowd that included Microsoft Chief Executive Satya Nadella and Sam Altman, the chief executive of OpenAI. Afterward, the door appeared open for JPMorgan and Musk's empire to find a way to work together in the future, people familiar with the relationship said.

There remains a significant roadblock. JPMorgan and Tesla are still in a legal battle that started three years ago over \$162 million that JPMorgan says Tesla should pay for a series of trades.

Notable progress

The progress is notable. Just over a year ago, it seemed unlikely JPMorgan and Musk would ever find a way to work together.

"In the case of JPMorgan, Tesla, um, has a very negative relationship with JPMorgan," Musk testified in a court case in January 2023. "JPMorgan hates Tesla, in a nutshell."

Musk is the kind of client JPMorgan and Dimon typically covet. One of the world's richest people, he is a potential client for wealth-management advice and runs a col-

lection of companies that could use banking, fundraising and dealmaking services. He brings challenges — loans other banks made for his Twitter acquisition have lost significant value — but most bankers are eager to stay on his good side for fees from his transactions and potential initial public offerings, such as his rocket company, SpaceX.

In May, JPMorgan hired Eric Gray, a Los Angeles-based wealth manager to the ultrawealthy. Musk has been one of his clients, according to people familiar with their relationship.

Mutual interests

For Musk's empire, he could gain access to the bank with the deepest pockets in America, plus a wider network of advisers and services.

Those mutual interests are what has made the feud so unusual on Wall Street and why a change of heart could open the door to lucrative solutions for both sides.

JPMorgan was never Tesla's most important adviser — that role has been held by Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley — but the carmaker did use some banking services. The relationship started fraying around 2016.

Musk wanted JPMorgan, one of the country's biggest auto lenders, to underwrite leases for Tesla's electric vehicles.

Bank executives balked, unsure how to value the life of the car batteries, The Wall Street Journal has reported.

Musk was infuriated by the decision, and called the bank's then-head of consumer banking, screaming and threatening to pull Tesla's business, people familiar with the matter said. *Dow Jones*

POST FOCUS ON COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE

4th P.J.'s gets a shot

REALTY CHECK from Page 28

commercial complexes, is the only fully completed one.

The planned western half of Hudson Yards remains undeveloped. The World Trade Center is still one tower short of its planned quartet.

But eight-acre Manhattan West was largely a cakewalk for Brookfield and its partner, Qatar Investment Authority, despite the pandemic and office-market crash.

Its new office towers, the Pendry Hotel, the Eugene rental apartment tower and several public plazas were completed on schedule on a platform above busy railroad tracks.

One Manhattan West tower is 99% leased; recently completed Two Manhattan West is 84% leased; and Five Manhattan West is 100% leased. Tenants include Skadden, Amazon, R/GA, Accenture, Ernst & Young, JPMorgan Chase, Cravath, Swaine & Moore, the NHL, and Spanish financial firm BBVA which claimed 74,000 square feet in November.

Stores include Whole Foods, Peloton and the NHL. Major restaurants include Ci Siamo, ZouZou and Casa Dani.

Miniso in FiDi

FiDi's sagging retail scene just got a badly needed boost.

Chinese "lifestyle" and consumer goods chain Miniso, which has more than 6,000 stores worldwide, including two in Manhattan, signed a 5,000-square-foot lease at JEMB Realty's 150 Broadway at Liberty Street. The vacant corner was last home to Sephora.

JEMB leasing head Joseph Hamway said the new tenant will enjoy "one of the best retail corners in



CHEERS: The original P.J. Clarke's on Third Avenue and East 55th Street.

**STEVE
CUOZZO**

REALTY CHECK

Manhattan with more than 50,000 pedestrians daily."

JEMB said the asking rent was \$400 per square foot. Hamway and Jacob Jerome repped ownership in-house. Cushman & Wakefield's Joanne Podell and Michael Shalom repped Miniso.

Retail leasing powerhouse Podell said she recommended the location to Miniso because of "the area's density, which includes residents,

office workers, and visitors to the World Trade Center and over twenty museums."

WeWork shrinks

Coverage of WeWork's emergence from bankruptcy has focused on its new corporate structure and shrinkage of global locations from 500 to 337. But what most of us wondered was: how much smaller is its Manhattan portfolio in meaningful terms?

Thanks to CBRE, we now know: WeWork had 3.8 million square feet in the first quarter, down from 6.1 million prebankruptcy in 2023, according to the brokerage's latest market analysis. And it could further shrink as demand for co-working space remains flat at best.

Nvidia next-gen AI chip for 2026

Nvidia Chief Executive Jensen Huang said on Sunday that the company's next-generation artificial intelligence chip platform was called Rubin and would be rolled out in 2026.

The Rubin family of chips will include new graphics and central processors as well as networking chips, Huang said at National Taiwan University in Taipei as part of the Computex trade show.

However, Huang offered few details.

The new CPU will be

called Versa and the new graphics chips that are used to power AI applications will bundle next generation high-bandwidth memory that is made by the likes of SK Hynix, Micron and Samsung.

Huang said the company now plans to release a new family of AI chips every year, accelerating its prior release schedule of roughly every two years.

Nvidia dominates roughly 80% of the market for AI chips. *Reuters*

OPEC+ keeping cap on oil spigot

OPEC+ on Sunday tentatively agreed to extend all production curbs through the end of the year in an attempt to shore up oil prices, delegates said, as top producers in the group inched toward a deal to cut output into 2025.

The expected agreement comes on the same day the group's kingpin, Saudi Arabia, launched a giant sale of shares in its national oil champion that will yield billions to help fund the kingdom's economic

transformation.

The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and its allies, together known as OPEC+, which has longstanding official reductions of 3.66 million barrels a day, agreed to keep collective curbs until the end of 2024, the delegates said.

Some top producers in the group are also finalizing a deal to extend voluntary cuts into 2025, currently around 2.2 million barrels a day, the delegates said. *Dow Jones*



281 Park Avenue South

Entire Building for Sale or Net Lease

45,000 Square Feet | World-Class Restaurant
Gallery & Office Space, Auditorium, Retail & Café

RFR

AJ Camhi
212 308 0700
acamhi@rfr.com

@work

Doing your homework

These are the hottest remote entry-level gigs for the class of 2024

By PERRI ORMONT BLUMBERG

GONE are the days when you have to log years or decades at a company before they approve you for remote work flexibility. Now, that once hard-earned perk is expected straight out of the gate.

In a recent survey from FlexJobs, 40% of Gen Z respondents stated that remote-work options were important to them, with 73% considering some kind of hybrid structure as their ideal setup.

Adding fuel to the remote-work fire, 80% of the more than 7,000 overall survey respondents across Gen Zers, millennials and Gen Xers acknowledged that they're more productive in a remote work environment.

FlexJobs — a career resources site and database specializing in remote and hybrid job listings — recently unveiled the Top 10 entry-level remote jobs for college graduates.

Some of the highest paying entry-level jobs, based on average salary from Payscale, include software engineer (\$93,346), data analyst (\$67,302) and territory account executive (\$63,617).

Other openings are in customer service, as a business development representative, accountant, recruiter, administrative assistant, Spanish bilingual interpreter and sales representative.

Toni Frana, manager of career experts for FlexJobs based in Niceville, Fla., is hopeful that 2024 grads will be able to secure their dream job despite the recent 2% dip in hiring projections for their class. "While the job market remains competitive, there are a wide variety of remote and hybrid entry-level career opportunities across several industries for new grads," said Frana.

"We have seen a decline in the number of fully remote jobs, but that doesn't mean that they don't exist," echoes Cassie Spencer, a New Hampshire career coach

known as Career Coach Cassie, who also works as a co-coach with Eliana Goldstein Coaching of Brooklyn. "Exploring different companies, effectively networking and using a variety of job boards can lead to great success when looking for a remote or hybrid career," she said.

While certain fields like customer service, accounting, finance and IT generally offer the most hybrid and remote opportunities, other arenas on this list may be more surprising. "However, seeing the increase of remote and hybrid roles in business development and account management indicates that companies hiring for these roles are aware of the desire for young professionals to have flexibility in the way they work," said Frana.

Spencer encourages job-seekers to pay attention to the technical skills associated with the positions and industries included in this list. "Computer, IT, data and other more technical roles and industries are growing, but it also means that the skills required to obtain these jobs are also growing and changing," she said.

If you have your heart set on not schlepping yourself to an office on a full-time basis, if at all, remember you can still find plenty of excellent job opportunities beyond the aforementioned arenas and specific job titles.

Additionally, Spencer stressed that job titles are incredibly varied in the current job market and what one company calls a "customer service" role another company may call a "client relations manager" or something completely different.

"Researching industry trends can help job-seekers determine which job titles are both most common and which align most with their skills and interests," said Spencer.

All in all, Spencer believes that the FlexJobs findings regarding the top growing and most popular remote and hybrid careers reflect a similar growth that we've seen in these fields over the past handful



Adobe Stock

of years.

Working with large numbers of soon-to-be and recent graduates, the job coach also urges job-seekers to use these lists as reference points and explore other industries, fields and roles that align with their interests, skills, experience and education.

Want to land a plum remote gig? Here's how:

Do your research

"If working remotely or hybridly is a top priority, it's important to learn about the companies, not just the fields or jobs, that have a strong remote or hybrid culture," said Spencer. "Learning about the companies that are 'remote first' or who have established hybrid or remote cultures is a great way to expand your job search outside of scrolling job boards."

Step into the light

In today's market, it's especially important for new grads to be visible to hiring professionals. "That means exercising their networking

skills and building relationships with people who are doing the type of work they want to do — and with people who work at companies they'd like to work for," said Frana.

Connecting with professionals and asking for an informational chat can give new grads direction and advice from people doing the work they're seeking. "This can help shape their job-search activities, enabling them to be as strategic as possible, so they are able to secure a position soon after graduation," she said.

Spencer believes networking will always be key to any job search, but especially for anyone seeking a remote opportunity. "Talking with current employees can be a great way to both learn more about the remote or hybrid culture the company offers and to help move you along in the job search and interview process," said Frana.

Customize your résumé or cover letter

Young professionals should be sure to tailor their résumé and

cover letter to every job posting.

"As a new grad, it can be a good idea to highlight special projects or coursework you've completed that would be relevant to the role," said Frana. "This helps highlight a skill set that matches a role even without traditional work experience."

Get granular

One of the biggest interviewing mistakes Spencer sees is candidates talking about their experiences too broadly.

"It's important to provide specific examples and to tell stories that showcase the skills and experiences that you have," she said. "I often work with soon-to-be and recent grads who discredit the work that they've done. Own the experience that you have."

Be patient

Whatever you do, don't be hard on yourself if you don't secure a job offer fresh out of your cap and gown. Frana emphasizes that it takes time to land a job as a new grad.

HELP WANTED
GENERAL

HELP WANTED
GENERAL

HELP WANTED
GENERAL

HELP WANTED
PROFESSIONAL

TECH CAREERS

NEED EXTRA MONEY
TO PAY FOR BILLS?
VACATION?
SAVINGS?

Part Time - Early AM | Easy and Fun!
Newspaper Delivery Drivers Wanted

Be your own boss! Deliver newspapers close to home for just a couple of hours
each day and make over \$1000.00 monthly... plus bonus... Really!

- Just a few hours each morning
- 7 days (or less) ... done by 6am!
- Must have a reliable vehicle

Start making \$\$\$ tonight! Routes available near where you live!!!

BROOKLYN, BRONX, QUEENS

To Apply - Text: "PCFCASH"

617-207-6350 or Call 1-800-515-8000

Walk-ins Welcome 2 am - 4 am

909 Essex St., Brooklyn NY 11208

4220 Vireo Ave, Bronx NY 10470

48-02 31st Place Long Island City NY 11101

HELP WANTED
FINANCIAL

AM Fixed Income Director (New York, NY) Mng corp bond prtflios acrss Hi-yd, Inv Grade, & ESG Emerg Mkt stratg. Mntn resp for LatAm (ex-Brazil) & CEEMEA bnds, providg invstmnt recs on regions, cntries, sctrs, & co's aligng w/ clnt objctvs & risk. Anlyz mkt pos & figs thru cmplx fin mdl. Assess econ & pol land-scape of emerg mkts & its impact. Reqs: Bach finance, econ, bus admin, or similr, 5 yrs crdit anlysis exp. Profic in Bloomberg, Market Axess, Tdriton, w/ hi-yield bonds in emerg mkts. Exp prfrm'g macro anlysis of invstmnts consid'g poltical & reg'try factors; mng risk in emerg mkt debt incl currency, political, credit, & liq risks. Knowl of risk factors influencg LatAm corp spreads, sovrn credit trends, & global macro dvlpmnt. Sal: \$185-200K/year. Res: BTG Pactual Asset Management US LLC, janira.almonte@btgpactual.com

HELP WANTED
HEALTH CARE

Hospitalist - Queens, NY - Custom-ary duties of a hospitalist including patient care, regular hospital rounds, on-call service, and related profes-sional duties. Act as Co-lead/Dyad on the floor. Participate in QI Com-mittee projects. Teaching duties in-volving teaching 1-2 residents and 1-2 medical students per day. Conduct noon lectures and morning report for residents. Interview residency program candidates and provide mentorship. Salary: \$240,000 (no range). Reqs: MD, 3 years Internal Medicine residency, board eligible/ certified in internal medicine and NYS medical license. Send CV to the Northwell Health at KMelbourne@northwell.edu, Subject line "Resume". EOE

HELP WANTED
PROFESSIONAL

Senior Business Analyst w/ MSG Entertainment Holdings, LLC (New York, NY). Advise, lead & work on high-impact activities w/in the s/w syts dvlpmnt lifecycle. Bach deg or for equiv in Comp Sci, Comp Engg or a related techl field. Reqs 4 yrs of exp in any job title/position/occupation working with the full s/w dvlpmnt life cycle for both custom dvlpmnt & packaged app deployment. Tele-work permitted. \$143K-\$160K/year. Resumes to: Anthony Blewett - anthony.blewett@msg.com, Job Code: 24524

HELP WANTED
PROFESSIONAL

Principal, Infrastructure, CPPIB America, Inc., New York, NY: Research, analyze and execute on direct infrastructure investments. Telecommuting permitted up to 1 day a week. International travel re-quired up to 10%; Domestic travel required up to 15%. Annual wage, \$215,000 - \$323,000. TO APPLY: Email CV to recruitment@cpbib.com with the Job Title: Principal, In-frastructure in the subject line.

Marketing Specialist (Metro NYC) - Qual cand Masters Business Event Mgt or Data Analytics; 6 mths/exp Mktg/Events Assoc/Research Asst using named platforms; 40 hr/wk. Perf research & gather info re: intl org, tourism boards, assoc; prep mkt mat, soc med cont; research venues, vendors; perf site inspec & prov input mktg mat. Use ICCA, Zoho, Ungerboeck, all sealed software & soc med platforms. Send resume only: Arena Destination Marketing, 134 W 78th St, # 2, NY, NY 10024 Attn: P. Durrant

Horizon Media LLC seeks a Director, Digital Analytics in New York, NY to build client facing data visualization for live dashboards in Tableau. \$170,000-\$190,000 per year. Apply at www.jobpostingtoday.com, Ref #31406.

To place your ad in the New York Post Classifieds Email cloyd@nypost.com

Accordion Partners, LLC (employee may telecommute from any locatn in the US) seeks Associate, Strategic Finance to prfrm cmplx fincl anlysis, & modling; & provide cmplx fincl strat-gies & alts, usng corprte valuatin methdls. Reqs MS (or frgn equiv) in Finance, Accntng, Economics, or a rlt'd quantitative field, follwd by 2yrs of exp in private equity, invstmnt banking or fincl consultng. In the alt, the emplry will accept a BS (or forgn equivlnt) in Finance, Accntng, Eco-nomics, or a rlt'd quantitatve field follwd by 5yrs of exp in private equity, invstmnt banking or fincl consultng. Domstc travel reqd up to approx 40% of time, to various clnt sites. Exp must incl the follwing, which may be gained concntrly: 2yrs of exp in corp finance, incl dsgnng quantitative-drivn modling, & prfrmng quantitative anlytics & fincl anlysis; 2yrs of exp utlzing corp valuatin methdls & preprng fincl modls for target companies; 2yrs of exp in preprng opratnl & forecastng modls, anlyzing busnss drvrs & KPIs for target companies; 2yrs of exp preprng & dvrng fincl strategies, drafting descriptve info memnda, & presntng to C-level intrnl & clnt audi-ences; 2yrs of exp in corp dvlpmnt, invstmnt stratgy, captl structre, & trnsmtn exctn process; 2yrs of exp prfrmng in-depth industry rsrch & conductng due dilgnc of industry & companies; 2yrs of exp using data anlytcl tools (CRM, BI) & IT apps in prjct & clnt mgmt process; & 2yrs of exp in trainng & advnsng key stakehldr & C-level audiences to enhance busnss stratgy & opratnl process. Salary: \$173,555-\$185,000/year. Apply online at <https://www.accordion.com/careers/current-openings>. Ref #FC24.

TECH CAREERS

Grocery Delivery E-Services USA Inc. d/b/a HelloFresh (NY, NY) seeks Sr Backend Developer to craft well-strctrd, easily maintainable, & high-prfrmng Golang (prgrmmng lan-guage) code that can scale w/ com-pany's growth. Reqs BS (US or frgn equiv) in CompSci or a rlt'd field +1yr of exp in pos offrd or as a Backend Dvlpr OR 3yrs of exp in pos offrd or as a Backend Dvlpr. All of reqd exp must have incl'd exp w/ Golang; Ku-bernetes; rltl & docmnt databases, such as MySQL, PostgreSQL, or MongoDB; utlzing advncd monitrng & visualztn tools for trackng systm prfrmnce & ensrng optml opratnl health; ownng microsrvcres from archtctre, dsgn, dvlpmnt, to opratns; employng DevOps strategies such as continuous intrgrtn, test automatn, & infrstrctre as code; applyng reliability engng principles such as defining & measrng srvc level objctves & conductng post mortems; planning sftwre archtctre; & wrking in full dvlpmnt lifecycle & processes, incl unt, intrgrtn & functnl testng, distributed archtctre, & app tunng/rolling. Role entails hybrid wrk, w/ time split btwn wrking in our NYC office & flexibility to telecommute from another US locatn. Salary: \$138,000/yr. E-mail rsumé to: rofena.maharaj@helloworldfresh.com.

Senior Network Engineer (New York, New York): Research, design, engi-neer, implement, and support net-work solutions on a global scale. De-sign and implement secure, robust, and resilient solutions to support business needs. Manage a global infrastructure consisting of physical and virtual network appliances, and provide redundant and reliable connectivity to SaaS providers for on-prem and remote users. Work with network routing; switching and wireless solutions; Cloud network-ing, including AWS, Azure, and GCP; Cisco Firepower, Palo Alto, and Fortinet security platforms; network monitoring solutions; OSI model; OSPF, EIGRP, and BGP routing proto-cols; Spanning Tree; 802.1X; HSRP; VRRP; DMVPN; IPSec; Cisco IOS; IOS-XE; SNMP; and, wireless technolo-gies. Req. Bachelor's degree + 5 years of exp. Salary range: \$172,515.00-\$172,515.00 per year. Email re-sume to chicago.recruiting@fitchratings.com or mail resume to David Arnold, Fitch Ratings, Inc., One North Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL 60606. Must Ref# AL7FRNY. No phone calls.

Senior QA Engineer (New York, NY) Review requirements & specifica-tions & define test conditions. De-sign test cases & test scripts, map back to pre-determined criteria, & record & report outcomes. Provide estimates associated with testing activities & tasks. Work with ETL processes & data warehouse testing; ORACLE database technologies; writing complex ORACLE SQL & PL/SQL scripts for data validation & backend data warehouse testing; BI testing using Qlikview & Cognos; analyzing source systems, staging areas, & fact & dimension tables in Target DW; automated testing using Python Framework (Datacompare), Pandas, & Selenium automation; Postman, SOAPUI, & GraphQL; test automation of APIs; data validation; defect tracking & quality assurance tools, including ALM, JIRA, & qTest; & QA processes & deliverables in Agile/SCRUM envi-ronments. Req.'s Bachelor's degree + 5 years of exp. Salary range: \$143,021.00 - \$143,021.00/year. Email resume to chicago.recruiting@fitchratings.com or mail resume to David M. Arnold, Fitch Group Ser-vices, Inc., One North Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL 60606. Must Ref# DR-FG-024. No phone calls.

Senior Software Engineer (New York, New York): Design, develop, and test applications and services using vari-ous software technologies. Develop Financial Database Repository (FDR) services and applications. Partner with product owners and multiple teams to ensure appropriate inte-gration of functions to meet goals and identify and define necessary system enhancements to deploy new products and process improve-ments. Work with Java; software de-velopment in Python; building CI/CD pipelines with Docker and Kub-ernetes; AWS cloud services; EC2; EKs; Lambda; S3; Rest and GraphQL APIs; SQL, PL/SQL, and NoSQL; creating complex queries to extract data and building performant datasets; creating data pipelines using Kafka Streams; Microservices and Distrib-uted Computing; GIT; Maven; Ant; JUnit; IDEs, including IntelliJ and Eclipse; Apache Kafka; Spring Boot; MongoDB; Oracle; and, Bamboo. Req. Bachelor's degree + 5 years of exp. Salary range: \$169,229.00 - \$172,000.00 per year. Email resume to chicago.recruiting@fitchratings.com

PLACE AN AD

Email: cloyd@nypost.com

DEADLINES

Monday: Friday 2:30PM

Tuesday: Monday 2:30PM

Wednesday: Tuesday 2:30PM

Thursday: Wednesday 2:30PM

Friday: Thursday 2:30PM

Saturday: Friday 2:30PM

Sunday: Friday 2:30PM

NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTIFICATION OF PUBLIC DISPOSITION OF COLLATERAL

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT, for default in payment of a debt and performance of obligations owed by Lauren Burstyn Gordon ("Pledgor") to SSA NE Assets LLC ("Secured Party"), pursuant to Section 9-610 of the Uniform Commercial Code, at 3:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time), on June 20, 2024 (adjourned from the original date of May 30, 2024), at the law offices of Polsinelli PC, 600 Third Avenue, 42nd Floor, New York, NY 10016 and offered virtually via online video conference if requested, Secured Party shall cause the following property to be sold by public auction to the highest qualified bidder: 100% of the membership interests in Burstyn LLC, which is the owner of certain real property located at 455 West 20th Street, Unit Mew B, New York, NY 10011. The membership interests are being offered as a single lot on an "as-is, where-is" basis with no express or implied warranties, representations, statements or conditions of any kind made by Secured Party or any person acting for or on behalf of Secured Party, without any recourse whatsoever to Secured Party or any other person acting for or on behalf of Secured Party.

Secured Party reserves the right to reject all bids and terminate or adjourn the sale to another time or place or effectuate a private sale instead of a public sale, without further publication, and further reserves the right to bid for the Collateral at the sale and to credit bid by applying some or all of its secured debt to the purchase price.

Interested parties who would like additional information concerning the items to be sold at the sale and the terms and conditions of the sale, including the eligibility requirements to be a qualified bidder, should contact Amy E. Hatch, Polsinelli PC, 600 Third Avenue, 42nd Floor, New York, NY 10016; Tel.: (816) 360-4178.

Notice is hereby given that application NA-0240-24-118672 for Wine has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Wine at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 924 Remsen Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11236, Kings County for on-premises consumption;
Detente Restaurant Corp

MERCHANDISE

COLLECTIBLES

BUYING BASEBALL CARDS

And All Other Sports Cards, Cert. Memorabilia & Graded Vintage Cards. Prefer Pre-1980 Paying Top Dollar \$\$\$ small or large collections Call Henry 917-273-2353

Need a tax deduction?

