SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2024

WESTMORELAND EDITION

Willis stays, Wade bows out of Ga. Trump case

Either special prosecutor or Fulton County DA must withdraw in light of their relationship, judge rules

ATLANTA — A special prosecutor who had a romantic relationship with Fulton County District Attorney Fani

Willis formally withdrew Friday from the Georgia election interference case against Donald Trump after a judge ruled he had to leave or Willis couldn't continue to pursue the charges.

Attorney Nathan Wade's resignation allows Willis to remain on the most sprawling of four criminal cases against the presumptive Republican nominee in the 2024 »Ajudae

presidential election. But the long-term damage to the public trial in New perception of the prosecution remains un-

clear, particularly in light of Trump's relentless barrage of attacks on the pair

GEORGIA · A2

Wade: Said he

the interest of

delays Trump's

hush money

York. A2

resigned "in

democracy."

Xylazine's role in overdoses keeps growing

Westmoreland data shows jump in veterinary sedative's *impact from 2022 to 2023*

BY PATRICK VARINE

A veterinary sedative that can't be counteracted with anti-opioid medication contributed to 42% more deaths in 2023 than the year before, continuing a troubling trend even as Westmoreland County's overall overdose figures

Accidental drug overdose deaths continued to drop in 2023, but the number of deaths caused by xylazine climbed from 31 to 44, making it the second-largest factor in fatal overdoses, according to the Westmoreland County Coroner's

annual report, released this week. There were 95 accidental overdoses in 2023, down from the 118 overdoses in 2022. The report shows a sharp downward trend from 2021, when that figure hit 168.

"I feel like the saturation of Narcan we've provided, and the training, has had a direct correlation to the decreases," said Breane Minardi, director of clinical and case management services for the nonprofit Westmoreland Drug

OVERDOSES · A7

ROM METEORIC RISE DIZZYING FALI



Less than two years into his Steelers tenure, Kenny Pickett was traded to the Philadelphia Eagles on Friday.

Some fans shocked, others pleased

BY QUINCEY REESE, KELLEN STEPLER AND MICHAEL DIVITTORIO

As Ray Huff sat down with his family Friday at Live Casino Pittsburgh's Sports & Social restaurant in Hempfield, he was shocked to learn that the Steelers traded quarterback Kenny Pickett to the Philadelphia Eagles.

After his senior season at Pitt, Pickett was drafted in 2022 by the Steelers in the first round. He became the starting quarterback a month into his first season and, at least officially, remained in that spot until Friday's trade.

A league source confirmed



More coverage in Sports, B1

» Pittsburgh is "the place I wanted to be," says quarterback Russell Wilson.

» The Pickett trade demonstrates that you have to take what the Steelers say with a grain of salt, Tim Benz writes.

the Eagles trade to TribLive on "They didn't give the kid a

chance," said Huff of Portage. Huff, a die-hard Steelers and

Pitt Panthers fan, is concerned about the longevity of Russell Wilson, a 12-year NFL quarterback recently acquired by the Steelers after two seasons with the Denver Broncos.

The loss of Pickett should come with some staffing changes, Huff said, starting with head coach Mike Tomlin.

"I think if Pickett's gone, (Tomlin) ought to go, too," he Gus Rigas of Verona agrees.

FANS · A7

Steelers' **Pickett** era ends abruptly

BY CHRIS ADAMSKI

The satisfaction and pride were palpable on the faces of both Kenny Pickett and Mike Tomlin the afternoon of April 29, 2022. The duo was standing off to the far left of Pittsburgh Steelers president Art Rooney II, who was behind a podium at the front of a large room in the UPMC Rooney Sports

The trio was gathered in front of a few dozen media members who were on hand for the formal introduction of Pickett, the team's first-round draft pick the evening prior.

In truth, few there needed to be literally introduced to Pickett. He'd spent countless hours over the prior five years in that same structure nestled between the Monongahela River and freight-rail train tracks on Pittsburgh's South Side.

"Usually," Rooney said, "I get to say to (the Steelers" first-round pick), 'Welcome to Pittsburgh,' and today I get to say, 'Welcome to this side of the building.' "

Pickett and Tomlin, each dressed in a sport coat, smiled widely. Less than a minute later, after Rooney had listed superlatives of Pickett's sparkling college résumé at Pitt, he shook Pickett's hand with an

PICKETT · A7

Missing Jagr bobbleheads plunged Penguins into crisis mode

Los Angeles Sheriff's detective says he expects memorabilia was stolen, will turn up

BY JONATHAN D. SILVER

On Tuesday, two days before a giveaway of Jaromir Jagr bobbleheads, the Pittsburgh Penguins learned that the toys had been stolen, plunging the front office into a whirlwind of activity.

The 18,500 tiny likenesses of No. 68, complete with hand raised in a salute, had disappeared after being shipped by boat to Los Angeles from China, Kevin Acklin, the Penguins' president of business operations, said Friday.

The team was alerted to the missing merchandise when it

asked why the delivery of the juddering dolls honoring Jagr, the Czech-born, mullet-haired former star whose number was just retired, hadn't arrived on schedule, according

"As you can imagine, this has been a frustrating situation for us, and we are trying to secure the stolen property and deliver to our fans," Acklin said. "I'm the customer who paid for this stuff to be delivered. You're talking to the victim here.'

The team worked

Wednesday with transportation companies and authorities, according to Acklin, hoping to beat the clock and recover the bobbleheads in time for the game Thursday night against the San Jose Sharks. They learned Thurs-

day from investigators that the truck might be in Pennsylvania, Acklin said. The team contacted 911

through to the Pennsylvania State Police, according to Acklin.

and then was patched

Trooper Rocco

COURTESY OF PITTSBURGH PENGUINS Gagliardi said information came through to the department's communications desk "about a possible ping on a truck regarding the bobbleheads in our area last

night.' Authorities had little to go on, but patrol units searched anyway, likely along interstates and highways in the Pittsburgh area, according to Gagliardi.

They didn't turn up anything, Gagliardi said.

When the toys couldn't be found, the Penguins broke the news to fans on social media, promising vouchers with a one-time scannable bar code to pick up a bobblehead down the road.

Jagr, who was in town for Mario Lemieux's fantasy hockey camp,

BOBBLEHEADS · A7



LOCAL

A DREAM COME TRUE

» Rachel Kann and other Pitt med students learn where they'll do their residencies during Match Day 2024. A2 **OPINION**

PRICELESS PIECE OF HISTORY

» Despite its mechanical (and, now, software) quirks, the Mon Incline is too important a cultural asset not to pay for its repair. A6



TURBO-FAST

» Franklin Regional speeds past Shaler, 63-51, in a Class 5A PIAA quarterfinal. B1



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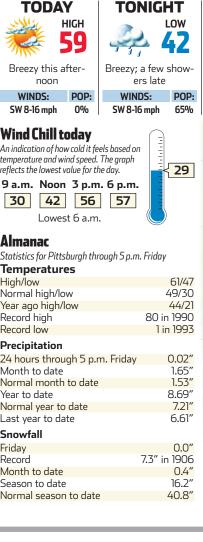
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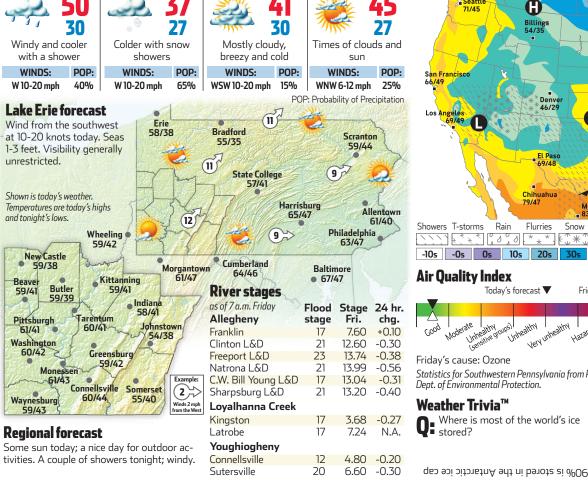
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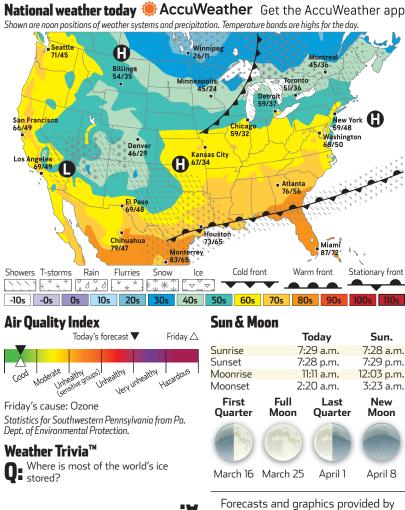
SUNDAY

MONDAY





TUESDAY



'My dream come true' Pitt med students meet their residency matches

Medical student Rachel Kann said she couldn't be happier to find out she'll be staying in Pittsburgh.

"This is my dream come true. ... I'm just so grateful to have gotten the chance to stay in this amazing city for seven more years and practice here," Kann said.

A Fox Chapel native, Kann was among those who opened envelopes at Friday's Match Day event at the University of Pittsburgh's Petersen Events Center. She was matched with UPMC Presbyterian.

Kann's next seven years will be spent working with the hospital's general surgery

"I'm staying here! I'm ecstatic," she said.

The confetti, balloons, cheering and celebration at noon Friday marked the beginning of a new chapter for Kann and 148 other medical students at the Pitt School of Medicine.

During the annual Match Day festivities, medical students across the country find out where they'll be spending the next several years of their lives in residency programs. Students open their envelopes at the same time in an event meant to celebrate their next sition for them from student gram and try to unwind.



Medical student Rachel Kann (right) of Fox Chapel hugs her mom, Kris, on Friday after finding out she will do her residency at UPMC Presbyterian in general surgery on Match Day 2024 at Pitt.

Chenits Pettigrew Jr., associate dean for diversity, equity and inclusion at the Pitt School of Medicine, described the event as a culmination of the students' hard work.

"This is really what tells them that they have finally gotten where they are trying to go," he said.

"It's probably as important a day as graduation," said Alda Maria Gonzaga, associate dean for student affairs. "This is just really exciting. to physician.'

Emotions run high

Match Day is an emotional time for medical students, said student Lena Vodovotz of the North Hills.

'It's definitely been stressful," she said. "It's hard to wrap your head around the idea of your fate being sealed inside that envelope, so to speak."

Even with the stress, she said, she has been able to catch up with friends from This is the beginning of a traninside and outside the pro-

wrapped up for this year's medical class, she said, but some rotations continue. The cohort will graduate at the end of May and start their residencies over the summer.

WEDNESDAY

"It's a long, grueling road with a lot of twists and turns, but I wouldn't give it up for anything," she said of the program so far.

Nick Aloi of Brighton, another medical student, said his interest in medicine started when he injured his meniscus and ACL while playing basketball for high school powerhouse Lincoln Park. He matched into orthopedic surgery and will be doing his residency at UPMC Hamot

'Sports injuries in particular is what I took an interest in — broken bones, broken ligaments, torn tendons," he said "I think that that motivated me to go into medicine to treat the kids that I used to be.'

The process leading up to Match Day started in the summer of last year, he said, when students applied to different programs. They then received interview invites and could rank numerically the programs they interviewed with by preference. The programs in turn rank formal affair, Gonzaga said. Exams already have all of their applicants, and Students would go up one by

students to programs based on both rankings.

"It's one of these points in life that's a transition point," Aloi said. "Each stage along the residency process, you get little wins here and there. ... There's a lot of culmination and stuff leading up to today that I think makes it such an exciting day."

Leadup to celebration

The Match Day celebration is organized by the medical students themselves, said Savannah Tollefson, class council president.

'I think that one thing that was important to all of us was highlighting our class as a whole," said Tollefson, who is originally from Richmond, Va. She will be doing her residency at UPMC in the OB-GYN program.

This year's graduating class of the medical school started its program in fall 2020, meaning many of the students' firstyear classes were virtual, she noted.

'We went through a pandemic together, and I just feel like we've been through the thick of it together, and we really wanted to celebrate that.'

Match Day used to be a more

the match process assigns the one to find out where they would spend their residency. About six or seven years ago, she said, students started creating more of a party atmosphere to commemorate

AccuWeather, Inc. ©2024

the occasion. This is much more of a, We're here to celebrate with each other," she said. "While a big deal, the students have really driven it to be more of celebrating in the same moment at the same time, with lots of balloons and fun mu-

To amp up the festivities, the cohort put together a collaborative playlist for the event, which included 2020 viral hits such as the "Wellerman" sea shanty. Students also continued a Match Day T-shirt tradition, in which each student customizes a T-shirt with the names of their program and assigned location once they find out

where they're going. "We tried to incorporate everyone as much as possible in the process, beyond just the class council," Tollefson said. "Even though it's a stressful day, this is really a culmination of everything we've worked toward."

> Julia Maruca is a TribLive staff writer. She can be reached at jmaruca@triblive.com.

Judge cites 'appearance of impropriety' in ruling

GEORGIA · FROM A1

who pledged to hold Trump accountable but found their own actions under a public microscope.

Wade offered his resigna-

tion in a letter to Willis, saying he was doing so "in the interest of democracy, in dedication to the American public and to move this case forward as quickly as possible.'

Willis complimented Wade's "professionalism and dignity" in a letter accepting his resignation, effective to reclaim the White House in

Trump's team felt differ-

ently. In a social media post,

immediately. She said he had endured threats against himself and his family, as well as "unjustified attacks" in the media and in court on his reputation as a lawver.

Trump said the "Fani Willis lover" had "resigned in disgrace," and Trump repeated his assertion that the case is an effort to hurt his campaign

LOTTERIES



Treasure Hunt payout Matches Prize 5 of 5 \$94,467

4 of 5	178	\$100
3 of 5	4,058	\$6
2 of 5	30,834	\$1
Today's jac	kpot at least \$12,000	

Cash 5 payout										
Matches	Winners	Prize								
5 of 5	0	\$0								
4 of 5	32	\$200								
3 of 5	1,506	\$10								
2 of 5	15,173	\$2								
Today's jackp	ot at least \$450,000									

Mega Millions Not available Drawing Mega Ball/Megaplier Not available

November. Trump has denied doing anything wrong and pleaded not guilty.

An attorney for the former president said they respected the court's decision but believe the judge "did not afford appropriate significance to the prosecutorial misconduct of Willis and Wade.'

"We will use all legal options available as we continue to fight to end this case, which should never have been brought in the first place," Trump attorney Steve Sadow

Defense attorneys could try to appeal the ruling, but they would need the judge's permission to do so.

Wade's resignation came hours after Fulton County Superior Court Judge Scott Mc-Afee said he had to be removed or Willis must step aside from the case. McAfee did not find that Willis' relationship with Wade amounted to a conflict of interest but said the allegations created an "appearance of impropriety" that infected the prosecution team.

"As the case moves forward, reasonable members of the public could easily be left to wonder whether the financial exchanges have continued resulting in some form of benefit to the District Attorney, or even whether the romantic relationship has resumed," the judge wrote.

"Put differently, an outsider could reasonably think that the District Attorney is not exercising her independent professional judgment totally free of any compromising influences. As long as Wade remains on the case, this unnecessary perception will

persist." Friday's extraordinary developments underscored the extent to which the case that began with allegations that a former president tried to undermine the will of the people who voted him out of the White House had become consumed by talk of the love lives of its top prosecutors. In accepting Wade's resignation, Willis made clear her determination to turn the page from weeks of embarrassing headlines about romantic getaways, sex and stashes of cash that have dominated coverage

Trump's hush-money trial delayed until mid-April

Judge cites last-minute evidence dump

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK - Donald Trump's New York hush-money criminal trial was delayed Friday until at least mid-April as the judge seeks answers about a last-minute evidence dump that the former president's lawyers said has hampered their ability to prepare their defense.

Manhattan Judge Juan Manuel Merchan agreed to a 30-day delay starting Friday and scheduled a hearing for March 25 after Trump's lawyers complained that they only recently started receiving more than 100,000 pages of documents from a previous federal investigation into the matter.

The trial had been scheduled to start March 25. The delay means the trial would start no earlier than April 15. Prosecutors had said they wouldn't object to a short delay. Trump's lawyers have requested a three-month delay as well as asking for

the case to be thrown out. In a statement Friday, the Trump campaign continued to argue that the case "has no basis in law or fact, and should be dismissed.

In a letter Friday, Merchan told Manhattan prosecutors and Trump's defense team that he wanted to assess "who, if anyone, is at fault for the late production of the documents," whether it hurt either side and whether any sanctions are warranted.

The judge demanded a timeline of events detailing when the documents were requested and when they were turned over. He also wants all correspondence between the Manhattan district attorney's office, which is prosecuting Trump, and the U.S. attorney's office, which previously investigated the matter in 2018.

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Westmoreland prison warden gets \$11K raise

Other county officials also see boosts in salaries, bonuses

BY RICH CHOLODOFSKY

Westmoreland County's new warden, on the job for less than a month, has been

given an \$11,000 raise. Commissioners and Controller Jeffrey Balzer, acting as the county's salary board this week, approved raises for a series of department heads and supervisors in what they said was an effort to retain staff in a struggling employment environment.

nier was hired by the prison board Feb. 28 after serving as the jail's interim warden for five months following the resignation of Warden Bryan Kline in September.

Pelesky has worked for ious roles at the jail. When hired to the full-time warden's job last month, commissioners said his \$80,000 salary would be unchanged.

Commissioner Sean Kertes said the new warden's salary was reevaluated over the past several weeks.

Steven Pelesky, 49, of Ligo- the jail, and we're trying to bring him up to where he needs to be," Kertes said. "We thought we didn't pay him for the time he served as interim warden. We're righting the

New park police officers nearly three decades in var- hired to full-time jobs in 2024 will earn \$4,500 bonuses at the completion of 12 months on staff under the financial plan approved by the salary board.

> The board also approved a series of pay hikes for the county's domestic relations office staff. Pay for behavioral health department casework

the board to bring most staffers to the same pay level, earning about \$70,000 annually.

Raises that average about \$10,000 a year were approved for 911 emergency dispatch supervisors; hourly rates paid to telecommunications officers in training were increased by more than 21%.

Scott Stepanovich, deputy director for the county's public safety department, said the 911 raises will ensure supervisors continue to earn higher salaries than the dispatchers they oversee. The department has six supervisors on staff cancies.

The current pay structure became skewed after union dispatchers received 17% raises this year as part of a new labor deal and, without an adjustment, officials feared it would be difficult to promote existing staffers, Stepanovich

"We want to incentivize people to step up," he said.

Kertes said the pay hikes were necessary to ensure the county's vital program continue to be adequately staffed.

"One of the biggest problems in Westmoreland County

"He's a 30-year veteran at ers will be increased across and is seeking to fill two va- is retaining our employees. According to the county commissioners association, we have one of the lowest paid staffs in Pennsylvania, and retention is a more cost-effective way to ensure we have enough

people to work," Kertes said. Kertes said this year's \$456.7 million budget included funds earmarked for pay raises. In addition to the raises approved this week, county leaders ratified a new three-year labor deal at the start of 2023 with about 500 union workers. That is expected to cost \$2.7 million. Commissioners

PAY RAISE · A4



Shawley, of Greensburg, smiles as she gets a St. Patrick's Day-themed green tea matcha latte from Greensburg business Steep Mountain Tea

Taylor

PHOTOS: SHANE DUNLAP TRIBLIVE

SLÁINTE!

Dave Hart performs with violinist Gina Ketter, both from Pittsburgh, as the pair play traditional Irish music under their stage name, Smiley and Clams, Friday during the monthly Art on Tap event at the Westmoreland Museum of American Art in Greensburg.



MT. PLEASANT

Borough hopes to boost communication with Little League

Mt. Pleasant officials have asked for better communication with the Mt. Pleasant Area Little League.

Council voted to approve Silvis Landscaping mowing the baseball fields at Willows Park twice monthly at a cost of \$260 per mow and asked that the MPALL keep them up-todate on work happening at the

ballfields. MPALL Secretary Patrick Hresko said there's no ongoing work at the fields, but improvements had been made recently to the dugouts.

"It seems like the borough is always the last to know about these things," said council President Susan Ruszkowski.

"I don't think anyone's unhappy with the work that's gone on," Councilman Andy Davis said. "We just need to see and project plans, so we know what's going on there from year to year."

Councilman Ken Phillabaum said the MPALL's leadership in recent years "has kind of been a revolving door and things fall by the wayside. I'm dealing with the same thing with

Hresko said he would provide the borough with any documentation they needed and would work to keep council updated.

ALLEGHENY COUNTY

Fake fundraisers noted following house blast

Crescent police are warning of illegitimate fundraising efforts for the family affected by Tuesday's house explosion that killed two people.

In a social media post, police said those who created the fake fundraisers are taking advantage of the situation.

such initiatives," the post reads.

The blast in the small Ohio River community was reported just before 9 a.m. Emergency responders arrived to find debris from the home, which had been destroyed, scattered around the neighborhood.

Helen Mitchell, 87, and David L. Mitchell Jr., 89, were killed, according to the Allegheny County Medical Examiner's Office.

Two other homes were damaged, and the explosion was felt

Police said any future fundraising efforts by the Mitchells' family will be communicated through reputable channels.

REGION

Discount registration open for Mon/Yough 5K and half marathon

Special early pricing is set to end Sunday for the Mon/Yough Trail Council's annual 5K and "I must emphasize that the half marathon races that start

things like the league schedule family has not endorsed any at the Boston access of the Great Allegheny Passage.

The races, the group's largest annual fundraiser, will take

place April 13.

Both races will run south along the Youghiogheny River. The half marathon starts at 9 a.m. and the 5K at 9:15. The finish line for both will be at the Boston trailhead.

Registration at the special pricing through Sunday is \$40 for the half marathon (13.1 miles) and \$25 for the 5K (3.1 miles). Registrations at a higher price will be accepted until April 11. Awards will be given to top finishers. To register or for more details, visit the bost on trail.com.

Mon/Yough Trail Council volunteers maintain 15 miles of trail between McKeesport and the border of Allegheny and Westmoreland counties. They formed

The Great Allegheny Passage was officially named in 2001. It is an former railroad line that has been transformed into a 150-mile walking and biking trail between Pittsburgh and Cumberland, Md.

Kennametal CEO to retire; replacement named

BY JOE NAPSHA

Kennametal Inc.'s top officer will retire and the president of its metal cutting segment will take charge of the global corporation that generated almost \$2.1 billion in sales in its 2023 fiscal year, the Pittsburgh-based company said.

Sanjay Chowbey, a Kennametal vice president, will succeed Christopher Rossi, who decided to retire effective May 31 after almost seven years as the company's president and CEO. Kennametal's board unanimously appointed Chowbey to take over the corporation's top post effective

Kennametal, which started in Latrobe and has a corporate office in Unity, makes cutting tools across a variety of industries, including aerospace and defense, earthworks, energy, general engi- **Chowbey:** neering and transportation.

Will succeed During Rossi's tenure Christopher as Kennametal's CEO, the Rossi as Kennecompany underwent what it metal CEO. called a simplification and

modernization strategy that included closing plants and reducing its global workforce. One of the victims of the strategy was its Carbide plant along Arona Road in Hempfield, which closed at the end of 2019, resulting in a loss

Rossi took over the company in August 2017, from Ronald DeFeo, who was named CEO in February 2016. Kennametal had 10,700 employees, of which 3,500 were in the U.S., according to its 2017 annual report. By the publication of its 2023 annual report last year, Kennametal had 8,700 employees in close to

Kennametal reported \$2.08 billion in sales in the fiscal year that ended in June 30 up from \$2.01 billion in fiscal year 2022.

"Chris led the company through the challenges of covid-19, drove a significant and lasting cultural transformation, and improved the underlying performance of the business, said William M. Lambert, board chairman.

Chowbev joined Kennametal in 2021 as president of its metal cutting segment. The business has grown its customer base, consistently delivered sales growth, expanded its operating margins, launched more than 20 new products and improved employee engagement, the company said.

Kennametal revealed its leadership change shortly after the stock market closed at 4 p.m. Thursday. Kennametal's shares closed at \$23.81, down \$1.15 from Wednesday's closing

In the past 52 weeks, Kennametal's stock reached a high of \$30.60 on July 31, but dropped to a low of \$22.08 on Nov. 1.

Joe Napsha is a TribLive staff writer. He can be reached at inapsha@triblive.com.

Wordle fans to celebrate 1,000th word-game puzzle

BY MEGAN SWIFT

As a speech pathologist, Jessica Valko is a fan of word games. But there's one in particular that she's been playing every day — Wordle.

The online word game that's run by the New York Times is celebrating its 1,000th puzzle Friday.

Valko, 51, of Murrysville said she loves playing the five-letter guessing game on her phone.

Though she jumped on the craze when the game was released in October 2021 by Josh Wardle, she, her mom and her sister were playing separately until they realized they

were all interested. Now, the trio competes and talks about the paths they took to get to guessing the daily word. Each day,

they rotate who chooses the word that all three use as their first guess. Wordle gives users six tries to

guess the five-letter word. "We are a little bit of a competitive family by nature, so everybody wants the bragging rights," Valko

For the 1,000th Wordle, it will be Valko's turn to choose.

Though sometimes they don't guess the Wordle, the game gives them a chance to connect every day when they might not always be able

"We don't always have a chance to talk about our daily lives, but every day we talk about our Wordle," Valko said.

Valko's mom, Linda Kardos, lives in Vandergrift. Valko's sister, Dianna Zabinski, lives in Michigan.

"It means so much to me because we connect every single day," Kar-

'And if I can beat them, as a mother, I love it," she said with a laugh. Wordle has given Christy Bash and her three sisters a chance to connect

daily as well. Bash, 70, of New Alexandria and her sisters also take turns coming up with the word they all use as their first guess. They've been playing together for over a year. Two live in Pennsylvania, and one lives in

"It's fun, and we have a lot of laughs over it," she said. "It's just something we can do together even

though we don't live close." Bash, a communications consultant at Elliott, and her sisters ask "Who got the highest score?" and "How did you get it that quick?"

"I think it's a really quick way to do something that stimulates your brain," she said.

And they've branched out from Wordle as well, playing the New York Times' Connections game.

Gayle Rogers, professor and chair of the University of Pittsburgh's English department, said he's never missed a day playing the word game.

"I'm still playing — I think the phenomenon is still going," he said. I think it hit at the right time as a pandemic activity that you can share virtually.'

Rogers said he texts with friends, family and colleagues to discuss the puzzles almost daily.

"I do it first thing in the mornfriendly competitive questions like: ing, and I find it a fun way to wake

your brain up a little bit," he said. "My brother and I always exchange scores and paths ... and find ourselves doing very similar things a lot of the time — and it's interesting to see.'

For Rogers, the most interesting words to guess are the easy ones,

"We use them so commonly, so we don't necessarily think of them as words very often," Rogers said. "Those are the ones that ... you kind of smack your forehead after that and say, 'Oh, right.' "

Rogers plans to continue playing Wordle every day.

"It's a small, fun part of the day."

Megan Swift is a TribLive staff writer. She can be reached at mswift@triblive.com.

To place an obituary, call 866-794-9801, fax 866-794-9799 or email obits@triblive.com.

