

# THE MORNING SUN

THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 2022 | 75¢

MORNINGSUN.NET

## Focus on child nutrition

*Guest speaker gives presentation at Live Well monthly meeting*

By Antjea Wolff  
Morning Sun Staff

PITTSBURG, Kan. — Physical and mental health among children has become an ever-grow-

ing concern throughout the past few years. At the Live Well Crawford County meeting on Wednesday, former head volleyball coach for Fort Scott Community College and

current Arbonne International representative Lindsay Sowder-Hill gave a presentation about child nutrition.

Sowder-Hill began by giving background about how she started researching the effects of gluten and sugar on children.

“Sugar is just as addicting if not more addicting than cocaine,” she said. “And your brain acts the same when it’s on sugar as when it’s on cocaine. So I want you to think about

our kids’ brains if they are consuming nothing but processed foods and sugar, it’s like they have been on cocaine.”

Sowder-Hill said that kids ages 2 to 18 are supposed to consume less than 25 grams of added sugar daily. She then gave examples that a Capri Sun drink pouch has 18 grams of sugar and an apple juice box has 26 grams of sugar.

See WELLNESS, Page 7A



Former head volleyball coach of Fort Scott Community College and current Arbonne representative Lindsay Sowder-Hill, center, gives presentation at the Live Well Crawford County monthly meeting on Wednesday. ANTJEA WOLFF / THE MORNING SUN

## Construction begins on Panda Express



Kansas Fencing Inc. employees set up barricades around the southwest corner of Walmart Supercenter parking lot as construction commenced this week for Panda Express. Commissioners initially approved the short-form plat submitted by RTM Engineering Consultants for the restaurant, to be located at 27th St. and Broadway, at a Pittsburg City Commission meeting on Sept. 14. AARON PYLE / THE MORNING SUN

## Summertime Kick Off at Schlanger Park

*Free all-day event set for this Sunday*

By Sam Kombrink  
Morning Sun Staff

PITTSBURG, Kan. — Deon Campbell grew up going to block parties in his neighborhood during the summer, and now he and his co-worker KJ Ashley have started their own right here in Pittsburg.

“Growing up I went to block parties and stuff like that,” said Campbell. “No one is doing anything like that around here, so we decided to try this out and see how it goes,” he said. “We’re just trying to look for more events

for the kids to have fun with.”

The Pittsburg community has “accepted me with open arms,” said Campbell. “I have been here close to 12 years and I thought ‘why not give back?’”

The Summertime Kick Off will take place this Sunday, June 12, and will run all day from noon until 8 p.m., free of charge.

The event will feature a splash pad, pools, five bouncy houses for kids, kick ball games, 3-on-3 basketball, “and there will be plenty of food and drinks to go around for everyone,” Campbell said. There will also be snow cones, face painting and the Jolly Trolley.

Campbell said that he

will be busy Sunday on the grill. “I’ll be grilling burgers, hot dogs, chicken and a few steaks,” he said.

“We just want everyone to come out and have a great time,” Campbell said. “There is a lot of madness going on, so might as well give some love as we can.”

He said that Summer Kick Off organizers plan on doing this event in the summer every year for years to come. They are looking for people to help volunteer their time. You can contact them on Facebook for more information.

“It’s a chance for us to continue to give back to the community,” Campbell said.

## Wacky Wednesdays return to CCHM

Staff Reports  
news@morningsun.net

PITTSBURG, Kan. — With the official start of summer right around the corner, Wacky Wednesdays — a popular weekly program for children in June and July — started

back up for the 2022 season at the Crawford County Historical Museum this week.

“Since 2016, Wacky Wednesday has been a fun experience for kids to take a close look at different themes from the museum and see how it can relate

to their own lives today,” said Museum Director Amanda Minton. “Every Wednesday, we explore a fun theme with special guests through its history, hands-on demonstrations, crafts and activities.”

Wacky Wednesdays are free to attend for children

ages 4 to 10, although registration is requested so the museum can plan to have enough supplies available. To sign up, visit [crawfordcountymuseum.com/book-online](http://crawfordcountymuseum.com/book-online). Programs run from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. each Wednesday.

This week’s Wacky Wednesday theme was “Life on the Farm.” Next Wednesday, June 15, the program will be “Life on the Prairie.” Upcoming programs also include “Life on the Trail” with the Cow Creek Cowboys on June 22, “Pollinator

Heroes” with Wildcat Extension District’s Jesse Gilmore on June 29, “Coal Mining” featuring Frontenac Mining Days on July 6, and “County Fair” featuring the Jolly Trolley and Pittsburg State University Athletics on July 13.



Wacky Wednesdays are back! The first program of the year was held this Wednesday, June 8, at the Crawford County Historical Museum. COURTESY PHOTO / CCHM



The theme for the first Wacky Wednesday event of 2022 this week was “Life on the Farm.” COURTESY PHOTO / CCHM



Wacky Wednesdays at the Crawford County Historical Museum feature a variety of demonstrations, crafts, skits and activities. COURTESY PHOTO / CCHM



Area children had the opportunity to learn all about “Life on the Farm” at this week’s Wacky Wednesday event. COURTESY PHOTO / CCHM



Wacky Wednesdays at the Crawford County Historical Museum are free to attend for children ages 4 to 10, and feature a variety of activities with different themes. The Wednesday, June 8 program’s theme was “Life on the Farm.” COURTESY PHOTO / CCHM

### Obituaries

• Robert Kern Jr, 58, Pittsburg, KS

### Violence prevention

Over \$380K awarded for SEK programs  
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### That’s a winner

The Kansas City Royals beat the Toronto Blue Jays 8-4 to salvage the final game of their series.  
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# NEWS

## Obituaries

### Robert Edward Kern Jr

Robert Edward Kern Jr., (aka "Bob" or "Stitch") passed away peacefully on June 3, 2022. Bob was born in Pittsburg, Kansas to Robert Edward Kern Sr. (deceased) and Patsy A. Kern on Oct. 3, 1963. Bob is survived by his mother, Patsy A. Kern of Roysce City, Texas and by his two sons, Jordan Christopher Kern (24) of Whimberley, Texas, Patrick Edward Kern (19) of Rockwall, Texas and their mother, Lorna Kern Grove of Rockwall, Texas. He attended Frontenac High School and Pittsburg State University where he majored in Computer Science and double minored in Mathematics and History. During his high school and college years he worked at a multitude of restaurants in and around Pittsburg, where his foundational love of cooking began. As a self-proclaimed chef he loved to try new recipes and dishes on his family and friends. He regaled himself as a golfer, although he rarely played by the rules. His favorite saying was "losing a ball is penalty enough, I'm not adding a stroke to my score!". Bob was a father, son and husband and a very good friend to many. Those that knew him loved his exceptionally quick wit, sarcasm and his general outlook on life. Once you were his friend, you were his friend for life, no exceptions. Here are a couple of his social media posts that help us remember why we loved him for who he was: September 13, 2019 "Mathematics for Life. Being "average" puts you as close to the bottom as it does the top. So does being "mean". Strive not to be average or mean." September 8, 2019 "We only have so many sunrises left in our lives. Spend them wisely." Memorial services will be held Saturday, June 11, 2022 at Messiah Lutheran Church, 1801 W. Plano Pkwy, Plano, TX 75076, followed by a private temporary interment on June 23, 2022 at Rockwall Memorial, then permanent interment back home in Kansas at Girard City Cemetery at a later date to be determined by the family. In lieu of flowers the family ask for donations to be sent in his name to Messiah Lutheran Church.

### Obituary Policy

Obituaries are published in the Pittsburg Morning Sun as a service to our readers. We do not charge for this service and encourage photos to accompany the article telling about the life of the person.

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**Roy Eugene and Sharon (Kay) Perry**  
Service: There will be a Graveside Service for them will be held on Saturday, June 11th at 11 a.m. at the Cherokee City Cemetery. Friends are requested to meet at the cemetery.

**Bath-Naylor Funeral Home & Crematory**

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## CORRECTION

Due to incorrect information provided to the Morning Sun, an article in the Friday, June 3, edition of the Morning Sun, "Crawford County primary election field set," included incorrect information about several candidates and omitted the name of one candidate who has filed for the position of Osage Township clerk. A corrected and revised version of the article continues below. The Morning Sun regrets the errors.

## Election officials release revised candidate list

### Staff Reports

news@morningsun.net

CRAWFORD COUNTY, Kan. — The field is set for the 2022 Crawford County Primary Election on Tuesday, Aug. 2.

According to the Crawford County Clerk's Office, the candidate filing deadline was Tuesday, June 1, for the primary election.

A county primary election will take place for two county commissioner positions, first and third district, with four candidates filing as of Wednesday, June 3.

In District 1, Republican Lee Pool will face incumbent Republican Crawford County Commissioner Bruce Blair. Additionally, Republican and former commissioner Carl Wood is challenging incumbent Democrat Jeremy Johnson in District 3.

In addition, incumbent Democrat County Clerk Lisa Lusker is running unopposed to fill an unexpired term.

Several township offices and precinct committeeman and committeewoman positions are also on the August ballot.

In the August Primary, Democrat Roz Mosier filed for Sherman Township Clerk, Democrat Terri Lloyd filed for Sheridan Township Clerk, Democrat Mark Strasser filed for Grant Township Clerk, Democrat Justin Shaffer filed for Osage Township Clerk, Democrat Jeffrey Han filed for Osage Township Clerk, Democrat Linda Morris filed for Lincoln Township, Republican Amy Vogel filed for Baker Township Clerk and Republican William "Rob" Lessen filed for Washington Township Clerk.

Democrat committeeman and committeewoman candidates running in Pittsburg include Larry Downing (Baker), Ruth Miller (Baker), Mary Lou Murray (Parkview), Jeremy Johnson (1p-2w), Megan Stoneberger Johnson (1p-2w), Mark L. Peterson (2p-2w), Amber G. Madl (2p-3w), Larry D. Fields (2p-4w), Linda Brunetti (2p-4w), Harry L. Humphries (3p-1w), Shirley A. Beer (3p-2w), Phil Burgert (3p-4w), Nancy J. Ingle (3p-4w), Bert E. Patrick (4p-2w), Rexine Warehime (4p-2w), Marcia E. Weeks (5p-2w), Joseph F. Kennedy (5p-4w), Sharon D. Kennedy (5p-4w) and Patti J. Mayfield (Smelter).

Republican committeeman and committeewoman candidates running in Pittsburg include Justin Noble Crain (Baker), Roger Lomshek (Baker), Joan Higginbotham (Baker), Daniel Muter (Capaldo),

Jenna Stout (Capaldo), John Best (Chicopee), Jasna Kalan (Chicopee), Ben Henderson (Lone Star), Pam Henderson (Lone Star), Gary "Justin" Marshall (1p-2w), Rochelle Lynn Bockover (1p-2w), Carol A. Hammerbacher (2p-2w), Darrell Gibson (2p-3w), Candis Gibson (2p-3w), Robert C. "Chris" Childers (3p-1w), Linda L. Reed (3p-1w), Kevin Mitchelson (4p-2w), Frances Mitchelson (4p-2w), John Minton (5p-2w), Amanda Minton (5p-2w), Matt See (5p-4w), Kate See (5p-4w), J.J. Karlinger (6p-4w), Patrick Gorman (Smelter) and Marsha L. Wallace (Smelter).

Additional committeeman and committeewoman candidates include Doug Keller (Frontenac – 1st Ward, D), Deborah L. Restivo (Frontenac – 1st Ward, D), Lynn Grant (Frontenac – 3rd Ward, D), Mark Strasser (Girard – Grant, D), Robert E. George (Arcadia – Lincoln, D), Jacob T. Cochran (Cherokee – Cherokee, R), Chris Johnson (Girard – Crawford, R), Amy Johnson (Girard – Crawford, R), Felix R. Hoy (Mulberry – Crowe, R), Tia Juana Hoy (Mulberry – Crowe, R), Laurie Long (Frontenac – 1st Ward, R), Bruce D. Bartelli (Frontenac – 2nd Ward, R), Donna L. Bartelli (Frontenac – 2nd Ward, R), Don L. Kranker (Frontenac – 3rd Ward, R), Denise Kranker (Frontenac – 3rd Ward, R), Mark D. Musser (Frontenac – 4th Ward, R), Sylvia D. Musser (Frontenac – 4th Ward, R), Cordell Harley (Girard – 1st Ward, R), Naamah Harley (Girard – 1st Ward, R), Maurice A. Harley (Girard – 2nd Ward, R), Terri R. Harley (Girard – 2nd Ward, R), William "Rob" Lessen (Arma – North Arma, R), Bette Lessen (Arma – North Arma, R), Billy J. Waring (Mulberry – Parkview, R), Lawana J. Waring (Mulberry – Parkview, R), Daniel A. Grotheer (Girard – Raymond, R), Alice M. Grotheer (Girard – Raymond, R), Alicia Bailey (Cherokee – Sheridan, R), Gary D. Pommier (Arma – South Arma, R) and Susan D. Pommier (Arma – South Arma, R).

The primary and special election is on Aug. 2. The general election will be Tuesday, Nov. 8. This year's general election will include all the state constitutional officers, Congress, State House and Senate representatives and several district judges.

For more information, visit [crawfordcountycan.org/election-division.html](http://crawfordcountycan.org/election-division.html) or call 620-724-6115.

## CLUB NOTES

### Thursday, June 9

#### Arma Golden Era

Arma Golden Era, located at 619 E. Washington St., Arma, Kansas, hosts games including cards and dominoes on Thursdays from noon to 5 p.m. Now playing pinochle. Come and visit.

#### Co-dependents Anonymous

Co-dependents Anonymous meets weekly at 6 p.m. Thursdays as an audio-only conference call meeting. Please call 620-231-6977 for information about how to join.

#### AI-Anon

As COVID-19 and social distancing has curtailed AI-Anon meetings, there is now a weekly Zoom AI-Anon meeting at 7 p.m. on Thursdays. For more information call 620-704-1309 or email [jtknoll@swbell.net](mailto:jtknoll@swbell.net).

#### Pittsburg Noon Kiwanis

Pittsburg Noon Kiwanis meets at noon on the second and fourth Thursday of the month at The Pitt restaurant at 516 N. Broadway. Members and guests are encouraged to attend.

### Friday, June 10

#### Friday Study Club

The Friday Study Club will meet at the Crestwood Country Club on Friday, June 10th at 11:30 a.m. Hostesses for the month are Loretta Parkison, Linda Frihart, and Darlene McLaren with a presentation given by the Pittsburg Public Library. Ladies interested in joining the group may call 620-704-3474.

### Monday, June 13

#### TOPS #0599 Pittsburg

TOPS KS 0599 Pittsburg, Kansas meets Monday evenings for confidential weigh-ins and an informational meeting at the Homer Cole Center at 3003 N. Joplin, Pittsburg, KS. Weigh-ins begin at about 5:15 p.m. and the meeting starts at 6:05 p.m. For more details about TOPS #0599, contact Wanda Porter at 620-231-9091.

#### Co-Dependents Anonymous

As COVID-19 and social distancing has curtailed CoDa meetings, there is now a weekly audio only conference call meeting at noon on Mondays. For more information call 620-704-1309 or email [jtknoll@swbell.net](mailto:jtknoll@swbell.net).

#### Little Balkans Quilt Guild Board Meeting

The Little Balkans Quilt Guild holds its regularly scheduled executive board meeting at 6 p.m. on the 2nd Monday of every month at Labette Bank, 801 S. Broadway, Pittsburg.

#### NAMI SEK

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) support groups for those living with a mental health condition (Connections) and friends and family (Family) meet at 6:30 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month. In person at South Broadway Baptist Church (office building south of Freddie's) please enter through front door. Attendees are asked to wear a mask while entering, exiting and moving around. Virtually via Zoom at [us02web.zoom.us/j/5634478341](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5634478341) with meeting ID 5634478341. For more information email [seknami@gmail.com](mailto:seknami@gmail.com) or call 620-240-3740.

## ODD NEWS

## Disorder in the court: Cockroaches released during hearing

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — A courthouse in upstate New York was closed for fumigation Tuesday after hundreds of cockroaches were released during an altercation that broke out at an arraignment, according to court officials.

The clash broke out during proceedings in Albany City Court for four people for an arrest at the state Capitol. A defendant who started to film the courtroom proceedings was told to stop. In the altercation that followed, hundreds of cockroaches brought into the courthouse in plastic containers were released, according to the state court system. The bug release was

being investigated while the courthouse was closed for the rest of the day for fumigation.

Court officers arrested a 34-year-old woman in the audience for charges related to the altercation, including disorderly conduct, obstructing governmental administration and tampering with physical evidence.

She was released, and it was not immediately clear whether she had an attorney to speak on her behalf.

"What transpired is not advocacy or activism, it is criminal behavior with the intent to disrupt a proceeding and cause damage," read a statement from the Office of Court Administration.

# THE MORNING SUN

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# COMMUNITY

## Over \$380K awarded for SEK violence prevention programs

Staff Reports  
news@morningsun.net

PITTSBURG, Kan. — Gov. Laura Kelly on Wednesday announced \$4,697,713 has been awarded to Kansas sexual and domestic violence prevention programs through the 2021 American Rescue Plan Act administered by the Family Violence

Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA), including grants totaling more than \$380,000 for two southeast Kansas organizations.

The funding will assist sexual assault support centers with transitioning to virtual/remote support services and increase their capacity to offer services to sexual assault survivors. The funds will

also go toward measures to increase access to COVID-19 testing, vaccines, and mobile health units to promote public health.

