



**THE  
POST  
SAYS:**

**Flip-flopping  
Harris hides  
her true self  
from voters**

**PAGES 4-5**

# KAMA KAMELEON

# Camera evasion costs \$200M a yr.

By MATT TROUTMAN  
and GEORGETT ROBERTS

Scofflaw drivers with “ghost” license plates are costing New York City a whopping \$200 million a year — fueled by a burgeoning on-line cottage industry peddling “James Bond-level” gadgets, a new analysis reveals.

The rogue vehicles whiz through tolls and past NYPD speed and red-light cameras 100,000 times a month — using their unreadable plates to dodge penalties, said Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine, whose office conducted the study.

“You better believe it influences behavior when people know their plate is unreadable,” Levine said.

The ghost-plate scourge sometimes involves driving without a plate altogether. Others use tags that are fake, scratched out or obscured by tinted or reflective covers.

The analysis found that more than 5% of all vehicles passing by city Department of Transportation, MTA and Port Authority cameras a month are now unreadable.

Beyond the inherent danger of motorists speeding through school zones and red lights, ghost plates are also costly in terms of uncollected tickets and tolls, Levine said.

“We estimate at least \$200 million and probably more than that,” he told The Post.

## License to scheme

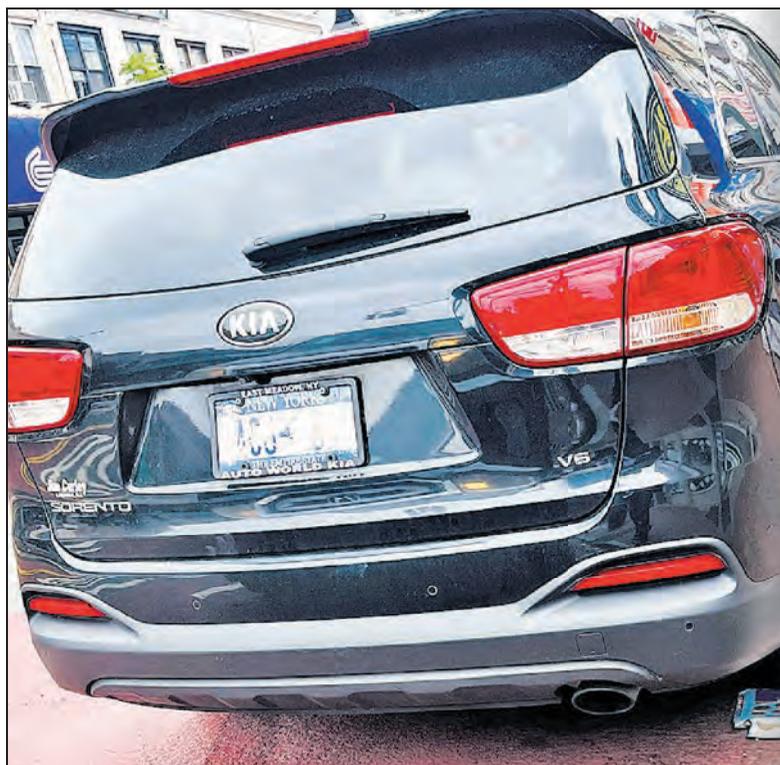
Growing concern over the proliferation of ghost plates has led New York City-area officials to recently launch a series of crackdowns.

A joint operation by the NYPD and MTA last month ensnared 200 motorists, including a career criminal with a loaded pistol who is a suspect in a 2005 murder.

Levine said that, ironically, the city’s proliferation of speed, red-light and toll cameras had the unintended side effect of inspiring motorists to obscure or fake their plates to dodge tolls and tickets.

“It was pretty rare to see fake plates before this,” he said. “We’re seeing James Bond-level technology where they push a button to drop down a cover.”

Such a plate-covering gizmo was for sale Friday on Facebook Mar-



**HIDE & SEEK:** More than 5% of all vehicles driving past city traffic cameras in a month have plates that are defaced (left, in Queens Fri.), fake or obscured by “James Bond-level” drop covers available online (above).

NY Post: Georgett Roberts

# NY haunted by ‘ghost’ plates

ketplace, where a New Jersey seller hawked it as a “vanish license plate.” With a press of a key fob, a cover dropped down over a license plate like a garage door, completely obscuring its letters and numbers, a video with the post shows.

The Post also found reflective license-plate covers for sale under names such as “toll cheat plate cover” for up to \$60 a pop.

“There needs to be a severe crack-

down on these fake plates and obscuring devices online,” Levine said.

Some cheating options are more low-tech, such as a license plate sported by a Kia Sorento parked in a bus lane along Jamaica Avenue and 149th Street in Queens Friday.

The plate’s letters and numbers were nearly all scratched out.

Luther Sibuea, 48, an Uber driver who took his 5-year-old son to Moore Homestead Playground in

Elmhurst, Queens, Friday, said all parents worry about drivers with ghost plates. He said such motorists could hit kids and speed off, evading detection on a school zone camera.

“‘Bye, bye,’ the person speeding would say,” Sibuea said. “So, it’s more than not paying tickets.”

Levine suggested the state should put radio frequency identification tags on registration stickers.

*mtroutman@nypost.com*



**MONDAIRE JONES**  
Seeking old House seat.

## Inmate vote plan dogs hopeful

New York Democratic ex-Rep. Mondaire Jones, a current congressional candidate, is coming under fire for championing legislation while in office that would have allowed convicts, including rapists and murderers, to vote from prison.

At the time, Jones called the federal ban preventing incarcerated felons from voting a “form of slavery.”

Jones is trying to mount a comeback in the 17th District against Republican Hudson Valley Rep. Michael Lawler, with the pair facing off in November.

But the controversial prison voting measure, which failed in the House in by a 328-97 vote in 2021, could come back to haunt Jones.

“Extremist Mondaire Jones is so radical that he wants to let cop-killers, child rapists, and murderers vote from prison,” Lawler campaign spokesman Chris Russel said.

Jones defended his voting advocacy for criminals.

“It’s a shame Mike Lawler wants to disenfranchise American citizens,” said Jones campaign rep Shannon Geison.

*Carl Campanile*

## INSIDE TODAY

### News Columns

Miranda Devine ..... 11  
Kirsten Fleming ..... 14  
Bjorn Lomborg ..... 21  
John R. Bolton ..... 23

### Gossip

Page Six ..... 16  
Cindy Adams ..... 18

### Weather p. 26

### Fun & Games

Horoscope ..... 26  
Su Doku ..... 30  
Crossword ..... 30

### Post Opinion p. 27-29

### Business p. 31-32

### Classifieds p. 34

### Sports p. 34-53

### Television p. 54-55

## LOTTERY

### NEW YORK

■ Midday Nos. Sun.: **907**  
■ Midday Win-4 Sun.: **9817**  
■ Midday Take 5 Sun.: **6, 7, 26, 27, 35**  
■ Evening Nos. Sun.: **549**  
■ Evening Win-4 Sun.: **4684**  
■ Evening Take-5 Sun.: **9, 10, 14, 17, 25**  
■ Pick-10 Sun.: **9, 10, 12, 13, 19, 26, 29, 38, 40, 42, 45, 47, 58, 59, 63, 64, 68, 69, 74, 80**  
■ Cash-4-Life Sun.: **7, 11, 40, 45, 46; Cash Ball: 2**

■ Powerball Sat.: **9, 24, 33, 64, 69; Powerball: 9; Power Play: x2**  
■ Lotto Sat.: **9, 29, 38, 40, 48, 57; Bonus: 50**

### NEW JERSEY

Pick-3 Sun.: **694; Fireball: 8**  
Pick-4 Sun.: **1856; Fireball: 8**  
Cash-5 Xtra Sun.: **2, 32, 34, 40, 45; Xtra: 3**

### CONNECTICUT

Play-3 Sun.: **407; Wild: 7**  
Play-4 Sun.: **9764; Wild: 0**  
Cash-5 Sun.: **1, 14, 25, 29, 31**

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# A miracle tree grows in Maui

Hope is blooming on fire-ravaged Maui.

An iconic 151-year-old banyan tree on the island is healing one year after it was scorched by wildfires that ripped through the Hawaiian island last year.

Several branches of the sprawling tree — which predates Hawaii becoming a US territory — bear signs of life that seemed impossible after the devastating natural disaster, all thanks to the work of arborists.

“You see a lot of long, long branches with hundreds of leaves back on the tree,” Duane Sparkman, chair of the Maui County Arborist Committee, told AP, adding that some branches are even producing fruit.

“It’s pretty amazing to see that much of the tree come back.”

The massive banyan tree, located along Lahaina’s historic Front Street, was one of the countless victims of the August 2023 wildfires, which claimed the lives of 102 people.

It has served as a touchstone to the community for generations — India gifted the non-native tree to Hawaii in 1873 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the arrival of the first Protestant missionaries to live in Lahaina. *Katherine Donlevy*

# Storm heads for Antilles

A tropical disturbance located roughly midway between the Cape Verde Islands and the Lesser Antilles has an 80% chance of becoming a cyclone in the next 48 hours, the National Hurricane Center said Sunday.

The NHC issued a tropical-storm watch for the Leeward Islands on Sunday, and said the disturbance is expected to move across portions of the islands on Tuesday.

The potential tropical cyclone about 950 miles east-southeast of Antigua had maximum sustained winds of 30 mph and was expected to become a tropical storm by late Monday, according to the Miami-based forecaster.

“The system could approach portions of the Greater Antilles by the middle of the week,” the NHC said. *Reuters*

Julianne Hough is easy and breezy in Beverly Hills on Saturday. The dancer, wearing a creamy Khaite and Haider Ackermann look perfect for summer, was promoting her dance studio as well as her new book, “Everything We Never Knew.”

**We're in step with Hough**



affinitypicture/BACKGRID

# A POLA 'ROAD' CAMERA

## Stoplight-selfie app

By NICOLE ROSENTHAL and GABRIELLA BASS

Forget your selfie sticks, and let the city Department of Transportation do the work.

New Yorkers can now use DOT traffic cameras to create their own personal photo booths by taking unique snapshots of themselves off the surveillance footage, with Big Apple vistas in the background.

TrafficCamPhotoBooth.com — a website created by Morry Kolman of Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn, that launched last Monday — gives locals access to more than 900 city traffic cameras in real time by using the DOT’s readily available streams.

Users can select a Polaroid or photo-booth-strip format, find the closest traffic camera, strike a pose and say “cheese!” — then press a button icon to grab the bold photo op.

“Giving people the opportunity to take selfies of themselves through these traffic cameras, I thought was a really interesting and fun way to kind of raise awareness about large surveillance apparatus that’s around New York City,” Kolman, 28, told The Post.

Three days after the site went live, Kolman had tracked 3,880 visits to his site, and 918 photos taken.

What makes for a good traffic camera photo? Wearing bright clothing, posing with large groups — and most importantly, looking both ways before crossing the street, Kolman said.

“Stop traffic with your looks, not your body,” the website advises.

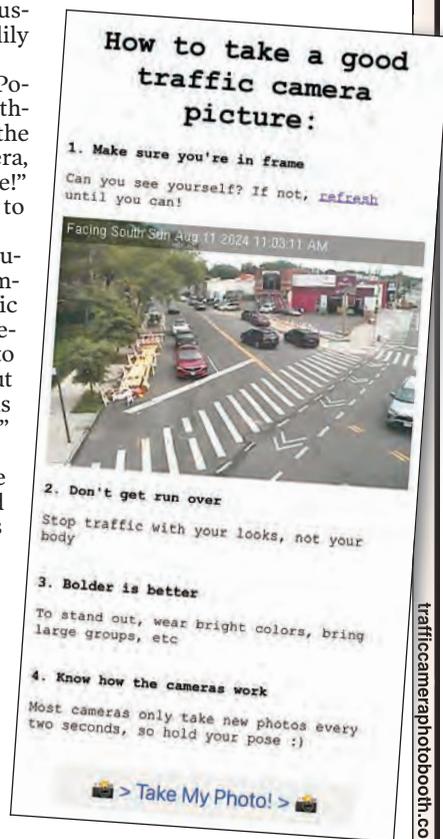
Traffic-camera models

should also hold poses for a few seconds at a time to allow the cameras to snap a shot.

Kolman, a Bronx HS of Science graduate, has already had numerous requests to expand the project to other cities. He said he’s eyeing Atlanta or Salt Lake City as the project’s next step.

As it stands, the project exists on the open-source platform GitHub and is accessible to anyone who wants to implement it in their city.

Kolman believes the site could live forever, since his only expense so far was paying around \$10 for the domain.



trafficcameraphotobooth.com



# Joe details Dem 'push' Hints at Pelosi

**KISS OF DEATH?** President Biden, in a TV interview Sunday, cited Nancy Pelosi (right) as a factor in his decision to exit the race.

By RYAN KING

President Biden on Sunday all but admitted he was pushed out of the presidential race by Democratic elites and specifically name-dropped former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi in his first TV interview since his exit.

Biden said Dems in Congress were worried that he'd drag down their chances of being re-elected and that he believed his own bid would face too many distractions if he carried on.

"A number of my Democratic colleagues in the House and Senate thought that I was going to hurt them in the races. And I was concerned if I stayed in the race, that would be the topic — you'd be interviewing me about why did Nancy Pelosi say [something] . . . and I thought it'd be a real distraction," he told "CBS News Sunday Morning."

"When I ran the first time, I thought of myself as being a transition president. I can't even say how old I am — it's hard for me to get out of my mouth," he went on, adding that it was a combination of those factors and a key priority of "maintaining this democracy" that underpinned his decision.

After dropping out of the race, Biden promptly endorsed Vice President Kamala Harris, who has gained poll ground against former President Donald Trump.

Biden did not elaborate on any potential beef with Pelosi during

his interview, but Pelosi was widely reported to have orchestrated the push to oust Biden — a claim she has not exactly denied.

Pelosi (D-Calif.), 84, initially defended Biden when the Democratic revolt began among Democrats after the debate.

But then Pelosi, who has a reputation for being a ruthless political operator behind the scenes, began to change her tone in public — and even more so behind the scenes, sources have said.

## Letter dissension

This past week, she even openly doubted whether Biden wrote the letter he sent to Democrats last month insisting he was "firmly committed" to staying in the race. Biden dropped out two weeks later.

"It didn't sound like Joe Biden to me. It really didn't," she told New York Times columnist Ezra Klein.

Two days after Biden had sent the letter, Pelosi was already turning heads with an appearance on MSNBC's "Morning Joe."

"It's up to the president to decide if he is going to run," she said on the program — even though Biden had just insisted through the letter that he was still in the race.

Asked about the discrepancy between her comments and Biden's letter, Pelosi replied at the time, "Whatever he decides, we go with."

# KAMELEON

By POST EDITORIAL BOARD

**I**N 2019, the watchdog site GovTrack rated Kamala Harris "the most liberal" member of the Senate. She was the senator least likely to sign onto bipartisan legislation.

Look for that write-up now, however, and you find a "page not found." GovTrack deleted it.

It's just one example of how Kamala Harris, once a hero of progressives, has been, along with a helpful media, hiding all her far-left positions from voters. A centrist Democrat has a better chance of winning the election, so a centrist she shall be.

But it doesn't take much searching to find the real politician, not the Kameleon she presents.

## Belief system

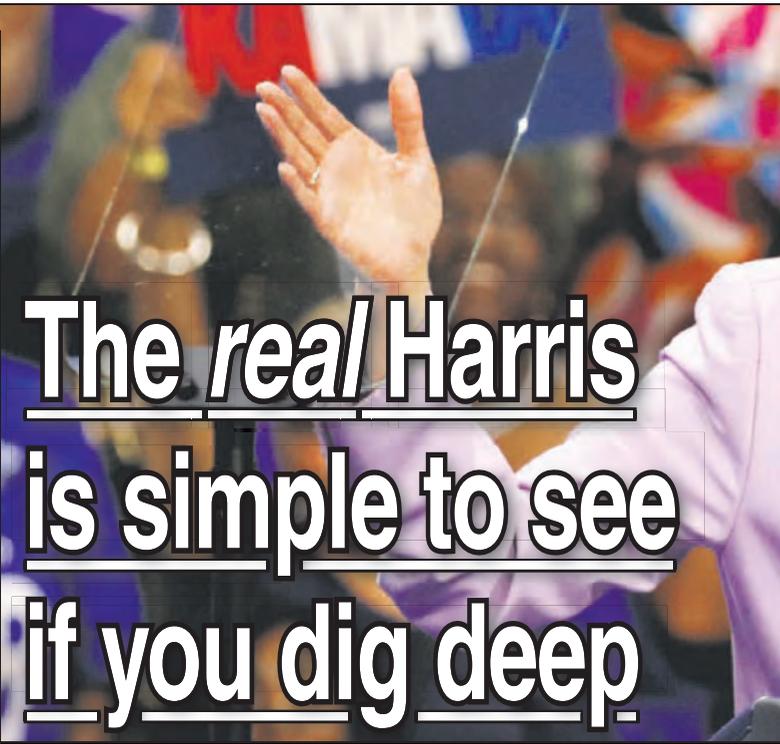
Here are some of Harris' beliefs that most Americans disagree with, and the press is so desperate to hide:

**KAMELEON:** "She would not ban fracking," Harris' campaign told Politico. "Trump's false claims about fracking bans are an obvious attempt to distract from his own plans."

**THE TRUTH:** Donald Trump's claims were not false. During the 2020 presidential campaign, Harris said repeatedly she wanted to ban the gas- and oil-extraction method, which has become an economic lifeblood of Pennsylvania and other states.

"There's no question I'm in favor of banning fracking," she said during a CNN discussion.

Not only that: asked if she also was in favor of banning offshore



The *real* Harris is simple to see if you dig deep

drilling, she said "yes."

In 2016, Harris, as California attorney general, even sued the Obama administration over fracking approvals off the West Coast.

**KAMELEON:** "Harris' campaign also confirmed . . . that the vice president no longer supports a single-payer health care system," wrote CNN.

**THE TRUTH:** That's quite the 180 from the candidate in 2020 who was asked if you would be able to keep the health insurance you have under a Harris presidency.

"Let's eliminate all of that," she said. "Let's move on."

In 2019, she favored a "Medicare for All" plan, and even co-sponsored legislation to that effect with Bernie Sanders while in the Senate.

**KAMELEON:** "We know that our immigration system is broken, and we know what it takes to fix it," Harris said in Las Vegas this past

weekend. **THE TRUTH:** Harris has never wanted to fix it before, she wanted to throw the whole thing out. She favored getting rid of



## New bout: Vance vs. CNN

COLUMBUS, Ohio — J.D. Vance's campaign hit back at CNN Sunday following a tense exchange the GOP vice presidential pick had with anchor Dana Bash over rival Tim Walz's military record — accusing the journalist of ignoring her own network's reporting.

During the interview that aired Sunday morning, Bash defended Kamala Harris' running mate, pointing out that Walz filed his retirement paperwork a month be-

fore the National Guard announced plans to deploy to Iraq in 2005.

Vance quickly hit back: "But on CNN last night, Dana, one of the people who was actually in charge with him said they knew they were going to deploy to Iraq in fall of 2004. So he knew he was going to Iraq and he decided to quit."

The Vance campaign has now accused CNN of trying to obscure facts in favor of Walz.

Amy Sikma and Joe Durbin

# IN TRUE COLORS



**IN PLAIN SIGHT:** Kamala Harris has been helped by the media to hide a plethora of far-left positions from voters. A centrist Democrat, of course, is an easier one to elect.

when it comes to Palestinian suffering. Then there is the outer Kamala, the moderate pro-Israel Democrat who for political reasons when it comes to Israel needs to color between the lines.”

Where’s the Kamala who just stands up for principle?

Yet on so many issues, Kamala Harris is a will-o’-the-wisp, alighting on whatever position suits her best at that time.

### Flip-flopper

When she was running against Joe Biden, he was the backward white man who opposed busing to end segregation. When she became his running mate, he had an “unmatched legacy.”

Also this past weekend, Harris suddenly endorsed no taxes on tips — only because it was a policy proposed by Trump.

Harris has changed her position on so many topics, the real question is: Does she stand for anything? Or is her only ambition to say and do whatever it takes to get elected, then let the left wing of the party run the nation?

It’s the question the press won’t ask. No, more than that. It’s a question the media works hard to prevent from being asked.

Usually when pundits refer to a “media bubble,” it suggests that a candidate is only reading and watching what he or she wants to hear and see. But this is a bubble created for Harris, by some of the biggest press outlets in the nation, protecting her not only from hard questions, but also from the truth: She’s too radical to get elected, and she needs to be carefully hidden, a Kameleon to voters.

Matt Baron/BE/Shutterstock

## Bam’s Kam ‘jam’

Former President Barack Obama is secretly running Kamala Harris’ presidential campaign, using his people to direct her bid, ex-House Speaker Kevin McCarthy claimed on Sunday.

“If you’re watching the campaign now, some of Obama’s [key people such as] David Plouffe and others are now working on the campaign,” McCarthy, a California Republican, said on 770 WABC’s “The Cats Roundtable.” You’re getting the Obamas shifting from running the White House to now running this campaign.”

Obama’s former top advisers have had major roles with Team Harris.

His attorney general, Eric Holder, helped handle the vetting process for Harris’ vice president pick. Harris also hired Plouffe — Obama’s campaign manager in 2008 and later one of his top White House advisers — as a senior campaign aide. Political operative Plouffe has advised TikTok and Uber, too.

In addition, Harris has tapped Stephanie Cutter, who worked as deputy campaign manager for Obama’s 2012 re-election, as her campaign’s senior adviser for strategy messaging.

The firm of Obama ad-maker Jim Margolis also is supposed to join team Harris, according to Politico.

Carl Campanile

ICE, and even said that crossing the border illegally was no crime. “We’re not going to treat people who are undocumented who cross the border as criminals,” she said.

It’s not even fair to call this one a flip-flop, it’s a straight-up lie. Harris’ one clarification on what was “broken” was that we needed an “earned pathway to citizenship” — which will reward the people who came here illegally.

Made the “Border Czar,” Harris did nothing to either strengthen the border or tackle the “root causes” she spoke so much about.

**KAMELEON:** As far back as 2020, Harris’ press secretary brazenly claimed, “Joe Biden and Ka-

mala Harris do not support defunding the police, and it is a lie to suggest otherwise.”

**THE TRUTH:** Except she absolutely did. In the summer of 2020, Harris said “we have to take a look at these budgets,” suggesting police were overfunded. She “applauded” Eric Garcetti, the mayor of Los Angeles, for defunding the LAPD.

**KAMELEON:** Last week, a Harris spokesperson told the Washington Examiner that Harris “no longer supports a federal job guarantee, an idea championed by some on the Left and Green New Deal proponents.”

**THE TRUTH:** She not only backed the Green New Deal, she

wanted to break the Senate to get it passed. “I am prepared to get rid of the filibuster to pass a Green New Deal,” she once said.

**KAMELEON:** Harris has claimed now she stands shoulder-to-shoulder with Israel.

**THE TRUTH:** Except when she refuses to attend the prime minister’s address to Congress. Or she criticizes how Israel has responded to Hamas’ terror attacks.

Aaron David Miller, a former Middle East peace negotiator, told The Wall Street Journal: “There is the inner Kamala, of a different generation than Biden whose empathy and sensibilities run deeper than the president’s

## Voters’ economic puzzle

Talk about mixed signals.

In a new poll, voters said they believe they’d be in better financial shape under former President Donald Trump than Vice President Kamala Harris — by a nine-point margin.

But, at the same time, a slight majority said they have more faith in the veep to shepherd the US economy. About 42% of registered voters felt they’d be “much” or “somewhat” better off if

Trump wins in November — while 33% said the same about Harris, a survey by Financial Times and the University of Michigan Ross School of Business.

Simultaneously, Harris narrowly bested Trump on trust on economic issues, 42% to 41%. It marks the first time the 45th president has been topped on the issue in the poll since tracking began about a year ago.

That marks a 7-point jump rela-

tive to President Biden’s figures on the economy from the group’s most recent prior survey.

The poll was conducted online by a Democratic strategist firm, Global Strategy Group.

“The fact that voters were more positive on Harris than on Biden... says as much about how badly Biden was doing as it does about how well Harris is doing,” Erik Gordon, a professor at the university, said. Ryan King

# Released to rampage

## Freed attacker in 'slash spree'

By JOE MARINO  
and JORGE FITZ-GIBBON

A deranged brute charged with attacking two MTA workers and a transit cop last year was freed after cutting a deal to get psychiatric help — despite allegedly attacking four Rikers Island guards while he was locked up.

Christian Marrero, 21, not only blew off the psych program but is charged with slashing three more innocent people in Queens during a rampage of random violence after he was let out of jail, according to officials and sources.

Only now is he behind bars without bail.

"It's not at all shocking that another criminally insane person didn't keep his word to attend psychiatric help," one law enforcement source lamented to The Post.

"We're never going to solve this problem until we place real consequences to any lack of adherence to mental health treatment. You either attend treatment or face the full effect of the law."

### Cutting a deal

Marrero was first arrested in June last year for allegedly attacking two MTA workers and a transit cop two days apart in Manhattan.

According to criminal complaints, Marrero screamed out that he hated the MTA and slugged the first victim at Seventh Avenue and West 148th Street around 2:30 p.m. on June 14, 2023. He then punched a second transit employee who came to assist his co-worker shortly after.

Two days later, Marrero was outside 506 Lenox Ave. when he punched a transit police officer and spat in the cop's face around 1:45 a.m., the complaints said.

He was locked up and spent nearly a year behind bars while the case was pending in court.

But on May 30, Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg's office



**DIRECT HIT:** Video shows a crazed man identified as Norman Nelson randomly hitting a Frenchman in the head in Midtown Saturday, sending the tourist flying into a stone step.

A crazed Brooklynite randomly punched a French tourist in the head in Midtown Saturday morning, sending the victim careening head-first into a stone step, according to police sources and video of the assault — just days after he allegedly attacked an elderly man in the East Village.

Philippe Mary, 60, of Talence, France, was strolling past the Burger King on West 42nd Street between Eighth and Ninth avenues at about 9:30 a.m. when the alleged attacker — Norman Nelson, 49, of Brooklyn — crept up behind him and launched a left hook at the side of his head, sur-

said Marrero cut a deal to enter an eight-month psychiatric treatment program and would serve no more jail time if he completed it.

City Correction Officers' Benevolent Association president Benny Boscio said in a statement Sunday, "It's outrageous that a violent perp with a long track record . . . would be given an opportunity to be released into a program, only to commit more violent crimes."

It is unclear which agency ran the treatment program, but prose-

veillance video of the incident showed.

The impact sent Mary sprawling, and he appeared to slam his head on a step right near the restaurant's entrance, the video showed.

Two other people — including one man who was walking alongside Mary — went after the brute, and the three got into a bus-lane scuffle that ended when Nelson wandered away.

The tourist — who bounced to his feet after getting hit — walked back over to the step and leaned over as his compatriots tried to help, the video showed. He was brought to

cutors said Marrero botched it.

He was hauled back into Manhattan court on July 1.

But by then, he was facing three more charges in Queens, where he allegedly went on a rampage on June 22 and slashed three bystanders in the face, records show.

According to a criminal complaint, Marrero first attacked a straphanger aboard an E train at the Queens Plaza station around 8 a.m., cutting his arm, face and ear, causing his ear lobe "to be-

Bellevue Hospital so doctors could look at a laceration on his forehead and his bloody nose, sources told The Post.

Cops later arrested Nelson, who has at least six prior arrests, and hit him with third-degree assault, aggravated harassment and other charges, according to sources and court records.

Nelson is also facing charges for allegedly hitting an 81-year-old man in the head Aug. 6 with a crate just before noon on East 14th Street, sources said. *Joe Marino, Larry Celona, Desheania Andrews and Steve Janoski*

come partially detached."

At 8:20 a.m., he allegedly ran up and slashed another man in the face in front of 27-03 42nd Road in Long Island City.

Three minutes later, Marrero allegedly cut a third man "from his nose to his ear" outside of 42-57 27th St. He required 30 stitches.

About a half-hour after, cops arrested Marrero at Queens Plaza.

The Manhattan District Attorney's Office did not respond Sunday to questions from The Post.

## Ferguson cop hurt at protest

A Ferguson, Mo., cop was critically injured outside the city's police station during violent protests on the 10th anniversary of the fatal shooting of Michael Brown.

The attack prompted Ferguson Police Chief Troy Doyle to go off-script at an emotional press conference, in which he ripped the Black Lives Matter demonstrators for perpetuating the violence despite the department's bending to their demands.

Officer Travis Brown, who is black, suffered a severe brain injury Friday after being knocked to the ground.

"He is . . . now fighting for his life," said Doyle.

Two other officers also were hurt, one sustaining an ankle injury and another an abrasion.

The team of officers went out to make arrests Friday for destruction of property at the police station, where protesters gathered to remember Michael Brown, the unarmed black 18-year-old who was killed by Darren Wilson, a white police officer, in 2014.

A frustrated Doyle said he wanted people to be able to peacefully protest, but drew the line at acts of violence.

"We damn sure ain't gonna allow you to destroy this city, and we ain't gonna allow you to hurt none of these police officers," he said.

*Chris Nesi, Wires*

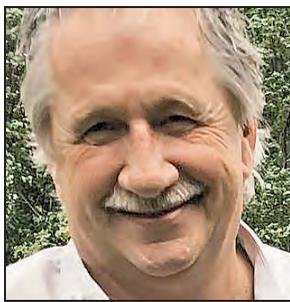
## Fatal police shootout

A gunman who barricaded himself in a building near Ohio State University and opened fire on cops Sunday is dead after an hours-long standoff, according to officials.

The man broke into the building at the school's south campus in Columbus, Ohio, at around 8 a.m. and started firing a gun. When authorities arrived they saw the man reload and barricade himself inside, officials said.

At least two exchanges of gunfire between the suspect and police occurred before 9 a.m. He was pronounced dead at 1:15 p.m., although it remains unclear how he died. *Alex Oliveira*

Obtained by the NY Post



**GARY JOHNSON**

Died in upstate air disaster.

## Chopper 'downed' by wasps

The helicopter crash that killed a New York businessman in an upstate swamp last month was caused by a wasp's nest that had clogged one of the aircraft's fuel tubes, according to investigators.

Gary Johnson, 65, a father who owned a gas station and auto-body shop as well as commercial and rental properties, died in the July 27 crash near West Carthage.

Johnson, the pilot and only person aboard, was found gravely injured after the Schweizer 269C went down at around 2:45 p.m. He was later pronounced dead at Carthage Area Hospital.

The National Transportation Safety Board said its preliminary investigation found that fuel had flowed sporadically to the helicopter's metal fuel tank.

Investigators flushed debris from the fuel tubes and discovered one of the lines had been clogged by material consistent with a wasp's nest.

*Isabel Keane*

## Fla. GOP takes 1M voter lead

Florida Republicans blew past a key milestone and posted on Sunday a 1 million voter registration advantage over Democrats.

The achievement caps a stunning transformation for the former swing state, where Democrats held the advantage until 2021, when the GOP pulled ahead amid pandemic-era growth.

"Our success goes beyond just numbers," Florida GOP Chairman Evan Power said. "It's about a vision to make Florida the beacon of freedom for the rest of the country."

*Ryan King*

# Kam Secret Serv. sorry for bathroom 'break-in'

By RYAN KING

The sheer audacity. The Secret Service apologized to a salon owner in Massachusetts who alleged that individuals broke into her business to use the bathroom during the agency's security work for a nearby Kamala Harris fundraiser.

Berkshires businesswoman Alicia Powers says someone picked the lock and broke into her store — after a Secret Service officer covered a camera outside her salon with tape.

The people who proceeded to use the bathroom included a pair in emergency medical uniforms, a person in camouflage law-enforcement gear and someone in a dark suit and white shirt similar to a Secret Service officer who guarded the door, Powers said, citing footage.

A Secret Service rep was adamant that agents would not break into buildings like that but did not deny that an officer covered her camera with tape — an act that was captured by surveillance footage — and appeared to cop some sort of mea culpa in a statement.

"The Secret Service has since communicated with the affected business owner. We hold these relationships in the highest regard and our personnel would not enter, or instruct our partners to enter, a business without the owner's permission," Secret Service spokesperson Melissa McKenzie said.

### 'Apology call'

Powers said the head of the Secret Service's Boston-based field office called her to apologize, according to Business Insider.

"He said to me everything that was done was done very wrong," Powers told the outlet. "They were not supposed to tape my camera without permission. They were not supposed to enter the building without permission."

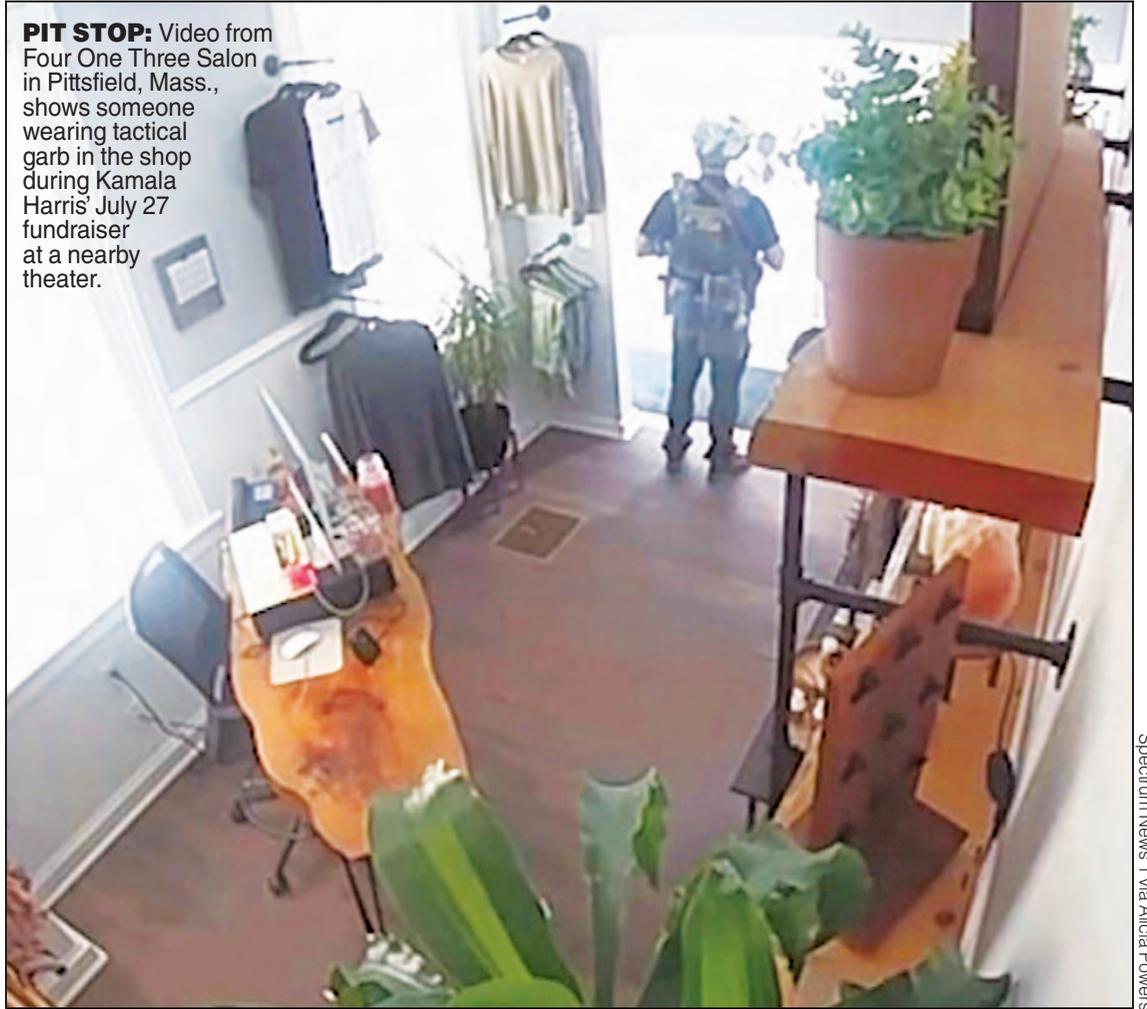
The owner of Four One Three Salon in Pittsfield, Mass., said the incident took place July 27, before Harris' first major in-person fundraiser since President Biden dropped out of the race, paving the way for the vice president to become the Democratic presidential nominee.

The salon is behind the Colonial Theatre, where the event for Harris (right) was held.

She said her salon was closed before the fundraiser because of all the security mayhem.

"They had a

**PIT STOP:** Video from Four One Three Salon in Pittsfield, Mass., shows someone wearing tactical garb in the shop during Kamala Harris' July 27 fundraiser at a nearby theater.



Spectrum News 1 via Alicia Powers

# HAIR-BRAIN PEE BRAINS

bunch of people in and out of here doing a couple of bomb sweeps again — totally understand what they have to do, due to the nature of the situation," she told the outlet.

"And at that point, my team felt like it was a little bit chaotic, and we just made the decision to close for Saturday."

Then early that morning, a female Secret Service agent put

duct tape over a Ring security camera at the salon, Powers said.

Footage of the ordeal was later posted on social media.

The agency has historically covered up certain cameras during sweeps of perimeters because of security concerns.

### 'No permission'

Later that day, another security camera inside the building detected four other people in it over a stretch of more than an hour, Powers claimed.

"There were several people in and out for about an hour and a half — just using my bathroom, the alarms going off, using my counter, with no permission,"

Powers vented to Business Insider.

"And then when they were done using the bathroom for two hours, they left and left my building completely unlocked and did not take the tape off the camera.

"Whoever was visiting, whether it was a celebrity or not, I probably would've opened the door and made them coffee and brought in doughnuts to make it a great afternoon for them," she said. "They just helped themselves."

The incident happened about two weeks after would-be assassin Thomas Matthew Crooks crawled up on a roof about 130 yards away from former President Donald Trump and fired multiple shots, including one that nicked his ear, during a July 13 rally in Butler, Pa.





**NO MEDAL:** Police arrested an unidentified shirtless man scaling the Eiffel Tower on Sunday as the Olympics wound down.

## Climber forces Eiffel evacuation

French police arrested a man who was seen climbing the Eiffel Tower just a few hours before the Paris Olympics closing ceremony was set to begin.

The Paris landmark was evacuated Sunday afternoon after the climber was spotted making his way past the Olympic rings adorning the tower about halfway up the 1,083-foot structure.

Video circulating on social media shows cops escorting the shirtless man around the base of the tower. The man smiles broadly as he walks past a crowd of onlookers with his hands cuffed behind him, saying, "Bloody warm, innit?" to the lookie-loos.

"An individual started climbing the Eiffel Tower at 2:45 p.m., police intervened and the person was detained," a Paris police official said on condition of anonymity due to the investigation.

It was not clear where the climber started his ascent or whether he descended the tower himself or if he was forced to by police.

The landmark featured heavily in the 2024 Paris Olympics opening ceremony, with Celine Dion giving a rare performance from a viewing deck July 26.

More than 30,000 police officers were deployed around Paris on Sunday as the Games wound down. French Interior Minister Gérald Darmanin said about 3,000 police officers were mobilized around the Stade de France, and 20,000 police and other security would be mobilized late into Sunday night. *Chris Nesi With Wires*

# IT'S TOM TO

## Paris hands torch to LA in high-flying spectacular



Getty Images

**A real stadium show topper**

Tom Cruise drops in to Sunday's closing ceremony — literally. He took selfies from the top of the stadium before his dive.

### Banner day



Once on the ground, Cruise was met by gymnastics legend Simone Biles and LA Mayor Karen Bass, where he took and hoisted the Olympic flag.

