

Dawn of Civilization

There are so many historical tales to unravel in Türkiye, a country sitting at the crossroads of civilizations, filled with the remnants of human history, in all the significant stages of its fascinating evolution. Next time you are making travel plans, make sure that one of the country's 21 UNESCO World Heritage Sites is on your shortlist.



USA TODAY

THE NATION'S NEWS | \$3 | WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2024

Bodycam footage shows Tyreek Hill police incident

Columnist: Officers involved in encounter with Dolphins player need to be fired. **In Sports**

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TRUMP, HARRIS SQUARE OFF

Find full coverage from Tuesday's debate at usatoday.com. Also see more in the **Nation & World Extra** section, a subscriber-only feature in your eNewspaper.



Students, parents shaken in Georgia

Classes resume after deadly mass shooting

Trevor Hughes
USA TODAY

WINDER, Ga. – Parents fretted Tuesday as nervous students returned to classes less than a week after two students and two teachers were gunned down inside a high school here.

Classes for most of the 15,000 students in the Barrow County School System resumed without obvious incident, under heavy police presence.

But classes remain paused at Apalachee High School, where police say a 14-year-old student opened fire Sept. 4 with a rifle given to him by his father, Colin Gray. Gray and his son have been arrested and face murder charges, and they remain in custody.

Killed were students Mason Schermerhorn and Christian Angulo, both 14, and math teachers Richard Aspinwall, 39, and Cristina Irimie, 53.

"We know the days ahead are going to be difficult, and we have some staff and some students who are not ready to return to school," Barrow schools Superintendent Dallas LeDuff said in a video message to the community.

Body camera footage obtained Tuesday by USA TODAY shows police

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Visitors honor the dead at Apalachee High School in rural Georgia the day before classes resumed in the district Tuesday. **TREVOR HUGHES/USA TODAY**

REMEMBERING 9/11

Reunited couple identified decades later



Pamela Giamanco welcomes home her husband, Christian Giamanco, at Atlantic Highlands Municipal Marina in New Jersey upon his return from the ruins of Lower Manhattan on Sept. 11, 2001. **PROVIDED BY BILL OSBORN**

Photo brings tears flooding back

Jerry Carino

Asbury Park Press
USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

On Sept. 11, 2001, Bill Osborn made the short walk from his New Jersey home to the Atlantic Highlands Municipal Marina to photograph the smoldering Manhattan skyline. Upon arrival, he discovered there was more to the scene than he had expected.

Much more. People who had evacuated Lower Manhattan by ferry – the only means possible at the time – were arriving in droves. After disembarking at the Seastreak Ferry terminal in Highlands, they were bused to the lot in front of Shore Casino banquet hall in Atlantic Highlands.

Awaiting them as they exited the buses were throngs of anxious family

"It was still kind of raw. ... But that day, you knew it was history. I had to take photos."

Bill Osborn, New Jersey

IN NEWS

Health center still healing 9/11 wounds

"Our work is far from done," medical director says. **6A**

IN OPINION

Families deserve transparency, justice

Column: Plea deal talks should involve all Sept. 11 victims. **7A**

members and emergency response personnel. This being 2001, a time before smartphones, pretty much nobody had a camera – except Osborn, for whom photography was a longtime hobby.

With his Nikon N90, Osborn snapped a bunch of shots, sent the film to be developed, and didn't give much more thought to the images he had captured because the whole experience was so overwhelming.

"It was still kind of raw," he said. "I didn't even really like looking at them. But that day, you knew it was history. I had to take photos."

One photo stands out. It's a man and a woman embracing as a bus unloads. Osborn didn't get their names. And they never knew the

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WOMEN'S PAIN POLYCYSTIC OVARIAN SYNDROME

Many suffer from PCOS, never get a diagnosis

Alyssa Goldberg USA TODAY

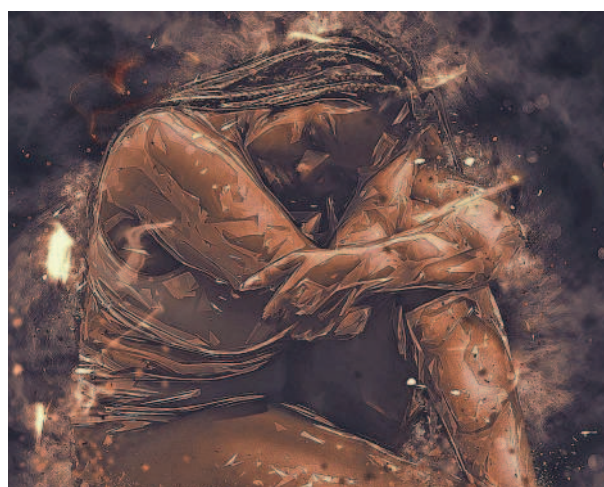


ILLUSTRATION BY SPENCER HOLLADAY/USA TODAY NETWORK; GETTY IMAGES

As a teenager, Pamela Everland suffered from irregular and excessively heavy periods that lasted six to eight weeks. At 19, a gynecologist finally placed her on birth control to regulate her periods, but new symptoms arrived; Everland experienced rapid weight gain throughout her 20s despite committing to various diets, including Weight Watchers and the low-carb Atkins diet, and suffered from acne well into her 30s.

But at every doctor's visit, she was just told to lose weight.

"I told my primary care physician that I hate coming into the office because I feel like it's weight-focused," she says.

So, she stopped going to the doctor and suffered in silence.

ABOUT THIS SERIES

This is the second of a three-part series on women's pain in health care.

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Polaris Dawn crew hopes to make history

Mission includes 5 days testing space technology

Eric Lagatta
USA TODAY

A SpaceX Dragon carrying the four members of the Polaris Dawn crew headed into the upper reaches of Earth's orbit, where it should soar higher than any human has traveled in decades.

The spacecraft, which launched early Tuesday atop a Falcon 9 rocket, will ascend 870 miles above Earth's surface before descending to a cruising orbit about 435 miles up. On board the craft is an all-civilian crew under the command of billionaire entrepreneur Jared Isaacman.

Isaacman, who was also behind Inspiration4 – another historic commercial mission in 2021 that marked the first time an all-civilian crew went to space – helped fund the mission along with SpaceX. Elon Musk's aerospace company also designed spacesuits for the Polaris Dawn crew.

The highly anticipated liftoff followed about two weeks of delays as SpaceX awaited the ideal launch opportunity. Isaacman and his crew hope to conduct the first spacewalk by anyone other than government astronauts while testing out SpaceX tech that could set the stage for future deep space exploration.

Years in the making

After arriving three weeks ago at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida, the Polaris Dawn crew boarded a SpaceX Dragon capsule for a 5:23 a.m. EDT liftoff Tuesday atop the Falcon 9.

Years in the making, the launch had been delayed three times – most recently because of poor weather conditions forecast for the crew's return to Earth. SpaceX had been waiting for the past several days for weather to improve off the Florida coast, where the crew will splash down on the sixth day of the mission.

SpaceX also had delayed the launch for preflight checks and again when a helium leak was detected on a piece of equipment designed to detach from the rocket during takeoff.

The Federal Aviation Administration then briefly grounded the company's Falcon 9 after an uncrewed landing mishap. Fortunately for SpaceX – and the Polaris Dawn crew – federal regulators cleared the rocket to resume launches within a couple of days.

3 times higher than space station

In the predawn hours, spectators gathered along the Florida coast to watch the daring mission lift off from launch Complex 39A.

After soaring skyward along a northeasterly trajectory, the rocket's first-stage booster detached from the spacecraft within 10 minutes of launching, guided itself back to Earth and landed



The crew of the Polaris Dawn mission – Anna Menon, Scott Poteet, Jared Isaacman and Sarah Gillis – answer questions at a media briefing Aug. 19, after their arrival at Kennedy Space Center.



A SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket is prepped Aug. 26 on pad 39A at Kennedy Space Center for Polaris Dawn's launch.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG BAILEY/USA TODAY NETWORK

as planned aboard a drone ship in the Atlantic Ocean. By 5:40 a.m., the Dragon spacecraft broke away from the Falcon 9's upper stage and began using its own thrusters to power on, SpaceX said on the social media site X.

On the first day in orbit, the crew was expected to reach altitudes higher than any human has traveled since NASA's Apollo lunar program came to an end in the 1970s. Climbing to 870 miles – or more than three times higher than the International Space Station – will take the crew through the treacherous inner regions of Earth's Van Allen radiation belts.

The Van Allen belts pose one of the largest hazards to spacefarers venturing deep into the cosmos. For future expeditions to the moon and Mars, astronauts will have to be able to safely traverse them.

When the Polaris Dawn crew travels through the radiation belts, their SpaceX craft's nose will be oriented to minimize astronauts' exposure to harmful radiation.

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The crew will spend five days in orbit testing space technology on behalf of SpaceX that could prove crucial as NASA and other space agencies set their sights on destinations like Mars. On the sixth day of the mission, the SpaceX vehicle will reenter Earth's atmosphere and splash down at one of seven sites off Florida.

Who are the Polaris Dawn crew?

Isaacman, himself an experienced aviator, is the only member of the Polaris Dawn crew to have flown to space before.

The billionaire founder of internet company Shift4 Payments is mission commander for the rest of the crew: pilot Scott "Kidd" Poteet and mission specialists Sarah Gillis and Anna Menon, who is also the medical officer. Poteet, a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel who flew with the Thunderbirds, was mission director for Inspiration4, the

world's first all-civilian mission to space that introduced commercial space tourism to the world.

Gillis and Menon, both lead space operations engineers at SpaceX, have now become the first employees at the company to become part of a human spaceflight crew, according to SpaceX. Gillis also trained the Inspiration4 astronauts.

While in orbit, Menon, of Houston, plans to read a children's book she cowrote, "Kisses from Space" – inspired by her experience preparing for the Polaris Dawn mission – to her two children.

Historic and risky spacewalk

The crew will complete about 40 experiments, many of which aim to understand the human body's reaction to long spaceflights. They'll also test a new laser-based satellite communication system using Starlink. But without a doubt, the highlight of the mission will be the spacewalk as the astronauts seek to become the first private citizens to carry out the daring maneuver.

The maneuver, expected on the third day of the mission, will require only Isaacman and Gillis to exit the Dragon. But doing so still exposes Poteet and Menon to considerable risk as well.

Until now, spacewalks have been done only by government astronauts. What's more, the maneuvers most often take place in craft with airlocks.

Because the Dragon does not have an airlock, the entire spacecraft will have to be depressurized when the hatch is opened, exposing the entire crew to the vacuum of space. For this reason, all four astronauts will be wearing Extravehicular Activity (EVA) suits designed by SpaceX to receive oxygen through tethers.

"There's been a tremendous amount of preparation that's gone into this by the SpaceX team," Menon told USA TODAY in a phone interview from the Kennedy Space Center in late August.

The purpose of the operation, which should take about two hours, is to test the suit's capabilities for SpaceX.

Polaris Dawn is the first of three human spaceflights under the Polaris Program, all of which are intended to test SpaceX technologies needed to carry humans deep into the cosmos.

The second mission "will continue to expand the boundaries of future human spaceflight missions, in-space communications, and scientific research," according to the program's website. Additional details, including a launch date, have not yet been announced.

When the day comes that the third and final Polaris Program mission launches, it's intended to be the first human spaceflight on the SpaceX Starship rocket. The gargantuan rocket, which has so far been tested only with no crew, will as early as 2026 be used to ferry NASA astronauts to the moon's surface as part of the space agency's Artemis program.

Contributing: Brooke Edwards and Rick Neale, Florida TODAY

Tropical Storm Francine keeps La. squarely in its sights

Gulf's warm waters are serving as 'rocket fuel'

John Bacon
USA TODAY

Tropical Storm Francine rapidly intensified Tuesday as it churned off the Texas Gulf Coast. Louisiana residents braced for the storm, anticipating landfall of a powerful Category 2 hurricane on Wednesday.

Forecasters initially expected a relatively low-energy Category 1 hurricane. But "the storm is starting to get its act together," AccuWeather hurricane expert Alex Dasilva said, adding that the warm waters of the Gulf were serving as "rocket fuel" for the system.

Four to 8 inches of rain was forecast for much of Louisiana and Mississippi. Some areas could face a foot of rain through Friday morning, which "could lead to considerable flash and urban flooding," the National Weather Service

said. Flooding risks were exacerbated by recent rains, according to AccuWeather.

In addition, "damaging and life-threatening hurricane-force winds are expected in portions of southern Louisiana," possibly exceeding 100 mph, the weather service warned.

Francine could even undergo what meteorologists call "rapid intensification," which occurs when a storm increases its wind speed by at least 35 mph within 24 hours. But strong winds aloft will probably limit strengthening, the hurricane center said Tuesday.

Life-threatening storm surge combined with high tides could push water levels 10 feet above ground along the upper Texas and Louisiana coastlines, the hurricane center advisory said, and evacuation orders could result.

Tropical storm conditions are likely Wednesday in New Orleans, with "more than a month's worth of rain," AccuWeather reported. A few tornadoes are possible Wednesday in Louisiana, Mis-

issippi, Alabama and the Florida Panhandle, the weather service said.

Louisiana Gov. Jeff Landry declared a state of emergency Monday as a precautionary measure to allow movement of resources.

"We want everyone in the state to be cautious and vigilant," Landry said. "We don't want to downplay this event, but we also don't want people to panic."

Energy companies began evacuating offshore workers at several production platforms ahead of the storm. The port of Brownsville, Texas, was closed, and others from Corpus Christi north to Galveston imposed restrictions.

Southwest Louisiana was expected to get the worst of the blow – an area that is still recovering from the double disaster in 2020 brought by Hurricane Laura and, six weeks later, Hurricane Delta. The two storms combined to kill at least 49 people in the U.S. and the Caribbean and caused more than \$20 billion in damage, most of it in Louisiana.

Rick Momin works at Bayaks Country Store in coastal Cameron Parish. Cameron may be in for another devastating storm strike, but Momin says he likes living in the area for the fishing and way of life. And he says he is ready for the storm.

"I know that every year somebody is going to get hit, so we have to take what comes," said Momin, 49. "It is Mother Nature. We live by the coast and it's coming."

Francine is the sixth named storm of the 2024 Atlantic hurricane season and the first since Ernesto dissipated on Aug. 20.

The hurricane center is watching two additional systems. One is in the central tropical Atlantic and was given a 40% chance of becoming a tropical storm within 48 hours. Another, farther to the east, had a 70% chance of development over the coming week.

Contributing: Dinah Voyles Pulver and Doyle Rice, USA TODAY; Reuters

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Divers find hit-and-run shipwreck from 1856 off Mass.

French steamship collided with US vessel

Dan Radel

Asbury Park Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

A long-lost transatlantic passenger steamship that sank off the East Coast more than 165 years ago with 132 passengers on board has been discovered in the Atlantic, divers from New Jersey announced this week.

The French steamship *Le Lyonnais* sunk Nov. 2, 1856, after a collision with the American sailing vessel *Adriatic*.

Only 16 of the ship's passengers were rescued from lifeboats. The rest are believed to have perished. A New York Times article from Nov. 26, 1856, describes a futile search for more survivors. The ship was thought to have sunk southeast of Nantucket Shoals off Massachusetts.

The dive team from Atlantic Wreck Salvage in Point Pleasant Beach, New Jersey, however, located the vessel farther out to sea on the Georges Bank, 200 miles from New Bedford, Massachusetts.

Jennifer Sellitti, a partner in Atlantic Wreck Salvage, whose dive boat *Tenacious* made the discovery, said the incident drew "international intrigue" but lost public interest when the Civil War broke out a few years later.

"*Le Lyonnais*, her passengers, and her story captivated me and set me on an eight-year journey in search not only of her final resting place but also for the truth behind her sinking and its eventual aftermath," Sellitti said.

Le Lyonnais was built by Laird & Sons – now Cammel Laird – in 1855 for Compagnie Franco-Americaine. It was one of six ships built by Laird for Franco-Americaine to be used in transatlantic passenger and mail service.

Le Lyonnais was built during a time when ships were making the transition from sail to steam. It was equipped with sails and a horizontal steam engine and



Le Lyonnais discovery team members from Atlantic Wreck Salvage include, back row, left to right, Andrew Donn, Kurt Mintell, Joe Mazraani and Tom Packer. In front are Tim Whitehead, Eric Takakjian, and Jennifer Sellitti. They are holding portholes from the wreck. PROVIDED BY ATLANTIC WRECK SALVAGE

is an early example of a passenger liner with two mid-19th-century innovations: a screw propeller and an iron hull. Franco-Americaine launched *Le Lyonnais* in January 1856 and put it into service carrying cabin-class clientele and cargo between New York and Le Havre, France.

On Nov. 2, 1856, during its first return voyage to Le Havre from the Americas, the ship collided with the Maine-built barque *Adriatic*, which was en route from Belfast, Maine, to Savannah, Georgia.

Adriatic left *Le Lyonnais* with a small hole in its hull, and water eventually overwhelmed the vessel. *Adriatic* was damaged in the collision but remained afloat. Its crew assumed *Le Lyonnais* was intact because the steamship continued its course. *Adriatic* sailed to Gloucester, Massachusetts, for repairs. But *Le Lyonnais* sank days later.

Sellitti, who is an attorney, called the incident a hit-and-run, because the captain of the *Adriatic* never reported the collision. She documents the collision and the discovery in the book "The *Adriatic* Affair: A Maritime Hit-and-Run Off the Coast of Nantucket."

Shipwreck hunter Eric Takakjian first searched for *Le Lyonnais* in the late 2000s. Sellitti and her partner Joe Mazraani renewed the search in 2016 and spent eight years working with Takakjian to locate the ship's resting place.

Sellitti said part of the difficulty of finding the ship was many of the early

newspapers accounts of the lost ship placed it on Nantucket Shoals. But their research, which included survivor accounts and court documents, pointed to the Georges Banks.

Their team, which also included divers Andrew Donn, Kurt Mintell, Tom Packer and Tim Whitehead, side-scanned potential targets in 2022 and 2023 and, after reviewing the data, narrowed the search to a series of potential candidates. They returned to the search area in August to dive the targets, one of which they identified as *Le Lyonnais*.

Sellitti said a few major clues told them they had the right ship. The first was when they found the ship's direct acting horizontal engine. *Le Lyonnais* was one of the first ships to have that type of engine. Another clue was the engine cylinder's diameter was 57 inches, matching *Le Lyonnais*. Iron hull plates were another clue, along with the discovery of the deadeye, a wooden block used in a ship's rigging system, since the *Le Lyonnais* was outfitted with a steam engine and sail.

"Those clues with the location, sonar data and measurements, further solidified that we were diving the lost French liner," Mazraani said.

The team has not disclosed the exact location or depth of the wreck because they plan to return to catalog artifacts. Sellitti said that the wreck lies in deep water, with visibility at best 30 feet, and that it is buried in the sand.

Israeli strikes Gaza tent camp

Report: 65 people are killed or wounded

Nidal Al-Mughrabi

Reuters

CAIRO – Israeli missiles set ablaze a tent camp for displaced Palestinians in southern Gaza, killing or wounding 65 people, the enclave's civil emergency service said on Tuesday, in what the Israeli military called a strike on a Hamas command center.

The Hamas-run Gaza government media office put the number of fatalities at more than 40. It said that at least 60 others were wounded in the strikes and many remained missing as rescue workers continued their searches early on Tuesday.

Residents and medics said the tent encampment near Khan Younis in the Al-Mawasi area, which Israel has designated a humanitarian safe zone for displaced Palestinians, was struck by at least four missiles. The camp is crowded with families ordered by the Israeli military to flee there from elsewhere in the territory.

The Gaza Civil Emergency Service said at least 20 tents caught fire, and missiles caused craters as deep as 30 feet. It said the 65 victims included women and children but did not immediately provide a breakdown of deaths and injuries.



Palestinians inspect the site following Israeli strikes on a tent camp sheltering displaced people in Khan Younis, in the southern Gaza Strip. MOHAMMED SALEM/REUTERS

Trial over '20 preelection clash starts in Texas

Trump Train 'terrified' Biden-Harris supporters

Bayliss Wagner

USA TODAY

Days before the 2020 presidential election, cars and trucks adorned with pro-Trump flags nearly ran a Biden-Harris campaign bus traveling south on Interstate 35 in Texas off the road. For roughly 90 minutes, "Trump Train" members shouted, honked and weaved in and out of traffic around the vehicle, with one crashing into a Biden campaign staffer who was following the bus on the journey from San Antonio to Austin.

"Terrified," the bus' three passengers – former Texas state Sen. Wendy Davis, who gained national attention for her 15-hour filibuster of a bill restricting abortions in 2013, a Biden staffer and the driver – called 911 and canceled the Austin stop of their "Battle of the Soul of the Nation" tour as a result of the incident, they said.

In 2021, the passengers sued some of the Trump Train drivers in federal court under the 1871 Ku Klux Klan Act, which forbids two or more people from threatening, harassing or using violence to prevent a citizen from engaging in political support or advocacy.

A weeklong jury trial began Monday in a packed Austin courtroom. The plaintiffs are seeking punitive and compensatory damages as well as attorneys' fees, as per the complaint.

The plaintiffs are accusing the defendants of launching an "organized, coordinated ambush" to intimidate the Biden campaign and prevent passengers from engaging in political activity, noting that the event was planned publicly in several social media posts.

"What (the defendants) did on Oct. 30, 2020, wasn't peaceful patriotism," said Samuel Hall, an attorney for the plaintiffs. "It was intimidation. The law that they broke gives us the power to hold them accountable."

The defendants argued that the convoy was simply an enthusiastic expres-

sion of political support for Trump, similar to other "Trump Train" events that took place throughout the summer of 2020. They also noted that car-based events were popular during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"It was a rah-rah group that sought to support and advocate for the candidate of their choice in a very loud way," said Francisco Canseco, an attorney for defendant Eliazar Cisneros.

Canseco accused the plaintiffs of engaging in a different kind of conspiracy: politically motivated "lawfare" intended to "drain Republicans of their money."

Presiding Judge Robert Pitman of the Western District of Texas has previously rejected several of the defendants' motions to have the case dismissed.

The plaintiffs, all present Monday, include bus driver Timothy Holloway and then-Biden staffer David Gins. Davis was a congressional candidate at the time of the incident.

Most of the defendants were present, including stay-at-home mom Joeylynn Mesaros and her husband, Robert, a plumber; Steve Ceh, a pastor from New Braunfels, and wife Brandi Ceh, an employee at Hallmark; and Dolores Park, a mom of five. Cisneros was absent.

'Raging to chase down the Biden bus'

In the plaintiffs' opening statements, Hall presented a barrage of expletive-laden social media posts, comments, videos and private communications from the defendants to argue that the "Trump Train" members intended to shut down their Democratic opponents' campaign events, including by using the term "#blockthebus" on posts urging supporters to show up in San Antonio.

In one communication, Joeylynn Mesaros wrote, "We're raging to chase down the Biden bus. It looks like others are ... too." She described the event in a social media post as "giving (the bus) a friendly escort out of town."

Hall also said the defendants gloated about the incident's effect.

In one Facebook comment shown by Hall, defendant Cisneros – who had a

minor collision with the Biden staffer trailing the bus – bragged about "slamming" into the staffer.

In a video of Ceh, the pastor says to a crowd, "Any socialist coming to the state of Texas, we're going to escort them right out of Texas." Ceh smirked in court as the video played.

"This type of political harassment – against Republicans, against Democrats, against anyone – does not have a place in America," Hall said, concluding his statement.

On the defendants' side, the four attorneys making opening remarks each denied that their clients intended to do anything more than loudly support their chosen presidential candidate – Trump.

A lawyer for Park said the videos should be considered in the same way one would consider a fan "in the heat of watching a sports game."

During a livestream on Facebook, her client recorded herself saying, "They think they're gonna sneak and get off the highway but it's not gonna work."

Park's attorney presented videos she said showed that Park's vehicle largely did not come near the bus, instead trailing "a great distance behind it" except when Park moved in front of the bus to exit the highway.

Jared Nabar, the attorney for Joeylynn and Robert Mesaros, spoke little on the facts of the case, saying the trial would show the jury the context behind the clips and social media posts.

"They're gonna make my case for me," he said of the plaintiffs, adding later, "This lawsuit is an abuse of the judicial system and nothing more than an attempt to silence the defendants."

Attorneys from the Texas Civil Rights Project and the Protect Democracy Project are representing the plaintiffs.

The trial is scheduled to end Sept. 17.

In a separate lawsuit, the plaintiffs in 2023 settled with San Marcos police in a case accusing officers of violating the Ku Klux Klan Act by ignoring 911 calls from the bus passengers.

There was no immediate comment from the Gaza health ministry, which compiles casualty figures. Earlier, the Hamas-aligned Shehab News Agency said 40 Palestinians were killed.

"Our teams are still moving out martyrs and wounded from the targeted area. It looks like a new Israeli massacre," a Gaza civil emergency official said. The official added that teams had been struggling to search for victims who might have been buried.

The Israeli military said it "struck significant Hamas terrorists who were operating within a command and control center embedded inside the Humanitarian Area in Khan Younis."

"The terrorists advanced and carried out terror attacks against IDF troops and the state of Israel," the statement said, referring to the Israeli Defence Forces.

Hamas, the Islamist group that controlled Gaza before the conflict, denied Israeli allegations that gunmen were present in the targeted area and rejected accusations it exploited civilian areas for military purposes.

"This is a clear lie that aims to justify these ugly crimes. The resistance has denied several times that any of its members exist within civilian gatherings or use these places for military purposes," said Hamas in a statement.

Ambulances raced between the tent camp and a nearby hospital, while Israeli jets could still be heard overhead, residents said.

Nearly all of Gaza's 2.3 million people have been forced from their homes at least once, and some have had to flee as many as 10 times.

The war was triggered on Oct. 7 when Hamas attacked Israel, killing 1,200 people and taking about 250 hostages, according to Israeli tallies. Israel's subsequent assault on Gaza has killed more than 40,900 Palestinians, according to the enclave's health ministry.

The two warring sides blame the other for a failure so far to reach a cease-fire that would end the fighting and see the release of hostages.

Study: 25% of GOP more likely to say violence is acceptable

Figure rises to 1 in 3 among Trump backers

Erin Mansfield

USA TODAY

More than 1 in 4 Republicans and nearly 1 in 3 Republicans with a favorable view of former President Donald Trump say political violence is acceptable, a new study found.

The study from the Public Religion Research Institute, a nonprofit research group, found that while only 1 in 6 Americans supports political violence, the numbers are much higher among Republicans than Democrats.

The survey comes during the first presidential election since violent rioters attacked the U.S. Capitol in a failed attempt to overturn the election that Trump lost to President Joe Biden – and two months after Trump was shot in the ear in an assassination attempt.

“This is not just a partisan issue,” said Robert Jones, the president of the organization. “It’s a Trump and MAGA issue. It’s the kind of Trumpian takeover of the Republican Party.”

Anna Kelly, spokesperson for the Republican National Committee, said, “President Trump and Republicans stand for safer communities and keeping violent criminals off the streets.”

Violence and authoritarianism are linked

According to the survey, 27% of Republicans and 32% of Republicans with a favorable view of Trump agree that “patriots may have to resort to violence in order to save our country.” Only 10% of independents and 8% of Democrats said the same.

Jones linked that support for political violence to support for authoritarianism. The study found that 67% of Republicans scored high on an authoritarian scale, including 75% of Trump-favoring Republicans, compared with 35% of independents and 28% of Democrats.

To measure authoritarianism, the study asked respondents if they agreed with four statements, including whether the country should “do what the authorities tell us to do, and get rid of the ‘rotten apples,’” and whether the country needed to “put some tough leaders in power, and silence the troublemakers spreading bad ideas.”

“Even those Americans who see themselves as a Republican but have an unfavorable view of Trump, they are far less likely to have this kind of authoritarian orientation that goes along with support for political violence,” Jones said.

On political violence more specifically, 24% of Republicans and 27% of Trump-favoring Republicans say that “if the 2024 presidential election is compromised by voter fraud, everyday Americans will need to ensure the rightful leader takes office, even if it requires taking violent actions.” Only 15% of independents and 10% of Democrats agreed with the statement.

There was wide support on the right to have armed citizens as poll watchers to ensure a fair presidential election. Twenty-four percent of Republicans supported that, compared with 28% of Trump-supporting Republicans and 10% of independents and Democrats.

Candidates and major political parties have a long history of recruiting and training poll watchers to be their eyes and ears, but the poll watchers aren’t armed. The Brennan Center for Justice at New York University warned that poll watching is ripe for abuse. In 2022, Bloomberg reported armed people were showing up at voting sites.

“A tinderbox of a country”

Robert Pape, a professor at the University of Chicago who tracks views on political violence, told USA TODAY there has been a consistent trend since 2021 of millions of people supporting violence to meet political objectives.

“The fundamental fact is we have been a tinderbox of a country for years, and we are heading into not just the most contentious election in our lifetimes but probably the most dangerous of our lifetimes,” Pape said.

In June, the University of Chicago’s poll found that 7% of American adults, including nearly 12% of Republicans, approve of the use of force to return Trump to the presidency. Yet, 10% of Americans, and about 12% of Democrats, back using force to keep Trump from becoming president again.

GOP hits Biden in House report for chaotic withdrawal from Afghanistan

Francesca Chambers

USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – Republicans in Congress slammed the Biden administration in a Monday report on the U.S. exit from Afghanistan, faulting the president for the chaotic withdrawal of American troops and the collapse of the country’s government nearly three years ago.

A special representative for former President Donald Trump’s administration negotiated the withdrawal agreement with the Taliban, excluding the Afghan government, the report states, which undermined a long-standing U.S. position that it does not negotiate with terrorist organizations.

But the 353-page report by the House Foreign Affairs Committee argues that President Joe Biden would

have pulled U.S. troops anyway, as shown by his adherence to the Trump deal, and it says his administration did so in a way that created unsafe conditions for American personnel.

“His decision allowed the Taliban to conquer Afghanistan, left the U.S. in a perilous counterterrorism position for years to come, and set the stage for the chaotic evacuation from Kabul in August of 2021 that resulted in the deaths of 13 U.S. servicemembers,” the report charges. “To this day, the president has yet to acknowledge his role in this tragedy.”

Democrats on the committee accused Republicans of trying to “politicize” the withdrawal in a minority report on the yearslong investigation. They said they were not involved in writing the main committee report and did not receive a draft copy before its release.

Pain

Continued from Page 1A

Instead, Everland began conducting her own research and discovered that her symptoms aligned with polycystic ovarian syndrome (PCOS), an endocrine condition in which a woman’s ovaries and/or adrenal glands overproduce male sex hormones called androgen.

She pushed her primary care physician to test her hormones, which required going off birth control for three months to get an accurate reading.

In that three month timeframe, every hormonal symptom the birth control had suppressed came back. Everland experienced acne all over her body, hair loss on her head and excess hair growth on her chin. “I was growing a goatee because I couldn’t keep up with plucking,” she says.

Her blood work showed high testosterone, inflammatory markers and insulin and imbalanced hormones, all indicators of PCOS.

Everland finally received a diagnosis of PCOS at age 38 – nearly three decades after her first period.

What is PCOS?

PCOS affects 8%-18% of reproductive-aged women. On average, women visit three or more health professionals before a diagnosis is established. And, the World Health Organization estimates that up to 70% of women affected by PCOS remain undiagnosed worldwide.

Weight and gender bias play a crucial role in this diagnostic delay, as women with PCOS often suffer from weight-centric health care, according to Angela Grassi, a registered dietitian based in Philadelphia and founder of the PCOS Nutrition Center. In some cases, doctors will require patients to lose weight before offering other effective treatment options, despite the fact that hormonal imbalances associated with PCOS make it difficult to lose weight.

The role of medical weight bias

Everland, now 48, says that medical weight bias has impacted her throughout her entire life, causing her to delay appointments with primary care doctors and specialists.

In 2020, during COVID-19 lockdowns, Everland was alone in the hospital for emergency hernia repair surgery. But instead of addressing the



Angela Grassi, founder of PCOS Nutrition Center, first experienced symptoms of PCOS at age 24.

PROVIDED BY ANGELA GRASSI

health issue at hand, the surgeon walked into her hospital room and told her she needed bariatric surgery or else “her obesity would kill her.”

“I told him (he didn’t) understand, I have PCOS,” Everland says. “He said I was using that as an excuse to be fat. I was there for a hernia, and he wasn’t even listening to what’s wrong with me.”

Everland is not alone.

Grassi, who runs the PCOS Nutrition Center, went to three doctors with the same symptoms – unexplained weight gain and acne – and a hunch that she had PCOS before a specialist administered the proper tests for the condition.

She first experienced symptoms of PCOS at age 24, including rapid weight gain, hair loss and unusual acne breakouts on her chin. This prompted her to schedule an initial doctor’s appointment, but her concerns were overlooked as she lacked the hallmark symptom of irregular or missed periods. Another doctor told her the symptoms would likely subside once she “lost the extra weight.”

Finally, one year after her first visit, Grassi booked an appointment with Dr. Katherine Sharif, a women’s primary care specialist, who tested her hormone levels for PCOS, took a detailed medical history and properly diagnosed her.

Grassi says it’s extremely common for doctors to tell patients that their PCOS will “go away” or get better if they lose weight. PCOS is also a leading cause of infertility in women, but some clinics won’t perform egg retrievals on patients unless they’re below a certain BMI.

Disregarding patients’ concerns about their PCOS symptoms can result in adverse health outcomes. If PCOS is left

In their rebuttal, they hit Trump, who is set to meet Vice President Kamala Harris in a presidential debate on Tuesday, for his role in the withdrawal and for using the anniversary of the suicide bombing at the Kabul airport to attack the Biden-Harris administration.

The Biden administration had previously released a review of its own, in which it admitted that aspects of the withdrawal were poorly executed. White House national security spokesman John Kirby reiterated on Monday that “clearly there were moments of great violence and there were moments of mission execution that didn’t go exactly the way we wanted it to go.”

“We mourn the loss of those 13 lives ... every single day, their sacrifice doesn’t, doesn’t, is not forgotten,” Kirby told reporters. “But again, we hold ourselves all accountable.”

untreated, women are at increased risk of high blood pressure, cardiovascular disease, gestational diabetes and high cholesterol. Women with PCOS may also be at a greater risk for type 2 diabetes if they experience insulin resistance, in which blood sugar levels may rise.

According to Grassi, weight stigma and difficulty maintaining a stable weight have contributed to a high prevalence of eating disorders in the PCOS community.

“There’s so much shame with PCOS especially if you’re in a bigger body because you have these visible symptoms you can’t hide and you don’t fit into society,” Grassi says. “A lot of women internalize it (and) can’t accept themselves.”

Patients who are weight-shamed or dismissed may postpone or forgo future medical care altogether because of anxiety associated with past experiences of medical weight bias. This is a growing problem in the U.S. as approximately 70% of the population is overweight or obese and conditions are likely to go undiagnosed, preventing early intervention and treatment.

‘Health at every size’

Grassi was trained under the philosophy “Health at Every Size,” which emphasizes that you can support health without focusing on weight loss.

However, few medical schools offer training that integrates body diversity into clinical care and dismantles weight bias.

Recent advances have progressed in the past year, including the addition of weight bias to the PCOS diagnostic guideline report. “They specifically said not to use the terms ‘overweight’ or ‘obese’ because it is very stigmatizing language, and to ask permission to weigh (patients),” Grassi says.

However, there is still a long way to go in improving the quality of PCOS care. Grassi recommends that patients ask providers for the evidence behind claims that weight loss will reduce PCOS symptoms.

“We don’t have any long-term studies about what happens after five years (on a diet) or after somebody stops one,” Grassi says. “Most people regain the weight that they’ve lost. It’s just a physiological response to restriction. So, what does that do to PCOS? No one’s looked at that.”

Grassi also encourages patients to ask doctors the tough questions when seeking care for PCOS symptoms. Her favorite questions include: “What would you say to a thin person with PCOS? What advice would you give them?”

Georgia

Continued from Page 1A

interviewing Gray and his son in May 2023 after a tip uncovered online threats to commit a school shooting. The FBI had traced the social media account where the threats were posted to Gray’s son, Colt. In the video, Gray tells investigators that guns in his house were accessible to his son but that he was teaching him gun safety.

“He knows the seriousness of weapons and what they can do and how to use them and not use them,” Gray tells police outside his door. “We do a lot of shooting. We do a lot of deer hunting,” Gray tells investigators a picture on his phone shows his son “with blood on his cheeks from shooting his first deer,” according to the video.

Gray says on the video that he was “taken aback” by the idea that his son had made the threats. “I’m going to be mad as hell if he did and then all the

guns will go away,” he says.

Investigators have not yet released details of how they say Colt Gray attacked the school, or how exactly he was stopped by two police officers who were there that day. Apalachee does not have metal detectors but had recently installed a panic-button system for teachers, which investigators say was used by several when the shooting broke out.

Across the district, classes went on largely unremarkably Tuesday, aside from a heavy police presence. At Apalachee, administrators and staff were inside the building, but the student parking lot remained empty as helium balloons sparkled in the morning sun below the American and Georgia flags flying at half-staff over the campus.

“Ms. Imrie I will miss you with all my heart,” reads one note left by a student. “I was starting to like algebra a lot.”

Though returning to classes will help restore a sense of normality, the greater community will be affected for decades to come, said Ronn Nozoe, CEO of the National Association of Secondary

School Principals. In some communities that have suffered a school shooting, neighbors have turned against one another as they criticize or defend authorities and parents.

“These things can tear entire communities apart,” Nozoe said. “These things don’t go away. Once they happen, you can’t undo them.”

The Barrow County public school system consists of 10 elementary schools, four middle schools and three high schools. It employs about 2,000 people full and part time, including about 900 teachers and certified personnel.

In his message to the community, LeDuff, the superintendent, said mental health support teams would be available in schools.

“I want to thank our law enforcement community and our first responders for standing in the gap on a day that ... on a day that we never thought we would have to go through as a community,” LeDuff said, tearing up. “I want you all to understand that we will get through this together. ... Love will prevail.”



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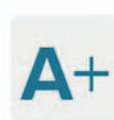


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Cheryl Makin

MyCentralJersey.com

USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

Michael Vaiani, a survivor of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001, is grateful for the compassion and care he received from Dr. Iris Udasin, a medical doctor and Rutgers professor.

“It’s easy to say somebody cares, but Dr. Iris Udasin has a passion for people’s well-being. You can’t fake that,” the Wall Township resident said. “She called me at 9:30 at night to tell me the CT scan is fine. Who does that?”

Vaiani was a member of the Secret Service working at Building 7 at the World Trade Center on 9/11. He is representative of the thousands of first responders who have been under the care of Udasin, the medical director of the World Trade Center Health Program at Rutgers’ Environmental Occupational Health Sciences Institute’s Clinical Center since its inception in 2003.

Vaiani, now retired from the service, was injured while assisting people trapped in the rubble near the Winter Garden Atrium and has been stoically dealing with multiple health issues ever since. When he became a patient at Rutgers’ World Trade Center clinic in 2008, he said the compassion he received under Udasin’s care made him feel like he was home.

“She’s a really special person,” said Vaiani, who has been Udasin’s patient for 16 years.

Though not physically at the World Trade Center on the day of the attacks, Udasin is still at Ground Zero in a sense. Since 2003, the East Brunswick, New Jersey, resident has cared for thousands of first responders whose lives changed when they ran to help.

“I was not there on the day of 9/11, I was here seeing patients like I always do,” Udasin said. “All 5-foot nothing of me, what can I do on around the 9/11 events? I’m not a firefighter and I’m not a police officer and I’m not a trauma surgeon. In retrospect, the trauma surgeons didn’t really have all that much to do, because either people got out or they didn’t get out. It turned out that the long-term health consequences were what I became involved with.”

On Wednesday, Udasin will receive the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Foundation’s “Service Above Self” award on behalf of law enforcement officers nationwide, presented at the National Law Enforcement Museum in Washington, D.C.



The World Trade Center Health Program at Rutgers University is one of six nationally that serve Sept. 11, 2001 first responders and survivors in New York and New Jersey in addition to a national program for those now living outside the metropolitan area. NEAL C. LAURON/USA TODAY NETWORK FILE



PROVIDED BY RUTGERS HEALTH

“Dr. Udasin has been selected for this prestigious award in recognition of her tireless efforts in support of first responders,” said Jon Adler, president of the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Foundation.

The program she oversees provided 5,197 members with an exam and treats more than 2,100 members annually.

“She saved my life. She saved my life,” said former Piscataway, New Jersey, firefighter Frank Geffre, who, like many other first responders, later began suffering respiratory ailments, cancers and other diseases. “Dr. Udasin and the team that she put together here at Rutgers; they saved my life.”

“Frank is a firefighter,” Udasin said, who also is a professor at Rutgers School

“Law enforcement people continue to work dangerous jobs in order to make the world safe for all of us. I feel privileged to be able to provide physical and mental health services to the law enforcement community.”

Dr. Iris Udasin (at left)

of Public Health. “He puts himself in harm’s way to save all of us from the consequences of fires. My police officers put themselves between the bullets and me. I’m honored that I’m able to take care of all the people who put themselves in harm’s way in order to protect us.”

The World Trade Center Health Program is one of six nationally that serve 9/11 first responders and survivors in New York and New Jersey in addition to a national program for those now living outside the metropolitan area. The program treats patients for ailments ranging from cancers, respiratory, neuromuscular and gastrointestinal disorders to post-traumatic stress disorder, depression and anxiety disorder as well as

rare diseases associated with the toxins.

In 2023, Udasin, along with Judith Graber, an associate professor at the Rutgers School of Public Health, secured federal medical coverage and financial compensation for women exposed at Ground Zero who develop uterine cancer.

“I am grateful that I have had the opportunity to take care of the people who were brave and went into the disaster site,” said Udasin.

“Law enforcement people continue to work dangerous jobs in order to make the world safe for all of us. I feel privileged to be able to provide physical and mental health services to the law enforcement community.”

Known for her patient relations, Udasin is well-loved by the community of first responders that she serves. Although she sees more than 2,000 patients annually, she gets to know her patients and their families and assures they receive the best treatment possible.

“Our work is far from done,” Udasin said. “Solid cancers, which occur on internal organs, may occur 20 to 25 years after exposure – so many of the cancers that we are concerned with are just being diagnosed now. And many patients seek mental health care after retirement.”

Photo

Continued from Page 1A

photo existed. Until last year.

This is the story of that photo, the people in it, and what it represents. On the other end of the largest sea evacuation in history – as many as 500,000 people ferried off Manhattan in a matter of hours – there was a seemingly endless wait for loved ones to return home as the minutes seemed like hours, and the hours seemed like days.

The reunions were powerful moments, though largely unchronicled. This was an exception.

