Grand Forks Herald

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Epitome hearing puts it closer to construction

A decision by early summer is likely, followed by a fall groundbreaking

BY MATTHEW VOIGT
Grand Forks Herald

GRAND FORKS — Following Tuesday's public hearing of Epitome Energy's air permit application, the soybean crush facility is one step closer to beginning construction in Grand Forks.

Epitome Energy CEO Dennis Egan said he hopes to begin construction this fall, a timeline contingent on the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality approving the air permit for the facility. The permit is the record that shows the facility meets state and federal requirements to limit pollution to the environment. According to the preliminary findings from the department, the facility is expected to be well within standards to protect the environment and people.

"Air permitting is usually the longest lead time and the one that takes the longest to get. It can sometimes be the most contentious and may or may not have funding applications associated with it," said David Stroh, manager of the permit program in the air quality division of the Department of Environmental Quality.

Epitome will be getting a Title V air permit — a complex permit for a facility at the scale Epitome requires. Smaller permits, for example, regulate grain elevators with the type and scope of the permit varying on the complexity and size of the project. If Epitome receives the air permit, it will first receive a provisional construction permit that will eventually transition into a full operational permit.

According to Stroh, a decision on the permit

EPITOME on A2

ALERUS DONATES $50K TO CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

The grant will be used for programming at the museum to be built near Choice Health and Fitness

BY PAMELA KNUDSON
Grand Forks Herald

GRAND FORKS

The Grand Forks Children's Museum took another leap forward Tuesday, April 23, with a $50,000 grant from Alerus Financial, given in partnership with Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines.

This latest contribution will be used for programming at the museum, said Sally Miskavige, vice president of the Grand Forks Children's Museum Board of Directors.

"It really does help us," Miskavige said.

The two-story Grand Forks Children's Museum, occupying 28,000-30,000 square feet, is slated to be built near Choice Health and Fitness on South Washington, on an 8-acre plot of land donated by Altru Health System. The land has been valued at $4 million.

Members of the museum's board of directors say they hope to break ground for the facility next spring.

Meanwhile, fundraising for the project is in full swing, with a goal of $45 million for the building and $5 million to $6 million for the endowment. Just over half of the capital fund goal has been met. The level of funding that must be raised before groundbreaking can occur has not been determined, Miskavige said.

The $50,000 grant from Alerus Financial will support programming at the museum, not the capital campaign. It will fund the development of programming that celebrates local culture and history through interactive learning. Some programming may take place before the building's anticipated groundbreaking.

Eric Hylden / Grand Forks Herald

Chris Wolf, Alerus Financial president, presents a $50,000 check to the Grand Forks Children's Museum on Tuesday. Children's Museum representatives (L-R) Sally Miskavige, Hillary Kempenich, Wolf, Carmen Wald and Katie Mayer accept the grant.

Monies will be used for initiatives such as pop-up events that have been and will be held to engage kids and stir up their excitement, as well as to reach out to the entire community to build understanding of the types of activities the museum will offer.

Funds will also be used, for example, to create a community garden on museum grounds as an environment for multi-generational learning about the area's traditional and Indigenous cultures' crops and plants, as well as other types of multi-generational knowledge-sharing and learning experiences for underserved populations.

"Equity is one of our core values," Miskavige said.

"Our theme is 'land and sky,'" said Carmen Wald, a board member and chairperson of the grant-writing committee, noting that learning will begin with plants "all the way to the table or pantry."

"Or, from farm-to-table and forage-to-table," added Hillary Kempenich, also a museum board member, an Anishinaabe multidisciplinary artist and member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa.

Destination point

Chris Wolf, Alerus market president, said, "We're excited to have (the museum) here, not only for us (who live) here, but also for people coming to town."

The Grand Forks Children's Museum sees the museum as a destination point and a magnet for families in the region as well as visitors to the area.

"It's a quality-of-life issue too," Wolf said. It will offer "something fun to do, and another reason to live in our community."

He noted his family's experience visiting a similar facility in Kansas City, where he became more aware of "possibilities we could have here in Grand Forks."

At that facility, "I enjoyed seeing the excitement of the people attending – people of all ages and backgrounds," he said, and the shared experience "of just bringing people together."

ALERUS on A9

3 School Board candidates address teachers

BY JOSHUA IRVINE
Grand Forks Herald

GRAND FORKS — The association representing Grand Forks' public school teachers has endorsed three incumbents and one newcomer for the Grand Forks School Board.

The Grand Forks Education Association backed all three incumbent candidates running for reelection June 11 – Amber Flynn, Jeff Manley, and Eric Lunn – and one newcomer, AE2S Engineering engineer Jay Kleven.

The organization made its announcement in a Wednesday morning Facebook post.

While she said the teachers' association hadn't always seen eye-to-eye with the board, "we think we have a pretty decent School Board right now," GFEA President Melissa Buchhop said.

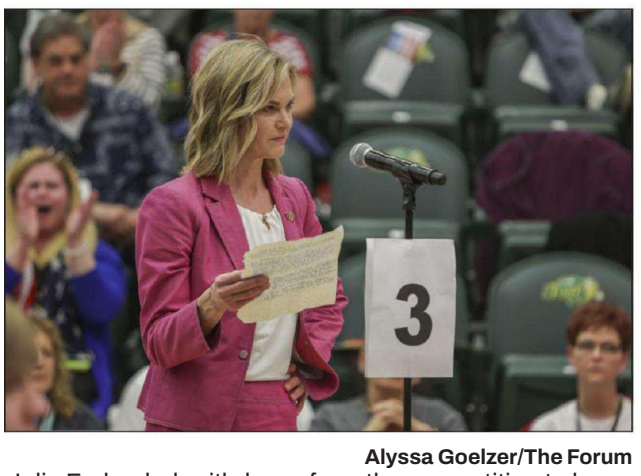
"We also feel Jay will bring some fresh eyes and a new perspective," she added, noting Kleven, whose four children have all either attended or graduated from the district, would add the voice of a North End resident to the board.

Flynn, Kleven, and fellow outsider Cameron Murphy participated Tuesday evening in a GFEA forum hosted at Red River High School. The organization began conducting the biennial forum in 2022 in lieu of one-on-one interviews when that election's 23 candidates made the latter practice impractical, GFEA President Melissa Buchhop said.

Lunn and Manley and perennial candidate Roland Riemers were absent, but submitted

TEACHERS on A10

Fedorchak: ND's next representative must be a leader



Alyssa Goelzer/The Forum

Julie Fedorchak withdraws from the competition to be endorsed at the North Dakota Republican Convention leading to Alex Balazs winning the NDGOP convention endorsement on April 6, at the Sanford Health Athletic Center in Fargo.

BY MATTHEW VOIGT
Grand Forks Herald

GRAND FORKS — North Dakota doesn't need a representative that contributes to the drama in the U.S. House of Representatives, says Public Service Commissioner and U.S. House candidate Julie Fedorchak.

"I think what people are hungry for is leadership, and they crave strong leadership in state and in Washington," Fedorchak said. "I don't tolerate drama and gamesmanship; there's too much of that in Washington, D.C., and the last thing North Dakota should do is send another person to Washington who's going to fuel and contribute to that drama."

Fedorchak is one of five candidates running for the Republican nomination for the state's sole seat in the U.S. House. She currently serves on the state's Public Service Commission, which oversees the state's utilities, railroads and pipelines. Of the candidates in the Republican primary, she is the candidate who most recently won a statewide office, winning a third term to the Public Service Commission in 2022.

"I feel like I stand out as the lead candidate who has a consistent and long record of serving North Dakotans both in business and in public service and delivering conservative results," Fedorchak said. "Through my service on the Public Service Commission, I have been a leader in ensuring that we have the infrastructure needed to support the industry that creates 60,000 jobs for North Dakota citizens and contributes more than half of the revenues of the state budget."

Fedorchak won over 70% of the vote against her Democratic-NPL opponent Melanie Moniz in 2022, and has consistently won at least 65% of the vote in the last three elections for her commission spot.

She says that will translate well into being a leader on key issues, like national security.

"What's going on at the border is just front and center in the news all the

FEDORCHAK on A9

TODAY IN HISTORY

In 1859, British, French and German engineers began construction on the Suez Canal in Egypt.

In 1898, the United States declared war on Spain.

In 1945, U.S. and Soviet troops met at the Elbe River in Germany, signaling the defeat of German defenses.

In 1953, Francis Crick and James D. Watson published an article describing the double helix structure of DNA.

In 2011, a four-day tornado outbreak in the southern United States began, producing 358 confirmed tornadoes and killing more than 300 people.

CALENDAR

Today, April 25

To place your event in the Grand Forks Herald calendar, email gfhcity@gfherald.com, with "Calendar item" in the subject line. Events should include name, time, location, short description and contact info. Please submit 10 days before the event. The Herald does not guarantee publication of all events.

SCORE free and confidential business mentoring meetings, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. **every Thursday** via Zoom, phone, email or in person. To schedule an appointment, email score@gra.midco.net or visit www.score.org and request a mentor from 58201, Grand Forks.

Breakfast at the Grand Forks Senior Center is 8:30 to 9 a.m., 620 Fourth Ave. S. Also, **hot meal drive-thru** is 11:30 a.m. to noon, and **inside dining serving** is 11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. **Monday through Friday.** For 60+. Obtain required paperwork and key tags in the Senior Center. Order frozen meals ahead of time at (701) 772-7245, pick up during the drive-thru or inside.

Other Thursday events at the Grand Forks Senior Center: **Also1 p.m.: Trivia,** new members welcome, for people 55+. **And 2 to 4 p.m.: Free legal services for seniors,** for people 55+, call (701) 222-2110, dial ext. 330 when recording starts to schedule an appointment.

LSS senior meals: Congregate, home delivered and curbside is 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., **Monday through Friday,** in the East Grand Forks Senior Center, 538 Rhinehart Dr. S.E., East Grand Forks. Info: (218) 399-3351.

UND Communication Appreciation Day, celebrating 100 years, UND Memorial Union Ballroom, 2901 University Ave. **2 p.m.:** Hagerty Lecture with speaker Mike Nowatzki (also on Zoom); **4 p.m.:** Scholarship ceremony and networking social; **5 p.m.:** Tours; **6 p.m.:** Dinner (RSVP required); and **7 p.m.:** Evening party, all welcome. Visit the UND website for more info or call (701) 777-2159.

Vino and Vision with University Park Neighborhoods III: Building a Stronger Neighborhood, 5 to 6 p.m., 2302 Eighth Ave. N., Grand Forks. RSVP, not required but preferred, by texting 6094181265 or visiting the UPN Facebook page.

Northern Valley Labor Assembly Annual Workers Memorial Service, 5:30 p.m., Bringewatt Park, 2205 24th Ave. S., Grand Forks. Remembering those who lost their lives while working in North Dakota and Minnesota. A picnic meal will follow. In case of inclement weather, it will move to the basement of the IBEW Hall, 1714 North Washington Street. Info: Mark Froemke, (218) 779-9258.

Studio Night, 6 to 8 p.m., Arts for Vets, 215 N. Third St., Grand Forks. Located inside the Riverview Center. Meet local artists, view their work, learn of upcoming shows. Info: (701) 330-3072 or email artsforvets@gmail.com.

Poetry Potluck, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., East Grand Forks Public Library, 422 Fourth Ave. N.W. Featured will be local and award-winning poet Brendan Stermer. Attendees are welcome to share a poem or listen and learn. In recognition of National Poetry Month. (218) 773-9121.

UND Wind Ensemble and Chamber Players Concert, 7:30 p.m., Chester Fritz Auditorium, 3475 University Ave., Grand Forks. Free and open to the public. Also live-streamed at und.edu/music. (701) 777-2815.

StormTRACKER WDAY abc

Dillon Vogt | Robert Poynter | Lydia Blume | John Wheeler CHIEF METEOROLOGIST | Jesse Ritka | Charles Pekar

Get the latest weather news and alerts with up-to-date forecasts, current and future radar and more with the Stormtracker app.

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StormTRACKER Forecast

Partly cloudy. Windy and warm. Wind could gust over 40 mph.

Almanac Through 6 pm Wednesday		
Temperature	High	Low
Wednesday		
Normal	57°	34°
Record	89° in 1990	15° in 1909
Precipitation		In Inches
Wednesday		
Month To Date		
Departure From Avg Month To Date		
Year To Date		
Departure From Avg Year To Date		

Sunrise: 6:19 a.m. Sunset: 8:33 p.m.
Moonrise: 11:02 p.m. Moonset: 7:13 a.m. April 26

Third May 1 | New May 7 | First May 15 | Full May 23

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
72 / 50	56 / 44	54 / 38	45 / 36	50 / 36	66 / 44	68 / 48
Partly Cloudy	Showers	Cloudy	Showers	Cloudy	Partly Sunny	Partly Sunny
Wind: S 26 mph	Wind: SE 14 mph	Wind: N 20 mph	Wind: NE 18 mph	Wind: N 13 mph	Wind: SW 13 mph	Wind: NW 14 mph

*Average wind speed for each day

WEATHERTALK

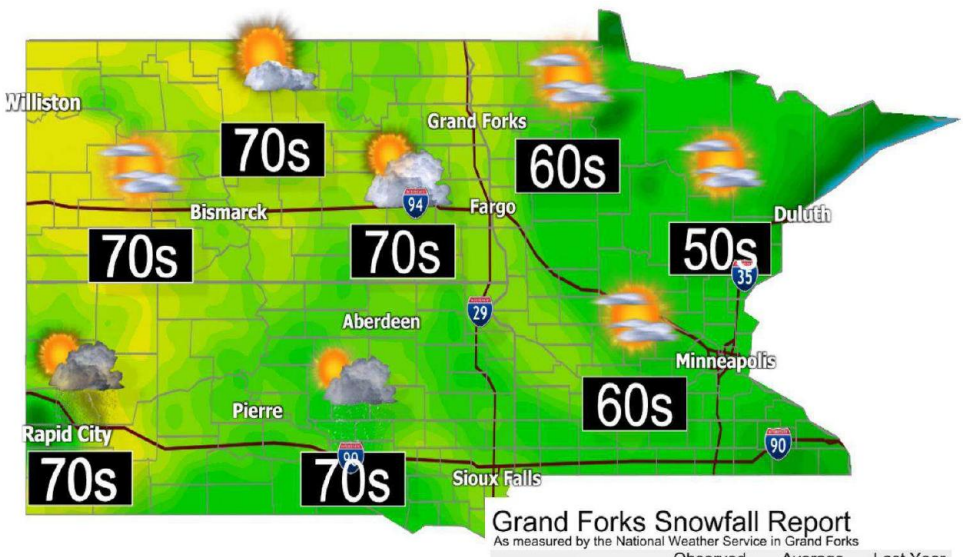
Spring showers, big wind gusts

BY JOHN WHEELER
WDAY

FARGO — This time of year, showers and otherwise non-severe thundershowers can sometimes produce wind gusts strong enough to be damaging. It happens when rain from a convective shower falls into very dry air, which happens often in our region during spring. The updrafts of convective showers can concentrate the water vapor and generate more raindrops from a limited moisture supply. As this rain falls into dry air, some of it is evaporated; a process that cools the surrounding air, causing it to become heavier. This cooled air loses its buoyancy and it rushes groundward with increasing speed.

By the time this air reaches the ground, it can be surprisingly strong and turbulent, sometimes producing wind damage from an otherwise garden-variety shower. This same process often produces very strong wind gusts in storms in very dry places such as Arizona, where very dry air is even more common in spring and summer.

John Wheeler is Chief Meteorologist for WDAY Television.



