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‘Nervous and worried’

Local experts weigh in on President Trump’s tariffs

BY MATTHEW NARVAIZ
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

John Gonzales said the price of a case of large avocados jumped \$20 this week, the high end of what he said he and his grandfather, who owns The Fruit Basket ABQ, usually pay.

He wondered this week if this was a sign of things to come — and maybe stay — as the Trump administration prepares to impose a 25% tariff on goods imported from Mexico and Canada and a 10% tariff on China.

Trade experts across the state are closely monitoring what Trump’s tariffs, which are set to be implemented this weekend, will mean for the state’s economy. Businesses like Gonzales’ are preparing to pay higher prices to their vendors and, just maybe, order less.

The tariffs affect countries that account for more than a third of the goods and services imported or brought to the United States. In Mexico, produce, auto parts and

See **TARIFFS** >> **A5**



JESSICA BACA/JOURNAL

Rosalie Johnson shops the produce section of The Fruit Basket ABQ on Friday. The North Valley shop stocks many products from Mexico, which now may be subject to Trump’s tariffs.

LEGISLATURE 2025

Former legislative staffer returns to Capitol to push for health care changes



EDDIE MOORE/JOURNAL

Former Legislative Council Service Deputy Director James Yaeger, center, and his wife, Robin Yaeger, right, are greeted by Senate Minority Leader William Sharer, R-Farmington, on the Senate Floor on Wednesday. Yaeger suffered a massive stroke shortly after retiring in 2018 and returned to the Roundhouse this week to visit with legislators about his medical journey.

John Yaeger, ex-deputy director of Legislative Council Service, suffered a stroke in 2018, shares his story

BY DAN BOYD
JOURNAL CAPITOL BUREAU

SANTA FE — For years, John Yaeger largely resisted returning to the Roundhouse.

After suffering a massive stroke in 2018, Yaeger, the former deputy director of the Legislative Council Service, felt reluctant to come back to his former workplace.

“He did not want to come here for the

last six years,” his wife, Robin Yaeger, said during an interview at the state Capitol.

But he was back in the Roundhouse this week to visit with legislators and share his story in the hope of helping others by influencing ongoing health care policy debates.

More than six years after his first stroke, John Yaeger can’t walk and can only talk in short phrases, though he fully understands what’s being said and happening around

him.

“It’s as if the mouth is unplugged from the brain,” his wife said.

He also cannot read newspapers or operate a computer, though he has been practicing accessing Netflix, she added.

When it happened in 2018, Robin Yaeger said she recognized the symptoms of her

See **YAEGER** >> **A5**

Trio charged in yearslong illicit cannabis farming

Charges were filed after federal raid of Estancia farms operated by suspects

BY MATTHEW REISEN
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

Federal agents say a Navajo Nation man and his father joined forces with a California man to run illicit cannabis farms, including on tribal lands, by tapping into an existing river, discharging

chemicals and using Chinese workers “with slave wages and conditions.”

The trio has been on law enforcement’s radar since 2020, according to prosecutors, and has evaded repercussions despite a federal raid that year, a subsequent restraining order issued by a judge and the state revoking their cannabis growing license and imposing a \$1 million fine.

That ended on Jan. 23 when Dineh Benally, 48, his father Donald Benally, 74, and Irving

Rea Yui Lin, 73, were arrested, and federal agents raided two cannabis farms in Estancia and Benally’s home, according to the U.S. Attorney’s Office. Agents say they seized 8,500 pounds of cannabis, \$35,000 in cash, illegal pesticides, more than an ounce of methamphetamine, two guns and a bullet-proof vest.

Agents also identified 10 Chinese workers at the farms, who were “triaged, provided warm clothing, and



COURTESY OF KOAT SKY 7

An aerial shot of Dineh Benally’s cannabis farm outside of Estancia that was raided Jan. 23. Benally had another facility raided in 2020.

See **ILLCIT** >> **A6**

Trump administration fires prosecutors in Jan. 6 cases

BY ERIC TUCKER AND
ALANNA DURKIN RICHER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration on Friday fired a group of prosecutors involved in the Jan. 6 criminal cases and demanded the names of FBI agents involved in those same probes so they can possibly be ousted, moves that reflect a White House determination to exert control over federal law enforcement and purge agencies of career employees seen as insufficiently loyal.

Acting Deputy Attorney General Emil Bove ordered the firings of the Jan. 6 prosecutors days after President Donald Trump's sweeping clemency action benefitting the more than 1,500 people charged in the U.S. Capitol attack, according to a memo obtained by The Associated Press. About two dozen employees at the U.S. attorney's office in Washington were terminated, according to a person familiar with the matter who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss personnel matters.

A separate memo by Bove identified more than a half-dozen FBI senior executives who were ordered to resign or be fired by Monday, and also asked for the names and records related to all agents who worked on investigations into the Jan. 6, 2021, U.S. Capitol riot — a list the bureau's acting director said could number in the thousands. Bove, who was defended Trump in his criminal cases before joining the administration, said Justice Department officials would then carry out a "review process to determine whether any additional personnel actions are necessary."

"As we've said since the moment we agreed to take on these roles, we are going to follow the law, follow FBI policy, and do what's in the best interest of the workforce and the American people — always," Acting FBI Director Brian Driscoll wrote in a letter to the workforce.

The prosecutors who were fired in the D.C. U.S. attorney's office had been hired for temporary assignments to support the Jan. 6 cases, but were moved into permanent roles after Trump's presidential win in November, according to the memo obtained by the AP. Bove, the acting deputy attorney general, said he would not "tolerate subversive personnel actions by the previous administration."

Any mass firings at the FBI would be a major blow



The Federal Bureau of Investigation headquarters is seen in Washington in December.

to the historic independence from the White House of the nation's premier federal law enforcement agency and would reflect Trump's persistent resolve to bend the law enforcement and intelligence community to his will. It would be part of a startling pattern of retribution waged on federal government employees, following the forced ousters of a group of senior FBI executives earlier this week as well as a mass firing by the Justice Department of prosecutors on special counsel Jack Smith's team who investigated Trump.

The FBI Agents Association said any mass firings would be "outrageous actions by acting officials are fundamentally at odds with the law enforcement objectives outlined by President Trump and his support for FBI Agents."

"Dismissing potentially hundreds of Agents would severely weaken the Bureau's ability to protect the country from national security and criminal threats and will ultimately risk setting up the Bureau and its new leadership for failure," the association said in a statement.

It was not immediately clear what recourse any fired agent might take, but the bureau has a well-defined process for terminations and any abrupt action that bypasses the protocol could presumably open the door to a legal challenge.

When pressed during his confirmation hearing Thursday, Trump's pick for FBI director, Kash Patel, said he was not aware of any plans to terminate or otherwise punish FBI employees who were involved in the Trump investigations.



Kash Patel, President Donald Trump's choice to be director of the FBI, appears before the Senate Judiciary Committee for his confirmation hearing, at the Capitol in Washington on Thursday.

Patel said if he was confirmed he would follow the FBI's internal review processes for taking action against employees.

Asked by Democratic Sen. Cory Booker whether he would reverse any decisions before his confirmation that don't follow that standard process, Patel said, "I don't know what's going on right now over there, but I'm committed to you, senator, and your colleagues, that I will honor the due process of the FBI."

Before he was nominated for the director's position, Patel had remarked on at least one podcast appearance about the existence of what he called anti-Trump "conspirators" in the government and news media.

Trump has for years expressed fury at the FBI and Justice Department over investigations that shadowed his presidency, including an inquiry into ties between Russia and his 2016 campaign, and continued over the last four years. He fired one FBI

director, James Comey, amid the Russia investigation and then replaced his second, Christopher Wray, just weeks after winning the election this past November.

Asked at the White House on Friday if he had anything to do with the scrutiny of the agents, he said: "No, but we have some very bad people over there. It was weaponized at a level that nobody's never seen before. They came after a lot of people — like me — but they came after a lot of people."

The FBI and Smith's team investigated Trump over his efforts to overturn the 2020 presidential election and his hoarding of classified documents at his Mar-a-Lago estate in Florida. Both of those cases resulted in indictments that were withdrawn after Trump's November presidential win because of longstanding Justice Department policy prohibiting the federal prosecution of a sitting president.

IN BRIEF

ASSOCIATED PRESS



First responders work the scene after a medical plane crashed in Philadelphia on Friday.

Medical plane carrying patient, 5 others crashes in Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA — A medical transport jet with a child patient, her mother and four others aboard crashed into a Philadelphia neighborhood shortly after takeoff Friday evening, exploding in a fireball that engulfed several homes.

Jet Rescue Air Ambulance, which operated the Learjet 55, said in a statement: "We cannot confirm any survivors." There was no immediate word whether anyone on the ground was killed.

All six people aboard were from Mexico. The child had been treated in Philadelphia for a life-threatening condition and was being transported home, according to Jet Rescue spokesperson Shai Gold. The flight's final destination was to have been Tijuana after a stop in Missouri.

The patient and her mother were on board along with four crew members.

Venezuela frees 6 Americans after meeting with US envoy

CARACAS, Venezuela — Six Americans who had been detained in Venezuela in recent months have been freed by the government of President Nicolás Maduro after he met with a senior Trump administration official.

U.S. President Donald Trump and his envoy for special missions, Richard Grenell, announced the release of the six men on social media. Grenell posted on X a photo showing him and the men aboard an aircraft. Grenell's hours long trip to Venezuela, according to the White House, was focused on Trump's efforts to deport Venezuelans back to their home country, which currently does not accept them, and on the release of the detained Americans.

World's most popular TikTok personality joins UNICEF

DAKAR, Senegal — Khaby Lame, the Senegalese-Italian influencer who ranks as world's most popular TikTok personality, has been named as a goodwill ambassador by the U.N.'s children's agency. The appointment by UNICEF was officially made on Friday in Dakar, the capital of his native Senegal.

The 24-year-old influencer, who has more than 162 million followers, rose to fame with videos of his reactions to everyday life in which he never says a word. His following surged during the COVID-19 pandemic, when he was fired from his factory job and used the extra time on his hands to make and upload more videos.



Khaby Lame

Chuck Todd exits NBC News after nearly two decades

Former "Meet the Press" moderator Chuck Todd is leaving NBC News after nearly two decades at the network. He joined NBC as political director in 2007, and led "Meet the Press" from 2014 to 2023, giving him one of the most high-profile media jobs in Washington. As such, he occasionally drew barbs from President Donald Trump and his supporters. Todd said he'll continue to host his podcast after leaving NBC and has some other projects in the works. He offered no details in a memo to his colleagues on Friday, his last day at the network.

South Carolina puts inmate to death in state's third execution

COLUMBIA, S.C. — South Carolina put a third inmate to death in four months Friday as it goes through a backlog of prisoners who exhausted their appeals while the state couldn't find lethal injection drugs.

Marion Bowman Jr. was executed at 6:27 p.m. Bowman, 44, was convicted of murder in the shooting death of a friend whose burned body was found in the trunk of a car.

Bowman maintained his innocence since his arrest. His lawyers said he was convicted on the word of several friends and relatives who received deals or had charges dropped by prosecutors in exchange for their testimony.

In the statement detailing his final words, Bowman said he did not kill 21-year-old Kandee Martin.

"I know that Kandee's family is in pain, they are justifiably angry," Bowman said. "If my death brings them some relief and ability to focus on the good times and funny stories, then I guess it will have served a purpose. I hope they find peace."

HOW TO REACH US

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TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Saturday, Feb. 1, the 32nd day of 2025. There are 333 days left in the year.

Today in history:

On Feb. 1, 2003, the space shuttle Columbia broke apart as it re-entered the earth's atmosphere, killing all seven crew members: commander Rick Husband; pilot William McCool; payload commander Michael Anderson; mission specialists Kalpana Chawla, David Brown and Laurel Clark; and payload specialist Ilan Ramon.

Also on this date:

In 1865, abolitionist John S. Rock became the first Black lawyer admitted to the bar of the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1943, during World War II, one of America's most highly decorated military units, the 442nd Central Postal Directory, made up almost exclusively of Japanese Americans, was activated.

In 1959, men in Switzerland rejected giving women the right to vote by a more than 2-to-1 margin in a referendum. (Swiss women finally gained the right to vote in 1971.)

In 1960, four Black college students began a sit-in protest at

a Woolworth's lunch counter in Greensboro, North Carolina, where they had been refused service.

In 1991, an arriving USAir jetliner crashed atop a commuter plane on a runway at Los Angeles International Airport, resulting in 35 deaths.

In 1994, Jeff Gillooly, Tonya Harding's ex-husband, pleaded guilty in Portland, Oregon, to racketeering for his part in the attack on figure skater Nancy Kerrigan in exchange for a 24-month sentence and a \$100,000 fine.

In 2002, Wall Street Journal journalist Daniel Pearl was killed by Islamist militants in Pakistan after being kidnapped nine days earlier.

Today's birthdays: Actor Garrett Morris is 88. Political commentator Fred Barnes is 82. Princess Stephanie of Monaco is 60. Actor Sherilyn Fenn is 60. U.S. Soccer Hall of Famer Michelle Akers is 59. Comedian-actor Pauly Shore is 57. Actor Michael C. Hall is 54. Rapper Big Boi (Outkast) is 50. Singer-songwriter Jason Isbell is 46. TV personality Lauren Conrad is 39. Mixed martial artist Ronda Rousey is 38. Actor Julia Garner is 31. Singer-actor Harry Styles is 31.

LOTTERY

Friday numbers

Pick 3 Plus

4-7-5 (day)

8-8-0 (eve)

Pick 4 Plus

7-1-4-3 (day)

4-7-9-1 (eve)

Roadrunner Cash

14-18-25-26-36

Mega Millions

9-28-48-56-63

Mega Ball: 2

Megaplier: 2



Flying the colors

The flag is to be flown at full staff Saturday.

Man dies after falling ill behind bars at MDC

Bernalillo County jail has had 34 inmates die since 2020

BY MATTHEW REISEN
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

A man died at the hospital days after falling ill while behind bars on a pretrial detention hold at the Metropolitan Detention Center.

MDC spokesman Daniel Trujillo said 54-year-old Zeora Hercey was pronounced

dead at the University of New Mexico Hospital around 6 p.m. Thursday.

"The New Mexico Office of the Medical Investigator will determine the official cause of death," he said. The incident is being investigated by MDC's Office of Professional Standards and the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office.

Court records show Hercey was booked into the jail Nov. 19 on an aggravated battery charge, and a judge granted a motion to keep him behind bars until trial.

His family could not be reached Friday. On Monday, Hercey came down with "flu-like symptoms" and was brought to the facility's medical housing for observation and treatment, Trujillo said.

Hercey was in the medical wing for two hours when UNM Hospital staff — who provide medical care at MDC — decided he needed to go to the hospital "for further evaluation," he said.

"Hercey was transported and admitted," Trujillo said. "Hercey, unfortunately,

passed away on Thursday."

No other details were given.

Hercey is the second person to die at the jail or die after falling ill at the facility this year, and the eighth such death there since Jan. 1, 2024.

MDC has had 34 inmates die since 2020 as it went through two for-profit medical providers before University of New Mexico Health Systems took over health care at the jail in July 2023.



Honors College Lecturer Maria Szasz presents her lecture, "Swiftie-nomics: The Art, Industry, and Influence of Taylor Swift," during the UNM Alumni group's first "Lobo Living Room" event of the year on Thursday.



Honors College Lecturer Maria Szasz, left, takes a selfie with Venita Chavez before the start of her talk at the UNM School of Architecture and Planning.



UNM alumna Mary Darling makes a Taylor Swift friendship bracelet before the start of the lecture.



UNM alumna Gail Starr reacts during Maria Szasz's presentation in Albuquerque on Thursday.

'Swiftie-nomics'

UNM Honors College lecturer talks on the art, industry and influence of the pop superstar

Hey, Taylor Swift! The University of New Mexico has its share of "Swifties," too.

Alumni fans of the pop star gathered Thursday at the UNM School of Architecture and Planning to hear Honors College Lecturer Maria Szasz present, "Swiftie-nomics," a lecture based on her Honors College course, "Taylor Swift — Honors Version." Alumni also got a glimpse of the course's final project: a jukebox-style Broadway musical using Swift's music and lyrics.

The lecture and performance were part of the UNM Alumni group's first "Lobo Living Room" event of the year.

Gov. travels to DC for political meetings

DNC to elect new chair after election in which Dems lost White House, control of Congress

BY DAN BOYD
JOURNAL CAPITOL BUREAU

SANTA FE — As New Mexico lawmakers wade deeper into the 60-day legislative session, Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham is in Washington, D.C., to take part in national Democratic group meetings.

The governor, who crisscrossed the nation last fall to stump for

Kamala Harris, traveled to the nation's capital on Thursday to attend the Democratic National Committee's winter meeting, a spokeswoman said.

The DNC is scheduled to elect a new chair on Saturday, after an election cycle in which Democrats lost the White House and control of both chambers of the U.S. Congress.

Meanwhile, Lujan Grisham is also planning to take part in a Democratic Governors Association meeting before returning to New Mexico on Sunday, according to the Governor's Office.

See GOVERNOR >> A4

LEGISLATURE 2025

Anti-hazing bill passes panel

Bill would make hazing and the failure to report it a misdemeanor

BY KEVIN OPSAHL
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

A state higher education bill prohibiting hazing while mandating other prevention efforts passed the Senate Education Committee on Friday.

Senate Bill 10, sponsored by Sen. Harold Pope and Rep. Pamela Herndon, both Albuquerque Democrats, next goes to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Pope, who was a member of a University of New Mexico fraternity, said he was inspired to craft his bill based on news reports he has seen about hazing and the fact that New Mexico is one of only six states in the nation without laws prohibiting it.

"Even before I ran for state Senate, this

is something that I think we needed as a state," Pope said.

UNM spokesperson Cinnamon Blair said following Friday's committee hearing that the university condemns hazing and wants to maintain a safe environment for students.

The anti-hazing bill would make it a misdemeanor for anyone to commit hazing or fail to report it. It would also require higher education institutions to prohibit hazing on and off campus and to educate the campus community on the dangers of that conduct, including through a newly formed campus committee. The bill would require institutions to keep a report on the number and details of hazing incidents.

The measure passed the Senate committee Friday following a change requested by



Harold Pope



Pamela Herndon

See HAZING >> A4

TARIFFS >>

From PAGE A1

electronics make their way across the border — sometimes at high rates. The tariffs come in Trump's second week in office. His White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt told reporters Friday the tariffs are in response to the "illegal fentanyl they have sourced and allowed to distribute into our country, which has killed tens of millions of Americans," adding that these are "promises made and promises kept by the president."

'Nervous and worried'

Many companies operating in New Mexico also have operations, or "sister" plants, on the other side of the border, said Jerry Pacheco, president and CEO of the Border Industrial Association. The tariffs could potentially be applied to U.S. products sent back and forth to and from Mexico that are being assembled at different points, Pacheco said. "Let's say a steel supplier cuts a triangular piece of steel, sends it to a Mexican factory, they punch holes in there for screws or bolts," Pacheco said. "That product then comes back to the United States and gets powder coated. That powder-coated product goes back to Mexico, and now it's assembled into a car or an appliance. ... That is very common." Pacheco's organization represents about 80 companies in Santa Teresa, New Mexico's largest industrial



JESSICA BACA/JOURNAL

Antonio Almaraz, an employee of The Fruit Basket ABQ, stocks jalapeños on Friday. Some of the stores peppers are brought over from across the border.

base. The Santa Teresa Port of Entry, thanks to the businesses in the area, accounts for more than \$27 billion worth of trade, Pacheco said, making the area the sixth- or seventh-largest port of entry in terms of volume along the U.S./Mexico border. He said many companies in Santa Teresa are slowing down business in response to the tariffs. "These companies are extremely nervous and worried, to say the least, about what's going to happen," Pacheco said. "A lot of the companies I'm talking to are kind of postponing major expansions or hirings because of a wait-and-see attitude."

'Mapping out a strategy'

Trump's tariffs on Mexico and Canada are not new. He imposed tariffs during his first term, in 2018, on steel and aluminum coming out of those countries. That led Mexico to impose tariffs on around \$3 billion worth of American pork, steel, cheese and other goods. Trump's current tariffs could adversely affect exports to Mexico, said Ram Acharya, a professor with New Mexico State University's Department of Agricultural Economics and Economic Business. New Mexico was the 32nd-largest exporter of goods to Mexico and Cana-

da in recent years, according to a fact sheet from the International Trade Administration. That largely includes electronics, metal products and oil and gas. "In general, the impact of tariffs is that if we impose a 25% tariff on Mexico, they will find a way to impose tariffs on our products," Acharya said. "Once they do that, our exports there would be expensive for Mexican consumers." Over the past decade, New Mexico has seen an increase in the amount of dairy products it has sent to Mexico, Acharya said. Other products being sent en masse are baked goods, sugar and corn, he added, making Mexico the biggest export country for New

Mexico products. "It's substantially increased since 2014," Acharya said. "Maybe (dairy producers) will find domestic buyers and replace it. ... I'm sure businesses are mapping out a strategy to manage the situation." But businesses like Gonzales' The Fruit Basket ABQ and its vendors will have to wade through the tariffs, whatever they may be. A vendor for The Fruit Basket ABQ, El Paso-based Quality Fruit & Vegetable Co., buys many products from Mexico distributors, including avocados, limes, peppers and tomatoes — which it then does out to restaurants and stores across Albuquerque and El Paso.

The business is waiting to see how the tariffs will affect prices from their suppliers, who are spread across different Mexican cities. But if they do increase costs, Quality Fruit & Vegetable Co. will also have to pass those costs onto their customers, said Humberto Ureña, a buyer with the company whose focus is on products coming out of Mexico. That puts the company in a tough spot — having to pay more for products coming over the border but also waiting to see if their customers buy less frequently. "Normally (stores) order for the day 10 to 15 cases of avocados," said Ureña. "They're going to order now seven or five; it all depends on the sales they have." The Fruit Basket ABQ, outside of typical Mexican produce like limes, avocados and tomatoes, also sells dried goods from Mexico — about half of which come from across the border — such as crushed chiles and dried fruits. He said last week, a case of about 48 avocados was \$65. That increased to \$85 this week. "We already know what's coming," said Gonzales, the general manager of the North Valley grocery store. "We're going to have to scale down on our ordering. We're definitely going to have to raise prices, and that might, in return, lower sales. "People might not buy as many avocados. They might hold off on the guacamole or putting limes in their beers."

