Second income

More Canadian workers are turning to 'side hustles' to pay the bills **B1**

WORLD

Historic vote

Mexico to have first female leader after tumultuous campaign **A10**



TORONTO STAR

WEATHER HIGH 21 C | MIX OF SUN AND CLOUDS | MAP A16

MONDAY, JUNE 3, 2024

GREAT SCOTS

MacIntyre wins RBC Canadian Open with his father as caddy All



R.J. JOHNSTON TORONTO STAR

Scotland's Robert MacIntyre embraces his father, Dougie, after winning his first PGA Tour title at Hamilton Golf and Country Club on Sunday. "The guy's taught me the way I play golf," MacIntyre said. "We've got a hell of a fight in the two of us."

IMMIGRATION

Denial of study permit over man's HIV status sparks Charter challenge

NICHOLAS KEUNG
IMMIGRATION REPORTER

All his life, he has lived in fear of being judged and disowned by his family and friends because he's attracted to men.

That's why he was excited to be accepted by a college in Toronto and he applied for a study permit; it would give him a way to start a new life far from the Philippines, and be out of the closet.

But he was devastated when his medical exam uncovered that he's HIV-positive, which could jeopardize his plan.

His prognosis was excellent with proper medication and he was able to get the clearance to study in Canada.

After graduating last summer from a one-year program in caring for people with developmental issues, he applied for further

studies.
SEE STUDENT, A5

TRANSPORTATION

Clock ticks down to possible TTC strike

City hopeful of deal before Friday, but wages are a sticking point, sources say

DAVID RIDER, BEN SPURR AND MAHDIS HABIBINIA

STAFF REPORTERS

Torontonians could face a total shutdown of the TTC as early as Friday, unless transit and union officials can agree on a new contract and avoid a strike.

Since February, leaders of the Amalgamated Transit Union Local II3 and TTC officials have tried and failed to sign a deal to replace the previous agreement, which expired on March 3L Major sticking points have included wages, job security and benefits as the clock ticks down to the possible start of the first transit strike in 16 years.

Sources told the Star late last week that the union had rebuffed a four-year TTC offer that would have given workers annual raises of 3.75 per cent, 3.5 per cent, 3.5 per cent and three per cent. The sources, who were not authorized to disclose the figures, said the union — which had

for years been legally prohibited from striking — was seeking a three-year deal with hikes of seven, six and five per cent.

Neither the TTC nor the union would confirm those numbers.

would confirm those numbers.

A walkout by the TTC's roughly 12,000 front-line employees could mean a full shutdown of Toronto's bus, streetcar and subway network that normally carries passengers on almost 2.5 million trips each weekday. While many more people have work-from-home options now than during the previous strike in April 2008, the sheer volume of commuters in 2024 would worsen already terrible gridlock and fill the city's bike lanes and sidewalks.

TTC chair Coun. Jamaal Myers told reporters Friday that both sides were at the negotiating table "multiple times" last week and he remains "very confident" that his agency and the union will avoid a shutdown.

SEE TTC, A6

HEALTH CARE

Battle brews in Muskoka over new hospitals

Cottage country towns at odds over allotment of beds

ROB FERGUSON

QUEEN'S PARK BUREAU

Call it Muskoka's Battle of the Beds. As cottage season arrives, a feud is raging over new hospitals for the Bracebridge and Huntsville areas, where the population swells dramatically every summer.

A basic question still festers two years after the Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare system got a \$14-million planning grant from Premier Doug Ford's government.

Which community in the picturesque Muskoka lakes region 200 kilometres north of Toronto should have the most in-patient beds?

Sharp disagreement between south Muskoka (Bracebridge) and the north (Huntsville), a 30-minute drive up Highway II, is overshadowing the premier's assurances from April 2022, just weeks before the last provincial election.

"It's time you get the modern hospital capacity you desperately need," pledged Ford — who has a cottage between the two towns — as he made the announcement in Huntsville to increase the bed count at both.

But with planning for the \$1 billion in replacement hospitals now getting down to the nitty-gritty — both facilities will see their emergency departments doubled to 27 treatment bays, for example — complications are popping up.

That's because Bracebridge is losing in-patient beds and Huntsville is gaining them under the latest plan from Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare, the organization formed two decades ago to operate the previously independent hospitals within a joint health-care system.

"There's definitely been some drama," said Dr. Luke Wu, an internal medicine specialist in Bracebridge, referring to tense moments at community meetings held over the winter. More consultations are slated this month.

SEE HOSPITALS, A4

INSIDE

Queer bookstore gets a reprieve



Glad Day Bookshop, founded in 1970, raises more than \$100K after appealing to donors to stave off closure **A2**





ONO ON

GTA BRIEFS

TORONTO

Charge laid in streetcar crash

A 62-year-old man has been charged with careless driving in a collision that left a TTC streetcar derailed and three people injured on Saturday morning in the area of Frederick and King streets. The driver of the vehicle had serious injuries while two streetcar passengers were also treated, one also with serious injuries and one with minor ones.

PEEL REGION

Teen in critical after shooting in Brampton

A teen boy is in critical condition after a shooting in Brampton Sunday evening, according to paramedics. Peel police said they received a call at 5:10 p.m. for a shooting in the area of Queen Street West and Drinkwater Road. Paramedics told the Star the victim, "about 16 or 17 years old," was transported to a local trauma centre.

Man sought in Mississauga trail assault

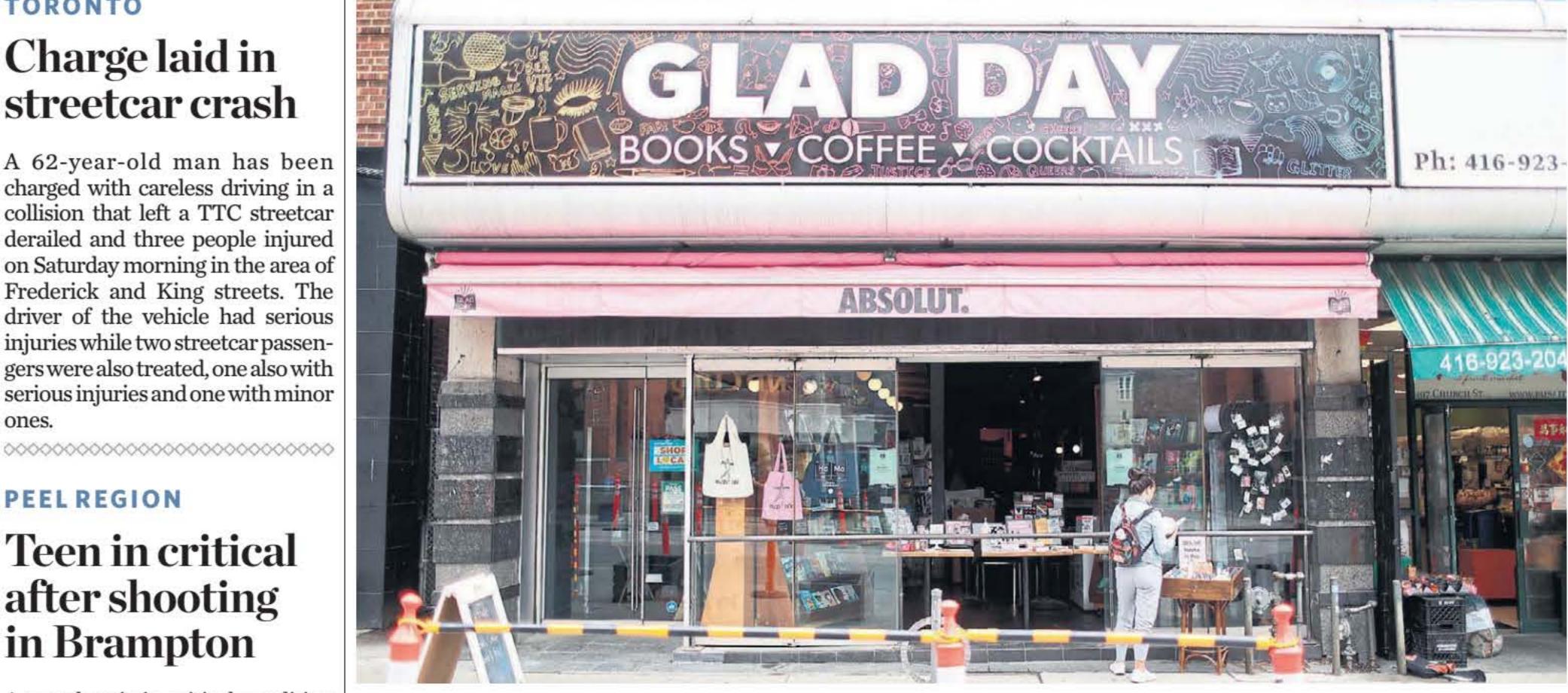
Peel Regional Police are looking for a man who allegedly sexually assaulted a woman who was walking on a Mississauga trail on Friday afternoon. The incident happened around 3:20 p.m. along Applewood Trail. The man is described as between 20 to 30 years old, five-footeight to five-foot-nine, with a thin build, slicked black hair and carrying a grey backpack.

YORK REGION

One dead after highway rollover

The Ontario Provincial Police are investigating a collision on Highway 115 in Clarington that left one man dead early Sunday. The singlevehicle rollover collision occurred just after 2:20 a.m. Officers found a 25-year-old man from Markham dead at the scene. It is not yet clear what caused the collision. STAR STAFF

RETAIL



Donors help Glad Day turn page

Bookstore's chapter on Church Street not over as fundraiser surpasses goal of \$100,000

ANA PEREIRA

BUSINESS REPORTER

Glad Day is among thousands of Canadian small businesses struggling to survive since the pandemic as price-conscious consumers cut spending and downtown foot traffic slowed, all while higher interest rates and inflation hit the shops'

R.J. JOHNSTON TORONTO STAR

FILE PHOTO

bottom line.

The "world's oldest queer bookstore" says it is not going anywhere after receiving more than \$112,000 in donations and avoiding eviction from its familiar home on Church Street.

Last Monday, Glad Day Bookshop set up a fundraiser on social media with an initial goal of raising \$100,000 so it could pay back its landlord by July and continue operating.

Just four days later, social media accounts for the LGBTQ bookstore which is also a café, bar and host to as many as 500 events each year - thanked more than 2,000 individual donors who helped grant the business a reprieve.

"We're feeling overwhelmed and hopeful and just so grateful in so many ways," Glad Day's co-owner Michael Erickson told the Star.

"Glad Day is the kind of place where, even if you don't need it right now, you understand why other people do need it. And it's also nice to know it's there for you in the future."

Glad Day is among thousands of

Two houses that had been dam-

aged in the Jan. 1 quake collapsed in

Wajiima city, but no injuries or oth-

er damage was reported so far, ac-

cording to the Fire and Disaster

JMA seismology and tsunami of-

ficial Satoshi Harada said Monday's

quakes were believed to be after-

shocks of the magnitude 7.6 earth-

quake on Jan. 1. Seismic activity has

since slightly subsided, but Harada

cially near buildings that were

Management Agency.

damaged earlier.

Earthquakes shake still recovering region

Canadian small businesses struggling to survive since the pandemic as price-conscious consumers cut spending and downtown foot traffic slowed, all while higher interest rates and inflation hit the shops' bottom line. Meanwhile, the federal government ended pandemic aid and requested repayment of Canada Emergency Business Account loans granted to business owners in 2020.

As a result, Glad Day, founded in 1970, has been operating under an unprofitable business model that resulted in debt mounting nearly every month for the last two years, according to a post on its Instagram account. The shop is still looking to raise an additional \$200,000 to stay afloat; that money, the Instagram post stated, would go toward hiring a part-time fundraiser for 10 months, paying more to artists and authors, improving the space, increasing accessibility and consulting with communities as it tries to reinvent itself.

"We don't know where those conversations are gonna lead us, but we want to survive and we want to still provide the crucial services we do provide and we have to be open to

ity said no abnormalities were

found at two nearby nuclear power

plants. One of them, the Shika plant

on the Noto Peninsula, had minor

damage, though officials said that

did not affect cooling functions of

the two reactors. Hokuriku Electric

Power Co. said there were no power

Monday's rattlings rekindled fear

among residents still struggling to

recover from damages from the

comes slowly in mountainous areas

on the peninsula, and many dam-

aged houses remain untouched.

creative solutions," said Erickson, adding that he hopes opportunities for partnerships will emerge now that people are aware that the store has reached "a point of crisis."

The shop has served as a venue for queer-themed parties, cabaret nights and more, Erickson previously told the Star, but he added it can also be a community centre where people can attend a book launch or karaoke night without paying cover, or just sit and drink a cup of water.

"I think losing Glad Day would mean losing a lot of potential futures," he said last week. "So, we'd rather take part in a radical reorganization and a radical reimagining than totally give up."

WITH FILES FROM MANUELA VEGA



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JAPAN

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOKYO Earthquakes early Mon-

day again struck Japan's north-cen-

tral region of Ishikawa, still recov-

ering from the destruction left by a

powerful quake on Jan. 1, but the

latest shaking caused only minor

A magnitude 5.9 temblor on the

northern top of the Noto Peninsula

was followed minutes later by a 4.8

and then several smaller quakes

within the next two hours, the Ja-

pan Meteorological Agency said.

There was no danger of a tsunami.

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damage.

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LOTTERIES

Sunday midday Pick 2:29 Pick 3:373 Pick 4:8657 Encore: 0911777

Keno: 1, 4, 10, 12, 18, 19, 22, 23, 25, 27, 31, 36, 43, 47, 49, 51, 53, 55, 69, 70 Numbers are unofficial. Full results at lottery.olg.ca

HIGH SCHOOL

Taking home ec out of the kitchen

Minister says reformed curriculum will prepare students for life 'well beyond the classroom'

KRISTIN RUSHOWY

QUEEN'S PARK BUREAU

Family matters — but along with classes about raising healthy children and studying the dynamics of relationships, there are a lot of other life skills students could be learning.

That's the reasoning behind a push by the Ontario government to reform the high school curriculum, including taking a close look at home economics, or family studies, and updating — even creating — new classes.

And, depending on what the Education Ministry hears during upcoming consultations, the government says family studies could even return to Grade 7 or 8 after disappearing from elementary schools more than two decades ago.

Right now, secondary school students can take home ec-related classes in raising a family, family dynamics, nutrition and cooking, food and culture, or understanding fashion, although none are required for graduation.

"It's definitely modernized — we're not teaching it in the traditional how-to-become-a-house-maker kind of way," said Theresa Aqui, a Toronto District School Board teacher who is also president of the Ontario Family Studies & Home Economics Educators' Association.

"We have cooking, courses on nutrition and food. We have courses on fashion and clothing. We have courses about raising healthy children and also working with children and young people. We have courses in human relationships, we have courses on family dynamics — this is what home ec looks like in 2024."

But the province is looking to include more, and varied, life skills like learning first aid, or teaching teens how to use tools, and has promised to hear from students, families and educators about what they'd like to see included in a new course.

All such skills "can prove valuable throughout a student's lifespan," Education Minister Stephen Lecce said after announcing a host of changes to the high school curriculum, including a mandatory financial literacy test in order to graduate.

In a letter that went home to families on Friday, Lecce said the province wants to reintroduce a "modernized 'home economics' education that elevates life skills that many young people desperately need," such as responsible consumer habits.

"What we hear so often from parents and employers and from students alike, is the need to learn to cook and understand good nutrition, basic skills — changing a tire ... signing a cheque ... knowing how to shop on a budget and applying basic first aid," Lecce said last week. "We're making these changes to help students prepare for life well beyond the classroom."

Aqui said her while organization was not aware of the coming changes, "we love the opportunity to highlight what family studies courses have to offer, and we would love it if there was more focus on encouraging students to take our courses so that they can get these skills."

Middle schools across the province used to offer home ec and shop, but that is no longer the case. That means students can graduate from high school without ever having taken family studies courses, which remain optional.

Bringing those classes back to middle school is something the Ontario Home Economics Association would be in full support of, and it hopes to be a part of provincial consultations, said president Camille Naranjit, who is also a family studies teacher in the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board.

"Our association is one that is very interested in promoting the well-being of families in society, and as a whole, we feel (the coming changes) are a positive move to raise the profile of home economics," she said, including "more emphasis on things like food literacy and financial literacy and other topics like



raising health children and household life skills" in other course curriculum as well.

Naranjit said food courses in particular can help prepare students for careers in evolving areas such as the biotechnology of food "so in the end, the province could benefit as well as the students."

Some family studies teachers already teach skills like how to maintain a furnace or save on electricity bills.

"Very practical household science is already taught," she noted.

Using the term "home econom-

ics" had Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation President Karen Littlewood wondering, "Are we going back in time?"

"I don't have a problem with giving kids the skills that they need,
but it feels like they're continually
adding more compulsory components into the curriculum without
any sort of acknowledgment of how
we're keeping up with what we're
already doing," Littlewood added.

Cathy Abraham, of the Ontario Public School Boards' Association, said "it's a lot of changes ... and it's going to be a matter of figuring out how to make everything you add to a curriculum, how to make it all work, how to make sure that you're not shortchanging anything else."

However, she added, "we will do what we can to ensure that the implementation of these new of these new requirements is done in the best way possible."

Rene Jansen in de Wal, president of the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association, said he is not convinced the government will hold "meaningful discussions" with teachers about any curriculum changes.

Theresa Aqui, teacher and president of the **Ontario Family** Studies & Home **Economics** Educators' Association, says current home ecrelated classes include cooking, nutrition, fashion, working with children and young people and courses in human relationships. But the province is looking to include more, and varied, life skills like learning first aid, or teaching teens how to use tools.

ANDREW
FRANCIS
WALLACE
TORONTO STAR

CAMPUS PROTESTS

U of T prepares for convocation

University taking 'extra precautions' with encampment in background

SONJA PUZIC

Convocation ceremonies for graduating University of Toronto students begin Monday against the backdrop of a pro-Palestinian encampment that has remained on campus for weeks despite a trespass notice and looming legal action.

More than 30 ceremonies are scheduled to take place through June 21 and the university says all events will proceed as planned with "extra precautions."

The university sought to clear the encampment before convocation began with a request for an urgent court injunction authorizing police action to remove protesters who refuse to leave. But the judge considering the case said the earliest a hearing can be held is June 19 and 20, to give protesters a fair opportunity to respond.

That means most of the graduates and their family members attending ceremonies at the downtown campus will likely be passing by the fenced-in camp filled with tents, placards and flags. Convocation Hall faces King's College Circle, where the encampment was set up on May 2 after protesting students breached a temporary fence the university erected around the large grassy area.

Among the exhibits and affidavits the university has filed in court so far are correspondence from students and family members who are concerned about the protest's impact on convocation.

But protesters have said they don't see how their presence would disrupt graduation events. Sara Rasikh, an encampment spokesperson, said that fences have been present at King's College Circle "for years" during convocations.

"The only difference this time compared to last year is that there are Palestinian flags on the fencing," she said in an interview, adding that many students in the encampment are among those graduating this month. "Folks graduating should attend (convocation) if they want to and we're not taking any



STEVE RUSSELL TORONTO STA

More than 30 ceremonies are set to take place through June 21 at the University of Toronto against the backdrop of a pro-Palestinian encampment.

public stance on that," Rasikh said.

The university is arguing that the encampment poses health and safety risks and has led to numerous reports of harassment, hateful speech, antisemitic incidents and violence — claims denied by protest

organizers.

In court filings, U of T says the increased number of students, faculty and others on campus during graduation ceremonies "creates the potential for continued verbal and physical harassment of community members by the occupants and increases the likelihood of potentially violent altercations to arise."

Among emails submitted to the court, one student wrote to U of T to say they will not be attending their graduation dinner at the Hart House building because "campus is no longer a safe place for Jews."

A concerned parent of a graduating student wrote to ask whether the convocation ceremony could be moved to "a safer location." The email said one of the family members planning to attend is a Holocaust survivor and walking by the encampment would be distressing.

"Please explain how U of T plans on ensuring a safe and meaningful graduation ceremony," the parent wrote.

"How does (the university) plan on ensuring the safety of all graduates and attendees? And how does (it) plan on ensuring no political disruptions to the ceremony? We are so proud of our daughter and simply want the celebration to be a celebration without any hiccups."

The University of Toronto said it takes the safety of graduating students and their guests "extremely seriously" and has a "well established" process to handle event disruptions.

"This year, we are taking extra precautions to ensure a safe and celebratory environment, including requiring graduating students to show identification when collecting their gowns and placing restrictions on bags and personal items brought into Convocation Hall," it wrote in a statement to The Canadian Press.

The university's court filings also include some emails it received in support of the encampment, including a note from a student registered to graduate this month who urged administration to listen to the protesters' demands and avoid using police force to clear the camp.

"If a safe convocation cannot be ensured because of inadvertent effects of the protest, I would rather my convocation ceremony be cancelled than see other students arrested and brutalized," the student wrote.

Demonstrators have said they will stay in the encampment until the university meets their demands, which include disclosing investments in companies profiting from Israel's offensive in Gaza.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The university is arguing that the pro-**Palestinian** encampment poses health and safety risks and has led to numerous reports of harassment, hateful speech, antisemitic incidents and violence claims denied by protest organizers

'A lot of people are very angry'

HOSPITALS FROM A1

"A lot of people are very angry," added Wu, one of dozens of Bracebridge doctors concerned about the long-term future of hospital care there and for nearby Gravenhurst.

While patients remain plentiful a May 22 memo to staff enacted the hospital system's "gridlock policy," when "high occupancy" forced the Bracebridge campus to temporarily put admitted patients in the day surgery unit — patience is wearing thin and the clock is ticking.

Officials at Muskoka Algonquin are trying to nail down a final plan to submit for provincial government approval so that construction can begin in the next few years.

"We are dedicated to meeting Muskoka's evolving health-care needs now and into the future," said chief executive officer Cheryl Harrison.

"Enhancing specialized services like the regional stroke program, Level 3 ICU (intensive care unit) and rehabilitation unit ensures timely, expert care. Doubling our emergency departments improves capacity during peak seasonal periods."

The latest version of the plan puts 36 in-patient beds in the new Bracebridge hospital — down from 67 now at the town's South Muskoka Memorial Hospital.

Huntsville is slated for 121 beds, up from 56 currently at Huntsville District Memorial Hospital.

Proponents of the plan maintain it is not practical to have hospitals in the two towns duplicating servic-

That blueprint was described as a "strategic transition from operating two independent small hospitals to adopting a cohesive regional health-care approach" in a recent memo from chief of staff Dr. Khaled Abdel-Razek and more than a dozen department heads on the Muskoka Algonquin medical advisory committee.

With battle lines drawn, provincial officials say they're waiting for a community consensus to emerge.

"We know that there are supporters of the plan, depending on what part of the riding you're in, and there are detractors," said local MPP Graydon Smith (Parry



Bracebridge

beds in a

plan were

thousands

among

Ontario

hospital losing

redevelopment

protesting the

government's

Queen's Park

on Thursday.

ROB FERGUSON

TORONTO STAR

health-care

changes at

Sound—Muskoka), Ford's minister of natural resources and a former mayor of Bracebridge.

"I hope there's a continued amount of conversation and engagement and everyone can reach a point where it's a win-win."

It doesn't look like it will be easy.

"There is no way for the current administration to pull this out of the fire," insisted Tony Vanderstelt, a vice-chair of the Save South Muskoka Hospital Committee.

"We're calling on the government to put in an independent investigator to come in and look," says Vanderstelt, who was one of thousands at an Ontario Health Coalition rally outside the legislature Thursday protesting emergency room closures, losses of hospital services and plans for more private clinics.

Huntsville gets more beds because it is designated by the Ministry of Health as a regional stroke treatment centre owing to its location midway between Barrie and North Bay, ensuring "timely access to critical care," said Bobbie Clark, spokesperson for Muskoka Algonquin. There will be a 10-bed intensive care unit and a 14-bed stroke unit at Huntsville.

"In contrast, the (new) Bracebridge site focuses on high-frequency outpatient services, such as day surgeries and diagnostic imaging ... including four ICU beds and People an obstetrical labour and delivery room," Clark said.

The latest allotment of in-patient

The latest allotment of in-patient beds is a shift from January, when the new Bracebridge hospital was to be given 14 compared with 139 for Huntsville.

That announcement set off a firestorm and sowed seeds of mistrust that linger despite the subsequent increase to the Bracebridge bed count.

"The well is definitely poisoned," said Vanderstelt, a local businessman.

The boosted bed count is not enough for many doctors in south Muskoka, where 47 physicians recently put their names on an open letter to the community.

The letter warned the reduction in in-patient beds means many local patients "will therefore need to be transferred to Huntsville," further away from their families and one step closer to getting treatment in hospitals in Barrie and Toronto, which are better equipped to deal with complicated procedures.

"Our hospital currently operates over capacity on a regular basis. The population in south Muskoka is growing and aging, and it is only rational to expect that the health-care needs of our community will be drastically increasing," the letter continues.

The letter also predicts the reduc-

tion in beds will make it tougher to attract doctors and raises concerns about "the long-term viability of the Bracebridge site."

Bracebridge doctors are keeping up the fight because they fear the 36 in-patient beds won't be nearly enough to meet the community's needs. The Muskoka area has more than 60,000 people, but during the summer months seasonal residents double the population.

"We're trying to advocate for our community," said Dr. Tina Kappos, who has been associated with the hospital for 26 years and calls the initial decision to slash the bed count "irrational."

There has been a flurry of communications from both sides as plans have been adjusted in recent months.

In the face of stiff opposition from the Bracebridge area to the original plans, Muskoka Algonquin recently issued a statement boasting of "extensive community consultation" that led to "significant modifications ... including maintaining obstetric services at both sites and adjusting bed numbers to better meet local needs."

In their open letter, the Bracebridge-area doctors urged locals to "reject this proposed model for hospital redevelopment," noting patients transferred to a new hospital in Huntsville would likely not be seen by their own doctors for acute care, as is the case now.

Bracebridge Mayor Rick Maloney is urging more discussion.

"For the hospital redevelopment plan to succeed, it must be endorsed by the doctors and key stakeholders in both north and south Muskoka. I encourage Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare to continue to work toward a solution," he wrote in a statement last month.

In Toronto, Health Minister Sylvia Jones seems to be keeping it a local issue.

"We understand that Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare is in their detailed planning phase and consulting with their community and local partners to ensure they are creating stable, consistent and connected care in the region," she said in a statement to the Star.

"We will continue to work together to ensure access to care in the region for years to come."

MONCTON SHOOTINGS

Almost a decade later, is the RCMP better prepared?

New training was recommended in wake of deadly rampage but has yet to be fully implemented

MICHAEL MACDONALD

HALIFAX Almost 10 years after a disturbed man with a rifle killed three Mounties in Moncton, N.B., the RCMP have yet to fully implement a key recommendation from a 2014 review aimed at preventing such deadly encounters.

On the evening of June 4, 2014, Justin Bourque was armed with a semi-automatic rifle and a shotgun when he left his mobile home on a self-described mission to kill police officers. Driven by paranoia and hatred for government, the 24-year-old labourer fatally shot constables Fabrice Gevaudan, 45, David Ross, 32, and Douglas Larche, 40.

Two other constables, Darlene Goguen and Eric Dubois, were wounded during Bourque's 20-minute shooting rampage before he escaped into a wooded area near a residential subdivision.

For more than 29 hours, the city of 69,000 would remain under a virtual state of siege until the crew aboard a surveillance aircraft used an infrared camera to spot the gunman's glowing heat signature on the night of June 5, 2014.

Bourque was sentenced to an unprecedented 75 years in prison, but the New Brunswick Court of Appeal reduced his parole ineligibility period to 25 years after the Supreme Court of Canada struck down the law that had made such long sentences possible.

Six months after the slayings, retired RCMP assistant commissioner Alphonse MacNeil released a report with 64 recommendations. Among them was a call for the police force to "examine how it trains front-line supervisors to exercise command and control during crit-



ical incidents."

In his report, MacNeil found that on the night of June 4, 2014, RCMP supervisors "were confronted with a situation that in many ways exceeded what supervisors are trained to deal with," adding that the moment shots were fired, "chaos ensued."

"Nobody established a command presence during this period. Members were acting on their own accord without a unified tactical plan ... Nobody at a supervisory level had an overall view of where resources were positioned and this remained the case for the next hour or more."

In response to the recommendation, the RCMP developed two courses on critical incident response management: a 90-minute

all front-line supervisors in 2018.