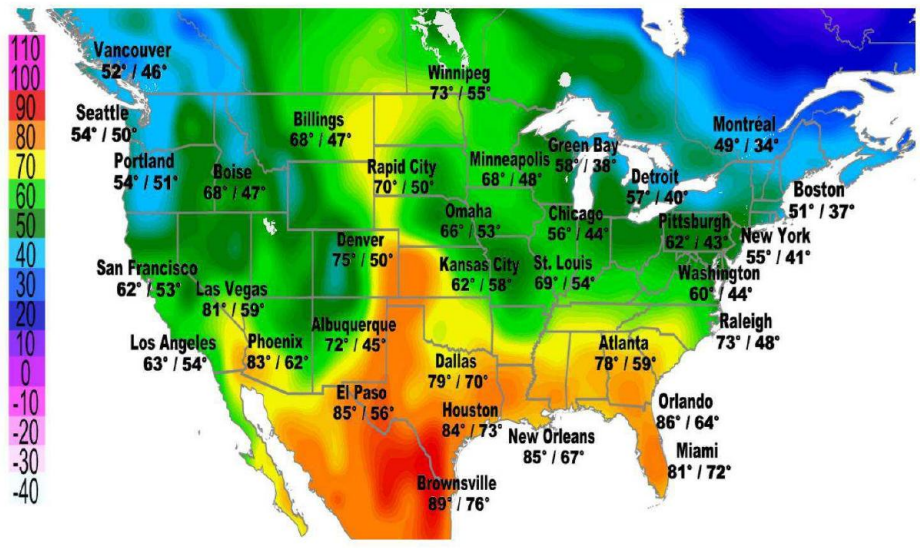
Grand Forks Snowfall Report

As measured by the National Weather Service in Grand Forks

	Observed	Average	Last Year
As of 6 pm Tuesday	0	.1"	0
Month To Date	.1"	2.7"	18.2"
Since July 1	29.1"	48.3"	85.2"
Snow Depth	0		

North Dakota	Today Hi	Today Lo	Tomorrow Hi	Tomorrow Lo
Bismarck	74	46	57	42
Devils Lake	71	49	52	42
Fargo	73	52	57	45
Minot	76	48	58	38
Williston	75	46	69	41

Minnesota	Today Hi	Today Lo	Tomorrow Hi	Tomorrow Lo
Bemidji	67	45	54	43
Duluth	54	40	52	43
International Falls	66	45	60	41
Minneapolis	68	48	58	54
Rochester	64	46	54	54



GOP goes after rural Minnesota DFLers

BY MARK WASSON
Forum News Service

Wolgamott

Lislegard

ST. PAUL — The Minnesota House Republican Campaign Committee has targeted six seats controlled by DFLers in Minnesota to flip red, which would give Republicans a majority in the House of Representatives.

In a fundraising email, the HRCC identified Rep. Dan Wolgamott, DFL-St. Cloud, and Rep. Dave Lislegard, DFL-Aurora, as vulnerable, citing razor-thin voting margins and Wolgamott's conviction last year for drunk driving.

"After making solid progress in recent cycles — just four years ago the DFL had a 16-seat majority — we now only need to win four more seats to win control of the Minnesota House," the HRCC's email says.

In 2022, Wolgamott won his seat by 540 votes and Lislegard won by 470.

While Wolgamott's district lines were changed in 2020, historically, the area has offered close contests. The last time a Republican held the district was in 2016, when the race was won by 460 votes.

Wolgamott, who was first elected to the House in 2018, said it's no surprise that his seat is targeted.

"The Republicans can try to spend as much money as they want trying to distort my record and make me look bad," he said. "But at the end of the day, you can't put a price on the connection that I have with my constituents."

As far as his DWI, he said he still has conversations with constituents about it.

"People appreciate an open and honest response," Wolgamott said. "I own up to the mistake I made. I take full responsibility and let folks know what happened."

Republicans have not controlled the House since 2018. The DFL holds a trifecta in state government, controlling the House, Senate and governorship.

Other DFLers targeted by Republicans due to their close races include:

- Rep. Jeff Brand, DFL-St. Peter
- Rep. Matt Norris, DFL-Blaine
- Rep. Jerry Newton, DFL-Coon Rapids
- Rep. Lucy Rehm, DFL- Chanhassen

EPITOME

CONTINUED from A1

will likely come by early summer. The public comment period is still open, with people able to submit written comments to the department until April 27. If the department approves the permit, it will still be involved with the facility with compliance and will monitor checks throughout the facility's lifetime.

Several representatives of businesses and organizations spoke during Tuesday's public hearing, offering support for the air permit.

"The market value of soybeans has increased dramatically over time. And because so many acres of soybeans are now grown in North Dakota, we've exceeded wheat, which has long been the key crop in North Dakota," said Nancy Johnson, executive director of the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association. Johnson noted that the six counties in the region that will feed the plant produced nearly 30 million bushels of soybeans last year.

Johnson said the facility helps keep more of the value of soybeans in the region. According to Egan, the facility will help facilitate the demand for biodiesel and animal feed protein by providing soybean oil, meal and hulls.

"Right now some of the (Canadian pig farms) are having to drive to South Dakota and to southern Minnesota to get their soybean meal," Egan said. "We're going to be able to cut off a couple hundred miles."

Another hearing attendee, Minnkota Power Cooperative Economic Development Administrator Matt Marshall, said his company is also supportive of the department approving the permit.

"We feel like Epitome is putting forth a great plan that will hopefully comply with your requirements," he said. "I'm very excited for what this project brings to our community and my family."

Egan said the facility, which will be able to process 42 million bushels of soybeans a year, will help with Minnesota's state mandate for biodiesel and summer fuel mixture requirements. Between this meeting and a January township meeting, Egan says he's answered a lot of questions and gotten a lot of good feedback. Finalizing the permit will help more pieces fall into place.

"One of the big steps for all of our equity was to ensure that we have an air permit," he said. "So if it's the next six, eight weeks (on the permit decision), that will really help continue the due diligence."

Nobody at Tuesday's meeting spoke against the plant.

The facility will be located on the far north edge of Grand Forks, near the landfill and wastewater treatment plant. More information about the air permit and comments can be found at deq.nd.gov/aq/publiccom.aspx.

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EERC awarded more than $11 million for projects

STAFF REPORTS

GRAND FORKS — The Energy & Environmental Research Center at the University of North Dakota has been awarded $11.6 million for research related to enhanced oil recovery and carbon capture.

The funding was announced Wednesday by the office of Sen. John Hoeven, R-N.D.

According to the release from Hoeven, the funds, made available under the Department of Energy's Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management, "will enable EERC to conduct 18 months of field and laboratory research to study the viability of injecting CO2 into unconventional oil reservoirs for the purposes of enhanced oil recovery and long-term emissions storage."

The release said Hoeven, a member of the Senate Energy and Water Development Appropriations Committee, "secured strong support for the DOE's oil and gas research programs in annual funding legislation" and also "worked to advance EERC's application, stressing the project's benefits to both U.S. energy security and improved environmental stewardship."

"The EERC is a world-class research institution and has been a central player to North Dakota's efforts to crack the code on CCUS," Hoeven said. "This latest project will help maximize the full potential of the Bakken by advancing cutting-edge research for unconventional enhanced oil recovery operations, supporting U.S. energy security by making the best use of our abundant oil and gas reserves. At the same time, this provides a productive use for the CO2 that is being captured at a range of energy facilities in the state, including our coal and biofuel plants."

Daughter pays for mother's abusive behavior

AMY DICKINSON
Ask Amy

Dear Amy: Have I been gaslighted?

My mother was a difficult person. She was often not nice to my sister-in-law.

I admired my SIL for taking the high road and for being respectful toward my mother, and I told her so many times.

I bumped heads big time with my mother, too, but had a good last six years when she moved near me and dementia mellowed her out.

My mother died five years ago and my sister-in-law reminds me often of how awful she was (my brother has no fond memories of childhood, and lets his wife do the talking).

The last time my SIL brought this up, I stopped her and said that although her experiences are valid, this is my mother and she is dead now, and I find it offensive to keep hearing about it.

I validated her feelings and told her again how much I admired her.

Initially she apologized, but afterward apparently decided that I was wrong. She is now quite angry with me, and said she prefers to work through this in therapy. After I tried to reach out, she says she doesn't want to talk about it.

I care for her and I like her, my brother and their children, but I'm upset about this.

I feel like making me the bad guy here is gaslighting.

What do you think? – Gaslit?

Dear Gaslit?: I think this only qualifies as gaslighting if you actually believe that you're the "bad guy." You don't believe this, because you aren't.

The only thing I think you might have done differently would be if you had altered your own wording when responding.

Instead of saying that your sister-in-law's remarks about your mother were "offensive," you might have said how this made you feel: i.e. "Now that mom is gone, I feel so sad continuing to hear about how awful she was to you."

I believe that speaking the truth about abuse or toxic behavior of family members (even after they have died) is valid and can be helpful – even if it brings up painful feelings. Doing so can help people resolve the sometimes impossible duality of being the child of an abusive person.

Your mother treated people badly. And yet, she was still your mother.

For your sister-in-law, talking this through in therapy (instead of with you) is exactly what she should be doing.

A skilled therapist will help her to figure out who the "bad guy" is and should lead her not to punish you for your mother's sins.

You have been extremely kind and gracious to her in the past, and I hope you will continue. You also have every right to hold your own good memories of your mother; it sounds like you are lucky to have them.

Dear Amy: My boyfriend and I are in our late-teens and we recently learned that I am pregnant.

We have a lot to deal with but we are doing our best to handle this situation that neither of us really feel ready for. We both have great families and they are supportive.

We saw my boyfriend's sister last weekend, and she told me that she wants to go with us to our doctor appointment so that when we learn the gender of our child she can then host a "gender reveal" party. (She is married and has a child.)

I know that some parents do this, but I don't think I want to do it.

Should she come with us to the appointment? Should we let her do this? – Nervous

Dear Nervous: No – and no.

You and the baby's father should go to these appointments. If you would like more support at an appointment, you could invite her or another family member, but this invitation should come from you – not the other way around.

Establishing respectful boundaries can be a tough job. But this is the beginning of your life as parents, and you have the right and responsibility to develop good boundaries and good judgment about what you believe is best for you and your child.

Dear Amy: "Wondering" asked if her husband should incentivize his adult daughters to lose weight.

I can tell you from experience that he should stay out of it.

Why? It's none of his business.

My father was obsessed with my weight during my entire life and brought it up whenever he saw me. After he died, I lost 40 pounds. – Survivor

Dear Survivor: Obesity is a condition which is extremely resistant to badgering.

Contact Amy Dickinson at askamy@amydickinson.com or at Ask Amy, P.O. Box 194, Freeville, NY 13068.

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BRIEF

Brainerd man dies in single-vehicle crash

BRAINERD — A 63-year-old Brainerd man died Tuesday, April 23, after his vehicle went off the road on County Highway 8 in Crow Wing County.

Crow Wing County Sheriff's Lt. Craig Katzenberger said the sheriff's office responded to the crash at 6:13 p.m. in Maple Grove Township, near the 10000 block of County Highway 8 in southeastern Crow Wing County. Katzenberger said a 2002 Jeep was traveling eastbound on the highway when it went off the road and hit an approach in the west ditch before coming to rest in the ditch.

The man's iPhone originally reported the crash, sending a crash alert to authorities. A passerby also reported the crash, finding the car in the ditch.

First on scene were Zone 1 first responders, who found the man responsive in the vehicle. While attempting to help him from the vehicle, the man became unresponsive and CPR was performed.

The driver was not identified Wednesday morning, pending family notification. The man's body was sent to the Ramsey County Medical Examiner's office to determine the cause of death.Assisting at the scene of the crash were the Minnesota State Patrol, Garrison Fire Department and North Memorial Health Ambulance.

Forum News Service

Grand Forks Herald GrandForksHerald.com 24/7 local news. grandforksherald.com

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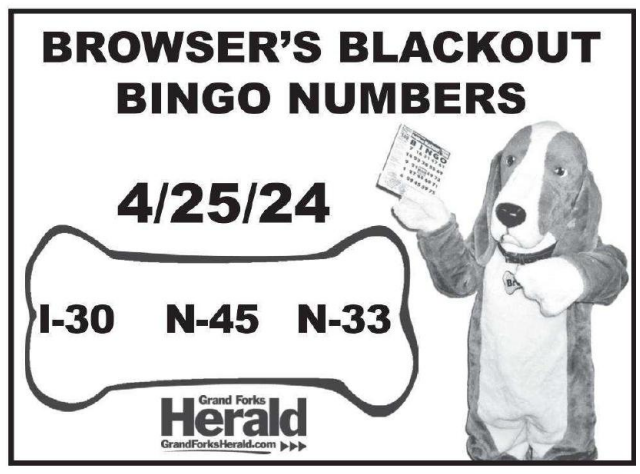

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

MAGI HELENA
Your Daily Horoscope

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You may inspire trust and admiration from others but might need to be proactive to experience any benefits. Keep going to clear out all uncertainties and doubts as your efforts could lead to winning undivided loyalties and trust.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You might be motivated to be your best self. Be uplifted by inspiring ideals as you gravitate towards becoming a true guru. You could set an admirable example of wisdom and vision that others may want to emulate.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Applying more logic could lead to you being viewed in a greater leadership role. A discussion could clarify where you stand in the grand scheme of things. An explanation from someone close might entail more spin than actual substance.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): It's nice to show love to those in proximity, however, you have the right to choose your community based on what fits you best. Review your values and set some standards for the kind of people you want to surround yourself with.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Utilize understanding and empathy when interacting with someone who seems to be headstrong or contrary. Decide if you are the one who refuses to compromise or the other person. Discuss a situation calmly and listen to explanations before you respond.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Stay focused, maintain belief, and avoid distractions from unimportant details to help your dreams might manifest into a tangible reality. You might encounter someone who criticizes your optimism; respect the journey they are on.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Consider taking a loved one'shigh standardsand moral imperatives seriously. Behind lighthearted banter, it's possible that some strong feelings are surfacing. Although some work may not be as exciting, you may be able to exercise your imagination.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Some things may have more of an impact on you than others. As an adult, you dislike being prodded by words that may be meant to bring you down. Whatever you do, don't allow your joy and happiness to be stolen by anyone.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Take a second and closer look before you agree to anything. Don't allow the chance of embarrassment or being too shy to ask for help in making a decision, keep you from moving forward. Call upon an acquaintance or friend to assist.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You may be thought of as the best resource when people need help with uncontrollable situations. Not only do you possess life experience and common sense, but you have the power of your convictions to rely upon.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): People might take different paths as they search for fulfillment and happiness. Their path may look drastically different than yours, but it doesn't mean they're lost. Rest in knowing that everyone may be on their own unique journey.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Look on the bright side. Be mindful of being overly critical or too serious as it could cause others to misunderstand your suggestions. A lengthy discussion with someone close may open your eyes to refreshing ideas and inspirational concepts.

IF APRIL 25 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You may have marvelous plans to build a better future and may be able to conquer any obstacles during the coming two to three weeks by using your astute people skills. You could have the vitality and negotiating chops to land an elevated opportunity. Your competitive spirit and willingness to play fair can help keep you at the top of the heap in May and June.

