

Chicago Tribune

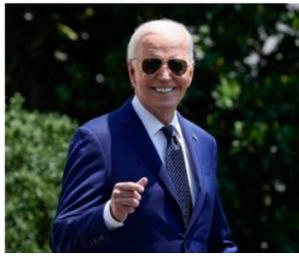


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TUESDAY, JULY 30, 2024

BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

Biden reveals new high court rules



President Joe Biden leaves D.C. for Texas on Monday to mark the 60th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act. **SUSAN WALSH/AP**

GOP House likely to oppose ethics code, term limits for bench

By Aamer Madhani
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden has unveiled a long-awaited proposal for changes at the U.S. Supreme Court, calling on Congress to establish term limits and an enforceable ethics code for the court's nine justices. He's also pressing lawmakers to ratify a constitutional amendment limiting presidential immunity.

The White House detailed the contours of Biden's proposal Monday, although it appears to have little chance of being approved by a closely divided Congress with just 99 days to go before Election Day.

Still, Democrats hope it'll help focus voters as they consider their choices in a tight election. The likely Democratic nominee, Vice President Kamala Harris, who has sought to frame her race against

Republican ex-President Donald Trump as "a choice between freedom and chaos," quickly endorsed the Biden proposal, saying the changes are needed because "there is a clear crisis of confidence facing the Supreme Court."

The White House is looking to tap into the growing outrage among Democrats about the court, which has a 6-3 conservative majority, issuing opinions that overturned landmark decisions on

abortion rights and federal regulatory powers that stood for decades.

Liberals also have expressed dismay over revelations about what they say are questionable relationships and decisions by some members of the conservative wing of the court that suggest their impartiality is compromised.

"I have great respect for our institutions and separation of powers," Biden says in a Washington Post op-ed published Monday. "What is happening now is not

Turn to Biden, Page 8



Team USA's Paul Juda hugs his mom, Ewa Bacher, while his father, Jozef Juda, wipes away tears Monday in Paris. **BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Harris has childhood bonds to Illinois

Family friend recounts memories from year in Champaign-Urbana

By Sylvan Lebrun
Chicago Tribune

Four former U.S. presidents have called Illinois home: Barack Obama, Ronald Reagan, Ulysses S. Grant, and Abraham Lincoln. If presumptive Democratic nominee Vice President Kamala Harris is elected to the nation's top office this November, her name would become the fifth on this list.

When Harris was just a toddler, her family moved to Champaign, where they lived for a year in the late 1960s. Her parents, fresh out of their Ph.D. programs, had both secured jobs at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. It was in Champaign that Harris' younger sister, Maya, was born.

Urbana resident Diane Gottheil, 85, recalled fondly her friendship with Harris' parents during their year in Illinois. Gottheil was finishing up her Ph.D. in political science when they joined the university's community in 1966, bringing a 2-year-old Harris in tow.

Gottheil said that she viewed Harris' mother Shyamala Gopalan as a major role model, admiring both her work as a medical researcher and her passion for civil rights. Gopalan died of cancer in 2009.

"Shyamala was brilliant, she was passionate, she was committed to doing good," Gottheil said. "That never changed for her, and I think it's something that she certainly passed down to her daughters. High achievement and activism."

Since launching her bid for the presidency on July 21 when President Joe Biden stepped down from consideration, Harris has received an outpouring of support from key Illinois Democrats.

Gov. J.B. Pritzker has

Turn to Harris, Page 2

'It's all worth it'

Deerfield's Juda, teammates take Olympic bronze in men's gymnastics

By Stacy St. Clair
Chicago Tribune

PARIS — With an Olympic medal on the line, Paul Juda stood in front of the pommel horse knowing the United States needed a clean performance from him. He could feel the moment starting to bear down on him.

His teammate Asher Hong saw the Deerfield native's nervousness and tried to reassure him.

"I could tell he was getting a little jittery before the routine," Hong said. "I told him, 'Paul, you're the man for this job.' You earned this spot. Go out there and show it off."

It was exactly what Juda, the last member picked for the America squad, needed to hear. He raised his arm to the judges, then did what he has done throughout the Paris Games:

He delivered big for the United States.

2024 OLYMPICS

Simone Biles' longtime coach Cecile Landi grew uncharacteristically frustrated when asked about the U.S. gymnast's injury and how it might impact the rest of the Games, starting with the team final on Tuesday night. Biles will start on all four events for the Americans.

Chicago Sports

The U.S. men's gymnastics squad won bronze Monday, breaking its 16-year medal drought and extending Juda's expectation-defying run at these Games.

Japan took first, finishing .532 points ahead of the second-place Chinese team. The United States — consisting of Juda, Hong, Frederick Richard, Brody Malone and Stephen Nedoroscik — was 1.8 points behind the leader.

The podium finish marked another surreal moment for Juda, who initially had set the modest goal of being at least an alternate on this team. Yet in the past four days, he has won an Olympic medal, qualified for the individual all-around competition, met the first lady Jill Biden and appeared in a Beyoncé video used by NBC to kick off the opening ceremony.

Turn to Juda, Page 2

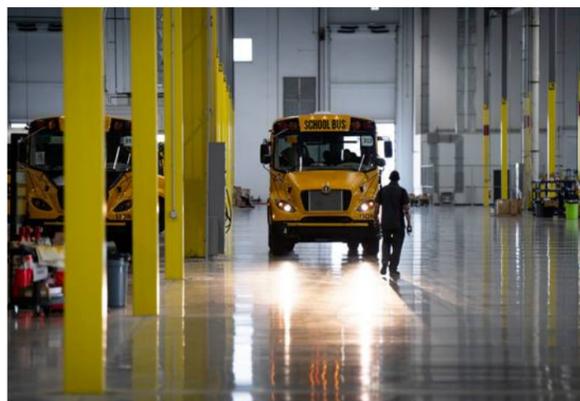
Protests erupt over Venezuelan presidential election

Shortly after the National Electoral Council, which is loyal to Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro's ruling party, announced that he had won a third, six-year term, angry protesters began marching through the capital, Caracas, and other cities.

Nation & World

■ Heymerling Drownosky said that when incumbent Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro announced his victory, migrants around her broke down in tears at a shelter in the West Loop. **Chicagoland, Page 3**

Electric school bus factory in Joliet suffers slowdown



Electric school buses receive finishing touches before being delivered to customers at the Lion Electric Joliet plant on July 23. **E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Operating significantly below capacity as US, Canadian subsidies lag

By John Lippert
Chicago Tribune

As Illinois Democrats welcome their party's national convention next month, one of their crown jewels for environmental activism — an electric school bus factory — is fighting for its life.

In Joliet, 40 miles southwest of the Chicago convention site, the parking lot at the Lion Electric Co. is eerily quiet.

On a recent weekday, it had just over 100 parked cars for employees and visitors, along with acres

of empty blacktop. In a triumphant ribbon-cutting a year ago, Gov. J.B. Pritzker said 1,400 jobs were coming.

Lion Electric executives won't say how many workers the Saint-Jerome, Quebec-based company employs in Joliet or how many buses it is building. But after three companywide layoffs, they say the plant is operating significantly below the 200-bus-per-month capacity they advertise on their website.

In an interview, they attribute the slowdown to the complex and still-incomplete rollout of government subsidy programs in the United States and Canada.

"It's not an issue of our

Turn to Plant, Page 4

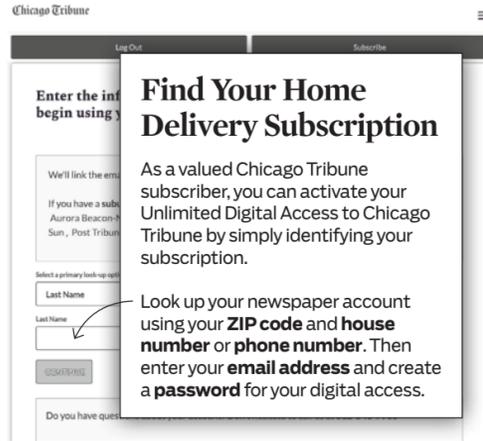


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Tribune books

“Dinner at Home” Cooking at home doesn’t have to be difficult, but it should always be delicious. Since 2007, JeanMarie Brownson, culinary director for Rick Bayless’ Frontera Foods, has been helping readers put inventive, yet simple, dishes on the table through her Dinner at Home column for the Tribune. Her book includes everything you need to create spectacular food any day of the week, including sample menus and recipes for everything from prosciutto Parmesan puffs to roasted chicken with tomatillo relish. Dinner at home has never been better.

“Capone: A Photographic Portrait of America’s Most Notorious Gangster.” Using many never-before-published photographs and newspaper clippings from the Tribune’s archives, this coffee-table book chronicles the rise and fall of Al Capone.

“Ask Amy: Advice for Better Living” For over a decade, Amy Dickinson has been the Tribune’s signature general advice columnist, helping readers with questions both personal and pressing. This book, which collects columns from 2011 to 2013, is a testament to the empathetic counsel and practical common-sense tips that Dickinson has been distilling for years.

“Culture Worrier: Reflections on Race, Politics and Social Change.” Clarence Page’s newest book commemorates the 30th anniversary of his column’s first appearance in the Tribune. It is the first such collection of the Pulitzer Prize winner’s columns, covering topics such as politics, social issues, pop culture, race, family, new media and prominent figures, as well as his personal life.

“10 Things You Might Not Know About Nearly Everything.” You may never need to know the human body contains a half-pound of salt, but that’s just one of the obscure facts you’ll find about sports, history, religion, politics, arts and culture, food and leisure, and science and technology in this collection of columns from Mark Jacob and Stephan Benzkofer.

“Life Skills: How To Do Almost Anything” How do you give a good wedding toast? How do you fix a clogged drain? How do you bowl without hurting anyone? Questions like these make up this engaging do-it-yourself guide.

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U.S. men’s gymnastics team members Brody Malone, Asher Hong, Frederick Richard, Paul Juda and Stephen Nedoroscik celebrate winning the bronze medal Monday at the Paris Games. **BRIAN CASSELLA PHOTOS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Juda

from Page 1

“It just feels like it’s all worth it,” Juda said after receiving his medal. “Every tough day that you go through and you ask yourself why you do it, makes sense now. I’m just glad we got it done.”

Juda, 23, competed on four apparatuses Monday, leading off the team each time. He opened with a Kasamatsu1.5 twist on the vault, nailing the landing cold and drawing a huge roar from the crowd.

Earlier in the day, he had watched old videos of himself sticking landings in big moments and imagined himself doing it at the Olympics.

But he decided not to focus solely on that, he said, because he had fallen every other time he did so.

“I think I kinda blacked out before my vault,” he said. “I think I started on the wrong foot. I was running and I looked at the (TV camera that moves down the runway alongside the gymnasts) and then I thought, ‘Why am I watching the camera run with me?’ Then the next thing I know I stuck it.”

Easily the most emotional and demonstrative member of the U.S. team, Juda clenched his fists after the vault and screamed in exhilaration. It would be one of many, many ways Juda shared his excitement during the team final. By his last rotation, he had danced, bear-hugged teammates and pumped his fists to chants of “USA! USA!”

“There’s always gotta be someone who is just overly grateful for the opportunities that are in front of him and that’s Paul Juda,” Team USA assistant coach Jordan



Paul Juda competes on pommel horse as the U.S. men’s gymnastics team wins the bronze medal Monday at Bercy Arena during the Paris Olympics.

Gaarenstroom said. “He’s the guy on the team who is full of emotion ... and I think the guys on the team appreciate that and resonate with that. They know that he’s kind of the beating heart, in that sense. We want Paul to be Paul. We want him to show emotion. We want him to show joy when he hits a routine. These are all things that add to the energy and culture of our team.”

Juda, however, did more than just lift his teammates’ spirits at these Olympics. He raised their medal prospects each time stepped on the mat, beginning with a stellar performance in the qualifying round that helped earn the United States a spot in the finals. He was equally steady Monday, improving his scores on all four apparatuses from the qualifying round.

He arrived in Paris planning to be a dependable lead-off man for teammates who

had bigger tricks. Instead, he laid down a series of routines over two days that helped push the United States onto the podium.

Juda even volunteered to be the first to go on pommel horse, a notoriously weak spot for the American men. He clearly didn’t run that idea by his mother, Ewa Bacher, who dislikes the difficult apparatus so much she told the Tribune she had wanted to start a petition to remove it from these Olympics.

“I volunteered to lead off on pommel horse because I knew it was going to come down to the wire and I wanted to be that guy if it came down to the wire,” Juda said. “It was an honor and a privilege.”

The son of Polish immigrants, Juda stopped at a nearby restaurant after the medal ceremony. He hugged his mother and hung his medal around his father

Jozef’s neck.

All three had tears in their eyes.

“I don’t think I even knew what the American Dream was when I came here,” his mother said. “But because of Paul’s hard work and dedication ... and because of his coaches and everyone who helped us, we got our American Dream.”

Juda will compete for the final time in Paris on Wednesday, when he makes a long shot bid for an individual all-around medal. Crazier things have happened to Paul Juda at these Games, but he said he’s not worrying about the outcome.

“The all-around finals is going to be my swan song. I’m gonna treat it like a victory lap,” he said. “But who knows what’s going to happen?”

Chicago Tribune photographer Brian Cassella contributed.

Harris

from Page 1

regularly appeared on lists of names floated by commentators and news outlets as potential running mates for Harris, though he has continued to decline to comment on whether he is under consideration. Pritzker, along with all of Illinois’ congressional Democrats, has expressed support for Harris’ campaign.

On July 24, the Democratic Party of Illinois announced that their delegates had unanimously voted to endorse Harris as the nominee. Harris is set to return to Illinois next month for the Democratic National Convention, which will take place from Aug. 19 to 22 in Chicago; however, her formal nomination will likely occur virtually prior to Aug. 7.

“(Democratic Party of Illinois) Chair (Elizabeth “Lisa”) Hernandez couldn’t be more proud that our next president has central Illinois ties,” a Democratic Party of Illinois spokeswoman said Friday. “Vice President Harris comes from a long line of past and present Democrats who have spent time in our great state and gone on to champion working families not only here but across the nation.”

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign spokesperson Christopher Harris confirmed on Friday that both of Harris’ parents were

employed at the university for a year: Harris’ father Donald as an economics professor, and Gopalan as a cancer researcher.

Jayne Deluce, president and CEO of the regional tourism office Experience Champaign-Urbana, said that Harris’ candidacy has provided a “terrific opportunity” to celebrate her family’s connections to the University of Illinois and the Champaign-Urbana community.

“We are excited that a presidential candidate has ties to the CU area and how this continues the tradition of other presidential ties to Illinois,” Deluce wrote in an email to the Tribune. “Also, as we develop the Champaign County African American Heritage Trail, this would be another story to share as part of the rich history that shapes this place we call home!”

Diane Gottheil met Gopalan and Donald Harris through her husband Fred Gottheil, who was also a professor in the economics department of UIUC. The two couples became fast friends, she said, bonding over their experiences as young parents and academics.

Their friendship was also based on shared political values. Advocacy in support of the civil rights movement and against the war in Vietnam brought their circle of friends in Urbana-Champaign even closer together, according to Gottheil.

“It was a very political

time in our history, even more so than now,” Gottheil said.

Harris’ official White House biography describes how her parents used to bring her to civil rights marches in a stroller throughout the 1960s.

Harris’ father, 85, has retired from teaching at Stanford University, though he still holds the title of professor emeritus. Her sister Maya Harris is a lawyer and political advocate who has assisted Harris during past campaigns.

Though Harris’ parents soon moved on from Champaign to teach and research at other universities in the Midwest, including Northwestern University and the University of Wisconsin at Madison, Gottheil said

that she and her husband remained in touch with them for years after.

The last time that Gottheil recalled speaking to Gopalan was after Harris was elected district attorney of San Francisco. Gottheil called to offer her congratulations.

Though she only knew the current vice president when she was “such a little girl,” Gottheil said that she has enjoyed watching her trajectory over the years, and added that she was thrilled to see her step into the role of Democratic presidential candidate.

“I certainly can see her mom in her, there’s no question about that,” Gottheil said. “It doesn’t surprise me that she had such an amazing daughter.”

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CHICAGOLAND

Venezuelan migrant: 'We want our country to be free'

Some disheartened over presidential election results

By Laura Rodríguez Presa and Nell Salzman
Chicago Tribune

Heymerling Drownosky said when Venezuelan incumbent President Nicolás Maduro announced his victory overnight Monday, migrants around her broke down in tears at the shelter in the West Loop. She could hear people crying all around from her cot.

"They left us without a soul. Without a soul," Drownosky, 27, told the Tribune on Monday morning. "We are bodies with bones, but we don't have souls."

Her children, Liang, 6, and Ashlyng, 4, watched their mother stand outside the brick warehouse they've lived in since April. Her eyes welled up with tears.

"We think about our kids," she said. "We want them to have a childhood like the one we had. This is no way of life for them." For Drownosky and the thousands of families like hers who have settled in Chicago

after fleeing economic ruin or political persecution in Venezuela, the possible reelection of authoritarian President Maduro brought feelings of disbelief and disappointment.

The country's National Electoral Council, which is controlled by Maduro loyalists, declared him the winner of the country's contested election Monday, a day after both he and the opposition candidate, retired diplomat Edmundo González, claimed victory. But the council didn't release the tallies from each of the 30,000 polling booths nationwide, promising only to do so in the "coming hours," hampering the ability to verify the results.

The delay in announcing results — six hours after polls were supposed to close — indicated a deep debate inside the government about how to proceed after Maduro's opponents came out early in the evening all but claiming victory.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said the U.S. has "serious concerns that the result announced does not reflect the will or the votes of the Venezuelan people," speaking in Tokyo. Several other coun-

tries across the world also denounced the results of the election. Under Maduro's leadership, Venezuela has become the source of one of the largest migrant crises in the world. Following his rise to presidency, more than 7.7 million Venezuelans since 2013 have left their homes for opportunities abroad. More than 45,000 of them have arrived in the Chicago area since August 2022, when Texas Gov. Greg Abbott began busing migrants from the state's border to sanctuary cities as a way to protest federal immigration policies.

Migrants and immigration experts say the renewed victory for Maduro and his United Socialist Party of Venezuela could further the exodus of Venezuelans to the United States and deter those who've left the country from returning.

"The results will only drive more people to this country as long as we continue getting support from (President Joe) Biden," said Elias Herrera, 35, of Caracas, Venezuela, as he joined nearly 500 other Venezuelans Sunday in Humboldt Park to show support for the opposition and for a "change in Venezuela."

The migrants waved their country's flags in celebration of solidarity and community, with cars adorned with yellow, blue and red balloons — the colors of the country's flag — and the words "Venezuela libre," or "Free Venezuela," written on windshields. The crowds and cars shut down traffic around the park for several hours.

"I have some friends who are already on the way to the border and then to Chicago," said Herrera, who arrived in Chicago in November 2022 and now lives in Joliet. "We knew Maduro was going to win again, that is what dictators do."

The migrants said they hoped that Maduro would finally step out and that González would take over, which could offer them hope that might return home someday.

But Ricardo Villasmil, a senior researcher at the Harvard University's Growth Lab, said institutional decay in Venezuela is so rampant that it was unlikely many of the migrants would ever return, even in the unlikely event of any political change.

It would take decades before migrants go back to

the South American country in large numbers, said Villasmil, who lived in Venezuela until 2017 and was involved in economic planning for the opposition party. "How is it going to look in one to three years? What are the opportunities there?" he asked.

On Monday morning, migrants in shelters across Chicago were skeptical that González — a stand-in for popular opposition leader Maria Corina Machado, who was barred from running earlier this year — had in fact, lost the election. Anibal Gonzalez, 55, stood outside a shelter where he was staying in Streeterville with his son-in-law Julio Reyes, 35, and watched videos of unrest in his home city of Caracas. He had heard from relatives about election practices rife with fraud. People were protesting at voting centers.

"We've talked with relatives there about shootings, terrible things the government has done," he said. "They've taken away our opportunity to vote fairly. ... The people have no power to do anything."

Reyes said his country used to be a haven for migrants. Venezuela sits

atop the world's largest proven oil reserves, and once boasted Latin America's most advanced economy. But it entered into a free fall after Maduro took the helm. Plummeting oil prices, widespread shortages and hyperinflation that soared past 130,000% led first to social unrest and then mass emigration.

For years, the U.S. has opposed Maduro's leadership. Officials have used sanctions, which restrict Venezuela's ability to sell oil internationally, as leverage. Most recently, the U.S. used sanctions to pressure Venezuela into holding the election, according to economic experts.

Lilia Fernandez, a professor at the University of Illinois Chicago who specializes in the history of Latinos in the mid-to-late 20th century in the U.S., said that under Maduro, sanctions would most likely continue, making it even harder to live in Venezuela. "Our foreign policy has had an enormous influence on the country, their economy and the exodus of its citizens," Fernandez said.

The Associated Press contributed.

Contractor accused of bribing county assessor employees set to go on trial

By Jason Meisner
Chicago Tribune

Whether it was a bribe or not, one thing is clear: Former Cook County assessor's office employee Lumni Likovski really loved playing golf on someone else's dime.

"It was fun, it was a very nice course," Likovski told a colleague in September 2017 after allegedly being gifted a round at the exclusive Lost Dunes club in Bridgman, Michigan, according to court records. "You know, I'm built for that country club life. I'm not going to lie to you. It (expletive) suits me nicely, you know what I'm saying? I'm made for that (expletive), bro ... Somebody else is paying, so I got (to) love that (expletive)."

Likovski's rant about living high on the hog — which was being secretly recorded by the FBI — is at the center of a trial set to kick off Tuesday at the Dirksen U.S. Courthouse, where a fencing contractor is accused of arranging golf outings for Likovski and others at the assessor's office in exchange for getting his property taxes reduced.

Robert Mitziga, 66, of Dyer, Indiana, is charged with bribery and conspiracy in an indictment that was part of a larger investigation that so far has netted charges against seven people, including three assessor's office employees and one former Chicago buildings inspector.

Mitziga was accused of paying for food, drinks and rounds of golf at Lost Dunes for Likovski and two other assessor's office employees who helped steer commercial properties for Mitziga's company, Fence Masters Inc., through the appeals system and ultimately saved him about \$45,000 in taxes over three years — without the added expense of hiring an attorney.

While the charges involve relatively low-level graft, Mitziga's trial will include a number of colorful recordings and offer a glimpse into the bureaucracy of the county's property tax appeals system, which has been described by some as a legalized racket where initial assessments are artificially inflated, forcing property owners to jump through hoops to get them lowered.

At the time of the alleged scheme in 2017, the boss of the assessor's office was Joseph Berrios, the then-chairman of the Cook County Democratic Party whose office was often criticized as a den of clout and patronage.

Berrios, who has not been charged, lost his bid for a third term as assessor in the 2018 Democratic primary to Fritz Kaegi, who instituted a strict ethics code for all employees, "which forbids

the use of the assessor's office for personal gain."

Two former assessor's office employees, Basil Clausen and Lavdim Memisovski, have pleaded guilty to taking bribes and are expected to testify against Mitziga. Prosecutors also plan to put on an expert witness who will walk jurors through a "how-a-bill-becomes-a-law" version of the byzantine workings of the assessment appeals system, court records show.

Likovski has pleaded not guilty and had been scheduled to go on trial with Mitziga, but won a severance and will instead be tried in February, records show.

The investigation also has connections to another intriguing bribery case unfolding hundreds of miles away in Pennsylvania, where Mitziga's longtime friend, Mark Snedden, has been under scrutiny for allegedly helping arrange a slew of bribes — including trips to exotic islands, Bruno Mars tickets and a German shepherd puppy — to a corrupt Amtrak official to win millions of dollars in contract work to renovate the old 30th Street train station in Philadelphia, court records show.

Snedden has not been charged in either case, and he's not expected to testify in Mitziga's trial. Earlier this month, federal prosecutors in Philadelphia filed a criminal information against a top executive with Snedden's firm, Dolton-based MARK 1 Restoration, alleging the scheme to bribe the Amtrak official. Attorneys for Snedden's company have previously told the Tribune that Snedden is cooperating with the U.S. attorney's office there.

Meanwhile, attorneys for Mitziga have argued there is no connection between the golf outings and Mitziga's property tax appeals, which they characterize as routine. They also intend to argue there's no proof Mitziga believed he was helping his chances of lowering what he owed in taxes by paying for the rounds at Lost Dunes.

Mitziga said the same when he was confronted by two FBI agents in 2022 and shown some of the evidence in the case. A transcript of the interview recently filed by prosecutors shows Mitziga had just finished up a round of golf at a club in south suburban Flossmoor when he agreed to meet with the agents in the parking lot.

"How'd you shoot today?" one of the agents asked.

"You know, good," Mitziga allegedly replied. "I three-putted the last two holes."

During the three-hour interview, Mitziga was shown receipts from Lost Dunes and played recordings made during the inves-

tigation. He said he was just doing a favor for some friends when he set up the rounds of golf and had no expectation that his taxes would be lowered because of it, according to the transcript.

"My only point is it wasn't uh, uh, God how do you call that when you see it on TV ... like, pay-for-play or whatever," Mitziga said in the interview, according to a transcript in court records. "It wasn't a deal setup."

"You didn't think it would help with your taxes at all?" one of the agents asked.

"No. I didn't know that," Mitziga replied. "I didn't know anything about Lost Dunes was, was, uh, gonna help with my taxes at all. I can honestly tell you that."

The transcript also showed that Snedden was a main focus of the agents, who repeatedly asked Mitziga if he knew anything about Snedden's project in Philadelphia and whether he'd gotten into any legal trouble there.

Mitziga said he "wasn't privy to what was going on, but I knew they were having discussions over a job that was not going right or there were problems," according to the transcript.

"Do you know, uh, Mark Snedden to ever have done anything illegal or unethical?" FBI Special Agent Brian Etchell asked.

"No," Mitziga replied, according to the transcript.

The discussion grew testy at times, with Mitziga seeming to take exception to how the agents were characterizing his actions and at one point saying they'd "kinda lied" to him about the reason for the interview in the first place. Near the end, Mitziga appeared to be struggling to find the right words as he said he was not trying to "disrupt or inhibit" the investigation going forward.

"I'll answer the questions to the best of what I can," he said, according to the transcript. "And I can't remember every single thing, but a \$520 bill (from Lost Dunes) is the only thing that I know of, and it's 'cause you just showed it to me, or I would've never even known that."

According to a recent filing by prosecutors, Clausen, who was a residential field inspector for the assessor's office, is expected to testify that he met Mitziga more than a decade ago at the Innsbrook Country Club in Merrillville, Indiana, where they were both members. At some point during their friendship, Mitziga asked Clausen about reducing property tax assessments for Fence Masters as well as Snedden, who was also a member at Lost Dunes, prosecutors said.

"Clausen will testify that he understood the offer to

constitute a this-for-that — guaranteed reduced property assessments for the Fence Masters Property and the Mark 1 Properties in exchange for free golf at Lost Dunes for Clausen and Likovski and Memisovski," prosecutors wrote in the filing.

Clausen and his colleagues were treated to several rounds of golf at Lost Dunes in fall 2017, with Mitziga and

Snedden splitting the tab, according to prosecutors. On Nov. 9, 2017, the FBI recorded a call between Clausen and Memisovski regarding the Snedden's appeals, which had just been significantly lowered, according to prosecutors.

"Well, sir. Absolutely awesome," Clausen said on the call, according to the prosecution filing.

Later that month, the two

had another call to discuss Mitziga's appeal.

"He got a nice one too," Memisovski told Clausen. "I think he's actually gonna be happier than the other buddy."

"That's exactly what we want," Clausen allegedly responded. "Yeah. That's awesome, that's awesome."

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Gov. says ‘near impossible’ to get Bears stadium deal done this fall

By Olivia Olander
Chicago Tribune

Gov. J.B. Pritzker on Monday said there is almost no chance that a deal will get done this year on a taxpayer funded stadium for the Chicago Bears, especially since the team has yet to make a proposal that the governor thinks would be acceptable to lawmakers.

“I made it clear to the Bears leadership that it

would be near impossible to get anything done — if there was a proposal put on the table that could get done, you couldn’t actually get it done, probably, during the veto session and would have to wait until next spring,” Pritzker said, referring to the year’s final legislative session in November, during an unrelated news conference in Chicago.

“But in reality, there isn’t a proposal on the table right

now that would be acceptable to anyone that I know in the legislature,” he continued.

The governor and Bears President and CEO Kevin Warren met privately over breakfast for the first time in mid-June. Pritzker’s office at the time said the meeting was “cordial” without releasing many additional details.

In an interview last month with the Tribune, Warren said the summer and fall would be “critically import-

ant” for the stadium proposal. The organization failed to get a deal done during the regular Springfield legislative session this spring, which ended about a month after the team rolled out its stadium pitch with support from Mayor Brandon Johnson.

Pritzker in May called the Bears initial proposal for a multibillion dollar lakefront stadium “a nonstarter” and has repeatedly expressed his reluctance to use public

funds to build private stadiums. On Monday, when asked whether he had called mayors or governors in other states about best practices for stadium financing, he said his stance remains essentially the same.

“I’ve done a lot of research on this topic,” Pritzker said, “But let me be clear: There isn’t much change.”

The domed lakefront stadium proposal from the team in April called for \$2.3

billion in private financing and \$1.5 billion in new borrowing that would require legislative approval. The Bears are also seeking \$1.5 billion for infrastructure surrounding the stadium.

Taxpayers could end up paying at least \$4.8 billion over four decades for the stadium counting interest and other long-term costs.

The Bears declined to comment on Pritzker’s remarks.

Plant

from Page 1

capabilities and it’s not an issue of demand,” said Nate Baguio, Lion Electric’s senior vice president for commercial development. “It’s just that the speed at which these programs move is the limiting factor.”

Lion Electric is struggling even as the world continues to set heat records, and as the Democratic Party in the United States and the Liberals in Canada seek to keep their promises to fight climate change.

The company’s problems could get worse if Republicans in Washington and Conservatives in Ottawa return to power and sweep zero-emission subsidies aside.

Former President Donald Trump, for example, has pledged that if he reclaims the White House, he’ll end what he calls the “all-electric nonsense” of President Joe Biden and the Democrats.

In the United States, the Environmental Protection Agency had approved nearly \$3 billion in clean school bus subsidies by last month, according to the World Resources Institute, a nonprofit group which promotes sustainable growth.

That’s enough for 8,500 buses, but the institute said that because of the agency’s complex approval process, only about 750 had actually been delivered by Lion Electric and other manufacturers.

In Illinois, schools used EPA backing to order 609 electric buses. That’s second only to California among U.S. states. Of these, 132 had been delivered.

Congress initially allocated \$5 billion for the subsidies in 2021.

Spokeswoman Angela Hackel said the EPA expects 2,300 electric, natural gas or propane-powered school buses to be operating in the United States during the coming academic year.

She described the approval timeline for EPA subsidies as short and didn’t respond to questions about Lion Electric’s finances.

In Canada, spokesman Micaal Ahmed said the government’s Zero Emission Transit Fund has agreed to electric bus purchase subsidies worth \$1.3 billion.

That’s half of what lawmakers allocated to the fund in 2021. Fund officials are evaluating additional subsidy applications to determine how to spend the rest.

Pierre Fitzgibbon, Quebec’s economy minister, said the slow rollout of U.S. and Canadian subsidies is “clearly affecting the liquidity of the company.”

Fitzgibbon said he’s asked the federal government to make a specific statement that electric school bus subsidies are one of the pillars of its fight against climate change.

Without such a federal commitment, he said, Lion Electric will find it increasingly difficult to go back to Wall Street to raise more capital.

Lion Electric is dependent on government subsidies but doesn’t benefit directly.

Rather, the zero-emission transit fund writes its checks to local schools, but not until they install charging stations, take delivery of the buses, pay for them and begin hauling students.

This can take two years or more after regulators approve a school board’s application.

Such time lags also occur in the United States, where the EPA follows similar procedures.

Lion Electric has received 1,250 orders tied to a preliminary green light from the Canadian zero-emission transit fund.



Electric school buses stand on the production line at the Lion Electric Joliet plant on July 23.
E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

But the fund hasn’t given its final blessing to most of these orders, so the company has delivered just 50 of the buses, said Patrick Gervais, vice president of truck sales and public affairs.

Josipa Petronic, president of the Canadian Urban Transit Research and Innovation Consortium, said the threat to Lion Electric isn’t just that Conservatives could take power and cancel subsidies.

She said a significant number of the company’s existing orders — worth \$475 million — could be canceled between now and 2026.

That’s when parliamentary authorization for the current version of the zero-emission transit fund expires. School boards may be too uncertain about whether the subsidies will continue after that to maintain existing orders or place new ones, Petronic said.

“For Lion Electric and others who have pivoted entirely to zero emissions product lines, it could be an existential matter for their survival,” said Petronic, whose Toronto nonprofit helps the Canadian government administer bus subsidy programs, primarily for urban transit fleets.

“Lion Electric is one of the more robust manufacturers of school buses in the zero-emission landscape,” Petronic said. “If they’re in trouble, it’s hard to see how anyone else could do it.”

“That means the future of decarbonizing school buses is entirely at risk. It means your kids are going to continue breathing the most horrific air in a belching school bus. And I think that speaks to everybody, regardless of whether you even believe in climate change.”

Bright prospects

Lion Electric doesn’t know how many orders may get scrapped as school boards brace for the end of the current zero-emission transit fund, Gervais said.

But the company has been building up inventory and is poised to deliver buses quickly as subsidies start flowing, Gervais said.

According to Craig Irwin, an analyst at Roth Capital Partners LLC, the slow rollout of government subsidies could force Lion Electric back to Wall Street this year to raise money.

As of March 31, Lion Electric had \$5 million in cash and \$26 million in borrowable money in a revolving credit line from banks, according to its financial statements.

But this year, the company’s shares have fallen 52% to 86 cents, compared with a 15% gain in the Standard &

Poor’s 500-stock index.

Because school buses operate two hours in the morning and two hours in the afternoon and return to the same charging station each night, experts consider them a stepping stone to the electrification of medium- and heavy-duty trucks. Lion Electric also makes battery-powered trucks.

Transportation is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in Illinois. Diesel fumes contain many additional toxins, including benzene and arsenic.

In May, Harvard University researchers reported each electric bus saves the United States an average \$84,200 by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, adult mortality and childhood asthma.

The savings are even bigger in Black and brown, urban neighborhoods where many freight facilities are located, the researchers said.

Lion Electric’s prospects seemed far brighter when Democratic Party luminaries, including U.S. Sens. Dick Durbin and Tammy Duckworth and U.S. Reps. Lauren Underwood and Bill Foster, gathered at the Joliet plant for a ribbon cutting in July 2023.

“This new facility delivers a tremendous boost for Illinois’ clean energy economy and our environmental leadership, too,” Pritzker told hundreds who attended.

However, Lion Electric has been trying for weeks to lease out about a third of its Joliet manufacturing space, according to a Colliers.com real estate listing. So far, no takers have emerged.

How did the U.S. EPA and Canada’s zero-emission transit fund fall so far behind in distributing electric bus subsidies?

Part of the problem was COVID-19, which hadn’t reached its peak when U.S. and Canadian lawmakers approved the subsidies in 2021.

The pandemic disrupted government operations and triggered inflation and supply chain backups that lingered for years.

Another problem was the sheer scale of what the governments were doing, said Yan Cimon, a Universite Laval business professor in Quebec.

Cimon said to launch the program, they had to adapt existing regulations and new government institutions such as the zero-emission transit fund to the unprecedented technical and financial challenges of electrifying vast vehicle fleets.

Then, they had to teach business people and government officials across the vast, diverse and politically divided countries how to apply.



Electric school buses receive finishing touches before being delivered to customers at the Lion Electric Joliet plant.

Manufacturers such as Lion Electric are particularly vulnerable to delays, Cimon said, because they require massive investments as they’re starting up.

Between November and April, the company cut a quarter of its workers, leaving 1,150 on the payroll, according to the Toronto Globe and Mail. Gervais wouldn’t say how many work there now.

Albert Smith, 50, has assembled buses at Lion Electric for 16 months. The Joliet resident earns \$22.30 an hour but supplements his income by working as a bartender three or four nights a week.

“I’m really proud that I’m doing something to better the air quality in our ecosystem,” Smith said of his work on electric buses. “But I don’t really feel any job security.”

“The way things have gone downhill, we’re all wondering if we’ll come in one day and the doors will be shut,” he said.

In December, Smith voted yes when the International Association of Machinists union tried to organize the Joliet plant.

