

DAILY NEWS

NEW YORK'S HOMETOWN NEWS

- Criminal probes & departures rattle Adams, City Hall
- Shocking killings stirred fear on rails and streets

A YEAR TO FORGET



Mayor Adams faced the hardest year of his tenure, and his legal troubles are far from over. Above, Luigi Mangione is charged with killing an insurance exec on Midtown street.

SEE PAGE 6-7, 10-12, 14

BARRY WILLIAMS FOR NYDN; AP



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EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Andrew Julien
ajulien@nydailynews.com

MANAGING EDITOR
Robert Dominguez
rdominguez@nydailynews.com

EDITORIAL PAGE EDITOR
Michael Aronson
maronson@nydailynews.com

DIRECTOR OF AUDIENCE
Rose Abuin
rabuin@nydailynews.com

NATIONAL AND ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR
Amber Garrett
agarrett@nydailynews.com

DIRECTOR OF SPORTS CONTENT
Kyle Wagner
kwagner@nydailynews.com

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY
Kevin Macdonald
kmacdonald@nydailynews.com

PRINT PRODUCTION EDITOR
Steven J. Ferrari
sferrari@nydailynews.com

HOME DELIVERY
Call 800-692-6397 (NEWS)
or mail to DAILY NEWS L.P.
Circulation Fulfillment
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Hicksville, NY 11801

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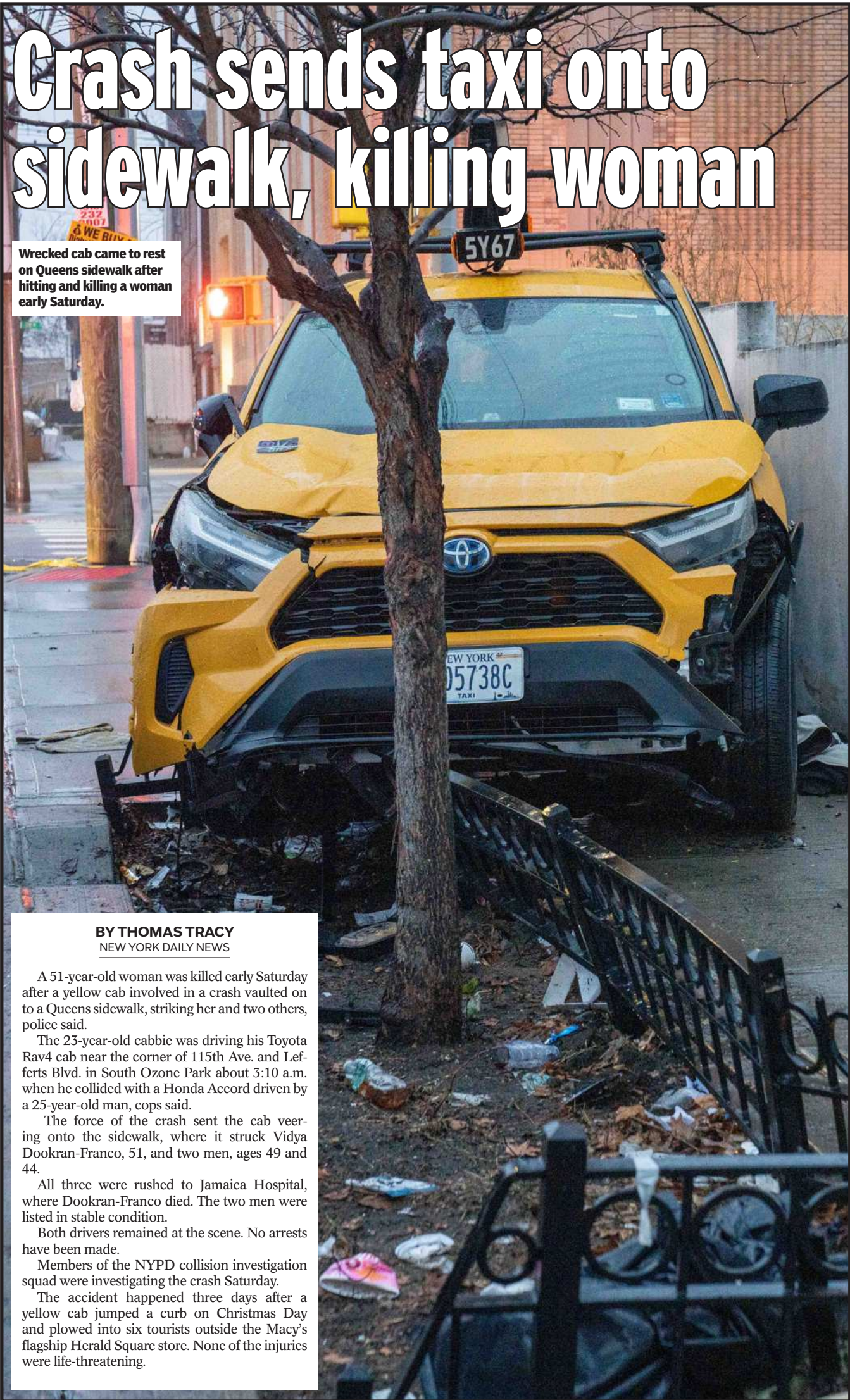
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Lotto: 12-13-19-30-41-48 Bonus: 25
Cash 4 Life: 5-17-27-28-41
Cash Ball: 1
Powerball: 6-31-51-54-55
Power Ball: 12 Power Play: 2x
Take 5 Evening: 4-14-16-19-34
Midday: 2-18-20-26-27

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Evening Pick 3: 041 Pick 4: 6116
Midday Pick 3: 456 Pick 4: 5749
Cash 5 Xtra: 14-15-16-26-31 x3



Crash sends taxi onto sidewalk, killing woman

Wrecked cab came to rest on Queens sidewalk after hitting and killing a woman early Saturday.

BY THOMAS TRACY
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

A 51-year-old woman was killed early Saturday after a yellow cab involved in a crash vaulted on to a Queens sidewalk, striking her and two others, police said.

The 23-year-old cabbie was driving his Toyota Rav4 cab near the corner of 115th Ave. and Lef-ferts Blvd. in South Ozone Park about 3:10 a.m. when he collided with a Honda Accord driven by a 25-year-old man, cops said.

The force of the crash sent the cab veer-ing onto the sidewalk, where it struck Vidya Dookran-Franco, 51, and two men, ages 49 and 44.

All three were rushed to Jamaica Hospital, where Dookran-Franco died. The two men were listed in stable condition.

Both drivers remained at the scene. No arrests have been made.

Members of the NYPD collision investigation squad were investigating the crash Saturday.

The accident happened three days after a yellow cab jumped a curb on Christmas Day and plowed into six tourists outside the Macy's flagship Herald Square store. None of the injuries were life-threatening.

THEODORE PARSIGNE FOR NYDN



One World Trade Center (main photo), the rest of the city, including bike rider (below), and the entire region got a good soaking on Saturday. Off-and-on rain is expected for the next few days.
THEODORE PARISIENNE / NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

HAPPY NEW DREAR, NYC

Experts see wet and cloudy weather leading up to 2025

BY JESSICA SCHLADEBECK
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

With Christmastime officially in the rearview — and the wintry chill with it for the time being — warmer weather and rain are forecast to wash over New York City in the days leading up to the new year.

New Yorkers woke up Saturday to fog and rain, with temperatures peaking in the upper 40s by midafternoon and scattered showers persisting through much of the day. Temps were expected to dip just slightly overnight before climbing to as high as the mid-50s on Sunday, which will likely come with some additional rain.

Monday, meanwhile, is expected to be much drier, with rainfall forecast to taper off before returning again on New Year's Eve. While the evening hours Tuesday are expected to be mostly mild, a brewing storm in the forecast could leave the city "soaked" in the hours before 2025, according to AccuWeather meteorologists.

Forecasters further warned the wet conditions slated for the coming days could cause traffic delays for travelers headed to any holiday hotspots.

Despite the rain, New Yorkers can look forward to above-average temperatures on New Year's Eve. The typical high around Central Park over the holiday is just under 41 degrees, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's most recent analysis. However this year, highs are expected to reach the low 50s.

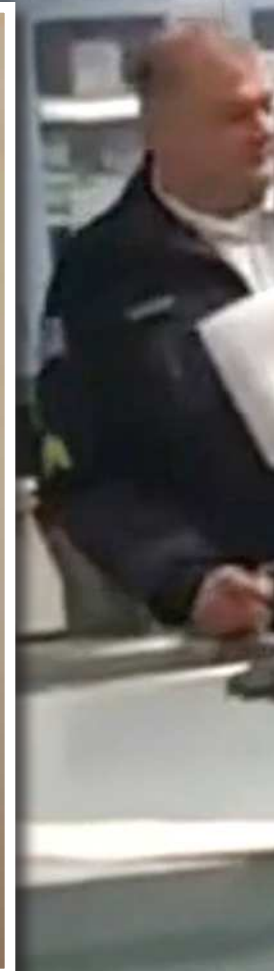
The forecast provides a stark contrast to the recent days of frigid weather, when temperatures dipped into the teens before warming only slightly in the leadup to Christmas. Overnight Tuesday into Wednesday, flurries washed over the city and blanketed Central Park with an inch of snow.

It marked the first white Christmas in New York since 2009, when 2 inches of snow was recorded.



FURY OVER VID OF JAIL BEATING DEATH

Tish calls tape of state corrections officers attacking inmate 'shocking'



BY THOMAS TRACY
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

State Corrections Department officers at Marcy Correctional Facility who were caught on body-worn cameras viciously beating inmate Robert Brooks to death are a disgrace to their profession, critics said Saturday as harrowing videos of the incident outraged civil rights and law enforcement groups.

The four videos released by state Attorney General Letitia James' office on Friday show about a half-dozen uniformed state corrections officers repeatedly punching and striking Brooks, 43, as they pin him onto a gurney in Marcy's infirmary.

Brooks' hands are handcuffed behind his back and his legs are shackled as the officers repeatedly punch him in the face, torso and legs. The officers also yank him

around by his neck, strike him in the stomach with one of the inmate's own shoes and appear to stuff something into his mouth.

They then hold him down and seem to cover his mouth and nose as the beatings continue, the video shows.

"These videos are shocking. Disturbing," James said in a video message as she released the footage Friday. "I advise all take appropriate care before choosing to watch them."

Law enforcement watchdogs called the body-worn camera footage "horrific," with some describing it worse than the 2020 viral video of the death of George Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis police officers, which sparked widespread protests throughout the country.

"The footage of Robert Brooks' death is as horrifying as what we saw when George

Floyd, Tyre Nichols and countless other Black men and women have been killed by law enforcement," the Rev. Al Sharpton said Friday. "These officers clearly thought they were within their right to hit Brooks in the stomach with the heel of a boot, level punches at his face or torso, and throw him around like a rag doll — all with his hands behind his back. They were wrong."

"It is disturbing that some of them had the sense to smile and smirk while a human being was forced against a wall by three officers just a few feet away," Sharpton said. "Their actions in this tape not only justify their firing but should merit appropriate criminal charges."

State Corrections Department Sgt. Glenn Trombly and Officers Michael Along, Michael Fisher and Matthew Galliher, who were all involved in

bringing Brooks to the infirmary, had their body-worn cameras on but "did not activate them" during their interaction with Brooks, James said.

The cameras recorded their interaction with Brooks in standby mode, so there is no sound, James noted.

Trombly and another corrections officer, Anthony Farina, who is also allegedly involved in the attack on Brooks, are defendants in a separate prisoner abuse case and are known as the Marcy Correctional Facility's "beat up squad," according to court papers.

Gov. Hochul last week directed the state corrections commissioner to terminate more than a dozen workers involved in the fatal attack.

The clash between Brooks and corrections officers was undergoing an internal

Damning body-worn camera video (main) of corrections officers repeatedly punching and striking Robert Brooks (below l.) as they pin him onto a gurney in prison infirmary. NEW YORK ATTORNEY GENERAL



review, officials said. So far, none of the officers have been criminally charged.

“[We are] conducting an exhaustive review of the facts and evidence,” James said. “We will use every possible tool to investigate this death thoroughly and swiftly.”

Benny Boscio, the president of the Correction Officers’ Benevolent Association — the officers who staff Rikers Island and other city jails — called the state corrections officers’ actions “egregious and repugnant.”

“This incident is completely contrary to the values we hold dear and the oath we take as correction officers,” Boscio said. “These officers are a disgrace to our profession and should be held accountable for their abhorrent misconduct.”

Brooks was transferred from Mohawk Correctional Facility to Marcy, both in Oneida County, on Dec. 9. Officers first

took him to the Marcy infirmary, where the beating took place.

Two officers were recorded carrying the struggling Brooks into the infirmary by the inmate’s arms and legs — with his arms handcuffed behind his back and yanked high over his head. In the videos, Brooks appears dazed and barely conscious. He’s talking and pleading with the guards, who pretty much ignore him.

One corrections officer stomps on Brooks groin as two other officers try to subdue him on the gurney before some kind of exam. At one point, another corrections officer, wearing blue latex gloves, yanks him up by the scruff of the neck and drags him to the back of the room by a window.

Other officers and prison staff are recorded smiling and joking with one

another as Brooks is being manhandled.

As this bizarre interaction continues, Brooks is stripped to his underwear and repeatedly punched as the officers and prison staff check his vitals. At this point, Brooks is unconscious, the video shows.

Brooks was ultimately taken to an area hospital, where he died the next day. The initial cause of death has been determined as “asphyxia due to compression of the neck,” though full autopsy results are still pending, according to the upstate Daily Sentinel.

“The vast majority of correction officers do extraordinary work under difficult circumstances, and we are all grateful for their service,” Hochul said in a statement. “But we have no tolerance for individuals who cross the line, break the law and engage in unnecessary violence or targeted abuse.”

Brooks had been serving a 12-year prison sentence for first-degree assault since 2017, according to the department.

State Corrections Commissioner Daniel Martuscello also denounced the staffers’ actions and said the suspensions are “in the best interest of the agency and the communities we serve.”

“There is no place for brutality in our department and we will vigorously pursue justice against the individuals who committed this senseless act,” he said. “These investigations are ongoing and additional suspensions may be issued.”

Brooks’ family said in a statement from their lawyer that they are “incredibly shocked and saddened” about the death, according to the Times Union in Albany, which first reported the death.

With News Wire Services

TEAM ADAMS DECIMATED — BUT THAT MAY BE GOOD

Pros say exit of top aides amid wave of scandals has moved mayor to hire experienced crew as he seeks reelex

BY JOSEPHINE STRATMAN
AND CHRIS SOMMERFELDT
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

Mayor Adams has long been known to value personal loyalty when it comes to politics.

But in September, Adams made clear that loyalty isn't unconditional.

"My loyalty does not go past if someone does something wrong. ... Let's not get it mixed up: My loyalty does not go to the point if you are found to have done something wrong," he told reporters on Sept. 10.

That loyalty would soon be tested.

In the aftermath of Adams' indictment on bribery and corruption charges two weeks after those comments, the mayor's top advisers and closest allies, from his schools chancellor to his police

commissioner, were pushed to resign.

Gov. Hochul — who has the authority to remove him as mayor — leaned on Adams to clean house of those in his inner circle who'd become ensnared in several separate corruption probes, even though they didn't face criminal charges of their own and maintained they had done nothing wrong.

Now, as the mayor continues to fend off calls to resign, battles the federal charges he has pleaded not guilty to and runs for reelection, almost no one from the tight-knit crew he first entered office with — known internally as "Team Adams" — is left by his side.

Instead, Adams enters 2025 surrounded by veteran government operators, most of them new to his orbit, but many of them with deep municipal experience, like First Deputy Mayor Maria Torres-Springer, Deputy Mayor for Public Safety Chauncey

Parker and NYPD Commissioner Jessica Tisch.

The shakeups come as next year could prove the most pivotal in Adams' political career. He is set to stand trial in April, two months before he faces multiple challengers in June's Democratic mayoral primary, all while reeling from historically low approval ratings.

It's unclear how Adams' legal challenges and the exodus of his closest aides will impact the election — or whether outside factors could play a role, too, including President-elect Donald Trump, who has openly entertained the idea of pardoning the mayor.

But with all the uncertainty on the horizon, some in Adams' inner circle say the City Hall staff purges have marked a step in the right direction.

"He has rid himself of people who were

hurting him, so he is better off for it and should have done it a long time ago," a source close to the mayor told the Daily News, speaking on condition of anonymity for fear of angering him. "I think he feels unburdened and ready for whatever comes next."

Bradley Tusk, a political strategist and venture capitalist who served as a top aide to former Mayor Mike Bloomberg, echoed that sentiment and suggested city government hasn't been in a better place since Adams took office.

"It's bad news for Team Adams, but actually very good news for New York," said Tusk, who helped run the campaign of one of Adams' 2021 opponents, Andrew Yang.

"He actually has the most competent professional team he's ever had, because all of the people who prioritize



Mayor Adams, who is facing a corruption trial in the spring as he seeks reelection, has purged his administration of close allies, including Ingrid Lewis-Martin (inset), who is charged in connection with a bribery scheme.

internal politics and petty grudges and their crumbs and their own well-being... are gone," Tusk added.

The exodus of the old Adams guard at City Hall culminated this month, when Ingrid Lewis-Martin, the mayor's chief adviser and self-proclaimed sister resigned abruptly on a Sunday just before news broke she would soon be indicted by the Manhattan district attorney's office on bribery charges. Days later, just after Lewis-Martin's indictment was unsealed, Chief of Department Jeffrey Maddrey, a powerful Adams ally in the NYPD, resigned, too, after facing disturbing sexual misconduct accusations.

Like Adams, Lewis-Martin and Maddrey deny wrongdoing.

Their departures brought to at least 10 the number of high-profile resignations or firings from Adams' administration that

have come in recent months amid investigative controversy.

Besides Lewis-Martin and Maddrey, top Adams allies who have left under a cloud of scandal include, among others, Philip Banks, the deputy mayor for public safety; David Banks, the schools chancellor and Philip's older brother; Sheena Wright, the first deputy mayor and David's wife; Edward Caban, the NYPD commissioner; Timothy Pearson, Adams' public safety adviser, and Winnie Greco, Adams' Asian affairs adviser.

That tally doesn't include the November 2022 resignation of Eric Ulrich, Adams' first buildings commissioner who's still battling bribery charges brought by the Manhattan DA's office.

One of the few individuals left in Adams' administration recently engulfed in law enforcement scrutiny is Jesse Hamilton, a

former Brooklyn state senator who was appointed by the mayor to a top post at the Department of Citywide Administrative Services that involves overseeing the municipal government's sprawling commercial real estate portfolio.

Hamilton had his electronics confiscated by investigators from the Manhattan DA's office at Kennedy Airport in September when he, Lewis-Martin and Diana Boutross, a top executive at the Cushman & Wakefield real estate firm, stepped off a flight from Japan.

The trio, who say they were vacationing in Japan, are being eyed by the DA's office as part of a probe looking into potential corruption in the city's commercial real estate sector, according to sources. No one has been accused of wrongdoing in connection with that inquiry, and Lewis-Martin's criminal charges, also brought

by the Manhattan DA, are part of a different probe.

George Arzt, a seasoned New York political consultant, said the resignations, investigations and indictments have left a hole in Adams' administration.

"It does make it a little bit of a different place, because he's lost the Banks brothers and he's lost Ingrid," said Arzt, noting they have been key in orchestrating his political rise and policy agenda.

But Arzt, who served as press secretary to Mayor Ed Koch between 1986 and 1989 when Koch's administration faced a number of corruption scandals, also said he believes it's better for Adams — and the city — that there has been a changing of the guard at City Hall.

"He just has to refocus the administration," Arzt said. "That's his new job, but the people who are left, they're pretty good."

MERELY 'OFFICE FLING'

Maddrey's view of OT-for-sex claim is ripped by his accuser

BY GRAHAM RAYMAN
AND THOMAS TRACY
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

Disgraced former NYPD Chief of Department Jeffrey Maddrey shrugged off the sex-abuse accusations filed against him as an “office fling” — as aftershocks from bombshell allegations that he swapped overtime for sex continue to rattle the upper levels of the department, the Daily News has learned.

“That’s all it was. It was an office fling,” a stone-faced Maddrey told WNBC about his relationship with Lt. Quathisha Epps, who says the former highest-ranking NYPD officer sexually harassed her and forced her to perform “unwanted sexual favors” in return for overtime pay.

“There was really nothing to it. There was no romance. We weren’t girlfriend and boyfriend.”

The Maddrey interview took place shortly after his attorney held a press conference at his lower Manhattan office Friday, claiming that the relationship between Maddrey and Epps — whom he described as “a swinger” — was “consensual.”

Epps made up the allegations that she was forced to have sex with Maddrey so she could get away with a “scheme” to collect overtime pay for work she didn’t do, including \$204,000 just this year, lawyer Lambros Lambrou said.

“We can tell you now, those allegations are a lie,” Lambrou said. “They’re not true. We deny every aspect of them.”

A Daily News report published in November named Epps as the highest-paid member of the NYPD with a salary of \$406,515 — more than the \$285,313 former Commissioner Edward Caban made in fiscal year 2024.

Maddrey’s denials did nothing to halt the ongoing shakeups in the department, particularly in the Internal Affairs Bureau, which would have been responsible for investigating Maddrey for sex abuse and overtime fraud.

On Saturday, Deputy Chief Chris Morello, Inspectors Joseph Profeta and Michael Ricciardi, and Deputy Inspector Dawit Fikru were all removed from IAB and transferred to other departments, according to paperwork seen by the Daily News. A day earlier, 10 other officers assigned to the Internal Affairs Bureau — including two lieutenants, two sergeants and five detectives — were moved to other posts as a rare purge of the unit continued.

After Epps’ allegations were made, Police Commissioner Jessica Tisch removed Chief of Internal Affairs Miguel Iglesias from his post.

Many of the officers transferred were members of IAB Group 1, which is responsible for investigating allegations against NYPD captains and above, a source with knowledge of the case said.

Profeta and Ricciardi are listed as co-defendants in lawsuits against former senior mayoral adviser Timothy Pearson. He is accused of sexual harassment and

Ex-NYPD Chief Jeffrey Maddrey is defending himself against a complaint that he forced a former cop into sexual relations in return for piles of overtime pay.



retaliating against former NYPD Sgt. Roxanne Ludemann when she rebuffed his advances, and then sidelining the careers of NYPD Chief Militaidis Marmara and two other cops who backed the sergeant’s claims.

“If the NYPD is ever to break free from its entrenched culture of retaliation and favoritism, it must remove the executives handpicked by individuals now exposed as bad actors,” attorney John Scola, who represents Ludemann and Marmara, told The News. “We remain hopeful that these ongoing changes not only vindicate our clients, but also pave the way for meaningful reform within the NYPD.”

In other department moves, Tarik Sheppard, the department’s former top spokesman who got into a public shouting match with Interim Police Commissioner Thomas Donlon, was demoted from deputy commissioner to assistant chief and put in charge of the department’s Interagency Operations Division.

Epps filed a formal complaint with

the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission on Dec. 21. She alleged Maddrey repeatedly demanded sex in exchange for her getting overtime hours, and that when the lieutenant began to reject Maddrey’s advances, he retaliated by adding her name to a list of the department’s top overtime earners, according to the complaint.

Maddrey abruptly resigned a day before the complaint was filed. In his WNBC interview, he said he stepped down because “it wasn’t appropriate for me to be in a relationship with anyone.”

Lambrou claims that Maddrey, despite being chief of department, had no oversight over overtime requests.

Epps attorney Eric Sanders wasn’t swayed by Maddrey’s claims that the sex with his client was consensual.

“There can be no ‘consent’ in a workplace where one individual wields immense power over another’s livelihood,” Sanders said. “As Lt. Epps’

direct supervisor, Maddrey leveraged his position as the highest-ranking uniformed officer in the NYPD to prey upon her financial and emotional vulnerabilities.”

Sanders said Maddrey demanded sexual favors, money — which were referred to as “envelopes” — and gifts from Epps.

“These demands were not the actions of a man engaging in a consensual relationship; they were acts of coercion and quid pro quo sexual harassment,” Sanders said, adding that it’s laughable that Maddrey had no sway over overtime approvals.

“The NYPD has strict protocols for reviewing, flagging, and approving overtime submissions, both pre-and post-payment,” he said. “As the highest-ranking uniformed officer, Maddrey was well aware of these systems and, as evidence shows, used his position to manipulate them to his advantage. To suggest otherwise insults the public’s intelligence and undermines the integrity of the NYPD’s internal controls.”

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history, what and the public
has considered "newsworthy" has met different definitions. For example, mid-twenty
mains on political and
ever, the news media



Michael Smith, age 62, died suddenly on January 12, 2023. He is survived by his beloved wife Mary, his daughter Linda and 52-year-old Susan Clark who he donated his heart to, 6-year-old Liam O'Brien who runs and plays with the kidney he received, 34-year-old Vincent McGuire who received his other kidney, 48-year-old Timothy Wang who now lives with

Michael's liver, 34-year-old Emily Rodriguez who breathes deeply with his lungs, 25-year-old Jordan Spagnoli whose sight was restored with Michael's corneas, 40-year-old Peter Tomford whose limbs freely move with the tendons Michael shared, and 22-year-old David Johnson whose life was forever changed by receiving Michael's pancreas. Michael's selfless decision to be an organ donor strengthened the legacy he built in life. His spirit endures in the eight people who can continue their journeys because of his generosity.

By donating organs, you or a loved one can save up to eight lives.

LiveOnNY
Life. Pass it on.



**BY ELLEN MOYNIHAN
AND LEONARD GREENE**
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

In a city with no shortage of grisly, tragic or depraved crimes, 2024 stood out as a particularly violent year in New York history. Several disturbing murders shocked even the most jaded New Yorkers for their sheer savagery and brutality, whether it was the assassination of a health care CEO on a Midtown street, the heart-wrenching starvation death of a 4-year-old Harlem boy allegedly at the hands of his own parents, or the gruesome death of a homeless woman set on fire on a Brooklyn subway train as the accused killer calmly watched her burn to death from a platform bench.

The murder of UnitedHealthcare CEO Brian Thompson

In a killing that grabbed worldwide attention, 26-year-old Luigi Mangione was accused of shooting UnitedHealthcare CEO Brian Thompson, 50, on a Midtown sidewalk on Dec. 4. After a five-day interstate manhunt, Mangione was found in an Altoona, Pa., McDonald's with a 3D-printed ghost gun, the fake ID he used to check into a Manhattan hostel and a handwritten manifesto that read, in part, "Frankly, these parasites had it coming."

Mangione, valedictorian of his Baltimore private high school and an Ivy league computer science major, was extradited to New York City on Dec. 19. Initially charged with first-degree murder and terrorism charges by New York State, Mangione was instead

arraigned in Federal Court on charges of murder, stalking and firearm offenses. The federal charges could result in the death penalty.

Despite being accused of the cold-blooded murder of a father of two, Mangione's apparent anger toward the health insurance industry prompted an outpouring of support and sympathy for him. He is due back in court in Manhattan in January.

Woman found stuffed in a duffel bag in Manhattan closet, squatter couple charged

Nadia Vitels, a 52-year-old woman found dead inside a duffel bag in the closet of a Kips Bay apartment on March 14 by her son, was later discovered to have been attacked and killed by a pair of squatters four

days earlier, who then stole her credit card and car and went on the run, according to prosecutors. Vitels was killed by blunt force trauma to the head, said the city's medical examiner.

The duo — Halley Tejada, 19, of Manhattan, and Kensly Alston, 18, of the Bronx — were grabbed by U.S. Marshals in York, Pa., after cops said they had crashed Vitels' car and gotten engaged on the road with a ring they bought with Vitels' card, cops said. They were hit with multiple charges, including murder, concealment of a human corpse and grand larceny.

Wheelchair-using ex-con charged with killing roommate, dumping body in the trash

Family, friends and neighbors were

Crimes



Video (main photo) shows Luigi Mangione (inset) allegedly shooting UnitedHealthcare CEO Brian Thompson (top left) on Dec. 4 in Midtown. OBTAINED BY NYDN; GARDINER ANDERSON / NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

devastated to find out that the body found wrapped in a sleeping bag, placed on a dolly and left by the trash on E. 27th St. near Third Ave. on July 5 was 31-year-old Buffalo State College grad Yazmeen Williams, who had lived for a time in the nearby Straus Houses.

Residents of the Straus Houses began to immediately suspect 55-year-old Chad Irish, who lived two blocks away — especially after video of a man in a wheelchair dumping Williams' body was widely seen on social media. Williams had also been his roommate.

After being confronted by several neighbors and pulling a gun in response, Irish was swarmed by an angry crowd just as police came to arrest him on July 8. Cops and medics had to fight their way through the irate mob while carrying Irish on a gurney.

Irish was charged with murder, concealment of a human corpse, tampering with physical evidence and criminal possession of a weapon.

Sister of Bollywood star accused of killing two in Queens arson

On Nov. 26 Aliya Fakhri, the sister of Bollywood movie star Nargis Fakhri, was arrested for murder and arson, accused of setting the fire that killed her ex Edward Jacobs, 35, and his new pal Anastasia "Star" Ettienne, 33.

The blaze was set in a cluttered two-story garage Jacobs was squatting in behind a private home in Jamaica, Queens on Nov. 2. Jacobs was asleep when Fakhri allegedly came in screaming "You're going to die today!" before starting the fire, according to a witness.

Ettienne died while trying to wake Jacobs to get him out of the burning garage.

"It was an abusive relationship," a man who escaped said of the relationship between Jacobs and the accused arsonist. "She told everybody [in the past] she was going to burn his house down, that she was going to kill him. We just laughed at her."

Murder of Bronx woman, allegedly by ex-celebrity photographer, sends victim's boyfriend spiraling to his own death

The murder of Jacklyn Timinski — struck in the head with a kettlebell by former celebrity photographer Benjamin Lozovsky, according to cops — sent her boyfriend Juan Boria on a downward spiral of grief that included a string of arrests, desperate attempts

to get him help and finally ending with him being fatally stabbed weeks later in a tussle with a homeless man over a box to sleep in.

Lozovsky, 41, was found naked and bloody on Timinski's Bronx lawn Sept. 8, after police say he smashed her head in with a kettlebell. According to law enforcement sources, the pair had gone to the victim's home to do drugs.

Boria, 51, continued living among blood spatter in the Throgs Neck house where Timinski was attacked and was not taking medication for his bipolar disorder, according to his heartbroken son Joshua Boria. After an encounter with Robert Brent, a 52-year-old homeless man who was mourning his own loss, Boria was fatally stabbed in the abdomen in the bustling commercial

Continued on page 12

THE YEAR IN REVIEW



Custody battle has a bloody end near Gracie Mansion in July. BARRY WILLIAMS FOR NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

Parents accused of starving boy, 4, to death

Continued from page 11

area of the Bronx called the Hub on Oct. 26.

Lozovsky is due back in court Jan. 15.

Parents accused of starving 4-year-old boy to death in Harlem home

It was horrific enough that the boy was being starved to death by his own parents. But what took 4-year-old Jahmeik Modlin's death over the top was that he died in a Harlem apartment that was reportedly stocked with food.

Prosecutors said the home where the malnourished boy lived his last days was a feces-covered hellhole where the cupboards were locked with zip ties and the refrigerator was turned to the wall so Jahmeik and his sisters couldn't open it.

His sisters, ages 5, 6 and 7, managed to survive under the same conditions, although none of them were able to ingest solid food when they were rescued in October.

The boy's mom, Nytavia Ragsdale, 26, was jailed and charged with criminally negligent homicide and endangering the welfare of a child after Jahmeik was found unconscious, malnourished and suffering

from hypothermia outside their apartment on Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Blvd. near W. 145th St.

Days later, the boy's father, Laron Modlin, 25, was arrested on similar charges. Relatives said the family had been on the radar of the city's child welfare agency, whose handling of the case is being reviewed by the city's Department of Investigation.

Body dismembered in Bronx, then torched on Yonkers street

Grisly doesn't begin to describe this head-scratching caper, which somehow managed to link Yonkers and the South Bronx to a pair of severed hands found in a bleach-filled electric cooking pot.

It started with burning body parts dumped under a Yonkers bridge in August that cops traced back to a Bronx apartment. There, investigators found a black bag in a freezer that contained a human leg in an apartment in a building on Rogers Place near Dawson St.

Caught on camera were a man and a woman who rented a room in the apartment.

Muhammad Aadil, 40, and Ronei Harris, 18, were indicted for murder and related charges in the death of 46-year-old Lutalo

Henderson, the Bronx DA said.

Aadil and Harris allegedly killed Henderson after a dispute in the home that Aadil shared with Henderson, the Bronx DA said. The two then wrapped the torso in trash bags and took it in a shopping cart to Yonkers on a Metro-North train.

They set the shopping cart on fire under the Oak Street Bridge, the DA said.

Police, using surveillance videos, traced the murder back to the Bronx.

"This was brutal disregard for a human being," Bronx District Attorney Darcel Clark said when she announced the indictments.

Custody battle ends in murder-suicide down the street from Gracie Mansion

New York City was rocked by a murder-suicide in July that unfolded on an Upper East Side street just a block away from the mayor's heavily guarded residence.

Police said single mom Marisa Galloway, 45, was shot to death by her former mother-in-law in a bitter custody battle that reached its deadly climax just a half block away from Gracie Mansion.

Shooting suspect and grandmother Kathleen Leigh's son is the father of Galloway's 4-year-old daughter. Authorities said Leigh,

65, escalated the contentious custody fight by shooting Galloway outside a white Honda Civic on E. 88th St. around 9 a.m. on July 26 before shooting herself.

Galloway's other daughter, a 1-year-old girl, was in the car. She was unhurt.

In a suicide note, Leigh described herself as a terminally ill cancer patient and accused Galloway of child abuse, an accusation debunked by city children's services investigators.

Galloway was a special education teacher, described by neighbors and friends as a loving, doting mother.

Artist murdered by boyfriend benefactor in upscale Hamptons spa

A Brooklyn artist was murdered in October at an upscale Hamptons wellness spa by an ex-boyfriend who later killed himself in a shocking murder-suicide filled with emotion and intrigue.

Sabina Rosas, 33, was part of the 2021 Technology Immersion Program at Harvestworks, a New York-based nonprofit that helps artists creating work with technology. She received a scholarship from the organization that spring.

Continued on page 14



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THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Maybe the most disturbing of all came last

Continued from page 12

More recently, Rosas had won her first residency, which was due to begin in Portugal in November. She launched a GoFundMe over the summer asking for contributions as a birthday gift.

Her boyfriend Thomas Gannon, who went on to kill her, contributed \$1,000, making him the top donor.

"You have an amazing gift and soon all the world will see," he posted on the fundraising page.

"I love you."

Rosas, 33, was staying at the posh Shou Sugi Ban House in Water Mill with Gannon, 56, who was later seen leaving the spa alone, according to cops. He was found dead of a self-inflicted gunshot wound in his home in Honesdale, Pa., according to Suffolk County police.

Rosas was married, but was estranged from her husband, authorities said.

Homeless woman set on fire on Brooklyn train

He set her on fire, then he watched her burn.

That's what cop said a Guatemalan immigrant did to a homeless woman on

a Brooklyn subway train last Sunday, just days before Christmas.

Cops said Sebastian Zapeta-Calil, 33, approached the sleeping woman without saying a word and set fire to her clothes, engulfing her in flames "in a matter of seconds."

Surveillance video appears to show him sitting on a bench watching the woman burn as police officers quickly responded around 7:30 a.m. on an F train pulling into the Coney Island-Stillwell Ave. station in Brooklyn.

Zapeta-Calil has been charged with first- and second-degree murder and first-degree arson, according to police.

"The depravity of this horrific crime is beyond comprehension, and my office is committed to bringing the perpetrator to justice. This gruesome and senseless act of violence against a vulnerable woman will be met with the most serious consequences," Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzalez said in a statement.

Police released body camera images of the suspect to the public, and three high school-age New Yorkers recognized him and called the police, officials said.



Sabina Rosas was killed in an upscale spa in the Hamptons.



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THE YEAR IN REVIEW

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

As much as theaters are humming right now with “Wicked” and “Moana 2” bringing moviegoers by the droves, it’s been a fairly bruising movie year.

In between the blockbusters, though, the challenge of not just capturing the attention of audiences but of simply getting to the screen feels more perilous than ever. The year was marked by filmmakers who wagered everything from a \$120 million pile (Francis Ford Coppola’s “Megalopolis”) to their life (the dissident Iranian filmmaker Mohammad Rasoulof’s “The Seed of the Sacred Fig”).

Considering the paths of “The Apprentice” (about Donald Trump’s rise in New York) or the Israeli occupation documentary “No Other Land” (which still lacks a distributor), the question of what gets released was a common and chilling refrain.

That also made the movies that managed their way through — the ones that told urgent stories or dazzled with originality at a time of sequel stranglehold — all the more worth celebrating.

Here are The Associated Press’ film writers Jake Coyle and Lindsey Bahr’s picks for the best movies of 2024:

Jake Coyle’s top movies of 2024

1. “All We Imagine As Light”

Was this a great year for movies? The consensus seems to be no, and that may be true. But it did produce some stone-cold masterpieces, none more so than Payal Kapadia’s sublime tale of three women in modern Mumbai. It’s a grittily real movie graced, in equally parts, by keen-eyed documentary and dreamy poetry. Beguilingly, “All We Imagine As Light” grows more profound as it cleaves further from reality.

2. “Nickel Boys”

Like Kapadia, RaMell Ross started out in documentary before bringing a singular eye to narrative film. His adaptation of Colson Whitehead’s Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, about two Black teenagers at an abusive reform school in the Jim Crow South, is shot mostly from the two boys’ first-person perspective. The result is one of the most visually inventive American films of the decade and, just as certainly, one of the richest in empathy.

3. “Anora”

So many of the reasons to go to the movies — to laugh at a clattering comic set piece, to witness the breakthrough of a young performer, to be devastated by something tragic — are contained within the thrillingly kitchen-sink “Anora.” It’s a concoction that only Sean Baker could conceive, let alone execute. (And, by the way, if you liked Yura Borisov’s performance alongside Mikey Madison, seek out 2021’s “Compartment No. 6.”)

4. “I Saw the TV Glow”

Jane Schoenbrun’s sophomore feature — a dramatic leap forward for the filmmaker and a transfixing trans parable — is a chilling 1990s coming of age in which a “Buffy the Vampire Slayer”-like series called “The Pink Opaque” offers a possible portal out of drab suburban life and other suffocations. It feels

ONSCREEN BEST IN

Films that overcame challenges of capturing attention of audiences and getting to the screen in 2024 — and therefore all the more worth celebrating — include “Nickel Boys (main this page),” “The Fall Guy (below),” “Sing Sing (top far r.)” and “Anora (bottom far r.)” NEON; APPLE TV+; A24; UNIVERSAL PICTURES



chillingly, beautifully ripped out of Schoenbrun’s soul — and it’s got a killer soundtrack.

5. “Green Border”

The fury of Agnieszka Holland’s searing migrant drama is suitably calibrated to the crisis. Along the Poland-Belarus border, a small band of migrants from Syria and Afghanistan are sent back and forth across a wooded borderland — sometimes they’re even literally tossed — in a grim game of “not in my backyard.” It’s not an easy movie

to watch, nor should it be. To keep up with the times, more uncomfortable movies like this may be needed.

6. “The Fall Guy”

We also need more big, fun movies with Ryan Gosling. David Leitch’s affectionate ode to stunt performers manages to celebrate behind-the-scenes crew members while simultaneously being completely carried by two of our most winning movie stars in Gosling and Emily Blunt.

The societal value of watching Gosling cry to Taylor Swift’s “All Too Well” should not be underestimated.

7. “The Seed of the Sacred Fig”

The way the Iranian filmmaker Mohammad Rasoulof, who was forced into exile while editing this, condenses real-life social upheaval into a family drama makes this a uniquely disquieting film. Like Kurosawa’s “Stray Dog,” Rasoulof’s movie centers around a lost handgun. The subsequent

Movies

TOUGH TIME FOR FILM BIZ



search reveals just how deeply the Iranian government's policies have seeped into the most intimate relationships.

8. "Ghostlight" and "Sing Sing"

We had not one but two movies this year that captured the therapeutic properties of theater. Each, almost unbelievably, deftly eludes tipping into cliché thanks to abiding compassion and authenticity in the performances.

Alex Thompson and Kelly O'Sullivan's

"Ghostlight" is about a grieving father, a construction worker (an exceptional Keith Kupferer), who reluctantly joins a local production of "Romeo and Juliet." "Sing Sing" dramatizes a real rehabilitation prison program. Its screening at Sing Sing, where many of its performers were once incarcerated, was easily the most moving moviegoing experience of the year for me. "Ghostlight" is available for digital rental.

9. "His Three Daughters"

In Azazel Jacobs' funny, tender and raw family drama, a flawless cast of Carrie Coon, Elizabeth Olsen and Natasha Lyonne play three sisters caring for their dying father. In close quarters and with death looming, it all comes out. Streaming on Netflix.

10. "Made in England: The Films of Powell and Pressburger"

In between large, lengthy epics, Martin Scorsese has made some of his most interesting and personal films. In this, Scorsese

narrates for director David Hinton his lifetime journey with the films of Powell and Pressburger, the great filmmakers of "The Red Shoes," "I Know Where I'm Going!" and "Black Narcissus."

As an expression of movie love — of the power of film to transfix you, to change your life, to live alongside you as you grow older — "Made in England" could hardly be more effusive. Such insightful, passionate

Continued on page 18

THE YEAR IN REVIEW



Timothée Chalamet and Zendaya star in “Dune: Part Two,” a grand and thrilling adventure that could make sci-fi nerds out of us all. WARNER BROS. PICTURES VIA AP

Variety name of game for top movies

Continued from page 17

testimonies are an increasingly necessary lifeblood in a film culture where algorithms are typically blind to the treasures of cinema’s past.

Lindsey Bahr’s top movies of 2024

1. “Blitz”

Steve McQueen tells a different kind of World War II story in “Blitz,” a powerful and clear-eyed odyssey through London during the German bombing raid. Structured around a 9-year-old boy (Elliott Hefner) trying to make his way back to his mother (Saoirse Ronan), it is a sneakily revolutionary glimpse into and poignant elegy for worlds unexplored and stories untold.

2. “All We Imagine As Light”

Poetic and transportive, Kapadia’s Mumbai-set film explores the vibrations of a thrilling but brutally impersonal metropolis, the lives of three women in different stages and predicaments (forbidden love, loneliness, eviction) and

the delicacy of female friendships.

3. “Thelma”

Josh Margolin’s debut feature about a ninetysomething (played by the incomparable June Squibb) on a mission to get \$10,000 back from a scammer is so modest in scope and effortlessly enjoyable it’s easy to undervalue. This independent film feels as sharp and put together as a yesteryear studio comedy. It’s pure joy and one of those movies you could recommend to anyone.

4. “Anora”

It takes a special kind of movie to transcend the echo chamber of arthouse cinophilia and become a cultural moment, but Baker’s “Anora” did it. A classic in waiting, Baker and his star Mikey Madison, who lifts the streetwise stripper trope, take audiences on an unforgettable ride in this fairy tale that falls apart in spectacular fashion.

5. “Nickel Boys”

Ross transforms Whitehead’s Pulitzer-winning novel about the abuses and

generational trauma of a reform school in the Jim Crow South for the screen by employing first-person point of view. It’s a bold choice that pays off, transporting you into the heartbreaking reality of Elwood and Turner, two characters you won’t soon forget.

6. “Dune: Part Two”

Decades of dreaming about a film does not always seem to benefit said film, but Denis Villeneuve was able to translate his passion for Frank Herbert’s opus into pure cinematic spectacle, and doom, about the rise of a leader. It’s a grand and thrilling adventure that could make sci-fi nerds out of us all.

7. “A Real Pain”

Jesse Eisenberg grapples with modern and historical trauma in the disarmingly entertaining road trip film “A Real Pain,” which he wrote, directed and stars in alongside Kieran Culkin as cousins on a Holocaust tour in Poland.

8. “The Outrun”

Saoirse Ronan delivered one of the year’s best performances as an alcoholic who goes further and further into seclusion in the Orkney Islands in an attempt to start life anew. Films about addiction are hardly novel, and yet Nora Fingscheidt captures the wild highs, lows and in-betweens of the human condition with unapologetic honesty.

9. “Evil Does Not Exist”

Ryūsuke Hamaguchi’s followup to “Drive My Car” takes us to a small mountain village in Japan, where residents are hesitant to welcome a big city company with plans to set up a glamping site. It’s a slow-burn kind of experience, with community debates about mountain streams and septic tanks that might not sound terribly exciting and yet it’s one of the year’s most haunting and effective.

10. “Good One”

It was a great year for first-time directors, including India Donaldson, whose quietly brilliant character study of a teenage girl on a camping trip with her dad and his friend resonates even a year later.



