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Thanksgiving 2021



Emily Matthews/Post-Gazette
Karen Rafferty, wife of the late Tunch Ilkin, waits in line to get trays of food to give out while Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, center, and Pittsburgh Mayor Bill Peduto, right, prepare plates during Light of Life Rescue Mission's Thanksgiving dinner Thursday on the North Side. Ilkin's legacy lives on at the mission, **Sports, D-1**

EMS to provide drug for opioid recovery

Move comes amid uptick in OD calls

By Jesse Bunch
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The announcement last week that more than 100,000 Americans had died in a single year from a drug overdose marked a grim milestone in the country's opioid crisis.

In Pittsburgh, overdoses — particularly related to opioids — saw increases that confirm this trend is happening close to home.

Since the city's Office of Community Health and Safety (OCHS) began publicly publishing data in October 2020, calls to EMS for opioid overdoses have steadily increased month-over-month.

Last October, 67 overdose-related calls were made. By July 2021 — the latest month the city has available data on — 106 calls were made, a 58% increase from less than a year prior. Over the winter, calls slowly rose, but by spring they began a sharper increase.

In March 2021, Pittsburgh EMS saw 92 calls. Soon after, calls began to reach the triple digits. In April, 114 calls were

SEE **EMS**, PAGE A-3

Giving thanks through gratitude, service to others

By Dan Gigler
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Frank Vitale plopped into a folding chair Wednesday evening in the event hall of the Serbian Club on the South Side, a little weary. He'd spent 30 hours over two days on his feet in the commissary kitchen there, preparing full

Inside

Biden wishes Americans a happy, closer-to-normal holiday, **A-5**

Thanksgiving meals for 40 families and 183 people, helped by the Brashear Association, in the city's southern Hilltop neighborhoods.

The chef's eyes welled up, and it wasn't from being tired or chopping onions.

"Gratitude isn't even the word," he said.

Mr. Vitale is a successful restaurant owner. He's also a heroin addict in recovery — for over seven years now — and he knows what it's like to be on the very bottom

and in need of a little grace.

"I'm so blessed. I shouldn't be here. Three overdoses. A suicide attempt," he recounted. He was not only able to put his life back together but to thrive.

"In the beginning, I just, you know, put my head down and to see

SEE **THANKS**, PAGE A-4

Cryptocurrency regulations pushed by Pa. lawmaker

By Ashley Murray
Post-Gazette Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Lawmakers want to clarify how cryptocurrencies are regulated by the federal government, and the latest push is spearheaded by rural Pennsylvania's ranking Republican on the U.S. House Agriculture Committee.

Rep. Glenn Thompson, R-Centre, introduced a blueprint last week on how digital commodity markets should be regulated, an issue gnawing at the industry as the government tries to apply older traditional banking frameworks to the 21st-century digital representations of value.

Many types and forms of cryptocurrencies exist, Bitcoin being the most popular and the first digital currency created in the aftermath of the 2008 economic crisis; others include Ethereum, Solana, XRP and Litecoin. Transactions are recorded on a decentralized digital ledger, called a blockchain. Some of the tokens store value, but others can be the so-called fuel behind bigger crypto-networks on which innovators or software developers can build projects and applications.

The global market for the digital tokens hit an all-time high of \$2.8 trillion earlier this

SEE **CRYPTO**, PAGE A-6

MACY'S PARADE



Charles Sykes/Invision via AP
The Tom Turkey float rides down Central Park West on Thursday in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York. See more photos and coverage inside, **Page A-4**

S. African scientists detect new variant

By Andrew Meldrum and Mogomotsi Magome
Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG — A new coronavirus variant has been detected in South Africa that scientists say is a concern because of its high number of mutations and rapid spread among young people in Gauteng, the country's most populous province, Health Minister Joe Phaahla announced Thursday.

The coronavirus evolves as it spreads and many new variants, including those with worrying mutations, often just die out. Scientists monitor for possible changes that could be more transmissible or deadly, but sorting out whether new variants will have a public health impact can take time.

SEE **VARIANT**, PAGE A-13

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Breezy with snow showers.
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Merkel raises prospect of Russia sanctions

By Patrick Donahue and Piotr Skolimowski
Bloomberg News

Germany's departing leader, Angela Merkel, raised the prospect of the European Union imposing new sanctions if tensions with Russia and Belarus don't subside.

The chancellor, who will likely turn her office over to Social Democrat Olaf Scholz in the next two weeks, cited the Russian military buildup near the Ukrainian border, the Kremlin's refusal to hold talks on peace in eastern Ukraine, and Belarus' role in a migration crisis on the border with Poland.

"We have to make clear that if the situation escalates we can introduce further sanctions," Ms. Merkel told reporters in Berlin, speaking alongside Polish Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki. Still, "the door to dialogue should always remain open," she said.



John MacDougall/Associated Press
German Chancellor Angela Merkel speaks at a news conference after talks with Poland Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki on Thursday at the chancellery in Berlin.

Tension has been rising on the EU's eastern frontier since Russia began amassing as many as 100,000 troops on the borders around its former Soviet partner Ukraine in what the U.S. has told its allies may be preparations for an invasion.

Just after Ms. Merkel and Mr. Morawiecki spoke, Polish President Andrzej Duda called for NATO to boost its defense readiness after a meeting in Warsaw with the military alliance's secretary general, Jens Stoltenberg.

In Berlin, Ms. Merkel be-

moaned Moscow's refusal to hold a meeting with Ukraine, Germany and France as part of ongoing talks to reduce tensions in Ukraine's eastern Donbas region, where Russia is backing separatists fighting against the Ukrainian government.

"It would have been a good sign that all sides are interested in a solution to the Ukrainian issue," Ms. Merkel said. "But it didn't come to that."

In a phone conversation later with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, Ms. Merkel reiterated her support for Ukraine and its territorial integrity, adding that "its erosion won't remain without consequences," her chief spokesman said in a statement.

Poland is also struggling with a migrant crisis on its border with Belarus as that country's leader, Alexander Lukashenko, has ushered migrants mostly from the Middle East to the EU's east-

ern frontier.

EU officials have condemned Mr. Lukashenko's actions as part of a "hybrid attack" against the bloc, which imposed sanctions over his government's crackdown on opposition forces following disputed elections there last year.

Mr. Morawiecki, who is on a tour of European capitals to coordinate a response to Russian-linked tensions, said the EU may scale back trade with Belarus and impose new penalties.

The sanctions would amount to a "significant hit against Lukashenko's regime," Mr. Morawiecki said.

While big EU members, including Germany and France, have professed solidarity with Poland, tensions remain. During Mr. Morawiecki's stopover in Paris on Wednesday, French President Emmanuel Macron pressed the Polish premier on his country's adherence to the bloc's rule-of-law standards.

Nation/World briefs

French fishers plan to block English ports

Compiled from news services

French fishermen have said they will block access to the Eurotunnel and English Channel ports in northern France on Friday in protest over post-Brexit fishing rights.

A post on Thursday from a fishermen's group on Facebook said they would block ferries in Saint-Malo, Calais and Ouistreham "to denounce the conditions of the Brexit deal and its consequences on fishermen."

The head of a fishermen's association said the protest would start at 1 p.m. local time in Ouistreham and that 15 boats would block the port in the area. He said other groups would be blocking two other areas.

The fishermen said they were sending "a warning" to demand the rapid granting by the U.K. of post-Brexit fishing licenses.

The U.K. government responded Thursday saying it was "disappointed" by threats of protests by French fishermen.

5 U.S. representatives touch down in Taiwan

Five U.S. lawmakers arrived in Taiwan on Thursday to meet with government officials, defying Beijing to visit the contested island.

"When news of our trip broke yesterday, my office received a blunt message from the Chinese Embassy, telling me to call off the trip," Rep. Elissa Slotkin, a Michigan Democrat, wrote Thursday on Twitter.

"The auto industry's largest supplier of microchips is here in Taiwan, so supply chain issues will most definitely be on the agenda."

Ms. Slotkin said the side trip to Taiwan came after celebrating Thanksgiving with U.S. troops in South Korea and that the stop would "be good to connect with leaders here to discuss a whole host of economic and national security issues."

Taiwan holds a fraught position in the deteriorating relationship between Washington and Beijing, with tensions running high as China increases its military posturing and warplane flights around the self-ruled island.

The bipartisan congressional delegation that arrived Thursday is led by House Veterans' Affairs Chairman Mark Takano, a California Democrat, and included fellow panel members Ms. Slotkin and Reps. Colin Allred, a Texas Democrat, and Nancy Mace, a South Carolina Republican, as well as Rep. Sara Jacobs, a California Democrat, according to Reuters, which first reported the trip.

Libya denies bid by Gadhafi's son

Libya's top electoral body on Wednesday disqualified the son and one-time heir apparent of the late dictator Moammar Gadhafi from running for president in elections to be held next month, citing his previous convictions.

The name of Seif al-Islam Gadhafi appeared on a list of ineligible candidates issued by the country's High National Elections Committee. He can appeal the decision in court in the coming days.

Seif al-Islam had been sentenced to death by a Tripoli court in 2015 for using violence against protesters in a 2011 uprising against his father, but that ruling has since been called into question by Libya's rival authorities. He is also wanted by the International Criminal Court on charges of crimes against humanity related to the uprising.

ALMANAC

On this day, Nov. 26

1825 The first college social fraternity, the Kappa Alpha Society, was formed at Union College in Schenectady, N.Y.

1864 English mathematician and writer Charles Dodgson presented a handwritten and illustrated manuscript, "Alice's Adventures Under Ground," to his 12-year-old friend Alice Pleasance Liddell; the book was later turned into "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland," published under Dodgson's pen name, Lewis Carroll.

1912 Andrew Carnegie, at 77, turned over all but \$25 million of his vast fortune to the Carnegie Corp. for charitable and philanthropic distribution.

1946 Pittsburgh was assured funds for the Conemaugh Dam flood-control project when the Truman administration decided to spend an additional \$55 million for such work.

1979 The State Human Relations Commission allowed the Pittsburgh Board of Public Education 18 days to submit a plan for desegregating.

2000 Florida Secretary of State Katherine Harris certified George W. Bush the winner over Al Gore in the state's presidential balloting by a 537-vote margin.

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

— Compiled by Rick Nowlin

Today's birthdays: Impressionist Rich Little, 83. Singer Tina Turner, 82. Singer Jean Terrell, 77. Pop musician John McVie, 76. Actor Marianne Muellerleile, 73. Actor Scott Jacoby, 65. Actor Jamie Rose, 62. Country singer Linda Davis, 59. Actor Scott Adsit, 56. Blues singer-musician Bernard Allison, 56. Country singer-musician Steve Grissaffe, 56. Actor Kristin Bauer, 55. Actor Peter Facinelli, 48. Actor Tammy Lynn Michaels Etheridge, 47. DJ/record label executive DJ Khaled, 46. Actor Maia Campbell, 45. Country singer Joe Nichols, 45. Contemporary Christian musicians Anthony and Randy Armstrong (Red), 43. Actor Jessica Bowman, 41. Pop singer Natasha Bedingfield, 40. Actor Jessica Camacho, 39. Rock musician Ben Wysocki (The Fray), 37. Singer Lil Fizz, 36. MLB All-Star Matt Carpenter, 36. Actor-singer-TV personality Rita Ora, 31. Actor/singer Aubrey Peeples, 28.

Thought for today: "Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough."

— Oprah Winfrey

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Governor of Kemerovo region press office photos via AP

Rescuers walk through the Listvyazhnaya coal mine Thursday in the Siberian city of Kemerovo, about 1,900 miles east of Moscow, Russia. A fire at the coal mine killed 52 people, with dozens of others still trapped, authorities said.

Russia: Death toll in Siberian coal mine blast raised to 52

By Daria Litvinova and Vladimir Isachenkov
Associated Press

MOSCOW — A devastating explosion in a Siberian coal mine Thursday left 52 miners and rescuers dead about 820 feet underground, Russian officials said.

Hours after a methane gas explosion and fire filled the mine with toxic fumes, rescuers found 14 bodies but then were forced to halt the search for 38 others because of a buildup of methane and carbon monoxide gas from the fire. Another 239 people were rescued.

The state Tass and RIA-Novosti news agencies cited emergency officials as saying that there was no chance of finding any more survivors in the Listvyazhnaya mine, in the Kemerovo region of southwestern Siberia.

The Interfax news agency cited a representative of the regional administration who also put the death toll from Thursday's accident at 52, saying they died of carbon monoxide poisoning.

It was the deadliest mine accident in Russia since 2010, when two methane explosions and a fire killed 91 people at the Rospadskaya mine in the same Kemerovo region.

A total of 285 people were in the Listvyazhnaya mine early Thursday when the blast sent smoke that quickly filled the mine through the ventilation system. Rescuers led to the surface 239 miners, 49 of whom were injured, and found 11 bodies.

Later in the day, six rescuers also died while searching for others trapped in a remote section of the mine, the news reports said.

Regional officials declared three days of mourning.

Russia's Deputy Prosecutor General Dmitry Demeshin told reporters



Kemerovo Gov. Sergei Tsvilyov, right, visits a wounded miner after an accident at the Listvyazhnaya coal mine Thursday.

that the fire most likely resulted from a methane explosion caused by a spark.

The miners who survived described their shock after reaching the surface.

"Impact. Air. Dust. And then, we smelled gas and just started walking out, as many as we could," one of the rescued miners, Sergey Golubin, said in televised remarks. "We didn't even realize what happened at first and took some gas in."

Another miner, Rustam Chebelkov, recalled the dramatic moment when he was rescued along with his comrades as chaos engulfed the mine.

"I was crawling and then I felt them grabbing me," he said. "I reached my arms out to them, they couldn't see me, the visibility was bad. They grabbed me and pulled me out, if not for them, we'd be dead."

Explosions of methane released from coal beds during mining are rare but they cause the most fatalities in the coal mining industry.

The Interfax news agency reported that miners have oxygen supplies normally lasting for six hours that could only be stretched for a few more hours.

Russia's Investigative Committee has launched a criminal probe into the fire

over violations of safety regulations that led to deaths. It said the mine director and two senior managers were detained.

President Vladimir Putin extended his condolences to the families of the dead and ordered the government to offer all necessary assistance to those injured.

Thursday's fire wasn't the first deadly accident at the Listvyazhnaya mine. In 2004, a methane explosion left 13 miners dead.

In 2007, a methane explosion at the Ulyanovskaya mine in the Kemerovo region killed 110 miners in the deadliest mine accident since Soviet times.

In 2016, 36 miners were killed in a series of methane explosions in a coal mine in Russia's far north.

In the wake of the incident, authorities analyzed the safety of the country's 58 coal mines and declared 20 of them, or 34%, potentially unsafe.

The Listvyazhnaya mine wasn't among them at the time, according to media reports.

Russia's state technology and ecology watchdog, Rostekhnadzor, inspected the mine in April and registered 139 violations, including breaching fire safety regulations.

As overdose calls spike, city EMS to provide recovery drug

EMS, FROM A-1

made, while 115 were made in June.

With the continuous rise in calls, the city has had to equip EMS with opioid-specific training to combat the crisis on its frontlines, most notably with its naloxone leave-behind program.

Its latest effort is the first of its kind in Pennsylvania.

On Monday, the OCHS announced the successful beginnings of a pilot program that equips first responders to overdose calls with buprenorphine, a drug used to gradually help opioid-users curb their use and recover from addiction.

Buprenorphine, an FDA-approved medication, helps reduce opioid dependency use by activating opioid receptors in the brain — but to a much lesser degree than the drugs themselves.

Already, Pittsburgh Public Safety personnel are trained to administer naloxone, a life-saving drug that can reverse overdoses, and in 2018, the city launched its leave behind program that provides extra naloxone to at-risk patients who refuse hospital treatment.

But by adding buprenorphine to the EMS toolkit, the city hopes to kick-start the process of long-term recovery at the scene of an overdose — and taking the burden off overstretched paramedics in the process.

“One really important thing about the buprenorphine program that we get a lot of questions on is, ‘Aren’t you just exchanging one drug for another?’ said James Dlutowski, crew chief of Pittsburgh EMS, in a phone interview.

“The answer is ‘No,’ he said. “This is a true harm reducer, and it helps engage people with recovery.”

According to Mr. Dlutowski, research shows that buprenorphine-assisted recovery from opioid use decreases both the likelihood

of recurrent overdoses and death from overdoses while increasing the likelihood that a patient engages with recovery.

He added that because buprenorphine is a prescribed medication, it’s a safer alternative to street drugs that may be laced with the highly fatal synthetic drug fentanyl.

Once only responsible for a small portion of overdose deaths, fentanyl has grown to become one of their leading causes. In Allegheny County, 84% of all fatal overdoses in 2020 involved fentanyl, compared to 77% in the previous year. Nationally, it accounts for more than half of drug overdose deaths.

Laura Drogowski, a OCHS critical communities manager, initially came to Mr. Dlutowski with the idea for the buprenorphine program, though it would take multiple levels of approvals from the state department of health, city administration, and EMS bureau to see it come into fruition this fall.

According to Mr. Dlutowski, buprenorphine is not commonly used in Pennsylvania. Because it is an opiate itself, medical professionals must undergo related Federal Drug Enforcement Administration training and receive a special “x-waiver” to prescribe the medication.

In a statement, the OCHS said that Pittsburgh is just the third city in the country with an EMS-assisted buprenorphine program.

“We have something like 1,800 first responder, but we haven’t equip them with all of the tools,” said Ms. Drogowski. “That’s a recipe for a lot of frustration, and frankly, a lot of missed opportunity.”

Mr. Drogowski detailed recurrent cycles of overdoses where EMS units often see the same patient multiple times. It’s a process she said can feel Sisyphean, and leads to feelings



Getty Images/iStockphoto

By adding buprenorphine to the EMS toolkit, the city hopes to kick-start the process of long-term recovery at the scene of an overdose — and taking the burden off overstretched paramedics in the process.

of burnout among responders.

“When we’re talking about medics or people in the community having reversed an overdose, that means that a paramedic, firefighter or police officer is encountering a person on maybe one of the worst days of their recent memory,” she said.

“They feel really sick, they feel really bad and they’re really scared,” she said of their patients. “And then we have paramedics going over and over again to reverse the overdoses with no sense of the ability to change the outcome.”

By introducing buprenorphine, the chance to move users away from cycles of overdose and into long-term treatment is possible.

Dr. Jody Glance, clinical chief of addiction medicine services for Western Behavioral Health at UPMC, said buprenorphine helps patients more comfortably stop using opioids by alleviating their withdrawal symptoms.

“Once the person is stabilized on the medication, they will not have the same level of cravings or desire to use illicit opioids,” Dr. Glance said. “And that’s really important, because that

means now the person can start to engage in activities that will help them maintain their recovery.

“If somebody is just trying to go it alone and just stop using opiates, they’re really going to have a hard time because they’re going to be going through this cycle of withdrawal that feels so terrible,” she explained. “A lot of times, they end up using again, thinking ‘Maybe I’ll just use a little bit to help me feel a little better so I can get through the day,’ but then that ends up being a vicious cycle.”

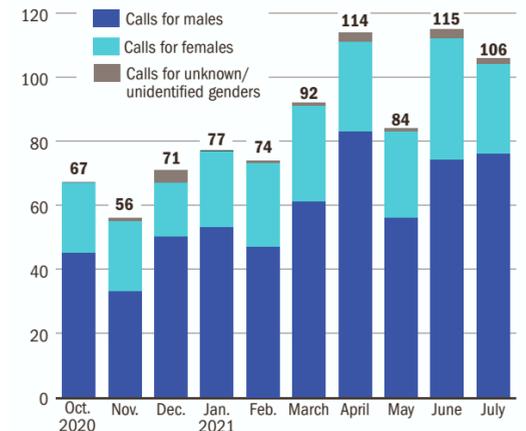
Unlike naloxone, which reverses an overdose at the scene, opioid users take buprenorphine as a daily pill or injection alongside psychosocial support and treatment. Gradually, the dose of buprenorphine is adjusted until the user is stabilized — a time period that depends on the individual.

Dr. Glance said this usually takes a few weeks, though some patients need longer. She added it’s a misconception that buprenorphine is only needed for a short time.

“A lot of people find that the medication is so helpful, that coming off of it is more risky than staying on it,” Dr. Glance said. “Sometimes people are on this

Drug overdose calls to EMS in Pittsburgh

The number of calls for drug overdoses to EMS has increased during the pandemic, according to data collected by the city.



Source: Pittsburgh Public Safety

Graphic: Tyler Pecyna/Post-Gazette

medication for a long time — some people are on this medication because they know that being on this medication is saving their life.”

“The truth of the matter is that addiction is a chronic, relapsing illness that requires a lot of time, medication, to maintain that recovery, just like other chronic relapsing illnesses,” she added. “Somebody with diabetes might need insulin or somebody with high blood pressure might need a medication for that. Similarly, with opioid use, a lot of times people need a medication on a more long-term basis.”

Regardless of whether an overdose patient chooses to go to the hospital, the OCHS said its EMS units will be able to provide buprenorphine.

For patients who seek hospital treatment, the program allows them to schedule a follow up visit with the UPMC Medical Toxicology Bridge Clinic to continue taking the drug.

According to Mr. Dlutowski, Pittsburgh EMS Units 2, 3, and 8 currently

are equipped with buprenorphine during the program’s pilot phase. The OCHS chose these areas, which cover places like Downtown, Carrick and the West End, because they experience the highest number of overdoses.

Buprenorphine training was no more complex than training for other drugs, Mr. Dlutowski noted — participating EMS units were trained on correct buprenorphine dosing and concentrations, as well as its routes of administration to a patient.

While calls to EMS for opioid overdoses have steadily increased, Ms. Drogowski said when looking at statistics, it’s often easy to forget the people involved.

“We’re really trying to get to that point of engagement,” she said of the buprenorphine program. “What can we do when we are present with someone?”

“We as a city have not historically been empowered to work in the human services, social services,” she said. “And I think it’s just become so abundantly clear that it’s necessary.”

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Macy's parade returns, with all the trimmings

By Ted Shaffrey
and Jennifer Peltz
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Giant balloons once again wafted through miles of Manhattan, wrangled by costumed handlers. High school and college marching bands from around the country were back, and so were the crowds at the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

After being crimped by the coronavirus pandemic last year, the holiday tradition returned in full Thursday, though with precautions.

"It really made Thanksgiving feel very festive and full of life," Sierra Guardiola, a 23-year-old interior design firm assistant, said after watching the spectacle in a turkey-shaped hat.

Thousands of marchers, hundreds of clowns, dozens of balloons and floats — and, of course, Santa Claus — marked the latest U.S. holiday event to make a comeback as vaccines, familiarity and sheer frustration made officials and some of the public more comfortable with big gatherings amid the on-going pandemic.

To President Joe Biden, the parade's full-fledged return was a sign of renewal, and he called NBC broadcaster Al Roker on-air to say so.

"After two years, we're back. America is back. There's nothing we're unable to overcome," Mr. Biden said over the phone from Nantucket, Mass., where he was watching the broadcast with his family.

Still, safety measures continued. Parade staffers and volunteers had to be vaccinated against COVID-19 and wear masks, though some singers and performers were allowed to shed them. There was no inoculation requirement for spectators, but Macy's and the city encouraged them to cover their faces.

Asahi Pompey said she made a point of getting her



Carolers wave at spectators as they ride down Sixth Avenue in the Macy's Singing Christmas Tree float Thursday during the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York.



Santa Claus waves at the crowds from a float in the parade.

vaccine booster shot Wednesday and wore a mask while in the crowd, but COVID-19 concerns couldn't keep her away.

"It feels really phenomenal to be here. It feels like

New York is on its way to recovery," said Ms. Pompey, 49, a lawyer.

"It's like the whole spirit of New York has come and gathered so we can be together," added her school



Jon Batiste, right, rides on a float during the parade.

-age son, Sebastian Pompey-Schoelkopf.

Last Thanksgiving, with no vaccines available and the virus beginning a winter surge in the nation's biggest city, the parade was con-

finned to one block and sometimes pre-taped. Most performers were locally based, to cut down on travel, and the giant balloons were tethered to vehicles instead of being handled by volun-

teers. No spectators were allowed.

Getting to watch the nearly century-old parade this year on the street, instead of a screen, was "incredible" for Katie Koth. The 26-year-old teacher was at the event for the first time.

"The energy is crazy, and the crowd was amazing," she said.

The event came days after an SUV driver plowed through a Christmas parade in suburban Milwaukee, killing six people and injuring over 60. Authorities said the driver, who has been charged with intentional homicide, was speeding away from police after a domestic dispute.

New York Mayor Bill de Blasio said Wednesday there was no credible, specific threat to the Thanksgiving parade, but security was extensive, as usual.

It involved thousands of police officers, as well as sand-filled garbage trucks and concrete barriers blocking cars from the parade route, bomb-detecting dogs, heavy-weapon teams, radiation and chemical sensors and over 300 extra cameras.

Inside the barricades, new balloon giants joined the lineup, including the title character from the Netflix series "Ada Twist, Scientist"; the Pokémon characters Pikachu and Eevee on a sled (Pikachu has appeared before, in different form); and Grogu, aka "Baby Yoda," from the television show "The Mandalorian." New floats came from entities ranging from condiment maker Heinz to NBCUniversal's Peacock streaming service to the Louisiana Office of Tourism.

Entertainers and celebrities included Carrie Underwood, Jon Batiste, Nelly, Kelly Rowland, Miss America Camille Schrier, the band Foreigner, and many others. Several Broadway musical casts and the Radio City Rockettes also performed.

Gratitude, service to others shines through this Thanksgiving

THANKS, FROM A-1

all that hard work pay off and be able to help people as well is more than any money I can make. It's truly, truly gratifying."

He held a wine dinner last month at his restaurant, Cucina Vitale on the South Side, which raised nearly \$17,000 to fund the Thanksgiving food drive and to provide hundreds of gift cards to others.

"These meals are definitely filling in the gaps to households who didn't have a lot for Thanksgiving this year," said Candace Benson, director of programming and services for Brashear. The local safety net has been stretched thin since the pandemic began in March 2020, and efforts like this are crucial to helping them complete their mission.

"We weren't able to reach all the households with gift cards this year due to limited funding. We couldn't help with additional food for Thanksgiving. And most of these, probably all of these households, have children."

A small platoon of volunteers — friends and family of Mr. Vitale — fanned out through the 12 city neighborhoods Brashear serves to deliver the bounty.

That spirit of service played out in scenes large and small across the region on Thursday.

Also on the South Side, Steelers wide receiver Juju Smith-Schuster and Dive Bar & Grill teamed up to prepare and deliver 500 meals.

At the Holy Assumption of St. Mary Orthodox Church, Pittsburgh police and volunteers packaged and delivered more than 3,200 meals throughout the city for their 18th annual "Stuffed With Love" tradition, in partnership with the Rotary Clubs of Bethel-St. Clair and Northern Allegheny and the athletes of 412 Boxing, Downtown. In the Hill District, Salem's Market



Rep. Jake Wheatley prepares a plate during Light of Life Rescue Mission's Thanksgiving dinner Thursday on the North Side.

and Grill prepared and distributed a thousand meals in the lot of the former Shop 'n Save they'll be taking over in the Centre Heldman Plaza.

On the North Side, it was the inaugural Thanksgiving dinner at the Light of Life Rescue Mission's new facility on Voegtly Street, which opened earlier this year. It furthers their mission of giving refuge to the region's addicted and homeless in need of a meal and a bed, and offers an opportunity to get back on their feet.

County Executive Rich Fitzgerald plated heaping helpings of turkey slathered with gravy while Pittsburgh Mayor-elect Ed Gainey scooped up the sides with an assist from state Rep. Jake Wheatley.

"It's taking all my willpower not to grab one of these and chow down," former Steeler Craig Wolfley said to one of the scores of volunteers who handed him off a few fully dressed plates to be delivered to tables.



The Rev. Glenn Grayson, senior pastor at Wesley Center A.M.E. Zion Church, loads a truck with boxes of Thanksgiving meals to be delivered to nursing homes during Salem's Market and Grill's drive-thru and walk-up Thanksgiving dinner giveaway at the former Shop 'n Save in the Hill District.

In the past, those receiving meals would essentially wait outside, come in and get their food and leave because there was no space.

"One of our goals is to create a family feel," said the Rev. Jerrel Gilliam, executive director of the Light of Life.

"For many people who are

homeless, they have lost [their] family. When we designed his dining hall, we selected round tables, because we wanted people to have that experience of looking at each other, and sitting down and eating at the same time. We're hoping to reintroduce some of the traditions of this day. We're hoping to let per-



Candice Benson, rear, director of programs and services for the Brashear Association, and Frank Vitale, chef and restaurant owner, organize boxes of meals to be delivered on Thursday outside the American Serbian Club on the South Side.

ple rest and take a moment to pause and be thankful."

Mr. Gainey built his political career through neighborhood service, and for him the day held special meaning because those assembled are not just neighbors, but will soon be his constituents.

"This is what Thanksgiving is about," he said. "These people, as you can see, feel good about themselves. That's what means something to me. Because it's days like this that we can reach them. We can talk to them. They're ready to talk about their issues. They're not feeling isolated. They feel like somebody cares. And when they feel that you care, they will come to you. And that's when you can help them get to where they want to get to."

That's a road that Mr. Vitale has walked and managed to come out the other side,

alive, to now be a helping hand to others.

"I missed a lot of functions. Or if I was there, I came late because I was trying to get caught or I was blasted," he said.

"It may sound crazy, but I'm grateful for all that hardship. As horrible as that was, in the throes of hell it made me who I am today.

"I always thought my goal was to own a restaurant like that was the end all be all, but more and more, I realized that that's just a stepping stone for my real mission in life and that's to help people, especially with addiction because I can relate to it.

"You can not only beat it or recover from it, but you can achieve anything. I write a gratitude list every day you know my prayers today are of thanks," he said, taking a pause to collect himself.

"Because life is awesome."

Biden wishes Americans happy, closer-to-normal Thanksgiving

By Darlene Superville
Associated Press

NANTUCKET, Mass. — President Joe Biden on Thursday wished Americans a happy and closer-to-normal Thanksgiving, the second celebrated in the shadow of the coronavirus pandemic, in remarks welcoming the resumption of holiday traditions by millions of families — including his own.

“As we give thanks for what we have, we also keep in our hearts those who have been lost and those who have lost so much,” the president said in a videotaped greeting recorded with first lady Jill Biden at the White House before their trip to Nantucket, Mass., for the holiday.

On the island, the Bidens visited the Coast Guard station at Brant Point to meet virtually with U.S. service-members from around the world and personnel at the station. “I’m not joking when I say I’m thankful for these guys,” the president said when asked what he was thankful for, referring to the Coast Guard members standing ramrod straight before him on the grounds as he departed.

Reporters were kept out of the room for Mr. Biden’s virtual remarks, apparently because of tight space in the building. Well-wishers waved and cheered as Mr. Biden’s motorcade navigated the island’s narrow paved and cobblestone streets to and from the Coast Guard compound.

Mr. Biden, whose late son Beau was a major in the Delaware Army National Guard, said he has watched U.S. service members in action around the world, from the South China Sea and Iraq and Afghanistan to South America. He said when foreigners wonder what America is, “they don’t see us here,” meaning civilians. “They see them,” he said of



Carolyn Kaster/Associated Press

President Joe Biden speaks with members of the Coast Guard as he visits the United States Coast Guard Station Brant Point on Thursday in Nantucket, Mass.

members of the Coast Guard and the other branches of the U.S. military. “It makes me proud.”

From Nantucket, the Bidens also called in to the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade, briefly bantering on air with NBC broadcaster Al Roker. Shut out a year ago, spectators again lined the route in Manhattan as some 8,000 participants joined the parade. Parade employees and volunteers had to be vaccinated against COVID-19 and wear masks.

Mr. Biden and his wife started spending Thanksgiving in Nantucket since before they were married in 1977 because they were looking for a way out of choosing whose family to spend it with. They did not visit in 2015 following Beau’s death earlier that year from brain cancer at age 46, or in 2020, when the COVID-19 pandemic put the kibosh on large family gatherings.

Mr. Biden, then the president-elect, instead dined at home in Delaware last year with just his wife, daughter Ashley and her husband.

But this year, the president joined the millions of Americans who are celebrating the holiday with big groups of loved ones. Mr.

Biden’s entire family flew up with him Tuesday night on Air Force One to resume the Thanksgiving tradition: his wife, son Hunter and his wife, Melissa and their toddler son Beau; daughter Ashley; and grandchildren Naomi, Finnegan, Maisy, Natalie and young Hunter, as well as Naomi’s fiancée, Peter Neal.

Naomi Biden and her fiancée rode bicycles along a local path just before her grandfather’s SUV departed the secluded home where the family is staying. The home belongs to David Rubenstein, a billionaire philanthropist and co-founder of the Carlyle Group private equity firm.

Mr. Biden’s visit, his first as president, is markedly different from his previous holidays here when he was a U.S. senator and later vice president. Then, he might have been seen walking around downtown.

Mr. Biden lost much of his freedom to move around on his own when he became president and now travels with a large group of security personnel, White House and other officials, and journalists. His every public move is closely watched by the U.S. Secret Service and other law enforcement.

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Thompson pushes for regulations of cryptocurrencies



Haraz N. Ghanbari/Associated Press
Rep. Glenn Thompson, R-Centre., introduced a blueprint last week on how digital commodity markets should be regulated as the government tries to apply older traditional banking frameworks to the 21st-century digital representations of value.



Andrew Rush/Post-Gazette
Chris Radwanski, data center supervisor, checks on bitcoin-mining machines in a shipping container behind the Scrubgrass Power plant on July 23 in Kennerdell. The Digital Commodities Exchange Act of 2021 would draw lines around activities involving the digital currencies, categorizing them as either commodities or securities — and therefore determining which government agency would have authority.

CRYPTO, FROM A-1

month, according to the Washington-based Chamber of Digital Commerce. About \$600 billion of that was attributed to the U.S. as of June. Just over one in 10 Americans have invested in cryptocurrencies, most who are under age 40 and do not have a college degree, according to a University of Chicago study released in July.

The Digital Commodities Exchange Act of 2021, still in draft form, would draw lines around activities involving the digital currencies, categorizing them as either commodities or securities — and therefore determining which government agency would have authority.

The House Agriculture Committee oversees commodity markets and the activities of the Commodity

Futures Trading Commission.

Some advocates of digital currency argue that securities laws administered by the Securities & Exchange Commission aren't quite the right fit for the new financial frontier. The SEC, among its duties, regulates the public trading of stocks, bonds and other investments that often carry the expectation of future profit.

"If you buy Apple stock today, there's a company called Apple that provides reports to the SEC so that investors know what the plan is, what their finances are, but if you look at something like Ethereum, for example, that's a giant super-computer that's powering a bunch of economic activity, but there's no one central entity to do the kind of disclosures that are required," said Kristin Smith, executive director of the Washington-based Blockchain Association. "...This type of transacting that happens online requires fresh thinking."

A different way to provide consumer protection and ensure market integrity is needed, said Ms. Smith, whose organization represents 65 cryptocurrency companies.

Currently the cash-for-crypto transactions are subject to a state-by-state money transmitter license regime — think: Western Union.

"It's not designed to have oversight over fast-trading in electronic markets," said Ms. Smith, who called the Agriculture Committee's draft bill "a welcome part of the discussion."

Mr. Thompson's plan envisions a "collaborative, flexible process" for the trading of existing and new "digital commodities" on exchanges that would be registered with and regulated by the Commodity Fu-

tures Trading Commission, according to a summary published in mid-November.

"Digital commodities have the potential to bring unprecedented change to the way we share information, exchange value, and design digital services," Mr. Thompson said in a statement to the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. "But, these innovations are not inevitable. Poorly designed laws and legacy requirements could make it impossible for innovation."

The government's vague guidance "doesn't give you confidence as an innovator to bring new services and products to market with speed because you don't want to get in trouble," said Teana Baker-Taylor, chief policy officer for the Digital Chamber of Commerce.

"A clear definition around what is a security and what isn't is still completely lacking, and that creates a lot of regulatory tensions for businesses trying to come to new products and services," Ms. Baker-Taylor said speaking by phone from the organization's London office.

It's reasonable for the SEC to have domain over certain activities, she said, including digital tokens used for investing in projects, much like buying a share of a company's stock, or services exchanging government-issued money to crypto money, which must undergo money laundering checks. However, some tokens contain information, not monetary value.