‘Can’t believe what just happened’

Christian Giamanco was a 30-year-old father of twins, with a baby on the way, commuting from Holmdel, New Jersey, to Wall Street for his job at the New York Stock Exchange. On 9/11, he took the PATH train from Jersey City to the World Trade Center, then walked several blocks to work.

Less than an hour into his workday, a clerk ran onto the exchange floor and informed everyone that a plane had flown into the World Trade Center’s north tower.

That’s when Giamanco’s pager went off. It was his wife, Pamela. He stepped outside to call her.

“I said: ‘I’m scared. Maybe you should come right home?’” Pamela Giamanco recalled. “Then all hell broke loose.”

Christian heard the second plane crashing into the World Trade Center’s south tower. He and his brother Joe, who also worked at the NYSE, set off to collect their other brother, Victor, who worked at the American Stock Exchange. That was closer to ground zero, and they witnessed the horror unfolding in full view – the towers on fire, people jumping from the upper stories.

The three brothers united inside the



Onlookers gather at Atlantic Highlands Municipal Marina in New Jersey as smoke billows from the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001. PROVIDED BY BILL OSBORN

AMEX, and “as we were talking, all of a sudden the whole exchange just shook,” Christian Giamanco said.

The south tower had fallen.

“We went outside and it was pitch-black,” Christian said. “We wet our suit jackets and put them over our faces. We made it maybe three or four blocks and went into a Bank of America. That’s when the second building fell and you saw the smoke come down the streets.”

The bank had a working landline. They called their father in New Jersey, Joe Giamanco, who advised them to “get to the water – there’s got to be a ferry.”

They did, and there was. “You’re on the ferry and nobody is saying a word,” Christian said. “Everyone is looking back at the city and the smoke. It was a war zone. All you’re doing is thinking, ‘I can’t believe what just happened.’”

Meanwhile, Pamela and other family members were waiting for the Giamanco brothers in Atlantic Highlands.

“It felt like an eternity,” she said.

When Christian finally got off the

bus, “he was covered in soot,” Pamela said.

She threw her arms around his neck anyway. Christian kissed her cheek.

Unbeknownst to them, in the crowd a few yards behind, a Nikon N90 shutter clicked.

Putting names to the faces

Photographing a calamitous event is an uneasy, sometimes unwelcome task.

“I’m sure there were people that saw me with my camera taking pictures in their direction and thinking, ‘Dude, I really don’t feel like having my photo taken right now,’” Osborn said. “You want to be discreet, you don’t want to look like paparazzi, but you’ve got to capture the image.”

It’s important. Photos are our most reliable, visceral part of the historical record. Osborn understands that better than most. For the past several years he has worked at the Monmouth County Archives as the archival specialist for photographic records. Perhaps that’s

why, last September, he finally decided to close the loop on those 9/11 photos.

“Back then we had no Facebook to try and identify people, and I also kind of forgot about those images,” said Osborn, who still lives in Atlantic Highlands. “Last year I finally said: ‘I ought to post these. These people were probably from the area, and somebody will know somebody.’”

So he posted a handful of the photographs, including the one depicting the Giamancos’ embrace, to his personal Facebook page.

“I thought it would take a couple of days,” he said. “We had them identified that night.”

Pamela and Christian, who now live in Shrewsbury, New Jersey, were out to dinner when a friend who spotted the image called them. They’re both 53 years old now, and Christian runs a Red Bank-based real estate firm. In 2001, he returned to the New York Stock Exchange just a week after 9/11. He worked in Manhattan four more years.

“At least once a day there was a bomb threat, and the downtown smelled like smoke for months,” he said. “Everybody was in shock for a long time.”

When the Giamancos laid eyes on the photo, the memories came flooding back.

“I got emotional,” Pamela said. “My son (later) went to school with some kids who lost their fathers (in the towers). It’s a difficult emotion because you’re sick to your stomach, but grateful that our family was spared.”

Their son, Maximillian, who was in Pamela’s womb that day, is now 22. Their daughters, Ava and Sofia, are 23. The photo helps them understand 9/11 in the most personal terms.

Osborn is still looking to identify some of the other people in his photos from the marina. But “the embrace” is the standout of the group, because as Christian Giamanco put it, speaking for those who lived through 9/11, “everybody can relate to that.”

OPINION

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9/11 families deserve justice, not a plea deal



Troy G. Rosasco
Opinion contributor

On July 31, a letter from the Department of Defense's Office of the Chief Prosecutor for Military Commissions conveyed a disheartening message: The U.S. government had reached a plea bargain with Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and his 9/11 co-conspirators.

This legal plea agreement, which sought to remove the death penalty from consideration, represented a critical misstep in the pursuit of justice for the 9/11 community.

Thankfully, Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin rightly intervened to block this deal – marking the second time in two years that officials have taken a stand against plea negotiations that undermine the pursuit of full justice.

The plea deal would have allowed the architects of the attacks to avoid a full trial and the possibility of the death penalty. Such a resolution is deeply problematic, regardless of your position on capital punishment. The Office of the Chief Prosecutor offered information about the proposed plea agreement only to “a verified victim family member.”

A “verified victim family member” indicates that the Office of the Chief Prosecutor continues to request opinions primarily from the families who lost loved ones on Sept. 11, 2001.

What about the more than 37,000 certified 9/11 victims who are battling cancer and other serious physical and psychological illnesses? Don't they get a say on the plea deals?

Have we already forgotten all of the victims from 9/11?

The terrorist attacks nearly a quarter of a century ago killed almost 3,000 people and injured thousands at New York's World Trade Center, the Pentagon and in Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

As of March, more than 130,000 people have been diagnosed with cancer or other 9/11-related illnesses because of their exposure to poisonous air in Lower Manhattan, according to the World Trade Center Health Program. The poisonous dust and air around Ground Zero included cancer-causing toxins such as asbestos, pulverized building materials, cement dust, soot, microscopic shards of glass, silica, dioxin and heavy metals – all drenched with thousands of gallons of jet fuel that caused fires to burn continuously on the pile for months afterward. Deaths of people enrolled in the WTC Health Program now exceed the deaths on 9/11 itself.



First responders examine the remains of the World Trade Center in New York City on Sept. 15, 2001. In 2024, there are still more than 37,000 certified 9/11 victims who are battling cancer and other serious illnesses. TODD PLITT/USA TODAY

Every day I represent people with claims before the federal 9/11 Victim Compensation Fund. To date, not one of my clients has told me they have been contacted by the Office of the Chief Prosecutor asking for their opinion on the plea deals for the terrorists.

This failure to reach out to the entire 9/11 community is unacceptable. It would be very easy for the chief prosecutor to reach out to both the federal WTC Health Program and the 9/11 Victim Compensation Fund and coordinate proper outreach to all victims. In fact, these two programs excel in outreach to the victims.

The Office of the Chief Prosecutor could learn a lesson or two. The entire 9/11 community deserves full transparency and to be involved in the conversation regarding any plea deals.

The handling of the case behind closed doors is nothing less than a stain on the memory of all the victims and an insult to those suffering today. The only acceptable course of action is to proceed with a full trial, ensure complete transparency for the families of all the victims, and allow the judicial process to unfold without undermining the severity of the punishment.

The new presidential administration must insist on nothing less – and both presidential nominees should state

their positions on plea negotiations with the 9/11 terrorists.

This ongoing suffering underscores the need for justice that reflects the scale of the tragedy. The plea bargain, by avoiding a full trial and the death penalty, risks diminishing the gravity of the crimes committed and failing to adequately acknowledge the enduring pain of the victims and their families.

It is not just the 2,997 lives lost on that day that demand justice – it is also the thousands more whose health and lives have been devastated in the 23 years since.

Plea deal for Khalid Sheikh Mohammed should never have been an option

Moreover, the plea deal raises significant concerns about transparency.

There is longstanding speculation about potential involvement by international actors, such as Saudi Arabia, in the 9/11 attacks. The desire for a swift resolution might be driven by a reluctance to expose certain uncomfortable truths, which could strain diplomatic relations with a key ally. Such motivation is unacceptable. The facts surrounding 9/11 must be fully disclosed, not hidden to protect political interests.

Our government's track record in this

case has been plagued by delays and controversies. The plea bargain represents yet another chapter in this long and troubled saga. The decision to bypass a full trial and the death penalty is not just a legal maneuver – it is also a moral failure to fully address the scope of the tragedy and the ongoing impact on countless lives.

Secretary Austin's intervention to block the plea deal is a step in the right direction. The families of the 9/11 victims deserve nothing less than full transparency and justice. A plea bargain that removes the death penalty and potentially conceals critical information is not a resolution that serves the cause of justice or honors the memory of those who suffered on Sept. 11, 2001.

The pursuit of justice in such complex and politically charged cases is never easy, but it is essential. The truth about 9/11 must be uncovered in its entirety, and those responsible must face the full consequences of their actions.

Only then can everyone in the 9/11 community begin to heal and ensure that such atrocities are never repeated.

Troy G. Rosasco, founding partner at Hansen & Rosasco, is a 9/11 victim attorney with over 22 years of experience representing victims and their families, recently securing a \$4.1 million award for a client.

She clocked in – and never clocked out. This is America?



Marla Bautista
USA TODAY

When I first read the story of 60-year-old Denise Prudhomme, a Wells Fargo employee who was found dead at her desk four days after she clocked in to the office, I was saddened that her last breath was taken at work in a cubicle.

Did she not have any friends or peers she associated with at work? Was no one checking in on her?

Heartbreaking.

It got me thinking about how overworked and exhausted many Americans are. It also reminded me of a quote often attributed to actor Jet Li: “You're killing yourself for a job that would replace you within a week if you dropped dead. Take care of yourself.”

We don't know many of the details surrounding Prudhomme's death, but we do know she started work on a Friday morning and was found dead in the office on a Tuesday afternoon.

A cause of death was not immediately determined, but police said there were no signs of foul play. Wells Fargo issued a statement offering condolences to Prudhomme's family.

15 people die at work every day in America

In 2022, the Bureau of Labor and Statistics recorded 5,486 workplace fatalities, including homicides and fatal accidents. The thought of 15 people dying at work each day on average in our country is inconceivable.

America's employees are tired and overworked, with many earning low wages and suffering from job dissatisfaction. Although wages have increased significantly in recent years, the average American still makes less than \$60,000 a year.

At one point, I worked three jobs, attended school and cared for three children. My husband is in the military, often on duty for 12-hour shifts and involved in military exercises, which left me to be a solo parent much of the time. I was overwhelmed and exhausted.

The only reprieve came by quitting one of my jobs, which led to greater financial insecurity, more family stress and regret.

The silver lining – I wasn't as tired.

Last year, Rep. Mark Takano, D-Calif., introduced a bill that would reduce the standard workweek from 40 to 32 hours.

The bill, sponsored by eight other Democrats, was sent to the House Com-



Denise Prudhomme scanned into the Wells Fargo office in Tempe, Ariz., on Aug. 16 and was found dead four days later. MIGUEL TORRES/USA TODAY NETWORK

mittee on Education and the Workforce. Unfortunately, the committee took no action on the legislation.

Until something legally changes, we have to exercise agency over our own well-being by setting boundaries in the workplace.

If you're too sick to work, it's simple, just don't go in, right?

But more than 1 in 5 workers don't have the benefit of paid sick days. And missing an unpaid day of work often means more stress over paying the bills.

Although more than 90% of Americans have health insurance, nearly half don't go to the doctor regularly, in part because they lack comprehensive medical coverage.

The high cost of medical co-pays and medication also deter people from going to the doctor.

Don't wait for a tragedy

The average American works 260 days a year and accrues about 11 days of paid time off and eight paid sick days. That's a total of 19 days each year you can miss work and still be paid.

But the first time I got COVID-19 in 2021, I was out of work for seven days – with 40 unpaid work hours.

Prudhomme's tragic story should be a reminder to us all to take care of ourselves. Society's expectation of employees – where exhaustion, overwork and isolation often go unnoticed until it's too late – is unsafe and outdated.

If we're not prioritizing our own well-being, no one will. We can't afford to wait for laws to change or for employers to prioritize us over profits. We have to set boundaries and seek balance.

Let's not wait for tragedy to push us into action. We need to live now.

Marla Bautista is a military fellow columnist at USA TODAY Opinion.

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Topkapı Palace, İstanbul

THE LAND OF GREAT TRANSFORMATION

The historical journey through Anatolia begins in the Neolithic period with **Göbeklitepe**, the world's first known sacred site, going back to around 9,600 BCE. At the foot of the majestic Taurus Mountains, looking out over the slopes of the Harran Plain, this is one of the most important sites of the Neolithic Age, predating both Stonehenge and the Egyptian pyramids. The collection of circles formed by T-shaped stone pillars with intricate carvings expresses the mystic power of a site of worship older than history itself. At the heartland of Türkiye, **Çatalhöyük** is another famous Neolithic excavation site where the world's first urban settlement was unearthed. It is here that visitors can travel back in time to the beginnings of human history through the remnants of rooms believed to have been temples, elegantly decorated houses and elaborate artifacts that clearly signal the sophistication of this ancient society. Even though objects such as statues of the Anatolian Mother Goddess and fragments of elaborate wall paintings can be found at the **Museum of Anatolian Civilizations** in Ankara, it is the excavation site itself that is so enthralling because of its immediacy, the act of walking through spaces where such early signs of human life once thrived.

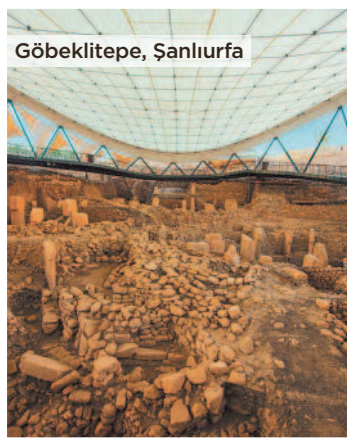


Frescoes of Dark Church, Nevşehir



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goturkiye.com



Göbeklitepe, Şanlıurfa

ANCIENT KINGDOMS OF ANATOLIA

The **Arslanteppe Mound** is another UNESCO World Heritage Site with ties to the Mesopotamian world and, later, the Hittite civilization, with an unearthed king's palace that acts as an open-air museum today. One of Anatolia's greatest civilizations, the ancient capital city of the Hittites, is yet another discovery that's essential for any history enthusiast. **Hattusha** is a UNESCO World Heritage Site filled with the beautiful ruins of temples, palaces, monumental sculptures and enormous fortification walls with ceremonial gates and tunnels. Stunning pieces of visual evidence that this was the center of a mighty empire. Another new participant of the UNESCO WHL is **Gordion**, in Ankara, the ancient capital of the Phrygian civilization. Gordion stands as a remarkable archaeological site providing insights into the Phrygian civilization and its accomplishments. The structures within its Early Phrygian citadel, along with the burial mounds of the city's rulers, serve as exceptional examples of monumental architecture in the Iron Age of Near East. The citadel's entrance showcases the most well-preserved fortified gate complex from the Iron Age (10th-8th centuries BCE) that has been unearthed to date. Of course, no act of time travel through Anatolia would be complete without a hike up to **Mount Nemrut**, soaring up to 2,400 meters above the sea level, which is utterly rewarded with the monumental tomb sanctuary of King Antiochus I Theos of Commagene (69-34 BCE), the most famous ruler of the Kingdom of Commagene. The colossal statues of this sanctuary, unmatched in the ancient world, are like being present in another realm entirely, on top of a mountain, away from everything else, alone with history.

CULTURAL BLOSSOMING OF THE CLASSICAL PERIOD

North of İzmir, the remnants of the Hellenistic period unveil themselves in the form of **Pergamum**, once a political and intellectual center, a city of learning and culture, and the home of The Library of Pergamum, which contained almost 200,000 volumes of books. The city's Asklepeion (Sanctuary of Asclepius) was also one of the oldest and the largest healing centers in the ancient world. More beauty from antiquity can be found at Aphrodisias, once famous for its Temple of Aphrodite and with its outstanding high-quality production centre for marble sculpture. Aphrodisias Stadium is the best-preserved ancient stadium of the Aegean in antiquity. Of course, most notable in the list is the city of **Ephesus**, certainly the most well-preserved and the largest archaeological site in the eastern Mediterranean. The remnants of Temple of Artemis, which was recognized as one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, the Library of Celsus, the Great Theatre and the Basilica of St. John are some of the main sights that have been gazed at in wonder by visitors from all over the world for so long. Apart from the ancient spa city of **Hierapolis** in Pamukkale, which was founded as a thermal spa on hot springs in classical Phrygia and **Xanthos-Letoon**, the capital city of Lycian Civilization, Anatolia is also home to the legendary **Troy**, mentioned in Homer's epic *Iliad*, where a symbolic wooden Trojan horse commemorates the legendary war at the waterfront of Çanakkale.



Mount Nemrut, Adiyaman



The Library of Celsus in Ephesus, İzmir

ANATOLIA IN THE MEDIEVAL TIMES

Like a fairy tale world that rises out of the natural landscape, **Göreme National Park and the Rock Sites of Cappadocia** and its Christian monasteries dating back to the 8th through the 11th centuries are a site of pilgrimage and wonder. Another important archaeological site, **Ani**, was a great metropolis that was once known as the city of a thousand and one churches. A true Muslim stronghold, the **Great Mosque and Hospital of Divriği**, is one of Anatolia's most important works of architecture, especially the three-dimensional ornamentation of the two entrances, which take a permanent place in the memory of everyone who sets eyes upon them. Much like the city of Diyarbakır, a treasure of history, including the **Diyarbakır Fortress and Hevsel Gardens Cultural Landscape**, a fertile landscape near the Tigris River, also unforgettable due to their exceedingly well-preserved state. Recently, **Wooden Hypostyle Mosques of Medieval Anatolia** are the new addition from Türkiye to the UNESCO WHL. This serial property comprises five hypostyle mosques built in Anatolia between the late 13th and mid-14th centuries, each located in a different province of present-day Türkiye. The mosques' distinctive structural system integrates an outer masonry building envelope with several rows of interior wooden columns (referred to as "hypostyle"). These columns support a flat wooden ceiling and the roof. These mosques are renowned for their expert woodcarving and craftsmanship evident in their structures, architectural components, and furnishings.

THE SEATS OF THE OTTOMAN THRONE

A historical journey through Türkiye is never complete without seeing the splendor of the Ottoman Empire. **Bursa and Cumalıkızık** are in the list as they showcase the heritage from the birth of the Ottoman Empire. Bursa was the first capital of the Empire between 1335 and 1363 and, nearby Cumalıkızık is also a showcase of Ottoman civic architecture, a village of colorful wooden houses, more of which can be found in the city of **Safranbolu**, one of the best-preserved Ottoman cities. Yet, the Ottoman era cannot be discussed without mentioning the chief Ottoman architect and civil engineer Mimar Sinan, one of the most important representatives of the classical period of Ottoman architecture, who built more than 300 significant structures. **The Selimiye Mosque and Its Social Complex** are among his most notable achievements, a true masterpiece that leaves its visitors in awe in Edirne, the second capital of the Ottoman Empire. The true beauty and influence of the Ottoman era begins when İstanbul became the seat of the Ottoman rulers. One of the world's richest open-air museums, the **Historic Areas of İstanbul** (Historical Peninsula) is not only home to exquisite Ottoman monuments like Topkapı Palace, Sultanahmet Mosque (the Blue Mosque), and Süleymaniye Mosque, but also to the Eastern Roman marvels like the Hagia Sophia, Hagia Irene, Little Hagia Sophia, Zeyrek Mosque (Pantokrator Monastery) and Walls of Constantinople. So much history dating back to the beginning of humanity, scattered around the country, waiting to be discovered and never forgotten.

MONEYLINE



PROVIDED BY ROBLOX

ROBLOX TO PROVIDE PAID VIDEO GAMES ON PLATFORM

Roblox will roll out paid video games on its platform and allow developers to sell physical merchandise through their created games, the company said Friday. The video gaming company will add the ability to price certain games, or what it calls experiences, in real currency for desktops, it said at its developers conference. Roblox will support a higher revenue share for the creators of up to 70%, but it will vary with the price of the game. Paid experiences will launch on personal computers later this year, it said. Roblox heavily relies on user-generated content to drive engagement, rewarding creators who make games that become popular and gain millions of visits on the platform. The company said it paid more than \$800 million to creators in the past 12 months.

GREECE TO IMPOSE LEVY ON SHIPS IN CERTAIN PORTS

Greece plans to impose a \$22 (20 euro) levy on cruise ship visitors to the islands of Santorini and Mykonos during the peak summer season, in a bid to avert overtourism, Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis said. Greece relies heavily on tourism, the main driver of the country's economy, which is still recovering from a decade-long crisis. But some of its most popular destinations risk being ruined by mass tourism. Mitsotakis clarified that excessive tourism was a problem only in a few destinations. Greek tourism revenues stood at about 20 billion euros in 2023 on the back of nearly 31 million tourist arrivals. Part of the revenues from the cruise shipping tax will be returned to local communities to be invested in infrastructure, Mitsotakis said. The government also plans to regulate the number of cruise ships that arrive simultaneously at certain destinations, he said.

RAM VEHICLES RECALLED FOR SOFTWARE PROBLEM

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has issued a recall notification for 1,227,808 of the 2019 and 2021-2024 Ram 1500 vehicles in the U.S. from Chrysler's parent company Stellantis for a software malfunction. The malfunction can cause the anti-lock brake system (ABS) control module to disable the electronic stability control system, the recall report said. If a driver operates their vehicle with a disabled electronic stability control system, it can increase the risk of a crash, the report said. In addition, the automobile company said they are recalling 7,299 of its MOPAR ABS used as replacement parts in the recalled vehicles. "FCA is unaware of any related injuries or accidents," Frank Matyok, a spokesperson for Stellantis, said in a statement to USA TODAY. The NHTSA said that the Ram 1500 "fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard number 126, 'Electronic Stability Control Systems.'" To resolve the issue, dealers will update the ABS control module software for free.



REBECCA COOK/REUTERS



Brandee Lake gave up her apartment and job to travel full time on the Ultimate World Cruise. PROVIDED BY BRANDEE LAKE

TikTok-famous world cruise ends

Epic Royal Caribbean trip offered challenges, memorable moments

Nathan Diller USA TODAY

Audrey Martucci had never been on a cruise before booking a nine-month sailing with Royal Caribbean International. • The travel was one appeal, but the 60-year-old had another motivation. Her husband, Joe, had "no intention" of retiring, according to Audrey. "And so when the travel agent contacted us, and he called me, my first thought was, 'Well, this will mean that you'll retire, so I'll say yes to this cruise,'" she said, laughing. • She and Joe – an avid cruiser – took a few sailings to warm up for the Ultimate World Cruise, which departed from Miami in December. "But nothing can prepare you for nine months," said Joe, 67.



Joe and Audrey Martucci. PROVIDED BY JOE AND AUDREY MARTUCCI

The Orlando, Florida, couple, who are now both retired, dove into travel. They sold their car, and their nephew moved into their house while they made the Serenade of the Seas ship their home.

The 274-night cruise visiting more than 60 countries garnered widespread attention in the weeks following its departure. Dispatches from passengers went viral on TikTok, amplified by other users recapping the latest developments and subsequent media reports.

Ahead of the sailing's conclusion on Tuesday, USA TODAY spoke with several guests about what it was like spending nearly a year sailing around the world.

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Uninsured numbers rose under Trump, and fell under Biden

Shifts reflect presidents' contrasting approaches

Jeremy Lindenfeld
Capital & Main

At the end of the first two years of Joe Biden's presidency, 3.3 million more U.S. residents had health insurance than did so in 2019, according to a Capital & Main analysis of U.S. census data conducted with the support of Thomas Data Consulting. That increase led to a 1.2% decline in the national uninsured rate and the lowest rate of residents without health insurance in U.S. history.

By contrast, Donald Trump oversaw an increase of 2.3 million uninsured people during the first three years of his presidency and a 0.6% increase in the national uninsured rate.

Health care affordability may not dominate the media coverage of this year's presidential campaigns, but it remains a critical issue for many Americans, with 57% describing it as a "very big problem," according to a Pew Research Center survey released in May.

Health care is especially unaffordable for the roughly 27 million people who still lack insurance. That unaffor-

dability makes uninsured people more likely to skip or delay medical treatment, leading to worse health care outcomes, according to a KFF report.

Under Trump, uninsured numbers swell in battleground states

Under Trump, 39 states saw increases in their uninsured rates, and the number of uninsured people swelled by more than 440,000 across the key battleground states of Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, according to census data. Meanwhile, in the first two years of the Biden administration, all but three states saw decreases in their uninsured rates. The number of uninsured fell in six out of seven swing states under Biden, resulting in 580,000 fewer uninsured people in those states.

Experts attribute the shifts in coverage to contrasting health policy approaches. During his presidency, Trump sought to undermine the Affordable Care Act (ACA), former President Barack Obama's health care law, which expanded health coverage and mandated health insurance as a means

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You can still maximize CD returns before Fed cuts rates

Medora Lee
USA TODAY

With interest rates about to drop, savers will need to reexamine their investment strategies sooner rather than later.

Certificates of deposit (CDs) have been a saver's delight as the Federal Reserve hiked its benchmark, short-term federal funds rate 11 times between March 2022 and July 2023 to 5.25%-5.5%, the highest level in more than 20 years, to contain inflation.

The Fed's now widely forecast to lower rates when its policy meeting concludes on Sept. 18, and financial institutions will quickly follow suit on their deposit rates, experts say.

"Assuming the Federal Reserve does lower interest rates, there are steps savers can still take to maximize their earnings if they make timely decisions about their savings," said Mary Grace Roske, head of marketing for CD Valet, an online CD comparison site, in an email.

How fast could CD rates drop?

You've likely missed the chance to

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Uninsured

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to reduce health care costs.

By contrast, Biden focused on expanding and protecting the ACA and signed executive orders to reverse Trump's policies. The reduction in the number of uninsured people under Biden also stemmed from pandemic-era policies that were put in place under both presidents. Some of those protections expired in 2023, and more will expire in 2025. Uninsured rates are expected to rise again absent federal action.

In 2016, Trump campaigned on a policy of repealing and replacing the ACA. Trump nearly succeeded in dismantling the ACA in 2017, but it was saved by a single vote when Republican Sen. John McCain cast a dramatic "no" vote, joining two other Republican senators in preserving the law. Instead, Trump weakened the act's effectiveness while in office.

Trump's health care approach involved "a mix of both undermining and attacking the ACA coupled with attacks on the Medicaid program," said Natasha Murphy, director of health policy at the Center for American Progress, a progressive think tank in Washington.

Those attacks involved making it harder to apply for coverage through the act's health insurance marketplace, a service designed to help people find and enroll in coverage. The open enrollment period was halved; promotional advertisements were canceled, and the ACA's \$100 million advertising budget was slashed by 90% under Trump.

Trump also eliminated the financial penalty for failing to secure health insurance, effectively making the mandate "toothless," according to Paulette Cha, health policy research fellow at the Public Policy Institute of California. A month before Trump eliminated the penalty, the Congressional Budget Office estimated doing so would raise premiums and result in millions more uninsured people.

Finally, Trump expanded the public charge rule, a policy that allowed the government to deny green cards and visas to immigrants who have received public assistance, such as Medicaid.

ACA Marketplace enrollment plunged before Biden

ACA marketplace open enrollment fell every year from 2016 to 2020.

Under Trump, Texas saw its uninsured population balloon by nearly 700,000 people; Florida by more than 240,000; and Arizona by almost 130,000 from 2016 to 2019, according to census data.

When COVID-19 began upending American life in 2020, the Trump administration temporarily abandoned its strategy of attacking Medicaid, and Trump signed a Democrat-sponsored bill that increased funding to states that prolonged people's Medicaid coverage until the end of the federal health emergency instead of disenrolling them when their eligibility would have typically expired.

"That was a policy that really made a huge difference in ensuring access to much needed COVID treatment, testing and, subsequently, vaccines," Murphy said. In fact, according to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates, uninsured rates ticked down in 2020 from 2019. However, they still remained higher than when Trump took office.

Biden campaigned to expand and protect the ACA

In contrast to Trump, Biden campaigned for president in 2020 on a promise of expanding and protecting the ACA. Eight days after his inauguration, he signed an executive order that made it

easier to enroll in Medicaid and private plans by giving people more time to sign up for insurance. He also reversed some of Trump's executive orders that weakened the ACA by granting federal agencies broad discretion to change, delay or waive provisions of the law they considered financially burdensome.

In addition, Biden signed the American Rescue Act in March 2021, which expanded the availability of subsidies and tax credits for low- and moderate-income people seeking health insurance through the ACA. His signature climate and health bill, the Inflation Reduction Act, extended those provisions through 2025.

By proposing an updated tax law, the Biden administration also managed to fix the "family glitch," an Internal Revenue Service interpretation of the ACA that made employer-sponsored family health insurance unaffordable for more than 5 million people. If an employer's coverage plan was too costly, the fix allowed family members to access federal subsidies to make the insurance more affordable.

All those policies helped send the uninsured population plummeting.

Black, Latino communities experienced some of the highest gains in coverage

Black and Latino populations, who have historically had lower coverage rates than white people, experienced some of the highest rates of coverage gains.

But attributing all coverage gains to Biden's policy agenda may not be the whole story, according to Cha. "The last four years, it's been extremely hard to disentangle any policy from the fact that we've been operating in a pandemic and post-pandemic era," Cha said.

Though the uninsured rate has significantly declined since 2019, recent data suggests Biden's record of over-seeing historic coverage gains may be in jeopardy.

A CDC report released this month estimated that the uninsured rate jumped from 7.7% in the first quarter of 2023 to 8.2% in the same quarter of 2024. The jump was largely the result of states' disenrolling people from Medicaid after the expiration of pandemic-era protections, according to the Congressional Budget Office.

Not all such people are now without insurance. Some may have signed up for health plans through the ACA's health insurance marketplace, which has seen record enrollment. Some may have secured health insurance in another way. But if trends continue, the budget office estimates that the uninsured population will grow by about 6 million people by 2034.

This election cycle, Trump has shifted away from his 2016 pledges to eliminate the ACA but has yet to offer clear alternative policies. His campaign's official platform, Agenda 47, is generally light on policy specifics but states that Republicans "will increase transparency, promote choice and competition, and expand access to affordable healthcare."

In mid-August, Vice President Kamala Harris unveiled her economic agenda, which included a proposal to expand subsidies for ACA plans and to work with states to "cancel medical debt for millions of Americans."

According to Cha, much of the progress in increasing coverage rates was accomplished during the Obama administration with the passage of the ACA, which reduced the number of uninsured people by almost 20 million over his term. What's remaining, Cha said, is largely the "unglamorous" work of closing loopholes and "sweeping up all the last stragglers who aren't eligible or don't have access."

Cruise

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'This ship was going places that I'd never been'

The length of the cruise allowed the ship to visit a wide range of destinations. That was a big draw even for guests like Joe Martucci, who had traveled extensively for work. "This ship was going places that I'd never been," he said. Those included Buenos Aires, Argentina – allowing him and Audrey to see the sun rise over Iguazu Falls – and Copacabana Beach in Brazil.

Adita Larson, a guest from Houston, said Antarctica was her favorite destination. "You can't video and you can't photograph how beautiful it is to stand in front of those icebergs and see them right in front of your eyes so close," said the 64-year-old.

Royal Caribbean also curated experiences for passengers. Brandee Lake, 47, had been to the Great Wall of China before, but the cruise line offered an exclusive tour of the Badaling section this time around. "So, it was super exciting to have it basically private for our group," said Lake, who was previously based in Los Angeles. "Like, when does that happen?"

She also seized opportunities to set out on her own. When the ship skipped a stop in Madagascar due to a storm, for example, Lake flew there herself for a brief visit.

But visiting even the most exciting places can take a toll. The ship's Europe segment that began in July was port-heavy, with only a handful of sea days in the first couple of months. Larson said many folks on board complained of being "exhausted."

"It's a blur," she said. "We don't know where we were yesterday; we don't know where we're going tomorrow."

The Martuccis echoed the sentiment. At one point during the cruise, a friend of theirs stayed behind while their partner took a shore excursion. "And I remember coming back and saying to Joe, 'You can do that? We don't have to go?'" Audrey recalled. "That was, like, a huge revelation to me."

At the beginning of the cruise, they said many guests "hated" days without any stops. "Now we're all like, 'Oh my god, a sea day. This is so good,'" she said.

The trip didn't always go as originally planned, either. Royal Caribbean rerouted the vessel earlier this year amid continued attacks in the Red Sea, for example. Rather than transiting through the Suez Canal, the ship sailed an alternate path around Africa.

Lake said canceled ports during the voyage served as a "reminder to be flexible."

"I think if I learned anything, it's to expect the unexpected," she said.

The ship also saw flooding in parts of the ship amid rough weather off the coast of South America in January, and the line confirmed the death of a passenger in February.

'Just like any other community'

Cruise ships are often described as cities at sea, and the Ultimate World Cruise fostered a neighborly sense of camaraderie, passengers said.

"I mean, obviously, it's just like any other community," said Lake. "You have the people that you are really close to, some of them are acquaintances, maybe some that are not your people, but nothing wrong. It's just, you have your group that you naturally gel with."

Outside of roughly 650 Ultimate World Cruise guests, the sailing was

also sold in segments, bringing new folks into the mix every couple of months or so. If passengers ever need space, Audrey Martucci said, they can find solace in their cabins. "Or there's lots of spaces on the ship that you can go and hide," she said.

And while the Martuccis took pains to prepare themselves for the trip – they even scoped out the ship during one of their practice cruises – spending so much time with one another was a change. "We went from him working full time to all of a sudden, we're in these small quarters together all the time, and we've done it," she said. "So, anything else is going to be a breeze now."

"And you haven't tossed me overboard," Joe added.

Guests help each other out, too. Larson said there is a group chat on Facebook where passengers can ask for items they need or post things they no longer want.

Lake advised anyone thinking about taking a world cruise to pack light – a lesson she learned from experience. She brought three large suitcases, a rolling carry-on bag and a backpack. "I pared it down, and it's still just too much," she said. "It's kind of like your own closet: you really only wear about 10% to 20% of it."

While she felt she had too many shoes and rarely wore her accessories, other items like cubbies for the closet came in handy.

Still, the logistics of managing life can be more complex on a ship. Larson pointed to her condominium, which suffered minor damage during Hurricane Beryl. "So not being there to deal with things like that," she said. "Of course, we could have gone home, but it wasn't that huge of an emergency." She found other tasks, like paying bills, easy to keep up with online.

The Martuccis even managed to buy a car remotely, so they'll have one when the cruise ends, and a home in Audrey's native Scotland, where they plan to spend summers. "We've been able to function," said Joe.

As for whether they got tired of the food, Joe said, "It's just like at home, you open your refrigerator and go, 'That's all we have,' and you decide to go out instead of eating (at home). You kind of get that feeling sometimes." But he emphasized that compared with the earlier cruise they took on Serenade of the Seas, the culinary team "upped their game" for the nine-month sailing.

Going viral

The attention the cruise received online caught passengers like the Martuccis off guard. They originally planned to share videos with their kids, who suggested they post on TikTok. Their follower count jumped from "almost none" to nearly 100,000 within a week, according to Joe.

Lake, who has been chronicling her trip online as well, echoed that, calling the experience a "surprise." She and the Martuccis both noted they had been recognized by strangers on board.

Larson didn't have a TikTok account when she boarded the ship, but she's had fun sharing videos from the trip. She hopes to continue doing so back on land, "especially after we get home, the adjustment after nine months of being away from home, and sleeping on a bed that's not rocking anymore."

Nine months at sea hasn't soured them on travel. Larson has nearly 30 cruises booked, the first takes place in October. Lake, who gave up her apartment and a job in advertising and marketing to travel full-time, plans to start a new profession, organizing group trips.

The Martuccis also have many travel plans, including a family cruise on Royal Caribbean's Icon of the Seas in January. "We're not going to let the grass grow under our feet," said Joe.

CDs

Continued from Page 1B

secure the highest rates. Banks have already begun cutting their deposit rates in anticipation of a rate cut, said Ken Tumin, banking expert at DepositAccounts.com, which tracks and compares savings rates.

The average one-year online CD yield as of Aug. 24 was 4.97%, down from this year's peak of 5.35% in early January and 4.99% on July 24, DepositAccounts.com shows. Online returns generally are higher than those offered by brick-and-mortar shops.

Rates will likely slip further if the Fed begins a series of rate cuts, experts said.

What should CD holders do?

Though CD rates are off their peaks, Americans can still lock in a solid return if they hurry, Roske said.

"They can go for a longer-term CD (to lock in rates) versus earlier this year when shorter terms were advised due to high rates," Roske said.

While shorter-term promotional rates might be attractive now, longer-term CDs can provide better overall returns as interest rates drop, she said.

Her other tips include:

- **Act quickly on maturing CDs.** "Savers shouldn't be 'asleep at the wallet' if they have CDs coming due," Roske said. Savers need to monitor their maturity dates and avoid automatic rollovers, which may lock in lower, less favorable rates.

Nearly \$950 billion in CDs are set to mature at commercial banks by mid-October, according to an analysis of Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. data by The Financial Brand, a banking trade publication.

"And that's the first and smaller wave of a coming maturity tsunami for time investments," wrote James White, a banking consultant at Total Expert, for the trade publication. Some \$2.5 trillion

in bank time deposits and a record \$8.9 trillion of government debt will mature by July, he said.

Banks and credit unions typically provide a 7-14-day window following a CD's maturity for consumers to renew, cash out or transfer funds. Savers should prepare by shopping around for the best available rates before renewal.

- **Shop beyond the "Big Four."** Despite their size, the nation's four largest financial institutions – JPMorgan Chase, Bank of America, Wells Fargo and Citibank – often offer below-market rates on CDs. With these institutions holding about 25% of the nation's CDs, savers with accounts at large banks may find significantly higher yields online at smaller banks and credit unions.

- **Watch for hidden pitfalls in short-term CDs.** Short-term CDs with unusual terms like five, nine or 13 months often come with promotional rates that roll over into less competitive offers.

- **Evaluate alternatives to money market funds.** With short-term interest rates set to fall, savers should consider

shifting their money market fund cash into time deposits like CDs to lock in fixed-rate yields.

- **Negotiate better CD rates.** Consumers renewing CDs at their current institution might have room to negotiate a higher rate, particularly if they have significant deposits or a strong banking relationship. While not all institutions will negotiate, it's worth asking, especially if the deposit is substantial.

- **Check out CD promotions.** To avoid a flight of deposits, some institutions will fight for your money with promotions. Some may even add a dose of fun. For example, Blue Coast FCU in Florida is offering an 11-month, 4.5% APY CD where you get an extra 10 basis points if your chosen Florida football team wins, starting every Monday following the victory.

To participate, you need to be a member of the credit union, invest between \$1,000 and \$25,000 and choose either Florida State University, University of Florida or Florida A&M University (FAMU) as your team to track.

ASK HUMAN RESOURCES

How to advance your career and ask for a raise



Johnny C. Taylor
Columnist
USA TODAY

Johnny C. Taylor Jr. tackles your human resources questions as part of a series for USA TODAY. Taylor is president and CEO of the Society for Human Resource Management, the world's largest HR professional society and author of "Reset: A Leader's Guide to Work in an Age of Upheaval."

Question: While I have excelled, I feel like I can do more (and make more) than what I do in my current position. I don't see a path for advancing in my current organization. Should I tell my employer I'm looking for my next career step? Is this a good time to ask for a raise? – Corrine

Answer: Recognizing your potential for growth and seeking ways to grow your career are commendable. And your desire to significantly impact and earn more signifies ambition and drive.

Before initiating a conversation with your employer, however, it's essential to assess your current situation. Consider if there are opportunities for advancement within your organization. Are

there new projects, responsibilities or training programs that could help you develop your skills and better demonstrate your value?

If internal growth seems limited, a strategic conversation with your manager can be beneficial. But instead of directly stating your desire to leave, focus on expressing your career aspirations and how you see yourself contributing to the company's future. This approach can open a dialogue about potential in-house opportunities and growth paths.

When considering a raise, be prepared to present a compelling case. Gather data on your achievements, your value to the organization and how your performance aligns with the company's goals. Research industry standards and salary benchmarks to support your request.

Remember, career growth is a journey, not a destination. Whether you choose to explore opportunities within your current organization or seek external advancement, focus on your long-term goals and the steps you can take to achieve them.

I plan to graduate college with a degree in engineering next spring. I want to ultimately work in aerospace. My mother has recommended I get a mentor. I never really understood the

role of a mentor, given that I have had teachers, academic and career counselors, managers, coworkers and friends advise me throughout my educational career, and in internships. What is the benefit of having a mentor? How can they help propel my career? – Miles

A mentor can be a powerful asset as you transition from academia to your professional career, especially in a field as specialized and competitive as aerospace engineering. While you've had valuable guidance from teachers, counselors, and others, a mentor offers something different: a personalized, ongoing relationship focused on your long-term career growth and success.

One of the key benefits of having a mentor is gaining access to their experience and insights. Unlike a teacher or manager, who may guide you only in a specific context, a mentor can help you navigate the broader landscape of your industry. They've likely faced many of the challenges you will encounter and can provide advice tailored to your specific goals, helping you capitalize on opportunities and avoid common pitfalls.

A mentor can also help expand your professional network. In fields such as aerospace where connections can be crucial, having a mentor who can intro-

duce you to the right people or recommend you for opportunities can be invaluable. They can also provide insights into the industry's unwritten rules and help you understand the culture of different organizations, which can be critical when starting a career.

Moreover, a mentor can help you develop what I call power skills, such as leadership, communication, and problem-solving abilities, which are essential for long-term success but might not be the focus of your academic training. They can challenge you to think critically about your career choices and push you out of your comfort zone in ways that foster personal and professional growth.

To find a mentor, look for someone whose career path you admire and who has the time and willingness to invest in your development. This could be a senior engineer from an internship, a professor with industry connections, or even someone you've met at a networking event or through a professional organization such as the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

Ultimately, a mentor can provide tailored advice, open doors and help you develop the skills and confidence needed to succeed in the aerospace industry.



On Travel
Christopher Elliott
USA TODAY

Lighten up: You don't always have to overpack

If you think you're carrying too much luggage on your next trip, I've got news for you: You probably are.

How much? Well, last year, domestic airlines collected \$7.1 billion in luggage fees, an increase of almost 5% from the previous year. This summer, we've also had a few high-profile baggage altercations, including a Texas mom who was booted off a United Airlines flight because she was carrying too much luggage.

But to really understand how far it's gone, you have to watch your fellow tourists.

- In Interlaken, Switzerland, I witnessed crowds of Korean tourists dragging oversized wheeled luggage down the cobblestone streets.

- In Rio de Janeiro, I saw Argentines and Chileans unapologetically loaded down with shopping bags. All that has to get on the plane when they go back home, and it does.