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JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

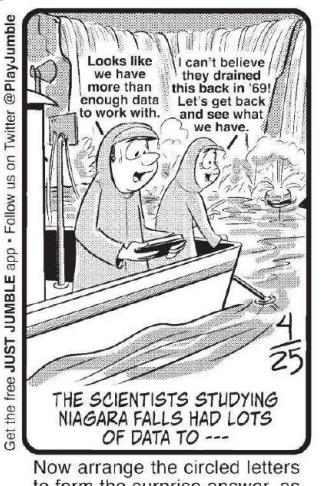
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ROGYL

TCEVO

FSEUED

LAPPOR



Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

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

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Print your answer here: " ____ " ____

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: POUCH FRONT GOSSIP REJECT
Answer: The cat thought the way his owner was petting him was — "PURR-FECTION"

Sudoku By The Mepham Group

Level 1 2 **3** 4

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

Solution to Wednesday's puzzle 4/25/24

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

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit ***sudoku.org.uk.***

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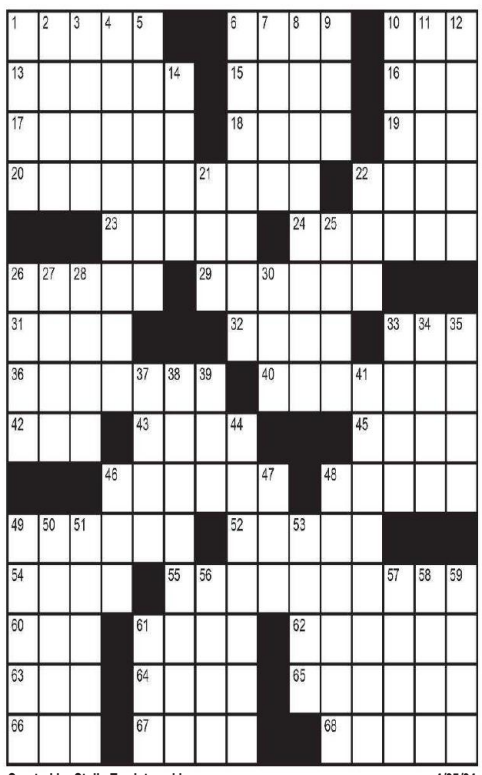
THE Daily Commuter Puzzle by Stella Zawistowski



ACROSS
1 Of kings and queens
6 Pedigree-free dog
10 Maple tree output
13 Sports game venues
15 China's continent
16 Color choice
17 In great numbers
18 Shallow's opposite
19 Summer hrs. in NYC
20 Crocodiles' relatives
22 "Not yet!"
23 Pitcher Ryan
24 Sly
26 Trousers
29 Ruins
31 For two, musically: 2 wds.
32 Broadcasts
33 The NFL's Newton
36 Athena, e.g.
40 "Fashion's Prom": 2 wds.
42 WNW's opposite
43 Ex-GIs
45 Don't include
46 Outfits, slangily
48 Act smug
49 Statue of Liberty's coating
52 Oohed and __
54 One-named supermodel
55 Spicy Christmas cookie
60 Crunch muscles
61 Earth's natural satellite
62 Ironic genre
63 Clear after taxes
64 Fully fill
65 Actor Christian
66 Mined resource
67 Delighted
68 Vision while asleep

DOWN
1 Sitarist's melody
2 Not written down
3 Shout
4 Put holy oil on
5 Slow musical movements
6 "Material Girl" singer
7 Manual reader
8 Reason for overtime: 2 wds.
9 Gene Kelly's style
10 Paper bundle
11 Sit in on, as a class
12 Small-minded
14 Circus barker
21 Greek T
22 Used to be
25 Take a breather
26 Senate staffer
27 Big fusses
28 Unclothed
30 Not bright
33 GI's wear, for short
34 Actress Shawkat
35 Actor Damon
37 __-steven
38 Decide what to aim at: 3 wds.
39 Tommy's dad on "Rugrats"
41 Kindergarten award: 2 wds.
44 Bridged
46 Martini ingredient
47 Droop
48 President Ford
49 Instrument with keys
50 Yellow shade
51 Food sample
53 Dame Myra __
56 Tiny amount
57 Evening, in ads
58 District
59 Hair-curling treatment
61 NYC sports venue

Created by Stella Zawistowski 4/25/24

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

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

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AMERICAN OPINION

Now it's up to lawmakers to protect kids from social media

LOS ANGELES TIMES

From state capitols to Washington, D.C., lawmakers are scrambling to come up with regulations that can protect kids from the potential harms of social media, since the platforms have been unwilling to adopt reasonable safeguards themselves.

In just the last few months, Florida passed a law banning children under 14 from having a social media account, Iowa legislators backed a bill that would require children under 18 to get parental permission to set up and use a social media account, and Colorado legislators passed a bill that would require platforms to display pop-up warnings on kids' accounts after an hour of use.

A dozen other states, including California, are considering or have passed laws that would force companies to design their platforms to be safer for kids. Changes could include stricter privacy settings, limiting data collection and targeted ads, and removing features that encourage kids to stay online longer, such as infinite scroll and autoplay, which automatically launches a new video when one ends. Congress is also working on bipartisan legislation with similar measures to require social media companies to enact safeguards to protect children.

This legislation is driven by a growing understanding that social media apps can be addictive and are dangerous to children's mental health. The American Psychological Association urged again this month that policymakers require that tech companies reduce the risks embedded in the platforms.

Yet the drive for regulation is facing stiff pushback from the tech industry, which has lobbied against the bills and filed lawsuits to block new legislation from taking effect, arguing the laws are unconstitutional. California's first-in-the-nation law to require that social media platforms be designed to protect children was blocked last fall by a federal judge who said the law likely violates the 1st Amendment rights of the tech companies that it seeks to regulate.

With California's first attempt held up in court, lawmakers are trying again this year.

Senate Bill 976 by Sen. Nancy Skinner (D-Berkeley) would require that social media platforms essentially turn off their algorithms for users under 18 and instead serve them content through a chronological feed from people they follow and information that they've searched for. The algorithms are designed to feed users a steady stream of content they didn't necessarily ask for that keeps them on the app, which is why the algorithms have been called addictive. That content may be more dangerous or extreme than what the user initially searched for or not age-appropriate.

The bill is sponsored by Attorney General Rob Bonta, who sued Meta last year alleging the company used harmful and "psychologically manipulative product features," such as "likes," infinite scroll and constant alerts, to hook young people on Instagram and Facebook and keep them engaged for as much time as possible in order to boost profits.

SB 976 attempts to curtail some of those features. It would bar platforms from sending notifications to children between 12 a.m. and 6 a.m., and require that social media platforms give parents the ability to change the settings on their kids' accounts, such as turning off notifications and setting time limits on usage. Parents could allow kids to opt in to the algorithmic feed or turn off restrictions.

These are reasonable safeguards and much less restrictive than proposals in other states, yet tech industry groups have opposed the bill. They argue that a chronological feed is no safer for children than an algorithmic feed; bad actors could flood a chronological feed with low quality or harmful content that bury posts from family or friends. They also said the bill will run up against the same 1st Amendment challenges as other laws because, along with limiting a minor's ability to access and share information, it would impede adults' access to lawful content because adults would have to prove their age to use the less restricted algorithmic feed and settings.

It's likely that any law attempting to put guardrails on social media platforms will face legal challenges. This is complex legal and regulatory terrain, but that's exactly why California lawmakers should keep pushing ahead with SB 976 and similar efforts. The tech industry has been unwilling to voluntarily change its practices to protect children. Lawmakers have to do it for them.

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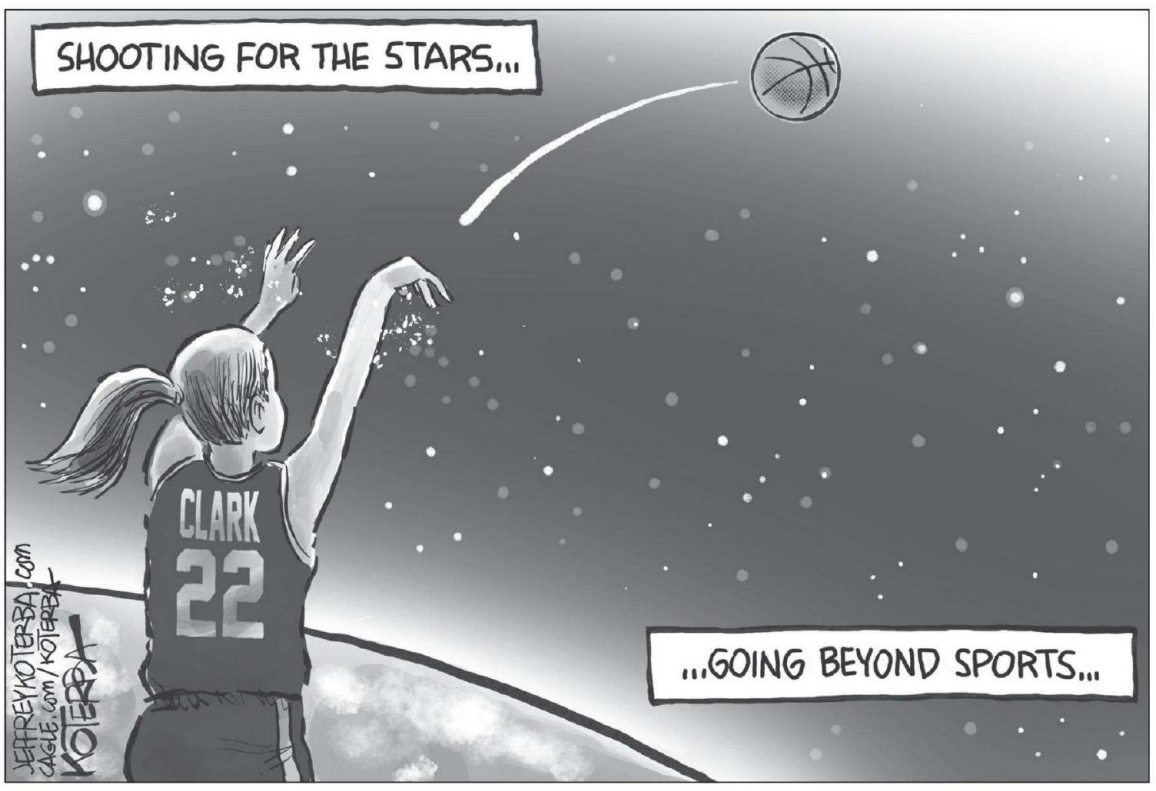
COMMENTARY

Clark's paltry $76K salary shows WNBA players deserve more money



Before we launch a GoFundMe page for Caitlin Clark, who will make a comparatively paltry $76,535 as a WNBA rookie this season, consider that the basketball phenom is poised to sign an eight-figure endorsement deal with Nike that will include her own signature shoe.

Caitlin Clark will be just fine. It's the other women's basketball players we should be worried about.

Remember, the WNBA is the same league that features Phoenix Mercury star Brittney Griner, who in 2022, spent nearly 300 days in a Russian jail after being wrongfully detained on a trumped-up drug smuggling charge.

The only reason Griner was even in Russia was because she couldn't make enough money playing the game she loves in her own country — and she is one of the higher paid players.

How bad is the WNBA's starting salary?

Yahoo Sports just posted a job on LinkedIn that pays almost as much, $73,000 to start, to post about the NBA and WNBA on social media.

Clark's contract has predictably sparkeddiscussion and debate over pay equity and the ever growing gender gap.

Even President Joe Biden weighed in on the controversy, calling for women to be "paid what they deserve."

"Women in sports continue to push new boundaries and inspire us all," the president posted on his X account.

"But right now we're seeing that even if you're the best, women are not paid their fair share. It's time that we give our daughters the same opportunities as our sons and ensure women are paid what they deserve."

Clark will pocket $338,056 over four years under her contract with the WNBA's Indiana Fever.

In contrast, last year's No. 1 NBA draft pick —7 foot, 4 inch Victor Wembanyama — secured a $55 million, four-year contract.

In fact, the NBA's lowest paid player, Mouhamed Gueye of the Atlanta Hawks makes a little more than $1.1 million, a sum that still dwarfs most WNBA salaries.

"Steph Curry makes more per game than what Caitlin Clark is making for 4 years!" journalist Lisa Ling wrote on Instagram. "With the toll sports and travel take on women's bodies, is this even a living wage?"

Of course Clark should be making more. As a legend at the University of Iowa, Clark made history as the NCAA's Division I all-time leading scorer.

More importantly, her play has increased interest and viewership of the game.

Her first-round pick helped to drive a 304% increase in viewership for the WNBA draft this week, shattering previous ratings records with 2.46 million viewers on ESPN.

But paying women basketball players what they deserve doesn't mean paying them what men make. And it's not sexist to say so.

Neither is it sexist to say that most men — and women — prefer to watch the NBA.

Comparing what WNBA players make to NBA salaries is like comparing apples and tractor trailer parts.

The name of the game is revenue, and the men's game generates much more of it. The WNBA has a TV contract worth $60 million.

The NBA's contract is worth $2.7 billion.

How much bigger is that? It's like standing Wembanyama next to Dawn Staley.

Staley just won her third national title as coach of the University of South Carolina, beating Clark and the University of Iowa in a game that drew 18.9 million viewers, the most-watched women's basketball game of all time

"Caitlin Clark is the sole reason why viewership has shot through the roof for our game — the sole reason," Staley said.

That's high praise from a woman who is already in the Basketball Hall of Fame.

Clark's presence in the game has been a slam dunk, which appears to be the only thing she can't do.

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As with other letters to the editor, they must be submitted with the writer's name, address and phone number (only the writer's name and city are published).

You can submit your letter online at Modulist.news. From there, you will need to sign up for an account so we have your contact information. That way, if we need to reach out to you, we have it. After you sign up, you can create a new listing for a "Community Engagement Letter," which is what Modulist calls election-related letters. The benefit of submitting a letter through Modulist is that the cost of your listing will be clearly displayed, and you have immediate customer support available if you should need it.

For help or questions, please call the Modulist team at (701) 241-5509. One of the team members will answer your questions, or be able to walk you through any obstacles.

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Letters should be limited to 350 words and must include the name of the author. Shorter letters are preferred. A telephone number should be included (the number will not be published).

All letters are subject to editing for grammar, length, accuracy and clarity.

The Herald will consider longer submissions for its Viewpoint columns. These are limited to writers with specific or pertinent expertise on an issue. Viewpoint columns must include a photo of the author.

Letters construed as advertising or "thank you" notes will not be published.

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– **GEORGE WINSHIP**, Herald founder

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Grand Forks Central students win awards in state SkillsUSA competition

More than 500 students competed in 40 occupational and leadership skill areas

BY PAMELA KNUDSON
Grand Forks Herald

GRAND FORKS — Six students from Grand Forks Central High School won awards at the 50th Annual North Dakota SkillsUSA Leadership and Skills Conference held earlier this month in Bismarck.

More than 500 students competed in 40 occupational and leadership skill areas, according to a Grand Forks school district spokesperson. The theme of this year's conference was "No Limits."

Grand Forks Central students who received medals are: Faith Tuinder, gold medal in advertising design; Colby Belzer, gold medal for computer programming; Owen Benware, silver, for electrical construction wiring; Micheal Wanschaffe, gold, and Ethan Thomas, silver, for information technology services; and Adam Thorvilson, gold, for technical drafting.

Tuinder, Belzer, Wanschaffe and Thorvilson qualified for the SkillsUSA national competition scheduled for June in Atlanta, Georgia.

Other Grand Forks Central students who participated in the competition were Bradley Salberg and Jaden Schwan in cabinetmaking, Brody and McCain Kendall in carpentry, and Sophia Hazle in technical drafting.

The 11 Grand Forks Central students who competed the conference also participated as voting delegates.

During the conference, student attendees heard a talk by motivational speaker Pat Bertagnolli, executive director of Job Service North Dakota. He spoke about his approach to community building and how together North Dakota residents can make a difference to overcome workforce challenges.

The student group was accompanied by their advisers: Paul Strande, who teaches building trades and woodworking courses; Nate Carlson, engineering and drafting; Cynthia Boehm, graphic design; and Zach Buchhop, information technology.

SkillsUSA is a national organization that serves trade, industrial, technical and health occupations students in public high schools, career and technical centers and schools, and two-year colleges. More than 320,000 students belong to the group, which is organized at more than 3,600 schools in 50 states and four U.S. territorial associations.

Knudson is a features reporter at the Herald. Call her at (701) 780-1107, (800) 477-6572 ext.1107 or email pknudson@gfherald.com.

Photo courtesy of Grand Forks Public Schools

Grand Forks Central and Red River high school students posed for a group photo at the 50th Annual North Dakota SkillsUSA Leadership and Skills Conference held earlier this month in Bismarck.

Grand Forks man charged with attempted murder after allegedly strangling coworker with extension cord

BY SAV KELLY
Grand Forks Herald

GRAND FORKS — A Grand Forks man has been charged with attempted murder and other violent crimes after allegedly strangling his coworker on Monday, April 22.

Alexander Antonio Thompson, 27, got into a physical altercation with a coworker at their workplace, according to an affidavit filed in the case. While on top of the coworker, Thompson allegedly put his hands around the man's throat, squeezing and restricting airflow.

After the two were separated, Thompson allegedly retrieved an electrical extension cord and wrapped it around the man's neck while he was walking away.

Witnesses said they observed the man's eyes rolling backward in his head, the affidavit said. He lost consciousness.

While strangling him, Thompson allegedly said, "I'm going to kill you."

Several coworkers had to intervene before Thompson released the man, the affidavit said.

Thompson is charged with Class A felony attempted murder, which has a maximum 20-year sentence. He's also charged with two counts of Class C felony aggravated assault.

His initial court appearance is scheduled for 9 a.m. on Wednesday, April 24.

Suboxone strips allegedly smuggled into county jail

BY SAV KELLY
Grand Forks Herald

GRAND FORKS — Suboxone film strips, hidden inside greeting card envelopes, were smuggled into the Grand Forks County Correctional Center, according to court documents.

On April 15, the Grand Forks County Sheriff's Office received a report from the correctional facility that a few days earlier, a piece of mail sent to an inmate was inspected and staff located "small, orange tablike" stickers inside the envelope's seam, according to a probable cause statement filed in a resulting criminal case.

Each strip had an "A8" inscription, which is commonly associated with Suboxone, the statement said. Suboxone is a medication made up of buprenorphine and naloxone, and is used to treat opioid disorder. It's available in tablet and film strip forms; the latter dissolves inside the mouth.

An informant at the correctional center said Andrew Harlan Stenerson was arranging for Suboxone strips to be sent to inmates within his unit via greeting card envelopes.

