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SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2024

$932m spent sheltering families

Under pressure to act, Mass. signed pricey deals without competitive bids

By Stephanie Ebbert and Deirdre Fernandes
GLOBE STAFF

In the scramble to accommodate thousands of migrant families, the Healey administration has approved scores of hastily arranged contracts with little transparency, sometimes handing out multimillion-dollar deals without competitive bids, a Globe review of contracts found.

The documents, provided in response to Globe public records requests, offer a window into the breathtaking scope of the state's rapid and often piecemeal approach to accommodating thousands of homeless families — about half of them migrants who made their way to Massachusetts from the southern US border.

The state is now housing, feeding, and caring for 7,499 families — around 23,000 people.

Massachusetts will spend about $932 million — three times what was budgeted — on emergency shelters for homeless families this fiscal year. Lawmakers negotiating next year's budget — when the cost is again expected to surpass $900 million — are still trying to find the money to pay off this year's tab.

The Globe reviewed nearly 80 state contracts, as well as recent invoices from individual hotels and providers. State agencies have not yet provided the Globe some contracts whose costs are reflected in those totals. Still missing are agreements with the National Guard, which provides staffing in 21 of the 75 hotels being used as shelters, and for the large overflow shelters in places like the Melnea A. Cass Recreational Complex in Roxbury and a former Cambridge courthouse,

SHELTERS, Page A6

Brandeis athletes want coach to resign

Women's basketball players tell school they'll leave team if she stays

By Michael Silverman
GLOBE STAFF

The Brandeis University women's basketball team is in a state of open revolt.

All 11 remaining players sent a letter to head coach Carol Simon this week to inform her they will leave the team if she does not resign.

The threat of a mass walkout marks the culmination of a saga several years in the making. It's a tale that includes student allegations of racist and toxic behavior from Simon combined with an erosion of students' trust in the Brandeis administration to right the program in a transparent and timely manner.

"The team is in shambles," said junior Lulu Ohm. "People are stressed out of their minds because there's a pressure on us to make things right because, unfortunately, the university has not really been hearing us until we started showing them how much we need to be heard."

Simon did not return phone calls and emails requesting comment.

In response to a lengthy set of questions from the Globe concerning Simon's employment status and numerous student complaints about Simon and the school's handling of the complaints, the university issued a statement that did not mention Simon by

BRANDEIS, Page A10

A word from the present you for the future them



New service offers 'after-life messaging'; but what to say?

By Beth Teitell
GLOBE STAFF

Not that I'm looking forward to being dead, but maybe a deceased status would at least allow me to put an end to my lifelong anxiety — about doing, saying, wearing the right thing.

But OMG. Maybe not? For real, there's a new service — an "after-life messaging platform" — that lets you prerecord messages, videos, or audio that are sent out to loved ones after you've "passed." (The Cambridge-based "Eternal Applications" runs the platform, but more on this in a moment.)

In other words, dead though you may be, your obligations are not over.

The messages can be timed to go out for special occasions or dates for the next 50 years! As if it's not hard enough saying the right thing when you KNOW what's happening with the recipient of your well wishes, imagine trying to do it 10 years — or half a century — in advance.

Congratulations on the occasion of your wedding. Or maybe it's your divorce! Or you've decided to stay single — good or you! Or perhaps you're dead, too, in which case my estate deserves a partial refund. I'll call customer service now and start fighting.

But do people even want to hear from me once I'm no longer around to shame them into responding? I can't say

AFTERLIFE, Page A10

SPACE FOR CELEBRATION



ERIN CLARK/GLOBE STAFF

SPACE, the Somali Parents Advocacy Center for Education, was formed by Asha Abdullahi to help Somali parents of children with disabilities obtain the education, health resources, and mental health support they might otherwise lack because of language barriers and other issues. Above, Fatumo Aden with her 10-month-old daughter, Amina, and a friend, Fatuma Osmanatt, (right) attended an Eid celebration put on by the group. **B1.**

Playoff hopes blossom at TD Garden — particularly for Celtics

CHAD FINN
COMMENTARY

Every April, the calendar delivers a smorgasbord of much-anticipated sporting events for Boston fans. This year is no different. The suspense comes in finding out just how fulfilling it all will be.

A brief rundown of our sports feast:

The Bruins, an enigmatic second seed in the Atlantic Division, will commence their Stanley Cup playoff journey Saturday with Game 1 against the always talented, perennially underachieving Maple Leafs.

The following afternoon, the top-seeded Celtics begin their quest for the elusive 18th championship against an opponent that will not be determined until the NBA play-in round is completed Friday night.

The Boston Marathon finish line is just behind us. The NFL Draft, with the Patriots possessing the No. 3 pick and a chance to select a potential franchise quarterback, is less than a week away. And the Red Sox, a few weeks beyond Opening Day, have . . . uh, not been mathematically eliminated just yet, so there's that.

It seems fitting to borrow a phrase from retiring Bruins play-by-play voice Jack Edwards: "Who's got it better than us?"

Of course, the fun and anticipation that the NBA and NHL playoffs bring is always accompanied by tension, particularly

FINN, Page C6



ERIN CLARK/GLOBE STAFF; GETTY IMAGES; PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

Tenants turn to the power of unions

R.I. groups push for bargaining with landlords

By Alexa Gagosz
GLOBE STAFF

CRANSTON, R.I. — When Audrey Gordon found the two-bedroom apartment at 1890 Broad St., she thought it was in a safe neighborhood, and the $1,250 per month rent was one she could afford as a licensed practical nurse. The landlord, Jeffrey T. Butler, told her the building was under renovation after being condemned by the city under the former owners. She didn't mind, she told the Globe. After living with her children at the temporary homeless shelter in Pawtucket, the apartment offered a fresh start.

Two years later, 1890 Broad St. is still in disrepair. Gordon, 34, said she has had to deal with a rodent infestation and significant flooding from the condemned apartment above her first-floor unit.

"It literally looked like it was raining in here," she recalled. Maintenance workers painted over the damaged walls and ceilings instead of venting the apartment and fixing the problem, she said.

"I just want to feel safe in our home," said Gordon. "What do you have to do for that?"

In early April, Gordon and

TENANTS, Page A6

A group of parents is taking the fight over admission to Boston's exam schools to the US Supreme Court, arguing that efforts to diversify enrollment are resulting in discrimination against Asian American and white applicants. **B1.**

The final jurors for Donald Trump's criminal trial were selected, with lawyers preparing to offer opening statements Monday. **A2.**

The House took a critical step toward approving a long-stalled package of aid to Ukraine, Israel, and other US allies, as Democrats supplied the crucial votes to push the legislation past Republican opposition so that it could be considered. **A4.**



Puddle through

Saturday: Rainy morning. High: 56-61. Low: 39-44.

Sunday: Sunny, breezy. High: 56-61. Low: 40-45.

Sunrise: 5:55 Sunset: 7:32

Comics and Weather, **D4-5.**

Obituaries, **C9.**

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The Nation

Jury selection complete in Trump trial

Five Manhattan residents among the chosen

By Jesse McKinley and Jonah E. Bromwich
NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK — The final jurors for Donald Trump's criminal trial were selected Friday, with lawyers preparing to offer opening statements Monday in a landmark proceeding that was suddenly overshadowed at midday by the spectacle of a man setting himself aflame outside the courthouse.

Five Manhattan residents were chosen Friday, filling out a group of 12 seated jurors and six alternates who will hear accusations from the Manhattan district attorney's office that Trump sought to cover up a sex scandal that could have imperiled his 2016 run for president.

The day was marked by an intensity of emotion from the start. Several prospective jurors asked to be excused, and some became upset, with one saying she had become too nervous to continue the process.

An afternoon hearing at which the judge was to determine the questions prosecutors could ask the former president if he were to testify proceeded as scheduled.

Trump, 77, is charged with 34 felony counts of falsifying business records in relation to his effort to silence a porn actor, Stormy Daniels, who in 2016 was seeking to sell her story of having had sex with Trump a decade earlier. The former president denies her claim and has pleaded not guilty, harshly criticizing the case, the first time a president has faced a criminal trial.

The selection of the final alternates capped a whirlwind week that captured the attention of a crush of media and a smattering of protesters who descended on the Criminal Courts Building in lower Manhattan.

The courthouse was subject to heavy security as Trump came and went from the courtroom, stopping only to attack the case and the judge overseeing it, Juan M. Merchan, as well as Alvin L. Bragg, the Manhattan district attorney.

Those attacks continued on Friday, as a defiant Trump, as has become his custom during the trial's first week, used the hallway outside the courtroom to address reporters and a pool camera.

"This is a rigged trial," Trump said, attacking Bragg and complaining about not being able to campaign because he is in court. "It's very unfair. And people know it's very unfair."



CURTIS MEANS/POOL/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Donald Trump said Friday, "This is a rigged trial. It's very unfair. And people know it's very unfair."

The trial has moved more quickly than many people expected it would. Some observers initially believed jury selection could take up to two weeks, but Merchan, sometimes keeping the parties later than normal and seemingly intent on treating the case like any other, was able to fill the jury box in half that time.

Still, the divisiveness that has accompanied Trump's political career was evident in the jury selection process: Scores of potential jurors said they simply could not be impartial. One, a nurse, was seated on the jury and then decided she could not be fair, adding that she had become alarmed by the early press coverage and by people divining her identity. Another seated juror was disqualified after prosecutors raised questions about his credibility.

Prosecutors have indicated that they intend to minimize Trump's celebrity, saying in court this week that he is "just like any other defendant in any other criminal case," while acknowledging the strong feelings he inspires.

"It's not a referendum on the Trump presidency or a popularity contest or any indication of who you are going to vote for in November," said one prosecutor, Joshua Steinglass, while addressing jurors Tuesday. "We don't care."

The defense is expected to attack the credibility of the prosecution's witnesses aggressively, particularly Michael Cohen, Trump's former fixer who made the payment to Daniels and pleaded guilty in 2018 to breaking campaign finance and other federal laws.

During jury selection, the defense lawyers have focused intently on potential jurors' opinions about Trump, echoing the presumptive Republican presidential nominee's lifelong obsession with "fairness."

"It's extraordinarily important to President Trump that we know that we're going to get a fair shake," Todd Blanche, his lead lawyer, said.

Trump has made his displeasure over the trial apparent, with a constant barrage of online attacks on Cohen, several of which have been highlighted by prosecutors, who say the former president has violated a gag order issued by Merchan 10 separate times.

The order forbids attacks on witnesses, prosecutors, jurors, and court staff members, as well as their relatives and relatives of the judge. The judge plans a hearing Tuesday to consider whether Trump has violated the gag order.

Trump's demeanor has generally been subdued, and he appeared to doze off on several occasions.

Near court, man lights self on fire

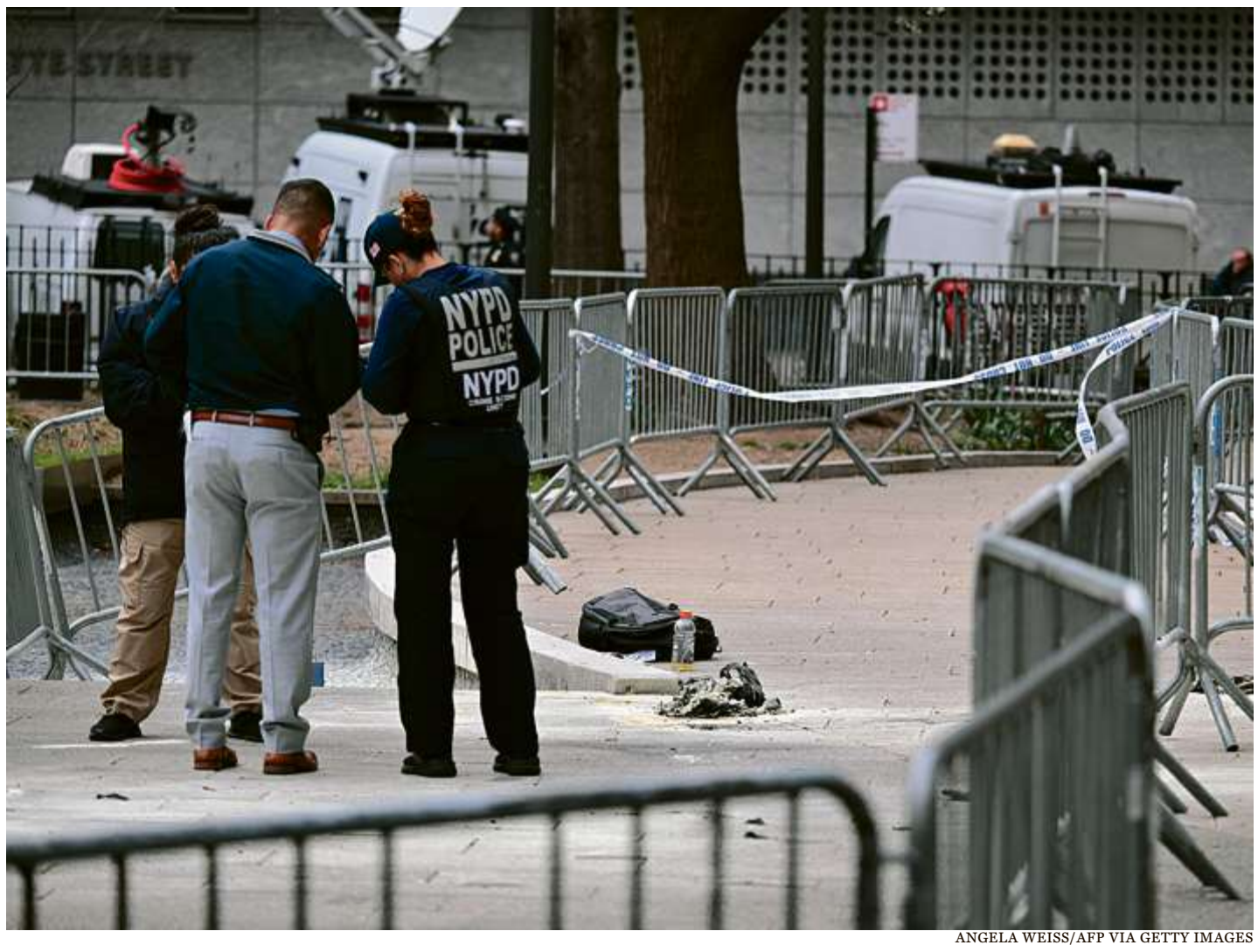
NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK — A man set himself on fire Friday afternoon near the lower Manhattan courthouse where jurors were being chosen for the criminal trial of former president Donald Trump.

The man, who had lingered outside the Manhattan Criminal Courthouse earlier this week, doused himself with accelerant at 1:35 p.m. in Collect Pond Park, across the street from the building. Soon, orange flames engulfed the man. He threw leaflets espousing antigovernment conspiracy theories into the air before setting himself on fire.

The New York Fire Department said he was taken to a hospital in critical condition.

A Police Department official identified the man as Max Azzarello, 37, of St. Augustine, Fla. Azzarello had appeared outside the courthouse Thursday with a sign displaying the address of a website where the same pamphlets were uploaded.



ANGELA WEISS/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Millions of acres in Alaska shielded from drilling

Interior to deny permission for industrial road

By Lisa Friedman
NEW YORK TIMES

The Biden administration expanded federal protections across millions of acres of Alaskan wilderness on Friday, blocking oil, gas, and mining operations in some of the most unspoiled land in the country.

The Interior Department said it would deny a permit for an industrial road that the state of Alaska had wanted to build through the Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve in order to reach a large copper deposit with an estimated value of $7.5 billion. It also announced it would ban drilling in more than half of the 23-million-acre National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska, an ecologically sensitive expanse north of the Arctic Circle.

Together, the two moves amount to one of biggest efforts in history to shield Alaskan land from drilling and mining. They are expected to face challenges from industry as well as from elected leaders in Alaska, where oil and gas revenues make up much of the state's budget and where mining is a main driver of the economy.

"Alaska's majestic and rugged lands and waters are among the most remarkable and healthy landscapes in the world, sustaining a vibrant subsistence economy for Alaska Native communities," President Biden said in a statement.

Part of an environmental blitz ahead of Earth Day, the Alaska announcements are designed to help Biden cement his climate and conservation legacy and win back voters still angry over a decision he made last year to approve Willow, an $8 billion oil drilling project in Alaska.

Over the past several weeks, the administration has announced strict new emissions limits for automobiles; raised the cost to drill and mine on public lands while making it easier to conserve those federal lands; and issued a host of regulations to restrict toxic chemicals in the air and drinking water. Biden has also expanded the boundaries of several national monuments.

"From safeguarding sacred lands near the Grand Canyon to protecting Alaskan treasures, my administration has conserved more than 41 million acres of lands and waters," Biden said. "But as the climate crisis imperils communities across the country, more must be done. My administration will continue to take ambitious action to meet the urgency of the climate crisis, protect America's lands and waters, and fulfill our responsibility to the next generation of Americans."

The Interior Department has determined there should be "no action" on a proposal to build a 211-mile industrial road through the Brooks Range on federal land that has been untouched by humans. Known as Ambler Road, the proposed two-lane gravel road would have crossed 11 rivers and thousands of streams before it reached the site of a copper deposit.

The Interior Department found that the road would significantly and irrevocably disturb wildlife habitat, pollute spawning grounds for salmon, and threaten the hunting and fishing traditions of more than 30 Alaska Native communities. The agency is expected to formally deny a road permit for Alaska's state economic development agency in the coming weeks.

Conservationists and tribal leaders called the government's decision a historic victory.

Chief Brian Ridley, chair of the Tanana Chiefs Conference, which represents 42 villages in interior Alaska, said the Ambler Road decision "is a monumental step forward in the fight for Indigenous rights and environmental justice."

But Senator Dan Sullivan, Republican of Alaska, said blocking the road was "lawless," and Representative Mary Peltola, a Democrat from the state, called it "disappointing."

Farther north, the Interior Department finalized a rule that withdraws 13 million acres of Arctic tundra from future oil and gas drilling. It ensures "maximum protections" in more than half of the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska, a swath of pristine wilderness on the state's North Slope, bounded by the Chukchi Sea to the west and the Beaufort Sea to the north.

That decision would not affect the Willow project, the biggest new oil field in decades in Alaska, which is expected to produce up to 180,000 barrels per day for the next 30 years.

Republicans said that cutting off millions of acres from oil drilling in the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska would weaken national security, lead to higher energy prices and deprive Alaska of billions of dollars in tax revenues.

"The Biden administration is fine with our adversaries producing energy and dominating the world's critical minerals markets while shutting down those in America," Sullivan said at a news conference on Thursday, joined by the state's senior senator, Lisa Murkowski, and nine other Senate Republicans.

Biden "is destabilizing our security as a nation in a way most didn't think possible," Murkowski said. She accused the Biden administration of wanting to "lock up Alaska."

American oil production is at record levels and the United States is the world's leading exporter of liquefied natural gas.

Oil industry leaders suggested they would challenge the legality of the administration's actions.

The rule also widened a rift among Alaska Natives already split over the future of fossil fuels in the Arctic, an area both deeply threatened by climate change and dependent on oil for jobs.

DAILY BRIEFING

Nevada upholds ban on ghost guns

RENO, Nev. — Nevada's Supreme Court upheld a state ban on ghost guns Thursday, overturning a lower court's ruling that sided with a gun manufacturer's argument that the 2021 law regulating firearm components with no serial numbers was too broad and unconstitutionally vague.

Separately the court handed a setback to antiabortion activists in a fight over a voter initiative that no longer was headed to the November ballot anyway, a decision that abortion rights' advocates say nonetheless helps establish important legal guidelines regarding overall reproductive health care.

The gun law had previously been struck down by Lyon County District Judge John Schlegelmilch, who ruled in favor of a legal challenge by Nevada-based gun manufacturer Polymer80 Inc. that said the statute was too vague.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

FAA probing issue on runway

ARLINGTON, Va. — The Federal Aviation Administration will investigate after a flight at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport was instructed to cross a runway where another flight was starting its takeoff, the agency said.

A JetBlue flight was starting its takeoff roll on runway 4 at the airport in Arlington, Va., just outside Washington, D.C., at 7:41 a.m. Thursday, when an air traffic controller instructed a Southwest Airlines flight to cross the same runway, the FAA said in a statement. The agency will investigate the event.

Southwest Airlines Flight 2937, which was bound for Orlando, took off from the airport at 7:47 a.m., according to FlightAware, which tracks flight activity. JetBlue flight 1554 was bound for Boston and according to FlightAware, the flight took off from Reagan National at 1:48 p.m.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pastor critical of gay author quits

BEAL CITY, Mich. — A Catholic priest has resigned as pastor of a church in a small central Michigan community, the result of weeks of controversy following his publicly expressed regret that a gay author had read a book to preschool children.

Gay rights activists and others have held regular protests outside St. Joseph the Worker Church in Beal City.

The Rev. Thomas Held went on Facebook on March 13 to respond to a parish preschool visit by local author Dominic Thrasher, who read from his book, "The Adventures of Cece and the Sheriff." The main characters are puppies.

Held said a "guest who does not represent the values of our Catholic faith" had read a book to children.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Victims of Okla. bombing recalled

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

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

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The World

Israel's attack not meant to escalate, analysts say

Limited strikes didn't cause any damage, Iran says

By Steve Hendrix, Shane Harris, Susannah George, and Frances Vinall
WASHINGTON POST

JERUSALEM — Israel's retaliatory strike against Iran on Friday appears to have been very limited in scope and designed to avoid turning the long-running shadow war between the two Middle East rivals into a full-blown conflagration, according to analysts and officials.

The Israeli military carried out the strikes against the central province of Isfahan and possibly Tabriz early Friday. Iranian authorities almost immediately said that no damage was caused and that reported explosions were just antiaircraft measures.

An Israeli official who confirmed the strike on the condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive military matters said it was just intended to send a message to Iran that Israel has the ability to hit targets inside the country.

A person familiar with official discussions about the attack, who also spoke on the condition of anonymity as they were not authorized to discuss it publicly, said the strike was "carefully calibrated."



ARASH KHAMOOSHI/NEW YORK TIMES
Iranians protested against Israel after Friday prayers in Tehran. Tensions between the countries have been soaring.

Tensions have been soaring for weeks following Israel's deadly strike on an Iranian diplomatic compound in Damascus, Syria, raising fears of a wider conflict. Last Saturday, Tehran then launched its first direct attack on Israel with hundreds of missiles and drones — nearly all of which were neutralized. Friday's limited response by Israel appeared to many experts to be part of attempts by both sides to deescalate the situation.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said that Iran, which has increasingly close ties with Moscow, had reached out to defuse the situation.

"There were telephone contacts between the leadership of Russia and Iran, our representatives and Israelis. We very clearly registered that in these conversations — and conveyed to the Israelis — that Iran does not want an escalation," the minister said.

Iranian state media said only that air defense systems intercepted "three small drones" in Isfahan province. The area is home to sensitive facilities — an Iranian military base and key nuclear labs — but the attack appeared to be only a pinprick, given Israel's long-range military capabilities.

With Israel tight-lipped after the attack and Iran downplaying its significance, the two sides appear to be hoping the exchanges so far may be enough to satisfy domestic audiences without requiring further retaliation.

"When you consider some of the options, which have been discussed, such as an attack on the Iranian nuclear program, or even some kind of special forces assault, it doesn't seem to me like this is actually a major escalation," said Charles Miller, a security expert at Australian National University. "It seems that actually both sides want to be seen to be doing something without actually undertaking the risks of doing anything that's too provocative."

Tehran's attack last weekend did not cause any substantial casualties, possibly allowing Israel to opt for such a pinprick attack. Saturday's Iranian attack came with a lot of advance warning and was probably designed to look spectacular while keeping death and destruction to a minimum, analysts said.

"The Israeli strike and Iran's initial response suggests that both sides can claim some measure of satisfaction without taking it further: The former shows it is undeterred by the weekend attack and has capacity to retaliate directly; the latter by minimizing its impact," said Ali Vaez, director of the Iran Project and senior adviser at the Crisis Group.

The International Atomic Energy Agency, which monitors Iran's nuclear program, said Friday that none of the Iranian nuclear sites were damaged.

Israel also apparently kept the United States in the loop during the attack. Italian Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani told reporters that Israel provided advance notice to Washington about the strike. "The United States were informed the last minute, but there was no involvement on the part of the United States," he said at a Group of Seven meeting on the island of Capri.

Tajani said the apparent small size of the attack was "the result of the efforts of the G-7."

Israel had signaled that it would respond militarily to Iran's launch of attack drones, ballistic and cruise missiles, but it has been under pressure from the Biden administration and other allies to show restraint to avoid provoking a wider regional conflict.

Israel's war cabinet reviewed a list of target options provided by the Israel Defense Forces. The body was seeking to craft an action plan that would deter Iran without causing significant casualties or damage so extensive that Tehran would be forced to answer with another round of attacks, according to an Israeli official familiar with the deliberations.

Israeli military and government officials have declined to comment publicly on the attack.

DAILY BRIEFING

Two held in attack on Navalny ally

VILNIUS, Lithuania — Two men have been detained in Poland on suspicion that they attacked Russian activist Leonid Volkov — an ally of the late opposition leader Alexei Navalny — on the orders of foreign intelligence services, officials said Friday.

Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk said on the social platform X that the two Polish "assassins" are under arrest, as well as a Belarusian working for Russia who had ordered the Poles to "assassinate" a Navalny associate. He said the Poles were linked to extremist soccer fan circles.

Volkov was attacked on March 12 outside his home in Vilnius, where he lives in exile.

The attackers smashed one of his car's windows, sprayed tear gas into his eyes, and hit him with a hammer, police said at the time.

Lithuanian President Gitanas Nausda announced the arrest of two people to reporters in Vilnius and thanked Poland for its work.

Both suspects are Polish citizens previously known to police in their homeland. They traveled to Vilnius before the attack on Volkov and returned to Warsaw afterward.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Salvage of burned exchange difficult

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

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

"A further building collapse is absolutely a possibility," said Tim Ole Simonsen, a spokesman for the Greater Copenhagen Fire Department, adding that structural engineers were assessing how best to remove precarious remnants of scaffolding. "It is very difficult work."

He later said the work was paused and "our efforts have taken a new turn," after the powerful shears mounted on the end of a crane had fallen into the ruins of the building. There also were still small pockets of fire to extinguish and "tons" of debris to remove.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

End of ban on X in Pakistan urged

ISLAMABAD — An important ally of Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif demanded the government lift a two-month-old ban on the social media platform X, saying on Friday that it violates citizens' right to speech and expression.

The ban on X has been in place since February, when the party of imprisoned former prime minister Imran Khan announced a nationwide protest against alleged election rigging ahead of the Feb. 8 vote that allowed Sharif to come to power.

"We demand that the ban on X, which is known as Twitter, should immediately be lifted by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to stop any further violation of human rights," said Farhatullah Babar, a senior leader of the Pakistan People's Party. The PPP is an important member of the coalition that allowed Sharif to form a government in March.

Babar is known as a defender of human rights who's taken stands on civil rights and the protection of minorities during a long career in politics.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Islamic State attack kills 22 in Syria

BEIRUT — An attack on pro-government fighters by suspected members of the Islamic State group in central Syria killed 22, an opposition war monitor and pro-government media reported Friday.

Gunmen attacked a bus carrying members of the Quds Brigade, a government and Russian-backed faction of mostly Palestinian fighters in Syria, near the town of Sukhna late Thursday night. Sukhna was once an IS stronghold.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility but both the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a UK-based opposition war monitor, and the pro-government radio station Sham FM said IS was behind the attack.

ASSOCIATED PRESS


LIBKOS/GETTY IMAGES
Ukrainian soldiers fired mortars Friday. An aid package pending in Congress will support Ukraine, Israel, and other allies.

Ukraine aid bill clears critical hurdle

Democrats supply crucial votes in House

By Annie Karni
NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — The House took a critical step Friday toward approving a long-stalled package of aid to Ukraine, Israel, and other US allies, as Democrats supplied the crucial votes to push the legislation past Republican opposition so that it could be considered on the floor.

The 316-94 vote cleared the way for the House to bring up the aid package, teeing up separate votes Saturday on each of its parts. But passage of those measures, each of which enjoys bipartisan support from different coalitions, was not in doubt, making Friday's action the key indicator that the legislation will prevail.

The rule for considering the bill — historically a straight party-line vote — passed with more Democratic than Republican support, but it also won a majority of GOP votes, making it clear that despite a pocket of deep resistance from the far-right, there is broad bipartisan backing for the $95.3 billion package.

The vote was an enormous victory in the long effort to fund Ukraine as it battles against Russian aggression, a major priority of President Biden that has met with bitter resistance from the right. It was a triumph against the forces of isolationism within the GOP and a major moment of bipartisan consensus in a Congress that for the past year has been mostly defined by its dysfunction.

But it came only after Speaker Mike Johnson, who put his own job on the line to push through the plan over his party's objections, was forced to turn to Democrats in a significant breach of custom in the House, further imperiling his position even as he paved the way for the legislation to be voted on and approved.

> 'I'm so glad Republicans finally realize the gravity of the situation and the urgency with which we must act.'
> REPRESENTATIVE JIM MCGOVERN

On the House floor, Democrats held back their votes until it was clear there was not enough Republican support for the measure to pass without their backing, and then their "yes" votes began pouring in. Ultimately, 165 Democrats voted for the measure, more than the 149 Republicans who supported it.

"Democrats, once again, will be the adults in the room, and I'm so glad Republicans finally realize the gravity of the situation and the urgency with which we must act," said Representative Jim McGovern of Massachusetts, the top Democrat on the Rules Committee. "But you don't get an award around here for doing your damn job."

McGovern blamed a "MAGA minority that doesn't want to compromise" for the long delay on sending aid to Ukraine. But he said that Democrats were providing the votes necessary to advance the legislation because "so much more is at stake here than petty partisanship."

It was the second time during this Congress that Republicans have had to rely on Democratic votes in the House to even bring to the floor legislation to address a critical issue. They did so last year to allow for a vote to suspend the debt ceiling bill and avoid a catastrophic federal default. On that vote, 29 Republicans voted to oppose the rule. On Friday, 55 Republicans voted against their own speaker's agenda.

Republicans also have needed Democrats to pass several major pieces of legislation. Those include multiple spending measures to keep the government funded and the annual defense bill, after a revolt from the far-right over the exclusion of restrictions they had sought to abortion access, transgender care, and racial diversity and inclusion policies at the Pentagon.

Many Republicans spoke Friday in favor of the legislation to send aid to Ukraine and Israel. Representative Michael Burgess, Republican of Texas and the chair of the rules panel, said he wanted the Biden administration to provide more information about how previous foreign aid funding was used and what its long-term goals were for ending the conflict in Ukraine.

He said Republicans would continue to push for accountability but conceded that "today we are at an inflection point. Lack of aid now could cost us much more dearly later, and I don't want that to become a reality."

But the far-right flank of the Republican conference, which has wielded outsize power in a tiny majority, spoke out to oppose the bill.

"I'm concerned that the speaker's cut a deal with the Democrats to fund foreign wars rather than secure our border," said Represenative Thomas Massie, Republican of Kentucky, one of the most vocal opponents of the legislation who has threatened to vote to oust Johnson because of it.



ALTAF QADRI/ASSOCIATED PRESS

People voted in Chennai Friday during the first round of polling of India's national election.

In India, election tests limits of Modi dominance

Prime minister seeks a rare third term in office

By Ashok Sharma and Krutika Pathi
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW DELHI — Millions of Indians began voting on Friday in a six-week election that's a referendum on Narendra Modi, the populist prime minister who has championed an assertive brand of Hindu nationalist politics and is seeking a rare third term as the country's leader.

People began lining up at polling stations hours before they were allowed in at 7 a.m. in parts of 21 states, from the Himalayan mountains to the tropical Andaman Islands. Nearly 970 million voters — more than 10 percent of the world's population — will elect 543 members to the lower house of Parliament for five years during the staggered election that runs until June 1. The votes will be counted on June 4. There are a total of 28 states in India.

The voting ended at 6 p.m. and the turnout was estimated at around 60 percent of 166.3 million eligible voters in the first round, the election authority said in a statement. By comparison, India's 2019 national election registered the highest ever voter turnout — 67.11 percent — in the history of Indian parliamentary elections.

The second round will be held on April 26, and turnout is expected to increase over the course of the voting. Authorities said the voting was largely peaceful on Friday. Media reports said that some supporters of Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party and the opposition Congress party clashed in Chhindwara, a city in central India, during the voting.

Some workers of the BJP and the All India Trinamool Congress clashed in West Bengal state on Thursday night. Some injuries were reported, but the election authority didn't give any details.

This election is seen as one of the most consequential in India's history and will test the limits of Modi's political dominance.

If Modi wins, he'll be only the second Indian leader to retain power for a third term, after Jawaharlal Nehru, the country's first prime minister.

Most polls predict a win for Modi and his Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party, which is up against a broad opposition alliance led by the Indian National Congress and powerful regional parties.

It's not clear who will lead India if the opposition alliance, called INDIA, wins the election. Its more than 20 parties haven't put forward a candidate yet.

The BJP controls much of India's Hindi-speaking northern and central parts, but is now trying to gain a foothold in the east and south. Their toughest challenge is in the southern Tamil Nadu state, with 39 seats, where voting was being held on Friday.

Voters in hot and humid Chennai, the state's capital, began briskly filling the city's nearly 4,000 polling booths. A number of them said they were voting for a change in federal government given rising prices, unemployment, and religious polarization stoked by the BJP.

"First thing I came to vote for is to have a country without any religious disharmony. In Tamil Nadu — Hindus, Muslims, Christians, we're all together. And this unity should grow," said 65-year-old Mary Das, who was waiting to vote.

P. Chidambaram, an opposition Congress party leader and the country's former finance minister, said that the people of Tamil Nadu wouldn't vote for the BJP as "it is imposing one language, one culture, one system, and one kind of food."

Voting is also taking place in the northeastern state of Manipur, where a near-civil war for a year has triggered ethnic violence. Mobs have rampaged through villages and torched houses, and more than 150 people have been killed.

While India's economy is among the world's fastest-growing, many of its people face growing economic distress. The opposition alliance is hoping to tap into this, seeking to galvanize voters on issues like high unemployment, inflation, corruption, and low agricultural prices that have driven two years of farmers' protests.

Envoy says US determined to monitor N. Korea's nuclear weapons program

By Kim Tong-hyung
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEOUL — The United States and its allies are discussing options "both inside and outside the UN system" to create a new mechanism for monitoring North Korea over its nuclear weapons program, the American ambassador to the United Nations said Wednesday.

Russia last month vetoed a UN resolution in a move that effectively abolished monitoring by UN experts of Security Council sanctions against North Korea, which prompted Western accusations that Moscow was acting to shield its arms purchases from North Korea to fuel its war in Ukraine.

"I look forward to engaging with both the Republic of Korea and Japan, but like-minded [countries] as well, on trying to develop options both inside the UN as well as outside the UN. The point here is that we cannot allow the work that the panel of experts were doing to lapse," US Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield told a news conference in Seoul, using the formal name for South Korea.

Thomas-Greenfield didn't provide specific details about US discussions with allies and other partners, including whether an alternative monitoring regime would more likely be established through the UN General Assembly or with an independent entity outside of the UN.

Thomas-Greenfield met with South Korean Foreign Minister Cho Tae-yul on Monday, and they discussed unspecified "next steps to ensure a continuation of independent and accurate reporting" of North Korea's illicit weapons development activities, according to her office.

Thomas-Greenfield said it was clear that Russia and China, which abstained from voting on the UN resolution vetoed by Moscow, will continue to try to block international efforts to maintain monitoring of UN sanctions against North Korea. She criticized Russia for violating those sanctions with its alleged arms purchases from North Korea, and China for protecting the North from being held accountable.

Moscow and Beijing have thwarted US-led efforts to tighten UN sanctions on North Korea over its ramped-up ballistic missile testing since 2022, underscoring a divide between permanent Security Council members that deepened over Russia's war on Ukraine.

"I don't expect that they will cooperate or agree with any efforts that we make to find another path, but that is not going to stop us from finding that path moving forward," Thomas-Greenfield said.

Thomas-Greenfield also briefly addressed questions about tensions in the Middle East. When asked about the Palestinian Authority's request to have full UN membership, she said a UN resolution in support of that request would not contribute to finding a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

"President Biden has said categorically that we support a two-state solution for addressing the situation in the Middle East, where Palestinians will have a state of their own and Israel is secure in their state, and we are working on the ground to get to that place as quickly as possible," she said.

"We do not see that doing a resolution in the Security Council will necessarily get us to a place where we can find a . . . two-state solution moving forward," she added.

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Massachusetts spent nearly $1b sheltering families



CRAIG F. WALKER/GLOBE STAFF

One of the state's emergency shelters is at the Melnea Cass Recreational Complex in Boston.

▶SHELTERS
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which were established after the state capped the family shelter system at 7,500 families.

State officials have, in fact, been reluctant to provide much transparency at all about the shelter system. They have restricted visits by the media and declined to provide the addresses or even the names of the hotels being used as shelters. They point to the speed with which they had to act and also concerns about protecting families' privacy; neo-Nazis staged demonstrations at some shelters last summer.

But the lack of transparency also means watchdogs cannot hold the administration accountable for how the money is spent or for the living conditions of the migrants now within their care.

Hotel operators are prohibited by state contracts from speaking to the media about the shelter program, the state's housing agency, or the families staying in their buildings. And some city officials were upset by the sudden appearance of shelters in their local hotels, with little public notice or transparency.

Taunton Mayor Shaunna O'Connell said she was opposed to turning the entire Clarion Hotel into a shelter and called the hotel management last spring to tell them so. "But unknown to me they had already been contracting with the state and working out all the details," she said. "We did not appreciate ... the only hotel in Taunton being shut down."

In the rush to find shelter quickly, the contracts indicate, the state negotiated deals directly with about a dozen hotel companies, instead of relying, as it usually does, on social services groups to find shelter accommodations. Hotels and nonprofits often began housing families and helping them sign up for health checkups and public benefits before their vendor contracts with the state were fully negotiated and inked.

"Due to federal inaction, our administration has had to move quickly to provide food, shelter, and other services to unprecedented numbers of families in need," said Kevin Connor, a spokesman for the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities, which is leading the response to the migrant crisis. That office issued at least four contracts without competitive bids, raising questions about how rigorously the state has managed this nearly $1 billion-a-year taxpayer endeavor.

"I don't think there's been much oversight at all here," said Senator Peter J. Durant, a Spencer Republican who flipped a Senate seat in November after campaigning on the migrant crisis. He questioned why some contracts were handed out without competitive bidding.

"Where's that transparency so we can understand these costs?" said Durant.

The largest no-bid contract, a $10 million, eight-month deal, went to an East Boston restaurant and catering facility called Spinelli's, to deliver meals to more than 30 shelter sites. Spinelli's owner Rita Roberto has been an active political donor, and she and other company executives have given $7,550 to Governor Maura Healey and Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll since 2019. Roberto did not respond to calls and emails for comment.

A state official said political considerations were not involved and that the top priority was to feed homeless children.

"This is a longtime state vendor that has been contracted for services over multiple administrations, particularly during COVID when they were called upon to provide emergency services," said Connor.

Other no-bid contracts went to Mercedes Cab, a Truro-based company that the state is paying $6.8 million through June for transportation services; United Way to provide $5 million in grants to other shelter providers; and Ascentria Community Services, a Worcester-based agency that provided wraparound shelter services for just over six months for $946,000.

In cities and towns that charge local hotel room occupancy taxes, the state is picking up the tab for stays under 90 days and reimbursing communities whose hotel room excise taxes dropped as a result of lost room rentals. One contract amendment shows the state agreeing to pay the city of Woburn $127,935 in taxes.

State officials did not inspect each hotel before signing contracts or placing families in them, a spokesman confirmed. Cities and towns have authority over licensing the hotels, which are required by contract to comply with all local, state, and federal codes. But local policies were not always followed. One Brighton motel, the Catholic Charities Inn, was never inspected last year, city records show. Its inspection certificate expired just a few weeks after it opened as a shelter last summer. The state was paying $345 a night for each family's motel room and social services, until recently, when — after complaints from numerous guests — the building was evacuated due to a mold infestation. The state sanitary code calls for all residential buildings to be watertight and free of the appearance of mold.

Additional costs associated with hotel living also drive up expenses, the contracts show. In Everett, in addition to the hotel room and help with signing up for social services, taxpayers are also picking up incidentals: linen service, a meeting room rental, extra trash pickup, and an emergency alarm fix earlier this year came to a total cost of about $25,600 one month.

In Taunton, where city officials have sued the hotel for failing to initially meet occupancy limits and pay the corresponding fines, the state is footing the bill for private security guards and Taunton Police Department details to patrol the site. The tab? About $100,000 a month, according to invoices, on top of the $214 daily rate for shelter, food, and case management services for each homeless family.

Massachusetts has a unique right-to-shelter law that guarantees temporary housing and services to families with children and those who are pregnant, including new arrivals in the country who are lawfully seeking asylum.

Those numbers began to soar last summer. By August, Healey declared an emergency and activated up to 250 National Guard members to staff hotels being repurposed as shelters.

Mark DeJoie, the chief executive officer of Centerboard, a Lynn nonprofit that provides shelter, financial workshops, and youth mentoring, said state and social services agencies had to act quickly to ensure families had somewhere to stay and that children weren't going hungry.

"There wasn't a plan for this. Everybody was going as fast as they could," DeJoie said. "For a while, it was every hand on deck."

As a sign of how slapdash the effort was, the state pulled in Centerboard as a middleman to receive and pay bills from individual restaurants and caterers that delivered food to other shelter sites but weren't directly contracted with the state. Centerboard then billed the state and verified "to the extent we could" that the food delivered at other sites matched the bills paid, he said.

"There were mistakes that were going to be made," DeJoie said. "There is no organization anywhere, the state and other providers, that could have done what we did."

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Tenants turn to unions, collective bargaining for solutions

▶TENANTS
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nine other residents formed a tenants union to hold their landlord accountable. It's the first majority tenants union in Rhode Island outside of public housing, according to Reclaim R.I., a volunteer-based progressive organization. And it's part of a trend across the United States in which tenants are turning their frustrations into organizing efforts.

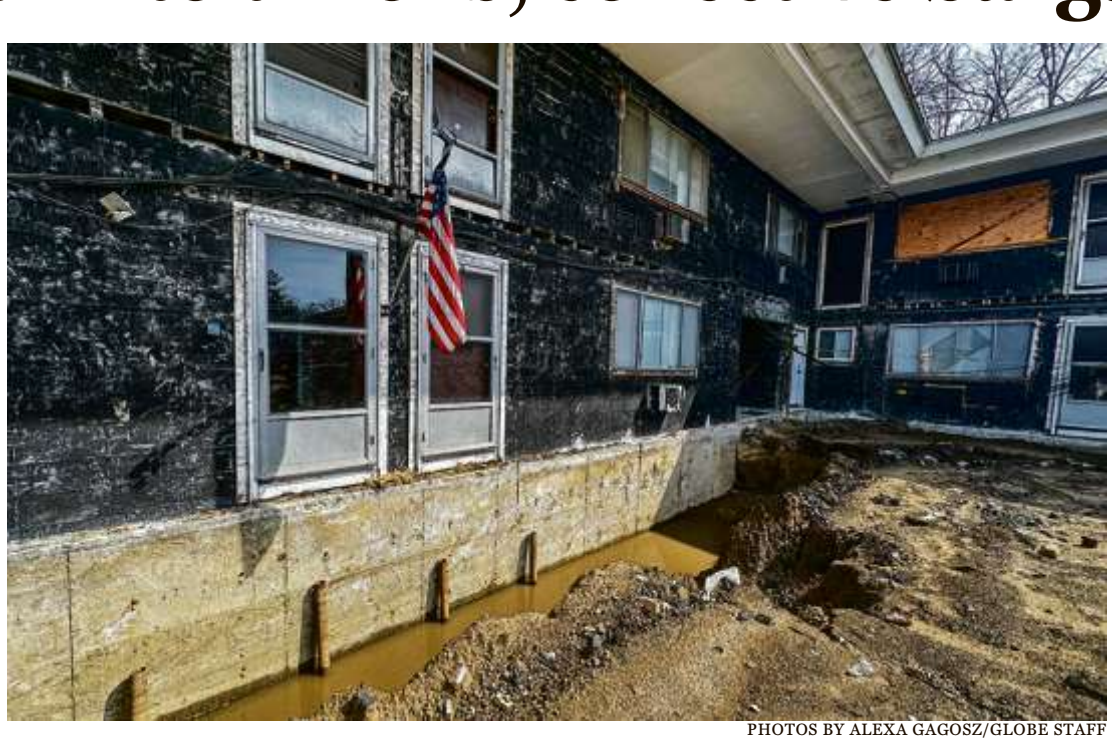
"Working-class people can use the courts and the political system. All of these things are real tools at their disposal," said Daniel Denvir, cofounder of Reclaim R.I. "But nothing beats actual, collective organization and the sort of power that can wield."

Modeled after labor unions, tenants unions are collective bargaining groups that typically coordinate actions against landlords, such as withholding rent until issues such as evictions, rent increases, and maintenance problems are addressed.

Renters make up about one third of all US households and nearly 40 percent of households in Rhode Island. Though renters in Rhode Island have had a legal right to organize since 1986, there is no regulation around who can be part of a union or how collective bargaining takes place, and there is no state law that requires landlords to negotiate with a tenants union, according to state Representative Cherie Cruz, a Pawtucket Democrat who also works as an organizer with Reclaim R.I.

The legal power of a union varies from state to state and even from union to union, but unions offer tenants a collective voice and strength in numbers that can make it more difficult for a landlord to ignore tenants' requests.

Efforts to improve housing conditions have been slowly bubbling in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Vermont for the last several years: The Connecticut Tenants Union has helped renters form at least 16 chapters since 2021, while in Maine, at least two tenants unions have formed in Portland and another organized in Brunswick in late 2023.