That's why treating cryptocurrency as a commodity "would probably make sense," Ms. Smith said.

Mr. Thompson circulated a letter asking for support from Congress to work together to establish "clearly

defined rules." A draft of the bill can be found here.

If introduced, this will be the second time Mr. Thompson and the Agriculture Committee attempted the write the new rules.

The Securities and Exchange Commission declined to comment.

Toomey's two cents

Another Pennsylvania lawmaker with an interest in cryptocurrency is also fighting for clarity around regulation of the digital sphere.

An aide to U.S. Sen. Pat Toomey this week said the lawmaker is continuing his efforts to change language in the recently passed Infrastructure and Investment Jobs Act that broadly defines who must report cryptocurrency activity to the Internal Revenue Service.

A bipartisan amendment introduced by Mr. Toomey, Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., and Sen. Cynthia Lummis, R-Wyo., clarifying the definition was quashed in August.

As the law stands, a wide swath of people now considered to be brokers, including miners and software developers, must file 1099 forms with the IRS and customers.

"That makes for companies that have a bunch of customers, but the problem is they define broker to be so broad that it includes different people that are participating in the upkeep of these networks that they don't necessarily have customers," Ms. Smith said. "They're sort of like the armored car that's moving money from one bank to another at the end of the day. Those people don't know who the money and the car belongs to, they're just part of the operation."

Ashley Murray: amurray@post-gazette.com

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Their own words may have doomed men who killed Arbery

By Russ Bynum and Kate Brumback
Associated Press

The video of Ahmaud Arbery's shotgun death was a shocking piece of evidence that suddenly brought the Black man's killing into the national consciousness.

But the murder convictions of the three white men who chased him may have been secured as much by their own words to investigators the day of the shooting.

Greg McMichael, who was in the bed of a pickup truck when his son killed Arbery, told police the Black man "was trapped like a rat" and he told Arbery: "Stop, or I'll blow your [expletive] head off!"

Statements like that allowed prosecutors to give context to the short video that didn't show the entire shooting and had little of the five minutes that the men chased Arbery.

Greg McMichael was a former investigator in the Glynn County district attorney's office and may have felt like he could navigate trouble among his acquaintances and friends.

It worked for a while. The men weren't charged for more than two months — only after the video of the shooting surfaced and the case was turned over to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. State agents charged the men two days later.

"This is just a case of a client who talked himself out of trouble and those statements later turned out to put him back into it," said appellate attorney Andrew Fleischman, who followed the trial from Atlanta.

Phone records show Greg McMichael called his former boss, District Attorney Jackie Johnson, just after the shooting. Ms. Johnson handed off the case to an out-of-town prosecutor, who



Stephen B. Morton/Associated Press
Ahmaud Arbery's mother, Wanda Cooper-Jones is hugged by a supporter after the jury convicted Travis McMichael, his father Greg McMichael, and neighbor William "Roddie" Bryan on Wednesday in Arbery's killing in the Glynn County Courthouse in Brunswick, Ga.

cited the citizen's arrest law in recommending no charges. A third prosecutor was reviewing the case when the video surfaced and handed it off to the state.

Ms. Johnson has been indicted on a felony charge of violating her oath of office and a misdemeanor count of obstructing police for her role in the investigation. Authorities have released little information on Ms. Johnson's actions other than to say she never disclosed that she asked the second prosecutor to advise police in the immediate aftermath of Arbery's killing.

The shooter, Travis McMichael, his dad, Greg McMichael and neighbor William "Roddie" Bryan all spoke extensively and candidly with Glynn County investigators just hours after Arbery was killed in their Brunswick, Ga., neighborhood in February 2020.

They told police they weren't sure exactly what Arbery had done wrong, which would later be a big blow to their defense that they were making a citizen's arrest.

The citizen's arrest law, largely repealed by lawmakers

after Arbery's death, required a person to see or have immediate knowledge of a crime being committed or have reasonable suspicion that someone is fleeing a felony in order to justify a citizen's arrest.

"I don't think the guy has actually stolen anything out of there, or if he did it was early in the process. But he keeps going back over and over again to this damn house," Greg McMichael said, according to a transcript of the interview that Glynn County police Sgt. Roderic Nohilly read in court.

"It's those statements that screwed the defense more than the video. If they had never talked to police and they said we saw him taking something from the property and running — there's an OK shot the jury might have acquitted them," Mr. Fleischman said.

Bryan was on his front porch when he saw Arbery run past with the McMichaels' truck close behind. Bryan said "I figured he had done something wrong," Bryan said. "I didn't know for sure."



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Explosion outside school kills 8 in Somalia's capital

By Abdi Latif Dahir
The New York Times

NAIROBI, Kenya — A large explosion outside a school in Somalia's capital Thursday killed at least eight people and injured 17 others, police said. It was the latest in a series of deadly attacks as Somalia experiences a tense election period and an enormous humanitarian crisis.

A vehicle packed with explosives detonated around 7:30 a.m., targeting a convoy belonging to a security firm that guards United Nations staff, according to Abdifatah Aden Hassan, a police spokesman. No U.N. staff members were injured in the blast, he said.

Somali Memo, a news website affiliated with al-Qaida-linked extremist group al-Shabab, said the group took responsibility for the attack, which occurred on a key road in the northwestern Hodan district of the capital, Mogadishu. The district is home to many schools and restaurants and the residency of a former president.

At least 13 students from one of those schools, Mocaasir, were injured in the explosion. Photos and videos from the scene showed mangled school buses and heavily damaged classrooms.

"If schools and places of learning are not exempt from targets, then this is a real tragedy," said Abdulkadir Adan, founder of Aamin Ambulance, a free ambulance service that was among the first to respond to the scene.

"The students and teachers now face not just physical injuries but also psychological trauma," he added.

The al-Shabab militant group has stepped up its attacks in recent weeks, carrying out suicide bombings, ambushes and assassina-



AFP via Getty Images
A car bomb exploded Thursday near Mocaasir primary and secondary school, destroying the building above and killing eight, in Mogadishu, Somalia.

tions targeting journalists, government officials, police and foreign peacekeeping forces in Somalia.

At least two people were killed in early November in Mogadishu when a suicide bomber targeted a military convoy belonging to the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM). Last week, a suicide bombing killed the director of the government-owned Radio Mogadishu, Abdiiaziz Mohamud Guled, whom the militant group said it had been "hunting" for a long time.

Last week, the head of the African Union mission, Francisco Caetano Jose Madeira, told the U.N. Security Council that al-Shabab had increased attacks on election centers and had "increased public execution of individuals working with Somali security forces and AMISOM personnel."

Authorities and analysts say the armed group is exploiting the numerous economic, political and security challenges facing Somalia. A worsening drought is now affecting about 2.6 million people in 66 out of the country's 74 districts, according to the United Nations. On

Tuesday, Somalia's prime minister, Mohamed Hussein Roble, declared a state of emergency and appealed to the international community for increased humanitarian assistance.

Somalia, in the Horn of Africa, has also been hit by a widespread infestation of desert locusts and the continuing effects of the coronavirus pandemic.

Additionally, political leaders continue to wrangle over a drawn-out, heavily contested election. A general election scheduled for earlier this year was delayed after President Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed moved to extend his rule, in what opponents called a power grab. As voting for lawmakers got underway in recent weeks, many observers have pointed to accusations of vote-buying and manipulation in the process.

Many Somalis are also worried about the possible exit of the African Union peacekeeping force, whose mandate expires Dec. 31.

"Somalia is at a delicate moment right now," said Omar S. Mahmood, the senior Somalia analyst with the International Crisis Group.

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Despite deal, Sudanese rally to demand military rulers leave

By Noha Elhennawy
Associated Press

CAIRO — Thousands of Sudanese took to the streets on Thursday in the capital of Khartoum, renewing their demand for a fully civilian government and denouncing the country's military rulers who were behind the October coup.

Since the takeover, protesters have repeatedly taken to the streets in some of the largest demonstrations in the past years. Sudanese security forces have cracked down on the rallies and have killed more than 40 protesters so far, according to activist groups.

Meanwhile, the Sudanese Doctors Committee, which is part of the pro-democracy movement, said that 17 people were killed in clashes between Arab and non-Arab tribes in the restive province of West Darfur last week. The tribal violence is unrelated to the anti-coup protests.

The U.N. mission to Sudan on Thursday expressed serious concern over reports of the killings in the Darfur area of Jebel Moon. It appeared that reports of the violence were only now emerging due to the near-complete communications blackout imposed after the coup.

Thursday's demonstrations followed the military's signing of a power-sharing deal with the prime minister, after he was released from house arrest and reinstated by the generals as head of government. The agreement came almost a month after the generals orchestrated the coup that deposed Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok and detained dozens of politicians and activists.

Mr. Hamdok's reinstatement was the biggest concession made by the military since its Oct. 25 coup but



Marwan Ali/Associated Press

Thousands of protesters take to the streets to renew their demand for a civilian government Thursday in the Sudanese capital Khartoum.

leaves the country's transition to democracy mired in crisis. Sudan's key pro-democracy groups and political parties have dismissed the deal as falling short of their demands for a fully civilian rule.

Sudan has been struggling with its transition to a democratic government since the overthrow of autocrat Omar al-Bashir in 2019, following a mass uprising against three decades of his rule.

Protesters marched Thursday through Khartoum, beating drums and waving Sudanese flags. Many chanted: "The people want to bring down the regime" and "Woe to the military!"

The Sudanese Professionals Association, the group that spearheaded the uprising that culminated in Mr. al-Bashir's ouster, had called for the rallies and vowed to carry on with protests until "the corrupt military junta is brought down and prosecuted for their crimes."

Similar protests were held elsewhere in Sudan, including in the provinces of Kassala, North Darfur, West Kordofan and Northern Sudan. Activists circulated vid-

eos on social media showing tear gas being fired at protesters. There was no immediate word of any injuries.

The deal that Mr. Hamdok signed with the military on Sunday envisions an independent, technocratic Cabinet to be led by the prime minister until new elections are held. However, the government would still remain under military oversight though Mr. Hamdok claimed he will have the power to appoint ministers.

The agreement has angered Sudan's pro-democracy movement, which accuses Mr. Hamdok of allowing himself to serve as a fig leaf for continued military rule.

The deal also stipulates that all political detainees arrested following the Oct. 25 coup be released. So far, several ministers and politicians have been freed.

On Wednesday, Mr. Hamdok told a local Sudanese television channel that unless all are released, "the deal will be worthless."

The statement by the doctors committee on the tribal violence said clashes on Nov. 17 in West Darfur's Jebel Moon killed 17 and wounded at least 12.

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Solomon Islands leader blames foreign powers for recent unrest

By David Rising and Rod McGuirk
Associated Press

CANBERRA, Australia — Solomon Islands Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare on Friday blamed foreign interference over his government's decision to switch alliances from Taiwan to Beijing for anti-government protests, arson and looting that have ravaged the capital Honiara in recent days.

Mr. Sogavare angered many in 2019, particularly leaders of the Solomon Islands' most populous province, Malaita, when he cut the country's diplomatic ties with Taiwan.

A plane carrying Australian police and diplomats arrived late Thursday in Honiara, where they will help local police efforts to restore order after a second day of violent anti-government protests, Defense Minister Peter Dutton said.

Mr. Sogavare said he stood by his government's decision to embrace Beijing, which he described as the "only issue" in the violence, which was "unfortunately influenced and encouraged by other powers."

External pressures were a "very big... influence. I don't want to name names. We'll leave it there," Mr. Sogavare told Australian Broadcasting Corp.

"I'm not going to bow down to anyone. We are intact, the government's intact and we're going to defend democracy," he added.

Mr. Sogavare's critics also blame complaints about a lack of government services and corruption for the unrest.

Australian Foreign Minister Marise Payne did not agree that other countries had stirred up the unrest.

"We have not indicated that at all," Ms. Payne said. "We've been very clear. Our view is we don't want to see violence. We would very



Australian Broadcasting Corporation via AP
In this video still, smoke rises from burning buildings during a protest Thursday in the capital of Honiara, Solomon Islands. Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare declared a lockdown after about 1,000 people took to the streets in the capital for a second day.

much hope for a return to stability."

Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison on Thursday committed troops, police and diplomats to help local police restore order and protect critical infrastructure.

Australia would not assist in the protection of the National Parliament and the executive buildings, in a sign that Australia was not taking political sides.

Some observers argue Australia intervened quickly to avoid Chinese security forces moving in to restore order.

But Mr. Morrison said Mr. Sogavare had asked for help because he trusted Australia.

"The Solomon Islands reached out to us first ... as family because they trust us and we've worked hard for that trust in the Pacific," Mr. Morrison told Adelaide Radio FiveAA.

"That is our region and we're standing up to secure our region with our partners, our friends, our family and allies," he added.

Mr. Sogavare requested assistance from Australia under a bilateral security

treaty that has existed since 2017, when Australian peacekeepers last left the Solomon Islands.

Australia led an international police and military force called the Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands that restored peace in the country after bloody ethnic violence from 2003 until 2017.

China, meanwhile, expressed serious concern about recent attacks on some Chinese citizens and institutions, without providing details.

Honiara's Chinatown has reportedly been hard hit by arsonists and looters.

"We believe that under the leadership of Prime Minister Sogavare, the Solomon Islands government can restore social order and stability as soon as possible," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian said on Thursday.

He said that economic and other cooperation since the establishment of diplomatic relations has benefited both sides. "Any attempts to undermine the normal development of China-Solomon relations are futile," he said.

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EU recommends new restrictions for unvaccinated traveling within Europe

By Perry Stein, Quentin Aries and Rick Noack
The Washington Post

BRUSSELS — The European Commission recommended Thursday that member countries apply more travel restrictions to people who are unvaccinated in the 27-nation bloc's latest attempt to curb the recent surge of cases across the continent.

The commission's health authorizing agency also approved vaccines for children as young as 5 — a milestone that could help Europe improve vaccination rates at a time when cases and deaths from the virus are up. The commission's travel recommendations did not apply to unvaccinated children under the age of 6.

The ability to easily travel between countries in the European Union is a core value of the bloc, and the commission's latest recommendations attempt to strike the balance between upholding that freedom and implementing restrictions that could slow the spread of the virus.

People who have a European Union COVID certificate — which means they are fully vaccinated, have proof that they recovered from the virus or recently tested negative — should not have any travel restrictions, according to the recommendations. Everyone else should quarantine or be tested when they travel to a country in the bloc.

The commission also said travelers coming into the bloc should not be considered vaccinated if they received their doses more than nine months ago and have not yet received a booster.

Countries do not have to adopt the commission's recommendations.

“The travel rules need to take into account this vola-



Bodo Schackow/dpa via AP
A Red Cross staff member fills a syringe with the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine Thursday in a mobile vaccination bus in Sonneberg, Germany.

tile situation,” Didier Reynders, European commissioner of justice, said at a news conference announcing the recommendations.

Across Europe, countries are applying lockdowns and restrictions to contain the latest wave of the pandemic — and hopefully bring case numbers down ahead of the Christmas holidays. Reported deaths in Europe reached nearly 4,200 a day last week — twice the number since the end of September, according to the World Health Organization, which counts 53 countries as part of Europe.

The Netherlands ordered restaurants and bars to close at 8 p.m., while Slovakia implemented a two-week lockdown on Wednesday, in which people can only leave home for work, grocery shopping or to get vaccinated. Austria also is under a lockdown that could last for 20 days.

“We need to convince more people to get vaccinated,” Ursula von der Leyen, president of the European Commission, said in a taped message to the public that also encouraged people to get a booster shot six months after their initial vaccination. “A quarter of EU adults are

still not fully vaccinated. If you are unvaccinated you are more at risk of having severe COVID symptoms. Vaccinations protect you and the others.”

While the European Commission issued its recommendations Thursday, the French government announced that booster shots would be available for all adults beginning Saturday. Boosters are already available to residents 65 and older.

France's health minister said that vaccination certificates of people who do not get the booster will start expiring in mid-January. Earlier this month, President Emmanuel Macron introduced a similar rule for those over 65, with a deadline in mid-December.

Proof of vaccination can help people enter restaurants, bars and other entertainment venues in France.

At a news conference on Thursday, Health Minister Olivier Véran appealed to the French to respect distancing measures and mask mandates.

“We have to pull ourselves together,” he said. “These small daily constraints are the keys to our freedom.”

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S. Africa identifies new virus variant

VARIANT, FROM A-1

South Africa has seen a dramatic rise in new infections, Mr. Phaahla said at an online press briefing.

“Over the last four or five days, there has been more of an exponential rise,” he said, adding that the new variant appears to be driving the spike in cases. Scientists in South Africa are working to determine what percentage of the new cases have been caused by the new variant.

Currently identified as B.1.1.529, the new variant has also been found in Botswana and Hong Kong in travelers from South Africa, he said.

The World Health Organization’s technical working group is to meet Friday to assess the new variant and may decide whether or not to give it a name from the Greek alphabet.

The British government announced that it was banning flights from South Africa and five other southern African countries effective at noon on Friday, and that anyone who had recently arrived from those countries would be asked to take a coronavirus test.

U.K. Health Secretary Sajid Javid said there were concerns the new variant “may be more transmissible” than the dominant delta strain, and “the vaccines that we currently have may be less effective” against it.

The new variant has a “constellation” of new mutations, said Tulio de Oliveira, from the Network for Genomic Surveillance in South Africa, who has tracked the spread of the delta variant in the country.

The “very high number of mutations is a concern for predicted immune evasion and transmissibility,” said Mr. de Oliveira.

“This new variant has many, many more mutations,” including more than 30 to the spike protein that affects transmissibility, he said. “We can see that the variant is potentially spreading very fast. We do expect to start seeing pressure in the



Denis Farrell/Associated Press
A young woman flinches as she receives a Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine Oct. 21 in Diepsloot Township, near Johannesburg. A new COVID-19 variant has been detected in South Africa that scientists say is a concern because of its high number of mutations and rapid spread among young people in Gauteng, the country’s most populous province.

health care system in the next few days and weeks.”

Mr. de Oliveira said that a team of scientists from seven South African universities is studying the variant. They have 100 whole genomes of it and expect to have many more in the next few days, he said.

“We are concerned by the jump in evolution in this variant,” he said. The one piece of good news is that it can be detected by a PCR test, he said.

After a period of relatively low transmission in which South Africa recorded just over 200 new confirmed cases per day, in the past week the daily new cases rapidly increased to more than 1,200 on Wednesday. On Thursday they jumped to 2,465.

The first surge was in Pretoria and the surrounding Tshwane metropolitan area and appeared to be cluster outbreaks from student gatherings at universities in the area, said Mr. Phaahla. Amid the rise in cases, scientists studied the genomic sequencing and discovered the new variant.

“This is clearly a variant that we must be very serious about,” said Ravindra Gupta, professor of clinical microbiology at the University of Cambridge. “It has a high

number of spike mutations that could affect transmissibility and immune response.”

Mr. Gupta said scientists in South Africa need time to determine if the surge in new cases is attributable to the new variant. “There is a high probability that this is the case,” he said. “South African scientists have done an incredible job of identifying this quickly and bringing it to the world’s attention.”

South African officials had warned that a new resurgence was expected from mid-December to early January and had hoped to prepare for that by getting many more people vaccinated, said Mr. Phaahla.

About 41% of South Africa’s adults have been vaccinated and the number of shots being given per day is relatively low, at less than 130,000, significantly below the government’s target of 300,000 per day.

South Africa currently has about 16.5 million doses of vaccines, by Pfizer and Johnson & Johnson, in the country and is expecting delivery of about 2.5 million more in the next week, according to Nicholas Crisp, acting director-general of the national health department.

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Kennywood magic restored

The best time of day at Kennywood is after the sun has set and the lights have all turned on, but before the chill of nighttime descends and guests start making for the exit tunnel en masse.

(Yes, the editorial board of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette has an opinion about the best time of day at Kennywood. Why wouldn't we?)

For children and adults alike, this is the magic hour. The classic marquee of the Racer springs to life. The lagoon twinkles with starlight and moonlight and incandescent light. Even the tamest rides transform into vibrant spectacles. And now it's time for the childlike joys of ice cream and popcorn and cotton candy.

The best place to be in Kennywood during the best time of day at Kennywood, until last year, was the little triangle formed by the peaceful rollicking of the Carousel, the rainbow swirls of the Paratrooper (of blessed memory), and the rhythmic joy of the Kangaroo (peace be upon it).

(Yes, the editorial board of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette has an opinion about the best place to be in Kennywood during the best time of day at Kennywood. Don't you?)

Here, you enjoyed some of the finest landscaping in the park, could see the lights on and across the lagoon and could access food and rides for all ages within a few steps. The removal of the Paratrooper and the Kangaroo for the 2021 season left a gaping hole in the heart of the park.

That's because, with all due respect to the ancient and gorgeous Carousel and the fairground classic Paratrooper, the best ride at Kennywood during the best time of day at Kennywood was always the Kanga-

roo.

(Yes, the editorial board of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette has an opinion about the best ride at Kennywood in the best place to be in Kennywood during the best time of day at Kennywood. Are you even from here?)

And so we are thrilled to hear that Kennywood and its parent company, Palace Entertainment, have walked back their ill-advised decision to remove the Kangaroo for "economic reasons" and to restore it to its rightful place, all gussied up, for 2022. Kennywood's strength is the balance it strikes between the modern and the traditional, and the introduction of the massive Steel Curtain roller coaster combined with the deletion of the Kangaroo and Paratrooper had left many longtime guests (especially one in particular who writes editorials for a living) worried about the balance being lost for good.

Besides being a historic artifact — the Kennywood Kangaroo is the last of its kind in the world — the ride is the perfect capstone for family outings. The pop at the top of the little hill, followed by the subtle scrunching together caused by physics, delights everyone from toddlers to grandparents. The biggest little kid smiles in the park appear on the descent back to the steel track.

So, kudos to Kennywood executives for having the humility to reverse course. It's the kind of thoughtful decision we hope for from those who have stewardship over the institutions that make Pittsburgh what it is.

The next step, of course, is to restore the complete triangle by bringing back the Paratrooper. And can we have a word about the Turnpike? And whatever happened to ...

Efforts to vaccinate poor nations are lagging

What began as a hopeful attempt to vaccinate the poorest nations against the coronavirus has struggled mightily. In high-income and upper-middle-income nations, 73% of eligible people have gotten at least one shot, while only 41% have in lower-middle-income and a paltry 5% have in low-income countries. The United States and other wealthy nations should look in the mirror and strive to keep this from happening next time.

A quest for equitable and accelerated vaccine distribution led to the creation of the Covax facility, a joint effort of GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance; the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations; and the World Health Organization, joined by UNICEF. An early target was to acquire and distribute 2 billion doses by the end of this year. As of now, 522 million doses have been delivered to 144 countries, most of it to the poorer nations. That's certainly millions of people helped, but it has been slower than expected, and the wait agonizing.

Why the lag? In the face of a catastrophic emergency, Covax began from zero — no money, no people. Once vaccines were developed and started being manufactured, a mad scramble took place for scarce supply. Wealthy countries, not sure which vaccine would work, ordered quantities far greater than their populations.

The U.S. government with Operation Warp Speed made enormous investments, especially in mRNA vaccines, so had reason to make first claim. Russia and China, seeking influence, added to the scramble, offering their own vaccines in a spate of bilateral deals. By the time Covax

had raised money, it faced limited supplies and tough negotiations with manufacturers. A lesson: In the future, some kind of contingent funds, ready to go early in a crisis, would be a huge head start.

Covax opted for the single-shot AstraZeneca vaccine, in part because it did not have to be kept at super-cold temperatures, making it better suited for difficult conditions, and was being sold at cost. Covax was counting on the Serum Institute of India to produce millions of doses. Then the delta variant exploded in India, leading to a suspension of exports, a huge setback to Covax and the poorer nations.

Another lesson: A global network of sustainable, quality vaccine manufacturing facilities — and thus an assured source of vaccines — is essential to fight a pandemic. It does not yet exist. The Biden administration has just announced plans to encourage a major boost in vaccine manufacturing, a good idea that should have been launched sooner.

Covax has had better luck obtaining donations. Seth Berkley, chief executive of GAVI, says a bit more than 1 billion doses are now allocated to Covax. Without Covax, the situation would have been far worse — imagine 195 nations jostling for vaccine candidates in a free-for-all. Still, the Covax experience has exposed how the haves took care of themselves, and the have nots have been forced to wait. Absorbing the lessons of this pandemic should lead to a renewed effort to prepare a rescue ship before the storm: financing, factories and know-how poised to go at a moment's notice.

The Washington Post

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CREATORS SYNDICATE



Jennifer Rubin

Democracy is backsliding, and the U.S. is part of the problem

Democracy remains under siege — and the United States is part of the problem. Those are the depressing findings of a new report from the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA), which tracks the progress and decline of democracy around the world.

The number of authoritarian regimes continues to increase, International IDEA reports, as does the "brazen" aggressiveness of those regimes. Meanwhile, democratic nations have in some cases adopted "time-honored authoritarian tactics, often with popular support."

These include attacks on the legitimacy of elections, public disinformation campaigns, threats to the media and politicization of the judiciary.

The pandemic has not helped. In fact, it has "emboldened several governments to double down on popular expression, and push for more direct control," the report finds.

The reports cites Hungary, which "passed several ordinances limiting citizens' rights and giving more power to Viktor Orbán's government — under the pretext of bringing the pandemic under control."

The retreat of democracy is hard to miss. Afghanistan and Myanmar sunk further into nondemocratic rule.

To make matters worse, "the United States, the bastion of global democracy, fell victim to authoritarian tendencies itself, and was knocked down a significant number of steps on the democratic scale." Now, the United States is lumped in with other countries whose democratic institutions are in decline.

The report warns that "democratic backsliding is often gradual, taking an average of nine years from the onset of backsliding until it ends in either a democratic breakdown or a return to democratic health."

Regarding the United States, four years of attacks on democratic institutions led to a violent scene reminiscent of coup attempts in developing countries. "A historic turning point came in 2020-2021 when former President Donald Trump questioned the legitimacy of the 2020 election results in the United States," the report notes. "Baseless allegations of electoral fraud and related disinformation under-



Alex Brandon/Associated Press

President Joe Biden

mined fundamental trust in the electoral process, which culminated in the storming of the U.S. Capitol building in January 2021."

The report compares Mr. Trump's effort to delegitimize the election to the anti-democratic coup in Myanmar.

Michael Abramowitz — who heads Freedom House, another organization that rates democratic trends — tells me: "This report is clearly on target. ... On a comparative basis, the authoritarian powers are far worse from a freedom perspective than the United States. But the United States has a tremendous responsibility as the oldest and most influential democracy in the world." He warns, "It is challenging to maintain a thriving democracy, but it is also easy for authoritarians to point to backsliding in the U.S. and say, 'See? Democracy doesn't work! You need a strongman like me!'"

The United States has historically served as a guiding light, especially for dissidents under the thumb of authoritarian regimes and civil societies struggling to assert democratic principles.

When we falter, their oppressors get the last laugh. "Grass-roots democracy movements look to us for inspiration, and autocrats take failures of U.S. democracy as license to commit even worse abuses," Mr. Abramowitz observes.

The report comes on the eve of the international democracy summit that President Joe Biden is preparing to host.

It also comes at a time the Senate faces a choice between

preserving the filibuster, designed to elevate the minority, and the preservation of free and reliable elections.

The summit therefore provides Mr. Biden with the opportunity to lead the world and make democratic commitments.

Mr. Biden, for example, can demand the Senate move forward on voting reform and both chambers pass the Protecting Our Democracy Act, which contains numerous executive branch reforms.

He can move to depoliticize the judiciary with term limits for Supreme Court justices, which would lower the partisan heat attendant to open seats.

He can enhance the power of inspectors general at the Justice Department and other federal departments and agencies. And he can support federal shield laws to protect the media while putting pressure on social media platforms to crack down on disinformation.

As International IDEA puts it: "To counteract the current challenges and create the conditions for a more sustainable, inclusive and accountable recovery, democracies must reassert their strengths and show the world how and why democratic governance is the best option. ... This is a time for democratic actors and institutions to be bold and push the frontiers of the democratic project."

That must start with the United States — and with Mr. Biden's pledge to end the era of democratic backsliding.

Jennifer Rubin is a columnist for The Washington Post.

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Perspectives

Tyler Cowen

Of course stereotypes are holding women back

Is there a gender-based promotion gap? Are there too many women who do well on the job, but are not considered seriously for career advancement?

Some new supporting evidence has come to light. A recent study using a database of almost 30,000 management-track employees at a large retail chain found that the women received higher job-performance ratings, but lower ratings for “potential.” Those same women were also promoted less, although they ended up performing better than their male counterparts. Perhaps most significantly, almost half of the promotion gap correlated with the lower ratings of “potential.”

Bias isn't the only possible explanation. The study's conclusions can be challenged on the basis of the size of the effect, or in its interpretation. The researchers calculated, for instance, that a woman's chance of being promoted in a given year was between 1% and 2% less than the chance of a man being promoted. Is that a difference so small it might be random, or the result of measurement error? Or does it accumulate over time and put qualified women at a significant disadvantage?

That debate will continue, but we know that people make judgments by stereotypes, and that there are many more male chief executives than female CEOs.

Similar disparities hold at many leadership levels, though they tend to be most extreme at the very top, as they were at the unnamed North American company scrutinized by the study. The resulting stereotypes can make us worse at allocating jobs to the most talented people.

Maybe the men, on average, did have greater ambition and thus promotion potential. One reason could be that women, on average, spend more time at home raising children than men. For very demanding executive jobs, even a small difference in time and travel availability could make a big difference in job performance.

And yet even if that's the case, there could still be a discrimination problem. Even if women and men differ on average, there is a probability distribution for each group, and those distributions usually will overlap. That is, there will be many women who are willing and able to meet any workplace standard thrown at them, and many men with limited ambition.

If you think men and women are different on average, the unfairness can become all the more severe for the potential top performers. In this context, employers will look at the most talented women and, for reasons of stereotyping, dramatically underestimate their potential, including for leadership positions.

Economic reasoning suggests another subtle effect at play. Promotion to the top involves a series of steps along a career ladder, often many steps. If there is a discrimination “tax” at each step, even if only a small one, those taxes can produce a discouraging effect. It resembles the old problem of the medieval river that has too many tolls on it, levied by too many independent principalities. The net effect can be to make the river too costly to traverse, even if each prince is taking only a small amount.

One striking feature in our current arrangements, as pointed out in a comment by a reader named Zaua on my “Marginal Revolution” blog post, is that there are few truly objective performance metrics used for evaluating performance at work.

In most jobs, it is hard to find a number that accurately measures an employee's overall contribution to the profitability of his or her company. The subjective judgments of supervisors thus carry great weight. That's in contrast to schools, which assign grades, class rank and tests and employ many more methods for assessing performance.

At the university level, female students have more than achieved parity with their male counterparts. In the workplace, the same cannot be said, even in jobs closely related to the subject

areas where women are doing better in school.

One conclusion might be that schools are doing American women a disservice by emphasizing task completion (“homework”) and under-emphasizing skills of leadership and ambition.

Yet the workplace is partly at fault as well, and we can see this by a broader look at the economy. One common piece of advice is that talented women should consider clustering in fields where performance evaluation is objective. In real estate, for instance, a sale is a sale and the commission is reaped accordingly, no matter what the prejudices of the boss. It is indeed the case that women are represented disproportionately in this field, and with great success.

Some evidence suggests that female fund managers do better than male fund managers in another kind of work where performance can be measured with some degree of objectivity. But running a hedge fund often requires somebody's personal judgment that somebody else is promotable or worth funding.

Workplace discrimination has been a feature of virtually all of world history, so nobody should be shocked by evidence that it continues today.

Tyler Cowen is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist.

Rokhaya Diallo

The story of Josephine Baker can't erase France's racism

Josephine Baker, one of the most fascinating figures of French 20th-century history, is finally being interred at the Panthéon, after an announcement by President Emmanuel Macron in August. She is the first woman of color and first artist to be interred at the mausoleum, which houses the remains of the most distinguished French citizens. There is no doubt she deserves the honor — but France should not use this moment to congratulate itself on its treatment of people of color.

Baker is a national hero in many ways. The granddaughter of enslaved people, born in 1906 in St. Louis, she later fled to France to escape segregation, succeeding in a career she could never have had in the United States, where, even as an international star, she was not allowed to stay in luxury hotels.

She gained instant fame in Paris in 1925 and revolutionized the performing arts. One of the first international Black stars in history, she became a beauty icon and among the most photographed women of her time. Her skin tone and short hair contrasted with the white bourgeois beauty standards of the era, allowing her to launch her own cosmetic lines: “Bakerfix” to imitate her hairstyle and “Bakeroil” to give people brown skin.

After becoming a French citizen in 1937, she demonstrated exceptional courage during World War II, when she took part in the French Resistance against Nazi Germany, using her status and femininity to travel and gather information. She is the recipient of several military honors.

During the March on Washington in 1963 alongside the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., she proudly stood on the podium with the uniform of the Free French forces.

After King's assassination, his widow, Coretta Scott King, reached out to request her to lead the civil rights movement. She declined, but the request says a lot about the level of respect she gained over the years.

As a result of this history, Baker's story is often used in France to push forward the myth of a republic that is supposedly more welcoming to Black people than the United States is. Indeed, throughout the 20th century, France has built this narrative by welcoming many African American artists, including Sidney Bechet, Richard Wright, James Baldwin, Nina Simone and others who could not stand oppression in the United States anymore.

It was convenient to welcome those who did not have a historic argument to settle with France.

Yet, during this time, France was a violent colonial power. As Baker was dancing on Parisian stages, France was still exhibiting colonized populations in “human zoos.”

Baker made France look good. Though her heroism is incontestable, she always expressed gratitude to France and never criticized its colonialism. It is therefore telling that Mr. Macron did not take up a proposal to pantheonize lawyer Gisèle Halimi, who was involved in anti-colonial activism in support of the Algerian people during their war against France.

Moreover, Baker's performances were also part of the blueprint that shaped the image of the Black woman in French imagination. One of her most well-known involved dancing in a banana skirt — a clip that always leaves me with mixed feelings.

The show was designed to depict a stereotypical vision of Africa that indirectly celebrated the colonial goal and racist notions of white superiority. When she was told to undress and don the skirt, Baker cried and vehemently requested to get on a boat to go back home. She ultimately made the performance her own, adopting clownish poses and injecting parody in a piece that was conceived for hypersexualization.

Her nickname, “Ebony Venus,” echoes painfully another “Venus”: the “Hottentot Venus” Saartjie Baartman, a South African woman whose body fascinated early 19th-century Europe. Baartman was exhibited and tormented with abuse until her early death in France, and even after that, her remains were disrespectfully dissected and displayed.

On screens, Baker never fully made it. She was doomed to play the same role of the naive woman of color in love with a white hero who never loved her back.

Today, the image of Baker is so loved that even Marine Le Pen, a leader of the far right, celebrates her. And Mr. Macron has honored her because she is a symbol of France's universalist stance.

Yet, at a time when immigration is at the heart of so many political tensions, and as French people of color still face discrimination, it will take more than Baker's elevation to show the republic has changed.

Rokhaya Diallo is a French journalist, writer and filmmaker.

After a shooting, there is time for Restorative Justice



Tony Norman

On April 23, 2019, Ladue, Mo., police Officer Julia Crews responded to a radio call about a possible shoplifting incident at Schnucks, a supermarket at the Ladue Shopping Center.

Officer Crews, who at the time was a 13-year veteran of the force, is white. The shopping center is relatively upscale and situated in a predominantly white area. Initial reports were that Ashley Fountain Hall, one of two shoplifting suspects, was detained by supermarket employees outside the entrance. Ms. Hall, 33, is Black.

There is a lot of dispute about exactly what occurred initially. Significantly, though, both prosecutors and Officer Crews' attorney say she shouted a warning as Ms. Hall was attempting to leave the scene, but then pulled out her pistol instead of her taser and shot Ms. Hall in the back.

According to the testimony of witnesses, Officer Crews was overwhelmed with remorse and “apologized profusely” to Ms. Hall as she administered first aid.