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1 bedroom		\$828	6	→	1 person	\$33,395 - \$43,480		\$1,328	1	→	1 person	\$50,538 - \$65,220	
					2 people	\$33,395 - \$49,720					2 people	\$50,538 - \$74,580	
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2 bedroom		\$967	3	→	2 people	\$39,875 - \$49,720		\$1,567	4	→	2 people	\$60,446 - \$74,580	
					3 people	\$39,875 - \$55,920					3 people	\$60,446 - \$83,880	
					4 people	\$39,875 - \$62,120					4 people	\$60,446 - \$93,180	
					5 people	\$39,875 - \$67,080					5 people	\$60,446 - \$100,620	

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1 bedroom		\$2,579	2	→	1 person	\$93,429 - \$119,570		\$3,298	1	→	1 person	\$113,075 - \$141,310
					2 people	\$93,429 - \$136,730					2 people	\$113,075 - \$161,590
					3 people	\$93,429 - \$153,780					3 people	\$113,075 - \$181,740
2 bedroom		\$3,068	1	→	2 people	\$111,909 - \$136,730		\$3,939	1	→	2 people	\$135,052 - \$161,590
					3 people	\$111,909 - \$153,780					3 people	\$135,052 - \$181,740
					4 people	\$111,909 - \$170,830					4 people	\$135,052 - \$201,890
					5 people	\$111,909 - \$184,470					5 people	\$135,052 - \$218,010

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⁴ Minimum income listed may not apply to applicants with Section 8 or other qualifying rental subsidies. Asset limits also apply.

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Apply online or through mail. To apply online, please go to <https://housingconnect.nyc.gov/PublicWeb/>. To request an application **by mail, send a self-addressed envelope to:** Tryon North C/O Housing Partnership Development Corporation, 253 West 35th Street 3rd Floor New York, NY 10001. Only send one application per development. Do not submit duplicate applications. Do not apply online and also send in a paper application. Applicants who submit more than one application may be disqualified.

When is the Deadline?

Applications must be postmarked or submitted online no later than February 3rd 2025. Late applications will not be considered.

What Happens After You Submit an Application?

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

People sing mournful Christmas carols Saturday at the Lychakiv Military Cemetery in Lviv, Ukraine.



Ukraine's shaky move

Unable to capitalize on offensive, it risks talking big losses

BY SAMYA KULLAB
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KYIV, Ukraine — Five months after their shock offensive into Russia, Ukrainian troops are bloodied and demoralized by the rising risk of defeat in Kursk, a region some want to hold at all costs while others question the value of having gone in at all.

Battles are so intense that some Ukrainian commanders can't evacuate the dead.

Communication lags and poorly timed tactics have cost lives, and troops have little way to counterattack, seven frontline soldiers and commanders told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

Since being caught unaware by the lightning Ukrainian incursion, Russia has amassed more than 50,000 troops in the region, including some from its ally North Korea.

Precise numbers are hard to obtain, but Moscow's counterattack has killed and wounded thousands and the overstretched Ukrainians have lost more than 40% of the 380 square miles of Kursk they seized

in August.

Its full-scale invasion three years ago left Russia holding a fifth of Ukraine, and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has hinted that he hopes controlling Kursk will help force Moscow to negotiate an end to the war.

But five Ukrainian and Western officials in Kyiv who spoke on condition of anonymity said they fear gambling on Kursk will weaken the whole 621-mile front line, and Ukraine is losing precious ground in the east.

"We have, as they say, hit a hornet's nest. We have stirred up another hotspot," said Stepan Lutsiv, a major in the 95th Airborne Assault Brigade.

Army chief Oleksandr Syrskyi has said Ukraine launched the operation because officials thought Russia was about to launch a new attack on northeast Ukraine.

It began Aug. 5 with an order to leave Ukraine's Sumy region for what they thought would be a nine-day raid to stun the enemy. It became an occupation that Ukrainians welcomed as their smaller country gained leverage and embarrassed

Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Shocked by the success achieved largely because the Russians were caught by surprise, the Ukrainians were ordered to advance beyond the original mission to the town of Korenevo, 16 miles into Russia. That was one of the first places where Russian troops counterattacked.

By early November the Russians began regaining territory rapidly.

Some frontline commanders said conditions are tough, morale is low and Ukrainian troops are questioning command decisions, even the very purpose of occupying Kursk.

Ukrainian soldiers said they were not prepared for the aggressive Russian response in Kursk, and cannot counterattack or pull back.

"There's no other option. We'll fight here because if we just pull back to our borders, they won't stop; they'll keep advancing," said one drone unit commander.

U.S. longer-range weapons have slowed the Russian advance, and North Korean soldiers who joined the fighting last month are easy targets for drones and artillery

because they lack combat discipline and often move in large groups in the open, Ukrainian troops said.

On Monday, Zelenskyy said 3,000 North Korean soldiers had been killed and wounded.

But they seem to be learning from their mistakes, soldiers added, by becoming more adept at camouflaging near forested lines.

One recent clash took place near Vorontsovo tract, a forested area between the settlements of Kremenne and Vorontsovo.

Until two weeks ago, the area was under Ukraine's control. Last week part of it was lost to Russian forces, and Ukrainian troops fear they will reach a crucial logistics route.

Eyeing frontline losses in the eastern region known as the Donbas — where Russia is closing in on a crucial supply hub — some soldiers are more vocal about whether Kursk has been worth it.

"All the military can think about now is that Donbas has simply been sold," the platoon commander said. "At what price?"



Israel says Hamas uses hosp, detains its boss

BY WAFAA SHURAF
AND SAM MEDNICK
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DEIR AL BALAH, Gaza Strip — Israel's army detained the director of one of northern Gaza's last functioning hospitals as overnight strikes elsewhere in the territory killed nine people, including children, Palestinian medical officials said Saturday.

Israel's military alleged that Hamas militants were using the facility and said more than 240 people were detained.

Gaza's Health Ministry said Dr. Hussam Abu Safiya, director of Kamal Adwan Hospital, was arrested Friday along with dozens of other staff and taken to an interrogation center. The ministry said Israeli troops stormed the hospital and forced many staff and patients outside and told them to strip in winter weather, according to the ministry.

Israel's military Saturday confirmed it detained the hospital

director for questioning and called him a suspected Hamas operative while providing no evidence. It said it encircled the hospital and special forces entered and found weapons in the area. It said militants fired on its forces and they were "eliminated."

An Israeli military spokesman, Lt. Col. Nadav Shoshani, later asserted that most of those detained are Hamas operatives.

On Friday, the military denied it had entered or set fire to the hospital complex but acknowledged it had ordered people outside. The military repeated claims that Hamas militants operate inside Kamal Adwan, which hospital officials have denied.

The hospital has been hit multiple times over the past three months by Israeli troops waging an offensive in largely isolated northern Gaza against Hamas fighters it says have regrouped.

MedGlobal, the humanitarian organization for which Abu Safiya worked, said it was gravely concerned about him. It said the

incident follows the October detention of five other staffers, calling it an "alarming and egregious pattern of targeting medical personnel and spaces."

Israel's nearly 15-month-old campaign of bombardment and ground offensives has devastated Gaza's health sector. The World Health Organization has said the raid on Kamal Adwan has put northern Gaza's last major health facility "out of service" after growing restrictions on access, adding that "this horror must end and health care must be protected."

The Health Ministry said conditions for Kamal Adwan patients who were relocated to the damaged Indonesian Hospital nearby — also raided in the past — were "extremely difficult."

The Israeli military statement Saturday said 350 patients along with medical personnel had been evacuated from Kamal Adwan in recent weeks, and another 95 patients, caregivers and medical personnel were evacuated to the Indonesian Hospital during the

operation.

The war has killed more than 45,400 Palestinians and wounded more than 108,000 others, according to the Health Ministry. Its count does not distinguish between civilians and combatants.

Since October, Israel's offensive has virtually sealed off the northern Gaza areas of Jabaliya, Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahiya. Tens of thousands of Palestinians were forced out, but thousands are believed to remain in the area where Kamal Adwan and two other hospitals are located.

Israel has vowed to destroy Hamas after the militants' Oct. 7, 2023, attack on southern Israel in which they killed roughly 1,200 people and abducted some 250 others. Some 100 Israelis remain captive in Gaza, and around a third are believed to be dead.

Israel continued attacks Saturday across Gaza.

The Health Ministry said Saturday that 48 people had been killed in the past 24 hours by Israeli fire.

Meanwhile, in Lebanon, Syria's

embassy suspended consular services Saturday, a day after two relatives of deposed Syrian President Bashar Assad were arrested at the Beirut airport with allegedly forged passports.

Two Lebanese security officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the suspension was ordered because the passports belonging to Assad's relatives — the wife and daughter of one of his cousins — were believed to have been forged at the embassy.

Assad's uncle Rifaat Assad — who has been indicted in Switzerland on charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity — had flown out the day before using his real passport and was not stopped, the officials said.

The U.K.-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reported Saturday that 70 Syrians, including former army officers, were handed over by a Lebanese security delegation to the security forces of the new Syrian government, led by the former insurgent group Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, or HTS.

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IT'S MURDER – AND ALL

Teen wanted to dance to new music craze; mom didn't like it

BY MARA BOVSUN

Earl Eugene Ellingson, 23, returned home from work on Jan. 13, 1925, and found his mother, Anna, 46, sprawled across her bed with a bullet in her brain. Right away, he knew what had happened.

"Dot killed my mother," he told police when they arrived. Dot was Earl's little sister, Dorothy Ellingson, 16, the family's problem child.

The issue was Dot's desire to follow her dreams, which included boozing, partying, and spending her nights with jazz musicians in the seediest sections of her hometown of San Francisco. She had been making trouble since she was 14, and her parents – Anna and Dot's father, Joseph, a tailor – were struggling to control her.

Dot fled before her brother made his horrifying discovery. Police immediately started a statewide hunt for the young fugitive.

But even before she was in custody, before she had a chance to utter a confession or denial, newspapers declared what was wrong with her.

They called this new disease of young people "Jazz-mania."

Cafes used the term to promote sizzling entertainment. But mental health professionals and religious leaders coined it as a synonym for degeneracy, saying the music sparked a "mad rush after pleasure," as one clergyman noted in the San Francisco Examiner.

On the morning after the murder, detectives found Dot asleep in a boardinghouse about 2 miles from her home. At first, she denied the slaying, blaming it on a boyfriend.

But it took just 35 minutes for her to break down.

"JAZZ-MAD GIRL KILLS MOTHER," was how the Daily News summed it up on Jan. 16.

"I did it. I shot her. I might as well have told you in the first place," she said with an eerie calm.

"Mother scolded me because of the parties I went to and the men I went with and a whole lot of things that happened. She was old-fashioned, and I thought that my life was my own and I was going to live it my own way," The News reported her saying.

Dot knew that her brother had a Colt automatic in his room, so when her mother went into the kitchen for a moment, she grabbed the gun.

"I went back to the bedroom in which both she and I slept. My mother had come in before me and was putting on her shoes. I was in the doorway when I saw my mother. I raised the gun and fired one shot. She fell back on the bed."

After that, Dot packed her clothes, swiped \$45 from her mother's dresser, and got a room in the boardinghouse.

Hours after she murdered her mom, the red-headed flapper was living it up at another party.

Anna Ellingson (below left) tried to curb her party-time daughter in San Francisco in 1925, with tragic results. Anna's husband, Joseph (right), believed his daughter, who did the deed, was insane.

YORK DAILY NEWS FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 1925



"I had a good time," she admitted. "I sang and danced with the rest of them. It was just like other parties—as though nothing had happened."

Newspapers gave the young killer nicknames like "Jazz Baby, Tiger Girl," and "Fiery Dot." She lapped up the publicity, even writing columns baring the secrets of her jazz-mad soul.

One thing that struck most reporters was her apparent lack of remorse or grief over this rare crime – matricide, the murder of a mother by her biological child. Anna's murder was said to be the first such case in California.

Dot's pretrial composure vanished by the time she faced the jury in March. She wept, had fits of hysteria, screamed at her lawyers, and fainted several times.

The judge agreed to the request by her defense team to have the murder trial changed to an insanity hearing. The jury was instructed to pass judgment based on the opinions of alienists and those closest to her, including her grieving father. Asked about her mental state, he said, "I am confident she is insane."

The jury agreed, and she was carted off to a state hospital then known as the Napa Asylum for the Insane for observation.

In a few short weeks, doctors at the institution offered their opinion.

"TIGER GIRL FACES NEW TRIAL," the Daily News blared in big, bold letters on Aug. 9. "Flapper-Slayer, Sane, in Court Again Tuesday"

At her second trial, which started in August, her attorneys blamed the killing on a sad home life that sent her seeking love in jazz clubs. "Dorothy Ellingson – not the jazz girl, but the girl who never had a chance," was how her attorney described her in his closing argument. It moved some jurors to tears.

Instead of first-degree murder and life

THAT JAZZ

and got a bullet in the head



in prison, the jury agreed on a verdict of manslaughter, which meant a maximum of 10 years. She was out in six and a half. The San Francisco Examiner ran a front-page series in which Dot wrote of her times behind bars.

A year later, she was in the news again when she was accused of stealing clothes and jewelry from a roommate.

By the 1950s, she was married and divorced and had a son and daughter. She hid her past behind her married name — Mrs. Diane Stafford.

Dot appeared once more in the news before her death at age 59 in 1967. In

1955, she was arrested for stealing \$2,000 in jewelry and cash from her employer and was sent to the county jail for six months.

Fingerprints revealed her true identity, which was reported in newspapers.

She decided to tell her son about the murder that she had hidden from him for his whole life.

At the time, they occupied opposite cells in the Marin County jail. UPI reported the boy had been locked up for a burglary, the latest in a series of crimes.

“He took it like a little man,” Dot said. “He said it made him understand why I stuck by him through his problems.”

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PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE WORLD





GRINCH AND BEAR IT: A participant wearing a Grinch mask jumps into the water during the 115th edition of the Copa Nadal (Christmas Cup) swimming race in Barcelona's Port Vell. The traditional 200-meter Christmas swimming race gathered more than 450 participants. GETTY



COOL ART: Men work on ice sculptures during the 37th Sun Island International Snow Sculpture Art Expo in Harbin, in China's northeastern Heilongjiang Province. AFP



BABY DIED 50,000 YEARS AGO: In Russia's Mammoth Museum, scientists show the remains of a 50,000-year-old baby mammoth uncovered by melting permafrost in Siberia. AP



PARADE FOR A PATRON SAINT: A group of men carry an image of St. Benedict as they participate in the cultural and religious celebration Marujada, a traditional festival that pays homage to St. Benedict (Sao Benedito) in the city of Bragança, Para State, Brazil. AFP

SUNDAY

OPINION

THE MEANING

Showing the menorah without fear

BE OUR GUEST

BY JOSHUA M. DAVIDSON

The festival of Chanukah commemorates the Maccabees' victory over the Syrian tyrant Antiochus IV, who had conquered Jerusalem and seized the Temple in his efforts to Hellenize Judea. Resisting assimilation, the Maccabees defeated the Syrian army, and reclaiming the Temple, they kindled again its holy lamps with only a small cruse of oil.

According to the Talmud, Chanukah celebrates the miracle of that oil lasting eight days. But the greater significance remains the Jewish community's refusal to bend and disappear, or to hide.

Last December, a congregant emailed me a photograph of her living room window decorated with an Israeli flag and a Chanukah menorah. "In my window like you said we're supposed to do," she wrote. "I was surprised that some Jews said they were afraid to put the menorah in the window, afraid somebody would smash it. But I am a Michigan Wolverine and we're fearless."

During those early weeks of Israel's war in Gaza, as posters of the hostages were being torn down and Jews whose dress so identified them were being assaulted, the Jewish community awakened to a reality we should have anticipated because we had seen it before: how hatred of Israel is intertwined with hatred of Jews, anti-Zionism with antisemitism. While I admired this congregant's courage, I understood why others were afraid.

A decade ago, the Jew-hatred we feared most came from the far right, from white nationalists and replacement theorists like Robert Bowers who murdered 11 at Pittsburgh's Tree of Life Synagogue, and from Islamist extremists.

Until recently, the antisemitism of the left still operated primarily through boycotts, divestment, sanctions, and other insidious channels. It lurked beneath the surface in social exchanges and academic spaces. But this past year it burst into the open, intimidating and menacing, and claiming a right to free expression — nowhere more than on college campuses.

The campus has long been home to activists who conflate the Palestinian-Israeli conflict with other liberation struggles and implicate Israel's Jewish supporters in every societal injustice.

But for even longer, the academy has harbored educators who exploit the lectern as a pulpit

to inveigh against Israel, some employing the grotesque antisemitism of Holocaust inversion characterizing Israel as the Third Reich, others demonizing Israel as a colonialist regime, as if Jewish families who have been living on the land for centuries, or those who arrived from displaced persons camps, had some other home to go back to.

But at some universities today, being a Jew on campus has become an act of courage, every walk to class a gauntlet of verbal bullying and physical harassment. According to an ADL/Hillel survey, 73% of Jewish students claim to have seen or experienced antisemitism in the aftermath of Hamas's attack. Prior to Oct. 7, 2023, 64% said they had felt comfortable revealing their Jewish identity; after Oct. 7, only 39% did.

Through more history than less, Jews have faced danger. That is why the Talmudic instruction to display the Chanukah menorah is nuanced: "Our rabbis taught: it is incumbent to place the Chanukah lamp by the door of one's house on the outside. If one dwells in an upper chamber, he places it at the window nearest the street. But in times of danger it is sufficient to place it on the table." In other words, demonstrate your Jewish identity proudly, if it is safe.

For more than a year, that is the choice many Jews have been compelled to make: to wear their yarmulke in public, or cover it with a baseball cap; to display their Star of David necklace, or tuck it inside their sweater; to brave the walk to synagogue, or tune in online.

In 1993, Billings, Montana endured a rash of white supremacist activity culminating in a December attack on a Jewish home, where a brick was thrown through a window with a menorah in it. The city responded in remarkable fashion. Residents of all faiths and of no faith at all placed pictures of Chanukah menorahs, published in the Billings Gazette for that purpose, in their windows. Together, the city beat back the forces of hate.

Fortunately, most Jews I know have responded like my proud congregant, the Michigan Wolverine. They have chosen not to be intimidated. And on Chanukah they will light the candles and place them in their windows for all to bear witness to the enduring miracle of Jewish survival.

But what a statement it would make for other New Yorkers to take a page out of the Billings Gazette and do it too!

Davidson is the senior rabbi of Congregation Emanu-El of the City of New York.



OF CHANUKAH

My holiday wish for an Israel at war

BE OUR GUEST

BY BEN KRULL

This Chanukah I join Jews around the world in celebrating Israel's recent military victories, that parallel the holiday's commemoration of the Maccabees' triumphant war against the powerful Syrians, more than two millennia ago. Yet, in disabling her enemies Israel may have elevated internal forces that will make it painful for liberal Zionists like myself to embrace the Jewish state.

I had neither visited nor cared much about Israel until my late 30s, when I toured the country. The endless desert sand, the gold-topped Dome of the Rock set against a cloudless sky, the black-garbed Haredi set against the Western Wall's white stone, the uniformed soldier with a rifle draped over his shoulder, carrying a challah loaf, the Holocaust survivor sobbing as he told his story of survival to our tour group, filled a hole in my psyche I never knew existed.

I suddenly felt linked to the Jewish state and its biblical promise to be a light among the nations.

When I returned to New York City I took Jewish education courses, to learn about my religious heritage. I eventually married an observant woman, who has many Israeli relatives.

My Jewish immersion coincided with the hopefulness of the Oslo accords. A nation great enough to make peace with its enemies became my lodestar for the Jewish state.

For many years I have done organizing work to promote a peaceful resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. But Israel has drifted far from this vision, culminating in its current government's outspoken goal of annexing the West Bank, while degrading the rights of Arab Israelis.

The 10/7 terror attack and subsequent war against Hamas has coarsened the Israeli psyche. Public opinion polls show that Israelis are mostly unconcerned about the mass casualties in Gaza.

An Israeli I met in Brooklyn, who shared my hopes for a two-state solution, told me that he had no sympathy for Gaza's civilians. According to him, they were all aligned with Hamas.

Several months ago I visited Israel, when four hostages were rescued in a military operation that killed 40 civilians. The nation was understandably ecstatic, but the civilian deaths went unremarked upon by most Israelis. "I know we are a traumatized people, but not to even notice that 40 people

lost their lives," an exasperated Israeli, who I knew from New York, said to me.

"Where has our humanity gone?" she asked.

The next day I had lunch with a friend in Jerusalem, who identified with Israel's political left. "The foreign press highlighted the civilians who were killed," my friend said, talking about the rescue mission. "F---k them."

Driven by the insecurity and shame of centuries of Jewish powerlessness, Israel's military victories can easily translate into a reflexive triumphalism. I fear that Prime Minister Bibi Netanyahu's refusal to heed America's call for restraint, and to prioritize a hostage deal, will be seen as proof that force and confrontation, rather than compromise and negotiation, are the keys to Israel's future; that the extremist's goal of annexing the West Bank and establishing settlements in Gaza will come to define the Jewish zeitgeist.

The prospect of a Zionism that values conflict over coexistence is disorienting. My attachment to Israel and her people are an essential part of my makeup, which could leave me with an unresolvable internal contradiction — an aspect of my identity that clashes with the rest of my persona.

Still, I know Israelis who are fighting against their country's extremist tendencies, through protest and political organizing. During one of my trips to Israel I marched with many of these liberal Zionists in a demonstration against their right-wing government. They are the Israelis I feel closest to, which includes many of my relatives, who are deeply patriotic and deeply disturbed by their homeland's illiberal turn.

With Hamas, Hezbollah, and Iran on the defensive, Israel will have the opportunity to redefine itself. The choices Israelis make will help determine the course of Judaism, and how Jews around the world see themselves.

It is worth noting that the Maccabees were religious zealots, who employed cruelty to enforce their intolerant views. Religious scholars believe that the fictional miracle of one day's worth of oil lasting eight days was added as a way of diluting the story's martial aspect. Hopefully today's military triumph's will not unleash the type of cruelty that will cause future generations of Jews to downplay the IDF's accomplishments.

For this holiday season my wish is that Israel and Jewish communities around the world are bathed in the light of tolerance, rather than the darkness of zealotry.

Krull is a lawyer and writer.



SHUTTERSTOCK

DAILY NEWS EDITORIAL

Emperor Trump

Well before Donald Trump takes the oath of office to begin his second term as president, the man is already spooking the global community with his obsession with making Canada a U.S. state, taking over the Panama Canal and purchasing Greenland from Denmark, all harebrained plots he's rolled out multiple times over the last couple of weeks.

Is Trump actually going to actually attempt to put these land grabs into practice? Who knows; the man's a wrecking ball, and it's often not clear in what direction exactly he'll swing. He's notoriously influenceable by those around him, who can change his mind or reshape his thinking with some well-timed encounters or TV hits.

The notion of buying Greenland, for example, reportedly first came from billionaire Ronald Lauder and was adopted as a pet project by Trump after the then-president saw a map and noted — and we wish we were making this up — that Greenland was very large. “I’m a real estate developer. I look at a corner, I say, ‘I’ve got to get that store for the building that I’m building,’ etc. It’s not that different,” he said, per reporting in the New York Times. Yes, Greenland is in the northeast corner of the continent.

As goofy as Trump has made these ideas — also posting on his social media site about “Governor” Justin Trudeau and using his trademark nonsensical syntax and grammar — this is a manifestation of an outdated idea of territorial expansionism and imperialism.

These are all sovereign countries, and allies to boot, and there are no disputed claims in the least. All three have been very up-front about the

fact that these entreaties are not welcome, and Trump's continued insistence can only be read as straying from odd towards threat. Beyond these territorial claims, Trump has also played fast and loose with national sovereignty in other ways, threatening for example to invade Mexico to fight drug cartels.

Ultimately, he doesn't have to do anything concrete for this to be rather damaging for our international relations, reputation and global standing. Negotiations with Canada or Denmark over anything now will live in the shadow of the president's stated desire to wrest territory or sovereignty from them. Other countries will wonder who's next — will the Amazon catch Trump's eye next, setting off a diplomatic crisis with a cluster of different Latin American nations? Will Taiwan have to worry about not one but two global superpowers encroaching?

Speaking of which, this is all excellent ammunition for the other global imperialists, including China's Xi Jinping and Russia's Vladimir Putin, the latter of whom has now spent years fighting a brutal war of territorial conquest in Ukraine. Every single time that U.S. diplomats or allies raise concerns or complaints over these expansionist designs, the despots will be able to point the finger at Trump and his insistence on growing our borders outwards.

We'll remind Trump and his followers and allies that he ran at least in part on the idea of stepping away from foreign wars and entanglements. An excellent way to set off a conflict is to start too openly coveting another country's land; let's not get to finding out just how much is too much.

Dick Parsons, New Yorker

Dick Parsons, the kid from Queens who grew up to a major player in the corporate, cultural, philanthropic and political worlds, died of cancer on Thursday at age 76. A towering figure (and not just because he stood 6-foot-4), Dick gave back so much to his hometown it's hard to list all of his great deeds.

He ran a lot of important institutions, from Dime Savings Bank to Time Warner to Citigroup to CBS to even the L.A. Clippers, but it was his help in the rescue of the fabled Apollo Theatre that was of special distinction, preserving and expanding the legendary 125th St. home of so much of America's Black artistic creativity.

As a New Yorker, an American and a Black man, that was very important to Parsons, who raised \$100 million in nearly two decades as chairman of the Apollo before he stepped down four years ago, becoming chairman emeritus.

Dick was also right on so many issues, from seeing decades ago Rudy Giuliani's character fatal flaws to the need to maintain merit as the sole admission factor for the specialized high schools.

Up out of John Adams High School in Ozone Park, Parsons found his way to Albany Law School after college in Hawaii. He was a top student and top performer on the bar exam and ended up working for Gov. Nelson Rockefeller, becoming a Rockefeller Republican. He followed Rocky to D.C. when the governor was tapped to be vice president, working in the Ford White House.

There he befriended Giuliani, then at the Justice Department, and when the Democrats won in 1976, they both joined the same law firm back here in New York.

As Parsons rose in business circles, he joined the boards of museums and civil groups and government panels, usually as the chairman. He was Giuliani's chairman of the city Economic Development Corp. until he quit in disgust in 1996 when the mayor was wrongly using government power to hammer Time Warner then in a commercial dispute over carrying the new Fox News Channel on its cable system.

Parsons saw another, terrible side of his old friend that the rest of the world wouldn't see until a few years ago.

When this page exposed the scandal at the Apollo in 1998, how a complacent and weak board dominated by local Harlem pols had left the theater literally falling apart with an empty bank account and an empty stage, the state attorney general brought in Parsons to clean up it. We were bestowed a Pulitzer Prize, but more importantly, the Apollo was saved.

We last saw Dick in March, chatting with him during the opening for the new performing arts stages at the Victoria Theater, the once defunct movie house next to the Apollo which was first envisioned for an Apollo expansion in 2000. It took a long time, but it happened.

And just last week the Apollo became the first non-human to be a Kennedy Center Honoree, with the Tree of Hope being brought to D.C. for the festivities.

In the years since its revitalization under Parsons, the Apollo has been fully restored and has a very busy stage, having even hosted presidential debates. Mayor Adams will make his state of the city speech from the Apollo next week.

We were gratified by the action and most importantly, the Apollo was saved.

N.Y. bans the sale of puppy mill pets

BE OUR GUEST

BY JULIE CASTLE

There is more cause for celebration this holiday season with the New York State Legislature's passing of the Puppy Mill Pipeline Bill, banning the sale of dogs, cats, and rabbits at retail pet stores. New York joins just seven other states, California, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Oregon, Vermont, and Washington in acknowledging the barbaric practices of large-scale commercial breeding, also referred to as puppy mills, by banning the sales of mill bred pets in retail stores.

Pet stores are the smiley faces of a sad, cruel business where economies of scale, cost cutting and profits come at the expense of the physical and mental well-being of the animals. The local pet store is the final link of a supply chain that includes commercial breeders, distributors and transporters each motivated to minimize costs and maximize profits for their link in the chain.

While in this supply chain, puppies and their canine parents are not technically pets, they are livestock according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture which minimally regulates the industry. To all intents and purposes, puppy mills are factory farms, and each puppy or breeding parent are simply bookkeeping entries, no more, no less.

That kind of cold-blooded calculation means that mothers are bred until they are literally used up, veterinary care, quality food, trained staff play time and enrichment all come with costs that cut into profits. The result is often genetic, congenital defects and health issues costing unsuspecting buyers thousands of dollars in care to treat the puppy in which they have a hefty emotional investment.

Worse still, commercial breeders have appropriated rescue and shelter language duping people into thinking they are adopting a pet, rather than buying a pet from an unscrupulous source. While animal shelters struggled to operate during the pandemic due to staffing shortages and curtailed operations, the commercial breeding industry was busy expanding, with dubious marketing tactics, and making purchasing a pet online quick and easy.

Sadly, shutting down the pipeline of cruelty into retail stores is no easy feat. A last-ditch attempt from lawyers representing

breeders was made in New York to overturn the ban, but thankfully did not succeed. And breeders in Maryland unsuccessfully challenged that state's ban on selling dogs and cats in retail stores claiming it was unconstitutional. With only a handful of states with bans, we have a long way to go in ending this horrific industry.

People looking for pets online should be cautious because there are no regulations and it's easy to be led into supporting inhumane commercial breeders.

And it's totally unnecessary! Any pet that you can think of is available for adoption. If you're looking for a specific type of size, color, breed, and personality, they can be found at an animal shelter or rescue.

The New York legislation also allows pet stores to work with shelters to use their space for adoptions.

Partnerships between pet supply retailers and shelters and rescues is nothing new as PetSmart and Petco have been leading the way for years in this area, but it offers an opportunity that is powerful when it comes to ending the killing of pets in communities across the nation.

It's a win-win for the rescues and shelters working diligently to ensure that companion animals find loving homes and for the retailers that positively enhance their brand equity by being part of the lifesaving in their communities. Pets complete families, positively affect our mental and physical well-being, connect us socially and also contribute to the economy.

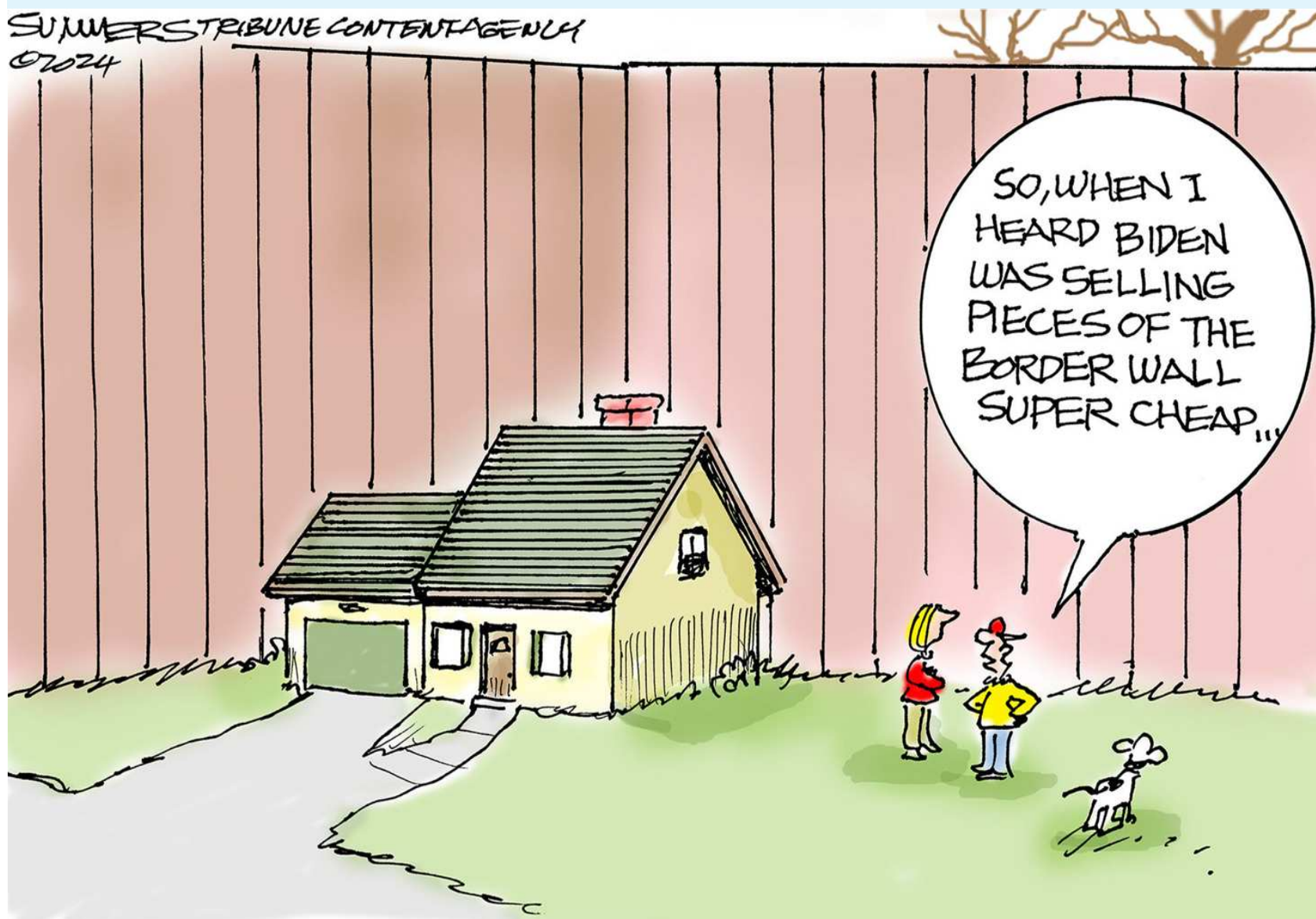
Pairing retail pet supply stores with shelters and rescues makes a lot of business sense because new pet parents need supplies, treats, toys, and food and showcasing shelter pets in a very public forum increases their chance of adoption.

Bravo to Queens state Sen. Mike Gianaris and Manhattan Assemblymember Linda Rosenthal for their stewardship and leadership on this important and historic milestone for the great state of New York. And congratulations to Gov. Hochul for signing the legislation into law and recognizing that there is no place for animal cruelty in the State of New York.

Castle is CEO of Best Friends Animal Society.

Sadly, shutting down the pipeline of cruelty into retail stores is no easy feat.

CARTOON COMMENT

SUMMERSTRIEBUNE CONTENT AGENCY
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BILL BRAMHALL HAS THE DAY OFF

Not in my backyard. It will dwarf the High Line

The views from my living room of my first apartment in New York City were of an abandoned elevated railway line covered in garbage and bramble. I worked for a nonprofit and was staying in what was then the General Theological Seminary founded by Clement Clarke Moore and is now The High Line Hotel, a 60-room luxury hotel with a Parisian-themed garden on 10th Ave.

My old building has come a long way since the desolate stretch of rail and weeds was transformed into the High Line park, an innovative public space and 1½ mile greenway with native plants and mesmerizing views that was developed with public input at every step, including an ideas competition to imagine ways the park could be used.

It has become a destination for New Yorkers and visitors alike to enjoy the scenery, art, and food, and has completely transformed the neighborhood. It is now vital to the community that helped determine what it became.

But that may not last. The developer Related Companies and the Wynn Resorts, which was founded by casino magnate Steve Wynn, are determined to build either a casino or a gargantuan convention center in the Western Rail Yards that will materially change and potentially undo the thriving ecosystem that New York has built around a vibrant public space.

Worse, it serves the interests of developers at the expense of city residents who desperately

BE OUR GUEST

BY JAMES FERRARI

need more affordable housing. This is a story that has played out in many other big cities, and often with disastrous consequences — especially when these decisions are made in boardrooms without the input of the communities they affect.

When you drop a massive, high traffic structure in the middle of an already high density neighborhood in one of the largest cities in the world, the consequences can easily outweigh the benefits.

A convention center, for example, is built for a single purpose. It doesn't inherently add anything to the surrounding community, or the street-level experience. In-person events have bounced back somewhat since the pandemic but are still at lower levels than before, so demand for conference spaces is lower, and what the city spends on new development may not be offset by revenues for a long time.

A casino would introduce other problems, many of which New York has never had to contend with. We have a robust tourism industry, but no one comes here to gamble, and if they did, their money would be spent gambling, and instead of in local restaurants and stores.

Additionally, most casinos make money

from the local populations and with gambling, comes gambling addiction, and what policy makers call “negative externalities,” or side effects that affect the public. These can include increases in crime and lowered productivity. Sports betting in particular has been associated with higher rates of personal bankruptcy, loan defaults, and lower credit scores.

Either of these projects would be detrimental to the High Line, which is one of the most extraordinary public-private parks in the world. It runs in parallel to the Hudson River and gives visitors a unique view of three different West Side neighborhoods — a view that would be partially obstructed by the new developments. For visitors walking the High Line, the northern terminal of the park would be dominated by a structure more at home in Las Vegas than New York.

And all of this is happening in the midst of a housing shortage in New York. The original plans for the development called for a mix of up to 5,700 affordable and market rate apartments, and that has since been shaved down to

1,507 units in the case of a casino and resort, and 2,877 in the case of a conference center.

There are always trade-offs in the negotiations for new developments, but when developers get their way at the expense of local citizens, it makes our cities less livable for people who live there, pay local taxes, and

deserve public spaces to enhance their communities.

Potential revenue for a resort company or another big conference center should not be allowed to cannibalize local businesses, disrupt residential neighborhoods, and ruin public projects like the High Line that the city and its residents have invested their time and resources to

make a lasting mark on how people live in and experience the urban environment.

The New York skyline will always change but its shape should be determined by the residents of the city itself, not developers with dreams of supertall buildings and tourist revenues.

Ferrari is a real estate investor, broker and filmmaker who lives in SoHo.

Either of these projects would be detrimental to one of the most extraordinary public-private parks in the world.

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Saving the world requires radical collaboration

New Rochelle, N.Y.: Voicer Dustin G. Longmire's reasonable message regarding a partnering of church and New York State is reasonable and sorely needed. However, as we have painfully learned on the refugee issue, the absence of clear understanding among local, state and federal powers and of a will to address problems have existed since our Founding Fathers sat down.

The current run of people holding the presidential seal have been less than adequate to preserve the Union and put together a foreign policy sufficient to maintain world order. Rev. Longmire might be successful in solving his intrastate opportunity and yet, clergy of all faiths are facing the existential issue of our time: the preservation, repair and renewal of Earth and its atmosphere. Unfortunately, we have no FDR or Lyndon Johnson to put nationwide programs into motion to challenge unemployment. Johnson, with help from heroic citizens such as MLK and RFK, laid legislative groundwork into the words of the Constitution. Ronald Reagan (photo with Mikhail Gorbachev) did yeoman service to bring the world closer together. Our last two presidents were deficient at every level. One was too handicapped to serve, the other too self-interested — and reappears with a need to act with reckless abandon to wreak havoc.

I call on all who worship, respect human life and love their world to meet with other houses of faith and embrace the need to tikkun olam, or repair the world. Elon Musk can be an important part of the solution. He will leave Donald Trump sooner, not later. This man is brilliant and rich, and could not resist an invitation from the UN to address the issue.

Warren Gross



AP

Lebensraum?

Staten Island: When Musk/Trump take office, they apparently intend to annex the Sudetenland. Oh, sorry, I meant Greenland. This sounds all too familiar.

Victor R. Stanwick

Ridiculous ambitions

Bronx: To Margaret Dabracchio: Please stop drinking the Kool-Aid. The only person responsible for Jan. 6 was Trump. President Biden won fair and square. The recent rant by Trump about wanting Greenland and wanting Canada to be the 51st state — first off, as Denmark said in his first term: Greenland is not for sale. And as far as Canada, don't you think the Canadians might have some say as to where they want to belong? And the audacity to think that a country the size of Canada should be one state. Stop drinking the Kool-Aid.

Martin Sandok

Stop with the clocks

Malverne, L.I.: If there was ever a cause I felt strongly about, it is eradicating spring-ahead daylight saving time! To have the clocks ahead one hour makes for more darkness in the morning. It was thought of by Benjamin Franklin when there was candlelight. Technology has entered the picture with LED lighting. The choice is clear. Send the right message to our children, that mornings are meant for waking up early and heading to school, work, jogging, golfing and

everything that comes with a full, long life. Go to bed early and be wealthy, healthy and wise. This has been Donald Trump's mantra. The clocks are set at standard time in the United States. Let's set the standard for the rest of the world and keep them there. It's the wise choice!

Kosmas Patikoglou

Last line of defense

Jersey City: During the campaign, so many voters appear to have thought that accurate reports on the convicted felon candidate's statements appeared so crazy that they took them for Democratic negative campaign trickery, and were reported to have voted for the man who had never before come within 7 million votes of a majority, giving him an unlikely majority and a victory. Since then, that candidate's initial cabinet proposals and statements have proved that his campaign accurately reflected his positions as even more irresponsible than the disastrous actions of his first term, not only killing hundreds of thousands of Americans during COVID and alienating our allies and destroying our economy, but raising the serious question of what it will take for responsible Republican electors to refuse to cast votes in the Electoral College for this dangerously un-American person, justifying the faith the Founding Fathers had in this last safety valve for our national government.

John Esche

Wait your turn

Brooklyn: Why are Lucifer and his peons acting as though they are already in charge? There can only be one president and one administration at a time. Sadly, they will have at least four years to destroy the world. Jan. 20 is right around the corner. Stand down until then.

June Lowe

Ain't the season

Bronx: This is the season of hope and peace, a time for reflection on the things that matter most. But sadly, there are those who feel disheartened and find themselves in the throes of anger, frustration and uncertainty. I have been a contributor to the Voice of the People for some years now, and can say without any equivocation that Voicers T.S. Fallani and Susan Cassano are consumed with rage and desperation, and have to be two of the nastiest, most immature and vicious people who've ever commented in the Daily News. Their contempt and disrespect for fellow Americans whose values and principles might differ from theirs is loathsome. What makes this even more pathetic is that Cassano concludes her comments with "Merry Christmas." It is hypocritical to express this particular sentiment while you harbor such thoughts. The meaning of Christmas is joy, peace and love, not hate.

Bob Pascarella

Take more care

Brooklyn: Now is the time to evaluate the past year and make

resolutions for the new one. I pray that in 2025, people will show more compassion and consideration for each other — and I hope that politicians will do this as well. If you are making New Year's resolutions, consider these: driving more carefully and alert, showing kindness to the poor and less fortunate, and reading/thinking more carefully and critically. May 2025 be a better year for us all.

Ellen Levitt

Deserving Mets

Bethlehem, Pa.: I'm very happy that David Wright will have his number retired as a N.Y. Met. He worked hard and was a total team player. It's now time for Bud Harrelson and Ed Kranepool's numbers to get the same treatment. Bud was the only one to win two World Series rings as a player and coach, and even managed the team. While playing, he served his military time, even woke up the team going at it with Pete Rose in '73. Ed was an original, playing his whole career for the Mets. He had records at Shea Stadium well before Citi Field was erected. Dwight Gooden, Darryl Strawberry, Ron Darling and Keith Hernandez are all great picks, but at one time had trouble. Bud and Ed were flawless. If Steve Cohen is truly a Mets fan, he should get this done. C'mon, Uncle Steve.

Wayne O'Connor

Keep to quality

Liberty, N.Y.: I was so happy to do the crossword by Jacqueline

E. Matthews instead of Ricky Cruz. Please keep her, the puzzles are so much better.

Loretta Guido

Electoral equalizer

Campbell Hall, N.Y.: Your editorial calling for the end of the Electoral College ("Dump the Electoral College," Dec. 17) fails to include the real reason our forefathers instituted it. If we elected a president based solely on the popular vote, the states of New York, California and Florida would probably elect every president. Smaller states would find it very hard to receive federal funds because there would be no incentive to help the smaller states. The Electoral College allows the votes of all citizens to count equally.

James C. McGovern

Alien destination

Saratoga Springs, N.Y.: What's all the fuss about strange aircraft seen over New Jersey? Remember when Martians invaded Grovers Mill in 1938? History repeats.

Bob English

Drone-shy

Bronx: I heard that Trump will not go to his Bedminster, N.J., home because of the drone sightings. Is he showing his true cowardice? He couldn't serve in the military because of his heel spurs and now he is afraid of drones. I had heel spurs. I had surgery to remove them.

Anna Maria McCorry



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DREAMSTIME

Potential problems with your Roth conversions

BY ELLIOT RAPHAELSON
TRIBUNE CONTENT AGENCY

In several of my columns, I have pointed out the advantages of Roth conversions from traditional IRAs. If you anticipate that you will not access the converted amount for several years, the advantages of tax-free interest, dividends and capital growth are considerable, as is the possibility of future increases in tax rates.

In addition, a conversion will add to the wealth of your beneficiaries because their inheritance will be tax-free. But, before you complete any conversions, take into consideration the possible potential problems.

For example, you can no longer change your mind after you execute a Roth rollover. Based on the latest regulations, you can't reverse the conversion. So, you should review the following

factors before you complete a conversion.

ROLLOVERS AND AGI

The rollover increases your adjusted gross income (AGI) in the year of your conversion, which means you will have increased federal taxes. You may also lose some credits or deductions for that year.

You also need to be aware of possible changes in your income-related monthly adjusted amount (IRMAA) surcharges. The increase in your modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) can result in surcharges associated with your Part B and/or Part D Medicare premiums.