The National Labor Relations Board hasn’t announced a result because Lion Electric is challenging some of the ballots. Last month, 300 workers at the company’s Saint-Jerome, Quebec, plant voted to join the union.

Political minefields

Meanwhile, the zigs and zags of government subsidies have produced a weird patchwork of deployments.

Starting this week, the electric school bus capital of Illinois will be Herscher, a village of 1,500 people 65 miles southwest of Chicago.

That’s because Lion Electric is delivering 10 more electric buses to 25, bringing Herscher’s total to 35, or half its fleet.

Superintendent Rich Decman describes the EPA’s \$9.9 million grant for buses and rechargers as free

money. He’s also selling his used diesel buses. He’s planning an open house with Pritzker and the new buses in about a month.

Meanwhile, First Student Inc., the largest North American operator with 46,000 buses providing 5.4 million student trips per day, can’t get enough battery-powered vehicles.

Kevin Matthews, head of electrification, says the company operates 313 electric buses in Quebec, which offers subsidies up to \$175,000 per bus.

The subsidies go a long way toward closing the sticker price gap between an electric bus and a diesel.

According to the National School Transportation Association, electric cost \$350,000 on average last year, compared with diesels at \$100,000.

But First Student has no electric buses in the rest of Canada while it awaits zero-emission transit funding, and only 40 in the United States.

Still, Matthews said he’s so happy with the performance of Lion Electric and other manufacturers that he’s committed to operating 30,000 electric buses, or two-thirds of his entire fleet, by 2035.

“Electrification has significant benefits for the environment and human health, and for operational costs, so we really believe this will be the future of our industry,” Matthews said.

For Lion Electric, the problem is hanging on long enough for the cash register to start ringing.

The next time investors can take the company’s temperature will come Wednesday, when Lion Electric announces second-quarter earnings.

Last time around, the company announced steeper quarterly losses, fewer deliveries and a shrinking order book.

A repeat performance would inflame Wall Street’s jitters, since Lion Electric has promised better financial performance as 2024 goes along.

And then there are politi-

cal minefields.

Many pollsters consider Trump the front-runner in the U.S. election. In Canada, the Conservatives could return to power during a vote widely expected in fall 2025.

Cimon said most Canadians wouldn’t tolerate Trump’s “drill, baby, drill” chants on environmental policy.

However, the Conservatives are promising to ax the federal carbon tax in Canada. This helps pay for tax rebates to households and low-carbon industrial projects.

Quebec and California have been running their own cap-and-trade system for carbon credits since 2014. Cimon said they could be expected to use the proceeds to continue paying out zero-emission incentives even if federal authorities retreat.

Cimon said something similar happened during the first Trump administration.

California and states that adopted its clean-vehicle policies were strong enough — with 40% of U.S. car and light truck sales — to pressure several big automakers to continue electrifying despite Trump’s resistance.

“We don’t expect California, Quebec or British Columbia to step down on electrification,” said Gervais, the Lion Electric spokesman. “We believe there is a big market for the electrification of medium- and heavy-duty vehicles.”

California offers incentives up to \$360,000 for each electric bus and \$95,000 for each charging station.

In 2022, Illinois made a one-time commitment of \$177 million from its Volkswagen diesel cheating settlement to help schools buy about 60 electric buses.

But it offers no ongoing purchase subsidies and, unlike Quebec, hasn’t banned the registration of diesel school buses.

Illinois has offered Lion Electric nearly \$49 million in payroll tax credits as an incentive for building the Joliet plant. But to receive this amount, Lion Electric would have to create 608 jobs by the end of next year, according to Crain’s Chicago Business.

During a recent meeting with the company’s management and a tour of its Montreal-area factory, Pritzker and his aides “saw nothing but promising developments,” said Alex Gough, the governor’s spokesman. Gough did not address the challenges Lion Electric is facing with the slow release of subsidies but said: “We remain excited about the company’s future in Joliet.”

Baguio said government subsidies should move faster and give preference to Lion Electric and others who build only zero-emission vehicles.

Competitors such as Blue Bird lower their investment costs by converting just a fraction of their diesel fleet to electric propulsion. When they do, they get the same zero-emission subsidies as Lion Electric.

Of the electric bus orders funded through the EPA so far, Lion Electric has won 1 in 5, with most of the rest going to diesel conversions, according to the resources institute.

In any case, Baguio said, electric bus subsidies are “a drop in the bucket” compared to the enormous costs, including geopolitical instability, that U.S. taxpayers incur to defend the country’s oil interests.

“We can’t live in a world where the sky is falling from week to week,” Baguio said of Lion Electric’s need for a predictable flow of subsidies.

“Huge, huge progress has been made,” he said, “It’s just that we’re in the beginning stages of this transition.”

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EDITORIALS

Southwest becomes like every other airline

Southwest Airlines' decision to do away with unreseated seating attracted lots of media coverage. Much of it referred to the carrier, which has a long and proud history at Chicago's Midway Airport, as a *low-cost* airline.

That might be the case if you are looking at potential profitability or some other measure important to shareholders. But from a customer perspective, that has not been true for a very long time.

For proof, all you have to do is compare prices for Midway's dominant airline with the major carriers serving O'Hare. We do it often, and typically the prices are the same. Strikingly often, in fact, Southwest is the most expensive. True, Southwest does not charge extra for bags and has a couple of bespoke promotions, but even low-level status with its rivals, or merely a branded credit card, gets you much the same deal. By removing its open-seating policy, its last remaining meaningful distinction, Southwest finally is admitting that it is has become just like American, United and Delta.

Last week's announcement, of course, is all about profit. Airlines make billions of dollars by charging flyers for so-called premium seats, which they used to get for free. By assigning seats of various levels of desirability, Southwest can fully engage in one of the most unpleasant of modern-day marketing tricks: disguising the true cost of a flight in reasonable comfort. By "unbundling" so to speak, airlines also make it harder to accurately compare prices. They like that; we don't.

Back in the day, we were big fans of Herb Kelleher's Southwest way: low fares, plastic boarding cards, faster loading and connections, rapid treks out to the runway, avoidance of the

O'Hare traffic. All you had to do was get to the airport and check in first, and you could get access to the best seats, however much you had paid. Alas, those egalitarian days are over. You can no longer barter your time for privilege. Now it all goes to those who generate the highest revenue.

Southwest was, in large part, responding to an activist shareholder, and it has a fiduciary duty to its shareholders to do as well for them as it can. We have no argument there. It's also true that the airlines had already violated its Kelleher-induced prior purity by selling off its prime boarding spots through its "Business Select" fares, or whatever. Also, some people have tried to game the system by arriving in a wheelchair and leaving under their own steam, a phenomenon known as the "Jetway Jesus" effect, or engaging in elaborate techniques to hold seats for companions, everything from manspreading to avoidance of eye contact to acting as temporarily toxic as possible. We've seen it all.

But we'd also point out that that the carrier has been handed a virtual monopoly at *lower-cost* Chicago Midway and that it really should not be around \$500 for the short summer round-trip hop to Detroit, to use one of today's example, even with a week's notice. Europeans going equivalent distances usually pay a lot less. And trips from frigid Chicago to Florida during school winter vacations should not be reserved for the families of hedge fund mavens.

So by all means, assign seats, Southwest, and make your extra buck. But remember your customers. And we'll miss the days of \$49, grabbing the first seat we can find and scooting off fast with a very fun crew.



Southwest Airlines passengers stand next to boarding group posts for a flight at Midway Airport in Chicago on Thursday. **JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

ABOUT SPEEDING UP ENERGY PROJECTS

A bipartisan bill in Washington seeks to speed up permitting for new energy infrastructure, which far too often today gets bogged down if not killed by exhausting regulatory processes and lawsuits. Here's hoping the imperfect but worthy legislation isn't bogged down or killed by the forces protecting the status quo, which too often carry the day in Congress.

Anyone who claims to care about giving Americans plentiful access to affordable energy, including the renewable sources of power that will be absolutely essential to slowing the rapid rise in temperatures that's threatening people and ecosystems across the planet, should be upset about the fact that, according to the federal energy department, 70% of the nation's transmission lines are more than 25 years old. Old transmission lines squander energy. They make power outages and cyberattacks more likely. And perhaps most importantly, they drive up costs to consumers. It's not just the wires that deliver the electricity; it's the sources that produce it in the first place. To wean the country off carbon-emitting sources by 2035, the United States has to quadruple its annual deployment pace for solar and wind generation. Yet under rules that have only gotten more complex and cumbersome over the decades, America continues to move at a snail's pace in rolling out energy infrastructure. The Trump administration took a crack at fixing the problem. The Biden administration, under which both oil and renewable production are at all-time highs, has also pushed for smoother and speedier permitting of clean energy projects—an agenda Republicans and some Democrats have resisted as an unfair thumb on the scale. The sweeping legislation co-authored by Republican John Barrasso and Democrat Joe Manchin aims to speed up energy and infrastructure projects whether or not they emit fossil fuels. It would enable much faster modernization of the electric grid so that new sources, which are overwhelmingly renewable ones, can more easily deliver power to homes and businesses. ... The bill should serve as the foundation for major reform that unsticks the permitting process and lets energy and economic progress accelerate.

New York Daily News editorial board



Members of the Druze minority attend a memorial ceremony on Monday for the children and teens, killed in a rocket strike at a soccer field over the weekend in the village of Majdal Shams, in the Israeli-annexed Golan Heights. **LEO CORREA/AP**

Another crisis for Israel and potentially a big test for Joe Biden

Israeli officials long have known they have a big problem on their northern border with Lebanon, a bigger problem, from their perspective, than the situation in Gaza, which many moderates see as likely to resolve itself in time through a cease-fire that gets extended, whatever the absolutist and impractical official position about totally eradicating Hamas.

The Israeli border with Lebanon already is a no-go zone with tens of thousands of Israelis, those living closest, having been evacuated to hotels in and around Tel Aviv, some at the government's expense and others (mostly those in a geographic band a little farther away) at their own. An argument is made that this ongoing situation represents a de facto shrinking of the state of Israel itself. But the real issue here, we've been told, is that Israel views the capabilities of the Lebanese group Hezbollah as so much greater than that of Hamas. The militant organization, after all, is reported to have more than 100,000 rockets in its arsenal and tens of thousands of willing combatants.

That's why the rocket attack Saturday on the Druze village of Majdal Shams in the Israeli-con-

trolled Golan Heights, which killed 12 children of that Arabic-speaking religious and ethnic group, while they were playing on a soccer field near their home, is especially worrying. Israel blamed Hezbollah; the Iran-funded and equipped group has denied responsibility. Hezbollah and Israel have been skirmishing for months but this is the worst loss of life within Israel since October. (The deaths of Palestinians in Gaza have, of course, occurred at an exponentially larger number.) Israel has been striking back, but many Middle East watchers now fear an all-out war between Israel and Hezbollah.

That's not a new concern, but the weekend's events amped up the danger.

When Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin

Netanyahu, unpopular with Democrats, addressed Congress last Wednesday, excluding those members who chose not to show up, he found a legislative body distracted by the drama in the upcoming presidential election. The Middle East is not an easy issue for Democrats who have proved themselves effective in recent days as squelching internal debate and dissent. President Joe Biden said Monday that he was calling for major changes in the U.S. Supreme Court, including terms limits and ethics reform, an easy issue for Democrats to promote, as well as a constitutional amendment aimed at limiting the broad presidential immunity that the justices approved — another easy issue for Democrats to promote, if not to actually pass.

These proposed reforms are designed in part to boost support for Kamala Harris, Biden's replacement at the top of the Democratic ticket, and energize the progressive base. Biden even has used the phrase "limiting the court," which should give

any level-headed person pause.

But the Middle East does not pause for election cycles nor political conventions, and it could well be that Biden will have to deal with a much tougher issue for Democrats while he remains president. And it's worth noting that Harris was one of the people who did not show up to hear Netanyahu.

We urge Israeli restraint, given that Netanyahu's ultimate response to the shocking attack on kids — which may have landed in error; we don't know — will determine the likelihood of further loss of life. But already, the situation was serious enough for airlines such as Lufthansa and Royal Jordanian to cancel flights to Beirut and for governments, including the U.S., to issue a phalanx of warnings about the increased dangers in Lebanon.

Democrats have said that Biden is fully capable and engaged as the sitting president.

There will be a lot left to do, not all of it reflecting how the president would choose to spend his time.

EDITORIAL CARTOON



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OPINION

How to confront Chicago Public Schools' financial freefall

By Hal Woods, Chris Poulos and Micaelan Gasperich

Chicago Public Schools is teetering on the brink of the financial abyss, one that threatens to unravel the recent progress families and educators have fought so hard to achieve. The system is grappling with a structural budget deficit projected to be more than \$700 million this year, the largest it has faced in nearly a decade.

The emerging crisis stems from chronic underfunding and a reliance on one-time COVID-19 relief funds to create more than 9,000 new positions since 2019 — even as student enrollment declined by nearly 40,000. The district can be criticized for expanding staff without a sustainable plan, but it's unsurprising, given the pandemic's devastating impact on students' learning and well-being, with 2 out of 5 CPS students now chronically absent.

Chicago students have been shortchanged for decades and remain so. According to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), CPS is underfunded by more than \$1 billion because of insufficient local and state support and the disproportionately large number of high-needs students it serves.

To close this year's deficit, CPS is using its remaining COVID-19 relief funds to cover about one-third of the budget shortfall, alongside implementing administrative cuts, personnel reductions and debt restructuring and leaving vacancies unfilled. However, the majority of these are one-time fixes, resulting in more than 70% of the deficit rolling over into the next fiscal year.

Alarming, CPS projects its deficit will grow by another 17% this year due to new labor agreements, pushing the total to nearly \$900 million.

Marking one of the first times a mayor has opposed a budget from a Board of Education and schools CEO, Mayor Brandon Johnson rejected CPS' proposed budget, urging instead a short-term, high-interest \$300 million loan to avoid staff cuts and fund planned Chicago Teachers Union contract increases. The school board refused, with Civic Federation President Joe Ferguson likening it to a payday loan due to its exorbitantly high interest rates.

Johnson hoped to use the loan



People walk by Chicago Public Schools headquarters on May 28. ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

to bridge this year's deficit while persuading Springfield to increase funding in future years. But state leaders, including Gov. J.B. Pritzker, repeatedly have indicated no such additional state aid will be forthcoming.

In our new report, "Revenue Options to Address Chicago Public Schools' Deficit," Kids First Chicago presents six revenue proposals. Our goal is to ignite public discourse around how to secure the future of public education in Chicago.

Property taxes, CPS' primary revenue source, constitute roughly half of its operating budget. Since 2012, the district has raised property taxes annually to the statutory limit to match cost of living increases, or 5%, whichever is less. Despite Johnson's campaign pledge not to raise property taxes, his board continued the practice this year, recognizing the necessity of raising new revenue.

The Kids First report explores a referendum to temporarily lift the legal limit on property tax

increases. Compared with other large Illinois districts, Chicago's property taxes remain relatively low, even with such an adjustment. This option, however, requires significant political will and civic support. Less than half of such referendums pass in Illinois. Pairing this with a property tax relief program would help low-income and fixed-income homeowners weather the increase.

Another proposal is to let all Chicago tax increment financing districts expire, reintegrating their assessed value into the general tax base and boosting CPS revenue. Of note, this option requires a closer impact analysis as it would eliminate TIF surplus as a CPS revenue source and remove TIF as a tool to fund district capital projects.

The state also undeniably has a role to play in shoring up district finances. Merging the city's teacher pension fund with the state's teacher pension system would bring greater fairness to Chicago taxpayers, who currently pay into both teacher pension

systems, while those outside the city pay only into the state fund. This consolidation could be phased in, gradually allowing the state to assume pension costs of Chicago teachers and thereby enabling CPS to focus its property taxes, like every other Illinois school district, on serving its students.

We also explore changes to the state's evidence-based funding formula. Increasing appropriations to better fund the formula is politically appealing to legislators as it benefits school districts statewide. However, Springfield would need to identify new revenue sources, and we find the impact of increased appropriations on CPS' deficit to be modest.

Finally, incorporating a concentrated poverty adjustment into the formula would direct a greater share of state funding to districts such as CPS, which serve students with severe socioeconomic challenges. While the formula already includes income level as a variable and the federal government provides Title I funding to

school districts to support low-income students, some argue that adding a concentrated poverty measure could better address the compounded challenges faced by students in areas with high poverty rates.

Each option we offer has barriers and downsides, but solving the CPS financial crisis will require a combination of fresh ideas and difficult choices. The alternative — allowing CPS to continue on its current path — is not an option. The long-term repercussions of inaction, including devastating cuts to the classroom and drastic reductions in support services for students and families, far outweigh any short-term political fallout.

Now is the time to put our kids first and secure a sustainable future for Chicago Public Schools.

Hal Woods is chief of policy, Chris Poulos is senior manager of research and policy and Micaelan Gasperich is a data scientist at Kids First Chicago, an education nonprofit.

When it comes to physician-assisted suicide, safeguards aren't effective

By Cory Franklin and Victoria Tiller
Chicago Tribune

Assisted dying is accepted practice today, especially in Western Europe, Canada and the Northwest United States. It is gaining traction in the United Kingdom with former British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak giving his support: "I'm not opposed to it, in principle, and it's a question of making sure the safeguards are in place and are effective." Unfortunately, history demonstrates safeguards have never been effective.

For centuries, assisted dying was abjured by most societies and specifically prohibited by the Hippocratic oath ("I will not give a lethal drug to anyone if I am asked, nor will I advise such a plan."). It became a legitimate movement in the 1970s, the product of an aging society, the emerging Western concept of patient rights and the gradual acceptance of the idea by the lay and medical communities.

Numbers reflect changing attitudes. More than 4% of all Canadian deaths in 2022 were the result of Canada's medical assistance in dying legislation. A similar percentage in the U.S. would mean 120,000 assisted deaths annually, almost three times the number of motor vehicle deaths. In virtually every state and country that allows assisted death, the numbers are increasing dramatically. There was a time that proponents of assisted dying argued that only a small number of patients would avail themselves of the process — this has not been borne out.

Proponents say safeguards can be instituted, but safeguards, no matter how well intentioned, can falter. Assisted dying was originally intended only for those with severe intractable pain and a short time to live. Today, pain,



Disability campaigners hold signs as they demonstrate outside the Palace of Westminster, home to the Houses of Parliament, in central London on April 29 during a gathering in favor of proposals to legalize assisted suicide in the United Kingdom. BEN STANSALL/GETTY-AFP

which can be better controlled with medical intervention, is the primary reason in a minority of assisted dying cases. Many requests are for patients who have forfeited their autonomy, can no longer engage in enjoyable activities or have lost their dignity.

Many of these patients would be better served by support and counseling, but those services are often lacking. Moreover, some patients reject those options anyway, citing patient autonomy: Whose life is it, anyway? When patient autonomy becomes the guiding principle, it is difficult to envision how assisted dying can be restricted to those who are terminally ill or in severe pain.

Some patients requesting assisted death are clinically

depressed and once properly diagnosed could be successfully treated. One common safeguard for these patients is an appropriate waiting time to treat depression, a waiting time that flies in the face of the goal to end pain and suffering. Recently, a healthy 29-year-old Dutch woman, who applied for assisted suicide in 2020 in the Netherlands, was "granted" an assisted death in 2024. Waiting time turned out not to be a safeguard.

Can physicians be a safeguard? Requiring consultants to identify terminal illness or depression is often a pro forma exercise because these diagnoses are usually subjective and do not always adhere to definite standards. Inevitably, an expert can be located to conform to

the patient's desires. Predicting how long patients with terminal illness will live is fraught with error as well.

The world is full of patients who lived longer than the six months they were predicted to live.

Reporting requirements mandated by law are often little more than a bureaucratic exercise. Not all cases will be reported and reporting boards, loath to ask too many questions, approve in most situations. For physicians who break the law, prosecution is extremely unlikely, and if it does occur, punishment likely amounts to attorney's fees and occasional professional opprobrium.

Congress is considering a bill to pay for assisted suicide, and once

government becomes involved in paying physicians, even assisted dying becomes a commodity. Private insurance could reckon the cost of assisted suicide would be less than paying for care, such as chemotherapy for the chronically and terminally ill. Assisted death could become a cheaper means of managing suffering in those patients.

There are advocates who welcome the option of assisted death, but others voice caution that people with disabilities will be regarded as less valued people simply due to physical limitation and thus targets for termination. Subtle coercion to death could replace medical treatment. The disabled require societal empathy and resources; they often have difficulty speaking for themselves and defending against the slings and arrows of bureaucracy. No safeguard can substitute for acknowledging human dignity when spiritual, cultural and religious understanding disappears.

An activist group in Vancouver is now suing a Catholic hospital for refusing to provide the procedure to a 34-year-old cancer patient. The hospital cared for her, provided hospice care and willingly transferred her to another health facility that carried out assisted death. If the lawsuit is successful and Catholic hospitals are forced by Canada to perform assisted death, then religious principle, the last redoubt, will be seen as failing.

The practice of assisted dying is now part of our culture. The tide cannot be pushed back, and safeguards tend to be discarded quickly and honored little more than in the breach.

What the future holds could be shocking.

Dr. Cory Franklin is a retired intensive care physician. Victoria Tiller, who has a master of science in nursing, is a patient advocate.

OPINION

Venezuela's strongman president, Nicolás Maduro, steals another election



Daniel DePetris

Before millions of Venezuelans lined up to vote in the most pivotal presidential election in Venezuela's modern history, Edmundo González, the opposition's 74-year-old candidate, told journalists that he was optimistic about victory. "We are confident that our margin of victory will be so overwhelming that it will open a new political reality in the country and that will open spaces for negotiation," González, a former diplomat, told *The Washington Post*. "Maybe it's wishful thinking."

Indeed, it was. After nearly 10 million Venezuelans dropped their ballots, Nicolás Maduro, the strongman president who has ruled the oil-rich South American country for 11 years, declared himself the winner. According to the government-controlled National Electoral Council, Maduro received 51.2% of the vote to González 44.2%, a result opposition leader María Corina Machado quickly denounced as fraudulent. She wasn't the only one. Chilean President Gabriel Boric tweeted that Chile would not recognize the tally. Javier Milei, Argentina's president, said the same thing. Secretary of State Antony Blinken expressed concerns that the vote didn't reflect the will of the Venezuelan people.

Maduro's administration did everything it could to tilt the election in its favor, using the machinery of government to prevent the opposition movement from traveling the country unhindered. Campaign workers were jailed. Venezuelans who left the country years earlier due to Maduro's economic mismanagement, a key opposition voting bloc, found it extremely difficult to participate. Some polling places were relocated at the last minute, causing confusion. Machado, dubbed Venezuela's "Iron Lady" for her indefatigable campaigning against Maduro's dictatorship, was banned from running herself. (González was Machado's hand-picked replacement.) And election monitors from the European Union were blocked from entering Venezuela.

This is a tough pill to swallow for President Joe Biden's administration. Last year, there was a sense of cautious hope that perhaps Venezuela was turning a corner after more than a decade of political repression and economic contraction. After months of back channel negotiations with Maduro's representatives, Washington and Caracas arrived at an arrangement. In



Venezuela President Nicolás Maduro addresses supporters outside Miraflores presidential palace after electoral authorities declared him the winner of the presidential election Monday in Caracas, Venezuela. FERNANDO VERGARA/AP

exchange for Maduro opening up the political system, allowing the opposition to compete in a free and fair election and permitting international election monitors into the country, the Biden administration agreed to the partial lifting of sanctions on Venezuela's oil industry. Maduro and the opposition signed their own agreement to update the voter rolls and give all candidates access to the media.

U.S. officials, however, stressed that the economic restrictions would snap back into place if Maduro reneged on the terms. It didn't take long for that to happen. Machado was still not permitted to run. The airwaves remained dominated by the government narrative, which blasted the opposition as a bunch of fascists seeking to bring war and misery to the Venezuelan people. Venezuelans overseas found it all but impossible to cast ballots. This April, the U.S. reinstated the oil sanctions, arguing that Maduro was never intent on implementing the accord in the first place. The election results announced Monday morning were the final nail in the coffin.

For Maduro, this weekend was bittersweet. A former bus driver and union leader who rose to power on the back of his mentor, Hugo Chávez, Maduro has a knack for political survival even if he is arguably the world's worst chief executive. Venezu-

ela used to be one of South America's wealthiest nations; now, it's one of the poorest. The country's economy has lost 80% of its value during Maduro's 11-year reign, a consequence of his ideologically tinged economic policies, the Venezuelan oil industry's dilapidation and a U.S. sanctions regime that has only exacerbated Venezuela's outmigration.

And yet, despite his stellar lack of accomplishments, Maduro has managed not only to extend his power but also consolidate it. After every near miss — whether it was an attempted assassination via drone in 2018, a coup attempt by then-opposition leader Juan Guaido in 2019 or another coup attempt in 2020 at the hands of rogue Americans — Maduro has been quick to clamp down on any perceived threats to his rule. Venezuela's army, one of the country's key power centers, is firmly in Maduro's hands, not out of love for the dictator but rather because the arrangement is good for the top brass. Up until this year's vote, the opposition was notoriously divided against itself. Maduro fed off those divisions and exploited them to his personal benefit.

How will the U.S. respond to all this? Unfortunately for U.S. policymakers, there aren't any good options on the table. A return to the maximum pressure campaign of Donald Trump's

administration, which Biden continued up until the last year's temporary loosening, is unlikely to achieve anything more than it did in the past. And let's be honest: As righteous as the policy was from a moral standpoint, the practical benefits were virtually nonexistent. The whole purpose of the pressure was to compel Maduro to resign the presidency or, short of that, negotiate earnestly with broad segments of Venezuelan society to bring the country back on a democratic track. In reality, the only thing the sanctions did was further crush an already-crushed Venezuelan economy.

On the other side of the ledger, the U.S. could theoretically come to the depressing conclusion that Maduro is likely to be Venezuela's leader at least until 2030 — and likely longer — and normalize relations in the hope that full U.S. engagement will temper the man's instincts. But that's highly unlikely — it wouldn't fly on Capitol Hill and Maduro is inherently suspicious of Washington's intentions. The U.S. policy response will have to be somewhere in the middle.

This weekend's election won't be doing U.S.-Venezuela relations any favors.

Daniel DePetris is a fellow at Defense Priorities and a foreign affairs columnist for the Chicago Tribune.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Advice for Chicago city planners

Large-scale private developments are blooming in Chicago. We have heard of proposals for a White Sox stadium in the South Loop and a new Bears stadium at the lakefront. Now, the new large-scale 1901 development on the West Side aims to bring life to the area and adjacent communities.

Such projects are an increasingly popular city-building strategy. They are comprehensively designed with amenities and infrastructure.

City governments around the U.S. are increasingly willing to partner with developers to build large portions of their cities under a uniform design framework. Local governments favor this strategy since portions of these developments aim to replace outdated infrastructure. Developing large sections of cities with mixed-used projects promises to increase tax revenue by adding residents, jobs and entertainment activities in formerly derelict urban landscapes. City dwellers love these developments.

Chicago invests in them through tax increment financing (TIF), relinquishing taxpayer dollars to developers who sometimes do not reciprocate with diligent city building. Over time, their design changes from what the Department of Planning and Development approved; an array of new design iterations is introduced. Projects such as The 78 have issued multiple design iterations since their approval.

I suggest two strategies. First, developers should be made accountable whenever design changes are made. The city invests in the projects to kickstart the construction of approved designs — at the expense of time and human resources needed to assess them.

Second, city funds could be placed directly into infrastructure. This would assist the development's operations and secure public services for the adjacent and future communities that inhabit the area. That is, funds would go to parks, playgrounds and all public spaces first.

In conclusion, current assessment mechanisms at the Department of Planning and Development for large-scale private devel-

opments can improve. Community-oriented processes now take the lead, but more is needed to allocate funds first to public amenities benefiting existing communities. Existing design-based assessment mechanisms at the city planning department for smaller mixed-used projects have been successful.

Comprehensive design-based frameworks for assessing, approving and developing large-scale private projects must be introduced, guaranteeing that what the city invests in these projects will benefit the public and not finance subsequent iterations for these projects.

— Alejandro Saldaña Perales, Chicago

Pitfall for affordable housing

Regarding the editorial on July 24 on the proposed project around the United Center ("United Center development is good news for the West Side. But housing is what is needed most"): The key point is the need for more affordable housing in the city, which this project would attempt to create. While I agree that more affordable housing is a must, how affordable is the housing if the surrounding area isn't affordable?

Whenever I read about these new construction projects, such as the Obama Presidential Center, Lincoln Yards or The 78, I always wonder if the developers and city planners think about who can afford to patronize the area. Especially those who live in the affordable housing. Where would someone buy food in an area that caters to high-income earners? The idea of creating new neighborhoods with affordable housing sounds like a great idea, but if you can't afford anything in the neighborhood around you, are you really living in that neighborhood?

Will there be restaurants that cater to someone on the lower end of the middle class? Will there be shopping for people so they don't have to spend a week's pay for a pair of jeans or hoodie? Or will they have to leave their neighborhood for a discount clothing retailer in the suburbs or Indiana, which has a lower sales tax rate?

Trying to create these new neighborhoods is a wonderful idea, but people are

going to want to feel part of their neighborhood, and that means enjoying their local tavern, restaurants and stores.

Hopefully, developers and city planners remember that there will be people in this neighborhood who aren't at the high end of the tax bracket — so that everyone can take pride in the neighborhood.

— Victor Wheeler, Flossmoor

Combating speeding on drive

No matter what the outcome of a redesign and rebuilding of North DuSable Lake Shore Drive looks like, one end-result requirement is clear: Daily traffic must be slowed down. Today, hardly any drivers — those driving CTA buses and taxis included — are going at or near the posted 40 mph speed limit. Most drivers are traveling at 50, 60 or 70 mph.

Chicago police speed enforcement is minimal at best. Enforcement of the "no trucks" restriction is nonexistent.

The noise generated by vehicles traveling at these higher speed is a significant quality of life disruption for lakefront users and residents alike.

Looking at the Redefine the Drive project timeline for Phase I planning, the approval of a preferred alternative will take another three years. Phase II engineering (contract plans) and right-of-way acquisition would then begin. During this phase, detailed construction plans would be developed, and any necessary land would be acquired for the project. Phase III is the physical construction of the project.

This \$4 billion project probably will take 10 years to complete. We are looking at the late 2030s, perhaps into the 2040s, for potential completion.

We can't wait for the Redefine the Drive improvement project to help bring lower prevailing vehicle speeds to North DuSable Lake Shore Drive. Increased noise levels from vehicles traveling at speeds well above 40 mph are a significant quality-of-life disruption along the drive.

Action needs to be taken now by our state legislators to change the regulations that apply to U.S. 41 and DuSable Lake Shore Drive to allow for speed enforcement using

electronic means. Speed enforcement camera technology along the drive would help reduce vehicle speeds and, correspondingly, noise levels. Not to mention, safety too.

— Larry Nutson, Chicago

Honeymooners wowed by city

In all my 44 years on this earth, I have never been to a city as amazing as Chicago. San Francisco, Los Angeles, Washington, San Diego, Phoenix, Denver, Minneapolis and Juneau, Alaska, all pale by comparison.

The people of Chicago are nice without being fake, cool without being self-absorbed and smart without being arrogant. Hats off to Chicago. Thank you for hosting my husband and me for our honeymoon. We can't wait to visit again!

Shout-out to one of Chicago's locals, Sade, for the pizza recommendation. Aurelio's Super Six special was one of the best slices I've ever had!

— Rhi and Roy Blanke, Hugo, Minnesota

Add fees and lose customers

I just canceled a store credit card I had for 37 years. When the company added a \$1.99 fee for paper billing, I thought that I'm not paying them to bill me. Also, my cousin noticed that the number of visitors to the Chicago Botanic Garden has decreased. She thinks it's because of the high entrance fee plus parking fee for nonmembers. The gardens are a lovely place. Some people make a day of it, including spending money in the restaurant and gift shop. Is the high nonmember cost worth the loss of revenue to those entities, as well as the overall loss of visitors?

Perhaps the people who see adding fees as a way of cutting costs should rethink it and look elsewhere.

— Alice Marcus Solovy, Highland Park

For online exclusive letters go to www.chicagotribune.com/letters. Send letters by email to letters@chicagotribune.com. Include your name, address and phone number.

Police recover body in Lake Michigan after 1 man died and another missing

By **Adriana Pérez**
Chicago Tribune

Chicago police recovered the body of a man Sunday afternoon from Lake Michigan by 31st Street Beach. Police couldn't immediately confirm whether the man was a boater who went missing at the same location Friday.

Shortly before 1 p.m., the Chicago Police Department marine unit recovered the body along the northbound lanes of the 3100 block of South DuSable Lake Shore Drive. He was pronounced dead at the scene, and the Cook County medical examiner's office later identified him as Lorenzo Tobin, 40, of Country Club Hills. Detectives are investigating.

The recovery comes a day after a 37-year-old man died after being rescued from the 31st Street Beach harbor Saturday, and two days after

a man went missing when a boat carrying 16 people capsized Friday night near the same beach.

Early on Saturday, Woodland resident Eric C. Johnson, 37, was rescued from the water by Dock E at the 31st Street Harbor. He was taken to the University of Chicago Medical Center, where he was later pronounced dead, according to the Cook County medical examiner's office. An autopsy for Johnson was scheduled for Sunday, and the incident was being investigated.

On Friday, the boat carrying over a dozen people flipped near the 3100 block of South DuSable Lake Shore Drive around 7:30 p.m., according to police. Chicago Fire Department officials said 12 of the people who were rescued refused first aid, while three were taken to the hospital in good condition.

The Great Lakes Surf

Rescue Project reported that 41 of the 85 drownings in 2023 across the Great Lakes occurred in Lake Michigan. And half of all annual drownings in Lake Michigan occur on its south end, which includes Illinois' lakefront.

Earlier in July, during Independence Day weekend, the Douglas neighborhood beach closed two hours earlier after 4th Ward Ald. Lamont Robinson had cited recent fatal shootings. Plans included the presence of harbor security from 6 to 11 p.m. Robinson told the Tribune then that he would assess whether to continue the early closures after the holiday.

Chicago Tribune's Caroline Kubzansky, Molly Morrow, Avani Kalra and A.D. Quig contributed.

adperez@chicagotribune.com

Biden

from Page 1

normal, and it undermines the public's confidence in the court's decisions, including those impacting personal freedoms. We now stand in a breach."

The president spoke about his proposal Monday during an address at the LBJ Presidential Library in Austin, Texas, to mark the 60th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act.

"Extremism is undermining the public confidence in the court's decisions," Biden said. "We can and must ... restore faith in the Supreme Court."

Republican House Speaker Mike Johnson called the proposal a "dangerous gambit" that would be "dead on arrival in the House." Biden, in a brief exchange with reporters in Texas, shrugged off Johnson's pronouncement and said he would "figure out a way" to get it done.

Harris said the reforms being proposed "will help to restore confidence in the Court, strengthen our democracy, and ensure no one is above the law."

Biden is calling for doing away with lifetime appointments to the court. He says Congress should pass legislation to establish a system in which the sitting president would appoint a justice every two years to spend 18 years in service on the court. He says term limits would help ensure that court membership changes with

some regularity and adds a measure of predictability to the nomination process.

He also wants Congress to pass legislation establishing a court code of ethics that would require justices to disclose gifts, refrain from public political activity and recuse themselves from cases in which they or their spouses have financial or other conflicts of interest.

Biden also is calling on Congress to pass a constitutional amendment reversing the immunity ruling that ex-presidents have broad immunity from prosecution. That decision extended the delay in the Washington criminal case against Trump on charges that he plotted to overturn his 2020 presidential election loss and all but ended prospects that he could be tried before the November election.

Most Americans in an AP-NORC poll from August 2023 supported some form of age limit for Supreme Court justices. Two-thirds wanted the justices to be required to retire by a certain age. Democrats were more likely than Republicans to favor a mandatory retirement age, 77% to 61%. Americans across age groups tend to agree on the desire for age limits — those 60 and older were as likely as any other group to be in favor of this limit.

The first three justices who would potentially be affected by term limits are on the right. Justice Clarence Thomas has been on the court for nearly 33 years, Chief Justice John Roberts

has served for 19 years, and Justice Samuel Alito for 18.

Supreme Court justices served an average of 17 years from the founding until 1970, said Gabe Roth, executive director of the group Fix the Court. Since 1970, the average has been about 28 years. Conservative and liberal politicians have espoused term limits.