“This funding will help sexual and domestic abuse survivors access the support and resources they need — no matter where they are in the state,” Kelly said. “We will continue

using every tool we have to keep Kansans safe and healthy.”

In southeast Kansas, Crawford County’s Safe-house Crisis Center received \$216,716, and Hope Unlimited in Allen County received \$166,572 in federal grant money.

## Pittsburg Lions welcome Mayor Brooks

Staff Reports  
news@morningsun.net

PITTSBURG, Kan. — Last weekend, the Kansas State Lions 100th Annual Convention drew a crowd of over 175 members from all over the state of Kansas as well as Missouri, Oklahoma, and Kentucky, along with special guest Past International President Jimmy Ross from Texas.

Pittsburg Mayor Cheryl Brooks spoke during Saturday’s luncheon and proclaimed “Lions Club Day” in the city to commemorate the Pittsburg Club’s centennial celebration. After a few words, she was

asked to join the Lions Club and upon accepting, was sponsored by District Governor Elect and President of the Pittsburg Lions Club Lori Horton and inducted during the luncheon by Past International President Ross.

The city was host to not only the large crowd of Lions Club members, but the Pittsburg State University campus was the site of the Kansas Lions Band Camp that drew 155 high school band students for a five-day program that ended with a performance at the Bicknell Family Center for the Performing Arts on Saturday morning.



Pictured are, from left, Council Chair Diana Baumann, International Director Deb Weaverling, Mayor Cheryl Brooks, Past International President Jimmy Ross and District Governor Elect Lori Horton. COURTESY PHOTO

## Couple to celebrate 70th wedding anniversary

Special to the Morning Sun  
news@morningsun.net

WEST MINERAL, Kan. — A 70-year anniversary celebration is planned to honor Harold and Joanne Shideler. The family will gather for church Sunday, June 19, followed by a lunch prepared by the family.

Harold James Shideler and Joanne Marie Cosner

were united in marriage Sunday, June 8, 1952. Reverend Bunting performed the double ring ceremony at the West Mineral United Methodist Church at 2 p.m.

Margaret and Charles Quiatto, sister and brother-in-law of the bride, stood with the couple.

The Shideler family lived their 70 years of marriage

on Pleasant Hill Farm just north of West Mineral. Pleasant Hill Farm was homesteaded by Harold’s grandfather and Harold was born there 93 years ago.

The couple has three daughters: Regina Westhoff (Charles Shivley), Rebecca Logan (Larry), and Roberta Sellers (Phil). Their grandchil-

dren are Dallas Logan, Tyler Logan, Angelina Westhoff and Zachary Sellers. Grandchildren Sean Logan and Sabrina Westhoff are deceased. The couple also has seven great-grandchildren.

The couple remains active and enjoys watching their great-grandchildren play sports and participate in other school activities.



The Shideler family in 1952. COURTESY PHOTO



The Shideler family in 2022. COURTESY PHOTO

### AREA EVENTS

#### Thursday, June 9

##### Homeschool Thursday

Open to all homeschool families. All ages welcome. If children are under the age of 7, a parent/caregiver will need to be present during the program. Play chess or learn how to play. Other game options will be available too. 1 to 2 p.m. at Girard Public Library.

##### Teen Trivia Night

Pittsburg Public Library invites the public to attend Teen Nights at 5:30 p.m. Thursday evenings at Root Coffeehouse, 402 N. Broadway. Each teen that attends a Teen Night program at Root Coffeehouse will get one free drink ticket to use on the specialty drink of the night. This Thursday will be Trivia Night. Teen Nights are open to grades 6 through 12.

##### USD 248 School Board Meeting

The Girard Unified School District 248 will be meeting at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 9 in the Board of Education Office 415 N Summit St in Girard.

##### Pro-life Pittsburg Day of Action

Ou Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church will hold a Pro-life Day of Action event at noon Thursday, June 9 at St. Mary’s-Colgan Fieldhouse, 213 E. 10th Street. This event will feature Duck Dynasty’s Alan and Linda Robertson.

#### Friday, June 10

##### Friday Music on the Lake

Friday Music on the Lake returns to Crawford State Park at the Lake View Café patio on the northwest end of Crawford Lake (“Farlington Lake”) and is hosted by Friends of Crawford State Park. Musicians play for tips only so please tip generously. Music begins at 6 p.m. and ends at 8 p.m. Some seating is available but bringing your own lawn chair is recommended. Food and drink are available in the café. Please practice physical distancing as much as possible for safety to all. This Friday John Duling and Sean McDonnell will be performing.

#### Friday June 10 through Sunday, June 12

##### Big Iron Overland Rally

This three-day campout experience will be the hub of a variety of musical acts, swap meets, equipment vendors, food trucks, raffles, activities, and a train ride at the historical site of Big Brutus in West Mineral. For more information visit: bigironoverlandrally.com.

##### Pittsburg Pridefest Weekend

At 7 p.m. Friday June 10, TJ Lelands will host a Pride Night which will include a costume contest, musical performances, local organizations, and more. At 10 a.m. Saturday, June 11, Toast will host a Pride Brunch which will include a photo booth, BINGO, and more. At 11 a.m. Sunday, June 12, Pride Vendor shops will be set up at the Pritchett Pavilion.

#### Saturday, June 11

##### Pittsburg Area Farmers’ Market

Vendors offer seasonal fruits and vegetables, meats, baked goods, and more. Local artisans sell handmade crafts. The farmers’ market accepts EBT/Vision/SNAP cards. Saturdays from 8 a.m. to noon April 16 to Oct. 30 at the Farmers’ Market Pavilion, 119 E. 11th St., Pittsburg.

##### Sami Milburn Memorial Barrell Race

To honor Sami Milburn, the family is hosting the third annual Sami’s Legacy 5D Barrel Race which will be held as a memorial to her. The event will begin at 3 p.m. Saturday, June 11 at the Civil War Arena in Carthage.

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# OPINION PAGE

## HOW TO SUBMIT LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters must be original, up to 250 words and signed. Include the writer's address and phone number for verification. Letters may be edited. Send letters to: The Editor, 701 N. Locust St., Pittsburg, KS 66762, news@morningsun.net, or fax to 620-231-0645.

### LITTLE BALKANS CHRONICLES

# The milkman, Western Flyers and helping out



**J.T. Knoll**  
news@morningsun.net

*Ben George's memoir continues. Some reading this will remember that the Oldham's milkman's name was Curly. — J.T.K.*

A really neat thing happened on Washington Street. We had a milkman deliver fresh milk to the front porch three times a week. On the farm we were doing all the work and that milkman was just showing up and taking all our milk. Now, living in town, we don't have to do anything, and the milk is magically on the front porch. What a turnaround that was!

One thing about meals back at our house is that everyone came to the table when called and no one touched anything until we prayed Grace. It was hard, in that little kitchen to even think of 10 chairs around the dinner table. Dad improvised with two chairs along the back of the table and a board to connect them. Put a couple of the smaller kids on the board and with a high-chair or two on the other side we could manage all ten of us for meals. Each child rotated duties like ... setting the table ... cleaning off the table ... washing the dishes ... drying the dishes ... taking out the trash, etc.

Like a lot of families back then, our dinnerware didn't match perfectly, but the plan was to keep

adding place settings with our S & H Green Stamps and hope we would finish our collection before they started a new design. It was taught to us very young that you never leave the table without telling Mom "Thank You" for the meal. Most times we'd stay until both parents were finished eating and we were excused.

Bill washed dishes, cleaned tables and did a little curbing up at the Truck Stop a couple evenings a week during his fifth grade. That three-hour shift earned him \$.50 and maybe a tip or two. The money helped him buy the family's first bicycle — a used wide tire Western Auto Flyer.

This happened right at the time we came into a paper route that would last six years. I remember Bill's bike as it had a huge wire basket on the handlebars which came in handy for the papers. A few weeks after Bill's bike, Mom and Dad presented me with a brand new 24" Western Auto Flyer.

It just so happened that I was the only child out of eight that didn't have a professional baby picture taken and that bothered Mom. (The youngest picture of me is like three years old I believe.) This was my gift from them and man I'm hyped. I wiped the dust off it every day and wouldn't skid the tires for months. It took a strong sales pitch from Ronnie Souder several weeks later for me to give in and put the non-valuable baseball

cards on the frame so the spokes would try to create a bad motorcycle sound.

A wonderful neighbor noticed something over at our house those days and made an awesome gesture. Sim Wesonic brought over to my younger brother Bob a brand new 26" Western Flyer. He visited with us kids often and noticed Bob had to ask permission to ride one of our bikes. What a wonderful neighbor he was. Charlie, his son, was a little older than us and he was so nice to us also and once in a while we got to ride behind him on his Cushman motorcycle.

One of the traditions held by Dad was the monthly haircut. Both on the farm and in Frontenac we five boys traded turns on a stool for our four-week buzz. None of the George boys needed a comb until we started paying for our own haircuts. Usually, around the eighth grade, each of us decided it was time to let the local girls know what we looked like with a little extra hair.

The George kids were taught early on that they needed to do their part to help the family. Jeannie baby sat, us boys mowed lawns, washed dishes, had a paper route and basically helped out the family of ten strong. The younger four siblings pretty much had light chores around the house and eventually moved onto paying jobs also.

We didn't get a lot for Christmas, sometimes, even letting Mom wrap a gift we had bought for

ourselves. This way the little ones saw that Santa brought us gifts also. It never entered our minds that we were underprivileged or overworked as kids. Dad taught us also about saving. Each of us had a Christmas Savings account up at The Miners State Bank. Many a time did we walk to the bank,

deposit \$.50 a week and basically try to use all the deposit coupons in the \$25.00 booklet. We each would buy our biggest gift at Christmas and maybe wrap up three new pair of underwear from Santa with our money. It just was not a big deal to help out.

— Ben George  
*If you have a remembrance and/or photo to share, send it — along with your name, address and phone number — by email to jtknoll@subell.net or by land mail to 401 W. Euclid, Pittsburg, Kansas 66762. You can phone and text photos to 620-704-1309. — J.T.K.*

Western Flyer ad from "Boy's Life," 1960. COURTESY PHOTO

## EDITORIAL CARTOON



# Daughter tires of mother's commentary on relationship



**DEAR ABBY**  
Abigail Van Buren

**DEAR ABBY:** I am a 29-year-old woman in a healthy, loving relationship with my boyfriend of 2 1/2 years. We talk about marriage and kids and are committed to each other. We know we are each other's special one. He recently bought a home, and we live together. My issue is with my mother. I feel she won't be happy with me until I'm married and have children. She and Dad met and were married within six months, so to her, any relationship that lasts longer

than that without marriage or an engagement must not be the real deal. It has been extremely frustrating over the past couple of years. She slips in judgmental comments all the time and clearly doesn't respect my relationship with the man I have chosen. If I try to defend my life and our relationship, she says I'm too defensive and must be unhappy. If I say nothing, which has been my approach for the past six months or so, her snide comments continue. I want a good relationship with her, but I am not sure where to go from here. Marriage and kids are in our future but not for some time. We are enjoying our own timeline. Help! -- IT'S MY LIFE IN COLORADO

**DEAR I.M.L.:** At 29, you are well into adulthood, so perhaps it's time to draw the line. Tell your mother you know she loves you and is concerned for your welfare, but you do not plan to marry anyone on her timeline. Then say, calmly, that her comments are hurtful, and you need her to quit the needling, or she will be seeing a lot less of you. Be prepared to follow through.

**DEAR ABBY:** I have wrestled with this for a year. I thought I had a good friend. I had a pacemaker implanted, and eight months later I broke my elbow. Both times I was hospitalized. Not once did she come to see me or send a card, even though she is a card lover. I overlooked it until my son's death made me rethink

our friendship. She sent me some fruit but didn't make one call to see how we were doing, no visitation, nothing. She didn't send a sympathy card either. I now regard her as selfish, and I can no longer bring myself to be friends with her. We all make mistakes, that's true, but three times with no support from her is more than I can accept. I now feel we weren't friends at all. Am I wrong? We have many dear friends who were there when we needed them. They cried with us, consoled us, brought food, stayed with us. Are my feelings valid? -- ABANDONED IN FLORIDA

**DEAR ABANDONED:** Where feelings are concerned, there is no

"right" or "wrong." Sometimes people feel extremely uncomfortable about what they should say or do when a difficult situation arises such as an illness, an accident or a death. That your friend made herself absent when you needed her support is unfortunate. Not knowing her, I can't guess her reason, and neither can you. So before YOU abandon HER, you should ask her that question.

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

# AGRICULTURE

## Sen. Moran highlights agriculture in stops following Pittsburg visit

Staff Reports  
news@morningsun.net

PITTSBURG, Kan. — After visiting Pittsburg and presenting the Congressional Gold Medal to World War II veteran Johnie Baima and the family of his late twin brother Louie Baima last Friday, Sen. Jerry Moran also made some other stops in southeast Kansas, including in Arma, Parsons, and McCune.

“It was also great to stop by McCune Farm to Market last Friday, a family-owned grocery store, meat locker and restaurant that caters to locally produced goods. Last year,

they obtained a USDA grant through a program I supported to obtain a federal grant of inspection, which will allow local producers to expand their market to a wider customer base,” Moran wrote in his Kansas Common Sense newsletter.

“It was an impressive establishment, and I appreciated Connie Egbert for showing me their operation. Local cafes like this one are an important aspect of keeping small towns alive and helping reduce the food deserts in rural areas. Thank you to the Schenker family for your efforts and your commitment to southeast

Kansas.”

Moran’s weekend also included a visit with members of the Kansas Agriculture and Rural Leadership program.

“Developing aspiring agricultural leaders in rural areas is vital to our future as a nation. On Saturday evening, I addressed the 15th graduating class of the Kansas Agriculture and Rural Leadership (KARL) program and welcomed the 16th class into the program. KARL is a two-year program that helps to prepare and connect leaders that are dedicated to positively impacting our agricultural and rural communities,”

Moran wrote.

“The late Dr. Barry Flinchbaugh, my friend and a giant in agricultural policy, was instrumental in helping launch the KARL program and supporting its development over the years. This was the first KARL graduation ceremony since his passing, but there is no doubt Dr. Flinchbaugh’s presence in ag policy will be remembered for generations to come through the thousands of students he taught and mentored during his decades-long career as a professor at K-State.”



Besides visiting Pittsburg, Sen. Jerry Moran also stopped by McCune Farm to Market last Friday. COURTESY PHOTO



In addition to presenting two Congressional Gold Medals and announcing new federal investments in Pittsburg, Sen. Jerry Moran’s weekend also included an address to the graduating class of the Kansas Agriculture and Rural Leadership program. COURTESY PHOTO

## Gov. Laura Kelly proclaims June as ‘Kansas Dairy Month’

Staff Reports  
news@morningsun.net

PITTSBURG, Kan. — Gov. Laura Kelly has declared June to be “Kansas Dairy Month.” Kelly was joined by Kansas Department of Agriculture officials and other agriculture community members in making the

announcement last Friday at McCarty Family Farms in northwest Kansas.

“Kansas has one of the fastest-growing dairy industries in the nation,” Kelly said. “Our dairy farmers feed the world and are essential to the overall success of our state’s economy. Dairy Month honors their hard

work and contributions.”

Over the last three decades, Kansas’ dairy cow herd has doubled, and milk production has nearly quadrupled. Today, Kansas is home to nearly 170,000 milk cows and more than 210 dairy farms. Last year alone, the value of milk produced in Kansas totaled nearly \$700

million.

Growth in dairy processing has also led to 47 percent of milk produced in the state now also being processed in the state, according to Kelly’s proclamation of Kansas Dairy Month.



Gov. Laura Kelly proclaimed June to be “Kansas Dairy Month” at an event last Friday at a family-owned farm in northwest Kansas. COURTESY PHOTO

## COMMODITIES

### Chicago Merchantile Exchange

	Open	High	Low	Settle	Chg
<b>CATTLE</b>					
40,000 lbs.; cents per lb.					
Jun	134.40	136.90	134.30	136.82	+3.10
Aug	134.50	137.90	134.35	137.52	+3.40
Oct	140.50	143.00	140.22	142.75	+2.68
Dec	146.75	148.70	146.57	148.47	+2.10
Feb	151.55	153.55	151.52	153.20	+1.80
Apr	155.07	156.97	155.07	156.55	+1.58
Jun	150.45	152.20	150.45	151.65	+1.55
Aug	150.00	151.77	150.00	151.22	+1.32
Oct	154.05	154.82	153.67	154.37	+1.37
Est. sales 77,950.Tue.’s sales 43,446					
Tue.’s open int 294,693, up 2,475					

	Open	High	Low	Settle	Chg
<b>FEEDER CATTLE</b>					
50,000 lbs.; cents per lb.					
Aug	172.00	176.57	171.92	175.65	+3.20
Sep	174.37	178.37	174.17	177.25	+2.50
Oct	176.55	180.12	176.45	178.92	+2.07
Nov	178.20	181.57	178.10	180.50	+1.98
Jan	178.55	181.62	178.55	180.47	+1.72
Mar	180.45	182.87	180.45	182.00	+1.75
Apr	183.02	184.57	182.95	184.32	+2.60
May	184.25	185.80	184.25	185.55	+2.48
Est. sales 15,007.Tue.’s sales 8,777					
Tue.’s open int 46,728					

	Open	High	Low	Settle	Chg
<b>HOGS, LEAN</b>					
40,000 lbs.; cents per lb.					
Jun	108.35	108.80	107.20	107.85	—0.57
Jul	109.32	110.60	105.20	107.95	—1.32
Aug	107.00	108.27	103.60	105.90	—1.20
Oct	93.52	94.35	90.95	93.02	—0.63
Dec	86.62	87.00	84.77	86.70	—0.30
Feb	90.15	90.55	88.55	90.35	—0.07
Apr	93.25	93.67	92.15	93.55	+0.08
May	96.62	96.62	96.62	96.62	—0.15
Jun	101.45	101.52	100.42	101.47	+0.20
Jul	101.40	101.40	100.82	101.02	—0.18
Aug	100.25	100.40	99.62	99.62	+0.12
Oct	87.90	87.90	87.90	87.90	+0.98
Est. sales 54,992.Tue.’s sales 55,476					
Tue.’s open int 195,636					

	Open	High	Low	Settle	Chg
<b>PORK BELLIES</b>					
40,000 lbs.; cents per lb.					
No open contracts.					