- And in Bangkok, I saw Chinese visitors wheel enormous rollboards through the shopping malls. Think of all those excess baggage fees!

"People are packing more," says Sangeeta Sadarangani, CEO of Crossing Travel, an international luxury travel agency. She's seen her fellow travelers carry more recently and tries to talk her clients into embracing a minimalist packing philosophy. But it's not easy.

What are the reasons behind the overpacking epidemic? And how can you ensure you don't get stuck with an extra luggage fee?

Why are you overpacking?

There are several reasons for the overpacking epidemic, ranging from insecurity to inexperience. But we need to get over it quickly. A few months ago, all of the major domestic airlines raised their baggage fees. On domestic flights, a checked bag may cost upward of \$35, and more if you wait until the last minute or if your bag is overweight.

So, what's behind the overpacking problem?

- **We're afraid of what might happen:** At the core of the overpacking is the question "What if?" says Jeremy Murchland. He ought to know. As the president of the travel insurance company Seven Corners, he deals in what-ifs every day. He says travelers are asking themselves, What if there's a heat wave and I don't have the right clothes? What if the Airbnb doesn't have shampoo? What if I get bored? And that's driving them to bring more – even if they don't need it.

- **We're stressed out:** "Overpacking



Most people only travel a few times a year, and they don't know how to pack a bag correctly – or even what to put in it.

WIRESTOCK VIA GETTY IMAGES

is often a stress response to leaving home," says Susan Sherren, who runs Couture Trips, a travel agency. "Travel can be overwhelming, especially for novices. The mindset of 'I just might need this' leads to those bulging suitcases." But she says travelers should remember that they will likely be able to buy reasonable substitutes for their forgotten or missing items wherever they go.

- **We're inexperienced:** Face it, most people only travel a few times a year, and they don't know how to pack a bag correctly – or even what to put in it. Limor Decter, a travel adviser for Embark Collective, said she used to put everything but the kitchen sink in her checked luggage. "The consequences were a huge schlep factor and a long wait at the dreaded luggage carousel," she says. Finally, she learned to cut back to a carry-on only, and it was a life-changing experience for her, making a recent trip to Botswana far smoother than it would have otherwise been. "Had I checked luggage, I know for sure that my bags would've been delayed or lost," she says.

At least those are the excuses we give each other. But as I said, we urgently need some packing therapy because this is one problem that could cost us dearly. I mean \$7.1 billion – that's a lot of luggage.

How to pack better for your next trip

Don't want to add a \$35 contribution to the billion-dollar checked luggage business? Here are a few pointers.

- **Be a minimalist:** You know the old saying, less is more? Definitely true when you're packing. You can take a few easy steps toward packing less. Pack

"Overpacking is often a stress response to leaving home. Travel can be overwhelming, especially for novices. The mindset of 'I just might need this' leads to those bulging suitcases."

Susan Sherren
Who runs the travel agency Couture Trips

clothes that are versatile and can be mixed and matched. And leave 20% of your bag free when you pack, so you have room for anything you buy at your destination, advises Joe Cronin, CEO of International Citizens Insurance. Also, leave any items that you can easily buy at your location, like an umbrella. And consider doing laundry at your location instead of packing a change of clothes for every day of your trip. "You can get your laundry done at your hotel," says Cronin.

- **Adjust your travel expectations:** If you're traveling somewhere to be seen, maybe you should reconsider, says Swapna Patel, a professional stylist. She says she knows clients who pack blow dryers in their checked baggage. "You should have realistic goals about how you want to spend time on your vacation," she says. "Are you making memories – or perfecting your blow dry?" Once you start to think about that, you realize how little you need, and you can easily pack a manageable amount of clothes and cosmetics.

- **Make a list:** Frequent traveler and etiquette expert Rachel Wagner is a devout minimalist. She uses a checklist to

ensure she packs only the essentials. "It helps prevent overpacking and also allows me to check off important items I don't want to leave behind," she says. After a while, you know what needs to stay and what needs to go, so the list becomes part of your routine.

If you overpack, there's hope for you

I hear confessions from people who take too much with them every day. They're people like Sally Greenberg, who runs a nonprofit organization in Washington.

"I have a problem overpacking," she admitted to me. "I'm neurotic." For her, it's mostly a "what if" issue. She doesn't want to miss anything she might need.

But it's OK because I spent years as a neurotic overpacker, and I found my way out. After evaluating almost every available bag on the market, I found the perfect combination: The Victorinox Airox carry-on and a Knack Travel Backpack 45L. I travel with four changes of clothes and use laundry facilities at my destination.

Getting to that point was really difficult. Like Greenberg, I was afraid I would miss something. Then I realized that they have drug stores and shopping malls where I'm going and that I needed to relax about my luggage. I know my airline is unhappy about it, but my bank account is happy with all the money I've saved by not checking a bag.

Christopher Elliott is an author, consumer advocate and journalist. He founded Elliott Advocacy, a nonprofit organization that helps solve consumer problems. He publishes Elliott Confidential, a travel newsletter, and the Elliott Report, a news site about customer service.

50★States

News from across the USA

ALABAMA Tuscaloosa: A Tennessee teenager faces a felony charge after a pursuit with law enforcement Saturday that began near Gadsden and ended in Tuscaloosa County, according to the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency.

ALASKA Anchorage: Officials said another case of pertussis, commonly known as whooping cough, was confirmed in Anchorage schools, raising the number of confirmed positive cases in Anchorage School District facilities to three, KTUU reported.

ARIZONA Phoenix: The Maricopa County Sheriff's Office has suspended posting mugshots of people who have been arrested while its lawyers review a recent federal appeals court ruling that found the practice unconstitutional.

ARKANSAS Little Rock: The state Department of Education will receive a \$3.6 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education to improve and expand educator skills, KARK reported.

CALIFORNIA Sacramento: Gov. Gavin Newsom vetoed a bill that would have allowed undocumented immigrants to obtain home loans for the first time in California.

COLORADO Pueblo: Mayor Heather Graham encouraged unhoused people displaced by a city sweep of homeless encampments along Fountain Creek to stay at the Pueblo Rescue Mission, but the local shelter hasn't seen any significant increase in overnight stays.

CONNECTICUT New Haven: A new report released by WalletHub ranks Connecticut as the seventh happiest state in the nation, WTNH reported.

DELAWARE Dover: A new study analyzing government data has identified which states are the most dangerous for pedestrians at risk of being killed in car crashes. The study ranked Delaware seventh nationally for the highest percentage of pedestrians killed in car crashes.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Washington: Attorney General Brian L. Schwab is suing a landlord over hazardous conditions at two housing complexes and fraudulent practices, WUSA9 reported.

FLORIDA Tallahassee: Former President Donald Trump came out unequivocally over the weekend in favor of Florida's recreational marijuana ballot measure.

GEORGIA Barrow County: The Barrow Community Foundation, a nonprofit organization founded in 2008 to provide assistance for important causes in Barrow County, has formed a fund to help victims of the Apalachee High School shooting.

HAWAII Honolulu: Officials said a teenager who was run over and pinned under a truck while riding an e-bike is in serious condition, KHON2 reported.

IDAHO Boise: The Idaho Department of Lands reported that Idaho has spent more than \$39 million to battle fires this year, KTVB7 reported.

ILLINOIS Springfield: The Illinois Flag Commission began accepting submissions of new flag designs last week, opening up a process that could result in a change to a 55-year-old flag.

INDIANA Indianapolis: The newest approach to curbing homelessness in Indianapolis involves the city paying private landlords to lease their vacant rental units to people who would otherwise sleep in emergency shelters or outdoors. Through a "master leasing" pilot program that will start next year, the city of Indianapolis plans to pay a local service provider to place a mix of individuals and families experiencing homelessness into 34 open units.

IOWA Des Moines: Newly released research into the impact of Senate File 496 shows how Iowa's sweeping education law passed in 2023 is placing educators in a tough position as they try to support students' mental health while complying with the law.

KANSAS Topeka: The Kansas Court of Appeals has upheld the subpoenas of two Republican party leaders as part of a long-running inquiry into accusations of campaign finance violations. The Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission is now closer to enforcing its subpoenas of Cheryl Reynolds, the former chair of the Shawnee County GOP, and Fabian Shepard, the former chair of the Johnson County GOP.

HIGHLIGHT: RHODE ISLAND



Tim Schartner walks through the frame of the 25-acre greenhouse in which he plans to grow tomatoes year-round. DAVID DELPOIO/USA TODAY NETWORK

Exeter: After years of shock, some awe, opposition and finally collaboration, farmer Tim Schartner has the necessary approval from Exeter officials to resume building his gargantuan, 25-acre greenhouse. The town planning board voted unanimously to accept Schartner's plans for his \$80 million venture into the future of agriculture, with the condition he meet the board's last few stipulations in the coming months. Schartner hopes to have the greenhouse's glass framework completed over the winter and start growing by next spring the first of eventually 42,000 pounds of tomatoes a day.

KENTUCKY Shelbyville: A renewable energy company has proposed a \$712 million battery plant in Shelbyville, according to state incentive reports, with plans to produce utility-scale energy storage tech to support the renewable energy transition.

LOUISIANA Baton Rouge: Louisiana likely will be in the "crosshairs" of a hurricane expected to make landfall Thursday, state climatologist Jay Grymes said.

MAINE Augusta: Beekeepers from across Maine descended upon Viles Arboretum on Sunday for the state Beekeepers Association's first annual Maine Bee Fest, WMTW reported.

MARYLAND Annapolis: Maryland officials backed a federal effort to make the process of filing taxes "easier, simpler, and more affordable," according to the governor, but forthcoming program eligibility details will reveal who may benefit.

MASSACHUSETTS Hyannis: The 2023 National Park Visitor Spending Effects report found that an estimated 3.8 million visits to the Cape Cod National Seashore in 2023 resulted in \$533 million spent in communities near the park. That \$533 million had a cumulative economic benefit of \$730 million on area businesses, according to the report.

MICHIGAN East Lansing: U.S. lakes located in communities with larger populations of Black, Hispanic and other people of color are far less likely to receive water quality monitoring by federal and state environmental regulators, according to a review by Michigan State University involving more than 137,000 lakes.

MINNESOTA Roseville: Authorities said a motorist is hospitalized with non-life threatening injuries after being pulled from a burning vehicle that struck a light pole, KARE11 reported.

MISSISSIPPI Rankin County: A 41-year-old man incarcerated at Central Mississippi Correctional Facility in Rankin County died of an apparent overdose.

MISSOURI Webb City: Only one program in the Show-Me State was awarded federal funds as part of a program aimed at recruiting, preparing and retaining teachers. Headquartered in Webb City, the Southwest Center for Educational Excellence will receive \$1.28 million as part of the Teacher Quality Partnership program under the U.S. Department of Education.

MONTANA West Glacier: A report by the National Park Service shows the Glacier National Park contributed more than \$554 million to the local economy, KTVH reported.

NEBRASKA Schuyler: Schuyler Community Schools said the district is almost fully staffed again after nearly 50 teachers left the district around six months ago, the Lincoln Journal Star reported.

NEVADA Carson City: The Nevada Supreme Court has ruled that Nevada Green Party candidate Jill Stein will not appear on the state's presidential ballot because their petition failed to meet the minor party's access requirements.

NEW HAMPSHIRE Concord: Nancy Sununu, the former first lady of New Hampshire, died over the weekend at the age of 85, New Hampshire Public Radio reported.

NEW JERSEY Trenton: The state announced \$3.4 million in grants to develop community-based housing for New Jerseyans with disabilities currently living in nursing homes not meant for their needs.

NEW MEXICO Albuquerque: A consumer health and safety advisory indicated that contaminated cannabis products sold throughout New Mexico were being recalled. The products were produced by Maggie's Farm, based in Colorado, and sold to distributors between March 6 and Aug. 1, according to the New Mexico Cannabis Control Division. Sales of the contaminated cannabis were made in dispensaries in Albuquerque, Alamogordo, Carlsbad, Sunland Park, Los Lunas, Las Vegas and Belen. The products contained excessive levels of pesticides known as pyrethrins.

NEW YORK Albany: A bill intended to increase retail worker safety and prevent workplace violence, which was heartily opposed by a major retailer earlier this year, was signed into law by Gov. Kathy Hochul. The Retail Worker Safety Act would require the adoption of a violence prevention plan, workers to be trained in de-escalation and the installation of panic buttons throughout corporate retail stores.

NORTH CAROLINA Raleigh: Faced with an increasingly volatile environment along the North Carolina coast that's placing a rising number of oceanfront properties in harms way, public and private officials have teamed up to roll out a new report that looks at potential solutions. The idea of the collaboration between the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, the Cape Hatteras National Seashore and several environmental and nonprofit groups is to offer a wider range of tools in the toolbox for dealing with structures threatened by erosion, sea-level rise and increased storm activity fueled by climate change.

NORTH DAKOTA Fargo: The city's police department said its traffic safety enforcement team is returning this week after being inactive since 2016, KVRN reported.

OHIO Columbus: Ohio Fire Marshal Kevin Reardon issued a regional ban on open burning in 24 counties because of extremely dry conditions. The ban covers Ohio counties identified by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and U.S. Department of Agriculture as being in the "extreme drought" or "exceptional drought" categories.

OKLAHOMA Oklahoma City: State Education Secretary Nellie Tayloe Sanders will lead a task force created by a recent executive order from Gov. Kevin Stitt. Known as the Human Potential for Future Industries Task Force, the working group will bring together state leaders in education and workforce development to develop ideas and methods that help students discover their talents and use technology to cultivate those skills.

OREGON Salem: Faced with staffing shortages, a full jail and empty transition center beds, the Marion County Transition Center closed in August.

PENNSYLVANIA Grove City: Former Vice President Mike Pence, who served under President Donald Trump and made his own unsuccessful bid for the 2024 Republican presidential nomination, has started a new job. Pence is teaching political science at conservative Grove City College in Mercer County. Pence, who taught his first class last week, is joined in the classroom by Grove City College President Paul McNulty.

SOUTH CAROLINA Laurens County: Officials said a 12-year-old student has been charged after a threat was made against Laurens Middle School, WSPA reported.

SOUTH DAKOTA Pierre: The legislative Government Operations and Audit Committee plans to analyze and question state agencies about alleged crimes within their departments that have come to light this summer, South Dakota Searchlight reported.

TENNESSEE Memphis: For the first time, the University of Memphis has been awarded more than \$100 million in annual research awards, the school announced. The university said it more than doubled its research awards in the last two fiscal years, from \$48 million in fiscal year 2022 to \$101 million in fiscal year 2024, the current academic year.

TEXAS Houston: Opioid overdoses are a recurring problem in Texas and throughout the U.S. There isn't a current fix to prevent opioid addiction, but scientists in Texas might have a solution in the near future. As explained by researchers from the University of Houston, there could be a vaccine that could prevent opioid addiction. UH psychology and addictions researcher Colin Haile said clinical trials for a fentanyl vaccine would start next year. He noted that vaccines train the immune system to identify the opioid and block it from reaching the brain.

UTAH Salt Lake City: Tracy Aviary unveiled a new sculpture honoring a bird named Andy N. Condor, a beloved resident at the aviary who served as a bird ambassador, one year after his death, KUTV reported.

VERMONT Addison County: Vermont State Police has recovered the bodies of four victims following an airplane crash that occurred in Addison County Sunday, according to the Vermont State Police.

VIRGINIA Richmond: The Virginia Cannabis Control Authority has voted to award AYR Virginia a conditional approval to serve as the pharmaceutical processor for Virginia's Health Service Area 1, according to a news release from the CCA. HSA 1, which includes the Shenandoah Valley, Charlottesville, Fredericksburg, Spotsylvania, and Stafford area, has lacked a pharmaceutical processor for several years due to litigation.

WASHINGTON Bainbridge Island: A new phase of the cleanup project at the contaminated Wyckoff Superfund site at the shore of Eagle Harbor began earlier this summer. Funded by \$80 million from the Biden administration's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, this new phase of cleanup will last for the next three years and include three parts of work: realigning the existing wellfield, demolishing the defunct thermal pilot test infrastructure, and replacing the existing sheet pile wall with a reinforced concrete wall, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

WEST VIRGINIA Bridgeport: West Virginia First Foundation will be distributing more than \$19 million across the state in an effort to fight against the opioid crisis, WDTV reported.

WISCONSIN De Pere: After a summer shrouded in mystery beneath a bright yellow covering, the Mulva Cultural Center's newest sculpture is out for the world to see. "The curious planet," an 18-foot tall sphere by Danish-Icelandic artist Olafur Eliasson, was revealed during a public dedication Saturday morning on the center's terrace, complete with brilliant blue skies to show off its intricacies.

WYOMING Casper: Casper/Natrona County International Airport said August was its busiest month in 10 years, with more than 10,000 passengers using the airport, Casper Star-Tribune reported.

From USA TODAY Network and wire reports

TRAFFIC STOP AFTERMATH



Dolphins receiver Tyreek Hill is handcuffed (photo below) after being forced from his vehicle (photo above) by Miami-Dade Police Department officers Sunday. MIAMI-DADE POLICE DEPARTMENT/HANDOUT VIA REUTERS

Police involved in Tyreek Hill incident overreacted and they need to be fired

Video of Miami-Dade police detaining Miami Dolphins wide receiver Tyreek Hill was released Monday night and it showed what many of us believed it would: belligerent cops escalating the situation far beyond what they needed to. • What you see on the footage is an immensely dangerous situation that did not have to go the way it did. It did because of the police. They made this unnecessary. They made this scary. They made this ugly. We see the officers on a power trip and going to extremes they didn't need to. **See FREEMAN, Page 2C**



Mike Freeman
Columnist
USA TODAY

Tyreek Hill: 'It just went from 0 to 60'

Steve Gardner
USA TODAY

Miami Dolphins wide receiver Tyreek Hill fears what could have happened during a confrontation with police on Sunday morning if not for his status as a famous football player.

In an interview with "NBC Nightly News" on Monday night, Hill insisted he was cooperative with officers when he was pulled over on his way to Hard Rock Stadium.

"If I wasn't Tyreek Hill, Lord knows," the All-Pro wide receiver said. "I probably would have been, like, worst-case scenario, I would have been shot or would have been locked up" and "put behind bars, you know, for a simple speeding ticket."

Newly released body-camera footage shows a chaotic three-minute sequence

in which Hill is pulled over for speeding, taken to the ground and put into handcuffs. It also shows the moments afterward in which Hill repeatedly complained of knee pain while teammates watched from nearby and tried to help.

"It just went from 0 to 60, man, from the moment that those guys pulled up behind me, knocked on my window, it went from 0 to 60 immediately," Hill recounted.

The encounter has since led to an internal investigation by the Miami-Dade Police Department that has already resulted in at least one officer being put on administrative leave.

Hill's Atlanta-based lawyer, J.B. Collins, released a statement Monday saying his legal team is "exploring all legal remedies" and calling the officers' actions "excessive."

Lawyers seek police officer's reinstatement

Tom Schad
USA TODAY

The officer who pulled over Tyreek Hill on Sunday estimated that the Miami Dolphins wide receiver was going about 60 mph en route to Hard Rock Stadium, according to copies of the citations released Tuesday.

Hill was forcefully pulled out of his car by Miami-Dade police and handcuffed for about 15 minutes after rolling up his window during the traffic stop when an officer asked him to keep it rolled down. But he was not arrested and ultimately received two traffic citations, for



Hill

careless driving and driving without a seat belt.

According to the citations, which were released by Miami-Dade police Tuesday, Hill will owe about \$300 in fines for the infractions.

In addition to providing copies of the citations, the police department Tuesday also identified the officer who is being investigated for his role in the encounter with Hill: Danny Torres, who has been with the department for 27 years. Torres has been placed on administrative duties while the investigation continues.

"We will provide further information once it becomes available pending the outcome of the investigation," a Miami-Dade police spokesperson

See OFFICER, Page 2C

NFL POWER RANKINGS

NFC in flux after eventful opening weekend

Nate Davis
USA TODAY

NFL power rankings entering Week 2 of the 2024 season (previous rank in parentheses):

1. Kansas City Chiefs (1): If you think it's patently unfair that a two-time defending champion led by three-time Super Bowl MVP QB Patrick Mahomes would land WR Xavier Worthy, who scored two TDs in his NFL debut, in the first round of the draft ... then blame the Bills. Buffalo traded K.C. the Round 1 selections used both on Mahomes in 2017 and Worthy.

2. Detroit Lions (2): Did we mention this club might be unstoppable if WR Jameson Williams (5 catches for 121 yards and a TD in Sunday night's win) consistently plays up to his ability? (Hint: We did.)

3. San Francisco 49ers (5): Lingering contract issues, lingering injuries, lingering pall from their latest Super Bowl setback. No matter the off-season's various dilemmas, plug in RB Jordan Mason and reap the rewards (152 yards from scrimmage and a TD) of a resounding Week 1 victory that portends another deep playoff run.

4. Baltimore Ravens (4): RB Derrick Henry's former teammate, retired OT Taylor Lewan, says the Ravens are inviting an "identity crisis" with their deployment of the two-time rushing king. And the issues the offensive line were expected to have did, in fact, materialize. Despite all that, last year's top-seeded playoff team in the AFC took the Chiefs to within a toe of overtime on the road in last Thursday's regular-season kickoff game.

5. Philadelphia Eagles (8): As good as RB Saquon Barkley (132 total yards, 3 TDs) was in his Philly debut, QB Jalen Hurts and the defense still have significant room for improvement as they adapt to the team's third set of coordinators in the past three seasons.

6. Houston Texans (7): Hard to say if running new RB Joe Mixon a career-high 30 times a week and dominating the ball for 40 minutes is sustainable ... but it's working out nicely so far.

7. Dallas Cowboys (18): Let's give them their flowers after handling QB Dak Prescott's contract at the eleventh hour. But the real story Sunday was the defense, a unit now run by Mike Zimmer and one that generated 25 pressures on Cleveland's 56 dropbacks.

8. Buffalo Bills (13): A little uneven defensively ... as you'd expect. A little uneven in the passing game ... as you'd expect. QB Josh Allen can still take over a game ... as you'd expect.

9. Indianapolis Colts (11): QB Anthony Richardson averaged more than 23 yards per completion and more than 9 yards per rush Sunday. But when you only run 43 plays, you're likely to run your league-worst Week 1 winless streak to 11 seasons.

10. Los Angeles Rams (10): WR Puka Nacua's knee injury, which will keep him out for at least a month, is only the most notable test to a depth chart already under serious duress.

11. Tampa Bay Buccaneers (20): With four more TD passes in Sunday's runaway from Washington, just amaz-

See RANKINGS, Page 2C



Quarterback Patrick Mahomes won and remain atop the power rankings. DENNY MEDLEY/IMAGN IMAGES

Rankings

Continued from Page 1C

ing the Browns ever let QB Baker Mayfield out of their building.

12. New York Jets (6): A rocky debut rendered them the only winless team in the AFC East. But QB Aaron Rodgers survived the night, the schedule seems poised to ease up significantly and – who knows? – maybe LB Haason Reddick will even show up rather than continue to miss game checks. Panic would be premature.

13. Miami Dolphins (16): They were fortunate to beat the self-sabotaging Jags. But the Fins certainly weren't fortunate to be dealing with the off-the-field circumstances surrounding All-Pro WR Tyreek Hill and others before kick-off. Understandable why they'd come out flat given the troubling details that continue to emerge regarding Hill's treatment by local police Sunday morning.

14. Cincinnati Bengals (9): The pair of fumbles Sunday matched their total for the 2023 season. But far more important, this team needs to figure out WR Ja'Marr Chase's contractual situation – especially with a visit to the rested Chiefs coming up.

15. Jacksonville Jaguars (14): RB Travis Etienne's disastrous fumble Sunday exceeded his total for the 2023 season. But far more important, this team needs to figure out how to close – and that probably includes a re-examination of head coach Doug Pederson's game "management" techniques.

16. Green Bay Packers (3): New QB2 Malik Willis' brief track record in the league isn't especially encouraging as he prepares to stand in for injured Jordan Love (MCL). But at least Willis had a few extra days to prepare for a Colts team he's already familiar with.

17. Pittsburgh Steelers (21): Offensive coordinator Arthur Smith got his revenge in Atlanta on Sunday. Will QB Russell Wilson get his pound of flesh this weekend in Denver? Should he even be granted the chance?

18. Los Angeles Chargers (19): Suffocating defense, relentless run game, physical fronts. HC Jim Harbaugh's new team debuted as advertised. (And just wait until QB Justin Herbert gets to be a bigger part of the attack after passing for a meager 144 yards Sunday.)

19. Atlanta Falcons (12): And it kinda felt like Smith never left. RB Bijan Robinson, WR Drake London and TE Kyle Pitts combined for 152 yards in Sunday's loss, not nearly enough.

20. Chicago Bears (17): Their 148 yards of total offense were the fewest by a winning team in the league in the past four years. Seems like a glass half-full situation.

21. Arizona Cardinals (22): They nearly stole from the Bills Mafia – in Buffalo – despite rookie wide receiver Marvin Harrison Jr. and tight end Trey McBride combining for 34 yards. Seems



Lions wide receiver Jameson Williams celebrates a TD in the second half of the opener. KIMBERLY P. MITCHELL/USA TODAY NETWORK



Running back Jordan Mason carried the rushing load Monday for the 49ers.

DARREN YAMASHITA/IMAGN IMAGES

like a glass half-full situation.

22. Cleveland Browns (15): Bad day to be without both starting offensive tackles, to say nothing of RB Nick Chubb's continued absence. But that hardly explains just another bad day from QB Deshaun Watson.

23. Minnesota Vikings (24): Playing at MetLife Stadium, QB Sam Darnold connected on his first 12 passes in Sunday's win over the Giants. Safe to say

New Yorkers did not recognize the former first-round Jets washout.

24. New Orleans Saints (27): Guess who's 6-0 in Week 1 over the past six seasons, best in the NFL? The same team that scored on its first nine drives Sunday.

25. Seattle Seahawks (25): At age 33, QB Geno Smith posted a career-best 34-yard TD run – which was also Seattle's longest play in Sunday's win.

26. Washington Commanders (23): What's more concerning – that rookie QB Jayden Daniels is already taking way too many hits or that Dan Quinn's defense is already taking way too many hits?

27. New England Patriots (30): Give them credit for the win, especially DE Keion White and RB Rhamondre Stevenson. But they also caught a good team dealing with myriad problems.

28. Denver Broncos (26): If you thought QB Bo Nix's age (24) was going to prevent him playing like a rookie in his debut ... welp.

29. Tennessee Titans (28): Given the lack of spice in the passing game Sunday (104 net yards, 2 INTs), maybe QB Will Lewis should switch from mayo to sriracha?

30. Las Vegas Raiders (29): After getting whacked by the Bolts, they got to travel cross-country to visit the salty yet rested Ravens. Can you say Silver and Black and Blue?

31. Carolina Panthers (31): Adding injury to insult, Pro Bowl DE Derrick Brown – arguably Carolina's most valuable player – might now miss the entire season with a knee injury.

32. New York Giants (32): They got to spend Friday night watching Barkley and S Xavier McKinney thrive in new uniforms. They got to spend Sunday afternoon watching QB Daniel Jones flounder in a new uniform – the Giants' hideous alternates unveiled to celebrate their 100th season ... and that celebration may already be over as HC Brian Daboll is already being asked about Jones' status as QBI.

Officer

Continued from Page 1C

wrote in an email.

An attorney for Torres issued a statement earlier Tuesday requesting that he be reinstated immediately.

Meanwhile, a number of critics – including Hill's agent, Drew Rosenhaus – have said they believe the officers involved in the traffic stop should be fired.

Hill, who agreed to a restructured deal with the Dolphins worth \$90 million earlier this year, played in Sunday's game and helped the Dolphins beat the Jacksonville Jaguars.

Attorneys for the officer argue that such a move was "premature" and requested that their client be returned to his usual role.

"We call for our client's immediate reinstatement, and a complete, thorough, and objective investigation, as Director Daniels has also advocated," attorneys Ignacio Alvarez and Israel Reyes said in a news release Tuesday. "Our client will not comment until this investigation is concluded and the facts are fully revealed."

A spokesperson for one of the law firms representing him, ALGO, declined to provide more information about the officer or provide a reason for his anonymity.

On Monday evening, Miami-Dade police released more than an hour of footage from body-worn cameras on the scene.

Hill acknowledged to officers that he had been speeding but criticized them for escalating the situation by pulling him out of his car and putting him in handcuffs.

The receiver was eventually allowed to leave the scene after being cited for careless driving and driving without a seat belt.

Freeman

Continued from Page 1C

That is why the officers involved in this disgrace need to lose their jobs. It needs to happen immediately. But something else needs to occur. Dolphins owner Stephen Ross has to condemn what happened in the strongest possible terms. He's a high-profile conservative voice who could use his power and influence to effect change.

The team released a powerful statement but that's not enough. We need to hear from Ross.

If there was one mistake Hill made, as the video shows, it's that he believed his wealth and status would protect him from belligerent officers. He's Black. He's not part of the protected class. Far from it. As we've seen with the murder of George Floyd and many, many other Black men killed by police, we are targets.

The video shows police in Miami Gardens, Florida, pulling the Dolphins player over during a traffic stop for what the police say was speeding.

"Don't knock on my window like that," Hill told the officer repeatedly, at least seven times. "Give me my ticket, bro, so I can go. Do what you have to do."

Hill rolls his window up again, and after one of the officers knocks on it twice more, the cop gets unnecessarily belligerent. This is where things get highly problematic and escalates to a point where people need to be fired.

"Keep your window down or I'm going to get you out of the car. As a matter of fact, get out of the car. ... Get out of the car right now. We're not playing this game. Get out. Get out!"

The door of Hill's McLaren 720S coupe raises and at least three officers start pulling him out of the car and he is violently thrown to the ground.



Receiver Tyreek Hill had seven receptions for 130 yards and a TD on Sunday.

JIM RASSOL/IMAGN IMAGES

Later, Hill can be heard saying in the background: "I'm just being a Black man, that's it. I'm just being Black in America, bruh ... I'm just being a Black man in America, bruh, with a nice car."

And in that moment, Hill is stripped bare. No big contract. No wide receiver. No wealth. Nothing. And that, to me, was the point all along. The hE ShULd jeSt coMPLy crowd will say if Hill had just rolled his window down and spoke nicely to the cops, none of this would have happened.

All of that is just wrong. First, Black Americans comply all the time and still end up dead. We get shot while our hands are up, holding a cellphone, walking home from a store, handcuffed on the ground, asleep in our own homes, walking around our living rooms, shot 20 times while standing in a backyard eating ice cream and on and on it goes.

Second, do you think Hill is the first person to ever mouth off to a cop? People do it all the time and they don't end up face down on the street. Not to mention

that officers detained teammate Calais Campbell who, unlike the cops, attempted to de-escalate the situation, approaching the scene holding his hands up, signaling his intent was nonviolent. He was also handcuffed for ... for ... what? All Campbell did was stand on the sidewalk, video footage shows.

What's the reason for detaining him exactly? What did he do?

One of the officers responded to Hill's comment about being Black, saying: "We're dark too, brother. We're people of color, too. Don't play (it like that)."

But, to me, they were playing it like that. There's decades, if not centuries, of proof that police are more hostile to Black Americans. Cops adapt to the racism of the system. Multiple Black police officers are accused of killing Tyre Nichols. Overly violent and aggressive police are the issue, not their race.

We got to this place because police overreacted. Badly. Hugely. People need to be fired.

Now.

NFL WEEK 1 OVERREACTIONS

Aaron Rodgers, Jets try to figure it out

Safid Deen
USA TODAY

Week 1 of the NFL season has come and gone. Now, it's time to overreact.

Are Aaron Rodgers and the New York Jets going to figure this thing out?

Is Deshaun Watson's \$230 million deal the worst in NFL history?

Are the Cincinnati Bengals in trouble this year?

The NFL's new kickoff rule is here to stay, but do teams even care for it?

Dallas Cowboys going to win the Super Bowl. Not a question, just a statement.

Here's more on these overreactions from Week 1:

Same old Jets? Yeah, in Week 1. But give them some time.

If you thought the Jets would beat the 49ers on opening night, that's on you.

Rodgers' highly anticipated return didn't end in victory, but the Jets deserve some slack after Week 1. Let's face it, they're a rebuilding team finally underway since Rodgers thankfully made it through a full game. They faced a juggernaut in the 49ers, who reached the NFC title game three times in the past five years.

Rodgers' arm is still elite, and his free-play touchdown to Allen Lazard was vintage and everything you love from him as a gunslinging quarterback. The Jets have plenty of time to figure things out and turn into a playoff contender. There just might be enough patience after enduring Rodgers' injury fallout last year.

The Browns have a problem at quarterback

Watson's drop-off from one of the league's most promising quarterbacks to one of the worst has been sad to see. Watson has not regained his form following his lengthy layoff from the sport from 2021-22 due to his off-field transgressions, which led to another lawsuit this week.

When you think back to how Joe Flacco did enough to help Cleveland reach the playoffs last season, it shows there's no issue with coaching or play calling. Just the Browns' \$230 million player. And yeah, it might be the worst deal in all of sports.

Watson was abysmal in the Browns



After missing all but four offensive snaps in 2023, Jets quarterback Aaron Rodgers waits for play to resume during the first quarter Monday against the 49ers at Levi's Stadium. DAVID GONZALES/IMAGN IMAGES

opener (24 of 45, 169 yards, two interceptions) despite showing a flash with a 6-yard touchdown pass. Watson didn't see any playing time in the preseason, which is mind boggling for a quarterback who played in his 13th game in three years Sunday.

This could be the last season together for the Bengals' core

The Bengals might be in trouble this season, and a loss to the New England Patriots should set off alarms in Cincinnati.

Sure, Ja'Marr Chase caught all of his six targets. But this was the type of game where Chase should have had double-digit receptions, where he and quarterback Joe Burrow could have won with their combined star talent. Instead, Chase's contract holdout showed its effects. Tee Higgins, who also seeks a

new deal but was sidelined due to a hamstring, was also missed.

The Bengals offense was too much dink-and-dunk in the opener, and they failed to really establish a run game (16 carries, 70 yards despite a TD) in the 16-10 loss at home. The Bengals need to figure things out quickly or this Burrow-Chase-Higgins era with Zac Taylor at coach could be in its final season.

NFL's kickoffs not as dynamic in Week 1. That's an understatement.

The NFL's new kickoff rule won't be dynamic if teams are just OK with kicking touchbacks and allowing offenses to start at the 30-yard line.

NFL teams returned 54 of 159 kickoffs (33.9%) before the Monday night game, which is above the 20.5% league average of returns last year. It's a slight improvement just one week into the sea-

son, but it would be nice to see more kickers attempt to drop a kick into the landing zone for more returns or worse starting field position.

A big, Michael Scott thank you to Cardinals returner DeeJay Dallas for returning the first touchdown in dynamic kickoff history against the Bills, and the Saints and Panthers for really committing to the bit: They combined for 11 of 54 returns.

The Cowboys are going to win Super Bowl 59

C'mon, guys. Just kidding.

Kudos to Dak Prescott and the Cowboys for beating the Browns 33-17 in Week 1. The Cowboys defense was superb against Watson, while Prescott and the offense did enough to pull out an easy victory. But look above, it was just the Browns.



Steelers quarterback Justin Fields drops back to pass against the Falcons in the victory at Mercedes-Benz Stadium. BRETT DAVIS/USA TODAY SPORTS

Steelers likely to start Fields at quarterback

Jordan Mendoza
USA TODAY

The Pittsburgh Steelers plan to start Justin Fields at quarterback for Week 2, head coach Mike Tomlin said on Tuesday.

The Steelers coach added that quarterback Russell Wilson feels "better today than over the weekend" but is unsure if he will be available for Sunday's contest against his former team, the Denver Broncos.

The quarterback situation in Pittsburgh remains one of the most uncertain ones in the league. After acquiring Fields and Wilson in offseason trades, the team opted to give the starting job to Wilson prior to the Week 1 opener. However, Wilson was inactive for the season opener against the Atlanta Falcons due

to a calf injury that was aggravated during practice, with the team giving Fields the starting nod.

Fields was efficient in his first start for Pittsburgh, completing 17 of 23 passes for 156 yards and running for 14 carries for 57 yards.

While it was a clean game from Fields, the Steelers offense did not score a touchdown and only got points from Chris Boswell's six field goals in the 18-10 victory.

"I came here to win, no matter if I was going to throw for 300 yards, 100 yards, no yards," Fields said after the game. "I came here to win."

Tomlin added the team will monitor Wilson throughout the week and see how much he can participate in practice. He did not say Wilson would start if he is ruled healthy for Sunday.

Packers will start Willis while Love is sidelined

Ryan Wood

Green Bay Press-Gazette | USA TODAY NETWORK

GREEN BAY, Wis. — If Jordan Love's knee injury had happened at the end of the first half Friday night, rather than on the third-to-last play of the game, the Green Bay Packers would have used a heavy dose of backup quarterback Malik Willis.

So, in a sense, the Packers made their decision on who will start Sunday's home opener against the Indianapolis Colts a week ago. It's the possibility they accepted when making Willis their backup against the Philadelphia Eagles, rather than elevating Sean Clifford from the practice squad. They knew there was a chance Willis might get meaningful snaps if Love was injured.

They're sticking with that plan as Love recovers from the knee injury that will likely force him off the field in the next couple of weeks.

"He's put a lot of time and effort into this thing," LaFleur said. "He's grinded. He's learned the terminology and is able to spit out the play calls, and we've got confidence in him.

"I think if he's given a full week of preparation, a full week of practice, I've got confidence that he'll go out there and perform at a high level."

The Packers acquired Willis in a trade Aug. 26, sending a seventh-round draft pick to the Tennessee Titans two days after their preseason finale against the Baltimore Ravens.

The trade was general manager Brian Gutekunst's abrupt change of course after it became apparent during the preseason that second-year player Clifford and seventh-round draft pick Michael Pratt were unprepared to play meaningful regular-season snaps as a potential injury replacement for Love.

That leaves 19 days for Willis to learn the Packers offense, but LaFleur said his challenge can be accelerated

because a game plan is always a pared-down version of the entire playbook.

LaFleur wouldn't speculate on what percentage of the playbook Willis knows at this point. He said it's a reasonable expectation that Willis will know "100% of the game plan" for Sunday.

"I think he had a good grasp of it last week," LaFleur said, "otherwise we wouldn't have put him in that position. Otherwise, Sean obviously knows all the details, and we've got a lot of confidence in him as well to go out there and be able to orchestrate the offense and lead us. But, certainly when you get into a game plan, it pares down quite a bit."

LaFleur made clear the Packers did not contact any free agent quarterbacks over the weekend.

That would include veteran Ryan Tannehill.

While LaFleur would not indicate how long Love will miss because of his knee injury, it's possible his recovery wouldn't be long enough to entice Tannehill anyway. An 11-year veteran with 151 career starts, Tannehill has stated this offseason he wants to wait for an opportunity to start.

Instead of focusing on the quarterback market, LaFleur will build an offense around Willis' strength, notably his mobility. The Packers' game plan will likely look different for Willis than it did for Love, maximizing Willis' athleticism.

The Packers will go about implementing it starting Wednesday when they return to the practice field.

"Certainly, you've got to play to your player's strengths," LaFleur said. "So it's our job to come up with whatever we come up with in order to put him in a position to be successful. Whether that's moving launch points or straight drop back, whatever it may be, we always carry play-actions every week.

"We'll come up with whatever we feel like is going to give us the best possible opportunity to move the football."

Brady shows promise as broadcaster

Chris Bumbaca
USA TODAY

CLEVELAND – Because Tom Brady had the most decorated NFL career of all time doesn't mean he'll immediately be the best broadcaster in his new career. The transitive property does not exist in football and sports television.

But the good news for Brady is he can mirror his playing career by improving in the role and rise to the top of the craft, even if his first time on the call Sunday during the Dallas Cowboys' 33-17 defeat of the Cleveland Browns was a forgetful, up-and-down showing.

The overall broadcast will have to be better by the time the cameras roll on Brady and broadcast partner Kevin Burkhardt at Super Bowl 59 in February. But this was by no means a disaster for Brady or Fox.

There have been worse debuts and performances in the field-to-booth pipeline, even recently. Brady does not belong in the bottom-tier category of Drew Brees, who couldn't stick at NBC as a studio analyst or color commentator, and Jason Witten, whose stint as the "Monday Night Football" analyst in 2018 was bad enough that he returned to the Cowboys.

It was pretty clear the emphasis during Brady's offseason training with the Fox team and the advice he received from other top broadcasters was to quickly go in and out of his points. Brady was almost too terse. His first big time to shine was a Dak Prescott touchdown pass to Brandin Cooks while the quarterback was facing an all-out blitz. Fox had to go back to Brady after the commercial break so he could go deeper into the play because his first go-round left a little too much dead air.

I hadn't considered Brady's voice to be "high-pitched" until Boomer Esiason mentioned it to me last week. Hearing the GOAT talk at length about football somewhat stunned the senses. But the way he speaks shouldn't present much of an issue in Brady's broadcasting endeavors.

It doesn't help Brady's case that he is replacing a popular broadcaster in Greg Olsen, who meshed well with Burkhardt thanks to their shared northern New Jersey roots. Olsen became worthy of a No. 1 analyst chair in a short amount of time in the profession and should be his replacement's shining example of what to work toward.

Burkhardt and Brady sounded fine together, highlighted by Burkhardt joking he wore more gel in his hair because he figured there would be more on-air shots of the booth; Brady replied that he does what he's told and is the rookie.

Predictably, Brady rarely went negative, despite the putrid performance from Browns quarterback Deshaun Watson. He said Prescott was "lucky" to not have been picked off late in the first quarter. There was a decent breakdown of Micah Parsons dealing with chip blocks and Brady politely corrected Burkhardt by explaining "he got a chip and beat it!" He tried to take us inside Prescott's mind as he dropped back and Myles Garrett, the reigning Defensive Player of the Year, bore down on him.

Brady is essentially operating within a mandate to keep his comments positive or neutral.



Fox Sports broadcaster Tom Brady talks on the field before his first regular-season game in the booth between the Cowboys and Browns at Huntington Bank Field in Cleveland. KEN BLAZE/IMAGN IMAGES

Outside of the broadcast booth, Brady is nearing a minority ownership stake in the Las Vegas Raiders. Becoming a limited partner of the league has its restrictions. He's not allowed to attend Fox production meetings because his standing with the Raiders prohibits him from entering another team's facility.

The league said Brady can call games involving Las Vegas. Brady must abide by the league constitution and bylaws, which could "prohibit public criticism of officials and other clubs."

It's a conundrum that leaves Brady unable to provide "real talk," which fans crave, and forces him to dance around topics – a difficult enough task for a seasoned broadcaster, let alone a newbie.

On Sunday, his early analysis was armchair quarterback-adjacent, not GOAT-esque.