By CHRISTIAN ARNOLD

Paris extinguished the Olympic flame with an elaborate closing ceremony Sunday — which featured an epic stunt from action-movie star Tom Cruise.

In a spectacular display of Hollywood grandeur, Cruise descended in a wire act from the top of the French stadium to officially pass the Olympic torch on to Los Angeles.

The "Mission: Impossible" actor was handed the Olympic flag and rode off with it on a motorcycle. In a dramatic pre-recorded video, Cruise then rode through the streets of Paris and boarded a jet, which he then parachuted out of onto the Hollywood sign, which was adorned with the Olympic rings.

The action-packed handoff ended with skateboarder Jagger Eaton reaching a stage in Venice

Beach, Calif., where the Red Hot Chili Peppers performed, along with their fellow California natives Billie Eilish, Snoop Dogg and Dr. Dre.

### Back for more?

US swimming superstar Katie Ledecky and rower Nick Mead served as flag bearers in the closing ceremony, as America came out on top in the Olympic medal

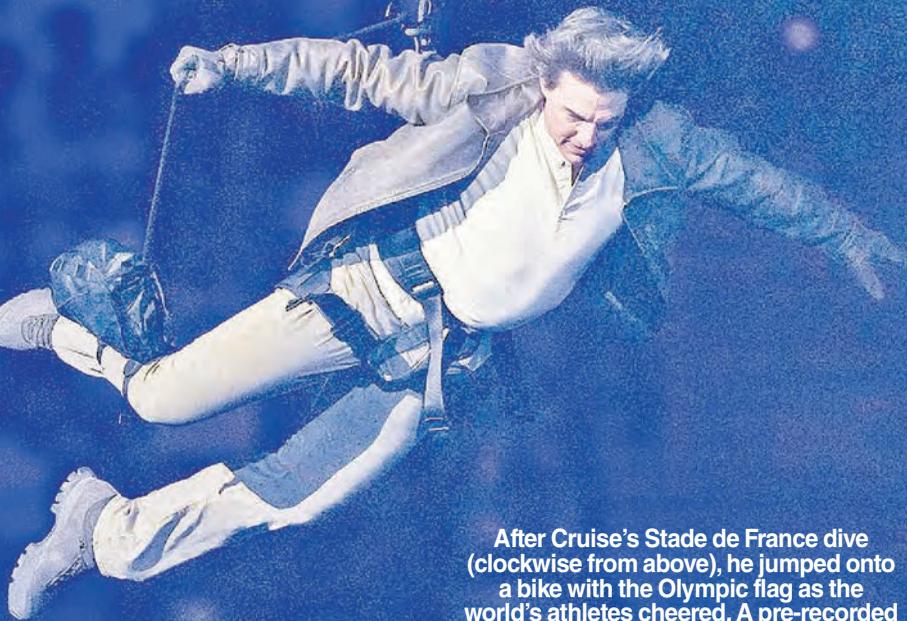
count, with an impressive 126, including 40 gold.

Ledecky expressed a desire to be able to compete in four years in her home country.

"I'd love to swim in 2028. I think swimming in front of the home crowd would be incredible. I'm gonna take it one year at a time," she told NBC during the broadcast of the ceremony.

The swimming champion won two gold medals of her own —

# SAY ADIEU



After Cruise's Stade de France dive (clockwise from above), he jumped onto a bike with the Olympic flag as the world's athletes cheered. A pre-recorded video featured his ride onto a jet and his dramatic return to Hollywood — home of the 2028 LA Summer Games.

## California, Here I Come



Reuters

# Flag FB in, 'break' is out for 2028

Flag football is among several additions coming to the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics — while the much-maligned breakdancing event will be getting the boot.

Often associated with cookouts and fraternity backyards, flag football is being boosted onto the international stage at the next Summer Games after the International Federation of American Football got support from the NFL.

And while Americans are most familiar with football as a male-only sport, women will be competing in their own flag-football division in 2028.

Joining the sport's Olympic debut will be other newcomers such as obstacle-course racing — yes, just like "American Ninja Warrior." Squash also will be a competition at the 2028 Olympics for the first time, after years of unsuccessful petitioning.

Lacrosse and cricket are returning to the Games after more than a century's absence, too.

Baseball and softball will also be back after being absent in Paris.

In proper California fashion, recent newcomers surfing and skateboarding will remain in 2028.

The 2028 Games will be the third hosted by LA, which leaned into its numerous stadiums already in place — including previous Olympic venues and arenas used by the Lakers, Chargers and Clippers — as one of its strongest selling points to host the event.

But for all its readied infrastructures, LA has a wild plan for 2028: "A no-car Games," as Mayor Karen Bass put it Sunday.

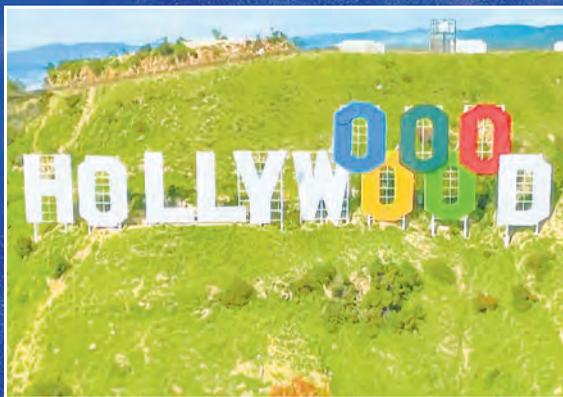
That translates to all Olympic events being accessible only by public transportation and cars being completely barred from venues.

"Part of having a no-car Olympics means getting people not to drive," Bass said.

LA — the home of Hollywood — also intends to put on an opening ceremony and TV experience worthy of its silver-screen reputation.

"The 2028 Games will be authentically Los Angeles," said LA 2028 Chairman Casey Wasserman.

Alex Oliveira, with Wire Services



one in the women's 1,500-meter and 800-meter freestyle swims.

She also took home a bronze and silver.

Mead, meanwhile, helped Team USA win a gold medal in the men's rowing — the first since 1964.

"It's been amazing. The French people . . . unbelievably generous," he said during the NBC broadcast.

"It's really cool to meet all

these other athletes after Tokyo not being able to mingle with all the other great athletes around the world. It's been incredible."

### 'Pretty special'

Mead added that he was "humbled and honored" to serve as the flag bearer alongside Ledezky.

She agreed, "All the countries around us, we're the last ones to

walk in. That's pretty special since we're headed to LA next."

The closing ceremony was filled with extravagant flare and pageantry.

A character known as the Golden Voyager rappelled from the roof of Stade de France and glided across the stage as part of the artistic vision of Thomas Jolly, the artist and stage director for the event.

A musical performance by the

French rock band Phoenix turned the closing ceremony into a giant party for the Olympians and spectators, opening their act with the hit song "Lisztomania."

Despite attempts by the organizers and security to clear the Olympians from the stage, many remained as the rock stars played.

Musical artists Angèle, Justice, Kavinsky and Ezra Koenig also took the stage.

# Crisis in Cancun



## Awful Mexico ordeal of drugged college pals

**SCARY:** Zara Hull (above and below left) was drugged with Kaylie Pitzer (below right).

By NICHOLAS MCENTYRE

Family members feared for the lives of the two Oklahoma college students allegedly drugged at a swim-up bar in Mexico, waiting in different countries while one of the girls' boyfriends was repeatedly denied access to their hospital rooms.

Kaylie Pitzer and Zara Hull were vacationing in Cancun with their friends when they ordered some water at the resort's pool bar on Aug. 2 and suddenly slumped over.

A terrifying photo captured the students with their heads lying on the bar while they held hands before they were taken by wheelchair up to their rooms.

Hull, 20, was later rushed to a private hospital when she began convulsing from the drugs, which US doctors believed to be synthetic fentanyl, according to KWTW.

Her boyfriend, Jake Snider, went with her to the ICU, where she was "so sedated that she couldn't open her eyes or speak." Snider's mother said of the horrifying ordeal.

"My son was not allowed to stay with her. We had to pay \$200 for him to have a room upstairs for the night. It was the 2nd floor of the hospital and the floor was

completely VACANT. The room was merely a hospital room," Stephanie Snider wrote on Facebook.

Snider revealed that her son was too scared to sleep because he feared something would happen to him. "He couldn't get in downstairs again to see Zara until the next morning. We sat in 2 different countries — praying all night for safety and health," she said.

### Plan thwarted

When Jake Snider got down to Hull at 8 a.m. on Aug. 3, Snider said, her son found Hull on a ventilator, with a catheter, and under heavy sedation.

Hospital staff allegedly said they were taking Hull to another location for an MRI, which the family speculated was a cover for trafficking.

"We told him, 'do NOT let them take her, do NOT let them do anything else to her — we were working on getting them out!'"

"We believe they were planning to take her away to be trafficked or perhaps even to take her organs (which is what we were later told is a common thing that is done)," Snider's post added. "They most likely would have done something to my son as well, possibly

even death."

The hospital allegedly had already demanded a \$10,000 deposit prior to any treatment and then demanded another \$25,000 "by Sunday morning to continue treatment or \$5,000 to release, Snider said on Facebook.

Hull's and Snider's families attempted to find Dallas-area hospitals to which to take Hull, but were continuously rejected as the private hospital wouldn't cooperate in sending over her medical records.

Thirty hours later, a family friend secured a \$28,000 private plane to medevac Hull and Snider to Texas, where she was hospitalized as Jake had obtained a partial list of medications Hull was given.

Pitzer and her boyfriend secured a flight to Dallas, where they made a "bee-line" to the Dallas hospital and the two best friends embraced, she told News 9.

"For Zara and Kaylie, they have horrible feelings of only what we told them happened to them and yet no memory at all during the ordeal," Snider concluded.

Hull was released from the hospital on Friday but is expecting more medical bills.

A GoFundMe has been set up for them.

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## RFK Jr.: I'm a NY resident!

Presidential candidate Robert Kennedy Jr. raised more questions in the legal fight over his residency by claiming in a fundraising appeal that he "owns a home" in New York.

"Think about it: What do you call someone who owns a home in New York, is registered to vote there, and pays taxes in the state? A New York resident!" the email pitch that the Kennedy-Nicole Shanahan campaign sent to supporters said.

The solicitation blasted the Democratic National Committee for trying to knock him out of the race by challenging his official residence.

The Post reported back in May that the independent candidate claimed his voting address at 84 Croton Lake Road in Katonah, a property that was in foreclosure proceedings for nonpayment, according to court records.

The legal owner of the property is Barbara Moss, the wife of longtime RFK pal Timothy Haydock.

Neighbors said they had never seen Kennedy, but he insisted it was his residence.

RFK was in Albany court last week to fight a lawsuit alleging he falsely claimed to live in New York.

Judge Christina Ryba is expected to issue a ruling in the residency spat this week.

*Carl Campanile*

## B'klyn girl, 13, stabbed

A 13-year-old girl was stabbed and wounded outside a subway station in Brooklyn Sunday night as authorities search for three teen suspects, according to cops.

The teen girl was knifed in the abdomen near the Atlantic Avenue-Barclays Center station in Prospect Heights around 7:45 p.m. and rushed to Maimonides Pediatric Hospital in stable condition, authorities said.

No arrests have been made, but investigators are looking for three teen boys between the ages of 16 and 18, the NYPD said. It was not immediately clear what sparked the knifing. *Larry Celona and David Propper*



# Miranda Devine

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**K**AMALA Harris went to Las Vegas over the weekend and flagrantly stole one of Donald Trump's signature policies: no tax on tips.

Trump, who got the idea for the populist policy from a waitress, responded with a furious Truth Social post and a new nickname: "Copy Cat Kamala.... has no ideas, she can only steal from me."

Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, so it is strange chutzpah for Harris to model herself on a candidate her entire party has spent eight years demonizing as the second coming of Hitler.

It's all a fraud anyway. She could roll back the draconian new tax compliance regime for hospitality workers the Harris-Biden administration brought in last year. But she's pretending to be a cleanskin running against her own government.

## Drawing a blank

Harris is presenting herself as a blank slate on policy. Her official campaign website is as bare as her media engagement schedule, apart from a donation tool and a brief bio for herself and running mate Tim Walz.

All Harris has offered to flesh out her ghost candidacy in the past month is a vague promise of getting "an interview scheduled before the end of the month," with one of the many tongue bath specialists in the Democratic media firmament.

By contrast, Trump did a 70-minute, no holds barred press conference last week, J.D. Vance did a muscular blitzkrieg of three Sunday morning news shows, and even the elusive Basement Biden offered himself up to the tender sycophancy of CBS.

On the policy front, Trump has a 20-point platform, Agenda 47, on his campaign website that runs the gamut of vote-winners from "seal the border and stop the border invasion" to "end inflation and make America affordable again."

If the election were simply about policies and not "vibes" Trump would win in a landslide, since Harries owns the stinking baggage of the past four years of inflation, illegal migration, crime and disunity.

Any effort to define a new policy direction, as she has promised to do this week, puts her on a collision course with Joe Biden whose sole purpose is to defend his legacy to the death (or get Dr. Jill and Hunter to do so on his behalf).

Democrats know that policy is Harris' Achilles' heel and that time is running out to add sub-



stance to their flimflam candidate before her past — and Biden's — irrevocably defines her.

That is why they weaponized the Heritage Foundation's excellent Project 2025. The array of sensible policy suggestions was created by the conservative think tank in 2022, before the GOP primaries, to help guide the thinking of the next Republican administration.

Democrats knew that the policies were popular and lethal to their cause so they set about systematically destroying Project 2025 in the public mind.

Harris and Walz have lied their heads off about it as a substitute for coming up with their own palatable policies.

Even CNN fact-checked as false Harris' assertions about Project 2025 at her first campaign rally: "When you read it, you will see Donald Trump intends to cut So-

cial Security and Medicare. He intends to give tax breaks to billionaires and big corporations and make working families foot the bill."

None of that is true.

## It worked for Reagan

Walz falsely portrays Project 2025 as some weirdo "Handmaid's Tale" dystopia that bans abortion and IVF, enslaves women and demonizes LGBTQ concerns.

Nothing like that is in the unfairly maligned 900-page book that Heritage put out in April 2023 and that was conceived a year earlier.

Unfortunately, the demonization campaign worked. Trump freaked out and disavowed Project 2025, denouncing it as "absolutely ridiculous and abysmal."

The problem is that it contains a vast number of eminently reasonable policies that are based on the

common sense thinking that his campaign embodies. It overlaps with Trump's Agenda 47 and is modeled on a similar conservative playbook Heritage produced in 1981 in time for the new Reagan administration.

In response to the Democrats' dishonest disinformation campaign, Heritage has polled Project 2025's main policies in swing states. The polling, revealed here exclusively, shows public perceptions of the project are overwhelmingly positive. In other words, it's a blueprint for electoral success, not to mention governing magic.

Proposals with the highest support include:

■ Require businesses to verify that their employees are legal residents of the United States — 82% support, 13% oppose.

■ Cut the growth of government spending every year to re-

duce inflation — 81% support, 12% oppose.

■ Enforce existing immigration laws, including deporting individuals who have violated these laws — 79% support, 16% oppose.

■ Ensure married couples don't pay higher taxes than unmarried couples who live together — 74% support, 12% oppose.

Project 2025 might be relegated to the dustbin of history, but any conservative government worth its salt would be implementing a lot of its common sense proposals.

Unlike Trump, Ronald Reagan embraced Heritage's original 1981 suggestions, giving a copy to everyone in his cabinet and asking them to see what ideas they might incorporate.

Why wouldn't you take the best of conservative economic and social policy thought to try and improve the complicated business of government? It's a no-brainer.

## ISRAEL UNDER ATTACK

# Jewish vote ripe for GOP

## Dem 'bias' key issue

By CARL CAMPANILE

Former President Donald Trump and the rest of the GOP ticket could win a record share of Jewish voters in November, his strategists say — and even some Democratic pols agree.

Growing Jewish support for Republicans is being fueled by the voters' disgust over rising antisemitism and hard-left Democrats' hostility toward Israel, said Trump's (inset) camp and some politicians.

"President Trump has a chance to get the largest share of the Jewish vote ever," Trump campaign pollster John McLaughlin told The Post. "Antisemitism is a real issue."

Historically, Democrats running for the White House receive roughly 70% or more of the Jewish vote and Republicans 30% or less.

Republican Presidents Ronald Reagan and Dwight Eisenhower had the best showing among Jewish voters — and they only captured about 40% of the vote apiece.

McLaughlin predicted an increase in Jewish support for Trump this year in battleground states such as Pennsylvania, Michigan, Nevada, Arizona and

Georgia. He said the boost also would help candidates in down-ballot races — including House contests in six swing seats in New York suburbs that are home to some of the largest Jewish neighborhoods in the country.

Even a small shift in the votes could influence the Electoral College, since President Biden won those states over Trump by 3% or less in 2020.

Jewish voters have taken notice that some Democrats have gone soft on Israel-bashing, said former Long Island Rep. Lee Zeldin, who is Jewish and was the 2022 Republican candidate for governor in New York.

"There's so much hedging and equivocating about Israel in the Democratic Party, and the Democratic Party has allowed its pro-Hamas wing to metastasize," said Zeldin, a Trump surrogate.

The fury of Jewish voters and activists already proved pivotal in Democratic primary elections in recent months, helping to oust New York anti-Israel "Squad" Rep. Jamaal Bowman in the 16th House District taking in leafy Westchester and parts of the Bronx, as well as fellow lefty Rep. Cori Bush last week in Missouri.

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# Kam: Gaza toll high

Vice President Kamala Harris condemned the increasing civilian casualties in Gaza, saying there are "too many," following Israel's latest airstrike against a school building that housed Hamas operatives and refugees.

Speaking at a Phoenix campaign event Saturday, Harris stressed that the Israel Defense Forces had "an important responsibility" to avoid civilian casualties in Gaza, as the Hamas-run Health Ministry estimates that the death toll is nearing 40,000.

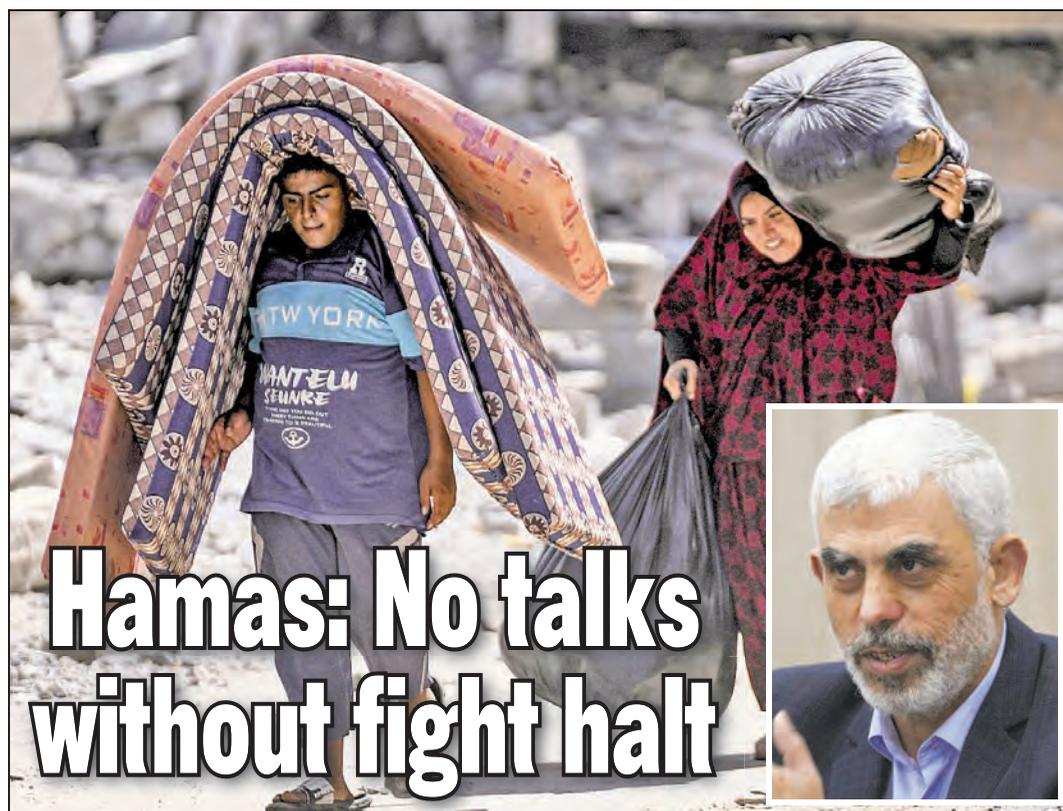
"Far too many civilians have

been killed yet again," Harris said following the strike on the Tabeen school complex in Gaza City, which ministry officials say killed at least 90 people.

Sen. Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.) said Harris is appeasing her party's pro-Hamas undercurrent.

"Kamala Harris is a Hamas sympathizer. She has made it crystal clear that she will stand with Hamas as the Jewish people are relentlessly attacked by Hamas terrorists," she told The Post on Friday. *Ronny Reyes, Wires*

# SLASHER



## Hamas: No talks without fight halt

**TOUGH ROAD:** Palestinians displaced by the Israeli air and ground offensive on the Gaza Strip flee from Hamad City on Sunday as Yahya Sinwar (inset), head of Hamas in Gaza, insists on a truce before talks.

By RONNY REYES

Hamas on Sunday said it will not participate in the planned upcoming cease-fire negotiations with Israel without a promised permanent halt to fighting.

The Palestinian terrorist group, now led by Oct. 7 mastermind Yahya Sinwar, claimed the current talks have strayed too far from what had been backed by President Biden and the UN Security Council last month, as it called on the parties to turn back the clock.

"The movement calls on the mediators to present a plan to implement what was agreed upon by the movement on July 2, 2024, based on Biden's vision and the UN Security Council resolution," Hamas said in a statement.

"The mediators should enforce this on the occupation [Israel] instead of pursuing further rounds of negotiations or new proposals that would provide cover for the occupation's aggression and grant it more time

to continue its genocide against our people."

While Hamas has claimed to be all-in on the US-backed deal, it also has repeatedly demanded that a pledged permanent end to the 10-month war be included in any pact, rather than the de-escalation called for in the July proposal.

### Hostage exchange

The US-backed deal had called for an immediate halt to the fighting in Gaza as Hamas and Israel set the groundwork for a hostage exchange that would see the remaining 120 captives free.

It also called for discussions to be held on the future of Gaza without Hamas in charge.

Israel has repeatedly stated that the fighting must continue until the Iran-backed group is destroyed.

The Jewish state is retaliating for the terrorists' Oct. 7 massacre in Israel that killed more than 1,200 people.

It remains unclear how commit-

ted Hamas is to a cease-fire as its new leader, Sinwar, has previously sabotaged previous peace talks and called on the group to continue the war until Israel is destroyed.

As for hardliner Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, he is facing growing pressure to accept a cease-fire deal and end the 10-month war, with the Hostage and Missing Families Forum, the main group advocating with the families of those kidnapped by Hamas, pushing for an immediate pact.

"A deal is the only path to bring all hostages home. Time is running out," the group said in a recent statement.

"The hostages have no more to spare. A deal must be signed now," it added.

Despite being adamantly against a cease-fire deal that would end the war but allow Hamas to remain in Gaza, Netanyahu is seen as being as ready as he'll ever be to make a deal, sources said.

But nothing is set in stone, they said. *rreyes@nypost.com*

## ISRAEL UNDER ATTACK

## HATE SCREECH

By KEVIN SHEEHAN, ISABEL KEANE, REUVEN FENTON and JORGE FITZ-GIBBON

An antisemitic thug allegedly yelled “Free Palestine” and stabbed a Jewish man in a hateful attack near the Chabad Headquarters in Crown Heights on Saturday morning, according to eyewitnesses.

The suspect allegedly approached Yechiel Dabrowskin around 2 a.m. near Eastern Parkway and Kingston Avenue and shouted “Free Palestine” and “Do you want to die?” before knifing the victim, according to Yaacov Behrman, a spokesperson for Chabad-Lubavitch.

“It’s very, very painful,” Dabrowskin told Kan 11 News in Israel. “I had internal bleeding but thank God I had a miracle.”

He said he was part of a group that sat down to a peaceful dinner near the synagogue late Friday before the trouble broke out.

“At 2 a.m. they were saying that there was a person outside who was threatening children and teenagers,” Dabrowskin said. “I heard him say, ‘Free Palestine,’ ‘You want to die?’ [and] I asked him to leave.”

### ‘Very close to my heart’

“When you look at the footage, you can see that me and a friend of mine were trying to distance him from us,” he continued. “All of a sudden, he pulled out a knife.

“The knife went very close to my heart,” Dabrowskin added. “We all tackled him and we all called the police.”

Dabrowskin and his attacker, identified by police as 22-year-old Vincent Sumpter of Brooklyn, allegedly exchanged words before the shocking attack, Behrman wrote on X.

Dabrowskin was taken to the hospital and is expected to recover, Behrman added. He was slashed in the stomach, the NYPD told The Post on Sunday.

Sumpter was charged with assault and criminal possession of a weapon.

Law-enforcement sources said Sumpter does not have a prior criminal record in New York City.

One witness told Freedom News TV that the attacker was “looking for trouble” before the encounter.

“It does make me a bit worried, but at the same time I’m comfortable here,” the man said. “I do watch my back in general, but at the same



## Antisemitic attack in B’klyn

**SHAMEFUL:** Video shared to X by Shmira Public Safety shows the confrontation near Eastern Parkway and Kingston Avenue, close to Chabad Headquarters and a mobile NYPD unit (above).

## Columbia campus ID mandate

Columbia University is restricting access to its Manhattan campus to those who have school IDs as part of a new fall policy to deal with the possible return of unruly anti-Israel protesters.

After relaxing its color-coded threat-monitoring system to its lowest level, green, and allowing the school to be open to all this summer, Columbia will raise the level to orange and only allow students and staff on the Morningside campus starting Monday.

“This change is intended to keep our community safe given reports of potential disruptions at Columbia . . . as we approach the beginning of the new school year,” Columbia COO Cas Holloway, said in a notice to the community over the weekend. *Ronny Reyes*

time it’s making you just be more wary and make sure there’s nothing happening behind you and you suddenly turn around and there’s a guy about to stab you.

“You just watch your back.”

Jewish community leaders also blasted the attack as just the latest assault on the Jewish community in New York following a rise of antisemitism since the Oct. 7 attack on Israel and subsequent war in Gaza.

Mark Treyger, CEO of the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York, slammed the “abhorrent and abominable attack on a young Jewish person in Brooklyn,” noting the attack “cannot” be seen as an isolated incident.

“This is a dangerous escalation of the current climate we are in

and it should outrage every New Yorker because it is an attack on every New Yorker,” he wrote on X. “We need ACCOUNTABILITY and ACTION NOW!”

In July alone, the NYPD’s Hate Crimes Task Force investigated 30 anti-Jewish offenses, compared with only 10 during the same period last year.

### Offenses rising

Antisemitic hate crimes made up the majority of the 52 bias offenses investigated by the department last month, the data shows. The NYPD probed 48 hate crimes in July 2023.

So far this year, 229 antisemitic hate crimes have been reported to the NYPD through last Sunday, according to NYPD data.

By that time last year, 126 such incidents were reported.

The rise has prompted Gov. Hochul to consider a partial mask ban for New York City’s subways as hate crimes spike, including one recent incident in which masked protesters demanded that “Zionists” raise their hands on a crowded train.

Video shared to X by Shmira Public Safety shows Saturday’s Crown Heights confrontation unfolding in front of a group of about four other Jewish men who were walking together on the sidewalk.

A witness said that the attacker came out of the subway “looking for trouble.”

Moments later he withdrew a knife and attacked one of the men, who he believed to be between 18 and 20 years old, the witness added.

The attacker then tried to stab another person before he was detained by Shmira, which is the neighborhood patrol, the witness said.

Elchonon Schagalov, 55, ran outside when he heard the attack occurring, he told The Post Sunday.

“He’s local. He’s originally from Israel. I see him all the time. He’s a nice kid. He has two brothers,” Schagalov said of the victim. “He’s not a provoking kid. He doesn’t speak extremely good English. English is his third or fourth language.”

## Bay Ridge vigil for Hamas big

Dozens of protesters held a prayer vigil for Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh on a Brooklyn street corner Sunday — less than two weeks after he was killed in a bombing in Iran.

The demonstration was held in Bay Ridge, home to one of the biggest Arab American populations in the city.

Another similar gathering in the neighborhood in May saw violent clashes with NYPD cops, who arrested more than a dozen protesters, some of whom proudly waved the green flag of Hamas.

Footage of the vigil showed much the crowd with keffiyeh scarves emblazoned with the Palestinian flag draped over their shoulders. About a dozen, however, dressed in traditional Orthodox Jewish garb.

State Sen. Simcha Felder criticized any Jews that showed up.

“They’re meshugana! They’re crazy,” Felder told The Post. *Carl Campanile and Chris Nesi*

## Israel team is banned

Israeli teen ultimate Frisbee players were banned from an international competition in Belgium last week after a vandal scrawled antisemitic statements near their playing field.

The Israeli delegation was prepping Tuesday for Ghent’s European Youth Ultimate Championship when the director told them somebody spray-painted “Boycott Israel now!” The city claimed they couldn’t play for safety reasons, said Chen Bankirer, president of the Israeli Flying Disc Association. *Steve Janoski*

# Parental dream more nightmare

**KIRSTEN FLEMING**



**T**HE Harris-Walz ticket has brought up some big feelings for some Democrats.

Mostly about their parents. Or the politicians they want to elect as their surrogate Mama and Papa.

As soon as Tim Walz was selected by Kamala Harris as her running mate, social-media users started casting the progressive in Carhartt and camo as their make-believe father.

“Tim Walz is the dad an entire generation wish they had instead of the one they lost to Fox News,” read one viral post by the X user @coketweet.

In the Minnesota guv, many see a perfect parental match for Harris — whom Drew Barrymore, in April, begged to “hug” the country.

“I keep thinking in my head that we all need a mom,” Barrymore told Harris on her talk show. “But in our country, we need you to be Momala of the country.”

What back then could have been brushed off as Barrymore’s own well-documented mommy issues has now become the overwhelmingly dominant sentiment of the left. Their mission is to elect Ma and Pa America — someone to hug them and soothe them.

A pair to gentle-parent Dems to a better, more virtuous life, and maybe quietly slip them a beer if they’re a good boy or girl.

As Liz Whitmer Geregthy, the sister of Michigan governor Gretchen Whtimer, wrote on X: “So it will be a contest between Dems with serious cool parent vibes who would totally pick you up in the middle of the night to get you home safely vs the people they warned you about.”

## Fan fiction

When did we all become so childish and submissive? We are supposed to be electing leaders who can stare down foreign despots, clean up a crisis at the border, ease inflation and make 15 tough decisions in a day. Not validate our feelings.

Yet many newly minted Walz fans are creating fan fiction about their dream daddy.

TikTok influencer Pamela Wurst Vetrini went viral with a video in which she says Walz “represents the dad that a lot of liberal women lost. A lot of us had moderate to conservative educated, sensible fathers that we lost to Rush Limbaugh, that we lost to Fox News. That we lost to Donald Trump and the cult of conservatism.”

Meanwhile, romance novel au-

thor Emily Rath cranked out her own seven-minute reel about the feelings Walz stirs in her.

Through tears, she says that her father is a former fighter pilot with a chemistry degree from the Air Force Academy. Yet he “denounces climate change and basic facts about medicine. . . . He is so smart. . . . And to see what politics has done to him.”

In my day, girls with daddy issues became strippers. Now they become insufferable progressive influencers.

Maybe it’s time to call your dad instead of bashing him online.

I understand that many people have replaced religion with politics and practice it fervently. But imagine having a father who is walking this earth right now, alive and well, and trashing him over politics. Life is too short, family is

too precious. Maybe these dads are difficult, but I guarantee these women — hardened ideologues — are, too.

Your relationship with your parents was not forged in cable news, so why let it die there? Also, Walz becoming veep will not heal said relationship.

## Infantilizing

Much of the media is reveling in this Walz “papa” fest.

The Washington Post breathlessly posted on X about a \$40 camo hat sold by the Harris/Walz campaign, calling it “a send-up of the Minnesota governor’s trademark Midwestern dad fashion, giving MAGA a run for its money.”

A Salon story declared, “Tim Walz’s normal dad energy is causing MAGA to come unglued.”

But it’s mostly unglued folks on the left, who are creating familial fantasies about Harris and Walz.

Sure, leaders and candidates can have maternal or paternal characteristics that endear them to us. But to form this parental attachment is creepy. It’s infantilizing and smacks of craving authoritarianism. These leaders ultimately work for you, the taxpayer.

Personally, I don’t want any politician from the right or left as my parents.

Though maybe some of these Dems simply want to recreate their childhood, where Mom and Dad paid for everything — but this time on the government’s dime.

After all, as Walz on the recent “White Dudes for Harris” Zoom call said: “One person’s socialism is another person’s neighborliness.”



**PARENT TRAP:** Influencers and media have fawned over Tim Walz’s “dad energy” and “Momala” Harris.

# Dems cry for mom & dad

## ‘Evil Walz ruined my biz’

A former Minnesota bar owner who now commutes two hours a day to sling suds in neighboring Wisconsin said Gov. Tim Walz’s restrictive pandemic-era lockdowns in the state “decimated” local businesses and caused financial ruin for those who stood up for their livelihoods.

“I think he’s an evil man who overstepped his role as the governor. He took small businesses and ripped them up. He destroyed us,” Lisa Zarza, 52, of Rosemont, Minn., told The Post. “I had to leave the state to be able to legally work and make a living.”

She opened the Outpost Bar and Grill in Bay City, Wis., in March 2022 after she said she was stripped of her licenses to operate Alibi Drinkery in Lakeville and Froggy Bottoms River Pub and Lily PADio in Northfield.

She said when business closures first went into effect in March 2020, “I did everything I was supposed to do. I wore my mask, I social distanced. I stayed at home.”

But as the months wore on and the state slowly reopened, salons, bars and restaurants remained under Walz’s closure orders.

By October 2020, Zarza and a cohort of fellow bar owners decided to defy the order.

“I was threatened with arrests, I was threatened with fines. My lawsuit including . . . fees was over \$300,000. I filed personal bankruptcy,” she said.

Steven Vago and Chris Nesi

# Chaos reigns at parade

Authorities abruptly shut down the Dominican Day Parade in Manhattan on Sunday when a massive, unruly crowd swarmed the Midtown route and a spectator was slashed, law-enforcement sources said.

The annual parade (right and below) was supposed to continue along Sixth Avenue to the West 59th Street entrance to Central Park.

But the crowd grew more and more boisterous — especially when several rappers on floats rolled through — and spectators started jumping the barricades near West 46th Street.

The NYPD scrambled to

restore order, standing the barricades back up and holding the floats in place.

A 19-year-old man was busted at around 3:45 p.m. in front of 266 W. 45th St. for allegedly cutting a 65-year-old man on the face and hand during a dispute as cops dispersed the crowd, the sources said.

Police diverted the parade onto 52nd Street, including some floats that were barred from finishing the route.

“We’re shutting it down — at this point, it’s gotten out of hand,” a police source told *The Post*. *Larry Celona, Desheania Andrews and Steve Janoski*



James Keivom

## Water fines to flow in UK

British water companies that fail their customers will have to hand over higher compensation to affected households and businesses under plans announced by the government Monday.

Under the proposals, compensation would be doubled where water companies failed to meet key standards to which customers were legally entitled, such as not providing a notice of supply interruptions and missing arranged appointments.

The measures, subject to an eight-week consultation, would also expand the circumstances that would trigger compensation, with automatic payments for so-called boil notices when water must be boiled before it can be consumed or used for cooking.

“Our water industry is broken,” said environment minister Steve Reed. “After years of failure, households and businesses have been let down by water companies time and time again.” *Reuters*

# NEW FDNY COMMISH

By CRAIG MCCARTHY and DAVID PROPPER

Security firm CEO Robert Tucker will be named the next commissioner of the FDNY on Monday, sources told *The Post* Sunday night.

Tucker, who leads T&M as CEO and chairman, is expected to get the nod from Mayor Adams to replace Laura Kavanagh after she stepped down earlier this month amid multiple controversies and tension with the department over her leadership.

Tucker, who was widely seen as a top contender for the job, also sits on the board of the FDNY Foundation and has long circled the FDNY during his career dating back decades, though he has never served as a firefighter.

“When I was a young boy growing up in Manhattan, I was a fire buff,” Tucker said, according to a FDNY Foundation spotlight. “I

## Security firm CEO ‘replacing Kavanagh’

used to chase fire engines on my bicycle. I had the opportunity to meet Commissioner [Joseph] Spinnato and I told him about my interest in the Department.”

Spinnato served as commissioner for the department in the 1980s.

As a teenager, Tucker (inset) worked in the FDNY’s Manhattan Communications Office, which he called the “best job offer I would ever receive.”

A graduate of George Washington University and Pace University School of Law, Tucker worked



as a special assistant to the Queens District Attorney’s Office for years before he joined T&M in 1999, according to the member spotlight.

The security giant has been in business since 1981 and offers integrated security, cyber, intelligence and investigative

solutions, according to its website. City Hall spokesperson Fabien Levy declined to confirm or deny the appointment Sunday night.

Adams had previously considered appointing Tucker, a member of the mayor’s Public Safety and

Justice transition committee, to replace then-Commissioner Daniel Nigro. But the mayor ultimately passed over Tucker in favor of Kavanagh, who was the first woman to ever lead the department.

Kavanagh, 42, had numerous clashes with other department bigwigs during her tenure. The FDNY was slapped with an age discrimination lawsuit brought by department honchos she demoted.

She also faced heat after she sought to discipline members who booed New York Attorney General Letitia James during a department promotion ceremony.

Tucker, who is the board secretary of the FDNY Foundation, was named an honorary fire commissioner in 2014. He got involved with the official nonprofit of the department following 9/11. He also sits on the board of trustees for the New York City Police Foundation, according to his T&M bio.



# Still no lifting at pricey gym

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## Maggie mayday!

**ROD Stewart** was forced to cancel two performances Friday after contracting COVID. The “Maggie May” crooner’s team revealed the news on his Instagram, writing, “We regret to announce that tonight’s Rod Stewart’s concert in Stateline, NV, and his August 10 concert in Lincoln, CA, have been postponed as the singer recovers from a summer strain of COVID-19.” The news comes after Stewart, 79, canceled the Aug. 7 show of his Vegas residency for strep throat. It would have been his residency’s 200th show. He’d recently quipped, “I’m aware my days are numbered but I’ve got no fear . . . We have all got to pass on at some point, so we are all in the same basket.”



## Big daddy issues

**ELLE King** 35, is talking about the complicated relationship she’s had with her “SNL” star dad **Rob Schneider** since she was a kid. In an edited teaser for today’s episode of **Bunnie XO’s** “Dumb Blonde” podcast, the singer (above) says, “I got four or five years without talking to my dad . . . I put out my record and people finally started asking me about my dad. My dad called me and was like, ‘Don’t f--king talk about me in the press.’” King also says how her dad allegedly send her to “fat camp” as a kid. The Post has reached out to Schneider’s rep for comment.

THEY just can’t work it out!

Following Page Six’s report on fitness fanatics freaking out over the Equinox Printing House’s ongoing elevator problems in March, we hear the swanky Manhattan gym’s members are still “losing their minds” that the issue is not fixed.

On top of that, there was no water last week. One source tells us they got stuck in the elevator at the West Village location last month for almost an hour — until they were rescued by the FDNY. We hear the member was given a \$50 credit at the expensive spot’s store.