### Chicago Board of Trade

	Open	High	Low	Settle	Chg
<b>WHEAT</b>					
5,000 bu minimum; cents per bushel					
Jul	1073	1089	1061¼	1074¾	+3
Sep	1084¾	1101¾	1075½	1088¼	+3¼
Dec	1097¾	1114¼	1088¼	1101¼	+5
Mar	1102¾	1124	1100	1113	+6
May	1111½	1126½	1105	1118½	+6½
Jul	1095	1110¼	1089¼	1102¾	+7¼
Sep	1091	1093¾	1079½	1091¼	+7¼
Dec	1075	1086	1068¼	1080½	+6½
Mar	1063	1067	1056¼	1066¼	+10½
May	1048½	+14¼			
Jul	966¼	980	966¼	980	+18
Est. sales 135,064.Tue.’s sales 195,357					
Tue.’s open int 333,705, up 2,154					

	Open	High	Low	Settle	Chg
<b>CORN</b>					
5,000 bu minimum; cents per bushel					
Jul	757	774	756	764½	+7½
Sep	724¼	734¼	723	727¾	+2
Dec	713	724¼	712½	717¾	+3¼
Mar	717½	729	717½	722¾	+3¼
May	718½	729¾	718½	724	+3½
Jul	719¼	725	715	719¾	+3¼
Sep	666	673½	663	667¼	—1¼
Dec	648	654	639	644¼	—5
Mar	654½	655	646½	650	—5
May	650½	651¼	650½	651¼	—5
Est. sales 442,777.Tue.’s sales 492,417					
Tue.’s open int 1,557,167					

	Open	High	Low	Settle	Chg
<b>OATS</b>					
5,000 bu minimum; cents per bushel					
Jul	668¼	668¼	650½	661½	—6½
Sep	625	630¼	620	624¾	—8
Dec	617	625	617	622¼	—6½
Mar	619¼	621	618	621	—7½
May	617¼	—7½			
Tue.’s open int 3,193, up 21					

	Open	High	Low	Settle	Chg
<b>SOYBEANS</b>					
5,000 bu minimum; cents per bushel					
Jul	1729¼	1758	1726½	1740	+11¼
Aug	1650¼	1678¼	1650¼	1662¾	+9
Sep	1575¼	1599	1574¼	1588½	+12½
Nov	1549¼	1573	1546	1568	+18¼
Jan	1553¼	1576¼	1550¼	1572	+18
Mar	1542¼	1562	1542¼	1559¼	+16
May	1538½	1558¼	1538½	1556	+14¼
Est. sales 263,851.Tue.’s sales 287,026					
Tue.’s open int 760,444, up 1,050					

	Open	High	Low	Settle	Chg
<b>SOYBEAN OIL</b>					
60,000 lbs; cents per lb					
Jul	81.62	83.44	81.45	82.94	+1.50
Aug	79.63	81.38	79.63	80.96	+1.36
Sep	78.52	80.17	78.52	79.91	+1.47
Oct	77.85	79.47	77.85	79.27	+1.61
Dec	77.47	79.29	77.47	79.04	+1.66
Jan	77.22	78.78	77.16	78.54	+1.62
Mar	76.59	77.77	76.54	77.56	+1.50
May	75.70	76.73	75.70	76.56	+1.33
Est. sales 128,947.Tue.’s sales 109,802					
Tue.’s open int 399,283					

	Open	High	Low	Settle	Chg
<b>SOYBEAN MEAL</b>					
100 tons; dollars per ton					
Jul	417.70	424.20	413.30	415.60	—1.80
Aug	409.70	415.60	406.00	407.70	—2.10
Sep	401.80	407.40	399.90	401.10	—2.00
Oct	395.20	400.60	393.50	395.30	—2.00
Dec	395.60	401.60	395.00	396.70	—1.80
Jan	394.60	399.90	393.60	395.40	—1.80
Mar	392.40	394.80	388.90	390.80	—1.80
May	390.10	393.10	386.90	388.70	—2.10
Est. sales 120,300.Tue.’s sales 137,881					
Tue.’s open int 380,689, up 2,774					

### Producers Cooperative Association


Bushel	
Soft wheat.....	\$10.74
Soybean.....	\$17.40
Yellow shell corn.....	\$7.64
Milo.....	\$7.64

### Columbus Grain

Bushel	
Hard wheat.....	\$10.80
Soft wheat.....	\$9.75
Soybean.....	\$17.05
Yellow shell corn.....	\$7.65
Milo.....	\$7.53

### McCune Farmers Union Coop Association

Bushel	
Hard wheat.....	\$10.80
Soft wheat.....	\$9.75
Soybean.....	\$17.05
Yellow shell corn.....	\$7.65
Milo.....	\$7.53



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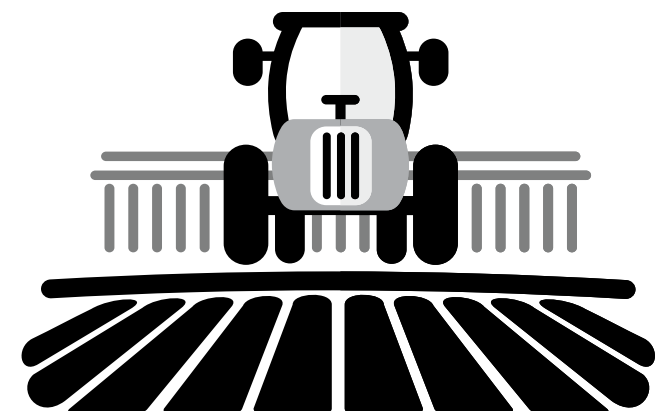
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# LOOKING BACK

FROM OUR HISTORY

## The big cornerstone of St. Barbara's Catholic church at Chicopee was laid

By Phil Burgert  
news@morningsun.net

Excerpted stories in Crawford County newspaper archives

100 Years Ago

June 9, 1922

Architects plans have been completed and final assurance given of the \$75,000 parochial school which St. Mary's Catholic church of Pittsburg, of which Father Joseph A. Pompney is rector, will erect this summer. In 1895, Father Pompney started the present parochial school which is being taught by the Sisters of St. Joseph. Four rooms are now fixed up as makeshift school quarters in the old church.

The big cornerstone, two feet square, of St. Barbara's Catholic church at Chicopee was laid with due ceremonies yesterday by the Right Reverend Bishop A. J. Schwertner, D. D., of Wichita. Copies of The Pittsburg Sun and the Catholic Advance, a 1922 dollar and a St. Benedict's medal were placed within the cornerstone donated by the Pittsburgh Marble Works. The old church was destroyed by fire on March 17.

The entire Carney hall auditorium, both lower floor and balcony, was entirely filled with students at the first assembly of the Normal summer school session yesterday. President W. A. Brandenburg estimated that 50 additional students had not attended and said, "We are going to ask the legislature this fall for a \$100,000 appropriation for a new library and I know the legislature



The Catholic Church in Chicopee, Kansas, circa 1923 from the Ira Clemens Photograph Album, 1923. COURTESY PHOTO / PSU AXE LIBRARY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

is going to give it to us. We can't get along without it."

50 Years Ago

June 9, 1972

Approximately 100 persons, most of them representatives of contractors, crowded into the District Court room of the City Hall for the opening of bids for Pittsburg's new water treatment plant and two related projects. A total of 32 contractors submitted bids. All bids were turned over to the Black & Veatch firm of consulting engineers which will check the bids for the City Commission.

Work has all but stopped

on the planned Juvenile Detention Center because program administrators who will be sharing the building have been unable to agree on how to divide the three-story brick structure. The building is the School of Nursing building near the old Mt. Carmel hospital. Three agencies will use the building - Juvenile Detention, County Health and Crawford County Mental Health.

Chanute golfers dominated the day but Crestwood Country Club contestants made their marks on the scorecards

at the Kansas Women's Golf Association Junior Tournament at Chanute Country Club. Crestwood took second place honors in the nine-hole competition with the team total of 208. The Crestwood squad was Cathy Coomer, Treacia Osadchuk, Terry Towner and Michael Esch.

25 Years Ago

June 9, 1997

It spanned nine states and played a major role in the development of Pittsburg among several other towns in the region. The railroad merged with Burlington Northern in 1980, and now its heyday

is part of of history, a heritage preserved at The Frisco Railroad Museum in Springfield, Mo. Alan Schmitt founder of the museum, was on hand this weekend at the Pittsburg Model Railroad club swap meet.

City Commissioners will continue discussion on the South Broadway Traffic Study. At their May 13 meeting, they received a report from TranSystems Corp., about the firm's traffic firm study of vehicular and pedestrian traffic on South Broadway. They requested further review, including the possibility

of a protected left-hand turn lane for southbound traffic at Cleveland and Broadway.

Defending Kansas Cup champion Crestwood Country Club successfully repeated as southeast regional champion by defeating the Independence Country Club in head-to-head play. The first round was played at Crestwood and Crestwood defeated Independence 7 1/2 to 2 1/2. The second round was at Independence where Crestwood won 6-4.

TODAY IN HISTORY

## In 1986, the Rogers Commission released its report on the Challenger disaster

Associated Press  
news@morningsun.net

Today is Thursday, June 9, the 160th day of 2022. There are 205 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 9, 2004, the body of Ronald Reagan arrived in Washington to lie in state in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda before the 40th president's funeral.

On this date:

In 1732, James Oglethorpe received a charter from Britain's King George II to found the colony of Georgia.

In 1870, author Charles Dickens died in Gad's Hill Place, England.

In 1915, guitarist, songwriter and inventor Les Paul was born in Waukegan, Wisconsin.

In 1940, during World

War II, Norway decided to surrender to the Nazis, effective at midnight.

In 1954, during the Senate Army-McCarthy hearings, Army special counsel Joseph N. Welch berated Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy, R-Wis., asking: "Have you no sense of decency, sir? At long last, have you left no sense of decency?"

In 1969, the Senate confirmed Warren Burger to be the new chief justice of the United States, succeeding Earl Warren.

In 1972, heavy rains triggered record flooding in the Black Hills of South Dakota; the resulting disaster left at least 238 people dead and \$164 million in damage.

In 1978, leaders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints struck

down a 148-year-old policy of excluding black men from the Mormon priesthood.

In 1983, Britain's Conservatives, led by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, won a decisive election victory.

In 1986, the Rogers Commission released its report on the Challenger disaster, criticizing NASA and rocket-builder Morton Thiokol for management problems leading to the explosion that claimed the lives of seven astronauts.

In 1993, the science-fiction film "Jurassic Park," directed by Steven Spielberg, had its world premiere in Washington, D.C.

In 2020, hundreds of mourners packed a Houston church for the funeral of George Floyd, a Black man whose death during a Minneapolis arrest

inspired a worldwide reckoning over racial injustice.

Ten years ago: Spain became the fourth and largest country to ask Europe to rescue its failing banks (however, the bailout was averted). Maria Sharapova (shah-rah-POH'-vah) won the French Open, defeating Sara Errani 6-3, 6-2 to complete the career Grand Slam.

Five years ago: Punching back a day after his fired FBI director's damaging testimony, President Donald Trump accused James Comey of lying to Congress and said he was "100 percent" willing to testify under oath about their conversations. Actor Adam West, TV's "Batman," died in Los Angeles at age 88.

One year ago: The sponsor of the Keystone XL crude oil pipeline said it

was pulling the plug on the contentious project after Canadian officials failed to persuade the Biden administration to reverse its cancellation of the company's permit; the partially built line was intended to transport crude from the oil sand fields of western Canada to Nebraska. The White House dropped executive orders from the Trump era that were intended to ban the popular apps TikTok and WeChat; officials said there would be a new review aimed at identifying national security risks with software applications tied to China.

Today's Birthdays: Media analyst Marvin Kalb is 92. Sports commentator Dick Vitale is 83. Author Letty Cottin Pogrebin is 83. Rock musician Mick Box (Uriah Heep) is 75.

Retired MLB All-Star Dave Parker is 71. Film composer James Newton Howard is 71. Mystery author Patricia Cornwell is 66. Actor Michael J. Fox is 61. Writer-producer Aaron Sorkin is 61. Actor Johnny Depp is 59. Actor Gloria Reuben is 58. Gospel singer-actress Tamela Mann is 56. Rock musician Dean Felber (Hootie & the Blowfish) is 55. Rock musician Dean Dinning is 55. Musician Ed Simons is 52. Actor Keesha Sharp is 49. Bluegrass singer-musician Jamie Dailey (Dailey & Vincent) is 47. Actor Michaela Conlin is 44. Actor Natalie Portman is 41. Actor Mae Whitman is 34. Actor Lucien Laviscount is 30.

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# NEWS

## WELLNESS

Continued from Page 1A

She then took out four different types of energy drinks and set them on the table as a visual aid, saying that she has seen children and college-aged students in sports drinking Powerade, Red Bull, Rockstar, and Monster. She placed bags of sugar next to each drink demonstrating how much sugar was in it.

"This is how much sugar our kids are drinking just because they think they need the extra caffeine," Sowder-Hill said. "But in turn, they are adding that much added sugar. So just for a Powerade, this is a typical drink for a youth that's playing sports. They are adding in 53 grams of sugar into their diet. That's twice what is recommended for added sugar."

She said that on average a 6- to 8-year-old child con-

sumes 80 grams of added sugar every day, and went on to talk about how sugar affects moods and behavior.

"At Fort Scott, where my kid goes to school, 92% of the kindergarten class this year was on an IEP (Individualized Education Plan)," she said. "More than half of that is behavior. It's because of the diet they are consuming and, in my opinion, has a huge thing to do with that."

After listing off the effects sugar has on the body such as obesity, fatty liver disease, sleeplessness, behavior outbursts, headaches and weak immune system, she said she thinks overconsumption of sugar can be linked to mental health as well.

She said that since March five NCAA athletes committed suicide.

"There is a lot of pressure on those athletes," Sowder-Hill said. "But I also believe that it has a

lot to do with how are we handling and teaching coping mechanisms and how is social media and screen time affecting our kids."

She said kids ages two to nine spend seven hours a day in front of a TV or screen, and two out of three kids get zero daily physical activity.

To stress the mental health issue, Sowder-Hill said 49% of middle school kids report being bullied and three-fourths of those reports are on social media. There are also 40 million teens who are dealing with some kind of anxiety disorder.

"There is a correlation between food and screen time and what is going on with our youth," she said.

She said that the average American child spends 50 hours a week in front of a screen and that includes online learning. She said when you take those screens away, chil-

dren and teens are going to see behavioral issues.

Sowder-Hill said she wants to get information and education out to the community.

"What I love about this community and what I love about what you guys are doing is you are offering other solutions for the kids by getting them out and getting active," she said. "And being able to provide healthy options for people who might not be able to afford those healthy options. But just the education piece has become huge to me because this is going to become a pandemic, and we still have yet to see what the last two and a half years is going to do to our youth."

She gave tips to help kids by encouraging parents to teach coping mechanisms, set timers on screen time, make sure their children eat a healthy and balanced diet, not allow cell phones in their bedrooms, and

practice what they preach.

She said exposing children to fresh fruits and vegetables will help immensely.

"The more they're exposed to it, the more they're going to crave it," she said.

Live Well Executive Director Brad Stroud said cost is making a huge impact on what parents are able to buy for their families, especially with gas prices doubling and costs of products on shelves doubling.

"If we can teach them to get just fruits, vegetables, and protein, leave it simple, their cost is going to be way less than them trying to eat cheeseburgers or anything like that," Sowder-Hill said.

Stroud said they are seeing more anxiety in the schools, and that he told his son, who is 12, that there is a lot for children to deal with at this time.

"You guys deal with so

much more than we had to when we were your age. A lot of it is social media and a lot of it is just the internet in general," he said.

Stroud said Sowder-Hill gave a great presentation, and that he was already thinking of things he could do differently at home.

In other news for Live Well, Stroud shared that Arma was recently approved for a Pathways to a Healthy Kansas walking trail grant, and Girard was approved for a grant through Pathways as well. The Southeast Problem Gambling Taskforce has now been assigned to Live Well by the state, which gives an additional \$57,000 of funding, and certain percentages need to go toward advertising and education. He said another thing that the committee will have to be ready for is sports betting, which will be available in Kansas starting Friday, July 1.