Donate your car! Place an ad or check out your options daily in the

NEW YORK POST

Classified Autos Wanted Listings

PAYMENTS

We Accept

Visa, Mastercard, American Express, checks and money orders

The New York Post reserves the right to edit, reclassify, reject or cancel an ad at any time. We can only give appropriate credit, not to exceed the cost of the ad, for one insertion. We are not liable for complete omissions. Any discrepancies must be brought to our attention within 30 days of the first day the ad runs, in order to receive consideration for credit.

PET PLACE

DOGS



POMERANIAN PUPPIES

Adorable males and females, toy or teacup sizes, shots and papers. Call 718-306-4136



SHIH-TZU PUPPIES

Beautiful Males & Females Price to Sell Call 718-306-4136



YORKIE PUPPIES

ADORABLE, pure bred, toy & teacup sizes. Call 718-306-4136

Juneteenth Day
Early Deadlines for
Classified Advertising

PUBLICATION DATE

WED. JUNE 19TH & THURS. JUNE 20TH

DEADLINE

TUES. JUNE 18TH 11:30AM

ALL DISPLAY COPY DUE TUESDAY, JUNE 18TH BY 11:30AM

212-930-8100

We will be Closed on Wednesday, June 19th, 2024!

NEW YORK POST

Looking For A New
Career?

Check Out Your
Options in the

NEW YORK POST

Career Training
Listings

The *POST* Line

Powered by

BETMGM

Updated lines at BetMGM.com

NBA Playoffs-Finals		
Thursday		
Favorite	PTS (O/U)	Underdog
CELTICS	6.5 (214.5)	Mavericks
Home Teams in CAPS		
UFL- Week 10		
Saturday		
Favorite	PTS (O/U)	Underdog
STALLIONS	6.5 (43)	Panthers
Sunday		
BATTLEHAWKS	3.5 (44.5)	Brahmas

MLB Monday		
Favorite	Money Line	Underdog
Nationals	\$110-130	Mets
Orioles	\$100-120	Blue Jays
RANGERS	OFF	Tigers
PHILLIES	OFF	Brewers
Reds	\$115-135	ROCKIES
Giants	OFF	D'BACKS
ASTROS	\$150-180	Cardinals
Padres	\$110-130	ANGELS

NHL Stanley Cup Finals		
Saturday		
Favorite	Money Line	Underdog
PANTHERS	\$110-130	Oilers

SPORTS SHORTS

NFL: Accused McManus cut

Kicker **Brandon McManus** was released by the Commanders on Sunday, in the aftermath of two women suing him for sexually assaulting them on a trans-Atlantic flight. The women who were working as flight attendants on the Jaguars' Sept. 28 flight to London allege in a lawsuit filed in civil court that McManus tried to kiss one of them and grinded and rubbed up against both of them while they were trying to perform their work responsibilities. They are seeking in excess of \$1 million in damages, according to court documents. McManus has denied the allegations.

MLB: Rays avoid sweep vs. O's

Jose Siri hit a two-run double in the eighth to put Tampa Bay ahead, **Garrett Cleavinger** escaped the bottom of the inning thanks to a bases-loaded double play, and the Rays avoided a sweep with a 4-3 win over the Orioles in Baltimore.

- In Philadelphia, **Nolan Gorman** hit an early two-run homer and a tiebreaking single in the 10th inning to lead the Cardinals over the Phillies, 5-4.
- In Toronto, **Daniel Vogelbach** had two hits and two RBIs, **Chris Bassitt** pitched five innings to remain unbeaten in five career starts against Pittsburgh and the Blue Jays beat the Pirates, 5-4.
- In Atlanta, **Sean Murphy** drove in the go-ahead run with a bloop double in the seventh inning and the Braves limited the Athletics to two hits in a 3-1 win.
- **Javier Báez's** two-run single highlighted a four-run 10th inning and the visiting Tigers beat Boston 8-4 to send the Red Sox to their first loss on a Sunday — they had been a major-league best 9-0 this season — and earn a split of their four-game series.

GOLF: Saso wins Women's Open

Yuka Saso shot a 2-under 68 and became a U.S. Women's Open champion for the second time and took her place in history with a rare footnote — the first Fili-

pina to win the Women's Open in 2021, and now the first from Japan.

She ran off a four birdies in a five-hole stretch on the back nine amid a series of collapses and won without much drama.

Andrea Lee, part of a three-way tie for the lead at the start of this wild day, was the last player who had a chance to catch Saso. But she badly missed her tee shot on the easy 16th and had to settle for par, then took bogey on the 17th. Lee took one last bogey on the 18th for a 75 to tie for third with Ally Ewing (66).

Saso has said she wishes she could play for two flags — her mother is from the Philippines, her father from Japan. She decided to switch citizenship before turning 21, and Saso wound up leading a strong showing by Japan.

- In Hamilton, Ontario, **Robert MacIntyre**, with father **Dougie** at his side as his caddie, held on to win the RBC Canadian Open for his first PGA Tour title. MacIntyre shot a 2-under 68 to beat playing partner **Ben Griffin** by a stroke.

GYM.: Biles wins 9th US Champ.

Gymnastics superstar **Simone Biles** won her ninth U.S. Championship in Fort Worth, Texas, leaving little doubt that at 27 and a decade-plus into her run atop the sport, she is as good as ever.

Biles posted a two-day all-around total of 119.750, nearly six points clear of runner-up **Skye Blakely** and leaving little doubt that she appears ready to add a second all-around Olympic gold to go with the one she captured in 2016.

NCAA: St. John's eliminated

Dakota Jordan went 5-for-5, scored three times and drove in four runs and Mississippi State advanced to the championship of the Charlottesville Regional by beating St. John's, 13-5, in Charlottesville, Va. The Bulldogs (40-22) will play host Virginia in the regional finals.

Paul Orbon went 3-for-4 for St. John's (38-18-1) with a double and an RBI.

ACTION TOP PLAY

Winning not in Cards with Verlander on hill

By SEAN TREPPEDI
actionnetwork.com

The Astros and Cardinals will clash on Monday as two clubs initially projected to win their respective divisions, but both hung below .500 heading into June.

As the summer begins heating up, these are two teams that will need to evaluate whether they will be buyers or sellers at the trade deadline.

This pressure opens the stage for Justin Verlander, who is in the final guaranteed season of his two-year contract with Houston. Even though he would have to waive his no-trade clause, the veteran righty is looking to compete at 41 years of age.

Verlander is certainly not his prime self, but he is still competing at an above-average consistency considering he's averaging over 94 pitches per start. He can still be as tough to hit as any, boasting a hard-hit percentage in the top 4 percent of MLB, according to Statcast.

Verlander's strikeout and walk rate

has taken its expected regression through the years, but he's thrown three outings sending seven-plus batters packing against weaker lineups.

The Cardinals come to town as one of baseball's most inept teams at generating runs. They don't jump on inviting pitches, owning the highest meatball percentage in the league. The Cards also struggle with making hard contact, ranking within the bottom seven teams in both hard-hit and barrel rate, which offers Verlander more upside.

Houston has had some bad luck on offense, but it still is a discerning lineup at the plate with the highest zone contact and second-lowest whiff percentage.

Kyle Gibson faces the Astros with some tenacious starts under his belt, but the measly run support behind him, his 5.22 xERA and his susceptibility to hard contact leans me towards the favorite.

THE PLAY: Astros (-164 FanDuel)
Sean Treppedi handicaps MLB for Action Network.

Pitching Form

		Game time	2024			'24 vs OPP		CAREER vs OPP	LAST 3 STARTS		
			W-L	ERA	*REC	W-L	ERA		W-L	IP	ERA
Mets	Megill (R)		0-2	1.69	0-3	—	—	3-2	0-2	16.0	1.69
Nationals	Gore (L)	6:45pm	4-4	2.91	5-6	—	—	1-1	2-0	18.2	1.93
Orioles	G. Rodriguez (R)		5-2	3.53	6-3	—	—	0-1	1-1	17.0	3.18
Blue Jays	Gausman (R)	7:07pm	4-3	4.14	6-5	—	—	1-3	2-0	18.0	2.50
Tigers	Skubal (L)		7-1	2.01	8-3	0-0	2.95	1-1	2-1	18.0	2.00
Rangers	Eovaldi (R)	8:05pm	2-2	2.84	5-3	—	—	4-0	1-0	14.1	1.88
Brewers	TBD										
Phillies	Wheeler (R)	6:40pm	6-3	2.32	6-6	—	—	3-2	2-0	20.1	1.77
Reds	Abbott (L)		3-5	3.29	5-6	—	—	0-0	1-1	20.0	3.15
Rockies	Feltner (R)	8:40pm	1-4	5.46	3-8	—	—	—	0-1	14.1	6.28
Giants	TBD										
D'backs	Nelson (L)	9:40pm	3-4	6.02	2-6	0-0	0.00	1-0	0-2	14.2	9.50
Cardinals	Gibson (R)		4-2	3.60	6-5	—	—	4-3	2-0	16.0	3.38
Astros	Verlander (R)	8:10pm	3-2	3.26	3-5	—	—	3-1	1-1	17.2	3.06
Padres	Waldron (R)		3-5	4.26	4-7	—	—	—	2-0	17.2	1.53
Angels	Anderson (L)	9:38pm	5-5	2.47	5-6	—	—	6-3	2-1	20.0	1.35

*REC: Won-lost record of pitcher's team in games he has started.

STITCHES

Double play! Bet Mets, Reds

Cricket this week on Long Island. Crickets this week at MSG. All quiet at the Garden after the Rangers were mauled by the Puddy Tats. Igor Shesterkin made so many outstanding "saves" he is now being considered as the Mets' new closer.




So yes, baseball season has officially begun in New York. Too late for the Mets? They are in Washington. Tylor Megill scattered three hits over seven shutout innings to the mighty Dodgers in his last start. The Nats' MacKenzie Gore has won two straight, allowing

two runs in those 12 1/3 innings. Let's Go Mets for \$100 ... and ... \$50 on the Reds. Cincy's Andrew Abbott and Colorado's Ryan Feltner were so good two starts back and so bad in their next outing.




-\$

They're Gr-r-r-eat! The game was tighter than a speedo on a sumo wrestler, but the Tigers scored four runs in the 10th inning and beat the Red Sox 8-4. Javy Baez with a two-run single in the extra frame. Winner. Down -787 chetlemons.

stitches@nypost.com

Home Team Lineups HOME AWAY							
	TODAY June 3	TUE June 4	WED June 5	THU June 6	FRI June 7	SAT June 8	SUN June 9
	NO GAME	Minn. 7:05 YES WFAN	Minn. 7:05 Prime Video WFAN	Minn. 7:05 YES WFAN	L.A.D. 7:05 YES Apple TV+ WFAN	L.A.D. 7:35 Fox WFAN	L.A.D. 7:10 ESPN WFAN
	Washington 6:45 SNY WCBS 880 AM	Wash. 6:45 SNY WCBS	Wash. 4:05 SNY WCBS	NO GAME	NO GAME	+Phila. 1:10 Fox WCBS	+Phila. 10:10 a.m. ESPN WCBS
	NO GAME	Chi. 8:00 MY9	NO GAME	Atl. 7:00 MY9	NO GAME	Conn. 1:00 ABC	Wash. 3:00 MY9

+in London, England.

Saturday		Friday, June 14		Saturday	
	New England Revolution 7:30 Apple TV+		Columbus Crew 7:30 Apple TV+		Angel City FC 12:30 CBS

Today's Sports on the Air			
MLB	6:30 p.m.	Brewers at Phillies	MLBN
	6:45 p.m.	Mets at Nationals	SNY, WCBS (880 AM)
	9:30 p.m.	Giants at Diamondbacks	FS1
Tennis	6 a.m.	The French Open, Round of 16	Tennis
	8 a.m.	The French Open, Round of 16	MSG
College Softball	Noon	World Series: Florida vs. Oklahoma	ESPN
	2:30 p.m.	World Series: Florida vs. Oklahoma (if necessary)	ESPN
	7 p.m.	World Series: Stanford vs. Texas	ESPN
	9:30 p.m.	World Series: Stanford vs. Texas (if necessary)	ESPN
College Baseball	Noon	Super Regional: East Carolina vs. Evansville	ESPNU
	3 p.m.	Super Regional: Oklahoma St. vs. Florida	ESPNU
	6 p.m.	Super Regional: N. Carolina vs. LSU	ESPN2
	6 p.m.	Super Regional: Oregon St. vs. UC-Irvine (if necessary)	ESPN+
	9 p.m.	Super Regional: UConn vs. Oklahoma	ESPN2

NCAA			
College Football Playoff champion favorites			
TEAM	ODDS	TEAM	ODDS
Georgia	+325	Penn State	25/1
Ohio State	+375	Notre Dame	25/1
Texas	+700	Clemson	30/1
Oregon	10/1	Missouri	35/1
Alabama	14/1	Tennessee	35/1
Ole Miss	16/1	USC	40/1
LSU	16/1	Texas A&M	40/1
Michigan	20/1	Oklahoma	50/1
Florida State	25/1	Miami (Fla.)	50/1

Favorites to make CFP			
TEAM	ODDS	TEAM	ODDS
Ohio State	-600	Tennessee	+180
Georgia	-500	Clemson	+210
Oregon	-250	Miami (Fla.)	+225
Texas	-225	Kansas State	+275
Notre Dame	-165	Texas A&M	+300
Ole Miss	-130	Utah	+300
Penn State	--130	USC	+400
Michigan	-110	Oklahoma	+500
Alabama	+115	Louisville	+500
LSU	+120	N.C. State	+500
Florida State	+150	Kansas	+600
Missouri	+180	Arizona	+650

ODDS & ENDS

FRENCH OPEN Men's singles odds	
NAME	ODDS
Carlos Alcaraz	+175
Jannik Sinner	+275
Novak Djokovic	+300
Alexander Zverev	+600
Casper Ruud	+900
Stefanos Tsitsipas	11/1
Daniil Medvedev	22/1
Holger Rune	28/1
Grigor Dimitrov	33/1
Taylor Fritz	66/1
Alex de Minaur	66/1
Francisco Cerundolo	80/1

Women's singles odds	
NAME	ODDS
Iga Swiatek	-200
Aryna Sabalenka	+400
Elena Rybakina	+700
Coco Gauff	+900
Mirra Andreeva	20/1
Ons Jabeur	28/1
Marketa Vondrousova	33/1
Jasmine Paolini	40/1
Emma Navarro	50/1
Elina Svitolina	66/1
Elina Avanesyan	200/1
Varvara Gracheva	200/1

NBA FINALS Championship odds	
TEAM	ODDS
Celtics	-220
Mavericks	+180
Correct series result	
RESULT	ODDS
Celtics in 4	+500
Celtics in 5	+300
Celtics in 6	+350
Celtics in 7	+450
Mavericks in 7	+600
Mavericks in 6	+400
Mavericks in 5	15/1
Mavericks in 4	25/1

NBA Finals MVP odds	
NAME	ODDS
Jayson Tatum	-120
Luka Doncic	+200
Jaylen Brown	+625
Kyrie Irving	18/1
Derrick White	30/1
Kristaps Porzingis	50/1
Jrue Holiday	66/1
Al Horford	250/1
P.J. Washington	300/1
Derrick Jones Jr.	300/1
Daniel Gafford	300/1
Dereck Lively II	500/1
Payton Pritchard	1,000/1
Sam Hauser	1,000/1
Josh Green	1,000/1
Maxi Kleber	1,000/1
Jaden Hardy	1,000/1
Dante Exum	1,000/1

ACTION BET SMART



SERBS YOU RIGHT: Aleksandar Mitrovic and Serbia enter the UEFA European Championships with 80/1 odds at DraftKings, but they're a sleeper worth backing in a tournament known for surprise teams making runs to the semifinals — or the title.

By MICHAEL LEBOFF
actionnetwork.com

Real Madrid's win over Borussia Dortmund officially ended the 2023-24 European club soccer season, but you won't have to wait too long for more high-stakes footy to come your way.

The UEFA European Championships, a tournament held every four years to determine the champion of the continent, get underway in Germany on June 14.

The field features 24 teams split into six groups of four, with the top two teams in each set advancing to the Round of 16 along with the four best third-place finishers.

England — which hasn't won a major international trophy since 1966 — is the tournament favorite at +320, but the Three Lions are hardly a runaway at the top of the board. Kylian Mbappe and France are the second choice at +380 with Germany (+430), Spain (+650) and Portugal (+700) rounding out the top five.

While the winner of this tournament is likely to come from that group of five teams, the Euros rarely go according to script, and we almost always see a major surprise make a run into the semifinals or beyond.

The most famous example was when Greece pulled one of the biggest stunners in the history of international soccer when it won Euro 2004 as a 150/1 outsider. But Greece is hardly the only dark horse to make a run at the European Championships. Turkey, Russia, Czechia, Wales and Denmark have all made runs to the semifinals in the last five iterations of this tournament.

With that in mind, we'll make sure to circle a couple of long shots for our betting card at Euro 2024.

Serbia (80/1, DraftKings)

The sorting hat didn't do Serbia any favors by putting them in a group with

England, Denmark and Slovenia, but there's upside to a tough draw: If you survive it, you're almost certainly going to be in good form as you head into the business end of the tournament. And even though the Eagles will be considered the clear third choice behind England and Denmark, the gap between them and the Danes isn't wide enough that we should write off the Serbs' chances of pushing for a spot in the top two.

Serbia is built down the middle with hard-to-handle striker Aleksandar Mitrovic leading the line in front of a technically gifted midfield and physical centerbacks ahead of goalkeeper Vanja Milinkovic-Savic, who is coming off a strong season with Torino.

Being tough to beat is a very valuable asset when it comes to tournament soccer and Serbia combines that quality with some high-upside skill, making them a sleeper worth backing.

Romania (230/1, FanDuel)

Let's get crazy. There will be little to no talk about Romania's prospects of making a run at Euro 2024, but that's not a bad thing for value-hunters looking for a team that absolutely has the potential to outrun these long odds.

Most importantly, Romania has a terrific draw. The Tricolours were put into Group E with Belgium, Slovakia and Ukraine, which gives them a legitimate chance to finish in second and automatically qualify for the Round of 16.

But it's not just the draw that makes the Tricolours an attractive long shot to back. They are also coming off a qualifying campaign that saw them top their group with six wins, four draws and no losses. It wasn't a beast of a schedule, but they did finish five points ahead of Switzerland.

Michael Leboff analyzes soccer for Action Network.

AL Standings

East	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Yankees	42	19	.689	—	—	8-2	W-5	18-8	24-11
Baltimore	37	20	.649	3	+5	8-2	L-1	21-12	16-8
Boston	30	30	.500	11½	3½	4-6	L-1	13-17	17-13
Tampa Bay	29	31	.483	12½	4½	4-6	W-1	17-18	12-13
Toronto	28	30	.483	12½	4½	6-4	W-1	14-13	14-17

Central	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Cleveland	39	20	.661	—	—	7-3	L-1	20-7	19-13
Kansas City	36	25	.590	4	+2	4-6	W-1	22-10	14-15
Minnesota	33	26	.559	6	—	7-3	W-1	16-13	17-13
Detroit	29	30	.492	10	4	6-4	W-1	14-15	15-15
Chicago	15	45	.250	24½	18½	0-10	L-11	10-21	5-24

West	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Seattle	34	27	.557	—	—	7-3	W-3	21-11	13-16
Texas	29	30	.492	4	4	5-5	W-2	14-13	15-17
Houston	26	34	.433	7½	7½	4-6	L-1	15-17	11-17
Oakland	24	37	.393	10	10	4-6	L-1	13-16	11-21
Los Angeles	21	38	.356	12	12	2-8	L-5	7-21	14-17

*WGB: Games behind third-place team in wild-card race

Sunday

Yankees 7, San Francisco 5
Minnesota 4, Houston 3
Washington 5, Cleveland 2
Atlanta 3, Oakland 1
Texas 6, Miami 0
Tampa Bay 4, Baltimore 3
Toronto 5, Pittsburgh 4
Detroit 8, Boston 4, 10 inn.
Milwaukee 6, White Sox 3
Kansas City 4, San Diego 3
Seattle 5, L.A. Angels 1
Monday
Baltimore at Toronto, 7:07

Detroit at Texas, 8:05
St. Louis at Houston, 8:10
San Diego at L.A. Angels, 9:38
Tuesday
Minnesota at **Yankees**, 7:05
Kansas City at Cleveland, 6:40
Tampa Bay at Miami, 6:40
Baltimore at Toronto, 7:07
Atlanta at Boston, 7:10
White Sox at Cubs, 8:05
Detroit at Texas, 8:05
St. Louis at Houston, 8:10
San Diego at L.A. Angels, 9:38
Seattle at Oakland, 9:40

NL Standings

East	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Philadelphi	41	19	.683	—	—	5-5	L-1	24-9	17-10
Atlanta	33	24	.579	6½	+5	4-6	W-1	19-12	14-12
Washington	27	31	.466	13	1½	6-4	W-1	10-13	17-18
Mets	24	35	.407	16½	5	3-7	L-2	13-21	11-14
Miami	21	39	.350	20	8½	5-5	L-2	11-21	10-18

Central	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Milwaukee	36	23	.610	—	—	8-2	W-5	18-10	18-13
St. Louis	28	29	.491	7	—	7-3	W-1	13-12	15-17
Chicago	29	31	.483	7½	½	2-8	L-1	16-13	13-18
Pittsburgh	27	32	.458	9	2	4-6	L-1	12-15	15-17
Cincinnati	26	33	.441	10	3	6-4	W-1	14-17	12-16

West	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Los Angeles	38	23	.623	—	—	5-5	W-2	21-12	17-11
San Diego	32	30	.516	6½	+1½	6-4	L-1	13-19	19-11
San Francisco	29	31	.483	8½	7½	5-5	L-4	17-14	12-17
Arizona	27	32	.458	10	2	4-6	W-2	13-15	14-17
Colorado	21	37	.362	15½	7½	5-5	L-2	13-14	8-23

*WGB: Games behind third-place team in wild-card race

Sunday

Arizona 5, **Mets** 4
Yankees 7, San Francisco 5
Washington 5, Cleveland 2
Atlanta 3, Oakland 1
Texas 6, Miami 0
Toronto 5, Pittsburgh 4
Milwaukee 6, White Sox 3
Cincinnati 5, Cubs 2
Kansas City 4, San Diego 3
L.A. Dodgers 4, Colorado 0
St. Louis 5, Philadelphia 4, 10 inn.
Monday
Mets at Washington, 6:45
Milwaukee at Philadelphia, 6:40

St. Louis at Houston, 8:10
Cincinnati at Colorado, 8:40
San Diego at L.A. Angels, 9:38
San Francisco at Arizona, 9:40
Tuesday
Mets at Washington, 6:45
L.A. Dodgers at Pittsburgh, 6:40
Milwaukee at Philadelphia, 6:40
Tampa Bay at Miami, 6:40
Atlanta at Boston, 7:10
White Sox at Cubs, 8:05
St. Louis at Houston, 8:10
Cincinnati at Colorado, 8:40
San Diego at L.A. Angels, 9:38
San Francisco at Arizona, 9:40

Yankees 7, Giants 5

Yankees	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Volpe ss	5	2	2	1	0	1	.284
Soto rf	5	3	3	3	0	2	.322
Judge cf	3	1	2	0	2	1	.288
Stanton dh	4	0	1	1	1	2	.231
Jones pr-dh	0	0	0	0	0	0	.250
Verdugo lf	4	0	1	2	1	0	.261
LeMahieu 3b	5	0	1	0	0	2	.222
Rizzo 1b	5	0	0	0	0	2	.240
Torres 2b	4	0	1	0	0	1	.230
Trevino c	3	1	0	0	1	1	.262
Totals	38	7	11	7	5	12	

San Francisco	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Ramos lf	5	1	2	3	0	3	.286
Wisely 2b	5	0	1	0	0	3	.333
Flores 1b	4	0	0	0	1	0	.207
Chapman 3b	5	0	1	0	0	0	.233
Soler dh	4	2	3	0	0	0	.215
Matos rf-cf	4	1	1	0	0	1	.220
Schmitt ss	4	1	2	2	0	1	.233
Fitzgerald cf	3	0	1	0	0	1	.254
Yastrzemski rf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.213
Casali c	3	0	0	0	0	1	.217
Totals	38	5	11	5	1	10	

Yankees	100	020	004	—	7	11	0
San Francisco	011	102	000	—	5	11	1

E: Casali (1). **LOB:** New York 9, San Francisco 8. **2B:** Verdugo (12), Stanton (9), Soler (9), Chapman (15). **3B:** Volpe (5). **HR:** Soto (16), off Snell; Soto (17), off Doval; Ramos (3), off Cortes; Schmitt (2), off Cortes. **RBIs:** Soto 3 (53), Verdugo 2 (33), Volpe (25), Stanton (32), Schmitt 2 (5), Ramos 3 (16). **SB:** Judge (4). **RISP:** New York 3 for 11; San Francisco 2 for 10.