The calculation is based on your MAGI reported two years ago. So, the potential surcharge for 2025 would be based on your reported income from 2023. The surcharge applies to

all premiums associated with Part B and D when your MAGI exceeds the first dollar of the IRMAA specified limits. In order to avoid the surcharge, you should consider taking partial conversions each year rather than taking a large conversion in one year.

You may find yourself facing penalties associated with your estimated tax payments. Make sure that your estimated tax payment is sufficient. For example, if you made quarterly payments of \$10,000 for three quarters, and you expect that because of your conversion your total tax liability for the year of conversion will be \$60,000, you should make a contribution of \$30,000 in the fourth quarter to avoid a penalty.

If you own multiple IRAs, your required RMD is the aggregate total of all your RMDs held by all your custodians

before any conversion can be successfully completed.

Potential problem with a charitable beneficiary: If you plan on naming a charity as a beneficiary of your IRA, it makes no sense to convert that portion of your IRA to a Roth IRA. Charities do not pay any federal taxes when they are the beneficiary of an IRA.

DOES A CONVERSION EVEN MAKE SENSE?

Take into consideration your expected tax bracket upon retirement. If you believe you will be in a lower tax bracket than you are now, reconsider whether a Roth conversion would be cost-effective for you.

If you anticipate that you will be eligible for financial aid in retirement because of your expected income in retirement, reconsider a Roth conversion.

Your conversion can result in a disqualification of financial aid.

If you are on a fixed income and spending all of it, reconsider a conversion. You can't avoid additional federal taxes in the year of your conversion.

Bottom line: Roth conversions can have many advantages for you and your beneficiaries, especially if you don't anticipate that you will be withdrawing the converted amount for many years, and if you anticipate that you will be in a higher tax bracket when you withdraw the funds. Conversions are more cost-effective when your tax bracket is low. If you are likely to face IRMAA surcharges, you should gradually do partial conversions to avoid any surcharges.

Elliot Raphaelson welcomes your questions and comments at raphelliot@gmail.com.



DREAMTIME

Worried employees want to quit?

It's easy to increase engagement

BY ALIX MCCABE
FAST COMPANY

Employee satisfaction is plummeting, and businesses are struggling to keep their talent engaged and fulfilled. Research by Gallup shows that 51% of employees are actively looking for other work.

While the top reason for this trend is predictable — employees are looking for higher pay and better benefits — there's another reason worth exploring: lack of career development and opportunities. This trend highlights the need for organizations to implement strategies that will inspire their employees to stay, and one way to do this is through emphasizing cross-functional mobility.

Throughout my 12 years at Allianz Trade, I've been given flexibility to explore various positions, from marketing and communications to human resources, sales, and distribution. In my previous role with the company as chief human resources and communications officer for the Americas region, I led employee-focused programs to cultivate engagement, enhance recognition and rewards, and promote learning and development programs.

Now, in my new role as chief commercial officer for the region, I'm focusing on something completely different: the organization's distribution strategy and growth initiatives. While my day-to-day is vastly different, I draw from my past experiences daily to help drive the organization forward.

My personal career trajectory underscores the relevance of

encouraging emerging leaders to embrace cross-functional opportunities. This is how companies of all industries and sizes can cultivate well-rounded leadership profiles, retain and motivate in-house talent, and unlock growth and innovation.

IDENTIFY INTERESTED EMPLOYEES

Organizations should create a process to proactively identify employees interested in cross-functional opportunities. We do this through annual succession planning and creating a personal development plan with our employees.

Early in my tenure at Allianz Trade, I communicated my interest in geographic mobility (performing the same or similar role in a different country) and functional mobility (moving to a distinct discipline within the organization).

By capturing these ambitions during my annual review process, the company understood my goals and supported me along the way. Understanding whether an employee is interested in exploring different functions within the organization empowers them to step outside of their comfort zone knowing they have the company's support, as it did for me.

PROMOTE HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE

While reading about a role provides insight, there is no substitute for firsthand experience gained by stepping into the shoes of colleagues

in other departments. Shadow programs are an excellent way to encourage employees to try their hand at something they may otherwise overlook.

I've participated in several shadow programs during my career, including valuable time spent in our U.K. and Italian businesses shadowing their marketing teams, as well as in Paris shadowing HR colleagues. These experiences were monumental in shaping my personal growth and professional perspective. When considering a new position in human resources after spending decades in marketing, investing meaningful time shadowing HR colleagues was a game-changer for me.

OFFER MENTORSHIP FOR GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Research indicates that 90% of employees with mentors report greater job satisfaction. Mentorship is crucial to helping employees feel supported, understood, and valued. Your company can support cross-functional mobility by facilitating mentoring programs where colleagues can learn from experienced leaders with similar career journeys. Over the years, several mentors have played an instrumental role in my development, serving as sounding boards, coaches, challengers and supporters.

By building from within and developing leaders with a wide range of skills, organizations are better equipped to meet the challenges of their work and more likely to retain talent by offering diverse and multifaceted career paths.

Regulatory pressures weigh heavy on small-business owners

BY SARAH LYNCH
INC.

Small-business owners are bogged down. According to the MetLife and U.S. Chamber of Commerce Small Business Index for the fourth quarter of 2024, about half of owners "and decision makers" say handling regulatory compliance costs too much time and money.

And the problem is only getting worse: Owners in this report were more likely than last quarter and the same time last year to say that "time or resources spent on fulfilling regulatory compliance requirements has increased in the past six months."

Small-business owners say they are spending much of their time on taxes, recordkeeping and payroll, as well as other items like licensing, permits, cybersecurity, and privacy. To keep up with all the to-dos, many owners — 44% — are outsourcing some of this work. That's posing a financial burden, though, and 69% of owners say they spend more on compliance per employee than their larger competitors.

The ultimate — and concerning — result for owners comes down to growth: 51% say that "licensing, certification and permit requirements make it harder to grow their business," according to the report.

"Too many regulations cause big headaches for small businesses," said Tom Sullivan, vice president of small business policy at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, in a news release for the index, "even if they feel confident in their ability to comply or have the means to outsource compliance tasks."

But things could be moving in a positive direction in 2025 — at least, that's what owners are hoping. In this quarter's index, more owners indicated that they are expecting increased revenue, investment and hiring than they were just months ago.

This optimism is reflected in another recent survey, from the National Federation of Independent Business, which showed the highest level of optimism among small-business owners in nearly three years.

Bill Dunkelberg, chief economist at the NFIB, pointed to the results of U.S. presidential election and said that owners were "particularly hopeful for tax and regulation policies that favor strong economic growth as well as relief from inflationary pressures."

Looking at the results of the index and findings from the NFIB, Sullivan says he expects that "concern over regulation will decrease" in 2025. But that doesn't mean growth will be easy: "The tougher question ... is whether or not the concerns over inflation will decrease."



DREAMTIME



DREAMSTIME

Your personality can affect your income

Big 5 system reveals potential by measuring one's levels of key factors

BY JESSICA STILLMAN | INC.

How much you earn depends on your skills, your experience, your industry and your level of ambition. Does it also depend on your personality?

A massive new study conducted by University of Cambridge economists combed through data on about 22,000 households to find out. It discovered insights anyone looking to maximize their bank account should know.

THE BIG 5 PERSONALITY FRAMEWORK

When everyday people want to understand their personality better, they might take an online quiz or turn to commercial personality frameworks like Myers-Briggs. But when scientists look to measure people's personalities, they all turn to the Big 5. This system of describing personality places people on five sliding scales that measure your levels of five key traits:

- Extroversion: Do other people sap you or energize you?
- Conscientiousness: Do you do what you say you will do?
- Agreeableness: How much do you try to please others?
- Neuroticism: Are you emotionally stable?
- Openness: How much do you like or avoid new things?

This framework has been validated by

research again and again. Multiple studies have also shown that our Big 5 personality traits can impact things like how well our romantic relationships go and the careers we choose. For this study, published in the *Journal of Political Economy*, a team of economists wanted to see if the Big 5 also impacted how much money people make.

They looked at data on some 22,000 German households that included information on income and personality. Did they find that your character influences your bank account?

HOW YOUR PERSONALITY AFFECTS YOUR INCOME

The answer, according to a recent post on *The Conversation* by Weilong Zhang, who participated in the research, was a clear yes. Being high in agreeableness seems to lower the amount people earn. So does being more on the neurotic end of the scale. On the other hand, conscientiousness raises the chances that you will bring home a big paycheck.

It's not too hard to guess the reason behind some of these findings. Doing what you say you're going to do and not freaking out are both great ways to get ahead at work.

Or as Zhang puts it, "Conscientious people are often perceived as reliable and hardworking, while emotional stability allows people to handle stress effectively — both of which employers value highly."

But other factors were more complex. "Agreeableness, despite its social benefits, turns out to be a financial liability," Zhang says. "Highly agreeable people tend to avoid conflict, which can make them less assertive in negotiations." Low agreeableness may also be read by others as boldness and leadership potential. It apparently doesn't pay to be too nice at work.

On the flip side, "Workers with higher levels of emotional stability may approach salary negotiations with more confidence, leading to better outcomes," he writes.

LESSONS FOR LEADERS AND STRIVERS

The economists were interested in doing this analysis because of what light it might shed on the gender pay gap. Women tend to be more agreeable on average compared with men. Is that part of the reason they earn less?

That's a fascinating question (and the answer seems to be yes), but it's not terribly practical for the average business leader looking for actionable tips to earn more and be a better manager. What do these results say to them?

Zhang suggests that leaders looking to reduce gender-based pay gaps could "re-evaluate how they reward traits like agreeableness and emotional stability. For example, valuing collaborative and empathetic leadership styles alongside

assertiveness." You could also provide negotiation training to employees.

But this research also seems useful to anyone looking to maximize their earning potential. Big 5 personality traits are relatively stable over our lifetimes. If you were a shy toddler, you are likely to tend toward introversion as an adult, too. But "relatively stable" does not mean the same thing as cast in iron.

Studies have shown both that your personality can undergo quite large changes over the course of your life, and that conscious effort can shift your personality along each spectrum of the Big 5.

The key to becoming, say, more extroverted, is to perform small actions of extroversion. If you want to be friendlier, you might push yourself to chitchat a bit with the cashier at the supermarket. If you want to be less neurotic, try a simple daily gratitude practice. Basically, faking it until you make it actually shifts your personality.

A REMINDER FROM SCIENCE: YOU CAN CHANGE YOUR PERSONALITY

All of which suggests that if you fear your personality is standing in the way of a bigger bank account, you are probably not wrong. You are also not powerless. Consciously assessing how you might be standing in the way of your own financial success and then taking small but consistent actions to change your personality can, quite literally, pay off.



DREAMSTIME

Leave your life story as a legacy for your heirs

BY KATHRYN POMROY
KIPLINGER'S PERSONAL FINANCE

Leaving your family an account of your life story is as important as thinking through your estate plan. How do you want to be remembered once you've passed away? What family history and lessons do you want to outlive you? As we age, these questions become all the more important and urgent. After all, everyone has a shelf life.

Providing a legacy to your heirs encompasses more than leaving material goods, such as funds in a retirement account, real estate or possessions. It's about the life you led, who you are and your family history. Research shows that sharing family stories and history is good for the mental health of adolescents. Another recent study has found that adults older than 60 also benefit from life story projects.

The basic meaning of a legacy is a gift of money or other personal property usually granted in a will. It can be a substantial gift that must be managed and cared for. Or it can be the impact you leave on the generations that outlive you. Think of it as the ripple effect after tossing a rock into a pond. How far or how long

the rippling motion lasts depends, in part, on how big an impact you make while alive.

Leaving a lasting legacy takes time and effort. You need a plan to ensure it lives on from one generation to the next. It doesn't have to cost you anything, but digital or professional services might make the process easier. Here are several resources to help you start your journey.

STORYCORPS

StoryCorps holds the top spot as the single largest collection of human voices ever captured. The platform collects and records meaningful conversations about people's lives, saved in the U.S. Library of Congress and broadcast weekly on NPR to over 12 million listeners. One of the best things about a StoryCorps submission is that you leave a legacy in your voice, rather than print. The downside is that you can't add photographs.

Cost: Free, though you may leave a donation

KINDRED TALES

Kindred Tales is a one-year subscription service that helps capture your most cherished memories and life stories. The service will send you weekly

writing prompts. One nice feature is the speech-to-text dictation, so you can tell your story orally. The finished product is a professionally bound hardcover book.

Cost: \$90 to \$119

STORYWORTH

Once a week, Storyworth sends a single question that inspires you to write. After you've written your story or a part of your story based on the question, you email it back. Your submissions are then bound together in a keepsake book.

Cost: \$89 to \$99

MODERN HEIRLOOM BOOKS

For a Cadillac experience, Modern Heirloom Books will pair you with a personal historian. You may meet first online, but they will eventually travel to you. You will have a series of in-person interviews and be asked to provide old photos, which are then curated into a "graphically and narratively evocative" book. Life story projects generally start at \$7,000, while tribute books start at \$1,250. The One-Hour Heirloom provides a taste of the process and provides a miniature bespoke book for \$1,500. A less expensive competitor is No Story Lost, which costs an average of \$1,649.

Cost: Starting at \$1,250 to starting at \$7,000

ETHICAL WILLS: PUTTING YOUR VALUES ON PAPER

An ethical will is written to convey your history, values and wisdom to your descendants. For instructions on how to write an ethical will, check out the book *Ethical Wills: Putting Your Values on Paper* by Barry K. Baines. Along with the book, you find an accompanying resource guide that "provides a practical path for articulating values, beliefs and life lessons."

Cost: \$10.99 to \$19.99

ANCESTRY STORYMAKER AND FAMILY HISTORY BOOK

If you already have an Ancestry.com account, you may want to explore some tools they've developed to preserve stories and photographs. The advantage of creating your story in the app is that you can link to the stories of other family members, even if they have died, as long as they are in your family tree. The Storymaker tool includes cropping, colorizing and other image functions, and, of course, plenty of space to write your

own story. You can design a print book of your album on the app as a "family history book," which is produced in partnership with MyCanvas.

Cost: MyCanvas book is \$55 to \$75

'FOR YOU WHEN I AM GONE: TWELVE ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS TO TELL A LIFE STORY'

Rabbi Steve Leder's book, *For You When I Am Gone*, provides questions and prompts to stimulate deep reflection as you compose your legacy letter. It can include joy and regrets and ultimately becomes both a way to remember a loved one who is gone and a primer on how to live a better, happier life to pass along to future generations.

Cost: \$15.20 for hardback book

MYSTORIESMATTER BLOG

MyStoriesMatter provides tools for recording your story orally or writing it down, collecting photographs and printing a book based on your life story. This service also offers concierge interviews and ghostwriting.

Cost: \$149 and up

New Year's Eve at home? It's not so unusual - poll

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

If you're planning on ringing in the new year quietly at home, you're not alone.

A majority of U.S. adults intend to celebrate New Year's Eve at home, according to a poll by Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

"As I've gotten older over the last few years, it's like if I don't make it to midnight, it's not a big deal, you know?" says Carla Woods, 70, of Vinton, Iowa.

Nearly 2 in 10 will be celebrating at a friend or family member's home, and just 5% plan to go out to celebrate at a bar, restaurant or organized event, the poll found.

But many U.S. adults will celebrate the new year in a different way — by making a resolution. More than half say they'll make at least one resolution for 2025.

There's some optimism about the year ahead, although more than half aren't expecting a positive change.

About 4 in 10 say 2025 will be a better year for them personally. About one-third don't expect much of a difference between 2024 and 2025, and about one-quarter think 2025 will be a worse year than 2024.

Kourtney Kershaw, a 32-year-old bartender in Chicago, often fields questions from customers and friends about upcoming events for New Year's Eve. She said this year is trending toward low key.

"A majority of who I've spoken to in my age range, they want to go out, but they don't know what they're going to do because they haven't found anything or things are just really expensive," she said. "Party packages or an entry fee are like a turnoff, especially with the climate of the world and how much things cost."

As expected, younger people are more interested in ringing in the new year at a bar or organized event — about 1 in 10 U.S. adults under 30 say



Revelers enjoy Times Square at last year's New Year's Eve celebrations.

ANADOLU AGENCY

they plan to do that. But about 3 in 10 older adults — 60 and above — say they won't celebrate the beginning of 2025 at all.

Anthony Tremblay, 35, of Pittsburgh, will be traveling through Ireland with his wife.

"I don't do anything too crazy for New Year's, usually. So this is definitely a change," he said. "I wanted to do something unique this year, so I did."

Woods will be working New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

She answers calls on the Iowa Warmline, a confidential, noncrisis listening line for people struggling with mental health or substance use issues.

"Holidays are really hard for people, so I don't mind working," she said. "I'm passionate about it because I have mental health issues in the family and so being able to help people is rewarding to me."

Every New Year's also triggers the eternal debate about resolutions.

A majority of U.S. adults say they intend to make a New Year's resolution of some type, but millennials and Gen Z are especially likely to be onboard — about two-thirds expect to

do so, compared with about half of older adults.

Women are also more likely than men to say they will set a goal for 2025.

About 3 in 10 adults choose resolutions involving exercise or eating healthier. About one-quarter said they'll make a resolution involving losing weight, and a similar number said they'll resolve to make changes about priorities of money or mental health.

Woods' resolutions are to stay social and active.

As a mental health counselor, she knows those are key to a happy 2025 and beyond: "Probably one of my biggest resolutions is trying to make sure I stay social, try to get out at least once a week — get out and either have coffee or do something with a friend. That's not only for the physical but also for the mental health part."

Kershaw, the bartender, says weight loss and better health are the top resolutions she hears people make.

"Mental health is the new one, but I think it's high up there as well as with regular health," she said.

Off-duty NYPD officer is busted on rape charges

An off-duty NYPD cop has been arrested for rape, officials said Saturday.

Investigators in East Harlem handcuffed Officer Samuel Sierra, 35, around 7:30 p.m. on Friday on charges of first-degree rape, strangulation and assault.

The NYPD said the attack was "domestic in nature" — meaning Sierra allegedly attacked a partner or family member — but wouldn't disclose any further details.

Sierra pleaded not guilty at his arraignment Saturday afternoon in Manhattan Criminal Court, where he was ordered held with his bail status set at \$50,000 cash, \$100,000 insured bond or \$100,000 partially secured

surety bond.

The six-year member of the force, who earned more than \$168,000 last year, joined the NYPD in 2018 and has spent most of his career patrolling the 77th Precinct in Brooklyn. He received a meritorious police duty award in 2019.

While on duty in February 2023, he was accused of assaulting a woman and abusing his authority during a traffic stop, according to the 50-a.org website. He was ordered to undergo retraining, although the abuse of authority and physical force allegations were deemed to be "within department guidelines."

In December 2023, he was transferred to the Auxiliary Police Section. **Thomas Tracy**

Man, 35, is shot dead outside a Hell's Kitchen apt. building

A 35-year-old man was shot dead outside a Hell's Kitchen apartment building early Saturday, cops said.

Officers called to W. 49th St. near Ninth Ave. just before 3 a.m. found the victim sprawled out on the ground.

He was shot twice in the body, but was conscious when first responders arrived, cops said.

EMS rushed him to Bellevue Hospital, where he died a short time later. His name was not immediately disclosed as cops track down relatives.

A motive for the shooting was not immediately disclosed and no arrests have been made, police said.

Cops were scouring the area Saturday for surveillance footage that could help them identify the shooter.

As of last Sunday, cops have investigated five murders in the area, two more than this time last year, officials said.

Murders have dropped by 4% citywide, from 387 last year to 370, police said.

Thomas Tracy

DEATH NOTICES
 The New York Daily News extends condolences to the families and loved ones of those who have passed.

212-210-2111

Death Notices

Coen, Charles P.

Msgr. Charles P. Coen on December 26, 2024. Born in Woodford, Co. Galway, Ireland. He is predeceased by Paddy, Jack, Michael, Annie (Cissie) O'Malley, and Margaret King. He will be dearly missed by his surviving siblings May (Sister Concepta), Betty (Sister Patrice), and Anthony (wife, Mary); sister-in-law Julia Coen, brother-in-law Martin O'Malley, his 26 nieces and nephews and their families. Special mention is made of his close friend and caretaker Eileen Condon. Visiting hours will be held on Sunday, December 29 from 3:00 - 7:00 at Hodder Farenga FH 899 McLean Ave., Yonkers, NY. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Monday, December 30 at 11:00 AM at the Cardinal O'Connor Clergy Residence, 5655 Arlington Ave, Bronx, NY. Interment to follow at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Hawthorne, NY. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Catholic Relief Services.

Man set afire at Penn Sta. may be arson victim

BY THOMAS TRACY
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

A homeless man found on fire at Penn Station may be the victim of an arsonist who set him ablaze, police sources said Saturday.

The 67-year-old victim was seen on fire at the bustling Midtown transit hub around 8:10 p.m. on Friday by a commuter who alerted two MTA police officers. The victim was found near the entrance to the 1/2/3 train lines, suffering from severe burns to his legs and upper body, cops said. EMS rushed him to New York-Presbyterian Hospital Weill Cornell, where he remained in critical condition Saturday.

Detectives are investigating the possibility that the

homeless man was the victim of a criminal act, said a police source with knowledge of the case.

Law enforcement was reviewing station surveillance footage and speaking to witnesses to see if anyone was seen near the homeless man before the fire broke out.

No arrests have been made.

The Penn Station incident comes fast on the heels of last Sunday's tragedy that shocked the nation, when a woman died after a man set her clothes on fire while she was sleeping aboard a subway car at the Coney Island-Stillwell Ave. station, then callously fanned the flames with a shirt, according to police.

Cops arrested Sebastian Zapeta, a Guatemalan migrant who had been living in a Brooklyn men's shelter.

Today

Rain and drizzle
High: **57°** Low: **53°**

Monday

Breezy in the morning
High: **58°** Low: **42°**

Tuesday

Turning cloudy; mild
High: **53°** Low: **47°**

Wednesday

A little morning rain
High: **50°** Low: **34°**

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

Almanac Yesterday
Statistics for New York City through 5 p.m. yesterday
Temperature
High/Low 49°/40°
Normal high/low 41°/31°
Record high 65° in 2008
Record low 8° in 1917
Precipitation
24 hrs through 5 p.m. yest. .. 0.36"
Ski Report

Resort	Trails Open	Base
Camelback	15	36-48
Catamount	23	0-0
Holiday Mtn.	4	6-12
Hunter Mtn.	47	25-33

Source: onthesnow.com
Sun and Moon

	Rise	Set
Sun	7:20 a.m.	4:37 p.m.
Moon	6:30 a.m.	3:08 p.m.

UV Index Today

8 am 10 am Noon 2 pm 4 pm 6 pm
AccuWeather.com UV Index™
0-2 Low; 3-5 Moderate; 6-7 High; 8-10 Very High; 11+ Extreme.
Marine Forecast
New York Harbor: Wind SE 15-25 mph today. Seas 1-2 feet. Rain.
Coney Island: Wind SSE 15-25 mph today. Seas 2-4 feet. Visibility under 4 miles in morning rain.
Sandy Hook: Wind S 25-35 mph today. Seas 2-4 feet. Visibility less than 4 miles in morning rain.
Montauk: Wind S 20-30 mph today. Seas 2-4 feet. Visibility less than 4 miles in morning rain.
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SMOOTH POTATO LEEK SOUP

Makes: 6 servings

2 tablespoons olive oil
 4 large leeks (white and very light green parts only), cleaned thoroughly and chopped
 3 small baking potatoes, peeled and diced
 4 cups chicken stock, vegetable stock or water

Salt and pepper to taste

1. Heat olive oil and add chopped leeks, stirring until tender but not browned, about 20 minutes.

2. Stir in potatoes and chicken stock.

3. Bring to a boil, reduce heat and simmer until potatoes are soft, about 30 minutes.

4. Puree until smooth and season with salt and pepper.

5. Thin, if necessary, with additional stock or water. Or add ½ cup cream to make vichyssoise.

— Recipe adapted from
 “The Joy of Cooking”

SPICY CHICKPEA SOUP

Makes: 6 servings

2 19-ounce cans chickpeas, drained
 1 13.5-ounce can light coconut milk
 1 14.4-ounce can whole tomatoes, drained and chopped (½ cup)
 ¼ cup apple juice

¼ cup cilantro leaves

½ teaspoon garam masala

½ teaspoon ground ginger

1 cup chicken stock or vegetable broth

Salt and freshly ground black pepper

¼ cup plain low-fat yogurt

2 scallions, green parts only, thinly sliced

1. Combine drained chickpeas with coconut milk, chopped tomatoes, apple juice, cilantro leaves, garam masala and ground ginger and puree mixture until smooth in a blender (or with an immersion blender in cooking pot).

2. Transfer puree to medium saucepan.

Stir in chicken stock and bring to a simmer over moderately high heat. Season with salt (liberally, according to how salty your stock is) and black pepper.

3. Ladle into bowls, top with the yogurt and scallion greens and serve.

— Recipe from Food & Wine



Spicy chickpea soup relies on pantry staples.

Potato and leek soup, with homemade croutons, blends easily to a silky consistency. SONO MOTOYAMA/PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE PHOTOS

Simple pureed soups make elegant starters

BY SONO MOTOYAMA
 PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE

Generally speaking, I'm a chunky chicken soup kind of person.

I like the hearty, stick-to-the-ribs quality of a good rough-hewn soup, and the contrast of textures and flavors of the broth and hunks of vegetable or meat or pasta. This extends to ramen or Korean hot pots, where the non-liquid elements outweigh the broth (though the broth is of equal importance).

But there is a time for pureed soups, those elegant, traditional starters for a multicourse meal. They're there to whet the appetite for the more substantial courses to come. And despite their apparent refinement, they can often be created from whatever is in your vegetable drawer or pantry.

For me, though, my all-time favorite pureed soup is the carrot and orange soup from “The Silver Palate Cookbook.” It has regularly been on my family's table for both casual weeknight meals and when

we've invited guests.

The carrots, onions, chicken broth and fresh orange juice combine for a lightly sweet yet savory soup that my kids love.

Cheat sheet: If the oranges are too watery, I sometimes add a bit of store-bought OJ or even honey to the mix, to up the sweetness. Finely grated orange zest adds sparks of intensity.

Another crowd-pleaser is potato and leek soup, which blends easily to a silky consistency. You just have to carefully wash the leeks, which usually have dirt in their layers. I give them a final rinse in a colander after I've chopped them. Add a bit of cream to potato and leek soup and — voilà — it's vichyssoise. This soup, like any of those included here, can be dressed up or down, with homemade croutons, bacon bits (fake, I know), truffle oil, olive oil or herbs.

Tip: For any pureed soup, an immersion blender with a chopper attachment is your best friend. You can use the chopper to get vegetables down to relatively small sizes — no-cry onion chopping!

And then use the immersion blender right in the soup pot to puree the vegetables, so you use fewer dishes.

The final soup here is new to me, but one I found intriguing since I adore chickpeas. And it is created largely from pantry staples. In this recipe, I found the chickpeas took a backseat to the tomatoes, and the result was like a mildly spicy tomato soup that wouldn't be out of place beside a grilled cheese sandwich.

I found it needed a good bit of salt, and some umami. So for a quick fix, I added a product that is basically monosodium glutamate. There are probably better ways to add more depth, like starting by cooking onions and blending those in with the rest.

Which raises the point that you should feel free to experiment and create your own pureed soups. French grandmas are expert at this, dispensing with elegance and just cleaning out their larders: blending whatever root vegetables and alliums (onions, leeks, garlic, shallots) they have at hand for vitamin-rich winter sustenance.

CARROT AND ORANGE SOUP

Makes: 4 to 6 servings

3 tablespoons olive oil
 2 cups finely chopped yellow onions
 10 large (1 ½ to 2 pounds) carrots, peeled and chopped

4 cups chicken stock

1 cup fresh orange juice

Salt and pepper, to taste

Grated orange zest, to taste

1. Heat olive oil in the pot. Add onions, cover and cook over low heat until tender and lightly colored, about 25 minutes.

2. Add carrots and broth and bring to a boil.

3. Reduce heat, cover and simmer until carrots are very tender, about 30 minutes.

4. Puree the soup in batches with a blender or food processor or use an immersion blender right in the pot. Blend until smooth.

5. Return the puree to the pot and add orange juice and 2 to 3 cups of additional stock, until the soup is of desired consistency.

6. Season with salt and pepper; add orange zest. Simmer until heated through.

— Recipe adapted from
 “The Silver Palate Cookbook”

Stuffed mushrooms work as an appetizer or a side

PANKO-PARMESAN-CRUSTED MUSHROOMS

Makes: 10 servings

Active time: 30 minutes

Total time: 55 minutes

1 ½ pounds white or cremini mushrooms

2 tablespoons unsalted butter

½ cup finely chopped onion

1 teaspoon dried thyme

½ teaspoon garlic powder

½ teaspoon salt

½ teaspoon ground pepper

¼ cup dry white wine

½ cup panko breadcrumbs

¼ cup grated Parmesan cheese plus 2 tablespoons, divided
2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil plus 2 teaspoons, divided

1. Heat oven to 425 degrees. Remove stems from mushrooms, then chop. Reserve stems and caps separately.

2. Heat butter in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add the mushroom stems, onion, thyme, garlic powder and ¼ teaspoon each salt and pepper; cook, stirring, until softened and starting to brown, about 5 minutes. Add wine and cook, stirring, until evaporated, 30 seconds to 1 minute. Remove from heat and stir in ¼ cup panko and ¼ cup Parmesan.

3. Toss mushroom caps with 2

tablespoons oil and the remaining ¼ teaspoon each salt and pepper in a large bowl. Transfer the caps to a large rimmed baking sheet. Spoon about 1 teaspoon of the mushroom mixture into each cavity. Stir together the remaining ¼ cup panko, 2 tablespoons Parmesan and 2 teaspoons oil in a small bowl. Sprinkle the mixture evenly over the mushrooms.

4. Bake until the tops are golden brown and the mushrooms are soft, 22 to 25 minutes.

Recipe nutrition per serving: 90 calories, total fat: 6 g, saturated fat: 2 g, cholesterol: 8 mg, carbohydrates: 7 g, fiber: 1 g, total sugars: 2 g, protein: 3 g, sodium: 164 mg, vitamin A: 95 IU

Serve these rich and tender mushrooms filled with panko breadcrumbs and Parmesan cheese alone as an appetizer or alongside anything from pork to fish. To ensure even cooking, look for mushrooms that are similar in size.



Who doesn't love stuffed mushrooms? JASON DONNELLY/TNS

When you can't get to Texas, make this brisket instead

BY MEGHAN SPLAWN
THEKITCHN.COM

Beefy brisket is the king of Texas barbecue. Yes, Texas has smoked ribs and pulled pork, but tender, peppery brisket is what most people dream of when they think of Texas barbecue.

Swiped with mustard and packed with a salt-and-pepper coating before slow smoking produces a brisket that is ingenious in simplicity and mind-blowing in flavor.

The best Texas-style brisket is tender without falling apart and has a thick layer of smoky-peppery bark that surrounds each slice. While we can't exactly replicate the terroir of a Texas smokehouse, we can slow-roast brisket in the oven at home.

Get a 5- to 6-pound brisket with a point cut. Coat the brisket with mustard, then season it with salt, cracked pepper and garlic powder. Let it rest overnight. Roast the brisket at 300 degrees and keep it covered in foil for the first six hours. Uncover the brisket in the last two to three hours of cooking to get a crisp exterior bark. Check

the brisket every 30 minutes with the use of a thermometer.

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT

We create a thick bark, while keeping the meat juicy, with an on-and-off-again foil tent in a low oven.

We give this oven brisket a smoky flavor with a bit of liquid smoke, and it's seasoned Texas-style with kosher salt and coarsely ground pepper.

TEXAS-STYLE BRISKET IS ... ?

Beef brisket is actually slow-cooked in a number of regional and ethnic cuisines, but Texas-style brisket means two things: smoke and pepper.

BBQ expert Robb Walsh says this particular style of brisket is most often found in Central Texas, but for everyone else outside the region, Texas-style brisket is what we think of when we think of barbecue brisket. It is slow-smoked until tender but not falling apart like pulled pork, and it has a thick bark, prized for its texture and peppery bite.

in a small bowl and stir to combine. Sprinkle the salt mixture all over the brisket, then use your hands to rub it in, getting as much into every nook and cranny as possible.

5. Place brisket on a rimmed baking sheet fitted with wire rack inside. Cover the whole brisket and baking sheet with aluminum foil. Refrigerate overnight, 10 to 12 hours.

6. Arrange a rack in middle of the oven and heat to 300 degrees. Remove the brisket from the refrigerator and let it sit at room temperature, still covered in the foil, while the oven is heating.

7. If you covered the brisket completely the night before, you can set the whole brisket, pan, cooling rack and all, right in the oven and leave it covered, cooking for six hours. Otherwise, place the brisket on a cooling rack set inside a rimmed baking sheet and cover the brisket with foil and bake for six hours, or until the brisket registers 200 degrees in the thickest part. Don't worry too much if the brisket reaches 180 degrees relatively quickly and then hangs out at this temperature for several hours.



No smoker necessary: You can make perfectly tender brisket right in the oven. JOE LINGEMAN/TNS

8. Your two goals for the second half of cooking are crisp exterior and an interior that stays at 200 degrees for at least an hour. Uncover the brisket and take its temperature before returning to the oven. Cook for another 1 to 2 hours, checking its temperature regularly. The brisket is done when it holds a temperature close to 200

degrees for about an hour. You can pick the brisket up in the middle with tongs to check for doneness: The ends should bend readily but not break.

9. Transfer the brisket to a clean cutting board. Cover loosely with foil and let rest for 30 minutes before slicing across the grain and serving.

TEXAS-STYLE BRISKET

Makes: 10 to 12 servings

1 (6-pound) beef brisket, point cut with a fat cap preferred

½ cup Dijon mustard

2 tablespoons liquid smoke

¼ cup kosher salt

3 tablespoons coarsely ground black pepper

1 tablespoon garlic powder

1. Cover a rimmed baking sheet with aluminum foil — this will make cleanup easier. Place a cooling rack inside the baking sheet.

2. Chances are high your brisket will come trimmed and ready for cooking, but before seasoning, trim off any tough bits of silverskin (the white film on meat). Also trim the fat cap to about ½-inch thick if needed.

3. Place the mustard and liquid smoke in a small bowl and stir to combine. Brush the brisket on all sides with mustard mixture — this will help the salt and pepper mixture stay in place.

4. Place the salt, pepper and garlic powder



Jerk seasoning and jerk chicken make Rasta pasta irresistible — and the dish comes together in 30 minutes. SAHARA BOHOSKEY/TNS

A lot of flavor with little effort

BY SAHARA BOHOSKEY
THEKITCHN.COM

Rasta pasta isn't just a fun recipe name — it's a bridge between classic Jamaican cooking and Western influences widely shaped by the diaspora of Caribbean peoples. I didn't grow up with this recipe, but I did grow up with jerk chicken, jerk seasoning and my mum's jerk fish stew with rice and beans. When I was asked to create this recipe, my ears perked up.

For someone who wants lots of

flavor with little effort, this recipe delivers, thanks to the power of the jerk sauce (goodness, does it pack a punch!). It's essentially a dish made for the weeknight home cook. Chicken is used here, but shrimp or fish would also be also great; or you could skip the protein all together. Because it requires fewer than 10 ingredients and comes together in 30 minutes, I urge you to run to the grocery store to make it for dinner tonight.

What is Rasta pasta made of?
Rasta pasta is made from jerk

seasoning, bell peppers, cream and pasta. The colors of the dish are meant to reflect the colors of the Jamaican flag: yellow pasta, blackened jerk chicken and green bell peppers and/or cilantro.

What type of pasta should I use?

You can use any short, dried pasta like a penne, fusilli or rigatoni. Long noodles are not recommended because it's tricky when eating long-cut strips of bell peppers, slices of chicken breast and swirls of noodles.

RASTA PASTA

Makes: 4 to 6 servings
1 ½ pounds boneless, skinless chicken breasts (2 to 3)
¼ cup plus 1 tablespoon store-bought wet Jamaican jerk seasoning, divided
2 to 3 bell peppers, any color
¼ bunch fresh cilantro
2 tablespoons olive oil
Kosher salt
1 pound dried penne or fusilli pasta
1 tablespoon unsalted butter
¾ cup heavy cream
Finely grated Parmesan cheese
1. Place 1 ½ pounds boneless, skinless chicken breasts and ¼ cup of the jerk marinade in a large zip-top bag. Massage marinade into chicken and let marinate at room temperature for 30 minutes. Meanwhile, core and seed 1 pound bell peppers, then slice into ½-inch strips. Finely chop leaves from fresh cilantro until you have ¼ cup.
2. Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Meanwhile, remove the chicken from the marinade and pat dry with paper towels; discard the marinade. Heat 2 tablespoons

olive oil in a large high-sided skillet over medium-high heat until shimmering. Add the chicken and cook until blackened with a dark crust underneath, 7 to 8 minutes. Flip and cook until the second side is blackened and the chicken is cooked through, 6 to 8 minutes more. Transfer the chicken to a clean cutting board. Reserve the skillet; no need to wash.
3. Add 1 pound dried penne to the boiling water and cook until al dente, according to package instructions. Drain.
4. Melt 1 tablespoon unsalted butter in reserved skillet over medium heat. Add bell peppers and scrape up any blackened bits from bottom of the skillet with a wooden spoon. If the blackened bits don't release from the bottom of the pan, add 1 to 2 teaspoons water to loosen. Cook until bell peppers are softened, 6 to 8 minutes.
5. Add ¾ cup heavy cream and the remaining 1 tablespoon jerk seasoning and stir to combine. Bring to a simmer and continue to cook until the sauce is slightly thickened and can coat the back of the spoon, about 4 minutes. Meanwhile, cut the chicken across the grain into ½-inch-thick slices.
6. Add the pasta and cilantro to the skillet and stir to combine. Taste and season with kosher salt as needed. Serve the pasta topped with the chicken and grated Parmesan cheese.

Classic cinnamon-spiced coffee cake never gets old

BY DIANE ROSSEN WORTHINGTON
TRIBUNE CONTENT AGENCY

Coffee cakes seem like a blast from the past. I don't see them in bakeries much, even though they are a great choice for serving a group.

The following cake has two layers: The bottom cake is enriched with sour cream for a fluffy interior, and the second layer is a crumbly sweet layer of crispy streusel.

This moist sour cream coffee cake is easy to put together and is worth making for last-minute breakfast or brunch. Cinnamon-spiced streusel is a fond childhood taste memory for many of us. Serve this old-fashioned coffee cake for breakfast or brunch, or as an afternoon pick-me-up with a cup of hot tea.

CINNAMON-STREUSEL SOUR CREAM COFFEE CAKE

Makes: 10 to 12 servings
For the streusel
1 ½ cups packed brown sugar
⅓ cup all-purpose flour
1 tablespoon ground cinnamon
Pinch of salt
6 tablespoons (¾ stick) cold unsalted butter
For the cake
3 cups all-purpose flour
1 ½ teaspoons baking powder
1 ½ teaspoons baking soda
Pinch of salt
¾ cup (1 ½ sticks) unsalted butter, softened
1 ⅓ cups sugar
3 large eggs
1 tablespoon vanilla extract
1 cup sour cream (low-fat is fine)
½ cup milk

1. Heat the oven to 350 degrees. Butter and flour a 9-by-13-inch baking pan.
2. Make the streusel: In a small bowl, combine the sugar, flour, cinnamon and salt. Rub in the butter with your fingers until the mixture is crumbly. Reserve.
3. Make the cake: Sift the flour, baking powder, and baking soda into a medium bowl. In a large bowl, using a hand-held mixer, or in the food processor, cream the butter and sugar until well blended. Add the eggs one at a time and then the vanilla; beat or process until blended. Add the flour mixture alternately with the sour cream and milk, and beat or process until just blended.
4. Spread the batter evenly in the prepared pan. Sprinkle the streusel evenly over the top. Bake for about 1 hour, or until a skewer inserted in the center comes out clean.
5. Let the cake cool. Cut into large squares and serve.
Make ahead: This may be made up to two days ahead, covered at room temperature.



Arrange squares of this cake on a pretty platter to serve for brunch. DREAMSTIME

Singer: 'I've been a cheeky monkey all my life'

Robbie Williams, seen Nov. 13, has had some emotional responses at screenings of the film "Better Man." MATT LICARI/INVISION

Director suggested using a CGI chimp in Williams' biopic

BY JAKE COYLE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

It was after one particularly emotional premiere of the new biopic about his life that Robbie Williams resolved he couldn't be "the crying guy" at every screening.

"Better Man," which chronicles the life of Williams, the British pop star and former Take That singer, can hit him differently at different times. Jet lag is a factor. So is who's in the building. One screening with his band, he says, was "healing." But he's self-conscious enough about all the emotion that he can be defensive about it.

"In real life, I don't cry that much," Williams says and then smiles. "You have a (expletive) biography about you and have the world go, 'I've seen you and heard you' and come tell me how you deal with it?"

One twist? The Williams heard in "Better Man" is Williams, himself. But the Williams seen in the movie is a computer-generated chimpanzee. Michael Gracey, who directed the 2017 musical hit "The Greatest Showman," had the novel idea that Williams should get the big-screen biopic treatment, but with a monkey. Relying on Weta's motion capture technology, the actor Jonno Davies stands in for Williams.

In "Better Man," now in limited theaters and expanding Jan. 10, that makes for a compelling spin on the music biopic, partly because it's still a quite R-rated journey through the ups and downs of mega pop

stardom.

Williams also hopes it will expand his footprint in America, where he's famously less famous than he is in Europe.

"Maybe this film moves the needle for me," Williams, 50, says. "Or if it doesn't, I'll do something else."

What both a conversation with Williams and "Better Man" have in common is a frankness about the experience of fame. More than it's a litany of chart-topping successes, "Better Man" is a chronicle of fame-induced trauma, complete with drug addiction and mental breakdown.

Williams, now, though, is a reformed bad boy — a family man with four kids with all kinds of plans, like building hotels and buying sports teams.

"At the moment," he says, "I have the wide-optimism of a new artist."

This interview with Williams has been edited for clarity and length.

Q: Did your identification with monkeys predate "Better Man"?

A: Well, let me know, in the biography of your life, what animal would play you?

Q: I don't know. A chipmunk?

A: I asked my friend this morning, Joey McIntyre, from New Kids on the Block, and he said, "An owl." And I agreed with him. An owl would be good for him. Did this predate? I guess so, subconsciously. My MO has been cheeky. What's more cheeky than a cheeky monkey? I've been a cheeky monkey all my life. There's no more cheekier monkey than the coke-snorting, sex-addict monkey that we find in the movie.

Q: I've never seen a monkey do so much coke.

A: Yeah, we've seen a bear do a lot of coke but never a monkey.

Q: Do you think it's easier for audiences to empathize with a monkey than for you?

A: We care for animals more than we care for humans, most of us. I guess there is a removal, as well. It's very much a human story but if you're watching it and someone's playing Robbie Williams, you're thinking: Does he look like him? Does he act like him? Does he talk like him?

Q: As someone who has been open about difficulties in life, you're not new to the idea that people don't have a lot of sympathy for wealthy pop stars. You were probably suffering very human things at a time when people didn't see you as human.

A: I think they have sympathy once you come through the other side, and you're talking about something in the past. Everybody loves a story of redemption. The redemption is: I was this guy who experienced this thing, but I've endured and overcome it. You throw in a word like "endure," and I can already hear British people going "(Expletive) you! What did you endure? Knickers being thrown at you." Dude, I was mentally ill. I still am, but I'm in a good place. I couldn't derive joy from anything because I was mentally ill. I won a sprinting race with two broken legs.

Q: It was that bad?

A: Yeah. My story's not unusual. There's a boy band documentary that's going to be on tele in Britain that I've taken part in, and everyone's story is the same. They've got the bends. They experienced this thing that warped them and gave them mental breakdowns.

I can't apologize for the truth, and the truth is there's something about this matrix-bending, washing-machine fame

that's deeply unhealthy. No matter what job you have or what path you choose in life, you spend the second 20 years of your life sorting out the first 20 years. It just so happens I did it in public and told people exactly what was going on as it was going on. And still do.

Q: Fame, as you describe it, would seem clearly unhealthy. But does some part of you need it?

A: It's different now. I (expletive) love it. I wouldn't trade it for the world. I'm 50, and I'm incredibly grateful for fame. It facilitates everything that I need and want to do with my life. I was just too young to receive it, and I wasn't surrounded by good people. And I wasn't good people. But now I can't speak highly enough of it. (Laughs.)

Q: So how did you turn your life around? You've often credited your wife.

A: Ayda was credited with saving my life before she saved my life. I was like, "You (expletive)." I was like: "I've done a lot of work on myself here. Don't give her all the credit." But now I can give her way more credit than I was giving her because I've realize how much she's done.

Without that grounding, my life would be a lot different. I probably wouldn't be here. Because I have somebody in my life that's worth me being the best version of myself 24 hours out of the day, I'm better. And because there's four young souls that need looking after, my purpose is a lot different. I suppose my purpose at one time, due to finding hedonism incredibly intoxicating, was to be the most (expletive) person in the room. But now I want to be the most well person in the room. I intend to be the weldest person in the mother-(expletive) room. (Laughs.)