The sheriff's office discovered communication between Stenerson and Elaine Alexis Longtine.

During a phone call on March 19, Stenerson allegedly told Longtine, "where you lick it, you can't put it there, either." The statement was consistent with where the Suboxone strips were found inside the envelope, the statement said.

Other conversations between Stenerson and Longtine revolved around Suboxone use, Longtine sending Stenerson items in the mail and Stenerson instructing her not to send items at a certain time because "it" would sit over the weekend and dry out, the statement said.

Longtine allegedly responded, "I don't know how the mail works, I don't work for the post office."

Law enforcement learned Longtine had a prescription for Suboxone, the statement said.

On Tuesday, April 23, Stenerson was charged with Class A felony conspiracy to deliver or possess with intent to deliver a controlled substance in a correctional facility. The crime has a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison.

The affidavit in Stenerson's case alleges Longtine also committed a similar crime, however, no related charges were filed against her as of late Wednesday morning, April 24.

Stenerson, 32, had his initial court appearance Wednesday morning, during which his bond was set at $10,000 cash or surety. His preliminary hearing and arraignment are scheduled for 9 a.m. on June 3.

Crookston woman sentenced to 180 days for theft from employer

BY SAV KELLY
Grand Forks Herald

POLK COUNTY, Minn. — A Crookston woman was granted a staggered 180-day sentence on Tuesday, April 23, for the crimes of felony theft from an employer and aiding an offender.

Irene Thompson, 42, pleaded guilty to the crimes in February. In exchange, her two remaining charges, felony theft of lost property and felony possession of stolen property, were dismissed.

A proposed plea agreement said the state would argue for no more than 180 days in custody.

New Flyer, Thompson's previous employer, overpaid her $137,521.94, according to a probable cause statement filed in the case.

When the money was deposited into her account in December 2022, Thompson left work and never returned, nor did she respond to any attempts the company made to reach her, the statement said.

Thompson told law enforcement she believed the money was part of her 401K retirement plan, and said she spent most of it but would repay it.

Her retirement plan only had $14,425.40 in it when she quit, the statement said.

Thompson later said she knew she shouldn't have spent the money, and turned in what remained, which was $11,030.

On Tuesday, April 23, Thompson was sentenced to 24 months and two days in custody at the Northwest Regional Correctional Center, though she was only ordered to serve 180 days.

That time can be throughout three years. From July of this year to June of next year, Thompson must serve 20 days in jail and 40 days on electronic home monitoring. She will repeat this process in years two and three.

She has credit for two days served.

Thompson will be on supervised probation for five years. If she violates any conditions, she will be at risk of serving the entire 24 months and two days.

EGF to consider bringing back building incentive program

EAST GRAND FORKS — The East Grand Forks City Council will consider bringing back a $100,000 builder incentive program to increase the sale of residential lots in the city. Through this program, the city would provide a $100,000 no-interest construction loan to a Minnesota contractor in hopes of encouraging the development of more affordable housing.

The program was established several years ago, but was suspended in 2023 when the city ran out of available funds to run it. There is now enough money in the city's 280 fund — a housing incentive fund — to allow the construction of three homes, but Paul Gorte, East Grand Forks economic development director, said the city has been approached by eight contractors interested in the program.

At its April 23 work session, Gorte asked the City Council to consider authorizing loans to build all eight homes by using funds from other accounts, such as the city's reserves.

"So it's not an expenditure, it's just a loan out of the program," Gorte said. "This will encourage the sale of the lots more quickly, as we just talked about."

City Council President Mark Olstad noted that using $500,000 from the city's reserves amounted to 7% of that fund, which would be tied up until the homes were sold.

"I think that's the main question," Olstad said. "If we want to do that, is that something that we're being smart in taking care of the citizens' money?"

The city's 280 fund has been depleted in recent years by higher-than-usual tax abatements, said Karla Anderson, the city's finance director. Today, largely due to the sale of more lots, there is $196,000 in that fund, and with additional money feeding into the fund from a downpayment assistance fund, the city has an estimated $376,000 to work with.

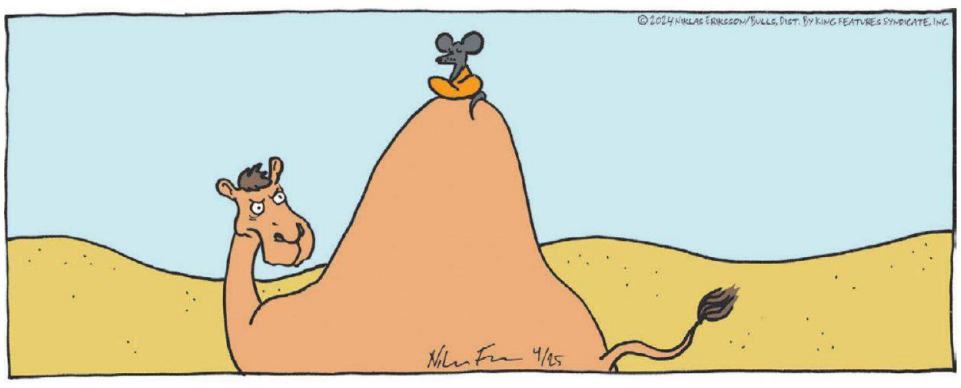
Anderson also suggested the city could use its Sunshine Terrace Funds instead of city reserves to fund loans for the additional five lots. There was also discussion about potentially adjusting the loans from $100,000 to a lower number, such as $75,000.

In other council news:

- The council will consider whether to update or replace the Cabela's billboard in Sherlock Park along Highway 2. A proposed agreement from Newman Outdoor Advertising would convert the existing sign to a digital display billboard with a 25-year location lease with the city. The estimated value of one seven-second ad slot for a full year is $14,040, or $1,170 per month. Newman is also offering the city $2,500 per month to lease the space should the city decide not to use the offered ad space. Plans for the billboard will be sent to the city planning and zoning department for approval prior to going before the council for a vote.
- The city received two bids for a city sidewalk and multi-use trail extension project. The lower bid, which came in 31% below the engineer's estimate, was from Q3 contracting out of Little Canada, Minnesota. The project has an estimated cost of $160,572.86, and would be funded by a carbon reduction grant and state aid maintenance funds.
- The city has identified up to four city lots located in the Waters Edge Second resubdivision to build single family homes through Northstar Neighbors' Community Land Trust program. Northstar Neighbors, a nonprofit that provides low- and moderate-incoming housing to northwest Minnesotans who otherwise would be unable to afford homeownership, is requesting a $10,000 donation from the city per lot. If the City Council decides to move forward with the program, it will need to approve its intent to donate to Northstar Neighbors at a May council meeting.
- The council will consider whether to update the city's aging sanitary and storm water lift station Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition systems. Public Works Director Jason Stordahl asked the council to begin the process to develop plans to upgrade those systems. In total, the update is expected to cost around $301,320.

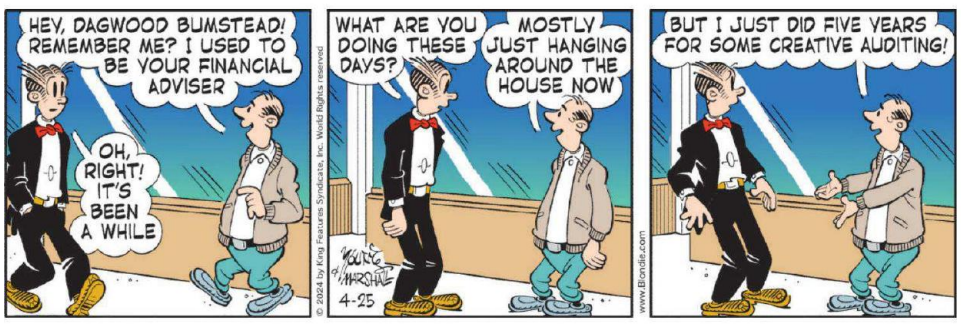
FLO & FRIENDS

CARPE DIEM



F MINUS

BLONDIE

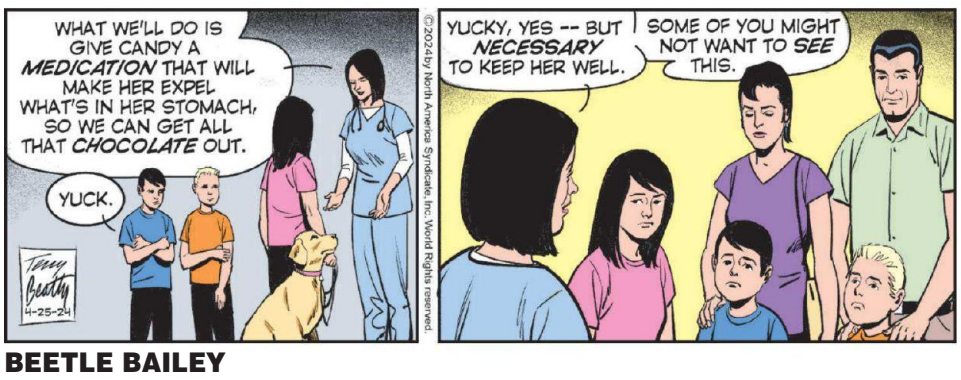


RHYMES WITH ORANGE

LUANN

GARFIELD

REX MORGAN

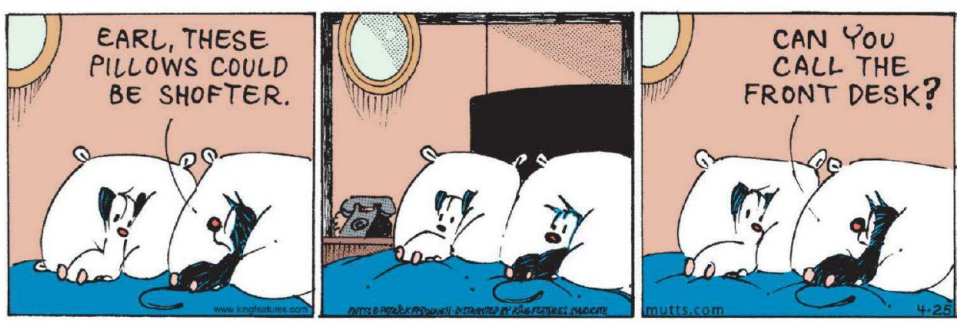


BEETLE BAILEY

TUNDRA

CRABGRASS

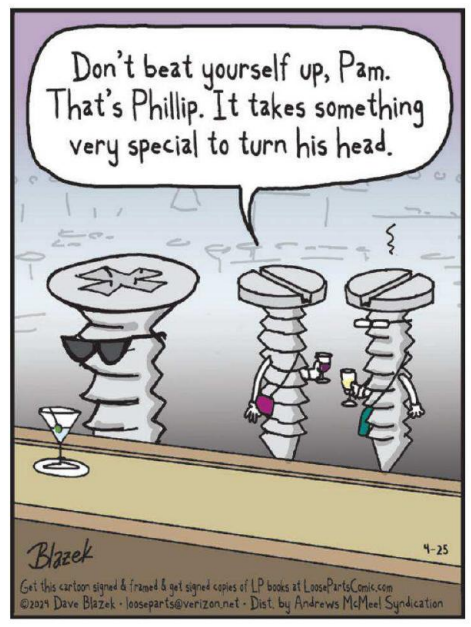
MUTTS



BABY BLUES

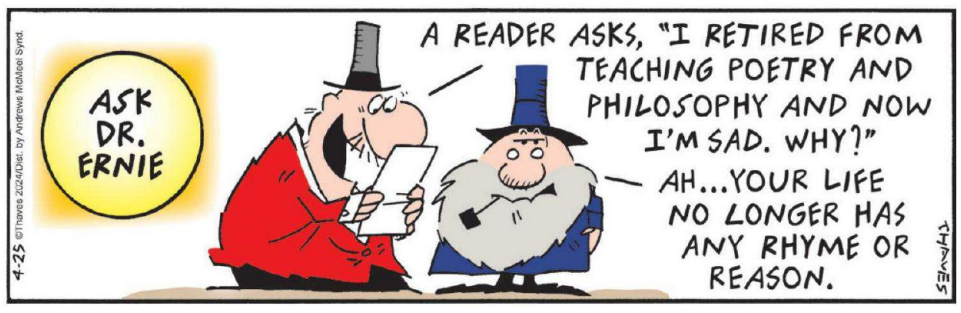
ONE BIG HAPPY

LOOSE PARTS

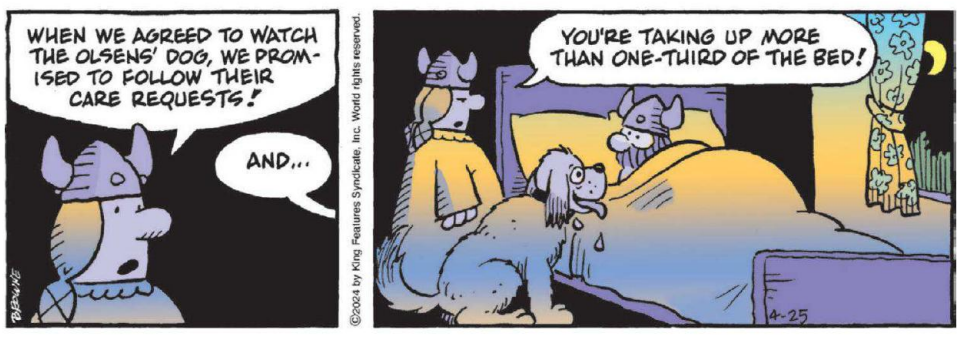


FLYING MCCOYS

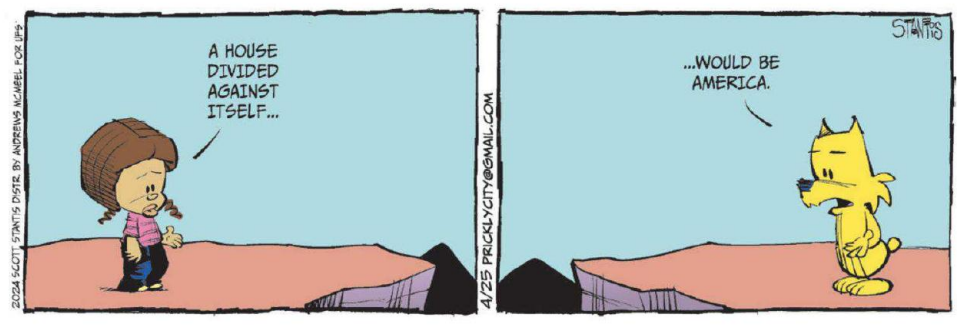
FRANK & ERNEST



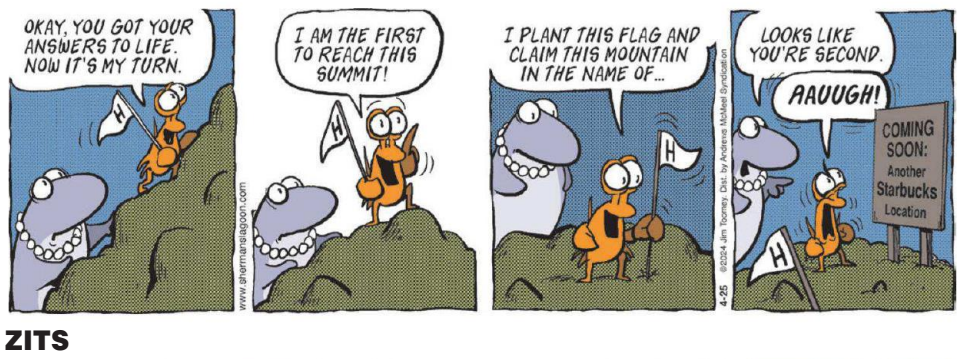
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



PRICKLY CITY



SHERMAN'S LAGOON



ZITS

BOYS GOLF

Eric Hylden/Grand Forks Herald

Red River's Kolby Koerner tied for medalist with Fargo Davies' Porter Seidel at Wednesday's EDC meet at King's Walk.

Riders roll to fourth-straight win

Red River shoots a 296 behind Kolby Koerner's 72 as Koerner ties for medalist honors

BY MAXWELL MARKO
Grand Forks Herald

GRAND FORKS

Selective aggressiveness has been a key for Grand Forks Red River golf this year and was a theme for the field at King's Walk Golf Course on Wednesday morning.

It worked out for the Roughriders again as they pulled out their fourth consecutive meet victory this season.

Coming down the 18th fairway, Kolby Koerner had a chip to put him within striking distance for birdie and potentially claim a medalist spot.

