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BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

House advances Ukraine, Israel aid

Rare bipartisan deal helps push package over crucial hurdle

By Stephen Groves, Lisa Mascaro and Kevin Freking
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — With rare bipartisan momentum, the House pushed ahead Friday on a foreign aid package of \$95 billion for Ukraine, Israel, Taiwan and humanitarian support as a robust coalition of lawmakers helped it clear a procedural hurdle to reach final votes this weekend.

Friday's vote produced a seldom-seen outcome in the typically hyper-partisan House, with Democrats helping Republican Speaker Mike Johnson's plan advance 316-94. Final House approval could come this weekend, when the package would be sent to the Senate.

It was a victory for the strategy Johnson set in motion this week after he agonized for two months over the legislation.

Still, Johnson has had to spend the past 24 hours making the rounds on conservative media working to salvage support for the wartime funding, particularly for Ukraine as it faces a critical moment battling Russia, but also for his own job as the effort to remove him as speaker grew.

"Ukrainians desperately need lethal aid right now. ... We cannot allow Vladimir Putin to roll through another country and take it," Johnson told the conservative host of "The Mark Levin Show" about the Russian president's invasion of Ukraine. "These are very serious matters with global implications."

Johnson said after the vote that while it wasn't "perfect legislation," it was the "best possible product" Republicans can get given their thin majority in one chamber of Congress.

After months of delay, the House worked slowly but deliberately once Johnson made up his mind this week to plow ahead with a package that matches, with a few alterations, what the Senate passed in February. President Joe Biden sent a swift endorsement of the speaker's plan and, in a rare moment, Donald Trump, the Republican presumed presidential nominee who opposes most overseas aid for Ukraine, has not derailed the speaker's work.

"The world is watching what the Congress does," the White House said in a statement. "Passing this

Turn to Aid, Page 6



RICH STORRY/GETTY

Bulls knocked out in play-in game

The Heat took the last spot in the Eastern Conference playoffs as they rolled past the Bulls 112-91 in a play-in tournament elimination game. **Chicago Sports**

Full jury seated in hush-money trial

A full jury of 12 people and six alternates was seated in Donald Trump's hush-money case, setting the stage for opening statements next week. **Nation & World**



Fraternal Order of Police President John Catanzara, center, is heckled by fellow attendees after speaking about Andrea Kersten, chief administrator of the Civilian Office of Police Accountability, during the public comments section of the Chicago Police Board meeting Thursday. **JOHN J. KIM/TRIBUNE**

Protesters appear at testy meeting of Police Board

Activists call for firing of 5 officers involved in shooting death of Dexter Reed

By Sam Charles
Chicago Tribune

At the Chicago Police Board's monthly meeting Thursday night, anger was palpable.

One month after Dexter Reed was killed in a shootout with CPD officers in Humboldt Park, dozens of activists and protesters flocked to Chicago police headquarters, calling for the firing of the five officers involved in the shooting and for the department to end its use of plainclothes tactical units.

The meeting also offered a

chance for members of the public to hear another, at times rancorous, back-and-forth between leaders of CPD and the Civilian Office of Police Accountability. Generational fault lines among attendees were made clear, too.

"Dexter Reed should be here today," Grace Patino, treasurer of the Chicago Alliance Against Racist and Political Oppression, told the board during the meeting's lengthy public comment period.

"The officers involved in the execution of Dexter Reed must be

immediately fired and prosecuted to the fullest extent possible of the law," Patino added. "These death squads in Chicago, also known as 'tact teams,' need to be disbanded. We need an immediate end to pretextual traffic stops and Larry Snelling should be fired."

COPA last week released several videos showing the March 21 shooting of Reed. The tense footage appears to show Reed — purportedly pulled over for not wearing a seatbelt — shooting an officer in the wrist before four other tactical officers opened fire,

shooting nearly 100 rounds, killing the 26-year-old in the 3800 block of West Ferdinand Street.

Publicly, Superintendent Larry Snelling has been careful to not make any statements about the shooting other than to say that the Police Department is cooperating in COPA's investigation. However, Snelling this week repeatedly criticized COPA's chief administrator, Andrea Kersten, for her own statements to reporters about the status of COPA's investigation and

Turn to Police, Page 4



Mayor Brandon Johnson stands before the Chicago City Council on Friday as it considers his \$1.25 billion bond proposal. **TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Johnson's ambitious bond plan, migrant proposal pass council

Pair of big outlays overcome series of delays, pushback

By Jake Sheridan
Chicago Tribune

Mayor Brandon Johnson scored two major victories Friday as the Chicago City Council passed his \$1.25 billion bond plan and a \$70 million migrant package.

The two big outlays faced tough pushback and an array of holdups as they worked through City Hall. But their ultimate passage gives Johnson much-needed money to continue the daily churn of migrant caretaking while adding a sprawling pool of cash to spend on housing, job growth and cultural projects.

After the votes, Johnson linked the two policies together, pushing back against opponents' claim his administration

is investing money on migrants but not long-term residents.

"What people are saying is, 'It's our turn. When is it our turn?' And our turn is now," he said. "I just happen to believe that we can do both/and."

The migrant spending plan required a full-court press from Johnson's team. Staffers methodically briefed aldermen on the plan, and Cook

Turn to Council, Page 4

Pritzker: CTA needs 'evolution' at the top

Leadership in question as agency struggles to provide reliable service

By Jeremy Gerner, Sarah Freishtat and Jake Sheridan
Chicago Tribune

SPRINGFIELD — Gov. J.B. Pritzker called for an "evolution of the leadership" at the CTA, as embattled agency President Dorval Carter has looked to Springfield for solutions to a looming budget crisis.

Pritzker is the latest to weigh in on Carter's leadership, as the CTA president has found himself in the hot seat while the agency struggled in recent years to provide frequent, reliable and safe service. At the same time, the Illinois General Assembly is weighing a sweeping set of recommendations about what Chicago-area transit could look like in the future, including whether the CTA should be consolidated with Metra and Pace into one agency and how to address a transit fiscal cliff expected when federal pandemic aid runs out.

Thursday night, from his ceremonial office in the Illinois State

Turn to CTA, Page 2

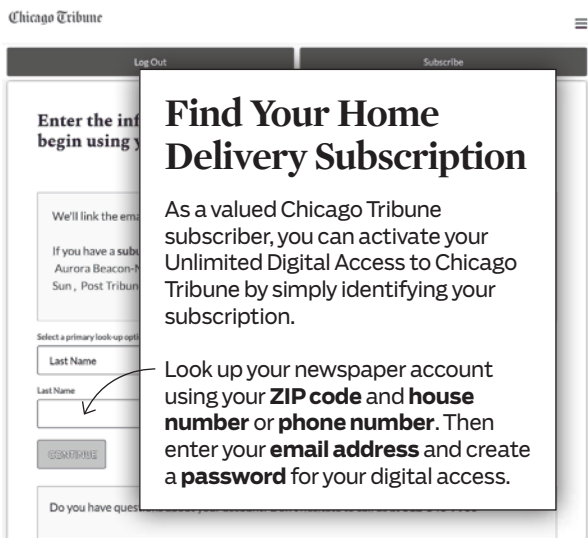


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Tribune books

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

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

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

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

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

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Accuracy and ethics

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Corrections and clarifications: Publishing information quickly and accurately is a central part of the Chicago Tribune’s news responsibility.

■ A story about the Chicago Teachers Union contract proposal in Wednesday’s news section misidentified the Building Owners and Managers Association of Chicago. The Tribune regrets the error.

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INSIDE

Almanac	News	6	Horoscopes	Business	10
Arts & Living	Business	7	Nation & World	Business	3
Bridge	Business	10	Obituaries	News	6
Comics	Business	10-11	Sudoku	Business	11
Crossword	Business	11	Television	Business	9
Editorials	News	5	Weather	News	8

Young Chicago activists demand climate action at downtown rally

Teenagers gather, march in Loop, say situation is urgent

By Rebecca Johnson
Chicago Tribune

Teenage activists held a rally Friday afternoon demanding urgent action from government officials to slow climate change, calling it a “public health emergency that affects every breath we take and every sip we drink.”

Dozens gathered in Pritzker Park in the Loop before marching nearly a half-mile to Chase Tower, urging Chase Bank and other financial institutions to divest from the fossil fuel industry.

Last year was the warmest on record globally, and the 10 warmest years since 1850 have all occurred in the past decade, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Illinois climatologists have also said that warmer temperatures in winter are “strongly tied” to climate change, with less snowfall in Chicago.

Young demonstrators carried signs that read “Don’t be a climate fool” and “End climate change” while chanting, “The tides are rising, so are we.” Protesters also sang a parody of the song “Radioactive” by Imagine Dragons, saying, “We’re waking up to melting poles, making hot what once was cold.”

The march was organized by the Chicago chapter of Fridays for Future, an international movement started in 2018 by Greta Thunberg and other young activists who protested a lack of action on climate change in Sweden.

“Youth voices are the most powerful in calling for change,” said Natasha Bhatia, one of the Chicago chapter’s founders. “Everyone has a climate story. When we share them, when we speak out together, we truly have the power to create change and protect our planet.”

Particularly in an election year, the 18-year-old said climate change must remain a primary concern among voters and candidates. Whether it’s attending a protest or organizing



Ellie Trost-Rekich, of Palatine, chants with other climate and environmental activists in front of Chase Tower in downtown Chicago during a rally on Friday.



Climate and environmental activists chant in front of Chase Tower in Chicago during a rally on Friday demanding urgent action from government officials to slow climate change.
CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

climate education at schools, she said young people should have support so their voices are heard.

Bhatia started the group alongside Danica Sun after she watched a documentary her sophomore year about ocean acidification, a consequence of increasing carbon dioxide emissions that can hurt fish, oysters and other creatures. Now a Hinsdale Central High School senior, Bhatia said it opened her eyes to the urgency of climate change and “how little action is being taken.”

“I just knew that I wanted to use my voice to make a change,” she said, adding that she sometimes coordinates permits during her lunch break.

More than a dozen other environmental groups, including Chicago Climate Youth Coalition and Sunrise Movement, joined Fridays

for Future Chicago at the protest. The march was held in different cities throughout the country as well, each calling on political leaders in wealthy nations to “rein in the fossil economy and limit global heating.”

For Mahima Krishnan, 15, it’s important to protest and “make the right people listen” to fight for a future that isn’t characterized by poor economic outcomes and quality of life due to climate change. She called for investment in clean energy, sustainable transportation and resilient infrastructure.

Krishnan said she also wanted President Joe Biden to declare a climate emergency and curb oil production. According to Bloomberg, White House officials recently renewed talks to invoke a national climate emergency in a

move that could unlock federal powers to stifle oil development.

“We demand access to quality health care, clean air, safe water and nutritious food for all,” the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy sophomore said. “It’s time to empower communities, especially the most vulnerable, to adapt and thrive in the face of climate challenges.”

Shreshtha Ghanta, 15, added that young people won’t stand by while “our future is compromised,” saying they will fight to create one that is “green and thriving for all.”

“The time to act is now,” she said. “We will not be bystanders in the destruction of our planet. We will be the leaders that save it.”

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CTA

from Page 1

Capitol, Pritzker said changes were needed at CTA, and “that’s going to take some new leadership and additional leadership.”

“I think that there needs to be an evolution of the leadership in order for us to get where we need to go with CTA,” he said during an unrelated news conference.

Though CTA is based in Chicago, Pritzker has some measure of control over the agency, appointing three of the transit board’s seven members. And the recommendations under consideration by lawmakers have heightened the importance of Carter’s relationship with state officials.

The recommendations come as the region’s public transit agencies face a combined \$730 million budget hole once federal COVID-19 relief funding starts running out, which could be as soon as 2025. The agencies have warned that failure to plug the hole could lead to catastrophic service cuts and fare increases.

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning drafted the set of recommendations, sent to lawmakers in December, to address public transit funding, governance and the experience of riding buses and trains, proposing \$1 billion or more in new public funding annually, options to revamp oversight of the region’s transit agencies and other suggestions. Many of the suggestions are likely to be politically contentious, which makes the CTA’s relationship with lawmakers crucial during negotiations.

But the CTA recently has faced a range of challenges, including so-called ghost buses and trains, long wait

times and concerns about personal safety, both real and perceived.

Carter has come under fire as complaints have mounted, drawing the attention of some other elected officials. Chicago aldermen tried for a year to haul in Carter and CTA officials to regularly testify before they succeeded. Later, in February, they brought him before City Council as part of a new requirement that CTA officials appear for quarterly committee hearings.

On Tuesday, Ald. Matt Martin called for Carter to be fired, citing the CTA’s failure to add promised service. The Tribune has previously reported that CTA slashed train schedules by as much as 25% to 30% compared with 2019 levels, and lagged in adding back service, even as other cities began to do so. CTA recently began to add back some bus service and said it would be adding back train service, but train schedules unveiled earlier this month included few service additions, with much scheduled service expected to remain similar to previous levels.

Few aldermen have publicly called for Carter’s firing, though a large majority of the council’s Transportation Committee told the Tribune in February they wanted Carter ousted. But Mayor Brandon Johnson declined to put pressure on Carter Wednesday when asked if the transit leader still has his confidence.

“We continue to evaluate all of our leaders, and Dorval Carter is no exception,” he said. “In the event they don’t live up to our expectation, we will make another decision.”

Asked Friday if he agrees with Pritzker that the CTA needs new leadership, Johnson did not answer.

“It’s my job to determine that leadership,” he said.

When pressed, he declined to say how he is evaluating Carter’s performance and when he would share any decision on the transit leader’s future. He repeated that he does not publicly discuss personnel issues.

Then, in an apparent swipe at the governor, he said, “If people want to be mayor, they should run for it.”

While much attention has been placed on Carter in Chicago, Pritzker’s comments reflect the latest sentiments out of Springfield about how state officials believe the CTA needs improvement under his leadership.

Just last week, the Illinois Senate unanimously passed bipartisan legislation related to a serious collision in November between a CTA train and snowplow near Chicago’s border with Evanston that left at least 16 people injured, seven of them CTA employees. The measure, which now moves to the House for consideration, would require annual reports from the CTA, Illinois Department of Transportation, Regional Transportation Authority and Metra detailing the safety recommendations made over a one-year period from the National Transportation Safety Board, as well as the status of their implementation.

The reports, which would spell out the recommendations and the transportation agencies’ progress in following them by Dec. 31 of each year, must be viewable to the public online as well as to the General Assembly.

Asked about Pritzker’s comments, CTA issued a lengthy statement highlighting the need for more state funding as its financial cliff looms and said it would continue working with other transit agencies

on funding solutions. The agency has been a “good steward” of federal relief funding, the statement said, but “the concerns over a possible fiscal cliff are real.”

“Since 2015, the CTA has identified more than \$1 billion in cost savings and non-farebox revenue growth, all without impacts to service or safety-sensitive positions,” the agency said. “Historically, and over the last 25 years, Illinois state capital funding has been intermittent, with funding available every other five-year period.”

CTA also highlighted efforts to draw back customers and address some of the challenges it has faced.

“The upward ridership trends, decreasing crime rates and improved service reliability that CTA is experiencing are evidence that our efforts have been productive,” the agency said. “We’ve also restored bus service to near-pre-COVID-19 levels and are adding rail service as we increase staffing levels to meet the growing need.”

Carter recently told the transit board he met with state legislators this month about the current state of the CTA and the looming financial troubles. He characterized the meetings, which included one with Illinois House Speaker Emanuel “Chris” Welch, as “very productive.”

“I’m very encouraged with the overall receptiveness of the legislature to recognize that there’s a problem here that CTA cannot solve by itself, and one in which we’re going to need some sort of broader holistic solution to what funding opportunities are,” he told agency board members.

Sarah Freishtat and Jake Sheridan reported from Chicago.

Chicago Teachers Union seeks 9% raises in contract proposals

Bargaining sessions are set to begin for ‘ambitious’ contract

By Alysa Guffey
Chicago Tribune

The Chicago Teachers Union is asking for 9% annual raises or compensation equivalent to the consumer price index, whichever is higher, as part of its contract proposals, to account for rising inflation and the cost of living.

The union’s raise request also aims to improve teacher retention and recruitment in Chicago Public Schools.

The 30,000-member teachers union publicly launched its bargaining efforts earlier this

week, calling proposals for their four-year contract renewal with CPS the “most ambitious” yet.

“It’s not just our economic proposals,” CTU President Stacy Davis Gates said at a Tuesday morning news conference on bargaining efforts.

The CTU has yet to specify all demands included in contract proposals. But at the forefront of priorities is paying the union’s workforce of predominantly women “their fair share” and to raise the floor for paraprofessionals such as clerks and teacher assistants who are the lowest wage earners in the union, Davis Gates said Tuesday.

The union has also promised to extend negotiations “beyond economic proposals.”

“We are asking for substan-

tial amounts of investment into our school community,” added Davis Gates, flanked by educators who advocated for expanding bilingual, sports, fine arts and restorative justice programming and Sustainable Community Schools.

To bring the public to the table in finding solutions, CTU said it sent a request to CPS last Friday to livestream bargaining sessions. The district has not responded to the request.

CPS has said it wants to learn more about the union’s request and that the district “looks forward to negotiating a fair contract that balances the interests of the hard-working educators with our budget constraints” when negotiations commence.

Suspected measles exposure reported in Evergreen Park

By Kate Armanini
Chicago Tribune

County health officials are warning unvaccinated residents after a possible measles exposure at a Sam’s Club in Evergreen Park earlier this month.

The exposure happened at the Sam’s Club store at 9400 S. Western Ave. on April 9, between 10 a.m. and 2:45 p.m. The infected individual is a Chicago resident, according to a statement from the Cook County Department of Public Health.

A total of 63 cases have been recorded in Chicago this year. Fifty-two percent of those infected were children under 4, according to city’s Department of Public Health.

The first Chicago measles case in five years was detected

March 7. Dozens of cases have since been reported in the city’s migrant shelters, hospitalizing several young children and raising concerns about the conditions of the crowded facilities. Amid the outbreak, the city administered more than 15,000 vaccine doses. There is no known link between the recent case and those at the shelters, officials said.

Measles is a highly contagious respiratory infection that causes a rash and high fever. It can be particularly severe in young children and lead to other complications, such as pneumonia. Cases in the city remain rare due to high vaccination coverage for childhood.

Since the outbreak in Chicago, at least one positive case has been detected in Will County and another in DuPage County.

Police

from Page 1

the agency’s process.

“Last week’s release of materials and my public comments pertaining to the fatal police shooting of Dexter Reed, in which an officer was also shot and wounded, have led to sharp criticisms,” Kersten told those in attendance Thursday night. “This criticism demonstrates a fundamental lack of understanding of COPA’s role and process, and smacks of hypocrisy.”

Kersten noted that COPA routinely provides preliminary information about police shootings in the days after they occur — a marked change from the pre-Laquan McDonald era when the Fraternal Order of Police would usually give media updates to such shootings.

“This is misleading at best,” Snelling said in response. “When you make statements and you put them out in the public, you’re framing the mind(s) of the people before the video is even released.”

“There is nothing wrong with transparency, transparency is of the utmost importance,” Snelling added. “But when information is leaked prior to releasing the video, when statements are made without all of the information, an investigation has to begin. And if we’re starting by putting it out in the public in a manner in which we framed it, and we expect the public to see it the way we want them to see it, it’s problematic. This is why I’ve made no statements about this shooting.”

At least 70 people attended Thursday’s meeting, far more than the dozen or so who typically show up. Several CPD higher-ups, including the department’s new chief of patrol and Snelling’s chief of staff, also attended.

Kyle Cooper, the board president, announced at the meeting’s start that the board would not take any action on pending disciplinary cases. The Fraternal Order of Police, Cooper said, will soon file an appeal to a recent order from a Cook County judge that could greatly impact the future of serious police misconduct cases in Chicago.

FOP President John Catanzara praised Cooper and the board for holding off on making any disciplinary decisions. But soon, over a chorus of boos and taunts from protesters, he turned his attention to Kersten, a frequent target of criticism by CPD’s most fervent supporters.

“It just goes to show the mindset here that you caused with your press conferences,” Catanzara said, pointing at Kersten. “And now it’s inciting people to have absolutely inaccurate statements and untruthful statements being said.”

“And thank God for Superintendent Snelling, who was part of a command channel review for many years now, who saw your progressively biased opinions,” Catanzara added.

Matt Brandon, a longtime South



A rally in memory of Dexter Reed takes place outside Chicago police headquarters on Thursday. Reed was fatally shot by police during a traffic stop on March 21. JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS



Andrea Kersten, chief administrator of the Civilian Office of Police Accountability, addresses Chicago Police Board meeting attendees about police body camera footage released of the March 21 fatal shooting of Reed.

Shore resident and organizer with Operation Neighborhood Safety, was among the few who agreed with Snelling.

“Transparency is something that we all want, but we want it after the fact, not before the fact. Preliminary facts don’t always bear out,” Brandon said. “I think you do a disservice when you go out before everything has been investigated, and I think that creates the type of atmosphere we have here today. It was a tragedy that happened to Dexter, absolutely, but you need to wait until all the facts come out so the community has the facts.”

Statements from Brandon and others who regularly attend the board’s monthly meeting — calling

for collaboration between police and residents — were met with jeers from activists.

Around 6 p.m. March 21 — about 90 minutes before the start of the police board’s March meeting — five CPD tactical officers assigned to the Harrison District (11th) curbed Reed’s SUV in the 3800 block of West Ferdinand, allegedly after he was seen not wearing a seat belt.

Body-worn camera footage of the shooting, released last week by COPA, shows the officers exit an unmarked police vehicle, draw their weapons and repeatedly order Reed to roll down his SUV’s tinted windows. Reed initially complied and rolled down his



Chicago police Superintendent Larry Snelling responds to statements from Kersten at the monthly Chicago Police Board meeting at police headquarters on Thursday.

window, but appeared to disregard the officers’ commands to roll down the window on the passenger side.

Moments later, Reed appeared to shoot the CPD officer standing on the SUV’s passenger side. The other four officers then opened fire, shooting dozens of rounds at Reed, who exited the vehicle before falling to the pavement. One officer fired three more shots at Reed as he was lying motionless in the street.

That officer — just 23 years old — shot at least 50 times during the 41 seconds of gunfire. He was one of three officers who reloaded their weapons, according to the Civilian Office of Police Accountability.

A CPD source said 11 spent bullet casings were found inside Reed’s vehicle. Reed’s autopsy was still pending last week and it was not yet known how many of the officers’ shots struck him.

Days after the shooting, Kersten wrote to Snelling to express concerns about the validity of the traffic stop that precipitated the shooting. She called for the four officers who fired their weapons to be stripped of police powers during the investigation’s pendency, and Kersten noted, too, that the same group of tactical officers was already under investigation in connection with another traffic stop they performed just weeks earlier.

Council

from Page 1

County Board President Toni Preckwinkle even made calls to wrangle votes.

The effort helped the funding pass in a 30-18 vote. Still, the fissures of a council bitterly divided shone bright as the legislation crossed the finish line.

The ordinance continued to face fierce opposition Friday from opponents who contended the money should instead go to long-term Chicago residents. Aldermen representing Black neighborhoods on the South and West sides led the dissent, calling the caretaking effort bloated and not straggling while maintaining their struggling wards deserve the money more.

“As much as our heart goes out, we’re not seeing it in our community,” Ald. David Moore, 17th, said.

The funding adds to the \$150

million the city has already budgeted for this year’s migrant care. The addition is part of a joint plan alongside the county and state to fund the endeavor through the end of 2024. The county and state pledged \$250 million in February. At the time, Johnson initially bristled when asked if he had agreed to the final \$70 million needed to fully meet projected costs.

Supporters painted the vote to pay for migrant care not as a choice, but a necessity. Without funding, thousands of migrants will still come to Chicago, but will instead go homeless and stretch city resources, they said.

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott has sent thousands of migrants to Chicago via bus and plane, Ald. Andre Vasquez, 40th, said. Politically motivated migrant shipments will ramp up before the Democratic National Convention whether the city has money to pay for care or not, he said.

“Do you want to see 11,000 people inside of shelters or outside of buildings? People do not disappear because the money does not show up,” Vasquez said.

Divisions lingered, too, around the \$1.25 billion bond plan that passed in a 32-17 vote. For the fourth, fifth and sixth time, opponents of the plan made motions to dramatically change it.

Ald. Bill Conway, 34th, proposed lowering the plan’s total amount to \$750 million, a halfway measure between the \$350 million he proposed last week and Johnson’s own proposal. Moments later, Ald. Brendan Reilly, 42nd, repeated an effort to lower the threshold at which bond-backed projects would require the City Council’s approval from \$5 million to \$1 million. Ald. Raymond Lopez, 15th, later proposed a \$2.5 million threshold. All three motions failed.

Ald. Sam Nugent, 39th, panned the lack of oversight over many

expensive projects and uncertainty around what the money will go toward before her “no” vote.

“We are being asked to sign a \$1.25 billion check, and we just don’t know what we are paying,” she said. “The threshold is too high for oversight, and there’s not enough transparency.”

The bevy of attempted amendments reminded Vice Mayor Ald. Walter Burnett, 27th, of the infamous “Council Wars” of the mid-1980s, when a bloc of white aldermen attempted to stymie every effort made by Mayor Harold Washington, he said.

High interest rates make housing and business projects harder to complete for developers, said Burnett, whose ward includes the booming Fulton Market district. The funding will help Chicago attract and finish projects to grow the city and its tax base, he said.

“It takes about three years to do a ribbon-cutting. Do you all want

to keep playing with this stuff?” he said. “There’s an opportunity to do things in this city, in your wards with this bond deal.”

“We need to spread this tax base across the city. We cannot keep taking money just from the central areas. And the only way we can spread this tax base is if we spark development across the city,” Burnett added.

As part of the plan, the city expects to pay off \$2.4 billion in accumulated debt through 2061 by using property tax revenues that would become available thanks to expiring tax increment financing, or TIF, districts.

“It’s an investment. It’s a real one,” Johnson said of the bond plan. “Youth employment, mental health, the formerly incarcerated, environmental justice, the unhoused. Those are all critical investments that I promised to make.”

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Chicago Tribune

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YOUR VOICE

You can run but can't hide from inherited heart risks

By David McGrath

Until a recent Tuesday, I often daydreamed I might never die. I mean, how many other Medicare-eligible men do a hundred pushups and a hundred situps every day, bench-press their weight and can still do a cart-wheel?

No brag, just fact, that for the last half century, after quitting smoking and turning my back on my crapulous youth, I never missed a day of running 3 miles a day, 5 on Sunday, till I switched to bicycling in 2012, riding 50 miles a week.

So on the occasion of my annual checkup, when Dr. Lee Anton recommended I get a coronary artery calcium (CAC) test to measure for any buildup of plaque in my arteries, I rose from my chair.

"Are you crazy, Doc? I feel like a million bucks! I will arm-wrestle you right now on this damn exam table."

My quote, of course, is from the daydream. My actual question to the doctor was that since I had no chest pain or other symptoms and exercised like a madman, why did I need the test?

"Your family history," he said. He was referring to my father, two of my brothers, and one sister, who all had heart attacks from arterial



Author David McGrath gears up for his morning ride.

MARIANNE MCGRATH

disease, which I, of course, had been trying to *exorcize* via *exercise* from my DNA my entire life.

As astute newspaper readers know — not to mention friends and relatives of celebrated health guru and highly conditioned athlete Jim Fixx, author of "The Complete Book of Running," who died in his prime of a sudden heart attack in the middle of a jog — you can run, but you can't hide from your inherited genes.

Nonetheless, I remained skeptical when the affordable (\$99),

painless, noninvasive, 10-minute CAC test identified the left anterior descending artery in my heart as having an accumulation of plaque, better known as the widow maker, which, like a mudslide on a California highway, can narrow or completely block the flow of life-sustaining blood.

After a referral to a cardiologist, I was administered a stress test and an angiogram, a day after which I wrote this group email to my three children Mike, Jackie and Janet:

"Guys, by now Marianne told you I had an angiogram during which a stent, resembling a mesh metal straw, was fished up through my right wrist, up my arm, around my shoulder, and into a main artery of my heart, a procedure I had not given you a heads-up about, since I thought the whole silly business would turn out negative.

"But now I must admit it was pretty amazing to see it all when the nurse replayed the procedure for me on the X-ray screen: The 'before' picture of a section my artery, where only the skin-niest trickle of blood had been snaking through, and then the 'after' picture with the same section of artery now back to normal, widened and reinforced by the stent, with blood rushing through like the Columbia River.

"So, a surprise heart attack or stroke has been averted. No worries about me fishing on the high seas all alone. And the nurse said I will probably double my per diem mileage on the bicycle.

"Your mother says it's just my imagination, but I sit here hardly knowing I am breathing since it seems so much more effortless and strong. It's like I had gotten used to exposure to a hidden dose of kryptonite for the past decade, and Jimmy (cardiologist Sabry Omar) Olsen found and disposed of it.

"Love, Dad."

As the aforementioned astute readers have already surmised, this essay is not just an excuse to squeeze my family members' names into the newspaper.

Instead, I write because heart disease remains the leading cause of death in the United States and everyone reading this had a friend or relative who suddenly dropped dead without warning.

What I've learned is that "without warning" is a fallacy, since there is, in fact, a warning available, even when you don't have symptoms, in the form of the cheap, easy and painless calcium test.

The CAC test, which precisely pinpointed the trouble spot in my widow maker, is not covered by all insurance. But if you're my

age or have any history of heart trouble in your family, you should schedule one to give yourself peace of mind.

If the scan shows no trouble spots, you'll be whistling "Don't Worry, Be Happy" the rest of the week. If plaque does show up, an angiogram is the next step, which can ward off a stroke or heart attack.

And don't believe the myths about the pain or risks of an angiogram. I wasn't even anesthetized, yet the sedative the nurse administered made the initial wrist "pinch" to start the procedure forgettable and enabled mellow acceptance, even delight, in all the attention from the medical staff gathered around me.

No longer need I worry about making my eternal departure easier on Marianne, by selling my bicycle, my boat, my fishing rods, my weights, my ice skates, my SUV or my guitar.

Matter of fact, Sweetie, with my new lease on life, what say we update them all with brand-new models?

David McGrath is an emeritus English professor at the College of DuPage and author of the newly released book "Far Enough Away," a collection of Chicagoland stories. Email him at profmcgrath2004@yahoo.com.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Reducing Jews to just religion

In an April 14 letter ("Judaism and Israeli politics"), Olga Vilella takes issue with an excellent April 11 op-ed by professor Kenneth Seeskin ("When does anti-Zionism start to become antisemitism?"). She states that Seeskin is mistaken when he states that Jews are a nationality like Greeks, the French and Koreans. She asserts that, in fact, the correct addition to this list is "Israelis."

As a partial rationale for this incorrect statement, she states that "conflating Judaism with Israeli policies is the reason why criticism" of the current Israeli government is equated by some with antisemitism.

Vilella is flatly wrong on both counts. Jews are a people, what many also refer to as a "nation." Judaism is the religion practiced by most Jews. Israelis are citizens of or emigrants from Israel, most of whom are Jews but also Muslims, Christians, Druze, Samaritans, and members of other religions and ethnicities. I note that there are many examples of nation-states that have shared populations of the same nationality while being divided by international borders.

Virtually no one equates criticism of the Israeli government with antisemitism, although I suppose it can be if made by an antisemitic person. What is often but not always antisemitic is denying the right of Jews alone to national self-determination and having the chutzpah to take it upon oneself to deny the peoplehood of Jews and to fit them into the narrow Western category of only a religion.

— Mark Segal, Oak Park

Choose love, not fire of rage

In regards to war breaking out in the Middle East now, I think it's important not to facilitate hatred and not to fan the fire of rage, even though some people do this. This is wrong! Feelings of anger and rage are normal reactions to crimes committed against oneself and must be processed. Otherwise, a person is doomed to live with those feelings for the rest of their life and possibly for the rest of eternity. My ex-wife and the Catholic Church taught me this.

I will always believe in the power and triumph of love. I no longer believe in a God of judgment, wrath and punishment. Men do these things, *not God!* My

God hates hate. God is love. I realize it's going to take time for me to detox from my previous brutal relationship with God.

And when the missiles stop flying and the bullets stop firing, human life will resume once again in a better world. Because it always does and because *love wins!*

— Rusty Rich Alfonso Salazar, Chicago

In agreement over NPR

I don't often agree with the Tribune Editorial Board's political point of view. My liberal Jewish father would not allow Col. Robert McCormick's conservative Tribune in our house except on Sundays (for all of the ads). But as I read the editorial ("Liberal bias at NPR, old-school journalism and the reluctance to admit a mistake," April 14) about how left-wing and pro-liberal NPR has become, I was happily amazed.

Finally, someone agrees with me about NPR. Kudos to the editors.

— Bruce Sutchar, Hanover Park

Editorial reflects board's bias

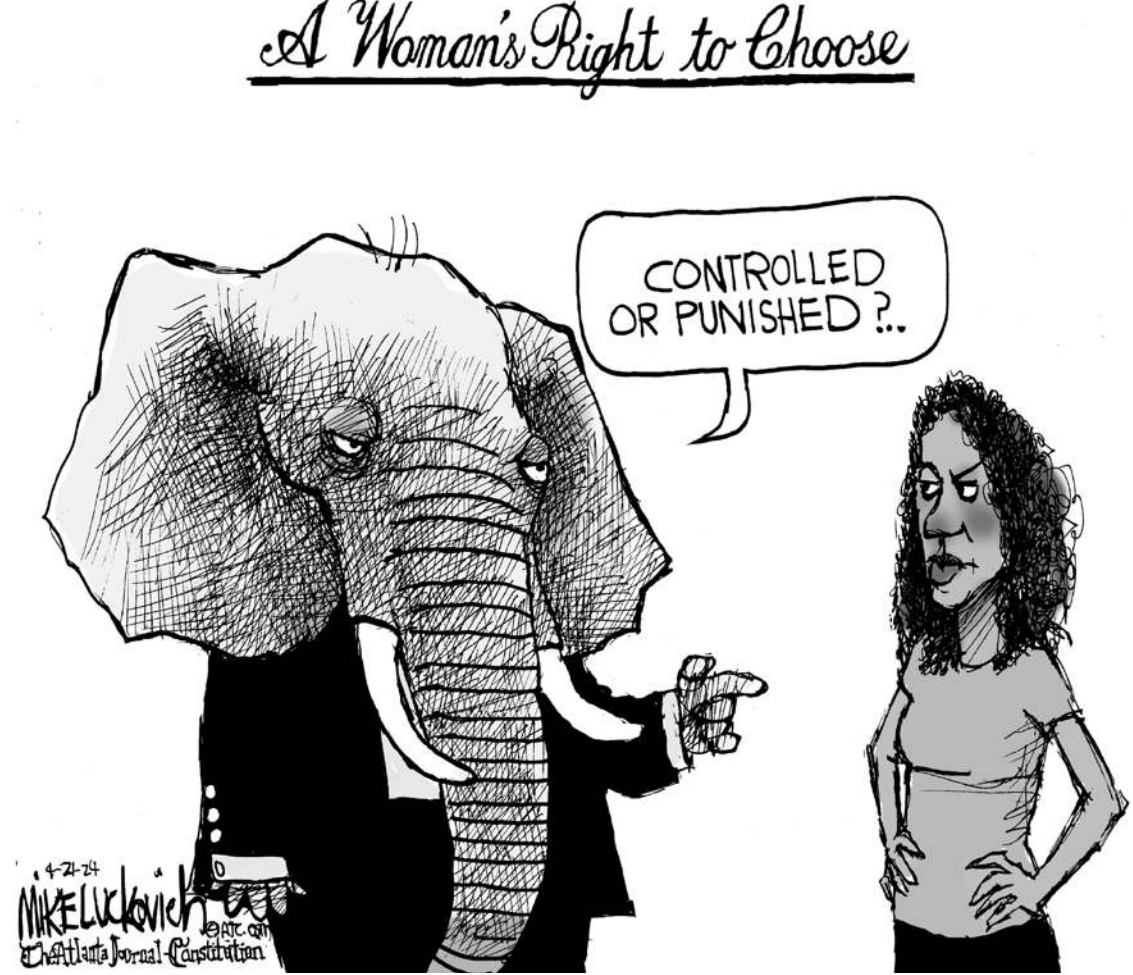
I am bewildered by Uri Berliner's (and, by extension, the Tribune Editorial Board's) claim of "egregious liberal bias" at NPR. One piece of supposed evidence was the network's refusal to admit that Donald Trump had been cleared of collusion with Russia following the Mueller report. I am sitting here reading about the 2020 U.S. Senate intelligence committee report, led by Republicans, that Trump's collusion posed a "grave" counterintelligence threat. And then there was the claim that Hunter Biden's laptop contained politically relevant details of the Biden family's financial dealings. Ironically, this proved to be just more fingerprints of Russian disinformation after "informant" Alexander Smirnov was charged with lying to the FBI.

