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WEEKEND SPORTS, INSIDE

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FINAL

Out-of-state patients fill hospitals

Most are transferred from COVID hot spots where facilities are overwhelmed

By Mick Stinelli
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Hospitals in southwestern Pennsylvania have been receiving an influx of out-of-state patients with serious conditions as the latest surge of COVID-19 overwhelms some facilities.

Allegheny Health Network, one of the region's largest hospital systems, has seen a significant uptick

in transfers in the past two weeks as health care centers in West Virginia and Ohio fill up with COVID-19 patients, causing people with myriad conditions to seek care elsewhere.

"We get a fair amount of volume from both of those states on a regular basis, but there's definitely been an uptick," said Dr. Maggie Thieman, medical director for the AHN transfer center.

"And the requests that we're seeing from several states away is something we never really saw before" although she didn't identify those.

Where the center usually gets about 1,500 transfer requests a month, July saw it receiving more than 1,700 — a record high for the past three years, Dr. Thieman said.

Patients with everything from

More coverage inside

• FDA authorizes third vaccine dose for immunocompromised, **WA-4**

heart disease, brain tumors and valve obstructions are being taken in, as well as people with severe COVID-19 who require extra care. The majority of those who have a serious case of the virus are unvaccinated, Dr. Thieman said, and

SEE **TRANSFERS**, PAGE WA-3

Taliban seizes

4 more capitals

Gets little resistance from Afghan forces

By Susannah George, Ezzatullah Mehrdad, Rachel Pannett and John Hudson
The Washington Post

KABUL — Senior Afghan officials and hundreds of Afghan government forces in the country's west and south surrendered to the Taliban on Friday after the milit-

Inside

U.S. troops to arrive in Afghanistan to rescue Americans, **WA-8**

ants overran three key cities, inching the country closer to collapse in the final days of the U.S. withdrawal. The recent advances by the militant group, largely achieved with little resistance from Afghan government forces despite years of U.S. training and support, are isolating the Afghan capital with stunning speed, increasingly weakening the administration of President Ashraf Ghani, and further hastening efforts by the United States and its allies to shore up security while foreign governments work to extract embassy staff and local Afghans who've assisted the U.S.-led coalition.

SEE **TALIBAN**, PAGE WA-8

SANDY SITUATION



Pam Panchak/Post-Gazette

Jacob Bridgeman, of Inman, S.C., hits out of a sand trap on the ninth hole Friday during match play at the 121st U.S. Amateur Championship at Oakmont Country Club. **Story in Sports, WS-1**

NOAA: July was hottest month on record

Pittsburgh weather set no new highs

Post-Gazette news services

Earth sizzled in July and became the hottest month in 142 years of record-keeping, U.S. weather officials announced.

As extreme heat waves struck parts of the United States and Europe, the globe averaged 62.07

degrees last month, beating out the previous record set in July 2016 and tied again in 2019 and 2020, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said Friday. The margin was just .02 degrees.

The Pittsburgh area didn't go along with the trend.

Although the globe was bringing in the heat last month, Pittsburgh was fairly consistent with previous years' averages. The average temperature here was 72.5

degrees, about 0.6 degrees lower than usual, but 10 degrees above the global average.

According to Max Gawryla, a meteorologist with AccuWeather, based in State College, the trends "absolutely" coincide with Pittsburgh's love for rain.

"It looks like the average normal rainfall that Pittsburgh gets in July is around 3 inches. This past July we saw just over 4.25. When you get those rainier patterns, they end up typically com-

ing with lower pressure in the atmosphere, cloudier skies — all of these things sort of contribute to cooler temperatures than you'd otherwise see," he said.

Pittsburgh's July saw no record-breaking high temperature days, nor any days sneaking into the 90s. Mr. Gawryla said we came close but couldn't quite crack that level.

On a global scale, the past seven

SEE **HEAT**, PAGE WA-6



Jafar Khan/Associated Press

People stranded by Taliban attacks cross the newly opened border between Pakistan and Afghanistan, in Chaman, Pakistan, on Friday.

President gets more heat on PSU's virus response

By Bill Schackner
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Penn State University President Eric Barron, facing criticism over his school's COVID-19 response, is giving no hint that a vaccination mandate is forthcoming, but he says the state's flagship university is protecting health while navigating sharp personal and political divides over masks and vaccines.

His words came as the school's Faculty Senate on Friday approved a vote of no confidence in the school's plan to deal with the coronavirus this fall and as faculty members wearing masks rallied outside Old Main on the University Park campus at noon with signs that included, "PSU Faculty Support Science" and "Vaccine

SEE **PENN STATE**, PAGE WA-3



Penn State President Eric Barron's COVID-19 plan received a no-confidence vote from the faculty

Federal judge keeps CDC eviction moratorium in place

By Kyle Swenson
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — A federal judge in Washington has denied a request to knock down a national eviction moratorium that has become a flashpoint of controversy for the Biden administration but again questioned whether the policy keeping millions of Americans in their homes would withstand further legal challenges.

On Friday, U.S. District Judge Dabney Friedrich released a 13-page opinion blocking the request by a group of Alabama landlords to put the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention eviction moratorium on hold for now.

The landlords had challenged the legal basis of the policy and asked the court to lift a judge-ordered stay of an earlier ruling

SEE **EVICTION**, PAGE WA-4

GOVERNORS GET SCHOOLED

Biden shows support for school mask mandates in Texas, Fla. **Page WA-2**

SCREENING THREATS

Violent rhetoric online is matching tone of before Capitol riot. **Page WA-7**

GOING ROUND AND ROUND

City schools' transportation plan faces bumpy road to approval. **Page WA-10**

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National

Nation/World briefs

Cuomo investigation suspended

Compiled from news services

The New York state Assembly will suspend its impeachment investigation into Gov. Andrew Cuomo once he steps down, the chamber's top Democrat said Friday.

Mr. Cuomo announced his resignation on Tuesday over sexual harassment allegations, days after he faced increasing pressure to resign or face the possibility of being ousted by the Democratic-controlled Legislature through the impeachment process. Mr. Cuomo said at the time that it would not take effect for 14 days, at which point he will be replaced by Lt. Gov. Kathy Hochul.

The state attorney general last week released an independent investigation that found Mr. Cuomo sexually harassed at least 11 women.

Lockdown lifted at D.C. military base

A military base in the nation's capital was locked down for about an hour and a half Friday, after an armed man ran onto the grounds during a local police investigation of gunshots on the streets surrounding the base.

Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling posted a note on its Facebook page saying the person was spotted on the south side of the base. The naval support facility at the north end of the base is used by Marine Helicopter Squadron One, the fleet of green helicopters that carry the president and vice president.

The individual was detained and will be transferred to the Metropolitan Police Department, base officials said. The lockdown was lifted around 3 p.m. and cars slowly started moving on and off the base. No injuries were immediately reported.

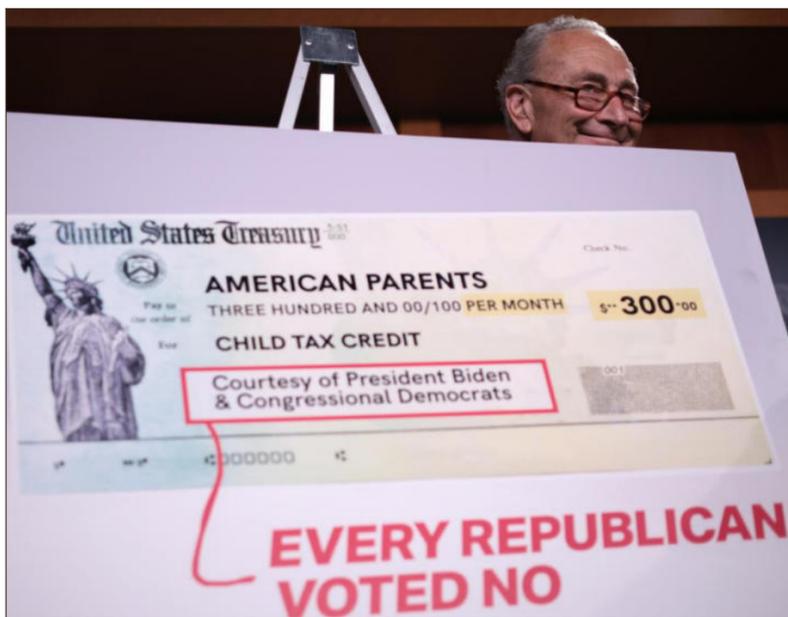
Thai police fire rubber bullets at protesters

Police in Thailand's capital fired rubber bullets and tear gas on Friday to stop hundreds of protesters who were attempting to march to the prime minister's residence to demand he resign over his handling of the country's coronavirus crisis.

It was the third anti-government protest in Bangkok this week blocked by police with tear gas and rubber bullets.

Hundreds of protesters gathered at Bangkok's Victory Monument, where they burned a large pile of spoiled fruit to symbolize the economic costs of what they called the government's failure to properly control the outbreak.

Thailand reported a record 23,418 new COVID-19 cases on Friday. Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha's government has been heavily criticized for failing to procure timely and adequate vaccines.



Win McNamee/Getty Images

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., attends a news conference on the Child Tax Credit at the U.S. Capitol on July 15 in Washington. Many Americans with children began to receive checks and direct deposits on Friday as a result of the passage of the Child Tax Credit legislation.

Payments for second child tax credit begin

The Associated Press

The U.S. Department of Treasury says the second monthly child tax credit payment has begun to be disbursed.

More than \$15 billion will be paid out to families of about 61 million children.

The first round of the payments went out in July. The payments stem from the Child Tax Credit from the \$1.9 trillion coronavirus relief package passed by Congress in March.

Under the plan, eligible families receive up to \$300 a month per each child un-

der 6 and up to \$250 per month for children ages 6 to 17. The payments are set to lapse after a year, but Mr. Biden is pushing to extend them through at least 2025.

The August payments cover about 1.6 million more children than last month. The uptick indicates that more families who don't file taxes are signing up for the credit. The IRS has been trying to raise awareness that all families should apply.

It also announced a new mobile-friendly bilingual sign-up tool to help enrollment that will launch

in the next few weeks.

Direct deposits should have arrived in bank accounts Friday.

Most families received their August payments by direct deposit. The rest will receive checks in the mail. The Treasury Department said due to a technical problem that should be solved by September, about 15% of families that received direct deposit payments in July will receive their check by mail in August.

Families can visit the Child Tax Credit Update Portal to check on their payment status.

White House backs schools' mask rules

Mandates in Fla., Texas defy GOP governor orders

The Associated Press

President Joe Biden's administration on Friday offered its full-throated support for local cities and school boards in Texas and Florida that are defying orders by their Republican governors that prohibit mask-wearing mandates in schools.

In a pair of open letters from Education Secretary Miguel Cardona, the administration condemned the orders from Govs. Greg Abbott of Texas and Ron DeSantis of Florida that contravene public health guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Mr. Cardona also noted that federal COVID-19 relief funds for schools could be used to fill any financial gaps caused by penalties imposed on local school districts by state leaders.

"The Department stands with these dedicated educators who are working to safely reopen schools and maintain safe in-person instruction," Mr. Cardona wrote.

The two states are experiencing some of the worst COVID-19 outbreaks in the nation, driven by the spread of the more transmissible delta variant among their unvaccinated populations. The two states alone accounted for 40% of hospitalizations from the virus over the last week, the White House said Thursday.

Both Mr. Abbott and Mr. DeSantis have said they believe parents should decide

whether their children wear masks in school. The CDC earlier this month recommended universal mask-wearing in K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status, to slow the spread of the variant.

The letters mark the sharpest pushback yet by the Biden administration to the state policies, and come days after the president indicated he did not believe he had direct authority to overturn the governors' actions.

"I say to these governors: Please help. But if you aren't going to help, at least get out of the way," Mr. Biden said this month. "The people are trying to do the right thing. Use your power to save lives."

Florida Education Commissioner Richard Corcoran has said he may recommend the state's Board of Education withhold the salaries of the superintendent and school board members of districts that have instituted mask-mandates.

Mr. Cardona wrote that "any threat by Florida to withhold salaries from superintendents and school board members who are working to protect students and educators (or to levy other financial penalties) can be addressed using (federal virus relief) funds at the sole and complete discretion of Florida school districts."

In addition to prohibiting mask mandates, Mr. Abbott's administration has said that schools do not need to conduct contact tracing for potential COVID-19 infections. Mr. Cardona's letter makes clear that federal funds can also be used for contact tracing.

Alabama declares state of emergency over virus surge

The Associated Press

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Alabama Gov. Kay Ivey on Friday issued a state of emergency as state hospitals face a surge in COVID-19 cases, an order that came the same day the state tied a record low for available intensive care unit beds.

Ms. Ivey issued a limited state of emergency aimed at giving medical providers flexibility on staffing and capacity decisions and easier shipment of emergency equipment and supplies. The Republican governor stressed she would not be issuing any closure orders or mask mandates.

"I want to be abundantly clear: there will be absolutely no statewide mandates, closures or the like. This state of emergency is strategically targeted at removing bureaucracy and cutting red tape wherever we can to allow our doctors, nurses and hospital staff to treat patients that come through their doors," Ms.

Ivey said in a statement.

The order came as medical providers described a "tidal wave" of COVID-19 cases that is putting severe stress on Alabama hospitals. The state on Friday tied the record low for available intensive care unit beds with just 39 vacant beds statewide, said Dr. Don Williamson, the former state health officer who now heads the Alabama Hospital Association.

"The system is slowly becoming overwhelmed," Dr. Williamson said. Of the state's 1,567 intensive care unit beds, 689 are filled with COVID-19 patients.

Alabama ranks fifth in the country for new cases per capita, according to researchers at Johns Hopkins University.

The state on Friday also saw a record number of pediatric cases with 40 children hospitalized with COVID-19, Dr. Williamson said.

He said the emergency

declaration will allow hospitals to take steps such as expanding facilities or opening an antibody infusion center without getting state permission. It will increase the number of nurse practitioners and other staff positions that a doctor can supervise.

Medical officials have said a surge in cases is being driven by low vaccination rates and the highly contagious delta variant, and they implored people to get vaccinated and wear masks. Alabama has one of the lowest U.S. vaccination rates.

"Unlike last year when we were hoping for a miracle, our greatest weapon against COVID-19 today is the vaccine, so, if you can, roll up your sleeve and get the shot," Ms. Ivey said.

Dr. Sarah Nafziger, vice president of University of Alabama at Birmingham Hospital Clinical Services, said Thursday that the hospital has had to limit the number of procedures and decline transfers.



Mickey Welsh/The Montgomery Advertiser via AP

Alabama State Health Officer Scott Harris arrives for his COVID-19 update at the state Health Department offices in Montgomery, Ala., on Thursday.

"We are seeing an absolute tidal wave," Dr. Nafziger said. She said the hospital is providing care and emergency services, but she said the trends and

projections are alarming. "When you think about running out of hospital beds, and running out of health care resources, that is the path that we are on."

Corrections & clarifications

If you have a correction and cannot reach the responsible reporter or editor, please call the office of Stan Wischnowski, executive editor, at 412-263-1890.

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ALMANAC

On this day, Aug. 14

1848 The Oregon Territory was created.
1935 President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Social Security Act into law.
1957 The National Steel Corp. elected George M. Humphrey, former secretary of the Treasury, as its chairman of the board.
1972 Pittsburgh-born pianist Oscar Levant died in Hollywood at the age of 65.
1995 Shannon Faulkner officially became the first female cadet in the history of The Citadel, South Carolina's state military college. (However, Ms. Faulkner quit the school less than a week later, citing the stress of her court fight and her isolation among the male cadets.)
2009 Hindered by internet fraud, federal regulators seized Dwelling House Savings & Loan Association, a 119-year-old institution in the Hill District, and handed it over

to PNC Bank.

Some items are from Stefan Lorant's "Pittsburgh: The Story of an American City" (digital.library.pitt.edu/chronology).

— Compiled by Rick Nowlin

Today's birthdays: Broadway lyricist Lee Adams ("Bye Bye Birdie"), 97. College Football Hall of Famer John Brodie, 86. Singer Dash Crofts, 83. Rock singer David Crosby, 80. Country singer Connie Smith, 80. Comedian-actor Steve Martin, 76. Movie director Wim Wenders, 76. Actor Antonio Fargas, 75. Singer-musician Larry Graham, 75. Actor Susan Saint James, 75. Author Danielle Steel, 74. Rock singer-musician Terry Adams (NRBQ), 73. "Far Side" cartoonist Gary Larson, 71. Actor Carl Lumbly, 70. Olympic gold medal swimmer Debbie Meyer, 69. Actor Jackie Harry, 65. Actor Marcia Gay Harden,

62. Basketball Hall of Famer Earvin "Magic" Johnson, 62. Sen. Bill Hagerty, R-Tenn., 62. Singer Sarah Brightman, 61. Actor Susan Olsen, 60. Actor-turned-fashion/interior designer Cristi Conway, 57. Rock musician Keith Howland (Chicago), 57. Actor Halle Berry, 55. Actor Ben Bass, 53. Actor Catherine Bell, 53. Rock musician Kevin Cadogan, 51. Actor Scott Michael Campbell, 50. Actor Lalanya Masters, 49. Actor Christopher Gorham, 47. Actor Mila Kunis, 38. Actor Lamorne Morris, 38. TV personality Spencer Pratt, 38. NFL player Tim Tebow, 34.

Thought for today: "Freedom of speech and freedom of action are meaningless without freedom to think. And there is no freedom of thought without doubt."

— Bergen Baldwin Evans, American author (1904-1978)

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

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Hospitals receive influx of out-of-state patients

TRANSFERS, FROM WA-1

it's very rare that a vaccinated patient comes through in a similar condition.

"From a transfer center perspective, our team has been trained for situations just like this and we're able to keep pace with the requests" and did the transfers, Dr. Thieman said.

Each request is evaluated on a case-by-case basis, she said, to determine whether someone can be accommodated into AHN. And there's no specific capacity limit for the center since the network can "ebb and flow" to help people in different ways.

COVID-19 cases have been rising nationally since the more-contagious delta variant became the predominant strain of the virus in the U.S. Daily caseloads of the virus have increased tenfold since late June, according to the New York Times, and the number of patients hospitalized with the virus is at its highest point since February.

"We — as in the Pittsburgh community and Allegheny Health Network — we are being affected by the status of COVID in communities far, far away from us," Dr. Thieman said.

Allegheny County has a relatively high rate of vaccinations against COVID-19. According to the state Department of Health, approximately 55% of the county's population has received a full vaccination, while the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention say only 50% of Americans have gotten their shots.

While that doesn't mean Allegheny County is protected from a surge, especially as daily cases have risen substantially in recent weeks, it has kept hospitals from being overwhelmed with COVID-19 patients.

On Friday, the county Health Department reported a two-day total of 400 new cases, a stark jump over to-

tals that remained in the double digits from early to mid-July.

UPMC has also seen transfers from other facilities throughout the pandemic, but a spokesperson did not say whether there has been an uptick in recent weeks.

"UPMC has accepted transfers from non-UPMC facilities and has offered care advice throughout the pandemic," chief medical officer Dr. Donald Yealy wrote in a statement.

"This includes crafting transfer guidelines and aiding specific requests agreed upon by the lead physicians at each health care organization across Western Pennsylvania. Hospitals across the country continue to contact UPMC for transfer possibilities and for insight. We serve all who come to UPMC to our best ability."

Dr. Thieman said she is concerned that AHN may run out of the resources to help these patients if hospitalizations begin to rise in and around Allegheny County, even if the hospitals want to continue providing care to all patients who need it. They continue to encourage everyone to get vaccinated to prevent serious illness from COVID-19.

Meanwhile, the deluge of patients coming in from outside the state shows no signs of slowing down any time soon as the highly contagious delta variant continues to spread all over the country.

"I definitely don't see this going away or getting better anytime soon," she said. "What I can tell you for the month of August so far is the transfer center, in terms of requests, is on pace to even exceed the record-high number of requests that we saw in July."

Mick Stinelli: mstinelli@post-gazette.com; 412-263-1869; and on Twitter: @MickStinelli

PSU plan draws no-confidence vote

PENN., FROM WA-1

Mandate Now."

Students will arrive in the coming days, and fall classes are set to begin Aug. 23.

In an open letter made public Thursday evening, Mr. Barron offered his most direct acknowledgement to date about state-level political pressures, in particular those on public institutions like his. Nevertheless, he characterized Penn State's response to the rapidly changing pandemic as deliberate and systematic with the singular goal of safeguarding health and safety.

He said campus decisions have been based on science, data and advice from medical professionals.

"Unfortunately, across the nation every action in response to the pandemic is being met with division and controversy," said Mr. Barron. He asserted that the nation is nearly split in half on vaccine mandates, citing one Quinnipiac poll recently that found 49% against vaccine mandates versus 48% in favor.

He said Penn State is getting it from both sides.

"A recent decision at Penn State to require indoor masking regardless of vaccination status generated a petition exceeding 1,000 student signatures in opposition — in only its first day of posting," Mr. Barron wrote. "Many faculty members at Penn State supported the masking requirement and are also calling for a vaccine mandate. At the same time, others are attempting to organize 'resistance campaigns.'"

He said other universities have seen mandates "met with implementation, enforcement and legal challenges."

"Public universities, in particular, have challenges with the mode of response to the pandemic. Regulations across the country clearly reflect state-level political realities," he said. "State fund-

"Public universities, in particular, have challenges with the mode of response to the pandemic. Regulations across the country clearly reflect state-level political realities. State funding of our university requires a two-thirds vote of the Pennsylvania Legislature, meaning that our funding relies on strong bipartisan support."

— Eric Barron, Penn State president

ing of our university requires a two-thirds vote of the Pennsylvania Legislature, meaning that our funding relies on strong bipartisan support."

Groups on and off Penn State's campus have called for a vaccination mandate as the best way to protect the university and general public, including the Coalition for a Just University, made up of faculty and other university constituencies, as well as the borough council in State College.

That community sees its population swell each fall with student arrivals from across the nation and globally. About half of Penn State's 90,000 students attend the main campus that touches State College.

"We have a duty to protect our communities and those who belong to the Penn State community, and requiring vaccinations will ensure just that," State College borough council President Jesse Barlow wrote in an open letter recently, citing the council's support for a mandate.

Nationally, nearly 700 colleges and universities have vaccination mandates of some kind, according to The Chronicle of Higher Education, mostly private campuses in states that voted for Democrat Joe Biden for president over Republican Donald Trump. No public universities in Pennsylvania require vaccinations, with State System of Higher Education leaders saying only an act of the Republi-

wealth Campus respondents and 84% of World Campus respondents report being partially or fully vaccinated," he wrote Thursday.

"As of today, more than 73.5% of students entering residence halls have already uploaded their proof of vaccination, and the numbers are steadily growing on a daily basis.

"We expect many other students will demonstrate vaccination status or provide proof of having COVID-19 over the last 90 days. Vaccination uploads by academic personnel are slightly lower at 69%, and unfortunately there has been little growth in academic uploads since early July," he added.

He said survey data for all sectors suggest that vaccination rates are higher than what is currently uploaded and individuals have just not yet uploaded their information. The highest vaccination rate is for administrators, currently at 86%.

Mr. Barron said, "We have worked to make vaccination easy."

Friday's no-confidence vote stopped short of criticizing the school's leadership itself. It was one of two related resolutions passed by the Senate, the other calling for a vaccine mandate, twice-weekly COVID-19 testing for individuals without proof of vaccination, and instructor choice in determining course and/or class delivery modes based on individual instructors and student circumstances, among others.

Board of trustees leadership at Penn State, in response, acknowledged differing views and the importance of dialogue but added, "The board is unified in its unequivocal support for President Barron, his administration and their plans for the upcoming fall semester."

Bill Schackner: bschackner@post-gazette.com, 412-263-1977 and on Twitter: @Bschackner

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Ed Jones/AFP via Getty Images

Demonstrators attend a rally calling for an extension of New York's eviction ban until 2022 and the cancellation of rent, in lower Manhattan on Wednesday.

Federal judge upholds eviction moratorium

EVICTION, FROM WA-1

against the eviction moratorium following the administration's decision to renew a modified version of the order on Aug. 3.

The decision points out what the judge said is the shaky legal ground propping up the national moratorium, arguing the policy represents government overreach.

But because of various legal challenges to the policy, as well as a 5-4 Supreme Court ruling leaving the first moratorium then in place, Judge Friedrich said, "the Court's hands are tied" in lifting the stay since the latest policy is similar to the earlier version.

Friday's decision adds another layer of confusion to the ongoing political and legal debate over the policy. Following Judge Friedrich's order, the White House signaled the administration was gearing up to defend the moratorium.

"The Administration believes that CDC's new moratorium is a proper use of its lawful authority to protect the public health," White House press secretary Jen Psaki said in a statement. "We are pleased that the district court left the moratorium in place, though we are aware that further proceedings in this case are likely."

The policy was initially en-

acted by the Trump administration as a public health tool for keeping Americans housed during the first waves of the contagious coronavirus pandemic. It allowed a renter to stay housed despite falling behind on rent because of COVID-19-related economic loss. However, the wording of the order left local courts wide room for interpretation, and evictions continued throughout the country because of loopholes.

Legal challenges further confused the picture. Landlords — facing their own mortgage payments, upkeep costs and taxes — became increasingly vocal about the undue burden placed upon their businesses by the moratorium. Lawsuits challenging the legal structures of the order resulted in a patchwork of decisions, many offering different interpretations.

In May, Judge Friedrich had ruled the CDC had overstepped its legal authority with the eviction order, delivering one of the hardest checks to the policy and vacating the moratorium.

"The question for the Court is a narrow one: Does the Public Health Service Act grant the CDC the legal authority to impose a nationwide eviction moratorium? It does not," Judge Friedrich wrote in May.

FDA OKs third vaccine dose to protect high-risk groups

The Associated Press

Americans at high risk from COVID-19 because of severely weakened immune systems are now allowed to get a third vaccination in hopes of better protection, a policy change endorsed Friday by influential government advisers.

The Food and Drug Administration ruled that transplant recipients and other similarly immune-compromised patients can get a third dose of either the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine. But the decision offers an extra dose only to those high-risk groups — not the general public.

These patients have been clamoring for months for better protection, some of them traveling across state lines or lying to get another dose. About 1.1 million people already have gotten at least a third dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines on their own, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention revealed, although it's not clear how many did so because they had weakened immune systems.

On Friday, UPMC announced it was scheduling patients for the third shot.

Advisers to the CDC grappled with exactly who qualifies before unanimously endorsing the FDA's decision to limit the doses to immune-compromised patients.

It's "an important step in ensuring everyone, including those most vulnerable to COVID-19, can get as much protection as possible from COVID-19 vaccination," CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky said in a statement after signing off on the recommendation.

The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines offer powerful protection for otherwise



Brandon Bell/Getty Images

Medical assistants Nancy Hernandez, left, and Tammy Fuentes prepare COVID-19 sampling tests during a drive-thru vaccination clinic on Friday in Houston. The FDA is now allowing immune-compromised patients to get a third dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine.

healthy people, but many who take immune-suppressing medications or have diseases that tamp down their immune systems generally get less benefit from the standard two doses. The CDC cited one study suggesting about 40% to 44% of people hospitalized for a so-called breakthrough case — infection after vaccination — are among the immune-compromised.

Those hospitalized patients "did all the right things — they're just suffering from a lack of good vaccine protection," said Dr. Camille Kotton of Massachusetts General Hospital, one of CDC's advisers.

Roughly 7 million American adults are classified as immune-compromised, but the FDA singled out transplant recipients and others with similar levels of immune suppression. The

FDA didn't spell out exactly who falls into those other categories. But according to the CDC, people with blood cancers, those taking certain cancer chemotherapies and those taking certain medications such as rituximab for rheumatoid arthritis tend to have especially poor responses to vaccination.

For now, the new policy allows a third dose of the Pfizer vaccine for children as young as 12 who also meet the high-risk requirement, but adults only for a third Moderna dose. That's because the Pfizer vaccine currently is the only authorized option for Americans under 18. That could change if Moderna's vaccine eventually is allowed for teens.

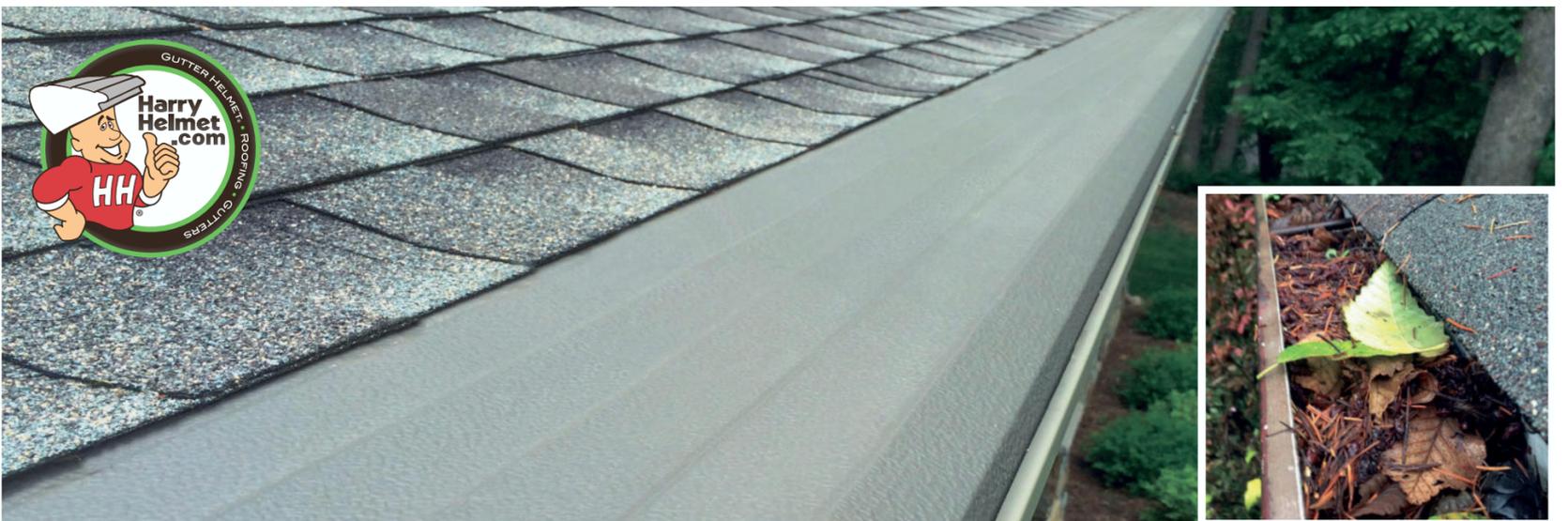
The government isn't requiring either a doctor's note or a blood test. Patients just need to tell the vaccine provider why they're seek-

ing another dose. "We would want to make that as easy as possible," said Dr. William Schaffner, an infectious diseases expert at Vanderbilt University.

Shots given under FDA's emergency use authorization are free.

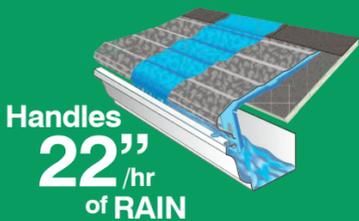
A third dose helps at least some people. Canadian researchers this week reported 55% of transplant recipients given a third dose two months after standard vaccination had good antibody levels compared to 18% who were given a dummy third shot for comparison. Health experts urged these high-risk patients to continue masking and taking other precautions since there's no guarantee a third dose will work.

The government also encourages the third dose to be the same as the first two but doesn't mandate it.



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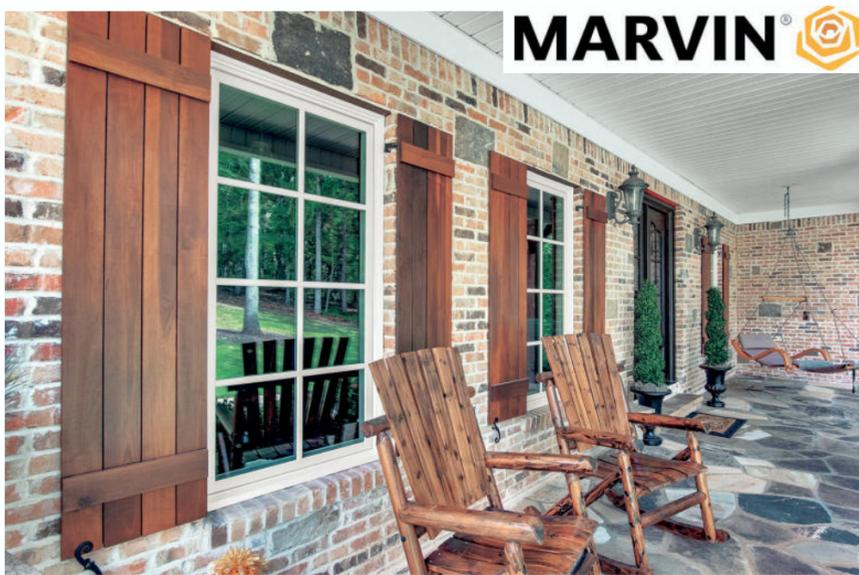
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Environment

Weak Fred moves west, reducing risks for S. Fla.

Heavy rain still predicted for weekend

The Miami Herald

MIAMI — South Florida remained under a flood watch through late Sunday, and a tropical storm warning was in effect for the Florida Keys and Southwest Florida — but there was also a growing sense of relief across the region Friday about barely holding-it-together Tropical Depression Fred.

At 5 p.m. Friday, the National Hurricane Center nudged its projected track farther west as the struggling system, a ragged mess on satellite images, meandered along the coast of Cuba. While forecasters said

it was likely to strengthen in the Gulf of Mexico, for South Florida it was expected to amount to no more than a soggy weekend.

In Key West, some tours and events were being canceled, but tourists out on the street said they had no plans of packing up.

“It’s just going to be more of an adventure,” Kristen Marciniak, 47, said from behind the wheel of a rented golf cart with Faith Morin, 37, both from Massachusetts. “We’ve talked to locals. They’re not too concerned.”

Fred, though disorganized, was dropping heavy rains across Cuba. With the shift west, forecasters

dropped rainfall projections a bit, but heavy and widespread downpours were still expected — from 3 to 6 inches and up to 8 in spots — from late Friday through early Sunday. That much rain can be trouble for flood-prone areas. The Florida Keys and west coast could see tropical-storm-level gusts, but the chances were low.

“It’s going to be wet weekend,” said Robert Molleda, a severe weather expert for the service in Miami.