Yankees	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Cortes	4.1	7	3	3	0	7	95	3.46
Santana	1.1	3	2	2	0	0	18	5.01
González	0.1	0	0	0	0	1	6	3.24
Tonkin, W, 1-1	2.0	1	0	0	1	2	30	1.20
Holmes, S, 17-20	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	12	1.37

San Francisco	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Snell	4.2	5	3	3	3	7	99	9.51
Miller	1.1	1	0	0	0	1	14	4.00
Walker, H, 10	1.0	1	0	0	0	2	14	2.90
Ty.Rogers, H, 9	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	10	2.89
Doval, L, 2-1,	0.2	4	4	4	2	1	32	4.24
BS, 9-11								
Ta.Rogers	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2.78

T: 2:55. A: 39,485 (41,915).

Rangers 6, Marlins 0

Texas	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Semien 2b	2	1	1	0	3	0	.258
Seager ss	5	1	1	0	1	0	.268
Grossman dh	3	1	1	0	0	0	.185
Jankowski ph-dh	2	0	1	1	0	0	.253
García rf	5	1	2	2	0	0	.231
Leim c	4	0	0	0	0	2	.245
Langford lf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.222
Hill lf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.222
J.Smith 3b	4	1	2	0	0	1	.287
Duran 1b	3	0	0	0	0	0	.270
Lowe ph-1b	1	1	1	0	0	0	.258
Taveras cf	3	0	1	1	1	0	.246
Totals	36	6	10	5	4	5	

Miami	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Myers rf-lf	4	0	0	0	0	3	.250
De La Cruz lf	4	0	1	0	0	1	.249
Pereda c	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Burger 1b	4	0	1	0	0	2	.222
Bell dh	4	0	1	0	0	1	.243
Chisholm cf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.252
Rivera 3b	3	0	1	0	0	1	.212
Lopez 2b	3	0	1	0	0	1	.295
T.Anderson ss	3	0	0	0	0	1	.191
Fortes c	2	0	1	0	0	0	.176
Sánchez ph-rf	1	0	1	0	0	0	.250
Totals	32	0	7	0	0	11	

Texas	300	001	002	—	6	10	0
Miami	000	000	000	—	0	7	0

LOB: Texas 7, Miami 5. **2B:** J.Smith (14). **HR:** García (13), off Rogers. **RBIs:** Grossman (3), García 2 (40), Taveras (13), Jankowski (7). **RISP:** Texas 3 for 12; Miami 0 for 4. **DP:** Texas 2 (J.Smith, Semien, Duran; J.Smith, Semien, Duran); Miami 1 (T.Anderson, Lopez, Burger).

Texas	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Heaney, W, 2-6	6.0	4	0	0	0	7	94	3.99
Latz	1.0	2	0	0	0	1	16	3.12
Robertson	1.0	1	0	0	0	1	11	3.00
G.Anderson	1.0	0	0	0	0	2	13	6.43

Miami	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Rogers, L, 1-7	6.0	6	4	4	2	3	87	5.68
Puk	1.0	0	0	0	1	0	20	7.17
Cronin	1.0	1	0	0	0	1	14	1.30
B.Smith	1.0	3	2	2	1	1	29	3.76

T: 2:24. A: 13,351 (37,446).

Rockies-Dodgers boxscore Page 38

D'backs 5, Mets 4

Arizona	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
K.Marte 2b	3	2	3	3	1	0	.270
Carroll cf	5	0	0	0	1	0	.194
Gurriel lf	4	1	1	1	0	2	.235
Walker 1b	5	0	1	0	0	2	.260
Grichuk rf	2	0	1	0	0	0	.291
McCarthy ph-rf	2	0	0	0	0	1	.276
Suárez dh	2	1	0	0	1	1	.205
Paderson ph-dh	1	0	0	0	0	1	.305
Alexander 3b	4	0	1	0	0	2	.269
Newman ss	4	0	1	1	0	2	.259
Barnhart c	3	0	0	0	0	2	.154
Moreno ph-c	1	1	1	0	0	0	.234
Totals	36	5	9	5	3	13	

Mets	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Lindor ss	4	0	0	0	0	1	.227
Alonso 1b	4	1	1	1	0	2	.239
Nimmo lf	4	1	1	2	0	2	.212
J.Martínez dh	4	0	1	1	0	2	.279
Stewart rf	3	0	1	0	0	2	.190
Bader pr-cf	1	0	0	0	0	1	.270
Vientos 3b	3	0	0	0	1	2	.321
Taylor cf-rf	3	1	1	0	0	0	.235
McNeil 2b	3	0	0	0	0	0	.227
Torrens c	2	1	0	0	1	0	.000
Totals	31	4	5	4	2	12	

Arizona	210	000	002	—	5	9	0
Mets	004	000	000	—	4	5	0

LOB: Arizona 9, New York 2. **2B:** Alexander (6), Grichuk (7), K.Marte (14), Moreno (8), Taylor (6). **3B:** Nimmo (2), J.Martínez (1). **HR:** K.Marte (11), off Quintana; Gurriel (7), off Quintana; K.Marte (12), off Diekman. **RBIs:** K.Marte 3 (32), Gurriel (32), Newman (12), Alonso (30), Nimmo 2 (31), J.Martínez (15). **RISP:** Arizona 1 for 8; New York 3 for 6. **DP:** Arizona 1 (K.Marte, Newman, Walker).

Arizona	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Pfaadt	6.0	5	4	4	2	8	91	4.32
Ju.Martínez,	2.0	0	0	0	0	3	26	0.44
W, 2-0								
Sewald, S, 5-5	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	18	1.08

Mets	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Quintana	4.0	4	3	3	3	4	84	5.17
Núñez	1.1	1	0	0	0	3	19	2.61
Young, H, 1	0.2	1	0	0	0	1	9	0.00
Garrett, H, 6	1.0	0	0	0	0	3	11	3.00
Ottavino, H, 10	1.0	0	0	0	0	2	9	5.24
Diekmann, L,								
1-2, BS, 1-3	0.1	2	2	2	0	0	13	4.26
Reid-Foley	0.2	1	0	0	0	0	10	2.16

Reds 5, Cubs 2

Cincinnati	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Friedl cf	5	1	1	3	0	1	.167
De La Cruz ss	5	0	0	0	0	4	.233
Candelario 3b	4	1	2	0	0	0	.229
Steer 1b	4	0	2	0	0	0	.234
Fraley dh	3	1	3	1	0	0	.295
Stephenson c	4	1	1	0	0	1	.248
Hurtubise lf	3	1	1	0	0	1	.222
India 2b	2	0	0	1	1	1	.228
Benson rf	2	0	0	0	2	2	.197
Totals	32	5	10	5	3	10	

Chicago	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Hoerner 2b	5	1	2	0	0	0	.262
Suzuki rf	4	0	1	0	1	3	.264
Bellinger cf-1b	4	0	3	1	0	0	.265
Morel dh	3	0	0	0	0	1	.195
Wisdom 1b	3	1	1	0	0	0	.220
Tauchman ph-cf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.264
Happ lf	3	0	1	0	0	0	.221
Swanson ss	4	0	0	0	0	2	.203
Bote 3b	3	0	0	1	0	1	.000
Busch ph	0	0	0	0	1	0	.241
Amaya c	3	0	0	0	0	0	.186
Crow-Armstrong ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.246
Totals	34	2	8	2	2	7	

Cincinnati	041 000 000 — 5 10 0
Chicago	000 011 000 — 2 8 0

LOB: Cincinnati 6, Chicago 9. **2B:** Fraley (6), Bellinger (10). **HR:** Friedl (1), off Brown. **RBIs:** India (19), Friedl (3), Fraley (8), Bellinger (27), Bote (1). **SF:** India, Fraley. **RISP:** Cincinnati 2 for 7; Chicago 1 for 11. **DP:** Cincinnati 1 (Candelario, India, Steer); Chicago 1 (Swanson, Hoerner, Wisdom).

Cincinnati	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Lodolo, W, 5-2 6.0	7	2	2	1	3	90	3.11	
Martinez, H, 2-2.0	1	0	0	0	3	22	4.00	
Diaz, S, 12-14 1.0	0	0	0	1	1	17	5.64	

T: 2:24. A: 38,129 (41,363).

Tigers 8, Red Sox 4

Detroit	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Vierling 3b-cf	6	1	2	0	0	1	.294
Greene cf-lf	4	1	2	0	0	1	.249
Pérez rf	5	2	3	1	0	0	.268
Canha dh	4	1	1	1	0	0	.247
Urshela 1b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.227
Ibáñez ph-2b	1	1	1	1	0	0	.276
Baddoo lf	4	1	1	1	0	1	.275
Rogers ph	3	0	1	0	1	1	.214
McKinstry 3b	1	0	0	0	0	0	.218
Báez ss	0	0	0	0	0	0	.185
Kelly c	5	1	2	0	1	1	.191
Totals	42	8	14	7	3	8	

Boston	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Duran lf-cf	3	0	2	1	2	0	.262
Abreu rf	4	1	1	0	0	0	.272
Westbrook ph-rf	0	0	0	0	1	0	---
Smith 1b	3	1	0	0	0	1	.195
Wong ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.327
Dalbec 1b	0	0	0	0	0	0	.132
Devers 3b	4	1	2	2	1	1	.283
Valdez 2b	5	0	1	1	0	0	.180
Cooper dh	5	0	0	0	0	2	.167
McGuire c	4	0	0	0	0	2	.226
Rafaela cf-ss	3	0	0	0	1	1	.209
Hamilton ss	2	1	1	0	0	1	.274
Refsnyder ph-lf	2	0	1	0	0	0	.337
Totals	36	4	8	4	6	7	

Detroit	000 011 200 — 4— 8 14 1
Boston	111 000 010 — 0— 4 8 0

E: Keith (5). **LOB:** Detroit 9, Boston 9. **2B:** Urshela (5), Pérez (6), Ibáñez (4), Kelly (3), Abreu (14). **3B:** Devers (2). **HR:** Devers (11), off Faedo. **RBIs:** Urshela (13), Pérez (15), Canha (25), Ibáñez (13), Báez 2 (25), Kelly (13), Valdez (15), Duran (24), Devers 2 (29). **SB:** Rafaela (8), Canha (2), Greene (3). **CS:** Rafaela (4), Duran (3). **SF:** Urshela. **RISP:** Detroit 6 for 20; Boston 2 for 11. **DP:** Boston 1 (Devers, Valdez, Smith).

Detroit	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Mize	4.0	5	3	2	4	4	82	4.70
Holton	2.1	0	0	0	0	1	24	4.06
Faedo, BS, 0-3 1.1	2	1	1	0	0	0	15	3.55
Foley	1.0	1	0	0	0	0	8	3.22
Chafin, W, 3-1 1.1	0	0	0	2	2	22	4.58	

Boston	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Bello	6.1	8	4	4	3	5	95	4.36
Slaten, BS, 1-3 0.2	1	0	0	0	1	10	2.73	
Weissert	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	7	7.52
Jansen	1.0	1	0	0	0	1	17	2.89
Booser, L, 0-2 1.0	4	4	3	0	0	0	28	4.35

T: 3.01, A: 34,662 (37,755).

T: 3:01. A: 34,662 (37,755).

Blue Jays 5, Pirates 4

Pittsburgh	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
McCutchen dh	3	0	1	0	1	2	.239
Reynolds lf	3	0	1	0	1	1	.253
Joe rf	4	1	1	0	0	2	.280
Cruz ss	5	2	2	0	0	2	.245
Hayes 3b	5	1	1	0	0	2	.243
Gonzales 2b	5	0	1	0	0	1	.308
Tellez 1b	4	0	3	4	1	0	.194
Triolo pr	0	0	0	0	0	0	.215
Bae cf	5	0	1	0	0	1	.208
Koe c	3	0	0	0	0	2	.000
Grandall ph-c	1	0	0	0	0	0	.179
Totals	38	4	11	4	3	13	

Toronto	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Schneider lf-2b	4	1	2	1	0	1	.245
Jansen c	4	0	2	0	0	0	.295
Guerrero 3b-1b	4	1	1	1	0	1	.291
Bichette ss	4	0	0	0	0	2	.236
Vogelbach dh	4	0	2	2	0	0	.228
Turner 1b	4	0	0	0	0	0	.212
Kiermaier cf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.212
Springer rf	4	0	1	0	0	0	.205
Varsho cf-lf	3	2	2	0	1	0	.213
Kiner-Falefa 2b-3b	3	1	1	0	0	0	.268
Totals	34	5	11	4	1	4	

E: Stratton (1). **LOB:** Pittsburgh 13, Toronto 6. **2B:** Tellez (4), Cruz (13), Varsho (10), Vogelbach (5), Schneider (14). **RBIs:** Tellez 4 (12), Guerrero (26), Vogelbach 2 (8), Schneider (30). **CS:** Varsho (1). **RISP:** Pittsburgh 3 for 16; Toronto 3 for 9.

Pittsburgh	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Priester, L, 0-5 4.2	8	4	4	0	3	87	4.83	
Stratton	1.1	3	1	0	0	0	33	4.40
Mlodzinski	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	17	8.31
Nicolas	1.0	0	0	0	1	0	15	6.00

T: 2:57. A: 34,887 (39,150).

Brewers 6, White Sox 3

Chicago	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Pham lf-cf	3	0	0	0	1	3	.280
Lopez 2b	4	1	2	0	0	0	.245
Julks dh	4	1	1	0	0	1	.311
Sheets 1b	4	0	1	1	0	1	.237
DeJong ss	2	1	1	2	0	1	.231
Lee c	3	0	0	0	1	1	.256
Colás rf	4	0	0	0	0	2	.000
Sosa 3b	3	0	0	0	0	2	.156
Fletcher cf	2	0	0	0	1	1	.173
Remillard pr-lf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.242
Totals	29	3	5	3	3	12	

Milwaukee	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Turang 2b	3	0	1	0	1	1	.299
Contreras c	4	0	0	0	0	0	.316
Yelich lf	4	0	1	0	0	0	.323
Adames ss	3	1	1	0	1	2	.260
Frellick cf	4	1	0	0	0	0	.257
Ortiz 3b	3	1	2	0	1	0	.293
Bauers 1b	3	1	1	1	1	1	.209
Sánchez dh	3	1	1	2	0	1	.228
Chourio rf	4	1	2	3	0	1	.214
Totals	31	6	9	6	4	6	

Chicago	200 100 000 — 3 5 0
Milwaukee	040 000 02x — 6 9 0

LOB: Chicago 4, Milwaukee 6. **2B:** Lopez (4), Bauers (9). **HR:** DeJong (9), off Peralta; Chourio (6), off Nastrini. **RBIs:** Sheets (22), DeJong 2 (20), Bauers (25), Chourio 3 (19), Sánchez 2 (21). **SB:** Bauers (7). **CS:** Ortiz (3). **SF:** DeJong. **RISP:** Chicago 1 for 4; Milwaukee 2 for 7. **DP:** Chicago 1 (Sosa, Lopez, Sheets); Milwaukee 1 (Yelich, Contreras, Yelich).

Chicago	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Nastrini, L, 0-5 4.0	3	4	4	3	1	78	9.74	
Banks	2.1	1	0	0	0	2	27	4.28
Anderson	0.2	2	0	0	0	1	15	5.87
Hill	0.1	2	2	2	0	0	7	4.79
Brebbia	0.2	1	0	0	1	2	18	7.45

T: 2:29. A: 30,442 (41,700).

Royals 4, Padres 3

San Diego	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Arraez 1b	3	0	1	1	0	0	.391
Wade 2b	2	1	1	0	0	1	.263
Tatis rf	3	1	1	1	1	1	.261
Profar lf	3	0	1	0	1	1	.325
Merrill pr-cf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.279
Machado dh	4	0	1	1	0	1	.240
Solano 3b	4	0	2	0	0	1	.404
Cronenworth 2b-1b	4	0	1	0	0	1	.262
Kim ss	4	0	1	0	0	0	.222
Campusano c	4	0	0	0	0	1	.224
Azocar cf-lf	4	1	1	0	0	0	.242
Totals	35	3	10	3	2	7	

Kansas City	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Garcia 3b	3	1	0	0	1	0	.263
Turang 2b	4	0	1	0	0	1	.313
Pasquantino 1b	3	1	1	0	0	0	.244
Perez dh	3	0	1	0	1	1	.315
Blanco pr	0	1	0	0	0	0	.255
Frazier rf	2	0	1	0	1	0	.212
Velázquez ph	1	1	1	2	0	0	.219
Loftin 2b	2	0	1	1	0	0	.250
Melendez lf	3	0	0	0	0	0	.167
Fermin c	3	0	1	0	0	2	.296
Isbel cf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.208
Hampson cf	2	0	0	0	0	1	.314
Totals	27	4	7	4	3	5	

San Diego	000 010 020 — 3 10 0
Kansas City	000 100 003 — 4 7 1

One out when winning run scored. **E:** Zerpa (1). **LOB:** San Diego 7, Kansas City 4. **2B:** Solano (3), Azocar (2). **3B:** Velázquez (1). **RBIs:** Arraez (12), Tatis (31), Machado (30), Pasquantino (40), Velázquez 2 (23), Loftin (7). **CS:** Witt (7). **SF:** Pasquantino, Loftin. **S:** Loftin. **RISP:** San Diego 3 for 8; Kansas City 1 for 4. **DP:** San Diego 1 (Kim, Cronenworth, Arraez); Kansas City 1 (Loftin, Witt, Pasquantino).

San Diego	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
King	7.0	4	1	1	2	4	105	3.82
De Los Santos, H, 6	1.0	1	0	0	0	1	12	3.63
Matsui, L, 3-1, BS, 0-3	0.1	2	3	3	1	0	16	3.91

T: 2:39. A: 21,825 (38,427).

Mariners 5, Angels 1

Los Angeles	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Rengifo 3b	4	0	1	0	0	0	.322
Moniak cf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.167
Ward dh	3	0	1	0	1	1	.265
Calhoun 1b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.275
Pillar lf	2	1	0	0	1	1	.389
O'Hoppe c	3	0	0	0	1	1	.250
Adell rf	4	0	0	0	0	3	.201
Neto ss	4	0	1	1	0	0	.250
Paris 2b	2	0	1	0	1	1	.136
Thaiss ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.217
Totals	31	1	4	1	4	9	

Seattle	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Crawford ss	4	0	0	0	0	2	.212
Rojas 3b	3	1	1	0	1	0	.277
Rodriguez cf	3	1	0	0	1	1	.270
Raleigh c	4	0	1	0	0	2	.209
France 1b	4	1	0	0	0	0	.251
Raley lf	2	2	1	2	0	0	.265
Arver dh	4	0	2	3	0	1	.170
Monzone rf	2	0	0	0	0	2	.174
Gliss 2b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.091
Totals	30	5	5	5	4	7	

Dodgers 4, Rockies 0										
Colorado	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg			
Blackmon rf	4	0	1	0	0	1	.237			
Tovar ss	4	0	0	0	0	2	.297			
McMahon 3b	2	0	1	0	2	1	.284			
Rodgers dh	4	0	0	0	0	2	.265			
Bryant 1b	3	0	1	0	1	1	.186			
Doyle cf	3	0	0	0	0	2	.260			
Stallings c	3	0	1	0	0	1	.319			
Goodman lf	3	0	0	0	0	0	.189			
Trejo 2b	3	0	1	0	0	1	.108			
Totals	29	0	5	0	3	11				

Los Angeles	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg			
Betts ss	4	1	1	1	1	0	.318			
Ohtani dh	3	0	0	0	1	2	.322			
Freeman 1b	1	2	1	2	3	0	.293			
T.Hernández rf-lf	5	0	0	0	0	1	.255			
Pages cf	3	0	1	0	1	1	.258			
Rojas 2b	3	0	1	1	1	0	.279			
K.Hernández 3b	4	0	0	0	0	0	.198			
Vargas lf	3	0	1	0	0	0	.250			
Heyward rf	1	1	1	0	0	0	.234			
Barnes c	4	0	2	0	0	1	.208			
Totals	31	4	8	4	7	5				

Colorado	000	000	000	—	0	5	1
Los Angeles	201	000	01x	—	4	8	0
E: Stallings (2). LOB: Colorado 5, Los Angeles 12. 2B: Blackmon (11). HR: Betts (9), off Gomber; Freeman (7), off Gomber. RBI: Betts (32), Freeman 2 (35), Rojas (10). SB: Freeman (2). SF: Freeman. RISP: Colorado 0 for 1; Los Angeles 1 for 11. DP: Los Angeles 3 (Betts, Rojas, Freeman; K.Hernández, Rojas, Freeman; K.Hernández, Rojas, Freeman).							
Colorado	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP ERA
Gomber, L, 1-3	3.0	5	3	3	3	2	79 3.06
Lambert	2.2	1	0	0	3	3	72 6.47
Molina	2.1	2	1	1	1	0	26 7.84
Los Angeles	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP ERA
Stone, W, 6-2	5.0	4	0	0	2	6	75 2.90
Grove, H, 6	2.0	0	0	0	1	2	26 5.04
Vesia, H, 3	1.0	0	0	0	0	2	8 1.35
Dan.Hudson	1.0	1	0	0	0	1	9 2.35
T: 2:29. A: 48,251 (56,000).							

NBA Playoffs

Finals

Best-of-7; x-if necessary Boston vs. Dallas
Thu.: at Boston, 8:30 p.m.
Sun., June 9: at Boston, 8 p.m.
Wed., June 12: at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Fri., June 14: at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
x-Mon., June 17: at Boston, 8:30 p.m.
x-Thu., June 20: at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
x-Sun., June 23: at Boston, 8 p.m.

WNBA

East	W	L	Pct.	GB
Connecticut	8	0	1.000	—
Liberty	7	2	.778	1½
Atlanta	4	3	.571	3½
Chicago	3	4	.429	4½
Indiana	2	9	.182	7½
Washington	0	8	.000	8

West	W	L	Pct.	GB
Minnesota	6	2	.750	—
Las Vegas	4	2	.667	1
Seattle	5	3	.625	1
Phoenix	4	5	.444	2½
Dallas	3	4	.429	2½
Los Angeles	2	6	.250	4

Sunday

Liberty 104, Indiana 68
Connecticut 69, Atlanta 50
Phoenix 87, Los Angeles 68
Minnesota 87, Dallas 76

Monday

No games scheduled.
Tuesday
Liberty at Chicago, 8pm
Washington at Connecticut, 7pm
Phoenix at Seattle, 10pm

Wednesday

Las Vegas at Dallas, 8pm
Minnesota at Los Angeles, 10pm

NHL Playoffs

Conference Finals

Dallas vs. Edmonton
Edmonton wins series, 4-2
Game 1: Edmonton 3, Dallas 2, 2OT
Game 2: Dallas 3, Edmonton 1
Game 3: Dallas 5, Edmonton 3
Game 4: Edmonton 5, Dallas 2
Game 5: Edmonton 3, Dallas 1
Game 6: Edmonton 2, Dallas 1

Stanley Cup Finals

Best-of-7; x-if necessary Florida vs. Edmonton
Sat.: at Florida, 8 p.m.
Mon., June 10: at Florida, 8 p.m.
Thu., June 13: at Edmonton, 8 p.m.
Sat., June 15: at Edmonton, 8 p.m.x.
x-Tue., June 18: at Florida, 8 p.m.
x-Fri., June 21: at Edmonton, 8 p.m.
x-Mon., June 24: at Florida, 8 p.m.