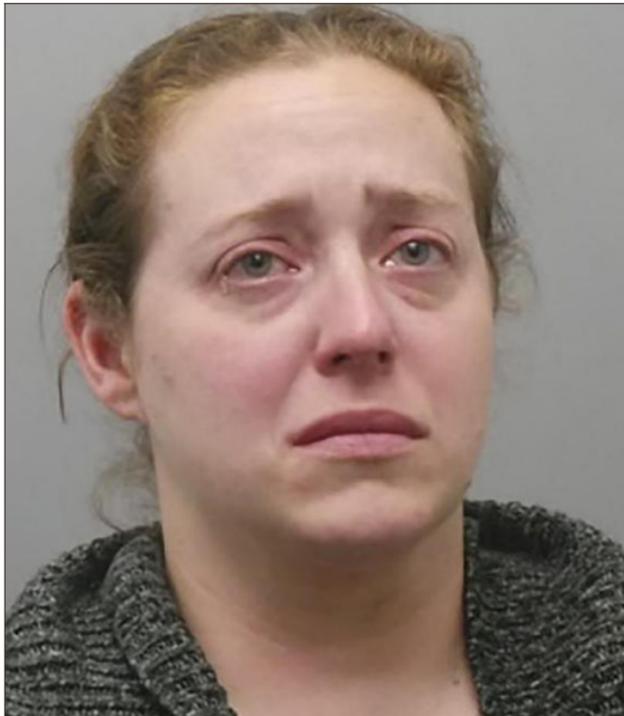
Ms. Hall was in critical condition for several days but, with the exception of the loss of part of her spleen and a severe case of PTSD she will never ditch, she recovered from her wounds, fortunately.

Officer Crews knew that her days as a police officer were effectively over. While still on the force, she didn't shrink from taking responsibility for shooting Ms. Hall, but described it as an accident.

Left unexplained is why an alleged fleeing shoplifter could warrant being shot with a taser, either. Is a frozen steak really worth the risk of taking a person's life? In what reality does deploying a weapon aimed at a fleeing suspect's back make any sense?

“I feel like a lot of times when the victim is Black, they don't get looked at as human,” said Aigner Hall, the shooting victim's sister. “The lesson should be that no matter what color we are, we are all human. There is only one race and that's the human race.”

Ms. Hall's mother, a very



Julia Crews

saintly woman named Karen Carter, told the press even as her daughter was fighting for her life that she realized the shooting was a mistake and that she forgave Officer Crews for shooting her daughter. “I'm going to pray for her and pray for my daughter at the same time,” Ms. Carter said.

That's not a sentiment you see every day from a mother steeped in anguish after an officer has shot her child.

Still, even Ms. Carter in all of her Christian magnanimity didn't lose sight of the need for essential justice. “The punishment is too great for the crime [alleged shoplifting],” she said. “I would rather see my daughter go to court and let the judge be the judge and the officers be the officers.”

On some level, Officer Crews must have agreed with that sentiment and quit the Ladue police department immediately. She didn't engage in the usual song-and-dance about “fearing for her life.” She did what a lot of officers involved in shootings rarely do: She accepted responsibility even while insisting it was a mistake. She knew there would be consequences for her

mistake and she faced them.

She was booked and charged with second-degree assault. Firing a gun instead of a taser isn't something any police force with integrity can chalk up as “consistent with police training,” though many have done just that.

Because shooting someone in the back is an unmitigated disaster and a violation of the social contract cops have to adhere to, Ladue recently settled with Ms. Hall and her family to the tune of \$2 million. The city denied any wrongdoing in terms of officer training and has not divulged the conditions of the settlement.

After settling with the family, something very unexpected happened. In response to prompting from prosecuting attorney Wesley Bell, Ms. Hall requested that the charges against the former police officer be dropped in exchange for restorative justice mediation. Ms. Hall wanted to look former Officer Crews in the eye and give her that courtesy in return.

Ms. Hall wanted to talk about what happened. She wanted to be seen as a human and not some “threat” requiring either

electrocution or bullets. She is flesh-and-blood and very, very fragile like every other human being. She wanted the former cop and her colleagues still on the force to know that.

We don't know what was said or what transpired between the two, but both sides appear satisfied by the meeting they had in early November. They came to some understanding that makes it possible for both to go forward with their lives with no bitterness or ill will.

“This was a unique opportunity where the defendant immediately realized she had made a terrible mistake in shooting the victim, and both the defendant and victim reached places where they could see a resolution for this incident outside of the criminal justice process,” said Mr. Bell in an official statement. “In this instance, justice is served by Restorative Justice, and this doesn't happen without Ashley being 100% onboard.”

The facilitator, Seema Gajwani, agreed and thanked Mr. Bell for seizing the opportunity to introduce restorative justice to the options his office will pursue in the future.

“Too often, the criminal justice system gets in the way of resolution and healing, even though that is what these two women wanted and needed,” Ms. Gajwani said. “Prosecuting attorney Wesley Bell made it possible by offering Restorative Justice.”

In states where police unions have a disproportionate amount of power and influence, there's zero incentive to allow officers involved in bad shootings the dignity of grieving and seeking amends human-to-human with their victims.

The decency that former Officer Crews demonstrated sets too scary a precedent in a world where the generosity of a victim like Ashley Hall borders on unprecedented. Cop unions prefer angry alienation to constructive dialogue.

Imagine if restorative justice were a mandatory part of our criminal justice system where appropriate and not just some exotic departure from routine. We might begin to see the glimmers of a justice system that's more than a series of punitive and draconian laws designed to crush the spirit of everyone who comes into contact with it.

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France calls for European aid after 27 migrant deaths at sea

By Oleg Cetinic and John Leicester
Associated Press

CALAIS, France — Helicopters buzzed above the waves and vessels were already scouring the cold waters when French maritime rescue volunteer Charles Devos added his boat to the frantic search for a flimsy migrant craft that foundered in the English Channel, killing at least 27.

What Mr. Devos found was gruesome. But not, he later sorrowfully acknowledged, wholly unexpected. With migrants often setting off by the hundreds in flotillas of unseaworthy and overloaded vessels into the busy shipping lane crisscrossed by hulking freighters, and frequently beset by treacherous weather, waves and currents, Mr. Devos had long feared that tragedy would ensue.

That came this week, with the deadliest migration accident to date on the dangerous stretch of sea that separates France and Britain.

"We picked up six floating bodies. We passed by an inflatable craft that was deflated. The little bit of air remaining kept it afloat," Mr. Devos told reporters.

"I'd been somewhat expecting it because I'd say, 'It's going to end with a drama,'" he said.

France and Britain appealed Thursday for European assistance, promised stepped-up efforts to combat people-smuggling networks, and also traded blame and barbs in the wake of Wednesday's deadly sinking that shone a light on the scale and complexity of Europe's migration problems.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson sent French President Emmanuel Macron and the EU leadership a letter Thursday proposing joint sea, air and land patrols starting as soon as next week. France has resisted the idea. Mr. Johnson also proposed an agreement allowing Britain to send back migrants to France.

Mr. Macron appealed to neighboring European countries to do more to stop illegal migration into France, saying that when migrants reach French shores with hopes of heading on to Britain "it is already too late."

Mr. Macron said France is deploying army drones as part of stepped-up efforts to patrol its northern coastline and help rescue migrants at sea. But he also said that a greater collective effort is needed, referring to France as a "transit country" for Britain-bound migrants.

"We need to strengthen cooperation with Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, but also the British and the (European) Commission," he said on a visit to Croatia. "We need stronger European cooperation."

The French prosecutors' office tasked with investigating the sinking said the dead included 17 men, seven women and two boys and one girl thought to be teenagers. Magistrates were investigating potential charges of homicide, unintentional wounding, assisting illegal migration and criminal conspiracy, the prosecutors' office said.

Interior Minister Gerald Darmanin said children and pregnant women were among the dead. Two survivors from the sinking were treated for hypothermia. One is Iraqi, the other Somali, Mr. Darmanin said. He said authorities are working to determine the victims' nationalities.

Destabilized by shock and sadness, aid workers and Calais residents held a silent vigil Thursday night in the port city to honor the dead, huddling beneath a cold rain and lighting candles in their memory.

Migration is an explosive issue in Europe, where leaders often accuse one another of not doing enough to either prevent migrants from entering their countries or from continuing on to other nations.

Ministers from France,

Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium and Britain and EU officials will meet on Sunday to discuss increasing efforts to crack down on migrant-smuggling networks, Mr. Macron's government announced.

They will convene in Calais, one of the French coastal towns where migrants gather, looking for ways to cross to the British coast that is visible from France on clear days. Seaside communities on both sides of the channel were reeling Thursday from the sinking's horrific toll.

"This was unfortunately something that could have been foreseen, a scenario of horror that we'd feared and dreaded," said Ludovic Hochart, a police union official in Calais.

Across the channel, in the British port of Dover, small business owner Paula Elliot said: "It's dreadful that people have lost their lives."

"The vessels that they take, are traveling in, are not fit for purpose," she said. "They probably don't understand how arduous the journey is going to be, and especially at this time of year, it's so much colder than in the summer."

Mr. Devos, the rescue volunteer, told reporters in comments broadcast by coastal radio Delta FM that the flimsy craft used by migrants for the crossing are increasingly overloaded, with as many as 50 people aboard.

Mr. Macron described the dead in Wednesday's sinking as "victims of the worst system, that of smugglers and human traffickers."

France has never had so many officers mobilized against illegal migration and its commitment is "total," he said.

Ever-increasing numbers of people fleeing conflict or poverty in Afghanistan, Sudan, Iraq, Eritrea or elsewhere are risking the perilous journey from France, hoping to win asylum or find better opportunities in Britain.



A group of people thought to be migrants are brought to Dover, England, on Thursday after a small boat incident Wednesday in the English Channel. Gareth Fuller/PA via AP

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Pa.'s landmark school funding trial wraps up 1st week

Trial expected to last at least two months

By Maddie Hanna and Kristen A. Graham
The Philadelphia Inquirer

The first week of trial in the landmark case challenging Pennsylvania's school funding system featured both personal accounts of the impact of insufficient funding and expert testimony on how state aid is doled out to districts, leaving wide gaps between the state's poorest and wealthiest communities.

It also addressed the legal question of what kind of education system Pennsylvania is required to provide — with the school districts, parents and statewide organizations who sued the state calling an expert who testified about the state constitution's mandate for a "thorough and efficient" system of education. Republican legislative leaders, who are defendants in the case, questioned whether that standard had already been satisfied.

The trial before Commonwealth Court judge Renee Cohn Jubilerer in Harrisburg is expected to last eight to 10 weeks. Testimony paused for the holiday week, and will

resume Monday. Here are some takeaways from its opening week:

The meaning of "thorough and efficient." Derek Black, a University of South Carolina law professor and expert in constitutional education clauses, outlined the language in Pennsylvania's constitution guaranteeing children the right to a "thorough and efficient system of public education."

The education section, crafted during the 1872-83 Constitutional Convention, was of paramount importance, said Mr. Black. To the constitutional delegates, establishing an educational system wasn't just about providing a system, but

providing a good system.

"I concluded they were trying to ensure a high quality of education," Mr. Black said.

Before the convention, there was a system of "common schools," but the delegates found that it was untenable. "When it came down to it, inevitably the poor kids would get an inferior education," Mr. Black said.

Lawyers for the defense pressed Mr. Black on what the education clause required and how the mandate fit with other state priorities.

"Should all of (the state's) budget be spent on public education?" asked John Krill, a lawyer for

Senate President Pro Tempore Jake Coman.

No, Mr. Black said — but added the state has "no choice" but to spend money on education.

Later, Mr. Krill asked Mr. Black if a "thorough and efficient education requires every public school to offer Mandarin" — drawing objection from plaintiffs. Judge Jubilerer cut off the line of questioning.

Pennsylvania is an outlier. Matthew Kelly, a Penn State education professor and key expert for the plaintiffs, testified about Pennsylvania's heavy reliance on local taxes to

SEE FUNDING, PAGE B-2

Work zone cameras have flagged more than 550,000 speeders in Pa.

By John Finnerty
Capitolwire.com

HARRISBURG — The number of speeders nabbed by speed cameras in work zones jumped 53% over 2020's total in just the first three quarters of the year, PennDOT data shows.

The cameras were approved under Act 86 of 2018.

Motorists will only be ticketed if they exceed the speed limit by 11 miles-per-hour and there are workers present.

Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Maryland, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Washington and the District of Columbia currently have speed camera programs in place, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, signed into law by President Joe Biden last week includes language encouraging states to expand automated enforcement programs in work zones and schools.

However, PennDOT can't expand the pilot program without legislation passed by the General Assembly, said Alexis Campbell, a PennDOT spokeswoman.

The department is still monitoring the rollout of the work zone speed enforcement program and hasn't made a decision about whether to lobby to get it made permanent, she said.

Critics say the federal legislation doesn't provide sufficient guidance to be confident that any additional expansions of automated enforcement will treat drivers fairly.

SEE SPEED, PAGE B-2

IT'S TIME



Andrew Rush/Post-Gazette

A person walks by the newly installed Christmas tree in Allegheny Commons Park on Monday on the North Side.

Black bus driver sues Port Authority over BLM mask ban

By Torsten Ove
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

A Black bus driver and union steward says he has been unfairly disciplined for wearing a Black Lives Matter mask while white colleagues, including the human resources officials who are disciplining him, have repeatedly violated the Port Authority's dress code without repercussions.

The suit, brought Tuesday by James Hanna, is the third federal lawsuit against the Port Authority challenging the prohibition of Black Lives Matter masks worn by employees.

Last week an instructor at the authority's Ross garage, Monika Wheeler-Hanna, filed a complaint claiming discrimination after she was suspended for wearing a Black Lives Matter mask.

The relationship between Ms. Wheeler-Hanna and James Hanna was not clear. Their lawyer did not immediately respond to a request for comment Tuesday.

Last year, Amalgamated Transit Union Local 85 filed the first suit, saying the Port Authority's ban on the masks violates freedom of speech. Mr. Hanna and Ms. Wheeler-Hanna were both plaintiffs in that case as well.

U.S. District Judge J. Nicholas Ranjan in January granted the union's preliminary injunction motion preventing the authority from enforcing the mask policy, but the authority appealed. The case is set to be heard next month before the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

In the latest suit, Mr. Hanna, a driver for 32 years, said he wore his mask while participating in disciplinary hearings for other employees in August 2020 in his role as a steward at the East Liberty garage.

A few weeks later the authority revised its dress code for drivers, saying they can't wear buttons, stickers or clothes promoting a political or social protest.

"The amendment was made with the intent to oppress Mr. Hanna and other people of color and to prevent them from wearing Black Lives Matter apparel," the suit says.

Mr. Hanna said he was told to take his mask off during disciplinary hearings. He refused, saying he wasn't wearing it while driving his bus, but said he was told to go home await discipline.

Before he left for the day, he took a picture of Holly Grabowski, the human resources representative, who was wearing sandals in

SEE LAWSUIT, PAGE B-2

Man involved in 2018 homicide gets life in prison

By Jesse Bunch
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

A man convicted of second degree murder was sentenced to life in prison Monday, according to the district attorney's office.

Kaijin Scott, 27, appeared before Judge Bruce Beemer of the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas where he received the life sentence plus an additional 12 to 24 years jail time.

Scott was convicted by a jury in

August.

Scott was implicated for his involvement in the shooting death of 27-year-old Keiuana Lynnette Davis in 2018.

Ms. Davis was ambushed by two people outside of a Dollar General in Wilkensburg, where she worked, on Feb. 22, 2018. One of the attackers, Laya Whitley, was a coworker at the store. Whitley had recently learned Ms. Davis received a \$3,000 tax refund and contacted Dane Taylor to orchestrate

a robbery.

After Ms. Davis fought off an attack from Whitley and Taylor outside the store, Taylor fired two shots in her direction, one fatally wounding her.

A previous Post-Gazette report mentions Scott as the driver of the vehicle that drove Whitley and Taylor away from the scene.

Ahead of a 2019 hearing before Judge Mark V. Tranquilli, Scott fired his attorney Patrick Thomassey, effectively ending a

plea agreement that would have given Scott a third-degree murder charge and 15-40 years in prison.

Scott told the court he wanted another lawyer to discuss the plea deal, and did not realize that by firing Mr. Thomassey, he was losing the deal, too.

"What Mr. Thomassey had to bargain with last Thursday, nobody's going to have to bargain with tomorrow," Judge Tranquilli told Scott at the hearing.

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Pa. school funding trial ends 1st week

FUNDING, FROM B-1

fund schools. With 55% of education funding coming from local sources, Pennsylvania ranks 45th among states for the revenue share it contributes to public schools, Mr. Kelly said.

Because poorer communities can't raise as much tax revenue as richer ones, even while taxing residents at much higher rates, that leads to spending gaps between rich and poor districts that the state Department of Education has described as among the widest in the nation, Mr. Kelly said.

But the other piece of the equation is how the state distributes its portion of the education funding pie. While the state uses a formula that aims to proportionately distribute more aid to poorer communities with greater student needs, it only applies to a fraction of Pennsylvania's main \$7 billion subsidy for public schools — about 11%.

That approach is sometimes referred to as "hold harmless," because the formula is applied only when the state calculates its year-over-year increases in disbursements to districts, not the total aid each receives.

Applying the formula more broadly to districts' total subsidies would redistribute existing funding and mean cuts for most districts. But it also could mean a boost in aid to needier

districts now being short-changed, Mr. Kelly said: 143 districts would be owed more than \$1 billion.

While many states enact a phase-in period for new funding formulas, "one of this magnitude ... makes Pennsylvania an outlier," harming poorer districts, Mr. Kelly said.

"I would call it irrational," he said.

Students of color are disproportionately impacted. Half of Black students and 40% of Hispanic students in Pennsylvania attend schools in the poorest fifth of districts, Mr. Kelly said. And 80% attend schools that would receive more funding if the state's formula was properly applied.

Legislative leaders had unsuccessfully argued before the trial to bar testimony about racial disparities and objected again when it came up last week. "This is a case about wealth and not a case about race or ethnicity," said Patrick Northen, a lawyer for House Speaker Bryan Cutler.

Big classes, outdated books. There aren't enough textbooks in Panther Valley fifth-grade history teacher Tara Yuricheck's classrooms to go around, she told the judge. In her largest class, with 34 students, "I feel like I can't get to them all sometimes."

Ms. Yuricheck, who testified along with Panther Valley Superintendent David McAndrew — providing the first testimony on behalf of a plaintiff school district — painted a picture of a district, one that stretches between Schuylkill and Carbon counties, that's barely scraping by. Her class uses textbooks printed in 1997, with information listing Bill Clinton as president and out-of-date population figures. She'd love to replace the books, but there are too many other competing priorities.

"It's like a triage in our district with money," said Ms. Yuricheck, a graduate of Panther Valley schools and parent of two current Panther Valley students. She described a disappearing tax base in the former coal-mining region of Pennsylvania: Her own parents lost their house, and the school system simply can't raise locally all the money it needs to educate its students adequately, Ms. Yuricheck said.

Are most Pa. school districts underfunded? The case isn't just about gaps between higher and lower-wealth districts. More than 80% of Pennsylvania's 500 districts are underfunded by a total of \$4.6 billion, Mr. Kelly said — based on a 2007

study commissioned by the General Assembly to assess what it would cost to enable provide students with what they need to meet state standards.

That analysis — which was incorporated into state law, but hasn't been used for a decade — laid out targets for what each district should be spending, Mr. Kelly, who used that methodology to calculate the current shortfall, said \$4.6 billion was likely an understatement, given that district costs have risen significantly since the analysis.

Lawyers for Republican legislative leaders seized on those figures in an apparent effort to undermine Mr. Kelly's analysis.

"Is your opinion that even though ... Pennsylvania spends more per pupil than all but five states in the country, that more than 80 percent of school districts in the state are still underfunded?" Mr. Northen asked Mr. Kelly. (U.S. Census data from 2019 show that at \$16,864, Pennsylvania ranked eighth in per-pupil spending among states, including revenue from state, local and federal sources.)

Mr. Kelly said that average didn't reveal how funds were distributed.

Mr. Northen also asked how the \$4.6 billion shortfall would be filled, given that Mr. Kelly's analysis assigned responsibility to the state for only \$2.6 billion. Mr. Kelly said he was just following the methodology previously adopted by lawmakers.

What do standardized test scores show? Mr. Kelly testified that higher-spending districts had better student outcomes, including on state assessments. On the Keystone exams, for instance, students in the poorest fifth of districts scored 31 percentage points lower in algebra, and 28 percentage points lower in literature than those in the wealthiest quintile. And students classified by the state as economically disadvantaged who attend districts that spend more money perform better than their counterparts in lower-spending communities, he said.

Mr. Northen, quoting one researcher who contends that standardized assessments are "testing privilege as much as they're testing academics," asked whether Mr. Kelly was "aware of research questioning the validity of standardized tests as a measure of what students have learned."

Yes, Mr. Kelly said. But he noted there was a "robust body of scholarship" linking school funding to student outcomes.



Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

HEALTH CHECK Sam Yamron, of Forest Hills, administers a COVID-19 test to his daughter Samira, 3, at a Curative COVID-19 testing site Wednesday on Holland Avenue in Braddock.

Work zone cameras flag 550K speeders

SPEED, FROM B-1

"The infrastructure bill slid in federal money for the promotion of automated traffic enforcement of various types. As usual, there is no provision to require best practice engineering and enforcement. Cameras cannot exist under these conditions, since poor engineering and predatory ticketing are common. Cameras are already a for-profit industry, so expect them to blanket the country," said James Sikorski, Jr., Pennsylvania advocate for the National Motorists Association. "Why do we not try the carrot approach? Use proper engineering and enforcement, but add a twist. Maybe have a prize drawing for people who obey the law, rather than ticket those who disobey? Reward good driving. Will never happen," he said.

The automated work zone speed enforcement, a five-year pilot program, launched in the spring of 2020, just as the COVID-19 pandemic began to hit the state. The program began on March 9, 2020, and then was paused a week later, as the Wolf administration began mitigation efforts to try

to control the spread of the virus. The speed cameras were placed back into action a month later, but the pandemic continued to depress traffic through much of the year. However, PennDOT reports that during the pandemic shutdown, drivers who found themselves surrounded by little other traffic were more likely to speed.

Because the automated speed enforcement program operated for a little more than eight months in 2020, the data on tickets through the end of September of this year is close to a comparable time period.

Already, by the end of September, the speed cameras in the work zones had flagged 335,647 speeders.

Of those:

- 284,293 were first-time violators, who would not have been fined;
- 35,914 were second-time violators, who would be subject to a \$75 fine;
- 15,440 were speeders who'd been caught three or more times and would be subject to a \$150 fine.

In 2020, the automated speed enforcement program issued 219,200 violations:

- 191,600 to first-time vio-

lators;

- 19,200 to second-time violators;
- 8,400 to drivers caught three or more times.

But only about 70% of drivers who received tickets paid them, according to PennDOT. The only statutory recourse against non-paying violators is to send those violations to a collection agency.

As a result, in its first year of operation, the automated speed enforcement program ended up costing the state \$1.4 million more than it brought in through fine revenue.

The costs included \$450,000 billed to the program by the state police, along with almost \$3 million in costs billed by contractors who operated the automated speed enforcement program.

RedFlex Traffic Systems, an Arizona-based company, was paid \$1.47 million as system administrator, and an engineering firm based in Baltimore, RK&K, was paid \$1.5 million to serve as program administrator.

The number of total crashes dropped substantially last year with the total number of crashes, number of people injured and number killed all down in 2020 from 2019.

Bethel Park hires new middle school principal

By Deana Carpenter

The Bethel Park school board has hired Raquel Sutton as principal of Independence Middle School. The board approved the hiring at a Tuesday meeting.

Ms. Sutton comes to the district from Southmoreland School District, where she most recently served as a middle school principal. She has also worked as an administrator in the Greensburg-Salem School District.

"I'm honored to be accepted into the position and to serve the Bethel Park community and school district," she said. "I'm looking forward to everything that is coming in the future — to work with the strategic plan and the comprehensive plan and to meet all of the staff and to get started as soon as possible."

Ms. Sutton's annual salary is \$112,000, and her start date is to be determined. She takes over as principal of Independence Middle School after former principal David Muench

was promoted to director of student support services for Bethel Park in September.

Also at the meeting, the board approved the district's comprehensive plan and strategic plan.

Superintendent James Walsh said the strategic plan is a "five-year plan that covers all aspects of district operations" from facilities and infrastructure and business and finance to instruction, curriculum and student services.

The comprehensive plan is a state requirement that takes pieces of the strategic plan, specifically the curriculum and instruction and student experience piece, and weaves them into a state mandated form. Mr. Walsh said the district is also required to send to the state its professional development and special education plans for the next three years.

"It is a three-year piece required from the commonwealth, so we drew from the strategic plan to populate the comprehensive plan," Mr. Walsh said. "It's essentially

the meat and potatoes of our strategic plan."

In other business, board president Pam Dobos recognized two retirees for their contributions to the district.

Lori Sutton, former director of special education, who retired this summer, was recognized for her 18 years in the district. Ms. Sutton started in the district in 2003 as assistant director of special education and was named director of special education in 2013.

Janet O'Rourke, assistant superintendent for curriculum and special services, who is set to retire in December, was also recognized.

Ms. O'Rourke started with the district in 1999 as assistant principal at Neil Armstrong Elementary and was named principal of that school in 2002. She was promoted to director of secondary education and later to assistant to the superintendent in 2016. She has served as assistant superintendent for curriculum and special services since 2020.

Driver sues Port Authority over mask ban

LAWSUIT, FROM B-1

violation of the dress code, according to the suit. He also tried to take a photo of Cindy McMonagle, assistant director of service delivery, who was wearing jeans, also a violation.

Both women are white but weren't disciplined because of their race, the suit says.

Mr. Hanna eventually received a warning but was told not to wear his mask anymore.

He said that's unfair because the authority previously promoted all manner of social and political movements, such as supporting

Pride Month for the LGBTQ community, union workers' rights, buttons for political candidates and hats for religious holidays.

Mr. Hanna said the revision to the dress code was racially motivated and said white employees continue to violate the code without punishment. As examples, he said white women wear yoga or stretch pants, boots, open-toed shoes and outdated uniform shirts, and one white driver wore a hat that said, "It's all bulls-t."

Mr. Hanna said he has continued to protest the ban on Black Lives Matter apparel and faced retaliation. He said management tried to

limit his access to union files and workspace and suspended him for seven days following an accident in which no one was hurt while a white driver only got a verbal warning for a worse accident in which people were hurt.

Mr. Hanna said he continued to suffer from harassment because of his stance.

The suit is seeking compensatory and punitive damages and an order declaring the Port Authority has violated the law with its "intentional, wanton and malicious conduct."

The Port Authority said it does not comment on litigation.

Thursday, Nov. 25, 2021

PENNSYLVANIA LOTTERY

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

Thursday's Cash 5
11-13-18-29-38

Thursday's Cash 4 Life
24-39-40-43-46 **CB: 2**

Thursday's Match 6
8-23-27-30-38-48

Thursday's Treasure Hunt
5-11-13-19-23

Thursday's Pick 5
9-3-6-9-4 (day);
9-4-3-9-5 (night)

Thursday's Pick 4
7-7-3-3 (day);
3-5-9-1 (night)

Thursday's Pick 3
6-0-4 (day); 9-2-6 (night)

Thursday's Pick 2
7-0 (day); 1-8 (night)

Wild ball
4 (day); 6 (night)

Tonight's **CASH 5** is worth an estimated \$250,000.
Tonight's **TREASURE HUNT** is worth an estimated \$55,000.
Tonight's **MEGA MILLIONS** is worth an estimated \$94 million.
Tonight's **MATCH 6** is worth an estimated \$710,000.
Tomorrow's **POWERBALL** is worth an estimated \$243 million.

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- Beinhauer-Bogan Canonsburg (David M. Borkhaus, Sup.)
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News Obituaries

Daughter of Malcolm X dies at age 56

By Ashley Southall
The New York Times

NEW YORK — Malikah Shabazz, one of the youngest daughters of Malcolm X and his wife, Betty Shabazz, was found dead at home in Brooklyn on Monday, police said.

The death of Malikah Shabazz, 56, did not appear to be suspicious, said a spokesperson for the city medical examiner, who will determine the cause of death. A high-ranking police official said accidental food poisoning may have played a role.

Ms. Shabazz was found dead four days after a judge exonerated two men who were convicted in 1966 of assassinating Malcolm X.

She was found unresponsive on her living room floor by her 23-year-old daughter,

who lived with her in the apartment, police said.

Mayor Bill de Blasio said at a news conference Tuesday that there was no indication that Shabazz's death was a crime or the result of foul play.

The death of Ms. Shabazz was a "horrible" turn of events for the family of Malcolm X, who was one of the most important leaders of the 20th century, Mr. de Blasio said.

And it only added to the renewed anguish over his assassination, which was once again in the spotlight last week when the Manhattan district attorney admitted that major flaws in the case had led to two wrongful convictions.

"This family has been through hell over and over

again, and there's some horrible injustice to someone who ultimately did so much good for the world," Mr. de Blasio said.

Ms. Shabazz and her twin sister, Malaak, were born in 1965 after their father was assassinated. Tributes poured out online as news spread of her death.

The Rev. Bernice A. King, the youngest child of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King, said she was "deeply saddened" by Ms. Shabazz's death. "Be at peace, Malikah," she wrote in a message on Twitter.

Ms. Shabazz's death was the latest in a series of tragedies to befall the family, whose matriarch, Betty Shabazz, died of injuries suffered in a fire at her home in Mount Vernon, N.Y., in 1997.

She was 61.

Her 12-year-old grandson, Malcolm Shabazz, pleaded guilty to charges that he set the fire and served five years in juvenile detention. In 2013, Malcolm Shabazz, then 28, was beaten and killed in Mexico during a dispute over a bar tab while in the country to advocate for construction workers' rights.

Malikah Shabazz left New York in 1999 and moved to North Carolina. Recently, she was living in Maryland, and it is unclear when she returned to New York.

She had a complicated relationship with her sisters, with whom she fought for more than a decade over her mother's estate.

In 2011, she pleaded guilty to running up credit card debt in the name of a 70-year



Malikah Shabazz

old widow whose husband was one of Malcolm X's bodyguards. She was sentenced to five years' probation.

Lori Anne Douglass, who was appointed to represent Ms. Shabazz in the litigation over her mother's estate, remembered her as smart and full of life.

"She loved her family, missed her mother terribly, missed her father terribly, and like any other young person that loses their parents, had a difficult time dealing with that," she said.

CLASSIFIED OBITUARIES

AUDIA, Francis A., Dormont
BUBASH, Nick
COLE, Sandra E. "Sandy" McClelland, Turtle Creek
COOK, Sister Mary Eileen (Mary Immaculate)
COONEY, Thomas G. Sr., West View
DITCH, Gary L. "Bobby," Glendale
DONOVAN, Donna F., New Castle
DURA, Mary A. "Dolli" Arrigo, West Mifflin
EASHA, Frank "Jester" M., Monroeville
EDELSTON, Pamela J., Sheraden
GIGLIOTTI, Kevin J., Hazelwood
GORDON, James N., Pittsburgh, formerly Saxonburg
HARRIS, Daniel Allen, Zephyrhills, Fla., formerly Monroeville
HECKMAN, Jean L., White Oak
KASTELIC, Margaret "Marge" Santucci Meyers, Oakmont
KELLER, Dale B., Harmony
KOSS, Patricia "Patty"
PALERMO, Anthony J., Monroeville
REESE, Deborah E. Bearer, Ross
ROSE, William R., San Diego, Calif., formerly Erie and Wilkins
SIROCHMAN, Dorothy Chlodney Young, Springdale
SNIEGOCKI, Mark A. "Snow," Farmington, formerly Mt. Lebanon
WHALEN, Richard P., Scott

FRANCIS A. AUDIA



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Francis A. Audia, 80, of Dormont passed away on November 10, 2021. He was preceded in death by his beloved parents, Frank and Mary. He was the father of Christine Ertwine of Bellefonte, PA and the long-time companion of Theresa Luvara and her daughter, Elizabeth Bragano, both of Pittsburgh, PA. Private arrangements entrusted to **BALL FUNERAL CHAPEL, INC.**

SANDRA E. "SANDY" (MCLELLAND) COLE



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A lifelong resident of Turtle Creek, age 80, passed away suddenly on Wednesday, November 24, 2021. Beloved wife of William E. Cole for 61 years. Loving mother of Todd (Marlene) Cole of Monroeville, Denise (late Andrew) Kocan of Penn Twp. and the late William H. Cole. Precious and cherished grandmother of Christopher (Valerie) Cole, Bradley (Daneen) Cole, Ashley (Jake) Yeagers, Andrew Kocan, Alyssa and William Cole. Proud great-grandmother of Nolan, Noah, Maverick, Lincoln and Jace. Sandy loved to spend time with family and friends, especially while boating on Conneaut Lake. Friends are welcome on Sunday from 12-4 pm at **PATRICK T. LANIGAN FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY, INC.**, Turtle Creek / Monroeville Chapel, 1111 Monroeville Ave., Turtle Creek, 412-823-9350 where a Funeral Service will be held on Sunday at 4 pm.

GARY L. "BOPPY" DITCH



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Of Glendale, Pennsylvania, passed away on Monday, November 22, 2021, after several weeks battling pulmonary fibrosis. He was 72. Gary was born on October 29, 1949, in Meadville, Pennsylvania, to mother, Edna Iona Mook Ditch, and father, Herbert Arnold Ditch. He graduated from Meadville High School in 1967, enlisted in the U.S. Army in August 1969 and was awarded the Purple Heart from wounds received while serving in Vietnam. He moved to Glendale, Pennsylvania in 1972 and resided there until the day of his passing. He retired from the Pennsylvania Air National Guard in 1992 and the US Postal Inspection Service as a Postal Police Officer in 2004. Gary is survived by his wife of nearly fifty years, Mary Iris Cavey Ditch. Gary is also survived by daughter, Kristen Marie Ditch Campbell and spouse, Thaddeus Joseph Campbell, Jr., and son, Michael Lawrence Ditch and spouse, Amanda Kaye Shick Ditch. Grandfather to Katelyn Marie Campbell, Thaddeus Joseph Campbell III and Alex Lawrence Ditch, as well as a host of nieces and nephews. Brother to David Wayne Ditch and spouse, Kathie Jean Ditch. Gary was preceded in death by his parents, Edna and Herbert Ditch; and sister, Linda Ditch Harris.

Gary was a well-liked man who always made time for everyone. He loved to laugh, tell jokes, read, attend concerts, do puzzles and crafts. He would drive miles out of the way to avoid traffic, hated driving on the parkway, and enjoyed long short cuts to avoid the highways. He was a handy man able to fix electrical problems, plumbing and anything else that could possibly need fixing. With our dear Gary there was the right way, the wrong way, or Boppy's way. He especially loved his family and would have moved mountains to make them smile. Nothing made him happier than spending time with his three grandchildren who fondly called him "Boppy." He spoiled them with love and affection every chance he could. "Uber Boppy" would drive them to school, sport practices and outings. He never missed a birthday party or family event and made all football, volleyball and hockey games for his grandchildren. He took his family on numerous vacations and enjoyed wintering in Florida with his wife. Gary leaves behind a legacy of love, laughter, and family. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Disabled American Veterans Charitable Service Trust at DAV.org. Friends are invited to call on Sunday, November 28th from 2-8 pm at the **LEO J. HENNEY FUNERAL HOME**, 323 Second Avenue, Carnegie, where a Blessing Service will be held on Monday, November 29th at 10 am. Interment with Military Honors will follow at the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies, Bridgeville.

MARY A. "DOLLI" (ARRIGO) DURA

Age 73 of West Mifflin, passed away on November 20, 2021. Beloved wife of the late Kenneth A. Dura; and daughter of the late Thomas and Mary Arrigo. Dear sister of the late Augustina "Tina" (William) McElroy. Cherished cousin and friend of many. No Visitation. Memorial Mass on Saturday, December 4, 2021 at 10 a.m. at St. Maximilian Kolbe, 363 W. 11th Avenue, Homestead PA 15120. Arrangements by **BALL FUNERAL CHAPEL, INC.**

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FRANK "JESTER" M. EASHA



Frank "Jester" M. Easha, age 64, of Monroeville, passed away Tuesday, November 23, 2021. He was born May 17, 1957, in McKeesport, the son of the late Frank and Pauline Easha. He was a retired member of the PMC and worked for over 30 years at the Elliott Company in Donora. He is survived by his wife of over 23 years, Sally (Leach) Easha; children, Thomas Leach, Cassandra (Justin Reid) Maillette and Brandy (Chris Kosht) Maillette; grandchildren, Gavin Leach, Elizabeth Signore, Elaina Kosht and Jaxon Kosht; cousin, Laura (Matthew) Kresock; aunt, Nancy Hall; and many nieces and nephews. Friends and family will be received from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at the **FORGIE-SNYDER FUNERAL HOME**, 1032 Broadway, East McKeesport, 412-823-8083. Everyone will gather at the funeral home for a funeral service at 11 a.m. Tuesday. Interment will follow at Good Shepherd Catholic Cemetery in Monroeville. Memorial contributions can be made to the St. Jude Hospital at www.stjude.org. For online condolences, please visit www.snyderfuneralservices.com.