As of the 5 p.m. advisory, Fred “remains disorganized,” with sustained winds of about 35 miles per hour while dousing parts of Cuba with heavy rain. It was moving west-northwest at 12 mph and should move near

or across the Florida Keys on Saturday, according to the hurricane center. “Fred could become a tropical storm again tonight or Saturday,” according to the advisory.

The National Hurricane Center on Friday was also monitoring another tropical system that was forecast to become a tropical storm by Saturday morning, first passing over Hispaniola and curving northward toward the Bahamas — and toward Florida. The storm, which would be named Grace, would not finish its jaunt over the Dominican Republic and Haiti until Tuesday morning, according to a Friday afternoon forecast.

That system, while moving quickly, was expected to

slow down, giving it time to strengthen in two to three days. “The system will be moving over warmer waters and toward a slightly more moist environment. Therefore, gradual strengthening is anticipated,” the hurricane center wrote in an analysis.

For now, governments, businesses and residents on Friday across Florida were preparing for an expected deluge from Fred.

Long-planned pool parties, camping trips and outdoor charity events got axed. Boaters bid adieu to their plans: Saturday’s Bonito Blast, a Treasure Coast fishing tournament that raises money for wounded veterans, was canceled.

Fred is forecast to move

along or just north of eastern and central Cuba through Friday night. It should make a turn toward the northwest by Saturday though forecasters earlier in the day said the models were in disagreement over its track, some putting close to the Florida Gulf coast and others pushing it farther into east-central Gulf of Mexico. The hurricane center says the typically best-performing models show Fred being near or offshore of Florida’s west coast by Sunday.

Fred could see some strengthening before making landfall in the Florida Panhandle. The tropical storm should weaken as it moves inland and crawls up Florida’s west coast, the hurricane center says.



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Yasin Akgul/AFP via Getty Images

This aerial picture taken Aug. 7 shows a track separating healthy and burned trees in a forest in Mugla district, as Turkey battles its deadliest wildfires in decades. Officials and experts have linked such intense weather events to climate change.

July was hottest month on record

HEAT, FROM WA-1

July, from 2015 to 2021, have been the hottest seven Julys on record, said NOAA climatologist Ahira Sanchez-Lugo. Last month was 1.67 degrees warmer than the 20th century average for the month.

“In this case, first place is the worst place to be,” NOAA Administrator Rick Spinrad said in a news release. “This new record adds to the disturbing and disruptive path that climate change has set for the globe.”

“This is climate change,” said Pennsylvania State University climate scientist Michael Mann. “It is an exclamation mark on a summer of unprecedented heat, drought, wildfires and flooding.”

Earlier this week, a prestigious United Nations science panel warned of worsening climate change caused by the burning of coal, oil and natural gas, and other human activity.

Warming on land in western North America and in parts of Europe and Asia really drove the record-setting heat, Ms. Sanchez-Lugo said. While the worldwide tem-

perature was barely higher than the record, what shattered it was land temperature over the Northern Hemisphere, she said.

Northern Hemisphere temperatures were a third of a degree higher than the previous record set in July 2012, which for temperature records is “a wide margin,” Ms. Sanchez-Lugo said.

July is the hottest month of the year for the globe, so this is also the hottest month on record.

One factor helping the world bake this summer is a natural weather cycle called the Arctic Oscillation, sort of a cousin to El Nino, which in its positive phase is associated with more warming, the NOAA climatologist said.

Even with a scorching July and a nasty June, this year so far is only the sixth warmest on record. That’s mostly because 2021 started cooler than recent years due to a La Nina cooling of the central Pacific that often reduces the global temperature average, Ms. Sanchez-Lugo said.

“One month by itself does not say much, but that this was a La Nina year and we

still had the warmest temperatures on record ... fits with the pattern of what we have been seeing for most of the last decade now,” said University of Illinois meteorology professor Donald Wuebbles.

While the world set a record in July, the United States only tied for its 13th hottest July on record. Even though California, Nevada, Oregon and Washington had their hottest Julys, slightly cooler than normal months in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Arkansas, Missouri, Alabama, Maine, Vermont and New Hampshire kept the nation from approaching record heat levels.

The last time the globe had a July cooler than the 20th century average was in 1976, which was also the last year the globe was cooler than normal.

“So if you’re younger than 45 you haven’t seen a year (or July) where the mean temperature of the planet was cooler than the 20th century average,” said Princeton University climate scientist Gabriel Vecchi.

Staff writer Zoe Stratos contributed to this report.



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National

DHS: Calls for violence online similar to before Capitol attack

By Geneva Sands
CNN

Online extremist rhetoric is strikingly similar to the buildup to the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol, with increasing calls for violence linked to conspiracy theories and false narratives, Homeland Security Intelligence chief John Cohen said in an interview with CNN.

There have been online comments such as “the system is broken,” “take action into their own hands” and “bring out the gallows,” Mr. Cohen said, offering as paraphrases of what has been observed.

While the conspiracy theories vary, there has been an ongoing narrative focused on the false premise that the presidential election was illegitimate, Mr. Cohen said. That narrative is paired with an increase in calls for violence to rectify the situation.

His comments come as the Department of Homeland Security issued a new terrorism bulletin warning the public about increasingly complex and volatile threats and days after DHS alerted state and local authorities to an increase in calls for violence online tied to election-related conspiracy theories.

“It’s very similar to the stuff we saw prior to Jan. 6,” said Mr. Cohen, the DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis senior official performing the duties of the under secretary. But the comments have stopped short of specific dates and threats, he noted.

Several swirling conspiracy theories point to a process that will change the results of the election.

“Concern from a law enforcement perspective is at a certain point in time, all of

“We are seeing expressions of violent extremism, born of false ideologies, false narratives, ideologies of hate. And we are seeing the potential connectivity to violence, which is where we step in.”

— Alejandro Mayorkas, Homeland Security secretary

the conspiracy theories that point to a change occurring through process are going to sort of wear out. And the question is going to be, are people going to try to resort to violence, in or in furtherance of, that false narrative?” Mr. Cohen said.

The latest National Terrorism Advisory System bulletin, issued Friday, highlighted the potential for violence surrounding the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, as well as upcoming religious holidays.

The terrorism bulletins allow DHS to provide the American public with an understanding of current threats to the U.S., replacing the post-9/11 color-coded terrorism warnings.

There is a diverse set of potential threats, according to the new bulletin, including from domestic terrorists and those inspired or motivated by foreign terrorists.

“These actors are increasingly exploiting online forums to influence and spread violent extremist narratives and promote violent activity,” it reads.

Threats are exacerbated by impacts of the coronavirus pandemic, the bulletin says, including “grievances over public health safety measures and perceived government restrictions.”

According to the bulletin, the reopening of institutions, including schools,

as well as several dates of religious significance over the next few months “could also provide increased targets of opportunity for violence.”

Law enforcement has expressed concerns that the broader sharing of false narratives and conspiracy theories will gain traction in mainstream environments, resulting in violence, according to the bulletin.

Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas said Friday, in a separate interview on CNN, “We are seeing expressions of violent extremism, born of false ideologies, false narratives, ideologies of hate. And we are seeing the potential connectivity to violence, which is where we step in,” adding that these threats prompted the department to renew the terrorism alert.

He urged the American public to stay vigilant, and if anyone sees something of great concern, from a public safety perspective, to report it to local authorities or the federal government.

The bulletin is part of a concerted effort by DHS to address the issues that led up to Jan. 6 and the beginning of an effort by the department to educate the public about how these false narratives and conspiracy theories “are not just confusing but dangerous,” according to a source.

Prosecutor presents evidence in Russia probe to grand jury

The Associated Press

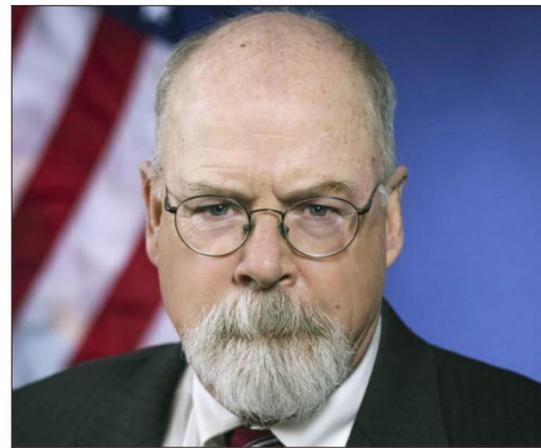
WASHINGTON — John Durham, the federal prosecutor tapped to investigate the origins of the Russia investigation, has been presenting evidence before a grand jury as part of his probe, a person familiar with the matter said Friday.

The development is a potential sign that Mr. Durham may be mulling additional criminal charges beyond the one he brought last year against a former FBI lawyer who admitted altering an email about a Trump campaign aide who’d been under FBI surveillance. Mr. Durham is expected to complete a report at some point.

A Justice Department spokesman declined to comment, citing an ongoing investigation.

The Wall Street Journal reported earlier Friday that Mr. Durham was presenting evidence to a grand jury and contemplating possible charges against some FBI employees and others outside government. A person familiar with the matter, who was not authorized to discuss it by name and spoke on condition of anonymity, confirmed Mr. Durham’s use of the grand jury to The Associated Press.

Mr. Durham was appointed to the position in 2019 by then-Attorney General William Barr, with a mandate to examine how the FBI and intelligence community set about investigating Russian interference in the 2016 U.S. election and potential coordination with Donald Trump’s presidential campaign. His team has interviewed a broad swath of officials across the Justice Department and intelligence community, including former CIA Director John Brennan.



John Durham, the federal prosecutor appointed during the Trump administration, has been presenting evidence before a grand jury as part of his Russia investigation, a person familiar with the matter said Friday.

Mr. Durham’s investigation is in addition to an inquiry by the Justice Department’s inspector general, which issued a December 2019 report finding significant errors and omissions in FBI applications to monitor the communications of former Trump campaign aide Carter Page. The report did not find evidence that any actions by FBI or Justice Department officials were motivated by partisan bias.

Weeks before he resigned as attorney general, Mr. Barr appointed Mr. Durham — who for years served as the U.S. attorney in Connecticut — as a special counsel, a move designed to give him extra protection to complete his work under the Biden administration.

One area of focus in Mr. Durham’s inquiry has been the FBI’s reliance on anti-Trump research that was conducted by former British spy Christopher Steele, and which U.S. officials cited in

applications to a secretive surveillance court for warrants to monitor Mr. Page’s communications.

Mr. Durham has also been examining whether anyone presented the U.S. government with information that they knew to be false about potential connections between Alfa Bank, a privately owned, commercial bank in Russia, and a Trump campaign server, according to the person familiar with the matter. The FBI investigated but concluded that there were no cyber links, according to the inspector general report.

Last August, Mr. Durham announced a plea deal with Kevin Clinesmith, a former FBI lawyer who admitted doctoring an email about Mr. Page as the FBI was renewing its applications to eavesdrop on Mr. Page under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. Mr. Clinesmith was sentenced to probation.

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International

U.S. troops returning to Afghanistan to rescue Americans in face of onslaught

By Tracy Wilkinson and Nabih Bulos
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — As the Afghan capital, Kabul, teetered in the face of a relentless onslaught by Taliban forces, the first contingents of U.S. Marines tasked with rescuing Americans and others were set to arrive in Afghanistan over the weekend, administration officials said Friday.

The urgency of the new mission was underlined by fierce Taliban advances that have startled the world as diplomats face rising regional instability and a widening humanitarian crisis. By Friday, the Taliban, who are seizing U.S.-funded

military equipment as they roll seemingly unchallenged across the landscape, had captured Afghanistan's second- and third-largest cities and most national territory.

The arrival of 3,000 troops will more than double the number of U.S. forces in the country after the long-promised withdrawal to end America's longest war had proceeded apace and was scheduled to conclude by September.

Analysts said it was possible the Taliban will wait to attack Kabul — in part because of the U.S. presence and also because the Islamic extremists can probably lay siege to isolate and starve the city by cut-

ting off most of its land exit routes. Unlike other Afghan cities, Kabul also has an enormous population of some 6 million people, swollen by those fleeing other parts of the country.

Pentagon and State Department officials continue to insist the U.S. Embassy is not shutting down completely, despite the fact most employees are likely to depart, leaving only a skeleton staff. Employees are reportedly being ordered to begin destroying sensitive embassy files, and there are plans, still not finalized, to move the entire embassy operation into Kabul's fortified Hamid Karzai International Airport.

Taliban pushes Afghan nation closer to collapse

TALIBAN, FROM WA-1

In the western city of Herat, an entire Afghan army corps crumbled, with hundreds of troops handing over their weapons to the Taliban and others fleeing, according to local officials. The surrender deal was brokered, they said, by a group of Taliban leaders who met with Afghan government and security forces at the military base where they were holed up after the city was overrun Thursday.

The province's governor, intelligence chief, chief of police and a prominent anti-Taliban militia leader also resigned their posts in exchange for Taliban protection, said Ghulam Habib Hashimi, a legislative official.

The Taliban's advance across the nation's south on Friday, staggering in speed and scale, leaves the insurgents holding half of Afghanistan's 34 provincial capitals and controlling roughly two-thirds of the country.

In the southern province of Helmand, where U.S. and British Marines sustained heavy casualties in a fraught, years-long fight to repel the Taliban and shore up the local government, hundreds of Afghan forces surrendered and ceded control of the capital, Lashkar Gah, according to Mirwais Khadem, a parliament member.

And in Kandahar, Afghanistan's second-largest city, government control has shrunk to the local airport



Paula Bronstein/Getty Images

Displaced Afghan women and children from Kunduz are seen at a mosque that is sheltering them on Friday in Kabul, Afghanistan. Tensions are high as the Taliban advance on the capital city after taking Herat and the country's second-largest city, Kandahar.

and adjoining military base. Sayed Ahmad Seylab, a provincial council member, said Afghan forces and officials retreated from the main government compound to "avoid civilian casualties and the destruction of Kandahar city."

The mass surrenders of Afghan security forces and government personnel are accelerating Taliban advances across Afghanistan, undercutting the military's morale and supplying the militants with weaponry. On Friday, the capitals of Ghowr, Zabul, Logar and Uruzgan provinces fell, the highest number in a single day.

Kandahar's governor, police chief and several other officials abandoned administrative buildings over-

night, according to Seylab. In Herat, a similar scenario unfolded, according to Mr. Hashimi, a provincial council member, who said the city's main officials fled to a military base before surrendering.

In Helmand province, after weeks of intense clashes during which Taliban fighters besieged the local government compound in Lashkar Gah, Afghan forces abandoned the cluster of buildings for a military base, according to Mr. Khadem.

Now all eyes are on Kabul, as the militants gradually close in on the capital. Its advances are heightening concern that the Afghan government will largely collapse, leaving the city an island surrounded by Taliban-controlled territory.

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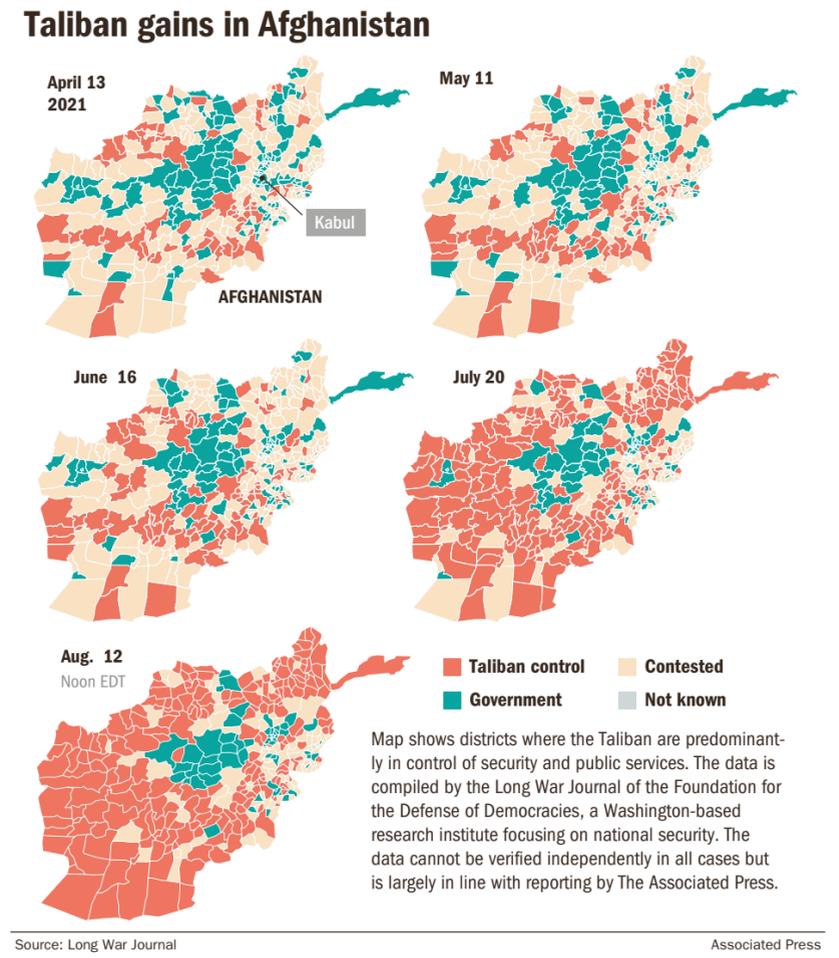
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Andrew Rush/Post-Gazette photos

Mechanic Rob Stinson with A-1 Transit prepares a bus for the new school year outside the garage in Lawrenceville on Friday. If any part of the city schools' proposed plan does not move forward, thousands of students may be left without a ride on the first day of school.

Hill District man charged in death

Police say dispute led to Downtown shooting

By Lacreteria Wimbley
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

A Hill District man has been charged after fatally shooting a man Thursday afternoon in Downtown in a dispute about a woman, according to police.

Terrance Coates — whose age has not yet been made available — was shot multiple times in the chest around 1 p.m. in an alley near Fort Duquesne Boulevard between Sixth and Seventh streets, a criminal complaint said. He was taken to UPMC Mercy hospital in critical condition, but was pronounced dead an hour later.

Taylor Wible, 21, of the Hill District, has been charged with criminal homicide and a firearms violation. Ela Aydin, 18, of Oakdale, has been charged with hindering apprehension. Both are being held at the Allegheny County Jail.

The shooting happened after a verbal dispute between Wible and Mr. Coates, police said in a criminal complaint.

Surveillance footage showed Wible followed Mr. Coates to the alley before taking a “shooter’s stance” just outside the alley where Mr. Coates had gone, a criminal complaint said. Ms. Aydin was also seen driving a Blue BMW that she and Wible drove away in shortly after the shooting, police said.

Wible told police he went to Fort Duquesne Boulevard to confront Mr. Coates after Mr. Coates had allegedly called Ms. Aydin a “rat,” the criminal complaint said. An argument ensued, and that’s when Mr. Coates allegedly challenged Wible to a fight in the alley, the complaint said.

Wible told police he refused to fight Mr. Coates and instead told him, “If you go in the alley I’m gonna pop you,” the criminal complaint said. He also told police he knew Mr. Coates was unarmed but shared he knew Mr. Coates possessed firearms, the criminal complaint said.

Wible was not permitted to carry a firearm after pleading guilty to aggravated assault in 2019, police said.

Wible said he and Ms. Aydin then fled the scene in her BMW after he

SEE **SHOOTING**, PAGE WA-11



Taylor Wible, left, and Ela Aydin.

LOTS OF MOVING PARTS

Pittsburgh Public Schools’ transportation plan faces long road to approval

By Andrew Goldstein
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Pittsburgh Public Schools officials say they have a plan in place that will allow them to provide transportation to all students who need it by the first day of class, but it will depend on a series of proposals and agreements being approved by multiple voting bodies over the next two weeks.

And if any part of the plan does not move forward, thousands of students may be left without a ride on the first day of school.

The transportation issues stem from a bus driver shortage that was severely exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The district’s plan includes delaying the first day of school, tiering school start and end times to maximize use of buses, placing more students on Port Authority buses and increasing walk zones around schools.

“This is the most efficient and effective way



Megan Patton, director of pupil transportation for Pittsburgh Public Schools, talks to a reporter outside A-1 Transit in Lawrenceville on Friday.

to get all of the students we can to school five days a week,” Megan Patton, the district’s director of pupil transportation, said Friday during an interview at the A-1 Transit school bus garage in Lawrenceville.

All of those proposals, however, are out of district administration’s control.

The first step in the plan could come Wednesday night during a special legislative session of the city school board when members will vote on moving back the first day of school by two weeks, from Aug. 25 to Sept. 8.

District administrators said the move would give school bus companies time to bring on about 100 new bus drivers who could transport students in the city. Parents have rallied against pushing back the start date, arguing that the district should have addressed the transportation issues sooner and fearing that there could be further delays to schools

SEE **PPS**, PAGE WA-11

City alters weekend traffic on Carson St. once more

By Zoe Stratos
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The city of Pittsburgh Department of Public Safety is making some changes to its pilot project aimed at curbing the increasing violence and overcrowding on the South Side.

Although largely successful, according to public safety, the disrupted flow of vehicle traffic on East Carson Street over the weekends has sparked conversations with local business owners to ensure an ease of access to restaurants and retail stores during the early evening hours.

The following adjustments will be made to accommodate businesses:

Beginning at 9:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, East Carson Street will convert from two-way to one-way traffic traveling eastbound between South 10th Street and South 18th Street. Previously, the start time was 7 p.m.

On Fridays and Saturdays, “no parking” measures will be strictly enforced on the aforementioned blocks of East Carson Street starting at 8 p.m.,

SEE **CARSON**, PAGE WA-11

Prison guards union plans legal action over vaccines

The Associated Press

HARRISBURG — The union that represents about 10,000 guards in Pennsylvania’s state prisons told Gov. Tom Wolf on Thursday it plans legal action to stop his effort to force them to get COVID-19 vaccines over the next month.

The president of the Pennsylvania State Corrections Officers Association sent a letter to the Democratic governor two days after Mr. Wolf ordered the guards and some

other state workers to get fully vaccinated by Sept. 7 or face weekly testing for the virus.

Union president John Eckenrode told Mr. Wolf his policy announcement was “a slap in the face — and frankly, way too late because thousands of our members already have been infected, due to your inaction.”

“This is the latest episode of what has been a woefully inconsistent vaccination/testing/masking policy by this administration in our

state prisons,” Mr. Eckenrode wrote, adding the union “has instructed legal counsel to challenge this latest proposed policy change.”

Wolf press secretary Lyndsay Kensinger said Thursday the initiative was designed to protect the guards, their families and the people they work among.

“The union exists to protect and support the employees it represents, so the corrections union’s

SEE **PRISONS**, PAGE WA-11

NATURE’S POWER



Andrew Rush/Post-Gazette

People walk by fallen tree limbs from overnight storms on Friday in Schenley Park.

NA schools planning to institute mask mandate

Order would apply to all students and staff

By Sandy Trozzo
and Deana Carpenter

The North Allegheny School District is now planning to require that all students and staff wear masks when school begins.

The updated health and safety plan was posted on the district’s website Friday and will take effect when teachers start on Monday. School starts for students on Aug. 23.

The letter, signed by Superintendent Melissa Friez, says that

officials analyzed COVID-19 data from the last school year, as well as county and community statistics over the past month, and consulted with the Allegheny County Health Department and the district physician.

A back-to-school plan, which made masks optional, was approved by the school board in June. The updated plan will be presented to the board on Wednesday.

“Ensuring students are at school for in-person learning remains our top priority as we begin the 2021-2022 school year,” Ms. Friez said. “We understand

SEE **MASKS**, PAGE WA-11

ORGANIC SOLUTION



Ben Braun/Post-Gazette

From left, David Primm from 412 Food Rescue, Kyle Wyche, COO of Ectone Renewables, Henry Mongrain of Ectone Renewables, and Kurt Lindsey from Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank load a car with buckets of food to be composted on Friday in Duquesne.

Tunnel work to slow traffic on turnpike

By Jenna Wise
pennlive.com

A month-long maintenance project involving two tunnels will increase the travel time for Pennsylvania Turnpike drivers, officials said.

On certain days of the week starting Monday, new traffic patterns will be in place approaching the Kittatinny and Blue Mountain tunnels, the Turnpike Commission said in a Friday news release.

Eastbound tunnel closures will be in effect from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Thursday, from Aug. 16 until Aug. 26, the news release said. Westbound closures will be in effect 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, from Sept. 7 until Sept. 16.

The tunnels are located

in Franklin County between the Willow Hill Interchange (exit 189) and Blue Mountain Interchange (exit 201).

The Turnpike Commission said the travel restrictions are necessary so workers can safely perform maintenance work on the tunnels.

Traffic will cross over to the opposite tunnel and operate as bi-directional during the closures, the news release said.

Drivers should slow down and use extreme caution when passing through the maintenance zone, the Turnpike Commission said in the release.

Slow or stopped traffic — and extra travel time — should be expected. The Turnpike Commission said drivers should take alternate routes if possible.

Hill District man held in fatal Downtown shooting

SHOOTING, FROM WA-10

shot Mr. Coates several times, and the two of them went back to his home in the Hill District.

He cleaned himself up before the two left again and headed to Penn Hills, the complaint said. He said Ms. Aydin thanked him for shooting Mr. Coates as the two left the scene of the shooting.

Ms. Aydin was driving and Wible was in the passenger seat when police

on the South Side stopped their vehicle before they made it to Penn Hills, police said. Police had flagged the license plate, and they were taken to police headquarters for questioning.

During the police stop, Wible told police they could find the gun he used in the back seat underneath a pile of clothes, police said.

Ms. Aydin, in a separate interview with authorities, told police that she

and Wible went to Fort Duquesne Boulevard to play basketball, the complaint said. She said at one point she heard gunshots, then ran back to her vehicle, the complaint said.

A preliminary hearing for both suspects is scheduled for Aug. 20 at city court, Downtown.

Lacretia Wimbley:
lwimbley@post-gazette.com, 412-263-1510 or on Twitter @Wimbley-journo.

Carson Street traffic changes again

CARSON, FROM WA-10

including the towing of vehicles, to allow for Public Safety vehicle access.

Side streets from South 11th Street to South 17th Street will remain open to through-traffic until 9:30 p.m. and afterward vehicles will be diverted to Muriel Street or Sarah Street. Before the changes, the side

streets were closed at 7 p.m.

“The only way to ensure the South Side will remain safe and accessible to everyone will be to continue to engage in communication with residents and business owners, working together and truly listening to their needs, balanced with the overall goal of preventing violence. That dialogue will be open and ongoing, and

we continue to thank everyone for their patience and cooperation,” Public Safety Director, Wendell Hissrich, said in a news release.

The pilot project in the South Side will remain in effect for the near future, and Public Safety will continue to monitor its impact and effectiveness for businesses, residents and patrons.

North Allegheny schools will require masks as school starts

MASKS, FROM WA-10

and recognize that there are varying opinions within our community regarding mitigation strategies. One common theme is that we all want the same thing: a high-quality educational experience in an environment that is safe and welcoming for all students, staff and families.”

Meanwhile, in the West Mifflin Area School District, masks will be required for all students, teachers and staff, regardless of vaccination status, for the start of the school year. School begins in the district on Aug. 24.

The school board voted 6-2 on Thursday to approve the district’s health and safety plan, which includes the mask requirement. Board members Matthew Blazeovich,

Judith Ahern, Bill Bennett, Gina Englert, Debbie Kostelnik and Erin White voted in favor of the motion. Jonathan Mattis and Tony DiCenzo voted against.

“This task is very complex,” said Superintendent Jeffrey Soles. “There’s a lot of thinking that goes into this. And it’s very upsetting that our state, our county sort of pawned these decisions off to a governing body that does not specialize in medicine or the medical field,” he said.

Mr. Soles said after sitting in on several meetings with the Allegheny County Health Department, the administration made the decision to recommend starting off the school year fully masked. Students will be able to remove masks at lunch and while outside

for recess or other activities. Masks are mandatory on school buses.

He pointed out that if everyone is fully masked, individuals do not have to quarantine or do contact tracing if they come into close contact with someone with COVID-19 in the school.

Masks will be required in district buildings as long as Allegheny County remains in the “substantial” rate of community transmission for COVID-19. If the county falls below “substantial,” Mr. Soles said masks will be “highly recommended” but optional.

Mr. DiCenzo said he believed masks should be a “family decision” and up to each individual family whether their child wears a mask to school. Mr. Mattis agreed.



David Swanson/The Philadelphia Inquirer via AP

Inmates in a block at the State Correctional Institution-Graterford in Graterford, Pa., on Sept. 7, 2017. The prison guards union plans to sue Gov. Tom Wolf over his vaccine mandate.

Guards union to sue Wolf

PRISONS, FROM WA-10

opposition to this initiative to stop the spread of COVID-19 is extremely disappointing,” Ms. Kensingersaid.

The Corrections Department’s website indicates about 4,800 of the prison system’s more than 12,000 staff have been infected by the coronavirus, and the union says nearly 3,700 of its members have caught COVID-19. The department says about

3,600 correctional employees are currently fully vaccinated.

Mr. Eckenrode told Mr. Wolf that the plan for testing won’t make people safer because it does not extend to inmates’ family members, contractors, vendors and volunteers.

“As for masking, our members are required to wear them, but inmates are not,” Mr. Eckenrode said, arguing that the masking

policy does not make places where people congregate inside prisons safer.

Mr. Wolf announced Tuesday the vaccination policy that covers about 25,000 employees of state prisons and state health care and congregate care facilities.

It applies to prisons as well as state hospitals, veterans’ homes, community health centers and homes for those with intellectual disabilities.

City schools’ bus plan could run into roadblock



Andrew Rush/Post-Gazette

Cori Skellie, chief operations officer with A-1 Transit outside its Lawrenceville location on Friday.

PPS, FROM WA-10

reopening.

If the school board OKs moving the first day of school, then the district’s attention will turn toward the Pittsburgh Federation of Teachers.

The union’s members will vote Aug. 23 on a new contract agreement with the district. The contract includes the changing of school start and end times, which would allow the district to tier its transportation schedule and allow bus drivers to run three routes in the morning and afternoon instead of just two. Ms. Patton said the tiered bus schedule would allow the district to transport about 5,000 more students to school each day.

Nina Espostio-Visgitis, the PFT president, called the recent negotiations one of the “most difficult” she had ever been involved in and said the union battled the changes to school start and end times, but the district refused to relent.

If the union ratifies the vote, it will go before the school board at a meeting on the evening of Aug. 25 for final approval.

The district’s transportation plan could be finalized that night if the school board approves the teachers union contract and passes several other measures, including moving more students to Port Authority buses and adding two new transportation carriers.

The district will also

launch a campaign encouraging families to provide transportation to their own children if possible.

Ms. Patton said that if any part of the plan fails to materialize, the district will not be able to guarantee transportation for all students and will be forced to prioritize bus seats starting with the youngest and most vulnerable children.

District officials will hold a webinar at 10:30 a.m. Monday to explain their plan to the public. The public will also have the ability to comment on the possible calendar changes at a hearing before the school board Monday evening.

Meanwhile, the district said it continues to push its carriers to recruit more

drivers by offering incentives.

Cori Skellie, the chief operations officer of A-1 Transit, said her company is offering a free CDL license class and signing bonuses in an attempt to bring in more drivers.

Still, she said, A-1 Transit is down to about 35 drivers this year compared to 75 drivers just a few years ago.

Because of the challenges finding drivers, Ms. Skellie said, everyone who works for the company is driving buses — even her.

“Everybody’s on the road,” she said. “Everybody.”