PHOTOS BY ALEXA GAGOSZ/GLOBE STAFF



The tenants at 1890 Broad St. in Cranston, R.I., (above) formed a tenants union to demand that maintenance issues be resolved. Left, Representative David Morales spoke at a tenants rights rally outside of Kent County Court in Warwick.

Outside of New England, a citywide tenants union in Kansas City, Mo., has more than 9,000 members. In 2023, those unions helped advocate for Kansas City to become one of 15 cities in the United States with a right-to-counsel program for tenants in eviction proceedings. In 2022, tenants unions in Kingston, N.Y., won a 15 percent rent reduction for 1,200 units.

And in Massachusetts tenants of a building in Lawrence unionized last year after they were told their rent was going to go up by 50 percent or more. Instead, the union negotiated a compromise: Each unit would pay $100 more per month for the first year and a cap of 2 percent on increases a year after.

Proponents of tenants unions said they are a necessary step for combating the housing crisis and fighting so-called slumlords.

"Landlords aren't always holding up their end of the contract, even if it's written on paper in their lease," said Hannah Srajer, president of the Connecticut Tenants Union. "At the end of the day, people will fight for their homes," she said.

Critics of tenants unions said renters already have plenty of protections.

"Tenants have all sorts of legal avenues to take if their landlord is doing something wrong. They can start by simply calling the city and [inspectors] should come out within 24 hours. If the issue escalates, landlords have to go to court," said Keith Fernandes, chairman emeritus of the Providence Apartment Association, which supports "small landlords" who own a few units each. "Meanwhile, if I was to have a bad tenant, I have no one to call."

Rental properties are one of the most regulated industries in Rhode Island, Fernandes said, and it's "pushing even more mom-and-pop landlords to sell — including me."

Investor-landlords who own large numbers of units or have a history of problematic relationships with their tenants are a different story. Fernandes said he "hates them more than tenants do."

"The bad apples give the rest of us landlords a bad name," he said.

In Cranston, Stephen M. Litwin, the attorney for Butler's company, Elmwood Realty LLC, told the Globe tenants were offered an opportunity to vacate by the end of April if they "didn't want to live there anymore," and could get their security deposits back. Though Cranston Mayor Kenneth J. Hopkins said in an April 10 press release the city has issued violations notices to an Elmwood subsidiary as recently as April 1, Litwin said the property "did not have any violations."

Litwin declined to comment further until after an April 23 court hearing on requests by tenants for a temporary restraining order.

On Wednesday, Butler issued a statement blaming Cruz, the state representative and organizer, for instigating his tenants, saying she was also behind "false affidavits" that led the ACLU and R.I. Center for Justice to sue him in December 2023.

"Jeffrey Butler has been in the residential real estate business for over 25 years," said the statement. "Prior to September 2023, other than evictions due to non-payment of rent, Elmwood has never been accused of not maintaining its properties or retaliating against tenants."

Unions for renters aren't new: Evidence of tenant activism dates back to the late 1800s, with the rise of industrial cities. Another wave took place in the mid-20th century, including movements in public housing developments.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, there was a resurgence of tenants unions, with members calling for moratoriums on evictions. While recent efforts have been more successful in large cities, there's been less momentum in smaller cities. And when the Biden administration's eviction moratorium ended in late 2021, states saw record-high eviction rates. Landlords filed more than 1 million evictions in the last year in the 34 cities and 10 states, including Rhode Island, tracked by the Eviction Lab at Princeton University.

Landlords in Rhode Island are filing more evictions this year than prior to the pandemic: 636 filings in February, compared to 578 in February 2020. Similar patterns can be found in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

In an effort to bolster their legal standing, Representative David Morales, a Providence Democrat, introduced a bill this year that would establish a hearing process for complaints filed by tenants unions and outline how they can identify and sanction patterns of "landlord misconduct." It's part of a larger slate of legislation known as the Tenants' Bill of Rights. But there is nothing in the legislation that would compel landlords to bargain.

"Vulnerable tenants should have better options than slumlords ... and tenants should be free to demand healthy and habitable homes without retaliation," said Shana Crandell, a tenant organizer with Reclaim R.I.

Rhode Island Housing Secretary Stefan I. Pryor said more could be done to protect tenants in Rhode Island, but he is still considering how that would be accomplished.

"I do think that the fact that tenants are organizing, recognizing that the power they have collectively is very important, and can be a countervailing weight in this very tough market," he said.

In Cranston, city officials recently issued notices to Butler's company for violating the state property maintenance code, and Mayor Kenneth J. Hopkins said in a press release the city plans to reinspect the Broad Street property later in April.

Since they announced their intent to unionize, tenants said some of their ongoing maintenance issues are finally being addressed, including fixing broken windows, doors, and a faulty heating system.

But to get results, tenants said they had to resort to drastic measures. In addition to unionizing, three tenants filed temporary restraining orders against Butler and others hosted a rally with local union leaders.

"Some people would just say 'move out' if they saw what we live in every day," said Gordon. "But there's no other housing available out there. So we have to fight for what we have."

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PATRICK ORSAGOS/ASSOCIATED PRESS/FILE

Notably absent from the Education Department-issued revised Title IX regulation is any mention of transgender athletes.

Title IX update protects LGBTQ+ students

Obligations of schools clarified under 1972 law

By Collin Binkley
ASSOCIATED PRESS

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

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

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

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

Instead, Biden is officially undoing sexual assault rules put in place by his predecessor and current election-year opponent, former president Donald Trump. The final policy drew praise from victims' advocates, while Republicans said it erodes the rights of accused students.

The new rule makes "crystal clear that everyone can access schools that are safe, welcoming and that respect their rights," Education Secretary Miguel Cardona said.

"No one should face bullying or discrimination just because of who they are, who they love," Cardona told reporters. "Sadly, this happens all too often."

Biden's regulation is meant to clarify schools' obligations under Title IX, the 1972 women's rights law that outlaws discrimination based on sex in education. It applies to colleges and elementary and high schools that receive federal money. The update is to take effect in August.

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

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

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

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

> 'No one should face bullying or discrimination just because of who they are, who they love.'
>
> MIGUEL CARDONA, *secretary of education*

"This final rule dumps kerosene on the already raging fire that is Democrats' contemptuous culture war that aims to radically redefine sex and gender," Foxx said in a statement.

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

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

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

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

Many of the changes are meant to ensure that schools and colleges respond to complaints of sexual misconduct. In general, the rules widen the type of misconduct that institutions are required to address, and they grant more protections to

New PFAS rules put cleanup costs on polluters

EPA designation means taxpayers are not liable

By Coral Davenport
NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — The Biden administration is designating two "forever chemicals," human-made compounds that are linked to serious health risks, as hazardous substances under the Superfund law, shifting responsibility for their cleanup to polluters from taxpayers.

The new rule announced on Friday empowers the government to force the many companies that manufacture or use perfluorooctanoic acid, also known as PFOA, and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid, known as PFOS, to monitor any releases into the environment and be responsible for cleaning them up. Those companies could face billions of dollars in liabilities.

The pair of compounds are part of a larger family of chemical substances known collectively as PFAS.

The compounds, found in everything from dental floss to firefighting foams to children's toys, are called forever chemicals because they degrade very slowly and can accumulate in the body and the environment. Exposure to PFAS has been associated with metabolic disorders, decreased fertility in women, developmental delays in children, and increased risk of some prostate, kidney, and testicular cancers, according to the Environmental Protection Agency.

The chemicals are so ubiquitous that they can be detected in the blood of almost every person in the United States. One recent government study discovered PFAS chemicals in nearly half of the nation's tap water. In 2022, the EPA found the chemicals could cause harm at levels "much lower than previously understood" and that almost no level of exposure was safe.

The announcement follows an extraordinary move last week from the EPA mandating that water utilities reduce the PFAS in drinking water to near-zero levels. The agency has also proposed to designate seven additional PFAS chemicals as hazardous waste.

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

Under the new rule, companies are required to immediately report releases of PFOA and PFOS that meet or exceed one pound within a 24-hour period to the National Response Center, and also to state, tribal, and local emergency responders.

The EPA said it was important to quickly catch PFAS contamination because delays allow the chemicals to migrate into soil and water supplies. But the rule could also compel companies to clean up contamination that had occurred years before if it is detected in the newly compulsory tests.

PFOA and PFOS are no longer manufactured in the United States but can be imported in the form of consumer goods such as carpet, leather and apparel, textiles, paper and packaging, as well as in coatings, rubber, and plastics, the agency said.

"It's long past time for the polluters who poisoned all of us to be held responsible," said Ken Cook, president of the Environmental Working Group, an advocacy organization.

Shifting the cost of cleanup to polluters is "great news for the many communities grappling with PFAS contamination, many of which are also low income and communities of color," said Dr. Tracey Woodruff, director at the Program on Reproductive Health & the Environment at the University of California, San Francisco.

But industries that use the chemicals have said that the designation is too expensive and would lead to litigation that could impose new costs on businesses and communities and slow the cleanup of chemicals.

Chuck Chaitovitz, vice president of environmental affairs and sustainability at the US Chamber of Commerce, said in a statement that the designation "appears to prioritize creating new opportunities for litigation." He added that "local governments, landowners, and businesses will now likely have to devote resources that could have been used to improve our environment to fighting frivolous litigation."

'Honor our planet, drop out,' environmentalists implore RFK Jr.

POLITICAL NOTEBOOK

As an independent candidate for the White House, Robert F. Kennedy Jr. claims he would be the "best environment president in American history," drawing on his past as a crusading lawyer who went after polluters in New York.

But dozens of Kennedy's former colleagues at the Natural Resources Defense Council are calling on him to withdraw from the race, in full-page advertisements sponsored by the group's political arm that are expected to appear in newspapers in six swing states on Sunday.

Separately, a dozen other national environmental organizations have issued an open letter calling Kennedy " a "dangerous conspiracy theorist and a science denier" who promotes "toxic beliefs" on vaccines and on climate change.

People involved in both efforts maintain that Kennedy cannot win the presidency but could siphon votes away from President Biden and help elect former president Donald Trump, who has called climate change a hoax and promised to unravel environmental laws and policies.

"A vote for RFK Jr. is a vote to destroy that progress and put Trump back in the White House," says the newspaper ad that will run in Georgia, North Carolina, Nevada, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania. Signatories include John Hamilton Adams, who cofounded the Natural Resources Defense Council and hired Kennedy in the 1980s, as well as past presidents and the group's current president. They implore Kennedy to "Honor our planet, drop out."

Kennedy was a senior attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council for 28 years, stepping down in 2014.

In an interview Thursday, Kennedy shot back against the idea that he might bring Trump back to the White House.

"President Biden does not need my help to lose to Donald Trump," Kennedy said. He avoided directly addressing the actions of Adams and other former colleagues, saying only that he and his mentor "disagree with each other on politics."

Instead Kennedy criticized Biden as well as the environmental movement, which he said "is making a mistake to settle for crumbs that have been given to us by the Biden administration."

Former colleagues in environmental circles were unvarnished in their assessments of Kennedy. "The Bobby I knew is gone," said Dan Reicher, who worked with Kennedy at NRDC. "His actions are a betrayal to our environment."

NEW YORK TIMES

Biden targets workers as Trump stews in court

President Biden spoke Friday at a conference in Washington, D.C., for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, a labor union, while former president Donald J. Trump was back in court for his felony criminal trial in New York.

Biden assailed his rival as one of a class of plutocrats who pay little in taxes and do not care about American workers.

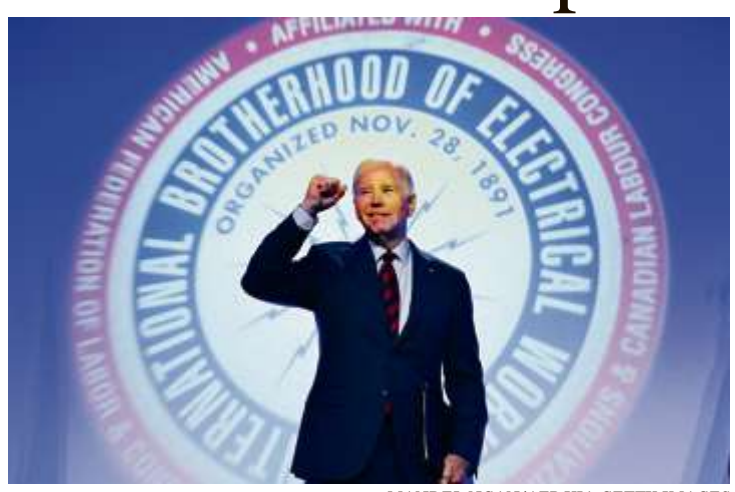
"They learned that telling people 'you're fired' is something to be laughed about," Biden said. "Not where I come from. Not where I was raised. I guess that's how they look at the world from Park Avenue and Mar-a-Lago."

The schedule reflects a dynamic that has been playing out all week and will continue for some time: Trump must be present for the duration of his trial on charges of falsifying business records in an attempt to cover up a payment to a porn star. That leaves him spending a lot of time in New York, and limits his ability to campaign in swing states.

Trump had earlier tried to make light of his predicament, suggesting on Tuesday during a visit to a bodega in Harlem that he would try to campaign in New York while on trial in an effort to flip the deep-blue state for Republicans.

Appearing outside the courthouse on Thursday, however, Trump was clearly irritated by the fact that he could not leave New York.

"I'm supposed to be in Georgia, I'm supposed to be in North Carolina, South Carolina, I'm supposed to be in a lot of different places campaigning," Trump said. He flipped through a stack of articles expressing support for him during the trial, which he read aloud for members of the news media. "I'm sitting here for days now, from morning till



MANDEL NGAN/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Speaking before a labor union on Friday, President Biden accused Donald Trump of not caring about workers.

night, in that freezing room. Freezing. Everybody's freezing in there."

NEW YORK TIMES

Biden goes after Trump over sleeping in court

Former president Donald Trump has long cast President Biden as "Sleepy Joe," accusing him of being too old and weak to do the job. Now Biden's campaign sees an opportunity to turn the tables.

The campaign has increasingly put a spotlight on reports that Trump has appeared to doze off during his hush-money trial in New York, which started this week.

"A feeble and tired Donald Trump once again falls asleep in court," the campaign said Friday on X, responding to a New York Times live blog entry saying Trump "appears to have fallen asleep in court again."

Later Friday, Biden's campaign labeled Trump "Sleepy Don" in a news release saying he had a "nightmare week" that included getting "some shuteye."

The digs are notable because Biden's campaign and the White House have otherwise avoided commenting on the trial itself. Trump has argued that the case is an attempt to interfere with the 2024 election, claiming without evidence that Biden has orchestrated it in the run-up to their November rematch.

Trump's campaign fired back at the Biden campaign Friday, calling the Times report "fake news from a reporter who wasn't even in the courtroom."

"Contrast that with Biden falling asleep constantly at meetings, and tripping and busting his ass while falling down numerous times," Trump spokesperson Steven Cheung said in a statement.

WASHINGTON POST

Menendez trial postponed until middle of May

NEW YORK — The start of New Jersey Senator Bob Menendez's bribery trial was pushed back a week to mid-May on Friday after lawyers agreed the extra days would aid trial preparation.

US District Judge Sidney H. Stein changed from May 6 to May 13 the start of jury selection during a pretrial hearing in Manhattan. Menendez was allowed to participate in the conference by telephone after his lawyers said a late night in the Senate on Thursday made it impossible for him to attend the Friday morning hearing.

Earlier this week, lawyers for Menendez indicated in a court filing that they may seek exoneration at trial by claiming that he lacked criminal intent since his wife didn't disclose anything illegal to him about her dealings with New Jersey businessmen.

Menendez and two New Jersey businessmen have pleaded not guilty to charges that cash, gold bars, and a luxury car were given to Menendez and his wife since 2017 in return for the Democratic senator carrying out political favors.

Menendez's wife, Nadine, who also has pleaded not guilty, will not go on trial until July, at the earliest, because she faces medical issues.

A third businessman, Jose Uribe, has pleaded guilty to bribery charges and agreed to testify against the others at - trial.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Opinion

BOSTONGLOBE.COM/OPINION

How do we fix the Steward Health Care disaster?

By David D'Alessandro

In the 1920s, Charles Ponzi was so good at this particular skullduggery, they named it after him. In 2009, Bernie Madoff was sentenced for the largest Ponzi crime in history. And now, with the collapse of Steward Health Care, it's worth asking whether we've just witnessed a more complex 21st-century version.

A Ponzi scheme always has a few common elements: It begins with investors who promise lucrative returns with little risk, but that cash isn't invested back into the business, it's paid out to the original investors, so earnings begin to dwindle. As profits disappear, new investors are recruited and their cash is paid out to earlier investors and so on until the scheme — and the business — eventually collapses.

While there are similarities here between Steward and a Ponzi scheme, it is more likely we are witnessing a legal way to pocket billions of dollars at others' expense, including taxpayers.

Steward and its former owner, private equity firm Cerberus Capital Management, have not been accused of any crimes, although inquiries are being made by members of Congress, Governor Maura Healey, and others, and dozens of lawsuits questioning their practices have been filed.

Steward publicly states: "Our patients are at the center of all that we do." Yet, recent emerging facts regarding financial mismanagement as well as personal and corporate profit taking suggest other motives.

In 2010, the Boston Archdiocese, under financial pressure from a declining flock and child abuse victim payments, sold its hospital system, Caritas Christi Health Care, to Cerberus, which changed the name to Steward. According to a Feb. 26, 2024, letter Cerberus sent to the Massachusetts congressional delegation, Cerberus paid $246 million cash and assumed pension and other obligations.

> How about Cerberus and de la Torre give taxpayers back the profits, dividends, and capital so we can help these hospitals recover and patients can get the care we paid for — as they promised.

From 2010 through 2016, Cerberus says it used Steward cash flow to help buy more troubled hospitals and health care facilities, growing the system from 1,230 licensed beds in 2010 to about 2,000 licensed beds in 2016. In 2016, Medical Properties Trust, an Alabama public company, jumped in. It bought Steward's land and hospital buildings for $1.25 billion, leasing back the facilities to Steward while tacking on annual rent of tens of millions of dollars.

Using a portion of this windfall, from 2016 to 2020 Cerberus and Steward went on a spending spree, purchasing hospital systems in Tennessee, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Louisiana, Texas, Utah, and even overseas. Cerberus decided to exit, citing the long hold it had on this business, and instead of selling on the market, Cerberus sold its interest to Steward, headed by longtime CEO Dr. Ralph de la Torre and a team of associates.

Cerberus must have seen the disaster handwriting on the wall with mounting debt, higher expenses, and challenging revenue streams. It appeared so eager to cut ties in 2020, it actually financed the sale to de la Torre and group with a $350 million promissory note. In an even more curious move, in 2021, with the COVID-19 pandemic putting incredible financial pressure on hospital systems worldwide, the Steward board of directors reportedly voted for a $111 million dividend. A federal lawsuit brought by a San Diego staffing company alleges the majority was directed to de la Torre, with the rest going to other equity holders.

Reality finally caught up with this crowd in 2024. Steward is not able to pay the $50 million past-due rent on its Massachusetts hospitals, is having critical medical equipment repossessed, and stopped construction on Norwood Hospital because contractors are not being paid; its hospitals throughout the country are under threat of being shut down because there is simply not enough cash to pay the bills. Unpaid vendor lawsuits are now mounting for hundreds of millions of dollars.

The main players, of course, got their money out early, well before the implosion.

Cerberus made over $800 million dollars profit in 10 years, recouping its original cash investment of $246 million as well. It is a sophisticated company and should have known a collapse would come.

De la Torre, who has been CEO for the entire period, clearly got his piece early as well. As widely reported, his take has helped him accumulate multimillion-dollar homes, a $40 million luxury yacht, and a $15 million fishing yacht. Not to mention, in the middle of all this, Steward purchased two corporate jets capable of flying anyplace on the planet.

As regards Medical Properties Trust, it is not a victim here. It kept doubling down on this investment, even buying Cerberus's note to the de la Torre crowd, taking equity in Steward, financing more deals, and charging rents that won't get paid. No wonder its stock (MPW) has fallen 80 percent in four years, during the greatest bull market in history.

Aside from patients who may not receive the care they deserve from Steward and the many employees who may be affected by this travesty, other victims have unwittingly supported it. The main source in this case is taxpayers. According to a 2023 survey of 5,800 US hospitals by Definitive Healthcare, about 45 percent of patient hospital days are paid by Medicare and Medicaid. Steward, on the other hand, in a recent statement said its Medicare and Medicaid patients are 75 percent of its business. If that is not a crime, it certainly is a breach of public trust.

So, how do we fix this disaster?

How is this for a start? If Cerberus and de la Torre were indeed as dedicated to improving health care and helping patients as they have said, why not put their money where their mouths are? How about Cerberus and de la Torre give taxpayers back the profits, dividends, and capital so we can help these hospitals recover and patients can get the care we paid for — as they promised. Ponzi and Madoff were forced by the government to turn over their spoils. Cerberus and de le Torre should volunteer.

David D'Alessandro is former CEO of John Hancock Financial Services. He served on the boards of Brigham and Women's Hospital and Partners HealthCare.

Supreme Court has a duty to end homeless encampments

By Jill Jacobson

The Supreme Court will hear oral argument Monday in Grants Pass v. Johnson to determine whether cities and states can enact and enforce prohibitions on public camping (i.e., homeless encampments) without violating the Constitution's prohibition of "cruel and unusual punishment." This case is about far more than the survival of public encampments; it is an inevitable reckoning with the fact that officials often sidestep the deeper issue of encampments and the chronic homeless populations they house under the guise of adhering to the Constitution.

The Supreme Court took up the case to clarify both Grants Pass and its related and more impactful twin: Martin v. City of Boise. In 2019, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals held in Martin that criminalizing public camping across all public spaces is not permissible without sufficient state-provided shelter beds for homeless people. Three years later, in Grants Pass, the Ninth Circuit extended this ruling, prohibiting the enforcement of camping bans even through civil citations unless there are adequate government shelter accommodations for every individual.

In theory, the principle that emerges from Martin and Grants Pass is both logical and humane: The government should not penalize individuals who are "involuntarily homeless," that is, those who have no other available shelter.



AMANDA LUCIER/THE NEW YORK TIMES

A homeless encampment in Portland, Ore., one of several scattered throughout the city, on Oct. 29, 2023.

But in practice, it's difficult to enforce. If law enforcement wishes to prevent public camping, local officials need a real-time ratio of the number of homeless individuals in the city to the number of available shelter beds; and given the transient nature of the population, the rule is unworkable.

Further, officials fail to distinguish between encampment residents who are genuinely unable to find shelter and those who are unwilling or unable to comply with shelter rules due to mental health or addiction issues, appealing to Martin and Grants Pass in situations where it does not apply, and avoiding governance where it matters most.

Official misinterpretation of the rulings has served as carte blanche to abandon health and safety regulations in encampments within the Ninth Circuit's jurisdiction.

Take the City of Phoenix, for example, which was sued by residents and property owners for allowing the encampment known as "the Zone" to fester to the point of rampant criminality, biohazards, and plummeting property values. The city defended itself in court on the grounds that it was constitutionally prohibited from disrupting the encampment, even in the face of homicides and instances of trafficking. An Arizona judge ruled the decisions do not prohibit city action of any kind — they narrowly prohibit criminalizing camping without proper shelter available — and ordered the city to clean up the encampment.

> Not only do encampments exacerbate inhabitants' underlying conditions that make stable housing out of reach, they also sever individuals from public services and sour residents' compassion for their plight.

But city officials' misinterpretation of their legal role in this case is somewhat understandable. It has long been verboten in the public discourse to acknowledge the significant impact of addiction and other mental health concerns on unsheltered homelessness — and instead assume that every individual is on the street because they lack a shelter bed — despite the overwhelming data suggesting it's the primary reason individuals reside in encampments. In Arizona, for instance, less than 15 percent of the homeless population reported a lack of accessible housing as the reason they remained unsheltered, with the vast majority citing an unwillingness to comply with shelter restrictions such as curfews, inability to bring relatives or pets, and, overwhelmingly, the prohibition of drugs and alcohol on the premises.

Encampment residents are disproportionately plagued by mental health struggles and substance use disorder. A UCLA survey of unsheltered individuals across 15 states found that 75 percent of the population self-reported addiction to either drugs and/or alcohol, and 78 percent self-reported a mental health condition. Many reported both. A great number of these individuals refuse shelter; for some it's because they don't have access to substances while there, which can cause grave withdrawal symptoms.

But the alternative to a shelter with strict substance requirements — life in an encampment — is far worse, both for the individuals and for the communities that surround them. The tents serve as cover for illicit activity where encampment residents are more often victims than perpetrators — the concentrated market of desperate customers is a haven for drug dealers. Before Boston cracked down on encampments last fall, Mass. and Cass saw 10 stabbings, one shooting, and incalculable drug transactions in one month.

Not only do encampments exacerbate inhabitants' underlying conditions that make stable housing out of reach, they also sever individuals from public services and sour residents' compassion for their plight. The summer before Mass. and Cass was shut down, there were over 700 calls to 911 *per week* but outreach workers feared for their safety and were no longer willing to enter the encampment. If anything is to be deemed "cruel and unusual," it is the government condemning an area as immune from the rule of the law.

Absent a mandate penalizing public camping, service-resistant individuals remain in encampments where their health and safety are at risk. But there is a better way: In Boston, the encampments have been shut down and there is a proposal to redevelop the Lemuel Shattuck Hospital into a treatment center.

The Supreme Court needs to clarify what most city and state governments outside the Ninth Circuit already know: that officials have both a legal right and a duty to get service-resistant populations out of encampments and connected with mental health and addiction resources or, at the very least, ensure health and safety standards are enforced.

Jill Jacobson is a visiting fellow at Independent Women's Law Center and a contributor at Young Voices.

READERS' FORUM

Medical aid in dying or physician-assisted suicide? Depends on one's view.

The April 15 Opinion section presented contrasting views, under the overline "Should Massachusetts allow medical aid in dying?" from Cardinal Seán P. O'Malley, archbishop of Boston ("No. Physician-assisted suicide is a slippery slope."), and writer Phil Primack ("Yes. Prolonging the inevitable is no way to live."). The point-counterpoint generated a range of reaction from readers:



CLEOP6ATRA/ADOBE

She specializes in suicide bereavement. This is not that.

Once again we have an opportunity to address the long-needed remedy around issues of medical aid in dying. Please let us not let this opportunity pass us by. With overwhelming support from residents, it is time to let prevailing opinion decide, not the state and not religious groups. We each have our own morals, ethics, or religion.

As helpful as hospice and palliative care can be in many situations, they are not sufficient in all situations. They do not come close to answering all patients' needs.

As a mental health professional with a specialty in suicide bereavement, I want to offer my perspective on the debate over end-of-life care. For more than 40 years, I have worked with families dealing with the aftermath of a loved one's suicide. I am no stranger to the pain and grief families experience. However, I have been taken aback by references to some patients' wish to end their suffering when terminally ill as "physician-assisted suicide." I am dumbfounded that people would compare the tragedy of someone taking their life due to mental health problems to those at the end of their life wishing to hasten their certain death in the face of the certainty of suffering.

Individuals should be free to make their own medical decisions. Let's trust ourselves, with the help of our physicians, to make the best decisions for our own care at the most difficult of times.

I am the last person who would be "pro-suicide." This is not about encouraging someone to take their own life; this is about compassionate end-of-life care.

MIMI ELMER
Cambridge

The writer is a licensed independent clinical social worker.

As doctors, we can help our patients from succumbing to despair

As a physician dedicated to the well-being of my patients, I feel compelled to emphasize an additional aspect in the discourse surrounding physician-assisted suicide: the profound impact of existential suffering and despair experienced both by individuals facing debilitating illnesses and by their loved ones. It is during these moments of profound loss and fear that our role as physicians transcends mere medical treatment and calls us to provide unwavering support and a reliable presence.

The sense of meaninglessness that can accompany a terminal diagnosis should not lead us down the path of condoning assisted suicide. Rather, it should serve as a catalyst for deepening our commitment to compassionate care and fostering genuine human connections with our patients. In the face of adversity, our patients need to know that they are not alone and that we are steadfast allies in their journey, offering solace every step of the way.

Instead of succumbing to despair, let us embrace our patients with empathy, providing them with the comfort and reassurance they need to navigate the challenges ahead. Let us stand together in rejecting the notion that death is the answer to despair and instead reaffirm our commitment to walking alongside our patients with understanding.

DR. LORENZO BERRA
Cambridge

The writer is affiliated with the Mass General Research Institute and is the Reginald Jenney Associate Professor of Anesthesia at Harvard Medical School. The views expressed here are his own.

Differing with Cardinal O'Malley: Suicide is not 'always' tragic

Seán P. O'Malley argues that suicide "is always tragic whether administered under a doctor's care or self-inflicted."

My friend Chris Corbett was diagnosed with ALS and took his life on his 80th birthday, with physician-supplied ingredients. "Eventually," according to the Mayo Clinic, "ALS affects control of the muscles needed to move, speak, eat, and breathe. There is no cure for this fatal disease."

Chris was in complete command of his mental faculties and did not want to live with this disease. If Cardinal O'Malley had written that suicide is *often* tragic, I might agree. But I cannot agree with his sweeping statement that it is *always* tragic.

WILLIAM VAUGHAN JR.
Chebeague Island, Maine

State's End of Life Options Act includes key safeguards

I grew up Catholic and respect Cardinal Seán P. O'Malley, but I couldn't disagree more with him about this important topic and the pending End of Life Options Act. His characterization of this measure as "physician-assisted suicide" and the use of the phrase "slippery slope" in the headline and in the body of the essay serve only to inflame and mislead readers. The legislation has significant safeguards that would prevent a slippery slope or abuse based on financial or other considerations. It is limited to terminally ill patients of sound mind making a fully informed decision to end suffering and pass in a peaceful way. It is compassionate. As for the concern about a slippery slope among some people with disabilities, I was the president of Spaulding Rehabilitation for many years; most traumatically injured and congenitally disabled people would not be eligible under the End of Life Options Act's restrictive requirement regarding terminal illness. It is long overdue for Massachusetts residents to have this option to end intolerable suffering.

DAVID E. STORTO
Concord

The writer is a volunteer for Compassion and Choices.

Two Boston doctors have several concerns about legalizing this practice

As two Boston inpatient physicians, we welcomed Cardinal Seán P. O'Malley's op-ed opposing physician-assisted suicide. However, the implication is that opposition is limited to conservative Catholics. In fact, a recent set of summaries from the Pew Research Center shows that most major world religions oppose physician-assisted suicide. Disapproval goes back to Hippocrates, whose oath states, "I will do no harm [nor] give a lethal drug to anyone if I am asked."

Importantly, the largest physician associations in the United States — the American Medical Association and the American College of Physicians — oppose physician-assisted suicide. In a 2019 national study, fewer than 9 percent of physicians stated that they would perform it if it were legalized.

We have several concerns about legalized physician-assisted suicide. We worry it will take the focus away from what is really needed: robust investment in and expansion of quality palliative care. Much of the push for physician-assisted suicide stems from this inadequacy. We also worry about the coercion patients may experience; the testimonies of a Nevada physician in 2017 and a California woman in 2016 suggest some insurance companies may cover drugs for physician-assisted suicide but not other treatments.

We worry about possible racism and inequity, since physician-assisted suicide has the strongest support among educated white people and much less support from Black and Hispanic communities, according to a 2019 report from the National Council on Disability.

Patricia King, a law professor at Georgetown, told The Washington Post that, as the reporter paraphrased, "many in the Black community distrust the health care system and fear that racism in life will translate into discrimination in death." Similarly, Dr. Lydia S. Dugdale, of the Yale School of Medicine, wrote that legalizing physician-assisted suicide "may just be adding to the atrocities committed by society and the health profession toward Black and Hispanic patients."

We worry most that legalization would disrupt the patient-doctor relationship. "Compassion" means to suffer with. Our calling is to provide healing and comfort to our patients in their time of need. We must invest in improving patients' quality of life, not treat them as expendable.

DR. THOMAS HEYNE
Boston
DR. NANCY HERNANDEZ
Boston

The writers are attending hospitalists at Massachusetts General Hospital and instructors in medicine at Harvard Medical School. They speak for themselves and not their institutions.

Modern Hippocratic oath offers a different view of a physician's care

As a supporter of medical aid in dying, I wonder whether Cardinal Seán P. O'Malley is aware of the modern version of the Hippocratic oath that doctors of my generation and subsequent ones took upon graduation. Written in 1964 by Dr. Louis Lasagna, it takes social and psychological factors into account when trying to determine the most empathetic care of one's patients. It is more than 340 words long and includes the following: "I will apply, for the benefit of the sick, all measures which are required, avoiding those twin traps of overtreatment and therapeutic nihilism. I will remember that there is art to medicine as well as science, and that warmth, sympathy, and understanding may outweigh the surgeon's knife or the chemist's drug. … Most especially must I tread with care in matters of life and death. If it is given me to save a life, all thanks. But it may also be within my power to take a life; this awesome responsibility must be faced with great humbleness and awareness of my own frailty. Above all, I must not play at God."

DR. MARK RODEHAVER
Brookline

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CHRISTOPHER WEYANT



Brandeis women's basketball team wants coach to resign

▶**BRANDEIS**
Continued from Page A1

name.

It said that while the school does not share details of investigations or personnel matters, it does not tolerate any form of discrimination and will investigate and take "appropriate actions" if a school policy is violated.

Ohm said that while she would love to play for the school as a senior, "I'm willing to personally sacrifice the rest of my basketball career to stand with my teammates who are so upset by this and don't feel safe."

The letter, obtained by the Globe, includes notice to Simon that "incoming first-year students have been informed of the situation as transparency is critical in fostering a healthy team environment."

The formal request for Simon's resignation came after students and their families were notified in a March 28 Zoom meeting with a Brandeis administrator that an investigation of Simon, who was on a yearlong paid administrative leave and did not coach the team this past season, had concluded.

The team was told the investigation revealed no violations of school policies by Simon and that she would be reinstated as head coach.

After what felt like a minute of complete silence, "everybody broke down and started crying," said sophomore Abby Kennedy.

"This had been going on for so long, I had gotten in such a headspace of I didn't think that she was coming back, I thought this was going to be 'she's being fired, we're going to start new,'" said sophomore Maya Williams.

At an April 2 on-campus meeting with members of the athletics department and male and female athletes from other Brandeis teams, members of the women's basketball team read from impact statements they had filed with the Office of Equal Opportunity about their experiences under Simon and how her return presented an intolerable situation.

The impact statement from Selena Gonzalez, the sole senior remaining on the team, offered a particularly vivid account of her experience playing under Simon's leadership.

"I am exhausted from the numerous attempts at recounting my trauma, which continue to be disregarded and ignored," wrote Gonzalez. "From the second I've stepped foot on this campus, I've developed and expressed concerns regarding women's basketball players, especially those of color, quitting under Carol Simon."

Over the course of her four years playing at Brandeis, five members of Gonzalez's class — none of them players of color — left the team. Gonzalez knew of three players of color who were not from her class who quit during her four years.

When Gonzalez expressed her concerns about teammates dropping out, she said Simon told her not to worry because, "according to her, I wasn't like those girls, and wouldn't have liked them myself. Needless to say, it only took a few months to realize that I was exactly like those girls, that my experience would be no different in enduring mistreatment, neglect, and a constant lack of empathy."

Gonzalez related how Simon, without being asked, told her that she "would never recruit an all-Black team."



DANIELLE PARHIZKARAN/GLOBE STAFF

Members of the Brandeis women's basketball team (from left) Brooke Reed, Katherine Vaughan, Abigail Kennedy, Maya Williams, Lulu Ohm, Lillian Singleton, Carlie Marrella, Molly James, and Claire Candela. The team was told during a Zoom meeting in March that Carol Simon would be returning to coach after an investigation revealed no policy violations.



JIM SPIRAKIS/GLOBE FILE

Simon, seen in 2004, was placed on leave shortly after a Deadspin article in the summer of 2023 included several examples of alleged racist behavior.

She said she was forced by Simon to practice and play with long COVID during the 2021-22 season, an attempt she said led to her developing pneumonia.

In an interview Wednesday, Gonzalez said she has moved on from believing that she and her story will be understood but that "my heart is with the players that still have one or two years left of having to navigate all of this, so just even having to recount my trauma and my story, it's for them."

In her impact statement, sophomore Katherine Vaughan wrote, "At the risk of sounding dramatic, I have had literal nightmares about showing up to practice with Carol suddenly our coach again. I know for a fact some of my teammates share this experience."

Williams spoke of how "Carol Simon has failed as head coach and made my past years as a women's basketball player miserable."

One former player, Camila Casanueva, said she has "nothing but good memories" from playing under Simon between 2017 and 2022, and that she and Simon got along well. Casanueva added she never heard or saw any racism from Simon.

That said, her sympathies lie with the experiences of the current team.

"I will say that I completely stand by them. I feel for them," said Casanueva. "I commend them on their bravery and courage, just getting it out there and trying to tell their story, expressing their frustrations like they have."

The fault lies with the administration, said Casanueva.

"To me, it's more of a specific frustration with the administration of our school; it's this feeling that the administration doesn't really back its athletes, it's not really even listening to them," she said. "I think the administration really needs to figure it out and back its players and get them a new coach. They deserve to move on, they deserve that completely.

"Honestly, I don't even think it's necessary for me to touch on my positive experiences with Carol because I think that that's irrelevant."

Simon began coaching the team in April 1987. Over the course of her 35 seasons, the Division 3 team compiled a 692-647 record. Its heyday under Simon came between 2003 and 2009, when it won two ECAC championships and reached the second round and Elite Eight of the NCAA tournament.

Since the team won the ECAC championship in 2015, Simon's team finished above .500 once, by one game, in seven seasons in which they won 71 games and lost 102. This past season, while Simon was on leave, the team finished 5-20 under acting head coach Jill Latanowich and assistant coach Lauren Rubinstein.

Latanowich had no prior head coaching experience. Rubinstein had no prior coaching experience.

Players interviewed said that the season without Simon was refreshing, but that the team was understaffed, Latanowich and Rubinstein were overwhelmed, and the team underperformed.

"It was a complete lack of resources, we were kind of just put in a position to fail. It was very disappointing," said Kennedy.

During postgame handshakes, opposing coaches would tell Brandeis players to "hang in there."

"It was like being patted on the head," said Williams. "I guess it's nice to hear, but it's not something you want to hear from another head coach."

Players also said Simon's coaching technique was outdated and contributed to the team's losing records. They also reported her impatience with injured or sick players.

During halftime of one game in which the Judges were being outplayed, Ohm, who was still not cleared to return from a concussion, told Simon in the locker room, " 'Oh gosh, I really wish I could play,' and Carol whispered under her breath, but I heard it, 'Then stop telling them your head hurts.' "

Another former player, Courtney Thrun, shared positive recollections of playing for Simon in the 2019-20 and 2020-21 seasons.

"She came across as a good person. She's someone I definitely had a positive relationship with. She was always nice and friendly enough," said Thrun, who said she was asked by Simon to speak on the coach's behalf during the initial investigation.

"I never had any issues with her outside of basketball. She treated everyone great. We'd go over to her house for a barbecue before the season, for Christmas," said Thrun, who said Simon promoted a welcoming culture for LGBTQ players.

The vibe and culture around the team deteriorated over the last two seasons Thrun played.

"There were definitely positive experiences, most of them towards the beginning of my time there," said Thrun. "My first year was great. The second year was kind of an in between-point, and then from the third year on, it was pretty terrible."

Thrun said Simon's problems mainly arose from basketball decisions in practice and games.

"As a team under her leadership, we were too comfortable with losing," said Thrun. "A lot had to do with who she would choose to play and I think she would choose who to play [based] on who she was comfortable with — like, I don't think Carol Simon is an outright blatant racist person. But I do think she has biases that definitely need to be adjusted if she is going to keep coaching."

Ohm, Williams, and Kennedy all praised Simon's ability as a recruiter, and Kennedy noted that Simon's coaching experience and her extensive alumni connections for future internships were draws for her to play at Brandeis.

The last season Simon coached in 2022-23, when the team finished 6-19, was particularly rocky given players' reports of an icy and dysfunctional relationship between Simon and her assistant coach.

The players were unaware that Simon was under investigation that season. Shortly after a Deadspin article in the summer of 2023 included several examples of Simon's alleged racist behavior, Simon was placed on administrative leave.

In 2018, Brandeis fired its men's basketball coach Brian Meehan after an investigation over discrimination complaints that included racially biased harassment allegations. The Office of Equal Opportunity at Brandeis emerged after the Meehan investigation.

Lynne Dempsey was the athletic director when Meehan was fired. After he left, she was demoted to her current position, associate athletic director.

After the Meehan firing and internal actions at Brandeis, president Ron Liebowitz wrote in a letter to the school community, "We have a responsibility to provide everyone with a safe environment. We must and will do better."

In early March, the Brandeis women's basketball team met with Liebowitz in part to express their resistance to Simon.

"The sense we got from the president was that he was in the dark about the whole situation," said Kennedy. "He's a person in power who has a ton of influence and it's very hurtful that he didn't know about this situation to the fullest extent."

Dempsey played for Simon at Brandeis, as did incoming athletic director Jessica Chapin, whose hiring was announced one day before the March 28 Zoom meeting. Chapin will begin in early June.

The players believe the return of Simon would create a stifling conflict of interest for the team.

"It's not [Chapin], it's the name that she's attached to and the history and the timing — it's very icky," said Ohm. "Who will we talk to if we have issues about Carol?"

Brandeis's statement on Thursday began with its leadership's recognition "that this has been an uncertain time for many in our community. Our women's basketball team should be commended for having navigated this past season with resilience and determination."

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New service will share words from the present you with the future them

▶**AFTERLIFE**
Continued from Page A1

with confidence that my next of kin read my texts now, when there may actually be information they need (Mark, if you see this, my flight gets in at 10 a.m. tomorrow).

Imagine how my messages will land when I'm gone. *Oh God, here she is again, still deceased, with another one of her maudlin videos.*

Should I feel sorry for my future deceased self that my own children, and, should they exist, my grandchildren and their offspring, are multitasking while listening to my voice memos from beyond? *Really? You're on the treadmill while I drone on in the background?*

And what's the dress code? Desert chic? Beach formal? Fancy ranch? With my luck, for once in my life I'll be on trend when I make my recordings, but then I won't die for decades, and by then my absurdly baggy pants and crop top will be out of style and not yet enjoying vintage status.

What look am I even going for? Business casual? I'm not doing that now and I actually go to an office. Athleisure? But if I'm so vibrant, why am I dead? I can't even figure out what to wear to meet a friend for brunch. How am I supposed to choose my final outfit? Or outfits *plural?*

If I'm getting the "premium" package — $149 for 10 messages with 100 unique recipients — do I need a different outfit for each one?

Wait — this is making me realize I have even bigger issues than wardrobe. Do 100 people even want to hear from me? Have I made enough friends? Maybe I should start playing pickleball. They seem like a crowd that would treat outreach from the dead with the reverence it deserves.

The company behind this service is called "Eternal Applications," but "Eternal Complications" might have been more accurate. Consider this from their OWN press release: "It is often challenging to have difficult conversations face to face . . . [t]he Eternal Applications platform *lets users craft their message exactly as they want* it in a comfortable environment."

OK, the italics were added by me, but do you see what's going on here? The service is a power move. A dagger to the heart that can never be pulled out. For as little as $49, if you go for the basic package, you get the last word. No coming to an understanding about things.

> Imagine how my messages will land when I'm gone. 'Oh God, here she is again, still deceased, with another one of her maudlin videos.'

The loss of a loved one, and the loss of oneself, is so sad, of course. But the website aims to make it all seem so simple. "Create your message in four easy steps," it instructs. But guess what step one is? I kid you not: *Create a username and password.* OK, I'm out. Death should at least free you from password hell. But here it is now, chasing you to the grave.

Just me on a screen speaking my truth. Imagine the tension leading up to the delivery of each message. Oh, God, what is she going to say this time? *I never liked your dog.*

Eternal Applications is based right here in Cambridge, and it's nice to shop local, even in death. But I'm thinking I should skip the whole thing and go for the DIY budget option. No outreach. The only people who will hear from the late me are those who email me and get an automated response: Beth has stepped away from her desk.

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Providing a conduit for connections

A mother draws on her family's experience to create a program providing support and resources for Somali American children with disabilities

By Maddie Khaw
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

The first time Fatuma Osman heard her daughter, Nasteho, say she loved her was when Nasteho was 15 years old, in 2022.

They were at a 7-12 school in Dorchester, learning how to use a communication tablet designed to help children with disabilities — like Nasteho, who has autism and is nonverbal — communicate out loud. After a few practice runs answering basic questions through the tablet with a speech pathologist, Nasteho walked over to her mother and hugged her, using the device to say, "I love you."

"That was the happiest day of my life," Osman said in Somali through a translator.

The tablet and training were thanks in large part to Asha Abdullahi, founder and director of the Somali Parents Advocacy Center for Education, an organization that helps Somali parents of children with disabilities obtain the education, health resources, and mental health support they might otherwise lack because of language barriers and stigma around disabilities.

A Roxbury branch of the Roslindale-based center, which started in 2019 and serves more than 100 local families, will open this month, according to Abdullahi. Like the Roslindale location, it will provide an array of programs including health and literacy curriculums for parents, nonclinical mental health resources, educational conferences, and assistance accessing resources in schools

SOMALI, Page B5



ERIN CLARK/GLOBE STAFF

Cousins Najla Hussein and Manal Omar played at an event held by the Somali Parents Advocacy Center for Education.



DAVID L. RYAN/GLOBE STAFF

Demonstrators marched on Marsh Plaza at Boston University on Friday.