Susan Elizabeth (Love) Dell

Susan Elizabeth (Love) Dell, 83, passed away on Friday,



March 15, Sept. 24, 1940, in Latrobe, the daughter of the late

ner) Love. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of almost 60 years, Byron R. Dell; and her brother. George H. Love Jr. Susan was Catholic by faith and was a member of Saint Vincent Basilica Parish, Latrobe. She attended Plymouth High School in Plymouth, Mich., and graduated from Derry Area High School. She went on to earn her Bachelor of Science in Psychology from the University of Pittsburgh. She enjoyed camping with her children and grandchildren, taking nature walks, literature, music, art and the rescuing of several Pomeranian senior pups. Susan's family was her world, and she is survived by three daughters, Tish Darazio (Allan), Barb Mock (Terry) and Suzie Klimchock (Matt); one son, Michael Dell; seven beloved grandchildren, who knew her as Grandma, Melissa Beck (Jesse), TJ Mock (Anna), Kacie Pence (Lee), Nick Mock (Jordan Morosini), Chris Mock, Kory Klimchock (Becky Cribbs) and Kyle Klimchock (Nisa Sabdarali); three beloved great-grandchildren, Jase Beck, Parker Pence and Porter Pence; three sistersin-law, JoAnn Love, Shirley Connor and Dorothy Dell; one brother-in-law, Donnie Dell; as well as several nieces and nephews. Not to be forgotten are her 'Michigan Family,' her high school friend and sister by choice, Myrna Payton, whose friendship has brought forth three generations of love and family. The family would like to give a special thanks to her loving caregivers, Tish Tomlinson and Brandie Dunlap for their excellent care and compassion. Family and friends will be received from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday at LOPATICH-BRINKER FUNERAL HOME LLC, 601 Weldon St., Latrobe. Members of the Saint Vincent Rosary Society will recite the rosary at 11:30 a.m. Sunday in the funeral home. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Monday at Saint Vincent Basilica. Interment is private. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to Action for Animals, P.O. Box 814, Latrobe, PA 15650 or to An-County, 216 Depot St., Youngwood, PA 15697, or planting a tree in her honor. To sign the online guest book, send condolences, or share a sto-

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Regional deaths

An asterisk (*) after a name indicates that a full death notice appears in these pages. (F) after a residence denotes "formerly." Friends of the deceased are invited to sign the online guest book at www.TribLIVE.com.

ALLEGHENY COUNTY

Residence Name, Age **Funeral home** Reid, John, 64* Baldwin Cremation & Burial Society, Wexford FAYETTE COUNTY

Name, Age	Residence	Funeral home
Nicholson, Clara, 86*	Normalville	Brooks, Connellsville
Sokol Jr. , John, 85*	Uniontown	Crawford, Hopwood
INDIANA COUNTY Name, Age	Residence	Funeral home
Kanurick, Bonnie, 77	Blairsville	Shoemaker, Blairsville

WESTMORELAND COUNTY

Name, Age	Residence	Funeral home
Dell , Susan, 83*	Latrobe	Lopatich Brinker, Latrobe
Downing, Lester, 88	Greensburg	Nye, Youngwood
Ferrante, Thomas, 82	Penn Township	Vaia, Delmont
Galbraith, Donald, 87	North Huntingdon	Snyder, Irwin
Horner, Lugene, 67*	Ligonier	Snyder-Green, Ligonier
Kercheval, Ralph, 73	Greensburg	Kepple-Graft, Greensburg
McGeary, Amanda, 39	Scottdale	Kapr, Scottdale
Reiter, Rose, 84*	Greensburg	Bacha, Greensburg

to like those very much. She

enjoyed her frequent visits

back to the warmth of South

Carolina. Quiet and very pri-

Clara Inell (Hinson) Nicholson NORMALVILLE

Clara Inell (Hinson) Nicholson, 86, of Normalville



passed away Thursday, March 14, 2024, with the loving support of her family. Inell was

born in Sumter, S.C., on Sept. 26, 1937, to William A. and Erlene (Watts) Hinson. She was one of eight children. Inell is survived by a daughter, Cindi (Mark) Geiger; a son, Greg (Sherryl) Nicholson; a daughterin-law, Chris (George) Gardner; grandsons, Zachary Scott (Emily) Geiger and Devin Gardner; and her beloved cat, Sgt. Snugglepuss. Inell is also survived by her sisters, Frances DeGarmo and Willene Josey; her brothers-in-laws, Jesse Nicholson, Herman Kosarski and Rob Washburn; sisters-in-laws, Bessie Lovelace, Linda Kosarski and Ida Nicholson; and numerous special nieces and nephews both Northern and Southern. Inell was predeceased by her husband, Raymond D. Nicholson Sr.; a son, Raymond "Dale" Nicholson Jr.; brothers, Louie Hinson, William Hinson Jr., Thereon Hinson and Burnett Hinson; sister, Patricia Washburn; brothers-in-law, Donald DeGarmo, Allen Josey, Teddy Nicholson, Leroy Nicholson, Merle Nicholson and Phillip Nicholson; John Clark, George Clark, Bryce White and WD Lovelace; sistersin-law, Wanda Hinson, Mary Hinson, Hattie Hinson, Helen Nicholson, Evelyn Nicholson, Luella Nicholson, Arlene Nicholson, Vernice Simmons, Leona Clark, Minnie Clark, Ella Mae White and Ester George. Inell attended Bethel School and Edmunds High School in Sumter, S.C. After meeting and marrying her husband, Raymond (Nick) while he was stationed at Shaw Field Air Force Base in Sumter, S.C., Inell spent the majority of her life in Normalville, where she loved everything but the Pennsylva-

vate by nature, Inell built her life around her family. Her children and grandchildren were everything to her. She ingrained in them a VERY deep love of animals, which were always part of her life and a definite Hinson trait. Inell was an extremely competent seamstress, having worked at Carilee and Union Apparel, even sewing for Christian Dior at one time. But her talent was showcased the most in the items she sewed for her home and almost all her daughter's clothing, which were unique and sewn with love. In her lifetime, Inell worked in the cotton fields and Anchor Hocking, also. She was, as her husband said, the hardest working woman he knew." Her family cannot stress enough what a hard worker she was. Inell was also an excellent cook of both Northern and Southern dishes that her family will never be able to replicate quite the way she made them. In 1965, Inell was baptized as one of Jehovah's Witnesses, and she enjoyed learning from the Bible. She was confident that Jesus gave his life on behalf of us all and that through his sacrifice, all mankind can gain eternal was Joshua 1:9 which says, "Have I not commanded you Be courageous and strong. Do not be struck with fear or terror, for Jehovah your God is with you wherever you go." Inell lived her entire life courageously to the very end. A memorial will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 14, 2024, at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses,

Route 119, Connellsville,

to which all her friends and

family are welcome to at-

tend. For those who wish

to attend, but are physical-

ly unable to do so, please

reach out to her family to

get the online ZOOM link

to her memorial service.

At her request, interment

was private and handled by

BROOKS FUNERAL HOME,

INC. in Connellsville. In lieu

of flowers, friends may make a

donation to the animal rescue

organization of their choice. To offer a condolence or remembrance, please visit www. brooksfuneralhomes.com

Lugene L. Horner

Lugene L. Horner, 67, of Ligonier, peacefully passed away surrounded by family on March 13, 2024 . Lugene was born on Aug. 1, 1956, in Johnstown. She was known not only for her professional accomplishments but also for her loving and kind personality. Loving wife of David Horner. She is preceded in death by her parents, Logan and Florence Decker; late brother, Terry Decker; late son, Timothy Horner; and sister, Janice Decker. Lugene was also the sister-in-law of the late Tom

John 'Jack' Andrew Reid

John "Jack" Andrew Reid 64, of Baldwin, and formerly North Point Breeze, passed away Thursday, March 7, 2024. "He never met a stranger." When Jack met you, you became a friend, someone he was attentive to, someone he was there for, someone who mattered, no matter where you came from, what you did, what you had, or what you didn't have. And you would get cards, cards for holidays, cards of concern and support, or cards just to say hi. Jack was intelligent, wise, witty, and kind. A great reader and lover of music Chopin, Queen, and the Beach Boys. A gentle man with refined tastes and a rock 'n' roll soul. Jack was a self-improver. As a "tech guy," he made spread sheets of everything, including schedules to practice the piano, work on electronics, brush up on math, and write. He spent long hours playing strategy games, anything from fantasy to military history. He loved animals, and any pet he had was thoughtfully cared for and cherished for its companionship, innocence, and trust. And Jack was brave. He faced down the challenge of a terminal illness without complaint. He trusted in those who cared for him

tual man, gravitating toward scripture that focused on our relationships to others and to the natural world. As a young man, Jack became an Eagle Scout. He attended CMU, where he became a brother in the Carnegie Chapter of Delta Upsilon and earned a degree in public policy. Later, he became a technical trainer with his own company. He adventured by taking sailing and flying lessons. He believed in volunteering and did so at both Phipps Conservatory and his church. Throughout his life, Jack was an enthusiastic member of various organizations, including Toastmasters, the Allegheny HYP Club, and the Greater South Hills Lodge No. 684 Freemasons. Jack was predeceased by his parents, Joseph and Marjorie Reid, longtime residents of New Cumberland. He is survived by his partner, Becky Carpenter; his best friend, Dick Beeler; his cousin, Sheila Bobala in Seattle; many other cousins in the Northeast and Northwest, and his many wonderful friends. Family and friends are invited to a memorial service at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 13, with a reception to follow at Hamilton Presbyterian Church, 4500 Hamilton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15236. RSVP to bac7727@gmail.com. Donations in Jack's memory may be made to the Human Society of Pennsylvania, the American Cancer Society, or to any other cause you wish.

Rose Marie Reiter **GREENSBURG**

Rose Marie Reiter, 84, of Greensburg, formerly of Irwin, died Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at Independence Health System Westmoreland Hospital, Greensburg. She was born July 4, 1939, in Greensburg, a daughter of the late John W. and Elizabeth (Steel) Reiter. She was a graduate of North Huntingdon High School, Class of 1958. Rose worked for Jeannette District Memorial Hospital before retiring from Greensburg Care Center. She was a resident of Gilbert Straub, where she enjoyed her friends and playing bingo. She loved the Steelers, Klondike Bars, and going to the zoo. She is survived by her sister, Patricia (Reiter) Tantlinger and husband Ralph; a nephew, Brian Tantlinger (Debra); two nieces, Rene Bensur (Christopher), and Jodi Tantlinger (James Richards); two great-nephews, Brandon and Bradley Tantlinger; and a great-niece, Ashley Bensur. Friends will be received from 4 to 7 p.m. Sunday at LEO M. BACHA FUNER-AL HOME INC., 516 Stanton Street, Greensburg. A funeral liturgy will begin at 11 a.m. Monday in

the funeral home. Private

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Remembering

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or Westmoreland Editions of the

him. Jack was a deeply spiri- interment in Westmoreland County Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the family to assist with funeral expenses. www.bachafh.com.

John L. Sokol Jr. **UNIONTOWN**



John L. Sokol Jr., 85, of Uniontown, passed awav Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at Ruby Memorial Hospital, Morgan-

town, W.Va. He was born Jan. 5, 1939, in New Kensington, the son of the late John S. Sr. and Louise (Napierkowski) Sokol. In addition to his parents, John is predeceased by his brother, Thomas Sokol. John is survived by his loving wife of 60 years, Patricia (Frenchik) Sokol; children Diane Waters (Dale) of Streetsboro, Ohio, Chris Sokol of Uniontown, and Jennifer Brach (Paul) of Pittsburgh; grandchildren, who called him 'Pop Pop', Samantha, Mason, Jacob, Courtney, Marilyn, and John Paul; and great-grandson Elliott. Visits from his grandchildren and great-grandson were the ecutive Director for the PA Turnpike and worked as a PennDOT 12th District Engineer. John was a member of St. John the Evangelist R.C Church, Knights of Columbus, American Society of Civil Engineers, PA Society of Professional Engineers, board of directors for the International Bridge, Turnpike and Tunnel Association, and chairman of the committee development of EZ Pass. He was an avid baseball fan and a lifelong Pittsburgh Pirates supporter. Friends and family will be received from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Sunday, March 17, in the DONALD R. CRAW-FORD FUNERAL HOME. Hopwood. Prayers of transfer will be held at 9:30 a.m. Monday, March 18, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 10 a.m. in St. John's RC Church. Interment will follow at Mount Macrina Cemetery. To honor John's memory, please make a donation to St. Jude

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Maryland men suspected of Unity vehicle break-ins

BY RENATTA SIGNORINI

An off-duty Westmoreland County detective who noticed suspicious activity in his Unity neighborhood this week helped state police identify two men they believe stole a handgun, a Louis Vuitton wallet and \$340 from four vehicles, according to court

Arrest warrants have been issued for the suspects: Dominyck S. Sims, 26, and Joeshua D. Waye, 27, both of

The detective reported seeing a Dodge Charger driving slowly in the early morning

hours Tuesday outside his home in the Mountain View area. Two men got out of the car and walked along a street with backpacks. When the men got back into the car to leave, the detective

followed them to a gas station in South Greensburg, about 8 miles away, according to court papers. Two state troopers caught up with them there and said they identified one of the men as Waye. He was wearing dark clothing.

The other man provided a false name, but investigators said they later identified him as Sims. It was unclear how

nia winters. She never grew

they did so from court papers. The two troopers apparently let the men go. They had not been arraigned. Police could not be reached Friday.

Four residents in the Mountain View area reported items and cash were taken from their vehicles overnight. One of them had footage from a doorbell camera that showed Sims wearing black clothing entering his vehicle after 3

Security footage from another location showed a person fitting the description of Waye attempting to get into a vehicle, but it was locked, according to court papers. The suspects are charged

with theft, conspiracy, loitering and prowling at night and related offenses. Sims faces an additional charge of providing false identification to police.

Renatta Signorini is a TribLive staff writer. She can be reached at rsignorini@

Budget included funds earmarked for raises

PAY RAISE · FROM A3

also signed off on 3% raises for 400 nonunion employ-

Kertes, along with Commissioner Doug Chew and Balzer, also this week approved raises for the county's director of records management, Nathan Banwar, and a benefits coordinator in the human

resources office. Commissioner Ted Kopas opposed the more than \$8,500 pay hike to Banwar and a \$7,000 raise for the human resources staffer.

'The county simply cannot afford to hand out management raises like candy. I only supported raises for public safety or human services largely funded by the state. I've heard from many of our residents who are fed up

with county spending," Kopas said.

and protected those who loved

Kopas also said he will propose as early as next month a plan to cap annual raises doled out to the county's elected officials. Those raises are determined by increases in the Consumer Price Index, which last year totaled 3.5%. The county commissioners and other elected officials have earned raises that totaled nearly 17% since 2022.

Kopas said he wants to rescind an ordinance approved in the late 1990s that tied those raises to federal labor statistics and cap annual pay hikes to elected officials at 2.5%.

Rich Cholodofsky is a TribLive staff writer. He can be reached at rcholodofsky@triblive.com.

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BY PAULA REED WARD

On Feb. 15, Christina Nicassio met with her attorney, a prosecutor and a judge for a status conference like thev had dozens of times before to discuss her ongoing case for killing her father seven years ago while in the grips of mental illness. The plan was for Nicassio,

who has been in a long-term. secure residential treatment facility, to be released to her own apartment in Dormont where she would live within walking distance of her godmother's house to ensure she had continued support.

What Allegheny County Common Pleas Judge Jill E. Rangos didn't know then was that three days earlier, Nicassio had signed a contract to buv a house in Monroeville. nowhere near Dormont, and that she was planning to live with a man convicted of killing his wife in Penn Hills.

"So, Ms. Nicassio intentionally withheld that information from us," Rangos said Friday during a hearing on the matter. "You, at a minimum, misled all of us when we were fighting vigorously for your best interest in allowing you to step down."

Expressing frustration and disappointment, the judge ordered Nicassio to remain in the secure facility in Pittsburgh's Brookline neighborhood where she has been now with an electronic ankle monitor — for at least the next

In the meantime, the judge ordered that the woman meet with her therapist twice a week to explain in detail the relationship she has with Antonio Vecchiola and the circumstances of his crime.

Nicassio, 34, was charged with homicide for killing her father, Dr. Anthony Nicassio, 69, a UPMC internist and primary care physician, on May 6, 2017.

That charge remains pend-

Police said Nicassio stabbed her father in the chest after her parents tried to get her into a vehicle to take her to Forbes Regional Hospital for mental health treatment. Nicassio had recently broken up with her fiance and was speaking irrationally and nonsensically, police said in a criminal complaint.

The crime shocked the area soccer community, which had known Nicassio as a player for Plum High School and the University of Pittsburgh, and as a coach for Plum youth teams. After Nicassio's arrest, Al-

legheny County Jail psychiatrists found she was experiencing a psychotic episode and had long-term mental health issues.

She was found not to be competent for trial and was transferred to Torrance State Hospital in Westmoreland County for treatment.

"At the time of this act, she was insane under the law," Patrick Thomassey, her attorney, said Thursday.

Nicassio remained at Torrance for several years before being moved to the long-term, secure facility to continue treatment. She has remained there for two years, Thomassey said.

Under the circumstances, he continued, it is likely his client will never go to trial.

Instead, the district attornev's office will eventually withdraw the charges against Nicassio, although Thomassey said that would not likely happen for a least a few more years.

The DA's office said late Friday the case is still pending and they can't comment on the ultimate resolution.

"Eventually, the goal is the

person would work herself back into society without being controlled by the court," Thomassey said. "There's a death involved here. Everybody is cognizant of that.' Nicassio has been doing well

in her treatment, he said, and had reached the maximum benefit of the secure facility she had been in.

"This was a misstep," Thomassev said.

He didn't learn that Nicassio was dating Vecchiola, who Thomassey also represented, until Wednesday when the iudge told him.

Nicassio and Vecchiola had known each other in high school, Thomassey said. It was unclear how the two got back in touch.

In October 2021, Vecchiola,

now 38, pleaded guilty to involuntary manslaughter for the death four years earlier of his estranged wife. He was ordered to serve five years probation.

Jessica Vecchiola, 29, was found dead on the bedroom floor in her Penn Hills home by her mother on Feb. 6, 2017, exactly three months before Nicassio's death. The cause of death was in-

ternal decapitation, when the skull is disconnected from the spinal column. Neither the criminal com-

plaint nor the prosecution in Vecchiola's case have explained how the injury occurred. Prosecutors at the time said

sues in the case, which Thomassey repeated Friday during the hearing. Rangos repeatedly questioned Nicassio about what she knew regarding Vecchio-

that there were evidentiary is-

During a hearing on the same matter Thursday, Nicassio's care providers said that, given that the break-up with her fiance triggered her to kill her father, they were concerned about the relationship with Vecchiola.

They referenced "a lack of insight and poor decision-

Rangos suggested the same given that Nicassio has only been able to see Vecchiola in limited, one-hour visits in a locked-down facility every other weekend.

looks, I do," Nicassio respond-

"But you still disagree with all of the people who have advocated on your behalf," Rangos responded. "The whole room of people here have worked to get you there. What you have done is deceive us.'

She told Nicassio she has lost her trust.

"I tried so hard to do right this whole time," Nicassio said. "I didn't know I was doing wrong. I thought I was free to go on with my life. It's been seven years.

Vecchiola is involved in an ongoing child custody case, Rangos noted. In that case, another judge issued an order in April noting Vecchiola's children were not to be in Nicassio's presence for any reason, and that there is to be no communication with her. Nicassio said Friday she

was not aware of that order.

"I am gravely concerned that Mr. Vecchiola has not been candid with her," Rangos said. "You continue to be unwilling to consider anything other than what you've been told by Mr. Vecchiola. Nicassio told the staff at her

treatment facility that Vecchiola's wife died from a drug overdose, Rangos said. She asked Nicassio if she knew what internal decapitation

"That doesn't happen without a substantial amount of force," the judge said. "I am concerned you have heard one

"I understand how bad it side of the story. Holding this out as a death by overdose is

not only misleading the people at (the facility) but misleading vourself." Rangos said she is also worried that if Nicassio moves to Monroeville, she will have to

obtain a new treatment pro-Assistant District Attorney Diana Page questioned how the transition of services

would occur. "This is just so vague and broad, I have concerns," she

Rangos told Nicassio she could move forward with buying the house with Vecchiola - the closing was scheduled for late Friday — but Nicassio is not permitted to move there. "The only thing I can think

of to ensure the safety of the community is to put you on an ankle bracelet as a requirement of your bond," the judge

while the judge on Vecchiola's family court case also reviews the situation. Transcripts of the proceedings, she said, will be given to the therapist and the judge in

treatment team, Rangos said,

the custody case. "I'm not going to waste time trying to convince you you need to take a step back and look at the situation you're

putting yourself in.'

Paula Reed Ward is a TribLive staff writer. She can be reached at pward@triblive.com.

Two ex-Pittsburghers plead guilty to 'Rent-A-Vet' fraud scheme

BY PAULA REED WARD

Two former Pittsburgh men have pleaded guilty in federal court for claiming their companies were owned by disabled veterans so they could obtain special government contracts for their construction busi-

Edward Kessler, 68, of Myrtle Beach, entered his plea Wednesday before U.S. District Judge William S. Stickman IV. Edward DiGorio Jr., 65, also of Myrtle Beach, followed

The men each admitted to two counts of major fraud against the U.S. in what is known as a "Rent-A-

They will be sentenced in July.

The Veterans Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development Act of 1999 set a goal of awarding 3% of the total value of all government contracts to small businesses owned by service-disabled veterans.

To be eligible, the disabled veteran had to own at least 51% of the company, be the highest paid employee, receive 51% of the annual profits and manage daily operations.

According to the prosecution, the defendants owned ADDVETCO, a construction company incorporated in Pennsylvania in 2007, and Hi-Def Contracting Inc, incorporated in court documents.

Neither Kessler, who retired five years ago, nor DiGorio ever served in the military, and they were not disabled, the government said.

However, according to prosecutors, the men participated in a "Rent-A-Vet" scheme where they paid a disabled veteran to seek certification

As part of the scheme, the disabled veterans who were listed as owning each company were required to kick back a portion of their paychecks to the defendants and their relatives in cash.

The veterans are not named in the

The government alleged the fraud occurred from January 2007 to Jan-Over that time period, the govern-

ment said. ADDVETCO was awarded 35 prime contracts from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs set aside for disabled veteran-owned businesses. Twenty-six of those were valued at more than \$1 million each.

Hi-Def, the prosecution said, was awarded 32 prime contracts designated for disabled veterans businesses, with 24 of those being valued at more than \$1 million.

The defendants' guilty plea involved two contracts — one with ADDVETCO for \$7.3 million, and

another with Hi-Def for nearly \$1.4 million.

While the services were performed, the government asserted that the loss to the veterans affairs department totaled \$403,142, which was the profit the defendants earned from the contracts.

They will be required to pay that amount in restitution as part of their plea agreement. Kessler's attorney, Jennifer Bouri-

at, had no comment. DiGorio's attorney did not return

a message seeking comment.

Paula Reed Ward is a TribLive staff writer. She can be reached at pward@triblive.com.

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A PART OF PITTSBURGH'S IDENTITY

The dollars and sense of the Mon Incline

here are certain fixtures that simply define For Paris, it's the Eiffel Tower and the

Arc de Triomphe. For Washington, there are the White House and the Capitol and the monuments on the mall. For Philadelphia, it's the Liberty Bell, the LOVE sculpture and the steps of the Museum of Art made famous in "Rocky."

Pittsburgh is defined by geometry. The triangle of Point State Park.

The incline is more than a pathway from the bottom of the mountain to the top. It is part of the city's identity.

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The pyramid spires of PPG Place. The elegant arcs of the bridges. And the angles of the inclines climbing Mt. Washington. The city once had

more than a dozen funiculars — that's the formal name of the cars

that climb the side of mountains. Most closed before 1964. Just two remain: Duquesne Incline and the

oldest of them all, the Monongahela Incline. And the Mon Incline is closed, too. Usually, at

Despite \$8.2 million in renovations from August 2022 to March 2023, malfunctions have shut the incline yet again. Ironically, the 154-year-old conveyance isn't hurting from its antique parts. It's the modern computer technology causing problems now.

Pittsburgh Regional Transit is forming a committee to talk about the future of the incline - one of just 10 working versions left in the country. Replacement is on the table.

If you look at the numbers, it makes sense to consider giving up on it. It isn't the only way to get up the mountain. The number of riders is low — although looking at the last two years when it's been closed for a total of almost 10 months does give a distorted view.

But the incline is more than a pathway from the bottom of the mountain to the top. It is part of the city's identity.

It's the moment of wonder when kids press their noses on the glass as it rises. It's the breathtaking view of the skyline when you get to the top. It's the quaint image of the car following its

short track back and forth. Is there a place where the cost no longer makes sense? Of course. But the funicular — the oldest funicular — has a value that must be considered outside of dollars and cents.

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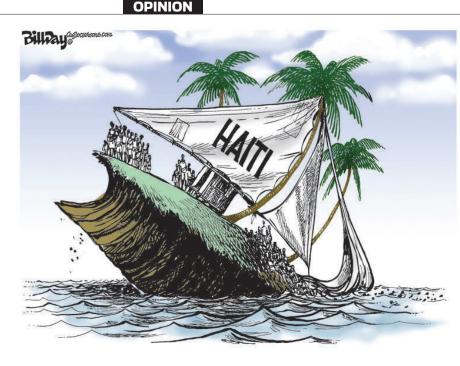
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LETTERS

Congress must rein in PBMs

s a clinical pharmacist, it's difficult to sit by and watch as policies and practices put in place by insurers and pharmacy benefit managers, or PBMs, continue to have such a negative impact on patient access to care, affordability and the future of local, independent pharmacies here in Pennsylvania and nationwide. While it's frustrating

that Congress failed to pass PBM reform last vear. I'm hopeful lawmakers, including Sens. Bob Casey Jr. and John Fetterman, can work to pass the bipartisan DRUG Act. The patient-focused reforms within the DRUG Act would help rein in the unscrupulous business practices PBMs use to profit while chipping away at patient access.

PBMs use policies that

Patient steering, for example, is when PBMs will restrict patients to the pharmacies that the PBMs own or are affiliated with — which also pose a threat to smaller, independent pharmacies that have been serving their communities for generations.

maximize their profit while failing to pass along promised savings to patients. Unfortunately, their practices also lead to unnecessary delays and denials of care as well as barriers that patients must work to overcome. Patient steering, for example, is when PBMs will restrict patients to the pharmacies that the PBMs own or are affiliated with - which also pose a threat to smaller, independent pharmacies

that have been serving their communities for generations.

Congress should pass this bill to hold PBMs more accountable for their practices that threaten patient access, drive up out-of-pocket costs, and hurt independent pharmacies. Hopefully, Pennsylvania lawmakers can help push for these much-needed reforms.

Meghan Cahalane Mt. Lebanon

Republicans shouldn't compromise on abortion

In Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court ruled a person may choose an abortion until a fetus (genetically complete human being) becomes viable. "Viability" is an arbitrary term used to determine when it is legal to terminate human life. Factors such as fetal lung development, heartbeat and the ability to feel pain are a few of the arbitrary factors attached to defining viability.

Republicans are currently floating another factor to add to the list of arbitrary terms, "electability." To win elections, Republicans are proposing a compromise strategy to allow abortions up to 14 weeks. This is nonsense.

Pro-life Republicans are repeatedly elected to public office. Compromise and appeasement are not virtuous political strategies; ask Neville Cham-Christians are bound to a higher

authority than the Supreme Court and state legislatures. Christian standards and virtues should never be compromised for political expediency or to win elections. If we are ever to regain and secure the blessing of nature's God, we might consider returning to and adhering to his laws.

Kris DeJeet Salem

Vote smart, end stupid

Stupidity is a cruel word which means lack of intelligence, and I like to think that nobody is stupid. Well, our politicians have proven me wrong again. When Donald Trump tells Republicans to nix a bipartisan immigration bill,

I guess because it'll be an election issue and they listen to him, they are stupid. When 170 Democrats nix the bipartisan Laken Riley Act, I guess just to get back at the Republicans, that is stupid. Hopefully the Laken Riley Act will become a law.