Classes have been canceled since guests can’t get to the upstairs area, causing buff bods

to flee in droves to other gyms instead of continuing to pay \$3,600 a year at the elevator-challenged spot.

An email to members, seen by Page Six, states: “Due to recent feedback we have scheduled the installation of two new reservoir water tanks to prevent any further water interruptions.”

The note also promised, “Water will be fully restored as of Friday 08/09 with no interruptions.”

Miffed members also got several emails last week alerting them that the elevator was down, and that some classes were canceled.

“Our tech found that we are going to need an

additional part to restore our service meaning that our elevator will be down for the weekend and partially on Monday as well while they install this piece,” said a letter.

Members — who reportedly include **Claire Danes** and **Will Arnett** — aren’t allowed to walk up the stairs because of the building’s rules, alleged one frustrated client.

There are even Reddit threads devoted to the issues at the gym.

One commenter wisecracked: “But seriously . . . the elevator. It hardly ever works. And when it does, in the time it takes to go from the ground floor to the top, you could legit run a half mile.”

## Shows in ‘Doubt’

WHAT’S going on with celeb injuries to fans on social media Saturday after she said she suffered an injury and would be canceling her show in Atlantic City. “As a result of a recent injury and in consultation with my doctors, I’ve been advised that I’m not able to perform on August 17 at Hard Rock Live at Etess Arena in Atlantic City,” she wrote on Instagram. “I’m so sorry,” she added before saying she plans to reschedule. She’s slated to appear at the iHeartRadio Music Festival in Las Vegas, Sept. 20, and the South Star Music Festival, Sept. 28, in Huntsville, Ala.

## We hear

THAT **Victoria** and **Josh Schneps**, owners of Dan’s Papers of the Hamptons, own 100 outlets after acquiring Fire Island News, Anton Newspapers and the Blank Slate Newspaper group. Secretary to the Governor **Karen Persichilli Keogh** attended their Power Women of the Hamptons event . . . THAT journo **Lieba Nesis** will host **Shabbos Kestenbaum**, the Harvard student suing the school over antisemitism, Friday at Chabad of Southampton.



## A dressing down

WHO would’ve seen this feud brewing? **Britney Spears** (above) seemed to throw shade at “Gossip Girl” star **Blake Lively** for wearing the same 2002 Versace dress as her at the latter’s NYC premiere for her movie “It Ends With Us” last week. In an Instagram video shared Saturday, the “Toxic” singer wore an “updated” version of the dress, which she said she likes “way better.” The dress she wore in the dance video — set to the tune of “Your Love” by the Outfield (!) — was another sparkling colorful rendition of the famous frock. Spears’ garment featured skinny shoulder straps and side cutouts. But after the singer was accused of shading Lively with her post, she praised the star with an updated caption saying, “I’m no @blakelively.”

## Reality star’s ‘so glad’ for life

**NEV Schulman** said he is “lucky to be here” after he broke his neck in two places following a terrifying bike accident. On Saturday, the “Catfish” host took to Instagram to share what happened the day after he went fishing with his family last weekend. “Monday was not a day like that. Monday was a day where I learned what ‘before the accident’ really means,” he captioned the post. “And Monday gave weight to just how lucky I was to have Sunday. It’s true what they say — life can change in an instant.” Schulman, 39, said he “never made it to pick up my son from school on the bike . . . I was alone on impact. Me and the truck. And then I guess the pavement,” he added. “I was alone and unconscious.” The “Dancing With the Stars” alum said he has a broken neck. “I’m lucky to be here, alive, standing and hugging my family, projected to make a full recovery. And I’m really starting to understand the meaning of gratitude. For the big and little things before the accident, and now everything moving forward.” He concluded by saying he was “so glad” he went fishing with his family the day before. He did not give any additional details about the crash.

It was a red letter day for a trip to the spa for Jennifer Lawrence as the “Red Sparrow” actress, 33, hit up Ställe Studios in Soho.

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# Catching US at a bad time



**Cindy Adams**

WE are still a democracy. Not yet sunk to banana republic status. But it's coming in just three months. Faster than my face is falling. Faster than investigators can dredge deep into this new left-

wing presidential wannabe's left-wing vice presidential lefty choice. His pillow's probably on the right side of the bed.

The good news? Her veep pick comes from that great political cutting-edge Minnesota which is known globally for hockey and soybeans.

So: What's a threat to our democracy? This female — a supposed border czar — who didn't go to the border. Why? Because she didn't like it. Because she couldn't tell her behind from some drug dealer who was jumping a fence illegally.

You cannot

sweep a bad child under the rug. This one's no leader. This bad child seized a brilliantly timed opportunity.

Our Democratic dead-head president mumbled and stumbled for four years from his basement toilet. Then went nighty night and beddy-bye close — or almost near — to his marital ventriloquist. And our beloved God-blessed country limped along. He alone was our threat to Democracy. Choosing HER without a vote, no vote, any vote — engineered the antithesis of a Democratic process.

## Here's the deal

UNDERSTAND, nobody pledged to this person. Nobody put their signatures down next to hers. Millions of us in this country. Not one citizen truly actually put their names down for her. Ever. Never. Or paraded for her.

Who knows what she thought. If she actually had a thought. Or said. Or believed. Or promised. Or will attempt. All we ever got from her was burble and babble and long pants.

Government-savvy smart-ass Democrats were holding off **Biden's** bye-bye. His stepping aside was programmed. The Rockettes weren't as rehearsed. Planned. Timed. Rockets to the moon weren't this smooth. Even if he screamed and screeched — the deal was done.

NYC's Rockettes leave more  
to chance than Democrats.



Annie Wernie/NY Post

## Quick picks

THIS second Mrs. **Emhoff** is the only presidential candidate in 2024 who didn't campaign. She just got anointed. Like **Camilla's** husband in London.

And the USA allowed this?

The damnocrats orchestrated the great coup of this century by having burbling **Biden** lurch sideways — so late in the game — so that other dems had to hide aside so **Kamala** could grab the brass ring. I do not want her. I didn't vote for her. I

was given no choice. I didn't sign up for her. None of us did.

## Child's play

I apologize to my countrymen for saying this. BUT: I am not a Washington insider. I have no husband. Not associated with any law firm. Not a devoted Republican. Not invariably listed as "brilliant." I can't paint, dance or win at chess. I have, however, voted for Democrats. I'm just a devoted loyal passionate loving American — a US citizen who senses

that something smart and sinister has been put over on me.

I only know that a couple of unemployed DC pros met in a White House men's room and spelled it out. It was political Scrabble. At least she didn't pick young little **Buttigieg** because Election Day might've been a school night.

IN my limited view, this was a beginning threat to democracy.

**Only in Washington, DC, kids, only in Washington, DC.**

# To buy your dream home, you need a dream team

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# WWII hero's remains ID'd

By KATHERINE DONLEVY

The remains of a World War II US airman have finally been identified more than eight decades after he died in a Japanese prisoner-of-war camp, officials announced.

Staff Sgt. Alvin R. Scarborough, of Dossville, Miss., was 22 years old and serving in the Army Air Forces 454th Ordnance Company in the Philippine Islands when the Japanese invaded in December 1942.

It's unclear exactly when he was captured, but Scarborough was recorded as one of thousands of American and Filipino service members imprisoned when the US surrendered the Bataan peninsula on April 9, 1942. The surrender of the Corregidor Island followed May 6.

### Death march

That day, Japan forced Scarborough and 78,000 other prisoners — 12,000 of whom were American — to make the infamous 65-



**ALVIN SCARBOROUGH**  
Going home at last.

mile Bataan Death March along the mountainous coast of Luzon Island toward the Cabanatuan POW camp, according to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency.

### Few survived

Only 54,000 prisoners survived the trek, according to Army archives, and another 2,500 perished at the camp during the war.

According to prison camp and other historical records, Scarborough died July 28, 1942.

He was buried with other prisoners in Common

Grave 215 of the camp cemetery.

Scarborough's body was exhumed by the American Graves Registration Service in 1947, but he, like thousands of others, remained unidentified for decades to come. Only five sets of remains in 215 were identified at the time.

His body was reinterred at the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial as Unknown until 2018.

### DNA used

The unidentified remains of Common Grave 215 were sent to the DPAA laboratory, where scientists used DNA analysis and circumstantial evidence to identify them.

After eight decades, Scarborough's body was finally accounted for on Sept. 21, 2023, the DPAA said.

The hero's body will be returned to his home in Mississippi for a proper burial at a date yet to be determined.

*kdonlevy@nypost.com*

# Nixon son-in-law says Don treated similarly

A close relative of former President Richard Nixon is for the first time publicly discussing the disgraced prez's resignation over Watergate, and says it reminds him of how unfairly Donald Trump is being treated today.

Ed Cox, who is chairman of the New York Republican Party, claimed Sunday that his late father-in-law was railroaded at the time by an ironclad Democratic-run Congress and a much more centralized, liberal-dominated media.

Cox, asked on 770 WABC's "The Cats Roundtable" if the push to force out Nixon has similarities to the Demo-

cratic prosecutions of Trump, replied, "Absolutely."

"[Trump's] two impeachments — certainly with lawfare," said Cox, who married Nixon's daughter Tricia in 1971, referring to partisan prosecutions.

Nixon was tied to the infamous Watergate hotel break-in and its eventual cover-up, which were carried out by GOP operatives against Democratic foes in 1972.

He resigned from office Aug. 8, 1974, during famous impeachment hearings against him that were set to help boot him from the White House.

He died April 22, 1994.

Trump has been impeached twice: in 2019 for allegedly trying to pressure Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky to announce investigations that would boost Trump's campaign against Joe Biden, and in 2021 over his role in the Capitol riots.

Cox said Trump was eventually acquitted of the charges because of Republican strength in the Senate — and will beat the other pending criminal prosecutions against him.

Trump is the Republican nominee for White House in a comeback bid.

*Carl Campanile*

# More renewables have only led to more consumption

**BJORN LOMBORG**



**D**ESPITE much hype, the much-vaunted green energy transition away from fossil fuels isn't happening.

Achieving a meaningful shift with current policies turns out to be unaffordable. We need to drastically change policy direction.

Globally, we are already spending almost \$2 trillion annually to try to force an energy transition. Over the past decade, solar and wind energy use has increased to their highest-ever levels.

But it hasn't reduced fossil fuels — on the contrary, we have added even more fossil fuels over the same time.

Countless studies show that when societies add more renewable energy, most of it never replaces coal, gas or oil. It simply adds to energy consumption. Recent research shows that for every six units of new green energy, less than one unit displaces any fossil fuel. An analysis in the US shows that renewable energy subsidies simply lead to more overall energy being used.

In other words, policies meant to boost green energy are leading to more emissions.

None of this should come as a surprise to any student of history. During the transition from wood to coal during the 1800s, overall wood use actually increased even while coal took over a greater percentage of energy needs. The same thing happened when we shifted from coal to oil: by 1970, oil, coal, gas and wood all delivered more energy than ever.

## Power hungry

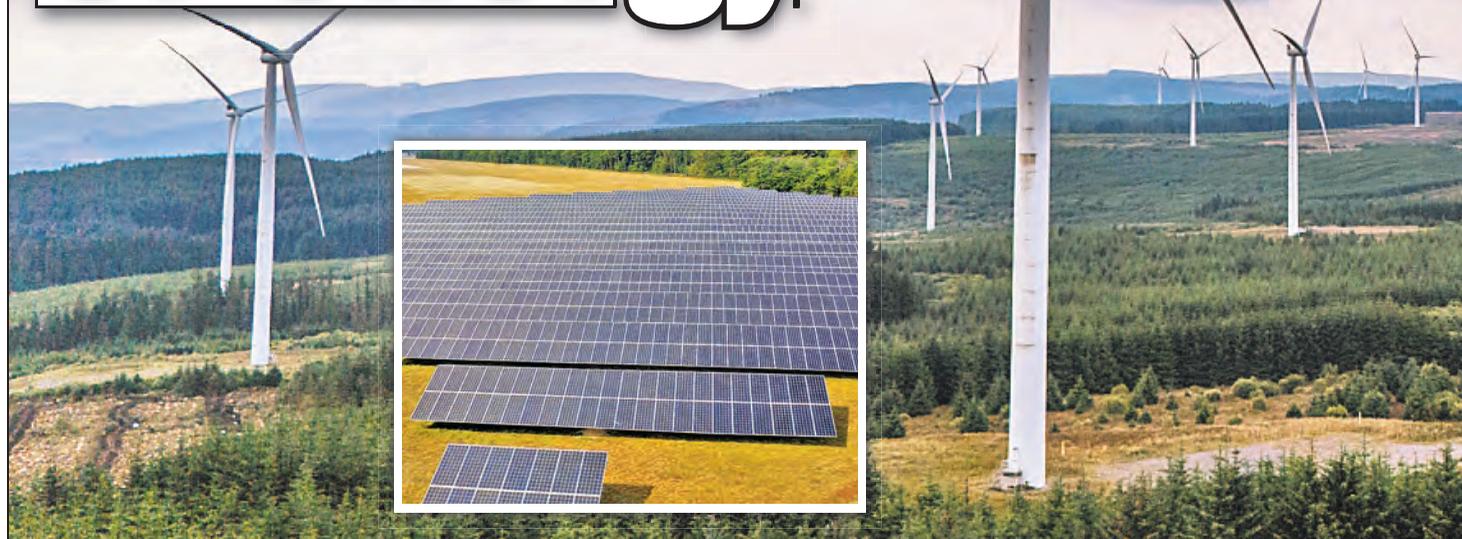
Humans have an unquenchable thirst for affordable energy, which is required for every aspect of modern life. In the past half-century, the energy we get from oil and coal has again doubled, hydro power has tripled, and gas has quadrupled — and we have experienced an explosion in the use of nuclear, solar and wind. The whole world — and the average person — has never had more energy available.

The grand plan underpinning today's green energy transition mostly insists that pushing heavily subsidized renewables everywhere will magically make fossil fuels go away.

But a recent study concluded that talk of a transition is "misleading." During every previous addition of a new energy source, the researchers found, it has been "entirely unprecedented for these additions to cause a sustained decline in the use of es-

# Green push a waste of energy.

**GRID-LOCK:** Wind and solar energy use is higher than ever, but they haven't replaced fossil fuels, which also are being consumed at a greater rate.



Getty Images

established energy sources."

One study investigated 14 shifts that have taken place over the past five centuries, like when farmers went from plowing fields with animals to fossil-fuel-powered tractors. The main driver has always been that the new energy service is either better or cheaper.

Solar and wind fail on both counts. They are not better, because unlike fossil fuels that can produce electricity whenever we need it, they can only produce energy according to the vagaries of daylight and weather.

This means they are not cheaper, either. At best, they are only cheaper when the sun is shining or the wind is blowing at just the right speed. The rest of the time, they are mostly useless and infinitely costly.

When we factor in the cost of just four hours of storage, wind and solar energy solutions become uncompetitive compared to fossil fuels. Achieving a real,

sustainable transition to solar or wind would require orders of magnitude and more storage, making these options incredibly unaffordable.

Moreover, solar and wind only address a small part of a vast challenge. They are almost entirely deployed in the electricity sector, which makes up just one-fifth of all global energy use.

## Need to innovate

We still struggle to find green solutions for most transport, and we haven't even begun with the vast energy needs of heating, manufacturing or agriculture. We are all but ignoring the hardest and most crucial sectors like steel, cement, plastics and fertilizer.

Little wonder then that, for all the talk of the world undergoing an energy transition, even the Biden administration finds that while renewable energy sources will dramatically increase glo-

bally up to 2050, oil, gas and coal will all keep increasing, too.

On this trajectory, we will never achieve an energy transition away from fossil fuels. This would require vastly more subsidies for solar and wind, as well as for batteries and hydrogen, and for us all to accept less efficient technologies for important needs like steel and fertilizer.

But on top of that, a true transition would also require politicians to impose massive taxes on fossil fuels to make them less desirable. McKinsey & Company estimates the direct price tag to achieve a real transition at more than \$5 trillion annually. This splurge would slow economic growth, making the real cost five times higher. Annual costs for people living in rich countries could be higher than \$13,000 per person per year.

Voters won't agree to that pain.

The only realistic way to achieve a transition is to vastly

improve green energy alternatives. This means more investment in green energy research and development. Innovation is needed in wind and solar, but also in storage, nuclear energy and many other possible solutions.

## Throwing away money

Bringing alternative energy costs below the price of fossil fuels is the only way green solutions can be implemented globally, and not just by the elite in a few climate-concerned, wealthy countries.

When politicians tell you the green transition is here and we need to get on board, they are really just asking voters to support them throwing more good money after bad. We need to be much smarter.

*Bjorn Lomborg is president of the Copenhagen Consensus, visiting fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution, and author of "False Alarm."*

# GWB dad's kin crisis

## Crash vic sole support

By NICOLE ROSENTHAL

A construction worker who was killed repairing the George Washington Bridge was the “sole breadwinner” for his wife and 1-year-old daughter, mourning family pals wrote on social media.

Herb Henry Alesna, 41, of Maspeth, Queens, was fatally struck Aug. 2 by an SUV driver who swerved into the closed lane in which Alesna was working on the span linking Washington Heights and The Bronx, a GoFundMe page organized by his wife's childhood friends said.

“We read and see stories like this but never think it will happen to someone we love, but it did,” the GoFundMe page reads.

“Taken away far too early, Henry leaves behind his wife, Eva, and their one-year old daughter, Kaia, whose first birthday they just recently celebrated this March. We want to help lessen the financial burden for Eva and Kaia, at the very least, as no amount of money will ever bring Henry back to us.”

The fundraiser has raised more than \$30,000 of its \$100,000 goal. All donations will go toward child care, Kaia's education and living

expenses, the page said.

“Their world was completely shattered, and Eva has no plan,” Stephanie Marino Tzannes, one of the organizers of the GoFundMe, told The Post.

“We set this up to help alleviate some of those immediate costs for her that I'm sure are going to be compounding ... like their groceries, their bills, and all those little things that are now their responsibility to figure out. We do need the village of New York to help her here.”

Alesna was described by Eva's friends as a “proud” member of the Filipino community and a devout Catholic, as well as a “yes person” who was “always down for anything.”

“He was the type of person you immediately felt comfortable with because his energy was authentic, pure, and genuine,” the GoFundMe page adds. “He made friends everywhere he went.”

The fatal crash happened about 10:20 p.m. when the 35-year-old driver of the 2018 Dodge Durango was traveling west on the bridge in the right lane, changed lanes and struck a 2015 Toyota Highlander SUV in the left lane.

No charges have been filed to date.

# Global youth jobs up

Youth unemployment worldwide last year dipped to a 15-year-low and is likely to continue falling through 2025, although weaker growth means Asia has lagged this trend, the International Labour Organization said in a report published Monday.

The ILO said 64.9 million people between 15 and 24 worldwide were unemployed last year, good for a rate of 13%, and it forecast that proportion would decrease further over the following two years to sit at 12.8% in 2024 and 2025.

The improvement in the market was driven by

robust economic growth rates in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has spurred demand for youth labor, the ILO said.

Youth unemployment rates in 2023 returned to their pre-pandemic rates or lower in most, but not all subregions.

For young people in the Arab States, East Asia, and Southeast Asia and the Pacific, youth unemployment rates were higher last year than in 2019, the ILO said.

For the Asian subregions, the trend marked a change of direction from the stronger growth of the pre-COVID years. *Reuters*

# TERRORIST

## Bulk of ISIS-linked busts in Europe were ages 13-19

By ALEX OLIVEIRA

Two-thirds of ISIS-linked arrests in Europe over the past nine months were teenagers, according to an alarming new study — as experts warn of extremists targeting children on social media in the wake of the foiled plot to attack a Taylor Swift concert in Vienna.

Of the 58 European arrests linked to ISIS over the past nine months, 38 were between the ages of 13 and 19, according to a new King's College study reported by CNN.

Now, with the addition of the Austrian suspects — ages 17, 18 and 19 — who plotted to drive a car full of explosives into Swift's Vienna shows, the total comes to at least 41 European teenagers recruited by the jihadist terror organization in mere months.

The vulnerable teens are often contacted online by ISIS recruiters who radicalize them and goad them into attempting acts of mass violence under their bloody banner, according to the study's author, Peter Neumann — who also noted attacks and planned attacks in Europe had quadrupled since 2022.

### Targets for radicalization

But Europe isn't the only place where ISIS is going after teens. Citizens from all Western nations, including the United States, are being targeted on social media.

“There's no doubt in anybody's mind that's the preferred means and mechanisms for recruitment in the West, meaning Europe, but also in the US, Canada, Australia and elsewhere,” Dr. Corri Zoli, director of research at Syracuse University's Institute for Security Policy and Law, told The Post.

Using platforms like TikTok, Telegram, X and Facebook, ISIS recruiters will connect with young people — often male — susceptible to extremist views, and play into whatever insecurities or curiosities they may have, Zoli explained.

“Everybody loves to recruit young people, especially young men, because there's developmental issues,” she said. “Their brains aren't fully formed until they're 25 or so. They can make capricious decisions. And young people in general tend to have a black-and-white view of the world.”

### 'CAPRICIOUS DECISIONS':

The three suspects (one pictured right) arrested for allegedly plotting to bomb a Taylor Swift show in Vienna are all in their late teens — a prime age for ISIS recruiters who search out disaffected young people, often boys and men, experts say. The terror group (below) looks to connect with potential recruits on sites like X, Facebook and TikTok.



Though platforms like TikTok and Facebook generally police any content directly mentioning terror groups like ISIS, videos or groups about seemingly innocuous topics, such as Sharia law or cultural items, can be an in for recruiters to identify targets.

“These become entry points for especially young people who are really upset about what's occurring in any given conflict scenario. They get drawn into an activist, political com-

munity, that then has pretty deep roots and affiliations with actual extremist organizations,” Zoli said.

Reps. August Pfluger (R-Texas) and Jimmy Panetta (D-Calif.) last week proposed a bipartisan bill calling on the Department of Homeland Security to conduct annual reviews of platforms like TikTok for terror recruitment dangers.

The teens suspected of the Taylor Swift bombing plot were recruited on-

# TEENS



Scott A. Garfitt/Invision/AP

line by ISIS, according to Austrian law enforcement, and intended to kill “as many people as possible” by driving an explosives-filled car into a crowd at one of the concerts where they’d recently been hired to work security.

They were arrested Wednesday, just a day before Swift’s first of three concerts in Vienna, expected to draw 195,000 people. The shows were then canceled.

Chemicals and other technical bombmaking devices were found in

the 19-year-old ringleader’s home.

His lawyer later attempted to downplay the threat, saying the teen was merely “playing with ideas.”

A spokesperson for Facebook owner Meta said it has hundreds of specialists monitoring for terrorism-related content, adding that terror and hate groups are barred from the platform and their content is removed as soon as it is detected. Neither TikTok nor X responded to requests for comment.

**JOHN R. BOLTON**



**T**HE turmoil the Biden-Harris administration left behind in Afghanistan is responsible for the increased threats of terrorism worldwide, including the plot against Taylor Swift’s concerts in Austria.

According to investigators, al Qaeda, the Islamic State (“ISIS”), and ISIS-K (“ISIS-Khorasan,” an ancient name for much of central Asia, including Iran and Afghanistan) all had a hand in radicalizing the teens who planned a concert mass murder.

Al Qaeda is now almost embedded in the Kabul regime of the Taliban, while the ISIS factions are adversaries. The terrorism world, however, doesn’t function along the lines of corporate organizational charts. Loyalties and affiliations come and go, sometimes with cooperation and armed hostility existing simultaneously, and constantly changing.

Afghanistan after America’s 2021 evacuation provides the ideal environment: enough anarchy and lack of central Taliban control that it is once again a haven for international terrorists.

## Alarm in '21

As far back as October 2021, just weeks after the bungled US and NATO withdrawal concluded, senior Biden Defense Department officials testified in open congressional hearings that ISIS-K and al Qaeda intended to launch worldwide terrorist attacks. One said,

“we could see ISIS-K generate that capability in somewhere between six or twelve months, according to current assessments. And for Al Qaeda, it would take a year or two to reconstitute that capability.”

Outside observers saw exactly the same resurgence as America departed: “Afghanistan, Again, Becomes a Cradle for Jihadism — and al Qaeda,” as The New Yorker headlined in August 2021. Ominously, it was ISIS-K that masterminded the brutal August 2021 attack against our forces at Kabul airport’s Abbey Gate during the evacuation.

Western concert and performance venues have long

# Debacle in A’stan set stage for Taylor terror plot

been favorite terrorist targets because of the crowds they attract and with security often looser than at airports and other sensitive locations. In what is now a terrorist paradigm, ISIS claimed responsibility for the simultaneous 2015 attacks at the Bataclan Theater in Paris and at the Stade de France, Paris’ main outdoor athletic stadium. More recently, Hamas’ barbaric Oct. 7 strike on Israel featured an assault on a beach concert, with some 364 attendees and police killed and 40 more taken hostage.

## ‘Distant attacks’

ISIS-K is increasingly capable of conducting distant attacks, even in the most hostile anti-terrorist environments. In January, for example, ISIS-K attacked a memorial ceremony in Kerman, Iran, for deceased Quds Force leader Qassem Soleimani, whom the United States had eliminated four years earlier. Despite extraordinary security precautions because of the number of high Iranian officials attending, and even advance warning from the Biden administration, ISIS-K killed 80 attendees, an extraordi-

nary triumph in the heartland of the world’s most-dangerous state sponsor of terrorism.

Then, in March, ISIS-K struck again, this time at the Crocus City Hall, a concert arena and mall complex in Moscow, killing over 137 and wounding roughly 100 more. Vladimir Putin tried to blame Ukraine, but ISIS-K was clearly responsible.

ISIS-K’s plot against Swift’s concerts underscores its growing confidence and geographic reach. How long can it be before ISIS-K-sponsored attacks reach America? The inescapable conclusion is that the US withdrawal from Afghanistan has left us more vulnerable to external terrorist threats than before.

Of course, it was precisely our presence that made us safe, just as our withdrawal has made us more vulnerable.

In 2020, Sen. Rand Paul thought it “laughable” to say it was not time to leave Afghanistan.

No one should be laughing now.

*John Bolton was national security adviser to President Donald Trump from 2018-19 and US ambassador to the United Nations from 2005-06.*

# Teen asked pal to check on her Slay vic's wary last messages

By ISABEL KEANE

An 18-year-old Colorado woman sent her friend eerie text messages asking to be checked on periodically before she was allegedly strangled by a man she met on Snapchat.

Annabelle Margaret Floren-Wyant was found dead just before 3 a.m. Aug. 1 in the home of Jorge Meza-Alarcon Jr., 26, near El Paso, Texas, KKTU reported.

The teen's friend told police she had visited Meza-Alarcon's home to "collect money," according to the report.

"[The friend] said Annabelle informed him Jorge was 'weird' and requested he check on her periodically via text message or phone call," arrest papers read. "When [the friend] was unable to reach Annabelle at approximately [2:25 a.m.], he called 911 to report the incident."

## Blood coming from ear

Floren-Wyant was found inside the suspect's bedroom with blood coming from her ear, according to the arrest papers. Authorities found Meza-Alarcon about three miles away with injuries to his face. He had called 911 claiming

someone had assaulted him, according to the report.

Meza-Alarcon then told investigators Floren-Wyant had agreed to meet up via Snapchat to exchange money for sex.

He told authorities that Floren-Wyant requested money and when he turned to get it, he was hit in the head with a cellphone, which caused him to black out.

## Put vic in chokehold

Meza-Alarcon then claimed Floren-Wyant had threatened him and he felt uneasy about the encounter, especially since there was a vehicle idling outside and Floren-Wyant was texting someone throughout the night, according to the report.

Meza-Alarcon told investigators he was scared because he thought they were planning to attack him so he put her in a "D'arce" chokehold, which he demonstrated for police in the interview room, according to the arrest papers.

After he got off Floren-Wyant, he went outside to his father's truck. When asked if he knew Floren-Wyant was dead, he said, "without checking her pulse..."

Meza-Alarcon was arrested and charged with first-degree murder.



Facebook/Julia floren



**ODD STORY:** Police say Jorge Meza-Alarcon Jr. (left), who is charged in the murder of Annabelle Margaret Floren-Wyant (above), told them he put her in a chokehold because he thought he was going to be attacked.

## Slain girl parents: End riots

The parents of one of three girls murdered at a Taylor Swift-themed event in northern England last month called for an end to the nationwide rioting that followed their deaths at an emotional funeral for their daughter.

Alice da Silva Aguiar, 9, and two other girls died and eight were injured after being stabbed in an attack at the event at the seaside town of Southport two weeks ago.

Days of riots followed in Southport and in towns and cities across the UK, triggered by false online posts wrongly identifying the suspected killer as an Islamist migrant. A teenager, born in Britain, has since been charged and police say the incident is not being treated as terrorism.

At Aguiar's funeral, the area's police chief told the congregation that her grieving Portuguese parents, Sergio and Alexandra, had asked her to deliver a public appeal for calm.

"You have shown great courage in asking me to be here today ... to give a message from you, Alice's family, to say that you do not want there to be any more violence on the streets of the United Kingdom in the name of your daughter," Merseyside Chief Constable Serena Kennedy said. *Reuters*

## Locals flee Greek fire

Residents fled their homes in the village of Varnava near Athens on Sunday as fire crews struggled to contain a fast-moving wildfire fueled by hot, windy weather that sent smoke clouds over the Greek capital.

More than 250 firefighters backed by 12 water-bombing planes and seven helicopters battled the blaze, which broke out at 3 p.m. and quickly reached the village 20 miles north of Athens.

Authorities sent evacuation alerts for five nearby areas. By early evening, thick brown smoke hung over much of Athens and reached the island of Aegina to its south. *Reuters*

## Rwanda Pres. Kagame sworn into office — again

Rwanda's President Paul Kagame was sworn into office Sunday for a five-year term, after a landslide win in last month's election extended his near quarter-century in office.

The 66-year-old former rebel leader won the July poll with 99.18% of the vote, after

eight other candidates including his most vocal critics were barred by the National Electoral Commission.

Kagame won acclaim from Western and regional leaders for helping end the 1994 genocide and turning Rwanda into an attractive investment and aid destination. But his

reputation has been sullied by criticism of rights abuses and suppression of dissent plus supporting rebels in Democratic Republic of Congo — all accusations he has denied.

Sunday's swearing-in took place at Kigali's Amahoro national Stadium, with thou-

sands in attendance, many wearing T-shirts in the yellow, green and blue colors of the national flag.

Kagame received a military 21-gun salute, accompanied by cheers from the crowd. Twenty-two heads of state from African countries were in attendance.

Rwanda's constitution was changed in 2015, allowing Kagame to extend his time in office. The two men who vied against him last month both conceded defeat in the election, which rights groups say was marred by a crackdown on media, the opposition and civil society groups. *Reuters*

**OLIVIA**

Skull was cracked open.

## Horse kicks girl in head

A Nevada mother unwittingly filmed the tranquil moments of her toddler walking through a meadow just before a wild horse kicked the girl in the head.

"I thought she had died because she was unresponsive," Haley Wilkey said of daughter Olivia's harrowing incident.

Olivia's skull split from the brutal attack — and her mother had to hold her head together for the 45 excruciating minutes it took for help to arrive.

Miraculously, the 3-year-old survived and was discharged from the hospital less than a week after her brush with death.

In the video, Olivia admires the beautiful black Mustang from several feet away as it munches on grass at Mount Charleston, 40 miles west of Las Vegas.

"What is it?" Wilkey asks her toddler, who sweetly responds: "It's a horsey."

Olivia turns her back to the horse, and the video cuts. *Katherine Donlevy*

## Ukraine nuke fire out: Russ.

The main fire at the Russia-controlled Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant in Ukraine has been extinguished, Russia's TASS state news agency reported early Monday, citing Russia's state nuclear energy company Rosatom.

Ukraine's nuclear power company Energoatom said in a statement on the Telegram messaging app that a cooling tower and other equipment were damaged.

TASS also reported, citing Rosatom's statement, that a cooling tower was damaged. *Reuters*

# DEADLY 'GAS' BLAST



**BOOM!** Firefighters hose down the debris of a Maryland home that exploded on Sunday.

## 1 killed as Md. home blows up

By RONNY REYES

At least one person was killed and two others injured when a house exploded in a wealthy Baltimore suburb Sunday.

First responders were alerted to a possible gas leak at 6:42 a.m. at a home on Arthurs Woods Drive in Bel Air and were on the scene when the explosion occurred.

Oliver Alkire, of the Maryland

Fire Marshal's office, described the blast as one of the worst he's ever witnessed.

"This is one of the largest explosions I've seen," Alkire told reporters of the blast that destroyed nearly every inch of the home.

Video footage of the aftermath on WBAL-TV shows the smoldering remains of the home, which was up for sale, as wood and debris were seen

scattered all across the street and deep into the neighboring yards.

Alkire said prior to the explosion, officials received reports of neighbors smelling gas in the area. Workers from Baltimore Gas and Electric responded.

Officials said one of the workers and a neighbor were injured, but they did not identify the person killed.

It remains unclear if the fatal-

ity was a resident, a neighbor or an official.

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives has been called in, with officials treating the area like a crime scene given the vast debris field.

Officials said there was no threat to the public.

The Harford County Fire and EMS Association did not release any further information.

*rreyes@nypost.com*

## Dump landslide kills at least 17 in Uganda

The death toll from a landslide at a vast garbage dump in Uganda's capital Kampala has risen to 17, a Red Cross official said Sunday, as rescue workers continued to dig for survivors.

After torrential rain in re-

cent weeks, a huge mound of garbage at the city's only landfill site collapsed late Friday, crushing and burying homes on the edge of the site as residents slept.

Four more bodies were retrieved Sunday, bringing

the total to 17, Irene Nakasita, spokesperson for Uganda Red Cross said.

Earlier Sunday, police spokesperson Patrick Onyango had put the death toll at 13, up from eight that the Kampala Capital City Au-

thority had reported Saturday.

President Yoweri Museveni said in a statement he had directed the prime minister to coordinate the removal of all those living near the garbage dump.

The government has also started investigations into the landslide's cause and will take action against any officials found to have been negligent, the Inspectorate of Government posted on X. *Reuters*

# Sally Brompton

# Daily Horoscope

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

**♌ LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)**  
The fact that you enjoy being the center of attention will work in your favor today as all eyes will be on you rather than on someone you are trying to protect. Don't do anything too outrageous though or they may see through your act.

**♍ VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)**  
Upheavals on the career front are likely today but there is no need to be alarmed. The fact that there are so many things up in their air at the moment will work in your favor as you adapt quicker than most people to new opportunities.

**♎ LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)**  
Not everyone will be happy with the events of the next few days but you will be delighted in that you have been bored with a lack of movement in recent weeks and can take advantage of the chaos and confusion to get your life moving again.

**♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)**  
If you find yourself torn between two equally attractive offers today choose the one that helps other people more than it helps you. Not only will you feel good about yourself but in the long-term the universe will reward you for your generosity of spirit.

**♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)**  
Mars and Jupiter in your opposite sign will bring some serious tensions to the surface over the next few days and you can and you must deal with them so they never bother you again. Be ruthless if you have to - this is no time for sentiment.

**♑ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)**  
The next few days are going to be super busy, so let loved ones know that you won't be

able to devote your full attention to them but that you will make it up to them later on. They'll understand - they know how much your work means to you.

**♒ AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)**  
Cosmic activity in the most creative area of your chart urges you to get serious about a long-term project. Up until today you have been just tinkering with it but now you must knuckle down and get it finished. It's your big chance to shine.

**♓ PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)**  
Do what you can to bring a smile to the face of a loved one who is feeling a bit down in the dumps. As a Water sign you have a knack for highlighting the absurdities of life and in doing so can help people feel

better about themselves.  
**♈ ARIES (March 21-April 20)**  
Your insights into what makes a friend or loved one tick will come in useful today as you should be able to predict what their next move is going to be. You will also be well placed to step in and rescue them if they get it wrong.

**♉ TAURUS (April 21-May 21)**  
Do you cash in some kind of investment now or do you hang on to it a bit longer in the hope that it will appreciate in value even more? Only you can make that decision but the planets warn you may have pushed your luck far enough already.

**♊ GEMINI (May 22-June 21)**  
You may not see eye-to-eye with a friend or family member

over every little thing but your aims are still generally in alignment, so strive to stay on good terms. Remember, their way of doing things is as valid for them as your way is for you.

**♋ CANCER (June 22-July 23)**  
It's quite likely that you will get a bit emotional over the next few days as cosmic activity in the most sensitive area of your chart comes to a head. But that's okay - in fact it's good, as it helps to let off steam once in a while.

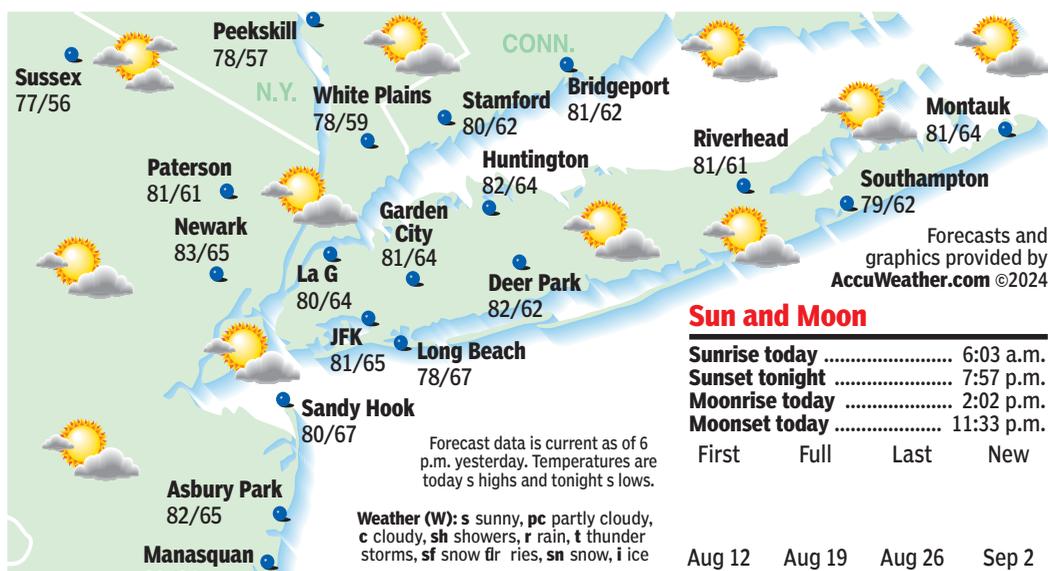
**BIRTHDAY MONDAY**  
Resist the temptation to go for short-term gains when the long-term rewards could be so much better. That applies in particular to anything of an artistic nature - create something that lasts rather than something that brings instant but temporary gratification.

## Post Weather Report

Monday	Tuesday
 <b>Today:</b> Partly sunny. High 77 to 83. <b>Tonight:</b> Partly cloudy. Low 61 to 67.	 <b>Tomorrow:</b> Intervals of clouds and sunshine. High 78 to 84. <b>Tomorrow night:</b> Partly cloudy. Low 64 to 70.
Wednesday	Thursday
 Mostly sunny. High 80 to 86. <b>Evening</b> Mainly clear. Low 66 to 72.	 Mostly sunny. High 80 to 86. <b>Evening</b> Patchy clouds. Low 64 to 70.