But in the years that followed, few Mounties signed up for the courses. That problem was revealed by the public inquiry that investigated the 2020 mass shooting in Nova Scotia that saw another lone gunman kill

22 people — including an RCMP

online introductory course and an

advanced, 16-hour course. And the

courses were made mandatory for

On June 4, 2014, a gunman killed three **RCMP** constables and injured two others in Moncton, N.B. In response, the RCMP developed two training courses, but few mounties have signed up for the courses in the years that followed.

ANDREW
VAUGHAN
THE CANADIAN
PRESS
FILE PHOTO

officer — during a 13-hour rampage on April 18-19.

The final report from the Mass Casualty Commission, released just over a year ago, confirmed that none of the RCMP's commanders who initially responded to the Nova Scotia mass shooting had taken the advanced course, and only one had

"We find that many of the supervisors involved in the initial critical incident response in Portapique, N.S., had not received the training that... MacNeil recommended," the inquiry's report says.

completed the introductory course.

The supervisors who co-ordinated the RCMP's response that night "were in no better position than their colleagues had been in Moncton in June 2014."

The commission of inquiry also challenged the Mounties' claim to inquiry investigators in 2022 that they had already implemented MacNeil's recommendation.

"A recommendation is not properly characterized as 'implemented' if training ... has not been completed by all or a large proportion of those to whom it is directed," the commission's final report said.

As a result, the commission recommended the RCMP arrange for an external review of its critical incident response training for frontline supervisors, and it specifically mentioned the two courses in question.

Two months ago, RCMP commissioner Mike Duheme provided an update on the RCMP's progress in implementing the public inquiry's recommendations, and he released the required external review. It said improvements were needed with the advanced course, but it also confirmed the compliance rate for

training remained low.

By March 31, 2023, only 14 per cent of constables had taken the advanced course. The RCMP's target for that date was 55 per cent.

In the more senior ranks, 44 per cent of corporals had completed the course by the same date. The police force was aiming for 70 per cent by March 2024, but more recent statistics were not available.

As for sergeants, 43 per cent had taken the course by March 31, 2023, well below the 85 per cent required by March 2025.

Christian Leuprecht, a professor of political studies at Queen's University in Kingston, Ont., said the RCMP is a slow-moving organization that has long been starved for resources. "There's never enough financial and human resources because the demands always exceed the resources," said Leuprecht, who also teaches in the political science department at the Royal Military College of Canada in Kingston.

Leuprecht said the RCMP's lack of resources is compounded by the federal Liberal government's apparent lack of interest in reforming the police force. "If it's taken 10 years, the inference to draw is that nobody at the political level really cares," he said.

Meanwhile, the Mass Casualty Commission's final report had harsh words for the RCMP's response to the MacNeil report.

"While some good work was done in the immediate aftermath (of the Moncton shootings) ... that work was not institutionally sustained and did not produce lasting improvements in preparedness and supervisor training," the final re-

port says. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Provision called 'discriminatory'

STUDENT FROM A1

However, his study permit extension was refused on the grounds that his health condition might cause an excessive demand on Canada's health or social services.

That refusal has made him doubt whether Canada is as accepting as he thought — and has become the focus of a court case on behalf of migrants facing medical inadmissibility on health grounds.

"Is Canada really an open country or is it just a pretension?" asks the 29-year-old man, who has launched a Charter challenge of the excessive-demand provision of the immigration law. Under a court order to protect his privacy, he can only be identified as R.A.

The excessive-demand provision of the law is meant to ban people with disabilities and excessive health needs from coming to Canada, to prevent strain on health and social services systems. The provision has been criticized by advocates as discriminatory.

Historically, applicants with HIV and conditions like autism and intellectual disabilities make up most of the medical inadmissibility cases.

In 2017, a parliamentary committee recommended that Ottawa repeal the law after its study found the clause goes against the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons With Disabilities and is out of touch with Canadian values.

Instead of scrapping the policy, the federal government relaxed the rules in 2018 by raising the annual health-care cost threshold to three times the average annual health-care costs for a Canadian, or \$26,220 for 2024, so fewer applicants would be captured by the rule. It also removed references to special education, social and vocational services and personal support services needed by the applicants.

Although there have been fewer medical inadmissibility cases since then, Anne-Rachelle Boulanger of the HIV Legal Network said the provision still fosters discriminatory attitudes, and hence the clinic is joining the legal challenge in support of R.A., calling for its repeal.

"For us, it's really about finally having our immigration laws not perpetuate or reflect stigmatizing and discriminatory views of people living with disabilities, including HIV, as well as people who don't have citizenship," she explained.

In the current case, Boulanger said the Immigration Department was aware of R.A.'s HIV status when it issued its initial study permit. She said it only refused the extension at the discretion of another officer, with no analysis of the alleged excessive demand caused by the applicant's medical status and needs.

"It was pretty shocking that he was accepted the first time and his medical condition didn't change at



R.J. JOHNSTON TORONTO STAR FILE PHOTO

International student R.A., who was refused a study permit extension because he's HIV positive, wonders if Canada is as accepting as he thought.



56

It was pretty shocking that he was accepted the first time and his medical condition didn't change at all ... yet when he applied for an extension, all of a sudden, now he is an excessive demand.

ANNE-RACHELLE
BOULANGER
HIV LEGAL
NETWORK

all," she said, "yet when he applied for an extension, all of a sudden, now he is an excessive demand.

"There have been huge advances in terms of the health care of people living with HIV. It's no longer a death sentence. People with HIV live long and healthy lives as long as they can access the necessary treatments."

R.A., a pharmacist back home, who is not out to his family and friends about his sexuality and HIV status, said his health has been under control with medication and he doesn't pose risks to anyone.

Like other international students, he needs to buy private health insurance. His HIV medication is paid for by the company that manufactures it through a community clinic that offers health care and supports to people living with the virus.

Although the Philippines is a democracy, R.A. said it's also a very closed and religious society, where LGBTQ people are tolerated but not accepted.

"HIV is a taboo topic in the Philippines. There's still stigma," said R.A., whose study permit expired last August. He's in Canada on a visitor visa that's valid through September.

People with HIV are often seen as morally blameworthy, sexually irresponsible, dirty and unwelcome, he said, adding that they face discrimination at work, in relationships and in housing. Some healthcare providers refuse to provide treatment, he added.

"This is not only my fight," said R.A., who has been accepted by a postgraduate pharmacy technician diploma program in Alberta but needs a study permit.

"It's a battle for all people living with HIV who want to come to Canada."

Citing the 2017 parliamentary committee report, his lawyer, Mathew Wilton, said the excessive-demand provision results in savings of only 0.1 per cent of all provincial and territorial health spending.

Wilton argued that his client was not provided an opportunity to address any concern from the immigration officer refusing his study permit extension and the decision was unreasonable and not supported by evidence.

"By viewing people solely as po-

"By viewing people solely as potential burdens or impediments, it ignores the reality that people with disabilities, including those without permanent residence or citizenship, make important non-economic and economic contributions to Canadian society," said Wilton.

"It perpetuates negative stereotypes toward immigrant communities that they are simply here to abuse and take advantage of our public resources."

In an email, the Immigration Department said it can't speak about litigation that's before the court, but stressed it has taken steps to bring the law in line with Canada's values on diversity and inclusiveness, as well as the recognition of newcomers' contribution to the country.

It said the 2018 updates to the excessive-demand rules strike the right balance between welcoming newcomers and reducing stigma while protecting publicly funded health and social services.

"As a result of these changes, many applicants, particularly those with conditions that primarily require publicly funded prescription drugs, would likely be admissible," the department said. "HIV infection alone does not automatically make a person inadmissible to Canada on health grounds."

DEFENCE SUMMI

Canada, China look to reopen dialogue

Ministers discuss foreign interference, Taiwan tensions

SARAH RITCHIE

OTTAWA Defence ministers from Canada and China sat down together for the first time in II years at an international security conference last week as the countries work to re-establish lines of communication.

Bill Blair met with Admiral Dong Jun on Friday while attending the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore, marking the first meeting between the ministers since 2013.

"Communication between our countries is vital and I welcome further opportunities for dialogue," Blair said on X.

Blair said he expressed Canada's concerns about Beijing's foreign interference, its financial and economic support for Russia, and its recent military exercises in Taiwan.

China staged a simulated blockade of the island in late May after the election of a new government that does not accept Beijing's position that Taiwan is part of China.

The subject of China's actions in Taiwan was also raised by U.S. Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin when he met with Dong on Friday, according to Pentagon officials.

In recent years Canada has been taking part in U.S.-led exercises in the Taiwan Strait that American officials say are meant to emphasize freedom of navigation through the region's contested waters.

There have been reports of China taking aggressive action during those exercises. Last June, the U.S. released a video showing a Chinese ship cutting across the path of an American destroyer.

Then in October, Blair accused China's military of unacceptable and unsafe behaviour after a fighter jet came within five metres of a Canadian surveillance plane over the East China Sea.

Canada has pledged to continue to send three navy vessels to the region as part of its Indo-Pacific strategy, which will also see more military co-operation and joint exercises with Indo-Pacific allies.

"We stand ready to engage with China and with all our partners throughout the Indo-Pacific to ensure a stable and secure region," Blair said during his remarks at the Shangri-La Dialogue.

His meeting with Dong is the latest in a series of high-level discussions that suggest relations between Canada and China are improving after years of strain.

Foreign Affairs Minister Mélanie Joly spoke with her Chinese counterpart Wang Yi in January, and the pair met in person in February.

Also in January, a top Canadian military official, Maj.-Gen. Gregory Smith, told members of Parliament that Ottawa was looking to re-establish relationships with China's defence attaché. He noted Canada has not completed any exercises or co-operated with the People's Liberation Army since 2018.

That was the same year Huawei executive Meng Wanzhou was arrested in Vancouver as part of a U.S. extradition case. China responded by detaining Canadians Michael Kovrig and Michael Spavor in what is widely seen as retaliation.

Diplomatic relations were strained for years while Meng and the Two Michaels remained in custody. Meng was released in September 2021, and Kovrig and Spavor returned to Canada shortly after.

Starting in late 2022, Global News and the Globe and Mail published a series of stories based on leaked intelligence that alleged Beijing attempted to meddle in Canada's 2019 and 2021 federal elections. Commissioner Marie-Josee Hogue found the attempted interference did not affect the overall results of the two elections or undermine the integrity of the electoral system.

THE CANADIAN PRESS
WITH FILES FROM
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

From fans on sideline to volunteer caddies

SCOTT RADLEY
HAMILTON SPECTATOR

the pros.

You drive from Aurora to Hamilton Golf and Country Club to watch a little golf. You find a great spot with a terrific vantage point. And suddenly you improbably end up inside the ropes caddying for one of

Welcome to Paul Emerson's Sunday.

"It's just fun luck," the 50-year-old lawyer says.

It's also the start of one of the strangest stories you're going to hear at a PGA Tour event.

Emerson and his kids were walking alongside the third fairway just around noon when he heard a shout of pain.

Legendary caddy Fluff Cowan — who used to carry the bag for Tiger Woods and was now looping for C.T. Pan — had gone down and was hurt. Since they were nearby, he did the

polite Canadian thing and offered to help. "I just said to C.T., Do you need a

hand?" he says. And? "He said, 'Yes, please.'"

Suddenly Emerson was pulling on Cowan's caddy bib, hands were being shaken and Emerson was on the



Mike Campbell, left, and Paul Emerson both found themselves unexpectedly caddying in the RBC Canadian

Open on Sunday.

SCOTT RADLEY
THE HAMILTON
SPECTATOR

bag. At which point things really got strange.

TV had picked up on the situation and was talking about the random fan in the bright pink Masters T-shirt who now found himself part of the action. Social media noticed and suddenly it exploded.

Back at caddy services near the clubhouse, volunteer Mike Campbell's phone suddenly rang.

"One of the caddy chairs said, 'Mike, get your rear end to five,' " Campbell says.

The IT project manager — who has a little experience on the bag —

bolted out there, explained to Pan why he'd been sent and was handed the bib. Suddenly it was turning into Everybody-Gets-To-Be-A-Caddy Day at the RBC Canadian Open.

His three holes on the PGA Tour done, Emerson returned to life as a fan. With a story to tell and a lifetime score as pro caddy of even par.

Meanwhile, his successor was no less thrilled with the unexpected spot in which he'd found himself.

"It was great to be inside the ropes," the 62-year-old from Cambridge says. "To be inside the ropes at a major tournament like this, it's huge."

As all this was going on, Alex Riddell had no idea a backup had been sent. The Hamilton caddy, who carried Paul Barjon's bag here earlier in the week, knows Pan a bit. Thinking he might want a hand from a pro—this in an important tournament, after all, not the Greater Punkydoodles Corners Open—he took off toward seven where he figured he'd run into them and offer his services.

He didn't catch them there. But, by 10, Campbell was surrendering the bib and golf bag to Pan's fourth caddy of the day.

TWO BIRDS, ONE ROAD



As cyclists take part in the Baycrest Bike for Brain Health event on Sunday along the Don Valley Parkway, the group Don't Mess With the Don, in partnership with the event, holds their second annual Don Valley clean up. The group takes advantage of the freeway closing to safely clean up the green spaces around.

LABOUR

Potential CBSA strike could snarl border traffic

Economy could take a hit, with \$2.5B each day in goods at risk of delays

ANJA KARADEGLIJA

OTTAWA Just as the summer travel season gets into gear, Canadi- work, albeit very thoroughly. How ans and visitors could find themselves waiting in long lines at the border – delays that could also deal a blow to the economy.

It all depends on what happens with a potential strike by workers at the Canada Border Services Agency, which could start as soon as Thursday.

What's going on?

More than 9,000 Public Service Alliance of Canada members who work for the CBSA, including border guards, have secured a strike mandate. The two sides go into mediation on Monday, and the union will be in a position to strike as of Thursday.

The union says similar action three years ago "nearly brought commercial cross-border traffic to a standstill, causing major delays at airports and borders across the country."

But the Treasury Board says 90 per cent of front-line border officers are designated as essential, which means they can't stop working during a strike.

So how disruptive could a strike be?

Union members could use workto-rule, a tactic where employees do their jobs exactly as outlined in their contracts.

Ian Lee, an associate professor at Carleton University's school of business, said that means a border crossing could take much longer than it usually does. That wouldn't just be a problem for tourists, but disrupt the economy, given \$2.5 billion a day in goods crosses the border, he said.

The Treasury Board says "employees in essential services positions must provide uninterrupted border services. They cannot work to rule and they cannot intentionally slow down border processing."

A spokesperson said the CBSA will discipline workers who "engage in illegal job action."

But Lee noted border workers have broad discretion when it comes to asking questions. He said it's unclear how the government can argue a guard is "breaking the law by using their full discretion and authority."

Stephanie Ross, an associate professor of labour studies at McMaster University, said there is a logistical barrier to the government taking action. She pointed out that work-to-rule means following job AIR duties to the letter.

"People would be doing their can you discipline people for following procedure?"

Ross said work-to-rule can be very effective.

A border crossing where it might take an extra 10 minutes to get across because the officer is doing everything by the book can "have an enormous disruptive effect magnified by the thousands of individuals, semi-trailers, various kinds of transport coming into Canada," she said.

What do CBSA employees want?

Mark Weber, the national president of the Customs and Immigration Union, which is part of PSAC, said work-to-rule could be disruptive, but the union is "not there yet."

Weber said members want pay parity with other law enforcement agencies, with the union looking to how much first-level RCMP constables are paid for comparison.

CBSA is also short thousands of officers, and the union wants those openings to be filled with permanent employees, not contract replacements.

Other issues include pension benefits and protections around "heavy-handed discipline," Weber said.

Another concern for the union is technology taking over jobs officers would be doing otherwise, like the kiosks that have popped up at Canadian airports.

Weber said the CBSA "are trying to almost create a self-serve checkout kind of system, like you see at grocery stores, at our borders."

He said that amounts to "almost waiting for smugglers to self-declare with no officers present, which from a national security point of view is extremely concerning."

And there's the link to the public service unions' fight over workfrom-home arrangements.

What does the new public service in-office mandate have to do with border guards?

Ottawa recently announced that federal employees must work from the office at least three days a week, starting in September. Public service unions responded by pledging a "summer of discontent" over the new policy.

Then-PSAC president Chris Aylward indicated that includes the CBSA strike, saying in an earlier press conference the "government

CANADA PILOTS UNION SAYS TALKS STALLED

MONTREAL Air Canada pilots intend to request help from a federal conciliator to assist in stalled contract negotiations with the airline, the union representing them announced Sunday. The Air Line Pilots Association said the two sides are not close to a deal despite a year of contract talks, including close to six months of voluntary mediation. Charlene Hudy, head of the union's Air Canada contingent, said that while talks have allowed the two sides to reach important agreements, they remain too far apart in negotiations and pilots will be leaving the voluntary process on June 15. Air Canada said it will continue to push for an agreement in

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THE CANADIAN

Air Canada.

PRESS

travel with

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has to be prepared for a summer of discontent. Whatever that looks like, whether it's at the borders, whether it's at the airports."

Weber said telework is a key issue for the union, and more than 2,000 of its members work remotely or did so previously, including during the COVID-19 pandemic. The union wants to see work from home enshrined in the collective agreement.

He said the government previously promised to set up panels and consult on work-from-home arrangements, and then broke its promise by announcing the three-

day-a-week mandate for everyone. That means the union would be skeptical if government only offers another letter of understanding. "What value does that have anymore?" Weber said.

How likely is a strike?

"We remain at the bargaining table, committed to negotiating a deal that is fair to employees and reasonable to the Canadian taxpayer," Treasury Board spokesperson Martin Potvin said in a statement.

"With a shared commitment to good faith bargaining, we are optimistic that an agreement can be reached quickly."

Weber said it's in the government's hands "to put a contract forward to avoid a strike. We're always ready to sit down and negotiate a fair contract."

Ross said in the lead-up to a strike, there is always an element of posturing, but the 96 per cent vote in favour of strike action was "very strong."

Many of the problems are the same as when the union went on strike in 2021, she noted.

"If we take a bit of a longer-term view, there are reasons to believe that things have been festering at CBSA, and that makes the mobilization that we're seeing in the union side more important to take seriously."

The workers have been negotiating without a collective agreement for two years, meaning, Ross noted, "there's a lot of built up frustration around their wages falling behind."

She said this is the moment where the two sides are waiting to see which one is willing to blink.

The government might not believe the union "has enough organization and unity to pull off a work to rule that would be disruptive," she said.

But they might find out. We all might find out."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Union says workers frustrated

TTC FROM A1

"I understand that progress is being made and I'm confident that we can get there. Both sides want a deal," Myers said, after announcing that Rogers Communications is starting work to bring 5G cellular service to the whole subway system, beginning with tunnels between Kennedy and Warden stations.

Local 113 president Marvin Alfred wouldn't comment on details of the talks, but told the Star that offers the TTC has tabled so far have included "extreme conditions" that diminished their value.

Though Alfred declined to say what those conditions were, he said that union members, who kept the city moving through the worst of the pandemic, are frustrated, a feeling compounded by being deprived of the right to strike for the past 13 years. He described the 2011 Ontario law that banned TTC job action as a way for the city and province to "stifle our opportunities for dignity when it comes to our income."

The union regained the right to strike last year when the Ontario Superior Court ruled the legislation introduced by the provincial Liberals after a request from then mayor Rob Ford and city council - violated workers' Charter rights.

Bruce Macgregor, the TTC deputy chief executive, told reporters Friday that managers have contingency plans in case of a strike, but acknowledged a full walkout would "be devastating for this city. That is always the potential and we're prepared for that potential," he said, while hopeful for a deal before the deadline.

Mayor Olivia Chow said she has been briefed on contingency plans, but declined to reveal them. "I still remain optimistic," she said. "When you continue to talk it's always good to seek some kind of solution."

One source with knowledge of the negotiations late last week put the chances of a strike at 50/50, saying a significant gap remained on wages.

Another source familiar with the talks said it's difficult to predict whether the union will walk out. They said negotiations often go down to the wire and Local 113 and TTC management are still having "productive and constructive conversations."

The source predicted a work stoppage would be damaging for the union, management and the public, and both sides wanted to avoid it.

"No one really wants a strike," they said.

But the source described the union's requested wage hikes of between five and seven per cent over three years as "unrealistic." By comparison, last year Local 113's sister union, ATU Local 107 in Hamilton, won a four-year deal with annual increases of between three and 3.75 per cent.

On the first day of the 2008 strike, a college student told the Star about missing a job interview, a tired nurse almost cried at the prospect of having to walk home after a 12hour hospital shift and a disabled Mississauga woman was trying to figure out how to visit her mother who had suffered a stroke in Toronto. That strike lasted only a weekend before the Ontario government passed legislation ordering TTC staff back to work.

This time TTC vehicle operators, fare collectors, maintenance workers and more would be on picket lines. Some ATU members put on signs and marched outside TTC headquarters last week in an information picket.



(A walkout would) be devastating for this city. That is always the potential and we're prepared for that potential.

BRUCE MACGREGOR TTC DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE





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THE STAR'S VIEW

Hope and fear for democracy after Trump conviction

At a time when our institutions are perpetually under attack, when they seem before our eyes to be bending and coming perilously close to breaking, seven men and five women in a Manhattan courtroom restored a little bit of faith last week. Whether this faith ultimately proves to be merely fleeting depends on the manner in which history unspools over the next five months in the United States where those institutions have most obviously been battered, sullied and physically invaded.

The jury deserved the praise it received from Alvin L. Bragg, the Manhattan district attorney, who, after years of fits and starts, finally decided to bring the case against Donald J. Trump, charging that the former and possibly future U.S. president had falsified records to cover up a potential sex scandal involving a porn actress during the 2016 presidential campaign.

"The only voice that matters is the voice of the jury," Bragg said. The dozen "ordinary" New Yorkers were not fazed by the weight of history or the notoriety of the defendant sitting across from them. They ignored threats of violence from Trump MAGA thugs, sat and listened intently to the testimony of 22 witnesses over four weeks, went where the facts took them, deliberated over almost 12 hours and came to a verdict - guilty on all 34 charges. The system worked as it should - when it wasn't obvious it would - and, as a result, history has been made.

Trump is now a convicted felon. He has finally been held accountable, even as a combination of luck, pre-emptive court challenges and legal meanderings had made it near certain that he would be able to campaign for a return to the White House without resolution to other, more serious charges against him: that he unlawfully removed secret government documents, engaged in a conspiracy to overturn the legitimate 2020 election results in Georgia and, most seriously, incited the Jan. 6, 2021 insurrection at the U.S. Capitol. But what exactly that verdict in a spartan Manhattan courtroom has spawned is more uncertain, and more than just a bit frightening.

The former president is so aggressively weaponizing his conviction that it is clear that should he be elected again, he would blow up any guardrails and, in a crusade of revenge and retribution, tear down the very institutions that are already under so much duress. He made it abundantly obvious in a rambling, often incoherent 33-minute airing of grievances Friday in which he falsely accused (again) the Joe Biden administration of driving the Manhattan case, called the U.S. a fascist state, claimed he faced more than 100 years in prison, made wild statements about violent crime in New York City and repeatedly and wantonly misrepresented the proceedings which had just convicted him. He and his MAGA enablers have made it clear they have no respect for the judicial system.

So yes, an American institution worked as it should last week, but that's no guarantee of what's to come. As Trump seeks to undermine faith in the justice system, the U.S. Supreme Court is doing its part to help. Justice Samuel Alito was found to be flying an upside-down American flag on his home property, a symbol adopted by Trump's election deniers. On his vacation property he flew another flag flown by some who stormed the Capitol in 2021. He blamed his wife and refused to recuse himself from ruling on the question of presidential immunity brought by Trump which could have a huge impact on the federal charge against him. Alito and Justice Clarence Thomas have accepted gifts, including vacations from wealthy Republican donors and Thomas's wife, Ginni, was an aggressive election denier, lobbying the Trump White House to stop the left from "the greatest heist in American history," and who attended the rally the day of the Jan. 6 riots. Yet they sit in judgment of Trump.

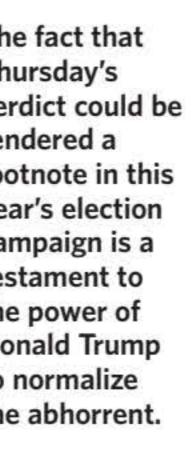
We were reminded last week that, for better and for worse, institutions are only as strong as the people who lead them and the people within them. This is no less true here at home, where the threats may not be as acute but where complacency is no more justified. After all, we have a Liberal government that was slow to react to evidence of foreign interference in our elections. We have a prospective prime minister, Pierre Poilievre, who has vowed to be the first PM to use the constitutional notwithstanding clause to override Charter rights. Like the U.S. Congress, our House of Commons has often descended into pits of partisan toxicity.

The fact that Thursday's verdict could be rendered a footnote in this year's U.S. presidential election campaign is a testament to the power of Trump to normalize the abhorrent. Biden may believe, as he said Friday, that the justice system is the cornerstone of America, but a demagogue is intent on tearing it down. It will still be up to voters to protect those institutions when they vote Nov. 5 and Canadians should be watching intently. There are a lot of cornerstones cracking before our eyes.

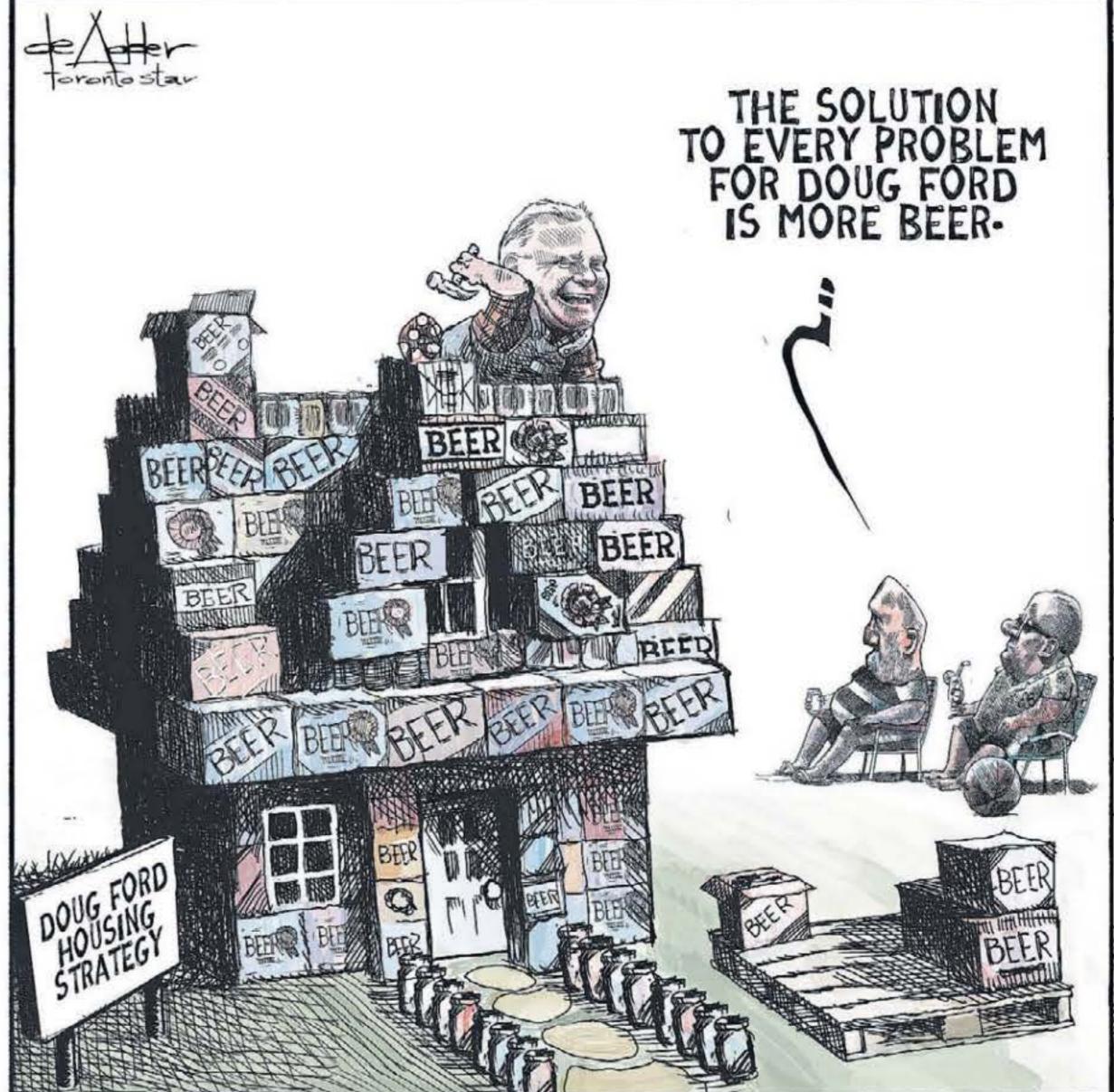


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THE ASSOCIATED **PRESS**



IRENE GENTLE VP INCLUSION & STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS



MICHAEL DE ADDER FOR THE TORONTO STAR

LETTERS

Trump at last held accountable for misdeed

Trump responds to his guilty verdict by falsely blasting a 'rigged trial' and attacking star witness, May 31

Thank you to 12 people from New York who did their duty and believed facts, not "alternate" facts and nonsense and rendered a verdict many hoped for but few believed could be achieved in a politically polarized America.