It seems the more education some people get, the dumber they get. I guess the real issue in "stupid Washington" is due to our own stupidity, we keep reelecting these people. It is time for all voters to get smarter and vote smarter and quit reelecting the stupid people who don't work for the betterment of our country. It is time for the word "bipartisan" to be a reality instead of just a stupid word

Jack Juris Buffalo Township

S.E. CUPP

Biden and Trump are not treated the same

elp, it's official. President Joe Biden and former President Donald Trump are going to be our two major party choices for president. Congrats, America? On Tuesday night, both Biden

and Trump clinched enough delegates to become the presumptive nominees of their parties and will await their conventions to be formally nominated. But who starts this next phase of

what will be an excruciatingly long slog of a campaign in the better position? That's up to interpretation. Democrats are celebrating a

strong State of the Union performance by Biden last week, which — at least for the moment - allayed fears that he is coming across as too old for the job.

Democrats also believe Biden has the upper hand when it comes to money. Here, they're not wrong Biden, the Democratic National Committee and groups who support him have far out-raised those supporting Trump, who is

also bleeding cash due to his many ongoing lawsuits, legal fees and legal fines. And there are the issues. Demo-

 $crats\ believe\ earnestly--just\ ask$ them — that Biden's economy is improving by the day. At his SOTU address, he even boasted that the U.S. economy is the "envy of the But don't tell that to U.S. voters,

who disagree. Whatever bright spots there are, they're not translating to approval, nor do voters believe Biden's economy is better than Trump's was. Democrats also feel good about

the issue of women's reproductive health — and they should. Republicans' efforts to ban or limit access to abortions and in vitro fertilization have not endeared them to a majority of voters.

But the news isn't all good for

On immigration, still a top issue among many voters, Biden's policies have been a clear failure,

and despite Republicans' craven

attempts to keep the problem alive so Trump can run on it, the issue still plagues Democrats. But the biggest problem for

Biden is that the bar is set differently for him than it is for Trump. Trump benefits from having a

voter base with an exceedingly low bar. Trump can be a literal loser, who lost the White House, the House and the Senate for Republicans in four short years. He can be a convicted criminal — many of his voters say they'd still support

Trump can equivocate, backtrack and contradict himself on policy, as he has on myriad issues from abortion to entitlements. Trump can make vile and impolitic statements regularly — using Hitler-ian language to describe migrants, for example, or mocking Biden for a childhood stutter. He can be a liar, a jerk and an ignoramus. He's conditioned his base over the past nine years to love it

Biden, on the other hand, is

being held to a much higher standard — by his own voters. While his most stalwart defend-

ers insist they're fine with his age and fitness, 75% of voters — and half of Democrats - are very concerned about his health. When Biden makes rhetorical or

policy gaffes - for instance, calling an undocumented immigrant accused of murdering a Georgia college student an "illegal," his base lets him know in no uncertain terms that he messed up. In short, his own voters are

telling him to do better, be better, whereas Trump's voters love him even when he's the absolute worst. The dueling bars mean Trump

will have to fight to win new voters, while Biden will have to fight just to keep his own. Meanwhile, many of us are look-

ing for the bar — so we can drown our sorrows over this crummy

> S.E. Cupp is the host of "S.E. Cupp Unfiltered" on CNN.

Have we

GARY FRANKS

lowered bar for Biden?

ress conferences? "No,

we're good," implies the Biden administration. And the liberal media allows President Joe Biden to get away with it. No president in recorded history has done fewer. It is a basic part of his job. But he insists he is ready for four more years in office.

It must be nice being Biden. He gets away with things that all the recent presidents would never be allowed to get away with. That must be one of the benefits of old age. Heck, if former Presidents

H.W. Bush or George W. Bush had allowed millions of illegal immigrants to invade America, they would have been kicked to the curb. A recent Gallup poll states that most Americans see the border invasion as a "critical

Barack Obama or George

threat" to our security. At a minimum, every "gotaway" is a national security threat. But Biden does nothing but blame others. Protecting America is another basic part of his job. As America's oldest president, Biden seems to

get graded on a curve, or we have dramatically lowered the bar for him. Biden takes advantage of

his advantages. No tough questions for him. He picks only those reporters who can talk nicely to him. Press conferences allow

all Americans to get an immediate regular report on what is going on and what the president has planned. They also allow the media to question the president. This is important because 330 million Americans cannot do so all at once. The best and brightest reporters are given this task and have done it so admirably for over 100 years.

This year, Biden did one news conference, kind of. He angrily burst into a small room in the White House in an unscheduled early evening meeting with the White House press. What was it about? It concerned his rebuttal to Special Counsel Robert Hur, who wrote of the president's mental decline in

a recent report. Why does Biden want to avoid the media, despite many in the media being ultra friendly to him?

Maybe because he would get one of the following questions: "Mr. President, the Constitution says that the United

States must protect each state from an invasion. Are you failing to do that?' "Mr. President, why have

you rejected a return to the border policies of the Obama administration, which you were a part of?"

"Mr. President, why are you asking Congress to fund other countries' needs before addressing America's needs? What can you do and what will you do to protect America?"

"Mr. President, if a president does not abide by his oath of office and does not protect the Constitution, should he be removed from office?" "Mr. President, prior to

your presidency, Americans were spending \$100 for groceries a week and now are spending over \$120 a week for the same items. How is that better for Americans? Is Bidenomics working?' I could go on. But I think

you get the point. Biden needs to be on a platform in prime time addressing

these issues from the media and give the American people answers. We are wise enough to fairly evaluate you like we have done past presidents. A regular press conference in which you respond to

tougher questions — can you do it? Will you do it? Can you do one per month? If done well, this move could actually help you. It

could alleviate concerns about your declining mental capabilities. Failing to do so confirms our concerns. It must be nice being Biden, being old, being treat-

ed differently, being given advantages — but it is not good for America. Gary Franks served three terms as

U.S. representative for Connecticut's 5th District. He was the first Black Republican elected to the House in nearly 60 years. He is the author of "With God, For God, and For Country." @GaryFranks

"The coach has got to go," he said, adding that he would have liked to see Pickett spend a little more time in Pittsburgh.

While visiting friends in Pittsburgh, Kevin Meloni of Long Island, N.Y., stopped by the Strip District to buy a powder blue Sidney Crosby jersey when he saw a group of people buying Pickett T-shirts.

"They took a 'L,' " joked Meloni. "There's no refunds over there."

A Chicago Bears fan, Meloni opposed fans who predict the Steelers will acquire free agent quarterback Justin Shields, who the Bears drafted No. 1 in 2021 after graduating from Ohio State.

"Your Steelers are not going to touch my Justin Fields, I tell you that," he said.

But Ohio State grad Jeff Slezak of Cranberry feels just the opposite — he would like to see Fields come to the

"He was never going to be anything," Slezak said of Pickett. "I think we've already seen that. I don't love (that we have Wilson), but I get it." His friend, Connor Duddy, of Pittsburgh's North Hills,

said he's glad Pickett is leav-"I was pretty happy," he said. "I called my dad and

said, 'I told you so.' For Matt Zegarelli, the Steelers' decision to let go of Pickett and backup quarterback Mitch Trubisky is a good

"I love it. I mean, they're trying to win," said Zegarelli of North Huntingdon. "I feel like they have a really good shot at, at least being a playoff team — winning playoff

games — this year.' Zegarelli would like to see the Steelers bring in Fields.

Zegarelli's wife, Erin, was sad to see former backup



Friends Connor Duddy, Jeff Slezak, Mike P. and Tim O'Brien talk about the Kenny Pickett trade while having a drink at Tom's Watch Bar in Pittsburgh's North Shore on Friday.

leave, joining the Tennessee Pittsburgh's North Shore, is she was pleasantly surprised the Steelers would make this many changes to their quarterback roster.

"I'm actually happy they made a move," Erin Zegarelli said. "I just feel like they do the same thing (every year) and it's not any different."

Bob Marino of Cheswick said he thought Pickett did OK for a while, but had a difficult time playing up to the level of better teams.

But the Steelers' mediocre season can't be blamed solely on Pickett, he said.

"You can't just point at one person and say, 'You're the reason we didn't win,' " Marino said. "It's still a team

Mark Stitt of Ford City has mixed feelings about the

"I, like everybody else, wanted great things for Kenny Pickett," he said.

Between injuries and being benched in favor of other quarterbacks, Pickett didn't have enough time to grow and meet the demands of the NFL, Stitt said.

DJ Givner, manager quarterback Mason Rudolph at Tom's Watch Bar in

Titans in free agency. But excited to see what Wilson will do.

"You've got a Hall of Fame-caliber quarterback coming in who's already won a Super Bowl," Givner said. "I think it's exciting for the area. We want Pittsburgh to get back to its winning ways again.'

For Mark Zuzich, Wilson has proven himself a talented professional while Pickett didn't live up to expectations.

"Kenny had an opportunity for the last year-and-a-half, two years. It just didn't seem like he really had it to play in the NFL," said Zuzich of Penn Township. "It's a whole different ball game. I think maybe he'll do better somewhere else. I wish him well." Being a young athlete, Pick-

ett's chances at a good professional career are likely, according to Dan Hearn of Braddock Hills.

"He was a good quarter-back," Hearn said. "He just didn't have the protection. And he's young. He'll do all right, going to Philly. He just needs time.

> Quincey Reese, Kellen Stepler and Michael Divittorio are TribLive staff writers.

Pickett came with high expectations

PICKETT · FROM A1

audible background of scores of camera shutters. Pickett, the star of the

college team that shares a practice facility with the Steelers, was staying in Pittsburgh. Though Pickett grew up

near the New Jersey coastline, he'd earned status as a "hometown hero" in the Steel City by way of leading Pitt to its first conference championship in school history in 2021. Pitt's first finalist for the Heisman Trophy in 18 years and the first quarterback off the draft board in 2022, Pickett was something of a storybook choice for the Steelers as their successor to future Hall of Fame quarterback Ben Roethlisberger. Less than 23 months later,

Pickett's marriage to the Steelers unceremoniously ended with no fanfare or even much advance warning. Word broke midafternoon Friday that the Steelers had traded Pickett to the Philadelphia Eagles, the team Pickett grew up rooting for.

The package sent in return for Pickett was as underwhelming as his career had been with the Steelers: The Eagles surrendered two 2025 seventh-round picks and swapped a third-rounder in next month's draft for a Steelers' fourth-round In return, Philadel-

phia got the quarterback who had the worst touchdown-pass percentage of any who'd thrown at least 500 passes over the past 54

But it wasn't necessarily the mere 13 touchdown passes in 25 career games that did in Pickett's Steelers career. Nor was it that among 32 qualifying NFL quarterbacks this past season Pickett ranked 27th in yards per attempt and 28th in completion percentage, or even that Pickett's six touchdown passes were bested by 36 quarterbacks across the league in 2023.

It was that the Steelers came to the apparent determination that Pickett was unwilling to accept a back-



Kenny Pickett greets the press April 29, 2022, with Steelers president Art Rooney II at the UPMC Rooney Sports Performance Complex.

up role or the prospect of a that came four days after competition to hold on to the starting job.

That Friday's trade was confirmed to TribLive about 3½ hours after the Steelers officially announced the signing of nine-time Pro Bowl quarterback Russell Wilson was not a coinci-

The team would not have signed Wilson, a 35-year-old former Super Bowl champion, if it was 100% sold on Pickett as the franchise quarterback. Wilson, in turn, would not have agreed to join the Steelers if he believed Pickett was going to be the 2024 starter. Pickett held unwavering

public backing from Tomlin throughout his mediocre-at-best production this past season. But he watched from the sidelines as a backup for both the Steelers' regular-season finale in Baltimore and their wild-card round playoff game at the Buffalo Bills.

Pickett at first fell out of the lineup because of an ankle injury suffered during a Dec. 3 loss. But once Mason Rudolph took over to lead a home win Dec. 23 following the benching of former No. 2 QB Mitch Trubisky, Tomlin elected to stick with Rudolph despite Pickett's return to practice. Apparently healthy

enough to play, Pickett did not dress for a Dec. 31 Rudolph-led win at Seattle

A Number

he offered a curiously curt and flat answer of "no" to a question about whether he'd learned anything or gleaned any lessons by watching Rudolph succeed in the previous game.

It would have been inconceivable then to consider that Pickett had played his final down for the Steelers. That he had is a remarkable development given his erstwhile popularity in the city, robust public support from the organization and firstround draft status.

It had been 32 years since the Steelers gave up on a first-round pick before the start of his third season with the team.

It was impossible to ignore Friday that the trade of Pickett came to light came about two hours after Wilson had stood at a podium at the UPMC Rooney Sports Complex, with Tomlin listening on while standing off to the left with palpable

Less than two years ago, similarly, Tomlin beamed as he stood tall in a visually tangible display of support for a prospective new starting quarterback. Little did anyone know then that Pickett's tenure as the Steelers' face of the franchise would end so quickly.

> Chris Adamski is a TribLive staff writer. He can be reached at cadamski@triblive.com.

'They're most likely going to pop up'

BOBBLEHEADS · FROM A1

was happy to shoot a quick, slick video about the missing toys that bore his likeness.

In the 18-second production, trotted out by the Penguins on social media, Jagr strapped a seat belt onto one of his minimes, telling the toy, "Buckle up, baby, let's go find your

Jagr saluted and then exited a garage in a yellow Ford pickup with the Penguins name plastered on the tailgate and a vanity license plate, 68 WATCH, with the team's logo. The plate referred to Jagr's time as a free agent when fans were trying to woo him back to Pittsburgh.

The video ended with the words, "To be continued ...

Acklin said the bobblehead in the pickup was a prototype for the giveaway. He said he has it locked in his office.

Acklin would not divulge the name of the vendor that made the bobbleheads. He also would not identify the freight

"We have no idea where this stuff is," Acklin said. "It's either going to turn up, or they're going to produce more bobbleheads. Detective Sgt. Clifford Jones

of the Los Angeles Sheriff's

Department said Friday

night the team will have to

be patient for the shipment to

could be in Colorado," he said. It could end up along the side of a freeway.

to pop up," Jones said. Pennsylvania, though,

seemed a pretty unlikely des-After arriving in port in

Los Angeles, the bobbleheads value of thousands of miniawere transported to a warehouse facility in Carson, a thing else, the California suburb in Los Angeles County south of LA near Long Beach. There they fell victim to a

common crime, Jones said.

Someone with a truck and fake paperwork tricked the warehouse staff, loaded the containers of bobbleheads and drove off, likely having no idea what they were filching, Jones said.

"A truckload was stolen," Jones said. "Not an actual truck.'

Usually, thieves who raid warehouses are hoping for TVs, washing machines or other valuable items that they can fence.

But Jagr bobbleheads?

At best, they're a niche item. A very niche item.

"We have the Ducks and the Sharks, but hockey is not like the Lakers," said Jones, who grew up in Lake Placid, N.Y. He knows a little something

turn up, but turn up it likely about hockey. Jones said he played defense during his "It could be in Arizona, it time decades ago at the University of Scranton.

Jones admitted to not being a Pens fan, but said that he "They're most likely going liked Lemiuex and, yes, Jagr. ("I never got into the whole Crosby craze," he said.)

Whether in deference to a professional sports team, in recognition of the inherent ture Jagr lookalikes or someupstairs.

Jones said it had been taken off the hands of the Carson station and turned over to the sheriff's department's Cargo Criminal Apprehension Team, the Cargo C.A.T.S.

Even though there's little chance that the bobbleheads will turn up in the Pittsburgh area, authorities here still plan to keep an eye out.

"We understand the community and the Pittsburgh Penguins want their bobbleheads back safe and quickly,' Gagliardi said. "We will help in any way possible and continue to check locations with any updated information we receive."

Staff writer Haley Daugherty contributed to this report. Jonathan D. Silver is a TribLive news editor. He can be reached at jsilver@triblive.com.

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Xylazine cannot be counteracted with Narcan

OVERDOSES · FROM A1

and Alcohol Commission. "In 2023, we distributed 5,016 Narcan kits. That's a 30.5% increase over 2022."

After hitting a high point in 2017 with 193 drug overdose deaths, the statistics dropped dramatically and 2023's numbers cut that figure by more

Heroin has continued to disappear as a major factor in overdose deaths. Fentanvl was the main contributor in 77 deaths in 2023 — 89 when including a dozen overdoses attributed to derivatives such as acetyl-fentanyl and para-fluorofentanyl — while heroin was the primary cause

in just three. Overall, the overdose figures are the county's lowest sion has adjusted its approach with the onset of fentanyl and xylazine, offering not just the Narcan kits but also drug testing strips that can recognize the presence of both substances.

"We developed harm reduction kits, and just like the Narcan kits, we can send them by mail and we have them at our offices in Monessen, Mt. Pleasant and Greensburg,' she said. "So if someone is not ready to quit, they can at least test their drugs and know what they're taking.'

Unlike opioid-based drugs, xylazine cannot be counteracted with Narcan or naloxone, its generic form.

The annual report released showed a slight drop in Coroner Tim Carson's caseload, from 3,309 in 2022 to 3,120 last

Minardi said the commis- year. The number of autopsies performed has fallen dramatically since 2022, when it dropped from 208 to 128, and then to 117 last year. Those are the lowest figures since 2014 (153). There were 27 traffic-related

deaths and four homicides. In addition, deaths by suicide -- were just two shy of the county record set last year. The number of suicides has

remained between 46 and 62 for the past decade. The coroner's office has been working with Ray of Hope, the county's suicide awareness and prevention task force, to get resources to families when the deputies respond to death by suicide calls.

Call before you dig. Patrick Varine is a TribLive staff writer. He can be reached at pvarine@triblive.com.

A8 • SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2024

Justices rule public officials can be sued for blocking social media critics

 ${\it WASHINGTON-A\ unanimous\ Su-}$ preme Court ruled Friday that public officials can sometimes be sued for blocking their critics on social media, an issue that first arose for the high court in a case involving then-President Donald Trump. Justice Amy Coney Barrett, writing for

the court, said officials who use personal accounts to make official statements may not be free to delete comments about those tatements or block critics altogether.

On the other hand, Barrett wrote, State officials have private lives and their own constitutional rights.'

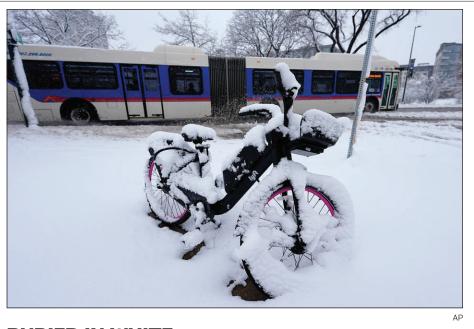
The court ruled in two cases involving lawsuits filed by people who were blocked after leaving critical comments on social media accounts belonging to school board members in Southern California and a city manager in Port Huron, Mich., northeast of Detroit. They are similar to a case involving Trump and his decision to block critics from his personal account on Twitter, now known as X. The justices dismissed the case after Trump left office in January 2021.

The cases forced the court to deal with the competing free speech rights of public officials and their constituents, all in a rapidly evolving virtual world. They are among five social media cases on the court's docket this term.

Appeals courts in San Francisco and Cincinnati had reached conflicting decisions about when personal accounts become official, and the high court did not embrace either ruling, returning the cases to the appeals courts to apply the standard the justices laid out Friday.

"When a government official posts about job-related topics on social media, it can be difficult to tell whether the speech is official or private," Barrett said.

Officials must have the authority to speak on behalf of their governments and intend to use it for their posts to be regarded essentially as the government's, Barrett wrote. In such cases, they have to allow criticism, or risk being sued, she wrote.



BURIED IN WHITE

A bicycle sits covered with snow as a city bus moves along the westbound lanes of Speer Boulevard as a late winter storm dropped up to a foot of snow Thursday in Denver. Forecasters predict the storm will persist through early Friday, snarling traffic along Colorado's Front Range communities. Those higher elevations had up to 3 feet of snow by Thursday, forcing flight cancellations and shutting down a highway that connects Denver to Colorado ski resorts for much of the day, stranding some people in their cars for hours.

Real estate settlement upends policies that set agent commissions

A powerful real estate trade group has agreed to do away with policies that for decades helped set agent commissions, moving to resolve lawsuits that claim the rules have forced people to pay artificially inflated costs to sell their homes.

The National Association of Realtors also agreed to pay \$418 million to help compensate home sellers across the U.S. As part of the settlement, NAR agreed

to no longer require a broker advertising a home for sale to offer upfront compensation to a buyer's agent. The rule change leaves it open for individual sellers to negotiate with a buyer's agent.

The trade group also agreed to require agents or others working with a homebuyer to enter into a written agreement with them. That is meant to ensure homebuyers know going in what their agent will charge them for their services.

Best Buy recalls over 287K air fryers due to overheating issue

NEW YORK — Best Buy is recalling more than 287,000 air fryers and air fryer ovens due to an overheating issue that can cause the products' parts to melt or shatter, posing fire and laceration risks.

According to a Thursday notice from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, the Insignia-branded air fryer ovens can overheat — and the glass doors can shatter. The air fryers' handles can also melt or break when overheated.

There have been 24 reports of melting or glass shattering, the CPSC said, including six reports of the fryers catching on fire. No injuries have been reported.

Marriages in U.S. back to pre-pandemic levels, CDC says

NEW YORK — U.S. marriages have rebounded to pre-pandemic levels with nearly 2.1 million in 2022.

That's a 4% increase from the year before. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released the data Friday, but has not released marriage data for last year.

In 2020, the first year of the covid-19 pandemic, there were 1.7 million U.S. weddings — the lowest number recorded since 1963.

The number and rate of U.S. divorces in 2022 fell slightly, continuing a downward trend, the CDC said.

— Wire reports

Report: Sheriff had cause to take killer's guns

TRIBUNE-REVIEW

Relatives had warned authorities about mental health of man before Maine mass shooting left 18 dead

ASSOCIATED PRESS

PORTLAND, Maine — A sheriff's office investigating a mass shooting in Maine had cause to take the killer into protective custody beforehand and to take away his guns, according to a report issued by an independent commission Friday.

Democratic Gov. Janet Mills and Attorney Gener al Aaron Frey assembled the commission to review both the events leading up to Oct. 25, when Army reservist Robert Card killed 18 people in a bowling alley and a bar, and the response to the tragedy. Led by a former chief justice of Maine's highest

court, the commission included a former U.S. at

torney and the former chief forensic psychologist for the state. It held seven sessions starting in November, hearing from law enforcement, survivors and victims' family members and members of the Army Reserve as it explored whether any thing could have been done to prevent the tragedy and what changes should be made going forward Card, who was found dead of a self-inflicted

gunshot after a two-day search, was well known to law enforcement, and his family and fellow service members had raised flags about his behavior, deteriorating mental health and potential for violence before the shootings.

In May, relatives warned police Card had grown paranoid, and they expressed concern about his access to guns. In July, Card was hospitalized in a psychiatric unit for two weeks after shoving a fellow reservist and locking himself in a motel room. In August, the Army barred him from handling weapons while on duty and declared him nondeployable. And in September, a fellow reservist texted an Army supervisor about his growing concerns about Card, saying, "I believe he's going to snap and do a mass shooting."

But law enforcement officials told commission members that Maine's yellow flag law makes it difficult to remove guns from potentially dan-

gerous people.

"I couldn't get him to the door. I can't make him open the door," said Sgt. Aaron Skolfield, who visited Card's home for a welfare check in September. "If I had kicked in the door, that would've been a violation of the law.

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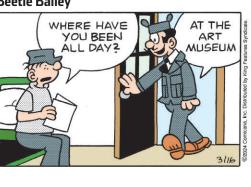
TRIBUNE-REVIEW SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2024 • 🗚 🥊





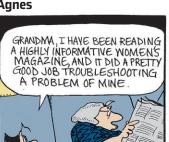


Beetle Bailey





Agnes







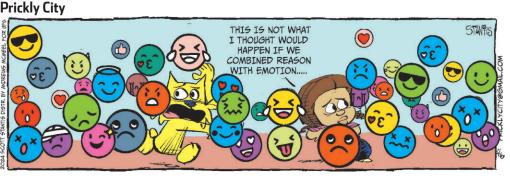
For Better or for Worse







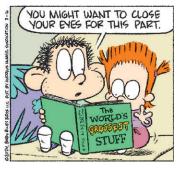




Baby Blues







Get Fuzzy











Hagar the Horrible





Born Loser

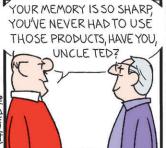


WITH US.

Pearls Before Swine

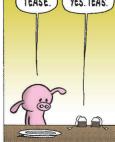
HEY MARLA AND CARLA TEA. WANT TO GO TO THE MOVIES WITH ME

TOMORROW ?

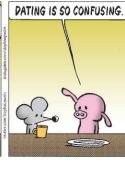




SURE, BUT TEASE. YES. TEAS. it would be even BETTER IF YOU SPENT







To order "Bizarro Number 9," call (800) 642-6480 and mention the Tribune-Review. Price \$6.95 plus \$2 shipping Bizarro





You're a plugger if you have 20 snazzy shirts in the closet but always choose a T-shirt with a hole.

to loaners."



BARavin

"Say, does this Kool-Aid taste like poison to you?"

Flo & Friends



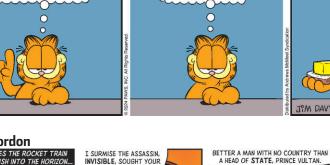
Wizard of Id



THAT GOES WITH EVERYTHING?

Garfield





Flash Gordon I SURMISE THE ASSASSIN, INVISIBLE, SOUGHT YOUR CONFIRMATION THAT HER TARGET WAS AEGIA WATCHES THE ROCKET TRAIN









YOU SHOULD REALLY GET A BOYFRIEND, EMILY.

DO NOT CONCERN YOURSELF WITH YOUR WAYWARD ASSASSIN, YOUR GRACE.

BUTTER!

J'M DAV'S 3-16

YOU DID NOT SPEAK IN HIS DEFENSE...