**Almanac**  
YESTERDAY'S CONDITIONS AT CENTRAL PARK THROUGH 6PM  
**Temperature**  
High: 80, Low: 69, Mean: 75  
**Departure from Normal**  
Yesterday: 2 degrees  
**Precipitation**  
Yesterday: 0.00 , Month: 4.10 , Year: 33.98 , Normal year to date: 30.14  
**Cooling Degree days yesterday** .....10  
**Total for the month (normal)** .....142 (133)  
**Total since Jan. 1 (normal)** .....1022 (834)  
**Last year to date** .....815  
**Heat Index** (at noon yest.) ..... 74  
**UV index** (for Mon.) ..... 8 (Very High)  
**Humidity** (at noon) ..... 59%

**AIR QUALITY**  
**Pollen:** Moderate Predominant pollen: Weeds  
**AQI rating:** (for Mon.) .....Moderate



**Sun and Moon**

**Sunrise today** ..... 6:03 a.m.  
**Sunset tonight** ..... 7:57 p.m.  
**Moonrise today** ..... 2:02 p.m.  
**Moonset today** ..... 11:33 p.m.

	First	Full	Last	New
Aug 12	Aug 19	Aug 26	Aug 26	Sep 2

**New York Tides**

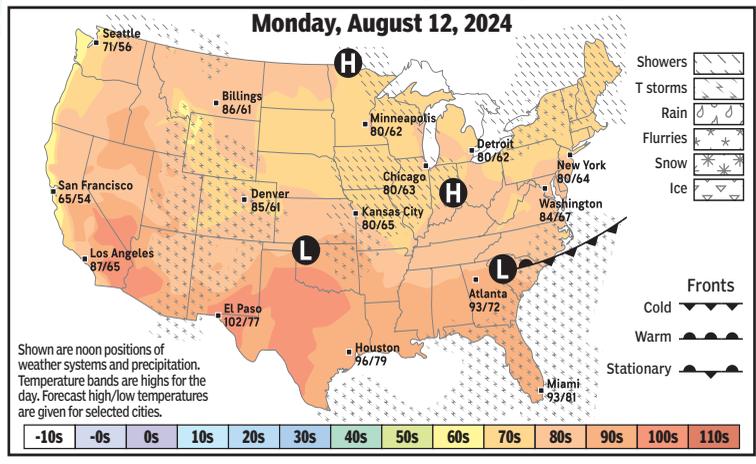
	TODAY		TOMORROW	
	1st	2nd	1st	2nd
High Tide for Coney Island	1:20a	1:58p	2:09a	2:44p
Fire Island	1:23a	2:03p	2:08a	2:59p
Hempstead	5:01a	5:24p	5:57a	6:19p
Huntington	5:14a	5:35p	6:09a	6:31p
Jones Inlet	1:04a	1:42p	1:53a	2:28p
Montauk Point	3:08a	3:41p	4:02a	4:36p
Port Washington	4:57a	5:20p	5:51a	6:14p
Sandy Hook	1:24a	2:02p	2:13a	2:48p

**Regional cities**

	TODAY	TOMORROW
Albany	72/56/t	82/61/pc
Danbury	77/57/pc	81/59/pc
Glens Falls	71/51/t	79/55/pc
Gr Barrington	72/55/sh	78/58/pc
Kingston	77/56/t	81/59/pc
Liberty	69/54/t	74/56/pc
Monticello	72/52/t	75/55/pc
Newburgh	77/56/pc	80/59/pc
Poughkeepsie	77/54/pc	81/60/pc
Saratoga Springs	71/54/t	79/59/pc
Stroudsburg	77/56/pc	79/57/pc
Torrington	75/56/pc	78/57/pc
Syracuse	72/60/t	78/60/pc

**World cities**

	TODAY	TOMORROW
Athens	96/77/s	99/76/s
Baghdad	113/89/s	113/85/pc
Beijing	85/71/pc	81/73/pc
Berlin	82/58/s	87/64/s
Cairo	96/80/s	96/79/s
Dublin	71/58/pc	69/49/sh
Geneva	91/66/pc	92/66/t
Hong Kong	88/82/c	88/81/t
Jerusalem	88/68/s	90/71/s
Kabul	90/65/s	93/67/s
London	90/56/s	79/62/pc
Madrid	97/71/s	89/67/c
Mexico City	73/59/r	75/59/sh
Montreal	73/59/pc	81/61/pc
Moscow	63/52/r	66/54/sh
Paris	99/67/s	84/62/t
Rio de Janeiro	71/61/c	68/57/pc
Rome	93/73/s	92/71/s
Sydney	67/56/pc	65/57/r
Tokyo	97/82/pc	97/80/t



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## Xi's \$60B Bet

### Boosts Venezuela's Maduro to hem in US

**C**HINA'S timing was impeccable. As soon as Nicolás Maduro declared victory in Venezuela's July 28 elections, China congratulated him "on the smooth presidential election" and his "successful" win.

The election was anything but "smooth," of course. It was marred by allegations of widespread voter fraud, which have led to massive protests in Venezuela. The United States, along with most Latin American countries, have rejected Maduro's claim of victory.

Not China. Even while the votes were still being counted, China's Xi Jinping was congratulating Maduro on his "victory."

Xi pledged that China would "firmly support Venezuela's efforts to safeguard national sovereignty, national dignity and social stability, and its just cause of opposing foreign interference."

Some analysts say that China, by endorsing Maduro, just wants to protect its \$60 billion investment in Venezuela, as well as guarantee continued access to the country's oil. It is true that nearly half of all Chinese loans to Latin America and the Caribbean have gone to Venezuela, which does have the largest oil reserves in the world.

However, the rise of socialism in Venezuela under Hugo Chavez and now Maduro has led to the collapse of the state-controlled oil industry. Oil production has fallen to a quarter of what it once was, and Venezuela's GDP has followed suit.

Venezuela defaulted on its sovereign debt in 2017 and suspended all loan repayments to its creditors, including China, in 2020. It has repeatedly gone hat in hand to China seeking to further defer its payments.

If China were primarily concerned about recovering its huge investment in Venezuela, it would support Maduro's more market-oriented opponent, Edmundo Gonzalez. An end to radical socialism would jump-start economic growth, bring in foreign firms to restore oil production, and allow the country to repay its foreign loans, including those to China.

Instead, the CCP continues to loudly support a corrupt, socialist-minded autocrat who stole



Partners in crime: Maduro (r.) met with China envoy Qiu Xiaqi in June.

the recent election — even though this makes it increasingly unlikely that China will ever recover its \$60 billion investment.

But payback, for Maduro's Chinese Communist backers, is not just a matter of dollars and cents.

China is constantly on the hunt for strategic allies — countries run by socialist, communist or authoritarian leaders who will support the CCP on the world stage. And in Venezuela they have found one.

When Maduro's predecessor Hugo Chavez first came to power, the CCP quickly recognized a kindred spirit. Chavez regarded Fidel Castro as a "father figure" and believed that Cuba's problems stemmed not from communism, but from the American embargo.

As an added bonus, Chavez was fond of quoting from Mao's Little Red Book, and sought to establish Maoist-style people's communes in Venezuela to create new socialist men and women. He even went on national TV to read out loud from a 1950s propaganda tract called Inside a People's Commune: Report from Chiling (apparently not realizing that Mao's failed experiment in collectivization cost 45 million lives).

Reading these tea leaves, China soon declared that Venezuela was its newest "strategic partner." Its goal was to replicate in South America what it already had in Castro's Cuba: A commu-

nist bastion allied with China and hostile to the United States.

In the years since Chavez's death, Maduro has stayed in China's good graces by voting with it at the UN and backing its territorial claims. He has said that Taiwan is an inalienable province of China, endorsed its claim to the South China Sea and supported its persecution of Hong Kong's democracy movement.

Most importantly for China, Maduro's Venezuela not only serves as a strategic distraction in America's own backyard — witness its recent threats against neighboring Guyana — it increases China's military options in the event of war in the Pacific.

All this is why, even though Nicolas Maduro has repeatedly defaulted on his China loans, Xi Jinping last September upgraded their relationship, making Venezuela not just a "strategic partner," but an all-around "comprehensive strategic partner" of China's.

China is supporting Maduro in Venezuela for the same reason it supports North Korea, Iran, Cuba and a handful of other despotic regimes around the world. It creates strategic problems for the United States — and, in the case of Venezuela, problems very close to the homeland.

It's hard to put a price tag on that. But the evidence shows that China is willing to pay at least \$60 billion, if not a lot more.

Steven W. Mosher is president of the Population Research Institute.

MIRAFLORES PRESIDENTIAL PALACE HANDOUT/EPA-EFE/Shutterstock

## FAST TAKES

### Conservative: Harris' Boom May End With a Bust

With polls showing "booming" support for Kamala Harris, "GOP strategists might take heart in what could be called the Harris boom-and-bust cycle," notes the Washington Examiner's Byron York. In her 2020 presidential run, she briefly "shot up from back in the pack to close to the lead, only to disappear just as quickly." Her "brief boom came after a Democratic debate," but "with increased exposure after the debate, voters got a closer look at her" and "didn't really like what they saw." "A significant part of Harris's rise appears due to new support from independent voters," and "it is those voters who might become disillusioned with Harris." "So look for Democrats to keep Harris under wraps as long as possible."

### Liberal: Kam and Tim Are No Moderates

Kamala Harris' handlers "know the more voters view her as a moderate and close to the center of American politics, the better her chances of winning the election," explains The Liberal Patriot's Ruy Teixeira. The "moving-to-the-center" strategy includes "disavowals," avoiding "embarrassing questions" raised by her "policy reversals" and using Gov. Tim Walz to "help them reach the working class." Yet, in his 2022 governor's race, Walz "lost white working-class voters in his state by 8 points." More, "An attempt to move to the center that does not involve actively embracing centrist, moderate positions" clearly "may fall short of its political goals." So "Donald Trump, with all his unattractive qualities and enforced political errors, is likely to remain competitive through November and, let's face it, could easily win."

### Eye on Africa: IMF Aids Repression in Ethiopia

It is incredibly "shocking that leaders of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) just approved a four-year, \$3.4 billion relief package" for Ethiopia's government led by Abiy Ahmed, contends Mesfin Tegenau at The Hill. Activists working "for real democratic reforms in Ethiopia have been pleading with the world bankers to hold off on any bailout until the regime agrees to respect human rights." Instead, "the IMF extended a lifeline to the Abiy government after it agreed to a major monetary reform — floating its currency, the birr." The US government "is both a major source of funding for the IMF and the World Bank and those organizations' chief influencer," so Americans' tax dollars "are now propping up the shaky rule of an African strongman who will use these funds to continue drone strikes against his own citizens, and boost a military-linked to brutal door-to-door massacres in villages" across Ethiopia.

### From the right: Jews in Denial Over Kamala



David Mamet

Playwright David Mamet notes at Unherd that "the Democrats have become the party of antisemitism. Obama and Biden's policies have given money and arms to Iran, and withheld congressionally mandated military aid to Israel — and yet Jews vote Democratic." Why? A "concern with social justice" derived from "a warped understanding" of the Bible; the idea that the "murderous savagery" of groups like Hamas is "the result of misunderstanding," not evil. No: "Our problem is not public opinion — but denial." Kamala Harris has all but "announced that, under her administration, the United States will abandon Israel," yet "American Jews will support her." But "I believe that a Jew who votes for the Democrats is a damned fool."

### Wars watch: How Joe Prolongs Conflicts

"Watching the recent developments in the defensive wars of our allies Ukraine and Israel, it's hard not to wonder if both could have already achieved their goals," observes Commentary's Seth Mandel. Kyiv's invade-Russia gambit is aimed at "disrupting the shape of the war"; otherwise, "time is on Russia's side." And Hamas may at last finalize a ceasefire deal because its "back is against the wall," after Israel "obliterated" its leadership and "routed" its forces from "key battlegrounds" — over Team Biden objections. "Our allies want to negotiate from a place of strength not weakness. Tying their hands only prevents that from happening. A lot less blood could have been spilled to get them to this point."

— Compiled by The Post Editorial Board

## No! No! No! to Prop One

If nothing else moves New Yorkers to vote this November, Proposition 1 should: It would not only write the most extreme “trans rights” into the state Constitution, it would legalize rank discrimination on the basis of . . . pretty much every far-left agenda item.

Democrats are selling this “Equal Rights Amendment” as protecting abortion rights in the wake of the Dobbs decision. It's not remotely about that, but the greatest bait-and-switch in Empire State history.

New York's Constitution bans discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed or religion; Prop 1 would add: ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, pregnancy outcomes and reproductive health care.

The supposed advance in abortion rights is to outlaw discrimination because you had an abortion, which is beyond boutique.

Meanwhile, the scrum of other protections adds up to, among other things, strip-

ping parents of their rights over allowing minors to go on puberty blockers and undergo transgender surgery.

Far worse, it legalizes reverse discrimination in order to “prevent or dismantle” the banned forms of discrimination. That is, politicians and judges could mandate discrimination on the basis of race, age, gender, religion etc. as long as they claim to be fighting other such discrimination.

This is a license for rank injustice and insanely divisive social engineering — not to mention for ambulance-chasing lawyers to file a host of insanely vexatious suits.

The Democratic establishment backs this junk purely to put an “abortion” issue on the ballot to drive up turnout for Democratic candidates — and doesn't much care about what a horror show it'll usher in. Answering that feckless cynicism is ample reason to vote against every Democrat on the ballot while you're voting NO on Prop One.

But it's the duty of every sane New Yorker to at least show up to reject this madness.

## Menin's Corrupt Hotel-Killer Bill

City Councilwoman Julie Menin is close to lining up a veto-proof majority for a bill to cripple Gotham's hotel industry, and so slam tourism as New York still struggles to recover from the pandemic.

Her obvious motive: lining up the support of the powerful hotel unions for her coming bid to become council speaker. Never mind that the “Safe Hotel Act” would drive up room rates and displace nonunion workers, mostly minority immigrant women.

It would require hotels to obtain operating licenses every year, ban them from contracting out critical services and require them to directly employ only unionized workers. Vijay Dandapani, president of the Hotel Association of New York City, likens it to a “nuclear bomb” that “will destroy a major segment of the industry.”

This follows other HTC-inspired laws: banning nearly all AirBnB rentals in the city, for one. And, two years ago, mandating special permits to build a new hotel. Since then, no one's filed a single application: New non-unionized hotels won't get one, and nobody's interested in one that'll be under the

HTC's thumb.

Now the drive is to outlaw any nonunion job at any hotel, which guarantees at least some closures and sets up the HTC to dictate to the entire industry, forever.

Menin pretends it's an anti-crime measure, yet neither NYPD stats nor 911 complaints show any reason to fear hotel-centered crime. And she dog-whistles, *Billionaire hoteliers must be held accountable*. But most hotel owners aren't billionaires; these days they're largely South Asian entrepreneurs investing in outerborough properties.

It's getting prohibitively expensive for anyone but the rich (or those willing to stay on a friend's couch) to visit the city for fun. And that's poison for Broadway, museums, restaurants and the rest of the hospitality industry; it's even bad for non-high-end retailers.

The entire City Council is becoming nothing but a way for ideologues and special interests to make this town less livable for ordinary folks. That Menin is pushing this particular measure to vault herself into leading the council is just added proof of how fundamentally corrupt the council's grown.

## Air War on the Southern Border

Cartels have started an air war barely south of the US border — how long before it spills over, thanks to the Biden-Harris border erasure?

A cell of the Sinaloa Cartel, Los Salazar, has begun using drones to drop bombs on a rival group Los Pelones, in the town of Sonoyta — two miles from the US border.

An estimated more than 1,000 drones a month, per the US military, are already violating our airspace near the Mexican border. The Sinaloas or their rivals or some other group will see and take the opportunity soon enough.

Why not take out CPB agents or vehicles? After all, DC will do nothing. And the cartels have already killed Mexican soldiers that way on the southern side of the border.

If your coyotes run into trouble, have them abort mission — and then use drone bombs to incinerate the evidence, i.e. those pesky humans they were trafficking.

The 2025 National Defense Authorization Act contains an amendment demanding that the feds take action against precisely such incursions. But Senate Democrats balk.

Dems are officially the party of lawlessness — on the border as on everything else.

## Tim's Military History: Walz-ing Out Of Combat

•Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz refused to allow the National Guard to take action to protect Minneapolis, dismissing them as “19-year-old cooks” (“Derelict Walz has abandonment issue,” Aug. 8).

He mocked the very organization he had boasted about serving in, including during his campaigns. For him, the National Guard was good for promoting himself, but when it came to serving in Iraq or protecting the people he served, he had no use for it.

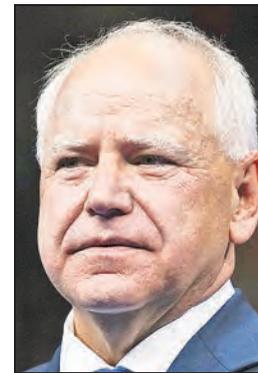
**Gary Mottola**  
Brooklyn

•A question: What kind of person is Walz, who sides with vandals tearing down a statue of Christopher Columbus and lies about his service record? The answer: A typical Democrat.

**Charlie Honadel**  
Venice, Fla.

•Walz served his country for 24 years before being elected to Congress to continue his service, yet The Post's writing appears to discount that

**THE ISSUE:** The controversy surrounding Democratic Vice Presidential Nominee Tim Walz's military service.



Tim Walz

fact. How was he supposed to know in advance that his unit would be sent to Iraq?

Meanwhile, former President Donald Trump skipped military service — but your writing does not mention that at all.

**Steven Goodwin**  
Boynton Beach

•Capt. Corey Bjertness, chaplain of Walz's field artillery regiment, stated that there is no excuse for Walz, the Democratic vice presidential pick, to have left his unit before a

critical deployment—even if he was running for Congress.

In my opinion, that is a cowardly act. I served in the US Navy during the Vietnam era and would never lie about my military service.

Walz needs to man up and tell the truth.

**Frederick Bedell Jr.**  
Bellerose

•Walz brings nothing to the table but cowardice and deception.

Ditching his troops for retirement instead of deploying to Iraq reveals a lack of loyalty to his country. He simply exited out the door.

Walz bailed and ran for Congress. Now that he's the Democratic Party's vice-presidential candidate, you can be sure he will dodge any questions about his military service.

It's just another segment in his stomach-churning resumé.

**Ron Zajicek**  
Cortlandt

## Taylor Swift Terror Plot Averted

•Whenever we can't enjoy the freedom of attending a concert because of terror threats, we're losing the battle (“Teaching ‘terror’ on TikTok,” Aug. 10).

Unfortunately, our youth are easy prey for these terrorist organizations, and parents are often unwilling to monitor their actions on the internet. My mother used to say, “An idle mind is the devil's workshop.”

So, we need to do a better job of defusing the hatred being nurtured on social media platforms, with greater involvement

**THE ISSUE:** A thwarted plan by ISIS-radicalized teens to attack concert venues hosting Taylor Swift in Austria.

to explain that hateful actions are not acceptable.

We have to stop being naive about the determination of terror groups to recruit young males. It's amazing how easily these groups connect with young people.

**Greg Raleigh**  
Washington DC

•In the wake of the foiled bombing plot in Vienna, how many parents in the US will now think twice before sending their

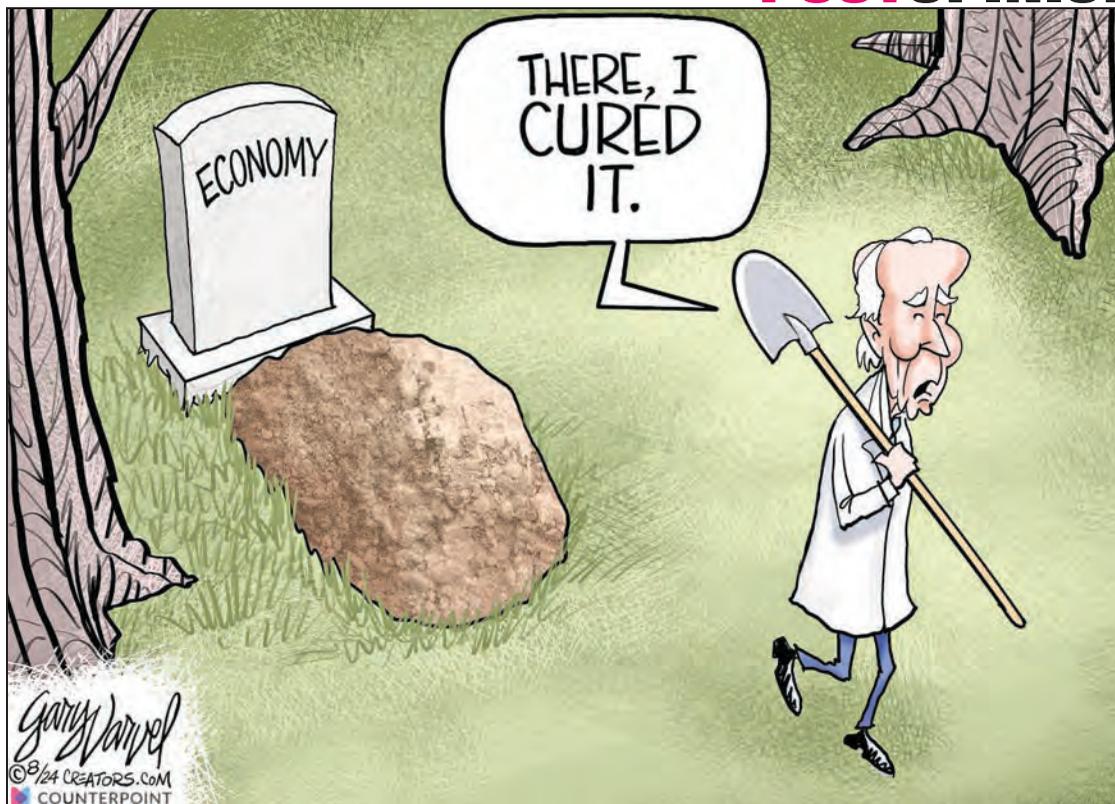
young daughters to a Taylor Swift concert due to the Biden-Harris administration's open-border policy?

If we know that terrorists have been able to enter through our porous borders, wouldn't every parent want to do everything they could to protect their children — even by voting for former President Donald Trump, who could clean up this mess?

**Jenny Muller**  
Cross River

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# Don't Romanticize Europe's Railways

WITH Paris closed this vacation season for the Olympics, what could be more fun for a train-lover like me than riding Europe's reliable high-speed trains across the rest of the continent?

Instead of enjoying spontaneous, easy travel, though, I'm getting an education. It turns out, one reason high-speed rail "works" in Europe is that its customers will put up with inconvenience and uncertainty that Americans would never tolerate.

Germany's Deutsche Bahn ICE — intercity express — trains seemed like a great place to start: The country has several cities a few hours away from each other, and a short ride from other European capitals as well.

And the Germans must apply their world-famous precision to DB, the largest global railway, no? The German system, more than three decades old, rivals France's high-speed lines for global status among rail fans.

The first ICE trip I take — a two-hour jaunt from Brussels to Cologne — goes well enough, although not without an ominous sign: It's 10 minutes late departing and a few minutes late arriving, with no explanation. It's most *unlike* the Japanese train company that, a few years ago, apologized for departing a few seconds early.

But what should have been a four-hour journey from Cologne to Hamburg is a *katastrophe*.

We arrive at the station and check the departure board; our train is nowhere to be found. It finally pops up, listed as about to leave five minutes late, and then 10 minutes late, and then 15 minutes late.

Good thing I splurged the extra \$60 or so for the first-class carriage, to relax in the DB Lounge for



NICOLE GELINAS

explanation.

Why is the train delayed? Broken track, operator shortage, weather, sick passenger... give us a reason.

But not a single reason is proffered. People accept this tardiness and diversion as normal.

Yet a delayed, rerouted train is better than *no* train. Part of the fun of a rail-based vacation is that you don't have to plan; when you've seen enough of one city, book passage to the next one. Nope: For three days straight, all trains from Hamburg to Denmark's Copenhagen are booked.

Our various legs of the journey also demonstrate that efficient,

**A four-hour trip has turned into a nearly seven-hour odyssey. ↘**

a bit. (That, and not sitting on top of strangers, is the only benefit you get in first class.) But no — the lounge is being "fixed," replaced by a temporary lounge in a separate building that's a 10-minute walk from the station.

Unlike New York's Penn Station, DB offers no waiting-room seating for passengers who wisely haven't paid for the closed lounge, so you just stand around in the heat and noise.

Finally, we get going. But the on-board screen — with no acknowledgement by train staff — informs us that our arrival will be 20 minutes late. Then 30. Then 40. Then an hour and five minutes. Then two hours. Then close to 2½ hours. A four-hour trip has turned into a nearly seven-hour odyssey.

Worse, the train silently takes on a mind of its own. It skips an important stop, causing people to miss a Berlin connection. It adds suburban stops, making us later.

The strangest part is that nobody on board questions *any* of this. If Amtrak's four-hour Acela train from New York to Boston were to run nearly three hours late — and, in decades of regular Acela trips, I've never had such an experience — passengers would demand an

cheap rail travel requires packing people into cramped, uncomfortable spaces, to a degree that's uncommon at home. Eurostar from London to Brussels crowds its ticketed passengers into a sweltering waiting room with inadequate seats (at least there are seats).

An hour-long commuter-rail trip from Brussels to the medieval Belgian town of Bruges is mostly spent standing in unventilated heat. Passengers open windows for DIY ventilation, so it's also deafening.

Long-distance rail has its place in the transportation system, of course, in both Europe and the United States. Acela service has improved East Coast travel, for example. But high-speed rail is never going to rival the car for flexibility and cost on medium-length trips, or the plane for speed and cost on longer ones.

If you're able-bodied and non-elderly, and don't have children to attend to, relying on rail may be a bemusing adventure. But it's easy to see why most Europeans take summer trips by air (54%) and car (28%); only 10% rely on rails.

Unless two seats open up on a train from Hamburg to Copenhagen soonish, I'll be joining them.

# KAM'S RELIGIOUS BIAS

KAMALA Harris is a bigot. Forgive the blunt delivery, but there isn't really any nuance to offer: The Democrats' presidential nominee has long since stripped it away with her blatant discrimination against people of faith, particularly Catholics.

Witness her stunning attack on the venerable Knights of Columbus in 2018, during Brian Buescher's nomination hearing for a federal judgeship.

Then-Sen. Harris subtly criticized the charitable and fraternal organization for being an "all-male society comprised primarily of Catholic men," then not-so-subtly slammed it for adhering to his faith's core — or "extremist," to use her word — beliefs about life and family.

She implied that Buescher's membership in the group basically made him unfit for the bench, setting up Sen. Mazie Hirono of Hawaii to ask if the nominee would, if confirmed, "end [his] membership with this organization to avoid any appearance of bias."

That's what they call a religious test for office, and it's illegal. See the US Constitution, Article VI, for more on that.

In short, Kamala Harris doesn't think Catholics, or any person whose religion conflicts with her political ideology, should hold public office.

Even shorter: Kamala Harris does not believe in the Constitution.

Instead, Harris is well-steeped in the left's newfound understanding of religion, which is that it should stay within the four walls of a

home or a house of worship and must be disavowed in order to participate in society.

Look no further than her Senate sponsorship of the Orwellianly titled Do No Harm Act, which would have required health-care workers to perform procedures like abortion, even in violation of their deeply held religious beliefs.

And it would have closed down charitable organizations like the Little Sisters of the Poor, for refusing to violate Catholic teachings on human sexuality (of all things, for an order of celibate nuns).

"The Do No Harm Act would ensure that no one can use the law

**ASHLEY MCGUIRE**

to discriminate against someone because of race, gender, sexual orientation, or gender identity," Harris said of the bill at the time. In Harris' view, apparently, use of the law to discriminate against someone *because* of religion is perfectly acceptable.

That's a view the Supreme Court has rejected repeatedly in the past decade as Harris and her colleagues on the left have only intensified their push to make Americans keep their faith in a lockbox at home.

She was a supporter, for example, of the Equality Act — a bill that would require religious institutions of all stripes, including churches themselves, to violate their core beliefs in the name of "gender ideology."

The Equality Act would have un-

done the 1993 Religious Freedom Restoration Act, a broadly bipartisan law that even then-Sen. Joe Biden supported, which ensures that the government cannot infringe on the religious rights of Americans.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, not known for fiery political language, didn't mince words when it said the Equality Act would "run roughshod over religious liberty."

As California attorney general, Harris was an advocate of the FACT Act, which would have forced pregnancy centers — many of which are explicitly Catholic or Christian — to refer women to abortion clinics, undercutting their faith-based mission.

And she joined 13 other attorneys general who asked the Supreme Court in 2013 to force Hobby Lobby and other religious employers to cover things like abortion pills in their health-care plans.

Both cases were casualties at the Supreme Court, which stepped in to defend the conscience rights of religious Americans.

Kamala Harris does not think you can be both a Knight of Columbus and a federal employee. She thinks Christian doctors should be forced to perform abortions. She thinks Catholic-school teachers should be forced to teach gender ideology.

But if you're a practicing Catholic or a faithful Christian, Kamala Harris thinks you're the extremist.

Kamala Harris thinks like a bigot, because she is one.

Ashley McGuire is a senior fellow with the Catholic Association.

# The Post Puzzle Page

## SCRABBLE GRAMS

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E <sub>1</sub>	E <sub>1</sub>	I <sub>1</sub>	I <sub>1</sub>	C <sub>3</sub>	D <sub>2</sub>	F <sub>4</sub>	Triple Word Score	RACK 1
E <sub>1</sub>	O <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>	X <sub>8</sub>	T <sub>1</sub>	P <sub>3</sub>		RACK 2
A <sub>1</sub>	I <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>1</sub>	D <sub>2</sub>	D <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>1</sub>	C <sub>3</sub>		RACK 3
A <sub>1</sub>	E <sub>1</sub>	I <sub>1</sub>	G <sub>2</sub>	T <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>1</sub>	F <sub>4</sub>	1st Letter Double	RACK 4

PAR SCORE 150-160  
BEST SCORE 230  
FOUR RACK TOTAL  
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

**TODAY'S ANSWER**

SCRABBLE: G<sub>2</sub> R<sub>1</sub> A<sub>1</sub> M<sub>3</sub> S<sub>1</sub>

SOLUTION: REACK 1 = 89, REACK 2 = 15, REACK 3 = 61, REACK 4 = 65, TOTAL 230

PAR SCORE 150-160

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

### Bridge

South dealer  
N-S vulnerable

**NORTH**  
♠ 7 5 2  
♥ K J 6 5 3  
♦ Q  
♣ K J 5 2

**WEST**  
♠ Q J 9 4 3  
♥ None  
♦ K 10 9 4 2  
♣ 10 8 4

**EAST**  
♠ K 10 8 6  
♥ A Q 10  
♦ 8 5  
♣ Q 9 6 3

**SOUTH**  
♠ A  
♥ 9 8 7 4 2  
♦ A J 7 6 3  
♣ A 7

South 1♥ West 1♠ North 4♥ East All Pass

Opening lead — ♠ Q

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"My high-school teachers said I would never be successful because I procrastinate," Cy the Cynic told me. "I don't know why they would say that," I said, knowing Cy is the world's worst putter-offer. "I told them, 'Just you wait,'" Cy said. Cy's procrastination often serves him well -- when he waits to draw trumps. In a team match Cy was declarer at four hearts, and West led the queen of spades. Cy won and did not lead a trump: He started a crossruff: ace of diamonds, diamond ruff, spade ruff, A-K of clubs, club ruff, diamond ruff. East overruffed with the ten and led another spade, but Cy ruffed for his eighth trick and ruffed another diamond. East overruffed queen and took the ace, but Cy still had one trump in each hand. Making four. In the replay, South led a trump at Trick Two, and East won with the ten. Later, East was able to overruff dummy on a diamond lead and take his ace of trumps, leaving declarer a trick short. This week: trump management.

### Word Force

**WANDERED**

From the word or phrase above, form **AT LEAST 10** five-letter words, without using more than one form of the same word. For example, drink or drank (not both).

**ANSWERS IN TOMORROW'S POST**  
Saturday's word:  
**VIOLENCE**

clone	niece	voice
clove	novel	voile
coven	olive	
liven	ovine	

### Wonderword

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

**HAPLOTYPES ARE INTERESTING** Solution: 7 letters

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

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Active, Allele, Biology, Chain, Chromosome, Combination, Common, Data, Diploid, DNA, Evolution, Family, Generation, Genetic, Genome, Group, Health, Heredity, History, Human, Immunology, Inherit, Medical, Network, Organism, Paternal, Pattern, Population, Predict, Protein, Rare, Sequence, Single, Split, Theory, Tree, Variant

**Last Saturday's Answer: Patience**

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## POST SUDOKU

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

Each number must appear once in each horizontal row, as well as in each vertical column and in each of the 3-by-3 grids. Impossible? Not once you get the hang of it. Tips and in depth strategies at

[www.SudokuWiki.org](http://www.SudokuWiki.org)

**PLAY MORE GAMES!**

NYPOST.COM/GAMES  
**Solutions on Page 36**  
© Syndicated Puzzles

Very Easy #6,638

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

Difficult #6,428

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

### Quick Crossword

**Across**

- Wrap party party
- C and D in D.C.
- Muscat's country
- "Say Anything ..." director Cameron
- At the summit of
- Bring back to health
- Brass player's recital piece
- "¿Cómo \_\_\_ usted?"
- Gulp down
- Concave navel
- Barely known celebs
- Port on the Strait of Gibraltar
- Worker without lungs
- Pumpkin
- Emails covertly
- Networking device
- FaceTime platform
- Thai language kin
- Anise-flavored Italian liqueur
- Digit covered by a sock
- Address in a hyperlink
- Flannel pattern
- NASCAR great Petty
- Makes fuzzy
- Prefix sometimes paired with "het"
- Classic Chaney horror film
- Happen next
- Got out of 63-Across
- Aircraft carrier letters
- Wild animal's den
- Debut sport at the Paris Olympics, or what 16-, 22-, 36-, and 46-Across do to their circled letters
- Item used onstage
- "It's the least \_\_\_ do!"
- "From the top!"
- serif
- Place to sleep
- Scholarship factor

**Down**

- Post-Pilates pain
- Dubrovnik native
- Mexican sandwich
- Utterly dominate
- Quit one's job
- Escalator part
- Symbol carved on a pole
- Infrared sauna spot
- Second-largest spotted cat in

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			

South America

- Nashville nickname
- Drawing class offerer
- "Excellent!"
- Hathaway of "Interstellar"
- "I'll handle that!"
- Comedy counterpart
- "That's What I Want" singer Lil X
- Oil cartel letters
- ray disc
- Pasta dish with bacon, eggs, and cheese
- Illegal cooperation
- UFC fighting style
- Wan Kenobi
- Commercial flop
- "Didn't I warn you?"
- Retail therapy session
- In addition
- Sunflower Showdown sch.
- Takes over by force
- Escalator barrel
- Winter river blockage
- Assists
- Absurdist comedy

**PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER**  
(C) 2024 Tribune Media Services

- Anticipate with fear
- Multicolored horse
- Moon-related
- Computer character set
- In the mail
- Tot's dinner garb
- 13.7 billion years, for our universe

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Candy scare

Big box stores Walmart and Target joined other major retailers in pulling candy from their shelves due to the risk of salmonella poisoning, Fox Business reported.

### Te\$la shift

Tesla has stopped taking orders for the least expensive version of its Cybertruck, which is priced at \$61,000, while making the \$100,000 version available for immediate order and delivery as soon as this month.

### EV plastic plan

Honda and Nissan are expected to invest in the recycling of plastic used in electric vehicles in an effort to meet the European Union's goal of including at least 25% recycled plastic in new EVs by 2031, Nikkei reported Sunday.

### Cold coffee

Farmers and local media reported the occurrence of light frosts in coffee-producing areas in Brazil in the early hours of Sunday as an unusually strong cold mass for this time of the year advances from the south to central areas in the country.

### Copper crunch

Democratic Republic of Congo said on Sunday it had begun talks with Zambia after its African neighbor sealed their border, blocking a key export route for Congo, the world's second-largest copper producer.

Sources: Reuters, staff

# LUXE DIGS IN STORE

## Saks mulls turning empty real estate into hotels, apts.

By LISA FICKENSCHER

Saks Fifth Avenue is contemplating extending its brand to hotels and luxury apartments as it looks beyond a bleak retail landscape for growth, The Post has learned.

On the heels of last month's blockbuster announcement that Saks' parent Hudson's Bay Company inked a \$2.65 billion deal to acquire rival Neiman Marcus, HBC is developing a hotel and 56 private residences in Beverly Hills, Calif., and posh townhomes in Westfield, NJ, in the parking lot of a long-shuttered Lord & Taylor store.

As retail sales sputter this year on top of a long decline in department-store sales, which pushed Saks and Neimans to strike a deal after more than a decade of on-again, off-again merger talks, HBC is leaning into real estate deals to drive growth.

"The days are over when you can put up a mall with a food court that serves chicken fingers and fast food and expect it to be an exciting destination," Gerald Storch, a former CEO of HBC, told The Post. "The department store is struggling to make ends meet. Any new retail development needs residential, office and retail."

### Beverly Hills luxury

In Beverly Hills, HBC is applying for city permits to build dozens of luxury residences and a hotel — replete with a private club, spa and restaurant — along a two-block stretch of Wilshire Boulevard that the company owns. The site currently includes parking lots and its new Saks women's store.

"The apartments will be magnificent with balconies that look towards Century City and the Beverly



### Shopping for growth

On the heels of the pending merger of Saks Fifth Avenue and Neiman Marcus, parent HBC, headed by CEO Richard Baker (inset), is planning to build luxury residences (rendering) on Saks-owned Beverly Hills property, and is considering converting other empty stores into hotels.

There is life for vacant department store buildings.

— Hudson's Bay Company CEO Richard Baker

Hills community," said Guy Leibler, president of HBC Development.

"We believe our customers will live in the apartments and will want hotel services and be members of the club and spa."

HBC announced the project two years ago, but its plans are taking shape and providing the playbook for future projects, top brass said.

"We are working with the community to get approvals right now," said HBC executive chairman and CEO Richard Baker. "Why couldn't [Saks or Neiman Marcus] extend into hospitality and residential similar to what Giorgio Armani has done?"

The Italian designer operates Ar-

mani hotels in Milan and Dubai and nearly two dozen Armani-branded restaurants, including on Fifth Avenue in Manhattan.

### Other hotel brands

"It's certainly possible that it could be a Saks hotel, but we have also had inquiries from the finest hotels in the world," Leibler added, declining to identify the brands.

The Neiman Marcus brand could be plastered on hotels and restaurants as well, Baker said.

Saks and Neimans have a real-estate portfolio worth \$7 billion, according to an announcement of the

merger, which is pending approval.

Toronto-based HBC bought the nearly two-century-old Lord & Taylor chain in 2006 for \$1.2 billion and sold it in 2019, but kept the real estate. It's already sold or repurposed 12 of the nearly two dozen Lord & Taylor buildings, which has yielded HBC approximately \$2 billion, according to Baker.

The largest of those transactions was the Fifth Avenue store, which HBC along with other investors sold to Amazon for \$1.15 billion on March 12, 2020, just one day before the pandemic shut down New York.

"There is life for vacant department store buildings," Baker said.

# BofA CEO: Fed best cut rates soon

If the Federal Reserve does not start cutting interest rates relatively soon, US consumers could become dispirited, Bank of America CEO Brian Moynihan said on Sunday.

At the end of July, the Fed kept the policy rate in the

same 5.25% to 5.50% range it has been in for more than a year, but signaled that a rate cut could come as soon as September if inflation continued to cool.

"They've told people rates probably aren't going to go up, but if they don't start

taking them down relatively soon, you could dispirit the American consumer," Moynihan told CBS in an interview.