After decades of running rampant in New York business circles with seemingly no ramifications, Donald Trump has at last been held accountable for a misdeed. Unbelievably, this won't stop him from becoming the Republican nominee or continuing his run for the presidency as his appeals begin through the courts, and according to recent polling, few Trump voters will be swayed by a guilty verdict.

But we must take our victories as we find them. As Winston Churchill said, "we may allow ourselves a brief period of rejoicing." I love New York.

Peter Bradley, Mississauga

The conviction will change nothing for many Trump supporters. They divide the world into "good" and "bad" and view the law as something to be used as a weapon against the "bad" if it does not work in their favour. For them, this conviction violates justice because it was used against someone they view as good. This confirms their view that the world is run by bad people. If anything, they now support Trump even more. Sadly, the media fuels this narrative. Throughout the proceedings, they have referred to it as a "hush money" trial, rather than calling the crimes falsifying business records or failing to disclose campaign spending. Gary Dale, West Hill

On this momentous day, I am remembering former Toronto Star reporter Daniel Dale, who cut his teeth on debunking a local politician's lies. Dale moved on to a U.S. career of exposing the myriad untruths told by Donald Trump.

It is necessary, important work, but in the end ineffectual in moving those cult people and the individuals who use the cult for their own selfish ends. Russell Pangborn, Keswick

If Donald Trump was found not guilty, he would have praised

court. But instead, because he verdict illegitimate and "driven by politics."

It all sounds pretty familiar after the 2020 election result, and sadly so many gullible American Republicans seem to forget and not notice how they are being played with consistent messages to distrust institutions that see Trump for what he is. Interesting to note, of all the people who worked to hold Trump accountable for many things, in the end it was a porn Ontario high school students star and dancer who helped bring him down. Where is Stormy Daniels? I want to shake her hand.

Rachel Griffin, Ancaster

Ford's 'racist' remarks fall below standard

Ford slammed for 'racist' remarks after suggesting immigrants to blame for shooting at Toronto Jewish school, May 30

Doug Ford has obviously forgotten that he is the premier of Ontario and that there is a high level of civility demanded of any person in that position.

Unfortunately, his remarks about immigrants fall abysmally below the required standard.

ally said. Ford needs to apologize to all immigrants, admit his error and take personal responsibility for his hurtful words. He must also openly state that he has learned from this sad event, and will attempt never to say such words again.

Ontario has had many excellent premiers, from various political parties, who we can all respect. I would like to have our current premier remember that he is the premier for all of

Allan Baker, Scarborough

When Don Cherry of "Hockey Night in Canada" made his rant about "you people that come here," Sportsnet rightly fired province of Ontario makes the most outrageous remarks about newcomers to Canada and gets off without so much as an apology.

Of course this was not just a slip of the tongue moment. I believe Ford knew exactly what he was doing appealing to his base. Mayor Olivia Chow, her-

the legal profession and U.S. self an immigrant to Canada, and Prime Minister Justin Truwas found guilty, he said the deau looked quite sheepish trial was rigged and called the standing beside him. Why don't these two high-profile politicians publicly condemn the Ontario premier for his racist rant instead of giving such bland rehearsed statements? Dorothy Low, Richmond Hill

Ford can benefit from financial literacy testing

will soon need to pass financial literacy assessment to graduate, says Ford government, May 30

I am very pleased to hear Minister Stephen Lecce's timely announcement. Is it possible to make the financial literacy course retroactive? I think high school graduate Doug Ford, who has decided to spend \$225 million (or up to \$1 billion) on ending a contract with The Beer Store over a year early, could use this course.

Could the premier answer the question "is it better to wait a year, and save at least \$225 million, or end the contract early?" Premier Ford, you may use a calculator. Would Ford make this decision with his own money, rather than that of the "folks" of Ontario?

Stephen Whelan, Scarborough

Ditto for the obfuscation that Financial literacy? Let's start followed, in the attempt to clar- with our carefree addiction to ify the intent of what was actu- credit cards. As a supply teacher, I was in a school this year and two grade 12 students had large, iced coffees delivered to them. Yes, delivered. Being very frugal, I asked the cost and was told just over \$15 each. But a quick swipe of plastic cards took care of that. The piper would be paid later.

> Long ago, as a young adult, fifteen dollars had been my weekly room and board. I had enjoyed coffee earlier that day, grinding coffee beans for a pittance of what those two had splurged. I lived in a cash-only society as a kid and as a young adult.

Money had to be in the wallet before making any purchase. Life has become so expensive him. But the premier of the now for teenagers, especially those eyeing post-secondary education. But credit cards are too enticing, too easy to see debt as a part of life.

I'm so grateful my generation didn't have such a savingsdraining convenience. That was critical helping us to manage our money.

Garry Burke, Oro-Medonte, Ont.

The intersection

Canada needs public support in AI race



WATT OPINION

It's a politico's axiom that perception is reality.

Call it a rudimentary observation in a "post-truth world," but if it weren't so, we would be living in a very different world with very different headlines. Joe Biden would be in for a slam-dunk re-election victory based on what the hard economic data says is a booming U.S. economy.

Instead, Americans perceive their economy as a house of cards, and Biden's corresponding polling numbers are worse than ever.

Point is: perception matters. It can swing elections, shape policy, steer national priorities and futures. And in my view, there is no greater question of perception when it comes to our national future than how Canadians perceive AI.

Any prognosticator, economist, hell even your local barista, can tell you it's the future of our economy and that massive structural investments will be required in that future. Yet, for as much as that might seem as obvious as the summer following the spring, the perception of many Canadians around AI are fundamentally misaligned with the urgent need to go "all in" — to spend big and spend now.

In fact, our views on AI are shifting as the technology expands. According to a recent TECHNATION survey, a whopping 87 per cent of those polled expressed concern over AI stealing their job.

Let's be clear: it's fair Canadians are worried. As with all disruptive revolutions, the AI revolution will generate both winners and losers. And while that corresponding upheaval will complicate life, it doesn't cancel what lies in front of us. In fact, it leaves us with a choice.

We can choose to pick grass and meditate on the cruelty of life. Or, we can choose to refuse to be left in the dust by our international competitors and seize the opportunity to make a strategic, generational investment in this technology, investment that depends on two major steps.

Step one: establish a super Ministry of AI to shape an aggressive investment strategy to ensure we pull ahead. While this idea is not new — several of our competitor nations have already brought this idea to life — neither is it too late.

The mandate of this new ministry would be both crystal clear and precise: ensure Canada has all the necessary ingredients — chips, energy and talent — to be a global leader in AI.

Step two: we need to invest, as a foundational step, in public support for the endeavour overall. Why? Because the only way a "Manhattan" or "Apollo" AI

mission will work is with the support of Canadians. The level of cash necessary to build out our AI econo-

We need to change how the public perceive the advantages of Al and to show how Al can allow Canadians to take better care of their aging parents, curb the amount of time they spend in traffic and reduce wait times in the ER

my — to fund the data centres, refine the rare earths, and generate the power - cannot be met by the private sector alone. Governments must become partners, which means government must make monumental, unprecedented outlays. Outlays which will require them to say no to important immediate priorities and yes to strategic investments that will pay dividends well outside electoral cycles. Decisions that will require the expenditure of political capital.

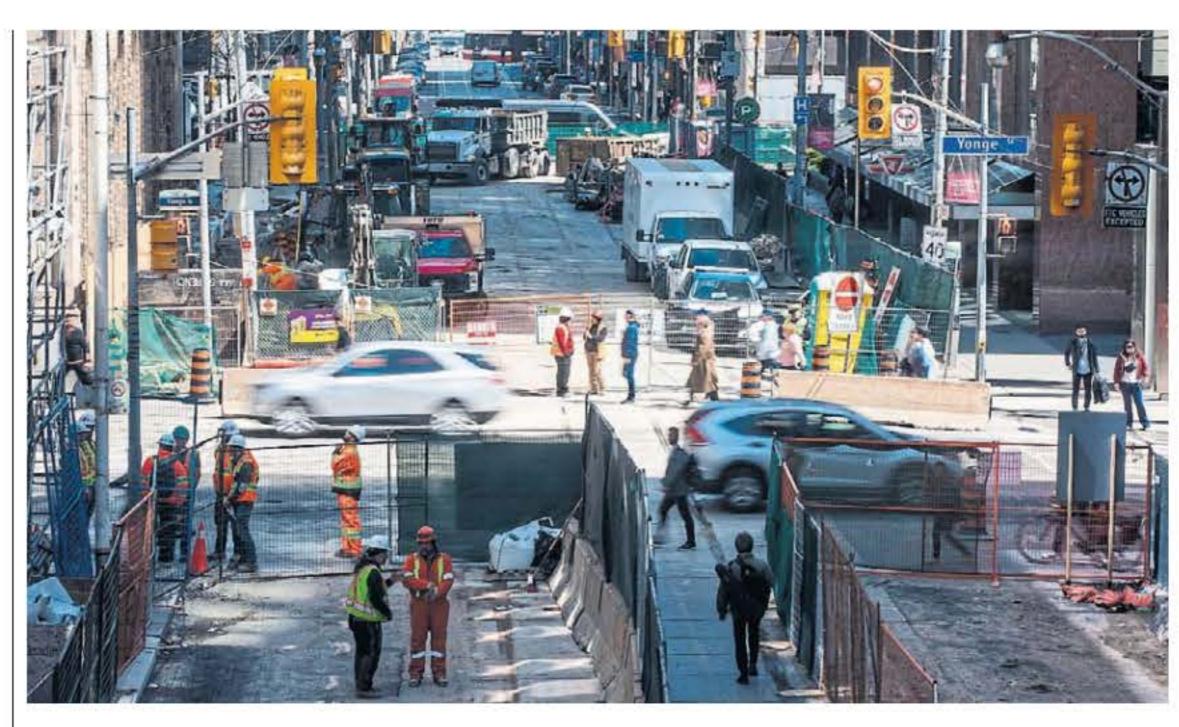
And that's why we need to change how Canadians perceive the absolutely necessary advantages of AI.

That effort will have nothing to do with lecturing Canadians on the intricacies of machine learning and everything to do with showing how AI can allow Canadians to take better care of their aging parents, curb the amount of time they spend in traffic and reduce wait times in the ER.

Simply put, you can't ask Canadians to believe in and invest in the long-term without bringing them along with you. So as much as we invest in chips, energy and talent, we need to invest in building genuine and durable public support for the long and challenging mission ahead.

It is only with and through that support that we stand any chance to catch up, become competitive and win this race.

JAIME WATT IS THE EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN OF NAVIGATOR LTD. AND A CONSERVATIVE STRATEGIST. HE IS A FREELANCE COLUMNIST FOR THE STAR.



of Yonge and Queen streets will be closed until 2027. As city life hollows out, shoppers seeking more than online will have to drive to suburban malls for the real thing, writes Heather Mallick.

NICK LACHANCE TORONTO STAR FILE PHOTO

The dire scene at Yonge and Queen



HEATHER MALLICK

OPINION

Retail in downtown Toronto is in terrible trouble. Stores are facing so many obstacles that it's hard to imagine how they are going to survive until that golden time when office workers finally get fed up with working from home.

Will this happen? Perhaps home offices will begin to seem prisonlike and the housebound will venture outside for comestibles, personal draperies, novelty, and the company of their fellow humans. People need stuff.

I didn't predict the end of Nordstrom, the last attractive department store in the Eaton Centre, preferring to privately mourn a store with restaurants, bars, and fabulous objects. Perhaps another Eataly, replacing Nordstrom next year, will survive where Eaton's and Sears could not.

Now if you want to buy bedding,
In womenswear, The Room, rainboots, men's sweaters, and other things that eventually become essential if you wait long enough, you go south of the Eaton Centre, which is dire.

I was worried about The Bay at Yonge and Queen, a beautiful building we've all known in many incarnations. Closing the intersection for transit construction until 2027 means no customers can arrive at the Bay directly by streetcar. There's nowhere to park and no sane cyclist would go near traffic so committedly clogged.

So, you arrive by subway at Queen Station, one of the TTC's most shabby and neglected. I understand that stations are being upgraded or at least cleaned — Toronto has some of the most charmless ever devised — but Queen needs a plan and a ceiling and it needs them now.

You can't remove great chunks of it and leave it with bald patches. Like litter, puddles of mysterious fluid, and sinister wall stains; it helps create an atmosphere that attracts hard cases.

First, a fire hazard. The store has left a side door open. You can slip into the Bay without using the swing doors intended to save either the store or Queen Station in a fire. The basement with food and homewares is busy with subway traffic, but with each floor the store grows increasingly empty of customers, salespeople and things to buy.

which sells the expensive gear, has some new Erdem, but not much more. Elsewhere, name brands, even Theory office wear, have left.

When I walk up a broken escalator to reach the lingerie floor — shared with children's clothing for some reason — the air conditioning has given out and the place is steamy.

Women shop here for serious bras. Let small-breasted women buy bralettes online - they can hardly go wrong - but if you want a seamless supportive wide-strap made-to-last bra that will take you through the long years until the Queen intersection reopens, this is where you shop.

The selection is strange. No one staffs the fitting room and you plant your face in the draft of a standing hoop industrial fan until a room is unlocked.

Nothing fits. It is so hot. For some reason I often succumb to terrible despair in the ratty fitting rooms of North American department stores. A familiar remark crosses my brain. I will pay anything to get out of here.

This explains a lot of what I have in my closets. For instance, I own jodhpurs. I own jerseys from the Italian Navy. But these bras are all wrong. They would hold a bunny's puffy tail, a powder puff, a pickleball, but nothing more substantial.

God, it's hot. Where are the elevators, I ask. Closed down. All the escalators have since stopped. Since Loblaws walled off its selfcheckout exits, I've been thinking a lot about Triangle Shirtwaist Factory-style fire hazards.

I don't mind death in a good cause but not in an escalator pileup in a ratty and incoherent lingerie department at Bay and Queen. Things aren't looking good. As Toronto city life hollows out, downtown shoppers seeking more than online will have to drive to suburban malls for the real thing.

This is onerous, also sad. HEATHER MALLICK IS A TORONTO-BASED COLUMNIST **COVERING CURRENT AFFAIRS** FOR THE STAR. FOLLOW HER ON X: @HEATHERMALLICK.

Misguided attitude toward bi women

ZOE WHITTALL CONTRIBUTOR

The queer community has a fraught history with being asked to participate in studies. When we answer questions in good faith the study often has a headline like "Are there too many of these disgusting people?" Personally, I'd like a study about why straight cisgender people are obsessed with counting us. Are they trying to fit us all on the same island some day?

with a piece in the Globe and Mail interpreting one recent Gallup poll with the headline "Going both ways": Young women are increasingly identifying as bisexual, but what does that mean?"

The implication was typical: Most bisexual women are partnered with men, likely always will be, and are faking their bi-ness for clout. I'm paraphrasing, perhaps ungenerously. But just the headline made me groan like Marge Simpson. It reminded me of being interviewed in 1995, at the age of 19, about being bisexual for a column in a Montreal arts weekly. The topic then: how women are suddenly "all bisexual" these days. Sound familiar?

In 2024, most writers wouldn't describe monosexual gay people the way they write about bi, trans or non-binary people now. In fact, when straight people write about queer people, I feel like I'm reading a horse describing the life of a zebra. They know zebras exist and are a little weird, but surely there can't be that many of them. Some have to be stripey horses, right?

But is there a grain of truth to some of the stereotypes or inter-

pretations of the data? I asked Lori Ross, associate professor at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, at University of Toronto, for her opinion on the poll study. She said it's true studies show most bi women are partnered with men. But there's an obvious explanation for that. "Statistically there are just way more straight men than queer women!" she said.

"It's also true that higher proportions of youth identify as bi with each successive generation," she advocacy have made coming out safer. "Neither of those truths logically points to the explanation that women are making it up. Only biphobia can explain that interpretation of the data."

I have a lot of experience with biphobia from both the queer community and straight world. In 1995, there was a lot of panic about teens turning bisexual because of androgynous models advertising for CK One, the first unisex perfume, and Madonna being Madonna. At the time I wrote a zine by and for bisexual women. Most of the women who wrote for that zine ended up married to straight men. I don't know how they identify now. But I saw several of them having public sex with each other while the song "Missing" by Everything But The Girl played in the '90s. The point is people of all ages can change their mind about their sexuality.

If a lot of Gen Zers claim to be bi right now, take it from the first generation that fell victim to bi panic nothing happens. Anyone who has been out as bi for more than a minute knows the average monosexual person does not think you are cool.

In fact, the opposite. Ross has done

the research to back this up. "The idea of coming out as bi because it somehow makes you cool is nonsense," Ross said. Bi women suffer high rates of abuse and mental health issues because of the biphobia they experience. "It's not an identity that's "sexy," it's one that, as (Maltz Bovy's) article demonstrates, is consistently maligned and disbelieved, associated with stereotypes of hypersexuality, 'con-

fusion,' and immaturity." Why is a major newspaper responding to a study that says so little as though it holds some kind of great meaning, and why now? We've had the ten per cent stat since the days of Kinsey. I shouted "ten per cent is not enough, recruit recruit recruit!" at Pride parades before cellphones existed. It's just I saw an example even last week, added, probably because years of logical that those numbers have shifted some in the last 30 years.

To be fair, the Globe article wasn't trying to stoke a moral panic in any overt way. In fact, the writer, cultural critic Pheobe Maltz Bovy reveals what interested her most wasn't the bisexuality of it all, but the straightness. She is writing a book about heterosexual female culture. And while one could argue that most writing about women is about heterosexual women, I personally have a lot of questions for them. Like why do so many of you seem to hate the men you date, and yet keep dating them? Why do I involuntarily know so much about tradwives? And if you're tired of dating men who don't have a top sheet or can't clean the bathroom sink, there's an easy solution: date a bisexual man.

I'm kidding. After 30 years of swimming in biphobia all around me, my main response to commentary like this is to make a joke. Dumb takes are good for a laugh if nothing else, even if it isn't actually funny to have your identity invalidated from all sides.

ZOE WHITTALL IS A TV WRITER AND THE AUTHOR OF 'WILD FAILURE' AND OTHER WORKS.

ISRAEL-HAMAS CONFLICT

'Governing alternative' to Hamas sought by Israel to rule Gaza

MELANIE LIDMAN

JERUSALEM Israel is looking into an alternative local governing body for Gaza, the defence minister said Sunday, proposing a future beyond Hamas but giving no idea who those challengers might be.

Defence Minister Yoav Gallant's comments came at a time of new uncertainty in the eight-month war. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is under growing pressure from many Israelis to accept a new ceasefire deal proposed by U.S. President Joe Biden, while far-right allies threaten to collapse his government if he does.

Gallant, part of Israel's threemember war cabinet who recently urged the government to have a detailed postwar plan for Gaza, said in a briefing that "we seek a governing alternative to Hamas. The framework for this includes isolating areas, removing Hamas operatives in these areas and bringing in other forces that will enable the formation of a governing alternative."

That will achieve Israel's goals of removing Hamas' military and governing authority in Gaza and returning home the remaining hostages taken in the Oct. 7 Hamas attack that sparked the war, Gallant said. He stressed that "we will not accept the rule of Hamas at any stage in any process aimed at ending the war."

In response to questions, an Israeli defence official told The Associated Press that Gallant hopes to enable isolated, Hamas-free areas in Gaza to become "hubs of local government" and identify forces that can enable a longer-term formation of a government.

Israel is looking for "local nonhostile actors," the official said, add-



ing that Gallant believes that "Palestinians should be governing Palestinians." Israel would facilitate surges of aid to the areas, and the local forces would be responsible for distributing it to strengthen their authority. But that approach is challenging and has failed before, one expert said.

"I haven't heard of any local players that are brave enough to present themselves as an alternative to Hamas," said Michael Milshtein, an Israeli analyst of Palestinian affairs at Tel Aviv University and a former military intelligence officer.

Milshtein said Gallant's "wishful thinking" would amount to a suicidal mission for any local leader. Hamas has threatened anyone cooperating with Israel's government.

"Although Hamas suffered severe damage over the past eight months, their impact on the public is still very strong," he said.

Milshtein noted that Israel has tried this approach in the past. In the 1970s and '80s, Israel tried to establish "village leagues," empowering local Palestinian leaders.

"They were considered in the eyes of Palestinians as collaborators, and it ended in a very tragic manner," he said. Unless Israel maintains a constant presence in Gaza, any "alternative forces" they try to install will be too fragile, he added.

Netanyahu has said Israel will maintain security control over Gaza but delegate civilian administration to local Palestinians unaffiliated with Hamas or the Westernbacked Palestinian Authority, which governs parts of the occupied West Bank. He has ruled out a path to Palestinian statehood.

Top ally the U.S. has proposed that a reformed Palestinian Authority would govern Gaza with the assistance of Arab and Muslim nations. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Amira Al-Jojo holds her 10-month-old son, Yousef, who suffers from malnutrition, at Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital, where he is undergoing treatment, in Deir al-Balah in the central Gaza Strip on Saturday.

JEHAD ALSHRAFI THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Young women

hug each other

service for the

journalist and

combat medic

Iryna Tsybukh

Independence

square in Kyiv,

Ukraine, on

Sunday.

EVGENIY

PRESS

MALOLETKA

THE ASSOCIATED

during a

memorial

Ukrainian

volunteer

MEXICO

Election likely to produce first female president

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MEXICO CITY Polls closed on Sunday in a national vote that will likely give Mexico its first female president, but the heat, violence and polarization continued almost right through election day.

People turned out to vote in the township of Cuitzeo, in the western state of Michoacán, despite the fact that a town council candidate was shot to death by two hit men aboard a motorcycle just hours before the election. Residents voted under a heavy police guard — but later passed by the home of slain candidate Israel Delgado to light a candle for the well-known local politician at an improvised altar on his doorstep.

Nationwide, the voting was largely peaceful, but it appeared that even if the front-runner — former Mexico City mayor Claudia Sheinbaum - wins, she is unlikely to enjoy the kind of unquestioning devotion that outgoing President Andrés Manuel López Obrador has enjoyed. Both belong to the ruling Morena party.

The main opposition candidate, Xóchitl Gálvez, a tech entrepreneur and former senator, tried to seize on Mexicans' concerns about security and promised to take a more aggressive approach toward organized crime.

Voters were also electing governors in nine of the country's 32 states, and choosing candidates for both houses of Congress, thousands of mayorships and other local posts, in the biggest elections the nation has seen.

WAR IN UKRAINE

Energy shutdowns hit Ukraine after Russian attacks

Power grid target of sustained offensive

SAMYA KULLAB AND ELISE MORTON

KYIV, UKRAINE Ukraine imposed emergency power shutdowns in most of the country on Sunday, a day after Russia unleashed large-scale attacks on energy infrastructure and claimed it made gains in the eastern Donetsk province.

The shutdowns were in place in all but three regions of Ukraine following Saturday's drone and missile attack on energy targets that injured at least 19 people.

operator Ukrenergo said the shutdowns affected both industrial and household consumers.

Sustained Russian attacks on Ukraine's power grid in recent weeks have forced the government to institute nationwide rolling blackouts.

Without adequate air defences to counter assaults and allow for repairs, though, the shortages could still worsen as need spikes in late summer and the bitter-cold winter. Among the most significant recent strikes were an April barrage that damaged Kyiv's largest thermal power plant and a massive attack on May 8 that targeted power generation and transmission facilities in several regions.

Following Saturday's barrage, Ukraine's air force said Sunday that air defences had shot down all 25 drones launched overnight.

Russia claimed Sunday that it had taken control of the village of Umanske in the partially Russianoccupied Donetsk region.

Russia's co-ordinated new offensive has centred on Ukraine's Ukraine's state-owned power grid northeastern Kharkiv region, but seems to include testing Ukrainian defences in Donetsk farther south, while also launching incursions in the northern Sumy and Chernihiv regions.

> In Russia, six people were injured in shelling in the city of Shebekino in the Belgorod region bordering Ukraine, regional Gov. Vyacheslav Gladkov said Sunday. He also said that a local official, the deputy head of the Korochansky district, had been killed by "detonation of ammunition."



He gave no details.

In the neighbouring Kursk region, three people were injured Sunday when an explosive device was dropped from a drone, according to acting regional head Alexey Smirnov.

Speaking at Asia's premier security conference in Singapore, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy accused China on Sunday at of helping Russia to disrupt an upcoming Swiss-organized peace conference on the war in Ukraine.

Also on Sunday, White House National Security Communications Adviser John Kirby confirmed President Joe Biden agreed to allowing Ukraine to use some U.S.provided weapons to strike inside Russia to relieve "incredible downward pressure" that Russia has put on Kharkiv.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WORLD BRIEFS

SOUTH KOREA

North Korea will stop sending trash balloons

North Korea said it will stop sending trash-carrying balloons into South Korea, claiming Sunday that its campaign left the South Koreans with "enough experience of how much unpleasant they feel." The North's announcement came hours after South Korea said it would soon punish North Korea with "unbearable" retaliatory steps over its balloon activities and other recent provocations.

ICELAND

Tomasdottir elected as new president

Halla Tomasdottir, a businessperson and investor, has won Iceland's presidential election, topping a crowded field of candidates in which the top three finishers were women, the country's national broadcast service reported. Tomasdottir was elected to the largely ceremonial post with 34.3 per cent of the vote, defeating former prime minister Katrin Jakobsdottir, with 25.2 per cent, and Halla Hrund Logadottir, with 15.5 per cent.

UNITED STATES

Firefighters battle blaze near San Francisco

California firefighters expected to gain ground Sunday on a winddriven wildfire that scorched thousands of acres 97 kilometres east of San Francisco, burned down a home and forced residents to flee the area. The fire erupted Saturday afternoon in the grassy hills managed by the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

STAR WIRE SERVICES

Murdoch ties the knot for the fifth time

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK Media magnate Rupert Murdoch, 93, has married for the fifth time, his corporation, News Corp, confirmed Sunday.

Murdoch and Elena Zhukova, a 67-year-old Russian-born retired molecular biologist, wed Saturday in a ceremony at his vineyard estate in Bel Air, Calif. Photographs of the

newly married couple were released by News Corp. The couple announced their engagement in March, Murdoch was most recently married to model and actor Jerry Hall. They were wed in 2016 and divorced in 2022.

Zhukova is the ex-wife of Alexander Zhukov, a billionaire energy investor and Russian politician. Their daughter, Dasha, was previously

married to Russian billionaire Roman Abramovich, who used to own the Premier League soccer club Chelsea.

Last fall, Murdoch stepped down as leader of both Fox News' parent company and his News Corp media holdings. His son, Lachlan, took his place in a media empire that spans continents and helped to shape modern American politics.

COX, A12 DIMANNO, A13 WILNER, A13

RBC CANADIAN OPEN

A dream finish slips away

Hughes had share of lead on hometown course, but couldn't keep pace with MacIntyre



ANCASTER, ONT. It could have been considered greedy, Canadian sports fans dreaming of homegrown golfers winning back-toback titles at the RBC Canadian Open.

But a year after Nick Taylor became the first Canadian to win the national men's championship in 69 years, there were moments on Sunday at Hamilton Golf and Country Club when the prospect of one of Taylor's countrymen following in his footsteps didn't seem farfetched. Taylor, mind you, wasn't in the picture, having missed the cut in his title defence. But after Mackenzie Hughes reeled off three straight birdies in the first four holes of his final round, the longtime pro from nearby Dundas found himself tied for the lead with Scotland's Robert MacIntyre.