Big Nate









Over the Hedge







A10 • SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2024 TRIBUNE-REVIEW

SATUR	DAY EVENING	j	МО	VIES	TALK	NEWS	KIDS	SPOR	TS				M	ARCH 1	6, 2024
	6 PM 6:30	7 PM 7:30	8 PM 8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM	12:30	1 AM	1:30	2 AM	2:30
CBS	College Basketball Mountain We Teams TBA From Thomas & Mack		55th NAACP Image Awards (N) (Live)		48 Hours "Lama	ar Johnson: th" Investigative	2 News (N) 7 7 News	② (:35) Draft 7 Cash	② (:05) Equalizer	7 The Equalizer	2 10 (:05) SEAL Team	7 Paid Programming	② (:05) Entertain. (N)	7 Paid Programming
2 KDKA 7 WTRF	Teams TDA FTOM MOMAS & WACK	Ceriter III Las Vegas. (N) (Live)				reports on crim		Weekend at	Explosion	7 Inside Ed.	"Legacy"	"Welcome to	riogramming	7 Paid Prog.	riogramming
10 WTAJ						cases. (N)		(N) (10) WTAJ	10 (:35) Hiring America			the Refuge"		10 (:05) SEAL Team	
ADO	4 Postgame 4 News (N)	4 ABC World 4 Vets-Pets	NBA NBA Basketball	Golden State Wa	arriors at Los Ang	eles Lakers The M	/arriors and	News at 11 (N) 4 News (N)	4 (:35) Fast:	Hollywood 23 The	4 (:35) Big	4) (·05) Incide	4 Bensinger	(4) Access	(23) Forensic
ABC 4 WTAE	(N) 23 ABC World News	News (N) 23 Wheel	Countdown (N) (Live)					23 The National Desk	Home Rescue	Outdoorsman With Buck	Deal	Edition Weekend (N)	Steph Curry (23) The		Files "Dollars and Sense"
4 WTAE 23 WATM	Housewife (N)	Jeopardy!	(Live)					(N) (Live)	Homestead"	McNeely	Rookie	weekend (N)	Rookie		and sense
NBC	(2:00) 2024 Players Championship Third Round The	6 Big Bang Judy 9 11	The Wall "John and Toni" Father and daughter John and Toni	Weakest Link "S Money" Eight str		Saturday Nigh Khalid From Ma	t Live Idris Elba; rch 9, 2019: Host	6 WJAC News		: Live Dakota Joh : Dakota Johnson		6 9 (:05) 1st Look	69 Open House	69 Open House	6 FamFeud 9 Laughs
6 WJAC 9 WTOV 11 WPXI	remaining field navigates TPC Sawgrass during the third round	9 News 9 at Wheel	from Antioch, Calif., contend with the wall.	high-stakes gam then vote each o	e of trivia and	Idris Elba; Khalid		9 News	Timberlake perf			11 (:05) Game Time	"Stunning Renovations"	11 (:05) Pawn Stars	11 (:35) Pawn Stars
11 WPXI	of the 2024 Players Championship. (N) (Live)	11) Jeopardy!	With the Wall.	one.	other on one by			11 News at				Matt Olson (N)	11 (:35) Sports (N)	i uwii stais	r awii Stais
FOX		ball Big East Tournament, Champi	onship: Teams Big East	College Basket	ball Pac-12 Tourn	lament, Champio	onship: Teams	8 The Nation	nal Desk (N)	8 Floor, The	(53) The	8 Last Man	8 Last Man	8 Simpsons	8 Young
(8) WWCP	Tournament Pregame (N)	on Square Garden in New York. (N) (Live) Tournament Postgame (N)	TBA From T-Mob	oile Arena in Las \	/egas. (N) (Live)		(Live) (53) The Floor	"All Hail the	53 Attkisson (N)	Armstrong Williams Show	Standing "Big Shots"	Standing "Risky Behavior"	"Pixelated and Afraid"	Sheldon
53 WPGH	(Live)	I	(Live)			Tau		King of the Floo	r"	, ,		53 TMZ (N)	,	53 SHARK!	
13 WQED	PBS News Weekend (N) Rick Steves' Europe	Antiques Roadshow "LSU Rural Life Museum Hour 2" (N)	Free"	The Paris Murd	ers	Filmmaker's Co and the Arts"	orner "David B	ACL 9th Annua Honors Trisha	Yearwood	"Old Friends"	Caverns "Iron & Wine"	America's Hom	e Cooking: Gadg	ets & Gizmos	
16 WINP	Family Feud Family Feud	NWSL- Pre (P) NWSL Soccer Clust Championship Soccer Oran	hicago Red Stars at Utah Royals FC	(N) (Live) Family Feud	NWSL- Post (N) Family Feud	Bull "The Neckle The 10 O'Clock		Bull "The Woma	n in 8D" WOW - Women	Bull "Unambigu	ous" Friends	Bull "Callisto" The Song	The Song	Shark's Kickin' It: With	Shark Byron Allen (N)
19 WPKD	,	Riverhounds SC From Highmark S	Stadium in Pittsburgh. (N) (Live)	. anny i euu	. uniny i euu	News (N)	Sports Call		(N)				"Maddie & Tae"		, , ,
(40) WPCB	The Liquidator Modern Fam. Cornerstone Block Party	Modern Fam. Modern Fam.	₩ The Go-Go's ('20)	Charles Stanley	(N)	News at 10 (N) Truths That (N)		Vacuum, Mop (@ 1 Time Ankerberg	News at 10 Wretched	The National De Prop. Conn	esk Hope Today	Vacuum, Mop @ More Song	1 Time Cross TV Specia	Eye Bags? als
	Monk	Monk "Mr. Monk and the Bully"	Columbo "A Trace of Murder"		()	Columbo "Ashe		0.0.,	1	Las Vegas		Las Vegas "Shri		Las Vegas	
A&E	The First 48	The First 48 "End Game"	The First 48	The First 48	0 ((4.0) 2	The First 48		(:05) The First 4	8 "Last Shift"	(:05) The First 4		(:05) The First 4		(:05) The First 4	В
AMC ANPL	** ★★★ Iron Man ('08) Terrence In North-Law "Snow Way Out"	Howard, Gwyneth Paltrow, Robert North-Law "Treacherous Trails"	Downey Jr North Woods Law	★★ Iron Man North-Law "Out		Paltrow, Don Che North-Law "Bu	adle, Robert Dow		aw "Case Closed"		ek Into Darkness aw	(13) Zachary Qui		hris Pine. North-Law "Bur	np in the Road"
ATTSP	(4:00) MLB Baseball Detroit Tiger	s at Pittsburgh Pirates From LECON	M Park in Bradenton, Fla. (N) (Live)			Penguins	Jai Alai Rebote	Renegades vs. Lif	estyle Miami Cha	rgers (N)	Penguins	No Doubt-Pirat	es	MLB Baseball	-
BBC BET	(5:30) ♥★★ The Three Musketee (4:00) ♥★★★ Creed ('15)	ers ('93) Charlie Sheen. Image Awards (N) (Live)	F ★★ Highlander ('86) Sean Con 55th NAACP Image Awards (N) (rt, Christopher La	mbert. Diarra "Chasino		e Musketeers ('9: 55th NAACP Im	,	nd, Chris O'Donne	ell, Charlie Sheen.	Planet "Frozen I Martin	Peaks" Martin	Planet "Frozen I Martin	_ands" Martin
BRAVO	Vanderpump "Prank Wars"	Vanderpump Rules	Vanderpump Rules	Vanderpump R	ules	Vanderpump F	Rules	Vanderpump R	tules	Vanderpump R		Vanderpump "	Jnfriended"	Vanderpump "S	Secrets Revealed"
CMT	(4:30) ♥★★★ The Help ('11) Emm ★★ Little Fockers ('10) Ben Stille		55th NAACP Image Awards (N) 55th NAACP Image Awards (N)						Greenwood, Tor Mendes, Will Feri		♥★★★ The Fug South Park	jitive ('93) Tomm South Park	y Lee Jones, Sela South Park	Nard, Harrison Fo	ord. (P) South Park
	Expedition Unknown	Expedition Unknown	Expedition "America's Titanic"	Expedition Unk	nown	Expedition Un		Expedition Unl		Expedition "Am		Expedition Unl	1	Expedition Unl	
DISNEY E!	Big City Movie Big City #*★★ The Prope	Big City osal ('09) Ryan Reynolds, Mary Stee	Big City Big City enhurgen, Sandra Bullock	Kiff St ★ The Prope	Kiff		Hailey's on It!		Marvel's	Ladybug	Ladybug (evin James, Will S	Bluey	Bluey	Big City	Big City oung Woman (P)
ESPN	Basketball Big 12 Tournament, C	Championship: Teams TBA (N)			ampionship: Tean	ns TBA (N) (Live)	SportsCenter (N) (Live)		SportsCenter (N) (Live)	SportsCenter ()	N) (Live)	SportsCenter (N) (Live)
ESPNU ESPN2	(5:30) Women's College Basketb (5:30) College Basketball		AC Tournament, Championship: Tea 2 Tournament, Championship: Tear				Championship: Te	,			ball SEC Tournam nampionship: Tear			College Basket	ball
EWTN	The Miracle Thirst (N)	Daily Mass: Olam Daily Mass	Light of Soledad ('16) Elena Fu	riase, Lolita Flore		Living "Welcom	ne Father Mitch"	Web/Faith	EWTN Book	Daily Mass: Ola	m Daily Mass	Father Spitzer's		Discovering Pa	
FOOD FREEFM		Diners, Drive Diners, Drive nily Blunt, Edgar Ramírez, Dwayne	Tournament of Champions "Tim	e for Battle"	(·25) \$\div \div \div \luma		f Champions "Fire Hunt, Kirsten Dun			1	Champions "Tim nweenie ('12) Cat			Tournament of Paid Prog.	Champions Inogen!
FX	(5:30) ** ★★ Mulan ('20) Donnie Y	en, Jason Scott Lee, Crystal Liu.	F*★★★ Black Widow ('21) Floren		larbour, Scarlett J	ohansson.	,	₩★★ Captain I	Marvel ('19) Samu	iel L. Jackson, Ber	Mendelsohn, Bri	e Larson.	★★ Captain N	larvel ('19) Brie L	arson.
FYI GOLF		King King Live From THE PLAYERS (N) (Liv.	King King	King Live From THF I	King PLAYERS Compri	King ehensive news co	King overage surround	King ing THE PLAYERS	Championship	King	King	King	King	King	King
GSN	Family Feud Family Feud	Switch Split Second	The \$100,000 Pyramid	Pyramid	Family Feud	Family Feud	Family Feud	Family Feud	Family Feud		Family Feud				Family Feud
HALL HGTV	The 27-Hour Day ('21) Andrew Married "Education in Design"		The More Love Grows ('23) Walled Hunters Int'l House Hunters				th a Twist ('24) O	livier Renaud, Joc House Hunters	. '		of Bella Vista ('22) House Hunters			Golden Girls House Hunters	Golden Girls Hunters Int'l
HIST	The UnXplained	The UnXplained "Holy Relics"	The UnXplained	The UnXplained	d	(:05) The UnXpl	ained	(:05) UnXplaine	d "Sacred Bones"	(:05) The UnXpl	ained	(:05) The UnXpl	ained	(:05) The UnXpl	ained
ID LIFE	Married to "What Lies Beneath" The Paramedic Who Stalked I		Til Death Do Us Part Friday Night Sext Scandal ('24	Til Death Do Us Neana Lyn Basti		Fatal Vows (N)	Fatal Vows or a Crown ('22) C	Til Death "Five latharine Daddari		Til Death Do Us	S Part Sext Scandal ('24		Fatal Vows idas.	Til Death "Five I (:05) * Dying fo	
MTV	(5:30) *** ★★ Ocean's Eleven ('0'	1) Matt Damon, George Clooney.	55th NAACP Image Awards (N)	•		₹★★★ Ocean'	s Twelve ('04) Bra	d Pitt, Matt Damo	on, George Cloon	, ,		₹★★★ Ócean's	Thirteen ('07) Br	ad Pitt, George C	looney.
NBATV NGEO	. ,	2024: Los Angeles Lakers at Golder Catch "Hidden Compartments"		NBA CrunchTim Border (N)	Border (N)	Basketball Sto Trafficked "Boo		NBA GameTime To Catch "Cocai		Border	GameTime Border	GameTime Trafficked: Dar	GameTime ker "Body Parts"	GameTime Smuggler "To R	GameTime ome With Love"
NICK	(5:30) ₹ Cloudy With a Chance o	f Meatballs 👺 The Thunder	mans Return ('24) Kira Kosarin.	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	(:35) Friends	(:10) Friends	(:45) Friends
NWSN OWN	Blue Bloods "In the Box" Love "Check Your Sass"	NewsNation Prime (N) (Live) Love "Winter Blunder Land"	NewsNation Prime (N) (Live) Love "Ashley's Silva Lining?" (N)	NewsNation Pri Love "The Joi-le		NewsNation Pr Love "Winter Bl		NewsNation Pr Love "Ashley's S		NewsNation Pr Love "Check Yo		On Balance Wit Love "The Joi-le	th Leland Vittert ss Ride"	Cuomo Love "Winter Blo	under Land"
ОХҮ	Cold Justice "Silenced"	Cold Justice "Killer at the Door"	Cold "Enemy Next Door" (N)	Kill "A Fatal Fork		Kill "Grandma's	Gun"	Kill "A Fatal Forl	k in the Road"	Cold Justice "Er	nemy Next Door"	Cold "Double Di	isappearance"	Accident "Dark	Prophecy"
PARMT PCN	(5:05) ♥★★★ Indiana Jones and (:15) PCN (:45) PIAA Girls 2	the Last Crusade ('89) 2A Swimming Championships "D	55th NAACP Image Awards (N) Pay 2" (N) (Live) (:35) PCN Progra	mmina / (:45) PI	AA Girls 2A Divi			('04) Jake Gyllenh	naal, Ian Holm, De		2A Swimming Ch		Day After Tomori Day 2"	ow ('04) Dennis (:15) PIAA Girls :	
PCNC	PCNC News PCNC	PCNC News PCNC7:3P	PCNC News PCNC News	PCNCNws9PM	PCNC93P	PCNC News	PCNC News		PCNC News at	PCNC N	PCNC N	PCNC Ne	PCNC News at 1	:30AM	,
SYFY TBS	Movie (:40) ♥★★ Pirate (5:45) ♥★★★ 22 Jump Street ('14		Chest ('06) Orlando Bloom, Keira K Big Bang Big Bang	nightley, Johnny Big Bang	Depp. Big Bang		f the Caribbean: Pet Tricks		(07) Orlando Bloo p Street (12) Cha		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	(·15) #+++ 22	F*★★ Leprechar Jump Street (14)	. ,	
TCM	(5:45) ♥★★★ Spencer's Mounta	in ('63) Henry Fonda.	👯★★★ King Solomon's Mines (50) Deborah Kerr		₹★★★ The Pri	soner of Zenda ('52) Stewart Gran	ger.	¥★★★ Le Sam	ouraï ('67) Nathal	ie Delon, Alain D	elon.	ç±±± Night S	hift ('82)
TLC TNT	Seeking Sister Wife (5:30) ♥★★ Justice League ('17)	Seeking Sister Wife Henry Cavill, Ben Affleck.	90 Day: The Single Life (N) All Elite Wrestling: Collision (N)	90 Day: The Sin	gle Life (N)	90 Day: The Si	ngle Life (N) Squad ('16) Jared	Love "Aniyo Tha		90 Day: The Sin		90 Day: The Sin	igle Life Jenry Cavill, Gal Ga	90 Day: The Sin	
TOON	King of the Hill King of the Hill	Bob's Burgers Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers		American Dad	American Dad!	Rick and Morty	Rick and Morty		Demon Slayer	Lycoris Recoil	Ninja Kamui	Dragon	Dragon
TRAVEL TRUTV	Mystery "No Dyin' Tryin' Today" Imp. Jokers Imp. Jokers	Files "Did We Nuke Jupiter?" Imp. Jokers Imp. Jokers	NASA's Unexplained Files Imp. Jokers Imp. Jokers	Files "Red Storm Imp. Jokers	Rising" Imp. Jokers	NASA's Unexp	lained Files	Files "Curse of t		NASA's Unexpl	ained Files American Dad!	Files "Red Storm		NASA's Unexpl	
TVLAND	Mike & Molly Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly Mike & Molly	55th NAACP Image Awards (N)	•	ib. Jorei 3	Raymond	Raymond	King	King	King	King	King	King	Seinfeld	Seinfeld
USA VH1	(4:00) IMSA Weathertech Twelve (4:30) ♣ Boo! A Madea Halloween		ternational Raceway in Sebring, Fla 55th NAACP Image Awards (N)	. (N) (Live)		McBee "Family Diarra "Chasino		9-1-1 "Haunted"		9-1-1 "Buck, Act	ually" Patrice Lovely, Tyl	9-1-1 "Hen Begi ler Perry		Law & Order: S' Jamie Foxx	VU "Chameleon" Jamie Foxx
WE	NCIS "Nature of the Beast"	NCIS "Restless"	NCIS "The Penelope Papers"	NCIS "Enemy on	the Hill"	NCIS "Safe Hark		NCIS "Thirst"	aaca Hallowcell	NCIS "Devil's Tri	, ,	Blue Bloods "At		Blue Bloods "Re	
		<u> </u>	₹★★★ Dream Scenario ('23) Nic				, .		(:40) Nikki Glase				ebel Wilson, Anna		Movie
MAX SHOW	(5:55) \(\frac{\psi}{\psi} \disk \disk XXX\) ('02) Asia Argent (5:15) \(\frac{\psi}{\psi} \disk \disk imily\) ('22) Emma Mackey		\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ Black Mass ('15) Joel Edg u Hurt My Feelings ('23)		epp. opens Later ('23)				nuel L. Jackson. People ('15) Jaso		ack the Block ('11	, , ,	(:25) *★★ Fifty : en Mendelsohn, F		'15) Movie
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Trove from Pattie Boyd's life is up for sale

Collection includes letter, photos from life with George Harrison, Eric Clapton

(5:25) **Corsicana** ('22)

ASSOCIATED PRESS

tion house.

STARZ

STZENO

LONDON — Pattie Boyd was at the epicenter of the Swinging 60s, but not always the center of attention.

The model and photographer, who was often in the shadow of her rock icon husbands George Harrison and Eric Clapton, comes into sharp focus through a trove of letters, photos and other items she is selling at Christie's auc-

The collection, which went on public display at Christie's London headquarters Friday, provides a glimpse into the heart of the 1960s and '70s counterculture. The 111 lots up for sale include affectionate letters from Harrison and Clapton, alongside clothing, jewelry, drawings and photographs — some of Boyd, and

some by her. If Boyd, 79, feels a pang at parting with them, she isn't

"I look back, without emotion," she told The Associated Press. "I can feel slightly sentimental, but not emotional.

"I've lived with all of these photographs and objects for so long — 40, 50 years," she said. "I want other people to enjoy them.'



Pattie Boyd holds an original doodle designed by George Harrison on Thursday as part of The Pattie Boyd Collection at Christie's, in

Boyd is famous as a musicians' muse, inspiration for The Beatles' song "Something," composed for her by Harrison, as well as for Clapton's scorching "Layla" and sweet "Wonderful Tonight."

The auction includes love letters from Clapton, written while Boyd was married to Harrison, and the original cover artwork for Derek and The Dominos' 1970 album "Layla and Other Assorted Love Songs," a painting of a blond model who reminded Clapton of Boyd. The painting is estimated to sell for between 40,000 and 60,000 pounds (\$51,000 and \$76,000).



(:55) ♥★★★ Django Unchained ('12) Christoph Waltz, Jamie Foxx. ♥★★★ John Wick: Chapter 4 ('23) Donnie Yen, Bill Skarsgård, Keanu Reeves

A member of staff holds a Rolex watch Thursday, as part of

mated price of 30,000 to 50,000 pounds (\$38,000 to \$63,000).

The Pattie Boyd Collection at Christie's.

Boyd is an accomplished photographer, and the sale includes both large-scale portraits and informal Polaroids of Harrison, Clapton and other musicians, including Mick Jagger, Pete Townshend and

Ronnie Wood. "This is very much a snapshot of her life," said Christie's head of sale Adrian Hume-Saver.

Taken as a whole, the collection feels both personal and revealing.

There are handwritten letters from Harrison — "say hello to Hubby!" — and a handmade Christmas card he gave Boyd in 1968.

Letters and postcards from Clapton — in extremely ele-Harrison's handwritten gant handwriting — provide lyrics for the song "Mystical shapshots from the rock star

One" are on offer with an estilife. In one he says he's off to the Caribbean island of Montserrat "to work on Sting's album." Another reveals: "Here I am in South America. Everybody's got dodgy tummies.'

Harrison and Boyd divorced in 1977, and he died in 2001. In a 2007 memoir, Boyd described Harrison as her soulmate.

Her turbulent 10-year marriage to Clapton, which ended in 1989, was marred — as the musician later acknowledged by his alcoholism.

Boyd says she feels no bit-

terness. "That was almost like another lifetime ago," she said. "And he has his own life and I have my own life. But this is just a bit of history that we

The Pattie Boyd collection is on display at Christie's until March 21. Online bidding

Alec Baldwin seeks dismissal of grand jury indictment

(:40) **♥ Naked Singularity** ('21) John Boyega. (:20) **♥★★★ The Blackening**

(:50) ★ Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret.

ASSOCIATED PRESS SANTA FE, N.M. — Defense attorneys for Alec Baldwin urged a New Mexico judge on Thursday to dismiss a grand jury indictment against the actor in the fatal shooting of a cinematographer on the set of the Western movie

"Rust." The indictment in January charged Baldwin with involuntary manslaughter in the death of cinematographer Halyna Hutchins on Oct. 21, 2021, at a movie ranch on the outskirts of Santa Fe.

Baldwin has pleaded not guilty to the charge. His attorneys in a new court filing accused prosecutors of "unfairly stacking the deck" against Baldwin in grand jury proceedings that diverted attention away from exculpatory evidence and witnesses.

They say that prevented the jury from asserting their obligation to hear testimony from director Joel Souza, who was wounded in the shooting while standing near Hutchins, as well as assistant director and safety coordinator Dave Halls and props master Sarah Zachry.

Prosecutor Kari Morrissey declined to comment and said a response

will be filed with the court. Baldwin's motion also asserts the grand jury received inaccurate and one-sided testimony about the revolver involved in

the fatal shooting. "Rust" armorer Hannah Gutierrez-Reed was convicted by a jury last week in the shooting and is being held without bond pending an April sentencing hearing. Involuntary manslaughter carries a felony sentence of up to 18 months in prison and a

\$5,000 fine. Baldwin was pointing a gun at cinematographer Halyna Hutchins when the revolver went off, killing Hutchins and injuring Souza. Baldwin has maintained that he pulled back the gun's hammer, but not

the trigger. Prosecutors blamed Gutierrez-Reed at a twoweek trial for unwittingly bringing live ammunition onto the set of "Rust" where it was expressly prohibited. They also said she failed to follow basic gun-safety protocols.

Baldwin is scheduled for trial in July.

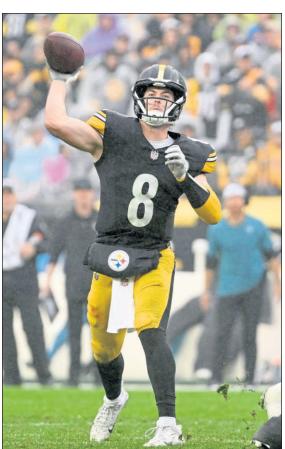


1-800-442-6805 or 724-887-3060



NO COMPETITION





PHOTOS: WILSON, AP; PICKETT, CHAZ PALLA | TRIBLIVE

On Friday, the Steelers introduced new quarterback Russell Wilson (left) and traded Kenny Pickett (above) to the Eagles.

Wilson had sights on Steelers

BY JOE RUTTER

Russell Wilson likened his first foray into free agency to his NFL introduction in 2012 when he interviewed with teams at the scouting combine.

This time, the difference was that, coming on the heels of a decorated 12year pro career, Wilson got to choose his destination.

And he had his sights set on the Pittsburgh Steelers the entire time.

"I was fortunate to have several teams call," Wilson said Friday at his introductory news conference, "but this is the place I wanted to be."

Adorned in a black crew neck shirt and suit jacket that both matched his new team's colors, the highest-profile free agent signee in Steelers history talked about the reasons he agreed to a one-year

» Rams Super Bowl champion, former Pitt star Donald retires **B4**

 $\ensuremath{\text{\textbf{y}}}$ Steelers agree to terms with WR Van Jefferson **B4**

contract late Sunday night rather than drag out the free agent process.

After being informed by the Denver Broncos that he would be released after two disappointing seasons, Wilson didn't waste time choosing the Steelers over the New York Giants, the other team he is known to have met with before the NFL's legal tampering period began Monday. He didn't bother to wait to see if any other suitors emerged.

"There were a few things that jumped off the board about the Pittsburgh

 $\textbf{WILSON} \cdot \text{B4}$

Pickett traded to Philadelphia

BY JOE RUTTER

On the day the Pittsburgh Steelers introduced new quarterback Russell Wilson, they traded the only other one on their roster.

Kenny Pickett, the former first-round pick from Pitt whose starting status was in question after Wilson's signing, was sent to the Philadelphia Eagles, a league source confirmed to TribLive, ending his sometimes tumultuous two-year tenure with the Steelers.

According to ESPN, which initially reported the trade, the Steelers will get the No. 98 overall pick in the 2024 draft and two seventh-round picks in 2025. In addition to Pickett, the Eagles will get the No. 120 overall pick in this year's draft.

By making the deal, the Steelers and general manager Omar Khan are moving

on from their top pick of the 2022 draft, the last of the Kevin Colbert era. Taken No. 20 overall that year — the same slot the Steelers hold this season — Pickett moved into the starting role a month into his rookie season and held the job until late in 2023.

Pickett went 14-10 in 24 career starts over those two seasons, and he threw an equal number of interceptions and touchdown passes (13).

Pickett struggled in former offensive coordinator Matt Canada's system and had his best game after the Steelers dismissed Canada in November. But, after Pickett injured his ankle the next week against Arizona, he never returned to

Pickett was healthy enough to play late

PICKETT · B4

Pickett saga shows Steelers can't be trusted

n Feb. 29, Pittsburgh Steelers general manager Omar Khan said he has "full faith" in Kenny Pickett.

Now it's March 15, and last year's starting quarterback is a Philadelphia Eagle.

If that's "full faith," what does "half faith" look like?



TIM BENZ

When Mason Rudolph started to play well at the end of last season, the Steelers were so sensitive to Kenny Pickett's feelings that they wouldn't move

Rudolph's name to the top of the depth chart even when he had been announced as the starting quarterback.

Now they care so little about Pickett's feelings that they removed him from the roster entirely.

According to ESPN, the Steelers shipped the 2022 first-round draft choice across the state for a late third-round pick (No. 98 overall) in the 2024 draft and two seventh-round picks in 2025. The Eagles will get Pickett and the No. 120 overall pick (Round 4) in this year's draft.

That's probably a good thing for Pickett, who clearly had fallen out of favor with Steelers management and coaches despite their protests to the contrary.

As a result, the franchise is all in on newly acquired veteran QB Russell Wilson as its starter. I have my doubts, but I do think he is at least an upgrade from Pickett.

You can believe the Steelers



NORTH CAROLINA 72, PITT 65

Pitt battles but can't knock off Tar Heels

Hinson, Leggett cold; team's fate now in hands of committee

BY JERRY DIPAOLA

WASHINGTON, D.C. — In the end, Pitt's 72-65 loss to North Carolina on Friday night did nothing to throw the team off its intended course. There is nothing more for

Pitt's players to do about their NCAA Tournament hopes.

And the loss to the Tar Heels (27-6) might force the Panthers (22-11) to slip off the bubble – others were winning Friday while Pitt was losing — but Blake Hinson said he plans to spend the next two days working on his game.

Guillermo Diaz Graham agrees with his captain, saying he will prepare as if he's still in the middle of the season, and there's another game

"A little bit of recovery. A little bit of rest and back to work on us," Diaz Graham said. "Prepare to play again this season. I know we're going to play again."

That's not for him to say,

Although Jaland Lowe said he believes Pitt is a tournament team, he admits he is a bit nervous after putting the decision in the hands of 12 selection committee members.

"Nervous? Not gonna lie, a little bit," Lowe said. "I'm

PITT ⋅ B2



Franklin Regional's Finian Hutchinson scores on a layup over Shaler's Joey DeSabato on Friday at PIAA CLASS 5A QUARTERFINALS: FRANKLIN REGIONAL 63, SHALER 51

Panthers sprint into semifinals

FR keeps pushing pace to top Shaler; rematch with Moon up next

BY BILL BECKNER JR.

If Franklin Regional isn't sprinting up and down the floor, there is a good chance it isn't winning basketball

Transition is the lifeblood of this Panthers team. A Panthers team that has two speeds: fast and turbo-fast.

"That's when our guys are at their best," coach Jesse Reed said. "When they can get out and run and use their instincts. That's when they make plays."

» Mt. Pleasant swimmers dominate at PIAAs **B4**

They found the fast lane again and outran another opponent to extend their season.

Using their patented transition game to relieve some tense moments - and a complementary halfcourt defense that kept good looks to a minimum — Franklin Regional held off Shaler, 63-51, in a Class 5A quarterfinal on Friday night at Gateway's Henry J. Furrie Sports Complex.

The Panthers (26-3), who finished second in the WPI-AL, will get a rematch with

FRANKLIN REGIONAL · B3

Pirates bring in Gold Glove CF

Signing will allow Reynolds, Suwinski to play corner positions

BY KEVIN GORMAN

The Pittsburgh Pirates made a defensive upgrade in center field Friday by agreeing to a one-year, \$4 million contract with former AL Gold Glove winner Michael A. Taylor, sources confirmed to TribLive.