By the end of the game, he was comfortable enough to expand on why he believes the quality of offensive line play has decreased over the past few seasons.

The product on the field did not do him any favors, to say the least. Some examples:

- "Quickest way to get upfield is to go vertical."
- "Get the ball out to his playmakers."
- "Negative plays hurt you so much."

Burkhardt did his best to lead Brady into that second level of analysis; he asked the seven-time Super Bowl champion whether he preferred facing man or zone coverage, for example.

Most of the timing between the pair was totally fine, beginning early in the game.

Brady was pretty good on the nice catch by CeeDee Lamb, not stepping on Burkhardt's call but letting out a "wow!"

He did a little Tony Romo imitation on the Cooks touchdown with the "oh!" But that could be a positive for Brady. He was wise not to invade Romo's play prognosticator lane.

Some of Brady's most insightful material came during the blowout portion of the broadcast as he explained what made going against Cowboys defensive coordinator Mike Zimmer so difficult.

"I played for a coach who wasn't afraid to cuss out his players, either," Brady said, referencing his fellow media rookie and former New England Patriots head coach Bill Belichick.

Dialing into emotion could turn into a strength if it's ultimately presented in the right way. Brady took this job because he loves football – his multiverse promo commercial that aired on Fox the week of the game reinforced that as much.

The relatability factor is something that a part-owner of an NFL team might struggle with; instead, Brady should infuse that passion into his analysis and win over viewers.

"NFL RedZone" host Scott Hanson joked that Brady needed to show more emotion as the Cowboys flirted with the idea of letting kicker Brandon Aubrey attempt a 71-yard field goal after he nailed one from 66 yards out that was negated by a penalty.

"Oh come on," Hanson said. "Brady's gotta get more excited than that in the booth."

(He made a formal, albeit unneces-

sary, apology on social media Monday.)

The biggest currency in sports broadcasting is authenticity. For so long, the Patriot Way boxed Brady into a talking-points reciter who gave the public (via the media) little to work with.

Those who assumed Brady would be a natural in the booth because of the amount of time he's spent on camera were ignorant to the reality that answering questions – with the goal of saying nothing – is much different than providing substantive analysis. Pausing to consider one's words is not only wise, it's viewed favorably by those watching news conferences. In the broadcast booth, that cautiousness comes across differently.

Brady's shell started to chip away during his years with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. Still, his play did most of the talking.

Now, Tom Brady the public figure and businessman has to deal with letting everyone know the real him in his 40s rather than his 20s – with a microphone in his hand and an audience of, say, 20 million people every Sunday afternoon.

Brady will have 20 more games – maybe fewer if he opts for a bye week – before the lights go red at the Caesars Superdome in New Orleans for Super Bowl 59. He's not ready for that assignment yet.

But consider how many teams wind up in the Super Bowl after looking lost in Week 1.

Fox is banking on a similar trajectory, and Brady learning enough on the job over the coming months to make sure the big game sounds like one.

NCAA hoops champs celebrate at White House

Tom Schadt
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – The South Carolina women's basketball team has won three national championships under coach Dawn Staley, but Tuesday marked its first celebratory trip to the White House.

Five months after beating Iowa in the title game, Staley and the Gamecocks came to Washington to be feted by President Joe Biden, who praised the coach's leadership and spoke glowingly about the grit they showed en route to a 38-0 record.

"You had to replace five starters due to the WNBA draft and graduation. There were doubts all over about contending for the title this year," Biden said. "But for the record, and this is God's truth: I picked you to win. I won a lot of money – no, that's a joke."

Biden entered and exited the East Room accompanied by Staley, who recently attended the Paris Olympics as a member of the United States' official presidential delegation, which was led by first lady Jill Biden. The president said he knows why South Carolina has become a women's basketball powerhouse, and it's because "you've got a girl from Philly running this team." (The first lady also grew up in the Philly area.)



President Joe Biden laughs with South Carolina women's basketball coach Dawn Staley while honoring the NCAA title team Tuesday. KEVIN LAMARQUE/REUTERS

Biden then turned the microphone over to Staley, who said the moment "is not lost on me." Staley declined to visit the White House after the Gamecocks won their first national championship in 2017, during the early stages of Donald

Trump's presidency. They also did not celebrate their 2022 title in Washington due to apparent scheduling issues.

Staley called Tuesday's visit "a teachable moment for my team" and referenced a 2015 decision to remove the

confederate flag – "a symbol that represented division and exclusion" – from outside South Carolina's state capitol.

After a round of applause, Biden returned to the microphone.

"All those of you who hold public office in South Carolina: You better hope she keeps coaching and doesn't run," he said, to laughter.

Biden to UConn men: 'I won't be here next year, but you may be'

Hours after celebrating the South Carolina women, Biden also welcomed Connecticut – the reigning men's basketball champions – to the White House for the second consecutive year.

"Let me be the first to say welcome back," Biden said, to applause. "I won't be here next year, but you may be."

The Huskies won a second consecutive title by going 37-3 and turning in a dominant performance in the NCAA Tournament, outscoring opponents by an average of 23 points across six tournament games.

"I thought this would be easier in Year 2 – 'oh man, I've been to the White House before.' This is scary as (expletive)," coach Dan Hurley said during a speech in the East Room. "Stick to the script? All right."

'Manningcast' viewers saw Bill Belichick in classic form

Chris Bumbaca
USA TODAY

The season of Bill Belichick on our televisions has begun in earnest.

The future Football Hall of Fame head coach made his debut on the "Manningcast," ESPN's alternate stream of "Monday Night Football" featuring Peyton and Eli Manning as the New York Jets and the San Francisco 49ers.

And he was classic Belichick – the media version. He has been informative and entertaining since embarking on this media path after the New England Patriots effectively fired him in January after 24 seasons and six Super Bowl championships. Belichick was no different on "Manningcast."

The chemistry with the Manning brothers was certainly there, and he is an ideal addition to the fraternal dynamic. His defensive genius blends nicely with the Mannings' respective quarterback perspective.

Pretending that Belichick and the brothers hadn't planned and spoken prior to Monday would be naïve. Any pre-show production didn't make any of the conversation feel forced, however, and that's always been the calling card of "Manningcast."

Belichick will be a guest on all 11 episodes of "Manningcast" this 2024 season. The appearances are part of a busy media schedule for "BB." He is part of the weekly "Inside the NFL" crew and is on Pat McAfee's show Mondays. Peyton and Belichick have a show that streams Fridays called "The Breakdown with Peyton and Belichick" that will preview the upcoming "MNF" matchup.

Highlights from his maiden voyage aboard the "Manningcast" express:

Eli, Belichick reach early peace treaty

The stream wasted no time in welcoming Belichick to the show, as he joined slightly more than two minutes into the game. Peyton showed his hosting chops with his Belichick introduction, and the coach immediately found common ground with Eli, who defeated his Patriots teams in two Super Bowls.

"Eli, can we have a peace treaty?" Belichick said.

Eli assured Belichick all of his jokes would be directed at Peyton. But he didn't stick to it.

After Belichick mentioned that the post-Super Bowl party for the losing team is never a fun affair, Eli said, "I



Bill Belichick, left, talks with Peyton Manning, right, at the 2024 Manning Passing Academy. MIKEY DILULLO/USA TODAY NETWORK

wouldn't know, coach."

Inside the coach's mind

As the Jets marched down the field for the first touchdown of the game, Belichick noted the connection between quarterback Aaron Rodgers and wide receiver Garrett Wilson. His "Wilson" refrain sounded like a joyous version of "We're on to Cincinnati."

Eli gave Belichick a place on the "perfect prediction" panel, but the coach actually hedged his bet by saying either Breece Hall or Wilson would score for the Jets (Hall ran it in to give the Jets a 6-3 advantage).

Belichick was quick to realize Wilson didn't know what route to run as Rodgers changed a third-down play. He came back to it a bit later and said Wilson should be conferring with Rodgers on the sideline to figure out the miscommunication rather than standing alone.

Comfort on camera on display

The Mannings got a big smile out of

Belichick by showing a Lawrence Taylor highlight while coming back from a commercial break.

They showed many of the highlights from Belichick and Peyton's duels dating back to the latter's Indianapolis Colts days, and that will be a theme throughout the shows, if one had to guess.

Belichick became a little jargony and difficult to understand during his description of defensive line positions. It was apparent the production team was feeding Eli questions to tee up Belichick, but again, the exchanges all felt natural enough.

Always a stickler for details, Belichick made a point about early-season ball security and made references to games over the weekend.

Belichick said goodbye as the show went to halftime. It will be interesting to see if he stays for nearly the entire first half of each game as he did for this one.

"Yeah, it's awesome," Belichick said of spending the night with the Mannings.

Mason steps up in replacing 49er starter McCaffrey

Steve Gardner
USA TODAY

The feel-good story of undrafted San Francisco 49ers running back Jordan Mason unexpectedly stepping into injured star Christian McCaffrey's shoes and leading his team to a resounding victory may have been a little too good to be true.

In an interview with ESPN reporter Lisa Salters after Monday night's 32-19 victory over the New York Jets, in which Mason rushed for a career-high 147 yards and a touchdown, he was asked when he knew he would be starting in McCaffrey's place.

"Maybe Friday, Friday night," Mason said. "Something like that."

The rest of America – including the Jets players and coaches – only found out a little over an hour before game time when the Niners officially declared McCaffrey inactive due to a calf injury.

After the game, Niners coach Kyle Shanahan refuted Mason's comments, saying the team still thought McCaffrey had a chance to play when he came out for warmups.

"Just the same stuff that was bothering him all week," Shanahan told reporters after the game. "There was a little too much today, game-time decision. He came in, just talking to him about it, it was still there. Thought it was going to be smart to keep him out and glad we did."

In Mason's postgame media session, when he was asked again when he knew he was starting, his answer was considerably different from the one he gave on the field.

"That question right there ..." Mason said haltingly. "That's why I don't like really talking to the media because you say one thing wrong and then ... I don't know. Just skip that question."

NFL rules give teams plenty of wiggle room when determining players' injury status. But with the league in a lucrative business relationship with gambling and fantasy sports companies, that information is supposed to be public knowledge.

McCaffrey was listed as questionable on the official injury report by the 49ers, up until he was declared inactive for the game.

Jason Kelce rocks Monday 'Countdown' debut

Brandon Holveck
Delaware News Journal | USA TODAY NETWORK

Jason Kelce, the former Philadelphia Eagles center often cast as the NFL's class clown, was at his best in his "Monday Night Countdown" debut when talking about what he used to do best: offensive line play.

At the end of Monday night's two-hour show, the prelude to ESPN's broadcast of New York Jets-San Francisco 49ers at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, California, Kelce broke down three plays from last season to describe San Francisco's varied run game and the challenges it presents defenses.

Often the greatest challenge for players-turned-broadcasters is sharing their vast expertise in the tight quarters of a national broadcast. Kelce aced the assignment in this segment, offering one digestible note on each play – not three wrapped in jargon.

On the first play, 49ers running back Christian McCaffrey followed the motioning Kyle Juszczyk to the double-team block created by tight end George Kittle and left tackle Trent Williams. Kelce keyed on the linebacker washed out by the block.

"If that backer stays inside, he's north and south right away," Kelce said as McCaffrey jumped through the hole.

On the next play, Juszczyk motioned again, but Kelce focused on the "reckless reach" technique Kittle used to work to the second level. The note on the last rep was simple: for the first time San Francisco ran in the opposite direction of the motioning player.

"The greatest form of flattery is imitation and everybody is taking (49ers head coach) Kyle Shanahan's offense and their principles and incorporating it, and it's because of how creative it is," Kelce said. "It's because of how much they can marry everything up. When you look so similar with one motion,



Jason Kelce, an analyst on ESPN's pregame show, looks on before the Jets played the 49ers on Monday at Levi's Stadium. THEARON W. HENDERSON/GETTY IMAGES

they can improve the angles, they can set up their dynamic personnel to put them in positions to succeed."

Kelce came across as affable and comfortable talking with host Scott Van Pelt and analysts Ryan Clark and Marcus Spears at the ESPN desk. His everyman personality is one of the reasons his podcast, "New Heights," sold to Amazon's Wondery in a \$100 million deal (his celebrity brother, the boyfriend of Taylor Swift, is another). And it's why the industry expectation is that Kelce will thrive in his media life.

It's difficult not to compare Kelce's debut to that of Tom Brady, who called his first NFL game for Fox on Sunday. Brady had trouble catching up to the speed of the game – a challenge Kelce doesn't face, as much of the pregame show is pre-orchestrated. But Brady came across stiff and clunky and couldn't access his reservoir of NFL knowledge consistently.

ESPN did have to pivot to an unplanned segment one time Monday.

About midway through the show, reporter Adam Schefter broke the news that McCaffrey would not be playing due to a calf injury. The show then threw to the panel. Kelce praised McCaffrey's ability as both a runner and receiver and said it was the right call to sit him at this point in the season as calf problems can linger and lead to more severe injuries.

Kelce referenced his own injury history earlier in the show when discussing the return of Jets quarterback Aaron Rodgers, who played for the first time Monday after tearing his Achilles four offensive plays into last season. Kelce tore his MCL and partially tore his ACL in 2012. "Coming off of that injury you just wait for that first contact, and until it happens you don't know how it's going to feel. You don't know what's going to happen," he said.

Kelce's performance also benefited from the chemistry fellow panelists Clark and Spears have forged on other ESPN programming and the acumen of host Van Pelt, who can steer a conversa-

tion without leaving fingerprints on the wheel. Some of the best moments in the show came as Kelce, Clark and Spears added onto each other's points, handing off the flowing conversation multiple times, as opposed to answering and posing long questions back and forth. They never fell into the pitfall of making the show about Kelce's career, which can happen when current or recently retired players stand in on studio shows, and instead only made small nods to their personal experiences to relate to the news of the day.

Kelce's company didn't miss opportunities to point out his growing celebrity or poke fun at his lack of polish. Van Pelt introduced Kelce as the man who had left his luggage on the truck. He wore a tight white dress shirt bought at a local mall, the panel said, which gapped as Kelce moved his arms around throughout the show.

Clark came back to it later when Kelce flexed in appreciation of the Lions offensive line.

"His nipples almost popped out the button right there," said Clark, the former Pittsburgh Steelers safety.

At the end of the show, Spears gave each member of the crew a pair of sunglasses. Kelce said he didn't feel right in the stylish shades.

"You the new male white Oprah," Spears said. "Those things are about to fly off the shelf."

In cross-talk with Peyton and Eli Manning, Eli sent the show to a prerecorded package of "audition clips" Kelce submitted for their "Manningcast" musical. Kelce tap-danced in flip flops, chanted M-U-S-I-C-A-L-S and worked in a Swift reference ("Karma is getting tickets to 'Manningcast' the musical").

When the show came back to the panel, Van Pelt made a prediction.

"We've got a one-year rental," he said. "He's not going to slum it with us for long. We'll enjoy him while we got him."

FOR THE RECORD

All times ET

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

HBCU FCS Coaches Poll

Table with columns: No., Team (Hsts), W-L Pts LW. Lists top 10 teams including Florida A&M, North Carolina Central, Morgan State, Alabama State, Howard, South Carolina State, Tennessee State, Texas Southern, Prairie View A&M, Jackson State.

MLB

American League East Division

Table with columns: Team, W, L, Pct, GB. Lists NY Yankees, Baltimore, Boston, Tampa Bay, Toronto.

Central Division

Table with columns: Team, W, L, Pct, GB. Lists Cleveland, Kansas City, Minnesota, Detroit, Chicago.

West Division

Table with columns: Team, W, L, Pct, GB. Lists Houston, Seattle, Texas, Oakland, L.A. Angels.

National League East Division

Table with columns: Team, W, L, Pct, GB. Lists Philadelphia, NY Mets, Atlanta, Washington, Miami.

Central Division

Table with columns: Team, W, L, Pct, GB. Lists Milwaukee, Chicago, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh.

West Division

Table with columns: Team, W, L, Pct, GB. Lists L.A. Dodgers, San Diego, Arizona, San Francisco, Colorado.

Monday's Scores

Philadelphia 2, Tampa Bay 1; Pittsburgh 3, Miami 2; Cincinnati 1, Atlanta 0; N.Y. Yankees 10, Kansas City 4; N.Y. Mets 3, Toronto 2; Boston 12, Baltimore 3; Cleveland 5, Chicago 3; L.A. Angels 6, Minnesota 2; Chicago (Hendricks 3-11) at L.A. Dodgers (Buehler 1-4), 10:10 p.m.

Tuesday's Games

Colorado at Detroit; Tampa Bay at Philadelphia; Miami at Pittsburgh; Atlanta at Washington; Kansas City at N.Y. Yankees; N.Y. Mets at Toronto; Baltimore at Boston; Cleveland at Chicago; L.A. Angels at Minnesota; Cincinnati at St. Louis; Oakland at Houston; Texas at Arizona; San Diego at Seattle; Milwaukee at San Francisco; Chicago at L.A. Dodgers.

Wednesday's Games

Miami at Pittsburgh, 12:35 p.m.; Cleveland at Chicago, 2:10 p.m.; N.Y. Mets at Toronto, 3:07 p.m.; Texas at Arizona, 3:40 p.m.; Colorado at Detroit, 6:40 p.m.; Tampa Bay at Philadelphia, 6:40 p.m.; Atlanta at Washington, 6:45 p.m.; Kansas City at N.Y. Yankees, 7:05 p.m.



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NFL

Table with columns: Team, Line, O/U, Underdog. Lists Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday games.

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA. Lists American Conference East, North, South, West.

NFL

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA. Lists National Conference East, North, South, West.

NFL

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA. Lists National Conference East, North, South, West.

NFL

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA. Lists National Conference East, North, South, West.

NFL

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA. Lists National Conference East, North, South, West.

NFL

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA. Lists National Conference East, North, South, West.

Table with columns: Team, W, L, Pct, GB. Lists NY Jets, Washington, Arizona, Kansas City, Pittsburgh, Houston.

Monday

Table with columns: Team, Line, O/U, Underdog. Lists Philadelphia, Arizona, Kansas, Kansas State.

Friday

Table with columns: Team, Line, O/U, Underdog. Lists Kansas, Kansas State, Florida, Texas Tech, Oklahoma State, Alabama, LSU.

Saturday

Table with columns: Team, Line, O/U, Underdog. Lists Florida, Texas Tech, Oklahoma State, Alabama, LSU, Michigan, Cincinnati, Illinois, North Carolina, Missouri, Buffalo, Coastal Carolina, Oklahoma, Minnesota, Oregon, Washington, Texas A&M, West Virginia, Miami (FL), Notre Dame, Appalachian State, Iowa, Arkansas, Florida, Virginia Tech, Duke.

Table with columns: Team, W, L, Pct, GB. Lists Tennessee, NY Giants, LA Rams, Cincinnati, Denver, Chicago.

Monday

Table with columns: Team, Line, O/U, Underdog. Lists Philadelphia, Arizona, Kansas, Kansas State.

Friday

Table with columns: Team, Line, O/U, Underdog. Lists Kansas, Kansas State, Florida, Texas Tech, Oklahoma State, Alabama, LSU.

Saturday

Table with columns: Team, Line, O/U, Underdog. Lists Florida, Texas Tech, Oklahoma State, Alabama, LSU, Michigan, Cincinnati, Illinois, North Carolina, Missouri, Buffalo, Coastal Carolina, Oklahoma, Minnesota, Oregon, Washington, Texas A&M, West Virginia, Miami (FL), Notre Dame, Appalachian State, Iowa, Arkansas, Florida, Virginia Tech, Duke.

Table with columns: Team, W, L, Pct, GB. Lists Liberty, Ole Miss, South Florida, Texas, Sam Houston, San Jose State, Vanderbilt, Eastern Michigan, Western Kentucky, Baylor, Colorado.

Monday

Table with columns: Team, Line, O/U, Underdog. Lists Philadelphia, Arizona, Kansas, Kansas State.

Friday

Table with columns: Team, Line, O/U, Underdog. Lists Kansas, Kansas State, Florida, Texas Tech, Oklahoma State, Alabama, LSU.

Saturday

Table with columns: Team, Line, O/U, Underdog. Lists Florida, Texas Tech, Oklahoma State, Alabama, LSU, Michigan, Cincinnati, Illinois, North Carolina, Missouri, Buffalo, Coastal Carolina, Oklahoma, Minnesota, Oregon, Washington, Texas A&M, West Virginia, Miami (FL), Notre Dame, Appalachian State, Iowa, Arkansas, Florida, Virginia Tech, Duke.

Sports Weekly

On newsstands: The Dodgers pulled off an MLB trade-deadline heist to get a new bullpen ace. We look at the clutch moves of LA and a number of other teams (Diamondbacks, Padres, Royals, Orioles, Guardians). Plus, baseball columnist Bob Nightengale goes around the major leagues with his notebook. We also have pre-views and picks for every Week 2 NFL game as well as fantasy football rankings and sizzlers/fizzlers. Mitch Albom writes about how this Lions team is raising Motown's football standards, and we preview the top college football games of the week. The issue also includes MLB and NFL statistics and box scores. You can order the edition at onlinestore.usatoday.com and subscribe to the magazine by calling 800-872-1415.



Colorado's Shilo Sanders had surgery on forearm

Lorenzo Reyes

USA TODAY

Colorado safety Shilo Sanders had surgery to repair a forearm injury suffered Saturday against Nebraska, his father and Buffaloes coach Deion Sanders confirmed Monday.

Deion Sanders posted a message to his social media account Monday with images of Shilo at a hospital. In one picture, Deion is by Shilo, who is in a hospital bed, with his eyes closed. In the other, Deion and another one of his sons, Deion Sanders Jr., stand behind Shilo, who is in a wheelchair and wearing a sling to protect his right arm.

"God is Good!" Deion Sanders wrote in the caption. "Can't wait to see u back ready to go. Love ya son!"

Shilo suffered the injury in the first quarter of the 28-10 loss to the Cornhuskers, forcing him to miss the rest of the game. After the game, Deion Sanders said he didn't know "the extent of the injury," though he said on the NBC broadcast at halftime that his son had "a broken forearm or something like that."

Shilo Sanders returned to the sideline for the fourth quarter, wearing a sling. It is unclear how long he'll be sidelined. He was hurt trying to tackle Nebraska running back Dante Dowdell.

Shilo Sanders has 11 total tackles this season. Shilo was Colorado's leading tackler last year and is in his final season of college playing eligibility.

Contributing: Brent Schrottenboer

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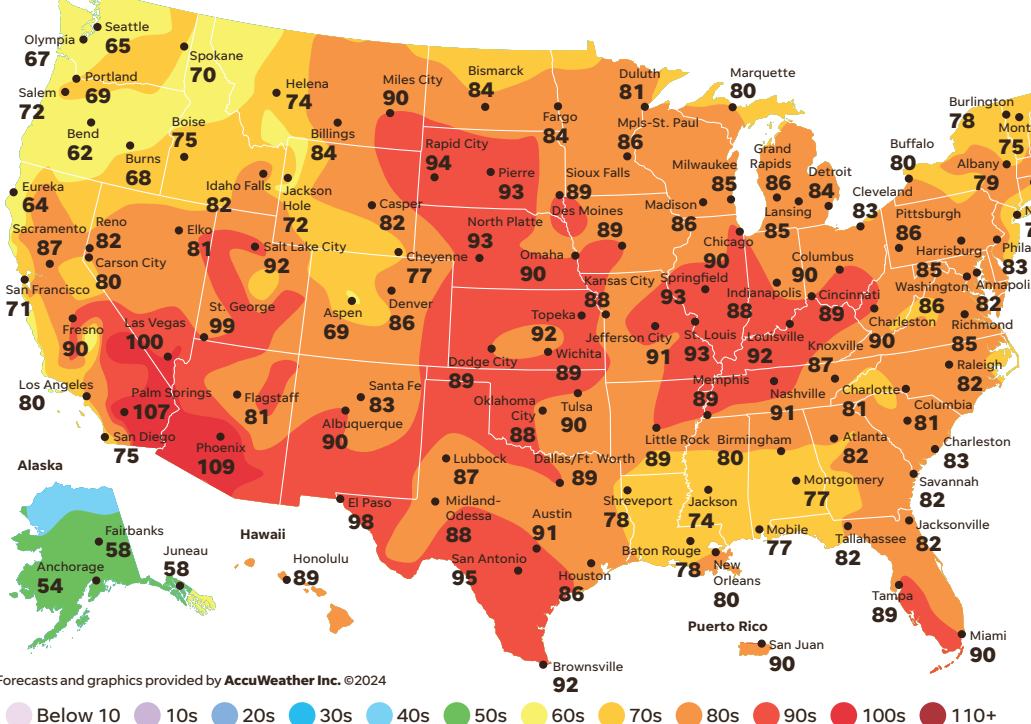
TODAY'S FORECAST

Francine will approach and make landfall on the Louisiana coast today, spreading heavy, flooding rain from Louisiana to Alabama. Rain will spread northward over the Mississippi Delta and lower valley region through tonight and beyond. Strong winds may occur in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama and can cause power outages and downed trees. Tornadoes are also forecast near, north and east of the center of the hurricane. General showers and thunderstorms will form in Florida.

Meanwhile, a storm will spread areas of rain and cool weather across the Northwest. The Rockies will be dry and very windy, leading to a high fire threat. A stray thunderstorm may develop from Montana to Colorado.

Elsewhere, the Plains and Midwest will be dry and warm. Along the East coast, it will be mainly sunny and pleasant.

TODAY'S HIGH TEMPERATURES

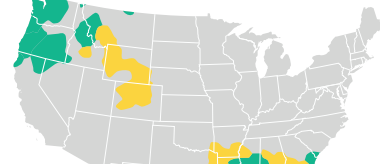


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PRECIPITATION FORECAST

T-storms Rain Snow Ice/mix



EXTREMES

HOTTEST: 106° El Centro, Calif. COLDEST: 30° West Yellowstone, Mont.

TOP TRAVEL CITIES

Table with columns: City, Today, Thu, AQI. Lists Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, Charlotte, Chicago, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Denver, Detroit, Honolulu, Houston, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Miami, Mpls-St. Paul, New Orleans, New York, Orlando, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Salt Lake City, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle, Washington.

U.S. CITIES

Table with columns: City, Today, Thu. Lists Akron, Albany, Albuquerque, Allentown, Amarillo, Anaheim, Anchorage, Aspen, Atlantic City, Augusta, Austin, Bakersfield, Billings, Birmingham, Bismarck, Boise, Buffalo, Burlington, Cedar Rapids, Charleston, Charlotte, Cheyenne.

TODAY THU

Table with columns: City, Today, Thu. Lists Cincinnati, Cleveland, Colorado Springs, Columbia, Corpus Christi, Dayton, Daytona Beach, Des Moines, Duluth, Durham, El Paso, Fairbanks, Flagstaff, Fargo, Fort Myers, Hartford, Indianapolis, Islip, Jackson, Jacksonville, Jefferson City, Kansas City, Key West, Knoxville, Lexington, Laredo, Lincoln, Little Rock, Long Beach, Louisville, Lubbock, Madison, Manchester, Memphis, Milwaukee, Mobile, Modesto, Montgomery, Myrtle Beach.

TODAY THU

Table with columns: City, Today, Thu. Lists Nashville, Newark, New Haven, Norfolk, Oakland, Oklahoma City, Omaha, Palm Springs, Pensacola, Pierre, Pittsburgh, Portland, Providence, Rapid City, Reno, Richmond, Rochester, Sacramento, San Antonio, Santa Fe.

TODAY THU

Table with columns: City, Today, Thu. Lists Sarasota, Savannah, Scottsdale, Shreveport, Sioux Falls, South Bend, Spokane, Springfield, St. Louis, St. Petersburg, Syracuse, Tallahassee, Tampa, Toledo, Topeka, Tucson, Tulsa, Wichita, Wilmington, Worcester.

WORLD CITIES

Table with columns: City, Today, Thu. Lists Beijing, Buenos Aires, Cancun, Dubai, Frankfurt, Hong Kong, Istanbul, Jerusalem, Johannesburg, London, Mexico City, Montreal, Moscow, Mumbai, Paris, Rio de Janeiro, Rome, Seoul, Singapore, Sydney, Toronto, Tokyo.

Prescott beats Jones at his own game



Nate Davis
USA TODAY

Dak Prescott's detractors will typically point to his lack of signature wins in the NFL. If only they handed out rings for taking your boss to the woodshed.

On Sunday morning, for the second time in a little more than three years, the Dallas Cowboys veteran quarterback – after protracted negotiations – extracted a top-of-market contract extension from team owner Jerry Jones. Prescott became the NFL's first \$60 million per year man (over four seasons), a significant jump from his closest peers, while pulling down a record \$231 million in guarantees ... and proving anew that he's among the finest businessmen – think Kirk Cousins, Darrelle Revis, Drew Brees, Walter Jones or Deion Sanders – to ever wear a professional football uniform.

And while Prescott's agent, Todd France, deserves ample credit, too, the three-time Pro Bowler handed essentially all of the leverage to his representation, entering the walk year of his expiring four-year, \$160 million pact after being the league's MVP runner-up and posting an NFL-best 36 TD passes in 2023. Prescott, a four-time NFC East champion, also couldn't be traded or tagged at a time when the apex of the quarterback market was paying \$55 million annually.

Count perennial All-Pro linebacker Bobby Wagner of the Washington Commanders – he's served as his his own agent for eight years – among the impressed.

"I think you have to want to do the work and learn. You have to be willing to take risks," Wagner told USA TODAY Sports, referring to the franchise tag Prescott played on in 2020, when his season was aborted after five games due to a compound fracture to his leg and a dislocated ankle.

"You have to know your market. If you have those things, then you put yourself into a good position."

Prescott certainly did, expressing no outward frustration this summer as Jerry Jones dragged his feet and made various comments that left room for interpretation but evidently didn't bother his biggest star. Prescott himself casually noted how many superstars at his position eventually concluded their careers with different clubs – an outcome he seemed headed for as talks languished.

"I understand the business point blank," Prescott said Sunday. "The game is a business."

And legendary entrepreneur Jones cracked at his own game before the Cowboys faced the Browns in Cleveland on Sunday afternoon, opting to shell out his second premium contract in two weeks after making All-Pro CeeDee Lamb the second-best compensated wide receiver (four years, \$136 million)



Dak Prescott enters the field for Sunday's game as the highest-paid player in NFL history. KEN BLAZE/IMAGN IMAGES

in the league behind Justin Jefferson.

"The NFL, you're not gonna play in it forever," San Francisco 49ers tight end George Kittle told USA TODAY Sports. "I'm happy for guys that make the money they deserve to make. And when you win a lot of football games – when you're winning all the time – I think you deserve to get paid money."

"Dak's always had the Cowboys in the playoffs, playing at a high level."

So, yes, Prescott – knowing when to apply pressure behind the scenes and when to let matters play out around him – won another major fiscal battle three years after his previous arrangement paid better than anyone not named Patrick Mahomes. Yet therein lies an important distinction – and one that may mean Jones will continue to lose the football wars nearly three decades after Dallas last appeared in the Super Bowl or even an NFC title game.

Prescott – and you can hardly blame him – has consistently maximized his value, similar to Cousins and even Cleveland's Deshaun Watson, both proponents of the fully guaranteed contract.

"I don't play for the money. I think when you focus and you control what you can control, things like that just happen," Prescott said after Sunday's 33-17 drubbing of the Browns.

"I don't care to talk about money. That was the only annoyance in this ordeal is having to answer questions over and over and time and time again about the negotiations. I just wanted that behind me. If it meant me not being here, which I did not want to think about, I said that over and over again. I just wanted to be at peace with whatever the decision was."

Yet this decision will have ramifications – in fact, it already has. And Prescott will doubtless face more questions about cash flow in the future. Players like Mahomes and Tom Brady, who are increasingly paired exclusively in the NFL's "GOAT" debate, were certainly handsomely paid – but both signed deals that afforded the Kansas City Chiefs and New England Patriots, respectively, the financial flexibility to upgrade what became and remained championship rosters.

Like Cousins, Prescott and Lamb have opted for shorter contracts that get them back to the negotiating table more quickly – though that often hinders their teams from making major free agent acquisitions elsewhere. (And we've seen the results in the playoffs for Cousins and the Cowboys, unsuccessful trips to the divisional round their high-water marks this century.) That approach may be especially problematic in Dallas, where Jones often finds himself behind the curve when it comes to doling out new deals and could be in a similar situation next year, when pass rusher extraordinaire Micah Parsons must be given the raise he's already earned.

As for the here and now? The inability to get Prescott and Lamb paid earlier – and they certainly had a role in that – crippled the ability of the Cowboys, NFC East champions two of the past three years and winners of 12 regular-season games in all of those campaigns, to improve or even maintain their roster this offseason. And this is a team that has routinely fallen short in the postseason under head coach Mike McCarthy, including a 48-32 loss to the Green Bay Packers in the wild-card round in January, an outcome that wasn't even as

close as a fairly wide margin indicates.

"This is the worst offseason I can remember for Jerry as the GM. Like, do we honestly think they got better this offseason? I mean, what did they do?" former NFL quarterback Alex Smith, now an ESPN analyst, said Sunday.

"I know they got these contracts done, but they got (run) out of their own building in the first round of the playoffs and did nothing this offseason – nothing to improve. ... I don't see it. I know they've won 12 games the last three years. I don't see them hitting that this year."

The Cowboys looked like world-beaters Sunday, albeit against a crippled Cleveland team missing several key starters and against a quarterback, Watson, who has become emblematic of the inherent risk of fully (or heavily) guaranteed pacts after signing his widely scrutinized package.

But Jones will be heavily reliant on a ballooning salary cap given how much of it Prescott, Lamb and Parsons will surely eat up in future seasons while aiming for quick turnaround times at a second or third dessert. And don't forget, Dallas will also have to pay or replace guard Zack Martin, defensive end DeMarcus Lawrence and wide receiver Brandin Cooks, among others, after this season.

"I've seen too many very important deals not work out just because of miscalculating the right time, when everyone's ready to go," Jones said Sunday.

"My prayer is that we have the ability to put the supporting cast around (Prescott)."

Prayers can pay off. But when it comes to football, history suggest a better plan would be preferable in Dallas.

Deshaun Watson among four QBs under pressure

Tyler Dragon
USA TODAY

Many quarterbacks entering the 2024 season on the hot seat didn't do much to dispel that pressure in Week 1.

Las Vegas Raiders quarterback Gardner Minshew was triumphant in a quarterback battle with fellow teammate Aidan O'Connell. But there was no Minshew mania in a 22-10 loss to the Los Angeles Chargers.

Minshew's debut left a lot to be desired as the journeyman inexplicably lost the football on a pump fake that resulted in a lost fumble and had a pass deflected that led to an interception.

"A lot to clean up. I feel like we beat ourselves a lot of the game. Hats off to them; they played a great game, played hard," Minshew said. "Kept a roof on things but, I think we still have very high expectations of what we can do as an offense, that execution was not up to our standard."

Minshew finished 25 of 33 passing for 257 yards to go with one touchdown and one interception. He was sacked four times.

His sub-mediocre performance made him one of four quarterbacks now under the most pressure after the opening week of the season.

Deshaun Watson

Watson was lackluster in his first regular-season game since injuring his shoulder last season. Watson had multiple errant throws and didn't operate



Browns quarterback Deshaun Watson walks off the field after losing to the Cowboys on Sunday at Huntington Bank Field. KEN BLAZE/IMAGN IMAGES

Cleveland's offense efficiently.

The Browns had just one first down in the first half.

Watson was sacked six times and threw two interceptions.

"I'm gonna take the blame and get the guys on the same page. We got to be better next week," Watson said to reporters. "We just got to go out there and execute when we are all on the field together. We got to know the plan and try to find the weakness in the defense to find any type of positivity."

The Browns desperately need Watson to live up to the five-year, \$230 mil-

lion fully guaranteed contract he signed in 2022. Watson hasn't been the same quarterback since he left Houston.

Bryce Young

The very first pass of Young's second season was an interception. It didn't get any better from there as the Panthers were throttled 47-10 by the New Orleans Saints.

Young went 13 of 30 passing for 161 yards to go with two interceptions and was sacked four times.

Young's performance didn't instill

any confidence for the Panthers going forward. The Alabama product ended Week 1 with a dreadful 32.8 passer rating.

"Systematically, just doing a better job with the operation," Young told reporters after the loss. "That starts with me."

Daniel Jones

Jones continued his poor play in his first regular-season game since a season-ending knee injury last November.

He threw two interceptions, including a pick-six, in the New York Giants' 28-6 loss to the Minnesota Vikings.

"Obviously not good enough. Didn't get in the end zone and scored six points. Didn't create much rhythm and flow for ourselves. I got to be better," Jones said. "Certainly, have to play better and give ourselves more chances to make plays and execute more consistently."

New York fans booed Jones in the team's home opener.

To make matter worse, the Giants witnessed former star running back Saquon Barkley have three touchdowns from scrimmage in his Philadelphia Eagles debut, which tied an NFL mark for the most touchdowns by any player in a team debut in the Super Bowl era.

The Giants are 1-6 in games Jones has started since he signed a four-year, \$160 million contract prior to the 2023 season. Jones has thrown two touchdowns and eight interceptions since he signed the deal.

LIFELINE



WILL HEATH/NBC VIA GETTY IMAGES

**MAKING WAVES
TROAST EXITS 'SNL'**

"SNL" is adding new stars — and dropping one. The NBC sketch show announced it has hired Ashley Padilla, Emil Wakim and Jane Wickline as featured players for Season 50. But comedian Chloe Troast, who joined "SNL" last year, is leaving the show. "Unfortunately I was not asked back to 'SNL' this season," Troast said on Instagram. "I wish I was going back to be with all the amazing friends I made there, it truly felt like home. But it wasn't in the cards." In August, Punkie Johnson and Molly Kearney exited "SNL," which returns Sept. 28.



**IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY
WHO'S CELEBRATING TODAY**

Ludacris is 47. Taraji P. Henson is 54. Harry Connick Jr. is 57.

HOROSCOPE | SANCTUARY
More: www.sanctuaryworld.co

Aries (March 21-April 19). Tempted to throw in the towel? Wanderlust threatens to upset a carefully laid plan during today's Sagittarius first quarter moon.

Taurus (April 20-May 20). Has a fascination become an obsession? Fun and games spiral out of control during today's Sagittarius first quarter moon!

Gemini (May 21-June 21). A rival emerges under today's Sagittarius first quarter moon! Does this frustrate or motivate you?

Cancer (June 22-July 22). Under today's Sagittarius first quarter moon, ask yourself whose standards you're attempting to live up to.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22). Today's Sagittarius first quarter moon spotlights something that is missing from your life.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Fighting others' projections? Conflicts arise under today's Sagittarius first quarter moon. You don't want to disappoint your supporters.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Today's Sagittarius first quarter moon provokes distractions and frustrations. You're tempted to lash out!

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Today's Sagittarius first quarter moon finds you trading future visions for temporary security blankets.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). During today's Sagittarius first quarter moon, criticism injures your pride. Keep your head up!

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Lost your motivation? Today's Sagittarius first quarter moon signals a temporary setback.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Under today's Sagittarius first quarter moon, you seek support.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20). Sharing your feelings ... with the RIGHT people? During today's Sagittarius first quarter moon, beware of airing public grievances.

FALL TELEVISION PREVIEW



Brian Jordan Alvarez stars as Evan Marquez in "English Teacher." PROVIDED BY RICHARD DUCREE/FX

Autumn is in, and on, the air with a bounty of new shows

Kelly Lawler USA TODAY

Are you ready for pumpkin spice, everything nice and maybe some new TV? • Autumn is quickly approaching with all the falling leaves, apple picking, plaid and pumpkins you can handle. And, of course, new TV series on broadcast, cable and streaming that you may just want to snuggle up under a fuzzy blanket to binge-watch. • We waded through the avalanche of new fall 2024 series with episodes made available for critics and picked the 10 best comedies, dramas, documentaries and a little bit of horror, from a Batman villain crime drama to a Kathy Bates network TV reboot. (Some high-profile debuts, including Disney+'s Marvel series "Agatha All Along" and NBC's Reba McEntire comedy "Happy's Place," weren't given to us in time.) They will delight and entertain you, and certainly not waste your time.

'English Teacher' (FX)
Mondays, 10 EDT/PDT

Call it "Abbott Elementary," but with more swearing. FX's Texas high school-set comedy has the same defined sense of place and character as ABC's grade school hit but with a distinctly darker and more mature tone. Created by and

starring comedian Brian Jordan Alvarez, the genuinely funny series feels distinctly modern without an embarrassing amount of poorly-used Gen Z slang. Instead, it remembers that teenagers are still hormonal time bombs, teachers are doing their

See FALL TV, Page 4D



Melissa (Natasha Rothwell) and Rory (Conrad Ricamora) in "How to Die Alone." PROVIDED BY IAN WATSON/HULU

MOVIES

Adams' canine co-stars nearly 'freaked out' in 'Nightbitch'

Brian Truitt
USA TODAY

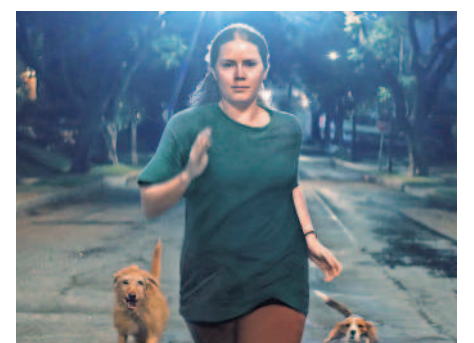
TORONTO — "Motherhood is (ex-pletive) brutal," Amy Adams' character says in her new movie "Nightbitch," and she learns just how primal it can be when her life literally goes to the dogs.

Based on Rachel Yoder's 2021 book, the darkly humorous drama (in theaters Dec. 6) features Adams as a woman who gave up her art gallery career to stay at home with her young son. She believes she's turning into a dog when canine qualities start popping up on her body — including fur on her back, extra nipples and what seems to be a tail — and finds she's able to voice her internal anger and repression in a new way.

During a Q&A after the film's world premiere Saturday night at Toronto International Film Festival, Adams said she signed on to star in and produce "Nightbitch" alongside writer/director Marielle Heller ("Can You Ever Forgive Me?") after reading an early copy of the novel.

"I just so deeply connected to the narrative that Rachel created. It was so unique and so singular and just something I never read before," she said.

Yoder also was on hand and teared up a few times when discussing seeing her story on the big screen. "I thought I wrote a really weird book that no one would read, frankly," she said. "So, yeah, it was really surprising then when this is what happened."



Amy Adams plays a stay-at-home mom who thinks she's turning into a dog in the drama "Nightbitch." PROVIDED BY SEARCHLIGHT PICTURES

Adams said she "honestly" doesn't know why society can't talk about the darker and more difficult aspects of motherhood. "One of the wonderful explorations of the film is this isolation that comes from that and the transformation of motherhood and parenthood. It's something that is a shared experience and yet it isn't shared."