Local students protest arrest in NYC of 108 pro-Palestinian demonstrators

Rallies take place on campuses of MIT, Harvard, and Boston University

By Maddie Khaw
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

Students at MIT, Boston University, and Harvard University walked out of class Friday to rally in support of the more than 100 Columbia University students who were arrested by New York police at a pro-Palestinian protest encampment Thursday.

At Columbia, 108 people were charged with trespassing, according to police, part of a broader trend of student arrests at pro-Palestinian demonstrations at university campuses throughout the US. Last month in Boston, police arrested 12 Emerson College students protesting the Israeli-Hamas conflict.

Despite the arrests, Aaran, a BU junior who led Friday's demonstration, and who declined to provide their last name, said pro-Palestinian students at BU have no plans of slowing their protests, which they've staged on campus throughout the past six months.

"If we see [arrests] and we stop protesting things, they won. They don't have to do anything, we're self regulating," Aaran said. "It's not an option to let those arrests stop us from protesting."

As a crowd of more than 50 BU students marched throughout campus beginning at Marsh Plaza, they raised signs reading "Free Palestine," banged on plastic bins with wooden drumsticks, and shouted chants through megaphones. Demonstrators stopped briefly outside the university's administrative center, whose doors were guarded by two police officers.

Later in the afternoon at Harvard, a few hundred students gathered outside the Science Center, then marched through Harvard Yard, making stops outside the University Hall, the Widener Library, and Massachusetts Hall, the administrative building that houses the office of Interim President Alan Garber.

Their voices resounded throughout the yard as they chanted, "Free Palestine" and "Shut it down," among other mantras. Several students waved Palestinian flags while others held canvas banners painted with messages reading "Harvard out of occupied Palestine" and "Stop the genocide in Gaza."

Addressing the students gathered outside the Science Center, Lea Kayali, a Harvard law student, commended the arrested students at Columbia for their commitment to the cause.

"We will take up the mantel that Columbia has given us, including here in Boston and Cambridge at Harvard," Kayali said through a megaphone. "You cannot arrest the movement. You cannot suspend the movement."

At BU, protesters attempted to enter the George Sherman Union

PROTEST, Page B4

Parents take exam school fight to top court

Want justices to rule on admission policy that used ZIP codes in decisions

By James Vaznis
GLOBE STAFF

A group of white and Asian American parents in Boston are taking their fight over admission to the city's exam schools to the US Supreme Court, arguing that efforts to diversify enrollment are resulting in discrimination against Asian American and white applicants.

"Wherever competitive admission K-12 schools exist, it seems that policymakers have targeted them for their racial makeup," according to a petition filed by the Boston Parent Coalition for Academic Excellence seeking a court review. "And in every one of these circumstances, Asian Americans have been singled out for unfavorable treatment."

The petition, which was filed on Wednesday and placed on the court's docket Friday, centers around a one-year temporary admission policy that awarded exam school seats in 2021 based on grades and ZIP codes. It replaced a decades-old practice of admitting students citywide with the highest grades and test scores to Boston Latin School, Boston Latin Academy, and the O'Bryant School of Math and Science.

The policy change led to a substantial decrease in white applicants getting into the seventh grade — the primary entry point — but a slight increase in Asian American applicants gaining admission. Black and Latino applicants had increases far more substantial.

The legal action represents the latest turn in a more than 50-year-old legal battle to diversify the exam schools, and it could have ramifications for districts nationwide if the nation's highest court rules in the plaintiffs' favor.

Specifically, the coalition seeks to prohibit districts nationwide from using race-neutral admission crite-

SCHOOLS, Page B4

26.TRUE run organizers call event 'joyful' and 'smooth'

Dispute city councilor's public safety complaints

By Niki Griswold
GLOBE STAFF

Organizers of the 26.TRUE marathon, an alternative to the Boston Marathon meant to promote diversity, inclusivity, and accessibility in long distance running, are delighted over how the fourth year of the event went for the around 200 runners who participated last Saturday.

"It was amazingly powerful and joyful and went so smooth," said Aliese Lash, one of the race directors for the event and a captain for PIONEERS Run Crew, which formed in 2017 with the goal of making running more welcoming and accessible for people of color and other historically marginalized groups in Boston.

She said they received overwhelmingly positive feedback from runners and supporters and even Mayor Michelle Wu, who greeted the runners at the starting line before they embarked on a route that took them through Boston neighborhoods like Dorchester, Roxbury, Mattapan, and South Boston.

So Lash was surprised when she was made aware of correspondence first reported by the Boston Herald, in which Councilor Ed Flynn emailed city officials to relay complaints he received from residents in South Boston about the event. Flynn doubled

MARATHON, Page B4

In poll, younger voters still pick Biden, though margin shrinks

By Travis Andersen
GLOBE STAFF

President Biden leads Donald Trump among Americans aged 18 to 29 in the race for the White House but the incumbent's advantage with young voters has dipped significantly since 2020, according to a new poll from the Harvard Kennedy School's Institute of Politics.

"Make no mistake, this is a different youth electorate than we saw in 2020 and 2022, and young voters are motivated by different things," John Della Volpe, the institute's polling director, said Thursday in a summary of the findings. "Economic issues are top of mind, housing is a major concern — and the gap between young men's and young women's political preferences is pronounced."

According to a survey of 2,010 young Americans conducted in English and Spanish last month, Biden leads Trump among registered voters under 30 by a margin of 50 percent to 37 per-

POLL, Page B4



DAVID L RYAN/GLOBE STAFF

GUEST OF HONOR — Mary Vartanian, a 109-year-old survivor of the Armenian Genocide, was honored Friday in a ceremony at the State House that marked the anniversary of the genocide. "She's just an amazing blessing," said Jeanine Shememian, Vartanian's granddaughter. B2

Read lawyers want jury box moved so all jurors can see witnesses

By Travis Andersen
GLOBE STAFF

Even juror seating is a point of contention in the Karen Read case.

Lawyers for Read, the Mansfield woman charged with murder for allegedly backing her SUV into her boyfriend and leaving him for dead in a blizzard in Canton in 2022, want the jury box to be reconfigured when the trial starts so all the jurors can clearly see the faces of witnesses as they testify, court records show.

In a motion filed Friday in Norfolk Superior Court, Read's lawyers said that "the courtroom seating arrangements, as presently situated, would violate Ms. Read's constitutional right to confrontation because numerous members of the jury will be unable to observe the faces of the witnesses who testify against her at trial."

The state Supreme Judicial Court has long held that defendants and jurors must be able to observe the demeanor of witnesses to assess their credibility, Read's lawyers wrote, and the US constitution also enshrines the right to confront witnesses face-to-face.

"The seating arrangements proposed by this Court clearly violate Ms. Read's constitutional right to face-to-face confrontation," the motion said. "Unless the court rearranges the jury box as requested by the defense, at least six of the jurors will only be able to see the back of the witnesses' heads while they testify at trial."

To illustrate the point, the defense included multiple photos of Read attorney David Yannetti seated in the witness chair from the vantage point of seats in the jury box as presently configured. In the photos, Yannetti's face is entirely shielded from view at juror chairs nine and 10, while a partial profile view of his face is available from chair 11. His face is visible in profile from chair 12.

A spokesperson for Norfolk District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey's office declined to comment on the defense motion.

Read, 44, has pleaded not guilty to charges of second-degree murder, manslaughter while operating under the influence of alcohol, and leaving the scene of personal injury or death. She remains free on bail. Jury selection continues Monday, and the trial's expected to last several weeks.

Prosecutors allege Read dropped off Boston police officer John O'Keefe outside a residence on Fairview Road in Canton early on Jan. 29, 2022, after a night of bar-hopping and backed into him, returning hours later with two other women and discovering O'Keefe's snow-covered body on the front lawn.

She allegedly told a first responder at one point, "I hit him," and prosecutors have said her right taillight was damaged in the crash and that O'Keefe's DNA was "present on the broken taillight and microscopic pieces of red and clear apparent plastic located" in his clothing, according to legal filings.

Read's lawyers maintain she's being framed and that O'Keefe went inside the Canton home, owned at the time by a fellow Boston police officer who was hosting a gathering, where he was fatally beaten before his body was planted outside.

The defense has seized on evidence including a Google search conducted on the phone of a witness in the Canton residence that said "hos [sic] long to die in cold" shortly before 2:30 a.m., hours before prosecutors say Read discovered O'Keefe's body. Prosecutors have said the search was conducted shortly after 6:20 a.m. at Read's request after she and the witness and one other woman found O'Keefe's body.

Acting US Attorney Joshua S. Levy's office has convened a federal grand jury to look into the state law enforcement handling of the case, and federal authorities have turned over thousands of pages of sealed materials from their probe to Read's prosecutors and defense lawyers.

Among the sealed federal records, Read's lawyers have said, is a report from analysts hired by the FBI who found O'Keefe's injuries were "inconsistent with" being struck by a vehicle. Prosecutors have pushed back, asserting the sealed report shows Read's vehicle didn't strike O'Keefe in the back of the head, which authorities have never alleged.

Read's lawyers have also said the federal records show that two witnesses in the Canton home lied about their phone communications around the time of O'Keefe's death and later destroyed their phones and that the lead State Police investigator concealed his personal ties to witnesses.

State Police said last month that they've opened an internal affairs review against the investigator, Trooper Michael Proctor, who remains on full duty and who has defended his work in the Read case through his lawyer.

Jury selection concluded Thursday with 12 jurors seated. Sixteen will be chosen, with four serving as alternates.

Also Thursday, prosecutors filed a motion to admit evidence of Read's blood tests at Good Samaritan Hospital, where she was taken after O'Keefe's body was discovered because she was in distress, according to court papers.

Prosecutors have said that when Read's blood was drawn around 9 a.m., her alcohol level was at or just below the legal driving limit, meaning it would have been between .13 and .29 when she dropped O'Keefe off.

"The [defense] claims they 'should not have to guess' on how the hospital conducted its testing, however the defendant did not move to suppress this evidence, has not requested an evidentiary hearing, and has not requested a ... hearing challenging the reliability or validity of the underlying scientific theory, process, or general acceptance in the relevant scientific community," prosecutors wrote Thursday.

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Genocide survivor, 109, honored

Mary Vartanian attends ceremony at State House

By Ava Berger
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT



DAVID L. RYAN/GLOBE STAFF

Armenian Genocide survivor Mary Vartanian sent blessings at the State House Friday.

Thundering applause filled the House of Representatives chamber at the State House Friday morning, as lawmakers and visitors rose to their feet to honor Mary Vartanian, a 109-year-old survivor of the Armenian Genocide.

"She's just an amazing blessing," said Jeanine Shememian, Vartanian's granddaughter. "We look up to her, and we will always follow in her footsteps. We'll never, never let her sacrifices go in vain."

Vartanian received a Boston police escort from her home at the Armenian Nursing & Rehabilitation Center in Jamaica Plain to the State House for the 10:30 a.m. ceremony to mark the 109th Anniversary Commemoration of the Armenian Genocide.

Vartanian, who wore a purple "remembrance necklace" around her neck and a white-beaded headband in her hair, did not forget to send blessings and kisses to everyone she passed.

"Absolutely, I'll take it," said Sergeant Ryan Cunningham of the Boston Police Department with a smile, as he accepted a wave and a blessing from Vartanian.

Once inside the packed chamber, Vartanian was recognized for her "contributions to the Armenian American community" in Massachusetts, said state Senator William Brownsberger, who presented the joint resolution of the House and the Senate.

At the commemoration, which comes ahead of Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day on April 24, children from St. Stephen's Armenian Elementary School sang the American and Armenian national anthems.

State Representative David K. Muradian Jr., a Republican from Grafton and one of two representatives of Armenian heritage serving in the house, presided over the 90-minute ceremony.

"The Armenian Genocide is not just the tragedy of the past, it is a wound that still bleeds in the fabric of our humanity, our every fiber of being," Muradian said during his closing statements. "Today, we refuse to remain silent. Today we raise our voices in solidarity with all Armenian people."

Justice Gabrielle Wolohojian, the newest appointee to the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court and a fellow Armenian, was the keynote speaker.

Wolohojian said Armenian Americans have an "obligation" to participate in public service and to "protect the rule of law."

"Throughout much of its history, the Armenian people have lived under the laws and governments of others," she said. "Now that we have grown and prospered here for over 100 years, it is time for us to do our part to preserve and promote those institutions for future generations."

Wolohojian said her mother's grandfather was arrested by Ottoman authorities and sent to prison where he later died. "What were regarded as his crimes you may ask?," she said. "The crime of being Armenian."

Vartanian was born Mary Ouzghoushian in 1914 in Aintab, a city in south central Turkey, her family said. A year later, the massacre of untold thousands of Armenians in the Ottoman Empire would begin. Over the next eight years, 1.5 million Armenians were killed, and many more were removed from their homeland. Vartanian was 3 years old when her family escaped, moving first to Syria and then to Lebanon, according to her family.

She was widowed at age 55, a mother of six young adult children. She immigrated to the US in the 1970s, settling in Watertown.

In Massachusetts, Vartanian became active in her new community, particularly at St. James Armenian Church in Watertown, where she was once named Mother of the Year. She would crochet items with a cross and the words "Armenians, Armenians do not forget April 24," and donate them to churches, her family said.

Her daughter, Lisa Darian, said her mother has reinforced that message for all of her life.

"Tell the new generation not to forget the Armenian Genocide," Darian said, recalling her mother's advice.

It was for that commitment to her homeland that Vartanian was honored Friday at the State House.

"My joy and my pride is with the Armenian people," Vartanian said, speaking in her native language, and translated by Darian. Her mother "could not explain" how honored she was to be at the State House Friday, Darian said.

Vartanian, who is due to turn 110 in August, has 15 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild. While her family is scattered around the world, her daughter, Darian, her granddaughter, Shememian, and her two great-granddaughters, Natalie and Lianna, attended Friday's ceremony.

"She's walking history," Natalie, 21, said. "We've spent so much time with her and the stories we hear from so long ago are absolutely incredible."

Natalie and her sister, Lianna, 18, said watching their great-grandmother be honored is a "miracle."

"It's special not only for our family, but for the Armenian community," Natalie said. "We think it's very important to not only recognize her but all the survivors, and all the people who didn't make it."

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Scammer who victims say claimed to be Irish heiress may be extradited to UK

By Michael Casey
ASSOCIATED PRESS

A woman accused by scam victims of crisscrossing the United States claiming to be an Irish heiress is expected to learn next month whether she will be extradited to the United Kingdom.

Marianne Smyth, a 54-year-old American, will be in federal court in Maine for the hearing that relates to allegations she stole more than $170,000 from at least five victims from 2008 to 2010 in Northern Ireland. United Kingdom officials said Smyth stole money that she had promised to invest and arranged to sell a victim a home but took the money.

US Magistrate Judge John Nivison on Wednesday took the case under advisement and said he would issue a ruling no sooner than May 1. If he rules to extradite her, the case would go to the secretary of state, which determines whether it could go forward.

A court issued arrest warrants for her in 2021, according to legal documents. In February, she was located and arrested in Maine. She is being held in Piscataquis County Jail in Dover-Foxcroft.

In a court filing, Smyth's attorney, Kaylee Folster, argued she is not guilty of the charges and requested a hearing on the allegations. Neither Folster nor Smyth would comment about the case.

Smyth's case has similarities to Anna Sorokin, a grifter convicted in New York of paying for a lavish lifestyle by impersonating a wealthy German heiress.

Among those fleeced was Johnathan Walton, who started a podcast in 2021 called "Queen of the Con" to warn others about Smyth. She was found guilty of stealing tens of thousands of dollars from Walton and spent about two years in jail.

Smyth said she needed the money after her bank account was frozen and for bail after she was jailed, he said. Walton assumed he would be repaid since Smyth told him she was due an inheritance of $7 million from her wealthy family in Ireland.

"She plays off of people's weaknesses and then a lot of people are too embarrassed to come forward and admit that they lost this money," said Los Angeles County Deputy District Attorney Jeffrey Megee, who prosecuted the case that sent Smyth to jail.

Smyth and Walton grew close over several years in Los Angeles, when she bought him expensive dinners and luxury vacations, he said. But her story began to unravel when Walton realized she was jailed for stealing $200,000 from a luxury travel agency where she worked.

The podcast has drawn tips from dozens of victims from California to New York, Walton said.

This day in history

Today is Saturday, April 20, the 111th day of 2024. There are 255 days left in the year.

►Birthdays: Actor George Takei is 87. Singer Johnny Tillotson is 86. Bluegrass singer-musician Doyle Lawson (Quicksilver) is 80. Actor Judith O'Dea is 79. Rock keyboardist Craig Frost (Grand Funk Railroad, Bob Seger & the Silver Bullet Band) is 76. Actor Jessica Lange is 75. Actor Veronica Cartwright is 75. Actor Clint Howard is 65. Actor Crispin Glover is 60. Actor Andy Serkis is 60. Actor Carmen Electra is 52. Actor Joey Lawrence is 48.

►In 1812, the fourth vice president of the United States, George Clinton, died in Washington at age 72.

►In 1861, Colonel Robert E. Lee resigned his commission in the United States Army. (Lee went on to command the Army of Northern Virginia in the Civil War and eventually became general-in-chief of the Confederate forces.)

►In 1912, Boston's Fenway Park hosted its first professional baseball game while Navin Field (later Tiger Stadium) opened in Detroit. (The Red Sox defeated the New York Highlanders 7-6 in 11 innings; the Tigers beat the Cleveland Naps 6-5 in 11 innings.)

►In 1916, the Chicago Cubs played their first game at Wrigley Field (then known as Weeghman Park); the Cubs defeated the Cincinnati Reds 7-6.

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

►In 1972, Apollo 16's lunar module, carrying astronauts John W. Young and Charles M. Duke Jr., landed on the moon.

►In 1986, following an absence of six decades spent in the West, Russian-born pianist Vladimir Horowitz performed in the Soviet Union to a packed audience at the Grand Hall of the Tchaikovsky Conservatory in Moscow.

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

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

►In 2008, Pope Benedict XVI celebrated his final Mass in the United States before a full house in Yankee Stadium, blessing his enormous US flock and telling Americans to use their freedoms wisely.

►In 2010, an explosion on the Deepwater Horizon oil platform, leased by BP, killed 11 workers and caused a blow-out that began spewing an estimated 200 million gallons of crude into the Gulf of Mexico. (The well was finally capped nearly three months later.)

►In 2012, a judge ruled that George Zimmerman could be released on $150,000 bail while he awaited trial on a charge of murdering 17-year-old Trayvon Martin during a February 2012 confrontation in a Sanford, Fla. gated community. (Zimmerman was acquitted.)

The Boston Globe

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	City	Retail	Other
7-day home delivery	$45.00	45.00	45.00
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Daily single copy	$3.50	3.50	3.50
Sunday single copy	$6.00	6.00	6.00

Lottery

FRIDAY MIDDAY 6026
Payoffs *(based on a $1 bet)*
EXACT ORDER
All 4 digits $5,283
First or last 3 $740
Any 2 digits $63
Any 1 digit $6
ANY ORDER
All 4 digits $440
First 3 $123
Last 3 $123

FRIDAY NIGHT 4862
Payoffs *(based on a $1 bet)*
EXACT ORDER
All 4 digits $4,737
First or last 3 $663
Any 2 digits $57
Any 1 digit $6
ANY ORDER
All 4 digits $197
First 3 $110
Last 3 $110

LUCKY FOR LIFE
April 18 4-10-16-44-45
Lucky Ball 14
Jackpot: $1,000 per day

MASS CASH
April 19 11-13-14-26-35
Jackpot: $100,000

MEGA MILLIONS
April 19
Megaball , Megaplier
Jackpot: $178,000,00

PREVIOUS DRAWINGS

	Midday	Night
Thursday	3896	6909
Wednesday	3813	1232
Tuesday	0575	3381
Monday	2681	9590
Sunday	2724	8740

FRIDAY NUMBERS AROUND NEW ENGLAND
Maine, N.H., Vermont
Day: 3-digit 600 4-digit 4937
Eve: 3-digit 796 4-digit 7401
Rhode Island 7105



PHOTOS BY ERIN CLARK/GLOBE STAFF

STOP AND SMELL THE TULIPS

The Massachusetts Horticultural Society held its Tulip Mania event Friday, featuring 50,000 tulip bulbs blooming across two displays at the Garden at Elm Bank in Wellesley. Five-year-old Levi Carreiro (above) soaked in the scents while (at right) Sam Kobussen helped Sylvia Cane select flowers to give to her mother. Sylvia (below) walked among the rows of tulips.







Massasoit Community College to honor late president DiPasquale

By Lila Hempel-Edgers
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

Massasoit Community College will celebrate the life of its late president Ray DiPasquale, who died from cancer on April 4, on the Brockton campus on May 20, the college said.

DiPasquale, 74, died beside his family after a "brief but valiant fight" with the disease, Massasoit said in a statement. The May ceremony, scheduled for 2 p.m., is open to the public. DiPasquale "championed the importance of building meaningful relationships" and helped students find educational success, the college said.

DiPasquale, who was appointed Massasoit's seventh president in August 2021, led the college through the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic with "compassion and kindness," the statement said.

He is credited with strengthening relationships between the college and community, and serving on the boards of local nonprofits, state commissions, and chambers of commerce, the statement said.

"President DiPasquale showcased the value of community college and went to great lengths to ensure that all students had a pathway to their dreams," Education Secretary Dr. Patrick Tutwiler said in the statement. "The impact of his work was and will continue to be felt far beyond the Massasoit community."

During his tenure, DiPasquale oversaw a renovation project to bring new science and health care classrooms and labs to buildings on the college's Brockton campus.

DiPasquale's long career in higher education included stints as an administrator or president of community colleges in Massachusetts, New York, and Rhode Island.

He came to Massasoit after serving four years as president of Clinton Community College in Plattsburgh, N.Y. Prior to that, he served 10 years as president of the Community College of Rhode Island. He also worked at Middlesex Community College and Springfield Technical Community College.

"Higher education has lost a dedicated leader," Noe Ortega, the commissioner of higher education, said in the statement. "President DiPasquale's leadership will leave a lasting impact on the institutions and students he served."

While working at Springfield Technical Community College, DiPasquale was elected to the city's school committee, the city council, and served as the chair of the Hampden County Commission, the statement said. He narrowly lost the Springfield mayoral election in 1991.

Five days after DiPasquale's death, William A. Mitchell, the college's vice president for administration and chief financial officer, was named interim president.

"Although this appointment is bittersweet," Mitchell said in the statement, "I am grateful for the opportunity to lead the College into its next phase, and I look forward to working with my colleagues at Massasoit, in the community, and across the state."

Although the death has "deeply shaken" the Massasoit community, Tom Carroll, the chairman of the board of trustees, said the college will work to advance DiPasquale's mission by focusing on the future.

"Ray was the embodiment of a passionate, caring leader who sought out leadership opportunities not for his own benefit, but for the benefit of others," Carroll said.

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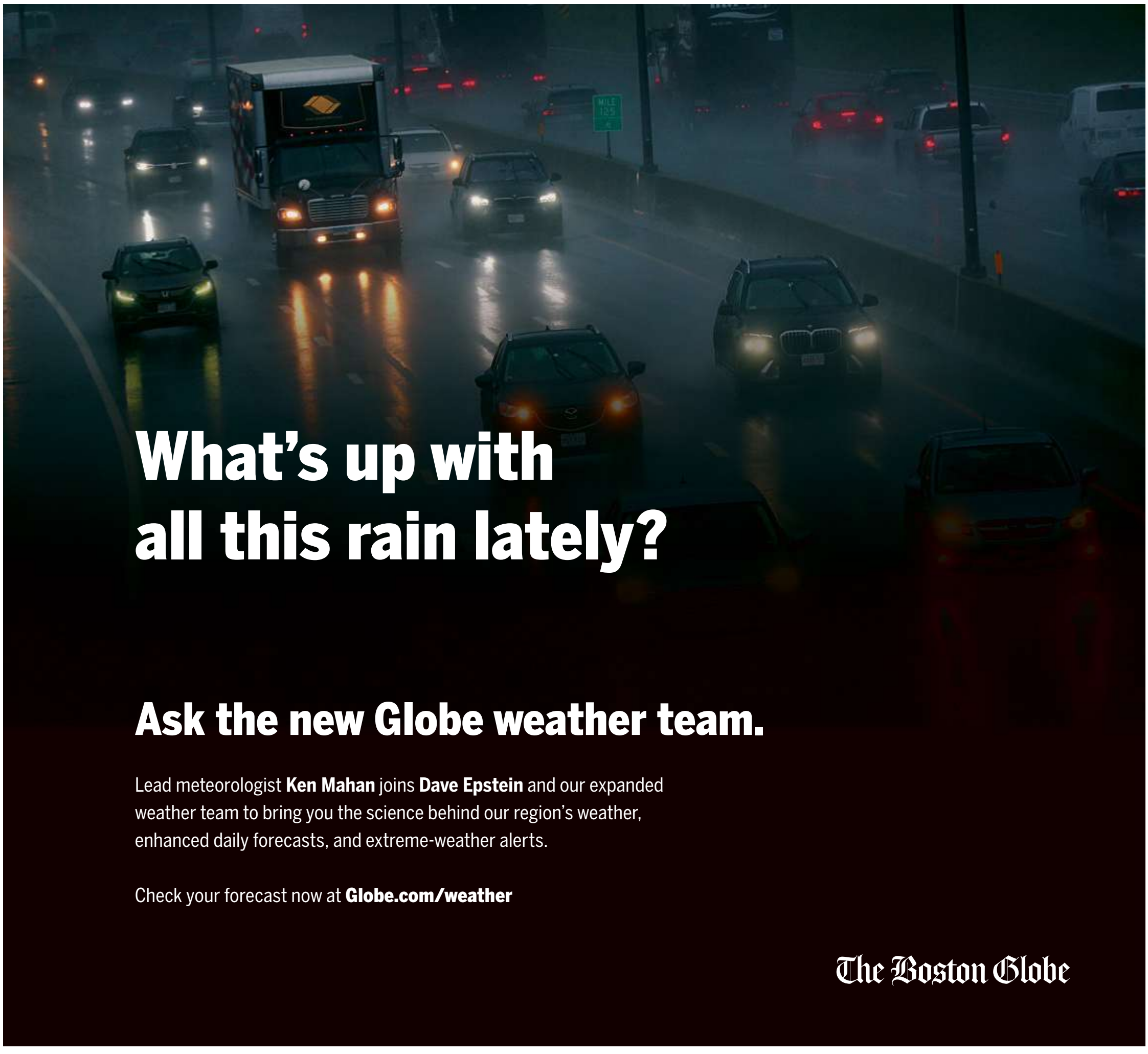

Students protest on several campuses

▶PROTEST
Continued from Page B1

building, a student hub with a food hall, but after talking with university police officers outside the building, they didn't enter.

"Pro-Palestinian students are most heavily targeted by the administration," said Eliana González, a BU senior studying psychology, as the rally marched down Commonwealth Avenue past swarms of students walking between classes.

"The point of these protests is to disrupt and to bring awareness," González said.

To González, the attention from university officials and campus police on student activists is not the aim of the demonstrations, but shows that their protests are "working" to garner attention.

There were no known arrests from today's protests at MIT, BU, and Harvard.

While arrests and disciplinary actions against pro-Palestinian students on other campuses loom in the background of local activism, some students demonstrating Friday said they're not intimidated away from continuing to protest.

"We know that they use it as a scare tactic — and it obviously is scary. Being doxxed is not fun — it's terrifying, it sucks," said Anjali Katta, a Harvard law student. Still, "I'm very certain that we're on the right side of history."



MADDIE KHAW/FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE

A protest was held on the campus of Harvard University Friday.

For Angela Li, another Harvard law student who attended the rally with Katta, the privilege of attending Harvard adds an extra layer of security — and motivation.

"Even if I do end up with a disciplinary thing on my record, I will just have to explain that in a future job interview," Li said. "And if they have an issue with that, that might not be a place where I would thrive anyway."

"Being at this institution grants me so much privilege and so much of a safety net that it would be a shame to not use that privilege to do a risky thing that maybe someone else wouldn't be able to do."

New York Mayor Eric Adams said the city was asked in writing by Columbia officials to remove the encampment.

"Students have a right to free speech, but do not have a right to violate university policies and disrupt learning on campus," Adams said.

But some BU students on Friday condemned the response from some university and public officials to regulate when, where, and how students demonstrate.

"Protests are inherently disruptive," said Kellie Finley-Call, a graduate student at BU's school of theology. "That's the point."

Friday's protest at BU also came amid a work stoppage from BU graduate student workers, who went on strike March 25. As the pro-Palestinian rally chanted outside the George Sherman Union building, a group of striking grad workers picketed just down the street, calling for a pay increase and other benefits in their new contract.

To Finley-Call, who said she supports the strike but has not withheld labor because she works in the university's food pantry, the two movements on campus — for a ceasefire in Gaza and for the graduate workers union's demands — are interrelated.

"Everybody's liberation is tied up together," Finley-Call said. "I think that both the push to get a fair contract for grad workers and the demand that BU divest ... are both moral demands that students are making. And BU needs to rise to the occasion."

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Admission fight heads from BPS to Supreme Court

▶SCHOOLS
Continued from Page B1

ria, such as ZIP codes and socioeconomic factors, to increase student diversity. Several districts have been experimenting or debating whether to adopt such measures for selective-admission schools as they attempt to reshape themselves into anti-racist institutions.

"We hope the Supreme Court will take this case to vindicate the rights of the students who were discriminated against and keep the promise to end racial discrimination in admissions nationwide," said Christopher Kieser, an attorney with the Pacific Legal Foundation, which is representing the parent coalition.

San Francisco temporarily replaced its merit-based admission criteria for its competitive Lowell High School with a lottery during the pandemic and is talking about changing it again to increase diversity. The Chicago Board of Education passed a resolution in December that could result in ending or revamping admission criteria for selective schools. And New York City sparked protests in recent years when it sought to overhaul admission criteria to selective schools to increase diversity.

So far, the federal district court in Boston and the First Circuit Court of Appeals have upheld the legality of BPS' temporary policy, which is no longer being used. The district's current admission policy, however, also relies on race-neutral criteria, grouping together applicants who reside in areas with similar socioeconomic characteristics into eight admission tiers. Seats are then awarded in rounds by each tier based on grades and test scores.

A BPS spokesperson declined to comment.

Across the nation, affirmative action is facing a murky future as the Supreme Court's right-leaning majority has expressed skepticism about policies and practices that aim to boost opportunities for historically disadvantaged populations.

Less than a year ago, the court struck down race-based affirmative action admission policies at Harvard University and the University of North Carolina. That, in turn, has prompted higher education institutions and K-12 districts to reexamine admission criteria for specialized programs as they aim to reduce their risk for litigation.

Because of that, it is unlikely the Supreme Court has the appetite for another affirmative action case involving education, said Iván Espinoza-Madrigal, executive director of Lawyers for Civil Rights, which has been representing civil rights organizations that have intervened in the case in support of the temporary policy.

"Review of the BLS case would be premature," he said. "At this time, a ruling on BLS would not be helpful, particularly because schools across the country continue to respond to the recent ruling on college admissions."

Earlier this year, a divided court decided against pursuing a case brought by a group of Asian

> 'Should the Court turn away this case, it will only embolden government officials to continue targeting disfavored racial groups — particularly, Asian Americans.'
>
> PETITION BY THE BOSTON PARENT COALITION

parents who argued that race-neutral admissions to the Thomas Jefferson High School for Science & Technology, a public school in Virginia, were designed to increase the chances of Black and Latino students getting in to the detriment of Asian applicants. The policy set aside seats for a portion of students from every middle school.

The majority did not provide a reason for passing over the case. The Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals in Virginia previously found in a split decision that the plaintiffs failed to prove a disparate impact on Asian students, noting their representation at Thomas Jefferson was still higher than other schools in the admission area.

However, two justices, Samuel Alito and Clarence Thomas, disagreed.

In their dissenting opinion, Alito called the Fourth Circuit's ruling "indefensible" and said its "reasoning is a virus that may spread if not promptly eliminated." He then noted in the Boston exam school case in December the appeals court cited the Fourth Circuit's opinion in rejecting the plaintiffs' appeal.

Alito's argument forms a strong basis of the petition by the Boston parent coalition, which is using the same law firm as the Thomas Jefferson parents.

"Should the Court turn away this case, it will only embolden government officials to continue targeting disfavored racial groups — particularly, Asian Americans," the petition said. "The facts of this case make it especially troubling, and the Court's refusal to intervene would send the signal that even overtly racist behavior will not stand in the way of racial balancing by proxy."

The parent coalition is seeking to have five students who were rejected under the temporary policy admitted to the exam schools, arguing the students would have secured seats under the former policy.

According to the petition, none of the applicants in West Roxbury, a popular neighborhood among white and Asian American families, got in with GPAs below 10, while in a predominantly Black and Latino section of Dorchester, 67 applicants got admitted with GPAs below 10.

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26.TRUE organizers dispute complaints

▶MARATHON
Continued from Page B1

down on concerns about a lack of road closures, traffic enforcement, and police detail in a letter sent to Boston Police Commissioner Michael Cox Thursday, obtained by the Globe.

"Residents reported that runners were running on sidewalks, weaving around baby carriages, and even running in vehicular traffic lanes," Flynn wrote in the letter. "This poses serious safety issues for both the runners and pedestrians in a high-traffic area that has unfortunately had serious and fatal crashes, on both Day Boulevard and L Street."

Lash said there were no accidents or other safety incidents, so the issues he raised confused her.

"It just felt like it was an assumption that wasn't necessarily true about what he was implying were safety concerns because pedestrian safety is something that's really important to us," said Lash, who added that by the time runners reached South Boston, they were over halfway through the course and very spread out. "A big part of our mission of 26.TRUE is for it not to be a competitive race. ... The intention is for people to take their time and to really see and stop and appreciate things like different landmarks and different murals and pieces of art and pieces of the neighborhoods that are unique."



CRAIG F. WALKER/GLOBE STAFF

Runners filled Dale Street outside the Shelburne Community Center for the 26.TRUE Marathon.

In the Thursday letter, Flynn also requested that the Boston Police Department and first responders be part of the special event approval process, work closely with other city departments to "thoroughly review requests and applications for special events" and "if granted, provide a public safety presence at events like this going forward to provide road closures and respond to any emergencies quickly."

Liaisons from the Boston Police Department and the Boston Transportation Department are already involved in reviewing special event applications, according to city officials.

The Boston Herald reported that Flynn initially described the event as "unpermitted," but documents later shared with both the Herald and the Globe show that officials from several departments, including police and transportation, signed off on the event application, and 26.TRUE organizers obtained all necessary permits, including liability insurance, a parks permit, a one time entertainment license, a temporary food service permit, and more.

Officials from the Boston Police Department also told the Globe no additional police detail was necessary for the event due to the number of participants and police did not receive any reports of any issues during the event.

The Boston Transportation Department's permitting branch did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Flynn told the Globe he disagreed with both departments' decisions not to implement any road closures or additional police details.

"I'm concerned when we have a marathon throughout the neighborhoods of Boston with several hundred runners, and we don't have traffic enforcement as part of the safety plan," Flynn told the Globe on Friday.

City council president Ruthzee Louijeune, though, noted that running groups often have large communal running events in the city.

"Oftentimes, people of the traditional running groups that we see may be not as diverse, but they never have permits for the runs that they do," Louijeune said to the Globe. "It's incredibly important that we aren't over-regulating joy ... especially for Black and brown runners. ... This is their city; they have the right to run through every neighborhood in the city like it's their own."

"I don't like to make assumptions; I know that sometimes people feel uncomfortable seeing a group of Black and brown people running around the streets," said Lash. "Sometimes people see things that they don't understand and make assumptions. But what I do know is that our intentions are to make sure that we're centering inclusivity, and if people have feedback about how we can do that better or how we can make sure that people are safe and protected and to have a smooth event then we would love to hear that, and we would love to talk with them."

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In poll, younger voters choose Biden but by less than in 2020

▶POLL
Continued from Page B1

cent.

Among likely voters under 30, Biden leads by a 56 percent to 37 percent margin. But when there's no screen for voter registration status, Biden's lead falls to 45 percent to 37 percent, with 16 percent undecided, the survey shows.

"For context, at this stage in the 2020 election, the Harvard Youth Poll showed Biden leading Trump by 23 points among all young adults (51%-28%) and by 30 points (60%-30%) among likely voters under 30," the report said.

Among 1,051 "likely voters" under 30, Biden leads Trump by 6 percentage points among men and 33 percentage points among women, the poll found.

At this stage in the 2020 campaign, Biden had a similar lead among young women but a 26 percentage point lead among young men, the report said.

In 2020, 42 percent of young men identified as Democrats and and 20 percent identified as Republicans, the report said. In this survey, 32 percent said they were Democrats and 29 percent said they were Republicans.

Biden's lead among likely white voters under 30 is 3 points, compared to 43 points for their nonwhite peers. The Democratic president also boasts a 47-point lead among likely young voters with college degrees and holds a 23-point margin over his GOP rival among students currently enrolled in college.

The race is essentially tied among likely young voters not in college or who do not have a four-year degree, the poll found.

The polling also shows Trump would lose substantial support among 18-to-29-year-olds if he's convicted in any of the criminal cases pending against him.

If Trump is convicted, Biden's lead increases from 8 points to 18 points among all young Americans, from 13 to 21 points among registered young voters, and from 19 to 28 points among likely young voters.

Respondents were also asked about pressing current events beyond the presidential election, including the Israel-Hamas war. Just over half of respondents support a permanent cease-fire in the conflict, while 10 percent were opposed to such a measure. Thirty-six percent said they didn't know and 3 percent wouldn't answer, the data said.

On immigration, 53 percent of young Americans polled believe there's a "crisis" at the southern border, 16 percent disagree, and 29 percent neither agree nor disagree, the poll found.

Forty-five percent of respondents oppose construction of a southern border wall, while 36 percent support it, according to the report.

Half of respondents agreed with the statement that immigrants "improve the culture" of the United States, while just 17 percent disagreed with that sentiment, the poll found. Thirty-one percent said they neither agreed nor disagreed.

Nearly half of respondents said they disagree with the statement that immigrants are "taking jobs that should go to Americans instead," while 24 percent agreed. Twenty-five percent said they neither agree nor disagree and 3 percent refused to answer.

Pollsters also asked respondents to weigh in on 16 "prominent areas of concern," asking them to choose which issue was more important in a series of "randomized matchups," the report said.

Inflation dominated, except when it was paired with reproductive rights.

"The only issue time that inflation did not win its individual match-up was when it was paired with women's reproductive rights," which topped inflation by a margin of 57 percent to 43 percent, the polling found.

"Young people today have clear concerns about where our country is headed," institute director Setti Warren, former mayor of Newton, said in the report. "From worries about the economy, foreign policy, immigration, and climate, young people across the country are paying attention and are increasingly prepared to make their voices heard at the ballot box this November."

Anil Cacodcar, student chair of the Harvard Public Opinion Project, said "young Americans are emerging from a pandemic that has tested our trust in democratic institutions and the bonds that unite us."

"Despite this, young Americans are more ready than ever to engage with these institutions to push for the change we want to see in the world," Cacodcar said.

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Center provides resources for Somali children, families

▶SOMALI
Continued from Page B1

and hospitals, Abdullahi said.

Such resources could include communication tablets such as the one Osman and her daughter received, Individualized Education Program documents, or speech, behavioral, and occupational therapies. SPACE also helps families navigate paperwork to access school and government disability services, an already tricky process made more difficult for families who speak minimal English, Abdullahi said.

"No child is left behind," Abdullahi said. "If your child gets diagnosed early, connect them to services. They can improve."

SPACE also holds cultural gatherings to foster community, including an Eid al-Fitr event in Dorchester held on April 13 to celebrate the end of Ramadan.

Dr. Carol Weitzman, co-director of the Boston Children's Hospital's Autism Spectrum Center, said obtaining resources can be "treacherous," the system fraught with complications, waitlists, and inconsistencies.

"If you are an immigrant family and you don't really speak English, it's a really complicated world, to get services in the autism space," Weitzman said.

Abdullahi encourages parents to pursue evaluation at a young age to access Early Intervention, a state program for children up to 3 years old who show signs of developmental delays.

Abdullahi knows firsthand the importance of being evaluated early on. Her own son, Adam, was diagnosed with autism at 8 years old. She noticed warning signs years earlier, but wasn't aware of programs like Early Intervention and was advised by friends and family not to worry.

By the time Adam was evaluated at Mass General Hospital, where Abdullahi was working as a surgical technologist, it was too late. The period for Early Intervention had passed, and instead Adam headed into school without tailored support, causing delays and complications in his grade school education.



PHOTOS BY ERIN CLARK/GLOBE STAFF

Children played at an Eid celebration being held by SPACE, the Somali Parents Advocacy Center for Education, this week in Boston.



"The school will only help your child if they give them identification," Abdullahi said. "But without getting that evaluation, you don't get the services."

Adam eventually excelled in school, after second grade when the family moved from Malden to Everett, meeting teachers and classes more conducive to his learning style. He is now nearing graduation from the Massachusetts College of Art and Design.

But Abdullahi felt there was more that could be done. She wished she knew to seek evaluation earlier on, and that she had a network of parents to lean on, people going through similar experiences with whom she could share her concerns.

"I didn't have that," Abdullahi said. "That did not exist in our community."

So, she created SPACE. It started in 2016 as a parent support group, a handful of Somali parents in the area who had questions about their children's behavior, the evaluation process, or why the school wanted them evaluated in the first place. They held meetings in each other's homes, where Abdullahi shared her experiences and helped others seek out evaluations, diagnoses, and the resources that follow.

The group met regularly, Abdullahi said, continuing to grow in size as word spread throughout Boston's Somali community. Meanwhile, Abdullahi received training in disability advocacy and policy through fellowships with the Boston Children's Hospital's Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and related Disabilities program, the Institute for Community Inclusion, and the Maryland-based Association of University Centers on Disabilities.

Then, in 2019, Abdullahi opened the center — just in time, she said, for the COVID-19 pandemic, which heightened families' need for support. She gave parents at-home computer training and helped them craft emails in English to their children's schools. She applied for grants to provide families with tablets and offered workshops over Zoom.

Through SPACE, Abdullahi helped families like Osman's build relationships with staff at their children's schools. Now, Nasteho's teachers call Osman with periodic updates.

"I never had that before I met Asha," Osman said. "We have someone we can count on that's able to connect to us all the resources that we are not aware of."

Abdullahi also assists families with the state's Individualized Education Program, which provides services specific to a given child and disability.

"Every child is different," Abdullahi said, "even though they might have the same diagnosis."

Fatumo Aden, another SPACE parent, said individualized programming has had an immeasurable impact. When her daughter, who is 8 years old, was diagnosed, Aden had never heard of autism.

"They were providing services at school, but I didn't know what it was. I didn't understand it," Aden said in Somali through a translator. "[Abdullahi] explained in a way that I understood."

Abdullahi helped Aden obtain an in-home applied behavioral analysis therapist, who helped establish a routine for her daughter.

"That's when I started understanding more of what autism is and the care that I need to be giving my child," Aden said, adding that she now feels more connected to her children's schools, her community, and the health care system. "I wouldn't have known all these resources for my family if it wasn't [for] SPACE."

Families deserve access to "all the information they need," Abdullahi said, with education and health care providers who understand their language and culture.

Weitzman, the co-director of the Autism Spectrum Center, said culturally specific resources like SPACE can help parents feel more comfortable and act as "cultural brokers," bridges connecting families with the care they need.

And Abdullahi is building those bridges.

"We are a resilient community. We've been through a lot. We survived a civil war," Abdullahi said of Somalis in the Boston area. "We are dealing with a new country, new culture, a new generation who are trying to balance both."

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THE GILDED OYSTER

Cape Cod bracelets from The Gilded Oyster jewelry store in Falmouth.

The curious habit of wearing your Cape Cod bracelet for decades

By Libby Bancroft
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

Shelby Anton has been wearing her Cape Cod bracelet for nine years, only removing it for occasional cleaning. The simple silver bangle with a ball-shaped fastener is a popular style made and sold by a number of Cape jewelers and beloved by locals and tourists. Anton's, originally a 16th birthday gift, hangs on her left wrist next to other bracelets that she frequently swaps out.

Anton, 25, is a supply chain analyst in Cincinnati, who in her spare time creates and posts beauty, hair, and lifestyle videos on TikTok as @shelbya28. During a lunch break in mid-February, Anton, curious if other Cape Cod bracelet owners shared her allegiance, posted a one-take, 17-second video asking: "Do I just wear this for the rest of my life? At what point do I take this off? Do I wear it on my wedding day?"

When she checked back that evening, her video had a million views. At the time of reporting, it had amassed 5.9 million views, 253,700 likes, and 2,944 comments. Anton's TikTok videos usually receive several hundred views, with a few hitting the thousands. She said she had no idea that a simple question would generate such a passionate online conversation.

According to commenters, the consensus about when you take off your Cape Cod bracelet is never. Do you wear it on your wedding day? Yes. One commenter claimed she will be buried in hers. Commenters wrote that they have been wearing their bracelets for over 25 years, some only taking them off for medical procedures.

"My grandmother wore hers until she died and now it's on me," @nowlistenheremissy posted on TikTok. "I just looked at my wrist and realized I'm still wearing my cape cod bracelet," noted @andijoia. "I think it's a forever thing at this point."

Some replied that keeping the bracelets on at airport security checkpoints used to be a no-no, but TSA officers have been more lax recently. A few said they received their first bracelets as infants or young children, and, when they outgrew them, upgraded to larger sizes and used the infant bracelets as keychains.

Anton's bracelet had been a gift from her dad, who was living in Rhode Island for work at the time. She said it has served over the years as an ice-breaker with New Englanders who also wear the bracelet or recognize its simplistic style and shape. "You know, at this point, it just feels like it's a part of me," explains Anton, who now visits Cape Cod every summer.