Taylor's deal, which is pending a physical, gives the Pirates a proven veteran in center field and allows them to play Bryan Reynolds and Jack Suwinski in the corner outfield spots.

Taylor, 32, is a 10-year veteran who played seven seasons with the Washington Nationals - winning the World Series in 2019 — followed by two years with the Kansas City Royals and last season with the Minnesota Twins. Taylor, who won the Gold Glove with the Royals in 2021, has 72 career defensive runs saved, per FanGraphs. The 6-foot-4, 215-pound right-handed hitter

had a career-best 21 home runs last season with the Twins. He batted .220/.278/.442 with 14 doubles and 51 RBIs but also had 130 strikeouts, and his 33.5% strikeout rate and 33.6% whiff rate ranked in the bottom 10th percentile, per

Taylor remains an above-average defender, compiling five DRS in 9601/3 innings last season and ranking in the 98th percentile in arm strength, 94th in range and 84th in sprint speed, at 28.7 feet per second.

Suwinski switched to center last spring but had a minus-10 DRS in 931½ innings over 120 games there last season. The Pirates also used Ji Hwan Bae in center for 62 games to take advantage of his speed, but he has been out since March 5 because of a left hip flexor. The Pirates returned Connor Joe and Joshua

Palacios and added Billy McKinney and Edward Olivares through trades this offseason, but Taylor's addition could cost at least a couple of those players a spot on the Opening Day roster.

Kevin Gorman is a TribLive staff writer. He can be reached at kgorman@triblive.com.

Bucs sign pitcher German The Pittsburgh Pirates continued to ad-

dress their starting pitching depth by agreeing to a one-year, \$1.5 million minor-league contract Friday night with right-handed pitcher Domingo German, a source confirmed to TribLive. The 31-year-old Dominican was 31-28

with a 4.41 ERA and 1.18 WHIP while averaging 9.4 strikeouts and 2.8 walks per nine innings over six seasons with the New York

On June 28, German became the 24th player in MLB history to pitch a perfect game, striking out nine batters and throwing strikes on 72 of his 99 pitches in an 11-0 win over the Oakland A's at Oakland

German, however, missed the final two months of the season after voluntarily submitting to treatment for alcohol abuse following a clubhouse confrontation with Yankees manager Aaron Boone. German was placed on outright waivers Nov. 2.

— Kevin Gorman

PIRATES 6, YANKEES 2

Priester makes case for spot

Young Pirates pitcher impresses, could be in line to join starters

BY KEVIN GORMAN

Quinn Priester made his case for a spot in the Pittsburgh Pirates' starting rotation, delivering his best performance of spring training.

Priester struck out five of the first nine batters he faced and held the New York Yankees to one run on three hits without a walk in 4% innings in a 6-2 win Friday night in a Grapefruit League game at George M. Steinbrenner Field

Priester kept the Yankees scoreless through the first three innings by mixing his breaking and off-speed pitches to throw 38 of his 58 pitches for strikes. He now has 10 strikeouts and only one walk through 121/3 innings over four outings

In the first, he got Juan Soto swinging at a full-count slider before Gleyber Torres doubled to center and advanced to third on a wild pitch. Priester escaped by getting Anthony Rizzo

swinging at an 0-2 slider.

Priester got Trent Grisham looking at a 2-2 slider in the second and Jose Trevino at a 1-2 curve in the third, then ended the inning with Alex Verdugo chasing a 2-2 changeup in the dirt.

But Torres hammered a first-pitch slider at the bottom of the zone 390 feet for a homer to center field to tie the score 1-1 in the fourth.

Pirates righty Luis Ortiz allowed one run on four hits and two walks while striking out four in four innings of relief to earn the win.

The Pirates took a 1-0 lead in the first when third baseman Jack Brannigan, a top-10 prospect who was reassigned to the minor-league camp Tuesday, hit Clarke Schmidt's sinker 369 feet to left-center for a home run.

Brannigan, who was 1 for 17 coming into the game, also had an RBI single in the seventh inning to give the Pirates a 2-1 lead.

After Nick Gonzales drew a two-out walk, Jack Suwinski drilled an Anthony Misiewicz cutter 368 feet to right-center for his third homer, a three-run shot that stretched the lead

Kevin Gorman is a TribLive staff writer. He can be reached at

Pitt comes up short in ACC run

very confident we should be in the tournament, but there are other people saying stuff that doesn't matter.

"I have to wait until Sunday (when bids go out). That's the sad part about it.'

It's undeniably true that North Carolina played better than Pitt. Especially outscoring the Panthers, 10-3, in the last four minutes after Lowe tied the score 62-62 with a basket, the last two of his 17 points. Freshman guards Lowe and

Bub Carrington kept the game close throughout the evening. The Tar Heels' seven-point advantage at the end of the game was their largest.

Carrington played all 40 min-utes and scored 24 points, with five rebounds and three assists. Lowe added four assists and four rebounds to his 17 points. Meanwhile, ACC Player of

the Year R.J. Davis and all-conference center Armando Bacot scored more than half the time they put up shots. Davis recorded 24 points, five rebounds and two assists. In the final decisive minutes, he scored nine, including two 3-pointers.

With Pitt bigs Federiko Federiko and Diaz Graham in foul trouble for much of the game, North Carolina had a decided advantage on the boards, 44-34. Bacot had his way in the paint with 19 points and 11 rebounds. Together, Bacot and Davis hit 16 of 31 attempts.

Diaz Graham admitted his foul trouble made it difficult to stop Bacot.



Pitt's Blake Hinson loses the ball while colliding with North Carolina's Elliot Cadeau on Friday.

"You're going against an ter halftime. All-American center. I under-Somehow, stand," he said. "If I'm a ref and I see a guy like Bacot going in against me or Fede, I'm going to call fouls all the time. We couldn't be there to help our guards play defense because we can't foul.' There were other flaws in

Pitt's game that surfaced, and that allowed North Carolina to outscore the Panthers, 39-30, af-

Somehow, Pitt led 35-33 at intermission even while Ishmael Leggett and Blake Hinson, who scored 30 and 20 points, respectively, in the quarterfinal victory against Wake Forest, were scoreless in the first half. Hinson scored only five points, missing 10 of his 12 shots, including all five 3-pointers.

It was clearly North Caroli-

NO. 4 NORTH CAROLINA 72, PITT 65

NO. 4 NURTH LAROLINA 72, PITT 65 PITT (22-11) — Austin 1-4 0-0 3, Hinson 2-12 1-1 5, Federiko 1-3 0-0 2, Carrington 9-17 2-2 24, Lowe 7-16 2-2 17, Leggett 2-7 1-1 6, 6. Diaz Graham 3-5 0-0 8, Jeffress 0-1 0-0 0. Totals: 25-65 6-6 65. NORTH CAROLINA (27-6) — Ingram 2-6 1-2 6, Bacot 8-13 3-5 19, Cadeau 2-9 2-2 6, Davis 8-18 6-8 25, Ryan 1-9 0-0 3, Trimble 1-12-2 5, Withers 1-1 0-0 2. Washinaton 3-2 0-0.6 Totals: 26-60 14-19 72.
Halftime—Pitt 35-33. 3-Point Goals—Pitt
9-27 (Carrington 4-8, G.Diaz Graham 2-3,
Austin 1-3, Leggett 1-3, Lowe 1-4, Jeffress
0-1, Hinson 0-5), North Carolina 6-22 (Davis
3-10, Trimble 1-1, Ingram 1-3, Ryan 1-6,
Cadeau 0-2). Rebounds—Pitt 29 (G.Diaz
Graham 7), North Carolina 38 (Bacot 11).
Assists—Pitt 10 (Lowe 4), North Carolina
16 (Trimble 4). Total Fouls—Pitt 17, North
Carolina 12.

na's game plan to stop Hinson. He was followed everywhere he went on the court, but the Pitt captain placed the loss squarely on his shoulders. "They try their best to not let

me score. It's my job to score. I didn't do my job," Hinson said. "Not necessarily anything they did in particular. They played good defense, for sure. At the end of the day, it's my job to overcome the good defense. "I have to do my job better, regardless of what's going on.

They could have eight people on me. It's my job to do my job. (If) I do my job, we win this game. "I know my team. My team

can beat that team.'

Asked if Pitt is a tournament team, Hinson said, "I hope so. We are, for sure, a good enough team to be in there. So it would be lovely to get in there. We'll see. We definitely deserve it."

Jerry DiPaola is a TribLive staff writer. He can be reached at jdipaola@triblive.com.

Women's hockey set for PPG showcase

Toronto, Montreal to meet in Pittsburgh to promote 1st-year league

BY JUSTIN GUERRIERO

Nearly five years ago, hundreds of the top professional women's hockey players in North America came together and bet on themselves.

The wager they made — sitting out and not playing for a year — was bold.

But the decision, announced in early May 2019, was one many players felt needed to happen to secure a more viable future for their sport.

Fast forward five years, and the conversation around pro women's hockey has shifted drastically for the better.

The Professional Women's Hockey League, featuring teams in six cities and offering previously unheard-of salaries and benefits for players, launched in January.

It has gotten off to a hot start, with its teams, based in Boston, New York, St. Paul, Minn., Montreal, Toronto and Ottawa, receiving encouraging support.

When we sat out (five) years ago, we dreamt of this and thought of this, but I don't think what's happening is what we thought was going to happen, especially in year one," said Montreal forward Laura Stacey. "So it's been pretty amazing to

On Sunday, the Pittsburgh Penguins will host a game between Montreal and Toronto



Toronto's Kali Flanagan (left) and Montreal's Laura Stacey vie for the puck during a PWHL game last week.

'PWHL Takeover Weekend.''

PWHL senior vice president of hockey operations Jayna Hefford, a five-time Olympic medalist with Canada and 2018 inductee into the Hockey Hall of Fame, is hopeful for 8,000 fans Sunday in Pittsburgh.

Montreal and Toronto previously met at Scotiabank Arena, home of the Maple Leafs, in mid-February, which attracted a crowd of 19,285, setting an attendance record for a pro women's hockey game.

"It's a privilege for us to have the opportunity to play," said Toronto coach Troy Ryan, who also has led Canada's women's national team since 2021. "Looking forward to playing Montreal. Just in general in sports, the Montreal-Toronto rivalry is a big one, a heated one. We're just excited to be this newest chapter in that exciting rivalry. It's go-

at PPG Paints Arena as part of ing to be a special opportunity to play them again here."

For Montreal coach Kori Cheverie, Pittsburgh constitutes familiar grounds.

Cheverie, who also serves as Ryan's assistant with the Canadian women's national team, past preseason as a guest coach.

"This just feels like a natural fit for a game to happen in their arena and under the scope of their organization," Cheverie said.

Ryan, Cheverie and several players for Montreal and Toronto previously participated in a game at PPG Paints Arena in 2022, when the Penguins hosted a contest between members of the U.S. and Canadian women's national teams after the Beijing

"It's really exciting to be playing in Pittsburgh," said Toronto forward Rebecca Leslie. "We've

had a great reception from them in the past. ... I think the fans are in for a really high-paced, high-energetic game.' Montreal and Toronto, tied

atop the PWHL's standings with 30 points apiece along with Minnesota, meet Sunday at 12:30 p.m.

through 2031, by which time, if all goes as planned, expansion from six teams will have come With the Penguins' growing

ties to the PWHL, Pittsburgh might find itself at the forefront of that eventual conversation. "I get asked a lot, and I always

two months into our inaugural season," Hefford said. "Things are going amazingly well in our minds, but (there's a) long road to go. ... We're certainly thinking of it, but I don't think it's imminent."

For now, players, coaches and off their on-ice product and continue building momentum for the league they fought so hard to create.

"The amount of skill with the players in this league — it's the best in the world," Stacey said. 'That's what we wanted to create four years ago when we sat out, is to get every single person, whether you're from Europe, Canada, the U.S. — across the world — the very best players all in one league playing against each other and with each other every single night.'

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Penguins' 3rd pair shows signs of life

Joseph, Ludvig make *impact as team shuffles* personnel on defense

BY JUSTIN GUERRIERO

Several parallels are visible when comparing the seasons of Pittsburgh Penguins defensemen P.O Joseph and John Ludvig.

Joseph, 24, and Ludvig, 23, have landed on injured reserve this year and navigated stretches of being out of the lineup as healthy scratches.

While Joseph, in his fourth NHL campaign, has an edge in career games played (130) to the rookie Ludvig's 27, both players continue working to carve out an everyday role with the With one goal and four assists

between them through 60 combined games played entering Thursday's contest against the San Jose Sharks, the contributions of Joseph and Ludvig to date had been more on the subtle

But during the Penguins' strong game (Thursday, and)



6-3 win over San Jose at PPG Paints Arena, Joseph and Ludvig stepped into starring roles, helping generate a considerable portion of their club's offensive output that helped deliver a

3 p.m. today, ESPN+, ABC

much-needed win. $Ludvig\,finished\,the\,night\,with$ a goal — the second of his young NHL career — and an assist, and Joseph notched his fourth and fifth assists of the year. Joseph's assists were his first

points in 17 games dating to Jan. 22, and Ludvig recorded his first career multi-point game. The last time Joseph produced a multi-point effort was Feb. 17,

"I think those guys are competing hard," coach Mike Sullivan said. "They're try-ers. I thought (Ludvig) had a real P.O made some nice plays along the offensive blue line.

Ludvig got on the scoresheet first, finding the back of the net at 2 minutes, 38 seconds of the final period by flinging a deep wrister from the point, with Joseph and Reilly Smith collecting

The goal gave the Penguins a 4-3 lead they did not relinquish.

We had a bunch of bodies at the net, and P.O made a nice pass over to me," Ludvig said. "I just tried to make a little move and get it on net. Luckily, it went in.'

Exactly two minutes later, Joseph fired a shot near the blue line that Rickard Rakell managed to deflect with his skate, beating Sharks goalie Magnus Chrona. Ludvig contributed the sec-

ondary assist.

We just talked about having more people around the net," Joseph said. "(Rakell) has been doing a really good job doing it, so we practice a lot of (defenseman) shooting and that was

"Ludvig made some good

offensive plays there in the third and just a lucky bounce that

Joseph and Ludvig paired together Thursday night for the third straight game.

The former skated for 15:48 with a shot, two hits and a pair of blocks, and Ludvig had a hit and blocked shot over 14:06 of work.

Both players were on the ice late in the second period when San Jose's Klim Kostin beat Tristan Jarry on a feed from former Penguin Mikael Granlund to tie the score 3-3.

Erik Karlsson, Marcus Pettersson and Ryan Graves have shuffled around, as well.

"(Associate coach) Todd (Reirden) has moved the pairs around a lot," Sullivan said. "So (Joseph and Ludvig) are not strictly playing together. There's been a fair amount of movement back there by nature of special teams. (Letang) gets a lot of ice and (Karlsson) gets a lot of ice, so there's a lot of moving parts back there.'

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kgorman@triblive.com.

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ROUNDUP

Hempfield bowler places

Hempfield's Amelia Droste and Freeport's Mackensie Livingston reached the finals to lead the WPIBL contingent at the state boys and girls singles bowling championships Friday at Leisure Lanes in Lancaster.

Droste qualified third with a six-game series of 1,289, including a 247 game. She defeated CD East's Rayana Gonzalez in the quarterfinals 225-189 before falling to Warwick Taylor Miller, 232-225, in the semifinals.

Livingston qualified fifth with a 1,239 series, including a 236 game. She lost a first-round match to Gonzalez, 222-203.

Deer Lakes' Tia Germanich (1,189) finished sixth in qualifying, just missing out on a spot in the finals. Plum's Mareana Pilyih (1,150) was tied for ninth.

On the boys side, Bishop Canevin's Jonathan Bernotas (1,302) was the top WPIBL finisher in qualifying. He was sixth, 10 pins out of a spot in the finals. Greensburg Salem's Dylan Megliorino (1,212) was

Baseball

Liberty County (Ga.) 7, **Yough 3** — Carlos Singleton homered and drove in a pair to lead Liberty County (5-7). Hayden Eicher singled and doúbled, Nate Bell and John Steban also had two hits apiece, and Aidan Shaffer doubled for Yough (0-1).

Softball

Belle Vernon 13, Franklin Regional 0 - Gracie Sokol and Katie Sokol each hit a home run as Belle Vernon (1-0) took care of Franklin Regional (0-1) in five innings in a nonsection win. Mailey Hayes and Lauren VanDinner hit a pair of doubles apiece for the Leopards and Talia Ross struck out a dozen in a five-inning one-hitter.

> PIAA **BASKETBALL PREVIEW CAPSULE**

Class 2A quarterfinals Jeannette (19-9) vs. Fort Cherry (22-6) 1 p.m. Saturday at AHN Arena, Peters Township

District seeds: Jeannette 7-6; Fort Cherry 7-3 Winner plays: Winner of 7-1 Aliquippa (23-5)/ 9-1 Redbank Valley (24-3) on Tuesday in semifinals (time, site TBD) Players to watch:

Markus McGowan, Jeannette; Blake Sweder, Fort

Layup lines: Jeannette shocked WPIAL runner-up and section rival Greensburg Central Catholic in the second round, 48-46, in overtime. McGowan, a promising freshman, had 13 points and Kymone Brown added 10. Jeannette hasn't gone two rounds deep in the state tournament since 2018 when Robert Kennedy, Anthony Johnson and the late Tre Cunningham were leading the charge. Jeannette beat District 10 champion Iroquois, 58-32. Jeannette made six 3-pointers against GCC, three from Mc-Gowan. ... Fort Cherry, a WPIAL semifinalist that lost to Aliquippa, 55-36, has vaulted into the state quarters for the first time in 63 years. The Rangers, who average 67.7 points, advanced with a high-scoring win over Ser-ra Catholic, 88-71. Sweder had 21 points, Derek Errett added 20, Shane Cornali 19 and Matt Sieg 10. Fort Cherry lost in the second round two years ago. — Bill Beckner Jr.



NDREW PALLA | FOR TRIBLIVE

Jeannette's Markus McGowan PIAA CLASS 6A QUARTERFINALS: SPRING-FORD 60, NORWIN 47

Norwin girls eliminated

Knights succumb to fast start by Spring-Ford again

BY PAUL SCHOFIELD

STATE COLLEGE — When the Spring-Ford girls basketball team defeated Norwin in third game of the season, the Rams got off to a

Friday in the PIAA Class 6A quarterfinals, they did it again. Spring-Ford, the District 1 run-

ner-up from north of Philadelphia, scored the first two baskets of the game and never looked back, defeating the Knights, 60-47, at State

"We are always looking to get off to quick starts," Spring-Ford coach Mickey McDaniel said. "We like to sting our opponent. But Norwin, like the in the first meeting, came back against us."

Spring-Ford (24-5) raced out to 4-0 and 10-2 leads thanks to 3-pointers by Aaliyah Solliday and Katie Tiffan.

Norwin, the WPIAL champion, went on a 7-0 run to close the gap to 10-7. Bella Furno's 3-pointer started the run. That was followed by buckets by Kendell Berger and Ava

But a 3-pointer by Solliday with 4 seconds left in the quarter gave the Rams a 13-9 lead. They led 24-10 in the first meeting after one quarter.

They quickly stretched that lead to 21-11 in the first two minutes of the second frame Friday. "They are a good team and well

coached," Norwin coach Brian Brozeski said. "They take advantage of opportunities, and they are deadly shooters. They don't have a weakness. They did a nice job moving the ball.

"They shot the three well. That's the beauty of this game: Sometimes you have it, and sometimes you led 44-34 after three quarters. don't. Today, they had it."



GO ONLINE FOR GAME RECAPS, LIVE AND ARCHIVED BROADCASTS, VIDEOS, PHOTO GALLERIES, COMMENTARY, STATISTICS, STANDINGS AND MORE

Norwin's Kendall Berger beats Spring-Ford's Kareena Preuss to the basket during Friday's PIAA Class 6A quarterfinals.

But Berger, who finished with buckets by Berger and Kobus, but a game-high 20 points, scored six points as the Knights went on a 10-5 run to close within 26-21. Spring-Ford, however, scored the final four points of the quarter and led 30-21 at

"We did a good job driving to the hoop and kicking it out," McDaniel said. "We knew if we did that we'd be OK."

Norwin (23-4) opened the third quarter with a bucket by Ava Christopher and a 3-pointer by Bailey Snowberger to trim the lead to 30-26, but Spring-Ford responded with a 12-3 run to push the lead to 42-29.

Kareena Preuss and Tiffan scored five points each for the Rams. They

Norwin got to within 44-38 on

consecutive buckets by Tiffan ended the Knights' hopes. Spring-Ford had only four players

score, and all reached double figures. Tiffan had 19, Preuss 15 and Solliday and Anna Azzara had 13 each. Norwin got 11 points from Kobus. "They are hurting now, but they

have to realize they had a great sea-

son," Brozeski said. "It's a season I'll

always remember. It's unfair to call this the best season ever. "It stings, but when you sit down and look back, we had a special sea-

son and all that hard work paid off." Norwin graduates four seniors and returns a good nucleus next

Paul Schofield is a TribLive staff writer. He can be reached at pschofield@triblive.com.

PIAA CLASS A QUARTERFINALS: GREENSBURG CENTRAL CATHOLIC 56, EVERETT 26

GCC soars into PIAA semifinals

Centurions turn tight game with Everett into blowout

BY DAVE MACKALL

 $SIDMAN-A\,three\text{-point}\,halftime$ lead turned into a rout in a hurry for Greensburg Central Catholic.

Once the Centurions girls found their legs in their state quarterfinal Friday night, there was no way of stopping them.

'We definitely picked it up in the second half. We beat them by 30," GCC's Avery Davis said.

Indeed, it became a one-sided

Erica Gribble scored 16 of her 20 points after halftime, and GCC overwhelmed Everett, 56-26, at Forest Hills High School to advance to the PIAA Class 2A semifinals.

The Centurions (23-6), ranked No. 2 in the Trib HSSN state rankings, will face defending PIAA champion Kennedy Catholic on Monday at a site and time to be determined.

Kennedy Catholic also won in in convincing fashion in the quarterfinals, trouncing Bishop McCort,

"In the second half, I saw their legs," GCC coach Chris Skatell said of his players. "I told them I hadn't seen their legs since we were at

GCC defeated Serra Catholic on Feb. 29 to win the WPIAL championship at Petersen Events Center.

"Our shots were short in the first half tonight. ... Our legs were tired," Skatell said. "We've tried to protect them in practice and not run them a lot. It wasn't until after we grinded it out and beat Bellwood-Antis (in the first round), then grinded it out and beat West Middlesex (in the second round), then grinded it out in the first half tonight that we got our legs under us in the second half.

"Once our transition game got going, we could've won by 50."

Mya Morgan added 15 points, and Davis finished with 14 for GCC.

"They didn't have many more attempts than we did in the game, but we didn't make many shots in the second half," Everett coach Keith Moyer said.

GCC led 17-14 at halftime and finally went up by double digits in the third quarter on a 3-pointer by Morgan to give the Centurions a 34-22 advantage.

Gribble made consecutive shots from behind the arc in the final minute, the second coming at the third-quarter buzzer, to put GCC in command 40-23.

"Definitely a sluggish first half," Gribble said. "Coach kept telling us

our shots would fall, and we kept believing that. We fought some nerves early on.'

Everett (20-8), the District 5 champion, played inspired in the first half behind a large backing of fans dressed in a sea of red.

"You're in a hostile environment with a gym full of people from their hometown. It's hard," Skatell said. "I get it. We just said to stay focused, stay calm and do what we do. Be patient get that lead stretched out a little bit. "We'll do something different on

defense, push it out, push it out. You turn around and look, and we're up 20." Davis scored 10 first-half points to

help GCC to a 17-14 lead at halftime. Afterward, she thought about the final outcome — a 30-point drubbing and wondered aloud.

"We really just had to come out with better energy," Davis said. "That was one thing that really killed us in the first half. We took so many shots, and we just couldn't get any to fall.

"We definitely picked it up in the second half. We held them to 14 points in the first half and 12 in the second. There's not much more you

Dave Mackall is a TribLive contributing writer.

Hillton (22-4) CLASS 2A Quarterfinals Friday's results

Ouarterfinals

VS. Willidinspury (20)
Friday's summaries

Spring Ford 60, Norwin 47 Norwin

Mercyhurst Prep 54, Avonworth 41

Westmont Hilltop 47, Shady Side Academy 41

Monday's schedule Loyalsock Township (27-3) vs. Lancaster Catholic

(24-2); Mercyhurst Prep (24-3) vs. Westmont-

Minersville 28, Muncy 21 Marion Center 53, Marian Catholic 42 Greensburg Central Catholic 56, Everett 26 Kennedy Catholic 60, Bishop McCort 35

monday's schedule
Minersville (24-4) vs. Marion Center (23-5);
Greensburg Central Catholic (23-6) vs. Kennedy
Catholic (23-4)
CLASS A

Today's schedule
Linville Hill (23-1) vs. Greenwood (17-11) at
Central Dauphin East, 1 p.m.; Mountain View (224) vs. St. John Neumann (24-4) at Hazleton, 1

p.m.; Union (21-5) vs. Bishop Guilfoyle (26-3) at

Norwin, 1:30 p.m.; Berlin-Brothersvalley (23-5) vs. Williamsburg (26-3) at Richland, 2 p.m.

Panthers will face WPIAL foe next FRANKLIN REGIONAL · FROM B1

the team that beat them in

the final. It will be Franklin Regional and Moon (26-3) in the semifinals Monday. Moon beat Bethel Park,

62-51, in another west quarterfinal. It was a fun night for the

Panthers, who hadn't been to the third round of the state tournament in 27 years. A throng of fans made the

short trip up Route 22 to follow some more of this new-found March Madness.

"We had to keep playing hard tonight," said Panthers senior guard Cooper Rankin, who scored a team-high 23 points. "We wanted Moon again for sure. We're not at our best when we're stagnant and not pushing the ball." Shaler (25-4), which lost

to Franklin Regional three times, including in the WPIAL semifinals, cut a 16-point lead down to four with 2 minutes, 28 seconds to play. But the Panthers stopped the bleeding when Rankin

came up with a steal and passed ahead to senior Colin Masten for a layup with 1:24 "It was about composure," Reed said. "Our guys made

weather the storm." Masten then added four straight free throws, and, suddenly, it was a 61-51 game with just under a minute remaining.

plays when they needed to. We

Shaler was making its first quarterfinal appearance since 2012 and just its second trip to this round in program history.

"It was a game of runs," Shaler coach Rob Niederberger said. "There were swings. ... We

miss on one end, and they go down and score. Give them credit. It was a two-possession game with four minutes left." Shaler hadn't strung togeth-

er more than four straight points until the fourth when it put up eight straight, including a 3-pointer by senior Kaden Orga to make it 50-44. Again, though, Rankin

scored on a break to end the Franklin Regional, mean-

time, had a 7-0 run in the second quarter and a 13-0 surge in the third, the latter to push the lead to 37-24. Senior guard Cam Rowell

was slow starting but scored nine of his 16 in the third. Senior Connor Crossey added 10 points, including two 3s

in the first half. Masten scored The Panthers made 21 of 29 free throws with Rowell

converting 6 of 8 and Rankin Senior forward Brandon

London did the heavy lifting for the Titans, scoring a gamehigh 26 points and pulling down 16 rebounds.

Bill Beckner is a TribLive staff writer. He can be reached at bbeckner@triblive.com.