Matthew Narvaiz covers the economy for the Albuquerque Journal. You can reach him at mnarvaiz@abqjournal.com.

YAEGER >>

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husband's stroke from her paramedic training and got him prompt medical care. "We did everything right," she said. But a medical procedure at the University of New Mexico Hospital left Yaeger with a brain bleed, which prompted a craniotomy, a partial removal of his brain and several subsequent infections, she said. The couple eventually settled a medical malpractice lawsuit with the hospital in 2021, but Robin Yaeger said a cap on damages has meant the family has had to file for disability benefits. "If they had just gone in and got the clot out he would be walking and talking," she said. She also said the family had not previously spoken publicly about the medical complications, due to the emotional reaction it tends to provoke in others. A spokesman for the UNM Health Sciences Center said Friday the hospital can not publicly discuss care provided to any individual patient. But the spokesman said "quality and safety" are the hospital's top priorities, while also citing outside recognition for care levels.

A simmering Roundhouse debate

Amid an ongoing medical provider shortage, health care issues have generated countless hours of debate in recent years at the Roundhouse, with much of the back-and-forth discussion focusing on the state's medical malpractice laws. Lawmakers in 2023 approved a bipartisan bill aimed at ensuring independent outpatient clinics could obtain the insurance they need to continue operating. That came after a 2021 rewrite of the medical malpractice law intended to strengthen New Mexico's patient compensation fund — an account that covers medical malpractice claims that exceed a certain amount — led to some clinics warning they might have to close. Prior to 2022, the state's cap on medical malpractice damages was \$600,000 per occurrence, but the cap is now set to gradually increase in future years based on an inflation index. Punitive damages awarded by a court are not capped. The recent changes have not fully alleviated concerns among physicians, patient advocates or hospital executives, as several bills have been filed during this year's 60-day legislative session on health care

issues. One bill, Senate Bill 176, would cap attorney's fees in medical malpractice cases and end lump-sum payments from the patient compensation fund. Another bill, House Bill 138, would require New Mexico hospitals to establish staffing plans featuring minimum nurse-to-patient ratios. Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham also addressed the issue during her State of the State Address, while proposing a state-run medical malpractice insurance program. "There's still a long wait for appointments. Patients are still driving long distances to see a specialist," Lujan Grisham said. "And health care leaders are clear that the high cost of medical malpractice insurance is the barrier to recruiting and retaining the providers we need." A bittersweet return Robin Yaeger said changes to health care facility staffing ratios and patient compensation are among the policies her family is supporting. "There were lots of instances that I do think he would have died if I weren't there," she said of her husband's stay at an inpatient care facility following his surgery. In addition, a speech therapy clinic John Yaeger

attended in Florida for six weeks cost \$30,000 and such services are not covered by insurance, she said. Robin Yaeger also said her husband's medical odyssey has exacted a high toll on their family, including the couple's two teenage children. "They basically lost their dad and their mom in a lot

of ways, because I had to pivot from homeschooling them to basically being a full-time caregiver," Robin Yaeger said. The Yaegers, who were joined at the Roundhouse this week by their attorneys, hope their visit to the state Capitol elicits awareness, not just pity. "He wouldn't have come

for himself, but he felt like this could help other patients avoid the situation in the future," Robin Yaeger said. Dan Boyd covers state government and politics for the Journal in Santa Fe. Follow him on Twitter at @DanBoydNM or reach him via email at dboyd@abqjournal.com.

COMFORT IN 2025

KOZY HEAT

FIREPLACES



Our Hearth and Stove professionals are eager to help you choose the stove or fireplace insert that is just right for your needs and budget

SAVINGS EVENT

INSERTS, FIREPLACES, & STOVES

GAS HEAT

NO POWER NO PROBLEM

SALE ENDS FEBRUARY 16TH

20% OFF

SELECT MODEL STOVES/INSERTS

OFFERING EASY FINANCING

with LOW MONTHLY PAYMENTS*

WE DELIVER STATEWIDE
Other brands available at similar savings. See store for details.

Do you have an old fur hanging in the closet not being worn?

Stop by our fur restyling event to consult our team about restyling your old fur into:

- Vests
- Reversible Jackets
- 2 in 1 Jackets
- 4 in 1 Jackets
- Reversible Raincoats
- Sweater Jackets
- Shearing
- Teddy Bears
- Throw and Pillows
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ILLCIT >>

FromPAGEA1

given any assistance needed.” The U.S. Attorney’s Office would say whether any of the workers were transferred to the custody of immigration agents or released.

Dineh Benally, Donald Benally and Yui Lin, of California, are each charged with conspiracy, manufacture and possession with intent to distribute 1,000 kilograms and more of marijuana, maintaining a drug-involved premises and knowingly discharging of a pollutant without a permit. They face up to 10 years in prison if convicted.

Dineh Benally’s attorney did not respond to a message for comment. Donald Benally’s attorney declined to comment.

Lin denied the charges, telling The Associated Press on Friday that he was not involved in the business and only served as an interpreter for immigrant workers.

In a statement, the Navajo Division of Public Safety said the charges marked “a good day for the Diné people.”

“Many Diné farmlands were destroyed and its fresh water polluted with pesticides, creating an imbalance and disharmony for the Diné people and its land. The disruption occurred when the people’s cornfields were replaced with marijuana fields and its yellow corn pollen way of life was trampled on by greed,” the statement said.

“... The Navajo Division of Public Safety is happy for the Diné people that the individuals responsible for the disruption have finally been caught.”

For Dineh Benally, the



Dineh Benally poses for a photograph before a Navajo Nation presidential forum at a tribal casino outside Flagstaff, Ariz., in 2022.

recent raid may have come with a sense of déjà vu.

In November 2020, law enforcement seized 60,000 pounds of cannabis and 260,000 plants from 25 illicit farms “operated and controlled” by the trio around Shiprock.

Tribal prosecutors told The Associated Press in January 2024 that Dineh Benally and a farmer would be officially charged within the month.

Tessa DuBerry, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Attorney’s Office, said the Navajo Nation charged Dineh Benally in 2023 with four counts of possession and sale of controlled of substance. Court records for the Navajo Nation are not

publicly accessible.

“We do not know where that case stands,” DuBerry said.

No charges were filed against Benally in U.S. District Court until now, according to court records. In the meantime, the trio kept on growing.

At least one of the illicit grow sites in Estancia was known about for a year, as state regulators rescinded Benally’s license at the farm in January 2024 — saying Native American Agricultural Development Co., the company tied to Benally, had committed numerous violations at the Torrance County operation and handed down a \$1 million fine.

Federal prosecutors filed a motion to detain Dineh and Donald Benally, saying “this multiheaded pestilence has wrought disorder throughout New Mexico and across the United States for far too long.” Prosecutors said no pretrial release conditions “can be fashioned to prevent what courts and law enforcement have previously failed to stop during the last five years.”

The motion states, “Neither tribal prosecutions, nor regulatory fines, nor enforcement actions have been able to stem the flood of criminal activity committed by Defendants. The United States will now address the problem. And

that begins with detention of all Defendants.”

In the 2020 illicit operation, Dineh Benally used 400 acres of farmland along the San Juan River and got funding from Chinese investors based out of state and abroad, according to the motion. Benally and his accomplices used Chinese workers “akin to slave labor” and as drug mules to deliver drugs outside New Mexico.

Prosecutors say the trio drilled illegal wells to tap the river and built a dam to irrigate the farms with its water.

“This conduct demonstrates a brazen disregard for the rule of law, human

welfare, and tribal sovereignty. To adequately capture what occurred on those farms, one must use absolutes: unacceptable and dangerous to society,” according to the motion.

But prosecutors say after authorities dismantled that farm and the Navajo Nation won an injunction against Benally to stop growing on tribal lands, he turned his focus to Estancia and two more farms.

“Although this operation may have initially been authorized by the State of New Mexico, or at least one farm was so authorized, Defendant quickly exploded the grow beyond the bounds of reason — and the law,” the motion states. This farm soon caught the attention of state officials, who took away Dineh Benally’s license and fined him \$1 million.

Prosecutors say the fine did not stop Benally, who kept growing “while breaking other laws to further the operation,” and court records show Benally was charged in November for allegedly stealing more than \$8,000 in electricity to power one of the farms.

New Mexico State Police Chief Troy Weisler, whose agency assisted in the investigation and seizure, said the illicit growers were “an ongoing problem for New Mexico.”

“They thought they were untouchable, but they were mistaken,” he said in a statement.

Matthew Reisen covers criminal justice for the Albuquerque Journal. Follow him on Twitter at @MReisen88, call him at (505) 823-3563 or reach him via email at mreisen@abqjournal.com.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

Obituaries

Jane Robbins Adkins



Jane R. Adkins (77) passed away on 1/14/25 after a lengthy illness. Jane was a very private (and quite modest) person who curiously spent the bulk of her career in the public eye as a music educator in Albuquerque and the Seattle area. She asked that no service be held and was not all that comfortable with an obituary. So, there will be no listing of all the many accomplishments in Jane’s life except for her most significant one. Her impact on her students. Some small

excerpts from the hundreds of “thank yous” she received.

“Thank you so much for all that you’ve done for me. You have been such a wonderful impact on my life” Brianna.

Thank you for teaching me more in one year than any other band director has ever taught me.” Aubrey.

“People like you are a breath, pure air, in my life.” Juan.

“Thank you for your passion of music and sharing it. You can touch souls.” Irene.

“I had to write an essay on the person who made the biggest impact on my life and I wrote it about you. If you had not done it, I don’t know what kind of person I would be today. Certainly not a good one. You made me realize Something that I live my life by. NEVER GIVE UP and WORK FOR WHAT YOU WANT! You taught me that and I thank you a lot” Rocky

“I will miss you” Tommy

Yes, We will

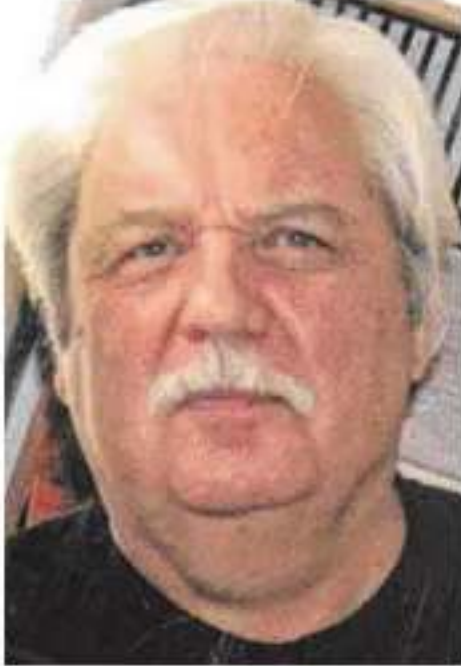
Margaret Ann Bobb



January 31, 1965 - November 1, 2018

Happy Birthday Sweetheart!!!
I will celebrate your 60th with our sweet Zarah. She has stolen my heart just as you did so long ago.
Missing you each and every day...
I love you more today than yesterday, but less than I will tomorrow!!!
Always and forever my love!!!!!!
Heath

Herbert Friedrich Schmidt



Herbert Friedrich Schmidt passed away on August 14, 2024, at age 90. A graveside Funeral Service will be held on Friday, February 7, 2025 (Herb’s birthday) at 11:00 am at the Santa Fe National Cemetery. Please visit our online guestbook for Herb at www.FrenchFunerals.com.

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Rita Charlene Gensman



Rita Charlene Gensman was born on September 16, 1945, in Tahlequah, OK, to Elmo and Ella Josephine (Smith) Poff. She graduated from Tahlequah High School in 1963. After graduation, she moved to Florida with her mother, stepfather Eugene Sweet, and siblings Tom and Rebecca. She found a home in Miami, FL, where she married Michael Aguilera. They had two children Tonia and Eric. Rita and Mike later divorced, and Rita returned to Moore, OK to be close to family. Rita worked as a paralegal in Oklahoma City for many years until she met and married Dennis Gensman. Rita and Dennis loved casinos and often traveled with her sister Patricia Philliber and her husband Wayne on casino trips. Rita was in poor health for many years, and her passing on December 29, 2024, in Oklahoma City, OK released her from suffering. In her younger years, Rita was a vibrant, energetic, fun loving person who loved her family and family get togethers to share memories, laughter, and magnificent home cooking. She was preceded in death by her stepfather Eugene in 2004, her mother Josephine, and brother Tom in 2006, and her brother-in-law Wayne in 2010. She is survived by her husband Dennis Gensman of Altus, OK; her sister Patricia Philliber of Moore, OK; her sister Rebecca Sweet of Albuquerque, NM; her children Tonia Osteen and Eric Aguilera and her grandchildren Trystan J. Osteen, Aryanna E. Aguilera, and Ryan M. Aguilera, all of Florida.

Ibrahim Atwa



Ibrahim “Abe” Atwa passed away peacefully on January 18, 2025. He spent his last years with his loving grandchildren. To them, he will always be “Giddo” who snuck them cookies and played the upside down game. He had a profound love for his grandchildren, leaving comfort and familiarity to relocate to help care for them during their infant and toddler years. Ibrahim had an unmatched charisma, enduring curiosity, wicked sense of humor, and ability to reach across difference to make lasting friends. In recognition of the pride he had in the contributions to humanity made by his beautiful homeland, he will be buried in Egypt surrounded by the echoes of the history his ancestors helped create. “I shall be with you in this and other worlds. Though apart, I am a part of you. Neither death nor spite nor fear nor ignorance stops my love for you.”

A Time to Remember

Herb H. Michel Jr.



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US colleges returning to campus sexual assault rules set during Trump’s first term

Guidelines require live hearings and give more protections to the accused

BY COLLIN BINKLEY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Schools and universities responding to complaints of sexual misconduct must return to policies created during President Donald Trump’s first term, with requirements for live hearings and more protections for accused students, according to new guidance issued Friday by the Education Department.

In a memo to education institutions across the nation, the agency clarified that Title IX, a 1972 law barring discrimination based on sex, will be enforced according to a set of rules created by former Education Secretary Betsy DeVos. The rules govern how complaints of misconduct are investigated and how to settle cases where students present differing accounts.

Colleges already have been returning to DeVos’ 2020 rules in recent weeks since a federal judge in Kentucky overturned the Biden administration’s Title IX rules. The court’s decision effectively ordered a return to the earlier Trump administration rules.

A statement from the Education Department called Biden’s rules an “egregious slight to women and girls.”

“Under the Trump Administration, the Education Department will champion equal opportunity for all Americans, including women and girls, by protecting their right to safe and separate facilities and activities in schools, colleges and universities,” said Acting Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights Craig Trainor.

The Biden administration sought to overhaul the rules and expand Title IX to protect LGBTQ+ students. It expanded the type of behavior that’s considered sexual harassment — a reversal of the DeVos policy, which used a narrower definition.

But a federal judge in Kentucky overturned Biden’s rule on Jan. 9, saying it was a presidential overstep and violated constitutional free speech rights by telling schools to honor students’ preferred pronouns. The judge, U.S. District Judge Danny C. Reeves, said there was nothing in Title IX suggesting it should cover anything more than it did when Congress created it.

Even before the decision, Biden’s rule had been halted in half the states amid legal challenges from Republicans.

The full text of the Title IX law is just 37 words long, but the federal government has added rules over the years explaining how it’s interpreted. DeVos’ policy adds 500 pages detailing how schools must address complaints and how the Education Department makes sure schools comply.

Already, the Trump administration has taken a hard turn on its enforcement of Title IX: On Tuesday the Education Department said it opened an investigation into Denver schools after the district converted a girl’s restroom into an all-gender restroom while leaving another bathroom exclusive to boys.

The new memo says even investigations that started when Biden’s rules were in effect “should be immediately reoriented to comport fully with the requirements of the 2020 Title IX Rule.”

The change was celebrated by advocates who said Biden’s rules did too little to protect accused students.

The Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression said the 2020 rules will ensure fairness, highlighting a requirement that both parties be able to have a lawyer at campus hearings and to review all evidence.

“The return to the 2020 rules ensures that all students — whether they are the accused or the accuser — will receive fair treatment and important procedural safeguards,” said Tyler Coward, lead counsel for government affairs at FIRE.

Victims’ rights groups called it a step backward that will deter students from reporting assaults.

“Schools must step up to protect students in the absence of adequate federal guidance,” said Emma Grasso Levine, senior manager of Title IX policy and programs at Know Your IX, a student-led group.

Among the most controversial elements of DeVos’ policy is a requirement to hold live hearings where accused students can cross-examine their accusers through an adviser. The Biden rule had eliminated the requirement and made live hearings optional, though some courts had previously upheld an accused student’s right to cross examination.

More broadly, the 2020 policy narrows the definition of sexual harassment and the scope of cases that schools must address. It also reduces the liability for colleges, holding them responsible only if they acted with “deliberate indifference.”

Trump’s new pick for education secretary is Linda McMahon, a long-time Trump ally known for building the World Wrestling Entertainment professional wrestling empire with her husband, Vince McMahon. Her Senate confirmation hearing has yet to be scheduled.

	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	CHG	%CHG	YTD
DOW	45,054.36	44,507.22	44,544.66	-337.47	-0.75%	+4.70%
NASDAQ	19,969.17	19,575.21	19,627.44	-54.31	-0.28%	+1.64%
S&P 500	6,120.91	6,030.93	6,040.53	-30.64	-0.50%	+2.70%
Russell 2000	2,322.29	2,278.78	2,287.69	-19.76	-0.86%	+2.58%

Interest Rates



The yield on the 10-year Treasury note rose to 4.55% Friday. Yields affect rates on mortgages and other consumer loans.

	PRIME RATE	FED FUNDS
LAST	7.50	4.38
6 MO AGO	8.50	5.38
1 YR AGO	8.50	5.38

TREASURIES	LAST	PVS	NET CHG	WK	MO	QTR	1YR AGO
3-month T-bill	4.30	4.29	+0.01	▲	—	▼	5.38
6-month T-bill	4.31	4.31	...	▲	▲	▲	5.18
52-wk T-bill	3.99	4.16	-0.17	▼	▼	▼	4.69
2-year T-note	4.21	4.21	...	▼	▼	—	4.21
5-year T-note	4.36	4.31	+0.05	▼	▼	▲	3.80
7-year T-note	4.47	4.41	+0.06	▼	▼	▲	3.83
10-year T-note	4.55	4.52	+0.03	▼	▼	▲	3.88
30-year T-bond	4.80	4.72	+0.08	▼	▼	▲	4.12

CONSUMER RATES	NAT'L AVG	WK AGO	6MO AGO	1YR AGO
48 month new car loan	6.95 ▲	6.85	7.39	7.47
Money market account	0.40 ▼	0.41	0.86	0.73
1 year CD	1.76 ▼	1.80	2.23	1.74
\$30K Home equity loan	2.30 ▼	2.32	2.36	8.77
30 year fixed mortgage	6.29 ▼	6.90	6.56	6.80
15 year fixed mortgage	5.65 ▼	6.21	5.58	6.06

Commodities

Energy futures closed nearly unchanged: U.S. crude oil and natural gas lost less than 1% and wholesale gasoline was flat. Gold and silver prices slipped.

FUELS	CLOSE	PVS	%CHG	%YTD
Crude Oil (bbl)	72.53	72.73	-0.27	+1.1
Heating Oil (gal)	2.48	2.50	+0.36	+7.1
Natural Gas (mm btu)	3.04	3.08	-0.10	-16.2
Unleaded Gas (gal)	2.04	2.04	-0.04	+1.8

METALS	CLOSE	PVS	%CHG	%YTD
Gold (oz)	2,812.50	2,823.00	-0.37	+7.0
Silver (oz)	32.13	32.36	-0.73	+11.0
Platinum (oz)	1,043.70	1,027.00	+1.63	+16.7
Copper (lb)	4.26	4.29	-0.61	+6.9
Aluminum (ton)	2,586.00	2,618.75	-1.25	+2.6

AGRICULTURE	CLOSE	PVS	%CHG	%YTD
Cattle (lb)	2.05	2.04	+0.06	+5.6
Coffee (lb)	3.78	3.73	+1.19	+18.2
Corn (bu)	4.82	4.90	-1.68	+5.1
Cotton (lb)	0.66	0.66	-0.59	-3.7
Lumber (1,000 bd ft)	592.00	571.50	+3.59	+2.5
Orange Juice (lb)	4.75	4.80	-1.03	-4.6
Soybeans (bu)	10.42	10.44	-0.19	+4.4
Wheat (bu)	5.60	5.67	-1.24	+1.5

(Previous and change figures reflect current contract.)

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TODAY

59

Milder PM

TONIGHT

35

Cold

SUNDAY

65/36

Warmer

MONDAY

68/40

Warm PM

TUESDAY

70/39

Warm, PM

WEDNESDAY

70/36

Breezy PM

THURSDAY

65/35

Mild



January experienced cooler than normal temperatures, February is off to a warmer start with daytime highs rising above average. The weather forecast suggests partly to mostly sunny skies with light winds, and temperatures approaching record levels at the start of the workweek. This makes it an excellent opportunity to engage in outdoor activities. Enjoy the lovely weather and have a great weekend!

Wind: SSE 5-10 MPH

Weather Fact

On Feb. 1, 1951, the greatest ice storm of record in the United States produced glaze up to four inches thick from Texas to Pennsylvania, causing 25 deaths, 500 serious injuries and 100 million dollars in damage. Tennessee was the state hardest hit by the storm.

Sky Watch

During February, the stars of Cancer and Leo are at opposition. Soon after sunset, the Moon paired with Venus emerges. This union is eye-catching, but the gap is rather wide. Shortly after 6:31 p.m., watch the ISS glides past them!

Source: Kevin McKewen
kmckewen2@yahoo.com

ALMANAC

Solar/UV

Low 0 High 5 Extreme 10 15

Humidity

Yesterday

6 am Noon 6 pm

69% 35% 26%

Air Quality Index

City of Albuquerque
AQ Division
www.cabq.gov/airquality

Good Moderate High
Coarse Particulates

66

Fine Particulates

57

Carbon monoxide

9

Ground-level ozone

35

Precipitation

Yesterday 0.00"

Month to date 0.07"

Normal MTD 0.36"

Year to date 0.07"

Normal YTD 0.36"

Temperatures

Friday's high 55°

Friday's low 27°

Normal high 51°

Normal low 28°

Record high 72° in 1911

Record low 5° in 1951

Pollen

<https://www.cabq.gov/airquality>

Today low

Sunday low

Monday moderate

Predominant Pollens:

Willow

Sun/Moon

Feb. 5 Feb. 12 Feb. 20 Feb. 27

Today

Sunrise 7:05 a.m.