Andrew Goldstein: agoldstein@post-gazette.com or 412-263-1352

Every scoop

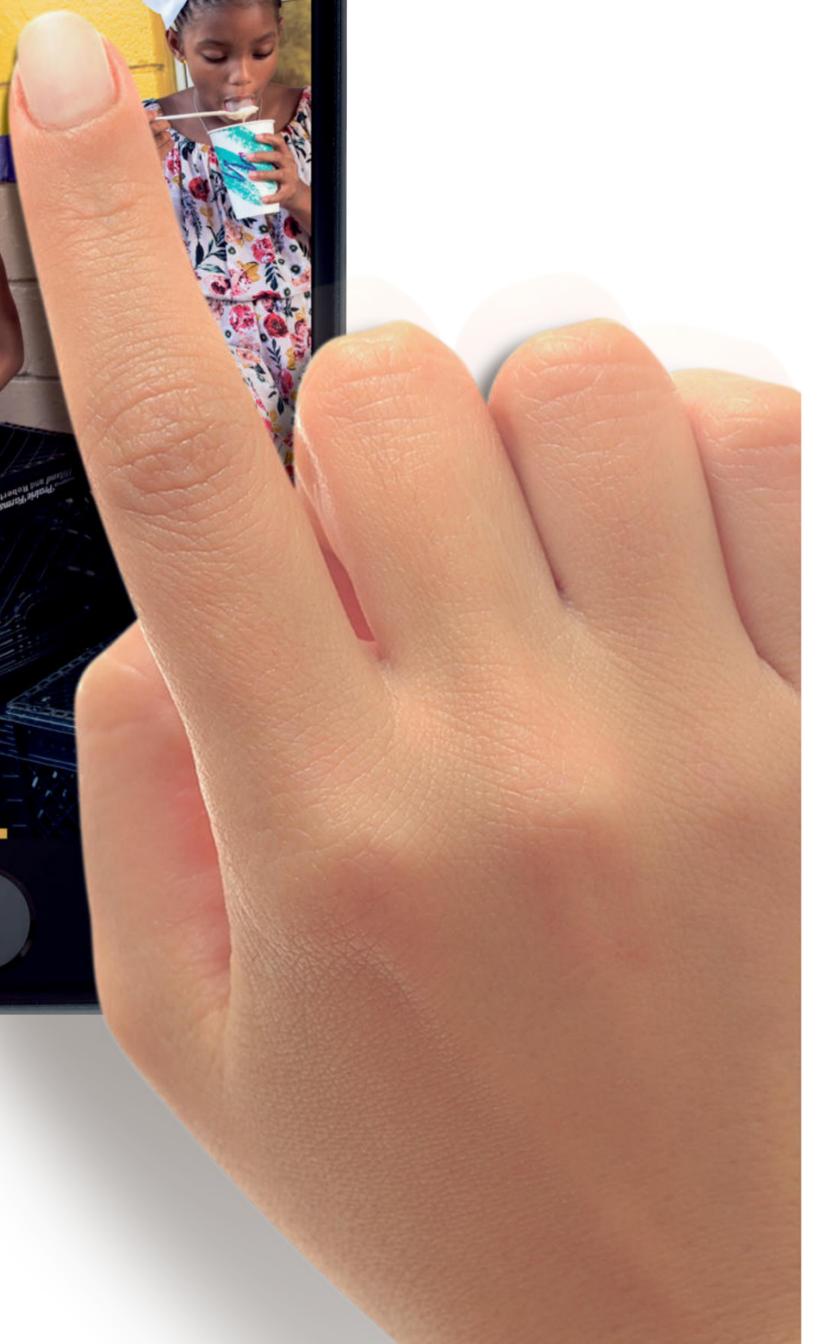
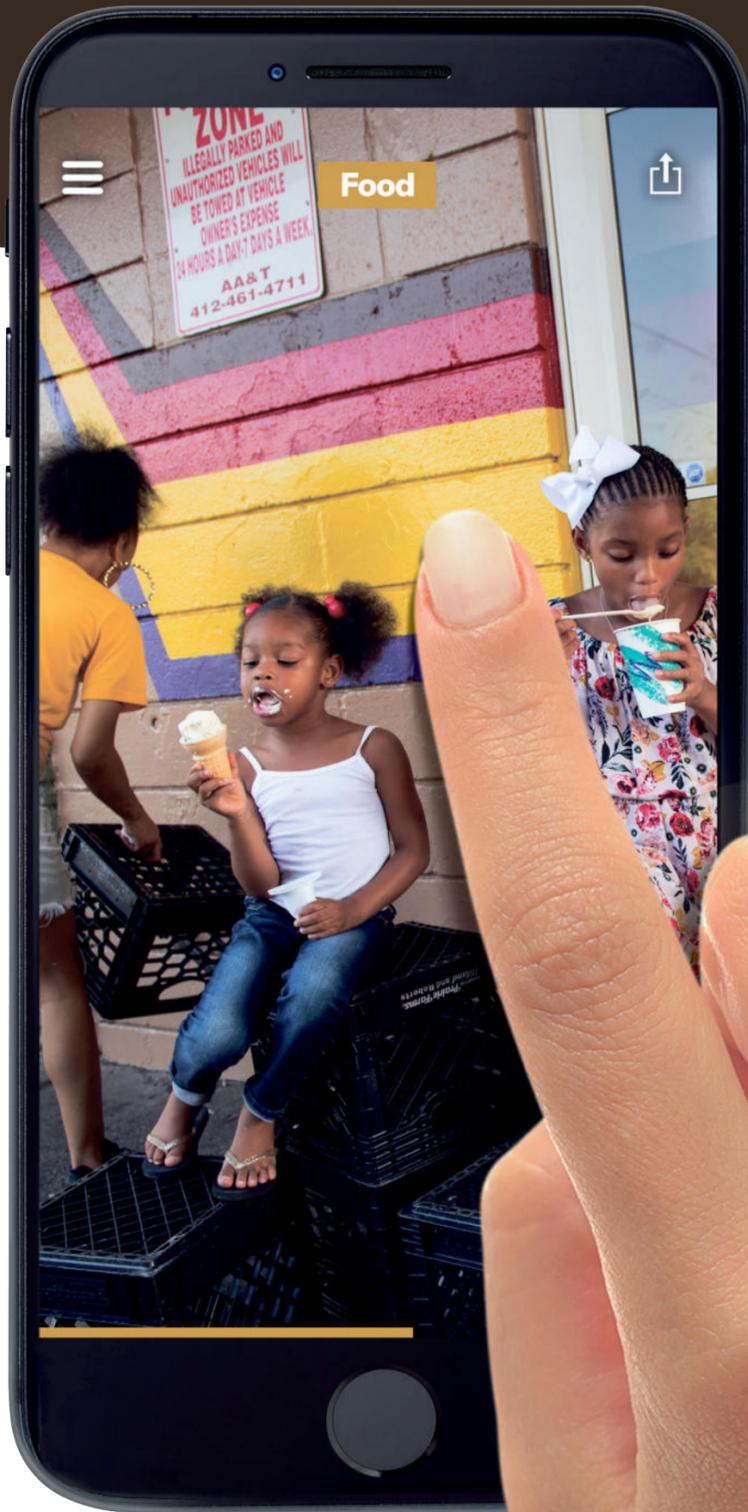
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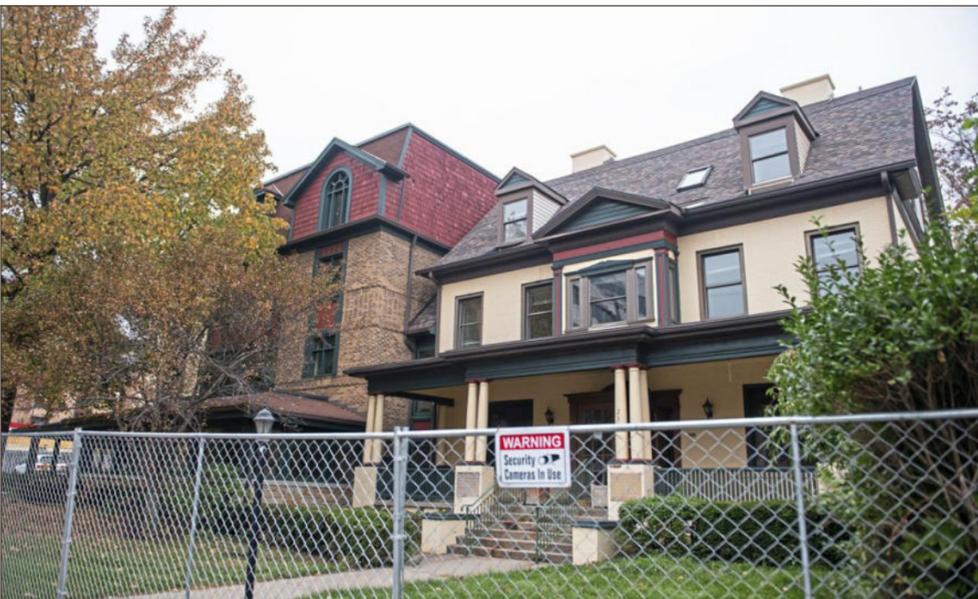
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A property owned by Family House on McKee Place in Oakland.

Emily Matthews/Post-Gazette

Family House's properties in Oakland officially up for sale

Nonprofit preparing for its move into hotel

By Mark Belko
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

About a month after finalizing a deal to buy a Bloomfield hotel, Family House, the nonprofit that provides a place to stay for patients receiving medical treatment in Pittsburgh, is putting the Oakland property that launched its mission up for sale.

The Hanna Langholz Wilson Ellis real estate firm has started marketing the property at 233 McKee Place to potential buyers. It is one of two properties it is listing for Family House. The other is at 514 N. Neville Street in Oakland.

Not long ago, Family House had plans to build a new facility at the 14,560-square-foot McKee Place site



Steve Mellon/Post-Gazette

Courtyard by Marriott at Liberty and Centre avenues in Bloomfield, near UPMC Shadyside.

after demolishing the house that gave it its start in 1983 as well as an adjacent structure.

But that all changed in July when

Family House finalized the \$20 million acquisition of the Courtyard by

SEE **FAMILY**, PAGE WB-4

Report: Auto insurers made illegal profits

Says regulators failed during the pandemic

By Patricia Sabatini
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Consumer advocacy groups are accusing state auto insurance regulators of standing by as insurance companies reaped millions in illegal profits during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Consumer Federation of America and Center for Economic Justice say consumers are due millions of dollars in refunds from 2020 as miles driven, vehicle crashes and auto insurance claims fell dramatically while millions of Americans sheltered at home.

"In virtually every state, auto insurance premiums — by law — cannot be excessive," said J. Robert Hunter, CFA's director of insurance. "The inability or unwillingness of almost all state insurance regulators to enforce the law and protect consumers raises serious questions," he said.

The CFA and CEJ released a report this week analyzing premium and claims results for 2020, including the "premium relief" offered by major insurers. According to the report, insurers should have returned \$42 billion in excess premiums but returned only \$13 billion.

As a result, insurers overcharged policyholders by an average of roughly \$125 per insured vehicle, the advocacy groups said.

According to the report, Pennsylvanians are due some \$1.1 billion in premium relief.

State Farm, the nation's largest auto insurer, said it was monitoring driving behaviors to ensure that rates reflected anticipated driving and claim volume.

"State Farm auto rates remain below pre-COVID-19 levels,

although miles driven and claim volume have increased," the company said in an email Thursday.

In April and May of 2020, most of the nation's big insurers provided refunds or credits to consumers in response to the pandemic, but very little of the excess premium was returned after last spring, the advocacy groups said.

They said California, Michigan, New Jersey and New Mexico were the only states to require premium refunds in the spring of 2020. And only California continued to require refunds.

"Most regulators did not take — and have still not taken — action to require the necessary premium relief from auto insurers," the groups said.

The Pennsylvania Insurance Department said Thursday it was committed to ensuring that the effects of the pandemic are properly reflected in insurance rates.

"The department has strongly encouraged insurers to work with consumers throughout the COVID pandemic, and we have instructed insurers to incorporate its impact in their rate filings," the agency said in an email.

It said it had approved roughly 170 "premium reduction, giveback or similar accommodation filings to the benefit of Pennsylvania's policyholders," adding that guidance it created to instruct insurers on how to file such accommodations to guarantee their expedited review and implementation was adopted by other states.

The Consumer Federation of America's report is available at bit.ly/3jXiH6F.

Patricia Sabatini: PSabatini@post-gazette.com; 412-263-

Fired baristas win labor case against Starbucks

By Juliana Feliciano Reyes
Philadelphia Inquirer

Starbucks illegally retaliated against and fired two Philadelphia baristas who were trying to organize a union, an administrative law judge has ruled.

The judge, Andrew S. Gollin, earlier this summer ordered Starbucks to reinstate the workers with backpay and post fliers at its stores at Broad and Washington in South Philly and by the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania that stated the company would not violate workers' right to organize.

It's a victory for the baristas, who said they turned down \$100,000 to drop their case, as well as for low-wage, hourly workers

employed by chains organizing to improve working conditions.

But the ruling in the National Labor Relations Board case, which has lasted nearly two years, is one tempered by a coming appeal from Starbucks. The Seattle-based coffee corporation does not have to rehire the workers or pay them during the appeals process, which could take months or longer.

Because of that timeline, fired barista TJ Bussiere said that "in the grand scheme of things, [the ruling] almost doesn't mean that much." Mr. Bussiere, 22, and former colleague Echo Nowakowska, 27, can't go back to Starbucks, which means they can't continue

SEE **STARBUCKS**, PAGE WB-4



Elaine Thompson/Associated Press

A barista holds a cup on May 29, 2018, at a Starbucks in Seattle. Starbucks illegally fired two baristas trying to organize a union.

Business briefs

U.S. consumer sentiment at lowest level since 2011

U.S. consumer sentiment fell in early August to the lowest level in nearly a decade as Americans grew more concerned about the economy's prospects, inflation and the recent surge in coronavirus cases. The University of Michigan's preliminary sentiment index fell by 11 points to 70.2, the lowest since December 2011, data released Friday showed.

Philip Morris moves closer to drugmaker takeover

Philip Morris International Inc. moved closer to the acquisition of Vectura Group, a maker of asthma drugs, after the company's board backed the tobacco giant's \$1.4 billion offer over a lower bid from Carlyle Group. Vectura described Philip Morris's offer of \$2.16 a share as "fair and reasonable."

Branson sells \$300 million stake in Virgin Galactic

Richard Branson sold about \$300 million in Virgin Galactic Holdings Inc. stock, tapping his biggest listed asset again to prop up his business empire during the pandemic. The billionaire offloaded almost 10.5 million shares — about 4% of the space-travel company — through a company he controls, leaving him with an 18% stake, according to a regulatory filing.

From wire reports



Kobi Wolf/Bloomberg

Richard Branson

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE	STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE
Alcoa	45.25	0.10	II-VI	63.34	-0.54
Allegheny Technologies	19.48	-0.53	Kennametal	36.72	-0.46
AmeriServ	3.92	-0.02	KeyCorp	20.68	-0.15
American Eagle	33.25	-0.56	Koppers	31.02	-0.18
Ansys	362.59	-0.86	Kraft Heinz	37.87	0.51
Ampco	4.83	-0.49	Limbach	8.61	-1.08
Arconic	35.53	0.31	Lithia	375.16	-0.01
BNY Mellon	53.87	-1.02	Mathews International	34.61	-0.10
Citizens Financial	44.77	-0.53	MSA Safety	160.85	0.36
Cleveland-Cliffs	25.84	0.12	NiSource	25.47	0.18
CNX Resources	11.48	-0.47	Northwest	13.32	-0.02
Comcast	59.32	0.29	Phillips ADR	44.46	0.28
Consol Energy	22.42	-0.55	PNC	190.38	-3.02
Dick's Sporting Goods	109.02	-0.46	PPG	169.78	-0.61
EQT	17.94	-0.80	Range Resources	13.77	-0.75
Eaton	167.62	0.45	Siemens ADR	84.01	0.02
Emerson Electric	103.74	-0.37	S&T Bancorp	30.50	-0.09
Essential Utilities	49.27	0.64	Thermo Fisher	544.64	2.63
Evoqua	38.02	0.07	TriState	20.90	0.00
ExOne	24.24	-0.84	United Natural Foods	33.77	-0.26
FedEx	277.18	1.08	Universal Stainless	11.33	0.17
Federated Hermes	33.75	-0.17	U.S. Steel	28.98	0.90
First Commonwealth	13.54	-0.13	Verizon	55.87	0.23
First National Bank	11.72	-0.13	Viatis	14.95	0.00
FirstEnergy	38.64	0.33	Wabtec	88.91	-0.09
L.B. Foster	18.25	0.10	Wesbanco	34.28	-0.17
Howmet Aerospace	32.12	-0.56	Wesco	117.08	-0.73

Closing prices for the week ending Aug. 13, 2021

FOR UP-TO-THE-MINUTE STOCK LISTINGS, VISIT [POST-GAZETTE.COM/BUSINESS](https://post-gazette.com/business)

S&P 500, Dow Jones set records after slight gains

The Associated Press

Another wobbly day of trading on Wall Street gave way Friday to small gains and new highs for the S&P 500 and Dow Jones Industrial Average.

The two indexes wavered for much of the day before eking out their fourth straight gains. The benchmark S&P 500 rose 0.2% and notched its second straight weekly increase. The Dow and the Nasdaq edged up less than 0.1%.

Stocks in the S&P 500 were nearly evenly split between winners and losers. Gains in technology, health care and household goods companies outweighed losses by banks, energy stocks

and other sectors. Small-company stocks fell more than the broader market.

An economic report showing a big drop in consumer confidence last month due to the spreading delta variant of the coronavirus didn't keep the market from managing more records.

"The reality is the market is holding up pretty well," said Rob Haworth, senior portfolio manager at U.S. Bank Wealth Management. He noted that the consumer sentiment report is "something the market is looking through as temporary."

The S&P 500 rose 7.17 points to 4,468. The Dow added 15.53 points

SEE **WALL**, PAGE WB-4

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Founded 1786

A Pulitzer Prize-winning newspaper

Paul Block, publisher, 1927-1941

Paul Block Jr., co-publisher, 1942-1987

William Block, co-publisher, 1942-1989

William Block Jr., co-publisher, 1990-2001

John Robinson Block, publisher and editor-in-chief

Stan J. Wischnowski, executive editor and vice president

Teresa F. Lindeman, acting managing editor

Matthew Kennedy, digital editor

Tim McDonough, city editor

Jerry Micco, Sunday editor

David Garth, copy desk chief

Arturo Fernandez, visuals editor

Lydia Craver, sports editor

Tracey DeAngelo, president and general manager

Public can shape transit plan

Too often government agencies are deservedly criticized for a lack of transparency and openness in their decision making, leaving the public to comment after the fact. The Port Authority, on the other hand, seems to be employing a model worthy of commendation.

Authority officials recently held a series of in-person open houses to give members of the public a chance to comment on its 25-year plan for projects and improvements. The NEXTransit final plan goes before the authority's board in September.

The authority has taken the right approach in getting as much feedback from the public — those who use public transit and those who don't — in shaping the priorities. Officials estimate there have been more than 40 meetings with the public and within the Port Authority since last June, and they've received 1,700 responses from the public on preliminary surveys.

The opportunity to weigh in on transit proposals continues through this month. Those interested can fill

out surveys online at the NEXTransit website.

There's a lot in the plan for the public to consider, including 17 projects, 18 policies and programs, and a hefty price tag — more than \$3.8 billion. The projects range from the construction of a transit center Downtown, to extending the Martin Luther King Jr. Busway from Swissvale to McKeesport, and expanding transit service to the Monongahela Valley.

Some of the NEXTransit plan may take years to launch because of funding issues, but others may get the green light sooner, such as repairing sidewalks near bus stops and adding bus service lines.

Authority officials say they'll continue tweaking the plan based on public comments right up until it is finalized in September. Those who use public transit, and those who would if it were more readily available, have some time to review the plan and offer suggestions. It's the best opportunity the public has to shape the future of public transit in the region.

When should a leader be told to resign?

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo resigned Tuesday. Or, formally, two weeks from Tuesday, for the detail-conscious who care to know. The alerts came from our popups and scrolls — “Cuomo Resigns Amid Scandals, Ending Decade-Long Run in Disgrace” — but in the end the timing means less than the outcome. It may as well have happened last week, after the New York governor's pattern of sexual harassment had been baked in the hot sun of a state attorney general's report and after his support had peeled away like old paint.

The “when” and “whether” surrounding the voluntary severance of a public servant from a position are often unclear — such people are reluctant to let go and sometimes right to resist. But the mismatch of power and personal integrity is rarely as clear as it grew to be understood in Mr. Cuomo's case. In saying that he didn't realize the extent to which the lines he crossed “had been redrawn,” he essentially admitted that he acted toward women as he did because he believed he could.

In light of the exhaustive report released Aug. 3 by the office of New York Attorney General Letitia James, prominent political leaders and editorial boards around the country concluded that Mr. Cuomo should go.

It's not always the case that a public official should resign — or be removed through an established process — just because that person is in the doghouse. Constituents should be circumspect about such outcomes.

Elections are held on a regular schedule in the jurisdictions of this country, and despite assertions to the contrary or the doubts they aim to dredge up, the vote tallies are reliable.

And despite the many examples to the contrary, voters do sometimes throw the bums out who deserve it, or who have simply overstayed their welcome. To be eager for early dismissal is, to at least some extent, to subvert that democratic process.

Also important is due process. Though the standards in the politi-

cal arena are looser than they are for a finding of criminal guilt, there still ought to be care taken in rendering a judgment.

Most important, however, is that each situation is different and must be considered in its context.

Beyond those considerations, these questions:

- Is there a pattern of bad behavior, or a solitary example?

- Did the official materially violate the oath of office?

- Did the official betray the essence of his or her responsibility to voters, or was the matter unrelated to the person's formal duties?

- If the behavior is unrelated to formal duties, is it sufficient nonetheless to make the person's judgment on official matters also suspect?

- Has the official acknowledged mistakes and demonstrated the ability to learn from them?

- Can the official be effective for constituents going forward? This includes having the support of those with whom the person works in office.

A great deal of subjectivity is possible in the answers. It should go without saying that a politician's party affiliation is irrelevant. Also irrelevant is conduct that is disagreeable merely on ideological grounds. That, above all, is the stuff of elections.

Finally, we remind voters — and ourselves — never to make the mistake of assuming that such matters are easy, even though some are.

From the Star Tribune



Hung out to dry

George Will

With a closer look, certainty about ‘existential’ climate threat melts away

Journalism about climate change has a high ratio of certitude to certainty when reporting weather events or climate projections, such as this week's U.N. report. There is a low ratio of evidence to passion in today's exhortations to combat climate change with measures interestingly congruent with progressive agendas that pre-date climate anxieties.

Last year, CNN announced: “Oceans are warming at the same rate as if five Hiroshima bombs were dropped in every second.” True. However: “The earth absorbs sunlight (and radiates an equal amount of heat energy) equivalent to two thousand Hiroshima bombs per second.” That sentence is from “Unsettled: What Climate Science Tells Us, What It Doesn't, and Why It Matters,” by physicist Steven E. Koonin, formerly of Caltech, now at New York University after serving as the senior scientist in President Barack Obama's Energy Department and working on alternative energy for BP. His points are exclusively from the relevant scientific literature.

Because unusual weather events are routinely reported as consequences of climate change, Koonin warns: “Climate is not weather. Rather, it's the average of weather over decades.” Of course the climate is changing (it never has not been in Earth's 4.5 billion years), the carbon footprints of the planet's 8 billion people affect the climate, and the effects should be mitigated by incentives for behavioral changes and by physical adaptations.

Human activities account for almost all of the increased atmospheric carbon dioxide concentration, but science has limited ability to disentangle human and natural influences on climate changes in, for example, the Little Ice Age (about 1450-1850) or the global cooling of 1940-1980. Although Koonin cites U.N. reports when saying “human influences currently amount to only 1% of the energy that flows through the climate system,” media “reports” say hurricanes are increasing in numbers and intensity. Koonin says “humans have had no detectable impact on hurricanes during the past century.” Improved weather radar detects even weak tornadoes, hence the increase in reported ones. But, says Koonin, data from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



Scott McIntyre/The New York Times
People wade into the Atlantic Ocean in Miami Beach, Fla.

show the number of significant ones has changed negligibly, and the strongest kind have become less frequent.

Sea levels, currently rising a few millimeters a year, have been rising for 20,000 years. Koonin cites recent research that the rate of rise ascribable to melting glaciers has “declined slightly since 1900 and is the same now as it was 50 years ago.” The melting of the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets contributes no more to rising sea levels in recent decades than it did 70 years ago. The average warmest temperature across the United States has hardly changed since 1960 and is about what it was in 1900.

A scandalous 2019 Foreign Affairs article by the director-general of the World Health Organization asserted: “Climate Change Is Already Killing Us.” Says Koonin, “Astoundingly, the article conflates deaths due to ambient and household air pollution (which cause ... about one-eighth of total deaths from all causes) with deaths due to human-induced climate change.” The WHO says indoor air pollution in poor countries, mostly the result of cooking with wood and animal and crop waste, is the world's most serious environmental problem. This is, however, the result not of climate change but of poverty, which will become more intractable if climate-change policies make energy more expensive by making fossil fuels less accessible.

New coal-fired power plants in China and India will double and triple those nations' emissions, respectively. There are,

Koonin says, five times more people “developing” than “developed,” and in this century cumulative carbon dioxide emissions from developing nations will be larger than from developed nations. Every 10% reduction that the developed world makes (“a reduction it has barely managed in 15 years”) will offset less than four years of emissions from growth in the developing world.

Koonin notes (as instant media analyses of the 4,000 pages might not) that this week's U.N. study expresses low confidence in most reported trends in hurricane properties over a century, is uncertain whether there is more than natural variability in Atlantic hurricanes and calls its extreme emissions scenarios unlikely. Some of its plausible emissions scenarios project 1.5 to 2.7 degrees Celsius warming by 2100.

By then, however, global gross domestic product, which grows by a larger multiple than population, will mean a much-increased per capita global wealth. A previous U.N. report said that a large global temperature rise of 3 degrees Celsius might negatively impact the global economy as much as 3% by 2100. Koonin says: Assuming, conservatively, 2% annual growth, the world economy, today about \$80 trillion, would grow to about \$400 trillion in 2100; climate impacts would reduce that to \$388 trillion. Not quite an “existential” threat.

George Will is a columnist for The Washington Post.

We welcome your opinion

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Weekend Perspectives

Rick LaRue

Single 18-year terms on Supreme Court? Not so fast

As the Presidential Commission on the Supreme Court of the United States conducts its “analysis of the principal arguments ... for and against Supreme Court reform,” one proposal gaining attention would limit each justice to a single, 18-year term. Designed to standardize departures and reduce confirmation partisanship, the idea offers considerable benefits. But one flaw is likely fatal.

The advocates’ case is otherwise strong, as recounted by professors Paul Collins and Artemus Ward, or detailed in professor Akhil Amar’s testimony before the commission on July 20. With fixed appointments every two years (in odd years), each president would nominate two justices per term. A smoother, less volatile confirmation process would not be upended by any one nomination. The experience of single-term presidents like Jimmy Carter, who appointed zero justices, and Donald Trump, who appointed three, would not be replicated.

Other benefits include: disincentivizing the now-common practice of presidents appointing less-experienced, young justices so they serve longer with greater personal impact; preventing justices from timing their departure to occur during terms of like-minded presidents; and lessening the possibility of declining performance as elder justices age.

Such a schedule is admirably clean and impactful. It has been endorsed by Our Common Purpose, the highly regarded project of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, which includes the proposal in its 31 recommendations to improve U.S. elections and civic life. Why doubt its efficacy? Because of the hyperpartisanship everyone wants curtailed.

The plan’s flaw is revealed when Collins and Ward claim that fixed terms “would help insulate the court from becoming a campaign issue because vacancies would no longer arise during election years.” Amar makes the same mistake when he says that scheduling the appointments “in odd years further reduces the political temperature of Court confirmation battles by staging these battles in non-election years.” Such “years” may have relevance when a Senate majority leader decides to

schedule confirmations (in 2020) or not (in 2016), but they were abandoned decades ago when describing presidential campaign timeframes.

This mistaken sense of timing is critical, as the fixed schedule’s certainty also would influence what happens before every nomination during every election cycle. New, pre-confirmation politics would focus on the departing justices; for each presidential race, the two justices whom the winner would replace would be known — long before the presidential contenders themselves would be known. To varying degrees, each Senate campaign also would contend with this definitive departure information. Not only would polarization unrelated to confirmation rise, potentially dramatically, but it also would become perpetual. Hyperpartisanship would merely shift from one arena — the confirmation process — to another — the permanent campaign.

In addition to each party and each candidate being able to use or abuse such concrete knowledge, consider the response of advocacy groups on all sides of any hot-button issue. Fueled by independent funding and media attention, special interests would take early and loud advantage of knowing the justices to be replaced.

In contrast then, the current selection method may remain preferable. Randomly determined turnover, either by a justice’s death in office or self-selected retirement, means that pre-nomination partisanship is speculative, hard to sustain and short-lived (i.e., political but not hyperpartisan).

Two additional points merit attention. First, contextually, it bears noting that fixed terms likely would not alter the general political posture of the Court. Had nonrenewable 18-year terms been used since the Eisenhower administration, 12 departures from the court would have occurred earlier, so a different president would have appointed the successors. In eight of these 12 cases, a president from the same party would have made the nominations; the other party’s president would have done so in the remaining four cases, but those were evenly split. Such a 70-year record may not be repeated, but it signals minimal potential impact on the partisan roots of the court’s makeup.

Secondly, how to create such terms is a subordinate but still consequential issue. Some scholars, like Collins, Ward and Vicki Jackson (who also testified before the commission), anticipate that doing so would require a constitutional amendment. Others (e.g., Amar and OCP’s leaders) think they can avoid the steep amendment hurdle by changing the interpretation of lifetime service (“during good Behaviour;” Article III, Section 1) to include some version of emeritus service after completion of an 18-year stint on the court. They further argue that this change could be enacted through federal legislation. Both assertions remain unresolved, and I join those who doubt their prospects; for example, overcoming the conclusion of a recent Congressional Research Service report — “the Framers appear to have understood the Good Behavior Clause to preclude congressional modifications to judicial tenure” — would be a tall order.

The question then becomes twofold: Do the benefits of standardized departures and lessened confirmation politics outweigh the costs of definitive, pre-nomination departure information being weaponized in the permanent campaign, and do they retain enough support from their proponents if they require constitutional amendment? On the former, I reluctantly conclude “no,” rendering the latter question moot.

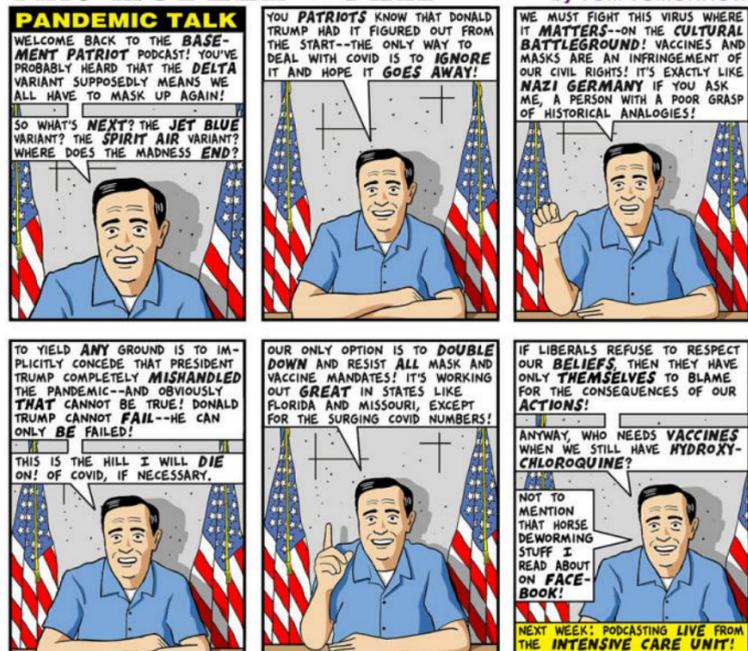
We still can and should deal with political polarization, but on the ground floors of our political structure rather than in its highest court of last resort. The other 30 recommendations in the OCP report offer great starting points, with such proposals as making Election Day a holiday, expanding the use of ranked-choice voting, establishing independent redistricting commissions and adding voting to jury duty as a requirement of citizenship.

The commission’s report is due in November. The extent to which it will propose actionable steps is unclear. Regardless, fixed terms for the justices should be neither favorably reviewed nor recommended.

Rick LaRue is the former deputy director of the Eisenhower Institute and of the American Society of International Law. He wrote this for The Fulcrum, a nonprofit, nonpartisan news platform covering efforts to fix our governing systems.

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



Ben Shapiro

The demise of the ‘Love Gov’

This week, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo resigned his office. It was a stunning turnabout for a man who had been proclaimed a hero of the republic by the entire media just last year, even as he presided over the worst COVID-19 spike in the United States and covered up the deaths of thousands of nursing-home patients.

Trevor Noah declared himself a “Cuomosexual”; Chelsea Handler gushed about her “crush”; there was even talk about supplanting President Joe Biden with Cuomo at the top of the 2020 Democratic ticket were Biden to falter. Crown Publishing saw fit to shower \$5 million in advance money on Cuomo’s self-flattering COVID-19 memoir, humbly titled “American Crisis: Leadership Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic.”

Now, of course, Cuomo isn’t being dumped by the side of the road because of his horrific performance with regard to COVID-19, despite the fact that his state currently carries the second worst deaths-per-million ratio in the United States (Florida, the media’s favorite bugaboo, ranks 26th by this metric, despite its status as America’s oldest state outside of Maine). Far from it. Upon Cuomo’s resignation, Biden lamented that Cuomo had done a “hell of a job” on “everything from access to voting infrastructure to a whole range of things. That’s why it’s so sad.”

Instead, Cuomo was forced into resignation because of his habit of touching subordinates’ body parts. Attorney General Letitia James, who has her own eyes on the gubernatorial mansion, put out a 168-page report detailing Cuomo’s treatment of 11 different women who alleged sexual harassment; the most egregious allegation came from Brittany Comisso, a former aide, who said that Cuomo had rubbed her butt, kissed her on the lips and grabbed her breast under her shirt.

James declined to prosecute Cuomo or recommend his prosecution, but her report was enough to open the floodgates. By the end of last week, it was clear that Cuomo didn’t have any support in the halls of power to remain as governor — at least partially due to his long-standing habit of treating legislators like trash.

Now we’re told that Cuomo’s ousting is the result of Democrats’ high moral standards. Joy Reid of MSNBC bragged that Cuomo’s departure was “100% the result of Democratic pressure” — true as far as it goes, given Democrats currently comprise a supermajority in the New York state Senate. Russell Berman of The Atlantic made the same argument, stating, “Democrats hold their leaders to higher standards than Republicans do.”

Of course, that isn’t true. At all. Democrats routinely overlook powerful politicians accused of sexual misconduct, from the late

Sen. Edward “Ted” Kennedy to former President Bill Clinton to Biden himself. It all depends on the politics of the moment. And the reality is that Cuomo was a liability for Democrats not merely because of his penchant for grabbing asses, but because his COVID-19 performance was so abysmal. Cuomo’s lockdown policies resulted in extraordinary numbers of deaths, residents fleeing the state and the fourth-worst unemployment rate in the nation — even as Democrats championed him as a model governor.

Getting rid of Cuomo, then, was good politics. It allows Democrats to pretend that they care deeply about the #MeToo movement while simultaneously ridding themselves of a rather nettlesome problem. That’s why it must be so galling for Cuomo — who has gotten away with egregious interpersonal behavior for at least a decade — to have to resign in his supposed moment of triumph. It’s also why Democrats must defenestrate him: To acknowledge that Cuomo botched COVID-19 would be to acknowledge that Democrats’ current policies mirror Cuomo’s botchery.

Better to brush Cuomo under the rug than for Cuomo’s opponents to continue holding him up as an object lesson in dictatorial and bloviating incompetence.

Ben Shapiro is a columnist for Creators Syndicate.

Paul Krugman

Climate denial, COVID-19 denial and the right’s descent

Before the right embraced COVID-19 denial, there was climate denial. Many of the attitudes that have characterized the right-wing response to the coronavirus pandemic — refusal to acknowledge facts, accusations that scientists are part of a vast liberal conspiracy, refusal to address the crisis — were foreshadowed in the climate debate.

Yet from the response to COVID-19 among Republican officials — especially the opposition to lifesaving vaccines — it’s hard to escape the conclusion that the paranoid, anti-rational streak in American politics isn’t as bad as we thought; it’s much, much worse.

On Monday the U.N.’s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change released its latest report. The conclusions won’t surprise anyone who has been following the issue, but they were terrifying all the same.

Major damage from climate change, the panel tells us, is already locked in. In fact, it’s already happening, as the world experiences extreme weather events, like heat waves in the Pacific North-

west and floods in Europe, that have been made far more likely by rising global temperatures. And unless we take drastic action very soon, catastrophe looms.

We can, however, safely predict how influential conservatives will react to the report, if they react at all. They’ll say that it’s a hoax or that the science is still uncertain or that any attempt to mitigate climate change would devastate the economy.

That is, they’ll react the same way they’ve reacted to past warnings — or the way they’ve reacted to COVID-19. Extreme weather events probably won’t change anything. After all, Republican governors like Ron DeSantis in Florida and Greg Abbott in Texas are still opposing virus-control measures — not just refusing to act themselves but also trying to block vaccine requirements by local governments and even private businesses — as hospitalizations soar.