The name "Cape Cod bracelet" describes a simple bangle with one or more stationary balls that serve as the opener of the loop. Anton suspects the bracelet's wide appeal and reason for yearslong wear is due to its classic look, lightweight durability, and comfort, fitting well on the wrist. Also, she acknowledges that putting it on and taking it off isn't easy — some TikTok commenters admitted needing help — and may bend the loop in the process.

Several jewelers interviewed pointed to Eden Hand Arts, a summer-only jewelry and pottery shop in Dennis, as originator of the Cape Cod bracelet. Their trademarked Cape Cod Screwball bracelet, which features an Eden-embossed, heart-shaped tag and has served as a New England badge of honor for stars of "The Bachelorette" and "Felicity," can be purchased in person via a free, yet competitive ticket system. (The website cites parking, demand, and wait times as the reasoning.) As a commenter on the Cape Cod subreddit lamented, "It was harder to get a ticket for Eden Hand Arts than it was to get a ticket to see Taylor Swift." (Requests for comment from Eden Arts went unanswered.)

Over the years, other jewelers have made and sold their own versions, with wearers calling them all "Cape Cod bracelets." Cape Cod Jewelers in Hyannis has been selling their ball-closure bracelets for 25 of the store's 42 years, according to co-owner and bracelet wearer Brianna Balboni. Denise Quinn, co-owner of The Gilded Oyster in Falmouth, says the Cape Cod bracelet is her store's top seller, despite having an inventory of hundreds of items. Quinn has worn her own bracelet for 20 years.

The Cape Cod bracelet can be compared to other destination wearables, such as the St. Croix hook bracelet (also called the Virgin Island hook bracelet), the Williamsburg C-band bracelet, and the Colors of the Islands bracelet from the Azores.

Sara Noel of Worcester says she wears multiple Cape Cod bracelets to remind herself of her "favorite place." (She has a tattoo of the Cape outline on her back.) The 29-year-old copywriter received her first bracelet 15 years ago and added to her collection over the years, and she has never taken them off — not for her wedding, not at airport security, never.

Susie Maly, 56, an interior designer in Lincoln, Neb., first visited the Cape 10 years ago, staying with friends, and has returned every summer since. On that first visit, they all bought bracelets to commemorate the trip. Maly's son and future daughter-in-law will be honeymooning on the Cape this summer and each bridesmaid was gifted a Cape Cod bracelet when they were asked to be part of the wedding. Most of the bridal party will be wearing a Cape Cod bracelet during the wedding.

Maly said she will remove her other jewelry pieces, but not her Cape Cod bracelet, explaining, "It just kind of becomes a part of you."

Mariah Kelly, who works in rare disease patient advocacy and grew up and currently lives in Chatham, has taken hers off only once in 20 years — for surgery. She received the bracelet after admiring it on a friend's wrist. The friend promptly removed it from her own wrist and placed it onto Kelly's. The 61-year-old says it's the only bracelet that fits perfectly on her small wrists, adding that it's "comfy and meaningful and represents the beautiful place I grew up and I call home."

Like other wearers, Kelly has experienced the conversation-starting nature of the Cape Cod bracelet: About 10 years ago in Nashville, a man randomly said to her, "You're from Cape Cod!" When Kelly asked him how he knew, he pointed to her bracelet.

Libby Bancroft is a Rhode Island-based writer pursuing her MFA in creative writing at Emerson College.

MUSIC

Taylor Swift's 'Poets' arrives with hype (and a second LP)

By Ben Sisario
NEW YORK TIMES

Taylor Swift was already the most ubiquitous pop star in the galaxy, her presence dominating the music charts, the concert calendar, the Super Bowl, the Grammys.

Then it came time for her to promote a new album.

In the days leading up to the release of "The Tortured Poets Department" on Friday, Swift became all but inescapable, online and seemingly everywhere else. Her lyrics were the basis for an Apple Music word game. A Spotify-sponsored, Swift-branded "library installation," in muted pink and gray, popped up in a shopping complex in Los Angeles. In Chicago, a QR code painted on a brick wall directed fans to another Easter egg on YouTube. Videos on Swift's social media accounts, showing antique typewriters and globes with pins, were dissected for clues about her music. SiriusXM added a Swift radio station; of course it's called Channel 13 (Taylor's Version).

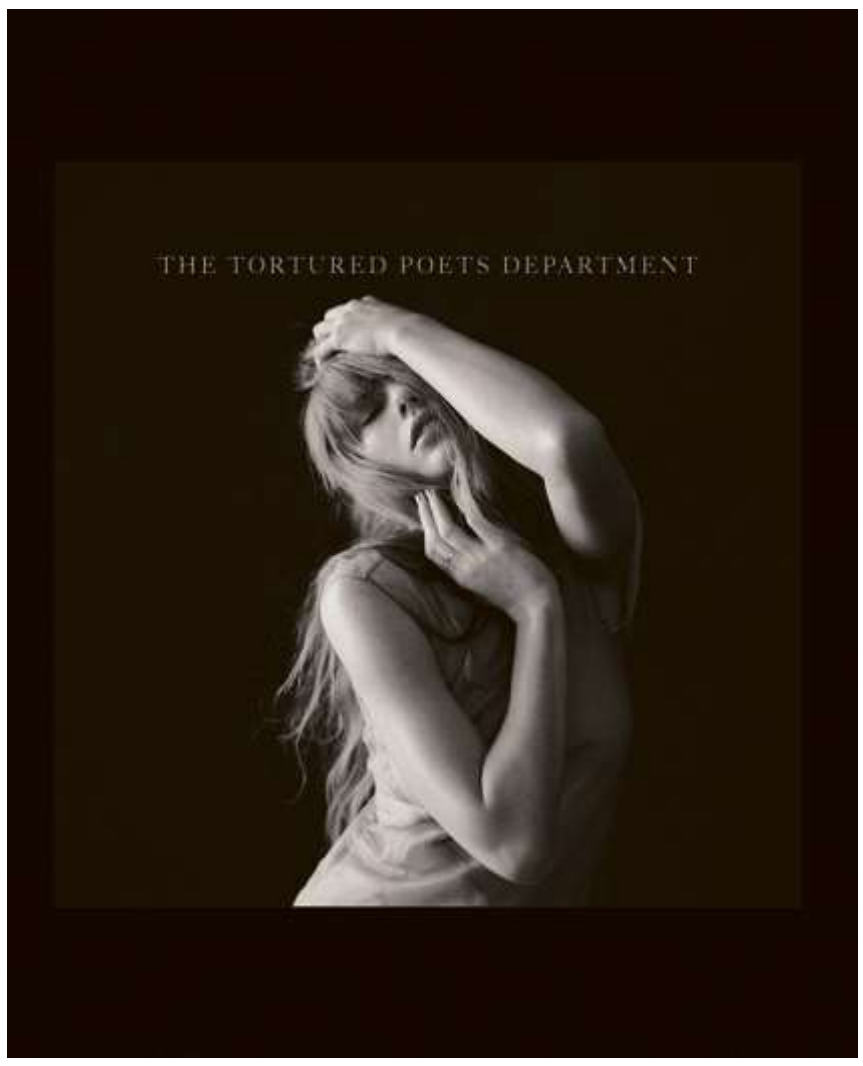
About the only thing Swift didn't do was an interview with a journalist.

At this stage in Swift's career, an album release is more than just a moment to sell music; it's all but a given that "The Tortured Poets Department" will open with gigantic sales numbers. More than that, the album's arrival is a test of the celebrity-industrial complex overall, with tech platforms and media outlets racing to capture whatever piece of the fan frenzy they can get.

Before the album's release on Friday, Swift revealed that a music video — for "Fortnight," the first single, featuring Post Malone — would arrive on Friday at 8 p.m. At 2 a.m., she had another surprise: 15 more songs.

"I'd written so much tortured poetry in the past 2 years and wanted to share it all with you," she wrote in a social media post, bringing "The Anthology" edition of the album to 31 tracks.

"The Tortured Poets Department," which Swift, 34, announced in a Grammy acceptance speech in February — she had the Instagram post ready to go — lands as Swift's profile continues to rise to ever-higher levels of cultural saturation.



REPUBLIC RECORDS VIA AP

Taylor Swift released "The Tortured Poets Department" on Friday. The album lands as Swift's profile continues to rise to ever-higher levels of cultural saturation.

"Poets" arrives accompanied by a poem written by Stevie Nicks that begins, "He was in love with her/ Or at least she thought so." That establishes what many fans correctly anticipated as the album's theme of heartbreak and relationship rot, Swift's signature topic. "I love you/ It's ruining my life," she sings on "Fortnight."

Fans were especially primed for the fifth track, "So Long, London," given that (1) Swift has said she often sequences her most vulnerable and emotionally intense songs fifth on an LP, and (2) the title suggested it may be about Joe Alwyn, an English actor who was Swift's boyfriend for about six years, reportedly until early 2023.

Indeed, "So Long" is an epic breakup tune, with lines like "You left me at the house by the heath" and "I'm pissed off you let me give you all that youth for free."

The album's title song starts with a classic Swift detail of a memento from a lost love: "You left your typewriter at my apartment/ Straight from the tortured poets department." It also namedrops Dylan Thomas, Patti Smith, and, somewhat surprisingly given that company, singer-songwriter Charlie Puth.

Other big moments include "Florida!!!," featuring Florence Welch of Florence + the Machine, in which Swift declares — after seven big percussive bangs — that the state "is one hell of a drug." Jack Antonoff and Aaron Dessner, the producers and songwriters who have been Swift's primary collaborators in recent years, both worked on "Tortured Poets," bringing their signature mix of moody, pulsating electronic tracks and delicate acoustic moments, like a bare piano on "Loml" (as in "love of my life").

At BSO, Icelandic 'energy' and Hahn's return

By Jeremy Eichler
GLOBE STAFF

MUSIC REVIEW

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Andris Nelsons, conductor
At Symphony Hall, Thursday
(repeats Saturday)

When Andris Nelsons picked up a microphone to address the audience from the Symphony Hall stage on Thursday night, it was ostensibly to offer comments on the opening work. But once the BSO's music director got going, he could barely contain his gratitude and delight at facing a nearly sold-out house. Such has not been the norm this season.

The evening began with the Icelandic composer Anna Thorvaldsdottir's 2022 work "Archora," a piece inspired by the idea of primordial energy emanating from the earth. Close to 20 minutes in length, with a Wagnerian orchestral palette rich in low sonorities, the work has more heft and depth of invention than the typical contemporary curtain-raiser, and Thorvaldsdottir plays beguilingly with ideas of stasis and change. Much of the work presents the listeners with vast slowly moving ice floes of sound, but the music rewards close attention as subtle shifts in harmony and timbre land with heightened impact. On this occasion Nelsons led the orchestra in an alert, sensitive account. A quiet majesty underlay the score's final pages, even as the composer smears the music's smooth surfaces with passing chromatic lines or flecks her chords with dissonance.



WINSLOW TOWNSON

Hilary Hahn played Brahms's Violin Concerto with the Boston Symphony Orchestra under the baton of music director Andris Nelsons.

A rarely spotted Mozart Symphony, No. 33 in B-flat — last performed on the subscription series in 1995 — made up the evening's central panel, and received a reading that conveyed the work's high spirits though not the final measure of its lilting grace. But there seemed little doubt that many in the audience had turned out to hear the evening's celebrity soloist, Hilary Hahn, who was featured on the second half, in Brahms's Violin Concerto.

Speaking of primordial energy, Brahms wrote this immortal work during a summer spent in the idyllic setting of Lake Wörth, in southern Austria, an area where, according to one letter, he found melodies abounding in the landscape itself. And those melodies seemed to work their own magic. How many scores in the violin literature can match this concerto's blend of noble, heartfelt lyricism and adrenaline-laced virtuosity?

At Thursday's performance, Hahn proved herself equal to both expressive poles, negotiating the work's high-flown melodic lines with pure-toned ardency, its growling quadruple-stopped chords with vigor, and the pyrotechnics of Joseph Joachim's first-movement cadenza with cool aplomb. She also rendered the score's various transitional passages with more interpretive focus than is the norm, with the result that one heard these familiar passages at times in a somewhat fresh light.

The crowd rewarded her with a robust ovation. And Hahn's artfully chosen encore — the wistful, wise Sarabande from Bach's D-minor Partita — by sheer dint of its contemplative inward-drawing beauty, ushered us swiftly from the bustling promenade toward one of those more private vistas that Bach's music alone can disclose, where the view is far more intimate but no less grand.

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GENE J. PUSKAR/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brayan Bello was wearing his game face Friday, allowing one hit in six shutout innings.

Once again, Red Sox have blast on road behind Bello

By Peter Abraham
GLOBE STAFF

Red Sox 8
Pirates 1

PITTSBURGH — The Red Sox should never feel relieved to be out of Fenway Park. But after a torturous 3-7 homestand defined by injuries, errors, and desultory play, picturesque PNC Park felt like a safe haven Friday night.

Backed by four home runs, Brayan Bello pitched one of the best games of his career in an 8-1 victory against the Pittsburgh Pirates.

"Our best game of the season," manager Alex Cora said. "We were able to breathe."

Bello allowed one hit and struck out seven over six innings. The righthander retired 15 of the last 16 batters he faced, including the final 11 in a row. It was the latest in what has been a season-long string of good starts from the Sox.

Bello (3-1, 3.04 ERA) threw 96 pitches, 40 of them changeups as he hammered away with his best pitch. He controlled the game with his approach as much as his skill.

"Game-planning-wise, he knew what he wanted to do," Cora said.

Catcher Connor Wong said it was the most confident he had seen the Bello, who stranded two runners in the first inning then dominated.

"Today I was able to locate the changeup way better than my previous outings," Bello said.

RED SOX, Page C5

Familiarity, contempt

KEVIN PAUL DUPONT
ON HOCKEY

Marchand's eyes always on Leafs



DANIELLE PARHIZKARAN/GLOBE STAFF

Brad Marchand was an unabashed Leafs fan growing up; now the first-year captain and his Bruins are gunning to KO Toronto for the fourth time since 2013.

Halifax, Nova Scotia, with its craggy jaw jutting out in the Canadian Maritimes, is a long way from Toronto, but that didn't stop a young Brad Marchand, future captain of the Bruins, from growing up an unabashed Maple Leafs fan.

The ever-irascible "Marchy" particularly appreciated the plucky, determined work of Blue and White favorites Doug Gilmour, Wendel Clark, and Darcy Tucker. The big, slick Mats Sundin was another fine player with the Leafs during Marchand's childhood, but his size and style didn't fit Marchand's viewing lens.

Now, Tie Domi, the bellicose winger of 3,515 career penalty minutes? He was a Leaf squarely in Marchand's sight.

"Obviously," noted a smiling Marchand, "he was always entertaining."

Captained in the postseason for the first time by Marchand, the Bruins on Saturday night take on the Leafs yet again in a best-of-seven Stanley Cup playoff round. It's the fourth time the clubs have met since Marchand broke in with the Bruins as a feisty fourth-line curiosity in 2009-10, and all three previous times, as sure as every tree in southern Ontario blooms blue and white in the spring, the Bruins eliminated the hard-luck Leafs in a Game 7.

The once great Boston-Montreal rivalry, the best in the NHL, full of Forum ghosts and Flying Frenchmen, has given way to the cross-border grudge match pitting Canada's biggest hockey brand against the Bruins. The Leafs last beat the Bruins in a playoff series in 1959, the Bruins going 24-10 since in six matchups.

No matter their trials, tribulations, and failures, the Leafs

ON HOCKEY, Page C2

Bruins feel rougher road will serve them well in run at Cup

By Jim McBride
GLOBE STAFF

The Bruins sailed into the 2022-23 postseason on cruise control. Their historic run to 65 wins was devoid of speed bumps and speed traps.

The first time they were thrown off course was when they hit the physical Panthers and exited in round one.

The prognosticators had penciled in the Bruins as Stanley Cup champions, and celebrations were planned from Presque Isle to Oak Bluffs. The players got caught up in the hype. They were looking beyond the path in front of them.

NHL PLAYOFFS
MAPLE LEAFS AT BRUINS
Game 1, Saturday, 8 p.m. (NESN, TBS)

"Looking back, we definitely looked at going on a long run and preparing for a long run instead of just looking at it day to day," said Brad Marchand. "So, it's definitely a lesson we can learn and build upon."

►Shattenkirk, scratched three games in April, on top power-play unit. C2

The road Jim Montgomery's team took to this year's playoffs was not always smooth. The coach and his players feel that will be a benefit when the puck drops Saturday night at TD Garden against the rival Maple Leafs.

Expectations coming into this season were much lower than last, following retirements, trades, and free agent departures of so many familiar faces. Gone were longtime core members Patrice Bergeron, David Krejci, Taylor Hall, and Nick Foligno. Newcomers Tyler Bertuzzi, Garnet Hathaway, and Dmitry Orlov also flew the coop.

"Everyone wrote us off and now here we are. Second in the [Atlantic] Division, and just a feeling that we accomplished something here and we want to build on it in the playoffs, and I can feel that everyone is super excited," said Jakub Lauko, who is poised to start on the third line with Morgan Geekie and Trent Frederic.

Marchand, in his first year as Boston's captain, echoed Lauko's thoughts.

"We didn't achieve what we wanted to

BRUINS, Page C2

Memorable moments helped define Celtics

By Adam Himmelsbach
GLOBE STAFF

NBA PLAYOFFS
HEAT AT CELTICS
Game 1, Sunday, 1 p.m. (ABC)

The Celtics are hoping that when the playoffs begin Sunday against the Heat, they'll start crafting plenty of memorable moments on their way to a championship. Their 64-win regular season included a good number of them as well.

It's nigh impossible to whittle them down, but here's one list.

Outpacing Indiana

The Celtics crafted one of the most dominant offenses in NBA history, and the first hint of this imminent onslaught arrived in just the fourth game of the season, Nov. 1 against the Pacers. The Celtics roared to a 155-104 win, the second-most points in franchise history and the most since 1958-59, when Bill Russell and Bob Cousy led the way.

CELTICS, Page C6



RICH STORRY/GETTY IMAGES

Tyler Herro scored a game-high 24 points as the Heat routed the Bulls, 112-91, in a play-in game. Next up: the Celtics.

Heat a different team in this rematch

GARY WASHBURN
ON BASKETBALL

►Playoff hopes blossom at TD Garden this weekend for Bruins and Celtics. Finn, A1

MIAMI — It was inevitable, this matchup. For the Celtics to reach their ultimate goal, they were eventually going to have to go through the rival Heat. And now it's a certainty.

Even without Jimmy Butler, who is expected to miss several weeks with a right MCL sprain and former Celtic Terry Rozier, who sat on the bench in street clothes with a mysterious neck injury, Miami had more than enough to overwhelm the apathetic Bulls, 112-91, in a Play-In Tournament elimination game Friday at Kaseya Center.

The Heat are a far different team than the one that stunned the Celtics in last year's Eastern Conference finals. They don't have Butler, who was injured in Wednesday's loss to the 76ers, and likely Rozier, a midseason acquisition from the Hornets.

ON BASKETBALL, Page C6

Shattenkirk: More power to him

By Conor Ryan
BOSTON.COM STAFF

BRUINS NOTEBOOK

It wasn't long ago that **Kevin Shattenkirk** was on the outside looking in at a playoff roster spot. With **Jim Montgomery** opting for more defensive fortitude further down the depth chart, pairing **Parker Wotherspoon** and **Andrew Peeke**, Shattenkirk was scratched for three straight games in April.

What a difference a week can make.

The 35-year-old blue liner is not only expected to draw into the lineup for Game 1 against Toronto on Saturday night, he's going to be tasked with helping revive Boston's top power-play unit.

"I prepared myself for it and just worked hard and stayed ready," Shattenkirk said Friday. "I figured that I would get at least some of those games down the stretch, but not really knowing where I would fit going into Game 1.

"I just tried to stay ready and be ready for the power play, whatever it might be. And just happy with how things turned out. Obviously, I'm excited to get into Game 1 tomorrow."

Boston's power play labored down the stretch, cashing in on 3 of 32 chances (9.4 percent) in its last 12 games.

Getting that man advantage humming is a top priority, especially against a Leafs penalty kill that ranked 23rd this season.

Montgomery overhauled the top power-play grouping the last week, placing Shattenkirk in **Charlie McAvoy's** spot at the blue line and replacing **Brad Marchand** with **Danton Heinen** by the half wall.

It's a sizable switch, even with **David Pastrnak** and **Pavel Zacha** still on the top unit.

"I always think you leave your top unit together, but it was too much of a prolonged time where I think they were stale," Montgomery noted. "Didn't matter who had the puck. There was no movement, there was no purpose to what we were doing.

"We were fading away from the net instead of going and converging towards the net. And both units today were converging towards the net. So I'm just happy with the pace of the power play."

Shattenkirk has crafted a lengthy résumé as a power-play quarterback, the Boston University product recording 210 points on the man advantage over his 14-year career.



NICK WASS/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Defenseman Kevin Shattenkirk, scratched three straight games in April, is now on the No. 1 power-play unit.

While McAvoy has the lateral skating ability to corral pucks high, Shattenkirk operates at a quicker pace with a tendency for peppering the net when traffic builds up near Grade A ice.

The reworked personnel impressed against Ottawa on Tuesday. Boston went 1 for 2 on the power play in that 3-1 loss, with a shot from Shattenkirk leading to a second-chance goal from Zacha.

Even though the optics of McAvoy and Marchand getting pushed to the second power-play unit (alongside **Charlie Coyle**, **Jake DeBrusk**, and **Morgan Geekie**) may not be flattering, Montgomery believes his leaders have no qualms.

"The great part about the Bruins is the leaders will do whatever is best for the Bruins," Montgomery said. "If they think having two units going one minute each is what's going to give us the pace and the purpose to have success? They're all in."

Looking for breakthrough

Trent Frederic's blend of scoring punch and snarl is seemingly built for playoff hockey, but the 26-year-old forward did not make a dent during his first two trips to the postseason. In nine games against the Hurricanes (2022) and Panthers (2023), Frederic did not record a point and averaged just 9:35 of ice time.

It's a stark contrast from Frederic's regular-season growth, with the St. Louis native setting career highs in goals (18), points (40), and ice time (13:45) this season.

General manager **Don Sweeney** feels Frederic needs to focus on keeping things simple — especially in the offensive zone.

"Most of [what] we talk about with Trent is play with pace and emotion, and the rest of the game seems to follow suit," Sweeney said. "The playoffs should lend to that if he can channel those energies and get to the interior ice. I think it's an area that he himself can do a better job of now that he has more experience, having gone through those things. We're excited about the progression that Trent has shown the last two seasons, and hopefully that translates starting Saturday."

The last time the Bruins orchestrated a deep playoff run, in 2019, Coyle, Heinen, and **Marcus Johansson** generated plenty of secondary scoring on the third line. Boston needs a similar result from Frederic and Geekie, who has two goals in 24 playoff games.

"I kind of take that approach throughout the season," Frederic said of staying in the moment. "Just kind of the way my career has gone — you just never know if you're going to have a spot in the lineup every day. It's kind of a league where it's like, 'What have you done for me now?' You got to kind of prove it every night."

No word in net

Montgomery did not reveal whether **Linus Ullmark** or **Jeremy Swayman** will start in goal Saturday. "We have decided, but I'm not sharing it with you guys." . . . Leafs forward **William Nylander** did not practice Friday. Toronto coach **Sheldon Keefe** declined to provide an update other than to say Nylander and **Bobby McMann** are "possibilities" for Game 1 . . . The Bruins recalled rookies **Johnny Beecher** and **Mason Lohrei** from Providence. Beecher skated on a fourth line with **Jesper Boqvist** and **Pat Maroon** at Friday's practice . . . **Matt Grzelcyk** was in pain after taking a shot off his shin, but remained on the ice. "If he was a Black Bear, he would have got up right away, but he's a Terrier, so he sat on the ice for a little while," said Montgomery, a proud Maine alum.

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Bruins vs. Maple Leafs

Schedule

Saturday at Boston	8 p.m. (NESN, TBS)
Monday at Boston	7 p.m. (NESN, ESPN)
Wednesday at Toronto	7 p.m. (NESN, ESPN)
Sat., Apr. 27 at Toronto	8 p.m. (NESN, TBS)
*Tue., Apr. 30 at Boston	(NESN)
*Thu., May 2 at Toronto	(NESN)
*Sat., May 4 at Boston	(NESN)

* If necessary

NHL playoffs

Eastern Conference

NY RANGERS VS. WASHINGTON

Schedule

Sun., Apr. 21 at NY Rangers	3
Tue., Apr. 23 at NY Rangers	7
Fri., Apr. 26 at Washington	7
Sun., Apr. 28 at Washington	8
*Wed., May 1 at NY Rangers	TBA
*Fri., May 3 at Washington	TBA
*Sun., May 5 at NY Rangers	TBA

FLORIDA VS. TAMPA BAY

Schedule

Sun., Apr. 21 at Florida	12:30
Tue., Apr. 23 at Florida	7:30
Thu., Apr. 25 at Tampa Bay	7
Sat., Apr. 27 at Tampa Bay	5
*Mon., Apr. 29 at Florida	TBA
*Wed., May 1 at Tampa Bay	TBA
*Sat., May 4 at Florida	TBA

CAROLINA VS. NY ISLANDERS

Schedule

Sat., Apr. 20 at Carolina	5
Mon., Apr. 22 at Carolina	7:30
Thu., Apr. 25 at NY Islanders	7:30
Sat., Apr. 27 at NY Islanders	2
*Tue., Apr. 30 at Carolina	TBA
*Thu., May 2 at NY Islanders	TBA
*Sat., May 4 at Carolina	TBA

Western Conference

WINNIPEG VS. COLORADO

Schedule

Sun., Apr. 21 at Winnipeg	7
Tue., Apr. 23 at Winnipeg	9:30
Fri., Apr. 26 at Colorado	10
Sun., Apr. 28 at Colorado	2:30
*Tue., Apr. 30 at Winnipeg	TBA
*Thu., May 2 at Colorado	TBA
*Sat., May 4 at Winnipeg	TBA

EDMONTON VS. LOS ANGELES

Schedule

Mon., Apr. 22 at Edmonton	10
Wed., Apr. 24 at Edmonton	10
Fri., Apr. 26 at Los Angeles	10:30
Sun., Apr. 28 at Los Angeles	10:30
*Wed., May 1 at Edmonton	TBA
*Fri., May 3 at Los Angeles	TBA
*Sun., May 5 at Edmonton	TBA

VANCOUVER VS. NASHVILLE

Schedule

Sun., Apr. 21 at Vancouver	10
Tue., Apr. 23 at Vancouver	10
Fri., Apr. 26 at Nashville	7:30
Sun., Apr. 28 at Nashville	5
*Tue., Apr. 30 at Vancouver	TBA
*Fri., May 3 at Nashville	TBA
*Sun., May 5 at Vancouver	TBA

DALLAS VS. VEGAS

Schedule

Mon., Apr. 22 at Dallas	9:30
Wed., Apr. 24 at Dallas	9:30
Sat., Apr. 27 at Vegas	10:30
Mon., Apr. 29 at Vegas	TBA
*Wed., May 1 at Dallas	TBA
*Fri., May 3 at Vegas	TBA
*Sun., May 5 at Dallas	TBA

* If necessary

Bruins feel rougher road will serve them well in playoffs

▶BRUINS
Continued from Page C1

last year, but neither did the other teams that were in the playoffs except for one," said Marchand. "So, this year is about building something different with a different group and learning from that and building on it. And we had different adversities that we had to come through this year together, and a lot of people wrote us off before the season even began. So, we built something great this year and came together and now we have another opportunity to do that again."

Ironically, the foundation of this year's success was born out of failure.

The sudden (death) and abrupt ending to last year's season, in a Game 7 overtime heartbreaker, tested the mettle of those who returned. Overcoming that deep disappointment was a critical lesson, especially for the leadership group, which was able to help pull this club out of the doldrums.

There was no hangover evident when the team, in its centennial season, rolled to nine wins in its first 10 games.

There were rough patches — a three-game skid in late November, and another four-game tailspin right before Christmas. A January trip out West included a shootout loss and back-to-back OT failures. The Western Canada swing in February included another three-game losing streak.

"When you have unmatched success in terms of being the best regular-season team ever, obviously you didn't go through too many difficult times during the regular season, so I would say that's not the case this year," said defenseman Charlie McAvoy. "We had a great regular season, but that wasn't without its own trials."

The club bounced back from all of those dips. Lauko said it has been a hallmark of this team.

"Obviously we had some stretches of games when we lost a few games in a row, we didn't play well, but every time we hit a reset button and we came back and started playing better," said Lauko, who noted the veterans were instrumental in guiding the locker room through choppy waters.

"I mean, obviously, every single guy contributes to the team, but whether it's Marchy or if it's Brando [Brandon Carlo] or Pasta [David Pastrnak], all those guys can step up and say something and bring something else to the locker room. And obviously when we didn't play good, they just step up and raise their voice, say some things. And it's really good to have those guys."

Lauko pointed to newcomers Kevin Shattenkirk and Pat Maroon, proven playoff veterans, as players who have come in and meshed well.

Shattenkirk, despite being a part-time player down the stretch, likely will be counted on to run Boston's sagging power play. Maroon is expected to provide the push, and the pushback, that was lacking too often last spring against the Panthers.

"We have a lot of experienced guys. Like Shatty now and Patty comes in, a three-time Stanley Cup champion, he brings a ton of experience to the group and it's nice to have those guys," said Lauko. "We have had a good mix of us, like younger guys with those guys, and it fits. It's a really good group."

Montgomery likes the vibe of his room.

"I think our players seem to be more in the moment this year," said the coach.

The moment starts at 8 p.m. Saturday.

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Marchand has had his eyes on Maple Leafs since childhood

▶ON HOCKEY
Continued from Page C1

still command the greatest share of the hockey spotlight in Canada. Even though they have not won the Stanley Cup since 1967, even though they haven't reached a Cup Final since besting the Habs, 4-2, to clinch the title in '67.

"The Leafs are probably the most popular franchise in the NHL," mused Marchand, asked if taking on Toronto is different for him than battling any other franchise. "They probably have the largest fan base, and you see the excitement they have all throughout Canada when they're in the playoffs. It makes it a lot of fun to play them."

On top of which, Marchand added, the recent playoff history between the clubs intensifies what is about to unfold over the next 4-7 games.

"They're probably our biggest rival right now, over the last decade," he said. "They've probably surpassed Montreal and any other team, where our rivalry's gone, just because we're so competitive with each other . . . so it definitely brings the emotion, the intensity up, in the games and in the excitement. It's a lot of fun to play."

In 2013, the first time the Leafs and Bruins met in the postseason in 39 years, Marchand turned 25 during the series. Jaromir Jagr was also in the Bruins lineup. Now Marchand will turn 36 next month, and with Patrice Bergeron and David Krejci calling it quits last summer, he is the lone remaining Bruin to play in that series.



DANIELLE PARHIZKARAN/GLOBE STAFF

Brad Marchand was honored for playing his 1,000th game and celebrated with his wife and family in February.

On the other side, not a single Leaf from '13 is still on the roster. Ex-Bruins first-rounder Phil Kessel was their leading scorer that season. James van Riemsdyk, who paced the Leafs' scoring that spring (7 points in seven games), now wears No. 21 for the Bruins.

In 2018, when the clubs met again in Round 1, Marchand licked the face of Leafs forward Leo Komarov. As if that weren't icky enough, he did it again in the next series to Tampa Bay winger Ryan Callahan.

The incidents finally brought a call from Colin Campbell in league headquarters, telling Marchand to knock it off, and ultimately led to a sit-down with then-Bruins coach Bruce Cassidy over the summer. The point of the conversation: Cassidy encouraging Marchand to focus on legacy, how he'd like to be remembered for his time in the game and a Boston uniform. The whacky antics ended right there.

"Definitely a decision," Marchand later told TV reporter/host Kathryn Tappen. "You go back in time . . . you'd play it a little differently."

The Leafs and Bruins are about to go at it again and Marchand, the only career Bruin in the series with a Stanley Cup ring, is now the club's senior statesman and captain. His first season with the "C" has been remarkably unremarkable, other than throttling back some on his patented feistiness in the early going. He skated clear of adding to his rap sheet of suspensions.

"Up and down, times I thought I was doing well and times I thought I could be doing better," he said in self-review. "It was a great learning experience, a great opportunity so far . . . a good first year. But it's not over yet and hopefully there's still room to improve here throughout the season and playoff times. Even watching [ex-captains] Bergy and Z [Zdeno Chara], how they continued to grow till the day they were done."

Marchand is now the old man with that new "C" on his sweater. He's the kid who once thought the Leafs were everything, now tasked to take everything away from them. Again.

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Auto Dealer Directory

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2 Latti Farm Road, Rte 20, Millbury
877-875-5491
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Herb Chambers Alfa Romeo of Warwick
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401-262-2020
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That includes buying one.
Herb Chambers



Baseball



MITCHELL LEFF/GETTY IMAGES

Alec Bohm tracks his first-inning homer, the first of his two three-run blasts in the Phillies' 7-0 victory over the visiting White Sox.

AL

EAST	W	L	Pct.	GB	Div.	Last 10	Streak
New York	14	6	.700	—	4-3	6-4	W 2
Baltimore	12	7	.632	1½	3-0	7-3	L 1
*Toronto	10	9	.526	3½	5-5	6-4	L 1
Tampa Bay	11	10	.524	3½	2-3	6-4	L 1
Boston	11	10	.524	3½	0-3	4-6	W 1
CENTRAL	**W**	**L**	**Pct.**	**GB**	**Div.**	**Last 10**	**Streak**
Cleveland	14	6	.700	—	4-1	6-4	W 2
Kansas City	13	7	.650	1	7-3	7-3	W 1
Detroit	11	9	.550	3	6-2	5-5	W 1
Minnesota	6	12	.333	7	4-6	3-7	L 5
Chicago	3	16	.158	10½	2-11	2-8	L 1
WEST	**W**	**L**	**Pct.**	**GB**	**Div.**	**Last 10**	**Streak**
Texas	11	10	.524	—	4-6	5-5	L 1
Seattle	9	10	.474	1	0-0	5-5	W 3
Los Angeles	9	11	.450	1½	0-0	3-7	L 2
Oakland	8	12	.400	2½	2-1	5-5	L 1
Houston	7	14	.333	4	4-3	3-7	W 1

NL

EAST	W	L	Pct.	GB	Div.	Last 10	Streak
Atlanta	13	5	.722	—	5-4	7-3	W 5
Philadelphia	12	8	.600	2	3-3	7-3	W 4
*New York	10	8	.556	3	2-1	8-2	W 4
Washington	8	11	.421	5½	1-2	5-5	L 1
Miami	4	16	.200	10	1-2	3-7	L 2
CENTRAL	**W**	**L**	**Pct.**	**GB**	**Div.**	**Last 10**	**Streak**
*Milwaukee	11	6	.647	—	2-1	6-4	W 1
Chicago	12	7	.632	—	0-0	6-4	W 2
Pittsburgh	11	9	.550	1½	0-0	3-7	L 4
Cincinnati	10	9	.526	2	1-2	5-5	W 1
*St. Louis	9	10	.474	3	0-0	4-6	L 1
WEST	**W**	**L**	**Pct.**	**GB**	**Div.**	**Last 10**	**Streak**
*Los Angeles	12	9	.571	—	5-3	4-6	L 1
*San Diego	11	10	.524	1	6-6	6-4	L 1
*San Francisco	9	11	.450	2½	5-6	5-5	W 2
*Arizona	9	11	.450	2½	5-3	5-5	L 2
Colorado	4	15	.211	7	2-5	2-8	L 5

* — Not including late game

RESULTS

FRIDAY

Boston 8	at Pittsburgh 1	At Kansas City 9	Baltimore 4
At Chi. Cubs 8	Miami 3	Detroit 5	at Minnesota 4
At Philadelphia 7	Chi. White Sox 0	Milwaukee 2 (10 inn.)	at St. Louis 1
At Cincinnati 7	LA Angels 1	Seattle (ppd.)	at Colorado
Houston 5	at Washington 3	Toronto	at San Diego
At NY Yankees 5	Tampa Bay 3	NY Mets	at LA Dodgers
At Cleveland 10	Oakland 2	Arizona	at San Francisco
At Atlanta 8	Texas 3		

THURSDAY

Cleveland 5	at Boston 4	Miami (ppd.)	at Chi. Cubs
At Tampa Bay 2	LA Angels 1	At San Francisco 5	Arizona 0
Texas 9	at Detroit 7		

SATURDAY'S GAMES

	Odds	2024 W-L	2024 ERA	Team rec.	2023 vs. opp W-L	2023 vs. opp IP	2023 vs. opp ERA
BOSTON AT PITTSBURGH, 4:05 p.m.							
Crawford (R)	Off	0-0	0.42	1-3	0-1	4.0	15.75
Keller (R)	Off	2-1	4.50	3-1	1-0	7.0	1.29
MIAMI AT CHI. CUBS, 2:20 p.m.							
Luzardo (L)	Off	0-2	7.65	0-4	0-0	6.1	2.84
Assad (R)	Off	2-0	2.16	2-1	0-0	0.0	0.00
MIAMI AT CHI. CUBS, 7:40 p.m.							
Muñoz (R)	Off	—	—	0-0	0-0	0.0	0.00
Imanaga (L)	Off	2-0	0.00	3-0	0-0	0.0	0.00
TAMPA BAY AT NY YANKEES, 1:05 p.m.							
Eflin (R)	Off	1-2	4.63	1-3	1-0	6.0	6.00
Cortes (L)	Off	1-1	4.50	2-2	0-0	4.1	12.46
DETROIT AT MINNESOTA, 2:10 p.m.							
Olson (R)	Off	0-2	3.86	1-2	0-0	0.0	0.00
Ober (R)	Off	0-1	6.57	0-3	0-0	0.0	0.00
MILWAUKEE AT ST. LOUIS, 2:15 p.m.							
Rea (R)	Off	2-0	2.70	2-1	0-0	0.0	0.00
Mikolas (R)	Off	1-2	5.82	1-3	0-0	0.0	0.00
ARIZONA AT SAN FRANCISCO, 4:05 p.m.							
Gallen (R)	Off	3-0	1.64	3-1	1-0	7.2	2.35
Harrison (L)	Off	2-1	4.70	2-2	0-0	0.0	0.00
HOUSTON AT WASHINGTON, 4:05 p.m.							
Blanco (R)	Off	2-0	0.86	3-0	0-0	0.0	0.00
Williams (R)	Off	2-0	3.45	2-1	0-0	0.0	0.00
NY METS AT LA DODGERS, 4:05 p.m.							
Buttó (R)	Off	0-0	0.75	2-0	0-0	0.0	0.00
Stone (R)	Off	1-1	6.14	2-1	0-0	0.0	0.00
CHI. WHITE SOX AT PHILADELPHIA, 6:05 p.m.							
Soroka (R)	Off	0-2	6.98	1-3	0-0	0.0	0.00
Wheeler (R)	Off	0-3	3.00	0-4	1-0	5.0	7.20
OAKLAND AT CLEVELAND, 6:10 p.m.							
Wood (L)	Off	0-1	8.10	2-2	0-0	0.0	0.00
Allen (L)	Off	2-0	5.06	3-1	0-0	0.0	0.00
LA ANGELS AT CINCINNATI, 6:40 p.m.							
Sandoval (L)	Off	1-2	4.67	2-2	0-0	0.0	0.00
Ashcraft (R)	Off	2-1	4.15	2-1	0-0	0.0	0.00
BALTIMORE AT KANSAS CITY, 7:10 p.m.							
Burnes (R)	Off	2-0	2.28	4-0	1-0	6.0	0.00
Ragans (L)	Off	0-1	1.93	1-3	0-1	2.2	3.38
TEXAS AT ATLANTA, 7:20 p.m.							
Lorenzen (R)	Off	1-0	0.00	1-0	0-1	6.0	9.00
Morton (R)	Off	1-0	5.29	2-1	1-0	6.2	0.00
SEATTLE AT COLORADO, 8:10 p.m.							
Castillo (R)	Off	0-4	5.82	0-4	1-0	7.0	0.00
Freeland (L)	Off	0-3	13.21	1-3	0-0	0.0	0.00
TORONTO AT SAN DIEGO, 8:40 p.m.							
Berríos (R)	Off	3-0	1.05	4-0	0-0	0.0	0.00
TBA	Off	—	—	0-0	0-0	0.0	0.00

Team rec. — Record in games started by pitcher this season

NOTEBOOK

Soto's latest big home run lifts Yankees

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Juan Soto hit a three-run homer halfway up the right field second deck to cap a five-run seventh inning as the Yankees beat the visiting Rays, 5-3, on Friday night.

Soto stood at home plate and admired his 409-foot drive off **Chris Devenski**, which gave the Yankees a 5-1 lead. Soto is hitting .347 with five homers and 20 RBIs in his first season with the Yankees.

Soto also made a leaping catch at the right field wall to rob **Richie Palacios** of a possible homer for the final out of the third.

Issac Paredes hit a two-run single in the eighth against **Ian Hamilton**, and **Clay Holmes** escaped trouble in the ninth for his eighth save in nine chances.

Verlander wins in return

Justin Verlander allowed two runs and four hits over six innings to win his season debut for the Astros, 5-3, over the host Nationals. The 41-year-old righthander, who began the season on the injured list because of right shoulder inflammation, struck out four and walked none, throwing 59 of 78 pitches for strikes in his 258th win.

Verlander was 13-8 with a 3.22 ERA last year for the New York Mets and Houston, who acquired him ahead of the trade deadline.

Houston stole five bases and stopped a three-game losing streak. **Jeremy Peña** and **Mauricio Dubón** had three hits each, **Yainer Diaz** doubled twice, and **Kyle Tucker** doubled, singled, walked twice, and stole two bases.

Turnbull, Bohm star for Phillies

Spencer Turnbull carried a no-hit bid into the seventh inning, **Alex Bohm** hit a pair of three-run homers, and the host Phillies beat the White Sox, 7-0, to extend their winning streak to four.

Chicago has lost seven of eight and 12 of 14, dropping to a major league-worst 3-16. The White Sox have been shut out seven times and are hitting a major league-low .190.

Turnbull (2-0) didn't allow a hit until **Gavin Sheets** singled into right field with one out in the seventh. He struck out six and walked two, pitching seven innings for the first time since his no-hitter for Detroit against Seattle on May 18, 2021.

Phillies starters have allowed one earned run over 29⅓ innings in their last four games.

D'Arnaud's three HRs carry Sale

Travis d'Arnaud hit his first three home runs of the season, including a grand slam in the sixth that gave host Atlanta the lead, as the Braves beat the Rangers, 8-3, for their fifth straight win.

Chris Sale (2-1) allowed three runs and five hits in seven innings in the interleague matchup of first-place teams.

Adolis García's two-run double off Sale in the sixth tied it at 3.

Rockies land in hot water for flight

Federal transportation officials are investigating an unauthorized inflight cockpit visit by a coach for the Colorado Rockies team during a United Airlines charter flight last week from Denver to Toronto.

Video surfaced this week that appears to show Rockies hitting coach **Hensley Meulens** sitting in a pilot's seat while the April 10 flight was at cruising altitude. It is against federal regulations for unauthorized people to be on the flight deck.

He can be seen and heard on the video joking with other people in the cockpit — including a person in a pilot's uniform and at least one other person who does not appear to be an airline employee — and says the plane is at 35,000 feet.

"Flying the plane, here to Toronto," Meulens says as he gestures toward the person in uniform sitting next to him.

"I'm going to land the plane tonight. So relax," he says. He then reaches toward the flight controls and pretends to take hold, saying, "I just press this button . . . and it goes down."

Meulens posted the video to a social media site and later deleted it, but it had already gone viral and was reposted, the Denver Post reported.

ASTROS 5, NATIONALS 3

HOUSTON	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Altuve 2b	5	0	1	0	0	1	.376
Alvarez dh	5	0	0	0	0	1	.272
Bregman 3b	5	0	0	0	0	1	.232
Tucker rf	3	2	2	0	2	0	.275
Diaz c	4	1	2	1	0	0	.304
Peña ss	4	1	3	1	0	1	.349
McCormick lf	3	1	2	2	0	0	.241
JAbreu 1b	4	0	0	0	0	0	.073
Dubón cf	4	0	3	1	0	1	.319
Totals	**37**	**5**	**13**	**5**	**2**	**5**	

WASHINGTON	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Young cf	3	0	1	0	0	1	.237
Gallo ph-lf	1	0	0	0	0	1	.133
Abrams ss	4	1	1	0	0	0	.292
Winker dh	3	0	0	1	0	2	.345
Thomas rf	4	0	1	0	0	2	.195
García Jr. 2b	3	0	1	0	1	0	.296
Nuñez pr	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Meneses 1b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.182
Rosario lf-cf	3	0	0	0	0	0	.130
Senzel ph	1	0	0	0	0	1	.167
Adams c	3	2	2	1	0	0	.306
Vargas 3b	3	0	2	1	0	0	.323
Totals	**32**	**3**	**8**	**3**	**1**	**8**	

Houston	030	010	010	—	**5**	**13**	**0**
Washington	001	010	001	—	**3**	**8**	**0**

LOB—Houston 8, Washington 4. **2B**—Tucker (6), Diaz (3), Peña (5), Adams (4). **3B**—Abrams (3). **HR**—Adams (2), off Verlander. **SB**—Altuve (3), Tucker 2 (4), Peña (3), McCormick (2), García Jr. (4). **CS**—Vargas 2 (2). **SF**—McCormick, Winker. **DP**—Washington 1.