"We're not very comfortable talking about female rage," Heller added. "It's not something that we tend to share with each other or talk about, and that we're sort of afraid of women at this phase of our lives. So it felt really good to kind of take this invisible experience that a lot of us have gone through and make it more visible."

The director began working on "Nightbitch" while "really postpartum" after having her second child, who was born in 2020. She was home while her husband, comedian/filmmaker Jorma Taccone, was off making a TV show, "so I was totally alone with two kids for the first time and just writing this during the naps. It was very cathartic. My husband was terrified when he read it."

Scot McNairy plays the spouse of Adams' character in "Nightbitch," a husband who doesn't really understand what his wife's going through initially. "The one thing I did learn is don't mansplain motherhood," McNairy quipped. "I hope that all of you guys learn all the things that I learned, which is shut up and listen."

Adams worked with a pack of canine co-stars. Heller reported that they used 12 dogs on the set "with 12 trainers all hiding in bushes."

In one scene, Adams is swarmed by the dogs on her lawn. When the time came for Adams to film, she made a head tilt while in character that didn't go over well. "The dogs freaked out and started lunging at her," Heller recalled.

"One dog was like, 'That's not OK, that's not cool,'" Adams said. "No matter what I did, he didn't trust me after that."

STREAMING

The true story of 'Fight Night' is a knockout

Bryan Alexander
USA TODAY

The spectacular premise of Peacock's "Fight Night: The Million Dollar Heist" seems like pure fiction: Gun-toting robbers force the country's most notorious gangsters to give up \$1 million in cash and jewels at a secret afterparty following Muhammad Ali's triumphant return to boxing.

Even Atlanta-based executive producer Will Packer was blown away when he learned about the brazen burglary that really happened after Ali's Atlanta bout on Oct. 26, 1970.

"It was like, 'Yo, how have I never heard of this heist?' This is crazy," says Packer, who also executive-produced the 2020 iHeart "Fight Night" podcast on which the dramatic TV series is based. "A bunch of gangsters get robbed after a Muhammad Ali fight, and it flips the city of Atlanta upside down. Still, to this day, it's the biggest heist in Georgia history."

Peacock's "Fight Night" takes dramatic liberties in telling the story centered on ambitious local hustler Gordon "Chicken Man" Williams (Kevin Hart). Williams makes moves throwing the lavish party to impress the Black Mafia, including "Black Godfather" Frank Moten (Samuel L. Jackson), who rules New York's underworld, and his New Jersey associate, Richard "Cadillac" Wheeler (Terrence Howard).

Here's what's remarkably true in "Fight Night" (first three episodes now streaming).

Ali returned to boxing in Atlanta, which lit a flame in his heart

Ali (Dexter Darden) had been sidelined, banned from boxing for more than three years after refusing to be inducted into the U.S. military during the Vietnam War as a conscientious objector. While many states refused to grant Ali a boxing license, powerful Georgia state Sen. Leroy Johnson (RonReaco Lee) pushed through Ali's comeback bout in Atlanta against heavyweight boxer Jerry Quarry, (dubbed "The Great White Hope").

The sold-out event at Atlanta Municipal Auditorium drew international attention, celebrities (Sidney Poitier, Arthur Ashe and Diana Ross), politicians and prominent gangsters from around the country.

"It was this elite Black crowd from all walks of life coming down to what was slowly becoming a Black city, Atlanta," says Shaye Ogbonna, "Fight Night" creator and executive producer. "It was the gangster class, it was rich folks, it was celebrities all coming together."

In the third round, Ali landed a punch



Terrence Howard, left, is Richard "Cadillac" Wheeler and Samuel L. Jackson, center, is Frank Moten in "Fight Night: The Million Dollar Heist." PROVIDED BY PARRISH LEWIS/PEACOCK

that opened a gash over Quarry's eye, leading to a technical knockout and jubilation around Atlanta.

Ali's boxing rebirth was a big night for Atlanta and the beginning of a special relationship between the city and the legendary boxer. This culminated with the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games, where Ali famously lit the Olympic Cauldron to start the games.

"Ali fell in love with Atlanta and came back many times," says Packer. "But obviously, the iconic moment is Muhammad Ali lighting the Olympic flame."

The 'Chicken Man' afterparty turned into a shotgun robbery

Scores of fashionably dressed partygoers descended in limousines to Williams' house for the post-fight party with specially-made engraved invitations. They were met inside by two masked armed robbers, one brandishing a sawed-off shotgun, who herded them into the house's basement.

The guests were ordered to strip down to their underwear and give up their cash and jewelry, which police later calculated to total more than \$1 million (about \$8 million today).

Ogbonna discovered he grew up close to the neighborhood where the infamous party was held, shooting the actual party-house exterior for "Fight Night." Even on his day off from shooting, Jackson showed up to watch.

"Sam just walked on set and was tak-



J.D. Hudson (Don Cheadle) does double duty in "Fight Night." PEACOCK

ing it all in," says Ogbonna. "His wife is from the neighborhood, and he got married right around the corner. He was like a historian. So many real things happened in this story."

Williams, who earned his colorful "Chicken Man" nickname from the chicken sandwiches he doled out, was suspected immediately of orchestrating the heist because it was his house and party.

And there was another suspicious detail: The stripped-down Williams was the only guest wearing long underwear on the chilly October night, suggesting he was prepared. Williams credibly

maintained he had nothing to do with the robbery until he died in 2014.

J.D. Hudson was charged with protecting Ali, solving the robbery

J.D. Hudson (Don Cheadle), one of Atlanta's first Black detective lieutenants, played two major roles in the "Fight Night" affair. First, Hudson was charged with protecting Ali before and during the fight, escorting the fighter to the ring and then scanning the crowd for trouble.

After the robbery, Hudson was tasked with solving the sensational million-dollar crime.

"J.D. Hudson is a story onto himself, one of the first Black policemen in the South in the '70s," says Ogbonna. "He's a very complicated character and we get to see police work from a Black perspective, dealing with everything Hudson had to deal with."

The gangsters got at least some of their robbery revenge before Hudson and his police colleagues solved the crime.

On May 26, 1971, The New York Times reported that two men shot dead in the Bronx were linked to the Atlanta robbery.

"We said last fall it was just a question of who caught up with them first – the police or the victims," Hudson is quoted saying.

"It appears the victims got there first."

TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Elton's still standing to show it's never 'Too Late'

Brian Truitt
USA TODAY

TORONTO – At 77, Elton John says he's "having the best time of my life." Well, except for the whole pesky eye infection.

"I wish I could see you, but I can't," the music icon told the crowd Friday at a Toronto International Film Festival post-premiere Q&A for the new documentary "Elton John: Never Too Late" (streaming Dec. 13 on Disney+). "Life is a lesson that thank God I started to learn when I got to 43 years of age and it's been wonderful ever since."

John nonetheless held court alongside filmmakers R.J. Cutler and David Furnish, John's husband, to discuss the latest look at his life and music. "Never Too Late" focuses on his monumental output from 1970 to 1975, with hits that made John a global superstar even as he struggled offstage with sadness and drugs. The film also covers the 10 months he spent getting ready alongside Furnish and their two sons for his final touring show in 2022.

"It just shows such a transformative life and how you can come from the depths of adversity," Furnish said of the film. "You have all the success in the world, yet it means nothing until you have family and you have love."

Much of "Never Too Late" – "the spine of the film," Cutler said – comes from intimate conversations recorded between John and Alexis Petridis for the 2019 memoir "Me." The movie also includes audio from a 1976 cover story interview with Rolling Stone writer Cliff Jahn where John for the first time opened up about his sexuality and came out as bisexual.



David Furnish, left, and Elton John attend the premiere of "Elton John: Never Too Late" during the Toronto International Film Festival. The documentary streams on Disney+ on Dec. 13. MONICA SCHIPPER/GETTY IMAGES

"I was closed off but I was so tired of hiding away," John said. "Everyone knew in the business I was gay. Most people knew that I was gay. (But) it was just very hard for me. No one ever asked me before Cliff if I was gay or what my sexuality was. So I didn't feel as I was hiding, but I was just very full-on in thinking that, am I ever going to find someone, being how famous I am and my sexuality?" But John also remembered it as "a wonderful time for me because at least I got that kind of thing off my back."

The point of the documentary for John is "the truth should always be told," he said. "It made me so unhappy and it was so stupid the amount of years that I lost by not telling the truth and by fooling myself. When I stopped fooling myself, obviously my life turned around."

The movie finds John revisiting his friendship with John Lennon and sharing how he got the former Beatle onstage at a fabled Madison Square Garden show in November 1974, which would turn out to be Lennon's last live

"You have all the success in the world, yet it means nothing until you have family and you have love."

David Furnish
On the message of the Elton John documentary

concert performance.

John has worked with everyone from Dua Lipa and Aretha Franklin to Stevie Wonder and Leonard Cohen.

"Every time you collaborate with someone, it's wonderful, because you learn something," John said. He shared a funny story about recording the Ray Charles number "Born to Lose" where John was on the floor laughing after Cohen let loose with his deep voice on the first line. "He said, 'What's wrong?' I said, 'Nothing's wrong, Leonard. It sounds like a ship leaving harbor.'"

John riffed on a number of subjects, including his favorite movies. While "The Godfather Part II" is his No. 1, he loves "Field of Dreams" because "it's a father/son thing." He also revealed what he wants on his tombstone: "He was a great dad and a great husband."

Before that gets engraved, John hopes "to keep making music" and more importantly, treasure every moment he has left with Furnish and their boys.

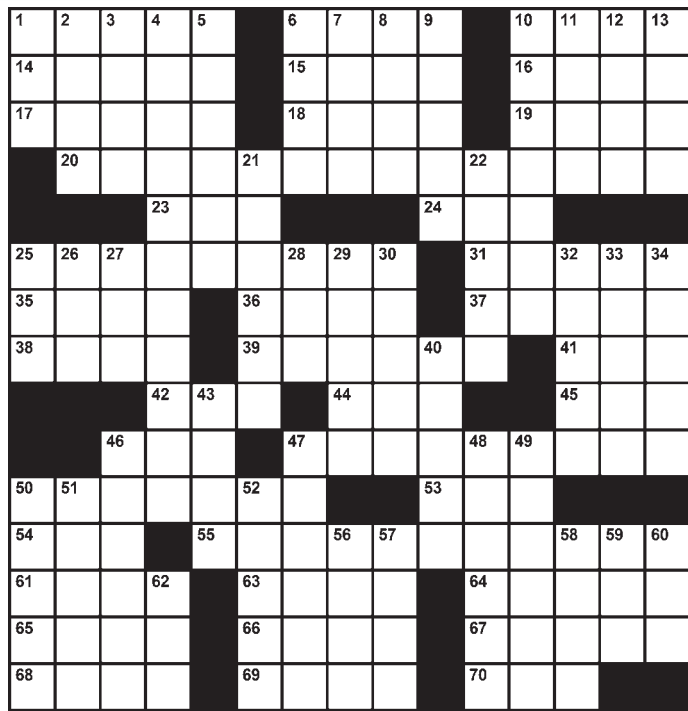
"It's the greatest feeling I've ever had in my life, more than having the first No. 1 album in Billboard," John said. "Yeah, that was really nice for about five minutes. But this is a lifetime. And the love I have for (Furnish's) family, my family, my children and my friends has never been better."

USA TODAY CROSSWORD

EDITED Amanda Rafkin
BY Darby Ratliff

HASH OUT

- ACROSS**
- 1 Apple tablets
 - 6 Little gremlins
 - 10 "Now, please!"
 - 14 "It's true!"
 - 15 Carnivore's diet
 - 16 Sales promotion letters
 - 17 "That's too bad"
 - 18 Worshipper of Inti
 - 19 Praising poems
 - 20 Orange winter gourd you might roast
 - 23 "Reputation," e.g., for Taylor Swift
 - 24 "No One OutPizzas the ___" (pizza chain slogan)
 - 25 Destructive catchphrase for a shapeshifting Avenger
 - 31 Apple desktops
 - 35 Woodwind instrument
 - 36 Adele or Tracy Chapman's vocal range
 - 37 Word before "cotta" or "firma"
 - 38 "Shoop" group
 - 39 Throws hard
 - 41 Corn cob unit
 - 42 "More info soon"
 - 44 Dieci, in English
 - 45 Educational ad
 - 46 Word preceding "Did I scare you???"
 - 47 First Black woman to work at Washington University School of Medicine
 - 50 "There's a conflict in my schedule"
 - 53 Nickname for a Brazilian city
 - 54 One of two in a split
 - 55 Texan NWSL team
 - 61 Egg-shaped
 - 63 Norway's capital
 - 64 Spooooky
 - 65 T. rex, for one
 - 66 Brown in a pan
- DOWN**
- 1 Outs' counterparts
 - 2 Bear who says "Oh, bother"
 - 3 "And..."
 - 4 "Father of the Bride" and "Book Club" actor
 - 5 Passover meals
 - 6 "Let's do this"
 - 7 Taco Bell's includes Crunchwrap Supremes
 - 8 Treaty
 - 9 Cache
 - 10 Biographical page on a person's website
 - 11 Dr Pepper or Coke
 - 12 7, 8, 9, etc.
 - 13 Fancy
 - 21 Piano brand



© Andrews McMeel

9/11

- 22 Says "Peace out" to one's job
- 25 Small jump
- 26 Purple yam used in many Filipino sweets
- 27 Apt rhyme for "chop"
- 28 Source of nutrition in the medieval world
- 29 Ohio or Indiana
- 30 Small dwelling
- 32 Cornmeal cake
- 33 Crude
- 34 "Ballpark Dimensions" co-host Langs
- 40 January, in Spanish
- 43 "They ___ Die at the End" (Adam Silvera novel)
- 46 Fruit in a "split"
- 47 Abodes
- 48 San Francisco NFL players
- 49 "Those terms don't work for me"
- 50 Nanos and Shuffles, for two
- 51 Polite
- 52 "Duck... duck...!"
- 56 Smack
- 57 Unsure of how to act
- 58 Navy's rival in sports
- 59 Little taste of a mocktail
- 60 "___ All That" (2021 rom-com)
- 62 Opposite of high

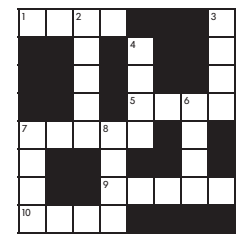
Tuesday's Answer



9/10

CROSSWORDS ON YOUR PHONE get our crossword app

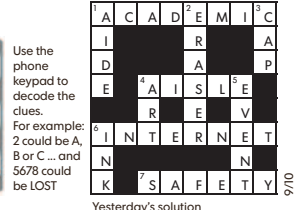
TXTPERT



- Across**
- 1. 7.675
 - 5. 7829
 - 7. 25225
 - 9. 26237
 - 10. 3296
- Down**
- 2. 73742
 - 3. 4739
 - 4. 3275
 - 6. 2583
 - 7. 2833
 - 8. 2926

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Today's theme



Yesterday's solution

Numbers

More puzzles: puzzles.usatoday.com
Want solutions? answers.usatoday.com
Feedback: feedback@usatoday.com



SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 (no repeats).



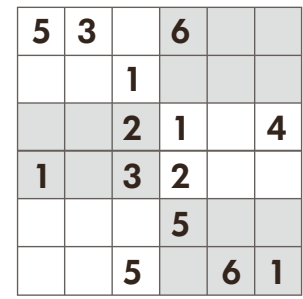
9/11

DIFFICULTY RATING ★★☆☆☆

SUDOKU FUSION ON YOUR PHONE puzzles.usatoday.com

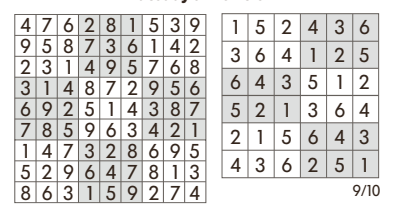
© Andrews McMeel

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x2 box contains the numbers 1 through 6 (no repeats).



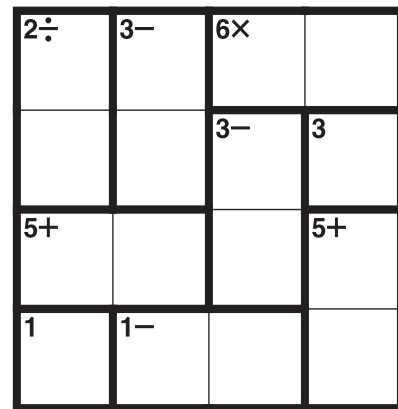
DIFFICULTY RATING ★★☆☆☆

Tuesday's Answers



9/10

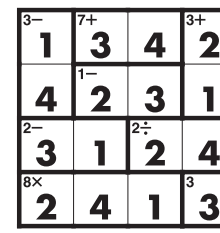
KENKEN



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1. Each row and column must contain the numbers 1 through 4 (easy) or 1 through 6 (challenging) without repeating.

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

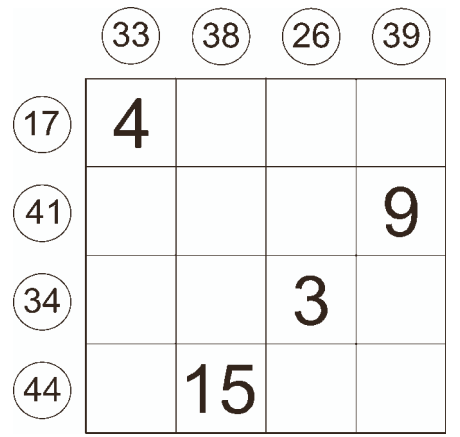


2. The numbers within the heavily outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.

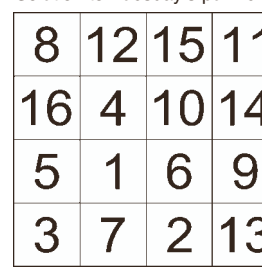
3. Freebies: fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.

KUBOK 16

By Davide Coppo Difficulty: EXPERT



Solution to Tuesday's puzzle



Enter the missing numbers from 1 to 16 without repetitions so that the sum of the four numbers in each row and column is the same as the corresponding circled number.

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Words

WORD ROUNDUP

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

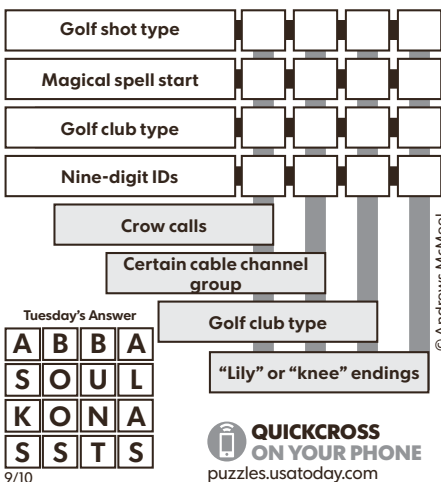
- Find and Circle:
- Five African countries
- Four six-letter elements
- Four five-letter palindromes
- Two related mammals
- Smoke ____ (safety device)

Tuesday's answer: SNAPPER SALMON SHARK SMELT SOLE / MOUNTAIN CANYON PLAIN HILL / SPRUCE CEDAR PINE / EAST WEST / TWENTY



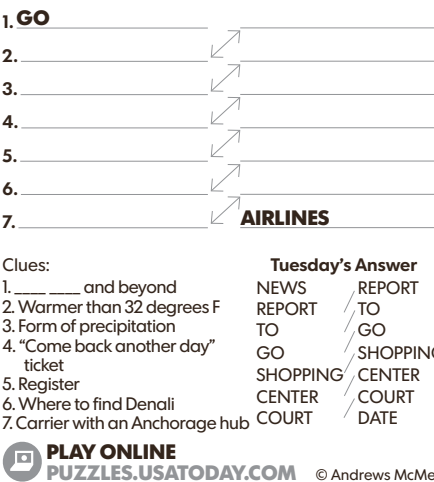
QUICKCROSS

By John Wilmes



UP & DOWN WORDS

By David L. Hoyt and Russell L. Hoyt



DON'T QUOTE ME

French writer Albert Camus thinks about creative work.

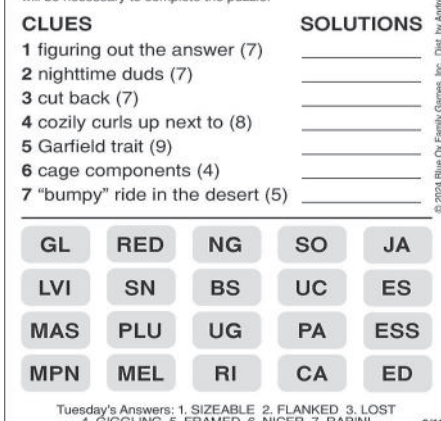
Rearrange the words to complete the quote.

ART EVERY FUTURE GIFT TO WORK
AUTHENTIC _____ OF _____ IS A
OFFERED _____ THE _____

Tuesday's Answer: "Golf is like bicycle shorts. It reveals a lot about a man." - Rick Reilly

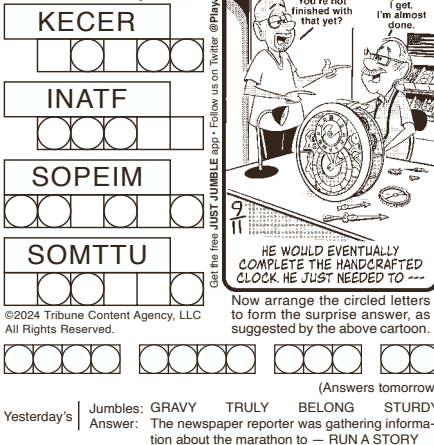
7 LITTLE WORDS

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.



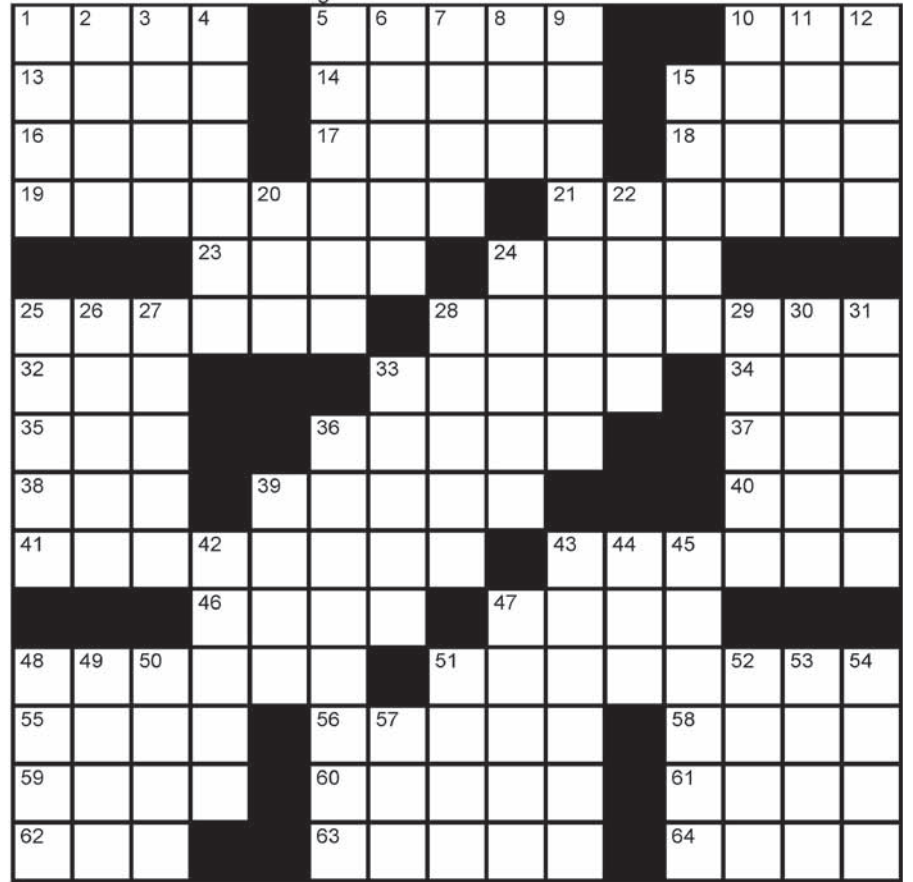
JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



BONUS CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 About (2 wds.)
 - 5 Confronts
 - 10 Car for hire
 - 13 Poultry shed
 - 14 Town in Maine
 - 15 Auditorium
 - 16 Actress — Moreno
 - 17 Fully prepared
 - 18 Irish Gaelic
 - 19 Smooth-spoken
 - 21 Shout
 - 23 Sky bear
 - 24 Yield by treaty
 - 25 God-given gift
 - 28 Sneakers, British style
 - 32 "A long time — in a galaxy ..."
 - 33 Aim
 - 34 Tennis term
 - 35 Corvine cry
 - 36 Walking aids
 - 37 Name in Genesis
 - 38 "— Got a Secret"
 - 39 Sensational fellow
 - 41 "Great!"
 - 43 Defeated
 - 46 Lummoxes
 - 47 Slim
 - 48 Open, as a flag
 - 51 Polite denials
 - 55 Crackpot
 - 56 PR concern
 - 58 Court order
 - 59 Essential thing
 - 60 Of one's birth
 - 61 "Frozen" queen
 - 62 "Hired and Pacino"
 - 63 Toll
 - 64 Laugh out loud
- DOWN**
- 1 "God's Little —"
 - 2 Earth
 - 3 Dorothy's dog
 - 4 Hard to understand
 - 5 Woodland
 - 6 Place of contest
 - 7 Layer
 - 8 Conclude
 - 9 Source of tofu
 - 10 Jung or Perkins
 - 11 "The Sun — Rises"
 - 12 Gusted
 - 15 — of Troy
 - 20 Samovar
 - 22 Use a blue pencil
 - 24 Exclaimed
 - 25 Implied but unsaid
 - 26 Century plant
 - 27 Bring down
 - 28 Bar mixer
 - 29 Choose
 - 30 Variety show
 - 31 Strict
 - 33 City of Light
 - 36 Stud for a sleeve
 - 39 Perjuror
 - 42 Circular
 - 43 Happened to
 - 44 — de cologne
 - 45 Response
 - 47 Allowable
 - 48 Arm bone
 - 49 Christmas carol
 - 50 Opponents
 - 51 Appraise
 - 52 Singer — Guthrie
 - 53 "Simpsons" girl
 - 54 Red giant
 - 57 Chess piece



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PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED



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TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

‘Last Showgirl’ offers Anderson her dream role

Brian Truitt
USA TODAY

TORONTO — Pamela Anderson’s dream character has been three decades in the making.

And that’s about how long Shelley, the role the former “Baywatch” star plays in director Gia Coppola’s ensemble drama “The Last Showgirl,” has been performing in the Las Vegas attraction “Le Razzle Dazzle.” The show’s shut-down, and Shelley’s emotional reckoning, gives Anderson the kind of weighty part she had been ready and willing to play.

“I think I’ve been getting ready my whole life for this role,” Anderson, 57, said at a Q&A event after the “Last Showgirl” premiere at Toronto International Film Festival on Friday.

“It’s the first time I ever read a good script, first of all. I never had a script given to me that was coherent,” added Anderson, a former Playboy Playmate whose filmography includes “Barb Wire” and “Raw Justice.” “So I was like, I’m really wanting to do this. I’ve never felt that strongly about something.” And when Coppola offered the role, she was in: “I have nothing to lose. I’m just going to do it.”

In “The Last Showgirl,” Shelley faces a life change for the first time in forever, and Anderson gets to show her mettle playing an aging showgirl going out for



The cast of “The Last Showgirl” includes, clockwise from far left, Billie Lourd, Pamela Anderson, Jamie Lee Curtis, Kiernan Shipka and Brenda Song.

PROVIDED BY GARETH CATTERMOLLE/GETTY IMAGES

auditions alongside much younger dancers. And there’s a lot of emotion to mine, too, as Shelley reconnects with her estranged 22-year-old daughter, Hannah (Billie Lourd).

But Shelley’s not the only one figuring out an uncertain future. So is her best friend, ex-showgirl and cocktail waitress Annette (Jamie Lee Curtis), as well as the “Razzle Dazzle” stage manager (Dave Bautista) and her young co-workers (Brenda Song and Kiernan

Shipka).

“It’s a hard life wherever you go. And in Vegas it’s a really hard life,” said Curtis, who cried after seeing the film for the first time. “It is a movie about going after your dreams. But of course, the dreams become a really harsh reality. And for women, it’s a really harsh reality that men don’t have as much.

“Annette is simply your portal into what ends up happening. And a spray tan helps.”

‘Showgirl’ helped Lourd better understand her mom, Carrie Fisher

“The Last Showgirl,” which filmed in just 18 days, came at the right time and meant a lot to various cast members. Bautista remembered that about eight years ago, he was “in a tough place with my career because I was getting offered a lot of action roles, kind of roles that you would easily picture me in.” Searching for “meaningful stuff” led him to meeting Coppola and ultimately being cast.

Song also was at a career “crossroads” until her agent called her about the movie “when I was sitting in the parking lot at Costco,” she said. “It just all came together and I’m just so proud of everyone and I’m still happy to be here.”

Lourd took the movie to heart, speaking to Coppola about the relationship between her mother, Carrie Fisher, and her grandmother, Debbie Reynolds.

“Getting to play this character was extremely cathartic for me because it felt like Shelley was my grandma and I got to be my mom,” Lourd said. “And I got to understand my mom on a deeper level than I ever had.

“It was a beautiful experience and to get to do that with Pamela was an absolute gift. She is a wonderful mother in real life and was a wonderful mother to me on this film, and I feel so lucky.”

Fall TV

Continued from Page 1D

best and everyone in public education is exhausted. It finds the funny in all that mess.

‘How to Die Alone’ (Hulu)

Friday

It’s a good fall for comedies created by and starring talented comedians. This time it’s “Insecure” and “The White Lotus” alum Natasha Rothwell who is flying solo (pun intended) as Melissa, an airport worker stuck in her comfort zone and carrying the (checked) baggage of her failed relationships. After a near-death experience and a chance encounter with a stranger, Melissa’s outlook and fortunes change dramatically. Rothwell is a magnetic leading lady (it’s about time she got the chance), and the show has a unique point of view that will keep you wanting more.

‘High Potential’ (ABC)

Sept. 17 (Tuesdays, 10 EDT/PDT)

Who would have guessed “It’s Always Sunny in Philadelphia” star Kaitlin Olson would be perfect as the lead of a “Monk”-style procedural network cop show? The idea surprisingly works, as Olson brings a much more family-friendly brand of her humor to “Potential” as a single mom and janitor who stumbles into consulting for the police because of her extremely high intelligence. Cop shows are a dime a dozen, but the combination of Olson’s charm, good scripts and a likable cast that includes Taran Killam and Judy Reyes makes “Potential” stand out from the generic pack.

‘The Penguin’ (HBO)

Sept. 19, Thursdays, 9 EDT/PDT

The long-awaited follow-up to director Matt Reeves’ 2022 film “The Batman,” the series follows the iconic caped-crusader villain Penguin, played by Colin Farrell. A distinctly super-villainous tale, it’s as if “The Sopranos” took place in Gotham City instead of New Jersey: All mob hits, gang wars and petty political backstabbing. Farrell turns in a marvelous performance behind all those prosthetics and makeup, alongside a deliciously deranged Cristin Milioti (“How I Met Your Mother”) as mob daughter/sociopath Sofia Falcone. You’ll find yourself forgetting the dark and gritty drama has any roots in the colorful world of comic books.

‘Matlock’ (CBS)

Sept. 22 (Sunday, 8 EDT/PDT), then Thursdays, 9 EDT/PDT starting Oct. 17

When you hear the words “Kathy Bates in a CBS ‘Matlock’ reboot,” you might not be excited. The world of remakes, revivals and reboots on TV has been distinctly hit or miss in the past half-decade or so. But this one is a pleasant surprise. Bates plays bright,



Kristen Bell is Joanne and Adam Brody is Noah in “Nobody Wants This.”

PROVIDED BY STEFANIA ROSINI/NETFLIX



Cate Blanchett is Catherine in “Disclaimer.”

PROVIDED BY APPLE TV+

brilliant and folksy lawyer Madeline Matlock (just like the TV show, as she keeps telling everyone), who stopped practicing for several years but somehow wheedles her way into a job at a big-time corporate firm. There are cases of the week and a bigger mystery involving Madeline’s past, and the series, from “Jane the Virgin” creator Jennie Snyder Urman, succeeds because of its kicky pacing and sense of fun. Its star may be a septuagenarian, but neither she nor the plot is slowing down.

‘Nobody Wants This’ (Netflix)

Sept. 26

You actually do want this. The rom-com about a cool rabbi (Adam Brody) and an agnostic podcast host



Kathy Bates is Madeline Matlock.

PROVIDED BY BROOKE PALMER/CBS

(Kristen Bell) falling in love in Los Angeles might sound like it was dreamed up by a drunken artificial intelligence, but it’s in fact the sweetest, most romantic series of the last few years. The chemistry between Brody and Bell, stars of favorite millennial teen dramas “The O.C.” and “Veronica Mars,” respectively, now comfortably in their 40s, leaps off the screen as the star-crossed lovers try to sort their way through religious and cultural differences.

‘Social Studies’ (FX)

Sept. 27, Fridays, 10 EDT/PDT

Do you ever worry about teens and their phones? Well, this new documentary series from FX won’t

exactly make you feel better about all the time your kids spend glued to their devices. The eye-opening episodes, following a group of LA teens who return to in-person school in 2021 after months of COVID-19 lockdowns — and exploring how they use and abuse social media — will make you understand today’s teens in ways you perhaps wish you didn’t. Like a real-life version of HBO’s “Euphoria,” the series is disturbing yet sensitive to its subjects. It brings into stark relief the dangers of TikTok, Instagram and their ilk, and offers a more convincing argument for the Luddite life than a bunch of adults bloviating about the apps.

‘Disclaimer’ (Apple TV+)

Oct. 11, streaming Fridays

“Gravity” and “Roma” director Alfonso Cuarón brings his Oscar-winning talents to TV for this limited series about a novel that threatens to expose the dark secret of a celebrated documentarian (Cate Blanchett). The series has what a lot of other big-budget, high-profile miniseries have going for them: A movie star cast (Blanchett, Kevin Kline, an unrecognizable Sacha Baron Cohen), a mysterious death and a story that jumps around in time. But “Disclaimer” is more compelling and feels more important based on its eerie ambiance alone. It is a tantalizing story that demands you watch more. And the Venice Film Festival audience agreed; they gave it a five-minute standing ovation.

‘Hysteria!’ (Peacock)

Oct. 18, streaming Fridays

As ridiculous as its title would indicate, this Peacock series follows a teen metal band that takes advantage of local “Satanic panic” in the 1980s to turn their music from something nobody cares about into the dangerous, devil-worshiping hot ticket of the high school cool kids. The problem for the teens is the Bible-thumping adults of the town don’t particularly care for the band’s pentagrams and black nail polish. Plus there might be something actually supernatural putting everyone in danger. Julie Bowen, Anna Camp and Bruce Campbell appear in the series which mixes comedy, genuine horror and plenty of satire.

‘St. Denis Medical’ (NBC)

Nov. 12, Tuesdays, 8 EDT/PDT

Another workplace comedy winner from “Superstore” and “American Auto” creator Justin Spitzer, “St. Denis” takes the mockumentary format inside a suburban hospital. Like any other office, there are competent workhorses such as Nurse Alex (Allison Tolman) and idiot bosses such as hospital administrator Joyce (Wendi McClendon-Covey). From the first episode the cast has great chemistry and the writing has a distinct style. It’s more “The Office” deadpan than “Scrubs” saccharine, which may be the best way to laugh about health care in our current era.



Anna Camp is Tracy Whitehead in “Hysteria!”

PROVIDED BY DANIEL DELGADO/PEACOCK

9 **PATRIOT DAY** WE WILL NEVER FORGET

NATION & WORLD **EXTRA**

INSIDE
Hurricane Francine forces Louisiana evacuations, oil and gas shutdowns. **5NN**

PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE



Republican nominee Donald Trump and Democratic nominee Kamala Harris shake hands as they arrive at their podiums for the presidential debate in Philadelphia on Tuesday. BRIAN SNYDER/REUTERS

A FIERY MEETING

Harris puts Trump on defensive in first clash over abortion, immigration, foreign policy

Nandita Bose, Gram Slattery and Joseph Ax
REUTERS

PHILADELPHIA – Democratic Vice President Kamala Harris put Republican Donald Trump on the defensive at a combative presidential debate on Tuesday with a stream of attacks on abortion limits, his fitness for office and his myriad legal woes, as both candidates sought a campaign-altering moment in their closely fought election.

A former prosecutor, Harris, 59, appeared to get under the former president's skin repeatedly, prompting a visibly angry Trump, 78, to deliver a series of falsehood-filled retorts.

At one point, she brought up Trump's campaign rallies, goading him by saying that people often leave early "out of exhaustion and boredom."

Trump, who has been frustrated by the size of Harris' own crowds, said, "My rallies, we have the biggest rallies, the most incredible rallies in the history of politics." He then pivoted to an unsubstantiated claim that Haitian immigrants in Springfield, Ohio, are "eating the pets" of residents.

"Talk about extreme," Harris said, laughing.

The candidates clashed over issues such as immigration, foreign policy and health care, but the debate was light on specific policy details. Instead, Harris' aggressive approach succeeded in putting the focus on Trump.

Trump, who has spent weeks launching personal attacks on Harris

See **DEBATE**, Page 8NN



PHOTOS BY AFP AND GETTY IMAGES

Blinken demands overhaul of Israeli conduct in West Bank

Daphne Psaedakis and Steven Scheer
REUTERS

LONDON – U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken on Tuesday demanded an overhaul of Israeli military conduct in the occupied West Bank as he decried the fatal shooting of an American protester against settlement expansion, which Israel said was accidental.

Aysenur Ezgi Eygi, 26, who is also a Turkish national, was shot dead last Friday at a protest march in Beita, a village near Nablus where Palestinians have

been repeatedly attacked by far-right Jewish settlers.

Israel's military said on Tuesday that its initial inquiry found it was highly likely its troops had fired the shot that killed her but that her death was unintentional, and it voiced deep regret.

President Joe Biden later told reporters "it ricocheted off the ground" and a U.S. official said that was the conclusion of the Israeli investigation,

See **BLINKEN**, Page 7NN

US household incomes rose last year, Census data shows

REUTERS

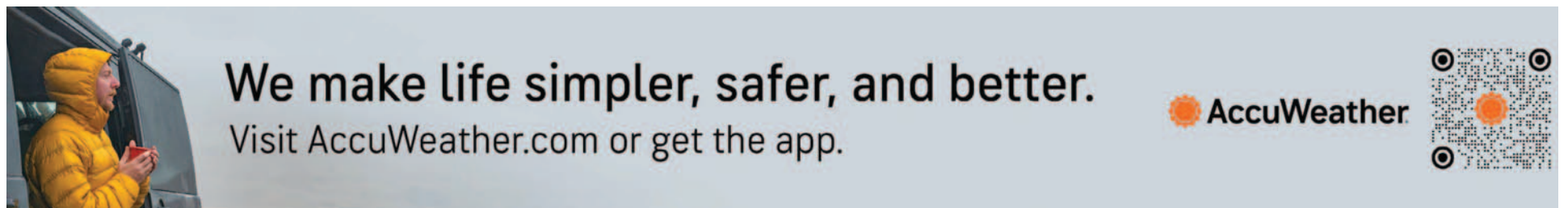
U.S. inflation-adjusted household income increased but poverty rates showed only modest changes last year, the U.S. Census Bureau reported on Tuesday, offering a mixed snapshot of how American households fared as the economy returned to pre-coronavirus pandemic growth levels, job growth boomed and inflation eased.

Real median household income rose to \$80,610 in 2023, up 4.0% from 2022, back to the peak reached in 2019,

while earnings for workers as a whole were higher than before the pandemic, a boost to households after multiple years in which workers' wages were outpaced by high inflation.

But the report also showed a main gauge of the nation's poverty rate, adjusted for government support such as food assistance and tax credits as well as household expenses, rose to 12.9% from 12.4% in 2022. The so-called official poverty rate declined to 11.1% from

See **INCOMES**, Page 5NN

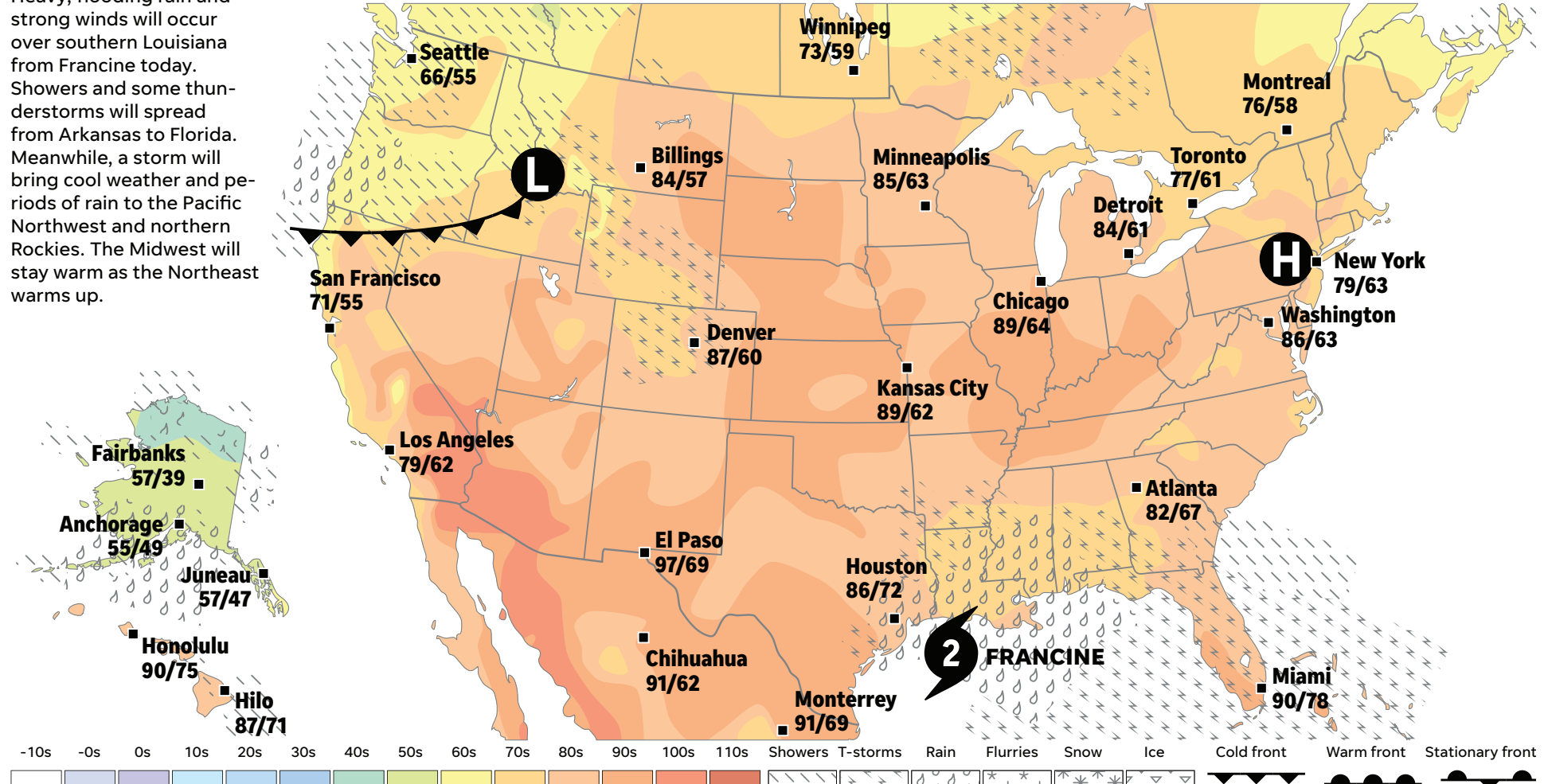


NATIONAL SUMMARY

Heavy, flooding rain and strong winds will occur over southern Louisiana from Francine today. Showers and some thunderstorms will spread from Arkansas to Florida. Meanwhile, a storm will bring cool weather and periods of rain to the Pacific Northwest and northern Rockies. The Midwest will stay warm as the Northeast warms up.