An enforcement mechanism for the high court's code of ethics, meanwhile, could bring the justices more in line with other federal judges, who are subject to a disciplinary system in which anyone can file a complaint and have it reviewed. An investigation can result in censure and reprimand. Last week, Justice Elena Kagan called for creating a way to enforce the new ethics code.

There have been increasing questions surrounding the ethics of the court after revelations about some of the justices, including that Thomas accepted luxury trips from a GOP megadonor. Justice Sonia Sotomayor faced scrutiny after her staff prodded public institutions that hosted her to buy her books.

Alito rejected calls to step aside from Supreme Court cases involving Trump and Jan. 6, 2021, insurrection defendants despite a flap over flags displayed at his homes that some believe suggested sympathy to people facing charges over storming the U.S. Capitol to keep Trump in power. Alito says the flags were displayed by his wife.

Chicago Tribune Death Notices

Chicago Tribune extends our condolences to the families and loved ones of those who have passed.

chicagotribune.com/deathnotice

Death Notices

Bertok Jr., Nicholas

Of Mukwonago, formerly of Oswego, IL., and Chicago, IL. was called home on July 25, 2024 at the age of 98. He is the loving father of Michael (Lori) Bertok Sr.; proud grandfather of Michael (Meghan Dehne) Bertok Jr., Nicholas Bertok, and Daniel Bertok; great-grandfather of Isabelle Bertok. He is further survived by many nieces and nephews. Nicholas was preceded in death by his parents Nicholas Sr. and Mary Bertok, his wife Loretta Bertok, and siblings William (Josephine) Bertok and Mary (Al) Soga. Nicholas was a proud Navy Veteran serving in WWII. He was a die hard Chicago Bears and Chicago White Sox fan and enjoyed golfing and playing chess with his son Mike. Nicholas retired after a long career with General Electric. Private family services were held for Nicholas. Memorial donations can be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Cilli, Donato J. 'Nick'

It is with great sorrow that we announce the passing of Donato "Nick" J. Cilli, 79, of Naperville, IL, formerly of Orange, NJ and Chicago. Nick passed away on July 18, 2024. He was born in Newark, NJ on January 31, 1945 to Marie Excellente. Cherished husband of Gail (nee Cyburt) who he married 33 years ago, at St. Bede The Venerable Catholic Church in Chicago. Dear father of Christopher (Teri Lawrence) Cilli. For a complete obituary, please visit FriedrichJones.com



Garofalo, Dorothy Marie

Dorothy Garofalo (née Duggan), beloved mother, grandmother, and cherished educator, passed away peacefully on July 27, 2024, at the age of 83. She was preceded in death by her husband, Nicholas Garofalo, her sister Patricia Kinsella, and her brother John Duggan. Dorothy was the proud mother of Karen Humphrey (Charles), James Garofalo, and Kelley Tansey (Joseph). She is also survived by her brother Jim Duggan (Barb) and Diane Altman, as well as her adoring grandchildren Cooper Garofalo, Sydney Garofalo, Nicholas Tansey, Jacqueline Tansey, Katherine Tansey, and Michael Tansey, who were her pride and joy. Dorothy is remembered fondly by her many friends and colleagues who admired her deeply. Her spirit and influence will continue to resonate in the lives she touched and the memories she leaves behind. For many years, Dorothy owned and operated the Palos Hills Sandbox Preschool, a place where her passion for nurturing young minds and fostering a love for learning shone brightly. Her preschool was not just an institution but a haven where countless children were introduced to the joys of discovery and creativity. Her legacy in early childhood education is cherished by all who had the privilege of being touched by her care and dedication. Visitation will be Wednesday July 31, 2024, from 3:00 - 8:00 pm at the **Kerry Funeral Home** in Palos Heights (7020 W 127th St, Palos Heights, IL 60463). Chapel prayers Thursday, August 1st, 10:15 a.m. proceeding to Our Lady of the Woods Catholic Parish (10731 W 131st St, Orland Park, IL, Mass 11am. Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital to support the battle against childhood cancers, www.stjudes.org. www.kerryfh.com ~ (708) 361.4235 ~ www.facebook.com/kerryfuneral

Pat passed peacefully at home on July 27, 2024, surrounded by family. Loving wife of 58 years to John Nesbitt; cherished mother of Garrett (Beth) Nesbitt and the late Catherine Nesbitt; adored grandmother to Holly and Jane Nesbitt; treasured sister of Gary Von Rueden (Terry). Pat was born in Eagle, WI and was a graduate of Marquette University Class of '63. Pat's greatest joys in life were traveling and spending time with family, especially her granddaughters. She will always be remembered as a fun-loving, kind, genuine person who touched many lives. Pat was a travel agent with Travel 100 Group for 25 years, long-time member of the Women's Library Club of Glencoe and board member with the Infant Welfare Society of Chicago. Memorial Mass 11:00 am Thursday, August 1, 2024, at Divine Mercy Parish at Sacred Heart Church, 1077 Tower Rd, Winnetka, IL 60093. To attend the Mass virtually, please go to Pat's obituary page at donnellanfuneral.com and scroll down to Events and click Watch Now. Interment private Sacred Heart Cemetery in lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Infant Welfare Society of Chicago, 3600 W. Fullerton Ave, Chicago, IL 60647. Info: donnellanfuneral.com or 847-675-1990.

KERRY FUNERAL HOME

Glenn, Janice Elaine 'J.J.'

Admired for her natural beauty, an adventurer, lifelong learner, artist and cultural maven. Born in Chicago, 1930, Janice Elaine Glenn, nee Elkins, passed Monday at 93. She traveled the world but her heart would always be in Chicago.

After her son Freddie died, she transformed from socialite to activist. Marched against Vietnam war, worked for Eugene McCarthy, active in the women's and indep. Dem. movement. She met a top McCarthy funder, joined their travel agency to become an agent to the rich and famous.

Preceded in death by husband Rowland Alvin Glenn and son Fredrick Steven Glenn. Janice is survived by son, Michael A. (Cathleen), and daughter, Laurie R. Glenn (David Marienthal) and grandson, Daniel Fredrick Glenn. Services will be held grave-site at 12:30 p.m., Thurs., Aug. 1, Memorial Park Cemetery, Skokie, Ill. For more info go to <https://tinyurl.com/JaniceGlennObit>

Jordan, Jeanne Marie

Jeanne M. Jordan, nee Thornton, formerly of Downers Grove, was born August 10, 1934 in Chicago, IL and died peacefully July 26, 2024 in Westmont, IL. Loving daughter of the late Edward Thornton and Marie Smith Thornton, she is survived by her children Dan (Michelle), Mimi, Matt (Fei), Colette and Ed (Melissa Coons); grandchildren Graham, Shatien, Evan and Tatiana; sister-in-law Dorothea Thornton; and many nieces and nephews. Preceded in death by her husband, Charles Jordan, and brother, Ed Thornton. Jeanne grew up in Little Flower Parish on the South Side, graduated from the Academy of Our Lady (Longwood), attended Mount Mary College and earned her B.A. from Loyola University. Jeanne's friends and family fondly recall her love of singing. She was a member of the DuPage Chorale, and could be counted on to write parody songs for birthdays and other special occasions. And she never met a pun she didn't like! Visitation 4-8 p.m. Friday August 2nd at **Hallowell & James Funeral Home**, 301 75th St., Downers Grove. Family and friends will meet Saturday August 3rd at Christ the Servant Church, 8700 Havens Drive, Woodridge for Mass at 10 a.m. Interment private. Donations in Jeanne's memory can be made to Los Olivos CIS, P.O. Box 76, Westmont, IL 60559-0076 or online at www.cis-elsalvador.org. Funeral info 630-964-6500

Marshall, Naomi H.

Naomi H. Marshall, nee Hyman, age 91, of Vernon Hills, formerly of Kalamazoo, MI; beloved wife of the late Norman Marshall; loving mother of Debbie (Scott) Golan, Ellen (Frank) Rondi, and Laurie (Jay) Josephson; adored grandmother of Emily (Brian) Daniels, Melissa (Brian Ru) Rondi, Jennifer (Tim) Cabbage, Jamie (Matt) Singer, Brett Josephson, and Matthew (fiancée Brittany Montague) Golan; proud great grandmother of Paige and Brady Daniels, Joshua and Samantha Cabbage, Lincoln and Arlo Singer, and Maya Golan; cherished sister of Ruth Lovely; dear sister-in-law of Marilyn (late Lenny) Frankel; a loving importance to many cousins, nieces, and nephews. Naomi was lovingly cared for until her last breath by Ester Porticos. Naomi was married for 68 amazing years and prided herself in being a homemaker for her adored husband and 3 girls. After retirement age, she and Norman traveled the world together, meeting strangers who often became friends. She was known by many as an extraordinary cook and baker and people were honored to be on her guest list. Service Tuesday, 12 Noon CT at The Chapel, 195 N. Buffalo Grove Rd., Buffalo Grove (1 Blk N. of Lake Cook Rd.). The service will be livestreamed on Naomi's webpage at www.goldmanfuneralgroup.com. Interment Shalom Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, please make a gift to support ALK+ Lung Cancer Fund at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. Please send your gift in memory of Naomi Marshall to: University of Colorado Foundation, PO Box 17126, Denver, CO 80217. On the memo line of the check, please note Naomi's name and make it payable to the CU Foundation. Gifts may also be made online at https://www.givecampus.com/campaigns/49489/donations/new?a=8408563&hide_in_memory_of=1&in_memory_of=1979137 Info: The **Goldman Funeral Group** (847) 478-1600.



McNeill, Francis R.

Francis R. McNeill of Grayslake, IL, passed away age 96, on July 29, 2024. He is survived by his wife Barbara, children Steve (Shirley), Jeff, Timothy (Sherie) and Mehul Anjaria (Cynthia), grandchildren Jason, Evelyn (Eddie), Lauren, Jameson (Carissa) and Joshua (Nicole). He is also survived by eight great-grandchildren whom he loved dearly. Memorials may be made to Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church in Waukegan, Illinois. A visitation will be held at Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church 1310 N. Frolic Ave. Waukegan, IL 60085 on Friday, August 2, 2024 from 10:00am until 11:00am with the funeral service commencing at 11:00am. All funeral arrangements were entrusted to **Strang Funeral Chapel & Crematorium** 410 E. Belvidere Rd. Grayslake, IL 60030. For more information log onto www.strangfuneral.org or contact (847)223-8122.



Nesbitt, Patricia (Pat)

Pat passed peacefully at home on July 27, 2024, surrounded by family. Loving wife of 58 years to John Nesbitt; cherished mother of Garrett (Beth) Nesbitt and the late Catherine Nesbitt; adored grandmother to Holly and Jane Nesbitt; treasured sister of Gary Von Rueden (Terry). Pat was born in Eagle, WI and was a graduate of Marquette University Class of '63. Pat's greatest joys in life were traveling and spending time with family, especially her granddaughters. She will always be remembered as a fun-loving, kind, genuine person who touched many lives. Pat was a travel agent with Travel 100 Group for 25 years, long-time member of the Women's Library Club of Glencoe and board member with the Infant Welfare Society of Chicago. Memorial Mass 11:00 am Thursday, August 1, 2024, at Divine Mercy Parish at Sacred Heart Church, 1077 Tower Rd, Winnetka, IL 60093. To attend the Mass virtually, please go to Pat's obituary page at donnellanfuneral.com and scroll down to Events and click Watch Now. Interment private Sacred Heart Cemetery in lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Infant Welfare Society of Chicago, 3600 W. Fullerton Ave, Chicago, IL 60647. Info: donnellanfuneral.com or 847-675-1990.

Romanchek Jr., Vasily (William)

VASILY (WILLIAM) ROMANCHEK, Jr. Fell asleep in the Lord, on July 27, 2024. Born in Tolliston, In. on December 28, 1940. Son of Vasily and Martha Romanchek. The Romanchek family were a pioneer family from Russia, coming to the city of Chicago in the 1800's. Grandfather, John was a founding member of Holy Trinity Russian Orthodox Cathedral, 1121 N. Leavitt St. in Chicago; he later moved his family to Indiana, and was also a founder of the parish St. Mary's Russian orthodox Church, 1975 Filmore St. Gary, In. William's father, Vasily Sr., was baptized by the new martyr, St. John (Kucharov) of Chicago, and Tsarskoye Selo. William (Vasily Jr.) graduated from Purdue University, in 1964. He was a devout Christian, and faithful member of the Russian Orthodox Church. He believed in the salvation offered to humanity through Jesus Christ, the only Begotten son of God. He also completely and sincerely believed that America could be saved if only it would embrace Russian Orthodox Christianity. William (Vasily Jr.) was acting president of Russian-Americans of Chicago for many years. Although, William (Vasily Jr) was a bachelor, he was a staunch defender of traditional family values. Panhida service (Orthodox service for departed) will be, Wednesday, July 31, 2024 at Holy Trinity Russian Orthodox Cathedral, in Chicago, IL; and Divine Liturgy and funeral service will be held, Thursday, August 1, 2024 at St. Mary's Russian Orthodox Church in Merrillville, IN. Additional information can be obtained from www.Burnskish.com

Chicago Daily Tribune

ON JULY 30 ...

In 1619, the first representative assembly in the American colonies met in Jamestown, Va. (It enacted laws against idleness, drunkenness and gambling.)

In 1718 Quaker leader and Pennsylvania founder William Penn died in Buckinghamshire, England; he was 73.

In 1729 the city of Baltimore was founded.

In 1792 "La Marseillaise," the French national anthem, was sung in Paris for the first time.

In 1818 novelist Emily Bronte was born in Thornton, England.

In 1864, during the Civil War, Union forces tried to take Petersburg, Va., by exploding a mine under Confederate defense lines; the attack failed.

In 1880 Robert McCormick, who would become the editor and publisher of the Tribune, was born in Chicago.

In 1889 Vladimir Zworykin, considered to be the "father of television" for having invented the iconoscope, was born in Murom, Russia.

In 1932 the Olympic Games opened in Los Angeles.

In 1942 President Franklin Roosevelt signed a bill creating the Women

Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service, a Navy auxiliary known as the WAVES.

In 1945, during World War II, the battle cruiser USS Indianapolis, which had just delivered components for the atomic bomb that would be dropped on Hiroshima, was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine; only 316 out of 1,196 men survived the sinking and the shark-infested waters.

In 1965, as former President Harry Truman looked on, President Lyndon Johnson signed Medicare into law at a ceremony in Independence, Mo., Truman's hometown. (The act took effect in 1966.)

In 1975, outside a suburban Detroit restaurant, former Teamsters union President Jimmy Hoffa was seen in public for the last time. Also in 1975 representatives of 35 countries convened in Finland for a conference on security and human rights that resulted in the Helsinki Accords.

In 1980 the Israeli Knesset passed a law reaffirming all of Jerusalem as the capital of the Jewish state.

In 1995 Russia and Chechen rebels signed an agreement calling for a gradual withdrawal of Russian troops and the disarmament of rebel fighters.

In 1996 a federal law enforcement source said security guard Richard Jewell had become a focus

of the investigation into the bombing at Centennial Olympic Park; Jewell later was cleared

In 1998 "Buffalo Bob" Smith, the host of "The Howdy Doody Show," died in Hendersonville, N.C.; he was 80.

In 2000 President Hugo Chavez of Venezuela won a six-year term in a landslide re-election.

In 2002 U.S. Rep. James Traficant, D-Ohio, was sentenced to eight years in prison for corruption. Also in 2002 WNBA player Lisa Leslie became the first woman to dunk in a professional basketball game.

In 2004 leaders of the Sept. 11 commission urged senators to embrace their proposals for massive changes to the nation's intelligence structure. Also in 2004 Mike Tyson was knocked out in the fourth round of a fight in Louisville by British heavyweight Danny Williams.

In 2013 a military judge convicted Pfc. Bradley Manning, 25, under the Espionage Act but not guilty of aiding the enemy during his court-martial at Fort Meade, Md. (He was later sentenced to 35 years in prison. He also changed his name to Chelsea.)

In 2016 a hot air balloon crashed into a pasture in central Texas, killing all 16 on board and becoming the worst such disaster in U.S. history.

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Chicago Tribune

Visit: chicagotribune.com/deathnotice

Schiller, Robert J.

Robert (Bob) Joseph Schiller (83) of Elmhurst, Illinois took his final breath on July 24, 2024 surrounded by his loving wife of 61 years and his 8 lucky kids. Bob was born on August 30, 1940 to Joseph and Helen (Mulherin) Schiller. He graduated from Immaculate Conception Grade School in 1956 and entered the Seminary at Notre Dame where he studied for two years. His goal was to be the Pope...the only goal he set that he didn't accomplish. Bob returned home and graduated from Immaculate Conception High School in 1959, where he started dating the love of his life Anne (Murphy) and made lifelong friends that he loved. Bob went on to study real estate at DePaul University in Chicago and worked for Tellefson Realty for 5 years. He opened Schiller Real Estate in 1970 and went on to employ hundreds of realtors, creating a legacy that is carried on by his children to this day. Much to his delight, he was joined by many family members at Schiller Real Estate, including his beautiful wife Anne. Bob supported himself through college and his early years working various sales jobs at Sears, Marshall Fields and Carson Pierre Scott. Bob and Anne married in 1963 at Immaculate Conception and went on to raise 8 children; Jane Vasquez, Amy Schamberger, Beth (Jim) Plummer, Katie (Tim) McKenna, Annie (Bill) Paschen, Peggy Schiller, Bob Schiller Jr., and Tim (Sara) Schiller. He was a loving and cherished Papa to 22 grandkids; Paul (Rachel), Nathan (Sah), and Joe (Jori) Vasquez; Greta Schamberger; David, Bobby and Annie Plummer; Timmy, Tyler, Trevor and Trey McKenna; Billy, Emmett and Jack Paschen; Lucy, Marnie, B and Murphy Wright; Reese, Grae, Liv and Elle Schiller; and one great granddaughter, Shiloh Vasquez. Bob believed strongly in the concept of giving back and was a long time supporter and board member of The Ray Graham Association. Bob ran a religious education program at Immaculate Conception for children with special needs, bringing his kids along to help out. He was named Illinois Volunteer of the Year, recognizing his long term support of individuals with special needs. He chaired many fundraisers for ICGS and ICHS as well as started the track program at ICGS. Bob is preceded in death by his parents, Joseph and Helen Schiller and his brothers, Joe and Jack Schiller. As well as his in-laws, Dr William and Agnes Murphy, and his brother in law, Timothy Murphy. Living relatives are Dorice (Schiller) and Corbin McNeill, Nancy (Connor) Schiller, Bill and Liz Murphy, Jane (Murphy) and Dan Wangler, Mary (Murphy) and Mike Hauert, Charlie and Teresa (Cain) Murphy, Peggy (Murphy) and Richard Grobe and many beloved nieces and nephews. Everyone of Bob's kids and grandkids have benefited immeasurably from his sense of humor, kindness, positive attitude, and generous spirit. There are many lives that have been changed for the better just for knowing him. Visitation Tuesday, July 30, 2024, 3:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at **Gibbons Funeral Home**, 134 South York Road, (1/2 mile North of Saint Charles Road), Elmhurst. Friends and family will meet for a Mass of Christian Burial Wednesday, July 31, 2024, beginning at noon at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 134 Arthur Street, Elmhurst. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Ray Graham Association, Development Office, 901 Warrenville Road, Suite 500, Lisle IL 60532 or Movement Revolution, which offers exercise for people with neurological conditions, such as stroke, brain injury, Parkinson's and more. Movement Revolution, 3S012 IL-53, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137. Recording of the funeral Mass available through the funeral home website. For funeral information please call 630-832-0018 or www.gibbonsfuneral-home.com



Stronczek, Rose C.

Stronczek, Rose C., 101 years old, beloved wife of the late Fred; daughter of the late Stanley and late Catherine (nee Mitus) Pyznarski; sister of the late Bernice (late Walter) Zawacki; late Helen (late Bruno) Sinal; late Ann (late John) Rzasa; late Matthew (late Evelyn) Pyznarski; late Mary (late Lawrence) Noga; late Sophie Pyznarski; late Raymond (late Pauline) Pyznarski; and late Loretta (late John) Knapczyk; loving aunt of many nieces and nephews. Visitation Wednesday, July 31 from 9 am until 11 am funeral mass at St. Barbara Church, 2859 S. Throop St.; Chicago, 60608. Int. Resurrection Cemetery. In lieu of flowers memorial masses or contributions to the Sisters of St. Joseph are most appreciated. **Pomierski F.H.** (773) 927-6424 www.pomierskifuneralhome.com

Wright, Terry Lee

Terry Lee Wright, age 72 of Oswego, IL passed away on Saturday, July 27, 2024 at Rush-Copley Medical Center in Aurora, IL. She was born on February 5, 1952 in Fort Leonard Wood, MO the daughter of Ronald and Anna (Kaufmann) Paulson. Terry received her Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science from North Central College. Terry was united in marriage on October 1, 1988 to Lewis E. Wright and spent 35 years happily together. Mrs. Wright was a member of the Good Shepard Methodist Church in Oswego, IL and a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, where she was a Past Matron. She was a well-known and talented artist. Terry was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister and aunt who will be deeply missed by her family and friends. Terry is survived by her husband, Lewis; her daughter Elyse, son Andrew, and stepdaughter Jennie (Michael) Wall; 6 grandchildren; 1 great-grandchild; siblings, Denise Moulton and Daryl Dykstra, of Evergreen Park, IL; also several nieces and nephews. Terry was preceded in death by her parents. A Funeral Service will be held at 4 PM on Sat. Aug. 3, 2024 at the Nelson Funeral Home, 1617 North Bridge Street, Yorkville, IL. Interment will take place at a later date in the Pavilion Cemetery in Yorkville, IL. Friends may visit from 1 PM until the Hour of Service on Sat. Aug. 3, 2024 at the Funeral Home in Yorkville, IL. Arrangements by Nelson Funeral Homes & Crematory, www.NelsonFuneralHomes.com or (630) 553-7611.

Yabut, Myrna D., R.N.

Myrna D. Yabut, R.N., née Devenecia, age 74, of Skokie. Beloved wife of Armando; dear mother of Dustin (Brooke), Danny (Shannon), and Diane (Justin Fine) Yabut; loving grandmother of Katie, Emily, and Ethan; fond sister to four sisters and four brothers. Family and friends to meet for Mass of Christian Burial, Wednesday, July 31, 2024, at 10:30 a.m., at St. Peter Church of Ss. Peter & Lambert Catholic Parish, 8100 Niles Center Rd., Skokie. Interment, Maryhill Catholic Cemetery, Niles. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22718, Oklahoma City, OK, 73123 (cancer.org). Funeral info: 847.673.6111 or to view complete obituary, please go to habenfuneral.com.

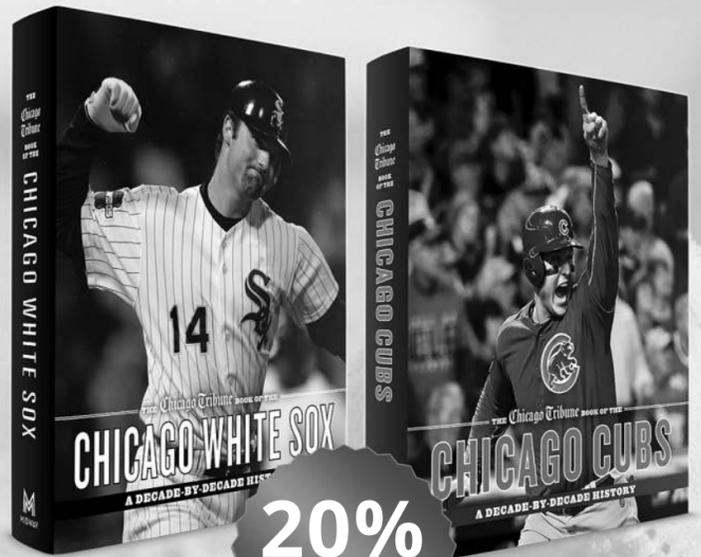


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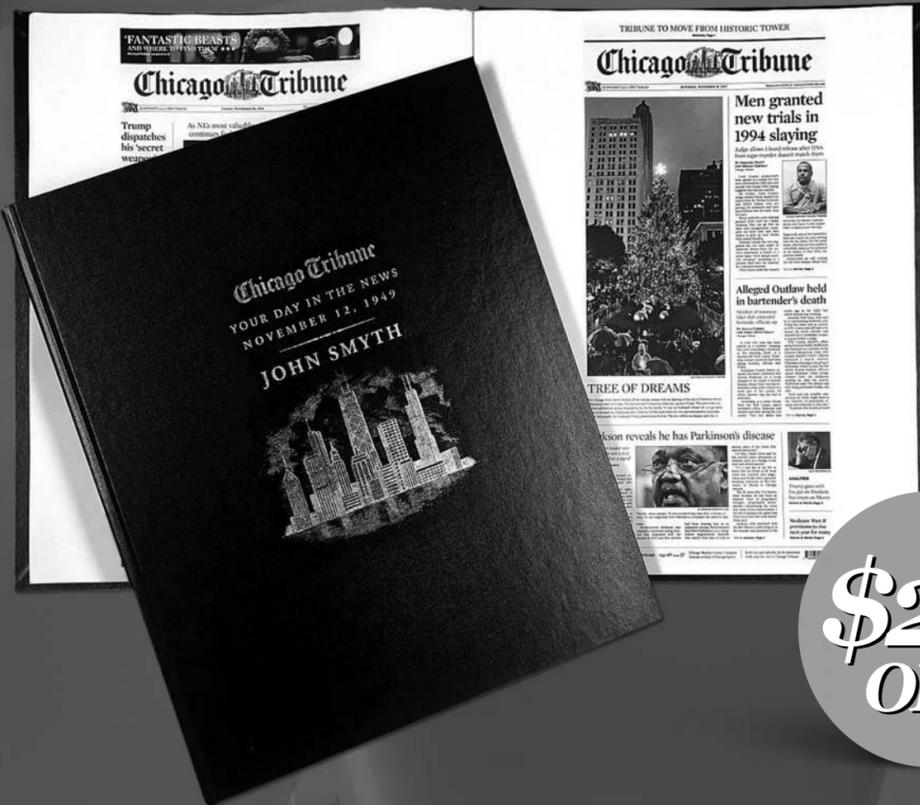
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CHICAGO ACCUWEATHER



ABC7 Outlook:
Fog early, then partly cloudy, hot and humid with a storm possible. Highs around 90. Best chance of storm late at night.

TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
Day	Night	Day	Night	Day	Night	Day	Night	Day	Night	Day	Night
High: 90	Low: 71	High: 90	Low: 72	High: 88	Low: 70	High: 82	Low: 70	High: 89	Low: 68	High: 88	Low: 61
Partly sunny, humid and warmer		Periods of sun with a heavy t-storm; humid		A stray a.m. t-storm, then a heavy t-storm		Rather cloudy with a stray t-storm; humid		Humid with some sun; breezy in the p.m.		A thunderstorm in spc in the afternoon	
POP: 15%		POP: 80%		POP: 65%		POP: 40%		POP: 25%		POP: 40%	
Winds: W 4-8 mph		Winds: S 6-12 mph		Winds: WNW 6-12 mph		Winds: NNW 7-14 mph		Winds: NNE 8-16 mph		Winds: N 6-12 mph	

CHICAGO FORECAST
Tuesday Conditions
8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m. 8 p.m.
AccuWeather.com UV Index™
2 4 7 8 4 1 0
RealFeel Temperature®
81 90 96 98 94 87 87

Tuesday Activities
8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m. 8 p.m.
Golfing Index
9 8 6 6 8 9 10
Fishing Index
4 9 8 10 10 8 10

The higher the **AccuWeather.com UV Index** number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection. 0-2 Low, 3-5 Moderate, 6-7 High, 8-10 Very High, 11+ Extreme. The patented **AccuWeather.com RealFeel Temperature** is an exclusive index of effective temperature based on eight weather factors. **Golf and Fishing Indexes:** 0-2: Poor; 3-4: Fair; 5-6: Good; 7-8: Very Good; 9-10: Excellent.

CHICAGO ALMANAC
Monday Temperatures
O'Hare through 4 p.m.

High	84
Low	71
Normal high	84
Normal low	67
Record high	99 (1913)
Record low	50 (1984)

Local Temperatures
through 6 p.m. Monday

Location	Hi	Lo	Normal Hi	Normal Lo
Aurora	81	70	84	62
Gary	84	72	85	66
Kankakee	84	69	84	64
Lansing	85	70	84	65
Midway	83	73	85	68
Romeoville	83	70	84	65
Valparaiso	82	69	85	64
Waukegan	76	72	81	62

Monday Precipitation

	2024	2023	Normal
Monday*	0.10"	Trace	0.14"
Month to date	5.88"	7.61"	3.44"
Year to date	24.25"	22.93"	22.27"

*24-hour period ending 4 p.m. Monday

Pollen as of 7/29
Trees Grass Weeds Mold
Absent Absent Low High
Source: Loyola Medicine via NAB

Air Quality Index
Monday's reading: **Good**
Tuesday's forecast: **Good**
Primary pollutant: **Ozone**
Source: AirNow.gov

Sun and Moon

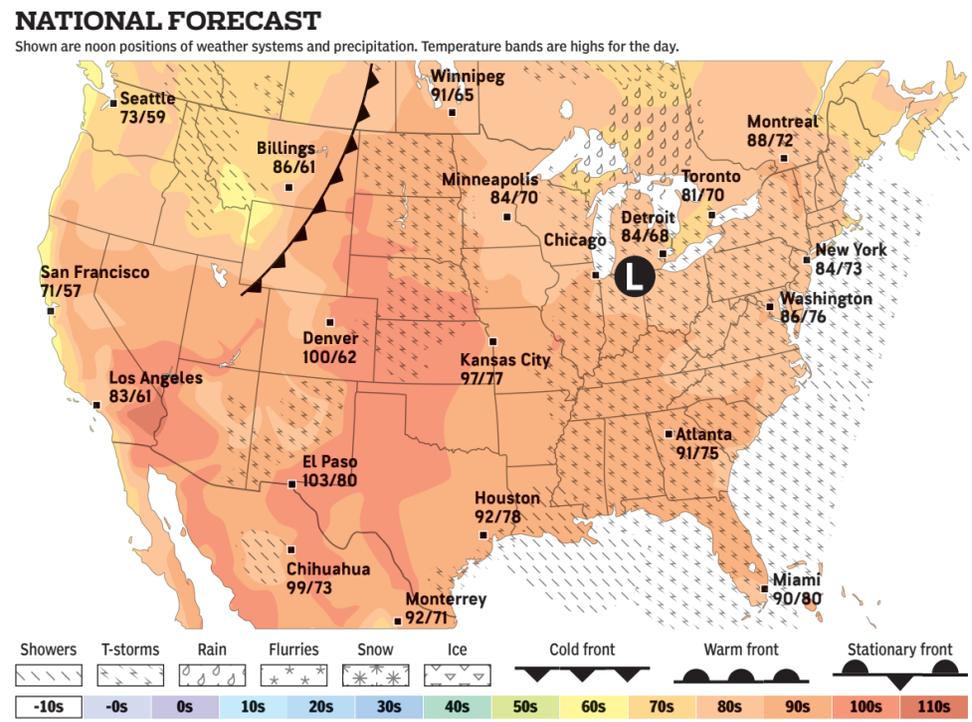
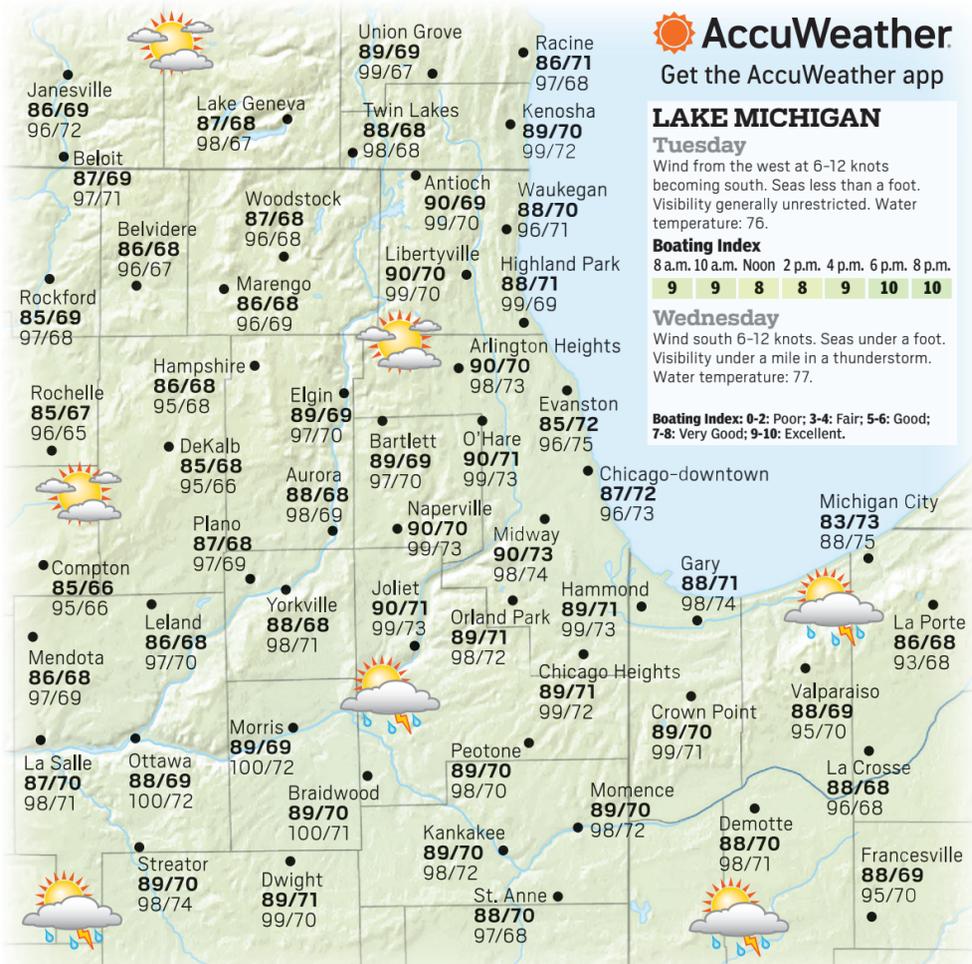
	Tue.	Wed.
Sunrise	5:43 a.m.	5:44 a.m.
Sunset	8:11 p.m.	8:10 p.m.
Moonrise	12:45 a.m.	1:29 a.m.
Moonset	4:49 p.m.	5:54 p.m.

New First Full Last
Aug 4 Aug 12 Aug 19 Aug 26

Tuesday's Planet Watch

	Rise	Set
Mercury	7:59 a.m.	9:02 p.m.
Venus	7:01 a.m.	9:00 p.m.
Mars	1:12 a.m.	3:59 p.m.
Jupiter	1:40 a.m.	4:35 p.m.
Saturn	9:58 p.m.	9:18 a.m.

Best viewing times today: Venus: 8:40 p.m. Mars: 5:15 a.m. Jupiter: 5:15 a.m. Saturn: 5:15 a.m. Mercury: 8:40 p.m.