Houston	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Verland. W 1-0	6	4	2	2	0	4	3.00
BAbreu	1	1	0	0	0	1	5.40
Pressly	1	1	0	0	0	1	8.22
Hader S 2	1	2	1	1	1	2	8.38

Washington	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Gore L 2-1	4	7	3	3	1	4	3.60
RoGarcia	⅓	2	1	1	1	0	4.32
Law	1⅔	1	0	0	0	0	3.65
Floro	1	1	0	0	0	1	1.00
Barnes	1	2	1	1	0	0	3.68
Rainey	1	0	0	0	0	0	5.14

Inherited runners-scored—Law 3-1. **NP**—Verlander 78, BAbreu 14, Pressly 18, Hader 30, Gore 92, RoGarcia 19, Law 19, Floro 15, Barnes 18, Rainey 10. **Umpires**—Home, Cory Blaser; First, Manny Gonzalez; Second, Nate Tomlinson; Third, Todd Tichenor. **T**—2:52. **A**—22,999 (41,380).

CUBS 8, MARLINS 3

MIAMI	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Arraez 2b	4	0	0	0	0	0	.263
Bruján 2b	0	0	0	0	0	0	.100
De La Cruz dh	4	1	1	1	0	2	.286
Chisholm Jr. cf	4	0	2	0	0	2	.246
Bell 1b	3	1	0	0	1	0	.192
JeSánchez rf	4	0	0	0	0	2	.167
Anderson ss	3	0	0	0	0	1	.254
Lopez ss	1	1	1	0	0	0	.286
Gordon lf	4	0	1	2	0	0	.211
Rivera 3b	4	0	1	0	0	2	.214
Fortes c	3	0	0	0	0	0	.088
Totals	**34**	**3**	**6**	**3**	**1**	**9**	

CHI. CUBS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Hoerner 2b	5	1	2	1	0	0	.258
Wisdom rf-3b	4	1	0	0	1	2	.000
Bellinger cf	4	1	2	1	0	0	.216
Morel dh	3	1	0	0	1	0	.208
Swanson ss	3	2	2	1	1	1	.254
Happ lf	2	0	0	0	1	2	.240
Canario lf	1	0	0	0	0	1	.333
Cooper 1b	3	0	1	1	1	1	.346
Madrigal 3b	1	2	0	1	0	0	.250
Tauchman ph-rf	2	0	2	1	0	0	.256
MAmaya c	4	0	1	2	0	2	.278
Totals	**32**	**8**	**10**	**8**	**5**	**9**	

Miami	000	100	002	—	**3**	**6**	**0**
Chi. Cubs	214	010	00x	—	**8**	**10**	**1**

E—Wisdom (1). **LOB**—Miami 5, Chi. Cubs 6. **2B**—Chisholm Jr. (4), Hoerner 2 (4), Swanson (3), Tauchman (4), MAmaya (2). **HR**—De La Cruz (4), off Taillon. **DP**—Miami 2.

Miami	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Puk L 0-4	3	7	7	7	3	4	9.22
Cronin	2	2	1	1	1	1	2.45
Smith	2	0	0	0	0	2	4.82
Nardi	1	1	0	0	1	2	10.38

Chi. Cubs	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Taillon W 1-0	5	3	1	1	0	4	1.80
Thompson	2	0	0	0	1	4	0.00
Brewer	2	3	2	1	0	1	4.50

HBP—by Puk (Madrigal). **PB**—MAmaya. **NP**—Puk 70, Cronin 28, Smith 26, Nardi 19, Taillon 73, Thompson 36, Brewer 33. **Umpires**—Home, Alex MacKay; First, Edwin Moscoso; Second, Adam Hamari; Third, Vic Carapazza. **T**—2:25. **A**—29,595 (41,649).

PHILLIES 7, WHITE SOX 0

WHITE SOX	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Fletcher cf	3	0	0	0	0	1	.220
Pillar ph-cf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.200
Jiménez dh	4	0	0	0	0	1	.095
Sheets rf	4	0	1	0	0	0	.250
Vaughn 1b	3	0	0	0	1	2	.159
Benintendi lf	4	0	0	0	0	0	.164
DeJong ss	2	0	0	0	1	1	.262
Shewmake 3b	2	0	0	0	0	0	.179
LSosa ph-3b	1	0	0	0	0	1	.152
Lopez 2b	3	0	1	0	0	1	.178
Maldonado c	2	0	0	0	1	1	.057
Totals	**29**	**0**	**2**	**0**	**3**	**8**	

PHILADELPHIA	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Schwarber dh	4	0	0	0	0	3	.218
Turner ss	4	2	3	0	0	1	.350
Harper 1b	2	2	1	0	2	0	.225
Realmuto c	4	0	0	0	0	1	.246
Bohm 3b	4	2	2	6	0	0	.258
Castellanos rf	3	0	0	0	0	1	.153
Merrifield lf	3	1	1	1	0	0	.129
ESosa 2b	3	0	0	0	0	1	.300
Pache cf	3	0	0	0	0	0	.200
Totals	**30**	**7**	**7**	**7**	**2**	**7**	

Chi. White Sox	000	000	000	—	**0**	**2**	**0**
Philadelphia	303	100	00x	—	**7**	**7**	**0**

LOB—Chi. White Sox 5, Philadelphia 1. **2B**—Turner (7). **HR**—Bohm 2 (3), off Crochet, off Crochet, Merrifield (1), off Crochet. **DP**—Chi. White Sox 1.

Chi. White Sox	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Crochet L 1-3	3	5	7	7	2	3	5.61
Flexen	4	1	0	0	0	4	6.75
Hill	1	1	0	0	0	0	6.75

Philadelphia	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Turnbull W 2-0	7	1	0	0	2	6	1.23
Strahm	1	1	0	0	1	1	2.08
Kerkering	1	0	0	0	0	1	0.00

Crochet pitched to 1 batter in the 4th. **NP**—Crochet 75, Flexen 58, Hill 8, Turnbull 92, Strahm 17, Kerkering 18. **Umpires**—Home, Carlos Torres; First, Charlie Ramos; Second, Chad Fairchild; Third, Ryan Wills. **T**—2:18. **A**—39,069 (42,792).

REDS 7, ANGELS 1

LA ANGELS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Rendon 3b	3	0	1	0	1	0	.257
Trout cf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.256
Ward lf	4	0	1	0	0	1	.294
Sanó 1b	4	0	0	0	0	0	.256
Drury dh	4	0	1	0	0	1	.203
O'Hoppe c	4	0	0	0	0	2	.310
Rengifo 2b	4	1	2	0	0	1	.283
Adell rf	3	0	2	1	0	1	.276
Neto ss	3	0	0	0	0	2	.185
Totals	**33**	**1**	**7**	**1**	**1**	**9**	

CINCINNATI	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
India 2b	3	1	1	0	1	0	.167
Steer 1b	4	1	1	0	0	1	.299
Fairchild cf	3	0	0	0	0	1	.229
TStephenson c	2	2	1	1	2	0	.209
Martini dh	3	1	0	1	0	0	.244
De La Cruz ss	4	2	2	3	0	0	.290
Fraley rf	2	0	0	0	2	0	.378
Espinal 3b	3	0	0	0	1	0	.121
Benson lf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.200
Totals	**28**	**7**	**5**	**5**	**6**	**3**	

LA Angels	000	010	000	—	**1**	**7**	**1**
Cincinnati	010	001	05x	—	**7**	**5**	**1**

E—O'Hoppe (2), Espinal (2). **LOB**—LA Angels 6, Cincinnati 5. **2B**—Ward (3), Rengifo (4). **HR**—TStephenson (2), off Anderson, De La Cruz (6), off Cisnero. **SB**—Rendon (3), Rengifo (6), Adell (5), De La Cruz 3 (10). **S**—Fairchild. **DP**—Cincinnati 1.

LA Angels	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Anderson L 2-2	7	3	2	1	3	2	1.42
Cimber	⅓	1	4	4	2	0	4.35
Cisnero	⅔	1	1	1	1	1	8.00

Cincinnati	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Lodolo W 2-0	6⅓	7	1	1	0	6	0.75
Cruz	⅔	0	0	0	0	2	2.25
Sims	1	0	0	0	1	0	9.00
Farmer	1	0	0	0	0	1	4.22

Inherited runners-scored—Cisnero 3-3, Cruz 2-0. **HBP**—by Cimber (Martini). **WP**—Cisnero. **NP**—Anderson 95, Cimber 15, Cisnero 21, Lodolo 80, Cruz 12, Sims 14, Farmer 11. **Umpires**—Home, Larry Vanover; First, Brian Walsh; Second, Scott Barry; Third, David Rackley. **T**—2:12. **A**—22,539 (45,814).

YANKEES 5, RAYS 3

TAMPA BAY	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Díaz 1b	5	0	1	0	0	1	.224
Siri pr	0	0	0	0	0	0	.200
Arozarena cf	4	1	1	0	1	1	.176
Palacios lf	4	2	2	1	0	0	.302
Paredes 3b	4	0	2	2	0	0	.286
Ramírez dh	4	0	2	0	0	1	.260
Rosario rf	4	0	1	0	0	0	.333
Mead 2b	4	0	1	0	0	2	.224
Caballero ss	4	0	2	0	0	1	.286
Rortvedt c	4	0	2	0	0	2	.345
Totals	**37**	**3**	**14**	**3**	**1**	**8**	

NY YANKEES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Volpe ss	3	1	1	1	0	1	.324
Soto rf	4	1	1	3	0	0	.347
Judge cf	3	0	1	0	1	1	.189
Stanton dh	4	0	0	0	0	1	.238
Rizzo 1b	3	0	0	0	0	0	.231
Torres 2b	4	0	0	0	0	3	.197
Verdugo lf	3	1	0	0	0	0	.232
Trevino c	3	1	1	0	1	0	.242
Cabrera 3b	3	1	1	0	0	1	.310
Totals	**30**	**5**	**5**	**4**	**2**	**7**	

Tampa Bay	000	001	020	—	**3**	**14**	**2**
NY Yankees	000	000	50x	—	**5**	**5**	**0**

E—Díaz (1), Mead (1). **LOB**—Tampa Bay 9, NY Yankees 6. **2B**—Palacios (2). **HR**—Palacios (2), off Schmidt, Soto (5), off Devenski. **SB**—Ramírez (2), Rosario (2), Caballero (6), Judge (1), Verdugo (1). **S**—Volpe. **DP**—NY Yankees 3.

Tampa Bay	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Alexander	5⅓	2	0	0	1	4	4.79
Armstrong	⅔	1	0	0	0	1	4.09
Devenski BS 1	1	2	5	0	1	2	7.36
Lopez	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.00

NY Yankees	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Schmidt	5⅓	7	1	1	0	7	3.15
Santana W 1-0	1⅔	2	0	0	0	1	3.00
Hamilton	1	3	2	2	1	0	3.55
Holmes S 8	1	2	0	0	0	0	0.00

Inherited runners-scored—Santana 1-0. **HBP**—by Alexander (Rizzo), by Lopez (Verdugo), by Schmidt (Palacios). **NP**—Alexander 79, Armstrong 8, Devenski 32, Lopez 12, Schmidt 102, Santana 17, Hamilton 24, Holmes 22. **Umpires**—Home, Rob Drake; First, Jonathan Parra; Second, John Libka; Third, James Hoye. **T**—2:40. **A**

ROYALS 9, ORIOLES 4

BALTIMORE	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Henderson ss	4	0	0	0	0	2	.273
Rutschman c	5	1	3	4	0	1	.297
O'Hearn dh	5	0	0	0	0	1	.288
Santander rf	2	0	1	0	2	0	.211
Mountcastle 1b	3	0	0	0	1	1	.303
Mullins cf	4	1	1	0	0	0	.258
Cowser lf	2	0	0	0	0	1	.383
Hays ph-lf	1	1	1	0	0	0	.095
Westburg 3b-2b	4	1	1	0	0	1	.313
Holliday 2b	2	0	0	0	0	1	.037
Urías ph-3b	2	0	1	0	0	0	.192
Totals	**34**	**4**	**8**	**4**	**3**	**8**	

KANSAS CITY	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Garcia 3b	5	0	1	0	0	1	.167
Witt Jr. ss	3	1	0	0	1	0	.309
Pasquantino 1b	3	3	1	1	1	0	.266
Perez c	3	1	1	0	1	0	.324
Melendez lf	4	2	2	4	0	1	.242
Velázquez dh	3	1	1	0	1	1	.295
Massey 2b	4	1	2	2	0	0	.500
Renfroe rf	4	0	1	2	0	1	.182
Isbel cf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.200
Totals	**33**	**9**	**9**	**9**	**4**	**5**	

Baltimore	000	000	400	—	**4**	**8**	**0**
Kansas City	000	105	30x	—	**9**	**9**	**0**

LOB—Baltimore 8, Kansas City 4. **2B**—Santander (3), Massey (1), Renfroe (3). **HR**—Rutschman (2), off Smith, Pasquantino (4), off Kremer, Melendez (4), off Tate. **SB**—Garcia (4).

Baltimore	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Kremer L 0-2	5⅔	2	3	3	3	3	4.91
Akin	⅓	3	3	3	1	0	5.00
Tate	1	4	3	3	0	0	4.50
Baumann	1	0	0	0	0	2	4.00

Kansas City	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Marsh W 3-0	5⅔	3	0	0	2	6	3.22
Schreiber	⅓	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Smith	1	4	4	4	0

Baseball

Booser took improbable path

By Peter Abraham
GLOBE STAFF

PITTSBURGH — **Cam Booser** still recalls the exact day his life changed, although he didn't know it at the time.

RED SOX NOTEBOOK

It was Feb. 21, 2021. He got back on a mound that day after giving up on baseball a few years earlier and learned that baseball hadn't given up on him.

The ball came out of his left hand without pain and there was a pop when it smacked into the catcher's mitt. After years of dealing with injuries and setbacks, Booser had a second chance.

"It was at that moment I knew," he said. "I thought I'd give it a shot."

That shot paid off Friday when the 31-year-old made his major league debut, pitching an inning for the Red Sox in an 8-1 victory against the Pirates.

Booser gave up a triple on the first pitch he threw but retired the next three batters, giving up a meaningless run.

After clubhouse speeches by manager **Alex Cora** and teammate **Kenley Jansen**, Booser was showered with water and beer by teammates.

"That was very special to me," said Booser, who left the ballpark with two baseballs and a lineup card as souvenirs. "It tied in with how special the whole day was."

Booser's parents and girlfriend were able to make it to PNC Park for the game. He called them immediately Thursday after he got the news from Triple A Worcester manager **Chad Tracy**.

"There was a lot of screaming," he said. "It was exciting."

To say Booser took an improbable road to the majors is underselling his story.

The Seattle native was a multisport athlete at Fife High in Tacoma but broke his leg playing football and also had knee surgery.

He attended three colleges and underwent Tommy John surgery along the way. He signed with the Twins as a non-drafted free agent in 2013 but had a second elbow surgery in 2014 and a shoulder procedure in 2015.

During a rehab stint at Minnesota's complex in Fort Myers, Fla., in 2015, Booser was hit by a car while riding a bicycle and injured his back. He retired from baseball in 2017, having appeared in only 24 games over the previous two seasons.

Booser took a job in construction and worked 2½ years as a carpenter installing acoustic ceiling tiles.

"Just like those," he said, pointing to the ceiling in the visitor's clubhouse.

Booser supplemented his income working at a baseball training facility in 2020 and found he could throw in the upper 90s pain-free.

The independent Chicago Dogs, managed by former Red Sox third baseman **Butch Hobson**, signed Booser in 2021. He had a 1.93 ERA in 21 games and struck out 39 in 21⅓ innings.

"I loved the guy," Hobson said by phone Friday. "He's a bulldog. Goes right after the hitter. Good slider and good velocity. If there's a brawl, get behind him. He's a tough buck. I loved having him."

Hobson decided to sign Booser based on a video of him throwing in the bullpen that was put on social media.

"He was throwing hard," Hobson said. "He showed up and did the same for us. He goes right after the hitters."

The Diamondbacks gave Booser a chance in 2022, but he washed out after one season in Double A and tried again in a different independent league.

The Sox signed Booser in 2023 and assigned him to Triple A Worcester. He appeared in 48 games as a reliever, posting a 4.99 ERA for the season but pitching much better in the second half.

"I tried to learn from my mistakes as best I could," Booser said.

Booser was invited to major league spring training. He allowed only two earned runs on four hits over 10 innings and struck out 10 without a walk.

As you have learned, nothing comes easily for Booser. He was reassigned to minor league camp March 18 and opened the season back in Worcester. He allowed two runs on three hits over 6⅔ innings and struck out 15 with one walk.

"We expect him to do big things for us," Cora said. "Throwing 97, 98 and throwing strikes, as a manager you like that."

Red Sox 8, Pirates 1

At PNC Park, Pittsburgh

BOSTON	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Duran cf	5	0	0	0	0	0	.284
Abreu lf	5	2	3	1	0	0	.233
Refsnyder rf	5	2	2	2	0	0	.333
Casas 1b	4	1	1	1	1	1	.244
Wong c	5	0	2	0	0	2	.349
Yoshida dh	3	1	1	0	1	1	.221
Dalbec 3b	3	1	1	0	1	1	.045
Valdez 2b	4	0	1	2	0	0	.161
Rafaela ss	4	1	1	2	0	0	.167
Totals	**38**	**8**	**12**	**8**	**3**	**5**	

PITTSBURGH	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Cruz ss	4	0	0	0	0	2	.222
Reynolds rf	2	0	0	0	2	1	.253
Hayes 3b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.261
Tellez 1b	3	0	0	0	0	1	.218
a-Williams ph	1	1	1	0	0	0	.348
McCutchen dh	4	0	0	0	0	2	.191
Suwinski lf	3	0	1	0	0	1	.180
b-Olivares ph	1	0	0	1	0	0	.261
Triolo 2b	4	0	0	0	0	0	.221
Taylor cf	3	0	1	0	0	1	.300
Davis c	3	0	1	0	0	1	.182
Totals	**32**	**1**	**4**	**1**	**2**	**10**	

Boston	210	021	200 — 8 12 1
Pittsburgh	000	000	001 — 1 4 1

a-tripled for Tellez in 9th, b-grounded out for Suwinski in 9th. **E**—Rafaela (4), Priester (1). **LOB**—Boston 7, Pittsburgh 6. **2B**—Abreu (4), Refsnyder (1), Dalbec (1), Valdez (2), Suwinski (2). **3B**—Williams (2). **HR**—Abreu (1), off Priester, Refsnyder (1), off Priester, Casas (6), off Priester, Rafaela (1), off Contreras. **SB**—Rafaela (2). **Runners left in scoring position**—Boston 5 (Duran, Refsnyder, Yoshida, Dalbec 2), Pittsburgh 3 (Hayes, McCutchen, Davis). **RISP**—Boston 1 for 9, Pittsburgh 0 for 10. **Runners moved up**—Hayes, Olivares.

Boston	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Bello W 3-1	6	1	0	0	2	7	96	3.04
Anderson	2	2	0	0	0	2	24	3.27
Booser	1	1	1	1	0	1	7	9.00
Pittsburgh	**IP**	**H**	**R**	**ER**	**BB**	**SO**	**NP**	**ERA**
Priester L 0-1	4⅓	7	5	4	1	2	86	8.31
Fleming	⅔	1	0	0	0	0	10	1.93
Contreras	2	3	3	3	2	2	34	5.63
Stratton	2	1	0	0	0	1	28	4.35

HBP—by Fleming (Yoshida). **Umpires**—Home, Paul Clemons; First, D.J. Reyburn; Second, Brennan Miller; Third, Brian O'Nora. **T**—2:22. **A**—17,959 (38,747).

HOW THE RUNS SCORED

FIRST INNING

RED SOX — Duran grounded out, shortstop Cruz to first baseman Tellez. Abreu homered to right on a 2-2 count. Refsnyder grounded out, shortstop Cruz to first baseman Tellez. Casas homered to left on a 1-0 count. Wong grounded out, shortstop Cruz to first baseman Tellez.

SECOND INNING

RED SOX — Yoshida hit an infield single to second. Dalbec doubled to right, Yoshida to third. Yoshida was out advancing, center fielder Taylor to second baseman Triolo to catcher Davis, Yoshida out. Valdez safe at first on fielder's choice plus throwing error by pitcher Priester, Dalbec to third. Rafaela grounded into fielder's choice, second baseman Triolo to shortstop Cruz, Dalbec scored, Valdez out. Rafaela stole second. Duran grounded out, second baseman Triolo to first baseman Tellez.

FIFTH INNING

RED SOX — Duran grounded out, first baseman Tellez to pitcher Priester. Abreu singled to right. Refsnyder homered to right on the first pitch, Abreu scored. Fleming pitching. Casas flied out to center fielder Taylor. Wong singled to right. Yoshida was hit by a pitch, Wong to second. Dalbec grounded out, pitcher Fleming to first baseman Tellez.

SIXTH INNING

RED SOX — Contreras pitching. Valdez flied out to center fielder Taylor. Rafaela homered to left on the first pitch. Duran popped out to shortstop Cruz. Abreu flied out to left fielder Suwinski.

SEVENTH INNING

RED SOX — Refsnyder doubled to left. Casas struck out. Wong struck out. Yoshida walked on four pitches. Dalbec walked on four pitches, Refsnyder to third, Yoshida to second. Valdez doubled to right, Refsnyder scored, Yoshida scored, Dalbec to third. Dalbec was out advancing, right fielder Reynolds to second baseman Triolo to catcher Davis, Dalbec out.

NINTH INNING

PIRATES — Booser pitching. Williams pinch-hitting for Tellez. Williams tripled to left. McCutchen struck out. Olivares pinch-hitting for Suwinski. Olivares grounded out, third baseman Dalbec to first baseman Casas, Williams scored. Triolo grounded out, second baseman Valdez to first baseman Casas.

Devers still sidelined

Rafael Devers was out of the lineup for the second consecutive game because of a bone bruise in his left knee.

"He's doing OK. Obviously, we'll take it day by day with him," Cora said. "Moving better, feeling better, so we'll see how it goes."

Cora said "as of now" Devers is not a candidate for the injured list.

Nick Pivetta remains on track to throw in the bullpen Saturday. He has been on the injured list since April 6 with a flexor strain.

"It's trending in the right direction," Cora said. "We've just got to be patient."

Tyler O'Neill is not eligible to come off the concussion injured list until Tuesday. He is with the team and increasing his activity.

No room for Jacques

To make room for Booser on the 26-man and 40-man roster, the Sox designated lefty **Joe Jacques** for assignment. He appeared in one game this season, Thursday against Cleveland, and allowed one run on three hits over 1⅔ innings. Jacques has a 5.08 ERA and 1.59 WHIP over 24 games for the Sox since last season . . . **Josh Winckowski** is a candidate to start Sunday. He has not made a start since Aug. 20, 2023, and that was an opener. He had 14 legitimate starts in 2022 . . . New Steelers quarterback **Russell Wilson** threw out the first pitch. Wilson played 93 games in the minors for the Rockies from 2010-11. He was a second baseman.

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McCarty dead at 54

Dave McCarty, a first baseman who appeared in 89 games for the 2004 Red Sox, died in Oakland on Friday after a cardiac event. He was 54.

McCarty, a Texas native who played at Stanford, was the third pick of the 1991 draft by the Twins. He went on to play parts of 11 seasons with seven teams. He was with the Red Sox from 2003-05, hitting .286 with five home runs and a .794 OPS. He also pitched three times in 2004, allowing one run over 3⅔ innings and striking out four.

McCarty was a NESN analyst after being released in 2005 and was with the network through 2008. He attended the reunion of the 2004 team in Boston earlier this month.

McCarty is survived by his wife, **Monica**, and their children **Reid** and **Maxine**.

Bello, Red Sox have blast in Pittsburgh

▶RED SOX
Continued from Page C1

Wilyer Abreu, Triston Casas, Ceddanne Rafaela, and Rob Refsnyder homered for the Sox, part of a 12-hit attack. The 11-10 Sox are 8-3 on the road, outscoring opponents by 33 runs. They were outscored by 22 runs on the homestand. The Pirates have lost four straight.

The game also included the major league debut of 31-year-old lefthanded reliever Cam Booser, who allowed a run in the ninth.

He is the oldest non-Japanese player to make his MLB debut for the Sox since 32-year-old righthander Tommy Fine in 1947.

Fine had a good excuse: he was busy serving in the Army during World War II. Booser's career was slowed by injuries that led to a three-year hiatus from the game before he returned in 2021.

"It was a pretty surreal moment," Booser said.

The Sox got to work quickly against 23-year-old Pirates starter Quinn Priester, who was called up from Triple A Indianapolis to make the start.

Abreu hit a 421-foot homer to right field with one out in the first inning. Casas followed with a shot to left field with two outs.

Masataka Yoshida, back in the lineup after two days on the bench, singled to lead off the second inning. Bobby Dalbec, who had been 0 for 19 on the season, followed with a double to right field. Yoshida tried to score from first and was easily thrown out at the plate. But Dalbec advanced to third on an error by Priester and scored on a fielder's choice by Rafaela.

Priester left two runners stranded in the third inning by striking out Yoshida looking at a curveball. But the righthander was knocked out of the game in the fifth inning when Abreu singled and Refsnyder hit his first homer of the season, driving a floating changeup over the fence in right-center.



JUSTIN K. ALLER/GETTY IMAGES

Wilyer Abreu went 3 for 5 in the Red Sox' 8-1 win over the Pirates, including a solo shot for his first home run of the year.

Rafaela made it 6-0 in the sixth inning when he homered to left field off Josh Fleming. It was his first of the season.

Priester allowed five runs, four earned, over 4⅓ innings. The former first-round pick (2018) has an 8.94 ERA in 11 major league games, nine of them starts.

Enmanuel Valdez made it 8-0 with a two-run double with two outs in the seventh inning. That allowed Cora to give Booser a stress-free ninth inning.

Kutter Crawford, who has allowed one earned run over 21⅓ innings, will start Saturday against Mitch Keller.

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ANDY LYONS/GETTY IMAGES

Nelly Korda, winner of four straight events, was in line for a fifth after shooting a 3-under-par 69 in the second round.

GOLF ROUNDUP

Korda one back at LPGA's first major

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nelly Korda, seeking to tie an LPGA Tour record with her fifth straight win, shot a 3-under-par 69 on Friday in the second round of the Chevron Championship, leaving her one shot behind leaders Atthaya Thitikul and Jin Hee Im in the year's first major.

Korda began the day two shots off the lead after opening with a 68 at The Woodlands, Texas. She got out to a tough start Friday, making a double bogey on the first hole before making birdies on two of the next three. She finished with six birdies, one bogey, and the double to go into Saturday at 7-under 137.

"Started out with a double. That was fun," Korda joked. "I hit two shots out of the left fairway bunker. Just kind of didn't catch it super clean and it didn't actually hit the bunker lining, just the grass, and bumped back in. Then I bounced back with a birdie and made a birdie on the following par 5. Kind of all over the place on the front nine, but pretty clean scorecard on the back with two birdies."

The top-ranked Korda is seeking her second major after winning the Women's PGA Championship in 2021. She could join Nancy Lopez (1978) and Annika Sorenstam (2004-05) as the only players to win five consecutive LPGA events.

Thitikul, a 21-year-old from Thailand who has won twice on the LPGA Tour, missed the beginning of this season with a thumb injury. She made six birdies and one bogey Friday to shoot 67, matching Im at 136.

Im is in her first season on the LPGA Tour after playing the Korean LPGA since 2018. She had a bogey-free 67.

Lydia Ko, who won this tournament in 2016 at Mission Hills in the California desert, shot 71 and was part of a big group four shots back. Ko missed the cut last year in the Chevron's first season in Texas.

First-round leader Lauren Coughlin shot 73 to fall three shots off the pace.

Amateur Lottie Woad, a sophomore at Florida State, shot 69 and was 4 under through 36 holes in her first LPGA event. The 20-year-old from England earned a spot by winning the Augusta National Women's Amateur this month.

PGA — Collin Morikawa had another solid round in the RBC Heritage with a 5-under 66 and appears to be getting back to the reliable form that made him a two-time major champion.

Masters champion Scottie Scheffler's form never seems to change.

Even after an emotionally taxing victory at Augusta National, a quick trip home to Dallas and only nine holes of practice, the world's No. 1 player is right in the mix.

It's crowded at the top after two days of warm, ideal conditions for scoring at Harbour Town, and this $20 million signature event is wide open going into the weekend at Hilton, Head Island, S.C.

Morikawa had a four-way share of the lead with Tom Hoge (64), J.T. Poston (68), and Sepp Straka, who recovered from an opening drive that plunked a spectator in the head and led to a double bogey.

Straka saw blood but settled down after hearing the spectator was going to be fine, then put together eight birdies for a 65.

They were at 11-under 131, one shot ahead of a group that features Ludvig Aberg, the Masters runner-up who is starting to get anointed the biggest challenger to Scheffler.

Scheffler was bogey-free and three shots back.

Korn Ferry — Miles Russell became the youngest player to make the cut in the 35-year history of the Korn Ferry Tour when the 15-year-old posted a 5-under 66 in the Lecom Suncoast Classic at Longwood, Fla.

Russell opened with a 68 and left little doubt he would be sticking around all four days.

He made a pair of eagles on the front nine, one of them on the 282-yard, par-4 fourth hole, and then began the back nine with two straight birdies.

The lefthander goes into the weekend six shots out of the lead.

Russell is a high school freshman from Jacksonville Beach, Fla., who has been taking online classes since the eighth grade.

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Playoff hopes blossom at TD Garden

▶FINN
Continued from Page A1

when it comes to the Celtics and their massive expectations this spring.

By analytic measures, the 2023-24 Celtics just completed one of the most dominating regular seasons in professional basketball history. Their net rating — simply put, their point differential per 100 possessions — was 11.6, which tied the 2016-17 Warriors of Stephen Curry and Kevin Durant for third best in league history.

The two teams ahead of them? A pair of Michael Jordan's Bulls squads, the 72-win, force-of-nature 1995-96 team (13.4 net rating) and its successor the following season (12.0).

But the Celtics' statistical place among those legendary teams matters roughly as much as, oh, Greg Kite's career free throw percentage. Those Warriors and Bulls won championships, and this Celtics season will be unfulfilled if they do not achieve the same.

As the playoffs dawn, it feels as if the Celtics are both overdue and right on time.

They've reached the Eastern Conference finals five times since 2016-17, advancing once to the NBA Finals, when they lost to the Warriors in six games two years ago. Last season, they lost the first three games to an underdog Heat team in the conference finals, stayed resolute, and won the next three — then lost Game 7 after Jayson Tatum rolled his ankle on the first play. They have had opportunities that were unexpected, and they have had opportunities that were wasted.

This year, their role has changed. This feels like their time. They are the heavy favorite in their conference, having won 64 games (fourth most in franchise history) and finished 14 games ahead of the second-seeded Knicks. They may be the heavy favorite in the entire league, depending on how seriously one takes the defending champion Nuggets' late stumble to the second seed in the West.

Jaylen Brown is 27 years old. Tatum is 26. They are experienced in big moments — Brown has been on the winning side in 58 playoff games, Tatum in 52 — which is something that tends to get dismissed, understandably and yet unfairly, when a season doesn't end with a parade.

The two prime-of-career, homegrown stars are surrounded by an ideal cast, including selfless all-around guards Derrick White and Jrue Holiday, and impossibly proficient big man Kristaps Porzingis, whose giddiness about being a Celtic is reminiscent of Bill Walton's for the 1986 champions.

The Celtics have a well-rounded bench led by Al Horford, and the path through the East should not be as daunting to navigate as it was in recent years.

This is not to suggest a total absence of flaws. The Celtics' late-game execution, which often devolves into a Tatum isolation play when the team's superpower is the trustworthy skill of its entire starting five, must become sharper, or they'll lose a game or two they ought to win.

Boxing out once in while on a defensive rebound also would be swell, but apparently that ancient basketball fan's plea has fallen on deaf ears since 2004 or so. Even with the occasional hiccups and disregard of fundamentals, this is an exceptional team, the Celtics' best since both of Kevin Garnett's knees were healthy.

They should be able to carry their own weight of expectations and history. In an odd way, they also have to do so for their TD Garden cohabitants.

Last year, the Bruins submitted, by measures of wins and points, the greatest regular season in NHL history. They won a league-record 65 games, racked up 135 points — another record — and entered the postseason with a golden chance to win their first Stanley Cup since 2011.

Their postseason stay lasted all of one series. The gritty Panthers knocked them out in overtime of the seventh game. The nightmare of a regular-season powerhouse proved real in the light of the playoffs. The championship quest ended all too soon, and their failing has hovered as a warning to these Celtics.

Circumstances and expectations are different this year for the Bruins. They are certainly a good team, better — perhaps *much* better — than many expected after Patrice Bergeron and David Krejci retired and a shift's worth of other reliable veterans moved elsewhere.

This time around the rink, the Bruins won 47 games, totaled 109 points, and looked as if they could seize the top seed again. It's difficult to gauge exactly what their playoff expectations should be, because this is a less talented team than a year ago, but possibly a more resilient one.

Centers Pavel Zacha and Charlie Coyle, elevated after the Bergeron/Krejci departures, actually combined for more points this year (119) than their retired counterparts did a year ago (114). But David Pastrnak accumulated 43 more points than anyone else on the roster, coach Jim Montgomery has not tipped his hand on how he will deploy the goalie tandem of Linus Ullmark and Jeremy Swayman, and the Maple Leafs, despite a history of heartache reminiscent of the pre-2004 Red Sox, should not be underestimated so long as 69-goal scorer Auston Matthews shows up for work.

For the Bruins, escaping the first round this time would count as minimum progress. For the Celtics, expectations are so much greater.

April is a sports delight on the Boston sports calendar. But if the Celtics fulfill everything they can be, the most satisfying joy will find us in June.

Chad Finn can be reached at chad.finn@globe.com. Follow him @GlobeChadFinn.

Celtics vs. Heat

Schedule

Sun., at Boston.....1 p.m. (ABC)
Wed., at Boston.....7 p.m. (NBCSN, TNT)
Sat., Apr. 27 at Miami .....6 (NBCSN, TNT)
Mon., April 29 at Miami.....TBA (NBCSN)
*Wed., May 1 at Boston.....TBA (NBCSN)
*Fri., May 3 at Miami.....TBA (NBCSB)
*Sun., May 5 at Boston.....TBA
*if necessary

NBA playoffs

Play-in games

Tuesday, April 16
LA Lakers 110.....at New Orleans 106
At Sacramento 118.....Golden State 94
Wednesday, April 17
At Philadelphia 105.....Miami 104
At Chicago 131.....Atlanta 116
Friday, April 19
At Miami 112.....Chicago 91
At New Orleans 105.....Sacramento 98

Eastern Conference

CLEVELAND VS. ORLANDO

Schedule

Sat., Apr. 20 at Cleveland.....1
Mon., Apr. 22 at Cleveland.....7
Thu., Apr. 25 at Orlando.....7
Sat., Apr. 27 at Orlando.....1
*Tue., Apr. 30 at Cleveland.....TBA
*Fri., May 3 at Orlando.....TBA
*Sun., May 5 at Cleveland.....TBA

MILWAUKEE VS. INDIANA

Schedule

Sun., Apr. 21 at Milwaukee.....7
Tue., Apr. 23 at Milwaukee.....8:30
Fri., Apr. 26 at Indiana.....5:30
Sun., Apr. 28 at Indiana.....7
*Tue., Apr. 30 at Milwaukee.....TBA
*Thu., May 2 at Indiana.....TBA
*Sat., May 4 at Milwaukee.....TBA

NEW YORK VS. PHILADELPHIA

Schedule

Sat., Apr. 20 at New York.....6
Mon., Apr. 22 at New York.....7:30
Thu., Apr. 25 at Philadelphia.....7:30
Sun., Apr. 28 at Philadelphia.....1
*Tue., Apr. 30 at New York.....TBA
*Thu., May 2 at Philadelphia.....TBA
*Sat., May 4 at New York.....TBA

Western Conference

DENVER VS. LA LAKERS

Schedule

Sat., Apr. 20 at Denver.....8:30
Mon., Apr. 22 at Denver.....10
Thu., Apr. 25 at LA Lakers.....10
Sat., Apr. 27 at LA Lakers.....8:30
*Mon., Apr. 29 at Denver.....TBA
*Thu., May 2 at LA Lakers.....TBA
*Sat., May 4 at Denver.....TBA

OKLA. CITY VS. NEW ORLEANS

Schedule

Sun., Apr. 21 at Oklahoma City.....9:30
Wed., Apr. 24 at Oklahoma City.....9:30
Sat., Apr. 27 at New Orleans.....3:30
Mon., Apr. 29 at New Orleans.....TBA
*Wed., May 1 at Oklahoma City.....TBA
*Fri., May 3 at New Orleans.....TBA
*Sun., May 5 at Oklahoma City.....TBA

MINNESOTA VS. PHOENIX

Schedule

Sat., Apr. 20 at Minnesota.....3:30
Tue., Apr. 23 at Minnesota.....7:30
Fri., Apr. 26 at Phoenix.....10:30
Sun., Apr. 28 at Phoenix.....9:30
*Tue., Apr. 30 at Minnesota.....TBA
*Thu., May 2 at Phoenix.....TBA
*Sat., May 4 at Minnesota.....TBA

LA CLIPPERS VS. DALLAS

Schedule

Sun., Apr. 21 at LA Clippers.....3:30
Tue., Apr. 23 at LA Clippers.....10
Fri., Apr. 26 at Dallas.....8
Sun., Apr. 28 at Dallas.....3:30
*Wed., May 1 at LA Clippers.....TBA
*Fri., May 3 at Dallas.....TBA
*Sun., May 5 at LA Clippers.....TBA
* If necessary

Heat a different team this time

▶ON BASKETBALL
Continued from Page C1



WILFREDO LEE/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Heat forward Kevin Love, who had 16 points against the Bulls, said of facing the Celtics, "It's a great underdog story, David vs. Goliath."

And nemeses such as Gabe Vincent and Max Strus signed with other clubs. What the Heat still possess, however, is mastermind coach Erik Spoelstra, who will do his best to maximize a limited roster and devise game plans to slow down the high-scoring Celtics.

Also, rookie Jaime Jaquez Jr. has fit right into the Miami system using his basketball IQ and athleticism and could be a key player in this series. He scored 21 for Miami, which used a 19-0 first-period run to pull away from a Chicago club that appeared to quit in the third quarter.

Chicago earned the right to face Miami with an impressive win over the Hawks, but Billy Donovan's team, despite having DeMar DeRozan, Nikola Vucevic, and Coby White, couldn't score consistently and became discouraged against Miami's various defenses.

The Heat enter the series as the eighth seed, as they were last season, but the odds are decidedly against them without Butler and with Boston having won 64 regular-season games, including all three with Miami. Yet, the Heat relish the underdog role. The expectations are they will lose at least in a gentleman's sweep, shifting pressure to the Celtics.

"It's a great underdog story, David vs. Goliath, we've been the eighth seed before," Heat forward Kevin Love said. "That's why you have to roll the ball out there and play. You have to understand that anything can happen in this game. A team like Boston is an incredibly uphill battle. They've played like the best team in the league all year but I know some teams will have something to say about that. But they've certainly made some moves with Jrue [Holiday] and [Kristaps] Porzingis that have made them so much better and their entire lineup has guys stepping up as well. We know what they're capable of but again coach Spoelstra will have us ready to compete on Sunday."

When it became apparent the Heat were going to coast, the spirited crowd began chanting "We Want Boston!" They are aware of the rivalry, of the recent history, of Miami's ability to play the Celtics despite a less talented roster.

That theory will be tested without Butler and Rozier. But the one certainty is the Heat won't relent or succumb. They're going to play hard and they're going to come up with a wrinkle to surprise the Celtics. The question is whether they can sustain such intensity with a limited roster and whether the Celtics, and Joe Mazzulla specifically, have learned from the litany of errors and underestimations they made last season.

One of those underestimations was ignoring Caleb Martin, the journeyman who joined the Heat after being waived by the Hornets. He constantly punished the Celtics when left wide open, shooting 60 percent from the field and nearly 49 percent (22 for 45) from the 3-point line.

"I'm assuming so," he said Friday when asked if he'll be on the Boston scouting report. "You never know. I'm going to try to come prepared mentally. It's a new game, new series.

"Part of [my success] is I'm sure I wasn't on the scouting report. Leaving guys open, you take stuff like that as disrespect and some people use it as fuel to the fire. Also, just taking chances and opportunities, too. You can't be scared of those moments. They fell in my lap and I was able to knock down some shots."

For the Heat to remain competitive, they're going to need contributions from unexpected sources. Tyler Herro, who missed last year's series with a broken hand, is healthy and nearly recorded a triple double against the Bulls. The Heat played faster Friday and with more pace without Butler, but it was hard to determine whether that would be effective against the Celtics because the Bulls were so disengaged.

But one thing's for sure. The Heat will be in Boston on Sunday afternoon to compete, and the Celtics should be the hungrier and more determined team considering their recent history. But they'll have to deal with being overwhelming favorites against a team that enjoys tormenting them with its zone defense, crafty coach, and players who thrive in its unyielding culture.

Will the Celtics be ready this time?

"It's going to be a dogfight; it's going to be a battle," Bam Adebayo said. "It's going to be in the mud. It's not going to be pretty basketball and that's usually how it's been when we see that team. It's usually how it is. It's highly competitive and everybody always plays their best basketball in that series."

Gary Washburn is a Globe columnist. He can be reached at gary.washburn@globe.com. Follow him @GwashburnGlobe.

Memorable moments helped to define Celtics

▶CELTICS
Continued from Page C1



DANIELLE PARHIZKARAN/GLOBE STAFF

Kristaps Porzingis proved to be a difference-maker right from his 30-point output in the season opener.

Jayson Tatum had 30 points, the only Celtic to score more than 18. That was partly because the blowout led coach Joe Mazzulla to empty his bench, but it was also an indication of this team's balance.

The big block

The Celtics led the Heat by 7 points with just under four minutes left in their TD Garden opener Oct. 27 when Miami star Jimmy Butler came up with a steal and raced toward the hoop on a fast break. He was on the verge of pulling his team closer and providing a jolt when Derrick White streaked in and blocked his dunk attempt from behind, thrilling the Garden crowd and helping solidify Boston's win.

White averaged a career-high 1.2 blocks per game this season.

Fortifying the roster

The Celtics did not make a seismic splash at the trade deadline, but one was not necessary. Instead, president of basketball operations Brad Stevens fortified the fringes of the rotation.

He traded away Dalano Banton and Lamar Stevens, who were not receiving regular opportunities, and brought in forward Xavier Tillman and guard Jaden Springer.

Springer, 21, is more of a developmental piece, but Tillman has shown that he could be part of the playoff rotation if the matchup is right. The physical big man gives the Celtics extra defensive versatility in the frontcourt and shot 51.5 percent from the field over 20 games with Boston.

Jaylen's show of force

Sometimes, all it takes is one big dunk.

About three minutes into the first quarter of the game at Minnesota on Nov. 6, Celtics forward Jaylen Brown shook Timberwolves big man Rudy Gobert with a pump fake and drove toward the rim.

Gobert, who will almost certainly be named Defensive Player of the Year, used his long strides to chase down Brown. But that did not stop one of the best dunks of the NBA season, Brown rising over the 7-foot-1-inch center and using his right hand to throw down a vicious slam over him. It looked even more impactful when Gobert tumbled to the ground.

Sure, the Celtics lost the game, but it was loud.

Vanquishing an old foe

When the Celtics visited the Warriors on Dec. 19, they had won 8 of 9 games and owned a sparkling 20-5 record. They raced to a 17-point lead before crumbling down the stretch and falling, 132-126, igniting questions about their ability to thrive when the spotlight is brightest.

But in the rematch at TD Garden on March 3, the Celtics seemed to exorcise some demons. They demolished the Warriors, 140-88, and tied their season high with 25 3-pointers.

A clinching moment

The Celtics did not feel great about their 120-118 loss to the Hawks on March 25, but it turned into a notable night because they clinched the top seed in the Eastern Conference playoffs because of losses elsewhere. It was stunning to see a team lock up that spot with 11 games remaining, and it mostly removed the drama from the final three weeks.

The big man's big debut

Although the Celtics have been on the verge of becoming a championship team for several years, they have not been able to take the final step. This offseason, co-owner Wyc Grousbeck and Stevens agreed it was time to make significant changes.

The biggest came in the summer, when the team traded away its heartbeat, guard Marcus Smart, in the three-team deal that brought center Kristaps Porzingis to Boston.

There were risks, but Porzingis instantly showed that he would bring new elements to this team. He registered 30 points, 8 rebounds, and 4 blocks against the Knicks in a season-opening win at Madison Square Garden.

Hauser's display

Sam Hauser was on fire during the March 17 game against the Wizards. Four minutes into the third quarter, he already had drained 10 of 13 3-pointers. And with Brown, Porzingis, and White all out, Hauser was going to get every chance to shatter Klay Thompson's single-game NBA record of 14.

Unfortunately, Hauser took a bad step and turned his ankle after stepping on the foot of a player on the Wizards' bench. But his surge provided another example of the key contributions from the bench.

In-Season Tournament

The Celtics led the Bulls by 33 points with four minutes left Nov. 28, but Boston's starters remained in, looking to pile up points however they could. It was the final group stage game of the inaugural In-Season Tournament, and the Celtics' only chance to advance was by winning point-differential tiebreakers. Suddenly, a night that normally would have been a snoozer of a win became dramatic.

The Celtics won, 124-97, and won the tiebreaker. But they were ousted by the Pacers in the tournament quarterfinals.

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2024 NFL DRAFT
FIRST ROUND
Thursday, April 25, 8 p.m. (ABC, ESPN)

Patriots have huge needs at WR, OL, too

By Nicole Yang
GLOBE STAFF

Leftover thoughts on the Patriots as this year's draft nears . . .

1. Although de facto general manager Eliot Wolf said Thursday he believes the Patriots are in a position to support a rookie quarterback, the team is still in need of a No. 1 wide receiver.