HIGH SCHOOLS

BASEBALL Friday's results

Nonsection Nonsection
Avella at Washington, ppd.
Canon-McMillan 4, Central Valley 4
Carlynton 7, Northgate 5
Charleroi at California (n)
Deer Lakes 14, Steel Valley 3 Eden Christian 9, McGuffey 0 Ellwood City 4, Burgettstown 0 Laurel at Riverside (n) Liberty County (Ga.) 7, Yough 3 Ligonier Valley at Greensburg Salem, ppd. Marion Center at Cleechburg, ppd.
Mt. Lebanon 4, Upper St. Clair 3
Northeast (FL) 3, Plum 0
North Hills 12, Gateway 1
Penn-Trafford at Norwin, ppd. Penil-Hariota at Hempfield, ppd. Pline-Richland at Hempfield, ppd. Plum 6, St. Petersburg (FL) 2 Quaker Valley at Peters Township, ppd. Shaler 5, Fox Chapel 2 Sharpsville at Mohawk, ppd. Southmoreland at Greensburg Central Catholic, ppd. Trinity Christian at Mapletown, ppd. Valley 12, Highlands 2 West Mifflin 7, Allderdice 0 Friday's summary

Nonsection Properties of the properties o

BASKETBALL CLASS 6A Quarterfinals Today's schedule Archbishop Wood (18-8) vs. Spring-Ford (22-6)

Catholic (27-2) at Norristown, 3 p.m.; Coatesville (20-8) vs. Reading (19-9) at Martz Hall, 1 p.m.; Central York (23-3) vs. Upper St. Clair (22-5) at 2 p.m. CLASS 5A Quarterfinals
Friday's results
Archbishop Ryan 62, Unionville 45
Imhotep Charter 56, Abington Heights 46
Franklin Regional 63, Shaler 51

at Norristown, noon; Parkland (23-5) vs. Roman

Moon 67, Bethel Park 51 Monday's schedule Archbishop Ryan (20-9) vs. Imhotep Charter (27-3); Franklin Regional (26-3) vs. Moon (26-3)

53; Fridikilin kegional (20-3) VS. Moon of CLASS 4A Quarterfinals Friday's results Scranton Prep 76, Neumann Goretti 75 Archbishop Carroll 60, Carver E&S 42 Hamshap 60, Eactor O, Carver E&S 42 Hampton 60, Eastern York 54 Lincoln Park 89, North Catholic 74

Semifinals

Monday's schedule Scranton Prep (19-9) vs. Archbishop Carroll (20-8); Hampton (25-4) vs. Lincoln Park (26-3) CLASS 3A

Today's schedule Devon Prep (12-13) vs. Executive Education (23-4) at Garden Spot, 2:30 p.m.; Loyalsock Township (28-1) vs. Math, Science & Civics (19-10) at Hazleton, 4 p.m.; Mohawk (19-8) vs. Girard (25-2) at Slippery Rock University, 4 p.m.; Deer Lakes (23-4) vs. Franklin (22-5) at Sharon, 2:30 p.m. CLASS 2A

CLASS 2A
Quarterfinals
Today's schedule
Holy (ross (22-3) vs. Dock Mennonite (22-4)
at Easton, 2:30 p.m.; Constitution (24-6) vs.
Lancaster Mennonite (19-7) at Norristown, 1:30
p.m.; Aliquippa (23-5) vs. Redbank Valley (24-3)
at Slippery Rock, 1 p.m.; Jeannette (18-8) vs.
Fort Cherry (22-6) at Peters Township, 1 p.m. CLASS A Quarterfinals
Friday's results
Linville Hill 65, Freeland MMI Prep 29
Berlin Brothersvalley 75, Lancaster Country

Imani Christian 70, Farrell 60 Bishop Carroll 80, Union 73 Semifinals

Monday's schedule Linville Hill (23-1) vs. Berlin Brothersvalley (27-2); Imania (hristian (17-10) vs. Bishop arroll (18-10)

Franklin Regional 63, Shaler 51
Franklin Regional 13 11 20 19 — 63
Shaler 13 8 13 17 — 51
FR: Cooper Rankin 21, Cam Rowell 16, Connor Crossey 10. S: Brandon London 26.
GIRLS
CLASS 6A
Usarterfinals

Quarterfinals
Friday's results
Cardinal O'Hara 49, Perkiomen Valley 35
Parkland 48, Archbishop Carroll 37
Garnet Valley 58, North Penn 51
Spring-Ford 60, Norwin 47
Semifinals
Monday's schoolule

Monday's schedule Cardinal O'Hara (24-4) vs. Parkland (29-2); Garnet Valley (24-5) vs. Spring-Ford (24-5) CLASS 5A Quarterfinals
Today's schedule
Abington Heights (20-7) vs. Bethlehem Catholic
(22-5) at Pleasant Valley, 1 p.m.; Scranton (252) vs. Archbishop Wood (23-5) at Easton MS, 1
p.m.; McKeesport (23-4) vs. Armstrong (23-5)
at Norwin, 11:30 a.m.; Cathedral Prep (21-3) vs.
Oakland Catholic (26-2) at Sharon, 1 p.m.

CLASS 4A
Quarterfinals
Today's schedule
Universal Audenried (24-5) vs. Delone Catholic

University Audenment (24-5) vs. Define Cathonic (23-1) at Garden Spot, 1 p.m.; Scranton Prep (21-5) vs. Central Columbia (27-2) at Hazleton, 2:30 p.m.; Wyomissing (27-0) vs. North Catholic (19-7) at Bald Eagle Area, 2 p.m.; Blackhawk (24-3) vs. Fairview (22-5) at Slippery Rock University, 2:30 p.m. CLASS 3A

Quarterfinals Friday's results Loyalsock Township 51, Holy Redeemer 34 Lancaster Catholic 54, Hughesville 40

Norwin 47

Spring-Ford 13 17 13 17 - 60
N: Kendall Berger 20, Ava Kobus 11. SF: Katie
Tiffan 19, Kareena Preuss 15, Aaliyah Solliday 13,
Anna Azzara 13. Greensburg Central Catholic 56, Everett 10 4 9 3 - 26 Greensburg CC 12 5 23 16 - 56 E: Cloe Price 11. 6CC: Erica Gribble 20, Mya Morgan 15, Avery Davis 14.

HOCKEY PIHL Penguins Cup playoffs Finals

At UPMC Lemieux Sports Complex CLASS 3A

Tuesday's schedule

Pine-Richland vs. North Allegheny, 6:15 p.m. CLASS 2A Monday's schedule Penn-Trafford vs. Thomas Jefferson, 6:15 p.m. CLASS A Tuesday's schedule Chartiers Valley vs. Greensburg Salem, 8:45 p.m. Varsity D2

Monday's schedule Neshannock vs. Burrell, 8:45 p.m. LACROSSE BOYS Friday's results

Penn-Trafford 11, Norwin 10 Chartiers Valley 14, Norwin 6 **SOFTBALL**

Friday's Schedule
Nonsection
Belle Vernon 13, Franklin Regional 0
Norwin at Penn-Trafford, ppd.
Waynesburg at Mt. Pleasant, ppd.
Friday's summary
WPIAL
Class 4A
Section 2

Section 2 WP: Talia Ross LP: Chloe Lancaster 2B: BV: Laure

VanDivner, Maddie Grisnik, Mailey Hayes HR: BV: Gracie Sokol, Katie Sokol **3 or more hits:** BV: Gracie Sokol Today's schedule

Nonsection
Baldwin at West Mifflin, 12 p.m.
Bethlehem Catholic at Seneca Valley, 6 p.m.
Ringgold at Peters Township, 12 p.m. Seneca Valley at Quakertown, 11:15 a.m. Southmoreland at Ringgold, 11 a.m Waynesburg at Mt. Pleasant, 1 p.m

VOLLEYBALL Friday's results

Nonsection Penn-Trafford 3, Upper St. Clair 0

clean up at states

Vikings

Mt. Pleasant swimmers win 6 golds to open PIAAs

BY MICHAEL LOVE

WPIAL individual swimmers and relays captured nine out of a possible 12 state titles on the first day of the PIAA Class 2A championships Friday at Bucknell.

Mt. Pleasant claimed six of the nine and added a state record to the program portfolio.

Junior David Mutter was a big part of what ended up being a WPIAL sweep of the six boys cham-



record of 48.01 was set in 2015 by Brent Benedict from Corry.

Mutter came back in the evening and won the state title. He shaved off another five one-hundredths

Last year, Mutter finished runner-up to Southmoreland graduate

Henry Miller.

"I had a quick stroke to the wall at the end. It was a rough finish, but it was a good swim overall, and it's a state record," Mutter said. "It's a great, great feeling that I have the record for all of (Class 2A) in the state of Pennsylvania. I've only been beaten by one triple-A kid this year. He had a great swim with a 45.7.That is crazy fast." The Mt. Pleasant boys 200 medley

relay of Mutter, Logan Snively, Joseph Gardner and Gunner Probst started things off by winning gold in a time of 1:32.57. "My confidence in these guys was

at an all-time high," said Snively, who swam the relay's leadoff leg. "We have some really great guys."

Joseph in the breaststroke, David in the fly and Gunner the freestyler. We worked so hard all year for this, since the summer. We put in thousands and thousands of yards. I had no doubt in my mind that they were going to bring it home and get the win."

Gardner added to the medals haul with a win in the 200 IM. He cut more than 4 seconds from his prelim time and came from the No. 4 seed to finish in 1:49.01.

When it was the girls' turn to take to the pool, the winning continued for Mt. Pleasant.

The Lady Vikings won three titles, starting with the 200 medley relay of juniors Kiersten O'Connor, Kaylie Korpiel, Maddie Barrick and Lily King.

The relay won in a time of 1:46.78 and led a contingent of five WPIAL teams in the championship heat.

King had a quick turnaround for the finals of the 200 free. She went in as the No. 1 seed.

She repeated as the event's champion with a personal-best time of 1:45.51 as the WPIAL went 1-2-3. Northgate senior Elise Nardozzi was second, and Kiski Area senior Eliza Miller was third.

"I will say the (state record) was in the back of my mind," King said. "But at the same time, I was trying to just focus on myself and go in with the mindset of swimming as fast as I can. I am always happy with a best time."

King returns to the pool Saturday in the 100 free, where she is the defending champion. King won last year with a state-record 48.93, which also was a Bucknell pool

O'Connor capped the state-title haul for Mt. Pleasant and the

WPIAL with a win in the 50 free. After a time of 23.48 in the finals heat, O'Connor was right where

she wanted to be. "There's not a lot of thoughts and strategy going on in a quick race like that," she said. "I just go out and swim as fast as I can. It was an amazing feeling to get the title.

I've been working up to this for like three years now. To be able to swim this event here and be a state champion is amazing.'

O'Connor dropped 24 one-hundredths of a second from her prelim

Westmoreland swimmers and relays claimed four additional

The Latrobe boys 200 free relay of Chris Heese, Patrick Cratty, Jace Pedicone and Charlie Thomson placed fourth in the finals with a time of 1:27.52.

Earlier Friday evening, Cratty placed seventh in the finals of the 200 free with a time of 1:44.15.

Snively, Probst, Mutter and SethPainter teamed to place the Mt. Pleasant boys 200 free relay in seventh overall (1:28.67).

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Steelers left with 1 QB

PICKETT · FROM B1

in the season, but the Steelers already had turned to No. 3 quarterback Mason Rudolph, who led the team to three consecutive victories and a playoff berth. Pickett also watched as Rudolph started the AFC wild-card playoff loss at

Pickett reportedly balked at serving as the emergency No. 3 quarterback in Week 17 at Seattle, which didn't endear him to the organization. Still, Pickett entered the offseason as the starting quarterback, per coach Mike Tomlin.

In January, with Pickett and Mitch Trubisky serving as the only quarterbacks under contract -Rudolph was set to hit free agency

Tomlin said his 2024 starter already was on the roster. Last month, Khan said he had "full faith" in Pickett being the team's starting quarterback next season.

That all happened before the Steelers signed Wilson, a nine-time Pro Bowl selection and former Super Bowl champion, to a one-year contract worth the NFL veteran minimum of \$1.21 million. The Steelers introduced Wilson at a news conference Friday at UPMC Rooney Sports Complex.

Khan attended the Wilson session, but he did not return to the media room later when the Steelers introduced safety DeShon Elliott. Khan presumably was finalizing the deal with the Eagles.

Khan now must find a backup.

Restocking the quarterback room

With Kenny Pickett gone, the Steelers have only one quarterback, Russell Wilson, on the roster. Here's how they could restock the position:

Free agency

One backup option on the free agent market is former Miami Dolphins and Tennessee Titans quarterback Ryan Tannehill, who, like Wilson, is 35 years old. Tannehill lost his starting job last season with the Titans to rookie Tannehill makes sense for

the Steelers because he had his best success in Tennessee when Arthur Smith was his offensive coordinator. Smith was hired by the Steelers in the same role after he was fired as coach of the Atlanta Falcons. Former Steelers backup Joshua

Dobbs also is on market.

Make that two. The Steelers released Trubisky in February, and he signed a contract with his former team, the Buffalo Bills. Rudolph signed a one-year contract with the Tennessee Titans on Wednesday.

The Steelers now have none of the three quarterbacks from last season on the roster.

In the Pickett deal, the Steelers moved up 22 spots in this year's draft, getting the Eagles' compensatory pick in the third round. The Eagles will get the Steelers' fourth-round selection. That boost in positioning could help fuel a trade should the Steelers decide to pursue Chicago's Justin The Bears are expected to

trade Fields before they use the No. 1 overall pick in the draft on a

Draft

With needs at center, right tackle and wide receiver, the Steelers likely won't take a quarterback until the third day. This quarterback would be for developmental purposes to round out the roster. Among that tier of quarterbacks are South Carolina's Spencer Rattler, Tulane's Michael Pratt and Florida State's Jordan

— Joe Rutter

As for Pickett, he'll get a fresh start in Philadelphia, where he will back up Jalen Hurts. The trade sends Pickett closer to his roots. He was born and raised in Ocean Township, N.J., and starred as quarterback there before enrolling

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Wilson lands in desired spot

WILSON · FROM B1

Steelers," Wilson said.

Wilson talked about the two games he played against the Steelers during his 10 seasons with the Seattle Seahawks, the atmosphere at Acrisure Stadium when he visited in 2019 and the positive reception he received when he returned a week ago to meet with owner Art Rooney II, general manager Omar Khan and coach Mike Tomlin.

'You come here, put your feet on the ground, go around the city and see the energy of the Pittsburgh Steelers and their fans," he said. "Go by the stadium and see it. All of that was a big part of it."

The Steelers put on quite the recruiting pitch to land Wilson, who is the only quarterback on the roster after Kenny Pickett was traded to the Philadelphia Eagles later Friday.

A FaceTime video with defensive captain Cameron Heyward turned into an hour-long conversation. Before he met with the Steelers in person, Wilson had a video chat with Tomlin and Khan.

"It was supposed to be 15-20 minutes." Wilson said. "Next thing you know, it's an hour and half later."

That call was interrupted by one from All-Pro free safety Minkah Fitzpatrick.

"He said, 'You like to compete '3,' you like to win,' "Wilson said.
After agreeing to a deal that will cost the Steelers just \$1.21 million the Broncos are on the hook

for the balance of his \$39 million

Steelers reach deal with WR Jefferson

On a day of a public changing of the guard at quarter-back, the Pittsburgh Steelers began to reassemble the weapons available to new passer Russell Wilson.

The Steelers agreed to terms with veteran wide receiver Van Jefferson to a one-year contract, a league source confirmed late Friday. A five-year NFL veteran, Jefferson has 113 catches and 10 touchdowns over 61 NFL games since entering the league as a second-round pick of the Los Angeles Rams in 2020.

The 6-foot1, 200-pound Jefferson has lined up both outside and from the slot throughout his NFL career. This past October, he was dealt to the Atlanta Falcons in an exchange of late-round draft picks.

— Chris Adamski

All-Pro outside linebacker T.J. Watt. He also texted Pickett, his supposed competitor for the starting job until the Steelers removed that obstacle by sending Pickett to

the Eagles. Wilson met with the media before the Pickett deal was completed and sidestepped questions about

competing for the job. "Every day that you wake up. salary — Wilson reached out to you look forward to helping the

team win," Wilson said. "That is my focus now. I've been fortunate to be in the league for a long time. I've had a lot of success and done some cool things, but there is more to do. That is where my head is at.' Wilson said he plans to play an-

other "five to seven" years. How he fares with the Steelers in 2024 will go a long way toward extending his career. He had 26 touchdown passes to just eight interceptions last season with the Broncos, yet he was benched for the final two games with Denver owning a 7-8 Still, it was an improvement

over his first year with the Broncos, when he was 4-11 as a starter and threw 11 interceptions and 16 touchdown passes. He attributed some of those struggles to a lat injury that nagged throughout the 2022 season.

"This past year, I felt like myself again," Wilson said. "I can't wait to put on the cleats and go after it."

The Steelers' decision to sign Wilson played a part in the organization luring Patrick Queen, the top inside linebacker in free agency, away from the Baltimore Ravens.

"When you've got a guy like that who's known to win, he probably has a little chip on his shoulder,' Queen said. "My job is to come in and try to help him get the ball back to him and the offense, let them do their thing. If Russ plays like Russ, this team is scary.

Joe Rutter is a TribLive staff writer. He can be reached at irutter@triblive.com.

Team proved it can't be trusted

BENZ · FROM B1

have made a wise move in that regard if you like. However, one thing is obvious when it comes to the Steelers: You can't trust a single word they say on the record or even anything they leak off of it.

Just look at this Pickett situation. Beyond Khan's comments, they built him up as much as they could since the season ended, only to spin him off for spare parts as soon as they landed a player they deemed to be a better

• After the playoff loss to Buffalo, coach Mike Tomlin said he thought 2024's starter was currently on the roster, and that Pickett would resume his "QB1"

What we have since learned is that if Tomlin really did think those things were true, it's only because he had little faith they could find anyone better. Or he just lied to the media again as he admitted he had done with his infamous "mojo" quote early in the season.

• A few weeks later, Art Rooney II threw his support behind Pickett as well when he had his usual season-ending sit-down with beat writers.

A few days after that, he down-

played the idea of trading for any

other team's quarterback. I guess

technically that's true because

sports.triblive.com

» Linebacker Queen says he is ready to fill Shazier's void

Wilson was signed as a free agent. But let's not split hairs. The organization does that well enough on its own.

• New offensive coordinator Arthur Smith was interviewed on the team's website about Pickett, and he gushed about how excited he was to work with the former

"It's exciting to hear the way that this offense is built with a lot of young players and, obviously, where Kenny Pickett is at going into his third year," Smith said. Well, "where he is at" now is

the other end of the Pa. Turnpike.

• After the combine, NFL on CBS reporter Aditi Kinkhabwala said on 93.7 FM that the Steelers coaching staff was taking all the criticism of Pickett to heart and was angered that people on the outside seemed to think he couldn't get better under their guidance.

What should've been added to that quote is "... get better under our guidance, unless they pick up a guy who doesn't need as much

Look, I get it. Top to bottom, the franchise was publicly posturing. They were fortifying the position behind Pickett to make him as tradeable as possible. They were

polishing an image of trust in Pickett for fans if efforts to sign Wilson or Kirk Cousins or trade for Justin Fields fell through.

Who knows, maybe those last two things happened before they decided to sign Wilson. I'm sure the Steelers would argue that. But, again, why should we believe them?

It's not just the fans and media who have every reason in the world to take what the Steelers say out loud with a massive grain of salt. Beyond what Pickett and Rudolph had been told at various stages of this three-way QB melodrama, how about Mitch

He was given only a three-anda-half game shot as the starter in 2022. Think he was given reason to expect more than that? I do.

How about Melvin Ingram, LeGarrette Blount and James Harrison (after his second stint in Pittsburgh)?

Oh, and speaking of Rudolph, I wonder if he would've stayed in Pittsburgh as Wilson's backup if Pickett had been moved before Rudolph signed in Tennessee. I'm curious to know if the Steelers ever considered that prospect.

However the Steelers choose to answer that question, the opposite is probably true.

> Tim Benz is a TribLive staff writer. He can be reached at tbenz@triblive.com or via Twitter @TimBenzPGH.

Pitt star Donald retires

Penn Hills product was 3-time DPOY, helped Rams win Super Bowl

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES - Defensive lineman Aaron Donald has announced his retirement after a standout 10-year career with the Los Angeles Rams. The three-time AP NFL De-

fensive Player of the Year, who began his football career at Penn Hills and went on to dominate at Pitt, made his surprising announcement on social media Friday. The 32-year-old Donald

spent his entire career with the Rams, who drafted him in the first round in 2014 out of Pitt. The Penn Hills native was selected for 10 Pro Bowls and eight All-Pro first teams, and he won the award as the league's top defensive player in 2017, 2018 and 2020. "Throughout my career, I

have given my everything to football both mentally and physically — 365 days a year was dedicated to becoming the best possible player I could be," Donald said in a statement. "I respected this game like no other, and I'm blessed to be able to conclude my NFL career with the same franchise that drafted me. Not many people get drafted to a team, win a world championship with that team and retire with that team. I do not, and will not, take that for

Although smaller than many defensive tackles, Donald used his extraordinary athleticism and game savvy to wreak havoc on offenses throughout his career. He was the cornerstone of every Rams defense during his tenure, drawing habitual double-teams away from his teammates and still racking up a franchise-record 111 sacks, third in the NFL among active players.

After winning the NFL Defensive Rookie of the Year award in 2014, Donald reached the peak of his stardom after the Rams franchise moved from St. Louis back to Los Angeles in 2016. He had a career-high 20½ sacks in 2018 on the way to his first Super Bowl appearance under coach Sean

He then played a major role in the Rams' run to a Super Bowl victory three years later, most famously applying the pressure that forced Cincinnati's Joe Burrow to throw incomplete at midfield on the Bengals' final play of Los Angeles' 23-20 victory in Super

Bowl 56. Lawrence Taylor and J.J. Watt are the only other players to win the defensive player of the year award three times.

Nothing capsulized Donald's career at Pitt more than the game at Duke in 2013 when he tackled quarterback Brandon Connette and running back Josh Snead simultaneously — all 415 pounds of them. Weighing 280 pounds at the time, Donald quickly beat the block attempt on the line of scrimmage and reached the Duke players just as Connette was handing off to Snead. He grabbed one with his right arm and the other with his

Donald left Pitt as one of the most decorated players in school history. During his senior season, he won all four national awards annually given to collegiate linemen and defensive players: the Nagurski, Bednarik, Outland and Lombardi. He also was named defensive player of the year by three outlets and was a unanimous All-American.

At Penn Hills, Donald was a two-time first-team all-state player and a Tribune-Review Terrific 25 all-star as a senior in 2009, when he recorded 63 tackles, 15 for a loss, and 11 sacks.

Jerry DiPaola contributed.



Rams defensive lineman Aaron Donald holds up the Lombardi trophy during the victory celebration and parade Feb. 16, 2022.

Michigan fires

coach Howard

Howard on Friday after five

Michigan fired coach Juwan

seasons, parting ways with the

former Fab Five star whose re-

turn to his alma mater included

a Big Ten title and advancing in

two NCAA Tournaments before

closing with two straight disap-

He lost a school-record 24

games this season as Michigan

plummeted to a last-place finish

• The Big East Tournament

will be held at Madison Square

Garden through at least 2032.

in the Big Ten for the first time

Howard finished with an

pointing seasons.

82-67 record.

since 1967.

Pro football

WIRE REPORTS

Pts GF ...45 18 ...39 14 ...38 19 94 221 160 93 225 185 84 237 203 4 15 8 Toronto

 Metropolitan Division

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 WESTERN CONFERENCE

conference advance to pl **RESULTS/SCHEDULE**) playoffs. Thursday's games
Penguins 6, San Jose 3
Buffalo 4, N.Y. Islanders 0
Boston 2, Montreal 1 (OT)
Arizona 4, Detroit 1 Carolina 4, Florida 0 Carolina 4, Frontad of Tampa Bay 6, N.Y. Rangers 3 Ottawa 3, Columbus 2 (SO) Toronto 6, Philadelphia 2 Minnesota 2, Anaheim 0 New Jersey 6, Dallas 2 Calgary 4, Vegas 1 Washington 2, Seattle 1 Friday's games Winnipeg 6, Anaheim 0 Los Angeles at Chicago (n)

Today's games Buffalo at Detroit, 12:30 p.m. Ottawa at N.Y. Islanders, 12:30 p.m. N.Y. Rangers at **Penguins**, 3 p.m. New Jersey at Arizona, 5 p.m. Tampa Bay at Florida, 6 p.m. Carolina at Toronto, 7 p.m. Montreal at Calgary, 7 p.m. Philadelphia at Boston, 7 p.m. San Jose at Columbus, 7 p.m. Los Angeles at Dallas, 8 p.m.

Minnesota at St. Louis, 8 p.m. Colorado at Edmonton, 10 p.m. Nashville at Seattle, 10 p.m. Washington at Vancouver, 10 p.m. Sunday's games N.Y. Islanders at N.Y. Rangers, 1 p.m. New Jersey at Vegas, 3:30 p.m. Detroit at **Penguins**, 6 p.m. Carolina at Ottawa, 6 p.m. San Jose at Chicago, 6 p.m Winnipeg at Columbus, 6 p.m. Anaheim at St. Louis, 7 p.m.

COLLEGE

BASKETBALL CONFERENCE TOURNAMENTS MEN MEN
America East
Championship
Today
Vermont vs. Mass.-Lowell, 11 a.m.
American Athletic Conference Friday's games
South Florida 81, East Carolina 59
UAB 72, Wichita St. 60
FAU 77, North Texas 71

Charlotte vs. Temple (n) Semifinals Today South Florida vs. UAB, 3 p.m. FAU vs. Charlotte-Temple-winner, 5:30 p.m. Atlantic 10 Semifinals

Semitinais
Today
VCU vs. St. Joseph's, 1 p.m.
Duquesne vs. St. Bonaventure, 3:30 p.m.
ACC
Semifinals Friday's games
North Carolina 72, Pitt 65
Virginia vs. NC State (n) Championship

Today North Carolina vs. Virginia-NC State-winner, 8:30 p.m. Big 12 Friday's games Houston 82, Texas Tech 59 Iowa St. vs. Baylor (n) Championship

Today Houston vs. Iowa St.-Baylor-winner, Big East Semifinals Friday's games UConn 95, St. John's 90 Marquette vs. Providence, 8 p.m. Championship **Today**UConn vs. Marguette-Providence-winner,

UConn vs. Marquette-Providence 6:30 p.m. Big Ten Friday's games Purdue 67, Michigan St. 62 Wisconsin 70, Northwestern 61 Illinois 77, Ohio St. 74 Nebraska vs. Indiana (n) Semifinals Today Purdue vs. Wisconsin, 1 p.m. Illinois vs. Nebraska-Indiana-win

Illinois vs. Nebraska-Indiana-winner,

Semifinals Friday's games UC Irvine vs. Long Beach St. (n) UC Davis vs. Hawaii (n) Championship ChampionShip Today UC Irvine-Long Beach St.-winner vs. UC Davis-Hawaii-winner, 9:30 p.m. Conference USA Semifinals Friday's games UTEP 65, Sam Houston St. 63 W. Kentucky 85, Middle Tennessee 54 Championship **Today** W. Kentucky vs. UTEP, 8:30 p.m.

Metro Atlantic Athletic Semifinals Friday's games St. Peter's 62, Quinnipiac 60

Mid-American Conference

Friday's games Kent St. 73, Bowling Green 60 Akron vs. Ohio, 7:30 p.m.

MEAC
Semifinals
Friday's games
Howard 80, Norfolk St. 74

Today Kent St. vs. Akron-Ohio-winner, 7:30

NC Central vs. Delaware St., 8:30 p.m.

Championship

Today

Howard vs. NC Central-Delaware

Friday's games Utah St. vs. San Diego St. (n) New Mexico vs. Colorado St. (n)

Friday's games
Oregon 67, Arizona 59
Washington St. vs. Colorado (n)
Championship

Oregon vs. Washington St.-Colora-

Quarterfinals
Friday's games
Mississippi St. 73, Tennessee 56
Auburn 86, South Carolina 55
Texas A&M 97, Kentucky 87
Alabama vs. Florida (n)
Semifinals
Today

Today Auburn vs. Mississippi St., 1 p.m. Texas A&M vs. Alabama-Florida-winner,

Today
Utah St.-San Diego St.-winner vs. New
Mexico-Colorado St.-winner, 6 p.m.
Pac-12

Semifinals

Championship

St.-winner, 1 p.m.