The editorial reads more about the editorial board's bias than NPR's.

— Craig Mindrum, Oak Park

Giving priority to veterans?

I wanted to respond to Sara Bargo's letter about her perceived lack of health care for veterans ("Healthcare for veterans," April 13).



MIKE LUCKOVICH/THE ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION

As a registered nurse with more than 40 years of experience, I wanted to bring several important facts to light.

The length of time to treatment or diagnostic tests is not unique to veterans. Those of us in the private sector face just as lengthy, if not longer, waits, and just as important, we pay for our care. There is a three-month wait for an appointment with my primary care provider. My spouse had to wait months for an MRI for a brain tumor.

The fact that veterans served "with honor and courage" is admirable but should not place them in front of those of us who pay the taxes that pay the members of our armed services and allow then to get free or low-cost health care, as well as to retire after a determined length of service. Currently, we in the private sector must work much longer to receive Medicare (65 years old) and Social Security (currently 67 years old for those born 1960 or after).

Despite employer contributions, we still pay a considerable amount for our deductibles, medications and copays.

I would say, everyone's health care plans are suboptimal now and no one should take priority over anyone else's.

So I say to veterans, we appreciate your service, enjoy your

benefits we pay for, as well as your free or low-cost care, and realize you are luckier than millions in this country who worked just as hard as you.

— J. Alan Hale, Chicago

Eliminating student debt

I have traditional Democratic values. These include civil rights, fair wages, affordable health care, fixed Social Security, clean air and water, safe infrastructure, and effective consumer protection laws. That doesn't mean I'm not critical of many existing or proposed programs or believe improvements can't be made.

I am upset by efforts of the current administration to eliminate debt incurred by college-educated citizens who borrowed federal dollars to get an education to launch a career and lifestyle of opportunity. From my earliest days, I was told by my family and teachers that education and opportunity are linked.

So how can college-educated Americans who drive late-model cars, live in comfortable neighborhoods, take expensive vacations and enjoy other benefits requiring payment, feel entitled to welch on the most definitional element of a loan? What justifica-

tion can any person not seeking available court assistance reorganizing the entirety of their financial life have a right to be excused from the single indebtedness most closely aligned with providing life skills of an educated person?

Taxpayers should have mandatory repayments added to their federal tax obligations with deferrals for those earning less than a prescribed amount.

— Sheldon I. Saitlin, Boca Raton, Florida

What my dog illustrated to me

It turns out that William Shakespeare was wrong about life signifying nothing. Take our dog, Oscar, for instance, who died recently.

While his life was full of sound and fury (more like barking and growling), Oscar undoubtedly enriched my life — from his easy companionship when I worked from home to his over-the-top exuberance at my return on those long days when I didn't.

Life was fuller with Oscar. And if his brief, nine-year canine existence held real meaning and purpose, surely there is hope for us all.

— Stacy Seiden, Northbrook



Speaker Mike Johnson addresses reporters after a \$95 billion aid package advanced in the House. **J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP**

Aid

from Page 1

members of the House Rules Committee joined forces late Thursday in a near midnight vote, the four Democrats giving their support on a procedural step, to push past the Republican majority's three hard-line holdouts to send the package to the House floor for debate on a 9-3 vote. It was a moment unseen in recent House memory.

Democratic leader Rep. Hakeem Jeffries said that he spoke with Johnson on Thursday night to ensure the bill would clear the Rules Committee.

"It's long past time that we support our democratic allies," Jeffries said after the vote. "House Democrats have once again cleared the way for legislation that's important to the American people."

Johnson will need to rely on Democrats again Saturday to turn back amendments Republicans have offered that could kill the package. One from hard-line Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene would reduce spending for Ukraine to zero.

Greene has filed a "motion to vacate" the speaker from office, and it drew another supporter Friday as Rep. Paul Gosar, an Arizona Republican, co-sponsored the motion. Rep. Thomas Massie of Kentucky, another co-sponsor, suggested that

before the House breaks next week others could follow, building pressure on Johnson to step down.

Rep. Eli Crane, a hard-line conservative from Arizona, also said he was "open" to joining the move to oust Johnson.

"I definitely sense that there's a souring to Republican leadership," he said.

Greene could launch a bid to evict Johnson from the speaker's office, should she call it up for a vote, much the way Republicans booted Kevin McCarthy from the position last fall. Jeffries, the Democratic leader, remained noncommittal to helping Johnson keep the speaker's gavel, though some Democrats have suggested they would be inclined to help defeat the motion to vacate through procedural maneuvers.

With one of the most narrow House majorities in modern times, Johnson can only afford to lose a single vote or two from his Republican ranks to pass any bill. That dynamic has thrust him into the arms of Democrats as he searches for votes to pass the package.

Without his Republican majority fully behind him, Johnson could not shape the package as the ultra-conservatives demand lest he lose Democratic backing. It forced him to leave behind tough security measures to clamp down on migration at the U.S.-Mexico border.

At best, Johnson has been

able to carve up a Senate-passed version of the bill into separate parts, as is the preference among House Republicans, and the final votes will be on distinct measures—for Ukraine, Israel and Indo-Pacific allies.

The package would also include a fourth provision that includes many Republican priorities that Democrats endorse, or at least are willing to accept. Those include proposals that allow the U.S. to seize frozen Russian central bank assets to rebuild Ukraine; impose sanctions on Iran, Russia, China and criminal organizations that traffic fentanyl; and potentially ban the video app TikTok if its China-based owner doesn't sell its stake within a year.

Passing each bill, in votes expected Saturday, will require Johnson to form bipartisan coalitions on each, with Democrats, for example, ensuring Ukraine aid is approved, but some left-leaning progressives refusing to back military aid for Israel over the destruction of Gaza.

Still, Jeffries said that a majority of Democrats would vote Saturday for the packages of aid for Ukraine, Israel and allies in Asia.

The components would then be automatically stitched back together into a single package sent to the Senate where hardliners there are also planning procedural moves to stall final approval.

Chicago Daily Tribune

ON APRIL 20 ...

In 1792 France declared war on Austria.

In 1812 Vice President George Clinton died in Washington at age 73, becoming the first U.S. vice president to die while in office.

In 1836 the Territory of Wisconsin was established by Congress.

In 1889 Adolf Hitler was born in Braunau, Austria.

In 1893 comedian Harold Lloyd was born in Burchard, Neb. Also in 1893 artist Joan Miro was born in Barcelona, Spain.

In 1902 scientists Marie and Pierre Curie isolated the radioactive element radium.

In 1920 John Paul Stevens, who would become a Supreme Court justice, was born in Chicago.

In 1940 RCA publicly demonstrated its new and powerful electron microscope.

In 1945, during World War II, allied forces took control of the German cities of Nuremberg and Stuttgart.

In 1948 United Auto Workers president Walter Reuther was shot and wounded at his home in Detroit.

In 1949 scientists at the Mayo Clinic announced they'd succeeded in synthesizing a hormone found to be useful in treating rheumatoid arthritis; the substance was named "cortisone."

In 1955 Richard J. Daley was sworn in for his first term as Chicago's mayor. (He would be re-elected five times.)

In 1971 the Supreme Court upheld the use of busing to achieve racial desegregation in schools.

In 1972 the manned lunar module from Apollo 16 landed on the moon.

In 1978 a Korean Air Lines Boeing 707 crash-landed in northwestern Russia after being fired on by an interceptor after entering Soviet airspace. Two passengers were killed.

In 1980 the first Cubans sailing to the United States as part of the massive Mariel boatlift reached Florida.

In 1986, following an absence of six decades, Russian-born pianist Vladimir Horowitz performed in the Soviet Union to a packed audience at the Grand Hall of the Tchaikovsky Conservatory in Moscow. Also in 1986 the Bulls' Michael Jordan scored 63 points against Boston; Larry Bird said afterward, "That was God disguised as Michael Jordan." (The Bulls still lost the game, 135-131 in double overtime.)

In 1990 former junk bond financier Michael Milken agreed to plead guilty to six felonies and pay \$600 million in penalties to settle one of the largest securities fraud cases in history.

In 1991 U.S. Marines landed in northern Iraq to begin building the first center for Kurdish refugees on Iraqi territory.

In 1992 the Russian congress adopted a resolution affirming Russia's membership in the Commonwealth of Independent States in a victory for President Boris Yeltsin.

In 1994 Israeli and PLO negotiators wrapped up an agreement transferring civilian government powers to Palestinians in the Gaza Strip and Jericho.

In 1995, in the aftermath of the Oklahoma City bombing, the FBI announced it was looking for two men

suspected of renting the truck used to carry the explosive; meanwhile, rescue teams suspended the search for survivors so that the remaining structure of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building could be shored up.

In 1996 Russia and the leaders of the world's seven richest democracies agreed in Moscow to end nuclear tests by the fall and pledged new steps to keep nuclear materials out of the wrong hands.

In 1997 Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu escaped indictment in an influence-peddling scandal, with prosecutors saying they lacked evidence.

In 1998, in an unusual use of a racketeering law designed to fight the mob, a federal jury in Chicago ruled that anti-abortion protest organizers had used threats and violence to shut down clinics. (However, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in February 2003 that federal racketeering and extortion laws were wrongly used to try to stop blockades, harassment and violent protests outside clinics.)

In 1999 the Columbine High School massacre took place near Littleton, Colo., as two students shot and killed 12 classmates and one teacher before taking their own lives.

In 2001 a Peruvian air force jet shot down a small plane carrying American missionaries in Peru's Amazon jungle region, killing Veronica Bowers and her infant daughter.

In 2003 U.S. Army forces took control of Baghdad from the Marines in a changing of the guard that thinned the military presence in the capital.

In 2004 a tornado tore through Utica, Ill., killing eight people.



Chicago Tribune Death Notices

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

chicagotribune.com/deathnotices

Death Notices

DeGraff, Jay Michael

Jay M. DeGraff, 76, of Chicago, IL, passed away on October 5, 2023, from lung cancer. Jay was the son of the late Maurice "Dick" DeGraff and the late Ruth DeGraff. Jay is survived by his wife of 45 years, Vivian A. DeGraff; son Benjamin DeGraff; son-in-law Mike Griswold; and grandchildren Isabella Griswold and Noah Griswold. Jay was the cherished brother of Arlene J. Wolf; beloved uncle of Jeanne (Ron) Gieseke, Peter (Julie) Wolf, and Richard Wolf; and cousin, great-uncle, and friend to many.

Jay's daughter Zara Griswold passed away shortly after Jay, on November 15, 2023, joining him in eternal rest. Jay had a wonderful sense of humor and always entertained his family and friends with stories and jokes. In his youth Jay was an exceptional basketball player. Later in life Jay enjoyed playing league pool. He also earned a 3rd degree black belt in gangi kung fu. In accordance with his wishes, Jay was cremated and his ashes are interred in the mausoleum at **Dignity Memorial Park, Skokie**. A joint celebration of life for Jay and his daughter, Zara, will be held Sunday, April 21, 2024 at 10 AM in the main chapel of the mausoleum at **Dignity Memorial Park, Skokie**. Contributions in Jay's memory may be made to the charity of your choice.

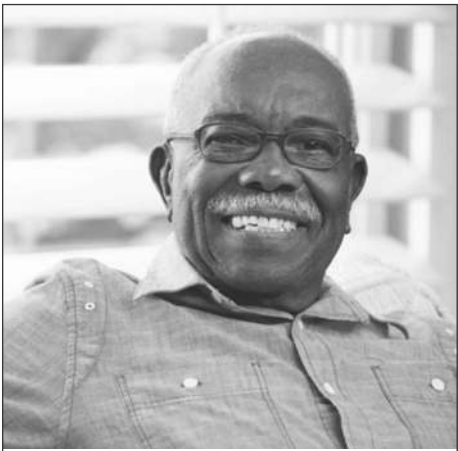
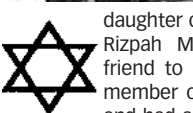
Keever, Charles L

Charles L. Keever, age 71, passed away on March 25, 2024 in Willowbrook, IL. He was born on June 21, 1952 in Cleveland, OH, the son of Ivan and Martha (Mangas) Keever. He graduated from New Trier East High School in Winnetka, IL in 1970, then from Centenary College in Shreveport, LA in 1974. Chuck was a lifelong resident of Chicago and a passionate fan of the Chicago Cubs and the Chicago Bears. Besides his dedicated interest in sports, Chuck had an extensive collection of records, mostly from the 1960's Rock era.

Chuck was dedicated to his work and was deeply respected by his business colleagues. Through his work he was able to travel extensively throughout the United States, enjoying new cities, national parks, and historical sites along the way. He established a very wide circle of deep friendships as a result. He was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his sisters Sharon Stevenson and Belinda Keever, and his niece Katherine Stevenson. A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Please consider a contribution to the American Lung Association in Chuck's memory.

Telman, Josie


Josie Telman, nee Maimon, age 94, of Deerfield, formerly of Riverwoods and raised her family in Skokie; beloved wife for 70 years of the late Eddy Telman; loving mother of Jan Berman and Nancy (Dr. Mark Silverberg) Block; adored Nannie of Dr. Adam Berman, Lizzie (Christina Cox) Berman, Andrew Block, and Jeffrey (Kara Nichols) Block; devoted daughter of the late Joseph and the late Rizpah Maimon; treasured and loyal friend to many. Josie was a long-time member of Twin Orchard Country Club and had an excellent "short game." She was so kind and classy, and instilled the virtue of being kind and thoughtful upon her daughters and grandchildren. Her greatest joy of all was being surrounded by her family. Graveside service Sunday, 2:30 p.m. CT at Shalom Memorial Park, Rand & Wilke Rds., Arlington Heights. The service will be livestreamed on Josie's webpage at www.goldmanfuneralgroup.com. In lieu of flowers, contributions would be appreciated to Little City, www.littlecity.org or to a charity of your choice. Info: The **Goldman Funeral Group** (847) 478-1600.



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a Certification was filed by the Undersigned
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No. Y24011633 on the
Date: 3/26/24

Under the Assumed Name of: **Take Yer Shot Studios**
with the business located at:
6359 Ridge Ave #205
Chicago, IL, 60660
The true name and residence Address of
the owner is: **Jennifer Gedhill**
6359 Ridge Ave #205
Chicago, IL, 60660
4/6, 4/13, 4/20/24 7614244

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No. Y24011659 on the
Date: 4/3/2024

Under the Assumed Name of: **Lunar Rabbit Loops**
with the business located at:
380 Green Bay Rd Apt 2C
Winnetka, IL, 60093
The true name and residence Address of
the owner is: **Sandra Bae**
380 Green Bay Rd Apt 2C
Winnetka, IL, 60093
4/6, 4/13, 4/20/24 7614524

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Business Name in the conduct or transaction
of Business in the State" as amended, that
a Certification was filed by the Undersigned
with the County Clerk of Cook County File
No. 03151743 on the
Date: 04/13/24

Under the Assumed Name of: **UOVO WINE**
with the business located at:
1000 N. North Branch Street
Chicago, IL, 60642
The true name and residence Address of
the owner is: **Domine Chichio, LLC**
1000 N. North Branch Street
Chicago, IL, 60642
4/13, 4/20 & 4/27/2024 7617942

LEGAL NOTICES

GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT
April 20, 2024
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SERVICES

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DEPARTMENT: **DWM**
TYPE: **CONSTRUCTION**

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Opportunity Take-Out List

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RFQ NO: **10138.1**
BID OPENING DATE: **May 03, 2024**
Time: **11:00 a.m.**, Central Time

CONTACT: **Rahel Abraham,**
Senior Procurement Specialist/ Procurement
Specialist
Email: Rahel.Abraham@cityofchicago.org
Pub: 4/20/2024 7622048

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of
Greater Chicago will be accepting applications
for the following classification(s):

Assistant Clerk (Original)

Application Filing Period: April 19, 2024
through May 3, 2024. **Examination Date:** May
31, 2024-June 1, 2024. **Location:** MWRD Main
Office Building Annex, 111 East Erie Street,
Chicago, IL. **Scope of Examination:**
Knowledge of Assistant Clerk practices. **Nature**
of **Position and Duties:** Under general
supervision, assists the Clerk/Director of Finance
with duties performed as Clerk of the Board of
Commissioners (BOC). In this capacity, the
Assistant Clerk assists in the management of the
day-to-day operations of the Clerk's office,
assists with regulatory and compliance work and
serves as Clerk during live BOC meetings in the
absence of the Clerk/Director of Finance.
Salary: \$100,761.18 per year

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Location: 69 W. Washington, 22nd Floor,
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4/20/24 7620676

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TAKE NOTICES

TO: Equity Investments Enterprises LLC; Equity Investments Enterprises LLC, c/o William Hunter, its Reg Agent; Southern Holdings Inc., Aracelis Persaud, its Reg Agent; City of Chicago, c/o Anna M. Valencia, City Clerk; Occupant, 6430 S. Honore St., Chicago, IL 60636; Jacqueline Barnes; Dwayne Johnson; COOK COUNTY CLERK; Persons or tenants in actual occupancy or possession of said property; Unknown owners or parties interested in said property. TAX DEED NO. 2024COTD000305 FILED: 1/23/2024 AMENDED FILED: 1/24/2024 TAKE NOTICE County of Cook Date Premises Sold: 11/9/2021 Certificate No.: 18-0003561 Sold for General Taxes of (year): 2018 Sold for Special Assessments of (Municipality) and special assessment number: N/A Warrant No.: N/A Inst. No.: N/A THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES Property located at: 6430 S HONORE ST, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS Legal Description or Property Index No.: 20-19-210-031-0000 This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on 7/23/2024. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before 7/23/2024. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this County in Chicago, Illinois, on 8/7/2024 in Room 1704 of the Richard J. Daley Center at 50 W. Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois at 9:30 a.m. You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY Redemption can be made at any time on or before 7/23/2024 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois, at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK ADDRESS: 118 N. Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602 TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645 ICIB INVESTMENTS, INC. Purchaser or Assignee Dated: April 18, 2024 Balin Law, P.C. Attorneys at Law 100 N. LaSalle, Suite 1200 Chicago, IL 60602 (312) 345-1111 Firm #58864 4/20, 4/21, 4/22/20247621800

TAKE NOTICES

TO: JAMES HOLIDAY; LESTER L. BARCLAY; THE BARCLAY LAW GROUP P.C.; OCCUPANTS, 29 W. 114th STREET, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60628; OCCUPANTS, 27 W. 114th STREET, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60628; OCCUPANTS, 31 W. 114th STREET, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60628; JONAS RAINER; RICHARD FERGUSON; HERMAN MASON; RASE-AN MASON; MARLON HUNTER; COOK COUNTY CLERK; Persons or tenants in actual occupancy or possession of said property; Unknown owners or parties interested in said property. TAX DEED NO. 2024COTD000308 FILED: 1/23/2024 AMENDED FILED: 1/24/2024 TAKE NOTICE County of Cook Date Premises Sold: 11/10/2021 Certificate No.: 18-0004098 Sold for General Taxes of (year): 2018 Sold for Special Assessments of (Municipality) and special assessment number: N/A Warrant No.: N/A Inst. No.: N/A THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES Property located at: 29 W 114TH ST, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS Legal Description or Property Index No.: 25-21-229-011-0000 This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on 7/23/2024. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before 7/23/2024. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this County in Chicago, Illinois, on 8/7/2024 in Room 1704 of the Richard J. Daley Center at 50 W. Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois at 9:30 a.m. You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY Redemption can be made at any time on or before 7/23/2024 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois, at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK ADDRESS: 118 N. Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602 TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645 ICIB INVESTMENTS, INC. Purchaser or Assignee Dated: April 18, 2024 Balin Law, P.C. Attorneys at Law 100 N. LaSalle, Suite 1200 Chicago, IL 60602 (312) 345-1111 Firm #58864 4/20, 4/21, 4/22/20247621815

TO: NORMA JACKSON; CITIZENS BANK, N.A. f/k/a RBS CITIZENS, N.A. f/k/a CHARTER ONE BANK, N.A.; CITY OF CHICAGO, c/o Anna M. Valencia, City Clerk; OCCUPANTS, 11532 S. HARVARD AVE., CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60628; PATSCAN TERRELL, a/k/a TERRELL PATSCAN; COOK COUNTY CLERK; Persons or tenants in actual occupancy or possession of said property; Unknown owners or parties interested in said property. TAX DEED NO. 2024COTD000310 FILED: 1/23/2024 AMENDED FILED: 1/24/2024 TAKE NOTICE County of Cook Date Premises Sold: 11/10/2021 Certificate No.: 18-0004111 Sold for General Taxes of (year): 2018 Sold for Special Assessments of (Municipality) and special assessment number: N/A Warrant No.: N/A Inst. No.: N/A THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES Property located at: 11532 S HARVARD AVE, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS Legal Description or Property Index No.: 25-21-400-025-0000 This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on 7/23/2024. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before 7/23/2024. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this County in Chicago, Illinois, on 8/7/2024 in Room 1704 of the Richard J. Daley Center at 50 W. Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois at 9:30 a.m. You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY Redemption can be made at any time on or before 7/23/2024 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois, at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK ADDRESS: 118 N. Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602 TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645 ICIB INVESTMENTS, INC. Purchaser or Assignee Dated: April 18, 2024 Balin Law, P.C. Attorneys at Law 100 N. LaSalle, Suite 1200 Chicago, IL 60602 (312) 345-1111 Firm #58864 4/20, 4/21, 4/22/20247621818

TO: Louise Lyons; Melvin Louise; City of Chicago, c/o Anna M. Valencia, City Clerk; Occupant, 8739 S. Marshfield Ave., Chicago, IL 60620; COOK COUNTY CLERK; Persons or tenants in actual occupancy or possession of said property; Unknown owners or parties interested in said property. TAX DEED NO. 2024COTD000306 FILED: 1/23/2024 AMENDED FILED: 1/24/2024 TAKE NOTICE County of Cook Date Premises Sold: 11/9/2021 Certificate No.: 18-0003881 Sold for General Taxes of (year): 2018 Sold for Special Assessments of (Municipality) and special assessment number: N/A Warrant No.: N/A Inst. No.: N/A THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES Property located at: 8739 S MARSHFIELD AVE, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS Legal Description or Property Index No.: 25-06-206-014-0000 This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on 7/23/2024. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before 7/23/2024. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this County in Chicago, Illinois, on 8/7/2024 in Room 1704 of the Richard J. Daley Center at 50 W. Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois at 9:30 a.m. You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY Redemption can be made at any time on or before 7/23/2024 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois, at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK ADDRESS: 118 N. Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602 TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645 ICIB INVESTMENTS, INC. Purchaser or Assignee Dated: April 18, 2024 Balin Law, P.C. Attorneys at Law 100 N. LaSalle, Suite 1200 Chicago, IL 60602 (312) 345-1111 Firm #58864 4/20, 4/21, 4/22/20247621804

TO: HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF CARRIES L. SPRULL; EBONI E. SPRULL; RONNEY NULL SPRULL JR.; DOMINIQUE ANTHONY SPRULL; NEKEIA M. SPRULL; GENERAL FINANCE CORP OF IL, c/o Alex Giannoulis, Secretary of State; HOUSEHOLD FINANCE CORPORATION III; HOUSEHOLD FINANCE CORPORATION III, c/o The Corporation Trust Company, its Reg. Agent; CITY OF CHICAGO, c/o Anna M. Valencia, City Clerk; Occupant, 9719 S. GENOA AVENUE, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60628; TYRA JACKSON; COOK COUNTY CLERK; Persons or tenants in actual occupancy or possession of said property; Unknown owners or parties interested in said property. TAX DEED NO. 2024COTD000309 FILED: 1/23/2024 AMENDED FILED: 1/24/2024 TAKE NOTICE County of Cook Date Premises Sold: 11/9/2021 Certificate No.: 18-0003899 Sold for General Taxes of (year): 2018 Sold for Special Assessments of (Municipality) and special assessment number: N/A Warrant No.: N/A Inst. No.: N/A THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES Property located at: 9719 S GENOA AVE, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS Legal Description or Property Index No.: 25-08-218-010-0000 This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on 7/23/2024. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before 7/23/2024. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this County in Chicago, Illinois, on 8/7/2024 in Room 1704 of the Richard J. Daley Center at 50 W. Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois at 9:30 a.m. You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY Redemption can be made at any time on or before 7/23/2024 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois, at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK ADDRESS: 118 N. Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602 TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645 ICIB INVESTMENTS, INC. Purchaser or Assignee Dated: April 18, 2024 Balin Law, P.C. Attorneys at Law 100 N. LaSalle, Suite 1200 Chicago, IL 60602 (312) 345-1111 Firm #58864 4/20, 4/21, 4/22/20247621808

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CHICAGO ACCUWEATHER



Meteorologists Larry Mowry, Cheryl Scott, Jaisol Martinez, Tracy Butler and Greg Dutra

ABC7 Outlook:
Mix of sun and clouds. Chilly and breezy with highs in low 50s.

SATURDAY
Day Night
High: **49** Low: **36**
Breezy and cool with clouds and sun
POP: **5%**
Winds: **WNW 10-20 mph**

SUNDAY
Day Night
High: **59** Low: **41**
Mostly sunny and warmer
POP: **0%**
Winds: **W 8-16 mph**

MONDAY
Day Night
High: **64** Low: **53**
Increasing clouds
POP: **10%**
Winds: **SW 7-14 mph**

TUESDAY
Day Night
High: **64** Low: **39**
Breezy with periods of rain
POP: **90%**
Winds: **SW 10-20 mph**

WEDNESDAY
Day Night
High: **50** Low: **36**
Breezy and cooler with some sun
POP: **0%**
Winds: **NE 10-20 mph**

THURSDAY
Day Night
High: **58** Low: **45**
Warmer with increasing cloudiness
POP: **0%**
Winds: **ESE 6-12 mph**

CHICAGO FORECAST

Saturday Conditions
8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m. 8 p.m.
AccuWeather.com UV Index™
2 4 6 3 2 1 0

RealFeel Temperature®
31 38 43 43 44 40 40

Saturday Activities
8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m. 8 p.m.
Golfing Index
2 3 4 4 5 4 5

Fishing Index
1 3 6 7 4 2 3

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

CHICAGO ALMANAC

Friday Temperatures
O'Hare through 4 p.m.
High **56**
Low **41**
Normal high **60**
Normal low **41**
Record high **86 (1985)**
Record low **22 (1983)**

Local Temperatures
through 6 p.m. Friday

Location	Hi	Lo	Normal
Aurora	57	36	62
Gary	57	45	61
Kankakee	55	42	62
Lansing	57	43	61
Midway	58	43	61
Romeoville	56	40	62
Valparaiso	56	43	64
Waukegan	55	39	57

Friday Precipitation

	2024	2023	Normal
Friday*	0.10"	0.01"	0.14"
Month to date	2.04"	1.39"	2.21"
Year to date	9.78"	11.62"	8.70"

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

Pollen as of 4/19
Trees **High** Grass **Absent** Weeds **Absent** Mold **Moderate**
Source: National Allergy Bureau

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

Sun and Moon

	Sat.	Sun.
Sunrise	6:02 a.m.	6:00 a.m.
Sunset	7:37 p.m.	7:39 p.m.
Moonrise	4:37 p.m.	5:38 p.m.
Moonset	4:46 a.m.	5:04 a.m.

Full Last New First
Apr 23 May 1 May 7 May 15

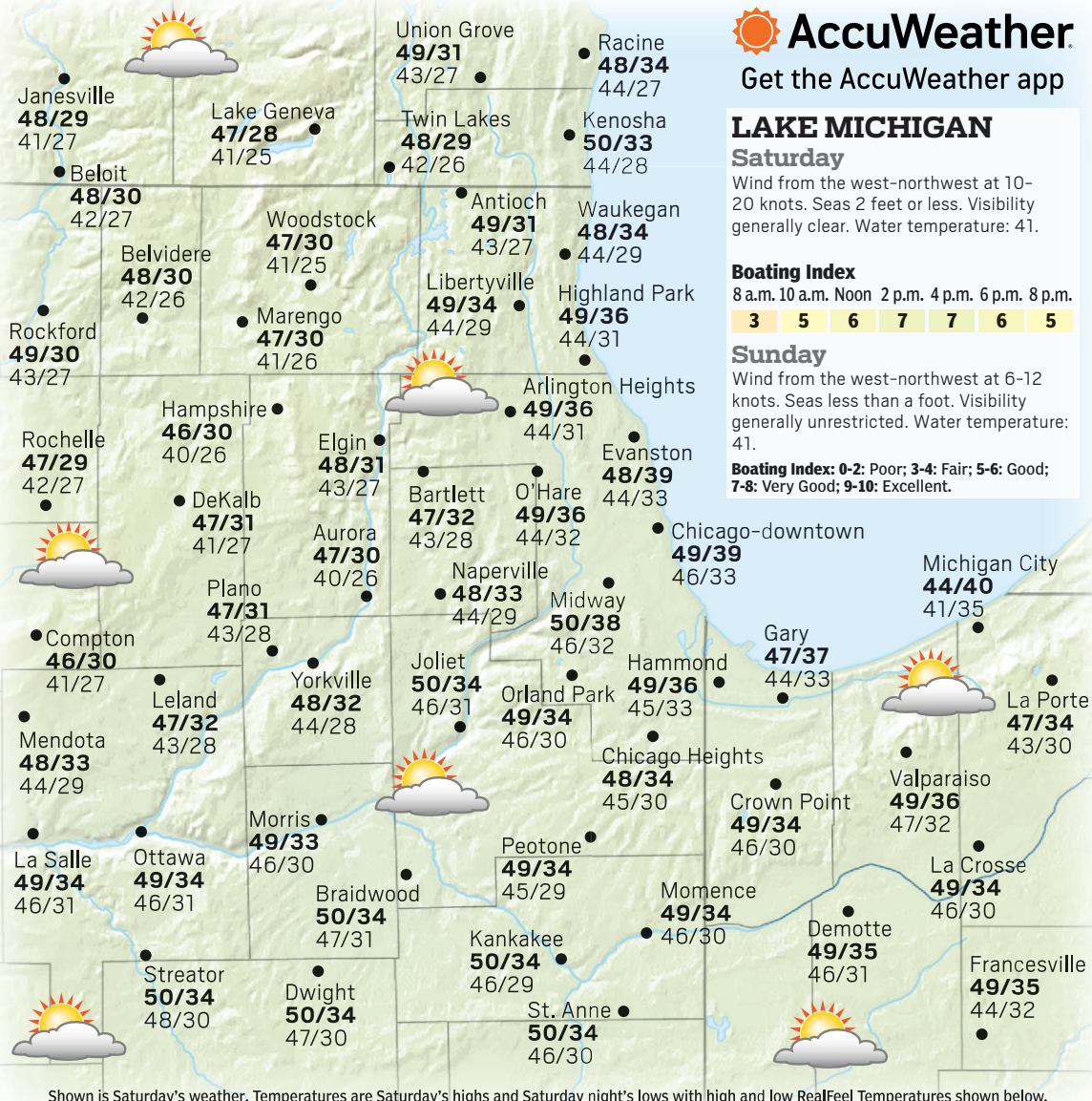
Saturday's Planet Watch

	Rise	Set
Mercury	5:29 a.m.	6:23 p.m.
Venus	5:41 a.m.	6:32 p.m.
Mars	4:39 a.m.	4:15 p.m.
Jupiter	7:02 a.m.	9:20 p.m.
Saturn	4:27 a.m.	3:41 p.m.