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## LEGALS

(Published in the Pittsburg Morning Sun on June 09 2022)

**STATE OF KANSAS**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment has reviewed an application from Champlin Tire Recycling, Inc., for a modification to its existing Waste Tire Processing Facility permit. Waste tires will be brought to the site from customers in Kansas and other states. A maximum of 30,000 Passenger Tire Equivalents (PTE's) will be allowed on-site, and 200 tons of processed material, according to their proposed Facility Operating Plan.

The Waste Tire Processing Facility will be located in the NW ¼ of Section 14, Township 31S, Range 24 E, in Crawford County, at the address of 1208 S 190th Street, Weir, Kansas. KDHE has reviewed the application and found it to be in conformance with state solid waste statutes and regulations.

KDHE is providing public notice of its intent to issue a permit to Champlin Tire Recycling, Inc. for the proposed Waste Tire Processing Facility described herein. A copy of the administrative record, which includes the draft permit and all information regarding this permit modification action, is available for public review until July 8, 2022, during normal business hours, Monday through Friday, at the following location:

**Office of The Crawford County Clerk**  
**111 East Forest**  
**Girard, Ks 66743**  
**Contact: Lisa Lusker, County Clerk**  
**(620) 724-6115**

Additionally, the application form with primary permit information is available for public viewing on the KDHE Bureau of Waste Management website via the internet at <https://www.kdhe.ks.gov/676/Solid-Waste-Public-Notices>. Anyone wishing to comment on the draft permit information should submit written statements postmarked not later than July 8, 2022, to Emery Wiens at the following address:

**Kansas Department of Health and Environment**  
**Bureau of Waste Management**  
**1000 SW Jackson, Suite 320**  
**Topeka, 66612**

After consideration of all comments received, the director of the Division of Environment will make a final decision on whether to issue the permit. Notice of the decision will be given to anyone who submitted written comments during the comment period and to those who requested notice of the final permit decision.

Janet Stanek, Secretary  
Department of Health and Environment

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old to apply. Applicants must have excellent communication skills, possess a High School Diploma or equivalent, a valid driver's license, and be able to pass a criminal background check. Visit [www.indeed.com](http://www.indeed.com) to apply. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. EOE

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## NEWS

## St. Louis board president resigns in wake of indictments

ST. LOUIS (AP) — St. Louis Board of Aldermen President Lewis Reed has resigned his post five days after federal charges were announced against him and two others for allegedly accepting bribes and misusing their offices for personal gain.

Reed announced his resignation Tuesday, saying in a statement that he could not serve constituents and juggle “my current legal challenges,” the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported. Board vice president Joe Vollmer said he will assume the role acting board president until the the Nov. 8 general election, when voters will select someone to fill the role until Reed’s term expires in April and another election for the four-year term is held.

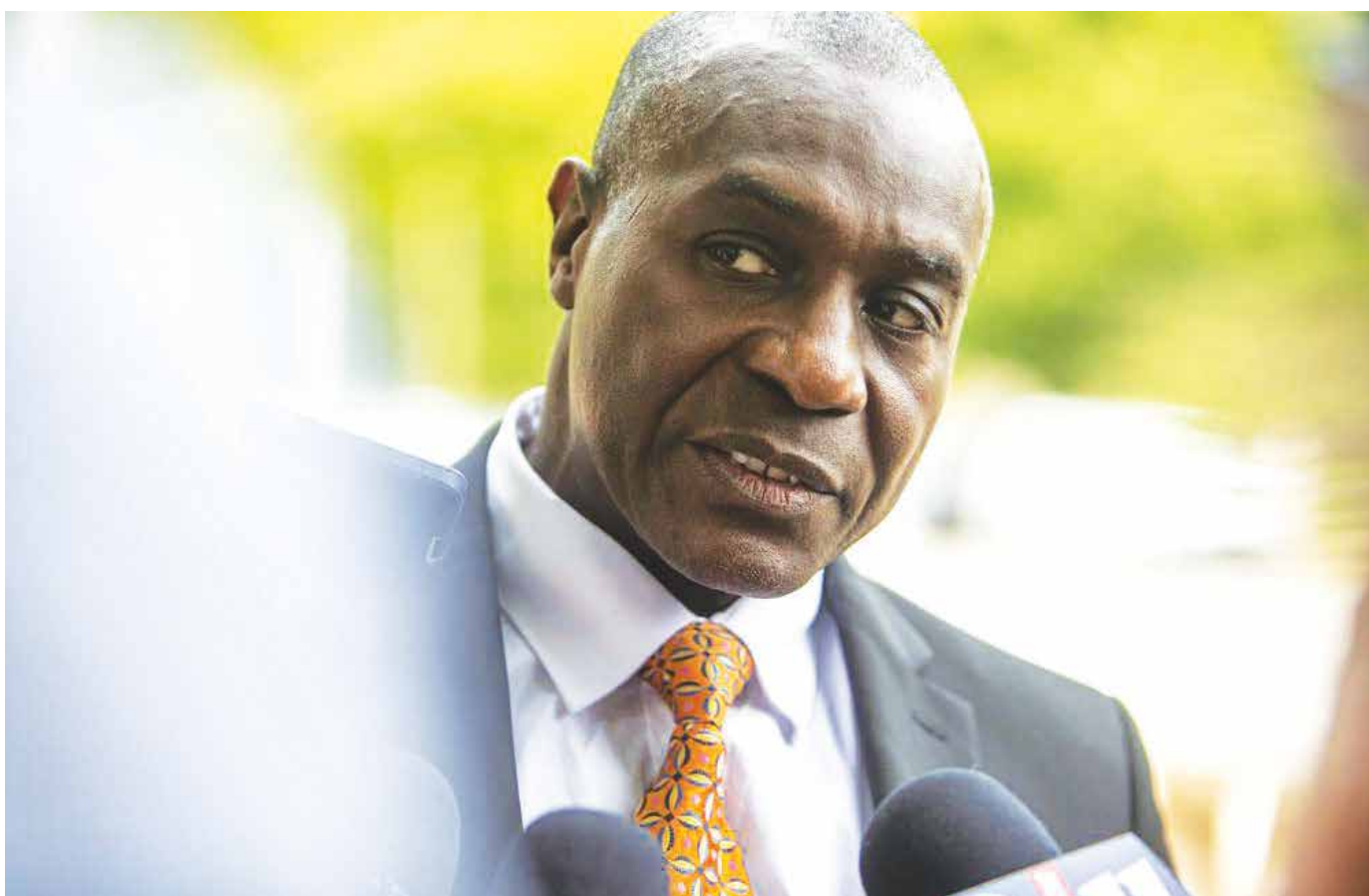
Last week, federal prosecutors revealed that Reed and former aldermen Jeffrey Boyd and John Collins-Muhammad were all indicted on May 25. Collins-Muhammad resigned days ahead of

the indictment and Boyd resigned Friday, a day after the indictments were announced.

All three have pleaded not guilty.

They all face two bribery-related charges. Collins-Muhammad also has been indicted on one count of bribery/wire fraud. Boyd faces a separate two-count wire fraud indictment alleging he sought \$22,000 in insurance claims for damage to vehicles that he didn’t own.

The main indictments allege Collins-Muhammad, Reed and Boyd helped a small-business owner receive tax abatements and other financial breaks in exchange for bribes. The indictment also alleges that Reed asked the business owner for \$20,000 in campaign cash as part of an effort to redraw the ward map to protect Collins-Muhammad from activists who wanted to recall him from office.



St. Louis Board of Aldermen President Lewis Reed speaks briefly with the media after leaving the Thomas F. Eagleton federal courthouse, Thursday, June 2, 2022, in St. Louis. Reed has resigned his post five days after federal charges were announced against him and two others for allegedly accepting bribes and misusing their offices for personal gain, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported, Tuesday, June 7 2022. ZACHARY CLINGENPEEL/ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH VIA AP

## More bodies found in Mariupol as global food crisis looms

By BERNAT ARMANGUÉ and YURAS KARMANAU

BAKHMUT, Ukraine (AP) — Workers pulled scores of bodies from smashed buildings in an “endless caravan of death” inside the devastated city of Mariupol, authorities said Wednesday, while fears of a global food crisis escalated over Ukraine’s inability to export millions of tons of grain through its blockaded ports.

At the same time, Ukrainian and Russian forces battled fiercely for control of Sievierodonezk, a city that has emerged as central to Moscow’s grinding campaign to capture Ukraine’s eastern industrial heartland, known as the Donbas.

As the fighting dragged on, the human cost of the war continued to mount. In many of Mariupol’s buildings, workers are finding 50 to 100 bodies each, according to a mayoral aide in the Russian-held port city in the south.

Petro Andryushchenko said on the Telegram app that the bodies are being taken in an “endless caravan of death” to a morgue, landfills and other places. At least 21,000 Mariupol civilians were killed during the weeks-long Russian siege, Ukrainian authorities have estimated.

The consequences of the war are being felt far beyond Eastern Europe because shipments of Ukrainian grain are bot-



A man walks with his dog near a building destroyed by attacks in Gorenka, outskirts Kyiv, Ukraine, Wednesday, June 8, 2022. AP PHOTO/NATACHA PISARENKO

tlled up inside the country, driving up the price of food.

Ukraine, long known as the “bread basket of Europe,” is one of the world’s biggest exporters of wheat, corn and sunflower oil, but much of that flow has been halted by the war and a Russian blockade of Ukraine’s Black Sea coast. An estimated 22 million tons of grain remains in Ukraine. The failure to ship it out is endangering the food supply in many developing countries, especially in Africa.

Russia expressed support Wednesday for a U.N. plan to create a safe corridor at sea that would allow Ukraine to resume grain shipments. The plan, among other things, calls for Ukraine to remove mines from the waters near the Black Sea port of Odesa.

But Russia is insisting that it be allowed to check incoming vessels for

weapons. And Ukraine has expressed fear that clearing the mines could enable Russia to attack the coast. Ukrainian officials said the Kremlin’s assurances that it wouldn’t do that cannot be trusted.

European Council President Charles Michel on Wednesday accused the Kremlin of “weaponizing food supplies and surrounding their actions with a web of lies, Soviet-style.”

While Russia, which is also a major supplier of grain to the rest of the world, has blamed the looming food crisis on Western sanctions against Moscow, the European Union heatedly denied that and said the blame rests with Russia itself for waging war against Ukraine.

“These are Russian ships and Russian missiles that are blocking the export of crops and grain,” Michel said. “Russian

tanks, bombs and mines are preventing Ukraine from planting and harvesting.”

The West has exempted grain and other food from its sanctions against Russia, but the U.S. and the EU have imposed sweeping punitive measures against Russian ships. Moscow argues that those restrictions make it impossible to use its ships to export grain, and also make other shipping companies reluctant to carry its product.

Turkey has sought to play a role in negotiating an end to the war and in brokering the resumption of grain shipments. Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu met on Wednesday with his Russian counterpart, Sergey Lavrov. Ukraine was not invited to the talks.

Meanwhile, Moscow’s troops continued their painstaking, inch-by-inch campaign for the Donbas

region with heavy fighting in and around Sievierodonezk, which had a prewar population of 100,000. It is one of the last cities yet to be taken by the Russians in Luhansk, one of the two provinces that make up the Donbas.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy called Sievierodonezk the “epicenter” of the battle for the Donbas.

“This is a very fierce battle, very hard, perhaps one of the most difficult of the entire war,” he said in his nightly video address to the nation. He said the Ukrainian army is defending its positions and inflicting real losses on the Russian forces.

“In many ways, it is there that the fate of our Donbas is being decided,” Zelenskyy said.

Luhansk Gov. Serhiy Haidai acknowledged the difficulties of battling Russian forces, saying, “Maybe we will have to retreat, but right now battles are ongoing in the city.”

“Everything the Russian army has — artillery, mortars, tanks, aviation — all of that, they’re using in Sievierodonezk in order to wipe the city off the face of the Earth and capture it completely,” he said.

The city of Lysychansk, like Sievierodonezk, is also wedged between Russian forces in Luhansk province. Valentyna Tsonkan, an elderly resident of Lysychansk, described the moment when her house came under attack.

“I was lying on my bed. The shrapnel hit the wall and went through my shoulder,” she said as she received treatment for her wounds.

Russia’s continuing encroachment could open up the possibility of a negotiated settlement between the two nations more than three months into the war, analysts said.

Russian President Vladimir Putin “has the option of declaring his objectives met at more or less any time in order to consolidate Russia’s territorial gains,” said Keir Giles, a Russia expert at the London think tank Chatham House. At that point, Giles said, Western leaders may “pressure Ukraine to accept their losses in order to bring an end to the fighting.”

Meanwhile, to the north, Russian shelling of the Kharkiv region killed five people and wounded 12 over the past 24 hours, Ukrainian authorities said.

The Russian military said it used high-precision missiles to hit an armor repair plant near Kharkiv. There was no confirmation from Ukraine of such a plant being hit.

Karmanau reported from Lviv, Ukraine. Associated Press journalists Oleksandr Stashevskiy, John Leicester and David Keyton in Kyiv, Ukraine; Andrew Katell in New York; and Sylvia Hui in London contributed to this report.

## 3 US companies sanctioned over blueprints sent to China

By ERIC TUCKER

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Biden administration on Wednesday accused three U.S. companies of sending to China blueprints and technical drawings for satellite and rocket technology and other defense prototypes.

The Commerce Department leveled the allegations as it blocked the three companies from exporting items to foreign

countries for 180 days. That punishment, known as a temporary denial order, is regarded as among the most severe civil sanctions available to the department.

The companies—Quicksilver Manufacturing Inc., Rapid Cut LLC, and U.S. Prototype Inc. — provide 3-D printing services to customers that include manufacturers of space and defense technology. The Commerce Depart-

ment says the customers would send blueprints and drawings to the companies that they wanted printed — and that the companies in turn would send that work to China, presumably as a way to cut costs.

That transaction would have required U.S. government approval, but no permission was requested, the Commerce Department said.

“Outsourcing 3-D print-

ing of space and defense prototypes to China harms U.S. national security,” Matthew Axelrod, an assistant secretary of commerce for export enforcement, said in a statement. “By sending their customers’ technical drawings and blueprints to China, these companies may have saved a few bucks — but they did so at the collective expense of protecting U.S. military technology.”

The 11-page Commerce Department order does not allege that the blueprints wound up being exploited by the Chinese military, but it does say the actions present “serious national security concerns.” U.S. officials have warned in the past about blurred lines between the military and private industry.

The Commerce Department used customers of the companies to check their records to ensure

that their intellectual property was not compromised.

The companies use the same rental mailbox in Wilmington, North Carolina. Requests for comments sent through the websites of Quicksilver Manufacturing Inc. and Rapid Cut LLC were not immediately returned.

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# SPORTS



**AROUND THE MIAA**  
Jim Henry

## PSU's Allen, Cartagena, 3 teams join MIAA Hall of Fame

Former Pittsburg State All-Americans Brian Allen and Pamela Cartagena were inducted into the MIAA Hall of Fame on Monday during the MIAA Awards Celebration in Kansas City.

Pittsburg State athletics director Jim Johnson also accepted the MIAA Commissioner's Cup, which honors the top-performing school in league play based on a point system.

In addition, the Gorillas will honor three teams -- 1992 football national runner-up, 2018 men's indoor track and field national champions and 2016 women's outdoor track and field national champions -- during the conference's postseason basketball tournament in March 2023.

Allen, a track and field standout from 2006-10, earned All-America honors nine times as a thrower, including a national runner-up in the shot put in 2009. He also was an All-American in the weight throw and hammer throw.

Cartagena (2006-09) earned All-American laurels in each of her last three seasons, capped by a first-team selection as a senior when she also was MIAA Player of the Year. She set career records for kills (1,836), attacks (4,809) and sets played (500).

Other members of the Class of 2022 are Central Missouri's Keuna Flax (women's basketball, 2012-14) and Alyssa Rhodes Ginavan (soccer and basketball, 2008-11), Missouri Southern's Matt Campbell (track and field, 2002-06), Missouri Western's Shelly Lowery (volleyball, 1994-95), Northwest Missouri's Myles Burnside (football, 2006-09) and Scott Spurgeon (baseball, 1986-88), Southeast Missouri's Mike Vanatta (cross country/track and field, 1981-84), Washburn's Cary Williams (football, 2005-07) and football and basketball official Gene Millentree.

### KEN B. JONES AWARD

Washburn's Faith Rottinghaus and Nebraska-Kearney's Matt Malcom received the Ken B. Jones Award, which recognizes the top student-athletes based on athletics, academics and community service.

Rottinghaus, the libero on Washburn's national runner-up volleyball team, is the school's all-time leader in digs (2,676), and she made a team-high 833 digs last season. She has a 4.0 grade point average as a kinesiology major. Off the court, Rottinghaus was involved in Washburn's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and the Exercise Science and Rehab Club.

Malcom was the wrestling national champion at 165 pounds and helped the Lopers win the team national title. He went 30-2 for the season, including 24-0 against Division II opponents. He graduated in December with a degree in physical education and a 3.71 GPA. He participated in the Loper wrestling reading program at an elementary school and helped landscape at a church.

*JIM HENRY is sports editor of the Morning Sun and receives correspondence at jhenry@morningsun.net. Follow him on Twitter at @Jim\_Henry53.*

# Royals' bats awaken in 8-4 win over Blue Jays to avoid sweep

By **DAVE SKRETTA**  
AP Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Mike Matheny spent about 20 minutes in the dugout before his Kansas City Royals took the field against the Toronto Blue Jays on Wednesday and tried to put what has been a miserable 20-game stretch into perspective.

"There's some things we can get better at," Matheny said of the 5-15 rut, "and it's a long list."