"Once the American consumer really starts going very negative, then it's hard to get them back."

Pressed about Republican candidate and former President Donald Trump's statement that presidents should have a say over Fed decisions, Moynihan said people were free to give Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell advice and it was

then his job to decide what to do.

"If you look around the world's economies and you see where central banks are independent and operate freely, they tend to fare better than the ones that don't," he said. Reuters



# Re's 'Mad' money

**\$500M**  
**mortgage**  
**'petty' stuff**

**STEVE CUOZZO**



**REALTY CHECK**

**L**ET'S say you own a 60-year-old, near-900,000 square-foot Midtown office building. Demand for space in Midcentury buildings is weak. A half-billion-dollar mortgage payment is coming up.

Do you:

- Scramble to refinance when lenders are getting cold feet?
- Complain to The New York Times that it's the worst season for property owners since the biblical floods?

If you're Germany's Munich Re, the world's largest reinsurance company, you do neither. You just dip into petty cash and pay off the \$500 million Wells Fargo loan in full — as it just did with 330 Madison Ave. at East 42nd Street, sources told us.

The 850,000-square-foot tower across the avenue from One Vanderbilt is proof that buildings don't need to be brand new to thrive. Its office floors are 98% leased and storefronts are leased to Citibank, Santander and Swedish luxury men's shirtmaker Eton.

## 'Flagship entry'

"It's virtually unheard of for an owner to pay down such a big loan these days, but Munich Re doesn't want to have debts on any of its buildings," a source said. "When they assumed the loan they had every intention of paying it off."

The tower, which is managed by Munich Re's asset management arm MEAG, represents the company's "flagship entry" into the Manhattan real estate market, as a source put it.

Since it bought the building for \$900 million in 2020 just before

## High finance



**German reinsurance titan Munich Re is rewriting the narrative on Manhattan property owners, not only signing 260,000 square feet of new office leases at ever-increasing rates in the tower at 330 Madison Ave., but also dipping into its deep pockets to pay off a \$500 million Wells Fargo loan — in cash.**

the pandemic, Munich Re has signed 260,000 square feet of new office leases. Rents that were in the \$60s-\$70s per square foot three years ago are now over \$100 psf, the sources said.

The largest tenant is hedge fund and money manager Guggenheim, which owns the Los Angeles Dodgers, with 275,000 square feet. Other notable tenants include real estate brokerage JLL, Deutsche Bank AG, HSBC and Maverick Real Estate Partners, which moved from 100 Park Ave. into 10,000 square feet at 330 Madison earlier this year.

The landlord made significant investments in the property and is creating a tenants-only terrace amenity on the 16th floor to include outdoor event space with a wrap-around terrace, a full-service bar and lounge seating.

For good measure, 330 Madison stands on top of an entrance to the No. 7 line Grand Central station stop.

## Oh, brothers

**T**HE Neary's mystery is solved. The building at 358 E. 57th St., where the fabled Irish pub closed last month after 50 years, was sold to the nightlife-happy Martignetti brothers, Thomas and Anthony. The two, who run several popular Manhattan spots, bought the small building from the Neary family for \$3.2 million, city Finance Dept. records show.

Anthony Martignetti appeared before Community Board 6 on July 25 to discuss a liquor license transfer application, which the board's licensing committee approved without dissent.

He said the new

Neary's, which would have a different name, would be an Irish restaurant — a "modern version of what Neary's was."

The Martignettis also run bistro East Pole on East 65th Street and Melody's Piano Bar on Lexington Avenue.

**A**N office building once owned by John Jacob Astor has sold for the first time in 82 years. Jay Properties bought 8 W. 38th St. from the Felder family for \$35 million, or \$250 per square foot.

The buyer is the investment arm of Jay Suites, a provider of flexible workspace and conference facilities. Jay has a conference center on the building's third floor that can accommodate 300 guests.

The 12-story building boasts early 20th-century Beaux-Arts design with an ornate facade and intricate detailing. It's across the street from the former Lord & Taylor building, which is now home to Amazon.

# Disney's villain vision

Walt Disney Experiences Chairman Josh D'Amaro laid out an ambitious growth plan for the company's theme parks — including a new villains land at Magic Kingdom in Orlando, Fla.

D'Amaro also announced doubling the size of the Avengers Campus at the Disney California Adventure Park in Anaheim, Calif., and details about its partnership with Fortnite creator Epic Games.

"This, for us, is an unprecedented era of growth," D'Amaro said during the D23 fan convention Saturday.

The two new attractions at its Marvel-themed Avengers Campus at California Adventure will be Avengers: Infinity Defense and the Stark Flight Lab, the company said.

California Adventure will also add a new 'Avatar' experience at the California Adventure, based on the second film in the science-fiction franchise, "Avatar: The Way of Water," it said.

The announcements reveal how the company will begin \$60 billion in capital investments, nearly doubling spending over the next decade, to improve attractions at its 12 parks and increase cruise-line capacity.

Reuters

# Mart monitor in Adani flap

US based short-seller Hindenburg Research alleged on Saturday that the head of India's market regulator, Madhabi Puri Buch, previously held investments in offshore funds also used by the Adani Group.

In a late-night press statement, Buch said the report's allegations were baseless.

A personal statement from Buch on Sunday said that all disclosure requirements had been followed diligently and that investments in the fund referred to in the Hindenburg report were made in 2015 in a private capacity, two years before she joined the Securities and Exchange Board of India.

Reuters

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# Cheers to that

## This nonprofit is uncorking opportunity for communities of color

By PERRI ORMONT BLUMBERG

**I**KIMI Dubose-Woodson has come a long way in her career since polishing silverware at 15. But the 41-year-old wouldn't be where she is now — and as devoted as she is to community service — were it not for that lowly gig at the New York Marriott World Trade Center back in 1997.

It was there that she was introduced to her lifetime mentor, award-winning chef Walter Plender, who went on to support her through college at Johnson & Wales, where she received a scholarship through the nonprofit Careers Through Culinary Arts Program.

Now, she's the CEO and co-founder of the Roots Fund, a nonprofit created to empower communities of color in the wine industry, based in East Williamsburg, Brooklyn.

"Along with my mother's giving heart, I have always been connected to giving back in my community," said Dubose-Woodson.

After completing two degrees, Dubose-Woodson embarked on a whirlwind adventure in Singapore, South Asia and Europe, "studying food through people and culture." Upon returning home, she realized that while she loved restaurants, they didn't pay all that well.

Thus, she decided to forge a career in hotels, and Dubose-Woodson began her career with Marriott and Ritz-Carlton. Over the next 15 years, she opened hotel restaurants, training chefs in international cuisine. In 2010, the versatile chef decided to leave and venture into corporate restaurant groups.

Another career pivot was in store in 2020 when Dubose-Woodson decided to build her own consulting firm, which thrived in the early pandemic by teaching fine-dining establishments how to become sustainable food delivery operations. Simultaneously, Dubose-Woodson was attending Georgetown's McCourt School of Public Policy, working through the nonprofit executive certificate program, when she decided it was time "to give all my energy to helping others" in the food and beverage industry.

The inspiration?

"When Carlton McCoy Jr., one of four



**GLASS CEILING:** Ikimi Dubose-Woodson, founder of the Roots Fund nonprofit, aims to bring equity to the wine industry.

Kyle Huey

black master sommeliers in the world, reached out to build a beverage scholarship for communities of color in wine, I was eager to help," recalled Dubose-Woodson. She started the nonprofit Roots Fund two months later, and it quickly became her life's work.

Since its founding, the Roots Fund, which is based in Stamford, Conn. with a physical office in East Williamsburg, Brooklyn, has worked tirelessly "to secure the pathway for people of color in wine and spirits." To date, the organization has raised over \$2.5 million and created more than 200 scholarships, "to bring years of change and equity into the wine industry" via financial support for education, mentorship and job placement opportunities.

"The Roots Fund is out 'doing the work,' to create inclusivity for communities of color in the beverage industry," said Dubose-Woodson.

Unfortunately, Dubose-Woodson knows the lack of diversity in the food and beverage industry firsthand.

"As I ascended in my career, I can't recall seeing many women or people of color leading in the beverage field," she said. "As I look at the power of beverage, being a Top 10 industry for revenue in this country, it should reflect all people. This cause is personal because my career wouldn't have been as great without scholarships, mentors or support. I want to give what was given to me to others."

Giving back to the New York City community is especially important to the Brooklyn native. New York is a food and wine mecca, a "perfect market," complete with countless wine and spirits events and endless connections.

Consequently, Dubose-Woodson has found it rewarding to see people who benefited from the Roots Fund also pay it forward.

Amy Wright, a wine buyer at Le Du Wines in

the West Village, is an alum — or "vintage scholar" as they are known — of the Roots Fund, and is paying that generosity forward by being a wine educator for the nonprofit.

"We supported her diploma with the Wine Spirits Education Trust," said Dubose-Woodson, adding that Wright happens to be one of the smartest people in wine.

"It's not just through financial support, but also the mentorship and guidance to ensure she is successful," said Dubose-Woods. "Our program isn't about hand-holding, but giving industry professionals a level of accountability that breeds success."

The Roots Fund has supported the careers of over 200 people of color in the beverage industry so far. Dubose-Woodson often finds herself reflecting on the program's very first scholar, Daren Clark, an aspiring winemaker.

Thanks to the Roots Fund, Clark has lived in France, Italy and New Zealand, studied with the best wine producers around the world and learned French, and is now working for one of Burgundy's most prestigious winemaking families. To Dubose-Woodson, he's a beautiful display "of what support can do to change mindsets and cultivate careers."

But Clark, Wright and the other program participants aren't just evidence of success in motion. From the high school students they mentor in a "fermenting the future" enrichment program all the way to "wise restaurant professionals," they're testaments to the power of a robust support system, beyond financial aid.

"You don't just receive money with our organization," said Dubose-Woodson. "You can get a specific support system made just for you. We provide education, mentorship, mental health services, career placement and a chance to have a community around you."



@work  
Q&A  
CAREER COACH  
[GO TO GREG]

**I work for a business where the owner routinely screams at the employees, including me. I've tried to address it with my manager, but now I either get screamed at or the silent treatment. At work, I'm constantly shaking. This is not normal, is it?**

Well, it is normal to shake when one is treated as badly as you describe... but no, it is definitely not normal for anyone to treat anyone else this way and it's unlawful in the workplace. If there's a human resources function in your company, or someone in legal, then you all need to document the behavior and file complaints. If not, you need to alert someone else in management. You should also seek the advice of an attorney, and you can file a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the process for which you can find on their website. If you resign, you would almost certainly be granted unemployment benefits for having to quit because of a hostile work environment. Alternatively, a doctor would likely certify that you need to take leave due to stress. At least that would remove you from the toxicity with some protection while you figure out your next steps. You have rights and resources — you are not stuck. Take action.

**I don't actually hate my job, but it's hard work, and I'm exhausted by Friday. I don't have the energy to do anything over the weekend and I get really bad cases of the Sunday Scaries. I start to dread the week and can barely get out of bed. How can I cope with this?**

Oh, my. That is no way to live or work. There are so many possibilities here — one recommendation starts with getting some professional help to deal with the stress that you are experiencing. As for your hard work week, have you had a discussion with your boss? Is this just a high stress period that will pass or is this normal with no end in sight? Are you overburdened with responsibility? Can your boss shift resources or workload to help alleviate this? Can you work differently, smarter and not harder? Whatever is going on can't continue. Discuss this with your boss and get help for the stress you are feeling in the meantime.

*Gregory Giangrande has over 25 years of experience as a chief human resources executive. Hear Greg Wed. at 9:35 a.m. on iHeartRadio 710 WOR with Len Berman and Michael Riedel. Email: GoToGreg@NYPost.com. Follow: GoToGreg.com and on Twitter: @GregGiangrande*

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Looking For A New Career?  
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Career Training Listings

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# Algerian boxer files complaint over abuse

Associated Press

Olympic boxing champion Imane Khelif has filed a legal complaint in France for online harassment after a rain of criticism and false claims about her sex during the Paris Olympics, her lawyer said Sunday.

Khelif, who was Algeria's flag bearer in the closing ceremony, won gold Friday in the women's welterweight division, becoming a new hero in her native Algeria and bringing global attention to women's boxing.



The complaint was filed Friday with a special unit in the Paris prosecutor's office for combating online hate speech, alleging "aggravated cyber-harassment" targeting Khelif, lawyer Nabil Boudi said. In a statement, he described it as a "misogynist, racist and sexist campaign" against the boxer.

It is now up to prosecutors to decide whether to open an investigation. As is common in French law, the complaint doesn't name an alleged perpetrator but leaves it to investigators to determine who could be at fault.

Khelif was unwittingly thrust into a worldwide clash over gender identity and regulation in sports after her first fight, when Italian opponent Angela Carini pulled out just seconds into the match, citing pain from opening punches. False claims that Khelif was transgender or a man erupted online, and the International Olympic Committee defended her and denounced those peddling misinformation. Khelif said that the spread of misconceptions about her "harms human dignity."

### Team USA wins silver in volleyball

Italy beat the defending champion U.S. team Sunday to win gold in women's volleyball at the Paris Olympics.

The victory came in straight sets, 25-18, 25-20, 25-17. The Italians ended a dominant tournament having lost just one set.

It's the first medal in the sport for top-ranked Italy and sends the Americans home in disappointment after they won their first Olympic title in Tokyo.

### Hassan victorious in women's marathon

Sifan Hassan traded elbows with Tigst Assefa with 150 meters left in the women's marathon, then passed her along the railing to win the race for her third distance medal of the Paris Games on Sunday.

Hassan, an Ethiopian-born racer who runs for the Netherlands, finished in an Olympic record time of 2 hours, 22 minutes, 55 seconds. Assefa won silver for Ethiopia, three seconds behind, and Kenya's Hellen Obiri took the bronze.

# Sunday's Olympic Medalists

**ATHLETICS**  
**Women's Marathon**  
 GOLD: Sifan Hassan, Netherlands  
 SILVER: Tigst Assefa, Ethiopia  
 BRONZE: Hellen Obiri, Kenya

**BASKETBALL**  
**Women**  
**GOLD: United States (Jewell Loyd, Kelsey Plum, Sabrina Ionescu, Kahleah Copper, Chelsea Gray, A'ja Wilson, Breanna Stewart, Napheesa Collier, Diana Taurasi, Jackie Young, Alyssa Thomas, Brittney Griner)**

SILVER: France (Marine Fauthoux, Alexia Chery, Sarah Michel Boury, Valeriane Ayayi, Iliana Rupert, Janelle Salaun, Dominique Malonga, Gabby Williams, Marieme Badiane, Marine Johannes, Leila Lacan, Romane Bernies)

BRONZE: Australia (Jade Melbourne, Kristy Wallace, Steph Talbot, Tess Madgen, Alanna Smith, Ezi Magbegor, Marianna Tolo, Cayla George, Amy Atwell, Isabel Borlase, Lauren Jackson, Sami Whitcomb)

**CYCLING TRACK**  
**Men's Keirin**  
 GOLD: Harrie Lavreysen, Netherlands  
 SILVER: Matthew Richardson, Australia  
 BRONZE: Matthew Glaetzer, Australia

**Women's Omnium**  
**GOLD: Jennifer Valente, United States**  
 SILVER: Daria Pikulik, Poland  
 BRONZE: Ally Wollaston, New Zealand

**Women's Sprint**  
 GOLD: Ellesse Andrews, New Zealand  
 SILVER: Lea Friedrich, Germany  
 BRONZE: Emma Finucane, Britain

**ARTISTIC GYMNASTICS**  
**Women's Floor Exercise**  
 GOLD: Rebeca Andrade, Brazil  
**SILVER: Simone Biles, United States**  
 BRONZE: Ana Barbosu, Romania

**HANDBALL**  
**Men**  
 GOLD: Denmark (Niklas Landin Jacobsen, Niclas Kirkeleokke, Magnus Landin Jacobsen, Emil Jakobsen, Rasmus Laugesen, Emil Nielsen, Magnus Saugstrup, Hans Lindberg, Mathias Gidsel, Henrik Moellgaard, Mikkel Hansen, Lukas Joergensen, Lasse Andersson, Simon Hald, Thomas Arnoldsen, Simon Pyttlik)

SILVER: Germany (David Spaeth, Johannes Golla, Luca Witzke, Sebastian Heymann, Justus Fischer, Juri Knorr, Julian Koester, Renars Uscins, Kai Haefner, Tim Hornke, Andreas Wolff, Rune Dahmke, Lukas Mertens, Christoph Steinert, Marko Grgic, Jannik Kohlbacher)

BRONZE: Spain (Gonzalo Perez de Vargas, Jorge Maqueda, Alex Dujshebaev, Rodrigo Corrales, Adrian Figueras, Imanol Garciaandia, Abel Serdio, Agustin Casado, Alexei Gomez, Ian Tarrafeta, Miguel Sanchez-Migallon, Daniel Dujshebaev, Kauldi Odriozola, Daniel Fernandez, Javier Rodriguez)

# Olympic Women's Basketball

**Sunday**  
**Bronze Medal:** Australia 85, Belgium 81  
**Gold Medal:** United States 67, France 66

# Olympic Wrestling Results

**Sunday**  
**Men, Freestyle 65kg Repechage**  
 Sebastian C Rivera, Puerto Rico, def. Maxim Sacutan, Moldova, 8-4, 7-0, Technical Superiority.  
 Islam Dudaev, Albania, def. **Zain Allen Retherford, United States**, Injury.  
**Bronze Medal Matches**  
 Sebastian C Rivera, Puerto Rico, def. Tulga Turmur Ochir, Mongolia, 0-4, 10-5, Points.  
 Islam Dudaev, Albania, def. Iszmail Muszukajev, Hungary, 8-6, 5-6, Points.  
**Final**  
 Kotaro Kiyooka, Japan, def. Rahman Amouzadkhalili, Iran, 10-1, 0-2, Points.  
**Freestyle 97kg Repechage**  
 Murazi McHedlidze, Ukraine, def. Nicolaas Johannes de Lange, South Africa, 2-2, 3-1, Points.

**MODERN PENTATHLON**  
**Women's Individual**  
 GOLD: Michelle Gulyas, Hungary  
 SILVER: Elodie Clouvet, France  
 BRONZE: Seungmin Seong, South Korea

**VOLLEYBALL**  
**Women**  
 GOLD: Italy (Marina Lubian, Carlotta Cambi, Ilaria Spirito, Monica de Gennaro, Alessia Orro, Caterina Chiara Bosetti, Anna Danesi, Myriam Fatime Sylla, Paola Ogechi Egonu, Sarah Luisa Fahr, Oghosasere Loveth Omoruyi, Ekaterina Antropova, Gaia Giovannini)

**SILVER: United States (Micha Hancock, Jordyn Poulter, Avery Skinner, Justine Wong-Orantes, Lauren Carlini, Jordan Larson, Andrea Drews, Jordan Thompson, Haleigh Washington, Dana Rettke, Kathryn Plummer, Kelsey Robinson, Chiaka Ogbogu)**

BRONZE: Brazil (Nyeme Victoria Alexandre Costa Nunes, Diana Duarte Alecmin, Macris Fernanda Silva Carneiro, Thaisa Daher de Menezes, Rosamaria Montibeller, Roberta Silva Ratzke, Gabriela Braga Guimaraes, Ana Cristina Menezes Oliveira de Souza, Natalia Araujo, Ana Carolina da Silva, Julia Isabelle Bergmann, Tainara Lemes Santos, Lorraine Geraldo Teixeira)

**WEIGHTLIFTING**  
**Women's +81kg**  
 GOLD: Wenwen Li, China  
 SILVER: Hyejeong Park, South Korea  
 BRONZE: Emily Campbell, Britain

**WATER POLO**  
**Men**  
 GOLD: Serbia (Radoslav Filipovic, Dusan Mandic, Strahinja Rasovic, Sava Randelovic, Milos Cuk, Nikola Dedovic, Radomir Drasovic, Nikola Jaksic, Nemanja Vico, Nemanja Ubovic, Petar Jaksic, Viktor Rasovic, Vladimir Misovic)  
 SILVER: Croatia (Marko Bijac, Rino Buric, Loren Fatovic, Luka Loncar, Maro Jokovic, Luka Bukic, Ante Vukicevic, Marko Zuvela, Jerko Marinic Kragic, Josip Vrltic, Matias Biljaka, Konstantin Kharkov, Toni Popadic)

**BRONZE: United States (Adrian Weinberg, Johnny Hooper, Marko Vavic, Alex Obert, Hannes Daube, Luca Cupido, Ben Hallock, Dylan Woodhead, Alex Bowen, Chase William Dodd, Ryder Dodd, Max Irving, Drew Holland)**

**WRESTLING**  
**Men's Freestyle 65kg**  
 GOLD: Kotaro Kiyooka, Japan  
 SILVER: Rahman Amouzadkhalili, Iran  
 BRONZE: Sebastian C Rivera, Puerto Rico

BRONZE: Islam Dudaev, Albania  
**Men's Freestyle 97kg**  
 GOLD: Akhmed Tazhudinov, Bahrain  
 SILVER: Givi Matcharashvili, Georgia  
 BRONZE: Magomedkhan Magomedov, Azerbaijan

BRONZE: Amirali Azarpira, Iran  
**Women's Freestyle 76kg**  
 GOLD: Yuka Kagami, Japan  
 SILVER: Kennedy Alexis Blades, United States  
 BRONZE: Milaimy de la Caridad Marin Potrille, Cuba

BRONZE: Tatiana Renteria Renteria, Colombia

# Olympic Men's Water Polo Glance

**Sunday, Placing**  
**Bronze Medal**  
**United States** 11, Hungary 8,  
**United States** wins 3-0 in shootout  
**Gold Medal**  
 Serbia 13, Croatia 11

Amirali Azarpira, Iran, def. Alisher Yergali, Kazakhstan, 4-0, 2-1, Points.  
**Bronze Medal Matches**  
 Magomedkhan Magomedov, Azerbaijan, def. Murazi McHedlidze, Ukraine, 5-0, 5-0, Technical Superiority.  
 Amirali Azarpira, Iran, def. **Kyle Frederick Snyder, United States**, 2-0, 2-1, Points.  
**Final**  
 Akhmed Tazhudinov, Bahrain, def. Givi Matcharashvili, Georgia, 2-0, Pin.  
**Women**  
**Freestyle 76kg Repechage**  
 Milaimy de la Caridad Marin Potrille, Cuba, def. Catalina Axente, Romania, Injury.  
 Genesis Rosangela Reasco Valdez, Ecuador, def. Yasemin Adar Yigit, Turkey, 3-0, 0-1, Points.

# Olympic Medals Table

**Final 2024 Summer Olympic Medals Table**  
**At Paris, Sunday, Aug. 11**  
**329 of 329 total events**

Nation	G	S	B	Tot
<b>United States</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>126</b>
China	40	24	24	91
Britain	14	22	29	65
France	16	26	22	64
Australia	18	19	16	53
Japan	20	12	13	45
Italy	12	13	15	40
Netherlands	15	7	12	34
Germany	12	13	8	33
South Korea	13	9	10	32
Canada	9	7	11	27
New Zealand	10	7	3	20
Brazil	3	7	10	20
Hungary	6	7	6	19
Spain	5	4	9	18
Uzbekistan	8	2	3	13
Iran	3	6	3	12
Ukraine	3	5	4	12
Sweden	4	4	3	11
Kenya	4	2	5	11
Belgium	3	1	6	10
Poland	1	4	5	10
Romania	3	4	2	9
Denmark	2	2	5	9
Cuba	2	1	6	9
Norway	4	1	3	8
Switzerland	1	2	5	8
Greece	1	1	6	8
Turkey	0	3	5	8
Ireland	4	0	3	7
Georgia	3	3	1	7
Bulgaria	3	1	3	7
Azerbaijan	2	2	3	7
Croatia	2	2	3	7
Taiwan	2	0	5	7
Israel	1	5	1	7
Kazakhstan	1	3	3	7
Jamaica	1	3	2	6
South Africa	1	3	2	6
Thailand	1	3	2	6
North Korea	0	2	4	6
Kyrgyzstan	0	2	4	6
India	0	1	5	6
Serbia	3	1	5	6
Czech Republic	3	0	2	5
Austria	2	0	3	5
Ecuador	1	2	2	5
Mexico	0	3	2	5
Bahrain	2	1	4	4
Hong Kong	2	0	2	4
Philippines	2	0	2	4
Ethiopia	1	3	0	4
Portugal	1	2	1	4
Armenia	0	3	1	4
Colombia	0	3	1	4
Lithuania	0	2	2	4
Moldova	0	1	3	4
Slovenia	2	1	0	3
Algeria	2	0	1	3
Indonesia	2	0	1	3
Argentina	1	1	1	3
Egypt	1	1	1	3
Tunisia	1	1	1	3
Dominican Republic	1	0	2	3
Tajikistan	0	0	3	3
Botswana	1	1	0	2
Chile	1	1	0	2
Saint Lucia	1	1	0	2
Uganda	1	1	0	2
Guatemala	1	0	1	2
Morocco	1	0	1	2
Kosovo	0	1	1	2
Albania	0	2	2	2
Grenada	0	0	2	2
Malaysia	0	0	2	2
Puerto Rico	0	0	2	2
Dominica	1	0	0	1
Pakistan	0	0	1	1
Cyprus	0	0	1	1
Fiji	0	1	0	1
Jordan	0	0	1	1
Mongolia	0	0	1	1
Panama	0	1	0	1
Cape Verde	0	0	1	1
Ivory Coast	0	0	1	1
Peru	0	0	1	1
Qatar	0	0	1	1
Refugee Olympic Team	0	0	1	1
Singapore	0	0	1	1
Slovakia	0	0	1	1
Zambia	0	0	1	1

# Sox's Duran apologizes for directing slur at fan

By CHRISTIAN ARNOLD

Red Sox star Jarren Duran issued an apology for directing a homophobic slur at a spectator during Boston's 10-2 loss to the Astros at Fenway Park on Sunday.

The NESN broadcast picked up the exchange in which Duran was heckled by a fan and retorted with the slur.

“During tonight’s game, I used a truly horrific word when responding to a fan,” Duran said in a statement released by the team. “I feel awful knowing how many people I offended and disappointed. I apologize to the entire Red Sox organization, but more importantly to the entire LGBTQ community. Our young fans are supposed to be able to look up to me as a role model, but tonight I fell far short of that responsibility. I will use this opportunity to educate myself and my teammates and to grow as a person.”

The fan could be heard screaming that Duran needed “a tennis racket” while he was at the plate.

The Red Sox outfielder didn’t take kindly to the comment, telling the fan to “shut up,” adding a homophobic slur.

“The Red Sox addressed this incident with Jarren immediately following today’s game,” the team said. “We echo Jarren’s apology to our fans, especially to the LGBTQ community. We strive to be an organization that welcomes all fans to Fenway Park, and we will continue to educate our employees, players, coaches and staff on the importance of inclusivity.”

The statement did not say if the Red Sox would take any disciplinary action against Duran and Major League Baseball has not made any statements on the matter.

The incident occurred during the bottom of the sixth inning with the Sox down 10-0 to the Astros.

Duran was 0-for-2 for the day and down in the count when the exchange was picked up on a hot mic by the field.

The outfielder had slammed an electric fan in the Red Sox’s dugout earlier in the game.

# Yonkers Raceway entries Post time: 7 p.m.

**FIRST: 1 Mile \$21,000 NW15361L5; PACE**  
 1 Pointomygranson(JStratton) 3-6-7 9-2  
 2 Big Gulp (JBartlett) 4-3-5 2-1  
 3 Sonny Weaver N (TButer) 4-6-3 9-2  
 4 Southwind Petr (DDube) 1-1-1 7-2  
 5 Deetzy (BHolland) 5-2-1 12-1  
 6 Gingras Beach (JMarohn) 2-4-8 20-1  
 7 Birthday (GBrennan) 6-7-4 5-1  
**SECOND: 1 Mile \$18,000 3-5YO 30CL; PACE**  
 1 Victor Cruise (JStratton) 8-4-7 8-1  
 2 Beggin For Bacon (GBrennan) 3-4-6 3-1  
 3 High On Rocknroll (JBartlett) 8-6-4 5-1  
 4 Vandalism (TButer) 5-1-4 4-1  
 5 He's Special (BHolland) 4-7-6 9-2  
 6 To The Hunt (ASiegelman) 2-2-2 2-1  
**THIRD: 1 Mile \$18,000 NW10051L5; PACE**  
 1 Braeview BondiA(GBrennan) 3-7-5 6-1  
 2 Komodo Beach (MKakaley) 3-6-8 7-5  
 3 CaptivateHanver (ASeigel) 5-3-3 5-2  
 4 Levine (JBartlett) 5-3-5 4-1  
 5 Saranac Blue Chip (JMarohn) 7-8-5 20-1  
 6 Purple Poet (TButer) 7-4-3 12-1  
 7 Stellar Yankee (JStratton) 6-1-5 20-1  
**FOURTH: 1 Mile \$20,000 4000OCLM; PACE**  
 1 Im A Playwry A (DDube) 5-3-2 8-1  
 2 San Domino A (JBartlett) 4-4-4 7-2  
 3 Sports Fan (GBrennan) 1-6-5 4-1  
 4 DanceOnTheBeach (MKKley) 3-4-1 3-1  
 5 Ucantouchthis (JStratton) 3-3-5 4-1  
 6 Maximus Red A (JBongiorno) 6-2-6 12-1  
 7 Bechers Brook A (BHolland) 1-1-2 9-2  
**FIFTH: 1 Mile \$18,000 3000OCLM; PACE**  
 1 War Dan Delight N(JMarohn) 7-6-4 5-1  
 2 Kount Blaster (DDube) 1-2-7 10-1  
 3 Three Grand (TButer) 3-2-7 8-1  
 4 Pretty Handsome (JStratton) 1-3-1 3-1  
 5 Smokin By N (ASiegelman) 8-6-2 4-1  
 6 Ys Do It Right (GBrennan) 5-1-1 6-1  
 7 Nowhere Creek A (MKakaley) 5-6-1 15-1  
 8 Stillvaner (JBartlett) 2-5-1 5-1

**SIXTH: 1 Mile \$22,000 5000OCLM; PACE**  
 1 Surfside Beach (JStratton) 8-2-3 7-2  
 2 Justasec N (DDube) 5-1-2 8-1  
 3 Shine A Light (BHolland) 2-7-3 6-1  
 4 Real Willey (JBongiorno) 3-1-1 5-2  
 5 Optical Illusion N(MKakaley) 2-7-2 5-1  
 6 Ocean Ridge N (JBartlett) 5-5-6 5-1  
 7 Just Enuff Stuff (GBrennan) 6-2-3 8-1  
 8 I Draintheswamp A (TButer) 3-4-8 20-1  
**SEVENTH: 1 Mile \$39,000 INVITATION; PACE**  
 1 Hemsworth N (ASiegelman) 6-4-3 3-1  
 2 TyphoonBannerN (JBongiorn) 1-1-1 5-2  
 3 Boiling Oar (MKakaley) 1-1-2 2-1  
 4 WhatsStanleyGTA (GBrennan) 1-2-2 4-1  
 5 Carabao A (TButer) 1-1-1 5-1  
 6 Ultimaraoca (JStratton) 2-2-1 20-1  
**EIGHTH: 1 Mile \$24,000 NW2000L5; PACE**  
 1 Hellabouze (DDube) 1-4-6 3-2  
 2 Nandolo N (JBartlett) 1-2-2 5-2  
 3 PeaceOutPosse (JBongiorno) 6-1-4 6-1  
 4 Funatthebeach N (JStratton) 5-5-2 12-1  
 5 Kimble A (GBrennan) 2-2-8 12-1  
 6 ThunderHunterJoe (BHolland) 1-6-4 8-1  
 7 MyUltimateByronA (MKKley) 2-3-5 6-1  
**NINTH: 1 Mile \$30,000 NW3000L5; PACE**  
 1 This Is The Plan (JStratton) 7-5-1 7-2  
 2 Mamba (JStratton) 2-1-1 9-2  
 3 Ignatya A (ASiegelman) 5-7-1 5-1  
 4 None Better A (GBrennan) 4-4-7 9-5  
 5 Windsun Ricky (BHolland) 4-1-1 12-1  
 6 Chimichurri N (JBartlett) X-1-1 7-2  
**TENTH: 1 Mile \$39,000 3-5 YO OPN; PACE**  
 1 Combustion (JBongiorno) 5-2-2 6-1  
 2 VenturesomeArdenN (TBter) 2-3-6 4-1  
 3 Hazeville (BHolland) 5-5-3 12-1  
 4 Verdu Men (Plachance) 1-2-1 4-1  
 5 It's A Me Mario (JBartlett) 4-1-5 7-2  
 6 Camara Moment (GBrennan) 1-3-1 8-1  
 7 Pleaseletmeknow (MKakley) 5-3-3 3-1  
 8 Stay Grounded (ASiegelman) 4-5-5 20-1

# Saratoga results Sunday

**FIRST-6½ fur; \$70,000; st alc(\$50,000); 3up (f&m)**  
 3 Plimto Fury (Gffin) 9.90 4.30 4.40  
 2 She's Cool (Ortiz,Jr.) 4.30 3.10  
 1 Oh My Mia (Davis) 3.70  
 ● \$1 Exacta (3-2) \$20.30 ● \$0.1 Superfecta (3-2-1-5) \$14.87 ● \$0.5 Trifecta (3-2-1) \$28.25 ● \$1 Exacta (3-2) \$20.30 ● \$0.1 Show (3-2-1-5) \$14.87 ● \$0.5 Trifecta (3-2-1) \$28.25

4) \$101.95 ● \$0.5 Trifecta (2-3-6) \$169.25 ● \$1 Pick 3 (9-3-2) \$297.00 ● \$0.5 Pick 4 (6-2-9-3) \$809.25 ● \$1 Daily Double (3-2) \$135.25 ● \$1 Exacta (2-3) \$55.75 ● \$0.1 Show (2-3-6-4) \$101.95 ● \$0.5 Trifecta (2-3-6) \$169.25

**SEVENTH-6½ fur; \$35,000; cfm(\$12,500); 4up**  
 9 Chrgn Ar (Rvr,Jr.) 15.00 6.00 3.80  
 7 Mister JT (Rtr,Jr.) 3.40 2.60  
 2 Joking Way (Ramsay) 3.30  
 Scr: Rider's Special, Bronx Bomber  
 ● \$1 Pick 3 (3-2-9) \$1077.50 ● \$1 Daily Double (2-9) \$49.00 ● \$1 Exacta (9-7) \$21.80 ● \$0.1 Superfecta (9-7-2-6) \$19.52 ● \$0.5 Trifecta (9-7-2) \$33.25 ● \$1 Pick 3 (3-2-9) \$1077.50 ● \$1 Daily Double (2-9) \$49.00 ● \$1 Exacta (9-7) \$21.80 ● \$0.1 Show (9-7-2-6) \$19.52 ● \$0.5 Trifecta (9-7-2) \$33.25

**SECOND-6½ fur; \$90,000; cfm(\$75,000); 2YO**  
 2 Propnry Trd (Prt) 4.40 3.50 2.50  
 6 Temecula (Gaffalione) 7.20 3.90  
 4 Squints (Davis) 3.20  
 ● \$1 Daily Double (3-2) \$14.50 ● \$1 Exacta (2-6) \$17.10 ● \$1 Quinella (2-6) \$11.50 ● \$0.1 Superfecta (2-6-4-5) \$18.57 ● \$0.5 Trifecta (2-6-4) \$29.62 ● \$1 Daily Double (3-2) \$14.50 ● \$1 Exacta (2-6) \$17.10 ● \$1 Quinella (2-6) \$11.50 ● \$0.1 Show (2-6-4-5) \$18.57 ● \$0.5 Trifecta (2-6-4) \$29.62

**THIRD-6 fur; \$75,000; cfm(\$40,000); 4up (f&m)**  
 6 Strshp Dnt (Vzqz) 11.20 4.50 3.00  
 3 Rnders Rock (Ortiz,Jr.) 3.60 2.60  
 5 Willow Bend (Franco) 2.80  
 ● \$1 Pick 3 (3-2-6) \$79.00 ● \$1 Daily Double (2-6) \$12.40 ● \$1 Exacta (6-3) \$19.40 ● \$0.1 Superfecta (6-3-5-4) \$8.50 ● \$0.5 Trifecta (6-3-5) \$28.75 ● \$1 Pick 3 (3-2-6) \$79.00 ● \$1 Daily Double (2-6) \$12.40 ● \$1 Exacta (6-3) \$19.40 ● \$0.1 Show (6-3-5-4) \$8.50 ● \$0.5 Trifecta (6-3-5) \$28.75

**EIGHTH-5½ fur; \$150,000; stk; 3YO**  
 1 Fndom (GB) (Dvs) 10.00 5.80 4.00  
 10 Run Carson (Santana,Jr.) 21.60 11.00  
 4 Apollo Ten (Franco) 5.80  
 Scr: No Nay Mets (IRE), Baraye  
 ● \$1 Grand Slam (2/3/9-2/3/6-2/7/9-1) \$72.50 ● \$1 Pick 3 (2-9-1) \$345.00 ● \$1 Daily Double (9-1) \$44.00 ● \$1 Exacta (1-10) \$154.75 ● \$0.1 Superfecta (1-10-4-2) \$1186.10 ● \$0.5 Trifecta (1-10-4) \$446.50 ● \$1 Pick 3 (2-9-1) \$345.00 ● \$1 Daily Double (9-1) \$44.00 ● \$1 Exacta (1-10) \$154.75 ● \$0.1 Show (1-10-4-2) \$1186.10 ● \$0.5 Trifecta (1-10-4) \$446.50 ● \$1 Place Pick 9 (2/3/9-2/3/6-2/7/9-1) \$72.50

**NINTH-7 fur; \$45,000; cfm(\$25,000); 3up**  
 8 Sk Unicorn (Rosr) 53.50 14.60 9.20  
 5 Anthracite (Lezcano) 7.80 5.10  
 6 Twelfth Man (Ramsay) 8.70  
 Scr: Dads Good Runner  
 ● \$1 Pick 6 (2/9-3/2-9-1-8) \$2451.50 ● \$1 Consolation Pick 3 (9-1-4) \$45.50 ● \$1 Pick 3 (9-1-8) \$1265.50 ● \$0.5 Pick 4 (2-9-1-8) \$3451.00 ● \$0.5 Pick 5 (3-2-9-1-8) \$81192.75 ● \$1 Daily Double (1-8) \$137.25 ● \$1 Exacta (8-5) \$145.50 ● \$0.1 Superfecta (8-5-6-9) \$636.85 ● \$0.5 Trifecta (8-5-6) \$560.00 ● \$1 Consolation Double (1-4) \$5.50 ● \$1 Pick 3 (9-1-8) \$1265.50 ● \$0.5 Pick 4 (2-9-1-8) \$3451.00 ● \$0.5 Pick 5 (3-2-9-1-8) \$81192.75 ● \$1 Pick 6 (2/9-3-2-9-1-8) \$2451.50 ● \$1 Daily Double (1-8) \$137.25 ● \$1 Exacta (8-5) \$145.50 ● \$1 Consolation Pick 3 (9-1-4) \$45.50 ● \$0.1 Show (8-5-6-9) \$636.85 ● \$0.5 Trifecta (8-5-6) \$560.00 ● \$1 Consolation Double (1-4) \$5.50