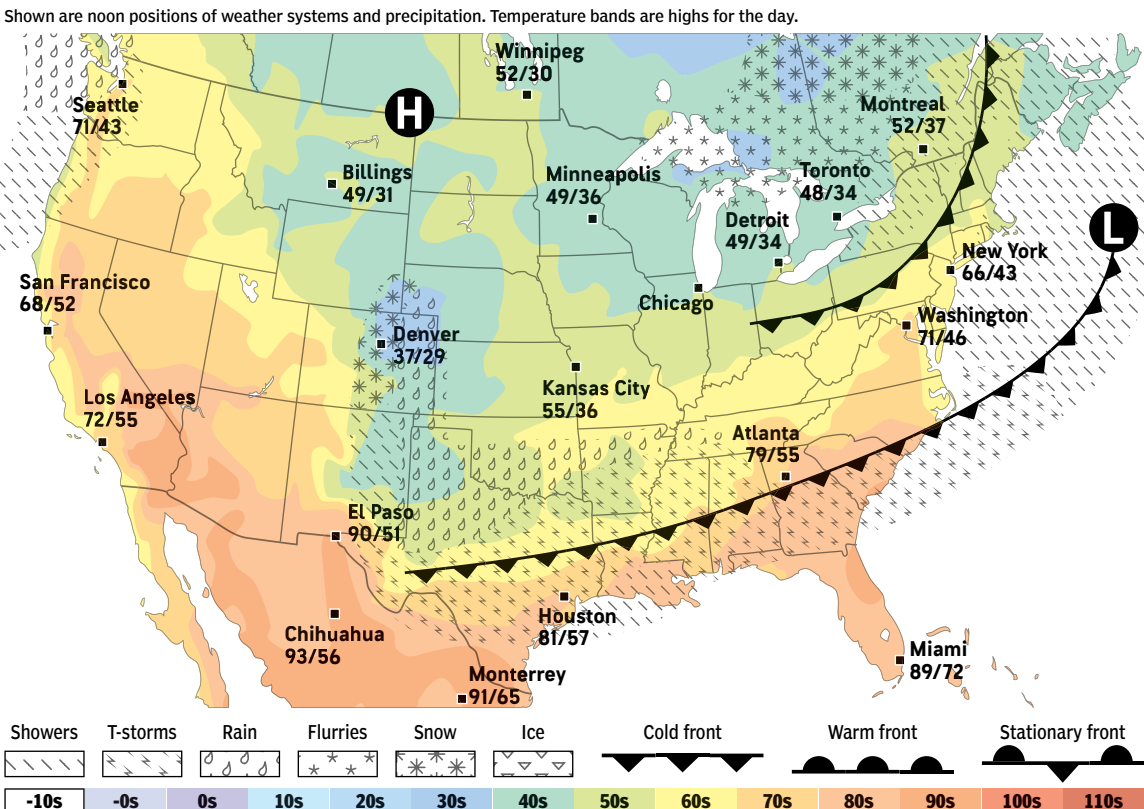
Best viewing times today: Venus: not visible Mars: 5:30 a.m. Jupiter: 8:05 p.m. Saturn: 5:30 a.m. Mercury: 5:50 a.m.

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Sat. Hi/Low/W	Sun. Hi/Low/W
Abilene	57/46/r	61/46/c
Albany, NY	59/36/c	55/36/pc
Albuquerque	74/43/pc	75/51/s
Amarillo	49/38/r	59/40/c
Anchorage	56/32/s	46/38/sh
Asheville	67/47/c	53/37/r
Aspen	54/30/pc	60/35/s
Atlanta	79/55/pc	57/48/r
Atlantic City	63/44/r	55/44/pc
Austin	70/51/r	63/48/pc
Baltimore	70/44/pc	59/41/c
Billings	49/31/s	69/40/c
Birmingham	68/49/t	59/45/r
Bismarck	51/24/s	63/36/s
Boise	74/46/pc	64/35/pc
Boston	59/41/r	58/42/s
Brownsville	91/72/pc	76/66/c
Buffalo	48/39/pc	50/35/pc
Burlington, VT	57/39/pc	54/33/c
Charleston, SC	91/66/t	71/51/sh
Charleston, WV	67/39/pc	57/36/c
Charlotte	80/55/pc	60/45/r
Chattanooga	68/51/c	58/46/sh
Cheyenne	53/26/sn	61/39/pc
Cincinnati	57/37/pc	56/38/pc
Cleveland	49/38/pc	53/38/c
Colorado Spgs	44/33/sn	61/39/pc
Columbia, MO	59/37/c	61/41/s
Columbia, SC	87/59/t	62/47/r
Columbus, OH	56/35/pc	55/36/pc
Concord	60/34/r	58/35/pc
Corpus Christi	87/61/pc	73/58/c
Dallas	61/50/r	65/48/pc
Daytona Beach	91/67/s	88/67/s
Denver	37/29/sn	65/46/pc
Duluth	46/32/pc	57/35/s
El Paso	90/51/s	79/53/pc



NATIONAL FORECAST



QUESTION: You mentioned the average last freeze date is April 22. Has that been the case the past few years?
Jordan - Northbrook

ANSWER: That date of April 22 for O'Hare's average last freeze date is calculated from the years of 1991 to 2020. Looking at the past five years, that average date holds pretty true. Here are the dates of the last spring freeze at O'Hare. 2023 - April 26, 2022 - April 17, 2021 - April 22, 2020 - May 5, 2019 - April 28.

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

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Sat. Hi/Low/W	Sun. Hi/Low/W
Illinois		
Carbondale	62/41/c	63/37/c
Champaign	53/34/pc	59/37/pc
Decatur	54/35/pc	58/37/pc
Moline	50/30/pc	59/37/s
Peoria	52/34/pc	60/38/pc
Quincy	55/34/pc	60/39/s
Rockford	49/30/pc	61/34/s
Springfield	55/34/pc	59/37/pc
Sterling	49/30/pc	59/35/s
Indiana		
Bloomington	55/36/pc	57/34/pc
Evansville	61/40/c	59/39/c
Fort Wayne	50/36/pc	57/36/pc
Indianapolis	53/37/pc	57/38/pc
Lafayette	52/36/pc	57/37/pc
South Bend	47/33/pc	58/36/s
Wisconsin		
Green Bay	50/31/pc	61/34/s
Kenosha	50/33/pc	60/38/s
La Crosse	48/33/pc	61/36/s
Madison	47/31/c	58/37/s
Milwaukee	48/36/c	59/40/s
Wausau	47/31/c	58/35/s
Michigan		
Detroit	49/34/pc	58/37/s
Grand Rapids	45/35/c	54/34/s
Marquette	39/30/pc	43/24/s
Sault Ste. Marie	39/29/sf	43/26/s
Traverse City	44/32/c	54/33/s
Iowa		
Ames	52/31/c	61/35/s
Cedar Rapids	48/28/c	58/32/s
Des Moines	52/33/c	62/39/s
Dubuque	46/29/pc	56/34/s

WORLD CITIES

City	Sat. Hi/Low/W	Sun. Hi/Low/W
Acapulco	85/68/s	85/66/s
Algiers	71/55/c	67/51/c
Amsterdam	50/38/r	52/37/sh
Ankara	66/44/pc	67/44/s
Athens	70/55/r	72/53/s
Auckland	69/60/sh	67/60/pc
Baghdad	101/73/pc	96/71/pc
Bangkok	104/85/pc	104/84/pc
Barbados	89/79/sh	88/77/pc
Barcelona	65/53/s	63/52/pc
Beijing	72/50/pc	78/50/pc
Beirut	73/63/pc	72/59/pc
Berlin	47/31/r	49/29/pc
Bermuda	74/67/s	73/66/pc
Bogota	70/52/sh	64/52/sh
Brussels	50/37/pc	52/35/pc
Bucharest	61/43/c	64/47/c
Budapest	56/40/pc	56/41/sh
Bueno Aires	73/66/pc	71/61/c
Cairo	91/63/s	84/64/s
Cancon	88/75/s	88/74/s
Caracas	91/78/t	90/76/t
Casablanca	73/52/pc	75/53/s
Copenhagen	47/35/sh	46/33/c
Dublin	55/37/s	57/42/pc
Edmonton	56/27/s	53/39/sh
Frankfurt	51/39/r	49/33/r
Geneva	51/34/pc	48/35/pc
Guadalajara	93/54/s	94/54/s
Havana	91/67/s	90/66/s
Helsinki	33/26/sn	40/28/c
Hong Kong	90/80/t	84/75/r
Istanbul	59/50/r	68/54/s
Jerusalem	77/57/pc	73/49/s
Johannesburg	81/58/s	83/60/s
Kabul	56/45/c	65/46/t
Kingston	89/77/s	88/78/t

City	Sat. Hi/Low/W	Sun. Hi/Low/W
Kyiv	60/44/pc	49/41/r
Lima	75/66/pc	75/66/pc
Lisbon	73/57/pc	74/55/pc
London	53/39/pc	53/36/pc
Madrid	77/45/pc	75/44/s
Manila	97/81/s	97/80/s
Mexico City	84/57/s	85/57/s
Monterrey	91/65/pc	69/59/t
Montreal	52/37/pc	48/30/pc
Moscow	54/39/r	62/56/sh
Munich	44/35/sh	42/29/c
Nairobi	80/63/t	78/61/t
Nassau	83/70/s	83/69/s
New Delhi	98/76/pc	97/76/pc
Oslo	52/33/pc	53/30/s
Ottawa	51/32/pc	51/25/pc
Panama City	94/74/sh	92/73/t
Paris	52/39/c	54/39/sh
Prague	41/28/r	47/28/pc
Rio de Janeiro	80/71/s	81/70/s
Riyadh	101/76/pc	103/75/pc
Rome	64/45/s	66/47/s
Santiago	73/50/c	66/47/c
Seoul	65/59/r	73/60/c
Singapore	90/79/t	90/79/r
Sofia	58/42/pc	55/37/sh
Stockholm	34/25/c	34/24/c
Sydney	68/62/r	71/59/s
Taipei	92/74/c	94/73/pc
Tehran	82/65/s	83/67/s
Tokyo	75/60/pc	72/60/c
Toronto	48/34/pc	54/33/pc
Trinidad	87/79/t	89/78/pc
Vancouver	60/44/sh	57/39/c
Vienna	50/36/sh	47/35/pc
Warsaw	48/35/sh	44/33/c
Winnipeg	52/30/pc	56/36/s

Weather(W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice. POP: Probability of Precipitation.

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Chicago Tribune

BUSINESS

Interior says no to new oil, gas leases in Alaska

GOP senator calls decision by Biden administration ‘illegal’

By Becky Bohrer and Matthew Daly
Associated Press

JUNEAU, Alaska — The Biden administration said Friday that it will restrict new oil and gas leasing on 13 million acres of a federal petroleum reserve in Alaska to help protect wildlife such as caribou and polar bears as the Arctic continues to warm.

The decision — part of a yearslong fight over whether and how to develop the vast oil resources in the state — finalizes protections first proposed last year as the Democratic administration prepared to approve the contentious Willow oil project.

The approval of Willow drew fury from environmentalists, who said the large oil project violated President Joe Biden’s pledge to combat climate change. Friday’s decision also completes an earlier plan that called for closing nearly half the reserve to oil and gas leasing.

A group of Republican lawmakers, led by Alaska Sen. Dan Sullivan, jumped out

ahead of Friday’s announcement about the new limitations in the National Petroleum-Reserve Alaska before it was publicly announced.

Sullivan called it an “illegal” attack on the state’s economic lifeblood, and he predicted lawsuits.

“It’s more than a one-two punch to Alaska,” Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, said, “because when you take off access to our resources, when you say you cannot drill, you cannot produce, you cannot explore, you cannot move it — this is the energy insecurity that we’re talking about.”

The decision by the Interior Department doesn’t change the terms of existing leases in the reserve or affect currently authorized operations, including Willow.

The Biden administration also recommended the rejection of a state corporation’s application related to a proposed 210-mile road in the northwest part of the state to allow mining of critical mineral deposits, including copper, cobalt, zinc, silver and gold. There are no mining proposals or current mines in the area, and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management determined that the road-building alter-

natives analyzed “would significantly and irrevocably impact resources,” the agency said in a statement. A final decision on the recommendation is pending.

Brian Ridley, chief of Tanana Chiefs Conference, an Alaska Native nonprofit corporation, said the administration’s “choice to reject the Ambler Road Project is a monumental step forward in the fight for Indigenous rights and environmental justice.” The tribes of the Tanana Chiefs Conference had expressed concerns that a road would harm their communities, land and wildlife.

Sullivan accused the administration of undermining U.S. national security interests with both decisions. Alaska political leaders have long accused the administration of harming the state with decisions limiting the development of oil and gas, minerals and timber.

Biden defended his decision regarding the petroleum reserve.

Alaska’s “majestic and rugged lands and waters ... among the most remarkable and healthy landscapes in the world” are critical to Alaska Native communities and “demand our protection,” he said.

China made demand to pull 2 apps, Apple says

By Zen Soo
Associated Press

HONG KONG — Apple says it removed Meta’s WhatsApp messaging app and its Threads social media app from the App Store in China to comply with orders from Chinese authorities.

The apps were removed from the store Friday after Chinese officials cited unspecified national security concerns.

Their removal comes amid elevated tensions between the two countries over trade, technology and national security.

The U.S. has threatened to ban TikTok over national security concerns. But while TikTok, owned by Chinese technology firm ByteDance, is used by millions in the U.S., apps like WhatsApp and Threads are not commonly used in China.

Instead, the messaging app WeChat, owned by Chinese company Tencent, reigns supreme.

Other Meta apps, including Facebook, Instagram and Messenger remained available for download, although use of such foreign apps is blocked in China due to its “Great Firewall” network of filters that restrict use of foreign websites, such as Google and Facebook.

“The Cyberspace Administration of China ordered the removal of these apps from the China storefront based on their national security concerns,” Apple said in a statement.

“We are obligated to follow the laws in the countries where we operate, even when we disagree.”



Members of the Laborers International Union of North America encourage drivers to honk in support of Walgreens pharmacists as they demonstrate outside of a Walgreens store on Friday in Bartlett. They were out protesting on behalf of about 900 Illinois Walgreens pharmacists who remain on the job despite not having a contract since May 31. **STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Walgreens pharmacists union to demonstrate outside stores

Workers plan protests at 46 Chicago-area locations over pay and conditions

By Lisa Schencker
Chicago Tribune

A union representing Walgreens pharmacists plans to demonstrate outside of more than 46 local Walgreens stores over the next month to protest pay and working conditions.

The National Pharmacists Association-LIUNA, which says it represents 900 Chicago-area Walgreens pharmacists, plans to demonstrate outside two or three stores a day from now until May 10.

The union says the pharmacists have been working without a contract for nine months and have received a 2% wage increase over the last seven years. Mean-

while, they say, the pharmacists have endured inconsistent scheduling and have been expected to provide more services to patients since the pandemic, such as vaccinations, without additional staff support.

“We were told by Walgreens we were essential workers during the COVID crisis, and then after all that work and bringing the company through the crisis, they’re thanking us, unfortunately, by working us harder than ever before, cutting our staffing, cutting our benefits and not providing fair wage increases,” said Paul Price, a union representative for the National Pharmacists Association.

Walgreens spokesperson Marty Maloney said in a statement Thursday that Walgreens appreciates its pharmacists and has worked over the last two years to improve their experience.

“We are fully committed to ensuring their contributions are acknowledged and rewarded, including with competitive pay and benefits, and are continuing to bargain in good faith with our Chicago-area pharmacists in an effort to reach a new contract,” Maloney said in a statement.

Walgreens said it has enhanced its technology and centralized many of its services to help reduce workloads in its pharmacies.

The union held the first demonstrations outside Walgreens stores in Aurora

Turn to Walgreens, Page 2

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Docs sue Google over bad reviews

TOKYO — A group of Japanese doctors has filed a civil lawsuit against U.S. search giant Google, demanding damages for what they claim are unpoliced derogatory and often false comments.

The lawsuit, filed Thursday in Tokyo District Court, demands \$9,400 in damages for 63 medical professionals.

Google said in an emailed statement Friday that it is working “24 hours a day” to reduce misleading or false information on its platform and “to delete fraudulent reviews.”

The lawsuit says groundless negative reviews, some written out of spite, have been posted on Google Maps, a very popular app in Japan that allows people to write in ratings of various institutions and their personal reviews. — *Associated Press*

Tenn. VW plant faces union vote

DETROIT — The United Auto Workers’ ambitious drive to expand its reach to nonunion factories across the South and elsewhere faced a key test Friday night, when workers at a Volkswagen plant in Chattanooga, Tennessee, were expected to finish voting on whether to join the union.

Twice in recent years, workers at the Chattanooga plant have rejected union membership. Most recently, they handed the UAW a narrow defeat in 2019 just as federal prosecutors were breaking up a bribery and embezzlement scandal at the union.

But this time, the UAW is operating under new leadership, directly elected by its members for the first time and basking in a successful confrontation with Detroit’s major automakers. — *Associated Press*

Tesla recalls Cybertruck over sticky gas pedal

By J. Edward Moreno
The New York Times

Tesla has agreed to recall nearly 4,000 of its Cybertruck pickups to fix an accelerator pedal that can get stuck, raising the risk of crashes, a federal safety agency said Friday.

The defect could cause the vehicle to accelerate unintentionally, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said in a notice posted on its website.

Tesla started selling the Cybertruck, its first pickup, in November after many delays.

The recall is another setback for Tesla, the largest electric vehicle manufacturer in the United States. The company has been losing market share to emerging competi-

tors and reported this month that its sales in the first three months of the year fell from the same period a year earlier — the first time that has happened since the start of the pandemic.

Tesla’s recent troubles have unnerved investors, and the company’s stock has fallen about 40% this year.

NHTSA said all 3,878 Cybertrucks on U.S. roads produced from Nov. 13 to April 4 have the defect, which it said was caused by soap being used as lubricant during assembly at Tesla’s factory in Austin, Texas. The residual soap “reduced the retention of the pad to the pedal,” the agency said.

Tesla first received a customer complaint March 31, and by April 12 it had completed its assessment and voluntarily recalled the affected vehicles, the notice said.

The agency said Tesla was not aware that the defect had caused any crashes, injuries or deaths.

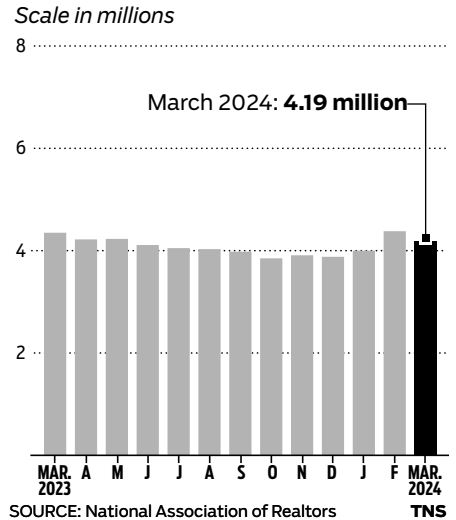
Some owners of the Cybertruck in recent days have posted videos and photographs on social media describing the defect.

Tesla will replace or repair the accelerator pedal on Cybertrucks free of charge, the safety agency said.

The company has faced several recalls in the past year, including one in February for more than 2 million vehicles because the font size on a warning-lights panel was too small.

Elon Musk, the company’s CEO, told workers this week that the company would cut 10% of its workforce.

Existing home sales





Joelle Pineau, vice president of AI research at Meta, speaks April 9 at Meta AI Day in London. Meta rolled out a new set of AI systems Thursday. **KIRSTY WIGGLESWORTH/AP**

Meta unveils early version of ‘most intelligent AI assistant’

By **Matt O’Brien**
Associated Press

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Facebook parent Meta Platforms has unveiled a new set of artificial intelligence systems that are powering what CEO Mark Zuckerberg calls “the most intelligent AI assistant that you can freely use.”

But as Zuckerberg’s crew of amped-up Meta AI agents started venturing into social media this week to engage with real people, their bizarre exchanges exposed the ongoing limitations of even the best generative AI technology.

Meta, along with leading AI developers Google and OpenAI, and such start-ups as Anthropic, Cohere and France’s Mistral, have been churning out new AI language models and hoping to persuade customers they’ve got the smartest, handiest or most efficient chatbots.

While Meta is saving the most powerful of its AI models, called Llama 3, for later, it publicly released two smaller versions of the same Llama 3 system on Thursday and said it’s now baked into the Meta AI assistant feature in Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp.

AI language models are

trained on vast pools of data that help them predict the most plausible next word in a sentence, with newer versions typically smarter and more capable than their predecessors. Meta’s newest models were built with 8 billion and 70 billion parameters — a measurement of how much data the system is trained on.

A bigger model, roughly 400 billion parameters, is still in training.

“The vast majority of consumers don’t candidly know or care too much about the underlying base model, but the way they will experience it is just as a much more useful, fun and versatile AI assistant,” said Nick Clegg, Meta’s president of global affairs.

And Meta’s AI agent is loosening up.

Some people found the Llama 2 model to be “a little stiff and sanctimonious sometimes in not responding to what were often perfectly innocuous or innocent prompts and questions,” he said.

But in letting down their guard, Meta’s AI agents also were spotted this week posing as humans with made-up life experiences.

An official Meta AI chatbot inserted itself into a conversation in a private Facebook group

for Manhattan moms, claiming that it, too, had a child in the New York City school district. Confronted by group members, it later apologized before the comments disappeared.

“Apologies for the mistake! I’m just a large language model, I don’t have experiences or children,” the chatbot told the group.

One group member who also happens to study AI said it was clear that the agent didn’t know how to differentiate a helpful response from one that would be seen as insensitive, disrespectful or meaningless when generated by AI rather than a human.

“An AI assistant that is not reliably helpful and can be actively harmful puts a lot of the burden on the individuals using it,” said Aleksandra Korolova, an assistant professor of computer science at Princeton University.

Clegg said Wednesday he wasn’t aware of the exchange. Facebook’s online help page says the Meta AI agent will join a group conversation if invited, or if someone “asks a question in a post and no one responds within an hour.” The group’s administrators have the ability to turn it off.

Report: 2023 a record year for new wind power installations

By **Carlos Mureithi**
Associated Press

The world installed 117 gigawatts of new wind power capacity in 2023, a 50% increase from the year before, making it the best year for new wind projects on record, according to a new report by the industry’s trade association.

The latest Global Wind Report, published this week by the Global Wind Energy Council, explores the state of the global wind industry and the challenges it’s facing in its expansion.

The increase in wind installations “shows that the world is moving in the right direction in combating climate change,” the report said.

But the authors warned that the wind industry must increase its annual growth to at least 320 gigawatts by 2030 in order to meet the COP28 pledge to triple the world’s installed renewable energy generation capacity by 2030, as well as to meet the Paris Agreement’s ambition of capping global

warming to 2.7 degrees Fahrenheit.

“It’s great to see wind industry growth picking up, and we are proud of reaching a new annual record,” said GWEC CEO Ben Backwell, “however, much more needs to be done to unlock growth.”

Still, the report shows that wind is becoming “better understood and appreciated across the globe for the value it brings as a renewable energy source,” said George Aluru, CEO of the Electricity Sector Association of Kenya, an industry body for private investors in electricity.

Wind power and other renewable energy sources are seen as a key to reducing electricity generation from fossil fuels and mitigating climate change. Renewables are the cheapest form of electricity in many parts of the world and among the cheapest in most others.

The global cumulative wind power capacity now totals 1,021 gigawatts.

Christian Andresen, research manager at

SINTEF Energy Research, a Norway-based independent institute for applied research in the energy sector, said the report shows that the wind industry is “picking up pace” by attracting investments and gaining maturity, and that may lead to a snowball effect for future growth.

For the planet, he said, it indicates that it is possible to ramp up to reach climate targets.

As was the case in 2022, China led all other countries for both new onshore and offshore wind power installations in 2023. It made 65% of new installations, and was followed by the U.S., Brazil and Germany, respectively.

Together, these four countries accounted for 77% of new installations globally last year.

The report notes that growth in wind power installations is highly concentrated in a few big countries and links that to strong market frameworks to scale wind installations in those countries.

Walgreens

from Page 1

and Naperville on Thursday. Off-duty pharmacists and union and community members stood in front of the stores in white lab coats, holding signs that read “From essential ... to exploited.”

Pharmacists are not walking off the job to participate in the demonstrations. Walgreens said there’s been no disruption to its operations.

“We are doing more work than ever, with less help and less pay,” said Robert Kobleski, an overnight pharmacist at a Chicago Walgreens, as he demonstrated outside a Naperville Walgreens on Thursday. “It’s creating a dangerous situations for patients and for staff. They’re in danger of making mistakes and the public is in danger of being

on the receiving end of those mistakes.”

The union plans to demonstrate at Walgreens headquarters in Deerfield on May 10.

The demonstrations come after some pharmacists and others walked off the job last year at Walgreens and CVS Health locations in various parts of the country.

The protests this month also come amid cost-cutting measures at Walgreens.

Walgreens confirmed earlier this week that it is laying off corporate workers who are mostly Chicago-based, but a spokesperson would not say how many workers are losing their jobs. It’s the fourth round of corporate worker layoffs at Walgreens over the past year, starting last May when Walgreens said it was eliminating 504 jobs, representing about 10% of its corporate workforce at the time.

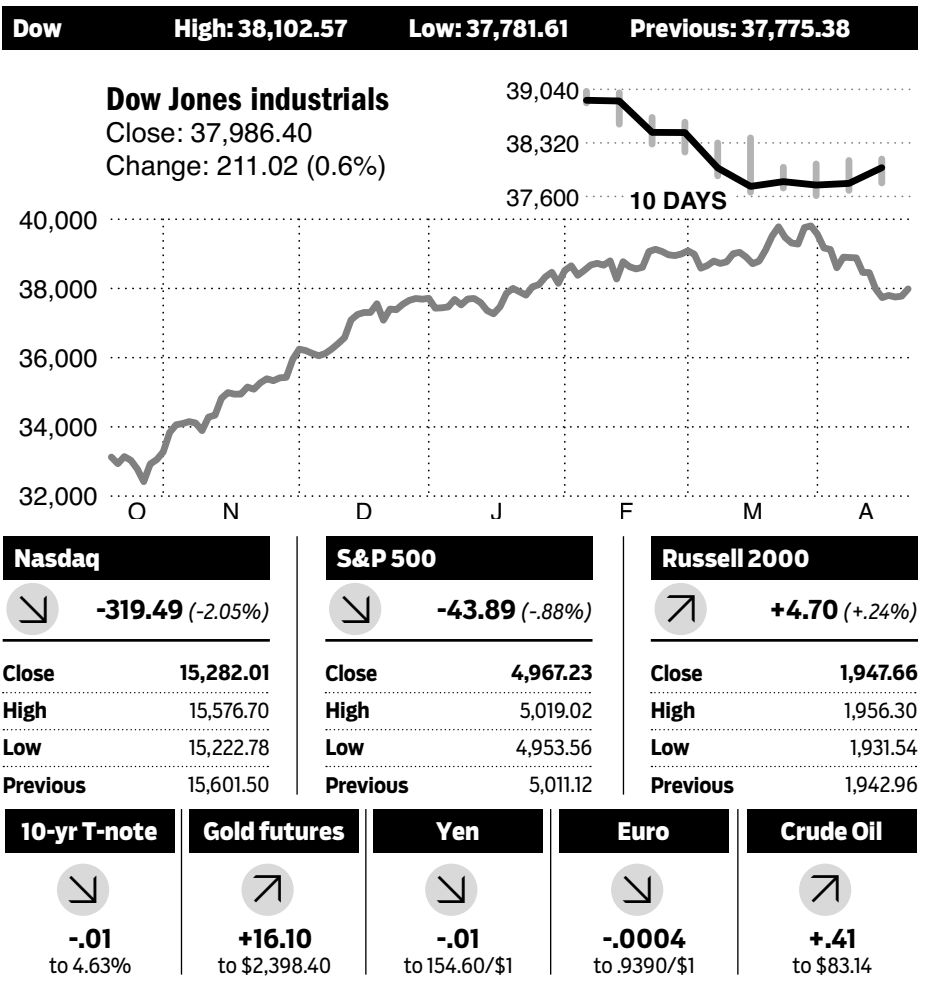
The retail pharmacy giant is also reducing its front-end store employees’ hours by 4% to 7% “following a review of our labor model and forecasting process,” spokesperson Fraser Engerman said in a statement Wednesday.

CEO Tim Wentworth has said Walgreens is aiming to cut \$1 billion in costs this year.

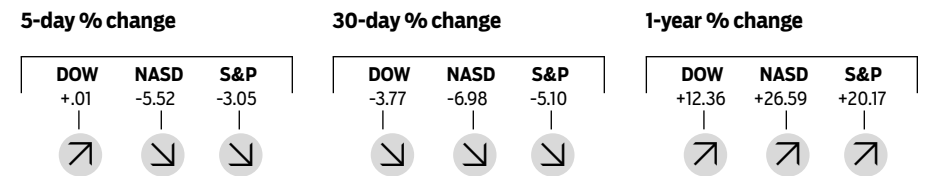
Walgreens has been working in recent years to become a health care destination but has faced challenges.

Walgreens invested heavily in Chicago-based VillageMD, which has primary care clinics next to Walgreens stores. But Wentworth said during an earnings call in March that Walgreens had recorded a \$5.8 billion impairment charge during the last quarter related to VillageMD, and that VillageMD would be closing 160 clinics.

MARKET ROUNDUP



Major market growth and decline



FUTURES							
COMMODITY	AMOUNT-PRICE	MO.	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	SETTLE	CHG.
WHEAT (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	May 24	536.75	558.75	536	550.25	+13.50
		Jul 24	553	574.75	552.25	566.75	+13.75
CORN (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	May 24	427.25	434	426.75	433.50	+6.75
		Jul 24	436.75	443.50	436	443	+6.75
SOYBEANS (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	May 24	1134	1153	1131.75	1150.50	+16.25
		Jul 24	1148.25	1168	1145.75	1165.75	+16.75
SOYBEAN OIL (CBOT)	60,000 lbs- cents per lb	May 24	43.98	44.66	43.50	44.38	+26
		Jul 24	44.55	45.22	44.06	44.94	+28
SOYBEAN MEAL (CBOT)	100 tons- dollars per ton	May 24	337.80	345.80	337.60	343.70	+5.70
		Jul 24	337.00	344.90	336.70	343.20	+5.80
LIGHT SWEET CRUDE (NYMX)	1,000 bbl.- dollars per bbl.	May 24	82.62	86.28	81.80	83.14	+4.1
		Jun 24	81.99	85.64	81.13	82.22	+1.2
NATURAL GAS (NYMX)	10,000 mm btu's, \$ per mm btu	May 24	1.741	1.806	1.724	1.752	-.005
		Jun 24	1.974	2.029	1.951	1.988	+.002
NY HARBOR GAS BLEND (NYMX)	42,000 gallons- dollars per gallon	May 24	2.7065	2.7859	2.6812	2.7103	-.0034
		Jun 24	2.6795	2.7566	2.6530	2.6834	-.0012

Source: The Associated Press

LOCAL STOCKS

Stocks listed may change due to daily fluctuations in market capitalization.

Exchange key: N=NYSE, O=NASDAQ

STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.	STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.	STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.
Abbott Labs	N	107.28	+2.01	Exelon Corp	O	37.55	+.87	Middleby Corp	O	142.60	+1.59
AbbVie Inc	N	166.41	+1.75	Federal Signal	N	80.84	-.68	Mondelez Intl	O	68.11	+.94
Alstare Corp	N	172.96	+3.85	First Indl RT	N	45.63	-.44	Morningstar Inc	O	297.96	+5.58
Aptargroup Inc	N	139.34	+.23	Fortune Brands Innov	N	73.51	-.07	Motorola Solutions	N	339.65	+.19
Arch Dan Mid	N	62.60	+.88	GATX	N	129.98	+1.94	NiSource Inc	N	27.58	+.18
Baxter Intl	N	39.47	-.18	Gallagher AJ	N	236.57	+2.58	Nthn Trust Cp	O	81.45	+.04
Brunswick Corp	N	83.94	+1.86	Grainger WW	N	942.65	+5.11	Old Republic	N	29.76	+.64
CBOE Global Markets	N	180.85	+3.34	Hub Group Inc	O	39.80	+1.06	Packaging Corp Am	N	179.89	+1.64
CCC Intellig Solut	O	11.44	+.02	Hyatt Hotels Corp	N	146.37	-1.43	Paylocity Hldg	O	157.22	-.28
CDW Corp	O	235.78	+.08	IDEX Corp	N	227.04	+.94	RLI Corp	N	140.21	+3.12
CF Industries	N	79.47	-.12	ITW	N	250.46	+1.63	Ryan Specialty Group	N	51.22	+.93
CME Group	O	213.04	+3.39	Ingredion Inc	N	113.62	+1.29	Stericycle Inc	O	49.91	+1.04
CNA Financial	N	44.44	+1.10	John Bean Technol	N	91.71	+2.00	TransUnion	N	66.70	-.31
ConAgra Brands Inc	N	30.62	+.26	Jones Lang LaSalle	N	175.11	+.11	US Foods Holding	N	50.04	+.09
Deere Co	N	400.32	-.28	Kemper Corp	N	58.01	+1.01	Uita Salon Cosmetics	O	413.50	-11.61
Discover Fin Svcs	N	125.35	+1.08	Kraft Heinz Co	O	37.78	+.67	United Airlines Hldg	O	51.38	-.04
Dover Corp	N	169.84	+1.23	LKQ Corporation	O	49.12	+.54	Ventas Inc	N	43.13	+.49
Envestnet Inc	N	63.33	+1.11	Litellfuse Inc	O	226.75	+.63	Walgreen Boots Alli	O	18.24	+.65
Equity Lifesty Prop	N	62.73	+.40	MYR Group	O	158.71	-.12	Wintrust Financial	O	97.31	+2.01
Equity Residential	N	61.54	+.55	McDonalds Corp	N	271.99	+1.01	Zebra Tech	O	268.07	-.496

MOST ACTIVE STOCKS

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
Bank of America	36.97	+1.20
AT&T Inc	16.51	+1.18
Ford Motor	12.14	+.08
Virgin Galactic Hldg	.86	-.11
Palantir Technol	20.47	-.66
Ginkgo Bioworks Hldg	.87	-.06
Pfizer Inc	26.00	+.61
Vale SA	12.18	+.34
Wells Fargo & Co	60.35	+1.61
Petrolbras	16.47	+.89
Snap Inc A	11.16	-.47
Carnival Corp	14.12	-.06
Agilent Technology A	3.16	+.24
Taiwan Semicon	127.70	-4.57
Nu Holdings Ltd	10.48	-.18
Kinder Morgan Inc	18.84	+.63
Kinross Gold	6.77	+.26
Verizon Comm	40.49	+.36
Uber Technologies	69.20	-2.10
Barriok Gold	17.10	+.12
Altria Group	42.09	+.79
Exxon Mobil Corp	119.88	+1.36
Medical Prop Trust	4.42	-.42
CocaCola Co	60.17	+1.26

NASDAQ STOCK MARKET

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
AGBA Group Hldg Ltd	1.25	+.22
SiNtx Technologies	.04	+.00
Blue Star Foods Corp	.08	+.01
Nvidia Corporation	762.00	-84.71
Tesla Inc	147.05	-2.88
Adv Micro Dev	146.64	-8.44
Apple Inc	165.00	-2.04
Intel Corp	34.20	-.84
Amazon.com Inc	174.63	-4.59
Nikola Corp	.64	-.02
Marathon Digital Hld	16.50	+1.47
Paramount Global B	12.44	+1.47
ClearSpark Inc	17.20	+.97
Unigtrn Bancshs	13.28	+.10
SoFi Technologies	7.11	-.02
Top Wealth Group Hld	3.73	+1.88
Summit Wireless Tech	.04	+.17
Inspire Veterinary A	.04	-.04
Miron Tech	106.77	-5.16
Nova Lifestyle Inc	2.76	+.65
Alphabed Inc A	154.09	-1.92
Plug Power Inc	2.57	-.14
Zhongchao Inc A	1.94	+.49
Jaguar Health Inc	.16	-.02

FOREIGN MARKETS

INDEX	CLOSE	CHG./%
Shanghai	3065.26	-9.0/-3
Stoxx600	499.29	-.4/-1
Nikkei	37068.35	-1011.4/-2.7
MSCI-EAFE	2233.15	-9.3/-4
Bovespa	125124.30	+928.1/+0.8
FTSE 100	7895.85	+18.8/+2
CAC-40	8022.41	-9.9/-0

LARGEST COMPANIES

Based on market capitalization

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
Alphabet Inc C	155.72	-1.74
Alphabet Inc A	154.09	-1.92
Amazon.com Inc	174.63	-4.59
Apple Inc	165.00	-2.04
Berkshire Hath B	405.08	+5.19
Broadcom Inc	1204.71	-54.28
Eli Lilly	726.31	-19.64
Exxon Mobil Corp	119.88	+1.36
JPMorgan Chase	185.80	+4.55
MasterCard Inc	455.39	+.69
Meta Platforms Inc	481.07	-20.73
Microsoft Corp	399.12	-5.15
Novo Nordisk AS	122.71	-.04
Nvidia Corporation	762.00	-84.71
Taiwan Semicon	127.70	-4.57
Tesla Inc	147.05	-2.88
UnitedHealth Group	501.13	+7.95
Visa Inc	269.78	-1.59
WalMart Strs	59.53	+.27

TREASURY YIELDS

DURATION	CLOSE	PREV.
3-month Disc	5.25	5.25
6-month disc	5.17	5.15
2-year	4.99	4.99
10-year	4.63	4.64
30-year	4.72	4.73

SPOT METALS

	CLOSE	PREV.
Gold	\$2398.40	\$2382.30
Silver	\$28.308	\$28.329
Platinum	\$934.10	\$945.30

INTEREST RATES

Prime Rate	8.50
Discount Rate Primary	6.00
Fed Funds Target	5.25-5.50
Money Mkt Overnight Avg.	0.48

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

A U.S. Dollar buys ...