They took care of a couple of them in their series finale against Toronto.

Kansas City finally managed to get into hitter's counts throughout the game, knocking out Blue Jays starter Yusei Kikuchi before the end of the first inning, and rolled the rest of the way to an 8-4 victory that ended a three-game losing streak.

MJ Melendez and Emmanuel Rivera drove in two runs apiece. Carlos Santana went 4 for 4 and reached base five times during his eighth career four-hit game. And lumbering catcher Salvador Perez had his first triple in five years.

"I mean, it's helpful when you start talking about hitter's counts instead of pitcher's counts," Matheny said afterward. "We have been on the other side of that, where you have to go to the bullpen early and have to kind of navigate



**Kansas City Royals' Andrew Benintendi dives safely into third base during the fourth inning of a baseball game against the Toronto Blue Jays, on Wednesday in Kansas City, Mo. (AP PHOTO/REED HOFFMANN)**

things."

Brady Singer allowed home runs to Raimel Tapia and Zack Collins but only allowed one other run in five tough innings. He improved to 3-1 in his five starts while the rest of the Kansas City rotation is 3-25 in 50

combined starts.

"I felt like I battled," Singer said. "Gave the team a chance to win."

Kikuchi retired only two batters while walking four and serving up two hits that cost him three first-inning runs —

two more than Kansas City scored in its last four games against the Blue Jays, including a pair of shutouts to start the series.

Toronto briefly tied the game 3-3 before Trevor Richards (2-1) allowed three more runs in the fourth and fifth innings.

"It gets tough," Blue Jays manager Charlie Montoyo said, "because you've got to cover eight, nine innings when the bullpen is already thin. So like I always say, pitching and defense wins. If Kikuchi comes throwing strikes, we have a good chance."

"Credit to our team that we still battled back and were in the game," he added, "but it was too much to overcome."

Given how much trouble the Royals have had scoring runs lately — they'd gone 18 straight innings without getting anyone across home plate — they no doubt welcomed the Kikuchi's wayward ways on Wednesday.

He started by walking Andrew Benintendi and Bobby Witt Jr. to set up Melendez's two-run bloop double. Then, the left-hander walked Santana before Rivera's run-scoring base hit. And to finish things off, Kikuchi walked Michael Taylor before Montoyo brought in Trent Thornton to deal with a bases-loaded mess.

Thornton got a dazzling snare from shortstop Bo Bichette to prevent more runs from scoring.

# 'It feels like a long time ago'

## Dan Smith makes MLB debut 23 years ago

By **Jim Henry**  
Sports Editor

On June 8, 1999, the Montreal Expos started a rookie right-handed pitcher they had called up from the minor leagues three days earlier.

It certainly wasn't the best of starts as the Boston Red Sox used two singles and a double to take a 1-0 lead after just four batters.

But after that, Dan Smith was absolutely perfect. He retired the final 20 batters he faced, and the Expos rallied for a 5-1 victory.

Wednesday marked the 23rd anniversary of Smith's major-league debut in front of 7,233 fans at the Stade Olympique.

"It does seem like a long time ago because I have a 13-year old son, and he's off and running on his baseball career," Smith said. "He's a heck of a lot better at 13 than I was at 13. It's hard for me to believe that I ever played in the major leagues. It feels like a long time ago, but I'm awful proud of it."

Smith signed with the Texas Rangers after graduating from Girard High School. He spent seven years in the minor leagues before the Expos claimed him off waivers before spring training started in 1999.

After a good spring training, Smith began the 1999 season with the Expos' Triple-A team in Ottawa. He was 5-4 after 11 starts with a 3.68 earned run average and 59 strikeouts in 71

innings when he got the call on June 5 to join the Expos.

"It wasn't a big surprise to me because I had been pitching well in the International League, which is a really strong league," Smith said. "But it was an awesome feeling."

Smith, who is now the CEO of Watco Companies in Pittsburg, arrived in Montreal in time for the game against Boston on June 7. His dad, mom and sister drove from Girard to Montreal in time for the game on June 8.

As was customary, Smith was ready in plenty of time for the game.

"Throughout my entire career, I was always ready early," he said. "I never liked sitting around much, so I was always the guy who was at the ballpark early, and I was always ready to go early. I was always in a hurry to get the game going. That's how I handled anxiety ... get ready, go out, get loose. And once I got going, I was always fine."

"June 8 of 1999 was no exception. I was ready really early, and I remember Felipe (Alou, Expos manager) telling me, 'Hey kid, you're ready to go. You're very punctual. You know we have a little bit of time before we start. You don't have to be ready this early.'"

Jose Offerman led off the Boston first inning with a single to left field, and Damon Buford flied out to center for the first out.

Brian Daubach doubled to center to send Offerman to



**Dan Smith is joined by his dad Dan, wife Jennifer and mom Debbie after he won in his major league debut with the Montreal Expos on June 8, 1999. Notice the bits of shaving cream left over after he took a pie to the face while on camera. COURTESY / DAN SMITH**

third, and Nomar Garciaparra lined a single to center to score Offerman.

Smith then retired Troy O'Leary on a line drive to shortstop and Jason Varitek on a fly-out to shallow left field to end the inning.

Smith retired the Red Sox in order the next six innings, striking out half of the 18 batters.

"The first inning was a blur," Smith said. "I remember I was scuffling for the first few batters to try to find my way. I remember thinking I was going to have to start making something happen or I'm not going to be here very long."

"And then I remember having one of the best breaking balls of my entire career. I literally remember feeling like I could strike every guy out."

Smith threw 93 pitches, 61 for strikes.

"I think if you take the first (inning), that probably accounts for about 25 pitches," Smith said. "After that, it was a lot of 1-2 counts."

Three relievers combined to blank the Red Sox in the last two innings. After handling postgame media duties, it was time for Smith and his family to celebrate.

"We went out on the town in Montreal," Smith said. "We had a great dinner. We all smoked cigars. We had a couple adult beverages, and we enjoyed it."

"It was the culmination of a lot of hard work, and frankly it was the culmination of a dream that we really never thought we could make come true. We always dreamt it as a family, but we never thought it would come true. When it did, it was pretty special."

# McGowan named academic All-American



**Garrett McGowan**

**Staff Reports**  
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Pittsburg State's Garrett McGowan is earning All-America honors in the classroom as well as on the baseball field.

McGowan, the Gorillas' senior first baseman, has been named to the second team on the Co-SIDA Academic All-America team.

McGowan, from Blue Springs, Mo., has a 3.51 grade

point average as a communication major.

McGowan earlier was selected for two All-America baseball teams. He batted .399 with 18 home runs, 79 runs batted in, 61 runs scored and 20 doubles while playing all 52 games for the Gorillas. He was first team all-MIAA and also made the league's Gold Glove Team after not committing an error in 385 chances.

McGowan is the 12th PSU

baseball player to earn CoSIDA Academic All-America honors and the first since Brad Foss received back-to-back honors in 2013 and 2014.

Other PSU academic All-Americans: Eric Miller (1994), Brad Shorter (1998), Mark Drake (1998-99), Austin Kinsey (1999-2000), Ryan Bevin (2002), Brian Ahlers (2004), Ryan Burke (2004), Brad Smith (2006), Kevin Deao (2007) and Taylor Sibala (2010-11).

**BASEBALL**  
**MLB STANDINGS**
**American League**

East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	40	16	.714	—
Tampa Bay	33	23	.589	7
Toronto	33	23	.589	7
Boston	29	27	.518	11
Baltimore	24	33	.421	16½
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	33	25	.569	—
Cleveland	25	26	.490	4½
Chicago	26	28	.481	5
Detroit	23	33	.411	9
Kansas City	18	37	.327	13½
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	36	21	.632	—
Los Angeles	27	30	.474	9
Texas	26	29	.473	9
Seattle	26	31	.456	10
Oakland	20	38	.345	16½
Tuesday's Games				
Cleveland 6, Texas 3, 1st game				
Atlanta 3, Oakland 2				
Detroit 5, Pittsburgh 3				
Baltimore 9, Chicago Cubs 3				
Tampa Bay 4, St. Louis 2, 10 innings				
Chicago White Sox 4, L.A. Dodgers 0				
Texas 6, Cleveland 3, 2nd game				
Toronto 7, Kansas City 0				
Houston 4, Seattle 1				
N.Y. Yankees 10, Minnesota 4				
Boston 6, L.A. Angels 5, 10 innings				
Wednesday's Games				
Detroit 3, Pittsburgh 1				
Kansas City 8, Toronto 4				
Seattle 6, Houston 3				
Atlanta 13, Oakland 2				
Tampa Bay 11, St. Louis 3				
Minnesota 8, N.Y. Yankees 1				
L.A. Dodgers 4, Chicago White Sox 1				
Chicago Cubs at Baltimore, 6:05 p.m.				
Texas at Cleveland, 6:10 p.m.				
Boston at L.A. Angels, 8:38 p.m.				
Thursday's Games				
St. Louis (Mikolas 4-3) at Tampa Bay (McClanahan 6-2), 12:10 p.m.				
L.A. Dodgers (Anderson 7-0) at Chicago White Sox (Cease 4-2), 1:10 p.m.				
Oakland (Kaprielian 0-3) at Cleveland (Pilkington 1-0), 6:10 p.m.				
N.Y. Yankees (Cole 5-1) at Minnesota (Bundy 3-3), 6:40 p.m.				
Baltimore (Zimmermann 2-4) at Kansas City (Bubic 0-3), 7:10 p.m.				
Boston (Pivetta 5-4) at L.A. Angels (Ohtani 3-4), 8:38 p.m.				

**National League**

East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	38	20	.655	—
Atlanta	30	27	.526	7½
Philadelphia	26	29	.473	10½
Miami	24	30	.444	12
Washington	21	37	.362	17
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	33	24	.579	—
St. Louis	32	25	.561	1
Pittsburgh	24	30	.444	7½
Chicago	23	33	.411	9½
Cincinnati	20	35	.364	12
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	36	20	.643	—
San Diego	34	22	.607	2
San Francisco	29	25	.537	6
Arizona	26	31	.456	10½
Colorado	24	31	.436	11½
Tuesday's Games				
Miami 12, Washington 2				
Atlanta 3, Oakland 2				
Cincinnati 14, Arizona 8				
Detroit 5, Pittsburgh 3				
Baltimore 9, Chicago Cubs 3				
Tampa Bay 4, St. Louis 2, 10 innings				
Chicago White Sox 4, L.A. Dodgers 0				
Philadelphia 3, Milwaukee 2				
San Diego 7, N.Y. Mets 0				
Colorado 5, San Francisco 3				
Wednesday's Games				
Detroit 3, Pittsburgh 1				
Atlanta 13, Oakland 2				
Miami 2, Washington 1, 10 innings				
Tampa Bay 11, St. Louis 3				
L.A. Dodgers 4, Chicago White Sox 1				
Arizona at Cincinnati, 5:40 p.m.				
Chicago Cubs at Baltimore, 6:05 p.m.				
Philadelphia at Milwaukee, 7:10 p.m.				
N.Y. Mets at San Diego, 8:40 p.m.				
Colorado at San Francisco, 8:45 p.m.				
Thursday's Games				
Arizona (Davies 2-3) at Cincinnati (Mahle 2-5), 11:35 a.m.				
St. Louis (Mikolas 4-3) at Tampa Bay (McClanahan 6-2), 12:10 p.m.				
L.A. Dodgers (Anderson 7-0) at Chicago White Sox (Cease 4-2), 1:10 p.m.				
Philadelphia (Eflin 2-4) at Milwaukee (Burnes 3-3), 1:10 p.m.				
Colorado (Gomber 2-6) at San Francisco (TBD), 2:45 p.m.				
Washington (Strasburg 0-0) at Miami (Rogers 2-5), 5:40 p.m.				
Pittsburgh (Fried 0-5) at Atlanta (Brubaker 0-5), 6:20 p.m.				

# Arozarena shines against old team, Rays beat Cardinals 11-3

By **FRED GOODALL**  
AP Sports Writer

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Randy Arozarena had three hits and four RBIs against his original team to help the Tampa Bay Rays beat the St. Louis Cardinals 11-3 on Wednesday night.

Arozarena, the 2021 AL Rookie of the Year, was a St. Louis prospect with 19 games of major league experience when he was obtained from the Cardinals in a January 2020 trade. He had an RBI double in the first inning and a two-run single in the seventh to pace an 18-hit outburst for the Rays.

Veteran catcher Yadier Molina pitched a scoreless eighth for St. Louis, entering to cheers from red-clad Cardinals fans in a crowd of 12,906. He received a standing ovation when he struck out pinch-hitter Isaac Paredes.

Vidal Bruján had three RBIs, and Ji-Man Choi and Harold Ramírez drove in two runs apiece for Tampa Bay.

Corey Kluber (3-2) shut



**Tampa Bay Rays' Randy Arozarena drives in a run against the St. Louis Cardinals with a groundout during the sixth inning of a baseball game on Wednesday in St. Petersburg, Fla.** (AP PHOTO/SCOTT AUDETTE)

down the Cardinals for five innings before fading quickly in the sixth. St. Louis loaded the bases with no outs on a walk and two singles, including Paul Goldschmidt's hit through the middle that extended the slugger's career-best on-base streak to 44 games.

Tyler O'Neill, who had a solo homer off Kluber in the fourth, chased the

two-time AL Cy Young Award winner with a two-run single that trimmed the Cardinals' deficit to 5-3.

The Rays escaped further damage, with reliever Jason Adam getting Brendan Donovan to ground into a double play and Juan Ypez to fly out at the wall in left field.

Choi, Arozarena and Bruján had RBI doubles

in the first off left-hander Packy Naughton (0-2). Ramírez doubled off reliever Johan Oviedo in the second, driving in the final run charged to the Cardinals starter.

Naughton pitched one time through Tampa Bay's lineup, allowing four runs and five hits in 1 1/3 innings.

Kluber, meanwhile, yielded three runs and six

hits in five-plus innings. He walked one and struck out five.

**INTERLEAGUE SUCCESS**

The Rays improved to 6-1 in interleague games this year. They are a major league-best 21-6 since the start of last season, including 13-1 at home.

**TRAINER'S ROOM**

Cardinals: Nolan Arenado was not in the lineup after being hit by a pitch in the right knee during the 10th inning of Tuesday night's 4-2 loss to the Rays. The Gold Glove third baseman said he expects to play Thursday.

Rays: RHP Shane Baz, who had arthroscopic elbow surgery in March, has been penciled in to make his season debut Saturday at Minnesota.

**UP NEXT**

The finale of a three-game series, with lefty Shane McClanahan (6-2, 2.10 ERA) starting for the Rays. The Cardinals had not announced a starting pitcher.

# Celtics beat Warriors 116-100, take 2-1 lead in NBA Finals

By **KYLE HIGHTOWER**  
AP Sports Writer

BOSTON (AP) — Jaylen Brown scored 27 points, Jayson Tatum added 26 and the Boston Celtics beat back another third-quarter onslaught by the Golden State Warriors in a 116-100 victory Wednesday night that gave them a 2-1 lead in the NBA Finals.

Marcus Smart added 24 points.

Stephen Curry led Golden State with 31 points and six 3-pointers. He had 15 points in a 33-25 third quarter by the Warriors but was hurt late in the fourth after Al Horford rolled into his leg on a loose ball. It was similar to a play during the regular season in which Smart dove into Curry's legs while chasing a loose ball.

Klay Thompson broke out of a finals slump and finished with 25 points

and five 3s.

Game 4 is Friday in Boston.

The previous 39 times teams have split the first two games of the finals, the winner of Game 3 went on to win the series 82% of the time.

Feeding off the energy of the first TD Garden crowd to see an NBA Finals game since Boston's last trip in 2010, the Celtics started fast and led by as many as 18 points in the first half.

**BASKET TOO HIGH**

The Golden State Warriors arrived at the TD Garden for Game 3 of the NBA Finals on Wednesday to find that the basket they were shooting at in warmups was the wrong height.

A 10-foot wooden pole was brought in to measure, and it confirmed that the basket was a couple of inches too high. It was quickly adjusted.



**Golden State Warriors center Kevon Looney, left, and Boston Celtics center Al Horford (42) battle for a rebound during the second quarter of Game 3 of basketball's NBA Finals on Wednesday in Boston.** (AP PHOTO/STEVEN SENNE)

Warriors coach Steve Kerr said during his pregame media availability that he wasn't aware of the issue, but it wasn't un-

common. "Players have a really sharp eye for that. Players can tell," he said.

"I imagine somebody

went out there, looked at it, didn't look right.

So as long as they take care of it, then everything is good."

# Saudi-funded golf series puts new scrutiny on Mickelson

By **ROB HARRIS**  
AP Sports Writer

ST. ALBANS, England (AP) — Out of public view for four months, Phil Mickelson returns to golf under severe scrutiny because of where he's playing and who is paying him.

Mickelson is a six-time major champion, the most popular golfer this side of Tiger Woods. And now he is being referred to as a "stooge" by a human rights group for being among 48 players who have signed up for a rebel golf league backed by Saudi Arabia's sovereign wealth fund.

"I don't condone human rights violations," Mickelson responded hesitatingly, choosing his words carefully at a terse news conference Wednesday.

Mickelson, who last year made history as the oldest major champion in golf's 161-year history, and Dustin Johnson are the leading faces of the LIV Golf Invitational series, the greatest threat to the PGA Tour since it was formed in 1969.