NATIONAL CITIES

City	Tue. Hi/Lo/W	Wed. Hi/Lo/W
Abilene	101/77/s	104/76/s
Albany, NY	89/74/t	84/70/t
Albuquerque	97/71/t	97/74/pc
Amarillo	104/75/s	103/75/pc
Anchorage	59/51/r	64/54/pc
Asheville	86/68/t	88/69/t
Aspen	85/45/s	83/48/s
Atlanta	91/75/t	95/75/t
Atlantic City	80/73/pc	83/73/t
Austin	95/77/pc	97/73/s
Baltimore	86/74/t	98/71/t
Billings	86/61/s	90/63/s
Birmingham	93/76/t	96/76/t
Bismarck	96/65/t	85/62/t
Boise	86/62/pc	95/67/s
Boston	85/72/t	79/71/t
Brownsville	94/80/s	97/80/s
Buffalo	84/70/t	83/68/t
Burlington, VT	89/73/t	83/70/t
Charleston, SC	92/74/t	94/78/t
Charleston, WV	87/69/t	89/71/t
Charlotte	90/72/t	95/73/t
Chattanooga	94/73/t	93/74/t
Cheyenne	93/59/s	91/58/pc
Cincinnati	88/71/t	89/72/t
Cleveland	80/70/t	88/70/t
Colorado Spgs	96/65/s	95/63/pc
Columbia, MO	95/75/pc	96/76/pc
Columbia, SC	93/74/t	95/74/t
Columbus, OH	87/70/t	88/72/t
Concord	88/69/t	78/68/t
Corpus Christi	93/80/t	93/77/s
Dallas	98/79/s	99/78/s
Daytona Beach	91/75/t	91/76/t
Denver	100/62/s	97/60/s
Duluth	83/65/pc	85/65/t
El Paso	103/80/c	100/79/pc

WORLD CITIES

City	Tue. Hi/Lo/W	Wed. Hi/Lo/W
Fairbanks	60/51/r	64/49/c
Fargo	91/71/t	87/66/t
Flagstaff	84/55/s	84/57/pc
Fort Myers	90/77/t	93/75/t
Fort Smith	99/78/s	100/77/s
Fresno	98/68/s	100/71/s
Grand Junction	99/65/s	100/64/s
Great Falls	76/54/pc	88/57/s
Harrisburg	87/74/t	96/74/t
Hartford	88/73/t	82/70/t
Helena, MT	75/55/pc	90/58/s
Honolulu	87/76/sh	88/75/pc
Houston	92/78/pc	95/75/s
Int'l Falls	87/63/s	87/61/pc
Jackson, MS	97/76/t	96/75/pc
Jacksonville	93/75/s	93/74/t
Janeau	62/54/sh	58/54/r
Kansas City	97/77/s	99/75/s
Las Vegas	107/81/s	108/86/pc
Lexington	92/71/t	92/75/t
Lincoln	101/75/t	103/70/t
Little Rock	96/78/s	97/77/s
Los Angeles	83/61/s	84/63/s
Louisville	94/75/t	93/78/t
Macon	93/73/t	94/73/t
Memphis	94/77/t	95/78/s
Miami	90/80/t	93/82/pc
Minneapolis	84/70/t	91/72/t
Mobile	94/77/t	95/77/pc
Montgomery	95/75/t	96/74/t
Nashville	96/77/t	96/75/t
New Orleans	93/78/pc	92/80/pc
New York City	84/73/t	86/74/t
Norfolk	87/75/s	95/77/t
Oklahoma City	100/77/s	98/76/s
Omaha	99/75/t	99/72/t
Orlando	94/76/t	93/77/t

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Tue. Hi/Lo/W	Wed. Hi/Lo/W
Carbondale	96/76/t	96/76/pc
Champaign	90/72/t	93/73/t
Decatur	91/75/t	94/77/pc
Moline	88/71/pc	91/72/t
Peoria	90/73/t	92/73/t
Quincy	94/75/pc	96/76/pc
Rockford	85/69/pc	89/70/t
Springfield	92/74/t	93/75/pc
Sterling	86/68/pc	89/70/t

INDIANA

City	Tue. Hi/Lo/W	Wed. Hi/Lo/W
Bloomington	92/72/t	94/75/t
Evansville	94/76/t	95/77/t
Fort Wayne	87/68/t	89/72/t
Indianapolis	90/72/t	92/74/t
Lafayette	88/71/t	90/73/t
South Bend	86/69/t	86/72/t

WISCONSIN

City	Tue. Hi/Lo/W	Wed. Hi/Lo/W
Green Bay	90/68/pc	88/66/t
Kenosha	89/70/pc	87/71/t
La Crosse	88/70/t	89/70/t
Madison	87/69/pc	86/72/t
Milwaukee	87/71/pc	83/71/t
Wausau	86/65/pc	87/69/t

MICHIGAN

City	Tue. Hi/Lo/W	Wed. Hi/Lo/W
Detroit	84/68/t	87/72/t
Grand Rapids	86/66/t	86/69/t
Marquette	81/63/r	84/64/pc
Sault Ste. Marie	80/60/r	87/63/pc
Traverse City	86/67/t	89/68/pc

IOWA

City	Tue. Hi/Lo/W	Wed. Hi/Lo/W
Ames	89/71/t	95/69/t
Cedar Rapids	82/70/t	92/71/t
Des Moines	93/74/t	98/71/t
Dubuque	84/69/pc	88/68/t

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LAKE MICHIGAN
Tuesday
Wind from the west at 6-12 knots becoming south. Seas less than a foot. Visibility generally unrestricted. Water temperature: 76.
Boating Index
8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m. 8 p.m.
9 9 8 8 9 10 10
Wednesday
Wind south 6-12 knots. Seas under a foot. Visibility under a mile in a thunderstorm. Water temperature: 77.
Boating Index: 0-2: Poor; 3-4: Fair; 5-6: Good; 7-8: Very Good; 9-10: Excellent.

QUESTION: Until recently, it seems like this month hasn't been all that hot. Are we seeing a cooler-than-normal July?
ANSWER: The average monthly temperature right now is running about 1 degree below normal. With more heat expected the next three days, it's still possible this July will end up being warmer than normal. The last time we had a cooler-than-normal July was just two years ago when the average temperature was just .1 degree lower than normal. Our all-time hottest July happened in 1955 when the average monthly temperature came in at a steam 81.3 degrees.

Do you have a weather question for the ABC 7 team? Submit them at abc7chicago.com/weather or send them to: Ask ABC 7 Weather Team, 190 N. State Street, Chicago, IL 60601

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Chicago Tribune BUSINESS

Abbott Laboratories must pay \$495 million in case over formula

Premature infant developed disease after taking it

By Lisa Schencker
Chicago Tribune

Abbott Laboratories must pay \$495 million in damages in the case of a girl who developed a serious gastrointestinal disease as a premature infant after consuming Abbott formula, a Missouri jury decided Friday evening.

The jury awarded the girl \$95 million in compensatory damages and said the company must pay \$400 million in punitive damages, half of which will go to the girl and half of which will go to the state of Missouri, said attorneys representing the family.

The lawsuit is one of more than a thousand against north suburban-based

Abbott and Mead Johnson alleging that their formulas cause necrotizing enterocolitis, a disease of the intestinal tract, in which tissue lining the intestine becomes inflamed and dies.

This was the first case against Abbott over the issue to go to trial. In a similar case that went to trial earlier this year in Illinois against Mead Johnson, a jury awarded \$60 million in damages to a woman whose son died of NEC after consuming Mead Johnson's cow's-milk-based premature infant formula.

The Abbott trial began earlier this month in Missouri Circuit Court in St. Louis after Illinois resident Margo Gill sued the company. Gill alleged her daughter Robynn Davis was given Abbott's cow's-milk-based infant feeding products as a premature infant, which caused her to develop

NEC. Davis, who was born in 2021, had to undergo extensive surgery because of her NEC diagnosis and continues to suffer from long-term health issues.

"Despite knowing of the risk of NEC, Abbott did not warn of the significantly increased risk of NEC (and resulting medical conditions, and/or death) associated with its products, or of the magnitude of this increased risk," the lawsuit alleged.

Abbott lawyers argued that the girl's condition was caused by trauma at birth, before she consumed the formula, Reuters reported.

Abbott said in a statement Friday evening: "We strongly disagree with the verdict which was not unanimous, and continue to believe that Robynn's condition is a tragedy for which no one is to blame. We will pursue all avenues to have

the erroneous decision overturned."

Abbott said in the statement that there is no scientific evidence showing that Abbott's preterm infant products cause or contribute to NEC.

"Specialized formulas and fortifiers, like the one in this case, are part of the standard of care by the medical community and, along with mother's milk and donor human milk, are the only available options to feed premature infants," Abbott said in the statement.

Abbott also said the verdict "has no bearing on any future cases."

According to the National Institutes of Health, preterm and low-birth-weight babies are at higher risk of developing NEC, potentially because of their immature digestive systems, and about 15% to 40% of infants with the disease die.



Abbott Laboratories in Abbott Park on June 25, 2018. STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Davis, who is now 2 years old, had about 75% of her intestine removed after she was diagnosed with NEC, and she suffered brain damage from the illness, according to a news release from the office of Tor Hoerman, one of the attorneys representing the family. She has spastic quadriplegic cerebral palsy, cannot walk or talk and is fed through a tube, according to the release.

The U.S. surgeon general has acknowledged that formula feeding is associated with higher rates of

NEC for premature infants. But this weekend, after the verdict, the president of the American Academy of Pediatrics, Dr. Benjamin Hoffman, cautioned in a statement that the causes of NEC "are multifaceted and not completely understood."

He noted that though breast milk may reduce the risk of preterm infants developing NEC, it does not eliminate the risk. He called formulas designed for preterm infants an "essential source of nutrition" and

Turn to Abbott, Page 2

Contractor cited again for safety violations

By Talia Soglin
Chicago Tribune

A suburban contractor already facing debt collection for two-year-old safety violations has been cited for alleged safety hazards again by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the agency said in a news release Monday.

Earlier this year, OSHA inspectors repeatedly observed employees of the contractor, KW Framing Inc., working from heights of more than 30 feet without required fall protection, according to citations issued by OSHA last week.

Another citation alleges workers were found operating nail guns without eye protection. The contractor was also cited for allowing employees to work underneath active carpentry work without wearing helmets, according to the citations.

OSHA also cited the contractor for misusing ladders and not having guardrails. The citations were all issued for alleged violations at sites in suburban River Grove.

In a statement, Sukhvir Kaur, area director for OSHA in Arlington Heights, said KW Framing was "putting the lives of its employees in jeopardy."

"Falls from elevation are the leading cause of work-related deaths in the construction industry, and yet this company is more concerned about profit than its workers' well-being," Kaur said. The agency said that according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, more than 1,000 construction workers died on the job in 2022, with more than 400 of those deaths tied to falls from elevations, trips and slips.

OSHA has proposed more than \$317,000 in penalties for the violations. The company has about two weeks to either comply with the citations, request an informal conference with OSHA's area director or contest the findings with the agency.

A representative for KW Framing did not comment Monday.

The contractor is also facing debt collection for more than \$100,000 in penalties tied to citations issued in 2022, OSHA said. At the time, a site supervisor for the contractor allegedly said, "The show must go on," before directing workers to "keep setting joists at heights

Turn to Contractor, Page 2



An Albertsons grocery store is seen in Boise, Idaho, in 2022. Kroger and Albertsons announced their planned merger in October 2022. FILE

Kroger, Albertsons agree to halt merger plans while Colorado lawsuit proceeds

By Dee-Ann Durbin
Associated Press

Supermarket chains Kroger and Albertsons on Thursday agreed to temporarily halt their proposed merger in Colorado until a judge has considered the state's objections.

Kroger and Albertsons announced their planned merger in October 2022.

The companies say they would be better able to compete with rivals like Walmart and Costco if they merge.

But Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser sued to block the merger earlier this year, saying it would harm shoppers and workers by eliminating the competition that now exists between the 148 Kroger-

owned groceries and 105 Albertsons-owned groceries in Colorado.

A judge in Denver District Court was scheduled to consider a preliminary injunction that would temporarily block the merger on Aug. 12. But on Thursday, Judge Andrew Luxen said all of the parties in the case had agreed that Kroger and Albertsons

would temporarily halt their merger plans until after the court rules in the state's case.

Luxen will consider the state's argument that the merger should be permanently blocked during a trial scheduled to begin Sept. 30.

The case is one of several challenging the \$24.6 billion merger.

In February, the Federal

Trade Commission sued to block the merger in federal court. That lawsuit, which will proceed in Oregon, was joined by eight states and the District of Columbia. The judge in that case is scheduled to consider the FTC's request for a preliminary injunction on Aug. 26.

The state of Washington has also sued to block the merger.

Pathogen threatens Idaho's \$21M mint industry

By Elizabeth Walsh
Idaho Statesman (TNS)

Though Idaho may be known for its potatoes, the state exceeds most any other for a much lesser-known crop: peppermint. But across the U.S., mint farmers see a major threat to production that's prompting them to find another business.

Tiny worms in the past decade have been spreading a deadly fungal disease that's wreaking havoc on Idaho mint — a \$21 million industry and the second-highest in the U.S., according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Lower mint prices and

an increase in microscopic worms that worsen the fungal disease, known as Verticillium wilt, have resulted in a \$4 million drop in Idaho peppermint sales last year, according to the USDA. Farmers harvested 12,300 acres of peppermint that same year, which is mostly used to make oil sold to flavor products, the federal agency said.

Joe Weitz, the owner of Western Farms Inc. in Caldwell, Idaho, thinks the outlook for this year might not be much better. Western Farms Inc. in Caldwell, Idaho, seven years ago harvested around 1,000 acres of mint, but this growing season, they are down to

about 400, Weitz said.

"It can be difficult and expensive to keep growing mint after the first couple of years," Weitz told the Idaho Statesman.

Mint can be challenging to produce; it grows well on new land, but when diseases settle in, production takes a hit, Weitz said. Once Verticillium wilt infected mint populations in the Midwest decades ago, farmers moved to land where the pathogen isn't present, which is why most mint is now grown in the Pacific Northwest, Weitz said. Verticillium wilt, which causes wilting leaves, stunted growth and plant death, is now widely spread in Idaho, Weitz said.

The fungus is made worse by nematode infections that are getting worse in Idaho, explained Saad Hafez, a professor in plant pathology at the University of Idaho. Lesion nematodes cause destructive damage to a mint plant, and spread fungus within and between plants. While pin nematodes feed on and weaken plant roots, making them more susceptible to Verticillium wilt infections.

"Fungus and nematodes almost always come together," Hafez told the Statesman.

The nematodes also contaminate equipment and spread by wind and irrigation water, Hafez said,

meaning they can move from acre to acre or even farm to farm. Once they are introduced to an area, it can be almost impossible to get rid of them or keep them from spreading, he said.

Hafez and Weitz agree that while fungi and nematodes can be treated, it's not cheap, and nothing lasts or completely solves the problem. Fumigation, typically done once the mint is removed from the land or before planting, can cost \$500 to \$600 an acre, Weitz told the Statesman.

Chemical management that can be applied during the growing season can cost

Turn to Mint, Page 2

Federal Reserve edging closer to interest rate cut

Inflation pressures, hiring slowdown factor into timing

By Christopher Rugaber
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Two years after launching an aggressive fight against inflation and one year after leaving its benchmark interest rate at a near-quarter-century high, the Federal Reserve is expected to signal this week that it will likely reduce borrowing costs as soon as September.

A rate reduction this fall — the first since the pandemic — would amount to a momentous shift and a potential boost to the economy. Fed rate cuts, over time, typically lower borrowing costs for such things as mortgages, auto loans and credit cards.

A single cut in the Fed's key rate, now around 5.3%, wouldn't by itself make much difference to the economy. Financial markets expect it. Some borrowing costs have dropped slightly in anticipation of the move. As a result, the main question for the central bank will be: How fast and how far will the policymakers ultimately cut rates?

It's a question of keen interest to both major presidential candidates too. Any signal that the Fed will rapidly cut rates could boost the economy and potentially lift Vice President Kamala Harris' election prospects. Former President Donald Trump has argued that the Fed shouldn't cut rates until November, which will come two days after the election.

Futures markets have priced in a 64% likelihood that the Fed will cut rates three times this year, in September, November and December, according to CME FedWatch. As recently as last month, Fed officials had forecast just one rate reduction in 2024 and four in 2025 and 2026, suggesting that they lean toward a more measured pace of cutting rates about once a quarter.

How the economy fares in the coming months will likely determine how quickly the Fed acts. Should growth remain solid and employers keep hiring, the Fed would prefer to take its time and cut rates slowly as inflation continues to decline.

"They want to be very gradual in how they pull back," said Gennadiy Goldberg, head of US rates strategy at TD Securities. "But if the labor market actually looks

like it's slowing down," Fed officials might conclude that "they should be moving a little bit quicker than they otherwise would."

There are signs that the labor market is cooling, as the Fed has intended. Job growth has averaged a decent but unspectacular 177,000 a month for the past three months, down from a red-hot three-month average of 275,000 a year ago.

It's not yet clear whether that cooling reflects a return of the economy to a more sustainable, less inflationary, post-pandemic period of growth or whether the cooling will continue until the economy slides into a recession.

Chair Jerome Powell and other Fed officials have underscored that they're paying nearly as much attention to the threat posed by a hiring slowdown as they are to inflation pressures. That shift in emphasis toward ensuring that the job market doesn't weaken too much has likely boosted market expectations for a rate cut.

Powell could provide a clearer picture of future rate moves at his annual speech in August during the Fed's monetary policy conference in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

Abbott

from Page 1

said there is not enough donated human milk to feed preterm infants without the use of formula.

"Recent court cases, however, may jeopardize the availability of these formulas," Hoffman said, noting that only two companies in the U.S. make such formulas, and both are facing lawsuits. "Courtrooms are not the best place to determine clinical recommendations for the care of infants. Feeding decisions should be made by clinicians and families."

"More than 300,000 infants are born prematurely every year, and we must take steps to protect the supply of infant formula for those who need it," Hoffman said in the statement.

Contractor

from Page 1

up to 48 feet atop a multi-unit residential building," the agency said in a news release at the time.

Workers were removed from the building's roof after the general contractor became aware of the working conditions, OSHA said.

OSHA said KW Framing had not yet responded to the citations issued against it two years ago, saying the company was "defying the U.S. Department of Labor's requests for documents and information related to the contractor's business and workers' safety and health."

"If KW Framing believes ignoring OSHA will somehow relieve them of their legal responsibility for providing a safe work environment, they will find that the Department of Labor intends to use all possible means to hold the company and its management accountable," Kaur said.

Mint

from Page 1

up to \$3,000 an acre, and while there are chemical treatment options for nematodes, there is not much on the market to treat Verticillium wilt, Hafez said. But regardless of treatment, mint growth drops every year once Verticillium wilt is introduced Hafez explained. At Western Farms, in acres where the costs have outweighed the benefits for mint growth because of Verticillium wilt, they have rotated in crops like corn and onions while they wait for the fungi to die down — which can take decades.

The best way to protect mint crops is to prevent nematode and Verticillium wilt infections by buying clean crops and sterilizing equipment and soil, Hafez said, although he acknowledges prevention is difficult.

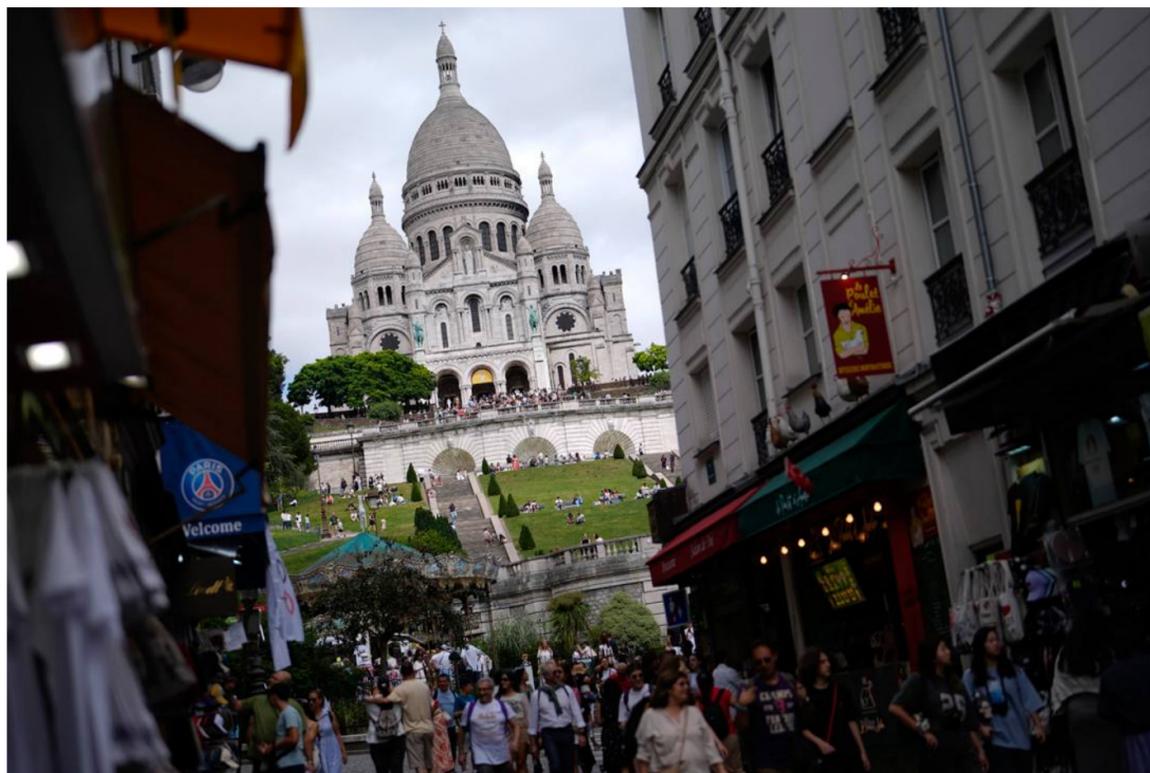
Hafez is one of the only mint researchers in the country. He plans to retire soon, and he worries about the future of mint research.

"We will need more research, especially on Verticillium wilt, if we want to continue growing mint," Hafez said. "Right now, there are not enough treatment options."

But as demand for U.S. mint dies down, farmers also aren't motivated to spend money on fumigation, Weitz explained.

Weitz thinks adding a U.S.-grown mint label to products could restore some of the country's demand.

"I think consumers would want to know where their mint is coming from," Weitz said.



People walk past souvenir shops and restaurants below the Sacré Coeur de Montmartre Basilica on July 22 in Paris. REBECCA BLACKWELL/AP

Taking no gold at the Games

They expected an Olympic boom, but some businesses in Paris are experiencing a bust

By Jocelyn Noveck
Associated Press

PARIS — On a typical summer day, tourists flock to the historic Marais district of Paris, wandering its charming medieval streets dotted with ultra-chic boutiques, gazing at stunning private mansions, strolling through the elegant 17th century Place des Vosges and filling humming restaurants and bars.

But this summer has hardly been typical, and those streets, shops and cafes have been markedly emptier during the Paris Olympics — leaving businesses like Stolty's Stone Bar, a pub popular with English-speakers, pining for summers past.

It's a far cry from what business owners expected when they first heard the Olympics were coming to Paris, says David Carroll, who stood behind the bar on a slow weekday.

"It's sure not the Olympics we were hoping for — so far, anyway," said Carroll, a Canadian who has been working in the

neighborhood for 20 years. "It's the same for everyone around here."

Carroll attributes the light crowds to multiple factors, but first and foremost the chilling effect from security measures that have had tourists encountering metal fences, police checkpoints and demands for a special QR code that they may have neglected to obtain — a digital pass required to access some popular areas.

On Friday, visitors faced major disruptions after officials reported fires and other sabotage to the high-speed rail network.

Some would-be tourists decided to avoid Paris altogether during the Olympics, fearing high prices, crowds or general chaos. On top of that, many Parisians have escaped the city in their usual summer exodus — likely even more so this year.

"Many tourists haven't arrived yet and Parisians have left, so it's kind of a combination," Carroll said. And as for the tourists who are here, "people aren't able to move around, so wherever they are, they're kind of stuck in their areas."

He's hopeful that things will loosen up. But for now, it can be an ordeal to make even a simple trip.

Just ask Gillian Levison and Richard Mitchell. The British couple traveled by

train from London last week precisely because, Mitchell said, they figured flying during the Olympics would be "a nightmare." The rail journey went smoothly until they arrived at the Gare du Nord, the train station in the north of Paris, and found that their preordered taxi had been canceled.

There was a long line for taxis at the station, Levison said, and while they felt lucky to find one, the odyssey to their hotel on the Left Bank took two hours and cost 200 euros (\$217).

The irony is that the couple, who live in Dorset, England, have no interest "in those blessed Olympics," as Levison puts it. "Definitely not here for that," she said. Rather, they are attending a family wedding in the countryside and wanted to spend a few days in Paris first.

It's all been hurting the business hopes of Jean-Pierre Salson, who owns Factory's Paris, a shop in the Marais specializing in menswear. Salson estimates that business is down 30% compared with this time last year.

"It's been very slow since the beginning of June," he said, "and July is worse. There's a lot less tourists, from all the countries. I think they're avoiding France and Paris because they're afraid of the Olympics."

UK cuts costly projects, ends doctors strike

By Pan Pylas
Associated Press

LONDON — Britain's new Labour government axed several construction projects Monday to plug what it says is a newly found \$28 billion shortfall in the public finances inherited from the previous administration.

In her first major speech as Treasury chief, following a review of departmental spending that she commissioned three weeks ago in the wake of Labour's landslide victory, Rachel Reeves accused the Conservative government of covering up the dire state of the nation's finances. She also confirmed that the government had reached agreement with unions to bring an

end to the long-running strike of doctors in England at the start of their careers.

"They ducked the difficult decisions, they put party before country and they continued to make unfunded commitment after unfunded commitment, knowing that the money was not there, resulting in the position that we have now inherited," she said. "This level of overspend is not acceptable."

Reeves charged the previous government with covering up the scale of its spending on asylum issues, including its controversial plan to send migrants on a one-way journey to Rwanda, and transport and hospital projects that it never planned to construct. While not announcing any changes in taxes, Reeves did set out a series of what she termed "difficult" savings, including

the establishment of a new office to identify "wasteful spending."

Some transport projects where funding has yet to be determined will also be axed, including a controversial tunnel near Stonehenge.

Reeves put lawmakers on notice that there may be some tax increases when she delivers her first budget on Oct. 30.

Critics say Reeves is trying to score political points in the new Parliament and that she knew the state of the public finances during the general election.

Reeves also said she would make sure that pay claims in the public sector are resolved swiftly and confirmed that the British Medical Association agreed to a 22% pay raise over two years for junior doctors.

New blood test for colon cancer OK'd

WASHINGTON — U.S. health regulators on Monday approved a first-of-its-kind blood test for colon cancer, offering a new way of screening for a leading cause of cancer deaths.

Test manufacturer Guardant said the Food and Drug Administration approved its Shield test for screening in adults 45 and older who have an average risk of colon cancer. The test isn't a replacement for colonoscopies but provides a noninvasive screening. Doctors can already order Shield for patients as a lab test with an out-of-pocket price of \$895. But FDA approval is expected to increase coverage by private and government insurance.

In a study published in March, the test caught 83% of the cancer cases but very few of the precancerous growths detected by a colonoscopy. — Associated Press

States with the highest unemployment



SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics

TNS

MARKET ROUNDUP

Dow High: 40,682.49 Low: 40,388.83 Previous: 40,589.34



Nasdaq
Close: 17,370.20
Change: +12.32 (+0.07%)

S&P 500
Close: 5,463.54
Change: +4.44 (+0.08%)

Russell 2000
Close: 2,235.33
Change: -24.74 (-1.09%)

Close 17,370.20
High 17,535.32
Low 17,299.83
Previous 17,357.88

Close 5,463.54
High 5,487.52
Low 5,444.44
Previous 5,459.10

Close 2,235.33
High 2,269.16
Low 2,228.17
Previous 2,260.07

10-yr T-note
Change: -0.02 to 4.17%

Gold futures
Change: -2.70 to \$2,377.30

Yen
Change: +0.26 to 154.00/\$1

Euro
Change: +0.0029 to .9240/\$1

Crude Oil
Change: -1.35 to \$75.81

Major market growth and decline

5-day % change			30-day % change			1-year % change		
DOW	NASD	S&P	DOW	NASD	S&P	DOW	NASD	S&P
+0.31	-3.54	-1.81	+3.50	-2.85	-0.21	+14.01	+21.08	+19.06

FUTURES

COMMODITY	AMOUNT-PRICE	MO.	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	SETTLE	CHG.
WHEAT (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Sep 24	523.50	532.75	514.25	531	+7.50
		Dec 24	548	556.75	539.50	555.25	+6.75
CORN (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Sep 24	392.75	397	390	396.25	+1.75
		Dec 24	407.50	413	405.50	412.25	+2.25
SOYBEANS (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Aug 24	1073.75	1073.75	1030.75	1054.75	-22.75
		Sep 24	1038.50	1038.50	1008.50	1030	-12
SOYBEAN OIL (CBOT)	60,000 lbs- cents per lb	Aug 24	43.70	43.80	41.75	42.84	-.82
		Sep 24	43.09	43.36	41.44	42.58	-.43
SOYBEAN MEAL (CBOT)	100 tons- dollars per ton	Aug 24	350.90	357.00	347.20	355.50	+2.20
		Sep 24	332.00	335.20	326.90	335.00	+0.70
LIGHT SWEET CRUDE (NYMX)	1,000 bbl.- dollars per bbl.	Sep 24	77.30	77.69	75.35	75.81	-1.35
		Oct 24	76.02	76.52	74.34	74.80	-1.20
NATURAL GAS (NYMX)	10,000 mm btu's, \$ per mm btu	Aug 24	2.016	2.056	1.856	1.907	-.099
		Sep 24	2.053	2.102	1.999	2.036	-.015
NY HARBOR GAS BLEND (NYMX)	42,000 gallons- dollars per gallon	Aug 24	2.4565	2.4711	2.4133	2.4153	-.0452
		Sep 24	2.4193	2.4289	2.3688	2.3723	-.0447

Source: The Associated Press

LOCAL STOCKS

Stocks listed may change due to daily fluctuations in market capitalization. Exchange key: N=NYSE, O=NASDAQ

STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.	STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.	STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.
Abbott Labs	N	104.77	-.47	Equity Residential	N	71.29	+0.52	Middleby Corp	O	132.44	+0.73
AbbVie Inc	N	181.94	-3.22	Exelon Corp	O	36.89	+0.14	Mondelez Intl	O	67.10	+0.68
Adtalem Global Educ	N	78.73	-.08	Federal Signal	N	97.37	-1.93	Morningstar Inc	O	323.56	-2.75
Allstate Corp	N	169.23	+0.06	First Indl RT	N	54.27	+0.56	Motorola Solutions	N	395.42	+1.71
Aptargroup Inc	N	147.80	+1.14	Fortune Brands Innov	N	79.69	+0.95	NiSource Inc	N	31.33	...
Arch Dan Mid	N	63.30	-.68	GATX	N	136.97	-3.00	Nltn Trust Cp	O	88.60	-.83
Baxter Intl	N	36.02	+0.51	Gallagher AJ	N	279.37	-4.21	Old Republic	N	33.93	+0.31
Brunswick Corp	N	81.69	+1.71	Grainger WW	N	966.81	-3.53	Packaging Corp Am	N	198.40	-0.60
CBOE Global Markets	O	185.58	-.88	Hub Group Inc	O	45.85	-.04	Paycomity Hldg	O	148.01	-1.42
CCC Intellig Solut	O	11.05	-.05	Hyatt Hotels Corp	N	150.74	+0.89	RLI Corp	N	147.22	+0.25
CDW Corp	O	231.39	+1.65	IDEX Corp	N	206.22	-.24	Ryan Specialty Group	N	60.10	-0.51
CF Industries	N	74.63	-.41	ITW	N	248.02	+0.53	Stericycle Inc	O	58.56	+0.06
CME Group	O	198.92	-1.62	Ingredion Inc	N	121.35	+0.14	TransUnion	N	87.48	+1.02
CNA Financial	N	49.24	-.73	John Bean Technol	N	97.41	-3.09	US Foods Holding	N	53.02	+0.33
ConAgra Brands Inc	N	30.16	+0.22	Jones Lang LaSalle	N	252.84	+0.21	Ultra Salon Cosmetics	O	366.61	-2.85
Deere Co	N	376.77	-9.78	Kemper Corp	N	64.49	-.55	United Airlines Hldg	O	46.76	-0.61
Discover Fin Svcs	N	142.56	+0.27	Kraft Heinz Co	O	33.42	+0.06	Ventas Inc	N	51.99	+0.44
Dover Corp	N	186.47	+1.24	LKQ Corporation	O	40.16	-.02	Walgreen Boots Alli	O	114.14	+1.12
Envestnet Inc	N	62.08	+0.08	Littelfuse Inc	O	259.98	-0.03	Wintrust Financial	O	108.24	-1.89
Equity Lifestyle Prop	N	67.00	...	McDonalds Corp	N	261.42	+9.42	Zebra Tech	O	335.09	+9.11

MOST ACTIVE STOCKS

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
Ford Motor	11.01	-0.18
Pfizer Inc	30.72	-0.05
Bank of America	41.09	-0.58
Ginkgo Bioworks Hldg	.36	-0.01
Sthwstn Energy	6.45	-0.08
Permian Resources Cp	15.33	+0.02
Lumen Technologies	1.94	+0.17
AT&T Inc	18.90	-0.11
Palantir Technol	27.08	-0.10
Ambev S.A.	2.11	...
Brist Myr Sqb	48.98	-1.47
Baytex Energy Corp	3.49	+0.06
Abbott Labs	104.77	-.47
Energy Transfer L.P.	16.02	-.25
Vale SA	10.88	+0.02
Snap Inc A	13.35	+0.02
Nu Holdings Ltd	12.22	-.19
Alibaba Group Hldg	78.62	+2.09
Utd Microelect	7.55	-0.15
Uber Technologies	63.76	-.64
Keycorp	16.21	-.25
NuScale Power Corp	9.50	-1.35
Amcor plc	10.42	+0.04
Chipotle Mex Grill	50.97	+1.14

LARGEST COMPANIES

Based on market capitalization

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
Alphabet Inc C	171.13	+2.45
Alphabet Inc A	169.53	+2.53
Amazon.com Inc	183.20	+0.70
Apple Inc	218.24	+0.28
Berkshire Hath B	438.31	+0.65
Broadcom Inc	150.22	-1.41
Eli Lilly	807.79	+3.17
Exxon Mobil Corp	116.10	-1.23
JPMorgan Chase	210.85	-1.39
MasterCard Inc	441.30	+3.12
Meta Platforms Inc	465.71	+0.01
Microsoft Corp	426.73	+1.46
Novo Nordisk AS	128.05	+1.32
Nvidia Corporation	111.59	-1.47
Taiwan Semicon	160.01	-1.93
Tesla Inc	232.10	+12.30
Unitedhealth Group	566.75	-2.97
Visa Inc	261.60	+2.14
Walmart Strs	69.62	-0.16

LARGEST MUTUAL FUNDS

Based on total assets

FUND	NAV	CHG	1-YR %RTN
American Funds AMCPA m	42.02	+0.02	+19.4
American Funds AmrcnBAlA m	34.77	+0.01	+14.5
American Funds AmrcnMutA m	56.22	...	+14.6
American Funds CptWldGrncA m	65.31	...	+14.2
American Funds CptInclBldrA m	70.42	+0.03	+11.1
American Funds FdmTlnvSA m	80.90	-0.01	+21.7
American Funds GrfAmrcA m	72.65	+0.03	+23.5
American Funds IncAmrcA m	24.91	+0.03	+11.3
American Funds InvCAMrcA m	57.59	+0.07	+23.6
American Funds NwPrspctVA m	61.87	+0.05	+14.4
American Funds WAMtlnvSA m	61.35	-0.01	+19.3
Baird AggrgateBdInstl	9.79	+0.02	+5.5
Dodge & Cox Incl	12.60	+0.03	+6.2
Dodge & Cox IntlStkl	52.06	-0.07	+6.5
Dodge & Cox Stkl	266.80	+0.39	+18.3
Fidelity 500IdxInPrm	189.83	+0.16	+21.0
Fidelity BCGrowth	209.94	+0.10	+29.4
Fidelity Balancec	29.44	+0.03	+15.6
Fidelity Contrafund	19.65	-0.01	+30.7
Fidelity ExMktIdxPr	85.00	-0.42	+15.5
Fidelity GlobalExSidx	14.77	-0.03	+8.2
Fidelity GroCo	38.88	-0.03	+28.6
Fidelity IntlIdxInstlPrm	50.40	-0.13	+9.7
Fidelity TlMktIdxInPrm	150.59	+0.01	+20.2
Fidelity USBdIdxInPrm	10.34	+0.02	+4.5
PIMCO IncI2	10.61	...	+7.7
PIMCO IncInstl	10.61	...	+7.8
PIMCO TlRetInx	8.61	...	+5.7
Schwab SP500Idx	84.30	...	+21.0
Vanguard 500IdxAdmrl	504.41	+4.42	+21.0
Vanguard BalIdxAdmrl	47.91	+0.03	+13.9
Vanguard DivGrnv	39.39	+0.10	+11.5
Vanguard EqInAdmrl	92.29	-0.20	+13.9
Vanguard GrIdxAdmrl	186.68	+0.50	+25.0
Vanguard HCAadmrl	95.43	+0.29	+13.2
Vanguard IntTTEAdmrl	13.63	+0.01	+4.2
Vanguard InsIdxInx	449.82	+0.37	+21.0
Vanguard InsIdxInxPlus	449.81	+0.37	+21.0
Vanguard IntlGrAdmrl	108.77	-0.72	+3.0
Vanguard MDCpIdxAdmrl	308.88	+0.52	+11.8
Vanguard PmCpAdmrl	175.36	-0.21	+13.3
Vanguard SmCpIdxAdmrl	110.79	-0.34	+19.5
Vanguard TrgtRtr2025Fdd	28.26	+0.01	+9.0
Vanguard TrgtRtr2025Fdd	19.56	+0.01	+10.3
Vanguard TrgtRtr2030Fdd	38.06	...	+11.3
Vanguard TrgtRtr2035Fdd	23.91	-0.01	+12.1
Vanguard TrgtRtr2040Fdd	42.77	-0.02	+12.9
Vanguard TrgtRtr2045Fdd	29.22	-0.02	+13.7
Vanguard TrgtRtr2050Fdd	48.93	-0.05	+14.2
Vanguard TrgtRtr2055Fdd	54.61	-0.04	+14.2
Vanguard TlBIdxAdmrl	9.60	+0.01	+4.5
Vanguard TlBIdxInx	9.60	+0.01	+4.6
Vanguard TlStIdxAdmrl	32.70	-0.10	+8.1
Vanguard TlStIdxInx	130.79	-0.37	+8.2
Vanguard TlStIdxInx	19.55	-0.06	+8.1
Vanguard TlSMIdxAdmrl	131.28	+0.01	+20.2
Vanguard TlSMIdxInx	131.30	+0.01	+20.2
Vanguard WlghtnAdmrl	76.97	+0.04	+13.8
Vanguard WlshlyInAdmrl	62.00	+0.03	+8.0
Vanguard WndrslAdmrl	84.69	-0.01	+18.0

TREASURY YIELDS

DURATION	CLOSE	PREV.
3-month Disc	5.15	5.16
6-month disc	4.94	4.95
2-year	4.40	4.39
10-year	4.17	4.20
30-year	4.42	4.46

SPOT METALS

	CLOSE	PREV.
Gold	\$2377.30	\$2380.00
Silver	\$27.703	\$27.860
Platinum	\$949.00	\$934.10

INTEREST RATES

Prime Rate	8.50
Discount Rate Primary	5.44
Fed Funds Target	5.25-5.50
Money Mkt Overnight Avg.	0.48

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

A U.S. Dollar buys ...