'Virgin River' finally hears wedding bells

For better, for worse, for real: Ceremony a long time in coming

BY YVONNE VILLARREAL
LOS ANGELES TIMES

How long into dating someone before you hear wedding bells? It's an age-old question with varying opinions. On "Virgin River," it took six seasons and 64 episodes.

The Netflix romance drama capped its sixth season, now streaming, with the long-anticipated wedding of Mel Monroe and Jack Sheridan, the show's central couple whose relationship unapologetically leans into its escapist fantasy rubric.

For a show in which time moves at a glacial pace — the first five seasons of the series take place within the span of about a year — the fictional couple, as played by Alexandra Breckenridge and Martin Henderson, managed to make it down the aisle despite enduring twists and turns that would have caused real-life couples to exchange some awkward breakup texts. Over the run of the show, they've have been kidnapped by illegal pot farmers; learned Jack was fathering twins by his ex — until it turned out to be a lie; Mel has been robbed at knife point, while Jack has been shot; later, once they finally get on the same page about having kids and are expecting, they're dealt a blow when Mel suffers a miscarriage.

They had the "for better, for worse" part of their commitment locked down, to say the least.

"My reaction was, 'good, about time!'" Henderson said in a recent video call. "I feel like the audience has wanted this moment for so long. Look, it's a romance novel. So aside from hot, steamy sex, what does an audience want? They want everlasting love, marriage and family and all of the happy ending. I think we walked a good balance of dragging that out long enough and teasing the audience long enough."

"It's the moment people have been waiting for since they started watching it," Breckenridge said.

Based on the bestselling book series by Robyn Carr, the drama is set in a charming small town in Northern California and revolves around the courtship between a nurse, who after the death of her husband, leaves behind her life in LA to start a new chapter, and a veteran who owns the town's popular bar. For showrunner and



Mel Monroe and Jack Sheridan get married in the Season 6 finale of "Virgin River." NETFLIX PHOTOS



Instead of a backyard wedding as in the book, Mel (Alexandra Breckenridge) and Jack (Martin Henderson) have a big farm wedding with ice sculptures in the "Virgin River" Season 6 finale.

executive producer Patrick Sean Smith, who started his career in the young adult space on shows like "Summerland" and "Greek," showing that a second chance at love at a different stage in life is possible has been a gratifying experience.

"Those stories are so much richer than just the purity of the first love," he said. "There's more nuance in it."

Mel and Jack get married early in the second book with less fanfare than what plays out on the screen. In the show, their meddling but well-intentioned friend Hope McCreary (Annette O'Toole), who is the town's mayor, persuades the couple into letting her plan the event — it's a means for the show's writers to throw a slightly more elaborate affair than a simple one fitting of the pair's style.

"I felt like if I had stayed true to the book with Mel and Jack getting married in his parents' backyard in Sacramento, I would have to make sure my home was unlisted because (fans) would

have come for me and my family," Smith said. "It felt reasonable to deviate. I had the pleasure of talking to Robyn Carr and letting her know what was happening, and she was just so excited that we were going to make it a big event. It just felt like to go six seasons and build to this epic milestone for this couple, that had to be big."

The show's creative team felt the pressure of fan expectations. Smith said the show's set decorator Mecca Thornhill put it this way: "Everybody has in their mind a different version of what Mel and Jack's wedding should look like."

"We wanted it to be Pinterest-able," Smith said. "We knew we wanted a cozy vibe. We wanted a farm vibe. We knew we wanted something in nature, which given the time period in which we were shooting in Vancouver, it was dicey. And we just got lucky. It was a beautiful day. I told everybody I prayed to Taylor Swift and that's what happens when you pray to Taylor.

She makes it happen."

While it was a sizable affair, the whole town wasn't there. The fictional community is said to have a population of about 600 people, but just 120 chairs were purchased for the ceremony, according to Tony Devenyi, the show's production designer. Four or five ice sculptures were commissioned. And being prepared for the unexpected was something they had to consider for the location. The original wedding site was quite a ways outside Vancouver, where the show is primarily filmed, but concerns about the limited options for pivoting in case the unpredictable June weather interfered prompted them to move the location three or four days before filming took place.

"Virgin River already has a style and a feel and a vibe to it that we really wanted to make sure was very rich in the wedding," Devenyi said. "It's still a small town vibe. We always wanted to make it that people (felt) they could actually achieve this if they got together — they could pull these things off without it being some kind of Hollywood wedding."

The pressure extended beyond the aesthetics of the wedding. Smith knew he had to deliver breath-hitching bits of romance — like the moment when, just as the ceremony should get underway, the pair gallop by horseback to revisit the river's edge that had been a backdrop to the start of their relationship or their post-ceremony coitus under the glow of firelight at their cabin.

"Taking it back to the beginning was what I always wanted to do from the start of the season," Smith said. "That was a bit of our

North Star. After so many speed bumps and obstacles, I knew I wanted a moment."

And the love scene? "It was my ice sculpture," Smith said. "They have to have ice sculptures and they have to have sex. There has to be mood lighting. We have to have the perfect song. The challenge with preparing the cabin is, it's what most newlywed suites look like on the daily. So then to be like, what do we add to it? My pitch was ice sculptures. And they said no to that. I was like, 'OK, fine.' There are no ice sculptures in the cabin. But we had rose petals and all of that."

It all worked effectively for Henderson.

"When (Breckenridge as Mel) finally does come down the aisle, I was so overcome with emotion from Jack's perspective, just because this is the woman he's going to marry that he loves so much" said Henderson, whose character ultimately traded in his tux for his marine uniform for the ceremony. "I couldn't help but feel everything that the characters have been through over the seasons, how much they meant to each other. I forgot to take my hat off like I had to because I was quite caught up in the whole thing."

As in any wedding, the bride's dress can be both the star and the headache. During Mel and Jack's first dance Breckenridge said the dress bustle kept falling, causing Henderson to repeatedly trip on it, which both guess is what prompted the whisper he gives her during the dance. The shrug Mel wears over the wedding dress during the reception is actually Breckenridge's, which she wore at her own wedding: "I had my husband overnight FedEx it to me."

The two episodes were filmed over 16 days. Smith said he approached it as an event that is more familiar to the broadcast TV model, with the wedding stretching over the final two episodes of the season. The 10 episodes of Season 6 take place over three weeks in the lead-up to the wedding.

In the closing moments of the "Virgin River" season finale, the wedding glow had faded just enough to set up some cliffhangers for next season. For Mel and Jack, that meant setting up the possibility of their adopting the baby of one of Mel's pregnant patients.

"As we're looking into Season 7, we're trying to find new dynamics in Mel and Jack's relationship that feel different now that they are married, to make the point that marriage matters," Smith said. "Sometimes in TV show, it's a prop, where you just are wearing a wedding ring."

Grappling with LONELINESS

Older men's connections often wither when left on their own

BY JUDITH GRAHAM
KFF HEALTH NEWS

At age 66, South Carolina physician Paul Rousseau decided to retire after tending for decades to the suffering of people who were seriously ill or dying. It was a difficult and emotionally fraught transition.

"I didn't know what I was going to do, where I was going to go," he said, describing a period of crisis that began in 2017.

Seeking a change of venue, Rousseau moved to the mountains of North Carolina, the start of an extended period of wandering. Soon, a sense of emptiness enveloped him. He had no friends or hobbies — his work as a doctor had been all-consuming. Former colleagues didn't get in touch, nor did he reach out.

His wife had passed away after a painful illness a decade earlier. Rousseau was estranged from one adult daughter and in only occasional contact with another. His isolation mounted as his three dogs, his most reliable companions, died.

Rousseau was completely alone — without friends, family, or a professional identity — and overcome by a sense of loss.

"I was a somewhat distinguished physician with a 60-page resume," Rousseau, now 73, wrote in the *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society* in May. "Now, I'm 'no one,' a retired, forgotten old man who dithers away the days."

In some ways, older men living alone are disadvantaged compared with older women in similar circumstances. Research shows that men tend to have fewer friends than women and be less inclined to make new friends. Often, they're reluctant to ask for help.

"Men have a harder time being connected and reaching out," said Robert Waldinger, a psychiatrist who directs the Harvard Study of Adult Development, which has traced the arc of hundreds of men's lives over a span of more than eight decades. The men in the study who fared the worst, Waldinger said, "didn't have friendships and things they were interested in — and couldn't find them."

Slightly more than 1 in every 5 men ages 65 to 74 live alone, according to 2022 Census Bureau data. That rises to nearly 1 in 4 for those 75 or older. Nearly 40% of these men are divorced, 31% are widowed and 21% never married.

That's a significant change from 2000, when only 1 in 6 older men lived by themselves. Longer life spans for men and rising divorce rates are contributing to the trend. It's difficult to find information about this group — which is dwarfed by the number of

women who live alone — because it hasn't been studied in depth. But psychologists and psychiatrists say these older men can be quite vulnerable.

When men are widowed, their health and well-being tend to decline more than women's.

"Older men have a tendency to ruminate, to get into our heads with worries and fears and to feel more lonely and isolated," said Jed Diamond, 80, a therapist and the author of "Surviving Male Menopause."

Add in the decline of civic institutions where men used to congregate — think of the Elks or the Shriners — and older men's reduced ability to participate in athletic activities, and the result is a lack of stimulation and the loss of a sense of belonging.

Depression can ensue, fueling excessive alcohol use, accidents or even suicide. Of all age groups in the United States, men over age 75 have the highest suicide rate, by far.

I spoke at length to a few older men who live alone. Their experiences don't represent all men who live alone. But still, they're revealing.

The first person I called was Art Koff, 88, of Chicago, a longtime marketing executive I'd known for several years. When I reached out last year, I learned that Koff's wife, Norma, had died the year before, leaving

him hobbled by grief. Uninterested in eating and beset by unremitting loneliness, Koff lost 45 pounds.

"I've had a long and wonderful life, and I have lots of family and lots of friends who are terrific," Koff told me. But now, he

said, "nothing is of interest to me any longer."

"I'm not happy living this life," he said.

Nine days later, I learned that Koff had died. His nephew, Alexander Koff, said he had passed out and was gone within a day. The death certificate cited "end stage protein calorie malnutrition" as the cause.

The transition from being coupled to being single can be profoundly disorienting for older men. Lodovico Balducci, 80, was married to his wife, Claudia, for 52 years before she died in October 2023. Balducci, a renowned physician known as the "patriarch of geriatric oncology," wrote about his emotional reaction in the *Journal of*

later, Balducci moved from Tampa to New Orleans, to be near his son and daughter-in-law and their two teenagers.

"I am planning to help as much as possible with my grandchildren," he said. "Life has to go on."

Verne Ostrander, a carpenter in the town of Willits, California, about 140 miles north of San Francisco, was reflective when I spoke with him. His second wife, Cindy Morninglight, died four years ago after battling cancer.

When Ostrander isn't painting watercolors, composing music or playing guitar, "I fall into this lonely state, and I cry quite a bit," he said. "I don't ignore those feelings. I let myself feel them. It's like therapy."

Ostrander has lived in Willits for nearly 50 years and belongs to a men's group and a couples' group that's been meeting for 20 years. He's in good health and in close touch with his three adult children, who live within driving distance.

"The hard part of living alone is missing Cindy," he told me. "The good part is the freedom to do whatever I want. My goal is to live another 20 to 30 years and become a better artist and get to know my kids when they get older."

Waldinger recommended that men "make an effort every day to be in touch with people. Find what you love — golf, gardening, birdwatching, pickleball, working on a political campaign — and pursue it," he said. "Put yourself in a situation where you're going to see the same people over and over again. Because that's the most natural way conversations get struck up and friendships start to develop."

Rousseau, the retired South Carolina doctor, said he doesn't think about the future much. After feeling lost for several years, he moved across the country to Jackson, Wyoming, in the summer of 2023. He embraced solitude, choosing an isolated spot to live — a 150-square-foot cabin with no running water and no bathroom, surrounded by 25,000 undeveloped acres of public and privately owned land.

"Yes, I'm still lonely, but the nature and the beauty here totally changed me and focused me on what's really important," he said.



Paul Rousseau pets his neighbor's dog, Obie, at the fish hatchery where he volunteers in Jackson, Wyoming. AMBER BAESLER FOR KFF HEALTH NEWS



TOP: Art Koff's wife, Norma, died last year. Racked with grief and with little desire to eat, Koff lost 45 pounds. **BOTTOM:** Verne Ostrander lives alone in the small town of Willits, California. His second wife, Cindy, died of cancer four years ago. PHOTO CREDITS: ALEXANDER KOFF AND VERNE OSTRANDER

the *American Geriatrics Society*, likening Claudia's death to an "amputation."

"I find myself talking to her all the time, most of the time in my head," Balducci said. When I asked him whom he confides in, he said, "Maybe I don't have any close friends."

Disoriented and disorganized since Claudia died, he said his "anxiety has exploded."

We spoke in late February. Two weeks



The all-electric 2024 EV9 offers excellent dynamics. KIA

AUTO REVIEW

Don't mind charging time in roomy, award-winning EV9

BY BARRY SPYKER
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Hooked to a super-fast charger, Kia's all-new, all-electric EV9 can recapture an 80% charge in 24 minutes. But what's the rush?

You'll be stretched out in the ultra-cushy three-row SUV, front seat reclined and power leg-rests deployed, while the Ergo Motion system performs a soothing massage. Might as well do the slow charger and flip on the 14-speaker Meridian audio system.

Kia and family (Hyundai, Genesis) have been attracting enormous attention in the EV world with several striking designs over the past couple of years. The EV9 has become the new flagship SUV, but 10 more electric vehicles are reportedly planned by 2026.

The EV9 is considered an upper-midsize but is just a half-inch bigger than its Telluride kin. It's unusually boxy and upright for an EV, with stacked LEDs and a lightning-bolt line of running lights. Working air intakes at the front

'24 KIA EV9 GT-LINE

Price: \$73,900 (\$76,935 as tested)

Powertrain: Dual motor setup

Horsepower/Torque:

379/516 pound-feet

Range: 270 miles

Performance: Zero to 60 mph in 4.8 seconds

EPA rating

(city/highway/combined): 88/72/80

corners cool the brakes.

On the sides, fender flares and recessed door handles reduce wind resistance. Rear tail lights have a radical, jagged streak, while the rear wiper is neatly hidden under the spoiler where it belongs.

EV9's base trim, called Light, starts in the mid-\$50s, has a single motor and rear-wheel drive. At the high end is the GT-Line, which blends near-luxury comfort with a hint of sportiness and uses two motors for more power and the sure-footedness of all-wheel drive.

Along with its dual motors are dual World Car awards – World

Car of the Year and World Electric Vehicle – bestowed for its exterior design and seven-seat interior.

EV9's driving dynamics are excellent. Steering is responsive and nicely weighted, and braking is strong and even. Corners are negotiated with good grip and minimal lean, especially for a nearly 3-ton SUV. Partial credit goes to the battery-derived low center of gravity.

Kia left out adaptive dampers and air suspension, yet it handles modest bumps acceptably.

Three drive modes here, and Normal is where you'll spend most of your time. Eco lightens the giddy-up and extends the range a bit; in Sport mode, adjustable seat bolsters tighten while throttle response quickens for a livelier ride.

While towing is not range-friendly, the SUV can pull 5,000 pounds and is equipped with a self-leveling rear suspension.

Electric range is not exceptional anyway at a Kia-estimated 270 miles, but some in buyer forums say they're doing closer to 300.

Climate, hills and personal driving style will contribute to your range.

As for charging, you'll need at least a Level 2 charger at home to get juiced up in nine hours. A public fast-charger will get it to 80% in about 1.5 hours. Or plug into a household outlet – if you have nowhere to be for four days.

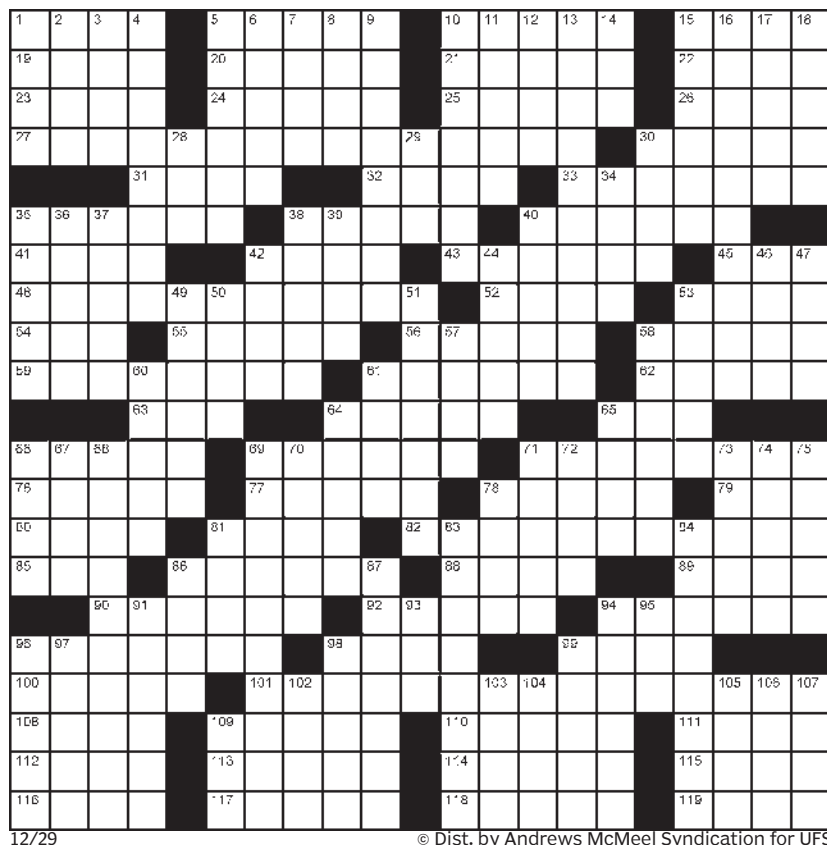
Inside, the EV9 seats six or seven and has nearly 160 cubic feet of passenger volume and comfort.

Up front, three digital displays are nicely merged into one broad screen. A 12.3-inch infotainment touchscreen provides navigation, entertainment, vehicle settings and diagnostics. Another, in front of the driver, is an LCD display with gauge cluster and other driver data. Between them is a 5-inch climate touchscreen for current temp, fan speed and vent positions.

EV9 comes standard with a package of driver-assist features, including adaptive cruise control, navigation-based assist on curves, and collision-avoidance systems for forward, rear and blind-spot situations. The GT-Line also gets an advanced highway-drive assist.

THE BIG X-WORD

Hotel Heist by James Barrick



ACROSS

- 1 Show rage
5 — ale, aka water
10 First letter
15 Egotist's concern
19 Singer — Redding
20 "Wheel of Fortune" purchase
21 Hall of Hall & Oates
22 Inter —
23 Alliance acronym
24 Rounded molding
25 Plummets
26 Latvian
27 Start of a quip by Yogi Berra: 4 wds.
30 Nouveau —
31 Times
32 Chief exec.
33 Made corrupt
35 Sweet bay
38 Pair in a box
40 Booze-up
41 Wine city in Italy
42 Note on a billet-doux envelope
43 Leans
45 Writer — Levin
48 Part 2 of quip: 3 wds.
52 Chills and fever
53 Highlander
54 — Aviv
55 Destroy little by little
56 Challenges
58 Go effortlessly
59 Make lethargic
61 Mild frisson
62 Comics' — Oop
63 Slippery —
64 Crystal-filled stone
65 Yoko —
66 Fiber plant
69 Curmudgeonly
71 Savory turnover
76 Ring-tailed animal
77 Part of Hispaniola
78 Beseech
79 — Moines, IA
80 Lascivious look
81 Monocle
82 Part 3 of quip: 2 wds.
85 — Arbor, MI
86 Blockades

DOWN

- 88 "Exodus" author
Leon —
89 Designer — Tahari
90 Force out
92 — Park, CO
94 Most wan
96 Ever-changing fashion feature
98 Low voice
99 Performing group
100 — — a million
101 End of the quip: 3 wds.
108 Say breathlessly
109 "The Purple Rose of —"
110 — acid
111 "On the double!"
112 Diminutive suffix
113 Ohio city
114 Jockey
115 Tuning fork part
116 Meeting: abbr.
117 Legumes
118 Curled lock
119 Life of Riley
37 Serviceable
38 Scandinavian
39 Storied racer
40 Bread roll
42 Gun pellets
44 Roomy
46 "The Name of the —"
47 Courtroom fig.
49 Material for bulletproof vests
50 Streetcar
51 Stupid
53 Wise lawgiver
57 — Capp of comics
58 G7 nation
60 Happen again
61 Try
64 Misleading appearance
65 Moonfish
66 — breve
67 "It Must Have — Love"
68 Constitutional add-ons
69 Dessert choice
70 Gamut
71 Immigrants' island
72 Prescribed drugs
73 Confuse
74 Fleur- — —
75 So far: 2 wds.
78 Unadulterated
81 Big celebrity
83 Get the better of
84 Move
86 PR specialty
87 Times of year
91 Aristocracy
93 Compass pt.
94 Rap sheet details
95 Island
96 Desires
97 Related on the mother's side
98 Metalloid element
99 Ditties
102 Pre-euro money
103 Moon of Saturn
104 Incidental
105 Home to billions
106 Without
107 Foil cousin
109 Hack

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Your HOROSCOPE

BY TAROT.COM

For Sunday, December 29

When we do the work, we can achieve visible results. The Moon in Sagittarius begins with a trine to Chiron. This activates Chiron's healing potential before it turns direct, stabilizing our paths toward soothing catharsis and emotional progress. The Moon will then square off Neptune, which does risk inciting a bit of confusion. Even so, things should begin to clear up when Luna slides into Capricorn, where it will be operating for the next couple of days.

ARIES

MARCH 21-APRIL 19

It's time to move forward. You too should turn around and face the future. Today, you can march forward with fresh ambition and energy to tackle the world, knowing that you will feel much lighter on a spiritual and emotional level. Acknowledge your renewed power from the universe.



LIBRA

SEPT. 23-OCT. 22

It isn't easy to see both sides of an issue. Today, thankfully, you can gain a better sense of things. This can also improve professional matters. All parties involved will be more likely to get what they want without leaving the other person stranded. Act with everyone's best interest in mind.



TAURUS

APRIL 20-MAY 20

Live and let go. You've been weeding out the old and unnecessary. This cycle will teach you how to reliably identify any factors in your life which actively hold you back or simply no longer serve you. Once you deal with them, you'll be able to go into the future with a lighter load. There is no more time for burdens.



SCORPIO

OCT. 23-NOV. 21

Rebalancing your life is possible — and necessary. This transformation doesn't need to be immediate or major. Instead, eliminate little habits that aren't improving the quality of your life. Be willing to set aside even one negative influence, and you should soon feel worlds better.



GEMINI

MAY 21-JUNE 20

Your friend group may look a little different than it used to. You're on a mission to find the best people. You and a few people may have exited each other's lives after deciding that you weren't on the same page. Even if you're still a little sore, you can finally go find the right people.



SAGITTARIUS

NOV. 22-DEC. 21

Self-expression is more important to your happiness than you may realize. This is an ideal time to put yourself out there. If you've felt ignored or as though others keep missing what you have to offer, don't stick to the shadows and hope your people will discover you eventually.



CANCER

JUNE 21-JULY 22

Professional progress isn't always easy. Instead of looking over your shoulder constantly, you can look ahead, envisioning new ways to reach your goals and feel better about yourself in the process. Don't sit back when there's healthy work to be done!



CAPRICORN

DEC. 22-JAN. 19

Your interior life deserves as much peace as possible. There is harmony within your space, even if you can't see it yet. Finishing a few domestic chores should help with that! Whether you're aiming for domestic bliss or a tidier abode, you are capable of achieving it.



LEO

JULY 23-AUG. 22

The world is only as daunting as you make it. It can feel overwhelming when everything is coming at you! Life is quickly moving forward once more. There are a lot of wonderful opportunities waiting for you, so don't cut yourself off from those possibilities.



AQUARIUS

JAN. 20-FEB. 18

Being gentle is more effective than being blunt at this time. Even if it feels awkward, starting out with friendly sensitivity is the best way to handle things. Follow the guidance of your empathetic side. Just don't think you need to scream your truth to be heard, either!



VIRGO

AUG. 23-SEPT. 22

Strengthening a connection isn't always comfortable. You may encounter friction with people in your life. Don't worry — these scrapes are the kind that can enact positive progress as you acknowledge areas of your life that may have fallen to the wayside. Dive in and learn all you can.



PISCES

FEB. 19-MARCH 20

A little financial relief could be moments away. Money matters may have required your attention. Life can also enlighten you regarding where you might be dropping the ball or angles that have room for improvement, so lean into this shift. By its end, you should wind up in a much better place of material security where you'll feel at your best.



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CLUE: PARTY ANIMALS

HIDDEN: 500 & 140

BY CHERI SMITH

WWW.MAGICEYE.COM

BAKER STREET PUZZLE



Answer: 6 feet in a fathom

Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form six ordinary words.

RWHGTO
NSKIRH
DICAIC
DUITOS
TBAENT
AFDCAE



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW

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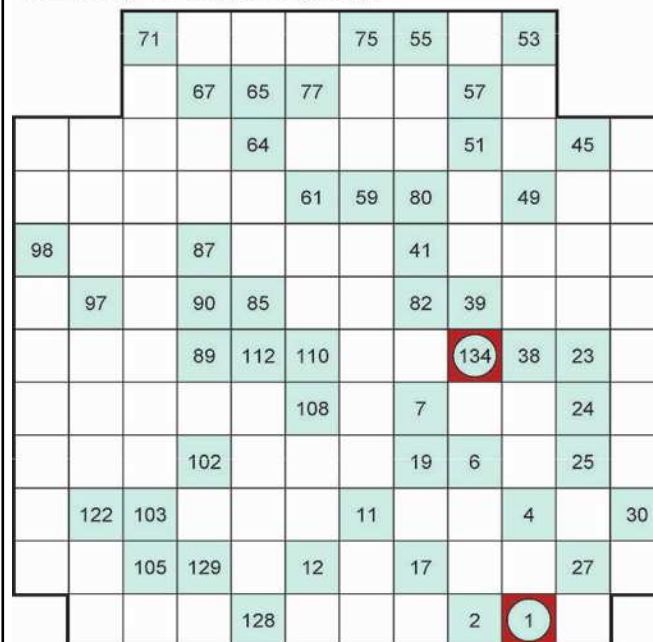
PREVIOUS SOLUTIONS

SEER BELTS HIRAM APPS
IN ANORA CVOI INI
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IVETAKENMOVIESFORNSA
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ARKS ODE MLEB NOVAE
TALE PACER SOLE
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TEAL DRIED ARREST
APOSTLE MEAL TGI F
MAC MOVIES FORTIEMONEY
ASPE MANCA RAMEN RULE
SHIN EDSSEL EVERT CLAW
AFS DETAT NINCS F IIS

133 134 112 111 110 107 106 105 104 103
132 135 114 113 6 109 108 16 18 19 101 102
131 115 136 5 7 14 15 96 17 100 20 21
116 130 9 8 4 13 95 94 97 99 26 22
129 117 10 119 12 3 92 93 98 27 25 23
128 118 11 120 2 88 91 28 30 24
123 127 121 1 87 89 90 29 31 34
124 126 122 83 84 86 59 57 55 32 33 35
125 68 82 66 85 60 58 56 54 40 36 38
69 71 67 81 65 64 61 42 41 53 39 37
72 70 76 77 80 63 62 43 45 52 48 49
73 74 75 78 79 44 46 47 51 50

HIDATO

Complete the grid so that numbers 1 - 134 connect horizontally, vertically or diagonally:



www.hidato.com

Dif. ★★★★★

JUMBLE FOR KIDS

The letters of these crazy words are all mixed up. To play the game, put them back into the right order so that they make real words you can find in your dictionary. Write the letters of each real word under each crazy word, but only one letter to a square.

RCY
CSIK
TADE
RYAP



WHEN THE TARANTULA BECAME A SECRET AGENT, HE WAS A ---

Color me

Now you're ready to solve today's Jumble For Kids. Study the picture for a hint. Play around with the letters in the circles. You'll find you can put them in order so that they make your funny answer.

Print answer here: "RCY - CSIK"

Jumble: SUMMON, ACCORD, STUFFY, FEDORA, FASTEN, BRONCO. The golfer didn't have time to warm up, so he hit his first tee shot — OFF COURSE, OF COURSE
Jumble for Kids: ASK, TILT, KING, QUIT. The skunk got fired from his job because he — STUNK AT IT

SUNDAY EVENING TV										LIVE SPORTS	MOVIES	REALITY	
	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM	
2 WCBS	CBS 2 News Sunday (N)	60 Minutes (N)		60 Minutes (N)		Grammy Greats: The Most Memorable Moments (N)				CBS News New York 11pm (N)	(11:35) Jets Late Night	(12:05) Joel Osteen	
3 WJLP	Collector's Call	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	All in the Family	All in the Family	All in the Family	All in the Family	Sullivan	Carol Burnett	Dick Van Dyke	Dick Van Dyke	Honeymoon.	
4 WNBC	NBC Nightly News (N)	Football Night in America (N)		(8:15) NFL Football - Atlanta Falcons at Washington Commanders - The Commanders (10-5) go for a fourth win in a row over the Falcons (8-7) on Sunday Night Football. (N)						News 4 NY at 11 (N)		Sports Final (N)	
5 WNYW	(4:25) NFL Football - Dallas Cowboys at Philadelphia Eagles	The OT (N)		The Simpsons (N)	Universal Basic Guys (N) (SF)	Bob's Burgers (N)	The FOX Winter Preview (N)	The 10 O'Clock News (N)	Fox 5 Sports Extra (N)	Graham Bensinger	Raw Travel	TMZ (N)	
7 WABC	ABC World News (N)	FROZEN ('13) ★★★ Voices of Idina Menzel, Jonathan Groff, Kristen Bell.				FROZEN II ('19) ★★★ Voices of Idina Menzel, Josh Gad, Kristen Bell.				Eyewitness News at 11 (N)		The Rookie	
9 WWOR	Raw Travel	Chicago P.D.		Family Feud	Family Feud	Family Feud	Family Feud	Suits	Suits		Raw Travel		
10/55 WLNY	(6:00) ET (N)	Inside Ed. (N)	The Point	CBS News Sunday Morning (N)			Paid Prog.	Judge Judy	Our Honor	Neighbor	Neighbor	Modern Family	
11 WPIX	Paid Prog.	Freddie Mercury: The Final Act				Bob Heart	Bob Heart	PIX11 News at Ten (N)		PIX11 Sports Nation (N)		Two Half Men	
13 WNET	Tradfest: Fingal	The First Lady		Lucy Worsley-Royal		All Creatures Great		All Creatures Great		Velvet			
21 WLIW	Weekend (N)	Broadway's Leading Men: A Musical Celebration				Elton John: The Million Dollar Piano				Eat To Sleep			
25 WNYE	(6:00) Aktina TV	Buzz	Profiles	On Story	A Day's Work	Her Big Idea	Neighborh	Nightmare Theatre				Karamu: Feast	
31 WPXN	(6:00) NCIS	NCIS		NCIS		NCIS		NCIS		NCIS		NCIS	
41 WFUT2	(6:00) Unusual	Homicide Hunter: Lt. Joe Kenda		Homicide Hunter: Lt. Joe Kenda		Dateline - Two best friends are killed within a day of each other.				Most Shocking		Shocking	
47 WNJU	Noticias T	Exatión Estados Unidos: All-Stars											
A&E	(6:00) First 48	The First 48			The First 48: Catching a Killer		The First 48: Catching a Killer		The First 48: Catching a Killer		(11:05) The First 48: Killer	(12:05) First 48	
AMC	(5:30) THE HUNGER GAMES ('12) ★★★	Jennifer Lawrence.			THE HUNGER GAMES: CATCHING FIRE ('13) ★★★ Josh Hutcherson, Jennifer Lawrence.							HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY...	
ANPL	(6:00) Rugged	Rugged Justice			Yellowstone Wardens		Yellowstone Wardens (N)		Yellowstone Wardens		Yellowstone Wardens		
BBCA	JERRY MAGUIRE ('96) ★★★	Cuba Gooding Jr., Renée Zellweger, Tom Cruise.					A FEW GOOD MEN ('92) ★★★ Jack Nicholson, Demi Moore, Tom Cruise.						
BET	TYLER PERR...	Year in Black (N)			TYLER PERRY'S MADEA'S WITNESS PROTECTION ('12) ★★ Eugene Levy, Romeo Miller, Tyler Perry.					PROUD MARY ('18) ★ Taraji P. Henson.			
BRV	(5:30) BILLY MADISON ('95) ★	HAPPY GILMORE ('96) ★★ Christopher McDonald, Adam Sandler.			BILLY MADISON ('95) ★ Darren McGavin, Adam Sandler.					HAPPY GILMORE ('96) ★★			
CBSSN	The 2024 R	The Musial Awards (N)			World Poker Tour		World Poker Tour		World Poker Tour		World Poker Tour		
CNBC	SharkTank	Shark Tank			Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		
CNN	Newsroom	CNN Newsroom (N)			The Radical Story of Patty Hearst		The Radical Story of Patty Hearst		The Radical Story of Patty Hearst		The Radical Story of Patty Hearst		
COM	(6:35) Office	(7:10) Office	(7:45) Office	(8:20) The Office		(8:55) Office		The Office	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	
DISN	Kiff	Kiff	Kiff	MONSTERS, INC. ('01) ★★★ John Goodman.			(9:40) Primos		(10:05) Primos	Primos	Primos	Big City Greens	
DSC	(6:00) Homestead Rescue	Homestead Rescue			Homestead Rescue				Homestead				
E!	(6:00) MEET THE PARENTS ★★★	Ben Stiller, Robert De Niro.			MEET THE FOCKERS ('04) ★★ Ben Stiller, Dustin Hoffman, Robert De Niro.					LITTLE FOCKERS ('10) ★ Robert De Niro.			
ESPN	(5:00) 30 for 30	SportsCenter (N)			SportCtr (N)		NHL Hockey - Dallas Stars at Chicago Blackhawks (N)			SportCtr (N)		SportsCenter (N)	
ESPN2	(6:00) 2023 AKC National Championship Dog Show Presented By Royal Canin					2024 MMA Awards (N)			X Games Aspen 2024 - Trending Moments				
FAM	(6:45) HOME ALONE ('90) ★★★	Joe Pesci, Daniel Stern, Macaulay Culkin.				(9:15) HOME ALONE 2: LOST IN NEW YORK ('92) ★★ Joe Pesci, Daniel Stern, Macaulay Culkin.					HOME ALONE...		
FBN	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Paid Prog.	
FNC	(6:00) FoxReport	The Big Weekend Show (N)			Life, Liberty & Levin (N)		Sunday Night (N)		The Big Weekend Show		Life, Liberty & Levin		
FOOD	(6:00) Grocery	Guy's Grocery Games			Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	
FX	DOCTOR STRANGE IN THE MULTIVERSE OF MAD...			THOR: LOVE AND THUNDER ('22) ★★ Natalie Portman, Chris Hemsworth.					THOR: LOVE AND THUNDER ('22) ★★ Chris Hemsworth.				
HALL	(6:00) 'TIS THE SEASON TO BE MERRY ('21)	THIS TIME EACH YEAR ('24) Niall Matter, Alison Sweeney.				SNOW BRIDE ('13) Jordan Belfi, Susie Abromeit, Katrina Law.				CHRISTMAS ...			
HBO	(6:10) Dune	(7:10) Dune: Prophecy	(8:15) Dune: Prophecy			(9:10) Dune: Prophecy			(10:35) JUPITER ASCENDING ('15) ★★ Channing Tatum.				
HGTV	HomeTown	Home Town		Home Town (N)		Home Town (N)		Hunters (N)	House Hunters	House Hunters	House Hunters	Home Town	
HIST	UnXplained	The UnXplained			The UnXplained		The UnXplained		(10:05) The UnXplained		(11:05) The UnXplained		
HLN	Forensic Files	Forensic Files	Forensic Files	Forensic Files	Forensic Files	Forensic Files	Forensic Files	Forensic Files	Forensic Files	Forensic Files	Forensic Files	Forensic Files	
ID	(6:00) Evil Lives	Evil Lives Here		Evil Lives Here		Very Scary People (N)				48 Hours on ID		Scary	
IFC	40 YEAR-OLD...	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	
LIFE	(5:00) HIDDEN FIGURES ('16) ★★★	FIFTY SHADES OF GREY ('15) ★★ Jamie Dornan, Jennifer Ehle, Dakota Johnson.				(10:35) MY HUSBAND'S SEVEN WIVES ('24)							
LIFEMOV	(6:00) MY HUSBAND'S KILLER AFFAIR ('24)	MY HUSBAND'S OTHER FACE ('24) Braxton Angle, Brooke Burfitt.					HIDING FROM MY HUSBAND ('23) Kayla Fields, Mike Markoff.						
LOGO	Mama's Family	Mama's Family	Mama's Family	Mama's Family	Mama's Family	Mama's Family	Will & Grace	Will & Grace	Will & Grace	Will & Grace	Will & Grace	Will & Grace	
MAX	(6:10) DEADPOOL ('16) ★★★	Ryan Reynolds.			RESULTS ('15) ★★★ Cobie Smulders, Guy Pearce.		(9:45) RIDE ALONG 2 ('16) ★★ Kevin Hart, Tika Sumpter, Ice Cube.				(11:25) AMERICAN HONEY		
MSG	NHLHockey	MSG Shorts	The Better	100 Yards					4th & Forever	4th & Forever	NY Giants Postgame		
MSGSN	(5:30) NHL Hockey	Postgame (N)			United Fight Alliance		United Fight Alliance		Poker		Poker		
MSNBC	(6:00) Sunday	Inside With Jen Psaki			My Generation				My Generation				
MTV	NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM: SECRET OF THE TOMB			NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM ('06) ★★ Carla Gugino, Dick Van Dyke, Ben Stiller.					Ridiculousness	Ridiculousness	Ridiculousness	Ridiculousness	
NGEO	(6:00) Trafficked	Trafficked: Und			Trafficked: Und		Inside Airport Lost & Found		To Catch a Smuggler		To Catch a Smuggler		
NICK	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Big Bang	
OWN	20/ 20, OWN	20/20 on OWN		20/20 on OWN		20/20 on OWN		20/20 on OWN		20/20 on OWN		20/20 on OWN	
OXY	(6:00) Snapped	A Plan to Kill (N)			Philly Homicide		Snapped		Serial Killer Capital: Los Angeles				
PARMT	(6:50) Yellowstone: 1923	Yellowstone: 1923 (N)			(9:35) Yellowstone: 1923 (N)			(10:55) Yellowstone: 1923					
PARSHO	JACK REACHER	(7:15) Dexter: Original Sin			Dexter: Original Sin		The Agency (N)		Dexter: Original Sin (N)		The Agency		
SMITH	(6:00) Aerial	On the Fly: Adventures at Altitude			On the Fly: Adventures at Altitude		On the Fly: Adventures at Altitude		On the Fly: Adventures at Altitude		On the Fly: Adventures at Altitude		
SNY	Basketball	Jets Post Game - Jets at Bills			AmazinFin	AmazinFin	Women's College Basketball - Providence at Connecticut			SportsNite (N)	SportsNite (N)	SportsNite (N)	
STARZ	(6:15) BORDERLANDS ('24) ★	Cate Blanchett.			Outlander		(9:05) Outlander		(10:10) THE BOURNE IDENTITY ('02) ★★★ Matt Damon.				
STZENC	(6:00) PITCH BLACK ★★	(7:50) THE CHRONICLES OF RIDDICK ('04) ★★ Colm Feore, Vin Diesel.			(9:55) RIDDICK ('13) ★★ Karl Urban, Jordi Mollà, Vin Diesel.					CAPTAIN AM...			
SUND	(5:30) TRADING PLACES ('83) ★★★	FAST TIMES AT RIDGEMONT HIGH ('82) ★★★ Sean Penn.			SIXTEEN CANDLES ('84) ★★ Anthony Michael Hall, Molly Ringwald.					FAST TIMES ...			
SYFY	(6:00) HARRY POTTER AND THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX ('07) ★★★	(8:55) HARRY POTTER AND THE HALF-BLOOD PRINCE ('09) ★★★ Rupert Grint, Daniel Radcliffe.					HARRY POTT...						
TBS	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Wipeout (N)		GROWN UPS ('10) ★ Kevin James, Chris Rock, Adam Sandler.				GROWN UPS 2	
TCM	(6:00) KING SOLOMON'S MINES ('50) ★★★	MILDRED PIERCE ('45) ★★★ Jack Carson, Ann Blyth, Joan Crawford.						DOUBLE INDEMNITY ('44) ★★★★★ Fred MacMurray.					
TLC	(6:00) 90 Day	90 Day Fiancé			90 Day Fiancé - Loren tries to patch things up with Faith. (N)				Sister Wives (N)		90 Day Fiancé (N)		
TMC	(6:15) BORN TO BE BLUE ('15) ★★★	CHICAGO ('02) ★★★ Renée Zellweger, Catherine Zeta-Jones.				DREAMGIRLS ('06) ★★★ Beyoncé Knowles-Carter, Jamie Foxx.							
TNT	PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: AT WORLD'S END			PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: ON STRANGER TIDES ('11) ★★ Penélope Cruz, Johnny Depp.								PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: ON STRANGER TID...	
TOON	CHARLIE & THE CHOCOLATE F...	Bob's Burgers		Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	American Dad!	American Dad!	American Dad!	American Dad!	Rick and Morty	Rick and Morty	Primal	
TRUTV	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	
TRVL	(6:00) Bigfoot	Alaskan Killer Bigfoot			Attack of the Yeti			Yeti Massacre				Att. - Yeti	
TVLND	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	
USA	(6:00) Law-SVU	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit			Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Law-SVU		
VH1	(5:30) SPARKLE ('12) ★★	Whitney Houston, Jordyn Sparks.			THE BODYGUARD ('92) ★★ Whitney Houston, Gary Kemp, Kevin Costner.		Living Single					Living Single	
WE	(6:00) Law	Law & Order			Law & Order		Law & Order		Law & Order		Law & Order		
YES	Nets Magaz.	NBA Basketball - Brooklyn Nets at Orlando Magic - From Kia Center in Orlando, Fla.						Homegrown	Yanks Mag.	NBA Basketball - Brooklyn Nets at Orlando Magic			

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Host/Hostess (Astoria, NY): Greet & provide patrons w/ seat arrangements, menus, orders, specialties & features. Coordinate w/ staff to ensure patron satisfaction w/ food & overall service. Plan & coordinate reservations, special events/services, patron's specific dining requests w/ staff & management. Inspect dining & serving areas to ensure cleanliness, proper setup & supplies availability. Assist staff w/ food & beverages service. Min. Wage: \$35,000.00 / Year. Mail Resumes: Joannides Group LLC dba Queen's Room, Attn: HR, 3602 Ditmars Blvd, Astoria, NY 11105.

Help Wanted General

Mrkt Mgr., Pharmaceutical Prods & Svc. Bronx, NY, Develop & execute mrkt promotion policies of phrmceuticals products & services, marketing research of pharmaceuticals & allied products, mrkt regulations & accreditation requirmnts, create product promotion herbl litrture evaluating chemical constituents & pharmacological response & drugs price strategy. Need Bachelor in Pharmacy/ Mrkt/related, 2 yrs. exp. & knowl of phrmceutcs & phrmceutic products, pharmacognosy(plants & herbal medicinal products), phrmceutical mkt, phrmceutical reg/ forensic pharmacy, math, stats/ biostats & computer applications in pharmacy. Mail resume to Willis Care Pharmacy Inc, 208 Willis Ave., Bronx, NY 10454

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Systems Engineer (Multiple Positions). Wage - \$146,286.00. Plan & dsgn of enterprise security architecture.
Systems Engineer (Multiple Positions). Wage - \$146,286.00. Plan & dsgn of enterprise security architecture.
Systems Engineer (Multiple Positions). Wage - \$146,286.00. Plan & dsgn of enterprise security architecture.
Systems Engineer (Multiple Positions). Wage - \$146,286.00. Plan & dsgn of enterprise security architecture.
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TELLER MART. LLC (Bronx, NY) is looking for **Head Chef**. Must have an Associate degree and a food handling course. Must have at least 12 months of experience with kitchen equipment. Must be able to speak Urdu and English. Competent level of English spoken and written. Ability to cook Pakistan cuisines. Awareness of manual handling techniques. Please send a resume to tellermart@aol.com

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Foreclosures

NOTICE OF SALE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that in accordance with applicable provisions of the Uniform Commercial Code as enacted in New York, by virtue of certain Events of Default under that certain Pledge and Security Agreement, dated as of February 25, 2016, executed and delivered by FLETCHER MEZZ LLC and AGHARTA FLETCHER MEZZ LLC (together, "Pledgor"), and in accordance with it rights as holder of the security, 2200 FLETCHER AVE. MEZZ LLC (the "Secured Party"), by virtue of possession of that certain Share Certificate held in accordance with Article 8 of the Uniform Commercial Code of the State of New York, and by virtue of that certain UCC-1 Filing Statement made in favor of Secured Party, all in accordance with Article 9 of the Code, Secured Party will offer for sale, at public auction: (i) all of Pledgor's right, title, and interest in and to the following: (i) the limited liability company interests in FLETCHER OFFICE CENTER LLC and AGHARTA REALTY LLC (together, "Pledged Entity"), and (ii) certain related rights and property relating thereto (collectively, (i) and (ii) are the "Collateral" as more specifically described in Exhibit A). Secured Party's understanding is that the principal asset of Pledged Entity is the premises located at 2200 Fletcher Avenue, Fort Lee, NJ (Block: 5854; Lot: 1).