Along with disrupting the royal and ancient game, it has forced Mickelson and others to weigh the value of taking more money than they have earned in their careers against the kingdom's notorious record on human rights.

The cash being offered by LIV Golf is irresistible, especially for players like

the 51-year-old Mickelson in the twilight of their careers. Signing bonus have been reported as high as \$150 million for Johnson, even higher for Mickelson.

The Washington Post quoted Greg Norman, who oversees the circuit, as saying that Woods turned down an offer described as "high nine digits."

There is \$25 million in prize money at each event — more than the \$20 million for the PGA Tour's flagship event — with the winner banking \$4 million and the last-place player earning \$120,000. The circuit's first event begins Thursday at the Centurion Golf Club near London.

It just requires players to potentially jeopardize their future participation in majors like the Masters, and in the Ryder Cup, while overlooking the riches flow from the Public Investment Fund and facing a torrent of questions about accepting cash from Saudi Arabia, which has faced a global outcry over the 2018 killing of Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi and other human rights violations. The kingdom has denied involvement in Khashoggi's death.

It was Mickelson who called the Saudis "scary mother-(expletives)" in comments reported in February, citing Khashoggi's murder in the kingdom's consulate

in Istanbul.

"I've made, said and done a lot of things that I regret, and I'm sorry for that and for the hurt that it's caused a lot of people," he said. "I'm certainly aware of what has happened with Jamal Khashoggi, and I think it's terrible. I've also seen the good that the game of golf has done throughout history."

What is not clear is how LIV Golf can help to improve Saudi Arabia beyond burnishing its image, although there is little evidence of the country's backing for the series around the Centurion Club in St. Albans.

"I understand people have very strong opinions and may disagree with my decision," Mickelson said when asked to expand on his apology, "and I can empathize with that."

Human rights activists see the players as engaging in the process they call "sportswashing" — helping a country improve its image through staging events with renowned athletes.

"Saudi Arabia has become more repressive in recent years, not less," said Sacha Deshmukh, chief executive of Amnesty International UK. "Human rights defenders and peaceful critics have been locked up, torture in jails is rife, and mass executions have shocked the world. Rather than acting as the willing stooges of Saudi sportswashing, we'd like to see golfers at

the LIV Golf Invitational speaking out about human rights abuses in Saudi Arabia."

The 16 golfers to face the media outside London — shepherded by news conference co-host and former White House press secretary Ari Fleischer — have faced few questions about the competition itself. The 54-hole tournament has no cut and a shotgun start, meaning everyone starts at the same time on a different hole. No other tournament in the world does that.

The series name LIV — which rhymes with "give" — takes its name from the Roman numerals for 54.

Former top-ranked Lee Westwood had no qualms about acknowledging the cash incentives to join the series.

"This is my 29th season," the 49-year-old Englishman said. "If there's a pay increase, then at my age, I'd have to be stupid not to take it, or certainly have a good look at it and then not take it."

It was also taken by 46-year-old compatriot, Ian Poulter, who stands to improve rapidly on the \$28 million earned in career prize money.

"It is a vast sum of money," Poulter said of LIV, "but it's a great platform to be able to build the game of golf and give back at the same time."

Only one of the eight events is in Saudi Arabia, in Jeddah in October. Five tournaments are sched-

uled for the United States, starting July 1-3 near Portland, Oregon. Two are on courses owned by former President Donald Trump. It poses a direct challenge to the PGA Tour because its regulations do not allow for any releases for tournaments held in North America.

Mickelson has resisted quitting the PGA Tour, unlike two-time major winner Dustin Johnson who has resigned his membership.

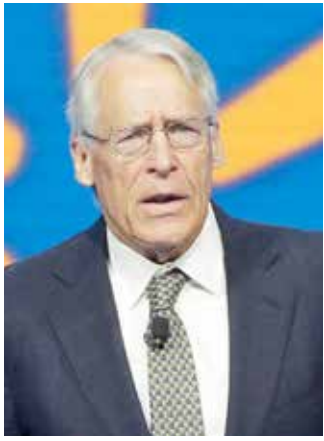
Graeme McDowell, the 2010 U.S. Open champion who sunk the winning putt in the Ryder Cup in the same year, is aware of the potential disciplinary consequences by going off to compete on the LIV circuit while not severing ties with the PGA.

"Why as a player, would I want to get involved in some sort of legal situation with one of the greatest tours in the world?" McDowell said.

The PGA Tour has said a member who plays in the LIV series would face discipline because it did not grant releases. It has not said what that would be, though Commissioner Jay Monahan said in a player meeting earlier this year they would be disbanded.

The players joining LIV hope the PGA Tour, along with the European tour, allows players to compete where they want and that LIV becomes just another circuit that counts for ranking points feeding into the majors.

# Walmart heir Rob Walton agrees to buy Broncos in record deal



**Walmart Chairman Rob Walton speaks at the company shareholders meeting in Fayetteville, Ark., on June 5, 2015. The Walton family has won the bidding to purchase the Denver Broncos in the most expensive deal for a sports franchise anywhere in the world. The Broncos announced late on Tuesday night that they had entered into a sale agreement with the Walton-Penner ownership group led by Walmart heir Rob Walton, his daughter, Carrie Walton Penner, and her husband, Greg Penner.**  
(AP PHOTO/DANNY JOHNSTON, FILE)

By **ARNIE STAPLETON**  
AP Pro Football Writer

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP)—The Waltons, heirs to the Walmart fortune and America's richest family, have won the bidding to purchase the Denver Broncos in the most expensive deal for a sports franchise anywhere in the world.

The Broncos announced late Tuesday night they had entered into a sale agreement with the Walton-Penner ownership group led by Rob Walton, his daughter, Carrie Walton Penner, and her husband, Greg Penner.

Terms of the sale weren't disclosed, but KUSA-TV in Denver reported it was for \$4.65 billion.

The price tag far surpasses the \$3.1 billion sale last month of Chelsea, one of European soccer's blue ribbon teams, to an American-led consortium fronted by Los Angeles Dodgers part-owner Todd Boehly.

Boehly reportedly was among the investors with one of the five finalists

who were invited to make bids for the Broncos by Monday's deadline.

The agreement for the Walmart-Penner group to buy the franchise from the Pat Bowlen Trust must be approved by the NFL, but that is considered a formality.

"While this purchase and sale agreement is pending approval from the NFL's finance committee and league ownership, today marks a significant step on the path to an exciting new chapter in Broncos history," team president and CEO Joe Ellis said in a statement.

"I have enjoyed getting to know Rob Walton, Carrie Walton Penner and Greg Penner throughout this process," Ellis said. "Learning more about their background and vision for the Denver Broncos, I am confident that their leadership and support will help this team achieve great things on and off the field."

Rob Walton said in a statement, "We are thrilled to be selected to

move forward with the purchase of the Denver Broncos! Carrie, Greg and I are inspired by the opportunity to steward this great organization in a vibrant community full of opportunity and passionate fans.

"Having lived and worked in Colorado, we've always admired the Broncos. Our enthusiasm has only grown as we've learned more about the team, staff and Broncos Country over the last few months," Walton added.

Walton said Melody Hobson, co-CEO of Ariel Investments and chairwoman of Starbucks, has agreed to join the ownership group.

Hobson is Black. NFL commissioner Roger Goodell has made minority ownership a point of emphasis in the league.

"Melody currently serves as Chair of the Board of Starbucks Corporation and is also a director of JPMorgan Chase. We know she will bring her strategic acumen and leadership perspective to

our team," Walton said.

"We look forward to earning the confidence and support of the NFL as we take the next step in this process. When the necessary approval procedures are met, our family is excited to share more with Broncos fans, the organization and the community."

Walton, 77, was chairman of Walmart, the world's largest retailer, from 1992-2015, when he retired. He is the eldest son of founder Sam Walton and Helen Walton and has an estimated net worth of nearly \$60 billion.

First-year coach Nathaniel Hackett demurred when asked Monday during offseason workouts if he's kept up with the sale process.

"My job is to get the team ready and teach systems and teach them to come together as a team and get them better at football," Hackett said. "I know that's obviously a huge, huge deal. But for us it's about winning no matter who is going to own the

team, so I'm excited."

After a first round of bids, five finalists were invited to tour the team's facilities and take a deeper dive into the franchise's finances. Hackett said he met with most of the billionaire bidders.

"After talking with everybody, I think they all have an amazing passion and want to be part of this league, and they want to be part of a team — and I think that's something that's really beautiful," Hackett said.

"They want to come to win, and they want to do something great here. And so wherever it is, I think we're going to be very grateful."

The Pat Bowlen Trust has run the franchise for several years and last year put the club up for sale after Hall of Famer Pat Bowlen's children couldn't concur on a successor to their father.

Bowlen died in 2019, a month shy of his induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

## Flores focused on new job with Steelers, not NFL lawsuit

By **WILL GRAVES**  
AP Sports Writer

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Brian Flores is trying to focus on the little picture, not the big one.

So while the landmark class-action lawsuit Flores filed against the NFL and three teams in February over what he considers racist hiring practices winds its way through the legal system, Flores insists his attention is centered on what happens on the field, not off it.

The Pittsburgh Steelers senior defensive assistant stressed Wednesday he is intent on separating the attention surrounding the lawsuit from the demands of his new job trying to help Pittsburgh coach Mike Tomlin fix a defense that struggled for long stretches in 2021.

"I try to live in the moment and not think about things that have happened in the past or really look too far into the

future," Flores said. "I'm excited about the opportunity here."

Flores, who is Black, was fired by the Miami Dolphins in January after three seasons despite a strong finish in 2021 in which the team won eight of its final nine games. Three weeks later he took the league, the Dolphins, the New York Giants and the Denver Broncos to court, claiming the NFL was "rife with racism."

Tomlin reached out to Flores in mid-February and offered him a role as a defensive assistant focusing on linebackers. Flores jumped at the opportunity, even as it put him in the unusual role of taking a paycheck from a club affiliated with a league whose leadership he described as hypocritical in court papers.

Asked if he feared the pending litigation would jeopardize potential job opportunities, Flores demurred. Asked what he makes of steps the NFL has made over the past

several months to expand opportunities for minorities — beginning this season, all 32 clubs must employ a female or a member of an ethnic or racial minority to serve as an offensive assistant coach, for example — Flores was polite but measured.

"I think anytime you create a situation where guys get an opportunity, I'm all for that," he said. "But you know, I'll kind of leave it there."

The NFL is attempting to have the lawsuit moved to arbitration, a maneuver the lawyers for Flores and former NFL coaches Ray Horton and Steve Wilkes argue is "unconscionable."

Tomlin, one of three Black coaches in a league where the majority of players are Black, called the lawsuit "none of (the team's) business" and is not concerned about it becoming a distraction.

"He's doing a heck of a job," Tomlin said. "He's providing great insight

and instruction. He's a 'hand in the pile' guy."

Flores' main responsibility is working with Pittsburgh's inside linebackers, though he is collaborating with defensive coordinator Teryl Austin and Tomlin on several aspects of a defense in search of a jumpstart after Pittsburgh finished last in the league against the run in 2021.

"I equate (him) to a player who has a lot of talent," Austin said. "You use those talents and you don't try to keep him in one spot."

Flores, who won four Super Bowls while working on Bill Belichick's staff in New England before being hired by the Dolphins in 2019, has made an immediate impact with the directness of his message.

"I'm demanding and you know, I make no bones about it," he said.

It's an approach that is resonating with the players he is charged with leading.

## Browns excuse Mayfield from camp; Watson situation expands

By **TOM WITHERS**  
AP Sports Writer

BEREA, Ohio (AP) — Deshaun Watson's complex legal situation has the Cleveland Browns in limbo and unclear about the quarterback's immediate future.

They have a better handle on Baker Mayfield's.

The team said Wednesday that Mayfield, who lost his job when the Browns traded for and signed Watson in March to a \$230 million contract, has been excused from next week's mandatory minicamp.

"Obviously that was a decision made between our organization, Baker and Baker's team," coach Kevin Stefanski said following an organized team activities practice. "Felt like that was the best decision for both sides."

Mayfield remains on the Browns' roster while the team tries to trade the No. 1 overall pick from 2018. Mayfield, who started 59 games over the past four seasons and led Cleveland to a playoff win in 2021, has been estranged from the team since the Browns publicly pursued Watson.

While Mayfield's situation is headed toward a resolution, Watson's continues to change.

Now facing 24 civil lawsuits — and potential NFL discipline — from massage therapists accusing him of sexual misconduct during sessions while he played for Houston, Watson practiced amid the release of new details contained in a report by The New York Times.

In an article published Tuesday, the Times reported Watson booked appointments for massages with 66 women over a 17-month period. The list of women includes the 24 who have filed lawsuits, with two of those being added in the past week.

Watson has denied all wrongdoing and two grand juries in Texas declined to indict him on criminal complaints.

After signing autographs for school kids and fans on the field following practice Wednesday, Watson, who has not spoken to the media since March 25, declined to comment to the AP about the latest

report. Watson said he preferred that any statements come from his lawyer, Rusty Hardin, or agent, David Mulugheta.

Hardin's office did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Stefanski was asked direct questions about the latest Watson allegations. As he has done for weeks, the third-year coach provided little insight and stuck to comments about "respecting the legal process" and "letting the investigation play out."

Since acquiring Watson, the Browns have said they were comfortable with what they learned about the 26-year-old during their own investigation.

Stefanski wouldn't say if the new allegations changed the team's stance with Watson or his standing.

This is third straight week Cleveland's media availability has come a day after a major development in Watson's case.

Two weeks ago, a pair of massage therapists gave graphic details of encounters with him during an interview with HBO's "Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel," and last week the 23rd lawsuit was filed as the Browns held OTAs.

Stefanski was asked if he was frustrated with handling questions while general manager Andrew Berry and owner Jimmy Haslam have been silent.

"I wouldn't characterize it that way and I do understand that you have a job to do," he said. "So just going to provide as much information as I can, when I can."

The Browns are anxious to hear from the league whether Watson will be suspended. Investigators from the league office met with the three-time Pro Bowler over three days in Houston last month.

It's not known if lawsuits Nos. 23 and 24 or the Times' revelations have had any bearing on the league's decision or any timeline. Former federal judge Sue L. Robinson, a disciplinary officer appointed by the league and the NFL Players Association, will decide whether Watson violated the NFL's personal conduct policy.

## Rams waive LB Travin Howard, who clinched NFC title game

By **GREG BEACHAM**  
AP Sports Writer

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. (AP) — The Los Angeles Rams have waived Travin Howard, the inside linebacker who made the game-clinching interception in their NFC championship game victory just over four months ago.

The Rams announced the move Wednesday after the final on-field workout of their offseason program. Howard was scheduled to make \$2.54 million this season after signing his restricted free agent tender last month.

Howard was a seventh-round draft pick who only saw game action for the Rams in two of his four seasons with the club, but he had a knack for big moments.

The biggest moment of all occurred Jan. 30 in the NFC title game when Aaron Donald pressured San Francisco's Jimmy Garoppolo into a poor throw and Howard intercepted it with 1:09 to play, sealing the Rams' 20-17 victory and a spot in the Super Bowl in their home stadium.



**Los Angeles Rams' Travin Howard (32) intercepts a pass in front of San Francisco 49ers' JaMycal Hasty during the second half of the NFC Championship NFL game, on Jan. 30, 2022, in Inglewood, Calif. The Rams have waived Travin Howard. The team announced the move on Wednesday after the final on-field workout of their offseason program.** (AP PHOTO/MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ, FILE)

Howard spent much of his first NFL season on the Rams' practice squad, and the TCU product played largely on special teams in 2019. He missed the 2020 season on injured reserve, but he got a significant defensive role late last season, even starting the final two reg-

ular-season games and Jones's first two playoff contests while rookie Ernest Jones was injured.

Howard played only on special teams in the Rams' 23-20 victory over Cincinnati in the Super Bowl.

The Rams expect newcomer Bobby Wagner

and Jones to play most of their snaps at inside linebacker this season. They've also got several competitors for roles as a backup inside linebacker and on special teams, including undrafted rookie Jacob Hummel.



New York Rangers head coach Gerard Gallant yells to his players during the second period in Game 4 of the NHL Hockey Stanley Cup playoffs Eastern Conference finals against the Tampa Bay Lightning on Tuesday in Tampa, Fla. (AP PHOTO/CHRIS O'MEARA)

# Rangers in familiar spot, back home after 2 road losses

By VIN A. CHERWOOD  
AP Sports Writer

The New York Rangers have been in a similar position before in this postseason — looking to reverse the momentum back home after dropping two games on the road.

In the first round against Pittsburgh, they returned home after falling into a 3-1 series hole and won three straight to advance. In the second round, they were down 2-0 and won four of the next five to move on.

Now they come back to New York tied 2-2 with two-time defending Stanley Cup champion Tampa Bay Lightning in the Eastern Conference final, hoping to turn the tide in Game 5 on Thursday night (8 p.m. EDT, ESPN) at Madison Square Garden. Two of the last three games will be at home, where they've won eight straight.

"I think we're probably in the best spot we've been through three series," forward Andrew Copp said Wednesday. "We got two games at home. I think we play really good at home. ... I think we're all confident where we're at right now but there's got to be an increased level of desperation for sure."

The Rangers will be looking to rediscover the offense that seemed to be rolling along the first two games when they outscored the Lightning 9-4. They were outscored 7-3 in the two games in Tampa.