Argentina (Peso)	871.8396
Australia (Dollar)	1.5586
Brazil (Real)	5.1939
Britain (Pound)	.8085
Canada (Dollar)	1.3753
China (Yuan)	7.2402
Euro	.9390
India (Rupee)	83.392
Israel (Shekel)	3.7573
Japan (Yen)	154.60
Mexico (Peso)	17.1388
Poland (Zloty)	4.05
So. Korea (Won)	1376.46
Taiwan (Dollar)	32.55
Thailand (Baht)	36.85

LARGEST MUTUAL FUN

NATION & WORLD

Hush-money trial jury seated in full

Trump's last-minute bid to halt Monday's opening rejected fast

By Jennifer Peltz, Michael R. Sisak, Jake Offenhartz and Alanna Durkin Richer Associated Press

NEW YORK — A full jury of 12 people and six alternates was seated Friday in Donald Trump's hush-money case, setting the stage for opening statements next week in the first criminal trial of a former U.S. president.

Hours later, an appeals court judge rejected Trump's last-minute bid to halt the trial over his claims that jury selection was unfairly rushed.

The jury, which includes a software engineer, investment banker, English teacher and multiple lawyers, took final shape after lawyers spent days quizzing dozens of potential jurors on whether they can impartially judge the presumptive Republican presidential nominee.

The judge said lawyers will present opening statements Monday morning before prosecutors begin laying out their case alleging a scheme to cover up negative stories Trump feared would hurt his 2016 presidential campaign.

The trial in Manhattan thrusts Trump's legal problems into the heart of his hotly contested race against President Joe Biden, with the latter likely to seize on unflattering and salacious testimony to make the case that Trump is unfit to return as commander in chief.

Trump, meanwhile, is using the prosecution as a political rallying cry, casting himself as a victim



Former President Donald Trump sits at the defense table Friday at Manhattan criminal court in New York. CURTIS MEANS/POOL

while juggling his dual role as criminal defendant and presidential candidate.

Just after the jury was seated, emergency crews responded to a park outside the courthouse, where a man had set himself on fire. The man spread pamphlets espousing conspiracy theories around the park before dousing himself in a flammable substance and setting himself aflame, officials said. He was in critical condition Friday afternoon.

Trump has spent the week sitting quietly in the courtroom as lawyers pressed potential jurors on their views about him in a search for any bias that would preclude them from hearing the case. During

breaks in the proceedings, he has railed against the case on social media or to TV cameras in the hallway, calling it a politically motivated "witch hunt."

Over five days of jury selection, dozens of people were dismissed from the jury pool after saying they didn't believe they could be fair. Others expressed anxiety about having to decide such a consequential case with outsized media attention, even though the judge has ruled that jurors' names will be known only to prosecutors, Trump and their legal teams.

One woman who had been chosen to serve on the jury was dismissed Thursday after she raised concerns

over messages she said she got from friends and family when aspects of her identity became public. On Friday, another woman broke down in tears while being questioned by a prosecutor about her ability to decide the case based only on evidence presented in court.

"I wouldn't want someone who feels like this to judge my case either," the woman said. "I don't want to waste the court's time."

As more potential jurors were questioned Friday, Trump appeared to lean over at the defense table, scribbling on some papers and exchanging notes with one of his lawyers. He occasionally perked up and gazed at the jury box, including

when one would-be juror said he had volunteered in a "get out the vote" effort for Hillary Clinton's campaign.

Trump spoke to reporters before Friday's proceedings got underway, lambasting a gag order that prosecutors have accused him of violating. Judge Juan Merchan has scheduled arguments for next week on prosecutors' request to hold Trump in contempt of court and fine him for social media posts they say defy limits on what he can say about potential witnesses.

"The gag order has to come off. People are allowed to speak about me, and I have a gag order," Trump said.

Merchan also heard ar-

guments Friday on prosecutors' request to bring up Trump's prior legal entanglements if he takes the witness stand in the hush-money case. Manhattan prosecutors have said they want to question Trump about his recent civil fraud trial that resulted in a \$454 million judgment after a judge found Trump had lied about his wealth for years. He is appealing that verdict.

This trial centers on a \$130,000 payment that Michael Cohen, Trump's then-lawyer and personal fixer, made to porn actor Stormy Daniels to prevent her claims of a sexual encounter with Trump from becoming public in the final days of the 2016 race.

Prosecutors say Trump obscured the true nature of the payments in internal records when his company reimbursed Cohen, who pleaded guilty to federal charges in 2018 and is expected to be a star witness for the prosecution.

Trump has denied having a sexual encounter with Daniels, and his lawyers argue that the payments to Cohen were legitimate legal expenses.

Trump faces 34 felony counts of falsifying business records. He could get up to four years in prison if convicted, although it's not clear that the judge would opt to put him behind bars. Trump would almost certainly appeal any conviction.

Trump is involved in four criminal cases, but it's not clear that any others will reach trial before the November election. Appeals and legal wrangling have caused delays in the cases charging Trump with plotting to overturn the 2020 election results and with illegally hoarding classified documents.

Sides downplay apparent Israeli strike against Iran

Blinken says that US 'not involved in any offensive operations'

By Josef Federman and Jon Gambrell Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Israel and Iran on Friday both played down an apparent Israeli airstrike near a major air base and nuclear site in central Iran, signaling the bitter enemies are ready to prevent their latest eruption of violence from escalating into a full-blown regional war.

But the indecisive outcome of weeks of tensions — which included an alleged Israeli strike that killed two Iranian generals, an unprecedented Iranian missile barrage on Israel and the apparent Israeli strike early Friday in the heart of Iran — did little to resolve the deeper grievances between the foes and left the door open to further fighting.

"It appears we're closer than ever to a broad regional war, despite the fact that the international community will most likely make a great effort to de-escalate tensions," wrote Amos

Harel, the military affairs commentator for the Israeli daily Haaretz.

Israel has long considered Iran to be its greatest enemy — citing the Islamic Republic's calls for Israel's destruction, its controversial nuclear program and its support for hostile proxies across the Middle East.

These tensions have risen since Hamas and Islamic Jihad, Iranian-backed Palestinian groups, attacked Israel on Oct. 7, sparking a devastating Israeli offensive in Gaza that has continued for more than six months. Hezbollah, an Iranian-backed proxy in Lebanon, immediately began striking Israeli targets, opening up tit-for-tat fighting along a second front, while Iranian-backed militias in Iraq, Syria and Yemen have also fired missiles and drones at Israel throughout the war.

While Israel and Iran have waged a shadow war for years, mostly in neighboring Syria, they have largely avoided direct confrontations.

That changed after an April 1 airstrike killed two Iranian generals at an Iranian diplomatic compound in the Syrian capital of Damas-

cus. Although Israel did not comment, Iran blamed Israel for the strike and vowed revenge.

Iran responded with its first-ever direct attack on Israel, launching over 300 missiles and attack drones late last Saturday night. Israel, working with a U.S.-led international coalition, said it intercepted 99% of the incoming fire, though a handful of missiles managed to land, causing minor damage to an Israeli military base and wounding a young girl.

In Friday's attack, Iranian state television said that air defense batteries fired in several provinces over reports of drones in the air. Iranian army commander Gen. Abdolrahim Mousavi said crews targeted several flying objects.

"The explosion this morning in the sky of Isfahan was related to the shooting of air defense systems at a suspicious object that did not cause any damage," Mousavi said.

Authorities said air defenses fired at a major air base near Isfahan, which long has been home to Iran's fleet of American-made F-14 Tomcats — purchased before the 1979 Islamic



Iranians gather for a picnic Friday under the Si-o-Se Pol Bridge in the country's central city of Isfahan. An apparent Israeli airstrike hit areas near the city early Friday. RASOUL SHOJAEI/IRNA

Revolution.

Isfahan also is home to sites associated with Iran's nuclear program, including its underground Natanz enrichment site, which has been repeatedly targeted by suspected Israeli sabotage attacks. The apparent attack Friday came on Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's 85th birthday.

State television described all Iranian atomic sites in the areas as "fully safe." The United Nations' nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency, also said there was "no damage" to Iran's nuclear sites.

Iranian officials made no

mention of possible Israeli involvement. That could be intentional, particularly after Iranian officials for days have been threatening to respond to any Israeli retaliatory attack.

Israel also had no comment on the attack, though one hard-line government minister, Itamar Ben-Gvir, hinted at his dissatisfaction, with a one-word tweet early Friday, using a slang word for weak or lame.

But Italy's foreign minister, Antonio Tajani, said at a summit of Western leaders in Capri that the U.S. received "last-minute" information from Israel about the attack. U.S. Secre-

tary of State Antony Blinken did not dispute that, but said: "We were not involved in any offensive operations."

Charles Lister, a senior fellow at the Washington-based Middle East Institute, challenged Iran's claims that drones carried out the attacks. It appears instead that a small number of Israeli aircraft flew from Israel over Syria — striking at least two military bases in southern Syria that have air defense systems along the way, he said.

They then entered Iraqi airspace, from where they fired missiles, likely without ever entering Iranian airspace, Lister said.

US sanctions 2 fundraisers for violent extremist West Bank settlers

By Fatima Hussein and Julia Frankel Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Biden administration imposed sanctions Friday on two entities accused of fundraising for extremist Israel settlers already sanctioned, as well as the founder of an organization whose members regularly assault Palestinians.

The Treasury Department announcement comes as the West Bank has seen

some of its worst violence perpetrated by extremist settlers against Palestinians since the war in nearby Gaza began.

There is also friction between President Joe Biden and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, whose far-right government has reacted angrily to previous sanctions imposed against West Bank settlers.

Included in the Friday sanctions are two entities — Mount Hebron Fund and

Shlom Asiraich — accused of raising money for sanctioned settlers Yinon Levi and David Chai Chasdai.

Both men were previously sanctioned by the Biden administration for attacking Palestinians in the West Bank.

The penalties aim to block them from using the U.S. financial system and bar American citizens from dealing with them.

The fundraising campaign established by Mount Hebron Fund for Levi and

by Shlom Asiraich for Chasdai generated the equivalent of \$140,000 and \$31,000, respectively, according to U.S. Treasury.

In Levi's case, the fund now sanctioned by the Biden administration is linked to the regional council in the area, a body that receives state money. The Biden order Friday stopped short of sanctioning the council itself.

Rights groups say the expansion of illegal settler outposts in the West Bank is

enthusiastically supported by the regional councils and nudged along by Israel's national government — the most far-right in the country's history.

The Biden order also skirted sanctioning crowd-funding websites where money was raised, GiveChak and New York-based Charidy.

In Chasdai's case, the fundraiser on Charidy was organized by Shlom Asiraich, which raises money for imprisoned

Jewish extremists.

Both online fundraisers have now been taken down.

But at least one fundraiser linked to a settler previously sanctioned by the Biden administration, Moshe Sharvit, remains online. As of Friday, the page on GiveChak had raised the equivalent of more than \$879,000.

Treasury Deputy Secretary Wally Adeyemo said the organizations "undermine the peace, security and stability of the West Bank."

‘Tricked’ by 2020 Trump campaign

Fake electors face charges, probes in crucial swing states

By Danny Hakim
The New York Times

The chair of the Nevada Republican Party has been indicted. So has the former chair of the Georgia GOP. In Michigan, a former co-chair of the state party is facing charges.

As former President Donald Trump goes on trial in the New York criminal case, other investigations and prosecutions in five crucial swing states are continuing to scrutinize the steps that he and his allies took in trying to circumvent the will of voters after the 2020 election.

The investigations focus largely on the plan to deploy fake electors in states Trump lost. Documents emerging from the state cases highlight divisions among Trump advisers after the 2020 election about whether to use hedging language in the phony certificates they sent to Washington purporting to designate electoral votes for Trump. They also undercut claims by some Trump aides that they played little role in the fake-electors plan.

Georgia, Michigan and Nevada have already brought charges against a total of 25 fake electors, including current and former Republican Party leaders in those states. The Georgia case, led by Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis, has gone further, bringing charges against Trump himself and a number of his advisers.

Investigations are also playing out in Wisconsin as well as in Arizona, where state Attorney General Kris Mayes is expected to bring charges soon. Grand jury subpoenas were recently issued to the people who acted as fake electors in Arizona, including Kelli Ward, a former state Repub-



Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis speaks Aug. 14 at a news conference in Atlanta. Georgia, Michigan and Nevada have already brought charges against people who posed as electors for Donald Trump. KENNY HOLSTON/THE NEW YORK TIMES 2023

lican chair. Mike Roman, a former Trump campaign official who is facing charges in Georgia, is also among those subpoenaed in the Arizona case.

There are so many state investigations going on that “they all kind of run together,” said Manny Arora, a lawyer for Kenneth Chesebro, an architect of the fake-electors plan who has emerged as a key witness in the investigations.

“Most of the jurisdictions are keeping it local and leaving the big stuff to the feds,” Arora said, adding that he did not expect most of the state cases to “be quite as sweeping as Georgia.”

Evidence has also emerged from state civil suits brought on behalf of legitimate 2020 electors for President-elect Joe Biden, and from the federal case brought by Jack Smith, the special counsel prosecuting Trump.

The state-level inquiries

are being led by Democrats, with one exception. Pete Skandalakis, a Republican who leads a nonpartisan state agency in Georgia, said last week he would investigate Lt. Gov. Burt Jones over his role as a fake elector. Willis was disqualified from investigating Jones because she hosted a fundraiser for one of Jones’ political opponents.

Whether any of the cases will significantly affect Trump’s 2024 campaign is unclear. The former president’s most immediate legal challenge is the criminal trial that began this week in New York City, focusing on hush-money payments made to porn actor Stormy Daniels.

In the election interference cases, lawyers for Trump and other defendants have generally not disputed the evidence, choosing instead to challenge the investigations on free speech, immunity or

procedural grounds.

Chesebro, who pleaded guilty to a felony last year in Georgia, later told investigators in Michigan that he had been misled by the Trump campaign and had not known that it was “trying to create chaos in state legislatures.” He said he had been financially devastated by legal fees.

“It’s been a real, a lesson in not working with people that you don’t know and you’re not sure you can trust,” Chesebro told the Michigan investigators, according to a recording of his interview with them that has been reported previously by CNN. “I ended up losing. I had a wonderful apartment in New York City I had to sell for a \$2 million loss, and lost almost all my net worth because of the attorney bill.”

In December, Andrew Hitt, who was head of the Wisconsin Republican Party during the 2020 elec-

tion, told a local ABC affiliate that he and other fake electors “were tricked” by the Trump campaign and thought they were only acting as a contingency, in case litigation succeeded.

Those Wisconsin fake electors agreed in a recent civil settlement that the document they signed was “used as part of an attempt to improperly overturn the 2020 presidential election results” and they said they would cooperate with the Justice Department.

Wisconsin officials have yet to confirm publicly that they are investigating fake electors. But Chesebro was interviewed on the subject last year by the office of Josh Kaul, the state attorney general, according to Arora.

None of the cases are likely to be resolved before the November election. A trial in Nevada, where charges were brought in December, has been delayed until next year. In Michigan,

the case is still in the pretrial hearing phase.

Willis was the first to start an investigation, charging 19 people in August in a wide-ranging racketeering case. But she has been slowed by the scope of her case, and by a recent attempt by the defense to have her disqualified because of her romantic relationship with a lawyer she hired to oversee the case.

Chesebro’s communications continue to surface. In the aftermath of the 2020 election, he believed there was “voluminous evidence in multiple states of a rigged election,” as he said in one email, but he had trouble persuading some whose support he sought that any such evidence existed. He sent anonymous direct messages to James Widgeron, then editor of a conservative Wisconsin website, to tell him about an election fraud hearing led by Sen. Ron Johnson, R-Wis., a staunch Trump ally. Widgeron replied: “I cannot roll my eyes that far.”

Chesebro did repeatedly seek to insert language into the phony Electoral College certificates that were drafted for the slates of fake electors to make clear they were only meant as a contingency, in case legal challenges to Biden’s 2020 victory succeeded. Chesebro texted Roman, the Trump campaign official, and said he thought that the language “should be changed in all the states.”

“I don’t,” Roman replied.

Chesebro added that he could help draft the language, but Roman replied with a dismissive expletive.

The contingency language was ultimately included only in Pennsylvania and New Mexico, and it appears to have headed off prosecution of the fake electors in those states. New Mexico Attorney General Raúl Torrez, a Democrat, cited the contingency language in January after declining to bring charges.



Jackson Quinn, foreground, places a bottle containing a PFAS water sample into a rotator April 10 at a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency lab in Cincinnati. JOSHUA A. BICKEL/AP

EPA puts 2 ‘forever chemicals’ on list of hazardous substances

By Matthew Daly
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Environmental Protection Agency on Friday designated two forever chemicals that have been used in cookware, carpets and firefighting foams as hazardous substances, an action intended to ensure quicker cleanup of the toxic compounds and require industries and others responsible for contamination to pay for its removal.

Designation as a hazardous substance under the Superfund law doesn’t ban the chemicals, known as PFOA and PFOS. But it requires that releases of the chemicals into soil or water be reported to federal, state or tribal officials if they meet or exceed certain levels. The EPA then may require cleanups to protect public health and recover costs that can reach tens of millions of dollars.

PFOA and PFOS have been voluntarily phased out by U.S. manufacturers but are still in limited use and remain in the environment because they do not degrade over time. The compounds are part of a larger cluster of

forever chemicals known as PFAS that have been used since the 1940s in industry and consumer products, including nonstick frying pans, water-repellent sports gear, stain-resistant rugs and cosmetics.

The term PFAS is short for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances. The chemicals can accumulate and persist in the human body for long periods. Evidence from animal and human studies indicates that exposure to PFOA or PFOS may lead to cancer or other health problems, including liver and heart damage, and developmental problems in infants and children.

President Joe Biden’s administration “understands the threat that forever chemicals pose to the health of families across the country,” EPA Administrator Michael Regan said. “Designating these chemicals under our Superfund authority will allow EPA to address more contaminated sites, take earlier action and expedite cleanups — all while ensuring polluters pay for the costs to clean up pollution threatening the health of communities.”

The final rule issued

Friday follows strict limits set by the EPA on certain PFAS in drinking water that will require utilities to reduce them to the lowest level they can be reliably measured. Officials say the drinking water rule, announced April 10, will reduce exposure for 100 million people and help prevent thousands of illnesses, including cancers.

The American Chemistry Council, which represents the chemical industry, said it opposes the EPA’s action and believes it “will undermine overall remediation efforts” for PFAS contamination.

The 1980 Superfund law “is an expensive, ineffective and unworkable means to achieve remediation for these chemicals,” the group said Friday.

The EPA also issued a notice clarifying that the agency will focus enforcement efforts on businesses and people that significantly contribute to the release of PFAS chemicals into the environment, including firms that have manufactured PFAS or used it in the manufacturing process, as well as federal agencies and other responsible groups.

Title IX revised for LGBTQ+ pupils, mum on trans athletes

By Collin Binkley
Associated Press

The rights of LGBTQ+ students will be protected by federal law and victims of campus sexual assault will gain new safeguards, under rules finalized Friday by the Biden administration.

The new provisions are part of a revised Title IX regulation issued by the Education Department, fulfilling a campaign pledge by President Joe Biden. He had promised to dismantle rules created by then-Education Secretary Betsy DeVos, who added new protections for students accused of sexual misconduct.

Notably absent from Biden’s policy, however, is any mention of transgender athletes.

The administration originally planned to include a new policy forbidding schools from enacting outright bans on transgender athletes, but that provision was put on hold. The delay is widely seen as a political maneuver during an election year in which Republicans have rallied around bans on transgender athletes in girls sports.

Instead, Biden is officially undoing sexual assault rules put in place by his predecessor, Donald Trump. The final policy drew praise from victims’ advocates, while Republicans said it erodes the rights of accused students.

The new rule makes “crystal clear that everyone can access schools that are safe, welcoming and that respect their rights,” Education Secretary Miguel Cardona said. “No one should face bullying or discrimination just because of who they are, who they love. Sadly, this happens all too often.”

Biden’s regulation is meant to clarify schools’ obligations under Title IX, the 1972 women’s rights law that outlaws discrimina-



House Education and the Workforce Committee Chair Virginia Foxx, R-N.C., speaks Wednesday on Capitol Hill in Washington. JOSE LUIS MAGANA/AP

tion based on sex in education. It applies to colleges and elementary and high schools that receive federal money. The update is to take effect in August.

Among the biggest changes is new recognition that Title IX protects LGBTQ+ students — a source of deep conflict with Republicans.

The 1972 law doesn’t directly address the issue, but the new rules clarify that Title IX forbids discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity. LGBTQ+ students who face discrimination will be entitled to a response from their school under Title IX, and those failed by their schools can seek recourse from the federal government.

Many Republicans say Congress never intended such protections under Title IX. A federal judge previously blocked Biden administration guidance to the same effect after 20 Republican-led states challenged the policy.

Rep. Virginia Foxx, a Republican from North Carolina and chair of the House Education and the Workforce Committee, said the new regulation threatens decades of advancement for women and girls.

“This final rule dumps kerosene on the already raging fire that is Democrats’ contemptuous culture

war that aims to radically redefine sex and gender,” Foxx said in a statement.

In the past few years, many Republican-controlled states have adopted laws restricting the rights of transgender children, including banning gender-affirming medical care for minors. And at least 11 states restrict which bathrooms and locker rooms transgender students can use, banning them from using facilities that align with their gender identity.

But the rule makes clear that treating transgender students differently from their classmates is discrimination, putting the state bathroom restrictions in jeopardy, said Francisco Negron, an attorney who specializes in education law. It means that schools following state laws could run afoul of Title IX.

Negron said the rule does not appear to conflict with requirements in at least eight states that schools tell parents if their children are transgender. Nothing in the rule “prevents a recipient from disclosing information about a minor child to their parent who has the legal right to receive disclosures on behalf of their child.”

The revision was proposed nearly two years ago but has been slowed by a comment period that drew 240,000 responses.

Maui fire assessment is 1st of many

Communications problems figure in Hawaii AG report

By Rebecca Boone, Jennifer Sinco Kelleher, Christopher L. Keller and Claudia Lauer
Associated Press

HONOLULU — As unpredictable wildfires roared across Maui last August, the head of the emergency management agency dragged his heels about returning to the island amid the unfolding crisis, while a broad communications breakdown left authorities in the dark and residents without emergency alerts, according to a report released this week.

Communications problems were also encountered with Hawaiian Electric Co., with power and emergency workers unable to confirm that power lines were de-energized until well after flames had caused widespread damage, the report from the Hawaii attorney general's office said.

It was the second of two major assessments out this week about the deadliest U.S. wildfire in a century. A report released Tuesday by the Western Fire Chiefs Association detailed the challenges facing the Maui Fire Department during the unprecedented series of blazes, including one that killed 101 people in the historic town of Lahaina.

Attorney General Anne Lopez and Steve Kerber, vice president of the Fire Safety Research Institute, presented the latest report.

Officials did not answer questions about cause or liability, saying it is only an initial reckoning and two more reports will follow. Investigators are still trying to get some documents from Maui County, officials said.

The federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives is also investigating, and its report, expected to pinpoint the



Burned trees and ruins dot the landscape Aug. 14 in Lahaina on the Hawaiian island of Maui, after Aug. 8 wildfires. MAX WHITTAKER/THE NEW YORK TIMES 2023

cause, will come out before the one-year anniversary.

The report released Wednesday says that five days before the flames broke out, meteorologists warned that strengthening winds resulting from a nearby hurricane could lead to extreme wildfire risk Aug. 8.

Kerber described complex and "incredibly fast" fires with flames traveling about a mile in 90 minutes.

The Maui Emergency Management Agency had posted to Facebook on Aug. 6 about a "serious fire and damaging wind threat" because of dry conditions as Hurricane Dora passed.

The agency's administrator, Herman Andaya, was off island at a conference on Oahu on Aug. 8 as the fires intensified. His call and text records show that he was getting updates from Gaye Gabuat, an administrative

assistant. After a series of evacuations in Lahaina, Gabuat told Andaya that "multiple people look overwhelmed," according to the report.

After the fire had been burning for more than five hours, Gabuat told Andaya that flames had reached Front Street, Lahaina's commercial heart. Only then did Andaya respond that he had "better come home tomorrow."

By that time, multiple areas had been evacuated, according to a situation report by Andaya's agency. Front Street had been closed along with the Lahaina bypass road, another key thoroughfare. In Lahaina alone, 29 utility poles were reported downed.

The report also describes a breakdown in communication between police, firefighters and emergency

officials after cell networks went down. Police and firefighters had to communicate using their handheld or car radios on closed channels that public officials and others could not listen to.

Meanwhile, a stretched and limited dispatch center had single operators monitoring five or six channels at a time to keep up.

Fire crews also became trapped, according to staffing logs included in the report. Around 4:30 p.m., one engine was destroyed and another broke down. A firefighter from one of the engines rescued the crews using a police department SUV, according to the logs.

Hawaiian Electric has acknowledged that a downed power line sparked a fire in Lahaina early Aug. 8. Firefighters were still mopping up that fire at noon and waiting for a util-

ity worker to arrive and confirm that the power lines had been de-energized. But when the worker got there, he was unable to confirm that the power had been cut off — information that would likely have helped fire crews assess the risk of re-ignition as well as the risk posed by other downed lines.

Still, the fire crew determined that the blaze was extinguished and headed back to the station at 2:17 p.m. By 2:55 p.m., several calls came about another fire in the same area. Firefighters were finally advised that power to the area had been shut off at 4:11 p.m., according to the report.

In the months since, Hawaiian Electric has said the lines were shut off for more than six hours before the afternoon fire was reported.

The attorney general's report is the first phase of a

comprehensive assessment that includes a timeline of the Lahaina fire using social media posts, metadata from citizen photos and videos, dispatch records, emergency communications and other sources.

"What this report doesn't capture is the loss, the people, the challenges that they've gone through, the pain, the sorrow. And some of those things will be analyzed later. But you need the facts first," said Derek Alkonis, a manager with the fire research institute.

Phase 2 of the report will focus on how Maui's fire protection system functioned, specifically what conditions fed the inferno, attempts to stop its spread, and evacuations. The third phase will try to answer the critical question, "How do we prevent this from happening again?"

Parents worry as Idaho bans trans kids' care

Supreme Court lets rule take effect as lawsuits continue

By Claire Rush
Associated Press

Forced to hide her true self, Joe Horras' transgender daughter struggled with depression and anxiety until three years ago, when she began to take medication to block the onset of puberty. The gender-affirming treatment helped the now-16-year-old find happiness again, her father said.

A decision by the U.S. Supreme Court this week allowing Idaho to enforce its ban on such care for minors could jeopardize her well-being once again. Horras is scrambling to figure out next steps and is considering leaving Idaho, where he has lived his entire life, to move to another state.

"It would be devastating for her," said Horras, who lives in Boise. "If she doesn't have access to that, it will damage her mental health."

Horras is among the Idaho parents desperate to find solutions after their trans children lost access to the gender-affirming care they were receiving. The Supreme Court's decision allows the state to put in place a 2023 law that subjects physicians to up to 10 years in prison if they provide hormones, puberty blockers or other gender-affirming care to people under age 18. A federal judge in Idaho had previously blocked the law in its entirety.

The ruling will hold while lawsuits against the law proceed through the lower courts, although the two transgender teens who sued to challenge the law will still be able to obtain care.

At least 24 states have adopted bans on gender-affirming care for minors in recent years, and most of them face legal challenges. Twenty of those states besides Idaho are enforcing the bans.



Protesters gather Feb. 24, 2023, at the Idaho Statehouse in Boise over legislation that subjects physicians to prison if they provide hormones, puberty blockers or other gender-affirming care to anyone under age 18. DARIN OSWALD/IDAHO STATESMAN

Monday's ruling was the first time the Supreme Court waded into the issue. The court's 6-3 ruling steered clear of whether the ban itself is constitutional. Instead, the justices went deep into whether it's appropriate to put enforcement of a law on hold for everyone, or just those who sue over it, while it works its way through the courts.

In his concurring opinion, Justice Neil Gorsuch said "lower courts would be wise to take heed" and limit use of "universal injunctions" blocking all enforcement of laws that face legal challenges. In a dissent, Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson said the court should not decide the fate of those actions without reading legal briefs and hearing arguments on the issue.

Rights groups in Idaho are supporting families to make sure they're aware the measure has taken effect.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Idaho said it

plans to hold a virtual event over Zoom with licensed counselors and legal experts to help people process the events and answer any questions they may have about the law.

"Yesterday was really just an outpouring of fear, questions, people trying to figure out how this is going to affect them personally," said Jenna Damron, the group's advocacy fellow. "Getting information out quickly that is accurate is kind of our first priority."

Paul Southwick, legal director for ACLU of Idaho, said the group wants families to know what their options are.

"Gender-affirming medical care is now immediately illegal for minors in the state of Idaho. However, care remains legal for adults, and it's also legal for minors to seek gender-affirming medical care out of state," he said.

In Boise, Horras' daughter wears an estrogen patch and receives estrogen injections

every six months. Her last shot was in December and Horras now has two months to find a new out-of-state provider who can continue administering the medication. The situation has left Horras feeling scared, he said, and angry toward the state politicians who passed the law last year.

"It's cruel," he said.

Advocates, meanwhile, worry that lower-income families won't be able to afford to travel across state lines for care.

Arya Shae Walker, a transgender man and activist in the small city of Twin Falls in rural southern Idaho, said he was concerned that people would alter the doses of their current prescriptions in order to make them last longer. His advocacy group has already taken down information on its website on gender-affirming care providers for young people in the area out of concern of potential legal consequences.

The broader issue of bans on gender-affirming care for minors could eventually be before the U.S. Supreme Court again. Last year, a ban on gender-affirming care for minors in Arkansas was shot down by a federal judge, while those in Kentucky and Tennessee were allowed to be enforced by an appeals court after being put on hold by lower-court judges. Montana's law is not being enforced because of a ruling from a state judge.

Laws barring transgender youth from playing on sports teams that align with their gender identity are also being challenged across the country. An appeals court Tuesday ruled that West Virginia's transgender sports ban violates the rights of a teen athlete under Title IX, the federal civil rights law that prohibits sex-based discrimination in schools. Hours later, an Ohio law that bars transgender girls from girls scholastic sports competitions was put on

hold by a judge. Set to take effect next week, the law also bans gender-affirming care for transgender youth.

Those who support the bans say they want to protect children and have concerns about the treatments themselves.

Gender-affirming care for youth is supported by major medical organizations, including the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Psychiatric Association. However, England is limiting the ability of people younger than 16 to begin a medical gender transition.

The National Health Service England recently cemented a policy first issued on an interim basis almost a year ago that sets a minimum age at which puberty blockers can be started, along with other requirements. NHS England says there is not enough evidence about their long-term effects, including "sexual, cognitive or broader developmental outcomes."

Medical professionals define gender dysphoria as psychological distress experienced by those whose gender expression does not match their gender identity. Experts say gender-affirming therapy can lead to lower rates of depression, suicidal thoughts and suicide attempts among transgender people.

Chelsea Gaona-Lincoln, executive director of Idaho-based advocacy group Add the Words, said she's anticipating "a pretty horrendous ripple effect." But seeing her community uniting in support has given her a glimmer of hope.

"There are people coming together, and it's so important, for especially our youth, to feel seen and affirmed as they are," she said.

Southwick, the legal director of ACLU of Idaho, said the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals is expected to hold a hearing this summer on its lawsuit challenging the law.

NEWS BRIEFING

Debris on ship's deck now focus of bridge cleanup in Baltimore

From news services

BALTIMORE — Salvage crews at the site of the collapsed Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore are turning their focus to the thousands of tons of debris sitting atop the Dali, a massive cargo ship that veered off course and caused the deadly catastrophe last month.

An estimated 3,000 to 4,000 tons of steel and concrete landed on the ship's deck after it crashed into one of the bridge's supporting columns and toppled the span, officials said at a news conference Friday. Crews will have to remove all that before refloating the stationary ship and guiding it back into the Port of Baltimore.

Officials displayed overhead photos of the ship with an entire section of fallen roadway crushing its bow.

So far, cranes have lifted about 120 containers from the Dali, with 20 more to go before workers can build a staging area and begin removing pieces of the mangled steel and crumbling concrete. The ship was laden with about 4,000 containers and headed for Sri Lanka when it lost power after leaving Baltimore.

As the salvage operations continue alongside federal and law enforcement investigations, Maryland Gov. Wes Moore said getting the bridge rebuilt is an urgent priority. The 1.6-mile span connected working-class communities on either side of Baltimore's harbor, allowing steelworkers and long-shoremen to easily traverse the Patapsco River without driving through downtown and providing a vital route for East Coast truckers.

In the meantime, crews are working to reopen the port's main channel, which has been blocked since the collapse. Using massive floating cranes, they've

carted away about 1,300 tons of steel and counting, officials said.

Oklahoma City bombing: Federal officials are resolved to never allow a terrorist attack like the Oklahoma City bombing to happen again, Deputy Homeland Security Advisor Caitlin Durkovich told survivors and loved ones Friday of the 168 people killed in the April 19, 1995, bombing.