And in some ways, you could have made a case Hughes had the upper hand. The 27-year-old MacIntyre, after all, began the day with a fourshot lead. He had never won a PGA Tour event in 44 previous starts, while recently commiserating about the homesickness that comes with playing on tour as a lad from small-town Oban. And on a day when MacIntyre's many chasers were reeling off birdies ad nauseam Rory McIlroy was among a handful of players who fired a six-underpar round of 64 — it didn't help that MacIntyre stumbled out of the blocks.

The 33-year-old Hughes, meanwhile, came into the day as a twotime PGA Tour winner competing on a course he had played dozens of times as a kid. Advantage, Hughes.

Or not. As it turned out, a Sunday victory by anyone not named MacIntyre would have required a considerable collapse from MacIntyre. And though there were moments when the Scotsman looked wobbly, including back-to-back bogeys on Nos. 12 and 13, he ultimately steadied himself to shoot a final-round 68, good enough for a one-shot win at 16 under for the tournament. After sinking the clinching par putt and embracing his father, Dougie, who filled in as his caddy for the tournament, MacIntyre paid tribute to the old man.

"The guy's taught me the way I play golf," MacIntyre said.

"We've got a hell of a fight in the two of us."



R.J. JOHNSTON TORONTO STAR

As for Hughes, he pronounced It was a roller-coaster Sunday for Mackenzie Hughes, who briefly shared the lead at the himself "gutted" after carding a fi- RBC Canadian Open before eventually tying for seventh. "I just didn't feel like I had my nal-round 70 that left him tied for stuff," he said.

seventh, six shots off the winning score and nipped down the stretch for low Canadian by Corey Connors, who shot a Sunday 65 to finish sixth.

And as much as Taylor broke a historic drought with his 72-putt a year ago, that didn't stop Hughes from acknowledging the weight of a hometown event is significant.

"It's a big week with a lot of energy spent and a lot of (obligations) and I don't know if I kind of just fell flat there at the end or what, but I just couldn't put it together," Hughes said.

Still, Hughes also made the point through the week that the crowd "pulled him to the finish line." So maybe his result wasn't as much about location as it was about form.

"I just didn't feel like I had my stuff," he said.

Fair enough. It was hard to fathom somebody topping Taylor's heroics at Oakdale, and nobody came close. Maybe the biggest news of the day was McIlroy's post-tournament vow to be a perennial attendee of the event, a commitment far stronger than the current year-to-year sponsorship agreement of the title sponsor.

"It's a pleasure to come up here and play every year and I'm going to keep doing that until they tell me I can't come over the border," said McIlroy, the world No. 3.

That's good news for the national open, which currently resides in a kind of limbo brought on by the uncertainty of pro golf's impending landscape.

MacIntyre's win, meanwhile, was good news for MacIntyre, who earned an accompanying two-year exemption to the world's most lucrative golf tour and a cheque for \$1.692 million (U.S.), 10 per cent of which is traditionally passed on to the winning caddy for a job well done. Clearly, though, MacIntyre's arrangement with his looper was a long way from transactional. This weekend MacIntyre credited his father with the "tough love" talkingto that turned around a wayward third round.

Though he said he respects the advice of professional caddies, and he's had a few, MacIntyre said a word from his father "hits differently, because he properly means

"I know the caddies mean it for another reason, I mean they're obviously wanting us to do well, but my dad wants me to do well because we're blood ... and there's nothing other than pride and guts and what we're trying to do," he said. "I mean, he's been through thick and thin with me ... It's just so good to have him there and just fighting with me."

U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN

A different flag, but a familiar result for Saso

DOUG FERGUSON

LANCASTER, PA. She was the first Filipina to win the U.S. Women's Open. Now she's the first from Japan. And sweetest of all for Yuka Saso was sharing the biggest prize in her sport with the countries of both her parents.

Saso delivered a masterpiece on the back nine at tough Lancaster Country Club on Sunday amid collapses from so many contenders. She closed with a 2-under 68 for a three-shot victory. Thee four players in the last two groups combined to go 22-over par.

And then she held back tears at the trophy presentation - the silver Semple Trophy has only the names of the 79 winners, not their countries — as she thought about how

much her Filipina mother and Japanese father have provided so much care and support. She won at The Olympic Club in 2021 playing under the flag of the Philippines. She won at Lancaster three years later under the flag of Japan. She couldn't be prouder of both.

"Winning in 2021, I represented the Philippines. I feel like I was able to give back to my mom," Saso said. "This year I was able to represent Japan, and I think I was able to give back to my dad. I'm very happy that I was able to do it.

"It's just a wonderful feeling that I was able to give back to my parents in the same way."

Only the flag changed. The 22year-old Saso was just as solid down the stretch as she was at Olympic Club, where two late birdies got her



Yuka Saso now has two U.S. Women's Open titles, having won in 2021.

into a playoff she won over Nasa Hataoka.

This time, she rode four birdies over a five-hole stretch on the back nine with a collection of clutch moments with tee shots and putts, wedges and long irons, everything the hardest test in gold demands. And no one could catch her.

Saso got up-and-down for par from short of the 18th green to finish at 4-under 276, winning by three shots over Hinako Shibuno. who in 2019 became the first Japanese player to capture the Women's British Open.

They were the only two players under par, the fewest for the Wom-

en's Open in 10 years. Saso, who has two titles on the Japan LPGA before coming to America, joined Se Ri Pak and In Gee Chun as the only players to make their first two LPGA victories major championships.

This also was her first win since Olympic Club, a victory so surprising she said she wasn't ready for the spotlight. She handled everything Lancaster and the Women's Open threw her way.

"I really wanted it, as well — not just to get a second win but also to prove something to myself," Saso said. "I haven't won in three years. I definitely had a little doubt if I can win again or if I won't win again. But yeah, I think those experiences helped a lot, and I think I was able to prove a little bit something to myself."

Saso won \$2.4 million (U.S.) from the \$12-million purse.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL PLAYOFFS



JEFF MCINTOSH THE CANADIAN PRESS

Oilers

Stars

4-2

Oilers win series

Stars goalie Jake Oettinger has company in his crease with Oilers forward Dylan Holloway behind him Sunday night.

Oilers carry Canada's hopes

After beating Stars, Edmonton faces task of ending nation's Cup drought



DAMIEN COX OPINION

A hockey-mad nation is hoping a seventh attempt will finally end a most maddening drought.

On six previous occasions since Montreal became the country's last Stanley Cup winner in 1993, Canadian NHL teams have challenged for the trophy in the Cup final and been denied each time. The drought has gone on for so long that Winnipeg has both lost and regained its NHL franchise since Canada last celebrated a Cup.

It will now fall to the resilient Edmonton Oilers, a team that looked like it was going absolutely nowhere last fall, to make a seventh Canadian attempt at recapturing Lord Stanley's mug a successful one starting this weekend when they take on the Florida Panthers in the 2024 Cup final.

Known primarily for brilliant offensive talents like Connor McDavid and Leon Draisaitl, the Oilers knocked off the Dallas Stars in six games in the Western Conference final mostly by suffocating the high-powered Dallas offence, third-best in the NHL this season. After Dallas posted a 2-0 first-period lead in Game 4, having already won two of the first three games, the Stars only scored two more goals the rest of the way against a determined orange-and-blue defensive wall.

ensive wall. 10th goal of Edmonton eliminated the Stars Oettinger.

with a taut 2-1 victory in Game 6 despite being dominated by Dallas and held to 10 shots on goal. Zach Hyman scored the winning goal, set up by McDavid.

The Oilers have won five Cups since joining the NHL in the World Hockey Association merger in 1979, but none in the past 34 years. This latest visit to the NHL's championship final comes nine years after McDavid was drafted first overall in 2015, and represents a realization of all the promise the Oilers believed they were generating by a series of highly publicized No. 1 picks.

Florida joined the league in the 1993-94 season and has twice made it to the Cup final, but has never won. The Panthers were beaten in last year's Cup final by the Vegas Golden Knights.

Edmonton's clinching performance Sunday night was a strange, unconvincing one in that the Oilers established an early lead, but by the second had been thoroughly outplayed one home ice. The shots after two periods were 21-8 for Dallas, and the Stars had dominated possession and offensive ice time.

Edmonton, in fact, seemed to be just holding on, or just waiting for one more prime scoring chance to ice the game.

The two-goal lead was established in the first period by, you guessed it, the awesome Edmonton power play. First, it was McDavid dancing through the Dallas defence, finally outfoxing star defenceman Miro Heiskanen before depositing his 10th goal of the playoffs past Jake Oettinger.

Later in the first, McDavid fed Hyman, who took one stride before whipping a wrist shot past Oettinger's right shoulder. Dallas, meanwhile, dressed youngster Mavrik Bourque for his second NHL game in a desperate attempt to find some offence.

The Oilers continued to play on their heels early in the third, and Draisaitl took a delay-of-game penalty for shooting the puck over the glass at 4:32 of the period. Edmonton defended superbly, making it a remarkable 28 straight penalty kills in the playoffs.

Dallas finally scored with 10:42 left in the third period when former Maple Leafs farmhand Mason Marchment found the open net with Oilers goalie Stuart Skinner caught out of position. Dallas ended up outshooting Edmonton 35-10, but couldn't create another goal.

In the Cup final, the Edmonton power play will once again be a focal point. In the playoffs so far, Paul Maurice's feisty Panthers have killed off 88 per cent of the penalties they have taken, second only to Edmonton in the playoffs.

Edmonton will be looking to become the first team since the 2019 St. Louis Blues to win a Cup after changing head coaches during the season. Kris Knoblauch replaced Jay Woodcroft last fall after the Oilers got off to a 3-9-1 start.

The last six Canadian teams to try and fail to end the country's Stanley Cup drought were Vancouver (1994), Calgary (2004), Edmonton (2006), Ottawa (2007), the Canucks again (2011) and Montreal (2021).

Curse catches up with Rangers

Presidents' Trophy winner hasn't lifted Cup since 2013

TIM REYNOLDS

SUNRISE, FLA. When it was over, Vincent Trocheck wrapped his arms around goaltender Igor Shesterkin. Mika Zibanejad took a knee along the boards, watching Florida celebrate. Some other members of the New York Rangers stared blankly, just waiting for the handshake line to form.

The best team in the regular season isn't going to the Stanley Cup final, again. There hasn't been a Presidents' Trophy winner to double up with the Stanley Cup in 11 years, and New York is the latest team to find itself on the wrong end of that curse. The Rangers lost to Florida 2-1 on Saturday night, losing the Eastern Conference final in six games.

"There's a disappointment that sets in. We are dealing with that right now," Rangers coach Peter Laviolette said. "Nobody was expecting to be on this end of it. We were expecting to come here tonight, win a hockey game and bring it back to (Madison Square Garden) for a Game 7. So, there's a disappointment."

The margin was so small: a sixgame series and five of them were one-goal games. New York allowed only 16 goals in the series, but scored only 12.

It was a goalie duel. New York's Shesterkin was absurdly good, with a 2.25 goals-against average and .930 save percentage. But Florida's Sergei Bobrovsky matched him (1.89, .921).

"(Shesterkin has) been our best player ever since he put on the Rangers jersey," Rangers forward Chris Kreider said. "We've been incredibly lucky to have him. ... He gives us a chance to win every night."

Until Saturday, this East title series followed a script for which Rangers fans would have done anything to see repeated: New York loses Game 1, wins Games 2 and 3, loses Games 4 and 5, then goes on the road to win Game 6 and keep the season alive. That was the order of events in the 1994 East final, when the Rangers beat New Jersey in double overtime to win Game 7 and then went on to snap a 54-year championship drought by beating Vancouver in the Stanley Cup Final.

Not this time. Though a bounce here, a bounce there, and the whole thing might have been very different.

"Not a lot of answers right now," Rangers captain Jacob Trouba said. "Nobody gave up. The effort and compete was there. We just came up short."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JUNIOR HOCKEY

Spirit soar to their first Memorial Cup title

ABDULHAMID IBRAHIM

SAGINAW, MICH. Josh Bloom scored the game-winning goal with 21.7 seconds left to lift the host Saginaw Spirit to their first Memorial Cup with a 4-3 victory over the London Knights on Sunday.

Bloom tucked in a rebound after a scramble ensued in front of the net from a Jorian Donovan point shot and the home crowd erupted. The Knights had rallied from a 3-0 deficit to tie the game.

Saginaw becomes the eighth firsttime participant to win the Memorial Cup since 1972 and the first since 2011. In addition, the Spirit became the third host team in the last six tournaments to win the title.

It's also the fifth time an American CHL team has won the Memorial



THE CANADIAN PRESS

Saginaw's Joey Willis celebrates his goal against the London Knights on Sunday. Cup in its 104-year history. The Portland Winterhawks (1983, 1988) and the Spokane Chiefs (1991, 2008) were the others.

Owen Beck, with two goals, and Joey Willis also scored for host Saginaw. Andrew Oke stopped 10 shots.

Kasper Halttunen, Easton Cowan, Sam Dickinson replied for London. Michael Simpson made 27 saves.

Sunday's final was the 12th time the two teams have squared off this season.

The Knights and Spirit split their

The Knights and Spirit split their four regular-season meetings before matching up in the OHL Western Conference finals, where London emerged victorious in six games. London also beat Saginaw in the round robin of this tournament.

Beck opened the scoring at 9:07 of the first period, to a thunderous

Spirit

4

Knights

ovation from the home crowd. Beck won the faceoff at the left circle but a scramble for the puck ensued, and he got the loose puck and fired it past Simpson glove side with nobody else aware of where the puck was.

London forward Landon Sim was given a five-minute major and a game misconduct for an elbow to Zayne Parekh's face that left the star Spirit defenceman down on the ice for a couple minutes before getting up under his own power.

Beck added his second of the game on the power play with 44.3 seconds left in the first. He fired in a one-timer from the right faceoff circle on a feed from Bloom 18 seconds into the man advantage.

The Spirit outshot the Knights 13-1 through 20 minutes of play.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

BLUE JAYS

Guerrero at home on the hot corner

After five years away from 'favourite position,' Jays star says he feels comfortable playing third



ROSIE DIMANNO OPINION

Vladimir Guerrero Jr. didn't like the question. Which we know because those Spanish lessons came in handy. So it didn't matter that the interpreter edited out the answer.

"Why is she asking me that question? I'm not thinking about that. Why does she always come at me with the negative? Ask her that."

It was a perfectly valid inquiry to put to Guerrero. How much more confident did he feel playing third base on Sunday after not appearing there since his rookie season in 2019, when he committed 17 errors at the hot corner?

Guerrero didn't even get a ball to field until the seventh inning of a close-out matinee against Pittsburgh at the Rogers Centre, which the Blue Jays won 5-4. So now the Jays have proved they can sweep a series against the worst team in the majors, the Chicago White Sox, and take a series off the 11th-worst team, the Pirates.

Although it was a close thing by the ninth inning when the visitors drew within one run. All four of Pittsburgh's runs were driven in by former Jay Rowdy Tellez, who was handling the bag at first for Toronto the last time Guerrero started at third.

"No, I was not anxious at all," Guerrero claimed about waiting for a ball to come to him, which he caught deftly, showing off a powerful arm on the throw to first for the out. "I was ready. Just trust myself at third base."

The switch — and manager John Schneider was clear that there was no forever position change afoot allowed Justin Turner to start at first instead of DH, while keeping Daniel Vogelbach's hot bat in the lineup. Vogelbach plated a pair of runs with a double in the fifth and also singled earlier, and is batting .450 over his last eight games with three doubles and a home run.

The strategic intent was obvious: to coax more offence out of a limphitting team, with less playing time for Cavan Biggio and Ernie Clement. The Jays had II hits Sunday, thus it worked.



NICK LACHANCE TORONTO STAR

Vladimir Guerrero Jr., throwing a ball to fans, made his first start at third base in five years on Saturday.

"It was a conversation for the last couple of weeks," said the skipper, a fortnight during which Guerrero was often spotted taking ground balls at third before games. "We weren't going to do that until we built him up."

Sunday hadn't necessarily been a target date for a back-to-the-future reprise of Guerrero as a third baseman. But with Vogelbach swinging the bat well, the stars aligned.

It was, added Schneider, a consensus decision to try out the new configuration and Guerrero was game. "I think it just offers some flexibility." Expect to see more of the same, here and there.

"Maybe a couple of days out of a week and a half ... try to maximize other guys on the roster."

It is a roster that needs all the help it can get. Even Bo Bichette, whose hitting has come around after a brutal start to the season, went 0for-Pittsburgh in this series.

"I always told everybody that I'm available in case they need me, that I'm ready to play third," Guerrero

said. "Just today it happened and I was ready for it."

At the end of his rookie season, Guerrero played winter ball in the Dominican to improve his defence at third, though he made only cameo appearances thereafter at third with the Jays. "I signed as a third baseman so it's my favourite position. I'm the kind of player who thinks if you can play both corners, first and third, the right way, that will give the manager more options, like today ... I'll prepare for first or third, wherever the team needs from second to third.

His throwing harm was never the issue, more his footwork at third base.

"You've got to give a lot of credit to Vlad because it's not easy to do," Schneider said of Guerrero's return to third. "It shows what kind of teammate he is."

The comfort level there is significant and Guerrero is in better physical shape than he was five years ago. "The game has kind of slowed down for (Guerrero) a little

bit," the manager said. "Him understanding that he has a really, really strong arm and he can play at a certain depth like he was playing today." That showed on a put-out of pinch-hitter Yasmani Grandal to lead off the eighth.

By the top of the ninth, Guerrero was back at first when Yimi Garcia took the mound to close. The juggling meant the Jays ended the game with four of their starting players at different positions, including Isiah Kiner-Falefa shifting

Starter Chris Bassitt earned his sixth win — reaching 1,000 career innings pitched — giving up three runs in five innings. But he was always surrounded by Pirates on the basepaths, surrendering eight hits, a walk, and plunking three. At least the stiff neck that bothered him in his last start had gone away, though Bassitt blamed the missed workouts and bullpen in between for this erratic performance.

"I put myself in a lot of jams today because of that."

Blue Jays

>>>>>>>

Pirates

TONIGHT

Orioles at Blue Jays 7 p.m.

(Sportsnet)

Not everyone is piling on as Hernández retires



MIKE WILNER OPINION

The sudden retirement of longtime umpire Angel Hernández last week sent celebratory shock waves across Major League Baseball.

The 62-year-old, a big-league umpire since 1991, was consistently among the worst ball-strike callers in the game — though not the absolute worst, as his defenders have said. He always found a way to be in the centre of the biggest controversies in the games he worked. Hernández never shied away from the spotlight, often making his worst calls at the biggest moments in games. He made the game about him.

That, along with an incredibly short fuse for ejections, is why baseball fans know his name and why none of them are sad to see him go.

Blue Jays icon Jose Bautista never had much patience for what he perceived to be poor officiating back in his playing days. In 2013, upset with umpire Jeff Nelson's strike zone on opening day, Bautista dropped a quote for the ages.

"Sometimes I have trouble more than other players dealing with my production being affected by somebody else's mediocrity."

Succinct, beautifully put and absolutely true. But now the slugger, second to Carlos Delgado on the Jays' all-time home run list, wishes he had kept those specific sentiments to himself.



DUSTIN SATLOFF GETTY IMAGES FILE PHOTO

Umpire Ángel Hernández was consistently among the worst ball-strike callers in the game and often found himself in the spotlight.

"I was pretty intense as a player. I've kind of mellowed out a little bit since," Bautista said Friday. "Sometimes, in the heat of the moment, you say things, even though they hold true and you mean them, that maybe you could use a different choice of words."

The 43-year-old, who last played in the majors in 2018, is sympathetic now to the men in blue with whom he had so many stare-downs and dust-ups over the years.

"I think, at the end of the day, Angel's a good guy," said Bautista, who was in town to help unveil the Jays' new City Connect uniforms. "I believe in my heart he was trying to be as good as he could be every single day. And we're all humans, right? It's hard to be perfect in this game, especially as an umpire when you're getting older. ... The game's getting quicker, so you're going in opposite directions."

While Bautista seemed uncharacteristically forgiving of Hernández's flaws, one of his former teammates wasn't so charitable.

"He tries to insert himself into situations," said Jason Grilli, the Blue Jays' setup man in their 2016 trip to the American League Championship Series. "I don't know why somebody wants to be that controversial. And if he feels good about what people are saying about him, I don't know ... That's a different way to go out."

Grilli told a story on the latest episode of "Deep Left Field," the Star's baseball podcast, about trying to patch things up with Hernández after the right-hander, who always pitched with his heart on his sleeve, got a little too emotional about a

couple of calls behind the plate.

"The next day, I went up to him and said, 'Hey Angel, it was a big moment. I wasn't trying to show you up, just wanted to let you know it was my bad, obviously' ... because I didn't want to get screwed in later games."

Hernández didn't react well to the olive branch.

"He had some comments, spouted off to me," Grilli said. "And I was like, 'Well, I guess that wasn't worth a s--. I retract my statement, forget it.' I was trying to make good ... and he wasn't having it."

While that story may not paint Hernández as someone who deserves your sympathy, Kevin Gausman has some for him anyway.

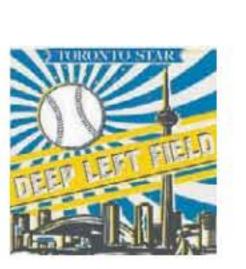
"I think he's kind of been a punching bag," Gausman said Sunday. "It's unfortunate because he's still a person and obviously worked really hard to get to the big leagues and had a great career. I feel like he was always not spoken about very highly ...

"That's got to stink for him so, you know, I feel for him in that regard." It's important to remember that umpires, referees and officials are human beings with real feelings, with friends and families who they

love and who love them.

But it's also important to remember that there are many wonderful, loving people in the world who are bad at their jobs, most of whom wouldn't get to keep such a highprofile gig for more than three decades.

"This guy did have a job," Grilli said. "Did he do it well? I think the majority of people would say no."



SCAN THIS CODE FOR MIKE WILNER'S BASEBALL PODCAST



FRENCH OPEN



EMMANUEL DUNAND AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Novak Djokovic was on the court until after 3 a.m. Sunday in his win over Lorenzo Musetti at the French Open.

Late show gets bad reviews

No one likes having matches end after 3 a.m., but they can't agree on a fix

HOWARD FENDRICH

PARIS Iga Swiatek provided a simple explanation for why she requested that the French Open not put her on the schedule during one of its night sessions, which often turn into way-past-midnight sessions.

"I just like to sleep normally," the No. 1-ranked player said.

Getting the right amount of sleep is no easy task in Grand Slam tennis these days, for the athletes or for those watching them compete. Current players, ex-players and the folks who run the sport tend to agree that it's hardly ideal to carry on into the wee hours of the morning, something that keeps happening.

The latest example was defending champion Novak Djokovic's fiveset victory at Roland Garros against Lorenzo Musetti, a contest that began after 10:30 p.m. in Paris on Saturday and didn't wrap up until after 3 a.m. Sunday.

Not great for the players or the fans. Or the stadium workers. Or the on-court officials. The biggest problem? No one can get on the same page when it comes to finding a fix.

"It's a complicated thing," U.S. Open champion Coco Gauff said Sunday. "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. Obviously, you can't control when they finish."

should be curfews in place everywhere, the way Wimbledon halts action at 11 p.m. — and others who think that's not practical for TV

purposes or for players who would rather just finish what they started.

There are those who propose beginning day sessions before 11 a.m. or noon in the main stadiums, and others who believe players would rather not be out there in the morning, a time when few sports take place. Spectators and organizers Sunday with a might object, too.

There are those who suggest men should play best-of-three-set matches instead of best-of-five and others who maintain the longer format creates additional drama and is essential to the allure of major tournaments.

Then again, as Swiatek noted: "I don't know if the fans are watching these matches if they have to go to work the next day, or something, when the matches are finishing at 2 or 3 a.m."

During the French Open, which ends its two-week run Sunday, one of the hurdles has been the weather: Showers on five consecutive days, including Saturday, created havoc with the schedule.

"There are lots of factors that weigh into this stuff. Solutions are difficult, because you have to put yourself in everyone's seat," said Jim Courier, who won two of his four major trophies at the French Open in the early 1990s. "So you pick your poison. There's no good answers when it rains as much as it

One of the reasons the Djokovic-Musetti match got going so late in the evening was that it was preceded by another third-round match There are those who argue there that was supposed to have been Canadian in the completed Friday but was suspended, so it was moved to Court Philippe Chatrier to take advantage of PRESS its retractable roof.

AND THEN THERE **WERE NONE**

Félix Auger-Aliassime's run at the French Open ended 6-3, 6-3, 6-1 loss to third seed Carlos Alcaraz. The Spanish had little trouble from Auger-Aliassime, breaking the Canadian six times on 16 chances to wrap up the match in two hours 20 minutes. Auger-Aliassime didn't help his cause with 39 unforced errors. The 23-year-old appeared to struggle with his left leg and called a trainer at the changeover when down 3-2 in the second set, then left the court for a medical timeout. Auger-Aliassime, seeded 21st at Roland Garros, was the last singles draws.

"Some things could have been handled a different way," said the 37-year-old Djokovic, who is pursuing a record 25th career Grand Slam singles title. "There's beauty,

recover as quick as possible." The group he co-founded to support the sport's athletes, the Professional Tennis Players Association, has tried to draw attention to the need for a way around the latenight madness. "It's certainly a player health issue. Also a fan and viewer issue. Meaning a business issue, too," PTPA executive director Ahmad Nassar said Sunday. "It's also a representation issue."

as well, I guess, (in) winning the

match ... at 3:30 a.m., if it's the last

one of the tournament. But it's not.

So I'm going to have to switch (on)

all of my young genes and try to

The WTA and ATP pro tours said in January that the number of matches finishing after midnight "has risen considerably in recent years," prompting them to test new rules governing late sessions.

Those do not apply to the Slams, though.

"Individually, we all study our event and track match times and how big an issue is it, really? There are certainly outliers and exceptions all the time," said Lew Sheer, CEO of the U.S. Tennis Association, the organization that runs the U.S. Open.

"Look, we continue to study and continue to look for creative solves. But if there were easy, obvious ones, we all would have aligned.

"If there are tweaks we can make to improve it, we'll certainly consider and look at those. But I don't think there's something definitive coming this year."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Swiatek, Gauff sprint into quarters

JEROME PUGMIRE

PARIS After the French Open marathon came the sprints.

Defending champion Iga Swiatek swept into the quarterfinals at Roland Garros in about 40 minutes with 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.

Swiatek won 48-10 in points and never faces a game point against her. "I was just really focused and in the zone," she said. "It went pretty quickly, pretty weird."

Their match started at around 11 a.m. on Court Philippe Chatrier, just eight hours after men's defending champion Novak Djokovic won a five-set, four-and-a-half-hour marathon against Lorenzo Musetti in the latest finish in tournament history.

Potapova attributed her crushing defeat to the constant rain delays in recent days sapping her energy.

"Unfortunately in the last couple of days I started feeling not well, eating not well. Last night I did not get an hour of sleep," Potapova said. "It's very tough, to be honest. Especially when you want to play good you have to try to keep everything inside.

"But unfortunately if you keep it inside it doesn't go away, it just keeps growing. The stress inside my body kept growing and, unfortunately, today was the day when it exploded."

Saturday didn't help much.

"Yesterday I spent all day on site because I had doubles. We came at 9 (a.m.) and at 7 p.m. it got (postponed). I spent all day here without hitting a ball. That's not the preparation for the fourth round of a Grand Slam against the world No.

Swiatek remains on course for her third consecutive French Open title and fourth overall. The top-ranked Pole plays Wimbledon champion Marketa Vondrousova next after the fifth-seeded Czech beat unseeded Serb Olga Danilovic 6-4, 6-2.

Gauff faces Tunisian Ons Jabeur, the eighth seed, who advanced to her second straight French Open quarterfinal after beating unseeded Dane Clara Tauson 6-4, 6-4.

In men's fourth-round play, twotime Grand Slam winner Carlos Alcaraz and 2021 French Open runner-up Stefanos Tsitsipas set up a quarterfinal showdown.

Tsitsipas beat unseeded Italian Matteo Arnaldi 3-6, 7-6 (4), 6-2, 6-2 and the ninth-seeded Greek celebrated enthusiastically with the Court Suzanne Lenglen crowd.