**TENTH-1**

# AL Standings

East	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Baltimore	70	49	.588	—	—	5-5	L-1	34-25	36-24
<b>Yankees</b>	70	49	.588	—	+4½	6-4	W-1	32-27	38-22
Boston	61	55	.526	7½	3	5-5	L-4	27-31	34-24
Tampa Bay	59	58	.504	10	5½	4-6	W-1	31-31	28-27
Toronto	54	64	.458	15½	11	4-6	L-2	29-31	25-33

Central	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Cleveland	69	49	.585	—	—	3-7	W-2	35-20	34-29
Minnesota	65	52	.556	3½	+½	6-4	L-2	34-23	31-29
Kansas City	65	53	.551	4	—	6-4	W-1	38-25	27-28
Detroit	56	63	.471	13½	9½	4-6	W-1	26-31	30-32
Chicago	28	91	.235	41½	37½	1-9	L-3	17-42	11-49

West	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Houston	62	55	.530	—	—	7-3	W-5	32-26	30-29
Seattle	63	56	.529	—	2½	6-4	W-4	37-26	26-30
Texas	55	63	.466	7½	10	3-7	L-1	31-27	24-36
Los Angeles	52	66	.441	10½	13	5-5	W-1	26-35	26-31
Oakland	50	69	.420	13	15½	5-5	W-2	29-30	21-39

\*WGB: Games behind third-place team in wild-card race

## Sunday

**Yankees** 8, Texas 7  
**Seattle 12, Mets** 1  
 L.A. Angels 6, Washington 4  
 Tampa Bay 2, Baltimore 1  
 Oakland 8, Toronto 4  
 Houston 10, Boston 2  
 Cleveland 5, Minnesota 3  
 Detroit 5, San Francisco 4  
**Monday**  
**Yankees** at White Sox, 8:10  
 Cubs at Cleveland, 6:40  
 Houston at Tampa Bay, 6:50

Texas at Boston, 7:10  
 Kansas City at Minnesota, 7:40  
 Toronto at L.A. Angels, 9:38  
**Tuesday**  
 Oakland at **Mets**, 7:10  
**Yankees** at White Sox, 8:10  
 Washington at Baltimore, 6:35  
 Cubs at Cleveland, 6:40  
 Seattle at Detroit, 6:40  
 Houston at Tampa Bay, 6:50  
 Texas at Boston, 7:10  
 Kansas City at Minnesota, 7:40  
 Toronto at L.A. Angels, 9:38

# NL Standings

East	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Philadelphia	69	49	.585	—	—	4-6	L-3	38-21	31-28
Atlanta	61	56	.521	7½	—	3-7	L-1	32-26	29-30
<b>Mets</b>	61	57	.517	8	½	4-6	L-3	30-29	31-28
Washington	54	65	.454	15½	8	5-5	L-1	28-32	26-33
Miami	44	75	.370	25½	18	4-6	W-1	24-39	20-36

Central	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Milwaukee	67	50	.573	—	—	6-4	L-1	33-22	34-28
St. Louis	60	58	.508	7½	1½	4-6	L-1	31-27	29-31
Chicago	59	60	.496	9	3	8-2	W-4	32-27	27-33
Cincinnati	57	61	.483	10½	4½	5-5	W-1	28-31	29-30
Pittsburgh	56	61	.479	11	5	1-9	L-7	27-31	29-30

West	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Los Angeles	69	49	.585	—	—	6-4	W-3	38-22	31-27
Arizona	66	53	.555	3½	+4	8-2	W-3	34-26	32-27
San Diego	66	53	.555	3½	+4	8-2	L-1	30-29	36-24
San Francisco	61	59	.508	9	1½	7-3	L-1	35-24	26-35
Colorado	44	75	.370	25½	18	5-5	W-1	27-32	17-43

\*WGB: Games behind third-place team in wild-card race

## Sunday

**Seattle 12, Mets** 1  
 L.A. Angels 6, Washington 4  
 Miami 7, San Diego 6  
 Cincinnati 4, Milwaukee 3  
 Colorado 9, Atlanta 8  
 Arizona 12, Philadelphia 5  
 Detroit 5, San Francisco 4  
 L.A. Dodgers 6, Pittsburgh 5, 10 inn.  
**Monday**  
 Cubs at Cleveland, 6:40  
 St. Louis at Cincinnati, 6:40  
 L.A. Dodgers at Milwaukee, 8:10

Colorado at Arizona, 9:40  
 Pittsburgh at San Diego, 9:40  
 Atlanta at San Francisco, 9:45  
**Tuesday**  
 Oakland at **Mets**, 7:10  
 Washington at Baltimore, 6:35  
 Cubs at Cleveland, 6:40  
 Miami at Philadelphia, 6:40  
 St. Louis at Cincinnati, 6:40  
 L.A. Dodgers at Milwaukee, 8:10  
 Colorado at Arizona, 9:40  
 Pittsburgh at San Diego, 9:40  
 Atlanta at San Francisco, 9:45

## Yankees 8, Rangers 7

Texas	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Smith dh	4	1	2	0	1	0	.273
Seager ss	5	0	2	1	0	1	.274
Semien 2b	4	0	0	0	1	2	.241
Jung 3b	5	0	1	0	0	1	.283
Langford lf	4	1	1	0	1	2	.243
Lowie 1b	4	1	1	1	1	2	.263
Duran pr	0	0	0	0	0	0	.246
Garcia rf	4	1	2	1	1	1	.220
Taveras cf	4	1	0	0	1	0	.225
Kelly c	4	2	3	2	0	0	.353
<b>Totals</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	

Yankees	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Verdugo lf	5	1	1	0	0	0	.239
Soto rf	5	2	2	2	0	0	.304
Judge cf	3	2	3	1	1	0	.328
Stanton dh	2	1	1	4	1	0	.247
Wells c	4	0	1	0	0	1	.251
Torres 2b	3	1	1	0	1	1	.238
Chisholm 3b	4	0	1	0	0	0	.296
Volpe ss	4	0	0	0	0	3	.250
LeMahieu 1b	3	1	2	1	0	1	.198
<b>Totals</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	

Texas	000	001	231	—	7	12	1
<b>Yankees</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>031</b>	<b>20x</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1</b>

**E:** Jung (1), Chisholm (1). **LOB:** Texas 10, New York 6. **2B:** Seager (15), Smith (21), Wells (13). **HR:** Lowe (10), off Leiter; Kelly (1), off Leiter; Soto (29), off Heaney; Stanton (20), off Leclerc; Soto (30), off Chafin; Judge (42), off Chafin. **RBIs:** Seager (61), Lowe (47), Kelly 2 (4), García (56), Stanton 4 (52), Soto 2 (82), LeMahieu (23), Judge (106). **SB:** Judge (6), Chisholm (4), García (10). **SF:** Stanton, LeMahieu. **RISP:** Texas 3 for 11; New York 1 for 7. **DP:** Texas 1 (Lowe); New York 1 (Volpe, LeMahieu).

Texas	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Heaney L, 4-12	4.2	5	4	3	2	4	83	4.05
Leclerc	0.1	1	1	0	1	10	4.50	
Festa	0.2	2	1	1	0	0	163.50	
Chafin	0.1	2	2	2	0	0	10.82	
Dunning	2.0	2	0	0	1	1	28.77	

Yankees	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Stroman, W, 8-6	5.0	4	1	1	3	1	89	4.01
Cousins	1.0	2	1	0	0	3	18	2.35
Kahle	1.0	2	1	0	0	1	26	1.88
Leiter	0.2	3	3	1	2	26	5.40	
Holmes, S, 25-34	1.1	1	1	1	2	2	45	2.81

**T:** 3:15. **A:** 45,318 (47,309).

## Marlins 7, Padres 6

San Diego	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Arraez 1b-2b	4	2	3	0	0	0	.299
Profar lf	4	0	0	1	0	0	.297
Cronenworth 2b	3	0	1	0	1	0	.248
Solano ph-1b	1	1	1	2	0	0	.313
Machado 3b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.269
Bogaerts dh	4	1	2	0	0	0	.271
Merrill cf	4	1	0	0	0	0	.291
Peralta rf	4	0	1	2	0	2	.257
Kim ss	4	0	1	0	0	3	.227
Campusano c	4	1	1	0	0	2	.238
<b>Totals</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	

Miami	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
X.Edwards ss	4	2	1	0	1	2	.357
Burger 3b	4	3	3	2	0	0	.251
J.Sánchez rf	4	1	1	2	0	2	.239
Bride 1b	3	0	1	1	0	0	.259
Stowers lf	4	0	1	0	0	2	.083
Lopez 2b	4	0	2	1	0	1	.234
Bruján cf	3	0	0	0	0	0	.215
Pache ph-cf	1	0	0	0	1	0	.143
Hill dh	4	1	1	0	0	2	.261
A.Sánchez c	3	0	0	0	0	1	.153
<b>Totals</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>11</b>	

San Diego	000	012	120	—	6	10	2
<b>Miami</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>000</b>	<b>20x</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>

**LOB:** San Diego 3, Miami 6. **2B:** Bogaerts (11), Arraez (8), Peralta (7), Kim (15), Hill (2). **HR:** Solano (5), off Nardi; Kim (10), off Nardi; Burger (22), off Cease; J.Sánchez (14), off Matsui. **RBIs:** Peralta 2 (18), Profar (72), Cronenworth (67), Solano 2 (27), Bride (15), Lopez (22), Burger 2 (53), J.Sánchez 2 (46). **SB:** X.Edwards (16), Hill (3). **S:** A.Sánchez. **RISP:** San Diego 1 for 9; Miami 2 for 10. **DP:** San Diego 1 (Cronenworth, Kim, Arraez); Miami 1 (X.Edwards, Lopez, Bride).

San Diego	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Cease, L, 11-9	5.0	6	5	2	5	9	91	3.41
Reynolds	1.0	2	1	1	0	2	16	3.38
Matsui	1.0	2	1	1	0	2	25	3.53
Adam	1.0	0	0	0	2	10	0.00	

Miami	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Meyer, W, 3-2	6.1	7	4	4	0	4	91	5.20
Cronin, H, 3	0.2	0	0	0	0	2	8	4.37
Nardi, H, 15	1.2	3	2	2	0	2	37	5.01
Soriano, S, 1-3	0.1	0	0	0	0	1	5	7.41
<b>T:</b> 2:40. <b>A:</b> 15,699 (37,446).								

## Mariners 12, Mets 1

Mets	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Lindor ss	4	0	2	0	0	1	.260
Ty.Taylor ph	1	0	0	0	0	1	.238
Nimmo cf	3	0	0	0	1	0	.230
Martinez dh	3	0	0	0	1	1	.257
Winker lf	4	0	1	0	0	2	.286
Alonso 1b	3	0	0	0	1	3	.240
McNeil 2b	3	1	1	0	1	0	.238
Iglesias 3b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.324
Gamel rf	3	0	1	0	1	1	.250
Torrens c	4	0	1	0	0	2	.277
<b>Totals</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>13</b>	

**Rockies 9, Braves 8**

<b>Atlanta</b>	<b>AB</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>BI</b>	<b>BB</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>Avg</b>
Soler rf	4	2	2	4	1	0	.297
Laureano rf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.269
Riley 3b	5	2	2	1	0	0	.264
Ozuna dh	5	0	2	0	0	1	.301
Williams pr	0	0	0	0	0	0	.077
Olson 1b	4	1	1	1	1	1	.230
d'Arnaud c	5	1	1	2	0	2	.252
Arcia ss	4	0	4	0	0	0	.234
Duvall lf	2	0	0	0	0	0	.181
Kelenic ph-1f	2	0	0	0	0	1	.235
Merrifield 2b	2	1	0	0	2	0	.258
White cf	4	1	1	0	0	1	.263
<b>Totals</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	

<b>Colorado</b>	<b>AB</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>BI</b>	<b>BB</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>Avg</b>
Blackmon rf	5	1	3	2	0	1	.258
Doyle cf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.265
Tovar ss	5	1	1	0	0	2	.277
McMahon 3b	4	2	2	1	1	0	.253
Rodgers dh	5	1	2	2	0	2	.278
Toglia 1b	4	1	1	0	1	2	.208
Cave cf-rf	4	1	3	0	0	0	.251
Stallings c	4	0	1	0	2	0	.265
Hilliard lf	4	1	3	0	0	0	.277
Schunk 2b	4	1	2	0	0	1	.171
<b>Totals</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	

<b>Atlanta</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Colorado</b>	<b>000</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>07x</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>

**LOB:** Atlanta 6, Colorado 8. **2B:** Riley (26), Olson (24), McMahon (24), Schunk (2), Rodgers (22). **HR:** Riley (18), off Freeland; d'Arnaud (12), off Freeland; Soler (3), off Lawrence; Soler (4), off Rogers; Cave (6), off Jackson. **RBIs:** Riley (55), d'Arnaud 2 (37), Soler 4 (10), Olson (61), Cave 3 (31), Stallings (28), Blackmon 2 (38), McMahon (53), Rodgers 2 (39). **RISP:** Atlanta 3 for 7; Colorado 5 for 13. **DP:** Atlanta 1 (Merrifield, Olson); Colorado 3 (Tovar, Schunk, Toglia; McMahon, Schunk, Toglia; Tovar, Toglia).

<b>Atlanta</b>	<b>IP</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>ER</b>	<b>BB</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>NP</b>	<b>ERA</b>
Schwellenbach 6.0	6	2	2	2	7	96	3.95	
Minter 1.0	2	0	0	0	1	26	2.62	
Jackson 0.2	4	4	4	0	2	29	9.53	
Jiménez, L, 1-4	0.1	4	3	3	0	0	9.291	
4, BS, 3-5								

<b>Colorado</b>	<b>IP</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>ER</b>	<b>BB</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>NP</b>	<b>ERA</b>
Freeland 3.2	4	3	3	1	1	65	5.75	
Lambert 2.1	2	0	0	1	3	39	5.73	
Lawrence 0.1	3	4	4	0	0	29	6.75	
Rogers, W, 2-0	1.2	3	1	1	1	28	6.55	
Vodnik, S, 8-10	1.0	1	0	0	1	17	3.92	

**T:** 3:05. **A:** 40,365 (50,144).

**Guardians 5, Twins 3**

<b>Cleveland</b>	<b>AB</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>BI</b>	<b>BB</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>Avg</b>
Kwan lf	4	0	1	1	1	0	.325
Brennan rf	5	0	1	0	2	0	.243
Ramírez 3b	5	1	2	1	0	1	.280
J.Naylor dh	4	0	1	0	1	1	.246
Thomas pr-dh	0	0	0	0	0	0	.119
Fry 1b	4	1	1	1	0	0	.271
Jiménez 2b	3	1	0	2	0	0	.255
Schneemann cf	2	1	1	0	2	1	.221
Freeman cf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.214
B.Naylor c	4	0	1	0	0	2	.204
Rocchio ss	4	1	1	0	0	0	.206
<b>Totals</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	

<b>Minnesota</b>	<b>AB</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>BI</b>	<b>BB</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>Avg</b>
Castro ss	5	0	1	0	0	2	.260
Larnach dh	5	0	1	0	0	1	.245
Lewis 3b	4	1	1	0	0	1	.272
Wallner lf	4	0	1	0	0	2	.272
Buxton cf	4	2	2	3	0	1	.278
Miranda 1b	4	0	0	0	0	0	.308
Kepler rf	4	0	2	0	0	1	.263
Farmer 2b	3	0	0	0	1	1	.184
Martin pr	0	0	0	0	0	0	.234
Vázquez c	4	0	3	0	0	0	.225
Margot pr	0	0	0	0	0	0	.238
<b>Totals</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	

<b>Cleveland</b>	<b>000</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Minnesota</b>	<b>010</b>	<b>000</b>	<b>020</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>

**E:** Lewis (6). **LOB:** Cleveland 11, Minnesota 8. **2B:** Brennan (8), Larnach (10), Vázquez 2 (9), Lewis (9). **HR:** Ramírez (31), off Festa; Fry (11), off Thielbar; Buxton (15), off Bibbe; Buxton (16), off Sandlin. **RBIs:** Ramírez (97), Fry (40), Rocchio (25), Kwan (34), Brennan (25), Buxton 3 (49). **SB:** Giménez 2 (19). **RISP:** Cleveland 3 for 11; Minnesota 3 for 9. **DP:** Cleveland 1 (Giménez, Rocchio, Fry); Minnesota 1 (Vázquez, Lewis, Miranda).

<b>Cleveland</b>	<b>IP</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>ER</b>	<b>BB</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>NP</b>	<b>ERA</b>
Bibbe, W, 10-4	5.2	6	1	1	0	5	84	3.39
Smith 1.0	1	0	0	0	1	15	20.5	
Gaddis 1.0	1	1	1	0	2	17	1.46	
Sandlin 0.1	1	1	0	0	0	12	8.66	
Clase, S, 35-38	1.0	2	0	0	1	1	20.66	

<b>Minnesota</b>	<b>IP</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>ER</b>	<b>BB</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>NP</b>	<b>ERA</b>
Festa 3.1	3	1	1	3	3	70	5.20	
Alcala 1.2	0	0	0	0	0	15	2.25	
Thielbar, L, 2-3	0.2	1	3	3	2	1	30.612	
Sands 0.1	3	1	1	0	0	9	3.33	
Dobnak 3.0	2	0	0	2	3	51	5.87	

**T:** 3:01. **A:** 30,084 (38,544).

**D'backs 12, Phillies 5**

<b>Philadelphia</b>	<b>AB</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>BI</b>	<b>BB</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>Avg</b>
Schwarber dh	3	0	0	1	1	0	.257
Turner ss	4	1	1	0	0	0	.301
Harper 1b	2	1	0	0	2	1	.279
Bohm 3b	4	0	1	2	0	1	.297
Stott 2b	4	0	1	0	0	1	.235
Castellanos rf	4	1	2	0	0	1	.245
Realmlto c	4	1	1	0	0	0	.246
Marsh lf	4	1	1	0	1	0	.238
Stevenson cf	3	0	1	1	1	1	.250
<b>Totals</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	

<b>Arizona</b>	<b>AB</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>BI</b>	<b>BB</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>Avg</b>
Perdomo ss	5	2	1	0	1	1	.289
McCarthy rf-1f	5	1	3	4	0	1	.303
Gurriel lf	2	2	2	0	0	0	.269
Carroll rf	3	1	1	2	0	0	.218
Bell 1b	4	1	2	0	1	1	.286
Griehuk dh	5	0	1	1	0	2	.273
Suárez 3b	5	2	1	1	0	0	.233
Del Castillo c	5	1	3	2	0	2	.583
Newman 2b	4	1	3	1	1	0	.275
Thomas cf	5	1	1	0	0	2	.198
<b>Totals</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>	

<b>Philadelphia</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>000</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Arizona</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>031</b>	<b>30x</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</b>

**E:** Bohm (13), Stott (5). **LOB:** Philadelphia 5, Arizona 10. **2B:** Bohm (43), Castellanos (24), Realmlto (20), Stott (13), Del Castillo (2), Suárez (21), Newman 2 (17). **3B:** McCarthy (7). **HR:** Carroll (11), off Alvarado. **RBIs:** Bohm 2 (80), Marsh (44), Stevenson (1), Schwarber (74), Griehuk (25), Suárez (64), Del Castillo 2 (5), McCarthy 4 (36), Newman (23), Carroll 2 (46). **SB:** Turner (14), Thomas (4), Newman (7), Perdomo (4). **CS:** McCarthy (3). **SF:** Schwarber. **RISP:** Philadelphia 3 for 7; Arizona 6 for 16. **DP:** Arizona 2 (Newman, Perdomo, Bell; Suárez, Newman, Bell).

<b>Philadelphia</b>	<b>IP</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>ER</b>	<b>BB</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>NP</b>	<b>ERA</b>
Sánchez, L, 8-8	4.2	12	7	7	2	4	96	3.63
Banks 0.1	1	1	1	1	0	0	12.84	
Kerkering 1.0	2	1	0	0	3	23	2.42	
Alvarado 1.0	3	3	3	0	0	0	19.453	
Lazar 1.0	0	0	0	0	2	24	0.00	

<b>Arizona</b>	<b>IP</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>ER</b>	<b>BB</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>NP</b>	<b>ERA</b>
Kelly, W, 3-0	5.0	3	2	2	2	2	85	2.43
Mantiply 1.0	0	0	0	1	1	11	3.68	
Floro 1.0	4	3	3	0	0	0	17.900	
Puk 1.0	1	0	0	0	2	15	1.35	
Sewald 1.0	0	0	0	1	1	14	3.82	

**T:** 2:44. **A:** 29,071 (48,359).

**Tigers 5, Giants 4**

<b>Detroit</b>	<b>AB</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>BI</b>	<b>BB</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>Avg</b>
Vierling dh	5	2	2	2	0	2	.255
Madris 1b	1	0	0	0	1	0	.288
Ibáñez ph-1b	3	0	1	0	0	0	.270
Keith 2b	5	0	2	1	0	1	.251
Malloy lf	3	0	0	0	1	2	.207
Báez pr-ss	1	0	0	0	0	0	.181
Urshela 3b	3	0	0	0	1	0	.237
Meadows cf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.191
McKinstry ss-1f	3	1	1	0	1	1	.190
Dingler c	4	2	2	0	0	0	.208
Baddoo rf	4	0	1	0	0	1	.132
<b>Totals</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	

<b>San Francisco</b>	<b>AB</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>BI</b>	<b>BB</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>Avg</b>
Fitzgerald ss	5	1	2	0	0	0	.315
Wade 1b	1	1	0	0	3	0	.282
Luciano pr	0	0	0	0	0	0	.293
Ramos cf	5	0	0	0	0	2	.284
Conforto lf	3	1	1	0	1	1	.236
Chapman 3b	4	1					



BETMGM

The *POST* Line

MLB		
Monday		
Favorite	Money Line	Underdog
Yankees	\$245-305	WHITE SOX
Astros	\$100-120	RAYS
RED SOX	\$120-140	Rangers
TWINS	\$130-155	Royals
ANGELS	-105-115	Blue Jays
Cardinals	\$110-130	REDS
Dodgers	-110-110	BREWERS
PADRES	OFF	Pirates
D'BACKS	OFF	Rockies
Braves	-105-115	GIANTS
Cubs	\$100-120	Guardians
Home teams in CAPS		

WNBA		
Thursday		
Favorite	PTS (O/U)	Underdog
Liberty	11.5 (168.5)	SPARKS
Mercury	2.5 (166.5)	SKY
LYNX	10.5 (156.5)	Mystics

College Football		
Saturday, Aug. 24		
Favorite	PTS (O/U)	Underdog
Florida St.	12.5 (56)	GA. TECH
Montana St.	9 (53.5)	NEW MEXICO
Smu	25.5 (57)	NEVADA

NFL		
Sunday Sept. 8		
Favorite	PTS (O/U)	Underdog
Vikings	1 41.5	GIANTS
Monday Sept. 9		
49ERS	5.5 (44.5)	Jets

## SPORTS SHORTS

## NFL: Pols balk at \$tadium co\$t

The Browns' proposal to leave the lake-front and play in a new domed stadium in Cleveland's suburbs has hit a major snag.

In a letter sent to team owners **Dee** and **Jimmy Haslam**, Cuyahoga County officials said Sunday they're backing a proposed \$1.2 billion renovation of the team's current stadium and are committed to keeping the NFL franchise in downtown Cleveland "for generations to come."

Earlier this week, the team unveiled renderings for a \$2.4 billion state-of-the-art stadium and entertainment complex to be built about 15 miles south of Cleveland.

In the letter signed by executive **Chris Ronayne** and council president **Pernel Jones Jr.**, the county argued that a new stadium "does not make fiscal sense" for Cuyahoga's residents and taxpayers.

● Rookie quarterback **Bo Nix** — 15 of 21 for 125 yards — threw one touchdown pass and took Denver on long scoring marches to close the first half and open the second half as the Broncos picked up a 34-30 victory at Indianapolis in their preseason opener.

## MLB: O's fall into tie with Yankees

**Curtis Mead** hit a tiebreaking sacrifice fly in the eighth inning, and the Rays avoided a three-game sweep by beating the Orioles, 2-1, in St. Petersburg, Fla.

**Anthony Santander** hit his 35th homer and **Albert Suárez** gave up four hits in a career-high 6 2/3 scoreless innings for the Orioles, who fell into a tie with the Yankees atop the AL East.

● In Phoenix, **Merrill Kelly** pitched five solid innings in his return from a shoulder injury, **Jake McCarthy** had three

hits and four RBIs, and the Diamondbacks stayed hot with a 12-5 win over the Phillies.

● In Denver, **Jake Cave** had three RBIs, **Charlie Blackmon** and **Sam Hilliard** each had three hits, and the Rockies mounted a comeback to defeat the Braves, 9-8.

● In Los Angeles, **Teoscar Hernández** drove in three runs, including a game-ending RBI single in the 10th inning, as the Dodgers pulled out a 6-5 victory over Pittsburgh, handing the Pirates a season-high seventh consecutive defeat.

## ETC.: McDowell suspended by LIV

**Graeme McDowell** has become the first LIV Golf player to be suspended under its anti-doping policy for using an over-the-counter decongestant that contained a banned substance.

The Saudi-funded league said McDowell, a former U.S. Open champion, would be suspended for one tournament and fined \$125,000.

McDowell posted on social media that he was struggling with severe congestion that affected his sleep prior to the LIV Golf Nashville event in Tennessee in June.

● In Richmond, Va., **Austin Dillon** raced to his first NASCAR Cup Series victory in nearly two years, sending **Joey Logano** into a spin on the final lap to win in overtime at Richmond. Dillon had just two top-10 finishes this year and entered the race ranked 32nd in the standings, but now he's on track for the postseason.

● **Anson Dorrance**, whose 21 NCAA championships are the most by a head coach in any Division I sport in college history, is retiring after 45 seasons directing the women's soccer program at North Carolina.

## ACTION TOP PLAY

## Don't be Chi' — take Under

By TANNER MCGRATH  
actionnetwork.com

I'm not the biggest fan of Luis Gil, but he's been pitching pretty well lately. In the past month, he's seen a slight velocity bump, leading to five consecutive quality or near-quality starts. He has tossed 28 innings during the stretch with a sub-two ERA and 32 percent strikeout rate.

Ultimately, he should have no problem dominating a lifeless White Sox lineup on Monday. After losing 21 consecutive games recently, the Southsiders have posted a 60 wRC+ against right-handed pitching over the past month — the lineup has been 40 percent worse than league average during the stretch and 11 percent worse than the second-worst team (Cleveland).

Conversely, the Yankees crush right-handed pitching, leading the league in wRC+ against the side on the season (125) — the lineup has been 25 percent better than league average against the side and 7

percent better than the second-best team (San Diego).

But the Bronx Bombers are closer to mortal against southpaws, posting a 105 wRC+ on the year. That makes them a tad vulnerable on Monday against Chicago's rookie left-handed starting pitcher, Ky Bush.

Bush struggled mightily in his MLB debut (4 IP, 3 ER, 3 K, 5 BB @ OAK). But he is a half-decent prospect (No. 18 in Chicago's system) who posted a 2.12 ERA across 80 Double-A innings with 78 strikeouts.

It will be pitching weather at Guaranteed Rate Field on Monday, with winds blowing in from right field and higher air pressure (meaning less carry). I'm banking that Bush's left hand and the wind will keep the Yankee bats at bay while Gil and the Yankee arms shut down baseball's worst lineup.

**THE PLAY:** Yankees-White Sox, Under 9 runs.

Tanner McGrath handicaps baseball for Action Network.

## Pitching Form

	Game time	2024			'24 vs OPP			CAREER vs OPP	LAST 3 STARTS		
		W-L	ERA	*REC	W-L	ERA			W-L	IP	ERA
Yankees	Gil (R)	12-5	3.06	15-7	1-0	1.50	1-0	2-0	15.1	2.35	
White Sox	Bush (L)	8:10pm	0-1	6.75	0-1	—	—	0-1	4.0	6.75	
Astros	Valdez (L)	11-5	3.46	13-7	—	—	0-1	3-0	21.0	2.57	
Rays	Bradley (R)	6:50pm	6-6	3.07	9-7	—	—	1-1	15.2	5.17	
Rangers	Mahle (R)	0-1	1.80	0-1	—	—	—	0-1	5.0	1.80	
Red Sox	Bello (R)	7:10pm	10-5	5.16	14-7	—	—	2-1	16.0	4.50	
Royals	Singer (R)	8-7	3.03	14-9	1-0	0.00	3-6	2-1	19.2	3.20	
Twins	Lopez (R)	7:40pm	10-8	4.74	13-10	1-0	1.28	4-1	18.0	4.00	
Blue Jays	Francis (R)	4-3	5.44	2-3	—	—	—	1-0	14.2	3.16	
Angels	Daniel (R)	9:38pm	1-3	6.04	1-4	—	—	0-2	12.0	9.75	
Cardinals	Gray (R)	11-6	3.65	13-8	0-1	6.58	0-2	1-0	19.0	4.26	
Reds	Abbott (L)	6:40pm	9-9	3.70	12-11	1-1	7.36	2-2	13.1	8.10	
Dodgers	Kershaw (l)	0-2	4.38	—	—	—	8-5	0-2	12.1	4.38	
Brewers	Peralta (R)	8:10pm	7-6	4.02	14-9	0-0	6.75	2-1	16.1	4.96	
Pirates	TBD										
Padres	Musgrove (R)	9:40pm	3-4	5.66	6-4	—	—	1-2	0-1	14.1	2.51
Rockies	Quantrill (R)	7-8	4.56	5-13	0-1	8.10	1-3	1-1	14.0	7.71	
D'backs	Pfaadt (R)	9:40pm	6-6	3.92	13-10	1-0	1.80	1-1	2-0	17.1	5.19
Braves	Sale (L)	13-3	2.75	14-7	1-0	1.50	2-0	0-0	17.2	3.06	
Giants	Snell (L)	9:45pm	2-3	4.31	7-5	—	—	0-2	2-0	21.0	1.29
Cubs	Imanaga (L)	9-2	3.06	17-4	—	—	—	1-0	19.1	4.19	
Guardians	Lively (R)	6:40pm	10-7	3.59	12-8	—	—	0-2	2-1	17.0	3.71

\*REC: Won-lost record of pitcher's team in games he has started.

## STITCHES

## Shota Time! Take Cubs

Olympic tiebreaker. The United States and China finished in a tie with 40 gold medals. Only one fair way to determine the winner. Each country will get 60 seconds to shoot down as many spy balloons as they can.

Those 80 medals aren't worth their weight in gold. Seems the winners medals are made from 92.5% silver. In another cost cutting measure, the bronze medals are 95% copper, 4% zinc and 1% sewage water from the Seine River.

The Cubs have won four straight and

were off Sunday. The Guardians won for us in Minnesota yesterday. Ben Lively lost to the suddenly venomous Snakes five days ago. Shota Imanaga hasn't lost since June 21. Bet \$50 on the Cubs.

-\$

The Great Escape. Ninth inning. Guardians up 5-3. Twins have the bases loaded and nobody out. But like Joe Scarborough's hair, Emmanuel Clase refused to budge, getting a K and a double play. Jose Ramirez hit his 31st homer. Winner. Down -541 brzezinskis.

stitches@nypost.com

## Home Team Lineups HOME AWAY

	TODAY August 12	TUE Aug. 13	WED Aug. 14	THU Aug. 15	FRI Aug. 16	SAT Aug. 17	SUN Aug. 18
	<b>Chicago White Sox</b> 8:10 YES WFAN 660 AM/101.9 FM	<b>White Sox</b> 8:10 YES WFAN	<b>White Sox</b> 8:10 Prime Video WFAN	<b>NO GAME</b>	<b>Det.</b> 6:40 YES WFAN	<b>Det.</b> 1:10 YES WFAN	<b>Det.</b> 7:10 ESPN WFAN
	<b>NO GAME</b>	<b>Oak.</b> 7:10 SNY WCBS	<b>Oak.</b> 7:10 SNY WCBS	<b>Oak.</b> 1:10 SNY WCBS	<b>Mia.</b> 7:10 SNY WCBS	<b>Mia.</b> 4:10 SNY WCBS	<b>Mia.</b> 12:05 Roku WCBS
	<b>Exhibition- Saturday Houston</b> 1:00 TV: Channel 5 Radio: WFAN- 101.9 FM						
	<b>Exhibition- Saturday Carolina</b> 7:00 TV: Channel 2 Radio: WAXQ- 104.3 FM						
	<b>NO GAME</b>	<b>NO GAME</b>	<b>NO GAME</b>	<b>L.A.</b> 9:00 ESPN	<b>NO GAME</b>	<b>Las Vegas</b> 4:00 CBS	<b>NO GAME</b>

	Saturday, Aug. 24	Tuesday	Monday, Aug. 19
	<b>Charlotte FC</b> 7:30 Apple TV+		<b>Chelsea</b> 7:00 MSG
		<b>Tigres UANL</b> 8:00 Apple TV+	

Today's Sports on the Air			
<b>MLB</b>	7 p.m.	Rangers at Red Sox	ESPN
	8:10 p.m.	Yankees at White Sox	YES, WFAN (660 AM/101.9 FM)
	10 p.m.	Braves at Giants	MLBN
<b>Tennis</b>	6 p.m.	ATP/WTA National Bank Open- FinalsTennis	

## NFL

### Favorites to win MVP

PLAYER	ODDS	PLAYER	ODDS
Patrick Mahomes	+500	Jordan Love	14/1
Josh Allen	+900	Dak Prescott	16/1
Joe Burrow	+900	Brock Purdy	16/1
CJ Stroud	10/1	Jalen Hurts	16/1
Lamar Jackson	12/1	Matthew Stafford	20/1
Justin Herbert	14/1	Aaron Rodgers	20/1

### Favorites to win Coach of the Year

COACH	ODDS	COACH	ODDS
Matt Eberflus	+900	Shane Steichen	15/1
Jim Harbaugh	10/1	Jonathan Gannon	16/1
Raheem Morris	11/1	Robert Saleh	18/1
Matt LaFleur	14/1	Brian Callahan	18/1
DeMeco Ryans	14/1	Mike Macdonald	20/1

### Favorites to win Offensive Player of the Year

PLAYER	ODDS	PLAYER	ODDS
Christian McCaffrey	+750	Bijan Robinson	20/1
Tyreek Hill	+750	Breece Hall	20/1
CeeDee Lamb	10/1	Amon-Ra St. Brown	22/1
Justin Jefferson	12/1	Jahmyr Gibbs	30/1
Ja'Marr Chase	12/1	Puka Nacua	30/1
Saquon Barkley	14/1	Garrett Wilson	30/1

### Favorites to win Defensive Player of the Year

PLAYER	ODDS	PLAYER	ODDS
Micah Parsons	+550	Aidan Hutchinson	15/1
T.J. Watt	+650	Josh Allen	25/1
Myles Garrett	+650	Chris Jones	25/1
Nick Bosa	+850	Will Anderson Jr.	30/1
Maxx Crosby	+900	Montez Sweat	30/1

## ODDS & ENDS

**NFL Odds to win Super Bowl LIX**

TEAM	ODDS
Chiefs	+550
49ers	+600
Ravens	10/1
Lions	12/1
Bengals	14/1
Eagles	14/1
Bills	15/1
Packers	16/1
Texans	16/1
Cowboys	18/1
Jets	20/1
Dolphins	22/1
Rams	30/1
Falcons	35/1
Bears	40/1
Browns	40/1
Chargers	40/1
Jaguars	50/1
Steelers	50/1
Colts	66/1
Seahawks	66/1
Vikings	80/1
Buccaneers	80/1
Cardinals	100/1
Raiders	100/1
Saints	100/1
Broncos	150/1
Patriots	150/1
Giants	150/1
Titans	150/1
Commanders	150/1
Panthers	250/1

**Odds to win division**

NFC EAST	ODDS
Eagles	-120
Cowboys	+150
Commanders	11/1
Giants	14/1
NFC NORTH	ODDS
Lions	+135
Packers	+200
Bears	+325
Vikings	+900
NFC SOUTH	ODDS
Falcons	-120
Buccaneers	+300
Saints	+375
Panthers	11/1
NFC WEST	ODDS
49ers	-200
Rams	+325
Seahawks	+750
Cardinals	12/1
AFC EAST	ODDS
Bills	+165
Jets	+180
Dolphins	+210
Patriots	25/1
AFC NORTH	ODDS
Ravens	+135
Bengals	+165
Browns	+500
Steelers	+700
AFC SOUTH	ODDS
Texans	+100
Jaguars	+275
Colts	+325
Titans	+900
AFC WEST	ODDS
Chiefs	-250
Chargers	+350
Raiders	+900
Broncos	18/1

## ACTION BET SMART

# Falcons on crest of wave in NFC South

By ANDREW NORTON  
actionnetwork.com

The NFC South should again be the worst division in the NFL, with the Buccaneers, Panthers and Saints all projected to win eight or fewer games in 2024.

The Saints and Bucs boasted identical 9-8 records that were inflated, considering most of their wins came against sub-.500 teams.

Can the Panthers and Kirk Cousins-led Falcons make the division more interesting in 2024, or will we see another two-team battle for the top spot?

Check out our NFC South preview and best bet, with current win totals and odds via DraftKings.

### Buccaneers: 7.5 wins (-150/+125)

The revival of Baker Mayfield was the most exciting story in 2023 for the Buccaneers, a team that had to quickly find a quarterback solution after Tom Brady's retirement.

Mayfield threw for more than 4,000 yards for the first time in his career, using his arm and fearlessness to guide the Bucs to a winning record and a post-season appearance.

After his promising season, Tampa Bay overpaid for Mayfield, which could hamstring the team in the future. Luckily, star wide receiver Mike Evans took a more reasonable deal. At 32, he's a bit older now, but his production has not slowed.

Re-signing Antoine Winfield Jr. could be the difference between being a playoff team again and being irrelevant in the worst division in the NFL, so the Bucs did what was needed.

### Falcons: 9.5 wins (-135/+115)

Atlanta signed Cousins to address its horrendous quarterback play from last season and gave him some help by bringing in Rondale Moore and Darnell Mooney to join Kyle Pitts, Bijan Robinson and Drake London as key offensive weapons.

Then the Falcons took Michael Penix Jr. with the eighth overall pick in the draft despite having just signed Cousins to a massive deal.

Even with that mysterious decision, the Falcons have the most talented offensive unit in the NFC South, so they won't have trouble scoring points. However, how success-

ful the team can be will be determined by the defense taking another step forward.

### Panthers: 5.5 wins (-115/-105)

The Panthers helped quarterback Bryce Young in the offseason by signing offensive linemen Robert Hunt and Damien Lewis and trading for wide receiver Diontae Johnson. It's clear they are not going to give up on Young, nor should they; rookie quarterbacks on abysmal teams are already well behind the eight ball.

Unfortunately for the Panthers, they overpaid in free agency and didn't retain pass rusher Brian Burns, which could complicate things for Carolina, which had a somewhat respectable defensive unit last season.

### Saints: 7.5 wins (-120/+100)

Last season, the Saints narrowly missed a playoff appearance, and based on their moves in the offseason, they must believe they can get there in 2024. After all, their financial picture indicates an "all-in" play.

The Saints signed defensive end Chase Young and linebacker Willie Gay to join a unit that includes Tyrann Mathieu, Cameron Jordan and Marshon Lattimore. This unit is rock-solid on paper and could help aid an underwhelming offense.

However, age and health are significant concerns, and considering the Saints are nowhere near contending status, their offseason and general direction make little sense.