New York led 2-0 midway through Game 3 before Tampa Bay scored three times to eke out a win. The Lightning then held the Rangers off the scoreboard until late in the third period of a 4-1 win in Game 4 on Tuesday night that evened the series.

"They haven't made

any mistakes, we haven't had a lot of scoring chances," Rangers coach Gerard Gallant said. "They didn't create a whole lot of scoring chances either, but they haven't made the mistakes and I think that's from experience from winning teams. They don't give up much and that's how you win Stanley Cups."

The Rangers aren't discouraged by their losses on the road, where they are 2-7 this postseason. They also know what they need to improve on from the last two games — play more physical and do a better job of getting inside scoring chances against Andrei Vasilevskiy.

They expect a boost from playing at home, where the haven't lost since falling in three overtimes in Game 1 of the first round against Pittsburgh.

"It's a best of three in the Eastern Conference finals and it's something to be excited about as a group," defenseman Jacob Trouba said. "We're in a pretty good spot here and we're going to go home and do what we can to win a game."

The Lightning will be looking to build on the momentum they created at home after showing signs of rust at the start of the series following a nine-day layoff after finishing a second-round sweep of Florida. Tampa Bay had won six straight before dropping the first two games against the Rangers.

The Lightning turned it around in this series by tightening up defensively, clogging New York's passing lanes and forcing most of the Rangers' shots to come from outside. The few times they did get close, Vasilevskiy was there to shut the door.

"We've been desperate

the last couple of games," Lightning captain Steven Stamkos said. "We knew how important they were to get back in this series, and we've done it. But we can't sit on our hands now and be happy with that. We got to keep moving forward. ... I'm sure now that desperation is going to kick in for them."

Playing with an increased level of urgency, Tampa Bay — which has won 10 straight playoff series the last three seasons — was also more disciplined in staying out of the penalty box. The Rangers, with the league's best power play in the postseason, only had two chances in Game 4.

"They have an even exceptional power play, and so I spoke to Captain Obvious," Cooper said. "He says if you keep them off the power play, it's probably going to help your game, and he was really right."

Gallant knows simply returning home won't be enough. The Rangers will have to step up their play in Game 5, and they could be without two injured centers — Ryan Strome and Filip Chytil.

Strome missed Game 4 with a lower body injury sustained in the previous game. He skated in pregame warmups but did not play. Chytil left Tuesday night's game just past the midpoint of the second period after a hit by Lightning defenseman Victor Hedman. He missed the rest of the game with an upper-body injury.

"It's gonna be a battle," the coach said. "I mean we're playing against a team that had a lot of experience the last three years and you know they're not going to give it to us. We got to go out and take it and that's what we have to do."

# Tim Tebow among first-timers on College Football HOF ballot

By ERIC OLSON  
AP College Football Writer



Florida quarterback Tim Tebow throws a pass during the first half of an NCAA college football game against LSU in Gainesville, Fla. on Oct. 11, 2008. Tebow, who led Florida to two national championships and won a Heisman Trophy, is among the former players making their first appearance on the College Football Hall of Fame ballot this year. The National Football Foundation announced on Monday the players and coaches eligible for election into the Hall of Fame, and 11 of the 80 FBS players will be debuting on the ballot. (AP PHOTO/JOHN RAOUX, FILE)

Tim Tebow, who led Florida to two national championships and won the 2007 Heisman Trophy, is among the former players making a first appearance on the College Football Hall of Fame ballot.

The National Football Foundation announced on Monday the players and coaches eligible for election into the Hall of Fame, and 11 of the 80 FBS players are debuting on the ballot.

Hall of Fame ballots go to more than 12,000 NFF members and current Hall of Famers. The votes are considered by the NFF's Honors Courts, which then deliberates and selects a class of about a dozen players and two or three coaches.

College Football Hall of Famer and two-time Heisman Trophy winner Archie Griffin from Ohio State is the chairman of the Honors Court, which includes athletic administrators, Hall of Famers and members of the media from all over the country.

Some of the other former players on the ballot for the first time are quarterback Alex Smith of Utah, wide receiver Justin Blackmon of Oklahoma State, running back Ki-Jana Carter of Penn State, linebacker Luke Kuechly of Boston College and defensive lineman Dewey Selmon of Oklahoma.

Tebow was the first sophomore to win the Heisman Trophy, and he was a three-time SEC offensive player of the year who set 28 school records during his career from 2006-09.

Chris Leak beat out Tebow for Florida's starting quarterback job in 2006, but coach Urban Meyer inserted Tebow in goal-line situations where he could use his 6-foot-3, 245-pound

frame as a runner. Tebow's role expanded, and he threw for a touchdown and rushed for another in the BCS title game against Ohio State.

During his 2007 Heisman season, he became the first FBS quarterback to throw for 20 touchdowns and run for 20 TDs in the same season, and his 55 combined TDs were most in SEC history.

The Gators won the 2008 title with Tebow leading them past Oklahoma in the championship game, and he guided Florida to a second straight 13-1 record in 2009.

Tebow has been outspoken about his Christian beliefs. His propensity to take a knee in prayer on the field became widely known as "Tebowing." He often wore eye black that referenced Bible verses.

Pro football analysts debated how Tebow would transition into the NFL. The Denver Broncos drafted him in the first round

in 2010 but he was mostly a backup in three seasons, his last with the New York Jets. He later played minor-league baseball in the New York Mets organization.

Among coaches on the ballot for the first time are Mark Richt, Larry Coker and Frank Solich.

Richt was at Georgia from 2001-15 and at Miami from 2016-18. He won 74% of his games at Georgia and he led the Bulldogs to five SEC title games.

Coker was 60-15 with a national championship at Miami from 2001-06, including 35-3 his first three years. He finished his career at UTSA from 2011-15.

Solich succeeded Tom Osborne in 1998 and led the Cornhuskers to the 2001 national title game. He was fired in 2003 despite going 58-19. He became the winningest coach in Mid-American Conference history at Ohio before retiring last summer.

# Voting starts for MLB All-Stars, starters announced July 8

NEW YORK (AP) — Fan balloting began Wednesday for the All-Star Game at Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles on July 19.

A person can submit up to five votes per 24 hours during the first phase of voting, which runs through 2 p.m. EDT on June 30. The leading vote-getter in each league will get a starting position in the game and will bypass the second round.

The second phase of voting, involving the top two at each position in each league other than outfield and the top six outfielders in each league, runs from noon EDT on July 5 through 2 p.m. EDT on July 8.

A National League designated hitter also will be voted on following the decision by Major League Baseball and the players' association in March to expand the DH to the NL.

Elected starters will be announced July 8. The 23 pitchers and reserves are



Los Angeles Angels center fielder Mike Trout (27) runs the bases after hitting a home run during the first inning of a baseball game against the Boston Red Sox in Anaheim, Calif. on Tuesday. Shohei Ohtani also scored. (AP PHOTO/ASHLEY LANDIS)

announced on July 10, chosen partly by player voting and partly by the commissioner's office.

The two-round voting system began in 2019. That agreement called for the highest vote-getter in both leagues in the first round to receive a \$15,000 bonus,

a payment to the leading vote-getter at catcher and each infield position plus the top three among outfielders. For all positions other than the outfield, the second-place finishers receive \$5,000 apiece and the third-place finishers \$2,500 each.

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Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

### PREVIOUS ANSWER

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





A horse trains before the 154th running of the Belmont Stakes horse race, early on Wednesday in Belmont, N.Y. (AP PHOTO/JOHN MINCHILLO)

## Belmont Stakes field

Triple Crown newcomer We the People is the morning line favorite for the Belmont Stakes.

POST POSITION	1	2	3	4
Horse	We the People	Skippylongstocking	Nest	Rich Strike
Trainer	Rodolphe Brisset	Saffie Joseph Jr.	Todd Pletcher	Eric Reed
Jockey	Flavien Prat	Manuel Franco	Jose Ortiz	Sonny Leon
Opening odds	2-1	20-1	8-1	7-2
POST POSITION	5	6	7	8
Horse	Creative Minister	Mo Donegal	Golden Glider	Barber Road
Trainer	Kenneth McPeck	Todd Pletcher	Mark Casse	John Ortiz
Jockey	Brian Hernandez Jr.	Irad Ortiz Jr.	Dylan Davis	Joel Rosario
Opening odds	6-1	5-2	20-1	10-1

SOURCE: NYRA.com NOTE: Numbers listed are post positions, which may differ from program numbers. AP

# National horse racing safety rules being implemented July 1

By **STEPHEN WHYNO**  
AP Sports Writer

The Belmont Stakes is the final Triple Crown race before new federal regulations going into effect for horse racing across the United States. The Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act passed by Congress created a national oversight authority for safety and medication standards. Safety elements including jockey protocol go into effect July 1. The antidoping rules begin at the start of 2023. New York, California and Kentucky are among the states that have already following many of those rules for years.

Lisa Lazarus walked around the backstretch at Belmont Park nine days before the final leg of horseracing's Triple Crown selling as much as observing.

The CEO of the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority talked with trainers, riders and other horsemen about the sport's federally mandated new governing body that she has been tabbed to oversee. Lazarus was peppered with questions and complaints about the

new rules that are about to become the national standard.

Once she explained what will change — and what won't — the most common response Lazarus said she got was, "It's nowhere near as bad as I thought it was going to be."

One reason for that reaction at the Belmont? New York is among the states that already follow many of the safety regulations, which begin July 1, and the antidoping rules, which go into effect at the start of 2023.

Lazarus said the policies that will become federal law about four weeks after this year's final Triple Crown race closely resemble what's already in place in California, Kentucky and New York.

Now that Congress has passed the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act, the rules will be the same across thoroughbred tracks in the U.S.

"The biggest that's going to change is uniformity," Lazarus said. "Uniformity, really above and beyond: It's going to be one set of rules for everyone."

Unlike other sports, horse racing does not have a long-established national

governing body, which would make getting every state and track on the same page. With an eye on cleaning up the sport, HISA is the closest thing to that.

Mark Casse, who is set to saddle Golden Glider in the Belmont Stakes on Saturday three years after winning the race with Sir Winston, said he and other trainers are still learning about what's coming but is relieved rules will be standardized across all jurisdictions.

"It's a guess everywhere," Casse said. "You're like, 'What can we do here? What can we do here?' We have a lot of the same rules. A lot of the rules are not changing. I'm just hoping that they can be better enforced."

The seven rules that go into effect in July encompass jockey safety (including a national concussion protocol), the riding crop and how often riders can use it during a race, race-track accreditation and reporting of training and veterinary records. Everyone in horseracing must register with the new safety agency by the end of this month.

Medication regulations, including a drug testing

policy aimed at getting rid of doping in the aftermath of federal charges brought against 27 people in 2020 for what authorities described as a widespread international scheme to drug horses to make them run faster, take effect Jan. 1. Lazarus said her agency would take an extremely hard stance against banned substances that "should never be in a horse" with transparent processes and strict punishments, and "practical and firm" about therapeutic substances.

"There's no doubt in my mind that anyone who's involved in it, or the vast majority, love their horses and care about their horses," she said. "So, there is genuine and, I believe, principled disagreement over what helps the horse and what doesn't and what puts a horse at risk."

Betamethasone, the steroid that can help horses' joints, which 2021 Kentucky Derby winner Medina Spirit tested positive for and prompted Bob Baffert's suspension by Churchill Downs, is considered a therapeutic drug. It is different than the performance-enhancing substances trainers Jason Servis and Jorge Navarro

were charged with using.

Casse, who has been among those in the sport calling for stricter regulations, hopes HISA "can have a little better control and identify the bad apples." A lifetime ban is among the potential punishments.

Lasix, the much-debated anti-bleeding medication that also works as a diuretic to cause horses to urinate and lose 20 to 30 pounds of fluid, which can increase their ability to run faster, will get a close look over the next three years. The new safety agency will start by prohibiting Lasix use on race day while allowing tracks to apply for an exemption.

The three Triple Crown races are in their second year running without Lasix. New York also bans it for 2-year-olds and in all stakes races.

"You almost don't notice it," New York Racing Association president and CEO Dave O'Rourke said. "That's actually the best scenario. You don't really hear much about it, which I think is great and says something about it."

NYRA executive Glen Kozak is among those on HISA's racetrack safety committee. O'Rourke said

NYRA has been at the forefront of horse safety issues for a while other than appointing people to specific positions as part of adjustments to the new rules won't have to change much to get up to code.

"A lot of these best practices — and we haven't done this alone — now will be adopted across the industry, which we think is great," O'Rourke said. "It's great for the sport. It's great for everyone that participates in the sport, specifically equine athletes and the jockeys."

Lazarus said success will be judged by the rate of horse fatalities, which has been decreasing, and hopes the authority gains the trust of those in the industry and the general public based on the intense research that went into developing these policies.

"I think you will genuinely see a shift in culture over time because the programs are going to be too robust and the enforcement is going to be robust and it's going to be national," she said. "There'll be a cultural shift once there's a genuine recognition that doping will not be tolerated in horse racing. It just won't be."

# DeChambeau, Reed set to join LIV golf

By **DOUG FERGUSON**  
AP Golf Writer

Major champions Bryson DeChambeau and Patrick Reed plan to sign up with the Saudi-funded LIV Golf Invitational series in time for the rival circuit to start playing in U.S. cities, a British newspaper reported Wednesday.

The Daily Telegraph says Greg Norman and his staff that runs LIV Golf Investments plan to announce the latest two defections from the PGA Tour on Friday.

The inaugural LIV Golf Invitational at Centurion Golf Club, which features Dustin Johnson, Phil Mickelson and Sergio Garcia, is set to begin Thursday.

DeChambeau was among the early recruits to the Saudi league in January. That changed when Mickelson brought unwanted attention on the nascent league with interviews that disparaged the PGA Tour and the Saudis who are funding the LIV Golf Investments.

Johnson was the biggest name to announce his support for the PGA Tour



Bryson DeChambeau hits from the 18th tee during the second round of the Memorial golf tournament on Friday in Dublin, Ohio. (AP PHOTO/DARRON CUMMINGS)

in February, and DeChambeau followed suit.

"While there has been a lot of speculation surrounding my support for another tour, I want to make it very clear that as long as the best players in the world are playing the PGA Tour, so will I," DeChambeau said in a February statement.

Asked about his interest last week at the Memorial, DeChambeau said, "I personally don't think that at this point in time I'm in a place in my career where I can risk things like that."

"I'm loyal to my family that I've created around me with sponsors and everything. And as of right now, the golf world is probably going to change in some capacity. I don't know what that is. Not my job to do so. I'm just going to keep playing professional golf and enjoy it wherever it takes me, play with the best players in the world."

His agent said Wednesday in a statement that "Bryson has always been an innovator."

"Having the opportuni-

ty to get in on the ground floor of something unique has always been intriguing to him. Professional golf as we know it is changing and it's happening quickly," said Brett Falkoff of GSE Worldwide.

DeChambeau won the U.S. Open at Winged Foot in 2020 at a time when he captivated golf with his out-of-the-box thinking that more speed and more power would change the game. He added 40 pounds of muscle and mass and his ball speed off the driver hit 200 mph. He also competed in long drive exhibitions.

Reed won the 2018 Masters for his only major. Along with being known for his grit and short game, he was a prime source of heckling in U.S. galleries for moving sand away from his golf ball in the Bahamas in 2019, a clear violation of the rules.

Players are getting massive signing bonuses to join Norman's league. The Telegraph reports Johnson getting \$150 million even before competing for \$25 million funds at each of the eight LIV events on the schedule.



Patrick Reed hits from the 18th tee during the second round of the Memorial golf tournament on Friday in Dublin, Ohio. (AP PHOTO/DARRON CUMMINGS)

Mickelson was asked about reports he was getting \$200 million.

"I feel that contract agreements should be private," he said. "Doesn't seem to be the case, but it should be."

The first U.S. event for the LIV series is the weekend before the Fourth of July at Pumpkin Ridge in Oregon. The PGA Tour did not grant releases for its players to compete outside London this week, and some of them have resigned their memberships.

Oregon is different because the PGA Tour does not allow for releases for tournaments held in North America. Still to be determined is whether the players to take the Saudi money can return to the PGA Tour.

The U.S. Open said Tuesday it will honor players who have qualified to compete next week at The Country Club outside Boston, and the British Open is expected to do the same.

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# Simone Biles, other women seek \$1B-plus from FBI over Nassar

By ED WHITE  
Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — Olympic gold medalist Simone Biles and dozens of other women who say they were sexually assaulted by Larry Nassar are seeking more than \$1 billion from the FBI for failing to stop the sports doctor when the agency first received allegations against him, lawyers said Wednesday.

There's no dispute that FBI agents in 2015 knew that Nassar was accused of assaulting gymnasts, but they failed to act, leaving him free to continue to target young women and girls for more than a year. He pleaded guilty in 2017 and is serving decades in prison.

"It is time for the FBI to be held accountable," said Maggie Nichols, a national champion gymnast at Oklahoma in 2017-19.

Under federal law, a government agency has six months to respond to the tort claims filed Wednesday. Lawsuits could follow, depending on the FBI's response.

The approximately 90 claimants include Biles, Aly Raisman and McKayla Maroney, all Olympic gold medalists, according

to Manly, Stewart & Finaldi, a California law firm. Separately, 13 claims were filed by others in April.

"If the FBI had simply done its job, Nassar would have been stopped before he ever had the chance to abuse hundreds of girls, including me," said former University of Michigan gymnast Samantha Roy.