"Now me and the crowd are on this, so it felt amazing," said Tsitsipas, who saved a set point at 5-4 down in the second set. "I felt there was power within me to turn this game around."

What about playing Alcaraz?

"He has said in the past that he likes to play against me," Tsitsipas said. "I hope he likes it a little bit less."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BASKETBALL

Wiggins would be 'honoured' to play for Canada

THECANADIAN

DOUG SMITH

SPORTS REPORTER

Andrew Wiggins lived through two gut-wrenching failed attempts to become an Olympian with the Canadian men's basketball team in 2015 and 2020. Whether he'll have a shot to finally appear in the Games without having to go through the qualification is still to be determined.

He's being coy.

"I'd be honoured to play for our country but we'll see what happens," Wiggins said on a Zoom call last week to announce his involvement with CWENCH Hydration, a product developed by the founders

of the Biosteel Sports Nutrition company.

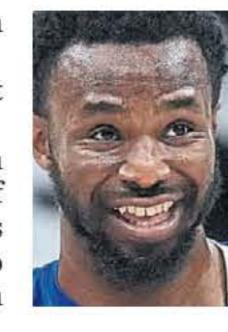
"Just stay tuned and we'll see what the road brings."

Wiggins was on the Canadian team that fell one game short of qualifying for the 2016 Rio Games and the one that came up two games short of earning a berth in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

"I love playing," he said of the two events. "It was fun every time."

But Wiggins didn't agree to a three-year commitment with Canada in 2021 and was not part of the team that qualified for the Olympics with a historic bronze medal at last year's World Cup.

"They had a great summer," the



Andrew Wiggins played for two previous Canadian teams that missed out on qualifying for the Olympics.

29-year-old from Thornhill said. "All those guys did their thing and really put on for the country."

Because he wasn't part of that team and didn't take part in training camps or World Cup qualification events, Wiggins is not guaranteed a berth on the Paris Games team.

He will be extended an invitation to a camp that begins in late June in Toronto and will be given every chance to earn one of an expected three open spots on the roster.

How, or if, he fits on a roster that includes wings like RJ Barrett, Dillon Brooks, Lu Dort and Nickeil Alexander-Walker will be up to coach Jordi Fernandez and general

manager Rowan Barrett.

Wiggins' history with the national team is a continuum. If he plays in Paris, it will be more than a decade of being involved with Canada Basketball teams. He would be one of the real veterans, taking the torch from those who gave it to him and helping the current group set the standard for future generations.

"I'm sure I influenced a lot the young guys that came up as the guys before me did ... like Denham Brown, Phil Dixon, Cory (Joseph) and Tristan (Thompson)," Wiggins said. "One day maybe Shai (Gilgeous-Alexander) and Jamal (Murray), they'll be saying the same thing about them."

Porzingis looks close to return

Celtics centre has been out since April, but is aiming to be ready for Finals

KYLE HIGHTOWER

BOSTON Whether injured Celtics centre 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 him being able to return to the court sooner rather than later during Boston's matchup with the Dallas Mavericks.

The seven-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. 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 post-season.

"When K.P. 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," 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 practice session, Porzingis was one of only a handful of players still on the court, going through extended three-point shooting drills with assistant coaches and trainers. He wore a compression sleeve on his injured left leg. Then, on Satur-



SCOREBOARD

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. Before his injury in the Miami series, he averaged 14.0 points, 5.7 rebounds and 1.5 blocks.

Porzingis missed seven games earlier this season with what the team called left calf injuries. He also missed time with a smattering of other issues this season, from inflammation and bruises in his right knee, right hamstring problems, a sprained left ankle and a sore back.

Those ailments added up to 25 missed games in which Boston went 21-4.

Celtics guard Derrick White, who day he participated in light 5-on-5 was voted to the NBA all-defensive back." play with his teammates, his most third team along with teammate THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jrue Holiday, said Porzingis's presence on the defensive end is hard to replicate.

"He does a great job of just making things difficult," White said. "It's always nice to know that he's back there, whether he blocks or he doesn't block. He makes them think about it."

Holiday said one of the reasons the Celtics have been able to excel without Porzingis during this stretch is because they remember what it was like going through those periods during the regular season without him. That said, the preference is to have Porzingis available when the Finals start Thursday. Holiday doesn't think reintegrating him will be an issue.

"K.P. is one of the best scorers. He's one of our best rim protectors," Holiday said.

"And I feel like we're all mature enough to get back in the groove or have him fit right back in whenever he comes back. And we do want K.P.

SPORTS BRIEFS

AUTO RACING

Dixon wins fourth in Detroit

Scott Dixon won a record fourth Detroit Grand Prix, outlasting the competition in a caution-filled race on Sunday to become the first Indy-Car driver with two victories this season. The six-time IndyCar Series champion won his 58th career race, trailing only A.J. Foyt's total of 67 in the series. Dixon, who is from New Zealand, broke a tie in the Detroit Grand Prix record books with Will Power and Helio Castroneves. He finished nearly a second ahead of Marcus Ericsson.

BASKETBALL

Fever's Clark held to 3 points

Caitlin Clark had just one basket and three points in the worst game of her young pro career, and the New York Liberty routed the Indiana Fever 104-68 on Sunday night. Clark shot 1-for-10 and had five assists. The No.1 draft pick played the first few minutes of the fourth quarter before exiting, holding her ear as she left the court.

CRICKET

West Indies opens with win

West Indies scrapped to a nervy five-wicket win over Papua New Guinea as the T20 World Cup of cricket held its first match in the Caribbean on Sunday, with Providence, Guyana, hosting the match. Co-host U.S. enjoyed a seven-wicket win over Canada in the tournament opener Saturday. Papua New Guinea's spinners restrained the West Indies power hitters but it wasn't enough as the tournament co-hosts reached a victory target of 137-5 with an over to spare.

STAR WIRE SERVICES

GB

3

10

12

.356

Pct

.689

.649

L

19

20

NHL PLAYOFFS

CONFERENCE FINALS (Best-of-7) EASTERN CONFERENCE

N.Y. RANGERS (M1) VS. FLORIDA (A1) (Florida wins series 4-2) Saturday's result Florida 2 N.Y. Rangers 1 Thursday's result Florida 3 N.Y. Rangers 2

WESTERN CONFERENCE DALLAS (C1) VS. EDMONTON (P2)

(Edmonton wins series 4-2) Sunday's result Edmonton 2 Dallas 1

Friday's result Edmonton 3 Dallas 1 SATURDAY

PANTHERS 2, RANGERS 1 First Period

No Scoring.

1. Florida, Bennett 6 (Rodrigues) 19:10. Penalties - Trocheck NYR (hooking) 3:56; Okposo Fla (interference) 11:30. Second Period

Penalties — None. Third Period Florida, Tarasenko 3 (Lundell, Luostar-

inen) 9:08. 3. NY Rangers, Panarin 5 (Trocheck, Fox) 18:20. Penalties - None.

Shots 9 9 6-24 NY Rangers 13 11 10-34 Florida Goal — NY Rangers: Shesterkin (L, 10-6); Florida: Bobrovsky (W, 12-5). Power plays (goals-chances) - NY Rangers: 0-1; Florida: 0-1.

NHL PLAYOFF SCORING LEADERS Not including Sunday's game

Attendance - 19,865.

	G	A	PTS
Connor McDavid, Edm	4	25	29
Leon Draisaitl, Edm	10	17	27
Evan Bouchard, Edm	6	19	25
Vincent Trocheck, NYR	8	12	20
Ryan Nugent-Hopkins, Edn	n 6	14	20
Matthew Tkachuk, Fla	5	14	19
Zach Hyman, Edm	13	4	17
Carter Verhaeghe, Fla	9	8	17
Aleksander Barkov, Fla	6	11	17
Wyatt Johnston, Dal	10	6	16
Miro Heiskanen, Dal	6	10	16
Jason Robertson, Dal	6	10	16
Mika Zibanejad, NYR	3	13	16
Artemi Panarin, NYR	5	10	15
Cale Makar, Col	5	10	15
Jamie Benn, Dal	4	11	15
Alexis Lafreniere, NYR	8	6	14
Nathan MacKinnon, Col	4	10	14
Mikko Rantanen, Col	4	10	14
Chris Kreider, NYR	8	4	12
Sam Reinhart, Fla	8	4	12

NBA PLAYOFFS CONFERENCE FINALS

(Best-of-7) EASTERN CONFERENCE

BOSTON (1) VS. INDIANA (6) (Boston wins series 4-0)

WESTERN CONFERENCE MINNESOTA (3) VS. DALLAS (5)

(Dallas wins series 4-1) NBA FINALS

(Best-of-7)

Dallas at Boston, 8 p.m.

BOSTON (E1) VS. DALLAS (W5) Thursday, June 6 Dallas at Boston, 8:30 p.m. Sunday, June 9

HOCKEY

MEMORIAL CUP **CANADIAN MAJOR JUNIOR** CHAMPIONSHIP At Saginaw, Mich.

Sunday's result

CHAMPIONSHIP Saginaw (OHL/host) 4 London (OHL) 3

Friday's result SEMIFINAL

Saginaw 7 Moose Jaw (WHL) 1 RECENT CHAMPIONS 2024 — Saginaw Spirit (OHL) 2023 — Quebec Remparts (QMJHL)

2022 — Saint John Sea Dogs (QMJHL) 2020-21 — Tournaments Cancelled (COVID-19 pandemic) 2019 — Rouyn-Noranda Huskies (QMJHL) 2018 — Acadie-Bathurst Titan (QMJHL)

2017 — Windsor Spitfires (OHL) 2016 — London Knights (OHL)

AHL PLAYOFFS CONFERENCE FINALS (Best-of-7) EASTERN CONFERENCE

HERSHEY (A1) VS. CLEVELAND (N1) (Hershey leads series 2-0) Saturday's result Hershey 3 Cleveland 2 (OT)

Tuesday's game Hershey at Cleveland, 7 p.m. WESTERN CONFERENCE

Tuesday's game

COACHELLA VALLEY (P1) VS. MILWAUKEE (C1) (Coachella Valley leads series 2-0) Friday's result Coachella Valley 3 Milwaukee 1

Coachella Valley at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.

BASKETBALL CEBL

Sunday's results Edmonton 93 Saskatchewan 77 Montreal 95 Brampton 77 Saturday's results Scarborough 95 Niagara 87 Winnipeg 93 Ottawa 80 Vancouver 100 Calgary 74 Monday's games No Games Scheduled. Tuesday's game

Edmonton at Vancouver, 9 p.m. WNBA

Sunday's results Connecticut 69 Atlanta 50 Phoenix 87 Los Angeles 68 New York 104 Indiana 68 Minnesota 87 Dallas 76 Saturday's result Indiana 71 Chicago 70 Monday's games No Games Scheduled. Tuesday's games Washington at Connecticut, 7 p.m. New York at Chicago, 8 p.m. Phoenix at Seattle, 10 p.m.

BASEBALL

IBL Sunday's results Chatham-Kent at London (ppd., rain) Guelph at Toronto (ppd., rain) Hamilton at Brantford (ppd., rain) Welland at Kitchener (ppd., rain) Saturday's results Barrie 8 Chatham-Kent 5 Hamilton 12 Brantford 3 Guelph 5 Kitchener 1 Welland 6 London 5

GOLF

PGA-RBC CANADIAN OPEN At Ancaster, Ont.

Sunday's Final Round — Par 70 Robert MacIntyre, \$1.692M 64-66-66-68-264 Ben Griffin, \$1.0246M 70-65-65-65-265 70-68-64-64-266 Victor Perez, \$648,600 70-68-65-64-267 Tom Kim, \$423,000 66-72-65-64-267 Rory McIlroy, \$423,000 Corey Conners, \$340,750 69-67-67-65-268 Ryan Fox, \$295,317 66-64-70-70-270 Mack Hughes, \$295,317 69-64-67-70-270 M. McNealy, \$295,317 74-65-66-65-270 Sam Burns, \$227,950 63-71-67-70-271 Joel Dahmen, \$227,950 67-65-69-70-271 Keith Mitchell, \$227,950 69-67-68-67-271 Chandler Phillips, \$227,950 69-70-68-64-271 Jacob Bridgeman, \$152,750 69-68-68-67-272 Beau Hossler, \$152,750 70-70-66-66-272 Michael Kim, \$152,750 71-68-66-67-272 Andrew Novak, \$152,750 66-67-70-69—272 Aaron Rai, \$152,750 67-70-65-70-272 68-68-68-68-272 Sam Stevens, \$152,750 Carson Young, \$152,750 68-69-67-68-272 67-70-64-72-273 T.Fleetwood, \$106,377 Taylor Pendrith, \$106,377 69-69-66-69-273 62-71-73-67-273 David Skinns, \$106,377 Zac Blair, \$83,190 67-68-71-68-274 67-71-68-68-274 Tyler Duncan, \$83,190 68-70-66-70-274 Chad Ramey, \$83,190 70-66-72-67-275 Stewart Cink, \$65,800 66-68-67-74-275 Trace Crowe, \$65,800 Sean O'Hair, \$65,800 63-71-71-70-275 Thorbjorn Olesen, \$65,800 68-68-72-67-275 Jhonattan Vegas, \$65,800 70-69-69-67-275 Matt Wallace, \$65,800 68-72-65-70-275 72-68-68-68-276 Shane Lowry, \$54,755 Vince Whaley, \$54,755 68-69-69-70-276 Pierceson Coody, \$44,851 70-66-70-71-277 69-69-69-70-277 Ryo Hisatsune, \$44,851 Nicolai Hojgaard, \$44,851 68-69-72-68-277 65-73-70-69-277 Ryan Palmer, \$44,851 C.T. Pan, \$44,851 70-70-68-69-277 Ben Silverman, \$44,851 68-71-70-68-277 Sami Valimaki, \$44,851 70-67-71-69-277 Harry Hall, \$29,986 69-71-71-67-278 Nick Hardy, \$29,986 66-69-70-73-278 Garrick Higgo, \$29,986 69-69-70-70-278 Mark Hubbard, \$29,986 70-68-70-70-278

70-70-69-69-278 Kelly Kraft, \$29,986 71-69-72-66-278 Nate Lashley, \$29,986 Adam Scott, \$29,986 70-69-70-69-278 Erik Van Rooyen, \$29,986 66-70-70-72-278 70-70-67-71-278 Joseph Bramlett, \$22,591 68-72-69-70-279 A. Dmnt De Chssrt, \$22,59167-72-70-70—279 68-71-72-68-279 Chesson Hadley, \$22,591 71-69-69-70-279

Kevin Yu, \$29,986 Lanto Griffin, \$22,591 Adam Svensson, \$22,591 72-68-69-70-279 Gary Woodland, \$22,591 70-70-70-69-279 Mac Meissner, \$21,526 67-73-68-72-280 Kevin Streelman, \$21,526 71-68-69-72-280 Myles Creighton, \$21,526 71-68-71-70—280 69-69-74-69-281 Akshay Bhatia, \$21,056 Ryan Moore, \$21,056 69-68-71-73-281 69-69-72-72-282 Jorge Campillo, \$20,586 71-68-70-73-282 Brandon Wu, \$20,586 70-66-72-74-282 Wil Bateman, \$20,586

Chez Reavie, \$20,022 69-71-72-71-283 70-67-75-73-285 Kevin Tway, \$19,646 David Hearn, \$19,458 67-73-72-76-288 LPGA-U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN At Lancaster, Pa.

Vincent Norrman, \$20,022 71-68-71-73-283

Erik Barnes, \$20,022

Hannah Green

Mi Hyang Lee

A Lim Kim

70-69-74-70-283

76-71-72-66-285

74-71-70-70-285

74-67-71-73-285

Sunday's Final Round — Par 70 68-71-69-68-276 Yuka Saso 71-70-66-72-279 Hinako Shibuno 74-72-68-66-280 Ally Ewing Andrea Lee 69-69-67-75-280 Arpichaya Yubol 72-72-68-69-281 71-72-71-68-282 Ayaka Furue 69-67-69-77-282 Wichanee Meechai 74-72-68-68-282 Atthaya Thitikul Sakura Koiwai 72-69-70-72-283 Minjee Lee 70-69-66-78-283 74-69-69-71-283 Rio Takeda Jin Hee Im 73-68-70-73-284 75-73-67-69-284 Hyo Joo Kim 72-71-70-71-284 Miyuu Yamashita 73-71-69-71-284 Ruoning Yin

72-73-72-69-286 Carlota Ciganda Charley Hull 75-72-72-67-286 70-71-73-72-286 Chisato Iwai 73-74-72-67-286 Yan Liu 70-78-71-67-286 Jenny Shin 72-69-74-72-287 Wei-Ling Hsu 75-71-71-70-287 Jiwon Jeon 73-71-73-71-288 Aditi Ashok 72-71-70-75-288 Min Byeol Kim 72-72-71-73-288 Sophia Popov 70-77-72-70-289 Pia Babnik 72-71-75-71-289 Jodi Ewart Shadoff Sarah Kemp 75-72-72-70-289 73-73-70-73-289 Su Ji Kim

75-73-72-69-289

72-73-73-71-289

SOCCER MLS

Jin Young Ko

Xiyu Lin

EACTEDNI CONFEDENCE

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	P
Miami	18	10	3	5	42	27	3
Cincinnati	16	10	3	3	23	16	3
N.Y. City F.C.	16	9	5	2	24	17	2
N.Y. Red Bulls	16	8	3	5	29	22	2
Charlotte	17	7	6	4	18	18	2
Toronto	17	7	7	3	26	26	2
Columbus	14	6	2	6	21	13	2
Philadelphia	16	4	4	8	27	23	2
Nashville	16	4	5	7	20	22	1
D.C.	17	4	6	7	25	31	1
Orlando	16	4	7	5	16	24	1
Montreal	16	4	7	5	23	35	1
Atlanta	16	4	8	4	22	21	1
Chicago	17	3	8	6	17	29	1
New England	14	3	10	1	11	27	1

Charlotte 5 Atlanta 2 Saturday's results Chicago 2 L.A. Galaxy 1 Houston 2 Portland 2 Los Angeles F.C. 1 Dallas 0 Minnesota 3 Kansas City 1 Montreal 2 Philadelphia 2 New England 2 Nashville 1

N.Y. Red Bulls 1 Orlando 0 Salt Lake 5 Austin 1 St. Louis 3 Miami 3 Toronto 2 D.C. 2 Vancouver 2 Colorado 1 Seattle at Columbus (ppd., scheduling)

Sunday's results Halifax 2 Ottawa 2 Winnipeg 2 Vancouver 0 Saturday's results Calgary 1 Victoria 1

TENNIS FRENCH OPEN At Paris Sunday's results

Hamilton 3 York 0

MEN

Singles — Fourth Round Jannik Sinner (2), Italy, def. Corentin Moutet, France, 2-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-1. Carlos Alcaraz (3), Spain, def. Felix Auger-Aliassime (21), Montreal, 6-3, 6-3,

Grigor Dimitrov (10), Bulgaria, def. Hubert Hurkacz (8), Poland, 7-6 (5), 6-4, 7-6 Stefanos Tsitsipas (9), Greece, def. Mat-

teo Arnaldi, Italy, 3-6, 7-6 (4), 6-2, 6-2.

WOMEN Singles — Fourth Round

Iga Swiatek (1), Poland, def. Anastasia Potapova, Russia, 6-0, 6-0. Coco Gauff (3), United States, def. Elisabetta Cocciaretto, Italy, 6-1, 6-2. Marketa Vondrousova (5), Czechia, def. Olga Danilovic, Serbia, 6-4, 6-2. Ons Jabeur (8), Tunisia, def. Clara Tauson, Denmark, 6-4, 6-4.

MLB

N.Y. Yankees

Baltimore

Before his

Porzingis

points, 5.7

first round

against the

Miami Heat.

MEGAN BRIGGS

GETTY IMAGES

FILE PHOTO

injury, Celtics

averaged 14.0

rebounds and

1.5 blocks in the

centre Kristaps

AMERICAN LEAGUE **EAST DIVISION**

Boston 30 .500 111/2 31 29 .483 121/2 Tampa Bay .483 121/2 Toronto 28 30 **CENTRAL DIVISION** GB Pct 20 39 .661 Cleveland 36 25 .590 Kansas City

42

37

26 33 Minnesota .559 29 30 Detroit .492 10 45 .250 241/2 Chi. White Sox 15 WEST DIVISION

GB Pct 27 .557 Seattle 30 29 .492 Texas 26 34 .433 Houston 71/2 Oakland 24 37 .393

21 38

NATIONAL LEAGUE

L.A. Angels

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	41	19	.683	- 2
Atlanta	33	24	.579	61/2
Washington	27	31	.466	13
N.Y. Mets	24	35	.407	161/2
Miami	21	39	.350	20

GB Pct 23 Milwaukee 36 .610 29 28 St. Louis .491 29 31 Chicago Cubs .483 71/2 32 27 .458 Pittsburgh 26 33 Cincinnati .441 10 WEST DIVISION

Pct GB L L.A. Dodgers 38 23 32 30 San Diego .516 61/2 29 31 San Francisco .483 81/2 32 27 .458 Arizona 10 21 37 Colorado .362 151/2 AMERICAN LEAGUE

Sunday's results Minnesota 4 Houston 3 Tampa Bay 4 Baltimore 3 Detroit 8 Boston 4, 10 innings Seattle 5 L.A. Angels 1 Saturday's results Houston 5 Minnesota 2 Boston 6 Detroit 3 Baltimore 9 Tampa Bay 5

Monday's games Baltimore (Rodriguez 5-2) at Toronto (Gausman 4-3), 7:07 p.m. Detroit (Skubal 7-1) at Texas (Eovaldi 2-2), 8:05 p.m. **NEXT BLUE JAYS GAME**

Tuesday's game

Seattle 9 L.A. Angels 0

Baltimore (Burnes 5-2) at Toronto (TBD), 7:07 p.m. NATIONAL LEAGUE Sunday's results Arizona 5 N.Y. Mets 4 Cincinnati 5 Chicago Cubs 2 L.A. Dodgers 4 Colorado 0 St. Louis 5 Philadelphia 4, 10 innings

Saturday's results Arizona 10 N.Y. Mets 5 Philadelphia 6 St. Louis 1 Chicago Cubs 7 Cincinnati 5 L.A. Dodgers 4 Colorado 1 Monday's games

Milwaukee (Wilson 3-1) at Philadelphia (Wheeler 6-3), 6:40 p.m. N.Y. Mets (Megill 0-2) at Washington (Gore 4-4), 6:45 p.m. Cincinnati (Abbott 3-5) at Colorado (Feltner 1-4), 8:40 p.m. San Francisco (TBD) at Arizona (Nelson 0-0), 9:40 p.m.

INTERLEAGUE Sunday's results Washington 5 Cleveland 2 Atlanta 3 Oakland 1 Texas 6 Miami 0

Toronto 5 Pittsburgh 4

Milwaukee 6 Chicago White Sox 3 Kansas City 4 San Diego 3 N.Y. Yankees 7 San Francisco 5 Saturday's results Pittsburgh 8 Toronto 1 Cleveland 3 Washington 2 San Diego 7 Kansas City 3

Texas 7 Miami 0 Milwaukee 4 Chicago White Sox 3, 10 in-Oakland 11 Atlanta 9

N.Y. Yankees 7 San Francisco 3 Monday's games St. Louis (Gibson 4-2) at Houston (Verlander 3-2), 8:10 p.m.

San Diego (Waldron 3-5) at L.A. Angels (Anderson 5-5), 9:38 p.m. **BLUE JAYS 5, PIRATES 4** Pittsburgh ab r h bi Toronto McCutchen dh 3 0 1 0 Schneider If-2b4 1 2 1

Reynolds If 3 0 1 0 Jansen c 4 0 2 0 4 1 1 0 Guerrero 3b-1b4 1 1 1 Cruz ss 5 2 2 0 Bichettess 4 0 0 0 Hayes 3b 5 1 1 0 Vogelbach dh 4 0 2 2 Gonzales 2b 5 0 1 0 Turner 1b 4 0 0 0 4 0 3 4 Kiermaier cf 0 0 0 0 Tellez 1b Triolo pr 0 0 0 0 Springer rf 4 0 1 0 5 0 1 0 Varsho cf-lf 3 2 2 0 3 0 0 0 Knr-Flfa 2b-3b3 1 1 0 Koch c Grandal ph-c 1 0 0 0 Totals 38 4 11 4 Totals 345 11 4 Pittsburgh 001 020 001 -4 11 1

Toronto 001 031 00x -5 11 0 E-Stratton (1). LOB-Pittsburgh 13, Toronto 6. 2B-Tellez (4), Cruz (13), Varsho (10), Vogelbach (5), Schneider (14). Priester L,0-5 4.2 8 4 4 3 1 0 0 0

Stratton Mlodzinski 0 0 0 1 0 Nicolas Toronto ER BB SO Bassitt W,6-6 8 3 3 1 7 0 0 0 Green H 2 2 0 0 0 Richards H 1 1 0 0 0 1 Pearson H 1 2 1 1 0 3 Garcia S,3 HBP-Bassitt 3 (Joe, McCutchen, Reynolds). WP-Priester T-2:57. Attendance-34,887 (39,150) at

Rogers Centre. BETTING

LINE

+104

-102

LINE

OFF

+114

THE ODDS MLB

MONDAY FAVOURITE

AMERICAN LEAGUE LINE UNDERDOG -122 TORONTO Baltimore -116 TEXAS Detroit NATIONAL LEAGUE FAVOURITE PHILADELPHIA

LINE UNDERDOG OFF Milwaukee NY Mets -122 WASHINGTON+104 Cincinnati -134 COLORADO ARIZONA OFF San Fran INTERLEAGUE

LINE UNDERDOG LINE **FAVOURITE** HOUSTON -164 St Louis +138 San Diego -126 LA ANGELS +108 Note: Home teams in capitals.

LIVE TV/RADIO MONDAY BASEBALL

SN590 MLB: St. Louis at Houston, 8 p.m. TSN1 **TENNIS**

French Open, Rd. of 16, 5 a.m. TSN2

MLB: Baltimore at Toronto, 7 p.m. SN1,

V. Poor Hazard

Mississauga

Newmarket

Extreme

Mississauga

Newmarket

WINDSOR

YELLOWKNIFE

14/5/5

EDMONTON

SAN FRANCISCO

Los Angeles

40 35 30 25 20

Cold

15

Thunderstorms

Warm

Moonrise: 3:30am Moonset: 5:57pm

10

5

Trough

0

-5 -10 -15

Occlusion

22/17/PC

16/12/C

SASKATOON

26/19/PC

NORTH AMERICA TODAY

22/14/PC

22/12/SH

Oshawa

Oakville

Oshawa

Mod.

Mod.

Hamilton

Niagara Falls

STEADY: NO CHANGE

Barometer is RISING * compared to yesterday.

Temperature Trend

Today is about AVERAGE.

Precipitation

Today: Wuning Grescent

Pressure [kpa]:

Humidity [%]:

Local Almanac

Today's Average [°C]:

Expected [at 3pm ET]:

Normal, Month [mm]:

Percent of Normal:

Moon and Sun

Difference:

June

Current:

Difference:

101.6

21.9

-0.9

78.7

0.0

-78.7

0%

Sunset: 8:55pm

St. Catharines 6

Barometer Toronto downtown today

Barrie

Brampton

Burlington

Guelph

Hamilton

Kitchener

Niagara Falls

St. Catharines

Low 0-2 Moderate 3-5 High 6-7 Very High 8-10 Extreme 11+

6

UV Index Toronto downtown peak today

LOCAL FIVE-DAY FORECAST: TODAY'S FORECAST: High: Low: Tomorrow Wednesday 16 17 P.O.P: 30% P.O.P: 40% P.O.P: 80% Mix, sun and clouds. Cloudy, showers. Thunderstorm. Wind: E, 14kmh Wind: SE, 12kmh Feels Like: 24 Feels Like: 23 Sunlight Hours: Sunlight Hours: P.O.P: Probability of Precipitation Air Quality Toronto downtown today ONTARIO TODAY Good 1-3 Moderate 4-6 Poor 7-8 Very Poor 9-10 Hazard 11+ 26/16/PC





Saturday 14 19

P.O.P: 40% Cloudy, showers. Wind: W, 32kmh Feels Like: 19 Sunlight Hours: 3

TODAY TOMORROW Canada Ontario TODAY TOMORROW 26/13 PC 26/15 SH | Banff Bancroft 25/15 PC 25/17 R Calgary Barrie Bracebridge 25/15 PC 25/16 SH Charlottetown 15/9 Brantford 25/14 PC 27/18 R Churchill 28/17 PC Edmonton Cornwall 28/15 S 15/10 20/13 R 25/13 R Fredericton 20/12 C 22/11 Dryden 22/11 PC Goderich 20/18 PC 25/19 R 24/11 Goose Bay Hamilton 23/14 SH 25/18 R Halifax SH Huntsville 25/15 PC 26/17 SH Igaluit 21/13 PC 20/12 R Kamloops Kenora Kingston 25/15 PC 26/19 PC Kelowna

Friday

19

Wind: SW, 18kmh

Feels Like: 20

TWO-DAY FORECASTS

P.O.P: 70%

Light rain.