However, while there are important similarities between the right’s response to climate change and its response to COVID-19, there are also some important differences. The pandemic has opened

frontiers in destructive irrationality.

You see, while climate denial was intellectually irresponsible and morally indefensible, it also made a kind of narrow-minded sense.

For one thing, warnings about climate change always involved the long run, making it easy for denialists to claim that short-run fluctuations refuted the whole concept: “See, it’s cold today, so global warming is a hoax!” This kind of evasion has gotten harder lately, now that we’re having what were supposed to be once-in-100-years fires and floods every couple of years. But it helped confuse the issue.

Also, there was big money behind climate denial. Fossil fuel interests were prepared to spend large sums creating a fog of skepticism in the expectation that delaying climate action would be good for their bottom lines.

Last and not least, but not irrelevant, free-market ideologists didn’t want to hear about problems that the free market can’t solve.

None of these explanations work for current COVID-19 denial.

Florida’s sevenfold increase in hospitalizations since mid-June

can’t be dismissed as a hypothetical long-run issue.

Businesses may have protested lockdowns that reduced sales, but as far as I can tell, corporations are eager to see maximum vaccination, which would help them get back to business as usual, and a growing number of companies are imposing their own vaccine mandates.

And even die-hard libertarians generally admit that promoting vaccines to stop a plague is a valid role for the public sector.

Yet here we are: Trying to limit a deadly pandemic, even via vaccines that convey huge benefits at little risk, has become a deeply partisan issue.

How did that happen? I’d tell the story this way: America’s rapid vaccination pace during the spring was very good news for the nation — but it was also a success story for the Biden administration. So influential conservatives, for whom owning the libs is always an overriding goal, began throwing up roadblocks to the vaccination program.

This had far-reaching consequences. As I’ve written before, the modern GOP is more like an au-

thoritarian political cult than a normal political party, so vaccine obstruction — not necessarily denunciation of the vaccines themselves, but opposition to any effort to get shots into people’s arms — became a loyalty test, a position you took to prove yourself a loyal Trumpist Republican.

Presumably, the politicians who made this calculation had no idea that reality would strike back this hard and this fast — that Florida would so quickly find itself with almost nine times New York’s rate of hospitalizations, that cities in Texas would find themselves virtually out of ICU beds. But it’s almost impossible for them to change course. If Ron DeSantis were to admit the deadliness of his COVID-19 mistakes, his political ambitions would be over.

So COVID-19 denial has turned out to be even worse than climate denial. We’ve gone from cynical catering to corporate interests to aggressive, performative anti-rationality. And the right’s descent continues, with no bottom in sight.

Paul Krugman is a columnist for The New York Times.

Starbucks retaliated against union organizers

STARBUCKS, FROM WB-1

to organize — which is why such firings, even though ruled to be illegal, have been effective.

Starbucks does not agree with the NLRB decision and will appeal, spokesperson Reggie Borges said.

Still, the ruling is important, the baristas say, because it establishes a continued record of Starbucks' retaliation against labor activists.

The baristas' initial or-

ganizing resulted in the resignation of a manager who they alleged was discriminatory, and for a brief period workers got more hours. It also resulted, the trial showed, in a concerted effort to respond on the part of corporate higher-ups.

Here's what they said workers and managers can learn:

Go public

As part of the NLRB case, lawyers for the board had to prove that the baristas had engaged in what's known as

concerted, protected activity and that Starbucks knew about it.

It wasn't hard to prove because the workers had been vocal about their organizing. They staged two in-store demonstrations to deliver demands to managers. They also passed out fliers, posted video of the gatherings on social media, and spoke to The Inquirer about their organizing.

Note, though, that the workers would have lost protection of the law had they

disrupted business when doing the in-store demonstrations. The baristas' protests were short and didn't block entrances or exits, so they were still protected, Judge Gollin ruled.

You don't need to go viral

The baristas' Instagram and Twitter posts about their demonstrations got just a few dozen likes, but they served their purpose — as a public record and as a way to get at Starbucks' concern for its image. The trial

showed Starbucks had staffers and managers monitor the social media posts.

Know your rights

It's a cliché, but the baristas' case shows why if you don't know your rights, they can't protect you.

Two supervisors told Mr. Bussiere he couldn't complain about management and say negative things about Starbucks to his coworkers while on the clock. "You're supposed to be having upbeat conversations

that align with Starbucks' missions and values," his manager said in a recording that was used as evidence.

That statement was illegal, Judge Gollin said, because "employees have a protected right to complain about their supervisor — even to seek their discharge" as long as it isn't threatening or offensive.

Because he suspected his rights were being violated, the barista were able to document these instances and bring them up in the trial.

Family House properties for sale

FAMILY, FROM WB-1

Marriott Pittsburgh Shadyside in Bloomfield near UPMC Shadyside.

The purchase will enable the organization to move about 130 guest rooms now spread over three locations and its administrative offices to the hotel.

It expects to spend about \$3 million to \$4 million to turn the hotel rooms into more welcoming guest rooms. It anticipates needing about 120 rooms in all for patients and their families. It hopes to move into the hotel next April.

Family House is seeking \$5.2 million for the McKee Place property. The marketing brochure lists permitted uses as multi-unit residential,

hotel, and medical and professional offices.

Sandy Cikovic, a Hanna Langholz Wilson Ellis vice president who is marketing the property for the nonprofit, referred questions to Family House. Jennifer March, Family House executive director, could not be reached for comment.

In addition to the McKee Place site, Family House is selling the 39-room facility it owns on North Neville in Oakland through Ms. Cikovic and her firm. It is asking \$3.2 million for that property.

The organization currently leases two other properties — one with 46 rooms in the University Club on Thackeray Avenue in Oakland and a 43-room facility on Centre

Avenue in Shadyside near the hotel and UPMC Shadyside.

Earlier this year, before buying the hotel, Family House tangled with Chicago-based CA Ventures over a 10-story apartment building the latter proposed adjacent to the McKee Place site.

The two sides ended up reaching an agreement that called for CA Ventures to reduce the height of a "jut out" at the back of the building by two stories, or about 20 feet, to accommodate Family House.

Family House provides a home away from home for more than 20,000 guests each year who are in Pittsburgh for treatment.

Mark Belko: mbelko@post-gazette.com or 412-263-1262.

Stock indexes establish record highs

WALL, FROM WB-1

to 35,515.38, and the Nasdaq picked up 6.64 points to 14,822.90.

The University of Michigan consumer sentiment index fell to 70.2 from its previous level of 81.2 in July. That was the largest drop in sentiment since April 2020 when the pandemic took its initial grip on the country.

The unexpectedly bad drop in the survey's reading was almost entirely due to the spread of the delta variant of the coronavirus, which has caused hospitals to fill up with unvaccinated patients across the U.S.

While the broader market indexes notched slight gains, concerns about the

resurgent virus prompted some investors to shift money away from companies that could take a hit from people pulling back on spending for travel and other in-person services, said Jay Hatfield, CEO of Infrastructure Capital Advisors.

American Airlines fell 2.9%, while Las Vegas Sands slid 2%. And the Russell 2000 index of small companies fell 20.96 points, or 0.9%, to 2,223.11, another sign traders were worried about future economic growth.

Technology companies made some of the broadest gains. Chipmaker Advanced Micro Devices rose 3.8%, while eBay climbed 7.4% for the biggest gain in

the S&P 500.

Health care companies also gained ground. Pfizer rose 2.6%, and Regeneron Pharmaceuticals gained 2.8%. Moderna slipped 0.4% after U.S. regulators authorized a booster shot of their COVID-19 vaccines for people with weakened immune systems.

Disney rose 1.1% after the company returned to a profit last quarter, helped by the reopening of its theme parks and more subscribers to its Disney+ service.

Bond yields fell, which weighed on banks. The yield on the 10-year Treasury dropped to 1.29% from 1.34% late Thursday. JPMorgan Chase lost 1.1%.

CHARLOTTE E. BEITEL

Age 90, of Green Tree, on August 11, 2021. Beloved wife of the late Frank P. "Bunny" Beitel; loving mother of Frank E. (Stephanie) and Cynthia L. Spring; her daughter, Lynn Ellen was lost in childhood; grandmother of Jonathan, Tyler, Leah (Carlos Perez), Kerry, Joshua (Kelsie), and Alicia; and his great-grandchildren, Mikayla, Matteo, Delaney and Beau; daughter of the late Raymond and Charlotte Meister; sister of Lenore (Ernie) Svetec. She also leaves behind many extended family and friends. She was the secretary of the Green Tree Home Rule Study Commission. She enjoyed Latin dancing and ball room dancing with the Top Hatters Club, playing cards, and working as a seamstress. Charlotte loved her long walks on the beach. She was a long time member St. Margaret of Scotland Parish in Green Tree. Viewing will be held on Monday, August 16, 2021 from 2 p.m. until the time of a memorial service at 6 p.m. at the **THOMAS M. SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY, LTD.**, 930 Center Avenue, Blawnox, PA 15238 where friends and family will gather on Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. for closing prayers before processing to the Queen of Heaven Cemetery, McMurray, PA. Memorial contributions may be made in her name to the Myasthenia Gravis Association of Western Pennsylvania, www.mgawpa.org www.thomasmsmithfh.com
Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

RONALD ANDREW "RON" GODEK



Age 67, of Beechview passed away on Sunday, August 8, 2021. Beloved husband of 43 years to Cindy (Hahn) Godek. Loving father of Ryan (Shannon), Rodney (fiancee Sarah), Ronald A. (Norina) and Russell Godek. Cherished Grandpap of five grandchildren. Son of the late Leo and Mary (Ciechanowski) Godek. Beloved brother of Leon (Cecelia) and Richard (Cynthia) Godek. Also survived by nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. Ron was a lifelong trout fisherman and deer hunter and was a member of the Forest Grove Sportsmen Assoc. NO VISITATION. Family and friends are welcome to attend a Funeral Mass on Saturday, August 21, 2021 at 10 a.m. St. Catherine of Siena Church, St. Teresa of Kolkata Parish. Burial private to the family. Arrangements entrusted to **WILLIAM SLATER II FUNERAL SERVICE**, Scott Twp., (412-563-2800).
www.slaterfuneral.com
Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

JANET F. HYRB

JUNE 20, 1937 - AUGUST 10, 2021



Janet F. Hyrb, age 84, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, August 10, 2021. Formerly of Whitehall Borough, Janet was the beloved wife of the late John A. Hyrb; mother of John (Colleen) and Douglas (Amy) Hyrb; grandmother of Jocelyn (Gabe) Escoto, Justin, John Patrick, Kelly, and Brady Hyrb; daughter of the late Adolph and Magdalene Farabaugh; sister of Thora (Harold) Schmitt, Norma (Albert) Fahrner, Jane (Raymond) Donley, Jack (Jeanne) Farabaugh, Mary Nell (Eugene) Kress, Thomas Farabaugh, Carolyn (Gerard) Olivier, Timothy (Judy) Farabaugh, and Susan (Jeffrey) Moedinger. Janet is also survived by many nieces, nephews, and friends. Throughout her life, Janet was an accomplished soloist, actress, coach, and businesswoman. A proud graduate of St. Joseph High School (Mt. Oliver), Janet worked as a legal secretary for over 10 years, studied drama and performed with the Mt. Lebanon Players and the Pittsburgh Playhouse in the 1950s and 1960s, owned/managed Jefferson Swim Club from 1970-1987, won numerous Diocesan championships as St. Gabriel's cheerleading coach from 1974-1995, and served as President of Tri-River Design & Construction, Inc. for 15 years. Janet was a devoted and active parishioner of St. Gabriel's parish for 50 years, where she faithfully served as a lector, soloist, and choir member. Friends and family will be received at the **JOHN F. SLATER FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 412-881-4100, 4201 Brownsville Road, Brentwood, 15227 on Saturday and Sunday from 2:00 - 4:00 and 6:30-8:30 p.m. Funeral prayer on Monday morning at 9:00, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial in Our Lady of Hope Parish, St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Virgin Church at 10:00 a.m. Interment to follow at Queen of Heaven Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to Shriners Hospitals for Children (www.LoveShriners.org) or the local "Legion of Mary", c/o 5141 Morningrise Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15236. Please send condolences to www.johnslater.com
Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

DOUGLAS G. BOYD



On Wednesday, August 11, 2021, Douglas G., age 55, of West View. Beloved son of the late George and Mary M. Boyd. Loving brother of Deborah (George) Uhl and Mary Elizabeth (Thomas) Luster; dear uncle of Christopher Uhl. Friends received at the **HERSHBERGER-STOVER INC. FUNERAL HOME**, 170 Noble Avenue, Crafton, on Sunday 2-4 and 6-8 PM. Mass of Christian Burial in the Ascension Worship Site of St. Philip Church, 114 Berry St., Ingram on Monday at 10 AM. If desired, memorials may be made to Northland Public Library, 300 Cumberland Rd., Pgh., PA 15237. www.hershberger-stoverfh.com
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CHARLES "CHUCK" GRODES, JR.



Age 73, of Pittsburgh, passed away August 11, 2021. He was the beloved husband of Celine Grodes. Loving father of the late Charles Grodes III, Jacqueline Bradner, Alicia Voskamp, Paul Popp, Tommy Popp, and the late Ricky Popp. Proud grandfather of Alexandra (Cody), Janelle (Robert) Amanda, Jacob, Josh, Sean, Michael, Chelsea, Joel, Jocelyn, and the late Ashley. Great-grandfather of Matthew, Joseph, Madison, Nick, Ashley, Brandon, Zoe, Kiresten, and Charlie. Son of the late Elizabeth "Betty" and Charles Grodes, Sr. Loving brother of Donald and Raymond Grodes. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews, cherished friends and neighbors.
Chuck was a well decorated soldier in the United States Army, serving 3 tours in Vietnam and receiving the Bronze Star with Valor. Chuck retired as a laborer from the Local Labor Union #373. He was an avid motorcyclist and a member of VFW Post 586.
Arrangement by **BEINHAEUER**. Friends received Tuesday, from 10:00 to 12:00 PM, 2:00 to 4:00 PM, and 6:00 to 8:00 PM, at 430 Washington Road, Bridgeville, where a Blessing Service will be held on Wednesday at 10:00 AM. Entombment at the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies. Memorial contribution may be made to the Veterans Leadership Program (www.veteransleadershipprogram.org).
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ROBERT L. "RED" DILLA



At his Ingram home, with family by his side, on Saturday, August 7, 2021, Robert L. "Red", age 86. Beloved husband of Roberta "Bobbi" Dilla and the late Nancy Dilla. Loving father of the late Carrie Keglovich and the late John M., Robert L. Jr. and Mark D. Dilla. Dear grandfather of Stephanie, Matthew and Kaitlin Dilla and the late Ryan Keglovich. Great-grandfather of Bethany Dilla and Hailey Miller. Brother (Raymond) Sloss and Lenore (Ronald) Feiling. Friends received at the **HERSHBERGER-STOVER, INC. FUNERAL HOME**, 170 Noble Avenue, Crafton, on Saturday from 4:30 p.m. until time of the service at 7:30 p.m. If desired, memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105-9959.
www.hershberger-stoverfh.com
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SCOTT ALLEN HOLLINGER



Age 63, passed away after a courageous 2.5-year battle with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS). He passed surrounded by his loving wife of 37 years, Kathleen (Phillips) Hollinger and daughters, Lindsay (Chris) Litterini and Nicole (Ryan) Omecene. The only son of the late Lucy and Theodore Hollinger, Scott was a proud Pop Pop to two granddaughters, Aubrey Lynn and Claire Scott Omecene. Scott is survived by sisters, Pamela (James) Curcio, Lori (Robert) Massaro, Mary Beth (Scott) Higgins, aunt and Godmother, Bernice (Ken) Eichelinger, Aunts Theresa Lasher and Dorothy Murray, nieces and nephews, Michael (Julia) Curcio, Janine Curcio (Josh Sherer), Samantha, Alex and Mathew Higgins, and Lucia and Sophia Massaro. He also leaves behind many other relatives and longtime friends who loved him. Scott was a lifelong member of St. Joseph's Church (Holy Family Parish), Verona and a graduate of Riverview High School in Oakmont. He earned an Accounting degree from Marietta College, where he was a four-year letterman catcher on the baseball team, and was employed as the controller at Conco Services, LLC., for 40 years. Scott and Kathy met after a Pitt Football game, went on their first date to a Penguins game and were then season ticket holders for nearly 40 years, a pastime they enjoyed with their daughters and dear friends. He was an avid golfer and member of Edgewood Country Club and the former Churchill Valley Country Club. In lieu of customary remembrances, the family suggests that memorials be made to the ALS Association Western Pennsylvania Chapter, team "Scooters Bunch" (4116 Lincoln Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15209). Friends received at **WILLIAM F. GROSS FUNERAL HOME**, 11735 Frankstown Rd. (at Rodi Rd.), Penn Hills Monday, August 16, 2021, from 1 until 4 p.m. and from 6 until the time of the blessing service at 8 p.m. The family is requesting that everyone wear a mask. A private interment at Mt. Hope Cemetery and celebration of life will be held at a future date.
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ANDREW ORIN KINGSLEY



Andrew Orin Kingsley, 59, passed away August 6th, 2021, in Bradenton, Florida. Previous resident of Michigan and Pennsylvania. Son of Ray and Rosemary Kingsley, he is survived by wife, Michelle Kingsley, children, Sarah (Jacob), Lauren, Eric, and Dana, grandfather to Levi, brothers, Joe (Kristal), Greg (Sharon). Andrew was a man who loved his family, was always patient, a great leader, hard worker, he never complained, never asked for much but always gave his everything to anyone who needed a hand. He was a sports fanatic and loved all kinds of music. He was a quiet man, but silence with him was never awkward. He could make even the most uncomfortable situation bearable. Andrew Kingsley was an amazing guy who will be dearly missed. A private celebration of life will be held in Michigan. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Pressley Ridge or 1st Tee in Andrew's name. Contributions will support kids and families in need. www.pressleyridge.org <https://firsttee.org>
Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

JOHN MICHAEL FRITSCH



John M. Fritsch, of West Mifflin, passed peacefully at his home on Thursday, August 12, 2021, at the age of 77. He was the beloved husband of 51 of the late Nancy (Widmaier) Fritsch; father of Jennifer (Aaron) Fritsch Anderson, Jason (Julie Wiczorek) Fritsch, Jamie (John) Oelschlagler and Justin Fritsch; grandfather of Teresa Fritsch, Aiden Oelschlagler and Josephine Fritsch; and brother of Ronald (Carol) Sossong and the late Richard Sossong. Family and friends will be received at the **SAVOLSKIS-WASIK-GLENN FUNERAL HOME INC.**, 3501 Main St., Munhall, PA 15120 on Tuesday, August 17, 5-8 PM. A Funeral Mass will be held Wednesday, August 18, 10 AM, at Holy Trinity Church of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, West Mifflin. John will join his beloved wife, Nancy, at Jefferson Memorial Park, Pittsburgh. Condolences may be left at www.swgfuneralhome.com.
Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

RHONDA L. (WEISHORN) MALLICK

Age 64, of Jeannette passed away Friday, August 13, 2021 after a long, courageous and miserable battle with cancer. Born May 25, 1957, in Pittsburgh a daughter of Florence (Suva) Edwards, of Pitcairn. She was employed in physician services for UPMC. She was a member of Cornerstone Ministries, of Murrysville. Rhonda was preceded in death by brothers, Richard Weishorn and Elvin Edwards; an extended family member, Karl Kopczynski; loving wife of John Mallick; mother of David (Lynn) Wilson, of Pittsburgh, Jaime McKenna, of Level Green; four grandchildren, Michael, Kayla, Floyd and Chance; sisters and brothers, Cheryl Zorn, Rod Weishorn, Cindy Weishorn and Lester Edwards; extended family Leonard and Esther Kopczynski, of Parrish FL, Diane Kopczynski, of Bradenton, FL, Karen (Joe) Semock, of Medina, OH; and several nieces and nephews. Rhonda will also be missed by her furry kids, Jake, Bailey and Petey. Friends will be received 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at **OTT FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 805 Pennsylvania Avenue, Irwin. A funeral service will be held Tuesday in the funeral home chapel. To send online condolences please visit: www.ottfuneralhome.com
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News Obituaries

NANCI GRIFFITH | July 6, 1953 - Aug. 13, 2021

Grammy Award-winning folk singer and songwriter

The Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Nanci Griffith, the Grammy-winning folk singer-songwriter from Texas whose literary songs like “Love at the Five and Dime” celebrated the South, has died. She was 68.

A statement from her management company on Friday confirmed her death, but no cause was provided.

“It was Nanci’s wish that no further formal statement or news release happen for a week following her passing,” Gold Mountain Entertainment said in a statement.

Ms. Griffith worked closely with other folk singers, helping the early careers of artists like Lyle Lovett and Emmylou Harris.

She was also known for her recording of “From a Distance,” which would later become a well-known Bette Midler tune. That cover appeared on her first major label release, “Lone Star State of Mind,” in 1987.

Her 1993 album “Other Voices, Other Rooms,” earned a Grammy for best

contemporary folk album. Named after a Truman Capote novel, the album features Ms. Griffith singing with Ms. Harris, John Prine, Arlo Guthrie and Guy Clark on classic folk songs.

In 2008, Ms. Griffith won the Lifetime Achievement Trailblazer Award from the Americana Music Association.

Country singer Suzy Bogguss, who had a Top 10 hit with Ms. Griffith’s song “Outbound Plane,” posted a remembrance to her friend on Instagram.

“I feel blessed to have many memories of our times together along with most everything she ever recorded. I’m going to spend the day reveling in the articulate masterful legacy she’s left us,” Ms. Bogguss wrote.

Darius Rucker called Ms. Griffith one of his idols and why he moved to Nashville.

“Singing with her was [one of] my favorite things to do,” he wrote on Twitter.

Keeping in line with the tradition of folk music, Ms. Griffith often wrote social

commentary into her songs, such as the anti-racist ode “It’s a Hard Life Wherever You Go,” and the economic impact on rural farmers in the 1980s on “Trouble in the Fields.”

“I wrote it because my family were farmers in West Texas during the Great Depression,” Ms. Griffith told the Los Angeles Times in a 1990 interview. “It was written basically as a show of support for my generation of farmers.”

Ms. Griffith gained many fans in Ireland and Northern Ireland, where she would often tour.

Early in her career Ms. Griffith was seen as a country artist. But, she told The New York Times in 1988, “Though the term folk tends to be perceived as a bad word in the music industry today, I’m proud of my folk background.” She added: “When I was young I listened to Odetta records for hours and hours. Then when I started high school, Loretta Lynn came along. Before that, country music hadn’t had a



Julie Jacobson/Associated Press

Nanci Griffith performs during the ACLU Freedom Concert on Oct. 4, 2004, in New York. The Grammy-winning folk singer-songwriter, who died Friday at 68, was known for music that celebrated the South and included social commentary.

guitar-playing woman who wrote her own songs.”

The daughter of parents who were both interested in the arts (although she once recalled them as “very, very

irresponsible”), Ms. Griffith began performing when she was 14 and continued performing while at the University of Texas. She won a songwriting award at the

Kerrville Folk Festival in Texas in 1977, which led to a deal with a local label.

The New York Times contributed.

LATEST DEATHS

The Post-Gazette’s comprehensive report of recent deaths includes three types of obituaries. News obituaries, prepared by our staff, are published at the discretion of our editors. Classified obituaries are paid death notices

prepared by funeral home directors. To place a classified obituary, call 412-263-1371. To suggest a news obituary, call 412-263-1601. Funeral home directors may also call 412-263-1601 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. to note a death for which there is no clas-

sified obituary. Those names will be listed under other deaths.

CLASSIFIED OBITUARIES

BEITEL, Charlotte E., Green Tree
BOYD, Douglas G., West View
DILLA, Robert L. “Red,” Ingram
FRITSCH, John Michael, West

Miffin
GODEK, Ronald Andrew “Ron,” Beechview
GRODES, Charles Jr. “Chuck,” Pittsburgh
HOLLINGER, Scott Allen
HYRB, Janet F., formerly Whitehall

KINGLSEY, Andrew Orin, Bradenton, Fla.
MALLICK, Rhonda L. Weishorn, Jeannette
McGILL, Ruth V., Oakland, formerly Garfield
MOLTIERNO, Joseph Albert
O’TOOLE, Josephine Freil,

Brookline, formerly Lawrenceville and Soho
STRINGERT, Robert J. Jr., Sewickley, formerly Bellevue
VEVERKA, Albert, Mt. Lebanon
WEIR, Maria Y., Ross
WYNN, Richard L. “Rich,” Monroeville

CLASSIFIED OBITUARIES

JOSEPH ALBERT MOLITIerno



Joseph Albert Moliterno, 72, passed peacefully and surrounded by his family at his home on Saturday August 7, 2021, after a courageous 4.5 year battle with pancreatic cancer. Joe was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to Salvatore and Frances Moliterno who preceded him in his death. From an early age, Joe found his calling as the champion of the little guy, always stepping up to bully the bullies. He

attended Indiana University of Pennsylvania where he earned both Bachelors and Masters degrees in Criminal Justice, but most importantly met the love of his life, Wanda, with whom he married and celebrated 51 years together. He accepted a job with the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (PLCB) and the newly married couple moved to Punxsutawney, PA where they started a family with the addition of their son, Joe and one year later their daughter, Alyssa. Joe retired from the PLCB after 34 years of exemplary service, working his way up through the ranks from undercover agent to supervisor. Joe had many interests including the Lions Club, coaching football at PAHS, teaching criminology at IUP Punxsutawney, mentoring underprivileged children, Pittsburgh Panthers and Steelers sports, classic muscle cars, golf and travel. However none of his interests were more important to him than his family, which he loved more than anything in this world. Joe and Wanda moved to Greenville, NC part time in 2011 to be near their children and grandchildren. Joe was preceded in his death by his parents, Salvatore and Frances Moliterno and his younger brother, Bert Moliterno. He will be lovingly remembered by his devoted wife, Wanda, his son, Dr. Joe Moliterno, Jr. (Taylor) of Charlotte, NC; his daughter, Alyssa Hardee (Denton) and grandsons, Owen and Mason of Greenville, NC; and his brothers, Tom (Lucy) of Fayette, Ohio and Steve (Karen) and sister, Annette Soxman (Greg) of Pittsburgh, PA, sister-in-law, Cindy Moliterno of Pittsburgh, PA, as well as numerous nieces and nephews. Joe lived his life as we should all aspire to live with devotion to his family and service to his fellow man, sometimes with own life in danger. He will always be a part of us and will forever be the strongest and bravest man that we have ever known; our hero. We love you Joe and we know that you are looking down on us and protecting us as you did when you were here. In lieu of flowers, we ask that donations be made to the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (PANCAN) in order to fund future research into this dreaded disease. A celebration of his life will be held at a later date.

Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

JOSEPHINE (FREIL) O’TOOLE



Born Josephine Gibson Freil in Boyers, PA, Butler County, formerly of Lawrenceville, Soho, and longtime resident of Brookline, age 92, passed away on August 11, 2021, in Bridgeville. Josephine was born December 29, 1928, the daughter of the late Charles and Margaret Freil. She was the wife of the late Michael O’Toole (a former Pittsburgh policeman); the beloved sister of the late Charles W. Freil, Francis Freil and

Elizabeth Freil; loving mother of Michael O’Toole (Karen), Sharon O’Toole Hallstein (Mark), and Kevin O’Toole; special mother-in-law to Mark Hallstein, who became another son to her and her husband; and proud grandmother of Alaina Hallstein, who brought great joy into her grandma’s life and who followed in her career path to become a nurse. Josephine became a nurse in 1951 at St. Margaret’s Hospital, but took a hiatus for some time to raise her children before returning to her nursing career working with unwed mothers (Salvation Army) and the elderly (Methodist Home). She was always there to help her children, family and friends. She will be dearly missed by all who had the pleasure to know her. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Humane Animal Rescue of Pittsburgh, 6926 Hamilton Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15208, or to St. Mark’s Evangelical Lutheran Church, 933 Brookline Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15226. Visitation is private at the request of the family. Please share your condolences and stories online at www.deborfuneralhome.com. Arrangements are being handled by **FRANK F. DEBOR FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES, INC.**; 412-561-0380.

Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

ALBERT VEVERKA

Of Mt. Lebanon, passed away peacefully on August 13, 2021. He is survived by his beloved wife of 49 years, Marilyn, his son, Albert P., as well as two grandchildren. Albert grew up in Cleveland, Ohio, the son of Helen and Albert Veverka. He and his wife moved to Mt. Lebanon following his service in the United States Navy. Albert would earn his undergraduate degree at Robert Morris University, and masters from the University of Pittsburgh and Duquesne University. Albert taught at North Catholic High School on Troy Hill, and went on to serve as the Assistant Principal, and then Principal at Waynesburg Central High School. Upon his retirement, Albert worked for the Mt. Lebanon Parking Authority. Family and friends will be received at the **WILLIAM SLATER II FUNERAL SERVICE**, 1650 Greentree Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15220, on Monday, August 16, 2021, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, August 17, 2021 at St. Bernard Church, St. Michael the Archangel Parish. Burial to follow in Queen of Heaven Cemetery, US 19, McMurray, PA 15317. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Family Hospice, 310 Fisk St., Pittsburgh, PA 15201.

www.slaterfuneral.com
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MARIA Y. WEIR



Age 76, of Ross Twp., passed away on Wednesday, August 11, 2021. Born September 8, 1944, daughter of the late Kuk Shu Huh, and Cha Suhm Yang. Beloved wife of 28 years to William D. Weir; loving mother of Paul Huh; dear sister of Chong Woon Huh, Chong Joe Huh, Ok Huh, and Keum Ok Huh. Family and friends are welcome on Sunday from 1-5 p.m. at **DEVLIN FUNERAL HOME**, 806 Perry Hwy., North Hills.

Funeral Services will be held Monday at 11 a.m. at Hiland Presbyterian Church, 845 Perry Hwy., Pittsburgh, PA 15229. Everyone is asked to meet at church to celebrate Maria’s life on Monday morning. Interment will follow in the Hiland Presbyterian Church Cemetery.

Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

ROBERT J. STRINGERT, JR.



On Sunday, August 8, 2021, Robert Joseph “Rob” Stringert, Jr., passed away unexpectedly, at the age of 66. Son of the late Virginia M. (Graham) and Robert J. Stringert, Sr., Rob was of Sewickley, formerly of Bellevue. Brother of Janis Streich (Donald Melanson) of Virginia, Jill (Michael) Williams of Hawaii, and Howard (Michelle) Stringert of Colorado; fiancé and loving partner of Victoria Elizabeth

Graham, and attentive uncle of Graham J. and Colin D. Stringert, Jaclyn V. Presley, Elizabeth A. Streich, Owen M. and Ginny H.J. Williams. Great-uncle of Marin, Cora, Harrison, and Brianna Presley. He is also survived by Victoria’s children: Richard A. Graham, Jr. (Jessica), Jonathan Oliver Graham, (Lori Marie), and Elizabeth Mabel Cook (Jason). Rob was a loving Grandpa figure to Victoria’s 11 grandchildren, Alexandra, Jameson, George, Margaret, Aiden, and Findley Cook. Zora and Grant Graham, and Richard A. Graham, III “Trey”, Zori and Alina Soles. Rob was a graduate of Bellevue HS, Mercersburg Academy, and Kenyon College. He continued the family business, Stringert Inc., for 30 years. Rob was well liked and trusted among business associates, and friends. Rob devoted his passion for sports and nature through continued golf, fly fishing, and birding. His most recent attentions were devoted to maintaining a lovely garden and home, while continuing his deep appreciation for excellent music. Friends will be received Sunday from 1:00-3:00 pm and 5:00-7:00 pm at the **LAWRENCE T. MILLER FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 460 Lincoln Avenue, Bellevue. Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated 10:30am on Monday, August 16th at the Church of the Assumption, 45 N. Sprague Avenue, Bellevue. Private inurnment at St. James Cemetery will be at a later date. In lieu of flowers, family suggests memorials be made to Light of Life Rescue Mission-Women’s and Children’s Program (lightoflife.org), the First Tee (firsttee.org/donate) or the National Aviary of Pittsburgh (aviary.org).

Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

RICHARD “RICH” L. WYNN



Of Monroeville, age 80, died peacefully at home on Thursday, August 12, 2021. Beloved husband of Judith (Palarino) Wynn for 55 years. Loving father of Richard L. (Jennifer) Wynn, Jr. of Monroeville and Beth (David) Boyd of Monroeville. Precious grandfather of Chad (Jeana) Wynn, Chelsea (Russ) Lehosky, Jake Wynn and Corey Wynn. Proud great-grandfather of Riley Lehosky, Cooper Wynn, Russell

Lehosky and his expected great-granddaughter who is due to be born on August 16. Brother of Carolyn Giles of GA, Debra (Jay) Nixon of Monroeville and the late Rudolph (surviving spouse, Ruby) Wynn. Rich was a Vietnam War era Army veteran. He had a long career as an auto mechanic, working at various garages and dealerships and he even operated his own repair business, A&W Repair in Chalfant. Rich retired as a truck mechanic with Amerigas. Rich was a longtime volunteer firefighter in Monroeville. He was the former chief of Monroeville Fire Department #1 and was a lifetime member of Monroeville Fire Department #3. Rich also was an accomplished wood worker at his home shop. He crafted numerous items and was especially pleased to make a variety of children’s furniture for his grandchildren. Friends are welcome on Saturday from 2-4 and 6-8pm at **PATRICK T. LANIGAN FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATORY, INC.**, Turtle Creek/Monroeville Chapel, 1111 Monroeville Avenue, Turtle Creek, 412-823-9350 where a Fireman’s Service will be held at 7:30 pm on Saturday, followed by a Presentation of Military Honors.

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RUTH V. MCGILL



Of Oakland, formerly of Garfield, peacefully on Thursday, August 12, 2021. She was born on March 28, 1927, in Pittsburgh, to the late Joseph Staiger and Mary O’Shea. Mother of Susan Megarry, Michele Megarry-Acord (Gary), Mary Anne McGill, Kathy McGill Novak (Ray), Raymond McGill, Jr. (Joannie); sister of Dorothy Mae Dinzeo; grandmother of Kaitlin Daley (Justin); great-grandmother of Brady and Nolan Daley. She is also survived by many nieces, nephews, and dear friends. She was preceded in death by her husbands, William Megarry and Raymond A. McGill, Sr. Friends received at **McCABE BROS., INC. FUNERAL HOME**, 5300 Penn Avenue, Bloomfield, on Sunday, 12-4 and 6-8 pm, where a Funeral will commence on Monday at 9 am, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at St. Maria Goretti Parish, St. Joseph Church, 4712 Liberty Ave., Bloomfield, at 10 am. Interment to follow at Allegheny Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Family Hospice, 310 Fisk Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15201. Condolences may be left at www.mccabebrothers.com.