### NFC South best bet

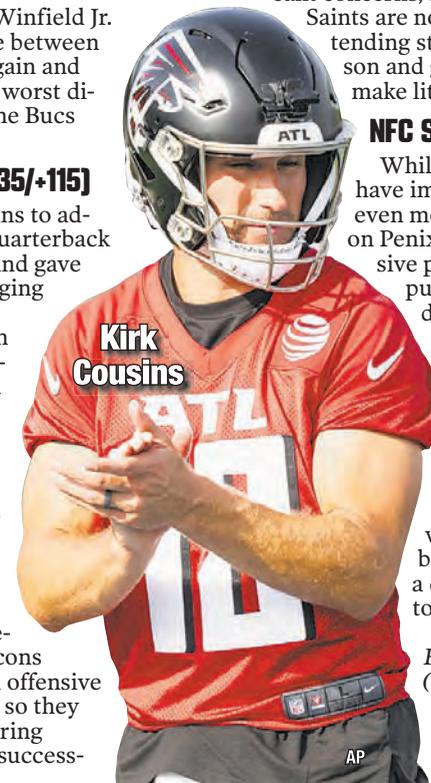
While the Falcons could have improved their roster even more by passing up on Penix to draft a defensive player they could

put on the field immediately, they are still the most talented in an otherwise awful division.

With the easiest strength of schedule in the NFL this season, their path to a 10-win season should be straightforward in a division that failed to improve.

**Recommendation:** Falcons over 9.5 wins (-135, DraftKings).

Andrew Norton analyzes the NFL for Action Network.



Kirk Cousins

AP

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**MAYBE NEXT TIME:** Giants quarterback Daniel Jones, on his way back from last year's ACL tear, warmed up before Thursday's preseason opener but did not play. Corey Sipkin

## Danny Dimes targets Texans for 1st action

By RYAN DUNLEAVY

Since everything is bigger in Texas, it makes sense as the setting for the Giants to put Daniel Jones through his final test.

Jones is expected to start on the road Saturday in a preseason game against the Texans, which would mark his first live action since he tore his ACL on Nov. 5. There is no bigger factor in how the Giants will fare early in the regular season than whether the starting quarterback stays healthy and recaptures his 2022 form.

"I do envision Daniel playing if everything — trainers, practices, all those types of things — is [according to plan]," head coach Brian Daboll said.

If Jones plays, that essentially guarantees the Giants will use all of their healthy offensive linemen and receivers to keep him protected and let him build chemistry. Rookie receiver Malik Nabers, who suffered what is believed to be a minor ankle sprain in Sunday's practice, is an isolated case.

Backup quarterback Drew Lock's availability against the Texans won't be determined until later

in the week. Lock (oblique strain/hip pointer) exited Thursday's game against the Lions and is not expected to practice again until at least Thursday.

The best indication that the Giants do not think Lock's injury requires a long-term absence is that they "are not adding another quarterback right now," Daboll said.

"He feels a little bit better than he did [Thursday] night and the next morning," Daboll said.

If Lock can't play, the Giants are not going to risk Jones' health by extending his preseason exposure. Third-stringer Tommy DeVito would play the bulk of the game and the contingency plan calls for tight end Tyree Jackson — a former college quarterback at Buffalo who came into the NFL as a passer under Daboll with the Bills — to dust off his old skill set.

"If he had to go in, he knows our system — albeit he's been a tight end the last couple years," Daboll said. "He'll take some quarterback-center exchange out here. But I don't envision playing him unless something happens."

➤ Offensive line coach **Carmen Bricillo** stressed he is trying to build versatility in **Josh Ezeudu**.

Ezeudu, who played guard as a rookie in 2022, struggled mightily at left tackle last season when thrust into the difficult spot of replacing the injured **Andrew Thomas** with little preparation. He has remained mostly at tackle throughout the spring and

summer and allowed three quarterback pressures on 23 pass-blocking snaps against the Lions.

"He and I had spoken in the offseason because I wanted to make sure we got a good evaluation of him at tackle," Bricillo said. "But he definitely plays guard as well."

➤ Bricillo expects **C John Michael Schmitz**, who returned to individual drills Sunday after eight straight missed practices with a shoulder injury, to be available for Week 1.

➤ The Giants signed undrafted rookie LB **K.J. Claydon** and cut DB **Kaleb Hayes**, who had been with the team since last August, and RB **Jacob Saylor**.

**GIANTS  
NOTES**

Jets second-year defensive end Will McDonald knows the assignment.

"Get more sacks," McDonald said after the Jets beat the Commanders, 20-17, Saturday. "I've got to get some sacks. That's the only thing that's on my mind. Just being that baller and impacting the game every time I'm out there."

Of the players who are not fighting for roster spots, there may not be another Jet who has more riding on this training camp and preseason than McDonald. The Jets took him with the No. 15 overall pick in 2023, a pick that drew complaints from fans who wanted an offensive lineman or wide receiver at the spot. McDonald played sparingly as a rookie but did show flashes of the ability that made him a first-round pick. He finished the season with three sacks.

With Bryce Huff leaving for the Eagles in free agency and the Jets trading John Franklin-Myers to the Broncos, there is an opening for an edge rusher that McDonald can fill. The team traded for Haason Reddick to help fill that opening too, but he is holding out, creating even more opportunity for McDonald.

On Saturday, McDonald played 12 snaps. He did not have a sack, but he did drill Commanders quarterback Jeff Driskel on one play after using his signature spin move to beat tackle Mason Brooks. McDonald ended up getting flagged on the play for roughing the passer, but it looked like a questionable call. The official said McDonald landed on Driskel with his full body weight.

Even though it ended up in a penalty, the play showed just how explosive McDonald can be off the edge. McDonald is an athletic freak with the ability to bend around the edge. The Jets wish he would have added more weight to his frame this offseason, but McDonald says he has gotten stronger.

"I'm bigger, stronger, faster," McDonald said. "I'm better at play recognition. Last year, I was a rookie. I still was trying to do what I needed to do, but this offseason, I made sure that I did what I need to."

The question entering Year 2 for the Jets and McDonald is how much he will see the field. Jets coach Robert Saleh and defensive coordinator Jeff Ulbrich like to use a rotation on the defensive line. Last season, the breakdown of snaps went like this: Jermaine Johnson 66 percent, Franklin-Myers 55 percent, Huff 42 percent, Micheal Clemons 33 percent and McDonald 16 percent.

Johnson and Reddick figure to be the top two edge rushers this season, but can McDonald get up to Huff's level of playing time?

Many have talked about McDonald making a jump this season. He feels he just needs a chance.

"I don't really think I need a leap; I just need some more op-



**SUPER SIZE ME:** Jets defensive end Will McDonald, selected No. 15 overall in 2023, appeared in just 16 percent of snaps as a rookie and tallied three sacks. In Year 2, he's not so much expecting to make a "leap" as he is planning to make the most of expanded playing time. *Bill Kostroun*

# WILL TO SUCCEED

## McDonald: All Jets' '23 1st-rounder needs now is opportunity to play

portunities," McDonald said. "I've always been this type of player. Last year, we had a lot of good guys in the room, I just wasn't able to get as much opportunities, but now this year, I'm hoping to get those opportunities more and just take advantage of those. People always say leap this and leap that, I don't really think I needed to take a leap because for one, I

wasn't a bad player. I just needed more opportunities so I could take advantage of those."

The Jets travel to Charlotte, N.C., this week for a joint practice Thursday with the Panthers before playing them in a preseason game on Saturday. It will be another big week for McDonald. The Jets posted video of his performance in a joint practice

against the Commanders last week, highlighting how well he played. McDonald now knows he needs to show that in a game.

"It was cool, but that's practice," McDonald said. "When it comes to game time, that's when you really have to go crazy. When the game comes, that's when you have to be a baller."

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# Bombers ponder Chisox's rapid fall

By DAN MARTIN

Carlos Rodon was a member of the White Sox three years ago, when they won the AL Central and made the postseason for a second straight year.

He left as a free agent for San Francisco and has watched from afar as the White Sox slipped quickly to a .500 team and then one that lost 101 games a year ago.

But even that was nothing compared to what has happened on the South Side this season, as the White Sox are 28-91 and on pace to finish with the worst record in MLB history.

The Yankees will get a first-hand look at the hapless Sox when they open a series in Chicago Monday.

"When I left, it looked like a team that definitely had a chance to win another division," Rodon said Sunday. "I don't know what happened."

Like others, though, the left-hander has some theories about how it got so bad, so quickly.

"I think they're still finding an identity," Rodon said. "Do we want to spend money or develop [players]? Right now, it seems like they want to develop, but you have to learn how to do that, and it takes time."

He's seen the organization transform before, from the down years of 2017 and '18 to the gradual improvement in '19 and '20.

"You see what the Royals have been able to do in that division with putting a team together," Rodon said. "The White Sox are four years behind that. I was there for a rebuild, and then we got to the postseason, and here we are with them being in a rebuild again."

And for a Yankees team battling the Orioles for AL East supremacy, they can't afford to slip against the White Sox, whose first-year general manager Chris Getz just fired manager Pedro Grifol and replaced him on an interim basis with Grady Sizemore.

"Not a lot has gone right there," DJ LeMahieu said. "They just made changes to their coaching staff, and I feel like they have better players than their results."

Left-hander Tim Hill spent the first three months of the season with the White Sox before he was released and signed with the Yankees in June.

"It was kind of a perfect storm of injuries and things not working out the way they wanted to," Hill said of the team's struggles.

## NY TRAINING DAY

### PLAYING THE SLOTS

Six-year veteran **Tre Herndon** was with the first-team at slot cornerback as rookie **Dru Phillips** did not practice. Herndon had an interception against the Lions but fumbled away the return. Phillips' spot usually would have been taken by **Nick McCloud**, but he already was starting on the perimeter with **Cor'Dale Flott** expected to miss the week.

### JUST OFFENSIVE

Together in a true practice setting for the first time since last Tuesday, the offense looked out of sorts. **Daniel Jones** completed 13-of-23 passes. He hit a couple long touchdowns — one to a leaping **Malik Nabers** in double coverage and one to **Jalin Hyatt** in the back corner of the end zone — to salvage something positive, but he didn't get much mustard on a pass intercepted by **Jason Pinnock**. **Bobby Okereke** nearly had an interception, too.

### CAUGHT MY EYE

The Giants rotated three players between two starting positions on the interior offensive line, sometimes within the same series. When **Austin Schlottmann** was at center, **Greg Van Roten** was at right guard. When Van Roten was at center, **Aaron Stinnie** took Schlottmann's spot.

### INJURY REPORT

Nabers left practice early with what the team initially believes is a minor ankle sprain. RT **Evan Neal** (first practice of camp) and **John Michael Schmitz** (eight missed practices) returned to individual drills. TEs **Lawrence Cager** and **Jack Stoll** and OLB **Tomon Fox** are on the mend. QB **Drew Lock** (hip pointer/oblique strain), Flott (quad), S **Gervarrius Owens** (knee) and LB **D'Yontae Johnson** (ankle) did not practice.

— Ryan Dunleavy

N.Y. Post: Charles Wenzelberg (2)



# (RE)TURN

By RYAN DUNLEAVY

Evan Neal finally returned to practice Sunday, but his path to starting another game for the Giants remains murky.

The Giants activated their 2022 first-round draft pick from the physically unable to perform list and put him through individual drills for the first time this summer. Unlike spring camp, however, the starting right tackle job that once belonged to Neal is now occupied by Jermaine Eluemunor and not by a placeholder.

"I'm not owed anything," Neal said. "I can't feel like I deserve anything. All I want is what I work for."

Neal missed 10 of the final 11 games last season with what was originally diagnosed as a sprain but later turned out to be a fractured bone in his ankle. He underwent surgery on Jan. 2.

"I have no ill will whatsoever," Neal said. "The Giants training staff has done everything that they can to help me get back healthy. Just can't help a misdiagnosis. Things like that happen. It's nobody's fault. ... It definitely kind of caught me [out of] left field — really, everybody because it was something that initially kind of wasn't seen on the initial scan."

Neal's career feels like it is at a crossroads given that he is halfway through his \$24.5 million contract, his first two seasons (10 sacks allowed in 20 games) were a major disappointment and Eluemunor — who originally was signed to play left guard — is a more-established right tackle.

"It's a big year for me. I'm not going to sit here and act like it's not," Neal said. "The past two years, they weren't perfect by any means, but I feel like they were solid. They definitely weren't what I wanted them to be, but a lot of things that happened were just out of my control — just like the future is out of my control. I can only control

## Dependable Okereke leading way as 'engine,'

SUNDAY was a day filled with significant news nuggets at Giants training camp.

First, the team removed enigmatic, injury-prone Evan Neal from the physically unable to perform (PUP) list, opening the door for the third-year right tackle to practice for the first time since undergoing ankle surgery last January.

Then head coach Brian Daboll, delivering an update on back-up quarterback Drew Lock, who was knocked out of Thursday's preseason opener with a hip contusion, said he has no plans to sign another quar-

terback, an indication that Lock's injury isn't believed to be long-term.

Then Daboll revealed he plans to take starting quarterback Daniel Jones to Saturday's preseason game at Houston, where Jones would play in a game for the first time since he tore his ACL last November in Las Vegas.

And finally, with about 20 minutes remaining in Sunday's practice, receiver Malik

Nabers, the team's first-round draft pick who's been having a fabulous summer, went down with a left ankle injury and didn't return.

That laundry list of dramatic events should underscore the marvel that Bobby Okereke

represents to the Giants.

Okereke is so many things for the Giants, beginning with being the most consistent force inside their locker room.

The Giants played 1,128 plays on defense in 2023 and

the 28-year-old linebacker played every single one of them. He was one of three players in the NFL who played every down, joining former teammate, safety Xavier McKinney and Washington safety Kamren Curl. Dating back to 2007, no Giants player had done that.

Okereke is the unquestioned leader of the Giants defense, manning the middle as the signal caller as well as a stern, but calming locker room presence.

He, too, is productive, having produced 149 tackles, 11 for losses, two interceptions, four forced fumbles and 2 ½ sacks in 2023.

Okereke is, by a landslide, general manager Joe Schoen's best free agent signing in his two-plus seasons in charge of Big Blue.

He is a constant, always to be counted on, always accountable. And, most importantly, always available.

"Availability, that's a huge pride point for me," Okereke told The Post after practice Sunday. "I train for it, I'm conditioned for it. My mindset is preparing to play every play. But from my standpoint, I want to lead from the front, and that's being on the field making plays."

Okereke, who last year had his best year in his five NFL



Mark Cannizzaro

# IT AROUND

## Neal ready to 'work' for role on O-line after being activated from PUP list

the present and how I approach every single day, and that will be a big indication of my future."

General manager Joe Schoen said at the end of last season that Neal "needs to play better."

"That's his job to evaluate the players, and if he thinks I need to play better, then hell, I'd be the first person to tell myself that I need to play better," Neal said. "It really doesn't matter whether it comes out of Joe's mouth or anybody's mouth. I'm always going to be the harshest critic on myself, so, yeah, I need to play better."

So, what if he is asked to be a backup to both Eluemunor and left tackle Andrew Thomas when the season starts? Or what if he is asked to practice at guard — a position he played for one of his three years as a stud prospect at Alabama but staunchly refused to consider when asked by the media last season?

"Whatever role the team has for me, I'm going to embrace it," Neal said. "So, whether that's starting or not starting, I'm here to contribute to the team, and I'm going to do everything in my power to do so."

Neal, whose missteps last season included blasting Giants fans who were critical of his play, struck a humble chord over seven minutes as he faced questions for the first time since his injury was updated in December. He admitted he has

been tested "quite a lot" mentally and physically during his recovery.

"It was just another thing that I was going to have to overcome," Neal said. "I'm built for it, and I feel like I've come back stronger. So, if anything, I feel like it helped me."

One of new offensive line coach Carmen Bricillo's biggest tasks is to help salvage the former No. 7 overall draft pick. The job really begins now.

"My interactions with him are great in the meetings," Bricillo said. "He's done everything we've asked up until this point."

It looked like Neal was making progress during OTAs, but then the Giants scaled back his workload. Head coach Brian Daboll and Schoen have declined to call it a "setback."

"In the spring ... they decided to back off of me because I was having more days where I wasn't feeling well than days when it was feeling good," Neal said. "I've been feeling, as of lately, just consistent enough to be able to go back out there and contribute to the team. That's where I'm at."

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**MOVING FORWARD:** Evan Neal (left, working against John Michael Schmitz Jr.) said he doesn't feel like he is "owed" anything because he was the No. 7 overall pick in the 2022 draft. He wants to earn his role with the Giants after being activated off the PUP list on Sunday.

## calming force of Big Blue defense

seasons, said he adheres to this saying: "To whom much is given, much is expected."

"I've been blessed with athletic ability and leadership qualities," he said. "I feel like I have a lot of abilities that can help this team."

Most difficult for Okereke last season was putting in all the work, the blood, sweat and tears, and not being rewarded for it in the standings, with the Giants finishing 7-10 and out of the playoffs.

"That's the challenge: to stay encouraged despite the circumstance you're in, despite the results," he said. "They say the last thing to show is profit. So, you've just got to stay on

the grind. You've got to toil. You got to work hard and have the faith that eventually your work is going to manifest into the dreams and goals that you want.

"That's the example that I try to set — just stay diligent and trust the process and the results will come."

Those words are music to Daboll, who on Sunday called Okereke "the centerpiece."

"He's a really good communicator and obviously has good leadership traits, nominated as captain his first year here," Daboll said. "I think he's taking that to another level now. He's fast. He's a ball disruptor, an active

player in the run game and in the pass game."

Jerome Henderson, the Giants defensive backs coach, called Okereke "the engine."

"He's the mouthpiece, relaying information to the defense," Henderson said Sunday. "He's the one who's out there encouraging guys and getting them to step up and play the way we want to play. In the middle of the defense, his presence and athleticism is unbelievable. There are not many linebackers in the league with his range."

Giants inside linebackers coach John Egorogwu said he's most impressed with how Okereke "isn't afraid to

voice his opinion" to teammates and coaches for the betterment of the team.

"He's a guy that goes about all his work with intention — everything from working on his body to studying," Egorogwu said. "He's a pro's pro who sets a great example for the other guys in the room. He's a glue guy who holds everyone together."

"The guy played every snap last year, and to do that you've got to do a lot of the work outside the building. The work behind the scenes. He does it."

He does it every day. Consistently. And without drama.

*mcannizzaro@nypost.com*



**FEEL THE SPRAIN:** Malik Nabers is seen stretching his foot on the sidelines after suffering what has been described as a minor ankle sprain late in Sunday's practice (inset).

## Nabers exits practice with ankle injury

By RYAN DUNLEAVY

Malik Nabers suffered what the Giants initially believed to be a minor ankle sprain late during Sunday's practice.

The dynamic rookie receiver was down on the sideline with his left shoe off as trainers looked at his lower leg. He didn't return to the last 20 minutes of practice.

When Nabers got to his feet, he was limping, but he stayed off his feet while with his teammates on the sideline. He ultimately limped back to the locker room.

The standard protocol in situations like this is for further testing. The Giants practice again Monday and the expectation is that healthy offensive starters will play Saturday, along with quarterback Daniel Jones in the preseason game against the Texans.

In an otherwise sloppy practice for the offense, Nabers delivered his daily jaw-dropping moment. He jumped between safeties Jason Pinnock and Dane Belton to secure a 35-yard touchdown catch.

"Very happy with him," receivers coach Mike Groh

said prior to Sunday's camp. "He's gotten off to a very good start. He's really invested off the field. We've thrown a lot at him. We're not spoon-feeding him. The extra time that we put in together in getting him prepared to go cut it loose and make plays, I've been very impressed with his approach on a daily basis in training camp."

Nabers played 12 snaps and was not targeted during the Giants' preseason opener.

The difference between a minor ankle sprain — with a typical recovery time of a couple days to a couple weeks — and a high ankle sprain is significant. Saquon Barkley missed four regular-season games in 2021 and three in 2023 with high ankle sprains.

So, the Giants are hoping that an MRI exam and X-ray bring a sigh of relief with exactly four weeks to go before the regular season begins, and not much left for Nabers to show on the practice field.

Nabers appeared on "Up & Adams with Kay Adams" on YouTube after practice but did not address his injury.

# 2024 SUMMER OLYMPICS

PARIS  JULY 26-AUG. 11

By ETHAN SEARS

The Paris Games came to a close on Sunday with the Americans atop the medal count.

The two weeks in the French capital marked the first Summer Games unaffected by COVID since Rio 2016, and one of the most successful Olympics ever for Team USA, which tied China with 40 gold medals and 126 medals overall.

There was no shortage of memorable moments, but here are 10 that stuck in our mind.

## Noah Lyles wins the 100-meter dash in a photo finish

Going into Paris, the last American male to win the 100-meter dash and hold the title of 'Fastest Man in the World' was Justin Gatlin in 2004. Lyles, after struggling in the 2020 Tokyo Games, crossed the line just five-thousandths of a second ahead of Jamaica's Kishane Thompson to stand atop the podium — a finish so close that Lyles didn't realize he won until seconds after the fact. Although he failed to complete the double, settling for a bronze medal in the 200 meters, his 9.784 in the 100 stands as one of the iconic moments of the Games.



## Ledecky becomes most-decorated American woman in history

For Katie Ledecky, this Olympics was the Drive for Nine as she hoped to take GOAT status in women's swimming. That's just what she did, with a pair of golds in the 800 and 1500-meter freestyle races to go with silver in the 4x200-meter freestyle relay and bronze in the 400-meter freestyle race. Ledecky's nine gold medals and 14 overall medals made her the most-decorated American woman and most-decorated female swimmer in history, while tying with former gymnast Larisa Latynina for the most gold medals of any woman in Olympic history.

## Biles gets back on top

Simone Biles was widely considered the best gymnast ever going into these Olympics, but there was unfinished business at play after her Tokyo Games were derailed by a case of the "twisties." A trio of gold medals in the team all-around, individual all-around and vault, along with a silver in the floor exercise, set things right. If this was the last go-round for Biles at the Olympic Games — she'll be 31 in 2028 — it was a perfect way to close things out.



# 10 unforgettable moments from a memorable trip to 2024 Olympics

# AU REVOIR,



## Hocker's 1,500-meter upset

The men's 1,500-meter race was billed as a continuation of the rivalry between Great Britain's Josh Kerr and Norway's Jakob Ingebrigtsen. But Cole Hocker, an Indianapolis native running in his first Olympics, crashed the party. As the two favorites vied for gold throughout the race, Hocker used an out-of-nowhere kick in the final 100 meters to pass them both, setting an Olympic record at 3:27.65, with Yared Nuguse — another American — nipping Ingebrigtsen for bronze.

## Curry puts France to bed

This marked the closest men's basketball competition at the Olympics in a long



**UNTIL NEXT TIME:** The 2024 Paris Olympics minted new American heroes, such as Mallory Swanson (right) and Noah Lyles, along with the old, like Katie Ledecky, Stephen Curry and Simone Biles. Now, the world bids adieu to Paris in anticipation of the Los Angeles Olympics in 2028.

AP (5)



plunged it into uncertainty. But in Emma Hayes' first tournament as head coach, the former Chelsea manager brought the joy back to a team that had turned the page on last summer, finding its talismen in Sophia Smith and Trinity Rodman while riding some fantastic goalkeeping from Alyssa Naeher to a gold medal victory over Brazil.

#### Team USA takes relay double

The men's and women's 4x400-meter relays were run back-to-back on the last night of track and field, and it was the Americans who took home a memorable pair of golds. First, on the men's side, Westchester native Rai Benjamin crossed the line a mere tenth of a second ahead of Botswana's Letsile Tebogo on the anchor leg to take gold. The women would have no such drama, as New Jersey native Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone's astonishing second leg led the United States in blowing away the field and winning by over four seconds, coming 0.1 seconds short of the world record, set by the 1988 Russian team that was beset by doping.

#### Leon Marchand sets the French crowd alight

For a local angle to these Games, you couldn't do any better than Marchand, who became an overnight sensation in Paris during the buildup to the Olympics. The 22-year-old more than lived up to the hype once he got in the pool, taking four gold medals, including the 200-meter butterfly and 200-meter breaststroke on the same night. He chased down Hungarian Kristof Milak in the last 50 meters of the butterfly to set an Olympic record. Naturally, the atmosphere for each of Marchand's swims was electric, with the French crowd even timing its chants with Marchand coming up for air.

#### Novak Djokovic completes the Golden Slam

There was one peak left for Novak Djokovic to climb in tennis history and he did so in Paris. The Serb became just the fifth player ever to complete the Golden Slam, winning all four majors and an Olympics, when he beat Carlos Alcaraz in the final at Roland Garros. The 7-6 (3), 7-6 (2) victory was an instant classic, with the two best players on the planet leaving everything on the court and Djokovic coming out ahead in a pair of tiebreaks.

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#### FINAL MEDAL COUNT



Country	G	S	B	Tot
United States	40	44	42	126
China	40	27	24	91
Great Britain	14	22	29	65
France	16	26	22	64
Australia	18	19	16	53
Japan	20	12	13	45
Italy	12	13	15	40
Netherlands	15	7	12	34
Germany	12	13	8	33
South Korea	13	9	10	32

Complete medal count, Page 35



AP

#### ATHLETE OF THE DAY

##### KAHLEAH COPPER

##### United States, women's basketball

The former Rutgers product wasn't the star of the show in Sunday's gold medal win over France, but it wouldn't have gone on without her. Copper scored just 12 points in the game, but hit all six of her free throws, including two in the closing moments that let the U.S. women survive one last shot from a game French squad.

#### BY THE NUMBERS

**3** Gold medals and six medals total for the American track cycling team, their best showing at the Olympics in 40 years, after Jennifer Valente finished off the cycling program by defending her gold in the omnium.

#### QUOTE OF THE DAY

**"Just having a chance to play for gold, represent my country, what my country did for me? Yeah, this is the highest on the pinnacle right here."**

— Brittney Griner, who won gold with the U.S. women's basketball team after spending 10 months in a Russian prison and being part of a high-profile prisoner exchange in December 2022

time, with the Americans being pushed to the limit in a semifinal comeback victory against Serbia and in their gold medal victory against France. As good as the Serbia game was, though, the lasting image of these Games will be Stephen Curry's three straight 3-pointers in the final minutes of the game against France, including a heave over two defenders that was immediately termed a "golden dagger" by NBC's Noah Eagle. It was Curry's first ever Olympics, and it's hard to imagine Team USA could have survived without him.

#### Team USA continues women's basketball dominance

Just like on the men's side, the women's

basketball team needed everything it had to get past France in the gold medal round. It took a pair of free throws with just under four seconds to go — and a fair bit of luck with Gabby Williams putting her foot on the 3-point line as she heaved what would have been a game-tying shot — for the Americans to escape with a 61st-straight Olympic victory and their eighth straight gold, dating back to 1996. The challenge made it all the more sweet.

#### The USWNT gets back on top

The pressure was on the women's soccer program after a disastrous 2023 World Cup knocked it off the sport's highest perch and



# 2024 SUMMER OLYMPICS

PARIS  JULY 26-AUG. 11

# GOLDEN GIRLS

## Women join men's hoops team, surviving France on way to 8th straight gold



By BRIAN LEWIS

The U.S. women's basketball team closed out France and closed out the Olympics, a 68-67 win that made them the most dominant squad in the history of the Games.

Team USA became the first team in any traditional sport to claim eight consecutive Olympic titles. It wasn't simple. It wasn't easy. But it was golden.

They had to rally from a 10-point deficit in the third quarter for their 61st straight victory in Olympic competition. They had to dig deep to keep that streak going.

"I'm so proud of the resilience that my team showed. We could've fumbled, we could've crumbled so many times, but we pulled through," said A'ja Wilson, who had 21 points, 13 rebounds and four blocks. "And to say that I'm a two-time gold medalist, I'm so blessed. God, He was working today, man."

<b>U.S.</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>Women's basketball</b>
<b>FRANCE</b>	<b>67</b>	

If there were any divine intervention, Team USA needed it to fight back from a 35-25 third-quarter deficit. They pulled ahead in the fourth, but the lead wasn't safe until the last second, when France's Gabby Williams — harassed by Liberty star Breanna Stewart's long-armed defense — took her jumper just inches over the line, a 2-pointer instead of the 3 that the hosts had needed.

There would be no overtime. Just American victory. Again.

"It hasn't been easy. If it was easy, everybody would be doing it and it would look so great," Wilson said in an on-court TV interview. "But sometimes you've got to take the ugly win and say that you're a gold medalist, and I'll take those any day."

Former Rutgers star Kahleah



Copper added 12 points and five rebounds off the bench for Team USA, including 10 points in a final period that saw five ties and two lead changes.

"[She's] that b---h," Wilson gushed of Copper.

France went ahead, 51-49, with

5:32 left, but Copper ensured the last of those lead changes with a three-point play 57 seconds later.

Wilson increased Team USA's lead to 63-59 with a free throw with 17 seconds remaining.

Williams hit a 3-pointer to cut the lead to 65-64 with five sec-

onds in regulation, but Copper calmly sank a pair of foul shots to push it back to 67-64. Stewart defended Williams (19 points) into a 2 when she needed a 3.

The final had a distinct Liberty feel, with Stewart and Sabrina Ionescu winning gold, Marine Jo-



**WON FOR THE ROAD:** Sabrina Ionescu holds out the Stars and Stripes after the United States women's basketball team secured its eighth straight gold medal with a 68-67 win over France, surviving a buzzer-beating shot that was ruled a two-pointer.

AP (4)

hannès (nine points) and stash pick Marine Fauthoux taking silver and coach Sandy Bron-dello guiding Australia to a bronze. Liberty owner Clara Wu Tsai and husband Joe (who owns the Nets) were on hand. "Man, I had all the feels. You think about your journey and what it takes to stand on that podium: the ups, the downs, everything. And then it all goes away because you got the gold," Copper said on TV after winning gold.

Diana Taurasi won her sixth basketball gold — the most of any man or woman — to go with three WNBA crowns and three NCAA titles at UConn.

"It's bringing a group of people together, very talented women and doing it all for your country," said Taurasi, 42, in a TV interview. "At the end of the day, it's all about winning, and I think this crew proved it."

If Taurasi's path to this po-

dium had been long, Brittney Griner's was even more arduous.

"My country fought for me to get back," Griner said. "And I was able to bring home gold for my country. There's just no greater feeling."

Two years earlier, Griner had been stuck in a Russian penal colony, unsure when she'd see freedom much less a court. She'd been sentenced to nine years for drug possession, spending 10 months in jail before being freed in a December 2022 prisoner exchange. Sunday, 612 days later, she was on the podium crying, this time joyful tears.

"This one meant a lot to me," Griner said. "I mean, just having a chance to play for gold, represent my country, what my country did for me? Yeah, this is the highest on the pinnacle right here."

blewis@nypost.com

By ETHAN SEARS

The U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee will appeal the Court of Arbitration for Sport ruling that resulted in gymnast Jordan Chiles being stripped of her bronze medal in the floor exercise.

Controversy exploded on Saturday after CAS retroactively knocked Chiles from third in the event down to fifth, saying that the inquiry that improved her score by one-tenth of a point came four seconds after the time limit to make such inquiries had expired.

The International Gymnastics Federation and International Olympic Committee both said they would adhere to the CAS decision, meaning that Romanian Ana Barbosu would win bronze with Sabrina Maneca-Voina, Barbosu's teammate, in fourth.

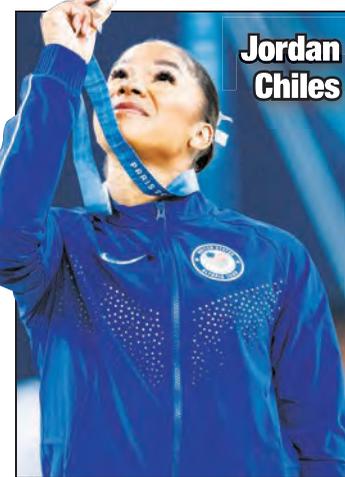
"We firmly believe that Jordan rightfully earned the bronze medal, and there were critical errors in both the initial scoring by the International Gymnastics Federation and the subsequent CAS appeal process that need to be addressed," the USOPC said in a statement on Sunday. "The initial error occurred in the scoring by FIG, and the second error was during the CAS appeal process, where the USOPC was not given adequate time or notice to effectively challenge the decision. As a result, we were not properly represented or afforded the opportunity to present our case comprehensively.

"Given these circumstances, we are committed to pursuing an appeal to ensure that Jordan Chiles receives the recognition she deserves. We remain dedicated to supporting her as an Olympic champion and will continue to work diligently to resolve this matter swiftly and fairly."

It's not clear what comes next. The USOPC could take the appeal to either the Swiss Tribunal (the high court in Switzerland, where CAS is based) or the European Court of Human Rights.

The dispute is over Team USA coach Cecile Landi's inquiry on Chiles' difficulty score, which added a decisive tenth of a point

# USOPC appeals 'critical errors' in Chiles case



Jordan Chiles

to her total. That was described at the time as a prayer, and the initial decision to give Chiles bronze was met with outrage by Romania, whose prime minister said he would refuse to attend the closing ceremony over the treatment of his nation's athletes.

USA Gymnastics said in another statement on Sunday that it had submitted a letter and video evidence to CAS establishing that Landi's request came within the one-minute deadline after Chiles' score was published, and requesting that her score be reinstated.

"The time-stamped, video evidence submitted by USA Gymnastics Sunday evening shows Landi first stated her request to file an inquiry at the inquiry table 47 seconds after the score is posted, followed by a second statement 55 seconds after the score was originally posted," the statement read.

"The video footage provided was not available to USA Gymnastics prior to the tribunal's decision and thus USAG did not have the opportunity to previously submit it."

Romanian gymnastics legend Nadia Comaneci had posted on X earlier this week in support of Barbosu's mental health, but wrote Sunday that it was "awful to take the medal away from Jordan."

Chiles herself posted an Instagram story on Saturday with a trio of broken heart emojis, saying she would take a break from social media.

Her sister, Jazmin, however, stayed active on the platform.

"Please keep Jordan [and my family] in your prayers," Jazmin wrote in a lengthy Instagram story. "Racism is real, it exists, it is alive and well."

"They have officially, 5 days later, stripped her of one of her medals. Not because she didn't win, not because she was drugged, not because she stepped out of bounds. Not because she wasn't good enough."

"But because the judges failed to give her difficulty [score] and forced an inquiry to be made."

"FOUR SECONDS. Her bronze was stripped over 4 seconds of time that would have never needed to happen if the judges did their job."

"I love you baby sis. And I got yo back no matter what."

"Just so y'all are aware — in the HISTORY of the Olympics NO ONE has ever been stripped of a medal for this," Jazmin Chiles wrote in another post. "Also — there are only TWO ways you can be stripped of a medal. Cheating or doping. She did neither."

## Dream summer vacation ends for Wilson

American track star Quincy Wilson's fall is going to be a lot worse than his summer.

The 16-year-old, who won gold in the 4×400-meter relay in Paris, posted a picture with his medal on Saturday, lamenting that he would soon have to go back to high school.

"Dang, I really got school in two and a half weeks," Wilson wrote on X, adding a broken heart emoji.

Wilson, who attends the Bullis School in Maryland, became the youngest male track and field athlete to compete in the Olympics when he helped Team USA qualify for the 4×400-meter relay final.

He didn't run on Saturday, but got gold as part of

the team that ran in heats.

In the final, the team of Christopher Bailey, Vernon Norwood, Bryce Deadmon and Rai Benjamin edged out Botswana by 0.1 seconds, winning gold and setting an Olympic record. Wilson cheered from the stands.

The native of Chesapeake, Va. is likely to compete at the 2028 Los Angeles Games as well.

He currently holds the U18 world record for the indoor and outdoor 400-meter dash, and the American high school record in both.

At his Olympic heat, Bailey ran a 47.27 split in the leadoff leg.

— Ethan Sears

# SEATTLE SLEW

## Floundering Mets swept away by Mariners to end disappointing trip

### SEASON GOING SOUTH IN NORTHWEST:

Mets second baseman Jeff McNeil looks away as Jorge Polanco rounds the bases after hitting a solo home run on Sunday in Seattle. The Mets were manhandled by the Mariners, getting outscored 22-1 in their three-game series AP



**vs. Athletics**

**TUESDAY: 7:10 p.m., SNY**

**WEDNESDAY: 7:10 p.m., SNY**

**THURSDAY: 1:10 p.m., SNY**

**WCBS (880 AM)**

By MIKE PUMA

**MARINERS 12  
METS 1**

**Boxscore  
Page 36**

SEATTLE — T-Mobile Park became Tee Off on the Mets Park, sending the visiting team home Sunday as a downtrodden wreck.

True, the Mets didn't get shut out for the first time in three games, but just barely. The team's first trip to the Pacific Northwest in seven years ended with a 12-1 loss to the Mariners that swept the Mets back to New York looking for answers.

More resembling the team that fell double digits below .500 in May than the one that rallied into the playoff race over the next two months, the Mets went 4-6 on the four-city trip that also included stops in Anaheim, St. Louis and Colorado.

"We knew coming into this road trip it was going to be a tough one," Francisco Lindor said. "We knew that we had a lot of games and we were going to face, toward the end, a real good team that was

playing good baseball."

Over three days in Seattle, the Mets didn't appear to belong on the same field with the Mariners, getting outscored 22-1 and going 23 straight innings without scoring a run until Jeff McNeil's homer in the sixth on Sunday. Including a scoreless ninth on Thursday in Colorado, the Mets went 24 innings between runs.

"We have to win games and right now we're not hitting," Luis Severino said. "When we're not hitting, we need to keep those games close, so it's just one of those road trips you have to think about what we're doing wrong and get better at it."

Any regrouping will have to wait until Tuesday, when the Mets begin a nine-game homestand that starts with the A's and Marlins, two teams going no-

where fast. But the Mets (61-57) also have played down to their level of competition in recent weeks — they are 5-5 since the All-Star break against the Marlins, Angels and Rockies, the three teams with losing records they have faced during that stretch.

The Mets remain a half-game behind Atlanta in the increasingly crowded race for the NL's third wild card.

"We still have a lot of meaningful games ahead of us," manager Carlos Mendoza said. "We will be ready to go."

Severino had a third straight outing in which he allowed at least four earned runs. The right-hander pitched five innings and surrendered four earned runs on six hits with two walks and eight strikeouts. Severino, who allowed two homers, saw his ERA increase to 4.17. He has lasted five innings or fewer in his past four starts.

Jorge Polanco's homer leading

off the second put the Mets behind 1-0. Severino threw a full-count sinker at 98 mph that Polanco hit over the fence in left-center. Dominic Canzone doubled later in the inning, but was left stranded.

Canzone's double leading off the fifth started a rally that helped the Mariners take a 4-0 lead. Leo Rivas bunted Canzone to third and with two outs Randy Arozarena hit a slow grounder that Lindor dropped as he prepared to throw. Canzone scored on the RBI single and Cal Raleigh crushed Severino's next pitch for a two-run homer. It was the fifth blast surrendered by Severino in his past three starts.

"Sevy pitched a real good game today and there was that one play I didn't come through, I didn't help him out," Lindor said. "I feel like in that situation Sevy made a great pitch ... I had to close it for him and it could have been 1-0 right there instead of 4-0."

McNeil's two-out homer in the sixth pulled the Mets within 4-1. It was his sixth in 22 games since the All-Star break.

Ryne Stanek loaded the bases in the sixth and surrendered an RBI single to Rivas that extended the Mariner lead to 5-1. Adam Ottavino replaced Stanek with one out and the bases loaded and got Victor Robles to hit a slow grounder that McNeil backhanded and threw away, allowing two additional runs. Before the inning was complete, Raleigh hit a three-run homer that buried the Mets in a 10-1 hole.

Danny Young entered in the seventh and allowed two earned runs over two-thirds of an inning.