Next to him was Porter Seidel of Fargo Davies looking to do the same as he recovered from the greenside bunker to sit inside 5 feet.

Koerner elected to keep his approach short to give himself a little bit longer of a putt — but uphill and more stable than his groupmates.

From just around 10 feet, he nailed the putt and had the one-stroke lead. That lasted all of 20 or so seconds as Seidel converted his sand save for birdie to tie with an equal 72.

"Definitely wanted to play a little conservative here and there," Koerner said. "On 18, hit it short to try and get up and down for birdie, and if I don't, I make a par and a second-place finish. You have to play safe on the holes with the water because you could make a seven or eight."

With a 296 team gross and three Roughriders finishing in the top five of the individual leaderboard, Red River collected its second sub-300 round of the year behind the consistent efforts from Kolby Koerner, Silas Dusenbury and Ross Koerner.

"You want guys to be aggressive because it's scoreable and you don't have a lot of days set up like this. Everybody is going to be playing pretty aggressive and they should be comfortable to be aggressive being a home course," Red River coach Nathan Olson said.

While King's Walk can normally bring in strong winds and a home turf advantage, when the conditions are what they were like Wednesday morning, it opens the field quite a bit. It is a wide-open track without the wind, and through 11 holes, 18 golfers were within three strokes of first place.

Through those 11 holes, the Koerners and Dusenbury stood even. Kolby and Dusenbury were very consistent throughout the day as they combined for 27 pars.

Eric Hylden/Grand Forks Herald

Fargo Davies' Charlie Solberg hits out of the rough on #11 at King's Walk during Wednesday's EDC meet.

Kolby was only one-over through the front nine and opened his back nine with a dart on the 10th green within 2 feet for a tap-in birdie.

"I think you have to play it as if it is a windy day still," Koerner said. "You have to hit the green, you have to make a putt here and there. Mainly just hit the green and two-putt is what it is."

Dusenbury was bogey-free throughout the entire back nine until he ran into trouble on 17 and picked up a double bogey, knocking him out of the top individual spot.

Inversely working his way up the leaderboard with a bounce back was Fargo North's Carson Hannestad. He double-bogeyed on hole seven before birdies on nine and 14. He finished with a 74.

West Fargo's Tanner Wynn and Jack Josephson had up and down days, and while the valleys were low the hills were that much higher. Wynn came in from the turn at five-over with a 42. He would turn in a 32 on the back nine with three straight birdies on 11, 12 and 13.

Josephson carded a 76 while conquering six, seven and 15 with birdies.

"With that selective aggressiveness, you pick a hole where you are downwind or when the pin is at an accessible location and you don't try and force a 200-foot shot over water or pull off a hero shot," Olson said.

Sometimes wide competition like this can come with a little bit of luck. After a double-bogey on 16, Ross Koerner thought that luck was not on his side. Then coming into 18, his tee shot received a bounce off the cart path and put him within 150 yards of the pin. An up-and-down for eagle essentially erased that double bogey and kept him just one-over on the day for a 73.

"Sometimes things roll out on your side," Olson said.

Dusenbury and Koerners are now at the top of the EDC standings at just over 77 for season averages. Next week, schools will travel to Detroit Lakes for the joint Detroit Lakes-Valley City Invite.

BASEBALL

Riders use four-run inning to beat Knights

Red River's starter Griffen Haagenson has 10 strikeouts in 7-5 win over Central

BY ABBY SHARPE
Grand Forks Herald

GRAND FORKS — Griffen Haagenson was confident entering Grand Forks Red River's Wednesday rivalry tilt against Grand Forks Central.

It was evident on the mound, as the sophomore righthander struck out 10 and weathered Central's late comeback bid en route to a 7-5 win at Montgomery Field at Oxford Sports Complex Wednesday afternoon.

"It's always fun playing your old teammates, and it's really a rivalry," said Haagenson, who didn't walk a batter. "First conference win is pretty big for us, knowing that we can put the ball in play and really battle."

Entering the game, both Red River and Central had just one win on the season over Sioux Falls Christian. The Knights beat the Chargers 16-0 in four innings and Red River won 12-2 in six.

But wins in the Eastern Dakota Conference have been difficult to come by.

"A win's a win," Riders coach Mark Varriano said. "We got to clean some things up, obviously, but Griffen Haagenson threw a heck of a game. We had some timely hitting, ran the bases pretty well. We just have to learn how to win, and towards the end of the game, you have to learn how to put the pedal down."

Haagenson, who pitched a complete game, also recorded the Roughriders' first hit of the game in the second, then scored on an RBI single to right field from Adrian Gonzalez.

That jump started the Red River offense that put up four runs in the fourth inning. The Riders' seven total runs are the second-most scored by Red River this season.

Central started slow but found its offensive rhythm late in the game, scoring all five runs in the final two innings.

"I'm proud of them for not giving up and rolling over and dying," Central coach Danny Marto said.

RIDERS on A8

Former NDSU golfer Amy Olson retires from LPGA

David Samson/Forum Communications Co.

Amy Olson watches a shot on Tuesday, May 12, 2020, during the Bell Bank 2020 Play It Forward Golf Challenge at the Fargo Country Club.

BY JEFF KOLPACK
The Forum

FARGO

There have been plenty of descriptions of Amy Olson's golf game over the years, from champion, NCAA record setter to LPGA Tour player. On Wednesday, add one more: retired.

Fargo's greatest female player since Beverly Hanson in the 1950s announced on social media that she's done with the grind of the tour, officially putting 10 years in the rear view mirror for the next stage of life.

For golf in Fargo-Moorhead and the Red River Valley, it was a historic run.

"Truly, from the age of 8 years old, I gave it everything I had," Olson said. "I spent so much time, so much energy, I made a lot of sacrifices to reach what I believe was my potential. No regrets, I don't think I can look back and say I could have done something different."

It's no surprise. Olson for a while now has said she didn't plan on pro golf being a multi-decade quest and said several years ago that golf wasn't going to be her everything. Her marriage to North Dakota State assistant football coach Grant Olson and the birth of their daughter, Carly, last fall put the LPGA Tour down on the priority list.

"I wanted it to be a chapter in my life, I didn't want it to be the whole book," Amy said. "I was fortunate to do it for 10 years. I was kind of starting to wind down and obviously Grant and I are just thrilled that parenthood is in the next chapter but that necessarily wasn't the driving force behind it, I was ready to move on to the next chapter even before we knew we were going to have Carly."

After a standout junior career while growing up on the Oxbow Country Club course, her chapter at North Dakota State included setting an NCAA record with 20 individual tournament victories, breaking the mark of 17 set by Juli Inkster at San Jose State

OLSON on A8

SCOREBOARD

Boys golf

GF Invitational
At King's Walk, Wednesday
Team totals
GF Red River 296, West Fargo 309, Fargo Davies 311, West Fargo Sheyenne 312, Fargo North 315, GF Central 322, Fargo Shanley 326, Wahpeton 326, West Fargo Horace 328, Fargo South 338
Top individuals
1. (tie) Kolby Koerner, RR, 72, Porter Seidel, Davies, 72; 3.Ross Koerner, RR, 73; 4. (tie) Tanner Wynn, WF, 74, Silas Dusenbury, RR, 74, Carson Hannestad, FN, 74; 7. (tie) Jack Josephsen, WF, 76, Zach Skarperud, Shanley, 76; 9. (tie) Quinn Breidenbach, WFS, 77, Kyler Bydal, RR, 77, Michael Petersen, W, 77, Cole Wilber, GFC, 77
Other GFC scorers
Ryder Rivard 81, Trevor Anderson 81, Brady Fee 83, Dylin Harildstad 83

Prep baseball

Wednesday's results

Grand Forks Red River 7, Grand Forks Central 5
GFRR 011 410 x – 7 6 1
GFC 000 003 2 – 5 6 0
WP – Griffen Haagenson; **LP** – Noah Morkve
Highlights – GFC: Zach Benjamin 3x3, 2 runs, Braden Brevik 2x3, HR, Keegan Hensrud 1x3, run; GFRR: Griffen Haagenson 2x3, run, Adrian Gonzalez 2x3, 2B, RBI, Alex Seaver 1x2, 2B, 2 RBI, Jacob Chine 1x2, 2B

College softball

Wednesday's results

UND 3, Minnesota Crookston 0
UMC 000 000 0 – 0 3 1
UND 110 010 x – 3 6 1
WP – Jackie Albrecht; **LP** – Charlotte Dombrowski
Highlights – UND: Cassie Castaneda 2x2, RBI, Brooklyn Morris 1x1, run, RBI, Taya Hopfauf 1x3, run

TODAY'S GGF SCHEDULE

PREP BASEBALL

West Fargo at GF Central, 5 p.m.

Northern Freeze at EGF Sacred Heart, 4:30 p.m.

PREP SOFTBALL

West Fargo at GF Red River, 4:30 p.m.

Warroad at EGF Senior High, 4 p.m.

EGF Sacred Heart at Red Lake Falls, 5 p.m.

BOYS TENNIS

EGF Senior High vs. Bemidji, Sauk Rapids-Rice, in Bemidji, 12:30 p.m.

GIRLS TENNIS

West Fargo Sheyenne at GF Central, 3:30 p.m.

GF Red River at Fargo South, 4 p.m.

GIRLS SOCCER

West Fargo at GF Central, 7 p.m.

GF Red River at West Fargo Sheyenne, 7 p.m.

OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD

UND at Drake Relays, in Des Moines, Iowa

UND at Kip Janvrin Open, in Indianola, Iowa

ON TV-RADIO

BASEBALL

MLB: Boston at Cleveland or Philadelphia at Cincinnati, noon, MLB Network

MLB: Chicago White Sox at Minnesota, noon, BSN

MLB: Los Angeles Dodgers at Washington or San Diego at Colorado, 3 p.m., MLB Network

MLB: Oakland at New York Yankees, 6 p.m., MLB Network

BASKETBALL

NBA Playoff: Cleveland at Orlando, 6 p.m., NBA TV

NBA Playoff: New York at Philadelphia, 6:30 p.m., TNT, truTV

NBA Playoff: Denver at Los Angeles Lakers, 9 p.m., TNT, truTV

FOOTBALL

2024 NFL Draft: Round 1 in Detroit, 7 p.m., ESPN

GOLF

PGA Tour Golf: Zurich Classic of New Orleans, 2:30 p.m., GOLF

LPGA Tour Golf: JM Eagle LA Championship, 5:30 p.m., GOLF

DP World Tour Golf: ISPS Handa Championship, 10 p.m., GOLF

HOCKEY

Stanley Cup Playoff: Florida at Tampa Bay, 6 p.m., ESPN2

Stanley Cup Playoff: Carolina at N.Y. Islanders, 6:30 p.m., TBS

SOCCER

Premier League Soccer: Brighton vs. Manchester City, 2 p.m., USA

Former Sheyenne hoops star Jacksen Moni transferring to NDSU

Forward was a first-team NSIC selection last season at Northern State

BY DOM IZZO
WDAY

Kory Burdick / Northern State Athletics

Northern State junior Jacksen Moni (21) will transfer to North Dakota State next season. The 6-foot-10 forward played high school basketball at West Fargo Sheyenne.

FARGO — Jacksen Moni is heading home.

The West Fargo native announced Wednesday morning that he will transfer to North Dakota State to spend his final season of eligibility playing for the Bison.

The 6-foot-10 forward entered the NCAA transfer portal on March 21 after three standout seasons at Northern State in Aberdeen, South Dakota playing for former Bison head coach Saul Phillips.

The day after Moni entered the portal, NDSU offered him.

"Obviously, it's home. It's nice for me, I wanted to play at the Division One level. I also wanted to be a father figure as well for my six-month old daughter. So being close at Northern State is going to help me allow me to do that." Moni said.

Moni averaged 21 points, 8 rebounds and three assists per game this past season in earning a first-team Northern Sun selection.

Moni was highly sought after when entering the portal. He took visits to Wyoming, Drake and Illinois State, but chose to return home and play for Dave Richman's team.

"We are thrilled to welcome Jacksen back home," Richman said. "The addition of his size, skill, experience and character will blend terrifically with our current roster. Jacksen's drive to continue to develop and be a champion exemplify the qualities we want in our Bison Family."

Moni's size and ability to shoot the three-point shot made him a highly attractive transfer. He shot 33% from three-point range this past season, which at 6-10 is impressive. NDSU returns its top three three-point shooters from last year in Jacari White, Tajavis Miller and Noah Feddesen.

Feddersen, who is also 6-foot-10, shot 39% on three's making 21 of 54 attempts.

Moni returns to Fargo after a stellar career at West Fargo Sheyenne, playing for head coach Tom Kirchoffner. He averaged 12 points and 7 rebounds a game during his high school career for the Mustangs, he was a Mister Basketball finalist in his senior season in 2021. Moni and Sheyenne lost in the state semifinals that year to West Fargo.

"Just being able to play in my hometown and playing in front of my friends and my family. I think that'll be a great experience for me. Obviously, it's going to be an adjustment going from Division Two to Division One. It'll be growing pains, but just having the mentality to keep working and keep improving every day."

He reached the 1,000 point mark during his junior season with the Wolves, along with being named the Division II player of the week during mid-February.

Moni finishes his Northern State career with 1,527 points and 559 rebounds. He said his time in Aberdeen has enhanced his game in nearly aspect.

"I've been able to shoot the basketball pretty well, so I'm bringing that to NDSU. And just being experienced, I know I want to talk Coach Richman he wanted guys that are experienced playing basketball. I've got one year left, I've got three years of college basketball under my belt. So I think that I can help add that to the Bison family."

Moni is the second transfer to join the NDSU men's basketball roster for next season. Last week, VMI transfer point guard Brennan Watkins announced he was transferring to the Bison. He'll have two years of eligibility remaining.

NDSU saw five players leave through the portal after the season ended. Andrew Morgan transferred to Nebraska, Boden Skunberg to Illinois State, Josh Streit and Lance Waddles to Omaha and Sam Hastreiter to MSU Moorhead.

RIDERS

CONTINUED from A7

"They battle and they compete, and we just have to find a way earlier to get more balls in play, and make them earn it."

Central starting pitcher Noah Morkve allowed six runs, struck out five and walked six in three and a third innings. Marto pulled Morkve for Zach Benjamin in the fourth after Red River loaded the bases with one out in its four-run fourth inning.

Benjamin allowed one run the rest of the way and was 3-for-3 at the plate, scoring in Central's three-run sixth inning.

Benjamin was also standing at first when Braden Brevik launched a two-run home run to left field to bring the score to 7-5 in the seventh, but the comeback ended when Haagenson struck out Keegan Hensrud to end the game.

"We had one inning, we gave up a crooked number," Marto said. "If that number goes back to two, obviously it's a tie baseball game. I thought we did a good job of competing and battling and getting out of some jams. Just the one inning cost us."

Eric Hylden/Grand Forks Herald

Red River's Griffen Haagenson delivers a pitch against Grand Forks Central Wednesday, April 24, 2024.

OLSON

CONTINUED from A7

in the early 1980s. Next stop: the Bison Athletic Hall of Fame.

When she joined the Bison team in 2009, NDSU was in the early stages of a Division I program. Behind then Amy Anderson, it became immediately competitive.

"She meshed well with her teammates and motivated them to improve," said NDSU head coach Matt Johnson. "Her presence on the team also helped recruiting because other prospects saw that she was able to have great success playing at NDSU. Her success both in college and on the LPGA Tour continues to have a positive influence on our players to this day."

The announcement doesn't mean she'll never play in an LPGA event. Because she was considered a Class A player for four straight years, Olson has limited status for the rest of her career with the LPGA, meaning she can go play an event or two.

"If I go play a tournament, it's for fun," she said. "Professional golf and doing it as a career is done. It wouldn't be unheard of for me to go play but as Grant and I go on to the next phase in life, it's going to push golf even more to the side."

She's planning on playing in a qualifier for the U.S. Women's Open on May 6 at Woodhill Country Club in Wayzata, Minnesota. She took that route last July to make the Open at Pebble Beach, a tournament she played in while seven months pregnant.

"Truthfully, I've been telling everyone I hope I don't qualify because that would mean I have to keep practicing," she joked. "I don't want it to be like I'm done with golf, now I hate the game. I actually want to love the game now more than I ever did."

The game had its frustrations. She finished in a tie for second in the 2020 U.S. Women's Open. Earlier that year she finished second in the Australian Open. In 2018, she double bogeyed the final hole and finished in a tie second with three other players in The Evian Championship, just one shot out of first.