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ONCE UPON A TIME – PITTSBURGH

Prints of Fritz Keck's oil paintings of distinctive Pittsburgh scenes are now available at PG Store



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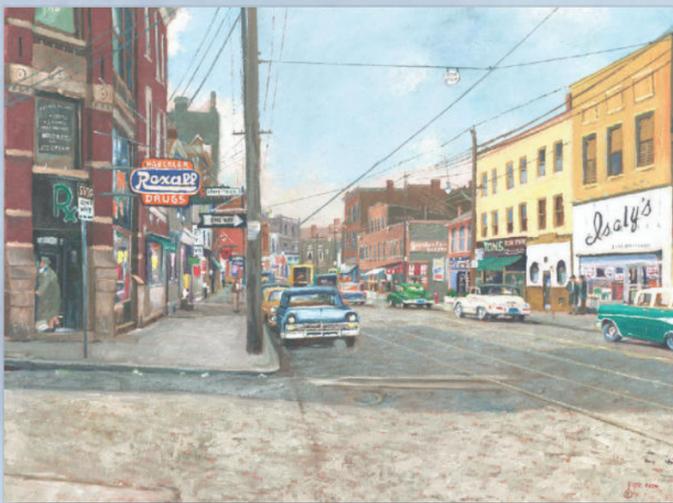
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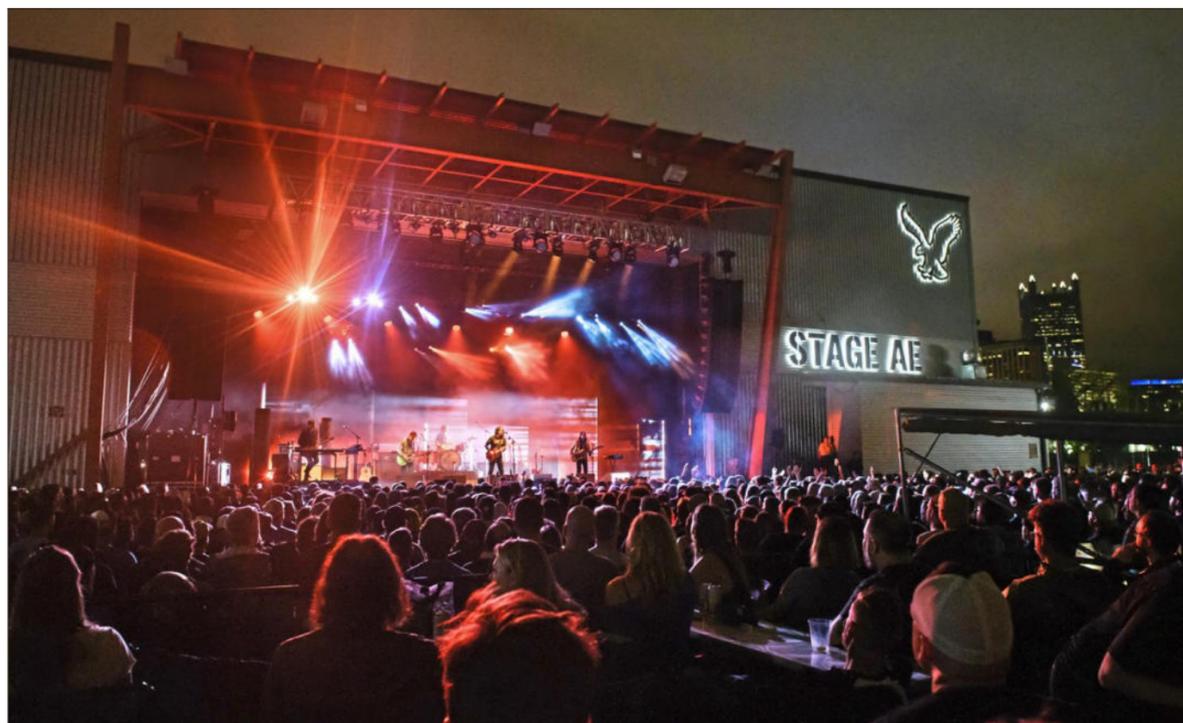


Welding Beam Woman 1945

12" x 16" \$66.99

To order or browse more prints, visit post-gazette.com/pgstore.

PG STORE



The Raconteurs perform in August 2019 at Stage AE on the North Shore.

Stephanie Strasburg/Post-Gazette

'PAPERS, PLEASE'

By Scott Mervis
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Beginning Wednesday, North Shore venue Stage AE will require concertgoers to present proof of COVID-19 vaccination or a negative test taken within 72 hours.

Beginning Oct. 1, a vaccination card or digital copy of it will be required for concertgoers and staff.

According to a news release, the Oct. 1 date was chosen to allow time for unvaccinated ticketholders and staff to get fully vaccinated should they choose to do so. Stage AE is part of AEG Presents, the world's second largest concert promoter.

"We have come to the conclusion that, as a market leader, it was up to us to take a

Stage AE joins concert venues requiring proof of COVID-19 vaccination

real stand on vaccination status," Jay Marciano, chief operating officer of AEG and chairman and CEO of AEG Presents, said in a statement. "Just a few weeks ago, we were optimistic about where our business, and country, were heading. The delta variant, combined with vaccine hesitancy, is pushing us in the wrong direction again.

"We realize that some people might look at this as a dramatic step, but it's the right one. We also are aware that there might be some initial pushback, but I'm confident

and hopeful that, at the end of the day, we will be on the right side of history and doing what's best for artists, fans and live event workers."

Shawn Trell, COO and general counsel of AEG Presents, added: "Certain states' regulations may override our mandate, or a few artists may not want to immediately get on board with the plan, but we know that using our platform to take a strong position on vaccinations can make an impact. The message we want to send is simple and clear: The only way to be as safe as possible is to require everyone to be vaccinated. And we're confident that others who haven't been ready to make this full commitment yet will follow our lead."

SEE **STAGE AE**, PAGE WC-2



Heather Mull Photography

Catherine Gowl and Sam Turich in Quantum Theatre's production of "An Odyssey" at the Schenley Park ice rink.

A different Odysseus washes up at Schenley rink in Quantum show

By Tyler Dague
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

When Homer was writing "The Odyssey," he probably wasn't picturing an ice rink.

Thanks to the inventive Quantum Theatre, the Schenley Park ice rink has been transformed into an ancient Greek isle where quick-thinking protagonist Odysseus has washed ashore in "An Odyssey." Directed by Jed Allen Harris, the world-premiere adaptation opened Friday and runs through Sept. 15. Tickets start at \$38 at Quantumtheatre.com.

"An Odyssey," written by Jay Ball, picks up during the Homeric epic's middle section in which Odysseus is taken in by Nausicaa, daughter of King Alcinoos, who listens to the Greek warrior recount his perilous journey home from Troy.

Sam Turich plays the eponymous role, which is far from the shining hero many readers re-

member from school, giving Odysseus a modern vibe.

"He's got this reputation for being wily and clever and a liar," Turich said. "We see a lot of that in our contemporary life both in the kinds of antihero narratives that have been so popular. Thinking of 'The Sopranos,' 'Mad Men,' 'Breaking Bad,' these long, epic sagas of guys who are lying and cheating and murdering ... their way into prominence."

The core relationship in "An Odyssey" is between Odysseus and Nausicaa, a minor character in Homer's original. Played by Erika Strasburg, Nausicaa starts "as a brat," she said, but then life throws her in a new direction. At first she is excited to find the famous hero on the beach but discovers Odysseus is not someone to idolize.

Strasburg pointed to a pivotal moment when actor Sam Lothard,

SEE **ODYSSEUS**, PAGE WC-2

Pet tales

LINDA WILSON FUOCO

Humane Animal Rescue plans food distribution

Free dog food will be given away on Aug. 23, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at Humane Animal Rescue of Pittsburgh's North Side campus. People should drive their vehicles to the shelter at 1101 Western Ave. 15233, and staff will load the food from its Ellie's Pet Pantry.

At a distribution in April, more than 10,300 pounds of dog food was distributed, enough to feed 383 dogs and puppies. So far this year, the pantry has given out over 52,000 pounds of food through regularly scheduled and emergency distributions. Prior to COVID-19, Ellie's Pet Pantry was helping about 50 families per month.

HARP "is committed to helping keep pets in loving homes," according to a news release. The pantry is "assisting those who are experiencing financial insecurity and struggling to keep their families intact."

"Pets are an important part of our families," said Dan Rossi, CEO of Humane Animal Rescue of Pittsburgh. "Many Pittsburghers are still facing financial difficulties, and they need Ellie's Pet Pantry more than ever. We want to make sure no one has to make the difficult decision to give up their pet because they can't provide basic care."

Go to humaneanimalrescue.org to learn how to get assistance or how you can support the program.

HARP summer gala

Wags Whiskers & Wings on Aug. 28, 5-8 p.m., is an "end of summer pawty" that benefits Humane Animal Rescue of Pittsburgh.

Live music, "delicious bites" and craft cocktails will be under a large tent at the Homewood shelter, 6926 Hamilton Ave. 15208. Guests will also have the chance to tour the shelter and interact with adoptable animals.

Tickets, \$250-\$400, must be ordered in advance at humaneanimalrescue.org. Sponsors include Highmark, Allegheny Health Network and UPMC Hillman Cancer Center.

Cat bingo benefit

Play bingo, have lunch, bid on auctions and win "cat-tastic prizes" at the Catnip Bingo on Sept. 19 in Baldwin. It's a fundraiser for FosterCat Inc., the all-volunteer organization that has found homes for more than 2,250 cats since 1999.

Doors open at noon at Salvatore's, 5001 Curry Road 15236. Tickets must be purchased in advance this year, and walk-ins are not allowed because the restaurant needs advance notice on the number of lunch orders.

A \$40 ticket covers 10 bingo games (six cards per game) and a full-course lunch, including dessert and a beverage. Baked goods will be available for purchase.

SEE **RESCUE**, PAGE WC-2

PBS Kids series 'Alma's Way' to premiere Oct. 4

By Joshua Axelrod
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Another new Fred Rogers Productions series is heading to PBS Kids.

The Pittsburgh-based nonprofit announced Tuesday that "Alma's Way," which follows the adventures of 6-year-old Alma Rivera, will premiere Oct. 4. The show was created by Sonia Manzano, who played Maria on "Sesame Street."

"I am so excited to be working with PBS Kids and Fred Rogers Productions to introduce Alma, a strong and positive Puerto Rican girl who will empower young viewers," Manzano said in a press release. "Alma's way is to think things through, and we hope the

new series will show kids that their thought processes are valid and give them the confidence to think critically."

The rest of the Rivera family includes her parents, grandfather, little brother, Junior, and dog, Chacho. "Alma's Way" is geared toward children 4-6 years old and is designed to teach them problem-solving skills through her "Think Through" moments.

"Alma's Way" will highlight a different element of Latino culture every episode. It will be available in both English and Spanish on all PBS Kids platforms.

"We're thrilled to welcome Alma and her family to PBS Kids this fall," Linda Simensky, PBS Kids' head of content, said in a

press release. "Alma's unique humor and spirit are rooted in the everyday stories of her neighborhood. All children across America deserve to see themselves represented in stories that celebrate and give voice to their lived experiences. That philosophy is at the heart of PBS Kids."

Music will be a prominent part of "Alma's Way" and may serve as an introduction for young viewers to Plena, Bomba, salsa, Colombian cumbia and Son Cubano. The show's theme song is performed by Flaco Navaja and Summer Rose Castillo, who voices Alma, and it was written and produced by Bill Sherman and Lin-Manuel Miranda

SEE **ALMA**, PAGE WC-2



Fred Rogers Productions

"Alma's Way," a new PBS Kids series from Fred Rogers Productions, features a Puerto Rican family.

Stage AE requiring proof of vaccination

STAGE AE, FROM WC-1

The AEG website also addresses the issue of young concert-goers who are not vaccinated: "As the vaccine has not been approved for use on kids under age 12, a negative COVID test taken within 72 hours of the event will be required."

It also says, "We will accommodate medical and religious exemptions upon submission of necessary documentation. Please contact the venue or festival directly for requirements."

Live Nation, meanwhile, is requiring its employees to be vaccinated but leaving it up to performers to decide the vaccination status of concertgoers. Live Nation, the nation's leading concert promoter, sent an email to employees that was obtained by Variety

and Rolling Stone. "Our teams have worked together to put new processes in place so that artists doing shows with Live Nation in the U.S. can require all attendees and staff to be fully vaccinated or show a negative test result for entry, where permitted by law," wrote Live Nation CEO Michael Rapino.

"We know people are eager to return to live events, and we hope these measures encourage even more people to get vaccinated. That is the number one thing anyone can do to take care of those around them, and we are encouraging as many shows as possible to adopt this model."

Live Nation is presenting the Hella Mega Tour with Green Day, Fallout Boy and Weezer at PNC Park on Aug. 19. There is no requirement yet on that show, but Ma-

roon 5 announced on social media Thursday that proof of vaccination or a negative test within 48 hours of its concerts will be required. Maroon 5 is to perform Aug. 25 at The Pavilion at Star Lake in Burgettstown.

Two other Pittsburgh venues, Roboto and Spirit, announced Thursday that they are each implementing similar policies.

In response to the announcement, Stage AE's Instagram account lit up with comments Thursday, some praising the move — "BIG SUPPORT TO YOU GUYS FOR THIS!!!! — others declaring they will no longer attend concerts there and comparing it to totalitarianism.

"Your papers, please," one commenter said.

Scott Mervis: smervis@post-gazette.com.



Heather Mull Photography

Ladies in waiting Nancy McNulty, left, Shammen McCune and Grace Vensel with Erika Strasburg as Nausicaa in Quantum Theatre's production of "An Odyssey."

Different Odysseus washes up at Schenley ice rink

ODYSSEUS, FROM WC-1

a Black man, enters as the cyclops Polyphemus to face Odysseus.

"It's the first time we realize Odysseus might not be the hero that we've always thought of him to be," Strasburg said. "It's a huge shift in the show. It's a really powerful reflection on what's happened this past year with the Black Lives Matter movement."

"An Odyssey" has been fine-tuned since its 2019 workshop production and was scheduled for Quantum's 30th anniversary season. Pandemic protocols forced the cast to rehearse completely outdoors at the ice rink, which would become very wet after each summer rain.

The ice rink is near the Schenley Oval Sportsplex, a playground and the park's disc golf course. Turich said the cast faced their first group of hecklers during rehearsal of a sword fighting scene.

"It was an excellent early test of our concentration to be able to work our way through a dangerous sword

fight while strangers were yelling at us," he said. "It was good practice."

The audience will be on platform risers at one end of the rink, and the "stage" will take up the rest of the rink. Many feet of rope are used to set the scene in a minimalist way, and actors will have microphones. Lighting designer Todd Brown and his team installed a full theater rig of lights for when the sun sets behind the trees.

"We use a lot of theater magic to create a really imaginative space where we're asking the audience, 'This is a luggage cart, but now it's a boat. Do you see it with us? This is a tarp, but now it's a wave,'" Strasburg said. "It has that old school [feel], like we're pulling tricks out of a box. As an actor, that's part of the reason I do this."

Playing the role of Odysseus — a man far from home, often at sea, without shelter — in an outdoor space helped Turich identify with the character, he said. In its 30 years, the theater company has taken over a variety of outdoor areas, ranging from the Frick Park lawn

bowling greens to the rose garden at Mellon Park and the main gates of the Pittsburgh Zoo.

"Quantum has always had the ability to be very nimble," he said.

Turich and Strasburg stressed the collaboration between the cast and playwright, director and artistic director Karla Boos on this world-premiere production and noted how grateful they were to trod the boards (or ice rink) again.

"Coming out of a really hard year for all of us, to have the support of a live audience again is probably going to be the most powerful part of this for everyone involved," Strasburg said.

Tyler Dague: rdague@post-gazette.com, 412-263-1569 and on Twitter @rt-dague.

Humane Animal Rescue plans food distribution, gala

RESCUE, FROM WC-1

Winners get cash, and there are door prizes and a 50/50 raffle. An autographed Steelers helmet will be auctioned.

There are three ways to get tickets: go to FosterCat.org, call 412-481-9144 or email info@fostercat.org. If you call or email, leave your name, address, phone number and the number of tickets you wish to order.

Stay tuned for upcoming announcements on the FosterCat Facebook page, which has over 1,500 followers.

Cat flea (market)

A giant flea market and auction will be held by the FluffyJean Fund for Felines on Sept. 11. The Feline Extravaganza will be 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Ginger Hill Grange, Route 136, Finleyville 15332.

Proceeds help to trap feral cats, neuter and vaccinate them, and then return them to the environment where they were trapped.

Linda Wilson Fuoco: lfuoco@post-gazette.com or 412-263-3064 or at PG Pets on Facebook.

'Alma's Way' to premiere Oct. 4

ALMA, FROM WC-1

of "Hamilton" fame.

"Alma's Way" will be the latest Fred Rogers Production show to launch; the Mister Rogers-inspired "Donkey Hodie" debuted on PBS Kids in May.

"The stories on 'Alma's Way' are designed to help kids learn to think for themselves and take into consideration the perspectives of those around them," Ellen

Doherty, Fred Rogers Productions' chief creative officer, said in a press release. "As Alma thinks things through, she models self-advocacy, empathy and social awareness.

"She's a smart kid with a big heart. We hope young viewers will think she's way, way, way fun to watch!"

Joshua Axelrod: jaxelrod@post-gazette.com and Twitter @jaxelburgh.

SATURDAY		MOVIES	SPORTS	KIDS	NEWS	TALK		
	8	8:30	9	9:30	10	10:30	11	11:30
2 KDKA	Magnum P.I. The Lies We Tell. Rick visits Icepick.	NCIS: New Orleans One of Our Own. (CC)	48 Hours (CC)	News at Eleven (N)	Paid Program (11:35)			
4 WTAE	America's Funniest Home Videos (CC)	Shark Tank Storing paint; a vehicle charger.	The Good Doctor Forgive or Forget. (CC)	Action News 4 (N)	The Carbonaro Effect			
6 WJAC	America's Got Talent Auditions 8. Variety acts audition.	Dateline NBC (CC)	News (N)	SNL				
7 WTRF	Magnum P.I. (CC)	NCIS: New Orleans	48 Hours (CC)	7News (N)	Paid Prog.			
8 WWCN	Hell's Kitchen	Fantasy Island (CC)	News (N)	Last Man	Game of Talents (CC)			
9 WTOV	America's Got Talent Auditions 8. Variety acts audition.	Dateline NBC (CC)	News (N)	SNL				
10 WTAJ	Magnum P.I. (CC)	NCIS: New Orleans	48 Hours (CC)	News (N)	Gone Viral			
11 WPKI	America's Got Talent Auditions 8. Variety acts audition. (CC)	Dateline NBC (CC)	Channel 11 News at (N)	Saturday Night Live				
13 WQED	O'Donnell-Guests	Great Performances Broadway Beyond the Golden Age. A glimpse inside Broadway. (CC)	Liza With a Z A 1972 concert featuring Liza Minnelli. (CC)					
16 WINP	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU				
19 WPCW	Walker Drive. (Season Finale) (N) (CC)	The Outpost Talon and Luna fight to save Zed. (N)	10 O'Clock News (N)	The Nightly Sports Call	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)		
21 WFMJ	America's Got Talent Auditions 8. Variety acts audition.	Dateline NBC (CC)	News (N)	SNL				
22 WPNT	USL Championship Soccer	Raw Travel (CC)	PROTECT YOUR	Bob's Burgers (CC)	Bob's Burgers (CC)	Emeril's Homemade Pasta Secret!		
27 WKBN	Magnum P.I. (CC)	NCIS: New Orleans	48 Hours (CC)	First News	NCIS (11:35)			
33 WYTV	To Be Announced	TBA	Game Time	News (N)	Outdoors			
40 WPCB	"Turnaround Winning Edge Jake" (7)	In Touch With Dr. Charles Stanley (N) (CC)	Prophecy USA (CC)	Leading the Way (CC)	Way of the Master	John Ankerberg (CC)		
43 WUAB	"The Robot vs. the Aztec Mummy" (1957) *	News (N)	Sports Extra	Burgers	Burgers			
53 WPGH	Hell's Kitchen A special charity dinner service.	Fantasy Island Hungry Christine; Mel Loves Ruby.	Channel 11 News (N)	Skincare Secrets	Game of Talents Two new teams compete. (CC)			
59 WPEA	Columbo Murder in Malibu. Murder of a famous novelist.	Columbo The murder of a college professor. (CC)						

PREMIUM CABLE							
HBO	"Jurassic Park" (1993) *** Sam Neill, Laura Dern, Jeff Goldblum. (CC)	"The Lost World: Jurassic Park" (10:10) (1997) ** Jeff Goldblum, Julianne Moore. (CC)					
HBO/2	"Identity Thief" (7:05) (2013) * (CC)	"10 Years" (2011) ** Channing Tatum, Rosario Dawson, Justin Long. (CC)	"Battleship" (10:45) (2012) ** Taylor Kitsch, Alexander Skarsgard. (CC)				
HBO/FAM	"Flintstones-Rck" ** Tyler Perry. Premiere. (CC)	"Tyler Perry's Why Did I Get Married Too?" (8:31) (2010)	"Ford v Ferrari" (10:32) (2019) *** Matt Damon. (CC)				
HBO/SIG.	Hard Knocks: The Dallas Cowboys (8:05) (CC)	"New in Town" (2009) * Renée Zellweger, Harry Connick Jr. (CC)	"54" (10:40) (1998) ** Ryan Phillippe, Salma Hayek, Neve Campbell. (CC)				
MAX	"Blood Ties" (2013) ** Clive Owen. An ex-con and his policeman brother come to blows. (CC)	"The Transporter" (10:07) (2002) ** Jason Statham, Shu Qi. (CC)	"Trance" (11:40) (2013)				
SHO	Billions (7:30) (CC)	Billions Chuck has new evidence against Ave. (CC)	All Access (N) (CC)	Boxing Guillermo Rigondeaux vs. John Riel Casimero. (N) (L) (CC)			
STARZ	"Blade: Trinity" (6:32) (8:28) (CC)	Blindspotting (CC)	Power Book II: Raising Kanan (9:05) Don't Sleep.	"Tyler Perry's Meet the Browns" (9:58) (2008) ** Tyler Perry. (CC)	Blindspotting (11:43) (CC)		
STARZ-E	Spartacus-Sand	Spartacus-Sand	Spartacus: Blood and Sand (9:15) The death of Varro.	Spartacus: Blood and Sand (10:11) Revelations. (CC)	Spartacus: Blood and Sand (11:10) Kill Them All. (CC)		
STZENC	"Top Gun" (7:07) (1986) *** Tom Cruise.	"White House Down" (2013) ** Channing Tatum. Paramilitary soldiers take over the White House.	"Bloodshot" (11:15) (2020) ** Vin Diesel. (CC)				
STZ/ENCL	"Zero Dark Thirty" (6:21) (2012) *** (CC)	"Braveheart" (1995) *** Mel Gibson, Sophie Marceau, Patrick McGoohan. A Scottish rebel rallies his countrymen against England. (CC)					
STZ/ENCW	Dead Man's Walk Texas Rangers encounter Comanches. (Part 2 of 3) (CC)	Dead Man's Walk Texas Rangers encounter Comanches. (Part 3 of 3) (CC)	"The Rider" (11:02) (2017) *** (CC)				
STZ/ENSU	"Get Carter" (7:15) (2000) * (CC)	"Eastern Promises" (2007) *** Viggo Mortensen, Naomi Watts. (CC)	"Valkyrie" (10:43) (2008) ** Tom Cruise, Kenneth Branagh, Bill Nighy. (CC)				
TMC	"Changing Lanes" (7:15) (2002) *** (CC)	"Puppet Master" (1989) ** Paul Le Mat, Irene Miracle, Matt Roe. (CC)	"Puppet Master II" (1990) * Elizabeth MacLellan, Collin Bensen. (CC)				

BASIC, EXPANDED AND DIGITAL CABLE							
A&E	The First 48 Shootings in an Atlanta rap studio.	The First 48 A Miami rapper is gunned down. (CC)	The First 48 (10:01) Rise Up; Somebody's Friend.	The First 48 (11:04) Missing. (CC)			
AMC	"Grown Ups 2" (7:30) (2013) * Adam Sandler, Kevin James. (CC)	"Pixels" (9:45) (2015) * Adam Sandler. Premiere. Live action/animated. Video-game champions defend Earth from an alien invasion.					
ANIM	The Zoo: San Diego (Season Premiere) (N)	The Zoo: San Diego	The Zoo: San Diego	The Zoo: San Diego			
ATSP	MLB Baseball: Brewers at Pirates	Pirates Post.	Baseball	Racer H20	Baseball		
BBC	Eden: Untamed Planet (N) (CC)	Planet Earth (9:20) (CC)	Planet Earth	Caves. (CC)	Meerkat		
BET	"Tyler Perry's A Madea Family Funeral" (7) *	"Barbershop" (9:57) (2002) ** Premiere. (CC)					
BRAVO	"The Proposal" (2009) ** Sandra Bullock, Ryan Reynolds. A woman pretends to be engaged to evade deportation. (CC)	"Bridesmaids" (2011) *** Kristen Wiig, Maya Rudolph, Rose Byrne. (CC)					
CMT	"Back to the Future" (7:30) (1985) *** (CC)	"Back to the Future Part II" (1989) *** (CC)					
CNBC	American Greed (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)			
CNN	CNN Newsroom (N)	History of the Sitcom	Jerusalem: City of Faith	Jerusalem: City of Faith			
COM	"We're the Millers" (7:30) (2013) ** (CC)	"Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues" ***					
C-SPAN	Washington This Week	Public Affairs Events (CC)					
DEST	Flea Market Flip	Flea Market Flip	Flea Market Flip	Flea Market Flip	Flea Market Flip	Flea Market Flip	Flea Market Flip
DFC	Cake Boss (CC)	Cake Boss (CC)	Cake Boss (CC)	Cake Boss (CC)	Cake Boss (CC)	Cake Boss (CC)	Cake Boss (CC)
DIS	Big City Greens	Big City Greens	Miraculous: Ladybug	Miraculous: Ladybug	Big City Greens	Big City Greens	The Owl House (CC)
DSC	Expedition Unknown Intrigue in the Triangle. Josh investigates a disappearance. (N) (CC)	Expedition Unknown (10:02) Siberian Secrets. Josh Gates investigates a strange case. (N) (CC)					
DSC/INV	Sean Taylor: Murder of a Football Legend (CC)	Aaron Hernandez: An ID Murder Mystery (CC)	Aaron Hernandez: An ID Murder Mystery (CC)	Aaron Hernandez: An ID Murder Mystery (CC)			
E!	Saved/Bell	Saved/Bell	Saved/Bell	Saved/Bell	Saved/Bell	Saved/Bell	Saved/Bell
ESPN	Little League Baseball	Boxing Joshua Franco vs. Andrew Moloney. (N) (L)					
ESPN2	NBA Summer League Basketball: Cavaliers vs Knicks	NBA Summer League Basketball: Pistons vs Lakers					
ESPN-C	College Football From Nov. 23, 1974. (CC)	College Football (CC)					
EWTN	Two Crowns	Holy Rosary	Living Right With Dr. Ray	Web of Faith	Journey		
FNC	Watters' World (N) (CC)	Justice With Jeanine (N)	Unfiltered with (N)	Watters' World (CC)			
FOOD	Diners, Drive Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive Diners, Drive
FREE FRM	"Moana" (6:15) (2016)	"Sing" (8:45) (2016) *** Animated. Animals gather at a theater for a singing competition. (CC)	Voices of Matthew McConaughey, Reese Witherspoon. Premiere. (CC)	"Annie" (11:20) (2014)			
FS1	PBC Collection (CC)	PBC Collection (CC)	Mexico Primera Division Soccer Monterrey vs Pachuca.				
FX	"Don't Breathe" (2016) *** Jane Levy. A blind veteran turns the tables on three home intruders. (CC)	"Deadpool" (2016) *** Ryan Reynolds. Deadpool hunts down the man who nearly destroyed his life. (CC)					
FX	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy Yacht Rocky.	Family Guy Bri-Da.	Family Guy Bri, Robot.	Family Guy Trans-Fat.	Family Guy
GOLF	Golf Central (N) (CC)	PGA Tour Golf Wyndham Championship, Third Round. (CC)					
GSN	America	America	America	Family Feud	Family Feud	Family Feud	Family Feud
HALL	"It Was Always You" (7)	"Sealed With a Kiss: Wedding March 6" Premiere. (CC)	"The Baker's Son" (11:01)				
HGTV	Vacation House Rules (N)	Love It or List It (9:01)	Love It or List It (10:01)	Love It or List It (11:01)			
HIST	Pawn Stars Burying an early 20th-century football.	Pawn Stars (Season Premiere) Chum gets his hands on a trio of vintage comic strip characters. (N) (CC)	Pawn Stars (11:05) Rick's Gone With the Wind.				
IFC	"Fast Times at Ridgemont High" (1982) *** Sean Penn, Jennifer Jason Leigh, Judge Reinhold. (CC)	"Almost Famous" (10:05) (2000) **** Billy Crudup, Frances McDormand, Kate Hudson. (CC)					
LIFE	"The Virgin Sinners" (2020) Kaitlyn Bernard. Premiere. A killer targets seven schoolgirls after a prank goes wrong.	"Betrayed by My Husband" (10:03) (2017) Emmanuelle Vaugier, Cameron Bancroft, Kristen Harris. (CC)					
MSNBC	Week-Joshua Johnson (N)	Week-Joshua Johnson (N)	Voices-Alicia Menendez	Week-Joshua Johnson			
MTV	"Friday" (1995) *** Ice Cube, Nia Long. (CC)	"Next Friday" (2000) ** Ice Cube. (CC)					
NBCS	Premier Lacrosse League	Motorcycle Race	Motorcycle Race	Auctions (N Same-day)			
NGEO	To Catch a Smuggler	To Catch a Smuggler	To Catch a Smuggler	To Catch a Smuggler			
NICK	Tyler Perry's Unfiltered Young Dylan	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)
OWN	Love & Marriage: Huntsville Kimpossible Endeavor.	Love & Marriage: Huntsville Tacos with Beef. (N)	Family or Fiancé (N)	Love & Marriage: Huntsville Kimpossible Endeavor.			
OXYGEN	Accident, Suicide (N)	Accident, Suicide (N)	Snapped Clara Rector.	Dateline: Secrets			
PARMT	Batman	"The Dark Knight" (2008) **** Christian Bale, Heath Ledger. (CC)					
PCNC	Race to	PCNC	PCNC9P	PCNC93P	NightTalk	Pittsburgh	Paid Prog. PCNC 11
SC	What on Earth? Antarctic Polar Puzzle. Saw-shaped structure in Antarctica. (N) (CC)	What on Earth? A mysterious structure in Hawaii.					
SYFY	"Robin Hood" "Apollo 13" (1995) *** Tom Hanks, Bill Paxton, Kevin Bacon. Based on the true story of the ill-fated 1970 moon mission. (CC)	"Roboshark" (2015) (CC)					
TBS	"Aquaman" "Shazam!" (2019) *** Zachary Levi, Mark Strong. Shazam squares off against the evil Dr. Thaddeus Sivana. (CC)	Miracle Workers (N)	The Cube				
TCM	"The Big Country" (1958) *** Gregory Peck, Jean Simmons, Carroll Baker. Texas ranchers involve an Easterner in a water rights feud. (CC)	"The Man in the Gray Flannel Suit" ***					
TLC	Say Yes to the Dress (N)	sMothered (N)	Dr. Pimple Popper	Dr. Pimple Popper			
TNT	"Black Panther" (2018) *** Chadwick Boseman. Black Panther springs into action when an old enemy returns. (CC)	"Star Wars: The Last Jedi" (10:45) (2017) *** Mark Hamill. (CC)					
TOON	Final Space	Final Space	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Family Guy	Family Guy	Rick, Morty
TRAV	Most Terrifying Places	Destination Fear (N) (CC)	The Dead Files (N) (CC)	The Dead Files (CC)			
TRUTV	Inside Jokes	Inside Jokes	Inside Jokes	Inside Jokes	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers
TVL	Two Men	Two and a Half Men (8:45)	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men
USA	"John Wick: Chapter 3 -- Parabellum" (6:30) (2019)	"John Wick: Chapter 3 -- Parabellum" (9:15) (2019) *** Keanu Reeves, Halle Berry. Hit man John Wick battles the world's top assassins. (CC)					
VH1	"The Day After Tomorrow" (2004) ** Dennis Quaid, Jake Gyllenhaal. (CC)	"Hancock" **					
WE	Law & Order Skin Deep.	Law & Order Conspiracy.	Law & Order Forgiveness.	Law & Order (CC)			
WGN-A	NewsNation Prime (N)	Banfield (CC)	Banfield (CC)	NewsNation Prime (CC)			

Friday, Aug. 13, 2021

PENNSYLVANIA LOTTERY

For prize amounts and more information, go to: post-gazette.com/lottery

Friday's Mega Millions 17-21-35-40-53

Mega ball: 11 Megaplier: 2

Friday's Cash 5 1-5-8-28-38

Friday's Cash 4 Life 10-27-41-51-58 CB: 1

Friday's Match 6 24-27-32-3

Peanuts



By Charles Schulz

Mutts



By Patrick McDonnell

Doonesbury



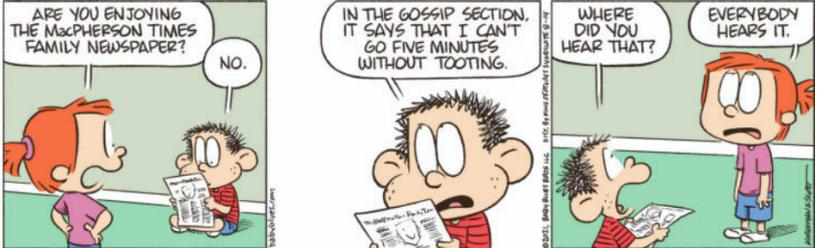
By Garry Trudeau

Zits



By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman

Baby Blues



By Jerry Scott and Rick Kirkman

Sally Forth



By Francesco Marciuliano & Jim Keefe

Blondie



By Dean Young and John Marshall

Carpe Diem



By Niklas Eriksson

Beetle Bailey



By Mort Walker

Curtis



By Ray Billingsley

Dustin



By Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker

Pickles



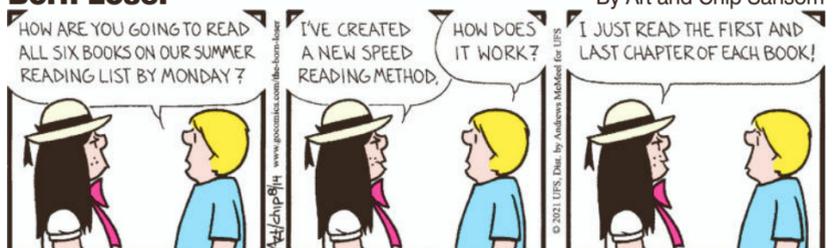
By Brian Crane

Garfield



By Jim Davis

Born Loser



By Art and Chip Sansom

For Better or For Worse



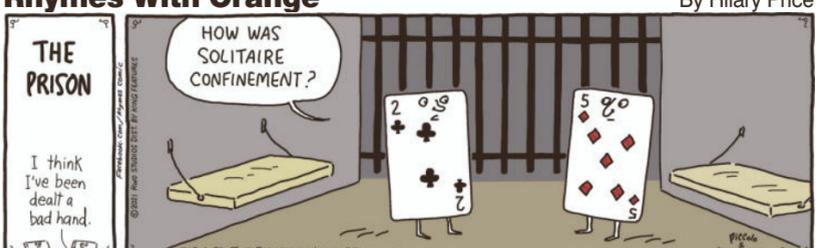
By Lynn Johnston

Hagar the Horrible



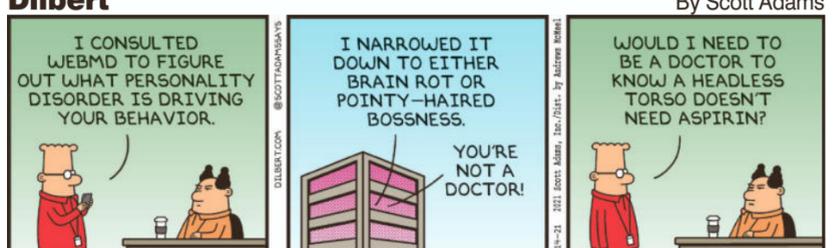
By Chris Browne

Rhymes With Orange



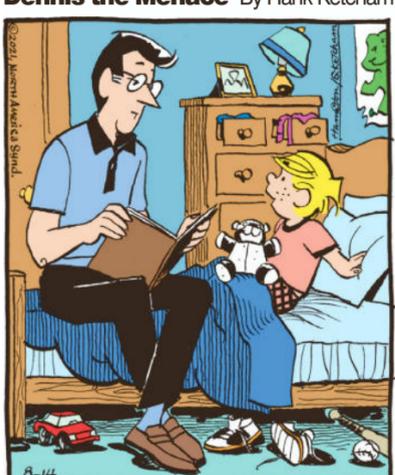
By Hilary Price

Dilbert



By Scott Adams

Dennis the Menace



By Hank Ketchum

The Family Circus



By Bil Keane

Bizarro



By Wayne and Piraro

Non Sequitur



By Wiley Miller

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Saturday PUZZLES, HOROSCOPE AND BRIDGE

Cryptoquip

Y H A O U R V U B G Y U V B C Q C S H R
 O E U B U S Z B F U C H S Q Z H G V H G F R
 Z B U C G A H R Q S Z P U X U B P O E U B U :
 J Z G X Z R J H V P .