"What happened here in Oklahoma still rests heavy in our hearts, ... what transpired here 29 years ago remains the deadliest act of homegrown terrorism in U.S. history," Durkovich said in front of a field of 168 bronze chairs, each engraved with the name of a bombing victim, at the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum.

The nearly 90-minute ceremony began with 168 seconds of silence for each of those killed and ended with the reading of the names of each victim.

Durkovich was joined by Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland, Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt and Oklahoma City Mayor David Holt for the ceremony on a partly sunny, cool and windy morning for the 29th anniversary of the attack on the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building downtown.

"This is a place where Americans killed Americans," and the lessons learned after the bombing should be used to address the "political vitriol" of today, Holt said.

Hatred of the federal government motivated former Army soldier Timothy McVeigh and co-conspirator Terry Nichols to commit the attack.

Russian bomber down: Ukraine's air force claimed Friday to have shot down a Russian strategic bomber,



Italian icons: Vespa scooters stand near the Tower of Pisa on Friday in Pisa, Italy. About 8,000 Vespa fans from 54 countries are expected in nearby Pontedera for the four-day Vespa World Days gathering, which ends Sunday. **ANDREAS SOLARO/GETTY-AFP**

but Moscow officials said the plane crashed in a sparsely populated area due to a malfunction after a combat mission.

Neither claim could be independently verified. Previous Ukrainian claims of shooting down Russian warplanes during their more-than-two-year war have met with silence or denials from Moscow.

Ukraine said the air force and military intelligence cooperated to bring down the Tu-22M3 bomber with anti-aircraft missiles.

The Russian defense ministry said the warplane crashed "in a deserted area" in the southern region of Stavropol, hundreds of miles from the Ukraine border.

Three crew members ejected from the aircraft and were rescued, and a search for a fourth was taking place, according to the ministry. But Stavropol Gov. Vladimir Vladimirov said one of the rescued pilots died.

Pakistan suicide blast: A suicide bomber targeted

a van carrying Japanese nationals in Pakistan's port city of Karachi on Friday, police said. The Japanese nationals escaped unharmed, but officials later said one bystander was killed.

Initially, police said the van was heading to an industrial area where the five Japanese nationals worked when it came under attack, local police chief Arshad Awan said. Police escorting the Japanese returned fire, killing a second attacker who was the bomber's accomplice, he said.

The van was given a police escort following reports of possible attacks targeting foreigners working in Pakistan on various Chinese-funded and other projects, said Tariq Mastoi, a senior police officer. He said a timely and quick response from the guards and police foiled the attack, and both attackers were killed.

No one immediately claimed responsibility, but suspicion is likely to fall on separatists or the Pakistani

Taliban, who have stepped up attacks on security forces in recent years.

Summer ethanol blend: The Environmental Protection Agency cleared the way Friday for a higher blend of ethanol to be sold nationwide for the third summer in a row, citing global conflicts it says are putting pressure on the world's fuel supply.

The agency announced an emergency-waiver-exempt gasoline blended with 15% ethanol from an existing summertime ban. Gasoline with 10% ethanol is sold nationwide, but the higher blend has been prohibited in the summer because of concerns that it could worsen smog during warm weather.

EPA Administrator Michael Regan said the waiver was warranted because of "Russia's unjustified, unprovoked and unconscionable war against Ukraine" and the ongoing conflict in the Middle East, which he said are putting pressure on the global fuel supply.

He said the diminished U.S. refining capacity is also a factor.

Danish landmark fire: Firefighters stabilizing the burned-out husk of Copenhagen's historic Old Stock Exchange tried to use giant shears on a crane Friday to cut away dangling scaffolding but suffered a setback when the implement fell into the debris.

A large blaze broke out Tuesday at the 400-year-old landmark, toppling its roof and iconic dragon-tail spire. On Thursday, a large section of the outer wall of the building collapsed inwards. The most valuable paintings and items inside had been saved from the flames, and no one was injured.

Brian Mikkelsen, who heads the Danish Chamber of Commerce that owns the 1615 building and was headquartered there, said 45% of the building had been saved, and he underlined pledges made earlier in the week to completely rebuild the structure.

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ARTS & LIVING

REVIEW MAGNETIC FIELDS

A long and epic romance

By Christopher Borrelli
Chicago Tribune

It's asking a lot of an audience of a certain age — ahem — to return two nights in a row for one performance. Specifically, a performance of a masterwork so sprawling, its 69 songs must be played in two consecutive shows, 35 songs or so a night. I'm not talking Wagner's "Ring" cycle. I'm talking an indie act from Boston that, in a Doug Flutie-like Hail Mary for the college-rock-radio ages, released an album 25 years ago of 69 tracks requiring three CDs (or these days, six vinyl records). It was titled "69 Love Songs," the band was the Magnetic Fields, and not surprisingly, that sort of ambition begs for less of a traditional act than an impresario, a Prince-like figure.

Stephin Merritt is that guy. Like other pop svengalis who suggest genius, he's slight in person. At Thalia Hall in Pilsen on Wednesday night, he sat on a tall chair at the edge of the stage, legs akimbo, in a T-shirt and jeans and curled ballcap. He carries himself like Eeyore, deadpan, droopy, avoiding eye contact. Following night, the same. For the first time in decades, Magnetic Fields is playing "69 Love Songs" in full; Friday and Saturday, they repeat the whole cycle. (All shows sold out.) It's important to note what Merritt looks like because, these songs, this exuberant flood of creativity, show tunes, rock tunes, torch ballads, campfire ditties, electronic experiments and jokes about string theory and headless chickens, one crafted beauty after another — Merritt's personal presentation, always at odds with his multitudes, is a character in itself on "69 Love Songs."

A lot comes out of that unassuming corner of the stage and his flat center-of-the-earth-deep baritone of a voice. He's not alone, of course: Magnetic lifers — Claudia Gonson (keyboards, occasional lead vocals), John Woo (guitar, banjo), Sam Davol (cello), Shirley Simms (ukulele, occasional lead vocals) — rounded out the band, arranged in rows, like a modest orchestra. (Minus traditional percussion, handed mostly on synths by Chris Ewan.) Merritt described this band as the "original cast" of "69 Love Songs," and that wasn't a quip. The Magnetic Fields never felt like a traditional band but a flirtation with American theater and the Great American Songbook.

Bands routinely play full albums live these days for a decent reason, because the album as a complete thought is a concept that has been pummeled by streaming and playlists that disregard an artist's intent. The argument against the full-album show is also compelling: It steers acts away from new material in favor of routines, and strips away whatever spontaneity live music offered.

But something like "69 Love Songs" requires complete obsessiveness, a live monument to endlessly fretting on a theme. For "Reno Dakota," Gonson stood behind her keyboard and, as if performing a recital at a school concert, sang with plaintive drama about being ghosted by a lover, delivering Merritt's hilar-



The Magnetic Fields perform "69 Love Songs" during the first of their two-night concert at Thalia Hall on Wednesday in Chicago.



Stephin Merritt of The Magnetic Fields performs. JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

ious Sondheim-like lyrics with a moving sincerity: "You know you enthrall me and yet you don't call me / It's making me blue, Pantone 292."

At the conclusion of night one, a spotlight focused on new member Anthony Kaczynski (a Jeff Tweedy doppelganger), who stood to sing the melodramatic "Promises of Eternity," which, like the other 68 songs, was written by Merritt: "What if the show didn't go on? / What if we all got jobs and got to bed before dawn. ... That's just what the world would be / If you fell out of love with me." Merritt, who has admitted "69 Love Songs" sprang from an admiration of Sondheim and composer Charles Ives, originally imagined the album as a theatrical revue of sorts. He has also said the songs are not about love but the semiotics of love songs, the love song as a medium itself.

The thought is exhausting. Besides, what's here is more compelling than ironic detachment, or even another jukebox musical. What came across at Thalia Hall was how wrong (or knowingly wry) Merritt can be. As many ways as you can slice a love song and hold it beneath a microscope — you'd think people would have had enough of silly love songs — Merritt is too smart to downplay the messy emotions that can sneak into even the sappiest tune. On stage, he's all indie snark; introducing "The Book of Love," his often-covered wedding standard, he claimed: "I wrote this next song to be sung by a 7-year-old Danish girl on 'Denmark's Got Talent.'" But then his baritone intrudes, deflating that irony. Night one began with the first song on "69 Love Songs," a near-carnival novelty titled "Absolutely Cuckoo," and then,



The venue is full for a performance by The Magnetic Fields.

elegantly, Merritt introduced the band by trading off its lyrics with each of the members until — I'm sheepish to admit — I felt a tear overwhelm up. Merritt and Co. — who glance at each throughout and smile, as if they're surprised themselves at how durable this all sounds so many years later — stretch the idea of the love song as an elastic vehicle as far as audiences might accept. Most of the songs are a couple of minutes or so, but within pop parameters, the variety gets dizzying: He finds room for bitter tears and how hard it is to say goodbye and how seeing a lover changes your weather but also, somehow, love as filtered through the death of Swiss linguist Ferdinand de Saussure. (Top that, Taylor Swift.) A highlight of the second night was one of Merritt's most touching tunes, "Papa Was a Rodeo," sung to a man named Mike, about a love affair that's lasted 55 years. Love in these shows is gay and straight and bi and medieval and country Western and Dylan-esque: "No one will ever love you for your honesty." Ouch. Still: "Be we in

Paris or Lansing / Nothing matters when we're dancing." If Sufjan Stevens' own indie landmark "Illinois" is going to be a Broadway show, this is a trilogy. By the end of night two, you're inside this music, hearing banjos in your sleep. The tape-loop mash of "Experimental Music Love" segues, literally, into "Meaningless." Merritt and Gonson trading murderous insults on "Yeah! Oh, Yeah!" — "Are you reaching for a knife? / Could you really kill your wife!" — is a romance 'til death. Not every song works. With 69, how could they? Merritt's flat affect and tireless ambition means it eventually becomes a wall of sound, an endless romance with the record itself, a lust curdling into disgust, but remembered as large as the Grand Canyon. Because that's love, too. And what's wrong with that, I'd like to know.

"69 Love Songs" 25th Anniversary continues through Saturday at Thalia Hall, 1807 S. Allport St.; thaliahallchicago.com
cborrelli@chicagotribune.com

WHAT TO DO IN CHICAGO

Holi in the Park, Friedberg and a last chance at Art Institute

Chicago Tribune

"Hamlet": Watch Eddie Izzard portray 23 characters in Shakespeare's classic. *Through May 4 in Chicago Shakespeare's Courtyard Theater on Navy Pier; tickets \$119-\$150 at www.chicagoshakes.com*

Holi in the Park: Celebrate the festival of colors with colored powders, dancing and chai. *Noon to 4 p.m. April 20 in Heritage Green Park, 610 W. Adams St.; tickets \$20-\$25 at www.eventbrite.com*

Ancient Earth Day: Learn about sustainability in the ancient world, participate in family-friendly crafts and activities and take home a plant. *1 p.m. to 4 p.m. April 20 at the Institute for the Study of Ancient Cultures, 1155 E. 58th St.; free; more information at events.uchicago.edu*

Los Acosta: Grammy-nominated group Los Acosta marks 45 years as a band following the death of songwriter Adán López Dávila last summer at age 61. *8 p.m. April 20 at Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Road, Rosemont; tickets \$99-\$230 at rosemont.com*

"How I Learned What I Learned": Harry Lennix, known for playing Harold Cooper on "The Blacklist," stars in the Congo Square Theatre's production of August Wilson's autobiographical one-man show. *April 20 to May 5 at the Broadway Playhouse at Water Tower Place, 175 E. Chestnut Place; tickets \$21.50-\$71.50 at congosquaretheatre.org*

Improvised Jane Austen: Improv with a 19th century cadence? Janeites, take note. *8 p.m. Saturdays at iO Theater, 1501 Kingsbury St.; tickets \$22.80 at improvisedjaneausten.com*



Emily Linden, of Friedberg, performs with the band at Brooklyn Bowl Nashville in 2022 in Tennessee. MICKEY BERNAL/GETTY

"Limelight": If you only know Charlie Chaplin as the Little Tramp, head to the Music Box for the latest installment in a film series exploring his other works. "Limelight" is a moving

portrait of a fading vaudeville star, featuring Chaplin and a Buster Keaton cameo. *11:30 a.m. April 20-21 at the Music Box Theatre, 3733 Southport Ave.; tickets \$10 at musicboxtheatre.org*

Brookfield Zoo Chicago Earth Day Run: Run 2.2 miles through the zoo's winding paths. Earn a commemorative medal and a pack of seeds. *8 a.m. to 10 a.m. April 21 at Brookfield Zoo Chicago, 8400 31st St., Brookfield; registration is \$35 at brookfieldzoo.org*

"Maren Hassinger: This Is How We Grow": Last chance to see Hassinger's rope and steel installations in the Art Institute's Bluhm Family Terrace, designed to reflect "our tenuous relationship to nature." *Through April 21 at Art Institute of Chicago, 111 S. Michigan Ave.; museum admission is \$32 at www.artic.edu*

Giant Rocks with Friedberg: The German indie rock band headlines, but the all-female, alt-rock group Friedberg is the reason to go. *8 p.m. April 21 at Thalia Hall, 1807 S. Allport St.; tickets \$25-\$35 (ages 17+) at thaliahallchicago.com*

CELEBRITIES

Swift drops 2 ‘Tortured Poets’ albums

From news services

Could there be a Taylor Swift new album rollout without a few additional surprises? No.

On Friday, the pop star released her 11th album, “The Tortured Poets Department,” an amalgamation of her previous work and reflecting the artist who — at the peak of her powers — has spent the last few years re-recording her life’s work and touring its material, filtered through synth-pop anthems, breakup ballads, provocative and matured considerations.

But that was at midnight.

At 2 a.m. EDT, she released “The Tortured Poets Department: The Anthology,” featuring 15 additional songs.

“I’d written so much tortured poetry in the past 2 years and wanted to share it all with you, so here’s the second installment,” Swift wrote in an Instagram caption. “And now the story isn’t mine anymore ... it’s all yours.”

The songs are a natural continuation of the first half of the album; many return to her “evermore” and “folklore” sound, with an assist from her collaborator Aaron Dessner.

This is not Swift’s first time surprising fans with a surprise album release.

A few months after “folklore” was released in 2020, she announced “evermore” would arrive at midnight the same day.

And speaking of midnight, she dropped a “3am” edition of “Midnights” featuring seven new tracks in 2022.

Hargitay helps lost girl find mom:

Mariska Hargitay did Olivia Benson proud this week when the actor helped a young girl find her mother after the child mistook her for a real cop.

In the midst of filming “Law & Order: Special Victims Unit” in New York



Taylor Swift, seen Feb. 4 at the Grammy Awards, surprised fans Friday with a second album release. CHRIS PIZZELLO/AP

City this week, the star was approached by a girl who’d lost her mom. Hargitay was sporting a badge at the time as part of her costume, a witness said.

Despite not being in law enforcement, Hargitay did what was necessary to assist the girl, even ensuring the show halted production for 20 minutes. She ultimately managed to help the girl reunite with her mom.

“We’ve been on a parallel journey,” Hargitay said earlier this year. “There’s a thing: WWOBD, ‘What would Olivia Benson do?’ The fans would always talk about it, and one day it hit me. I also have those moments where I’ve sort of slipped into her. If there’s a crisis, I just take over and lead like that. Being strong and fearless. It’s sort of this perfect feminist story.”

Cavill expecting 1st child:

Henry Cavill is going from

“The Witcher” to the witching hour: The actor is expecting his first child with entertainment executive Natalie Viscuso.

The “Justice League” and “Tudors” alum alluded to the life update Monday in New York at the red-carpet premiere for his latest film, “The Ministry of Ungentlemanly Warfare.”

“I’m very excited about it,” the actor, 40, said about fatherhood. “Natalie and I are both very excited. I’m sure you’ll see much more of that.”

April 20 birthdays: Actor George Takei is 87. Musician Doyle Lawson is 80. Actor Jessica Lange is 75. Actor Clint Howard is 65. Actor Crispin Glover is 60. Actor Andy Serkis is 60. Actor Shemar Moore is 54. Actor Carmen Electra is 52. Actor Joey Lawrence is 48. Musician Clay Cook is 46. Actor Carlos Valdes is 35.



ASK AMY

By Amy Dickinson

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

American uncle ponders footing Paris bill

Dear Amy: Some of my family members are going to have a mini family reunion in Paris in a few months — the city where my brother lives.

My brother’s son, wife and their two young children will be flying to Paris from Istanbul, and I will be flying in from the USA.

My nephew’s family and I will be staying at the same hotel.

Several times my brother has mentioned that his son and family are coming to Paris “especially to see the uncle from America.”

So, in light of those repeated comments, do you think it would be necessary or rather the right thing to do for me to pay for my nephew and family’s hotel bill during their week’s visit in Paris?

And yes, I can afford to pay, but do I need to? — Dan in LA

Dear Dan: Thank you for asking a question that will be met by a universal sigh: “What a nice problem to have.”

Your nephew and family are traveling for a family reunion, which will include his father (grandparent to the children). Presumably these family members have spent time together previously.

I infer that your nephew and his wife have not spent much (if any) time with you and that their children have possibly never met you. You can imagine their excitement and curiosity about meeting their American uncle.

Your brother is passing along this family’s excitement, not asking for you to foot their bill or implying that you should.

I don’t read anything in

your narrative that should lead you down this path, but if they are in need or you want to be generous in this way, then paying for their hotel bill would be a very kind thing to do.

Otherwise, I hope you will bring some small gifts from Los Angeles, perhaps take them to lunch or to a museum in Paris, and — if you all hit it off — you could invite them to visit you in your home and foot the bill when you do.

Dear Amy: I am a middle-age single woman and recently started seeing a man my age. I was married for 20 years, and he has never been married. My two children are in college.

He is a really sweet, smart and respectful man. He recently invited me to his home for the first time and ... it is fairly disgusting. Not just messy, but very dirty and unhealthy — with food waste and dirty dishes and pots on the counters.

I’m unsure about what to say to him about the state of his house. I truly don’t ever want to spend time there. Up until then we had always gone out or come to my house, which is clean and fairly nice — like in a normal sense. I’m not a clean freak or anything.

Should I tell him about how I feel about his house and ask him to clean it up before I come over again? — Recovering

Dear Recovering: Your guy invited you to his house. Presumably this visit was planned, and he was putting his best foot forward.

He is a mature person living in the world. He is making choices about how

he is living. I’m not sure asking him to clean his house would be useful.

You should be honest about where you choose to spend your time: “I’m not comfortable in your house; it is too messy for me to feel at home there.”

I do think it’s important that you understand the reality of a future with someone who doesn’t take good care of himself and his surroundings.

I hope you will continue to enjoy his company, but don’t kid yourself that you will be able to inspire him to live differently.

You’ve had experience in a long marriage; if you two end up cohabiting, you will end up being continually frustrated by his poor life-skills.

Dear Amy: “Pondering Papa” asked about unmarried couples sleeping together while visiting home.

Decades ago, when my live-in boyfriend and I visited his parents, his mother stated that while she knew that we were living together and sleeping together, in her house we would not: “My house, my rules.”

Several years later when they visited us, I said that I had put them in separate rooms because now it was “My house ... My rules.”

We all laughed for many years about it. I miss them! — Grateful DIL

Dear Grateful: Having a sense of humor definitely helps.

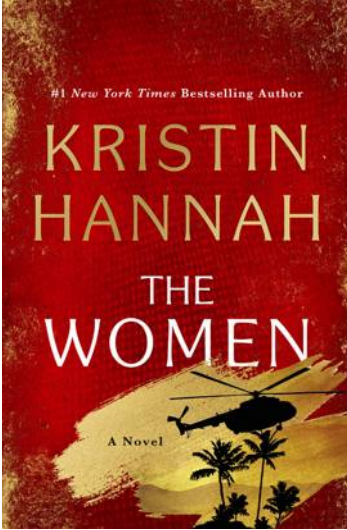
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NATIONAL BESTSELLERS

HARDCOVER FICTION

1. “The Women” by Kristin Hannah (St. Martin’s) Last week: 1



2. “The Familiar” by Leigh Bardugo (Flatiron) Last week: —

3. “Fourth Wing” by Rebecca Yarros (Red Tower) Last week: 3

4. “Toxic Prey” by John Sandford (Putnam) Last week: —

5. “Iron Flame” by Rebecca Yarros (Red Tower) Last week: 4

6. “Table for Two: Fictions” by Amor Towles (Viking) Last week: 2

7. “James” by Percival Everett (Doubleday) Last week: 5

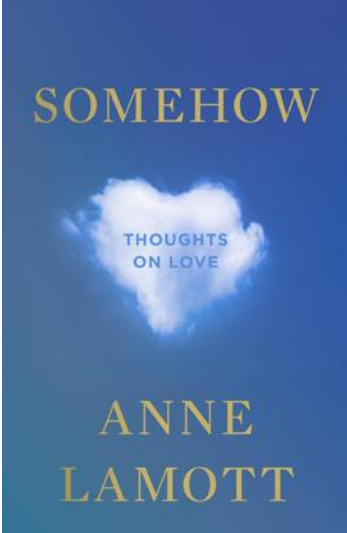
8. “House of Flame and Shadow” by Sarah J. Maas (Bloomsbury) Last week: 12

9. “A Fate Inked in Blood: Book One of the Saga of the Unfated” by Danielle L. Jensen (Del Rey) Last week: 10

10. “The #1 Lawyer” by James Patterson and Nancy Allen (Little, Brown) Last week: 6

HARDCOVER NONFICTION

1. “Somehow: Thoughts on Love” by Anne Lamott (Riverhead) Last week: —



2. “The Anxious Generation: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood Is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness” by Jonathan Haidt (Penguin Press) Last week: 4

3. “The Wide Wide Sea: Imperial Ambition, First Contact and the Fateful Final Voyage of Captain James Cook” by Hampton Sides (Doubleday) Last week: —

4. “Grown Woman Talk: Your Guide to Getting and Staying Healthy” by Sharon Malone (Crown) Last week: —

5. “Treasures in the Dark: 90 Reflections on Finding Bright Hope Hidden in the Hurting” by Katherine Wolf (Thomas Nelson) Last week: —

6. “Age of Revolutions: Progress and Backlash from 1600 to the Present” by Fareed Zakaria (Norton) Last week: 7

7. “Indulge: Delicious and Decadent Dishes to Enjoy and Share” by Valerie Bertinelli (Harvest) Last week: 3

8. “The Wager: A Tale of Shipwreck, Mutiny and Murder” by David Grann (Doubleday) Last week: 11

9. “The Secret Lives of Booksellers and Librarians: Their Stories Are Better Than the Bestsellers” by James Patterson and Matt Eversmann (Little, Brown) Last week: —

10. “Get It Together: Troubling Tales from the Liberal Fringe” by Jesse Watters (Broadside) Last week: 8

For the week ended April 13, compiled from data from independent and chain bookstores, book wholesalers and independent distributors nationwide.

— Publishers Weekly

MUSIC REVIEWS

Chaotic ode to NYC worth dissecting

American rock band Vampire Weekend returns with its most challenging record to date, “Only God Was Above Us.”

It’s like a shot of adrenaline. But its rewards are worth working to discover. It just takes repeated, close listens to get there.

The 10 tracks on “Only God Was Above Us” won’t easily grab the listener the first time through, like the instantly infectious cuts “Harmony Hall” or “This Life” did on the last full-length release, 2019’s “Father of the Bride.”

While “Father of the Bride” has a California sunshine and Grateful Dead-infused sheen, “Only God Was Above Us” is a cacophonous ode to 1980s New York City.

That sometimes-confounding tone is set right out of the gate with the first track, “Ice Cream Piano,” which begins with lead singer Ezra Koenig singing an expletive and features a furious guitar riff throughout, ending with a crash of instruments.

“Gen-X Cops” is perhaps the most accessible track on the album, with a catchy refrain of “each generation makes its own apology.” But even its layers have layers, much like New York, making it an effort to uncover what the song has to offer.

The mesmerizing album closer, “Hope,” comes in at nearly 8 minutes and is both unsettling and soothing, with a whirling dervish of sound punctuated by Koenig’s refrain of “I hope you let it go / I hope you let it go.”

The chaotic energy of “Only God Was Above Us” may be too challenging for more casual Vampire Weekend fans looking for the band to duplicate its earlier work. But it’s a fascinating evolution for a band that refuses to stay in one place for too long. — Scott Bauer, Associated Press

When is a good album not a great album? When it’s bold, but not bold enough, and commercial, but not commercial enough.

NCT Dream’s fifth EP, “DREAM() SCAPE,” (pronounced “dream escape”) explores the beats of a cool, imaginary urban landscape. But it comes in and out of focus through a combination of tempo changes, innovative sounds and catchy yet forgettable hooks.

It’s a mysterious quandary for the ages: One second you get into it with both feet, but the minute the song’s over, it’s disappeared into the ether.

Overall, the dynamic six-track record offers a variety of styles. “UNKNOWN” is a smooth electronic pop tune, wisely moving on to the kinetic “BOX,” a swagger-heavy beast with an unusual scratchy industrial sound.

“Carat Cake” is a fun pun on the run from a specific genre — it’s angling for a



‘ONLY GOD WAS ABOVE US’ Vampire Weekend (Columbia Records)

bit of trap cred wrapped in a fast-paced electro sound with the endearing chorus “Wow, wow wow wow/ That’s a Carat Cake.” Try dislodging that from the subconscious.

With plenty of certified bops under their belt, the South Korean septet makes the best of the material, vocally. But only devoted fans will stick around for this pleasant-enough offering. — Cristina Jalero, Associated Press

Swedish pop singer Zara Larsson’s latest album “Venus” feels like a rebirth as she takes the role of a wise older sister for fans who are looking for a romantic resurrection.

“Venus” is Larsson’s fourth release, showcasing a more emotional side, diving deeper into who she is atop her characteristic Europop sound.

It begins with the album art: Larsson flashes a tattoo of the letter “H” on her ribcage for her sister, Hannah. The singer re-creates Sandro Botticelli’s “The Birth of Venus,” her modesty protected only by her long golden hair and a pink chrome seashell.

The first track, The Weeknd-esque synth pop of “Can’t Tame Her,” establishes that “Venus” is not simply preoccupied with heartbreak. Rather, there is no time to cry when you are dancing the night away.

From one type of love to another, the Rihanna-tinged slow burn “Ammunition” tells the story of a destructive relationship. In the cheery “You Love Who You Love,” Larsson tells a friend to give up a man who brings her down.

But it’s a dance party all throughout: Even somber themes are delivered atop a cheeky pop melody, stuck between funky production and steady percussion. Clearly, Larsson knows how to pair hard truths with joyful music. — Martina Rebecca Inchingolo, Associated Press

What to watch SATURDAY

April 20, 2024

All times Central. Start times can vary based on cable/satellite provider. Confirm times on your on-screen guide.

NBA Playoffs: First Round

ABC & ESPN, beginning at noon Live

The NBA playoffs tip off today with first-round action featuring four games on ESPN and one game in primetime on ABC.

NASCAR Xfinity Series: Ag-Pro 300

FOX, 3 p.m. Live

Drivers from the Xfinity Series are at Alabama's Talladega Superspeedway for the Ag-Pro 300 on FOX.

MLB Baseball: N.Y. Mets at L.A. Dodgers

FS1, 3 p.m. Live

Saturday MLB action on FS1 has Pete Alonso and the N.Y. Mets in Los Angeles for a matchup against Mookie Betts and the Dodgers.

I Am Patrick Swayze

The CW, 7 p.m.

This film documents the life and career of the actor through family photos, home movies and untold stories.

Predator v Prey

BBC America, 7 p.m. ■ New Series

This new nature series follows the fortunes of the world's most formidable apex predators — including lions, wolves and crocodiles — as they pit themselves against fearsome opponents such as bison, wildebeest and elephants in the ultimate battle for survival. Focusing on their high-stakes hunts, the series uses innovative visual effects to take a forensic look at these predation events.



'Falling in Love in Niagara'

HALLMARK MEDIA

Falling in Love in Niagara

Hallmark Channel, 7 p.m. ■

Original Film

After her fiancé breaks up with her, Maddie (Jocelyn Hudon) takes her sister on what was to be her honeymoon to Niagara Falls and meets a tour guide (Dan Jeannotte) with whom she feels a romantic connection. Together, they explore Niagara Falls, while her sister has her own adventure, taking a pho-

tography gig for a couple's wedding.

Critter Fixers: Country Vets

Nat Geo Wild, 8 p.m.

In the new episode "Homecoming Heroes," the docs at Critter Fixer treat a cat that was shot and a dog that swallowed a toy. Plus, the docs return to their alma mater as homecoming grand marshals.

CATCH A CLASSIC

Lady in the Lake (1947)

TCM, 3:30 p.m.

Robert Montgomery plays Raymond Chandler's famous private investigator Philip Marlowe (although the character's first name is spelled with two L's here, for some reason) in this 1947 film noir adaptation of Chandler's 1943 novel *The Lady in the Lake*. Montgomery also directed the film, and he brought an interesting creative touch to it: Marlowe is mostly (aside from a couple of reflections) unseen by the audience; the tale is told via his first-person point of view, with the camera seeing what he does. Coupled with the fact that the film has



WARNER BROS.

almost no instrumental soundtrack, this production was especially unique for, and certainly ahead of, its time. The technique is mostly pulled off well, although it does take some getting used to. More confusing is the convoluted mystery plot, but that kind of comes with the territory with Chandler. Co-starring with Montgomery are Audrey Totter, Lloyd Nolan and Tom Tully.

MOVIES YOU'LL LOVE



MICHAEL TACKETT

Obsessed to Death (2022, Suspense) Holland Roden, Colton Royce **LMN, 5 p.m.**

Sweeter Than Chocolate (2023, Romance-comedy) Eloise Mumford, Dan Jeannotte **Hallmark, 5 p.m.**

Signed, Sealed, Delivered: From the Heart (2016, Drama) Eric Mabius, Kristin Booth **Hallmark Movies & Mysteries, 6 p.m.**

Falling in Love in Niagara (2024, Romance) Jocelyn Hudon, Dan Jeannotte **Hallmark, 7 p.m.**

Fast & Furious (2009, Action) Vin Diesel, Paul Walker **SYFY, 7 p.m.**

The Shawshank Redemption (1994, Drama) Tim Robbins, Morgan Freeman **AMC, 7 p.m.**

We're the Millers (2013, Comedy) Jennifer Aniston, Jason Sudeikis **Comedy Central, 7 p.m.**

Signed, Sealed, Delivered: One in a Million (2016, Drama) Eric Mabius, Kristin Booth **Hallmark Movies & Mysteries, 8 p.m.**

Tyler Perry's Good Deeds (2012, Drama) Tyler Perry, Thandie Newton **VH1, 9:30 p.m.**

Casino (1995, Crime drama) Robert De Niro, Sharon Stone **AMC, 10 p.m.**

From the editors of TV Weekly and tvinsider.com



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TV NEWS

Prince Harry, Markle developing polo, cooking shows for Netflix

From news services

Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, the Duke and Duchess of Sussex, are producing two new projects for Netflix, including one that will explore the world of professional polo and another featuring Meghan's cooking and gardening, according to reports.

It's the latest step in the \$100 million deal that Harry and his Archewell Productions company signed with the streamer in 2020.

The announcement comes in the footsteps of Meghan's recently launched lifestyle brand, American Riviera Orchard, which she revealed in her return to Instagram recently after a four-year hiatus.

Meghan, 42, filed a trademark for the company back in February that indicated plans to sell a variety of home goods and culinary products.

Her new Netflix series will focus on "the joys of cooking, gardening, entertaining and friendship," according to the streaming company.

Harry, 39, is expected to be heavily involved in the other series, which will shoot at the U.S. Open Polo Championship in Wellington, Florida.

Netflix said the show will provide "unprecedented access to the world of professional polo," a favorite pastime of the royal.

"Known primarily for its aesthetic and social scene, the series will pull the curtain back on the grit and passion of the sport, capturing players and all it takes to compete at the highest level," Netflix said in a statement.

Both shows are currently untitled.

'Melrose Place' reboot in the works: Looks like



Meghan, Duchess of Sussex and Prince Harry, seen Jan. 23, are developing two Netflix shows. **MARCUS INGRAM/GETTY**

there's some vacancy again at 4616 Melrose Place. More than 30 years after the original "Melrose Place" premiered in 1992, a new chapter to the soap opera is underway. A "Melrose Place" reboot is in the works from CBS Studios and will be based on the '90s drama from creator Darren Star.

The new series, which is being shopped around, will reunite some familiar "Melrose Place" faces: original stars Heather Locklear, Daphne Zuniga and Laura Leighton. "Insatiable" creator Lauren Gussis will write and executive-produce the reboot.

Star's "Melrose Place" ran from 1992 to 1999 on Fox and followed the lives of eight young adults living in an apartment building on the famed West Hollywood street.

A decade after the original "Melrose Place" aired its final episode, CW launched its own take. That iteration aired for one year and brought Leighton's Sydney into the mix as the landlady of the central complex.

The latest reboot will reunite the original Melrose Place residents as they mourn the loss of a dear friend. However, a

return to their West Hollywood home unleashes a wave of feelings, secrets and romances among its residents, a source familiar with the production said.

Netflix picks up option for 'Heels': Starz wrestling drama "Heels," canceled last fall, might not be dead after all.

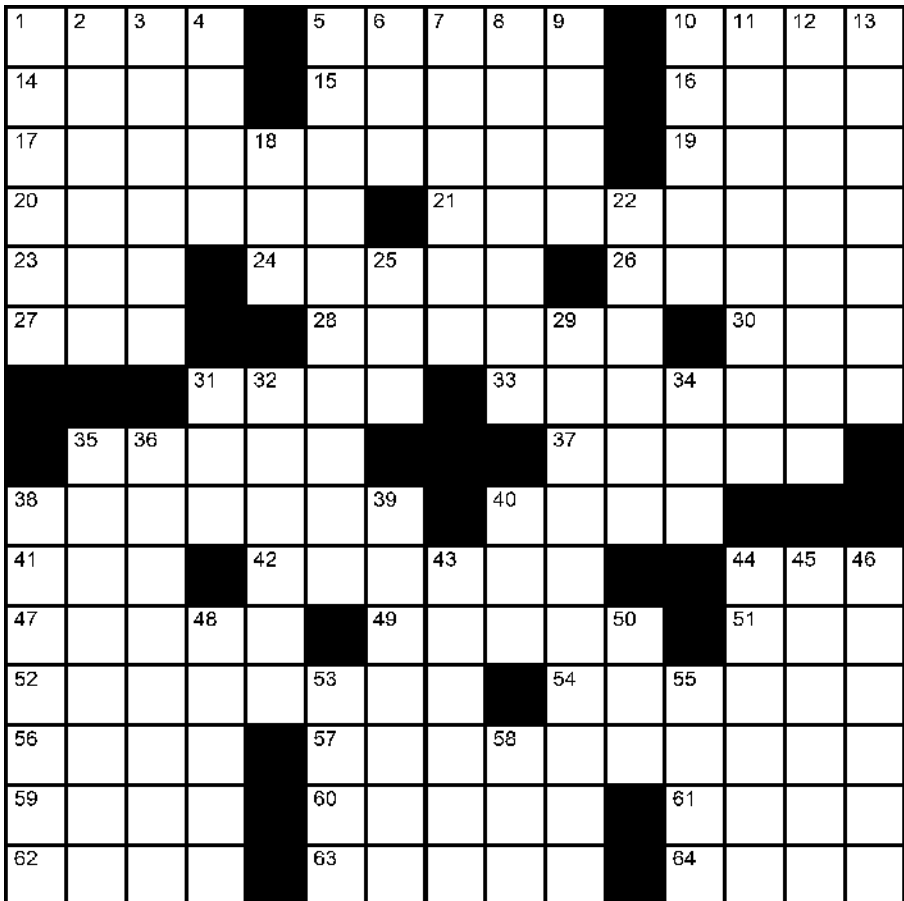
Lionsgate has licensed the show's two seasons to Netflix, which has nonexclusive rights to air the 16 episodes. The show focused around two brothers played by Stephen Amell and Alexander Ludwig operating a small-town wrestling league. Original episodes aired first on Starz in 2021 and 2023.