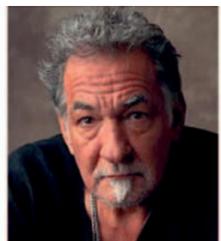
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PAMELA J. EDELSTON

Age 61, raised in Sheraden, passed peacefully on Sunday, November 21, 2021. Beloved daughter of the late Jack and Margaret (Shevlin) Edelston; loving mother of Bridget Kielek (Vinnie) and Zach Ballew; cherished sister of Debbie Smith (Bruce), Margie Schubert (Bill), Gerry Clark (Mike) and the late Jackie Edelston and Mikie Kraus (Bill); adoring grandmother to Haleigh Kelly; treasured aunt, cousin and friend of many. Friends and family will be received Sunday, December 12, 2021 from 4 until the 6 pm. Service at **BALL FUNERAL CHAPEL, INC.**, 600 Dunster St., Pittsburgh, PA 15226. 412-343-1506 or Ballfc.com.

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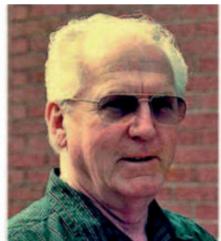
NICK BUBASH



At too young of an age and after a brief illness, Nicholas Robert Bubash passed peacefully on November 17, 2021, surrounded by his family and friends. Nick is survived by his beautiful, talented, and loving daughters, Isabella and Georgia Bubash, whom he carried in his heart; his beloved sisters, Mary Kruse (Gary Kruse), Stefany (Tep) Giner (Stan Giner) and Alice Slapikas (Tony Slapikas) as well as his nieces and nephew, Allison Kruse, Nick and Laura Slapikas and many other cousins, nieces and nephews. Nick is also survived by his longtime companion Vicke Adamson, and his wife, the Honorable Cathleen Cawood Bubash, with whom he remained a friend and partner in parenting. Predeceasing Nick were his parents George and Amelia (Millie) Bubash and his first wife, Helen Lynch, with whom he had remained friends. Born September 7, 1949, in Pittsburgh, Nick grew up in State College, PA. He lived and worked in Pittsburgh as a pioneering tattoo artist, fine artist, and sculptor. Nick attended the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia in the 80's, graduating with the highest honors and multiple awards, including the Scheidt Traveling Grant, which allowed him to study abroad. He was a talented and widely collected fine artist who, amongst other accolades, was collected by the Library of Congress, and the Carnegie Museum of Pittsburgh. Nick enjoyed a solo museum exhibition of his work entitled *The Patron Saint of White Guys that Went Tribal and Other Works* at the Warhol Museum. In 2016, Nick received the prestigious NYC 2016 Acker award for Tattoo Art. Nick was also legend in the world of tattooing, having his start in the Lower East Side of NYC. He authored his proudest work, a tribute to his mentor, teacher and friend, Thom DeVita entitled *Thom DeVita: DeVita Unauthorized*, followed by his narration of *Thom DeVita 'Tattoo Age'* on the Vice Channel. Nick's artist statement says it all. "My father is Croatian, probably Turkish, my mother is Sicilian, a descendant of Sephardics, my family is Irish, my brother is Italian and Spanish, and my sisters married a Pole, a German, and a Hungarian (one each.) My neighbors are African and Icelandic, my dog is a Maltese, my cats are from Siam, and I am reincarnated from India. My food is Algerian with bread from France, nuts from Brazil, tea from China and coffee from Kenya, my watch and cheese are Swiss, and my caviar is Russian. My car is Japanese, my shoes Bolivian, my shirt Pakistani, my carpets are Persian, my dishes and radio are from Mexico. My silverware and language are English. The children's toys are from Taiwan, my didgeridoo is Aboriginal. I am extremist by nature, my religion is fundamentalist by choice and my rabbi is Baptist. I wear the skin of a Maori and my art is at least, in part, if not completely, a result of the criss cross of the above." Nick Bubash. Nick's life will be celebrated on November 27, 2021, from 1pm - 5pm, at **JOHN A. FREYVOGEL SONS, INC.**, 4900 Centre Avenue at Devonshire Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15213 (freyvogelfuneralhome.com). A gathering to remember Nick will be immediately afterwards from 5:30 pm - 8 pm at G's on Liberty, 5104 Liberty Avenue, Pgh., PA 15224. All are welcome. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Arts Ed Collaborative.

Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

THOMAS G. COONEY, SR.



Thomas G. Cooney, Sr., age 85, of West View, on Tuesday, November 23, 2021. Beloved husband of the late Elsie L. (Mansfield) Cooney; father of Thomas G. Cooney (Sherrie), James A. Cooney (Wendy), and Joseph P. Cooney (Vicky); grandfather of Jaime Horhut (Steve), Jason Cooney (Sarah), Travis Cooney (Kimberly) Samantha Dillinger (Jerry), Jesse Cooney, Michele Cooney, and Emily Cooney; great-grandfather of Trent, Mitchell, Paige, Elsie, Mitchell, and Dawson; and brother of Patrick J. Cooney. Family will welcome friends on Monday from 2-4pm and 6-8pm at **SCHELLHAAS FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 388 Center Avenue, West View, PA 15229. A Service will be held Tuesday at 11am at Ridgewood Assembly of God Church. Thomas was devoted to his family and to Ridgewood Assembly of God Church. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Family Hospice Foundation, 700 Bower Hill Road, Suite 1405, Pittsburgh, PA 15243. Please offer condolences at www.schellhaasfn.com.

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DONNA F. DONOVAN



Donna was a graduate of New Castle High School. For 10 years, Donna worked at Bell Telephone, but spent most of her life as a homemaker. She enjoyed shopping and was heavily involved in local volunteer efforts. She served as President of St. Camillus Woman's Guild, President of New Castle Woman's Club, and was a member of St. Francis Hospital Auxiliary and board member of the Pittsburgh Catholic Charities. Donna was the co-founder of the annual Lawrence County Festival of Trees. What gave Donna the most joy in life, was spending time with her family. Donna was a devoted member of St. Camillus Church.

Survivors include three sons, Thomas (Mary) Donovan of Berea, OH, Timothy M. (Ann) Donovan of Pittsburgh, PA, and Jeffrey (Katrina) Donovan of Jacksonville, FL; one daughter, Elaine (Bill) LuPone of Gibsonia, PA; sister, Barbara Romano of Hillsville, PA; daughter-in-law, Marci Donovan of Bridgeville, PA; nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and husband, Donna was preceded in death by one brother, James Edward Flynn; and two sons, James and Francis Donovan.

Visitation will be held on Sunday, Nov. 28th, from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM at the **R. CUNNINGHAM FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY, INC.**, 2429 Wilmington Road, New Castle. A procession will leave the funeral home at 9:30 AM Monday, Nov. 29th for a Mass of Christian Burial beginning at 10:00 AM at St. Camillus Church-Holy Spirit Parish, 314 W. Englewood Ave., New Castle, PA, 16105. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Donna's honor to the Cray Youth and Family Services, 44 S. Beaver St., New Castle, PA, 16101. Entombment will be at Castleview Cemetery. Online condolences may be offered to the family by visiting www.cunninghamfh.com.

Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

CLASSIFIED OBITUARIES

KEVIN J. GIGLIOTTI

Age 59, of Hazelwood passed away on Tuesday, November 23, 2021. Beloved father of Crystal (Anthony) McHirella, Tara Gigliotti and Darren Gigliotti. Son of the late William and Theresa Gigliotti. Beloved brother of Paul Gigliotti, Greg (Pam) Gigliotti, and Donna Schwartz. Loving grandfather of Ryan, Gianna, Gianni, Darren, and Dominic. Kevin loved music and was very active with the Mt. Washington Baptist Church and enjoyed riding his bicycle. He will be missed by many people. Family and friends welcome Saturday, 3-8 p.m. **WM. SLATER & SONS, INC.**, (412-381-3345) 301 Virginia Ave., Mt. Washington, 15211 where a funeral service will be held Saturday, 8 p.m. Officiated by Pastor Ray Cunningham. Burial private.

www.slaterfuneral.com
Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

JAMES N. GORDON



James N. Gordon, 69, of Pittsburgh, formerly of Saxonburg, passed away on November 23, 2021 at the Paramount Senior Living.

Born August 8, 1952 in Pittsburgh, PA, he was the son of James A. Gordon and Dolly (Newell) Gordon.

Jim had served for fifteen years at the Saxonburg Memorial Presbyterian Church and had also served for 20 years with Bridges to Community in Nicaragua.

Surviving are his mother, Dolly Gordon of Pittsburgh; his wife, Bonnie Gordon of Shaler Twp.; one sister, Linda (Bruce) Williamson of Grove City; two nephews, Matthew and Andrew Williamson; and three nieces, Kristan Semmler, Jacklyn Prepelka and Martha D'Abruzzo.

Jim was preceded in death by his father, James A. Gordon; sister, Susan Dively; and nephew, Gabriel D'Abruzzo.

Friends will be received on Friday, December 3, 2021, from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm, at **FOX FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, Saxonburg, PA.

Services will be held on Saturday, December 4, 2021, 11:00 am at the Saxonburg Memorial Presbyterian Church, with Rev. Douglas M. Dorsey officiating.

Memorial donations may be made to the Gordon Family Foundation C/O Dale K. Cowher & Co, LLC., Suite 401, 250 Mt. Lebanon Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15234-1248.

Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

DANIEL ALLEN HARRIS



Formerly of Monroeville, and since October 2020 of Zephyrhills, FL, died on Tuesday, November 23, 2021 due to Covid-19 complications. Beloved husband of Elizabeth M. (Skendrovic) Harris for 27 years. Loving and proud father of Meghan (William) Blakeman and Stephen Harris all of Florida. Son of the late Richard "Butch" Harris and the late Judith (Nicholls) Harris who died on October 3,

2021. Brother of Dawn (Louis) Brady of NJ and Richard (Amy) Harris of Springdale. Brother-in-law of Rebecca (Lawrence) Oliver of FL. Uncle of Caitlin, Emily, Joseph and Matthew Harris; Zachary and Noah Kimball and Keegan Oliver. Great-uncle of Brooklyn Harris and the late Ryan "Bubby" Harris. Dan was a 1988 graduate of Woodland Hills High School. For 34 years he was employed with UPMC, most recently as a supervisor with Medcall of UPMC. Dan enjoyed the beach, all things Disney and sipping Jack Daniels. However, his favorite time was any time he could spend with his family. Friends are welcome on Friday from 4-7pm and Saturday from 2-7 pm at **PATRICK T. LANIGAN FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY, INC.**, Turtle Creek / Monroeville Chapel, 1111 Monroeville Ave., Turtle Creek, 412-823-9350 where a Funeral Service will take place on Saturday at 7pm.

Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

JEAN L. HECKMAN



Jean L. Heckman, age 90, of White Oak, entered into eternal rest on November 21, 2021. Jean is survived by her son, Scott (Lynn) Heckman; daughter, Linda Ann Oatman; a sister, Linda (James) Wetzler; two granddaughters, Kimmie Oatman and Logan Heckman; four grandsons, Mark Oatman, Ben Oatman, Jamie Oatman and Cameron Heckman; great-grandchildren and a great-

great-grandchild, as well as many nieces, nephews, and friends. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Leonard Heckman; father, Clyde C. Anderson; and mother, Mildred Newcomer. She was a member of DAR and the Sampson Hills Presbyterian Church. She was the lunch lady at White Oak School for over 30 years. Private interment will be in Jefferson Memorial Park. Condolences may be left at www.jeffersonmemorial.com.



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DALE B. KELLER



Age 76, of Harmony (Lancaster Twp.), passed away peacefully at home after an extended illness on Sunday, November 21, 2021. Born April 16, 1945, in Millvale, he was the son of the late Paul Henry Keller and Ruth Wehrle Keller. Dale graduated from North Allegheny High School in 1963 and went on to graduate from the University of Pittsburgh with a B.S. Degree in Mechanical

Engineering in 1967. After college, he worked for Blaw-Knox Foundry and Mill Machinery for 23 years ending up as Vice President of Domestic and International Sales. Finally retiring from Morgan Construction, headquartered in Wooster, MA, in 2003, Dale went on to build a woodworking shop in his home, making custom furniture for family and friends. He also found time to join and travel with Gold Wing touring bike clubs and later enjoyed socializing and traveling with many friends from Corvettes of PA, Beaver Co. Dale leaves behind to cherish his memory his wife of 33 years, Patricia Emish Keller, whom he married October 1, 1988; his three children, Brian Keller, and his wife, Lori of Columbus, OH, Judd McLevey, and his wife, Alesia Holliday, of Jacksonville, FL, and Margaret Emish, and her husband, Timothy Gunderson, of Chicago, IL; his two grandchildren, Connor McLevey and Lauren McLevey; his brother, Paul D. Keller, and his wife, Diane, of Ravenna, OH; and his nephew, Paul D. Keller, Jr. of Phoenix, AZ. In addition to his parents, Dale was preceded in death by his nephew, Marc Keller. Friends will be received from 2-4 P.M. with a service at 4 P.M. on Monday, November 29, 2021, at the **BOYLAN FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 324 E. Grandview Ave., Zelienople, PA 16063, with Rev. Dan Owen, officiating. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, TN 38105, or to Shriners Hospitals for Children, Office of Development, 2900 Rocky Point Dr., Tampa, FL 33607 Expressions of sympathy may be shared with the family at www.boylanfuneralservices.com

Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

MARGARET SANTUCCI MEYERS KASTELIC

"MARGE"



Age 99, passed away peacefully on November 23, 2021 at Norbert Personal Care Home in Pittsburgh. She was born on June 29, 1922 in Oakmont and was a long time resident of Oakmont and Verona. After graduating from Oakmont High School in 1940, she and her sister, Rose were employed at Scaife Company as government inspectors while their three brothers were fighting in WWII. She was preceded in

death by her parents, Igino and Teresa (Orsini) Santucci, loving husband, Sylvester (Red) Kastelic, brothers, Dominic (Mary), Italo (Oats) (Genevieve), James (Barbara) sister, Rose (Edward) Borzyn, nephew, Eugene Santucci and great-nephew, Bryan Borzyn. Marge is survived by her only daughter, Sandra Meyers (Robert) Gagorik and many nieces and nephews. Marge was a member of the Ladies of Charity at St. Joseph Church, the Fraternal Order of Eagles Ladies Auxiliary of Verona and the Roccacinquemiglia Society of Pittsburgh. She enjoyed playing bingo, dancing and traveling to Italy. Friends and relatives will be received on Friday, November 26, 2021 from 2-7 p.m. at the **BURKET-TRUBY FUNERAL HOME CREMATION & ALTERNATIVE SERVICES, INC.**, 421 Allegheny Ave., Oakmont. Please wear a mask in the funeral home. Mass of Christian Burial Saturday, November 27, 2021, 11 a.m. Holy Family Parish (St. Joseph) Catholic Church. Interment will follow in St. Joseph Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made in her name to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

PATRICIA "PATTY" KOS

Patricia "Patty" Kos was a caring wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and friend. She left this world surrounded with love on November 21, 2021, after celebrating her 71st birthday the day prior.

A child of Frank and Martha (Krzyszanski) Szwedko, Patty was born on November 20, 1950. Patty was the eighth out of nine children. Patty was preceded in death by Marianne (late George) Luft, Frances "Cookie" (Bill) Horne, Albert (late Coralee) Szwedko, Raymond (late Marilyn) Szwedko, and Margaret "Margie" (surviving Tom) Long. She is survived by her siblings, Stanley "Stush" (Joy) Szwedko, Michael "Mike" (Carole) Szwedko and Robert "Bob" (late Traci) Szwedko.

Patty has spent the last 54 years of her life with her husband Thomas "Tom" Kos. They had two children together, Sharon Kos (Grant) Montgomery and the late Thomas James "Jimmy" Kos. Patty and Tom also have three grandchildren, Connor (Marissa) Montgomery, Jessica Kos, and Mackenzie Montgomery.

Over her life, Patty and her husband Tom traveled to many beautiful cities across the world. On Sundays Patty was an active member of the North Hills Church of Christ. She enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren, family gatherings, Sunday dinners, and watching her favorite TV shows "Friends" and "Seinfeld."

Patty will be remembered for her sense of humor, with the occasional sarcasm, and quick wit.

As a follower of Christ, Patty has now reunited with her son Jimmy in Heaven to live her eternal life. Friends received Sunday 10:30 am - 1:30 pm and 6 - 8 pm at **SIMONS FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, where a funeral service will be held Monday at 10:30 AM.

www.simonsfuneralhome.com
Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

ANTHONY J. PALERMO



Of Monroeville, age 90, died on Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday, November 24, 2021. Anthony was born in Linhart, Wilkins Twp. on March 6, 1931, to the late Genarro and Christine (Masi) Palermo. Beloved husband of Nicolina "Nicki" (Dinzeo) Palermo for 67 years. Loving and proud father of John (Nancy) Palermo of Texas, James (Deanna) Palermo of Plum, Patty (Jim) Jovanovich of Monroeville, the late Ann Anthony Palermo. Cherished

and treasured grandfather of Crystal Palermo, Brittany (George) Costello, Anthony (Maura) Palermo, Matt (Loren) Palermo, Samantha (Jeremy) Baloga, Ilija, Nicolina and Ethan Jovanovich. Precious great-grandfather of Ella, Vinnie and Annie Palermo, Mason and Damon Palermo and Brody Baloga. Dear brother of Ross (Loretta) Palermo, Rosemarie (late Mim) Catullo, the late Mike (late Betty) Palermo, late Carmella (late Frank) Cuda and the late Joe Palermo. Anthony was a proud Marine Corps veteran of the Korean War. Upon his return home from his military service, he resumed his career in construction with the Angelo Nese Family contractors. After years of concrete work and brick laying, Anthony joined his wife as a hairdresser in her beauty shop in East Pittsburgh. At the redevelopment of the East Pittsburgh business district in the late 1960's, Anthony and Nicki built their shop in the East Pittsburgh Plaza and operated their shop until retirement a few years ago. In retirement, Anthony continued his hairdressing skill as the hairdresser at Lanigan Funeral Home until 2015 when he became diagnosed with kidney disease. When families of deceased learned that the hairdresser was a former bricklayer and concrete man they sometimes were skeptical about his ability to properly care for hair. But with his expertise and skill, the results were always appreciated by those families. Friends are welcome on Sunday from 2-7 p.m. at **PATRICK T. LANIGAN FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY, INC.**, Turtle Creek / Monroeville Chapel, 1111 Monroeville Ave., Turtle Creek, 412-823-9350. Mass of Christian Burial will be in St. Bernadette Church, Christ the Divine Shepherd Parish, on Monday at 11 a.m. Anthony will be laid to rest with Military Honors in Church Hill Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to Wounded Warriors Project, 4899 Belfort Rd., Jacksonville, FL 32256 or www.woundedwarriorproject.org.

Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

DEBORAH E. (BEARER) REESE



Deborah E. (Bearer) Reese, age 54, of Ross Township, on Tuesday, November 23, 2021. Beloved wife for 25 years of Robert W. Reese; mother of Robert "R.J." Reese; daughter of Suzanne (Mehrmann) and John F. Bearer; sister of John C. Bearer (Eileen) and Karen Girty (John); daughter-in-law of Irene and the late Robert W. Reese, Sr.; sister-in-law of Lori Cassel and David Reese.

Also survived by many nieces, nephews, and their families. Family will welcome friends on Sunday from 2-8pm at **SCHELLHAAS FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 388 Center Avenue, West View, PA 15229, where a Service will be held on Monday at 11am. Debbie loved her family. She was a kind and giving person with a good heart. She was a loyal manager at AT&T for 31 years. She loved to bake. Debbie enjoyed life to its fullest. Please offer condolences at www.schellhaasfh.com.

Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

WILLIAM R. ROSE

Age 67 of San Diego, CA, formerly of Erie and Wilkins Twp., passed away on Tuesday, November 23, 2021. Brother of James A. (Michele), Thomas A. (Linda), Terence L. (Connie), Frederick G., Mark D. (Tina), Mary E. (Robert) Dolak, and the late Ronald F. Rose and Francine (surviving spouse, Roger) Strane; also many nieces and nephews. Preceded in death by parents, James A., Sr. and Evelyn F. (Fierst) Rose. A private interment was held at Mt. Carmel Cemetery. Arrangements by the **JOB FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY, INC.**, Turtle Creek (412-823-1950).

www.jobfuneralhome.com
Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

DOROTHY (CHLODNEY) YOUNG SIROCHMAN



Age 95, of Springdale, passed away on Tuesday, November 23rd, 2021. She was born in Springdale, PA on July 1st, 1926, daughter of the late Andrew and Susanna (Sitek) Chlodney. Dorothy was a very active and fun person. Growing up she was a Girl Scout Leader, member of CDA and Jr. Women's Club. She worked at Scarfin making shells during the war time, A&P in Springdale, Gulf Research in Harmar as well

as a beautician out of her home. She loved playing cards, bowling, knitting, crocheting, crossword puzzles and reading books. She also enjoyed spending her winters after she retired in Fort Myers, Florida. She loved her family and made sure everyone knew it, she was full of endless pride and joy. She is survived by her three children, Robert (Patty) Young, Susan (Joseph) McClure and William (Sharon) Young; 10 grandchildren, Melanie, Bob (Bridget), Meghan, Lindsey (Patrick), Kelsey (Matthew), Henry (Taylor), Billy, Krista, Haley (Tyler) and Jimmy; seven great-grandchildren and brother, Donald (Dorothy) Chlodney. In addition to her parents, Dorothy was preceded in death by her husband, William H Young (m.1946 d.1975), husband, Edward M Sirochman (m.1991 d.2014), brother, Andrew (Rita) Chlodney and daughter-in-law, Christine Young. Friends are invited for visitation on Sunday, November 28, 2021, from 2-4 and 6-8pm in **THE CHARLES B. JARVIE SPRINGDALE FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 801 Pgh. St. Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated on Monday the 29th at 10am in St. Alphonsus Church, Guardian Angels Parish in Springdale. Burial to follow in Our Lady of Hope Cemetery, Tarentum. www.jarviefuneralhome.com

Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

MARK A. SNIEGOCKI "SNOW"



Age 64, passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, November 20, 2021, of Farmington, formerly of Mt. Lebanon. Beloved husband of 21 years to Lauren (Morgan) Sniegocki; proud father of Adam M. (Teri) Demers) Sniegocki of Andover, MA, Emily A. (Ryan) Howell of Highland Park, IL and Molly N. (Emily) Sniegocki of Pittsburgh; grandfather of Aidan Robert Sniegocki; loving son of Ervin and Jean

Sniegocki; cherished brother of Sue A. (Michael) Booth of Chelmsford, MA, Sharon L. (Michael) Koehler of Pittsburgh and Sally A. (George) Matthews of Pittsburgh. Also survived by Ann Sniegocki, mother of Adam, Emily and Molly, and loving in-laws, cousins, nieces, nephews and too many friends to count. Mark was born and raised in Pittsburgh and he was a graduate of Keystone Oaks High School and Bethany College. He was the star kicker for the Bethany College football team, where he still holds the record for field goals made. He spent his career in Managed Healthcare and recently retired in 2019. After he retired, his full time job was to dote on his wife and be the best husband and dog dad he could be. For many years, Mark was an avid skier. He and Lauren, the love of his life, enjoyed traveling and making memories together. Later in life he developed a passion for boating and he and Lauren spent every weekend in the summer on the Youghiogheny River. He enjoyed long walks in Ohio and the occasional stop at the local pubs. The two of them lived a happy and peaceful life in Nemaquin Woodlands enjoying nature. He cherished his 5 mile a day walks with Mona, his best four-legged friend where he made many new friends along the way. The love he and Lauren shared together was a once in a lifetime love story. Anyone that knew Mark knows that he was a loving and caring father who adored his children. It was a blessing for him to see all of his children marry and to recently welcome and meet his first grandson, Aidan. Friends will be received at the **JOHN F. SLATER FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 412-881-4100, 4201 Brownsville Road, Brentwood 15227 on Saturday, November 27, 2021 from noon until the time of his funeral service at 4:00 p.m. Interment will be held privately. In lieu of flowers, family suggests contributions to www.fayettefundersofanimals.net Please send condolences to www.johnslater.com

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RICHARD P. WHALEN



Richard P. Whalen, passed away on Monday, November 22, 2021. The greatest man we have ever known peacefully made his journey to Heaven after a valiant battle with esophageal cancer. A lifelong resident of Scott Township, Rick was born on January 24, 1950, a son of the late Jefferson A. and Norma (Allen) Whalen. He graduated from Chartiers Valley High School in 1967 and joined the Air National

Guard. He was a member of the Operating Engineers Local 95 for 50 years until his retirement in 2015. He and his brothers were co-owners of KJ services for 44 years and served many people throughout the community. On October 18, 1974, he married the love of his life, Kathy. Together they raised their three girls. He was the most devoted father coaching his girls every summer at Scott Township Athletic Association. He was involved in every aspect of their lives (the original "girl dad"). The greatest joys in his life were his eight grandchildren. He and Kathy were part of their grandkids daily lives. He was their biggest cheerleader at all their activities. He made it a point to have a special relationship with each one of them. He enjoyed spending summer vacations with Kathy and their kids at Bethany Beach. After his retirement, Rick and Kathy discovered their love of cruising and enjoyed traveling together. Rick loved his family above all else. His deep faith in God gives his family comfort knowing they will see him again someday. Rick is survived by wife and partner in life for 47 years of Kathy (Bummer) Whalen. Cherished father of Michelle and Michael Opferman, Katie and Ed Wesolowski, and Holly and Shawn Kosanovich. Best friend and devoted grandfather to the lights of his life Jacob Richard, Kailey Elizabeth, and Brian Robert Opferman, Patricia Ann, Edward Richard, and Frances Joan Wesolowski, and Meka Kathleen and Michael Richard Kosanovich; faithful brother of George and Chris Whalen, Denise and Ron Kanai, and the late Jeff and Pam Whalen; devoted son in law of Kathleen (and the late Herb) Bummer; loving brother-in-law of Karen and Dave Benko; favorite uncle of Jeff Whalen, Kellie Laurenzi, Jason Whalen, Nicole Uhrin, Ron Kanai, Stacie Vaughan, Kristyn Siwiec, Justin Huber and their spouses; also survived by many great-nieces and nephews and many friends. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Gallagher Hospice, 1370 Washington Pike, Bridgeville, PA 15017 or St. Jude Children's Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Pl., Memphis, TN 38105. Family and Friends welcome Friday 2-8 pm **WILLIAM SLATER II FUNERAL SERVICE** (412-563-2800) 1650 Greentree Rd., Scott Twp. 15220. Funeral mass in Our Lady of Grace Church, St. Michael the Archangel Parish, Saturday 11:30 am. Burial private to the family.

www.slaterfuneral.com
Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb

Tax preparer, former PPS teacher sentenced to federal prison for fraud

By Torsten Ove
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

A Pittsburgh tax preparer and former Pittsburgh Public Schools math teacher is headed to federal prison for four months for, in the words of a prosecutor, simply making up fake entries on client tax returns.

U.S. District Judge Mark Hornak on Monday sentenced Jamar White, 49, to that term and ordered him to pay \$67,000 in restitution.

White, who ran his own tax preparation business, had been indicted on 31 counts of preparing false tax returns from 2010 through 2014 and pleaded guilty in January 2020.

He aided seven taxpayers in the preparation of 31 various 1040 forms that included bogus Schedule A deductions for medical and dental expenses, charitable contributions, and various business expenses and fees.

"He just plain made 'em up," Assistant U.S. Attorney James Wilson said in sentencing papers.

Mr. Wilson said the investigation by the criminal investigations division of the IRS found "no supporting documentation of any kind" for the entries on client returns — no medical or business records, no receipts, no communications from charities, nothing.

What's more, Mr. Wilson said, White carried out the fraud for five years, so there's no way he can argue it was a momentary lapse of judgment.

"The duration of these offenses demonstrates in yet another way the callous disregard of the defendant for what he knew the law to be," Mr. Wilson said.

He said White "perverted his function" as a preparer solely for his own financial gain and exposed his clients to liability.

White's public defender, Andrew Lipson, argued for leniency, saying White takes care of a daughter who struggles with depression and a son who is battling drug addiction.

And Mr. Lipson said White himself suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder from his time as a 22-year-old in the Air Force, when he had to pick up pieces of bodies from the crash of USAir Flight 427 in 1994 in Beaver County.

Mr. Lipson asked for probation for those reasons, among others.

Mr. Wilson countered that White has failed to show justification for a downward variance and asked for a sentence in the guideline range of a year to 18 months.

The judge settled on four months and ordered White to a year of probation after he gets out of prison.



Darrell Sapp/Post-Gazette

The Invent Penn State program includes numerous LaunchBox locations meant to foster innovations and startups. Here, in 2019, Eric Ewell, left, and Aaron Whigham stand in the computer lab of the Mon Valley Launchbox. Mr. Ewell is director of continuing education of Penn State East Allegheny & McKeesport Community Center and facilitator of the Mon Valley Launchbox, and Mr. Whigham is Penn State Greater Allegheny's co-coordinator for the Mon Valley Launchbox.

How Invent Penn State is helping students, residents alike STARTING UP

By Josh Moyer
Centre Daily Times

Sydney Gibbard, a Penn State sophomore, can still remember the poster that caught her eye and completely changed the trajectory of her "business."

Walking through her dorm lobby last year, an oversized Invent Penn State sign beckoned her with business help and a chance at a \$15,000 grant. Intrigued, Ms. Gibbard decided to look into Invent Penn State — a statewide initiative to spur economic development and job creation — and what followed was the establishment of a nonprofit, a board of directors and unprecedented growth. All in one summer.

As a high school junior, Ms. Gibbard and a friend had started a weeklong summer camp to inspire disadvantaged 8- to 12-year-old girls in STEM, a field traditionally dominated by men. Invent Penn State helped change those humble "Girls Code the World" camps into an actual 501(c)(3) nonprofit and guided Ms. Gibbard from reaching a combined 100 girls her first three

years to as many as 250 next summer alone.

"We didn't even know that we could become a startup," she said, an engineering major at University Park. "And we definitely didn't have the confidence to take that route, either, if it hadn't been for Invent Penn State."

Launched in 2015 as the brainchild of university President Eric Barron, Invent Penn State sought to adopt a similar role to the Penn State Extension, a statewide organization available to answer agricultural questions and provide such education to farmers and the like. Invent Penn State was designed to help the non-farmers — students or not — turn good ideas into good businesses, by providing free business legal advice, free design spaces, free support, and more.

So far, 21 "innovation hubs" have sprung up around the commonwealth to offer help similar to the kind Ms. Gibbard received. And, recently, Invent Penn State's crown jewel — a new \$52-plus million six-story building in downtown State College — held a ribbon-cutting to unveil all the services to be housed inside.

"Innovation is one of my favorite topics, and this building brings innovation to life," Mr. Barron said. "Its design, functionality and organization are truly innovative and will match the ambitions of all those who will work and create here."

How will this help?

Lee Erickson — director of the Happy Valley LaunchBox, a program within Invent Penn State — proudly touted all the services in the new building at 123 S. Burrows St. But, early on, she also wanted to make clear this hub wasn't just for business experts.

"We kind of specialize in the companies that we call 'early stage scalable startups,'" she said. "I call that, 'we're-not-sure-what-the-problem-is; we're-not-exactly-sure-who-has-it-and-we-really-have-no-idea-how-we're-going-to-make-money. And that's what we specialize in.'"

The 85,000-square-foot steel-and-glass structure is now open to all entrepreneurs — students and non-students alike; entrepreneurs on their first-ever idea or fifth — as a work and

SEE **INVENT**, PAGE B-6

Pa. casinos earned record revenue in Oct.

By Neena Hagen
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Revenue generated by casinos and other gaming outlets in Pennsylvania reached an all-time high last month, eclipsing the previous record set in July, according to figures from the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board.

In total, casinos generated about \$425 million in revenue from gaming in October, an increase of 33% compared with October 2020.

Sources of gaming revenue regulated by the state's Gaming Control Board include slot machines, table games, internet gaming, retail and internet sports wagering, fantasy contests and video gaming terminals.

Like the rest of the com-

monwealth, most casinos in the Pittsburgh area have seen an uptick in revenue.

Rivers Casino saw its revenue increase by 27% — from \$25 million in October 2020 to \$32 million last month.

Hollywood Casino at the Meadows also fared well, increasing its revenue by 15% — from \$21 million in October 2020 to \$24 million last month.

Live! Casino Pittsburgh in Westmoreland Mall collected about \$9 million in October. (It didn't open until late last year.)

Lady Luck Casino Nemaquin was the only casino in the Pittsburgh area whose revenue decreased — dropping from \$2 million to \$1.9 million.

Neena Hagen: nhagen@post-gazette.com

Fearing the career hit, dads are doing less at home again

By Olivia Rockeman and Zijia Song
Bloomberg

When the pandemic disrupted everything, it also thrust fathers into the home like never before. It was a moment that looked like it could bring some relief to working moms. Dads had the flexibility — and the desire — to take on more responsibility.

Then, the world got in the way. Back in 2020, while Lindsey Jackson and her husband Clarence were both stuck working from home, they were splitting household chores and child care for their 2-year-old son just about evenly. But now that Clarence, a financial advisor at JPMorgan Chase, is going back to the office and Lindsey isn't, things are shifting to mean Lindsey is taking on more. She's so busy she has to cook and bathe her son at the same time.

"It's just much more responsibility on her for caring for him," Clarence said.

The pandemic, over time, has worsened some gender inequalities in American homes. Both moms and dads spent more time looking after their kids as schools went virtual and day cares shut

down. But mothers bore the brunt of that. In 2020, women devoted 2.9 hours more per day than men to child care, compared with 2.55 in 2019, Bureau of Labor Statistics data compiled by Bloomberg News show. The disproportionate burden on mothers ends up eating into their earnings.

"We're reverting back into our traditional gender norms," said Misty Heggenes, principal economist at the U.S. Census Bureau. "It's women, particularly mothers, who are still bearing the heavy lift disproportionately."

A child-care crisis has driven a workforce gender gap for decades, but the pandemic took things to another level, costing women globally at least \$800 billion in lost income in 2020, according to Oxfam. In the U.S., roughly 20% of the 7.1 million women aged 25 to 54 that left the labor force during the onset of COVID recession haven't returned to work as moms struggle to find affordable care. Meanwhile, industries that employ a large number of women — education, health care and food — are seeing some of the worst impacts of the current labor shortages.

The twist here is that being thrust into the home made many



Dreamstime/TNS

The pandemic, over time, has worsened some gender inequalities in American homes.

dads more willing to take on added responsibilities, which could go a long way in helping to close the gender pay gap.

For the Jackson family, when Clarence started working remotely, it made "home-making chores more obvious," pushing the

couple closer to a 50-50 split, Lindsey said.

"It makes the work you're doing more visible — both in works you're getting paid for, and the work you're doing outside of that," Lindsey said. "It makes it harder to justify not being equal."

As the world opened back up, dads ran into bigger problems than their own willingness to pitch in.

Researchers who've been studying parental roles during the pandemic say men were much more likely than women to worry their careers would be hard hit by devoting more time to home duties. They felt more pressure to get away with what they could, rather than be upfront about their needs with employers.

Many workplaces are reinforcing those ideas by doing things like offering more parental leave to new moms or giving them an easier time negotiating flexible schedules. Women, because they often work in lower paying roles, are also more likely to leave their jobs to take on child care when there's no other affordable option.

Congressional Democrats have tussled over including paid family leave in their economic agenda, whittling down the Biden administration's original proposal of 12 weeks down to four. The U.S. is one of only seven nations that doesn't provide paid maternity leave.

There are also cultural norms that come into play, including

SEE **CHILDCARE**, PAGE B-6

Financial markets were closed Thursday for the Thanksgiving Day holiday.