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Y equals M

Solution for previous Cryptoquip: What do you call doctors in England, France and Germany who perform operations? Eurosurgeons.

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words, and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.
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Ken Ken

144X		5	1-		6+
		1-	5-	1	
9+	3+				17+
		3+	1-		5+
15X	6			2÷	
		2÷			4

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3	6	4	2	5	1
5	2	1	3	6	4
4	5	6	1	2	3
6	3	2	4	1	5
2	1	3	5	4	6
1	4	5	6	3	2

Directions: Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 6 without repeating. The numbers within the heavily outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners. Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.

Previous solution

Jumble

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

EHTTE
 WNHS
 RJNUIE
 RUTMET

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

Sudoku

DAVE GREEN

			1	6				
	2	8				9	1	
6			8	4				7
7	9				2		1	
3	6				8		9	
8			5	9				3
	3	5				6	7	
			4	7				

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 8/14

9	4	7	6	1	5	8	2	3
2	3	6	8	7	9	4	1	5
5	8	1	3	4	2	7	9	6
3	5	4	2	8	7	1	6	9
1	9	8	5	3	6	2	4	7
6	7	2	4	9	1	3	5	8
4	1	9	7	6	8	5	3	2
7	6	5	1	2	3	9	8	4
8	2	3	9	5	4	6	7	1

Horoscope

GEORGIA NICOLS

Saturday, August 14, 2021

The following astrological forecasts should be read for entertainment value only. These predictions have no reliable basis in scientific fact.

MOON ALERT: There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in Scorpio.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ☆☆☆ Today you have strong opinions about shared property or something to do with the assets that your partner or someone else owns. Because of this, you might be at odds with someone older or more experienced. Tonight: It's all good.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ☆☆☆ Today the Moon is opposite your sign at odds with stern Saturn, which can make conversations with authority figures difficult and challenging. Someone you know will be full of energy and demand to be taken seriously or to be recognized. Tonight: Stand your ground.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ☆☆☆ You might have difficulty at work dealing with someone, especially someone older or more experienced. You might encounter this person in connection with your health or something to do with a pet. Be patient, because this encounter is brief. Tonight: Relax.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ☆☆☆ Children might be an increased responsibility today. You also might encounter rules and regulations that affect your plans with sports or social occasions. Nevertheless, you have lots of energy to socialize and have fun today! Tonight: Go with what works.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ☆☆☆ Family conversations will be lively today because you have strong opinions about what you want. Nevertheless, someone older or more experienced might counter you or try to block your efforts. Find a way to make everyone happy. Tonight: Look for a workable compromise.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ☆☆☆ Today fiery Mars is in your sign dancing with the Moon, which excites you and energizes all of your conversations with others. You have something to say! You want to be heard! You might encounter some opposition from someone older at work or connected with your health. Tonight: Patience.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ☆☆☆ You might encounter some difficulties with financial matters today. Credit cards might be rejected. Officials might block something that you want to do. Nevertheless, you are firm and confident today about trying to correct any glitches to your financial situation. Tonight: Trust your judgment.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ☆☆☆ Today the Moon is in your sign at odds with Saturn but energized by Mars. Therefore, dealing with a parent or

an older family member might be challenging. Nevertheless, you feel confident and full of positive energy to go after what you want. Nothing will hold you back. Tonight: You're on a roll.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ☆☆☆ You might choose to play things low-key today and work alone or behind the scenes because it feels better. Possibly, someone older or more experienced will get in the way of your plans or block you in some way. They might even criticize you or make you feel diminished. This is temporary. Tonight: You bounce back!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ☆☆☆ You might encounter difficulty with a friend today or a member of a group. In fact, for a few of you, a friendship might end. Nevertheless, your high energy and positive state of mind will carry the day for you and will even promote your relations with others. Tonight: Relax.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ☆☆☆ It will be apparent to others that someone is blocking your aims and desires today. Whatever or whomever blocks you might be an authority figure who cites rules and regulations. Tonight: You will persevere!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ☆☆☆ You might encounter challenges or difficulties to travel plans or something to do with your studies today. Someone in authority might thwart your efforts. This will not hold you back because you are determined and you have strong energy! Tonight: Courage!

Contract Bridge

STEVE BECKER

Most players tend to exclude unlikely distributions from their reckoning at the outset of play, but this can be a serious mistake, as declarer learned to his sorrow in this deal.

South ruffed the opening club lead, drew three rounds of trump, played a heart to the jack, ruffed a club and cashed the A-K-Q of hearts, discarding two diamonds from dummy.

This method of play would have succeeded had the hearts been divided normally — that is, 4-3. In that case, declarer would have ruffed a diamond with dummy's last trump and easily scored the rest of the tricks.

But with the hearts divided as they were, South finished

South dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ Q J 9 6
 ♥ J
 ♦ Q 9 5
 ♣ Q 10 7 4 3

WEST
 ♠ 5 3 2
 ♥ 9
 ♦ K 10 8 7 4 2
 ♣ A 8 2

EAST
 ♠ —
 ♥ 10 8 7 5 4 3
 ♦ J 6
 ♣ K J 9 6 5

SOUTH
 ♠ A K 10 8 7 4
 ♥ A K Q 6 2
 ♦ A 3
 ♣ —

The bidding:
 South West North East
 2♣* Pass 2♦** Pass
 2♠ Pass 3♣ Pass
 7♠

*strong, artificial **waiting
 Opening lead — ace of clubs.

down one, since he could not ruff both his heart loser and his diamond loser with the one trump that remained in dummy.

Yet the contract was ice-cold from the start. There was a much surer line of play,

and South failed to spot it. Instead of attempting to ruff his potential losers in dummy, he should have reversed that process by ruffing dummy's losers in his own hand.

At trick two, South leads a trump to the nine, and at trick three, he ruffs a second club. He then plays a trump to the jack, ruffs another club at trick five, plays a heart to the jack and ruffs still another club with his last trump.

After trumping a low heart in dummy, South draws West's last trump with the queen, on which he discards a diamond, and then scores the last four tricks with the ace of diamonds and A-K-Q of hearts.

South's 13 tricks consist of four club ruffs in his own hand, four trump tricks in dummy, the A-K-Q-J of hearts and the ace of diamonds. The dummy reversal works like a charm.

Joseph Crossword

ACROSS

1 Reduce to extreme hunger
 7 Forum wear
 11 Right away
 12 Spoken
 13 Wicker material
 14 Gambler's giveaway
 15 John of music
 16 Kelly's former cohost
 17 Mailbox part
 18 Like cows and sows
 19 Flock reply
 21 Take home
 22 Michigan city
 25 Sought a seat
 26 Hold power
 27 Classroom item

29 Scheme
 33 Book parts
 34 Wave setting

35 Land unit
 36 Assurances
 37 Bogus
 38 Turmoil
 39 Watch reading
 40 Slob's creations

9 Pisa genius
 10 Ready to go
 16 Kidney-related
 18 Largest bone
 20 Stable mothers
 22 Pakistani port
 23 Servant for taverns, e.g.
 24 Light breezes
 25 Meal
 28 Note from the boss
 30 Places last
 31 Happened
 32 Comfy spots
 34 Reasonable
 36 Total

M A N O R S U P E R
 O Z A W A I N A N E
 T A T E R S O R T S
 E L I E M S A R T
 L E O G A Y L E E
 S A N D A L B L E D
 A U S T E R E
 A B L E E X A L T S
 N A P A S H P A T
 I N A L E I A B E
 M A R A T B E R L E
 A N K L E I N K E D
 L A S E R T E S T S

Friday's Jumble: Truly, Aorta, Beyond, Ablaze, Ablaze. Devils Tower was in "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" because it was a — Real butte.

The New York Times Crossword

No. 0710

ACROSS

1 Goof
 16 Mischievous character in West African folklore
 17 Hosts
 18 David who took 15 years to write "The History of England"
 19 Cut into
 20 Andy Capp's wife in the comics
 21 Somme times
 22 Fabergé egg recipient
 24 "The pretty worm of Nilus ... that kills and pains not," per Shakespeare
 26 Concept in Hinduism, Buddhism and Jainism
 30 Swashbuckler's implement
 32 Course
 34 "You couldn't be more wrong!"
 35 Diplomatic successes
 39 Find inner strength
 41 ___ Island
 42 Will can change it
 44 Total package?
 46 Shameless sycophant
 49 Doubly hyphenated fig.
 50 Book it
 52 Where the idiom "on a roll" comes from
 55 Self starter?
 57 Attendant of Dionysus
 60 New Balance competitor
 61 Passive-aggressive tactic
 64 Renter's amenity
 65 Gaze at with appreciation

DOWN

1 Computer store
 2 Have ___ (be able to save face)
 3 Hit hard
 4 Snarl
 5 Sch. whose yearbook is the "Gumbo"
 6 Strauss's "___ Nacht in Venedig"
 7 Brouhaha
 8 Aim for
 9 Sets right
 10 "Seriously!"
 11 Place of salubrity
 12 Two in a row, say?
 13 Capital city near Kangaroo Island
 14 It's called paraffin oil in the U.K.
 15 Starts of hedges
 23 Unkempt
 25 Hold (up)
 27 Unfulfilled duty
 28 Staff
 29 Sine qua non

31 What a whale watcher may watch
 33 Mystery writer Buchanan
 35 Doesn't go straight, in a way
 36 Birthplace of Lewis Carroll
 37 Julius Caesar's first wife
 38 Wordsworth wrote one about a cuckoo
 40 Web access co.
 43 It has furrowed gray bark
 45 Came in behind
 47 ___ Brown, Whoopi Goldberg's role in "Ghost"
 48 Established facts
 51 Like some 44-Across
 53 Part of mayo that's most popular?
 54 No longer on the table
 56 Cranks (up)
 58 Urges
 59 Play a critical role?
 61 Block letters?
 62 Bryce Harper when he won a 2015 M.V.P. award, e.g.
 63 Tax

L A M P O P T E D B L T S
 O H I O P A R S E R E I N
 G O L D M E D A L S O S L O
 E Y E C A N D Y C L O S E R
 A X E L M E E K E S T
 B E D S I D E M A N N E R
 R O O T S B Y R D S E P A
 I N N S C O R K S S V E N
 E S T G L A R E P O I S E
 G O W I T H T H E F L O W
 E P I P E N S P E R T
 D I V I N G F R E E S P I N
 I D E A S N A I L S P A C E
 T A U T W I C E O P E C
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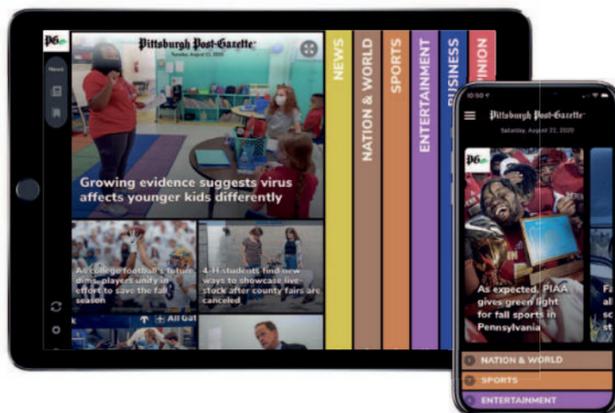
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Today

HIGH: 78
LOW: 57



Not as warm with more clouds than sun. Winds N at 7-14 mph.

Tomorrow

79
63



Nice with sun and some clouds. Winds NE at 4-8 mph.

Monday

76
66



Partly sunny, a stray t-storm in the p.m. Winds SSE at 4-8 mph.

Tuesday

80
66



Cloudy and humid with a thunderstorm. Winds SSW at 4-8 mph.

Wednesday

79
67



Humid; t-storms possible in the afternoon. Winds SSE at 6-12 mph.

Weather outlook

More clouds than sun today; less humid during the afternoon. Clear tonight. Nice tomorrow with sun and some clouds; a nice end to the weekend. Monday: intervals of clouds and sunshine with a thunderstorm in parts of the area in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation 45%. Tuesday: cloudy and humid with a thunderstorm. Chance of precipitation 55%.

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Nation Cities

Table with columns for Today and Tomorrow, and rows for various cities including Albany, Albuquerque, Allentown, Anchorage, Atlanta, etc.

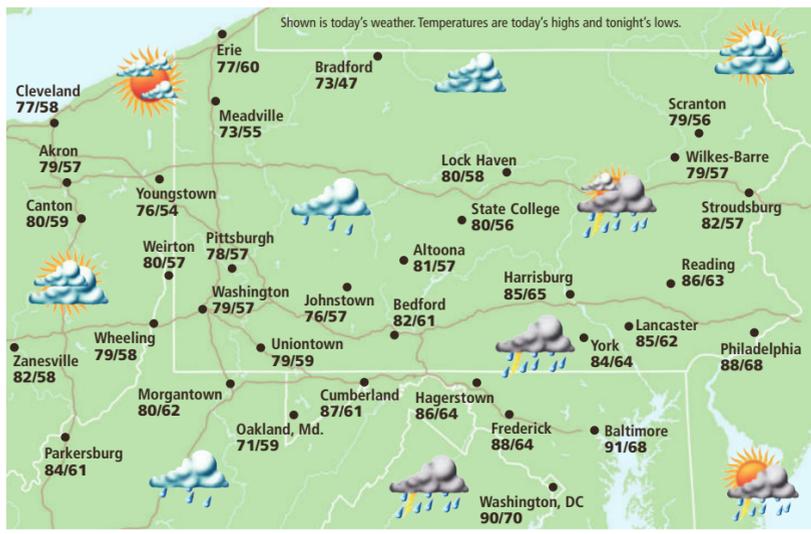
Yesterday's Record

Readings from the Pittsburgh Int'l. Airport through 3 p.m. Aug 13, 2021

Table with categories: TEMPERATURE, DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL, HUMIDITY, PRECIPITATION, BAROMETER.

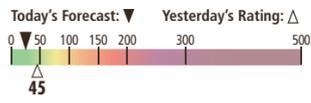
Skywatch today

Table with columns: Sunrise, Sunset, Moonrise, Moonset.



Air Quality

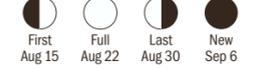
Primary pollutant: Particulates. 0-50: Good, 51-100: Moderate, 101-150: Unhealthy for sensitive groups, 151-200: Unhealthy, 201-300: Very Unhealthy, 301-500: Hazardous



River Stages

Table listing river stages for Allegheny, Monongahela, Cheat, West Fork, Youghiogheny, Beaver.

Moon Phases



World Cities

Table with columns for Today and Tomorrow, and rows for various world cities including Athens, Auckland, Baghdad, etc.

Shown are today's noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.



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U.S. EXTREMES (For the 48 contiguous states yesterday) High: 103 at Thermal, Calif. Low: 35 at Gothic, Colo.

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TOURNAMENT WEEK 2021



Chaos affecting weary golfers

By Mike Persak
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

There are two sides to all of the rain delays that have plagued the 121st U.S. Amateur Championship, taking place at Oakmont Country Club.

On one hand, they've created a bit of chaos. There were weather delays Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Players who made it to the quarterfinals Friday expressed just how tired they were, saying their ball-striking suffered at times and the short game became a premium as they grew more tired.

On the other hand, all of that

rain has softened the famous Oakmont greens. Approach shots are much more inviting. James Piot, who qualified for the semifinals by beating Matthew Sharpstene, 3 and 1, used the first hole as a good example.

Typically, he said, players might need to bounce their approach shots up to the green, making absolutely sure to mitigate the risk of their balls bouncing into the back rough. This week, though, you can fly it on without fear that the green will refuse entry and send it skittering off the dance floor.

"I actually played it in qualifying when it was still firm and fast,

and I got done with my first 18 holes, and I told my buddy on the putting green, who was about to go out, I go, 'This is the hardest place I've ever played, with conditions being perfect.'" Piot said. "It felt like if you had a shot hole high early in the week, it was a miracle, just because you judged the distance and the bounce correctly. Now it's kind of like you can land it right on the flag."

Of course, Oakmont is still never a walk in the park, especially for those who made it to the quarterfinals. By the time that round

SEE **OAKMONT**, PAGE WS-2



Pam Panchak/Post-Gazette

James Piot, from Canton, Mo., hits a drive off the first tee in match play Friday at the 121st U.S. Amateur Championship at Oakmont Country Club.

Schobert trade is not all about luck

It's one thing to take a chance on injured or aging veterans looking to recapture some of what made them good. Every team does that. The Steelers are doing it with the likes of Trai Turner and Melvin Ingram.



Joe Starkey

It's quite another to fill glaring holes, right before or during a season, with quality players in their primes. That doesn't happen often, but the Steelers seem to have a knack for it.

Inside linebacker Joe Schobert is the latest example, assuming the deal with the Jacksonville Jaguars is finalized. He follows the likes of Joe Haden and Minkah Fitzpatrick on the can't-believe-they-got-that-guy-at-the-last-second train.

Part of it is luck. Who would have thought the Cleveland Browns would cut a 28-year-old Haden late in training camp, just as it was becoming obvious the Steelers were headed for disaster in their secondary? Or that the Miami Dolphins would make a stud like Fitzpatrick available two games into his second year, just after the Steelers watched Tom Brady torch Kam Kelly in the season opener?

Similarly, who would have thought one of the better coverage linebackers in the league — one who signed a \$53 million free-agent deal in Jacksonville a year ago — would become available Aug. 12, just as it's becoming obvious the Steelers inside

SEE **STARKEY**, PAGE WS-3



Associated Press

Linebacker Joe Schobert (47) arrives in Pittsburgh ready to bolster the Steelers' pass coverage.

Quick correction

Steelers GM Colbert makes move to fix a problem on defense

By Ray Fittipaldo
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The Steelers were working on the acquisition of Jacksonville linebacker Joe Schobert before their preseason game Thursday night against the Philadelphia Eagles. And it didn't take long to see why general manager Kevin Colbert sought a trade for a vet-

eran known for his ability to play in coverage.

On the second play of the game, Eagles quarterback Jalen Hurts found tight end Dallas Goedert in single coverage by Devin Bush and hit him for a 34-yard gain into Steelers territory. The play set up an Eagles field goal and the first points of the game.

If Colbert has proven one thing during his tenure as general manager, it's that he's never afraid of making a major move to improve what he perceives an area of weakness. He has done it on an almost annual basis, espe-

cially in recent years. The latest move became necessary when the linebacker group was weakened by the sudden retirement of Vince Williams on the eve of training camp last month.

Robert Spillane, who filled in admirably for Bush after he went on injured reserve five games into last season, had been running with the first-team defense. But by trading for Schobert, it's clear the Steelers believe Spillane is better suited to being a backup and special teams player. It also suggests the

SEE **STEELERS**, PAGE WS-3

BREWERS AT PIRATES, PPD.

Pirates careful in promoting prospects

By Jason Mackey
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

For a team on pace to lose more than 100 games, there's naturally going to be some fan vitriol. But when it comes to the Pirates, it's not necessarily the fact that they have lost 64% of their games, it's how they have done it.

Gregory Polanco has the lowest OPS (.630) of any MLB right fielder with at least 300 plate appearances, the same for Kevin Newman (.541 OPS) at shortstop. Yet they've combined to make 176 of a possible 230 starts (76.5%) this season.

Those who follow the team have seemingly grown tired of seeing Polanco and Newman as regulars in manager Derek Shelton's lineup, and it's hard to blame them. With the Pirates 33 games under .500, it's not crazy to want to see the team try new things and give other players a chance.

General manager Ben Cherington spoke over Zoom on Friday and offered some insight into how the Pirates are approaching the allocation of playing time over the final six weeks or so of the season.

"It's a balance," Cherington said. "We need to be aware of how much guys are playing and who's playing because we need to learn about players, and we need to give players the opportunity to improve, develop and make adjustments at the major league level, particularly those who have a chance of being part of what we're doing. There's also a balance between [giving young players opportunities], wanting those at-bats to be earned, and wanting to put the best possible lineup we can out there every night."

"It's not easy to balance those two things. I think we can, and that's what [manager Derek

SEE **PIRATES**, PAGE WS-5

Experienced linebackers strength of defense

By Johnny McGonigal
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The preseason curiosities about Pitt's defense center around the front four and the back end. How will the Panthers replace consensus All-American edge rushers Patrick Jones and Rashad Weaver? Can Damar Hamlin's experience be replicated? What about Jason Pinnock and Paris

Pitt preseason camp

Ford's production in the secondary?

Pitt's linebackers, meanwhile, are sitting pretty, sandwiched by those questions.

This is the deepest linebacker group Pat Narduzzi has had in his seven years at Pitt. He said it himself this week, but it's obvious

when you look at who is returning. New position coach Ryan Manalac couldn't have asked for a better room, with five options featuring starting experience. And given the situations in front of and behind them, there couldn't have been a better time for the linebackers to provide so much promise.

"A few years ago, I remember looking out on that field, right underneath that clock," Narduzzi

said Tuesday at Pitt's South Side facility, "and I was like, 'Where is everybody? Where are they?' We didn't have anybody. So yeah, this is a deep group."

"It's going to be our responsibility. We lead the defense," linebacker Wendell Davis added after Tuesday's practice. "... We need to go out there, play our defense and

SEE **PITT**, PAGE WS-6



Jack Myer/Post-Gazette

Pirates outfielder Gregory Polanco could see more time on the bench as younger players get a shot.

MORE SPORTS INSIDE



Lone ranger

Ben Roethlisberger breaks the trend of longtime QBs switching teams. **Page WS-3**

Hook 'em

Texas golfer Travis Vick advances to the semifinals at Oakmont. **Page WS-2**

Help is on the way

Pirates to bring pitcher Dillon Peters up to major league club. **Page WS-5**

More at post-gazette.com

STEELERS: Exclusive daily coverage of training camp.
PAUL ZEISE: Breaking down the Steelers offensive line.

Golf

TOURNAMENT



WEEK 2021



Austin Greaser from Vandalia, Ohio, clinched his spot in the semifinals Friday.

Pam Panchak/Post-Gazette

Weary golfers in semis

OAKMONT, FROM WS-1

started, the players on the course had played at least one full match in the Round of 16, and in many cases even more than that, as just four of the Round-of-32 matches were completed Thursday. That means a whole lot of golf in one day and a fight against fatigue.

Travis Vick, playing out of Houston, held a one-hole lead heading into the 18th. He had lost his two previous holes to his opponent Brian Stark. On 18, Stark hit the fairway with his tee shot. Vick pushed it right, into the fairway bunkers. Vick then punched it out but still had an approach shot out of the rough.

But then Stark hit his approach over the back of 18, leaving himself a tricky chip shot. Vick's third shot landed close enough to the hole for a lag putt and a gimme, sending him off with

a bogey and leaving Stark with two shots to send the match to extra playoff holes. Stark left his tricky chip short, still in the rough, needing to chip his next one in to extend the match. He couldn't do it, and Vick moved on.

Nick Gabrelcik, playing out of Trinity, Fla., also moved on, beating by Davis Chatfield by one hole. He didn't think he played outstandingly well, especially near the end, when Chatfield began to make a comeback against him and tied it on the 14th.

"I didn't play great toward the end," Gabrelcik said. "I was kind of putting my way out of the event, giving him a few shots that maybe — I don't want to say he didn't deserve, but I made a mistake on."

Gabrelcik hung on by his fingernails, though, with a birdie on 15 to move to 1 up. The pair halved the rest of

the holes, then, and Gabrelcik converted a short putt on 18 to secure the match.

Oddly enough, despite his southern roots, Gabrelcik, 19, may be the closest thing to a hometown favorite. His parents, Don and Annette, were born in Pleasant Hills and West Mifflin, respectively. He's a huge Pittsburgh sports fan, and he said he spent his time during the myriad weather delays taking it easy and talking about the Steelers preseason games and the Pirates struggles.

And now, the 28th-ranked amateur in the world, is one of the four remaining golfers in his first U.S. Amateur, playing in his parents' hometown.

He will tee off at 2:20 p.m. Saturday against Piot. Vick will tee off at 2 p.m. against Austin Greaser, playing out of Vandalia, Ohio.

Greaser has been dominant so far. He has not yet

had to play the 18th hole in match play, defeating all of his opponents by enough to avoid having to play the final hole.

All four will likely have fairly favorable conditions again, depending on how the greens maintain their water. Nearly an hour after the final grouping finished their quarterfinal match, the skies opened up yet again, and it stormed over Oakmont.

Basically, it will be more of the same.

"I don't think Oakmont's traditional style of play is anywhere near this soft, but everybody has to play it, and it's what the maintenance crew and everybody got this week," Greaser said. "They're making the most of it, I'm trying to make the most of it, and it just kind of is what it is."

Mike Persak:
mpersak@post-gazette.com
and Twitter @MikeDPersak.

Texas star Vick rolls into semifinals

By Caroline Pineda
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Before Travis Vick and Parker Coody teed off in their Round-of-32 match Thursday afternoon at Oakmont, they knew a University of Texas golfer would advance to the next round. The only question was which one.

Thanks to weather delays, the answer didn't come until Friday morning. Vick took a three-hole lead with two to play, which eliminated Coody from contention at the U.S. Amateur and left Vick as the final Longhorns golfer in the field.

Then, Vick kept winning.

He notched another 3-and-2 victory in the Round of 16, taking the lead over Mexico's Jose Islas on No. 1 and never trailing. His quarterfinal win over Brian Stark was similar in that regard; Vick even went 2 up on the same hole when he birdied No. 10 in back-to-back rounds. But unlike in the Round of 16, Vick's quarterfinal match lasted until No. 18. After he was leading by three after the 15th hole, Stark won No. 16 and 17 to narrow Vick's lead to one.

On his final approach shot, Vick changed clubs after a talk with his caddie — a choice he said "ended up being a perfect number." The decision might have saved Vick from trouble behind the green, which Islas found



Pam Panchak/Post-Gazette

Travis Vick from Houston hits a chip shot Friday during match play at the 121st U.S. Amateur Championship at Oakmont Country Club.

himself in as he tried to force a playoff.

"He kind of gave me a gift there on 18 by going long," Vick said. "So you take advantage of the breaks and you just kind of move on."

Vick now advances to the semifinals, where he faces Austin Greaser of Vandalia, Ohio, at 2 p.m. Saturday. After finishing the Round-of-32 match Friday morning and playing two more rounds later, Vick said he's looking forward to a good night's sleep. So far this week, the weather delays have caused that to be in short supply.

"It's difficult having to go to bed at 10 p.m. because you're playing until dark, and then you wake up the next morning at 5 a.m. just to

start your match at 7:30," Vick said.

That's exactly what he and Coody did to finish their split-round match Friday morning. It wasn't the first time the two have faced off in match play, but this week's pairing ended in the opposite result from December, when Coody bested Vick at the Maridoe Amateur in Carrollton, Texas.

In addition to being teammates, Vick and Coody are also roommates in Austin, along with three other members of the original U.S. Amateur field: Pierceson Coody, Cole Hammer and Mason Nome.

Pierceson Coody, Parker's twin brother, walked the duration of the match Thursday and said

the teammates were sitting together when the bracket was released. They quickly discovered there were scenarios where any two of the three who qualified for match play could feasibly meet. (Had Nome won two matches, he would have faced Vick in the Round of 16.)

Knowing the talented opponents awaiting him, Vick called it a tough draw but added that "anybody can beat anybody in match play." Despite their positive rapport as teammates, Pierceson Coody said the match between his brother and Vick was a competitive one.

"I promise you there's not many guys in the field they want to beat more than each other right now," Pierceson said early in their Round-of-32 match. "It's the friendliest not-so-friendly match."

But after evening the all-time match-play record between the two, Vick said he has received plenty of support from his teammates. With one Longhorns golfer standing in the semifinal round, the roommates' rooting interest seems clear.

"The team camaraderie is all great," Vick said. "And hearing support from them means a lot to me."

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Henley extends lead at Wyndham

The Associated Press

Wyndham Championship

GREENSBORO, N.C. — Russell Henley shot a 6-under 64 Friday to open a four-stroke lead halfway through the Wyndham Championship.

Henley was at 14-under 126, tying Stewart Cink at the RBC Heritage in April for the lowest 36-hole score this season in a tournament Cink went on to win.

Olympic silver medalist Rory Sabbatini was tied for second with past champion Webb Simpson and playoff bubble man Scott Piercy.

Sabbatini shot a 64, Simpson 65 and Piercy at 66.

Former FedEx Cup champion Justin Rose, outside the playoffs at the start of the week, continued his surge toward the postseason with a 65 that left him at 9 under in a group with Tyler Duncan and Brian Stuard.

Duncan had the lowest score of the round at 62. Stuard shot 66.

When Henley teed off, the first-round leader already had been passed by Sabbatini, Piercy and Simpson. Henley, who opened on the back nine, got going with four consecutive birdies on Nos. Nos. 14-17 to regain the lead.

Henley added three more birdies on his final nine. It was a couple of months ago that Henley shared the halfway lead at the U.S. Open. He was among three leaders after 54 holes until falling off with final-round 76.

Henley hopes he can keep the same drive and mentality on the weekend. After all, this is not the U.S.

Open and pars here will probably lead you out of contention.

"You have to do everything right," Henley said. "So it's kind of the same way except for I'm just mainly trying to keep committing to every shot off the tee and put myself in the fairway" where he can stay aggressive.

It was a good day for Sabbatini, Piercy and Rose, all who began the week outside the 125-man postseason cutoff, but have played themselves into next week's Northern Trust with 36 holes to go.

Sabbatini, buoyed by his Tokyo experience, has moved from 141st in the FedEx standings to a projected 95th. He tied his career low 36-hole score of 130, previously accomplished in 2003 at the Shriner's Children's Open.

Piercy started this week as first man out at No. 126. His 64-66 start has him projected at 80th for the playoffs.

Rose, who won the 2018 FedEx Cup, was also outside at No. 138 when he teed off Thursday. He's inside the playoffs at 117th after shooting 66-65.

It was not the case for playoff outsider Rickie Fowler, who missed the cut after shooting 71-72. He had needed to finish 21st or better to keep his 11-season streak of advancing to golf's post-season intact. Instead, Fowler will have a few weeks off before next season.



Webb Simpson, who named his daughter Wyndham, is tied for second after the second round of the Wyndham Championship Friday at Sedgefield Country Club in Greensboro, N.C.

Mayfair finds magic in Champions event

The Associated Press

Notebook

Billy Mayfair shot an 8-under 62 Friday at Canyon Meadows to take a one-stroke lead over Canadian star Mike Weir after the first round of the PGA Tour Champions' Shaw Charity Classic in Calgary, Alberta.

Winless on the 50-and-over tour after winning five times on the PGA Tour, Mayfair, 55, had four consecutive birdies in the middle of the round and added late birdies on the par-5 fourth and par-4 seventh.

"Just about everything went right today," Mayfair said. "Been a long time since I've shot this low and I was real happy with it. I haven't played very much since the United States Open. I moved from Arizona to Oklahoma and was moving boxes and doing all that stuff for three weeks. Maybe it did me some good because I got here and I was refreshed and definitely had a good day today."

Weir eagled the par-5 11th. The 2003 Masters champion won the Insuperity Invitational in early May in Texas for his lone senior title. In his previous start, he tied for second in the U.S. Senior Open in Nebraska.