David Schechtman, of Meridian Capital Group, ("MCG"), will conduct a public sale consisting of the Collateral, via in person and online bidding, on January 3, 2025 at 10:30am, in satisfaction of an indebtedness in the approximate amount of \$6,194,858.19, including principal, interest on principal, and reasonable fees and costs, plus default interest through January 3, 2025, subject to open charges and all additional costs, fees and disbursements permitted by law. The Secured Party reserves the right to credit bid.

Bidder Qualification Deadline: Interested parties who intend to bid on the Collateral must contact David Schechtman at Meridian Capital Group One Battery Park Plaza, 26th Floor, New York, NY 10004, (212) 468-5907, dschechtman@meridiancapital.com, by December 31, 2024 by 2:00 pm to receive the Terms and Conditions of Sale and bidding instructions, including a Zoom link for the sale. Upon registration and execution of a standard confidentiality and non-disclosure agreement, which can be found at the following link <https://www.meridiancapital.com/2200-fletcher/> additional documentation and information will be available. Interested parties who do not contact MCG and qualify prior to the sale will not be permitted to enter a bid.

EXHIBIT A
The "Collateral" shall mean all of Borrower's right, title and interest to the following, wherever located and whether now existing or hereafter acquired and/or arising: (i) all Pledged Securities; (ii) all securities, moneys or property representing dividends or interest on any of the Pledged Securities, or representing a distribution in respect of the Pledged Securities, or resulting from a split-up, revision, reclassification or other like change of the Pledged Securities or otherwise received in exchange therefor, and any subscription warrants, rights or options issued to the holders of, or otherwise in respect of, the Pledged Securities; (iii) all right, title and interest of Borrower in, to and under any policy of insurance or insurance claims payable by reason of loss of or damage to the Pledged Securities and any other Collateral; (iv) all rights, privileges, authority and power arising from the Pledged Securities and Borrower's interest in each Mortgage Borrower; (v) except as otherwise expressly provided in the Limited Liability Company Agreement and the Mortgage Loan Documents, the capital and equity of Borrower in Mortgage Borrower and any and all profits, losses, distributions and allocations attributable thereto as well as the proceeds of any distribution thereof, whether arising under the terms of any of the following documents, as applicable (each an "Organizational Document" and collectively, the "Organizational Documents"): articles of incorporation, articles of organization, certificate of incorporation, certificate of formation, certificate of limited partnership, certificate of organization, by-laws, limited partnership agreement, limited liability company agreement, stock certificates, certificates of limited partnership interests or general partnership interests, certificates of limited liability company membership interests, and all amendments or modifications of any of the foregoing, and all other agreements, instruments and/or other organizational or governing documents of or relating to the Pledged Securities and Mortgage Borrower; (vi) subject to any similar right granted to Mortgage Lender, all other payments, if any, due or to become due to Borrower in respect of any Collateral, under or arising out of any Organizational Document of Mortgage Borrower or otherwise, whether as contractual obligations, damages, insurance proceeds, condemnation awards or otherwise; (vii) all of Borrower's claims, rights, powers, privileges, authority, options, security interests, Liens and remedies, if any, under or arising out of the ownership of the Pledged Securities; (viii) all of Borrower's rights pursuant to any Organizational Document of Mortgage Borrower or at law or in equity, to exercise and enforce every right, power, remedy, authority, option and privilege of Borrower relating to the Pledged Securities, including, but not limited to, the right to execute any instruments and to take any and all other action on behalf of and in the name of Borrower in respect of the Pledged Securities and/or Mortgage Borrower, to vote, to make determinations, to exercise any election (including, but not limited to, election of remedies) or option or to give or receive any notice, consent, amendment, waiver or approval, together with full power and authority to demand, receive, enforce or collect any of the foregoing or any property of Mortgage Borrower to enforce or execute any checks, or other instruments or orders and to file any claims and to take any action in connection with any of the foregoing; (ix) all Investment Property (as such term is defined in the UCC) issued by, or relating to, Mortgage Borrower; (x) all equity interests or other property now owned or hereafter acquired by Borrower as a result of exchange offers, recapitalizations of any type, contributions to capital, options or other rights relating to the Pledged Securities; (xi) all Accounts, Deposit Accounts, Documents, Instruments, Money, Letter-of-Credit Rights (whether the letter of credit is evidenced by writing), General Intangibles (including payment intangibles), registered copyrights, Chattel Paper (whether tangible or electronic), Goods (including Inventory, Equipment and Accessions thereto), Commercial Tort Claims, insurance and insurance claims and Supporting Obligations (as each such item is defined in the UCC); and (xii) Proceeds (as defined in the UCC) of any of the foregoing property of Borrower (including, without limitation, any proceeds of insurance thereon). As used herein, "Borrower" means Fletcher Mezz LLC and Agharta Fletcher Mezz LLC, "Pledged Securities" means all of Borrower's limited liability company membership interests in each Mortgage Borrower listed on Schedule 1 to the Pledge and Security Agreement, together with all limited liability company membership certificates, limited partnership certificates, stock certificates, options or rights of any nature whatsoever which now or hereafter may be issued or granted by Mortgage Borrower to Borrower, "Mortgage Borrower" means Fletcher Office Center LLC and Agharta Realty LLC, "Mortgage Loan Documents" means the Note, Loan Agreement, and all other documents, agreements and certificates executed and/or delivered in connection with the loan between Citigroup Global Markets Realty Corp., and Mortgage Borrowers, as the same may be amended, restated, replaced, supplemented or otherwise modified from time to time, and "Mortgage Lender" means Citigroup Global Markets Realty Corp. Schedule 1 to the Pledge and Security Agreement is summarized here: Issuer: Fletcher Office Center LLC, a Delaware LLC, Owner: Fletcher Mezz LLC, a Delaware LLC, Class of Membership Interest/Stock: N/A, Percentage of Membership Interest/Stock: 100%. Issuer: Agharta Realty LLC, a Delaware LLC, Owner: Agharta Fletcher Mezz LLC, a Delaware LLC, Class of Membership Interest/Stock: N/A, Percentage of Membership Interest/Stock: 100%.

Notices

Legal Notices

The Annual Return for the Floors Foundation is available for inspection upon written request to J. Feldman, 1329 E 24th St., Brooklyn, NY 11210
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SUNDAY CROSSWORD II

END OF THE LINE

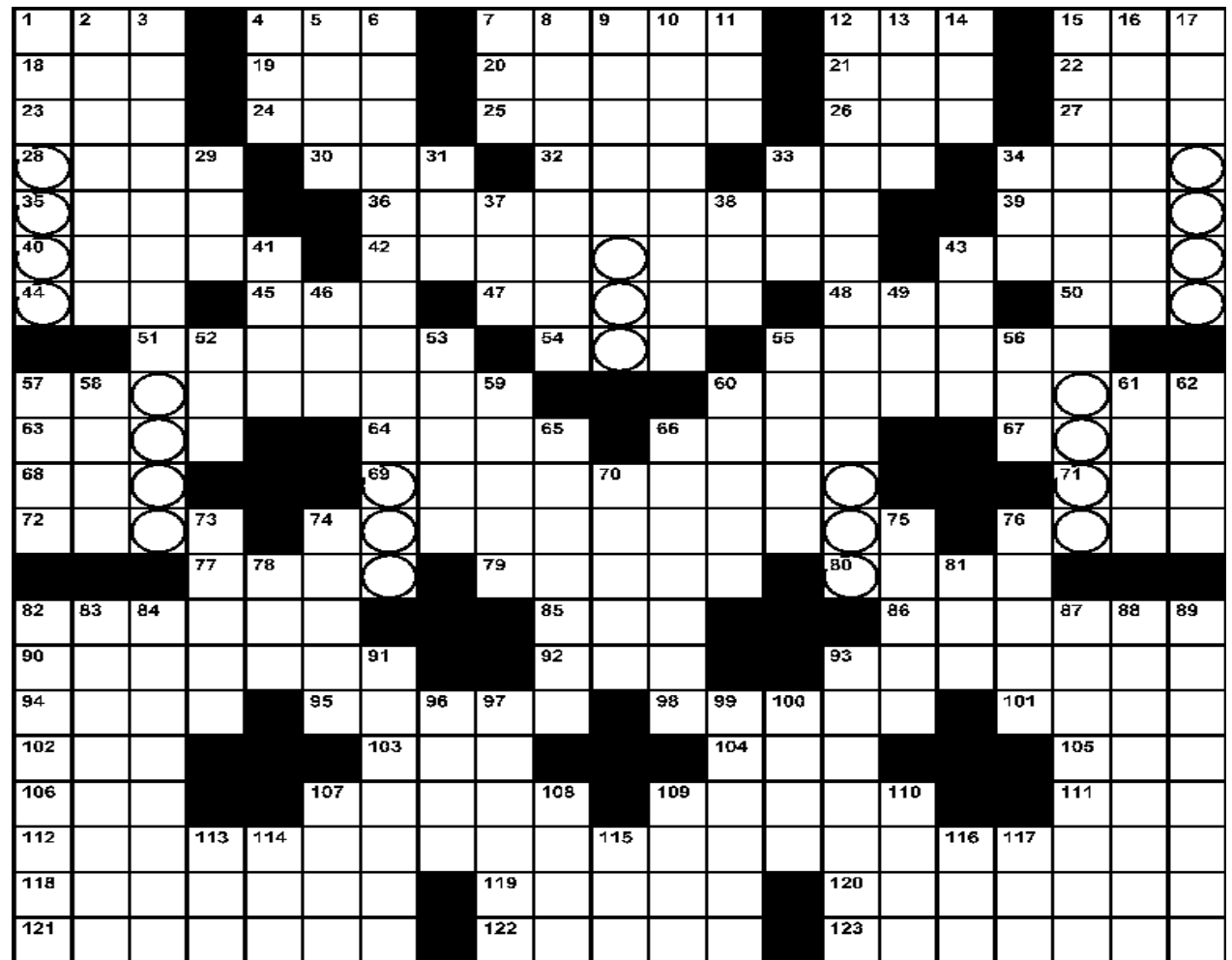
By Paul Coulter,
edited by Jeff Chen

ACROSS

- 1 Pull a bank heist
4 Cry heard around a scarecrow
7 Some soup beans
12 Comprehend
15 Floor cleaner
18 Longoria of "Desperate Housewives"
19 Blond shade
20 NBA All-Star Stoudemire
21 Half and half?
22 "Feliz ____ Nuevo!" ("Happy New Year!")
23 No-goodnik
24 Oolong or Assam
25 Japanese cartoon art
26 Alkaline liquid
27 Mechanical part on a shaft
28 Idris of "Luther: The Fallen Sun"
30 DOJ arm
32 John Lennon's love
33 Lovelace of early computing
34 Cut back
35 CONTROL's foe, on "Get Smart"
36 What some Teslas can do
39 Hollywood favorite
40 Castaway's site
42 Choice at a roulette wheel
43 Author Calvino
44 Pajama-clad exec
45 Cleopatra's killer
47 Takes off
48 Boxer's quick punch
50 D.C. United's league
51 Made a sudden move, as a fencer
54 Some popular TVs
55 Arm bones
57 Prepares the sting
60 Familiarize
63 ____ vez (again, in Spanish)
64 Shade of bleu
66 Sitar master Shankar
67 Baseball All-Star Slaughter
68 Aussie critter
69 Dealer's wheels
71 Official at home
72 Website for film buffs (Abbr.)
74 Plastic items that have been turned into rafts and bird feeders
76 Crafts site
77 "Beowulf" or "Gilgamesh"
79 ____ voce (softly)
80 Tombstone lawman
82 Court reporter, briefly
85 Cedar Rapids college
86 Preferences
90 Sent home from third
92 Bobby of hockey fame
93 Centerpiece for Hanukkah
94 Door sign
95 Boost
98 High-end violin, informally
101 Soup at a Japanese restaurant
102 Pt. of NATO
103 Came in first
104 Persian, for one
105 "Little" car of song (Abbr.)
106 Fix, in a way
107 Tough HS English course
109 MLB catcher Carlton Fisk's nickname
111 Gangster's gun
112 Ocean current where "school" teachers train fish to be on the alert for fishing lines?
118 Big-name celeb
119 Beethoven dedicatee
120 Bone attached to the sternum
121 Like some old bargain stores
122 Alternative to heels
123 "The rumor is ..."

DOWN

- 1 Jacob and Esau's mother
2 Produce an egg



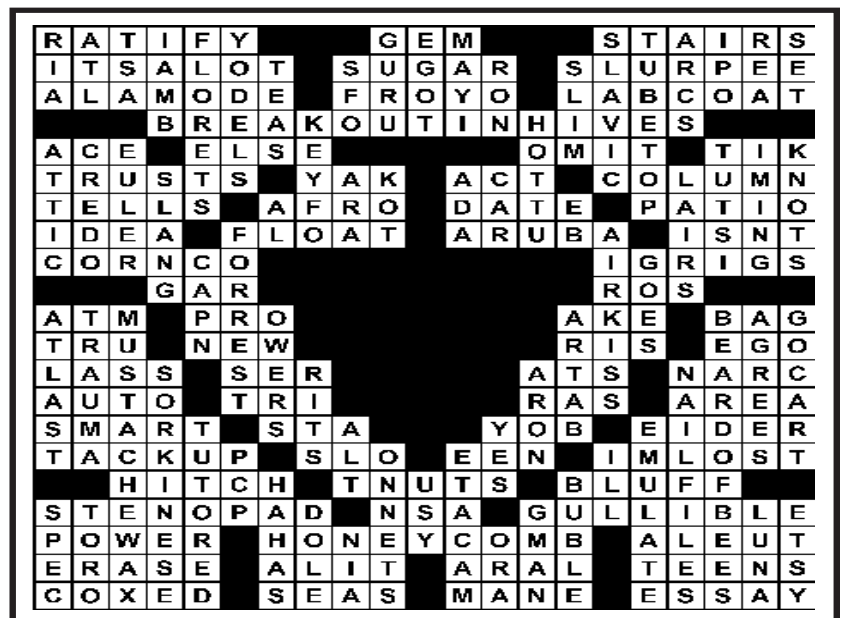
12/29

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- 3 Angler's equipment also known as a "split cane"
4 Persian, perhaps
5 Where anglers might be as they drop a line
6 Bugs Bunny cartoon that parodies Wagner's Ring Cycle
7 AL West team, on scoreboards
8 "Don't play me for a sap"
9 Strip with a lot of people around?
10 Weapon makers
11 "Get it?"
12 50th-anniversary celebration
13 New Age singer from County Donegal
14 Athletic supporter?
15 Crunchy Hawaiian treat with a buttery flavor
16 Hot, in Vegas
17 Big citrus fruits
29 Communication for the Deaf (Abbr.)
31 G-man
33 Madison ____ (N.Y. location)
34 Barbecue site
37 Mormon church (Abbr.)
38 ER drips
41 Actress Turner
43 "As if"
46 NYPD rank
49 "____ seeing things?"
52 Cable network
53 In a fog
55 Vaclav who was the Czech Republic's first president
56 Deeply regret
57 Greiner of "Shark Tank"
58 Little bit of matter
59 Sneakers with a cat logo
60 Lacked options
61 Big gobblers
62 Catch a glimpse of
65 Crime-fighting film cyborg
66 Cads

- 70 Drive
73 Poet Stephen who wrote "John Brown's Body"
74 Magical symbol
75 Filled
76 ____ salts
78 Place for a pair of peas
81 Bled, in the wash
82 Cusses out
83 Deed that might be purchased at an auction
84 Villainous smile
87 Gives rise to
88 Japan's region
89 Goes past rapidly
91 Rhode Island resort
93 Larvae that can provide crime scene clues
96 Game with greens
97 Org. providing humanitarian aid to kids
99 Breaks from fighting
100 Fashion pioneer Gernreich
107 "Absolutely!"
108 Crossing cost
109 "Check this out!"
110 100 cents
113 PC key
114 Chowd down
115 Actress Vardalos
116 Bottom line
117 Born, in bios

Answer to last week's puzzle



NYDN SPORTS



GHOSTS OF PICKS PAST

The success that Sam Darnold and Saquon Barkley are having haunt the Jets and Giants, who chose them with back-to-back selections in 2018.

MIKE LUPICA, Pages 54-55

Brunson scores 55 in overtime win over Wizards

BY KRISTIAN WINFIELD
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

This is why you call him captain. Because when you call on the captain, he delivers.

And this is why you don't count the Knicks out after three quarters — or even after four. Because all this high-powered offense needs is a moment to blow a game open.

Where there's a will, there's a way. And if there's a way, the Knicks will find it.

Saturday night's 136-132 overtime victory over the Washington Wizards certainly took some searching.

But in the end, the Knicks found themselves on a seven-game winning streak, remaining the second-hottest team in all of basketball behind the Oklahoma City Thunder after recording their 17th win in their last 21 games.

They wouldn't have gotten there without a signature performance from Jalen Brunson.

The Knicks' soon-to-be two-time NBA All-Star put up an all-time performance, hanging 55 points on 18-of-31 shooting from the field and 16-of-17 shooting from the foul line to go with nine assists on the night.

He joined Bernard King as the only other player in Knicks history to log a "double-nickel" 55-point game.

Brunson did not score at all in the second quarter but erupted for 19 third-quarter points, plus another 14 in the fourth before scoring nine of the Knicks' 17 points in overtime. In the second leg of a back-to-back after a physical and taxing victory over the Orlando Magic on Friday, the Knicks leaned heavily on their team captain.

The Wizards were without their two-best players, Jordan Poole and Kyle Kuzma, but got a massive performance from New York native and Brooklyn's Bishop Loughlin alumni Justin Champagne, who finished with 31 points and 10 rebounds on 5-of-6 shooting from three-point range.

All five Wizards starters scored in double figures, and so did two Washington players off the bench.

The Wizards tested a fatigued Knicks defense and nearly came out on top.

"They played hard regardless of who was out there for them and they came ready to play," Brunson said in his walk-off interview. "We were a step behind until the fourth and found a way to win."

It was an ugly game, but the standings don't log game recaps, only wins and losses. The Knicks will take their lessons in victory over defeat.

There were plenty of lessons to go around on Saturday. Chief among those lessons was another early Karl-Anthony Towns bout with foul trouble, who must find a way to curtail this bad habit to stay on the floor and give the Knicks the best chance to win a ball game.

Towns picked up his second foul at the 5:05 mark of the first quarter.

It's an issue that has predated his arrival in New York and hurt the Knicks in what ultimately was a blowout win over the Orlando Magic on Friday.

The All-Star big man went on to finish with 30 points and 14 rebounds, only recording one more personal foul for the remainder of the game after his first-quarter struggles. But when he does find himself in foul trouble, an already thin Knicks front court awaiting Mitchell Robinson's return from offseason ankle surgery has its shortcomings magnified.

The Wizards came into the game with the league's 26th-ranked offense and ranked 29th in three-point efficiency. They boasted a 5-23 record having won just five games on the season, tying the New Orleans Pelicans for fewest wins in the NBA.

But against the Knicks defense, the Wizards looked like the 2015 Golden State Warriors. They finished with 32 assists, shot 17-of-38 as a team from downtown and 52% from the field as a team.

Their hot shooting, coupled with dead legs from the Knicks starters, forced Brunson into overdrive, but he broke free from a poor free throw shooting slump to put the Wizards away in the extra period.

The Knicks' seven-game winning streak moves them above the Cleveland Cavaliers for the second-longest active winning streak in all of basketball.



MORE THE MERRIER

Can the Knicks send a third player to join Towns & Brunson at NBA All-Star Game in San Francisco?

THE TWEETS



We went from “Deion Sanders will never allow his son to go to the Giants” to Shedeur Sanders wearing Giants color-themed cleats for his final college game. @NYGDaily

Karl-Anthony Towns (left) and Jalen Brunson (inset) make strong cases to be starters at the NBA All-Star Game in San Francisco. Will any of their Knicks' teammates join them out west? AP

BY KRISTIAN WINFIELD
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

Jalen Brunson and Karl-Anthony Towns are virtual locks for the 2025 NBA All-Star Game in San Francisco. The real intrigue lies in whether the Knicks can secure a third representative.

Towns, the centerpiece of New York's off-season blockbuster trade, is poised for his fifth All-Star nod and potentially his first career start — assuming he garners enough fan votes. The Knicks' big man has been dominant in his debut season with the team, averaging 24.3 points and a league-leading 13.5 rebounds while shooting 53.9% from the field and 44.8% from three. He joins elite company after becoming just the fourth player in history to score 50 or more points in an All-Star Game, alongside Jayson Tatum, Anthony Davis, and Stephen Curry.

Brunson, too, has a strong case for an Eastern Conference starting spot. After narrowly missing out on a starting role last year due to the fan vote, the Knicks captain has elevated his game further this season. He's averaging 24.5 points and a career-high 7.7 assists on 48.1% shooting, including a career-best 41.8% from beyond the arc. With Brunson and Towns leading the way, the Knicks have solidified themselves as one of the East's elite.

But can one of their teammates join them in San Francisco? It's an uphill battle, but there's a shot.

WHO ELSE HAS A CASE?

MIKAL BRIDGES

After a rocky start to the season, Bridges has been on fire in December, averaging 22.3 points on 57.2% shooting from the field and 46.3% from three. Bridges' two-way impact, highlighted by his 1.3 steals per game and frequent assignments against top perimeter scorers, makes him a strong candidate.

OG ANUNOBY

The Knicks' defensive anchor, Anunoby has been invaluable, often guarding the opposition's best player. He's averaging 16.5 points on 48% shooting and already boasts a 40-point game this season. With coaches voting for All-Star reserves, Anunoby's defensive impact could swing some ballots his way.

JOSH HART

The Knicks' Swiss Army knife, Hart, has been as versatile as ever, averaging 14.2 points, 8.3 rebounds, and 5.3 assists while shooting a career-high 39.6% from deep. His relentless motor and ability to do a little bit of everything make him an invaluable piece for New York.

THE COMPETITION IN THE EAST

Other top teams in the Eastern Conference also have multiple players vying for All-Star recognition.

CLEVELAND CAVALIERS

The league-leading Cavaliers are guaranteed at least two representatives, with Donovan Mitchell a lock and compelling cases for Darius Garland, Evan Mobley, and Jarrett Allen. Mobley's leap under new coach Kenny

Atkinson could earn him his first selection.

BOSTON CELTICS

Jayson Tatum and Jaylen Brown are surefire picks for the defending champions. However, given the depth of the East, it's unlikely Boston secures a third All-Star nod, though Derrick White could easily sneak in as a dead-eye three-point shooter and versatile defender.

ORLANDO MAGIC

Injuries to Paolo Banchero, Franz Wagner, and Moritz Wagner have thrust Jalen Suggs into the spotlight. Suggs has stepped up, averaging nearly 20 points per game in December while maintaining his tenacious defense. The real All-Star in Orlando walks the sidelines as head coach. Jamahl Mosley has a Coach of the Year in his future.

MILWAUKEE BUCKS

Giannis Antetokounmpo is a lock as always, but Damian Lillard's inconsistency and the Bucks' overall struggles could make his case for a spot less certain.

PHILADELPHIA 76ERS

Joel Embiid remains a perennial All-Star, but his limited availability could pave the way for Tyrese Maxey, who is averaging 25.7 points per game, to make his All-Star debut.

THE PATH FOR A THIRD KNICK

For Bridges, Anunoby, or Hart to punch their ticket, the Knicks will need to maintain their hot streak. Winning 16 of their last 20 games has helped solidify their standing as the East's third-best team, but competition for All-Star spots will be fierce.

If the Knicks keep rolling, one of their versatile stars could edge out other borderline candidates like Bam Adebayo, LaMelo Ball, or Tyrese Haliburton.

PROJECTED EASTERN CONFERENCE

ALL-STARS

STARTERS

C Karl-Anthony Towns, NYK
F Giannis Antetokounmpo, MIL
F Jayson Tatum, BOS
G Donovan Mitchell, CLE
G Jalen Brunson, NYK

RESERVES

G Darius Garland, CLE
G Jalen Suggs, ORL
G Trae Young, ATL; or G Damian Lillard, MIL; or G Derrick White, BOS
G Tyrese Maxey, PHI or G LaMelo Ball, CHA
F Jaylen Brown, BOS
F Evan Mobley, CLE
C Joel Embiid, PHI; C Bam Adebayo, MIA; or F Mikal Bridges

Fan voting concludes on Jan. 20. All-Star starters will be revealed on Jan. 23, with reserves announced on Jan. 30. Knicks fans should keep their fingers crossed—not just for Brunson and Towns, but for the possibility of adding a third star to represent New York in San Francisco.





MIKE LUPICA

SHOOTING FROM THE LIP

Saquon Barkley and Sam Darnold are haunting the Giants and Jets

To understand how things can actually go from bad to worse for the Giants and Jets over the last two games of the season, as crazy as that sounds, it's necessary to revisit the 2018 NFL draft one last time. Of course that is when the Giants took Saquon Barkley with the No. 2 overall pick, and the Jets took Sam Darnold at No. 3, to great fanfare for both. Neither one of them plays here any longer, maybe you've heard. You better believe Barkley is with the Eagles now, and could have a chance — wait for it — against the Giants on the last Sunday of the regular season to break the all-time single season rushing record held, and for a long time, by the great Eric Dickerson.

And to make the moment even a little more painful for local football fans, if such a thing is even possible at this point, Barkley that day will be running behind Mekhi Becton, whom the Jets took with the 11th pick of the 2020 draft, a player who has become one of the better right guards in the league for the Eagles this season.

And Darnold? He's not going to win the MVP award this season, because Josh Allen ought to. If Allen somehow doesn't, Lamar Jackson probably will win another one. But Allen's team is 12-3 right now. Jackson's team is 11-5. Darnold's Vikings are 13-2 and still have their chance to finish with the best record in the NFC. When you look at that Vikings record and what they've done, it's fair to ask how anybody has been more valuable to his team this season than Darnold — who only got his chance because rookie J.J. McCarthy got hurt — has been to the Vikings? That means whether he's still with the Vikings next season or not, and no matter what happens against the Packers on Sunday.

It is why you can make the case, and fairly easily, that there aren't two better stories in the whole league this season than the Barkley and Darnold. No. 2 and No. 3 from that '18 draft. Both of them having become the stars the men who drafted them thought they could become.



Just somewhere other than here.

So one of the dreariest and dismal football seasons we have ever had in New York does get even more painful before the Giants and Jets are asked to stop playing football games. Because you can absolutely make the case that not only are Barkley and Darnold two of the very best stories in the league this season, but that they are two of the four most valuable players in the sport. Barkley of the Eagles. Darnold of the Vikings. Theirs, not ours.

By the way? You know who was the first overall pick in that

'18 draft? Baker Mayfield. He's somebody else who had to leave his original team — in his case the Browns, the Midwest version of the Giants and Jets — and make some other stops before finding his way to Tampa Bay.

Barkley had some times here, he did, before and after he hurt his knee. Dave Gettleman is the one who took a running back at No. 2, and talked at the time about being able to see Barkley wearing one of those gold sports jackets they give out in Canton to Hall of Fame players, though a lot of us gave him plenty of heat about that. A season like the one

Barkley has had with the Eagles doesn't mean that's still going to happen for him, even if he is blessed with good health the rest of his career. But he has looked every inch a Hall of Fame talent in Philadelphia and, if Jalen Hurts hadn't suffered a concussion last weekend, Barkley would be the biggest reason the Eagles might still be in play for best record in the conference.

He has been that great, and has occasionally looked that dominant. Just for the NFC East team less than a couple of hours from MetLife Stadium, at Lincoln Financial Field.

"I'll have a tough time sleeping if Saquon goes to Philadelphia," John Mara said, and famously on "Hard Knocks."

Now there is a good chance that Mara's nightmare about Barkley can play all the way out, in Philadelphia, with Mara perhaps having the chance, in person, to see Barkley break Dickerson's record. You keep wondering what the bottom is for the 2024-25 Giants. Maybe that finally is: The possibility of Barkley doing it and doing it against the Giants. No one is quite sure what the Giants have done to have the football gods turn on them this

way. But they sure must have done something.

And then there is Darnold sticking it to the Jets this way. Sam Darnold: Finally showing you what he can do now that he is with a real coach in Kevin O'Connell (who as a young quarterback once was filmed being cut by the Jets on "Hard Knocks," all the way back in 2010). Darnold started to learn how to be a quarterback in the NFL when he was on Kyle Shanahan's bench a year ago in San Francisco. Then he got with the Vikings and McCarthy got hurt and the rest is history, and what turned out to be history in a hurry for him and for the Vikings.

Darnold, so you know, doesn't even turn 28 until next June, at this time when the Jets are trying to decide whether or not to bring back Aaron Rodgers, who will turn 42 about 49 weeks from now. The Jets gave up on Darnold and then they gave up on Zach Wilson and now, depending on what they decide, may be about to give up on Rodgers.

For sure, no one knows how everything will go for the Vikings the rest of the way. They are in the heavyweight division of pro football this season with the Lions and the Packers. They get the Packers before they get the Lions next Sunday, and so a lot can happen to them between now and their first playoff game.

But Sudden Sam Darnold has happened for them this season. Whatever happens from here, he has quarterbacked 15 games for his new team and won 13 of them, and has been the same kind of star for them that Saquon Barkley has been for the Eagles.

No. 2 in that draft. No. 3 in that draft. One going for a record. The other one still with a shot at best record in his conference. In a season when their former teams have combined to win six football games in total, and both seemed to have been eliminated from playoffs back around the autumn equinox.

How can the seasons get worse for the Giants and Jets? This is how. Saquon and Sam are. Nightmare. Just not for them.



Vikings quarterback Sam Darnold has found success after leaving the Jets, just the way former Giants running back Saquon Barkley (opposite page) has since joining the Eagles. AP

BRING HIM BACK FOR PETE'S SAKE, GUMBEL WAS A BROADCASTING GREAT & HART NEEDS TO LIGHTEN UP ...

Uncle Steve needs to bring back the bear.

Meaning Mr. Alonso.

The Polar Bear himself.

• Somebody asked me the other day if the Knicks have ever had four different players capable of dropping 40 points on the other team, on any given night.

Well, as a matter of fact they have.

Willis had 40-plus games in his career, and so did Clyde.

So did Dave DeBusschere and Earl the Pearl.

The best Bill Bradley ever did in the pros was 38.

But, man oh man, did he ever score 58 one time for Princeton in a consolation game in the NCAA Tournament.

• I don't know what's going to happen with Brian Daboll.

But what I do know that not only did he

make it to the playoffs with Daniel Jones as his quarterback, the two of them even won that game against the Vikings once.

And that ain't nothing, as bad as things have gotten since.

• You know who's still interested in Aaron Rodgers' cockeyed theories about vaccines? He is.

• Greg Gumbel, who passed away the other day, was one of the most gifted and versatile broadcasters in the history of sports television, able to move effortlessly from studio work to play-by-play.

But more than that, he was one of the great gentlemen in the history of that business.

As much of a pleasure as it was watching him, it was much more of a pleasure to have known him.

• Season 2 of "The Diplomat" was even better than Season 1, and that is saying

plenty.

Not just because of Keri Russell and Rufus Sewell in the leads, but also because they brought Allison Janney out of the bullpen for the late innings to set up Season 3.

• I feel at this point as if I'm up to speed on Juan Soto's suite situation at Citi Field.

• Gleyber Torres was once a cornerstone of another youth movement that never was for the Yankees.

• Josh Hart is as much a glue guy as the Knicks have ever had.

But he could think about lightening up a little bit on people having noticed that Mikal Bridges got off to kind of a slow start before he turned things around.

Hart acts as if people want to run Bridges out of town.

Come on.

• Wow, you know it was a big Christmas shot by Steph Curry at the end of Warriors vs.

Lakers when Steph got a double "bang" out of Mike Breen.

• "The Big Empty," coming in January from my pal Robert Crais, is the best Elvis Cole-Joe Pike book he's ever written.

And THAT is saying plenty.

• There have been two truly great times for the Jets since Namath.

Bill Parcells was coach for one of them.

Rex Ryan was coach for the other, and he did it with Mark Sanchez.

• Is the Seahawks-Bears game over yet?

I think I blacked out sometime during the third quarter.

• Finally today:

A big-city shout-out to all those who still come to this place on Sundays, and still read our paper.

We're still here.

And so are you.

Happy New Year.

GAMEDAY

WEEK 17

GIANTS (2-13) VS. COLTS (7-8)

AT METLIFE STADIUM
WHEN: 1 P.M. TV: FOX LINE: COLTS BY 7.5

THREE KEYS

LOSE THE GAME?

Many Giants fans view landing the No. 1 pick in April's NFL Draft as the only possible victory available to them at this point. If the Giants are tanking, key decision makers in the organization feel this way, too. So for those people, a loss to Indianapolis is the top — and only — key to a win.

STOP JONATHAN TAYLOR

The Colts' running back bounced back from a brutal fumble against the Broncos to rack up 218 rushing yards and three

TDs against the Tennessee Titans last week. Now he draws the worst run defense in the sport. If the Giants are actually trying to win the game, they have to limit Taylor for all four quarters. Because New York's offense can't score.

CUT OUT KILLER

MISTAKES

Turnovers, pre-snap penalties and poor game management constantly undercuts the Giants' offensive operation. They can barely do anything right. And when they do, they do something wrong to negate their min-

THE SCHEDULE

9.8	vs. MIN	L 28-6
9.15	@ WAS	L 21-18
9.22	@ CLE	W 21-15
9.26	vs. DAL	L 20-15
10.6	@ SEA	W 29-20
10.13	vs. CIN	L 17-7
10.20	vs. PHI	L 28-3
10.28	@ PIT	L 26-18
11.3	vs. WAS	L 27-22
11.10	@ CAR	L 20-17
11.17	BYE WEEK	
11.24	vs. TB	L 30-7
11.28	@ DAL	L 27-20
12.8	vs. NO	L 14-11
12.15	vs. BAL	L 35-14
12.22	@ ATL	L 34-7
12.29	vs. IND	TBD
1.5	@ PHI	TBD

imal progress. Whether it's the playcalling, the quarterback play, the personnel deployment, the production or the commitment of players to do the right thing, everybody has to improve on offense across the board.



BIG BLUE

Giants will go winless at home for



PAT LEONARD
GIANTS

Another bad NFL team is coming to MetLife Stadium to beat the Giants (2-13) on Sunday.

And this defeat will make more history.

Sunday's upcoming loss to the Indianapolis Colts (7-8) will drop the Giants to 0-9 at MetLife Stadium and hand them their first winless home season since 1974, when they went 0-7 at the Yale Bowl.

It also will extend their franchise-record losing streak to 11 games. And it might even set a record low for attendance.

"You want to give them a better product in terms of the results that we're putting out there right now, but certainly appreciate them," head coach Brian Daboll said of his message to the fans.

Quite an inspirational speech there.

Every day that John Mara and Steve Tisch retain this regime of GM Joe Schoen and Daboll is an insult to the standard they claim to have in East Rutherford, N.J.

Mara wrote a letter to a disgruntled fan this week saying "there are no excuses" for the Giants' record. And the co-owner vowed: "All I can do is promise that we will do whatever we have to in the off season to put a team on the field in 2025 that you can once again be proud of."

But those words only will matter if Mara and Tisch take the appropriate actions to back them up.

And right now, it's hard to have confidence that they'll do what it takes. Because all of the national leaks continue to imply that the Giants likely will fire Daboll and retain Schoen.

One report on NFL Network referred to how Schoen and Daboll "aren't necessarily a package deal."

For the 100th time, however — one for every year this franchise has been in existence — firing only the coach would not provide an honest reckoning or accounting of blame, since Schoen is involved in every facet of this disintegrated operation.

The fans have a firm hold on this reality. Largely they appear to understand — unlike Giants ownership — that no part of this current front office or coaching staff is worth salvaging.

A few planes reportedly were grounded from flying over MetLife

Stadium on Sunday due to weather, but one's message was going to be: "Mr. Mara — enough... Clean house or sell the team." The other was going to be: "Are drones searching for Giants wins at home?"

And there is reportedly a Saquon Barkley-themed plane planned to fly over the Giants-Eagles Jan. 5 season finale at Philadelphia's Lincoln Financial Field with the message: "TY NY for No. 26"

For now, the players have two more games to play. Two more embarrassing Sundays to endure.

"We ain't expecting anybody to come save us, so it's on us," edge rusher Brian Burns said. "Either you gonna fight or lay down."

But after losing 34-7 to the Atlanta Falcons before Christmas, why would anyone give the Giants a chance on Sunday or in any other game?

Red-hot Colts running back Jonathan Taylor is prepared to go off on the Giants' 31st-ranked run defense in both yards per carry allowed (5.2) and yards per game allowed (142.6).

The Giants will lose their 11th straight.

And Mara's and Tisch's arguments for keeping any part of this leadership group intact will eventually reach zero percent of their fan base.

After all, by Week 18, the majority of them will have brown bags over their heads.

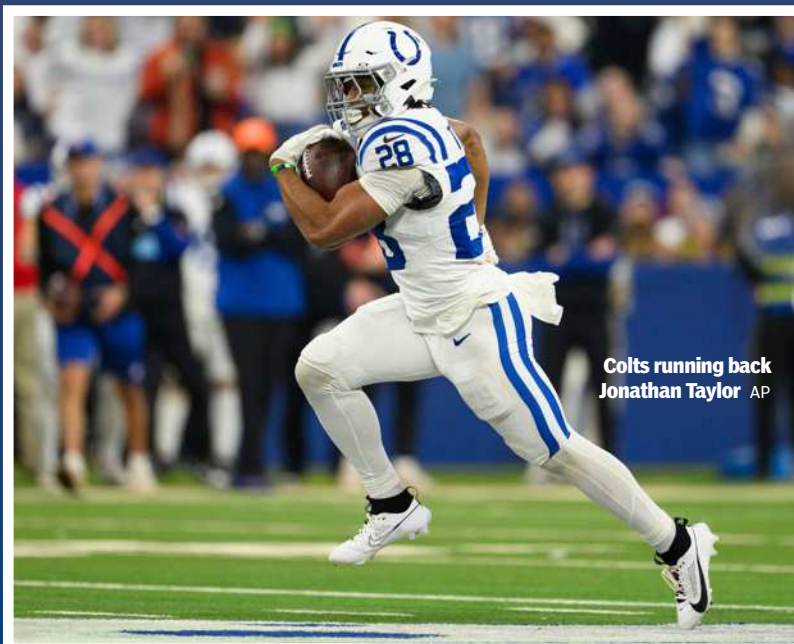
FLACCO MAKING THE START

Former Raven and Jet Joe Flacco will start at quarterback for the Colts on Sunday because Anthony Richardson (back/foot) is injured and out. Richardson was benched for poor performance in late September for Flacco, but then Flacco, 39, was benched for Richardson in mid-November after throwing three interceptions in a loss to the Buffalo Bills. Flacco has 1,167 passing yards, nine TD passes and five interceptions this season.

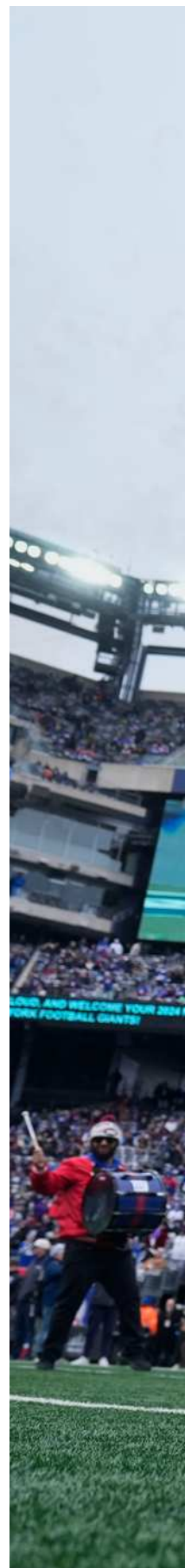
MCFADDEN, SCHMITZ BOTH OUT

Two more Giants starters are out in Week 17 due to injuries: middle linebacker Micah McFadden (neck) and center John Michael Schmitz (ankle). Safety Raheem Layne (knee) and corner Greg Stroman (shoulder/shin) also won't play.

Four players are questionable: wide receiver Malik Nabers (toe), interior lineman Austin Schlottmann (fibula), defensive tackle Armon Watts (shoulder) and corner/returner Dee Williams (toe).



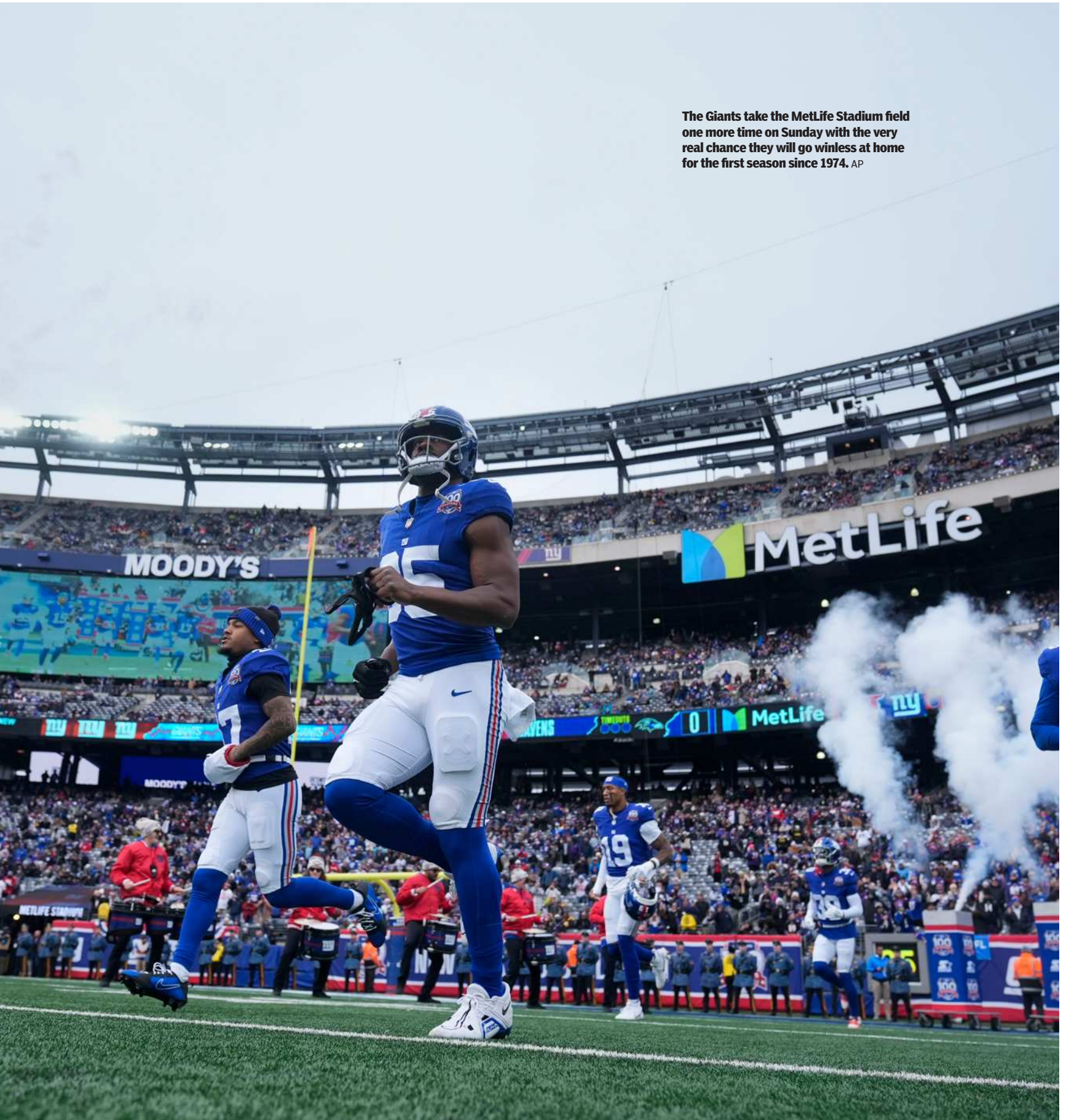
Colts running back Jonathan Taylor AP



AT CUSP OF BAD HISTORY

first time since 0-7 mark at Yale Bowl in 1974 with loss to Colts

The Giants take the MetLife Stadium field one more time on Sunday with the very real chance they will go winless at home for the first season since 1974. AP



GAMEDAY

WEEK 17

JETS (4-11) AT BILLS (12-3)

AT HIGHMARK STADIUM
WHEN: 1:00 P.M. TV: CBS LINE: BILLS BY 10

THREE KEYS

CONTAIN BILLS GROUND GAME

The last time the Jets saw the Bills, starting RB James Cook was inactive due to a toe injury. However, that didn't stop Buffalo from finishing with 149 yards on the ground, 97 of which were by rookie Ray Davis. Just like in Week 6, the Jets must contain the Bills' rushing attack. Cook has rushed for 928 yards, the 15th-best in the NFL. Buffalo is ninth in the league in rushing yards per game (133.5). The Jets defense also has to contain Josh Allen and his improv rushing skills in and out of the pocket. Allen sealed the 23-20 victory at MetLife Stadium when he ran for a first down on a six-yard gain with 1:45 minutes. Gang Green has allowed 19 rushing TDs, the

fifth most in the NFL. Expect Buffalo to try and exploit this weakness.