She finishes with $2.7 million in career earnings and 13 top-10 finishes. Her most consistent year was 2019 when she made 18 of 25 cuts.

"I had goals, I had dreams that kept me motivated," Olson said. "I didn't reach all of them, which no one ever does and you have to be realistic about that. There was a part of me where, oh, that's not going to be part of my story and that's what kept me motivated going to the golf course every single day practicing. So it's hard to let go of those sometimes."

Let go of a life that Hanson, a Fargo Central graduate and World Golf Hall of Fame inductee, chased in winning 17 LPGA tournaments. Hanson and Olson are the only area players to reach full-time tour status.

For Olson, there were downsides to professional golf. The immense travel and the commitment to practice are often not done in front of cameras .

"Trust me, I loved it in a lot of ways but there were a lot of days I did not love it," Olson said. "That's what you do when you have a goal, you sacrifice, you do the things you don't like … but I was getting to the point in life where I wanted other things more."

Those other things became official on Wednesday.

Significant events in Amy Olson's career:

- 2006: Won second straight Minnesota Players Cup 13-15 division
- 2008: Won third straight Fargo-Moorhead Women's All-City; won Birchmont in Bemidji, Minn.
- 2009: U.S. Junior Girls Amateur champion; led first round of U.S. Women's Amateur; Won PGA Junior Series 16-18 division by 16 shots; first female to advance to championship flight of Pine to Palm, lost to Tom Hoge in semifinal match
- 2010: Summit League Golfer of the Year; NCAA tournament qualifier; North Dakota Non-School Athlete of the Year; medalist at Women's Western Golf Association National Amateur Championship
- 2011: Summer League Golfer of the Year; T-12 at NCAA Championship; NCAA Elite-88 award winner; T-1 after first round of U.S. Women's Open
- 2012: Member U.S. Curtis Cup team; third straight Summit Golfer of the Year; solo-2 at World University Golf Championships in Czech Republic; Dinah Shore Trophy winner by LPGA Foundation; lost to top-ranked Lydia Ko in U.S. Women's Amateur
- 2013: Set NCAA record for tournament victories with 20; first Summit three-time champion; finalist, NCAA Woman of the Year Award; first team academic All-American; earned first LPGA Tour card
- 2014: made LPGA Tour debut at Pure Silk Bahamas Classic; T-7 at LPGA LOTTE Championship
- 2018: T-2 at Evian Championship, T-9 Chevron Championship (majors)
- 2019: Joined Betsy King's LPGA's "Golf Fore Africa" charity group
- 2020: T-2, U.S. Women's Open, solo-2 at Australian Open; three top-10 finishes
- 2021: T-2, Kia Classic
- 2023: Played U.S. Women's Open at seven months pregnant

Former North Dakota State golfer Amy Olson, now an LPGA Tour professional, asks participants how many of their parents taught them to golf while leading a youth clinic Thursday, July 12, 2018, at Osgood Golf Course in Fargo. Olson gave advice to the aspiring golfers, demonstrated techniques and answered questions before taking photos with the children. Erin Bormett / The Forum

Readers can reach Forum reporter Jeff Kolpack at jkolpack@forumcomm.com. Twitter@KolpackInForum

Armstrong, Miller debate in ND governor race

BY APRIL BAUMGARTEN
The Forum

Contributed / Prairie Public

U.S. Rep. Kelly Armstrong, R-North Dakota, left, and North Dakota Lt. Gov. Tammy Miller, right, participate in a Tuesday debate hosted by Prairie Public as they compete for governor in the Republican primary.

FARGO — Two Republican candidates have tried to set themselves apart from each other in the first debate for the North Dakota governor's race, with one saying he is an experienced lawmaker and the other claiming North Dakotans want a business leader.

Lt. Gov. Tammy Miller and U.S. Rep. Kelly Armstrong went head-to-head Tuesday, April 23, in a one-hour Prairie Public live broadcast. The two are vying for a post held by Gov. Doug Burgum.

The head of North Dakota said he would not seek a third term, leaving Burgum's seat open at the end of the year. Armstrong and Miller will face off in the June 11 primary.

The winner in that race will go to the November general election, along with Democratic governor nominee Merrill Piepkorn and independent candidate Michael Coachman.

The first few minutes set a contentious tone for the night. In opening statements, Miller said North Dakotans have a choice for governor.

"Do you want your next governor to be an outsider and business leader or a career politician?" she asked. "Our state has succeeded with governors who have extensive private industry experience, and our country was so much better off with Donald Trump as our president, the ultimate outsider and business leader."

Both candidates have promoted their support for Trump.

Miller has made her 14 years as Border States CEO a focal point of her gubernatorial campaign. Burgum appointed her chief operating officer for his office in April 2020 before making her his lieutenant governor in January 2023.

Armstrong bolstered his experience as a North Dakota legislator from 2012 through 2018, when he was elected to the U.S. House.

"I've been in the arena," he said.

He later called out Miller for using the term "career politician," noting she has been in the governor's office the same amount of time he has been in the U.S. House. Armstrong said he has relationships with the state Legislature and knows how to work with them.

"North Dakota wasn't built by corporate America, and you don't have to be a large CEO to be governor here," he said in closing statements. "It's not actually who we really are."

A governor is the leader, or CEO, of the executive branch, Miller said. She said she has a good understanding of state issues and knows how to bring people together.

"I will be making every decision for the citizens of North Dakota," she said.

"I think the problem with that is, the Legislature doesn't work for you … and your constituents don't work for you," Armstrong said. "This is a relationship business."

Miller said it was insulting to suggest CEOs can't have relationships.

"Managing a multibillion-dollar company, growing it from $485 million to over $2.5 billion doesn't happen without good relationships," she said. "I know how to build relationships, I know how to capitalize on those relationships, and I know how to get things done. I have a proven track record of results."

Some agreements, some debate

The two agreed on several topics, including affordable access to medical services for senior citizens, promoting the oil and gas industry, protecting Second Amendment rights, and a near-total ban on abortion.

Both agreed that red flag laws, which allow courts to temporarily take guns away from people who are found to be a danger to themselves or others, are unconstitutional.

"I've never seen one that protects due process rights," Armstrong said.

"This is one thing that I completely agree on with my opponent," Miller said. "Red flag laws are not the solution to gun violence."

Even on issues where they debated more intensely, they leaned toward conservative beliefs.

For example, the two agreed that the North Dakota Legislature did not go too far when it passed laws last year that prohibit transgender girls and women from joining female sports and a ban on gender-affirming care.

"I think we won the culture wars during the last legislative session," Miller said.

"Boys should not play girls sports," Armstrong said. "That is just a fact. That is reality."

When it came to banning LGTBQ books that discuss sex, Armstrong said he wants local school boards making those decisions, while Miller said the state needs consistent policy across the state.

"Who wants their child to see pornography in the library?" she asked.

The Legacy Fund was also put on the table. The fund, which comes from oil and natural gas tax revenues, has seen more than $8 billion in deposits since it was established by voters in 2010.

Armstrong called for more transparency in where the funds are invested, noting $800 million is invested in 23 banks in 12 countries that have signed the net-zero pledge.

"We are investing taxpayer money in North Dakota's own demise," he said.

Residents shouldn't have to file an open records request to know where their tax dollars are invested, Armstrong said.

"Government is at its worst when it is paternal," he said. "When government says, if you just knew what I knew, you would do what I do."

Miller fired back, saying the state has a website showing financial statements and holds open meetings. Legacy dollars are invested in great funds and infrastructure, she said.

"I think we have good transparency in the Legacy Fund," she said.

DEATH NOTICE

Michael W. Gillig

Aug. 9, 1955 - April 16, 2024

GENEVA, Ill. - Michael W. Gillig, 68, Aurora, Ill., died Tuesday, April 16, in Geneva.

Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., with a memorial service at 1 p.m., Saturday, May 25, at DuPage Funeral Chapel in West Chicago, Ill. In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to The Nature Conservancy in Illinois.

Arrangements by DuPage Funeral Chapel.

BRIEF

Recovery Talk expands addiction services in North Dakota

BISMARCK — Recovery Talk, a North Dakota Health and Human Services program that provides confidential assistance to North Dakotans in addiction recovery is now offering scheduled times specialists can reach out to clients.

Recovery Talk connects people with trained peer support specialists who have lived experience with recovery. The specialists can also provide resources for treatment and other services within the caller's community. An additional "outgoing service" now allows peer support specialists to contact and connect with individuals on a pre-scheduled basis. This ensures consistent and ongoing support for program participants.

"Recovery Talk offers people additional recovery support at any time, including weekends and holidays," said Lacresha Graham Heath and Human Services behavioral health division addiction manager.

In 2023, Recovery Talk answered 1,159 calls from North Dakotans in recovery.

Call or text 701-291-7901 anytime to chat with a peer support specialist and schedule future calls at a convenient time. Visit hhs.nd.gov/recoverytalk for more information.

Forum News Service

ALERUS

CONTINUED from A1

Raising capital

Just over half of the capital campaign goal has been raised, including $20 million raised in the past 12 months, Miskavige said. "We want to raise $20 million this year."

"We're also looking for our naming donor," she said.

Donations have and are expected to come throughout the region and beyond, Miskavige said, "from anyone with a connection to this area or who are interested in advancing preschool-12 education. Anyone who loves lifelong learning."

"We need the whole community to get involved," she added.

The North Dakota Legislature has provided two $100,000 planning grants for the project – one from the Department of Commerce and the other from North Dakota Tourism – and $5 million in the 2023 legislative session, Miskavige said.

Grand Forks City Council has committed $10 million over a period of years, a time frame that is still being determined, she said.

The $50,000 grant, presented Tuesday, is from the FHLB Des Moines Member Impact Fund, which provides $3 for every $1 of an eligible FHLB Des Moines member's grant donation, according to a news release from Alerus Financial. The grant is intended to strengthen the ability of nonprofits or government entities to serve the affordable housing or community development needs of their communities.

The Member Impact Fund matching program is available to member institutions, such as Alerus Financial, which apply for the funds. Funds are distributed directly to the member institution, which then provides the funding alongside a matching grant from FHLB Des Moines for the partner or recipient organization.

Commitment to the region

Katie Mayer, executive director of the Grand Forks Children's Museum, said, "We are extremely thankful to Alerus and Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines for their support. This generous gift demonstrates their commitment to investing in our region and the future generations of our community."

Contributed

A rendering shows plans for the Grand Forks Children's Museum.

About the progress of the capital campaign, she said, "We have a lot of work to do, but we believe we can do it."

Mayer is serving part-time as executive director of the Grand Forks Children's Museum until her role as principal of Holy Family-St. Mary's School ends June 30. She will work full-time for the museum beginning July 1, she said.

"It's a great project, and so many people want to get involved," Mayer said.

Wolf said the team involved in building momentum and support for the Children's Museum "has done a tremendous job getting to this point."

"I sure appreciate what you guys are doing," Wolf told the several museum board members who gathered at Alerus Financial on Tuesday. "The ball is rolling."

The Children's Museum "will provide year-round amenities for families and educational opportunities for children from throughout the region, making it a great fit for our community development focus," he said in a news release.

"We're proud to provide our support in partnership with FHLB Des Moines, and we're excited to watch this project come to fruition, which will have a long-term positive impact on our community."

Knudson is a features reporter at the Herald. Call her at (701) 780-1107, (800) 477-6572 ext.1107 or email pknudson@gfherald.com.

FEDORCHAK

CONTINUED from A1

time, and it needs to be fixed," Fedorchak said. She continued by saying that securing energy and the national grid is a key part of national security, as well.

"Maintaining a reliable grid to service us and serve our needs is absolutely vital to our security in our communities and our homes," Fedorchak said. "Energy security is a key piece of national security and I will be a very strong leader in that regard in Congress."

Fedorchak also supports a national "floor" on abortion where the procedure would be illegal after 12 to 22 weeks of pregnancy with exceptions for the health of the mother. She also would want states to have the ability to go more restrictive if a state so chooses.

"I think our biggest challenge as a pro-life leader is to get the focus back on promoting a culture of life and supporting moms and families," Fedorchak said. "I don't know very many people that think abortion is a good thing, so let's work together to reduce abortion and reduce the occurrence of unwanted pregnancies and to support women and men in choosing life."

Abortion has been illegal in North Dakota since the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade in 2022. The North Dakota's sole clinic – formerly in Fargo – moved to Moorhead, Minnesota, where abortion is protected under the state's constitution and in state law.

Fedorchak said she has also heard from many people that they are frustrated with the "woke" agenda.

"We know in North Dakota that boys shouldn't be playing girls' sports, we know that cops are the good guys, they aren't the bad guys," Fedorchak said. "The government needs to get out of the way of parents and let parents parent. Nobody had a better interest in their children than the parents."

TEACHERS
CONTINUED from A1

written responses to questions for GFEA members' consideration.

Flynn said she wanted to continue the work she started during her first two terms on the School Board, including the board's recent turn to focusing more closely on the experience inside schools.

"The focus of the board should be learning about academics and what the students are going through," Flynn said.

Of the three candidates, she dealt most in concrete examples from her time on the board, pointing to both success like last year's teacher salary bump and paternal leave as well as the board's failure to do a better job connecting with community members and "telling (the district's) story" to community members and legislators.

In his opening remarks, Kleven, an engineer with AE2S Engineering, said he wanted to champion the value public schools brought to the community in light of increasing skepticism toward public education and legislative pushes for options like school choice.

He was candid about his status as a political neophyte, though he noted he could help facilitate intergovernmental dialogue through his professional contacts, and said he would focus on improving student and teacher well-being as well as facilitating open communication.

"Being standoffish doesn't work in North Dakota," he said. "And the best way to not be standoffish is to talk to people."

Murphy, a businessman who ran for School Board in 2022, said he would "bring more of a data-driven approach" to the school district and push for policies like merit-based pay for teachers based on students' academic improvement – he later extended that to administrators as well – and for greater administrative support for discipline.

He said today's students suffered from a culture of narcissism and described kids as "dumb" and in need of direction.

"We want to instill values where we want to live for others," he said.

He later clarified to the Herald, saying by "dumb" he meant "inexperienced."

"The argument I made was that because kids are, well, kids, they need to be directed by adults and not running the show, as has been the case far too often in the classroom," he wrote in an email.

In their written responses, Manley wrote about increasing the district's general fund reserves to 15% of operating expenses and improving teachers' experience in the district.

Lunn emphasized the importance of retaining teachers and better communication with community stakeholders, citing the controversy over proposed cuts to music and foreign language teachers' full-time equivalency.

"Once there was complete information, the logical decision was easier to see," Lunn wrote.

Both said they would like to see School Board tours of district schools return, which Flynn also alluded to at the GFEA forum.

In the forum, Flynn and Kleven both spoke about the need to improve student and teacher well-being and mental health, with Kleven speaking about improving teachers' work environment through "non-monetary benefits" like greater schedule flexibility and Flynn pushing for improved mental health resources.

She notably disclosed she disagreed with administrators' decision to cut the district's licensed addiction counselor, one of the only such positions in North Dakota, in next year's budget.

"Unfortunately, sometimes when you're cutting into meat, it goes into bone, and we're going to feel the effects of that," she said, adding she expected administrators to reverse course on that decision in the future. (Flynn told the Herald later that staff cuts were still ultimately up to administrators, as she has said previously.)

Toward the end of the session, one GFEA member asked the board about bridging the gap between district leadership and teachers, particularly given a School Board policy that is viewed as an effective gag order for teachers to address the board on district policy.

Kleven conceded he lacked the board experience to speak about the issue but that he would keep an open door if elected.

Murphy appeared to suggest teachers should simply ignore the policy.

"If it's a policy position that you want to, come to public (comment) and voice your opinion," he said. "If its personnel, go through the proper channels, but don't feel like there's a culture of fear and intimidation, right? … If you feel like that's the case, we've got a much deeper problem."

Flynn also indicated she was open to changing that policy.

"There's a gap there that's been identified and we need to figure it out and stop saying 'there's a policy in the way,'" Flynn said. "We're a policy-making board, we can figure it out."

Eric Hylden / Grand Forks Herald

School board candidates (L-R) Amber Flynn, board president, Jay Kleven and Cameron Murphy discuss their views during a candidate forum Tuesday at Red River High School.