"They were just pretty much better than us in every area," Mendoza said. "The way they pitched, the timely hitting, big time plays defensively. They just pretty much outplayed us the whole series."

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# Slumping Nimmo trying to break out of brutal funk

By MIKE PUMA

SEATTLE — Brandon Nimmo was among the notable players omitted from the National League All-Star team following a torrid six-week stretch.

Since returning from the break, the Mets outfielder has been anything but the player who helped carry the lineup during the team's surge into wild-card contention. Nimmo entered Sunday with a .158/.286/.197 slash line in the second half and the embodiment of the team's collective struggles offensively.

Nimmo — who was 0-for-3 with a walk in Sunday's 12-1 loss — spoke with manager Carlos Mendoza after the Mets were shut out for a second straight game on Saturday. Many of the same feelings were conveyed to Mendoza as Nimmo expressed in his postgame interview session.

"There's no question I have been doing really poorly since the All-Star break and I expect more of myself," Nimmo said. "I expect more of myself and I am working at it every day, but it's not good enough. I am one of the leaders on this team. I am supposed to come through. I am supposed to do better and I'm not."

That level of accountability is ap-

preciated by Mendoza and his staff. "He wants to produce," hitting coach Eric Chavez said. "He feels an obligation to the team, like [Francisco] Lindor and these guys, and it's what leaders do. They feel responsible when they hit in the middle of the lineup, but Brandon is working hard trying to get out of it. There's not a whole lot that we see from our end that are huge red flags."

Nimmo hit nine homers over a three-week stretch beginning in mid-June, but has not hit a homer in the three weeks since the All-Star break.

"He's scuffling and he's kind of working hard to figure some things out," Chavez said. "This is kind of a hard one to explain. The way he ended the All-Star break, I don't think anybody anticipated this coming."

Chavez's lament is the All-Star break occurred when it did. The Mets haven't been the same team offensively since.

"I think the break came at a bad time for us collectively," Chavez said. "I was not looking forward to it, but this is going to turn. We are just trying to get him out of this rut and hopefully going back to the East Coast and a change of scenery, things like that, will get better."

# Marte could be back in Queens this week

By MIKE PUMA

## METS NOTES

SEATTLE — Carlos Mendoza will deal with the potential right-field logjam when it happens, but for now the Mets manager is just "excited" that the team may soon regain another piece.

Starling Marte played right field Sunday for Double-A Binghamton — the veteran outfielder went 0-for-2 with a walk over seven innings — and remains a possibility to rejoin the Mets on the next homestand.

The next step for Marte, according to Mendoza, is to play seven innings on consecutive days in the outfield. Binghamton has the day off on Monday, but Marte, barring a postponement, would get the opportunity to meet that criteria over the ensuing two days.

Marte was placed on the injured list on June 25 with a bone bruise in his right knee.

"He's a big part of this team and he's been out for a long time, and guys I feel are stepping up," Mendoza said before the Mets lost to the Mariners on Sunday. "But he's going to be a huge addition for us. His bat, his speed, everything."

Tyrone Taylor has received much of the playing time in Marte's absence, but Jesse Winker and Ben Gamel have also been involved.

➤ **Mark Vientos** was a late scratch from the lineup with a sore left ankle. Gamel was added to the lineup to play right field and **Jeff McNeil** moved to second base with **Jose Iglesias** at third.

Vientos indicated he isn't concerned about the ankle, which he said began bothering him during the last homestand and flared up

before Sunday's game.

➤ **Reed Garrett** said he was encouraged by how his arm felt Sunday, a day after returning from the injured list and striking out the side in the sixth inning.

"I feel like I am bouncing back again so that is the biggest take-away right now," he said.

Mendoza used Garrett in a low-leverage situation — the Mets were behind by three runs — just to ease him in for his first major league appearance in a month.

"I'm not really worried about where I am used," Garrett said. "I am more worried about what I can do to help the guys out, whatever the inning."

➤ **Sean Reid-Foley's** minor league rehab assignment for Triple-A Syracuse was postponed by weather. The reliever is now scheduled to pitch one-plus innings on Tuesday for Syracuse, after which he will be evaluated for a potential return to the Mets.



STARLING MARTE

# NYRA BETS

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**STRO' MUCH BETTER:** Marcus Stroman, whose latest start was delayed two days to allow the right-hander to work on his mechanics, pitched better Sunday in The Bronx against the Rangers than in recent starts. He surrendered just one run over five-plus innings but also walked three. Jason Szenes

## Speedy HR milestone in sight for Judge

By DAN MARTIN

Aaron Judge's homer on Sunday wasn't just his MLB-leading 42nd of the season. It also brought him to within one of becoming the fastest player ever to hit 300.

No. 299 came in Sunday's 8-7 win over the Rangers and it came in Judge's 952nd career game.

Ralph Kiner reached the 300 milestone in his 1,087th game, meaning Judge has nearly a full season's worth of games to break Kiner's record, according to Elias.

Judge wasn't especially interested in looking ahead after Sunday's win.

"If it comes with a win, it'll mean something," Judge said. "It's not what we play for. I just want to put us in a good position."

His teammates were more descriptive.

"It's incredible," Giancarlo Stanton said. "He does something special every day. Being able to see most of his career, it's been fun to watch his evolution. He's got more in store."

Stanton is fifth on the 300-homer list, putting up the number in 1,119 games.

The duo of Judge and Soto continued to run roughshod over opposing teams, as they hit back-to-back homers for the fourth time this year, this time in the seventh inning.

Soto reached the 30-homer plateau for the third time in his career and he still found himself somewhat overshadowed by Judge.

"It's impressive," Soto said of Judge's prowess. "It's incredible."

Aaron Boone called it "remarkable."

He called Judge and Soto "the aircraft carriers" of the Yankee offense. With Stanton hitting behind them in the cleanup spot, Boone remains confident the lineup will produce more than just from the top of the order.

And with Stanton homering after Judge was walked intentionally in the fifth, perhaps teams will be less inclined to use the strategy going forward — which could mean more pitches to hit for Judge.

# MARC'S SPARK

By DAN MARTIN

## Tweaks put Stroman back on right track

Marcus Stroman took a few extra days to work on his mechanics after having his start pushed back following two straight miserable outings.

The added work paid off Sunday, as the right-hander allowed just one run over five-plus innings in the Yankees' 8-7 win over Texas in The Bronx.

"It's hard over the course of a year to be locked in the whole time," Stroman said.

And he and the Yankees felt something needed to be done after he'd allowed 12 runs — 10 earned — over just six innings in his previous two starts.

While still not at his sharpest — Stroman walked three on Sunday — he was mostly effective and far better than he was against the Red Sox and Blue Jays.

Despite those struggles, Stroman insisted his mindset hadn't changed.

"I'm not someone who loses confidence after a few outings," Stroman said.

His dip in performance, though,

goes back longer than just a pair of clunkers.

After putting up an ERA of 2.60 through his first 12 starts, Stroman entered Sunday with a 6.32 ERA in his previous 10.

Manager Aaron Boone thought the adjustments Stroman made to his lower half paid dividends.

"He was good," Boone said. "He stayed out of the heart of the plate. ... He was able to put the ball on the

ground when he needed to."

Stroman walked Josh Smith to open the sixth and allowed an RBI-double to Corey Seager before being lifted for Jake Cousins, who got out of the inning without allowing another run to score.

Boone thought Stroman might have tired as his pitch count approached 90 after being in the 60s in each of his previous two outings.

And while Stroman's velocity on his sinker remained mostly under 90, he proved again that doesn't stop him from getting results.

With the rotation looking for consistency, Stroman's bounceback could be an important development.

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# Rizzo keen on hitting ground running upon awaited return

By DAN MARTIN

Although manager Aaron Boone said Anthony Rizzo is still “a few weeks” away from returning to the Yankee lineup, the first baseman said Sunday he’s encouraged by how he feels after missing the last two months with a fractured arm.

Rizzo has been hitting and taking grounders. He said that he’s due for another scan on his arm soon, potentially this week, and if that comes back clean, he would begin rehab games.

But he added that he doesn’t want to return as the player he was when injured. Rizzo had a lowly .630 OPS — worse than every first baseman with at least 250 plate appearances outside of Washington’s Joey Meneses.

“I feel great and am seeing the ball well,” Rizzo said. “I’ve got to come back and produce. It’s not like I’m coming back having hit 25 homers with a bunch of RBIs and a good average. I wasn’t playing like the best version of myself before I got hurt. This team needs me to be better than I was and that’s what I want to do. As soon as I get back, I want to be able to contribute. That’s the plan. I want to be a

## YANKEES NOTES

factor. I don’t want to just be here.”

His numbers have slipped each of the last two seasons, as Rizzo has battled neck, back and concussion issues at various times.

➤ **Giancarlo Stanton** homered for a second straight game and has hit 20 for the 13th time in his career.

After getting just one hit in his first nine at-bats since returning from a hamstring injury, Stanton is 5-for-14 with a pair of doubles and the two homers.

“I think he’s in a good place physically,” Boone said. “And he has experience from having gone through [rehab] that has put him in a good spot. I’ve been pleased with his at-bat quality.”

➤ **Juan Soto** (two home runs) has now homered against all 30 MLB teams.

➤ **DJ LeMahieu** had two more hard hits and a walk — although he was thrown out trying to get to second on a ball hit to the wall in right-

center in the bottom of the eighth.

It was the latest good sign for LeMahieu, who is 8-for-23 with three extra-base hits and 10 RBIs in his last six starts, and helped the Yankees notch at least eight hits for the 15th straight game, their longest streak since 16 in a row in 1997.

➤ Despite making things interesting in the ninth, **Clay Holmes** earned his 25th save of the season, a career-high. ... **Jazz Chisholm Jr.** made his first error since joining the Yankees when he booted a **Marcus Semien** grounder in the top of the seventh, allowing two runs to score.

➤ **José Trevino** played five innings at catcher with Double-A Somerset in his first rehab game in his comeback from a strained quad.

Boone said Sunday that Trevino would likely play again Tuesday and Wednesday before the team decides when the catcher is ready to rejoin the roster and provide more playing time behind **Austin Wells**.

**More Yankees / Page 41**



**HUNGER FOR MORE:** Anthony Rizzo is “a few weeks away” from returning from the fractured arm that forced him out two months ago, and he wants to produce at a higher clip than the .630 OPS he has posted this season. Getty Images

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## Montefiore Einstein

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■ **Jose Trevino** began a rehab assignment Sunday with Double-A Somerset. He's been out nearly a month with a left quad strain.

■ **Trent Grisham** was out of the lineup again. He was hit on the left hand by a pitch Saturday.

■ **Anthony Rizzo** continues to hit and take grounders in his comeback from a right forearm fracture.



**at White Sox**  
Monday, 8:10 p.m., YES,  
WFAN (660 AM, 101.9 FM)

### RHP Luis Gil



**2024 stats:**  
12-5, 3.06 ERA

**Career vs. CWS:**  
1-0, 4.50 ERA

**Last start:**  
Wed., vs. LAA;  
5 IP, 0 ER, 6 SO

### PITCH BREAKDOWN

**50%** 4-Seamer  
**27%** Changeup  
**23%** Slider

### LHP Ky Bush



**2024 stats:**  
0-1, 6.75 ERA

**Career vs. NYY:**  
First start

**Last start:**  
Aug. 5, at OAK;  
4 IP, 3 ER, 5 BB

### PITCH BREAKDOWN

**57%** 4-Seamer  
**33%** Slider  
**10%** Changeup

### UP NEXT

**TUESDAY:** at White Sox,  
8:10 p.m., YES, WFAN  
LHP Nestor Cortes  
vs. RHP Jonathan Cannon

**WEDNESDAY:** at White Sox,  
8:10 p.m., Amazon, WFAN  
TBD vs. RHP Davis Martin

**T**HE Yankees are imperfect. Even on a day they actually won at home and against a lefty starter — areas of concern this year — they nearly blew two different five-run leads as their bullpen literally walked the club to the precipice of an unacceptable defeat.

So you know what that imperfection makes the Yankees? Just like every other club that might win it all in 2024. There are no great teams. The Dodgers, the Phillies, the Orioles, every expected superpower has gone through — or, in the case of the Phillies, is going through — funks that are White Sox-ian.

No team is on pace to win 100 games. The best trajectory is 95 wins. You know who that is? The Yankees and Orioles. Yep, with all those imperfections, the Yanks are tied with Baltimore for the AL East lead and the majors' best record.

Thus, so much is about improving upon the imperfections. So that means continuing to work with Marcus Stroman, who was better over five-plus innings of one-run ball in what would be an 8-7 victory over the Rangers. And finding a bullpen formula that does not walk so many. And getting key pieces such as Clarke Schmidt and Jose Trevino healthy.

But more and more it looks like the Yankees are solving what had been a season-long issue — that their offense was a two-man show. Don't misunderstand — the two remain phenomenal (Juan Soto) and whatever comes after phenomenal to describe Aaron Judge, who basically stopped making outs in May. Those two combined for three homers Sunday — two by Soto that allowed him to reach 30 (homers in a season and homers against every team in the majors) and one by Judge to reach 299 in his 952nd game (Ralph Kiner at 1,087 games is the fastest to 300).

But suddenly the band has expanded. The Yankees have produced at least eight hits in 15 straight games — the longest they have done that since 1997, raising their team batting average six points. The contributions have been wide. But there has been nothing more vital than the Yankees getting

oomph directly behind Soto and especially Judge with the emergence of Austin Wells

# Cleaning up the imperfections is key for Yanks



and the return of Giancarlo Stanton.

Wells versus righties and Stanton against lefties have become the cleanup duo to reverse one of the ugliest trends of this Yankees season. Through July 19, or through 99 games, no Yankee was doing much to protect No. 99 (Judge). Yankees cleanup hitters were last in the majors in batting average (.199), on-base percentage (.260) and OPS (.578).

Wells went into that slot regularly on July 20 and in the 20 games since then — with Stanton returning from the IL on July 29 — Yankees cleanup hitters are among the majors' best in batting average (.350), on-base percentage (.400) and OPS (.966).

Wells and Stanton combined for 10 RBIs out of the cleanup spot in three games against the Rangers — or four fewer than Yankees No. 4 hitters had in June.

Stanton had four terrific turns behind Judge on Sunday with a sacrifice fly, a walk, a three-run homer and a 101.4-mph lineout. And the homer was the key blow, not only because it moved the Yankees ahead 5-0 in the fifth. But because it followed an intentional walk to Judge.

In the first 111 games, Judge was intentionally walked seven times. In the past eight games, it's happened six times. The first five of those instances, the strategy paid off.

"You have to want that opportunity and be able to capitalize on it or otherwise it is go-

ing to keep happen-

ing," Stanton said. Stanton was long the kind of menacing hitter who was intentionally walked — 86 times in his career, including an MLB-high 24 in 2014. But injury has made him more attackable and Judge is Judge. He already was 2-for-2 when the Rangers intentionally passed him with DJ LeMahieu on third and two outs in the fifth and the Yanks up 2-0. Lefty starter Andrew Heaney was replaced by Jose Leclerc, last year's championship closer who came in holding righties to a .186 average. The righty got ahead of Stanton 0-2, then Stanton took two balls before still doing what he does better than anyone other than perhaps Judge — hit a ball as hard as anyone ever. In a game in which 16 balls were walloped at more than 100 mph, nothing came close to the 114.9 mph shot by Stanton.

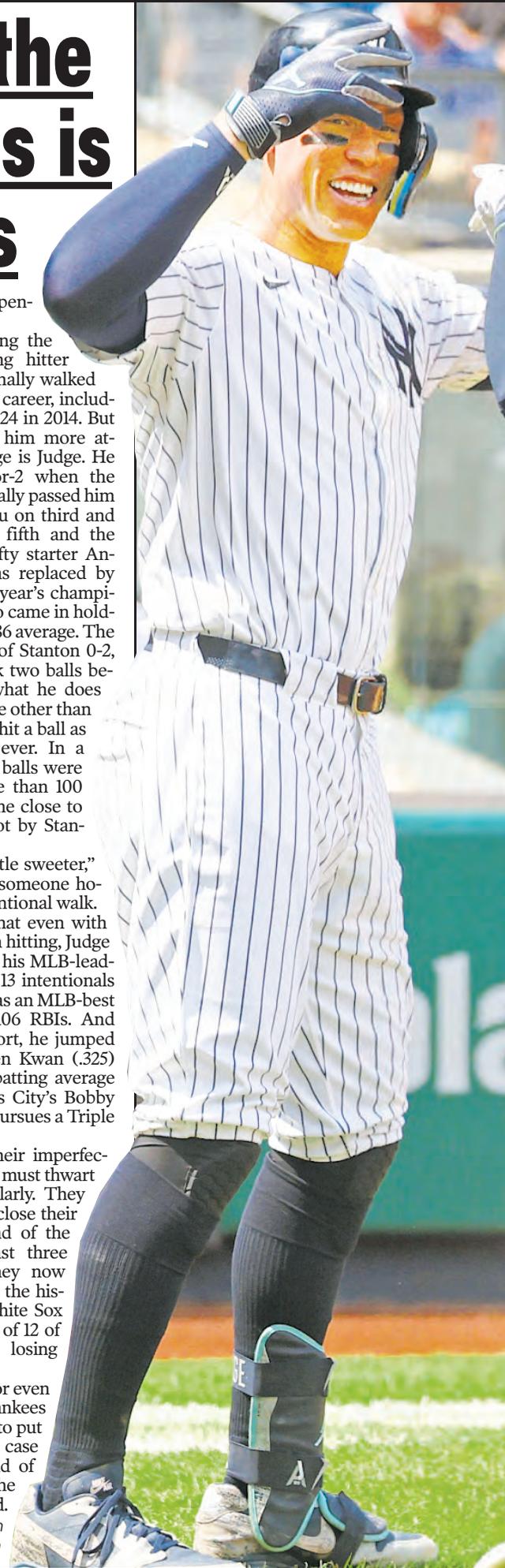
"It's always a little sweeter," Judge said when someone homers after an intentional walk.

The reality is that even with Wells and Stanton hitting, Judge is going to add to his MLB-leading 98 walks and 13 intentionals because he also has an MLB-best 42 homers and 106 RBIs. And after a 3-for-3 effort, he jumped Cleveland's Steven Kwan (.325) and with a .328 batting average trails only Kansas City's Bobby Witt (.347) as he pursues a Triple Crown.

To overcome their imperfections, the Yankees must thwart the strategy regularly. They did so Sunday to close their longest homestand of the season 5-4 against three losing teams. They now play three against the historically awful White Sox to begin a stretch of 12 of 15 more against losing teams.

It is a moment for even the imperfect Yankees to, well, clean up; to put forth — or in this case fourth — the kind of run to build on the majors' best record.

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Giancarlo Stanton

Montefiore Einstein

Official Hospital of the New York Yankees

# ELUDE BEHAVIOR

## Soto & Co. blast 4 HRs to help Bombers survive late scare from shaky bullpen



By DAN MARTIN

Another explosive day for the Yankees offense nearly wasn't enough.

But four homers — and a rough, four-out save by Clay Holmes — allowed the Yankees to hold on and beat the Rangers, 8-7, on Sunday in The Bronx.

<b>YANKEES</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Boxscore Page 36</b>
<b>RANGERS</b>	<b>7</b>	

Juan Soto homered twice, Aaron Judge smashed his 42nd home run and reached base four times, and Giancarlo Stanton added a three-run shot to build what seemed to be a comfortable lead. That was before Mark Leiter Jr. gave up three runs in the eighth and Holmes a run in the ninth before Holmes finally closed the door.

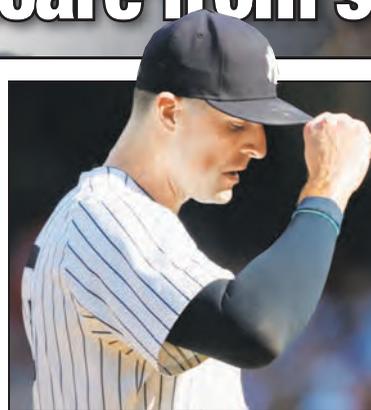
With two outs, Holmes allowed three straight baserunners before he got Leody Taveras to ground out to finish the 45-pitch save.

“That was a grind it out win,” manager Aaron Boone said.

And it came with another edition of what's likely the greatest show in the sport right now: Soto and Judge hitting back-to-back in the same lineup.

“It's special,” Marcus Stroman said. “I truly think we're witnessing history. We take for granted a little bit since we see it every day, but it's incredible.”

The duo has gone back-to-back four times this



year — including in the seventh inning on Sunday — and homered in the same game eight times.

“It's easy to think that's expected,” Stroman said of the production of Soto and Judge. “It's hard to put into words what they're doing this year. I think it creates a lot of havoc in the lineup for opposing pitchers.”

Yankees batters also pounded out a dozen hits, which became more important when the bullpen struggled for a second consecutive game.

As Stanton said, “We needed every last one of them.” Stanton's homer came after Judge was intentionally walked, which may cause other teams to avoid the increasingly popular tactic.

After getting Corey Seager on a grounder with a man on second to end the eighth, Holmes, protecting a two-run lead, struck out Marcus Semien and Josh Jung to start the ninth.

But walks to Wyatt Langford and Nathaniel Lowe extended the inning

and a single by Adolis Garcia made it a one-run game.

Holmes said his sinker wasn't as effective as it typically is and acknowledged he “hit a wall” during the lengthy outing.

Boone acknowledged it was “not easy” to see Holmes' pitch count rising. “I felt like he still had it,” Boone said. “His stuff was real sharp. They were putting up tough at-bats and I was uncomfortable with it, without a doubt, but I also felt we had to ride it out.”

The shaky save came after Stroman held the Rangers scoreless into the sixth inning. He'd been pushed back in the rotation to work on his mechanics following consecutive disastrous outings in which he'd allowed 12 runs — 10 earned — over just six innings.

Stroman still wasn't at his sharpest, walking three in five-plus innings, but he was mostly effective.

And with Soto and Judge clicking on all cylinders, it was good enough. Soto, just 25, has now homered against all 30 MLB teams and has topped 30 homers for the third time in his career.

It was all part of what was shaping up to be a relatively easy win, as the Yankees used an unearned run in the first, a Soto solo homer in the third and Stanton's three-run blast in the fifth to build a 5-0 lead. Soto and Judge's homers in the seventh made it 8-3, but Leiter's splitter didn't have its typical bite and the Yankees suddenly found themselves in a close game.

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**WHEW!** Juan Soto is greeted by Aaron Judge after hitting a solo homer in the third. The pair launched back-to-back blasts in the seventh, helping the Yankees survive a bullpen meltdown that included a 45-pitch outing from Clay Holmes (above) in the ninth. Robert Sabo; Jason Szenes (2)

**BACK FROM THE TED?** Co-creator of the popular Apple TV+ series “*Ted Lasso*” Bill Lawrence says that the show getting a fourth season would be up to star **Jason Sudeikis** (right). The writer told Collider that, “Whatever Jason feels like doing and whatever his decision is, we’re all down with it.”



Apple TV+

**TV IS THERAPY**

Emmy winner **Christina Applegate** (right) claims one of the ways she is able to cope with her MS is by watching reality TV. On James Corden’s radio show, the actress said, “Anyone who knows me well knows that [realityTV] is on 24/7 in my room, because I don’t leave my room very often.”



WireImage

# TV Monday

## WISE GUY

Michael Imperioli on his latest Mafia project and Gandolfini memories

By LAUREN SARNER

**M**ICHAEL IMPERIOLOLI knows his way around a Mafia story. The Emmy-winning actor was in Martin Scorsese’s “*Goodfellas*,” HBO’s iconic show “*The Sopranos*,” and now he’s narrating and exec producing the History Channel docuseries, “*American Godfathers: The Five Families*.”

“I read the book first, and then I was like, ‘If you’re using that as source material, you’re off to a good start,’” Imperioli, 58, told *The Post*, referring to the bestselling book on which the series is based, “*Five Families: The Rise, Decline and Resurgence of America’s Most Powerful Mafia Empires*” by Selwyn Raab.

Premiering Monday, Aug. 12 (8 p.m.), the three-part series covers the rise and fall of New York City’s five Mafia families, including archival images, footage, audio recordings and on-camera interviews with historians, experts, law enforcement, witnesses and former Mafia affiliates.

“The first part I had done research on the mob for was ‘*Goodfellas*’ ... Then, I did research for a movie that never got made where I was going to play [famous mob boss] Lucky Luciano,” said Imperioli, who lives in New York City with his wife, Victoria Chlebowski, and their two sons (plus Victoria’s daughter from a previous relationship).

Because he’s played several iconic Mafia characters on screen, Imperioli, who is also known for “*The White Lotus*,” said he



did once meet a real-life made man.

The person has since passed away, he added. “I won’t say his name ... but he was a captain — I don’t remember of which family. I met him at Rao’s when I was with [late ‘Sopranos’ co-star] Tony Sirico.”

Imperioli said the man “offered to show me the correct way to strangle someone with a piano wire. And, I thought, ‘Nah, maybe after dessert.’”

Of course, Imperioli’s best-known Mafia role is his turn as Christopher Moltisanti in “*The Sopranos*,” which aired on HBO from 1999 to 2007, starring James Gandolfini as Tony Soprano.

Imperioli’s first day on that set — and his first day meeting Gandolfini, who died

of a heart attack at age 51 in 2013 — didn’t go smoothly. His first scene involved Christopher driving Tony. The task was difficult because Imperioli had to drive backwards on the sidewalk while extras were standing around, and he had to simultaneously deliver dialogue, he said.

“And I didn’t know how to drive. I never had a license. I lived in New York City since I was a teenager, so I never got a license,” he said. “But I didn’t tell them that, because I wanted the job ... I figured, how hard could it be? It’s TV, they probably tow you ...”

He ended up accidentally slamming the car into a tree, “really hard, and really did a lot of damage. The airbags went off and there was smoke,” he recalled.

“I just thought they were gonna get rid of me. People run over, there’s a hush ... and then Jim just bursts out in hysterical laughter,” he said, referring to Gandolfini.

Imperioli said Gandolfini’s laughter alleviated his fears of getting fired on the spot.

“I thought, ‘Okay, this is going to be all right.’ [Gandolfini] kind of always liked when the wheels fell off. Like, when things would go awry, and go wrong. He had a really tremendous, goofy sense of humor.”

“[He was a] really good guy,” Imperioli added. “It’s still just heartbreaking that he’s gone. Always will be.”



HBO

**On Fire**

“*House of the Dragon*,” HBO’s popular spinoff of “*Game of Thrones*,”

was the most streamed TV program according to Nielsen’s latest report. With 1.27 billion minutes viewed, the **Matt Smith**-led (above) series sits comfortably above “*Bluey*” and “*Suits*,” the #2 and #3 shows, respectively.



Michael Moraitis/Paramount+

**David is Done**

“*SEAL Team*” star **David Boreanaz** (above) states that he is ready to be done with the Paramount+ series because of the toll the show has taken on his body. The actor told *People*, “I think I’ve had four MRIs in the past four months, for my knees, hips, shoulders. It’s been quite a journey.”



Getty Images for Tribeca Festival; HBO; History Channel (insets)

Michael Imperioli (above) narrates a new History Channel series, ‘*American Godfathers: The Five Families*’

### What's on Tonight



### COMEDY

**The Longest Yard:** 5:30 p.m. on TNT. Adam Sandler, Chris Rock. A former pro football player is recruited to lead a prison's convict team.



### COMEDY

**Police Academy:** 8 p.m. on AMC. Steve Guttenberg, G.W. Bailey. A crime wave leads the mayor to reduce the qualifications required to become a police officer.



### ADVENTURE

**Raiders of the Lost Ark:** 8 p.m. on PARMT. Harrison Ford, Karen Allen. In 1936, archaeologist Indiana Jones races to find the lost Ark of the Covenant.

Evening	SP	C	F	6:30pm	7:00pm	7:30pm	8:00pm	8:30pm	9:00pm	9:30pm	10:00pm	10:30pm	11:00pm	11:30pm
2	WCBS	2	2	2	CBS News Norah	Inside Edition	Entertainment Tonight	NCIS: The Stories We Leave Behind (R)	NCIS: Sydney: Gone Fission (R)	NCIS: Hawai'i: Dead On Arrival (R)	CBS News 11pm	(11:35) Late Show		
4	WNBC	4	4	4	NBC Nightly News	News 4 New York at 7	Access Hollywood	American Ninja Warrior: Semifinals 3 & 4	The Wall: Adam and Shelley	News 4 New York at 11	(11:35) Tonight Show			
5	WNYW	5	5	5	(6:00) 6 O'Clock News	Extra (R)	TMZ (R)	Celebrity Name That Tune: Apple for the Teacher	The 1% Club: A Lifetime Supply of Hotdogs	The 10 O'Clock News	Good Night New York	Battleground		
7	WABC	7	7	7	ABC World News	Jeopardy! (R)	Wheel of Fortune (R)	The Bachelorette: Jenn and her suitors travel to Seattle; the men go on-air at a radio station.	(10:01) Celebrity Family Feud: Meghan Trainor (R)	Family Feud (R)	Family Feud (R)	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit: Theatre Tricks	(11:35) Kimmel Live	
9	WWOR	9	9	9	Dish Nation (R)	Family Feud (R)	Family Feud (R)	The News on My 9	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit: Official Story	61st Street: Kamikaze	PIX11 News at Ten	Seinfeld: The Doorman	Seinfeld: The Caddy	
11	WPIX	11	11	11	PIX11 Evening News	Sports Nightly	The Big Bang Theory	All American: Homecoming: New Normal	61st Street: Kamikaze	PIX11 News at Ten	Seinfeld: The Doorman	Seinfeld: The Caddy		
13	WNET	13	13	13	BBC News America	The PBS News Hour	Antiques Roadshow: Palm Springs, Hour 2 (R)	Magpie Murders (R)	The Great American Recipe: The Grand Finale	Antiques Roadshow: Palm Springs, Hour 3 (R)	Epic Trails	BBC News		
21	WLIW	21	21	21	(6:00) News	Hotel Portofino (R)	Magpie Murders (R)	Magpie Murders (R)	Magpie Murders (R)	All Creatures (R)	Epic Trails	BBC News		
25	WNYE	25	22	25	Report	To Be Announced	TBA	Her B Idea	Day's Work	Crains NY	Start Up	To Be Announced	In Context	
31	WPXN	31	3	531	Minds	FBI: Salvation	FBI: Ties That Bind	FBI: Fallout	FBI: Hard Decisions	FBI: Payback				
41	WXTV	41	6	41	Noticiero	La rosa de Guadalupe	Golpe de suerte	Marea de pasiones	Gloria Trevi: Ellas soy yo	Noticias	Noticiero			
47	WNJU	47	16	12	Noticias	La Isla Desafío Extremo	(7:58) La Isla Desafío Extremo: Destierro	El Conde: Amor y honor	Noticiero	Noticias				
55	WLNY	55	10	10	Queens	Man	Man	News 8pm	48 Hours: Vision/Murder	Judge Judy	Judge Judy	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	
A&E	46	46	181	Neighbor	Neighbor	Neighbor	Intervention: Danielle	House of Horror	(10:01) House of Horror	(11:04) The First 48 (R)				
AMC	54	43	231	(5:30) Demolition Man (1993, Action) R	Police Academy (1984, Comedy) Steve Guttenberg. R	Police Academy 2: Their First Assignment (1985) ★½								
BET	37	54	270	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Martin Lawrence Live: Runteldat (2002) Nancy O'Dell.					
BBCAM	71	101	189	(6:00) Signora Volpe: Death of a Ghost	(8:07) Law & Order	(9:07) Law & Order: Seed	Law & Order: Wannabe	Law & Order: Act of God						
BRAVO	18	44	185	Below (R)	Below Deck (R)	Below Deck	Below Deck Mediterranean	Below Deck (R)	Listing LA					
CNBC	15	24	102	Money	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank					
CNN	78	25	100	Situation	Erin Burnett OutFront	Anderson Cooper 360°	The Source with Kaitlan	CNN NewsNight	Laura Coates Live					
COM	45	50	190	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office		
DIS	49	31	250	Big City (R)	Descendants: The Rise of Red (2024) G	Primos (R)	Primos (R)	Primos (R)	Primos (R)	Primos (R)	Primos (R)	BUNK'D (R)	BUNK'D (R)	
DSC	66	27	120	Contraband	Contraband: Sea (R)	Contraband	Contraband: Sea	Contraband: Sea	Contraband: Altar Course	Contraband: Yes, Deer?				
E!	24	51	196	Family	Family	Family	Family	Family	Starsky & Hutch (2004, Comedy) Ben Stiller. ★★½	E! News	Starsky ★★½			
ESPN	28	36	70	Sports Live.	MLB Baseball: Texas Rangers at Boston Red Sox from Fenway Park. Live.	SportsCenter Live.	SportsCenter Live.							
ESPN2	29	35	74	ESPN BET L	UFC Next Level	UFC Next Level	UFC Next Level	In the Arena	In the Arena					
FBN	43	106	117	Bottom	Kudlow (R)	American Dynasty	American Dynasty	American Dynasty	American Dynasty					
FNC	44	26	118	Sp. Rpt.	The Ingraham Angle	Jesse Watters Primetime	Hannity	Gutfeld!	Fox News @ Night					
FOOD	50	97	164	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	BBQ Brawl: BBQ Hacks	BBQ Brawl	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Bobby's Triple Threat (R)			
FREFRM	38	49	199	(6:35) Finding Nemo (2003, Family) Albert Brooks. G ★★½	Finding Dory (2016, Adventure) Ellen DeGeneres. PG	The 700 Club (R)								
FS1	400	99	83	Speak Live.	The Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show: Day 2	Leagues Cup Soccer Live.								
FX	10	40	53	Fast (2019)	Uncharted (2022, Action) Tom Holland. PG-13 ★★★	Uncharted (2022, Action) Tom Holland. PG-13 ★★★								
HALL	191	240	(5:00) Paris	My One & Only (2019, Romance) Pascale Hutton.	Fourth Down and Love (2023) Pascale Hutton.	Golden	Golden							
HGTV	64	98	165	My Lottery	My Lottery	Celebrity IOU (R)	Celebrity IOU	(10:01) House Hunters	Hunters (R)	Hunters (R)				
HIST	40	47	128	American Godfathers: The Old Rules	American Godfathers: The Five Families	Gangland	Prison	Gangland	Gangland					
ID	23	171	123	People (R)	People Magazine (R)	People Magazine (R)	Fatal Affairs	Signs of a Psychopath	A Psychopath (R)					
LIFE	62	45	140	Rizzoli	Rizzoli & Isles	Rizzoli & Isles	Rizzoli & Isles	(10:03) Rizzoli & Isles	(11:03) Rizzoli & Isles					
MeTV	33	33	3	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Andy	Hillbillies	Acres	Hogan	Hogan	Burnett	P. Mason	
MSG	27	87	78	The Juice	Overtime Select Basketball Taped.	Overtime Select Basketball: 2 Taped.								
MSG Plus	48	88	80	Athletes Unlimited Women Taped.	2024 Stanley Replay.	The Bettor	The Juice	NHL Hockey Replay.						
MSNBC	14	23	103	Ari Melber	The ReidOut	Inside With Jen Psaki	Rachel Maddow	Lawrence O'Donnell	The 11th Hour					
MTV	20	53	210	Catfish	Catfish: The TV Show	Catfish: The TV Show	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous		
NATGEO	65	162	121	Madrid (R)	Smuggler Madrid (R)	Smuggler Madrid (R)	Smuggler Madrid (R)	Smuggler Madrid (R)	Smuggler Madrid (R)					
NICK	6	121	252	Sonic 2 ★★½	Knuckles	Knuckles	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends		
OWN	173	180	145	(6:00) 20/20	20/20 on OWN (R)	20/20 on OWN (R)	20/20 on OWN (R)	20/20 on OWN (R)	20/20 on OWN: Angels	20/20 on OWN (R)				
PARMT	36	56	54	Men	Men	Men	Raiders of the Lost Ark (1981, Adventure) Harrison Ford. PG ★★½	(10:35) Indiana Jones Crusade (1989)						
SNY	26	60	77	Amazin'	Mets Specials: Straw 18	Mets Classics: 2015 Mets Clinch NL East: New York Mets at Cincinnati Reds.	Sports Live.	Sports Live.						
SYFY	17	48	180	Robin Hood (2010, Action) Russell Crowe. PG-13 ★★½	Battleship (2012, Science Fiction) Taylor Kitsch. PG-13 ★★½									
TBS	8	39	52	Bang	Bang	Bang	Bang	Bang	Dad (R)	Dad (R)	Dad (R)	Dad (R)		
TCM	82	41	230	Prosperity (1932) Marie Dressler. NR ★★	The Broadway Melody (1929, Musical) Bessie Love.	Sidewalks of New York (1931) NR ★★	Night Court							
TLC	52	28	139	90 Day (R)	90 Day Fiance (R)	90 Day Fiance	Unexpected: O-o-h Child	(10:02) 90 Day Fiance	Welcome to Plathville (R)					
TNT	3	37	51	The Longest Yard (2005) Adam Sandler.	Grown Ups (2010, Comedy) Adam Sandler. PG-13 ★★½	(10:15) Grown Ups 2 (2013, Comedy) Adam Sandler.								
TVLAND	85	34	241	Andy	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Queens	Queens			
USA	16	38	50	(6:00) 9-1-1	9-1-1: Crash & Learn	WWE Monday Night Raw: from Moody Center in Austin, Texas. Live.	Throwback	Fast (2001)						
VH1	19	52	217	(4:30) Diary	Basketball Wives (R)	Basketball Wives	Wild 'N Out	Tyler Perry's A Madea Family Funeral (2019, Comedy) Tyler Perry.						
WE	59	42	149	Bones	Bones: Aliens	Bones: Witch in Woods	Bones: Judas on a Pole	Bones: Man in the Cell	Bones: Girl in Gator					
YES	53	89	76	Homegrown	My Number	Pregame	MLB Baseball: New York Yankees at Chicago White Sox. Live.	Yankees Postgame Live.						
HBO	511	301	400	I, Tonya R	(7:20) Last Week (R)	Industry: Il Mattino (R)	Date Night (2010, Comedy) Tina Fey.	(10:35) Industry: Il Mattino	Last Week					
MAX	531	371	420	The Box (2009, Thriller) Cameron Diaz.	Up in the Air (2009) George Clooney. R	(9:50) White Men Can't Jump (1992, Comedy) R ★★★	Gangs R							
MGM Plus	595	395	Noah (2014, Adventure) Russell Crowe.	Emperor	From: Strangers in a (R)	From: The Kindness of	Spectre (2015, Action) Daniel Craig. ★★★							
PARSHO	551	321	365	(6:15) Rocky Balboa (2006, Drama) ★★★	Mafia Spies: The Action	Tropic Thunder (2008, Comedy) Ben Stiller. R ★★	Pulp Fiction (1994) R ★★							

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U.S. CLOSES OUT EPIC OLYMPIC PERFORMANCE WITH WOMEN'S HOOPS GOLD

PAGES 47-44

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NEW YORK POST

MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2024

## THE Sports In

# Yankees survive bullpen implosion, defeat Rangers behind four home runs

MARTIN, SHERMAN / P. 53-50, 41

# GREAT ESCAPE

The Yankees needed four home runs, including two solo blasts by Juan Soto, to outlast the Rangers 8-7 on Sunday after Clay Holmes (inset) and Mark Leiter Jr. allowed four runs and issued three walks out of the bullpen.

Jason Starnes (2)



## SWEPT OUT TO SEA

METS POUNDED BY M'S TO END ROUGH ROAD TRIP

PAGE 48