Invent Penn State helps students start up their small businesses

INVENT, FROM B-5

collaborative space between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. on weekdays. (The building is open 24/7 to others enrolled in specific hub-based programs.)

The different floors have makerspaces, with equipment to build prototypes; microelectronics, including 3D printers; services like law clinics that will create a terms of service or employee agreement, establish an LLC or help with trademarks, patents and copyrights; and an open-air meeting space.

Royce D'Souza, a Penn State grad, was handling business calls on the second floor on a recent morning. He started his business Lessly, a program that consolidates all takeout orders in one place for restaurants, when he was a student but continues to use LaunchBox resources.

"It can be hard to find your footing, but the LaunchBox and resources locally really help make sure that you're not building on sand, that you're building on a strong cement foundation," said Mr. D'Souza, who said his company is now looking to expand into Boston and Washington D.C.

Ms. Gibbard acknowledged she and co-founder Mina Shokoufandeh likely couldn't have taken "Girls Code the World" this far without Invent Penn State. Or, at least, certainly not this quickly.

In about a year, the non-profit transformed from summer camps hosted by her and her friend into a curriculum-based program that currently allows high school girls in New Jersey, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania to host their own camps.

"We had a vision; we just didn't really know how to channel that," said Ms. Gibbard, who went through a specialized 13-week program

"We didn't even know that we could become a startup. And we definitely didn't have the confidence to take that route, either, if it hadn't been for Invent Penn State."

— **Sydney Gibbard**, Penn State sophomore, co-creator of Girls Code the World

offered by Invent Penn State.

\$27 million in venture capital

According to data provided by the university, Invent Penn State has helped start 218 new Pennsylvania companies, which have raised more than \$27 million in total venture capital. A total of 302 jobs and 486 internships have also been created as a result of Invent Penn State's work.

Kenneth Keitt, a 2019 Penn State grad, sees the potential. A former Marine who became paralyzed in a car accident, Mr. Keitt found personal trainers at his local gyms didn't know — or didn't feel comfortable — offering fitness tips or advice to work around his physical limitations. Over social media, he discovered he wasn't alone in his frustration.

So, drawing from his own military experience, he shared his own workout routines, designed specifically for those with similar limitations. Thanks to both a dedicated Lehigh Valley professor and Invent Penn State, he developed a free mobile app — ParaPer4mance — that is now focused on growth before shifting to monetization.

"I had it inside of me. It's just that I didn't really understand how to get it fully developed," Keitt said about his business idea.

He won a college pitch competition, then turned to Invent Penn State for guidance. Invent Penn State

helped him turn his pitch into an actual LLC, devise a 40-page list of terms and conditions and then create a mobile app. (He only had to pay for the app, but he received several grants that covered the cost.)

So far, he has partnered with both hospitals and the Florida State Corrections Department to educate wheelchair users. He is looking to grow his subscriber base, which now numbers about 300, before offering premium services and further monetizing it.

A statewide effort

According to the university, a LaunchBox is located within 30 miles of 96% of the commonwealth's population. There are sites in places like Monaca, New Kensington and McKeesport, among others.

As a result, Penn State is requesting \$2.35 million from the state to further help fund Invent Penn State, and Mr. Barron appeared in front of a state senate committee earlier this month to meet with legislators.

In at least one case, he didn't have to do much convincing. State Sen. John Yudichak — chair of the Community, Economic and Recreational Development Committee — called it an "exciting, new concept."

"The biggest thing," said Ms. Gibbard, who still hears from her summer camp girls years later, "was that this gave us the time and the confidence to pursue things that would have been too daunt-

Dads doing less at home again

CHILDCARE, FROM B-5

traditional notions of men being the "breadwinners" of the family, said Jamie Ladge, an associate professor of management and organizational development at Northeastern University who studies work-life integration. Unspoken workplace rules discourage fathers from taking full advantage of paternity leave when it's offered, with more than two-thirds of dads saying they've felt the pressure to return from leave as soon as possible, according to a survey from Volvo Car USA and The Harris Poll.

In the early days of the pandemic, fathers and mothers were equally likely to be unemployed or on leave. But since March of this year, moms have disproportionately stayed out of the labor force, according to research published by the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis. And for the moms who've managed to stay employed, they don't feel as ready to go back to offices. Almost 40% of working fathers are back in the workplace after being re-

mote, compared with 30% of mothers, according to a survey conducted by CensusWide on behalf of LinkedIn.

Some dads, though, are fighting back.

Nineteen percent of working fathers have looked for a new job where they can be remote, and 10% have quit or considered quitting, according to the CensusWide survey.

With U.S. employers struggling to hire in recent months, and as job openings remain near a record high of 11 million, it may increase employee's negotiating power.

Plus, flexible and remote work have become much less stigmatized in a number of industries, which could make asking for those arrangements easier.

"The mindset used to be: It's okay for dads to take advantage of some of these supports — but don't take it too far," Ms. Ladge said. "But now I think it wouldn't look weird if a dad requested some flexible work arrangement or was working from home one or two days a week. It would be normal."

Mark Eggleston lives in

Wilmington, Delaware, and spent 17 years at a job in Philadelphia that involved an hour commute in each direction. When he started working from home in 2020, he was for the first time able to do more things like go to sporting events and appointments with his three kids, who are 20, 16 and 14 years old.

"Suddenly, a lunch break could become a time to sit down with my daughter and have a good conversation," Mr. Eggleston said.

So rather than go back to long-haul commuting, he quit his job in June and took a new one that's closer to home and which also gives him a more flexible work arrangement.

"Having a 15-minute commute versus an hour — I was scheduled to go to my daughter's field hockey game Monday at 4, I couldn't have done that a few years ago working in Philadelphia," Mr. Eggleston said.

"The norms here are the biggest thing. Giving yourself the freedom that, hey, this is something normal to do — that helps other people do it."

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 <p>Westmoreland Federal Savings & Loan</p>	<p>3.134%</p> <p>30yr Fixed APR</p>	Rate: 3.125	15 yr fixed	2.375	0.000	\$191	20%	2.391	<p>724-539-9755</p> <p>www.wfsavings.com</p>	NMLS# 518302
		Points: 0.000	10 yr fixed	2.250	0.000	\$191	20%	2.274		
		Fees: \$191	15 yr jumbo	2.375	0.000	\$191	25%	2.380		
		% Down: 20%	3% DOWN WITH PMI. WE DO NOT SELL OUR LOANS! 10YR JUMBO 2.257% APR							
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		Points: 0.000	10 yr fixed	2.000	0.000	\$25	20%	2.001		
		Fees: \$850	20 yr fixed	2.625	0.000	\$850	20%	2.681		
		% Down: 20%	Consistent Rate Leader. Great Rates. Quality Service.							
 <p>West View Savings Bank</p>	<p>3.006%</p> <p>30yr Fixed APR</p>	Rate: 2.890	15 yr fixed	2.190	0.000	\$495	20%	2.392	<p>724-935-7400</p> <p>www.wvsbank.com</p>	NMLS# 662375
		Points: 0.000	20 yr fixed	2.590	0.000	\$495	20%	2.751		
		Fees: \$495	15 yr jumbo	2.190	0.000	\$495	20%	2.268		
		% Down: 20%	30 yr jumbo	2.890	0.000	\$495	20%	2.938		

Rate Criteria: The rates and annual percentage rate (APR) are effective as of 11/22/21. All rates, fees and other information are subject to change without notice. RateSeeker, LLC. does not guarantee the accuracy of the information appearing above or the availability of rates and fees in this table. The institutions appearing in this table pay a fee to appear in this table. Annual percentage rates (APRs) are based on fully indexed rates for adjustable rate mortgages (ARMs). The APR on your specific loan may differ from the sample used. All rates are quoted on a minimum FICO score of 740. Conventional loans are based on loan amounts of \$165,000. Jumbo loans are based on loan amounts of \$510,401. Lock Days: 30-60. Points quoted include discount and/or origination. Payments do not include amounts for taxes and insurance. The APR may increase after consummation and may vary. FHA Mortgages include both UFMIP and MIP fees based on a loan amount of \$165,000 with 5% down payment. Points quoted include discount and/or origination. Fees reflect charges relative to the APR. If your down payment is less than 20% of the home's value, you will be subject to private mortgage insurance, or PMI. VA Mortgages include funding fees based on a loan amount of \$165,000 with 5% down payment. If your down payment is less than 20% of the home's value, you will be subject to private mortgage insurance, or PMI. "Call for Rates" means actual rates were not available at press time. To access the NMLS Consumer Access website, please visit www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org. To appear in this table, call 773-320-8492.



Mirabel, center, is voiced by Stephanie Beatriz in the new Disney movie "Encanto."

Disney

‘ENCANTO’

Movie’s message: It’s who you are, not what you do

By Kristen Page-Kirby
The Washington Post

MOVIE REVIEW

‘Encanto’ ★★★

Starring: Voiced by Stephanie Beatriz, María Cecilia Botero, Angie Cepeda, Carolina Gaitan, Jessica Darrow, Wilmer Valderrama, Diane Guerrero, Ravi Cabot-Conyers, Rhenzy Feliz, Adassa, Mauro Castillo.

Rating: PG for mature thematic elements and mild peril.

Streaming: Dec. 24 on Disney+

Mirabel Madrigal has a problem — or maybe she is the problem.

The 15-year-old heroine of “Encanto,” Disney’s latest shoo-in for an animated-feature Oscar nomination, belongs to a very special family. Years ago, when her grandmother (voice of María Cecilia Botero) was forced to flee her home with infant triplets, she was “granted a miracle,” though by whom and why is never explained.

First part of that miracle? A magical house, high in the mountains of Colombia, that is almost a living organism. Second: Every member of the Madrigal family is given a special ability as a child. Mirabel’s mother (Angie Cepeda) can heal injury and sickness with her cooking. Aunt Pepa (Carolina Gaitan) controls the weather via her emotions. One sister has super-strength, while another is effortlessly graceful, gorgeous and can summon flowers from thin air. But Mirabel (Stephanie Beatriz) has no gift.

Her grandmother reminds her of this often.

When the house’s foundations start to crack, and her relatives’ gifts begin dimming and disappearing, Mirabel decides to track down the problem. What follows is delightfully complicated. It’s a quest in which our heroine never leaves home, and the enemy — if there is one — isn’t who you’d expect.

Even if the story lacks logic at some

points, it’s easy to forgive the lack of cohesion if you keep in mind that the whole saga started with an unexplained miracle. The characters deepen marvelously as the story goes on, and it becomes clearer that the blessings received as children have now become burdens. If you can manipulate the weather, for example, there’s a lot of pressure to keep things sunny. And the film’s overarching message, while one we’ve heard before, is simple yet powerful: People are worthy of love because of who they are, not what they do.

The visuals are lush and lovely, down to such tiny details as the reflections in Mirabel’s glasses. (In an important step for representation, she’s the first bespectacled Disney “princess.”) Her adorably ruffled curls beg the question: What product does she use to keep them from going frizzy in the Colombian humidity?

Directors Jared Bush, Byron Howard

and Charise Castro Smith rely heavily on close-ups. Watching Mirabel’s “performance” is a joy on par with watching a master actor at work. The slightest movement of an eyebrow or the twitch of her mouth conveys so much meaning that it’s easy to forget you’re watching someone who doesn’t actually exist. Combined with Beatriz’s excellent voice work, the character animation makes Mirabel a welcome addition to the pantheon of Disney heroines.

While Germaine Franco’s score is outstanding, the original songs by Lin-Manuel Miranda don’t have the catchiness or the power we’ve come to expect from other Disney films. They’re also incredibly similar, although inarguably weaker, than Miranda’s earlier work. The big number “Waiting on a Miracle” sounds so much like “Burn” from “Hamilton” that it feels plagiarized. Some of the songs also feel unnecessary; they don’t move the story along or deepen our understanding of the characters. It’s like Miranda was trying to make a quota.

Anyone who has ever felt left out by their family will see themselves in Mirabel. (Frankly, anyone who has a family will recognize or identify with someone in this movie.) While she is at the center of “Encanto,” the story is really about the Madrigals as a whole. What makes a family? Who belongs in what role? How can familial approval be something that both heals and hurts? It’s a creative, fresh take on a story that is much more complex than your standard fairy tale.

Review

Will Ferrell, Paul Rudd can’t save ‘The Shrink Next Door’

By Robert Lloyd
Los Angeles Times

“Based on a podcast” is just a thing now, and it does make sense. They come almost prepackaged as miniseries, with cliffhangers and late-arc reveals and often the unaccountable mojo of “based on a true story.” Seemingly everyone listens to them, and every celebrity wants one.

“The Shrink Next Door” is Apple TV+’s adaptation of the 2019 Wondery podcast of the same name. It tells the (true) story of Marty Markowitz (Will Ferrell), the wealthy owner of a New York theatrical fabrics business, and his manipulative psychiatrist, Isaac “Ike” Herschkopf (Paul Rudd, People’s new Sexiest Man Alive).

In the podcast — which is to say, the version that more closely resembles what happened — the person to whom the shrink is next door, in a Hamptons summer house, is reporter and narrator Joe Nocera. In 2010, Nocera, then a New York Times columnist, sniffed a story when he learned that the house belonged not to Herschkopf — who had filled it with photographs of himself with random celebrities, and threw lavish summer parties to which guests arrived by chartered bus — but to Markowitz, who lived in the guest house and appeared to all intents and purposes to be the handyman. It’s a Cinderella story, minus everything but the drudge and the stepmother. Or a sort of buddy film in which the buddies turn out not to be buddies at all, though each in his way might at times believe it so.

As is the case with many podcasts, “Shrink” presents itself at once as a work of research and testimony, an unfolding mystery and a journey of discovery for the participant-narrator. But Nocera is absent here as a character or voice, which puts a different spin on the narrative. Inevitably, the miniseries embellishes, invents and rearranges events for maximum dramatic effect, even as the show depends to a large degree on our knowing that this crazy thing really did happen, kinda sorta in this way. At the same time, with all such adaptations, it is cramped by

SEE **SHRINK**, PAGE C-2

‘House of Gucci’ has high fashion, low cunning, medium-stakes drama

By Michael Phillips
Chicago Tribune

Director Ridley Scott loves pretty things.

He loves the way a fastidiously composed shot catches the light off the gleaming surface of something hideously expensive. (He’s made a few commercials in his career.) He loves the way an actor’s face cuts through a gorgeous shadow. And he loves the extremes to which humans, both real and imagined or docudramatically somewhere in between, will go to make those pretty things their own.

For Scott, “House of Gucci” is an entertaining if dramatically thin return to the fact-based machinations of the rich, famous and wealthy. Sometimes they’re criminal underworld tales, such as “American Gangster” (2007); other times, as with the 2017 Getty kidnapping account “All the Money in the World,” they’re criminality-adjacent, more about the ruthlessness of the crazy-rich.

This movie’s a bit of both in many ways, swinging from straight-faced drama to opera buffa extravagance. Lady Gaga, representing the former, co-stars with, among others, Jared Leto. Buried underneath prosthetics, a bald pate and a ton of USDA-unapproved hamming, Leto gorges himself on



Metro Goldwyn Mayer Pictures

Jared Leto, left, Florence Andrews, Adam Driver, Lady Gaga and Al Pacino in “House of Gucci.”

the role of Paolo Gucci, the most hapless of all the Guccis. He’s likely to get an Academy Award nomination for his performance because it’s such conspicuous mediocre work.

I wouldn’t mind it so much if it wasn’t so easy to name a dozen American actors (let alone Brits or Italians) who’d do better, and without the aura of stunt-casting. The real problem lies with Leto’s unwillingness or lack of skill when it comes to simply moving a scene forward, with other actors, paying attention to the tempo required. He

treats every second on screen as if he has all the time in the world. He gets some laughs; there’s a bit where he dances with Lady Gaga that is genuinely pleasurable and spontaneous. Elsewhere, you may find yourself thinking back to what the late John Cazale (a likely inspiration) accomplished in his tragically short career, playing variations on the related theme of comic, profoundly human failing.

Gaga’s the star and driver in “House of Gucci.” As scripted by Becky Johnston and Roberto Ben- tivena, the high-gloss and even

higher-fashion festival of backstabbing stars Gaga as the woman whose controversial business practices after marrying into the Gucci fashion dynasty included hiring a hit man to deal with her pesky, cheating husband. Adam Driver plays mild-mannered Maurizio Gucci, opposite Gaga’s Patrizia Reggiani, who comes from a family trucking business. Her wide eyes like what they see in Maurizio and his legendary name. Soon enough Maurizio is horrifying his father (Jeremy Irons) with news of their love.

MOVIE REVIEW

‘House of Gucci’ ★★½

Starring: Lady Gaga, Jared Leto, Adam Driver, Al Pacino, Jeremy Irons, Florence Andrews.

Rating: R for language, some sexual content and brief nudity and violence.

Let’s keep the narrative details regarding the war for control of the Gucci fashion empire out of this review, since a little surprise will help. As Aldo Gucci, Al Pacino enters that narrative as the New York-based patriarch of the dynasty, and exasperated father of Leto’s pigeon-loving Paolo. There’s a lot in “House of Gucci” about undeclared income, unpaid taxes and buyout offers, all well before the moment (in the trailer) when Gaga tells her husband: “It’s time to take out the trash.” Maurizio, at least in this version of events, doesn’t go in for overt conflict. (Typical exit line: “I need an espresso.”)

Ridley has never made a slovenly or unappealing movie in his life, and “House of Gucci” certainly is neither. It covers the late 1970s through the ‘90s, which means the eyewear is enough to stop traffic

SEE **GUCCI**, PAGE C-2

'House of Gucci' a so-so drama

GUCCI, FROM C-1

and, indeed, in the case of Gaga's sunglasses, enough to be mistaken for a six-sided variation on an American stop sign. Mostly we're following these folks in Italy and Switzerland, plus New York. It's nice scenery, whether we're looking at the scenery or the performers.



Fabio Lovino/Metro Goldwyn Mayer Pictures
Adam Driver, left, Jared Leto and Lady Gaga in "House of Gucci."

The script does its job, dutifully, adapting Sara Gay Forden's 2001 book "The House of Gucci." It's tonally unsure, and the same, I think, can be said in this instance of Scott's direction. He's not especially deft with comedy, or a light touch; his romantic comedy "A Good Year" (2006), for example, came off as merely nervous lightheartedness. ("The Martian," one of his best recent movies, was an exception in that regard — funny and dramatic and pretty gripping.)

In the "House of Gucci" trailers, Gaga looks like she's coming at the material

like that 4,000-foot wave in "Interstellar," but the performance is better and more interesting than that. Unfortunately the material turns her into a Gorgon once it's payback time. Pacino and Irons add their own contrasting brands of serene scenery-nibbling. Driver works thoughtfully within the confines of a very tight-fitting role.

We often take a talent like Scott's for granted. He's truly gifted in the realm of period pictures, all kinds. Next up is a Napoleon epic starring Joaquin Phoenix. In "House of Gucci," he sees the material as a cautionary, globe-trotting tale of greed, no less, no more. The movie does the job without diving too far beneath any of its lovely surfaces.

Ferrell, Rudd can't save 'The Shrink'

SHRINK, FROM C-1

that dependency and the need to color more or less within the lines of what did occur.



Beth Dubber/Apple TV+
Paul Rudd, left, and Will Ferrell in "The Shrink Next Door."

We meet Marty in the 1980s, in his late 30s, oppressed by responsibility and pathologically afraid of confrontation. (Ferrell hides, sweats and shakes in the scene meant to establish this.) A customer won't pay for work, an ex-girlfriend is demanding he pay for a trip to Mexico he promised her, and he's afraid to say no. His contrastingly brash sister, Phyllis (Kathryn Hahn), who works alongside him, makes an appointment with a psychiatrist — Ike — recommended by their rabbi. Though Ike seems a little unconventional, he does seem to help Marty toward independence from others, but increasingly makes Marty dependent on him, as good as directing him to cut ties with his family, as well as insinuating himself into Marty's business and financial affairs. Classic cult stuff.

"I don't want to take advantage," Ike will say, as a way of excusing himself (to himself) from his taking advantage. While there is the authority of the podcast and Markowitz's memories on which to base Ferrell's character — although liberties are taken — Ike is a more hypothetical creation. (Herschkopf is not on the record, but Markowitz preserved correspondence and some unpublished manuscripts, including a dozen mystery novels with a psychiatrist hero, left at the summer house.) There is some attempt to give him depth: that he's sad at his core, was formed by forces beyond his control and his celebrity name-dropping and schmoozing are an expression of neediness. In one scene, getting Marty to chant "I deserve this" with him, we are clearly directed to see he's talking about himself. We get some glimpses of his domestic life,

in which he is also controlling — as his wife, Casey Wilson is allowed flickers of conscience and caring — but beneath his self-deluding bonhomie, Ike is a narcissist, a sociopath and a liar.

The show is set among prosperous Manhattan Jews, and at first the accents come at you like the Third Avenue EL, smothered in lox and cream cheese. (Of the four principals, only Rudd is actually Jewish, but on the authority of my own Jewishness, I declare they all can pass.) A little basic Yiddish and easy-to-read references to Katz's pastrami, whitefish and sitting shiva salt the dialogue; Eastern European modes color the score. The Lincoln Square Synagogue and the Ramaz School, real-world institutions mentioned here, belong to the Modern Orthodox movement, which carves a middle path between ritual and secularism, and the set design and costuming reflects this in nicely subtle ways.

It's always pleasant to spend time with Rudd and Ferrell, two masters of 21st century comedy, each with a minor in drama, and Hahn and Wilson are equally good. (Ferrell and Hahn are especially fine together, but as their characters are estranged for 27 years, there's a bit of a hole in the middle of the series.) Nevertheless, they are stuck in the same alternating attitudes in a story that lasts nearly three de-

cadecades. And while that can work well enough in the discursive anecdotal format of an audio podcast, it's wearing over eight hours of television. Scenes and storylines tend to be predictable; if you cannot guess the fate and import of this cherry tree or that koi pond you need to be watching more television. (Though you don't need to be watching more television.)

For much of the time you are simply waiting for the moment that made "The Shrink Next Door" possible, when Marty comes to his senses, and an endgame that has been crafted to maximize face-to-face confrontations that never actually took place.

Notwithstanding that the actors and filmmakers (Georgia Pritchett, who developed the series, directors Michael Showalter and Jesse Peretz) are known for comedy, "Shrink" is not really funny, or apparently trying to be, apart from in the sense of "something's not right." It's a comedy in that it's not a tragedy, and that, in spite of the dark themes, it has been mounted with some buoyancy. There are, of course, odd moments when Ferrell gets to clown. But again the series is restricted by the facts of the case. A good comedy could be built on the foundation, but it would need to be rebuilt from the ground up and probably be over in a couple of hours.

FRIDAY	MOVIES		SPORTS		KIDS		NEWS		TALK	
	8	8:30	9	9:30	10	10:30	11	11:30		
2 KDKA	Frosty the Snowman	Frosty Returns (8:32)	Magnum P.I. (9:01) The Long Way Home. (CC)	Blue Bloods A police captain is losing his grip.	News at Eleven (N)	Late Show-Colbert				
4 WTAE	Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town	20/20 (9:01) (N) (CC)			Action News 4 (N)	Jimmy Kimmel Live!				
6 WJAC	Grinch Stole Christmas	5 More	Trolls	Saturday Night Live (CC)	News (N)	J. Fallon				
7 WTRF	Frosty	Frosty	Magnum P.I. (9:01) (CC)	Blue Bloods (CC)	7News at (N)	Late-Colbert				
8 WWCP	WWE Friday Night SmackDown (N) (L)			FOX 8 (N)	Nittany	Alleghenies	Sheldon			
9 WTOV	Grinch Stole Christmas	5 More	Trolls	Saturday Night Live (CC)	Sprts Friday	J. Fallon				
10 WTAJ	Frosty	Frosty	Magnum P.I. (9:01) (CC)	Blue Bloods (CC)	News (N)	Late-Colbert				
11 WPXI	Grinch Stole Christmas!	5 More Sleeps	Trolls Holiday	Saturday Night Live Popular Christmas-themed sketches. (CC)	WPXI Tonight (N)	Tonight Show (N)				
13 WQED	Washington Week (N)	Firing-Hoover (N)	Great Performances Coppelia. (Left in Progress) (N) (CC)	One Voice: The Songs	Amanpour and Company (N) (CC)					
16 WINP	Hawaii Five-0 Kahu. (CC)	Hawaii Five-0 Kapu. (CC)	Hawaii Five-0	Hawaii Five-0 (CC)	Hawaii Five-0	Hana I Wa'la.				
19 WPCW	Masters of Illusion: Christmas Magic 2021 (N) (CC)	Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer (CC)		10 O'Clock News (N)	The Nightly Sports Call	2 Broke Girls (CC)	2 Broke Girls (CC)			
21 WFMY	Grinch Stole Christmas	5 More	Trolls	Saturday Night Live (CC)	News (N)	J. Fallon				
22 WPNT	Chicago P.D. A sex offender is found mutilated.		Chicago P.D. Two murder suspects hide in a church.	Schitt's Creek	Schitt's Creek	The National Desk (N) (L)				
27 WKBN	Frosty	Frosty	Magnum P.I. (9:01) (CC)	Blue Bloods (CC)	First News	Late-Colbert				
33 WYTV	Santa Is Comin' to Town	20/20 (9:01) (N) (CC)			News (N)	J. Kimmel				
40 WPCB	Hope Today (CC)	RadiantTV (CC)	Move Your Mountain (CC)	Arlene Williams	Graham Classic	Bible Discovery (CC)	The Place for Miracles			
43 WJAB	Masters of Illusion	Grandma Got Run Over		News (N)	Sports Extra	Mod Fam	Mod Fam			
53 WPGH	WWE Friday Night SmackDown (N) (L)			Channel 11 News on FOX 53 at 10 (N) (CC)	Seinfeld The Fire. (CC)	Seinfeld (CC)				
59 WEPA	"Miracle on Christmas" (2020) Erin Bethea. (CC)			"The Real St. Nick" (2012) Torrey DeVitto. (CC)						
PREMIUM CABLE										
HBO	"A Good Day to Die Hard" (8:15) (2013) ★★ Bruce Willis, Jai Courtney, Sebastian Koch. (CC)			John Wilson (N)	Music Box DMX: Don't Try to Understand. (CC)					
HBO/2	Axios (CC)	"The Internship" (2013) ★★ Vince Vaughn. Old-school salesmen finagle internships at Google. (CC)			"The Little Things" (10:35) (2021) ★★ Denzel Washington. (CC)					
HBO/FAM	"Robots" (7) (2005) (CC)	"The Benchwarmers" (2006) ★ David Spade, Rob Schneider. (CC)		"Best Man Down" (9:56) (2012) ★★ Justin Long. (CC)		"Dante's Peak" (1997)				
HBO/SIG.	"Vanilla Sky" (6:05)	Insecure (8:25) (CC)	Insecure (8:54) (CC)	"Identity Thief" (9:20) (2013) ★ Jason Bateman, Melissa McCarthy. (CC)	"Kajillionaire" (11:15) (2020) ★★★ (CC)					
MAX	"Varsity Blues" (1999) ★★ James Van Der Beek, Jon Voight. (CC)		"High Fidelity" (9:45) (2000) ★★★ Todd Louiso. (CC)		John Cusack, Iben Hjejle, "Lars and Girl"					
SHO	"The Humans" (7) (2021) Richard Jenkins. (CC)	"Cusp" (2021) Premiere. The lives of three spirited teenage girls in Texas. (CC)		"Queenpins" (2021) ★★ Kristen Bell, Kirby Howell-Baptiste. (CC)						
STARZ	BMF (8:03) Meech discovers a disturbing alliance.	"Saw" (2004) ★★ Cary Elwes, Danny Glover. A doctor must kill his cellmate or his family will die. (CC)		"Spiral: From the Book of Saw" (10:47) ★						
STARZ-E	Outlander (8:15) Brianna's life-changing revelations.	Outlander (9:12) A. Malcolm. Jamie and Claire finally reunite. (CC)		Outlander (10:28) Claire follows her conscience. (CC)	Outlander (11:20) (CC)					
STZENC	Hatfields & McCoy's A Hatfield murders a McCoy. (Part 1 of 3) (CC)		Hatfields & McCoy's murder Anse's brother. (Part 2 of 3) (CC)		Hatfields & McCoy's					
STZ/ENCL	"Trading Places" (8:01) (1983) ★★★ Dan Aykroyd, Eddie Murphy, Ralph Bellamy. (CC)		Rescue Me Initiation.	Rules of Engagement	Damages (11:09) Patty tries to clear Daniel. (CC)					
STZ/ENCW	"Shootout" (7:18) (1971) ★★ Gregory Peck.	"The Gunfighter" (8:54) (1950) ★★ Gregory Peck. (CC)		"The Bravados" (10:20) (1958) ★★ Gregory Peck. (CC)						
STZ/ENSU	"Death Race" (7) (2008) ★★ Jason Statham.	"Death Race 2" (8:47) (2010) Luke Goss, Ving Rhames, Sean Bean. (CC)		"Death Race 3" (2012) Luke Goss, Ving Rhames, Danny Trejo. (CC)						
TMC	"Under the Tuscan Sun" (2003) ★★★ Diane Lane, Sandra Oh, Lindsay Duncan. (CC)		"Made in Italy" (2020) Liam Neeson, Yolanda Kettle, Lindsay Duncan. (CC)		"When Harry Met Sally..."					
BASIC, EXPANDED AND DIGITAL CABLE										
A&E	The First 48 Murder in a motel parking lot. (CC)	The First 48 A murder victim's friends hide a secret. (CC)	The First 48 (10:01) Blood Lust. (CC)	The First 48 (11:04) Dark Waters. (CC)						
AMC	"Apollo 13" (1995) ★★★ Tom Hanks, Bill Paxton, Kevin Bacon. Based on the true story of the ill-fated 1970 moon mission. (CC)			"A League of Their Own" (1992) ★★★ (CC)						
ANIM	Treehouse Masters: Ultimate Builds Three holiday-inspired builds. (N)			Treehouse Masters (CC)						
ATSP	NHL Hockey: Penguins at Islanders		Penguins	NHL Hockey						
BBC	"Jaws" (1975) ★★★ Roy Scheider, Robert Shaw, Richard Dreyfuss. (CC)			Graham Norton Show (N)						
BET	2020 Soul Train Awards (7)	Tyler Perry's The Oval	Games People Play (CC)	Tyler Perry's Sistat (CC)						
BRAVO	"A Bad Moms Christmas" (7:30) (2017) ★★ Mila Kunis, Kristen Bell, Kathryn Hahn. (CC)		"A Bad Moms Christmas" (2017) ★★ Mila Kunis, Kristen Bell, Kathryn Hahn. (CC)							
CMT	The Last Cowboy (N)	Jeff Dunham Christmas	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls				
CNBC	Undercover Boss (CC)	Undercover Boss (CC)	Undercover Boss (CC)	Undercover Boss (CC)						
CNN	Diana (CC)	Diana Di Mania. (CC)	Diana A Royal Rogue.	Diana Royal Rivalries.						
COM	"Dumb & Dumber" (1994) ★★★ Jim Carrey, Jeff Daniels. (CC)		"Bad Santa 2" (2016) ★★ (CC)							
C-SPAN	Public Affairs Events (4:08)	Politics and Public Policy Today (CC)								
DEST	BBQ Pitmasters Pork belly and beef ribs. (CC)	BBQ Pitmasters The last spot is up for grabs. (CC)	BBQ Pitmasters Fowl Play. Six pitmasters compete.	BBQ Pitmasters The judges test the two finalists. (CC)						
DFC	Cake Wars Bakers pay tribute to Jelly Bellies. (CC)	Cake Wars Cakes commemorate Paddington Bear.	Cake Wars Bakers celebrate the character Waldo.	Cake Wars Bakers pay tribute to Jelly Bellies. (CC)						
DIS	Sydney to the Max (N)	Gabby Duran & the Unsittables (N) (CC)	Molly McGee	Molly McGee	Sydney to the Max	Gabby Duran				
DSC	Gold Rush The Vindication. Fred kicks off his week of slucing. (N) (CC)				Gold Rush: F. Dodge (N)					
DSC/INV	48 Hours on ID Fighting for Aniah. (N) (CC)	Queen of Meth (Series Premiere) (N) (CC)	Queen of Meth Lori Arnold recalls the past. (N) (CC)	Queen of Meth Lori recalls the fall of her empire. (N) (CC)						
EI	Sex-City	Sex-City	Sex-City	Sex-City	Sex-City	Sex-City	Sex-City	Sex-City	Sex-City	Sex-City
ESPN	College Football (7) North Carolina at NC State. (N)		Basketball	College Basketball Duke at Gonzaga. (N)						
ESPN2	College Basketball (7)	Basketball	College Basketball	Basketball						
ESPN-C	College Football From Nov. 18, 1995.		College Football Michigan beats Ohio State and snaps a school-record, seven-game losing streak in the rivalry.	College Football Women of Grace						
EWTN	EWTN News In-Depth (N)	Deo Gratias	Holy Rosary	Life on Rock	Icons (N)	Streak in Grace				
FNC	Tucker Carlson Tonight (N)	Hannity (N) (L) (CC)		The Ingraham Angle (N)	Gutfeld! (N) (CC)					
FOOD	Diners, Drive In, Drive In	Diners (N)	Diners, Drive In	Diners, Drive In	Diners, Drive In	Diners, Drive In	Diners, Drive In	Diners, Drive In	Diners, Drive In	Diners, Drive In
FREE FRM	"Mulan" (7) (1998) ★★★ (CC)	"The Little Mermaid" (1989) ★★★ Pat Carroll. (CC)		Voices of Jodi Benson, (CC)	The 700 Club (CC)					
FS1	College Football Washington State at Washington. (N) (L) (CC)				Basketball					
FX	"Transformers: Age of Extinction" (2014) ★★ Mark Wahlberg, Stanley Tucci, Li Bingbing. Optimus Prime and the Autobots face fearsome challengers. (CC)			"Transformers" (N)						
FX	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers
GOLF	DP World Tour Golf (5:30) Joburg Open, Second Round. (CC)			Ladies Golf						
GSN	America	America	America	Family Feud	Family Feud	Family Feud	Family Feud	Family Feud	Family Feud	Family Feud
HALL	"An Unexpected Christmas" (2021) Premiere. (CC)			"The Nine Kittens of Christmas" (10:01) (2021) (CC)						
HGTV	Dream Home	Dream Home	Dream (N)	Dream Home	Dream Home	Dream Home	Dream Home	Dream Home	Dream Home	Dream Home
HIST	The Unexplained (CC)	The Unexplained Predicting our own demise. (N)		The Unexplained (10:03) Vampires and Werewolves.		The Unexplained (11:05) (CC)				
IFC	Three's Company	Three's Company	Three's Company	Three's Company	Three's Company	Three's Company	Three's Company	Three's Company	Three's Company	Three's Company
LIFE	"Reba McEntire's Christmas in Tune" (2021) Reba McEntire, John Schneider, Candice King. Premiere. (CC)			"Dear Christmas" (10:03) (2020) Melissa Joan Hart. A podcast host develops a romance with a firefighter. (CC)						
MSNBC	Deadline: White House (CC)			"In the Dark of the Valley" (2021) (CC)						
MTV	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous
NBCS	Curling Night in America (CC)			Curling Night in America (CC)						
NGEO	Ramsay: Uncharted	Ramsay: Uncharted	Ramsay: Uncharted	Ramsay: Uncharted						
NICK	"Loud House" (8:45) (2021) Wolfgang Schaeffer, Jahzir Bruno. (CC)		The Loud House (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (11:35) (CC)				
NWSN	Dan Abrams Live (N) (CC)	NewsNation Prime (N)	Banfield (N) (CC)	On Balance						
OWN	Ready to Love Shawn faces a firing squad. (N)	Doubling Down With the Derricks	Ready to Love The power shifts back to the men.	Ready to Love Shawn faces a firing squad. (N)						
OXYGEN	Killer Siblings Lunas. (CC)	Killer Siblings Polands.	Killer Siblings (CC)	911 Crisis Center (CC)						
PARMT	Yellowstone (8:03) (CC)	Yellowstone (CC)		"Man of Steel" (2013) ★★ Henry Cavill. (CC)						
PCNC	NightTalk	Pittsburgh	PCNC 9PM	PCNC	Forensic	Forensic	NightTalk	Ch. 11 News		
SC	Homemade Astronauts I Want to Go to Space. (N)	Homemade Astronauts Full Tilt Boogie. (N) (CC)		Homemade Astronauts Maybe This Is The Day. (N)						
SYFY	"Cult of Chucky" (2017) Fiona Douif, Jennifer Tilly. Chucky returns to terrorize his human victim, Nica. (CC)			Day of the Dead Their Evil Was Our Evil. (N)	"Mr. & Mrs. Smith" (2005) ★★ Brad Pitt. (CC)					
TBS	"Fred Claus" (7) (2007) ★★ Vince Vaughn, Paul Giamatti. Santa's ne'er-do-well brother puts Christmas in jeopardy. (CC)		"Fred Claus" (2007) ★★ Vince Vaughn, Paul Giamatti. Santa's ne'er-do-well brother puts Christmas in jeopardy. (CC)							
TCM	"Ocean's Eleven" (1960) ★★★ Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr. (CC)		"Robin and the Seven Hoods" (10:15) (1964) ★★★ Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin. (CC)							
TLC	90 Day: Other (N)	90 Day Fiancé: The Other Way (N)		The Family Chantel (N)	90 Day					
TNT	"Wonder Woman" (7) (2017) ★★★ Gal Gadot, Chris Pine, Connie Nielsen. (CC)		All Elite Wrestling: Rampage (N) (CC)	Capital One's The Match (CC)						
TOON	Teen Titans	Total Drama	King of Hill	King of Hill	Burgers	Burgers	"Blade Runner 2049" (CC)			
TRAV	Most Terrifying Places	Most Terrifying Places in America	Demonic Activity. (N)	Most Terrifying Places						
TRUTV	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers
TVL	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King	King			
USA	"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2" (8:15) (2011) ★★★ Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint. Harry may have to make the ultimate sacrifice. (CC)		"Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald"							
VH1	Tommy Boy	"My Cousin Vinny" (1992) ★★★ Joe Pesci. (CC)		"Ferris Bueller's Day Off"						
WE	"Pretty Woman" (1990) ★★ Richard Gere. (CC)			"Monster-in-Law" (10:34) ★★						

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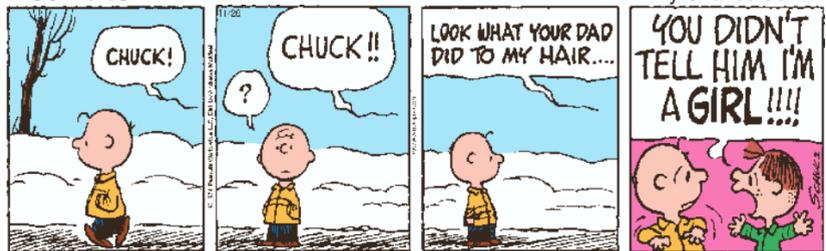
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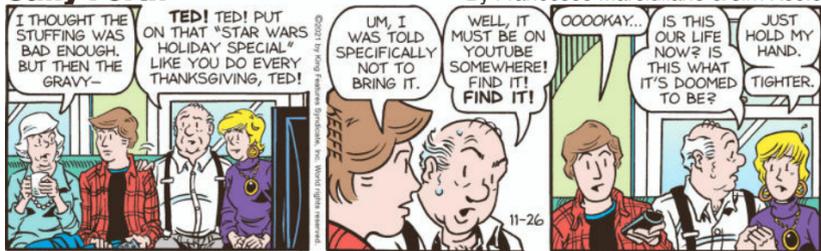
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By Lynn Johnston



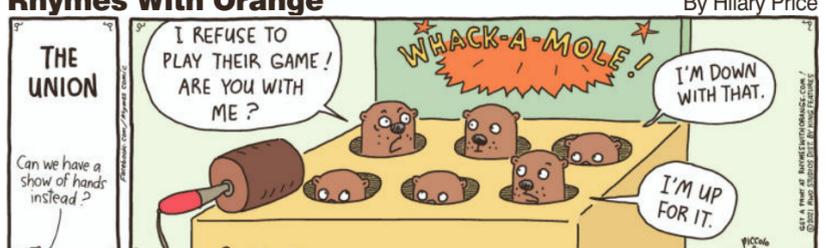
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Jarry has moved on from May



Friday

Game: Penguins vs. New York Islanders in the new UBS Arena, Elmont, N.Y.