Netflix has the option to shoot a third season in case the Netflix audience likes the show enough. But there is a complication: the two lead actors are committed to other TV shows right now.

In February, Amell became the lead of NBC's spinoff of "Suits" called "Suits: LA" which is likely to get picked up for the 2024-25 broadcast season.

Ludwig, in the meantime, is a lead in a six-episode MGM+ sci-fi drama called "Earth Abides."

Crossword



By Stella Zawistowski. © 2024 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

4/20/24

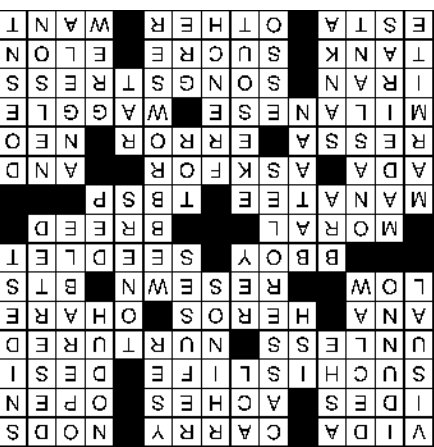
ACROSS

- 'Livin' La ___ Loca"
- Hold
- Silent assents
- ___ of March
- Feels sore
- Unwrap
- "That's how it goes": 3 wds.
- Actor Arnaz
- "Don't fire ___ fired upon"
- Helped to grow
- Santa ___ winds
- Give a ___ welcome
- Chicago airport
- Close to the ground
- Mended again
- "Butter" group
- Certain hip-hop dancer
- Tiny grain to plant
- Fable feature
- Dog variety
- Florida swimmer
- Kitchen amt.
- Landmark 1990 law: Abbr.
- Request: 2 wds.
- Beauty ___ the Beast
- Nobel laureate Maria
- Mistake
- Modernizing prefix
- Wiener schnitzel relative
- Shake from side to side
- Tehran's land
- Lady who croons
- Septic ___
- Bolivian capital
- Musk of X
- 62 ___ noche (tonight, in Spanish)
- In ___ words
- Desire

DOWN

- Suitable for viewing
- "No idea": 2 wds.
- Remove talons from
- Arthur of tennis
- Potluck dishes
- Knee supporter: Abbr.
- Safari animals
- Says no
- Flanders river
- "Obviously": 2 wds.
- In working order
- Free of people
- Most unkind

Solutions



- Sort of
- Copier liquids
- Marina del ___, California
- Firefox, e.g.: 2 wds.
- Bikini half
- 1942 Philippines battle site
- Withdrawal opposite: Abbr.
- Some dessert wines
- Tilted: 3 wds.
- Savory British spread
- Gets with difficulty: 2 wds.
- The Raptors, on scoreboards
- From Paris, e.g.
- Actress Lansbury
- Wrestling hold
- "___ that sound nice?"
- Instant decaf brand
- Mob informant
- Old name in gas
- Got bigger
- Test for a college sr.

Horoscopes



Today's birthday (April 20): Personal growth illuminates this year. Lead by example with reliable collaboration and teamwork. Private planning develops into new summer directions. You're especially popular this autumn. Winter health or work challenges reorient you before springtime fun and romance sparks.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Today is a 9. Exercise and good food energizes. Demand for your work may seem high. Carve out time for yourself to recharge batteries.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): 9. Prioritize love. Take advantage of a lucky break. A romantic relationship transforms. Enjoy sweet moments with family and friends.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): 9. Settle into your cozy nest. Beautify your surroundings to encourage creativity. Enjoy cooking, crafting and organization. Savor home-baked treats with family. Relax together.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): 9. Learning comes easily. Soak in new information like a sponge. Write and share your unique view. Illuminate different interwoven threads of the story.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): 9. Research upcoming purchases for best performance. Go for lasting quality. Good equipment is worth the extra investment. Provide valuable services. Luck into a profitable situation.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): 9. Begin a self-confident phase. Use your power responsibly. Strengthen your home base. Take care of yourself. You're growing and developing like a weed.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): 7. Tranquil settings foster peaceful contemplation. Get philosophical about big questions. Strategize for harmony and ease. Connecting with nature feeds your spirit. Rest and plan.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): 9. Collaborate. Community efforts can win a fabulous prize. Contribute to lighten the load. Learn from a technical friend. Connect for common gain. Get farther together.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): 9. Complete projects. Notice opportunities revealed by market changes. Articulate the professional work you want to develop and the direction to grow.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): 9. Explore and investigate a subject of your fascination. Get the facts. Take a creative tack. Discover unexpected possibilities in a new direction.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): 9. Contribute to a profitable effort. Collaborate to take advantage of unforeseen conditions. A potentially lucrative opportunity reveals itself.

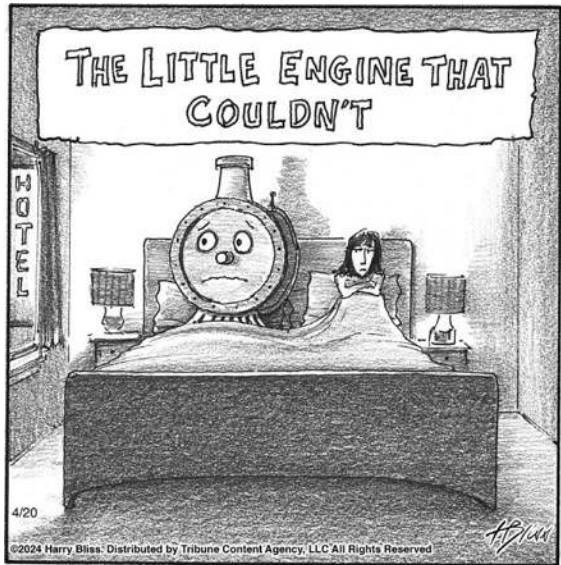
Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): 9. Collaboration flowers. Support each other and share chores and responsibilities. Stay in communication to avoid mistakes. Coordinate your moves.

— Nancy Black, Tribune Content Agency

The Argyle Sweater By Scott Hilburn



Bliss By Harry Bliss



Bridge

North-South vulnerable, East deals

North		East	
♠	10 5 3	♠	A Q 8 7
♥	9 6 5	♥	3
♦	J 10 9 8 5 4	♦	6 3
♣	6	♣	A K 10 9 8 5
South			
♠	K J 6 2		
♥	Q 10 8		
♦	A K Q		
♣	7 3 2		

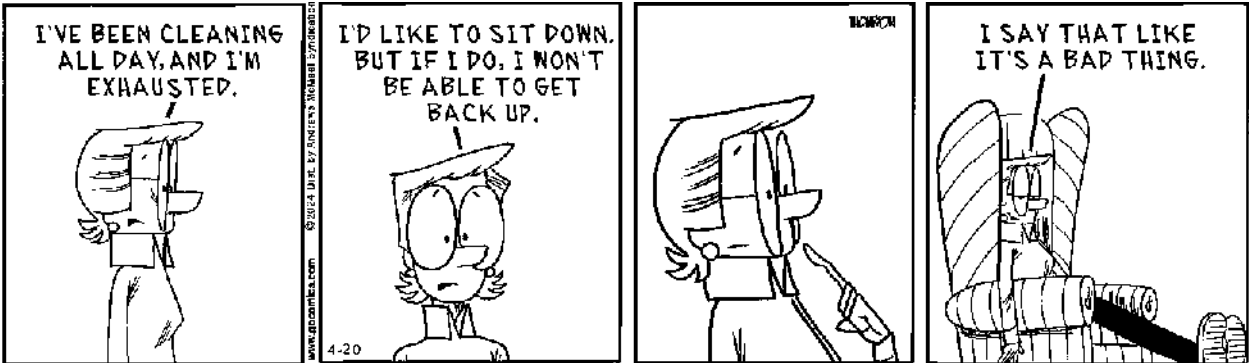
Today's deal was played just a few days ago, as we write this, at the National Championships in Louisville, Kentucky. North-South were in hot pursuit of a victory in a National Pair event when they had a mix-up about their bidding agreements.

North intended his two-diamond bid to be natural and that he was placing the contract in the best place for the partnership. North was right about two diamonds being the best contract for his side, but South interpreted the bid as a transfer to hearts and duly bid two hearts. This created an ethical dilemma for North. South had announced the two-diamond bid as a transfer and North knew there had been a misunderstanding. The laws, however, require him to bid as though his partner had explained the two-diamond bid as natural and bid two hearts anyway. In that case, the North hand would be a suitable dummy for a heart contract and there was no reason to bid diamonds again. North did the ethical thing and passed two-hearts doubled, for which he deserves much credit. We are afraid that not all players would have done the same.

East overtook the queen of clubs lead to play a heart, allowing West to draw trumps. West led the jack of clubs, which East overtook to run his club suit. The defense took all 13 tricks – six hearts, six clubs, and a spade – for a penalty of 2300 points! North-South finished second in this event. An average score on this deal would have seen them finish on top!

— Bob Jones
Tribune Content Agency

Grand Avenue By Mike Thompson



Baby Blues By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott



Zits By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman



Mr. Boffo By Joe Martin



Frazz By Jef Mallett



Classic Peanuts By Charles Schulz



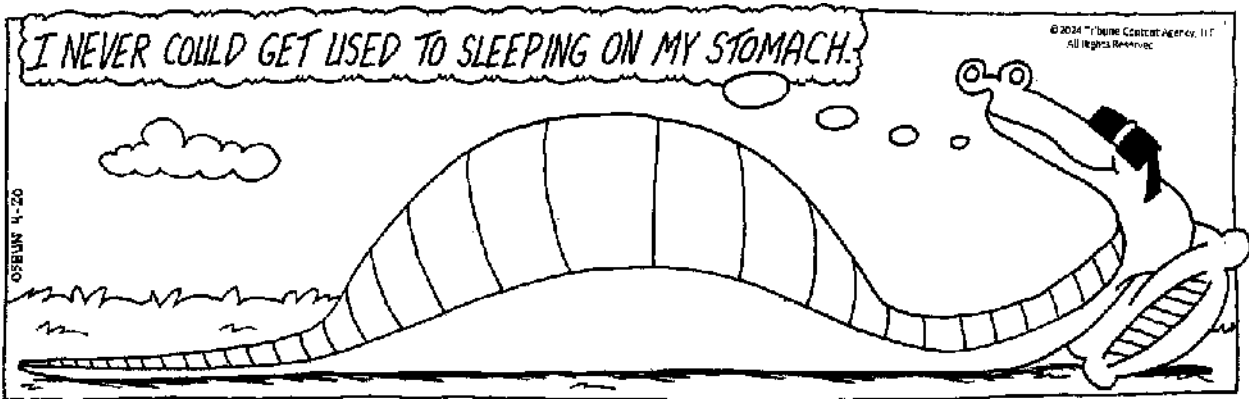
Pickles By Brian Crane



Dick Tracy By Charles Ettinger and Mike Curtis



Animal Crackers By Mike Osburn



Prickly City By Scott Stantis



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HEAT 112, BULLS 91 NBA PLAY-IN TOURNAMENT



The Heat's Haywood Highsmith dunks against the Bulls during the first quarter of Friday night's play-in game in Miami. RICH STORRY/GETTY

Played out — again

Heat knock Bulls out of shot at playoffs for 2nd consecutive season after meltdown in Miami

By Julia Poe | Chicago Tribune

MIAMI — The Bulls crashed out of the NBA Play-In Tournament with a 112-91 collapse against the Miami Heat on Friday, ending another disappointing season without a trip to the playoffs.

Friday's matchup was supposed to be a lighter challenge for the Bulls after Heat star Jimmy Butler was ruled out of the game with an MCL injury suffered in Wednesday's play-in opener against the Philadel-

phia 76ers.

With the same stakes on the line last season in the play-in tournament, the Bulls had commanded the first three quarters — until Butler took over in the final minutes to steal away a win on the way to an NBA Finals run. But with the Heat's clutch player off the board Friday, the Bulls seemed positioned to slip into the playoffs for the first time since 2022.

Instead, they fell apart.

After an uncharacteristically hot night of

shooting Wednesday in their first play-in game against the Atlanta Hawks, the Bulls went only 13-for-43 from behind the 3-point arc — and 38% from the field.

Coby White scored only 13 points after dropping 42 on the Hawks two nights prior. The Bulls coughed up 17 points off 12 turnovers and struggled heavily against overwhelming defensive pressure from the Heat at the rim.

DeMar DeRozan led the Bulls with 22 points on 8-for-16 shooting, but it wasn't nearly close enough to balance out the offense.

The Heat — who earned the No. 8 seed in the Eastern Conference and will face the

top-seeded Celtics in the first round beginning Sunday in Boston — weren't perfect, and their offense was streaky. They went on a 19-0 run to take a commanding lead in the first quarter, then went five minutes without scoring in the second quarter. But the Bulls could never capitalize on those moments as their shooting fell ice cold from every area of the court.

And the Heat absorbed every mistake with a scorching shooting performance, finishing 14-for-33 on 3-pointers.

The Bulls ended the season with a 39-43 record, missing the playoffs and finishing under .500 for the second consecutive season.

WHITE SOX

Anderson looks ahead with Marlins

'I'm back on my journey' after time with Sox, he says

By LaMond Pope | Chicago Tribune

Tim Anderson was a spark during several of the recent high points for the White Sox — from his nine hits in a 2020 American League wild-card series to the Hollywoodlike walk-off home run in the 2021 Field of Dreams game.

But 2023 was a very rocky season for Anderson and the Sox. And in November, the South Siders declined a \$14 million club option, making the two-time All-Star a free agent.

Anderson landed in Miami, and made his first trip to Chicago with the Marlins on Thursday for a series against the Cubs at Wrigley Field.

"I'm in a happy place," Anderson said Thursday before the opener of the four-game set was rained out. "I'm getting the work in that I need. Just excited about my future."

Anderson is hitting .254 in 18 games as he looks to bounce back after batting .245 in 123 games last season. For years, the notion was "As Tim Anderson goes, the Sox go." The shortstop doesn't feel that needs to be the case with the Marlins.

"I'm glad that's definitely gone because it definitely takes a whole team to win," he said. "To be from under that umbrella,

Turn to White Sox, Page 3

UP NEXT

White Sox at Phillies
5:05 p.m. Sat., NBCSCH



Cubs starting pitcher Jameson Taillon delivers against the Marlins on Friday at Wrigley Field. VINCENT ALBAN/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

CUBS 8, MARLINS 3

As Taillon delivers a win, Cubs rely on their resiliency

By Meghan Montemurro | Chicago Tribune

Eight seasons into his major-league career hasn't dissipated Cubs right-hander Jameson Taillon's pregame butterflies ahead of his season debut.

A back injury interrupted his build-up process and sidelined him the entire spring exhibition schedule, causing him to begin on the injured list until Thursday. Taillon's return gave the Cubs a boost.

"I think that's a pretty healthy thing," Taillon said of his nerves, "but I hadn't felt that in a while."

The pitching staff has played a big role in the Cubs being on the right side of .500 to

UP NEXT

Marlins at Cubs (doubleheader)
1:20, 6:40 p.m. Sat., Marquee

start the season, even while battling injuries to notable players. Taillon gave his team exactly what they needed Friday, limiting the Miami Marlins to three hits and one run in five innings as the Cubs cruised to an 8-3 series-opening win at Wrigley Field. The lone damage Taillon allowed came on a Bryan De La Cruz homer in the fourth

Turn to Cubs, Page 3

BILL TOBIN 1941-2024

Had key role in building 1985 Bears

McCaskey hails personnel man's 'keen eye for talent'

By Brad Biggs | Chicago Tribune

To a large segment of football fans, Bill Tobin's name is synonymous with one of the all-time draft rants from 30 years ago when he uttered the words, "Who in the hell is Mel Kiper anyway?"

It remains a viral clip that no doubt boosted the profile of Kiper, an ESPN draft analyst, but also offered a glimpse into Tobin's personality as a meticulous and thorough scout who was no-nonsense.





Tobin, who was the Bears vice president of player personnel from 1986-92 after joining the organization in 1975, died Thursday, the Bengals announced. He was 83.

"Bill was relentless in pursuing a single goal: making the Bears better," Chairman George McCaskey told the team's website Friday. "He had a keen eye for talent and he passionately advocated for players he believed in. He helped build the greatest team in NFL history — the '85 Bears — and for that we are forever grateful."

Tobin went on to serve as the GM of the Colts from 1994-96 and was a director of player personnel for the Lions before working with his son Duke with the Bengals. Tobin was a rookie pro scout when the Bears drafted running back Walter Payton in 1975.

It's undeniable that Tobin's fingerprints were all over the 1983 draft that

Turn to Tobin, Page 3

Team	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
 CUBS	MIA (DH) 1:20, 6:40 p.m. Marquee	MIA 1:20 p.m. Marquee		HOU 6:40 p.m. Marquee	HOU 6:40 p.m. Marquee
 WHITE SOX	@PHI 5:05 p.m. NBCSCH	@PHI 12:35 p.m. NBCSCH	@MIN 6:40 p.m. NBCSCH, FS1	@MIN 6:40 p.m. NBCSCH	@MIN 6:40 p.m. NBCSCH
 FIRE	SLC 7:30 p.m. Apple TV				
 RED STARS		@SEA 5 p.m. Marquee			

BASEBALL

Sophomore climbs to new heights on hill for Oak Forest

After setting goal, Dawson reaches it, then goes one better

By Jeff Vorva
Daily Southtown

During the offseason, sophomore right-hander Andrew Dawson established the goal of hitting 87 or maybe even 88 mph on his fastball for Oak Forest. He ended up hitting 89. “That was a surprise,” he said. “I was happy to see that.”

But here’s the thing about Dawson. Although he could probably get a lot of outs the easy way by just using his fastball, he’s working on becoming a complete pitcher, even at this young age.

“He used to be a little more of a thrower, and to his credit, he’s worked at becoming an actual pitcher,” Bengals coach Ronald Czarnecki said of Dawson. “He’s hitting spots and not just relying on his God-given ability of throwing really hard with really good stuff.

“Now, he’s spotting everything and setting hitters up.”

That was on display Thursday in a South Suburban Conference crossover.

Dawson threw seven scoreless innings, striking out 11 and allowing two hits in a 5-0 victory over Evergreen Park.

Justin Gibbs led Oak Forest (16-3, 9-0) offensively with a two-run single, while Sean Sullivan, Andrew Lucas and Ryan Heitz each drove in runs.

Grady Elwood took the tough-luck loss for Evergreen Park (11-5, 3-5). The senior right-hander allowed just one earned run and struck out five in 5 ½ innings.

Still, Elwood wasn’t pointing fingers afterward as Mustangs struggled on offense and defense.

“Everyone has an off day,” he said. “It’s a group effort. I could have done better, too. I had a couple of walks and a couple of bad pitches.”

Dawson, meanwhile, improved his record to 3-1 while lowering his ERA to 1.17. He has 23 strikeouts in 18 innings. He also has a plan of action when he faces hitters.

“I want to get ahead in the count,” Dawson said. “I want to throw strikes and use the curveball and change-up to take them out.”

The big hit in support of Dawson came from Gibbs, a junior left-hander who has emerged as a team leader on the mound. He has a 4-0 record and 1.05 ERA with 32 strikeouts in 26 ⅔ innings.

Gibbs has enjoyed watching



Oak Forest’s Andrew Dawson pitches Thursday against Evergreen Park. **JEFF VORVA/DAILY SOUTHTOWN**

Dawson’s progress. “Every day he is on — he knows how to pitch,” Gibbs said. “He’s hard to hit. I would have to hit against him during practices in the offseason. He’s got it.”

Gibbs also is having a good week. He struck out 11 and hit two home runs Wednesday in an 8-4 win over Richards. He has been able to hit 84 mph with his velocity.

Dawson said he has learned a lot from Gibbs.

“He’s exceptional,” Dawson said. “His ERA is one-something and his curveball is disgusting. Nobody can hit it.”

Gibbs said he has learned some things from Dawson as well.

“I look up to him even though he is younger than me,” Gibbs said. “I look up to him to see what I can learn because he had the ‘velo’ and sometimes he gives me tips.”

In the fall, Dawson was a wide receiver on varsity for the Bengals in football. Gibbs played golf, but he wants to team up again with Dawson in the upcoming season. He hopes to land a spot at safety or defensive back.

Dawson credited the baseball success to his parents, Michael and Stephanie, for getting him involved early in the sport.

Andrew said his dad grew up in Oklahoma and played at Southeastern Oklahoma State. His mother, whose maiden name was Ruiz, played softball at Bremen.

“Their influence is huge,” Dawson said. “It took a little while to get to this point, but my dad has been helping me put in a lot of work.

“My ‘velo’ shot up out of nowhere, and he has really helped me with that.”

Jeff Vorva is a freelance reporter for the Daily Southtown.

GIRLS SOCCER



Lemont’s Emma Amberg, left, takes a shot on goal as Reavis’ Miriam Gutierrez defends during a South Suburban Conference crossover game in Lemont on Thursday. **JAMES C. SVEHLA/DAILY SOUTHTOWN**

Scoring in bunches

Lemont stop Reavis as fully healthy senior back to scoring goals

By Steve Millar
Daily Southtown

At long last, Emma Amberg is fully healthy and ready to end her Lemont soccer career in style.

As a freshman in 2021, Amberg scored a team-best 15 goals, but she tore an ACL in a regional championship game. After missing most of her sophomore season, she returned only to suffer a double hip fracture that sidelined her again, impacting her junior year.

Now a senior forward, Amberg is back with a new appreciation for the game.

“Now, I really know what my passion is for soccer,” Amberg said. “When you get it taken away from you for almost a year with the ACL, plus another half of a year with my hip fractures, you really find out how much you miss it when it’s gone.

“You want to get back out there and play every single second. Every time I step out onto the field now, I’m here to win and I’m here to play for my team.”

Amberg is playing at quite a high level too. She recorded a hat trick Thursday night, lifting host Lemont to a 4-0 win over Reavis in a South Suburban Conference crossover

game.

Eastern Illinois recruit Casey Kittridge also scored for Lemont (9-3, 4-0 SSC Blue). Daria Koslosky and Western Michigan recruit Ella Simpson each had an assist, while Lauren Tracy recorded the shutout. Delyanna Arocho made five saves for Reavis (6-7-1, 4-2 SSC Red).

For Amberg, who is committed to compete on the soccer and track teams at Carthage, having a huge night on her home field made her feel like everything had come full circle.

“I tore my ACL here on this field, and now that I’m back here and scoring hat tricks and I’m all the way back from my injuries, it’s one of the best feelings ever,” Amberg said. “It’s senior year and I’m like, ‘This is my time.’”

Lemont coach Rick Prangen is also thrilled to see Amberg back at full force.

“She worked her butt off to get back, and she’s finally healthy,” Prangen said. “She was a good player as a freshman, and this is what you want to see as a senior. She’s probably been our most consistent player this year. She’s doing an awesome job.”

Amberg, who scored 16 goals and dished out 14 assists last year despite missing the start of the season while recovering from her hip fractures, is up to nine goals this spring.

“Coming back from those injuries is one of the hardest things I’ve ever gone through,” Amberg said.

“It’s amazing to be able to make a big impact for my team again.”

Amberg scored twice in the first half Thursday and completed her hat trick midway through the second half.

It was Amberg’s third goal that most impressed Kittridge.

“I loved her left-footed goal,” Kittridge said. “Earlier in the game, I heard their coach go, ‘Oh, she’s right-footed. Keep her on her right foot.’ I was like, ‘Emma, you’ve got to score with your left foot.’”

“When she scored that, I was yelling, ‘She’s got a left foot.’ That was really fun.”

Kittridge scored Lemont’s other goal on a header off Simpson’s corner kick.

Kittridge also helped lead a dominant defensive effort that held Reavis without a shot on goal.

Amberg, meanwhile, is not just making her mark as a player. She has also gotten into coaching, working with the middle school teams at First Nazarene in Lemont.

She even coached three of her current teammates, who are now freshmen.

“When I saw them come to tryouts, I was like, ‘You guys are on my team now?’” Amberg said. “It was one of the craziest things. There’s something about me being able to coach girls who are going to make an impact for Lemont beyond my four years here.

“That’s pretty special to me.”

SOFTBALL

Lincoln-Way West’s Rourke figures things out in win over rival

By Gregg Voss
Daily Southtown

Beating a rival on the road is not an accomplishment lost on Lincoln-Way West’s Reese Rourke.

With a long bus ride, plus different field conditions than at home and always the threat of crummy spring weather, the sophomore pitcher knows working fast and throwing strikes is paramount.

But when it all comes together, Rourke can shine like she did Thursday afternoon.

“Reese did a good job getting ahead of hitters,” Warriors coach Heather Novak said of Rourke. “Also, our defense made a number of great plays behind her.”

It helped as Rourke pitched a complete-game, 10-4 SouthWest Suburban Red victory over host Lincoln-Way East in Frankfort.

She stranded seven runners while striking out three.

As the leadoff hitter, Rourke went 1-for-2 with a single, two walks, three runs and an RBI to pace Lincoln-Way West (7-5, 3-3).

The Griffins (12-6, 3-3) got a solid game sophomore catcher Mackenzie Bacha, who had three singles and scored. Senior designated player Averi Vander Woude scored twice and stole a base.

“We were kind of down at the beginning of the season,” Rourke said. “We needed this game to come back.”

Rourke wasn’t the only girl named Reese to do damage Thursday for the Warriors. Sophomore catcher Reese Forsythe, Rourke’s batterymate, singled twice, had two RBIs and scored a run.

The pair faced a potent Lincoln-Way East lineup but gave up just

one run in the first inning. Rourke ended up retiring six in a row at one point before slowing down a bit in the seventh.

Sophomore outfielder Reese Cusack also walked and was solid defensively for the Warriors.

That’s right, Lincoln-Way West relies on three Reeses, and sometimes those pieces can get a little confusing. But when their game is on, things get a lot clearer for everyone.

“We never really know who is playing where because it’s always, ‘Reese go here, Reese go there,’” Rourke said with a laugh. “We figure it out.”

“The coaches get used to just saying our last names,” Forsythe said.

Forsythe is an interesting case. She wasn’t originally a catcher when she entered high school, but

she said Novak saw something in her last season that put her behind the plate.

“Freshman year I played catcher because they needed a catcher,” Forsythe said. “So I filled my spot in there.”

All three were varsity players as freshmen, three of six freshmen on the team.

It tested their mettle early. “We definitely got used to it, playing against people who were three, four years older,” Rourke said. “It was definitely difficult.”

But one key has made this season go smoother than last.

“We’ve created bonds between our teammates now that we’ve played for two years,” Cusack said. “It’s definitely easier.”

Leading off and pitching, Rourke realizes the role she plays.

“As soon as you see what the

umpire is calling and being on the mound,” she said. “In this game, I noticed the outside corner was a little bit smaller, so as I got in the dugout, I told the team.”

College is a long way off for the Reeses, but all three have big-time aspirations.

Forsythe, for example, has a large burnt-orange Texas flag in her room, so she has her heart set on being a Longhorn someday.

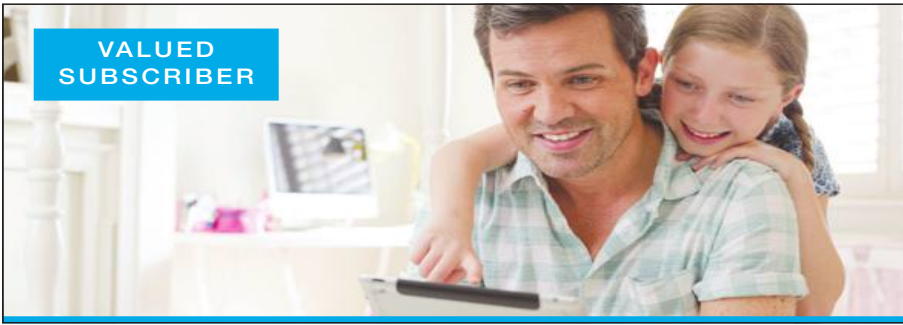
“My dream school has always been Georgia,” Cusack said.

And while Rourke isn’t quite sure where she will end up, she has been going to a lot of camps.

Those are big dreams, but they appear to be on the right track.

“Just got to work hard to get there,” Forsythe said.

Gregg Voss is a freelance reporter for the Daily Southtown.




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BASEBALL



Cubs outfielder Cody Bellinger gets a high-five from manager Craig Counsell after a home run Friday against the Marlins. VINCENT ALBAN/TRIBUNE

Cubs

from Page 1

that landed in the left-center-field basket, a ball that would not have gone over the wall at any other major-league park, according to Statcast.

Taillon threw a first-pitch strike to 17 of the 18 batters he faced and did not issue a walk while striking out four. He kept the Marlins guessing by utilizing a balanced repertoire that featured six pitches generating 12 whiffs and 12 called strikes.

With Taillon back in the rotation, Ben Brown is expected to give the Cubs innings in relief sometime this weekend, likely Saturday during their doubleheader. Manager Craig Counsell didn't want to look beyond this series as to how the pitching staff might shape up, but getting Taillon back helps the Cubs use their pitching depth to their advantage.

"Something that's super exciting about our team is how deep it is," Taillon said. "When our pitching staff's right we're going to fill up the zone, throw strikes, we're going to play defense, our lineup's going to give you tough at-bats one through nine. I've been on some really talented teams but

our team, I don't know if I've seen a deeper group of ballplayers. It's a fun brand of baseball to watch."

As the Cubs improved to 12-7 with Friday's victory, the team's resiliency through three weeks has left a strong impression on president of baseball operations Jed Hoyer. While it might sound odd, Hoyer said that in some ways two of his favorite games were their blown eight-run lead April 8 to the Padres and the extra-innings slugfest Tuesday in a loss against the Diamondbacks because of the way the Cubs played, and won, the next day's game.

"That's probably the part that is most exciting for me," Hoyer said Friday. "The fact that we've been able to do that with some real setbacks and some real challenges and we lost some games that hurt (in San Diego and Phoenix) — those are games that sting and both times we bounced back the next day and played a really good game. To me that means a lot. We're going to have more tough losses during the course of the year, that's the nature of this sport and not having that linger."

If the Cubs can get more consistency from key starters in the lineup, they could get on a roll. Nico Hoerner is showing signs of getting locked in, collecting 11 hits

in his last nine games — including two Friday — with four doubles, one triple and four RBIs in that span. Cody Bellinger and Dansby Swanson also delivered multi-hit games against Friday, getting the Cubs on the board in the first inning by each driving in a run on a single and double, respectively, off starter A.J. Puk.

Seven players drove in a run for the Cubs to kick off the seven-game homestand.

Taillon's return is part of the organization's slow trek to trying to get their big-league roster fully healthy. Justin Steele (left hamstring strain) is scheduled to throw live batting practice Sunday at Wrigley before potentially beginning a rehab assignment. Seiya Suzuki (right oblique strain) is expected to miss roughly a month, though the Cubs will be cautious in bringing him back.

"You don't wish for those situations to happen, whether it's Steele or Jamo or Seiya or whatever it is, but unfortunately, those things are going to be a part of every season for pretty much every team and so how you respond to them is going to be huge both in the wins and losses but also seeing what you have in your depth and some opportunities in other places for guys," Hoerner said.

Another potential injury issue popped up Friday. Left fielder Ian Happ exited with left hamstring tightness as a precaution, replaced by Alexander Canario in the top of the seventh. Happ missed a couple of weeks during spring training with a left hamstring strain. His status for the rest of the weekend is not yet determined.

"Just because guys come back doesn't mean other things aren't going to happen," Hoyer said. "In some ways I always assume you have to expect that we're gonna be using all these guys and we've built up some depth in that area, and I think that's already paid off through three weeks."

Hoyer and the Cubs won't know until the end of the season whether resiliency is a defining trait of this team, but the early returns are encouraging in how they have won games and put themselves in good position as May approaches.

"The ability to win series to kind of grind it out when you're at your best, that's been impressive so far," Hoyer said. "What's been important to me through these three weeks is that things have gone wrong and we haven't played great and we've gotten through a really tough stretch well."

"It's early, but I'm hoping that it's a hallmark of this team."

White Sox

from Page 1

now I can play the game free and just play my role."

A first-round pick in 2013, Anderson slashed .282/.312/.422 with 98 homers, 338 RBIs and 117 stolen bases in 895 games during eight seasons with the Sox. He led the majors with a .335 average in 2019, a season during which his bat flips gained national attention.

He hit above .300 from 2019-22 and was voted an AL starter for the All-Star Game in 2022.

Then came 2023, which featured a season-altering sprained left knee in April, a five-game suspension after an Aug. 5 brawl with Cleveland Guardians slugger José Ramírez and just one home run all season.

Change occurred throughout 2023 for the franchise.

"You always know that it's going to come to an end, on the business side of things," Anderson said. "I understood that. I asked for extensions year after year. That had always been in my thought process, and understanding that you're not always going to spend your whole career with one team."

"And I understood that. We all know how it works."

Anderson described his final conversations with the Sox as "good."

"I talked with (Chairman) Jerry (Reinsdorf)," Anderson said. "We also had a couple of phone calls in the offseason as well and talked to (general manager Chris) Getz. And we understood that it was time for them to go their way and me to go my way."

"And I understood that. And it's



Marlins shortstop Tim Anderson looks on during a game against the Cubs on Friday at Wrigley Field. VINCENT ALBAN/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

been great since. I've been happy. I've been in a great place."

Asked how he would want Sox fans to look back at his years on the South Side, Anderson said: "However they want to."