NHL Playoffs- Game 6

Oilers 2, Stars 1	Dallas	Edmonton
	0 0 1 — 1	2 0 0 — 2
First Period: 1, Edmonton, McDavid 5 (Draisaitl, Bouchard), 4:17 (pp). 2, Edmonton, Hyman 14 (McDavid, Bouchard), 15:42 (pp). Penalties: Tanev, DAL (Tripping), 3:35; Edmonton bench, served by Hyman (Too Many Men on the Ice), 7:14; Suter, DAL (Slashing), 14:22; Kulak, EDM (High Sticking), 17:21. Second Period: None. Penalties: None. Third Period: 3, Dallas, Marchment 3 (Seguin, Tanev), 9:18. Penalties: Draisaitl, EDM (Delay of Game), 4:32. Shots on Goal: Dallas 12-9-14—35. Edmonton 3-5-2—10. Power-play opportunities: Dallas 0 of 3; Edmonton 2 of 2. Goalies: Dallas, Oettinger 10-8-0 (10 shots-8 saves). Edmonton, Skinner 10-5-0 (35-34). A: 0 (18,641). T: 2:26. Referees: Jean Hebert, Garrett Rank. Linesmen: Shandor Alphonso, Jonny Murray.		

Golf

PGA Tour - RBC Canadian Open			
At Hamilton Golf & Country Club; Hamilton, Ontario; Purse: \$9.4 million; Yardage: 7,084; Par: 70			
Final Round			
Robert Macintyre (500), \$1,692,000.....	64-66-66-68	264	-16
Ben Griffin (300), \$1,024,600.....	70-65-65-65	265	-15
Victor Perez (190), \$648,600.....	70-68-64-64	266	-14
Tom Kim (123), \$423,000.....	70-68-65-64	267	-13
Rory McIlroy (123), \$423,000.....	66-72-65-64	267	-13
Corey Connors (100), \$340,750.....	69-67-67-65	268	-12
Ryan Fox (85), \$295,317.....	66-64-70-70	270	-10
Mackenzie Hughes (85), \$295,317.....	69-64-67-70	270	-10
Maverick McNealy (85), \$295,317.....	74-65-66-65	270	-10
Sam Burns (68), \$227,950.....	63-71-67-70	271	-9
Joel Dahmen (68), \$227,950.....	67-65-69-70	271	-9
Keith Mitchell (68), \$227,950.....	69-67-68-67	271	-9
Chandler Phillips (68), \$227,950.....	69-70-68-64	271	-9
Jacob Bridgeman (51), \$152,750.....	69-68-68-67	272	-8
Beau Hossler (51), \$152,750.....	70-70-66-66	272	-8
Michael Kim (51), \$152,750.....	71-68-66-67	272	-8
Andrew Novak (51), \$152,750.....	66-67-69-67	272	-8
Aaron Rai (51), \$152,750.....	67-70-65-70	272	-8
Sam Stevens (51), \$152,750.....	68-68-68-68	272	-8
Carson Young (51), \$152,750.....	68-69-67-68	272	-8
Tommy Fleetwood (41), \$106,377.....	67-70-64-72	273	-7
Taylor Pendrith (41), \$106,377.....	69-69-66-69	273	-7
David Skins (41), \$106,377.....	62-71-73-67	273	-7
Zac Blair (36), \$83,190.....	67-68-71-68	274	-6
Tyler Duncan (36), \$83,190.....	67-71-68-68	274	-6
Chad Ramey (36), \$83,190.....	68-70-66-70	274	-6
Stewart Cink (29), \$65,800.....	70-66-72-67	275	-5
Trace Crowe (29), \$65,800.....	66-68-67-74	275	-5
Sean O'Hair (29), \$65,800.....	63-71-71-70	275	-5
Thorbjorn Olesen (29), \$65,800.....	68-68-72-67	275	-5
Jhonattan Vegas (29), \$65,800.....	70-69-69-67	275	-5
Bett Wallace (29), \$65,800.....	68-72-65-70	275	-5
Shane Lowry (23), \$54,755.....	72-68-68-68	276	-4
Vince Whaley (23), \$54,755.....	68-69-69-70	276	-4
Pierceson Coody (18), \$44,851.....	70-66-70-71	277	-3
Ryo Hisatsune (18), \$44,851.....	69-69-69-70	277	-3
Nicolai Hojgaard (18), \$44,851.....	68-69-72-68	277	-3
Ryan Palmer (18), \$44,851.....	65-73-70-69	277	-3
C.T. Pan (18), \$44,851.....	70-70-68-69	277	-3
Ben Silverman (18), \$44,851.....	68-71-70-68	277	-3
Sami Valimaki (18), \$44,851.....	70-67-71-69	277	-3
Harry Hall (11), \$29,986.....	69-71-71-67	278	-2
Nick Hardy (11), \$29,986.....	66-69-70-73	278	-2
Garrick Higgo (11), \$29,986.....	69-69-70-70	278	-2

Mark Hubbard (11), \$29,986.....	70-68-70-70	278	-2
Kelly Kraft (11), \$29,986.....	70-70-69-69	278	-2
Nate Lashley (11), \$29,986.....	71-69-72-66	278	-2
Adam Scott (11), \$29,986.....	70-69-70-69	278	-2
Erik Van Rooyen (11), \$29,986.....	66-70-70-72	278	-2
Kevin Yu (11), \$29,986.....	70-70-67-71	278	-2
Champions Tour - Principal Charity Classic			
At Wakonda Club; Des Moines, Iowa; Purse: \$2 million; Yardage: 6,835; Par: 72			
Final Round			
Ernie Els, \$300,000.....	62-68-65	195	-21
Stephen Ames, \$176,000.....	64-67-66	197	-19
David Duval, \$120,000.....	67-65-67	199	-17
Bernhard Langer, \$120,000.....	68-63-68	199	-17
Rod Pampling, \$120,000.....	65-65-69	199	-17
Vijay Singh, \$76,000.....	64-68-68	200	-16
Heath Slocum, \$76,000.....	65-68-67	200	-16
Steven Alker, \$60,000.....	67-68-66	201	-15
Chad Campbell, \$60,000.....	66-67-68	201	-15
David Bransdon, \$50,000.....	68-68-66	202	-14
Ken Tanigawa, \$50,000.....	66-69-67	202	-14
Steve Allan, \$38,400.....	69-66-68	203	-13
Stuart Appleby, \$38,400.....	68-69-66	203	-13
Steve Flesher, \$38,400.....	68-70-65	203	-13
Kevin Sutherland, \$38,400.....	66-66-71	203	-13
Y.E. Yang, \$38,400.....	69-68-66	203	-13
DP World Tour - European Open			
At Green Eagle Golf Courses; Hamburg, Germany; Purse: \$2 million; Yardage: 7,455; Par: 73			
Final Round			
Laurie Canter, \$392,765.....	68-66-73-72	279	-13
Thriston Lawrence, \$199,848.....	77-67-69-68	281	-11
Bernd Wiesberger, \$199,848.....	71-72-67-71	281	-11
Julien Guerrier, \$106,740.....	71-71-71-69	282	-10
Niklas Norgaard Moller, \$106,740.....	69-68-71-74	282	-10
Keita Nakajima, \$80,863.....	71-71-70-71	283	-9
Rafa Cabrera Bello, \$69,312.....	72-70-70-72	284	-8
U.S. Women's Open presented by Ally Par			
At Flynn Course; Lancaster, Pa.; Purse: \$12 million; Yardage: 6,629; Par: 70			
Final Round			
Yuka Saso.....	68-71-69-68	276	-4
Hinako Shibuno.....	71-70-66-72	279	-1
Ally Ewing.....	74-72-68-66	280	E
Andrea Lee.....	69-69-67-75	280	E
Arpichaya Yubol.....	72-72-68-69	281	+1
Ayaka Furue.....	71-72-71-68	282	+2
Wichanee Meechai.....	69-67-69-77	282	+2
Atthaya Thitikul.....	74-72-68-68	282	+2
Sakura Koivai.....	72-69-70-72	283	+3
Minjee Lee.....	70-69-66-78	283	+3
Rio Takeda.....	74-69-69-71	283	+3

0% APR FINANCING NOW AVAILABLE!
On select models. With credit approval. See dealer.

NEW 2024 FORD EXPEDITION 4X4

NOW IN-STOCK & READY FOR DELIVERY!

PREMIER Ford
PremierFordInc.com

SEE PREMIER FORD FIRST! AND NEVER OVERPAY!

LAST CHANCE! ENDS 6/4!

NEW 2023 FORD ESCAPE AWD
\$199* P/MO 36 MOS LEASE

Automatic, 4 Cylinder, P/S, ABS Brakes, Climate Control, Bluetooth, Power Windows/Locks, More! MSRP \$34,245, VIN#1FPUB02985, \$7,889 Due at Signing: 1st Month Payment, \$7045 Down Payment, \$645 Bank Fee, \$0 Security Deposit. Inc \$4,250 Ford Customer Rebate (must qualify, see dealer) \$1,000 Ford Renewal Rebate (must qualify see, dealer). Add Tax, Title & DMV fees. Expires 6/4/24.

NO SERVICE APPT NEEDED... JUST COME IN!

NEW 2023 FORD BRONCO SPORT AWD
\$249* P/MO 36 MOS LEASE

8 Speed Automatic, 1.5L EcoBoost Engine, P/S, ABS Brakes, Rear Parking Sensor, Wireless Charging Pad, Heated Front Seats, Keyless Entry, LED Fog Lights and More! MSRP \$36,500, VIN#3FP0D61269, \$6,850 Due at Signing: 1st Month Payment, \$3956 Down Payment, \$645 Bank Fee, \$0 Security Deposit. Inc \$500 Ford Customer Rebate (must qualify, see dealer) \$3,500 Ford Renewal Rebate (must qualify see, dealer). Add Tax, Title & DMV fees. Expires 6/4/24

BROOKLYN'S Ford LEASE RETURN CENTER!

NEW 2024 FORD EDGE SEL AWD
\$269* P/MO 36 MOS LEASE

Automatic, V6, P/S, ABS Brakes, Climate Control, Bluetooth, Power Windows/Locks, More! MSRP \$46,245, VIN#2FRBA47517, \$6,939 Due at Signing: 1st Month Payment, \$6,025 Down Payment, \$645 Bank Fee, \$0 Security Deposit. Inc \$750 Ford Customer Rebate (must qualify, see dealer) \$3,000 Ford Trade-In Assist (must qualify see, dealer). Add Tax, Title & DMV fees. Expires 6/4/24.

SERIOUS SAVINGS ON SOME OF OUR SELLING MODELS

NEW 2024 FORD EXPLORER 4X4
SERIOUS SAVINGS! NEVER OVERPAY!

2 GREAT LOCATIONS

KINGS HWY
5001 Glenwood Rd, Brooklyn, NY
1-718-258-7200

BAY RIDGE
612 86th Street, Brooklyn, NY
1-347-578-7900

*Includes all costs to consumer except tax, title & DMV fees which are additional & may be due upon signing. Closed end leases based on terms above & subject to Tier 1 approval through Ford Credit. Leases are 25¢ per mile over 7,500 mi/year; lessee responsible for excess wear, tear & repair. Total Monthly Payments/Residual: Escape: \$7884/\$16,860, Bronco \$8,964/\$19,875, Edge: \$9684/\$19,240. Photos for illustration. Prior transactions excluded. Offers cannot be combined. Ad supersedes previous offers. Expires 6/4/24. DCA#0806391. DMV#6240988

EAST	W	L	D	Pts	GF	GA
Inter Miami CF	10	3	5	35	42	27
Cincinnati	10	3	3	33	23	16
NYCFC	9	5	2	29	24	17
Red Bulls	8	3	5	29	29	22
Charlotte FC	7	6	4	25	18	18
Toronto FC	7	7	3	24	26	26
Columbus	6	2	6	24	21	13
Philadelphia	4	4	8	20	27	23
Nashville	4	5	7	19	20	22

D.C. United	4	6	7	19	25	31
Orlando City	4	7	5	17	16	24
CF Montréal	4	7	5	17	23	35
Atlanta	4	8	4	16	22	21
Chicago	3	8	6	15	17	29
New England	3	10	1	10	11	27

WEST	W	L	D	Pts	GF	GA
Real Salt Lake	9	2	6	33	36	19
Los Angeles FC	9	4	3	30	28	19
Minn. United	8	3	4	28	27	20
LA Galaxy	7	3	7	28	31	25
Vancouver	7	5	4	25	24	19
Austin FC	6	6	5	23	21	25
Houston	6	6	4	22	18	18
Colorado	6	7	4	22	29	31
Portland	5	7	5	20	32	32
Seattle FC	4	6	6	18	19	19
St Louis City	3	4	8	17	23	25
FC Dallas	3	8	4	13	17	24
San Jose	3	11	2	11	24	39
Sporting K.C.	2	9	5	11	24	31

Note: 3 pts. for win, 1 for tie
Sunday
Charlotte FC 3, Atlanta 2
Saturday
Red Bulls at New England, 7:30pm
Seattle FC at Sporting K.C., 8:30pm
FC Dallas at Minnesota, 8:30pm
Portland at St Louis City, 8:30pm

Soccer

French Ligue 1 Promotion/Relegation Playoffs
Metz 2, Saint-Etienne 2, AET
(Saint-Etienne wins 4-3 on aggreg.)
Italian Serie A
Fiorentina 3, Atalanta 2
Portuguese Promotion/Relegation Playoffs 2nd Leg
AVS 2, Portimonense 1
(AVS wins 4-2 on aggreg.)

NWSL

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Orlando	8	0	3	27	20	10
Kansas City	7	0	4	25	26	15
Washington	8	3	0	24	25	16
Portland	6	4	1	19	24	16
Gotham FC	5	2	3	18	10	7
Chicago	5	5	1	16	15	15
North Carolina	5	6	0	15	13	14
Louisville	2	2	6	12	15	12
San Diego	3	4	3	12	9	9
Houston	3	5	3	12	11	18
Angel City	3	5	2	11	11	16
Bay FC	3	8	0	9	15	23
Seattle	2	8	1	7	11	20
Utah Royals FC	1	9	1	4	6	20

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.
Friday
Houston at Louisville, 8pm
Orlando at San Diego, 10pm
Saturday
Angel City at Gotham FC, 12:30pm
Washington at Utah Royals FC, 7:30pm
Bay FC at Chicago, 7:30pm
North Carolina at Portland, 10pm
Sunday
Seattle at Kansas City, 6pm

Tennis

French Open

At Stade Roland Garros; Paris; Purse: Euro19,280,000; Surface: Red clay; (Seedings in parentheses):
Men's Singles - Fourth Round
Stefanos Tsitsipas (9), Greece, def. Matteo Arnaldi, Italy, 3-6, 7-6 (4), 6-2, 6-2.
Carlos Alcaraz (3), Spain, def. Felix Auger-Aliassime (21), Canada, 6-3, 6-3, 6-1.
Grigor Dimitrov (10), Bulgaria, def. Hubert Hurkacz (8), Poland, 7-6 (5), 6-4, 7-6 (3)
Jannik Sinner (2), Italy, def. Corentin Moutet, France, 2-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-1.
Women's Singles - Fourth Round
Iga Swiatek (1), Poland, def. Anastasia Potapova, Russia, 6-0, 6-0.
Marketa Vondrousova (5), Czechia, def. Olga Danilovic, Serbia, 6-4, 6-2.
Coco Gauff (3), United States, def. Elisabetta Cocciaretto, Italy, 6-1, 6-2.
Ons Jabeur (8), Tunisia, def. Clara Tauson, Denmark, 6-4, 6-4.

UFL

USFL CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Birmingham	9	1	0	.900	265	180
Michigan	7	3	0	.700	228	189
Memphis	2	8	0	.200	188	290
Houston	1	9	0	.100	158	233

XFL CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
St. Louis	7	3	0	.700	260	202
San Antonio	7	3	0	.700	192	153
DC	4	6	0	.400	209	251
Arlington	3	7	0	.300	247	249

Sunday

Arlington 32, DC 31
Memphis 19, Houston 12

IndyCar

IndyCar Chevrolet Detroit Grand Prix At Streets of Detroit; Detroit; Lap length: 1.7 miles

- (Start position in parentheses)
1. (5) Scott Dixon, Dallara-Honda, 100 laps, Running.
2. (9) Marcus Ericsson, Dallara-Honda, 100, Running.
3. (19) Marcus Armstrong, Dallara-Honda, 100, Running.
4. (6) Kyle Kirkwood, Dallara-Honda, 100, Running.
5. (16) Alexander Rossi, Dallara-Chevrolet, 100, Running.
6. (8) Will Power, Dallara-Chevrolet, 100, Running.
7. (12) Pato O'Ward, Dallara-Chevrolet, 100, Running.
8. (22) Felix Rosenqvist, Dallara-Honda, 100, Running.
9. (10) Santino Ferrucci, Dallara-Chevrolet, 100, Running.
10. (7) Theo Pourchaire, Dallara-Chevrolet, 100, Running.
11. (11) Christian Lundgaard, Dallara-Honda, 100, Running.
12. (17) Agustín Canapino, Dallara-Chevrolet, 100, Running.
13. (15) Pietro Fittipaldi, Dallara-Honda, 100, Running.
14. (18) Rinus VeeKay, Dallara-Chevrolet, 100, Running.
15. (20) Graham Rahal, Dallara-Honda, 100, Running.
16. (2) Alex Palou, Dallara-Honda, 100, Running.
17. (26) Jack Harvey, Dallara-Honda, 100, Running.
18. (24) Tristan Vautier, 99, Running.
19. (1) Colton Herta, Dallara-Honda, 99, Running.
20. (4) Scott McLaughlin, Dallara-Chevrolet, 99, Running.
21. (23) Sting Ray Robb, Dallara-Chevrolet, 99, Running.
22. (21) Linus Lundqvist, Dallara-Honda, 99, Running.
23. (14) Romain Grosjean, Dallara-Chevrolet, 97, Running.
24. (27) Kyffin Simpson, Dallara-Honda, 96, Running.
25. (25) Helio Castroneves, Dallara-Honda, 95, Running.
26. (3) Josef Newgarden, Dallara-Chevrolet, 94, Running.
27. (13) Christian Rasmussen, Dallara-Chevrolet, 24, Did not finish.
Race Statistics
Average Speed of Race Winner: 78.251 mph.
Time of Race: 02:06:07.9684.
Margin of Victory: 0.8567 seconds.
Cautions: 8 for 47 laps.
Lead Changes: 5 among 6 drivers.
Lap Leaders: Herta 1-33, Newgarden 34, Lundgaard 35-40, Kirkwood 41-64, Palou 65, Dixon 66.
Points: Dixon 216, Palou 198, Power 185, O'Ward 160, Rossi 150, Kirkwood 148, Herta 147, McLaughlin 141, Rosenqvist 140, Newgarden 128.

NASCAR

NASCAR Cup Series Enjoy Illinois 300 At World Wide Technology Raceway at Gateway; Madison, Ill.; Lap length: 1.25 miles

- (Start position in parentheses)
1. (2) Austin Cindric, Ford, 240 laps, 56 points.
2. (6) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 240, 42.
3. (7) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 240, 40.
4. (5) Tyler Reddick, Toyota, 240, 36.
5. (12) Joey Logano, Ford, 240, 39.
6. (18) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 240, 33.
7. (4) Christopher Bell, Toyota, 240, 50.
8. (20) Carson Hocevar, Chevrolet, 240, 32.
9. (21) Justin Haley, Ford, 240, 28.
10. (13) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, 240, 27.
11. (9) Ty Gibbs, Toyota, 240, 30.
12. (16) Ross Chastain, Chevrolet, 240, 25.
13. (17) Chase Elliott, Chevrolet, 240, 32.
14. (26) Chris Buescher, Ford, 240, 23.
15. (11) William Byron, Chevrolet, 240, 27.
16. (35) Todd Gilliland, Ford, 240, 21.
17. (23) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 240, 24.
18. (28) Daniel Hemric, Chevrolet, 240, 19.
19. (36) Zane Smith, Chevrolet, 240, 18.
20. (24) Ricky Stenhouse Jr, Chevrolet, 240, 17.
21. (8) Bubba Wallace, Toyota, 240, 16.
22. (27) Noah Gragson, Ford, 240, 15.
23. (31) Daniel Suárez, Chevrolet, 240, 14.
24. (3) Ryan Blaney, Ford, 240, 29.
25. (1) Michael McDowell, Ford, 239, 21.
26. (22) Erik Jones, Toyota, 239, 11.
27. (33) John H. Nemechek, Toyota, 239, 10.
28. (14) Alex Bowman, Chevrolet, 239, 9.
29. (32) Ryan Preece, Ford, 239, 8.
30. (25) Derek Kraus, Chevrolet, 239, 7.
31. (30) Harrison Burton, Ford, 239, 6.
32. (15) Corey LaJoie, Chevrolet, 239, 5.
33. (34) Cody Ware, Ford, 238, 4.
34. (19) Martin Truex Jr, Toyota, 237, 3.
35. (10) Kyle Busch, Chevrolet, accident, 139, 2.
36. (29) Josh Berry, Ford, accident, 109, 1.
Race Statistics
Average Speed of Race Winner: 107.106 mph.
Time of Race: 2 hours, 48 minutes, 3 seconds.
Margin of Victory: 3.844 seconds.
Caution Flags: 5 for 32 laps.
Lead Changes: 16 among 10 drivers.
Lap Leaders: M.McDowell 0-40 C.Bell 41-48 T.Gilliland 49-54 K.Busch 55-69 C.Bell 70-95 M.Truex 96 A.Cindric 97-114 C.Bell 115-143 A.Cindric 144-176 J.Logano 177 C.Bell 178-193
B.Keselowski 194-210 K.Larson 211-217 R.Blaney 218-220 C.Bell 221 R.Blaney 222-238 A.Cindric 239-240
Leaders Summary (Driver, Times Led, Laps Led): C.Bell, 5 times for 80 laps A.Cindric, 3 times for 53 laps M.McDowell, 1 time for 40 laps R.Blaney, 2 times for 20 laps B.Keselowski, 1 time for 17 laps K.Busch, 1 time for 15 laps K.Larson, 1 time for 7 laps T.Gilliland, 1 time for 6 laps J.Logano, 1 time for 1 lap M.Truex, 1 time for 1 lap.
Wins: D.Hamlin, 3 W.Byron, 3 K.Larson, 2 C.Bell, 2 C.Elliott, 1 T.Reddick, 1 B.Keselowski, 1 D.Suárez, 1.
Top 16 in Points: 1. D.Hamlin, 492 2. M.Truex, 487 3. K.Larson, 486 4. C.Elliott, 475 5. W.Byron, 461 6. T.Reddick, 437 7. T.Gibbs, 435 8. A.Bowman, 408 9. B.Keselowski, 397 10. R.Chastain, 392 11. C.Bell, 387 12. R.Blaney, 376 13. B.Wallace, 355 14. K.Busch, 346 15. C.Buescher, 345 16. C.Briscoe, 334.



QUICK WORK:
Coco Gauff needed 60 minutes to dispatch Elisabetta Cocciaretto 6-1, 6-2.
USA TODAY Sports

Gauff, Swiatek sprint into French quarters

By JEROME PUGMIRE

PARIS — After the French Open marathon came the sprints. Defending champion Iga Swiatek swept into the quarterfinals at Roland Garros in just 40 minutes after a crushing 6-0, 6-0 win against Anastasia Potapova. U.S. Open champion Coco Gauff took only 60 minutes to rout unseeded Italian Elisabetta Cocciaretto 6-1, 6-2. The 20-year-old American looked set for an even quicker victory when she led 5-0, but Cocciaretto fought back, getting a hearty cheer from the crowd after winning the next game. Swiatek wound up with 48 points to just 10 for Potapova. The match ended when Potapova hit a forehand into the net on the first match point.