When: 7:30 p.m.

TV: AT&T SportsNet.

Goalie spent time in the offseason regaining confidence, form

By Matt Vensel
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Wondering what is different about Tristan Jarry this season? One tricky but pretty nondescript save in last week's win in Montreal was a good example.

Canadiens rookie Cole Caufield, a wizard with the puck who could one day score 50 goals in this league, cruised down the left wing and pulled the puck past Penguins defenseman Chad Ruhwedel. Caufield loaded up for a backhand shot.

In previous seasons, Jarry might have in that moment been processing which type of save would be perfect for that situation. Playing more freely so far in 2021-22, the goalie made one decisive push with his left skate to shuffle over to meet Caufield then leaned on the right post, his paddle down but torso still tall.

Reading the release of a backhand can be tricky. But Jarry was in position and ready to react to the rookie's rising shot. With a little lunge, he shrugged it off.

It seemed simple and it was —

just a goalie relying on angles and instincts.

"Of any position in any sport, we have zero control over where that object goes," Dustin Schwartz, Jarry's offseason goalie coach, said this week. "So your instincts and your reads have to allow you to be in the game. You can't play the position in a box. That's something that, I think, he's gotten back on top of."

Through the first six weeks of the season, not only have Jarry's pads

SEE **JARRY**, PAGE D-6



Gene J. Puskar/Associated Press

Tristan Jarry has played this week as if he's seeing every puck and angle while in the Penguins net.

REMEMBERING TUNCH

His spirit lives on in a Light that shines



Pam Panchak/Post-Gazette

Wolfley spends Thanksgiving at a place that Ilkin held dear

By Brian Batko
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Craig Wolfley still remembers the first time he visited the Light of Life Rescue Mission decades ago. It was a cold winter day, and getting colder, eventually bringing sleet and snow to the doorstep of the homeless shelter in Pittsburgh's North Side neighborhood.

Wolfley witnessed a homeless man and woman and two kids, who couldn't have been older than 8, walk down the street in that frigid air to find a place of safety and warmth,

“

This was all his desire, this was what he really wanted, and I bought into it.

Craig Wolfley, on Tunch Ilkin

”

Tunch Ilkin had been telling him.

"He would always challenge me to come on down," Wolfley recalled Thursday afternoon. "Because when you see homelessness and it has a face, and you hear stories, all of a sudden, now that becomes something that really shakes your world, you



Emily Matthews/Post-Gazette photos

know?"

This Thanksgiving didn't have weather that was anything remarkable, but for Wolfley, the occasion was just as significant. It was his first year passing out food and fellowship without the dear friend he lost to ALS in early September at the age of 63.

Ilkin was instrumental in the efforts of numerous charities, but Light of Life was one of his true passions. Each Thanksgiving, he and Wolfley — Steelers offensive linemen, radio broadcasting duo and best pals — would

SEE **MISSION**, PAGE D-8



TOP: Longtime Steelers player and broadcaster Tunch Ilkin, who died in September.

ABOVE: Craig Wolfley delivers meals Thursday during the Light of Life Rescue Mission Thanksgiving dinner.

LEFT: Said Karen Ilkin of her husband: "Tunch's heart was just full of this mission."

Steelers

Defense reflects on mistakes

Butler emphasizes learning from them

By Ray Fittipaldo
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Keith Butler has been with the Steelers since the 2003 season. In those nearly two decades he has been on the coaching staff he can count on one hand the number of times an opposing quarterback shredded the Steelers the way Chargers quarterback Justin Herbert did Sunday night.

Herbert put himself in some pretty good company when the Chargers racked up 533 yards against the Steelers, 473 of which he accounted for as a passer and a runner. It was the first time in more than seven years the defense surrendered 500 yards in a game, and the previous time it happened the opposing quarterback was Tom Brady.

"It's always a learning

SEE **STEELERS**, PAGE D-2



Next

Game: Steelers (5-4-1) vs. Cincinnati Bengals (6-4), Paul

Brown Stadium, Cincinnati.

When: 1 p.m. Sunday.

TV: KDKA.

Favored: Bengals by 4½.

Pirates

Tsutsugo has deal to come back

Agreement is for 1 year, \$4 million

By Jason Mackey
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

It was the move Pirates fans have been clamoring for since the 2021 regular season ended, with those who follow the team wanting general manager Ben Cherington to bring back Yoshi Tsutsugo and return one of the team's few sources of legitimate power.

Cherington appears to have made it happen.

According to sources, the Pirates reached an agreement late Wednesday with Tsutsugo for one year, \$4 million pending a physical, which is a little more complicated

SEE **PIRATES**, PAGE D-5

Pitt's graduate assistants tasked with three times as much work



The ACC

A look elsewhere in the conference

By Johnny McGonigal
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Graduate assistants routinely grind through the grunt work. Every week, Pitt's bottom-of-the-totem-pole assistants spend Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday compiling a five-game sample on the following opponent. For example, they were breaking down Syracuse tape last week, days before the

Virginia game, all in the name of preparation.

This week, that workload increased threefold.

As full-time coaches focus on the Orange, Pitt's GAs and quality control assistants were tasked with researching Wake Forest, N.C. State and Clemson. The Panthers don't know who they'll face Dec. 4 in the ACC championship. But they have to be ready for any of the three.

"They've got 15 games to break down, and they've got to do it all this week," Pat Narduzzi said Monday. "Those guys, they're the MVP this week. A lot of wasted work. Ten of those 15 games are wasted. But it will be well worth it on Sunday when we know that we're already ahead, not behind."

Which five-game sample is useful and which are tossed will

be determined before Pitt even steps on the field Saturday night in Carrier Dome.

Wake Forest has the simplest path to winning the ACC Atlantic Division title. If the Demon Deacons beat Boston College Saturday (noon, ESPN2), Pitt will face Dave Clawson's squad. If Wake Forest loses and N.C. State defeats North Carolina

SEE **ACC**, PAGE D-3

MORE SPORTS INSIDE



A thriller in Texas

Raiders survive a wild finish and then overtime to beat Cowboys on the road. **Page D-2**

Close in Paradise

Pitt women lose first as No. 23 Texas A&M pulls away late in Paradise Jam. **Page D-4**

Root study

Western Pennsylvania native David Bednar gives a lesson in Pittsburghese. **Page D-5**

More at post-gazette.com

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL: Who does The Fumbler like?

NORTH SHORE DRIVE: Podcast explores Penguins road trip.

Pro Football

Around the NFL

Donald has a score to settle with Packers

By Gary Klein
Los Angeles Times

With tears welling in his eyes, Aaron Donald stood on the Lambeau Field sideline lamenting an opportunity that got away.

That is the enduring image from the Rams' NFC divisional-round playoff loss to the Green Bay Packers last season.

"I just care," Donald said this week when asked about his emotions that day. "That is what it comes down to, just caring."

Donald played that game with a rib injury that precluded the three-time NFL defensive player of the year from disrupting in a way that has bedeviled opposing offensive coordinators for seven-plus seasons.

Donald, 30, is back to full strength and eager to return to Lambeau Field Sunday when the Rams (7-3) play the

Packers (8-3) in a key conference matchup.

Did last season's crushing 32-18 defeat provide motivation to play the Packers again?

"A lot of things motivate me," Donald said, "but you could say that, yes."

Packers coach Matt LaFleur joked that the thought of an extra-motivated Donald made him want to cry.

"This guy is a complete game-wrecker," LaFleur said Thursday in a videoconference.

Donald has six sacks this season for a Rams defense that is coming off a poor performance Nov. 15 in a 31-10 loss to the San Francisco 49ers.

The 49ers opened the game with an 18-play scoring drive and never let up.

"To make it really simple and short, they played a more physical game than us — from an offensive standpoint and a



Looking ahead

Game: Los Angeles Rams (7-3) at Green Bay Packers (8-3), Lambeau Field, Green Bay, Wis.
When: 4:25 p.m. Sunday. **TV:** WPGH.

Favored: Rams by 1.

The skinny: The Packers have allowed just 44 points at home this year. That's the lowest total they've yielded through their first four home games of a season since 1969.

defense standpoint," Rams defensive coordinator Raheem Morris said. "They were able to maintain those drives by playing old-school, torture-ball-type mentality, you know, three yards and a cloud of dust."

The Packers feature quarterback Aaron Rodgers, the reigning NFL most valuable player, and receiver Davante Adams. Running back Aaron Jones did not play in last Sunday's 34-31 loss to the Minnesota Vikings because of a knee injury. If Jones remains sidelined, AJ Dillon will start again in his place.

Donald said the Rams must

establish consistency.

"That's what it comes down to in this league, you got to be consistent," Donald said. "You can't have a dominant week one week and then give up a bunch of points or a bunch of rushing yards other weeks."

Last season, Donald was part of a defense that ranked among the best in the NFL in several categories.

The Rams finished 10-6 and defeated the Seattle Seahawks in a wild-card playoff game. But during the game, Donald suffered a rib injury.

In the NFC divisional game against the Packers, he played

only 40 of 75 defensive snaps. He made one tackle.

"When you think about what he was really persevering and pushing through, it just epitomizes what a stud he is and how much he wanted to be out there with his teammates," Rams coach Sean McVay said this week, adding, "The suddenness, the twitch, the explosion, all the things that make him special — there were some limitations in that."

"And then obviously the snap count was limited."

As the final seconds ticked off the Lambeau Field clock to end the Rams season, Donald was overcome with emotion.

"He wants to do everything for this team to try to help his teammates, to be able to achieve success collectively," McVay said. "And I think there was a lot of emotions because of how important it is where that represents the finality of the chase to try to go

be a world champion.

"But then it also represented him working through some stuff. And I think it was a combination of probably the frustration, not being able to be at his best."

Donald indicated that he was done talking about last season. He said he was "100% healthy" and energized coming out of last week's open date.

"No injuries, no aches, no pains," he said. "I'm coming off of a bye, feeling good. So, we ready to go. I'm ready to go."

Donald said the Rams would approach Sunday's game like a playoff game.

He knows when he shows emotion, teammates are watching.

"It's all about winning," he said. "We all playing for the ultimate goal. We talk about it, I've been talking about it, is to be a world champion. That's what I'm chasing. That's what we chasing."

NFL roundup

Raiders outlast Cowboys in OT

Interference calls critical in outcome

The Associated Press

Daniel Carlson kicked a 29-yard field goal in overtime after Anthony Brown's fourth pass-interference penalty kept the drive alive, and the Las Vegas Raiders beat the Dallas Cowboys, 36-33, Thursday at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas.

Carlson's fifth field goal came after Brown was called for interference on Zay Jones on 3rd-and-18. All four of Brown's interference penalties came on third-down incompletions.

The Raiders (6-5) ended a three-game losing streak with their first Thanksgiving victory since 1968. It was their fourth appearance on the holiday since then, with the previous two losses coming against the Cowboys.

Carlson put Las Vegas ahead, 33-30, with a career-long 56-yarder with 1:52 remaining. Greg Zuerlein, who missed an extra point after the first Dallas touchdown, answered with a 45-yarder with 19 seconds to go.

Tony Pollard had a 100-yard kickoff return for Dallas in the third quarter, but was stopped inside the 15 to start overtime. The Cowboys went three-and-out starting from their 7, and the Raiders finished off the third victory for the AFC West Division against the NFC East-leading Cowboys (7-4) in the past four games.

More games

Bears 16, Lions 14: Cairo Santos made a 28-yard field goal on the final play to lift Chicago past host Detroit. The Bears (4-7) ended a five-game losing streak under embattled coach Matt Nagy, who was answering questions about his job status less than 48 hours before kickoff. The Lions (0-10-1) made many mistakes, early and late, to extend their skid to 15 games dating to their most recent win nearly a year ago in Chicago. Andy Dalton, starting in place of injured rookie Justin Fields, led the Bears on an 18-play, 69-yard drive that took the final 8:30 off the clock.

Bills 31, Saints 6: Josh Allen threw four touchdown passes, two to Dawson Knox (7 and 24 yards), as visiting Buffalo routed New Orleans. The Bills (7-4) built a 24-0 lead before the Saints (5-6) scored a touchdown at the beginning of the fourth quarter.



Raiders backup quarterback Marcus Mariota scores on a short run midway through the third quarter Thursday to put Las Vegas ahead, 24-13, against the Cowboys in Arlington, Texas. Dallas rallied to force overtime before Las Vegas pulled out a 36-33 win.

Steelers learn from mistakes

STEELERS, FROM D-1

experience for coaches," Butler, the defensive coordinator, said Thursday morning before a Thanksgiving Day practice at UMPC Rooney Sports Complex. "I'm 65 years old and I'm still learning. As a player, if you don't learn from experience you're not going to be in the league very long. That's just the way it is. We all make mistakes. The good players and coaches in this league learn from their mistakes and don't make them again. If you don't, you're not going to be in this league very long."

A lot of the struggles the Steelers encountered had to do with many of their star players missing the game because of illness or injury. Outside linebacker T.J. Watt, safety Minkah Fitzpatrick and cornerback Joe Haden did not play in the 41-37 loss.

Fitzpatrick was activated from the COVID list and will play against the Bengals, and it's possible Watt and Haden could return to the lineup, too.

Butler played an outside linebacker rotation of Taco Charlton, Derrek Tuszka and Delontae Scott against the Chargers. None of them were with the team in training camp and joined at various points since the season started.

Scott and reserve defensive lineman Daniel Archibong made their NFL debuts and combined to play 15 snaps because of the injuries in the front seven.

"I appreciate the effort the guys put into it," Butler said. "They wanted to win. They played like they wanted to win. In the end, a couple of



Chargers running back Austin Ekeler turns the corner on Devin Bush Sunday night in Inglewood, Calif.

things hurt us here and there. As coaches, we could have done better with what we did. Hindsight is always 20-20, but looking back on it there were some things we could have done to help our guys out. When you lose a game like that the first guy I look at is me. What could I have done better?"

Butler specifically mentioned putting a spy on Herbert, who ran for 90 yards on nine carries in addition to throwing for 382 yards. He had a 36-yard run and two-18-yard runs.

"He was a good running quarterback," Butler said. "He caught us more than a couple of times. There is some stuff we could have changed and done a little better in terms of maybe spying him a little bit. We felt like the four-man rush was the best at the time. He did a good job of escaping. Every time he saw us in a certain coverage he took off. He didn't wait. It looked like it was almost a quarterback draw. It wasn't."

Defensive lineman Cam Heyward also said the linemen have to do a better job of knowing when a quarterback is going to run.

"Coordinated rushes are a lot better," Heyward said. "You have to be able to communicate what guys are going to do. You have to push with your head up. You can't just bury your head. You have to get off blocks. In the middle, we just have to push up a little more. A couple of times, if we get more pressure up the middle there's not that big, wide lane."

Butler on Bush

Inside linebacker Devin Bush is in the midst of a trying season after a knee injury ended his season last year. On Tuesday, head coach Mike Tomlin acknowledged Bush's play has been "spotty" and inconsistent but noted how other top players across the NFL are struggling after ACL injuries.

Butler also acknowledged Bush's knee as a possible

reason for his struggles, but he indicated there are other issues that have nothing to do with his injury or recovery.

"Playing linebacker is knowing the front and knowing the coverage," Butler said. "It's a little bit more than knowing the front or knowing the secondary. He has to know them both. He has to learn more and more as time goes along. The more he knows, the quicker he'll react and the more confident he'll be."

Bush, who has started every game, is fifth on the team in tackles with 46 and has one forced fumble and one fumble recovery.

"I don't know if it's his knee or not," Butler said. "Sometimes it takes a little longer for the knee to come around. Only he knows that. I don't know how he feels."

"You have to be able to run. You have to be able to run backward. You have to be able to run forward. You have to be able to run side-to-side and do everything a linebacker does. I'm not going to make excuses for him. He'll sit here and tell you sometimes he's lost his leverage in coverage."

"Do you want him tackling? Yes, you want him tackling. You want a good, wrap tackler. He has to run to the ball and get both hands on the ball carrier in practice all the time. He has to dadgum run to the ball like the rest of them do. We demand that from the rest of them. He has to do the same thing. And he does. Hopefully, he'll be better."

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NFL notebook

Fitzpatrick back from COVID list

Safety participates Thursday in drills

From local and wire dispatches

Steelers safety Minkah Fitzpatrick was activated from the COVID-19 list and went through a full practice Thursday at UMPC Rooney Sports Complex.

Fitzpatrick was one of three defensive starters to miss the Chargers game Sunday night. The two others — outside linebacker T.J. Watt and cornerback Joe Haden — were limited in Thursday's practice. Quarterback Ben Roethlisberger, who continues to nurse hip and pectoral injuries, also was limited.

Reserve defensive lineman Isaiahh Loudermilk, who also missed the Chargers game with a groin injury, went through a full practice as did starting right guard Trai Turner, who did not practice Wednesday due to an ankle injury.

Tight end Eric Ebron (knee) and offensive lineman J.C. Hassenauer (pectoral) did not practice for a second consecutive day. Cornerback Arthur Maulet was added to the injury report Thursday and missed with an illness.

Lions

Lions running back D'Andre Swift was ruled out of Detroit's 16-14 Thanksgiving game loss to the Chicago Bears with a shoulder sprain. Swift exited the field and headed to the locker room in the second quarter after being pushed out of bounds by Bears linebacker Roquan Smith at Chicago's 32 after a 2-yard gain.

"Yeah it's a wait-and-see. We know it's a shoulder sprain," Lions coach Dan Campbell said after the game. "We'll see where it goes."

Swift's day ended with three carries for 0 rushing yards. He also had three receptions for 9 yards.

Cowboys

Dallas offensive line coach Joe Philbin and assistant strength and conditioning coach Kendall Smith are in COVID-19 protocols and missed the Thanksgiving game against the Las Vegas Raiders. The Cowboys will be missing a coach for the second time in three games because of health and safety protocols. Running backs coach Skip Peete missed the previous home game against Atlanta. Kicker Greg Zuerlein also was sidelined against the Falcons, and receiver Amari Cooper missed his second consecutive game against the Raiders after testing positive for COVID-19.

College Football

Tucker gets big extension from Spartans

The Associated Press

Michigan State is giving Mel Tucker a \$95 million, 10-year contract, making an aggressive move to keep a football coach who potentially could have left for LSU or the NFL.

"I am honored to be a part of the Spartan process today, and for years to come," Tucker wrote in a post on Twitter.

The 12th-ranked Spartans (9-2, 6-2 Big Ten Conference) close the regular season Saturday at home against Penn State (7-4, 4-4).

Tucker's contract establishes him as one of the

Notebook

riches coaches in college football.

Only Alabama's Nick Saban, one of his mentors, who makes \$9,753,221 a year, is paid more on an annual basis, according to the USA Today coaches' salaries database.

Tucker's 10-year deal puts him in select company with two coaches with the same term: Clemson's Dabo Swinney and Texas A&M's Jimbo Fisher. Swinney's contract is worth \$92 million and Fisher's deal will pay him more than \$9 million a year, starting in 2022.

Tucker's deal that expires Jan. 15, 2032 will have a \$5.9 million base salary, \$3.2 million in supplemental compensation for media and personal appearances along with a \$400,000 contingent annual bonus.

"We're excited to have Mel here for the next 10 years," United Wholesale Mortgage president and CEO Mat Ishbia, one of the donors funding Tucker's new deal, told The Associated Press in a telephone interview. "He's a winner. He represents Michigan State in a fantastic way and we're excited for the future."

"We got a winner and

we're not letting a winner leave Michigan State. Mel didn't want to leave, but the reality is he's the hottest name in football."

Tucker, 49, is getting a boost in pay as part of a long-term deal because of what he has done so far, and what has happened in the past at Michigan State.

After winning just two games in his debut during the pandemic-shortened season, Tucker has led one of college football's most surprising teams. The Spartans started the season unranked and overlooked and now have a chance to win 10 games and earn a spot in a

New Year's Six bowl game.

But No. 2 Ohio State did show Tucker's team how far it has to go in last week's 56-7 win that ended the Spartans' championship hopes.

Michigan State was very motivated to give Tucker every reason to stay after losing Saban to LSU in November 1999.

"There was a time Michigan State had the best football and basketball coach with Nick Saban and Tom Izzo," Ishbia told the AP. "Now, we have a chance to have the best coaching duo again in America and we're going to pay Mel like he left."

Fresno State

Jake Haener threw for 343 yards with four touchdowns and Fresno State defeated San Jose State, 40-9, winning its fourth Mountain West Conference Thanksgiving Day game. Fresno State (9-3, 6-2) ended the first half with back-to-back touchdowns three minutes apart, then opened the second half with a field goal and a touchdown to break away from San Jose State (5-7, 3-5). Fresno State remains a half-game behind San Diego State (10-1, 6-1) in the Mountain West's Western Division.

AROUND THE CONFERENCES

Pitt's GAs are locked in on title game

ACC, FROM D-1

Friday night (7 p.m., ESPN), the Panthers will play the Wolfpack. And if both N.C. State and Wake Forest lose, Pitt will have a rematch with Clemson.

You can see why Narduzzi has his GAs preparing for three teams. Any of those scenarios is possible. But as Narduzzi noted in his news conference, winning the conference won't be easy regardless of who the Panthers play.

Wake Forest has slipped up recently, losing back-to-back to North Carolina — a non-conference game, precipitated by the ACC's bizarre scheduling model — and Clemson. The Demon Deacons, ranked as high as ninth by the College Football Playoff committee, were thought to be a dark horse contender for a top-four spot just a couple weeks ago.

Still, Wake Forest boasts the fourth-highest scoring offense in college football, averaging 43.1 points per game (just behind Pitt's 43.9). Sam Hartman ranks top 10 nationally in passing yards and touchdowns, while A.T. Perry and Jaquarii Roberson make up one of two Power Five duos with at least 900 receiving yards. The other? Ohio State's Jaxon Smith-Njigba and Garrett Wilson.

N.C. State, meanwhile, has the best quarterback no one is talking about in Devin Leary. Pitt is familiar with Leary, who threw for 336 yards and four touchdowns in a 30-29 win at Heinz Field last fall. The Wolfpack have three receivers — Emeka Emezie, Devin Carter and Thayer Thomas — with over 500 yards to pair with the ACC's second-best defense (18.7 points per game).

Then there's Clemson. You'd think Pitt is familiar with the Tigers after beating them less than a month ago. But since that 10-point defeat on the North Shore, Clemson has won four in a row including a 21-point dismantling of Wake Forest this past Saturday. Dabo Swinney's team has seemingly found its stride. And giving Brent Venables, the highest-paid defensive coordinator in college football, a second crack at game-planning for Kenny Pickett and company would potentially be a problem for Pitt.

But really, any of the three would be a hurdle for the Panthers. Narduzzi's team will likely be the favorite. But he knows Wake Forest, N.C. State and this iteration of Clemson will be Pitt's toughest test of the season so far.

"Doesn't matter," Narduzzi said at his Monday news conference when asked if he had a preferred opponent in the ACC championship. "I don't care. ... It doesn't really matter, guys. Whoever gets there is going to be excited to go play in that game."

Around the ACC

Atlantic	Conference			Overall		
	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
Wake Forest	6	1	.857	9	2	.818
Clemson	6	2	.750	8	3	.727
N.C. State	5	2	.714	8	3	.727
Louisville	4	4	.500	6	5	.545
Florida State	4	4	.500	5	6	.455
Boston Coll.	2	5	.286	6	5	.545
Syracuse	2	4	.333	5	5	.500
Coastal	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
Pitt	6	1	.857	9	2	.818
Virginia	4	3	.571	6	5	.545
Miami	4	3	.571	6	5	.545
N. Carolina	3	4	.429	6	5	.545
Virginia Tech	3	4	.429	5	6	.455
Georgia Tech	2	6	.250	3	8	.273
Duke	0	7	.000	3	8	.273

Friday's game

North Carolina at N.C. State, 7 p.m.

Saturday's games

Florida State at Florida, noon
Georgia at Georgia Tech, noon
Wake Forest at Boston College, noon
Miami at Duke, 12:30 p.m.
Virginia Tech at Virginia, 3:45 p.m.
Clemson at South Carolina, 7:30 p.m.
Kentucky at Louisville, 7:30 p.m.
Pitt at Syracuse, 7:30 p.m.

Numbers game

203: The combined points Georgia Tech has allowed in its five-game losing streak. The Yellow Jackets were wiped out by Notre Dame, 55-0, last weekend. Now, they play host to No. 1 Georgia. Moving on from the triple-option offense was always going to take time. But a blowout at the hands of the Bulldogs would only make matters worse for Geoff Collins, who's nearing the end of his third season with nine wins to his name.

Keep an eye on

Malik Cunningham: Louisville's quarterback has been on a tear lately. He was against Syracuse and Duke, so keep that in mind. But Cunningham completed 72% of his passes for 512 yards, 9 touchdowns and 0 interceptions the past two games. He also ran for 224 yards — you read that correctly — against the Blue Devils. Can Cunningham have a similar performance in Louisville's rivalry game against Kentucky?

Game of the week

Florida State at Florida (noon, Saturday, ESPN): Forget the games that actually matter. This one is for the sickos out there. A week after firing Dan Mullen, the Gators face their Sunshine State rival with a postseason berth on the line. That's right. It's not enough that this is just the third meeting with both teams unranked since 1986. But Florida State and Florida are 5-6. Which proud program wants to play in a mediocre bowl game more?

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Mark Brown/Getty Images

N.C. State's Devin Leary is the best quarterback that no one is talking about. He has passed for 3,186 yards and 31 touchdowns.

'The Game' more than a game

By Craig Meyer
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

It's a game so important that it's known simply as, well, The Game.

For Ohio State and Michigan, there aren't many, if any, adjectives that could possibly magnify the importance of the schools' annual matchup any more. The rivals from bordering states have met 116 times, going all the way back to 1897. Books have been written and documentaries have been made about it.

The game between two of college football's most storied programs carries an extra level of meaning even in its least competitive years. This year, it's going to be that much more significant.

The Buckeyes and Wolverines will meet at noon Saturday in Ann Arbor, Mich., with more than just bragging rights on the line. With both teams at 10-1 and in the top five of the College Football Playoff rankings — Ohio State at No. 2, Michigan at No. 5 — the game has that much more relevance within the conference and nationally. The matchup's winner will go on to the Big Ten Conference championship, where they'll be favored to beat their yet-to-be-determined West Division opponent, and will be one step closer to a CFP appearance.

For the Wolverines, doing that would symbolize something more than just beating the hated Buckeyes. It would put a halt to what has been a maddening, spine-chilling trend. Despite leading the all-time series, Michigan has lost 15 of the past 16 matchups dating to 2004, before a vast majority of players competing Saturday were even in kindergarten. It has lost eight consecutive meetings, putting it one loss away from tying the longest losing streak by either team in the series history.

In recent years, and under coach Jim Harbaugh, those losses have become that much



Gregory Shamus/Getty Images

If Ohio State quarterback C.J. Stroud plays against Michigan like he did against Michigan State, do the Wolverines stand a chance?

The Big Ten

more disheartening. Harbaugh is 0-5 against Ohio State, with all but one of those defeats coming by at least 10 points. In their past two losses, in 2018 and 2019, the Wolverines fell by a combined 52 points. Against all other teams, Harbaugh is excellent, with a 59-18 mark. In his most important game every season, though, his teams regularly have been routed, highlighting what seems to be a vast gap between the two programs.

"I think we've silenced the critics for the most part," Michigan defensive lineman Aidan Hutchinson told reporters this week. "We have this one final test against Ohio State. This is a team that we simply haven't beaten in many years. It's something that we have to get over. It starts on Saturday."

To do that, even as a fellow top-five team, will require an exceptional effort against an opponent that has looked as terrifying and excellent as any team in the country for much of the past two months.

Coach Ryan Day's Buckeyes have the betting favorite to win the Heisman Trophy in quarterback C.J. Stroud, who dissected then-No. 7 Michigan State with surgical precision last Saturday, completing 32 of 35 passes for 432 yards and six touchdowns in a 56-7 romp. In Chris Olave, Garrett Wilson and Jaxon Smith-Njigba, Stroud has the best trio of receivers in the sport, a group that has combined for 2,919 yards and 30 touchdowns this season. Led by those four, Ohio State has averaged 50.6 points per game in its past eight contests, only twice failing to score at least 52 points in that stretch.

If there's a team capable of stopping — or at least slowing down — such an unstoppable force, it might be Michigan. Hutchinson and linebacker David Ojabo have been dominant this season, combining for 20 sacks. The Wolverines sport the nation's No. 7 scoring defense, giving up just 16.3 points per game. It's a mark sure to rise after Saturday's game, but if they're able to neutralize Ohio State just enough, they have a capable, run-based offense that could eat up enough clock, dictate the rhythm of the game and,

most important, keep the ball out of Stroud's hands as much as they can. The path to victory is narrow, but it's certainly there.

It's only the second time since 2007 that the two teams have met while both ranked in the top five. The previous such game produced a thrilling 30-27 Ohio State victory in double-overtime in 2016. After last year's game was canceled due to a COVID-19 outbreak within the Michigan program, absence has only made the heart grow fonder — or, in the case of this heated rivalry, the hate has only become more intense.

Numbers game

10,792: Total career yards for Nebraska quarterback Adrian Martinez, a program record Martinez set in a 35-28 loss last Saturday at Wisconsin. A senior with an extra season of eligibility remaining, Martinez could add to that mark if he comes back for the Cornhuskers in 2022.

Keep an eye on

Isaiah Gay: The Illinois linebacker had a career-high 10 tackles and a sack in a 33-23 loss last Saturday to Iowa. His 5½ tackles for a loss were the third-most in a game in Illinois history. This season, the senior is first on his team in tackles for a loss (9) and tied for second in sacks (3).

Game of the week

No. 18 Wisconsin at Minnesota: The battle for Paul Bunyan's Axe has some additional implications this season. If the Badgers win, they earn a trip to the Big Ten championship. If the Golden Gophers pull the upset as a 7-point underdog, they will advance to Indianapolis if Iowa loses at Nebraska. Wisconsin can still lose and make the title game, but only if Iowa and Purdue also lose.

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Top 25 roundup

Iona upsets No. 10 Tide

Pitino's Gaels jump to 6-0 start

The Associated Press

Nelly Joseph and Walter Clayton Jr. made key free throws in the final seconds to lift Iona over No. 10-ranked Alabama, 72-68, in an opening-round game at the ESPN Events Invitational Thursday night in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

Clayton got an offensive rebound and made 1 of 2 free throws to make it 70-68 with 20 seconds left. After Jahvon Quinerly missed a shot for Alabama, Joseph secured the win for Iona (6-0) with two free throws with nine seconds remaining.

Joseph and Clayton both finished with 15 points.

"I'm happy for the guys," Gaels coach Rick Pitino said. "They are great guys to coach. I'm really, really excited, happy for them."

Alabama (4-1) got 19 points from Jaden Shackelford. Quinerly added 15. There was no immediate postgame media session with the Crimson Tide because they held a lengthy meeting after the loss.

More men's games

Michigan State 64, Connecticut 60: Michigan State followed a thrilling last-second win by blowing a big lead against a worn-down op-

ponent and finding itself trailing late in the Battle 4 Atlantis in Paradise Island, Bahamas. Tom Izzo's Spartans advanced anyway with toughness and tenacity in the game's critical moments for the second day in a row. A.J. Hoggard hit the go-ahead free throws with 30.3 seconds left and Michigan State (5-1) scored the final nine points to push past No. 22 Connecticut (5-1), earning a trip to Friday's championship.

"It's something Coach has harped on us from the very beginning: just make the winning plays," said Malik Hall, who had a big late steal and two free throws.

It was another tense finish for both teams after their first-round games had plenty of late-game drama — including two extra periods for the Huskies in a draining 115-109 win against No. 19 Auburn. But Michigan State did enough to take back momentum after the Huskies had gone up, 60-55, with 1:41 left.

Baylor 69, VCU 61: Matthew Mayer scored 15 points to help No. 6 Baylor (6-0) hold off VCU (3-3) in the Battle 4 Atlantis semifinals in Paradise Island, Bahamas. Freshman Kendall Brown added 14 points for the reigning national champion Bears.

College / Pro Basketball



Michigan State's Gabe Brown, left, tears the ball away from Connecticut's R.J. Cole, rear, and Adama Sanogo Thursday in a game in Paradise Island, Bahamas.