Argentina (Peso)	931.9664
Australia (Dollar)	1.5274
Brazil (Real)	5.6328
Britain (Pound)	.7773
Canada (Dollar)	1.3852
China (Yuan)	7.2602
Euro	.9240
India (Rupee)	83.763
Israel (Shekel)	3.7167
Japan (Yen)	154.00
Mexico (Peso)	18.6199
Poland (Zloty)	3.97
So. Korea (Won)	1383.13
Taiwan (Dollar)	32.88
Thailand (Baht)	35.99

d - Deferred sales charge, or redemption fee.
m - Multiple fees are charged, usually a marketing fee and either a sales or redemption fee.
Source: Morningstar.

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NATION & WORLD

Nation wary as Maduro win declared

Opposition urging calm as results in Venezuela disputed

By Joshua Goodman and Regina Garcia Cano
Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela — Venezuelan opposition candidate Edmundo González says his campaign has the proof it needs to show that he is the winner of the country's highly anticipated presidential election whose victory authorities handed to President Nicolás Maduro.

González and opposition leader Maria Corina Machado told supporters gathered Monday outside his campaign headquarters in Venezuela's capital that they have obtained more than 70% of the tally sheets from Sunday's election, and they show González ahead of Maduro.

As he spoke, thousands of demonstrators took to the streets to protest what they said was an attempt by Maduro to steal the election in which both candidates claimed victory.

Shortly after the National Electoral Council, which is loyal to Maduro's ruling party, announced that he had won a third six-year term, angry protesters began marching through the capital, Caracas, and cities across Venezuela.

In the capital, the protests were mostly peaceful, but when dozens of riot gear-clad national police officers blocked the caravan, a brawl broke out. Police used tear gas to disperse the protesters, some throwing stones and other objects at officers who had stationed themselves on a main avenue of an upper-class district.

The demonstrations



Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro addresses supporters Monday as the election winner in Caracas. FERNANDO VERGARA/AP

followed an election that was among the most peaceful in recent memory, reflecting hopes that Venezuela could avoid bloodshed and end 25 years of single-party rule. The winner was to take control of an economy recovering from collapse and a population desperate for change.

"We have never been moved by hatred. On the contrary, we have always been victims of the powerful," Maduro said in a nationally televised ceremony. "An attempt is being made to impose a coup d'état in Venezuela again of a fascist and counterrevolutionary nature."

In the capital's impoverished Petare neighborhood, people started walking and

shouting against Maduro, and some masked young people tore down campaign posters of him. Heavily armed security forces were standing just blocks from the protest.

"It's going to fall. It's going to fall. This government is going fall!" some of the protesters shouted as they walked.

"He has to go. One way or another," said María Arráez, a 27-year-old hairdresser, as she joined in the demonstration.

As the crowd marched through a different neighborhood, it was cheered on by retirees and office workers who banged on pots and recorded the protest in a show of support. There were some shouts of "freedom"

and expletives directed at Maduro.

Elsewhere, some protesters attempted to block freeways, including one that connects the capital with a port city where the country's main international airport is.

Officials delayed the release of detailed vote tallies from Sunday's election after proclaiming Maduro the winner with 51% of the vote, compared with 44% for retired diplomat Edmundo González. The competing claims set up a high-stakes standoff.

"Venezuelans and the entire world know what happened," González said. But he and his allies asked supporters to remain calm and called on the government to avoid stoking

conflict.

Several foreign governments, including the U.S. and the European Union, held off recognizing the election results.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Washington had "serious concerns" that the announced tally did not reflect the actual votes or the will of the people.

In response to criticism from other governments, Maduro's foreign affairs ministry announced it would recall its diplomatic personnel from seven countries in the Americas, including Panama, Argentina and Chile. Foreign Minister Yvan Gil asked the governments of those countries to do the same with their personnel in

Venezuela.

He did not explain what would happen to the staff members of opposition leader Maria Corina Machado, including her campaign manager, who have sheltered for months in the Argentinian embassy in Caracas after authorities issued arrest warrants against them.

After failing to oust Maduro during three rounds of demonstrations since 2014, the opposition put its faith in the ballot box.

The country sits atop the world's largest oil reserves and once boasted Latin America's most advanced economy. But after Maduro took the helm, it tumbled into a free fall marked by plummeting oil prices, widespread shortages of basic goods and hyperinflation of 130,000%.

U.S. oil sanctions sought to force Maduro from power after his 2018 reelection, which dozens of countries condemned as illegitimate. But the sanctions only accelerated the exodus of 7.7 million Venezuelans from their crisis-stricken nation.

Voters lined up as early as Saturday evening to cast ballots, boosting the opposition's hopes it was about to break Maduro's grip on power. The official results came as a shock to many who had celebrated, online and outside a few voting centers, what they believed was a landslide victory for González.

Machado said the margin of González's victory was "overwhelming," based on tallies the campaign received from representatives stationed at about 40% of ballot boxes.

Authorities postponed releasing the results from each of the 30,000 polling booths nationwide.

Tribes await artifacts from exhibits closed for months

Replicas suggested to stem loss of Native stories at institutions

By Philip Marcelo
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Tucked within the expansive Native American halls of the American Museum of Natural History is a diminutive wooden doll that holds a sacred place among the tribes whose territories once included Manhattan.

For more than six months, the ceremonial Ohtas, or Doll Being, has been hidden from view. That's because American and other museums took dramatic steps to board up or cover exhibits in response to new federal rules requiring institutions to return sacred or culturally significant items to tribes — or at least to obtain consent to display or study them.

The doll, also called Nahneetis, is one of 1,800 items museum officials say they're reviewing as they work to comply with the requirements while eyeing a broader overhaul of the 50-year-old exhibits.

But some tribal leaders remain skeptical, saying museums have

not acted swiftly enough. The new rules, after all, were prompted by years of complaints from tribes that hundreds of thousands of items that should have been returned under the federal Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 remain in museum custody.

"If things move slowly, then address that," said Joe Baker, a Manhattan resident and member of the Delaware Tribe of Indians, descendants of the Lenape peoples encountered by European traders more than 400 years ago. "The collections, they're part of our story, part of our family. We need them home. We need them close."

Sean Decatur, the New York museum's president, promised that tribes will hear from officials soon. He said staff these past few months have been reexamining the displayed objects to begin contacting tribal communities.

The museum also plans to open a small exhibit in the fall incorporating Native American voices and explaining the history of the closed halls, why changes are being made and what the future holds.

Museum officials envision a total overhaul of the closed Eastern Woodlands and Great Plains halls — akin to the five-year, \$19 million renovation of its Northwest Coast Hall, completed in 2022 in collaboration with tribes, Decatur said. "The ultimate aim is to make sure we're getting the stories right."

Lance Gumbs, vice chairman of the Shinnecock Indian Nation, a federally recognized tribe in New York's Hamptons, said he worries about the loss of representation of local tribes in public institutions, with exhibit closures likely stretching into years.

The American Museum of Natural History, he noted, is one of New York's major tourism draws and a mainstay for generations of area students learning about the region's tribes.

He suggests museums use replicas made by Native peoples so that sensitive cultural items aren't physically on display.

"I don't think tribes want to have our history written out of museums," Gumbs said. "There's got to be a better way than using artifacts that literally were stolen out of gravesites."



Joe Baker, a member of the Delaware Tribe of Indians and co-founder of the Lenape Center, holds a handmade item July 18 at his home in New York. PAMELA SMITH/AP

Gordon Yellowman, who heads the department of language and culture for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, said museums should look to create more digital and virtual exhibits.

He said the tribes, in Oklahoma, will be seeking from the New York museum a sketchbook by the Cheyenne warrior Little Finger Nail that contains his drawings and illustrations from battle.

The book, which is in storage, was plucked from his body after he and other tribe members were killed by U.S. soldiers in Nebraska in 1879.

"These drawings weren't just made because they were beautiful," Yellowman

said. "They were made to show the actual history of the Cheyenne and Arapaho people."

Institutions elsewhere are taking other approaches.

In Chicago, the Field Museum has established a Center for Repatriation after covering several cases in its halls dedicated to ancient America and the peoples of the coastal Northwest and Arctic.

The museum has also returned four items to tribes, with three more pending, through efforts that were underway before the new regulations, spokesperson Bridgette Russell said.

At the Cleveland Museum

in Ohio, a case displaying artifacts from the Tlingit people in Alaska has been reopened after their leadership gave consent, museum spokesperson Todd Mesek said.

At Harvard, the Peabody Museum's North American Indian hall reopened in February after 15% of its 350 items were removed from displays, university spokesperson Nicole Rura said.

Chuck Hoskin, chief of the Cherokee Nation, said he believes many institutions now understand they can no longer treat Indigenous items as "museum curiosities" from "peoples that no longer exist."

FBI: Trump agrees to interview about assassination attempt

By Eric Tucker
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Former President Donald Trump has agreed to be interviewed by the FBI as part of an investigation into his attempted assassination this month, a special agent said Monday in disclosing how the gunman had researched mass attacks and explosive devices.

The expected interview with the 2024 Republican presidential nominee is part

of the FBI's standard protocol to speak with victims during the course of its criminal investigations.

The FBI said Friday that Trump was struck by a bullet or a fragment of one during a campaign rally July 13 in Butler, Pennsylvania.

"We want to get his perspective on what he observed," said Kevin Rojek, the special agent in charge of the FBI's Pittsburgh field office. "It is a standard victim interview."

Through roughly 450

interviews, the FBI has fleshed out a portrait of the gunman, Thomas Matthew Crooks, that reveals him to be a "highly intelligent" but reclusive 20-year-old whose primary social circle was his family and who maintained few friends and acquaintances throughout his life, Rojek said.

His parents have been "extremely cooperative," with the investigation, Rojek said. They have said they had no advance knowledge of the shooting, a statement

the FBI considers credible since Crooks had not been doing anything public in the weeks prior to the attack that would have aroused their suspicions.

The FBI has not uncovered a motive as to why he chose to target Trump, but investigators believe the shooting was the result of extensive planning, including the purchase in recent months of chemical precursors that investigators believe were used to create the explosive devices found

in his car and his home and the use of a drone about 200 yards from the rally site just before the event.

In addition, Rojek said, Crooks looked online for information about mass shootings, improvised explosive devices, power plants and the attempted assassination in May of Slovakia's populist Prime Minister Robert Fico.

New details have also emerged about law enforcement security lapses before the shooting.



Donald Trump is seen at a campaign rally Saturday in St. Cloud, Minnesota. ALEX BRANDON/AP

At NRA, old guard fights the new

Gun rights stalwart faces leadership rift after shake-up at top

By Danny Hakim and Kate Christobek
The New York Times

NEW YORK — The National Rifle Association's new CEO, Doug Hamlin, was elected only in mid-May, but he is already confronting a monumental obstacle.

The threat does not come from a gun control group or any pending left-wing legislation. Rather, one of his biggest challenges is the president of the NRA's board, former Rep. Bob Barr of Georgia, who was also elected in May.

Dissent between the two surfaced during a trial this month in Manhattan, in which the NRA was trying to persuade a New York judge not to appoint a monitor to oversee the embattled gun rights organization and its finances.

But the association's top two leaders have not put forward a unified front, underscoring the management disarray that persists after more than a half-decade of corruption scandals and leadership turmoil.

The NRA was founded as a nonprofit in New York more than 150 years ago, giving the state special authority over the group; Letitia James, the state attorney general, sued in 2020 amid headlines about lavish spending by Wayne LaPierre, the group's former longtime leader, and other executives.

Revenue and membership plummeted, and the NRA's role as a political powerhouse in the Republican Party has diminished.

LaPierre resigned in January, on the eve of the first phase of a two-part civil trial. In February, he was found liable for mispending \$5.4 million of the association's money after revelations that he



Wayne LaPierre, former CEO of the National Rifle Association, arrives for his trial Feb. 22 in New York City. The NRA's new leader and some board members disagree on how to move forward after LaPierre's exit. MICHAEL M. SANTIAGO/GETTY

had splurged on superyacht junkets, charter flights, vacations in the Bahamas and nearly \$275,000 in suits from a boutique in Beverly Hills, California.

The NRA's lawyers have asserted that the group has greatly reformed its corporate governance practices. In recent years, they say, the association has fired vendors and insiders deemed problematic, implemented mandatory compliance training and annual risk assessments, and ended consulting arrangements with board members.

But the NRA's new leaders appear to be moving in opposite directions. The clash comes down to a battle between the old guard and the new.

Barr is a longtime board member who described himself in his testimony as a friend of LaPierre's. He also said he thought that LaPierre had acted in good faith.

Hamlin, by contrast,

previously ran the NRA's publications division and was among a group of insider candidates, mostly for open board seats, who billed themselves as reformers and were not LaPierre loyalists. Hamlin testified that he and other like-minded candidates ran because they had lost faith in NRA leadership, including LaPierre and Barr, and thought the group had lost the trust of its members.

"My frustration was due to a lot of various factors that had been building over many years," he said.

The two leaders, who gave back-to-back testimony this month in New York Supreme Court, have many areas of disagreement.

Hamlin wants to reclaim control over decisions about litigation strategy. Barr and his predecessor, Charles Cotton, who remains a highly influential figure on the board, prefer to keep the board in charge of legal matters. The NRA has paid

its lead law firm — Brewer, Attorneys & Counselors — \$182 million since 2018, according to trial testimony. In a statement, the board's litigation committee noted that the money was used for a wide variety of legal work and included about \$50 million for expenses and payments to third-party experts.

Hamlin also opposes a plan to relocate the NRA to Texas, seeing it as a waste of resources that would destabilize the staff. LaPierre had pushed the plan, backed by Cotton and Barr. James' office has portrayed it as an attempt to circumvent New York's authority to regulate the organization.

In his testimony, Cotton said the NRA was already shopping for a replacement for Hamlin. To that end, he and Barr have kept in place a search committee to find a new candidate, even though the CEO is elected annually and Hamlin was just elected

and could run again, as LaPierre did for decades.

The revelation led the presiding judge, Justice Joel M. Cohen, to ask during the trial why the search committee was still up and running: "Hasn't there been an election already?"

Cotton, another LaPierre ally, explained that he wanted "some high-powered person to take it over." His stance appeared to be news to Hamlin, who was not even aware there was a search committee until recently.

The testimony took place during a second phase of the civil trial that began this month. The first phase was decided by a jury in February, but Cohen will rule in the second phase. In addition to deciding about a financial monitor, Cohen will decide whether to bar LaPierre from a future role with the NRA.

In a statement for this story, Hamlin said: "Debate

and differences of opinion are hallmarks of a healthy organization. At the end of the day, NRA leaders are united on what matters most: practicing good governance, preserving our independence and defending freedom."

He added that although he had "total confidence in the financial controls" that have been put in place, "I'm not happy with the financial situation in 2024, the proposed move to Texas and the cuts that have been made to subsidize this trial."

A number of Cohen's questions showed he was trying to tell if the NRA really was committed to governance reform. At one point, he noted that many members of the NRA's audit committee had been in place throughout the scandals.

"Can you appreciate why some might think it questionable?" he asked a witness named Bill Bachenberg, who was elected first vice president of the board in May. Although Bachenberg ran on the same ostensibly reformist slate as Hamlin, he has been a board member for many years and in his testimony was supportive of Barr and Cotton. Still, he insisted to the judge: "It's a new NRA. NRA 2.0."

The association has added a chief compliance officer, Robert Mensinger, who testified last week that the NRA had compliance controls in place, but he said previous leaders circumvented those controls.

Cohen pushed back. "How does the board not find out?" he asked.

"My understanding is that it was concealed to them," said Mensinger, who opposed the attorney general's proposal to impose a third-party monitor.

But expert witnesses presented by the attorney general's office were skeptical. Among other things, there were questions about the wisdom of making the job held by Mensinger one that is elected by the board.



Right-wing Israelis demonstrate next to the Sde Teiman military base near Beersheba against the detention of soldiers in a suspected-abuse inquiry. MENAHEM KAHANA/GETTY-AFP

Israeli military detains 9 of its soldiers in abuse investigation

By Sam McNeil and Sammy Magdy
Associated Press

SDE TEIMAN BASE, Israel — The Israeli military said Monday that it is holding nine soldiers for questioning about allegations of "substantial abuse" of a detainee at a shadowy facility where Israel has held Palestinian prisoners throughout the war in Gaza.

The military did not disclose additional details surrounding the alleged abuse, saying only that its top legal official had launched an inquiry. An investigation by The Associated Press and reports by rights groups have exposed abysmal conditions and abuses at the Sde Teiman facility, the country's largest detention center.

A report by the United Nations agency for Palestinian refugees, UNRWA, this year said detainees alleged that they were subjected to ill-treatment and abuse while in Israeli custody, without specifying the facility.

The military has generally denied ill-treatment of detainees. Following the accusations of harsh treat-

ment that prompted a court case, Israel said it was transferring the bulk of Palestinian detainees out of Sde Teiman and upgrading it.

Israeli media reported that military police officers who arrived at Sde Teiman in southern Israel to detain the soldiers were met with protests and scuffles. Later, dozens of protesters who had come to show support for the soldiers burst through the facility's gate, waving Israeli flags and chanting "shame."

After the military cleared the protesters, several hundreds of them regrouped outside the military base where the nine soldiers were taken for questioning.

Video showed a swarm of people trying to push their way through the gates of the base and being pushed back by soldiers. Some of the protesters were masked and carried guns. Others called through megaphones for the soldiers' immediate release.

Israeli military chief Lt. Gen. Herzi Halevi condemned the protesters' break-in at Sde Teiman and said he fully supports the military prosecutors' inves-

tigation into the abuse allegation. "It is precisely these investigations that protect our soldiers in Israel and the world and preserve the values" of the military, he said.

Israel has detained thousands of Palestinians since the Oct. 7 Hamas attack that sparked the war in Gaza, according to official figures; however, hundreds were released after the military determined they were not affiliated with Hamas.

Israeli human rights groups say the majority of detainees have at some point passed through Sde Teiman.

The detentions came as international mediators are trying to bring Hamas and Israel to agreement on a cease-fire deal that would wind down the war in Gaza and free the remaining 110 hostages held there.

Also, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Monday vowed heavy retaliation against Hezbollah amid furious diplomatic efforts to prevent a spiral into regional war following a weekend rocket strike that killed 12 children in Israeli-controlled Golan Heights.

Ill. deputy who killed Massey kicked out of Army for DUIs

By John O'Connor and Lolita Baldor
Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — The Illinois sheriff's deputy charged in the shooting death of Sonya Massey was kicked out of the Army for the first of two drunken driving convictions in which he had a weapon in his car, authorities said, but that didn't stop multiple law enforcement agencies from giving him a badge.

Before his policing career began with six jobs in four years — the first three were part-time — Sean Grayson, 30, was convicted twice in a year of driving under the influence, which cost him his stint in the military.

The convictions plus his previous employment record should have raised serious questions when the Sangamon County Sheriff's Department hired him in May 2023, law enforcement experts say.

Grayson, who has since been fired, is charged with first-degree murder, aggravated battery with a firearm and official misconduct in the death of Massey, a 36-year-old Black woman who had called 911 on July 6 about a suspected prowler at her home in Springfield, 200 miles southwest of Chicago. Grayson, who is white, has pleaded not guilty.

"Six jobs in four years should have raised a red flag. And you would ask why he wasn't hired full-time in any of those (part-time) jobs," said Chuck Wexler, executive director of the Police Executive Research Forum, a Washington-based think tank. "Combined with a track record of DUIs, it would be enough to do further examination as to whether or not he would be a good fit."

Grayson, who enlisted in the Army in 2014, was charged with DUI in Macoupin County, just south of Sangamon County,



James Wilburn talks to reporters July 22 in Springfield, Illinois, about the killing of his daughter, Sonya Massey, by a sheriff's deputy. JOHN O'CONNOR/AP

after traffic stops Aug. 10, 2015, and July 26, 2016.

The first DUI led to his discharge from the military in February 2016 for "serious misconduct," according to a U.S. official who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss personnel information, adding that Grayson had an unregistered gun in his vehicle.

Macoupin County State's Attorney Jordan Garrison confirmed that police found a gun in the center console, but Grayson did not face a weapons charge because he was a resident of Fort Riley, Kansas. Kansas has an open-carry firearms law.

Grayson received a general discharge under honorable conditions — rather than an honorable discharge — because he was charged by a civilian law enforcement agency and his military service otherwise was good. His attorney, Daniel Fultz, declined to comment Monday.

A misdemeanor DUI charge doesn't by law preclude someone from serving in law enforcement, said Sean Smoot, chairman of the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board, but a hiring agency can certainly consider it.

"I am shocked an agency would hire someone with two DUIs, but multiple agencies apparently did,"

Smoot said.

Massey's father, James Wilburn, has demanded the resignation of Sangamon County Sheriff Jack Campbell. "He does not intend to step down," Campbell spokesman Jeff Wilhite said.

A statement from Campbell's office indicated that the county merit commission and state law enforcement board recommended Grayson's certification as an officer despite the DUIs, and he passed a drug test, criminal background check, psychological evaluation and 16-week academy course.

Body-worn camera video of the killing released last week has unnerved the capital city, where a 1908 race riot prompted the creation of the NAACP a year later.

"Black women are under attack," said Teresa Haley, a consultant and founder of Visions 1908, a social and economic justice and education advocacy group.

"His conduct before, during and after suggests that this guy was a loose cannon, and that's being polite," said Kalfani Ture, a former police officer who is assistant professor of criminal justice at Widener University in Chester, Pennsylvania, and an instructor in the New York Police Department's academy.

Initially, he was J.D., but now he's JD

Vance tinkers with his first, middle and last names — period

By Julie Carr Smyth
Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — When it comes to Republican vice presidential nominee JD Vance's name, it's complicated.

The senator from Ohio introduced himself to the world in 2016 when he published his bestselling memoir, "Hillbilly Elegy," under the name J.D. Vance — "like jay-dot-dee-dot," he wrote, short for James David.

In the book, he explained that this was not the first iteration of his name. Nor would it be the last.

Over the course of his 39 years, Vance's first, middle and last names have all been altered in one way or another.

As Vance is being introduced to voters across the country as Donald Trump's new running mate, his name has been the source of both curiosity and questions — including why he no longer uses periods in JD.

He was born James Donald Bowman in Middletown, Ohio, on Aug. 2, 1984, his middle and last names the same as his biological father, Donald Bowman. His parents split up "around the time I started walking," he writes. When he was about 6, his mother, Beverly, married for the third time. He was adopted by his new stepfather, Robert Hamel, and his mother renamed him James David Hamel.

When his mother erased Donald Bowman from his and her lives, the adoption process also erased the name James Donald Bowman from the public record. The only birth certificate for Vance on file at Ohio's vital statistics office reads James David Hamel, according to information provided by the state.



Vice presidential nominee JD Vance, R-Ohio, seen July 18, was born James Donald Bowman in 1984 in Middletown, Ohio. HAIYUN JIANG/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Beverly kept the boy's initials the same, since he went universally by J.D., Vance explains in the book. He didn't buy his mother's story that he was named for his uncle David, though.

"Any old D name would have done, so long as it wasn't Donald," he wrote.

Vance spent more than two decades as James David "J.D." Hamel. It's the name by which he graduated from Middletown High School, served in Iraq as a U.S. Marine (officially, Cpl. James D. Hamel), earned a political science degree at Ohio State University and blogged his ruminations as a 26-year-old student at Yale Law School.

Those facts are borne out in documentation provided by those entities upon request, or otherwise

publicly available, and were confirmed by campaign spokesperson Taylor Van Kirk.

But the situation gnawed at him, particularly after his mother and adoptive father divorced.

"I shared a name with no one I really cared about (which bothered me already), and with Bob gone, explaining why my name was J.D. Hamel would require a few additional awkward moments," he writes in "Hillbilly Elegy." "Yeah, my legal father's last name is Hamel. You haven't met him because I don't see him," he wrote. "No, I don't know why I don't see him. Of all the things that I hated about my childhood, nothing compared to the revolving door of father figures."

So he decided to change his name again, to Vance — the last name of his beloved Mamaw, the grandmother who raised him.

It didn't happen on his wedding day in 2014, as the book implies, but in April 2013, as he was about to graduate from Yale, Van Kirk said. It felt right to take the name of the woman who raised him before dying in 2005, as he was putting the struggles of his early life behind him and launching into this new phase.

"Throughout his tumultuous childhood, Mamaw — or Bonnie Blanton Vance — raised JD and was always his north star," Van Kirk said in a statement. "It only felt right to him to take Vance as his last name."

Claiming the Vance name also served to tie JD more

clearly to what he writes as "hillbilly royalty" on his grandfather's side not long before he would release a book opining on hillbilly culture. A distant cousin to his Papaw, also named James Vance, married into the McCoy-hating Hatfield family and committed a murder that "kicked off one of the most famous family feuds in American history," Vance wrote in his book.

Vance achieved a clean slate of sorts with his new name, just as he was entering his career as a lawyer and author. Besides being the name on his book, it's the name he used to register for the bar, to marry, to enter the world of venture capital in the Silicon Valley and as he became a father.

But there was one more name alteration to come.

When Vance jumped into politics in July 2021, he had removed the periods from J.D. He'd often used this shorthand, JD, over his lifetime.

Asked by The Associated Press at the time if this was a formal change, or merely stylistic, his campaign said it was how Vance preferred to be referred to in print. He has maintained the usage as a U.S. senator, referring to himself as JD Vance on his Senate website, in press releases and in certain campaign and business filings.

The nominee's legal name today is James David Vance.

The AP, whose industry-standard AP Stylebook advises to generally call people by the name they prefer, honors his request to go by JD with no periods.

NEWS BRIEFING

Ukrainian soldier says Russia has captured 2 villages in Donetsk

From news services

KYIV, Ukraine — Russian forces have overrun two front-line villages in Ukraine's eastern Donetsk region, a Ukrainian army sergeant said Monday, after relentless assaults that are part of a Kremlin summer push to overwhelm battlefield defenses there.

Separately, attacks in Russia's Kursk region by the Security Service of Ukraine struck a number of substations, causing power outages, according to a statement from the General Staff of Ukraine. The claim of responsibility came after Russia said it thwarted a nighttime Ukrainian drone attack.

"They pressed nonstop" to capture Vovche and Prohres, the chief sergeant of Ukraine's 47th Separate Mechanized Brigade, Oleh Chaus, told Radio Svaboda. "They sent in a large number of troops, which had not previously been used."

Russia's Defense Ministry claimed in recent days that it had taken control of the villages, but the Ukrainian General Staff made no official comment.

The villages are about 20 miles northwest of Avdiivka, a Donetsk city that the Russian army seized in February after a long battle. That victory was the Kremlin's last major triumph in the war that is in its third year.

Russia's onslaught, fueled by its heavy advantage in soldiers and weaponry, has repeatedly forced the Ukrainians to pull back from defensive positions to avoid being captured or killed.

Oleksandr Shyrshyn, the 47th Brigade's deputy battalion commander, confirmed to local media that the villages had been taken. He blamed poor training, low abilities of officers and inadequate weapons.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy described the situation in the Donetsk region late Sunday as "extremely challenging."

Russia's strategy of attritional warfare, with powerful glide bombs smashing Ukrainian defenses before infantry move in, has brought incremental gains.

Western wildfires: Firefighters made progress and were helped by improving weather over the weekend in the battle against wildfires covering massive areas in the western United States, but further evacuations have been necessary as thousands of personnel tackle the flames.

Also, Ronnie Dean Stout II, the man arrested on suspicion of starting the Park Fire, the largest wildfire in California this year, was charged with arson Monday.

The Park Fire, the sixth largest in the state's recorded history, was one of more than 100 large active wildfires burning Monday in the U.S.

Evacuation orders were in effect on 25 wildfires, according to the National Interagency Fire Center. More than 27,000 wildland firefighters and support personnel are assigned to wildfires that have burned more than 3,200 square miles nationwide.

Some were sparked by the weather, with climate change increasing the frequency of lightning strikes as the western U.S. endures blistering heat and bone-dry conditions.

The Park Fire had scorched more than 575 square miles, an area greater than the city of Los Angeles, as of Monday, according to CAL Fire. It destroyed more than 100 structures and threatened 4,200 more.

The Park fire started Wednesday, when authori-



Hindu homage: An artist dressed as Hindu goddess Mahakali performs Monday during a procession marking Bonalu in Hyderabad, India. The monthlong folk festival is dedicated to Kali, the Hindu goddess of destruction. MAHESH KUMAR A./AP

ties say Stout pushed a burning car into a gully in Chico and then fled. Stout was arrested Thursday.

The National Weather Service issued "red flag" warnings Monday for wide swaths of Idaho, Montana, Utah and Wyoming, in addition to parts of California, meaning dry fuels and stronger winds were increasing the fire danger.

Air-quality alerts were also issued in the northwestern U.S. and western Canada.

Fatal UK stabbing: Bloodied children ran screaming from a dance and yoga class "like a scene from a horror movie" to escape a teenager's savage knife attack that killed two children and wounded 11 people Monday in north-west England, police and witnesses said.

A 17-year-old boy was arrested on suspicion of murder and attempted murder in Southport, a seaside town near Liverpool, Merseyside Police said. The motive was not clear, but police said detectives were

not treating the attack as terror-related.

Nine children were wounded, six critically, in the latest headline-grabbing attack amid a recent rise in knife crime that has stoked anxieties and led to calls for the government to do more to clamp down on bladed weapons.

Two wounded adults who tried to shield the pupils were also in critical condition, police said.

Prime Minister Keir Starmer called the attack "horrendous and deeply shocking." King Charles III sent his "condolences, prayers and deepest sympathies" for those affected by the "utterly horrific incident."

The suspect, who has not been identified, lived in a village about 5 miles from the site of the attack, police said. He was originally from Cardiff, Wales.

Flooding at Dollywood: Strong storms brought flash flooding to Dolly Parton's Dollywood theme park in east Tennessee.

Park workers and the Pigeon Forge police and fire departments directed guests to safety Sunday afternoon, and one minor injury was reported, park officials said. The amusement park said it was supporting guests whose vehicles were affected, and cleanup crews were deployed.

Nearly 5 inches of rain fell in the area in about an hour, Dollywood spokesperson Wes Ramey said in an email.

The park was scheduled to open at noon Monday.

NKorean leader's health: North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has regained weight and appears to have obesity-related health problems, such as high blood pressure and diabetes, and his officials are looking for new medicines abroad to treat them, South Korea's spy agency told lawmakers Monday.

Kim, 40, known for heavy drinking and smoking, comes from a family with a history of heart problems. His father and grandfather, who ruled North Korea

before his 2011 inheritance of power, died of heart issues.

Some observers said Kim, who is about 5-foot-8 and previously weighed 308 pounds, appeared to have lost a large amount of weight in 2021, likely from changing his diet. But recent state media images show that he has regained the weight.

The National Intelligence Service told lawmakers in a closed-door briefing that Kim is estimated to weigh 308 pounds again and belongs to a high-risk group for heart disease, lawmaker Lee Seong Kweun said.

North Korea is one of the most secretive countries in the world, and there is virtually no way for outsiders to know Kim's exact health conditions.

Kim's health is the focus of keen attention outside North Korea because he hasn't formally anointed a successor who would take charge of the country's advancing nuclear arsenal targeting the United States and its allies if he were incapacitated.



Spencer Davis Milford as Frodo in "The Lord of the Rings – A Musical Tale" at Chicago Shakespeare Theater. LIZ LAUREN PHOTOS

REVIEW 'THE LORD OF THE RINGS - A MUSICAL TALE' ★★★

Spectacle competes with heart of hobbits

Chicago Shakespeare production's immensely talented cast celebrates show's theatrical identity

By Chris Jones | Chicago Tribune

Eighteen years ago, I journeyed to Toronto to review a massive theatrical adaptation of J.R.R. Tolkien's "The Lord of the Rings." With a \$24 million budget in 2006, the show was one of the most expensive productions ever created. Balrog put King Kong to shame. The Ents made the Knights Who Say "Ni!" look like toy soldiers. The cast was bigger than a small Canadian town.

Being diminutive of stature, I remember walking into a short man's clothing store in downtown Toronto before the show and asking the owner how his business was doing. "Great," he replied. "All of the hobbits have been coming in."

He was about the only person happy. The ubertext of the Hollywood fantasy quest narrative was a costly flop in Toronto and later in London — despite the bonafides of the writers, Shaun McKenna and Matthew Warchus, and the Indian/Finnish/Anglo-American composing team of A.R. Rahman, Värttinä and Christopher Nightingale. The general consensus was that Peter Jackson had gotten there first with his movies. And thus Middle-earth was put aside when it came to big-scale theater.

But in 2023, the British director Paul Hart dusted off the show, chopped off at least half an hour, put musicians on the stage, John Doyle-style, and staged the



Spencer Davis Milford as Frodo and Tony Bozzuto as Gollum in "The Lord of the Rings – A Musical Tale" at Chicago Shakespeare Theater.

Turn to 'Rings,' Page 8

Sculpture of playwright Hansberry comes to Navy Pier



Rick Kogan

Bob Newhart, immortalized in bronze since 2004 here, will be getting a new neighbor later this month when a statue of Lorraine Hansberry moves to that hyper-active playground called Navy Pier.

The new sculpture has a name, "To Sit a While," which comes from dialogue spoken in Hansberry's famous play "A Raisin in the Sun." It is, fully, "Don't get up. Just sit a while and think. Never be afraid to sit a while and think."

Lovely advice and to assist those who might take it, the life-sized statue of Hansberry is surrounded by five bronze objects on which you can sit, sort of chairs of varying shapes.

They are meant to represent different facets of Hansberry's

life and work, all the creation of Alison Saar and a gift from the Lorraine Hansberry Initiative, an advocacy organization that promotes gender and racial parity in American theater.

That's a good cause and, since it's estimated that some 8 million people visit the Pier every year, it's a fine way to introduce Hansberry to many and compel some to further explore her life.

A shock will come to those when learning that she died at 34. But she packed a great deal into those years, beginning with her birth at Provident Hospital on May 19, 1930, the youngest of Nannie and Carl Hansberry's four children.