In the digital e-edition, you can click anywhere on the US map to get up-to-date forecasts, radar, MinuteCast® and more.

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation for Wednesday. Temperature bands are highs for the day.



TUESDAY EXTREMES

NATIONAL (for the 48 contiguous states)
High: 114 at El Centro, CA
Low: 29 at Yellowstone NP, WY
Precip: 3.59" at Brownsville, TX

INTERNATIONAL (excludes Antarctica)
High: 122 at Nasiriya, Iraq
Low: 19 at Hendrickson Creek, Canada
Precip: 6.69" at Hpa-An, Myanmar

TODAY IN HISTORY

North winds brought an early taste of autumn to the East Coast on Sept. 11, 1917. Temperatures dropped to as low as 25 degrees at Culvers Lake, N.J.

WEATHER TRIVIA™

Q: What was the longest dry spell in U.S. history?

1912-November 1914
 767 days. Bagdad, Calif., October

NATIONAL CITIES WEDNESDAY

City	High/Low/W	Air Quality	City	High/Low/W	Air Quality	City	High/Low/W	Air Quality	City	High/Low/W	Air Quality
Aberdeen, SD	91/61/s	54	Evansville, IN	92/62/pc	77	Levittown, PA	83/56/s	62	Rochester, NY	79/57/pc	44
Abilene, TX	89/64/s	67	Fall River, MA	78/53/pc	45	Lincoln, IL	91/52/pc	73	Rockford, IL	88/54/s	77
Accomac, VA	79/59/s	82	Farmington, NM	89/54/pc	63	Louisville, KY	92/65/pc	90	Ruidoso, NM	80/57/s	55
Adrian, MI	87/55/s	57	Fayetteville, NC	83/61/pc	63	Lubbock, TX	86/60/s	51	Salem, OR	70/56/sh	23
Akron, OH	85/57/s	60	Fond du Lac, WI	86/56/s	63	Manitowoc, WI	80/59/s	78	Salina, KS	89/61/s	68
Alamogordo, NM	95/63/s	47	Fort Myers, FL	91/77/t	25	Marshfield, OH	86/56/s	58	Salinas, CA	72/57/pc	44
Alexandria, VA	86/59/s	74	Fort Smith, AR	90/66/pc	71	Marshall, NC	79/55/pc	64	Salisbury, MD	82/57/s	70
Alliance, OH	85/55/s	61	Framingham, MA	80/50/pc	40	Marshfield, WI	83/56/s	58	San Angelo, TX	90/61/s	60
Amarillo, TX	90/60/s	57	Freeport, IL	86/54/s	67	Massillon, OH	87/56/s	58	Sarasota, FL	90/77/t	32
Ames, IA	89/55/s	71	Fremont, OH	85/58/s	61	McLean, VA	85/58/s	69	Savannah, GA	84/73/c	52
Anderson, SC	83/65/pc	67	Fort Collins, CO	84/52/pc	58	Melbourne, FL	86/76/t	23	Sheboygan, WI	80/58/s	81
Appleton, WI	85/60/s	59	Gadsden, AL	83/67/c	64	Memphis, TN	90/69/c	56	Shelby, NC	80/58/pc	69
Asheville, NC	77/57/pc	67	Gainesville, FL	82/74/t	30	Middletown, NY	77/48/pc	43	Sherman, TX	89/64/pc	59
Ashland, OH	86/55/s	55	Galesburg, IL	87/52/s	68	Milford, MA	79/50/pc	42	Shreveport, LA	78/70/t	26
Athens, GA	82/66/pc	65	Gastonia, NC	81/59/pc	71	Milwaukee, WI	85/62/s	75	Silver City, NM	92/59/s	55
Augusta, GA	84/68/pc	65	Glen Rose, TX	88/66/pc	76	Monroe, MI	80/59/s	62	Sioux Falls, SD	89/60/s	71
Austin, TX	88/66/pc	44	Gonzales, LA	77/71/r	21	Monroe, LA	76/69/r	20	Somerset, PA	81/53/s	66
Bartlesville, OK	92/56/s	86	Great Falls, MT	77/51/t	56	Montgomery, AL	78/72/t	35	Somerville, NJ	83/55/s	54
Battle Creek, MI	86/57/s	64	Green Bay, WI	85/56/s	58	Muncie, IN	89/55/s	66	South Bend, IN	89/56/s	68
Bedford, IN	85/57/pc	72	Greenville, SC	79/60/pc	67	Murfreesboro, TN	89/64/pc	71	Spartanburg, SC	80/61/pc	73
Binghamton, NY	78/54/s	40	Hackensack, NJ	81/60/s	53	Naples, FL	91/78/t	22	Springfield, IL	92/55/pc	77
Bluffton, SC	82/74/c	53	Hagerstown, MD	84/57/s	63	Nashville, TN	91/69/pc	77	Springfield, MO	88/63/s	82
Bremerton, WA	66/54/sh	31	Hattiesburg, MS	75/72/r	20	Neptune, NJ	76/62/s	60	St. Augustine, FL	82/77/t	27
Brockton, MA	80/51/pc	46	Henderson, KY	92/61/pc	72	New Bedford, MA	77/51/pc	47	St. Cloud, MN	84/57/s	49
Brownwood, TX	89/63/pc	59	Hendersonville, NC	75/56/pc	66	New Bern, NC	82/65/pc	55	St. George, UT	98/65/s	55
Burlington, IA	89/56/s	67	Herkimer, NY	79/53/s	39	New Philadelphia, OH	88/54/s	59	Staunton, VA	80/47/s	70
Burlington, NC	81/56/pc	69	Hillsdale, MI	84/54/s	57	Newark, OH	90/53/s	64	Stevens Point, WI	86/55/s	61
Burlington, VT	78/57/pc	33	Holland, MI	83/56/s	73	Newton, NJ	78/50/s	48	Stockton, CA	88/56/s	53
Cambridge, OH	89/56/s	61	Hornell, NY	83/53/s	42	New York, NY	79/63/s	54	Stroudsburg, PA	80/51/s	53
Camdenton, MO	87/59/s	72	Houma, LA	80/73/r	33	Norwich, CT	78/47/pc	45	Stuart, FL	87/75/t	29
Canandaigua, NY	80/57/pc	38	Howell, MI	84/56/s	53	Ocala, FL	83/74/t	26	Sturgis, MI	85/56/s	62
Canton, OH	86/57/s	59	Hutchinson, KS	88/59/s	65	Oklahoma City, OK	89/63/s	76	Tallahassee, FL	83/76/t	31
Carlsbad, NM	90/61/s	58	Hyannis, MA	74/56/pc	44	Opelousas, LA	75/69/r	15	Thibodaux, LA	78/71/r	28
Chambersburg, PA	85/56/s	61	Indianapolis, IN	88/60/pc	72	Oshkosh, WI	85/59/s	63	Topeka, KS	93/61/s	82
Cherry Hill, NJ	84/57/s	68	Iowa City, IA	88/55/s	65	Palm Beach, FL	88/78/t	33	Tuscaloosa, AL	79/71/t	51
Cincinnati, OH	89/61/s	77	Ithaca, NY	80/53/pc	37	Palm Springs, CA	107/74/s	89	Utica, NY	77/52/s	36
Clarksville, TN	93/65/pc	74	Jackson, MS	75/69/r	19	Panama City, FL	80/74/t	30	Ventura, CA	66/59/pc	55
Coldwater, MI	84/54/s	59	Jackson, TN	90/67/pc	64	Pekin, IL	91/57/s	68	Victorville, CA	92/55/s	113
Columbus, OH	90/60/s	69	Jacksonville, FL	83/75/t	35	Pensacola, FL	76/74/r	25	Vineland, NJ	84/53/s	73
Corning, NY	83/50/s	41	Jacksonville, NC	80/64/pc	56	Peoria, IL	91/58/s	72	Visalia, CA	90/56/s	78
Corpus Christi, TX	94/73/c	45	Kent, OH	83/55/s	61	Petersburg, VA	85/55/s	70	Washington, DC	86/63/s	78
Daytona Beach, FL	83/76/t	25	Kewanee, IL	88/53/s	66	Phoenix, AZ	109/81/s	67	Watertown, SD	88/56/s	66
Deming, NM	96/59/s	49	Keyser, WV	86/55/s	69	Port Huron, MI	83/53/s	62	Wausau, WI	83/57/s	53
De Ridder, LA	77/70/r	23	Kinston, NC	82/60/pc	56	Portsmouth, NH	77/52/c	41	Waynesboro, PA	84/57/s	62
Des Moines, IA	88/61/s	72	Knoxville, TN	88/60/pc	67	Poughkeepsie, NY	80/49/s	45	White Plains, NY	77/56/s	50
Detroit, MI	84/61/s	64	Lafayette, IN	89/54/s	68	Providence, RI	77/53/pc	48	Wichita Falls, TX	94/62/s	72
Devils Lake, ND	74/63/pc	109	Lafayette, LA	76/72/r	16	Pueblo, CO	90/50/c	54	Wilmington, DE	83/58/s	67
Dover, NH	76/48/pc	37	Lakeland, FL	88/74/t	33	Quincy, MA	84/54/pc	48	Wilmington, NC	82/67/pc	57
El Paso, TX	97/69/s	51	Lansing, MI	85/57/s	59	Redding, CA	85/60/pc	40	Wisconsin Rapids, WI	86/56/s	61
Elmira, NY	84/51/s	41	Las Cruces, NM	95/63/s	46	Reno, NV	81/47/s	63	Wooster, OH	86/53/s	58
Erie, PA	79/61/s	51	Lebanon, PA	83/53/s	60	Ravenna, OH	84/54/s	60	Worcester, MA	77/56/pc	44
Eugene, OR	69/56/r	23	Leesburg, FL	85/75/t	30	Richmond, IN	88/54/s	69	York, PA	85/56/s	67

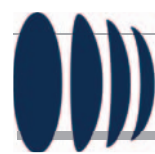
Air Quality Index: 0-50, Good; 51-100, Moderate; 101-150, Unhealthy for sensitive groups; 151-200, Unhealthy; 201-300, Very unhealthy; 301-500, Hazardous

INTERNATIONAL CITIES

City	Wednesday High/Low/W	Thursday High/Low/W	City	Wednesday High/Low/W	Thursday High/Low/W	City	Wednesday High/Low/W	Thursday High/Low/W	City	Wednesday High/Low/W	Thursday High/Low/W
Acapulco	84/77/t	87/77/r	Cape Town	73/49/s	66/48/pc	La Paz	63/34/pc	60/33/pc	San Jose	80/67/t	78/68/t
Addis Ababa	71/51/sh	72/53/sh	Caracas	91/78/t	91/78/t	Lagos	84/76/r	84/76/r	San Salvador	85/70/t	85/70/r
Algiers	86/68/s	85/66/pc	Casablanca	77/58/s	84/60/s	Lima	67/58/pc	67/58/pc	Santiago	70/45/s	66/42/c
Amman	91/71/s	93/72/s	Colombo	87/80/t	89/82/t	Lisbon	79/62/pc	78/61/s	Sao Paulo	91/65/s	93/67/s
Amsterdam	57/46/sh	58/48/sh	Copenhagen	60/50/r	61/49/c	London	61/45/sh	60/42/sh	Sarajevo	75/47/pc	76/57/pc
Ankara	89/61/s	86/58/s	Damascus	96/63/pc	97/64/s	Madrid	86/59/c	82/52/pc	Shanghai	90/82/t	92/82/pc
Asuncion	99/66/s	81/64/sh	Dublin	57/42/pc	55/38/pc	Manila	87/79/t	87/79/t	Singapore	90/79/t	88/80/t
Athens	85/72/s	86/71/s	Geneva	60/49/sh	59/44/s	Mexico City	77/55/sh	79/59/sh	Stockholm	59/45/r	61/46/pc
Auckland	61/46/pc	62/48/pc	Guatemala City	81/64/t	81/65/t	Milan	80/62/sh	74/52/t	Sydney	76/61/pc	64/54/r
Baghdad	114/85/pc	109/82/pc	Hanoi	81/76/t	84/76/t	Mombasa	83/71/pc	86/72/s	Taipei	101/81/t	96/80/sh
Bangkok	94/80/t	94/80/t	Harare	85/55/s	88/57/s	Montevideo	58/45/t	62/44/pc	Tegucigalpa	86/66/t	88/67/t
Beijing	84/61/s	86/61/s	Havana	92/75/t	91/75/t	Montreal	76/58/pc	79/60/pc	Tehran	95/75/s	96/75/s
Beirut	88/79/s	90/78/s	Helsinki	66/61/sh	67/60/pc	Moscow	79/62/pc	79/62/sh	Tokyo	92/80/s	92/80/pc
Belgrade	74/56/pc	84/62/c	Hong Kong	92/81/pc	92/81/t	Nairobi	81/57/pc	83/55/pc	Toronto	77/61/pc	80/63/s
Berlin	62/46/c	62/46/c	Jakarta	89/79/t	93/78/sh	New Delhi	89/77/s	80/75/t	Tunis	89/69/s	89/72/s
Bogota	70/47/pc	69/46/pc	Jerusalem	89/73/s	91/71/s	Panama City	87/76/t	87/75/t	Vancouver	64/54/c	65/54/pc
Brussels	60/45/sh	57/45/sh	Johannesburg	76/55/s	81/59/s	Paris	62/47/pc	61/45/s	Vienna	76/54/pc	57/46/sh
Bucharest	70/62/sh	82/55/s	Kabul	84/65/s	86/66/s	Port-au-Prince	95/77/t	94/76/t	Warsaw	74/53/pc	71/53/c
Budapest	77/52/s	76/56/pc	Khartoum	101/83/s	104/83/s	Rio de Janeiro	91/75/pc	91/75/s	Yerevan	88/65/s	89/67/s
Buenos Aires	62/52/t	60/52/pc	Kyiv	81/63/pc	80/63/c	Riyadh	112/86/s	111/86/s	Zagreb	77/56/pc	63/48/t
Cairo	101/83/s	101/79/s	Kingston	90/81/r	91/81/t	Rome	83/71/s	78/65/sh	Zurich	81/47/r	56/41/r

Denotes possible travel delays Wednesday

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



PAKISTAN

Renewed energy

Thousands of people took to the streets of Pakistan's capital, Islamabad, this week to protest the detention of former Prime Minister Imran Khan, who has been in jail for more than a year on charges that his supporters say are politically motivated, Al Jazeera reported.

Sunday's demonstrations were organized by Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf, or PTI, party and marked its first major protests since elections in February.

Images and videos online showed Khan's supporters marching toward the capital from other parts of the country. Authorities in Islamabad blocked key entry points into the city with shipping containers and deployed riot police to prevent unrest.

There were reports of clashes, with police accusing protesters of throwing stones and injuring officers. In contrast, PTI officials alleged authorities harassed workers to prevent their attendance at the demonstrations.

Khan, a former cricket star turned prime minister, was ousted from office in April 2022 through a no-confidence vote. He has been in jail since August 2023 and is currently on trial for allegedly inciting violence during protests in May of that year, when his supporters attacked military installations.

Despite his legal troubles, Khan has denied the charges against him and a number of his convictions have been suspended or overturned in recent months.

The protests also come as the party's future remains in question. Last month, Information Minister Attaullah Tarar announced plans to ban the PTI, citing allegations of inciting violence and leaking classified information. But the announcement drew criticism from the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, which labeled the ban attempt as "an enormous blow to democratic norms."



PHILIPPINES

Kingdom's fall

Police detained a highly influential Philippine evangelist pastor in the southern Philippines this week on charges including sexual abuse and human trafficking, an arrest that marked a dramatic turn for a figure who once seemed untouchable in the nation, CNN reported.

Apollo Quiboloy, a self-proclaimed "appointed son of God" and founder of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ, was arrested Sunday after a two-week standoff at his compound in the city of Davao.

His arrest followed a major operation involving more than 2,000 security officers, who surrounded his 75-acre compound. The standoff was marked by a series of clashes between Quiboloy's followers and police that left more than 60 officers injured and one follower dead from a heart attack, according to NBC News.

The 74-year-old preacher faces a series of accusations both in the Philippines and the United States, including human trafficking, sexual abuse, child trafficking and coercion.

U.S. authorities have accused him of running a sex trafficking ring for nearly 15 years and using his reli-

gious influence to force young women into sexual relationships, threatening them with "eternal damnation" if they don't comply. He has also appeared on the FBI's most wanted posters. Quiboloy has denied the charges and accused President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. of conspiring with the U.S. to "eliminate" him.

On Monday, Philippine authorities denied his request to quash his extradition to the U.S. However, officials added he would first face trial and serve any given sentence in the Philippines before the extradition process could begin, Reuters noted.

Quiboloy founded the Kingdom in 1985 and claims to have 7 million followers worldwide. The church operates a range of businesses, including media outlets, resorts and educational institutions.

The preacher is known for his lavish lifestyle and is considered a highly influential figure in Philippine politics, particularly due to his association with Marcos' predecessor, Rodrigo Duterte – whom Quiboloy served as a spiritual adviser.

His arrest has drawn mixed reactions in the Philippines and is expected to create political ripples, including further deteriorating the alliance between Marcos and Sara Duterte, the country's vice president and Duterte's daughter.

DISCOVERIES

Hear us out

Beneath the surface of healthy soils, an unexpected world of sound emerges.

A recent study from Flinders University in Australia found that the biodiversity of soil can be measured by the barely audible sounds produced by tiny creatures, such as ants, worms and beetles.

These sounds – described as clicks, pops and bubbling noises – are being recorded through new technology in the emerging field of "ecoacoustics" that can help monitor soil biodiversity and health without disturbing the ecosystem.

Lead researcher Dr. Jake Robinson compared the method to a doctor's examination.

"We're just doing a health assessment of the soil, but instead of a heartbeat, it's the invertebrates in the soil making different sounds that we can detect," he explained to Cosmos Magazine. "This helps us diagnose how healthy the soil is."

The researchers conducted their experiments in South Australia's Adelaide Hills using microphones and sound attenuation chambers to record soundscapes in soils across three types of plots – recently cleared land, plots revegetated 15 years ago and undisturbed land.

The results showed that revegetated and undisturbed plots were much louder and more diverse in sound than those in degraded soils, indicating a greater abundance of life.

To confirm these findings, they also manually counted soil organisms to cross-validate their data and determined that higher acoustic diversity correlates with richer biodiversity underground.

The study also uncovered that different organisms produce unique sound signatures based on their size, shape and activity.

The researchers believe that the developing field of ecoacoustics will prove integral in soil restoration efforts.

Venezuelans' hope for change fades

Diplomatic efforts have fallen short

Vivian Sequera, Mayela Armas and Matt Spetalnick

REUTERS

CARACAS, Venezuela – The flight of former Venezuelan opposition presidential candidate Edmundo Gonzalez has largely extinguished hope for political change, voters say, as longtime President Nicolas Maduro shrugs off international criticism about the conduct of July's disputed election.

Election officials and Venezuela's top court say the July 28 vote was won by socialist Maduro, who has been in power since 2013. The opposition say tallies collected by its observers show a resounding victory for Gonzalez.

After being threatened with arrest, Gonzalez over the weekend fled Venezuela – and some other Venezuelans are already opting to do the same.

Those staying are largely giving up on any hope of a transition, as post-election protests have fizzled out and punitive measures from abroad have yet to materialize.

"I thought there could be a change, but now I don't know, it seems like we'll follow the footsteps of Cuba," teacher Ender Lopez, 56, said in the central Venezuelan city of Valencia. His two children have already emigrated.

"Some people have faith in international diplomacy, but now I don't think they'll do anything," Lopez added.

More than 7.7 million people have left Venezuela in recent years and more are setting out to join its robust global diaspora.

"I am looking for a better life," said migrant Alejandra Medina, who slept on the ground for two nights with her young sons, in Pacaraima, a Brazilian border town.

In August, 12,325 Venezuelans arrived in Pacaraima, according to Brazil's Federal Police, up from 8,050 in June.

Shadow government

Former lawmaker and opposition leader Maria Corina Machado, who said



Alejandra Medina sits with her 1-year-old son in Pacaraima, Brazil, on Sunday as she waits to get her documentation after leaving the country.

AMANDA PEROBELLI/REUTERS

last week she wants the international community to do "much more," on Monday urged countries to recognize Gonzalez as the president-elect, saying he would continue his fight for change from Spain, where he has claimed asylum.

But Venezuela has been here before. Former opposition leader Juan Guaido in 2019 created a parallel government – based on arguments that Maduro's 2018 reelection was illegitimate – an effort that was supported by many Western democracies.

The effort failed. Guaido eventually fled to the United States, the opposition called time on the shadow government, and diplomatic efforts shifted to parallel negotiations between the opposition and the government and the United States and the government.

Those talks led to a deal on election conditions signed in Barbados last October, the freeing of dozens of opposition-linked Venezuelans and 10 Americans, and the temporary drawdown of

U.S. sanctions.

The detente was short-lived, foundering even before the election. The U.S. said in April it would reimpose the oil industry restrictions in response to Maduro's failure to meet election commitments.

U.S. officials have defended Washington's recent cautious response, insisting they are coordinating any future action with regional and international partners.

Migration misgivings

But people familiar with the matter see Washington's options as limited and say Venezuela is competing for attention with foreign policy priorities like the Israel-Hamas conflict, Russia's war in Ukraine and China's growing influence in the Indo-Pacific.

The Biden administration is finalizing a list of Venezuelan officials and their families who would face individual sanctions and U.S. visa bans, sources

have said, but no official announcement has yet been made.

U.S. officials have privately expressed misgivings about actions that would inflict serious damage to an already struggling Venezuelan economy, fearing that could spur an increased flow of migrants to the U.S.-Mexico border. Migration is a hot-button issue in the tight U.S. presidential campaign.

Asked about criticism of the U.S. for acting too slowly and whether any action now might be too little, too late, a spokesperson for the White House National Security Council reiterated the administration's stance on Monday, saying the U.S. was "considering a range of options."

Talks with Maduro were unlikely until after the Nov. 5 U.S. election, said London investment bank BancTrust in a Monday note.

"If Maduro's downfall was imminent or if negotiations on a transition were ongoing, (Gonzalez) would not have left the country, in our view," it said.

For any discussions to happen there will need to be sufficient pressure from inside the Venezuelan government and the military, long a staunch backer of Maduro, said Venezuelan lawyer and international politics expert Mariano de Alba.

Among the diplomatic community, "there is fear that the tools of international pressure could end up having a negative impact," he said, adding that too much external pressure could further unite the government.

Brazil – whose president has traditionally had friendlier relations with Maduro – has sharpened its criticism in recent weeks.

Venezuela's government revoked Brazil's authorization to represent Argentine interests in the country, including administering the diplomatic residence where six opposition figures are sheltering, on Saturday, drawing Argentina's condemnation and Brazil's surprise.

A Brazilian diplomatic source said on Monday that Gonzalez leaving weakened the opposition's position.

"We understand why he needed to leave," the source added. "But it makes Maduro stronger."

Fed's Barr unveils sweeping bank capital plan changes

Eases earlier proposal after Wall Street criticism

Pete Schroeder
REUTERS

WASHINGTON — The Federal Reserve's regulatory chief on Tuesday outlined a plan to raise big banks' capital by 9%, significantly easing an earlier proposal after intense Wall Street opposition but disappointing bank investors and some critics of the rule.

In a speech to the Brookings Institution, Fed Vice Chair for Supervision Michael Barr said regulators will reissue watered-down drafts of the "Basel Endgame" rule and a separate capital rule for global banks, bowing to Wall Street lenders which have aggressively lobbied to weaken them.

The draft Basel rule, first unveiled in July 2023, overhauls how banks with more than \$100 billion in assets calculate capital they must put aside to absorb potential losses.

The other draft rule aims to make a capital surcharge levied on global systemically important banks more risk-sensitive. Reuters reported in July that the Fed was considering tweaking that rule to give banks including JPMorgan Chase, Bank of America and Citigroup a capital break.

Overall, the plan will raise big banks' capital by 9% compared with 19% originally, Barr said. It would increase capital for banks with less than \$250 billion in assets, such as KeyBank, M&T and Fifth Third, by 3% to 4% after accounting for unrealized gains and losses on their securities portfolios, an issue which sparked last year's banking sector turmoil. Those smaller lenders would otherwise be mostly exempt from Basel, Barr said.

"There are benefits and costs to increasing capital requirements. The changes we intend to make will bring these two important objectives into better balance, in light of the feedback we have received," Barr told the audience of academics, industry officials and reporters.

Despite those major concessions, a drop in bank shares and a lukewarm reaction by bank lobby groups, which mostly said they would review the changes carefully, suggested investors and the industry had been hoping for a smaller capital hike.

A Barclays Investor banking conference on Tuesday, during which some banks tempered expectations for third-quarter earnings, also weighed on the outlook for bank stocks including JPMorgan Chase.

The S&P 500 banks index fell 3.5% to



Fed Vice Chair for Supervision Michael Barr said regulators will reissue watered-down drafts of the "Basel Endgame" rule and a separate capital rule for global banks. EVELYN HOCKSTEIN/REUTERS FILE

near a one-month low, with shares of JPMorgan, Morgan Stanley and Citigroup down between 2% and 6%.

"It's disappointing to see the negative bank stock price reaction. The Street may have been looking for a greater reduction from the original proposal," said Stephen Biggar, a banking analyst at Argus Research.

The changes, which will be subject to more public feedback, are likely to spark another round of industry lobbying which could ultimately result in the rules being further weakened.

"Obviously 10 is better than 20. So that's good. The issue is we have no idea what they have changed," JPMorgan Chase President Daniel Pinto said at the Barclays conference, adding that the bank would be closely examining changes to how the draft weighs markets risks.

Litigation threat

Regulators say the rules will make the banking system safer, especially after three big lenders failed last year. Some Democrats criticized the Fed for being too soft on the industry following the changes.

"The revised bank capital standards are a Wall Street giveaway ... the Fed caved to the lobbying of big bank executives," U.S. Democratic Sen. Elizabeth Warren said in a statement.

In public campaigns and conversations with Washington lawmakers and regulators, Wall Street banks have argued more capital is unnecessary and will hurt the economy. They have threatened to sue to kill the final rule on

grounds the U.S. central bank and other agencies did not follow the proper procedure.

In response, Fed Chair Jerome Powell said this summer regulators will make "broad and material" changes and that the new draft should be re-proposed for public feedback.

But U.S. central bank officials have been at loggerheads with their counterparts at the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, who have wanted to finalize the rule before the election, Reuters reported in June.

The key questions are now whether Barr's plan will do enough to avert litigation and whether the OCC and FDIC will back it. Jonathan McKernan, a Republican member of the FDIC board, which votes on rule changes, told Reuters he would not support Barr's plan because it did not go far enough to fix all the problems. FDIC Chairman Martin Gruenberg and acting Comptroller Michael Hsu said in separate statements that Barr's plan reflect their joint work revising the proposal, and both were committed to ensuring the Basel work is completed.

The FDIC is expected to hold a board meeting later this month to consider the plan, according to a person with knowledge of the matter.

The prolonged fight means Basel will not be finalized before the Nov. 5 presidential election and could be weakened further or shelved if Republican candidate Donald Trump, who has pledged to ease burdensome rules, wins back the White House.

FINANCIAL MARKETS

S&P 500 closes slightly higher

Bank, energy stocks fall on slowdown worries

Sinead Carew and Shubham Batra
REUTERS

Wall Street's benchmark S&P 500 index closed up 0.5% on Tuesday, but concerns about slowing economic growth stunted gains, and the Dow dipped as bank stocks sank after warnings of current-quarter weakness while energy shares tumbled.

Energy was the biggest percentage decliner among the benchmark's 11 industry indexes, losing 1.9%, as crude oil futures fell after OPEC+ cut its 2024 and 2025 demand forecast.

Bank stocks fell broadly after Goldman Sachs CEO David Solomon said late on Monday that trading revenue could fall 10% this quarter. On Tuesday, JPMorgan Chase tempered expectations about income from interest payments.

Also, the finance chief of smaller consumer lender Ally Financial said credit challenges have intensified this quarter, sending its shares down 17.6%.

The warnings from banks overshadowed an announcement by the Federal Reserve's regulatory chief of a plan to significantly ease an earlier proposal to raise big banks' capital.

"A lot of the action today is being driven by concern the banks are lowering expectations for earnings for the current quarter," said Lindsey Bell, chief strategist at 248 Ventures in Charlotte, North Carolina. "The news from JPMorgan, Goldman Sachs and Ally stole the show because they're saying that fundamentally their business is slowing down."

Investors fretted over the economic implications of weaker energy demand on top of uncertainty about the Fed's decision on interest rates next week and its comment on the economy. In addition, the presidential election looms on Nov. 5.

"We're getting these signs that economic growth across the globe is slowing, and it adds angst when we already have such uncertainty here with the election cycle," Bell said, suggesting that September and October could be weak months for stocks.

Election uncertainty was also in focus ahead of Tuesday's debate between Democratic presidential candidate Kamala Harris and Republican candidate Donald Trump.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 92.63 points, or 0.23%, to 40,736.96; the S&P 500 gained 24.47 points, or 0.45%, to 5,495.52; and the Nasdaq Composite gained 141.28 points, or 0.84%, to 17,025.88.

In the previous session, Wall Street's main indexes had recorded gains of more than 1% as investors started the week seeking bargains after last week's steep losses.

Investors will closely monitor the August consumer price index inflation report on Wednesday and the producer prices report on Thursday.

The S&P 500's financial industry index was the benchmark's second-weakest sector and its biggest index point drag on Tuesday with a 1% drop. Its biggest drags were JPMorgan Chase, down 5.2%, and Goldman Sachs, off 4.3%.

In other individual stocks, Hewlett Packard Enterprise, the S&P 500's biggest decliner on Tuesday, fell 8.5% after the server maker announced a \$1.35 billion mandatory convertible preferred stock offering to fund its acquisition of Juniper Networks.

However, Oracle shares rallied 11.4%, making it the S&P 500's biggest gainer, after the software company beat estimates for quarterly results. Advancing issues outnumbered decliners by a 1.15-to-1 ratio on the NYSE, which registered 390 new highs and 159 new lows.

On the Nasdaq, 2,130 stocks rose and 2,014 fell as advancing issues outnumbered decliners by a 1.06-to-1 ratio. The S&P 500 posted 49 new 52-week highs and 13 new lows, while the Nasdaq Composite recorded 48 new highs and 156 new lows.

On U.S. exchanges, 10.75 billion shares changed hands, roughly in line with the moving average for the last 20 sessions.

Apple's iPhone 16 faces challenge from Huawei's new trifold device

But high price may limit Mate XT's market impact

REUTERS

Apple's new iPhone 16 failed to excite investors with long-expected AI features still in test mode even as an industry-first trifold phone from Huawei raised the stakes in a battle to dominate the global smartphone market.

Apple's shares fell slightly on Tuesday, a day after the U.S. tech giant unveiled its new iPhones that sport hardware-level integration for applications based on artificial intelligence but with limited changes to the external design.

The phones will use AI features — dubbed Apple Intelligence — to improve the company's voice assistant Siri as well as enhance the camera.

Those features will arrive on U.S. iPhones in beta next month, potentially keeping people from upgrading to iPhone 16s soon.

"With lots of words like "later this year" and "early next year," the core Apple message for iPhone 16 was: Next year will be better," Needham analyst Laura Martin said in a note.

Apple did not say when it would move beyond the test phase, nor did it announce a partner in China to help power its AI ambitions.

The lack of AI features in the new iPhones drew scorn in China, where the government has mandated that generative AI-based chatbots need to be vetted before their public release.



People take pictures of the Mate XT, a new trifold phone, at a Huawei store in Beijing on Tuesday. Huawei has priced the device at \$2,800.

ADEK BERRY/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

The hashtag "iPhone 16 Chinese version doesn't support AI yet" attracted 11.33 million views and over 1,500 comments on Weibo.

"What's the point of buying it if you can't use AI?" wrote one Weibo user. Another commented, "Without AI as the biggest selling point, it should be half price."

Apple did not raise prices for the new iPhones, which Wall Street analysts said was a good strategy as consumers are not willing to splurge on big-ticket items. Huawei, which showed off its new Mate XT smartphone hours after the Apple event, has priced the trifold device at \$2,800.

"Production constraints and the high price point mean the new (Huawei) phone will likely not have a huge impact in terms of shipments," said Will Wong, a senior researcher at consultancy IDC.

"But it's telling the consumers that it's still the tech leader and the potential challenge it brings to Apple may be far beyond just market share."

Comeback

Mate XT has already received more than 4 million pre-orders, for which no deposit is required, according to the company's website. It boasts an AI assistant with text summary, translation and editing functions, as well as AI-boosted image editing functions such as trimming unwanted parts of photos.

Huawei's string of successful smartphone launches in recent months underscores the company's ability to navigate U.S. sanctions and solidifies its position against Apple in China. In contrast, Apple's sales have slowed in the country after seeing strong growth for years, and its ranking in the world's second-largest economy has now dropped from third to sixth place.

iPhone shipments in China fell by 6.7% in the second quarter of 2024, according to data from Canalys.

Huawei made a comeback to the high-end smartphone segment last year with the release of a device powered by a domestically made chip, defying U.S. sanctions that have cut off its access to the global chipset supply chain. The launch of the Mate 60 Pro surprised analysts and U.S. officials.

Both the Mate XT and iPhone 16 go on sale on Sept. 20.

Hurricane Francine forcing Louisiana residents to flee

Gary McWilliams
and Marianna Parraga
REUTERS

HOUSTON – Francine strengthened into a hurricane on Tuesday night, the National Hurricane Center said, as it prompted Louisiana residents to flee inland and oil and gas companies to shut in Gulf of Mexico production.

Francine was developing more slowly than earlier forecast but could still wallop the Louisiana coast on Wednesday with life-threatening winds, drenching rains and an up to 10-foot storm surge.

Maximum sustained winds reached 75 mph on Tuesday night to become a Category 1 storm, the hurricane center said.

The storm was moving off the southern Texas coast and was expected to make landfall on Wednesday along the Louisiana coast. Its path promised a major test for liquefied natural gas export plants recently built in the region.

Energy companies shut-in 412,070 barrels per day of oil production, about 24% of the U.S. Gulf of Mexico production, and evacuated staff from 130 production platforms, U.S. offshore regulator Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement said on Tuesday.

About 494 million cubic feet per day, or 26% of Gulf natural gas production, was offline, according to reports submitted to the offshore regulator.

The region is home to about 15% of U.S. oil production and 2% of natural gas output.

U.S. natural gas prices rose about 3% on worries about the production shut-ins and potential impact on LNG plants. Global oil demand concerns overshadowed the storm and U.S. crude futures fell more than 4%.

Oil refiners and fuel distributors along the Louisiana coast were preparing to weather the storm. Citgo Petroleum said its Lake Charles oil refinery was implementing its hurricane plan.

The port of Brownsville, Texas, near the border with Mexico, and other smaller terminals in the state remained closed on Tuesday, while other ports, including Houston, Galveston, Corpus Christi, Texas City and Freeport, were working with restrictions.

Between Texas and Louisiana, ports from Beaumont, to Plaquemines im-



Men board up a window in Morgan City, La., on Tuesday ahead of Hurricane Francine. PHOTOS BY MARCO BELLO/REUTERS

posed restrictions to vessel traffic, the U.S. Coast Guard said.

In New Orleans, port officials were preparing to close its terminal and railroad operations, with service to resume on Thursday following damage assessments. Ports in Houma, Morgan City and the Louisiana Offshore Oil Port were closed to navigation, according to the Coast Guard.

Ports in Mississippi and Alabama, including Pascagoula also began storm preparations, but remained open on Tuesday. After landfall, the center of Francine is expected to move into Mississippi on Wednesday night or Thursday.

Oil producers Exxon Mobil, Shell and Chevron removed offshore staff and curtailed production. Pipeline operator

Enbridge also pulled employees from several Gulf of Mexico platforms.

Louisiana is home to three of the country's seven big operating LNG export plants. New plants – Semptra's Cameron LNG, Venture Global LNG's Calcasieu Pass LNG and Tellurian's Driftwood LNG development – are along the path of Francine.

Natural gas flowing to the Cameron LNG export plant dropped on Tuesday to 1.3 billion cubic feet per day from about 2.2 billion cubic feet per day on Monday, LSEG data showed. Semptra did not reply to a request for comment.

Freeport LNG, which operates the nation's second-largest export plant for the super-chilled gas, said it had begun storm preparations at its Texas plant without providing details.



People prepare for Francine on Tuesday in Morgan City. The hurricane is predicted to make landfall along the Gulf Coast on Wednesday.

City of Baltimore settles with Teva, Walgreens ahead of opioid trial

Brendan Pierson
REUTERS

Baltimore said Tuesday that it has settled with Walgreens over claims that the pharmacy operator fueled opioid addiction in the Maryland city, the latest in a series of settlements totaling \$402.5 million ahead of a trial scheduled to begin next week.

The announcement came a day after the city reached an \$80 million settlement over opioids with drugmaker Teva Pharmaceutical. Baltimore did not disclose the terms of its settlement with Walgreens, but the cumulative settlement amount implies that it was also \$80 million.

"We are proud of our efforts to bring these companies to justice over the past several years," Baltimore Mayor Brandon Scott said in a statement.

Walgreens said in a statement: "Although Walgreens strongly disputes any liability, this settlement is in the best interests of all of our stakeholders."

The remaining defendants scheduled to face trial next week are drugmaker Johnson & Johnson, and distributors McKesson and Cencora.

"We will challenge the city's claims – which have no basis in the facts or the law," J&J said in a statement, adding that it "did everything a responsible

manufacturer of these important prescription pain medicines should do."

Teva, McKesson and Cencora did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Baltimore earlier this year announced settlements with drugmaker AbbVie's Allergan unit, pharmacy operator CVS and drug distributor Cardinal Health.

Like more than 3,000 other local governments that have filed lawsuits over opioids, the city accused drugmakers of downplaying opioids' addiction risks, and distributors and pharmacies of ignoring red flags that pills were being diverted into illegal channels.

The vast majority of those cases have been settled through nationwide agreements, which now total about \$46 billion.

Baltimore opted against joining those global settlements in the hopes of recovering more than it would have received through those deals. The city said that under a multi-state settlement with Teva, for example, it would have received only \$11 million over 13 years.

More than 800,000 people in the United States died of opioid overdoses from 1999 through 2023, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Incomes

Continued from Page 1NN

11.5%.

Census noted, however, that the adjustments to income levels used to determine whether a person lived in poverty were larger for the supplemental measure than for the official measure in 2023. Had the official threshold increase been applied for the supplemental rate, that rate would have declined to 12.0% from 12.4% the prior year.

In 2023, the threshold for the official rate increased by 4.1% to \$30,900 for a two-adult, two-child household.

The supplemental child poverty rate, also adjusted and referring to those under 18, rose to 13.7% in 2023 from 12.4% the previous year. The rise in the child poverty rates was impacted by the end of extra pandemic-related government benefits. For example, extra pandemic-related food assistance programs ended in March of last year in a majority of states and school meal aid also narrowed.

The income and poverty data for 2023 comes two months before the U.S. presidential election. The shadow cast by a surge in inflation following the onset of the pandemic in early 2020, and how much that has squeezed pocketbooks of voters once government support programs designed to shore up household incomes expired, remains a key issue.

Last year saw the economy continue to post stronger-than-expected growth as it returned to its pre-pandemic path while the unemployment rate by January 2023 was 3.4%, lower than just before the health shock struck. While it ticked up to 3.7% by last December, that was still the lowest level in more than 50 years.

More workers

Employment growth averaged around 250,000 new nonfarm payroll

jobs a month over the course of 2023, well above the 183,000 average over the decade preceding the pandemic.

This was echoed in the findings of the report. There were 2.1 million more full-time, year-round workers in 2023, and worker earnings were the main driver of household incomes, said Liana Fox, assistant chief of the Economic Characteristics, Social, Economic and Housing Statistics Division. "We're seeing people are working more."

The worst inflation in more than 40 years has vexed both households and the U.S. Federal Reserve. The central bank ratcheted up interest rates to more than 5% by the middle of last year and has kept them there since, in a bid to reduce the pace of price increases back to the normal annualized trend of around 2%.

Inflation, by the central bank's preferred measure had fallen from a high of 7.1% on an annual basis in June 2022 to 5.5% at the beginning of 2023, before more than halving to 2.6% by last December. Inflation currently remains at 2.5%.

Household income rose throughout the income distribution, Census said in the report.

Real median household income rose by 5.4% for white households and 5.7% for non-Hispanic white households between 2022 and 2023. There was no significant change in median incomes for Black, Asian, and Hispanic households, the Bureau said.

However, the female to male earnings ratio fell for the first time since 2003, as women's earning growth was outpaced by men's. Real median earnings for men who worked full-time, year-round increased by 3%, compared to 1.5% for women with the same working patterns.

This could be partly due to a rise in the number of Hispanic women in the workforce last year, Census officials said, as they tend to earn less.

The report also showed that 92% of Americans were covered by health insurance for at least part of 2023, roughly unchanged from the previous year.

"We are proud of our efforts to bring these companies to justice over the past several years."

Baltimore Mayor Brandon Scott

"Although Walgreens strongly disputes any liability, this settlement is in the best interests of all of our stakeholders."