Mountain West

Championship

Semifinals

Today

Semifinals

Today St. Peter's vs. Fairfield-Marist-winner, 7:30 p.m.

Fairfield vs. Marist (n)

Friday's games Grambling St. 65, Bethune-Cookman 53 Texas Southern vs. Alabama A&M (n) **Today** Grambling St. vs. Texas Southern-Alabama A&M-winner, 9:30 p.m. W. Kentucky VS. UTEP, 8:30 p Ivy League Semifinals Today's games Princeton vs. Brown, 11 a.m. Yale vs. Cornell, 2 p.m.

ballia Acont-Willier, 9:30 p.in.
Western Athletic
Semifinals
Friday's games
Cal Baptist 83, UT Arlington 67
Stephen F. Austin 66, Grand Canyon 63 **Today** Cal Baptist vs. Stephen F. Austin,

3:30 p.m. SWAC Semifinals

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL AMERICAN LEAGUE
TAMPA BAY RAYS — Agreed to
terms with RHP Jake Odorizzi on a
minor-league contract. Selected the
contract of RHP Jacob Waguespack from Durham (IL). Placed LHP Jeffrey Springs on the 60-day IL.

MATIONAL LEAGUE

ATLANTA BRAVES — Released OF
Jordan Luplow.

NY METS — Optioned LHP Joey Lucchesi
and RHP Reed Garrett to Syracuse (IL).
ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Agreed to
terms with manager Oliver Marmol on a
two-year contract extension. **FOOTBALL**

NFL
STEELERS — Signed QB Russell Wilson
to a one-year contract.
ARIZONA CARDINALS — Signed DL
White Taggs to a one-year contract. Khyiris Tonga to a one-year contract. BALTIMORE RAVENS — Signed S Art Paris Washington.
CAROLINA PANTHERS — Signed CB
Dane Jackson, Gs Robert Hunt and
Damien Lewis, DT A'Shawn Robinson and
LB D.J. Wonnum.
CHICAGO BEARS — Re-signed WR/ CRICAGO BEARS — Re-signed WK/
PR Dante Pettis. Acquired WR Keenan
Allen from the Los Angeles Chargers in
exchange for a 2024 fourth-round pick.
CINCINNATI BENGALS — Re-signed TE
Tanner Hudson and WR Trenton Irwin to
one-year contracts. Signed S Vonn Bell to a one-year contract.
CLEVELAND BROWNS — Re-signed P
Corey Bojorquez and DL Maurice Hurst
II. Signed LB Devin Bush and TE Giovanni Ricci. Name Mike Vrabel as analyst and personnel consultant.
DALLAS COWBOYS — Released LB Leighton Vander Esch and WR Michael Gallup. Signed MLB Eric Kendricks and BC .J. Goodwin.
DETROIT LIONS — Signed LS Scott Daly, DE D.J. Reader and DB Khalil Dorsey. GREEN BAY PACKERS — Re-signed CB/KR Keisean Nixon and RB AJ Dillon. INDIANAPOLIS COLTS — Signed DT Raekwon Davis. Ricci. Name Mike Vrabel as analyst and

Raekwon Davis.
KANSAS CITY CHIEFS — Signed DE Tershawn Wharton and LS James

LAS VEGAS RAIDERS — Signed TE contract extension for men's basketball coach Lamont Paris through 2029-30. Harrison Bryant. LOS ANGELES CHARGERS — Re-signed QB Easton Stick. LOS ANGELES RAMS — Re-signed LB

ODDS Christian Rozeboom. Signed G Jonah Jackson and TE Colby Parkinson. MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Acquired the 23rd and 232 picks in the 2024 NFL Draft NBA

from Houston in exchange for the 42nd and 188th picks in the 2024 NFL Draft, and Minnesota's 2025 second-round pick Signed WR Brandon Powell, DT Jerry Til-

lery, LB Blake Cashman, RB Aaron Jones, OB Sam Darnold, DE Jonathan Greenard

and OLB Andrew Van Ginkel.

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS — Re-signed
DL Armon Watts, LB Anfernee Jennings,
and OL Nick Leverett. Signed QB Jacoby

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS — Signed WR

Stanley Morgan.
NEW YORK GIANTS — Signed TE Jack
Stoll, QB Drew Lock, WR Isaiah McKen-

zie and RB Devin Singletary. NEW YORK JETS — Re-signed DL

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES — Signed LB

Zack Baun.
SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS — Re-signed LB

Demetrius Flannigan-Fowles and OL Jon Feliciano to one-year contracts. SEATTLE SEAHAWKS — Signed LB Tyrel Dodson, T George Fant and CB

Artie Burns. TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS — Re-signed

TENNESSEE TITANS — Signed OL Saah-diq Charles, QB Mason Rudolph, and WRs Calvin Ridley and Nick Westbrook-Ikhine. Released OL Andre Dillard.

WASHINGTON COMMANDERS — Signed

LB Anthony Pittman, G Nick Allegretti, DEs Efe Obada and Dorance Armstrong, S Jeremy Chinn, LB Frankie Luvu, QB Marcus Mariota, K Brandon McManus

NHL
PENGUINS — Recalled D John St. Ivany
from Wilkes-Barre/Scranton (AHL). Reassigned D Ryan Shea to Wilkes-Barre/
Scranton (AHL).

OTTAWA SENATORS — Acquired LW Wyatt Bongiovanni from Winnipeg in exchange for future considerations.

Acquired F Jamieson Rees from Carolina in exchange for a 2024 sixth-round pick.

WHEELING NAILERS — Assigned D

Phip Waugh by Wilkes-Barre/Scranton (AHL). Placed D Louie Roehl on

Wilkes-Barre/Scranton.

COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL

reserve. F Dillon Hamaliuk recalled by

MICHIGAN — Fired head coach Juwan

SOUTH CAROLINA — Approved a

Solomon Thomas

and LS Tyler Ott.

HOCKEY

76ERS......10 (209.5) PELICANS..... 14.5 (214.5 . Hornets 14.5 (214.5)... 7.5 (227.5)... 8 (NL)..... 6.5 (221.5)... 5 (NL)..... 3.5 (220.5)... PACERS Thunder BULLS LAKERS GRIZZLIES Wizards . Warriors .JAZZ ... 2.5 (219.5) .. Knicks COLLEGE BASKETBALL TODAY'S GAMES

Ivy League Favorite Underdog Princeton. Atlantic 10 .. St. Joseph's Virginia Comm ..

SEC .. 6.5......Mississippi St American Conference Conference USA
W Kentudar W Kentucky.....

TODAY'S GAMES Favorite Odds (O/U) Underdog Rangers ... \$140/+\$120 (6.0) PENGUINS WINGS -\$110/-\$110 (6.5)Sabres ISLES -\$170/+\$150 (6.0)Sens LEAFS. -\$110/-\$110 (0.0). - Gaines FLAMES. -\$175/-\$155 (6.5). - Habs Wild. --\$125/-\$105 (5.5). - BLUES STARS. -\$155/-\$135 (6.0). - Kings Preds. -\$120/even (5.5). - KRAKEN OILERS. -\$135/-\$115 (6.5). - Avs Caps

CANUCKS -\$240/+\$200 (6.0). Home team in CAPITAL letters; (0/U) = over/under; NL = no lines

BOSTON BRUINS — Reassigned D Jared McIsaac to Providence (AHL).

NEW YORK RANGERS — Signed G Hugo Ollas to a two-year, entry-level contract **GOLF** Recalled C Adam Edstrom from Hartford

FRIDAY'S SCORES
PGA TOUR — The Players
Championship
Second round 65-65-130 Wyndham Clark

Xander Schauffele Nick Taylor..... Matt Fitzpatrick..... Mayerick McNealy 65-69—134 .. 66-68—134 .. 66-69—135 .. 67-68—135 Matti Schmid 68-68-136 Scottie Scheffler.... 67-69-136 . 68-68—136 . 67-69—136 . 69-69—137 Brian Harman. 72-65—137 70-67—137 Sahith Theegala..

NBA

8:30 p.m. Golden State at

PGA TOUR

2 p.m. The PLAYERS cham-

NHL

3 p.m. Penguins vs N.Y. Rangers. ESPN+, ABC/105.9 FM, 98.7

Commodities

Natural gas lost

nearly 5% Friday,

while U.S. crude

closed slightly

lower and

wholesale

nasoline ro

Heating oil also

finished higher

Silver rose and

gold slipped.

FM, Penguins Radio Network

12:30 p.m. Buffalo at Detroit.

pionship third round. NBC

L.A. Lakers. ABC

Golf

Hockey

NHLN

lo signed with the Los Angeles Rams as the backup to Matthew Stafford. • The Dallas Cowboys cut linebacker Leighton Vander Esch

Quarterback Jimmy Garoppo-

and receiver Michael Gallup. • De'Vondre Campbell, an All-Pro as recently as 2021 for

the Green Bay Packers, agreed to terms with the San Francisco 49ers on a one-year contract. Free agent cornerback Bryce Hall and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers agreed to a one-

year contract, a person familiar with the deal told the AP. • The Minnesota Vikings acquired Houston's first-round

pick, giving them the 11th and 23rd overall selections. College football

The nine Bowl Subdivision conferences and Notre Dame reached an agreement on a sixyear deal to continue the College Football Playoff through the 2031 season.

Golf

Scottie Scheffler had his 25th consecutive round under par in The Players Championship, and this was hard work. He felt pain in his neck that reguired treatment on the course and he struggled to swing and to stay within range of Wyndham Clark. Clark, playing in the group

behind, ran off four straight birdies on the front nine and finished with a 7-under-par 65 to go 14-under, one shot short of the 36-hole record at the TPC Sawgrass. He is four shots ahead of Xander Schauffele and Nick Taylor.

PVS

81.26

2.71

1.74

2.70

PVS

1.87

1.91

%CHG

-0.27

+0.67

-4.94

+0.65

%CHG

+0.16

-4.44

WK MO QTR AGO

▲ ▲ 4.16

 ▼ 4.70

▲ 4.52

1YR

AGO

15094

6.9074

7.8497

82.775

1.3505

1314.92

30.61

%YTD

+6.8

-34.2

+29.4

%YTD

-2.9

Auto racing

NASCAR CUP SERIES **5 p.m.** Qualifying, Bristol Motor Speedway. FS1

NASCAR TRUCK SERIES 8 p.m. The Weather Guard Truck Race. FS1

Baseball

MLB SPRING TRAINING 1 p.m. Atlanta Prospects at Boston Prospects. MLB

4 p.m. Pirates vs. Detroit (split squad). SportsNet Pitts-burgh/100.1 FM, 1020 AM, 1480

AM, Pirates Radio Network 4 p.m. Toronto Prospects at N.Y. Yankees Prospects (Game

7 p.m. Arizona Prospects at

Closing prices for Friday, March 15, 2024

Colorado Prospects (Game 2).

Basketball

COLLEGE MEN 11 a.m. America East Tournament: Mass.-Lowell at Vermont, championship. ESPN2

11 a.m. Ivy League Tournament: Brown vs. Princeton, semifinal. ESPNU

1 p.m. Big Ten Tournament: Purdue vs. Wisconsin, semifinal.

1 p.m. Atlantic 10 Tournament: VCU vs. St. Joseph's, semifinal. CBSSN

1 p.m. SEC Tournament: Auburn vs. Mississippi, semifinal. ESPN

1 p.m. Mid-Eastern Athletic Tournament: TBD, championship.

SPORTS BROADCASTS

2 p.m. Ivy League Tournament: Cornell vs. Yale, semifinal.

3 p.m. American Athletic Tournament: South Florida vs. UAB, semifinal. ESPN2 3:30 p.m. Big Ten Tourna-

ment: TBD, semifinal. CBS 3:30 p.m. Atlantic 10 Tournament: TBD, semifinal. CBSSN

3:30 p.m. SEC Tournament: TBD, semifinal. ESPN **5:30 p.m.** American Athletic Tournament: TBD, semifinal.

6 p.m. Mountain West Tournament: TBD, championship. CBS **6 p.m.** Big 12 Tournament:

TBD, championship. ESPN 6:30 p.m. Big East Tourna ment: TBD, championship. FOX **7:30 p.m.** Mid-American Tournament: TBD, championship.

7:30 p.m. Metro Atlantic Tournament: TBD, championship. **8:30 p.m.** Conference USA Tournament: W. Kentucky vs.

UTEP, championship. CBSSN 8:30 p.m. ACC Tournament:

TBD, championship. ESPN **9 p.m.** Pac-12 Tournament: TBD, championship. FOX 9:30 p.m. Big West Tour-

nament: TBD, championship. FSPN2 **9:30 p.m.** Southwestern Athletic Tournament: TBD, cham-

pionship. ESPNU 11:30 p.m. Western Athletic Tournament: TBD, championship.

Nasdaq composite

Close: 15,973.17

ESPN2

Money&Markets

USL 7 p.m. Riverhounds vs. Orange County. KDKA+

10 DAYS

39,240

38,840

38,440

40,000

38,000

36,000

34.000

32.000

Huntgtn Bancshs

9.13 -

HBAN

-16.0

-15.7

-15.5

-14.9

S

O

ADBE

StoryStocks Stocks retreated from a record high set earlier this week on Wall Street. The S&P 500 fell 0.6% Friday. The Dow fell 0.5% and the Nasdaq fell 1%. Treasury yields edged higher. Adobe slumped after giving investors a weak revenue forecast

Close: \$492.46 V-77.99 or -13.7%

Adobe



Ulta Beauty ULTA Close: \$535.98 ▼-29.46 or -5.2% The cosmetics retailer gave investors a disappointing earnings fore-



Daily	Gainers	(\$2 or mo	ore)
NAME	LAST	CHG	%CHG
GeronCp	3.36	+1.61	+92.0
Cardlytc	14.50	+6.32	+77.2
OutlookT rs	8.24	+2.51	+43.8
Veritone	3.88	+1.15	+42.1
MMTec	2.20	+.61	+38.4
Graphite n	3.34	+.89	+36.3
TrxadeGr rs	28.80	+7.65	+36.2
LairdSpr	3.21	+.82	+34.3
Tredgar	5.07	+1.06	+26.4
Bitdeer n	8.00	+1.54	+23.8

	0.00		0.0
Daily	Losers	(\$2 or mo	re)
NAME	LAST	CHG	%CHG
Groupon	12.59	-5.58	-30.7
Jrgent ly n	2.47	70	-22.1
KBP Euro	2.66	68	-20.4
Zedge	2.85	66	-18.8
labil	123.15	-24.31	-16.5

11.64

4.29

2.18

2.92

3.40

-2.21

-.40

-.51

.57

Servotr

Auddia

BlinkCh

ShiftPix hrs

MontauRe

Dow Jones industrials 16,160 Change: -190.89 (-0.5%) 15,840

Close: 38,714.77



StocksRecap			HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	CHG	%CHG	YTD	
		•	DOW	38,928.13	38,618.20	38,714.77	-190.89	-0.49%	+2.72%
	NYSE	NASD	DOW Trans.	15,657.06	15,479.17	15,498.63	-109.08	-0.70%	-2.52%
		117102	DOW Util.	855.75	846.88	850.29	-0.98	-0.12%	-3.56%
Vol. (in mil.)	7,497	7,806	NYSE Comp.	17,902.60	17,805.60	17,848.08	-38.18	-0.21%	+5.91%
Pvs. Volume	4,184	4,751	NASDAQ	16,055.33	15,925.91	15,973.17	-155.35	-0.96%	+6.41%
Advanced	1296	1876	S&P 500	5,136.86	5,104.35	5,117.09	-33.39	-0.65%	+7.28%
Declined	1005	1588	S&P 400	2,938.38	2,911.83	2,923.76	-2.54	-0.09%	+5.11%
New Highs	99	66	Wilshire 5000	51,735.31	51,316.90	51,445.53	-289.78	-0.56%	+6.52%
New Lows	47	123	Russell 2000	2,041.88	2,018.95	2,039.32	+8.14	+0.40%	+0.60%

Stocks of Local Interest

		52	-WK RA	NGE			I		52-WK RA	NGE		
NAME	TICKER	LO		HI	CLOSE	CHG	NAME	TICKER	LO	HI	CLOSE	CHG
ASML Holding NV	ASML	564.00		1056.34	940.21	-19.57	JPMorgan Chase	JPM	123.11	191.73	190.30	+2.33
ATI Inc	ATI	34.10	─	51.95	49.37	+1.12	Johnson & Johnson	nJNJ	144.95 -	175.97	158.18	-1.03
Alcoa Corp	AA	23.07	-	46.23	30.44	+.42	Kennametal Inc	KMT	22.08 -	30.60	23.93	09
Alphabet Inc C	GOOG	89.94	─	155.20	142.17	-2.17	Koppers Hldgs	KOP	28.45	58.23	52.93	+.26
Alphabet Inc A	GOOGL	89.42		153.78	141.18	-1.92	MSA Safety Inc	MSA	122.57	188.27	183.08	57
Amazon.com Inc	AMZN	88.12	─	180.14	174.42	-4.33	MasterCard Inc	MA	340.21	482.00	475.83	-3.65
Am Eagle Outfit	AEO	9.95		26.44	23.16	+.08	Matthews Intl	MATW	27.37 🗢	48.86	28.84	+1.06
AmeriServ FinI	ASRV	2.41	~	3.78	2.61	01	McKesson Corp	MCK	331.75	537.26	533.64	+4.28
Ampco Pit	AP	2.15	~	4.00	2.52	+.02	Meta Platforms Inc	META	174.82	523.57	484.10	-7.73
Ansys Inc	ANSS	258.01		364.31	327.88	-2.41	Microsoft Corp	MSFT	245.73	427.82	416.42	-8.80
Apple Inc	AAPL	147.70	-	199.62	172.62	38	NiSource Inc	NI	22.86 —�—	28.95	26.50	+.14
Bk of NY Mellon	BK	39.65	─	56.43	54.41	04	Nwst Bancshares	NWBI	9.80 -	13.94	11.08	+.16
Berkshire Hath A	BRK/A	442364	─	647039	618134	+5634	Nvidia Corporation	NVDA	222.97	974.00	878.37	-1.08
Berkshire Hath B	BRK/B	292.42	─	430.00	408.13	+1.40	Oracle Corp	ORCL	82.04	129.37	125.54	+.01
Broadcom Inc	AVGO	601.29	─	1438.17	1235.50	-26.77	PNC Financial	PNC	109.40	157.69	148.78	+.29
Coherent Corp	COHR	26.29	─	67.94	58.76	97	PPG Inds	PPG	120.33 —	152.89	137.86	-1.10
Comcast Corp A	CMCSA	34.63		47.46	42.77	05	ViacomCBS	PARA	10.16 🗢	24.00	11.21	05
Curtiss-Wright	CW	157.72	─	244.15	242.87	+1.90	Philips NV	PHG	15.63	24.27	21.06	39
Dicks Sporting Gds	DKS	100.98	─	222.92	211.48	-5.33	Procter & Gamble	PG	137.05	162.73	161.38	12
Dominion Energy	D	39.18	-	58.69	47.84	+.23	S&T Bancorp	STBA	24.51	36.38	30.42	+.37
EQT Corp	EQT	28.11	-	45.23	33.43	35	Steel Dynamics Inc	STLD	90.55	137.70	137.90	+5.74
Eaton Corp plc	ETN	155.38	─	303.40	297.90	-2.39	Tesla Inc	TSLA	152.37 🗢	299.29	163.57	+1.07
Eli Lilly	LLY	317.24	─	800.78	754.17	-6.56	Thermo Fisher Sci	TMO	415.60	603.82	584.15	76
Emerson Elec	EMR	76.94	─	111.20	110.59	+.18	TreeHouse Foods	THS	34.76 �——	55.30	36.74	25
Erie Indemnity Co	ERIE	199.49	─	420.34	416.79	+8.10	UPS class B	UPS	133.68 -	197.80	153.37	52
Exxon Mobil Corp	XOM	95.77	─	120.70	111.27	20	US Steel Corp	Χ	20.40	50.20	38.85	+.59
FNB Corp PA	FNB	10.09	─	14.01	13.31	+.03	Unitedhealth Group	UNH	445.68	554.70	490.82	+1.82
FedEx Corp	FDX	190.83	─	285.53	253.29	-2.24	Univ Stainless	USAP	8.36	22.70	21.11	+.47
Federated Hermes I	BFHI	30.23	-	45.55	35.81	+.34	Verizon Comm	VZ	30.14	43.21	39.49	28
Fifth Third Bcp	FITB	22.11	─	37.03	35.24	18	Viatris Inc	VTRS	8.74	13.62	11.94	+.12
Fst Comwith	FCF	11.16	→	15.90	13.16	+.19	Visa Inc	V	208.76	289.04	283.04	-3.37
FirstEnergy Corp	FE	32.18	-	41.99	37.95	07	Wabtec	WAB	91.89	143.51	139.82	-1.03
Foster L B	FSTR	10.26	─	24.74	23.78		WalMart Strs	WMT	45.53 ──◆	61.56	60.68	34
Home Depot	HD	274.26	─	385.10	373.23	-2.04	Wesbanco	WSBC	19.84 —	33.92	28.23	+.27

→ 13.77 13.05 +.15 Wesco Intl

Gold (oz)

FUELS

Crude Oil (bbl)

Heating Oil (gal)

Natural Gas (mm btu)

Unleaded Gas (gal)

3-month T-bill

52-wk T-bill

MAJORS

Indian Rupee

Taiwan Dollar

Singapore Dollar

South Korean Won

2-year T-note

5.39 5.39

5.34 5.34

5.07

AGRICULTURE

Cattle (lb)

Coffee (lb)

Corn (bu) 4.22 Cotton (lb) 0.94 0.93 +0.49 +16.0 Lumber (1,000 bd ft) 555.00 +2.9 Orange Juice (lb) 3 70 3 61 +2 75 +15.7 Sovbeans (bu) 11.98 11.81 +0.25-7.4 Wheat (bu) -15.8 5.29 5.20 -0.72**METALS** CLOSE PVS %YTD %CHG 2,157.30 2,163.00 -0.26 +4.6 Silver (oz) 25.20 +5.7 24.87 +1.31 943.50 Platinum (oz 935.70 -5.2 4 11 4 04 +187 +6.0 Copper (lb) Aluminum (ton) 2.214.00 2.193.00 +0.96(Previous and change figures reflect current contract.)

CLOSE

81.04

2.73

1.66

CLOSE

1.87

1.83

Interestrates The yield on the

10-year Treasury note rose to 4.31% Friday. Yields affect rates on mortgages and other consumer loans. PRIME FED

	RATE	FUNDS
LAST 6 MO AGO	8.50 8.50	5.38 5.38
1 YR AGO	7.75	4.63

5-year T-note	4.33	4.29	+0.04	•	A	A	3.72
7-year T-note	4.33	4.30	+0.03	•	A	A	3.67
10-year T-note	4.31	4.29	+0.02	•	A	A	3.58
30-year T-bond	4.43	4.29	+0.14	•	▼	A	3.72
CONSUMER RA	TES	NAT AV(_	WK AGO	6N AG	-	1YR AGO
48 month new ca	ar Ioan	7.86	6 –	7.86	7.8	86	7.47
Money market a	ccount	0.48	3 -	0.48	0.	50	0.58
1 year CD		2.63	3 =	2.63	2.0	63	2.60
\$30K Home equi	ity loan	9.43	3 -	9.43	9.8	87	9.44

5.06 +0.01

4.73 4.69 +0.04

NET

Currencies
The U.S. dollar weakened against the Mexican peso and the euro. The greenback strengthened versus the British pound, Japanese yen and Swiss franc.

121.91 - 195.43 160.13 +.60

CONSUMER RATES	NAT'L AVG	WK AGO	6MO AGO	1YR AGO
48 month new car loan	7.86	7.86	7.86	7.47
Money market account	0.48	0.48	0.50	0.58
1 year CD	2.63 -	2.63	2.63	2.60
\$30K Home equity loan	9.43 -	9.43	9.87	9.44
30 year fixed mortgage	7.09 ▼	7.16	7.24	7.51
15 year fixed mortgage	6.59 ▲	6.54	6.59	6.79

1 U.S. \$ in

CURRENCY

ISraeli Sriekei	3.0013
Norwegian Krone	10.6241
South African Rand	18.7677
Swedish Krona	10.3739
Swiss Franc	.8839
ASIA/PACIFIC	
Australian Dollar	1.5238
Chinese Yuan	7.1960
Hong Kong Dollar	7.8223

British Pound .7850 +.0007 +.09% .8279 Canadian Dolla 1.3541 1.3745 +.0008 +.06% .9183 -.04% .9446 Euro -.0004 Japanese Yer 149.04 +.49% 133.46 Mexican Peso 16.7056 -.0026 -.02% 18.9410 **EUROPE/AFRICA/MIDDLE EAST** Israeli S 815 +.0263 +.71% 3.6267 10.7414 +.0591 +.56% Norw 377 +.0264 +.14% 18.4043 739 +.0318 +.31% 10.5797 339 +.0001+.01% .9289 ASIA

+.0043

+.0023

+.0007

-.052

+6.18

+.04

82.891

1.3379

1331.56

31.61

CHG

%CHG

+.28%

+.03%

+.01%

-.06%

+.46%

+.13%

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

4 6 7 3 2 1 8 9 5

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

I can't believe

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words. NINOO SALHF

THE WEALTHY COUPLE BOUGHT A PRIVATE JET AND WERE CLAGNE ENJOYING THEIR Now arrange the circled letters ©2024 Tribune Content Agency, LLC to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon. All Rights Reserved.

(Answers Monday)

Jumbles: SOUPY GRATIS HASTY Yesterday's Answer: When Jacob Davis teamed up with Levi Strauss, the result was a pair of — SMARTY PANTS

CRYPTOQUOTE -----

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

CRYPTOQUOTE

WN NWL TJJELSFTHLB HGL QLEU

BJLSFTK ZLWFPB UNPE

SNWOLEBTHFNW TB T VNZ VNLB.

SGEFBHNJGLE XNEKLU Yesterday's Cryptoquote: MARCH BUSTLES IN ON WINDY FEET AND SWEEPS MY DOORSTEP AND MY STREET. — SUSAN REINER

CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 42 Mesopo-1 Flock tamian fathers region 5 "Shucks!" 43 Serpent's **9** Copycat's spot

44 Casual 10 Less tops cordial

12 Distant **DOWN** 13 Pound 1 Feel parts empathy 14 First 2 Makes aid kit amends

feat

primitive

phone

part

item 3 State of **16** Beat mind walker 4 Guest's 17 Season sack on the **5** Turn Seine red, 18 Colorful maybe

kerchief 6 Serving 20 Reduce 22 Tennis's 7 Part of a Roddick 23 Award for 8 Minute mystery

writers 25 Church area 28 Campaign tactics **32** Old Western villain 34 Finger

count 35 Quarterback Manning 36 Irish wailer

40 Fielder's aid 41 Martin of movies

38 Uses a

VCR

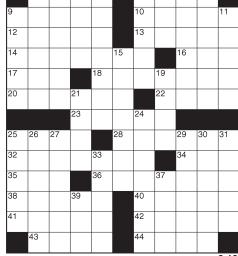
D | R T Y N E R V E E V E P Y G M | E S BARNFEDUP Yesterday's answer 9 "Only 26 Sense of Murders taste 27 Made in the Building" malicious role remarks

11 Settle, 29 Comfortas a debt able **30** "John

15 Rap style 19 Be bold 21 Canary snack **24** In the **37** Turn middle of

25 Aids illegally

Wick" star 31 Display disdain 33 "Ghosts" playwright **39** Planning time



HOROSCOPES =

BY MAGI HELENA

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Seek out just the right vibe if you want to find a new partner or new ally

Do some self-work, let go of doubts and fears, and learn to eniov the ride.