Kansas 71, North Texas 59: Ochai Agbaji had 18 points and Christian Braun added 16 for No. 4 Kansas (4-0) in the first round of the ESPN Events Invitational in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. North Texas (2-2) got 23 points from Tylor Perry.

Auburn 62, Loyola Chicago 53: Freshman Jabari Smith had 14 points to help No. 19 Auburn regroup from a double-overtime loss and beat Loyola Chicago (4-2) in the consolation round of the Battle 4 Atlantis tournament in Paradise Island, Bahamas.

Women's games

N.C. State 78, Maryland 60: Elissa Cunane scored 20 points, making eight of her nine shots from the field, to help the No. 5 Wolfpack (5-1) run past No. 2 Maryland (6-1) at the Baha Mar Hoops Pink Flamingo Championship tournament in Nassau, Bahamas.

Baylor 86, Fordham 45: NaLyssa Smith had 19 points and 15 rebounds and No. 6 Baylor (4-1) rallied and then broke the game open in the second half against Fordham (3-2) at the Cancun Challenge

in Cancun, Mexico.

Stanford 69, Indiana 66: Cameron Brink had 21 points, 22 rebounds and five blocks to help the No. 7 Cardinal (4-1) edge No. 4 Indiana (4-1) at the Baha Mar Hoops Pink Flamingo Championship tournament in Nassau, Bahamas.

BYU 61, Florida State 54: Shaylee Gonzales scored 24 points, including three clutch free throws in the final 42 seconds, and BYU (6-0) knocked off No. 17 Florida State (4-1) at the St. Pete Showcase in St. Petersburg, Fla.

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Brooklyn	14	5	.737	—
New York	10	8	.556	3 1/2
Boston	10	9	.526	4
Philadelphia	10	9	.526	4
Toronto	9	10	.474	5

SOUTHEAST DIVISION

Miami	12	7	.632	—
Washington	11	7	.611	1/2
Charlotte	12	8	.600	3/4
Atlanta	10	9	.526	2
Orlando	4	15	.211	8

CENTRAL DIVISION

Chicago	12	7	.632	—
Milwaukee	11	8	.579	1
Cleveland	9	10	.474	3
Indiana	8	12	.400	4 1/2
Detroit	4	14	.222	7 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

SOUTHWEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	10	7	.588	—
Memphis	9	9	.500	1 1/2
San Antonio	4	13	.235	6
New Orleans	4	16	.200	7 1/2
Houston	2	16	.111	8 1/2

NORTHWEST DIVISION

Utah	12	6	.667	—
Portland	10	9	.526	2 1/2
Denver	9	9	.500	3
Minnesota	9	9	.500	3
Oklahoma City	6	12	.333	6

PACIFIC DIVISION

Golden State	16	2	.889	—
Phoenix	15	3	.833	1
L.A. Clippers	10	8	.556	6
L.A. Lakers	10	10	.500	7
Sacramento	7	12	.368	9 1/2

Wednesday's Games

Charlotte 106, Orlando 99
Phoenix 120, Cleveland 115
L.A. Lakers 124, Indiana 116, OT
Brooklyn 123, Boston 104
Milwaukee 114, Detroit 93
Utah 110, Oklahoma City 104
Toronto 126, Memphis 113
Houston 118, Chicago 113
New Orleans 127, Washington 102
Atlanta 124, San Antonio 106
Minnesota 113, Miami 101
Sacramento 125, Portland 121
Golden State 116, Philadelphia 96

Thursday's Games

No games scheduled.
Friday's Games
Detroit at L.A. Clippers, 3:30 p.m.
Chicago at Orlando, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Phoenix at New York, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at Memphis, 8 p.m.
Toronto at Indiana, 8 p.m.
Washington at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
Boston at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at Denver, 9 p.m.
New Orleans at Utah, 9 p.m.
Portland at Golden State, 10 p.m.
Sacramento at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

Saturday's Games

Minnesota at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.
New York at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Brooklyn, 7:30 p.m.
Charlotte at Houston, 8 p.m.
Miami at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Orlando at Cleveland, 8 p.m.
Washington at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
New Orleans at Utah, 9 p.m.
Sunday's Games
Golden State at L.A. Clippers, 3:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at Indiana, 5 p.m.
Boston at Toronto, 6 p.m.
Sacramento at Memphis, 6 p.m.
Detroit at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

CHARLOTTE 106, ORLANDO 99

CHARLOTTE (106)
Bridges 5-16 0-0 11, Hayward 0-6 1-2 1, Plumlee 2-3 3-7, Ball 7-17 4-4 22, Rozier 11-22 2-4 27, Martin 3-4 1-1 8, McDaniels 3-5 1-2 7, Washington 0-2 0-0 0, Oubre Jr. 7-17 4-5 21, Richards 1-1 0-0 2. Totals 39-93 16-21 106.

ORLANDO (99)

Carter Jr. 6-9 1-1 14, F.Wagner 7-12 0-0 16, Bamba 7-15 0-0 18, Harris 5-13 0-0 13, Suggs 6-14 5-7 17, Okeke 1-7 0-0 2, M.Wagner 4-8 2-2 13, Hampton 0-7 0-0 0, Mulder 2-8 0-0 6. Totals 38-93 8-10 99.
Charlotte 24 28 30 24 106
Orlando 28 21 28 22 99
3-Point Goals—Charlotte 12-41 (Ball 4-9, Oubre Jr. 3-8, Rozier 3-11, Bridges 1-6, Hayward 0-4), Orlando 15-42 (Bamba 4-7, M.Wagner 3-6, Harris 3-8, F.Wagner 2-2, Suggs 0-7). **Fouled Out**—Charlotte None, Orlando 1 (Suggs). **Rebounds**—Charlotte 49 (Bridges 9), Orlando 51 (Bamba 12). **Assists**—Charlotte 26 (Bridges, Martin 6), Orlando 23 (Hampton, Suggs 6). **Total Fouls**—Charlotte 16, Orlando 19. A—16,114 (18,846)

PHOENIX 120, CLEVELAND 115

PHOENIX (120)
Bridges 5-8 0-0 11, Crowder 1-6 5-5 7, Ayton 8-12 0-0 16, Booker 14-21 5-6 35, Paul 4-8 7-8 17, Johnson 4-9 3-4 14, McGee 6-9 1-2 13, Payne 3-11 1-2 7, Shamet 0-2 0-0 1. Totals 45-86 22-28 120.

CLEVELAND (115)

Markkanen 5-13 2-2 14, Wade 0-2 0-0 0, Allen 9-10 7-9 25, Garland 8-19 3-5 19, Okoro 2-8 0-1 5, Love 5-9 2-2 14, Osman 9-15 0-0 23, Rubio 5-20 3-6 15, Valentine 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 43-97 17-25 115.
Phoenix 36 25 26 33 120
Cleveland 33 33 20 29 115
3-Point Goals—Phoenix 8-22 (Johnson 3-5, Booker 2-3, Paul 2-3, Bridges 1-2, Shamet 0-2, Crowder 0-3, Payne 0-4), Cleveland 12-39 (Osman 5-7, Love 2-5, Markkanen 2-7, Rubio 2-8, Okoro 1-4, Wade 0-2, Garland 0-6). **Fouled Out**—Phoenix None, Cleveland 1 (Garland). **Rebounds**—Phoenix 46 (McGee 12), Cleveland 44 (Allen, Markkanen 11). **Assists**—Phoenix 26 (Paul 12), Cleveland 22 (Garland 7). **Total Fouls**—Phoenix 23, Cleveland 23. A—18,055 (19,432)

L.A. LAKERS 124, INDIANA 116

L.A. LAKERS 124
Horton-Tucker 3-10 2-2 8, James 13-29 8-9 39, Jordan 2-5 0-0 4, Bradley 0-1 0-0 0, Westbrook 5-15 9-11 20, Anthony 4-13 4-5 14, Howard 4-4 0-0 8, Ellington 5-7 0-0 14, Monk 6-11 2-2 17. Totals 42-95 25-29 124.

INDIANA 116

Holiday 5-15 2-3 16, Sabonis 5-9 4-4 14, Turner 4-10 3-12, Brogdon 9-21 5-6 28, LeVert 5-13 0-0 10, Craig 2-6 3-4 7, Duarte 7-18 0-2 17, Martin 1-4 0-0 2, McConnell 4-8 2-2 10. Totals 42-104 19-24 116.
Los Angeles 26 34 22 30 124
Indiana 31 35 18 28 4 116
3-Point Goals—L.A. Lakers 15-37 (James 5-12, Ellington 4-6, Monk 3-6, Anthony 2-7, Westbrook 1-3, Horton-Tucker 0-2), Indiana 13-46 (Brogdon 5-10, Holiday 4-12, Duarte 3-10, Turner 1-6, LeVert 0-3, Martin 0-3). **Fouled Out**—None. **Rebounds**—L.A. Lakers 52 (Jordan 11), Indiana 52 (Sabonis 12). **Assists**—L.A. Lakers 20 (James 6), Indiana 25 (McConnell 8). **Total Fouls**—L.A. Lakers 21, Indiana 25. A—15,572 (20,000)

BROOKLYN 123, BOSTON 104

BROOKLYN 123

Bembry 4-5 1-2 9, Durant 8-16 5-6 21, Aldridge 7-13 3-4 17, Harden 4-13 8-9 20, Mills 8-12 0-0 23, Edwards 0-0 0-0 0, Johnson 3-5 1-2 7, Millsap 1-5 0-0 3, Sharpe 2-3 0-1 4, C.Thomas 4-11 5-6 13, Carter 2-2 0-0 6. Totals 43-85 23-30 123.

BOSTON 104

Tatum 4-16 6-8 15, Williams 3-8 0-0 8, Horford 3-8 1-1 8, J.Brown 5-15 3-3 13, Smart 6-14 5-5 20, Hernangomez 1-1 1-1 3, Nesmith 2-4 0-0 5, Parker 1-3 2-2 4, Fernando 0-0 0-0 0, Kanter 2-3 3-7 7, Langford 3-7 0-0 8, Pritchard 1-2 1-1 3, Schroder 3-10 3-4 10. Totals 34-91 25-28 104.

Brooklyn 29 33 35 26 123
Boston 22 27 27 28 104
3-Point Goals—Brooklyn 14-35 (Mills 7-10, Harden 4-9, Carter 2-2, Millsap 1-3, Durant 0-4, C.Thomas 0-6), Boston 11-48 (Smart 3-8, Langford 2-3, Williams 2-7, Nesmith 1-3, Horford 1-4, Schroder 1-5, Tatum 1-9, J.Brown 0-8). **Fouled Out**—None. **Rebounds**—Brooklyn 50 (Bembry 10), Boston 45 (Tatum 8). **Assists**—Brooklyn 29 (Harden 11), Boston 25 (Smart 8). **Total Fouls**—Brooklyn 23, Boston 24. A—19,156 (18,624)

MILWAUKEE 114, DETROIT 93

DETROIT 93

Bey 4-11 2-4 13, Grant 5-13 2-2 13, Garza 2-7 2-2 6, Cunningham 3-10 1-2 9, Joseph 0-2 0-0 0, J.Jackson 2-6 4-4 9, Lyles 7-15 3-3 19, Diallo 3-6 0-0 6, F.Jackson 3-10 0-0 6, Lee 5-15 0-2 12, McGruder 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 34-95 14-19 93.

MILWAUKEE 114

G.Antetokounmpo 12-17 8-10 33, Middleton 5-17 0-0 11, Portis 10-14 2-2 28, Allen 1-6 0-0 3, Holiday 8-16 3-2 22, Kariuzis 0-0 0-0 0, Nwora 0-2 2-2 2, Antetokounmpo 0-0 0-0 0, Mamukelashvili 0-1 0-0 0, Hood 0-2 0-0 0, Connaughton 4-8 0-0 11, Hill 2-5 0-0 4, Robinson 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 42-87 15-17 114.
Detroit 25 26 22 19 93
Milwaukee 32 32 24 26 114
3-Point Goals—Detroit 11-45 (Bey 3-8, Cunningham 2-6, Lee 2-7, Lyles 2-8, J.Jackson 1-2, Grant 1-6, Garza 0-2, F.Jackson 0-5), Milwaukee 15-36 (Portis 6-7, Connaughton 3-5, Holiday 3-7, Allen 1-4, G.Antetokounmpo 1-4, Middleton 1-4, Hill 0-2, Hood 0-2). **Fouled Out**—None. **Rebounds**—Detroit 44 (Cunningham 8), Milwaukee 56 (Portis 10). **Assists**—Detroit 16 (Cunningham 7), Milwaukee 23 (Holiday 6). **Total Fouls**—Detroit 18, Milwaukee 18. A—17,341 (17,500)

UTAH 110, OKLAHOMA CITY 104

UTAH 110

Bogdanovic 6-12 5-6 19, O'Neale 2-9 0-0 5, Gobert 5-7 5-6 15, Conley 6-12 2-2 18, Mitchell 6-16 0-0 13, Gay 5-8 2-2 15, Ingles 1-6 0-0 3, Paschall 0-2 0-0 0, White-side 1-2 0-0 2, Clarkston 7-12 3-4 20, Forrest 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 39-86 17-20 110.

OKLAHOMA CITY 104

Bazley 3-7 1-2 8, Wiggins 0-1 1-2 1, Robinson-Earl 5-10 0-0 13, Dort 8-19 6-8 27, Giddey 8-15 0-0 19, Favors 0-4 1-2 1, Pokusevski 2-4 0-0 4, Muscala 2-5 0-0 5, Williams 6-6 0-2 12, Jerome 2-8 2-2 8, Maledon 1-3 4-4 6. Totals 37-82 15-22 104.

Utah 21 28 32 29 110
Oklahoma City 25 27 28 24 104
3-Point Goals—Utah 15-47 (Conley 4-10, Gay 3-4, Clarkston 3-7, Bogdanovic 2-7, O'Neale 1-5, Ingles 1-6, Mitchell 1-7), Oklahoma City 15-36 (Dort 5-12, Giddey 3-4, Robinson-Earl 3-4, Jerome 2-6, Baz-

ley 1-3, Favors 0-2, Maledon 0-2). **Fouled Out**—None. **Rebounds**—Utah 43 (Gobert 17), Oklahoma City 43 (Robinson-Earl 10). **Assists**—Utah 19 (Clarkson, Mitchell 5), Oklahoma City 21 (Giddey 8). **Total Fouls**—Utah 15, Oklahoma City 18. A—14,081 (18,203)

TORONTO 126, MEMPHIS 115

TORONTO 126

Barnes 8-14 0-0 17, Siakam 5-12 6-8 17, Achuwa 7-11 0-0 17, Trent Jr. 8-17 6-6 26, VanVleet 9-14 2-2 23, Banton 2-3 0-0 4, Boucher 2-4 1-1 5, Mykhailiuk 3-7 0-0 8, Watanabe 0-3 3-4 3, Flynn 3-4 0-0 6. Totals 47-89 18-21 126.

MEMPHIS 113

Brooks 6-16 6-8 22, Jackson Jr. 6-8 2-2 16, Adams 1-3 0-2, Bane 7-11 2-2 20, Morant 8-18 7-10 23, Williams 1-5 1-2 3, Anderson 5-8 0-0 11, Clarke 7-8 2-2 16, Jones 3-0 0-0, Konchar 1-2 0-0 2. Totals 42-82 20-26 115.

Toronto 25 34 32 35 126
Memphis 32 39 21 21 113
3-Point Goals—Toronto 14-30 (Trent Jr. 4-7, Achuwa 3-3, VanVleet 3-7, Mykhailiuk 2-4, Barnes 1-3, Siakam 1-3), Memphis 9-29 (Bane 4-6, Jackson Jr. 2-4, Brooks 2-9, Anderson 1-2, Jones 0-2, Williams 0-4). **Fouled Out**—None. **Rebounds**—Toronto 34 (Barnes 9), Memphis 40 (Clarke 8). **Assists**—Toronto 25 (VanVleet 7), Memphis 25 (Morant 9). **Total Fouls**—Toronto 20, Memphis 20. A—15,409 (18,119)

HOUSTON 118, CHICAGO 113

CHICAGO 113

DeRozan 6-19 5-5 17, LaVine 11-22 3-5 28, Vucevic 6-16 0-0 14, Ball 7-11 0-0 19, Jav.Green 4-6 0-0 9, Jones Jr. 0-2 0-0 0, Bradley 0-1 0-0 0, Caruso 6-10 0-0 15, Dosunmu 3-4 2-2 8, White 1-5 0-0 3. Totals 44-96 10-12 113.

HOUSTON 118

Gordon 4-9 1-1 10, Tate 4-10 0-0 8, Wood 6-14 2-2 16, Jai.Lee 4-5 2-2 11, Porter Jr. 5-13 2-4 14, Martin Jr. 2-5 1-2 5, House Jr. 6-7 2-2 18, Sengun 4-7 3-5 13, Augustin 0-1 0-0 0, Brooks 3-7 2-2 11, Mathews 4-6 2-2 12. Totals 42-84 17-22 118.

Chicago 32 32 18 31 113
Houston 30 25 35 28 118
3-Point Goals—Chicago 15-35 (Ball 5-7, Caruso 3-5, LaVine 3-9, Vucevic 2-5, White 1-4, DeRozan 0-4), Houston 17-36 (House Jr. 4-4, Brooks 3-6, Sengun 2-3, Wood 2-3, Mathews 2-4, Porter Jr. 2-4, Jai.Lee 1-2, Gordon 1-3, Martin Jr. 0-2, Tate 0-4). **Fouled Out**—Chicago 1 (Vucevic), Houston None. **Rebounds**—Chicago 41 (Vucevic 14), Houston 45 (Wood 10). **Assists**—Chicago 26 (DeRozan 7), Houston 27 (Porter Jr. 9). **Total Fouls**—Chicago 22, Houston 16. A—16,074 (18,500)

MINNESOTA 113, MIAMI 101

MIAMI 101

Butler 5-9 6-7 16, Tucker 1-4 0-0 3, Adobayo 7-10 4-11 18, Lowry 3-6 0-0 7, Robinson 6-16 0-0 17, Martin 0-1 1-2 1, Dedmon 1-1 7-9, Herro 5-18 2-2 16, Vincent 5-9 0-0 14. Totals 33-74 20-29 101.

MINNESOTA 113

Edwards 13-27 1-1 33, Vanderbilt 2-3 4-5 8, Towns 4-12 2-2 11, Beverley 0-2 0-0 0, Russell 6-14 4-4 20, McDaniels 3-7 0-0 7, Prince 1-4 0-0 3, Reid 0-4 2-2 2, Beasley 9-19 6-7 29, McLaughlin 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 38-93 19-21 113.

Miami 27 35 20 19 101
Minnesota 30 24 32 27 113
3-Point Goals—Miami 15-42 (Robinson

5-15, Vincent 4-7, Herro 4-11, Tucker 1-2, Lowry 1-4, Butler 0-3), Minnesota 18-55 (Edwards 6-15, Beasley 5-13, Russell 4-10, McDaniels 1-3, Prince 1-4, Towns 1-5, Beverley 0-2, Reid 0-2). **Fouled Out**—Miami 1 (Lowry), Minnesota None. **Rebounds**—Miami 40 (Butler 8), Minnesota 52 (Vanderbilt 15). **Assists**—Miami 2

Baseball

Tsutsugo has deal to return

PIRATES, FROM D-1

because Tsutsugo currently is back home in Japan.

Tsutsugo, 29, hit .268 this past season and had an .883 OPS in 43 games after he was released by the Dodgers and signed with the Pirates in August. The left-handed hitter had 8 home runs and collected 25 RBIs in just 127 at-bats.

Cherington has talked about potentially re-signing Tsutsugo a couple of times this offseason, and each time Cherington has expressed optimism in getting something done.

"We finished the season and really did have interest and seeing if we can bring him back and start those conversations," Cherington said earlier this month. "Feel good about where those conversations are headed. Our desire is to still bring him back. Hopeful. Nothing to announce yet."

After all, for an offense that finished last in MLB in runs, home runs and slugging percentage in 2021, Tsutsugo adds what many others cannot with his ability to drive the ball to gaps and knock it over the fence.

Tsutsugo had a busy season in 2021, one that saw him rescue his career from the abyss. He started with the Rays, where he initially signed after coming over from Japan, but struggled mightily and hit just .167.

Tampa Bay designated Tsutsugo for assignment on May 11, and the Dodgers acquired him for a player to be named later on May 15. The change of scenery didn't help, as Tsutsugo hit just .120 in 12 games with Los Angeles.

After injuring his right calf and spending time in the minor leagues, Tsutsugo found his groove at Class AAA

Oklahoma City, where he hit .257 with 7 doubles, 10 home runs and 32 RBIs in 43 games.

The Dodgers released Tsutsugo on Aug. 14, and the Pirates signed him two days later.

What happens now could be an interesting discussion point, the Pirates are currently crowded on the right side of the field. Bryan Reynolds and Ben Gamel will play in the outfield, but it could be Tsutsugo taking reps away from Anthony Alford, Cole Tucker or Greg Allen in right. Cherington also said they see Tsutsugo more as a first baseman than outfielder at this point.

At first base, the Pirates would have, at minimum, a timeshare between Colin Moran and Tsutsugo, although it would not be surprising whatsoever to see the Pirates try to do something with Moran.

Arbitration-eligible for a second time, Moran is projected to make \$4 million, which means a couple of different things. One, that's a lot of money to pay two first basemen, especially when you're the Pirates. But in 2022, if the designated hitter comes to the National League, it may not matter.

What happens with Moran could ultimately be dictated by the trade market for him. If there's something good out there, bringing Tsutsugo back obviously makes that threshold lower. Should the Pirates want to simply play Tsutsugo and keep right field as a proving ground, then non-tender Moran at the end of the month.

Jason Mackey:
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and Twitter @JMackeyPG.



Michael Owens/Getty Images

David Bednar had a 2.23 earned run average out of the Pirates bullpen in 2021. Below, he takes a break between loading boxes at a Pirates/Steelers/Penguins/Pittsburgh Community Food Bank food distribution event Tuesday.

Q & A

Pirates' Bednar of Mars talks 'Yinzology,' teams with other area sports figures at food event



Andrew Rush/Post-Gazette

Q: There are a lot of crazy intersections here. Which makes you the most nuts?

A: It's always the crazy merges. When we go to the airport, I'll drive. But it stresses me out getting on the [Fort Duquesne] Bridge. I'll be sitting in traffic thinking, 'Shoot, if this bus beats me, I'm never gonna hear the end of this.' Merge left, thinking you're good, then having to merge left again, getting over again. It's a huge pain in the ass."

Q: Who's your favorite famous Yinzer?

A: I think I'm going Myron Cope, Terrible Towel. ... Wait, does Neil Walker count? Can I change my answer to Walker? Growing a Pirates fan, he's the epitome.

Q: Biggest pet peeve of Pittsburghers?

A: When they leave their buggies out when they go to the grocery store. Come on, people. Put your buggies back.

'Pretty Pittsburgh-y'

Colby Armstrong finished cracking jokes about adding Baileys Irish Cream to Thanksgiving morning coffee and warming a turkey by sticking it under his armpit when the former Penguins forward and AT&T SportsNet broadcaster spotted a familiar face across the Mazerowski

cleats — they're a representation of their hard work.

"To be the kind of player these kids look up to really means the world to me. I mean it when I say that I play for them. The fact that they thought of me during this moment is truly special."

Mets

A team in need of outfield depth acquired one potential solution, inking prospect Nick Plummer to a major league contract. Plummer, 25, was a first-round draft pick of the Cardinals in 2015, but he struggled to produce amidst multiple wrist surgeries early in his professional career.

shopping spree, including cleats and Phillies tickets.

The kids designed the cleats. They include the Phanatic, of course. They also have "MV3" and "MVP" with a Phillies "P" on the back. They were delivered to Harper's Las Vegas home sometime last week.

"This was a really sweet surprise and such a cool way to reconnect with the young North Camden athletes," Harper said. "This game can present both struggles and triumphs, which they are all too familiar with. I'll think of them every time I wear these

Way cul-de-sac Tuesday morning outside of PNC Park. It was Steelers defensive back Cam Sutton, who was there for the same event.

"It's cool seeing him and some of the other athletes here," Armstrong said. "It's pretty Pittsburgh-y to have all three of our sports teams doing this. I think it means a lot to us and the people in the city."

For two hours, athletes and representatives from all three pro sports teams handed out turkeys and other food to those in need, staging a holiday event that was sprinkled with plenty of Pittsburgh sports pride.

Zach Gentry, Chris Wormley, Sutton and James Pierre represented the Steelers. Bednar was there for the Pirates, along with Walker, Don Kelly, Steve Blass, Greg Brown and president Travis Williams. Other notable Penguins alumni included Greg Malone, Eric Tangradi and Bryan Trottier.

Community leaders in the organizations have been talking since a back-to-school event in late summer about potentially doing something together around the holidays. Williams said it felt like a no-brainer to hold this event two days before turkey day.

By Jason Mackey
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

There were times this past season when David Bednar would poke his head out of the Pirates bullpen, glance up at the video board and begin to quiz his fellow relievers.

"Yinzology" was a Pittsburgh-based trivia game devised to entertain, and it wound up serving as an educational forum for Bednar, a Mars native who enjoyed a terrific season.

So as the Pirates, Penguins and Steelers partnered with the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank and Giant Eagle Tuesday for a #BurghProud Thanksgiving meal distribution event, it felt like a good time to chat some Pittsburgh with Bednar.

Below you will find 10 questions plus commentary and answers from Bednar, who agreed to this lighthearted interview between loading boxes into trunks and greeting attendees at the charity event.

Q: OK, what's your favorite store that isn't here anymore?

A: Does Ames count? Commentary: Ames does indeed count. Gotta be top five along with such retail titans as Phar-Mor and Hills. (Also, props to Terry Rodgers, the Pirates director of business communications and social media, who came in hot with a "Kmart's" — yes, plural — suggestion.)

Q: What's your go-to spot for ice cream?

A: I want say Bruster's, but it's more of a chain. My dad grew up in McKees Rocks, and when I was younger, we'd go to Remember When. They had this twist ice cream cone they'd have to bring out the side door because it was too big; it wouldn't fit through the window. I'll go with that.

Commentary: Just Googled "Remember When." Add that one to the list.

Q: OK, favorite place to get pizza?

A: Easy. Doughboys in McKees Rocks.

Commentary: Also added. Q: Pittsburghers are always looking for a good fish sandwich. Whaddya got?

A: I'm always going to Wil-ees [in Gibsonia]. They have an enormous fish sandwich. It's the size of your face.

Q: As a kid, what was your favorite championship-winning team? Not that anyone cares, but mine was the 1991 Penguins.

A: Super Bowl XL Steelers. The Bus goes home! Oh, come on. You kidding me? That's hard to beat.

Q: OK, halfway there. You walk into Primanti's. What's your order?

A: Pittsburgher. Steak and cheese, pretty standard. If I'm feeling crazy, I'll get an egg on it. Not trying to reinvent the wheel here.

Q: You get a day in the Strip. First place you're going ...

A: It's between Pamela's and Kelly O's. They just put a Kelly O's in Wexford, which is awesome. Also, Wholey's. My uncle's coming to town for Thanksgiving. They always go down to the Strip. He also loves Church Brew Works. Can't wait to go there. It's crazy how much the Strip has changed in the past 23 years.

Commentary: Easiest way to find love or a fight with a Yinzer is by arguing over local bars and restaurants. Let's tackle some non-food topics ...

Q: Say you have someone in town. What's the one touristy thing yinz are doing?

A: Honestly, I'm just hoping it lines up with a Steelers game. I think a Steelers game embodies what Pittsburgh is.

Youth team returns favor to Harper

The Associated Press

Philadelphia Phillies fans know that Bryce Harper puts serious thought into his spikes.

But some kids from the North Camden, N.J., Pirates Youth Baseball Organization freed up Harper to focus on other things when they commemorated Harper's 2021 National League MVP Award by designing a custom pair of Under Armour Harper 6 cleats. The North Camden Pirates organization was robbed in 2019, putting their season in jeopardy. Harper surprised them with an Under Armour and Dick's Sporting Goods

Notebook

shopping spree, including cleats and Phillies tickets.

The kids designed the cleats. They include the Phanatic, of course. They also have "MV3" and "MVP" with a Phillies "P" on the back. They were delivered to Harper's Las Vegas home sometime last week.

"This was a really sweet surprise and such a cool way to reconnect with the young North Camden athletes," Harper said. "This game can present both struggles and triumphs, which they are all too familiar with. I'll think of them every time I wear these

cleats — they're a representation of their hard work.

"To be the kind of player these kids look up to really means the world to me. I mean it when I say that I play for them. The fact that they thought of me during this moment is truly special."

Mets

A team in need of outfield depth acquired one potential solution, inking prospect Nick Plummer to a major league contract. Plummer, 25, was a first-round draft pick of the Cardinals in 2015, but he struggled to produce amidst multiple wrist surgeries early in his professional career.

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Hockey

Jarry has moved on from postseason fizzle

JARRY, FROM D-1

looked a lot different, so has what he's been doing with those black-and-gold beauties.

Instead of playing a pre-programmed style that would have him relying on set save selections or techniques in certain situations, we are at times seeing him turn away shooters with unorthodox methods. Like lunging across the crease. Or leaving his feet to fight off high shots. Or busting out half-butterfly pad saves.

It might not always look

pretty. But the results, especially in the past two weeks, certainly are easy on the Penguins' eyes. After stopping 116 of 118 shots through the past four games, he ranks sixth among NHL starters with a .933 save percentage.

"He's not going to wow you with technical discipline," Schwartz said. "But he can wow you with his ability to read the game and his recognition of scoring threats and situations, and then play off of his natural instincts. I think that's more of what we're seeing from him now.

He's done a good job of just playing."

Now, as Schwartz put it, "There's structure and routine to your game that allows you to play certain scenarios similarly over the course of time." Whether it's a lateral pass or a shot through traffic, there needs to be a basic foundation that supports Jarry. If that crumbles, like it did back in May, he's flailing out there.

From what Schwartz has observed from afar, Jarry is back on firm footing.

But the 26-year-old still

has a long way to go to show that the Penguins made the right decision in sticking with Jarry after his postseason meltdown in May.

Even though his Oilers were also playing in the postseason at the time, Schwartz was keeping tabs on Jarry's performance and tuning in whenever he could.

"You have relationships with those guys beyond just stopping pucks," he said.

After the Penguins lost in six games to the Islanders, with Jarry finishing with a

.888 save percentage and just one quality start, Schwartz gave Jarry some space so that he could process what happened and think about his off-season goals.

"I think there were things that he realized after that through self-reflection or time with [the Pittsburgh staff] that there were some things that he needed to tidy up in his game, be it technical or be it a work component," Schwartz said.

Eventually, the two connected and their workouts outside Edmonton began

around July 1. They were typically on the ice three days a week, occasionally four. Flyers goalie Carter Hart, who is from the area, popped in from time to time.

When Jarry headed back to Pittsburgh for the start of training camp in September, Schwartz was confident that Jarry had put last postseason in the rearview.

"It's early, but he's trending in the right direction," he said. "Hopefully last season is behind him and he continues to look like the goalie we're seeing now."

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts
Florida	19	14	2	1	2	73	48	31
Toronto	21	14	6	1	0	57	47	29
Tampa Bay	18	11	4	2	1	59	52	25
Detroit	21	9	9	3	0	58	69	21
Boston	16	10	6	0	0	51	44	20
Buffalo	19	7	10	2	0	54	66	16
Montreal	21	5	14	2	0	47	76	12
Ottawa	17	4	12	1	0	44	65	9

METROPOLITAN DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts
Carolina	18	14	3	1	0	58	36	29
Washington	20	12	3	5	0	70	47	29
NY Rangers	19	12	4	3	0	55	52	27
Columbus	17	11	6	0	0	60	51	22
Pittsburgh	19	9	6	1	3	58	53	22
New Jersey	17	8	5	1	3	50	52	20
Philadelphia	18	8	6	2	2	44	50	20
NY Islanders	16	5	9	1	1	32	51	12

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts
Minnesota	19	12	6	0	1	67	61	25
St. Louis	19	10	7	1	1	63	53	22
Winnipeg	19	9	6	2	2	55	51	22
Colorado	16	10	5	1	0	66	51	21
Nashville	19	10	8	1	0	52	55	21
Dallas	17	8	7	1	1	47	52	18
Chicago	19	6	11	2	0	42	63	14
Arizona	20	4	14	0	2	37	74	10

PACIFIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts
Calgary	20	12	3	5	0	68	38	29
Edmonton	19	14	5	0	0	74	57	28
Vegas	20	12	8	0	0	64	61	24
Anaheim	20	10	7	2	1	65	56	23
San Jose	19	10	8	0	1	52	54	21
Los Angeles	19	8	8	3	0	49	52	19
Vancouver	20	6	12	1	1	47	66	14
Seattle	19	6	12	1	0	54	69	13

Note: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

Wednesday's results

Columbus 3 Winnipeg 0
 Washington 6 Montreal 3
 Pittsburgh 4 Vancouver 1
 Minnesota 3 New Jersey 2 (SO)
 Florida 2 Philadelphia 1 (OT)
 Boston 5 Buffalo 1
 NY Rangers 4 NY Islanders 1
 Detroit 4 St. Louis 2
 Vegas 5 Nashville 2
 Colorado 5 Anaheim 2
 Seattle 2 Carolina 1
 Toronto 6 Los Angeles 2
 Edmonton 5 Arizona 3
 San Jose 6 Ottawa 3

Thursday's games

No games scheduled
Friday's games
 N.Y. Rangers at Boston, 1 p.m.
 Carolina at Philadelphia, 3:30 p.m.
 St. Louis at Chicago, 3:30 p.m.
 Winnipeg at Minnesota, 3:30 p.m.
 Ottawa at Anaheim, 4 p.m.
 Florida at Washington, 5 p.m.
 New Jersey at Nashville, 6 p.m.
 Montreal at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
 Seattle at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m.
 Vancouver at Columbus, 7 p.m.
 Colorado at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.
 Pittsburgh at N.Y. Islanders, 7:30 p.m.
 Toronto at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

BOSTON 5, BUFFALO 1

First Period
 1. Buffalo, Okposo 5 (Asplund) 10:56.
 2. Boston, Bergeron 7 (Pastrnak, Marchand) 13:29.
 3. Boston, Coyle 6 (Foligno) 14:20.
 4. Boston, Pastrnak 6 (McAvoy, Bergeron) 16:59 (pp).
 5. Boston, Reilly 2 (Foligno, Zboril) 19:00.
Penalties — Zboril Bos (cross-checking) 2:25; Dahlin Buf (hooking) 15:30.
Second Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — Foligno Bos, Miller Buf (fight-

ing) 1:42; Forbort Bos (tripping) 9:22.

Third Period

6. Boston, Hall 5 (Smith, Coyle) 15:26 (pp).
Penalties — Girgensons Buf (game misconduct) 13:46; Girgensons Buf (boarding major, served by Ruotsalainen) 13:46.
Shots on goal by
 Boston 22 7 18-47
 Buffalo 8 14 3-25
Goal — Boston: Swayman (W, 6-3-0).
 Buffalo: Dell (L, 0-4-0), Tokarski (25 shots, 24 saves).
Power plays (goals-chances) — Boston: 2-3; Buffalo: 0-1.
Attendance — 9,416 at Buffalo

PITTSBURGH 4, VANCOUVER 1

First Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — Dickinson Vcr (tripping) 3:25; Horvat Vcr (slashing) 11:36; Burroughs Vcr, Zucker Pgh (roughing) 13:59; Burroughs Vcr (hooking) 19:51.
Second Period
 1. Pittsburgh, Rust 2 (Letang, Guentzel) 0:49 (pp).
 2. Pittsburgh, Rodrigues 7 (unassisted) 7:29.
 3. Pittsburgh, Aston-Reese 1 (McGinn, Blueger) 15:20.
Penalties — Lammikko Vcr (high-sticking) 12:32.
Third Period
 4. Vancouver, Horvat 6 (Schenn) 14:52.
 5. Pittsburgh, McGinn 5 (Blueger, Pettersson) 19:00 (en).
Penalty — Dumoulin Pgh (boarding) 2:35.
Shots on goal by
 Vancouver 9 16 12-37
 Pittsburgh 16 15 6-37
Goal — Vancouver: Demko (L, 6-9-1).
 Pittsburgh: Jarry (W, 9-4-3).
Power plays (goals-chances) — Vancouver: 0-1; Pittsburgh: 1-4.
Attendance — 17,590 at Pittsburgh.