"It's not really up to me," he said. "I just know that the last year that I spent there was tough and to finally be able to make it through and be on the other side, I'm happy. I'm in a great place. My smile's back. And

PHILLIES 7, WHITE SOX 0
Sox manage only two hits and are shut out for seventh time, falling to 3-16. Coverage at chicagotribune.com/sports

I'm back on my journey."

As for what shifted for the Sox in their journey from consecutive playoff appearances in 2020-21 to a 101-loss season in 2023, Anderson said, "We weren't winning."

"A lot of my decisions as well, off the field, kind of interrupted with a lot of things as well," Anderson said. "We understood that. And it's hard to win when you don't have the right guys to go out and compete."

He then turned his attention ahead, saying: "That don't have anything to do with where we are now. I'm only looking forward, not looking back. I wish them well, but I'm going to continue to keep trusting my process and continue to keep going and growing."

Anderson agreed when asked if he's at peace.

"Most definitely," he said. "I'm probably in the best place that I've been throughout my life and throughout my career. I'm happy for sure."

And he's confident he can get back to the production of previous seasons.

"If you take those tools, I'm still the same person," Anderson said. "I'm learning a lot more now. I'm sharpening those tools a lot more. I'm never going to close that window or think I'm going to go the other way."

"I'm always going to try to get better and better myself as a person and as a player."

BEARS

Tobin

from Page 1

propelled the Bears to a Super Bowl championship in two short years. The Bears netted seven starters for the 1985 team from that draft, players who combined for 760 starts in their careers with the team.

There were 12 Pro Bowl appearances shared by left tackle Jimbo Covert, safety Dave Duerson, guard Mark Bortz and defensive end Richard Dent. Covert and Dent are enshrined in the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Three starters for the offensive line emerged from the draft at the start of a four-year run in which the team led the NFL in rushing.

But Tobin's role in the selection of Dent, a skinny, bad-bodied pass rusher from Tennessee State, is the kind of scouting tale most in the business can only dream of being part of. Tobin was the only member of the staff that had seen Dent in person and he put a second-round grade on him, considering him the best pass rusher in the draft even though a broken arm marred Dent's senior season.

Tobin, who was born in Burlington Junction, Mo., and was a running back at the University of Missouri, badly wanted Dent, but the Bears had traded away picks in the fifth through seventh rounds and after choosing six players in the first four rounds. GM Jim Finks and owner George Halas left for lunch. No way Dent would still be around when they returned, Tobin figured.

"Finks comes back in the seventh round with ownership and he looks at me with that sly look. 'That Dent you have a second-round grade on is still there. Should we take him next?'" Tobin told the Tribune in 2015. "I said, 'Hell, yes!'"

The Bears won six NFC Central titles in the 18 seasons Tobin was with the organization and selected six Hall of Famers. He went on to build a Colts team that won the franchise's first playoff game in 30 years.

Former Bears defensive coordinator Greg Blache was a student assistant at Notre Dame when he met Tobin, who was early in his scouting career. Tobin urged Colts coach Ted Marchibroda to hire Blache as the defensive line coach for the Colts in 1994.

"He had an unbelievable eye for talent," Blache said. "He could tell you the good ones and the bad ones. I just thought he was incredible but even more than as a personnel man, he was a great man, a person you could talk to and trust."

"When you were in a personnel meeting with Bill, he could have the totally opposite opinion that you held. But he wanted to hear why you felt differently and he wanted you to speak. That made you always feel comfortable because you could be honest. He was off the charts."

It was with the Colts that first year in 1994 that Tobin drafted Nebraska linebacker Trev Alberts with the fifth pick, bypassing Fresno State quarterback Trent Dilfer. That drew criticism from Kiper, and Tobin popped off on ESPN in an interview with Chris Mortensen. Later, Tobin explained he felt Kiper held a bias against the Colts because they had left Baltimore, where Kiper lives.

In a classy gesture, Kiper shared condolences of the news Tobin had passed on X, the site formerly known as Twitter.

As it turned out, Tobin did a pretty good job building that Colts team around former Bears quarterback Jim Harbaugh, and the 1995 team reached the AFC championship game. Tobin drafted running back Marshall Faulk and wide receiver Marvin Harrison in Indianapolis, both Hall of Famers.



Bears personnel director Bill Tobin gets ready for the NFL draft on April 22, 1988. BOB LANGER/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

BASEBALL

American League

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
New York	13	6	.684	—	—	6-4	W-1	4-2	9-4
Baltimore	12	6	.667	½	+2	7-3	W-4	8-4	4-2
Tampa Bay	11	9	.550	2½	—	6-4	W-1	7-7	4-2
Toronto	10	9	.526	3	½	6-4	L-1	6-3	4-6
Boston	11	10	.524	3	½	4-6	W-1	3-7	8-3

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Cleveland	14	6	.700	—	—	6-4	W-2	4-3	10-3
Kansas City	12	7	.632	1½	+1½	7-3	L-1	8-2	4-5
Detroit	10	9	.526	3½	½	4-6	L-2	4-7	6-2
Minnesota	6	11	.353	6½	3½	3-7	L-4	1-4	5-7
Chicago	3	16	.158	10½	7½	2-8	L-1	2-9	1-7

WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Texas	11	9	.550	—	—	5-5	W-2	5-5	6-4
Seattle	9	10	.474	1½	1½	5-5	W-3	7-6	2-4
Los Angeles	9	11	.450	2	2	3-7	L-2	2-4	7-7
Oakland	8	12	.400	3	3	5-5	L-1	4-9	4-3
Houston	6	14	.300	5	5	3-7	L-3	4-9	2-5

BOX SCORES

CHICAGO CUBS 8, MIAMI 3						
Miami	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Arraez 2b	4	0	0	0	0	.263
Brujan 2b	0	0	0	0	0	.100
De La Cruz dh	4	1	1	1	2	.286
Chisholm cf	4	0	2	0	2	.246
Bell 1b	3	1	0	0	0	.192
J.Sanchez rf	4	0	0	0	2	.167
Anderson ss	3	0	0	0	1	.254
Lopez ss	1	1	1	0	0	.286
Gordon lf	4	0	1	2	0	.211
Rivera 3b	4	0	1	0	2	.214
Fortes c	3	0	0	0	0	.088
TOTALS	34	3	6	3	9	

Chicago	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Hoerner 2b	5	1	2	1	0	.258
Wisdom rf-3b	4	1	0	0	2	.000
Bellinger cf	4	1	2	1	0	.216
Morel dh	3	1	0	0	0	.208
Swanson ss	3	2	2	1	1	.254
Happ lf	2	0	0	0	2	.240
Canario lf	1	0	0	0	1	.333
Cooper 1b	3	0	1	1	1	.346
Madrigal 3b	1	2	0	1	0	.250
a-Tauchman ph-rf						
	2	0	2	1	0	.256
Amaya c	4	0	1	2	2	.278
TOTALS	32	8	10	8	9	

Miami	000	100	002	3	6	0
Chicago	214	010	00x	810	1	0
a-singled for Madrigal in the 5th. E: Wisdom (1). LOB: Miami 5, Chicago 6. ZB: Chisholm (4), Hoerner 2(4), Swanson (3), Amaya (2), Tauchman (4). HR: De La Cruz (4), off Tallion. RBIs: De La Cruz (11), Gordon 2(12), Bellinger (13), Swanson (8), Hoerner (4), Cooper (5), Madrigal (5), Amaya 2 (8), Tauchman (3). Runners left in scoring position: Miami 2(J.Sanchez 2); Chicago 4(Wisdom 2, Hoerner, Happ). RISP: Miami 1for 4; Chicago 5for 16. Runners moved up: Bell, Morel. GIDP: Morel, Amaya. DP: Miami 2(Anderson, Arraez, Bell; Anderson, Arraez, Bell).						

First-pitch strikes/Batters Faced: Smith 4/6; Puk 12/19; Nardi 3/5; Cronin 4/8. Taillon 17/18; Brewer 5/9; Thompson 3/8.

HBP: Puk (Madrigal). **PB:** Amaya (2). **Umpires:** Home, Alex MacKay; First, Edwin Moscoso; Second, Adam Hamari; Third, Vic Carapazza. **T:** 2:25. **A:** 29,595(41,363).

Detroit	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Greene lf	4	2	2	1	1	.239
Canha rf	3	1	2	1	0	.233
Carpenter dh	5	1	1	2	3	.283
Torkelson 1b	3	0	0	1	1	.216
Rogers c	0	0	0	0	0	.091
Vierling cf	5	0	0	0	0	.277
Keith 2b	4	1	1	0	0	.200
Urshela 3b-1b	5	1	2	0	0	.304
Baez ss	5	1	2	1	0	.172
Kelly c	3	0	0	1	0	.189
a-McKinstry 3b1	0	0	0	0	1	.233
TOTALS	38	7	11	7	7	
Texas	132	100	011	913	0	0
Detroit	040	300	000	711	3	3

a-struck out for Kelly in the 8th. E: Keith (2), Vierling (1), Urshela (1). LOB: Texas 10, Detroit 10. ZB: Langford (2), Semien (6), Taveras (4), Baez 2(2), Greene (4), Torkelson (7). 3B: Greene (1), Carpenter (2). HR: Semien (3), off Maeda; Heim (3), off Maeda; Garcia (5), off Maeda. RBIs: Semien (17), Langford (9), Heim 2 (15), Garcia (18), Carter (6), Seager (6), Taveras (2), Baez (6), Kelly (6), Greene (8), Canha (9), Carpenter 2(8), Torkelson (7). SF: Carter. Runners left in scoring position: Texas 6(Taveras, Garcia, Semien 2, Heim 2); Detroit 5(Torkelson, Baez, Vierling 2, Kelly). RISP: Texas 3for 14; Detroit 5for 13. Runners moved up: Carter, Langford, Kelly. GIDP: Carter. DP: Detroit 1(Torkelson, Baez).
--

TEXAS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Leiter	3⅔	8	7	7	3	3	17.18
Urena	3	2	0	0	1	1	3.52
Leclerc, W, 1-2	1	0	0	0	2	2	8.00
Yates, S, 2-2	⅞	1	0	0	0	1	0.00
DETROIT	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Maeda	2⅞	7	6	5	2	2	7.64
Faedo	2⅞	1	0	0	0	1	1.42
Holton	1½	2	0	0	0	0	1.80
Lange	⅞	0	0	0	0	2	1.50
Miller, L, 3-2	1	1	1	0	0	1	1.74
Chafin	1	2	1	1	1	1	2.45

Inherited runners-scored: Urena 1-0, Leclerc 2-0, Yates 2-0, Faedo 2-0, Lange 3-0. HBP: Holton (Smith). WP: Chafin. Umpires: HP, Todd Tichenor; 1B, Cory Blaser; 2B, Manny Gonzalez; 3B, Nestor Ceja. T: 3:04. A: 11,339(41,083).
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Home Runs: Trout, Los Angeles, 8; O'Neill, Boston, 7; Henderson, Baltimore, 6; Ward, Los Angeles, 6; 8 tied at 5.

Runs Batted In: Ward, Los Angeles, 21; Perez, Kansas City, 17; A.Garcia, Texas, 17; Soto, New York, 17; Semien, Texas, 16; 6 tied at 15.

Pitching: Berrios, Toronto, 3-0; Lugo, Kansas City, 3-0; Rodriguez, Baltimore, 3-0; Detmers, Los Angeles, 3-0; Bradford, Texas, 3-0; Weaver, New York, 3-0; Cleavinger, Tampa Bay, 3-0; Kimbrel, Baltimore, 3-0; 3 tied at 3-1.

Home Runs: Trout, Los Angeles, 8; O'Neill, Boston, 7; Henderson, Baltimore, 6; Ward, Los Angeles, 6; 8 tied at 5. Runs Batted In: Ward, Los Angeles, 21; Perez, Kansas City, 17; A.Garcia, Texas, 17; Soto, New York, 17; Semien, Texas, 16; 6 tied at 15. Pitching: Berrios, Toronto, 3-0; Lugo, Kansas City, 3-0; Rodriguez, Baltimore, 3-0; Detmers, Los Angeles, 3-0; Bradford, Texas, 3-0; Weaver, New York, 3-0; Clevinger, Tampa Bay, 3-0; Kimbrel, Baltimore, 3-0; 3 tied at 3-1.
--

CINCINNATI 7, L.A. ANGELS 1						
Los Angeles	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Rendon 3b	3	0	1	0	0	.257
Trout cf	4	0	0	0	1	.256
Ward lf	4	0	1	0	1	.294
Sano 1b	4	0	0	0	0	.256
Drury dh	4	0	1	0	1	.203
O'Hoppe c	4	0	0	0	2	.310
Rengifo 2b	4	1	2	0	1	.283
Adell rf	3	0	2	1	1	.276
Neto ss	3	0	0	0	2	.185
TOTALS	33	1	7	1	9	
Cincinnati	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG

Cincinnati	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
India 2b	3	1	1	0	0	.167
Steer 1b	4	1	1	0	1	.299
Fairchild cf	3	0	0	0	1	.229
Stephenson c	2	2	1	1	0	.209
Martini dh	3	1	0	1	0	.244
De La Cruz ss	4	2	2	3	0	.290
Fraleigh rf	2	0	0	0	0	.378
Espinal 3b	3	0	0	0	0	.121
Benson lf	4	0	0	0	1	.200
TOTALS	28	7	5	5	3	

E: O'Hoppe (2), Espinal (2). **LOB:** Los Angeles 6, Cincinnati 5. **ZB:** Ward (3), Rengifo (4). **HR:** Stephenson (2), off Anderson; De La Cruz (6), off Cisnero. **RBIs:** Adell (4), Stephenson (6), Martini (13), De La Cruz 3(14). **SB:** De La Cruz 2(10), Adell (5), Rengifo (6), Rendon (3). **S:** Fairchild. **Runners left in scoring position:** Los Angeles 3(Sano, Neto 2); Cincinnati 1(Fraleigh). **RISP:** Los Angeles 2for 17; Cincinnati 1for 2. **Runners moved up:** Ward. **LIDP:** Sano. **DP:** Cincinnati 1(De La Cruz, India, De La Cruz).

Inherited runners-scored: Cisnero 3-3, Cruz 2-0. HBP: Cimber (Martini). WP: Cisnero. Umpires: Home, Larry Vanover; First, Brian Walsh; Second, Scott Barry; Third, David Rackley. T: 2:12. A: 22,539(43,891).
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CAREER QUALITY STARTS, 2010-PRESENT				
through Thursday; baseball-reference				
PITCHER	QS	ERA	GS	QS%
Max Scherzer	271	3.08	411	66
Clayton Kershaw	270	2.38	371	73
Justin Verlander	267	3.01	377	71
Zack Greinke	240	3.41	405	59
Jon Lester	208	3.66	360	58
Madison Bumgarner	205	3.48	354	58
Cole Hamels	203	3.34	306	66
Gerrit Cole	202	3.17	300	67
David Price	193	3.26	298	65
Adam Wainwright	188	3.65	325	58
Johnny Cueto	178	3.30	302	59
Rick Porcello	177	4.44	320	55
James Shields	176	4.02	287	61
Mike Leake	174	4.05	296	59
Lance Lynn	174	3.72	321	54
Félix Hernández	173	3.40	280	62
Chris Sale	169	3.12	266	64
Gio González	168	3.51	304	55
R.A. Dickey	161	3.66	252	64
Jose Quintana	158	3.73	306	52
Jacob deGrom	157	2.53	215	73
Yu Darvish	156	3.60	271	58
Patrick Corbin	152	4.45	296	51
Stephen Strasburg	152	3.24	247	62
Corey Kluber	151	3.44	260	58
Charlie Morton	148	3.89	322	46
Sonny Gray	147	3.45	272	54
Ervin Santana	147	3.90	249	59
Wade Miley	146	4.06	310	47
Dallas Keuchel	145	4.02	263	55
Jake Arrieta	144	3.98	279	52
Jered Weaver	144	3.58	221	65
Ian Kennedy	143	4.10	278	51
Anibal Sánchez	143	4.09	292	49
CC Sabathia	141	3.87	272	52
Jordan Zimmermann	141	4.04	259	54
Zack Wheeler	140	3.44	231	61
J.A. Happ	136	4.23	300	45
Julio Teheran	136	3.85	248	55
Kyle Gibson	135	4.56	297	45
Kevin Gausman	134	3.88	263	51
Yovani Gallardo	131	4.77	256	51
Kyle Fickdricks	130	3.75	250	52
Aaron Loney	129	4.72	239	54
John Lackey	120	4.04	213	61
Trevor Bauer	126	3.79	212	59
Jeff Samardzija	126	4.11	239	53
Jason Vargas	126	4.12	243	52
Doug Fister	125	3.70	216	58
Marcus Stroman	124	3.63	227	55
Bartolo Colon	123	4.15	227	54
Francisco Lirio	122	4.15	242	51
Carlos Carrasco	123	3.97	254	48
Marlin Pérez	115	4.40	247	47
C.J. Wilson	115	3.60	186	62
Mark Buehrle	114	3.83	192	59
Nathan Eovaldi	113	4.08	250	45
Dan Haren	113	3.90	193	59
Jon Niese	112	4.03	189	59
Chris Archer	111	3.93	240	47
Matt Cain	111	3.79	194	57
Jason Hammel	111	4.47	240	46
Jose Berrios	108	4.08	215	50
Alex Cobb	107	3.85	230	47
Mat Latos	105	3.59	179	59
Andrew Cashner	104	4.10	188	55
Tim Lincecum	104	3.50	169	62
Ubaldo Jiménez	104	4.53	232	45
Mike Minor	104	2.55	228	46
Ricky Nolasco	104	4.62	223	47
Homer Bailey	103	4.42	208	50
Hiroki Kuroda	103	3.36	160	64
Michael Wacha	103	3.96	232	44

SCOREBOARD

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA
y-Florida	82	52	24	6	110	268	200
x-Boston	82	47	20	15	109	267	224
x-Toronto	82	46	26	10	102	303	263
x-Tampa Bay	82	45	29	8	98	291	268
Detroit	82	41	32	9	91	278	274
Buffalo	82	39	37	6	84	246	244
Ottawa	82	37	41	4	78	255	281
Montreal	82	30	36	16	76	236	289

METRO.

z-N.Y. Rangers	82	55	23	4	114	282	229
x-Carolina	82	52	23	7	111	279	216
x-N.Y. Islanders	82	39	29	16	94	246	263
x-Washington	82	40	31	11	91	220	257
Pittsburgh	82	38	32	12	88	255	251
Philadelphia	82	38	33	11	87	235	261
New Jersey	82	38	39	5	81	264	283
Columbus	82	27	43	12	66	237	300

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL

z-Dallas	82	52	21	9	113	298	234
x-Winnipeg	82	52	24	6	110	259	199
x-Colorado	82	50	25	7	107	304	254
x-Nashville	82	47	30	5	99	269	248
St. Louis	82	43	33	6	92	239	250
Minnesota	82	39	34	9	87	251	263
Arizona	82	36	41	5	77	256	274
Chicago	81	23	53	5	51	175	285

PACIFIC

y-Vancouver	82	50	23	9	109	279	223
x-Edmonton	82	49	27	6	104	294	237
x-Vegas	82	45	29	8	98	267	245
x-Los Angeles	81	43	27	11	97	251	211
Calgary	82	38	39	5	81	253	271
Seattle	82	34	35	13	81	237	266
Anaheim	82	27	50	5	59	204	295
San Jose	82	19	54	9	47	181	331

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.
x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division
z-clinched conference

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

Seattle 4, Minnesota 3
Winnipeg 4, Vancouver 2
Calgary 5, San Jose 1
Colorado 5, Edmonton 1
Anaheim 4, Vegas 1
Chicago at Los Angeles, late
End of Regular season

EAST FIRST ROUND

Florida vs. Tampa Bay

G1: Sunday at Florida, 11:30 a.m.
G2: Thursday at Florida, 6:30 p.m.
G3: Tuesday at Tampa Bay, 6 p.m.
G4: Sat., April 27: at Tampa Bay, 4 p.m.
x-G5: Mon., April 29 at Florida, TBD
x-G6: Wed., May 1: at Tampa Bay, TBD
x-G7: Sat., May 4: at Florida, TBD

Boston vs. Toronto

G1: Saturday at Boston, 7 p.m.
G2: Monday at Boston, 6 p.m.
G3: Wednesday at Toronto 6 p.m.
G4: Sat., April 27 at Toronto, 7 p.m.
x-G5: Tue., April 30 at Boston, TBD
x-G6: Thu., May 2 at Toronto, TBD
x-G7: Sat., May 4: at Boston, TBD

N.Y. Rangers vs. Washington

G1: Sunday at New York, 2 p.m.
G2: Tuesday at New York, 6 p.m.
G3: Fri., April 26 at Washington, 6 p.m.
G4: Sun., April 28 at Washington, 7 p.m.
x-G5: Tue., April 30 at New York, TBD
x-G6: Thu., May 2 at Washington, TBD
G7: Sun., May 5 at New York, TBD

Carolina vs. N.Y. Islanders

G1: Saturday at Carolina, 4 p.m.
G2: Monday at Carolina, 6:30 p.m.
G3: Thursday at New York, 6:30 p.m.
G4: Sat., April 27 at New York, 1 p.m.
x-G5: Tue., April 30 at Carolina, TBD
x-G6: Thu., May 2 at New York, TBD
x-G7: Sat., May 4: at Carolina, TBD

WEST FIRST ROUND

Dallas vs. Vegas

G1: Monday at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
G2: Wednesday at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
G3: Saturday at Vegas, 9:30 p.m.
G4: Monday at Vegas, TBD
x-G5: Wednesday at Dallas, TBD
x-G6: Fri., May 3 at Vegas, TBD
x-G7: Sun., May 5 at Dallas, TBD

Winnipeg vs. Colorado

G1: Sunday at Winnipeg, 6 p.m.
G2: Tuesday at Winnipeg, 8:30 p.m.
G3: Fri., April 26 at Colorado, 9 p.m.
G4: Sun., April 28 at Colorado, 1:30 p.m.
x-G5: Tue., April 30 at Winnipeg, TBD
x-G6: Thur., May 2 at Colorado, TBD
x-G7: Sat., May 4: at Winnipeg, TBD

Vancouver vs. Nashville

G1: Sunday at Vancouver, 9 p.m.
G2: Tuesday at Vancouver, 9 p.m.
G3: Fri., April 26 at Nashville, 6:30 p.m.
G4: Sun., April 28 at Nashville, 4 p.m.
x-G5: Tue., April 30 at Vancouver, TBD
x-G6: Fri., May 3 at Nashville, TBD
x-G7: Sun., May 5: at Vancouver, TBD

Edmonton Oilers vs. Los Angeles

G1: Monday: at Edmonton, 9 p.m.
G2: Wednesday at Edmonton, 9 p.m.
G3: Fri., April 26: at Los Angeles, 9:30 p.m.
G4: Sun., April 28: at Los Angeles, 9:30 p.m.
x-G5: Wed., May 1: at Edmonton, TBD
x-G6: Fri., May 3 at Los Angeles, TBD
x-G7: Sun., May 5: at Edmonton, TBD

RECENT NHL PRESIDENTS CUP TROPHY RECIPIENTS

YEAR: TEAM	RECORD	POINTS
2024: N.Y. Rangers	55-23-4	114
2023: Boston	65-12-5	135
2022: Florida	58-18-6	122
2021: Colorado	39-13-4	82
2020: Boston	44-14-12	100
2019: Tampa Bay	62-16-4	128
2018: Nashville	53-18-11	117
2017: Washington	55-19-8	118
2016: Washington	56-18-8	120
2015: N.Y. Rangers	53-22-7	113
2014: Boston	54-19-9	117
2013: Chicago	36-7-5	77
2012: Vancouver	51-22-9	111
2011: Vancouver	54-19-9	117
2010: Washington	54-15-13	121
2009: San Jose	53-18-11	117
2008: Detroit	54-21-7	115
2007: Buffalo	53-22-7	113
2006: Detroit	58-16-8	124
2004: Detroit	48-21-11-2	109
2003: Ottawa	52-21-8-1	113
2002: Detroit	51-17-10-4	116
2001: Colorado	52-16-10-4	118
2000: St. Louis	51-19-11-1	114
1999: Dallas	51-19-12	114
1998: Dallas	49-22-11	109
1997: Colorado	49-24-9	107
1996: Detroit	62-13-7	131
1995: Detroit	33-14-4	70
1994: N.Y. Rangers	52-24-8	112
1993: Pittsburgh	56-21-7	119
1992: N.Y. Rangers	50-25-5	105
1991: Chicago	49-23-8	106
1990: Boston	46-25-9	101
1989: Calgary	54-17-9	117
1988: Calgary	48-23-9	105
1987: Edmonton	50-24-6	106
1986: Edmonton	56-17-7	119

NOTES: Records are Win-Loss-Tie from 1986-99Win-Loss-Tie-Overtime Loss from 2000-04and Win-Loss-Overtime Loss from 2006-present

WILLIAM M. JENNINGS TROPHY WINNERS

SEASON GOALTENDER	WPM	GAA
2023-24 Connor Hellebuyck	2.39	
2022-23 Jeremy Swayman	BOS 2.27	
Linus Ullmark	BOS 1.89	
2021-22 Antti Raanta	CAR 2.45	
Frederik Andersen	CAR 2.17	
2020-21 Robin Lehner	VEG 2.29	
Marc-André Fleury	VEG 1.98	
2019-20 Tuukka Rask	BOS 1.22	
Jaroslav Halak	BOS 2.39	
2018-19 Robin Lehner	NYI 2.13	
Thomas Greiss	NYI 2.28	
2017-18 Jonathan Quick	LAK 2.40	
2016-17 Braden Holtby	WSH 2.07	
2015-16 John Gibson	ANA 2.07	
Frederik Andersen	ANA 2.30	
2014-15 Corey Crawford	CHI 2.27	
Carey Price	MTL 1.96	
2013-14 Jonathan Quick	LAK 2.07	
2012-13 Ray Emery	CHI 1.94	
Corey Crawford	CHI 1.94	
2011-12 Jaroslav Halak	STL 1.97	
Brian Elliott	STL 1.56	
2010-11 Cory Schneider	VAN 2.23	

NBA PLAYOFFS

PLAY-IN TOURNAMENT

FRIDAY'S SECOND ROUND

Eastern Conference
#8Miami 112, #9Chicago 91
Western Conference
#9 Sacramento at #7New Orleans, late

FIRST ROUND

(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)

EAST CONFERENCE

#1 Boston vs. #8 Miami
G1: Sunday at Boston, noon
G2: Wednesday at Boston, 6 p.m.
G3: Sat., April 27 at Miami, 5 p.m.
G4: Mon., April 29 at Miami, TBD
x-G5: Wed., May 1 at Boston, TBD
x-G6: Friday, May 3 at Miami, TBD
x-G7: Sun., May 5 at Boston, TBD

#2 New York vs. #7 Philadelphia

G1: Saturday at New York, 5 p.m.
G2: Monday at New York, 6:30 p.m.
G3: Thursday at Philadelphia, 6:30 p.m.
G4: Sun., April 28 at Philadelphia, noon
x-G5: Tue., April 30 at New York, TBD
x-G6: Thu., May 2 at Philadelphia, TBD
x-G7: Sat., May 4 at New York, TBD

#3 Milwaukee vs. #6 Indiana

G1: Sunday at Milwaukee, 6 p.m.
G2: Tue., April 23 at Milwaukee, 7:30 p.m.
G3: Fri., April 26 at Indiana, 4:30 p.m.
G4: Sun., April 28 at Indiana, 6 p.m.
x-G5: Tue., April 30 at Milwaukee, TBD
x-G6: Thu., May 2 at Indiana, TBD
x-G7: Sat., May 4 at Milwaukee, TBD

#4 Cleveland vs. #5 Orlando

G1: Saturday at Cleveland, noon
G2: Mon., April 22: at Cleveland, 6 p.m.
G3: Thu., April 25 at Orlando, 6 p.m.
G4: Sat., April 27 at Orlando, noon
x-G5: Tue., April 30 at Cleveland, TBD
x-G6: Fri., May 3 at Orlando, TBD
x-G7: Sun., May 5 at Cleveland, TBD

WESTERN CONFERENCE

#1 Oklahoma City vs. Sacra.-New OrL.

G1: Sunday at Oklahoma City, 8:30 p.m.
G2: Wednesday at Okla. City, 8:30 p.m.
G3: Sat., April 27 at Sac/New OrL., 2:30 p.m.
G4: Mon., April 29 at Sac/New OrL., TBD
x-G5: Wed., May 1 at Okla. City, TBD
x-G6: Fri., May 3 at Sac/New OrL., TBD
x-G6: Sun., May 5 at Okla. City, TBD

#2 Denver vs. #7 LA Lakers

G1: Saturday at Denver, 7:30 p.m.
G2: Monday at Denver, 9 p.m.
G3: Thursday at LA Lakers, 9 p.m.
G4: Sat., April 27 at LA Lakers, 7:30 p.m.
x-G5: Mon., April 29 at Denver, TBD
x-G6: Thu., May 2 at LA Lakers, TBD
x-G7: Sat., May 4 at Denver, TBD

#3 Minnesota vs. #6 Phoenix

G1: Saturday at Minnesota, 2:30 p.m.
G2: Tuesday at Minnesota, 6:30 p.m.
G3: Fri., April 26 at Phoenix, 8:30 p.m.
G4: Sun., April 28 at Phoenix, 8:30 p.m.
x-G5: Tue., April 30 at Minnesota, TBD
x-G6: Thu., May 2 at Phoenix, TBD
x-G7: Sat., May 4 at Minnesota, TBD

#4 LA Clippers vs. #5 Dallas

G1: Sunday at LA Clippers, 2:30 p.m.
G2: Tuesday at LA Clippers, 9 p.m.
G3: Fri., April 26 at Dallas, 7 p.m.
G4: Sun., April 28 at Dallas, 2:30 p.m.
x-G5: Wed., May 1 at LA Clippers, TBD
x-G6: Fri., May 3 at Dallas, TBD
x-G7: Sun., May 5 at LA Clippers, TBD

TENNIS

ATP BMW OPEN

Friday at MTTC Inphitos; Munich; outdoors, Red clay

MEN'S SINGLES, QUARTERFINALS

Cristian Garin d.
#1Alexander Zverev, 6-4, 6-4, 3#
#2Holger Rune d.
Marc-Andrea Huesler, 6-4, 7-6(3).
Taylor Fritz d.
#6Jack Draper, 4-6, 6-3, 7-6(1).
#4Jan-Lennard Struff vs.
#5Felix Auger-Aliassime, late

BARCELONA OPEN BANC SABADELL

Friday at Real Club de Tennis Barcelona; Barcelona, Spain; outdoors-Red clay

MEN'S SINGLES, QUARTERFINALS

#3Casper Ruud d.
Matteo Arnaldi, 6-4, 6-3.
#5Stefanos Tsitsipas d.
Facundo Diaz Acosta, 4-6, 6-3, 7-6(8).
#13Tomas Martin Etcheverry d.
#12Cameron Norrie, 7-6(4), 7-6(1).
Dusan Lajovic d.
#16Arthur Fils (16), 6-4, 3-6, 6-2.

ATP TIRIAC OPEN

Friday at Nastase & Marica Sports Club; Bucharest, Romania; outdoors-clay

MEN'S SINGLES, QUARTERFINALS

#1Francisco Cerundolo vs.
#5Mariano Navone, late
#4Alejandro Tabillo d.
Joao Fonseca, 4-6, 7-6(5), 6-4.
Marton Fucsovics d.
Corentin Moutet, 4-6, 6-4, 6-1.
Gregoire Barrere d.
#8Pedro Martinez, 6-7(2), 6-3, 6-4.

MEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 16

#1Francisco Cerundolo d.
Federico Coria, 7-5, 6-1.
Gregoire Barrere d.
#3Sebastian Korda, 6-4, 6-4.
#5Mariano Navone d.
Thiago Seyboth Wild, 6-3, 2-6, 7-5.
#8Pedro Martinez d.
Miomir Kecmanovic, 7-6(4), 3-6, 6-3.

WTA OPEN DE OEIIRAS

Friday at Oeiras, Portugal; outdoors, clay

WOMEN'S SINGLES, QUARTERFINALS

#1Bernarda Pera d.
Francisca Jorge, 6-4, 6-1.
#4Clara Tauson d.
Matilde Jorge, 6-1, 6-3.
Suzan Lamens d.
Aliona Falei, 6-4, 6-1.
Kristina Mladenovic d.
Varvar Lepchenko, 6-3, 6-4.

WTA OPEN CAPPINANCES ROUEN

METROPOLE

Friday in Rouen, France; indoor-clay

WOMEN'S SINGLES, QUARTERFINALS

#2Caroline Garcia d.
Elena-Gabriela Ruse, 6-3, 6-4.
#3Anhelina Kalinina d.
#5Mirra Andreeva, 6-4, 7-5.
#6Sloane Stephens d.
#4Yuan Yue, 6-2, 6-2.
Magda Linette d.
Arantxa Rus, 7-6(9), 6-1.

WTA PORSCHE TENNIS GP

Friday at Porsche Arena; Stuttgart, Germany; indoors, Red clay

WOMEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 16

#1Iga Swiatek d.
Emma Raducanu, 7-6(2), 6-3.
#6Marketa Vondrousova d.
#2Arina Sabalenka, 3-6, 6-3, 7-5.
Marta Kostyuk d.
#3Coco Gauff, 3-6, 6-4, 7-6(6).
#4Elena Rybakina d.
Jasmine Paolini, 6-3, 5-7, 6-3.

UFL FOOTBALL

USFL	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
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Birmingham	3	0	0	1.000	80	41
Michigan	2	1	0	.667	65	56
Memphis	1	2	0	.333	51	65
Houston	0	3	0	.000	50	75

XFL	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
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St. Louis	2	1	0	.667	74	66
San Antonio	2	1	0	.667	71	62
DC	1	1	0	.500	64	73
Arlington	0	3	0	.000	66	83

WEEK 4

SATURDAY'S GAMES

Memphis at St. Louis, 11:30a.m.
DC at Birmingham, 6p.m.
Michigan at San Antonio, 6p.m.

SUNDAY'S GAME

Arlington at Houston, 1p.m.

WEEK 5

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

San Antonio at Arlington, 6p.m.
Birmingham at Houston, 6p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

St. Louis at D.C., noon
Michigan at Memphis, 2p.m.