Sunset 5:35 p.m.

Moonrise 9:06 a.m.

Moonset 9:25 p.m.

Weather Key: s-sunny, cl-cloudy, fg-fog, hz-haze, mc-mostly cloudy, pc-partly cloudy, ra-rain, rs-rain & snow, sh-showers, sm-smoke, sn-snow, ss-snow showers, t-thunderstorm

NEW MEXICO

Yesterday

Alamogordo	Hi 55 Lo 21	Albuquerque	Hi 55 Lo 27	Carlsbad	Hi 51 Lo 6	Chama	Hi 63 Lo 26	Clovis	Hi 64 Lo 29	Deming	Hi 63 Lo 21	Farmington	Hi 53 Lo 14	Gallup	Hi 58 Lo 1	Grants	Hi 55 Lo 6	Hobbs	Hi 63 Lo 32	Las Cruces	Hi 59 Lo 23	Las Vegas	Hi 55 Lo 26	Los Alamos	Hi 49 Lo 22	Moriarty	Hi 53 Lo 23	Raton	Hi 57 Lo 16	Roswell	Hi 65 Lo 28	Ruidoso	Hi 57 Lo 32	Santa Fe	Hi 52 Lo 20	Silver City	Hi 57 Lo 22	Socorro	Hi 59 Lo 28	T or C	Hi 58 Lo 29	Taos	Hi 43 Lo -1	Tucumcari	Hi 64 Lo 24
------------	-------------	-------------	-------------	----------	------------	-------	-------------	--------	-------------	--------	-------------	------------	-------------	--------	------------	--------	------------	-------	-------------	------------	-------------	-----------	-------------	------------	-------------	----------	-------------	-------	-------------	---------	-------------	---------	-------------	----------	-------------	-------------	-------------	---------	-------------	--------	-------------	------	-------------	-----------	-------------

REGION

Today	Hi	Lo	W	Today	Hi	Lo	W	Today	Hi	Lo	W	Today	Hi	Lo	W	Today	Hi	Lo	W
Alamosa	45	14	pc	Denver	60	33	pc	Grand Junct.	54	34	mc	Prescott	63	40	s	Sedona	63	42	s
Amarrillo	69	42	s	Dodge City	65	33	pc	Houston	71	48	s	Provo	45	38	ra	Show Low	80	34	s
Austin	75	49	s	Durango	53	26	pc	Lubbock	70	43	s	Pueblo	59	29	mc	St. George	82	37	pc
Boulder	56	38	mc	El Paso	65	40	s	Midland	72	43	s	Salt Lake	44	38	ra	Telluride	44	30	mc
Colo. Springs	56	33	mc	Flagstaff	55	28	s	Okla. City	66	47	s	San Angelo	75	49	s	Tucson	78	44	s
Dallas	69	48	s	Fort Collins	56	29	mc	Phoenix	73	48	s	San Antonio	74	48	s	Winslow	67	30	s

NATION

Extremes in the 48 contiguous states

High: 87 in Poinciana, Fla. Low: -31 in Peter Sinks, Utah

Today	Hi	Lo	W	Today	Hi	Lo	W	Today	Hi	Lo	W	Today	Hi	Lo	W	Today	Hi	Lo	W
Acapulco	80	70	s	Calgary	16	1	sn	Islamabad	66	54	ra	Mexico City	71	57	mc	Santiago	90	70	s
Amsterdam	43	32	s	Caracas	82	63	ra	Istanbul	56	44	s	Montreal	17	-2	mc	Seoul	37	24	mc
Athens	62	52	mc	Casablanca	61	45	pc	Jakarta	87	77	ra	Moscow	42	37	ra	Singapore	82	76	mc
Auckland	79	63	mc	Copenhagen	40	35	ra	Jerusalem	57	48	ra	Nassau	75	74	ra	Stockholm	33	30	pc
Baghdad	67	41	s	Dakar	69	66	s	Johannesburg	86	68	mc	New Delhi	78	52	mc	Sydney	77	68	mc
Bangkok	91	75	mc	Dublin	48	35	mc	Kabul	50	36	s	Osaka	48	36	pc	Taipei	73	63	ra
Beijing	34	23	mc	Edmonton	5	-3	sn	Kingston	87	71	ra	Oslo	26	13	pc	Tel Aviv	64	54	ra
Berlin	40	36	pc	Frankfurt	43	31	s	Kinshasa	94	73	mc	Panama	87	75	ra	Tokyo	49	39	pc
Bermuda	68	65	ra	Freetown	86	76	mc	Kyiv	45	39	cl	Paris	13	-15	pc	Toronto	27	4	s
Bogota	66	52	ra	Guadalajara	83	53	s	Lima	75	71	cl	Quebec	13	-15	pc	Vancouver	39	35	sn
Brussels	43	31	s	Guayaquil	87	73	ra	Lisbon	62	51	pc	Quito	64	49	ra	Vienna	42	33	s
Budapest	45	36	s	Havana	82	72	pc	London	43	41	cl	Reykjavik	48	37	rs	Vladivostok	12	10	s
Buenos Aires	85	73	s	Helsinki	34	31	mc	Madrid	55	37	s	Rio de Janeiro	87	75	ra	Warsaw	39	35	cl
Cairo	70	53	pc	Hong Kong	68	64	mc	Manila	87	78	mc	Rome	58	47	pc				

NY doctor indicted in La. for prescribing abortion pill

Arrest warrant has been issued; NY gov says she will 'never, under any circumstances' allow extradition to Louisiana

BY SARA CLINE AND GEOFF MULVIHILL ASSOCIATED PRESS

BATON ROUGE, La. — An arrest warrant has been issued for a New York doctor indicted on Friday by a Louisiana grand jury for allegedly prescribing abortion pills online to a pregnant minor in the Deep South state, which has one of the strictest near-total abortion bans in the country.

Grand jurors at the District Court for the Parish of West Baton Rouge unanimously issued an indictment against Dr. Margaret Carpenter, her company, Nightingale Medical, PC, and the minor's mother. All three were charged with criminal abortion by means of abortion-inducing drugs, a felony.

In addition to Carpenter, an arrest warrant was issued for the mother, who has not been publicly identified to protect the identity of the minor. District Attorney Tony Clayton told The Associated Press that the mother turned herself in to police on Friday.

The case appears to be the first instance of criminal charges against a doctor accused of sending abortion pills to another state, at least since the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade in 2022 and opened the door for states to have strict anti-abortion laws.

"We expect Dr. Carpenter to come to Louisiana and answer to these charges, and if 12 people (a jury) think she's innocent then, let it go," Clayton said.

New York Gov. Kathy Hochul said in a video posted on social media, "I will never, under any circumstances, turn this doctor over to the state of Louisiana under any extradition requests," signaling a potential legal battle between the states.

Last year, the Port Allen, Louisiana, woman requested abortion medication online from Carpenter for her daughter, whose age has not been specified. Clayton said the request was made through a questionnaire only and no consultation with the girl.

A "cocktail of pills" was mailed to the woman who directed her daughter to take the pill, Clayton said.

After taking the drug, the girl experienced a medical emergency while alone, called 911 and was transported to the hospital where

she was treated. While responding to the emergency, a police officer learned about the pills and under further investigation found that a doctor in New York state had supplied the drugs and turned their findings over to Clayton's office.

It is unclear how far along the girl was in her pregnancy.

"The (adult) mother has since been arrested, but the other person we believe is just as culpable here is the person who sat in an office, wrapped a box of pills, put a stamp on the box and mailed it to the state of Louisiana for a child to take," Clayton said.

Carpenter was sued in December by the Texas attorney general under similar allegations of sending pills to that state. That case did not involve criminal charges.

Carpenter did not immediately return a message from the AP.

The indictment comes just months after Louisiana became the first state with a law reclassifying both mifepristone and misoprostol as "controlled dangerous substances." The drugs are still allowed, but medical personnel must take extra steps to access them.

Under the legislation, if someone knowingly possesses either medication without a valid pre-

scription, they could be fined up to \$5,000 and sent to jail for one to five years. The law carves out protections for pregnant women who obtain the drug without a prescription to take on their own.

"I have said it before and I will say it again: We will hold individuals accountable for breaking the law," Louisiana Attorney General Liz Murrill, a Republican, said in a statement on Friday.

Abortion opponents and reproductive rights groups alike flooded social media scrutinizing the indictment.

"We cannot continue to allow forced birth extremists to interfere with our ability to access necessary healthcare, Chasity Wilson, executive director of the Louisiana Abortion Fund, said in a statement. "Extremists hope this case will cause a chilling effect, further tying the hands of doctors who took an oath to care for their patients."

Since the fall of Roe v. Wade, Louisiana has had a near-total abortion ban, without any exceptions for rape or incest. Under the law, physicians convicted of performing an illegal abortion, including one with pills, face up to 15 years in prison, \$200,000 in fines and the loss of their medical license.

"Make no mistake, since Roe v Wade was overturned, we've

witnessed a disturbing pattern of interference with women's rights," the Abortion Coalition of Telemedicine, where Carpenter is one of the founders, said in a statement. "It's no secret the United States has a history of violence and harassment against abortion providers, and this state-sponsored effort to prosecute a doctor providing safe and effective care should alarm everyone."

Friday's indictment could be the first direct test of New York's shield laws, which are intended to protect prescribers who use telehealth to provide abortion pills to patients in states where abortion is banned. New York Attorney General Letitia James said "we will not allow bad actors to undermine our providers' ability to deliver critical care."

"This cowardly attempt out of Louisiana to weaponize the law against out-of-state providers is unjust and un-American," James added.

Pills have become the most common means of abortion in the U.S., accounting for nearly two-thirds of them by 2023. They're also at the center of political and legal action over abortion. In January, a judge let three states continue to challenge federal government approvals for how one of the drugs usually involved can be prescribed.

'Heartbreaking' search for those killed in DC air crash

Black box from the Army helicopter that collided with jet has been recovered

BY LINDSAY WHITEHURST, ZEKE MILLER, CLAUDIA LAUER AND ADRIANA GOMEZ LICON ASSOCIATED PRESS

ARLINGTON, Va. — Police boats combed the banks of the Potomac River on Friday, slowly scanning the shoreline in the rain as investigators sought clues into the midair collision that killed 67 people and raised questions about air traffic safety around the nation's capital.

The black box from the Army Black Hawk helicopter that collided with a commercial jetliner and crashed into the Potomac River has been recovered, investigators announced. They are reviewing that flight data recorder along with two recovered earlier from the jet.

No one survived the Wednesday night collision. The remains of 41 people had been pulled from the river as of Friday afternoon, including 28 that had been positively identified, Washington, D.C., Fire Chief John Donnelly Sr. said at a news conference. He said next of kin notifications had been made to 18 families, and he expects all the remains to be recovered.

The wreckage of the plane's fuselage will probably have to be pulled from the water to get all the bodies, he said.

"This is heartbreaking work," Donnelly said, noting that more than 300 responders were taking part in the effort at any one time, including teams of divers and two U.S. Coast



A member of a dive team and a Coast Guard vessel with a crane work near the wreckage of a Black Hawk helicopter in the Potomac River on Friday in Arlington, Va.

Guard cutters, at least one of which carries a crane. "It's been a tough response for a lot of our people."

It was unclear how long the recovery operation would take.

"We're working as fast as we can," Donnelly said. "We need your patience."

The American Airlines jet was carrying 60 passengers and four crew members. The helicopter had three soldiers on board.

Although Ronald Reagan National Airport reopened, two of its three runways remained closed to keep aircraft from flying over the crash scene, said Terry Liercke, the airport's vice president and manager. Roughly 100 flights were canceled Friday.

The Federal Aviation Administration also heavily restricted helicopter traffic around the airport, the Department of Transportation said in a statement, hours after President Donald Trump claimed in a social media post that the Army Black Hawk had been flying higher than allowed.

Investigators have recovered the cockpit voice recorder and flight data

recorder of the American Airlines jetliner, which collided with the chopper as the plane was coming in for a landing at the airport, which is just across the Potomac from Washington.

The flight data recorder was in good condition and its information was expected to be downloaded shortly, National Transportation Safety Board member Todd Inman told reporters. He said water entered the cockpit voice recorder, and while that's not unusual, it adds to investigators' work.

The helicopter's data, contained in a single black box, was at NTSB headquarters and appears to be undamaged, Inman said.

Investigators are examining the actions of the military pilot as well as air traffic control, after the helicopter apparently flew into the jet's path. NTSB investigations normally take at least a year, though investigators hope to have a preliminary report within 30 days.

Military aircraft frequently conduct such flights in and around the capital to practice routes they would fly if key government officials had to be quick-

ly moved during a major catastrophe or attack.

Other potential factors in the crash, including the helicopter's altitude and whether the crew was using night vision goggles, are still under investigation, Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth told Fox News Channel.

On Friday the Army released the names of two of the soldiers who died: Staff Sgt. Ryan Austin O'Hara, 28, of Lilburn, Georgia, the crew chief, and Chief Warrant Officer 2 Andrew Loyd Eaves, 39, of Great Mills, Maryland. Eaves was one of the pilots on the helicopter.

But in an unusual move, the name of the third soldier is not being released for now at the family's request, the Army said.

The FAA on Friday barred helicopters from flying over a roughly 6-mile stretch of the Potomac and parts of its shoreline, including over the airport, according to the Department of Transportation statement. The new limits exempt helicopters on emergency medical flights, active law enforcement and air defense missions, and carrying the president. They are expected to remain in place at least until the NTSB finishes its preliminary report.

Officials said flight conditions were clear as the jet arrived from Wichita, Kansas, carrying, among others, nine students and parents from Fairfax County, Virginia schools, a group of elite young figure skaters, their parents and coaches and a group of hunters.

Crash debris has drifted miles downriver.

Dean Naujoks, who routinely patrols the Potomac for the environmental group Waterkeeper Alliance, found floating debris

Thursday in a pair of shallow coves along the Maryland shore.

The wreckage included pages from a flight manual, part of the plane's cabin wall, a woman's sweater and dozens of sugar packets with the American Airlines logo. Naujoks, who had law enforcement permission to take his motorboat about 2 miles from the crash site, turned the items over to the FBI.

"Everything is covered in jet fuel," Naujoks said Friday. "The sugar packets made me think of the flight attendants. I'm thinking of the people these things belonged to, and it's a punch to the gut. It's just a sad day on the river."

According to an FAA report obtained by the AP, one air traffic controller was responsible for coordinating helicopter traffic and arriving and departing planes when the collision happened. Those duties are often divided between two people, but the airport typically combines them at 9:30 p.m., once traffic begins to slow down. On Wednesday, though, the tower supervisor combined them earlier, which the report called "not normal."

However, a person familiar with the matter said tower staffing that night was actually normal. The positions are regularly combined when controllers need to step away for breaks, shift changes or when traffic slows, the person said, speaking on the condition of anonymity to discuss internal procedures.

Inman said investigators had interviewed at least one air traffic controller working at the time of the crash. He said interviews were ongoing, and it was unclear how many controllers were

working at the time.

"Air traffic control interviews are critical," Inman said. "That's the reason why there's a process in place that began immediately after the accident."

Investigators will also examine staffing levels, training, hiring and other factors, in addition to looking at controllers' records.

The FAA has long struggled with a shortage of air traffic controllers.

Jonathan Koziol, chief of staff for Army aviation, said the helicopter crew was "very experienced" and familiar with the congested flying that occurs daily around the city.

The helicopter's maximum allowed altitude at the time was 200 feet, Koziol said. It was not immediately clear whether it exceeded that limit, but Hegseth said altitude seemed to be a factor in the collision.

A day after he questioned the helicopter pilot's actions and blamed diversity initiatives for undermining air safety, Trump said Friday that the helicopter was "flying too high."

"It was far above the 200 foot limit. That's not really too complicated to understand, is it???" Trump said in a post on the Truth Social platform.

Wednesday's crash was the deadliest in the U.S. since Nov. 12, 2001, when a jet slammed into a residential area of Belle Harbor, New York, just after takeoff from Kennedy Airport, killing all 260 people aboard and five people on the ground.

Experts often highlight that plane travel is overwhelmingly safe, but the crowded airspace around Reagan National can challenge even the most experienced pilots.

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Here are the types of opinions we feature:

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<p>The Opinion department is independent of the Journal's newsroom, with a separate mission and editor but the same standards for fact. Reporters are not involved and have no input in the editorial board. The purpose is to encourage debate about big ideas that a diverse democracy needs.</p>	<p>The Albuquerque Journal Community Council is a group of diverse and esteemed New Mexico leaders that advises the Journal Editorial Board, meets with community groups, and writes op-eds individually. These opinions represent that of the Community Council and not necessarily the Albuquerque Journal.</p>	<p>Columnists often take news stories and enhance the facts with personal opinions and panache. The Journal publishes syndicated columnists to provide a wide array of opinions on vast subject matter. The Journal pays for the right to reproduce these columns, but does not have control over the writers.</p>	<p>Columnists provide a wide array of perspectives on various issues affecting New Mexicans. Generally, columns are limited to 600 words, and authors are limited to one published submission every 90 days. Columns and letters to the editor should be uploaded via the "Send Letters" icon on the Opinion page at abqjournal.com.</p>	<p>Columns from Journal staff members are intended to share ideas and issue positions with readers, tapping into their unique insights and experiences. Journal columnists express their own viewpoints on various topics, and do not necessarily reflect the viewpoints of the Journal or its Editorial Board.</p>	<p>The purpose of letters to the editor is to give readers the opportunity to comment on the content in the paper and issues in the community. Letters to the Journal are read by decision makers, City Council members and legislators. The Journal believes there is value in providing readers with a voice. Letters must be signed, editors confirm the authors and there is a 300-word limit.</p>

BY KARLA EICKHOFF
Local Column

We need to change election rules so voters can break two-party gridlock

This legislative session, New Mexico will have the chance to improve our elections by opening the primaries to independent voters. Not only is it important to include this diverse and growing group of voters in such a crucial time of public decision-making, it's also the first step in loosening the grip that the insider politics of the two-party system hold on our elections.

There are a lot of reasons to feel dissatisfied with the two-party system. Maybe you think it doesn't produce candidates who are moderate enough. Maybe you think it doesn't produce Democrats who are progressive enough, or Republicans who are conservative enough. Or maybe you think it makes candidates talk about the wrong policies entirely.



Karla Eickhoff

No matter the prognosis from our various ideological stripes, we seem to agree on one thing: surely, we'd be better represented by something else.

Very often, we blame this on the two major parties being corrupt. We don't talk enough about why we can't seem to do anything about that corruption by voting. There's a real reason why every year so many people feel trapped between people who say you're a bad citizen if you don't support either option, or people who say you're a bad citizen if you do.

We political scientists call it Duverger's Law: a system with single-member districts and first-past-the-post voting will tend to produce a two-party system.

We see this in action every time a third party tries to break the pattern. If they get a little bit of support, such as the approximately 1% of the popular vote typically won by the Libertarian Party, then they're not fairly represented because they haven't won in any single district. If they get a lot of support, then they potentially spoil the vote, such as Teddy Roosevelt's 1912 third-party run that allowed Woodrow Wilson to take office with only 42% of the popular vote.

No matter how good a third-party run is, they won't have the chance to make policy because, as Duverger's Law shows, the rules prevent them.

But it doesn't have to be this way. Many proposed changes to voting rules could make the outcome more representative of our preferences. With ranked-choice voting, for example, we could designate a second-choice candidate, allowing us to vote authentically rather than just strategically.

A smaller change, which is well within reach, is opening primary elections to independent voters. Instead of just listening to party insiders, such a change would expand the pool of people whom candidates can campaign to during primary elections.

The New Mexico Legislature will be voting this session on a bill to do just that, and it's a great first step in making our elections serve us. Even without radical change to the two-party system, changing election rules in this simple way can make that system more responsible and fairer.

But it's more than just letting people vote fairly. Many people are rightfully angry at the government for the corruption, gridlock and cronyism that prevent it from addressing the issues that people care about. But these problems don't come from nowhere. They fester because they're the best way to get ahead in this election system.

If you want to help change these, and many other, problems, election reform is your way forward. Better elections will make it easier for voters to vote out corruption, instead of getting turned against each other by divisive rhetoric and demagoguery.

We can get mad at politicians for how they play their game. But the best way to get them to play differently is to change the rules.

Karla Eickhoff is a Ph.D. candidate in the political science department at the University of New Mexico.



BY JUDITH POLICH

CUTTING YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

Local Columnist

We can cut our carbon emissions with through our individual actions

I was just in central California right before the Los Angeles fires started. The effects of climate change are all around us. And the only solution is to dramatically cut down on the use of fossil fuels.

But how do we do that when our federal government seems to be taking the reverse tactic?

We do it by individual action. After all, it is our consumption that has caused the problem, and it is only our reduction in consumption of fossil fuels that will solve the problem. So, let's look at what the most effective actions individuals and households can take.

The first thing you need to know is: what is your carbon footprint? How much carbon and other greenhouse gases do you and your family put into the atmosphere every year?

There are several online carbon footprint calculators you can use like the EPA carbon calculator. However, I have found that the easiest way to track your carbon footprint is to use AI. AI is fast, reasonably accurate, can be very precise, and it's fun.

The first question I asked is what's the average carbon footprint for someone living in New Mexico. Sadly, it is about 16 tons of CO2 per year, one of the highest per capita in the world. New Mexico relies a lot on fossil fuels. We have limited public transportation and have carbon-heavy consumption habits.

The next question I asked was



Judith Polich

how much is this reduced if I have rooftop solar and generate all my electricity that way, and if I recycle, compost, and drive a small hybrid? These are the things I do now.

AI told me that electricity accounts for about 25% of a typical household's carbon footprint. If I generate my electricity from rooftop solar, I eliminate about 5 tons of CO2 per year. Like most of you, I recycle. That can reduce emissions by about half a ton. I also take my food waste to a composting facility and that reduces my emissions by another half ton.

Next to electrical use, one of the largest sources of our carbon footprint is our cars. A conventional gas engine produces about 4.6 tons of CO2 a year assuming it's driven about 12,000 miles. AI confirms that you can drop that by half or more with an efficient hybrid. If you have an electric vehicle and rooftop solar, you can drop it by a full 4.6 tons.