Yonkers Raceway entries

- FIRST: 1 Mile \$23,000 3-6YO50/75; PACE**
1 MyUltimateByronA (JBrtlett) 3-2-4 5-2
2 Eminem Hanover (BHolland) 3-1-5 15-1
3 Gds Thunder Gb (Jmarohn) 4-4-2 6-1
4 Big Dream Fella (Jstratton) 2-1-1 3-1
5 Twin B Deluxe (MKakaley) 5-6-5 5-1
6 Pound For Pound (GBrennan) 1-1-2 2-1
SECOND: 1 Mile \$35,000 3-5 YO OPN; PACE
1 Duval Street (ASiegelman) 1-2-1 5-1
2 Its A Me Mario (JBartlett) 4-1-2 3-2
3 Night Hawk (GBrennan) 2-3-3 4-1
4 Dunkin' (Jmarohn) 1-2-5 3-1
5 Pleaseletmeknow (MKakaley) 6-3-3 7-2
THIRD: 1 Mile \$39,000 INVITATION; PACE
1 Nandolo N (Ltrittton) 2-3-5 6-1
2 None Better A (JBongiorno) 1-1-3 7-2
3 Big Gulp (SZeron) 3-1-1 4-1
4 SmmentsmwhereA (GBrenn) 5-9-6 5-1
5 WhatsStanleyGotA (Jstrattn) 5-2-6 9-2
6 Energetic Hanover (JBartlett) 1-2-1 3-1
FOURTH: 1 Mile \$18,000 3-SYO 30CL; PACE
1 Laz (BHolland) 1-1-4 9-5
2 Hurrikane Hunter (JBartlett) 4-7-3 6-1
3 Century Iglesias (Jstratton) 4-4-7 8-1

“I was just really focused and in the zone,” Swiatek said. “It went pretty quickly, pretty weird.” Their match started at around 11 a.m. on Court Philippe Chatrier. That’s just eight hours after men’s defending champion Novak Djokovic finished his five-set, 4 ½-hour marathon against Lorenzo Musetti just after 3 a.m. in the latest finish in tournament history. Swiatek said late finishes don’t just end with the match and are not healthy. “Usually it takes us, like, four hours to even chill, and you need to do recovery, media. It’s not like the work ends with the match point,” she said. “I was always one of the players that said that we should start a little bit earlier.” Gauff thinks the issue

needs to be addressed. “It’s a complicated thing,” she said. “But I definitely think for the health and safety of the players it would be in the sport’s best interest to try to avoid those matches finishing, or starting, after a certain time.” Gauff says there’s also a fine balance to be struck. “Obviously I don’t want to complain too much about it because we are very blessed and privileged to be playing for a lot of money. There’s people working real jobs under worse conditions for less money and just trying to get by,” she said. “It’s just tough for me knowing where some of my family come from and where things are, and I think about the people hearing this. Yes, if I was a person working, I would be upset to hear, you know, players complain.” — AP

Post time: 7 p.m.

- 4 Human Cocktail (MKakaley) 2-5-5 5-2
5 Captain T Hanover (Jmarohn) 7-2-3 15-1
6 Airy Shadow (GBrennan) 5-3-2 10-1
7 Lyons Pride (JBongiorno) 1-8-8 5-1
FIFTH: 1 Mile \$21,000 NW15000LS; PACE
1 Saranac Blue Chip (BHolland) 2-4-2 12-1
2 Samhara N (Jstratton) 2-5-5 9-2
3 Splash Brother (ASiegelman) 1-1-4 7-2
4 CadillacBayama (PLachance) 3-1-6 6-1
5 Benhope Ruiz N (MKakaley) 3-4-5 5-1
6 Air ForceHanover (GBrennan) 3-4-3 10-1
7 Dp Realordeal (JBongiorno) 7-4-3 20-1
8 AnothrmastrpieceN (JBrtlett) 4-3-4 3-1
SIXTH: 1 Mile \$13,000 NW5,000LS; PACE
1 Beebeetee (GBrennan) 4-5-2 6-1
2 Fulsome (JBongiorno) 3-8-5 3-1
3 Hazeville (BHolland) 4-7-5 5-2
4 Kimble A (MKakaley) 4-3-5 3-1
5 Karloo Bradley N (JBartlett) 3-7-8 7-2
6 HurrikaneGeorge (ASegelman) 6-6-7 20-1
7 Beltane A (Jmarohn) 5-2-7 20-1
8 Mister Donald A (Jstratton) 8-2-4 20-1
SEVENTH: 1 Mile \$24,000 NW20000LS; PACE
1 RollingWithSam (PLachance) 6-1-1 10-1

- 2 Funatthebeach N (Jstratton) 1-5-5 7-2
3 Speed Man N (GBrennan) 5-7-1 8-1
4 Rockin Jukebox (JBongiorno) 3-7-1 3-1
5 Windsun Ricky (BHolland) 6-2-7 20-1
6 CaptivateHanover (MKakley) 4-6-4 4-1
7 Leonidas A (ASiegelman) 4-2-3 8-1
8 Chmichurri N (JBartlett) 4-2-1 6-1
EIGHTH: 1 Mile \$18,000 30000CLM; PACE
1 Alotbetter N (Jmarohn) 1-1-1 3-1
2 Major Desire (JBartlett) 8-2-1 4-1
3 Kb Mac (BHolland) 4-6-2 10-1
4 DanceOnTheBeach (JBongrn) 1-6-3 5-2
5 Ozone Blue Chip (PLachance) 3-7-1 3-1
6 PinebushLifesaver (Jstrattn) 5-6-4 20-1
7 BalleratBoomerng (GBrennn) 4-6-4 20-1
8 Sullivan (MKakaley) 6-5-3 20-1
NINTH: 1 Mile \$18,000 NW10000LS; PACE
1 Peter Petrify N (Jmarohn) 8-5-8 6-1
2 MyCarbonCopyN (PLachance) 2-4-3 10-1
3 Arden Messi N (JBongiorno) 1-5-1 3-1
4 Gamblingterror (MKakaley) 5-4-6 6-1
5 All Alone (JBartlett) 6-6-5 9-5
6 CeruleanHanover (GBrennan) 5-2-1 12-1
7 Mach N Cheese (BHolland) 1-2-7 5-1
8 Casino Action N (Jstratton) 3-3-X 20-1

Slumping Stewart stays the course

By ANDREW CRANE

It was always going to be difficult for Breanna Stewart to replicate her first year with the Liberty. There hasn't been a back-to-back MVP in the WNBA since the league's first two seasons. But by this point in 2023, Stewart had already topped 20 points six times. The MVP award — the second of her career — arrived months later. Liberty records shifted to include Stewart's name.

But through the early stages of 2024, Stewart has encountered the early stages of a shooting slump. Her 3-point percentage (18.2), though, was nearly half of last year's clip entering the Liberty's 104-68 win over the Indiana Fever at Barclays Center. She has reached 20 points just three times.

Stewart has insisted that she's not worried. She's still averaging nearly a double-double and added 13 points Sunday. She'll continue shooting, continue taking those 3s and trust that — at some point — they'll start falling and end the rocky stretch.

"I mean, I think that yeah, I would like the ball to go in the basket, especially from 3," Stewart told The Post. "But ... just being confident in who I am and understanding that it's gonna come — the threat that I am. All I need to do is just go out and be myself, and that's really it."

"And not thinking about what happened last year, but focused on this year and one game at a time."

At multiple points this season, Liberty coach Sandy Brondello hinted that she overused Stewart in 2023. Her minutes per game spiked to its highest mark since her rookie season in 2016. Stewart's 17 attempts per game marked a career-high, too. Not that Stewart necessarily minded the usage.

Stewart, who made her first 3 since May 25 on Sunday, has tried to make sure her hips are loaded and her shots are operating as "one fluid motion" — with the ball remaining close to her throughout.

Everything should be in sync, in Stewart's eyes, by game No. 10. The growing pains will eventually subside. And her emergence will remain a critical part of that, too.



NOT IN HER HOUSE: Fever star Caitlin Clark's layup attempt is stuffed by the Liberty's Kayla Thornton during the second quarter Sunday night. Clark was held to three points during the Liberty's 36-point rout of Indiana at Barclays Center to open Commissioner's Cup play. Michelle Farsi

By ANDREW CRANE

Sandy Brondello felt that the Indiana Fever had started to figure everything out, that they had made strides in the two weeks since the teams last met. But it seems as if the Liberty have figured out Caitlin Clark and the Fever offense, too.

In their first meeting, Betnijah Laney-Hamilton held Clark to nine points and was a franchise-record plus-32. Two days later, Clark flashed her potential with a 10-point first quarter and 22 total. But Sunday, when the Liberty and Fever met for the third time in less than three weeks, Clark was nearly eliminated altogether.

She finished with a career-low three points before getting dinged in the ear on a screen in the fourth quarter, briefly going back to the locker room and later returning to the bench in the Liberty's 104-68 win. Laney-Hamilton and Kayla Thornton mostly split the task of guarding Clark, and that allowed the Liberty to secure their best start (7-2) since the league's inaugural season in 1997. The game doubled as the Commissioner's Cup opener.

"The way Betnijah guards [Clark]," Sabrina Ionescu said, "I'm

Liberty clamp down on Clark in laughter

happy she's on our team. But collectively as a team, we understand who kind of the head of the monster is on that team, and trying to just make everything tough and difficult."

Laney-Hamilton also led the Liberty with 20 points, while Jonquel Jones poured in 18 and snagged 13 rebounds. The Liberty shot 57 percent from the field and 44 percent from 3 in a sample that resembled the offense that propelled their run to the WNBA Finals last year.

Clark's lone basket came on a 3-pointer to start the second quarter, but that was it. She shot 1 of 10 from the field and 1 of 7 on 3s. Late in the first half, she tried to drive for a layup and was blocked from behind by Thornton. Then, Clark missed a transition layup with Ionescu chasing her down. And with Laney-Hamilton picking up on the ball, opponents — such as the Fever — can't start their offense until 12 seconds remain on the shot clock, Ionescu said.

"It's more of a chess match," Lan-

ey-Hamilton said of guarding Clark, "but ... because I'm always having to do it, I'm kind of always ready and prepared for that moment."

Instead, Clark became a facilitator, dishing out five assists and watching as NaLyssa Smith and Kelsey Mitchell helped the Fever trim an 18-point halftime deficit to 12 in the third quarter, but that advantage quickly ballooned again. The Liberty even shifted Laney-Hamilton to Mitchell in the second half.

"Hey, why not?" Brondello said. "That's the luxury that we have."

This all unfolded 30 hours after the Fever's game against the Chicago Sky included a twist of controversy when Chennedy Carter shoved Clark to the ground. One day later, the league changed the call from a common foul to a flagrant I. Carter refused to answer questions about the hard foul Saturday and later wrote on Instagram that she'd "rather you hate me."

Fever coach Christie Sides commended Clark for how she handled

the situation, for how she asked the official to review it and didn't try to respond otherwise. But the Fever struggled to channel the progress from what ended as a one-point win into anything that became a tangible threat to the Liberty's third consecutive victory.

Laney-Hamilton's points, which tied her season-high, on 7-for-9 shooting continued an offensive emergence dating back to late in the 2023 campaign, once her role on the superteam — one different from her previous two years with the organization — came into focus and she became one of the Liberty's most consistent scorers in the playoffs. They used her in isolation Sunday. They created scenarios where her back was to the basket, where Laney-Hamilton could weave and twist and weave again until finding just enough space.

So in plenty of ways, Sunday was déjà vu for the Liberty. It was déjà vu for the Fever — the latest reminder that it'll take time for Clark to adjust — in their return to Brooklyn. There were still Clark signs and the No. 22 jerseys scattered throughout the crowd that'll accompany them everywhere, but this time, the Liberty unveiled the most effective blueprint yet for containing her.

acrane@nypost.com

Hits keep coming for megastar Clark

SHE had shot 1 of 10 — 1 of 7 from 3 — her legs gassed following back-to-back games, when Caitlin Clark began walking off the court in distress to her Indiana Fever bench, motioning to her ear in the fourth quarter.

Minutes later, she disappeared through the tunnel that leads to the visiting locker room before returning to the bench for the conclusion of Liberty 104, Fever 68 at Barclays Center. She scored a career-low three points, with five assists.

"Just got hit on a screen a little bit," Clark told The Post afterwards. "I'm all good though. I just couldn't hear very well, so kind of hard to get your surroundings."

I offered my guess that her confidence has not been shaken. "No, Absolutely not," she said. "Continue to shoot the ball, that's what I'm gonna do. I know I'm really good at that. But I think I gotta take some rest and get my body right. Feel a little break is gonna be really good for me."

This comes on the heels of some Unwelcomed-to-the-WNBA moments that have unceremoniously greeted her at the start of her professional career.

Clark is being tested. She is being tested physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually. Some of it is petty jealousy. Some of it is by veteran players who choose not to be punked by any rookie.

Even if Clark is hardly any rookie.

Her foes should appreciate that she has drawn more eyeballs to the WNBA, but that doesn't mean that she should expect them to bow down to her on the court and treat her with kid gloves. And she doesn't.

She is the face of the WNBA, whether they like it or not, and of course not everyone likes it, and of course there are those who get their dander up that the new face of the league happens to be a white face that is late to this WNBA party. To her credit, Clark has defused any and all suggestions that race has played a role here..

She is the one who signed the \$28 million Nike contract even before attempting her first logo 3. She is the one in the State Farm commercial. She is a marked woman.

She understands that it comes with the territory of professional sports. It's part of the deal. LeBron James confronted Welcome-to-the-NBA moments as The Chosen One. What's good for the gander is good for the goose, yes.

But in the wake of Chicago Sky guard Chennedy Carter shoulder-banging Clark to the floor away from the ball on Saturday in Indianapolis and

seeming to mouth the B-word and liking anti-Clark tweets and the persistent hammering that Clark has been subjected to, the league should do itself a favor and get tougher on any and all flagrant incidents, and start cracking down on any would-be, self-appointed vigilantes. The WNBA upgraded Carter's foul from a common foul to a Flagrant 1 on Sunday morning. Better late than never.

A hard foul is one thing. A flagrant foul is another.

It is one thing to be tested, another to be targeted.

Clark doesn't ask for special treatment, nor is she entitled to it.

The last thing anyone in the WNBA should want is injuring the golden goose that lays the golden egg.

The golden goose recalled when she was a frailer, younger version of herself in college and opponents would take liberties with her. She knows the last thing she or the league needs is coming off as a crybaby.

"I grew up playing basketball with the boys ... you gotta find a way to hold your own," she said before the game, and smiled. "And then I grew up with two brothers, things were very very physical, a lot of blood, a lot of tears, whatever it was. So I'm definitely prepared for it."

She has mostly handled her new reality admirably, three technical fouls notwithstanding. She has been adapting to the physicality of stronger, more mature women. Calls that she might have gotten playing for Iowa that she is not getting now.

Growing pains with new teammates. Eleven games in 20 days. The losing. All of it.

It has not shaken her love of the game.

"I always remind myself sure, there's moments where I've been frustrated and upset, we've lost here, I haven't performed here or things that I want to clean up," she said, "but there's so many people that would love to be in my position or would love to have this opportunity. I get to do this as my job, like how lucky am I? Sometimes that's hard to remind yourself of and put everything in perspective, but that's what I try to do, and I think at the same time that kinda takes the pressure off and really allows me to have fun and just keep playing the game I love."

She hasn't blinked. Even in the eye of a storm. It will get better for Clark. She makes the WNBA better in so many ways. The WNBA better make sure it does its part to make it better for her.

steve.serby@nypost.com



Steve Serby



Caitlin Clark



BRUCE A. BLAKEMAN
NASSAU COUNTY EXECUTIVE

PRESENTS



**ICC MEN'S T20
WORLD CUP**
WEST INDIES & USA 2024

JUNE 1 – 12, 2024
EISENHOWER PARK

WATCH PARTY FAN PARK

For the most anticipated matchup
of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup

INDIA vs. PAKISTAN

SUNDAY, JUNE 9TH
CEDAR CREEK PARK

3340 Merrick Road, Seaford | Park opens at 8:30am



MATCH BEGINS AT 10:30AM
ON 3 GIANT SCREENS!

Entertainment | Children's Activities
Photo Opportunities | Food | Merchandise Vendors

FIELD OF DREAMS

Cricket World Cup coming to temp \$30M stadium in Nassau County

By GAVIN NEWSHAM



JIMINY CRICKET: The Nassau County International Cricket Stadium in East Meadow's Eisenhower Park, a 34,000-seat facility erected in just four months, will host eight matches in the T20 Cricket World Cup over the next 10 days, generating excitement within the small but growing U.S. cricket community. Chubb Bedessee (above, left, and sanding a bat) and his family, including his son, Elliott, own and operate the only cricket store in New York. Monank Patel (right) and Team USA will make their appearance at the Eisenhower Park stadium on June 12 against tournament-favorite India.



OF ALL the high-profile New York City-area venues to be threatened by Islamic extremists this summer, none was more unexpected than the Nassau County International Cricket Stadium (NCICS) on Long Island. Not because the 34,000-seat open-air facility doesn't make for a choice target, but because who knew there's a world-class cricket stadium barely 32 miles east of Manhattan?

You'd be forgiven if you didn't. Just four months ago, the 8.3-acre site in Eisenhower Park, East Meadow was little more than a muddy field in need of some TLC. That opportunity has now arrived in the form of the Men's T20 Cricket World Cup, the biennial 20-team tournament that touches down at the stadium Monday and continues through June 12.

Eight of the tournament's 55 matches will be held at NCICS — including Sunday's India vs. Pakistan showdown, widely considered the Cup's most thrilling and an apparent ISIS target, according to recent news reports. The rest of the tournament will be spread around Florida, Texas and the Caribbean. In 2022 in Australia, England beat Pakistan to be crowned champions. The U.S. — which won its opener with a stirring comeback Saturday in Dallas — will make its only Eisenhower Park appearance June 12 against powerhouse India.

This year's T20 final — T20 cricket is a condensed version, typically 3½ hours, of a traditional test match that can last five days — will be held in Barbados on June 30.

Few cities rival New York for world-class sports, but Gotham makes for an unlikely cricket stage. Critics shared similar sentiments about soccer in 1994 when FIFA held the World Cup in the U.S. With

an estimated 200,000 players in America today, cricket still lags far behind soccer's status three decades ago. But T20 organizers are hoping the tournament can do for U.S. cricket what FIFA did for soccer.

"The United States is already one of the largest TV audiences in the world for cricket, so we hope this event is an opportunity for fans to see top-level cricket in their own backyard," said Brett Jones, CEO of local organizing committee, T20 USA.

The raw ingredients are already there.

Across America, there are some 400 local cricket leagues, according to USA Cricket, including here in New York. Like soccer, which was popularized by immigrants from Latin America, cricket's ascent is fueled by émigrés, particularly from the Caribbean and South Asia.

There are over a million immigrants from these regions in the New York-area, making it America's cricketing epicenter. "That's why the opportunity to play games there was obviously a no-brainer," adds Jones.

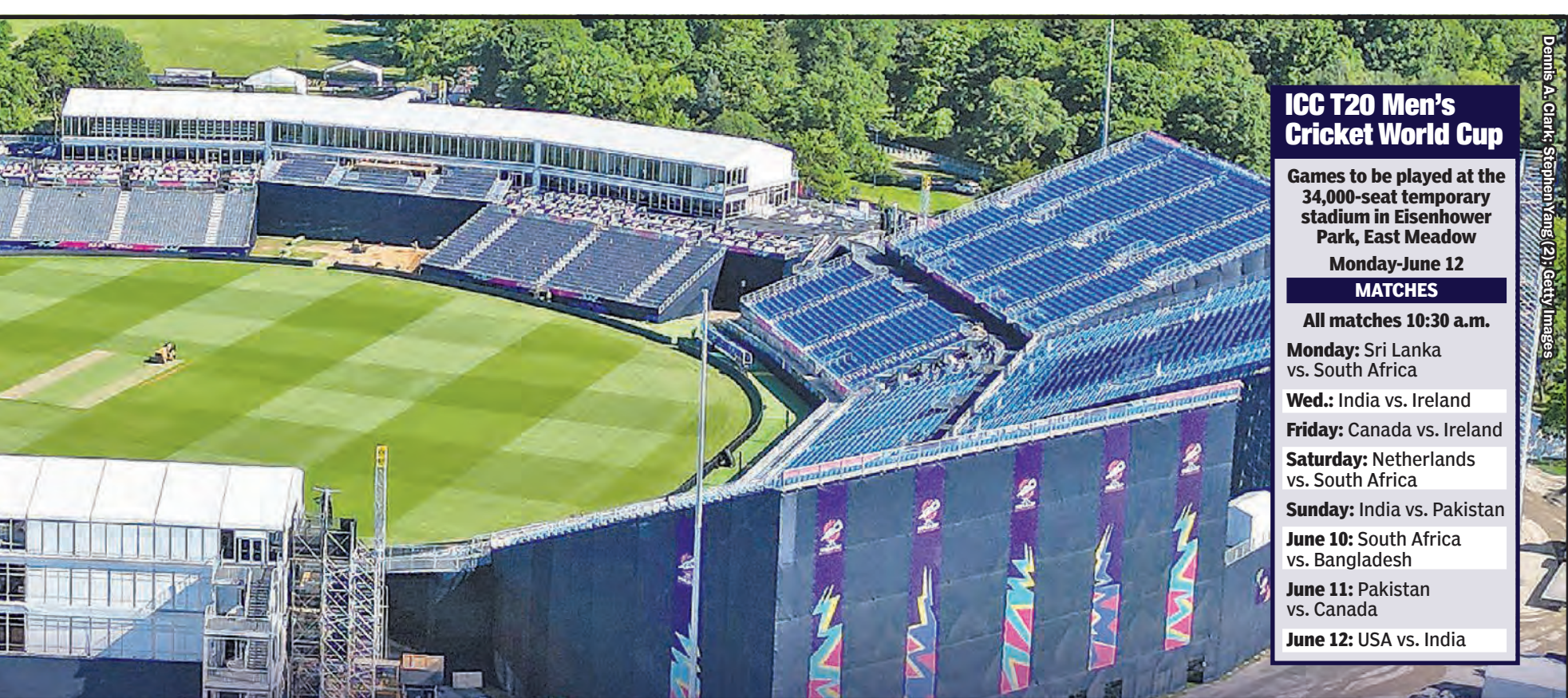
New York may be new to cricket but the game is hardly new to New York. Brought over by British colonizers in the 18th century, the New York Gazette reported on a match between a London team and a team of locals back in 1751. In September 1844, a match between the U.S. and Canada was held at what is now the corner of Fifth Avenue and 31st Street — the first ever international fixture in sports history, predating the America's Cup by seven years.

Cricket remained popular until the mid-19th century when "the Civil War killed cricket," professor Tim Lockley, a social historian from the University of Warwick, told The Post. "This was both literal in the shape of 600,000-plus dead men, some of whom were cricketers, and figurative, since the South was a mess after 1865 and not in any state to stage organized sport.

"North or South, though, there was no immediate transition back to pre-war life."

What really killed cricket, however, was baseball, which not only required hours — not days





Dennis A. Clark, Stephen Yang (2); Getty Images

ICC T20 Men's Cricket World Cup

Games to be played at the 34,000-seat temporary stadium in Eisenhower Park, East Meadow

Monday-June 12

MATCHES

All matches 10:30 a.m.

Monday: Sri Lanka vs. South Africa

Wed.: India vs. Ireland

Friday: Canada vs. Ireland

Saturday: Netherlands vs. South Africa

Sunday: India vs. Pakistan

June 10: South Africa vs. Bangladesh

June 11: Pakistan vs. Canada

June 12: USA vs. India

— for matches, but could be played in most any field rather than a pitch requiring constant maintenance.