GET THE BALL TO GARRETT

Garrett Wilson has been frustrated with his targets recently, and deservedly so. Aaron Rodgers missed a wide open Wilson in games against the Dolphins, the Jaguars and last week against the Rams, which could have resulted in a TD on a fourth-down play. Meanwhile, Davante Adams has been targeted 20 times more than Wilson since he came to the Jets. That includes last week when Wilson was targeted just twice in 55 minutes of the game. With the Bills defense ranking 25th in passing yards allowed (229.5), Rodgers needs to get Wilson involved early and often.

THE SCHEDULE

9.8	@ SF	L 32-19
9.15	@ TEN	W 24-17
9.19	vs. NE	W 24-3
9.29	vs. DEN	L 10-9
10.6	at MIN	L 23-17
10.14	vs. BUF	L 23-20
10.20	@ PIT	L 37-15
10.27	@ NE	L 25-22
10.31	vs. HOU	W 21-13
11.10	@ ARI	L 31-6
11.17	vs. IND	L 28-27
BYE		
12.1	vs. SEA	L 26-21
12.8	@ MIA	L 32-26
12.15	@ JAX	W 32-25
12.22	vs. LA	L 19-9
12.29	@ BUF	1 p.m.
1.5	vs. MIA	TBD

MINIMIZE MISTAKES

Buffalo loves capitalizing on mistakes. The Bills are at the top of the league in turnover differential (20) and rank third in takeaways (28). In last week's loss to the Rams, the Jets committed two turnovers, both fumbles. Los Angeles turned one of those into a fourth-quarter touchdown, which put the game on ice. If the Jets are going to pull off a road upset, taking care of the football will be key against a talented Bills unit.



THE

Jets-Bills matchup is

BY ANTWAN STALEY
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

The Jets and Bills have always had an intense rivalry dating back to 1960 when they were AFL foes.

But Bills left tackle Dion Dawkins poured gasoline on the already heated friction between the two teams last offseason.

In February, Dawkins appeared on VladTV and discussed the Jets, specifically defensive lineman Micheal Clemons.

"I hate them, all of them, bro," Dawkins said. "When it comes to sports, there are people that play the sport because they love the sport. And then there's people that play the sport just to try to be cool."

"I feel like they play the sport to try to be cool. Those are a bunch of dudes that just want to take pictures on Instagram. That's whack."

Dawkins also said the Jets were "very disrespectful" after last year's postgame altercation in the Highmark Stadium tunnel following the Bills drubbing of the Jets in Orchard Park.

This week, when asked about the rivalry, Dawkins was more diplomatic. He said he expects the Jets to bring their A-game in their second showdown of the season.

"I approach it more so like it's a division game," Dawkins told the Buffalo media on Thursday. "It's an in-conference game. In-conference games are the hardest. I don't care what the records are, I don't care if none of us have a win, these are some of the hardest games of the season."

"The Jets, Patriots, Dolphins, no matter when it is, what order it is, they are the hardest games of our season every single year. It's always great in competition, the rivalry is great, the intensity is up. I like to think and live in the aura that we hate each other. That's what keeps us going."

"When it comes down to it, everyone wants a job. To be in the NFL, it is hard, to stay on the same team, it's hard. I don't think anyone over there is just like, 'Let's tank so they can cut me.' No, these guys are playing because they love ball and they have an emotional feel to it. We're athletes. The records don't tell the truth and we know what's coming."

Jets right tackle Morgan Moses echoed Dawkins' thoughts and said the two sides are feisty because of what's at stake each year.

"I mean, anytime you play teams twice in one season, it's gonna be a chippy match," Moses told the Daily News. "Those division games count for more than just one game."

"We know we are going to get their best shot. For us to go out there and put our best foot forward to compete and go out there

and bust some ass."

When the schedule was released in May, many thought Sunday's game between the Jets and the Bills could help decide who wins the division. The Jets were preseason favorites to win the AFC East, and the Bills were thought to have taken a step back after the departure of wide receiver Stefan Diggs.

Not only did that not happen, but the Bills (12-3) wrapped up the division title on Dec. 1 and can clinch the second seed in the AFC with a win on Sunday against the Jets. The play of quarterback Josh Allen is the big reason Buffalo is having an outstanding season.

In 15 games, Allen has thrown for 3,549 yards, 26 touchdowns and six interceptions. However, Allen's decision-making and command of the Bills offense have stood out this season. This is despite Allen dealing with a hand injury.

"They are playing elite football right now across the board," Moses said about the Bills. "Obviously, [17 Allen] on offense has been playing phenomenal football, and as he goes, they go."

"From a defensive standpoint, they are flying around, making plays. They're healthier, they got a lot of guys back. Always, Von Miller is always a key emphasis on the defensive line. But they are a team that's proven themselves year in and year out and are playing for a lot of great things ahead of them."

Meanwhile, the Jets (4-11) have endured another nightmare season. The last time Gang Green played Buffalo on Oct. 14, Jeff Ulbrich had just been named interim coach of a then 2-3 team, Davante Adams was still a Raider, and the team still had playoff and Super Bowl aspirations. But those dreams evaporated quickly following the loss to the Bills.

The Jets acquired Adams the day after the loss to the Bills but have lost seven of their last nine games since Week 6. They were eliminated from playoff contention after the a loss at Miami earlier this month.

Following a disappointing season with high expectations, the Jets will have a new coach, a new general manager, and likely a new quarterback in 2025.

Aaron Rodgers is likely playing in the final two games in a Jets uniform and maybe his career. After suffering an MCL injury to his left knee against the Rams last week, Rodgers told reporters, "There is no way I'm not playing."

It's "unlikely" Rodgers, 41, would return to the Jets for the 2025 season, a source told The News. He is under contract for next year, but the Jets do not owe Rodgers any more guaranteed money after this season.

After he had battled several injuries this



Jets wide receiver
Garrett Wilson AP

COLD SHOULDER

mostly meaningless, but rivalry is still bitter



The Jets and Bills have been lining up against each other since 1960 and there is plenty of hate to go around between the two AFC East rivals. AP

season, Jets owner Woody Johnson suggested that Rodgers be benched following the Jets' Week 4 loss to the Broncos, sources say. But Rodgers continued to play through hamstring, ankle and knee injuries.

Rodgers said he is undecided about playing beyond this season. On "The Pat

McAfee Show" this week, he also suggested that the Jets could release him on Jan. 6, the day after the regular season concludes.

"I just think anything is possible," Rodgers said. "I think anything is truly possible. Whether it happens or not, I'm sure that there will be decisions that, I don't think

there will be surprises where there's like, 'Oh, I don't know what we want to do with certain people.' I think there's going to be some decisions that want to be made the day after the season or a couple days after the season.

"I'm just not naive. There's not zero

percent in my mind. I don't think it's a high percentage. I think there's probably a conversation to be had, but I'm just not naive to that being a zero percent chance. I think it's more than a zero percent chance and less than a certainty, so somewhere in the middle."

Bengals stay alive for playoff berth with OT win

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — Joe Burrow threw his third touchdown pass to Tee Higgins with 1:07 left in overtime, and the Cincinnati Bengals kept their slim playoff hopes alive with a wild 30-24 win over the Denver Broncos on Saturday.

Following a Broncos punt, Burrow completed a 31-yard pass to Higgins to the Denver 3, then went back to the lanky receiver for the game-ending play. Higgins finished with 11 receptions for 131 yards.

Cade York had a chance to win it for the Bengals with about three minutes left in overtime, but his 33-yard field goal bounced off the left upright. Denver then went three-and-out, including a Bo Nix incompletion on third down, handing the ball right back to Cincinnati (8-8).

It was the Bengals' first win this season against a team with a winning record. They need another victory in their final game at Pittsburgh and some help from other teams to make it to the postseason for the first time since 2022.

The Broncos (9-7) would have secured an AFC wild card with a victory over the Bengals. They'll have another opportunity to earn a postseason berth when they host Kansas City next weekend.

CHARGERS 40, PATRIOTS 7

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Justin Herbert threw three touchdown passes and Los Angeles clinched its second playoff appearance in three seasons with a win over New England.

The win also secured the fourth postseason appearance in Jim Harbaugh's five seasons as an NFL coach, adding to the three he made during his stint with the San Francisco 49ers.

Herbert finished 26 of 38 for 281 yards to become the third player in NFL history with at least 3,000 passing yards and 20 touchdown passes in each of his first five seasons. He joins Pro Football Hall of Famer Peyton Manning and Russell Wilson.

Ladd McConkey had eight catches for 94 yards and pulled in TD throws of 6 and 40 yards for the Chargers (10-6). With a 10-yard reception in the second quarter he passed 1,000 yards receiving for the season, making him the third Chargers rookie receiver to reach that milestone.

JK Dobbins rushed 19 times for 76 yards and a TD.

The Patriots (3-13) have lost six straight games, their second such losing streak of the season.

NEXT STOP



BY PETER SBLENDORIO
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

Eli Manning is one step away from becoming a first-ballot Hall of Famer.

The former Giants quarterback was named one of 15 modern-era finalists for the Pro Football Hall of Fame's Class of 2025.

Manning now needs at least 80% of the Selection Committee's vote in order to be eligible for induction. Up to five modern-era players can be elected for the Class of 2025, which will be announced at the "NFL Honors" ceremony on Feb. 6.

Manning is the lone quarterback on this year's list of finalists. He is one of six first-time finalists, joining wide receiver Steve Smith Sr.; linebackers Luke Kuechly and Terrell Suggs; offensive lineman Marshal Yanda; and kicker Adam Vinatieri.

Among them, only Smith is not in his first year of eligibility.

Rounding out the list of finalists announced Saturday are receivers Reggie

Wayne and Torrey Holt; tight end Antonio Gates; offensive linemen Jahri Evans and Willie Anderson; defensive backs Eric Allen and Darren Woodson; defensive end Jared Allen; and running back Fred Taylor.

That group was whittled down from an original pool of 167 nominees. The Hall announced its 25 semifinalists in November, with safety Earl Thomas, defensive tackle Vince Wilfork and defensive end Robert Mathis among the notable members from that stage to not make it to the final 15.

Manning led the Giants to Super Bowl victories over Tom Brady's New England Patriots after the 2007 and 2011 seasons and was named MVP of both games.

He led game-winning drives in both of those Super Bowls, including famously escaping a sack and completing the "helmet catch" to David Tyree to give the previously undefeated 2007 Patriots their first loss.

Manning, who retired after the 2019 season, ranks 11th in NFL history in passing yards (57,023), passing touchdowns (366) and completions (4,895).

But Manning's candidacy as a first-ballot Hall of Famer has been the subject of fierce debate, largely because he went 117-117 in the regular season over his 16 years in the NFL, all with the Giants. He went 8-4 in the postseason.

Manning, 43, would join older brother Peyton Manning in the Hall of Fame. He would become the 33rd Giant to be inducted, a list that includes former teammate Michael Strahan, as well as Lawrence Taylor, Harry Carson, Frank Gifford and Bill Parcells.

Overall, the Hall will induct between four and eight candidates in 2025, with as many as three coming from seniors category. The five finalists in the seniors category are Maxie Baughan, Sterling Sharpe and Jim Tyrer, coach Mike Holmgren and contributor Ralph Hay.

Former Giants head coach Tom Coughlin, who won both Super Bowls with Manning, was a semifinalist in the seniors category but was left off of the list of finalists in what many considered a snub.

CANTON?

Former Giants QB Manning named finalist for Pro Football Hall of Fame's 2025 class

Eli Manning holds up the second of his two Super Bowl trophies after the Giants beat the Patriots in 2012. Is a gold jacket from the Pro Football Hall of Fame the next thing to go into his trophy case? GETTY

Nebraska beats B.C. in Pinstripe Bowl for 1st bowl victory since 2015

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dylan Raiola passed for 228 yards and a touchdown as Nebraska built an 18-point lead through three quarters and hung on to beat Boston College 20-15 Saturday in the Pinstripe Bowl at Yankee Stadium for its first bowl victory since 2015.

After Nebraska built a 13-2 lead in the first half on scoring runs by Rahmir Johnson and Kwinten Ives, Raiola hit Emmett Johnson with a

NEBRASKA	20
BOSTON COLL.	15

13-yard T D pass on fourth down with 3:02 remaining

in the third quarter for a 20-2 edge and the Cornhuskers (7-6) held on for the win.

Raiola completed 23 of 31 passes in front of a sizable Nebraska crowd that celebrated the team's first bowl win since topping UCLA in the 2015 Foster Farms Bowl and first winning season since 2016.

"The biggest thing is that finally they can walk off the field and say 'Hey we got it done,'" Nebraska coach Matt Rhule said. "We'll have a lot of momentum heading into the offseason."

Raiola completed passes to 10 receivers, including Jahmal Banks, who finished with four receptions for 79 yards.

"He's gotten so much better as the year's gone on in terms of the speed, movement and those things," Rhule said of Raiola.

Rahmir Johnson and Ives scored on short TD runs in the second period, and Nebraska's defense set up the critical score in the third.

Emmett Johnson scored on fourth-and-3 play for a 20-2 lead. That score came after John Bullock sacked Boston College quarterback Grayson James, forcing a fumble that was recovered by Elijah Jeudy at midfield.

James finished 25 of 40 for 296 yards as Boston College (7-6) fell to 0-3 in Pinstripe Bowl games.

The Eagles got past midfield on five of their first seven drives, but committed two turnovers and failed to convert four fourth downs, including two inside the 10-yard line. Boston College finally cashed with 6:11 left in the fourth when Turbo Richard scored on a 1-yard run, but the two-point conversion failed. BC made it a one-score game on Jordan McDonald's 2-yard run, a play after getting possession on a blocked punt.

"I thought we were productive, but we couldn't score," Boston College coach Bill O'Brien said. "So that's a problem because you have to score to win."

After a scoreless opening quarter, Rahmir Johnson easily scored on a 4-yard run on the first play of the second period. After BC turned it over on downs twice in Nebraska territory, the Cornhuskers took a 13-0 lead on Ives' 2-yard run that was set up by Rahmir Johnson's 22-yard run.

UConn 27, UNC 14

BOSTON — UConn's victory in the Fenway Bowl showed North Carolina coach-in-waiting Bill Belichick how much work he has ahead of him.

Joe Fagnano threw for 151 yards and two touchdowns to help the Huskies beat the Tar Heels 27-14 at Fenway Park on Saturday, embarrassing Belichick's new team in his old backyard.

Belichick was not spotted at the home of the Boston Red Sox, about an hour north of the stadium where he and Tom Brady hung six Super Bowl championship banners with the New England Patriots. Interim coach Freddie Kitchens, who like Belichick is a former Cleveland Browns coach, took over when Mack Brown was fired and handled the bowl preparations.

"The only thing I will say about that is we're going to get up tomorrow and we're going to go to work and try to make the program better," Kitchens said. "And then we'll see where we're at the next time we kick the ball off. I know it starts and ends with a bunch of people that love football, that love Carolina, and love Carolina football."

On a day that was definitely not baseball weather, UConn fans took over the home of the Red Sox. And their team was just as dominant on the field.

Mel Brown rushed for 96 yards for UConn (9-4) and Skyler Bell caught three passes for 77 yards, including a 38-yard touchdown that gave the Huskies a 10-0 first-quarter lead. Chris Culliver returned the ensuing kickoff 95 yards for a touchdown, but that would be Carolina's only production in the first half.

Carolina finally mustered some offense in the fourth quarter when running back Caleb Hood lined up at quarterback and ran five times for 64 yards before throwing a 17-yard touchdown pass to John Copenhagen.

The Tar Heels (6-7) did not get their first first down until there were 24 seconds left in the half, on a 2-minute drill that brought them into UConn territory for the first time before Merdinger's bloop of a pass was intercepted by Tui Faumuina-Brown.

"They're going through some turmoil, they've had a lot of change. They never gave up," UConn coach Jim Mora said.

New Yank radio voice is coming home to replace legendary Sterling

IT SIMS LIKE A GOOD FIT

Dave Sims, seen here posing with Pearl Jam guitarist Mike McCready (l.) before a June 2024 Mariners game, is returning to New York to replace John Sterling (inset) in the Yankee radio booth. AP

BY GARY PHILLIPS
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

Yankees radio broadcasts will sound different in 2025, as Dave Sims will replace the retired John Sterling in WFAN's booth moving forward.

Sims will team up with Sterling's longtime partner, Suzyn Waldman, after signing a multi-year deal. The 71-year-old Sims had been the Mariners' TV play-by-play man since 2007, but he has plenty of experience in the New York market after starting out as a Daily News sportswriter before working at WFAN, WNBC, and WCBS, among other stops.

Despite his familiarity with the area and Waldman, Sims told The News that his first spring training game — he'll do about six or seven exhibition broadcasts — will be like the "first day of college."

Below, Sims discussed his new job, replacing a legend for the second time, and what Yankees fans can expect from the Ford C. Frick nominee.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

DAILY NEWS: WFAN HAD A BIG HOLE TO FILL WITH JOHN RETIRING. HOW DID YOU GET THE JOB?

DAVE SIMS: "I live here in Manhattan, and I took the opportunity to reach out to WFAN and the Yankees and had good conversations. I told them I bring a lot. 'The situation is perfect for you. It's perfect for me if we can do this.' And here we are. There were a lot of conversations, and Suzyn was a big advocate for me because we go way back. I said, 'Listen,

I'm a New York guy. I was born and raised in Philly, but I've been in New York for a lot longer than I lived in Philly.' I started at the Daily News with Dick Young and that whole crew. So WFAN, WNBC, Channel 2, Channel 4, I'm New York guy, c'mon."

DN: YOU MENTIONED SUZYN. HOW EXCITED ARE YOU TO BE WORKING WITH HER?

DS: "We're good buds. When I was at WFAN with Ed Coleman doing middays, she was covering the Knicks. We'd have her on a lot, and we got to know each other. We'd agree, disagree, and have some laughs.

"Flash forward to when I got the Seattle job, and she's already entrenched here on Yankee broadcasts and it's like, 'Hey, somebody I know!' And we hit it off even better. We've spent the last 17, 18 years texting each other during games or before games, exchanging information, having laughs. She's got a great sense of humor. I think this is going to be a good match. I really do. I'm psyched to be here. She's psyched to have me. It's going to be fun, and the familiarity is going to be wonderful."

DN: THIS IS A HIGH-PROFILE JOB, BUT IT ALSO SOUNDS LIKE ONE THAT MEANS A LOT TO YOU PERSONALLY

DS: "My dad was a mega sports fan. Growing up in Philly, I'd go to his softball games. If you're familiar with 30th Street Station, across the street was the General P.O. and that's where he worked. He worked his way up white-collar jobs and executive positions. Anyway, in his playing days, I was 4 or 5 years old. He'd take me to games at Fairmount Park. I watched him play softball and be the

commissioner of the basketball league. And then we lived 15 minutes away, so we always went to see Phillies games. I saw the great players of that era, Mays, Koufax, Drysdale, Dick Allen, The Hammer Henry Aaron, Clemente. We had season tickets for several years. We'd see the Eagles. I got an autograph from Jim Brown. We used to go to seven 76ers home games a year. Wilt was still with the Warriors at that time.

"Going to those games live, not to mention all the stuff you watch on TV, I was always enamored with the announcers. I remember Chuck Thompson, Mel Allen, Curt Gowdy, Tony Kubek, Joe Garagiola, Lindsey Nelson. I got to work with Charlie Jones at the Olympics in 1988 for NBC. So I say all the time, I was not meant to be an accountant or a chemist. I was meant to be in sports broadcasting."

DN: THOSE ARE SOME ICONIC ANNOUNCERS. YOU'RE REPLACING ANOTHER IN JOHN. IN SEATTLE, YOU REPLACED THE LATE DAVE NIEHAUS. WAS THERE ANYTHING YOU LEARNED FROM THAT EXPERIENCE THAT CAN HELP YOU NOW?

DS: "John's had a great career, Hall of Fame-worthy. But they didn't bring somebody in here to mimic him. I always remember when Vince Lombardi left the Packers and everybody said, 'You want to be the guy who replaces the guy.' Well, this is the second time around for me. I think it worked out pretty well the first time replacing a legend. So I'm just gonna be me. I've had some success, and

it's paid off, and here I am."

DN: FOR YANKEES FANS WHO HAVEN'T LISTENED TO A LOT OF MARINERS GAMES, WHAT DOES YOU BEING YOU SOUND LIKE?

DS: "A lot of energy. A lot of description because I'm a Marty Glickman disciple. And Suzyn and I will have great dialogue. I love to describe everything on radio. As much as a lot of guys like to turn it into a sports talk show, which I've done, I know the line of demarcation.

"You don't hire somebody to be a duplicate or clone the guy. That's not the aim. It's gonna be different. I think it took people in Seattle X amount of time before they got used to me. I remember my son texted me once saying, 'Dude, you're getting killed on the internet.' I said, 'Yeah, new guy, East Coast guy, Black guy. C'mon.'"

DN: IF SPRING TRAINING IS GOING TO BE LIKE COLLEGE, WHAT WILL OPENING DAY BE LIKE?

DS: "I'll be stoked. I think I bring a lot of energy, and I'm able to sustain it. I hope I don't jinx myself.

"When I was at WNBC, if there was no game on, I was going 7:30 to midnight, and a friend of mine said, 'How the heck are you still fresh at 11:45 p.m.?' I said, 'I like what I do. What can I tell you?' Talking sports, that's what I do."



Wembanyama plays 1-on-1 chess with fans in Wash. Sq. Pk.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Victor Wembanyama went to a park in Manhattan and played 1-on-1 with fans on Saturday. He even lost a couple of games. Not in basketball, though.

Wemby was playing chess. And this wasn't on a whim: He knows how to play and even brought his own chess set.

Before the San Antonio Spurs left New York for a flight to Minnesota, Wembanyama put out the call on social media: "Who wants to meet me at the SW corner of Washington Square park to play chess? Im there," Wembanyama wrote.

It was 9:36 a.m. People began showing up almost immediately.

Washington Square Park is a known spot for chess in New York — Bobby Fischer among others have famously played there, and it's been used for multiple movie scenes featuring the game.

Wembanyama was there for an hour in the rain, from about 10-11 a.m. He played four games, winning two and losing two — he told Bleacher Report afterward that both of the losses were to professional chess players — before departing to catch the Spurs' flight.

Wembanyama had been trying to get somewhere to play chess for the bulk of the team's time in New York — the Spurs played the Knicks on Christmas and won at Brooklyn on Friday night.

The schedule never aligned, until Saturday morning. And even with bad weather, he bundled up to make it happen.

He posed for photos with a couple of dozen people who showed up, braving a morning of cold rain to play chess with one of the NBA's biggest stars.

"We need an NBA players only Chess tournament, proceeds go to the charity of choice of the winner," he wrote on social media after his chess trip was over.

Wembanyama is averaging 25.2 points and 10.1 rebounds this season, his second in the NBA after winning rookie of the year last season.

The Spurs play at Minnesota on Sunday.



Mavs' Doncic latest pro athlete whose home gets burglarized

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DALLAS — Luka Doncic of the Dallas Mavericks is the latest professional athlete whose home has been burglarized.

The star guard's business manager told multiple media outlets Saturday there was a break-in at Doncic's home. Lara Beth Seager said nobody was home at the time of the incident Friday night, and Doncic filed a police report.

Jewelry valued at about \$30,000 was stolen, the Dallas Morning News reported, according to an internal police report it obtained.

Doncic, 25, who is from Slovenia, is the sixth known pro athlete in the U.S. whose home was burglarized since October. Star NFL quarterbacks Patrick Mahomes of Kansas City and Joe Burrow of Cincinnati are among them, along with Mahomes' tight end, Travis Kelce.

The others were Milwaukee Bucks forward Bobby Portis and Minnesota Timberwolves guard Mike Conley Jr.

The NFL and NBA issued security alerts to their players after the break-ins, some of which have come when players were away with their teams for road games. The NFL's alert says homes of professional athletes across multiple sports have become "increasingly targeted for burglaries by organized and skilled groups."

The incident at Doncic's home came two days after the five-time All-NBA player strained his left calf in a Christmas Day loss to the Timberwolves. The injury is expected to sideline Doncic for about a month.

NBA SUSPENDS 3 FROM MAVS, SUNS

The NBA suspended Dallas forward Naji Marshall for four games and Phoenix Suns center Jusuf Nurkic for three games for their roles in an on-court fight during Friday night's game.

Dallas forward P.J. Washington was suspended one game. All of the suspensions handed down Saturday are without pay.

Nurkic was called for an offensive foul while being guarded by Daniel Gafford with 9:02 left in the third quarter before the altercation quickly escalated. Nurkic confronted Marshall before taking an open-handed swing at his head and then Marshall responded with a



Dallas Mavericks guard Luka Doncic's home was broken into Friday night with around \$30,000 in jewelry taken, according to reports. AP

punch. Washington quickly shoved Nurkic to the ground before the teams were separated.

The NBA said that Marshall "attempted to further engage Nurkic in a hostile manner in the corridor outside the locker rooms."

All three were ejected from the game.

DOLPHINS DOWNGRADE TUA

CLEVELAND — Miami Dolphins quarterback Tua Tagovailoa was downgraded to doubtful for Sunday's game against the Cleveland Browns due to a hip injury.

Tagovailoa was limited in practice last week with the injury, which he initially suffered in a loss to Houston on Dec. 15. He finished that game and played in last weekend's win over San Francisco.

The Dolphins (7-8) announced Tagovailoa's updated status — he had been listed as questionable — on Saturday as the team prepared to face the Browns (3-12) with Miami clinging to razor-thin playoff hopes.

If Tagovailoa is ruled out, Tyler Huntley will start. Huntley spent training camp with the Browns, who signed him as a free agent

in March as one of their options behind Deshaun Watson.

Huntley was signed by Miami after Tagovailoa sustained his third documented concussion in September. Huntley went 1-2 in three starts for the Dolphins, passing for 377 yards with one touchdown and one interception.

SHOHEI TO BECOME DAD FOR 1ST TIME

LOS ANGELES — Shohei Ohtani is adding a newcomer to his family lineup.

The 30-year-old Los Angeles Dodgers superstar posted on his Instagram account Saturday that he and his 28-year-old wife, Mamiko Tanaka, are expecting a baby in 2025.

"Can't wait for the little rookie to join our family soon!" it said.

The photo showed the couple's beloved dog, Decoy, as well as a pink ruffled onesie along with baby shoes and a sonogram that was covered by a baby emoji.

Ohtani announced in February that he had married Tanaka, a former professional basketball player from his native Japan. The news from the intensely private player stunned Ohtani's teammates and his fans.



Lightning beat Rangers; Devils fall to 'Canes; Islanders win

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TAMPA, Fla. — Brayden Point scored twice and added an assist to lead the Tampa Bay Lightning past the reeling Rangers on Saturday night.

Nikita Kucherov added a goal and two assists for Tampa Bay. Anthony Cirelli and Ryan McDonagh each had a short-handed goal.

Nick Paul also scored for the

Lightning, who have won six of seven. Andrei Vasilevskiy finished with 42 saves.

Artemi Panarin had a power-play goal and Vincent Trocheck scored short-handed for New York. Igor Shesterkin allowed five goals on 13 shots before being pulled at the 8:08 mark of the

second period. Jonathan Quick allowed one goal on 12 shots.

After a strong start, the Rangers

are 4-14 in their past 18 games.

HURRICANES 5, DEVILS 2

RALEIGH, N.C. — Jackson Blake scored a power-play goal with 9:17 remaining to give Carolina the lead, and Jack Roslovic scored twice for the Hurricanes.

Dmitry Orlov and Sebastian Aho also scored in Carolina's four-goal third period. Dustin Tokarski had 21 saves.

Paul Cotter and Ondrej Palat scored for the Devils, who snapped a three-game winning streak. Jake

Allen stopped 37 shots, but has gone more than a month without a victory.

ISLANDERS 6, PENGUINS 3

Casey Cizikas and Anders Lee each scored twice and the Islanders beat Pittsburgh.

Jean-Gabriel Pageau and Anthony Duclair also scored, and Mathew Barzal and Alexander Romanov each had two assists for New York, which had lost three of four. Ilya Sorokin finished with 22 saves.

LIGHTNING	6
RANGERS	2

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE												
EAST	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	AFC	NFC	DIV	
y-Buffalo	12	3	0	.800	469	331	7-0-0	5-3-0	8-2-0	4-1-0	4-0-0	
Miami	7	8	0	.467	305	329	5-3-0	2-5-0	5-5-0	2-3-0	3-2-0	
e-N.Y. Jets	4	11	0	.267	292	344	2-5-0	2-6-0	4-6-0	0-5-0	1-3-0	
e-New England	3	13	0	.188	266	401	1-6-0	2-7-0	2-9-0	1-4-0	1-4-0	
SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	AFC	NFC	DIV	
y-Houston	9	7	0	.563	349	358	5-3-0	4-4-0	7-4-0	2-3-0	4-1-0	
Indianapolis	7	8	0	.467	318	359	4-3-0	3-5-0	6-5-0	1-3-0	2-3-0	
e-Jacksonville	3	12	0	.200	277	396	2-5-0	1-7-0	3-7-0	0-5-0	2-2-0	
e-Tennessee	3	12	0	.200	284	417	1-6-0	2-6-0	3-7-0	0-5-0	1-3-0	
NORTH	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	AFC	NFC	DIV	
x-Baltimore	11	5	0	.688	483	351	5-2-0	6-3-0	7-4-0	4-1-0	3-2-0	
x-Pittsburgh	10	6	0	.625	363	328	5-2-0	5-4-0	7-4-0	3-2-0	3-2-0	
Cincinnati	8	8	0	.500	453	417	3-5-0	5-3-0	5-6-0	3-2-0	2-3-0	
e-Cleveland	3	12	0	.200	245	380	2-5-0	1-7-0	3-7-0	0-5-0	2-3-0	
WEST	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	AFC	NFC	DIV	
*-Kansas City	15	1	0	.938	385	288	8-0-0	7-1-0	10-1-0	5-0-0	5-0-0	
x-L.A. Chargers	10	6	0	.625	368	281	5-3-0	5-3-0	7-4-0	3-2-0	3-2-0	
Denver	9	7	0	.563	387	311	5-2-0	4-5-0	5-6-0	4-1-0	2-3-0	
e-Las Vegas	3	12	0	.200	264	390	2-5-0	1-7-0	3-8-0	0-4-0	0-5-0	

NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE												
EAST	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	AFC	NFC	DIV	
x-Philadelphia	12	3	0	.800	402	283	6-1-0	6-2-0	5-0-0	7-3-0	3-1-0	
Washington	10	5	0	.667	432	348	6-2-0	4-3-0	3-2-0	7-3-0	3-2-0	
e-Dallas	7	8	0	.467	324	404	2-6-0	5-2-0	2-3-0	5-5-0	3-1-0	
e-N.Y. Giants	2	13	0	.133	215	362	0-8-0	2-5-0	1-3-0	1-10-0	0-5-0	
SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	AFC	NFC	DIV	
Atlanta	8	7	0	.533	327	349	4-4-0	4-3-0	1-4-0	7-3-0	4-1-0	
Tampa Bay	8	7	0	.533	427	352	3-4-0	5-3-0	2-3-0	6-4-0	2-2-0	
e-New Orleans	5	10	0	.333	309	346	3-5-0	2-5-0	1-3-0	4-7-0	2-3-0	
e-Carolina	4	11	0	.267	283	448	3-6-0	1-5-0	1-4-0	3-7-0	1-3-0	
NORTH	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	AFC	NFC	DIV	
x-Detroit	13	2	0	.867	493	299	6-2-0	7-0-0	4-1-0	9-1-0	5-0-0	
x-Minnesota	13	2	0	.867	396	276	7-1-0	6-1-0	5-0-0	8-2-0	3-1-0	
x-Green Bay	11	4	0	.733	413	287	6-2-0	5-2-0	5-0-0	6-4-0	1-3-0	
e-Chicago	4	12	0	.250	286	348	4-5-0	0-7-0	2-3-0	2-9-0	0-5-0	
WEST	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	AFC	NFC	DIV	
L.A. Rams	9	6	0	.600	329	347	4-3-0	5-3-0	4-1-0	5-5-0	3-1-0	
Seattle	9	7	0	.563	345	343	3-6-0	6-1-0	4-1-0	5-6-0	3-2-0	
e-Arizona	7	8	0	.467	344	342	5-3-0	2-5-0	4-1-0	3-7-0	2-2-0	
e-San Francisco	6	9	0	.400	331	349	4-4-0	2-5-0	2-3-0	4-6-0	1-4-0	
e-Eliminated from playoffs; x-clinched playoff spot												
y-clinched division; *-clinched home-field advantage												

WEEK 17

SATURDAY'S RESULTS
L.A. Chargers 40, New England 7
Cincinnati 30, Denver 24 (OT)
Arizona at L.A. Rams, late

SUNDAY'S GAMES
Indianapolis at N.Y. Giants, 1p.m. (Ch. 5)
N.Y. Jets at Buffalo, 1p.m. (Ch. 2)
Carolina at Tampa Bay, 1p.m.
Dallas at Philadelphia, 1p.m.
Las Vegas at New Orleans, 1p.m.
Tennessee at Jacksonville, 1p.m.
Miami at Cleveland, 4:05p.m.
Green Bay at Minnesota, 4:25p.m. (Ch. 5)
Atlanta at Washington, 8:20p.m. (Ch. 4)

MONDAY'S GAME
Detroit at San Francisco, 8:15p.m. (Ch. 7)

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS
Kansas City 29, Pittsburgh 10
Baltimore 31, Houston 2

THURSDAY'S RESULT
Seattle 6, Chicago 3

WEEK 18

SUNDAY, JAN. 5
Game dates, times TBD, to be flexed

Miami at N.Y. Jets, TBD
N.Y. Giants at Philadelphia, TBD
Buffalo at New England, TBD
Carolina at Atlanta, TBD
Chicago at Green Bay, TBD
Cincinnati at Pittsburgh, TBD
Cleveland at Baltimore, TBD
Houston at Tennessee, TBD
Jacksonville at Indianapolis, TBD
Kansas City at Denver, TBD
L.A. Chargers at Las Vegas, TBD
Minnesota at Detroit, TBD
New Orleans at Tampa Bay, TBD
San Francisco at Arizona, TBD
Seattle at L.A. Rams, TBD
Washington at Dallas, TBD

Chargers 40, New England 7

L.A. Chargers 7 13 10 10 - 40
New England 0 7 0 0 - 7
First Quarter
LAC: Davis 23pass from Herbert (Dicker kick), 3:28.
Second Quarter
LAC: FG Dicker 27, 10:15.
LAC: McConkey 6pass from Herbert (Dicker kick), 3:03.
NE: Douglas 36pass from D.Maye (Slye kick), 1:24.
LAC: FG Dicker 38, :02.
Third Quarter
LAC: McConkey 40pass from Herbert (Dicker kick), 7:43.
LAC: FG Dicker 41, 5:43.
Fourth Quarter
LAC: Dobbins 2run (Dicker kick), 11:58.
LAC: FG Dicker 35, 3:47.

TEAM STATS	LAC	NE
First downs	29	11
Total Net Yards	428	181
Rushes-yards	37-147	20-96
Passing	281	85
Punt Returns	2-18	1-15
Kickoff Returns	1-17	4-107
Interceptions Ret.	0-0	0-0
Comp-Att-Int	26-40-0	13-24-0
Sacked-Yards Lost	0-0	4-30
Punts	2-46-0	4-55-0
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	1-1
Penalties-Yards	6-54	7-60
Time of Possession	40:34	19:26

RUSHING: L.A. Chargers, Dobbins 19-76, Haskins 8-30, Vidal 5-24, Herbert 3-12, Heinicke 1-8, Davis 1-(minus 3).
New England, Gibson 12-63, Maye 6-32, Stevenson 2-1.
PASSING: L.A. Chargers, Herbert 26-38-0-281, Heinicke 0-2-0-0.
New England, Maye 12-22-0-117, Brissett 1-2-0-(minus 2).
RECEIVING: L.A. Chargers, McConkey 8-94, Johnston 5-48, Palmer 4-41, Davis 2-29, Smartt 2-23, Dissly 2-21, Haskins 1-10, Fisk 1-8, Dobbins 1-7.
New England, Douglas 4-46, Boutte 4-28, Hooper 3-19, Bourne 2-22.
MISSED FIELD GOALS: None.

Cincinnati 30, Denver 24 (OT)

Denver 3 0 7 14 0-24
Cincinnati 0 7 3 14 6-30
First Quarter
Den: FG Lutz 30, 9:45.
Second Quarter
Cin: Higgins 2pass from Burrow (York kick), 1:49.
Third Quarter
Cin: FG York 22, 9:07.
Den: Sutton 6pass from Nix (Lutz kick), 3:10.
Fourth Quarter
Cin: Higgins 12pass from Burrow (York kick), 11:33.
Den: M.Mims 51pass from Nix (Lutz kick), 8:48.
Cin: Burrow 1run (York kick), 1:29.
Den: M.Mims 25pass from Nix (Lutz kick), :08.
Overtime
Cin: Higgins 3pass from Burrow, 1:07.

TEAM STATS	DEN	CIN
First downs	19	34
Total Net Yards	329	499
Rushes-yards	27-123	28-115
Passing	206	384
Punt Returns	0-0	1-4
Kickoff Returns	1-27	3-98
Interceptions Ret.	0-0	1-2
Comp-Att-Int	24-31-1	39-49-0
Sacked-Yards Lost	2-13	7-28
Punts	4-41.5	1-47.0
Fumbles-Lost	2-0	1-1
Penalties-Yards	7-35	3-15
Time of Possession	26:57	41:56
RUSHING: Denver, McLaughlin 10-69, Nix 7-31, Estime 9-24, Mims 1-(minus 1). Cincinnati, C.Brown 20-67, Burrow 4-25, Herbert 4-23.		

PASSING: Denver, Nix 24-31-1-219. Cincinnati, Burrow 39-49-0-412.
RECEIVING: Denver, Mims 8-103, Sutton 5-55, Vele 2-27, McLaughlin 2-7, Williams 2-0, Estime 1-13, Adkins 1-7, Trautman 1-5, Krull 1-3, Franklin 1-(minus 1).
Cincinnati, Higgins 11-131, Gesicki 10-86, Chase 9-102, C.Brown 4-24, Iosivas 3-59, Grandy 1-7, D.Sample 1-3.

MISSED FIELD GOALS: Cincinnati, York 33.

TOP PASSING GAMES

509: Kirk Cousins, ATL vs. TB 10/3 (OT) (42-58, 4 TD)
497: Jameis Winston, CLE at DEN 12/2 (34-58, 4 TD)
494: Jared Goff, DET vs. BUF 12/15 (38-59, 5 TD)
428: Joe Burrow, CIN at BAL 11/7 (34-56, 4 TD)
414: Russell Wilson, PIT at CIN 12/1 (29-38, 3 TD)
412: Jared Goff, DET vs. JAC 11/17 (24-29, 4 TD)
395: Jameis Winston, CLE at NO 11/17 (30-46, 2 TD)
395: Geno Smith, SEA at DET 9/30 (38-56, 1 TD)
392: Joe Burrow, CIN vs. BAL 10/6 (OT) (30-39, 5 TD)
389: Jordan Love, GB vs. MIN 9/29 (32-54, 4 TD)
379: Dak Prescott, DAL vs. BAL 9/22 (28-51, 2 TD)
371: Trevor Lawrence, JAC vs. IND 10/6 (28-34, 2 TD)
370: Baker Mayfield, TB vs. BAL 10/21 (31-45, 3 TD)
369: Joe Burrow, CIN at DAL 12/9 (33-44, 3 TD)
365: Tua Tagovailoa, MIA at GB 11/28 (37-46, 2 TD)
363: Geno Smith, SEA vs. LAR 11/3 (OT) (21-34, 3 TD)
363: Caleb Williams, CHI at IND 9/22 (33-52, 2 TD)

TOP RECEIVING GAMES

264: Ja'Marr Chase, CIN at BAL 11/7 (11 rec., 3 TD)
235: Jerry Jeudy, CLE at DEN 12/2 (9 rec., 1 TD)
198: Davante Adams, NYJ at JAC 12/15 (9 rec., 2 TD)
193: Ja'Marr Chase, CIN vs. BAL 10/6 (OT) (10 rec., 2 TD)
193: Armon-Ra St. Brown, DET vs. BUF 12/15 (14 rec., 1 TD)
180: Jaxon Smith-Njigba, SEA vs. LAR 11/3 (OT) (7 rec., 2 TD)
177: Ja'Marr Chase, CIN at DAL 12/9 (14 rec., 2 TD)
175: Jauan Jennings, SF at LAR 9/22 (11 rec., 3 TD)
170: Dallas Goedert, PHI at NO 9/22 (10 rec., 0 TD)
162: Jordan Addison, MIN at CHI 11/24 (OT) (8 rec., 1 TD)
162: Puka Nacua, LAR vs. BUF 12/8 (12 rec., 1 TD)
161: Armon-Ra St. Brown, DET vs. JAC 11/17 (11 rec., 2 TD)
159: Mike Evans, TB at LAC 12/15 (9 rec., 2 TD)
154: Drake London, ATL vs. TB 10/3 (OT) (12 rec., 1 TD)
151: Nico Collins, HOU vs. JAC 9/29 (12 rec., 1 TD)
151: George Kittle, SF vs. CHI 12/8 (6 rec., 0 TD)
150: Christian Watson, GB at CHI 11/17 (4 rec., 0 TD)

NFL INJURY REPORT

WEEK 17
The report, as provided by the league
(OUT: Player will not play; DOUBTFUL: Player is unlikely to play; QUESTIONABLE: Player is not certain to play; DNP: did not practice; LIMITED: limited participation; FULL: Full participation):

SUNDAY'S GAMES
INDIANAPOLIS COLTS at GIANTS:
INDIANAPOLIS: QUESTIONABLE: TE Mo Alie-Cox (knee), CB Julius Brents (knee), LB Jaylon Carlies (shoulder), G Quenton Nelson (ankle), LB E.J. Speed (knee). DNP: DeForest Buckner (rest), C Ryan Kelly (rest), DT Grover Stewart (rest).
GIANTS: OUT: S Raheem Layne (knee), LB Micah McFadden (neck), C John Michael Schmitz (ankle), CB Greg Stroman (shoulder/shin). QUESTIONABLE: WR Malik Nabers (toe), DT Armon Watts (shoulder), G Austin Schlottmann (fibula), CB Dee Williams (toe). LIMITED: DT Cory Durden (shoulder), RB Tyrone Tracy Jr. (ankle), G Greg Van Roten (knee). FULL: QB Drew Lock (right shoulder), G Jermaine Eluemunor (wrist).

JETS at BUFFALO BILLS
JETS: OUT: DL Leki Fotu (knee). QUESTIONABLE: WR Davante Adams (hip), CB Sauce Gardner (hamstring), OL Morgan Moses (knee), DL Braidan McGregor (ankle), LB Haason Reddick (neck), S Tony Adams (ankle), K Greg Zuerlein (left knee). LIMITED: CB Michael Carter II (back), DL Quinnen Williams (hamstring). FULL: OL John Simpson (calf), G Alijah Vera-Tucker (ankle).
BUFFALO: QUESTIONABLE: S Damar Hamlin (rib), CB Cam Lewis (shoulder), FS Taylor Rapp (neck), WR Curtis Samuel (rib). FULL: OT Tylan Grable (personal).

ATLANTA FALCONS
at WASHINGTON COMMANDERS
ATLANTA: OUT: CB Kevin King (concussion), CB Antonio Hamilton Sr. (quad). LIMITED: WR Khadrel Hodge (ribs), FULL: WR Drake London (knee), OLB Lorenzo Carter (groin), TE Ross Dwelley (ankle), WR Casey Washington (concussion), DL Zach Harrison (achilles).
WASHINGTON: OUT: WR Dyani Brown (hamstring), CB Marshon Lattimore (hamstring), LB Jordan Magee (hamstring), S Tyler Owens (ankle), T Andrew Wylie (groin), QUESTIONABLE: DT Jonathan Allen (pectoral), QB Marcus Mariota (personal). LIMITED: DE Clelin Ferrell (knee). FULL: WR Terry McLaurin (ankle).

DALLAS COWBOYS
at PHILADELPHIA EAGLES
DALLAS: OUT: DB Kemon Hall (hamstring), WR CeeDee Lamb (shoulder), CB Amani Oluwariye (foot). DOUBTFUL: G TJ Bass (thigh). QUESTIONABLE: LB Eric Kendricks (calf), ILB Nick Vigil (foot), WR Jalen Tolbert (finger), OL Asim Richards (ankle), G Chuma Edoga (toe), S Donovan Wilson (knee), WR Jalen Brooks (knee). FULL: OT Matt Waletzko (knee), CB Jourdan Lewis (elbow), DT Mazi Smith (back), S Juanyeh Thomas (knee), S Malik Hooker (rest).
PHILADELPHIA: OUT: WR Britain Covey (neck), QB Jalen Hurts (concussion/left finger), RB Will Shipley (concussion). DOUBTFUL: LB Nakobe Dean (abdomen). QUESTIONABLE: DE Bryce Huff (wrist). FULL: A.J. Brown (knee/rest), OLB Josh Sweat (ankle/rest).