Sunlight Hours:

	15/PC		6	Kitchener	25/14	SH	27/17	R	Moncton	15/11	SH	19/10	C
201	IJ/EC	-		London	25/16	PC	27/19	SH	Montréal	29/16	S	29/17	S
P				Niagara Falls	25/16	PC	26/20	SH	Prince George	13/7	R	14/5	R
				North Bay	25/15	PC	25/16	R	Québec	26/13	S	26/14	S
				Ottawa	28/15	S	28/17	PC	Regina	22/12	SH	17/10	SH
Восн	ESTER	1		Owen Sound	24/16	SH	27/18	R	Saint John	17/11	PC	20/11	PC
25/16	PC	البليد		Parry Sound	25/16	SH	25/17	R	St John's	9/6	SH	8/6	R
		77		Pembroke	27/15	S	28/16	SH	Saskatoon	18/13	R	18/8	R
11			18	Peterborough	25/14	PC	26/17	T	Vancouver	14/10	R	16/8	R
PC				Sudbury	26/16	PC	24/16	R	Victoria	13/10	SH	16/9	R
1				Sault Ste Marie	23/14	PC	24/17	PC	Whistler	9/5	R	10/4	R
				Thunder Bay	13/11	R	17/12	C	Whitehorse	13/7	R	14/4	R
				Timmins	28/16	S	27/17	SH	Winnipeg	22/14	PC	21/13	R
				Trenton	24/14	PC	27/18	C	Yarmouth	17/9	R	19/10	PC
				Windsor	26/19	PC	29/20	PC	Yellowknife	14/5	S	14/6	S
				Europo					Asia Dasifi	_			
		MORR		Europe	5272333	GETSU		F5037.	Asia-Pacifi		-		
15/9	SH	15/10	-	Amsterdam	18/12	SH	20/13	SH	Auckland	17/10	С	15/11	С
23/9	PC	22/7	PC	Athens	32/24	PC	34/24	S	Bangkok	32/27	С	32/27	T
29/19	SH	30/19	SH	Belfast	17/13	SH	16/8	SH	Beijing	34/19	S	34/22	
21/17	R	18/18	PC	Belgrade	26/15	SH	26/16	S	Hong Kong	26/24		25/24	
31/21	SH	31/21	PC	Berlin	20/14	PC	21/14	SH	Jakarta	32/25		33/25	hillow
25/13	S	24/14	S	Brussels	18/11	С	20/13	SH	Karachi	32/28		32/28	
26/19	T	24/20	T	Budapest	23/16	SH	21/14	SH	Manila	34/28	T	34/28	Т
31/24	SH	32/25	SH	Copenhagen	18/11	C	18/15	PC	Mumbai	32/29	T	32/29	SH
29/24	S	29/23	SH	Dublin	18/12	С	17/6	SH	New Delhi	46/35	S	43/33	S
31/26	SH	32/25	SH	Frankfurt	19/9	SH	21/11	S	Seoul	27/14	S	29/17	S
39/26	S	39/27	S	Geneva	21/11	SH	23/12	SH	Singapore	29/25	T	28/27	T
22/17	PC	23/18	PC	Glasgow	17/11	PC	14/6	SH	Sydney	17/9	S	17/10	PC
31/25	Т	31/25	T	Helsinki	20/15	SH	19/12	S	Tokyo	24/17	S	24/16	SH
28/22	SH	28/22	SH	Kyiv	25/17	SH	25/17	T	Africa - Mic	ddle E	East	3	
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26/15	SH	26/16	S	Hong Kong	26/24	R	25/24	R
20/14	PC	21/14	SH	Jakarta	32/25	T	33/25	Т
18/11	С	20/13	SH	Karachi	32/28	S	32/28	PC
23/16	SH	21/14	SH	Manila	34/28	T	34/28	T
18/11	С	18/15	PC	Mumbai	32/29	T	32/29	SH
18/12	С	17/6	SH	New Delhi	46/35	S	43/33	S
19/9	SH	21/11	S	Seoul	27/14	S	29/17	S
21/11	SH	23/12	SH	Singapore	29/25	T	28/27	Т
17/11	PC	14/6	SH	Sydney	17/9	S	17/10	PC
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29/18	S	31/19	S	Baghdad	44/31	S	45/31	S
25/16	S	24/17	SH	Beirut	31/25	S	30/25	S
25/10	PC	18/12	SH	Cairo	41/22	S	42/23	S
20/13	PC	21/13	PC	Dakar	44/31	S	45/29	S
20/11	C	21/12	PC	Harare	26/15	S	28/16	S
24/14	SH	26/14	S	Jerusalem	37/20	S	32/22	S
26/15	SH	23/14	S	Johannesburg	14/1	SH	12/3	S
22/15	Т	23/14	SH		26/16	T	26/16	Т
24/15	SH	24/14	PC	Riyadh	43/30	S	44/30	S
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30/28 PC Caracas 26/20 SH 26/19 SH Puerto Plata 20/12 SH 19/11 SH Havana 31/26 S 29/26 T Kingston Santiago 32/28 T 32/28 T STARS

How do I set boundaries with my adult children?



TESHER ADVICE

LISI

Two of my three adult children rent houses on my two small properties. I have no pension, so my rentals are my pension plan. My kids constantly demand more from me and block me access to my properties, even though initially I told them I would keep one bedroom in each house for storage and occasional sleepovers.

My 29-year-old son calls me a "monster" for staying overnight in my city bedroom, and my son-in-law threatened to sign divorce papers (from my daughter) if I ever knock on his door again. The back story is that my daughter asked me to come check her out because she was coughing, couldn't breathe and was afraid she might die. She never told her husband she asked me to come over, so he thought I showed up just to "check up" on them.

My ex blamed me for all of his failings, and I feel my kids are doing the same. They get really, really angry whenever I try to discuss things with them. According to them, I apparently have everything while their dad is "struggling" as the owner of a boutique private seniors home so can't be expected to help them out at all.

Can you give me some words to help me set boundaries? I need help communicating to them that, in exchange for cheap rent, I get to stay in my bedroom once or twice a week. And I can knock on their door without being accused of destroying their marriage.

Blame game

I think you're mixing everything up too closely. There are too many strings attached here. Your son and son-in-law don't sound very friendly. However, your arrangement seems boundaryless, which isn't fair to them or healthy for your relationship.

I suggest you come up with a different arrangement with the help of a lawyer. I am not a lawyer, but you could, for example, get different tenants who aren't related and up the rent, thereby getting you more for your retirement. Or you could keep a closet in the basement or garage for storage as opposed to a bedroom in the main house. If you need a place to stay, you could set up a granny flat with private entrance, thereby giving your children and yourself privacy from each other.

I've been helping my boyfriend's brother get his new company up and running while I'm in between school and my summer plans. The idea behind the company is really innovative and I think it has a lot of potential.

My boyfriend's brother is a lazy stoner who comes to work pumped, but then smokes a joint and falls into a stupor leaving the rest of us to figure out next steps. On top of that, he hits on me when he's stoned, and then apologizes when he's not.

I haven't shared any of this with my boyfriend because he would be so angry (and disappointed) with his brother. But I'm not sure how much longer I want to stay in these working conditions. What should I do?

Awkward situation

You have no choice but to talk to your boyfriend. You need support! You shouldn't be wasting your time working for someone who isn't committed to his own project. And you shouldn't be subject to his unwanted advances. Telling his brother, your boyfriend, isn't being a tattletale it's showing care and concern for your employer and the future of his company AND protecting yourself from any unwelcome attention.

It's time to look for a new job and keep your distance from this man for the time being. Feedback Regarding the bride who upset her

cousin regarding her plus one (April 24): Reader "My response depends on who EXACT-LY the invitation was addressed to. If it was specifically to her cousin and the cousin's boyfriend, then the bride is fully in her right to refuse the 12-year-old.

"But, if the invitation was to her cousin 'plus one' then definitely the bride should apologize for her knee-jerk reaction. However, it was still wrong of the cousin to assume she could just fill that spot with whomever she chose."

Feedback Regarding the woman who suffers from allergies and her friend's party (May 1): Reader "Duhhh! MASKS! People still can wear them and they are now publicly accepted." ELLIE TESHER AND LISI TESHER ARE ADVICE COL-UMNISTS FOR THE STAR AND BASED IN TORONTO. SEND YOUR RELATIONSHIP QUESTIONS VIA EMAIL: ELLIE@THESTAR.CA OR LISI@THESTAR.CA.

Thursday

P.O.P: 60%

20

A few showers.

17

U. S. A

Anchorage

Atlantic City

Baltimore

Boston

Chicago

Honolulu

Houston

Las Vegas

Los Angeles

Myrtle Beach

New Orleans

Palm Springs

Philadelphia

Salt Lake City

San Francisco

Saint Louis

Washington

Acapulco

Bermuda

Belize City

Bridgetown

Bogota

Tampa

Pittsburgh

New York

Orlando

Dallas

29/16/\$

27/16/PC

Aspen

Atlanta

39/27 S

27/18 SH 28/17 PC Oslo

26/16 SH 29/18 PC Paris

22/14 S

23/14 S

31/22 T

34/25 S

29/20 SH 30/20 PC Warsaw

30/25 PC 29/25 S

23/22 PC 23/22 S

London

Madrid

Moscow

Prague

Rome

Vienna

Stockholm

Buenos Aires

Cancun

27/16 PC 22/17 S

32/22 SH 33/22 S

39/23 S

25/15 C

16/12 C

33/25 S

Caribbean & Latin America

32/22 PC

14



MECCA WOODS HOROSCOPES

Whatever we set our mind to, we can achieve today. The buzzy energy in the atmosphere will be useful for fuelling ideas, problem-solving, and learning. We're encouraged to be openminded and entertain our curiosity. We can also harness today's planetary power by connecting with new people and teaming up with others. Since it could be tempting to be overly stubborn and resistant to change under today's skies, we should aim to be as co-operative and flexible as possible for the best results.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19)

Don't close yourself off to new people. There's so much you can gain from fostering such connections.

TAURUS

(April 20 to May 20)

Avoid being too hard on yourself. Remember what makes you special and unique. **GEMINI**

(May 21 to June 20)

Give your mind positive things to focus on. Be mindful of ruminating on the past.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)

It might be helpful to unplug and lay low for the day (if possible). Your mind needs a rest.

LEO

(July 23 to Aug. 22) You can't really control what

others do. Sometimes it's best to live and let live or give folks a wide berth.

VIRGO

(Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)

It's not always about the destination. Get as much as you can out of the journey.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)

Try to avoid stewing in negative feelings. Seek out something

that gives you joy and hope. **SCORPIO**

17/12 C

(Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may need to do a little digging to get to the heart of a matter. If anyone can work it out, it's you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)

You may have lots to do today. Partnering with others can help lighten your workload.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)

Be open to trying a new approach or method. Don't just stick with what's familiar.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Engaging in fun or creativity

can be good for your mood. Let out your inner child.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) If you're going back and forth with yourself about a decision,

following your intuition will help you make the best choice. FOR TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

You are kind-hearted and

charismatic. You brighten up a room just by being in it. You're resourceful and multi-talented. Though, with all that you can do, you may need to be mindful of taking on too much. One of your lessons in life is learning how to keep yourself balanced. When you're at your best, you're unstoppable. You've got the brainpower and determination to do anything. This year, invest in experiences that feed your soul, no matter if they're big or small.

BIRTHDATE OF:

Jalen Suggs, professional basketball player; Anderson Cooper, broadcast journalist; Anne Winters, actor.



Anderson Cooper is an American journalist best known as an anchor at CNN.

ENTERTAINMENT

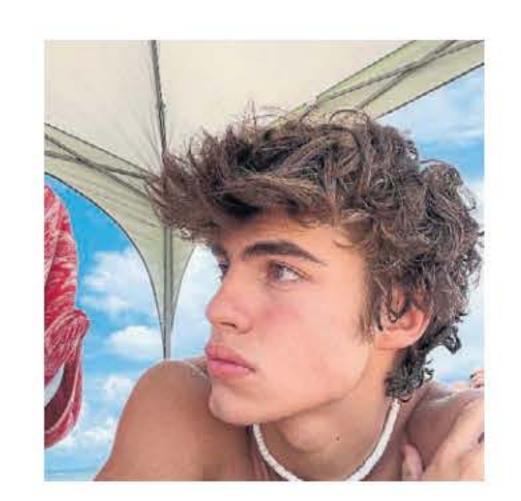
A dark side

Fandom can make 'Star Wars' a difficult place for women **B5**

BEAUTY

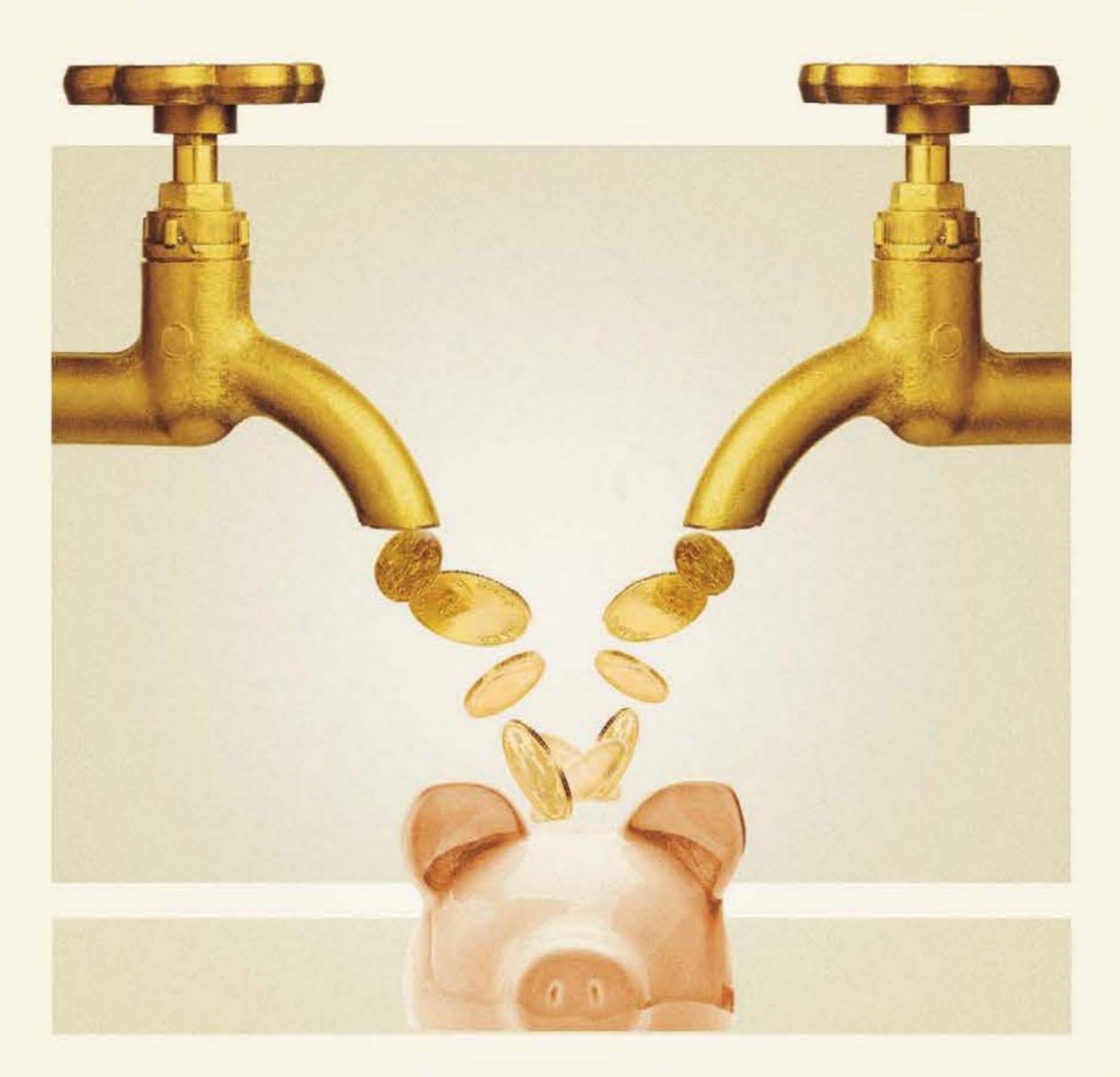
Hair game

Teenage boys have embraced the old-school perm **B6**



CIETS OF THE

Work freedom. Unlimited income potential. Expert tips for turning on the taps to extra cash while maintaining your full-time gig



LORA GRADY

SPECIAL TO THE STAR

At a time when many are struggling to make ends meet, more Canadians are starting their own side hustles to bring in extra income.

A side hustle is a gig (think walking dogs, babysitting, starting a YouTube channel) that brings in extra money outside of someone's regular job, which is still their main source of income.

In a 2023 survey from RBC, 88 per cent of respondents agreed that one income isn't enough thanks to inflation and a side hustle provides income that gives them more financial freedom.

benefits, including the freedom to work around your own schedule and unlimited income potential, says Roger Pierce, Toron-

to-based entrepreneurship expert and host of "The Unsure Entrepreneur" podcast. Then there's the autonomy. "The ability to make your own decisions without a boss is very appealing."

Brad Poulos, a lecturer in entrepreneurship at Toronto Metropolitan University and author of "The Small Business Operator's Manual," says it's important to assess how much time you can dedicate to your side hustle without compromising your main job or neglecting family and self-care.

Then, think about any passions you'd like to pursue, whether it's music, art, language or flower arranging. Pierce suggests taking stock of your skills, interests and hobbies.

Having a side hustle comes with a lot of Finally, you'll need to assess demand. "Does anyone want what you're selling?" Poulos asks.

SEE SIDE HUSTLE, B3

RAMON FERREIRA TORONTO STAR ILLUSTRATION USING DREAMSTIME IMAGES

DEBT

Learn to break the cycle of credit

NINA DRAGICEVIC

Between inflation, housing costs and interest rates, debt is ballooning for many younger Canadians.

Scott Terrio sees it all the time. The manager of consumer insolvency at Hoyes, Michalos & Associates Licensed Insolvency Trustees says the average credit card balance in Canada is less than \$4,500, but the cases he saw last year averaged more than \$12,000 for this young group.

Terrio helps clients cut deals with creditors and avoid bankruptcies, if possible. Looking at his 2023 filings for clients aged 18 to 29 across Ontario, he said average credit card debt was up 34.5 per cent from 2022.

Jeffrey Schwartz, executive director of Consolidated Credit Counseling Services of Canada Inc., notices the same trend. The national non-profit organization usually works with Canadians on education and debt restructuring but also sometimes refers clients to insolvency firms if their situation is dire.

"We looked at Q1 for 2023 versus Q1 for 2024," Schwartz said of the firm's clientele. "And specifically for those people that were under 40, in our client base, we're seeing that the debt loads for those people has increased about 27 per cent. Like all of a sudden, when people aren't making that much more, if anything more at all ... not to mention the interest rates that have gone up over the last little while, then it becomes more and more of a challenge."

This represents a large demographic for Consolidated Credit, he added. Over half of its clients are under the age of 40.

Terrio said his clients show up with the "typical Canadian financial life" — starting with a credit card at 18 and a student loan, then card companies keep increasing the limit and consumers run up their debt. Seeing the interest load, these people then get a line of credit with lower interest rates and transfer the balance there.

Now, Terrio said, they feel relieved and they keep spending.

SEE DEBT, B3

PERSONAL FINANCE

No-buy challenge racking up millions of TikTok views

LESLEY-ANNE SCORGIE

CONTRIBUTING COLUMNIST

They've decided not to buy anything deemed non-essential.

If it's not a core expense literally to live, like groceries and their home, they're not buying it.

The rationale varies from environmental reasons, an anti-corporate narrative, the need to save or pay off debt, mental health, reduced consumerism and building mental, social and financial fortitude.

I consider myself an expert at this and usually do a no-buy challenge a few times a year for a duration that typically ranges between a week to 30 days. Each time, I save hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars.

If you want to jump on the bandwagon and turn off the taps on your spending, follow these steps.

Pick a day to start and

a reasonable duration

You might be reading this and want to begin right now - good! Because there is no perfect date. In fact, the further out you push this, the less likely you are to do it. Set your calendar reminders in your phone to

start your no-buy challenge and have it repeat daily until you've completed it.

There's a tendency to try to go for longer than is reasonable for the no-buy challenge — it's really hard to do it for a year. Being successful at a shorter duration will give you the motivation to do another that's a bit longer, and then another.

I coach my student community to begin with five days of no-buying. Push it to 10 days for the next, then to 30 days and so on. The savings and sense of well-being are a huge motivation to extend.

Know your vices and replace them

Maybe it's takeout or sports gambling? It could be booze, dating, streaming services or fitness apps. Heck, maybe your vice is gardening tools.

Your no-buy challenge is going to bring you face-to-face with real spending temptations, old habits, mental patterns, your ambition and confidence.

I know my spending vices (coffees, fancy foods and everything fitness). I know what triggers spending for me (comparing myself to others). SEE NO SPENDING, B2

GTA HOME HUNT



JULIAN MENDL PHOTOS

The kitchen has vibrant green cabinets and a black-and- white tile floor.

Home has lots of green space

Expert says location, close to Cedarvale Park, property's biggest selling point

DANIEL RAMOS

STAFF REPORTER

Price \$1,129,000

Neighbourhood Humewood-Cedarvale

X-factor The location of the home is likely the biggest selling point, according to Othneil Litchmore, the Star's expert real estate agent.

It's in the city, close to Cedarvale Park and not too far from Allen Road, Litchmore added.

"You're in a nice neighbourhood, a nice pocket here," he said.

Ian Matthews, the listing agent, said that the large backyard and the laneway taking you right to Cedarvale Park are probably what will entice buyers the most.

The home at 631 Rushton Rd. offers one bedroom, two bathrooms and a finished basement.

Matthews said that the owners did some renovations on the home to make it more livable.

"It flows really well, kind of in a collective taste, with lots of different paint colours and stuff like that," he said, adding that the space is very colourful, cheery and bright inside.

When viewing the property from outside, prospective buyers will be greeted by a front porch with a vibrant red glass door where they can enter the home to the front foyer.

From there is the main living space, which is very bright and has a fire place, as well as a small dining area in the far corner.

Matthews said that this is a combined dining and living area.

The primary bedroom is through the first door on the right and has a space big enough to have a queen size bed. There is also a shuttered closet in the corner.

On the other side of the house is the kitchen, which stands out with its vibrant green cabinets and checkered tile floors.

The kitchen opens to a deck and long backyard.

Litchmore noted that the properwide and 110 feet long, but he added that it isn't much different than most homes.

"Your average home is probably about 23 (to) 25 (feet) across."

Matthews said the home actually seems bigger inside than most people would think.

In the basement is a finished area with another living room, laundry and a utility space, which is currently being used as storage and a

music room.

Is it listed at its value?

Litchmore believes the home is listed at the right value because of the neighbourhood. He added that if 631 Rushton Rd. sells for its listed price, it would be the cheapest detached home in the neighbourhood so far this year.

"They're in this little pocket, there's been 27 sales, and the cheapest one is \$1,250,000 and the most expensive one has been \$4,000,000."

Litchmore tried to find comparable listings that recently sold but couldn't. A one bedroom nearby, but not in the same neighbour-

"It's now listed where we kind of ty is rather narrow at only 16 feet feel like it should be," Matthews

> The average price of a detached city home in April was \$1,822,244, according to the Toronto Regional Real Estate Board's monthly re-

FROM THE STAR THAT GETS INTO THE DETAILS OF REAL ESTATE LISTINGS IN TORONTO AND THE GREATER

EMAIL US AT SOCIAL@TORSTAR.CA

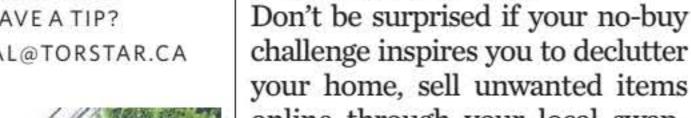


hood, sold for \$846,000.

said.

port. #GTAHOMEHUNT IS A WEEKLY SERIES

TORONTO AREA. HAVE A TIP?



efforts.

challenge inspires you to declutter your home, sell unwanted items online through your local swapand-save site, start budgeting using a new template, talk more openly with friends and family about your money goals, use up your therapy benefits and more.

Make sure to

have a goal

when saving

Because I know what can throw me

off track of my no-buy challenge, I

can plan ahead to deal with whatev-

er comes up. For me, that means

ensuring I've got the groceries I

want and need on-hand, the coffee

pods, the space between myself and

the people in my life that love to

flaunt their new gear, and more.

When the temptation arises, I in-

sert a healthy, free substitute like a

walk, purging my closet so that I get

a good view of all the great fitness

gear I have, making myself a coffee

or a smoothie, visiting with a friend

Know your vices. Understand

your spending triggers (typically

you'll have a physical sensation like

a quickened heartbeat or wet arm-

pits, and irritation is normal when

you're being triggered). As you go

through your no-buy challenge, try

to recognize your triggers, and very

consciously put them in their pro-

This whole no-buy challenge has to

be for something - a goal, a "why"

or it just won't stick. Some Tik-

Tokkers talk extensively about how

they are crushing their debt, or sim-

ply using their savings to keep up

with the rising costs of living. Oth-

ers are saving for something big like

Maybe your reason for doing this

is to show your kids you have what

it takes to turn your finances

around and create a better life for

Anchor on your reasons; trust me,

it makes saying no to spending a lot

I also coach my students to e-

transfer money into their high-in-

terest savings account every day

while they are doing their no-buy

challenge, or if they have credit card

debt, to put that money on the most

expensive balance. That way they'll

have something to show for their

Reflect. Reset. Repeat

easier when there's a bigger goal.

down payments or trips.

your family.

verbial place — the not-today box.

Do something smart with the

money you're saving

who really gets me.

NO SPENDING FROM B1

in mind

Reflect on how things went during your challenge, what lessons you learned that you might want to stick with and plan your next.

A bit of flexibility in your no-buy challenge is OK, too. Give yourself a break if you go off-track, but ensure you step right back into your program.





IN YOUR CORNER OPINION

How to score a deal on a used car and avoid lemons

The finished

dark green

walls. The

that the

wide and

realtor notes

property is

rather narrow

at only 16 feet

110 feet long.

basement has

A lot of manufacturers are starting to phase out some of the sub-\$25,000 models, so it's a good time to buy those.

DANPARK CEO OF CLUTCH SRIVINDHYA KOLLURU CONTRIBUTING COLUMNIST

Up until the pandemic, consumers who wanted a cheaper option to a new vehicle opted for used.

Prices have retreated since the height of the pandemic and the supply line issues automakers faced, but the used car market remains hot and experts have strategies for scoring the best deal on a used vehicle.

Dan Park, CEO of online used vehicle marketplace Clutch, and Callum Caughey, CEO of Oakvillebased Toronto Car Experts, recommend consumers start by setting out a budget in their search for a used vehicle.

In February, the average cost of a used vehicle in Canada was \$38,451, down 2.1 per cent from February 2023, according to data from online car marketplace Autotrader.

Some vehicles are cheaper.

"A lot of manufacturers are starting to phase out some of the sub-\$25,000 models, so it's a good time

to buy those if you're looking for a budget-friendly option," said Park. As well, "the used Tesla market right now is thriving — so if you'd had your eye on a Tesla, you can find a Tesla Model 3 around the \$30,000 mark."

Once you've set your budget and narrowed down your choices, obtain a vehicle's CARFAX or Used Vehicle Information Package (UVIP).