"I think we have players who can line up and play at 'X,' " Wolf said. "Do we have players that on a three by one can beat the backside coverage every single time? I'm not sure we have that just yet. But we certainly have good receivers that we're excited about working with."

The Patriots released DeVante Parker and filled their wide receiver room by signing K.J. Osborn and bringing back Kendrick Bourne. Osborn and Bourne are both strong complementary pieces, but neither are the coverage-dictating weapon the Patriots have lacked in recent years. DeMario Douglas, JuJu Smith-Schuster, Tyquan Thornton, and Kayshon Boutte round out the group.

Although Wolf said all the right things and supported his personnel, the Patriots need an upgrade to adequately support a rookie quarterback.

Wolf said the team would "be open to" trading for a wide receiver, echoing coach Jerod Mayo's comments from the owners meetings in March. Possible names include Brandon Aiyuk, Tee Higgins, and A.J. Brown, even though their respective teams have all publicly denied that they are on the market.

If the Patriots do not swing a trade — and stay at No. 3 to draft a quarterback — then they should strongly consider drafting a receiver with one of their Day 2 picks. If they don't, it's fair to question whether the Patriots have one of, if not the worst receiving corps in the league.

2. When reports link draft prospects to a specific team, it's important to take into account what former Patriots coach Bill Belichick said Wednesday on ESPN's "The Pat McAfee Show."

"I'd say the biggest newsmakers here quietly are the agents," Belichick said. "Nobody wants their player to get picked higher than [the agent]. A lot of information that comes to the media about who's going to draft who, how high they're going to go, is agent-driven. When the agent hears, 'My player could go anywhere from the second or the third round,' you add one to that and say, 'Well, these GMs or these teams are talking about taking my guy in the first round.' "

Belichick said he never told an agent he's going to select a player in a specific round, let alone with a specific pick — and he believes the same is true for many teams.

"You have to sift that out," he said.

According to Belichick, the information that emerges 12 hours or less before the draft is more accurate and helpful.

3. Chukwuma Okorafor would start at left tackle if the season started tomorrow, according to Wolf. The Patriots signed Okorafor to a one-year, $4 million contract that can reach $8.25 million with incentives.

The 26-year-old Okorafor, drafted in the third round in 2018, served as Pittsburgh's starting right tackle for three seasons, but Wolf expressed confidence in Okorafor's ability to play on the left.

"He played there in college," Wolf said. "We went back and watched that film, and obviously evaluated him when he was coming out [of college]. And he's an athletic, big guy. So, we feel like he can make that transition back."

New England's other options — Calvin Anderson, Conor McDermott, Vederian Lowe, and Tyrone Wheatley Jr. — do not inspire much confidence based on last season. Along with wide receiver, the Patriots should prioritize the tackle position in the draft.

4. Asked about New England's unsuccessful pursuit of free agent wide receiver Calvin Ridley, Wolf gave a straightforward answer to explain what happened.

"Another team offered more money would be the main thing," he said.

Ridley inked a four-year, $92 million deal with the Tennessee Titans, passing up competing offers from both Jacksonville and New England. When Patriots owner Robert Kraft spoke about the signing at the owners meetings in March, he led with the fact that Ridley's partner did not want to live in New England.

"It was not because of finance," Kraft said. "I mean, clearly, his girlfriend wanted to be in the South. We had a situation where the taxes were, like, almost 10 percent higher. We offered and were willing to keep going at that premium. But he didn't want to be in the Northeast."

Kraft, who said previously that Wolf and Mayo have the freedom to spend as much as they deem necessary, seemed to indicate that the Patriots could not be priced out. Wolf's answer, however, indicates that money was the determining factor.

His response is in line with how he's spoken about free agency in the past. When asked at the scouting combine if he expected to have to pay a "tax" for free agents, given the state of the team, Wolf noted that players often sign with whichever team is offering the most money.

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SportsLog

Helmet communications in college game

College football is ready to put the signs away. Following a sign-stealing scandal that rocked the sport and hung over Michigan's championship run in 2023, the NCAA's football oversight committee approved Friday the use of coach-to-player helmet communications in games for the 2024 season. The football rules committee last month made a recommendation to allow — but not require — teams at the highest tier of Division 1 to use radio technology similar to what NFL teams use. Only one player for each team will be permitted to be in communication with coaches while on the field. A green dot on the back of the helmet will be used to identify that player. The communication from the coach to the player will be turned off with 15 seconds remaining on the play clock or when the ball is snapped, whichever comes first.

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

UConn's Castle to enter draft

UConn freshman **Stephon Castle** has entered his name into the NBA Draft, becoming the fifth Husky starter to at least explore moving on after Connecticut's latest NCAA title run. The 6-foot-6-inch guard averaged 11.1 points, 4.7 rebounds, and 2.9 assists.


CHRISTIAN PETERSEN/GETTY IMAGES

Stephon Castle is the fifth player from UConn to explore playing at the next level.

HOCKEY

Hynes to coach US in worlds

John Hynes of the Minnesota Wild has been named the coach of the 2024 US men's national team for next month's IIHF men's world championship in Czechia. USA Hockey announced the appointment for the event that will take place from May 10-26. The games will be played in Prague and Ostrava. Hynes, who played at BU, also coached the national team in 2016 and 2019.

NFL

Pegulas mull sale of Bills

Bills owners **Terry** and **Kim Pegula** are exploring the possibility of selling a non-controlling, minority interest in the franchise, the team announced. A person with knowledge of the decision told the Associated Press the stake in the team the Pegulas would be preparing to sell would be about 25 percent. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because that detail was not announced by the team. The Bills also announced the sale is limited only to the Bills, and not any of the Pegulas' other holdings, which include the NHL Buffalo Sabres, the American Hockey League Rochester Americans, and National Lacrosse League franchises in Buffalo and Rochester.

HORSE RACING

Appeal filed for Baffert horse

Zedan Racing Stables appealed a Kentucky Circuit Court ruling that denied its request for a temporary injunction seeking to allow **Bob Baffert**-trained Arkansas Derby winner Muth to race in next month's 150th Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs. The stable's motion comes a day after a judge denied the injunction and expressed concern about "innocent third parties" having to remove eligible horses from the milestone Derby on May 4 to accommodate the colt trained by the suspended Hall of Famer. Muth won last month's Derby qualifier but not the 100 points because of the suspension. Churchill Downs extended his suspension last July through the end of 2024 because of public comments following his discipline.

Scoreboard

Schools

BASEBALL

BOSTON CITY
English High 10, Charlestown 2
COMMONWEALTH
Shawsheen 2, Lowell Cath. 1
GREATER BOSTON
Lynn Classical 1, Medford 0
ISL
Rivers 4, Middlesex 3
MERRIMACK VALLEY
Central Cath. 4, Andover 3
MIDDLESEX
Arlington 5, Woburn 2
Lexington 7, Belmont 1
Stoneham 12, Melrose 2
Wakefield 13, Watertown 2
Wilmington 9, Burlington 8
Winchester 11, Reading 10
NORTHEASTERN
Beverly 2, Saugus 1
Gloucester 6, Winthrop 0
Marblehead 14, Salem 1
Masconomet 4, Swampscott 1
SOUTH COAST
Apponequet 9, Gr. New Bedford 0
Fairhaven 7, Bourne 2
Somerset Berkley 5, Digh.-Rehoboth 0
W. Bridgewater 8, Old Rochester 4
SOUTH SHORE
Cohasset 6, Carver 5
TRI-VALLEY
Norwood 7, Medfield 2
NONLEAGUE
Arlington Cath. 4, Ipswich 2
Bp. Stang 5, Seekonk 3
BC High 9, N. Andover 0
Canton 1, Plymouth South 0
Cathedral 12, New Mission 6
Dover-Sherborn 2, Needham 1
E. Bridgewater 3, Bp. Feehan 2
Framingham 6, Wayland 5
Franklin 5, N. Quincy 3
Holliston 12, Natick 3
Lincoln-Sudbury 4, Cath. Memorial 0
Malden 15, E. Boston 2
Milford 4, St. John's (S) 2
Natick 3, Waltham 2
New Bedford 10, Oliver Ames 5
Peabody 2, Somerville 1
St. John Paul II 3, Abington 0
St. John's Prep 10, St. Paul 6
Stoughton 15, Brockton 6
Walpole 9, Mansfield 1
Christie Serino Memorial Tourney Semifinals
E. Boston 19, Gr. Lawrence 18

LACROSSE

BOYS
MERRIMACK VALLEY
Haverhill 18, Tewksbury 11
SOUTH COAST
Apponequet 18, Bourne 7
Fairhaven 18, Digh.-Rehoboth 2
Old Rochester 12, Somerset Berkley 0
Seekonk 17, Gr. New Bedford 4
NONLEAGUE
Billerica 17, Nauset 6
Boston Latin 21, Revere 2
Burlington 14, Waltham 1
Central Cath. 5, L'derry (N.H.) 4 (2OT)
King Philip 10, Cath. Memorial 9
Walpole 16, Bp. Feehan 5
GIRLS
SOUTH COAST
Apponequet 15, Bourne 4
Digh.-Rehoboth 10, Fairhaven 9
NONLEAGUE
Burlington 13, Boston Latin 8
Central Cath. 18, Pentucket 3
Concord-Carlisle 8, Natick 7
Duxbury 15, Medfield 12
Essex Tech 18, Revere 0
Falmouth Acad. 13, Abington 7
Hingham 15, Longmeadow 8
Lincoln-Sudbury 10, Westwood 9 (OT)
Nauset 17, New Bedford 6
Newburyport 17, Winchester 4
Walpole 15, Bp. Feehan 6
Westford 13, Belmont 10
Weymouth 20, Leominster 7
Patriot Cup Championship
Sandwich 13, Scituate 6
Staycation Cup
Silver Lake 12, Abp. Williams 10
Marshfield 11, Whit.-Hanson 10

SOFTBALL

Agawam 19, Taconic 0
Athol 17, Northampton 12
Franklin Cty. Tech 7, Hopkins 1
Longmeadow 4, Easthampton 2
Mohawk Trail 9, Mahar 2
Palmer 13, Chicopee 11
S. Hadley 5, Frontier 4
Springfield International 17, Putnam 5
Wahconah 17, Drury 13
W. Springfield 15, Holyoke 13
CATHOLIC CENTRAL
Abp. Williams 3, Bp. Stang 1
MID-WACH
Ayer Shirley 14, W. Boylston 1
Gardner 6, Maynard 5
Tyngsboro 11, Lunenburg 3
MIDDLESEX
Arlington 5, Woburn 2
Lexington 17, Belmont 4
Reading 17, Winchester 5
Wakefield 14, Watertown 0
Wilmington 7, Burlington 3
PATRIOT
Marshfield 9, Pembroke 0
SOUTH COAST
Digh.-Rehoboth 15, Som. Berkley 3
Gr. New Bedford 8, Apponequet 3
SWCL
Tantasqua 21, Southbridge 0
NONLEAGUE
Abington 4, Whit.-Hanson 0
Arlington Cath. 6, Concord-Carlisle 4
Bay Path 6, Oxford 2
Bedford 2, Triton 0
Bp. Fenwick 1, Peabody 0
Chelmsford 8, Westford 2
Gr. Lawrence 13, Somerville 2
Hopkinton 13, Milford 8
King Philip 12, Bridge.-Raynham 1
Leominster 9, Groton-Dunstable 3
Lowell 5, Lynn Classical 2
Lowell Cath. 7, Lynnfield 5
Millbury 11, Holliston 3
Milton 11, North Attleboro 1
Minuteman 3, Latin Acad. 0
Nashoba 10, Hudson 1
N. Andover 5, Pentucket 2
Notre Dame (W) 6, Oakmont 1
Quabbin 18, Quaboag 3
Revere 11, Northeast 10
St. Bernard's 24, Worcester North 1
Silver Lake 7, Bp. Feehan 2
Uxbridge 2, Doherty 0
Wachusett 12, Hampshire 1
Walpole 4, Oliver Ames 2
Westboro 4, Framingham 1
Whittier 1, Marblehead 0

TENNIS

BOYS
NONLEAGUE
Tilton 9, Berwick 0
GIRLS
EIL
Winsor 5, Berwick 0

VOLLEYBALL

BOYS
GREATER BOSTON
Lynn Classical 3, Medford 0
NONLEAGUE
Lincoln-Sudbury 3, O'Bryant 0
Methuen 3, BC High 1
Nipmuc 3, Leominster 2
Revere 3, Latin Acad. 2
St. John's Prep 3, Central Cath. 0
Woburn 3, Billerica 0
ALS One Tournament Championship
Needham 3, Winchester 2
Consolation
St. John's (S) 3, Cambridge 0

■ For updated scores and highlights, go to bostonglobe.com/sports/high-schools.

MLS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	D	L	Pts.
Miami	9	4	3	2	15
NY Red Bulls	8	4	3	1	15
Philadelphia	7	3	4	0	13
Columbus	8	3	4	1	13
Cincinnati	8	3	3	2	12
Atlanta	7	3	2	2	11
Charlotte	8	3	2	3	11
Montreal	7	3	1	3	10
Toronto	8	3	1	4	10
D.C. United	8	2	4	2	10
Chicago	8	2	3	3	9
NYCFC	8	2	2	4	8
Orlando	7	2	2	3	8
Nashville	7	1	4	2	7
New England	7	1	1	5	4

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	D	L	Pts.
LA Galaxy	8	4	3	1	15
Vancouver	7	4	1	2	13
Houston	7	4	1	2	13
Real Salt Lake	8	3	3	2	12
Colorado	8	3	3	2	12
LAFC	8	3	2	3	11
Minnesota	7	3	2	2	11
St. Louis	8	2	5	1	11
Sporting KC	8	2	4	2	10
Portland	8	2	3	3	9
Austin	8	2	3	3	9
Seattle	7	1	3	3	6
Dallas	7	1	2	4	5
San Jose	8	1	0	7	3

SATURDAY'S GAMES
New England at Toronto, 7:30
Portland at Columbus, 7:30
Orlando at Montreal, 7:30
D.C. United at NYCFC, 7:30
Cincinnati at Atlanta, 7:30
Nashville at Miami, 7:30
Austin at Houston, 8:30
St. Louis at Sporting KC, 8:30
Real Salt Lake at Chicago, 8:30
Dallas at Colorado, 9:30
Vancouver at Seattle, 10:30
NY Red Bulls at LAFC, 10:30

Golf

PGA: HERITAGE

At Sea Pines Resort, Hilton Head Island, USA
Yardage: 7,213; par: 71
Second Round

Tom Hoge	67-64—131	-11
Collin Morikawa	65-66—131	-11
J.T. Poston	63-68—131	-11
Sepp Straka	66-65—131	-11
Ludvig Aberg	66-66—132	-10
Mackenzie Hughes	63-66—129	-10
Patrick Rodgers	66-66—132	-10
Patrick Cantlay	67-66—133	-9
Sahith Theegala	63-67—130	-9
Byeong Hun An	68-66—134	-8
Scottie Scheffler	69-65—134	-8

LPGA: CHEVRON CHAMP.

At The Club at Carlton Woods, Texas
Yardage: 6,889; par: 72
Second Round

Jin Hee Im	69-67—136	-8
Atthaya Thitikul	69-67—136	-8
Nelly Korda	68-69—137	-7
Hae Ran Ryu	72-66—138	-6
Lauren Coughlin	66-73—139	-5
Minami Katsu	68-71—139	-5
Maja Stark	70-69—139	-5
Weiwei Zhang	72-67—139	-5

AHL

FRIDAY'S RESULTS
Belleville 3, Laval 2
Hartford 3, WB/Scranton 2
Lehigh Valley 3, Bridgeport 0
Syracuse 4, Utica 3
Cleveland 3, Rochester 2
Providence 4, Springfield 2
Iowa 4, Grand Rapids 1
Rockford 5, Chicago 2
Texas 2, Manitoba 1
SATURDAY'S GAMES
Cleveland at Toronto, 4
Belleville at Laval, 7
Charlotte at Hershey, 7
Providence at Bridgeport, 7
Rockford at Milwaukee, 7
Utica at Syracuse, 7
Hartford at Springfield, 7:05
WB/Scranton at Lehigh Valley, 7:05
Iowa at Chicago, 8
Manitoba at Texas, 8
Coachella Valley at San Diego, 9
Calgary at Abbotsford, 10
Henderson at Bakersfield, 10
San Jose at Tucson, 10
Ontario at Colorado, 10:05

ECHL Playoffs

FRIDAY'S RESULTS
Maine 2, Adirondack 1 (Game 1)
Trois-Rivières 5, Norfolk 4 (Game 2)
Indy 5, Wheeling 2 (Game 1)
Toledo 3, Kalamazoo 2 (Game 1)
Kansas City 3, Tulsa 1 (Game 3)
SATURDAY'S GAMES
Wheeling at Indy, 7 (Game 2)
Norfolk at Trois-Rivières, 7 (Game 3)
Kalamazoo at Toledo, 7:15 (Game 2)

PWHL

	W-L	OW-L	Pts.
Toronto	10-7	3-0	36
Minnesota	8-4	4-3	35
Montreal	7-5	3-4	31
Ottawa	7-6	0-6	27
Boston	5-9	4-2	25
New York	3-9	4-3	20

Note: 3 points for a regulation win; 2 points for OT win; 1 point for OT loss.
SATURDAY'S GAMES
Toronto at Montreal, 1
Bosotn at New York, 3:30
Minnesota at Ottawa, 7

Eastern League

NORTHEAST

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Hartford	7	4	.636	—
Portland	7	4	.636	—
New Hampshire	7	6	.538	1
Somerset	6	7	.462	2
Binghamton	5	7	.417	2½
Reading	5	8	.385	3

SOUTHWEST

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Erie	8	4	.667	—
Bowie	7	6	.538	1½
Harrisburg	6	6	.500	2
Akron	6	7	.462	2½
Altoona	5	7	.417	3
Richmond	5	8	.385	3½

FRIDAY'S RESULTS
Portland 3, New Hampshire 2
Reading 8, Binghamton 2
Somerset 1, Hartford 0
Harrisburg 4, Richmond 0
Bowie 5, Altoona 4
Erie 7, Akron 2
SATURDAY'S GAMES
New Hampshire at Portland, 1
Reading at Binghamton, 1:05
Richmond at Harrisburg, 6
Erie at Akron, 6:05
Hartford at Somerset, 6:05
Altoona at Bowie, 6:35
THURSDAY'S RESULTS
Portland 3, New Hampshire 0

Premier League

	GP	W	D	L	Pts.
Manchester City	32	22	7	3	73
Arsenal	32	22	5	5	71
Liverpool	32	21	8	3	71
Aston Villa	33	19	6	8	63
Tottenham	32	18	6	8	60
Newcastle	32	15	5	12	50
Man. United	32	15	5	12	50
West Ham	33	13	9	11	48
Chelsea	31	13	8	10	47
Brighton	32	11	11	10	44
Wolverhampton	32	12	7	13	43
Fulham	33	12	6	15	42
Bournemouth	32	11	9	12	42
Crystal Palace	32	8	9	15	33
Brentford	33	8	8	17	32
Everton	32	9	8	15	27
Nott. Forest	33	7	9	17	26
Luton Town	33	6	7	20	25
Burnley	33	4	8	21	20
Sheffield	32	3	7	22	16

SATURDAY'S GAMES
Burnley at Sheffield, 10a
Brentford at Luton Town, 10a
Arsenal at Wolverhampton, 2:30

	Sat 4/20	Sun 4/21	Mon 4/22	Tue 4/23	Wed 4/24	Thu 4/25	Fri 4/26
Red Sox	PIT 4:05 NESN	PIT 1:35 NESN		CLE 6:10 NESN	CLE 6:10 NESN+	CLE 1:10 NESN	CHC 7:10 NESN
Bruins	TOR 8:00 NESN, TBS		TOR 7:00 NESN, ESPN		TOR 7:00 NESN, ESPN		
Celtics		MIA 1:00 ABC			MIA 7:00 TNT		
Revolution	TOR 7:30 Apple TV						
Thunder	NY 3:30 NESN+				OTT 7:00		

Home games shaded
For updated scores: bostonglobe.com/sports
On the radio, unless noted: Red Sox, WEEI-FM 93.7; Bruins, Celtics, and Revolution, WBZ-FM 98.5

ON THE AIR

AUTO RACING

12:30 p.m.	ARCA: General Tire 200	FS1
4 p.m.	Xfinity: Ag-Pro 300	Fox
4:30 p.m.	IMSA: Long Beach Grand Prix	USA

BASEBALL

1:05 p.m.	Tampa Bay at NY Yankees	MLB
4 p.m.	Triple A: Durham at Worcester	NESN+
4:05 p.m.	Boston at Pittsburgh	NESN
4:05 p.m.	NY Mets at LA Dodgers	FS1
7:20 p.m.	Texas at Atlanta	MLB

PRO BASKETBALL

1 p.m.	Orlando at Cleveland	ESPN
3:30 p.m.	Phoenix at Minnesota	ESPN
6 p.m.	Philadelphia at New York	ESPN
8:30 p.m.	LA Lakers at Denver	ABC

BOWLING

7 p.m.	PBA: World Championship	FS1

FISHING

7:30 a.m.	Maxam Tire Bassmaster	FS1

FOOTBALL

12:30 p.m.	UFL: Memphis at St. Louis	ABC
7 p.m.	UFL: D.C. at Birmingham	Fox

FUTSAL

9:55 p.m.	CONCACAF final: Cuba vs. Panama	FS2

GOLF

1 p.m.	PGA: RBC Heritage	Golf
3 p.m.	LPGA: Chevron Championship	NBC
3 p.m.	PGA: Corales Puntacana	Golf
3 p.m.	PGA: RBC Heritage	CBS
5 p.m.	Champions: Invited Celebrity Classic	Golf

WOMEN'S COLLEGE GYMNASTICS

4 p.m.	NCAA tournament	ABC

PRO HOCKEY

3:30 p.m.	PWHL: Boston at New York	NESN+
5 p.m.	NY Islanders at Carolina	TBS
8 p.m.	Toronto at Boston	NESN, TBS

HORSE RACING

1 p.m.	America's Day at the Races	FS2

MEN'S COLLEGE LACROSSE

12 p.m.	Boston University at Lehigh	CBSSN
2 p.m.	Virginia at Syracuse	ESPNU
4 p.m.	Maryland at Johns Hopkins	ESPNU

PRO LACROSSE

10 p.m.	NLL: Buffalo at Las Vegas	ESPNU

WOMEN'S COLLEGE LACROSSE

12 p.m.	Syracuse at Boston College	ESPNU

RODEO

12:30 p.m.	PBR: Bucking Battle (tape)	CBS

MEN'S SOCCER

10 a.m.	Premier: Brentford at Luton Town	USA
2:30 p.m.	Premier: Arsenal at Wolverhampton	USA
7:30 p.m.	MLS: New England at Toronto	Apple TV

WOMEN'S SOCCER

3 p.m.	NWSL: N.J./N.Y. Gotham at Washington	CBS
7:30 p.m.	NWSL: Bay at Kansas City	Ion
10 p.m.	NWSL: Houston at Portland	Ion

TRACK AND FIELD

1 p.m.	Wanda Diamond League (tape)	CNBC

WRESTLING

6:30 p.m.	Olympic trials	USA

For latest updates, go to bostonglobe.com/tvlistings

Latest line

NBA
Saturday

Favorite	Pts.	Underdog
At Cleveland	4½	Orlando
At Minnesota	1½	Phoenix
At New York	3	Philadelphia
At Denver	7	LA Lakers

NHL

Favorite	Line	Underdog	Line
At Carolina	-235	NY Islanders	+190
At Boston	-125	Toronto	+105

Transactions

BASEBALL
Arizona: P Jordan Montgomery, 1B Pavin Smith called up from minors. 2B Jace Peterson designated for assignment. P Ryne Nelson placed on 15-day IL.
Atlanta: LF Forrest Wall sent to minors. 3B Luke Williams purchased from minors.
Baltimore: C David Bañuelos outrighted to minors.
Boston: P Joe Jacques designated for assignment. P Cam Booser purchased from minors.
Chi. White Sox: P Cody Sedlock signed to a minor league contract.
Cincinnati: SS Livan Soto sent to minors. SS Livan Soto acquired off waivers. P Tejay Antone transferred to 60-day IL.
Colorado: P Noah Davis called up from minors. P Kyle Freeland placed on 15-day IL.
Houston: P Justin Verlander removed from 15-day IL. P Justin Verlander recalled from minors rehab.
Kansas City: 2B Michael Massey recalled from minors rehab. 2B Michael Massey removed from 10-day IL.
LA Dodgers: P Drew Pomeranz released.
Milwaukee: SS Andruw Monasterio called up from minors. P Trevor Megill recalled from minors rehab. LF Jake Bauers placed on bereavement/family medical emergency list. P Trevor Megill removed from 7-day IL.
NY Yankees: P Cody Morris called up from minors. P Nick Burdi placed on 15-day IL.
Oakland: LF Brent Rooker removed from 10-day IL.
Pittsburgh: P Quinn Priester called up from minors. P Aroldis Chapman starting to serve suspension.
Texas: P Jack Leiter sent to minors. P Owen White called up from minors.
NFL
Indianapolis: TE Drew Ogletree reinstated.
Jacksonville: G Tyler Shatley resigned/unrest FA.
NHL
Boston: D Mason Lohrei, LW John Beecher called up from minors.
Chicago: LW Lukas Reichel sent to minors.
Nashville: G Gustavs Grigals called up from minors.
Washington: G Mitchell Gibson called up from minors.

International League

EAST

	W	L	Pct.	LgGB
Scranton/W.-B.	12	6	.667	—
Jacksonville	11	8	.579	1½
Rochester	9	7	.563	2
Buffalo	10	8	.556	2
Syracuse	9	9	.500	3
Lehigh Valley	8	8	.500	3
Worcester	8	9	.471	3½
Charlotte	8	11	.421	4½
Norfolk	8	11	.421	4½
Durham	6	12	.333	6

WEST

	W	L	Pct.	LgGB
Iowa	11	8	.579	1½
Omaha	11	8	.579	1½
Indianapolis	10	9	.526	2½
Nashville	10	9	.526	2½
Toledo	10	9	.526	2½
Gwinnett	9	10	.474	3½
Louisville	9	10	.474	3½
Memphis	9	10	.474	3½
Columbus	8	10	.444	4
St. Paul	7	11	.389	5

FRIDAY'S RESULTS
Worcester 12, Durham 5
Louisville 9, Iowa 6
Rochester 4, Toledo 1
Columbus 9, Buffalo 3
Lehigh Valley 9, Scranton/W.-Barre 3
Norfolk 4, Jacksonville 1
Memphis 4, Gwinnett 1
Indianapolis 7, St. Paul 2
Nashville 3, Omaha 2
Charlotte 5, Syracuse 1
Louisville 9, Iowa 6
SATURDAY'S GAMES
Durham at Worcester, 4:05
Durham at Worcester, 7:05
Toledo at Rochester, 1:05
Buffalo at Columbus, 4:05
Lehigh Va. at Scranton/W.-Barre, 4:05
Louisville at Iowa, 4:08
Memphis at Gwinnett, 6:05
Syracuse at Charlotte, 6:05
St. Paul at Indianapolis, 6:35
Norfolk at Jacksonville, 6:35
Omaha at Nashville, 7:35
THURSDAY'S RESULTS
Durham (ppd.), at Worcester
Louisville (ppd.), at Iowa
Toledo 7, Rochester 3
Buffalo 8, Columbus 7
Indianapolis 6, St. Paul 5
Scranton/W.-Barre 8, Lehigh Valley 4
Charlotte 5, Syracuse 4
Memphis 3, Gwinnett 1
Jacksonville 3, Norfolk 1
Nashville 9, Omaha 1

Worcester, 12-5

At Polar Park, Worcester

DURHAM	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Misner rf	4	0	1	0	1	1	.262
Lowe cf	3	0	0	1	1	0	.000
Caminero 3b	4	0	0	0	0	2	.269
Smith 1b	4	0	0	0	0	3	.273
Jackson dh	2	0	0	0	0	1	.295
Peters ph-of	2	1	1	0	0	0	.278
Driscoll c	3	1	0	0	0	1	.304
Cardenas lf	4	1	2	1	0	1	.356
Simon 2b	4	2	2	2	0	1	.278
Hinojosa ss	3	0	1	1	1	0	.265
Totals	**33**	**5**	**7**	**5**	**3**	**10**	

WORCESTER	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Meidroth 3b	4	2	2	1	1	0	.238
Grissom 2b	3	0	1	0	0	1	.154
Westbro. 2b	2	2	2	4	1	0	.289
Sogard rf	6	1	1	0	0	1	.209
Hickey dh	6	0	1	0	0	0	.236
Alvarez ss	2	1	1	1	3	0	.282
Contreras cf	4	0	0	0	1	2	.180
Heineman c	3	2	1	0	1	1	.259
Kavadas 1b	3	4	3	4	0	0	.333
McDono. lf	3	0	1	0	2	2	.429
Totals	**36**	**12**	**13**	**10**	**9**	**7**	

Durham	001	020	101	—	5	7	1
Worcester	020	005	32x	—	12	13	0

LOB—Durham 5, Worcester 13. **2B**—Kavadas, Grissom. **HR**—Simon, Cardenas, Kavadas 2, Westbrook. **SB**—Sogard, Alvarez. **CS**—McDonough. **DP**—Worcester 1.

Durham	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Wiles	5	6	2	2	3	3	7.50
White	⅔	4	5	5	0	1	16.5
Gomez	1⅓	2	3	2	3	2	4.66
Mejia	1	1	2	2	3	1	5.40

Worcester	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Gambrell	5	4	3	3	1	5	5.21
Luetge	2	1	1	1	0	2	10.1
Benitez	1	0	0	0	1	3	1.00
Adon	1	2	1	1	1	0	13.5

HBP—by Wiles, by White, by Gomez, by Gambrell. **WP**—Gomez. **T**—2:44. **A**—9,508.

Remembered

SHARE YOUR MEMORIES ON OUR GUEST BOOK AT BOSTON.COM/OBITUARIES

BY CITY AND TOWN

BILLERICA
ZODIACO, Joseph J.
BOSTON
MURPHY, Niamh E.
ZODIACO, Joseph J.
BRIGHTON
MURPHY, Niamh E.
BURLINGTON
MANNING, Thomas J.
DORCHESTER
WALSH, William H.
FRAMINGHAM
MURPHY, Niamh E.
FRANKLIN
WALSH, William H.
SCITUATE
MONACO, Albert Joseph
WATERTOWN
MURPHY, Niamh E.

OUT OF STATE

FLORIDA
WALSH, William H.
NEVADA
DUBOW, Tod Richard
NEW HAMPSHIRE
PHILLIPS, Miriam (Flagg)

OUT OF COUNTRY

IRELAND
MURPHY, Niamh E.

DUBOW, Tod Richard



Tod Richard Dubow, born in Boston, Massachusetts on July 27, 1964, passed away on March 10, 2024. Tod graduated from Brookline High in 1982, where he honed his skills in both chess and tennis, two avocations in which Tod excelled throughout his life. Tod was also a talented guitarist and singer-songwriter, TodDubow.com

Following high school, Tod earned a B.A. in English from the University of California and a J.D. from Pepperdine University. He worked as an attorney, both in Los Angeles, California and later, Las Vegas, where he was "considered by his colleagues to be one of the preeminent legal minds in Nevada". Throughout his career, Tod served as a mentor and friend to many younger attorneys and continued to keep in touch with them throughout their pursuits. Tod was affectionately referred to as "the Unicorn" due to his unique ability to take on the most complex legal cases and handle them with ease." (Adam Fulton, Esq., Jennings & Fulton, LTD)

Tod is survived by his son, Nicolas; his mother, Anita Jamieson; his siblings, John and sister-in-law, Nan and sister, Eve; his aunt Jan, aunt Anne and uncle Jim. He was predeceased by his sister, Ilene; and his beloved stepdad, John Jamieson. He also leaves many cousins, nieces and nephews; to name a few, Rob, Joel, Liam, Nolan, Patrick, Ezra, Nora, Iris and Desmond. A Memorial will be private as Tod would have preferred. Those who knew him well may choose to take a moment to remember his brilliance and distinctive wit, which at times, was nothing short of genius.

MANNING, Thomas J.



Of Burlington, age 80, on April 17. Beloved husband of 61 years to Elaine (Tura); father of Kathleen Manning Hall of Malden, MA, Patricia MacIntyre of Merrimack, NH, Debra Lang of Nashua, NH and Kelly Morrison of Rowley, MA. Grandfather to 11; great-grandfather to 6. Visiting Hours, Tuesday, April 23, at Sullivan Funeral Home, 43 Winn Street, BURLINGTON, from 9:30-11:30 AM. Funeral Mass following at St. Margaret's Parish, 11 Winn Street, Burlington, at 12 PM. Burial will be private.

MONACO, Albert Joseph "Al"



Of Scituate, MA, passed away peacefully, surrounded by family, on Tuesday, April 16, 2024.

Family and friends are invited to attend the Wake on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, from 8:30 AM-10:30 AM, at Richardson-Gaffey Funeral Home, 382 First Parish Road, SCITUATE, MA, followed by a Funeral Mass, at 11:00 AM, at St. Mary of the Nativity, 1 Kent Street, Scituate Harbor, MA at 11:00 AM. Burial will be private.

In lieu of flowers, please consider sending donations to Sunset Point Camp via the Archdiocese of Boston at https://www.ccab.org/ways-to-give/donate/ To leave words of comfort and additional information please visit www.richardsongaffeyfuneralhome.com

MURPHY, Niamh E.



Age 21, of Watertown, passed away on April 14, 2024. Loving daughter of Daniel Murphy of Glasson County Westmeath, Ireland and Olive (Née Phelan) Murphy of Moate County Westmeath, Ireland. Adored sister of Olivia Murphy of Framingham and Seamus Murphy of Watertown. May Niamh rest in peace. Funeral from the Lehman Reen & McNamara Funeral Home, 63 Chestnut Hill Ave. (nr. Brighton Courthouse), BRIGHTON, on Monday, April 22, at 8:30am. Followed by a Funeral Mass, in St. Patrick Church, 212 Main St., Watertown, at 10am. Relatives and friends are kindly invited to attend. Visiting Hours on Sunday, April 21, from 3-7pm, in the funeral home, BRIGHTON. Niamh's Funeral Mass can be Viewed Live on http://www.harborview.live/ We want to give Niamh the memorial she deserves, to honor her memory and say our last goodbyes. If you would like to make a donation to help cover the cost of Niamh's funeral, please see link below: https://gofund.me/5b67200e For directions and online guestbook: lehmanreen.com

Lehman, Reen, & McNamara
617-782-1000

PHILLIPS, Miriam "Mim" (Flagg)

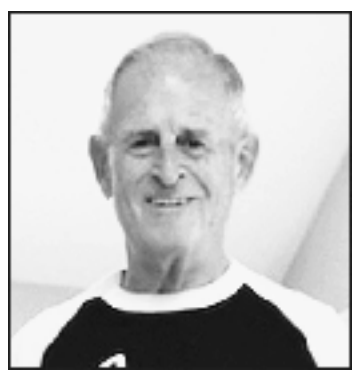


Died, at the Merrimack County Nursing Home, on April 13, 2024, with her son and daughter holding her hands. She was born in Melrose Massachusetts on November 5, 1924 to Glenna (Towner) Flagg and Arthur S. Flagg.

Raising her family in Reading, MA, Mim was a busy and active mother to her children, Jane P. Libbey (Byard), Susan Phillips-Young (Michael) and Stephen Clark Phillips (ex- wife Shirley). She was a loving grandmother to seven grandchildren, Ginger Clark, Brian Phillips Young (deceased), Matthew Young, Christine Gray, Daniel Gray, Andrew Milano and Nick Milano; as well as seven great-grandchildren. She remained very close to her many nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts and uncles.

A Graveside Service will be in the New Hampshire State Veterans Cemetery on Thursday, April 25, 2024, at 2 pm.

WALSH, William H.



Age 87, of Ft. Myers Beach, FL, a former resident of Franklin and Dorchester, passed away peacefully, surrounded by his family, Wednesday, April 17, 2024, following an illness. He was the beloved husband of Helen V. (Houghton) Walsh, with whom he shared 64 years of marriage. For Calling Hours and Funeral information visit www.oterifuneralhome.com

Share a memory
Or add a condolensece to the guestbook at boston.com/obituaries

ZODIACO, Joseph J.



Age 94, of Billerica, MA, passed away on Thursday, April 18, 2024, at Lowell General Hospital with his loving family by his side. He was the son of the late Angelo and Leonarda (Bussichella) Zodiaco. Born in Boston on September 27,1929, he graduated from Boston Trade High School in 1947 and later studied engineering at Lowell Tech. Joe married the love of his life, the late Mary E. Finn, on June 18,1950. He served in the U.S. Army and was a proud veteran of the Korean War. After his discharge, he was a Sgt. in the Army Reserves. Joe and Mary started their 60-year journey together, where they raised their three lovely daughters in their first and only home in Billerica. He worked many years in the semiconductor industry as a Quality Control Engineer and Manager at Analog Devices and later retired from MACOM in 1991.

In his retirement, Joe learned to play the piano. He became the official "Grampy Taxi". Nothing gave him more joy than spending time with his kids and grandkids. The best times he had were family gatherings, trips to Cape Cod with Mary, taking his kids and years later, the grandkids to Canobie Lake Park and outings to the beach. Recently, he found pleasure at Lake Winnisquam. Joe loved sharing stories about his past, including being a member of the Boston Jr. Police as a young boy.

He was predeceased by his loving wife, his parents, and six sisters. He is survived by his children, Linda and Bob Price of Billerica, Joanne and Rudy Paquette of Billerica and Donna and Paul Fentross of Tewksbury. He has seven grandchildren, Jennifer and Dan Brucker, Bobby and Libby Price, Kevin and Kelly Price, Jeff and Sarah Paquette, Laurie and Logan Maggio, Julie and John Higgins, David Fentross; 13 great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

"Grampy" loved his family above all else and he worked hard to keep all of us safe from harm throughout the years. You can rest easy knowing you were a loving husband and father. Well done, good and faithful servant, your work here is done. We will love you forever.

Funeral from the Burns Funeral Home, 354 Boston Rd., (Rt. 3A), BILLERICA, Monday, April 22, at 9:00 AM, followed by a Funeral Mass, in St. Matthew the Evangelist Parish, in St. Theresa's Church, 466 Boston Rd., Billerica, at 10:00 AM. Visiting Hours will be held Sunday, April 21, in the Burns Funeral Home, 354 Boston Rd., (Rt. 3A), BILLERICA, from 3:00 to 6:00 PM. Relatives and friends invited. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Joe's name to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or Disabled American Veterans. Interment, Fox Hill Cemetery, Billerica.

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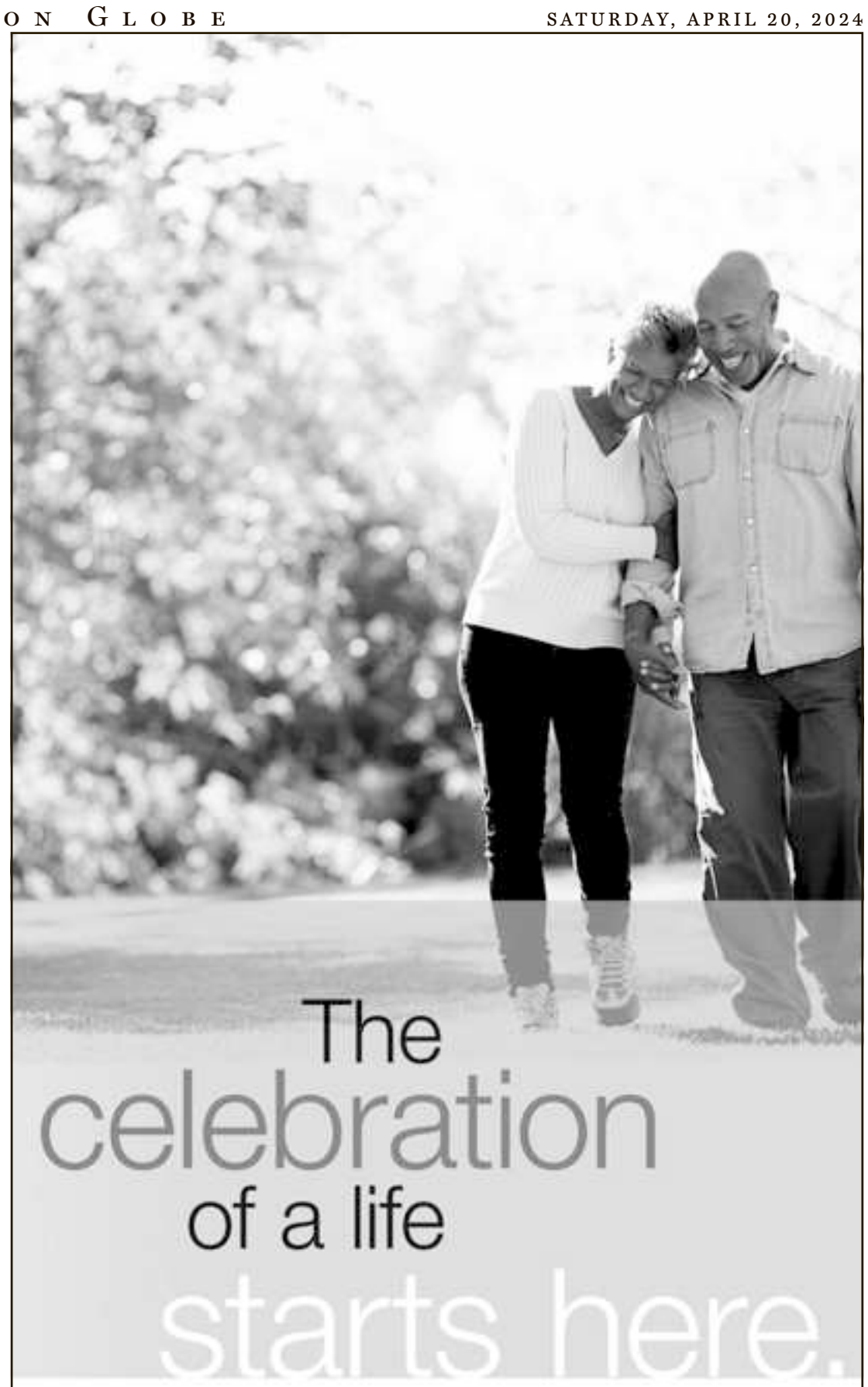
The Boston Globe



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Obituaries

Daniel C. Dennett, fiercely debated philosopher, Tufts professor, 82

By Jonathan Kandell
NEW YORK TIMES



BRYCE VICKMARK/NEW YORK TIMES/FILE 2013

Mr. Dennett spent most of his career on the faculty at Tufts University and was director of its Center for Cognitive Studies.

Daniel C. Dennett, one of the most widely read and debated American philosophers, whose prolific works explored consciousness, free will, religion, and evolutionary biology, died Friday in Portland, Maine. He was 82.

His death, at Maine Medical Center, was caused by complications of interstitial lung disease, his wife, Susan Bell Dennett, said. He lived in Cape Elizabeth, Maine.

Daniel Dennett combined a wide range of knowledge with an easy, often playful writing style to reach a lay public, avoiding the impenetrable concepts and turgid prose of many other contemporary philosophers. Beyond his more than 20 books and scores of essays, his writings even made their way into the theater and onto the concert stage.

But Mr. Dennett, who never shirked controversy, often crossed swords with other famed scholars and thinkers.

An outspoken atheist, he at times seemed to denigrate religion. "There's simply no polite way to tell people they've dedicated their lives to an illusion," he said in a 2013 interview with The New York Times.

Mr. Dennett irked some scientists by asserting that natural selection alone determined evolution. He was especially disdainful of eminent paleontologist Stephen Jay Gould, whose ideas on other factors of evolution were summarily dismissed by Mr. Dennett as "goulding."

Not surprisingly, Mr. Dennett's writings could elicit strong criticism as well — to which he sometimes reacted with fury.

Daniel Clement Dennett III was born March 28, 1942, in Boston, the son of Daniel Clement Dennett Jr. and Ruth Marjorie (Leck) Dennett. His sister, Charlotte Dennett, was a lawyer and journalist.

Daniel Dennett spent part of his childhood in Beirut, where his father was a covert intelligence agent posing as a cultural attache in the US Embassy, while his mother taught English at the American Community School.

He graduated from Harvard University in 1963 and two years later earned a doctorate in philosophy from Oxford University. His dissertation began a lifelong quest to use empirical research as the basis of a philosophy of the mind.

Mr. Dennett taught philosophy at the University of California, Irvine, from 1965 to 1971. He then spent almost his entire career on the faculty of Tufts University, where he was director of its Center for Cognitive Studies and most recently an emeritus professor.

His first book to attract widespread scholarly notice was "Brainstorms: Philosophical Essays on Mind and Psychology," published in 1978.

In it, Mr. Dennett asserted that multiple decisions resulted in a moral choice and that these prior, random deliberations contributed more to the way an individual acted than did the ultimate moral decision itself. Or, as he explained:

"I am faced with an important decision to make, and after a certain amount of deliberation, I say to myself: 'That's enough. I've considered this matter enough and now I'm going to act,' in the full knowledge that I could have considered further, in the full knowledge that the eventualities may prove that I decided in error, but with the acceptance of responsibility in any case."

Some leading libertarians criticized Mr. Dennett's model as undermining the concept of free will: If random decisions determine ultimate choice, they argued, then individuals aren't liable for their actions.

Mr. Dennett responded that free will — like consciousness — was based on the outdated notion that the mind should be considered separate from the physical brain. Still, he asserted, free will was a necessary illusion to maintain a stable, functioning society.