A large source of carbon emissions is airline travel. Some people must fly for work, but what about discretionary flights? You can get specific here. The average emissions per mile are 0.2 kilograms of CO2 per passenger per mile for domestic flights. A typical round-trip domestic flight would use about 0.5 tons of carbon. I try to keep my domestic flights limited to two a year; so that's about 1 ton of carbon per year. You can also buy offsets.

The other main thing that increases the U.S. average carbon footprint is what we eat. Beef and lamb are the most carbon-intensive proteins. That's because of the methane emissions produced by cattle and sheep, feed production,

and land use degradation involved in conventional agriculture.

The average American consumes about 58 pounds of beef a year. Unfortunately, I'm an average American. One way to cut this down is to eat more low-impact protein, like chicken and fish, that have a much lower emission impact. A vegetarian diet reduces food-related emissions by up to 50% and a vegan diet by up to 70%.

If you just can't give up beef, cut your portion size in half or less. The impact on your footprint can go from 0.71 tons of CO2 per year to 0.35 tons. And if you stick to a Mediterranean diet, you cut your food-related emissions 40% to 50% and improve your overall health.

What you buy also adds to your carbon footprint. If you buy used goods from any one of our great consignment stores, you reduce your carbon footprint. Used goods do not add much to your footprint.

Individual actions matter. If you have a well-insulated home and make thoughtful and cost-efficient changes, you can cut your carbon footprint in half. And there are still lots of federal and state rebates and tax credits and utility incentives available to help individuals and households transition to lower carbon. AI, like ChatGPT4, can make it fun, specifically tailored and cost-effective.

Our choices matter more than ever now.

Judith Polich is a retired attorney, a New Mexico resident, and a climate change columnist and author. Her website is: www.cuttingyourcarbonfootprint.com. She can be reached at judith.polich@gmail.com.

DENNIS THE MENACE



ZIGGY



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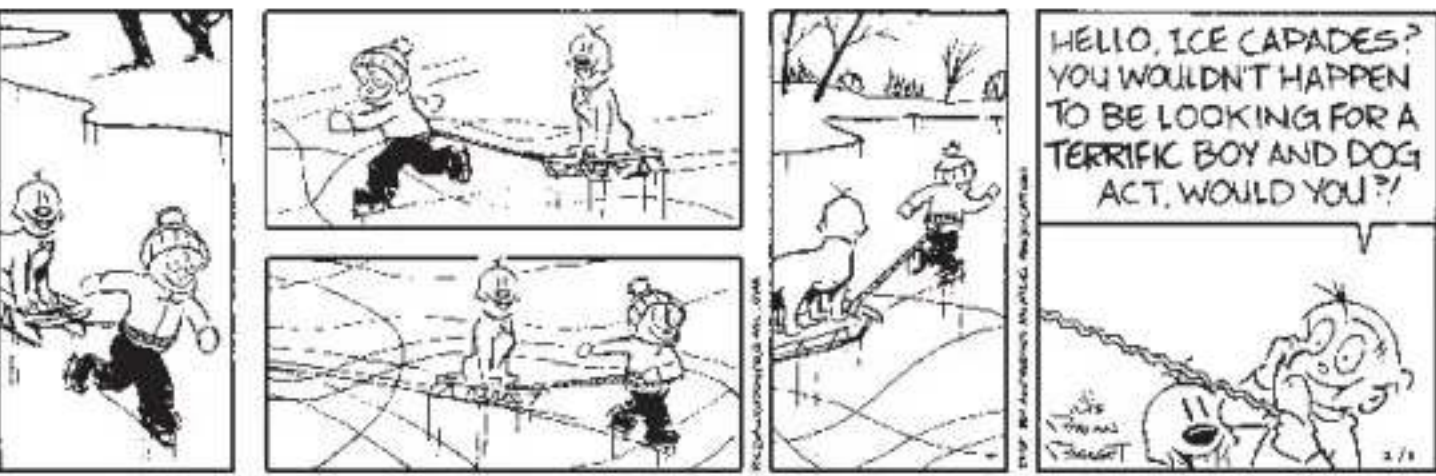
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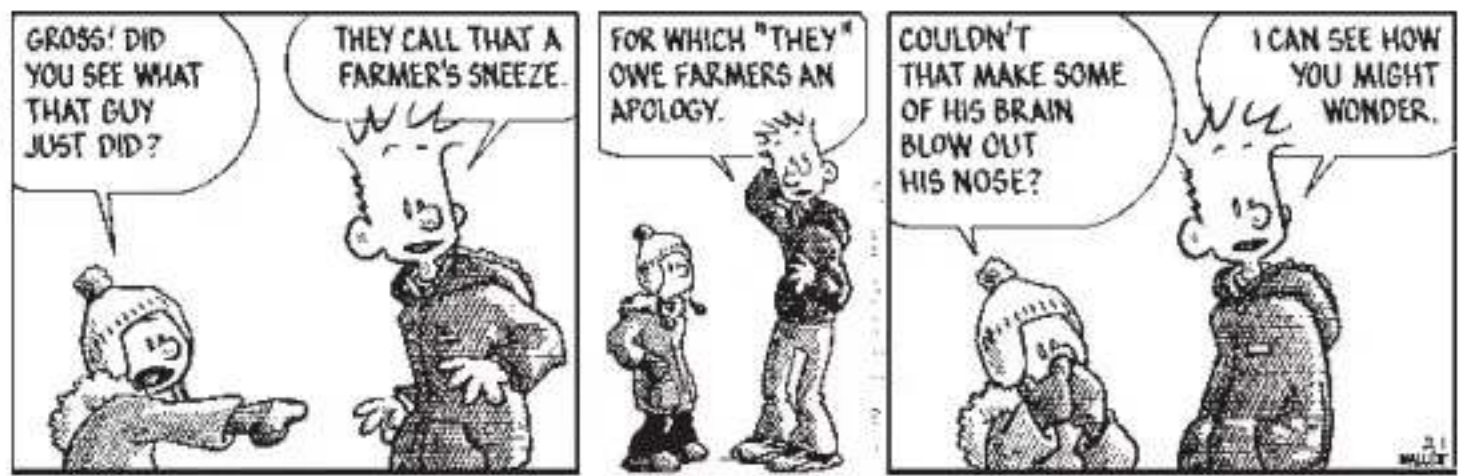
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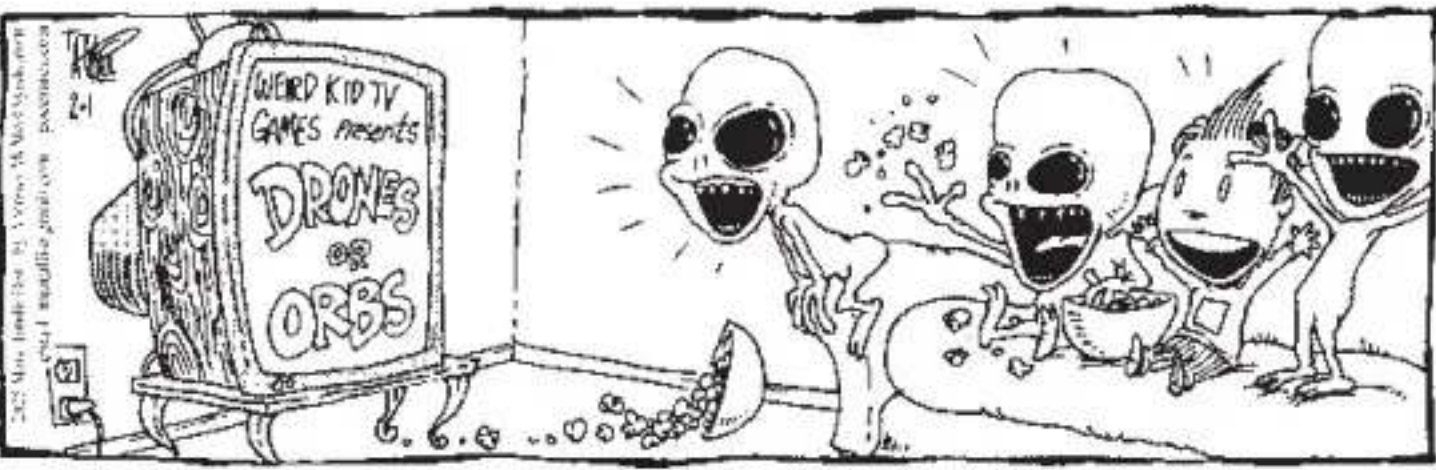
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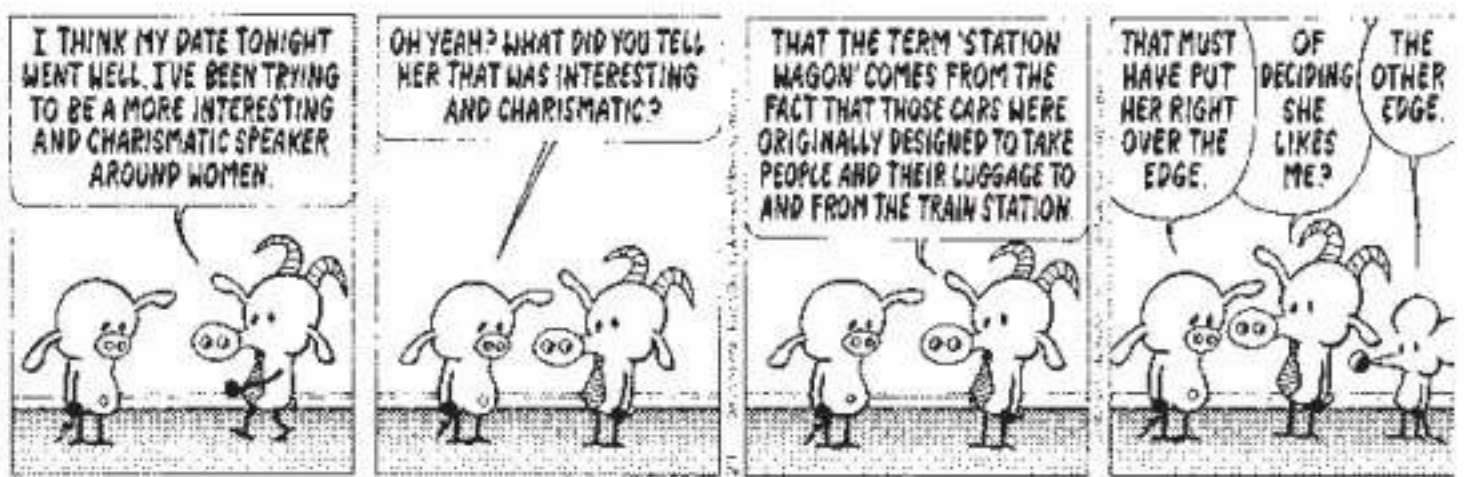
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UNM downplays 'big game' against Utah State



UNM center Nelly Junior Joseph, right, points to Fresno State forward Alex Crawford after a call is made against the Lobos during a Jan. 20 game in the Pit.

Lobos want to approach each game with same mentality

BY GEOFF GRAMMER
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

The latest Game of the Year in the Mountain West is Saturday night in Logan, Utah. For only the second time in the 26-season history of the Mountain West conference, two teams with 9-1 or better records are playing each other — the 9-1 New Mexico Lobos vs. the 9-1 Utah State Aggies in a nationally televised game (FS1), in a sold-out arena and in front of one of, if not THE best student sections in college basketball, The Hurd.

Saturday
New Mexico at Utah State, 7:30 p.m., FS1, 770 AM/96.3 FM
And to the winner goes sole possession of first place in the league standings. So, surely, Richard Pitino can see it in his player's attitudes at practice: They're fired up, right? "Not really," Pitino deadpanned when a local television reporter asked him about it on Friday morning. And he wasn't kidding. It's not that the Lobos aren't aware of what's on the line. But for every game a team gets "up" for, there is an acceptance, at least somewhere in their minds, that other games don't have the

same importance. Pitino knows emotional swings affect preparation and can have as much downside as upside. "We're all such prisoners of the moment, you know? Big game! Big game! Well, OK, but what's a bigger game? If we lost to Air Force or we lost to Utah State?" Pitino asked rhetorically. "I mean, they're, they're both really, really big in different types of ways, and they can both beat us, and we can beat both of them. "So, I just try not to get into all that. It's a long, long season. Ten games to go, conference tournament, whatever from

See MEN >> B2

PIN IT TO WIN IT



Sandia's Jaden Meadows, right, defeats Rio Grande's Glamour Rodriguez on Jan. 18 to win the 165-pound class of the Joe Vivian Classic at Volcano Vista High School.

Sandia's Jaden Meadows is 81-0, and none of her matches have gone the distance

BY JAMES YODICE
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

Jaden Meadows admits — with a modest smile — that her status on a wrestling mat carries symbolic weight. Her status is this: The Sandia junior is arguably New Mexico's best pound-for-pound girls wrestler. She is undefeated for her entire prep career, and is one of the state's most dominant athletes in any sport. Her Matadors career is basically comprised of short bursts of activity on the mat in the form of lightning-fast pins. She likes it that way. "That's kind of how I see it," she said. "It's, like, a challenge, to see how quick I can get in and get out. It

gives me an adrenaline rush." Meadows on Saturday will be chasing a title at 165 pounds during the Albuquerque Metro Championships at Rio Grande High School. Already this calendar year, she's bagged elite victories at the Conflict at Cleveland, and also the Joe Vivian Classic. And it's not just Meadows' 17-0 record this season that stands out. And it's not entirely about her 81-0 overall record since she arrived at Sandia, including 26-0 as a freshman and 38-0 last season. The journey for Meadows has been as impressive as the destination. She's won every one of her eight state tournament matches by pin,

for example, none of them lasting longer than 101 seconds. This is standard for Meadows. She has never been involved in a prep match that reached the third period. Asked how many of her matches even reached the second period, Meadows paused. "Maybe two?" she finally said. She wasn't completely sure. The last time Meadows lost to anyone, anywhere, was in Tulsa, Oklahoma, she said, when she was an eighth-grader. But she's not missed a beat in her nearly three seasons. With a combination of power, experience and

See MEADOWS >> B3



UNM's Joana Magalhães, left, tries to drive past Fresno State's Danae Powell during last Saturday's game in the Pit.

Lobo women, rival Aztecs set to tip off MW second half

San Diego State 'coming in hot' after win over first-place UNLV

BY KENSICKENGER
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

College basketball's lengthy season is often compared to a horse race with February as the home stretch. It's a fitting way to view the Mountain West women's race, which tips off its second half Saturday with numerous teams jockeying for position. That includes third-place New Mexico and seventh-place San Diego State, who will renew their longtime rivalry in the Pit. It's a key matchup for both teams. UNM (13-9, 6-3) got off to a strong start in league play but is coming off back-to-back losses in which second-half leads evaporated. SDSU (15-7, 4-5) stumbled out of the gate but has renewed hopes of a second-half charge after knocking off first-place UNLV last Saturday. The Lobos took round one of this year's annual war with the Aztecs, winning 68-59 on Jan. 4 at Viejas Arena. Saturday's rematch will be the 79th meeting between the programs (UNM leads 42-36 overall), and New Mexico coach Mike Bradbury expects another hard-fought, physical battle. "They're playing some different people since the last time we saw them," he said of the Aztecs, "and they're coming in hot. Their conference schedule has been front-loaded kind of like ours was last

See WOMEN >> B2

Saturday
San Diego State at New Mexico, 2 p.m., 610 AM/95.9 FM, themw.com (streaming)



Greg Jones is safe after stealing second base during a Mariachis de Nuevo Mexico game against Tacoma at Isotopes Park last July. The Isotopes will play six games as the Mariachis de Nuevo México in 2025.

Isotopes announce 2025 promotional schedule

Lopez to return for third season as Albuquerque's manager

BY SEAN REIDER
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

The Albuquerque Isotopes announced their 2025 promotional schedule Friday, featuring 47 games with promotions ranging from dollar hot dogs to Dukes Retro Night. The Triple-A franchise will play six games as the Mariachis de Nuevo México and host 16 postgame fireworks shows with 14 giveaways spread across the calendar. Theme nights such as Green Chile Cheeseburgers Night (July

19) also return to the schedule. The Isotopes play home games on Easter, Father's Day and the Fourth of July. Individual game tickets can be purchased starting Feb. 24. Promotions and corresponding dates could be subject to change. Fans interested in going to all six of the Isotopes' well-attended Mariachis de Nuevo México games — and taking part in select giveaways — can purchase a Mariachis "6-pack" starting on Feb. 12. The package, which ensures a seat at all six of the regularly sold-out Mariachis nights, costs \$145; this season's Mariachis giveaways include ponchos (April 5), jerseys (May 4) and low rider

bobbleheads (July 5) on the wildly popular Lowriders Night. Other giveaways include Orbit beanies on Opening Night (April 1), cowbells as part of Country Night (May 30), hats on Pride Night (June 1) and lunch bags (Aug. 3). Over 20 other games will also have unique themes such as First Responders Night and Nacho Average Wednesday. Dukes Retro Night — one of the most popular themes — will be Aug. 2. An induction ceremony for the newest members of the Albuquerque Baseball Hall of Fame will be held before the game.

See ISOTOPES >> B3

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COLLEGE TENNIS

UNM women's tennis readies for home opener

New coach takes over Lobo men's squad

BY GLEN ROSALES
FOR THE JOURNAL

The New Mexico women's tennis team last year recorded one of its best seasons of the past couple of decades.

In doing so, the Lobos learned that not only is each overall match crucial, but that every individual match, and even every point can determine the ultimate outcome, said coach Vicky Maes.

"We didn't expect to win as many matches as we did last year," she said. "We just did. We just won a few crucial points that we didn't win, say the year before that. And that made all the difference."

Heading into this weekend's trio of matches against Western New Mexico, CSU Pueblo and Gonzaga to open the home season, here are a few things to know about the Lobos (0-2), who are the defending regular-season Mountain West champs.

ONE UP: New Mexico finished 19-3 last season, its best record since going 20-5 in 2005. It's also the first time the Lobos finished above .500 since 2019. Remarkably, the Lobos went 7-1 in matches decided by one individual match (a 4-3 final score).

"The Mountain West conference is very competitive," Maes said. "If you look at the winners of the last four years, they're always different teams. It's not always the same outstanding team. So I think that's what makes the conference so great is that everyone has a chance to win it. All you've got to do is create a little bit of momentum, get a little bit lucky here and there, stay healthy and just never really quit."

'NEW AND DIFFERENT': This is a fairly new squad that will see incoming transfers playing large roles and holdovers looking to



The 2024-25 UNM women's tennis team, from left: Sofia Taborga, Rebekkah Gaines, Maria Sodre, Maud Vandeputte, Bente Vandeputte, Maria Matsoukatidi, Allison Romero, Sarah O'Connor



The 2024-25 UNM men's tennis team, from left (back row), head coach Rob Bareford, Aditya Balsekar, Daniil Kakhniuk, Nicolas Recoura, Avery Tallakson, Connor Dils, assistant coach Nico Acevedo; and from left (front row), Dario Ciobotaru, Philip Bosin, Aram Noroozian and Georgio Samaha.

step up as last year's top player, as well as two others in the top five are gone. Two other players who were expected to contribute have significant injuries and won't play. That means players such as Sofia Taborga from Brazil, and Eldorado grad Allison Romero —

both seniors — are going to have to make bigger contributions after sitting most of their careers. And Maud Vandeputte of Belgium will move way up the ladder.

"I think the returners were worried that this year wasn't going to be like (last year), but now they see

If you go

UNM women's tennis plays three matches against three different opponents this weekend at home. Matches will be in the Linda Estes Tennis Center Indoor Bubbles on the UNM campus.

SATURDAY: 10 a.m. vs. Western New Mexico

SATURDAY: 1 p.m. vs. CSU-Pueblo

SUNDAY: 11 a.m. vs. Gonzaga

they're a new team," Maes said. "They have new talent. Their talent has changed. New people have to be willing to step up and to be put in that kind of role of responsibility, and I think the girls have responded very well. And while our culture is the same and our requirements, our expectations are the same, as a whole the talent level and where we're at is a different thing, but everyone's embraced that. It's not necessarily like, 'Oh, we're not going to be as good.' It's more like, 'Oh, we're new and different, and we got to figure out how to be just as good.'"

GLOBAL IMPACT: International flavor is big for the Lobos as seven of the nine players are from outside the United States, with two freshmen — Maria Matsoukatidi from Greece and Couma Ben from Mali — expected to join Vandeputte and Taborga as regulars in the lineup. Vandeputte's sister, Bente Vandeputte, is also expected to have an impact.

BIGGAINES: Finally, Rebekkah Gaines, a transfer from Florida A&M, will slide into the No. 1 singles role and should carry a significant load moving forward.

UNM men's tennis

Coach Rob Bareford takes the helm of the Lobo men's tennis team after moving over from Montana State. Bareford also had a tenure at Radford, leading the Highlanders to two NCAA tournaments and had a doubles squad reach the NCAA quarterfinals.

Here are a few things to know about the men's team, whose first home matches come March 7 and 9 against Wichita State and Santa Clara.

LINEUP TWEAKS: New Mexico's top two players transferred to other schools, leaving the top of the lineup wide open. But the Lobos were able to lure Aditya Balsekar of India, who helped Radford reach the NCAA's several years ago under Bareford; and Dario Ciobotaru of Romania came along with Bareford from Montana State.

CLOSE TO HOME: The local connection is strong for the Lobos as Eldorado alum Georgio Samaha has been a fixture in the lineup entering his junior season. And freshman Connor Dils out of Albuquerque Academy is the son of longtime Lobos assistant coach Loren Dils and nephew of longtime head coach Alan Dils. Redshirt freshman Philip Bosin also is an Eldorado grad who saw time in both singles and doubles in the fall.

TOP 40? Bareford cites the program's potential for growth as the reason to join New Mexico.

"It's just an opportunity to not only do what I've always done, as far as winning conference championships, but also do more. Become top 40 in the country. That's the short-term goal," he said.

How soon that occurs will depend on how soon the program coalesces.

"I mean, yeah, that would be great," he said of reaching that lofty goal this season, especially with the defections. But the transfers that came in should shore up the roster. "So yeah, I got a familiar couple of faces. And I've coached against these guys (the Lobos) before. When we hosted regionals in the fall of 2022, I coached against them in singles and doubles. So I'm also familiar on the opposite side of the court for some of the guys in the team."