Her father was the founder of Lake Street Bank, one of the first banks for Black people in Chicago, and also ran a successful real estate business. He was a prominent figure and his home was visited by many prominent Black social and political leaders such as poet Langston Hughes, actor and political activist Paul

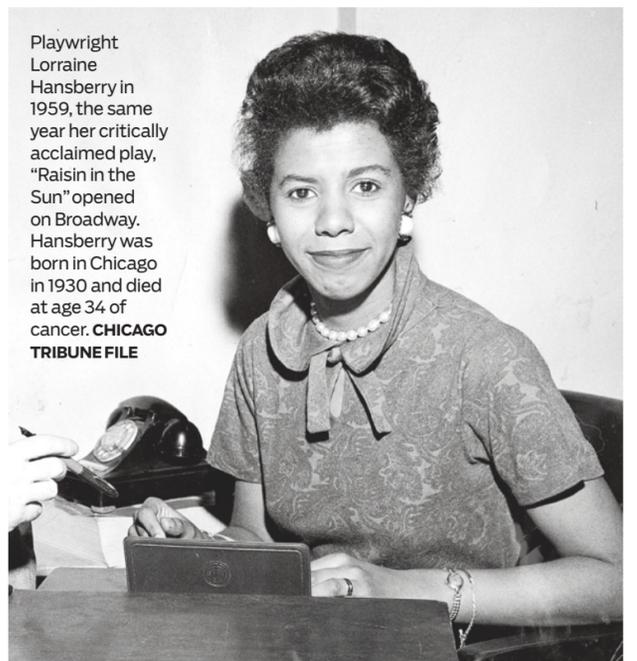
Robeson, musician Duke Ellington and Olympic gold medalist Jesse Owens.

Nevertheless, and despite the family's prominence, the Hansberrys were subjected to segregation, threats and violence. That would deeply affect Lorraine's later work and worldview as she graduated from Englewood High School, spent a little while at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, studied painting in Mexico, and moved to New York in 1950 and started to write. She contributed to progressive publications, coming into a literary and politically active crowd of writers and intellectuals. She soon met Jewish writer Robert Nemiroff and they wed on June 20, 1953, at her parents' home here.

Then came "A Raisin in the Sun," the story of a working-class Black family on the South Side of Chicago coping with the death of its patriarch. Dealing with matters of dignity and dreams in

Turn to Kogan, Page 8

Playwright Lorraine Hansberry in 1959, the same year her critically acclaimed play, "Raisin in the Sun" opened on Broadway. Hansberry was born in Chicago in 1930 and died at age 34 of cancer. CHICAGO TRIBUNE FILE





Robert Downey Jr. removes his mask Saturday at Comic-Con. MATT WINKELMEYER/GETTY

CELEBRITIES

Downey returns to Marvel universe

From news services

Marvel Studios returned to San Diego Comic-Con with dancing Deadpool variants and a choir for a panel that included news of the next two “Avengers” films and surprise guests, including Harrison Ford and Robert Downey Jr.

Downey is returning to Marvel’s films, but not as Iron Man. He’ll play the villain Victor Von Doom, or Dr. Doom, in at least one of the upcoming “Avengers” movies. Downey kicked off Marvel’s movie successes in “Iron Man” and played the popular character in nine films, but on Saturday appeared wearing Dr. Doom’s mask and a green cloak.

“New mask, same task,” Downey said to frenzied cheers.

The Russo brothers, who will direct the movie featuring Downey, said his appearance in the film is “proof of the unimaginable possibilities in the Marvel multi-universe.”

Marvel Studios President Kevin Feige kicked off the panel by saying that due to this weekend’s success of “Deadpool & Wolverine,” the sprawling Marvel Cinematic Universe had now topped \$30 billion in box-office

earnings. In a nod to a scene in the movie, a choir sang Madonna’s “Like a Prayer” before Feige spoke.

Feige charted the course ahead for the MCU, revealing Ford’s character in the next “Captain America” film and revealing “Avengers: Secret Wars” and “Avengers: Doomsday” as the next two films in the epic superhero team-up series. “Doomsday” will hit theaters in 2026.

About that success of ‘Deadpool’ movie: “Deadpool & Wolverine” had a better Sunday than anticipated. The comic book film earned \$211 million in its first weekend in North American theaters, Disney said Monday.

That’s \$6 million more than the studio estimated Sunday, putting “Deadpool & Wolverine” in a different league. It had already broken the record for an R-rated movie, previously held by the first “Deadpool” (\$132 million). But the film starring Ryan Reynolds and Hugh Jackman now boasts the sixth highest opening weekend of all time, surpassing “Jurassic World” (\$208.8 million in 2015).

“Deadpool & Wolverine’s” global number was boosted to \$444.3 million.

Gaga introduces fiancé at Olympics: Lady Gaga seemingly revealed her engagement to Michael Polansky while attending the 2024 Paris Olympics.

The “Bad Romance” singer, 38, introduced Polansky as “my fiancé” when meeting French Prime Minister Gabriel Attal. Attal shared a video of the meeting on TikTok.

“Thank you Lady Gaga for your stunning performance at the opening ceremony,” Attal captioned the post, apparently unaware that he was breaking major celebrity news. “It was breathtaking.”

Neither Gaga, whose legal name is Stefani Germanotta, nor Polansky has publicly confirmed the news. The duo sparked engagement rumors in April, when Gaga was spotted with a diamond ring on her left ring finger.

July 30 birthdays: Guitarist Buddy Guy is 88. Singer Paul Anka is 83. Actor Arnold Schwarzenegger is 77. Actor Delta Burke is 68. Singer Kate Bush is 66. Singer Neal McCoy is 66. Director Richard Linklater is 64. Actor Laurence Fishburne is 63. Actor Lisa Kudrow is 61. Actor Hilary Swank is 50. Actor Gina Rodriguez is 40.

Cousin’s constant tagalong friend may be more than pal

R. Eric Thomas
Asking Eric

Dear Eric: Throughout my childhood, my cousin always had to have her friend join family events.

Fast-forward 40 years and my cousin has moved back home after widowhood. Guess who’s back at everything?

The friend is a lovely person. I have no issue with her. It’s just that sometimes we want it to be only family. How do I broach this?

— Perplexed Cousin

Dear Cousin: Where I’m from, people used to talk about having “play cousins” — people who weren’t really related to you but with whom you were often expected to hang out because your parents were friends, or what have you.

I think you have a play cousin.

And your blood relative, your actual cousin, may see her friend as part of the family. She may care about her as if they were related. It’s also possible that they have a deeper relationship.

Ask your cousin in a nonjudgmental way to tell you about the friendship. Ask her if the friend feels more like family. Depending on what your cousin says, you may just need to set another place at the table.

Dear Eric: I am a 65-year-old widow with two adult sons in their late 20s. No partners or grandchildren and that’s fine with me as they are still maturing.

One lives too far away to see more than twice a year. The other lives close enough for me to have dinner with once a week. I

try not to be needy and give them space, but I’m lonely, and I’m sad they don’t call me more often.

I think they’re just living their lives and not thinking about me, which I probably did to my parents when I was their age. Am I expecting too much?

I tend to take it personally and think they don’t like me. When I do talk to them, there’s no problems that would discourage them from reaching out again.

Would I be wrong to tell them I’m lonely and would like to hear from them more often? I am trying to expand my social circle and do things I’m interested in, but I’m tired of doing things alone and it takes a long time to make new close friends. I also can’t help but think if I’d had a girl, it would be different.

— Lonely Mom

Dear Mom: Please tell your sons how you feel! Healthy communication can be such a gift. Please tell them what they can do to help you. That’s a gift, too.

They may have busy lives, but you’re a part of those lives as well.

Sometimes, it’s hard to carry the burden of advocating for ourselves. But I believe that your sons would be saddened to find out that you had this ache and didn’t ask for help.

Try setting up a regular phone date with each of them. It will give you all something to look forward to. Plus, knowing that you’ll be chatting — and wanting to have something to chat about — might also give you an extra boost in your effort to find things that interest you.

Dear Eric: My brother’s son, “Dan,” has chosen to totally delete his dad from his life. He has refused all forms of contact for more

than a year. My brother has no idea why Dan has disengaged.

My brother continues to attempt contact via our usual forms of communication but to no avail. How does a family approach this? We are baffled and so deeply saddened by this turn of events.

What message is Dan sending to his two sons — my brother’s grandsons?

— Dismayed Aunt

Dear Aunt: I’m sorry you’re going through this. Estrangement is jarring. It runs cracks through the foundation of a family. And for an extended family, it can feel hopelessly confusing.

Your brother says this came out of nowhere, but I wish we had more information from him about what exactly that “nowhere” looked like before Dan cut off all contact.

Often, estranged parents are willfully or accidentally blind to the events that precipitated the divide. It’s hard to say what a healthy path forward is without knowing more about Dan and your brother’s relationship.

If Dan will speak to you, reach out to him. Don’t try to lobby on your brother’s behalf. Simply ask Dan to share his perspective with you. See if he’s open to a relationship with you. Family members don’t have to be judge and jury in disputes like this. Indeed, it’s best if you don’t make a ruling.

There’s something that has hurt Dan so deeply that his only recourse, he feels, is to cut off contact with his father. See if he’s open to a listening ear.

Send questions to eric@askingeric.com.

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‘Rings’

from Page 7

whole thing in London’s 220-seat Watermill Theatre. He enjoyed much acclaim, not least because he dared to cram the Shire-saving adventures of Bilbo Baggins, Gandalf, Frodo and the gang into so small a space. Orc attacks and everything.

Frankly, I thought that take was what Chicago Shakespeare Theater was producing this summer on Navy Pier. And, in the best moments of the new U.S. staging of Hart’s production, which opened this weekend in The Yard on Navy Pier, you can see his real achievement with this show, especially if you also saw the Toronto original. Among other pleasures, there’s an immensely talented cast of actor-musicians, a rich sense of theatricality, a warm pre-show interchange with the audience and, in the form of Tony Bozzuto, a killer Gollum (he of the “horrible swallowing noise in his throat”) whose body and vocals are each as creepy as the other. And Frodo (Spencer Davis Milford) and Sam (Michael Kurowski) are empathetic and charming.

But The Yard theater is four times the size of the Watermill and this production, designed by Simon Kenny and Rory Beaton, clearly fell to the tempta-



Spencer Davis Milford as Frodo and Lauren Zakrin as Galadriel in “The Lord of the Rings — A Musical Tale” at Chicago Shakespeare Theater. LIZ LAUREN PHOTOS

tion to employ a lot of technical effects that distract from what surely was Hart’s original, simple conceit. I’m not sure if the idea was to create something that might transfer to Broadway (the show already is moving to Auckland, New Zealand) but the future of this piece surely is in a fresh theatrical simplicity. What’s on offer will be fun for families, but simple it is not.

We don’t need a creaky lift to hoist Galadriel (the very fine Lauren Zakrin) a few feet in the air, nor a high porthole that makes her look more the arm-raising star of “Titanique” than one of Middle-earth’s

most impressive elves. The digital intrusions are precisely that. This “Lord of the Rings,” not without its pleasures for superfans, is at its best when it celebrates its theatrical identity, not when it looks like a Cirque du Soleil spectacle or some kind of immersive “LOTR experience,” heaven forbid. That was already tried with this title and it didn’t work.

It would have been far better to focus more on the warmth of this Chicago cast and keep the scale, er, human. That would have reminded us all that young kids for more than 80 years read this book under their

bedclothes. You do feel that more in Act 2, when the show stops frantically racing through all the plot (of which there is a lot) and takes a breath and focuses on what really matters in the theater, which is the relationships — between Frodo and Gandalf (Tom Amandes), nervous Frodo and his loving Uncle Bilbo (Rick Hall) and, of course, Frodo and Sam. And Hart made an effort to bring this show out into the audience. But there are swaths of this show that just inure.

In fairness, this is inestimably challenging material (the novel had 500,000 words) and I don’t know



Ben Mathew as Pippin, from left, Michael Kurowski as Sam, Eileen Doan as Merry and Spencer Davis Milford as Frodo.

how much freedom Hart had to mess with the original book and score, which includes copious amounts of underscoring. (I suspect, not much). At the show I saw, frankly, the musical underline made a lot of the spoken dialog hard to understand as the sound balance throughout was less than ideal, including in the musical numbers where the very decent singers often struggled to be heard above the musicians.

Part of the problem here is the rhythm of the original material, which tends to rush through one battle after another to a climax (and then a blackout). These have a numbing effect given that we know the plucky Hobbits are not going down that easy and it’s really only after Gollum shows up that actual tension is injected and some fluidity of movement is achieved.

I might be overly influenced here by having so admired “Cats: The Jellicle Ball” (which figured out that “Cats” does have to look like cats). But why do Hobbits have to look so, well, Hobbity and does Gandalf and the other elders really have to sport gray wigs and long, flowing robes? They don’t pop as they once did.

These characters are, after all, figments of one of the greatest imaginations ever to live. They could be whatever is in a creative person’s head.

Chris Jones is a Tribune critic. cjones5@chicagotribune.com

When: Through Sept. 1
Where: The Yard at Chicago Shakespeare Theater on Navy Pier
Running time: 3 hours
Tickets: \$52-\$113 at 312-595-5600 and www.chicagoshakes.com

Kogan

from Page 7

the shadow of prejudice, it opened on Broadway March 11, 1959, starring Ruby Dee and Sidney Poitier, and was a sensation.

It was the first play by a Black woman on Broadway, was nominated for four Tony Awards (including best play), and, as the New York Times would assert decades later, it “changed American theater forever.”

“A Raisin in the Sun” was the first play by a Black

woman to win a Pulitzer Prize, and a film version hit theaters in 1961. Her second play, “The Sign in Sidney Brustein’s Window,” opened to lukewarm reviews on Broadway and ran for only 101 performances. It closed Jan. 10, 1965, just days before Hansberry died of cancer.

So, the sculpture is currently on the road, on a national tour with stops in New York, Philadelphia, Detroit, Minneapolis, Washington, D.C., Atlanta, Seattle, San Francisco and Los Angeles, and several historically Black colleges

and universities.

There are some embellishing events and programs before Hansberry arrives with a formal presentation on Aug. 23 at 5:45 p.m. in the Polk Bros Park at the pier’s western edge. There will be remarks from Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Lynn Nottage, the artist Alison Saar and some others. There will also be writer, playwright and poet Mahogany L. Browne and an outdoor screening of “A Raisin in the Sun.”

Hansberry has been honored here in the past.

She and her play were the “One Book, One Chicago” selection in 2003. And in 2010 she, along with Gwendolyn Brooks, Nelson Algren, Richard Wright, Studs Terkel and Saul Bellow, was a member of the inaugural group of inductees into the Chicago Literary Hall of Fame.

Eager for more? You can find a satisfying portrait in “Looking for Lorraine: The Radiant and Radical Life of Lorraine Hansberry,” by Imani Perry, a Princeton University professor of African American stud-

ies. Alice Walker, the first African American woman to win the Pulitzer Prize for fiction for “The Color Purple,” said about it, “Lorraine Hansberry was so dear, so gifted, so Black, so singular in so many ways, that to miss the story of her life is to miss a huge part of ours. She left us way too soon, and yet the gift of her presence, so briefly among us, is still felt in the art she left behind. But not only in the art, but in the life. A life at last made comprehensible by this loving, attentive, thoughtful book.”

Or what about listening to Hansberry interviewed by Studs Terkel in 1959? It’s fascinating, intimate and starts with Terkel introducing “...Lorraine Hansberry, whom we can rightfully describe as a distinguished young American playwright. This may sound like a strange thing to say. An artist has written one play and we call her a distinguished American playwright. But it isn’t one man’s opinion.”

No, it wasn’t then. Isn’t now.

rkogan@chicagotribune.com

What to watch TUESDAY

July 30, 2024

All times Central. Start times can vary based on cable/satellite provider. Confirm times on your on-screen guide.

Betrayal: A Father's Secret

Hulu ■ Season Premiere

The highly anticipated second season of this ABC News Studios docuseries, based on the true-crime podcast *Betrayal*, follows Ashley Lytton, a Utah wife and mother who unearths a devastating secret about her husband, leaving her fearing for her family's safety.

The Top Ten Revealed

AXS TV, 7 p.m.

Eddie Money's "Two Tickets to Paradise," Led Zeppelin's "Black Dog" and The Who's "Behind Blue Eyes" all made the cut for the 200 greatest songs of the 1970s but ranked higher than tonight's next batch of hits covering No. 140 through No. 121.

2024 Paris Olympics

NBC, 7 p.m. Live

Primetime Paris Olympics coverage on NBC looks at the day's best moments, including medal events in women's team gymnastics, swimming, men's triathlon, shooting, table tennis, women's rugby, fencing and surfing.

Hard Knocks: Offseason With the New York Giants

HBO, 8 p.m. ■ Season Finale

Catch the conclusion of this five-part *Hard Knocks* spinoff docuseries as New York Giants players and personnel gear up for the start of training camp for the 2024 season.



'Hard Knocks: Offseason With the New York Giants'

MATT SWENSEN, HBO

CATCH A CLASSIC

The Endless Summer (1966)

TCM, 7 p.m.

Catch a few waves with this 1966 title from producer/director Bruce Brown, an early pioneer of surfing documentaries, the most famous of which is this legendary film. Brown and his camera follow two young surfers — Mike Hynson and Robert August — around the world in search of the perfect wave, finding a few of them as well as some colorful local characters at their various stops, which include the coasts of California, Australia, New Zealand, Tahiti, Hawaii, South Africa and more. Befitting the surf culture it celebrates, *The Endless Summer* is presented in a fairly relaxed and laid-back manner, especially when compared with other docs of that era, and is beautifully shot. Following this film is Brown's 1994 documentary *The Endless*



MONTEREY MEDIA

Summer II, which follows a couple of other young surfers as it also shows how the surfing scene had grown in the nearly 30 years between the productions. After that is *The Endless Summer Revisited* (2000), on which Brown served as an executive producer and which was written and directed by his son, Dana Brown. It is made up of unused footage from the first two *Endless Summer* documentaries. The evening concludes with two documentaries about motorcycle sports: *On Any Sunday* (1971), which Bruce Brown produced and directed, and *On Any Sunday: Motocross, Malcolm & More* (2001), written, produced, directed and edited by Dana Brown. — Jeff Pfeiffer

MOVIES YOU'LL LOVE



'27 Dresses' 20TH CENTURY FOX / EVERETT COLLECTION

Pacific Rim (2013, Science fiction) Charlie Hunnam, Diego Klattenhoff **SVFY, 4 p.m.**

The Santa Summit (2023, Romance-comedy) Hunter King, Benjamin Hollingsworth **Hallmark, 4 p.m.**

I, Robot (2004, Science fiction) Will Smith, Bridget Moynahan **AMC, 4:30 p.m.**

Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby (2006, Comedy) Will Ferrell, John C. Reilly **FX, 4:30 p.m.**

Chris Watts: Confessions of a Killer (2020, Docudrama) Sean Kleier, Ashley Williams **LMN, 5 p.m.**

Jungle Cruise (2021, Adventure) Dwayne Johnson, Emily Blunt **Freeform, 6 p.m.**

Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade (1989, Adventure) Harrison Ford, Sean Connery **Paramount, 7 p.m.**

Robin Hood (2010, Adventure) Russell Crowe, Cate Blanchett **MGM, 7 p.m.**

Step Brothers (2008, Comedy) Will Ferrell, John C. Reilly **FX, 7 p.m.**

A Very Vermont Christmas (2024, Romance) Katie Leclerc, Ryan McPartlin **Hallmark, 8 p.m.**

27 Dresses (2008, Romance-comedy) Katherine Heigl, James Marsden **FXM, 8:30 p.m.**

World War Z (2013, Horror) Brad Pitt, Mireille Enos **Paramount, 10 p.m.**

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LOCAL
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TV Q&A

Will 'Homicide' find new life online?

By Rich Heldenfels
Tribune News Service

Q: Is there any hope of "Homicide: Life on the Street" becoming available on streaming platforms? All my searching has yielded only a complete series DVD package.

A: Rightly considered one of the best TV series of all time, "Homicide" originally aired in 1993-99 with a finale movie in 2000. Based on the book "Homicide: A Year on the Killing Streets" by David Simon, it showcased a group of complicated police detectives in Baltimore and boasted a cast including Andre Braugher, Richard Belzer, Yaphet Kotto, Melissa Leo, Ned Beatty and Giancarlo Esposito. Episodes such as "Bop Gun" and "The Subway" are landmarks. Although the series is on DVD (and I've kept two complete series sets), it was long unavailable for streaming because of rights problems.

But here's the good news: Peacock has finally sorted out the rights and announced that on Aug. 19 the entire series and the finale movie will be on the streaming service. Anyone who cares about great TV should see it.

However, "Homicide" also did three crossovers with "Law & Order" during that show's sixth, eighth and ninth seasons (titled "Charm City," "Baby It's You" and "Sideshow" respectively). Those "Law & Order" episodes are not on Peacock. You would have to hunt them down elsewhere.

Q: I was wondering if you could tell me where I could find all the seasons of "St. Elsewhere." I unfortunately do not have any streaming services, and I can only find one season on DVD. I loved watching that show when I was in medical school and residency. The current doctor shows are



Kyle Secor, left, and Richard Belzer are seen in "Homicide: Life on the Street," in 1999. The NBC drama will make its streaming debut on Peacock in August. **NBC**

so unrealistic (even for TV) that I can't stand to watch them. They make me yell at the TV.

A: Like "Homicide," "St. Elsewhere" (1982-88) did not have high ratings but did have devoted fans, awards and critical acclaim, as well as a cast that included Denzel Washington, Mark Harmon, William Daniels, Norman Lloyd and Alfre Woodard. Unfortunately, the series in its entirety has not made it to an authorized DVD. It appears there have been problems with the ownership of the series and with music rights, which have extended into streaming. While Hulu has episodes from all six seasons, each season is missing episodes, and it appears that music is a culprit.

Q: What is the status of "Master Minds" on Game Show Network? Are there more episodes planned or is the series canceled?

A: A representative of GSN simply said that "we aren't currently in production."

Q: I watched a show about a year ago and cannot

remember the name. Survivors live in a tubular structure like a huge silo with individual rooms around the perimeter. The characters were clearly developed, and the many subplots were well written.

A: That was "Silo," which had its first season on Apple TV+ in 2023. A second season is in the works, with Apple TV+ saying it is "coming soon."

Q: Will the great British TV series "Professor T" be back? My wife and I are enchanted by the series.

A: Based on a Belgian game company brand, the English drama about an eccentric mystery-solving academic has been a hit for three seasons — and was renewed for a fourth in February, before the third season had even aired. Speculation has the fourth season arriving in 2025.

Do you have a question or comment about entertainment past, present and future? Write to Rich Heldenfels, P.O. Box 417, Mogadore, OH 44260, or brenfels@gmail.com. Letters may be edited.

Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
17					18					19				
20				21					22					
			23				24							
25	26	27				28	29				30	31	32	
33					34						35			
36					37						38			
39					40						41			
42			43	44						45				
			46						47					
48	49	50					51	52			53	54	55	
56							57				58			
59							60				61			
62							63				64			

By Stella Zawistowski. © 2024 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

7/30/24

ACROSS

- 1 Person's individuality
- 5 Polka ___
- 9 Sandbar
- 14 Where to find Bangkok and Beijing
- 15 Sneaker brand
- 16 Uneasy
- 17 Practice boxing
- 18 Lease
- 19 Spice jar holders
- 20 Balanced proportions
- 22 Most recent
- 23 Owns
- 24 Fully fill
- 25 Unit of gem weight
- 28 ___ and the Supremes: 2 wds.
- 33 Biblical garden
- 34 Holy city in Islam
- 35 "Amazing!"
- 36 Ear-splitting
- 37 Early video game company
- 38 Sneaker brand
- 39 Vinyl records: Abbr.
- 40 Stories
- 41 Jealous feeling
- 42 Blended family member
- 45 Wise people
- 46 Agitate
- 47 Truck fuel
- 48 Threaded fasteners
- 51 Items not usually on the menu
- 56 Brief break
- 57 "Spartacus," e.g.
- 58 Ill-behaved kid
- 59 Deep yellow
- 60 Part of a chain
- 61 Part of a script
- 62 Rats' homes
- 63 Go ___ hiding
- 64 Dutch cheese

DOWN

- 1 Impertinence
- 2 Spot
- 3 Actor Hemsworth
- 4 Agricultural worker
- 5 Pub game
- 6 "I'm so ___ it"
- 7 Itsy-bitsy
- 8 Took a bench
- 9 Rock layers
- 10 Warming appliance
- 11 A single time
- 12 Makes a request
- 13 "___ we forget"
- 21 Have a meal
- 22 Hawaiian porches

Solutions

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

- 24 Hallowed
- 25 Basic units of biology
- 26 Take in
- 27 Find another purpose for
- 28 Attention to ___
- 29 "Show me your cards": 2 wds.
- 30 In debt
- 31 Figure out
- 32 Moves from side to side
- 34 Singer Johnny Doable
- 43 Car radio button
- 44 Cringes in fear
- 45 ___ fly
- 47 Geico mascot
- 48 Go across
- 49 Showed up
- 50 BBQ blends
- 51 Twirl
- 52 Half a quart
- 53 Very, very dry
- 54 Actress Turner
- 55 Goblet part
- 57 Horror director Roth

Horoscopes



Today's birthday (July 30): Common dreams propel collaborations this year. Conserve and grow shared resources with dedicated partnership. Summer studies or travels shift direction, leading to an autumn windfall of family benefits. Shift directions with a winter creative project, before pushing to maximize springtime profits. Empower a winning team.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Today is a 9. Edit carefully before publishing. Don't gossip, and don't believe everything you hear. Do the research. Rely on trusted sources.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): 9. There's more work coming in. Avoid a conflict of interests. Wait to see what develops. Take action to advance the most promising opportunities.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): 9. Take charge. Advance a personal project to new levels. Don't crow about it yet. Privately push your agenda. Dress for success. Lasting benefits are available.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): 6. Privately plan and organize. Fix something before it breaks. Be prepared to move quickly. Learn from the past. Consider things from a spiritual perspective.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): 8. Keep showing up for your team. Do what you said you would. Community connections open exciting opportunities. Provide reliable collaborative services with a smile.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): 7. Make professional goals and deadlines for lasting benefits. Make sure you have the facts. Ignore gossip or rumors. Don't listen to everything you hear.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): 8. Develop your investigation. A fascinating inquiry reveals valuable treasure. Ignore false starts or deceptions. Patiently explore options.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): 9. Your greatest asset is your own determination. Encourage full disclosure. Work quickly but carefully. Avoid jealousies, controversy or silly arguments. Collaborate without fuss.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): 9. Push to advance your shared plan and discuss it later. Action gets farther than words now. Avoid distractions or misunderstandings. Keep promises and deadlines.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): 9. Stick to tested physical and health routines. Something doesn't compute. Rely on trusted sources. Don't jump the gun. Move slow and steady to win.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): 9. Good fortune follows your own initiative. Go for what you want. Ignore gossip. Don't worry about the little stuff, especially regarding love and romance.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): 9. Full speed ahead with domestic projects. Do the job you've been considering. Actions get farther than words. It's OK if you don't know how.

— Nancy Black, Tribune Content Agency

The Argyle Sweater



Bliss



Bridge

Both vulnerable, South deals

North		East	
♠ A 2	♥ A 9 7 5 4	♠ 8 5 3	♥ Q 10 8
♦ 9	♣ A 9 8 6 3	♦ 8 6 5 4 3 2	♣ K
South			
♠ K Q J 10 9 6	♥ K		
♦ A K	♣ J 7 5 2		

North-South used Key-Card Blackwood to reach slam – a big improvement since Charles Goren ruled the bridge world. South won the opening diamond lead with his ace and saw that he could make the slam if he could play the club suit for one loser. That would require a 2-2 club split

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♠*	Pass	6♠	All pass

*2 key cards, among the 4 aces and the king of spades, plus the queen of spades

Opening lead: Queen of ♦

him even if the clubs were favorably placed.

South cashed the king of hearts at trick two and then led a low spade to dummy's ace. He cashed the ace of hearts, discarding a club, before ruffing a heart in his hand. Cashing the ace first was important, although it risked a ruff about the hearts split 6-1, because he could then learn about the heart split before committing himself to the subsequent play. Had the hearts split 5-2, he would abandon hearts, draw trumps, and rely on the clubs. He could see that the hearts were splitting 4-3, however, so he led the king of diamonds and ruffed it in dummy! He ruffed another heart, establishing the long heart, and drew the outstanding trumps.

A club to dummy's ace allowed another club discard, this time on the nine of hearts. South conceded a club to the opponents and claimed his slam. Nicely played!

— Bob Jones
Tribune Content Agency

Grand Avenue



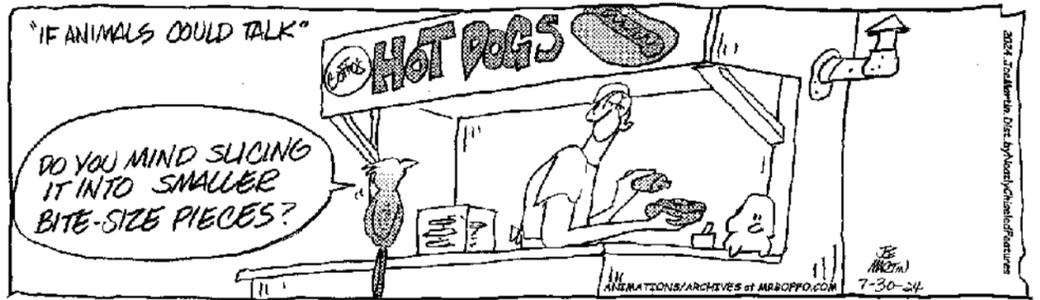
Baby Blues



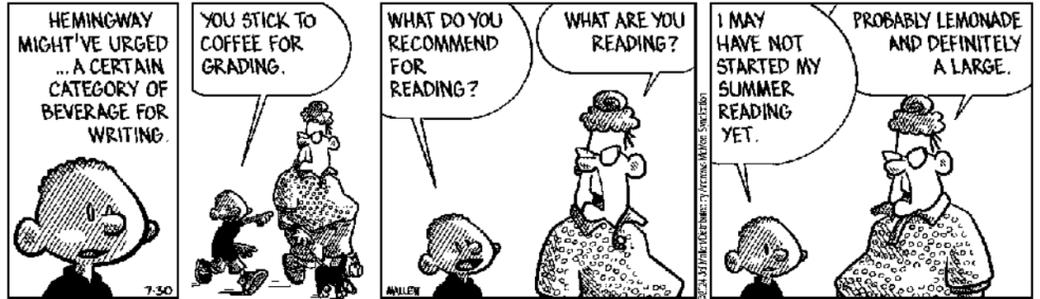
Zits



Mr. Boffo



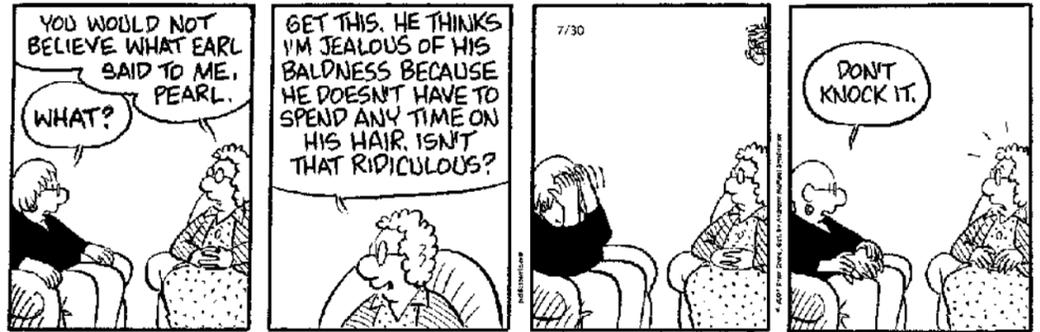
Frazz



Classic Peanuts



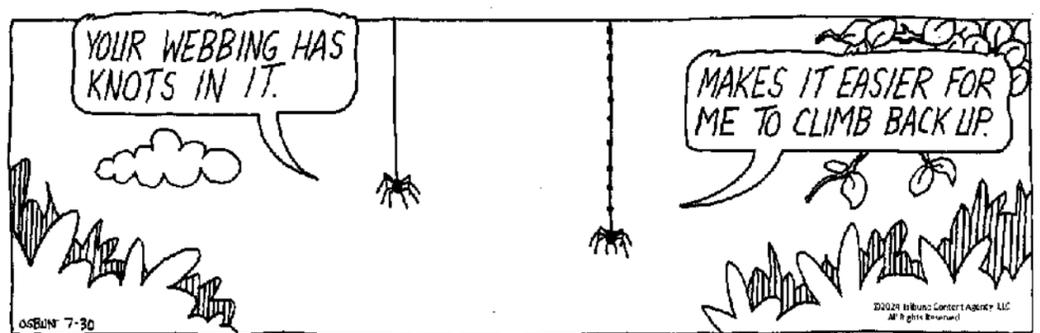
Pickles



Dick Tracy



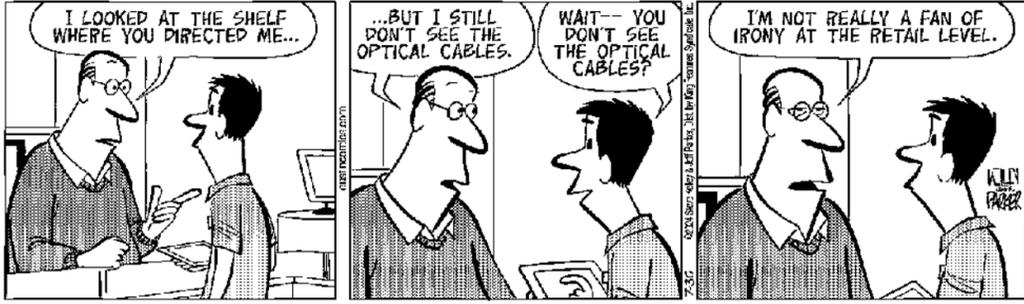
Animal Crackers



Prickly City



Dustin By Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



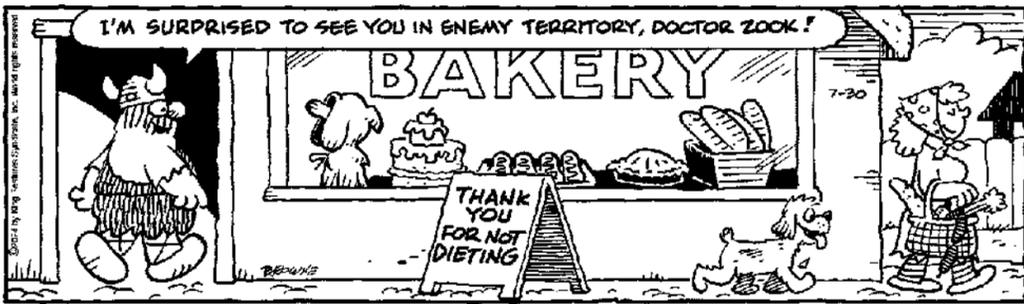
For Better or for Worse By Lynn Johnston



Blondie By Dean Young and John Marshall



Hägar the Horrible By Chris Browne



Mutts By Patrick McDonnell



WuMo By Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



Sherman's Lagoon By Jim Toomey



Brewster Rockit: Space Guy! By Tim Rickard



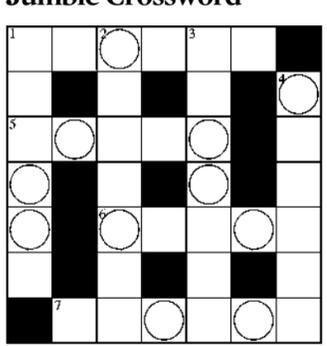
Broom-Hilda By Russell Myers



Trivia Bits

Hawaii's second-biggest island is named for what demigod who created the Hawaiian Islands and captured the sun?
 A) Kauai
 B) Lanai
 C) Maui
 D) Molokai
 Monday's answer: "How sharper than a serpent's tooth it is to have a thankless child" is a line from William Shakespeare's "King Lear."
 © 2024 Leslie Elman. Dist. by Creators.com

Jumble Crossword



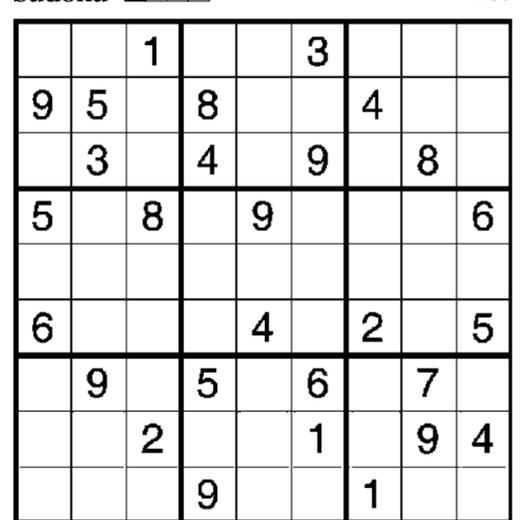
- ACROSS**
- 1. London waterway
 - 5. Abscess, lesion
 - 6. Stockpile
 - 7. Speckled
- DOWN**
- 1. Type of hairpiece
 - 2. Rubbing
 - 3. Allocate
 - 4. Required
- ANSWER**
- MAETSH
 LCUER
 DHROA
 EKADFL
- ANSWER**
- PETUOE
 HOOALCL
 MAKRREA
 EDENDE

How to play - Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

BONUS ○○○○○○

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 ANSWERS: 1A-Thames 5A-Urner 6A-Hoag 7A-Fish 1B-Stock 2C-Rub 3D-Allocate 4E-Required

Sudoku 1234



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

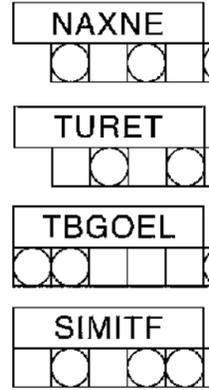
Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box in bold borders contains every digit 1 to 9.