Indianapolis-based USA Gymnastics told local agents in 2015 that three gymnasts said they were assaulted by Nassar, a team doctor. But the FBI did not open a formal investigation or inform federal or state authorities in Michigan, according to the Justice Department's inspector general, an internal watchdog.

Los Angeles agents in 2016 began a sexual tourism investigation against Nassar and interviewed several victims but also didn't alert Michigan authorities, the inspector general said.

Nassar wasn't arrested until the fall of 2016 during an investigation by police at Michigan State University, where he was a doctor.

The Michigan attorney general's office ultimately handled the assault

charges against Nassar, while federal prosecutors in Grand Rapids, Michigan, filed a child pornography case.

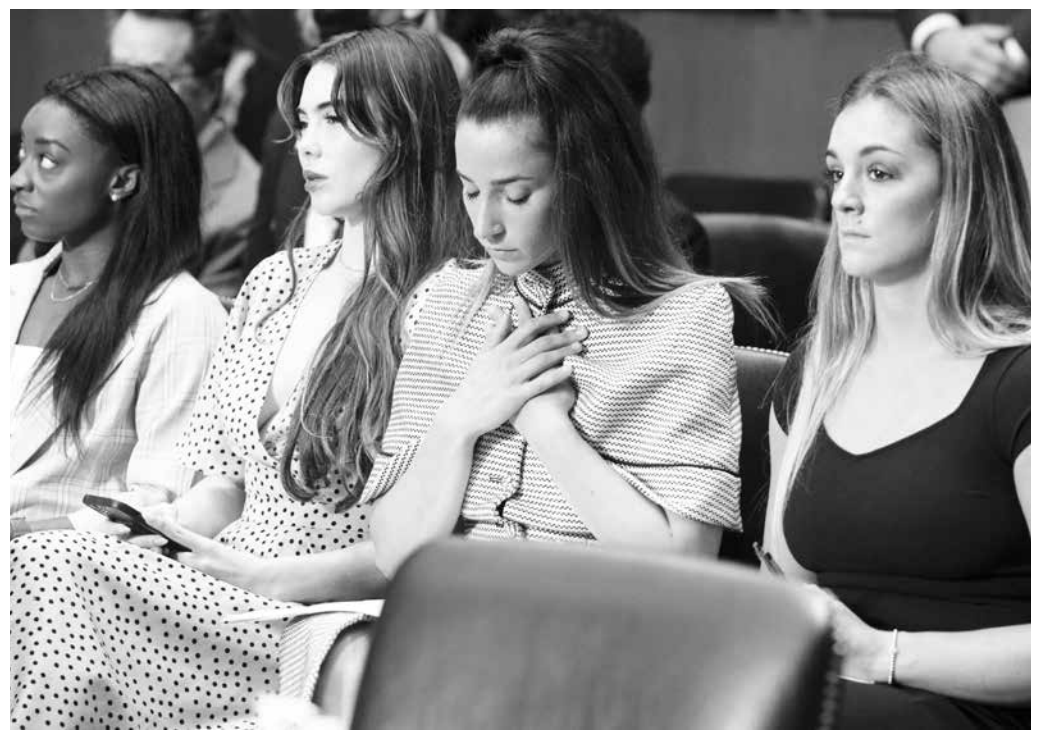
The FBI declined to comment Wednesday on the former gymnasts' financial claims, referring instead to remarks last year by FBI Director Christopher Wray, who acknowledged major mistakes.

"I'm especially sorry that there were people at the FBI who had their own chance to stop this monster back in 2015 and failed. And that's inexcusable," Wray told victims at a Senate hearing.

At that same hearing, Biles, widely considered to be the greatest gymnast of all time, said an "entire system" enabled the abuse. Maroney recalled "dead silence" when she talked to FBI agents about Nassar.

The Justice Department in May said that it would not pursue criminal charges against former agents who were accused of giving inaccurate or incomplete responses during the inspector general's investigation.

Failures by federal law enforcers have led to major settlements, including



United States gymnasts from left, Simone Biles, McKayla Maroney, Aly Raisman and Maggie Nichols, arrive to testify during a Senate Judiciary hearing about the Inspector General's report on the FBI's handling of the Larry Nassar investigation on Capitol Hill on Sept. 15, 2021, in Washington. Olympic gold medalist Simone Biles and dozens of other women who say they were sexually assaulted by Larry Nassar are seeking more than \$1 billion from the FBI for failing to stop the now convicted sports doctor when the agency first received allegations against him, lawyers said Wednesday. (SAUL LOEB/POOL VIA AP, FILE)

\$127.5 million for families of those killed or injured in 2018 at Florida's Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. The FBI received a tip about five weeks before 17 people were killed, but the tip

was never forwarded to the South Florida office.

Michigan State University, which was also accused of missing chances over many years to stop Nassar, agreed to pay \$500 million to more than 300

women and girls who were assaulted by him. USA Gymnastics and the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee made a \$380 million settlement.

## California native Gregory ready to host full show at Sonoma

By JENNA FRYER  
AP Auto Racing Writer

Modesto native Jill Gregory left her job as a NASCAR executive in early 2021 to return home and run Sonoma Raceway. Her first year was bumpy as she dealt with pandemic restrictions and reopening the road course after a one-year COVID-19-inflicted NASCAR hiatus. Gregory's reward was being sprayed by a mouthful of wine by last year's winner, Kyle Larson. NASCAR is back this weekend and Gregory has full use of the facility. There are no restrictions and the Truck Series has been added to the schedule to give Sonoma a full slate of on-track activity.

Kyle Larson took a swig of the winner's wine, tilted his head back and spit it in the air. He couldn't have predicted the wind catching hold of the vino and blowing it all over new track general manager Jill Gregory.

Some homecoming, eh? Gregory, a Modesto native and graduate of California Polytechnic State, returned home in early 2021 to run Sonoma Raceway as executive vice president and general manager of the picturesque road course in wine country. She'd had a long-time career with NASCAR but couldn't pass the opportunity to go home and run Sonoma when the job opened.

The track was mostly shuttered in 2020 because of the pandemic and Gregory was tasked with welcoming NASCAR back just four months after she picked up her keys to the track. Ever-changing COVID-19 restrictions in both California and Sonoma County meant Gregory was constantly having to adapt — from crowd restrictions to even holding the race at all — in the lead-up to her first NASCAR weekend.

In the end, the only true hiccup was Larson's mouthful of wine that landed all over Gregory on the victory podium.

"I think I tried to jump out of the way, but then I was like, 'Gosh, Kyle, I'm wearing my nice suit, you

just got wine all over me!' " Gregory said in an interview with The Associated Press. "People asked me if I was offended, and I know Kyle, he was mortified. It was in victory lane, that's the wrap of the whole weekend, and at that moment, you are basically exhaling and things are over and fans are leaving, and the spray was quite impressive. But what actually landed on me was quite limited, so I just went about my day."

Gregory never got the red pantsuit cleaned — she joked she hopes it someday lands in the West Coast Stock Car Hall of Fame — and Larson sent her a bottle of wine from Abreu Vineyards as an apology. She's saving it for a special occasion.

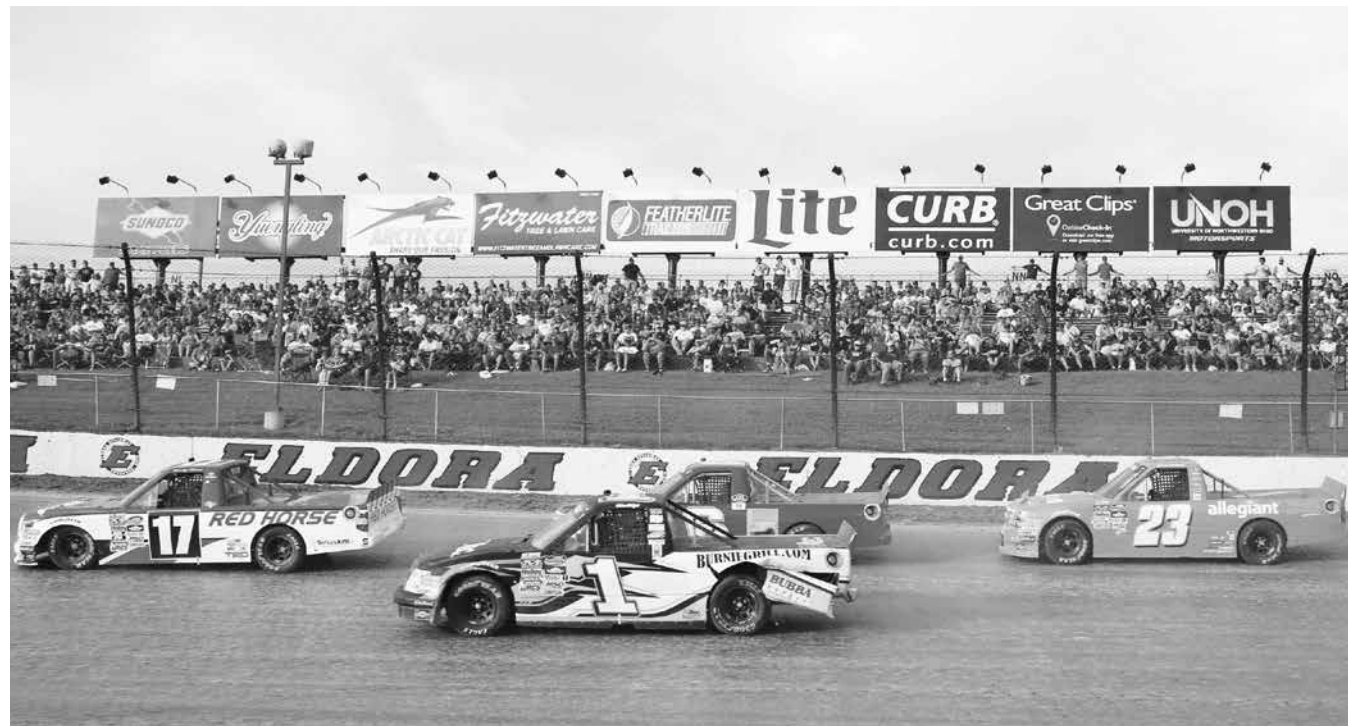
That occasion could come Sunday night after Gregory concludes her second NASCAR race weekend as head of Sonoma. Unlike last year, the track is wide open to spectators and Gregory has a full slate of action: NASCAR's truck series will race Saturday afternoon, giving Sonoma added on-track activity to what has typically been a stand-alone weekend for the premiere Cup Series.

The preparation hit a speedbump last week when a grass fire burned over 15 acres on Sonoma's rolling property.

"In the whole scheme of things, it was not a large fire, and it was contained within an hour of the 911 call," Gregory said. "My thought was 'I'd rather it happen a week before the race than the week of the race.'"

Gregory still has challenges ahead. Sonoma was once the destination race on the NASCAR schedule because of its location, casual schedule and its hold as one of only two road courses in a series packed with ovals.

But since the pandemic, when Sonoma went a year without a race, NASCAR has made major changes to its schedule and this year has six road courses on the calendar. Fans now have multiple choices where to go to see right and left turns.



Trucks race past grandstands on the back stretch during the third qualifying race for the NASCAR Truck Series' Mud Summer Classic auto race at Eldora Speedway in Rossburg, Ohio, on July 22, 2015. Tony Stewart will pay \$1,002,022 on Thursday night to the winner of the Eldora Million dirt late model race at Eldora Speedway in Rossburg, Ohio. The Thursday night payout will be the second-largest purse in motorsports only to the Indianapolis 500. (JIM WITMER/DAYTON DAILY NEWS VIA AP, FILE)

## Tony Stewart to award \$1 million prize at Eldora Speedway

By JENNA FRYER  
AP Auto Racing Writer

Tony Stewart went to bed at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday after pulling an all-nighter at Eldora Speedway.

Stewart has \$1 million to give away Thursday night and is determined that his track in Rossburg, Ohio, will be in the best condition possible for the return of The Eldora Million.

"I'm just thrashing," Stewart told The Associated Press on Wednesday afternoon by phone, the sound of him moving from various trucks and tractors in the background. "We've only had two events so far this year because of weather, and we've got to get the track ready to give this money away."

About 130 cars were expected in the night's preliminaries. The Thursday night feature will pay a whopping \$1,002,022 to the winner — the second-largest purse in motorsports behind the Indianapolis 500.

Marcus Ericsson collected \$3.1 million from a record-breaking total purse of \$16 million for winning the Indy 500 on May 29; Ryan Blaney won \$1 million for winning

NASCAR's All-Star race one week earlier.

The Eldora Million is a 101-lap dirt-track late model race run on a half-mile clay oval in western Ohio. On a per-mile basis, Stewart's event will pay more than any race in the United States.

The winner will earn \$19,842 per mile, more than three times what Ericsson earned at \$6,200 per mile. Blaney earned \$5,333.33 per mile.

Eldora paid out \$1 million once before, in 2001 when the late Earl Balthes owned the track. Donnie Moran scored the \$1 million payday.

Since purchasing the speedway in 2004, Stewart has aimed to match the prize.

"I said from the first day I took ownership of Eldora that we wanted to make Earl proud by continuing to push the limits of race promotion," Stewart said. "I can't think of a better way to honor their legacy than by bringing back The Eldora Million one more time for both our longtime drivers and fans, as well as a whole new generation who have only heard about it."

The two nights of The Eldora Million are followed by two nights of the Dirt Late Model Dream.

The four nights of racing — weather permitting — has created one of the richest open competition events in motorsports history, with posted prize money in excess of \$1.9 million.

Moran, winner of the only other running of The Eldora Million, recently reflected on the payday that earned him the nickname "Million Dollar Man." That payout has stood as the largest for a dirt-track late model race for two decades and won't be broken until Stewart crowns a winner Thursday night.

Moran brought a new car and engine to Eldora in 2001 and lured his sister and brother-in-law out of retirement to help his team. He told them they could get paid or take a percentage of his winnings, and they gambled and went with the winnings.

But what Moran remembers most was that his wife ignored her doctor's advice to stay home because of complications she was experiencing while pregnant with their fifth child. She went anyway.

"When it hit me that I had really won was when I was on the podium and I got to give her a hug. That

was a magic moment that I'll never forget the rest of my life," Moran said. "She had watched most of the race sitting on the ground, I think, but she came through fine. We had our daughter, Savannah, a few days later. Today she works for Tony Stewart at Eldora as one of the trophy girls."

As for the money? "It kept me racing for quite a few years and paid off some bills," Moran said. "I was basically a self-funded team, so it really helped."

Stewart is hoping his reiteration of The Eldora Million helps another grassroots racer. He has had to buy two new tractors in the last week and asked another track to send its workers to help him prep the Eldora surface, which has been soaked by rain all week.

"We always said one day we wanted to do the Million again and we're fighting everything to make it happen," Stewart said. "I'm living, breathing, everything this race-track right now and I hope Earl is looking down proud of the job we're doing to carry on his legacy."

# YOUR CITY YOUR STORIES

# PITTSBURG

PittKan is an initiative driven by Imagine Pittsburg to share our city's amazing progress and energy through the stories of those making it happen. Visit [PittKan.com](http://PittKan.com) to read more stories, subscribe to email, and learn all about this incredible city we call home. #PittKan

## Olive Streets Presents



Maybe it was fatigue. Could have been gas prices. But at some point around 2009, Rob Poole and Carol Puckett had a new thought.

What if, instead of driving all over the place to see live music, we bring the live music to us?

"So we gave it a shot," Poole said. "We were at a show and loved this particular musician, so I sauntered up and asked if he'd consider coming to Pittsburg to play."

He said yes.

"Oh, ok," Poole thought, "now what do we do?"

Well, like many welcoming Midwestern folk, Poole and Puckett invited the band over to their home, and Olive Street House Concerts was born.

"We had gone to several house concerts in the region, and we loved the experience," Puckett said. "We thought this would be a neat way of bringing more live music to Pittsburg."

They also thought that the first time may be the only time this happened.

"We weren't really sure how this would go," Poole said. "We were happy to host a house concert here in Pittsburg, and if it ended up being the only one we ever did, that's fine. It would still be a lot of fun."

More than a decade and 80+ shows later...

"It caught on," he said. "The people here have been incredibly receptive and supportive. There is an intimacy to house concerts that you can't get at a bar or even a larger venue. I think the musicians and the audience both appreciate that close-knit, community atmosphere of a house concert."

"And," he said, "we were able to keep it going all the way up to Covid, when everything stopped."

The concerts may have stopped, but the dream did not. In fact, the downtime during the pandemic led Poole and Puckett to take their house concert series to the next level.

"We had kicked around the idea of having a non-profit," Poole said, "and during the pandemic when everything was shut down, we used that time to work on getting that going."

Puckett said the non-profit, officially called Olive Street Presents, comes with several benefits.

"It helps us with fundraising," she said. "We can write grants and take donations."

Poole added, "It also helps us when trying to rent a performance space, such as the small stage at the Bicknell Center."

Check out the Olive Street Presents website for upcoming live shows and concerts.

"We're very excited to be back hosting concerts," Poole said. "I can't say enough great things about the people at the Bicknell Center. They have been incredibly supportive and helped us with whatever we've needed."

It's also nice, he said, to continue to bring more live music to Pittsburg.

"Small towns are often passed over by touring musicians in favor of larger venues, more convenient routing, and more potential revenue. Or they simply don't know we exist," Poole said. "Because we love live music close to home, we're trying to expand our house concerts into the greater community."

Watch for these stories. . .  
and more about Imagine Pittsburg  
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