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Total Liabilities	449,507,511.00
Aggregate write-ins for special surplus funds	0.00
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Preferred Capital Stock	0.00
Aggregate Write-ins for Other Than Special Surplus Funds	0.00
Surplus Notes	0.00
Gross Paid in and Contributed Surplus	0.00
Unassigned Funds	1,046,467,667.00
Total Capital and Surplus	1,047,467,667.00
Total Liabilities, Capital And Surplus	1,496,975,178.00

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Total Premiums Earned	167,181,754.00
Total Amount Incurred	142,052,934.00

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

I, Jon Godfread, Commissioner of Insurance of the State of North Dakota, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true Abstract of Statement, as officially filed by the Company in this office.
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of this office at Bismarck, the first day of May, A.D. 2024 (SEAL).
JON GODFREAD
Commissioner of Insurance

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE
COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, the above corporation duly organized under the laws of its state or country of domicile, has filed in this office a sworn statement exhibiting its condition and business for the year ending December 31, 2023 conformable to the requirements of the laws of this State regarding the business of insurance and
WHEREAS, the said company has filed in this office a duly certified copy of its charter with certificate of organization in compliance with the requirements of insurance law aforesaid,
NOW THEREFORE, I, JON GODFREAD, Commissioner of Insurance of the State of North Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named company is fully empowered through its authorized agents and representatives, to transact its appropriated business of authorized insurance in the state according to the laws thereof, until the 30th day of April, A.D. 2025.
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal at Bismarck this first day of May, A.D., 2024 (SEAL)
JON GODFREAD
Commissioner of Insurance
(Apr. 25; May. 2 & 9, 2024)

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN DISTRICT COURT, GRAND FORKS COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA
Civil No. 18-2023-CV-02484
NOTICE OF EXECUTION SALE

The Industrial Commission of North Dakota, acting as the North Dakota Housing Finance Agency,
Plaintiff,

vs.

Cynthia Joy Austin fka Cynthia J. Birkholz; Timothy A. Birkholz; and any other person in possession;
Defendants.

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that by virtue of a judgment and decree of foreclosure rendered and given in the District Court in and for the County of Grand Forks, North Dakota, Northeast Central Judicial District, entered and docketed in the Office of the Clerk of said Court on February 28, 2024, in an action wherein The Industrial Commission of North Dakota, acting in its capacity as the North Dakota Housing Finance Agency was Plaintiff and Cynthia Joy Austin fka Cynthia J. Birkholz; Timothy A. Birkholz; and any other person in possession were the Defendants; on which day it was adjudged that there was due and owing the Plaintiff from the Defendants Cynthia Joy Austin fka Cynthia J. Birkholz and Timothy A. Birkholz together with costs and disbursements of said action, the sum of $139,855.97, and by virtue of a Special Execution issued to me by the Clerk of said Court, I will sell the real property described in said judgment and hereafter described to the highest bidder for cash at public auction at the front door of the Courthouse in the City of Grand Forks, County of Grand Forks, North Dakota, on May 28, 2024, at the hour of 10:15 a.m. of that day to satisfy the amount due with accrued costs and interest at the date of sale, or so much thereof as the proceeds of said sale applicable thereto will satisfy.
2. The premises to be sold as aforesaid are situated in the County of Grand Forks , State of North Dakota, and are more particularly described as follows:

Lot B, in Block 36, Replat of Lots 1 and 3 and the Northwesterly 20 feet of Lot 5, Block 36, McCormack's Addition to the City of Grand Forks, North Dakota, according to the plat thereof on file in the Office of the County Recorder within and for Grand Forks County, N.D., and recorded as Document No. 459072.
(Street Address: 727 N. 4th Street Grand Forks, ND 58203)

Dated at Grand Forks, North Dakota, this 15 day of April, 2024.
Andy Schneider
Sheriff of Grand Forks County, ND
By: Corporal Chris Hutton

Dean A. Rindy (ND ID #04206)
Sarah A. Aaberg (ND ID #08393)
Special Assistant Attorney General for The Industrial Commission of North Dakota, acting in its capacity as the North Dakota Housing Finance Agency
Attorney for Plaintiff
720 Main Avenue
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dean@okeeffeattorneys.com
sarah@okeeffeattorneys.com
(Apr. 18 & 25; May. 2, 2024)

NOTICE OF HEARING
IN DISTRICT COURT, GRAND FORKS COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA
In the Matter of The Estate of Michael S. Cole, Deceased
Probate No. 18-2024-PR-00065
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that Dennis L. Cole has filed a Petition for Adjudication of Intestacy and Formal Appointment of a Personal Representative in the above Estate. Hearing has been set upon said Petition on June 4th, 2024, at 11:30 a.m., local time, at the Courtroom of the above-named Court in the City of Grand Forks, County of Grand Forks, State of North Dakota.
Interested parties making an appearance or objection should contact the undersigned attorney prior to the hearing.
Dated this 18th day of April 2024.
/s/Shannon P Uglem
Shannon P. Uglem No. 05911 Attorney for Applicants
UGLEM LAW, P.C.
PO Box 589
Northwood, ND 58267
701-587-6121
shannon@uglemlaw.com
(Apr. 25; May. 2 & 9, 2024)

NFL

WHY THE VIKINGS ARE THE MOST DESIRABLE TEAM FOR A ROOKIE QB

The decision will define the tenures of general manager Adofo-Mensah and coach O'Connell

BY DANE MIZUTANI
St. Paul Pioneer Press

The question has defined the past couple of months for the Vikings: Will they trade up to draft a quarterback?

The answer will finally come on Thursday night when the Vikings are on the clock in the first round of the 2024 NFL Draft.

Whether it ends up being LSU quarterback Jayden Daniels, UNC quarterback Drake Maye, Michigan quarterback J.J. McCarthy, Washington quarterback Michael Penix, or Oregon quarterback Bo Nix remains to be seen. The only thing that feels certain at this point is that the Vikings will be leaving the first round with a new quarterback.

The decision ultimately will define the tenures of general manager Kwesi Adofo-Mensah and head coach Kevin O'Connell. If they get it right, they will be royalty in Minnesota. If they get it wrong, they will be run out of town sooner rather than later.

The magnitude of the task at hand isn't lost on either of them. They have been preparing for this moment since they joined forces in the name of collaboration. They are ready to live with the results.

"Just because something is risky doesn't mean we're scared of it," Adofo-Mensah said. "We've got to take our swing."

The risk involved doesn't give the Vikings any sort of pause, nor should it, especially considering the pieces they already have in place. Frankly, there isn't a more desirable landing spot for a rookie quarterback. Not with all the offensive weapons the Vikings have a their disposal.

"The path is not the same for every player," O'Connell said. "We just happen to have a really good situation."

Everything a rookie quarterback needs to succeed seems to be in place at TCO Performance Center, even if he ends up watching from the sidelines this season with journeyman quarterback Sam Darnold under center.

Not only do the Vikings have a pair of dynamic playmakers in star receiver Justin Jefferson and young receiver Jordan Addison, a security blanket in star tight end T.J. Hockenson, and a workhorse in veteran running back Aaron Jones, they have an offensive mastermind in O'Connell running the show.

"If we gave truth serum to the quarterbacks and the agents of all the top guys, every single one of them would say they would love nothing more than to go to the Vikings," NFL Network analyst Daniel Jeremiah said. "That would be the No. 1 choice. That is by far the best landing spot for a quarterback to go into. It's all set up."

It's a perfect example of how the concept of "Nature vs. Nurture" can go a long way in determining success.

The pre-draft process is rooted in determining how good a particular player can be based on his talent alone. It does not take into account the situation a particular player is walking into. Sometimes that can make all the difference in development.

"That's the interesting part," Adofo-Mensah said. "You go back and look at some of these historical things and everybody talks about the low hit rates. Is that because the player wasn't good, or because the situation wasn't great? I'm not saying I know the answer to that."

The infrastructure the Vikings have built should be able to support whichever rookie quarterback they decide to take. The same thing can't be said about, say, the Washington Commanders, who own the No. 2 pick, or the New England Patriots, who own the No. 3 pick.

Scott Takushi / St. Paul Pioneer Press

Kevin O'Connell, right, the new head coach of the Minnesota Vikings, is introduced by Vikings General Manager Kwesi Adofo-Mensah, left, during a news conference in Eagan, Minnesota on Feb. 17, 2022.

"It's not just getting the quarterback right," Adofo-Mensah said. "It's getting the quarterback right and the team around it."

Should that deter the Commanders from taking Daniels or the Patriots from taking Maye? It depends on who's being asked the question.

"I'm a fan of taking the quarterback and figuring out the rest at a later date," ESPN analyst Field Yates said. "It's such a tricky line to be toeing when a team is expecting to have the chance to draft a quarterback."

That's precisely why the Vikings should be aggressive in their pursuit of a quarterback in the 2024 NFL Draft. There's no guarantee they are going to be in a better position to make a splash in the coming years. They have never drafted a quarterback in the Top 10, and this might be their best opportunity to do so.

"We're not the only team that may want to select one of these guys," O'Connell said. "We're working through making sure we know the landscape of the whole class at that position, as we are many, many positions throughout the draft that we think we can help our team win."

2024 draft picks

Here's a look at where the Vikings are picking in the 2024 NFL Draft. Notably, they have a couple of selections on Day 1, barring a trade, and no selections on Day 2.

No. 11 (first round)
No. 23 (first round)
No. 108 (fourth round)
No. 129 (fourth round)
No. 157 (fifth round)
No. 167 (fifth round)
No. 177 (sixth round)
No. 230 (seventh round)
No. 232 (seventh round)

NFL DRAFT

Mock Draft: QBs go 1-2-3 after Vikings trade up

Bears nab USC's Williams in what could be a top-heavy offensive draft in the first round Thursday

BY SAM FARMER
L.A. Times

This will be the first NFL Draft held in the Motor City.

Fittingly, the first few teams will be looking for offensive engines.

Quarterbacks were selected No. 1 overall in seven of the last 10 drafts, and that figures to be the case again Thursday with the Chicago Bears likely to take former USC standout Caleb Williams.

And as was the case in 2021, quarterbacks could go 1-2-3.

This mock draft contemplates a trade near the top, with conjecture that the New England Patriots could swap the No. 3 pick for Minnesota's two first-round selections at 11 and 23. Both teams are in the market for quarterbacks, so it's perfectly reasonable that the Patriots might stay put.

Regardless, there is intrigue at the top of this year's draft.

There's also legacy. This field of prospects features several whose fathers played in the NFL, among them Marvin Harrison Jr. and Frank Gore Jr., Kris Jenkins, who likewise shares his father's name, along with Brenden Rice (son of Jerry Rice), Joe Alt (John Alt), Luke McCaffrey (Ed McCaffrey) and Jonah Elliss (Luther Elliss).

Harrison is likely to be a top-five pick and the first non-quarterback off the board.

One way the first round could unfold:

1. CHICAGO: QB Caleb Williams, USC — The Bears are taking a quarterback. Barring a surprise, they're taking this Trojans star.

Where to watch?

What: 2024 NFL Draft
When: Thursday, 7 p.m.; Friday, 6 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m.
TV: ABC, ESPN, NFL Network

2. WASHINGTON: QB Jayden Daniels, Louisiana State — Heisman winner and dual-threat QB gives the Commanders a weapon with Lamar Jackson tendencies.

3. MINNESOTA (proposed trade with New England): QB Drake Maye, North Carolina — The Vikings might have to package their two first-round picks to get their QB.

4. ARIZONA: WR Marvin Harrison Jr., Ohio State — Cardinals want to find their next Larry Fitzgerald, so they grab a gift for Kyler Murray.

5. CHARGERS: T Joe Alt, Notre Dame — If Harrison were to slide to them, the Chargers would love it. Alt could move from left tackle in college to right tackle in the pros.

6. N.Y. GIANTS: QB J.J. McCarthy, Michigan — McCarthy could go earlier. Giants are looking to move on from Daniel Jones, who is coming off an ACL tear.

7. TENNESSEE: WR Malik Nabers, Louisiana State — DeAndre Hopkins is old and Treylon Burks has trouble staying healthy. Quarterback Will Levis needs more help.

8. ATLANTA: OLB Dallas Turner, Alabama — Turner fits the Falcons' change to a 3-4 defense and can both rush the passer and drop in coverage.

Gina Ferazzi / Los Angeles Times / TNS

USC Trojans quarterback Caleb Williams, the projected No. 1 pick of the Chicago Bears in Thursday night's NFL Draft, waves to fans while leaving the field after the Trojans' 52-42 loss to Washington at Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum on Nov. 4, 2023.

9. CHICAGO: T J.C. Latham, Alabama — The Bears need more help in the interior of their OL, but taking a tackle here affords them some flexibility.

10. N.Y. JETS: T Taliese Fuaga, Oregon State — Receiver is tempting here, but a reliable tackle probably would be even more helpful for the aging Aaron Rodgers.

11. NEW ENGLAND (proposed trade from Minnesota): DT Byron Murphy II, Texas — If the Patriots bail out of the No. 3 pick, they might decide to wait a bit on a QB.

12. DENVER: WR Rome Odunze, Washington — Jerry Jeudy is gone and Courtland Sutton might not be around much longer. Time to restock at receiver.

13. LAS VEGAS: QB Michael Penix, Washington — A second wave of QBs is going to go, and the Raiders might need to start that wave instead of risking Penix being gone in the second round.

14. NEW ORLEANS: TE Brock Bowers, Georgia — Bowers would be a good fit in Denver, too. He should go in this range and surely would make Derek Carr happy.

15. INDIANAPOLIS: CB Quinyon Mitchell, Toledo — Colts gave up a lot of explosive plays last season. Mitchell could help them cut down on those.

16. SEATTLE: OLB Chop Robinson, Penn State — Can never have too many talented edge rushers, and Robinson would be a good fit for new defensive coordinator Aden Durde.

17. JACKSONVILLE: CB Terrion Arnold, Alabama — Jaguars lost Darious Williams back to the Rams, so there's a spot for Arnold to step into right away.

18. CINCINNATI: T Olumuyiwa Fashanu, Penn State — The Bengals are OK on the left side, but they need an upgrade on the right. Fashanu can play either side.

19. RAMS: DE Jared Verse, Florida State — No one is going to step in and strike fear the way Aaron Donald did, but the Rams can still beef up their pass rush. Verse was a sack machine in college.

20. PITTSBURGH: T Troy Fatanu, Washington — Fatanu is capable of playing all over the offensive line, so maybe he starts at center and eventually moves to right tackle.

21. MIAMI: CB Nate Wiggins, Clemson — The Dolphins might take a defensive tackle here, but Wiggins is excellent value at a coveted spot if he slips this far.

22. PHILADELPHIA: OT Tyler Guyton, Oklahoma — Eagles select the eventual replacement for five-time Pro Bowler Lane Johnson, who has been a rock at right tackle but is 33.

23. NEW ENGLAND (proposed trade from Minnesota): CB Kool-Aid McKinstry, Alabama — Foot injury might give teams a little trepidation, but McKinstry has the tools to be a shutdown corner in the NFL.

24. DALLAS: T Amarius Mims, Georgia — The Cowboys need a center, too, but Mims will be the left tackle of the future for somebody. Why not Dallas?

25. GREEN BAY: T Jordan Morgan, Arizona —Packers have released David Bakhtiari, and they need to address their offensive line. A good place to start.

26. TAMPA BAY: C Jackson Powers-Johnson, Oregon — GM Jason Licht likes drafting offensive linemen, and the Buccaneers need to find a solid center once and for all.

27. ARIZONA: DE Laiatu Latu, UCLA — Cardinals need help all along their defensive front, and Latu could slide a bit because of his medical history.

28. BUFFALO: WR Brian Thomas Jr., Louisiana State — With no more Stefon Diggs, the Bills need another top-shelf target for Josh Allen. Thomas fills those requirements.

29. DETROIT: CB Cooper DeJean, Iowa — The Lions have had lots of injuries at cornerback. The versatile DeJean could help them there and in the return game.

30. BALTIMORE: WR Ladd McConkey, Georgia — If they don't take a corner, the Ravens might look for a receiver to pair with Zay Flowers.

31. SAN FRANCISCO: WR Xavier Legette, South Carolina — Tempting to pick up help on the defensive line, but the 49ers might look for an eventual Brandon Aiyuk replacement.

32. KANSAS CITY: WR Xavier Worthy, Texas — Could Worthy be the next Tyreek Hill? It didn't hurt the prospect that he broke the combine record with a 4.21-second 40.

NBA

Brad Rempel / USA Today Sports

Minnesota Timberwolves center Naz Reid celebrates with forward Jaden McDaniels and guard Anthony Edwards against the Phoenix Suns in the fourth quarter during game two of the first round for the 2024 NBA playoffs at Target Center on Tuesday.