Stay in your lane and focus on your own life. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):

financial investments or racking up credit card debts. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):

If you're looking at all the pieces before any collapse, you have the choice to avoid the problem or go straight on through to rinse and repeat. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):

backup to help take care of anything that slips through the cracks, but now it could be up to you to handle it all yourself. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov.

21): The best skill to develop

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Put common sense to work on your behalf in life situations and financial analysis.

Jan. 19): Your healthy skepti-

BRIDGE BY FRANK STEWART

"Simple Saturday" columns treat basic technique and logical thinking. Today's South might have blasted

into 3NT at his second turn; no opening lead would beat that game. When South preferred to probe by bidding two spades, North signed off; but South tried again, and North went on to five diamonds with his "working" queen of spades and side

West led the queen of clubs, and South took the ace, drew trumps, went to the ace of hearts and let the queen of spades ride. West won, and the defense cashed a club and two hearts.

ILLUSION

South succeeds with careful play. At Trick Two he leads a low spade. The finesse is an illusion; South gets two spade tricks whether it wins or loses. West takes the king and leads a second club, and East wins and shifts to the king of hearts.

South takes the ace and cashes the A-K of trumps. He pitches dummy's low hearts on the A-J of spades, ruffs a heart, ruffs a club, ruffs his last heart and wins the last two tricks with trumps.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ A J 5 ♥ 7 5 2 ♦ A K Q J 9 ♣ A 4. You open one diamond, your partner responds one

heart, you jump to 2NT and he bids three diamonds. What do you say?

ANSWER: Your 2NT showed a balanced 19 or so points and was almost but not quite forcing. Partner's three diamonds is forcing. Bid three hearts, showing three-card support for his suit. He can return to 3NT. If instead he judges to play at four hearts or five diamonds, fine. South dealer

N-S vulnerable

NORTH \mathbf{A} Q ♥ **Ã** 4 3 \diamondsuit 7 5 3 2 **486532**

WEST **EAST ★** K 10 6 3 2 **♠** 9874 $\heartsuit 1098$ ♥KQJ6 \diamond 8 **♦ 10 6 4** ♣ QJ109 ♣ K 7

SOUTH ♠ A J 5 $\heartsuit 752$ ♦ A K Q J 9 ♣ A 4

West South North **East Pass** 1 ♦ **Pass** 2 ♦ 2 **Pass** 3♦ **Pass** 4 ♦ **Pass** 5 ♦ **All Pass**

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Opening lead — ♣ Q

cism could take a brief leave

about.

TAURÚS (April 20-

May 20): Friends may expect you to enthusiastically endorse causes that are somewhat alien to your beliefs. Be open-minded and respectful without caving. GEMİNI (May 21-June 20):

CÁNCER (June 21-July 22):

Keep your money in your pocket and steer clear of making major

You may have previously had

is the ability to let go of any self-shaming and to analyze and learn from mistakes.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-

of absence for a few days. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your financial situa-

tion may have been fragile for

some time, but fiscal stability could be coming soon. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't hold yourself back from full participation in things you are passionate

IF MARCH 16 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You may be blessed by good health, imagination and peace of mind during the next six to eight weeks. You should be able to sit back and reap the rewards for a job well done and be able to live up to your ideals. Consider making key decisions in late April when that "lucky break" you've been praying for could appear and launch something of importance that might live up to your hopes. Early May could be a potentially great time for a vacation or spending time with a romantic partner, but consider putting key changes and decisions on hold. June may be a good time to update your social life by joining a club, a gym or organization.

Magi Helena is a Tribune Content Agency writer.

WORD

ON J G D A X U R O L J G D A X V S P N K I F C A X V S Q O LN(F) J GHECAXVWTRP N L O T A T O P J C H A R M S I E D R B Y I X V T R P HF|L|OM|K|K L E I K S L W G E D S B Z L X I L W K C B S E U E T R Q O R C O E N L U J T T FARDCYABYPLTOSX CNADVEEEFFOC TTSSRNACIREMAPR

Friday's unlisted clue: TEXAS

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Saturday's unlisted clue hint: A SPUD

American Folklore Republic Charms Gaelic Roots Coffee Luck Sea Rebellion Dance Setter

Terrier Whiskey

Stew

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ALMANAC

Today is Saturday, March 16, the 76th day of 2024. There are

290 days left in the year. Highlights in history

In 1521: Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan and his crew

reached the Philippines, where Magellan was killed during a battle with natives the following month. In 1802: President Thomas Jefferson signed a measure au-

thorizing the establishment of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y. In 1935: Adolf Hitler decided to break the military terms set by

the Treaty of Versailles by ordering the rearming of Germany. In 1945: During World War II, American forces declared they had secured Iwo Jima, although pockets of Japanese resistance remained.

In 1968: The My Lai massacre took place during the Vietnam War as U.S. Army soldiers hunting for Viet Cong fighters and sympathizers killed unarmed villagers in two hamlets of Son My village; estimates of the death toll vary from 347 to 504.

In 1984: William Buckley, the CIA station chief in Beirut, was kidnapped by Hezbollah militants. (He was tortured by his captors and killed in 1985).

In 1994: Figure skater Tonya Harding pleaded guilty in Portland,

Ore., to conspiracy to hinder prosecution for covering up an attack on rival Nancy Kerrigan, avoiding jail but drawing a \$100,000 fine. In 2021: A gunman killed eight people, mostly women of Asian descent, at three Atlanta-area massage parlors in an attack that sent terror through the Asian-American community, which had increasingly been targeted during the pandemic. The white gunman, Robert Long, told police that the attack was not racially motivated, and that he had a "sex addiction." (Long was sentenced to life in

prison after pleading guilty in four of the deaths.)
In 2022: A powerful 7.3 magnitude earthquake struck off the coast of Fukushima in northern Japan.

TODAV'C DIDTUDAVC =

TODA	Y'S E	SIRTHDAYS	
Game show host		Movie director	
Chuck Woolery	83	Gore Verbinski	б
Actor Erik Estrada	75	Country singer Tracy Bonham	5
Rock singer-musician		Actor Lauren Graham	5
Nancy Wilson (Heart)	70	R&B singer Blu Cantrell	4
Rapper-actor Flavor Flav	65	Actor Brooke Burns	4
Rock musician		Actor Alexandra Daddario	3
Jimmy DeGrasso	61	R&B singer Jhené Aiko	3
Actor Jerome Flynn	61	Rock musician	
Folk singer Patty Griffin	60	Wolfgang Van Halen	3

Answer to Previous Puzzle

C|A|S|H|

RILE

A L A R

SPAR

UNHITCHOTHER

H A F T

ALOE

REED

A O K

DOMINANCE

SRO

P I T H Y P E R U S E D

PEAL

UNITED FEATURES CROSSWORD —

ACROSS 35 Art movement 37 Transgress

1 Poorly lit

Foreman

8 Wagers

12 Mimic 13 Per person 14 Military group

15 Sailor

16 "- Lies" 17 Italia's

capital

18 Lawn tool

20 Streetcar 22 State near

Miss. 23 Twisted

24 Pitifully small

26 Machine part 27 Monk's title

30 Sibilant letter 31 London

12

15

18

30

38

51

55

58

3-16

district "— — Yankee Doodle ..."

34 Brewed beverage

13

16

bird 44 Titled widow 48 Protest on foot 51 At a distance 52 Dorothy's dog 54 Feather scarf 55 Hurry 56 Black 57 Pipe fitting

38 - -de-lance

39 Cleaning aid

40 Spiffy

42 Summa

laude

43 Flightless

DOWN

60 Poor grade

1 Sticky fruit 2 Apple tablet 3 Diving duck

20

58 Airspeed unit 4 Double-59 Nerve network crosses 5 Scull

ATT

RUE

ODE

A R I L

R E A M S A F E

M E N

P O E

6 Rabbit's tail 7 Robin Hood's forest

strong

8 Big and

25

27 Made uneasy

32 Mileage

gauge

39 Cup 41 Physicians'

org. 42 Insert mark

option 45 In the twinkling

46 Texas city 47 Grad's wear 49 Composer

© 2024 UFS, Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication for UFS

40

52

56

59

Porter

ORE SAD ESS

COW

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PURE

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ANIL

ETC

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HARNESSED

EM

19 Wapiti 24 Unhearing

11 Collar insert

compound

- of Wight 26 Fella

28 Leave out 29 Countless

36 Sea polyp

44 Coffee roast

- — eye

50 Robust 53 Kiddie

21 Assn.

9 Lab

10 Duration

SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2024



PHONE: 844-523-4297 | HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:30AM-5:00PM | INQUIRIES AT: CLASSIFIEDS@TRIBLIVE.COM

Accounting-Finance

Bookkeeper / Admin Assistant Part-time

Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant, part-time position, 20 hours/week with flexible hours, available at Our Lady of the Lakes Roman Catholic Church in West Deer Township.

Bookkeeping skills, as well as administrative skills, are essential in a small parish setting. Knowledge of, or a willingness to learn, specific accounting and database software. Must be

comfortable working in a professional, yet somewhat informal, office setting. Please forward your resume to jholland@diopitt.org

legals

Bid Notice

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that specifications and proposal forms for furnishing all labor, materials, permits, and fees for the following project, "HVAC Systems Air Purification Project", may be obtained by contacting Michelle Peters at mpeters@thebradleycenter.org beginning on 3/7/2024.

5:00 p.m. on 4/2/2024 at The Bradley Center located at 5180 Campbells Run Road, Pitts-burgh PA 15205 at the reception desk. Bids will be publicly opened at 11:00 a.m. on 4/3/2024 at The Bradley Center

Bids must be on standard pro-posal forms in the manner therein described in the bid doc-uments and enclosed in a sealed envelope, bearing the name and address of the bidder on the outside, addressed to The Bradley Center, Attention: Dave Blough, and marked with the project

Bids must be accompanied by a certified check upon a National or State bank, drawn and made payable without condition to The Bradley Center in the amount not less than five percent (5%) of the bid, or a bid bond of not less

If there are additional questions, please contact Michelle Peters at The Bradley Center. 323578 (3/9.16,23/24)

Civil Notice

CHANGE OF NAME NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEASE OF WESTMORELAND COUNTY, **PENNSYLVANIA**

No. 1077 of 2024 In re: Petition of Jennifer Marie Lowe for change of name to Harlyn Remy Khamyri. To all persons interested: Notice is hereby given that an order of said Court authorized the filing said petition and fixed the 2nd day of May, 2024, at 11:45 a.m. as the time and the Westmoreland County Courthouse, Courtroom No. 2, 2 North Main Street, Greensburg, PA, as the place of hearing, when and where all persons may show cause, if any they have, why said name should not be changed as



How to reach us...

Sunday through Friday 11:00 to 6:30 pm Saturday from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm Toll Free Phone: 1-844-523-4210

E-mail: Obits@triblive.com

NOTICE OF FILING AN APPLICATION

Notice is hereby given that on March 16, 2024 Somerset Trust Company, with its principal place of business located at 151 West Main Street, Somerset, Pennsylvania 15501 in Somerset County, filed with the Penn-sylvania Department of Banking an application for a Letter of Authority to establish a branch at:

100 North Main Street Greensburg, PA 15601

All interested persons may file comments regarding this appli-cation, in writing, with the Penn-sylvania Department of Banking, Corporate Applications Division, 17 North Second Street, Suite 1300, Harrisburg, PA 17101-2290. In order to be considered, comments regarding this application must be received by the Department of Banking no later than ten (10) business days after the date of publication of this no-

325286 (3/16/24)

TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

NOTICE OF FILING APPLICATION FOR A BRANCH OFFICE

Notice is hereby given that Somerset Trust Company of 151
West Main Street,

Somerset, Pennsylvania 15501 intends to file an application for FDIC consent to establish a branch office at:

> 100 North Main Street Greensburg, PA 15601

Any person wishing to comment on this application may file his or her comments in writing with the Regional Director

of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation at its Regional Office, 350 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1200, New York, New

York 10118 not later than April 1, 2024. The non-confidential portions of the applica-

tion are on file in the Regional office and are available for public inspection during reg-

ular business hours.
Photocopies of the non-confidential portion of the application file will be made available upon request. 325287 (3/16/24)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:
The following self-storage unit contents contaning housedold and other goods will be sold for cash by OpenSpace Self Storage, LLC as Agent for Owner 101 N. 4th Street Jeannette, PA 15644 to satisfy a lien on March 29, 2024 at approx. 12:00PM at www.storagetreasures.com.

Unit# 1192, Lisa Fannon; Unit# 2513 Gabrial Morgan; Unit# 2505 Mark Altman, Unit# 2532 Collin Hays; Unit# 2044 James Pride; Unit# 3015 Floyd Mc-Curdy; Unit# 1031 Jasmine Hill; Unit# 1034 Shawn Seibel, Unit# 1074 Tatvan Tribble. urn: 323712 (3/16/24, 3/25/24)

Estate Notice

Attorney: Keegan E. Miller, Esquire Phone: 724-832-2499 Firm Name: Bononi & Company, P.C.

Address: 20 N. Pennsylvania Ave. Suite 201, Greensburg, PA 15601

EXECUTOR NOTICE Letters testamentary on the estate of Beverly Catharine Weyandt Black alk/a Beverly C. Black, Beverly Weyandt Black, Court Term No. 6524-0622, late of Irwin Borough, Westmoreland County, deceased, having been granted to the undersigned by the Register of Wills of Westmoreland County, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and to those having claims the same to present them to the undersigned, duly authenti-

cated for settlement.

Executor: Delmar Vance Black II and Delmar V. Black II c/o Keegan E. Miller, Esquire Address: 20 N. Pennsylvania Ave-

nue, Suite 201 City: Greensburg, PA 15601 325409 (3/16/24, 3/23/24, 3/30/24)

News, sports, contests,

classifieds and more! Log on today.

General

Printing Press Operator

PrintSource Pittsburgh is seeking to fill the position of **Printing Press Operator** at our Falcon Print and Distribution Facility located in Tarentum, PA. This is a full-time position.

The ideal candidate will have the ability to work in a fast-paced environment and possess a strong commitment to top-quality work and a keen eye for detail. Requirements include setting up printing press for production runs, setting ink densities, registering photos and ads and running a folder and splicers. Goss Community tower experience a plus.

Prior experience in a team environment and the ability to interact with other production departments are essential. Mechanical aptitude is needed. Physical demands of the job require standing, walking, stooping, bending, lifting. The schedule will require weekends. A High School diploma or equivalent is required. Great opportunity with a stable printer and room for advancement.

PrintSource offers a comprehensive benefits package including medical dental, vision, short-term disability, 401k with company match, life insur ance, paid time off, and more.

> Interested applicants should apply at https://printpittsburgh.com/jobs/

> PrintSource is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages all qualified candidates to apply

Estate Notice

EXECUTRIX'S NOTICE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of Charles Adam Churley a/k/a Charles A Churley, a/k/a Charles Churley, Court Term No. 6521-3200, late of Westmoreland County, de ceased, having been granted to the undersigned by the Register of Westmoreland County, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and to those having claims against the same to present them to the un-dersigned duly authenticated for

Christine Aiello, Executrix 12470 St. Nikolai Drive

Letters Testamentary on the estate of Donald S. Rehm, Court Term No. 6524-0294, late of Ligonier, Westmoreland County, deceased, having been granted to the undersigned by the Register of Wills of Westmoreland County, notice is bereby given to all persons inhereby given to all persons in-debted to said estate to make im-mediate payment, and to those having claims against the same to present them to the undersigned, duly authenticated for settlement. Executor: Donald L. Gilbert Jr. Address: 425 Settler Road City: Ligonier 323480 (3/1/,9,16/24)

RYAN P. CRIBBS, ESQ., NAK-

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary on the <u>Estate of</u> <u>Bernice F. Crocker, a/k/a Bernice</u> <u>Crocker, Westmoreland County,</u> deceased, have been granted to the undersigned by the Register of Wills of Westmoreland County. Notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and to those having claims against the same to present them to the undersigned, duly authenticated for settlement

Scott Chappell, Executor c/o Ryan P. Cribbs, Esq. Nakles and Nakles 1714 Lincoln Avenue Latrobe, PA 15650 323504 (3/2,9,16)

real estate

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LATROBE AREA Remodeled 1&2 Bedroom Section 8 Accepted

BRIARWOOD / Mission Manor 2 Bedrooms, Air, Furnished Kitchen, Includes Water/Sewage. No pets. **724-520-4081**

Latrobe, Holiday Acres



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY









JODEN Downtown Grove City

5 Min from the premium Outlets 800-747-7552

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

We are hiring a full-time Customer Service Representative at our Greensburg location. The successful candidate will have excellent communication and problem-solving skills, professionalism, and be reliable/punctual. The ability to empathize with and solve customer concerns while being patient is critical. The successful candidate will have administrative and computer/data entry skills and be team oriented.

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

· Answering in-bound customer calls and handling customer requests and complaints, including but not limited to, delivery issues, billing questions,

content issues and concerns, etc.

Demonstrates the ability to perform a wide range of diverse work. Handles duties in their appropriate priority with accuracy and speed.

Actively participates in the retention programs involving outgoing calls to existing customers to improve service and secure payments and effectively solicity new customers (husiness). tively solicit new customers/business.

Project a professional and positive image through appearance and be-navior to ensure a positive presence within Trib Total Media. Assist in the continuous improvement of delivery services by assisting

customers and effectively communicating issues and concerns internally Accurately processing transactions and paperwork associated with cus tomer accounts.

Gathers and disperses clear and complete information to handle all ypes of customer inquiries. Handles a high volume of inbound calls with iccuracy and speed. Establishes a cooperative working relationship by being flexible and will-ng to adapt hours and tasks when necessary. Keeps effective lines of communication with co-workers and customers.

Communicate ideas, suggestions, and concerns to management. Performs additional duties within the office as necessary (filing, dis patch, front desk, data entry, etc.)

Monday-Friday work shift between the hours of 7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Variable weekend hours Saturday-Sunday 7:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. We offer a comprehensive benefits package including medical, dental vision, 401k, paid time off and more.

Interested candidates can apply at: https://tribtotalmedia.com/jobs/

Trib Total Media, LLC is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages all qualified candidates to apply.

Apartment Complex

Autumn Brook Apartment Homes Bedroom Garden Apts

3 & 4 Bedroom Townhouses. 1 & 2 Bedroom ADA Units. Utilities included. Rent based on income. Mon-Fri **724-836-5260**



PENN TOWERS APTS. NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS!

Beautiful elderly high rise apartment building with

1 Bedroom • W/W Carpet Equipped Kitchen

 Laundry Facilities Interested parties must meet eligibility criteria. Must be 62 yrs. or older or have a qualified handi-cap / disability.

Must meet income guidelines. Call 724-832-7500 Voice/Relay 137 Harrison Ave. Greensburg EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY



North Huntingdon

Subsidized low income housing available in Westmoreland County.

Efficiencies, 1 & 2 BR No Pets

Must meet WCHA qualifications. Call for more information.

412-271-2393



Cemetery Lots

WESTMORELAND COUNTY MEMORIAL PARK, 2 Cemetery Plots, Veterans II Section, Lot #42, Spaces 5&6, 2 Burial Vaults Included In Price \$1,000 OBO 412-855-6132

Events

STEELER TICKETS WANTED BUYING ALL LOCATIONS TOP \$ PAID 800-786-8425

merchandise

Articles

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Forklift operator certification preferred but will train. Must be able to lift and/or move up to 20 pounds. This position requires mechanical ability, mathematical aptitude, and the qualified candidate must be able to follow directions in a fast-paced environment. Must have reliable transportation. This is an evening position working 10pm-6am.

Interested applicants should apply at: http://printpittsburgh.com/jobs/

PrintSource is an equal opportunity employer and encourages all qualified individuals to apply

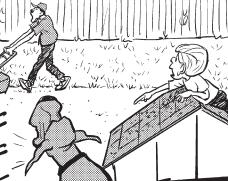
Don't just vacation,

Instead of credit for your subscription while you are out of town, participate in the Vacation Donation program, which provides local students with digital



03/16/24

MARMADUKE



Trib Total Media

"Hey, Dad, Marmaduke says you

THE LOCKHORNS

missed a spot!'



OUT HOW TO USE THEM."

Machinery

HUSKY 22 TON LOG SPLITTER WITH A BRIGGS STRATTON

ENGINE, LOW HOURS, For \$1,000. Call 412-759-0595 or 724-845-7317.

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Wanted To Buy

CASH PAID Older Computers: Commodore/Apple/IBM. Video Games/Consoles/Atari/Nintendo/Play-Station/Sega/X-Box.724-840-0586

WANTED

Buying Furniture, Wringer Washers, Guns, Toys, WW2 German, Japanese, US Military Souvenirs, Advertising Signs, Coins, Crocks, Christmas, Estates. Cash! (412) 848-6428

General

Press Apprentice

PrintSource Pittsburgh has an excellent opportunity available to become a skilled printing press operator. No experience necessary.

Training is provided by the company and press crew. You will learn how to operate and maintain a printing press, folder, reels and stacker. This position offers step increases over a two-year period with increases based on an individual's ability to learn, retain information and demonstrate the skills learned. This is a full-time, evening position working 10pm – 6am. We offer a complete benefits package. Get paid to learn a skilled

Interested applicants should apply at https://printpittsburgh.com/jobs/

PrintSource is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages all qualified candidates to apply

General

Press Helper

PrintSource Pittsburgh is currently looking for a reliable **Press Helpe**r at our Falcon Distribution Center in Tarentum, PA. Responsibilities include assisting with press make readies which include set up stacker, stack finished product on skids, fill out skid tags, wrap and band finished skids. Empty the trash and sweep floors. Assist other members of the press crew.

make a donation!

access to newspapers in their schools.

Civil Notice

Letters Testamentary on the

North Huntingdon, PA 15642 325429 (3/16, 3/23, 3/30)

LES and NAKLES, Attorney for the Estate of Bernice F. Crocker, a/k/a Bernice Crocker, deceased, late of Derry Township, Pennsylvania, Westmoreland County.

FULL PRICE FOR YOUR HOUSE

LATROBE

Call 724-539-7010

Flea Markets

INDOOR FLEA MARKET

Boston UM Church 6103 Smithfield St., 15135 Sat, Mar 16, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sun, Mar 17, 10:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Factor items and Easter items and decorations, housewares, kitchen

items, books, records, tv's (pic-ture-tube - GREAT FOR VINTAGE GAMINGI), children's items and much more! Enter side basement door

Refreshments available Proceeds Benefit Elizabeth Twp Historical Society

Estate Sales

Estate Sale 718 Broadway St. East McKeesport Sat 3/16 9am-1p Furniture, Houseware Items, Cookware, Dishes, Artwork, Wicker Porch Furniture and more. 15035

Estate Sale
Friday, March 15th - 8:00 a.m.
to 2:00 p.m.
Saturday, March 16th - 8:00
a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
890 Alder Drive N. Huntingdon, PA 15642 This is a wonderful, large, clean

sale. With a little bit of everything! A movie theater poster of Mickey Mouse in Steamboat Willy, 2 large tables of African-American memorabilia (Christmas items, little statues, large Santa Clauses, Cabbage Patch dolls, posters, etc.). Dining room set (Cherry), buffet, dining room table, 6 chairs, leaves and pads, beautiful (like new). Bedroom set, dresser/ mirror, chest, nightstand, and 2 headboards. Antique double bed, couch, chair, large leather otto-man, 2 coffee tables, desk. Small, old-fashioned icebox (new), crocks, a lot of wooden shelving, very large wooden jewelry box

with mirror, matching dresser and chest. Single bed, freezer chest, stair lift (Acorn Super Glide, #130), 3 great rockers, night-stands, Crown cycle, many lamps. Bookcase, many books, wooden

snack tables, Singer sewing ma-chine, Domestic sewing machine, large Formica (yellow) antique table, tin cupboards. Whole sewing room, filing cabinets. Antique Hooshier (short), 2 armoires, old leather swivel chair, China, lots of Christmas items. Movie cameras, stamp collection. Tons of kitchen supplies (baking items, pots, pans - most still in boxes, triple slow cooker, baking supplies, new

turkey roaster, frying pans, bread maker, electric skillet, 8 pieces of cast iron baking molds). A milk can, iron, many mixing bowl sets, different size rugs. Artifacts from all over the world. Artwork,

bedding. About 50 new table-cloths - beautiful, never used. Computers and components and small tvs. Lots of old, tin bar trays, tin beer signs (old), cigar boxes from around the world, handmade wooden garbage box for kitchen, China pieces, jewelry, whole set of Pfaaltzcraff dishes (stoneware), Cabbage Patch dolls, Womens clothing, blankets, sheets, tin clothing, blankets, sheets, tin safe. Lots of Tupperware, CD's, old record albums (from way back - '40s and '50s), jigsaw, and lower mower, small train platform.

Artwork purchased from world

This is a great sale! Everything MUST go! Hope to see you there!

ESTATE SALE LIQUIDATION SALE Saturday, March 16 8am-2pm 205 Keller Rd Ruffs Dale, PA 15679

dryer, flat screen TVs, clothing small appliances, cast iron Firebox stove, riding mowers, 2 mini-bikes, GE refrigerator, motorcycle lift, welders, air compressor, professional audio speakers, exercise equipment, records, small hand tools, jewelry, purses, bow and arrow set, small electric fireplace, dishes, miscella neous and much more! WHOLE HOUSE CONTENTS EVERYTHING MUST GO! Cash and checks with proper ID Gyda's Collectibles

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Tribune-Review

~ ESTATE SALE ~

Saturday, March 16th 7:30-3:30 1/2 Off at 1:00 243 George Street Whitaker PA 15120 Antiques. Collectibles. Jewelry.

Glassware Artwork Kitchenware, PITT Memorabilia, PITI Memorabilia, Artwork, Electronics, Household Furniture, Woman's Clothing/Purses/Shoes, Vintage Dolls, Religious Items, Appliances, Records, China, Golf Clubs, Outdoor Furniture View All Photos on Our

Facebook Page: J Maslanka

Estate Sales and Liquidation

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Estate Sales

JEANNETTE 2-DAY
ESTATE SALE
FRI/SAT MARCH 15/16 8am - 2pm 12 Sunbirch Dr Jeannette PA

House full of antiques, long time collection. Furniture: Victorian Primitive, Early American, Trunks, Chests, Pie Safes, Parlor Stands, Stained Glass Windows, Spinning Wheel, Koken Barber Chair, Pump Organ. Pottery & Glassware: Weller, Roseville, Hull, Royal Bonn Pieces, Hazel Atlas, Johnson Brothers, 400 + Pieces Westmoreland to Include: a Set of Princess Feather Dishes Paneled Grape, Doric, Mary Greg-ory, Old Quilt, American Hobnail Lotus, Zodiac Strawberry Platter Pickle Jar <u>Linens</u>: Quilts, Dolies Lotus, Zodiac Strawberry Platter, Pickle Jar. <u>Linens:</u> Quilts, Dolies, Purses, Hats, Gloves, and Hankies. Vintage Cast Iron Pieces. Clocks & Lamps: Shelf, Table Top, Ansonia, Wall Clocks, Reverse Painting nia, Wall Clocks, Reverse Painting Lamps, Tiffany Style Lamps, Gone W/ the Wind Lamps, Oil Lamps. Holilday: Easter, Christmas, Large Standing Paper Santa Coca - Cola and Beer Advertisements. Garage & Household: Sweepers, Snow Blower, Mower, Air Compressor, Tools, Washer & Dryer, Outdoor Furniture, Park Benches, Bicycles, Ladders, Many Box Lots. Park with Discretion. Many Box Lots. Park with Discretion.

Garage Sale Westmoreland



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