Walgreens statement

IN BRIEF

Advocacy group files complaint against University of Georgia

WASHINGTON – The Council on American Islamic Relations advocacy group said on Tuesday it filed a civil rights complaint on behalf of some students at the University of Georgia, alleging differential treatment of Muslims and people of Palestinian and Arab descent.

The complaint alleges the University of Georgia's actions violated Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which bars federal funds recipients from allowing discrimination based on race, religion and national origin. It was filed with the U.S. Education Department and urges a federal probe into the university.

The council said pro-Palestinian students have been the target of anti-Palestinian, anti-Arab and Islamophobic harassment since Israel's war in Gaza began, adding the university did not do enough to prevent the harassment or remedy its effects.

The university said it supports free speech and does not discriminate based on race or religion while also enforcing its rules and holding accountable those who violate policies.

Tech executives to testify before US Senate about election threats

WASHINGTON – Executives from major tech firms like Google, Adobe, Microsoft and Meta Platforms will testify next week at a U.S. Senate Intelligence Committee hearing on election threats.

Google parent Alphabet's global affairs president Kent Walker, Meta's global affairs president Nick Clegg, Microsoft President Brad Smith and a representative from Adobe will testify at the Sept. 18 hearing, a spokesperson from the office of Sen. Mark Warner, who chairs the panel, confirmed.

U.S. officials have been attempting to crack down on efforts to spread disinformation and misinformation online surrounding the Nov. 5 election in which Democratic Vice President Kamala Harris and Republican former President Donald Trump will face off.

Previous U.S. intelligence assessments have said that Russia, Iran and China have tried to meddle in American elections, allegations which those nations deny. Those nations have alleged that Washington interferes in their domestic affairs, claims that the U.S. denies.

Man accused of NYC attack plot was in Canada on student visa

TORONTO – A Pakistani man accused of plotting to attack a New York City Jewish center in support of the Islamic State group was in Canada on a student visa, Canada's immigration minister said on Tuesday.

Muhammad Shahzeb Khan, 20, was arrested in Canada last Wednesday as he allegedly tried to enter the U.S. He was charged with attempting to provide material support and resources to a designated foreign terrorist organization, namely Islamic State, or ISIS.

The U.S. Department of Justice accused Khan of plotting a mass shooting at a Jewish center in Brooklyn around Oct. 7, 2024, a year after Hamas' attack in Israel.

Khan came to Canada on a student visa in June 2023, Canadian Immigration Minister Marc Miller told reporters on Tuesday. The visa was issued the month before.

Khan is set to appear in court in Montreal on Friday.

Germany proposes to reduce number of asylum-seekers

BERLIN – Germany's government presented a plan on Tuesday to implement more rigorously European rules on asylum that would see more people turned away at its borders, a day after it announced it would start carrying out controls on all its land borders.

The proposals include detaining asylum-seekers while authorities determine whether Germany is responsible for processing their case with the help of Europe's shared fingerprint database, Eurodac, among other tools, Interior Minister Nancy Faeser told a news conference.

"We want people whose asylum procedure is the responsibility of another EU country to be sent back there," Faeser said.

The measures reflect Germany's hardening stance on immigration in the wake of high arrivals of asylum-seekers from both the Middle East and Ukraine which could strain relations with other European states.

Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk on Tuesday criticized Germany's tighter border controls, calling for consultations with other affected countries.

Reuters

Missouri abortion rights measure will be on ballot

Court decision comes hours before deadline

Gabriella Borter
REUTERS

Missouri's top court on Tuesday ruled that a proposed abortion rights amendment to the state constitution will appear on the ballot in November, allowing voters to decide whether to restore legal abortion in Missouri for the first time in over two years.

The measure, which proposes a right to abortion in Missouri until fetal viability, will likely appear on the November ballot for voters after organizers submitted more than 250,000 petition signatures and the secretary of state's office verified them last month.

"Today's Missouri Supreme Court decision is a victory for both direct democracy and reproductive freedom in Missouri," Missourians for Constitutional Freedom, the group sponsoring the measure, wrote on X.

The decision came after a lawsuit filed by anti-abortion lawmakers and advocates, where a circuit court judge on Friday ruled that the measure should not have qualified for the ballot because it did not sufficiently explain the ramifications that its passage would have.

Missourians for Constitutional Freedom appealed the ruling last the weekend, and the state Supreme Court's Tuesday decision reversed the lower court's order.

"It is deeply unfortunate the court decided to ignore laws that protect vot-



Abortion rights supporters march in St. Louis in 2022. Missouri is currently enforcing a total abortion ban with exceptions for medical emergencies.

LAWRENCE BRYANT/REUTERS FILE

ers in order to satisfy pro-abortion activists who intentionally omitted critical information from the initiative petition," Mary Catherine Martin, an attorney for the group challenging the measure's validity, said in a statement.

The decision came just hours before the deadline for Missouri's ballot printing. On Tuesday morning, the court heard arguments from the representatives for the respondents – including Republican state Sen. Mary Elizabeth Coleman – and for the appellants.

Missouri Secretary of State John Ashcroft "shall certify to local election authorities that Amendment 3 be placed on the November 5, 2024, general election ballot and shall take all steps necessary to ensure that it is on

said ballot," Chief Justice Mary Russell wrote in the ruling notice.

Missouri is currently enforcing a total abortion ban with exceptions for medical emergencies. The ballot measure's proposal to enshrine the right to abortion until fetal viability – typically around 24 weeks in pregnancy – drew support from 52% of Missouri voters in a St. Louis University/YouGov poll conducted from Aug. 9-16. The measure would need more than 50% support to pass.

The issue of abortion is now set to appear on ballots in nine states this November, including Missouri and a few battleground states likely to play critical roles in the presidential race and the fight for control of Congress.

White House: GOP pushing 'dangerous' Haitian claims

Vance, others accuse migrants of eating cats

Trevor Hunnicutt and Doina Chiacu
REUTERS

WASHINGTON – The White House said Republicans are spreading dangerous false claims about Haitian immigrants, after vice presidential candidate JD Vance and other top Republicans posted social messages accusing Haitians of eating cats and other pets.

"What's deeply concerning to us is you've got now elected officials in the Republican Party pushing, you know, yet another conspiracy theory that's just seeking to divide people based on lies and, let's be honest, based on an element of racism," White House national security spokesperson John Kirby said on Tuesday.

"This kind of language, this kind of disinformation, is dangerous because there will be people that believe it, no matter how ludicrous and stupid it is, and they might act on that kind of information and act on it in a way where somebody could get hurt. So it needs to stop."

"Reports now show that people have had their pets abducted and eaten by people who shouldn't be in this country," the Ohio senator said Monday on X in a post in which he also said that Haitian immigrants were "causing chaos" in Springfield, a city in his home state.

Other Republicans and their backers, including Sen. Ted Cruz and billionaire Elon Musk, have posted similar accusations and memes in recent days.

Local police have received no such reports and issued a statement addressing the issue.

"In response to recent rumors alleging criminal activity by the immigrant population in our city, we wish to clarify that there have been no credible reports or specific claims of pets being harmed, injured or abused by individuals within the immigrant community," Springfield Police said.

The city also put out a frequently asked questions on the Haitians on its website, which noted that the Haitians are there legally and able to work.

The claim started in a Springfield Facebook group, where someone wrote that a cat had got lost, ABC News reported. The person then without evidence claimed that Haitians took the cat for food.

On Tuesday, Vance acknowledged the claims were not substantiated. "It's possible, of course, that all of these rumors will turn out to be false," he said in an X post before going on to blame Haitian migration for affecting local health care provision, education and other issues.

But Vance did not back down. In another post on Tuesday he said: "In short, don't let the crybabies in the media dissuade you, fellow patriots. Keep the cat memes flowing."



Republican vice presidential nominee JD Vance on Tuesday acknowledged the claims he made about Haitian immigrants were not substantiated.

GO NAKAMURA/REUTERS

Trump has made a series of inflammatory and racist statements on the campaign trail in his race against Vice President Kamala Harris. In some cases, he has used violent imagery to lambaste immigrants and opponents.

The United States has seen a marked increase in hate crimes – defined by the FBI as an offense motivated by bias against race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, disability or gender – in recent years. FBI crime data shows the number of reported bias crimes went from around 8,500 in 2018 to more than 13,300 in 2022, a record high.

More than a million people living in the U.S. were born in Haiti, Census data show, more than double the number at the beginning of the century.

California passes requirements on carmakers, domestic violence

Dan Levine and Kristina Cooke
REUTERS

Lawmakers in the most populous U.S. state approved a proposal that requires automakers selling internet-connected cars to do more to protect domestic abuse survivors, in what appears to be the first measure in the nation addressing the issue to pass a legislature.

As automakers add ever more sophisticated technology to their cars, instances of stalking and harassment using features such as location tracking and remote controls have begun to emerge.

The bill, which passed the California state legislature late last month with overwhelming support, now awaits a decision from Gov. Gavin Newsom on whether he will sign it into law. One of the bill's authors, state Sen. Dave Min, said Newsom's staff had been involved in negotiations over its terms, as were different car manufacturers, including Tesla.

Tara Gallegos, deputy director of communications for Newsom, said in an email on Monday that the measure will be "evaluated on its merits." Tesla has not filed any public letters related to the bill, and the company did not respond to a request for comment.

Legislative analysts cited reporting from Reuters and the New York Times about carmakers who did not help women who alleged they were being targeted by their partners.

Among its provisions, the California bill requires automakers to set up a clear process for drivers to submit a copy of a restraining order or other documentation and request termination of another driver's remote access within two business days. It also mandates that carmakers enable drivers to easily turn off location access from inside the vehicle.

The deadline for Newsom to make a decision is Sept. 30.

Western nations impose new sanctions on Russia

Daphne Psaledakis and Simon Lewis
REUTERS

LONDON – Russia has received ballistic missiles from Iran for its war in Ukraine, the United States said on Tuesday as it imposed fresh sanctions on ships and companies it said were involved in supplying Moscow with Iranian weapons.

At a news conference in London ahead of a visit to Kyiv, Ukraine, he and Britain's Foreign Secretary David Lammy will make, Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Washington had privately warned Iran that providing ballistic missiles to Russia would be "a dramatic escalation."

"Russia has now received shipments with these ballistic missiles, and will likely use them within weeks in Ukraine, against Ukraine," Blinken said, citing intelligence that he said has been shared with U.S. allies and partners around the world.

The U.S. later identified nine Russian-flagged vessels it said were involved in the delivery of weapons from Iran to Russia, designating them as "blocked property" under Washington's sanctions regime, according to the Treasury Department's website.

It also imposed additional measures on previously sanctioned airline Iran Air, as well as companies and individuals involved in the two countries' military cooperation, the department said in a statement.

Blinken said Iran has trained dozens of Russian military personnel to use its Fath-360 close-range ballistic missile system, which has a maximum range of 75 miles.

Russian defense ministry representatives are believed to have signed a contract in December with Iranian officials for the Fath-360 and another Iranian ballistic missile system, Reuters reported last month.

Iran has previously supplied Shahed drones used by Russia in Ukraine, but has denied that it is supplying Russia with ballistic missiles. Foreign Ministry spokesperson Nasser Kanaani



Secretary of State Antony Blinken, right, listens to British Foreign Secretary David Lammy during a meeting Tuesday in London. Blinken and Lammy will visit Ukraine together. MARK SCHIEFFELBEIN/POOL VIA REUTERS

on Tuesday said on X that Iran views the reports as "ugly propaganda" to conceal Western military support to Israel.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov on Monday declined to confirm the reports but told reporters Russia was cooperating with Iran including on "the most sensitive" areas.

After 2½ years of war, Ukrainian forces now find themselves stretched, fending off a steady Russian advance in Ukraine's east. Last month Kyiv sent troops into Russia on their first large-scale cross-border incursion.

The Iranian missiles can be used on closer targets, allowing Russia to use more of its own arsenal for targets that are further from the front line, Blinken said.

Russia, which previously signed up to United Nations restrictions on Iran, was also sharing technology sought by Tehran, he added. "This is a two-way street, including on nuclear issues as well as some space information," Blinken said.

Caspian voyages

The Treasury and the State Department imposed sanctions on 10 individuals and nine entities based in Iran and Russia, the Treasury said.

The sanctions freeze any U.S. assets held by those targeted, denying them access, and generally bars Americans from dealing with them.

Included in Tuesday's sanctions were ships that regularly bring cargo across the Caspian Sea between Iran and Russia, including the Port Olya-3, a vessel owned by Russia-based company MG-FLOT that was used to transport close-range ballistic missiles, the Treasury said.

The vessel made a series of voyages between the Russian Caspian port of Olya and Iran's Amirabad port between May and August this year, according to ship tracking data.

The State Department also said Iran Air was further targeted because it was used to procure sensitive Western-origin goods and transport materials for

Iran's drone program.

France, Germany and Britain said they were canceling air services agreements with Iran and pledged to impose sanctions on Iran Air and those involved in Iran's ballistic missile program and providing arms to Russia.

Britain announced seven new sanctions designations under its Iran sanctions regime and three under its Russia regime.

The European Union also vowed a "strong response."

David Albright, head of the Institute for Science and International Security research group, said he doubted the new sanctions would have any impact on halting Iran's cooperation with Russia because Tehran sees stronger ties with Moscow – and Beijing – in its best economic and political interests.

"They will have some impact on shipping companies and vessels, but others can move in," said Albright, a former U.N. nuclear inspector.

Blinken visit

Ukraine, which said it could cut diplomatic ties with Tehran if Russia uses Iranian-supplied missiles, welcomed the sanctions but said they were not sufficient.

Presidential chief of staff Andriy Yermak reiterated that Kyiv was seeking Washington's permission to use U.S.-supplied weapons deeper inside Russia.

The Pentagon has said that Ukraine can use U.S. weapons to return fire coming from Russia, a policy that in theory could allow Ukrainian forces to strike Iranian missiles being prepared for launch.

Blinken said he would use his visit to Ukraine on Wednesday to hear directly from Ukraine's leadership what their current needs and objectives are and what the U.S. can do to help.

Blinken and Lammy will visit together in a bid to show united Western support for Kyiv.

Blinken will also visit Poland on Thursday, the State Department said.

Protesters storm Mexican Senate amid debate

Cassandra Garrison
REUTERS

MEXICO CITY – Mexico's Senate resumed debate on a controversial judicial overhaul on Tuesday evening at an alternative location after protesters broke into the Senate chamber mid-session.

Demonstrators forced their way into the Senate building as debate was underway, marking an escalation of weeks of widespread protest against the reform, which critics fear could undermine the country's rule of law.

The debate began again Tuesday night after being moved to the Senate's former base, the Xicotencatl building.

Earlier in the day, Senate President Jose Gerardo Fernandez suspended the session and asked lawmakers to remain calm as demonstrators flooded the upper level of the chamber, chanting "traitors" in opposition to the reform.

Mexico's major trading partners, the United States and Canada, have warned the changes could undermine the trade pact of the three countries, the USMCA, and negatively impact investment.

The backbone of the constitutional reform, proposed by outgoing President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, calls for the election by popular vote of more than 6,500 judges and magistrates, including the Supreme Court.

The reform also proposes reducing the number of Supreme Court justices to nine from 11, shortening their terms to 12 years and cutting required work experience from 10 to five years.

Lopez Obrador and President-elect Claudia Sheinbaum have vigorously defended the reform as essential for holding judges accountable and reducing corruption.

Critics have attacked it as a doubling-down of power by the ruling Morena party.

As senators debated the reform, opposition lawmakers accused the ruling bloc of underhanded tactics to secure the necessary two-thirds majority.

The vote is expected to be tight, with the ruling coalition formally one senator short, though speculation is mounting that opposition PAN Sen. Miguel Angel Yunes could favor the reform.



Demonstrators enter the Mexican Senate building in Mexico City on Tuesday amid debate over a controversial judicial overhaul. RAQUEL CUNHA/REUTERS

Blinken

Continued from Page 1NN

the results of which were presented to the United States on Tuesday.

Palestinian officials say that Eygi was struck in the head.

Blinken, in his strongest comments to date criticizing the security forces of Washington's closest Middle East ally, described Eygi's killing as "unprovoked and unjustified." He said Washington would insist to the Israeli government that it makes changes to how its forces operate in the West Bank.

"No one should be shot and killed for attending a protest. No one should have to put their life at risk just for freely expressing their views," he told reporters in London.

"In our judgment, Israeli security forces need to make some fundamental changes in the way that they operate in

the West Bank, including changes to their rules of engagement.

"Now we have the second American citizen killed at the hands of Israeli security forces. It's not acceptable," he said.

An Israeli government spokesperson declined to comment on Blinken's remarks.

The Israeli military earlier said an investigation by the Military Police Criminal Investigation Division was under way and its findings would be submitted for higher-level review once completed.

"We're going to be watching that very, very closely," White House national security spokesperson John Kirby told reporters, saying a criminal probe was an unusual step by Israel's military.

"We're going to want to see where it goes now in terms of the criminal investigation and what they find, and if and how anyone is held accountable," Kirby added.

Eygi's family called the preliminary

inquiry "wholly inadequate" and urged Biden to demand an independent investigation.

Preliminary inquiry

In a statement, the Israeli military said its commanders had conducted an initial investigation into the incident and found that the gunfire was not aimed at her but another individual it called "the key instigator of the riot."

"The incident took place during a violent riot in which dozens of Palestinian suspects burned tires and hurled rocks toward security forces at the Beita Junction," it said.

Israel has sent a request to Palestinian authorities to carry out an autopsy, it said.

"We are deeply offended by the suggestion that her killing by a trained sniper was in any way unintentional," Eygi's family said in a statement.

A surge in violent settler assaults on

Palestinians in the West Bank has stirred anger among Western allies of Israel, including the United States, which has imposed sanctions on some Israelis involved in the hard-line settler movement. Tensions have been heightened amid Israel's war against Hamas militants in Gaza.

Palestinians have held weekly protests in Beita since 2020 over the expansion of nearby Eyyatar, a settler outpost. Ultra-nationalist members of Israel's ruling coalition have acted to legalize previously unauthorized outposts like Eyyatar, a move Washington says threatens the stability of the West Bank and undercuts efforts toward a two-state solution to the conflict.

Since the 1967 Middle East war, Israel has occupied the West Bank of the Jordan River, an area Palestinians want as the core of a future independent state.

Israel has built a thickening array of settlements there that most countries deem illegal.

PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE

Debate

Continued from Page 1NN

that have included racist and sexist insults, largely avoided insults during the debate's early moments but became increasingly agitated under Harris' offensive.

Trump was asked by the moderators about one of those attacks, when he told an event with Black journalists in July that Harris had recently "become a Black person."

"I couldn't care less," he said. "Whatever she wants to be is OK with me."

Harris, who has both Black and South Asian heritage, responded, "I think it's a tragedy that we have someone who wants to be president who has consistently over the course of his career attempted to use race to divide the American people."

She criticized Trump over his criminal conviction for covering up hush money payments to an adult film star as well as his other indictments and a civil judgment finding him liable for sexual assault. Trump has denied wrongdoing and again accused Harris and the Democrats of orchestrating all of the cases without evidence.

Trump also repeated his false claim that his 2020 election defeat was due to fraud, called Harris a "Marxist" and asserted falsely that migrants have caused a violent crime spree.

With eight weeks to go before the Nov. 5 election, and days until early voting starts in some states, the debate – the only one scheduled – presented both opportunities and risks for each candidate in front of a televised audience of tens of millions of voters.

A surprise handshake

The debate got underway Tuesday night with a surprise handshake between the two opponents, who had never met before. Harris approached Trump at his lectern, introducing herself by name, in what was the first handshake at a presidential debate since 2016.

"Kamala Harris," she said, shaking his hand. "Let's have a good debate."

"Nice to see you," Trump said, shaking her hand.

The encounter was particularly important for Harris, with opinion polls showing that more than a quarter of likely voters feel they do not know enough about her. Harris entered the race only seven weeks ago after President Joe Biden's exit.

Harris delivered a lengthy attack on abortion limits, speaking passionately about women denied emergency care and victims of incest unable to terminate their pregnancies due to statewide bans that have proliferated since the U.S. Supreme Court eliminated a nationwide right in 2022. Three Trump appointees were in the majority of that ruling.

She also claimed Trump would support a national ban, an assertion Trump called a lie.



People watch the presidential debate between Donald Trump and Kamala Harris at a watch party hosted by the New York Young Republican Club in New York City on Tuesday. ADAM GRAY/REUTERS



People watch the debate at Penn Social in Washington on Tuesday. Presidential debates do not necessarily change voters' minds, but they can transform the dynamics of a race. ALEX WONG/GETTY IMAGES

Trump, who has sometimes struggled with messaging on abortion, claimed falsely that Harris and Democrats support infanticide, which – as moderator Linsey Davis noted – is illegal in every state.

"As I said, you're going to hear a bunch of lies," Harris said.

Harris also sought to tie Trump to Project 2025, a conservative policy blueprint that proposes expanding executive power, eliminating environmental regulations and making it illegal to ship abortion pills across state lines, among other right-wing goals.

Trump retorted that he has "nothing to do" with Project 2025, though some of his advisers were involved in its creation.

Clashes on economy, foreign policy

The candidates opened the debate by focusing on the economy, an issue that opinion polls show favors Trump.

Harris attacked Trump's intention to impose high tariffs on foreign goods – a proposal she has likened to a sales tax on the middle class – while touting her plan to offer tax benefits to families and small businesses.

"Donald Trump left us the worst unemployment since the Great Depression," Harris said, referring to his years as president from 2017-2021. Unemployment peaked at 14.8% in April 2020 and at 6.4% when he left office. It was far higher in the Great Depression.

Trump criticized Harris for the persistent inflation during the Biden administration's term, though he overstated the level of price increases. He also pivoted quickly to his top issue, immigration, claiming again without evidence that immigrants from "insane asylums" are crossing the U.S. southern border with Mexico.

Inflation, he said, "has been a disaster for people, for the middle class, for every class."

The candidates also exchanged barbs over the Israel-Gaza war and the Russian invasion of Ukraine, though neither offered specifics on how they would seek to end each conflict.

Harris accused Trump of being willing to abandon U.S. support for Ukraine to curry favor with Russian President Vladimir Putin, calling Trump a "disgrace," while Trump claimed Harris "hates" Israel – an assertion she rejected.

Presidential debates do not necessarily change voters' minds, but they can transform the dynamics of a race. Biden's poor performance against Trump in June led him to abandon his campaign on July 21.

The debate, hosted by ABC News, took place at the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia. As agreed by the campaigns, there was no live audience and candidates' microphones were muted when it was not their turn to speak.

In a boost to the Harris campaign, pop megastar Taylor Swift told her 283 million followers on Instagram in a post immediately following the debate that she would back Harris and her running mate Tim Walz in the Nov. 5 election.

The post had been liked nearly 2 million times within 25 minutes.

Contributing: Kinsey Crowley, USA TODAY

How Harris, Trump plans affect US debt

David Lawder
REUTERS

WASHINGTON – Vice President Kamala Harris and Republican opponent Donald Trump have floated new tax breaks and spending plans, as they try to win votes by persuading Americans their ideas will do more to ease their financial burdens.

Budget forecasters are struggling to keep up with the latest tweaks, but so far all estimates show the former president's agenda piling up much more new federal debt.

Trump has said he plans to extend all tax cuts he pushed through Congress in 2017, exempt Social Security and tip income from taxes, and further cut corporate income taxes.

These changes would likely add \$3.6 trillion to \$6.6 trillion to primary U.S. deficits over 10 years, according to published individual and comprehensive estimates from four budget forecasters reviewed by Reuters: the Penn-Wharton Budget Model, the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, the Tax Foundation and Oxford Economics.

Harris' plans, which include expanding the Child Tax Credit, a \$6,000 bonus tax credit for newborns, a \$25,000 first-time homebuyer tax credit and no taxes on tips, could reduce deficits by as much as \$400 billion or add up to \$1.4 trillion

to deficits over a decade, the same forecasters calculated.

The estimates are based on static budget scoring, and are compared against the Congressional Budget Office's current-law "baseline," which already assumes a massive, \$22 trillion increase in debt through 2034.

Rolling analysis

The forecasts vary considerably depending on which ideas mentioned on the campaign trail are included.

Estimates of Harris' recently rolled-out tax deduction of up to \$50,000 for business startup costs, and a lower top capital gains tax than the one proposed by President Joe Biden are largely not included.

The forecasts include Trump's proposal to lower the corporate income tax to 15% from 21% but not his latest comments that this rate would be reserved only for companies that produce their goods in the U.S.

"The campaign talking points are moving faster than the budget models," said Shai Akabas, economic policy director for the Bipartisan Policy Center.

"I think we're largely seeing what we've come to expect in recent years, which is that candidates are going to put their popular policy priorities ahead of fiscal responsibility on both sides."

Congress must approve tax and spending legislation, making it difficult for the winner of the Nov. 5 election to achieve their priorities without sweeping majorities in both the Senate and the House of Representatives.

2025 tax cliff

The major differentiator between Trump and Harris is how they address the 2025 expiration of individual tax cuts passed by Republicans during Trump's presidency in 2017. Without action by Congress, these rates would snap back to their previous, higher levels.

Trump has pledged to permanently extend all of the expiring tax cuts, including for the wealthiest Americans, which tax and budget experts estimate would reduce revenues over a decade by about \$3.3 trillion to \$4 trillion.

Harris would extend the 2017 tax cuts for only those earning under \$400,000, keeping a Biden pledge, but this would add up to \$2.5 trillion to a spending agenda already estimated at \$2 trillion over a decade.

Harris has quietly endorsed the nearly \$5 trillion in tax hikes in Biden's fiscal 2025 budget request, including taxing unrealized gains from fortunes over \$100 billion and raising the corporate tax rate to 28%

This has caused consternation on

Wall Street but would substantially offset the cost of her spending plans.

"I think the conclusion that Trump's approach to taxes is more debt-fueled is correct," said Steve Rosenthal, a senior fellow at the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center. "I say that because Harris at least has some pretty well-developed revenue raisers."

Trump has not offered any conventional tax increases to offset his extended tax cuts. Other breaks, including exempting Social Security income, would reduce revenue by \$1.6 trillion, the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget and the Tax Foundation estimate.

The conservative-leaning Tax Foundation called the move "unsound and fiscally irresponsible," weakening Social Security and Medicare.

Trump has said his tax cuts would be paid for with "trillions of dollars" generated by stronger economic growth, new import tariffs, ending Biden's clean energy subsidies and a new government efficiency commission headed by billionaire entrepreneur and Tesla CEO Elon Musk.

The Tax Policy Center has estimated that Trump's proposed 10% global tariff and 60% tariff on Chinese imports could raise up to \$3.8 trillion over a decade but would reduce other revenues due to its economic effects, including imposing a de facto tax on households.

SPORTS **EXTRA**

MLB



Kansas City Royals starting pitcher Seth Lugo delivers a pitch during the first inning of Tuesday's game against the Yankees at Yankee Stadium in New York. VINCENT CARCHIETTA/IMAGN IMAGES

LUGO FANS 10 TO SECURE 16TH WIN

Seth Lugo struck out 10 in seven outstanding innings as the Kansas City Royals ended a six-game road losing streak with a 5-0 victory over the New York Yankees on Tuesday night. Lugo (16-8) yielded three hits and no walks in his 105-pitch outing. He tied Atlanta's Chris Sale and Detroit's Tarik Skubal for the major league lead in wins and became Kansas City's first pitcher to win 16 games since Jason Vargas went 18-11 in 2017. **ROUNDUP, 4NS**

GOLF SOLHEIM CUP

Korda: US team has 'unfinished business'

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Heading into her fourth Solheim Cup with no wins to show for it, World No. 1 Nelly Korda is determined to help the U.S. wrest the title away from Europe, which has held the trophy for three straight tournaments.

Last year in Spain, the U.S. and Europe played to a 14-14 tie, the first in the event's history. The tie allowed captain Suzann Pettersen and the Europeans to retain the title. Meanwhile, the U.S. hasn't won the event since capturing its second straight Cup in 2017.

"We got some unfinished business," Korda said on Tuesday ahead of the 19th edition of the event, slated to begin on Friday at Robert Trent Jones Golf Club in Gainesville, Va.

"Getting to represent my country, I've been lucky enough and honored enough to do it a couple of times, and every single time ... whenever you get to wear the red, white, and blue and stars and stripes, there's a different meaning to it."

Korda, 26, who has six victories on the LPGA Tour this season – including a record-tying five in a row – would love to see the U.S. team form a cohesive unit that can rely on every member, not just the elite players.

"For the amount (of Solheim Cups) that I've played," Korda said, "I mean, there's definitely other people that we can look up to, but at the end of the day, I hope that we can all come together as a team and just lean on each other, other than someone else leaning

See SOLHEIM CUP, Page 6NS



Nelly Korda hits on No. 18 in the final round of women's individual stroke play during the Paris Olympics on Aug. 10. KATIE GOODALE/USA TODAY SPORTS

NFL WEEK 1 WINNERS AND LOSERS

Lions showed grit in crunch time vs. Rams

Lorenzo Reyes
USA TODAY

The first NFL Sunday of the 2024 season is in the books, and it was exactly what pro football fans have been waiting for.

The slate gave us a complete stunner of an upset, with the Cincinnati Bengals, who came in as nearly double-digit favorites, falling to the New England Patriots. It gave us a pair of come-from-behind victories in the early slate in the form of the Miami Dolphins topping the Jacksonville Jaguars and the Chicago Bears beating the Tennessee Titans – with the winning defenses each shutting out their opponents in their respective second halves.

It even gave us the very first dynamic kickoff return for a touchdown, from DeeJay Dallas of the Arizona Cardinals.

Here are the winners and losers from Sunday of Week 1.

Winners

Lions' toughness: This was far from their best performance. The Lions offense stalled significantly in the second half, recording three three-and-outs in the first five drives after halftime, with an interception coming in another during that span. Still, Detroit outlasted the Rams and showed its mettle as a contender in the NFC.

This was the first game since the Lions blew a 17-point halftime lead to the San Francisco 49ers in the NFC championship game. And while it wasn't clean – star receiver Amon-Ra St. Brown caught just three passes for 13 yards,

See NFL, Page 2NS



Lions running back Jahmyr Gibbs carries against the Los Angeles Rams on Sunday in Detroit. LON HORWEDEL/IMAGN IMAGES

NFL

NOTEBOOK

Hill's agent: Fire officers involved in incident

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

NFL power agent Drew Rosenhaus is calling for the police officers involved in the detainment of Miami Dolphins star wide receiver Tyreek Hill to be fired.

Speaking Tuesday on "The Dan Le Betard Show," Rosenhaus said the officers didn't treat Hill "like a human being" after pulling him over in a traffic stop before Sunday's home game against the Jacksonville Jaguars.

Police body cam footage of the incident shows officers yanking Hill out of his black sports car after he did not follow their orders to roll down his windows. He was forced to the ground and handcuffed.

"For me, personally, I believe the police officers that did that to Tyreek shouldn't be in that position — they should be let go," Rosenhaus said, describing what he saw in the video. "Look at the guy who kicked him — that guy should be fired. That's out of control. The guy that jumped in and put him in a chokehold? There's no place for a police officer to have a badge that operates like that, when Tyreek wasn't being aggressive, or violent or fighting back in any capacity. That was horrendous how they treated him."

Rosenhaus added that he would discuss his comments with Hill and his attorney, Julius Collins.

An unidentified police officer who was relieved of administrative duty following Sunday's incident is taking steps to returning to work.

The officer's representatives — attorneys Ignacio Alvarez of ALGO Law Firm and Israel Reyes of The Reyes Law Firm — issued a statement requesting their client be immediately reinstated. The attorneys also stated they support the call for a review of the incident made by Miami-Dade Police Department director Stephanie Daniels.

Per the statement, the officer in question won't comment on the matter until the investigation is completed.

Hill, 30, is scheduled to speak on Wednesday for the first time since body camera footage was released Monday.

Hill received citations for reckless driving and driving without a license after being pulled over just blocks from Hard Rock Stadium just hours before Sunday's 20-17 Dolphins win.

NFL reviewing latest allegation against Browns' Watson

The NFL said it is reviewing the latest



Miami Dolphins receiver Tyreek Hill reacts after Sunday's game against the Jacksonville Jaguars in Miami Gardens, Fla. SAM NAVARRO/IMAGN IMAGES

allegations made against Cleveland Browns quarterback Deshaun Watson under the league's personal conduct policy.

NFL spokesman Brian McCarthy added in his statement that the commissioner's exempt list is not being considered because "there's been no formal charges and the league's review has just begun."

A woman in Houston filed a civil lawsuit against Watson on Monday, seeking \$1 million in damages, claiming that he committed sexual assault and battery ahead of a dinner date at her apartment in October 2020.

The Browns issued a statement. "We will respect the due process our legal system affords regarding the recently filed civil suit and follow the NFL's guidelines on this matter."

According to the lawsuit, Watson, who was playing for the Houston Texans at the time, met the woman identified as "Jane Doe" at a local restaurant, got her number and suggested that the two go out on a date at a mall. The woman didn't want to be in public with Watson, leading her to propose the dinner date at her apartment.

Before Watson even arrived at her residence, the woman alleges that he called her and yelled at her on the phone because he struggled to find where she lived. He eventually showed up, and the suit states that after getting ready in the bathroom, the woman returned to her bedroom, where Watson was "com-

pletely naked on her bed, lying face down on his stomach."

Watson then demanded a massage, motioning toward his knees and groin, per the lawsuit. The woman said she was not a masseuse, but Watson proceeded to ask her if there was anything she would rather do instead.

Steelers preparing QB Fields to start at Denver

Mike Tomlin takes the Steelers back on the road this week with Pittsburgh attempting to start the regular season 2-0 for the first time since 2020.

As of Tuesday, Tomlin said Pittsburgh's game plan involves Justin Fields starting at quarterback with Russell Wilson not yet 100 percent with a calf injury.

"As I sit here today, we're preparing as if Justin is going to be our quarterback," Tomlin said. "Russ is not scheduled to work in totality (Wednesday)."

Colts place CB Brents (knee) on IR

The Indianapolis Colts placed starting cornerback JuJu Brents on injured reserve because of a knee injury and signed cornerback Chris Lammons to the 53-man active roster from the practice squad.

Brents could miss the rest of the season, NFL Network reported, while the Indianapolis Star reported that an MRI revealed a significant injury requiring

surgery, though the Colts will leave open the possibility of him returning in the final month of the season.

This is the latest injury for Brents, 24, an Indianapolis native. He had wrist surgery before the 2023 NFL Draft and missed spring practices with the Colts, who had selected him in the second round out of Kansas State. A hamstring injury kept him inactive for the first two games in 2023, and a quadriceps injury cost him another six games of his rookie season, which culminated with his exit in the finale because of a hamstring problem.

Panthers place DT Brown on IR

The Carolina Panthers placed Pro Bowl defensive tackle Derrick Brown on injured reserve with a season-ending knee injury suffered in Sunday's loss to the New Orleans Saints.

Brown, 26, has started 64 of his 67 games since Carolina drafted him with the seventh overall pick in 2020 out of Auburn. He signed a four-year, \$96 million contract this offseason, and played in 60 of the 66 defensive snaps in Sunday's 47-10 loss.

Former RB Peterson ordered to turn over assets to pay debt

Former NFL running back Adrian Peterson has been ordered by a Houston judge to turn over numerous assets as a means toward paying a debt that is estimated at more than \$12 million.

The court-appointed receiver, Robert Berleth, requested this order in July and said Peterson "is known to have numerous assets" at his home in Missouri City, Texas. The Houston judge on Monday ordered constables in Fort Bend County, Texas, to accompany Berleth to Peterson's residence to keep the peace.

Peterson's debt issues began when he took out a loan for \$5.2 million from a Pennsylvania lending company in 2016. The sum has grown due to interest and attorney's fees, leading to an \$8.3 million judgment against him in 2021.

"No offsets have been made against this judgment to date," the receiver stated in the July court filing.

Entertainers & Athletes Group, the public relations firm representing Peterson, issued a statement to Field Level Media on Tuesday seeking to clarify his position in the matter. EAG said "every effort to resolve this issue has been rejected" and "attempts at an amicable settlement have been rebuffed."

NFL

Continued from Page 1

and Detroit went 2-of-4 in red zone conversions — the team's offensive line dominated the Rams in overtime, pounding the ball seven times for 60 rushing yards on a decisive, game-winning drive. The Lions sent a message that their identity has not changed.

Texans' moves pay off: Credit Houston for knowing it had a solid, young core and making moves to get better. The Texans took an early edge in the AFC South with their 29-27 victory over the Indianapolis Colts, and it was pair of trade acquisitions who made an impact.

Running back Joe Mixon was the focus of the offense, carrying the ball 30 times for 159 yards and a touchdown. Receiver Stefon Diggs, meanwhile, whom the team acquired in an April trade with the Buffalo Bills, caught six passes for only 33 yards.

Two of those receptions, however, were touchdowns, and one came late in the fourth quarter to give Houston a nine-point lead.

The support around Caleb Williams: The No. 1 overall pick didn't play particularly well in his debut, but no harm done. Chicago showed it can overcome a massive deficit — a 17-point one, in fact — and score points in different ways to win. The Bears' defense shut out the Titans in the second half and, following in the special teams unit's lead, scored a touchdown.

At some point (soon), Williams will need to put his team in position to win, but this is a massive asset for a rookie quarterback to have. The idea being that if the Bears can win when their offense converts just 2-of-13 third-down tries and generates 148 total yards — with only 64 of those coming through the air — they could blossom into a sleeper contender when Williams and the offense do figure things out.



Detroit Lions running back David Montgomery (5) celebrates scoring a touchdown against Los Angeles Rams with center Frank Ragnow (77) during overtime at Ford Field in Detroit on Sunday. JUNFU HAN/USA TODAY NETWORK

The dynamic kickoff (sort of): This, frankly, is neither a winner or a loser but more of a hold, given the sample size and that teams are still mostly booting kickoffs through the end zone. But, in the few times kickoffs were returned, the tweaked rules did infuse some excitement into the play.

Losers

Slow-start Bengals: Don't let the absence of receiver Tee Higgins fool you; this was an inexcusable loss against a Patriots team in a total cultural rebuild. And the Bengals — notorious slow starters who are three years removed from a

Super Bowl appearance — showed problematic indicators that hint to an offensive regression.

The Bengals lost just two fumbles all last season. By the middle of the third quarter Sunday, they had matched that. Cincinnati was the only offense, through Sunday's action, to not score a single point before halftime.

Joe Burrow finished with just 164 passing yards and, aside from Ja'Marr Chase's 62 yards, Bengals receivers accounted for just 37 receiving yards on five catches.

Giants' Daniel Jones experiment: Now in Year 6, the Daniel Jones experiment has run its course. Jones has not

been blessed with much surrounding talent during his time in New York, but the team's decision to reward him with a four-year extension in March 2023 is looking worse by the game.

Jones simply duplicates mistakes he has made throughout his career, as he did in a two-interception outing in a 28-6 loss to the Minnesota Vikings. He often holds the ball too long and climbs the pocket into sacks and pressure. He also takes sacks when dump-offs or throwing the ball away are clearly better options.

Browns saddled with Watson: Cleveland, essentially, is stuck with Deshaun Watson after a 33-17 loss to the Dallas Cowboys. Because the Browns gave him a fully guaranteed contract in March 2022, even as he faced 24 allegations of sexual assault and misconduct, there is little the team can do but endure his underperformance. It's unlikely a team will trade for a player who cannot operate an NFL offense with consistency, let alone one with Watson's personal baggage. Cutting him in the offseason would trigger an absurd \$172.78 million dead cap hit, per Spotrac.com.

Revamped Falcons: The Pittsburgh Steelers didn't score a touchdown on Sunday, and yet they still beat the Falcons 18-10. Atlanta's offense, in its first game with Kirk Cousins at quarterback and Zac Robinson as offensive coordinator, was overwhelmed and ineffective.

Cousins finished with just 155 passing yards, one touchdown and two interceptions.

Cousins was under duress the entire game, particularly with T.J. Watt bearing down on him.

Atlanta lost the turnover battle 0-3 and, with so many new pieces, it may simply take time for the rhythm of the offense to settle.

But, with games at the Philadelphia Eagles and against the Kansas City Chiefs looming, an 0-3 start could be a very real concern.

TENNIS ROUNDUP

Canada, Germany among Davis Cup winners

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Denis Shapovalov and Felix Auger-Aliassime handily won their singles matches to guide Canada to a 2-1 victory over Argentina on the first day of the Davis Cup Finals group stage Tuesday in Manchester, England.

In Group D action, Shapovalov hit six aces and went 4-for-4 converting break points en route to defeating Francisco Cerundolo 7-5, 6-3. It was an upset based on ATP ranking, with Shapovalov the No. 100 player in the world compared to Cerundolo at No. 31.

Auger-Aliassime then guaranteed Canada's first victory of the group stage by beating Sebastian Baez 6-3, 6-3. Argentina got a point back in the doubles match when Maximo Gonzalez and Andres Molteni beat Shapovalov and Vasek Pospisil 2-6, 6-3, 6-2.

In Group C in Zhuhai, China, Germany earned the only 3-0 sweep of the day over Slovakia. Maximilian Marterer defeated Lukas Klein 6-4, 7-5; Yannick Hanfmann rallied to topple Jozef Kovalik 3-6, 6-3, 7-6 (3); and the German doubles team of Kevin Krawietz and Tim Puetz swept past Klein and Igor Zelenay 7-5, 6-3.

The other two matches saw Belgium and Australia prevail after nervy three-set doubles matches.

In Group A in Bologna, Italy, Belgium defeated the Netherlands 2-1. Botic van de Zandschulp got the Dutch their first point by beating Raphael Collignon 7-5, 7-6 (6). Zizou Bergs drew Belgium even by outlasting Tallon Griekspoor 6-2, 6-7 (2), 6-3.

The doubles match saw Sander Gille and Joran Vliegen seal the deal for Belgium by beating van de Zandschulp and Wesley Koolhof 4-6, 7-6 (5), 6-4.

In Group B in Valencia, Spain, Australia held off France 2-1.

Thanasi Kokkinakis eked past Arthur Fils 7-6 (4), 7-6 (3) to put Australia on the board first, but Frenchman Ugo Humbert defeated Alexei Popyrin 6-3, 6-2.

In doubles, Australians Matthew Ebden and Max Purcell pulled away from Pierre-Hugues Herbert and Edouard



Canada's Denis Shapovalov celebrates victory after defeating Argentina's Francisco Cerundolo during a Davis Cup finals group stage match between on Tuesday in Manchester, England. MATT MCNULTY/GETTY IMAGES FOR ITF

Roger-Vasselin 7-5, 5-7, 6-3.