Monday's solutions

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Jumble

Unscramble the four Jumbles, one letter per square, to form four words. Then arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by this cartoon.



Answer here

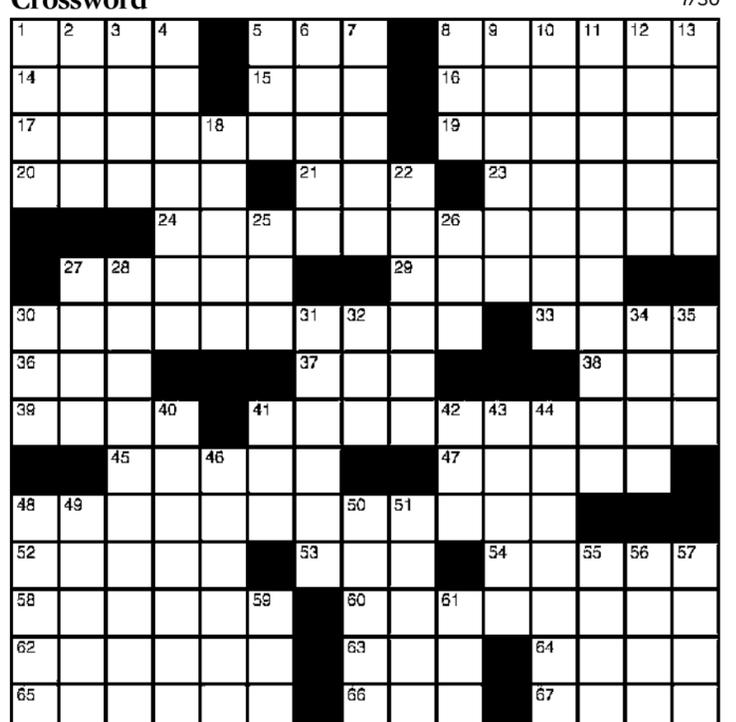


Monday's answers

Jumbles: RUNNY GLOAT BASKET WINDOW
 Answer: The skunk Olympic gymnast was doing well until she -- "STUNK" THE LANDING

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek. © 2024 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved. PlayJumble.com

Crossword



Across

- 1 Roadie's cargo
- 5 Barrel wood
- 8 A flat equivalent
- 14 Bus route, often
- 15 Bid the most, say
- 16 Grows tired
- 17 Spa combo
- 19 In an overly curious way
- 20 Fix up, as hair
- 21 Gee preceder
- 23 Room under the roof
- 24 Technique for closing a seam
- 27 Knightly of "Atonement"
- 29 Painter's prop
- 30 Like many consignment store items
- 33 Not imaginary
- 36 Fur baby
- 37 Happy Valley sch.
- 38 Author info
- 39 Schedule opening

Down

- 41 North Carolina college town
- 45 Hawaii Senator Hirono
- 47 Farm animals with horns
- 48 Metaphor for a repetitive person
- 52 Jobs
- 53 Pipe bend shape
- 54 Ramen soup broth
- 58 Suspects
- 60 Hamburger franchise, and what can be found at the starts of 17-, 24-, 30-, 41-, and 48-Across
- 62 NCAA group that will add four new members in 2024
- 63 "... been wondering ..."
- 64 Verdi opera
- 65 Dolorous donkey
- 66 Barclays Center baller
- 67 Seethe, as over a slight

Monday's solution

- 13 Course where one might study Jung, familiarly
- 18 June birthstone
- 22 Make available
- 25 Tomorrow, for one
- 26 Texting :-), perhaps
- 27 Ship stabilizer
- 28 Study of bugs
- 30 Tech that might repeat "Make a U-turn"
- 31 Call from the
- 23-Across, perhaps
- 32 Org. with a Popular Baby Names page
- 34 Comes down with something
- 35 "ur so funny!"
- 40 Become smitten with
- 41 Bengals, on scoreboards
- 42 Brand of battery-powered lawn equipment
- 43 "Royals" singer
- 44 Enjoyed oneself immensely
- 46 Gadget scraped on a peel
- 48 Corrupt kickback
- 49 Perez of "Do the Right Thing"
- 50 Petite and playful
- 51 "Closer" actor Owen
- 55 Wedding dress, perhaps
- 56 Jekyll's counterpart
- 57 "It didn't escape my notice"
- 59 Small square
- 61 Nov. honoree

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 ANSWERS: 1A-Cargo 5B-Log 8C-Ton 14D-Route 15E-Bid 16F-Tired 17G-Combo 19H-Curious 20I-Fix 21J-Gee 23K-Attic 24L-Butt 27M-Knight 29N-Prop 30O-Consignment 33P-Not 36Q-Fur 37R-Happy 38S-Info 39T-Opening 41U-Vanderbilt 45V-Hirono 47W-Horns 48X-Repeat 52Y-Jobs 53Z-Bend 54AA-Ramen 58BB-Suspects 60CC-Hamburger 62DD-NCAA 63EE-Been 64FF-Verdi 65GG-Donkey 66HH-Barclays 67II-Seethe

BONUS PUZZLE PAGE

An extra array of word games, search and Jumble. Want more? Play online at [PlayJumble.com](https://www.PlayJumble.com)



Scan QR code to play online.

SUDOKU

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

Level **1** **2** **3** **4**

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit from 1 to 9. For strategies on solving Sudoku, visit [sudoku.org.uk](https://www.sudoku.org.uk).

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

11/3/20

WORD SEARCH

Wordsearch: Think it over

Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, or diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.

NIATRECSAOTCELFERY
PEEMGTOBQTRYFJCGMB
ENTKELGRESOLVEQCDW
RIAWTKIBROODKOEDDO
CGBEAZTQGEZBBDLJEN
EAEILEAQRUMINATELD
IMDGPPTPKPONDERCIE
VIUHMAESTEWOVERRBR
EKOOEMBPLHMKROEEF
TVNGTIQXPHXUEFDKRU
XTDHNTUNDERSTANDAS
OUJWOSYVZIEHXHATE
JCONCENTRATEMSCKEE
KCONSIDERMNUSFEXRY
NECUDNIPTLEFYDUTS
ISEPMUPWJLSJLHGP GK
HRPETAGITSEVNILXXH
TOAMEDITATELFSFWNZ

- | | | |
|-------------|-------------|------------|
| APPRAISE | ESTIMATE | PONDER |
| ASCERTAIN | FIGURE | REFLECT |
| ASSESS | IMAGINE | RESOLVE |
| BROOD | INDUCE | RUMINATE |
| COGITATE | INVESTIGATE | STEW OVER |
| CONCENTRATE | JUDGE | STUDY |
| CONSIDER | MEDITATE | THINK |
| CONTEMPLATE | MULL | UNDERSTAND |
| DEBATE | MUSE | WEIGH |
| DELIBERATE | PERCEIVE | WONDER |

BOGGLE



By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Q	O	R	A
P	U	T	L
E	S	N	L
Y	E	O	D

INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by linking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a blank sheet of paper. You may only use each letter box once within a single word. Play with a friend and compare word finds, crossing out common words.

- BOGGLE POINT SCALE**
- 3 letters = 1 point
 - 4 letters = 2 points
 - 5 letters = 3 points
 - 6 letters = 4 points
 - 7 letters = 6 points
 - 8 letters = 10 points
 - 9+ letters = 15 points
- YOUR BOGGLE RATING**
- 1151+ = Champ
 - 101-150 = Expert
 - 61-100 = Pro
 - 31-60 = Gamer
 - 21-30 = Rookie
 - 11-20 = Amateur
 - 0-10 = Try again

Boggle BrainBusters Bonus
We put special brain-busting words into the grid of letters. Can you find them?
Find AT LEAST SIX CURRENCIES in the grid of letters.

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WordWheel

Insert the missing letter to complete an eight-letter word reading clockwise or counterclockwise.

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TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9					10	11	
12					13		
14					15		
		16	17	18		19	20
		23				24	
25	26	27			28	29	
30					31		
32				33			
		34	35			36	37
39	40	41				42	43
44						45	
46						47	

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

4/10/22

ACROSS

- Jason ___ of "Chicago P.D."
- Way of "King Kong"
- ___ as a beet
- Actor Clark
- Gushes forth
- Farr & Foxx
- Jamaica's official lang.
- "Chicago ___" (1994-2000)
- Mary-Kate or Ashley
- "___ to Bali"; Crosby/Hope film
- Harness strap
- "___ la Douce"
- Diane or Forrest
- Role on "The Conners"
- Mayberry resident
- Actress ___ Marie Hupp
- Tuesday, for one
- Talk show host O'Brien
- Copenhagener
- Feel crummy
- "Last ___ Hero"; Schwarzenegger film
- Disney dog

DOWN

- First, second, third or home
- "SportsCenter" network
- "Abbott Elementary" role
- Chop down
- Ames & Asner
- Series for Zeeko Zaki
- Tavern order
- "Say ___ to the Dress"
- Space
- Sitcom for Tye White
- Voight or Cryer
- Barnyard bird
- Jamie ___ Curtis
- ___ Alec Guinness
- Mork's planet
- Parisian pal
- Daniel ___ Kim
- Piglet's mom
- Jungle animal
- Actor Wheaton
- "The Brady Bunch" role
- Actress Ortiz
- "Ordinary ___"
- "Erin Burnett OutFront" network
- E-mail provider
- "Leave ___ Beaver"
- Washerful
- Actress Gardner
- Portable bed
- "___ and a Half Men"
- Nightclothes, for short
- "Venom: ___ There Be Carnage"; 2021 film

D	O	O	L	S		O	I	V
A	V	L	T	E	R	T	E	W
O	L	T	D	N	O	I	L	C
L	I	V	E	N	E	D	A	V
N	A	N	C	O	N	E	L	D
J	A	V	A	N	E	L	O	P
S	A	V	A	R	E	R	A	M
R	I	R	A	N	E	R	I	R
R	O	A	D	N	O	L	E	R
G	P	E	H	O	N	E		
S	E	S	J	A	M	E	S	
G	A	B	L	E				
F	A	V						

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KIDNEWS FUN & GAMES



24	86	20	56	49	70	60	85	36	54	31	6
82		11	72	2	40	8	34	43	27	7	29
67	14	37	65	61	46	21	33	12	84	19	4
18	75		3	68	13	80	10	23	50	63	
88	42										
62	77										
	26	58	30	1	47	39	45	76	32		
22	17	28	53	35	69	78	90	64	52		
	74	5	83	79	71	48	81	15	100	73	66



Can you find two identical numbers?



Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO SPORTS

Chicago's best sports section, as judged by the Associated Press Sports Editors



Then-White Sox closer Michael Kopech pitches during the ninth inning against the Twins at Guaranteed Rate Field on July 10. EILEEN T. MESLAR/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Escape from Chicago

It's not a bad thing, and Kopech and Morel could thrive with their new clubs



Paul Sullivan
In the Wake of the News

Christopher Morel and Michael Kopech, two big parts of Chicago baseball rebuilds, left town in a 24-hour span before Tuesday's trade deadline. They were very different players but shared an ability to electrify their respective fan bases. The Cubs' Morel was a bright

spot when he came up from Double A in 2022, infusing the clubhouse with energy and charming his way into the good graces of Wrigley's heartiest skeptics. Kopech was a key to the White Sox rebuild after being acquired from Boston at the 2016 Winter Meetings, and his arrival on the South Side six years ago next month was seen as an indication Rick Hahn's rebuild was succeeding. But Morel's trade Sunday to the Tampa Bay Rays in the deal that brought back former Cubs prospect Isaac Paredes was an admission from Cubs president Jed



Then-Cub Christopher Morel hits a sacrifice fly during the sixth inning against the Pirates on May 19 at Wrigley Field.

Hoyer they could never find him a full-time position and needed to cut bait. The departure of Kopech to the Los Angeles Dodgers on Monday in a three-team trade

that brought back an unproven shortstop in Miguel Vargas and two prospects was an admission by general manager Chris Getz that the Sox had given up on

Kopech ever becoming a star. You can't really blame Hoyer or Getz for feeling that way. The numbers don't lie. Morel couldn't play third. Kopech was not a reliable closer. And so it goes ... When it comes to pitching, "wash, rinse, repeat" has been the motto of White Sox management for several decades: Step One: Draft or acquire a prospect. Step Two: Develop him into a major-league pitcher. Step Three: Wait until he's valuable enough to make some real money. Step Four: Watch him walk away via free agency or trade him for more prospects.

Turn to Sullivan, Page 3

BEARS

A hallmark connection

Jarrett Payton, who'll present McMichael, sees parallels with dad

By Dan Wiederer
Chicago Tribune

When Jarrett Payton sat down earlier this summer to craft his presentation, to articulate the magnificence of Steve McMichael, to explain why, nearly 30 years after McMichael played his final NFL game, he finally had received admission into the Pro Football Hall of Fame, Payton kept landing in the same places. He wanted the world to recognize McMichael's gift for making those around him better. He hoped to highlight how McMichael squeezed the most out of his abilities and always drained his tank to deliver his best — often at his toughest and most determined when he was counted out. And he aimed to emphasize



Bears Hall of Famer Steve "Mongo" McMichael at his Mongo McMichaels restaurant in Romeoville in 2019. ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

that, for a man with such an oversized, boisterous personality, McMichael's kind heart always has been even bigger. "There's no one like him," Payton said. "He is almost like a superhero out of a comic book, something that you create. And

as a football player, you look back and go, 'Holy cow! It's incredible how good he was, how hard he worked.'" Those themes will resonate Saturday afternoon when the

Turn to Bears, Page 2

 **THE OLYMPICS**
MONDAY AT A GLANCE

THE LAST TIME? Novak Djokovic dominated longtime rival Rafael Nadal at the start, and then held off a comeback attempt to win 6-1, 6-4 in the second round of the men's singles tennis tournament at the Paris Olympics. Monday's match was the 60th — and likely last — head-to-head matchup between the two greats. Serbia's Djokovic, right, claimed 10 of the initial 11 games, with Spain's Nadal nowhere near the skilled and ever-hustling version of himself that won a record 14 French Open trophies at Roland Garros, which is hosting these matches. The 38-year-old Nadal has battled injuries for the last few years and has indicated he plans to retire soon. Djokovic, 37, has a record 24 Grand Slam singles titles, two more than Nadal.



MANU FERNANDEZ/AP

FAST START A'ja Wilson scored 24 points and Breanna Stewart added 22 to help the U.S. women's basketball team beat Japan 102-76 in the opener for both teams. Wilson also had 13 rebounds and four blocks. The Americans now have a 56-game Olympic winning streak.

DROUGHT IS OVER The U.S. men's gymnastics team surged from fifth in qualifying to third, earning a bronze medal — its first team Olympic medal since the 2008 Beijing Games. Japan passed rival China for the gold.

MEDAL TRACKER (leaders through Monday)

Country	G	S	B	Tot.
United States	3	8	9	20
France	5	8	3	16
Japan	6	2	4	12
China	5	5	2	12
Britain	2	5	3	10

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Gymnasts subject to change without notice

Team	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
BEARS			HOU (exh.) 7 p.m. ABC-7, ESPN		
CUBS	@CIN 6:10 p.m. Marquee	@CIN 6:10 p.m. Marquee	STL 7:05 p.m. Marquee	STL 1:20 p.m. Marquee	STL 1:20 p.m. Marquee
WHITE SOX	KC 7:10 p.m. NBCSCH	KC 1:10 p.m. NBCSCH		@MIN 7:10 NBCSCH	@MIN 6:10 NBCSCH
SKY					Next game Aug. 15 vs. PHX
FIRE			Toluca (exh.) 8 p.m. FSI, Apple TV		
RED STARS		@WAS (exh.) 6:30 p.m. Paramount+			

Bears

from Page 1

Pro Football Hall of Fame's enshrinement ceremony takes place in Canton, Ohio. McMichael, more than three years into an intense fight with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), will experience that crowning achievement from his bed in Homer Glen, where he'll be presented with his gold jacket and able to see the unveiling of his Hall of Fame bust.

Payton's prerecorded video presentation will provide the emotional introduction, insight delivered through the eyes of a lifelong admirer who has had McMichael's presence in his life since he was a toddler romping around the Chicago Bears locker room in the 1980s.

In what promises to be an emotion-packed weekend and an adrenalizing celebration for Bears fans, Payton's perspective may be among the most valuable of the entire event.

For starters, his connection to the Hall of Fame's Class of 2024 may be as strong as anyone's. In addition to his lasting bond with McMichael, Payton played alongside wide receiver Andre Johnson for four seasons at the University of Miami. And Payton was in his final season with the Hurricanes when a lightning-bolt freshman named Devin Hester arrived on campus.

So, yes, with so many close ties to this year's class, this weekend hits a little different.

"It's honestly surreal, man," Payton said.

He has embraced the honor of being a Hall of Fame presenter for the second time. He is representing McMichael 31 years after standing on the steps of football's most prestigious museum as a 12-year-old to introduce his father, Walter, for induction.

Now he will be part of a reunion of sorts with McMichael joining Walter Payton and five other members of the 1985 Bears in the Hall of Fame.

Flashback

Jarrett Payton still can recall the details of that Saturday in July 1993 — his pride in his dad, his sweat-soaked gray suit, his uncontrollable anxiety — as he began his brief speech to set the stage for the NFL's all-time leading rusher to enter the Hall of Fame.

"Let's try and get this thing over with," Jarrett began that day, breaking the ice with his youthful trepidation.

An adoring audience laughed. "Once I heard those laughs," Jarrett says now, "it was like, 'OK, I can breathe.'"

He also worked to absorb the magnitude of that moment for his dad. A few weeks shy of starting seventh grade, Jarrett was not a die-hard football fan at the time, believe it or not, far more into soccer and not fully in tune with how celebrated his dad was.

Still, there was something powerful about that Hall of Fame experience.

"I knew how important it was to my father," Jarrett said. "That was one of his biggest goals as a football player. It was (first) to win a championship and then to be in that conversation as the best to ever play the game."

Jarrett could feel his dad's pride. The fulfillment of having so much effort, investment and accomplishment validated at the highest level of the sport seemed incomparable.

Joining Walter Payton in the Hall of Fame's Class of 1993 that weekend were Bill Walsh, Chuck Noll, Dan Fouts and Larry Little, all of whom helped Jarrett feel more comfortable during the lead-up to the enshrinement while heightening his appreciation for his father's achievement.

"I got the chance to step back a little in those moments and watch my dad amongst other (legendary) football players," Jarrett says. "It was like, wow, these are some of the best of the best in that historic class."

Still, it wasn't until 2018 that Jarrett truly experienced peak reverence for what the Hall of Fame signifies. While in Canton for Brian Urlacher's induction that summer, Jarrett walked through the Hall with eyes wide open, ogling every one of the museum's displays.

"I was looking around just trying to find everything of my dad," he said. "Just like, 'Where's Dad? Where is he?' I wanted to take every single picture. I became like more of a fan."

'I was terrified of Steve'

Jarrett remains a huge fan of McMichael's as well, appreciative of what his contributions meant to the storied Bears defenses of the 1980s and that iconic 1985 group in particular, the runaway train that sped the franchise to its only Super Bowl championship.

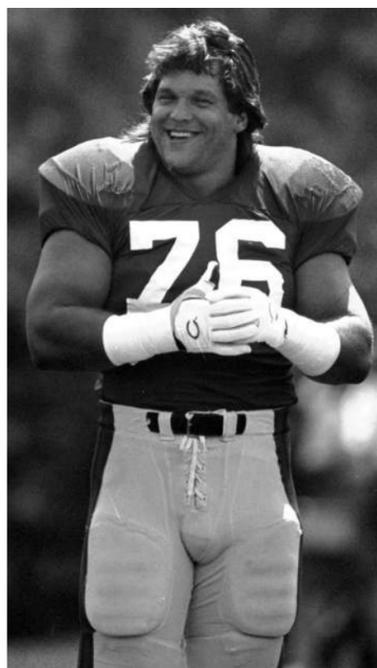
Even with stars all around him — gritty defensive end Dan Hampton, seven-time All-Pro linebacker Mike Singletary, feared pass rusher Richard Dent — McMichael used his passion, intelligence and selfless nature to carve out his niche.

He was a reliable run stopper as well as a menacing quarterback harasser. But he did it all in the name of what the team needed most at any given moment.

McMichael often attracted the spotlight



Walter Payton's son Jarrett and daughter Brittney Payton speak before the unveiling of the statue of the Bears Hall of Fame running back outside of Gate O at Soldier Field in 2019. ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE



Steve McMichael at Bears camp in Lake Forest in 1990. CHARLES CHERNEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

with his rowdy, Texas-sized persona and comedic wit. But he earned the respect of teammates with how damn hard he worked, how he constantly tested his limits to reach his full potential.

As a kid, Jarrett observed McMichael with understandable apprehension.

"I was terrified of Steve when I was little," he said with a laugh. "You'd hear that loud voice and steer away a little bit, just like, 'This dude ... No. No. Nope.'"

Now he has a deeper admiration for why McMichael so profoundly enjoyed football. For one thing, it gave McMichael an opportunity to be a showman, a platform to entertain. More significantly, it fueled his competitive passion and thirst for taking on the highest challenges.

For McMichael, there was something uniquely intoxicating about the quest to master his craft.

"Steve loved the game," Jarrett said. "People have to understand that about him. I mean, he looooved the game of football."

In so many ways, it reminded Jarrett of his dad. Over 13 seasons with the Bears, Walter Payton played 190 regular-season games, his pain tolerance and dedication to teammates paving the way. Through losses. Through wins. Through 3,838 rushing attempts and 16,726 yards.

McMichael also was a Bear for 13 seasons: 191 regular-season games played, all in a row. With 92½ sacks, 814 tackles and never a complaint or a question of whether he'd be available to his team.

A helping hand

McMichael's guidance eventually became a constant for Jarrett for more than 20 years. When Walter died in 1999 at age 46 from bile duct cancer linked to a rare liver disease, Jarrett needed new places to turn for counsel and support.

So many of his dad's Bears teammates did their part to fill the void. But few proved more gracious and compassionate than McMichael and quarterback Jim McMahon — maybe the last two Jarrett would've expected to be so thoughtful and sensitive.

"Two of the craziest dudes," he said, "guys

who were just out of their minds, were the two that always made sure I was OK after my dad passed."

In 2010, with Jarrett's own professional football career winding down after stops in the NFL and Canadian Football League, McMichael summoned with an opportunity. As coach of the Chicago Slaughter in the Indoor Football League, he asked Jarrett to come play for him.

Jarrett accepted the invitation and remains profoundly affected by the way that short phase of his life started and the way it ended.

In the beginning, McMichael set firm expectations. This wasn't some side-stage leisure and a chance to grab a paycheck.

"Steve was like, 'I don't just want you to play. I want you to have some type of ownership in joining this team,'" Jarrett said.

At the outset, that meant being at the forefront of a marketing blitz and media tour.

"And Steve was with me at every stop," Jarrett said. "We just kept going, kept going, kept going. He always made me want to keep going."

"Our personalities are similar in that way. And I watched him like, 'Holy cow! I want to be like that.'"

Jarrett's experience with the Slaughter also meant becoming a mentor to younger players fighting for a potential career breakthrough. McMichael told Jarrett to remember what his mentors had meant to him: Ed Reed in college at Miami, Steve McNair in the NFL with the Tennessee Titans.

Now a locker room full of driven players was looking to him.

"We had a lot of dudes in their early 20s trying to make it to places where I had already been," Jarrett said. "And Steve pushed me, like, 'You've got to be that (leader) for these dudes.' He'd say, 'You might be nearing the end. But some of these guys are just starting.'"

His perspective sharpened, Jarrett paid his football experience forward.

"There are guys from that team I still have relationships with," he said. "They saw me buy in. And they saw I was there as a mentor in the same way Steve was a mentor to me."

That chapter of the Payton-McMichael bond lasted all the way through a playoff loss that season in Sioux Falls, S.D., in which the running back suffered a career-ending hamstring injury. On a training table in the locker room, Jarrett told McMichael he couldn't push off, he just couldn't go anymore.

He never has forgotten the stream of tears that immediately poured from his coach's eyes.

"He was bawling," Jarrett said. "Honestly. He knew when he heard me say it that it was over. I was done."

McMichael's tears signified genuine empathy, an understanding of how intensely emotional the end of a football career can be. His own 15-season NFL career had ended 16 years earlier, and he hadn't found a way to replace the rush of competing on that stage, of unifying with teammates, of chasing excellence with every drop of fuel in his body.

Yet when Jarrett's career-ending injury occurred, McMichael also delivered much-needed approval for all that he invested.

"In some ways, it was like, 'It's OK. It's all good. You've done enough,'" Jarrett said. "I didn't have my dad around for that part of it." McMichael's compassion helped.

'This means so much to him'

For the past three-plus years, Jarrett has

been progressively crushed by the vicious blows ALS has landed on McMichael, robbing him first of the use of his arms, then of his ability to walk, then of his voice and ultimately leaving him withered away, bedridden and in need of around-the-clock care.

Jarrett can't help but think of his dad's heartbreaking final stages and the agony of finding acceptance with a loved one fighting an unwinnable war.

"This is the second time it's happened to me," he said. "It's hard to see anybody go through something like that. But it's especially hard when it's someone close to you, who in your mind you always thought of as unbreakable."

Jarrett admits he misses McMichael's voice the most, that booming Texas drawl that constantly spewed jokes and told stories and offered wisdom. Many years ago, McMichael encouraged Jarrett to pursue a post-football career in broadcasting. He's now a sports anchor for WGN-Channel 9.

"He helped me figure out the vision," Jarrett said. "He helped me figure out my life plan of what I really wanted to do, and I'm doing it now."

In that role, Jarrett was in McMichael's home on the April 2021 day when McMichael chose to take his ALS diagnosis public. Even in the earliest stages of the affliction, it was gut-wrenching to see the first physical signs of McMichael's battle and even worse to imagine all that was ahead.

Yet when a "Team Mongo" fundraising effort began, with more than \$200,000 eventually pouring in through a GoFundMe account, Jarrett experienced McMichael's gratitude firsthand.

"I remember him calling me that week: 'Man, this thing is going crazy, baby! I just can't believe it,'" Jarrett recalled.

That, too, reminded Jarrett of his dad, of that February 1999 day when Walter held a tear-filled news conference to reveal his rare liver disease.

"Hell, yeah, I'm scared!" Walter said that day. "Wouldn't you be scared?"

Almost immediately, Jarrett said, the public outreach erupted.

"My dad started to get letters at his office from all over the world," Jarrett said. "He's opening them up from Germany and Brazil and all these other places. It was an eye-opening moment, like, 'How did what I've done in my life as a football player really impact this many people?'"

Jarrett shook his head, again struck by the parallels.

"A lot of this stuff we've been going through with Steve, man, there's this correlation with my pops," he said.

Like Walter, McMichael will be venerated as a member of football's most prestigious fraternity. Like Walter, he will be presented for the Hall of Fame by Jarrett.

"My dad would always say, 'Tomorrow is not promised to anyone,'" Jarrett said. "And I think that's been the hardest part leading up to the Hall of Fame (ceremony). I know Steve is holding on. This means so much to him."

"And his battle with ALS shows you the kind of person he is. Because most people would have let go already. But that's not Steve. Steve has never done that in his life." Instead, McMichael keeps fighting, as if he has borrowed a page from Walter's manual on how to play the game.

"Never die easy," the legendary running back once said.

McMichael always knew what he meant. And this weekend, with Jarrett delivering the introduction, McMichael's legacy will land in the place it was meant to be.

BASEBALL



White Sox pitcher Erick Fedde stands in the dugout during a game at Guaranteed Rate Field on July 10. EILEEN T. MESLAR/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

WHITE SOX

And away they go

Kopec to Dodgers, Fedde, Pham sent to Cardinals in 3-team deal

By LaMond Pope | Chicago Tribune

Michael Kopec sat in the home dugout Monday afternoon at Guaranteed Rate Field, reflecting on his big-league debut with the Chicago White Sox.

"I'll never forget how many fans were here in support," Kopec said of the Aug. 21, 2018, start against the Minnesota Twins. "It seemed unreal, it seemed like a movie scene. Even with some of my struggles as my career has gone on, and successes as well, I've had a lot of fans pulling for me here. To look back on my time here, I'm going to really appreciate those fans."

Kopec is beginning his next journey with the Los Angeles Dodgers after being part of a three-team deal executed Monday afternoon. The Sox also traded starter Erick Fedde and outfielder Tommy Pham to the St. Louis Cardinals, along with cash considerations.

The Cardinals sent infielder Tommy Edman and pitcher Oliver Gonzalez to the Dodgers. The Sox received infielder/outfielder Miguel Vargas along with infield prospects Alexander Albertus and Jeral Perez, and a player to be named later or cash considerations from the Los Angeles Dodgers in moves pulled off one day ahead of the MLB trade deadline.

"It's easier said than done to get a three-way trade to the finish line, because you've got so many different variables, moving parts, working through that process," Sox general manager Chris Getz said. "We had been at it for close to a week to 10 days, at least talking different concepts, and we were able to get it to the finish line today."

"Obviously, we were on the selling side. And Tommy Edman is someone the Dodgers have had interest in for a while. And quite honestly, I always have kind of been intrigued by Tommy, as well. He's just a solid all-around player. And St. Louis needed a starting pitcher, wanted a starting pitcher, targeted Erick. So with those needs and those conversations, we just kind of connected the dots and were able to facilitate a deal."

Vargas, 24, will be added to the Sox 26-player roster after slashing .239/.313/.423 with four doubles, three home runs, nine RBIs, 11 runs and eight walks in 30 games with the Dodgers this season.



White Sox right fielder Tommy Pham fields a single in the first inning Friday at Guaranteed Rate Field. JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

He has a career .201/.294/.364 slash line with 20 doubles, four triples, 11 home runs, 40 RBIs, 51 runs and 48 walks in 129 games during three seasons with the Dodgers (2022-24).

"He hasn't gotten a clear runway at the major-league level," Getz said. "He's one of the younger, brighter bats in our game. And the way he puts together at-bats, his zone awareness, his contact ability, his power potential, we're a team that ranks at the bottom offensively and so our focus was to find bats through our acquisition process here at the trade deadline and we'll continue."

Kopec, 28, heads to the Dodgers after spending time as both a starter and reliever during parts of five seasons with the Sox.

He came to the organization in the 2016 trade that sent Chris Sale to the Boston Red Sox. He had to undergo Tommy John surgery after four starts in 2018. He was out all of 2019 and opted out of the pandemic-shortened 2020 season for personal reasons.

Kopec spent 2021 as a reliever and moved back to the rotation in 2022 before returning to the bullpen full-time this spring. He is 2-8 with a 4.74 ERA and nine saves in 43 appearances in 2024.

"It's mixed emotions, excitement for a fresh start in my career," Kopec said.

"Grateful for what I've had here with the White Sox."

Fedde continued his major transformation that began by winning MVP honors last season in the Korea Baseball Organization, going 7-4 with a 3.11 ERA — 11th in the American League — and 108 strikeouts in 21 starts after signing a two-year deal this offseason with the Sox.

"It's obviously tough leaving a lot of my friends, but I already talked to a lot of people with the Cardinals, and it seems like they're welcoming me with open arms, and I'm really excited to make a push for a deep run in October," Fedde said.

Pham, 36, hit .266 with five home runs and 19 RBIs in 70 games for the Sox. He signed a minor-league deal with the team on April 16 and joined the big-league club on April 26.

He had a big World Series last year for the Arizona Diamondbacks, hitting .421 in a five-game loss to the Texas Rangers. Pham spent his first 4½ seasons in St. Louis and has played for eight teams over 11 seasons.

"When you're talking about expiring contracts on players, there was interest in Tommy Pham in a single-team deal, so to speak, or on his own, but it wasn't going to bring as much value as we felt we got in this deal," Getz said. "The expiring contract, right-handed bat, in all honesty, it has its limitations on a return."

"That's just how the market has been for years and was playing out this deadline. We felt like it made the most sense to get this deal to the finish line with Tommy in it."

With the additions of Vargas, Perez and Albertus, Getz said the Sox were "able to inject three offensive players into our organization."

Perez, 19, slashed .264/.380/.420 with 10 home runs and 42 RBIs in 75 games for Class A Rancho Cucamonga this season. An All-Star Futures Game selection this season, MLB.com ranked Perez the No. 17 prospect in the Dodgers organization.

Albertus, 19, has a combined .298/.420/.409 slash line with three home runs and 42 RBIs between stops at Arizona Complex League Dodgers (32 games) and Rancho Cucamonga (19 games). He is ranked the No. 23 prospect in the Dodgers system by MLB.com.

Getz said Perez is "another guy that's got a bright future, high ceiling," and that "our scouts were raving about" Albertus.

"To get those three, we felt like was a very good return, especially considering where we were on opening day and using some of the players that have become something to acquire talent," Getz said.

CUBS NOTES

OF Bellinger activated from 10-day injured list

By Meghan Montemurro | Chicago Tribune

CINCINNATI — Cody Bellinger's timeline to return from his fractured left middle finger was initially unclear.

There was a wide range of how long he might be out because of the nature of the injury, with the possibility Bellinger could be sidelined until early August. But after going through a rigorous workout Monday at Great American Ball Park, the Cubs activated Bellinger from the 10-day injured list before their series opener against the Reds.

Bellinger went through a long hitting program Monday afternoon, played catch and then took on-field batting practice. A conversation among Bellinger, manager Craig Counsell and a team trainer followed with the roster move was announced shortly after.

Prior to the move, Counsell said Bellinger would be activated within days as the 29-year-old continued to move in the right direction. Bellinger missed 14 games after getting hit by a pitch on July 10, causing the fractured finger.

Isaac Paredes en route to team: The Cubs opened Monday's series without their newest addition.

Third baseman Isaac Paredes, acquired from Tampa Bay on Sunday for third baseman Christopher Morel and two prospects, was expected to arrive in Cincinnati on Monday night, making Tuesday the soonest he will be in the lineup. His locker stall was already prepared in the visitors clubhouse Monday, with a fresh nameplate featuring No. 17, making him the first Cub to wear the number since Kris Bryant.

"The expectation is for him simply to be himself," Counsell said. "He's going to play third base. That's what he was doing with Tampa, largely played some first base as well. But just be yourself. That's led to a good season for him and that's what we're trying to get, that player that was in Tampa all year, trying to get him here in Chicago."

Paredes won't be walking into a completely foreign clubhouse. He was part of a Cubs international amateur free agent class in 2015 that included right-hander Javier Assad and catcher Miguel Amaya.

"I don't know if that's an advantage, necessarily, but it's always nice to have some familiar faces," Counsell said.

Adbert Alzolay's return unknown: Right-hander Adbert Alzolay had been trending in a positive direction in his return from a flexor strain.

Alzolay, who has been on the injured list since May 13, made his first rehab appearance with Triple-A Iowa on Saturday. He was supposed to have another outing Tuesday, however, he suffered a setback. Alzolay didn't recover well after the outing and is heading to Chicago to be evaluated.

Alzolay, 29, was expected to be an important high-leverage bullpen piece this year. He struggled with his consistency and was moved out of save situations. In 18 games, Alzolay posted a 4.67 ERA.



Cubs right fielder Cody Bellinger is congratulated by his teammates in the dugout after scoring a run on June 18 at Wrigley Field. CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Sullivan

from Page 1

Step Five: Return to Step One.