CAROLINA PANTHERS
at TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS
CAROLINA: OUT: CB Chau Smith-Wade (illness/chest), LB Josey Jewell (concussion/quad). DOUBTFUL: T Taylor Moton (knee), CB Jaycee Horn (hip). QUESTIONABLE: RB Chuba Hubbard (knee), OLB Jadeveon Clowney (knee/elbow), WR Xavier Legette (hip/wrist), DE A'Shawn Robinson (knee/illness), OLB D.J. Wonnun (shoulder/knee), G Damien Lewis (illness/

TOP RUSHING GAMES

255: Saquon Barkley, PHI at LAR 11/24 (26 att., 2 TD)
218: Jonathan Taylor, IND vs. TEN 12/22 (29 att., 3 TD)
199: Derrick Henry, BAL vs. BUF 9/29 (24 att., 1 TD)
176: Saquon Barkley, PHI at NYG 10/20 (17 att., 1 TD)
169: Derrick Henry, BAL at TB 10/21 (15 att., 0 TD)
162: Derrick Henry, BAL vs. PIT 12/21 (24 att., 0 TD)
159: Saquon Barkley, PHI vs. JAC 11/3 (27 att., 1 TD)
159: Joe Mixon, HOU at IND 9/8 (30 att., 1 TD)
155: Alvin Kamara, NO at CAR 11/3 (29 att., 0 TD)
153: Chuba Hubbard, CAR vs. NYG 11/10 (OT)

ankle), OLB Cam Gill (illness). LIMITED: OLB Amare Barno (knee), WR Adam Thielen (hamstring), TE Tommy Tremble (shoulder/back).
TAMPA BAY: OUT: TE Cade Otton (knee), WR Sterling Shepard (hamstring/foot), S Antoine Winfield Jr. (knee). QUESTIONABLE: LB K.J. Britt (ankle), WR Kameron Johnson (ankle), FS Jordan Whitehead (pectoral). LIMITED: WR Mike Edwards (rest), OT Tristan Wirfs (foot/knee/ankle), DB Jamel Dean (knee), OLB Lavonte David (rest). FULL: Kaevon Merriweather (knee).

GREEN BAY PACKERS
at MINNESOTA VIKINGS
GREEN BAY: OUT: CB Jaire Alexander (knee), T Andre Dillard (concussion), LB Quay Walker (ankle), S Evan Williams (quad). QUESTIONABLE: S Javon Bullard (ankle), LB Ty'Ron Hopper (ankle), WR Christian Watson (knee). LIMITED: G/T Elgton Jenkins (knee), TE Luke Musgrave (ankle). FULL: TE Tucker Kraft (hip).
MINNESOTA: OUT: CB Fabian Moreau (hip). QUESTIONABLE: LB Ivan Pace Jr. (hamstring).

LAS VEGAS RAIDERS
at NEW ORLEANS SAINTS
LAS VEGAS: OUT: G Jordan Meredith (ankle). LIMITED: RB Dylan Laube (illness), CB Nate Hobbs (illness). FULL: Kana'i Mauga (calf), G Jackson Powers-Johnson (quadricep/ankle).
NEW ORLEANS: OUT: QB Derek Carr (left hand), RB Alvin Kamara (groin), C Erik McCoy (elbow), G Lucas Patrick (knee). QUESTIONABLE: DE D'Nathan Shepherd (eye), TE Juwan Johnson (foot), WR Marquese Valdes-Scantling (chest), WR Chris Olave (head), RB Rico Payton (illness). FULL: TE Juwan Johnson (foot), DE Payton Turner (ankle).

MIAMI DOLPHINS at CLEVELAND BROWNS
MIAMI: OUT: CB Kendall Fuller (knee), LB Anthony Walker (knee). QUESTIONABLE: T Terron Armstead (knee), S Jordan Poyer (knee/finger), WR Jaylen Waddle (knee), WR Dee Eskridge (knee), WR Tyreek Hill (wrist), QB Tua Tagovailoa (hip). LIMITED: LB Jordyn Brooks (quad/knee). FULL: FB Alec Ingold (ankle).
CLEVELAND: OUT: TE David Njoku (knee), DE Ogbo Okoronkwo (knee), WR Cedric Tillman (concussion). QUESTIONABLE: QB Jameis Winston (right shoulder). LIMITED: WR Jerry Jeudy (knee/shin). FULL: OL Germain Ifedi (achilles), CB Martin Emerson (back), QB Dorian Thompson-Robinson (calf).

TENNESEE TITANS
at JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS
TENNESSEE: OUT: K Nick Folk (abdomen), OL Dillon Radunz (shoulder), LB Otis Reese (ankle), WR Colton Dowell (knee). QUESTIONABLE: WR Tyler Boyd (foot), S Amani Hooker (shoulder), RB Tony Pollard (ankle), WR Bryce Oliver (knee).
JACKSONVILLE: OUT: OT Walker Little (ankle), LB Ventrell Miller (ankle), S Darnell Savage (concussion), QUESTIONABLE: LB Yasir Abdullah (illness). FULL: DaVon Hamilton (illness), G Brandon Scherff (knee/shoulder), TE Brenton Strange (shoulder), G Ezra Cleveland (knee).

MONDAY'S GAME
DETROIT LIONS at SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS
DETROIT: OUT: RB David Montgomery (knee), WR Kalif Raymond (foot). QUESTIONABLE: LB Jalen Reeves-Maybin (neck). FULL: CB Terrion Arnold (illness).
SAN FRANCISCO: OUT: G Aaron Banks (knee), DE Robert Beal Jr. (ankle), G Spencer Burford (calf), LB Dre Greenlaw (calf). QUESTIONABLE: S Ji'Ayir Brown (ankle), OT Colton McKivitz (knee), LB Tatum Bethune (knee), CB Charvarius Ward (personal). FULL: DE Leonard Floyd (shoulder), RB Isaac Guerendo (foot/hamstring), FB Kyle Juszczyk (illness).

(28 att., 1 TD)
152: Chuba Hubbard, CAR vs. ARI 12/22 (OT) (25 att., 2 TD)
152: Bucky Irving, TB at CAR 12/1 (OT) (25 att., 1 TD)
151: Derrick Henry, BAL at DAL 9/22 (25 att., 2 TD)
151: Josh Jacobs, GB vs. IND 9/15 (32 att., 0 TD)
150: Saquon Barkley, PHI at WAS 12/22 (29 att., 2 TD)
1

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY	CONF
Boston	23	8	.742	—	6-4	W-1	12-5	11-3	21-6
New York	22	10	.688	1½	8-2	W-7	10-4	12-6	16-7
Philadelphia	11	17	.393	10½	7-3	W-2	5-9	6-8	10-10
Brooklyn	12	19	.387	11	3-7	L-1	5-9	7-10	6-15
Toronto	7	24	.226	16	1-9	L-9	6-10	1-14	4-13

SOUTHEAST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY	CONF
Orlando	19	14	.576	—	4-6	L-2	12-4	7-10	15-9
Atlanta	17	15	.531	1½	6-4	W-3	10-7	7-7	12-7
Miami	15	14	.517	2	6-4	L-1	9-5	5-9	11-10
Charlotte	7	24	.226	11	1-9	L-7	5-12	2-12	6-21
Washington	5	24	.172	12	3-7	L-1	4-11	1-12	4-16

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY	CONF
Cleveland	27	4	.871	—	9-1	W-6	17-1	10-3	20-4
Milwaukee	16	14	.533	10½	5-5	L-2	10-5	5-9	14-13
Indiana	15	17	.469	12½	6-4	L-2	8-5	7-12	8-13
Detroit	14	17	.452	13	5-5	W-3	5-8	9-9	10-14
Chicago	14	18	.438	13½	5-5	W-1	5-11	9-7	12-11

WESTERN CONFERENCE

SOUTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY	CONF
Memphis	22	10	.688	—	8-2	W-2	14-4	8-6	9-7
Houston	21	10	.677	½	6-4	L-1	11-4	10-5	13-8
Dallas	20	11	.645	1½	7-3	W-1	10-5	10-6	14-9
San Antonio	16	15	.516	5½	5-5	W-1	11-7	5-8	13-12
New Orleans	5	27	.156	17	1-9	L-9	4-13	1-14	3-16

NORTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY	CONF
Oklahoma City	25	5	.833	—	10-0	W-10	11-2	13-3	16-5
Denver	16	13	.552	8½	5-5	L-2	8-5	8-8	11-9
Minnesota	16	14	.533	9	6-4	W-2	8-6	8-8	13-9
Portland	10	20	.333	15	2-8	W-1	7-7	3-13	9-19
Utah	7	22	.241	17½	3-7	L-2	2-10	5-12	3-20

PACIFIC	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY	CONF
L.A. Clippers	18	13	.581	—	6-4	W-2	11-6	7-7	13-12
L.A. Lakers	17	13	.567	½	5-5	W-1	9-4	8-9	14-7
Phoenix	15	15	.500	2½	3-7	L-1	10-7	5-8	13-8
Golden State	15	15	.500	2½	3-7	L-3	7-7	8-8	12-12
Sacramento	13	18	.419	5	4-6	L-5	6-12	7-6	10-13

RESULTS, SCHEDULE

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

New York 136, Washington 132 (OT)
Atlanta 120, Miami 110
Oklahoma City 106, Charlotte 94
Chicago 116, Milwaukee 111
Phoenix at Golden State, late
Detroit at Denver, late
Philadelphia at Utah, late
Dallas at Portland, late
Sacramento at L.A. Lakers, late

SUNDAY'S GAMES

Brooklyn at Orlando, 3:30p.m.
Atlanta at Toronto, 6p.m.
Indiana at Boston, 6p.m.
Memphis at Oklahoma City, 7p.m.
Miami at Houston, 7p.m.
San Antonio at Minnesota, 8p.m.

MONDAY'S GAMES

Chicago at Charlotte, 7p.m.
New York at Washington, 7p.m.
L.A. Clippers at New Orleans, 8p.m.
Denver at Utah, 9p.m.
Cleveland at Golden State, 10p.m.
Dallas at Sacramento, 10p.m.
Philadelphia at Portland, 10p.m.

FRIDAY'S RESULTS

New York 108, Orlando 85
San Antonio 96, Brooklyn 87
Boston 142, Indiana 105
Minnesota 113, Houston 112
Memphis 132, New Orleans 124
Cleveland 149, Denver 135
Dallas 98, Phoenix 89
L.A. Clippers 102, Golden State 92

KEY DATES

Jan. 5: 10-day contracts may now be signed
Jan. 10: All NBA contracts are guaranteed for the remainder of the season
Jan. 20: Martin Luther King Jr. Day
12 p.m.: Mavericks at Hornets, NBA TV
2:30 p.m.: Timberwolves at Grizzlies, TNT
5 p.m.: Celtics at Warriors, TNT
Jan. 23 & Jan. 25: NBA Paris Games 2025
2 p.m., Jan. 23: Spurs vs. Pacers, ESPN
12 p.m. Jan. 25: Spurs vs. Pacers, ESPN
Feb. 6: NBA Trade Deadline (3 p.m.)
Feb 14-16: NBA All-Star 2025 (San Francisco)
Feb. 14-19: NBA All-Star break
March 1: Playoff Eligibility Waiver Deadline
April 1: NBA G League Playoffs begins
April 13: NBA Regular Season ends.
All 30 teams to play.
Seven Eastern Conference games to tip-off at 1 p.m. ET. The one cross-conference and seven Western Conference games to tip-off at 3:30 p.m. ET.
April 14: Rosters set for NBA Playoffs 2025 (3 p.m. ET)

Okla. City 106, Charlotte 94

SATURDAY'S RESULT												
	FG	FT	REB									
OKLA. CITY	Min	M-A	M-A	O-T	A	P	F	P	T			
Wiggins	33:15	6-10	2-2	3-5	1	2	17					
Jal.Williams	33:38	8-21	3-3	0-3	6	0	20					
Hartenstein	25:28	6-7	0-0	1-15	4	4	12					
Glgs-Akndr	33:00	8-15	5-6	1-4	6	4	22					
Mitchell	31:34	4-8	1-1	1-5	4	1	10					
Jay.Williams	22:32	3-7	0-0	2-4	6	3	9					
K.Williams	22:02	4-6	1-1	0-4	1	1	9					
Joe	16:22	2-7	0-1	1-4	0	1	5					
Jones	14:46	1-5	0-0	0-3	1	2	2					
Dieng	7:23	0-2	0-0	0-2	0	1	0					
Totals	240:0042-8812-14	9-49	29	19	106							

Percentages: FG .477, FT .857
3-Point Goals: 10-38, .263 (Jay.Williams 3-6, Wiggins 3-7, Mitchell 1-2, Gilgeous-Alexander 1-6, Joe 1-6, Jal.Williams 1-7, Dieng 0-1, Jones 0-3)
Team Rebounds: 4; **Team Turnovers:** 2
Blocked Shots: 1 (Gilgeous-Alexander)
Turnovers: 15 (Gilgeous-Alexander 6, Hartenstein 3, Wiggins 2, Jal.Williams, Jay.Williams, K.Williams, Mitchell)
Steals: 9 (Gilgeous-Alexander 2, Wiggins 2, Hartenstein, Jal.Williams, Jay.Williams, Joe, K.Williams)

CHAR.	Min	M-A	M-A	O-T	A	P	F	P	T			
Bridges	38:29	5-16	8-8	1-10	6	1	19					
Green	39:15	3-9	1-2	0-2	1	3	10					
M.Williams	22:15	4-9	4-5	2-10	2	3	12					
Murry	21:59	4-8	3-3	1-2	0	1	12					
Micic	29:15	6-13	0-0	0-2	4	1	16					
Salaun	31:25	3-10	2-2	1-5	1	3	9					
Wong	18:45	2-8	6-6	0-0	1	1	10					
Diabate	13:50	0-1	0-0	0-3	1	0	0					
Jeffries	12:52	2-5	0-0	1-3	1	2	5					
Richards	11:55	0-1	1-2	2-7	0	1	1					
Totals	240:0029-8025-28	8-44	17	16	94							

Percentages: FG .363, FT .893
3-Point Goals: 11-34, .324 (Micic 4-7, Green 3-6, Curry 1-2, Jeffries 1-4, Salaun 1-4, Bridges 1-8, Wong 0-3)
Team Rebounds: 5
Blocked Shots: 5 (Bridges 2, Curry, M.Williams, Salaun)
Turnovers: 18 (Micic 5, Bridges 3, Green 2, Jeffries 2, Salaun 2, Diabate, M.Williams, Richards, Wong)
Steals: 9 (Green 3, Diabate 2, Bridges, Micic, Salaun, Wong)

Oklahoma City	28	33	29	16	—	106
Charlotte	22	24	28	20	—	94

A: 19,325(19,077). Time: 2:09

Atlanta 120, Miami 110

SATURDAY'S RESULT												
	FG	FT	REB									
MIAMI	Min	M-A	M-A	O-T	A	P	F	P	T			
Highsmith	36:06	6-8	0-0	3-6	2	4	14					
Jaquez Jr.	21:04	4-12	0-0	1-5	1	1	8					
Adebayo	36:32	8-17	1-1	3-10	2	3	17					
Herro	35:55	8-15	8-8	0-7	5	3	28					
Robinson	38:20	6-14	0-0	0-5	5	3	16					
Rozier	20:09	3-8	2-2	0-5	1	0	9					
Burks	19:17	3-9	2-2	0-1	1	1	10					
Jovic	18:22	0-3	4-5	1-2	1	2	4					
Ware	10:00	2-3	0-0	0-1	0	0	4					
Larsson	4:15	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	2	0					
Totals	240:0040-9017-18	8-42	23	19	110							

Percentages: FG .444, FT .944
3-Point Goals: 13-41, .317 (Herro 4-7, Robinson 4-10, Highsmith 2-3, Burks 2-6, Rozier 1-5, Ware 0-1, Adebayo 0-2, Jovic 0-2, Jaquez Jr. 0-5)
Team Rebounds: 4; **Team Turnovers:** 1
Blocked Shots: 4 (Adebayo 2, Rozier 2)
Turnovers: 8 (Adebayo 2, Herro 2, Highsmith, Jovic, Robinson, Rozier)
Steals: 9 (Jaquez Jr. 3, Robinson 2, Adebayo, Burks, Rozier, Ware)

ATLANTA	Min	M-A	M-A	O-T	A	P	F	P	T			
J.Johnson	35:19	13-20	0-1	4-13	5	4	28					
Risacher	27:17	4-12	0-0	2-4	1	1	9					
Capela	21:22	3-3	0-1	0-7	1	1	6					
Krejci	23:11	2-6	2-2	1-3	5	3	7					
Young	36:51	3-13	3-4	0-1	15	0	11					
Hunter	28:39	8-14	6-7	0-5	2	2	26					
Mathews	27:12	5-8	4-5	0-2	2	3	18					
Nance Jr.	26:38	4-6	2-2	2-10	1	0	10					
Wallace	13:31	2-4	0-0	0-2	2	2	5					
Totals	240:0044-8617-22	9-47	34	16	120							

Percentages: FG .512, FT .773
3-Point Goals: 15-37, .405 (Hunter 4-7, Mathews 4-7, J.Johnson 2-3, Young 2-9, Wallace 1-2, Krejci 1-4, Risacher 1-4, Nance Jr. 0-1)
Team Rebounds: 5; **Team Turnovers:** 2
Blocked Shots: 2 (J.Johnson 2)
Turnovers: 11 (Nance Jr. 4, Young 3, Capela, Krejci, Mathews, Risacher)
Steals: 7 (Nance Jr. 2, Capela, Hunter, Mathews, Wallace, Young)

Miami	28	30	26	26	—	110
Atlanta	35	26	32	27	—	120

A: 17,856(18,118). Time: 2:09

Chicago 116, Milwaukee 111

SATURDAY'S RESULT												
	FG	FT	REB									
MILW.	Min	M-A	M-A	O-T	A	P	F	P	T			
Middleton	27:36	8-15	1-1	0-6	4	4	21					
Portis	33:55	5-17	2-2	3-9	4	3	14					
Lopez	37:34	9-22	1-1	1-7	3	2	22					
Jackson Jr.	22:48	0-3	0-0	1-1	1	0	0					
Lillard	35:28	8-19	10-10	1-6	11	2	29					
Green	24:24	2-4	0-0	0-2	1	1	5					
Rollins	21:16	3-6	0-0	0-7	1	2	7					
Prince	20:24	3-8	0-0	0-3	0	1	6					
Trent Jr.	16:34	3-8	0-0	0-2	1	1	7					
Totals	240:0041-10214-146-43	26	16	111								

Percentages: FG .402, FT 1.000
3-Point Goals: 15-45, .333 (Middleton 4-6, Lillard 3-9, Lopez 3-11, Portis 2-7, Rollins 1-1, Green 1-3, Trent Jr. 1-4, Jackson Jr. 0-1, Prince 0-3)
Team Rebounds: 9
Team Turnovers: 1
Blocked Shots: 7 (Lopez 3, Rollins 2, Green, Portis)
Turnovers: 7 (Middleton 2, Trent Jr. 2, Green, Portis, Prince)
Steals: 6 (Portis 2, Rollins 2, Lillard, Trent Jr.)
Technical Fouls: None

		FG	FT	ORB				
CHICAGO	Min	M-A	M-A	T-O	A	P	F	P
LaVine	34:35	5-12	4-6	0-6	7	0	15	
Williams	28:41	4-8	0-0	0-2	1	1	9	
Vucevic	38:25	10-24	0-0	5-13	5	2	23	
Giddey	29:29	9-15	3-4	2-15	10	1	23	
White	34:11	9-16	3-3	0-2	4	3	22	
Ball	19:29	3-5	0-0	0-3	3	3	9	
Terry	16:51	1-2	0-2	1-3	2	3	2	
Buzelis	12:58	1-2	0-0	2-3	0	1	2	
Craig	11:13	2-8	0-0	1-3	0	1	6	
Carter	6:10	1-2	2-2	0-1	1	0	5	
Phillips	4:43	0-1	0-0	0-1	0	0	0	
Horton-Tucker	3:15	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	
Totals	240:00	45-95	12-21	17-52	33	16	116	
Percentages: FG .474, FT .706								
3-Point Goals: 14-36, .389 (Ball 3-4, Vucevic 3-7, Giddey 2-6, Craig 2-7, Williams 1-1, Carter 1-2, LaVine 1-4, White 1-5)								
Team Rebounds: 12								
Blocked Shots: 6 (Buzelis 2, Williams 2, Giddey, White)								
Turnovers: 11 (LaVine 3, Ball 2, Giddey 2, Terry, Vucevic, White, Williams)								
Steals: 4 (Ball, Giddey, Vucevic, Williams)								

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE									
ATLANTIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA		
Toronto	37	22	13	2	46	115	105		
Florida	37	22	13	2	46	126	116		
Boston	38	20	14	4	44	101	115		
Tampa Bay	33	20	11	2	42	132	92		
Ottawa	35	18	15	2	38	107	102		
Montreal	35	15	17	3	33	105	123		
Detroit	35	13	18	4	30	90	116		
Buffalo	36	13	19	4	30	110	122		

METRO.	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA
New Jersey	39	24	12	3	51	130	98
Washington	35	24	9	2	50	130	91
Carolina	36	22	13	1	45	125	102
Pittsburgh	36	16	15	5	37	112	133
Philadelphia	36	16	16	4	36	111	131
Columbus	37	15	16	6	36	123	133
N.Y. Rangers	35	16	18	1	33	98	108
N.Y. Islanders	35	13	15	7	33	93	113

WESTERN CONFERENCE									
CENTRAL	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA		
Winnipeg	37	26	10	1	53	137	91		
Minnesota	36	22	10	4	48	107	98		
Colorado	37	22	15	0	44	125	121		
Dallas	34	20	13	1	41	107	88		
Utah	35	16	13	6	38	103	103		
St. Louis	37	17	16	4	38	98	111		
Nashville	36	11	18	7	29	88	114		
Chicago	36	12	22	2	26	93	118		

PACIFIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA
Vegas	35	24	8	3	51	126	99
Los Angeles	35	20	10	5	45	108	91
Edmonton	35	21	11	3	45	114	99
Vancouver	35	17	10	8	42	111	112
Calgary	34	16	11	7	39	95	106
Seattle	37	16	19	2	34	106	117
Anaheim	34	13	17	4	30	83	106
San Jose	38	11	21	6	28	104	139

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

RESULTS, SCHEDULE

SATURDAY'S RESULTS
N.Y. Islanders 6, Pittsburgh 3
Tampa Bay 6, N.Y. Rangers 2
Carolina 5, New Jersey 2
Montreal 4, Florida 0
Seattle 5, Vancouver 4 (OT)
Philadelphia 3, Anaheim 1
Los Angeles 4, Edmonton 3(OT)
Boston 4, Columbus 0
Winnipeg 4, Ottawa 2
Washington 5, Toronto 2
Calgary at San Jose, late

SUNDAY'S GAMES

Buffalo at St. Louis, 3p.m.
Edmonton at Anaheim, 4p.m.
Montreal at Tampa Bay, 5p.m.
Washington at Detroit, 5p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Pittsburgh, 5:30p.m.
Ottawa at Minnesota, 8p.m.
Calgary at Las Vegas, 8p.m.
Dallas at Chicago, 7:30p.m.
Philadelphia at Los Angeles, 9p.m.

FRIDAY'S RESULTS

Toronto 5, Detroit 2
Buffalo 6, Chicago 2
New Jersey 4, Carolina 2
Columbus 6, Boston 2
Minnesota 3, Dallas 2 (OT)
St. Louis 7, Nashville 4
Colorado 4, Utah 1
Vegas 6, San Jose 3

KEY DATES

DECEMBER
26-Jan. 5, 2025: IIHF World Junior Ice Hockey Championship (Ottawa, Ont.)
31: Discover NHL Winter Classic®: St. Louis Blues at Chicago Blackhawks (Wrigley Field, Chicago)

PWHL

Team	GP	W	L	OW	OL	Pt	GF	GA
Minnesota	6	3	1	1	1	12	22	16
Montreal	5	2	1	2	0	10	14	13
New York	5	2	1	1	1	9	17	14
Toronto	6	2	3	0	1	7	17	20
Boston	5	2	3	0	0	6	11	13
Ottawa	5	1	3	0	1	4	11	16

SATURDAY'S RESULT
Montreal 3, Minnesota 2

SUNDAY'S GAME
Ottawa at New York, 1p.m.

MONDAY'S GAME
Boston at Montreal, 7p.m.

FRIDAY'S RESULT
Toronto 4, Boston 2

Montreal 4, Florida 0

SATURDAY'S RESULT									
Montreal	0	3	1	—	4				
Florida	0	0	0	—	0				

First Period: None
Penalties: Samoskevich, FLA (High Sticking), 13:46
Second Period: 1, Montreal, Dach 3 (Guhle, Newhook), 1:39; 2, Montreal, Dach 4 (Newhook), 13:51. 3, Montreal, Evans 9, 17:19 (sh)
Penalties: Xhekaj, MTL (Fighting), 10:11; Greer, FLA (Fighting), 10:11; Dvorak, MTL (Slashing), 16:28
Third Period: 4, Montreal, Caufield 18 (Slafkovsky), 14:17
Penalties: None
Shots on Goal: Montreal 9-8-7—24; Florida 10-14-10—34
Power-play opportunities: Montreal 0 of 1; Florida 0 of 1
Goalies: Montreal, Dobes 1-0-0 (34 shots-34 saves); Florida, Knight 6-6-1 (24-20)
A: 19,483 (19,250); **T:** 2:23
Referees: Mike Markovic, Wes McCauley
Lines: Matt MacPherson, Kilian McNamara

Philadelphia 3, Anaheim 1

SATURDAY'S RESULT									
Philadelphia	0	1	2	—	3				
Anaheim	0	1	0	—	1				

First Period: None
Penalties: Gauthier, ANA (Hooking), 7:30; Michkov, PHI (High Sticking), 10:25
Second Period: 1, Philadelphia, Cates 7 (York, Brink), 4:03; 2, Anaheim, Terry 10 (Gudas, LaCombe), 15:38
Penalties: Hathaway, PHI (Tripping), 1:45; Terry, ANA (Tripping), 1:50; Gudas, ANA (Holding), 7:07; Foerster, PHI (Slashing), 15:55
Third Period: 3, Philadelphia, Frost 7 (Laughon), 5:57; 4, Philadelphia, Farabee 5, 17:40 (en)
Penalties: Helleson, ANA (High Sticking), 13:38; Philadelphia bench, served by Farabee (Too Many Men on the Ice), 15:30; Vatrano, ANA (Roughing), 18:57
Shots on Goal: Philadelphia 7-12-6—25; Anaheim 10-12-10—32
Power-play opportunities: Philadelphia 0 of 5; Anaheim 0 of 4
Goalies: Philadelphia, Ersson 8-6-2 (33 shots-32 saves); Anaheim, Dostal 8-10-3 (24-22)
A: 16,472 (17,174); **T:** 2:24
Referees: Jordan Samuels-Thomas, Chris Schlenker
Linesmen: Mitch Hunt, Kiel Murchison

Seattle 5, Vancouver 4 (OT)

SATURDAY'S RESULT									
Seattle	0	1	3	1	—	5			
Vancouver	1	2	1	0	—	4			

First Period: 1, Vancouver, Boeser 12 (DeBrusk, Miller), 16:03 (pp)
Penalties: Gourde, SEA (Roughing), 13:58; Forbort, VAN (Roughing), 13:58; Wright, SEA (Hooking), 15:54; Soucy, VAN (Interference), 17:23
Second Period: 2, Seattle, Beniers 5 (Olek-siak), 1:18; 3, Vancouver, Garland 9 (Blueger, Soucy), 8:36; 4, Vancouver, Boeser 13 (Heinen, Soucy), 15:14
Penalties: Brannstrom, VAN (Hooking), 3:22; Garland, VAN (Holding), 6:25; Oleksiak, SEA (Hooking), 11:40
Third Period: 5, Vancouver, DeBrusk 16 (Forbort, Miller), 3:09; 6, Seattle, Schwartz 10 (Sprong, Dunn), 15:15. 7, Seattle, Dunn 6, 18:48. 8, Seattle, Schwartz 11 (Bjorkstrand), 19:10
Penalties: None
Overtime: 9, Seattle, Dunn 7, 2:15
Penalties: None
Shots on Goal: Seattle 6-9-12-2—29; Vancouver 6-9-5-1—21
Power-play opportunities: Seattle 0 of 3; Vancouver 1 of 2
Goalies: Seattle, Grubauer 4-10-0 (21 shots-17 saves); Vancouver, Demko 2-1-3 (29-24)
A: 18,905 (18,910); **T:** 2:28
Referees: Cody Beach, Tom Chmielewski
Linesmen: Brandon Gawryletz, Bevan Mills

L.A. Kings 4, Edmonton 3 (OT)

SATURDAY'S RESULT									
Edmonton	1	2	0	0	—	3			
Los Angeles	2	0	1	1	—	4			

First Period: 1, Edmonton, Kapanen 5 (Brown, Emberson), 9:43; 2, Los Angeles, Byfield 7 (Clarke, Foegele), 12:32. 3, Los Angeles, Foegele 10 (Byfield, Spence), 17:35
Penalties: None
Second Period: 4, Edmonton, Nugent-Hopkins 7 (McDavid, Hyman), 3:20 (pp); 5, Edmonton, Arvidsson 4 (Draisaitl, Podkolzin), 11:59
Penalties: Laferriere, LA (Tripping), 3:08
Third Period: 6, Los Angeles, Jeannot 5 (Spence, Foegele), 2:32
Penalties: Jeannot, LA (Hooking), 3:16; Arvidsson, EDM (High Sticking), 6:22
Overtime: 7, Los Angeles, Byfield 8 (Danault), 3:19
Penalties: None
Shots on Goal: Edmonton 10-9-8-1—28; Los Angeles 9-9-5-6—29
Power-play opportunities: Edmonton 1 of 2; Los Angeles 0 of 1
Goalies: Edmonton, Skinner 13-8-3 (29 shots-25 saves); Los Angeles, Kuemper 9-2-5 (28-25)
A: 18,145 (18,230); **T:** 2:31
Referees: Morgan MacPhee, Garrett Rank
Linesmen: Caleb Apperson, Jesse Marquis

Tampa Bay 6, N.Y. Rangers 2

SATURDAY'S RESULT									
N.Y. Rangers	1	0	1	—	2				
Tampa Bay	2	3	1	—	6				

First Period: 1, Tampa Bay, Kucherov 16 (Point, Guentzel), 2:27 (pp); 2, N.Y. Rangers, Panarin 16 (Trocheck, Fox), 9:23. 3, Tampa Bay, McDonagh 1 (Cirelli), 18:11 (sh)
Penalties: Carrick, NYR (Tripping), 1:46; Cernak, TB (Hooking), 17:05
Second Period: 4, Tampa Bay, Point 23 (Kucherov), 3:35; 5, Tampa Bay, Cirelli 14 (Hagel), 5:02 (sh). 6, Tampa Bay, Point 24 (Kucherov, Hedman), 8:08 (pp)
Penalties: Tampa Bay bench, served by Geekie (Too Many Men on the Ice), 4:50; Carrick, NYR (Roughing), 7:39; Goncalves, TB (Tripping), 10:30; Carrick, NYR (Cross Checking), 18:59
Third Period: 7, N.Y. Rangers, Trocheck 10 (Lindgren), 0:13 (sh). 8, Tampa Bay, Paul 9, 14:12
Penalties: Smith, NYR (Hooking), 8:18; Borgen, NYR (Cross Checking), 9:29; Hedman, TB (Tripping), 10:45
Shots on Goal: N.Y. Rangers 17-8-19—44; Tampa Bay 6-12-7—25
Power-play opportunities: N.Y. Rangers 0 of 4; Tampa Bay 2 of 5
Goalies: N.Y. Rangers, Quick 5-4-0 (12 shots-11 saves), N.Y. Rangers, Shesterkin 11-14-1 (13-8). Tampa Bay, Vasilevskiy 16-10-1 (44-42)
A: 19,092 (19,092); **T:** 2:41
Referees: Jean Hebert, Corey Syvret
Linesmen: Julien Fournier, Ben O'Quinn

Washington 5, Toronto 2

SATURDAY'S RESULT									
Washington	2	1	2	—	5				
Toronto	1	1	0	—	2				

First Period: 1, Toronto, Tavares 18 (Pacioretty, Benoit), 3:14; 2, Washington, Mangiapane 8 (Lapierre), 4:46. 3, Washington, Chychrun 10 (van Riemsdyk, Raddysh), 8:54
Penalties: None
Second Period: 4, Toronto, McMann 10 (Domi, Mamer), 8:10; 5, Washington, Dowd 9 (Sandin, Mangiapane), 9:53
Penalties: Protas, WSH (Slashing), 15:41
Third Period: 6, Washington, Wilson 14 (Strome, Chychrun), 12:36 (pp); 7, Washington, Ovechkin 16 (Protas, Dubois), 16:37
Penalties: Dubois, WSH (Hooking), 2:00; McCabe, TOR (Hooking), 11:17
Shots on Goal: Washington 15-8-9—32; Toronto 14-13-10—37
Power-play opportunities: Washington 1 of 1; Toronto 0 of 2
Goalies: Washington, Thompson 14-2-2 (37 shots-35 saves); Toronto, Murray 1-1-0 (32-27)
A: 19,125 (18,819); **T:** 2:23
Referees: Peter MacDougall, Graham Skilliter
Linesmen: Tyson Baker, David Brisebois

Winnipeg 4, Ottawa 2

SATURDAY'S RESULT									
Ottawa	1	1	0	—	2				
Winnipeg	0	2	2	—	4				

First Period: 1, Ottawa, Stutzle 12 (Tkachuk, Batherson), 10:40 (pp)
Penalties: Jensen, OTT (Tripping), 7:18; Pionk, WPG (Tripping), 8:53
Second Period: 2, Ottawa, Greig 4 (Chabot, Giroux), 4:03 (pp); 3, Winnipeg, Connor 22 (Morrissey, Scheifele), 12:46. 4, Winnipeg, Scheifele 22 (Ehlers, Miller), 15:01
Penalties: Vilardi, WPG (High Sticking), 2:33; Kleven, OTT (High Sticking), 7:07
Third Period: 5, Winnipeg, Vilardi 15 (Ehlers, Connor), 9:47 (pp); 6, Winnipeg, Ehlers 11 (Stanley), 11:19
Penalties: Heinola, WPG (Tripping), 5:44; Ottawa bench, served by Cousins (Tripping), 9:07
Shots on Goal: Ottawa 9-9-16—34; Winnipeg 9-6-8—23
Power-play opportunities: Ottawa 2 of 4; Winnipeg 1 of 3
Goalies: Ottawa, Sogaard 1-1-0 (23 shots-19 saves); Winnipeg, Hellebuyck 23-5-1 (34-34)
A: 14,734 (15,321); **T:** 2:21
Referees: Mitch Dunning, Ghislain Hebert
Linesmen: Ryan Daisy, Justin Johnson

Boston 4, Columbus 0

SATURDAY'S RESULT									
Columbus	0	0	0	—	0				
Boston	1	2	1	—	4				

First Period: 1, Boston, Brazeau 8 (Carlo, Lohrei), 2:29
Penalties: Kastelic, BOS (Fighting), 2:35; Olivier, CBJ (Fighting), 2:35; Voronkov, CBJ (Hooking), 12:50
Second Period: 2, Boston, Geekie 8, 6:29; 3, Boston, Pastrnak 13 (Geekie, Zacha), 8:18
Penalties: Kastelic, BOS (High Sticking), 8:36
Third Period: 4, Boston, Koepke 6, 6:06
Penalties: Boston bench, served by Brazeau (Roughing), 6:43; Olivier, CBJ (Fighting), 6:43; Zadorov, BOS (Fighting), 6:43; Werenski, CBJ (Holding), 7:48
Shots on Goal: Columbus 7-6-5—18; Boston 10-11-7—28
Power-play opportunities: Columbus 0 of 3; Boston 0 of 2
Goalies: Columbus, Tarasov 3-6-1 (28 shots-24 saves); Boston, Swayman 13-10-3 (18-18)
A: 17,850 (17,565); **T:** 2:22
Referees: Eric Furlatt, Pierre Lambert
Linesmen: Shandor Alphonso, Michel Cormier

Carolina 5, New Jersey 2

SATURDAY'S RESULT									
New Jersey	0	1	1	—	2				
Carolina	0	1	4	—	5				

First Period: None
Penalties: Meier, NJ (Tripping), 17:51
Second Period: 1, New Jersey, Cotter 8, 2:56; 2, Carolina, Orlov 4 (Jarvis, Walker), 19:30
Penalties: J.Hughes, NJ (Hooking), 7:48; Robinson, CAR (Illegal Check to Head), 11:59; Slavin, CAR (Interference), 15:00
Third Period: 3, New Jersey, Palat 8 (Hamilton, Bratt), 1:05; 4, Carolina, Aho 12 (Roslovic), 1:56. 5, Carolina, Blake 8 (Kotkaniemi, Burns), 10:43 (pp). 6, Carolina, Roslovic 15 (Jarvis, Walker), 12:06. 7, Carolina, Roslovic 16 (Aho, Jarvis), 16:38 (en)
Penalties: Kotkaniemi, CAR (Roughing), 6:28; Meier, NJ (Kneeing), 6:28; New Jersey bench, served by Tatar (Misconduct), 6:28; Haula, NJ (Roughing), 12:24; Orlov, CAR (Roughing), 12:24
Shots on Goal: New Jersey 10-7-6—23; Carolina 16-12-13—41
Power-play opportunities: New Jersey 0 of 2; Carolina 3 of 4
Goalies: New Jersey, Allen 5-5-1 (40 shots-36 saves); Carolina, Tokarski 1-1-0 (23-21)
A: 0(18,680); **T:** 2:37
Referees: Baudry Halkidis, Dan O'Rourke
Linesmen: Tommy Hughes, Libor Suchanek

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

HOW MEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED
No. 1 Tennessee (12-0) did not play. **Next:** vs. Norfolk St., Tuesday.
No. 2 Auburn (11-1) did not play. **Next:** vs. Monmouth (NJ), Monday.
No. 3 Iowa St. (10-1) did not play. **Next:** at Colorado, Monday.
No. 4 Duke (10-2) did not play. **Next:** vs. Virginia Tech, Tuesday.
No. 5 Alabama (12-0) did not play. **Next:** vs. S. Dakota St., Sunday.
No. 6 Florida (12-0) did not play. **Next:** vs. Stetson, Sunday.
No. 7 Kansas (9-2) did not play. **Next:** vs. West Virginia, Tuesday.
No. 8 Marquette (11-2) did not play. **Next:** at Providence, Tuesday.
No. 9 Oregon (11-1) did not play. **Next:** vs. Weber St., Sunday.
No. 10 Kentucky (10-2) did not play. **Next:** vs. Brown, Tuesday.
No. 11 UConn (10-3) did not play. **Next:** at DePaul, Wednesday.
No. 12 Oklahoma (12-0) did not play. **Next:** vs. Prairie View, Sunday.
No. 13 Texas A&M (11-2) beat Abilene Christian 92-54. **Next:** vs. Texas, Saturday.
No. 14 Gonzaga (9-4) lost to No. 22 UCLA 65-62. **Next:** at Pepperdine, Monday.
No. 15 Houston (8-3) did not play. **Next:** at Oklahoma St., Monday.
No. 16 Mississippi (11-2) lost to Memphis 87-70. **Next:** vs. Georgia, Saturday.
No. 17 Cincinnati (10-1) did not play. **Next:** at Kansas St., Monday.
No. 18 Michigan St. (10-2) did not play. **Next:** vs. W. Michigan, Monday.
No. 19 Mississippi St. (11-1) did not play. **Next:** vs. Bethune-Cookman, Monday.
No. 20 San Diego St. (8-3) lost to Utah St. 67-66. **Next:** at Boise St., Saturday.
No. 21 Purdue (8-4) did not play. **Next:** vs. Toledo, Sunday.
No. 22 UCLA (11-2) beat No. 14 Gonzaga 65-62. **Next:** at Nebraska, Saturday.
No. 23 Arkansas (10-2) did not play. **Next:** vs. Oakland, Monday.
No. 24 Illinois (8-3) did not play. **Next:** vs. Chicago St., Sunday.
No. 25 Baylor (8-3) did not play. **Next:** vs. Utah, Tuesday.

SATURDAY'S SCORES

EAST
Boston Coll. 78, Fairleigh Dickinson 70
Columbia 85, Fairfield 72
Georgetown 83, Coppin St. 53
Maryland 81, Md.-Eastern Shore 66
Saint Joseph's

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SPORTS CALENDAR

	SUN DEC 29	MON DEC 30	TUE DEC 31	WED JAN 1	THU JAN 2	FRI JAN 3	SAT JAN 4
	IND 1:00 P.M. CH. 5						
	BUF 1:00 P.M. CH. 2						
		WAS 7:00 P.M. MSG		UTAH 7:30 P.M. MSG		OKC 8:00 P.M. MSG	CHI 8:00 P.M. MSG
	ORL 3:30 P.M. YES			TOR 7:30 P.M. YES	MIL 8:00 P.M. YES		PHI 6:00 P.M. YES
		FLA 7:00 P.M. MSGSN			BOS 7:00 P.M. MSG		WAS 12:00 P.M. MSG
			ANA 8:00 P.M. MSGSN	LA 6:00 P.M. MSGSN			SJ 4:00 P.M. MSG
	PIT 5:30 P.M. MSGSN		TOR 1:00 P.M. MSGSN		TOR 7:30 P.M. ESPN+		
			CREI 4:00 P.M. PEACOCK				BUT 2:00 P.M. FS1

BASKETBALL

COLLEGE MEN'S

Noon: Indiana St. at Ohio St., BTN
1 p.m.: Penn at Penn St., PEACOCK
1:30 p.m.: Northeastern at Northwestern, PEACOCK
2 p.m.: Chicago St. at Illinois, BTN
2 p.m.: Morgan St. at Minnesota, PEACOCK
3 p.m.: Buffalo at Temple, ESPNU
3 p.m.: NJIT at Washington, PEACOCK
4 p.m.: Winthrop at Indiana, BTN
6 p.m.: Toledo at Purdue, BTN
8 p.m.: Campbell at North Carolina, ACCN
8 p.m.: W. Kentucky at Michigan, BTN

COLLEGE WOMEN'S

Noon: Virginia at Notre Dame, ACCN
Noon: Alabama A&M at Vanderbilt, SECN
1 p.m.: South Florida at Rice, ESPN2
2 p.m.: Louisville at Boston College, ACCN
2 p.m.: Wofford at South Carolina, SECN
4 p.m.: North Carolina at Miami, ACCN
4 p.m.: Texas Rio Grande Valley at Texas, SECN
6 p.m.: Clemson at NC State, ACCN
10 p.m.: Michigan at Southern Cal, BTN

NBA

3:30 p.m.: Nets vs. Orlando, YES
NBA G-LEAGUE

2 p.m.: Osceola at Raptors 905, NBATV

FOOTBALL

NFL

1 p.m.: N.Y. Jets at Buffalo, CH.2
1 p.m.: Indianapolis at Giants, CH.5
4:05 p.m.: Miami at Cleveland,

CH.2

4:25 p.m.: Green Bay at Minneso-
ta, CH.5
8:20 p.m.: Atlanta at Washington,
CH.4/PEACOCK

HOCKEY

IIHF MEN'S

Noon: World Junior Championship
Group Stage: Switzerland vs.
Sweden, Group B, NHLN
2:30 p.m.: World Junior Champion-
ship Group Stage: U.S. vs. Finland,
Group A, NHLN
5 p.m.: World Junior Championship
Group Stage: Czechia vs. Slovakia,
Group B, NHLN
7:30 p.m.: World Junior Champi-
onship Group Stage: Canada vs.
Germany, Group A, NHLN

NHL

3:30 p.m.: Islanders at Penguins,
MSGSN

8:30 p.m.: Dallas at Chicago, ESPN
SOCCER

MEN'S

10 a.m.: Premier League: Notting-
ham Forest at Everton, USA
12:15 p.m.: Premier League:
Liverpool at West Ham United, USA
12:40 p.m.: English League
Championship: Leeds United at
Derby Country, CBSSN

HORSE RACING

3 p.m.: NYRA: America's Day at the
Races, FS1

TENNIS

6 a.m.: Brisbane-ATP/WTA Early
Rounds, TENNIS
6:30 p.m.: United Cup: Britain v.
Argentina Brisbane-ATP/WTA
Early Rounds Hong Kong-ATP,
Auckland-WTA Early Rounds,
TENNIS
6 a.m. (Monday): Brisbane-ATP/
WTA Early Rounds, TENNIS

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF

TUESDAY'S QUARTERFINALS

Vrbo Fiesta Bowl, Glendale, Ariz.
#6 Penn State (12-2) vs.
#3 Boise State (12-1), 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S QUARTERFINALS

Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl, Atlanta, Ga.
#5 Texas (12-2)
vs. #4 Arizona St. (11-2), 1 p.m.