Full promotional/giveaway schedule

- Tuesday, April 1:** Orbit beanies giveaway
- Friday, April 4:** Magnet schedules giveaway
- Saturday, April 5:** Mariachis de Nuevo México and Mariachis ponchos giveaway
- Sunday, April 6:** Bark in the Park
- Tuesday, April 15:** Jackie Robinson Night
- Friday, April 18:** Malmö Oat Milklers Night
- Saturday, April 19:** Flag giveaway and fireworks
- Sunday, April 20:** Pregame Easter candy hunt on the field
- Tuesday, April 29:** Dollar Dog Night
- Friday, May 2 and Saturday, May 3:** Little League Night with fireworks
- Sunday, May 4:** Mariachis de Nuevo México and adult Mariachis jerseys giveaway
- Thursday, May 15:** Asian American Pacific Islander Night
- Friday, May 16 and Saturday, May 17:** Little League Night and fireworks
- Sunday, May 18:** Salute to Services
- Friday, May 30:** Country Night with pregame concert and cowbell giveaway
- Saturday, May 31:** Science Night and fireworks
- Sunday, June 1:** Pride Night and hat giveaway
- Friday, June 13:** Hat giveaway
- Saturday, June 14:** Mariachis de Nuevo México and fireworks
- Sunday, June 15:** Father's Day pregame catch on the field and Juneteenth celebration with fireworks
- Tuesday, July 1:** Taco Tuesday
- Thursday, July 3:** Fireworks
- Friday, July 4:** Independence Day and fireworks

- Saturday, July 5:** Mariachis de Nuevo México and Lowrider Night with low rider bobbleheads giveaway
- Sunday, July 6:** Orbit's Birthday Celebration
- Friday, July 18:** First Responders Night
- Saturday, July 19:** Green Chile Cheeseburgers Night with fireworks
- Tuesday, July 29:** Dollar Dog Night
- Friday, Aug. 1:** Stand Up to Cancer Night and jumbo Softee baseballs giveaway
- Saturday, Aug. 2:** Dukes Retro Night and Albuquerque Professional Baseball Hall of Fame pregame induction ceremony with fireworks
- Sunday, Aug. 3:** Lunch bags giveaway
- Thursday, Aug. 7:** Magazines giveaway
- Friday, Aug. 8:** Native American Heritage Night
- Saturday, Aug. 9:** Mariachis de Nuevo México and Tamalewood Night with fireworks
- Sunday, Aug. 10:** Faith and Family Night
- Wednesday, Aug. 20:** Nacho Average Wednesday
- Friday, Aug. 22:** Deaf Culture Night and Orbit vinyl figurines giveaway
- Saturday, Aug. 23:** Fireworks
- Thursday, Sept. 4:** Women in Sports Night
- Saturday, Sept. 6:** Looney Tunes Day/Saturday Morning Cartoons
- Sunday, Sept. 7:** Bark in the Park
- Thursday, Sept. 18:** School Day Matinee
- Friday, Sept. 19:** Fireworks
- Saturday, Sept. 20:** Little League Night with fireworks
- Sunday, Sept. 21:** Mariachis de Nuevo México and adult Mariachis jersey giveaway with fireworks

ISOTOPES >>

From PAGE B1

Coaching staff

Isotopes manager Pedro Lopez and the rest of his coaching staff will return this season, the team announced Friday.

Previously the Isotopes hitting (2021) and bench coach (2022), Lopez holds a 135-164 record entering his third season with the team. He will be joined by hitting coach Jordan Pacheco, pitching coach Chris Michalak and bench coach Michael Ryan.

A former catcher in the San Diego Padres, Milwaukee Brewers and Houston Astros organizations, Lopez has a 1,105-1,151 record in more than 20 seasons as a manager.

He was promoted in February 2023 to his role as the eighth manager in Isotopes franchise history, replacing current Colorado Rockies third base and infield coach Warren Schaeffer.

Lopez's first team struggled out the gate to a 27-48 record (last in the Pacific Coast League) before a 41-34 second half set up a 68-82

finish. In 2024, Albuquerque put together a nearly identical season, struggling in the first half before finishing strong for a 67-82 record.

Pacheco, an Albuquerque native, La Cueva High School graduate and former UNM baseball player, is entering his fourth season as the Isotopes hitting coach. In his three seasons with the club, Albuquerque has finished among the PCL's top four in batting average and home runs, including a league-leading 240 homers in 2022.

Michalak, a former pitcher for the Albuquerque Dukes and Isotopes, will return for his third season as the club's pitching coach. Albuquerque finished second-to-last or last in team ERA in his first two seasons with the club.

Ryan is entering his second season as Albuquerque's bench coach after coaching and managing in the Pittsburgh Pirates and Chicago Cubs organizations.

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MEADOWS >>

From PAGE B1

technique, skill sets she's been honing since she was 5, Meadows has yet to face a single girl in the state who can compete with her.

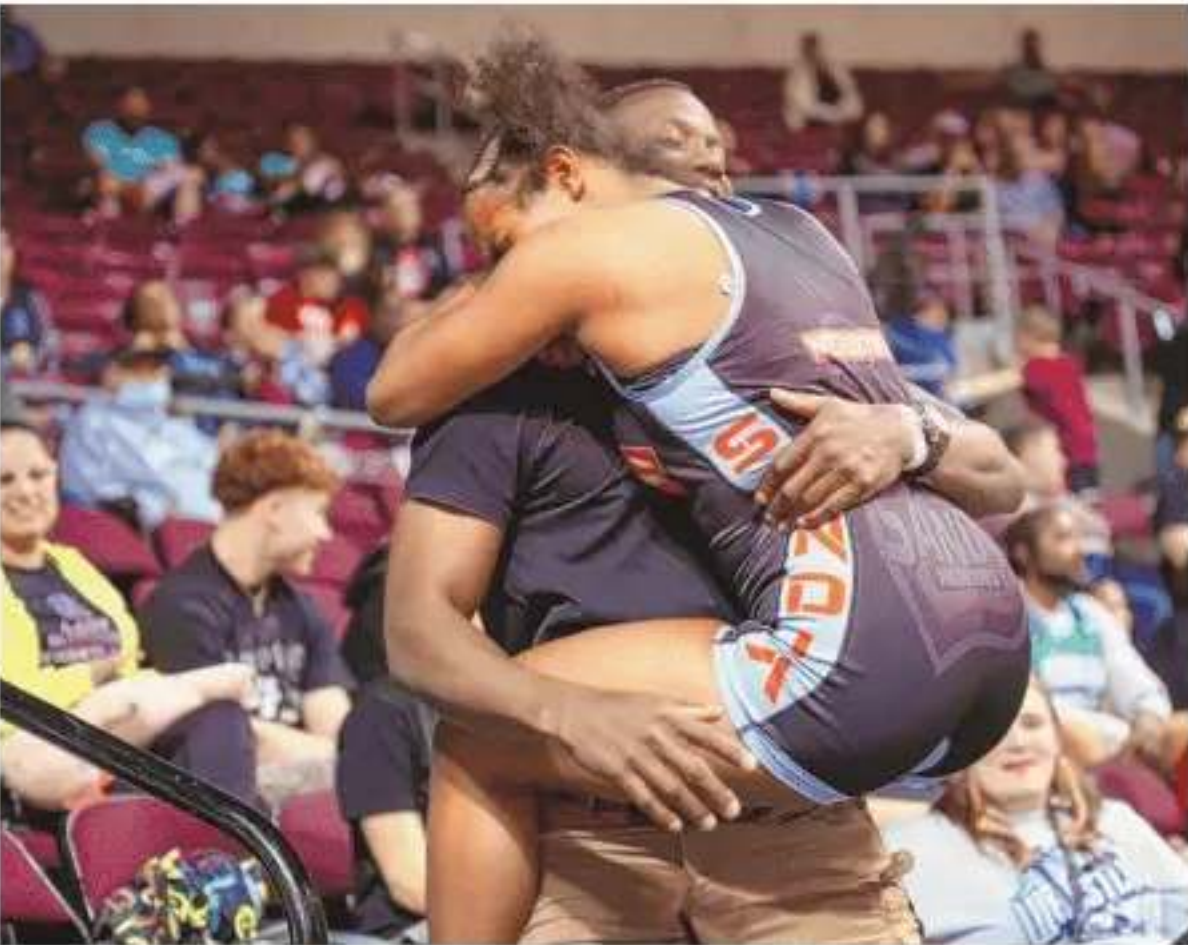
Might that change on Saturday?

Cleveland junior Eloise Woolsey, who also is undefeated this season (27-0), is moving up in weight to 165 pounds for metros which is sure to put her on a literal collision course with Meadows. Woolsey, a transfer from Hawaii, has won other major events, like the Conflict at Cleveland, plus big events in Missouri and Arizona, at lighter weights, specifically 152 pounds.

One metro-area coach rated Meadows and Woolsey as the two best girls in the state, in any weight class.

"When it's time, when she's pushed, that's when she'll flip the switch. Nobody's made her flip the switch yet," said Sandia girls wrestling coach Abby Eucker. "It's the match everybody wants to watch."

Meadows started wrestling at age 5, inspired by her older brother Jameer. She said one day, they were picking him up from practice, where he was involved in a



Sandia's Jaden Meadows hugs her father, Dominique Meadows, after winning the girls 152-pound championship match at the 2024 NMAA state wrestling tournament in the Rio Rancho Events Center.

King of the Mat competition, and Jaden decided to give it a try. She actually won a couple of matches against boys, she said.

"He's the main reason I got into it," Jaden said. "I guess I just wanted to follow in his footsteps, to show that girls can actually wrestle and that it's not just a boys sport. Even though back then it

was all boys. You rarely saw any girls."

Girls wrestling became an official New Mexico Activities Association sport in 2019-20. This is its sixth season. Based on data from NMAA Associate Director Scott Owen, there were 75 to 100 girls the first season and 833 this season, he said, which is roughly

an 800% increase in participation numbers.

Albuquerque Public Schools said it didn't yet have the number of girls wrestling participants for this season. It was 156 last year, APS said.

Meadows said she once had a passion to be the "face of New Mexico (girls wrestling)" and now she is one of the most prominent names in the sport.

"I want to bring attention to girls, show that girls can also dominate in a male-dominated sport," she said.

What most appeals to her about wrestling, Meadows said, is the sense of individual responsibility and accountability, the notion that your success is not tied to the performance of others.

She often had to compete against boys as a young girl, and Meadows said she would like to see more girls join the sport. Not many girls have the same dozen years behind them that Meadows already has, which is one reason why she felt she'd excel at Sandia.

"I kind of figured I'd be able to dominate," she said.

She won state at 152 pounds as a freshman and sophomore, and said she's leaning toward dropping back down to 152 for her senior season. Meadows said

her ambition is to complete four years of high school competition with the Matadors without a loss. She also plays volleyball and runs some track, and hopes that those other two sports will help her shed the weight needed to return to 152 next winter.

"She's strong, she's smart, she's one of those girls where, they're coming for (her)," Eucker said. "It's (her) match to lose."

Meadows does hope to land a college wrestling scholarship, although that situation remains fluid with a relatively limited number of Division I programs. There are only about five dozen schools that offer D-1 women's wrestling.

But the number has risen sharply in recent years, giving Meadows belief that girls in New Mexico who previously shunned wrestling might change their mind.

"Now girls are seeing other girls wrestling, and they're, like, 'Let's try it.' It's a pretty good sport, if you're an individual person," she said. "Here it needs to grow a whole lot. ... It's not just for boys. They don't have to be scared."

James Yodice covers high school sports for the Journal. You can reach him at jyodice@abqjournal.com.

QUICK HITS

JOURNAL WIRE REPORTS

Cowboys hire Adams as OC

DALLAS — The Dallas Cowboys hired Klayton Adams as their offensive coordinator on Friday.

Adams, who was the offensive line coach for Arizona the past two seasons, utilized run schemes extensively with the Cardinals.

In 2024, Arizona finished seventh in rushing yards (2,451) and yards per game (144.2). The previous season, the Cardinals were fourth in rushing yards (2,365) and yards per game (139.1).

JETS: New York has hired Detroit Lions passing game coordinator Tanner Engstrand as their offensive coordinator and Denver Broncos assistant special teams coach Chris Banjo as their special teams coordinator.

BUCCANEERS: Tampa Bay promoted pass game coordinator Josh Grizzard to offensive coordinator, replacing Liam Coen.

Straka leads by 3 at Pebble Beach

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. — Sepp Straka beat most of the weather and shot another 65 to build a three-shot lead in the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am.

He got a preview late in his round of what to expect this weekend when temperatures dropped and wind increased.

Rory McIlroy had four bogeys in a six-hole stretch and salvaged his round of 70 with an eagle on the final hole. He was six behind.

Scottie Scheffler saved par from the beach on the 18th hole and shot 70. He was seven back.

LPGA: A Lim Kim shot 69 on Friday at the Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament of Champions, the LGPA Tour season opener, for a two-day total of 10-under 134 and a three-shot lead over Linn Grant (67). Nelly Korda was even par through her first 22 holes, shot 6 under from there for a 67 and is four shots behind Kim.

Rangers get Miller from Canucks

The New York Rangers have acquired veteran center J.T. Miller from Vancouver in a multiplayer deal.

The Rangers sent center Filip Chytil, defenseman Victor Mancini and a conditional draft pick to the Canucks.

New York also received defensemen Jackson Dorrington and Erik Brannstrom.

The Canucks were expected to trade either Miller or Elias Pettersson after a reported rift between the two stars. Miller was a last-minute scratch before Vancouver's game at Dallas on Friday night, and the teams announced the deal during the game.

The 31-year-old Miller was drafted by the Rangers and played for New York for six seasons before being dealt to Tampa Bay in 2018.

Mercury acquire Sabally in trade

Satou Sabally is heading to the Phoenix Mercury as part of a three-team trade. That's according to a person familiar with the deal who spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity Friday because the deal hadn't been announced.

The Dallas Wings received Ty Harris and Kiki Herbert Harrigan from the Mercury as well as NaLyssa Smith and the No. 8 overall draft pick from Indiana.

The Fever will acquire Sophie Cunningham and Phoenix's second-round pick. The Mercury also will get Kalani Brown and Sevgi Uzun from the Wings.

AROUND TOWN

PREP BOYS BASKETBALL
West Mesa at Albuquerque Academy, 2 p.m.
Cottonwood Classical Prep at East Mountain, 2 p.m.
PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL
Cottonwood Classical Prep at East Mountain, 12:30 p.m.
Del Norte at West Mesa, 2 p.m.
Jemez Valley at Legacy Academy, 2 p.m.
Chaparral at Valencia, 4 p.m.
Oak Grove Classical at NACA/Evangel Christian, 6:30 p.m.
PREP BOYS/GIRLS WRESTLING
Albuquerque Metro Championships at Rio Grande, all day, finals scheduled approximately 5 p.m.

FOOTBALL

NFL PLAYOFFS
Wild-card Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 11
Houston 32, L.A. Chargers 12
Baltimore 28, Pittsburgh 14
Sunday, Jan. 12
Buffalo 31, Denver 7
Philadelphia 22, Green Bay 10
Washington 23, Tampa Bay 20
Monday, Jan. 13
L.A. Rams 27, Minnesota 9
Divisional Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 18
Kansas City 23, Houston 14
Washington 45, Detroit 31
Sunday, Jan. 19
Philadelphia 28, L.A. Rams 22
Buffalo 27, Baltimore 25
Conference Championships
Sunday, Jan. 26
AFC
Kansas City 32, Buffalo 29
NFC
Philadelphia 55, Washington 23
Super Bowl LIX
Sunday, Feb. 9
At New Orleans
Kansas City vs. Philadelphia, 4:30 p.m. (FOX)

BASKETBALL

NBA STANDINGS					
EASTERN CONFERENCE					
	W	L	Pct	GB	
Atlantic	34	15	.694		
Boston	34	15	.694		
New York	32	16	.667	1½	
Philadelphia	19	28	.404	14	
Toronto	15	33	.313	18½	
Brooklyn	15	33	.313	18½	
Southeast					
	W	L	Pct	GB	
Miami	23	23	.500		
Orlando	24	26	.490	½	
Atlanta	22	26	.458	2	
Charlotte	12	33	.267	10½	
Washington	6	41	.128	17½	
Central					
	W	L	Pct	GB	
Cleveland	39	9	.813		
Milwaukee	26	20	.565	12	
Indiana	26	20	.565	12	
Detroit	24	24	.500	15	
Chicago	21	28	.429	18½	
WESTERN CONFERENCE					
	W	L	Pct	GB	
Southwest	32	15	.681		
Houston	32	15	.681		
Memphis	23	16	.667	½	
Dallas	26	23	.531	7	
San Antonio	21	24	.467	10	
New Orleans	12	37	.245	21	
Northwest					
	W	L	Pct	GB	
Oklahoma City	37	9	.804		
Denver	29	19	.604	9	
Minnesota	27	21	.563	11	
Portland	19	29	.396	19	
Utah	10	36	.217	27	
Pacific					
	W	L	Pct	GB	
L.A. Lakers	27	19	.587		
L.A. Clippers	28	20	.583		
Phoenix	22	22	.500	3	
Sacramento	24	23	.511	3½	
Golden State	24	23	.511	3½	

Thursday's Games
Cleveland 137, Atlanta 115
L.A. Lakers 134, Washington 96
Minnesota 138, Utah 113
Memphis 120, Houston 119
Portland 119, Orlando 90
Friday's Games
Detroit 117, Dallas 102
L.A. Clippers 112, Charlotte 104
Chicago 122, Toronto 106
Denver 137, Phila. 134
Phoenix 118, New Orleans 116
San Antonio 144, Milwaukee 118
Phoenix at Golden State, late
Saturday's Games
Atlanta at Indiana, 3 p.m.
Orlando at Utah, 3 p.m.
Denver at Charlotte, 5 p.m.
Brooklyn at Houston, 6 p.m.
Sacramento at Oklahoma City, 6 p.m.
Washington at Minnesota, 6 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at New York, 6:30 p.m.
Miami at San Antonio, 6:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Portland, 8 p.m.

Sunday's Games
Chicago at Detroit, 1 p.m.
Dallas at Cleveland, 1:30 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Toronto, 1:30 p.m.
Boston at Phila., 4 p.m.
Memphis at Milwaukee, 6:30 p.m.

PISTONS 117, MAVERICKS 102 DALLAS (102)
K.Thompson 5-10 0-0 13, Washington 8-17 2-2 22, Gafford 6-8 4-6 16, Dinwiddie 2-7 1-2 5, Irving 9-23 7-7 28, Edwards 2-0 0-0 0, Marshall 3-9 0-0 7, Prosper 1-3 2-2 4, Kelley 2-3 0-0 4, Exum 1-2 1-2 3, Grimes 0-1 0-0 0, Hardy 0-2 0-0 0, Totals 37-87 17-21 102.

DETROIT (117)
A.Thompson 1-4 0-0 2, Harris 7-12 2-2 17, Duren 6-8 4-5 16, Cunningham 17-30 3-3 40, Hardaway Jr. 3-10 1-2 9, Fontecchio 1-6 2-2 4, Holland II 2-8 0-0 4, Clintman 2-0 0-0 0, Reed 3-7 0-0 6, Beasley 3-9 0-0 9, Moore Jr. 0-0 0-0 0, Sasser 4-10 2-2 10, Totals 47-106 14-16 117.

Dallas 32 26 27 17 — 102 Detroit 28 34 31 24 — 117
3-Point Goals—Dallas 11-33 (Washington 4-6, K.Thompson 3-7, Irving 3-10, Marshall 1-4, Edwards 0-1, Exum 0-1, Hardy 0-1, Dinwiddie 0-3), Detroit 9-35 (Beasley 3-8, Cunningham 3-8, Hardaway Jr. 2-5, Harris 1-3, Holland II 2-8, Clintman 0-1, Reed 0-1, Fontecchio 0-3, Sasser 0-5), Fouled Out—None, Rebounds—Dallas 46 (Washington 13), Detroit 47 (Duren 13), Assists—Dallas 20 (Dinwiddie, K.Thompson 4), Detroit 18 (Duren 5), Total Fouls—Dallas 14, Detroit 15. A—20,062 (20,491)

BULLS 122, RAPTORS 106 CHICAGO (122)
Baili 2-7 0-0 5, Dosunmu 2-9 0-0 6, Vucevic 7-12 6-7 21, Giddey 6-11 2-2 15, White 9-16 2-2 25, Buzelis 4-8 2-2 12, Terry 4-5 1-2 10, Williams 4-11 1-2 11, Smith 7-10 0-0 17, Totals 45-89 14-17 122.

TORONTO (106)
Barnes 8-20 4-5 20, Barrett 8-17 2-6 19, Poeltl 4-8 0-0 8, Dick 4-12 3-4 13, Quickley 5-8 1-2 14, Brown 0-3 0-0 0, Temple 1-1 0-0 2, Robinson 1-3 1-2 3, Agbaji 2-6 0-0 4, Mitchell 3-7 0-0 9, Walter 3-7 7-8

14, Totals 39-92 18-27 106.
Chicago 30 25 33 34 — 122 Toronto 27 23 24 32 — 106
3-Point Goals—Chicago 18-40 (White 5-8, Smith 3-6, Buzelis 2-4, Williams 2-5, Dosunmu 2-6, Terry 1-2, Vucevic 1-2, Ball 1-3, Giddey 1-4), Toronto 10-30 (Mitchell 3-4, Quickley 3-5, Dick 2-7, Walter 1-3, Barrett 1-4, Brown 0-1, Barnes 0-2, Agbaji 0-4), Fouled Out—None, Rebounds—Chicago 52 (Vucevic 12), Toronto 44 (Barnes 10), Assists—Chicago 34 (Dosunmu 8), Toronto 27 (Poeltl 6), Total Fouls—Chicago 18, Toronto 13. A—19,365 (19,800)

CLIPPERS 112, HORNETS 104 L.A. CLIPPERS (112)
Jones Jr. 6-9 0-2 12, Leonard 8-17 1-2 21, Zubac 7-10 0-0 14, Harden 4-12 5-5 14, Powell 11-15 3-7 27, Brown 1-2 0-0 2, J.Miller 0-0 0-0 0, Coffey 3-5 2-2 10, Porter Jr. 3-9 0-0 7, Te.Mann 1-2 2-2 5, Totals 44-81 13-20 112.

CHARLOTTE (104)
Bridges 12-27 2-3 27, Green 4-4 0-0 10, Gibson 2-5 0-0 4, Micic 7-12 4-4 20, Smith Jr. 3-12 2-2 8, Diabate 5-11 1-2 11, Jeffries 0-1 0-0 0, Curry 2-6 2-2 7, Okogie 3-7 2-2 8, Simpson 4-11 0-0 9, Totals 42-96 13-15 104.