When the Imperial Cricket Conference (later the International Cricket Council) denied membership to the U.S. in 1909, American cricket was on life support and were it not for immigrants arriving from cricket-playing nations, the game might have died.

Immigrants like Clarence Modeste.

Originally from Tobago, Modeste arrived in Brooklyn in 1959 and is president of New York's oldest cricket club, Staten Island Cricket Club, where he's has been a member since 1961.

"I remember we played in the New York Metropolitan League in the '60s and there were only six teams in the city," recalled the retired radiographer from Queens Village.

John Moore, professor of Microbiology and Immunology at Cornell University, agrees. He arrived in New York from England in 1992, and is a member of one of New York's biggest clubs, Wanderers, and also plays for the Mad Dogs. He also coordinates the World Series League.

"There could be 100 games of cricket going on in any given weekend in New York," he added. "And some of it is a very high standard — even if the pitches aren't up to scratch."

Even the NYPD has a team.

Det. Ahmad Chohan, from East Meadow, left Pakistan for America at 14 but with nowhere to play his interest waned. It was only when he found like-minded colleagues they joined forces.

"There were all these officers with South Asian and Caribbean backgrounds who wanted to play, so we formed our NYPD team in 2010 and have played ever since," he said.

Chubb Bedassee, meanwhile, is owner of Brooklyn-based Bedassee Sports — the city's only cricket store. His family have been in business since his cricket-mad father emigrated from Guyana in the 1950s, opening his first shop.

"It's a thriving scene," he said. "We have all these immigrants who come into New York then move further out, and they take that passion for cricket wherever they go."

"And the game keeps spreading."

● ● ●
In 2021, the game's governing body in America, USA Cricket, and Cricket West Indies submitted a joint bid to stage the ninth edition of the tournament and were selected as hosts by the ICC in November of that year.

Cricket's popularity here was a major reason New York got the green light for World Cup games and ever since, interest has ramped up.

Last year, the inaugural season of Major League Cricket (MLC) took place in July and more than 70,000 fans attended the 18-day, six-team tournament played at the Grand Prairie Stadium in Dallas along with Church Street Park in Morrisville, N.C.

The competition, won by the New York franchise, was viewed in 87 countries, with matches shown live on CBS Sports. The season also attracted revenues of \$8 million — beating expectations.

While eight World Cup games are in New York, it's been anything but straightforward getting here.

Initially, The Bronx's Van Cortlandt Park was earmarked as a stadium site but was met with fierce resistance from local community groups and, ironically, from the park's cricketers, whose entire seasons would be canceled to make way for it.

When the ICC backed down in September 2023, attention switched to Eisenhower Park, a 930-acre public space in Nassau County, where, in just 106 days, a temporary 34,000-seat stadium was built.

"The biggest challenge was the expedited timeline to build a stadium that big," said, Jeff Keas, senior principal at Populous, the stadium's designers. "Many thought it couldn't be done — but we did it."

Built at a reported cost of \$30 million and paid for by T20 USA, the stadium features 40-row, 75-foot high grandstands that have already been used in Formula 1, pro golf and tennis.

"From a sustainability perspective, the NCICS's design is unique," Keas said. "The grandstands are repurposed and the seats are temporary so they can all be recirculated again once the ICC T20 World Cup is over."

As cricket requires closely cropped fields and pitches (the narrow strip between bowler and batter), there has been no expense spared in creating perfect playing surfaces. Over three months, the entire field and 10 pitches were grown in Florida and transported by 20 trucks the 1,300 miles to Long Island.

● ● ●
Today, the NCICS towers over Eisenhower Park and Chohan can't wait for it to get going.

"It's incredible to think there's going to be a cricket World Cup near my house — I can even walk there," he said.

Rudolph John, 69, is originally from St. Vincent but now lives in Farmingdale. He is co-founder of the Long Island Youth Cricket Academy (LIYCA), teaching youngsters in Eisenhower Park every Saturday.

"I'm really hoping that the World Cup will do for cricket what the soccer World Cup did for that sport when it was here in 1994," said the ex-New York Department of Correction officer.

Modeste, the president of the Staten Island Cricket Club agrees.

"We've had soccer moms," he said. "Now we need cricket moms."

While the number of participants grows, awareness of cricket among the wider public remains a work in progress. A recent survey by YouGov of 1,142 U.S. citizens found eight out of 10 people had no awareness of any cricket leagues whatsoever, while just one in five expressed an interest in the World Cup.

That said, 52 percent still believed the USA would win the competition.

The U.S. is the among the longest of long shots in the field, but the tournament coming to the states is already the biggest of wins.



HIGH OCTANE

McDavid powers Oilers past Stars, into Stanley Cup showdown with Panthers

Associated Press

EDMONTON, Alberta — For the Oilers, the journey from worst to first in the Western Conference is complete. And now a chance at the Stanley Cup is their reward.

Connor McDavid had a goal and an assist in the opening period to get Edmonton going, Stuart Skinner stopped 34 shots for his hometown team and the Oilers capped an improbable run to the Stanley Cup Final by beating the Stars 2-1 on Sunday night.

Zach Hyman also scored — like McDavid, on a first-period power play — and Evan Bouchard had two assists for the Oilers, who won the Western Conference final in six games and will play for the Cup for the first time since 2006.

They'll be heading to Florida for Game 1 of the Stanley Cup Final, that series set to open on Saturday night. The Panthers are playing in the title series for the third time, after getting swept by Colorado in 1996 and losing to Vegas in five games last year.

"When the horn went off, that's the loudest I ever heard it," McDavid told Sportsnet amid the on-ice postgame celebration as Edmonton fans chanted "We want the Cup" over and over. "Special place to play, honestly. So much history. And these fans, it was great to hear their support."

OILERS	2	Summary Page 38
STARS	1	

Mason Marchment scored midway through the third period and Jake Oettinger stopped eight shots for the Stars, who finished the regular season with the second-best record in the NHL — 113 points, just one behind the Rangers in the race for the Presidents' Trophy.

But the Stars, just like the Rangers, let a 2-1 lead in the conference finals get away. Dallas scored five goals in Game 3 to take the series lead; the Stars managed four goals, total, in the next three games.

Oettinger went to the bench with about 2:20 to go, but the Stars got only two shots the rest of the way, their desperate tries to tie the game and extend the series coming up short.

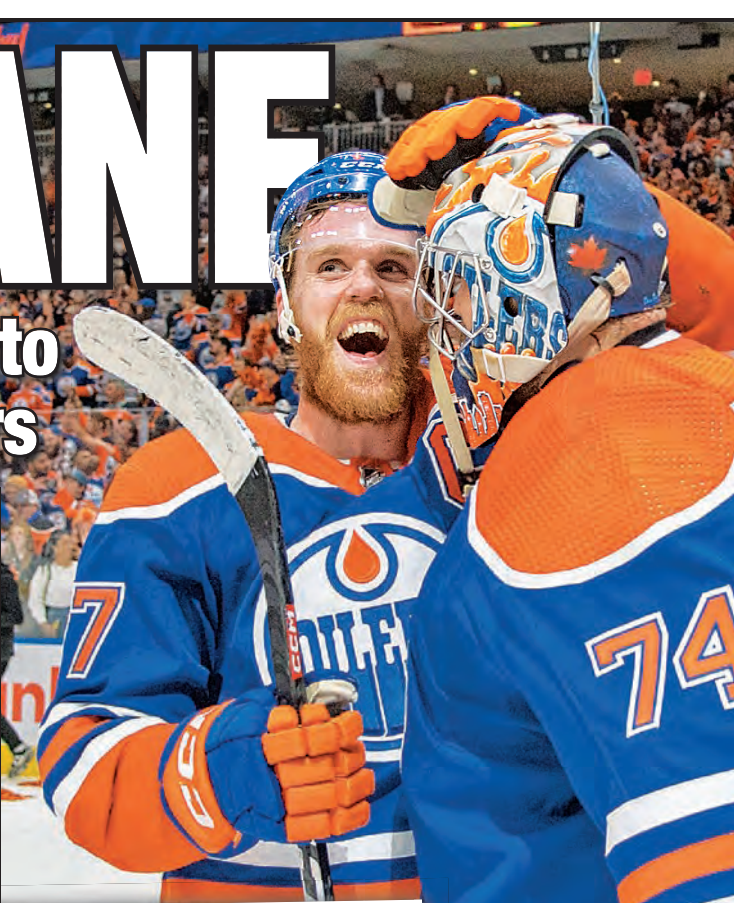
"Proud of our group, proud of our fight, proud of our battle," Stars coach Peter DeBoer said. "You're just gutted. They did leave everything out there. We should be going to play a Game 7, we're not. You have to give Edmonton credit. Their power play particularly over the last two games was good, their goaltender was good. It's fine lines when you get to this point of the year, and they were on the right side of it. ... It's tough to swallow."

Just by getting to the Cup final, Edmonton has done something truly extraordinary — making the title series after finding itself 10 points out of a playoff spot during the regular season. Entering games on Nov. 24, the Oilers were 5-12-1, 10 points back of Seattle and St. Louis for the final wild-card spot in the West and 19 points behind Vegas for the top spot in the conference.

Those days are long forgotten now.

That's when the Oilers — a couple weeks after Kris Knoblauch, hired away from the Rangers' AHL affiliate, took over as coach for Jay Woodcroft, who was dismissed following a 3-9-1 start — went on an eight-game winning streak and began the long climb out of the NHL's basement.

Starting with that eight-game win streak, the Oilers — who had a 16-game winning streak not long after the eight-game run ended — were the best team in the NHL for the remainder of the regular season. They were 44-15-5 the rest of the way, leading the league in goals (239) and goal differential (plus-76) in that span.



EARLY IMPACT:

Connor McDavid, sharing a moment with goalie Stuart Skinner after the final buzzer, and Zach Hyman (inset) provided all the scoring the Oilers would need in the first period of their series-clinching victory against the Stars on Sunday. Edmonton will play Florida in the Stanley Cup Final with Game 1 on Saturday.

Getty Images (2)

Amazin's will be 'careful' with Smith off IL

By MARK W. SANCHEZ

Drew Smith is back, but perhaps not all the way back.

The Mets activated the reliever on Sunday, but then stayed away from him during a 5-4 loss to the Diamondbacks at Citi Field because Carlos Mendoza said they will be "careful" with the righty.

Smith missed nearly six weeks with right shoulder inflammation and was briefly shut down from an initial rehab assignment because he felt a pinch in his shoulder.

"[We need to] really make sure that we put him in a situation where we're not putting him at risk," Mendoza said before he used every relief pitcher except Smith and Adrian Houser, with Jake Diekman blowing the save.

Smith pitched Wednesday and Friday with Triple-A Syracuse and thus, Mendoza said, was only available in an "emergency situation" on Sunday, such as an extra-inning game when the bullpen was emptied.

Mendoza said the Mets are "comfortable where [Smith

METS NOTES

is] at physically." The 30-year-old was used twice in April on back-to-back days, a usage that Mendoza likely will avoid.

Smith pitched well in March and April, when he logged a 2.70 ERA in 10 games, and his return could be significant for a bullpen that has missed him. Edwin Diaz is on the 15-day injured list, Brooks Raley is out for the season, Jorge Lopez's meltdown led to his DFA and an overworked group of

relievers has struggled.

Smith projects to help, but the Mets hope not too often.

"We have to be mindful about how we're going to use him," Mendoza said.

► The Mets are keeping quiet on their new celebration.

After significant hits, Mets batters have looked toward their dugout and slapped the air.

"It's a team thing," **Tyrone Taylor** said. "I can't speak on it, but it's a great thing that we have together. It builds team camaraderie."

► **Luis Torrens**, whom the Mets traded for Friday, made his team debut, caught seven pitchers and went 0-for-2 with a walk.

"Lou is a pretty smart guy," Mendoza said. "The past couple of days, he's been very invested in our meetings, talking to [pitching coach **Jeremy Hefner**] ... catching bullpens."

"Feel good with him behind the plate."

► **Kodai Senga** threw on flat ground again. It is unclear when the rehabbing righty will return to a mound.

► In activating Smith, lefty **Josh Walker** was optioned to Triple-A Syracuse.

► **Dedniel Nunez** (1 1/3 scoreless innings allowing one hit and striking out three) has struck out 18 through his first 10 2/3 innings in the majors, which is the most by a Mets reliever through his first seven big-league games.

► The recently optioned **Brett Baty** clubbed a pair of home runs with Triple-A Syracuse on Sunday in a 7-1 win over the Buffalo Bisons.



'BIG' ADDITION: Boston center Kristaps Porzingis has been out since suffering a strained left calf against the Heat on April 29.

USA TODAY Sports

Celts' Porzingis on track to return for NBA Finals

By KYLE HIGHTOWER

BOSTON — Whether injured Celtics center Kristaps Porzingis will be ready in time for the start of the NBA Finals this week is still to be determined.

But signs are pointing to the former Knick being able to return to the court sooner rather than later during Boston's matchup with the Mavericks.

The 7-footer hasn't appeared in a game since sustaining a strained left calf in Game 4 of Boston's first-round playoff series against Miami on April 29.

But 4-1 victories over the Heat and Cleveland in the second round, followed by a 4-0 sweep of Indiana in the Eastern Conference finals, have given the Latvian extended recovery time.

Celtics coach Joe Mazzulla has refrained from making predictions on when he expects Porzingis to be available. But he was clear that his team is better with Porzingis in the lineup, despite compiling a 9-1 record without him this postseason.

"When KP is at his best, he's been tremendous for us and we expect that from him and we know he'll give that to us," Mazzulla said.

Porzingis last spoke publicly on May 4, saying of the injury, "It's something, it's not nothing," and adding that it would take "a little bit of time" to recover from.

His official status since then has been day-to-day as he slowly began rehabbing for a chance to face the Mavericks team he played for from 2019-22.

Porzingis took to social media this week to provide his most significant update, posting on the X platform, "I'll be back in the lineup very soon. See you in the finals."

Two days later, when the doors were opened to the media Friday after a

Mavericks vs. Celtics

NBA FINALS
All games on ABC

Thursday: at Boston, 8:30 p.m.
Sunday: at Boston, 8 p.m.
Wed., June 12: at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Fri., June 14: at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Mon., June 17*: at Boston, 8:30 p.m.
Thurs, June 20*: at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Sun., June 23*: at Boston, 8 p.m.

* if necessary

practice session, Porzingis was one of only a handful of players still on the court, going through extended 3-point shooting drills with assistant coaches and trainers. He wore a compression sleeve on his injured left leg.

Then, on Saturday he participated in light five-on-five play with his teammates his most extensive on-court workout

since sustaining his injury.

Mazzulla said Porzingis "did everything the team did" during Saturday's practice and was expected to go through a more intense session on Sunday.

When healthy, Porzingis has provided on both ends of the floor, averaging 20.1 points, 7.2 rebounds and 1.9 blocks during the regular season while appearing in 57 games.

— AP

SUMMER Price Break!

NO SERVICE APPOINTMENT NEEDED... JUST COME IN!

LAST CHANCE! ENDS 6/4!

SEE **PREMIER LINCOLN FIRST** AND NEVER OVERPAY!

OFFICIAL LINCOLN Lease Return Center!

SERIOUS SAVINGS

NEW 2024 LINCOLN **NAVIGATOR** NOW IN-STOCK!

PREMIER

NEW 2023 LINCOLN **CORSAIR AWD**

Auto, 4 Cylinder, P/S, ABS, Climate Control, Bluetooth, Power Windows/Locks, More! MSRP \$43,045, VIN#5LPUL16605, \$5260 Due at Signing: 1st Month Payment, \$4200 Down Payment, \$645 Bank Fee, \$0 Security Deposit. Inc \$3,000 Lincoln Bonus Cash (everyone qualifies) & \$3500 Lincoln Trade In Assist (must qualify, see dealer) Add Tax, Title & DMV fees. Expires 6/4/24

\$349 Per Mo/36 Mos

NEW 2024 LINCOLN **NAUTILUS AWD**

IN STOCK NOW FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY!

NEW 2024 LINCOLN **AVIATOR AWD**

IN STOCK NOW FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY!

5102 Kings Highway, Brooklyn, NY
1-718-258-9400

WE SPEAK Spanish, Russian, French, Arabic, Hindi, Urdu, Punjabi

SHOWROOM HOURS: Mon-Thu 9a-9p, Fri 9a-7:30p, Sat 9a-6p, Sun 11a-5p

WELCOME MCU MEMBERS AUTHORIZED AUTONET DEALER

www.PremierLincoln.com

*Includes all costs to consumer except tax, title and DMV fees which are additional & may be payable upon consummation in lieu of Lincoln rebates. Closed end lease subject to approval thru Lincoln AFS. Total Payments/Residual: Lincoln Corsair: \$12,564/\$25702. Leases are 25¢ p/mi over 7,500 mi/p/yr. Lessee responsible for excess wear, tear, maintenance & repair. Dealer not responsible for type errors, photos used for illustration only. Expires 6/4/24. DCA#0806391, DMV#6240988

FREE & UNCLEAR



Deal with it

The Rangers have no shortage of business this offseason. Here's a look at the Blueshirts' unrestricted and restricted free agents, those eligible for a contract extension starting July 1, and those coming off an entry-level contract (ELC):

Unrestricted free agents		Extension-eligible	
PLAYER	PREVIOUS CONTRACT	PLAYER	PREVIOUS CONTRACT
Jack Roslovic	2 years, \$8M	Alexis Lafreniere	2 years, \$4.65M
Alex Wennberg	6 years, \$29.4M	K'Andre Miller	2 years, \$7.74M
Blake Wheeler	1 year, \$800,000	Igor Shesterkin	4 years, \$22.66M
Erik Gustafsson	1 year, \$825,000	Jimmy Vesey	2 years, \$1.6M
Chad Ruhwedel	2 years, \$1.6M	Will Cuylle	3 years, \$2.8M (ELC)
Restricted free agents		Matt Rempe	3 years, \$2.54M (ELC)
PLAYER	PREVIOUS CONTRACT	Zac Jones	2 years, \$1.625M
Kaapo Kakko	2 years, \$4.2M	Jonathan Quick	1 year, \$1.3M
Ryan Lindgren	3 years, \$9M	Adam Edstrom	3 year, \$2.54M (ELC)
Braden Schneider	3 years, \$3.975M (ELC)		

Rangers have decisions to make on new deals for important RFAs

By ETHAN SEARS

Chris Drury is going to have some precarious salary-cap waters to navigate if he wants to keep the core of his team together. With eight players hitting either unrestricted or restricted free agency, it will be nearly impossible for Drury to bring the entire band back together while staying under the cap, which is projected to be \$87.7 million next season.

The Rangers already have \$75.88 million committed for next season and of those pending free agents, the three big ones to watch are all restricted: Ryan Lindgren, Kaapo Kakko and Braden Schneider.

Lindgren in particular is a linchpin for whom the Rangers will need to juggle some pieces around in order to keep. This summer should be a payday for the 26-year-old, who is armed with arbitration rights and the knowledge of his own importance to the team, and should be seeking a raise from his current \$3 million average annual value.

The bruising defenseman is a heart-and-soul Ranger and dyed-in-the-wool partner of Adam Fox, but keeping him will likely require Drury to shed some salary elsewhere on the roster. While a potential extension for Igor Shesterkin is the most important piece of business for the Rangers this offseason, keeping Lindgren will be the hardest.

Thanks to Lindgren's restricted free agency, Drury does come into negotiations with some leverage. The Rangers will have matching rights on any team that signs Lindgren to an offer sheet, and even getting that far is an extreme rarity in the NHL. If negotiations are going nowhere, Drury can opt to trade Lindgren's RFA rights, which would likely net a strong return, but such a move

would be one of last resort given how crucial Lindgren has been to the Rangers' success.

Where Lindgren's situation is complex, Schneider's is fairly straightforward. Schneider had a standout playoffs, looks in line for a permanent move to the top-four next season and after finishing his entry-level contract, should get a bridge deal, perhaps in the range of \$3 million annually.

Kakko, the former second-overall pick, is another complicated case. After being made a healthy scratch in Game 3 of the conference finals — the second time and the second coach under whom the Finn has been a play-off scratch — and struggling to break through into a top-six role all season, there is reasonable question as to whether it is best for the team or the player for him to stay a Ranger.

Certainly there is still potential for the 23-year-old, but whether or not he can achieve it on Broadway is another question. And with the Rangers likely looking for ways to reshape the roster — preferably while saving some money — trading Kakko's RFA rights is an obvious move.

It would not be a surprise if all of the Rangers' unrestricted free agents — Jack Roslovic, Alexander Wennberg, Blake Wheeler, Erik Gustafsson and Chad Ruhwedel — ended up either going elsewhere or, in Wheeler's case, retiring. Roslovic and Wennberg were deadline rentals, while Wheeler, Gustafsson and Ruhwedel were all acquired for the short term last offseason.

Gustafsson, however, is someone the Rangers could try to keep if the brass liked his playoff run enough to give him another short-term deal.

The intrigue for this offseason, though, is with the trio of restricted free agents.

esears@nypost.com

Allaire to reduce role as Rangers goalie coach: source

By MOLLIE WALKER

The Rangers' goaltending guru, Benoit Allaire, is scaling back his workload.

Allaire will continue to serve as the organization's director of goaltending, but the well-respected 60-year-old has opted to no longer serve as the club's goalie coach on a day-to-day basis, according to a source.

ESPN's and NHL Network's Kevin Weekes was the first to report the possibility of Allaire scaling back.

This was Allaire's decision as he wraps up his 20th year with the Rangers, who plan to lean on him during their process of finding a

new goaltending coach.

Word is Allaire will still be heavily involved in working with all the goaltenders in the organization, as well as prospects.

Allaire has been a staple on the Rangers coaching staff for two decades for a reason. Named an assistant and goalie coach in July 2004, Allaire has since made his mark on the organization's goaltending in big ways and was ultimately promoted to director of goaltending by president and general manager Chris Drury in June 2021.

A portion of the Rangers' domi-

nance in net is credited to Allaire, who has forged a strong bond with current star goalie Igor Shesterkin.



BENOIT ALLAIRE

Allaire was in his second year with the Rangers when Henrik Lundqvist came in as a rookie in 2005, and he is said to have helped with the King's early success.

The Swedish netminder finished among the NHL goalie leaders in several categories his first year. While owning a fourth-ranked save percentage (.922) and a fifth-ranked goals-against average (2.24), Lundqvist was selected to the league's All-Rookie Team.

Going on to earn more wins (459) and appear in more games (887) than any other NHL goalie who only played with one franchise in his career, among many other Rangers records, Lundqvist also ranks second among netminders in career wins and career regular-season appearances with one franchise, trailing only the Devils' Martin Brodeur.

Lundqvist made a point to give Allaire a heartfelt "thank you" in his Hall of Fame induction speech in November.

"There's one coach I want to thank a little extra tonight, my goalie coach for 15 years, Benoit Allaire," Lundqvist said. "He's incredible. Thinking back, every day, you inspired me in so many ways and

you made it fun. The best coach and best friend you could ask for."

Other notable goaltenders that Allaire has worked with in his career, which included stops with the Coyotes and Canadiens, include: Jose Theodore, Jean-Sebastian Giguere, Mathieu Garon and Sebastien Caron.

Jonathan Quick, who signed with the Rangers last summer, also saw considerable improvement in his game during his time working with Allaire. After finishing a tumultuous season in 2022-23 with a record of 16-15-6 and career-lows in save percentage (.882) and goals-against average (3.41) for a full season, Quick looked like a modernized version of his vintage self.