SPCCER

MLS

EASTERN	W	L	T	PT	GF	GA
Inter Miami CF	4	2	3	15	19	14
N.Y. Red Bulls	4	1	3	15	11	7
Philadelphia	3	0	4	13	14	9
Columbus	3	1	4	13	10	7
Cincinnati	3	2	3	12	8	7
Atlanta	3	2	2	11	12	7
Charlotte FC	3	2	2	11	9	8
CF Montréal	3	3	1	10	10	14
Toronto FC	3	4	1	10	8	12
D.C. United	2	2	4	10	12	12
Chicago	2	3	3	9	11	14
New York City FC	2	4	2	8	7	9
Orlando City	2	3	2	8	8	13
Nashville	1	2	4	7	8	13
New England	1	5	1	4	5	13

NATIONAL SPORTS REPORT

SHORTS

Rivalries on tap in the CL semifinals



Power struggles, intriguing matchups and fond farewells. The Women's Champions League semifinals kicking off Saturday have a bit of everything. Two teams are trying to assert their continental dominance and the other two are fighting to be crowned European champion for the first time. Defending champion Barcelona hosts Chelsea in their first-leg match on Saturday afternoon before eight-time champion Lyon takes on French rival Paris Saint-Germain in the evening. The second legs are the following weekend. Barcelona is going for its third title in four years, while Lyon is seeking its record-extending ninth. Should Lyon and Barcelona advance to the May 25 final in Bilbao, Spain, it would be a rematch of the 2022 decider. Chelsea and PSG have never won the Champions League or its predecessor, the UEFA Women's Cup. As manager, Emma Hayes, pictured, has led Chelsea to more than a dozen major domestic titles, but the Champions League has eluded her. She's got another shot before leaving London to take over as coach of the U.S. women's national team.

Ruud, Tsitsipas closer to rematch



Casper Ruud, pictured, and Stefanos Tsitsipas won to advance to the Barcelona Open semifinals on Friday, keeping them on course to meet in a second straight final. Ruud beat Matteo Arnaldi 6-4, 6-3 to notch his season-leading 27th win. The sixth-ranked Norwegian has two more wins than Jannik Sinner. Tsitsipas saved two match points to rally past Facundo Díaz 4-6, 6-3, 7-6 (8). Tsitsipas struggled with his serve and double-faulted seven times. One of them cost him a break while the Greek player was trying to serve out the match up 5-4 in the third set. He then had to save a match point while serving again before facing the brink again in the tiebreaker. "I feel like having so many matches under my belt and faced situations like this helps for sure," Tsitsipas said. "I knew anything was possible at any given time." The seventh-ranked Tsitsipas easily defeated Ruud to claim his third title at Monte Carlo last weekend. Ruud is trying to reach his fourth final this year. Besides the loss in Monte Carlo, he also lost finals in Los Cabos and Acapulco.

Jets non-committal on QB Wilson



Zach Wilson remains a member of the Jets. For now, at least. GM Joe Douglas was non-committal on the future of the quarterback, who received permission by the Jets during the offseason to seek a trade after a disappointing three years since being the No. 2 overall pick in the NFL draft. "Zach is an asset and at that same time we're obviously open to trading Zach," Douglas said Thursday during his annual predraft news conference. "There have been discussions." Douglas said the 24-year-old Wilson was not present — as he usually has been — at the team's facility this week as voluntary offseason workouts began. "There's quite a few players that haven't come for the first week," Douglas said. "So, look, that's a decision for Zach to make if he wants to be here." Douglas acknowledged at the NFL combine in Indianapolis in February the team told Wilson's agent he could gauge the trade market. Douglas reiterated that last month at the league meetings in Orlando, Florida, where owner Woody Johnson added the Jets wouldn't just release Wilson if the team couldn't find a trade partner. —Associated Press



Thunder forward Chet Holmgren, left, tries to get to the ball before Mavericks center Dwight Powell, right, in the first half of Sunday's game in Oklahoma City. **KYLE PHILLIPS/AP**

NBA PLAYOFFS

In the running

Playoffs are finally here. And 'it's a sprint now.'

By **Tim Reynolds**
Associated Press

There's a 64-win team in the Celtics that ran away with the league's best record. The defending champions in the Nuggets, a group that won 57 games. A fearless young bunch in the Thunder, whose No. 1 seed was no fluke. A trio of Villanova alums in the Knicks, who turned them into a real contender.

And, once again, there's LeBron James, too.

The NBA playoffs are about to begin with the Celtics and Nuggets the heavy favorites to collide in the Finals, and no shortage of teams have realistic belief that they can win the whole thing as well. After a seven-month ramp-up through training camp, a preseason, the regular season, the inaugural NBA Cup and then a play-in tournament, the league finally wakes up on Saturday with 16 teams left in the chase for the Larry O'Brien Trophy.

"Come Saturday, there are 15 other teams that want what we have," Nuggets coach Michael Malone said. "We have the world championship trophy and everybody's trying to take it from us."

Let the games begin. The Nuggets — with most of last season's core back this year, including probable NBA MVP Nikola Jokic — are trying to become the eighth franchise to win back-to-back titles. They'll open that quest against the Lakers and James, who is seeking a fifth title.

"There ain't no more pace," said the 39-year-old James, the league's oldest active player and all-time scoring

leader. "Pace yourself for what? Now it's the sprint. It's a sprint now."

The Thunder won 22 games three seasons ago, then 24 games the year after that. Those days are long gone already: 40 wins last season showed the potential, and 57 wins this season — with no full-time starter over age 25 — suggest that OKC's time may be now.

"It means a little more, how we got here, for sure," said Shai Gilgeous-Alexander, the Thunder guard who is a legit MVP candidate after averaging 30.1 points this season. "But at the end of the day, it's home-court advantage, I guess, until the Finals. And that's always a plus when your home court is like ours."

They are young, they might be brash, and they certainly are fun. Thunder guard Jalen Williams was asked why he wasn't wearing his division title T-shirt when the Thunder clinched the No. 1 seed: "This leather jacket cost a lot," he said, drawing laughs.

The Thunder weren't expected to be in this position; they were given 100-1 odds to win the NBA title when the season started. The Celtics are a very different story; much was expected from them, and they delivered.

All the Celtics did this season was put up the fifth-best record in franchise history, which is a big deal for any team and an even bigger deal when a team is as storied as the Celtics franchise. Of the four Celtics teams that had better regular season records, three went on to win NBA titles.

"You can't even expect that you're going to be a 64-win team," Celtics President Brad Stevens said. "That's a really hard threshold to meet no matter how good you are, no matter how well organized you are from a coaching standpoint, how many options you have from a playing standpoint."

There is no apparent weakness with the Celtics, who finished the season ranked No. 1 in offensive rating, No. 2 in points per game, No. 3 in defensive rating and No. 5 in points allowed per game. Jayson Tatum, Jaylen Brown and Kristaps Porzingis all finished averaging at least 20 points per game; only two other Celtics teams had three 20-point scorers in a season. And they added Jrue Holiday in the offseason to help anchor a defense built for this time of year.

"Everybody has that right mindset," Celtics guard Derrick White said. "We're looking forward to this."

The Knicks lost Julius Randle and have somehow kept climbing, led by its Villanova trio — MVP candidate Jalen Brunson, Josh Hart and Donte DiVincenzo. They get a showdown first-round series against Joel Embiid and the 76ers, a team that was vying for probably a top-2 seed before Embiid got hurt and missed much of the year.

"We just focus on getting better, every single day," Brunson said.

There are some new faces in the playoffs: The Thunder, Pacers — the highest scoring team in the league this season — and Magic are all playing at this time of year for the first time since 2020. The Pacers face a Bucks team that will open without star Giannis Antetokounmpo, and the Magic take on a Cavs team that hasn't won a playoff series without James in uniform since 1993.

Odds are, it'll be either the Celtics, Thunder, Nuggets, Knicks, Bucks or Timberwolves winning the title. Since 1984, 39 of the 40 NBA champions have entered the playoffs seeded 1, 2 or 3 in their conference.

That said, it's been an unpredictable year. And the playoffs inevitably bring surprises.

NHL PLAYOFFS

The Stanley Cup race is 'wide open'

By **Stephen Whyno**
Associated Press

General manager Don Waddell likes how his Hurricanes finished the season, winning 16 of their final 21 games. He knows it means nothing now.

"Your points get erased and you all start with zeroes," Waddell said. "Playoffs are a different time. That's what's great about the NHL. Once you get to the playoffs, it's wide open."

This year more than many in the recent past.

Unlike last year, when the Bruins broke league records for the most wins and points in a season, there is no clear favorite to hoist the Stanley Cup. The Hurricanes, Panthers, defending champion Golden Knights, Stars, Jets, Oilers and the league-best Rangers are among the many contenders who could be the last team standing in June.

"I don't think there's that separation," former player-turned-TNT analyst Ed Olczyk said. "I think that there is eight or nine or 10 teams that I really feel could win the Stanley Cup."

The Hurricanes, who open against the Islanders, are 13-2 Cup favorites, according to BetMGM Sportsbook, followed by the Panthers (7-1), Stars (15-2), Avalanche, Oilers and the Rangers (all 8-1), Bruins (11-1), Knights (12-1 to repeat) and Maple Leafs (14-1). The Canucks and Jets are listed at 15-1, and 2020-21 Cup-winning Lightning is 25-1, even with top goaltender Andrei Vasilevskiy rounding back into form.

"He's at his best when the games are on the line, and we look for that once again this year," 2020 playoff MVP Victor Hedman said. "It's obviously so fun to have the best goalie in the world behind you when the playoffs start."

Eastern Conference

The conversation starts with the Rangers, who won the Presidents' Trophy, have home-ice advantage throughout the postseason and open Sunday against the eighth-seeded Capitals. Igor Shesterkin, like Vasilevskiy, has won the Vezina as the league's best goalie, and this season winger Artemi Panarin has been one of the most productive and valuable players on any team.

What could set the Rangers apart? Maybe its depth, which comes in handy in the playoffs.

"It might not be the headliners — it might be somebody you go, this guy just got four goals in a series and that was the turning point," said former player Ray Ferraro, now an ESPN analyst. "You know who I think of? It could be Kaapo Kakko. It could be a guy like that, who had a trying year."

Or, Ferraro wondered, it could be someone like the Bruins' Jake DeBrusk. The Bruins are a year removed from being stunned by the Panthers in the first round after their record-setting season.

Coach Jim Montgomery hopes his team learned "how to handle adversity when it smacks you in the face. ... We know there's a way we need to look on the ice and what we should look like, to ourselves most importantly. And when we look like that, we think we can play with anyone in the league."

The East is no cakewalk. As Lightning coach Jon Cooper pointed out ahead of his team's first-round series against the cross-state Panthers, more than a decade on the job has led to just two championships.

"That's a lot of times not being able to get through the gauntlet," Cooper said. "It's hard. It's really hard to do."

Western Conference

The West has what Ferraro called a "beast" of a first round. Among the intriguing matchups are the Jets vs. Avs and Canucks opening against the Predators. The Stars finished first in the conference, but are the team to beat?

"I think five out of the eight are contenders for the Cup that are legitimate that could win," said former defenseman Jason Demers, now an NHL Network analyst. "It really is going to come down to a matchup that you get in the first round to get the ball rolling and then whoever stays the healthiest."

The top-seeded Stars, who open against either the Knights or the Kings, will try to outrace opponents to the Cup, using their speed and skill and relying on Jake Oettinger and a stacked blue line behind an elite group of forwards. But they know it won't be easy.

"It's going to be a hard run to get through everything," winger Mason Marchment said. "It'll be exciting, but I think we'll be ready for it."

Reigning and three-time MVP Connor McDavid could put the Oilers on his back and carry them through the playoffs like Nathan MacKinnon did when the Avalanche won the Cup in 2022. A lot will depend on the Oilers goalie Stuart Skinner. With a first-round matchup against the Golden Knights or Kings, Demers said "Edmonton just needs to exorcise those demons."

So do the Jets, who haven't made it to the West final since 2018. The Jets have this season's best goaltender in Connor Hellebuyck and a big, tough lineup full of players who can also score but think first about their end of the ice.

"Defend first," assistant coach Scott Arniel said. "We don't give teams very much time and space to do anything, and we grind people out and we kind of frustrate them by kind of smothering them to death."

NBA PLAYOFFS

The Boston Celtics know that no one cares about everything they’ve accomplished during the regular season. Being the only team to win 60 games? That’s cool. Beating 10 teams by 30 or more points and becoming the first team in NBA history to have three 50-point wins in the same season? Not bad. Clinching the Eastern Conference’s No. 1 playoff seed with 11 games remaining in the regular season? Yawn. Bottom line, the Celtics know this franchise is judged by championships. And for the buckets of success this year’s team has had, it will mean nothing if it doesn’t end with the raising of its 18th championship banner to TD Garden’s rafters. It’s why the only refrain has been about the unfinished business Boston’s players believe was left after last season’s conference finals when they fell behind the Miami Heat 3-0 and won three straight games, only to be blown out at home in Game 7. The Celtics were an NBA-best 37-4 at home this season, where they lost only once to an Eastern Conference opponent.



Symbolic gestures

By **Kyle Hightower** | Associated Press

All-Star Jayson Tatum wants the Boston Celtics’ approach to be different in the playoffs. “Not take it for granted. I think in the past we just felt like coming back home we had the advantage, that we were supposed to win and maybe relax a little bit,” Tatum said. “Not necessarily take the opposite approach and feel like our back is against the wall when we come home. And maybe have some better outcomes.”

In an offseason that saw the exits of defensive stalwart Marcus Smart, along with last season’s Sixth Man of the Year Malcolm Brogdon and big man Robert Williams, Boston found itself with the additions of Jrue Holiday and Kristaps Porzingis. “This year we’ve been organized, we’ve been consistent,” Celtics All-Star Jaylen Brown said. “The pieces that we’ve added have made contributions right away. ... Things that might have haunted us in the past have kind of turned into some of our strengths.” It’s also why Celtics president of basketball operations Brad Stevens chuckled this week at the mention of his name being floated in the coaching

The Celtics have been the NBA’s most dominant team all season. Only a championship will make season complete.



Jayson Tatum and the Celtics rolled to the top seed in the Eastern Conference.
AP FILE

rumor mill about a possible return to the college ranks. He, too, wants to see their near misses bear the ultimate fruit. “We’ve been here 11 years now and got to see this team do a lot of cool things and go a long way,” Stevens said. “We’d like to get over that hump.” A big part of why Boston has flourished has been due to the steadiness of coach Joe Mazzulla, who’s found a groove in his second season with a hand-picked coaching staff that includes lead assistant Charles Lee and Sam Cassell. He’s managed to cultivate an offense that plays to the strengths of Brown and Tatum, while also integrating Holiday and Porzingis into a group that overwhelms teams with its ability to space the floor and shoot 3-pointers. Meanwhile, Boston ended the season with the NBA’s top offensive rating and second-best defensive rating. But it’s the 3-point shooting that has stood out. The Celtics led the league during the regular season, attempting a 3-pointer on 47.2% of their possessions. That translated into a league-high 42.5 attempts from beyond the arc per game, but also an NBA-best average of 16.5 made 3s per game. It has made for a pulverizing offensive machine to beat this season — if the shots are falling. In Boston’s 64 wins they shot 40.6% from 3-point

Turn to Celtics, Page 2

Inside

NBA PLAYOFFS

BREAKING DOWN THE MATCHUPS

Championship or bust for Celtics

By Brian Mahoney and Tim Reynolds | Associated Press

EASTERN CONFERENCE



No. 1 Boston vs. No. 8 Miami

Season series: Celtics, 3-0.
Story line: A rematch of the last two Eastern Conference finals will happen, but with a key piece missing: the Heat's Jimmy Butler is sidelined for a few weeks with a sprained knee. In a play-in elimination game on Friday night, however, Miami didn't need him in overwhelming Chicago with strong performances by rookie Jaime Jaquez Jr. (21 points) and veteran Tyler Herro (24 points).
Key matchup: Heat role players vs. Boston: Kevin Love scored 16 and Bam Adebayo added 13 for Miami in the win over the Bulls. The Heat is now set to be huge underdogs against a Celtics team that is the big favorite to win the NBA title. The Heat are the No. 8 seed again, just like last year when they survived the play-in and went all the way to the NBA Finals. "Ultimately, we've just got to bring that Miami Heat culture and that toughness," Jaquez said. "We've got two games in Boston. We've got to set the tone extremely early, impose our will on them and make it real physical." They took control over the Bulls with a 19-0 run in the first quarter, and a 14-0 run midway through the second half ended all doubt. Herro finished with 10 rebounds and nine assists, and the Heat eliminated the Bulls in the last East play-in game for the second straight year. For the Celtics, it seems just to be a matter of playing their game and not giving the upstart Heat any confidence like last year, when Miami won in seven.
Prediction: Celtics in 5.



No. 2 New York vs. No. 7 Philadelphia

Season series: Knicks, 3-1.
Story line: The Knicks finished with their best record and highest seed since winning 54 games in 2012-13. They didn't get much of a reward for that, with the opponent being a 76ers team that surged after Joel Embiid returned from knee surgery, winning their final eight games of the regular season and then edging Miami in the play-in tournament to earn the No. 7 seed.
Key matchup: Jalen Brunson vs. Tyrese Maxey. Both guards were first-time All-Stars and capable of putting up big scoring numbers. Maxey had three 50-point games during the regular season. Brunson had 11 40-point performances, tying Hall of Famer Patrick Ewing for second-most by a Knicks player in a single season, and was fourth in the league with 28.7 per game.
Prediction: Knicks in 7.



No. 3 Milwaukee vs. No. 6 Indiana

Season series: Pacers, 4-1.
Story line: With Giannis Antetokounmpo hurt late in the regular season, the Bucks fell from the No. 2 to the No. 3 seed and a matchup that could be difficult even if their superstar forward is able to return. Indiana beat Milwaukee four times in five matchups — an extra game coming with the Pacers' victory in the semifinals of the In-Season Tournament — and led the league with 123.3 points per game. The Pacers rang up 142 points in the final meeting and the Bucks needed a franchise-record 64 points from Antetokounmpo for their lone win on Dec. 13.
Key matchup: Damian Lillard vs. Tyrese Haliburton. Lillard was slowed late in the regular season by a sore left adductor, but the Bucks will need him on the floor and likely providing big numbers if Antetokounmpo remains out. His point guard counterpart was his fellow starter in the backcourt for the East in the All-Star Game. Haliburton led the NBA with 10.9 assists per game.
Prediction: Pacers in 6.



No. 4 Cleveland vs. No. 5 Orlando

Season series: Split, 2-2.
Story line: The Magic entered the season as one of the NBA's youngest teams and ended it as one of the most improved ones, winning 13 more games than a season ago and finishing with their best record since going 52-30 in 2010-11. Their return to the postseason comes against a Cavaliers team that wants to bounce back from a disappointing post-season in 2023, when they also were the No. 4 seed but were routed by the Knicks in five games.
Key matchup: Donovan Mitchell vs. Jalen Suggs. Mitchell says he is healthy after a knee injury slowed the All-Star guard in the second half of the season. If so, Suggs has a tough assignment ahead at the end of the best season of his three-year career.
Prediction: Cavaliers in 7.



The Celtics' Kristaps Porzingis celebrates his 3-pointer next to the Kings' Harrison Barnes, right, on April 5 in Boston. The Celtics are the odds-on favorite to win the title. MICHAEL DWYER/AP



The Knicks' Jalen Brunson celebrates a basket against the Bulls during the second half April 9 in Chicago. The Knicks are the No. 2 seed in the Eastern Conference. MICHAEL REAVES/GETTY



Nuggets center Nikola Jokic looks on during a game against the Grizzlies on Sunday in Memphis. The defending champs are the No. 2 seed in the Western Conference. BRANDON DILL/AP



The Lakers' LeBron James drives to the hoop during a play-in tournament game against the Pelicans on Tuesday in New Orleans. JONATHAN BACHMAN/GETTY

WESTERN CONFERENCE



No. 1 Oklahoma City vs. No. 8 New Orleans

Season series: Thunder, 2-1.
Story line: Will Zion Williamson be available? The Pelicans star had dropped 40 points on the Lakers Tuesday night before having to leave a play-in game in the last three minutes with a hamstring injury, and New Orleans was unable to get past L.A. Any chance to upset the top-seeded Thunder evaporate if the big man can't play.
Key matchup: See above. Williamson can be an absolute game-changer when he's throwing his weight around underneath, with the ability to take over a game at almost any time. Oklahoma City's Chet Holmgren will have his hands full if Williamson is a go.
Prediction: Thunder in 6.



No. 2 Denver vs. No. 7 L.A. Lakers

Season series: Nuggets, 3-0.
Story line: A matchup of the two most recent teams to be handed trophies by NBA Commissioner Adam Silver — the reigning champion Nuggets (from June) and the reigning NBA Cup champion Lakers (from December). Only one team has eliminated LeBron James in back-to-back seasons, that being Golden State, which beat his Cleveland teams in the 2017 and 2018 NBA Finals. And James has been ousted in Round 1 only once in his 16 previous playoff appearances. But the Nuggets are still heavy favorites for no shortage of reasons — among them, Nikola Jokic, a mile-high home-court advantage and an eight-game winning streak against the Lakers, including a 4-0 sweep in last season's West finals.
Key matchup: It's all about rebounding. Denver outscored the Lakers by 30 points in the season series, and most of that differential came from second-chance points (Nuggets 50, Lakers 25). The Lakers got to the line twice as often as the Nuggets (53-26) in the three games, but the second-chance points were too much to overcome.
Prediction: Nuggets in 6.



No. 3 Minnesota vs. No. 6 Phoenix

Season series: Suns, 3-0.
Story line: Phoenix is the only West team to sweep the Timberwolves this season (Chicago, 2-0, did as well) and the only team to beat Minnesota by at least 10 points three times (New Orleans did it twice, five other teams did it once). The difference in the three games was simply that the Suns couldn't miss — they shot 53% from the field and 49% from 3-point range, compared with 45% from the field and 29% from 3 for the Timberwolves. But this is the best team Minnesota has had in 20 years, and that team from 20 years ago is the last Wolves team to win a playoff series. Kevin Durant, Devin Booker, Grayson Allen and Bradley Beal — all Suns — were the four highest scorers in the season series. The Wolves' Anthony Edwards, Mike Conley, Rudy Gobert and Karl-Anthony Towns can't let that happen here.
Key matchup: Edwards vs. Booker. The soon-to-be U.S. Olympic teammates in Paris will both be asked to put up big numbers, and this is a moment where Edwards might truly cement himself as among the league's elite. The vets in this series — players like Conley, Durant and Gobert — will rise to the occasion. Edwards will have to as well.
Prediction: Timberwolves in 7.



No. 4 L.A. Clippers vs. No. 5 Dallas

Season series: Clippers, 2-1.
Story line: It's Clippers-Mavericks in Round 1 for the third time in the last five seasons, the Clippers winning in six games inside the bubble in 2020 and then winning a Game 7 at home in 2021. Dallas' duo of Luka Doncic and Kyrie Irving are as formidable a 1-2 punch as any in the NBA, but the Mavericks need to find a way to keep the Clippers out of the paint. LA outscored Dallas 176-120 in the paint in the three regular season matchups. The Clippers were put together for this time of year — Kawhi Leonard, Paul George, James Harden and Russell Westbrook have tons of playoff experience, and Leonard, if healthy, will have ways to at least slow down Doncic.
Key matchup: Irving vs. Harden. Irving can still dazzle like nobody else in the league, has championship experience and is clearly clicking with Doncic in Year 2 (really, Year 1 1/2) of their time together. Harden can't get outscored by too much here; the Clippers made only 15 3-pointers in the three games, and Dallas thrives from beyond the arc.
Prediction: If Leonard's knee is right, Clippers in 7. Otherwise, Mavericks in 6.

Celtics

from Page 1

range, compared to 32.4% in its 18 losses. That includes two losses to the defending champion Denver Nuggets in which the Celtics shot under 33% from beyond the arc.

Which Boston team shows up in the play-

offs remains to be seen, but it's clear the Celtics are respected around the league for their body of work this season.

Oklahoma City Thunder coach Mark Daigneault was born in Leominster, Massachusetts, and like Mazzulla — who grew up across the state line in Johnston, Rhode Island — knows the pressure-cooker environment that surrounds New England's pro

teams.

Daigneault recalled youthful memories of driving around with his father and listening to Red Sox fans shower the hometown team with the harshest of critiques on local radio.

Daigneault has observed a coach that hasn't withered under the constant spotlight.

"He's got a Ferrari of a team ... in a city with

high expectations, whether or not the team is a Ferrari. And he's unflappable and made the next best decision," Daigneault said.

Brown said this team has its eyes on the future, not the past.

"This is a different team. It's a new year," he said. "I know everybody's always going to look back to the previous years, when in reality every year we have a different team."

More NBA Playoffs reading

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NHL PLAYOFFS



The last line of defense

At playoff time, NHL teams march to the beat of their goaltenders and count on them to save the day

By Pat Graham | Associated Press

Colorado goaltender Alexandar Georgiev went home after a recent shaky outing and immediately watched film — the car-racing thriller “The Fast and the Furious.” Anything to keep his own mind from racing. It’s playoff time, where teams march to the beat of their goaltenders. They want them laser-focused, full of confidence and ready to save the day. There are quite a few teams going into the postseason with big decisions in net. That includes Boston, which could split the goaltending duties, and the Avalanche, where Georgiev led the league in wins (38) but also goals against (183). Not every team has a Connor Hellebuyck, the Winnipeg goaltender who will try to shutdown the Avalanche and is a favorite to capture the Vezina Trophy as the league’s best. “Your goalie (in the playoffs) is the most important thing, like a quarterback or a pitcher. You need them to be on top of their game,” said former NHL goaltender Michael Leighton, who now lives in Windsor, Ontario, and runs a goalie academy. “If they’re not, your team’s in trouble.” It simply boils down to that. When a goalie is going good, everything seems to be going good.

Turn to Goaltenders, Page 4

Inside

Breaking down all of the first-round matchups of a wide-open playoffs landscape. **Page 4**

NHL PLAYOFFS

Goaltenders

from Page 3

“It gives us a ton of confidence,” Jets defenseman Neal Pionk said of Hellebuyck’s big-save ability. “It lets you play freely, make some plays. Because when we play these good teams, they’re going to make some plays no matter what we do. We could play a perfect game and still give up a few scoring chances and that’s where the goalie helps us out.”

All across the league, the situations vary in net heading into the playoffs:

■ **Nashville vs. Vancouver.** For Nashville, it’s the Juuse Saros Show after leading the NHL in saves (1,672). Thatcher Demko is back from a knee injury for the Canucks.

■ **Florida vs. Tampa Bay.** Andrei Vasilevskiy has rounded into familiar stellar form for the Lightning after returning from back surgery earlier this season. Florida has its own star Russian goalie in Sergei Bobrovsky (six shutouts).

■ **New York Rangers vs. Washington.** With the Presidents’ Trophy-winning Rangers, it’s Igor Shesterkin, who won at

least 36 games for a third straight season. Washington’s Charlie Lindgren will be making his NHL postseason debut.

■ **Boston vs. Toronto.** The Maple Leafs will rely on Ilya Samsonov while the Bruins have two standouts in Linus Ullmark and Jeremy Swayman.

■ **Edmonton vs. Los Angeles.** Stuart Skinner is in the crease for Edmonton as a familiar foe awaits. The Kings used both Cam Talbot and David Rittich down the stretch as they prepare to face the Oilers for the third consecutive postseason.

■ **Carolina vs. the New York Islanders.** Hurricanes goaltender Frederik Andersen is 9-1 in his 10 starts since his March 7 return, posting a league-best .951 save percentage while his 1.30 goals-against average is second among goalies with more than three starts in that span. Coach Patrick Roy figures to go with a red-hot Semyon Varlamov.

■ **Dallas vs. Vegas.** Logan Thompson and Adin Hill each have compelling cases to be in the net for the defending champion Golden Knights. No such questions for Dallas, who will rely on Jake Oettinger (allowed two goals or less in 10 of his last 11 games).

Last postseason, Oettinger was up-and-

down. The ups included his first playoffs shutout and the downs saw him pulled from two games.

“It’s all about forgive and forget and one game at a time,” Oettinger explained. “I learned a lot last year and the year before, and I feel like I’m ready for this one.”

Some teams are weighing their options in net and may go with a platoon system, including Vegas and Boston. And even though Andersen is on a roll, Carolina coach Rod Brind’Amour wouldn’t tip his hand and could work in Pyotr Kochetkov, who won his last four games.

Having two quality goaltenders can be both a luxury and a challenge. Leighton once split time with Brian Boucher in guiding the Philadelphia Flyers to the 2010 Stanley Cup Final, where they lost six games to Chicago.

The luxury: “Just in case one isn’t sharp or because of injury,” Leighton said.

The challenge: “Sometimes it’s not about the goalie, it’s about the team,” Leighton explained. “The team plays different in front of some goalies. You’re risking your players playing differently in front of a certain goalie.”

Down the stretch, Georgiev has surrendered 22 goals over his last five appearances

for Colorado. Should he struggle, Justus Annunen is waiting on the bench.

“Trying to just stay positive and see the positive,” Georgiev said. “I’ve made a lot of good saves and trying to focus on that and bringing that into the next games.”

Goaltending 101: Look forward, not back.

“It’s kind of keeping a cool head, not getting too caught up in everything, not getting too excited,” said Washington’s Darcy Kuemper, who backstopped Colorado to the Cup title in 2022. “Just make sure you’re going out there and doing the things that you’ve done all year and stick to your structure. Obviously, there’s highs and lows all season but you get in the playoffs and it’s even to more extreme levels. You’ve just got to keep a cool head.”

Not to mention a confident one, because it’s infectious.

“He’s our brick wall back there,” Stars forward Mason Marchment said of Oettinger. “He’s our stud.”

AP Hockey Writer Stephen Whyno, and AP Sports Writers Stephen Hawkins, Aaron Beard, Jimmy Golen and Mark Anderson contributed to this report.

BREAKING DOWN THE MATCHUPS

Dallas must get by champs

By Stephen Whyno

Associated Press

All eight first-round matchups in the NHL playoffs are set after the last day of the regular season flipped two of the biggest series in the West.

The defending Stanley Cup champion Vegas Golden Knights will open against West top seed Dallas. Connor McDavid’s Edmonton Oilers will face the Los Angeles Kings, a team they’ve defeated each of the past two years in the same round.

In the East, the Presidents’ Trophy-winning New York Rangers begin their championship pursuit against Washington. Cup favorite Carolina faces the New York Islanders in the first round, but any of nearly a dozen teams could win it all.

A glance at the first-round series (times Eastern):



Rangers vs. Capitals

Game 1: Sunday at New York, 3 p.m.

New York was the best team in the league. Washington needed to win its regular-season finale to get into the playoffs, doing so with an unusual empty-net goal.

The Rangers are heavily favored, according to BetMGM Sportsbook. But Capitals center Dylan Strome pointed out the teams not only split four games but each scored and allowed nine goals in the season series.

“Anything can happen in playoffs,” Strome said. “You saw what happened last year: The best team in regular-season history (Boston) loses to Florida because they had a good end of the season and they kind of carried it towards playoffs. We’ve won three in a row, we’re feeling good. The momentum’s kind of with us, and obviously we feel good.”



Hurricanes vs. Islanders

Game 1: Saturday at Carolina, 5 p.m.

This is a rematch from last year, when the Hurricanes beat the Islanders in six games. It’s also another series pitting Carolina’s Sebastian Aho (a Finnish forward) against New York’s Sebastian Aho (a Swedish defenseman), no relation.

What has changed: The Islanders upgraded at coach, hiring Hall of Fame goaltender Patrick Roy midseason, and won seven of eight games down the stretch to make a surprise run to the playoffs. Speaking of goaltending, Hurricanes starter Frederik Andersen is 9-1-0 with a 1.30 goals-against average and .951 save percentage since returning from blood-clotting issues.



Panthers vs. Lightning

Game 1: Sunday at Florida, 12:30 p.m.

Defending Eastern Conference champion Florida looked on track to play Toronto in the first round until the Panthers came back to beat the Maple Leafs on Tuesday while Boston lost to Ottawa. So now they will face cross-state rival Tampa Bay.

The Lightning have 2019 Vezina Trophy winner and 2021 playoff MVP Andrei Vasilevskiy in net, while Florida has two-time Vezina winner Sergei Bobrovsky. The play of the Russian goalies could decide the series.



Bruins vs. Maple Leafs

Game 1: Saturday at Boston, 8 p.m.

A year removed from setting NHL records for the most wins and point in a season and losing in the first round, coach Jim Montgomery hopes the Bruins learned “how to handle adversity when it smacks you in the face.” That could come in the form of 69-goal scorer Auston Matthews or any of the Leafs’ other elite offensive players.

Facing Boston is a challenge for Toronto, which has one playoff series victory with its current core, to slay a dragon that has tormented the team. The Bruins eliminated



The Panthers’ Anton Lundell (15) and Bruins’ Jesper Boqvist (70) battle for the puck during the second period April 6 in Boston. MICHAEL DWYER/AP

the Leafs in 2018 and ‘19.



Stars vs. Golden Knights

Game 1: Monday at Dallas, 9:30 p.m.

Congratulations on clinching the top seed in the Western Conference, Dallas. Your reward is the reigning champs getting captain Mark Stone back from a lacerated ankle just in time to make another run.

The Stars, who lost to the Golden Knights in the West final last year, have been “a wagon” down the stretch, in the words of

Colorado coach Jared Bednar, looking like the class of the conference with a deep roster and a mountainous goalie in Jake Oettinger. Starting with Vegas is a steep test.



Jets vs. Avalanche

Game 1: Sunday at Winnipeg, 7 p.m.

The first matchup to get locked in was Winnipeg vs. Colorado, a classic clash in styles. The high-octane Avalanche tend to overwhelm opponents but went 0-3 against the Jets this season, outscored 17-4 and

never putting up more than two goals in any game and looking absolutely smothered by the best defensive team in the league in terms of goals allowed.

The most recent game was a 7-0 Jets rout in Denver, but the Avalanche, with their core mostly intact from their 2022 Cup run, know how to flip a switch when the playoffs arrive. That starts with MVP candidate Nathan MacKinnon, who finished second to Tampa Bay’s Nikita Kucherov in the scoring race and is motivated to win another championship.

Colorado’s biggest question is in goal, where Alexandar Georgiev has been up, down and inconsistent. The same cannot be said of his standout counterpart, the Jets’ Connor Hellebuyck.



Canucks vs. Predators

Game 1: Sunday at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

Rick Tocchet-coached Vancouver was one of the biggest surprises of the season. In October, making the playoffs would have made it a good year for the Canucks, but now they’re Pacific Division champions and have their sights set on making it through the West.

Nashville stands in the way of that after a late-season 16-0-2 surge propelled the Predators into a wild-card spot in their first year under coach Andrew Brunette and with Barry Trotz in charge as general manager.



Oilers vs. Kings

Game 1: Monday at Edmonton, 10 p.m.

Here we go again. This is the third consecutive year Edmonton and Los Angeles have played in the first round. The Oilers won each of those series and are favored to advance to face either Vancouver or Nashville after winning 46 of 69 games since the coaching change from Jay Woodcroft to Kris Knoblauch.

This could be three-time MVP Connor McDavid’s chance to carry the Oilers to their first title since 1990. McDavid and Leon Draisaitl talk and look a lot like MacKinnon, Mikko Rantanen and Gabriel Landeskog did before Colorado won it all two years ago.

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