This step will provide details about the vehicle's history, including service records, previous owners and any accidents it may have been involved in.

Next, think about mileage. Typically, higher mileage indicates more wear and tear on a vehicle. according to Vaso Stojanovic, a mechanic at Toronto-based Peter's Garage, who added that Canadians should be prepared to deal with minor repairs on a car with more than 100,000 kilometres on it.

Beware that some vehicles could have had their odometers rolled back, and a CARFAX report can show mileage inconsistencies, added Caughey.

Whether it's the vehicle's mileage, condition or even how long the vehicle has been on the lot, there's a lot of room to negotiate a better deal.

Understanding the cost of financing your vehicle is another crucial aspect of your used car search. This includes considering add-ons like extended warranties and tire and rim protection. If you have a high credit score and strong credit history, you shouldn't have to pay a 15 per cent interest rate, said Park.

"While that might be a reasonable sum for someone, don't get duped into the monthly payments some dealerships will try to quote you on. Look at the true cost of financing and understand what your number should actually be."

Park also recommends doing your research on price comparison websites if you plan to trade in your car.

The three experts agreed that the most important part of your search is doing your due diligence.

HITTING THE BRAKES ON USED CAR PRICES

Depending on the vehicle, the average price for used rides ranged from \$32,730 and \$47,574 in the first quarter of 2024.



SOURCE: AUTOTRADER CANADA TORONTO STAR GRAPHIC

Millennial Money will return

Finding right work-life balance is important

SIDE HUSTLE FROM B1

Before making a big commitment, spend some time doing customer discovery and find out what kind of market exists, Poulos suggests.

You'll also want to consider the "unit economics" of your idea, which means looking at price, costs, and figuring out how much you can realistically make.

When it comes to expenses, a lot of side hustles require little to no cash for startup. A web developer, for example, can simply put up a free ad on a website such as Fiverr. "You can likely get success faster if you buy some ads and get your own website, but you don't need to," Poulos says.

"It's a great time to be an entrepreneur because you don't need a whole lot of money," Pierce echoes. Consider opening a small business bank account to keep your money separate from your personal banking. And use an accounting software service so you know how much money you're making. "It's very important to keep track of your numbers from the beginning."

Keeping records will be key for tax time, too; you'll need to report and pay tax on all self-employed income. You'll be able to claim expenses as long as you keep receipts. Andif you earn more than \$30,000 with your side hustle, you may have to register for, collect and remit GST/HST.

There are businesses that require certain equipment or permits, or services that will cost money. "This is something an entrepreneur needs to scope out on their own before making the jump," Poulos advises.

If it's a product you're selling, Pierce suggests looking into an ecommerce company like Shopify to see what packages they offer for setting up an online store.

Many side hustles are easy to run after hours and on weekends. "It means you're going to be working a lot of hours in your life," Pierce says. "But what a great way to test the waters of entrepreneurship and see if you've got a viable business. You've still got your day job to back

you up. It's a win-win situation." Nathalie Hebert, 49, started working as a freelance translator two years ago when she noticed her services were in demand. She works full time as a professional translator, but when she and her partner bought a house in Bradford, they needed extra income. "We were making it paycheque to paycheque," she says.

In 2022, Quebec introduced new rules that mandated enterprises make their websites available in French. COVID increased the demand of online purchases, Hebert says, which meant a ton of companies suddenly wanted their websites translated. "It was booming," she says. "So I jumped on the opportunity."

Hebert reached out to a translation agency that was recruiting freelancers on LinkedIn, which led to a weekly contract. She's also part of Facebook networking groups, but word-of-mouth has been one of her most powerful tools.

In addition to the extra income, Hebert is grateful for the job security that her side hustle provides.

"Translation is easily outsourced," she explains. "In my full-time role, I was always stressed wondering if I was going to be in the next wave of cuts. Now I have peace of mind knowing that whatever happens, I will survive. I have a safety net that I



can build on."

Today, Hebert works 40 hours a week at her full-time job as a translator for the provincial government and dedicates around 30 hours a week to freelancing during evenings and weekends.

While she capitalized on an existing skill to kick off her side hustle, others have launched successful businesses by following their passions.

Etobicoke resident Sarah Taylor, 49, became a personal trainer seven years ago to follow her dream of helping women gain confidence. After winning Miss Plus Canada in 2014, she became a part-time content creator, sharing her story online, speaking at events and working with brands. During the day, she worked in the non-profit sector doing fundraising.

In 2017, Taylor was inspired to become a personal trainer after she was fat-shamed while working out. "I was like, 'I'm not the only plussize girl who wants to feel comfortable in her skin at the gym and not feel shamed for it," she says. Taylor was certified as a personal trainer by the end of the same year.

Her plan was to pursue personal training on the side through oneon-one coaching, but then the opportunity to train clients in a shared studio popped up in 2018 and soon, Taylor was training parttime.

The following year, she opened her own gym and quit her other job to train full time. Then COVID shut everything down and Taylor had to close her gym.

while exploring personal training on the side at first.

"The most dangerous thing to do is jump in with both feet and quit your day job, hoping the money will be there in two or three months," he says. The reality is that it can take

months or years to become profitable.

The financial pressure Taylor faced after closing her gym felt insurmountable. She pivoted her business to online, running it parttime while looking after her toddler daughter as a single mom. Today, she's back to working full time in software and runs her personal training business on the side.

One of the earliest lessons Taylor learned was the importance of maintaining a healthy work-life balance.

"I burnt myself out working 18hour days " she says. "I've learned that if I'm going to do this longterm, it has to be sustainable."

Poulos says it's important to think about work-life balance when considering a side hustle. "Establish designated work hours for your side hustle, and make time for relaxation and the important people in your life."

Hebert, who has also suffered from burnout, tries to keep things balanced. "I hit a wall last month, burning the candle at both hands."

There is an unpredictable side to Hebert's freelance business; she doesn't know what's coming her way, other than one regular weekly client. Luckily, she's at a point with her business where she can pick and choose the projects she wants. "I accept jobs according to my schedule," Hebert says. "I have the luxury to be able to negotiate the timeline with a client. I make sure that I have time with my boys, my partner and my friends."

Taylor hopes to do personal train-Pierce says Taylor made a good ing full time some day but in the move keeping her full-time job meantime, she's not ready to give it up. "I take pride in what I do," she says. "I know the impact that it has on women and representation matters. There's value and purpose in this work - otherwise I wouldn't have kept going for six years with no paycheque."

When asked for advice for other potential entrepreneurs, Taylor says you need to get connected to your purpose before starting. "That's what's going to keep you going when things get tough."

Poulos recommends would-be entrepreneurs listen to podcasts, sign up for webinars and read up. In addition to his own book, he suggests "The Lean Startup" by Eric not the only Ries and "The Startup Owners Manual" by Steve Blank and Bob Dorf, which are all about "lean startup principles." He also suggests looking into local entrepreneurship centres, often run by local municipalities.

"They often have all kinds of free it.' " programming and will sometimes even provide free office space and other resources like printers, and meeting rooms," he says. Networking is also key — "in person if possible, or virtually using online forums, etc. where you'll find mentors and colleagues who can be helpful in many ways." Poulos says it may also be worth it to seek out government grants for your industry or small business.

Pierce emphasizes the importance of surrounding yourself with entrepreneurs who have done it right.

"Some of my best friends have come from small business networking meetings and small business groups," he says. "The relationships and support you get from that kind of community is going to help."

And don't be afraid, Pierce says.

"Break it down to small, tangible steps. Think about what you can do today, this week, this month." At the end of the day, he says, he would hate to see an entrepreneur who really had it in them but didn't take a chance.

"I don't want someone to look back at their life 40 years from now and say, 'I wish I tried that idea.' "

Sarah Taylor, 49, was inspired to become a personal trainer after she was fat-shamed while working out at a gym. "I was like, 'I'm plus-size girl who wants to feel comfortable in her skin at the gym and not

STEVE RUSSELL TORONTO STAR

feel shamed for

Managing spending and debt can become a tightrope act

DEBT FROM B1

Once they flip their debt to a line of credit, he said consumers should cut up their credit card and live on cash flow as much as possible. But their debit card sits unused, while they keep tapping credit everywhere instead.

"They run their Visa back up because they didn't cut up their card," Terrio said. "So now the banks got you three times, and they got you for life."

Terrio said it's the same story over and over again, and is critical of ever-increasing limits offered to young people when financial literacy is typically at its lowest.

"I'm always the first person these people have spoken to who's helped them in their financial adult life," he said.

It's impossible to ignore current market conditions, however.

As Schwartz pointed out, Canadians are feeling the squeeze between incomes that haven't kept up with the cost of living, housing crises in markets across the country and rising interest rates brought in to control inflation.

Managing spending and debt becomes a tightrope act, especially for younger people, Schwartz said.

"So with the advent of social me-

dia, and the ease with which someone can buy something online, we're finding that consumers have adopted these behaviours whereby they're trying to keep up with their friends and family," he said.

Live within your monthly cash flow – using your debit card or cash and develop a short-term austerity plan to make big strides on debt repayment, Terrio said.

Summer months are tough for austerity because you want to socialize, he pointed out, but January through March are a good time to adhere to a severe budget. Up to 40 per cent of your non-rent income should go to debt, Terrio said, not-

ing short-term austerity is tolerable because it's over quickly. Once you're free of debt, stay that

way. Keep your credit limit low and turn down offers to increase it, Terrio said. If you move debt to a line of credit, stop using your credit card.

"You decide how much debt you're going to have, not the bank, right?" Terrio said.

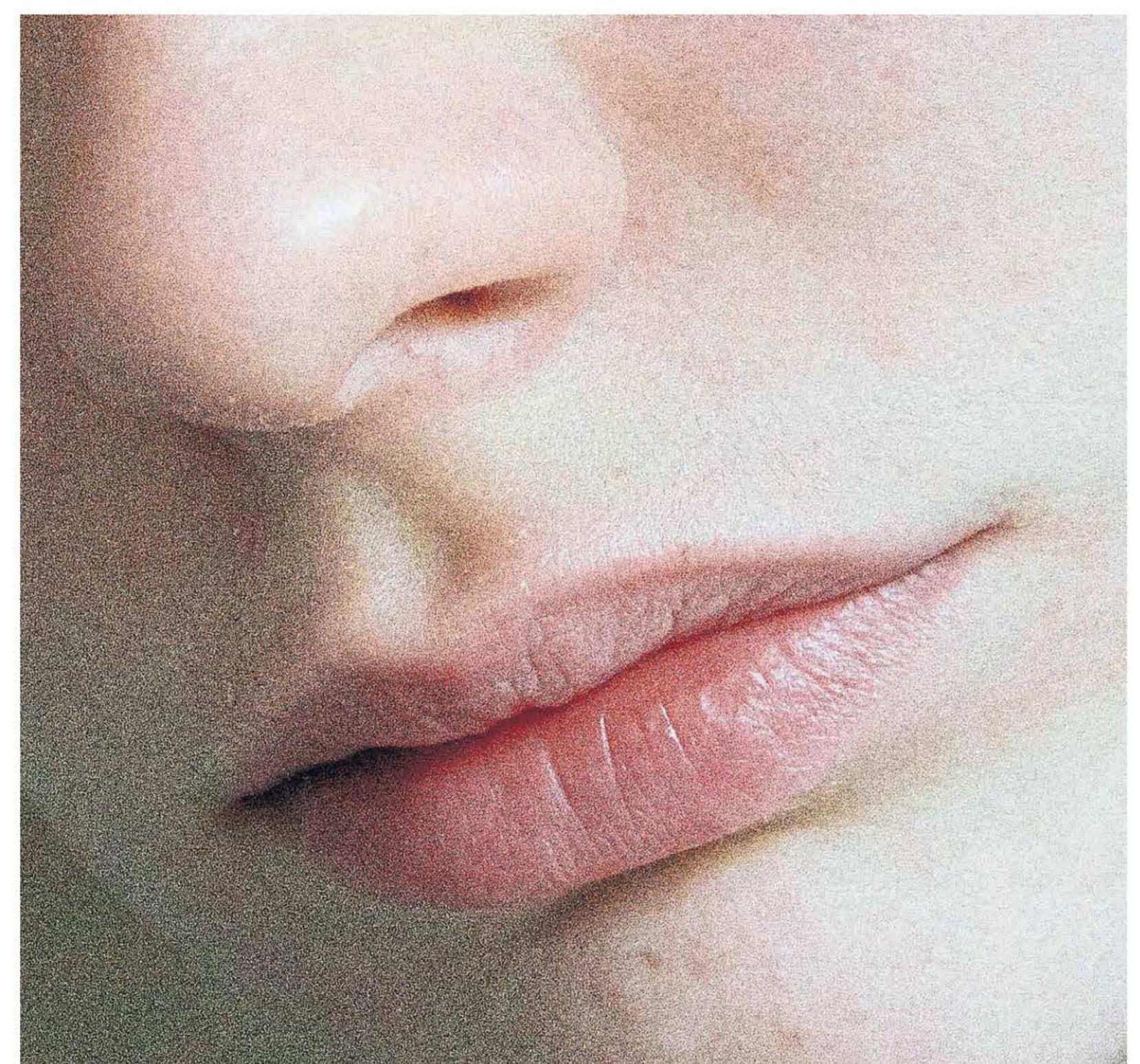
"I know it's tempting. If they give you a credit card for \$20,000, don't take it, just take \$5,000. Because if you get into \$5,000 debt, we can fix that. You can fix it. If you get into \$20,000, I have to fix it. You're in my office."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Summer months are tough for austerity because you want to socialize, but January through March is a good time to adhere to a severe budget

COMICS, B7 **PUZZLES, B8**

BEAUTY



doing to people's SKIN?

Cosmetic dermatologists say patients who have lost weight after taking semaglutide drugs aren't happy with the way their complexion looks

SARAHLAING

SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Not so long ago, a Toronto makeup artist whispered a theory on set. They claimed that when a client sat in their chair, they could instantly tell if they had been taking Ozempic, the newly available in Canada Wegovy or some other semaglutide medication, by looking at their skin.

It was, they said, a change in the quality of the skin itself, beyond "Ozempic face," the term often used to describe the hollowed cheeks and prominent lines that can accompany rapid weight loss.

It isn't the first whisper about this from those who work up close with image-conscious public figures. "Colleagues on film shoots are gabbing about resorting to old-school techniques to deal with the thinner and looser skin that can come post-Ozempic but pre-surgical intervention," read a March article in the Ankler titled "How Ozempic Ate Awards Season" that quoted makeup artist Jesika Miller. She said that while Joan Crawford used to wear a clip at the back of her neck to cinch loose skin, now strategies include using face tape to lift sagging skin, or in a pinch, tying the hair back very, very tightly.

In a brave new world where research on the effects of these drugs is constantly emerging - everything from their potential to slow Parkinson's to a possible link to possible mental-health side effects - the Ozempic skin theory warranted an closer look.

So: Does taking a semaglutide medication do something to your

skin's texture? "It's a very good question, and I don't know if I have all the answers," said Montreal cosmetic dermatologist Dr. Roni Munk. "It's a novel drug, and we're learning more and more all the time."

Munk does confirm that he's seeing patients on a daily basis who have lost a significant amount of weight in a short amount of time and are unhappy with the way the skin on their face looks.

Many of those folks are on Ozempic, he said, but some have undergone gastric bypass surgery, or chemotherapy, all of which cause rapid weight loss and tend to result in the same patient concerns.

"These people are coming into my office and telling me they look tired, they've aged 10 years in the last six months, their complexion looks more dull, the colour has been lost, the sagging is excessive," said Munk.

He uses an analogy to explain why this might be happening: Think of the structure of your face as a table the bones, the volume from fat and muscle — and your skin as the tablecloth draped over it. "It fits beautifully when we're young and the volume is full and the bones are structured," Munk said. "But as we age or if there is rapid weight loss, the underlying structure of the table is shrinking, and the tablecloth no longer fits."

Cue jowling and sunken eyes, because the skin is now too lax — too big, basically — for the shrunken underlying support. This is exacerbated by the fact that much of that structure you're losing is made up

of the deep and superficial fat pads

in your face. "The fat of your face is what really gives you that youthful look," Munk said. "When that fat is lost, the cheeks and the jawline are going to go in the direction of gravity." For these patients, he suggests treatments designed to restore volume in the face, such as fillers or biostimulators that encourage your body to regenerate its own tissue.

We also know that there's a connection between nutrition and skin, something Munk pointed to as another possible reason Ozempic skin might have a certain "look" to it.

"These people have a decreased appetite, so they could easily be malnourished and not getting the essential vitamins and nutrients in," he said. "That will definitely impact the quality of your skin, the glow in the skin and create a dull skin tone."

In more speculative territory, Munk said he "wouldn't be surprised" to learn down the line that GLP-1 peptides may impact collagen production, "because a lot of these enzymes are interconnected."

While it's more of a concern on the body than the face, muscle mass loss has been linked with taking these medications, and that could affect the skin's appearance, noted Toronto dermatologist Dr. Lisa Kellett.

"You have these people who are taking Ozempic for weight loss, but they end up with a new problem, which is a decrease in muscle mass," said Kellett, who said this

tends to be a particular issue for women, who already experience muscle mass loss as they age. "This muscle mass loss can be quite significant."

It's why we've seen the rise of post-Ozempic cosmetic "body contouring" treatments, which aim to tighten the lax skin that results from rapid weight loss as well as rebuild some muscle. In her office, Kellett uses Emsculpt Neo, a noninvasive device that claims to be able to add 25 per cent muscle thickness to a treated area with four 30-minute treatment sessions.

Those looking for more significant interventions might find themselves in Dr. Ron Somogyi's Toronto clinic. His plastic surgery practice focuses on clients who have lost large amounts of weight, typically in excess of 50 pounds.

On the day of our interview, he'd seen around 12 patients, and half of them had been taking Ozempic. He said he can tell by looking at someone's face whether they've lost a large amount of weight, whether it's after taking the medication or having bariatric surgery.

The commonality between those two interventions is that they're associated with very rapid weight loss, which all three doctors posit could be an exacerbating factor here, leading to a "more severe version" of what happens with any weight loss, as Somogyi puts it. For example, if you're losing weight fairly slowly without medical intervention, it might take 50 pounds of weight loss for you to see the kind of facial changes that someone on Ozempic will notice after only 20 pounds because that change occurred so quickly.

"Your skin doesn't really have time to recover," said Somogyi. "If you lose weight slowly, your body compensates by saying, 'Things are starting to droop; I'm going to build more collagen to support and lift things." Collagen takes six to eight weeks to rebuild, so slower weight loss gives your skin more time to catch up.

Somogyi notes that these "esthetic side effects" tend not to be studied by drug manufacturers, because their focus is on safety and efficacy. They are, however, a very real concern for the people who come to see him. "Patients tell me that they feel so much better, but they don't look better. They say they look much more sad or tired than they feel," he said.

Somogyi points out that if someone was taking Ozempic to treat diabetes - its approved use - and lost weight as a side-effect, changes in the skin may be caused by the condition itself. "Diabetes affects the circulation in the little blood vessels in the skin, which impacts the tone and texture," he explains. "There's no question that when we operate on patients that have poor sugar control, we physically see differences. It feels different — it doesn't stretch the way we want it to stretch, and it doesn't heal with as nice scars."

When patients choose plastic surgery, they might opt for a "weight loss face lift," which is different from a face lift you might get later in life. In a few weeks, Somogyi will perform one on a woman who's in her twenties and has lost over 150 pounds after a combination of gastric bypass and Ozempic. He's already operated to address loose skin elsewhere on her body. "It's not so much the face, because the bone is like the hanger, but the neck has no support," said Somogyi. "For people that lose weight very quickly, it's the lower face and neck that bothers them."

But he often advises people who have lost a lot of weight to give their bodies a little longer to readjust before they consider surgical intervention. "You need to be patient. Let the collagen build, let your hormones normalize," he said. In the meantime, he'll recommend noninvasive treatments like microneedling or radio frequency that can help thicken the skin and stimulate collagen.

"It could be that if you lost the weight in six months, you're probably going to need a year before your body catches up."

Patients tell me that they feel so much better, but they don't

look better. They say they look much more sad or tired than they feel.

DR. RON SOMOGYI PLASTIC SURGEON

Women face dark side of Star Wars' fans

KIMBERLY AGUIRRE

LOS ANGELES Lucasfilm president Kathleen Kennedy says there's a gender disparity in the "Star Wars" universe.

In an interview with the New York Times last week about the latest instalment in the franchise, showrunner Leslye Headland's Disney Plus series "The Acolyte," Kennedy said women tend to "struggle" due to the space saga's male-dominated fandom.

"Operating within these giant franchises now, with social media and the level of expectation it's terrifying," she told the publication. "I think Leslye has struggled a little bit with it. I think a lot of the women who step into 'Star Wars' struggle with this a bit more. Because of the fan base being so male dominated, they sometimes get attacked in ways that can be quite personal."

Women play central roles both behind and in front of the camera in "The Acolyte." It's the first series in the franchise to be created by a woman and stars Amandla Stenberg, Dafne Keen, Carrie-Anne Moss and Jodie Turner-Smith.

"Squid Game" star Lee Jungjae, in his first English-speaking role, and Manny Jacinto from "The Good Place" round out the cast.

The series, which debuts Tuesday, has already come under fire from certain corners of the internet for its increased focus on the inclusion of women

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and people of colour.

At the time of publication, the initial March 19 trailer had received about 194,000 likes and 717,000 dislikes. A top comment refers to a 2023 "South Park" special that accused Disney and "Star Wars" of "pandering" to diverse viewers. The show specifically parodies Kennedy, with her cartoon counterpart offering feedback for "Star Wars" creators to, "Put a chick in it! Make her lame and gay!"

Kennedy said she supports the show wholeheartedly. "My belief is that storytelling does need to be representative of all people," she said. "That's an easy decision for me."

Headland told the New York Times that she tries to avoid social media reactions: positive and negative alike. She unequivocally rejects the corners of the fandom against onscreen diversity.

"As a fan myself, I know how frustrating some 'Star Wars' storytelling in the past has been," Headland said. "I've felt it myself."

"I stand by my empathy for 'Star Wars' fans," she added later. "But I want to be clear. Anyone who engages in bigotry, racism or hate speech ... I don't consider a fan."

Pushback against more inclusive storytelling in "Star Wars" did not begin with "The Acolyte."

The final movie trilogy released between 2015 and 2019 starred women and people of colour. A portion of the fandom



GETTY IMAGES FOR DISNEY/TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Lucasfilm president Kathleen Kennedy said women who step into "Star Wars" can sometimes get attacked online "because of the fan base being so male dominated."



Chewbacca and Leslye Headland attend the "Star Wars: The Acolyte" U.K. premiere in London on May 28.

did not welcome them with open arms. "Star Wars" actor Kelly Marie Tran left social media following online harassment. Tran's Rose Tico was the first leading role for a woman of colour.

"I'm the only cast member

who had their own unique experience of that franchise based on their race," John Boyega, who played opposite Tran, told GQ in 2020. Meanwhile, Daisy Ridley was also scrutinized online for her role in the franchise. LOS ANGELES TIMES

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South put up the jack of clubs and cashed out the suit, discarding a diamond from the table, as East pitched two spades and a diamond.

The king of hearts was followed by a heart to the jack on which West threw a spade. The ace of hearts collected the four of diamonds from West and declarer cashed out nine tricks, N-S +400.

The fact that East owned a singleton club had increased the chance that he held the queen of hearts.

The lead of a fourth best spade would be an ineffective start when declarer puts up dummy's jack, culminating in ten tricks. A diamond lead would be best on this layout but South would still prevail by finessing East for the queen of hearts.

North had correctly rejected Stayman with the pancake pattern to raise to the nine-trick game.

The major suit game declared by South would be a testy contract when West again begins with a club. Declarer would be in some difficulty if he judges to play West for the heart queen.

However, West could select the king of spades as an opening shot presenting declarer with a gift. Author: Dave Willis - visit his website at www.insidebridge.ca

Questions can be sent with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to The New Canadian Bridge c/o Torstar Syndication Services, One Yonge St., Toronto, M5E 1E6

PRIME TIME TONIGHT (N) New Show Content

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BEST BETS



Matt Iseman co-hosts "American Ninja Warrior"

 American Ninja Warrior Matt Iseman, Akbar Gbajabiamila and Zuri Hall host a brand-new episode of "American Ninja Warrior." With the goal of reaching the summit of Mount Midoriyama, men and women from all corners of the United States challenge the world's most notorious obstacle course for fame and glory. (NBC, CTV at 8)



Jane Krakowski hosts "Name That Tune"

 Name That Tune Host Jane Krakowski and bandleader Randy Jackson are back for the Season 4 premiere of "Name That Tune." The premiere sees contestant's music knowledge is tested in a variety of head-to-head music-based games. The player with the most money earns a shot at Bid-a-Note and \$100,000. (FOX at 8)

LATE NIGHT J. Fallon at 11:35 : Actress Jessica Alba; actor Marlon Wayans; a performance from Broadway musical "The Outsiders." (N) Colbert at 11:35: The comic interviews guests and introduces musical performances. (N) J. Kimmel at 11:35 : Celebrity guests and comedy skits. (N) Meyers at 12:35 : Actress Sandra Oh; actress Retta; Ben Platt performs; Roni Kaspi sits in with the 8G Band. (N) After Mid. at 12:35 : Alex

Edelman; Jack McBrayer;

Jackie Tohn. (N)

theZoomer

Lady Parts

*** Dolphin Tale ('11) Ashley Judd, Harry Connick Jr...

48 Hours (N)

:35 Lady Parts



SARAHLAING SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Dillon Latham got a perm when he was 15 because he lost a bet.

"I posted a TikTok and said, If this gets 500,000 likes, I'll get a perm.' Just completely randomly," said Latham, now 19 and a college student with a TikTok following of over 1.5 million. "I had completely straight hair."

The video blew up, and Latham found himself sitting in the chair at a local salon as a stylist who had "done a lot of old ladies" put rollers in and applied perm lotion.

"I was nervous it would ruin my hair but it ended up turning out so much better than I thought," said Latham. "The first thing I thought was, 'Finally, I don't have the Justin Bieber hair.' "

That was a temporary perm that washed out after a day, which earned him the ire of his followers. "Everyone got mad when I did that, so a week later I actually did go and do it." The reaction was "really good," but he didn't fall for the style until the perm grew out, and he was reminded how straight his natural texture was.

"When I got it the second time, that's when it really became the Dillon Latham Perm," he said. That's the TikTok trend he inspired that saw a multitude of floppy-haired teenagers take the perm plunge. "At this point, anytime somebody comes up to me, a lot of times they have the perm."

At first, getting a perm as a teenage boy in Virginia had its challenges. "When I first got it, a lot of people in my school were dissing it," said Latham. "It definitely sucked a little bit, but I got over it."

It helped that he was getting "good reactions" from girls to his new hair. "I was like, if I'm getting bad reactions from guys and not the other way around, it probably does look good. A ton of people I know

BEAUTY

Inspired by K-pop and TikTok stars, floppy-haired teen boys are flocking to the salon for an old-school perm

have got perms (since). People will always hate on something that's unpopular, but when it becomes popular, they'll jump on the bandwagon."

Riding this wave, Latham launched his own hair care brand, Clean Cut Cosmetics, which he said "did over one million in sales in less than a year."

Whether you're walking the halls of a high school, mall or hockey arena in Southern Ontario, you'll see permed teenage boys in droves. Just ask Sharon Lui, a York Regionbased mother of a teenager, Jaymin, who recently grew out his hair in preparation for a perm.

"My son is very influenced by that K-pop look," said Lui, referencing the tousled locks of South Korean pop stars such as Jungkook of BTS and Chanyeol of Exo. "He's 18, and I've noticed he's started wanting to take care of his hair more. He went and bought a hair dryer to take to university."

She wasn't surprised when he ap-

Clockwise from left, K-Pop and TikTok stars I.N. of Stray Kids; V of BTS; Dillon Latham; and Ni-ki of Enhypen.

GETTY IMAGES; THE ASSOCIATED PRESS; DILLON LATHAM; UNSPLASH ILLUSTRATION BY BRIANNAH DANIEL

proached her a few months ago and said he wanted to save up to have his hair permed. "There's something about fluffy hair with these kids," she said. "They love the fluffy hair, and they know that they can't get it on their own, no matter how much hair product they use."