New York Yankees™
**JUAN SOTO
BASKETBALL
JERSEY NIGHT**

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5 at 7:05 PM
First 18,000 Guests | Presented by Canon

FOR TICKETS: yankees.com yankeesbeisbol.com

ticketmaster®



PREFERRED BY
The New York Yankees

NOTICE: For the safety of every Guest, all persons specifically consent to and are subject to (a) being screened by metal detectors; (b) bag/clothing inspections; and (c) physical pat-down inspections prior to entry. Any item or property that could affect the safety of Yankee Stadium, its occupants or its property shall not be permitted into the Stadium. Any person that could affect the safety of the Stadium, its occupants or its property shall be denied entry. The number of innings in a game shall be determined by Major League Baseball and may be shortened in accordance with Major League Baseball rules. The Yankees make no representation, warranty and/or guarantee that nine (9) innings will be played in any game. Time, opponent, date and team rosters and lineups are subject to change. Game times listed are subject to change and determination by, among others, Major League Baseball and its television partners. Yankee Stadium's health and safety requirements are constantly changing in line with local and national directives. Please check www.yankees.com/updates for the most up-to-date information. Purchasing a ticket for any promotional date does not guarantee that a Guest will receive the designated giveaway item. Distribution of promotional items is for Guests in attendance only, while supplies last. All promotional dates, items and distribution are subject to change and/or cancellation.



 **us open**®

**SPECTACULAR
AWAITS**

AUG. 26 - SEPT. 8



TICKETS ON SALE TODAY 9 AM | [USOPEN.ORG](https://usopen.org)

ticketmaster

**AMERICAN
EXPRESS**

Past participants shown. © 2024 USTA. Photos © Getty Images.

TURN THE PAGE

With demoralizing ECF loss, this Rangers core may have gone as far as it can go in playoffs

IT HURTS because the Rangers came so far and came so close, but we all know that they really did not come that close at all.

That's the crux of the matter following a series in which the Blueshirts were dominated in five of six games and were able to keep it respectable only because of Igor Shesterkin's remarkable work in net.

That's the truth that the hierarchy will be obligated to confront as soon as this week as president-GM Chris Drury and the staff plot their off-season course following one of the great regular seasons in franchise history.



Larry Brooks

Romance went out the window with the handshake line.

I do not believe the Rangers can run it back again. I believe that the evidence gathered from this conference final defeat to the Panthers on top of the evidence gleaned from the six-game conference final defeat to the Lightning two years ago frames the case that the core has gone as far as it can and there must be essential changes to the group.

I wish I didn't feel that way, I wish I thought that bulking up in support of the core would constitute the bridge from here to a title, but that's kind of backwards, isn't it? Nobody wins the Stanley Cup by leading from behind. Tell me the last time a fourth-liner or a third-pair defenseman won the Conn Smythe.

There are going to be some hard conversations this summer as the Rangers seek to transform themselves into more of a playoff-centric team, even if it comes at the expense of some fancy regular-season numbers. When a group keeps telling you who they are, believe them.

The most difficult conversations will concern the futures of three of the Rangers' founda-

MOVING ON? With the Rangers crashing out of the Eastern Conference Final for the second time in three seasons, it might be time to move on from the aging core of Jacob Trouba, Chris Kreider and Mika Zibanejad, writes The Post's Larry Brooks.

Jason Szenes; Getty Images



tional letter-wearers who go by the names Jacob Trouba, Chris Kreider and Mika Zibanejad, all of whom had inferior series against Florida.

Trouba, beaten wide by speed on what turned out to be the Game 6-winning goal to cap a series in which he was caught out of position and gave up the puck repeatedly. Yes, on a team that was punched in the mouth by the brazen Cats, Trouba's physicality is essential but his lack of discipline was at times striking.

The captain wants it. He cares. He's been universally lauded for his leadership. But No. 8's no-move clause converts to a 15-team no-trade list this summer on a contract that has two years to run at an annual \$8 million cap

hit. There is some irony, don't you think, that a team that lacks physicality might trade the most physical player on the team?

But Trouba is 30 now and would likely report to camp as the third-pair right defenseman behind both Adam Fox and Braden Schneider, the latter of whom ascended during the tournament and is likely to open 2024-25 as the right side of a shutdown pair. Alexis Lafreniere had a loud breakout series, but Schneider's was equally impressive, albeit achieved in a quieter manner.

Kreider, 33, is in the same position as Trouba, his no-move converting to a 15-team no-trade list on July 1 while operating on a contract that has three years to

go at an equitable \$6.5 million annual cap hit. Moving Kreider, a Ranger since 2012, would represent a massive move. He has evolved into one of the league's great goal-scorers and an elite net-front presence on the power play and an explosive penalty killer. But if the Rangers believe they are in need of a dramatic makeover, it's Kreider who would be able to command the most in return.

Zibanejad, 30, does have a no-move clause on his contract extension that has six years remaining at an annual \$8.5 million cap charge. I'm not exactly sure what the effect of reaching out to No. 93 about waiving the no-move would be, but I can't imagine it would be a pleasant con-

versation and I'm not sure how a chat like that would impact team dynamics if the Swede were unwilling to go.

It's tricky business and we're talking about the best Rangers center since Mark Messier, albeit without the playoff glare.

The Summer has to be about Size and Strength. That's it. The Rangers have to be much bigger on the back end. Ryan Lindgren, NHL-listed at 6-foot and 190 pounds, will hit you every shift and twice on Sunday. Florida's Aaron Ekblad does that, too. He's listed at 6-4 and 215. Which one has more impact, do you suppose?

I have been arguing for years that the Rangers should construct a physical, menacing matchup line. They never have, instead opting to try and create three scoring lines. This is the time to transform the equation. This is the Summer of Size and Strength.

This also is the summer that Matt Rempe should spend as much time as possible in the New York area so he can train and work with organizational skating and skill instructors. Rempe is a work in progress, not a dime store novelty item.

If the 21-year-old can learn how to gain control of his 6-8 1/2 body's moving parts and improve his balance, the Rangers could have a massive and disruptive force in Rempe. He is worth the investment.

The final three games of the conference final had to be difficult to endure for the Rangers, who had every right to believe they were close. But the series also should have served as a critical learning experience for the hierarchy. There's no excuse for anyone being fooled in the wake of this physical mauling.

The organization has a pretty decent pipeline producing legit prospects. There are credible candidates in AHL Hartford. The window of contention did not close in Sunrise on Saturday but the window might well have closed on the core.

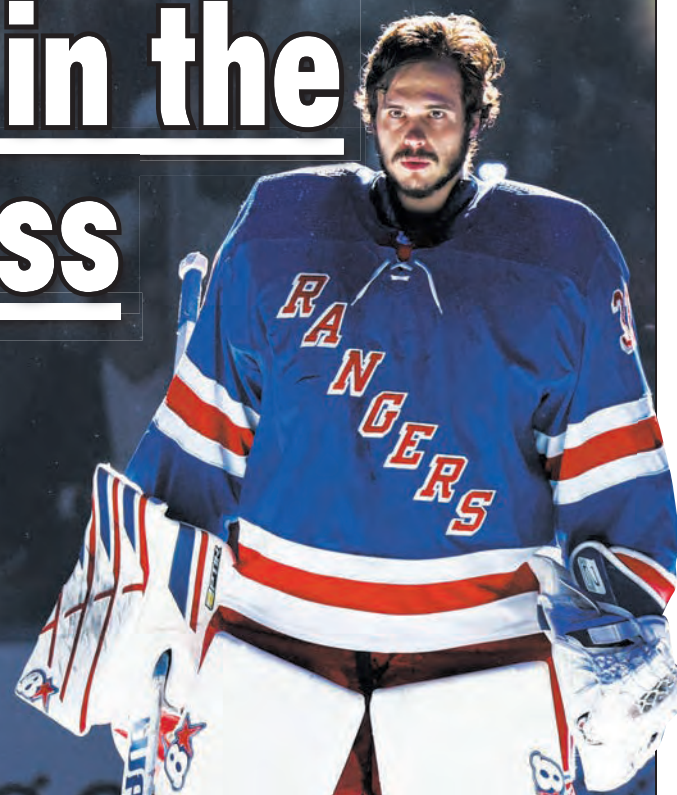
This is going to be a mighty interesting summer.

larry.brooks@nypost.com



\$hest' in the business

Igor's next contract could make him highest paid goalie in league



SHOW ME THE MONEY: After carrying the Rangers to within six wins of a Stanley Cup, Igor Shesterkin goes into the last season of his contract looking for a big payday. And with a Vezina Trophy in 2022 and two runs to the conference finals, Shesterkin could become the highest paid goalie in the NHL. AP

By MOLLIE WALKER

Igor Shesterkin was the Rangers' best player in the playoffs and that is the way it will have to be if the club hopes to win the Stanley Cup in the foreseeable future.

That is what makes the star Russian netminder, who is eligible to become an unrestricted free agent at the end of next season, a priority for now instead of a priority for later.

The Rangers have eight players who are either UFAs or restricted free agents this summer, including three players who have been regular skaters for multiple years, but if Shesterkin's performance this postseason said anything, it's that he is absolutely vital to their Stanley Cup aspirations.

"I haven't seen a series by a goaltender like that since Jose Theodore in 2002," Panthers head coach Paul Maurice said Saturday night after his team advanced to the Stanley Cup Final for the second straight year with a 2-1 win over the Rangers. "He won the Hart Trophy that year."

Shesterkin faced a whopping 524 shots in 16 playoff games, over which the Blueshirts were outshot in 13 of them. He posted a .926 save percentage and a 2.34 goals-against average, keeping his team competitive on a game-to-game basis and even in contests they probably didn't deserve to be within a goal of winning.

There's reason to believe that Shesterkin's camp is aiming for

as high as \$12 million a year, which would be a NHL record-setting cap hit for a goaltender. On July 1, the Blueshirts are permitted to begin negotiating with the 2022 Vezina winner's camp.

Carey Price's eight-year deal with Montreal carries an average annual value of \$10.5 million for a total value of \$84 million, while Andrei Vasilevskiy's contract with the Lightning has a cap hit of \$9.5 million and a total value of \$76 million.

Coincidentally, Shesterkin's compatriot at the other end of the ice in the Rangers' Eastern Conference Final loss, Sergei Bobrovsky, is the most notable comparable. Bobrovsky is approaching the second-to-last season of a seven-year, \$70 million deal with an AAV of \$10 million.

The Rangers are no stranger to allocating a good portion of their funds to goaltending, after Henrik Lundqvist served as the club's top player for a majority of his 15-year career. From 2014-15 to 2019-20, before he was bought out at the end of 2020-21, Lundqvist carried a cap hit of \$8.5 million.

With the cap ranging from \$69 million to \$81.5 million during that time, Lundqvist accounted for between 12.3 percent and 10.4 percent of the Rangers' budget.

The cap is expected to be above \$87 million next year and jump to the \$92 million-\$93 million range in two years. If Shesterkin comes in at \$12 million, that would represent roughly 13 percent of the cap and would di-

minish each year as it rises.

It'll be interesting to see how director of goaltending Benoit Allaire's decision to scale back his role with the organization influences negotiations with Shesterkin, who has sung the long-time goalie coach's praises throughout his five seasons in New York.

Allaire, who just wrapped up his 20th year with the franchise, will no longer be the goalie coach on a day-to-day basis, but the 60-year-old will not only still be involved with all netminders, but he will play a major role in helping the team find his replacement.

The Islanders named Sergejs Naumovs the goalie coach of their AHL squad after he worked with their goalie, and Shesterkin's buddy, Ilya Sorokin, for two seasons in the Kontinental Hockey League. Naumovs will surely work with Sorokin during training camp.

Goaltending has been strong enough to give the Rangers a chance in the playoffs year after year. It's the rest of the team that needs reinforcements if they hope to clear that conference's final hump in the near future.

The question of whether or not the Rangers will be able to do that while giving Shesterkin a contract he's earned — and deserves — is yet to be seen.

"He's been our best player ever since he put on a Rangers jersey," Chris Kreider said. "We certainly wouldn't be here without him."

mwalker1@nypost.com

DISASTER ARTISTS

Amazin's take losing to new lows with another meltdown in season of meltdowns

By MARK W. SANCHEZ

The Mets finished a gut-punch of a homestand during a gut-punch of a season with one more gut-punch.

It is not just that they continue to find ways to lose games. It is how they lose games that makes the team particularly frustrating for the fan base.

Yet again, the Mets played well enough to hold a late lead. And yet again, the worst team at finishing games failed to finish while closing a 10-game homestand with just three victories.

Jake Diekman served up a go-ahead, two-run home run to Ketel Marte in the ninth inning, which led to a 5-4 loss to the Diamondbacks in front of 31,059 at Citi Field on Sunday, and led to a major league-worst sixth defeat after holding a lead after eight innings.

Add in the 3-7 record the Mets hold in extra-inning games, and the Mets lead the league in heartbreak.

"We're really close," said Jose Quintana, the latest to echo the fact that at least the team is not getting blown out. "Three outs left to win games. ... We keep fighting. We need to find a way to close the games."

The formula was familiar for the latest crusher: A starting pitcher failed to pitch deep into the game, which put a strain on a bullpen that has collapsed under its workload. Quintana lasted just four innings in which he allowed three runs on 84 pitches in a fifth straight game that the Mets starter did not survive six innings.

"I'm not happy with that kind of outing," said Quintana, who blamed poor location on a pair of home runs he served up in the first inning. "I expect more than that."

Quintana left with a one-run lead that the Mets would hold until the ninth because of a series of bullpen emergencies. Dedniel Núñez, Danny Young, Reed Garrett and Adam Ottavino combined for four scoreless innings with nine strikeouts and just two hits allowed.

DIAMONDBACKS 5
METS 4

Boxscore
Page 36

But with three outs to go, manager Carlos Mendoza was running out of options for a team that no longer has the likes of Edwin Diaz, Brooks Raley and even Jorge Lopez. He said the just-activated Drew Smith was only available in an "emergency situation." He opted for Diekman, who had been pitching well, over Sean Reid-Foley. The only other unused arm being Adrian Houser, who pitched two innings Thursday.

Going with the lefty turned around the switch-hitting Marte to his more-powerful right side. Diekman tried a sweeper that caught too much of the plate and it was rocketed 439 feet to center for Marte's second homer of the game.



Robert Sabo (2)

OUT! Jeff McNeil is punched out at first in the seventh inning. Two innings later, Jake Diekman (right) served up a two-run homer to Ketel Marte.

"I don't think I'm executing well enough in certain situations," Diekman said after the Mets (24-35) lost more momentum from Thursday's players-only meeting, following a pair of wins by dropping two in a row for a series split. "The homer, if it's two more inches in, it might be a swing and miss."

His margin for error was tiny. The Mets' margin for error, with an offense that has not been loud enough and rotation that has not gone deep enough, has been tiny.

"We gotta be perfect," Mendoza said. "I thought the bullpen obviously did a hell of a job. Piecing it together all the way to the ninth inning."

"We couldn't get the last three outs."

And they couldn't get a run beyond the third inning. They exploded for four runs in that frame, highlighted by back-to-back triples from Brandon Nimmo and J.D. Martinez (for a team that entered play with two triples all season).

But they only had one more hit — a DJ Stewart single — for the rest of the game against Brandon Pfaadt and the Arizona bullpen.

It was a fitting way to end a homestand that included plenty of devastation. There was the late collapse against the Giants and a dazzling play from third baseman Matt Chapman to throw out Mark Vientos; there was the five-run 10th inning from San Francisco; there was the meltdown Tuesday against the Dodgers, who scored five runs from the eighth through 10th; and there was the on-field and off-field fiasco Wednesday that led to Lopez's exit from the team.

"Not good," Mendoza said of the homestand. "We got to play better, especially here at home."

msanchez@nypost.com

Mets notes / Page 44



In lowly NL, lowly Mets can dream but there's work to do

THE Mets' hope is they are not this bad, but the National League is.

In most seasons even having a pipe-dream playoff conversation about a team 11 games under .500 in June would be where folly merges with delusion. And the way these Mets are playing, that is likely true for them as well.

But in an era in which six teams in each league reach the playoffs and in a 2024 season in which just five in the NL are currently over .500, then perhaps you can squint your eyes and see more than just a soulless countdown to the trade deadline for these Mets.

The patron saints for such a belief system were in the Citi Field opposing dugout over the weekend. Because the Diamondbacks were still two games under .500 on Aug. 11 last year, eked in as the sixth seed with just 84 wins and yet won the pennant. Arizona manager Torey Lovullo said he saw that club being "inspirational" to struggling teams to envision what is possible.

That includes his own, which is in the swamp of NL sub-mediocrity that wants to believe its best baseball is still ahead. Even with a 5-4 victory Sunday, the Diamondbacks were just 27-32. But that was the same record as the Phillies had last season after 59 games — a point noted by Lovullo — and Philly finished as the top wild-card seed and went seven games against Arizona in the NLCS.

This is what troubled teams cling to at this time of year — too early to surrender, too late to just say it is a bad opening statement. The Mets could look down and see they are closer to the doormat Rockies and Marlins (the only NL teams with worst records) then even the sub-standard wild-card pile in front of them, where the current final wild-card spot is a tie between the 29-31 Cubs and Giants.

But, for example, Adam Ottavino is trying a mind game wondering whether the Mets can play as well for the next two months as they have played poorly for the first two months, get to .500 and have a puncher's chance over the last quarter of the season.

At some point, though, no matter how bad the length of the league might be, the Mets just can't lose their way to a better tomorrow.

They just went 3-7 on a 10-game homestand and their 21 home losses are tied for the most in MLB with the White Sox, Angels and Marlins.



OUTTA HERE: Tyrone Taylor can only watch as Ketel Marte's first-inning homer clears the wall. Marte homered again in the ninth to give the D'backs the lead.

Robert Sabo

"We have to play better, especially here at home," Carlos Mendoza said. "Now we have a road trip and we have to get some W's."

They left for two country's capitals — three in Washington against the Nationals and two in London against the Phillies — still unable to rely on any element of the game to elevate their play and belief system.

The offense has shown indicators of life with J.D.

Martinez and Mark Vientos helping to create greater heft and length to the lineup. But then the Mets throw out a bizarre effort Sunday. They scored four third-inning runs to wipe away an early 3-0 deficit. As part of the surge, the team that came in with an MLB-low two triples, produced consecutive triples — a two-runner from Brandon Nimmo to tie the score and an RBI three-bagger from Martinez to provide the lead.

But the Mets had just one more hit and no runs in the other eight innings.

Jose Quintana surrendered homers to two of the opening three batters to bring first-inning boos from the 31,059 at Citi Field. He also walked three and hit two to build his pitch count to 84 through just four innings.

Yet another short start forced an overused pen into a big workload and Dedniel Nuñez, Danny Young, Reed Garrett and Ottavino responded with four shutout innings and nine strikeouts.

However, that didn't get the Mets to the finish line. The weak link was uncovered when Jake Diekman began his effort in the ninth by allowing a pinch-hit double to Gabriel Moreno and a go-ahead two-run homer to Ketel Marte. Yet more boos. A four-game split. And, thus, a seventh straight non-winning series from the Mets.

It is the kind of run that forges the kind of record (24-35) that makes the playoffs feel more like a punch line than a possibility. The depth of the NL does not look good. But these Mets currently look worse with a woeful defense — notably a Bermuda Triangle of missed outs among first baseman Pete Alonso and particularly second baseman Jeff McNeil and right fielder Starling Marte — an offense that is still hungering for its moneyed players to rise and a pitching staff going the wrong way due to a pen that already seems to be running on fumes.

Ultimately, the strength of a team with playoff ambitions can't just be the weakness of the league in which it plays.

joel.sherman@nypost.com



ON DECK: at Nationals

Monday, 6:45 p.m., SNY, WCBS (880 AM)

RHP Tylor Megill



2024 stats:
0-2, 1.69 ERA

Career vs. WAS:
3-2, 5.55 ERA

Last start:
Tues., vs. LAD;
7.0 IP, 0 ER, 9 SO

PITCH BREAKDOWN

54% 4-Seamer
14% Cutter
13% Slider

LHP MacKenzie Gore



2024 stats:
4-4, 2.91 ERA

Career vs. NYM:
1-1, 2.40 ERA

Last start:
Wed., at ATL;
5.1 IP, 1 ER, 10 SO

PITCH BREAKDOWN

54% 4-Seamer
20% Curve
14% Slider

UP NEXT

TUESDAY: at Nationals, 6:45 p.m., SNY, WCBS
RHP Luis Severino vs. RHP Trevor Williams

WEDNESDAY: at Nationals, 4:05 p.m., SNY, WCBS
TBD vs. LHP Patrick Corbin

INJURY REPORT

■ **Drew Smith** (right shoulder inflammation) was activated after missing nearly six weeks. Carlos Mendoza said the team will be "careful" with the righty, who was shut down from one rehab assignment with another shoulder issue.

■ **Kodai Senga** (right shoulder capsule strain) threw off flat ground.



Joel Sherman

Cole slated to make 1st rehab start on Tuesday

By GREG JOYCE

SAN FRANCISCO — Gerrit Cole is ready to advance to game action — albeit minor league games. Cole will begin a rehab assignment on Tuesday with Double-A Somerset, manager Aaron Boone said Sunday, getting the reigning AL Cy Young winner one step closer to returning to the Yankees potentially by the end of June.

Boone said Cole will pitch in “at least a couple” of rehab games, though it would not be surprising to see the Yankees err on the side of caution in using a good chunk of the 30-day rehab clock to make sure their ace is properly built up before he returns to the big leagues.

“We haven’t determined that yet,” Boone said before the Yankees wrapped up their West Coast trip at Oracle Park. “It just depends. Do we want to bring him in a situation where he’s at, whatever, 60, 65, 70 pitches? Do we want him to have one more? We’ll have a better feel for that, certainly Gerrit will have a better feel for that as he now goes and starts pitching in games. Do we want one more at a certain level or do we want to build you here? We haven’t decided that yet. And we’ll continue to work towards that.”

Shut down in March with nerve inflammation and

edema in his right elbow, Cole began playing catch on April 8, advanced to bullpen sessions on May 4 and then faced hitters for the first time on May 21. He threw 43 pitches in a simulated game at the Yankees’ player development complex on Thursday and recovered well from it again, then threw a bullpen session on Sunday, clearing him to start a rehab assignment.

Boone said he did not know how many pitches Cole might throw Tuesday, but it will likely be somewhere around 50-55. Pitchers typically build in increments of roughly 10-15 pitches in each start.

The Yankees have treated each step of Cole’s road back carefully, and that will not be expedited now that Clarke Schmidt has gone down with a lat strain that could keep him out until at least August.

Cody Poteet started Saturday night against the Giants in Schmidt’s spot in the rotation, which he will likely keep until Cole is ready to return.

The Yankees’ rotation has thrived without Cole to start the year, but it has still anxiously awaited his return. Cole still has a few more hurdles to clear, but him pitching for the Yankees this season will begin to feel more real when he begins the rehab assignment on Tuesday.

“I don’t know that it’s never not felt real, but also I try not to get ahead of myself with it,” Boone said. “It’s like, let’s keep checking boxes, keep moving the needle. Ever since him getting shut down, I feel like it’s moved in a good direction the whole way. So it’s just about continuing to move towards that point. It’s never not been real, but at the same time, we’re still not there.”



Gerrit Cole





BETTER LATE THAN NEVER: Anthony Volpe celebrates his RBI triple (right) in the ninth inning of the Yankees’ 7-5 win over the Giants. Juan Soto, who hit a solo shot in the first inning, drove the shortstop in on the next at-bat when he smashed his second homer of the game.
Getty Images; USA TODAY Sports

By GREG JOYCE

SAN FRANCISCO — Before Juan Soto could deliver the big swing, he needed Gleyber Torres and Jose Trevino to do the small things to help make sure the ninth inning got to him.

With Soto due up fourth, Torres roped a leadoff single against Giants closer Camilo Doval before Trevino busted it down the line to break up a double play, flipping the lineup over on the way to a comeback 7-5 win on Sunday afternoon at Oracle Park.
Anthony Volpe



UP NEXT

vs. Twins

TUESDAY: 7:05 p.m., YES

WEDNESDAY: 7:05 p.m., Prime

THURSDAY: 7:05 p.m., YES

WFAN (660 AM, 101.9 FM)

9TH JUAN-DER

By GREG JOYCE

SAN FRANCISCO — Most of the Yankees' weekend by the bay was all about Aaron Judge, and deservedly so as the former Giants fan put on a show playing his first games in the stadium near his hometown.