I was the Tribune's Sox beat writer in the mid-1990s and watched it happen to ace Alex Fernandez and Wilson Alvarez. I watched from the other side of town when Mark Buehrle, who should have been a Sox lifer, was forced to leave for Miami in 2011. I was back covering both teams in 2016 when Chris Sale went to the Red Sox for Kopec and Yoán Moncada, the first salvo of the new rebuild. And I knew Carlos Rodón also knew he was a goner in '21 after he threw his no-hitter in mid-April.

Due to an unwritten philosophy of avoiding long-term deals with starters, a specialty of Chairman Jerry Reinsdorf, no one is able to stick around the Sox long enough to get their market value. Garrett Crochet is likely next in line, though Getz told reporters Monday that the pitcher's demand of a contract extension from any team wanting him to pitch in October was "hurtful."

"That's not exactly the tactic I would have taken, even being a former player quite honestly," Getz said.

Of course, every team would've laughed at Getz if he'd demanded more money as a player. But that's another story.

"I was a little surprised by it," he

continued. "I was. I think most fans and even players without knowing everything, it makes sense. We understand why a stance would be taken. Now how you go about expressing that is what was a bit hurtful, quite honestly, considering I felt like we could have handled it a little bit differently and still I think everyone accomplished what they wanted to accomplish."

Whatever happens with Crochet, most of the "haul" of young pitchers from the Hahn rebuild are gone. Kopec, Lucas Giolito, Reynaldo López and Dylan Cease arrived in 2016 and '17, replacing Sale and Jose Quintana before they became too expensive to re-sign.

Getz's return for Kopec, Erick Fedde and Tommy Pham seemed more like a payroll dump than anything else. Fedde was supposed to be one of the top available starters. What happened? Pham was a proven mercenary who performed last October. Now he's a throw-in to the St. Louis Cardinals?

The loss of Kopec stings the most. Not only was he the key pitching acquisition of Hahn, but he probably had the most upside of any Sox starter since Sale. Why he was never able to translate that talent to stardom is up for debate:

Was it Kopec's fault, or was it the Sox's? López used his exit from the White Sox last summer to reinvent himself as a starter. After finishing '23 in the bullpen with the

Los Angeles Angels and Cleveland Guardians, he went into free agency hoping to convince a team he could start. The Atlanta Braves took a flier with a three-year, \$30 million deal, and López turned into a National League All-Star. He was 7-4 with a 2.06 ERA before leaving Sunday's start with right forearm tightness.

After dropping him from the rotation in 2021, the Sox never gave López a chance to return. But it should be noted that he never asked.

"They told me they loved the way I was throwing in the bullpen in '21, and after that I just saw my career as being a reliever," López told me at the All-Star Game. "The Braves gave me the chance to start again, and now I'm just taking advantage of it. My wife was the one who showed faith in me. She told my agent 'Let's find a team that can start him.' The Braves said (yes), and I'm like, 'OK, let's give it a shot.' It's crazy."

Lopez said while he enjoyed his time with the Sox, leaving was the best thing that could have happened. He told me he hoped former Sox teammate Eloy Jiménez would be traded as well.

"Hopefully Eloy can get out of there," he said. "He can get some new air, a new clubhouse. It's just way different here."

Kopec went from starter to middle reliever, back to starter and ending his storied Sox career as a closer. His major-league debut on Aug. 21, 2018, at Sox Park

was one of the biggest events of the rebuild. Dozens of fans crowded around the bullpen watching him warm up before the game, taking videos like it was a visit to Lourdes.

He lasted only two innings because of a rain delay, got injured in his fourth start, missed 2019 rehabbing from Tommy John surgery and took off 2020 for personal reasons during the COVID-19 pandemic. But he was instrumental as a set-up man in the division-winning season of '21 and earned a chance to start in '22.

The move to the bullpen last spring was clearly a demotion after he posted a 5.43 ERA in 2023 and issued a league-high 91 walks. Kopec accepted the new role without complaint, but being a closer on the 2024 White Sox was challenging. He went long stretches without save opportunities and was inconsistent. If the return from the three-way trade is any indication, the market for Kopec was not strong. Stardom eluded Kopec in Chicago, but perhaps Dodgers pitching coach Mark Prior can unlock a door that Sox pitching coach Ethan Katz could not.

And maybe Morel will find a steady position in Tampa Bay and become the All-Star talent Hoyer envisioned back in '22. Both will be missed by fans, teammates and the media.

But, like López, they'll soon discover an escape from Chicago is not necessarily a bad thing.

BASEBALL

American League

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Baltimore	63	43	.594	—	—	5-5	W-2	32-24	31-19
New York	63	45	.583	1	+5	5-5	W-3	27-23	36-22
Boston	56	49	.533	6½	½	3-7	W-1	26-27	30-22
Tampa Bay	54	52	.509	9	3	6-4	W-2	29-28	25-24
Toronto	49	57	.462	14	8	5-5	L-1	26-28	23-29

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Cleveland	64	42	.604	—	—	5-5	W-2	33-15	31-27
Minnesota	58	46	.558	5	+2	5-5	W-1	29-21	29-25
Kansas City	57	49	.538	7	—	5-5	L-2	36-22	21-27
Detroit	52	56	.481	13	6	4-6	L-2	25-27	27-29
Chicago	27	81	.250	38	31	0-10	L-14	17-37	10-44

WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Houston	55	50	.524	—	—	5-5	L-1	30-22	25-28
Seattle	56	52	.519	½	2	4-6	L-1	31-23	25-29
Texas	51	55	.481	4½	6	5-5	L-3	29-23	22-32
Los Angeles	46	60	.434	9½	11	5-5	W-1	23-32	23-28
Oakland	44	64	.407	12½	14	7-3	L-1	26-27	18-37

BOX SCORES

GAME 1: BALTIMORE 11, TORONTO 5

Toronto	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Springer rf	4	0	1	0	1	.227
Berroia lf	1	0	0	0	1	.100
Horwitz 2b-1b	5	2	2	0	1	.295
Guerrero dh	5	2	3	2	1	.305
Turner 1b	1	0	1	0	0	.257
Barger lf-rf	4	1	1	3	1	.174
Varsho cf	4	0	0	0	0	.200
Kirk c	4	0	3	0	1	.240
Schneider lf-2b4	0	1	0	3	0	.221
Clement 3b	4	0	1	0	0	.262
Jimenez ss	4	0	0	0	2	.229
TOTALS	40	5	13	5	11	

Baltimore	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Cowser lf	3	2	1	1	0	.236
Santander dh	4	2	2	2	1	.243
Henderson ss	4	2	1	0	1	.283
Moundcastle 1b4	2	3	2	2	0	.276
O'Hearn rf	2	0	0	1	1	.277
Pache rf	1	0	1	0	1	.01000
Westburg 2b	5	1	3	2	1	.270
Mullins cf	3	1	1	0	0	.220
Urias 3b	3	0	0	2	0	.232
McCann c	3	1	1	1	0	.218
TOTALS	32	11	13	11	4	

Toronto	000	030	101	513	1
Baltimore	401	230	01x	1113	0

E: Kirk (5). **LOB:** Toronto 8, Baltimore 9. **2B:** Horwitz (9), Westburg 3(25), Mullins (13). **HR:** Barger (1), off Eflin; Guerrero (20), off Akin; Santander (13), off Ye.Rodriguez; Moundcastle (13), off Swanson. **RBIs:** Barger 3(9), Guerrero 2(66), Moundcastle 2(52), Westburg 2(56), Urias 2(16), McCann (15), O'Hearn (41), Cowser (44), Santander 2(70), CS: O'Hearn (1). **SF:** O'Hearn, Cowser. **Runners left in scoring position:** Toronto 3(Varsho, Springer, Jimenez); Baltimore 4(Urias 2, Cowser 2). **RISP:** Toronto 2for 7; Baltimore 4for 11. **Runners moved up:** Westburg, Mullins, Urias. **GDP:** Henderson. **DP:** Toronto 2(Jimenez, Horwitz; Kirk, Schneider, Kirk).

TORONTO	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Ye.Rodriguez, L, 1-4½	4	3	4	1	4	1	4.31
Eisert, 2½	4	3	1	0	5	7	5.79
Ye.Rodriguez, 2½	5	3	3	0	1	6	2.00
Richards	2	0	0	2	1	4.64	
Swanson	1	3	1	1	1	8.10	

BALTIMORE	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Eflin, W, 1-0	6	10	3	3	0	7	4.50
Akin	1	1	1	0	1	3	3.40
Smith	2	2	1	0	3	2	4.45

Inherited runners-scored: Eisert 3-0, Ye.Rodriguez 2-2. **HBP:** Ye.Rodriguez (McCann). **Umpires:** Home, Ramon De Jesus; First, Paul Clemons; Second, Jonathan Parra; Third, Adrian Johnson. **Time:** 2:58.

BOSTON 14, SEATTLE 7

Seattle	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Robles cf-lf	4	0	0	0	1	.357
c-Locklear 1b	1	0	0	0	1	.156
Arozarena lf	3	2	2	1	1	.455
Marlowe cf	2	0	0	0	1	.200
Raleigh c	5	2	2	1	1	.218
Polanco 2b	2	0	0	1	0	.208
Rivas 2b	1	1	1	0	0	.273
Raley rf	3	1	0	0	1	.226
Moore ss	4	1	1	2	1	.207
Vosler 1b-lf	4	0	1	1	2	.227
Haniger dh	4	0	1	0	2	.204
Rojas 3b	3	0	2	0	1	.240
TOTALS	36	7	10	6	13	

Boston	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Duran cf	4	2	2	1	1	.291
b-Westbrook 2b1	0	0	0	0	1	.150
Abreu rf	5	2	2	2	2	.268
Yoshida dh	5	2	3	4	0	.279
Devers 3b	3	1	1	0	0	.297
a-Gonzalez 3b	1	1	1	2	0	.283
O'Neill lf	5	1	1	1	1	.270
Smith 1b	4	2	2	2	2	.332
Wong c	4	1	2	1	1	.300
Hamilton 2b-ss4	0	0	0	0	1	.257
Rafaela ss-cf	4	2	2	0	0	.253
TOTALS	40	14	16	13	9	

Seattle	000	102	040	710	1
Boston	007	322	00x	1416	1

a-homered for Devers in the 6th. b-pinch hit for Duran in the 7th. c-struck out for Locklear in the 9th. **E:** Polanco (5), Gonzalez (3). **LOB:** Seattle 5, Boston 3. **2B:** Arozarena (1), Moore (16), Devers (23), O'Neill (16), Smith (14), Wong (10), Duran 2(33), Abreu (23), Yoshida (9). **HR:** Arozarena (1), off Pivetta; Raleigh (23), off Pivetta; Yoshida (5), off Gilbert; Smith (6), off Thornton; Gonzalez (2), off Speier. **RBIs:** Polanco (25), Arozarena (1), Raleigh (67), Moore 2(32), Vosler (3), Abreu 2(35), Yoshida 4(33), O'Neill (44), Smith 2(32), Wong (36), Duran (53), Gonzalez 2(12). **SB:** Duran (23). **CS:** Wong (5). **SF:** Polanco. **Runners left in scoring position:** Seattle 1(Robles); Boston 1(Abreu). **RISP:** Seattle 1for 5; Boston 7for 9. **Runners moved up:** Raleigh, Vosler. **GDP:** Robles, DP: Boston 1(Devers, Hamilton, Smith).

SEATTLE	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Gilbert, L, 6-7	2½	7	7	7	0	4	3.11
Thornton	2	7	5	4	0	3	4.44
Speier	1½	2	2	2	0	5	5.95
Snider	1	0	0	0	0	1	1.50
Saucedo	1	0	0	0	1	0.95	

BOSTON	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Pivetta, W, 5-7	6½	6	3	3	1	10	4.47
Wingeter	1½	3	4	4	1	2	27.00
Horn	1	1	0	0	1	6	2.30

Inherited runners-scored: Thornton 1-1, Speier 1-0, Wingeter 2-0. **WP:** Gilbert, Wingeter. **PB:** Raleigh (4). **Umpires:** Home, Andy Fletcher; First, Jansen Visconti; Second, Cory Blaser; Third, John Bacon. **T:** 2:47. **A:** 35,007 (37,755).

AMERICAN LEAGUE LEADERS	through Sunday's games
BATTING AVERAGE	G AB H R AVG
Kwan Cle	79 319 109 58 .342
Witt KC	106 422 144 85 .341
Judge NY	105 373 117 81 .314
Altuve Hou	102 421 130 60 .309
Soto NY	103 379 116 86 .306
Guerrero Tor	104 402 121 57 .301
Devers Bos	92 347 103 66 .297
Y.Alvarez Hou	100 374 111 58 .297
Rooker Oak	93 341 101 52 .296
Ja.Duran Bos	104 439 127 74 .289

CINCINNATI 17, CHICAGO 1

Chi Cubs	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Hoerner 2b	4	0	1	0	1	.250
Busch lf	3	1	1	1	0	.262
Zuzuki rf	4	0	0	0	2	.265
Happ lf	4	0	0	0	2	.232
Tauchman dh	4	0	0	0	2	.243
Swanson ss	2	0	0	1	1	.218
Wisdom 3b	3	0	0	0	2	.204
Crow-Armstrong cf3	0	0	0	0	0	.193
Amaya c	3	0	0	0	1	.213
TOTALS	30	1	3	1	9	

Cincinnati	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
India 2b	3	1	1	0	0	.263
Friedl cf	4	1	1	3	0	.209
Steer 1b	4	1	1	0	1	.237
Candelario dh	4	1	1	1	1	.228
Stephenson c	4	1	1	0	0	.236
Fraley rf	4	1	1	0	0	.279
Marte 3b	4	0	1	0	3	.183
Benson lf	4	1	1	2	0	.194
Espinal ss	3	1	1	0	1	.222
TOTALS	33	7	9	6	6	

Chi. Cubs	000	000	001	1	3	0
Cincinnati	021	030	01x	7	9	0

LOB: Chicago 4, Cincinnati 4. **2B:** Steer (25), Fraley (11), Marte (4). **HR:** Busch (13), off Farmer; Benson (12), off Tallon; Friedl (5), off Tallon; Candelario (17), off Pearson. **RBIs:** Busch (40), Benson 2(36), Friedl 3(19), Candelario (50). **SB:** India (10), Fraley (14), Steer (17), Hoerner (16). **Runners left in scoring position:** Chicago 2(Tauchman, Happ); Cincinnati 4(Benson 3, Candelario). **RISP:** Chicago 0for 3; Cincinnati 2for 7.

CHI CUBS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Tailon, L, 7-6	4½	6	6	6	1	4	3.35
Lopez	1½	1	0	0	1	0.73	
Pearson	1½	1	1	0	1	6.75	
Smly	1½	1	0	0	0	2.75	

CINCINNATI	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Spiers, W, 4-2	5	1	0	0	2	4	3.46
Moll	1	1	0	0	1	2.52	
Wilson	1	0	0	0	2	4.50	
Sims	1	0	0	0	1	5.57	
Farmer	1	1	1	0	1	2.81	

Pitches-Strikes: Tailon 81-54; López 20-14; Pearson 18-9; Smly 6-6; Spiers 68-40; Moll 19-11; Wilson 13-8; Sims 12-9; Farmer 18-12. **Batters Faced:** Tailon 20; López 6; Pear son 6; Smly 3; Spiers 18; Moll 4; Wilson 3; Sims 3; Farmer 4. **Inherited runners-scored:** Smly 1-0. **HBP:** Pearson (Stephenson). **WP:** Tailon. **Umpires:** Home, DJ. Reubyn; First, James Hoye; Second, Charlie Ramos; Third, John Libka. **T:** 2:25. **A:** 21,837 (43,891).

TEAM BATTING IN JULY

through Sunday; baseball-reference

TEAM	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	HR	RBI
BOS	.277	772	118	214	51	33	117	
KCR	.272	702	98	182	27			

SCOREBOARD

TENNIS

ATP/WTA CITI DC OPEN

Monday at William H.G. FitzGerald Tennis Center; Washington; outdoors, hard MEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 64

Christopher O'Connell d. Harold Mayot, 6-4, 7-6(3).

Jeffrey John Wolf d. Zachary Svajda, 6-4, 7-5.

Cristian Garin d. Aslan Karatsev, 6-4, 6-2.

Daniel Elahi Galan d. Maxime Cressy, 6-4, 6-3.

Emil Ruusuvuori d. Borna Coric, 6-7(4), 7-6(8), 6-4.

Mattia Bellucci d. Mackenzie McDonald, 7-6(4), 7-6(3).

Seong-Chan Hong d. Adam Walton, 7-6(6), 7-6(4).

Denis Shapovalov d.

Roberto Bautista Agut, 6-1, 6-4.

David Goffin d. Camilo Ugo Carabelli, 6-2, 7-5.

James Duckworth vs.

Reilly Opelka, late

WOMEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 32

#7Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova d.

Ashlyn Krueger, 6-3, 4-6, 6-4.

#8Elise Mertens vs.

Emma Raducanu, late

Caroline Dolehide d. Lesia Tsurenko, 6-1, 3-6, 6-4.

Wang Yafan d. Karolina Pliskova, 5-7, 6-3, 6-0.

Robin Montgomery d. Shelby Rogers, 7-5, 6-3.

Sloane Stephens vs.

Amanda Anisimova, late

LATE SUNDAY: ATP ATLANTA OPEN

At Atlanta Station; Atlanta; outdoors, hardcourt

MEN'S SINGLES, CHAMPIONSHIP

Yoshihito Nishioka d. #4 Jordan Thompson, 4-6, 7-6(2), 6-2.

WNBA

EAST W L Pct GB

New York 21 4 .840 —

Connecticut 18 6 .750 2½

Indiana 11 15 .423 10½

Chicago 10 14 .417 10½

Atlanta 7 17 .292 13½

Washington 6 19 .240 15

WEST W L Pct GB

Minnesota 17 8 .680 —

Seattle 17 8 .680 —

Las Vegas 16 8 .667 ½

Phoenix 13 12 .520 4

Los Angeles 6 18 .250 10½

Dallas 6 19 .240 11

THURSDAY, AUG. 15

Phoenix at Chicago, 7p.m.

Washington at Minnesota, 7p.m.

New York at Los Angeles, 8p.m.

FRIDAY, AUG. 16

Seattle at Atlanta, 6:30p.m.

Phoenix at Indiana, 6:30p.m.

Connecticut at Dallas, 8:30p.m.

SOCCER

MLS

EASTERN W L T PT GF GA

Inter Miami CF 16 4 5 53 56 39

Cincinnati 15 7 3 48 44 33

Columbus 12 4 7 43 47 22

N.Y. Red Bulls 10 4 11 41 32 31

New York City FC 11 9 5 38 36 30

Charlotte FC 10 8 7 37 30 27

Orlando City 9 9 7 34 39 38

Toronto FC 9 14 3 30 34 47

Atlanta 7 11 7 28 35 36

Philadelphia 6 10 9 27 45 42

CF Montréal 6 10 9 27 34 49

Nashville 6 11 8 26 26 39

D.C. United 6 11 8 26 35 50

Chicago 6 12 7 25 30 42

New England 7 14 2 23 23 47

WESTERN W L T PT GF GA

LA Galaxy 14 5 7 49 50 36

Los Angeles FC 14 5 5 47 48 30

Real Salt Lake 12 5 8 44 51 34

Colorado 12 9 5 41 50 43

Vancouver 11 8 5 38 43 35

Houston 10 7 8 37 35 30

Seattle 10 8 7 37 34 29

Portland 10 9 6 36 50 42

Minnesota United 9 10 6 33 40 47

Austin FC 8 10 7 31 28 37

FC Dallas 8 11 6 30 38 39

Sporting KC 6 14 6 24 41 52

St. Louis City 4 10 11 23 32 46

San Jose 4 19 2 14 31 61

Three points for win, one point for tie.

SATURDAY, AUG. 24

Seattle at Minnesota, 5p.m.

Los Angeles FC at Vancouver, 5p.m.

N.Y. Red Bulls at Charlotte FC, 6:30p.m.

FC Dallas at D.C. United, 6:30p.m.

Cincinnati at Miami, 6:30p.m.

New England at CF Montréal, 6:30p.m.

Chicago at New York City FC, 6:30p.m.

Columbus at Philadelphia, 6:30p.m.

Toronto FC at Houston, 7:30p.m.

Orlando City at Sporting KC, 7:30p.m.

Austin FC at Nashville, 7:30p.m.

San Jose at Real Salt Lake, 8:30p.m.

Atlanta at LA Galaxy, 9:30p.m.

St. Louis City at Portland, 9:30p.m.

LEAGUE CUP

TUESDAY'S MATCHES

CF Montréal vs. Atlético de San Luis, 6p.m.

N.Y. Red Bulls vs. Pachuca, 7p.m.

Necaxa vs. Minnesota Utd., 8p.m.

Austin FC vs. Monterrey, 8p.m.

Vancouver vs. Los Angeles FC, 9:30p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S MATCHES

Cruz Azul vs. Charlotte FC, 7p.m.

D.C. United vs. Santos, 7p.m.

FC Juárez vs. FC Dallas, 8p.m.

Mazatlán FC vs. Nashville SC, 8p.m.

Puebla vs. Tigres UANL, 8:30p.m.

LA Galaxy vs. San Jose, 9:30p.m.

THURSDAY'S MATCHES

Querétaro vs. FC Cincinnati, 7p.m.

Atlas vs. Real Salt Lake, 8p.m.

Chicago FC vs. Toluca, 8p.m.

Colorado vs. Portland, 9:30p.m.

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

New York City FC 0, Querétaro 0

(N.Y. City FC won 4-3on penalties)

Sporting Kansas City 2, Chicago FC 1

Portland 2, León 1

NWSL

CLUB W L T PT GF GA

Orlando 11 0 5 38 32 12

Kansas City 10 1 5 35 40 22

Washington 11 4 1 34 32 18

Gotham FC 9 3 4 31 19 13

Portland 8 5 3 27 20 17

North Carolina 8 7 1 25 20 17

Chicago 7 7 2 23 23 17

Bay FC 6 10 0 18 19 28

Louisville 3 6 7 16 21 21

San Diego 3 7 6 15 12 17

Angel City 4 9 3 15 16 26

Houston 3 8 5 14 11 23

Seattle 2 9 5 11 16 28

Utah Royals FC 2 11 3 9 8 28

Three points for win, one point for tie.

FRIDAY, AUG. 23

Orlando at Houston, 7p.m.

Bay FC at Utah Royals FC, 8:30p.m.

NFL

PRESEASON

Thursday's game

Hall of Fame Game in Canton, Ohio

Chicago vs. Houston, 7p.m.

WEEK 1

Thursday, Aug. 8

Detroit at N.Y. Giants, 6p.m.

Carolina at New England, 6p.m.

Friday, Aug. 9

Atlanta at Miami, 6p.m.

Houston at Pittsburgh, 6p.m.

Philadelphia at Baltimore, 6:30p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 10

Washington at N.Y. Jets, 11a.m.

Chicago at Buffalo, noon

Las Vegas at Minnesota, 3p.m.

Green Bay at Cleveland, 4:25p.m.

Kansas City at Jacksonville, 6p.m.

Tampa Bay at Cincinnati, 6p.m.

San Francisco at Tennessee, 6p.m.

Seattle at L.A. Chargers, 6:05p.m.

New Orleans at Arizona, 7p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 11

Denver at Indianapolis, noon

Dallas at L.A. Rams, 3:25p.m.

GOLF

LATE SUNDAY: PGA 3M OPEN

4th of 4 rounds; TPC Twin Cities; Blaine, Minn., 7,431 yards; Par: 71

267 (-17) (500) \$1,458,000

Jhonattan Vegas 68-66-63-70

268 (-16) (300) \$882,900

Max Greyserman 70-68-67-63

269 (-15) (163) \$477,900

Matt Kuchar 68-67-63-71

Maverick McNealy 70-66-63-70

270 (-14) (110) \$332,100

Taylor Pendrith 66-64-73-67

273 (-11) (92) \$273,375

Patrick Fishburn 71-67-63-70

Kurt Kitayama 66-69-70-66

Sahithi Theegala 66-69-66-70

272 (-12) (75) \$220,725

Kyung-Hoon Lee 67-69-68-68

Matthew NeSmith 68-64-70-70

J.J. Spaun 70-68-65-69

273 (-11) (56) \$151,296

Sam Burns 70-65-69-69

Cameron Champ 69-70-71-63

Tony Finau 67-69-70-67

Taylor Moore 69-71-65-68

Henrik Norlander 68-72-67-66

Matti Schmid 70-70-65-68

Alex Smalley 69-65-70-69

274 (-10) (43) \$99,549

Jacob Bridgeman 63-70-72-69

Cameron Davis 68-69-65-72

Mackenzie Hughes 64-72-70-68

Andrew Putnam 67-66-75-66

Justin Suh 68-69-68-69

275 (-9) (31) \$61,695

Trace Crowe 68-72-68-67

Doug Ghim 70-64-73-68

Emiliano Grillo 68-68-70-69

Harry Hall 72-67-69-67

Ben Kohles 70-70-65-70

Andrew Novak 65-70-71-69

Chad Ramey 68-69-68-70

David Skinnis 68-70-71-66

Matt Wallace 71-68-64-72

276 (-8) (22) \$45,158

Brice Garnett 71-69-66-70

Kevin Kisner 69-71-69-67

Kelly Kraft 68-70-68-70

Justin Lower 67-68-74-67

277 (-7) (16) \$35,235

Joseph Bramlett 70-70-69-68

Scott Piercy 69-67-73-68

Seamus Power 69-68-69-71

Patrick Rodgers 65-73-69-70

Adam Svensson 67-69-66-75

Gary Woodland 66-69-74-68

Neal Shipley (0) 73-66-69-69

278 (-6) (12) \$27,945

Lanto Griffin 68-66-76-68

Joe Highsmith 68-72-70-68

279 (-5) (9) \$22,067

Keegan Bradley 70-70-68-71

Stewart Cink 66-69-72-72

MJ Duffee 73-67-69-70

Nick Hardy 67-72-70-70

Keith Mitchell 68-72-70-69

Davis Riley 70-70-70-69

Robert Streb 70-65-73-71

280 (-4) (6) \$18,981

Aaron Baddeley 70-69-67-74

Tyler Duncan 70-69-68-73

Zach Johnson 68-71-69-72

Ben Silverman 68-68-71-73

Austin Smerthman 71-68-71-70

Dylan Wu 69-68-75-

PARIS OLYMPICS

SHORTS

Top trick gives Horigome repeat title



Yuto Horigome was not even thinking about the podium this time. The first men's street skateboarding champion when the sport debuted at the Olympics in 2021, he was so far back going into his final try that it looked as if he would fall short. Instead, the 25-year-old from Japan landed the best trick of the competition to pass Americans Jagger Eaton and Nyjah Hutson for a repeat title. Horigome scored a 97.08 on Monday to vault into first and secure back-to-back gold medals. He beat Eaton by just 0.1 points in a thrilling finish in front of a charged-up crowd that was much different than the empty stands in Tokyo three years ago. "It means everything," Horigome said. "It feels like a dream, a living dream. It's crazy. Tokyo, no one was there, no crowds, so I'm very happy this time (with) all the fans here. It's a special moment." Eaton and Hutson each sat in first place during the final. Eaton was in gold medal position until Horigome finished a trick known as a nollie 270 to nosebluntside — similar to the one the Arizona native did minutes earlier to get into that spot.

Last time? Djokovic tops rival Nadal



Novak Djokovic, who won, and Rafael Nadal, who lost, met at the net and hugged after playing at the Paris Olympics in the 60th — and quite possibly last — installment of a record-breaking and often riveting rivalry between two tennis greats who share a mutual respect if not a close friendship. This 6-1, 6-4 victory for Serbia's Djokovic, above, came in only the second round of the Summer Games — instead of a Grand Slam final, like nine previous head-to-head encounters — and it was not the most scintillating contest, either, other than for a 20-minute interlude in the second set, when Nadal's final push made things briefly competitive after he ceded 10 of the initial 11 games. Afterward, neither Nadal, who is 38, nor Djokovic, 37, was willing to concede they won't play each other again, even if that seems likely. Nadal certainly seems as if he could be close to retirement; he's had two injury-filled seasons, needed hip surgery a little more than a year ago, and spoke in 2023 about 2024 being his farewell. But he's not done at these Olympics, pairing with Carlos Alcaraz in doubles for Spain.

US women's rugby has new super fan



Jason Kelce went along to watch the U.S. women's rugby sevens team at the Olympics in Paris and walked away as an honorary super fan. The recently retired Eagles center and his wife, Kylie, met with rugby's social media celebrity Ilona Maher and the U.S. women's sevens team after their opening two games at Stade de France. The NFL veteran, wearing a beret and a blue, skin-tight U.S. rugby shirt, got into an arm wrestle with squad member Nicole Heavirland, shared on Instagram, and joined Maher for a quick recruiting post. Maher introduced the idea of Kelce, above, becoming an official super fan and told him he'd get no money or benefits, but all he had to do was say the words and the job was his. It was a sales pitch he couldn't resist. "I am officially a fan. Women's rugby, Olympics," Kelce said in the video posted to Maher's Instagram. The U.S. women won their two matches Sunday before catching up with the Kelces. On Monday night, the U.S. beat Britain 17-7 to earn a semifinal matchup against defending champion New Zealand. —Associated Press

Element of toughness required

Biles shows pushing through pain big part of gymnastics

By Will Graves
Associated Press

PARIS — The scene looked dramatic. To the thousands of people inside Bercy Arena on Sunday during women's gymnastics qualifying — from the A-list celebrities to the fans who had traveled from all over the globe to catch Simone Biles — it certainly felt dramatic.

To Biles, her teammates and the Team USA coaches? Not so much.

Sure, the sight of the 27-year-old American gymnastics superstar walking off the floor with USA Gymnastics team doctor Marcia Faustin during Olympic qualifying evoked images of the Tokyo Olympics in 2021, when Biles removed herself from the team final to focus on her mental health.

There was one critical difference this time around.

As Faustin followed Biles off the floor, she carried athletic tape in her hands. A short time later, Biles gingerly returned, the lower half of her left leg wrapped up to deal with a calf injury she aggravated during her warmup on floor exercise.

What followed were three rotations filled with her typical brilliance.

A floor routine that remains the most difficult in the world by a wide margin. Two vaults — including the Yurchenko double pike that carries her name in the sport's Code of Points — that require her to explode off the board with enough power to rotate and flip multiple times in a split second. An uneven bars set that ended with Biles waving to the crowd and dancing alongside good friend Jordan Chiles.

By the time Biles was done, she had produced an all-around score of 59.566, well clear of Brazil's Rebeca Andrade in second.

Afterward, Biles' longtime coach Cecile Landi grew uncharacteristically frustrated when asked about the injury and how it might impact the rest of the Games, starting with the team final on Tuesday night.

A final Biles certainly seems to be up for. She will start on all four events for the Americans and shared a post on social media early Monday that she remains "grateful to be doing what I love."

Maybe why Landi grew so annoyed while fielding questions the day before, questions that focused on one thing Landi hardly considered news.

No, Biles never talked about sitting out the competition.

No, there was no discussion about watering down her routines to take a little bit of pressure off the calf, which she initially hurt a few weeks ago before tweaking on Sunday.

Yes, she started to feel better as the meet went on.

After about two minutes of questions phrased differently but all with the same intent — how is Biles — the unfailingly polite Landi grew a little exasperated.

"I'm not a doctor," said Landi, also head



U.S. gymnastics star Simone Biles gets her lower leg taped after competing on the uneven bars in qualifying at the Paris Olympics on Sunday. Despite some pain from the minor injury, Biles went on to finish atop the all-around standings. The finals are Tuesday night. CHARLIE RIEDEL

coach for Team USA. "I will not be answering any more questions about Simone's foot."

The peppering stopped soon afterward.

A short time before, USA Gymnastics co-lead Chellsie Memmel — a 2008 Olympic silver medalist — shook her head while talking about what she'd just watched.

"What (Biles) was able to do, with looking like she had some soreness or something in her lower leg, is remarkable," Memmel said.

And also, in some aspects, common in a sport where the injury rate is 100%.

Pain is as much a part of gymnastics as leotards and chalk. It's what happens when you spend hours a week, year after year, throwing yourself against an uneven bar, trying to keep your balance on a piece of wood, tumbling along a floor that asks all the tendons and bones in your arms, wrist, knees and ankles to work in unison.

No one knows this better than Biles.

The reality is though, what happened

Sunday was unusual only because of the stage and who — namely those who stop by only every four years — was watching.

To Biles, it was just another day in the life of a sport that requires many things, perhaps pain tolerance most of all.

This is the same gymnast, after all, who won six medals at the 2018 world championships — one in every competition, four of them gold — while battling a kidney stone.

The fact that she won the fourth of her now record six world all-around titles hardly mattered. Afterward, she said she "bombed."

She could have used the kidney stone as an excuse. She didn't. That's simply not her way. Things happen in the gym and outside of it. The sport offers you two choices: quit, or deal with it and keep going.

Biles simply keeps going, and not just when the world is watching.

Three years ago inside World Champions Centre — the gym the Biles family owns near

Houston — Biles was on floor training with the rest of her WCC teammates.

At the end of one tumbling pass, her feet hit the mat and seemed to crunch underneath her. She bent forward, sticking her hands out to protect herself during a landing that was more about survival than anything.

The greatest gymnast of all time groaned a little as she pulled herself up, rolling her eyes more than a little bit. She walked around for a few minutes and stretched.

Then, she did the tumbling pass again. And again. And again. And again.

This wasn't at the Olympics. It wasn't during a major meet like a world championship. It was a normal Tuesday in May.

Asked later what happened, Biles paused trying to remember. Then she laughed and offered an answer that could have come from anyone who's ever walked onto the mat.

"That's gymnastics."
Yeah, it is.

ROUNDUP

US men's gymnastics team ends drought with bronze

Associated Press

The Japanese men's gymnastics team claimed Olympic gold with an epic comeback over its top rival.

With China looking poised to claim its first Olympic title in 12 years with one rotation to go, Japan surged ahead to win the Paris Olympics men's team competition Monday after an intense and nail-biting duel.

The Japanese overtook their rivals on the final rotation, after China's Su Weide fell twice off the horizontal bar. Japan won with a small margin of 0.532 points.

The U.S., which qualified fifth, earned bronze for their first medal since 2008.

Canada files appeal: Canada appealed against being docked six points by FIFA in a drone-spying scandal at the women's soccer tournament, and a verdict is expected hours before the team plays its last group-stage game Wednesday.

FIFA punished Olympic defending champ Canada on Saturday — and banned coach Bev Priestman and two assistant coaches for one year — for allegations of using a drone to spy on opponent New Zealand's practices.

The expected legal move by the Canadian soccer federation and Olympic body was formally registered by the Court of Arbitration for Sport in a fast-track case.

"The appeal is based on the disproportionality of the sanction," the Canadian soccer federation said in a statement.

Canada plays Colombia in Nice on Wednesday night and needs to know where it stands before the game starts.

Canada could still advance to the quarterfinals in the 12-team tournament even with a loss in court and win on the field Wednesday.

US women's hoops opens with easy win: A'ja Wilson, Breanna Stewart and Brittney Griner dominated the paint and helped the U.S. win its Olympic opener as the Ameri-

cans chase an unprecedented eighth straight gold medal.

Wilson had 24 points, 13 rebounds and 4 blocked shots to help the U.S. beat Japan 102-76 in Villeneuve-d'Ascq.

"Points in the paint and controlling the boards are going to be huge for us moving forward," Wilson said.

Stewart had 22 points and the Americans now have a 56-game Olympic winning streak that dates to the 1992 Barcelona Games.

Rare loss: The U.S. women's water polo team was handed a rare loss, falling 13-11 to Spain in a rematch of the final from Tokyo.

The U.S. is going for its fourth consecutive gold medal. No team — men or women — has won four straight water polo titles at the Olympics.

It was the program's second loss at the Olympics since it dropped the 2008 final.

"It's a long tournament," U.S. coach Adam Krikorian said. "We've got to learn from it

and hopefully, if we get in that situation again, we can be a bit more poised."

Big upset: Ezinne Kalu made her first four 3-pointers and scored 17 of her 19 points in the first half as Nigeria earned its first win in women's basketball at the Olympics since 2004, upsetting third-ranked Australia 75-62 in their group play opener.

Nigeria, now ranked No. 12 in the world, failed to qualify for the 2016 Rio Games and went winless in Tokyo three years ago.

China passes US for diving record: China has won more diving gold medals than any other country, passing the one-time powerhouse U.S. for the top spot on the table.

Lian Junjie and Yang Hao breezed to victory in synchronized 10-meter platform for the 49th gold medal in China's history. After a bit of clarification from the International Olympic Committee, China's mark now stands alone.