L.A.Clippers 23 30 34 25 — 112 Charlotte 23 25 28 27 — 104
3-Point Goals—L.A. Clippers 11-28 (Leonard 4-7, Coffey 2-3, Powell 2-6, Brown 0-1, Jones Jr. 0-1), Charlotte 7-30 (Green 2-2, Micic 2-6, Simpson 1-3, Curry 1-5, Bridges 1-8, Jeffries 0-1, Okogie 0-2, Smith Jr. 0-3), Fouled Out—None, Rebounds—L.A. Clippers 45 (Zubac 11), Charlotte 42 (Diabate 14), Assists—L.A. Clippers 26 (Harden 10), Charlotte 18 (Bridges 6), Total Fouls—L.A. Clippers 18, Charlotte 16. A—15,342 (19,077)

CELTICS 115, PELICANS 116 BOSTON (118)
Brown 11-18 3-4 28, Tatum 10-21 3-5 27, Porzingis 5-12 4-8 16, Holiday 2-5 0-0 4, White 5-9 3-4 16, Hauser 3-6 0-0 9, Horford 1-5 2-2 4, Kornet 4-4 3-3 11, Pritchard 1-4 0-0 3, Springer 0-0 0-0 0, Totals 42-84 18-26 118.

NEW ORLEANS (116)
Green 0-4 6-7 6, Murphy III 15-20 2-3 40, Missi 3-7 0-2 6, McCollum 8-19 0-1 17, Murray 2-6 0-0 4, Cain 1-1 0-0 3, Matkovic 3-6 0-0 7, Robinson-Earl 1-2 0-0 3, Alvarado 4-14 5-6 20, Boston 5-11 0-0 10, Totals 44-90 13-19 116.

Boston 31 28 32 27 — 118 New Orleans 34 19 33 30 — 116
3-Point Goals—Boston 16-41 (Tatum 4-10, Brown 3-6, Hauser 3-6, White 3-6, Porzingis 2-7, Pritchard 1-3, Holiday 0-1, Horford 0-2), New Orleans 15-37 (Murphy III 8-12, Alvarado 3-9, Cain 1-1, Matkovic 1-1, Robinson-Earl 1-2, McCollum 1-7, Green 0-2, Boston 0-3), Fouled Out—None, Rebounds—Boston 35 (Brown, Tatum 6), New Orleans 48 (Missi 13), Assists—Boston 32 (Tatum 10), New Orleans 16 (Alvarado 6), Total Fouls—Boston 16, New Orleans 21. A—16,432 (16,867)

SPURS 144, BUCKS 118 MILWAUKEE (118)
Antetokounmpo 13-23 9-14 35, Prince 5-14 0-0 13, Lopez 3-8 0-0 6, Jackson Jr. 3-7 0-0 7, Lillard 6-17 7-7 22, Beauchamp 0-1 0-0 0, Livingston 0-1 2-2 2, Middleton 8-9 2-2 21, Connaughton 3-3 0-0 8, Green 0-3 0-0 0, Rollins 0-5 0-0 0, Trent Jr. 1-7 0-0 2, Umude 1-2 0-0 2, Totals 43-100 20-26 118.

SAN ANTONIO (144)
Barnes 6-12 2-2 16, Castle 5-14 7-10 20, Wembanyama 9-20 7-7 30, Paul 4-8 2-3 12, Vassell 5-13 0-0 12, Champagnie 2-5 0-0 6, Cissoko 0-0 0-0 0, Mamukelashvili 2-3 0-0 3, Sochan 1-4 0-0 2, Collins 1-1 0-0 0, K.Johnson 10-15 0-0 24, Branham 1-1 0-0 3, Jones 3-5 2-3 9, Wesley 1-1 0-0 0, Totals 50-102 20-25 144.

Milwaukee 35 36 30 17 — 118 San Antonio 35 35 45 29 — 144
3-Point Goals—Milwaukee 12-37 (Middleton 3-4, Lillard 3-7, Prince 3-8, Connaughton 2-2, Jackson Jr. 1-2, Antetokounmpo 0-1, Umude 0-1, Green 0-2, Lopez 0-3, Trent Jr. 0-3, Rollins 0-4), San Antonio 24-50 (Wembanyama 5-11, K.Johnson 4-5, Castle 3-6, Barnes 2-5, Champagnie 2-5, Paul 2-5, Vassell 2-8, Branham 1-1, Collins 1-1, Mamukelashvili 1-1, Jones 1-2), Fouled Out—None, Rebounds—Milwaukee 47 (Antetokounmpo 14), San Antonio 53 (Wembanyama 14), Assists—Milwaukee 24 (Lillard 7), San Antonio 37 (Paul 9), Total Fouls—Milwaukee 19, San Antonio 20. A—17,804 (18,581)

MOUNTAIN WEST MEN'S STANDINGS

	Conference	W	L	Pct	All Games	W	L	Pct
Utah St.	9	1	.900	19	2	.905		
New Mexico	9	1	.900	17	4	.810		
Colorado St.	8	2	.800	14	7	.667		
San Diego St.	7	3	.700	14	5	.731		
Boise St.	6	4	.600	14	7	.667		
UNLV	5	5	.500	11	10	.524		
Wyoming	4	6	.400	11	10	.524		
Nevada	3	7	.300	11	10	.524		
San Jose St.	3	7	.300	10	12	.455		
Fresno St.	1	9	.100	5	16	.238		
Air Force	0	10	.000	3	18	.143		

Saturday's Games
Fresno St. at Boise St., 2 p.m.
Air Force at San Jose St., 3 p.m.
Wyoming at San Diego St., 6 p.m.
New Mexico at Utah St., 7:30 p.m.
UNLV at Nevada, 8 p.m.

Tuesday's Games
Utah St. at Wyoming, 6:30 p.m.
Nevada at Air Force, 7 p.m.
San Jose St. at Fresno St., 8 p.m.

Boise St. at UNLV, 9 p.m.

Wednesday's Game
Colorado St. at New Mexico, 8:30 p.m.

MOUNTAIN WEST WOMEN'S STANDINGS

	Conference	W	L	Pct	All Games	W	L	Pct
UNLV	8	1	.889	16	5	.762		
Colorado St.	6	2	.750	15	6	.714		
New Mexico	6	3	.667	13	9	.591		
Wyoming	6	3	.667	12	9	.571		
Fresno St.	5	4	.556	14	8	.636		
Boise St.	5	4	.556	15	7	.682		
San Diego St.	4	5	.444	15	7	.682		
Nevada	4	5	.444	9	13	.409		
Air Force	2	7	.222	12	9	.571		
San Jose St.	2	7	.222	9	13	.409		
Utah St.	1	8	.111	2	19	.095		

Saturday's Games
Air Force at Colorado St., 1 p.m.
San Diego St. at New Mexico, 2 p.m.
Boise St. at Wyoming, 2 p.m.
San Jose St. at Fresno St., 3 p.m.
Nevada at UNLV, 3 p.m.

Tuesday's Game
Colorado St. at New Mexico, 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday's Games
UNLV at Utah St., 6 p.m.

San Jose St. at Air Force, 6:30 p.m.

San Diego St. at Fresno St., 7 p.m.

Boise St. at Nevada, 7:30 p.m.

SCOREBOARD

GOLF

AT&T PEBBLE BEACH PRO-AM

Friday
Pebble Beach, Calif.
a-Spyglass Hill Golf Course (Host Course): 7,041 yards; Par 72
b-Pebble Beach Golf Links; 6,972 yards; Par 72

Purse: \$20 million
Second Round
Note: Tournament played on two courses.

Sepp Straka	65a-65b-130 -14
Cameron Davis	65b-68a-133 -11
Russell Henley	64a-69b-133 -11
Austin Eckroart	67a-67b-134 -10
Tony Finau	67b-67a-134 -10
Tom Kim	69a-65b-134 -10
Andrew Novak	69b-65a-134 -10
Justin Rose	65b-69a-134 -10
Eric Cole	68b-69a-135 -9
Lucas Glover	68b-69a-135 -9
Lee Hodges	66b-69a-135 -9
Viktor Hovland	65b-70a-135 -9
Patrick Cantlay	66b-70a-136 -8
Rasmus Hojgaard	65a-71b-136 -8
Shane Lowry	66b-70a-136 -8
Rory McIlroy	66a-70b-136 -8
Collin Morikawa	69a-67b-136 -8
Patrick Rodgers	70a-66b-136 -8
Justin Thomas	66a-70b-136 -8
Sam Burns	68b-69a-137 -7
Nick Dunlap	69a-68b-137 -7
Rickie Fowler	68b-69a-137 -7
Billy Horschel	72a-65b-137 -7
Mackenzie Hughes	68b-69a-137 -7
Jake Knapp	65b-72a-137 -7
Taylor Pendrith	67b-70a-137 -7
Aaron Rai	69b-68a-137 -7
Scottie Scheffler	67a-70b-137 -7
Sam Stevens	67b-70a-137 -7
Nick Taylor	68b-69a-137 -7
Jhonattan Vegas	70b-67a-137 -7
C. Bezuidenhout	68b-70a-138 -6
Akshay Bhatia	69b-69a-138 -6
Tom Hoge	68b-70a-138 -6
Si Woo Kim	67b-71a-138 -6
Chris Kirk	69a-69b-138 -6
J.J. Spaun	70a-68b-138 -6
Corey Connors	70b-69a-139 -5
Jason Day	70a-69b-139 -5
Thomas Detry	69b-70a-139 -5
Ben Griffin	69a-70b-139 -5
Hideki Matsuyama	70a-69b-139 -5
Maverick McNealy	68a-71b-139 -5

A breakdown of the new All-Star Game format

BY TIM REYNOLDS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The NBA All-Stars have been selected. Next up: Assigning them to teams.

The 10 players designated as starters were announced on Jan. 23, the remaining 14 players designated as reserves were revealed Thursday — and now, those 24 players will be drafted onto eight-player teams for the games that will be played on Feb. 16 in San Francisco.

TNT analysts and basketball greats Shaquille O'Neal, Charles Barkley and Kenny Smith will draft the teams on Feb. 6. The eight-player teams will bear their names — Team Shaq, Team Charles and Team Kenny.

They'll pick from this pool of players:

- LeBron James and Anthony Davis of the Los Angeles Lakers
- Donovan Mitchell, Evan Mobley and Darius Garland of the Cleveland Cavaliers
- Jayson Tatum and Jaylen Brown of the Boston Celtics
- Giannis Antetokounmpo and Damian Lillard of the Milwaukee Bucks
- Shai Gilgeous-Alexander and Jalen Williams of the Oklahoma City Thunder
- Jalen Brunson and Karl-



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Los Angeles Lakers forward LeBron James will be making a record 21st appearance in the NBA All-Star Game later this month.

- Anthony Towns of the Minnesota Timberwolves
- Cade Cunningham of the Detroit Pistons
- Anthony Edwards of the Minnesota Timberwolves
- James Harden of the Los Angeles Clippers
- Kevin Durant of the Phoenix Suns
- Nikola Jokic of the Denver Nuggets
- Stephen Curry of the Golden State Warriors

- Pascal Siakam of the Indiana Pacers
- Tyler Herro of the Miami Heat
- Alperen Sengun of the Houston Rockets
- Jaren Jackson Jr. of the Memphis Grizzlies
- Victor Wembanyama of the San Antonio Spurs

How the tournament works

The games will be fast. Games

are to 40 points; first one to reach that total wins. The two semifinal winners will meet in the All-Star final, that game also goes only to 40 points.

Voting format

There was a weighted formula to pick the 10 players designated as "starters." It was 50% fan vote, 25% media panel vote, 25% current player vote. NBA head coaches picked the 14 players designated as "reserves."

But the starter and reserve columns won't mean much on game night, since there will be 15 different players starting — five from each of the three teams — and only nine players coming off the bench in those semifinal games.

How the tournament works

The Rising Stars event winner — that tournament will be held Feb. 14, another four-team event made up of first- and second-year players — will be the fourth team in the All-Star games on Feb. 16. That team will be called Team Candace, for Candace Parker.

Why the change

NBA Commissioner Adam Silver has wanted a more competi-

tive All-Star event for some time, and this change comes after the teams combined to score a record 397 points — 211-186 was the final — in last season's game at Indianapolis.

The teams combined to take 289 shot attempts in last year's game, 94% of those being either inside the paint or beyond the 3-point line.

Coaching staffs

Kenny Atkinson of the Cleveland Cavaliers will coach one All-Star team, Mark Daigneault of the Oklahoma City Thunder will coach another, and two of their assistants — one from each team — will have the other teams under their direction.

Cleveland and Oklahoma City are sending their staffs to the game because those are the teams with the best records in the Eastern and Western Conferences.

Prize money

There is a prize pool of \$1.8 million for the All-Star Game.

Each player on the All-Star champion team gets \$125,000, each player on the runner-up team will get \$50,000 and the players on the teams eliminated in the semifinals will each get \$25,000.

ROUNDUP



ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Denver Nuggets' Nikola Jokic reacts after scoring during Friday's game against the 76ers in Philadelphia.

Jokic hits winning 3 as Nuggets defeat 76ers

Tatum's last-second jumper lifts Celtics over Pelicans

ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHILADELPHIA — Nikola Jokic made the tiebreaking 3-pointer with 39 seconds left, Jamal Murray had 31 points and 11 assists, and the Denver Nuggets overcame Tyrese Maxey's 42 points to beat the Philadelphia 76ers 137-134 on Friday night.

Jokic finished with 28 points, 13 assists and nine rebounds, just missing what would have been his NBA-leading 22nd triple-double.

Michael Porter Jr. scored 24 points and Julian Strawther had 18 off the bench as Denver ended a three-game losing streak.

Maxey also had nine assists, but it wasn't enough to extend the 76ers' four-game winning streak. Guerschon Yabusele set a career high with 28 points and Kelly Oubre Jr. added 27.

CELTICS 118, PELICANS 116: In New Orleans, Jayson Tatum's jumper with 0.7 seconds left gave Boston a victory over short-handed New Orleans.

Jaylen Brown scored 28 points and Tatum had 27 as the Celtics handed the Pelicans their fifth straight loss. New Orleans lost Dejeunte Murray to a lower right leg injury in the first quarter.

Tatum had 22 points through

three quarters before being held in check for much of the fourth. But the Celtics went to him after CJ McCollum's tying basket with 24 seconds left and he hit the eventual winner over McCollum from the left wing.

Trey Murphy had a season-high 40 points, going 8 for 12 on 3-pointers. Jose Alvarado added 20 points and McCollum had 17.

Luke Kornet and Kristaps Porzingis scored 13 of the Celtics' first 17 points of the fourth quarter to build a 108-101 lead. Porzingis and Derrick White each had 16 points.

PISTONS 117, MAVERICKS 102: In Detroit, Cade Cunningham scored 40 points a day after being selected as an All-Star reserve, helping Detroit beat Dallas.

Cunningham matched a season high for points on 17-of-30 shooting. He added six rebounds and four assists while falling three points of his career-best 43 points.

Detroit snapped a three-game losing streak. Tobias Harris added 17 points and Jalen Duren had 16 points and 13 rebounds.

Kyrie Irving led Dallas with 28 points. P.J. Washington had 22 points and 13 rebounds. After the Mavericks cut it to 93-91 with 10:13 left, the Pistons responded with a 10-2 run with Cunningham on the bench.

CLIPPERS 112, HORNETS 104: In Charlotte, N.C., Norman

Powell scored 27 points, Kawhi Leonard added 21 points and nine rebounds, and Los Angeles held off pesky Charlotte.

All-Star James Harden finished with 14 points and 10 assists for the Clippers, while Ivica Zubac had 14 points and 11 rebounds.

The Clippers built a 10-point lead in the third quarter but couldn't completely shake the Hornets (12-33) until late in the game.

Harden's 3-pointer made it 102-95 with 6:06 to play and Leonard's dunk with 1:45 to play gave the Clippers their biggest of the game at 110-99.

Miles Bridges had 25 points and nine rebounds for Charlotte. Vasa Micic scored 20 points.

BULLS 122, RAPTORS 106: In Toronto, Coby White scored 25 points, Nikola Vucevic had 21 points and 12 rebounds and Chicago ended Toronto's season-best winning streak at five.

Jalen Smith added a season-high 17 points, Josh Giddey had 15 and Matas Buzelis added 12 to help the Bulls win their third straight north of the border.

Scottie Barnes had 20 points and 10 rebounds, RJ Barrett scored 19 and Immanuel Quickley added 14 for the Raptors, who came in having won seven of eight.

Quickley returned to the starting lineup after missing

the past eight games because of a strained left hip. It was his 10th appearance of the season. Toronto is 1-9 in those games.

The Raptors fell to 1-24 when trailing at the half.

SPURS 144, BUCKS 118: In San Antonio, Victor Wembanyama had 30 points, 14 rebounds and six blocks and San Antonio had a season high in points to overcome 35 points and 13 rebounds from Giannis Antetokounmpo and beat Milwaukee.

Keldon Johnson added 24 points and Stephon Castle had 20 as San Antonio snapped a two-game skid and won for just the second time in seven games.

Damian Lillard had 22 points for Milwaukee. Khris Middleton added 21.

Wembanyama was 9 for 20 from the field in an dynamic showing one day after being named to his first All-Star Game as a Western Conference reserve.

Wembanyama banked in a 34-foot 3-pointer that hit the backboard, bounced off the front of the rim, hit the backboard again and dropped in with 7:18 remaining in the third quarter.

The 3-pointer drew loud gasps and cheers from the fans and left Milwaukee coach Doc Rivers with his arms raised in puzzlement.

Wembanyama closed out a 14-point quarter by making a running, one-legged 3-pointer.

NOTES

Wade reveals 2023 surgery to remove tumor

Rozier mum on gambling probe; Stewart suspended one game

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hall of Fame player Dwyane Wade said doctors performed a December 2023 surgery on his kidney to remove a tumor later determined to be cancerous.

"Thank God that I did do the surgery," Wade said on his "The Why With Dwyane Wade" podcast episode released Thursday.

Wade said he had not had regular physical exams in a few years before seeing a doctor due to stomach and urinary issues. A full body scan discovered what he described as a "cyst/tumor" that led to the surgery, which Wade said removed 40% of his right kidney.

"I think it was the first time my family — my dad, my kids — they saw me weak," he said. "That moment was probably the weakest point I've ever felt in my life. The moments I was by myself, I was struggling, dog. Struggling."

"And one thing you never want to do as a man, you never want your family to see you as weak. You don't want to be perceived weak and you don't want to be seen in your weak moments. But I had to."

Wade retired in 2019 after 16 years in the NBA, highlighted by 15 seasons with the Miami Heat that included winning three world championships and being a 13-time all-star.

He also led Marquette to the 2003 Final Four.

GAMBLING PROBE: Terry Rozier declined to answer questions Friday about the investigations by federal prosecutors into unusual betting patterns surrounding his play in a game when he was with the Charlotte Hornets in 2023.

Rozier, now with the Miami Heat, is linked to the same probe that led to former Toronto Raptors player Jontay Porter being banned for life from the NBA, facing criminal prosecution and eventually pleading guilty to committing wire fraud.

Porter is awaiting sentencing. There has been no indication that Rozier is under criminal investigation, and he has not been charged with a crime.

"On advice from counsel, I can't answer any questions about that matter," Rozier said Friday. "So, I won't."

SUSPENSION: Isaiah Stewart of the Detroit Pistons was suspended by the NBA on Friday for one game without pay after the forward/center picked up a sixth flagrant-foul point this season.

The league announced the suspension Friday, along with a \$50,000 fine for Stewart making "inappropriate and objectionable gestures" after his ejection Wednesday in the Pistons' 133-119 loss to the Pacers at Indiana.

Stewart received a Flagrant 2 and was ejected in the second quarter. Stewart entered the game with four flagrant-foul points, so the call triggered the automatic suspension based on the league's regular-season protocols.

The 6-foot-8, 250-pound Stewart is averaging 5.4 points and 5.8 rebounds.



Dwyane Wade

Hurts a prolific winner, but ultimate victory awaits

Eagles' QB has been in plenty of big games

BY ROB MAADDI
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jalen Hurts flashed a rare smile when Nick Sirianni screamed on the podium after the Philadelphia Eagles won the NFC championship game: "All he does is win."

Hurts has been criticized throughout his career but numbers don't lie and Sirianni is right. Hurts is a winner. He's 89-27 as a starting quarterback in college and the NFL.

All he's missing is a Super Bowl ring.

Hurts has another chance to get one when the Eagles (17-3) face Patrick Mahomes and the Kansas City Chiefs (17-2) on Feb. 9 in New Orleans.

Hurts had a spectacular game against the Chiefs two years ago, throwing for 304 yards and a touchdown and rushing for 70 yards and three scores. But he lost a fumble that was returned for a touchdown in the first half of Kansas City's 38-35 comeback victory.

Coming close won't cut it this time. Not in Philadelphia, a passionate sports city that measures success by championship parades.

Hurts' background photo on his phone was a shot of him walking off the field in Arizona with red and yellow confetti falling all around.



Philadelphia Eagles coach Nick Sirianni, left, and quarterback Jalen Hurts celebrate after the Eagles won the NFC Championship game last Sunday in Philadelphia.

"The mission is to go take advantage of the opportunities we present ourselves with," Hurts said. "But also I have my history and the things that I've experienced that I can use as tools to help those around me and help myself."

Hurts has plenty of big-game experience. He helped Alabama reach the national championship as a freshman before losing to Clemson. He took them back to the title game his sophomore season but was benched at halftime and watched Tua Tagovailoa lead the Crimson Tide to a comeback

win over Clemson.

After backing up Tagovailoa his junior year, Hurts ended up replacing him in the fourth quarter of a loss to Clemson in the national championship.

He transferred to Oklahoma for his senior season, led the Sooners to a 12-2 record and finished second behind Joe Burrow for the Heisman Trophy.

Despite his success in college, Hurts slipped into the second round of the NFL draft and the Eagles selected him at No. 53. Burrow (1st), Tagovailoa (5th), Justin Herbert (6th) and Jordan Love

(26th) went ahead of him.

Only Burrow has been to a Super Bowl and he also lost. Hurts is the first quarterback to go back to the big game after losing his first time since Jim Kelly, who lost four in a row with the Bills from 1990-93.

Yet, despite his accomplishments, Hurts is underrated.

He began his NFL career backing up Carson Wentz and being used in a utility role, even lining up as a wide receiver. He became the starter later in the 2020 season and has led the Eagles to the playoffs four straight years.