But on Sunday afternoon, Judge's co-superstar had his day in the sun.

YANKEES	7	Boxscore Page 36
GIANTS	5	

Juan Soto crushed a pair of home runs, the second one turning a deficit into a lead in the ninth inning as the Yankees finished off a sweep of the Giants with a 7-5 win at Oracle Park.

"That's some savage at-bats right there," manager Aaron Boone said after Soto homered off Giants starter Blake Snell and closer Camilo Doval.

The dramatic comeback finished off a strong West Coast trip for the Yankees (42-19), who went 7-2 against the Padres, Angels and Giants before flying home Sunday night into an off day Monday.

The Giants (29-31) led 5-3 entering the ninth inning and called on Doval, their closer who had held opposing hitters to a .198 average before Sunday. But Gleyber Torres led off with a single, Jose Trevino hustled down the line to beat out a double play and then Anthony Volpe's triple to the



Soto's 2nd HR helps Yanks storm back to sweep Giants

right-center field gap pulled the Yankees within 5-4.

Soto came up next and clobbered a cutter down the middle into the right-field seats, not far from making a splash in McCovey Cove. His 17th home run of the season put the Yankees up 6-5.

"That's what he does," said Judge, who went 2-for-3 with two walks and two steals. "We've been seeing it all year long, he comes up in big moments, against one of the best closers in the game. ... I had a nice front-row seat for that one, that was impressive.

"Throughout the whole inning, guys were just having great at-bats. If they didn't get a pitch, just pass it to the next guy and the next guy came up big. We felt like we were never out of the game."

The Yankees added an insurance run as Judge walked, stole second and then scored on Giancarlo Stanton's ground-rule double — his 1,500th career hit.

Clay Holmes closed it out in the ninth for his 17th save to cap off a special trip.

"We're having a great time, we're having great moments," Soto said.

"We've been playing great baseball. Really happy to come over here and keep doing what we've been doing since Day 1."

Coming into Sunday, the Yankees had gone 19 straight starts of at least five innings, but Nestor Cortes lasted only 4 $\frac{1}{3}$ innings as the Giants forced him to throw 95 pitches. He gave up three runs on seven hits, including a pair of solo home runs, while striking out seven.

Cortes squared off against Snell, the reigning NL Cy Young winner who many fans wanted the Yan-

kees to sign this offseason before he landed with the Giants on a two-year, \$62 million contract in the middle of March. Snell, who entered the game with a 10.42 ERA in five starts after missing most of spring training, was putting together his best outing of the season before leaving the game in the fifth inning with a tight left groin.

Before Snell departed, Soto had keyed another rally, this time with some small-ball, laying a perfect bunt down the third-base line for a single as the Yankees eventually loaded the bases.

Alex Verdugo cashed in against lefty reliever Erik Miller, who replaced Snell in the middle of the at-bat, by lining a two-run double to the right-field corner to tie the game at three.

The Giants regained the lead in the sixth inning by scoring a pair of runs off reliever Dennis Santana, but it set the stage for the Yankees to secure their 18th comeback win of the year — tied for the MLB lead. They had 31 all of last season.

"I can go back over the years how many times we probably lose that game," Judge said. "Teams bring in their closer up two runs and we kind of go 1-2-3. But this team's different. They went up there with the mentality that, 'Hey, we're still in this ballgame, just gotta get the first guy on and see what happens.' That was a fun one to be a part of."

gjoyce@nypost.com

Gleyber, Trevino set table for Bombers' late rally

followed with an RBI triple — on which Trevino had to break out the wheels again, scoring all the way from first "in the fastest gear that I have," he said — before Soto put the Yankees ahead with a two-run shot.

"Obviously I know who's hitting behind me and I know how important it is for those guys to get up to the plate," Trevino said. "It's just effort and playing for the guys in this clubhouse, plain and simple."

Manager Aaron Boone considered pinch running for Trevino when he got to first base, even though he was not the tying run, but let him run for himself. Then he held his breath when Volpe roped one to the gap.

"[Volpe] hits it to Triples Alley, I'm like, 'Please, come on Trevy. Come on Trevy,'" Boone said with a chuckle. The Yankees had been

quiet in the late innings Sunday until the ninth, when Torres sparked the rally with a single up the middle off Doval. Trevino followed by just barely beating out a double play to send the Yankees on their

way. "It's little things like that that might get overlooked, but we all see it and it leads to a big inning," Aaron Judge said.

YANKEES NOTES

► **Jasson Dominguez's** rehab assignment reached its maximum of 20 days on Sunday, meaning the Yankees will have to make a move on his next step, which is expected to mean optioning him to Triple-A.

Dominguez's rehab from Tommy John surgery has gone well, but he has only played three games in the outfield (the rest have been as DH) and there is no spot for him to get regular playing time on the

Yankees' current roster.

► **Art Schalllock**, the oldest living retired major leaguer and former Yankees left-hander, spent time chatting with Boone and players in the dugout Sunday morning.

The Yankees had honored Schalllock when he turned 100 in April, sending him a jersey signed by the team.

"Walking into Yankee Stadium — that was the greatest thrill for me,"

Schalllock said.

Schalllock played for the Yankees from 1951-55 and won a pair of World Series. He was roommates with **Yogi Berra** as a rookie, played with **Joe DiMaggio** and **Mickey Mantle** and remembered **Ted Williams** as the toughest hitter he faced — though he noted that Williams never got a hit off him. How did he get the Hall of Famer out?

"Junk," Schalllock said with a chuckle.



MIRANDA RIGHTS “And Just Like That” has been a ratings hit for Max, but one storyline most fans loathed was the relationship between Che Diaz and Miranda Hobbes. Actress **Cynthia Nixon** (left) finally weighed in on the controversy, telling “EW” that “I think Miranda and Che were really pretty done” in the wake of the news that actress **Sara Ramirez** (far left) will not be returning for S3.

BACK AT IT

Netflix gave the greenlight for a second season of “**The Vince Staples Show**,” a fictionalized story about real life hip hop artist **Vince Staples** (below). Season 1 was released in February of 2024.



Sei Baffo/NETFLIX

TV Monday

FIRST RESPONDER

Peter Krause reflects on a memorable season of the ABC drama ‘9-1-1’

By **NICOLE GALLUCCI**

AFTER Bobby Nash survived a deluge of emotional trauma, an epic cruise ship catastrophe, a desert cartel attack, a car crash, a raging house fire, and cardiac arrest brought on by smoke inhalation, the Season 7 finale of “**9-1-1**” gave Peter Krause’s character a much-needed break — but only for mere minutes.

Before the end credits rolled on the season finale, the hit ABC procedural couldn’t resist dropping one more bombshell on Bobby. He’s been replaced as captain of the 118 by deeply problematic leader Captain Gerrard (Brian Thompson), who terrorized Hen, Chim, Tommy, and the rest of the team back in the day.

“It was a bit of a storytelling leap,” Krause told DECIDER over Zoom ahead of the highly-anticipated episode. “I’m not sure exactly what Tim [Minear] has planned. But I’m sure it’s not going to be an immediately easy road for Bobby to regain the captainship of the 118. I have faith that he will. But I’m not sure I’m not sure exactly what he’s got got in store.”

On the heels of an especially dangerous, distressing season for Bobby and his wife Athena (Angela Bassett), fans were likely hopeful that showrunner Tim Minear would reward the couple’s strength with some well-earned rest. But Krause? He not only embraces the chaos unleashed on his charac-



Peter Krause (center) has gone through the ringer this season on “9-1-1”

Michael Becker/FOX; Chris Willard/Disney

ter, he knows it’s essential.

“It truly is a comic book about first responders come to life and we survive things that normal people wouldn’t. But I like that. That’s the language of the show. It’s meant to be a piece of entertainment,” the actor said, noting that the show is so much more than its emergencies. “This season particularly, Bobby did some deeper character work and inner work in terms of guilt over the past and his relationship with Athena. The show does go deep. We do a lot of things to keep expanding the landscape of storytelling.”

Looking back on the season, which included “9-1-1”’s monumental 100th episode milestone, Krause took a moment to marvel over what a “great job” Minear did executing the ambitious vision. “I think that we came back stronger than ever — coming out of the strike, as well. It

was really nice to have this relaunch on ABC with these really strong 10 episodes. And going from that romantic comedy in the beginning, to the extended emergency adventure in ‘The Poseidon Adventure’ arc, to this really deeply personal level by the end was terrific,” he said.

In order for Krause’s character to reach that “really deeply personal level” — one that involved flashbacks to his childhood, confronting his family’s history with alcohol, retiring as captain of the 118, and questioning whether or not he was worthy of any of his life’s many blessings — “9-1-1” introduced someone with unexpected ties to Bobby’s past: Amir Casey, a burn unit nurse played by “**The Resident**” star Malcolm-Jamal Warner. After learning that Amir survived (but lost his wife in) the tragic 2014 fire Bobby accidentally started in his Minnesota apartment building, Bobby set out to make amends with the travel nurse, unintentionally landing them in a series of life-or-death situations.

Though the “9-1-1” star isn’t entirely sure what Tim Minear has up his sleeve next season, he likes to think Bobby finally reached a place in life where he believes he earned

his second chance. “I think he’s still going to be leaning into a life of service, and maybe some of that is going to spill over into helping people in the AA world. And he’s certainly going to be there for his his 9-1-1 family,” Krause teased. “Athena is still on the case about how their house burned down, so I think that is probably fuel for the beginning of Season 8.”

Before we wrapped, the actor took a moment to soak in his “9-1-1” experience, channeling Bobby’s love of gratitude and admitting, “I can’t believe it’s already going to be Season 8. I can’t believe that we’ve made seven, and we’re going into Season 8.”

While we wait for new “9-1-1” episodes to premiere, Season 7 is streaming on Hulu for all your re-watch needs. Be sure to read Decider’s Season 7 finale interview with Ryan Guzman, along with everything we know about the future of the ABC series.

This is an abridged version of an interview that ran in Decider. To read the full piece and additional “9-1-1” coverage, head to decider.com/911.

Nicole Gallucci is a Sr. Reporter for Decider.



CBS

Bad Blood

The official “**Survivor**” Instagram account chastised its own fans late last week, reminding them to “please consider embracing kindness” in the wake of this season’s controversial ending. Most of the hate has been directed towards **Maria Gonzalez** (above), whose vote during the finale cost her one-time bestie Charlie Davis a shot at victory.

Meow

Red-hot actress **Aubrey Plaza** (below) will be co-writing and executive producing a new animated series called “**Kevin**” for Prime Video. The story is said to be about “a life-long housecat who decides that he doesn’t want to live with people anymore,” according to Variety.



Getty Images

What's on Tonight



THRILLER

The Dark Knight Rises: 11 p.m. on PARMT. **Christian Bale, Gary Oldman.** Batman is set to defend Gotham City from the vicious guerrilla terrorist Bane.



COMEDY

Trading Places: 11 p.m. on PARSHO. **Dan Aykroyd, Eddie Murphy.** An investor and a wily street con artist find their positions reversed as part of a bet.



ACTION

Ant-Man: 11:17 p.m. on FX. **Paul Rudd, Evangeline Lilly.** A man is armed with a super-suit with the ability to shrink in scale but increase in strength.

Monday June 3, 2024

Evening	SP	C	F	6:30pm	7:00pm	7:30pm	8:00pm	8:30pm	9:00pm	9:30pm	10:00pm	10:30pm	11:00pm	11:30pm
2 WCBS	2	2	2	CBS News Norah	Inside Edition	Entertainment Tonight	The Neighbor-hood (R)	The Neighbor-hood (R)	NCIS: Heartless (R)		NCIS: Hawai'i: Serve and Protect (R)		CBS 2 News at 11PM	(11:35) Late Show
4 WNBC	4	4	4	NBC Nightly News	News 4 New York at 7	Access Hollywood	American Ninja Warrior: Qualifiers 1 & 2: Hopeful contestants participate in two qualifying courses.			Weakest Link: I Am Not Your Mommy		News 4 New York at 11	(11:35) Tonight Show	
5 WNYW	5	5	5	Family Feud (R)	Extra (R)	TMZ (R)	Celebrity Name That Tune: Eyes on the Prize		The 1% Club: I Need a Villian		The 10 O'Clock News		Family Feud (R)	Family Feud (R)
7 WABC	7	7	7	ABC World News	Jeopardy! (R)	Wheel of Fortune	Celebrity Wheel of Fortune: Kel Mitchell (R)		Celebrity Jeopardy!: Quarterfinal #3 (R)		Press Your Luck: It's Nacho Night! (R)		News	(11:35) Kimmel Live
9 WWOR	9	9	9	Dish Nation (R)	Family Feud (R)	Family Feud (R)	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit: Dirty		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit: Flight		Family Feud (R)	Family Feud (R)	TMZ Live	
11 WPIX	11	11	11	PIX11 Evening News	Sports Nightly	The Big Bang Theory	All American: Mass Appeal		Whose Line? (R)	Whose Line? (R)	PIX11 News at Ten		Seinfeld: Pony Remark	Seinfeld: Secretary
13 WNET	13	13	13	BBC News America	The PBS NewsHour		Antiques Roadshow: Albuquerque, Hour 2 (R)		Antiques Roadshow: Albuquerque, Hour 3 (R)		Restless: Being Paul Newman		Amanpour and Company	
21 WLIW	21	21	21	(6:00) News	Professor T (R)		Grantchester:			Memory Makeover with Daniel Amen				BBC News
25 WNYE	25	22	25	Report	To Be Announced		TBA	Her B Idea	Day's Work	Crains NY	Start Up	To Be Announced		In Context
31 WPXN	31	3	531	Minds	FBI: Charlotte's Web		FBI: Allegiance		FBI: Gone Baby Gone		FBI: Fire and Rain		FBI: Unfinished Business	
41 WXTV	41	6	41	Noticiero	La rosa de Guadalupe		Golpe de suerte		El gallo de oro		El amor no tiene receta		Noticias	Noticiero
47 WNJU	47	16	12	Noticias	Top Chef VIP		(7:58) Top Chef VIP: Miedo en la cocina, Parte 2		El Señor de los Cielos		Noticiero		Noticias	
55 WLNY	55	10	10	Queens	Man	Man	News 8pm		48 Hours: Murder Design		Judge Judy	Judge Judy	Neighbor.	Neighbor.
A&E	46	46	181	First 48 (R)	The First 48: Friends with		The First 48: Dark Places		The First 48 (R)		The First 48: Spree Killer		(11:04) The First 48 (R)	
AMC	54	43	231	Perfect ★★½	The Shawshank Redemption		(1994, Drama) Tim Robbins. R ★★½		The Green Mile (1999, Drama) Tom Hanks. R ★★½					
BET	37	54	270	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Boo 2!: A Madea Halloween (2017, Comedy) Tyler Perry. PG-13 ★					
BBCAM	71	101	189	Law & Ordr	Law & Order: Whiplash		Law & Order		Harry Wild		(10:06) Misery (1990, Thriller) James Caan. R ★★½			
BRAVO	18	44	185	Below (R)	Below Deck (R)		Below Deck (R)		Below Deck		(10:15) Deadly Waters		(11:15) Below Deck (R)	
CNBC	15	24	102	Money	Last Call		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank	
CNN	78	25	100	Situation	Erin Burnett OutFront		Anderson Cooper 360°		The Source with Kaitlan		CNN NewsNight		Laura Coates Live	
COM	45	50	190	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Daily Show	
DIS	49	31	250	(6:10) Moana (2016, Comedy) PG ★★½	Big City (R)		Big City (R)		Big City (R)		Big City (R)		BUNK'D (R) BUNK'D (R)	
DSC	66	27	120	Contraband	Contraband (R)		Contraband: Going Out		Contraband		(10:01) Contraband: Lime		(11:01) Contraband (R)	
E!	24	51	196	Family	Neighbors (2014, Comedy) Seth Rogen. R ★★		Neighbors (2014, Comedy) Seth Rogen. R ★★		Neighbors (2014, Comedy) Seth Rogen. R ★★		E! News		Chrisley	
ESPN	28	36	70	Sports Live.	SportsCenter Live.		2024 Stanley Cup Playoffs: Florida Panthers at New York Rangers. Live.		2024 College World Series: Game 13 Live.		Update 2024 College World Series: Game 14 (If NEC) Live.		NFL Live	
ESPN2	29	35	74	The Point	Kudlow (R)		American Dynasty (R)		American Dynasty: Fords		American Dynasty (R)		American Dynasty (R)	
FBN	43	106	117	Bottom	The Ingraham Angle		Jesse Watters Primetime		Hannity		Gutfeld!		Fox News @ Night	
FNC	44	26	118	Sp. Rpt.	Summer Baking (R)		Summer Baking		Baking Master		Chopped: Add Cheese!		Chopped (R)	
FOOD	50	97	164	Beat Bobby	Toy Story (1995, Comedy) Tom Hanks. G ★★½		Toy Story 2 (1999, Comedy) Tom Hanks. G ★★		Pregame		MLB Baseball: San Francisco Giants at Arizona Diamondbacks.			
FREFRM	38	49	199	The Angry	Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness (2022) Benedict Cumberbatch. ★★		The Bear		The Bear		(11:17) Ant-Man (2015)			
FS1	400	99	83	NASCAR	International Friendly Replay.		Love Takes Flight (2019, Romance) Tom Thon. ★★		Golden		Golden		Golden	
FX	10	40	53	Shang-Chi	The Color of Rain (2014, Romance) Lacey Chabert.		Battle on the Beach: Kitchen Battle		History's Great Mysteries (10:03) Holy Marvels		(11:05) Great Mysteries		Mean Girl: Girls in Hoods	
HALL		191	240	An Easter	My Lottery		My Lottery		My Lottery		My Lottery		Hunters (R)	Hunters (R)
HGTV	64	98	165	My Lottery	Great Mysteries (R)		Great Mysteries (R)		History's Great Mysteries		(10:03) Holy Marvels		(11:05) Great Mysteries	
HIST	40	47	128	History's	People Magazine (R)		People Magazine (R)		Dead Influence		(10:15) Did I Marry?		Mean Girl: Girls in Hoods	
ID	23	171	123	People (R)	Castle: The Dead Pool		Prison Confess (R)		Gypsy Rose: Life		(10:15) Theresa Caputo		(11:15) Gypsy Rose: Life	
LIFE	62	45	140	Castle	M*A*S*H		M*A*S*H		Hillbillies		Acres		Hogan	Hogan
MeTV	33	33	3	M*A*S*H	2024 Roland Garros: Round of 16 Replay.		Tennis		World Poker Tour					
MSG	27	87	78	The Bettor	The ReidOut		Inside With Jen Psaki		Rachel Maddow		Lawrence O'Donnell		The 11th Hour	
MSG Plus	48	88	80	FanDuel	Catfish: The TV Show		The Heat (2013, Comedy) Sandra Bullock. R ★★½		The Boss (2016) Melissa McCarthy. R ★★					
MSNBC	14	23	103	Ari Melber	Hitler: Tapes (R)		The Real Red Tails		WW2's Heroes of Color		WW2's Heroes of Color		The Real Red Tails (R)	
MTV	20	53	210	Catfish	Loud House		SpongeBob		Friends		Friends		Friends	Friends
NATGEO	65	162	121	(6:00) Hitler	20/20 on OWN (R)		20/20 on OWN (R)		20/20 on OWN: Murder in		20/20 on OWN (R)		20/20 on OWN (R)	
NICK	6	121	252	Tidal Zone	Men		Jack Reacher (2012, Crime) Tom Cruise. PG-13 ★★		The Dark Knight Rises					
OWN	173	180	145	(6:00) 20/20	MLB Baseball: New York Mets at Washington Nationals. Live.		Post Game		Sports Live.		Sports Live.		Sports Live.	Sports Live.
PARMT	36	56	54	Men	Red 2 (2013, Action) Bruce Willis. PG-13 ★★		Red 2 (2013, Action) John Cusack. PG-13 ★★½		Dad (R)		Dad (R)		Dad (R)	Dad (R)
SNY	26	60	77	MLB Baseball: New York Mets at Washington Nationals. Live.	Bang		Bang		Bang		Bang		Bang	
SYFY	17	48	180	Red (2010)	Bang		Bang		Bang		Bang		Bang	
TBS	8	39	52	Bang	Bang		Bang		Bang		Bang		Bang	
TCM	82	41	230	(5:15) Ennio (2024, Documentary) ★★½	The Mission (1986, Drama) Robert De Niro. PG ★★		(10:15) Out of Africa (1985, Drama) Meryl Streep. ★★		(10:02) Doubling Down		OutDaughtered: Aunt Kiki			
TLC	52	28	139	90 Day (R)	90 Day Fiancé (R)		90 Day Fiancé		Unexpected					
TNT	3	37	51	(6:45) The Martian (2015, Science Fiction) Matt Damon, Jessica Chastain. ★★½	Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales (2017) ★★		Queens				Queens			
TVLAND	85	34	241	Andy	Loves Ray.		Loves Ray.		(9:20) Loves Raymond		Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Queens	Queens
USA	16	38	50	(6:00) 9-1-1	9-1-1: Home And Away		WWE Monday Night Raw: from GIANT Center in Hershey, Pa.. Live.		Race to Survive					
VH1	19	52	217	Fist Fight (2017, Comedy) Ice Cube. ★★½	Bones: Witch in Woods		Bones: Judas on a Pole		Bones: Man in the Cell		Bones: Girl in Gator			
WE	59	42	149	Bones	Bones: Aliens		Yankees Classics: Los Angeles Dodgers at New York Yankees.		Yankees Classics: Los Angeles Dodgers at New York Yankees.					
YES	53	89	76	Yankees Classics: Los Angeles Dodgers at New York Yankees.	Last Week		(6:59) We're Here (R)		Ren Faire (R)		The Great Lillian Hall (2024)		(10:53) The Stroll (2023)	
HBO	511	301	400	Last Week	(6:59) We're Here (R)		Ren Faire (R)		The Great Lillian Hall (2024)		(10:53) The Stroll (2023)			
MAX	531	371	420	Krampus (2015, Horror) Allison Tolman.	Kingpin (1996, Comedy) Woody Harrelson. PG-13 ★★		(9:54) Hot Summer Nights (2018) R ★★		Be Cool					
MGM Plus	595	395	(5:55) Sicario (2015, Crime) Emily Blunt.	Billy the Kid (R)		(8:55) The Winter King (R)		Winter (R)		The Silence of the Lambs (1991) R ★★				
PARSHO	551	321	365	The Island (2005) Ewan McGregor. ★★	Star Trek: Discovery		Mayor of Kingstown		The Chi: City of Gold		Trading Places (1983) ★★			



NEW YORK POST

A deal that's a hole in one.

Visit [NYPost.com/JoinUs](https://nypost.com/joinus) or call 1-800-552-7678 code: [JoinUs](https://nypost.com/joinus)

SUMMER SALE

HOME DELIVERY
\$1
A
WEEK
FOR TWELVE WEEKS



Offer valid for households that have not had home delivery in the past 60 days. At the end of the introductory period, your subscription will automatically renew at the then prevailing rate for your service area unless we terminate your subscription or until you cancel your subscription. Sales tax may apply. You must be 18 years or older and have a valid address in the promotional area, on an active delivery route. Offer expires 7/31/24.

The Best Sports in Town®

THE SAY BAY KID

**Soto rocks HRs
in first, ninth
to lift Yanks to
sweep of Giants**



Juan Soto celebrates after launching a two-run, go-ahead homer nearly into McCovey Cove as the Yankees scored four in the ninth to rally for a 7-5 win over the Giants. The win capped a three-game sweep in San Francisco and a 7-2 road trip through California. **P. 52-53**

AP



Robert Sabo

METS MELT DOWN AGAIN

**BRUTAL HOMESTAND
ENDS WITH ANOTHER
GUT-PUNCH LOSS**

PAGES 50-51



CORE OF THE SAME NOT RIGHT ANSWER



**BROOKS
P. 48-49**