"It took me a little bit to find my rhythm," Weir said. "I was a little bit up and down. ... Caught fire in the middle of the round with a birdie and an eagle on 10, 11, then just kind of stalled a lit-

tle bit. Had a couple good looks at it and didn't make them. All in all, it was a really good day."

Calgary resident Stephen Ames was at 64 with Doug Barron and Steve Flesch. Ken Duke followed at 65.

Thai star on top

Ariya Jutanugarn had five birdies in a six-hole stretch on the back nine and shot a 6-under 66 to take the second-round lead in the LPGA Tour's windy and rainy Trust Golf Women's Scottish Open in Fife.

Playing in the morning in wind gusting to 40 mph at Dumbarnie Links, Jutanugarn birdied Nos. 12 and 13 and 15-17. The 25-year-old Thai star won the 2018 tournament at Gullane Golf Club.

"I felt like after I played in the afternoon yesterday, it is really windy, and I feel like today going to be better in the morning, but actually it's not, so the wind start to blow really hard since like first hole and last three holes even worse," Jutanugarn said. "I feel pretty lucky I finish before everything to come."

Jutanugarn was at 9-under 135 total, three strokes ahead of fellow Thai player Athaya Thitikul (70), England's Charley Hull (69) and Denmark's Emily Kristine Pedersen (69).

Pro Football

Roethlisberger's long tenure with one team defies trend

It was only five years ago when the Steelers came to Philadelphia in Week 3 of the 2016 season and were embarrassed by the Eagles, 34-3, and their rookie quarterback, Carson Wentz.

Wentz, the second overall pick in the draft, threw for 301 yards and two touchdowns against the Steelers and became the first rookie quarterback in Eagles history to start a season 3-0. The performance whipped the denizens of Philadelphia into such a frenzy they were ready to start pouring the mortar to erect a statue of Wentz next to Rocky Balboa.

Five years later, Wentz is gone from the Eagles, his career never recovering from the slide that began, strangely enough, after the blowout performance against the Steelers. Such flame-outs and quick departures are becoming more prevalent around the National Football League. Just consider the staggering number of quarterbacks who were top draft picks who have failed to remain for any length of time with the team that drafted them.

In the past eight years, only seven of the 20 quarterbacks selected in the first round are with the team that drafted them. That number becomes increasingly embarrassing when you consider none of the nine quarterbacks who were first-round picks from 2013 to 2016

are with the same team. Wentz's class is a prime example. All three No. 1 picks in 2016 — Jared Goff and Paxton Lynch are the others — have moved on from the teams that selected them.

All this does is highlight the incredible production and longevity of Ben Roethlisberger, who begins his 18th season with the same team that drafted him in 2004 — the longest tenure of any quarterback in NFL history.

When the regular season begins in September, Roethlisberger will surpass Dan Marino, who played all 17 of his seasons with the Miami Dolphins; and John Brodie, who played all 17 years with the San Francisco 49ers. He already has passed six other quarterbacks who spent their entire 16-year career with just one team — John Elway in Denver, Ken Anderson in Cincinnati, Bart Starr and Aaron Rodgers in Green Bay, Steve Grogan in New England and Eli Manning with the New York Giants.

Philip Rivers spent 16 years with the San Diego/Los Angeles Chargers, but he played his final season in Indianapolis in 2020. Tom Brady, who spent 20 seasons in New England, is the only quarterback in history to spend more seasons with one team than Roethlisberger, but even his remarkable career is ending in another city.



Alexandra Wimley/Post-Gazette
Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger could be a rarity by staying with one team for his entire career.

Think about it: No quarterback in history has played his entire career with one team longer than Roethlisberger. In a league where some top quarterbacks flop and get the heave-ho, Roethlisberger has placed himself in a category that is both elite and beyond reproach.

Norwood a steal?

The Steelers think they have found an unheralded gem in rookie safety Tre Norwood, whom they found in the seventh round of the NFL draft in April.

They like his field awareness, his ball skills, his understanding of the defense, especially for a rookie. The coaches are keeping him at safety in training camp because they don't want to do to him what they did to an-



might not be any time soon.

Of course, the question begs to be asked: If Norwood is so good, how did he last until the seventh round?

Well, for the same simple reason a lot of players see their draft stock slip — speed.

Norwood has the size and interception totals to merit being a higher selection in the draft, but scouts questioned his recovery speed — that once he gets behind a receiver, he stays behind. And that was somewhat evident Thursday night in Philadelphia, when the Eagles scored a 79-yard touchdown on a wide receiver screen pass in which the receiver, Quez Watkins, simply got to the outside and ran down the sideline past Norwood, who didn't have the speed to recover.

But he brings so much more to the defense that the Steelers think they might have found a steal on the seventh round.

Haskins impresses

With his performance against the Eagles, Dwayne Haskins all but bought himself a spot on the 53-man roster. The quarterback did so many things right, including going through his reads and finding open receivers, that he is slowly erasing any skepticism that might have existed when the Steelers decided to take a chance on

him despite his issues in Washington.

Haskins rallied the Steelers from a 13-0 deficit by scoring on four consecutive possessions, including three touchdowns.

"It's the above-the-neck things that define that position when you start talking about playing well," Steelers coach Mike Tomlin said.

Haskins' physical ability is unquestioned. While he is not a runner like Lamar Jackson or a quarterback who creates plays out of the pocket like Baker Mayfield, he has enough raw ability to do a little of both but not enough to define his style of play. But it was his ability to be patient against the Eagles and go through his progressions that stood out to Tomlin. Those were things Haskins didn't do very well in Washington.

"Coach [Mike] Sullivan came up to me and said, 'Be like the jazz players.' So, that's just pretty much be smooth," Haskins said, referring to his position coach. "That's kind of what I was trying to do, was just be smooth and a lot of plays will come to me. Trust in what I saw, letting my eyes tell me and my feet tell me where to go with the ball."

He hit all the right notes.

Gerry Dulac: gdu-lac@post-gazette.com and [Twitter @gerrydulac](https://twitter.com/gerrydulac).

Win-now attitude fuels late additions

STARKEY, FROM WS-1

linebackers can't cover anybody?

So yes, part of this is good fortune. But the other part is the Steelers' unbending, win-now philosophy, which drives some people nuts. They would prefer their team sink to the bottom of the league, if only for a year, and reap the benefits. Like maybe find their next franchise quarterback.

It's a defensible stance. The Steelers had to go 6-10 to put themselves in position to draft Ben Roethlisberger, after all. But can you really blame them for going all out to win, for refusing to even sniff a rebuild, year after year?

I can't, at least not when they still have a realistic chance of winning. And the Steelers do. Schobert will undoubtedly help in that cause — and will undoubtedly replace Robert Spillane, although run-specialist Spillane will be needed in a division that loves to pound the ball.

Vince Williams' sudden retirement took the Steelers by surprise, but this could work out for the best. Williams and Spillane had similar profiles — run-stoppers first. Schobert delivers the desperately needed coverage dimension.

Remember when the Steelers still had a chance to come back against the Browns in the playoffs last season, down 12 with

plenty of time left? They wound up with Spillane matched up against receiver Jarvis Landry on a key third down. I don't need to tell you what happened.

That's not to say Schobert will be smothering receivers when he is forced to cover them. But he'll give the Steelers a chance in those situations and sometimes an advantage in others, like when covering running backs and tight ends.

Schobert's best year, according to Pro Football Focus, was with the Browns in 2018. But in two years since — one with Cleveland, one with Jacksonville — he has racked up 7 interceptions, 13 defended passes, 13.5 tackles for a loss, 4 forced fumbles and 4.5 sacks. He's also a tackling machine, with 274 over the past two seasons.

Pending news of the return for Schobert, what is there not to like here? I'm not sure how this keeps happening, how the Steelers keep finding ideal fits at the last possible second. Maybe they can find one more.

Anybody know of a speedy young cornerback out there?

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Peter Diana/Post-Gazette

The sudden retirement of inside linebacker Vince Williams forced the Steelers to make a move.



Associated Press
Joe Schobert is one of the best coverage linebackers, making him a desirable asset for the Steelers.

Colbert tightens defense

STEELERS, FROM WS-1

Steelers were concerned with the play of Ulysees Gilbert and Marcus Allen, two players the Steelers were hoping they could develop into coverage linebackers.

Schobert is a proven performer. In his first six seasons in the NFL, he has nine interceptions, seven of them in the past two seasons. Schobert, who turns 28 in November, was so good with the Browns in 2019 that he parlayed his strong season into a monster contract with the Jaguars once his rookie deal expired.

Schobert had four interceptions, two forced fumbles and a fumble recovery in his final season with the Browns. The Jaguars then signed him to a five-year, \$53 million deal in free agency.

Whether Schobert is a short-term acquisition or a long-term one, he will provide quality play in an area in which the Steelers have struggled in recent years. The Steelers also traded up 10 spots in the 2019 draft to select Bush with the No. 10 overall pick.

And while the decision to trade for Schobert might not be a direct reflection on Bush, it does suggest they believe they needed to get better overall in the middle

of the field. Anyone who has watched the Steelers defense in training camp practices and the first two preseason games knew it, even though coach Mike Tomlin blamed some of the issues on the vanilla defenses they've played in the first two preseason games against the Cowboys and Eagles.

"I'm not overly concerned about it right now," Tomlin said Thursday night after the game. "Our defensive menu is kind of on a no-card. We're not trying to trick anybody. We want to see who can rush, who can cover. So from a quarterback standpoint, in terms of diagnosing it, we're not challenging them intellectually. They were hitting some plays. We're OK with that because we want to evaluate our guys."

And apparently there weren't enough passing grades for the linebackers through the first three weeks of training camp. The Cowboys and the Eagles exposed holes in the middle of the Steelers defense with throws to tight ends and running backs.

There are ways to make sure weaknesses are masked during the regular season with different pressures and coverages, but there are times, especially against talented quarter-

backs, when they'll find the weakness and expose it no matter what the defense tries to do in terms of disguise.

"Sometimes when you're tricking quarterbacks, you're not evaluating your guys," Tomlin said. "[Thursday] we faced a veteran like Joe Flacco, who came in with the second unit. You're playing against Flacco, with a no-card ready list, he's going to do some things. We're OK with that. Our emphasis is to evaluate our guys."

The Steelers are well-acquainted with Schobert, having faced him twice a year from 2016-19. Tomlin, who has long admired Schobert as a player, coached him in the 2018 Pro Bowl. He also watched Schobert victimize the Steelers in November 2019 when the Browns whipped the Steelers, 21-7, in Cleveland.

Schobert might have played the game of his life that Thursday night at FirstEnergy Stadium. He had two interceptions to go along with a sack and 10 tackles in the game.

Now Tomlin will look to put that playmaking ability to use in his defense.

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NFL notebook

Pitt's Lewis to retire from NFL

From wire dispatches

Veteran running back Dion Lewis, who played eight NFL seasons over 10 years and won a Super Bowl with the New England Patriots, is retiring from the NFL, a source told ESPN Friday.

Lewis, who played for the New York Giants last season, had interest from teams as recently as last week, a source told ESPN.

The 5-foot-8 Pitt product, who was utilized for most of his career as a third-down back, always played bigger than his size, gaining 3,833 yards from scrimmage with 22 total touchdowns over his career. He played on New England's Super Bowl teams in the 2016 and 2017 seasons, winning a title in 2016. He also played for the Tennessee Titans and Philadelphia Eagles.

Lewis, who will turn 31 in September, did not play in 2013 and 2014 while recovering from a broken leg.

Elsewhere

Former Washington Football Team running back Derrius Guice was suspended by the NFL for the first six weeks of the 2021 season for violating the league's personal conduct policy.

The suspension stems from Guice's arrest on domestic violence charges in August 2020. He initially was booked on charges of felony strangulation and four misdemeanors for allegedly choking and pushing his then-girlfriend, in addition to destroying her cellphone, over a six-month period in 2020. But Loudoun County prosecutors dropped the felony charge, and the misdemeanors were dismissed in June after he and the woman reached a settlement.

The case was slated to go to trial, and Guice, 24, could have faced prison time if convicted. But the settlement closed the case and spared him a criminal record. The NFL's conduct policy, however, which is collectively bargained with the NFL Players Association, does not require a conviction or an arrest for an individual to be in found in violation.

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Table with columns: EAST DIVISION, W, L, Pct, GB, WCGB, L10, Str, Home, Away. Rows include Tampa Bay, Boston, New York, Toronto, Baltimore.

Table with columns: CENTRAL DIVISION, W, L, Pct, GB, WCGB, L10, Str, Home, Away. Rows include Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Minnesota, Kansas City.

Table with columns: WEST DIVISION, W, L, Pct, GB, WCGB, L10, Str, Home, Away. Rows include Houston, Oakland, Seattle, Los Angeles, Texas.

Friday's results

Cleveland 7, Detroit 4
Boston 8, Baltimore 1
Texas 8, Oakland 6
St. Louis 6, Kansas City 0
Tampa Bay at Minnesota
Houston at L.A. Angels
Toronto at Seattle
Thursday's results
Oakland 17, Cleveland 0
Seattle 3, Texas 1
Detroit 6, Baltimore 4
Tampa Bay 8, Boston 1
Chicago White Sox 9, N.Y. Yankees 8
L.A. Angels 6, Toronto 3
Saturday's games
Baltimore (Lopez 3-12) at Boston (Sale 0-0), 4:10 p.m.
Cleveland (TBD) at Detroit (Peralta 3-2), 6:10 p.m.
Oakland (Kaprielian 6-4) at Texas (Lyles 5-

9), 7:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (TBD) at Chicago White Sox (Cease 9-6), 7:10 p.m.
Houston (Garcia 3-6) at Kansas City (Keller 7-11), 7:10 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Wacha 2-3) at Minnesota (Maeda 5-4), 7:10 p.m.
Houston (Garcia 8-6) at L.A. Angels (Barria 2-0), 9:07 p.m.
Toronto (Ryu 11-5) at Seattle (Kikuchi 7-6), 10:10 p.m.
Sunday's games
Baltimore at Boston, 1:10 p.m.
Cleveland at Detroit, 1:10 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees at Chi. White Sox, 2:10 p.m.
St. Louis at Kansas City, 2:10 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Minnesota, 2:10 p.m.
Oakland at Texas, 2:35 p.m.
Houston at L.A. Angels, 4:07 p.m.
Toronto at Seattle, 4:10 p.m.

FRIDAY

AMERICAN LEAGUE

CLEVELAND 7, DETROIT 4

Table with columns: Cleveland AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Straw, Rosario, Ramirez, Reyes, Zimmer, Mercado, Miller, Chang, Hedges, Clement, Totals.

Table with columns: Detroit AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Grossman, Schoop, Cabrera, Candelario, Nunez, H.Castro, Haase, V.Reyes, Robson, Totals.

Table with columns: Cleveland 002 020 100 7 9 0
Detroit 000 020 002 4 7 2
E.—Jimenez (2), Holland (1), LOB—Cleveland 7, Detroit 4. 2B—Straw (4), Grossman 2 (7), SB—Mercado (5), SF—Hedges, Miller.

Table with columns: BOSTON 8, BALTIMORE 1
Baltimore AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Mullins, McKenna, Santander, Mancini, Stewart, Hays, Severino, Franco, Mateo, Martin, Totals.

Table with columns: BOSTON 8, BALTIMORE 1
Boston AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Hernandez, Verdugo, Bogaerts, Arauz, Devers, Renfro, Plawecki, Duran, Dalbec, Totals.

Table with columns: BOSTON 8, BALTIMORE 1
Boston AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Hernandez, Verdugo, Bogaerts, Arauz, Devers, Renfro, Plawecki, Duran, Dalbec, Totals.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

CINCINNATI 6, PHILADELPHIA 1

Table with columns: Cincinnati AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include India, Naquin, Castellanos, Hembree, Votto, Moustakas, Barnhart, Reyes, Ramos, Zimmer, Mercado, Miller, Gimenez, Totals.

Table with columns: TAMPA BAY 8, BOSTON 1
Tampa Bay AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Lowe, Franco, Cruz, Meadows, Wendle, Diaz, B.Phillips, A-Margot, Kiermaier, Totals.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Table with columns: EAST DIVISION, W, L, Pct, GB, WCGB, L10, Str, Home, Away. Rows include New York, Philadelphia, Atlanta, Washington, Miami.

Table with columns: CENTRAL DIVISION, W, L, Pct, GB, WCGB, L10, Str, Home, Away. Rows include Milwaukee, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Chicago, Pittsburgh.

Table with columns: WEST DIVISION, W, L, Pct, GB, WCGB, L10, Str, Home, Away. Rows include San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, Colorado, Arizona.

Friday's results

Cincinnati 6, Philadelphia 1
St. Louis 6, Kansas City 0
Atlanta at Washington
Chicago Cubs at Miami
L.A. Dodgers at N.Y. Mets
San Diego at San Francisco
Milwaukee at Pittsburgh, p.p.d.
Thursday's results
N.Y. Mets 4, Washington 1, 7 innings, 1st game
St. Louis 7, Pittsburgh 6
Philadelphia 2, L.A. Dodgers 1
N.Y. Mets 5, Washington 4, 7 innings, 2nd game
Milwaukee 17, Chicago Cubs 4
Cincinnati 12, Atlanta 3
San Francisco 7, Colorado 0
Arizona 12, San Diego 3
Saturday's games
Cincinnati (Castillo 6-11) at Philadelphia (Moore 1-3), 4:05 p.m.
Atlanta (Fried 9-7) at Washington (Corbin 6-

11), 6:05 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Davies 6-9) at Miami (TBD), 6:10 p.m.
Milwaukee (TBD) at Pittsburgh (Wilson 2-5), 7:05 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers (Euehler 12-2) at N.Y. Mets (Walker 7-7), 7:10 p.m.
St. Louis (Lester 3-6) at Kansas City (Keller 7-11), 7:10 p.m.
San Diego (Musgrave 8-7) at Arizona (Gilbert 0-1), 8:10 p.m.
Colorado (Freeland 3-6) at San Francisco (TBD), 9:05 p.m.
Sunday's games
Atlanta at Washington, 1:05 p.m.
Cincinnati at Philadelphia, 1:05 p.m.
Milwaukee at Pittsburgh, 1:05 p.m.
Chicago Cubs at Miami, 1:10 p.m.
St. Louis at Kansas City, 2:10 p.m.
Colorado at San Francisco, 4:05 p.m.
San Diego at Arizona, 4:10 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers at N.Y. Mets, 7:08 p.m.

Table with columns: Zunino, Boston AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Hernandez, Duran, Bogaerts, Devers, Martinez, Renfro, Plawecki, Gonzalez, Cordero, Totals.

Table with columns: Tampa Bay IP H R ER BB SO NP ERA. Rows include Rasmussen, Hoch, Head, Sheriff, Boston IP H R ER BB SO NP ERA. Rows include Houck, Taylor, Robles, Davis, Rios, Totals.

Table with columns: L.A. ANGELS 6, TORONTO 3
Toronto AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Springer, Semien, Guerrero, Hernandez, Dickerson, Gurniel, Grichuk, Valera, Espinal, McGuire, Totals.

Table with columns: Los Angeles AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Ohtani, Mayfield, Fletcher, Walsh, Gosselin, Warren, Eaton, Upton, Lagares, J.Riglesias, Adell, R.Riglesias, Murrich, Suzuki, Totals.

Table with columns: OAKLAND 17, CLEVELAND 0
Oakland AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Canha, Marte, Pisciotti, Olson, Harrison, Kemp, Murphy, Chapman, Brown, Andrus, Totals.

Table with columns: DETROIT 6, BALTIMORE 4
Detroit AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Grossman, Schoop, Candelario, Haase, Castro, Reyes, Greiner, A-Robson, Short, Totals.

Table with columns: DETROIT 6, BALTIMORE 4
Detroit AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Grossman, Schoop, Candelario, Haase, Castro, Reyes, Greiner, A-Robson, Short, Totals.

Table with columns: DETROIT 6, BALTIMORE 4
Detroit AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Grossman, Schoop, Candelario, Haase, Castro, Reyes, Greiner, A-Robson, Short, Totals.

Table with columns: Seattle 3, TEXAS 1
Texas AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Kiner-Falefa, Hernandez, DeLo, Garcia, Nevis, Moniak, Totals.

Table with columns: Seattle AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Crawford, Seager, Franco, Torb, Kelenic, Raleigh, Fraley, Moore, Totals.

Table with columns: Seattle AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Crawford, Seager, Franco, Torb, Kelenic, Raleigh, Fraley, Moore, Totals.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

N.Y. METS 4, WASHINGTON 1

Table with columns: Washington AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Robles, Escobar, Soto, Bell, Hernandez, Kieboom, Garcia, Adams, Nolin, Machado, Guerra, A-Stevens, Rodriguez, Totals.

Table with columns: Washington AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Robles, Escobar, Soto, Bell, Hernandez, Kieboom, Garcia, Adams, Nolin, Machado, Guerra, A-Stevens, Rodriguez, Totals.

Table with columns: Washington AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Robles, Escobar, Soto, Bell, Hernandez, Kieboom, Garcia, Adams, Nolin, Machado, Guerra, A-Stevens, Rodriguez, Totals.

N.Y. METS 5, WASHINGTON 4

Table with columns: Washington AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Robles, Soto, Bell, Hernandez, Kieboom, Garcia, Adams, Nolin, Machado, Guerra, A-Stevens, Rodriguez, Totals.

out for Lugo in the 6th, c-struck out for Barera in the 7th, d-walked for Rainey in 7th. LOB—Washington 6, New York 6. 2B—Sanchez (1), Alonso (16), Conforto (1), Davis (9), HR—Villar (13), off Rainey; Alonso (25), off Finnegan. RBIs—Hernandez (14), Stevenson 2 (15), Davis (14), McCann (35), Villar 2 (28), Alonso (65), SB—Alonso (3). SF—Hernandez, S.—Fedde, Williams. RLISP—Washington 2 (Robles, Zimmerman); New York 4 (Do.Smith 2, Williams, Nimmo). RISP—Washington 2 for 6; New York 2 for 8. GIDP—Garcia. DP—New York 1 (McNeil, Villar, Alonso).

Table with columns: Philadelphia AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Turner, Muncy, Pujols, Vesia, Bickford, Bruhl, c-Beaty, Jansen, Pollock, Seager, Taylor, Barnes, c-Smith, White, a-McKinney, Totals.

Table with columns: Philadelphia AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Miller, Harper, McCutchen, Gregorius, Torreyes, Jarrovi, Bracley, Kennedy, Knapp, Suarez, De Los Santos, b-Bohm, Nevis, Moniak, Totals.

Table with columns: Los Angeles AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include White, a-walked for White in the 5th, b-struck out for De Los Santos in the 5th, c-flied out for Bruhl in the 8th, d-hit by pitch for Barnes in the 9th, LOB—Los Angeles 8, Philadelphia 6. HR—Harper (21), off White. RBIs—Turner (1), Harper (46), Torreyes (30), SB—Pollock (8), Torreyes (2). RLISP—Los Angeles 5 (Seager, Taylor, Pujols, McKinney 2); Philadelphia 4 (Knapp 4). RISP—Los Angeles 0 for 5; Philadelphia 1 for 4. RMU—T.Turner, Torreyes. GIDP—Segura. DP—Los Angeles 1 (T.Turner, Pujols).

Table with columns: Los Angeles IP H R ER BB SO NP ERA. Rows include White, Vesia, Bickford, Bruhl, Jansen, Philadelphia IP H R ER BB SO NP ERA. Rows include Suarez, De Los Santos, Nevis, Bracley, Kennedy, Totals.

CINCINNATI 12, ATLANTA 3

Table with columns: Cincinnati AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include India, Winker, Farmer, Garrett, Farmer, Votto, Moustakas, Stephenson, Aquino, Suarez, Naquin, Gutierrez, A-Akiyama, Totals.

Table with columns: Cincinnati AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include India, Winker, Farmer, Garrett, Farmer, Votto, Moustakas, Stephenson, Aquino, Suarez, Naquin, Gutierrez, A-Akiyama, Totals.

Table with columns: Cincinnati AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include India, Winker, Farmer, Garrett, Farmer, Votto, Moustakas, Stephenson, Aquino, Suarez, Naquin, Gutierrez, A-Akiyama, Totals.

SAN DIEGO 3, SAN FRANCISCO 7

Table with columns: San Diego AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Frazier, Machado, Cronenworth, Hosmer, Myers, Frazier, Hader, Minter, Santana, Totals.

(22), Rojas (23), C.Kelly (7), 3B—Frazier (1), Cronenworth (6), HR—Peralta (6), off Darvish. RBIs—Frazier (2), Cronenworth (55), Hosmer (53), P.Smith 4 (40), C.Kelly 2 (29), Peralta 2 (48), Rojas 2 (30), VanMeter (22), Hager (2), RLISP—San Diego 5 (Myers, Frazier 2, Hosmer, O'Grady); Arizona 5 (Peralta, Walker, Marte, Rojas 2, RISP—San Diego 3 for 10; Arizona 6 for 12. RMU—Caratini, Marte, VanMeter. LIDP—Myers, GIDP—Hosmer, Marte. DP—San Diego 1 (Frazier, Cronenworth, Hosmer); Arizona 2 (VanMeter, Rojas, Walker; Walker).

Table with columns: San Diego IP H R ER BB SO NP ERA. Rows include Danivh, Strahm, Crisमत, Adams, Stammen, Hill, Arizona IP H R ER BB SO NP ERA. Rows include Peacock, C.Smith, Poppen, Mantiply, Faria, Totals.

ST. LOUIS 7, PITTSBURGH 6

Table with columns: St. Louis AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Carlson, Rondon, Goldschmidt, Arenado, Carpenter, Gallegos, e-Molina, Reyes, DeJong, Bader, Edman, Knizner, LeBlanc, McFarland, a-Nootbaar, Miller, Garcia, c-O'Neill, Cabrera, Sosa, Totals.

Table with columns: St. Louis AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Carlson, Rondon, Goldschmidt, Arenado, Carpenter, Gallegos, e-Molina, Reyes, DeJong, Bader, Edman, Knizner, LeBlanc, McFarland, a-Nootbaar, Miller, Garcia, c-O'Neill, Cabrera, Sosa, Totals.

Table with columns: St. Louis AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Carlson, Rondon, Goldschmidt, Arenado, Carpenter, Gallegos, e-Molina, Reyes, DeJong, Bader, Edman, Knizner, LeBlanc, McFarland, a-Nootbaar, Miller, Garcia, c-O'Neill, Cabrera, Sosa, Totals.

Table with columns: St. Louis AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Carlson, Rondon, Goldschmidt, Arenado, Carpenter, Gallegos, e-Molina, Reyes, DeJong, Bader, Edman, Knizner, LeBlanc, McFarland, a-Nootbaar, Miller, Garcia, c-O'Neill, Cabrera, Sosa, Totals.

MILWAUKEE 17, CHICAGO 4

Table with columns: Milwaukee AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Wong, Adams, Yelich, Escobar, Bradley, Joffe, Hader, Sanchez, Ortega, Chirinos, Alcantara, Deichmann, Hendricks, Meisinger, Jewell, Rodriguez, c-Au, Romine, Totals.

Table with columns: Milwaukee AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Wong, Adams, Yelich, Escobar, Bradley, Joffe, Hader, Sanchez, Ortega, Chirinos, Alcantara, Deichmann, Hendricks, Meisinger, Jewell, Rodriguez, c-Au, Romine, Totals.

Table with columns: Milwaukee AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Wong, Adams, Yelich, Escobar, Bradley, Joffe, Hader, Sanchez, Ortega, Chirinos, Alcantara, Deichmann, Hendricks, Meisinger, Jewell, Rodriguez, c-Au, Romine, Totals.

Table with columns: Milwaukee AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Wong, Adams, Yelich, Escobar, Bradley, Joffe, Hader, Sanchez, Ortega, Chirinos, Alcantara, Deichmann, Hendricks, Meisinger, Jewell, Rodriguez, c-Au, Romine, Totals.

SAN FRANCISCO 7, COLORADO 0

Table with columns: Colorado AB R H BI BB SO Avg. Rows include Marquez, Bowden, Goudeau, Nunez, Webb, J.Jackson, Doyal, Casali, W.—Webb 6-3, L.—Marquez 10-9. HRs—San Francisco, Wade Jr. 4.

Baseball

MLB roundup

Votto keeps Reds on pace

The Associated Press

Joey Votto hit a three-run homer and Tyler Mahle tossed seven shutout innings to lead the visiting Cincinnati Reds to a 6-1 win Friday night against the Philadelphia Phillies.

Nick Castellanos added a solo homer and Eugenio Suarez hit a two-run shot for the Reds (63-54), who trail Milwaukee by 7½ games in the NL Central, even though they have a better record than the Phillies. The Phillies (60-56) started the night in first place in the NL East.

Mahle (10-3) allowed three hits and walked none in his second win in a row. Michael Lorenzen worked the eighth and Heath Hembree gave up a run in the ninth.

With the Phillies chasing their first postseason appearance since 2011, Zack Wheeler (10-7) stumbled on a steamy night. The ace right-hander threw a two-hit shutout in his previous start against New York.

Tyler Naquin led off the fourth with a single and Wheeler plunked Castellanos.

Votto's second-half revival continued when his 26th homer of the season landed in the bullpen for a 3-0 lead. Votto moved into second in the NL in home runs and became just the third player 37 years old or older to have at least one 22-game span with 15-plus home runs.

Votto has 1,998 hits and trails only four players on the Reds' career hits list. He is three homers shy of matching Frank Robinson for second on the team's career list with 324.

Votto's 2,000th career hit will make him only the second player (Billy Williams, Cubs, 1971) to reach that milestone the same season he also recorded his 300th home run and 1,000th RBI.

Other games

Cardinals 6, Royals 0: Right-handed ace Jack Flaherty was activated from the 60-day injured list and started against Kansas City at Kauffman Stadium. Flaherty went six shutout innings striking out five as visiting St. Louis defeated the Royals. Flaherty had not pitched since suffering a left oblique strain at the end of May.

Red Sox 8, Orioles 1: Kyle Schwarber scored twice in his debut for Boston and his new teammates delivered three home runs to lift the host Red Sox past slumping Baltimore. Xander Bogaerts, Bobby Dalbec and Hunter Renfroe each homered for the Red Sox, who are trying to snap out of a funk that knocked them five games back in the AL East.

Indians 7, Tigers 4: Cleveland rookie Ernie Clement hit the first two homers of his career while Miguel Cabrera stayed one drive short of No. 500 as visiting Cleveland beat Detroit. Cabrera went 0 for 4, leaving him at 499 career home runs and disappointing a crowd of 22,107. Most fans were crammed into the outfield seats at Comerica Park where the milestone drive might land.

Rangers 8, Athletics 6: Yohel Pozo and DJ Peters homered and reliever Dennis Santana got the win as Texas defeated visiting Oakland in the AL West. Pozo and Peters each had three RBIs in the win.

Pirates notebook

Class AAA left-hander likely to get called up

By Jason Mackey
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The Pirates are adding some reinforcements on the pitching side. Sources told the Post-Gazette on Friday that the club intends to bring up left-handed pitcher Dillon Peters from Class AAA Indianapolis.

Acquired for cash from the Angels July 19, Peters is 1-0 with a 1.50 ERA in five games (two starts) with the Indians. He has worked 12 innings, walked 6 and struck out 15, holding opposing hitters to a .100 average.

Peters pitched an inning in relief Wednesday, allowing a solo homer and striking out two. In his outing before that, on Saturday, Peters tossed five hitless innings while striking out five.

It is unclear whether the Pirates plan to use Peters, 28, in the starting rotation or out of the bullpen, although they need help in both areas.

Peters has pitched for the Marlins and Angels during his career, going 7-8 with a 5.83 ERA in 31 games, including 24 starts. He has 101 strikeouts and 60 walks in 132½ innings, primarily throwing a fastball and changeup, with sliders and curveballs combined count-



Associated Press

Pitcher Dillon Peters reportedly is on his way to being promoted to the Pirates.

ing for the remaining 22.2% of his pitch usage.

DH Saturday

The Pirates game Friday night against the Milwaukee Brewers was postponed because of inclement weather. The teams will play a split doubleheader Saturday, with each game lasting

seven innings.

The first game of the doubleheader will begin at 2:30 p.m. The second is expected to start around 7:05 p.m.

Tickets for Friday's game will be valid for the first game of Saturday's doubleheader or can be exchanged for any remaining home game during the 2021 season,

subject to availability.

Fans seeking more information can visit pirates.com/raincheck.

As far as pitching plans, Bryse Wilson (2-5, 5.24 ERA) will get the ball in Game 1 for the Pirates. It will be his third start since they acquired him from Atlanta as part of the Richard Rodri-

guez trade. Left-hander Brett Anderson (4-5, 3.54) goes for the Brewers.

Mitch Keller (3-9, 7.06) will start the second game. He'll be opposed by left-hander Aaron Ashby (0-0, 13.50).

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Opportunities are scarce at MLB level

PIRATES, FROM WS-1

Shelton] is doing every night."

In explaining how the Pirates are spending their available playing time, Cherington cited a couple of examples of stuff that has changed. David Bednar taking a greater role in the bullpen. Chris Stratton, too. Bryse Wilson, Wil Crowe and JT Brubaker making regular starts. Even Hoy Park getting a look.

There are also some players at Class AAA Indianapolis worth involving in this conversation. Michael Chavis has been terrific thus far, although Cherington talked Friday about needing and wanting to get him more regular at-bats given how Chavis didn't get many in Boston.

Tucupita Marcano, too, and that's probably of greater priority because Marcano is only 21.

"We feel in both cases, it's the right place to be," Cherington said of Chavis and Marcano. "Now, we'll see. We hope there's opportunity for more players as we get through this season. There won't be opportunity for all of them. We just won't have enough spots. We hope there's opportunity for some."

One reality working against Cherington and the Pirates is the fact that September call-ups will be limited to two this year, down from 15 in the previous full season (2019). It's a classic

example of MLB over-correcting. As a result, rebuilding clubs such as the Pirates are prohibited from giving young players a taste of the big leagues.

On a positive note, the minor league season will extend into September, so the Pirates certainly have innings to allocate. But they're obviously not as impactful as the ones in the major leagues.

"We want to make sure that development needs are met and that it's earned," Cherington said. "There's only so much opportunity and not everyone will get [a promotion], so we'll try to make decisions that put the player and the team in the best spot."

Some of those players could conceivably come from Class AA Altoona, too.