As a parent who had her own tangle with perming lotion in her youth, Lui said it's fun to watch this generation experiment with their hair. And she's observed that the idea of getting a perm is normalized within her son's peer group. "His friends would not even blink an eye if he did this," she said. "I think the girls like it, too. It's not frowned upon as it would have been 20 or 30 years ago. Masculinity is different now."

Hairstylist Jason Lee has seen an increase in perms at his salon in Toronto's Yonge and Eglinton area, including among women. He traces the boom to about two years ago.

ting a perm," he said. "It's like a uniform for them now. You'll see 10 of them at Canada's Wonderland, and you can't tell who's who from the back." It is, he said, "this era's frosted tips."

The look is also associated with a specific cut called the broccoli haircut, which mimics the silhouette of a head of broccoli-curly on top with short sides.

(It's worth noting that this term has also occasionally been used disparagingly to describe the natural texture of Black hair; beauty "trends" can often be culturally complex and sensitive.)

Lee thinks the perm took off in K-pop because it was used to add texture to the natural straightness of some Asian hair types. He tried out a perm himself last year. "I actually really liked it. I'm a bit older, and it was really youthful on me," he said. "Every one of my clients who is a mom was like, 'You have the exact haircut that my kid is dying for."

They started bringing their sons in. "It was funny because we hadn't been doing perms in so long that we had to brush up on our skills," said Lee. "Shockingly, it's exactly the same process as it was back in the '80s and '90s — the same companies are creating the same perm solutions, it's the same technique, it still sort of smells. It's very nostalgic for me."

There are home perm kits available but technique matters, Lee said, otherwise you risk damaging hair, especially since it only lasts two to three months and then you need to repeat the process.

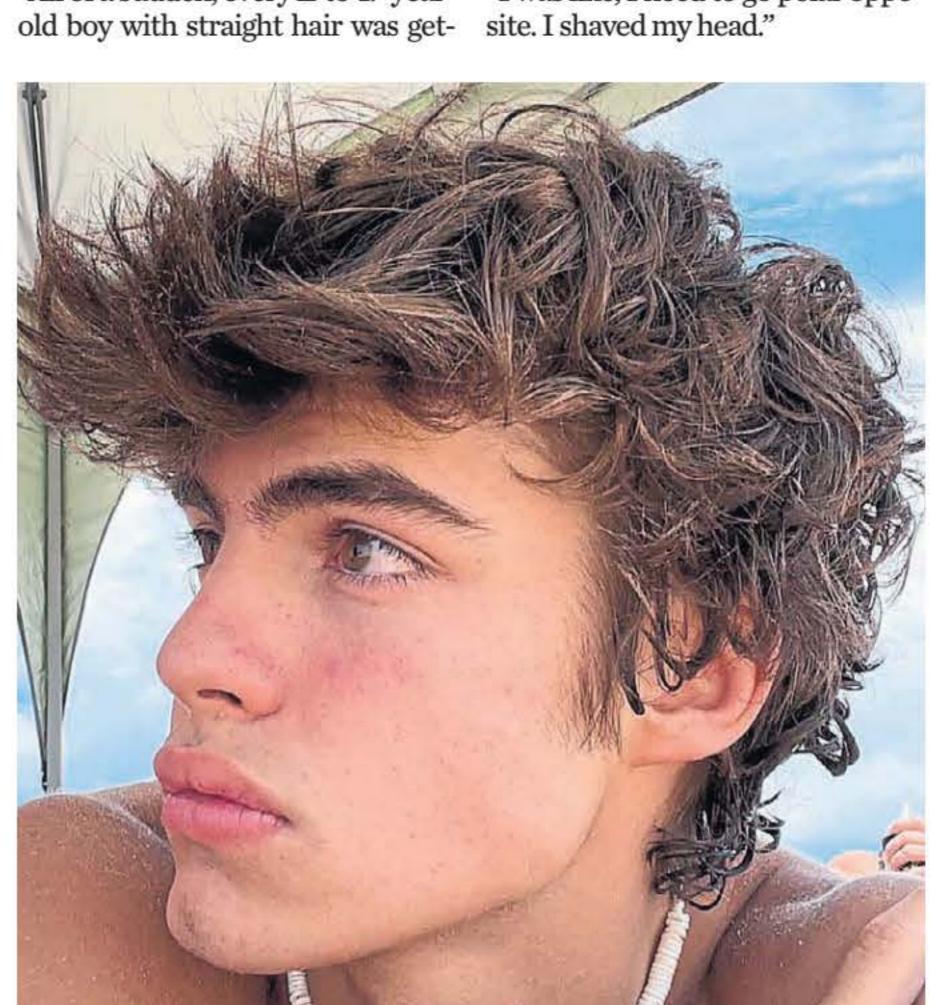
Ultimately, Lee found that the permed look is so specific to the late gen Z and early gen Alpha cohort that he felt odd sporting it as an adult. "I would walk down the street and it would be me and a bunch of high school kids," he said. "All of a sudden, every 11-to-17-year- "I was like, I need to go polar oppo-



His friends would not even blink an eye if he did this ... It's not frowned upon as it would have been 20 or 30 years ago. Masculinity is different now.

SHARONLUI MOTHER OF A TEENAGER

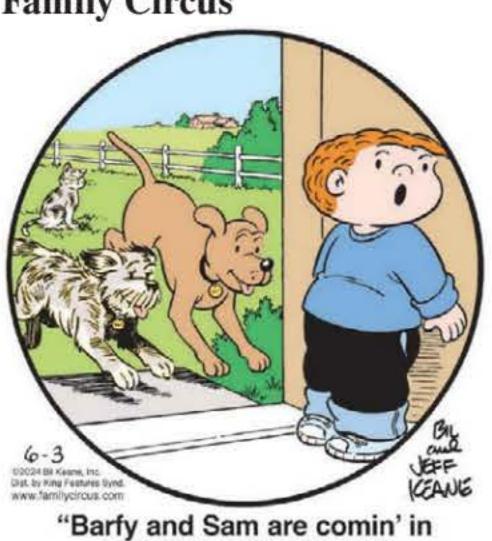
JASON LEE



DILLON LATHAM

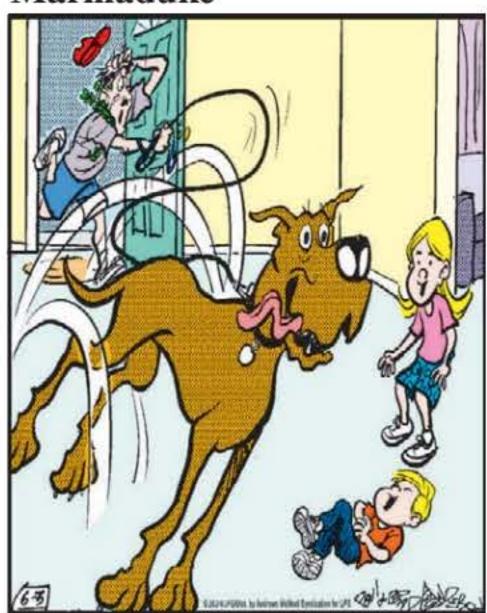
TikTok star Latham helped drive the perm trend.

Family Circus



"Barfy and Sam are comin' in and Kittycat is thinkin' about it."

Marmaduke



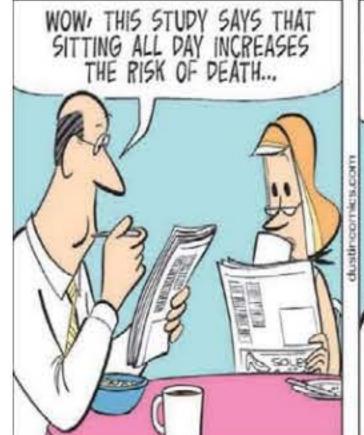
"Which one of you gave Marmaduke a super-duper sugar chew before our walk?"

Dustin













HOW TO SAY

Zits







Six Chix



"THE WIFI IS IFFY" IN ANY LANGUAGE:

Curtis







'SIDES, IT MIGHT BE

YOU'D HAVE A TRICK UP YOUR SLEEVE!

I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN

Rhymes With Orange



Hagar the Horrible





Adam @ Home



Mutts







Sherman's Lagoon







OH, HER HEARSE

IS PULLING UP OUT

Mother Goose and Grimm



Between Friends







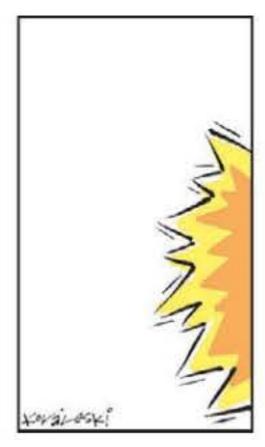
Pardon My Planet



Daddy Daze











TORONTO STAR (



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By Cheque: mail to: Toronto Star Children's Charities, 8 Spadina Avenue, Toronto, ON M5V 0S8 By Phone: call 647-250-8282



CROSSWORD FOR MONDAY

ACROSS

- 1 Layer
- **5** Beer ingredient
- 9 Driver's navigation aid
- 12 Fabled racer
- 13 Flat cap
- **14** vera
- 15 Particular
- 16 Bonus
- **17** Bog down
- **18** Place of worship
- **20** Highwayman, for example
- 22 Narrative
- **24** Nadir's opposite
- 25 Counsels
- **28** Smooth-talking person
- **32** Lithograph
- **33** "Family Guy" Griffin
- **35** Age
- **36** Criminal group
- **37** Amass
- **38** Campus org.
- **39** "— had enough of this!"
- **40** Terre —, Indiana
- 41 Hubbub
- **42** Teachings
- **44** Wore with pride
- **46** Body of laws
- 47 Skid
- **48** Salad veggie
- **51** Hazardous
- **55** Seed appendage
- **56** War vessel (hyph.)
- **60** Row
- **61** Walk through water
- **62** Human trunk
- **63** Dutch cheese
- **64** Crafty
- 65 Plunder
- **66** Numbers for crunching

DOWN

- 1 Fashionable
- 2 Swearword

4 Irresistible **FRIDAY'S ANSWER**

- **5** Put a spell on
- **6** Kitchen scrap **7** According to
- 8 Like a stiffened
- collar **9** Flippant
- 10 Facial feature
- 11 Diviner
- 13 Ball goer
- **14** Fossil resin 19 Word on a
- road sign
- **21** Khayyam 23 Advocate for
- **24** Thespian
- **25** Spring month
- 26 Ambition
- **27** Climbing plants
- **30** Expunge

29 Worth

- **31** Put a value on
- **34** "You are what you —"
- **37** Freebies **38** Like a woodland
- **40** Laugh out loud

- ABBA OMAH ED ORDO LLEE ENRO MED 0 EN 0 ER GGER LD URSE MOE E G BBS SE ES ARG E R BURGL CEASED R S
 - **41** Substantive

E M M A

MOT

S

SER

AN

G

43 Scope

ORAL

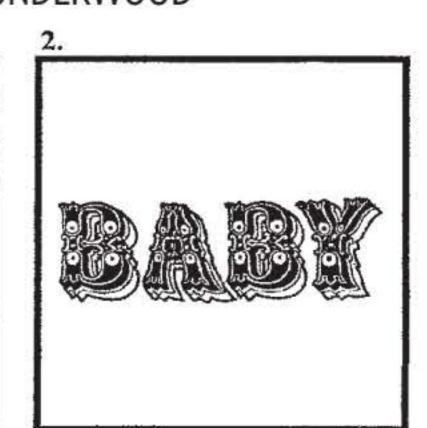
SAKE

- **45** Disney dog
- 48 Forefeet
- **49** Test type
- **50** In good order **52** Opera by Verdi
- **53** Stunt
- **54** Writer Bombeck
- **57** Feather scarf
- 58 Tolkien beast
- **59** "I thought you'd never —!"

4	To.	To	Ta	-		E	T _C	7		_	iit yo	_	_	_
1	2	3	4			5	6	1	8			9	10	11
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WUZZLES BY TOM UNDERWOOD

L. PROPERTY



Can this be my blanky

tonight?

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek Unscramble these Jumbles. Pay attention! This is not a fetching one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words. stick, it's a pole. PGYUP SIOTJ SUWNIE JUST THE YOUNG CANINE TIYGEH CAMPERS WERE HAVING

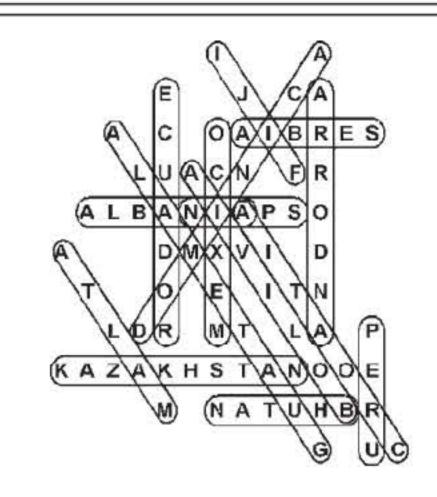
FUN SETTING UP THEIR ---Now arrange the circled letters ©2024 Tribune Content Agency, LLC to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon. All Rights Reserved Print your answer here: (Answers tomorrow) Jumbles: GABBY LEAVE UNSURE MANAGE Saturday's Answer: The panda couple broke up after realizing that

TODAY'S WUZZLES ANSWER

- 1. Personal property
- 2. Pretty baby

FRIDAY'S WORD **SLEUTH ANSWER COUNTRY FLAGS**

FEATURING ANIMALS



living together was becoming — UNBEARABLE

WORD SLEUTH BY KING FEATURES INC.

WORKING WORDS

Today's unlisted clue: DISPLAYED IN A GALLERY

J H E R B Y V T Q O L N I G DBYWETRPWMEKIF DEBYYWKUOSTQKOM AKGIA(FIREWORKS)T F D W B D K Z O W O X W U U SKOOBKROWDAEBO WAXWORKRDQEONLK JHXFSKOODCSAYR RWVTHMOSQWPNULO AWHETAMKROW

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forwards, backward, up, down and diagonally. Friday's unlisted answer:

F E P N C B Z Y W V U S R Q II

EGYPT

Beadwork Fireworks Housework Legwork

Network Waxwork Woodwork Workbook

Workbox Workday Worker Workman

Workmate Workout Workshop

DON'T QUOTE ME BY WIGGLES 3D INCORPORATED

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"Love is a _____. But whether it is going to _____ your

- Joan Crawford (1904-1977) U.S. actress

THEME I'm Falling in Love...

BREAKS HEART LOVE LUCKY WHEN



Rearrange the words below to complete the quotes.

CAN BURN FIRE HEARTH HOUSE TELL WARM

or ____ down your ____, you ___ never

- Madonna (1958-) U.S. singer your hearth or burn down your house, you can never tell." • "All love is lucky, even when it breaks your heart." ANSWERS "Love is a fire. But whether it is going to warm

"All is , even it your

SUDOKU

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

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once.

SATURDAY'S PUZZLE SOLVED

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

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Death Notices 416-869-4229, deathnotices@thestar.ca Births, In Memoriams 416-777-7777, starad@thestar.ca

DEATH NOTICES

♦ Repeat Notices

PAOLINI, Paolo TAYLOR, Pamela

Due to space restrictions, the notices may not appear in strict alphabetical order. Please refer to this index for a complete alphabetical list of the notices appearing in today's paper.



PAOLO PAOLINI

It is with broken hearts that announce the sudden passing of Paolo, on Wednesday, May 29, 2024, at the age of 67. Paolo will be forever loved and missed by his wife, Pamela (nee Moore); children, Nick treasured (Lauren Crutchlow), Daniel (Michelle Anderson) and Tia (Brian Carroll); and siblings, Pam Minichini and Gino Paolini (Linda). Many remember Paolo as established restaurateur serving the Toronto communities, from Splendido days to Mistura and Sopra. He the ultimate host, generous with his time, endless stories, and sharing of food and fine wine. As much as he loved to spend time with the patrons of his restaurant, he most enjoyed spending time with his family, whether in the city or while fishing on the lake.

Visitation at Smith's Funeral Home, 454 Highway #8 (east of Millen Rd.), Stoney Creek (905-664-4222) on Wednesday, June 5, 2024, from 5-8 p.m., and Thursday, June 6, 2024, from 4-8 p.m. Cremation will follow at a later date. www.smithsfh.com





Timing to place a death or birth notice:

To publish in the Saturday edition:

Notices must be placed before 9:00 a.m. on Friday

To publish in the Sunday to Friday

editions:

Notices must be placed before 2:00 p.m. the day prior

TORONTO STAR (



PAMELA GAY "ANIMIKII **BINESI KWE" TAYLOR**

Passed away suddenly, after a brief illness at the P.R.H.C. on Thursday, May 30, 2024. Pam Taylor, of Curve Lake, in her 70th year. Pamela was raised in Burleigh Falls, ON. She moved to Toronto as a young adult where she then raised her five children. She worked in various roles throughout her life until she found her niche as a kitchen manager at Na-me-res and Tumivut Youth Shelter for over a decade. Pam was more than a cook; she was a mom and a friend to everyone. Pam collected an array of friends young and old. A lover of knowledge and a fierce advocate, she went back to school in her 50's and graduated from a community healthworker program at George Brown College, where she then went on to work as an elder at a corrections facility in Toronto until her retirement. Pam enjoyed her golden years in Curve Lake First Nation, spending time with her family, friends and beloved church community. Pam was a phenomenal woman who will be dearly missed. Loved and missed by her children, Robert Hawley of Curve Lake, Melanie Alves (Orlando) of Alliston, Natalie Taylor of Chase, BC, Iris Taylor (the late Alwayne Wright) of Toronto, and Brittany Taylor of Curve Lake. Loving grandma of Juliana, Julius, Madison, Nia and Iversyn. Survived by her sister, Jane Taylor of Toronto; and several nieces, nephews and great-nephews. Predeceased by her parents, Herman and Ethel Taylor; sisters, Iris Mangan (Peter), Helena Taylor (Mitch), Natalie Taylor, and Wendy Taylor (Archie); and brother, William John Taylor (Sue). Visitation will be held at the Curve Lake Community Church



Wednesday, June 5, 2024,

from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

A funeral service will follow in

the church at 12:00 p.m.

Cemetery. A reception will

follow the interment at the

Centre. Friends may send

condolences by contacting

The Hendren Funeral Homes,

Lakefield Chapel, 66 Queen

Street, Lakefield, at www.

hendrenfuneralhome.com or

by calling (705) 652-3355.

Interment,

Curve Lake

Curve

Lake

Community

Visit: starclassifieds.com Call: 416-869-4229

Email: deathnotices@thestar.ca

IN MEMORIAM

JOHN R. BOLSTER

In loving Memory of a dear grandfather who passed away June 3, 1983.

Forever remembered, Forever missed. -Lovingly remembered by grandchildren Bill, Bob, Barb, and Bonnie, and great-grandchildren.

JOHN POLAND CURRIE

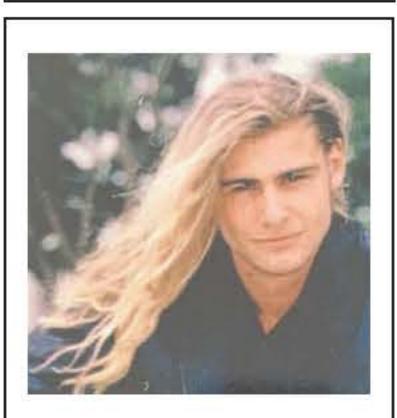
1921 - 2012

Dad...You never died! For in all of our hearts...you are so very much alive!! "All is Well" XOXOX

MERVYN R.W. MERRICK

Happy 90th Birthday My lips cannot tell how I miss him,

My heart cannot tell what to say. God only knows how I miss him, In a home that is lonesome today. -Joy and Family



DAVID PATRICK ALFRED ROSE 1971 - 1994

Thirty years have passed but you are forever in our hearts. - Loved and missed by all your loved ones; parents George & Susan, brother Geoff, nephew Michael, Aunt Pat & Uncle Alan, friends Sue Heath & Conrad.



NANCY LYNN RUSTICO

The tears in our eyes we can wipe away The ache in our hearts will always stay. - Love, Dad and Mom

WEDDING/ **ANNIVERSARIES**



Happy First Anniversary

Liam Coughlin & Meghan Rutitis - On June 3, remembering a perfect, joyous day and wishing you a lifetime of happiness together. With love, Dad (Steve) and Barb

Share Memories

View the Toronto Star's complete list of death notices and in memoriams at

thestar.com/obituaries

LELP MAKE ABETTER TOMORROW



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thestar.com/faf

Help send thousands of kids to summer camp for an experience they will cherish for a lifetime.



thestar.com/scf

Help provide holiday gift boxes that inspire hope and joy to 50,000 financially vulnerable children.



Kindness Above All

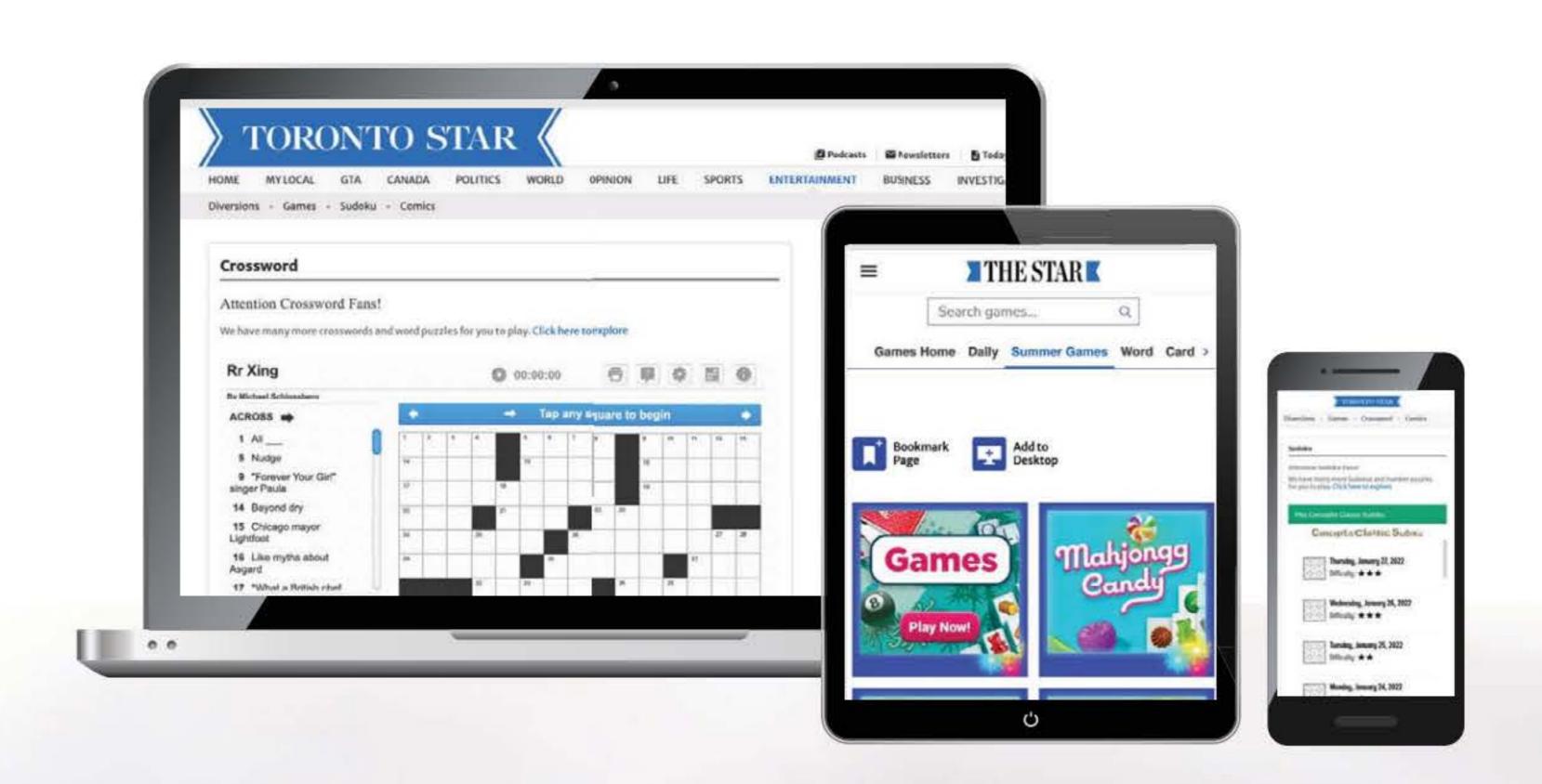
To learn more about leaving a legacy gift to The Toronto Star Children's Charities please contact

Brian Cordingley at 416-869-4320 or bcordingley@thestar.ca

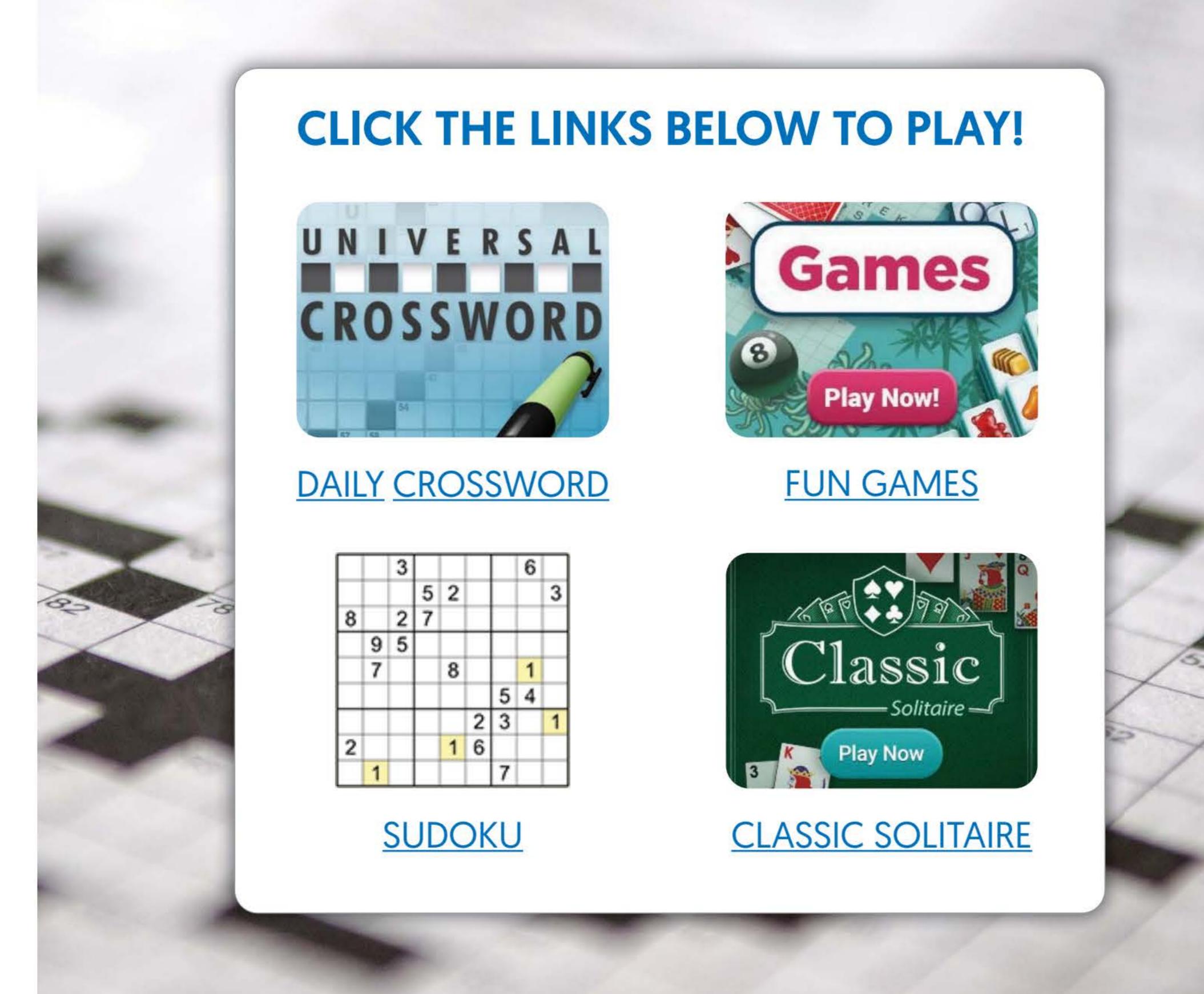
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