There were questions about Hurts' future after the 2021 season, which ended with a playoff loss to Tampa Bay. The Eagles weren't sold on Hurts and considered making a move for another QB. But they stuck with him and he finished runner-up to Mahomes for NFL MVP in 2022 and nearly beat him in the Super Bowl.

After a 10-1 start turned into a major collapse, Hurts faced more criticism in the offseason. His leadership ability and his relationship with Sirianni became hot topics. Then his friendship with A.J. Brown was scrutinized during this season.

Through it all, Hurts and the Eagles kept winning.

His numbers declined because Saquon Barkley had one of the greatest seasons in NFL history. The Eagles didn't need to pass to

win. They turned into a run-first team.

Again, critics wondered whether Hurts could win games for them if defenses stopped Barkley. Each time Philadelphia needed Hurts to step up passing, he did against the Steelers late in the season and the Commanders last week in a 55-23 victory.

"It's amazing how much doubt there is sometimes," Sirianni said about Hurts' critics. "I can't quite comprehend it because it doesn't look like what people think it should look like. But the guy has been clutch. He's won a ton of football games. 'But you ran for this many yards.' We don't care how we win. We don't care. If we rush for 300 and pass for one and we win, great. If we rush for one and pass for 300, great. Who cares? We've just continued to win. He's just continued to win. I think the criticism is. ... yeah, whatever. He just wins. I said what I said after the game and that's kind of how I feel."

Since his freshman year at Alabama in 2016, Hurts has had nine play-callers in nine seasons. It'll be 10 next year if offensive coordinator Kellen Moore is hired by the New Orleans Saints to be their head coach.

That won't change Hurts' approach.

"The standard is to win. That's my standard," Hurts said.

He's been a prolific winner but the ultimate victory awaits.

ANALYSIS



Will Boise State running back Ashton Jeanty be around when the Dallas Cowboys pick at No. 12 in the NFL Draft?

Fizzling Cowboys have lost their buzz

Here's a quick way Jerry Jones can bring it back

BY KEVIN SHERRINGTON
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS (TNS)

DALLAS — Question: If you owned an iconic NFL franchise, and you just doubled down on an awful season with a coaching hire that didn't exactly overwhelm a mutinous fan base, and you were, well, a little nuts, how would you mitigate the fallout?

Draft Ashton Jeanty. Surely it's what Jerry Jones would like to do.

The notion of using the 12th pick on a player who could give you a running start on catching Saquon Barkley and the Eagles, not to mention open vistas for Dak Prescott and CeeDee Lamb, would certainly be appealing. The Boise State whirlwind would make play-calling easier for the new head coach. He'd top Rookie of the Year odds. He'd sell tickets and merch and hope.

He'd change the subject. Buzz instead of fizz.

Now, I'm not saying Jerry will take Frisco Lone Star's finest when the clock's ticking on the 12th pick in April. His oldest son famously talked him off the ledge he climbed out on with Johnny Manziel. Word is he may not have gotten his way on the Brian Schottenheimer hire, either.

Which is why he might put his foot down instead of in his mouth.

Believe this: Jeanty's talent will tempt more than just Jerry. The sight of Barkley running away from everyone this season as well as the resurgence of Derrick Henry will no doubt cause a reset in an undervalued market. Because defenses are harder than ever to diagnose, offenses need to counter with more playmakers wherever possible.

The Cowboys, in particular, need more playmakers.

Then they should take a wide

receiver in the first round, right? Missouri's Luther Burden III might be available at 12. Fast and gifted. But do you want to draft another diva to compete with CeeDee? Remember how that went down with Amari Cooper? A No. 2 wide receiver in Dallas is just that. No such thing as 1A.

What about a tight end? Jake Ferguson went backward last year. Tyler Warren had a monster season at Penn State. But the Cowboys used a second-rounder last year on Luke Schoonmaker.

How many premium picks are you willing to spend on tight ends?

Same goes for offensive tackle. Of Will McClay's 10 first-round picks since he took over the Cowboys' draft, three have been used on offensive tackles (Zack Martin, Tyler Smith and Tyler Guyton). Even if Guyton disappointed in his rookie season, McClay's track record on offensive linemen is good. Kelvin Banks Jr. might be a smart choice. Gave up just three sacks in four years at Texas. He could slide in at left tackle, allowing the Cowboys to move Guyton to right tackle, his position at Oklahoma. That would enable the Cowboys to move Terence Steele inside if Martin retires. Steele's run-blocking ability would stand out at guard, where his pass-blocking limitations wouldn't be exposed.

Or what about a defensive tackle? Osa Odighizuwa is the Cowboys' best, and he's a free agent. Mason Graham is the top-rated defensive tackle. He's also from Michigan, which produced Taco Charlton and Mazi Smith for the Cowboys in the first round. Hoping the third would be the charm isn't worth the risk. Besides, Graham will be gone before 12 comes up. But Walter Nolen, formerly of Texas A&M and Ole Miss, won't. One of these days the Cowboys need to fix their run defense.

But, even if it's the smart thing, imagine trying to sell that pick.

Jerry needs something to fire up a fan base that watched him sit on his hands last offseason, burning another year of their thinning patience. Letting Mike McCarthy walk satisfied some. But an incompetent search culminating in a first-time head coach at 51 didn't answer the question of what "all in" really meant.

Filling out a staff isn't going to do it for anyone, either. Good to see Matt Eberflus back to run the defense, I suppose.

Just as long as he isn't in charge of timeouts.

Otherwise, we already know not to expect much in free agency. The Joneses have a hard enough time just signing their own. Nothing like waiting until the last minute to drop a bank on someone. I mean, what's the point? Do they really believe they're going to fool Micah Parsons' agent doing that?

The only chance Jerry has at making nice with fans is to give them something with a little buzz. Not saying I would. I'm already on record that, in a draft deep in running backs, an offensive or defense tackle in the first round probably makes the most sense. Wait until the third to take Cam Skattebo, who nearly pulled Mercedes-Benz Stadium down around Texas' ears.

Can't you just hear Jerry trying to pronounce "Skatt-a-boo"? Might be worth the pick just for the entertainment value.

Scouts have concerns that Skattebo's physical running style and 4.6 time in the 40 wouldn't translate to the NFL. Duly noted. What I like is his edge. The Cowboys could use a little.

Jeanty brings the same tackle-breaking ability as Skattebo. "Contact balance," it's called. He's also faster, another reason he's so much higher on draft boards. Ranked top 10 on most. He's not Barkley, but he might be the next LaDainian Tomlinson. Jerry could sell that. For his sake, the sooner the better.

Officials spotting the ball isn't going away

This is despite several technological advances

BY ROB MAADDI
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The NFL will engage its Competition Committee on technology to take virtual line-to-gain measurements next season, but officials will continue to spot the football.

There's no current technology being considered that would help determine forward progress, which became a point of contention after Josh Allen was stopped short on a sneak on fourth-and-1 early in the fourth quarter of Buffalo's 32-29 loss to Kansas City in the AFC championship game.

The league tested Sony's Hawk-Eye tracking services for virtual line-to-gain measurements in the preseason and in the background during the regular season. The optimal tracking system notifies officiating instantly if a first down was gained after the ball is spotted by hand.

The key word is after. This technology replaces the chain measurement. The NFL has long used two bright orange sticks and a chain — the chain gang — to measure for first downs. That method would remain in a backup capacity.

"What this technology cannot do is take the place of the human element in determining where forward progress ends," NFL executive Kimberly Fields told The Associated Press on Friday. "There will always be a human official spotting the ball. Once the ball is spotted, then the line-to-gain technology actually does the measurement itself. So I think it's probably been a point of confusion around what the technology can and can't do. There will always be a human element because of the forward progress conversation."

Fields said an average of 12 measurements took place each week during the regular season. The new technology would've dropped the time spent to measure from 75 seconds to 35 seconds.

NFL balls have been equipped with Zebra microchips since 2017, powering the NFL's Next Gen Stats data product. The chips are also affixed to players' pads. They provide various data and metrics that help clubs, media and fans with player evaluation and analysis of team performance. But these chips can't determine where a player was tackled, whether a player is down by contact or which team gained possession of a loose ball to the precision necessary for officiating use.

The league also began using boundary line cameras in Week 5 to assist with replay reviews. The cameras were installed in each of the 30 stadiums along the end line, goal line and sideline. Usage was limited to scores, plays with under two minutes remaining and turnovers.

Discussion for expanding its use to coaches' challenges and replay assist is ongoing and would have to be approved by the Competition Committee.

Fields said the league also experimented with providing back judges smart watches to assist with objective information so they can make decisions faster, specifically as it relates to the play clock.

"We want to make the game efficient and more accurate," Fields said. "The things that we do around technology, if it's not going to make the process better, if it's not going to assist our officials, then we shouldn't be doing it. Everything that we do is going through a rigorous testing process to make sure we are making things easier and more efficient."



Kansas City Chiefs linebacker Nick Bolton (32) hits Buffalo Bills quarterback Josh Allen (17) during last Sunday's AFC Championship game in Kansas City, Mo.

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

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★★

GOV'T LEGALS

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Scattered Sites-B
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The Pueblo of Jemez is seeking Bids for the construction of the following project: 2023 Jemez Scattered Sites-B IHS Project No.AL-23-C70. The project consists of providing water and wastewater facilities to six (6) home-sites located on the Jemez Pueblo Reservation. The Project has an expected duration of 60 days. Bids will be received for a single prime Contract. Bids shall be on a lump sum and unit price basis, with additive alternate bids as indicated in the Bid Form. Prospective Bidders may obtain electronic copies of Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office. Copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office may be obtained Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM. Please contact Todd Loretto, todd.loretto@jemezpuablo.org and Alberta Loretto, alberta.loretto@jemezpuablo.org to obtain bidding documents from the Issuing Office. Sealed Bids for the construction of the 2023 Jemez Scattered Sites-B will be received via mail or in-person at the office of the Pueblo of Jemez-Procurement Department located at PO Box 100-4471 Highway 4, Jemez Pueblo, NM 87024, until 10:00 AM (local time) on Friday, February 28, 2025. At that time, the Bids received will be publicly opened and read. The Sealed Bids are to be addressed to Lamell Sando at the Pueblo of Jemez-Procurement Dept.

Journal: January 31-February 13, 2025

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Veranda - This Affordable Housing Development has thirty-two (35) subsidized apartment units consisting of two-, three-, four- and five-bedroom apartments located at 9000, 9001, 9005, 9009, 9013, 9017, 9021 and 8923 Veranda Rd NE, Albuquerque, NM.

These units are restricted to households whose household income is at or below 30% and 50% of the area median income. Preferences for these units will go to households with children and active duty or retired U.S. Military Veterans.

To see a complete list of properties with PBV units that AHA is accepting pre-applications visit: www.abqha.org/pbv/.

Pre-applications for the Section 8 Project Based Voucher Program will be taken online only at www.abqha.org and will not be accepted in paper format. If you need support, accessing the internet and/or completing and submitting an online pre-application please call 505-764-3953 or 505-764-3920 to get support. Walk-ins will not be accepted. There is no fee to apply for admission.

IMPORTANT: You are not required to visit the Albuquerque Housing Authority Office at 1840 University Blvd SE to apply for housing nor is supporting documentation required for your pre-application. Your pre-application may be completed anytime for free through an internet connected computer or suitable

GOV'T LEGALS

smartphone at www.abqha.org. If you do not have access to the internet, need support completing and submitting an online pre-application, or if you require reasonable accommodation or other special assistance, please contact 505-764-3953 or 505-764-3920 or email update@abqha.org. AHA is committed to assisting persons with disabilities.

ADMISSION DE PRE-SOLICITUDES PARA Programa de cupones basados en proyectos (PBV) de la Sección 8
Las solicitudes preliminares se tomarán en línea en www.abqha.org

La Autoridad de Vivienda de Albuquerque (AHA) acepta solicitudes previas para el programa de unidades de vales basados en proyectos (PBV) por la página de internet www.abqha.org. A partir del 10 de Febrero del 2025, se aceptarán solicitudes previas para unidades PBV en:

Veranda - este desarrollo de viviendas asequibles tiene treinta y dos (35) unidades de apartamentos subsidiados que constan de apartamentos de dos, tres, cuatro y cinco habitaciones ubicados en: 9000, 9001, 9005, 9009, 9013, 9017, 9021 and 8923 Veranda Rd NE, Albuquerque, NM.

Para ver una lista completa de propiedades con unidades bajo el programa PBV cual AHA está aceptando solicitudes previas, visite: www.abqha.org/pbv/.

Las pre-solicitudes para el Programa de vales basados en proyectos de la Sección 8 se tomarán en línea solo en www.abqha.org y no se aceptarán en formato de papel. Si necesita ayuda, acceder a Internet y / o completar y enviar una solicitud previa en línea, llame al 505-764-3953 o 505-764-3920 para obtener ayuda. No se aceptarán visitas sin cita previa. No hay tarifa para solicitar la admisión.

IMPORTANTE: No es necesario que visite la Oficina de la Autoridad de Vivienda de Albuquerque en 1840 University Blvd SE para solicitar una

GOV'T LEGALS

vivienda ni se requiere documentación de respaldo para su solicitud previa. Su solicitud previa se puede completar en cualquier momento de forma gratuita a través de una computadora conectada a Internet o un teléfono inteligente adecuado en www.abqha.org. Si no tiene acceso a Internet, necesita ayuda para completar y enviar una solicitud previa en línea, o si necesita ajustes razonables u otra asistencia especial, comuníquese al 505-764-3953 o 505-764-3920 o envíe un correo electrónico a update@abqha.org. AHA se compromete a ayudar a las personas con discapacidades.

Journal: January 31-February 2, 2025



INTAKE OF PRE-APPLICATIONS FOR
Section 8 Project Based
Voucher (PBV) Program
Pre-Applications will be
taken online at www.abqha.org

The Albuquerque Housing Authority (AHA) accepts pre-applications for the Section 8 Project Based Voucher (PBV) Program online at www.abqha.org. Beginning February 10, 2025 pre-applications will be accepted for PBV units at:

La Plata - This Affordable Housing Development has thirty-two (32) subsidized apartment units consisting of two-, three-, four- and five-bedroom apartments located at 120 La Plata NW, Albuquerque, NM. These units are restricted to households whose household income is at or below 30% and 50% of the area median income. Preferences for these units will go to households with children and active duty or retired U.S. Military Veterans.

To see a complete list of properties with PBV units that AHA is accepting pre-applications visit: www.abqha.org/pbv/.

Pre-applications for the Section 8 Project Based Voucher Program will be taken online only

N.Y.TimesCrosswordPuzzle

Across

1 Fans flip for it

11 Deflection technique

13 Iconic accessory worn by 1-Down

15 Acts human, proverbially

16 Medical container

17 Infamous bushranger Kelly

19 Hand-drawn frame

20 Posthumous title

22 Far from floor-reaching

23 One for the books, in brief?

24 Hurt

25 Feature of English, but not Chinese

26 Narrative thread

27 Classic red rubber dog toy

28 Get lost

29 Manage

31 Call to a crew

32 Letter-shaped apparel

33 Unit cost?

34 Tree creature of fiction

36 Wanting

37 Singles, say

38 Juilliard offering, in brief

39 + or -

40 Compromises

41 Birth control option

42 Simple operation

43 Jenkins known as "The First Lady of Children's Music"

44 Kind of vaccine

45 Sesquipedalia

50 Some celebrity memorabilia

51 Current from currents

Down

1 Guinness's second-most-portrayed literary character in film, after Dracula

2 Target scores

3 They start with coin tosses, in brief

4 Singer in the family?

5 Schedule inits.

6 What are you doing?

7 First trimester woe, informally

8 Bothered

9 Part of some superhero names

10 What's left of F1

11 "Sorry, that's the last one"

12 One asked "to change his ways," per a 1988 hit

13 Label that first signed the Rolling Stones

14 Sources of retirement income

18 Paleolithic, for example

20 Strong draft

21 Hilda or Zelda, to Sabrina the Teenage Witch

22 Beverage that begins with a bee?

24 Hybrid sportswear

25 Gear that's a homophone of 25-Across

— Edited by Will Shortz

28 Fringe : British English :: ____ : American English

30 Snakes were famously driven from it, in legend

31 Impart

32 There are nine in a shot glass: Abbr.

33 World's highest-paid athlete in 2024

35 Cues for applause

37 One side of a deal

40 Lightheaded?

43 High-strung

44 Bit of dust

46 Major inits. in biomedical research

47 Clock, e.g.

48 Corinthian character

49 "Neat!"

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

FOLKARTISTEGGS
ETONCOLLAR MILA
MORETOCOME OVAL
HEELSVEST EMT
LITHE SAVORY
FLASKETS NERO
AIDETCHASKETCH
TGIFATALLRAKE
SHORTNOTICEKEN
TSARRFS AVERS
STATICOHARE
TIMPURRBATHE
AMIDROYALCOURT
MEGASTONEHENGE
PROMTHUNDERGOD

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.
Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.

2/1/25 1228

WORD SALSA™
by Tony Tallarico

Circle these English words and their Spanish equivalents that appear in the grid horizontally, vertically, diagonally and backward.
Encierre estas palabras en inglés y sus equivalentes en español que aparecen al revés, horizontal, vertical y diagonalmente.

CLOSE-KNIT

ENGLISH
AMABLE
CHUMMY
CLIQUISH
CLOSE
COMMON
FRIENDLY
INSEPARABLE
LOVING
LOYAL
SOCIAL
TIGHT
UNITED

SPANISH
AMABLE
FAMILIAR
EXCLUSIVISTA
INTIMO
COMUN
AMISTOSO
INSEPARABLE
CARINOSO
LEAL
SOCIAL
AJUSTADO
UNIDO

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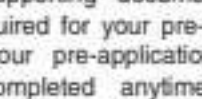
AMIALBINSRQILC
JFAMIAMISTOSOE
UINSEPECIALBULM
SCOMUNLOVINGYE
ELBARÚPESNIOLSD
LIJAJUSTADOEONL
BQYSDIÑSOJULYOY
AUMOELBAMACBAS
RIMCTHGITGHALOE
ASUIIÑYLDNEIRFL
PHHANORAILIMAFM
EXCLUSIVISTAJUÚ
SOCIALNÚMISTOSN
NOMMOCARINOSONS
INTIMOCLIQUEBLEO

GET
READER
PERKS



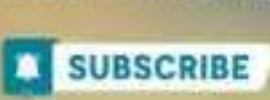
505.823.4400

GET
READER
PERKS



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FOR THE
LATEST NEWS
AT THE
BEST VALUE.



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FOR THE
LATEST NEWS
AT THE
BEST VALUE.



505.823.4400

GOV'T LEGALS



LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT
Proposals are being solicited by the Albuquerque Public Schools Board of Education. BID documents can be accessed through the APS Procurement Department Website: <http://www.aps.edu/procurement>
RFP 25-039 KLL
Arborist Services District Wide On Call
NIGP: 98802 Submittal deadline: February 25, 2025 @ 3:00 p.m. local time
Albuquerque Public Schools BOARD OF EDUCATION, ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO
ATTEST:
Robert Russell
Director/ProcurementJournal: February 1, 2025



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority will conduct its February, 2025 Board meeting on Wednesday, February 5, 2025 at 5:00 PM in the Vincent E. Griego Chambers of the Albuquerque Government Center, Basement Level, One Civic Plaza NW. The meeting can also be viewed by tuning into GovTV on Comcast Channel 16. Members of the public will have the ability to join for public comment in person or via video conference by following the instructions for public comment sign up on the posted agenda. Agendas will be posted on the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority agenda portal at <https://abcwua.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx> or can be picked up at the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority Office, One Civic Plaza NW, 5th Floor, Room 5027.

NOTICE TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: If you have a disability and require special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the

GOV'T LEGALS

Water Authority Office, Suite 5027, Albuquerque Government Center, phone 505-289-3100 or by the TTY 1-800-659-8331, as soon as possible prior to the meeting date. Public documents, including the agendas and minutes, can be provided in various accessible formats. Please contact the Executive Director of the Water Authority at the Water Authority Office if a summary or other type of accessible format is needed.
Journal: January 31, February 1, 2, 3, 4, 2025



Notice of Public Hearing

In accordance with Section § 3-60A-8, NMSA 1978, notice is hereby given that the Metropolitan Redevelopment Agency ("MRA"), on behalf of the City of Albuquerque, will hold a public hearing to recommend Designation of Blighted Parcels by the Albuquerque Development Commission to the City Council.

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION & LOCATION:
The proposal is to designate five lots, located at 1701 Gold Ave., SE, containing approximately 0.8035 acres and legally described as Lots 7 thru 11 Block 64, Terrace Addition & the north 10ft of vacated Gold Ave., as blighted and meeting the criteria of State Statute § 3-60A-4(F) for incorporation into the Sycamore Metropolitan Redevelopment Area and Plan.

II. LOCATION AND TIME OF PUBLIC HEARING:
Albuquerque Development Commission
Thursday February 20, 2025 2:00 PM
Via Zoom Video Conference
Agenda will be available 72 hours before the scheduled meeting:

GOV'T LEGALS

<https://www.cabq.gov/mra/albuquerque-development-commission/ad-agendas-archives>

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: <https://www.cabq.gov/mra/albuquerque-development-commission/ad-agendas-archives>

MRA PROJECT MANAGER: Stephanie Shumsky (505) 810-7502 / sshumsky@cabq.gov

METROPOLITAN REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE,
NEW MEXICO

Journal: January 25, February 1, 2025

NOTICE OF PUBLIC LIQUOR HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to anyone wishing to comment on the applications that the City of Albuquerque Liquor Hearing Officer, Steven M. Chavez, Esq., pursuant to § 60-68-4D(1), NMSA 1978 as amended, and § 13-2-1 Revised Ordinances, of Albuquerque, New Mexico, 1994 as amended, will hold a public hearing Via Zoom Video Conference on Tuesday, February 25, 2025 at 9:00 a.m., for the purpose of considering the applications for a liquor license set forth hereunder.

If any persons desire to testify, participate or otherwise submit comments, please contact Donna Montoya, Liquor License Coordinator at: (505) 768-3147 or by email donna@cabq.gov at least 72 hours before the hearing.

NOTICE OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: If you have a disability and require special assistance to participate in this hearing, please contact Donna Montoya at least three days before the hearing date at 768-3147.

1. Liquor License/Application No.:

Applicant: Brewstillery, Inc.