COLUMBUS 3, WINNIPEG 0

First Period
 1. Columbus, Hofmann 2 (Domi) 15:09.
Penalties — Merzlikins Clb (tripping) 4:43; Dillon Wpg (hooking) 12:22.
Second Period — No Scoring.
Penalty — Kuraly Clb (delay of game) 9:37.
Third Period
 2. Columbus, Werenski 5 (Voracek, Boqvist) 6:49 (pp).
 3. Columbus, Peeke 1 (Gavrikov, Texier) 16:27 (en).
Penalties — Domi Clb (double roughing, served by Chinakhov) 2:20; Svechnikov Wpg (slashing) 2:20; Ril.Nash Wpg (cross-checking) 6:06; Domi Clb (roughing) 9:26; Morrissey Wpg (slashing) 16:27.
Shots on goal by
 Winnipeg 15 8 13-36
 Columbus 13 10 9-32
Goal — Winnipeg: Hellebuyck (L, 6-4-4).
 Columbus: Merzlikins (W, 8-3-0).
Power plays (goals-chances) — Winnipeg: 0-4; Columbus: 1-3.
Attendance — 15,733 at Columbus

FLORIDA 2, PHILADELPHIA 1 (OT)

First Period
 1. Philadelphia, Farabee 5 (Konecny, Provorov) 7:33.
Penalties — Ekblad Fla (roughing) 11:16.
Second Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — Vatrano Fla (unsportsmanlike conduct) 10:26.
Third Period
 2. Florida, Bennett 7 (Duclair, Ekblad) 3:59 (pp).
Penalties — Seeler Pha (slashing) 3:35; Couturier Pha, Ekblad Fla (roughing) 7:09; Provorov Pha (cross-checking) 16:31.
Overtime
 3. Florida, Ekblad 6 (Huberdeau, Bennett) 2:39.
Penalties — None.
Shots on goal by
 Philadelphia 14 9 10 0-33
 Florida 16 10 12 7-45

Goal — Philadelphia: Jones (L, 3-2-1).
 Florida: Bobrovsky (W, 9-0-2).

Power plays (goals-chances) — Philadelphia: 0-2; Florida: 1-2.
Attendance — 15,545 at Florida.

WASHINGTON 6, MONTREAL 3

First Period
 1. Washington, Dowd 2 (Orlov, Jensen) 3:34.
 2. Washington, Carlson 4 (Kuznetsov, Ovechkin) 9:43 (pp).
 3. Washington, Sgarbossa 1 (unassisted) 14:31.
 4. Montreal, Evans 4 (Lehkonen) 18:46.
Penalties — Orlov Wash (delay of game) 1:18; Petry Mtl (tripping) 8:35.
Second Period
 5. Washington, Kuznetsov 7 (Carlson, Ovechkin) 9:05.
 6. Montreal, Caufield 1 (Drouin, Suzuki) 18:54.
Penalty — Hathaway Wash (roughing) 6:24.
Third Period
 7. Washington, Wilson 7 (Ovechkin, McMichael) 1:49.
 8. Washington, Orlov 3 (Dowd) 5:57.
 9. Montreal, Lehkonen 2 (Gallagher, Evans) 17:34.
Penalty — Carlson Wash (hooking) 14:25.
Shots on goal by
 Montreal 5 10 13-28
 Washington 16 10 8-34
Goal — Montreal: Allen (L, 4-9-1).
 Washington: Samsonov (W, 7-0-1).

Power plays (goals-chances) — Montreal: 0-3; Washington: 1-1.
Attendance — 18,573 at Washington

NY RANGERS 4, NY ISLANDERS 1

First Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — Palmieri NYI (slashing) 1:23; Goodrow NYR (high-sticking) 3:57; Fox NYR (hooking) 15:05; Barzal NYI (hooking) 16:12.
Second Period
 1. NY Rangers, Kreider 14 (Strome, Fox) 0:29 (pp).
 2. NY Rangers, Rooney 4 (Goodrow, Reaves) 14:28.
Penalties — Barzal NYI (hooking) 0:06; Strome NYR (tripping) 2:28; Chytil NYR (tripping) 5:30; Pageau NYI (high-sticking) 11:44; Strome NYR (interference) 17:39.
Third Period
 3. NY Islanders, Andreoff 1 (Koivula, Aho) 3:52.
 4. NY Rangers, Rooney 5 (Reaves, Nemeth) 4:12.
 5. NY Rangers, Kreider 15 (Zibanejad, Kakko) 11:02.
Penalties — Fox NYR (roughing) 13:37; Lafreniere NYR, Pageau NYI (fighting) 18:09; Wahlstrom NYI (roughing) 19:46; Hunt NYR, Wahlstrom NYI (slashing) 19:46.
Shots on goal by
 New York 8 7 6-21
 New York 8 8 5-21
Goal — NY Rangers: Shesterkin (W, 10-3-2).
 NY Islanders: Varlamov (L, 0-4-0).
Power plays (goals-chances) — New York: 1-5; New York: 0-6.
Attendance — 17,255 at NY Islanders.

MINNESOTA 3, NEW JERSEY 2 (SO)

First Period
 1. Minnesota, Hartman 10 (Kulikov, Zuccarello) 12:10.
 2. Minnesota, Sturm 4 (Gaudreau, Brodin) 19:06 (sh).
Penalties — Graves NJ (slashing) 3:08; Hartman Minn (tripping) 5:30; Hamilton NJ (interference) 6:43; Dumba Minn (high-sticking) 17:38.
Second Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — Hirschier NJ (tripping) 7:33.
Third Period
 3. New Jersey, Zacha 8 (Hirschier, Tatar) 3:08.
 4. New Jersey, Sharangovich 3 (Hirschier, Bratt) 18:53.
Penalties — Hartman Minn (tripping) 12:46; Dumba Minn (cross-checking)

13:38; Eriksson Ek Minn, Hirschier NJ (roughing) 14:53.
Overtime — No Scoring.
Penalties — None.
Shootout — Minnesota wins 1-0
 Minnesota: Zuccarello miss, Fiala goal.
 New Jersey: Hamilton miss, Bratt miss, Sharangovich miss.
Shots on goal by
 Minnesota 13 6 7 1-27
 New Jersey 18 7 13 4-42
Goal — Minnesota: Talbot (W, 10-5-0).
 New Jersey: Blackwood (SOL, 3-1-2).
Power plays (goals-chances) — Minnesota: 0-3; New Jersey: 0-4.
Attendance — 14,763 at New Jersey.

DETROIT 4, ST. LOUIS 2

First Period
 1. St. Louis, Buchnevich 5 (Krou, Saad) 10:11 (pp).
 2. Detroit, Raymond 8 (Bertuzzi, Larkin) 13:48.
Penalty — Rasmussen Det (slashing) 8:55.
Second Period
 3. Detroit, Larkin 10 (Fabbri, Leddy) 7:45.
Penalties — None.
Third Period
 4. St. Louis, Perron 7 (Perunovich, Krou) 1:11.
 5. Detroit, Erne 3 (Namestnikov, Suter) 4:38.
 6. Detroit, Fabbri 4 (Hronek) 18:45 (en).
Penalties — Oesterle Det (interference) 8:52; Seider Det (cross-checking) 12:45.
Shots on goal by
 St. Louis 11 11 15-37
 Detroit 11 3 9-23
Goal — St. Louis: Husso (L, 2-1-0).
 Detroit: Nedeljkovic (W, 5-3-3).
Power plays (goals-chances) — St. Louis: 1-3; Detroit: 0-0.
Attendance — 18,591 at Detroit

VEGAS 5, NASHVILLE 2

First Period
 1. Vegas, Stephenson 7 (Stone) 19:12.
Penalties — Cousins Nash (slashing) 15:25; Pacioretty VGK (hooking) 16:49.
Second Period
 2. Vegas, Roudbjerg 2 (unassisted) 3:01.
 3. Vegas, Brooks 1 (Kolesar, Janmark) 11:12.
Penalties — Stone VGK (slashing) 8:09; Whitecloud VGK (cross-checking) 14:02; Benning Nash (slashing) 18:20.
Third Period
 4. Nashville, Forsberg 5 (Duchene) 5:20.
 5. Vegas, Pietrangelo 4 (Stephenson) 8:04 (sh).
 6. Nashville, Forsberg 6 (Josi, Johansen) 13:51 (pp).
 7. Vegas, Stone 1 (Pacioretty) 18:08 (en).
Penalties — Roudbjerg VGK (tripping) 1:35; Roy VGK (tripping) 7:26; Theodore VGK (delay of game) 13:45.
Shots on goal by
 Vegas 11 13 11-35
 Nashville 9 10 9-28
Goal — Vegas: Lehner (W, 9-7-0).
 Nashville: Saros (L, 8-7-1).
Power plays (goals-chances) — Vegas: 0-2; Nashville: 1-6.
Attendance — 17,174 at Nashville.

COLORADO 5, ANAHEIM 2

First Period
 1. Anaheim, Milano 4 (Rakell, Drysdale) 4:58 (pp).
 2. Colorado, Makar 8 (Kadri, Landeskog) 19:06.
Penalties — Deslauriers Ana, MacDermid Col (fighting) 3:18; Rantanen Col (interference) 4:42; Drysdale Ana (interference) 6:18; Drysdale Ana (hooking) 13:15.
Second Period
 3. Colorado, Newhook 3 (Toews, Jost) 2:49.
 4. Colorado, Aube-Kubel 2 (Megna, Murray) 10:25.
Penalties — Lindholm Ana (tripping) 0:20; Silfverberg Ana (tripping) 7:51; Burakovsky Col (hooking) 14:36; Fowler

Ana (tripping) 19:34; Getzlaf Ana (slashing) 19:41.
Third Period
 5. Colorado, Kadri 7 (Rantanen, Landeskog) 0:57 (pp).
 6. Colorado, Nichushkin 4 (Burakovsky, Johnson) 15:22.
 7. Anaheim, Milano 5 (Drysdale, Zegras) 16:07 (pp).
Penalties — Manson Ana (slashing) 4:04; Landeskog Col (goaltender interference) 15:49.
Shots on goal by
 Anaheim 8 5 13-26
 Colorado 11 17 8-36
Goal — Anaheim: Gibson (L, 9-5-2).
 Colorado: Johansson (W, 1-1-1), Kuemper (6 shots, 5 saves).
Power plays (goals-chances) — Anaheim: 2-3; Colorado: 1-7.
Attendance — 16,343 at Colorado.

SAN JOSE 6, OTTAWA 3

First Period
 1. San Jose, Nieto 1 (Labanc, E.Karlsson) 7:16.
 2. Ottawa, Norris 8 (Tkachuk, Thomson) 13:38.
Penalties — Watson Ott, Middleton SJ (fighting) 2:04; Tkachuk Ott (roughing) 8:38.
Second Period
 3. San Jose, Hertl 8 (Meier, Ferraro) 0:47.
 4. Ottawa, Tkachuk 4 (Chabot, Zub) 14:38.
 5. Ottawa, Brown 3 (Chabot, Stuetzle) 16:11.
 6. San Jose, Bonino 1 (Meier, Couture) 19:29 (pp).
Penalties — Middleton SJ (slashing) 1:07; San Jose bench (too many men, served by Barabanov) 4:12; Formenton Ott (slashing) 13:13; Gregor SJ (tripping) 13:59; Tkachuk Ott (high-sticking) 18:52.
Third Period
 7. San Jose, Meier 7 (Balcers, Vlasic) 11:18.
 8. San Jose, Couture 7 (unassisted) 18:56.
 9. San Jose, Middleton 1 (Cogliano, E.Karlsson) 19:28 (en).
Penalties — Tkachuk Ott (slashing) 0:31; Watson Ott (boarding) 4:16; Barabanov SJ (slashing) 4:26; Tkachuk Ott, Nieto SJ (roughing) 19:11.
Shots on goal by
 Ottawa 12 13 4-29
 San Jose 11 11 7-29
Goal — Ottawa: Murray (L, 0-5-0).
 San Jose: Reimer (W, 6-3-1).
Power plays (goals-chances) — Ottawa: 0-4; San Jose: 1-5.
Attendance — 10,076 at San Jose.

TORONTO 6, LOS ANGELES 2

First Period
 1. Toronto, Kerfoot 3 (Kase, Simmonds) 4:30.
Penalties — Kupari LA (tripping) 1:35; Nylander Tor (interference) 5:28; Kupari LA (tripping) 7:12; Matthews Tor (boarding) 19:56.
Second Period
 2. Los Angeles, Arvidsson 3 (Durzi, Kopitar) 1:21 (pp).
 3. Toronto, Engvall 2 (Simmonds, Sandin) 3:19.
 4. Toronto, Tavares 9 (Nylander, Brodie) 5:26.
 5. Toronto, Matthews 8 (Tavares, Brodie) 13:16.
 6. Toronto, Spezza 4 (Sandin, Engvall) 15:36 (pp).
Penalties — Roy LA (holding) 14:08.
Third Period
 7. Toronto, Bunting 5 (Sandin, Matthews) 3:59.

Sports

Morning briefing

Sweden stuns Canada in Davis Cup opener

From local and wire dispatches

Before any matches were played, Elias Ymer didn't hesitate to say Sweden could succeed at the Davis Cup Finals despite being one of the lowest-ranked nations in the competition. He backed up his words with a great opening win Thursday in Madrid, then cheered on his brother Mikael in the other singles match that clinched Sweden's victory over 2019 runner-up Canada in Group B.

Top-ranked France and second-ranked Croatia also won on the opening day, while defending champion Spain was left without one of its biggest attractions after Carlos Alcaraz, 18, tested positive for the coronavirus and had to be dropped from the squad. Spain was set to open play Friday against Ecuador in Group A.

France needed to rally against 18th-ranked Czech Republic with a three-set doubles victory following the opening singles loss by veteran Richard Gasquet.

Golf

Two-time major winner Martin Kaymer is taking three months off for the birth of his first child, he told a German golf magazine. Kaymer expects to become a father in January at home in Germany and says he's looking to live in Florida with his family after the baby is born.

The inaugural season of the DP World Tour started with Angel Hidalgo of Spain shooting 6-under 65 to lead the first round of the Joburg Open in Johannesburg before play

was suspended because of bad weather. South African Tristan Lawrence was also 6 under and had one hole left to play when players came off the course due to the threat of lightning.

Soccer

Manchester United reportedly has turned to renowned German coach Ralf Rangnick about rescuing the team's season by taking temporary charge. No final agreement has been reached but discussions with United are ongoing about the former Leipzig coach leaving his role as head of sports and development at Lokomotiv Moscow.

Tim Hortons Field, an outdoor venue with artificial turf nicknamed "The Donut Box" in Hamilton, Ontario, will be the site of Canada's home World Cup qualifier Jan. 30 against the United States.

Basketball

Former NBA player Marc Gasol, 36, will play for the club he founded in the second division of Spanish basketball, Girona, until the end of the season. He said he might retire after that.

Elsewhere

The World Anti-Doping Agency approved a series of reforms designed to give athletes a bigger voice in decision-making, though the changes were roundly criticized by activist groups that said they didn't go far enough. At its board meeting, WADA announced it was adding two seats to its executive committee, one of which will go to an athlete representative.

Today on TV & Radio

Men's College Basketball

- Battle 4 Atlantis, 11 a.m., TV: ESPN
- ESPN Events Invitational, 11 a.m., TV: ESPN2
- ESPN Events Invitational, 1:30 p.m., TV: ESPN
- Battle 4 Atlantis, 1:30 p.m., TV: ESPN2
- Battle 4 Atlantis, 4:30 p.m., TV: ESPN2
- ESPN Events Invitational, 4:30 p.m., TV: ESPN2
- ESPN Events Invitational, 7 p.m., TV: ESPN2
- NIT Season Tip-Off, 7 p.m., TV: ESPNU
- Lehigh at Virginia, 7 p.m., TV: ACC Network
- North Florida at Kentucky, 7 p.m., TV: SEC Network
- Emerald Coast Classic: Penn State vs. LSU, 7 p.m., TV: CBSN
- Wooden Legacy, 9 p.m., TV: ESPNU
- Wichita State at Missouri, 9 p.m., TV: SEC Network
- NIT Season Tip-Off, 9:30 p.m., TV: ESPN2
- Emerald Coast Classic: Oregon State vs. Wake Forest, 9:30 p.m., TV: CBSN
- Continental Tire Challenge: Duke vs. Gonzaga, 10:30 p.m., TV: ESPN
- Wooden Legacy, 11:30 p.m., TV: ESPN2

College Football

- Boise State at San Diego State, noon, TV: KDKA
- Kansas State at Texas, noon, TV: WPGH
- Eastern Michigan at Central Michigan, noon, TV: ESPNU
- Ohio at Bowling Green, noon, TV: CBSN
- Utah State at New Mexico, 1 p.m., TV: FS1
- Iowa at Nebraska, 1:30 p.m., TV: Big Ten Network
- Missouri at Arkansas, 3:30 p.m., TV: KDKA

- South Florida at Central Florida, 3:30 p.m., TV: ESPN
- UNLV at Air Force, 3:30 p.m., TV: CBSN
- Colorado at Utah, 4 p.m., TV: WPGH
- TCU at Iowa State, 4:30 p.m., TV: FS1
- North Carolina at N.C. State, 7 p.m., TV: ESPN
- Washington State at Washington, 8 p.m., TV: FS1

Golf

- European Tour Joburg Open, 5 a.m., TV: Golf Channel
- Ladies European Tour Andalucia Costa Del Sol Open de Espana, 2:30 p.m., TV: Golf Channel
- The Match: Bryson DeChambeau vs. Brooks Koepka, 4 p.m., TV: TBS, TNT, TRUTV
- Asian Tour Blue Canyon Phuket Championship, midnight (Sat.), TV: Golf Channel

NBA

- Bucks at Nuggets, 9 p.m., TV: NBA TV

NHL

- Rangers at Bruins, 1 p.m., TV: WTAE
- Penguins at Islanders, 7:30 p.m., TV: AT&T SportsNet, Radio: WDXD-FM (105.9)

Tennis

- World Team Tennis, 6 p.m., TV: Tennis Channel

Women's College Volleyball

- Virginia at Boston College, 1 p.m., TV: ACC Network
- Florida at Kentucky, 1 p.m., TV: SEC Network
- Nebraska at Wisconsin, 5:30 p.m., TV: Big Ten Network
- Minnesota at Penn State, 8 p.m., TV: Big Ten Network

PRO BASKETBALL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Brooklyn	14	5	.737	—
New York	10	8	.556	3 1/2
Boston	10	9	.526	4
Philadelphia	10	9	.526	4
Toronto	9	10	.474	5

SOUTHEAST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Miami	12	7	.632	—
Washington	11	7	.611	1/2
Charlotte	12	8	.600	1/2
Atlanta	10	9	.526	2
Orlando	4	15	.211	8

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Chicago	12	7	.632	—
Milwaukee	11	8	.579	1
Cleveland	9	10	.474	3
Indiana	8	12	.400	4 1/2
Detroit	4	14	.222	7 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

SOUTHWEST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Dallas	10	7	.588	—
Memphis	9	9	.500	1 1/2
San Antonio	4	13	.235	6
New Orleans	4	16	.200	7 1/2
Houston	2	16	.111	8 1/2

NORTHWEST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Utah	12	6	.667	—
Portland	10	9	.526	2 1/2
Denver	9	9	.500	3
Minnesota	9	9	.500	3
Oklahoma City	6	12	.333	6

PACIFIC DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Golden State	16	2	.889	—
Phoenix	15	3	.833	1
L.A. Clippers	10	8	.556	3
L.A. Lakers	10	10	.500	3
Sacramento	7	12	.368	9 1/2

Wednesday's Games

- Charlotte 106, Orlando 99
 - Phoenix 120, Cleveland 115
 - L.A. Lakers 124, Indiana 116, OT
 - Brooklyn 123, Boston 104
 - Milwaukee 114, Detroit 93
 - Utah 110, Oklahoma City 104
 - Toronto 126, Memphis 113
 - Houston 118, Chicago 113
 - New Orleans 127, Washington 102
 - Atlanta 124, San Antonio 106
 - Minnesota 113, Miami 101
 - Sacramento 125, Portland 121
 - Golden State 116, Philadelphia 96
- Thursday's Games**
No games scheduled.
- Friday's Games**
Detroit at L.A. Clippers, 3:30 p.m.
Chicago at Orlando, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Phoenix at New York, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at Memphis, 8 p.m.
- Toronto at Indiana, 8 p.m.**
Washington at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
Boston at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at Denver, 9 p.m.
New Orleans at Utah, 9 p.m.
Portland at Golden State, 10 p.m.
Sacramento at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

L.A. Chargers	6	4	0	.600	260	265
Las Vegas	6	5	0	.545	259	295
Denver	5	5	0	.500	200	183

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

EAST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Dallas	7	4	0	.636	326	250
Philadelphia	5	6	0	.455	297	260
Washington	4	6	0	.400	212	267
N.Y. Giants	3	6	0	.333	179	216

NORTH

Green Bay	8	3	0	.727	247	214
Minnesota	5	5	0	.500	255	242
Chicago	4	7	0	.364	179	254
Detroit	0	10	1	.045	174	289

SOUTH

Tampa Bay	6	3	0	.667	279	212
New Orleans	5	5	0	.500	251	218
Carolina	5	6	0	.455	226	228
Atlanta	4	6	0	.400	178	280

WEST

Arizona	9	2	0	.818	310	202
L.A. Rams	7	3	0	.700	271	227
San Francisco	5	5	0	.500	246	222
Seattle	3	7	0	.300	194	209

WEEK 12

Byes: Kansas City, Arizona
Thursday's Games
Chicago 16, Detroit 14
Las Vegas 36, Dallas 33, OT
Buffalo at New Orleans

Sunday's Games

- Atlanta at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
 - Carolina at Miami, 1 p.m.
 - N.Y. Jets at Houston, 1 p.m.
 - Philadelphia at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m.
 - Pittsburgh at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.
 - Tampa Bay at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.
 - Tennessee at New England, 1 p.m.
 - L.A. Chargers at Denver, 4:05 p.m.
 - L.A. Rams at Green Bay, 4:25 p.m.
 - Minnesota at San Francisco, 4:25 p.m.
 - Cleveland at Baltimore, 8:20 p.m.
- Monday, Nov. 29**
Seattle at Washington, 8:15 p.m.

THURSDAY

	CHI	DET
CHICAGO 16, DETROIT 14		
Chicago	0	13
Detroit	7	0

First Quarter

Det—J.Reynolds 39 pass from Goff (Patterson kick), 9:26.

Second Quarter

Chi—FG Santos 28, 13:24.
Chi—J.Graham 17 pass from Dalton (Santos kick), 4:29.
Chi—FG Santos 43, :00.

Third Quarter

Det—Hockenson 17 pass from Goff (Patterson kick), 1:46.

Fourth Quarter

Chi—FG Santos 28, :00.

	Chi	Det
First downs	21	14
Total Net Yards	378	239
Rushes-yards	29-68	19-76
Passing	310	163
Punt Returns	4-39	2-9
Kickoff Returns	3-59	3-84
Interceptions Ret.	0-0	1-0
Comp-Att-Int	24-39-1	21-25-0
Sacked-Yards Lost	1-7	1-8
Punts	4-45.75	6-50.0
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	3-1
Penalties-Yards	5-50	10-67
Time of Possession	32:56	27:04

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—Chicago, Montgomery 17-46, Dalton 6-11, Herbert 4-9, Mooney 1-2, Grant 1-0. Detroit, J.Williams 15-65, Igwebuike 1-11, Swift 3-0.
PASSING—Chicago, Dalton 24-39-1-317. Detroit, Goff 21-25-0-171.
RECEIVING—Chicago, Kmet 8-65, Mooney 5-123, Byrd 4-42, Montgomery 3-28, J.Graham 2-34, Grant 2-25. Detroit, J.Williams 5-18, St. Brown 4-23, J.Reynolds 3-70, Hockenson 3-35, Raymond 3-16, Swift 3-9.
MISSED FIELD GOALS—Chicago, Santos 53.

LAS VEGAS 36, DALLAS 33, OT

Las Vegas	14	3	10	63-36
Dallas	6	7	6	14-0-33

First Quarter

LV—Jackson 56 pass from Carr (Carlson kick), 11:45.
Dal—McKeon 10 pass from Prescott (kick

failed), 7:38.
LV—Jacobs 1 run (Carlson kick), 1:33.

Second Quarter

LV—FG Carlson 22, 8:46.
Dal—Elliott 1 run (Zuerlein kick), :25.

Third Quarter

LV—Mariota 3 run (Carlson kick), 7:13.
Dal—Pollard 100 kickoff return (run failed), 7:00.
LV—FG Carlson 46, 3:28.

Fourth Quarter

Dal—FG Zuerlein 29, 12:00.
LV—FG Carlson 30, 8:18.
Dal—Schultz 32 pass from Prescott (Schultz pass from Prescott), 2:54.
LV—FG Carlson 56, 1:52.
Dal—FG Zuerlein 45, :19.

Overtime

LV—FG Carlson 29, 4:28.
A—93,483.

	LV	Dal
First downs	28	23
Total Net Yards	509	437
Rushes-yards	35-143	20-64
Passing	366	373
Punt Returns	3-34	2-16
Kickoff Returns	0-0	3-129
Interceptions Ret.	0-0	0-0
Comp-Att-Int	24-39-0	32-47-0
Sacked-Yards Lost	3-7	1-2
Punts	5-48.6	7-55.0
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	14-110	14-166
Time of Possession	39:02	26:30

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—Las Vegas, Jacobs 22-87, Drake 7-25, Carr 2-21, Jones 1-4, Mariota 2-4, Renfrow 1-2. Dallas, Pollard 10-36, Elliott 9-25, Prescott 1-3.
PASSING—Las Vegas, Carr 24-39-0-373. Dallas, Prescott 32-47-0-375.
RECEIVING—Las Vegas, Renfrow 8-134, Jones 5-59, Jackson 3-102, Waller 2-33, Jacobs 2-25, Drake 2-5, Edwards 1-12, Moreau 1-3. Dallas, C.Wilson 7-104, N.Brown 6-53, Elliott 6-24, Gallup 5-106, Pollard 4-32, Schultz 3-46, McKeon 1-10.
MISSED FIELD GOALS—Dallas, Zuerlein 59.

COLLEGE SPORTS

AP TOP 25 MEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

- Wednesday's Games**
No. 6 Baylor 75 Arizona St. 63
No. 8 Texas 68 Cal Baptist 44
No. 9 Memphis 69 Virginia Tech 61
No. 12 Houston 78, Oregon 49
No. 18 BYU 81 Texas Southern 64
No. 22 UConn 115 **No. 19** Auburn 109 (2OT)
No. 20 Michigan 65 Tarleton 54
No. 21 Seton Hall 62, California 59
No. 23 Florida 71 Ohio St. 68
Iowa St. 82 **No. 25** Xavier 70
- Thursday's Games**
No. 4 Kansas 71 North Texas 59
No. 6 Baylor 69 VCU 61
Iona 72 **No. 10** Alabama 68
No. 19 Auburn 62 Loyola-Chicago 53
Michigan St. 64 **No. 22** UConn 60
No. 24 Southern Cal vs. Saint Joseph's
- Friday's Games**
No. 1 Gonzaga vs. **No. 5** Duke at T-Mobile Arena, Las Vegas, 10:30 p.m.
No. 3 Purdue vs. Omaha, 2 p.m.
No. 4 Kansas vs. TBD at HP Field House, Orlando, Fla., TBD
No. 6 Baylor vs. TBD at Imperial Arena, Paradise Island, The Bahamas, TBD
No. 9 Memphis vs. TBD at Barclays Center, Brooklyn, N.Y., TBD
No. 10 Kentucky vs. North Florida, 7 p.m.
No. 10 Alabama vs. TBD at HP Field House, Orlando, Fla., TBD
No. 14 Illinois vs. Texas Rio Grande Valley, 8 p.m.
No. 15 Tennessee vs. Tennessee Tech, 3 p.m.
No. 19 Auburn vs. TBD at Imperial Arena, Paradise Island, The Bahamas, TBD
No. 22 UConn vs. TBD at Imperial Arena, Paradise Island, The Bahamas, TBD
No. 24 Southern Cal vs. TBD at Anaheim Convention Center, Anaheim, Calif., TBD
No. 25 Xavier vs. TBD at Barclays Center, Brooklyn, N.Y., TBD

AP TOP 25 WOMEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Wednesday's Games—No games scheduled.

Thursday's Games

- No. 5** NC State 78 **No. 2** Maryland 60
- No. 7** Stanford 69 **No. 4** Indiana 66
- No**

Sports



Emily Matthews/Post-Gazette

County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, left, and Mayor-elect Ed Gainey help prepare meals Thursday during the annual Light of Life Rescue Mission's Thanksgiving dinner on the North Side.

Tunch's spirit of giving lives on

MISSION, FROM D-1

serve meals to those in need at the shelter, and that wasn't about to stop despite the 6-foot-3 void left by Ilkin.

"It's very different. It's very hard," Wolfley said. "We were just so interwoven as brothers for 41 years. It's just difficult to look around and see — this was all his desire, this was what he really wanted, and I bought into it."

"This" was the general idea of helping the less fortunate — not just on the holidays but every day — as was the pristine facility that opened earlier this year on Voegtly Street. Before his passing, Ilkin was ecstatic that the \$22 million project to support three separate locations within the nonprofit organization was nearly complete.

He did get to see the new

shelter where Wolfley dished out lunch alongside Ilkin's wife, Karen, Thursday afternoon. That was something the Ilkin family could take solace in on a day that his warm hugs and larger-than-life personality were sorely missed.

"This building meant so much to Tunch," Karen Ilkin said. "We were blessed that Tunch was here for the opening. We wish he could be here today, but I know he's with us in spirit. He loved coming down to Light of Life. His heart was just full for this mission. It's such a blessing to see what he envisioned with the leadership of the mission, with the board of the mission, that the vision came true, and it continues to grow."

The Steelers also got involved in another way this season, with quarterback Ben Roethlisberger and

Christian music artist Micah Tyler partnering with Light of Life to sell black-and-gold shirts with "DIFFERENT," on them, a nod to one of Tyler's new songs. For each shirt sold, Tyler donates one meal to Light of Life and Roethlisberger matches it.

Between this particular tradition, as well as annual events such as the "Tunch & Wolf's Walk for the Homeless" each summer, Ilkin's legacy will live on in the place where he invested his spirit and hard work in the community long after he did so on the football field. This Thanksgiving was one of the first reminders of that, and it was not lost on those closest to him.

Volunteers who were in the kitchen and handing out food wore aprons over top of T-shirts made special for this Thanksgiving. On the back was a quote, the

same one Wolfley heard long ago:

"Once you walk through the doors of Light of Life, your life will never be the same" — Tunch Ilkin

The same goes for many who felt the impact of Ilkin, who was formally inducted into the Steelers Hall of Honor two weeks ago. As sorrowful as the past few months have been for his family, they've also been a celebration of a man whose reach went well beyond opposing defensive linemen.

"I just want to thank the city for all the love they've poured out to us," Karen Ilkin said. "Tunch was a son of the city. He loved this city, and they loved him back. It was just so beautiful to see that. Thank you all."

Brian Batko: bbatko@post-gazette.com and Twitter @BrianBatko.

HIGH SCHOOL RESULTS, SCHEDULE

PLAYOFF SCHEDULE	RADIO & TV
<p>Football WPIAL CLASS 5A Championship Saturday – Moon (12-0) vs. Penn-Trafford (10-2) at Heinz Field, 6 p.m.</p> <p>WPIAL CLASS 4A Championship Saturday – Belle Vernon (10-0) vs. Aliquippa (10-1) at Heinz Field, 3 p.m.</p> <p>WPIAL CLASS 3A Championship Saturday – Central Valley (12-0) vs. North Catholic (12-0) at Heinz Field, noon.</p> <p>WPIAL CLASS 2A Championship Friday – Beaver Falls (9-3) vs. Serra Catholic (13-1) at Heinz Field, 5 p.m.</p> <p>WPIAL CLASS 1A Championship Friday – Our Lady of the Sacred Heart (9-3) vs. Bishop Canevin (12-1) at Heinz Field, 2 p.m.</p> <p>PIAA CLASS 6A Quarterfinals Western Region Friday – McDowell (9-2) at Mt. Lebanon (12-0), 7 p.m. Saturday – State College (7-5) at Harrisburg (12-1), 1 p.m.</p> <p>Eastern Region Friday – Coatesville (12-1) at Gamet Valley (13-0), 7 p.m.; St. Joseph's Prep (9-2) vs. Bethlehem Freedom (11-2) at Bishop O'Hara, 6 p.m.</p> <p>PIAA CLASS 5A Quarterfinals Western Region Friday – Exeter (9-3) at Governor Mifflin (10-0), 7 p.m.</p> <p>Eastern Region Friday – Strath Haven (12-1) at West Chester Rustin (11-1), 7 p.m. Saturday – Erie Cathedral Prep (11-1) vs. Imhotep Charter (9-1) at Bald Eagle Area, 3 p.m.</p> <p>PIAA CLASS 4A Quarterfinals Western Region Saturday – Jersey Shore (13-0) vs. Meadville (9-3) at Clarion University, 1 p.m.</p> <p>Eastern Region Friday – Bishop Shanahan (9-3) at Valley View (12-1), 7 p.m.; Lampeter-Strasburg (11-1) at Bishop McDevitt (10-1), 7 p.m.</p> <p>PIAA CLASS 3A Quarterfinals Western Region Friday – Grove City (10-2) vs. Martinsburg Central (13-0) at Slippery Rock University, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Eastern Region Friday – Neumann-Goretti (11-1) vs. Danville (8-4) at Lehigh, 6 p.m. Saturday – Wyoming (13-0) vs. Scranton Prep (11-0) at Governor Mifflin, 2 p.m.</p> <p>PIAA CLASS 2A Quarterfinals Western Region Friday – Farrell (10-0) at Kams City (11-1), 7 p.m.</p> <p>Eastern Region Friday – Northern Lehigh (10-3) vs. Philadelphia West Catholic (4-7) at Whitehall, 6 p.m.; Richland (11-2) at Southern Columbia (12-1), 7 p.m.</p> <p>PIAA CLASS 1A Quarterfinals Western Region Friday – Redbank Valley (11-1) vs. Northem Bedford (9-3) at Clarion University, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Eastern Region Friday – Bishop Guilfoyle (8-3) at Juniata Valley (10-1), 7 p.m. Saturday – Canton (12-0) vs. Old Forge (13-0) at Danville, 1 p.m.</p>	<p>Football Friday 2 p.m.: Bishop Canevin vs. Our Lady of the Sacred Heart; Radio: WKPL-FM (92.1) 5 p.m.: Serra Catholic vs. Beaver Falls; Radio: KDKA-AM (1020), WBVP-AM (1230), WMBA-AM (1460), WKPL-FM (92.1) 7 p.m.: McDowell vs. Mt. Lebanon; Radio: WJPA-FM (95.3)</p> <p>Saturday Noon: North Catholic vs. Central Valley; TV: WPCW; Radio: WBVP-AM (1230), WMBA-AM (1460) 3 p.m.: Aliquippa vs. Belle Vernon; TV: WPCW; Radio: KDKA-AM (1020), WBVP-AM (1230), WMBA-AM (1460), WKPL-FM (92.1), WJPA-FM (95.3), WHJB-FM (107.1) 6 p.m.: Penn-Trafford vs. Moon; TV: WPCW; Radio: KDKA-AM (1020), WKPL-FM (92.1), WHJB-FM (107.1)</p>

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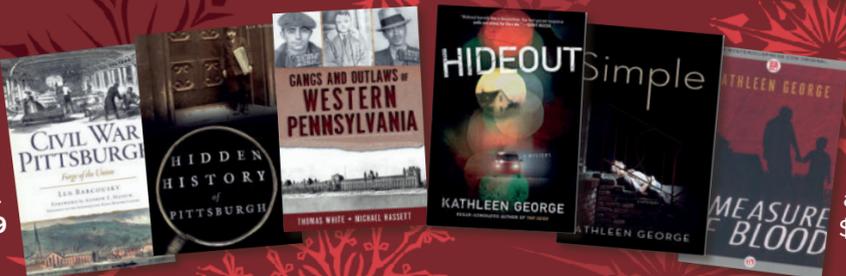


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