The Pirates did it once with Rodolfo Castro, and it may make sense for the Pirates to reward some of his former teammates and introduce Mason Martin, Oneil Cruz, Cal Mitchell or Ji-Hwan Bae to big-league life. Not necessarily to have them play every day but see some defensive innings, a random at-bat or a pinch-running appearance to start. The Pirates don't have anything against that, Cherington explained, but it also has to make sense from a development perspective, and they need to be extra scrutinizing — because there are so few spots available — of how they're spending playing time.



Matt Freed/Post-Gazette

Pirates shortstop Cole Tucker remains in Class AAA as the team waits for the right moment to call him back up.

Which makes the top of this cycle that much more perplexing. Polanco is owed \$12.5 million in 2022 or can be bought out for \$3 million. Which route would you expect the Pirates to go?

Meanwhile, Cole Tucker has shown signs of improvement, Marcano played MLB games for the Padres, and the Pirates have for whatever reason been sticking with Newman, who's having one of the least productive offensive seasons in the modern

-day history of the franchise.

Cherington talked about the Polanco situation, saying the Pirates basically feel like they believe he's finally healthy, has had his ability obfuscated by injuries, and they want to see what he can be with an actual run of good health. It would seem that Newman falls into the adjustments category, where they're trying to give him time to change and improve.

But given how ugly things have gotten lately,

it's also hard to blame fans who have grown tired of seeing the same old stuff.

"We'll see where this goes over the next several weeks," Cherington said. "Again, we know that playing time's important. We want guys to feel like they need to earn it, and we also want to learn about players. We need to balance all those things."

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Pirates report

Saturday

Doubleheader: Pirates vs. Milwaukee Brewers, 2:30 p.m./7:05 p.m., PNC Park.
TV, radio: AT&T SportsNet, KDKA-AM (1020), KDKA-FM (93.7).

Probable starters: Game 1: RHP Bryse Wilson (2-5, 5.24 ERA) for Pirates; LHP Brett Anderson (4-5, 3.54) for the Brewers; Game 2: Mitch Keller (3-9, 7.06) for Pirates; LHP Aaron Ashby (0-0, 13.50) for Brewers.

Key matchup: Pirates 3B Ke'Bryan Hayes has hit safely in five of his past seven games, going 8 for 26 (.308) with 2 doubles, 1 home run and 2 RBIs.

Hidden stat: In seven games against the Brewers at PNC Park this season, the Pirates were hitting .161 and had scored 11 runs. They lost six of those games.

On deck

Sun. vs. Brewers, 1:05 Steven Brault (0-1) vs. Freddy Peralta (9-3) AT&T/KDKA-FM (93.7)	Mon. at Dodgers, 10:10 Wil Crowe (3-7) vs. David Price (4-1) AT&T/KDKA-FM (93.7)	Tue. at Dodgers, 10:10 JT Brubaker (4-12) vs. TBA AT&T/KDKA-FM (93.7)

Date	Opponent	Time	TV
8/18	Dodgers	10:10	AT&T
8/20	Cardinals	8:15	AT&T

Home games in bold
All games available on MLB.TV

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Sports

PIRATES PIPELINE

A weekly deep dive into the team's building blocks of the future.

MIKE PERSAK

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Bethel's Meis settles in

Justin Meis had just a few weeks off from baseball this summer. The Bethel Park native said he missed the game, even if the break was short. That's a little odd, considering those two weeks contained what may end up being one of the most memorable events of his life.

In the 2021 MLB draft, Meis' hometown Pirates, the team he grew up watching and rooting for, selected him in the 10th round.

He's not sure how many texts, calls and direct messages he got from family, friends and acquaintances, but it was a lot. He estimates he has been to PNC Park about 40 or 50 times over his life, making an attempt to go a few times every year. The fact that he now has a direct path to playing on that field is cause enough for celebration.

Even so, he was in a state of delirium.

"Obviously it was going out on social media and everything, and a bunch of people were calling me, but even still, probably four or five days after, it didn't really set in that I was with the Pirates," Meis said this week. "It was a crazy couple of days and, like I said, it definitely took a while to set in that it was with the hometown Pirates."

This after playing his redshirt junior season with Eastern Michigan this spring, then moving to the Cape Cod League, pitching for the Cotuit Kettleers.

That, he says, is where he really started to believe that being drafted and competing for a spot on a major league roster was a real possibility. He transitioned into a starter after his bullpen work at Eastern Michigan and finished the Cape season at 1-1 with a 2.07 ERA in 17½ innings.

That was against what is considered to be the best summer league competition in the country.

"Every at-bat's a challenge," Meis said. "I'm always going to believe in myself and always know that, like I said, my goal is to get drafted, and I always believed I could do it, but once you go to a league like that and I had a little bit of success, it kind of hit me, like, you know what, maybe I do fit in a little bit."

Of course, Meis also was helped by the fact that his pure stuff took a leap. This season in college, he added a changeup and has been working diligently on improving it. That, paired with his low-80s-mpg biting slider and a four-seam fastball that sits anywhere from 90-96 mph helped round out his arsenal.

That body of work and the pitch action he attracted MLB teams — specifically, the Pirates.

As is the case with most draft picks, though, there wasn't much time to celebrate his selection because things moved pretty quickly. After signing with the Pirates July 16, Meis was assigned to the Pirates team in

Prospect tracker

1 Nick Gonzales, 2B, High-A Greensboro: The ebbs and flows of Gonzales' season continue. Average dropped to .259 on August 7th, then he hit two homers on Aug. 8 with five RBIs, and is currently on a five-game hitting streak. Slashing .273/.353/.483 this season.

2 Quinn Priester, RHP, High-A Greensboro: Pretty much rock solid over the last since the beginning of June. In his last nine starts, totaling 46 innings, he has a 2.35 ERA, 41 strikeouts to 20 walks, and opponents are hitting just .189 against him.

3 Oneil Cruz, SS, Class AA Altoona: Has not played since June 30 thanks to right forearm soreness. Pirates director of sports medicine Todd Tomczyk said Cruz has now started taking full swings in the batting cage, and the Pirates hope he will move out to taking batting practice outside by the end of this week.

4 Lover Peguero, SS, High-A Greensboro: Caught a big power streak at the end of July, hitting home runs in four straight games from July 29-Aug. 1. Has since cooled down, though, and hasn't played since Aug. 8, though he is not currently on the injured list.

5 Hudson Head, OF, Low-A Bradenton: The on-base percentage, which has been high all season, is still sitting at .370, but that number has steadily depreciated this season. Granted, .370 is still quite high, and his .398 slugging percentage gives him an OPS just short of .800, but there is certainly some room for growth in his body of work.

6 Tahnaj Thomas, RHP, High-A Greensboro: PThomas has been hit a little more since returning from a long break, allowing four or more hits three times in his last four starts. That still isn't all that bad of a stat for him, but he had allowed four hits or more just once the entire rest of the season. The good news is the walks are still way down, as he's issued just two free passes in 17 1/3 innings over his last four starts.

7 Tucupita Marcano, INF, Class AAA Indianapolis: Another solid week for Marcano. He hit his first home run in the Pirates' organization last Saturday, Aug. 7. His numbers aren't gob smacking, but he has maintained a .263/.364/.420 slash line in Class AAA this season, which will certainly play.

8 Brennan Malone, RHP, GCL Pirates: Malone has finally gotten back on the mound, starting in the Florida Complex League twice in the last week. His first outing was terrible. He lasted just 1/3 of an inning, giving up three earned runs on one hit and three walks. His second was much better. He lasted two innings, allowed no walks, two hits and one run, and struck out three.

9 Travis Swaggerty, OF, Class AAA Indianapolis: Will be out for the remainder of the season after undergoing right shoulder surgery in May.

10 Cody Bolton, RHP, Class AA Altoona: Will not pitch this season after undergoing right knee surgery at the beginning of the season.

Other notables

MLB Pipeline has not yet added the Pirates' draft picks to their prospect rankings, which is why they aren't listed above. **Henry Davis**, the first overall pick in the draft, was promoted to High-A Greensboro on Thursday, and went 1-for-3 with a triple. On that triple, he was sent home by the third-base coach, trying for an inside-the-park home run, but was thrown out at the plate. That was his first at-bat. Ambitious.

Third-rounder **Bubba Chandler** made his debut in the Florida Complex League on Friday, singling in his first at-bat.

Number 15 prospect, first baseman **Mason Martin**, has not homered since July 24. That is a bit concerning for the power hitter. In that time, his slugging percentage has dropped from .607 down to .534. He has also struck out in 33.5% of his at-bats.

Since being optioned from Pittsburgh back to Indianapolis at the end of July, **Jared Oliva** is 12-for-37, and he homered for the first time in his Class AAA career.

the Florida Complex League. Twenty days later, he was bumped up to low Class A Bradenton and began his professional baseball career there.

Now he has pitched twice with the Marauders for a total of 3½ innings, allowing one earned run, three hits and striking five over that span. It's a rather inauspicious start to his career, but it's also the tail end of a busy season for him. For now, he says, the plan is to stay out of the bullpen, where he pitched in college, throw a couple of innings a couple of times a week and work to make a good impression on his new organization.

"I'm really grateful for the opportunity," Meis said. "We have a month left. So it's just an opportunity to prove what I can do going into next year, and it's pretty cool that I'm back already throwing and competing again, because that's

what I missed most."

What's more, this is a confirmation of Meis' belief that he could get this far. It took some work, and he may not have come on to teams' radars until close to the draft, but he made it.

Even if he did miss the actual games during the draft process, it was probably a break worth taking.

"Each year as I've progressed, it's always been a dream of mine to first play Division I baseball and then ultimately get drafted and be where I'm at now," Meis said. "As you get older, and as you play better competition, I realized that I had the skills and everything and I could play. But really for me, it was my sophomore year at Eastern and this junior year, right before I got drafted, I took a big jump, and it became a reality, but even when it happens, you're still kind of in shock. It's just one of those crazy things."

Defense anchored by LBs

PITT, FROM WS-1

let everyone rally around us."

In Davis' eyes, a lot will fall on his shoulders. The redshirt junior is the projected starter at middle linebacker with Chase Pine fighting to take that job. Davis started the first two games of the 2020 season before an injury ended what he had hoped to be his breakout campaign. Pine filled in, starting the final nine contests and boosting his career total to 45 games played.

Flanking Davis or Pine will be two of a trio of aggressive, ball-hawking linebackers. Narduzzi said he feels like he really has three starters on the outside in Cam Bright, Phil Campbell and SirVocea Dennis, and it's easy to see why.

Dennis technically started only two games last year despite getting first-team snaps and earning third-team All-ACC honors. Then a sophomore, the 230-pounder racked up 14.5 tackles for a loss, which ranked fifth nationally among linebackers.

Not to be overlooked, Campbell has been both reliable and productive. The super senior has 10 sacks to his name while starting the past 24 games at "Money" linebacker on the short side of the formation.

And then there's Bright, who's emerged as the group's leader. Last year, Bright started all 11 games at Pitt's "Star" outside linebacker spot, one that requires a bit more coverage skills. He's created havoc in opposing backfields, as well, with 17.5 TFLs over the past two seasons, ranking second only to Jones.

Though it took time to learn from the likes of Quintin Wirginis and Oluwaseun Idowu, Bright now believes defensive coordinator Randy Bates' "aggressive mindset" is tailor-made to his game. Bright has asserted himself from a leadership standpoint, too.

"It feels like a long time coming," Bright said last week. "It's my fifth year, and I've been around for a while. ... I'm one of the go-to guys, and there's no pressure behind it, either. I enjoy it. It's a good role, a positive role. I like when the guys can look up to me in crunch time, in key situations."



Pam Panchak/Post-Gazette

Pitt's SirVocea Dennis is one of several talented linebackers ready to lead the defense.

"Everyone rallies to Cam," Dennis added. "He's basically the big brother of the room, and we see him as that. He keeps us level-headed. When stuff goes wrong or stuff goes great, he makes sure everyone's in a good spot."

Of course, "everyone" goes beyond the aforementioned five. Brandon George picked up valuable experience last season as a backup when Davis went down. John Petrishen is looking to stay healthy and make an impact in his seventh season of college ball. And Bangally Kamara and Solomon DeShields, a pair of 2020 signees, are "great athletes for the future," Narduzzi said.

There's confidence, too, in how Manalac is coaching the room. Manalac — Bucknell's play-caller last year and a former Cincinnati linebacker under Narduzzi — was hired in January to replace Rob Harley, who left to become Arkansas State's coordinator. Davis said when Manalac arrived, he brought with him a "ferocious attitude."

"We have this saying: Point the thumb," Davis explained. "As a 'Mike' linebacker, I'm the quarter-

back of the defense. If a D-end messes up on a play, that's on me. I have to get him right. When I set it, I have to make sure everything's right. He really teaches us about accountability. And he was a former player, so he knows what it's like to be in our spot. It just brings everything together."

Couple that with the group's talent and experience, and there's reason to think this could be one of the best linebacker corps in the ACC, if not the best.

At least that's how those in the room see it.

"We have a lot of depth. We have a lot of young guys who have picked up the playbook. We have older guys all over. It's nothing but competition," Dennis said. "Everyone always says, iron sharpens iron. We pick everyone up, try to compete to the best of our ability and be headstrong with everything we do."

"We all know what we're doing, and we're aggressive," Bright added. "We feel like one of the best linebacker groups in the ACC."

Johnny McGonigal: jmcgonigal@post-gazette.com and Twitter @jmcgonigal9.

FISHING REPORT

Lake Erie (Erie County): Anglers trolling with downriggers and Dipsy Divers marked walleye in deep water. Some were suspended at 40-50 feet in 65-75 feet of water west of Walnut Creek. Anglers aboard several vessels operated by Buckets Fishing Charters limited out while trolling Bombers at confirmed walleye depths in 65-80 feet of water. Taking another tack, clients of the Perch Pirate headboat took limits while drifting worm harnesses in 60-70 feet of water off The Condos. A lot of shorts were released, but anglers reported walleye in the 27-inch range. Yellow perch were schooling at about 60 feet west of Shades Beach. Recent lightning kept boaters off the water. Thunderstorms were called for Friday with clear skies Saturday and cloud cover Sunday.

Pymatuning Reservoir (Crawford County): Catfish were deep, perch suspended at 10-15 feet over brush and largemouth bass ambushed prey under shoreline vegetation. Walleye took crawler harnesses in 20-25 feet of water near The Causeway, while anglers trolling for muskellunge found them north of The Causeway. Crappies were taken in deep water and at night. First place in the Duck-N-Drake outdoors shop's Crappie Madness Brawl was taken by Gary Manville with a 2-pound 4.4-ounce slab.

Canadohta Lake (Crawford County): Van Tassel's Timberland Bait Shop will

sponsor its annual Kid's Fishing tournament for anglers age 16 and under at 6-8 p.m. Saturday. Get details at timberlandbait.com.

Geneva Marsh (Crawford County): In weedy swamps sometimes called the Conneaut Lake Outlet, Lex Moser won the Kayak Bowfin national championship, held Saturday and Sunday, with five of the odd ancient fish measuring a total of 111.5 inches.

Shenango Lake (Mercer County): White crappies were suspended over brush in deep water. Black crappies up to 1 foot in length were pulled from shallow brush. Muskies went for large live baits, and catfish and panfish were caught below the dam.

Lake Wilhelm (Mercer County): The winners of last weekend's Wilhelm Crappie tournament series were Dan Druscheal and Gus Glasgow.

Allegheny River (Venango County): In clear water, smallmouths took deep-running jerkbaits.

Lake Arthur (Butler County): Dozens of black and white crappies took 1½-inch rubber grubs and live fatheads while following alewives through submerged creek channels Monday night. Fourteen kids caught their first fish Saturday and Sunday, and many more bluegills, sunfish and redeared sunfish were landed at the Post-Gazette Family Fishing Area during the Morraine State Park Regatta.

Allegheny River (Allegheny County): With the catfish

spawn coming to a close on Pittsburgh's rivers, four catfish were brought to the North Shore wharf by participants in Venture Outdoors' TriAnglers lunchtime fishing program. Henry Katz, 12, of Squirrel Hill caught an 18-inch flathead on a crawler, and another angler took a 16-inch flathead. Tommy Lipper of the North Side used chicken liver to lure two channel cats of 23 and 18 inches. TriAnglers meet 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Wednesdays under the Clemente Bridge. Loaner rods are available, live bait is free and no fishing license is required. Get details at 412-255-0564 or ventureoutdoors.org.

Youghiogheny River (Allegheny County): Largemouth bass were taken along the Great American Passage Trail in Elizabeth Township.

Cross Creek Lake (Washington County): Largemouths took diving plugs at submerged drop-offs near the dam.

Youghiogheny River (Fayette County): Smallmouths and rainbow trout went for live minnows and worms in cool water below the bottom-release dam. Raft anglers reported good-sized trout taken on large streamers between Ramcat Run and Lick Run.

File your fishing report and high-resolution digital photos (1MB minimum) at fishingreport@post-gazette.com. Include name, age (for under 18 years), town, species, size, body of water and details of the catch.

— By John Hayes

DeGrom out another two weeks

The Associated Press

New York Mets ace Jacob deGrom won't pick up a baseball for at least another two weeks as the team continues to monitor inflammation in his throwing elbow, manager Luis Rojas said Friday.

DeGrom, 33, flew to Los Angeles earlier in the week to have an MRI read by doctors. It showed some progress in his recovery but not enough to start pitching again.

"It's slightly improving, but it's going to be two more weeks, no throwing," Rojas said. "Then we'll see further imaging after two weeks."

The Mets also placed

MLB notebook

newly acquired infielder Javier Baez on the 10-day injured list with back spasms.

Báez was injured in the fifth inning of Sunday's game in Philadelphia when the Mets said he had left hip soreness.

Dodgers

Mookie Betts received an injection that helped alleviate the pain in his right hip, but he is not currently partaking in physical activity. Betts has a bone spur in that hip, Dodgers manager Dave Roberts revealed Friday. But the Dodgers hope to put off any surgical procedure—

if one is required — until the offseason.

Giants

San Francisco and shortstop Brandon Crawford agreed to a two-year, \$32 million contract extension. The extension, which has a base salary of \$16 million for each season, runs through the 2023 season.

White Sox

Starter Carlos Rodon will continue on a prescribed schedule of rest after tests on his left shoulder did not reveal a significant injury. Rodon, 28, was placed on the 10-day injured list earlier this week with left shoulder fatigue.

Sports

Morning briefing

Brazil's Castroneves chosen for Motorsports Hall

From local and wire dispatches

Helio Castroneves celebrated his record-tying fourth Indianapolis 500 victory in May.

The rewards are still rolling in.

When the popular 46-year-old Brazilian returned to Indianapolis Motor Speedway this week, track officials presented him with a bronze brick and on Friday, he was named as the headliner in a nine-member Motorsports Hall of Fame of America induction Class for 2022.

"The motivation has always been there," Castroneves said.

"It's not about the title. I never lost faith. I wouldn't be going inside the helmet if I didn't think I had a chance to succeed. For me that keeps me right there on the edge and the competition in the IndyCar Series, it's so competitive that if you sneeze, you lose a tenth."

Castroneves, the open-wheel selection, will be joined by longtime NASCAR owner Jack Roush, Pete Brock from sports cars, Dick LaHaie from drag racing, NASCAR co-founder Raymond Parks and NASCAR builder Banjo Matthews, Denise McCluggage in the media category while motorcycle innovators Trey Vance and Byron Hines will go in as a single entry.

More auto racing

Pato O'Ward kept everyone waiting Friday — even after qualifying ended at Indianapolis. After another few moments, the stewards made it official — the 22

-year-old Mexican in championship contention earned his third pole of the season and fourth overall. Just seconds after Will Power thought he had taken the No. 1 spot after besting Roman Grosjean, O'Ward crossed the yard of bricks in 1 minute, 10.7147 seconds to pass Power for Saturday's race. Power went 1:10.7214.

Baseball

The Frontier League game between the Washington Wild Things (36-32) and the visiting Florence Yalls (41-27) was postponed due to weather and will be played as part of a doubleheader at 5:05 p.m. Sunday.

Hockey

Joe Thornton's pursuit of the elusive Stanley Cup is bringing him to the Florida Panthers. Thornton, 42, signed a one-year deal with the Panthers, making Florida his fourth franchise in a now 24-year NHL career. He has more points than any other active NHL player and is 14th all time on that list with 1,529. The 13 players ahead of him in points are in the Hall of Fame.

• The Anaheim Ducks signed center Mason McTavish, the No. 3 overall pick in last month's NHL draft. The Ducks also signed second-round pick Olen Zellweger and third-round pick Sasha Pastujov. McTavish is an 18-year-old center who spent last season with Olten in Switzerland's second division. He scored 42 points in 57 games with the OHL's Peterborough Petes during the 2019-20 season.

Planning ahead

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri
14	15	16	17	18	19	20



Pirates • 800-289-2827/mlb.com/pirates
Aug. 14: Brewers, DH 2:30 p.m./7:05 p.m., PNC Park

Aug. 15: Brewers, 1:05 p.m., PNC Park

Aug. 16: Dodgers, 10:10 p.m., Dodger Stadium, Los Angeles

Aug. 17: Dodgers, 10:10 p.m., Dodger Stadium, Los Angeles

Aug. 18: Dodgers, 10:10 p.m., Dodger Stadium, Los Angeles

Aug. 20: Cardinals, 8:15 p.m., Busch Stadium, St. Louis



Riverhounds • 412-224-4900/riverhounds.com
Aug. 14: Charlotte, 7 p.m., American Legion Memorial Stadium, Charlotte, N.C.

Aug. 18: Tampa Bay, 6 p.m., Highmark Stadium



Wild Things • 724-250-9555/washingtonwildthings.com
Aug. 14: Florence, 7:05 p.m., Wild Things Park, Washington, Pa.

Aug. 15: Florence, 5:35 p.m., Wild Things Park, Washington, Pa.

Aug. 18: Lake Erie, 7:05 p.m., Wild Things Park, Washington, Pa.

Aug. 19: Lake Erie, 7:05 p.m., Wild Things Park, Washington, Pa.

Aug. 20: Lake Erie, 7:05 p.m., Crushers Stadium, Avon, Ohio

Pro basketball

The Los Angeles Clippers re-signed free agent Nicholas Batum, who revived his career during last season's pandemic-shortened schedule. He signed his new contract in his native France in a livestream on the team's Instagram account. With Batum locked up, the team has retained all of its free agents who helped lead the Clippers to their first Western Conference Finals appearance in franchise history.

• Forward Thanasis Antetokounmpo re-signed with the Milwaukee Bucks. Antetokounmpo, an older brother of Bucks forward and two-time MVP Giannis Antetokounmpo, has played for Milwaukee each of the past two seasons. The 6-foot-6 forward played 57 games with three starts this past season and averaged 2.9

points, 2.2 rebounds and 9.7 minutes.

Tennis

Stefanos Tsitsipas defeated Casper Ruud of Norway, 6-1, 6-4, to advance to the semifinals of the National Bank Open in Toronto. Tsitsipas jumped to a 5-0 lead and finished the first set in 23 minutes. Ruud battled back in the second, holding serve and keeping pace with his opponent's repeated drop shots. Tsitsipas finally broke him with a shot down the line to lead 5-4. He then went on for the win.

• Top-seeded Aryna Sabalenka beat Victoria Azarenka, 6-2, 6-4, in a quarterfinal between players from Belarus at the National Bank Open in Montreal. Sabalenka, ranked No. 3, trailed, 4-2, in the second set before winning four games in a row.

Today on TV & Radio

Auto Racing

- IndyCar, 1 p.m., TV: NBCSN
- MotoAmerica Superbike, 2 p.m., TV: FS1
- AMA Motocross, 3 p.m., TV: WPXI
- NASCAR Xfinity Series, 4 p.m., TV: NBCSN

Basketball

- Big3 (Week 6), 1 p.m., TV: KDKA

Boxing

- Moloney-Franco, 10 p.m., TV: ESPN

Golf

- Ladies Scottish Open, 9 a.m., TV: Golf Channel
- PGA Wyndham Championship, 1 p.m., TV: Golf Channel
- PGA Wyndham Championship, 3 p.m., TV: KDKA
- Champions Tour Shaw Charity Classic, 4 p.m., TV: Golf Channel
- Korn Ferry Tour Pinnacle Bank Championship, 6 p.m., TV: Golf Channel

Lacrosse

- PLL: Cannons vs. Chrome, 7 p.m., TV: NBCSN

Little League World Series

- Midwest Regional final, 10 a.m., TV: ESPN
- New England Regional final, noon, TV: ESPN
- West Regional final, 2 p.m., TV: WTAE
- Great Lakes Regional final, 4 p.m., TV: ESPN
- Mid-Atlantic Regional final, 6 p.m., TV: ESPN
- Northwest Regional final, 8 p.m., TV: ESPN

MLB

- Reds at Phillies, 4 p.m., TV: FS1
- Brewers at Pirates, 7 p.m., TV: AT&T SportsNet, Radio: KDKA-FM (93.7)
- Dodgers at Mets, 7 p.m., TV: MLB Network

NBA Summer League

- Nuggets vs. Mavericks, 3 p.m., TV: NBA TV
- Hawks vs. Heat, 4 p.m., TV: ESPN2
- 76ers vs. Celtics, 5 p.m., TV: NBA TV
- Pacers vs. Thunder, 6 p.m., TV: ESPN2
- Hornets vs. Raptors, 7 p.m., TV: NBA TV
- Cavaliers vs. Knicks, 8 p.m., TV: ESPN2
- Trail Blazers vs. Suns, 9 p.m., TV: NBA TV
- Pistons vs. Lakers, 10 p.m., TV: ESPN2

Soccer

- Manchester United vs. Leeds United, 7:30 a.m., TV: NBCSN
- Leicester City vs. Wolves, 10 a.m., TV: NBCSN
- Everton vs. Southampton, 10 a.m., TV: USA
- Norwich City vs. Liverpool, 12:30 p.m., TV: WPXI
- LA Galaxy at Minnesota, 6 p.m., TV: WPGH
- Riverhounds at Charlotte, 7 p.m., TV: WPNT
- Pachuca at Monterrey, 10 p.m., TV: WPGH

Tennis

- ATP/WTA Canada, 10 a.m., TV: Tennis Channel
- ATP/WTA Canada, 3 p.m., TV: Tennis Channel

Women's Lacrosse

- Athletes Unlimited, noon, TV: FS1

PRO BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION				
	W	L	PCT	GB
Tampa Bay	70	45	.609	—
Boston	67	51	.568	4 1/2
New York	63	52	.548	7
Toronto	62	52	.544	7 1/2
Baltimore	38	76	.333	31 1/2

CENTRAL DIVISION				
	W	L	PCT	GB
Chicago	68	48	.586	—
Cleveland	56	58	.491	11
Detroit	57	61	.483	12
Minnesota	50	65	.435	17 1/2
Kansas City	49	65	.430	18

WEST DIVISION				
	W	L	PCT	GB
Houston	68	46	.596	—
Oakland	67	49	.578	2
Seattle	61	55	.526	8
Los Angeles	58	58	.500	11
Texas	41	75	.353	28

Thursday's Games
Oakland 17, Cleveland 0
Seattle 3, Texas 1
Detroit 6, Baltimore 4
Tampa Bay 8, Boston 1
Chicago White Sox 9, N.Y. Yankees 8
L.A. Angels 6, Toronto 3

Friday's Games
St. Louis 6, Kansas City 0
Cleveland 7, Detroit 4
Boston 8, Baltimore 1
Texas 8, Oakland 6
Tampa Bay at Minnesota
Houston at L.A. Angels
Toronto at Seattle

Saturday's Games
Baltimore (Lopez 3-12) at Boston (Sale 0-0), 4:10 p.m.
Cleveland (TBD) at Detroit (Peralta 3-2), 6:10 p.m.
Oakland (Kapelian 6-4) at Texas (Lyles 5-9), 7:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (TBD) at Chicago White Sox (Cease 9-6), 7:10 p.m.
St. Louis (Lester 3-6) at Kansas City (Keller 7-11), 7:10 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Wacha 2-3) at Minnesota (Maeda 5-4), 7:10 p.m.
Houston (Garcia 8-6) at L.A. Angels (Barria 2-0), 9:07 p.m.
Toronto (Ryu 11-5) at Seattle (Kikuchi 7-6), 10:10 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION				
	W	L	PCT	GB
New York	59	55	.518	—
Philadelphia	60	56	.517	—
Atlanta	59	56	.513	1/2
Washington	50	65	.435	9 1/2
Miami	48	67	.417	11 1/2

CENTRAL DIVISION				
	W	L	PCT	GB
Milwaukee	70	46	.603	—
Cincinnati	63	54	.538	7 1/2
St. Louis	59	56	.513	10 1/2
Chicago	52	65	.444	18 1/2
Pittsburgh	41	74	.357	28 1/2

WEST DIVISION				
	W	L	PCT	GB
San Francisco	74	41	.643	—
Los Angeles	69	46	.600	5
San Diego	66	51	.564	9
Colorado	51	64	.443	23
Arizona	36	80	.310	38 1/2

Thursday's Games
N.Y. Mets 4, Washington 1, 7 innings, 1st game
St. Louis 7, Pittsburgh 6
Philadelphia 2, L.A. Dodgers 1
N.Y. Mets 5, Washington 4, 7 innings, 2nd game
Seattle 16, Chicago 6
Milwaukee 17, Chicago Cubs 4
Cincinnati 12, Atlanta 3
San Francisco 7, Colorado 0
Arizona 12, San Diego 3

Cincinnati (Castillo 6-11) at Philadelphia (Moore 1-3), 4:05 p.m.
Atlanta (Fried 9-7) at Washington (Corbin 6-11), 6:05 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Davies 6-9) at Miami (TBD), 6:10 p.m.
Milwaukee (TBD) at Pittsburgh (Wilson 2-5), 7:05 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers (Buehler 12-2) at N.Y. Mets (Walker 7-7), 7:10 p.m.
St. Louis (Lester 3-6) at Kansas City (Keller 7-11), 7:10 p.m.

San Diego (Mugrove 8-7) at Arizona (Gilbert 0-1), 8:10 p.m.
Colorado (Freeland 3-6) at San Francisco (TBD), 9:05 p.m.

PRO FOOTBALL

NFL PRE-SEASON

Thursday's Games
Pittsburgh 24, Philadelphia 16
New England 22, Washington 13

Friday's Games
Buffalo 16, Detroit 15
Tennessee 23, Atlanta 3
Dallas at Arizona

Saturday's Games
Miami at Chicago, 1 p.m.
Denver at Minnesota, 4 p.m.
Cleveland at Jacksonville, 7 p.m.
New Orleans at Baltimore, 7 p.m.
Cincinnati at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at N.Y. Giants, 7:30 p.m.
Houston at Green Bay, 8 p.m.
Kansas City at San Francisco, 8:30 p.m.
Seattle at Las Vegas, 9 p.m.
L.A. Chargers at L.A. Rams, 10 p.m.

Sunday's Game

Carolina at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.

PRO BASKETBALL

NBA SUMMER LEAGUE

At Las Vegas
Thursday's Games
San Antonio 106, Charlotte 105
Minnesota 78, Chicago 59
Brooklyn 84, Washington 81
Indiana 97, Portland 64
Boston 108, Orlando 71
Toronto 92, Houston 76
Philadelphia 96, Atlanta 88
Phoenix 90, Denver 84

Friday's Games
Minnesota 91, Milwaukee 64
Utah 84, Miami 65
New Orleans 87, Cleveland 74
Golden State 94, Oklahoma City 84
Detroit 93, New York 87
Sacramento 90, Memphis 75
L.A. Lakers vs. L.A. Clippers

Saturday's Games
Denver vs. Dallas, 3 p.m.
Atlanta vs. Miami, 4 p.m.
Philadelphia vs. Boston, 5 p.m.
Indiana vs. Oklahoma City, 6 p.m.
Charlotte vs. Toronto, 7 p.m.
Cleveland vs. New York, 8 p.m.

WNBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
	W	L	PCT	GB
Connecticut	14	6	.700	—
Chicago	10	10	.500	4
New York	10	11	.476	4 1/2
Washington	8	10	.444	5
Atlanta	6	13	.316	7 1/2
Indiana	4	16	.200	10

WESTERN CONFERENCE				
	W	L	PCT	GB
Seattle	16	5	.762	—
Las Vegas	15	6	.714	1
Minnesota	12	7	.632	3
Phoenix	9	10	.474	6
Dallas	9	12	.429	7
Los Angeles	6	13	.316	9

Washington at Las Vegas, 6 p.m.
New York at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
Indiana at Los Angeles, 9 p.m.

PRO SOCCER

MLS

EASTERN CONFERENCE					
	W	L	T	PT	GF GA
New England	12	3	4	40	35 22
Orlando City	8	4	6	30	28 23
New York City FC	8	5	4	28	32 18
Philadelphia	7	5	7	28	25 19
Nashville	6	2	10	28	26 17
D.C. United	8	7	3	27	21 21
Columbus	6	6	6	24	21 23
CF Montreal	6	7	5	23	24 24
New York	5	8	4	19	21 22
Atlanta	3	6	9	18	21 25
Chicago	4	9	5	17	20 29
Inter Miami CF	4	8	4	16	15 26
Cincinnati	3	7	7	16	18 30
Toronto FC	3	9	6	15	23 38

WESTERN CONFERENCE					
	W	L	T	PTS	GF GA
Sporting Kansas City	10	4	4	34	33 20
Seattle	9	3	6	33	26 14
L.A. Galaxy	10	6	2	32	29 28
Colorado	8	4	4	28	22 16
Minnesota United	7	5	5	26	21 21
Portland	7	8	2	23	23 29
Los Angeles FC	6	7	5	23	24 25
Real Salt Lake	5	6	6	21	26 20
FC Dallas	5	7	6	21	23 25
San Jose	5	7	6	21	21 27
Houston	3	6	9	18	19 25
Austin FC	4	9	4	16	13 20
Vancouver	3	7	7	16	19 28

Note: Three points for a win, one for a tie.
Friday's Game
Vancouver at San Jose
Saturday's Games
LA Galaxy at Minnesota, 6 p.m.
Miami at New York City FC, 8 p.m.
New England at Toronto FC, 8 p.m.
New York at CF Montreal, 8 p.m.
Colorado at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Sporting Kansas City at FC Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Austin FC at Real Salt Lake, 10 p.m.

NWSL

	W	L	T	PT	GF GA
Portland	9	3	1	28	20 7
North Carolina	6	4	3	21	17 9
Gotham FC	5	2	5	20	13 8
Orlando	5	4	5	20	17 16
Chicago	6	6	2	20	15 20
Washington	5	5	4	19	17 17
Reign FC	6	6	1	19	14 14
Houston	5	6	3	18</	

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