The group stage continues Wednesday, with the U.S. team set to play their first Group C match against Chile in Zhuhai.

Women Jasmin Open Tunisia

Top seed Elise Mertens cruised to victory, but fourth-seeded Nadia Podoroska and fifth-seeded Jacqueline Cristian were not as fortunate in the first round of the Jasmin Open Tunisia in Monastir, Tunisia.

Belgium's Mertens, ranked No. 32 in the world, posted a 6-2, 6-0 victory over Anastasia Zakharova of Russia. Mertens converted 7 of 10 break-point

chances and won 69.2 percent (9 of 13) of her first-serve points and 65.4 percent (17 of 26) on her second serves.

Antonia Ruzic of Croatia rallied for a 1-6, 6-2, 6-4 win over Argentina's Podoroska. British qualifier Sonay Kartal, ranked No. 151 in the world, ousted Romania's Cristian, ranked No. 74, in a 4-6, 6-3, 7-5 battle in two hours and 43 minutes for her third Top 100 win of 2024. Kartal converted 8 of 13 break-point opportunities (61.5 percent) to 7 of 14 for Cristian.

Other first-round winners were seventh-seeded Lucia Bronzetti of Italy, Jana Fett of Croatia, Rebecca Sramkova of Slovakia, Ann Li of the United States, Zeynep Sonmez of Turkey and Yuliia Starodubtseva of Ukraine.

Guadalajara Open Akron

Ashlyn Krueger won a tough opening set before eliminating Tatjana Maria of Germany 7-5, 6-2 in the opening round of the WTA 500 tournament in Mexico.

Krueger collected four aces to counter nine double faults and saved 6 of 8 break points. Maria tallied seven double faults and saved 5 of 10 break points.

Japan's Ena Shibahara converted all five of her break points to get past Australia's Kimberly Birrell 6-4, 7-6 (4).

Night matches included fifth-seeded Magdalena Frech of Poland facing Emi-na Bektas, and sixth-seeded Marie Bouzkova of the Czech Republic against Alexandra Eala of the Philippines.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Missouri, Boston College aiming to keep climbing

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

No. 6 Missouri reached rarified air this week. The Tigers, after all, haven't been ranked this high in the Associated Press poll since 2013.

And the Tigers (2-0) will have a chance to validate that standing when they host No. 24 Boston College (2-0) on Saturday in Columbia, Mo.

Missouri opened its season by winning two mismatches at home, 51-0 over Murray State and 38-0 over Buffalo.

Meanwhile, the Eagles upset then-No. 10 Florida State 28-13 on the road in head coach Bill O'Brien's Boston College debut. Then they handled Duquesne 56-0 at home, which vaulted them into the AP Top 25 for the first time since the 2018 season.

"I think it's great for BC, but really that's not our focus at all," O'Brien said. "It's really about one day at a time, really trying to get better."

Missouri has rolled up 1,007 yards in its blowout victories while emptying the bench in both games.

Quarterback Brady Cook is 48-of-67 passing for 456 yards and a touchdown, and he has rushed for 84 yards and three touchdowns. Missouri alternates running backs Nate Noel (121 yards, two touchdowns on 23 carries) and Marcus Carroll (97 yards, one TD, 18 carries).

Preseason all-America wide receiver Luther Burden III has been quiet, catching seven passes for 64 yards and a touchdown and rushing for 21 yards and a TD in two games. He was limited by illness against Buffalo.

Wide receiver Theo Wease Jr. became Cook's main target while catching 13 passes for 149 yards vs. the Bulls.

"Quarterback Brady Cook - very, very good player, can throw and run, two really good running backs and very, very good at wide receiver," O'Brien said of the upcoming opponent. "At least three or four of them can play in the NFL. So we have a big challenge ahead of us, big, big challenge."

While Missouri was unable to connect on deep passes during the first two weeks, coach Eli Drinkwitz wasn't concerned.

"You'd rather be on 'SportsCenter'



Missouri quarterback Brady Cook runs in for a touchdown against Buffalo last Saturday in Columbia, Mo.

DENNY MEDLEY/IMAGN IMAGES

for that rather than for three yards and a cloud of dust or five-yard hitches," he said. "But the reality of what we're figuring out is that teams don't really want to give up explosive plays versus our wide receiver corps. So, we have to be willing to make them defend us in a different manner."

The Tigers could once again be without tight end Brett Norfleet, who suffered a shoulder injury in the opener and sat out Week 2. Guard Cam'Ron Johnson could return after sitting out the Buffalo game following an injury in practice.

Drinkwitz also wants to see his offense cut down on the offensive penalties. The Tigers had 17 in two games.

"Alignment penalties are embarrassing and that's on me as head coach," Drinkwitz said. "The holding penalties. We've got to learn to let go. When the ball is out-leveraged, just when a defender is broken away, we cannot continue to engage with the jersey of the defender. There were three of those that were clear calls, easy calls that are something that we have to correct."

Boston College's dual-threat quarterback Thomas Castellanos has completed 19 of his 26 pass attempts for 340 yards and six TDs. He has run for 81 yards and a TD.

WNBA ROUNDUP

Lynx remain hot by knocking off Dream

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Kayla McBride scored a team-high 15 points while Napheesa Collier and Bridget Carleton chipped in 14 apiece, leading the visiting Minnesota Lynx to a 76-64 win over the Atlanta Dream on Tuesday night.

Courtney Williams added 12 points, seven rebounds and seven assists for the Lynx (27-9), who won their fourth straight.

Atlanta (12-24) was led by Allisha Gray's 17 points, followed by Rhyne Howard's 14. Tina Charles tallied 13 points and a game-high 14 rebounds for the Dream, who lost their second in a row.

After trailing by three at halftime, Atlanta scored the first four points of the second half, and a pair of Gray free throws gave the Dream their first lead since the 4:39 mark of the first quarter.

After Howard tied the game at 50 with a triple, Minnesota responded with a 10-2 run, stamped by Myisha Hines-Allen's layup with 1:13 left in the third quarter. Howard stopped the bleeding with a mid-range jumper, but McBride's 3-pointer on the next possession put Minnesota up 63-54 - a lead it held entering the fourth quarter.

Liberty 105, Wings 91

Breanna Stewart poured in 27 points, 19 of them in the first half, as visiting New York rolled to a win over Dallas in the first of two games between the teams in three nights in Arlington, Texas.

The Liberty (30-6), who own the best record in the WNBA, won their fourth straight game and moved a step closer to clinching the top spot in the playoffs. New York remains three games in front of Minnesota in the standings with four regular-season games to play.

New York never trailed in the game and built a 17-point advantage in the second quarter on the way to a 15-point advantage at halftime. Dallas clawed to within eight points in the third quarter before the Liberty flexed their muscles and ran off a 13-0 spurt that all but cemented the contest.



The Lynx's Kayla McBride drives against the Dream's Maya Caldwell Tuesday in College Park, Ga.

KEVIN C. COX/GETTY IMAGES

Jonquel Jones added 19 points for New York. Leonie Fiebich finished with 16 points off the bench, Sabrina Ionescu racked up 14 points and 11 assists and Betnijah Laney-Hamilton scored 10 in the win.

Sun 86, Sparks 66

Marina Mabrey came off the bench to score a game-high 26 points as visiting Connecticut scored a two-game series sweep of Los Angeles.

Mabrey canned 9 of 13 shots, including 6 of 8 from the 3-point arc, as Connecticut upped its record to 26-10 and stayed a game behind the Minnesota Lynx for the second-best record in the WNBA. Brianna Jones added 19 points and eight rebounds, while DiJonai Carrington netted 14 points.

Alyssa Thomas came within three points of her second triple-double in as many games and fourth of the year, finishing with seven points, 12 assists and 11 rebounds. The Sun canned 53.2 percent of their shots from the floor and earned a 26-10 advantage in fastbreak points.

Four players reached double figures for Los Angeles (7-29), led by rookie Rickea Jackson with 16 points. Dearica Hamby added 12, while reserve Crystal Dangerfield scored 11 points.

MLB

TUESDAY'S ROUNDUP

Lugo strikes out 10 as Royals blank Yankees

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Seth Lugo struck out 10 in seven out-standing innings as the Kansas City Royals ended a six-game road losing streak with a 5-0 victory over the New York Yankees on Tuesday night.

Lugo (16-8) yielded three hits and no walks in his 105-pitch outing. He tied Atlanta's Chris Sale and Detroit's Tarik Skubal for the major league lead in wins and became Kansas City's first pitcher to win 16 games since Jason Vargas went 18-11 in 2017.

The Royals (80-66) won for the fifth time in six games overall.

Lugo allowed a leadoff single to Gleyber Torres in the first inning, then retired 17 straight until Torres singled again with two outs in the sixth. After allowing Torres' second hit, Lugo retired Juan Soto on a fly ball to deep left.

New York's Austin Wells singled with one out in the seventh. Lugo retired Giancarlo Stanton on a fly ball, and then struck out Jazz Chisholm Jr. to end the inning.

Phillies 9, Rays 4

Cal Stevenson delivered a go-ahead double as part of a wild eighth inning as Philadelphia pulled away for a home win over Tampa Bay.

Kyle Schwarber hit his major league-record 14th leadoff homer of the season for the Phillies (87-58), although he later exited with left elbow discomfort after an awkward slide on a pickoff attempt at first base. Trea Turner hit two home runs for Philadelphia, including a two-run insurance shot in the eighth, and Bryce Harper contributed three doubles.

Junior Caminero had three hits, while Christopher Morel and Josh Lowe each registered two hits for Tampa Bay (71-74), which has lost four of its past six games.

The Phillies' eighth inning began in bizarre fashion. Bryson Stott's shot down the right field line hit the umpire and bounced right to first baseman Jonathan Aranda for an easy out. Stott slammed his helmet upon returning to the dugout, but his teammates rallied behind him.

Brandon Marsh drew a walk against Richard Lovelady (3-6) and moved to third on Kody Clemens' double. Stevenson then hooked a 2-2 changeup from Edwin Uceta into right field to score two runs. Buddy Kennedy's RBI single and Turner's two-run blast – his 18th of the season – pushed the lead to 9-4.

Reds 3, Cardinals 0

Rhett Lowder earned his first career big-league victory as visiting Cincinnati blanked St. Louis.

Lowder (1-1) held the Cardinals to five hits in five innings. He struck out three and didn't issue a walk. Justin Wilson, Tony Santillan, Brent Suter and Emilio Pagan each pitched one inning of relief to complete the shutout.

Pagan escaped a bases-loaded jam in the ninth to earn his first save of the year.

TJ Friedl drove in two runs for the Reds (71-75), who won for the seventh time in nine games. St. Louis (72-72) lost for the third time in four games.

Cincinnati manager David Bell was ejected in the sixth inning by plate umpire Larry Vanover for arguing balls and strikes.

Braves 12, Nationals 0

Michael Harris II homered twice, Orlando Arcia and Sean Murphy also went deep and visiting Atlanta routed Washington.

Harris, Matt Olson and Ramon Laureano had three hits each for the Braves, who began the night one game behind the New York Mets in the National League wild-card race.

Atlanta starter Reynaldo Lopez left the game after one inning due to right shoulder soreness. Jesse Chavez (2-2) entered in the second and pitched three scoreless innings on one hit for the win. John Brebbia added three scoreless frames as four Braves pitchers combined for a three-hitter.

Jose Tena had two doubles for the Nationals.

Washington starter MacKenzie Gore (8-12) gave up seven runs, but only two earned, on seven hits in 3½ innings.

Diamondbacks 6, Rangers 0

Christian Walker belted two homers and Joc Pederson hit one as Arizona notched a victory over Texas in Phoenix.



The Phillies' Cal Stevenson watches his two-run double during Tuesday's game against the Tampa Bay Rays in Philadelphia. ERIC HARTLINE/IMAGN IMAGES

Pavin Smith and Jose Herrera added RBI doubles for Arizona (81-64), which moved into a tie for the National League's top wild-card spot, pending completion of the San Diego Padres' game against the Seattle Mariners.

Walker had three RBIs for Arizona, which has won two straight games after losing eight of its previous 12.

Zac Gallen (12-6) allowed two hits in five scoreless innings for the Diamondbacks. He struck out seven and walked two.

Arizona's Kevin Ginkel gave up a hit and issued a walk in the sixth, Ryan Thompson pitched a flawless seventh, A.J. Puk struck out the side in a perfect eighth and Justin Martinez struck out two in a 1-2-3 ninth.

Cubs 6, Dodgers 3

Pete Crow-Armstrong drove in two runs to go along with spectacular defense in center field and visiting Chicago took advantage of three Los Angeles errors in the eighth inning to rally for a victory.

The Cubs scored five times in the eighth when the Dodgers had throwing errors from catcher Austin Barnes and center fielder Tommy Edman as well as a fielding error from Enrique Hernandez.

Shota Imanaga (13-3) kept Chicago in the game, allowing three runs on seven hits over seven innings. He struck out four without issuing a walk.

As in Imanaga's previous start, a combined no-hitter against the Pittsburgh Pirates on Sept. 4, Nate Pearson and Porter Hodge followed him with one scoreless inning apiece. Hodge registered his fifth save with help from a clutch catch by Crow-Armstrong.

Nico Hoerner and Seiya Suzuki each had three hits and an RBI for the Cubs (75-70), who are four games behind the Atlanta Braves and the New York Mets in the chase for the final National League wild-card spot.

Padres 7, Mariners 3

Manny Machado jumped atop the Padres' all-time home run list as San Diego defeated host Seattle in the opener of a two-game interleague series.

Fernando Tatis Jr. also homered and Yu Darvish (5-3) earned his first victory since May 19 for the Padres (82-64), who snapped a two-game skid. Robert Suarez got the final four outs for his 32nd save of the season.

Cal Raleigh and Luke Raley went deep for the Mariners (73-72), who lost for just the second time in their past six games.

Machado smacked a two-run shot to center field off Seattle starter George Kirby (11-11) in the sixth inning, marking his 164th home run with the Padres and giving San Diego a 5-2 lead in the process. Nate Colbert was the Padres' previous home run leader, going deep 163 times for the franchise from 1969-74.

Machado added a two-run single with the bases loaded and two outs in the seventh to make it 7-2.

Orioles 5, Red Sox 3

Cedric Mullins hit two home runs as visiting Baltimore ended a three-game losing streak by beating Boston.

Mullins hit a solo shot in the first inning, then hit a two-run homer in the

third. Both home runs came against Boston starting pitcher Kutter Crawford.

Adley Rutschman drove in two runs for Baltimore (83-63). The Orioles, who scored seven runs over their previous five games, had 10 hits in Tuesday's victory.

Crawford (8-14) gave up three runs on seven hits before he was pulled with one out in the seventh inning. He struck out six and walked one. Boston has lost the past five times Crawford has taken the mound.

Baltimore starter Albert Suarez (8-5) pitched six innings and held Boston to one run on four hits. He walked two and set a career high by recording eight strikeouts. The Red Sox (73-72) have scored one run in 12 innings against Suarez this season.

Guardians 5, White Sox 0

Lane Thomas had two hits, including a three-run home run, and seven Cleveland pitchers combined on a five-hitter as the visiting Guardians defeated Chicago.

Cleveland (83-62) maintained a 3½-game lead on the Kansas City Royals after the American League Central.

The Guardians navigated an unforeseen de facto bullpen game to prevail against the White Sox (33-113), who have lost a franchise-worst 14 straight home games.

Guardians starter Ben Lively pitched just two innings, exiting the game after being struck on the outside of the right thigh by a comebacker.

The ball, hit by White Sox right fielder Dominic Fletcher, caromed off Lively and toward first baseman Josh Naylor, who touched the bag for the last out of the second inning. Cleveland staff helped Lively off the field before he stepped into the dugout on his own.

Twins 10, Angels 5

Matt Wallner doubled, homered and drove in three runs, and Minnesota pulled away for a win over Los Angeles in Minneapolis.

Kyle Farmer finished 2-for-3 with a homer and three RBIs for Minnesota (77-68), which snapped a four-game losing streak. Carlos Santana added a two-run homer, and Ryan Jefferson went 1-for-3 with two RBIs.

Zach Neto went 2-for-3 with a double, a homer and three RBIs to lead the Angels (60-85). Taylor Ward finished 1-for-3 with an RBI.

Twins right-hander Pablo Lopez (15-8) won his fourth start in a row.

Lopez allowed four runs, all of which were unearned, on eight hits in seven innings. He walked one and struck out 10, which tied for his second-highest total of the season.

Blue Jays 6, Mets 2

Right-hander Chris Bassitt struck out eight in six innings, Davis Schneider had a two-run triple and Toronto defeated visiting New York.

Bassitt (10-13) allowed one run, five hits and one walk to go 2-0 in his career against his former team, the Mets.

The teams have split the first two games of a three-game series. The Mets (79-66) dropped into a tie with the Atlanta Braves for the third National League wild-card spot.

The loss was the second in 12 games

for the Mets. It was the second win in eight games for Toronto (69-77).

Mets left-hander David Peterson (9-2) allowed five runs (four earned), eight hits and two walks with two strikeouts in 4½ innings.

Brewers 3, Giants 2

Garrett Mitchell homered, the Milwaukee bullpen provided 3½ innings of shutout relief and the Brewers held on for a road victory over San Francisco in the opener of a three-game series.

The Brewers (83-61) took another step toward a National League Central championship, while the Giants (71-74) fell eight games out of the NL's final wild-card spot with just 17 to play.

In the opener of a six-game trip, the Brewers led just 2-1 entering the sixth inning, when Mitchell launched reliever Tristan Beck's first pitch for his fifth home run of the season.

Mike Yastrzemski got the Giants back within 3-2 when he smacked a leadoff homer of his own in the bottom of the inning, his 14th.

Brewers starter Aaron Civale (6-8) then retired Heliot Ramos on a pop fly before turning the ball over to the Milwaukee bullpen, having allowed two runs and three hits in 5 1/3 innings. He walked one and struck out two.

Athletics 4, Astros 3, 12 innings

Daz Cameron, Max Schuemann and Nick Allen parlayed successive bunts into a two-run rally in the top of the 12th inning, helping Oakland escape with a win over Houston.

The Athletics (63-82) rallied against Hector Neris (9-5), the sixth pitcher of the game for the Astros.

Cameron opened the 12th with a bunt single that sent automatic runner Zack Gelof to third. Schuemann added a sacrifice bunt that scored Gelof and snapped a 2-2 tie. Schuemann reached on a Neris throwing error, and when Allen followed with a bunt, Cameron scored on the fielder's choice.

Jose Altuve opened the bottom of the 12th with an RBI double that scored automatic runner Jason Heyward, but Athletics left-hander Hogan Harris (4-3) rallied to strand Altuve at third base.

The Astros (77-67) clawed back from a two-run deficit in the bottom of the seventh inning against Athletics reliever Tyler Ferguson, with their bench leading the charge.

Pirates 6, Marlins 4

Andrew McCutchen hit a three-run homer to help lift Pittsburgh to a win against visiting Miami.

Bryan Reynolds had two hits, two runs and an RBI and Isiah Kiner-Falefa added two hits and a run for the Pirates (69-76), who have won the first two games of the three-game series. Pittsburgh has posted three consecutive wins overall.

Carmen Mlodzinski served as the Pirates' opener and retired all six batters he faced with one strikeout.

Joey Wentz (1-2), Kyle Nicolas, Ryan Borucki, David Bednar and Dennis Santana combined to allow three runs and six hits over the next five innings. Aroldis Chapman yielded a run in the ninth but logged his eighth save.

Marlins starter Adam Oller (1-3) went five innings, allowing six runs and seven hits with two strikeouts and three walks.

Tigers 11, Rockies 0

Rookie right-hander Keider Montero recorded a shutout, Parker Meadows homered and drove in three runs and host Detroit rolled to a win over Colorado.

Montero (5-6) held the Rockies to three hits and didn't walk a batter while recording five strikeouts. Riley Greene had a three-run triple, while Matt Vierling and Andy Ibanez drove in two runs apiece for the Tigers (74-71).

Bradley Blalock (1-3) was charged with five runs (four earned) on five hits in four innings for the Rockies (54-91). Blalock walked five and fanned four.

Meadows gave his club a jolt by leading off the bottom of the first with his seventh homer of the season. Detroit had two runners in scoring position later in the inning, but Blalock struck out Ibanez to prevent further damage.

Ryan McMahon's leadoff single in the second was the lone hit the Rockies mustered against Montero in the first six innings. McMahon ended up being erased on a double play.

MLB

TUESDAY'S BOX SCORES

Detroit 11, Colorado 0

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Colorado	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Blackmon dh	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	.250
Tovar ss	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	.268
Doyles	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	.262
McMahon 3b	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	.247
Schunk 3b	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	.172
Toglia 1b	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	.219
Rodgers 2b	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	.273
Hilliard lf	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	.243
Goodman c	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	.177
Beck rf	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	.199
Totals	27	0	3	0	0	5	0	

Detroit	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Meadows cf	3	3	2	3	2	0	0	.235
Kreidler cf	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.119
Greene lf	3	2	2	3	0	0	0	.263
Malloy lf	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	.214
Vierling rf	4	1	2	2	1	0	0	.261
McKinstry rf	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	.227
Carpenter dh	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	.281
Keith 2b	4	2	2	0	0	0	0	.262
Ibanez 1b	4	0	1	2	0	1	0	.259
Jung 3b	2	2	0	0	2	1	0	.226
Sweeney ss	3	1	1	0	1	1	0	.241
Rogers c	4	1	0	0	2	0	0	.188
Totals	32	11	10	11	7	8	0	

E: Tovar. **2B:** Keith (15). **3B:** Greene (6). **HR:** Meadows (7). **RBI:** Meadows 3 (25), Greene 3 (64), Vierling 2 (54), Carpenter (48), Ibanez 2 (32). **SF:** Carpenter. **Runners left in scoring position:** Detroit 3 (Ibanez 2, Rogers). **RISP:** Detroit 6 for 11. **GIDP:** Doyle, Rodgers, Carpenter. **DP:** Colorado 2, Detroit 3.

Colorado	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Blalock L, 1-3	4.0	5	4	5	4	8	3	5.87
Molina	1.2	4	6	6	2	4	6	6.96
Lawrence	0.1	0	0	0	0	1	1	5.66
Vodnik	1.0	0	0	0	2	16	3	3.97
Hill	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00

Detroit	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Montero W, 5-6	9.0	3	0	0	0	5	96	4.88

Inherited runners: Lawrence 2-0. **WP:** Molina. **Umpires:** HP-Riggs, 1B-Ripperger, 2B-Marquez, 3B-Barrett. T: 2:11. A: 18,120 (41,083).

Atlanta 12, Washington 0

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Atlanta	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Harris II cf	6	2	3	2	0	1	0	.245
Soler rf	4	1	0	0	1	2	0	.229
White rf	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	.296
Ozuna dh	2	2	1	0	1	0	0	.305
a-Duvall ph-dh	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	.184
Olson 1b	5	3	3	0	0	0	0	.237
Laureano lf	5	1	3	3	0	0	0	.305
Murphy c	4	1	2	3	0	2	0	.209
Ursheia 2b	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	.246
Arcia ss	5	1	1	0	1	0	0	.222
Williams 3b	5	1	1	0	0	2	0	.196
Totals	42	12	15	12	4	8	0	

Washington	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Abrams ss	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	.237
Nunez ss	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.345
Wood lf	4	0	1	0	0	1	0	.273
Ruiz c	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	.225
Chaparro dh	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	.250
Tena 3b	4	0	0	0	0	1	0	.315
Garcia Jr. 2b	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	.284
b-Baker ph-2b	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	.250
Crews lf	4	0	0	0	2	2	0	.200
Gallo 1b	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	.160
Young cf	3	0	0	0	2	2	0	.257
Totals	30	0	3	0	9	0	0	

a-walked for Ozuna in 8th. b-struck out for Garcia Jr. in 7th.

E: Ruiz, Tena. **2B:** Soler (27), Olson (33), Laureano (9), Wood (11), Tena 2 (4). **HR:** Harris II 2 (11), Murphy (9), Arcia (16). **RBI:** Harris II 2 (37), Soler (54), Olson 2 (81), Laureano 3 (21), Murphy 3 (22), Arcia (42). **SB:** Williams (3), Chaparro (1). **Runners left in scoring position:** Atlanta 4 (Murphy, Ursheia, Williams 2), Washington 5 (Ruiz, Tena 2, Garcia Jr., Crews). **RISP:** Atlanta 7 for 13. **GIDP:** Olson. **DP:** Washington 1.

Atlanta	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Lopez	1.0	1	0	0	0	1	25	2.03
Chavez W, 2-2	3.0	1	0	0	0	3	39	3.26
Brebbia	3.0	0	0	0	2	24	2	0.00
Jackson	2.0	1	0	0	1	3	37	5.44

Washington	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Gore L, 8-12	3.2	6	7	2	3	3	79	4.34
Barnes	0.2	2	1	1	0	1	10	4.38
La Sorsa	1.2	4	2	2	2	26	6	5.76
Bryzyc	1.0	1	0	0	1	16	12	0.77
Rainey	1.0	3	1	1	1	12	5	5.16
Vargas	1.0	1	1	1	0	1	1	4.50

Inherited runners: Barnes 2-2, La Sorsa 1-1. **HBP:** Duvall, Murphy, Chaparro. **WP:** Gore. **Umpires:** HP-Bacchus, 1B-Additon, 2B-Morales, 3B-Guccione. T: 2:35. A: 17,668 (41,380).

Philadelphia 9, Tampa Bay 4

PHI.....011 011 000 - 4 13 1
TB.....112 000 05x - 9 13 0

Philadelphia	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Morad 2b	5	0	2	1	0	1	0	.195
Aranda 1b	4	1	1	0	1	0	0	.205
DeLuca cf	3	1	1	0	1	0	0	.215
c-Loew ph	4	1	0	0	1	0	0	.242
Sirica cf	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	.186
Diaz dh	5	0	1	0	1	0	0	.280
Lowr f	5	0	2	0	0	0	0	.244
Camero 3b	4	1	1	1	0	0	0	.260
Carlson lf	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	.211
Driscoll c	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	.214
Caballero ss	3	0	1	0	1	1	0	.231
Totals	39	4	13	4	5	0	0	

Tampa Bay	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Morad 2b	5	0	2	1	0	1	0	.195
Aranda 1b	4	1	1	0	1	0	0	.205
DeLuca cf	3	1	1	0	1	0	0	.215
c-Loew ph	4	1	0	0	1	0	0	.242
Sirica cf	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	.186
Diaz dh	5	0	1	0	1	0	0	.280
Lowr f	5	0	2	0	0	0	0	.244
Camero 3b	4	1	1	1	0	0	0	.260
Carlson lf	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	.211
Driscoll c	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	.214
Caballero ss	3	0	1	0	1	1	0	.231
Totals	39	4	13	4	5	0	0	

a-struck out for Schwarber in 4th. b-doubled for Rojas in 8th. c-struck out for DeLuca in 6th.

E: Lowe. **2B:** Morel (3), Aranda (5), Harper (39), Clemens (9), Rojas (11), Stevenson (2). **3B:** Morel (4). **HR:** Schwarber (35), Turner 2 (18). **RBI:** Morel (6), Diaz (65), Camerino (12), Caballero (43), Schwarber (95), Kennedy (1), Turner 4 (55), Stevenson 2 (3). **Runners left in scoring position:** Tampa Bay 7 (Morel, Diaz 2, Carlson 4), Philadelphia 5 (Castellanos, Stott 2, Marsh, Stubbs). **RISP:** Tampa Bay 3 for 14, Philadelphia 2 for 11. **GIDP:** Morel. **DP:** Philadelphia 1.

Philadelphia	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Suarez	5.1	12	4	2	2	8	88	3.06
Kerkering	0.2	0	0	0	0	1	0	2.05
Strahm	1.0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0.00
Alvarado W, 2-5	10.0	0	0	0	0	8	210	3.99
Banks	1.0	1	0	0	2	2	2	2.50

Tampa Bay	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Bradley	6.0	6	4	3	2	6	90	4.40
Rodriguez	0.2	1	0	0	0	0	9	2.14
Lovely L, 3-5	0.2	2	2	0	1	19	4	1.18
Uceta	0.1	3	3	0	1	21	1	14.9
Bigge	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00

Inherited runners: Lovely 1-1, Uceta 2-0, Bigge 2-2, Kerkering 2-2. **HBP:** Castellanos. **Umpires:** HP-Libka, 1B-Bacon, 2B-Hoye, 3B-Reyburn. T: 2:45. A: 40,088 (42,792).

Kansas City 5, N.Y. Yankees 0

KC.....002 010 110 - 5 11 0
NYY.....000 000 000 - 0 3 1

Kansas City	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Pham rf	5	1	2	1	0	0	0	.266
Witt Jr. ss	5	1	1	0	0	0	0	.334
Perez 1b	3	0	2	2	1	0	0	.277
Melendez lf	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	.211
Renfro dh	4	0	1	0	0	2	0	.240
c-Blanco pr-dh	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	.265
Massey 2b	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	.260
a-Garcia ph-2b	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	.239
DeJong 3b	4	0	1	0	0	1	0	.232
Fermin c	4	0	1	0	1	0	0	.290
Isbel cf	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	.279
a-Grossman ph	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	.226
Hampson cf	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.231
Totals	34	5	11	5	8	0	0	

N.Y. Yankees	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Torres 2b	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	.290
Soto rf	4	0	0	0	0	2	0	.320
Judge cf	4	0	0	0	0	2	0	.320
Wells c	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	.252
Stanton dh	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	.233
Chisholm Jr. 3b	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	.300
Dominguez lf	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	.091
Rizzo 1b	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	.218
Volpe ss	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	.251
Totals	30	0	3	0	14	0	0	

a-struck out for Isbel in 9th. b-hit a sacrifice fly for Massey in 8th. c-ran for Renfro in 8th. **E:** Wells. **HR:** Pham (7), Pham (24), Witt Jr. (99), Perez (100), Garcia (55). **CS:** DeJong (2). **SB:** Blanco (28), Massey (1). **SF:** Garcia. **Runners left in scoring position:** Kansas City 4 (Renfro, Fermin, Isbel 2). **RISP:** Kansas City 2 for 8. **GIDP:** Fermin. **DP:** N.Y. Yankees 2.

Kansas City	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Lugo W, 16-8	7.0	3	0	0	0	10	105	2.94
Bubic	1.0	0	0	0	0	2	16	3.63
Schreiber	1.0	0	0	0	0	2	18	4.26

N.Y. Yankees	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Stroman L, 10-8	5.1	7	3	3	2	4	89	4.07



Cincinnati Reds starting pitcher Rhett Lowerd pitches against the Cardinals during the first inning of Tuesday's game at Busch Stadium in St. Louis. JEFF CURRY

SOCCER USMNT 1, NEW ZEALAND 1



U.S. forward Christian Pulisic dribbles against New Zealand in the second half of Tuesday's match in Cincinnati. KATIE STRATMAN/IMAGN IMAGES

Americans play to draw without their new coach

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

The U.S. men's national team felt like a winner before taking the field in Cincinnati for a friendly against New Zealand on Tuesday night but didn't play like one.

What had been rumored for a month became official 35 minutes before the United States played New Zealand to a 1-1 draw — that Mauricio Pochettino was hired as head coach to replace Gregg Berhalter, who was fired in July after the failure of the team to advance from the group stage of Copa America.

Christian Pulisic scored in the 69th minute for the Americans before fluke goal by New Zealand's Ben Waine in the 89th minute spoiled what should have been a celebratory evening.

On the equalizer, a ball out of the back fell at the top of the penalty area to U.S. defender Caleb Wiley. His clearance hit teammate Mark McKenzie, bounced off Waine and caromed past goalkeeper Matt Turner.

The U.S. squad is 0-3-1 in its past four matches.

Pochettino, the former Chelsea coach, was not in Cincinnati but will be

on the sideline when the U.S. plays Panama on Oct. 12 in Austin, Texas, and three days later against Mexico in Guadalajara, Mexico.

Pulisic did not enter the match until the 57th minute, replacing forward Haji Wright for interim coach Mikey Varas. Pulisic scored his 31st goal in his 73rd national team match after a crisp sequence.

Marlon Fosse, making his national team debut one day after his 26th birthday, found Ricardo Pepi on the right side of the box. Pepi dropped the ball to Folarin Balogun, who fed Pulisic to his left. Pulisic moved the ball from his right foot to his left before shooting.

A minute later, Balogun forced a diving save by Max Crocombe. It proved to be a critical stop.

The U.S. was coming off its third straight defeat, a 2-1 loss to Canada in Kansas City, Kansas, on Saturday in a match dominated by the Canadians and was only close due to goalkeeper Patrick Schultze's five saves and the play of substitutes Luca de la Torre, who scored his first goal, and Aidan Morris, who picked up his first U.S. assist.

Solheim Cup

Continued from Page 1

on maybe me because I have more experience or I'm the No. 1 player in the world. I just hope that we all come together and lean on each other."

The U.S. contingent, which includes World No. 2 Lilia Vu along with Allison Lee, Megan Khang and Lexi Thompson, will be guided for the second straight year by team captain Stacy Lewis.

"To touch on Stacy, it's been so fun playing for her," Korda said. "She's really, really involved, and I feel like she's been such a great captain, a leader, so

she's been great to lean on.

"It's great to see how organized she is, too, so our days are planned out to a T, so we have nothing to worry about other than our business on the golf course."

Gearing up for the stretch run of the LPGA season, Korda expressed her excitement to step onto the course and have the support of her teammates.

"It's such a fun event," she said. "There's nothing like it. There's nothing like walking onto that first tee and feeling all those nerves. I think it's something super exciting, too, and refreshing to have a teammate, have teammates and captains and people to lean on when you normally don't."



Nelly Korda tees off on No. 1 in the third round of women's individual stroke play during the Paris Olympics on Aug. 9. KATIE GOODALE/USA TODAY SPORTS

SCOREBOARD



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Odds available as of print deadline.

NFL		
FAVORITE	Thursday LINE O/U	UNDERDOG
MIAMI	2 49	Buffalo

Sunday		
FAVORITE	LINE O/U	UNDERDOG
BALTIMORE	9.5 41.5	Las Vegas
LA Chargers	6.5 39	CAROLINA
DALLAS	6.5 45.5	New Orleans
DETROIT	7 51.5	Tampa Bay
Indianapolis	3 41	GREEN BAY
JACKSONVILLE	3.5 42	Cleveland
San Francisco	6 45.5	MINNESOTA
Seattle	3 38	NEW ENGLAND
NY Jets	3.5 41.5	TENNESSEE
WASHINGTON	1.5 44	NY Giants
ARIZONA	1.5 49.5	LA Rams
KANSAS CITY	6 48	Cincinnati
Pittsburgh	3 36.5	DENVER
HOUSTON	6.5 46	Chicago

Monday		
FAVORITE	LINE O/U	UNDERDOG
PHILADELPHIA	6.5 47	Atlanta

College Football		
FAVORITE	Thursday LINE O/U	UNDERDOG
Arizona State	1.5 58.5	TEXAS ST.

Friday		
FAVORITE	LINE O/U	UNDERDOG
KANSAS	7 58	unlv
KANSAS ST.	7 58.5	Arizona

Saturday		
FAVORITE	LINE O/U	UNDERDOG
FLORIDA ST.	6.5 52	Memphis
TX TECH	9.5 69.5	North Texas
Oklahoma St.	20 63	TULSA
Alabama	15.5 50.5	WISCONSIN
Iowa	7 50.5	S. CAROLINA
MICHIGAN	22.5 47.5	Arkansas St.
Cincinnati	2.5 45.5	MIAMI (OH)
ILLINOIS	20 51	C. Michigan
NC STATE	21.5 48.5	La. Tech
MISSOURI	16.5 54	Boston Coll.
BUFFALO	4.5 45	Massachusetts
Coastal Carol.	17.5 51.5	TEMPLE
OKLAHOMA	14 47.5	Tulane
MINNESOTA	16.5 43.5	Nevada
Oregon	16 50	OREGON ST.
WASHINGTON	4.5 56	Washington St.
Texas A&M	4.5 46.5	FLORIDA

West Virginia	2.5 60.5	PITTSBURGH	2.5 60.5
MIAMI (FL)	36.5 54.5	Ball State	—
Notre Dame	10 45.5	PURDUE	—
Appalachian St.	2.5 59	E. CAROLINA	—
IOWA	22.5 39	Troy	—
ARKANSAS	24.5 60.5	uab	—
Utah	20.5 46.5	UTAH STATE	—
FL ATLANTIC	5 43	flr	—
Virginia Tech	14 50	OLD DMNION	—
DUKE	17 47.5	Connecticut	—
LIBERTY	23 57.5	utep	—
Ole Miss	23.5 63.5	WAKE FREST	—
South Florida	11.5 57.5	STHERN MISS	—
TEXAS	35 53.5	utsa	—
SAM HOUSTN	4.5 50	Hawaii	—
SAN JOSE ST.	19 44	Kennesaw St.	—
Vanderbilt	10.5 46	GEORGIA ST.	—
E. MICHIGAN	2 52	Jacksonville St.	—
W. Kentucky	7 54.5	MIDDLE TN	—
BAYLOR	16 41.5	Air Force	—
Colorado	7.5 58.5	COLO. ST.	—
AUBURN	28 61	New Mexico	—
Georgia	24 45	KENTUCKY	—
MISS. ST.	11.5 59.5	Toledo	—
TCU	1 61.5	ucf	—
Indiana	3 46	UCLA	—
TENNESSEE	49 62.5	Kent State	—
HOUSTON	4 44.5	Rice	—
Maryland	2.5 55	VIRGINIA	—
byu	10.5 40	WYOMING	—
FRESNO ST.	20 48.5	NM State	—
CALIFORNIA	19 48	San Diego St.	—

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All times Eastern

MLB

American League			
East Division	W	L	Pct
N.Y. Yankees	83	62	.572
Baltimore	83	63	.568
Boston	73	72	.503
Tampa Bay	71	74	.490
Toronto	69	77	.473

Central Division			
W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	83	62	.572
Kansas City	80	66	.548
Minnesota	77	68	.531
Detroit	74	71	.510
Chicago	33	113	.226

West Division			
W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	77	67	.535
Seattle	70	72	.503
Texas	70	75	.483
Oakland	63	82	.434
L.A. Angels	60	85	.414

National League

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	87	58	.600	
N.Y. Mets	79	66	.545	
Atlanta	79	66	.545	
Washington	64	80	.444	
Miami	54	91	.372	

Central Division			
W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	83	61	.576
Chicago	75	70	.517
St. Louis	72	72	.500
Cincinnati	71	75	.486
Pittsburgh	69	76	.476

West Division					
W	L	Pct	GB	PF PA	
L.A. Dodgers	86	59	.593	—	—
San Diego	82	64	.562	4 1/2	—
Arizona	81	64	.559	5	—
San Francisco	71	74	.490	15	—
Colorado	54	91	.372	32	—

Monday's Scores				
Philadelphia 2, Tampa Bay 1				
Pittsburgh 3, Miami 2				
Cincinnati 1, Atlanta 0				
N.Y. Yankees 10, Kansas City 4				
N.Y. Mets 3, Toronto 2				
Boston 12, Baltimore 3				
Cleveland 5, Chicago White Sox 3				
L.A. Angels 6, Minnesota 2				
Chicago Cubs 10, L.A. Dodgers 4				

Tuesday's Scores				
Detroit 11, Colorado 0				
Philadelphia 9, Tampa Bay 4				
Pittsburgh 6, Miami 4				
Atlanta 12, Washington 0				
Kansas City 5, N.Y. Yankees 0				
Toronto 6, N.Y. Mets 2				
Baltimore 5, Boston 3				
Cleveland 5, Chicago White Sox 0				
Minnesota 10, L.A. Angels 5				
Cincinnati 3, St. Louis 0				
Oakland 4, Houston 3				
Arizona 6, Texas 0				
San Diego 7, Seattle 3				
Milwaukee 3, San Francisco 2				
Chicago Cubs 6, L.A. Dodgers 3				

Wednesday's Games

Miami (TBD) at Pittsburgh (TBD), 12:35 p.m.
 Cleveland (Boyd 2-1) at Chicago White Sox (Martin 0-3), 2:10 p.m.
 N.Y. Mets (Manaea 11-5) at Toronto (Gausman 12-11), 3:07 p.m.
 Texas (Bradford 5-2) at Arizona (Kelly 4-0), 3:40 p.m.
 Colorado (Gomber 5-10) at Detroit (Mize 2-6), 6:40 p.m.
 Tampa Bay (Baz 2-3) at Philadelphia (Wheeler 14-6), 6:40 p.m.
 Atlanta (Fried 9-8) at Washington (Irvin 9-12), 8:10 p.m.
 Cleveland (Aldegheri 1-1) at Minnesota (Matthews 1-3), 7:10 p.m.
 Cincinnati (TBD) at St. Louis (Lynn 6-4), 7:45 p.m.
 Oakland (Estes 6-7) at Houston (Brown 11-7), 8:10 p.m.
 San Diego (Perez 4-5) at Seattle (Woo 7-2), 9:40 p.m.
 Milwaukee (Rea 12-4) at San Francisco (Snell 2-3), 9:45 p.m.
 Chicago Cubs (Wicks 2-3) at L.A. Dodgers (Miller 2-4), 10:10 p.m.

NFL

American Conference

East	W	L	Pct	PF	PA
Miami	10	0	1.000	20	17
New England	10	0	1.000	16	10
Buffalo	10	0	1.000	34	28
N.Y. Jets	0	10	.000	19	32

North	W	L	Pct	PF	PA
Pittsburgh	10	0	1.000	18	10
Cleveland	0	10	.000	17	33
Baltimore	0	10	.000	20	27
Cincinnati	0	10	.000	10	16

South	W	L	Pct	PF	PA
Houston	10	0	1.000	29	27
Tennessee	0	10	.000	17	24
Jacksonville	0	10	.000	17	20
Indianapolis	0	10	.000	27	29

West

W	L	Pct	PF	PA	
L.A. Chargers	10	0	1.000	22	10
Kansas City	10	0	1.000	27	20
Denver	0	10	.000	20	26
Las Vegas	0	10	.000	10	22

National Conference

Philadelphia	10	0	1.000	34	29
Dallas	10	0	1.000	33	17
N.Y. Giants	0	10	.000	6	28
Washington	0	10	.000	20	37

North					
W	L	Pct	PF	PA	
Minnesota	10	0	1.000	28	6
Chicago	10	0	1.000	24	17
Detroit	10	0	1.000	26	20
Green Bay	0	10	.000	29	34

South					
W	L	Pct	PF	PA	
New Orleans	10	0	1.000	47	10
Tampa Bay	10	0	1.000	37	20
Atlanta	0	10	.000	10	18
Carolina	0	10	.000	10	47

West				
W	L	Pct	PF	PA
San Francisco	10	0		