Doing Business As: Differential Brewing

Proposed Address: 500 Yale Blvd SE, Albuquerque, NM 87106

The Applicant is seeking a Craft Distiller Liquor License

2. Liquor License/Application No.: DIS-001224

Applicant: TK Dev Albuquerque, LLC

Doing Business As: TK Vev Albuquerque

Proposed Address: 2400 Louisiana Blvd., NE, Suite 5A, Albuquerque, NM 87110

The Applicant is seeking a Transfer of Ownership of Dispenser Liquor License No. DIS-001224 On-Premise Consumption Only with Part Service

Steven M. Chavez, Esq.

January 22, 2025

Liquor Hearing Officer

Journal: January 25; February 1, 2025

COLLEGE SPORTS

Objections filed to \$2.8B NCAA antitrust settlement

LSU gymnast Dunne among at least 18 to raise concern

BY EDDIE PELLIS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

At least 18 objections have been filed against the \$2.8 billion settlement of antitrust allegations against the NCAA and the nation's biggest conferences — concerns ranging from roster limits and Title IX to what some call an unfair salary cap — but attorneys say they don't see any threats to pushing the industry-changing lawsuit through this year.

The deadline arrived Friday to submit objections to the so-called House settlement, which calls for former athletes to receive millions in back pay and also gives schools the option to distribute up to \$20.5 million a year in payments to athletes for use of their name, image and likeness (NIL).

U.S. District Judge Claudia Wilken will have to review the objections before the April 7 hearing she set to consider final approval of the settlement. The schools want to clear the way for the deal to take effect starting with the next academic year.

"We don't think there's anything in the objections that hasn't been known about the settlement, wasn't raised by others at the preliminary approval process," said the NCAA's lead counsel on the lawsuit, Rakesh Kilaru. "We don't think there's anything in the objections that will give the judge reason to change her mind."

Objections ranged from letters from soccer players to legal briefs picking apart the entire settlement to a seven-point objection from LSU gymnast and influencer Livvy Dunne, whose complaints included a lack of input from the athletes themselves.

Also late Friday, a group of 67 athletes who had opted out of the class-action settlement, including former Mississippi State running back Kylin Hill, filed their own antitrust lawsuit against the NCAA and the conferences.

Plaintiff attorney Jeffrey Kessler points to the more than 40,000 athletes who have filed claims for damages as evidence of the settlement's strength. Defendants in the lawsuit are the NCAA, Big Ten, Southeastern, Big 12, Atlantic Coast and Pac-12 conferences.

Some of the key topics related to the settlement:



ASSOCIATED PRESS

LSU gymnast Livvy Dunne filed an objection to the so-called House settlement, alleging a lack of input from athletes themselves.

Salary cap

The Justice Department in the final days of the Biden administration joined lawyers and athletes in arguing the \$20.5 million — which represents 22% of TV and other revenue at the biggest schools — amounts to an unfair salary cap.

One of the legal briefs objecting to the settlement called the figure "totally arbitrary." It also argued that setting limits on what athletes can make violates the very antitrust concerns the settlement was designed to address.

Attorneys who negotiated the deal disagree. They point to athletes who have opted out of the class-action settlement to pursue damages on their own, and also that third-party NIL payments that don't count against the \$20.5 million would still be allowed under terms of the deal.

"One of the persistent questions is, 'What's your better solution to this?'" Kilaru said. "I think what we received at the end of (the) negotiation on both ends is a good resolution of the antitrust claims and a good, stable state going forward."

Title IX

How schools navigate Title IX requirements under a new system in which players can make money is not an issue unique to the settlement.

The statute is intended to ensure gender equity in education, with broad ramifications, including athletics.

Last-minute guidance from the Biden administration's Education Department suggested that NIL payments from schools should be treated the same as educational benefits — a caveat that could put schools in violation of the law if they pay most of their NIL money to male athletes.

The issue, while daunting, should not be enough to scuttle approval of the settlement, Kessler said.

"I am a supporter of gender equity, but this is an antitrust case, not a Title IX case," Kessler said. "This settlement cannot resolve the Title IX issues. It's a misplaced forum. If Title IX requires the benefits to be paid in a certain way, the schools will have to comply with Title IX."

Roster limits

Hundreds of athletes have already lost roster spots on their teams as athletic departments prepare to adhere to a settlement that's still awaiting final approval.

The NCAA, however, views the rules that set new roster sizes while eliminating scholarship limits as a net gain for athletes, even if many rosters will diminish in size, costing walk-ons their spots.

"Prior to the settlement, there were scholarship limits. I think those were often called arbitrary," Kilaru said. "There were lots of calls to change them and then provide more scholarship opportunities for student-athletes. And in the main, the roster limits that have come about do that."

Kessler didn't see the objections over roster size as a roadblock to Wilken approving the settlement. He also said the roster limits were determined by the NCAA, not the plaintiffs, as part of the overall settlement.

"This is an issue between the people feeling this way about the roster limits and the NCAA imposing them," he said. "We did agree that the settlement would allow this, and that's because it's a compromise. We can't achieve everything in a compromise."

Back pay

There have also been objections over how the \$2.8 billion will be distributed to former athletes who played before NIL payments were allowed starting in July 2021.

Those payments, out of funds coming from the NCAA and the conferences, have been determined via a formula that tried to gauge an athlete's market value. Some of the objections have come from walk-on football players, who aren't eligible for payments, and athletes in small sports who are receiving very small payments.

On that and all the issues, Gabe Feldman, the director of the Tulane Sports Law program who has been following the settlement, said it's no surprise not every party in a class-action lawsuit covering thousands of people is happy and "there is no way to have a perfect agreement."

He suggested the lawsuit needs to be seen for what it is — antitrust litigation that remains likely to be approved on April 7.

"They don't have the power to create an entirely new model of college sports," Feldman said. "They don't have the authority to do that, and that's not what they're trying to do. So there are a lot of gaps left to be filled in by the NCAA, and by the conferences."

NON-GOV'T LEGALS

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the undersigned Special Master will, as set forth above, offer for sale and sell the Property to the highest bidder for cash or equivalent, for the purpose of satisfying, in the adjudged order of priorities, the judgment and decree of foreclosure described herein, including the costs of advertisement and publication for the foregoing sale, and reasonable Special Master's fees in an amount to be fixed by the Court.

The foregoing sale may be postponed and rescheduled at the discretion of the Special Master, and is subject to all taxes, utility liens, and other restrictions and easements of record, and subject to the Defendants' one (1) month right of redemption and entry of an order of the Court approving the terms and conditions of sale.

Witness my hand this 8th day of January, 2025.
By: /s/ Robert Doyle
Robert Doyle
Special Master
Legal Process Network
P.O. Box 279
Sandia Park, NM 87047
(505) 417-4113
Journal: January 11, 18, 25; February 1, 2025

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF SAN JUAN
ELEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

No. D-1116-CV-2024-00692

U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCAF ACQUISITION TRUST, Plaintiff,
v.
WESLEY LATTIN; REGIONAL FINANCE COMPANY OF NEW MEXICO, LLC, Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on March 3, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., the undersigned Special Master will, outside the front entrance of the Eleventh Judicial District Courthouse, 103 S. Oliver, Aztec NM 87410, sell all of the rights, title, and interests of the above-named Defendants, in and to the hereinafter described real property to the highest bidder. The property to be sold is located at 301 La Belle Avenue, Farmington, NM. 87401, San Juan County, New Mexico, and is more particularly described as:

LOT TWELVE (12) IN BLOCK SEVEN (7) OF THE WESTLAND PARK SUBDIVISION NO. 2, IN THE CITY OF FARMINGTON, SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO, AS SHOWN ON THE PLAT OF SAID SUBDIVISION FILED FOR RECORD MARCH 6, 1980

including any improvements, fixtures, and attachments, such as, but not limited to, mobile homes (the "Property"). If there is a conflict between the legal description and the street address, the legal description shall control.

The foregoing sale will be made to satisfy a foreclosure judgment rendered by this

NON-GOV'T LEGALS

Court in the above-entitled and numbered cause on January 6, 2025, being an action to foreclose a mortgage on the Property. Plaintiff's judgment is in the amount of \$153,755.26 plus interest of \$2,332.13 from November 21, 2024, through March 3, 2025. The Court reserves entry of final judgment against Defendant Wesley Lattin for the amount due after foreclosure sale, if any. Plaintiff has the right to bid at the foregoing sale in an amount equal to its judgment, and to submit its bid either verbally or in writing. Plaintiff may apply all or any part of its judgment to the purchase price in lieu of cash.

In accordance with the Court's decree, the proceeds of sale are to be applied first to the costs of sale, including the Special Master's fees, and then to satisfy the above-described judgment with any remaining balance to be paid into the registry of the Court.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the undersigned Special Master will, as set forth above, offer for sale and sell the Property to the highest bidder for cash or equivalent, for the purpose of satisfying, in the adjudged order of priorities, the judgment and decree of foreclosure described herein, including the costs of advertisement and publication for the foregoing sale, and reasonable Special Master's fees in an amount to be fixed by the Court.

The foregoing sale may be postponed and rescheduled at the discretion of the Special Master, and is subject to all taxes, utility liens and other restrictions and easements of record, and subject to the Defendants' one (1) month right of redemption and entry of an order of the Court approving the terms and conditions of sale.

Witness my hand this 8th day of January, 2025.

By: /s/ Robert Doyle
Robert Doyle
Special Master
Legal Process Network
P.O. Box 279
Sandia Park, NM 87047
(505) 417-4113

Journal: January 11, 18, 25, and February 1, 2025.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF BERNALILLO
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

No. D-202-PB-2025-00018

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Juan Francisco Velasco Jr., Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Juan Francisco Velasco Jr., Deceased. All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or the claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be presented to the Personal Representative Juan

NON-GOV'T LEGALS

Velasco III, c/o Pregenzer Baysinger Wideman & Sale, PC, 2424 Louisiana Boulevard NE, Suite 200, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110, or filed with Second Judicial District Court, Bernalillo County, 400 Lomas Boulevard NW, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102.

Dated: January 17, 2025.
/s/ Juan Velasco III
Juan Velasco III
7316 Mojave Street NW
Albuquerque, NM 87120
(505) 301-4428
Personal Representative
PREGENZER BAYSINGER WIDEMAN & SALE, PC

By:/s/ Margaret A. Graham
Margaret A. Graham, Esq.
2424 Louisiana Blvd NE, Suite 200
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110
Phone: (505) 872-0505
Fax: (505) 872-1009
mgramham@pbwslaw.com
Attorney for Personal Representative
Journal: January 25; February 1, 8, 2025

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF SAN JUAN
ELEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

No. D-1116-CV-2024-01176

GEORGIA CORTEZ, Personal Representative of the Estate of PAULINE G. POTTER, Plaintiff,

vs.
CHRISTOPHER SANCHEZ, IF LIVING, OR THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES AND LEGATEES OF THE ESTATE OF CHRISTOPHER SANCHEZ, IF DECEASED, Defendants.

NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION

To the following named defendant by name, if living, and the unknown heirs, devisees and legatees of the Estate of the following named deceased person, if deceased: CHRISTOPHER SANCHEZ.

GREETINGS: You are hereby notified that the above-named Plaintiff has filed an action against you in the above titled Court and case, the general object thereof being to real property into the name of Plaintiff.

If you do not file a response in this case on or before thirty days after the third publication of this Notice, a default judgment may be entered against you. Your Response must be filed with the above-titled Court. [X] This case involves real property located in San Juan County, New Mexico, described as follows:

Lot Four (4) in Block Eight (8) of the WESTLAND PARK SUBDIVISION NO.2 in the city of Farmington, San Juan County, New Mexico, as shown on the Plat of said Subdivision filed for record March 6, 1980.

Name, mailing address and telephone number of Plaintiffs' Attorneys: Samantha Finlayson Day
Address: 2701 Arizona St. NE Albuquerque, NM 87110
Telephone #: (505) 843-7303

NON-GOV'T LEGALS

This Notice of Pendency was approved by the presiding Judge in this matter.

NEW MEXICO LEGAL GROUP, P.C.

By: /s/ Samantha Finlayson Day
Samantha Finlayson Day
Attorneys for the Plaintiff
2701 Arizona St. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110
(505) 843-7303
Journal: January 25; February 1, 8, 2025

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF BERNALILLO
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
Case No. D-202-PB-2024-00938
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JOSEPHINE ARVIZU, Deceased

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed as Personal Representative of this Estate. All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present their claims within three (3) months after the date of the last publication of this Notice or their claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented to Kristal Vargas, c/o Law Office of Ryan D. Baughman, LLC, 814 Marquette Ave NW, Albuquerque, NM 87102, or filed with the Second

Judicial District Court of Bernalillo County, New Mexico. DATED: January 14, 2025
BY: /s/ Kristal Vargas
Kristal Vargas
Prepared by: LAW OFFICE OF RYAN D. BAUGHMAN, LLC
/s/ Ryan D. Baughman
814 Marquette Ave. NW Albuquerque, NM 87102
Phone: (505) 675-0732
Ryan@NMLawOffice.com
Attorney for Personal Representative
Journal: January 25; February 1, 8, 2025

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF BERNALILLO
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
Case No. D-202-PB-2024-00852
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF FREDRICK S. HUTCHISON, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Fredrick S. Hutchison, Deceased. All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or the claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be presented to the Personal Representative, c/o Pregenzer Baysinger Wideman & Sale, PC, 2424 Louisiana Boulevard NE, Suite 200, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110, or filed with the Second Judicial District Court, Bernalillo County, PO Box 488, Albuquerque, NM 87103.

NON-GOV'T LEGALS

Dated: January 28, 2024.
/s/ Michele Ortega
MICHELE ORTEGA
706 South Cedar Avenue
Roswell, NM 88203
575-626-2787
Personal Representative

PREGENZER BAYSINGER WIDEMAN & SALE, PC

By:/s/ William Dunn
William P. Dunn
2424 Louisiana Blvd NE, Suite 200
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110
Phone: (505) 872-0505
Fax: (505) 872-1009
wdunn@pbwslaw.com
Attorney for Personal Representative

Journal: February 1, 8, 15, 2025.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF BERNALILLO
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
NO. D-202-DM-2024-03145
MARCIA SANDLIN
Petitioner,
vs.

YOREL SANDLIN
Respondent.

NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION

STATE OF NEW MEXICO to the above-named Respondent (s). Greetings: You are hereby notified that the above-named Petitioner has filed a civil action against you in the above entitled Court and cause, the general object thereof being: VERIFIED PETITION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE (WITHOUT CHILDREN) (title of petition) Unless you enter your appearance in said cause on or before thirty (30) days after the last date of publication, a judgment by default will be entered against you. Name and Address of Petitioner or Petitioner's Attorney: MARCIA SANDLIN 398 MONTGOMERY BLVD NE, #31 ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87109

WITNESS the Honorable Amber Chavez Baker, District Judge of the Second Judicial District
Court of the State of New Mexico, and the seal of the District Court of Bernalillo County, on this the 26th day of November, 2024.
KATINA WATSON
CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT
By: /s/Patrick Romancito
Journal: February 1, 8, 15, 2025

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF BERNALILLO
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
No. D-202-PB-2025-00024
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF EDDIE ORLANDO ROMERO, AKA EDDIE O. ROMERO
DECEASED.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed personal representative of this estate. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the

NON-GOV'T LEGALS

first publication of any published notice to creditors or the date of mailing or other delivery of this notice, whichever is later, or the claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented either to the undersigned personal representative at the address listed below, or filed with the Second Judicial District Court, Bernalillo County, 400 Lomas Blvd NW Albuquerque, NM 87102
/s/Robert B. Romero
personal representative of the estate of Eddie O. Romero, Deceased
6319 Evesham Rd. NW Albuquerque, NM 87102
Lighthouse Law LLC, a New Mexico limited liability company
by:/s/Larry Curtis Vernon
5732 Osuna Rd. NE Albuquerque, NM 87109
505-401-2366
Journal: February 1, 8, 15, 2025

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF VALENCIA
THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the estate of the decedent. All persons having claims against the estate of the decedent are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or the claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented either to the undersigned Personal Representative at the address listed below, or filed with the Sandoval County District Court, 1500 Idalia Road, Building A, Bernalillo, NM 87004.

DATED: December 30, 2024

/s/ Earl R. Richardson
EARL R. RICHARDSON
1109 S. County Rd. 1130
Midland, TX 79706

DAVID A. GRAMMER III
Grammer Law Offices, P.C.
Attorney for Personal Representative
2730 San Pedro Drive NE, Suite D
Albuquerque, NM 87110
Tel. (505) 883-9880
Fax (505) 225-4121
E mail: david@grammerlawoffices.com

Journal: February 1, 8, 15, 2025

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
IN THE PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF BERNALILLO
No. 20241129
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF OLIVIA ANTONIA DIAZ, DECEASED.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ROBERT CASEY DIAZ has been appointed personal representative of the estate of OLIVIA ANTONIA DIAZ. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of any published notice to creditors or sixty (60) days after the date of mailing or other delivery of this notice, whichever is later, or the claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented to ROBERT CASEY DIAZ at 2048 E. 102nd Circle, Thornton, CO, 80229 or to Walk-in wills Carlisle, P.C. (Carlos A. Jauregui, Esq.) at 2000 Carlisle Blvd NE, Suite G, Albuquerque, NM 87110, and may be filed with the Probate Court of Bernalillo, County, New Mexico. Dated: 10/8/24
/s/Robert Casey Diaz

That unless you respond to the Complaint within 30 days of completion of publication of this Notice, judgment by default will be entered against you. Name, address, and phone number of Plaintiffs' attorney: Tiffany & Bosco, P.A., 1700 Louisiana Blvd. NE, #300, Albuquerque, NM 87110, (505) 248-2400.

WITNESS the Honorable CINDY M. MERCER, District Judge of the Thirteenth Judicial District Court of the State of New Mexico, and the Seal of the District Court of Valencia County, this 29 day of January, 2025.

WITNESS the Honorable CINDY M. MERCER, District Judge of the Thirteenth Judicial District Court of the State of New Mexico, and the Seal of the District Court of Valencia County, this 29 day of January, 2025.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed personal representative of this estate. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the

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PHILLIP ROMERO
CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT

(SEAL)
By /s/ Illegible
Deputy

Journal: February 1, 8, 15, 2025.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF SANDOVAL
THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

No. D-1329-PB-2025-00007

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF THOMAS F. AP- PLEGATE, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the estate of the decedent. All persons having claims against the estate of the decedent are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or the claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented either to the undersigned Personal Representative at the address listed below, or filed with the Sandoval County District Court, 1500 Idalia Road, Building A, Bernalillo, NM 87004. DATED: December 30, 2024
/s/ Earl R. Richardson
EARL R. RICHARDSON
1109 S. County Rd. 1130
Midland, TX 79706

DAVID A. GRAMMER III
Grammer Law Offices, P.C.
Attorney for Personal Representative
2730 San Pedro Drive NE, Suite D
Albuquerque, NM 87110
Tel. (505) 883-9880
Fax (505) 225-4121
E mail: david@grammerlawoffices.com

Journal: February 1, 8, 15, 2025

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
IN THE PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF BERNALILLO
No. 20241129
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF OLIVIA ANTONIA DIAZ, DECEASED.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ROBERT CASEY DIAZ has been appointed personal representative of the estate of OLIVIA ANTONIA DIAZ. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of any published notice to creditors or sixty (60) days after the date of mailing or other delivery of this notice, whichever is later, or the claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented to ROBERT CASEY DIAZ at 2048 E. 102nd Circle, Thornton, CO, 80229 or to Walk-in wills Carlisle, P.C. (Carlos A. Jauregui, Esq.) at 2000 Carlisle Blvd NE, Suite G, Albuquerque, NM 87110, and may be filed with the Probate Court of Bernalillo, County, New Mexico. Dated: 10/8/24
/s/Robert Casey Diaz

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Rodger Wille has been appointed personal representative of the estate of Charles Wille, deceased. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present their claims within two (2) months after the date of the first publication of this notice, or the claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented either to the personal representative, c/o Ryan P. Danoff and Brett J. Danoff, Danoff Law Firm, 1225 Rio Grande Blvd. NW, Albuquerque, New Mexico, addressed to P.O. Box 488, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103 Dated: 21 January 2025
/s/Rodger Wille
Personal Representative
3167 Heritage Crossing Drive
Bulford, GA 30519
Journal: January 25; February 1, 8, 2025

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Personal Representative
Walk-In Wills Carlisle, P.C.
By /s/Carlos A. Jauregui, Esq.
2000 Carlisle NE, Suite G
Albuquerque, New Mexico
87110
505-903-7000
Attorneys for Personal Representative
Journal: January 18, 25, February 1, 2025

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
IN THE PROBATE COURT
SANDOVAL COUNTY
No. SCPB 2024366
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF FREDERICK GREGORY APPEL, DECEASED.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

CHRISTOPHER JOHN APPEL has been appointed personal representative of the estate of FREDERICK GREGORY APPEL, deceased. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of any published notice to creditors or sixty (60) days after the date of mailing or other delivery of this notice, whichever is later, or the claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented to CHRISTOPHER JOHN APPEL at 9518 Cadbury Circle Indianapolis, Indiana 46260 or to Walk-in wills Carlisle, P.C. (Carlos A. Jauregui, Esq.) at 2000 Carlisle Blvd NE, Suite G, Albuquerque, NM 87110, and may be filed with the District Court of Sandoval County, New Mexico. Dated: January 14, 2025
/s/Christopher John Appel
Personal Representative
Walk-In Wills Carlisle, P.C.
By /s/Carlos A. Jauregui, Esq.
2000 Carlisle NE, Suite G
Albuquerque, New Mexico
87110
505-903-7000
Attorneys for Personal Representative
Journal: January 18, 25, February 1, 2025

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
IN THE PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF BERNALILLO
No. D-202-PB-2024-00907
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CHARLES WILLE, DECEASED.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Rodger Wille has been appointed personal representative of the estate of Charles Wille, deceased. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present their claims within two (2) months after the date of the first publication of this notice, or the claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented either to the personal representative, c/o Ryan P. Danoff and Brett J. Danoff, Danoff Law Firm, 1225 Rio Grande Blvd. NW, Albuquerque, New Mexico, addressed to P.O. Box 488, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103 Dated: 21 January 2025
/s/Rodger Wille
Personal Representative
3167 Heritage Crossing Drive
Bulford, GA 30519
Journal: January 25; February 1, 8, 2025