"We couldn't live the way we do without it," he wrote in his 2017 book, "From Bacteria to Bach and Back: The Evolution of Minds." "If — because free will is an illusion — no one is ever responsible for what they do, should we abolish yellow and red cards in soccer, the penalty box in ice hockey and all the other penalty systems in sports?"

Mr. Dennett also plunged into controversy with his strident views on atheism. He and a colleague, Linda LaScola, researched and published a book in 2013, "Caught in the Pulpit: Leaving Belief Behind," based on interviews with clerics of various denominations who were secret atheists. They defended their decision to continue preaching because it provided comfort and needed ritual to their congregations.

Mr. Dennett's fame and following extended to both sides of the Atlantic. As he grew older, he was accompanied by his wife on his lecture tours abroad. In addition to his wife, he leaves a daughter, Andrea Dennett Wardwell; a son, Peter; two sisters, Cynthia Yee and Charlotte Dennett; and six grandchildren.

While Mr. Dennett never held back in contradicting the views of other scholars, he bristled at harsh comments about his own work. This was especially the case when Leon Wieseltier, a well-known writer on politics, religion, and culture, strongly criticized Mr. Dennett's 2006 bestseller, "Breaking the Spell: Religion as a Natural Phenomenon," in The New York Times Book Review.

Contending that Mr. Dennett was intolerant of people who didn't share his basic belief that science could explain all human conditions, Wieseltier concluded: "Dennett is the sort of rationalist who gives reason a bad name."

In a lengthy, angry rebuttal, Mr. Dennett denounced Wieseltier for "flagrant falsehoods" that demonstrated a "visceral repugnance that fairly haunts Wieseltier's railing (without arguments) against my arguments."

An earlier, more positive appraisal of another of his bestsellers, "Kinds of Minds: Toward an Understanding of Consciousness" (1996), that ran in New Scientist magazine might have come closest to explaining Mr. Dennett's enduring appeal.

While he admitted that many of the questions he raises in his work "cannot yet be answered," wrote the reviewer, Dennett "argues that putting the right questions is a crucial step forward."

Barbara Joans, 89; anthropologist studied biker culture

By Alex Williams
NEW YORK TIMES



KENNETH HARMON VIA NEW YORK TIMES

Ms. Joans, pictured during the 1990s on her Harley-Davidson Low Rider, wrote the 2001 book "Bike Lust: Harleys, Women, and American Society."

Barbara Joans, an iconoclastic anthropologist and feminist who, in her early 60s, became something of a Margaret Mead in black leather, steering her Harley-Davidson deep into a biker culture and producing the 2001 book "Bike Lust: Harleys, Women, and American Society," died March 6 in Santa Cruz, Calif. She was 89.

The cause of her death, in an assisted living facility, was cardiopulmonary failure, her son Howard Schwartz said.

Ms. Joans, Brooklyn-born, plucky, and outspoken, began her career as an instructor at the New School for Social Research in Greenwich Village, with a focus on women's issues, producing papers on topics like the anthropological aspects of menopause.

Starting in the 1960s, she was also a feminist crusader, helping women arrange illegal abortions in the days before Roe v. Wade. In 1970, she participated in a daylong occupation of The Ladies' Home Journal's editorial offices in New York to demand the opportunity to put out a "liberated" version of the magazine.

"She was a bit of a wild woman, a genuine nonconformist," Phyllis Chesler, author of "Women and Madness" (1972) and a longtime friend of Ms. Joans, said in a phone interview. "Yes, she was an academic and a nice Jewish girl from Brooklyn. But she was a little bit of a street hombre."

In her 50s, that designation became more literal when Ms. Joans, then a professor of anthropology at Merritt College in Oakland, Calif., bought her first motorcycle, and unwittingly opened a new field of study for herself.

"To the Harley rider, there are two kinds of bikes," she wrote in the introduction to "Bike Lust." "There are Harleys, and there are all other kinds of motorcycles."

Setting out on her brawny Harley-Davidson Low Rider, which she nicknamed the Beast, Ms. Joans researched the subculture, with its many splinters and subgroups, on weekend rides with a San Francisco-based motorcycle club, the Fog Hogs, as well as in motorcycle shops, biker bars, and at Harley festivals.

By the 1980s and '90s, Harley culture, long associated with roughnecks like the Hells Angels, was going mainstream as a new wave of middle-class professionals adopted chrome-encrusted "hogs" as a ticket to adventure.

During those years, female enthusiasts were making their presence felt, accounting for 10 percent to 12 percent of the motorcycling population, she said in a 2003 CNN interview. "Women, who used to be excluded from any position except that of back-seat Betty," she wrote, "now ride the roads alone or travel in all-women riding clubs."

In her book, Ms. Joans delineated the bands of both male and female bikers she encountered in her research. Women had their own subcategories, including "the lady biker" and "the woman biker."

The lady biker, Ms. Joans told CNN, "rides wonderfully, but she will not wrench," she said. "She will carry a hair dryer and makeup and condoms in her saddlebag. But she will not go near a set of tools."

The woman biker, she said, "is kind of her opposite." "The woman biker will kind of disdain any male help, and will say, 'Hey, wait a minute. It's my bike. I can tear it down and build it up again.'"

While male riders tended to travel in packs, women riders often embarked on odysseys, solo rides, sometimes covering multiple states.

"Between the birthings and the dyings, the weddings and the ceremonies, comes the odyssey," she wrote.

"The trip, this odyssey, is the testing ground for the woman biker," she added. "We go off by ourselves because we must."

Barbara Joan Levinsohn was born Feb. 28, 1935, in Brooklyn, the only child of Rubin Levinsohn, who owned a clothing store in lower Manhattan, and Eleanor (Davidson) Levinsohn, a junior high school teacher.

After graduating from Midwood High School in 1952, she enrolled in Brooklyn College, where she received a bachelor's degree in philosophy in 1956, followed by a master's degree in sociology and anthropology from New York University in 1965 and a doctorate in anthropology from the City University of New York in 1974.

By 1956 she had married her first husband, Irwin Schwartz, but they divorced in 1970. She subsequently adopted the last name Joans.

In 1974, she and her boyfriend, Kenneth Harmon, as well as her two sons, moved to Santa Cruz. They married the next year as Ms. Joans took a teaching post at San Jose State University.

It was Harmon, a computer programmer and longtime motorcycle enthusiast, who got her into riding with the Fog Hogs.

In addition to her son Howard, Ms. Joans is survived by another son, David Schwartz, four grandchildren, and one great-grandson. Harmon died in 2021.

While Harleys became a passion, she did not start out on one. At 56, Ms. Joans bought her first motorcycle, a lightweight Honda Rebel 250.

"And then at 60 years old, she switched to a Harley Low Rider," Chesler said, referring to Ms. Joans's hulking Beast. "I said, 'Have you lost your mind? That's 650 pounds. How are you going to pick it up when it falls down?' And she said, 'You just do.'"

David Egilman, doctor who took on drug companies, 71

By Clay Risen
NEW YORK TIMES

Dr. David Egilman, a physician and expert witness who, over a 35-year span, gave testimony in some 600 trials involving corporate malfeasance, resulting in billions of dollars in awards for victims and their survivors, died April 2 at his home in Foxborough. He was 71.

The cause was cardiac arrest, his son Alex said.

Many medical experts make a side business in court, offering their informed opinions on the witness stand and helping to validate or undermine plaintiffs' claims. But few make it a career-long passion in the way Dr. Egilman did. He taught at Brown University and ran a private practice but spent most of his time consulting and testifying in as many as 15 cases a year.

He did more than just opine from the stand. A dogged researcher, he dug up incriminating emails and memos showing that, in many cases, drug companies knew the risks involved with putting a new medication on the market but went ahead anyway.

He provided critical testimony in a class-action lawsuit against Johnson & Johnson, claiming that it had failed to reveal the health risks involved presented by Johnson's baby powder and other products containing talc. Although several settlements have been proposed in the suit, including one for $8.9 billion in 2023, the litigation is continuing.

Dr. Egilman's work as an expert witness rubbed some people the wrong way, especially defense lawyers and pharmaceutical company executives, who argued that he was too dogmatic to provide objective analysis. But Dr. Egilman saw things differently.

"As a doctor, I can treat one cancer patient at a time," he said during a 2018 trial. "But by being here, I have the potential to save millions."

His work extended beyond the courtroom: He helped legal teams strategize their cases, and he coached them on how to present complicated medical data to juries.

"David was a game changer on so many levels," said Mark Lanier, a lawyer who worked with Dr. Egilman for 25 years. "David helped me in cases where he was testifying, but also where he was simply giving advice and insight."

He also pushed back against what he saw as pharmaceutical marketing intruding on the realm of scientific research. Writing in peer-reviewed medical journals, he showed how drug companies used tactics like ghostwriting — drawing up their own studies, then paying a doctor to add their name — and "seeding," in which companies run their own questionable studies to build support for their drugs.

Dr. Egilman was instrumental in publicizing a declassified memo from 1950 that warned of the risks involved in government radiation tests on humans. The tests were nevertheless carried out.

"If this is to be done in humans, I feel that those concerned in the Atomic Energy Commission would be subject to considerable criticism, as admittedly, this would have a little of the Buchenwald touch," Dr. Joseph G. Hamilton, a professor at the University of California at Berkeley, wrote in the memo, referring to the Buchenwald concentration camp where Nazi doctors carried out horrific medical experiments on prisoners.

The US government apologized for the radiation tests in 1996.

At times, Dr. Egilman's zeal got the better of him. In 2007, he agreed to pay drugmaker Eli Lilly $100,000 after leaking confidential documents to a lawyer, who then gave them to The New York Times. He was involved in a case against the company over allegations that it had pushed its antipsychotic drug Zyprexa for unapproved uses.

Dr. Egilman married Helene Blomquist in 1988. Along with their son Alex, she survives him, as does another son, Samson.

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A COLLABORATION WITH NESN

Steward lenders identified as payment deadline looms

Senators call for loan modifications to keep Mass. hospitals open

By Robert Weisman
GLOBE STAFF

The names of six lenders who provided $750 million to keep Steward Health Care afloat were identified Friday as a payment deadline approaches for the debt-burdened hospital system.

US senators from Massachusetts pressed the lending consortium — made up of financiers who typically charge distressed borrowers steep interest rates and management fees — to modify the loan terms to allow Steward's eight Massachusetts hospitals to keep operating. Most of the hospitals are located in underserved working-class communities.

In letters sent Friday morning, Senators Elizabeth Warren and Ed Markey appealed to a half-dozen asset management firms that are players in the fast-growing "private credit" industry but are largely invisible to the public: Sound Point Capital Management, Oaktree Capital Management, WhiteHawk Capital Partners, Owl Creek Asset Management, MidOcean Partners, and Brigade Capital.

"As one of the largest holders of Steward's debt, you have the power to help keep those hospitals open and preserve access to care for communities in Massachusetts," the senators wrote to each firm. They asked for detailed information on how Steward's loans are structured.

The firms were part of a group that loaned financially struggling Steward about $600 million last summer to refinance its previous debt. Many also put up money in January to extend an additional $150 million bridge loan to stabilize operations at Steward hospitals while the company sought a buyer for its national physicians organization.

Representatives of Sound Point and Brigade, both based in New York, declined to comment. The other lenders didn't respond to inquiries.

Steward disclosed the bridge loan in February, saying lenders had set a deadline of April 30 for the company to execute on its plan to shore up its finances. If the lenders were to call in their loan and Steward couldn't come up with the cash, it could push the company into bankruptcy.

The company's eight hospitals across Eastern Massachusetts "are in deep financial distress and appear to be in danger of closure because of years of mismanagement, private equity schemes, and executive profiteering," Warren and Markey wrote to the lenders. "The primary threat to the hospitals appears to be their significant debt — much of which you hold as a result of a 2023 loan to the company."

Steward, which moved its headquarters from Boston to Dallas in 2018, operates 32 hospitals nationally. In Massachusetts, it runs St. Elizabeth's in Brighton, Carney Hospital in Dorchester,

STEWARD, Page D3



LANE TURNER/GLOBE STAFF

SPORTS-BETTING BATTLE TAKES TO THE COURT

In a hearing involving DraftKings' suit against a former executive, employees say he tried to entice them to Fanatics with multimillion-dollar job offers

By Aaron Pressman
GLOBE STAFF

DraftKings' escalating battle with billionaire Michael Rubin, who started a rival sports-betting effort last year, spilled into a public court hearing this week with allegations of covert phone calls, promises of multimillion-dollar jobs, and stolen corporate secrets.

The legal case pits the Boston-based online sports-betting giant against one of its former senior executives, Michael Hermalyn, who defected to Rubin's company, Fanatics, in February despite signing a one-year noncompete agreement while working at DraftKings. DraftKings previously tried to block Rubin from cracking the betting market by trying to outbid the billionaire for the US business unit of PointsBet. But Rubin won the day and started taking bets in some states, including Massachusetts, last August.

At Tuesday's hearing in Boston federal court, DraftKings was seeking a preliminary injunction to block Hermalyn from working for Rubin. DraftKings also alleged that Hermalyn downloaded confidential corporate documents before leaving and tried to attract two of his former coworkers in violation of a nonsolicitation agreement.

Hermalyn swore he had not taken any documents or solicited his former coworkers. It was the former senior vice president's first personal appearance in the Boston lawsuit.

"I operated with extreme caution," he said. Asked if he solicited his former coworkers, he replied: "Absolutely not."

Hermalyn ran DraftKings' program to keep its biggest gambling customers, famed athlete partners, and other corporate VIPs happy. But Rubin wooed him away after lawyers for Fanatics told Hermalyn he could escape the noncompete by moving to California, where such agreements are illegal, according to court documents.

During almost two hours of testimony, Hermalyn also maintained that his copying of internal DraftKings documents in the weeks before his departure was because he had been issued a new work laptop and was moving needed files from his old laptop. He also said he deleted files on the old laptop that were personal documents, like family photos.

"This was my personal computer," he said. "I'll never do this again in my career."

The two former coworkers, Andrew Larracey and Hayden Metz, separately testified that Hermalyn offered them jobs at Fanatics during a series of phone calls starting on February 1, Hermalyn's first day on his new job.

The pair said they called Hermalyn that afternoon from a conference room in Boston. Hermalyn asked them to switch to a FaceTime video call and show him that no one else was in the room, Larracey said. Hermalyn said he didn't remember the request and that it was "not something I would do."

Larracey, currently director of VIP operations at DraftKings, discussed notes he had taken on his phone at the time of the alleged job offers from Hermalyn, including compensation packages.

"It was a big ask," Larracey said, noting he and his family would have to move from Boston to Los Angeles to work for Fanatics. "I said it would have to be multiples of what I make today."

Metz testified that he had to attend a dinner with DraftKings customers that night at Contessa, followed by a Celtics game against the Lakers. But after the game, he and Larracey discussed the job opportunities and decided to ask Hermalyn for more details.

Hermalyn's alleged initial offer included salary, annual bonus, signing bonus, and equity in Fanatics worth a total of more than $3 million, as recorded in Larracey's notes. An offer for Metz, who took over Hermalyn's job running DraftKings' VIP program, was worth more than $5 million. Their calls stretched past 1 a.m. as Hermalyn offered richer packages, including $8 million for Metz, the latter testified.

Hermalyn said his former coworkers and close friends called him and asked about working at Fanatics without his encouragement.

Metz said he did not pursue the job offer. Larracey applied for the job Hermalyn offered and had a series of interviews on Feb. 4, with top Fanatics executives, but the company never formally offered him a job.

US District Judge Julia Kobick, who is overseeing the case, issued a temporary restraining order preventing Hermalyn from soliciting DraftKings employees or customers on Feb. 8.

Hermalyn declined to comment after the hearing. In a statement, his lawyer Russell Beck said Hermalyn had acted properly in all his dealings. "DraftKings created a false narrative based on a series of misrepresentations in order to conduct a second-rate hit job on an employee who dared to leave its toxic culture," the statement said.

Aaron Pressman can be reached at aaron.pressman@globe.com.

State labor force grows as hiring slows a bit

Fewer added jobs in March after months of larger growth

By Larry Edelman
GLOBE COLUMNIST

The state's primary economic resource — its pool of available workers — expanded in March, recording the largest gain in 13 months as hiring showed signs of cooling off.

The labor force, the number of people with a job or looking for one, increased by 8,300 to 3.76 million, according to US Labor Department data released on Friday. In the previous 12 months, the state's labor force was largely unchanged.

Employers added 1,900 jobs in March, down from an average gain of 7,000 jobs in the previous three months. The unemployment rate was unchanged at 2.9 percent, two-tenths of a percentage point above the state's all-time low of 2.7 percent in October 2000. The US jobless rate in March, which was reported earlier this month, was 3.8 percent.

It's not unusual for people to enter or rejoin the labor market at the tail end of an economic expansion, when the job market is tight and wages have risen. This is especially true for people who previously struggled to find work. Drawing conclusions from one month of state-level data is risky, however, since the numbers are prone to more significant revisions than national data due to smaller sample sizes.

Over the past 12 months, the labor force participation rate of workers 25 to 54 years old, considered prime working age, averaged 85.6 percent, which was unchanged from February.

The state's job gains last month were led by the education and health services sector, which added 2,400 workers, and the leisure and hospitality sector, which added 1,600 jobs. These industries also posted the largest employment gains over the past year as the state added 22,500 jobs.

Massachusetts is 5,600 jobs shy of its total employment in February 2020, just before the onset of the pandemic. Nationally, payrolls have exceeded pre-pandemic levels since the fall of 2022.

Larry Edelman can be reached at larry.edelman@globe.com.

N.E. states seek to help small businesses set up retirement plans

By Suchita Nayar
GLOBE STAFF

Americans are far more likely to save for retirement if their employers offer a savings plan, but nearly half of the working-age population is missing out on these benefits.

Smaller companies often do not offer retirement plans such as a 401(k), typically because they do not have the resources or the know-how to set up and run such a program. Now, in an effort to boost flagging savings, several New England states are setting up free retirement plans for employers who would not otherwise provide them.

In Connecticut, all employers with five or more employees are now required to offer a retirement program, either by setting up a traditional plan or using a no-cost state program. Maine launched a similar effort, and Vermont is in the process of doing so, while lawmakers in Rhode Island are considering it. Massachusetts offers a narrower program targeted toward small nonprofits.

"This is a way for us to close the retirement gap that exists in our society, of people not being able to afford retirement, and we're doing it one Main Street at a time," said Sean Scanlon, comptroller of Connecticut.

While employees may choose whether to participate in these programs, policy makers hope to spur an increase in retirement savings, which across the nation remain dismally low. Unless more savers start to build a nest egg, state and federal governments will be on tap to spend an additional $1.3 trillion on public assistance programs in the coming years, according to a May 2023 report by the Pew Charitable Trusts in Philadelphia.

Maine launched its program, called MERIT Saves, in January, and some 540 businesses have signed up. Among them is Flowfold, a maker of wallets and backpacks that employs 15 people in Gorham.

Like many small businesses, Flowfold has struggled for years to find a retirement plan it could afford.

"For a small business, cost is always a consideration but there's also the question of what product's right for you and your employees," said cofounder Devin McNeill.

Programs like MERIT are actually relatively simple from the company's perspective. The state helps set up workers for automatic payroll deductions to be contributed to tax-advantaged retirement savings (unlike many 401(k) benefits, there's no employer match). Employees can select from a handful of low-cost, passive investments, including funds designed to mature around an employee's targeted retirement date.

The programs in Maine and around the region are part of a broader effort to manage gaps in federal retirement laws that have left small business employees with fewer savings options. All told, 19 states and two cities are offering or planning to introduce such benefits, often called Auto-IRAs, which have surpassed $1.34 billion cumulatively, according to Georgetown University's Center for Retirement Initiatives.

For Bay Staters, there's an existing voluntary retirement plan, dubbed CORE, for small nonprofit companies that employ fewer than 20 workers.

The CORE plan, launched in 2017 as a pilot with ten employers, currently includes some 200 employers and 2,000 savers. Now, lawmakers on Beacon Hill are pushing to expand CORE to larger nonprofits.

Among those seeking to build support for such an expansion is state Treasurer Deborah Goldberg, who said in a written testimony to legislative leaders that she is concerned about the "lack of retirement savings among nonprofit workers."

Some 18 percent — half a million individuals — of the state's workforce works for the nonprofit sector, including arts, culture, education, and health care. Of that, even less than one percent is currently enrolled in CORE.

"We know that women, people of color, and millennials make up much of the nonprofit workforce," Goldberg wrote. "These groups face greater challenges in accumulating retirement wealth due to factors such as lower wages, higher debt, and longer life expectancy."

Goldberg has stopped short of pushing for an expansion beyond the nonprofit sector, though Andrew Napolitano, a spokesman for the treasurer, said her offices continue to have "productive discussions with our partners on how to best increase employee access to retirement options and address cost and regulatory barriers for employers."

Suchita Nayar can be reached at suchita.nayar@globe.com.

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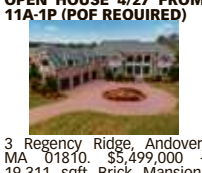

3 Regency Ridge, Andover, MA 01810. $5,499,000 - 19,311 sqft Brick Mansion, 1.22 acres w/ option to purchase abutting buildable land for $1M. 8 bed 9ba indoor pool & indoor basketball court. Amerabay, LLC Real Estate 603.860.1949

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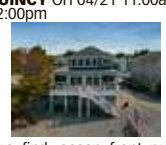

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MassDOT Highway Division Proposal

Electronic proposals for the following projects will be received through the internet using Bid Express until the date and time stated below and will be posted on www.bidx.com forthwith after the bid submission deadline. **No paper copies of bids will be accepted.**

All Bidders must have a valid vendor code issued by MassDOT in order to bid on projects. Bidders need to apply for a Digital ID at least 14 days prior to a scheduled bid opening date with Bid Express.

The Bidding for and award of the contracts for the following projects are to be in accordance with the requirements of **Mass General Laws Chapter 30 § 39M**.

TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2024 AT 2:00 P.M.	PROJECT VALUE
DISTRICT 5 – FAP No. NHP(NHS)-ITS5(001)X ITS Roadway Equipment for Highway Operations (613142)	$5,195,000.00
TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2024 AT 2:00 P.M.	**PROJECT VALUE**
NEWTON – Bridge Substructure Repairs and Related Work, N-12-019, Lewis Terrace and N-12-021, Walnut Street over I-90 and CSX/MBTA Railroad (613346)	$1,550,000.00

The bidding for and award of the contract for the following projects are to be in accordance with the requirements of **Mass General Laws Chapter 149 as amended.**

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2024 AT 2:00 P.M.	PROJECT VALUE
DISTRICT 6 – Generator Maintenance and Testing at Various Locations (613676)	$542,000.00

OPENING OF BIDS POSTPONED TO: **WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 2024 at 2:00 P.M.**

DISTRICT 1 – ADA Retrofits at Various Locations (609386)

All prospective Bidders must complete and e-mail an electronic copy of "Request Proposal Form (R109)" to the MassDOT Director of Prequalification for approval: prequal.r109@dot.state.ma.us. The blank "Request Proposal Form (R109)" can be obtained at: https://www.mass.gov/prequalification-of-horizontal-construction-firms.

An award will not be made to a Contractor who is not pre-qualified by the Department prior to the opening of proposals.

Proposal documents for official bidders are posted on www.bidx.com. Other interested parties may receive informational Contract Documents containing the Plans and Special Provisions, free of charge. All parties who wish to have access to informational plans and specification must send a "Request for Informational Documents" to MassDOTBidDocuments@dot.state.ma.us.

Plans and Contract Documents will be on display and information will be available at the MassDOT Boston Headquarters Office and at each District Office wherein a project is located.

MassDOT, in compliance with Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations Part 21 (Nondiscrimination in Federally-assisted Programs of the Department of Transportation - Effectuation of Title VI of Civil Rights Act of 1964) hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color or national origin in consideration for an award.

MassDOT Highway Division projects are subject to the rules and regulations of the Architectural Access Board (521 CMR 1.00 et. seq.). Prospective bidders and interested parties can access this information and more via the internet at WWW.COMMBUYS.COM.

BY: Monica Tibbits-Nutt, Secretary and CEO, MassDOT
Jonathan L. Gulliver, Highway Administrator, MassDOT Highway Division
SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2024

LEGAL NOTICES | LEGAL NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Wetlands and Waterways
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

Pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 1341 and M.G.L. c. 21 §43 and 33 U.S.C. 1341 M.G.L. c. 21 §§ 26 - 53, notice is given of a 401 Water Quality Certification application for the replacement of Bridge No. N-12-010=W-29-005 Commonwealth Ave (Route 30) over the Charles River in Newton and Weston by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation – Highway Division, 10 Park Plaza, Room 7360, Boston, MA 02116. The project includes bridge replacement including interstate access improvements, pedestrian and bicycle accommodations as well as placing of stone revetment to reduce erosion. Additional information may be obtained from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation – Highway Division at the above address, Attention Courtney Walker or by emailing courtney.l.walker@dot.state.ma.us. Written comments should be sent to Heidi Davis, MassDEP Wetlands Program, 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900, Boston, MA 02114 or heidi.davis@mass.gov within 21 days of this notice.

Any group of ten persons, any aggrieved person, or any governmental body or private organization with a mandate to protect the environment who submits written comments within 21 days of this notice may appeal the Department's Certification. Failure to submit written comments before the end of the public comment period may result in the waiver of any right to an adjudicatory hearing.

Today's Headlines

Get the day's top stories delivered every morning to your inbox.

Globe.com/newsletters

Boston's best jobs are in The Boston Sunday Globe.

Check out the Careers Section of The Boston Sunday Globe and choose from thousands of great jobs with top local employers.

The Boston Globe

Netflix latest to stop reporting quarterly subscriber data

Netflix shares fell the most in nine months Friday, taking the shine off stellar first-quarter financial results following management's decision to stop reporting quarterly subscriber data.

This metric has long been the primary way Wall Street evaluated the company's performance, but executives at Netflix, which now has almost 270 million subscribers, have tried to shift the focus to measures like sales and profit. Other tech giants like Apple and Meta Platforms Inc. have taken similar steps in recent years.

On Thursday, Netflix reported better-than-expected first-quarter results, including 9.33 million new subscribers. But the shares slumped after the company said user growth this quarter would slow and that it will stop reporting customer numbers.

"Eliminating regular reporting of membership data raises questions around management's confidence to further grow the base, though it is not implausible that the change is intended to reduce quarterly sentiment volatility around relatively small changes in true economic drivers," Michael Morris, an analyst at Guggenheim Securities, wrote in a note to investors.

BLOOMBERG

Apple pulls Threads, WhatsApp from China's App Store

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Tesla recalls nearly 4,000 Cybertrucks for pedal problem

Tesla is recalling 3,878 of its 2024 Cybertrucks after it discovered that the accelerator pedal can become stuck, potentially causing the vehicle to accelerate unintentionally.

The accelerator pedal pad may dislodge and become trapped by the interior trim, according to a filing with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The recall involves model year 2024 Cybertrucks made between Nov. 13, 2023 and April 4, 2024, according to the NHTSA.

As of Monday, Tesla was not aware of any collisions, injuries, or deaths related to the issue, the NHTSA said. Cybertrucks in production had been outfitted with a new accelerator pedal component by Wednesday of this week, according to the NHTSA.

Tesla, which is headed by billionaire Elon Musk, said that it will replace or repair the accelerator pedal assembly for free. Owners may contact Tesla customer service at 1-877-798-3752. Tesla's number for the recall is SB-24-33-003

Notification letters are expected to be mailed to vehicle owners in June.

The automaker delivered the first dozen or so of its futuristic Cybertruck pickups to customers in November, two years behind the original schedule.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

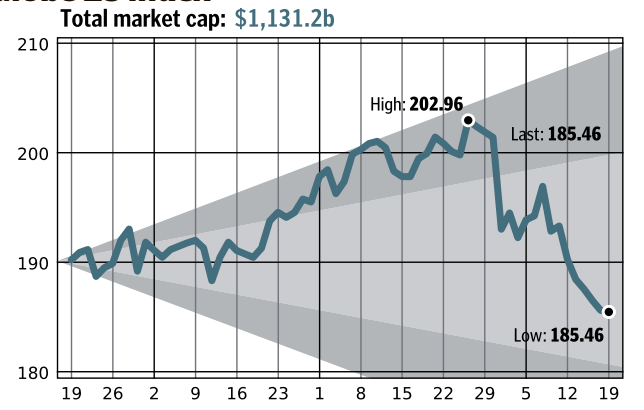
THE BOSTON GLOBE

25

Index of publicly traded companies in Massachusetts

Globe 25 index

Total market cap: $1,131.2b



Yesterday 185.46 ▼ 0.15 ▼ 0.1% ▼ YTD 1.7%

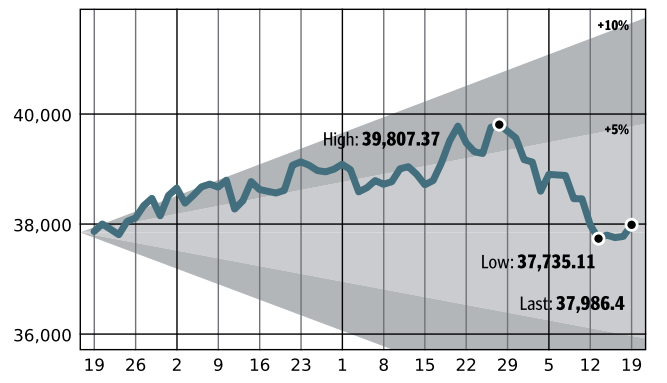
	Price	Chg	% chg	Market cap (bil.)
Thermo Fisher Sci (TMO)	544.78	+3.26	+0.6	207.7
TJX Cos Inc (TJX)	93.36	+0.70	+0.8	105.8
Vertex Pharma (VRTX)	394.28	+0.80	+0.2	101.9
Boston Scientific (BSX)	67.33	-0.09	-0.1	99.0
Analog Devices (ADI)	183.36	-4.22	-2.2	90.9
American Tower Corp (AMT)	171.30	+0.30	+0.2	80.0
Keurig Dr Pepper Inc (KDP)	31.50	+0.37	+1.2	43.7
Moderna Inc (MRNA)	101.41	-0.59	-0.6	38.8
GE Vernova Inc (GEV)	135.10	-2.12	-1.5	36.8
HubSpot Inc (HUBS)	631.24	-18.34	-2.8	32.0
Biogen Inc (BIIB)	194.38	+3.86	+2.0	28.3
Symbotic Inc (SYM)	39.73	-0.36	-0.9	23.4
State Street Corp (STT)	73.37	+0.33	+0.5	22.1
Iron Mountain (IRM)	75.10	+0.68	+0.9	22.0
Veralto Corp (VLTO)	88.89	+0.09	+0.1	21.9
PTC (PTC)	176.37	+0.67	+0.4	21.1
Eversource (ES)	59.69	+0.70	+1.2	20.9
DraftKings Inc (DKNG)	40.68	-0.96	-2.3	19.4
Entegris Inc (ENTG)	122.20	-4.89	-3.8	18.4
Alnylam Pharma (ALNY)	144.41	-0.75	-0.5	18.2
Hologic Inc (HOLX)	75.38	+0.28	+0.4	17.7
Waters Corp (WAT)	296.10	+1.87	+0.6	17.6
Akamai (AKAM)	101.50	+0.77	+0.8	15.6
Teradyne Inc (TER)	95.97	-4.23	-4.2	14.7
Dynatrace Inc (DT)	45.40	-0.86	-1.9	13.4

Markets

Markets continue losing streak

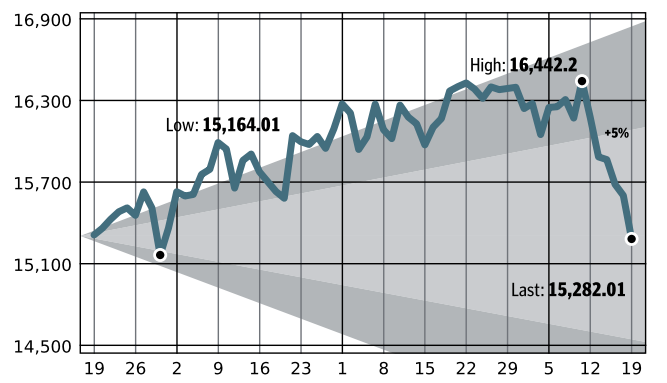
NEW YORK — The worst week for big technology stocks since the COVID crash in 2020 dragged Wall Street on Friday across the finish line of another losing week. The S&P 500 dropped 0.9% to close out its third straight losing week. That's its longest such streak since September, before it broke into a romp that sent it to a string of records this year. Tech stocks in the S&P 500 broadly lost 7.3% this week for their worst performance since March 2020 as some global giants reported discouraging trends. The larger threat was a dawning, dispiriting acknowledgement sweeping Wall Street that interest rates may likely stay high for longer. Top Fed officials said this week that they could hold interest rates at their high level for a while. That's a letdown for traders after the Fed had signaled earlier that three cuts to interest rates could be possible this year. High rates hurt prices for all kinds of investments. Some of the hardest hit tend to be those seen as the most expensive and which make investors wait the longest for big growth, which can make tech stocks vulnerable. Lower rates had earlier appeared to be on the horizon after inflation cooled sharply last year. ASSOCIATED PRESS

DOW JONES industrial average



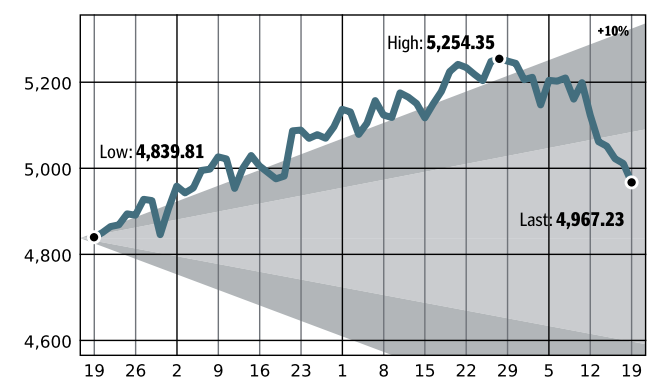
Yesterday 37,986.40 ▲ 211.02 ▲ 0.6% ▲ YTD 0.8%

NASDAQ Composite index



Yesterday 15,282.01 ▼ 319.49 ▼ 2.0% ▲ YTD 1.8%

S&P 500 index



Yesterday 4,967.23 ▼ 43.89 ▼ 0.9% ▲ YTD 4.1%

SOURCE: Bloomberg News

Pharmacy workers at two CVS stores in R.I. file to unionize

By Alexa Gagosz
GLOBE STAFF

WOONSOCKET, R.I. — Pharmacy professionals at two CVS retail stores in Rhode Island have officially filed to unionize with the Pharmacy Guild, which is part of a national effort to organize the chain's workforce.

Workers at pharmacies located in Westerly and in the Wakefield section of South Kingstown filed their petitions to the National Labor Relations Board, according to Guild officials. The actions came three weeks after workers at CVS Omnicare Las Vegas, where professionals fill prescriptions for nursing homes, announced it was seeking to unionize.

Guild officials say understaffing at these retail stores has reached a "crisis level" for pharmacies across the US, as the industry faces severe shortages.

"My co-workers and I are unionizing with the Pharmacy Guild so we can have a voice to advocate for the best care outcomes possible for our patients," said one pharmacy professional active in the CVS Rhode Island organizing, in a press release sent by the Guild on Tuesday. "By unionizing stores in Rhode Island, we're sending a direct message to CVS and the industry at large that frontline pharmacy professionals will continue taking direct action to reform our industry for the protection of our patients."

Pharmacy workers were not identified in the Guild's press release, and have requested to remain anonymous due to fear of potential retaliation, according to Jeffrey Hall, a spokesman for the union.

In a statement to the Globe, Mike DeAngelis, a spokesman for Woonsocket-based CVS Health, said the company respects "employees' right to either unionize or refrain from doing so."

DeAngelis said the company has invested about $1 billion in wage increases since 2021, and in 2024, is awarding tens of millions of dollars in bonuses to "recognize and thank our pharmacists and pharmacy technicians."

The corporate owners of retail store pharmacies have faced criticism for what some workers call "unsafe staffing levels." In late 2023, pharmacy workers from stores owned by Walgreens, Rite Aid, and CVS staged a three-day walk-out to call for better working conditions, and the movement was dubbed "pharmageddon."

The Pharmacy Guild is an initiative by IAM Healthcare, and is the country's only union dedicated to organizing and representing pharmacy professionals across employers. Union officials said they plan to fight to secure safe staffing levels.

Alexa Gagosz can be reached at alexa.gagosz@globe.com. Follow her @alexagagosz and on Instagram @AlexaGagosz.

Steward lenders urged to revamp loans

▶STEWARD
Continued from Page D1

Good Samaritan in Brockton, Holy Family in Methuen and Haverhill, Morton Hospital in Taunton, Nashoba Valley in Ayer, and Saint Anne's in Fall River.

It's not clear if Steward, which has fallen behind on payments to its landlords and vendors, would be able to meet a cash-out demand from its lenders later this month. A company spokeswoman declined to discuss its financial standing.

The company struck a preliminary deal in March to sell its nationwide doctors network, called Stewardship Health, to insurance giant UnitedHealth's Optum unit for an undisclosed price. Massachusetts regulators have begun reviewing that proposed acquisition, but the review process could take as much as nine months.

While the senators' letter didn't specify how the terms of the loans could be modified, a deadline extension would be one possibility. Other options could include reducing interest rate payments or management fees.

The terms of Steward's loans, including how much each lender put up and the interest rate they charged, have not been made public. But in identifying the companies holding Steward's debt, Warren and Markey are calling attention to the role of little-known private credit providers in lending to struggling businesses desperate for cash.

Private credit was a $1.7 trillion industry in 2023, according to a Federal Reserve report, fueling rounds of refinancing and multibillion-dollar buyouts. In contrast to traditional lenders such as banks, the private lenders can provide quick liquidity but can also charge as much as 6 percentage points more along with hefty management fees.

The high borrowing costs and fees have contributed to high-profile bankruptcies of companies such as SmileDirectClub and Bed Bath & Beyond, according to the letter from the senators.

Warren and Markey asked Steward's lenders to respond by Friday, April 26, to a series of questions about the terms and conditions of the Steward loans, including their interest rates and fees, and spell out what would happen if Steward defaulted on its debt.

Robert Weisman can be reached at robert.weisman@globe.com.

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May 13, 2024

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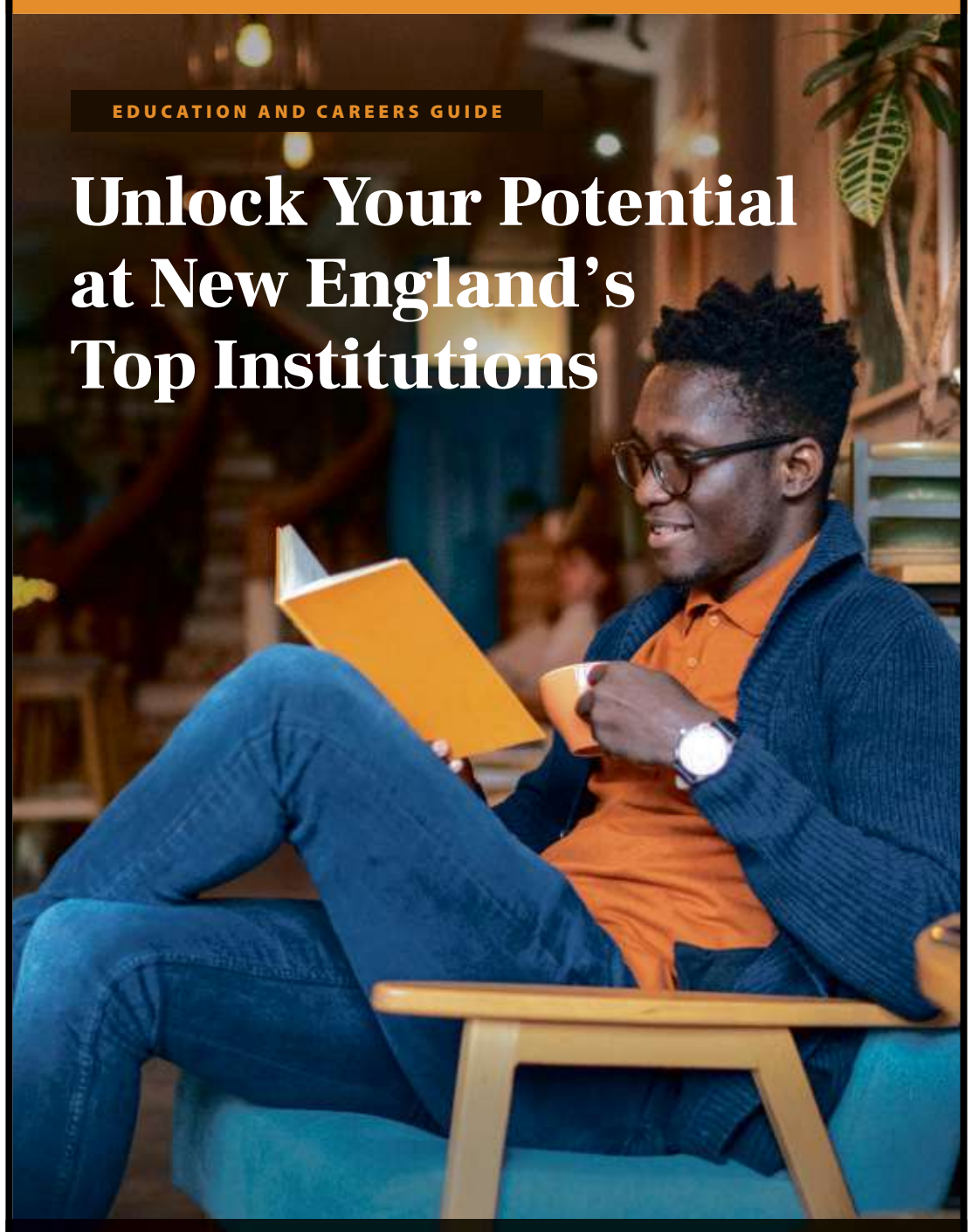
AUCTION DATE OF May 13, 11:30AM on the premises. Buyer or proxy to be on site to bid. Price listed is not sale price. Terms - $100,000 Deposit by cashier's check required to bid - 10% Buyer's Premium. Buyer to conduct their own due diligence. As-is, Where-is sale. Seller makes no warranties or representations, whether express or implied. Call Listing Agent for pre-registration. Pre-Auction Offers are Encouraged. Full 10% buyer's premium due as deposit within 5 days of signing P&S. Seller reserves the right to sell property at any time prior to Auction date of May 13, 2024 at 11:30am.

studio | B presents



EDUCATION AND CAREERS GUIDE

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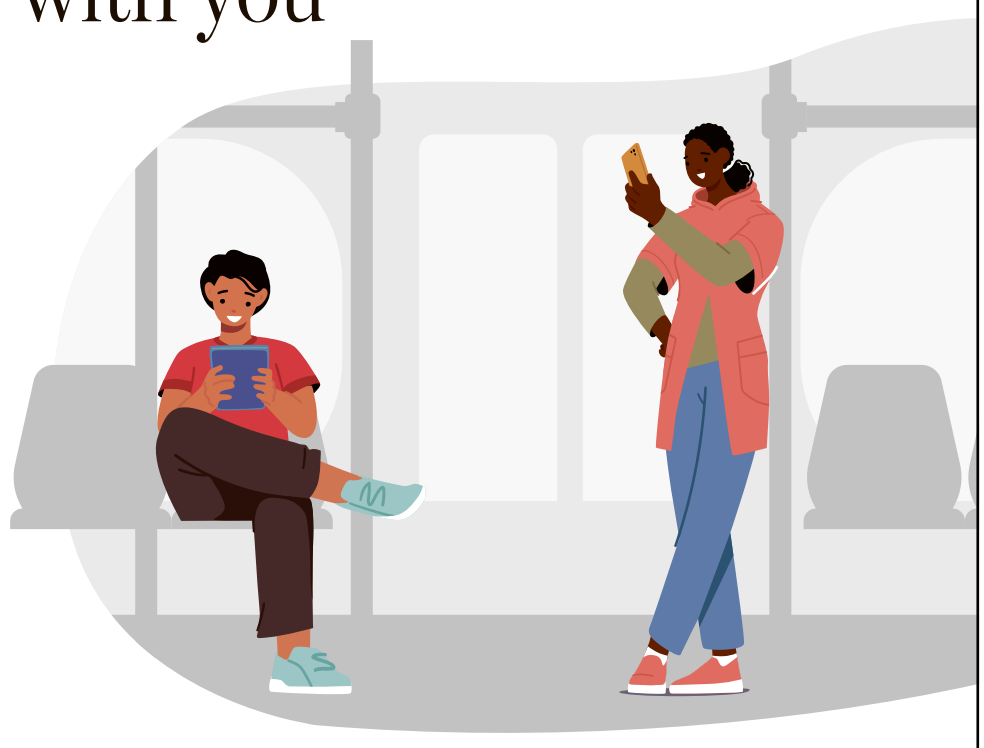
Education can help build the bridge between your current reality and your dream career. Whether you're a recent high school graduate or looking to enter your second act, these top-tier New England institutions offer knowledge and guidance to help you reach your goals and unlock your potential.