Rose Bowl Game, Pasadena, Calif.

#8 Ohio St. (11-2)
vs. #1 Oregon (13-0), 5 p.m.
Allstate Sugar Bowl, New Orleans
#7 Notre Dame (12-1) vs.
#2 Georgia (12-1), 7:45 p.m.

FRIDAY, DEC. 20 FIRST ROUND

#7 Notre Dame 27, #10 Indiana 17

SATURDAY, DEC. 21 FIRST ROUND

#6 Penn State 38, #11 SMU 10

#5 Texas 38, #12 Clemson 24

#8 Ohio State 42, #9 Tennessee 17

OTHER BOWL GAMES

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

Fenway Bowl, Boston
UConn 27, North Carolina 14

Pinstripe Bowl, Bronx, NY
Nebraska 20, Boston College 15

New Mexico Bowl, Albuquerque, N.M.
TCU 34, Louisiana 3

Pop-Tarts Bowl, Orlando, Fla.
Iowa State 42, Miami 41

Arizona Bowl, Tucson, Az.
Miami (Ohio) 43, Colorado St. 17

Military Bowl, Annapolis, Md.
East Carolina 26, North Carolina State 21

Alamo Bowl, San Antonio, Texas
BYU vs. Colorado, late

Independence Bowl, Shreveport, La.
Army vs. Louisiana Tech, late

MONDAY'S GAME

Music City Bowl, Nashville, Tenn.
Missouri vs. Iowa, 2:30p.m.

TUESDAY'S GAMES

ReliaQuest Bowl, Tampa, Fla.
Michigan vs. Alabama, 12p.m.

Sun Bowl, El Paso, Texas
Louisville vs. Washington, 2p.m. (CBS)

Citrus Bowl, Orlando, Fla.
Illinois vs. South Carolina, 3p.m. (ABC)

Texas Bowl, Houston
Baylor vs. LSU, 3:30p.m.

THURSDAY, JAN. 2

Gator Bowl, Jacksonville, Fla.
Duke vs. Mississippi, 7:30p.m.

FRIDAY, JAN. 3

First Responder Bowl, Dallas
North Texas vs. Texas State, 4p.m.

Duke's Mayo Bowl, Charlotte, NC.
Minnesota vs. Virginia Tech, 7:30p.m.

SATURDAY, JAN. 4

Bahamas Bowl, Nassau, Bahamas
Buffalo vs. Liberty, 11a.m. (ESPN2)

SOCCER

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

CLUB	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	PT
Liverpool	17	13	3	1	40	17	42
Arsenal	18	10	6	2	35	16	36
Chelsea	18	10	5	3	38	21	35
Notting. Forest	18	10	4	4	24	19	34
Newcastle	18	8	5	5	30	21	29
Bournemouth	18	8	5	5	27	21	29
Man City	18	8	4	6	30	26	28
Fulham	18	7	7	4	26	23	28
Aston Villa	18	8	4	6	26	29	28
Brighton	18	6	8	4	27	26	26
Brentford	18	7	3	8	32	32	24
Tottenham	18	7	2	9	39	26	23
West Ham	18	6	5	7	23	30	23
Man United	18	6	4	8	21	24	22
Everton	17	3	8	6	15	22	17
Crystal Palace	18	3	8	7	18	26	17
Wolverhampton	18	4	3	11	29	40	15
Leicester	18	3	5	10	22	40	14
Ipswich	18	2	6	10	16	33	12
Southampton	18	1	3	14	11	37	6

GOLF

WORLD GOLF RANKINGS

RK.	GOLFER	COUNTRY	AVG.
1.	Scottie Scheffler	U.S.	15.90
2.	Xander Schauffele	U.S.	9.39
3.	Rory McIlroy	N. Ireland	7.82
4.	Collin Morikawa	U.S.	5.51
5.	Ludvig Aberg	Sweden	5.41
6.	Hideki Matsuyama	Japan	4.80
7.	Wyndham Clark	U.S.	4.75
8.	Viktor Hovland	Norway	4.46
9.	Tommy Fleetwood	England	3.86
10.	Bryson DeChambeau	U.S.	3.83
11.	Patrick Cantlay	U.S.	3.61
12.	Keegan Bradley	U.S.	3.58
13.	Sahithi Theegala	U.S.	3.57
14.	Robert Macintyre	Scotland	3.43

SATURDAY, DEC. 14

Celebration Bowl in Atlanta:
Jackson State 28, S. Carolina State 7
Salute to Veterans Bowl, Montgomery, Ala.:
South Alabama 30, Western Michigan 23

TUESDAY, DEC. 17

Frisco Bowl, Frisco, Texas
Memphis 42, West Virginia 37

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 18

Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
James Madison 27, Western Kentucky 17
LA Bowl, Inglewood, Calif.
UNLV 24, California 13

THURSDAY, DEC. 19

New Orleans Bowl
Sam Houston State 31, Georgia Southern 26

FRIDAY, DEC. 20

Cure Bowl, Orlando, Fla.
Ohio 30, Jacksonville State 27
Gasparilla Bowl, Tampa, Fla.
Florida 33, Tulane 8

MONDAY, DEC. 23

Myrtle Beach Bowl, Conway, SC
Tex. San Antonio 44, Coastal Carolina 15
Potato Bowl, Boise, Idaho
Northern Illinois 28, Fresno State 20 (2OT)

TUESDAY'S RESULT

Hawai'i Bowl, Honolulu
South Florida 41, San Jose State 39 (5OT)

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

GameAbove Sports Bowl, Detroit
Toledo 48, Pittsburgh 46 (6OT)
Rate Bowl, Phoenix
Kansas State 44, Rutgers 41
68 Ventures Bowl, Mobile, Ala.
Arkansas State 38, Bowling Green 31

FRIDAY'S RESULTS

Las Vegas Bowl
Southern Cal 35, Texas A&M 31
Liberty Bowl, Memphis, Tenn.
Arkansas 39, Texas Tech 26
Holiday Bowl, San Diego
Syracuse 52, Washington State 35
Armed Forces Bowl, Fort Worth, Texas
Navy 21, Oklahoma 20
Birmingham (Ala.) Bowl
Vanderbilt 35, Georgia Tech 27

FCS CHAMPIONSHIP

Monday, Jan. 6
North Dakota State (13-2)
vs. Montana State (15-0), 7 p.m.

NCAA DIV. III PLAYOFFS

CHAMPIONSHIP, Sunday, Jan. 5
at Shell Energy Stadium, Houston
Mount Union (14-0) vs.
North Central (14-0), 8p.m.

ODDS

NFL WEEK 17

FAVORITE	NOW	O/U	UNDERDOG
at Jacksonville	1½ (39½)		Tennessee
Indianapolis	7½ (40½)		at NY Giants
at Tampa Bay	8½ (47½)		Carolina
at Philadelphia	7 (38½)		Dallas
Las Vegas	1½ (37½)		at New Orl.
at Buffalo	9½ (46½)		NY Jets
Miami	6½ (37½)		at Cleveland
at Minnesota	1½ (48½)		Green Bay
at Washington	3½ (46½)		Atlanta

		MONDAY
Detroit	3½ (50½)	at San Fran

NBA

FAVORITE	LINE	O/U	UNDERDOG
at Orlando	5½ (205½)		Brooklyn
Atlanta	1½ (236½)		at Toronto
at Boston	11½ (232½)		Indiana
at Okla. City	off (off)		Memphis
at Houston	6½ (215½)		Miami
at Minnesota	7 (215½)		San Ant.

NHL

FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	LINE
at St. Louis	-128	Buffalo	+106
at Anaheim	off	Edmonton	off
Washington	-146	at Detroit	+122
at Tampa Bay	-230	Montreal	+188
at Pittsburgh	-128	NY Islanders	+106
at Minnesota	-142	Ottawa	+118
at Vegas	-230	Calgary	+188
Dallas	-250	at Chicago	+202
at Los Angeles	-200	Philadelphia	+164

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG
at Texas	25½	NW State
at Ohio State	18½	Indiana State
at Penn State	25½	Pennsylvania
at Florida	37½	Stetson
at Northwestern	12½	Northeastern
at Georgia	23½	S.C. State
at Minnesota	20½	Morgan State
Purdue Fort Wayne	8½	at Green Bay
at SMU	16½	Longwood
at Temple	15½	Buffalo
at Alabama	20½	S. Dakota State
at Indiana	15½	Winthrop
at Bradley	15½	Valparaiso
at Texas State	5½	UT Arlington
at Illinois State	4½	UIC
at Oregon	20½	Weber State
at Purdue	19½	Toledo
at LSU	38½	Miss. Valley State
at Michigan	16½	Western Ky.
at North Carolina	26½	Campbell

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

FAVORITE	NOW	O/U	MONDAY
Music City Bowl			UNDERDOG
Missouri	2½ (40½)		Iowa

ReliaQuest Bowl

Alabama 12½ (43½)

Sun Bowl

Louisville 2½ (49½)

Citrus Bowl

South Carolina 10½ (49½)

Texas Bowl

Baylor 3½ (58½)

Fiesta Bowl - Quarterfinal

Penn State 10½ (52½)

Peach Bowl - Quarterfinal

Texas 13½ (51½)

Rose Bowl - Quarterfinal

Ohio State 2½ (55½)

Sugar Bowl - Quarterfinal

Georgia 1½ (44½)

Gator Bowl

Ole Miss 17½ (51½)

First Responder Bowl

Texas State 13½ (63½)

Duke's Mayo Bowl

Minnesota 7½ (42½)

Bahamas Bowl

Buffalo 2½ (50½)

TENNIS

UNITED CUP INTERNATIONAL

SATURDAY'S SCORES

D: Switzerland 2, France 1 (Sydney)

F: Argentina 2, Australia 1 (Sydney)

A: Canada 2, Croatia 1 (Perth)

C: China 3, Brazil 0 (Perth)

G: Greece 2, Spain 0 (Perth)

SUNDAY'S EVENTS

A: U.S. vs. Canada (Perth)

B: Norway vs. Czech Republic (Sydney)

D: Switzerland vs. Italy (Sydney)

E: Germany vs. Italy (Perth)

MONDAY'S EVENTS

F: Argentina vs. Great Britain (Sydney)

B: Poland vs. Norway (Sydney)

C: Kazakhstan vs. Argentina (Perth)

E: Germany vs. China (Perth)

FRIDAY'S RESULT

C: Kazakhstan 2, China 1 (Perth)



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MSRP\$29,995
ATLANTIC / MILLENNIUM DISCOUNT\$3,518

FINANCE FOR Excludes tax, tags & title

\$26,477 OR

2025 LT

ALLOY WHEELS
SAFETY AND TECH PACKAGE

ONLY \$3,495 DOWN PAYMENT!

\$124

Lease per month 24 Month Due at inception: \$3,495 down plus \$124 1st mos. payment Total \$3,619 plus tax & tags. Purchase option \$21,756 - 10K Miles per yr. MSRP \$31,080 Payment includes \$1,000 Chevy lease loyalty/Lease Conquest. Must have a current lease in same household.

OR

2025 LT

ALLOY WHEELS
VEHICLE REMOTE START
HEATED STEERING WHEEL

\$0 DOWN PAYMENT!

\$254

Lease per month 36 Month Due at inception: \$0 down plus \$254 1st mos. payment Total \$254 plus tax & tags. Purchase option \$19,197 - 10K Miles per yr. MSRP \$29,985 Payment includes \$1,000 Chevy lease loyalty/Lease Conquest. Must have a current lease in same household.

BRAND NEW CHEVROLET

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OVER 60 AVAILABLE!

AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, TURBO ENGINE, POWER WINDOWS, POWER DOOR LOCKS, 3RD ROW SEATING, REAR PARK ASSIST & SO MUCH MORE!

MSRP\$41,995
ATLANTIC / MILLENNIUM DISCOUNT\$4,018

FINANCE FOR Excludes tax, tags & title

\$37,977 OR

2025 LT

ALLOY WHEELS
HD SURROUND VISION
3RD ROW SEATING

ONLY \$3,495 DOWN PAYMENT!

\$274

Lease per month 24 Month Due at inception: \$3,495 down plus \$274 1st mos. payment Total \$3,769 plus tax & tags. Purchase option \$29,927 - 10K Miles per yr. MSRP \$43,495 Payment includes \$1,000 Chevy lease loyalty/Lease Conquest. Must have a current lease in same household.

OR

2025 LT

ALLOY WHEELS
TURBO ENGINE
3RD ROW SEATING
HEATED STEERING WHEEL

\$0 DOWN PAYMENT!

\$374

Lease per month 36 Month Due at inception: \$0 down plus \$374 1st mos. payment Total \$374 plus tax & tags. Purchase option \$29,027 - 10K Miles per yr. MSRP \$41,995 Payment includes \$1,000 Chevy lease loyalty/Lease Conquest. Must have a current lease in same household.

BRAND NEW CHEVROLET

2025 TRAX

OVER 34 AVAILABLE!

AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, TURBO ENGINE, REARVIEW CAMERA, DUAL FRONT AND SIDE IMPACTED AIRBAGS & MORE!

MSRP\$21,495
ATLANTIC / MILLENNIUM DISCOUNT\$718

FINANCE FOR Excludes tax, tags & title

\$20,777 OR

2025 TURBO

ENGINE XM
EQUIPPED DRIVER INFO CENTER

ONLY \$3,495 DOWN PAYMENT!

\$59

Lease per month 24 Month Due at inception: \$3,495 down plus \$59 1st mos. payment Total \$3,554 plus tax & tags. Purchase option \$15,477 - 10K Miles per yr. MSRP \$21,495 Payment includes \$300 Chevy lease loyalty/Lease Conquest. Must have a current lease in same household.

BRAND NEW CHEVROLET

2025 TRAILBLAZER

OVER 39 AVAILABLE!

AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, TURBO ENGINE, REAR VIEW CAMERA, DUAL FRONT & SIDE AIRBAGS AND MORE!

MSRP\$24,790
ATLANTIC / MILLENNIUM DISCOUNT\$3,013

FINANCE FOR Excludes tax, tags & title

\$21,777 OR

2025 TURBO

ENGINE XM
EQUIPPED DRIVER INFO CENTER

ONLY \$2,995 DOWN PAYMENT!

\$94

Lease per month 24 Month Due at inception: \$2,995 down plus \$94 1st mos. payment Total \$3,089 plus tax & tags. Purchase option \$15,618 - 10K Miles per yr. MSRP \$24,790 Payment includes \$1,500 Chevy lease loyalty/Lease Conquest. Must have a current lease in same household.

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2025 SILVERADO

1500 CREW CAB 4X4 LT

OVER 120 AVAILABLE!

4X4 PACKAGE, TURBO ENGINE, ALLOY WHEELS, VEHICLE REMOTE START, REAR VISION CAMERA!

MSRP\$54,595
FACTORY REBATE\$1,000
CHEVY LOYALTY MUST OWN A 2010 OR NEWER CHEVY VEHICLE IN SAME HOUSEHOLD\$2,500
ATLANTIC / MILLENNIUM DISCOUNT\$5,618

FINANCE FOR Excludes tax, tags & title

\$45,477 OR

2025 LT

4X4 ALL STAR PACKAGE
CONVENIENCE PACKAGE

ONLY \$3,995 DOWN PAYMENT!

\$144

Lease per month 24 Month Due at inception: \$3,995 down plus \$144 1st mos. payment Total \$4,139 plus tax & tags. Purchase option \$41,483 - 10K Miles per yr. MSRP \$54,595 Payment includes Chevy GILF lease loyalty/Lease Conquest. Must currently lease a Chevy truck in household.

BRAND NEW CHEVROLET

2025 BLAZER EV LT AWD

ALL-WHEEL DRIVE!

ULTIUM PROPULSION BATTERY, ALLOY WHEELS, LT PACKAGE & MUCH MORE!

\$0 DOWN SIGN & DRIVE!

\$164

Lease per month 24 Month Due at inception: \$0 down plus \$164 1st mos. payment Total \$164 plus tax & tags. Purchase option \$39,196 - 10K Miles per yr. MSRP \$48,995 Payment includes \$2,500 lease conquest. Must have a current non-gm lease in same household.



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END ZONE

2024: A YEAR TO

New York's sports year gave fans of all teams something to talk about

BY PETER SBLENDORIO
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

For many of New York's teams, 2024 was a year of progress.

The Yankees and Mets embarked on their deepest playoff runs in years, fueling an electric October.

The Knicks and Rangers also captivated the city with their own playoff successes, even if neither ultimately advanced as far as they hoped.

And the Liberty delivered the long-awaited first WNBA title in franchise history, in the process snapping New York's similarly extensive championship drought.

There were duds, too, particularly for the NFL teams that call MetLife Stadium home.

Indeed, it was an eventful year in the five boroughs, even if most of the local teams failed to live up to the city's championship-or-bust expectations.

Here are the biggest New York sports stories of 2024.

YANKEES RETURN TO WORLD SERIES

The Yankees entered 2024 with plenty of pressure.

Fresh off of a playoff-less 2023 season that general manager Brian Cashman labeled as a "disaster," the Yankees made a franchise-altering trade for Juan Soto, hoping the superstar slugger would help them return to the World Series for the first time in 15 years.

Soto delivered, hitting a career-high 41 home runs while forming an all-time tandem with Aaron Judge.

Judge's season was even more prolific, as he led the majors with 58 home runs, 144 RBI, 133 walks, a .458 on-base percentage, a .701 slugging percentage and a 1.159

OPS en route to his second American League MVP Award.

The Yankees went 94-68 to win the American League East and clinch the AL's top seed. They cruised past the Kansas City Royals in the ALDS in four games and the Cleveland Guardians in the ALCS in five — ending the latter with an instant-classic home run by Soto.

That set up a star-powered World Series against the Los Angeles Dodgers — but that's where their fun ended.

Shohei Ohtani, Freddie Freeman and the Dodgers disposed of the Yankees in five games, during which defensive lapses in Games 1 and 5 proved

to be the Bronx Bombers' undoing.

Still, the run marked the Yankees' first trip to the Fall Classic since 2009, when they won their 27th championship.

METS MAGIC

While the Yankees' run didn't sneak up on many people, the Mets' path to the postseason came out of nowhere.

After trading away multiple big-name veterans during a disappointing 75-win season in 2023, the Mets appeared poised for more misery in 2024 when they started the season 0-5.

They were 11 games below .500 as late as June 2.

And then the magic happened.

Led by first-year manager Carlos Mendoza, the Mets finished the season on a 65-28 run to earn a National League wild-card spot.

Fans rallied around Grimace, the super-sized McDonald's mascot whose ceremonial first pitch on June 12 coincided with the Mets' first big winning streak.

The unexpected contributions of journeyman second baseman Jose

Jalen Brunson leading the Knicks on an exciting playoff run was just one of the huge New York sports stories of 2024, which also included (inset, clockwise) the Mets shocking their fans by going deep into October, Juan Soto leading the Yankees to the World Series before signing with the Mets, Aaron Rodgers' Jets disappointing Gang Green faithful once again, and Breanna Stewart and the Liberty delivering the city's only championship of the year. AP, GETTY



Iglesias became representative of the Mets' rag-tag nature, while the Latin pop song he wrote, "OMG," became their anthem.

But, more than anything, it was an MVP-caliber season by Francisco Lindor that sparked the Mets' turnaround.

More magic ensued in the playoffs, where Pete Alonso's go-ahead home run in Game 3 of the Wild Card round sent them past the Milwaukee Brewers, and Lindor's NLDS Game 4 grand slam pushed them past the Philadelphia Phillies.

The Mets would go on to lose

to the Dodgers in the NLCS in six games, ending the franchise's longest run since a trip to the 2015 World Series.

SOTO SWEEPSTAKES

The end of the baseball season did not spell the end of the drama for the Yankees and Mets, who went head-to-head in a high-stakes bidding war to sign Soto.

The Yankees knew full well that Soto intended to test the free-agent market when they acquired him a year earlier, and they badly wanted to keep him, offering a reported

16-year, \$760 million contract.

But the Mets' Steve Cohen, the richest owner in baseball, would not be denied. He signed Soto to a 15-year, \$765 million contract that can max out at \$805 million.

Fans can debate whether the Mets' marquee Soto signing is symbolic of a changing of the guard in New York. But what is not debatable is that the loss of Soto is a big one for the Yankees — and a huge gain for the Mets.

FOOTBALL DYSFUNCTION

The 2024 season was supposed



REMEMBER!



to go much differently for the Jets.

Aaron Rodgers returned from the Achilles tear that ended his 2023 after only four offensive snaps, bringing with him Super Bowl aspirations.

Play-making weapons Breece Hall and Garrett Wilson returned, as did a stout defense headlined by cornerback Sauce Gardner.

But the Jets never looked the part of a contender.

Head coach Robert Saleh was fired after Week 5, and general manager Joe Douglas was canned six weeks later.

Rodgers, 41, did not resemble the future Hall of Famer who won four NFL MVP Awards with Green Bay. The hamstring, knee and ankle injuries he played through did him no favors.

Even the arrival of Davante Adams — Rodgers' favorite target with the Packers — did not energize the offense until it was too late.

The Jets were eliminated from playoff contention by Week 14, when they fell to 3-10.

More changes are likely coming. The year wasn't any better for the Giants.

Their decision to move on from Saquon Barkely backfired as the superstar running back put up MVP-type numbers with the rival Philadelphia Eagles.

They benched Daniel Jones after falling to 2-8, then granted him his release after an awkward practice in which he operated as the fourth-string quarterback.

Tommy DeVito and Drew Lock did little to enhance the quarterback position as Jones' replacements.

The Giants will try again next year to find a long-term solution at QB after failing to do so last

offseason.

GIVE THEM LIBERTY

The Liberty were the only original WNBA franchise to have never won a championship.

They were 0-5 in WNBA Finals appearances, including last year's, when they fell in four games to the Las Vegas Aces.

The 2024 season marked the second year of the Liberty superteam, with Breanna Stewart, Jonquel Jones and Sabrina Ionescu motivated by their unfinished business.

And they finally reached the pinnacle.

The Liberty slayed multiple dragons to win the 2024 WNBA Finals, including beating the Aces in the semifinal round of the playoffs.

They then topped the Minnesota Lynx — who gave them trouble all regular season — in an instant-classic WNBA Finals in which all five games went down to the wire.

The result was New York's first sports-related ticker-tape parade since 2019, when the Canyon of Heroes celebrated the United States women's national soccer team for winning the FIFA World Cup.

KNICKS KICK

Nothing energizes New York quite like a competitive Knicks team, and the Knicks were certainly that in 2024.

Jalen Brunson further emerged as the face of the Knicks, scoring at least 39 points in six of their 13 playoff games.

His historic production helped lead the Knicks to a six-game series victory over the Philadelphia 76ers in the first round, during which Joel Embiid became New York's newest villain.

The Knicks went to seven games with the Indiana Pacers in a similarly epic second-round series, but a rash of injuries proved too much to overcome.

OG Anunoby, Mitchell Robinson and Bojan Bogdanovi all went down over the course of the post-season, joining Julius Randle, who suffered a season-ending shoulder injury in January.

Even Brunson broke his left hand — his shooting hand — during the Game 7 loss to the Pacers at Madison Square Garden when the score was likely already out of reach.

Following that encouraging run, the Knicks doubled down in the off-season by extending Brunson and making blockbuster trades for Mikal Bridges and Karl Anthony-Towns.

OPEN EXCITEMENT

Title droughts in New York did not only apply to the local teams.

Nearly two decades of shortcomings have hung over the American men in the U.S. Open, where no U.S. male had reached the final since 2006 or won it since 2003.

But multiple American men made runs in 2024, taking advantage of a wider field no longer dominated by Rafael Nadal or Roger Federer.

That set up an All-American semifinal match between Frances Tiafoe and Taylor Fritz, with the latter outlasting his countryman in five sets in an epic bout at Arthur Ashe Stadium.

Fritz became the first American man to make the final since Andy Roddick 18 years earlier, but he lost in straight sets to Jannik Sinner. Roddick remains the last American man to win the Open final.

American women have had much more success in the U.S. Open, but while Jessica Pegula also advanced to the 2024 final, she lost in straight sets to Belarus' Aryna Sabalenka.

REMINDER OF WHEN THEY WERE WINNERS

Eli Manning named as a finalist to be enshrined in Canton's 2025 Hall of Fame class: P. 60-61

SPORTS
FINAL

Sunday, December 29, 2024

DAY NEWS

Giants on the cusp
of making the worst
kind of history
at MetLife Stadium

HOME,
AWFUL HOME

As Tommy DeVito (above) and Big Blue suit up to play the Colts – another terrible team – on Sunday, a loss will give the Giants another historic black mark, having not won a single game at home all season. P. 56-57



CN

DAILY NEWS

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HAL FOSTER'S

Prince Valiant®

BY SCHULTZ AND YEATES

HOMeward BOUND! WITH ARN STILL SUNK INTO A COMA BEYOND THE AID OF DYFFLIN'S HEALERS, ALL VAL'S WANDERLUST IS BURIED BENEATH THE NEED TO GET HIS SON HOME TO CAMELOT AND ALETA. BAEDWULF, WHO RECOGNIZES HOW INSTRUMENTAL VAL AND ARN HAVE BEEN IN ENDING A WAR AND BRINGING HIM TO POWER IN HIBERNIA, GRATEFULLY LOANS THE PRINCE HIS SWIFTEST LONGBOAT AND A CREW OF POWERFUL OARSMEN. GOODBYES ARE EXCHANGED...



... AND THEN THEY ARE OFF. WITH FAVORABLE WINDS, THE PASSAGE TO TINTAGEL WILL BE DONE QUICKLY - BUT NOT QUICKLY ENOUGH FOR VAL, WHO LOOKS WITH DREAD UPON THE GRAY FACE OF HIS INJURED SON.



WHILE, IN CAMELOT, ALETA LOOKS - WITH ANOTHER SORT OF DREAD - AFTER HER INCREASINGLY DISTANT AND DISAFFECTED GRANDDAUGHTER INGRID. WHAT HAS GONE WRONG WITH THAT GIRL?

NEXT:

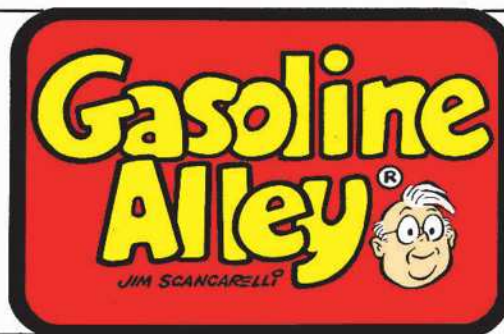
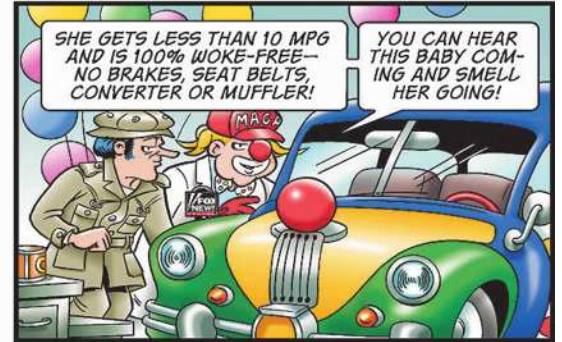
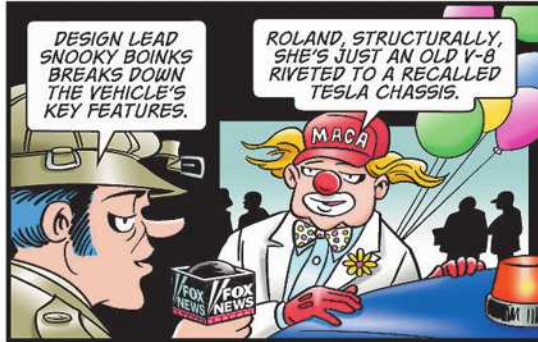
Investigations

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4586
YEATES
12/29/24

DOONESBURY

by G.B. Trudeau



WUMO

By MIKAEL WULFF & ANDERS MORGENTHALER



ZITS

By JERRY SCOTT & JIM BORGMAN



GRAND AVENUE

By MIKE THOMPSON



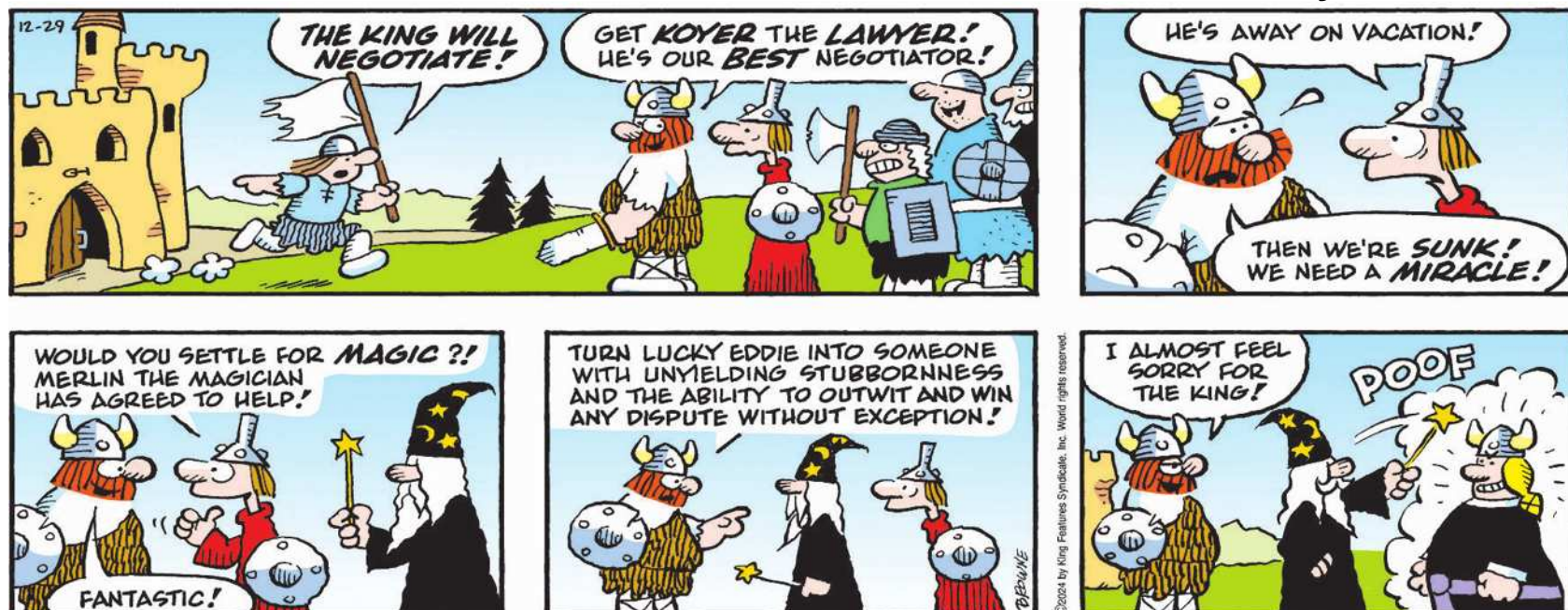
THE ARGYLE SWEATER

By SCOTT HILBURN



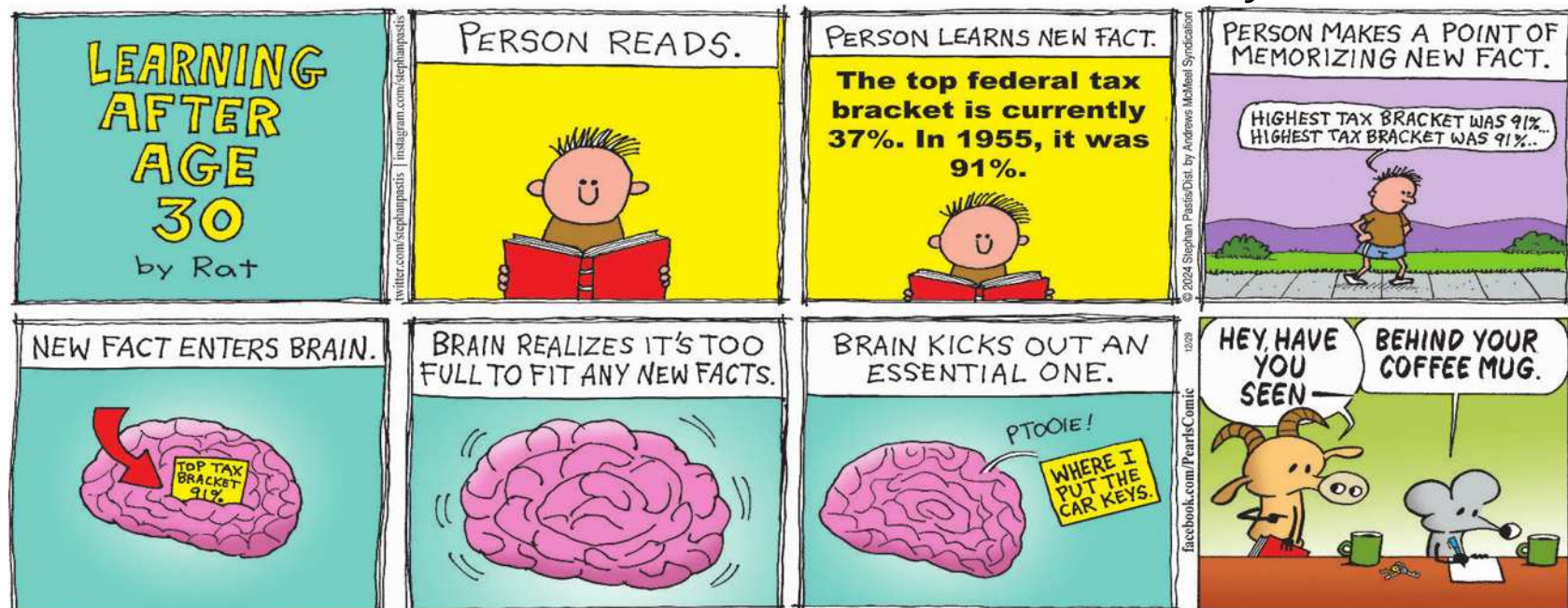
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

By DIK BROWNE



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

By STEPHAN PASTIS



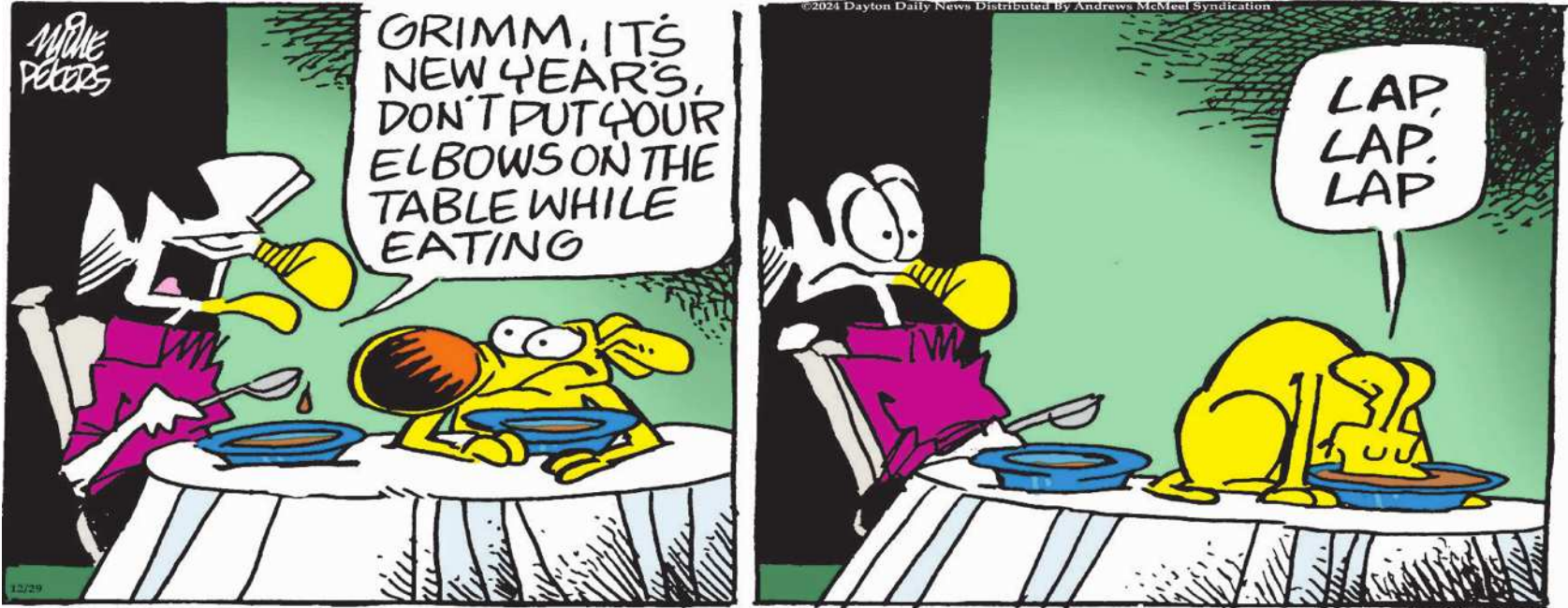
ONE BIG HAPPY

By RICK DETORIE



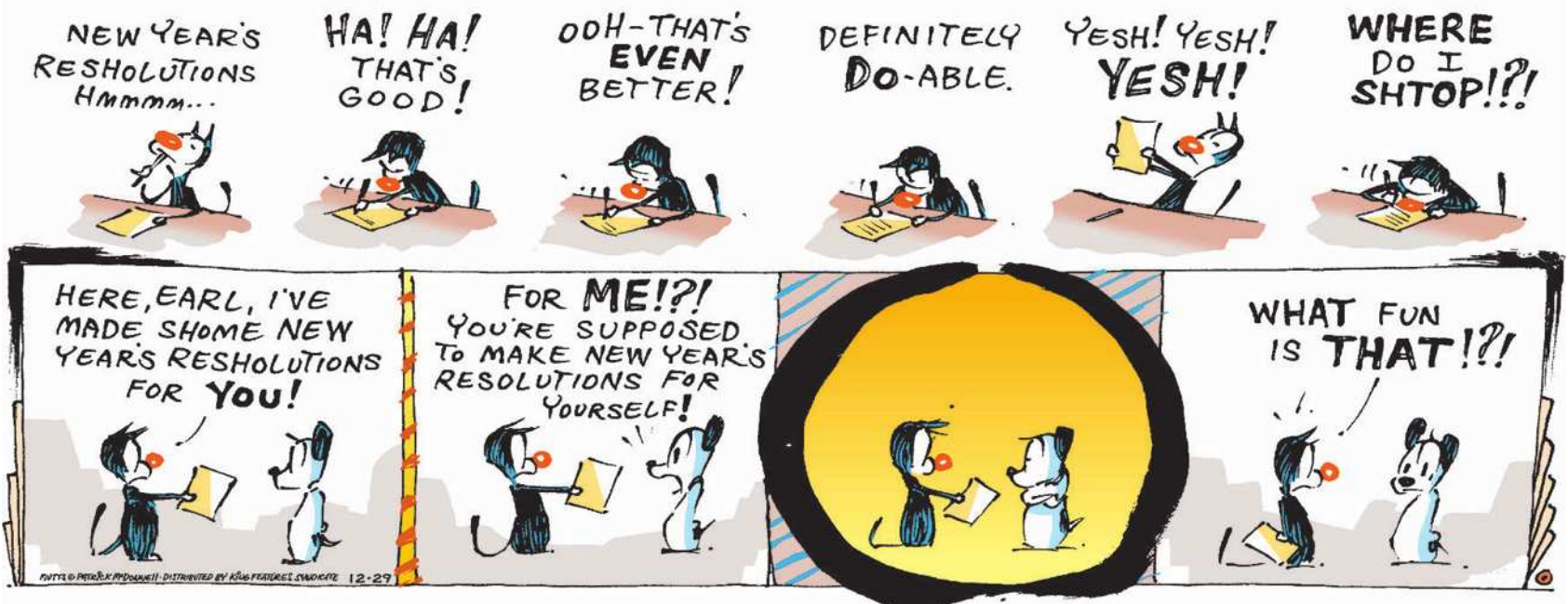
MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM

By MIKE PETERS



MUTTS

By PATRICK McDONNELL



SUDOKU High Fives

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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

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

HOW TO PLAY: Sudoku High Fives consists of five regular Sudoku grids sharing one set of 3-by-3 boxes. Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition. The numbers in any shared set of 3-by-3 boxes apply to each of the individual Sudokus.

12-29-24



BIOGRAPHIC

By STEVE MCGARRY

A LOOK AT SOME OF THE MOST NOTEWORTHY ANNIVERSARIES DURING THE UPCOMING YEAR...

2025: MILESTONES IN TV & MOVIES

FORMER SILENT SCREEN STAR **WILLIAM BOYD** APPEARED IN HIS FIRST OF 66 FILMS AS **HOPALONG CASSIDY** IN 1935'S "HOP-ALONG CASSIDY."

90 YEARS

OSCAR, EMMY, GOLDEN GLOBE, PEABODY AND TONY WINNER **DAME HELEN MIRREN** WILL TURN 80 YEARS OLD IN 2025.

80 YEARS

24-YEAR-OLD **JAMES DEAN** WAS KILLED IN 1955, WHEN HE CRASHED HIS **PORSCHE SPYDER** SPORTS CAR IN CALIFORNIA. HE STARRED IN ONLY THREE MOVIES, THE SECOND OF WHICH WASN'T EVEN RELEASED UNTIL AFTER HIS DEATH!

70 YEARS

BEN STILLER AND **ROBERT DOWNEY JR.** ARE TURNING 60 NEXT YEAR!

60 YEARS

ANGELINA JOLIE WILL CELEBRATE HER 50th BIRTHDAY IN 2025.

50 YEARS

YUL BRYNNER DIED FROM LUNG CANCER IN 1985. HE LEFT A SERIES OF ANTI-SMOKING PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS THAT AIRED ON TV AFTER HIS DEATH.

40 YEARS

TIMOTHÉE CHALAMET, WHOSE CREDITS INCLUDE "CALL ME BY YOUR NAME," "THE KING," "WONKA," THE "DUNE" MOVIES AND "A COMPLETE UNKNOWN," WAS BORN IN 1995.

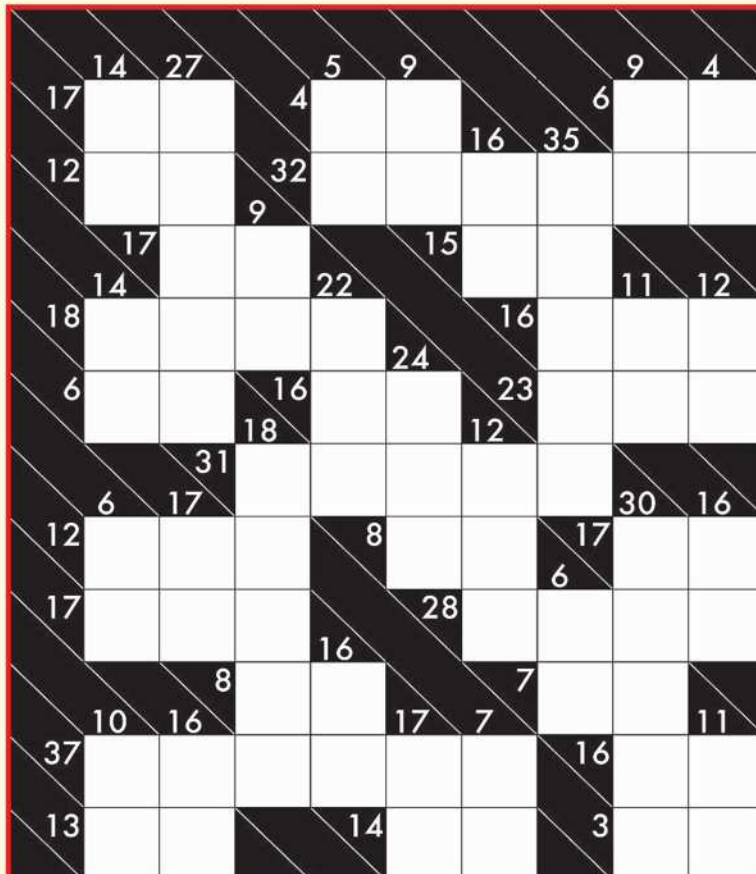
TV LEGEND **BOB DENVER** FROM "GILLIGAN'S ISLAND" DIED IN 2005 AT THE AGE OF 70.

20 YEARS

STAR OF "DRACULA," "STAR WARS" AND "LORD OF THE RINGS" MOVIES, **CHRISTOPHER LEE** PASSED AWAY IN 2015, AS DID **LEONARD NIMOY**, aka **SPOCK** OF "STAR TREK" FAME.

10 YEARS

Kakuro



Work space

Previous Solution



HOW TO PLAY: Fill in the squares using any number from 1 to 9, without repeating any numbers in a run line (row or column blocked off by black boxes). The numbers in each horizontal run line must add up to the sum shown in the black box to its left (above the diagonal). The numbers in each vertical run line must add up to the sum shown in the black box at its top (below the diagonal).