Scan here to read more
or visit **Globe.com/education-careers**

Wherever you go, take the new Boston Globe app with you



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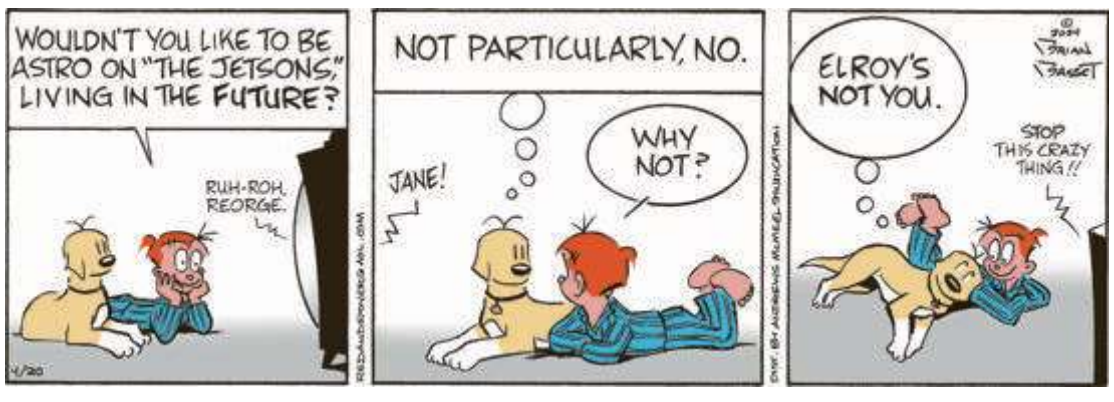
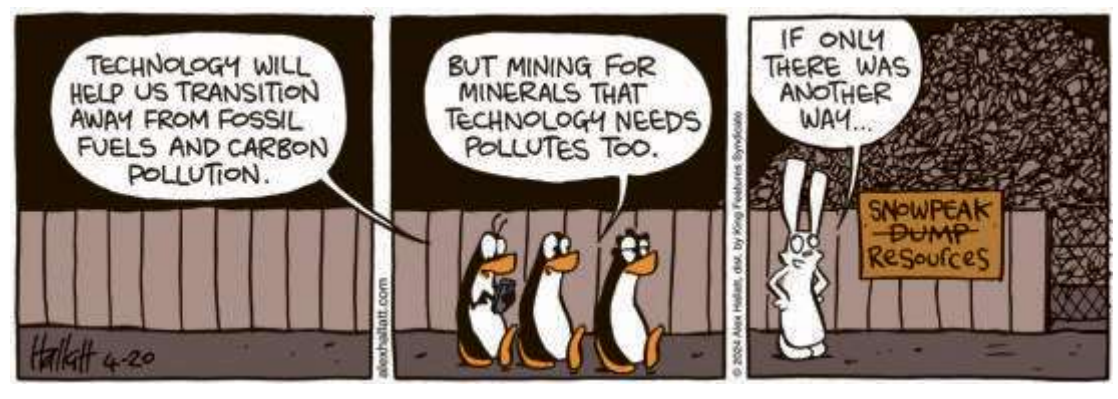


ARCTIC CIRCLE by Alex Hallatt



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE by Lynn Johnston



CURTIS by Ray Billingsley



RHYMES WITH ORANGE by Hilary Price



ARLO & JANIS by Jimmy Johnson



UNIVERSAL CROSSWORD PUZZLE

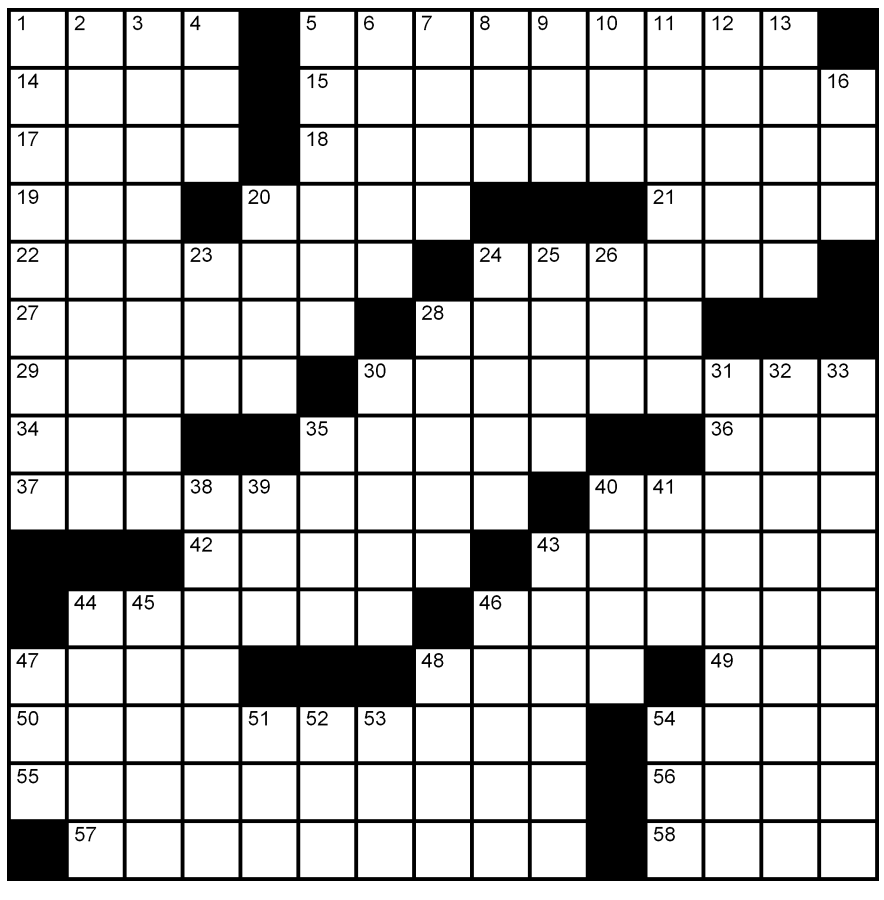
UNIVERSAL FREESTYLE 121 BY DYLAN MERRILL | EDITED BY TAYLOR JOHNSON

ACROSS

1 ___ Scout cookies
5 First words of "Crazy Train"
14 Inkling
15 "No doubt about it"
17 Become worn at the edge
18 Admitting one's mistakes
19 Kind of jar near the cash register, maybe
20 Stare in amazement
21 Give a glowing review
22 Raptors also known as sea hawks
24 One might hang over a crib
27 Catlike
28 Second half of a record
29 Move effortlessly
30 "Move on already!"
34 "Honest" prez
35 ___ pitch (state of extreme excitement)
36 Card with two different point values in blackjack
37 Prominent parts of funk music
40 Plastic wrap brand
42 Discover
43 Necessary ingredients, informally
44 Pilot a plane
46 Pterodactyl feature?
47 Move like a moth
48 Band with the 1982 hit "Africa"
49 Simple top
50 Brightly patterned Hawaiian top
54 Small coastal inlet
55 Unserious amateur
56 Matured
57 Good thing to have near the start of a game
58 Oodles

DOWN

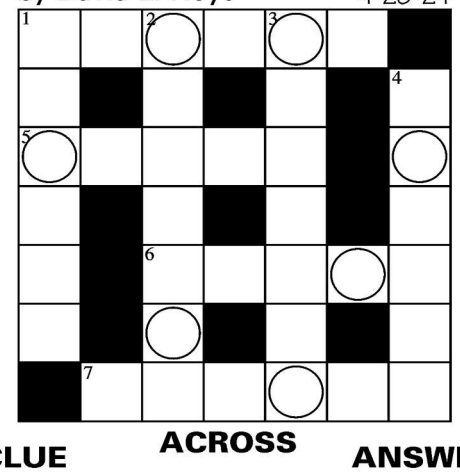
1 Ability to speak confidently and persuasively
2 "Luther" star heard at the start of Taylor Swift's "London Boy"
3 Puts on again, as sunscreen
4 Place down
5 "Yes, captain!"
6 Jumps
7 Overdue
8 Poke bowl protein
9 Recycling receptacle
10 "R u for real?!"
11 Attribute (to)
12 Like nearly 65% of Vermont's population in 2020
13 Operated a vehicle
16 Barnyard mama
20 It's hereditary
23 Free (of)
24 Tiny biters
25 Stench
26 Drink, informally
28 Most common roll in craps
30 Romance or fantasy, for example
31 Champin' at the bit
32 "Literally, it's too much for me to process"
33 Some geared bicycles
35 Italian automaker
38 Move like a snake
39 Meadow
40 Farm structure
41 Chopping tool
43 Like some bedsheets
44 Irish singer and guitarist Sherlock known for her viral YouTube videos
45 String quartet instrument
46 Kinda
47 Craze
48 Prong on a fork
51 Peach State airport code
52 Pig's pen
53 Evil computer in "2001: A Space Odyssey"
54 Mr. Jinx in "Meet the Parents," for one



JUMBLE CROSSWORDS™

by David L. Hoyt ®

4-20-24



ACROSS

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Photo ___	NISIFH
5. Peaceful solution	ECUTR
6. ___ clown	RDOOE
7. More than one	LRPULA

DOWN

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Pop	HETFRA
2. "Star Trek" zone	RALUETN
3. Skinny	EELSDRN
4. Shrink away	RIEOCL

TRIPLE BONUS

The circled letters can be unscrambled to form three different BONUS answers.

CLUE: Genuine

CLUE: ___ Europe

CLUE: Closest

How to play

Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the Bonus.

ANSWERS: 1A-Finish 5A-Truce 6A-Rodeo 7A-Plural 1D-Father 2D-Neutral 3D-Slender 4D-Recoil B-Earnest E-Eastern B-Nearest

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Boston's forecast

AccuWeather Better Planning. Greater Confidence. Get the AccuWeather App

TODAY
6 A.M. NOON 6 P.M.
HIGH **56-61** LOW **39-44**
Morning rain followed by a shower in spots this afternoon. Winds WSW 7-14 mph. Mainly clear tonight. Winds W 10-20 mph.

SUNDAY
6 A.M. NOON 6 P.M.
HIGH **56-61** LOW **40-45**
Mostly sunny. Winds W 10-20 mph. Mainly clear at night. Winds WSW 7-14 mph.

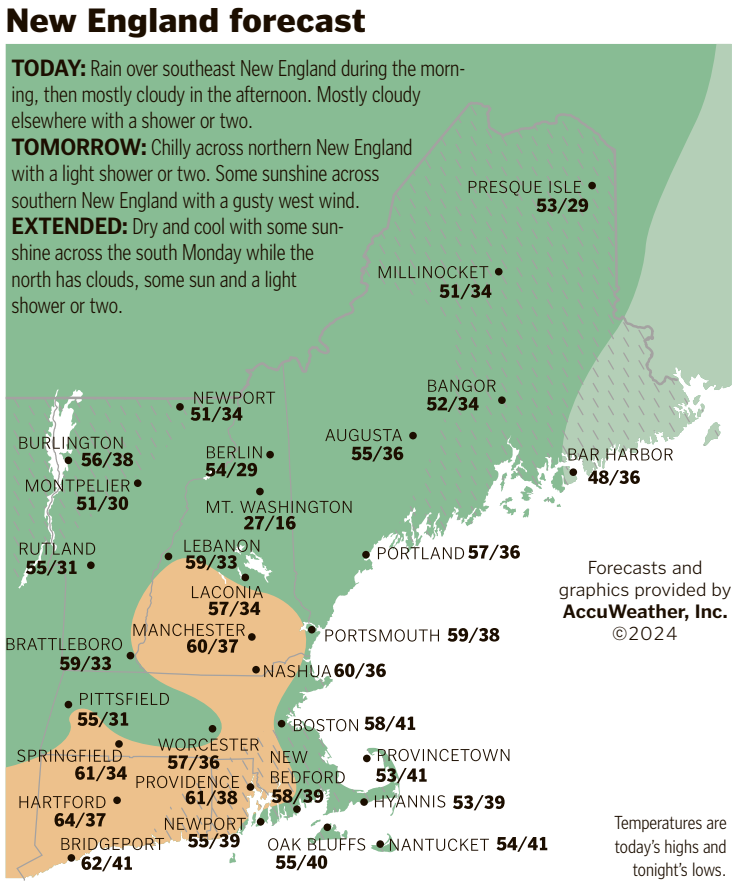
MONDAY
6 A.M. NOON 6 P.M.
HIGH **54-59** LOW **38-43**
Mostly sunny. Winds WNW 8-16 mph. A moonlit sky at night. Winds NW 6-12 mph.

TUESDAY
6 A.M. NOON 6 P.M.
HIGH **56-61** LOW **44-49**
Some sun, then turning cloudy. Winds S 10-20 mph. Mostly cloudy at night. Winds SSW 8-16 mph.

WEDNESDAY
6 A.M. NOON 6 P.M.
HIGH **59-64** LOW **40-45**
Cloudy with a couple of showers; breezy in the afternoon. Winds SSW 10-20 mph. Occasional rain and drizzle Wednesday evening; otherwise, mostly cloudy. Winds WSW 10-20 mph.

New England forecast

TODAY: Rain over southeast New England during the morning, then mostly cloudy in the afternoon. Mostly cloudy elsewhere with a shower or two.
TOMORROW: Chilly across northern New England with a light shower or two. Some sunshine across southern New England with a gusty west wind.
EXTENDED: Dry and cool with some sunshine across the south Monday while the north has clouds, some sun and a light shower or two.



Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2024

Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

Almanac

Yesterday's high/low	53°/44°
Sunrise	5:55 a.m.
Sunset	7:32 p.m.
Moonrise	4:28 p.m.

Mount Washington (5 p.m. yesterday)

Weather	Dense fog
Visibility	1/16 of a mile
Wind	southwest at 29 m.p.h.
High/low temperature	35/26
Snow depth at 5 p.m.	2.0"

Allergies Source: Asthma & Allergy Affiliates, Inc.

Trees	Weeds	Grass	Mold
High	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

Yesterday's mold and spore rating.

Eastern Massachusetts air quality
GOOD 43 MOD. UNHEALTHY HAZARDOUS
50 100 150 200 300
For more information on today's conditions, call the state hotline at (800) 882-1497 or Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection web site www.state.ma.us/DEP

24 Hr. Precipitation (valid at 5 p.m. yesterday)

Yesterday	0.05"	Month to date	2.58"	Year to date	19.81"
Precip days in April	12	Norm. month to date	2.40"	Norm. year to date	13.30"

Climate data are compiled from National Weather Service records and are subject to change or correction.

Tides

	A.M.	P.M.
Boston high	9:58	10:21
Height	9.1	9.2
Boston low	3:43	4:07
Height	1.5	1.2
High tides		
Old Orchard ME	9:51	10:14
Hampton Beach NH	10:05	10:28
Plum Island	10:02	10:26
Ipswich	9:46	10:08

High tides	A.M.	P.M.
Gloucester	10:01	10:25
Marblehead	9:58	10:21
Lynn	10:02	10:24
Scituate	10:02	10:26
Plymouth	10:03	10:27
Cape Cod Canal East	9:49	10:12
Cape Cod Canal West	8:46	
Falmouth	9:42	10:05

High tides	A.M.	P.M.
Hyannis Port	10:54	11:15
Chatham	11:00	11:21
Wellfleet	10:12	10:35
Provincetown	9:59	10:22
Nantucket Harbor	10:53	11:11
Oak Bluffs	10:30	10:47
New Bedford	6:27	6:44
Newport RI	6:31	6:48

New England marine forecast
● Small craft advisory ● Gale warning ● Storm warning

	Wind	Seas	Temp
Boston Harbor	W 7-14 kts.	1-2 ft.	59/41
East Cape Cod Canal	W 7-14 kts.	1-2 ft.	55/39
Buzzards Bay	W 6-12 kts.	1-2 ft.	55/38

	Wind	Seas	Temp
Martha's Vineyard	W 7-14 kts.	1-3 ft.	55/39
Nantucket	W 8-16 kts.	1-3 ft.	55/43
Provincetown	W 7-14 kts.	1-3 ft.	55/42

For current Charles River Basin water quality, call (781) 788-0007 or go to http://www.charlesriver.org.

Cities

Forecast high and low temperatures and conditions
● Travel delays possible, **C** Clouds, **F** Fog, **H** Haze, **I** Ice, **Pc** Partly Cloudy, **R** Rain, **Sh** Showers, **S** Sun, **Sn** Snow, **Fl** Flurries, **T** Thunderstorms, **W** Windy

	Today		Tomorrow	
Atlanta	79/55	Pc	57/48	R
● Atlantic City	67/40	R	56/39	Pc
Charlotte	80/55	Pc	60/45	R
● Chicago	49/36	Pc	59/41	S
● Dallas	61/50	R	65/48	Pc
Denver	37/29	Sn	65/46	Pc
● Detroit	49/34	Pc	58/37	S
Fort Myers	90/69	S	88/70	S

	Today		Tomorrow	
Los Angeles	72/55	Pc	75/56	S
Miami	89/72	S	88/71	S
New Orleans	84/64	C	70/55	R
New York City	66/43	R	60/46	Pc
● Philadelphia	68/43	Pc	59/43	Pc
Phoenix	94/68	S	97/68	S
Salt Lake City	71/50	Pc	80/53	Pc
● San Francisco	68/52	S	69/50	S

	Today		Tomorrow	
● Seattle	71/43	Sh	58/43	C
● Washington	71/46	Pc	58/44	Pc
Beijing	72/50	Pc	78/50	Pc
● Cancun	88/75	S	88/74	S
● Mexico City	84/57	S	85/57	S
● Montreal	52/37	Pc	48/30	Pc
● Toronto	48/34	Pc	54/33	Pc
● Vancouver	60/44	Sh	57/39	C

	Today		Tomorrow	
● Jerusalem	77/57	Pc	73/49	S
● London	53/39	Pc	53/36	Pc
● Moscow	54/39	R	62/56	Sh
Paris	52/39	C	54/39	Sh
Rome	64/45	S	66/47	S
● San Juan	85/76	Pc	85/75	T
● Stockholm	34/25	C	34/24	C
Tokyo	75/60	Pc	72/60	C

HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, April 20, 2024:
You are sensuous, tactile and seductive. Personally, you are eager for success and admiration. This is an exciting year for you because it will hold changes that will increase your personal freedom. Stay flexible so you can explore new opportunities. Travel is likely.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19)*
Keep your pockets open, because gifts, goodies and favors from others might come your way today. Or you might spontaneously buy something that pleases you. (Check the Moon Alert.) You also might dream up ways to boost your wealth. Clever you! Tonight: Cooperate.

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20)*
Today, lucky moneybags Jupiter is lined up with unpredictable Uranus in your sign. (This can happen only once every 12 years.) This will make you feel excitable, energetic, impulsive and up for anything. Furthermore, Lady Luck is smiling on you! Tonight: Work.

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20)*
In all likelihood, you feel a bit restless today because some powerful forces are taking place behind the scenes in your chart. In a curious way, even though you're ambitious right now, you're also content to relax at home and focus on family. Take time out for good behavior. Tonight: Play!

CANCER *(June 21-July 22)*
Surprise encounters with unusual people might be exciting today. This also could be the very thing that triggers you to rethink your future goals. You might decide to suddenly go off in a new direction because it looks promising and doable. You also might feel enriched by a club, group or organization. Tonight: Relax.

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22)*
Unexpected opportunities might fall in your lap today that will boost your professional reputation. This might relate to travel or a chance to explore new directions in your life. The only caveat that you must know is that this opportunity will be brief. You will have to act fast. Tonight: Discussions.

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)*
Surprise travel plans might fall in your lap today. Or this particular boon could relate to opportunities for further education, publishing or something related to medicine and the law. Whatever happens is an unexpected chance to expand your world. Grab it! Tonight: Maintain your belongings.

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)*
Unexpected good fortune might happen for you at this time. It could be an inheritance or an unexpected financial advantage. A favorable decision regarding shared property or insurance issues also might benefit you. Your partner might get a raise or a bonus. Looking good! Tonight: You win!

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)*
Surprising encounters with close friends and partners might delight you at this time. In fact, a partnership might suddenly enrich you financially or in practical terms. Not only will this boon be welcome, it will very likely be unexpected. Tonight: Solitude.

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)*
Sudden good news related to your health might be exciting. Others will be just as pleased with the surprising news related to a job, or even something to do with a pet. Work-related travel is also likely. This is a fortunate time for you. Alphabetize your blessings. Tonight: Friendships.

CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)*
Surprising news related to your kids might catch you off guard today. Others will be equally surprised and delighted by an opportunity for a sudden vacation or a quick getaway. Accept invitations to party and socialize. Meanwhile, romance is titillating and exciting. Tonight: You're noticed.

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)*
Unexpected good fortune could impact your family, your home or your real estate at this time. You might inherit. You might buy something spontaneously that is high-tech or modern for your home, including art. You might expand your family in an unexpected way. It could be anything. Tonight: Explore!

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20)*
Exciting news will boost your optimism and belief in yourself and future at this time. You might have an unexpected chance to travel or to get further learning, training or education. You might meet someone who is unusual who expands your world in some way. Whatever occurs will make you happier. Tonight: Check your finances.

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SUDOKU

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

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3X3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Puzzle difficulty levels: Easy on Monday and Tuesday, more difficult on Wednesday and Thursday, most difficult on Friday and Saturday. Tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com.

DAILY BRIDGE CLUB

BY FRANK STEWART

South dealer — N-S vulnerable

North
♠ 8 7 3
♡ 8 7 5
♢ K Q J
♣ Q J 10 9

West
♠ J 10 9 2
♡ A 3
♢ 8 7 4 3
♣ 6 3 2

East
♠ Q 6 5
♡ K 4
♢ A 10 9 5 2
♣ 8 7 4

South
♠ A K 4
♡ Q J 10 9 6 2
♢ 6
♣ A K 5

South	West	North	East
1 ♡	Pass	2 ♡	Pass
4 ♡	All Pass		

Opening lead — ♠ J

"Simple Saturday" columns focus on basic technique and logical thinking.

Having a one-track mind is more likely to be a liability than a benefit, especially if the track runs to certain destinations. But many new players feel compelled to draw trumps first and worry later.

Against today's four hearts, West led the jack of spades, and declarer took the ace and hastened to lead trumps. East won and returned the queen of spades, and when West took the ace of trumps next, he cashed a spade, then led a diamond. East's ace won for down one.

South ran off the track when he led a trump at the second trick. He can see four potential losers — two high trumps, a diamond and a spade — but dummy's diamonds can furnish a discard for the spade loser.

To get untracked, South leads a diamond at Trick Two. East takes the ace and returns a spade, but South wins, reaches dummy with the queen of clubs and discards his last spade on a high diamond. Then he can safely start the trumps.

DAILY QUESTION You hold: ♠ Q 6 5 ♡ K 4 ♢ A 10 9 5 2 ♣ 8 7 4. Your partner opens one spade, you bid two spades and he tries three hearts. What do you say?

ANSWER: Partner's three hearts is a try for game (or maybe his first bid to look for slam). He asks you to bid game with any sound raise or with a fair raise that has help for his second suit. Since your hand could be no better, jump to four spades or, if partner will understand, cue-bid four diamonds.

ZIPPY "Headache, Neuritis and Nostalgia" by Bill Griffith



ADAM@HOME by Rob Harrell



BIZARRO by Wayno & Piraro



MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM by Mike Peters



ROSE IS ROSE by Pat Brady & Don Wimmer



Today's Crossword Solution

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

Today's Sudoku Solution

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

TV CRITIC'S CORNER

BY DON AUCOIN



MICHAEL PARMELEE/CBS VIA AP

Carrie Preston and Wendell Pierce in "Elsbeth." This week CBS renewed the series for a second season, after only a few episodes had aired.

Don't underestimate 'Elsbeth,' the character or the series

When we first see the title character of CBS's "Elsbeth," she's in the Big Apple, appearing every bit the wide-eyed tourist, with a foam rubber replica of the Statue of Liberty's spiky crown on her head.

Seeking a police officer's help in locating a certain detective, Elsbeth is asked whether the detective is expecting her. With a small, abashed laugh, Elsbeth replies: "I don't think anyone's expecting me."

A sly bit of self-referentiality there. No one is ever quite expecting — or respecting — the idiosyncratic Elsbeth Tascioni. It's a bad idea to underestimate her, but the bad guys invariably do.

Elsbeth's TV lineage includes Peter Falk in "Columbo," Tony Shalhoub in "Monk," and, more recently, Natasha Lyonne in "Poker Face."

A quirky but successful attorney played by the inventive Carrie Preston, Elsbeth was a recurring character in "The Good Wife" and then in that show's spinoff, "The Good Fight." Now Preston has her own series, created, like "The Good Wife" and "The Good Fight," by Michelle King and Robert King.

The premise is that Elsbeth has moved from Chicago to New York because the Justice Department has assigned her to be an "outside observer" of the operations of the New York Police Department. (The role of an outside observer was among the terms of a federal consent decree stemming from wrongful-arrest lawsuits.)

Is there corruption on the force, and if so, does it involve a captain who is clearly none too happy to have Elsbeth around? (The captain is played by Wendell Pierce, who brings his usual grumpy gravitas to the role.) As luck — and plot necessities — would have it, Elsbeth is drawn into other investigations as well.

This week CBS renewed "Elsbeth" for a second season, after only a few episodes had aired. On the strength of those episodes, it's a good move by the network. CBS is clearly determined to not make the mistake of underestimating Elsbeth.

LOVE LETTERS

BY MEREDITH GOLDSTEIN

My husband is following his ex's vlog

Q. I have been married for eight years and have three children. Recently, I have encountered difficulties in my relationship with my husband. Despite our commitment to each other, he seems to be fixated on his past connection with a woman he once dated but with whom he never had a serious relationship. Although this woman is now married and has lived far away with her family for 20 years, my husband has begun watching her vlogs and frequently mentions her in a way that is distressing to me. He often expresses sentiments suggesting he still harbors feelings for her or imagines a life with her.

Despite my attempts to communicate my discomfort and set boundaries, my husband becomes defensive and continues to entertain thoughts of reconnecting with this woman. He has even expressed a desire to reach out to her to seek closure or answers to his unresolved questions.

I am reaching out to you for guidance on how to navigate this situation. I understand the importance of open communication and mutual respect in a relationship, but I am struggling to cope with my husband's fixation on his past. I would appreciate any advice or resources you can provide to help us address these issues and strengthen our relationship. I don't feel happy anymore as I was before. I need help.

UNHAPPY

A. The videos are not helping (obviously). It's easy to watch someone's vlog and feel like they're *talking to you.*

This interest seems to be very much *one-sided*, of course. Most likely, if he reached out, she wouldn't have much to say to him.

It doesn't matter, though. His growing interest in this ex suggests there's work to do on the marriage. Good for him for being so transparent, I guess, but what's his plan for making this better? Or making a change?

It's time to seek therapy together to decide what happens next. If he wants to pursue a connection with this woman you can't stop him. But can he do that elsewhere?

Is there a place he can stay? Because you don't have to be a witness to whatever he's attempting. That's a real boundary.

In therapy, you can come up with a plan for space … and maybe he'd say more about what led him to this woman's content. You can also figure out whether he's being honest about his hopes. You've decided he wants a life with her, but that might not be the case.

I can't promise that talking to a mental health professional will strengthen the relationship, but it might provide clarity. It also might strengthen *you*, which is the priority. You can see a therapist on your own, too.

You feel disrespected and ignored in your home. The next move is to talk about it and figure out how to make a change. *Soon.*

MEREDITH

Meredith is seeking questions about everything from dating and marriage to life after divorce. Scan the QR code to make your anonymous submission.

READERS RESPOND:

Stop basing your happiness on your husband's behavior. If this guy is in a mid-life crisis, it can be a very long time until he comes out of it. In the meantime, focus on your children and yourself and do what makes all of you happy, hopeful, and forward looking, which will be valuable whether your marriage dissolves or not.

COMMENTOR2

You gave us your interpretation of the situation rather than the facts, which makes it difficult to advise. He "*seems* to be fixated," "sentiments *suggesting* he still harbors feelings." You also say he becomes defensive, but you don't say *how* you communicate your discomfort with him. Sometimes people are just defensive no matter what, but most of the time defensiveness happens because of tone/criticism/accusations from the person who is "communicating discomfort." It actually matters exactly what the two of you say in these conversations because there might be some blind spot of yours contributing to the problem, but we can't help you see it if all we get is your *idea* of what is happening.

BONECOLD

Was he married before you? (If past crush woman is 20 years gone and you are only married eight.) So you might be in your 30s to early 40s. It is easy to fantasize about the glory days of youth and what might have been as opposed to what you have now. People's vlogs are very upbeat, style-conscious, and made to feel that they are living the greatest life — as opposed to readers who are in the trenches. Unfortunately, your husband is vulnerable to this crisis and it is disarming, disrespectful and immature. But it is hard to fathom a divorce with three kids to support. If he can't "get in the game" and be fully devoted to you and the family, if he is having an emotional affair (albeit one-sided) — it is still damaging. Boundaries are needed, counseling as to why he is infatuated, and the possibility of a divorce. I am against pushing him to contact, visit, friend, or pursue this fantasy.

AUNTTIGGYWINK

He is bored and/or unhappy and escaping into a fantasy world, of which the ex is a part. This would be an average kind of midlife crisis, except he's gone overboard to a point of needing professional mental-health help. No shame — a lot of people are experiencing high levels of stress, and burnout. Start with couples counseling. (Look for a male counselor if your husband is a guy who wouldn't do well with a female counselor.) Psychology Today has a search engine and your insurance plan should have one as well (or you can call customer service). Get an appointment as soon as possible. In the meantime, I would tell him calmly that his talking about his ex is hurtful to you and you do not want to hear it. Also, his engaging in these activities as a married man is disrespectful to his family. Remind him if he starts talking about it again.

JIVEDIVA

Send your own relationship and dating questions to loveletters@globe.com. Catch new episodes of Meredith Goldstein's "Love Letters" podcast at loveletters.show or wherever you listen to podcasts. Column and comments are edited and reprinted from boston.com/loveletters.

Saturday April 20, 2024

Movies | Sports | News | Specials

		7 pm	7:30	8 pm	8:30	9 pm	9:30	10 pm	10:30	11 pm	11:30
2	WGBH PBS	The Yorkshire Vet		Call the Midwife		Mr Bates-Post		Alice & Jack on Masterpiece		Basic Black	Stories-Stage
4	WBZ CBS	Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy!	NCIS "Desperate Measures"		S.W.A.T. "The Promise"		48 Hours "Death by Eyedrops" (N)		News (N)	(:35) Gourmet
5	WCVB ABC	News (N)	Chronicle	NBA (N) (Live)	NBA Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (N) (Live)					NewsCenter 5 (N)	(:35) Matter
6	WLNE ABC	Paid Prog.	Inside Ed.	NBA (N)	NBA Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (N) (Live)					ABC6Ne..	Rookie
7	WHDH	Inside Ed. (N)	Funny You	Family Feud	Family Feud	7 News at 9PM (N)		7 News at 10PM (N)		7 News at 11PM (N)	(:35) Extra (N)
9	WMUR ABC	Chaos	Chronicle	NBA (N)	NBA Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (N) (Live)					News (N)	Chaos
10	NBC Boston	Paid Prog.	1st Look	The Wall "Karly and Megan"		Weakest Link		SNL "RuPaul; Justin Bieber" (N)		News at 11 (N)	SNL
10	WJAR NBC	News (N)	Paid Prog.	The Wall "Karly and Megan"		Weakest Link		SNL "RuPaul; Justin Bieber" (N)		News (N) (Live)	SNL
11	WENH PBS	(6:30) Yorkshire	Agatha Christie's Marple "At Bertram's Hotel"			(:05) Doc Martin "Return to Sender"		Death in Paradise		RFDS: Royal Flying Doctor Service	
12	WPRI CBS	Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy!	NCIS "Desperate Measures"		S.W.A.T. "The Promise"		48 Hours "Death by Eyedrops" (N)		12 News at 11 (N)	Recovery TV
25	WFXT FOX	UFL Football D.C. Defenders at Birmingham Stallions From Protective Stadium in Birmingham, Ala. (N) (Live)						9-1-1 "Heartbreaker"		We Are Family "It's All Relative"	
27	WUNI	Vecinos	Vecinos	Fútbol (N) (Live)	Fútbol Mexicano Primera División Tigres U.A.N.L. vs. Necaxa (N) (Live)					(:55) Fútbol Pumas UNAM vs. América	
36	WSBE PBS	Father Brown "The Beast of Wedlock"		Call the Midwife		Doc Martin "Accidental Hero"		My Life Is Murder "Lividity in Lycra"		Treasures Insid	Art Inc
38	WSBK	Big Bang	Big Bang	Acts of Vengeance ('17) Cristina Serafini, Atanas Srebrev, Antonio Banderas.				On the Brink	Friends	WOW - Women Of Wrestling (N)	
44	WGBX PBS	(6:00) America	Local, USA	American Masters "Twyla Moves"			POV Shorts	Great Performances		PBS Arts Talk	HS Quiz Show
50	WWJE	Targeted		Targeted		Killer Cases		Killer Cases		Killer USA	
56	WLVI CW	Young Sheldon	Young Sheldon	I Am Patrick Swayze (N) (P)				7 News at 10PM on CW56 (N)		Modern Family	Modern Family
64	WNAC FOX	United Football League Michigan Panthers at San Antonio Brahmas From the Alamodome in San Antonio. (N) (Live)						12 News (N)	Seinfeld	We Are Family "It's All Relative"	
68	WBPX ION	NWSL-Pre (N)	NWSL Soccer Bay FC at Kansas City Current (N) (Live)				NWSL-Show (N)	NWSL Soccer Houston Dash at Portland Thorns FC (N) (Live)			
	PREMIUM CABLE										
	Cinemax	(6:20) Barely Lethal ('15)		★★ Into the Blue ('05) Jessica Alba, Scott Caan, Paul Walker.		(:50) Into the Blue 2: The Reef ('09) Chris Carmack.				(:25) Angel of Mine ('19) Noomi Rapace.	
	Flix	(6:05) ★★ The Crossing Guard		★★★★ Almost Famous Frances McDormand, Kate Hudson, Billy Crudup.				(:05) ★★★ The Perks of Being a Wallflower ('12) Logan Lerman.			
	HBO	(5:50) ★★ Joy ('15) Jennifer Lawrence.		★★★ Lost in Translation ('03) Bill Murray.		(:45) Sympathi "Death Wish"			(:45) Jerrod Car	(:15) Real Time With Bill Maher	
	HBO 2	(:05) ★★ Get Smart ('08) Anne Hathaway, Steve Carell.				★★ Ted 2 ('15) Seth MacFarlane, Amanda Seyfried, Mark Wahlberg.				★★ Get Hard ('15) Will Ferrell.	
	Showtime	Gentleman, Moscow "An Invitation"		Gentleman, Moscow "The Last Rostov"		★★★★ Titanic ('97) Kate Winslet, Billy Zane, Leonardo DiCaprio.					
	Showtime 2	★★★ Collateral ('04) Jamie Foxx, Jada Pinkett Smith, Tom Cruise.				★★ Shooter ('07) Michael Peña, Danny Glover, Mark Wahlberg.				(:05) War Pony ('22)	
	Starz!	(:05) BMF "Code Red"		Mary "Not So Much as Love as by Awe"		(:55) BMF	(:50) Mary & George		(:45) BMF "Code Red"		(:45) Mary
	TMC	(6:30) Scrapper ('23) Lola Campbell.		★★★ I Love You, Man ('09) Jason Segel, Paul Rudd. (P)			(:45) ★★ The Switch ('10) Jason Bateman, Jennifer Aniston. (P)				Southpaw
	SPORTS										
	CBSSN	(5:00) Pickleball U.S. Open of Pickleball From Naples, Fla.				Disc Golf Chess.com Invitational		Fishing SFC: "The Catch"			
	ESPN	(6:00) NBA Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (N) (Live)			ESPN Films					SportsCenter (N) (Live)	
	ESPN2	ESPN Films		26.2 to Life ('22) Inmates in San Quentin's 1,000 Mile Club run a marathon.				Cornhole ACL Kickoff Battle: SuperHole V (N) (Live)			
	Fox Sports 1	PBA Bowling WSOB XV PBA World Championship, Semifinals (N) (Live)				NASCAR Xfinity Racing Series Ag-Pro 300 (N) (Live)				United Football League	
	Golf	Central (N) (Live)		PGA Tour Golf RBC Heritage, Third Round							
	NBA	(6:00) Playoff Central Live				Playoff Central Live				Playoff Central Live	
	NBC Sports	View From (N)	Hockey (N)	School of Golf	School of Golf	United Fight Alliance		World Chase Tag		World Poker Tour	
	NESN	Extra (N)	Red Sox	My Story	David Ortiz		The David Ortiz Era		David Ortiz		Dirty (N)
	FAMILY										
	Cartoon	Burgers	Burgers	Burgers	Burgers	American	American	American	American	Rick	Rick
	Disney	Big City Greens	Big City Greens	★★ Ice Age: The Meltdown ('06) Ray Romano.			(:40) Monsters	(:05) Monsters	Big City Greens	Big City Greens	Hailey's on It!
	Encore Family	(6:20) Playmobil: M...		Legend of Kung Fu Rabbit ('11)			Pegasus: Pony With a Broken W...			(:55) Wings ('12)	
	Nickelodeon	SpongeB..	SpongeB..	SpongeB..	SpongeB..	Sheldon	Sheldon	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
	Nick Jr.	(6:50) PAW Patrol			(:40) PA..	PAWPatr..	PAWPatr..	PAWPatr..	PAWPatr..	Rubble	Rubble

		7 pm	7:30	8 pm	8:30	9 pm	9:30	10 pm	10:30	11 pm	11:30
	BASIC CABLE										
	A&E	The First 48 "Road Rage"		The First 48 "The Break"		The First 48 "I Killed"		The First 48 "The Standoff"		(:05) The First 48 "End of the Road"	
	AMC	(5:00) Unforgiven		★★★★ The Shawshank Redemption ('94) Tim Robbins.						★★★ Casino ('95)	
	Animal Planet	North-Law "Hunting the Hunters"		North Woods Law "Long Shot"		North Woods Law "Weed It and Reap"		North-Law "Antlers and Antics"		North Woods Law "Excuses, Excuses"	
	BBC America	Earth "Tidal Seas"		Predator (N) (P)		Planet Earth: Blue		Earth "The Deep"		Planet Earth: Blue	
	BET	(6:30) ★ Rush Hour 3 ('07) Chris Tucker, Hiroyuki Sanada, Jackie Chan.				★★ Rush Hour 2 ('01) Chris Tucker, John Lone, Jackie Chan.					Martin
	Bravo	★★★ Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2 ('11) Rupert Grint, Emma Watson, Daniel Radcliffe.						★★★ Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 ('10) Daniel Radcliffe.			
	CMT	(5:30) ★★★ Steel Magnolias				★★★ Selena ('97) Edward James Olmos, Jennifer Lopez.					Movie
	CNN	CNN Newsroom (N)		Real, Bill Maher (N)		CNN Spec		CNN Spec		CNN Spec	
	Comedy Central	★★ Daddy's Home ('15) Mark Wahlberg, Linda Cardellini, Will Ferrell.				★★★ Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story ('04) Christine Taylor, Vince Vaughn.				★★★ Wedding Crashers ('05)	
	CSPAN	(3:30) Washington This Week				Public Affairs Events					
	CSPAN2	Congress Invst. (N)		Public Affairs		Earth Day		Public Affairs Events		Public Affairs	
	Dest. America	BBQ Pitmasters		BBQ Pitmasters		BBQ Pitmasters		BBQ Pitmasters		BBQ Pitmasters	
	Discovery	Homestead Rescue		Homestead Rescue				Homestead Rescue "Stuck in the Mud"			
	Discovery Life	Taken at Birth		Taken at Birth		Taken at Birth		Taken at Birth		Taken at Birth	
	E!	(6:00) Happy Gilmore		★ The Waterboy ('98) Adam Sandler.				★★ Happy Gilmore ('96) Adam Sandler.			
	Encore	(6:10) ★★★ Django Unchained ('12)				★★ Along Came Polly ('04)				(:35) Taking of Pelham 123	
	Food	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Best Bite in Town "Davis"	
	Fox News	Weekend (N) (Live)		Life, Liberty (N)		One Nation (N)		Saturday Night (N)		Gutfeld!	
	Freeform	(6:50) ★★★ Frozen ('13) Kristen Bell.				(:20) ★★★ Frozen II ('19) Kristen Bell.					Movie
	FUSE	Malcolm	Malcolm	Malcolm	Malcolm	Combate Global		Eagles: The Long Road			Movie
	FX	(5:30) Jumanji: Wel...		★★ Jumanji: The Next Level ('19) Dwayne Johnson.						★★ Jumanji: The Next Level	
	FXM	Movie	(:35) ★★★ Spectre ('15) Christoph Waltz, Daniel Craig.							(:25) ★★★ Spectre ('15)	
	Hallmark	(6:00) Sweeter Than...		Falling in Love in Niagara ('24) (P)				Blind Date Book Club ('24) Erin Krakow.			
	Hallmark Myst.	Signed, Sealed, Delivered: From the Heart				Signed, Sealed, Delivered: One in a Million				Murder, She Wrote	
	HGTV	House Hunters	House Hunters	House Hunters	House Hunters	House Hunters	House Hunters	Hunters (N)	House Hunters	House Hunters	House Hunters
	History	Ancient Aliens "Element 115"		Ancient Aliens "The Shining Ones"		Ancient Aliens "The Shadow People"		(:05) Ancient Aliens		(:05) Aliens "The Giants of Malta"	
	HLN	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Redrum	Redrum	Forensic	Forensic
	HSN	DG2 by (N)		DG2 by (N)		Nakery (N)		Nakery (N)		Electronic (N)	
	ID	Who the Bleep "The Halloween Bride"		Deadly Women "Fatal Ties"		Deadly Women "Jilted and Jealous"		Nightmare in New Mexico (N)		Deadly Women "Fatal Fixation"	
	IFC	Movie	(:45) ★★★ Dazed and Confused ('93) Jason London.					★★ Super Troopers ('01)			
	Lifetime	(6:00) Good Father: ...		My Child Has My Doctor's Face ('24) (P)				(:05) The Paramedic Who Stalked Me			
	LMN	(6:00) Obsessed to ...		Spinning Out of Control ('23) Ria Ridley.				Revenge for My Mother ('22) Sami Nye.			
	MAGN	Restoring Galveston		Lakefront Barg		Lakefront Barg		Lakefront Barg		Lakefront Barg	
	MSNBC	Ayman (N) (Live)		Ayman (N) (Live)		R. Maddow		Ayman		11th Hour	
	MTV	★ How High ('01) Redman, Method Man.				★★★ Friday ('95) Chris Tucker, Ice Cube.				★★ Next Friday	
	National Geographic	Catch a Smuggler "Party Drugs"		Catch a Smuggler "Cocaine Shoes"		Border (N)	Border (N)	Trafficked "Illegal Gambling" (N)		Catch a Smuggler "Biggest Busts"	
	NatGeoWild	The Incredible		The Incredible (N)		Critter Fixers (N)		Vet 9-1-1	Vet 9-1-1	The Incredible	
	NECN	Chef's	OpenHou..	1st Look	Rescue	1st Look	OpenHou..	Chef's	HUBToday	Rescue	Chef's
	NewsNation	NewsNation (N)		NewsNation (N)		NewsNation (N)		NewsNation Prime		NewsNation Prime	
	Ovation	Murdoch (N)		★★ Mystery Woman: Redemption (P)				Mystery Woman: Game Time ('05) (P)			
	OWN	Love		Love (N)		On the Case, Zahn		Love		Love	
	Oxygen	Cold Justice		Cold Justice (N)		Kill or Be Killed (N)		Cold "The Reporter"		Cold Justice	
	Paramount	(5:55) Hangover Par...		★★★ The Hangover ('09) Bradley Cooper.					★★ The Hangover Part II ('11)		
	QVC	Kim Gravel (N)		Belle by Kim Gravel - Fashion (N) (Live)				Shawn Saves Spring (N) (Live)			
	Science	Space Secrets		Space Secrets		Space Secrets		Space Secrets		Space Secrets	
	Sundance	(5:00) ★★★ Enemy of the State ('98)		★★★ A Few Good Men ('92) Jack Nicholson, Demi Moore, Tom Cruise.						★★★ Enemy of the State ('98)	
	SyFy	(5:35) Fast & the Fu...		★★ Fast & Furious ('09) Vin Diesel.				★★ Fast Five ('11) Vin Diesel.			
	TBS	(5:00) NHL Hockey		NHL Hockey Teams TBA (N) (Live)						Postgame	Movie
	TCM	(6:15) World, the Fl...		★★ Bugsy Malone ('76) Scott Baio.				★★★ The Bad News Bears ('76)			
	TLC	90 Day: Single Life		MILF Manor		MILF Manor		MILF Manor		Love & Translation	
	TNT	(5:30) Accountant		All Elite Wrestling: Collision (N) (Live)				Rampage (N) (Live)		★★ The Accountant	
	Travel	Unexplained Files		Unexplained Files		Unexplained Files		Unexplained Files		Unexplained Files	
	TruTV	(5:00) NHL Hockey		NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA (N) (Live)						Postgame	NHLGami..
	TV Land	Mike	(:35) Mike	Raymond	Raymond	(:20) Raymond		Raymond	Raymond	Seinfeld	Seinfeld
	TV One	Different	Different	Different	Different	Different	Different	Different	Different	Different	Different
	USA	(6:30) U.S. Olympic Trials Team - Wrestling, Final From Bryce Jordan Center in University Park, Pa. (N) (Live)						Chucky "Panic Room"		Chicago P.D. "Sisterhood"	
	VH-1	(6:00) My Baby's Da...		★★ Soul Plane ('04) Kevin Hart.				★★ Tyler Perry's Good Deeds ('12)			
	WE	NCIS "Agent Afloat"		NCIS		NCIS "Heartland"		NCIS "Nine Lives"		NCIS "Murder 2.0"	

Content Ratings: **TV-Y** Appropriate for all children; **TV-Y7** For children age 7 and older; **TV-G** General audience; **TV-PG** Parental guidance suggested; **TV-14** May be unsuitable for children under 14; **TV-MA** Mature audience only **Additional symbols:** **D** Suggestive dialogue; **FV** Fantasy violence; **L** Strong language; **S** Sexual activity; **V** Violence; **HD** High-Definition; **(CC)** Close-Captioned