Wolves' dedication to identity is showing in NBA playoffs

BY JACE FREDERICK
St. Paul Pioneer Press

After Minnesota shredded the Phoenix Suns in Game 2 of their first-round NBA playoff series on Tuesday, Suns players and coach Frank Vogel made comments that would sound alarms for any willing ear.

They were no surprise for anyone who had watched the game because the Suns' collective composure visibly unraveled in the second half. As the turnovers and missed defensive assignments piled up, players were bickering with officials and throwing their arms up in conspicuous exasperation.

"My frustration is just within the team. We need to execute," Phoenix guard Devin Booker said. "We play well when we're playing, and then we need to stick together once things turn bad. We've done that throughout the season. (It's) something that has to be corrected."

It feels a little late for that. As then-Timberwolves guard D'Angelo Russell said during the Timberwolves' first-round series loss to Memphis in 2022: "We're in the playoffs now. Nobody is going to change. You pretty much are who you are."

The Timberwolves hold a 2-0 lead on the Suns in their best-of-seven series that resumes Friday night in Phoenix. Tip off is set for 9:30 p.m. Central Time.

Epiphanies generally aren't made in the postseason; that's what an 82-game regular season is for. The postseason tends to reveal who you are — which isn't exactly a mystery to those who have followed your journey for the previous seven months leading up to this point. In the regular season, you establish an identity the team can lean on when times get tough in the playoffs.

For instance, it was no surprise when rebounding and late-game offense sank Minnesota against Memphis in 2022. A year ago, Minnesota was essentially a shape-shifter, changing identity depending on who was available on a nightly basis. The Wolves flexed that muscle against Denver as bodies continued to drop but ultimately were unable to do anything more than test the eventual NBA champion.

You can't win a title if you don't really know who you are as a team, and with a bevy of roster changes a year ago — highlighted by the major offseason acquisition of Rudy Gobert — it seemed to take Minnesota a full season to figure out which direction it would consistently lean.

The Wolves needed something to hang their hat on, and they knew it.

"When we sat down in training camp and said, 'What team do we want to be?' We said we wanted to be a defensive-minded team and be the best in the league," Gobert said. "We can be unique, but it comes with a price. It comes with doing the dirty work, it comes with doing the things you don't see on the stats sheet and doing it consistently. I really felt like from Day 1 of training camp, everyone really bought in to be that team."

That's never really wavered. Minnesota — which won 56 regular-season games this season, second-most in franchise history — was the No. 1 defense in the NBA by a comfortable margin. Now in the playoffs, that defense is winning the team games with relative ease. When the offense struggles, the defense keeps the ship afloat. It's why Phoenix has never felt in control for any stretch of either of the first two games.

The Wolves are playing their game. They are who they want to be.

"We've been a defensive team all season," Timberwolves coach Chris Finch said.

And Phoenix has been an inconsistent team all season, with a series of stops, starts and spurts of good play but no consistency. That's been on full display over the past three weeks, with the Suns shelling Minnesota twice in the regular season only to look powerless in the first two matchups of this series.

When times get tough, as they are right now for the Suns, what can they rely upon? Devin Booker is the only member of Phoenix's current rotation who was even on the team 15 months ago.

In many ways, Phoenix is in a similar spot Minnesota was this time a year ago, searching for solutions that aren't quite yet apparent.

"We're all trying to fight out there, and so far this series, once it has turned to (bad), we've kind of separated instead of being together, and that's everybody — top to bottom," Booker said. "We've got to figure it out."

In the NBA, the playoffs are the test, and there is no cheat sheet allowed. By now, you either know the answers or you don't.

NBA

Edwards' Game 2 wasn't very loud, but it helped surging Timberwolves

He finished with eight assists to just one turnover

BY JACE FREDERICK
St. Paul Pioneer Press

Brad Rempel / USA Today Sports

Phoenix Suns guard Devin Booker defends Minnesota Timberwolves guard Anthony Edwards in the second quarter during game two of the first round for the 2024 NBA playoffs at Target Center on Tuesday.

Anthony Edwards thrust himself back into the forefront of the national conversation on Saturday when he poured in 33 points to go with nine assists and six boards in a Game 1 victory over the Phoenix Suns in the first round of the playoffs. He also jawed with Kevin Durant as he made his way down the floor after splashing a triple in the future Hall of Famer's face.

For the ensuing two days, ESPN and TNT conversations largely centered on the 22-year-old guard and his ascending stardom.

Tuesday's performance was comparatively understated.

He did knock down a couple of key shots — a step-back again over Durant in the third that was a part of Minnesota's separation-inducing run, and a triple in transition that effectively served as the kill shot in the fourth.

But for the most part, Edwards didn't shoot well, going just 3 for 12 from the field. If asked about Timberwolves who were key to their victory Tuesday in Game 2, he wouldn't be at the top of players you'd mention off the top of your head. Performances by Jaden McDaniels, Mike Conley, Rudy Gobert and Nickeil Alexander-Walker were more conspicuously effective.

But their contributions, particularly offensively, were all keyed by Edwards' mere presence. Phoenix simply doesn't have a wing defender capable of staying in front of the guard. So the Suns are forced to commit numerous resources to slow Edwards down.

In the past, such a stacked defense would have led to a number of turnovers and ill-advised shot attempts from Edwards, who doesn't like to be denied his offensive aggressiveness by the opponent.

"I want to score," Edwards noted after Game 1. "But (the excessive gap help defense) definitely takes away my scoring ability. They do a great job doing it, man. … (Suns coach) Frank Vogel is great at taking somebody out of the game."

But Edwards ensured Tuesday that those plays came at a cost. He's repeatedly stretching out Phoenix's defense, drawing two defenders before passing to an open man. As a result, Conley, McDaniels and others are catching the ball in advantageous positions that either lead to open jumpers or easy drives to the rim against hard-charging closeout defenders.

Edwards finished with eight assists Tuesday to just one turnover, and that's on top of the plays where his decision-making led to a series of other passes that created a scoring chance.

"Ant kept making the right play. They kept doubling. He didn't shoot the ball well, but I still thought he did the right thing to unlock a lot of great shots (for others)," Wolves coach Chris Finch said. "We didn't make those shots. At halftime I said, 'Don't worry, those shots are going to go in. Just keep taking 'em. Keep making 'em. Keep creating.' "

Sure enough, the seal eventually broke — vindication for Minnesota's coaching staff, which has worked with Edwards for multiple years to allow his gravitational pull to create opportunities for others. That message started to sink in with the guard over the latter half of the season.

"It's been great growth for him. I thought he actually had some good looks when he had them. So, it wasn't like he didn't get any quality looks. It just didn't go in for him," Finch said. "But I still liked the way he kept making the right play. We've been preaching that. He believes in his teammates, and that's the most important thing."

Injury updates

Suns guard Grayson Allen re-injured the right ankle he originally hurt in Game 1 in the third quarter of Game 2 on Tuesday when his foot landed on the foot of Conley.

Allen crumpled to the floor and had to be helped back to Phoenix's locker room. He did not return to action and was deemed day to day by the team.

"Forty-eight hours in between, two days," Allen told reporters in Phoenix's locker room after the game. "We'll see how it goes after two days."

Allen received around-the-clock treatment between Games 1 and 2 to be available on Tuesday. Phoenix outscored Minnesota by three points in the guard's 17 minutes on Tuesday, and fell apart after he left the contest.

Even the threat of Allen's shooting is necessary to create some semblance of spacing for Phoenix's other perimeter scorers to operate. Allen was the best 3-point shooter in the NBA this season — 46 percent on six attempts per game. As a team, Phoenix is just 17 for 50 from beyond the arc this series, woeful numbers in terms of both volume and percentage.

Kyle Anderson, who suffered a hip pointer in Game 1, was available for Game 2 against Phoenix but did not see the floor. Finch said the Wolves will see how Anderson feels ahead of Friday's Game 3.

NBA

Timberwolves' Naz Reid named NBA Sixth Man of the Year

Reid is now the third undrafted player to win the honor, joining Darrell Armstrong and John Starks

BY JACE FREDERICK
St. Paul Pioneer Press

Naz Reid went undrafted in 2019 after his freshman season at LSU. He spent much of his first professional season in the G-League. He was out of Minnesota's rotation as recently as the start of last season.

But every time a challenge hit, he pushed forward and adapted.

He got leaner and more athletic. He honed his jumper. He developed as a defender.

Ask him to play center, and he'll do that. Small forward? He can do that, too. He may have to guard Anthony Davis on the interior one night and chase Grayson Allen around the perimeter on the next. He might play 30 minutes one night and 15 the next. But rest assured, whenever he is on the floor, he'll give you his best effort.

Whatever Minnesota has needed from the 24-year-old in his young career, Reid has provided. He's everything a team could ask for in a sixth man, which made Wednesday's announcement so fitting.

Reid was named the NBA's 2023-24 Sixth Man of the Year. The honor was announced on TNT's pregame show ahead of the evening playoff action. Reid averaged 13.5 points and 5.2 rebounds this season while shooting a blistering 41 percent from 3-point range.

He played in 81 games and was highly productive in 14 starts late in the season when he filled in for the injured Karl-Anthony Towns. Reid's play down the stretch run of the season kept Minnesota alive in the race for the No. 1 seed in the Western Conference.

Reid is the third undrafted player to win the honor, joining Darrell Armstrong and John Starks. He edged Sacramento guard Malik Monk by 10 points — two first-place votes — for the award, making it the closest Sixth Man of the Year race since the current voting system was put into place for the 2002-03 season.

After the award was announced, Timberwolves fans and players alike raced to social media — all to say the same thing.

"Naz Reid."

The franchise's cult hero is now an award winner.

Coach Chris Finch said the team "couldn't be more proud" of Reid.

"His contributions to our team this year were a key reason for our team's success," Finch said. "His growth this season and attention to detail to improve his game in the offseason were a main factor in Naz becoming the best reserve man in the NBA."

Brad Rempel / USA Today Sports

Minnesota Timberwolves center Naz Reid shoots against the Phoenix Suns in the third quarter during game two of the first round for the 2024 NBA playoffs at Target Center on Tuesday.

MLB

Twins take third straight from lowly White Sox

The Twins go for a sweep of the four-game series on Thursday afternoon

BY DEAN SPIROS
Special to the Pioneer Press

Joe Ryan picked up his first win of the season for the Twins on Wednesday night at Target Field, and he did it with flair.

Making his fifth start of the season, the 27-year-old right-hander struck out eight over six innings as the Twins beat the Chicago White Sox 6-3 before an announced crowd of 12,546.

The Twins go for a sweep of the four-game series on Thursday afternoon before beginning a three-game series against the Los Angeles Angels in Anaheim, Calif., on Friday.

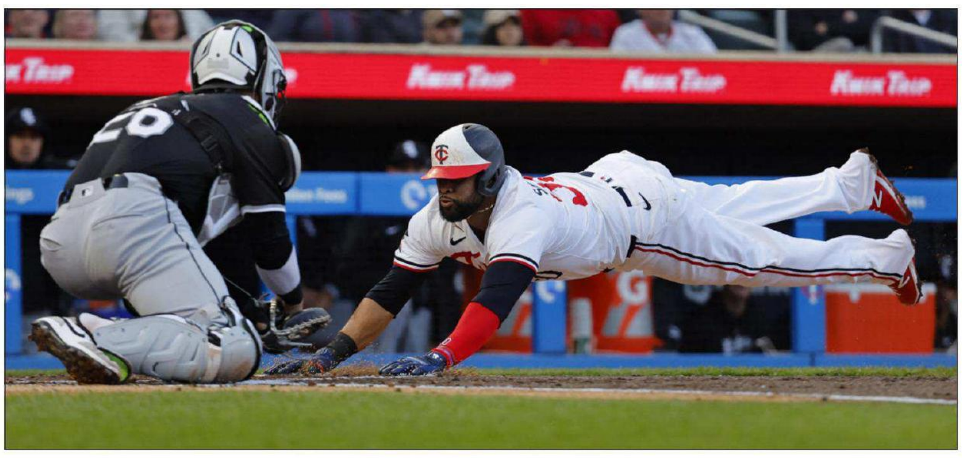
Ryan (1-1) recorded a career-high 12 strikeouts on April 13, a no-decision against Detroit, when he allowed three runs in six innings of work. He entered Wednesday's game with a strikeout rate of 11.91 per nine innings, second in the American League to his opponent on the mound, the White Sox's Garrett Crochet.

The Twins set a season high with 13 hits.

Ryan was staked to a 4-0 lead in the second inning. After Christian Vazquez brought in a run on an RBI single to right, Willi Castro lined a three-run home run into the left-field stands.

It was Castro's second home run of the season, and it came on his 27th birthday.

Ryan retired the first six batters he faced, including the first three on strikeouts, before Kevin Pillar led off the third inning with a home run to left. One out later, White Sox catcher Korey Lee homered into the second deck in left to cut the Twins' lead to 4-2.



Bruce Kluckhohn / USA Today Sports

Minnesota Twins first baseman Carlos Santana dives home and scores before Chicago White Sox catcher Korey Lee can apply the tag on a single by catcher Christian Vazquez (not pictured) in the second inning at Target Field on Wednesday.

The White Sox stole a run in the fifth inning to cut the Twins' lead to 4-3. Braden Shewmake reached on a one-out bunt single and moved to second on a walk to Lee. Ryan then had Shewmake picked off second, but his throw to third was late.

Shewmake was then credited with a steal of home when Vazquez was unable to throw out Lee on a steal of second.

The Twins added to their two-run lead in the bottom of the fifth. Manny Margot led off the inning with a double, and two outs later, pinch-hitter Max Kepler drove him in on a bloop single to left.

Kepler moved to third on a single by Vazquez — his third hit of the game — and scored on a wild pitch.

Matt Bowman, Brock Stewart and Griffin Jax each followed Ryan with a shutout inning.

A series sweep would be a first for the Twins this season. They have been swept twice. Bailey Ober (1-1, 4.91 earned-run average) will pitch for the Twins against Michael Soroka (0-3, 7.50 ERA).

The White Sox (3-21), already guaranteed to lose their seventh series of the season, have lost six in a row and 10 of their last 11.

MLB

Twins' Jeffers gets his shot at top of batting order

BY DEAN SPIROS
Special to the Pioneer Press

Twins manager Rocco Baldelli raised some eyebrows when he penciled in Alex Kirilloff as the team's leadoff hitter the first two games of the series.

Wednesday it was 6-foot-4, 235-pound catcher Ryan Jeffers getting the nod and serving as the Twins' designated hitter. It was the first time in Jeffers' five-year career, which spans 294 games, that he hit at the top of the order.

"He's finally realizing how fast I am around the bases," Jeffers said with a smile.

In reality, Baldelli said the idea was to get his best two right-handed hitters, Jeffers and Byron Buxton, as many at-bats as possible against Chicago White Sox left-handed starter Garrett Crochet.

"I have no concern with changing our lineup every day based on who is playing," Baldelli said. "The way that we are functioning now, the way our roster works, we don't have anywhere near the ability to put a set lineup out there.

"We're mixing and matching every day based on who is available and based on how we match up against the opposing pitcher."

Jeffers said he wasn't shocked when he saw the lineup card.

"Facing a lefty, I wasn't too surprised I would be up towards the top," he said. "Rocco prefaced earlier in the year that there would be chances I would be leading off someday.

"I've been hitting second for a couple weeks now, and for me it's wherever my name is in there I'm going to go out there and treat it the same if I was hitting sixth, seventh or wherever. I've had success with my approach, so I'm going to try not to change anything."

Injuries have forced Baldelli's hand when it comes to being creative with his lineup.

"When your everyday players are not out there and you're deciding who is actually going to be playing, it takes time," he said. "And then you piece together an order that goes with it. It's a lot easier when I can sit in here by myself and sketch the lineup out on a piece of paper.

"That's the way it feels like it should be for most of the year, but it hasn't been like that for us from opening day until now."

Needed production

Buxton, who hit a game-tying home run in the ninth inning of Tuesday's win, is heating up after a slow start to the season. He entered Wednesday's game 7 for 16 on the homestand, including three doubles and a home run, and three runs batted in.

"I think he's just gaining his timing over the course of the early season," Baldelli said, "and I think that can be the case for almost any hitter. I think he's just seeing the ball better.

"And I think he's getting into his lower half a little better, which is letting him get some of these pitches. And he's hitting the ball hard."

Duran back on mound

Twins reliever Jhoan Duran, who made his first rehab appearance with the Saints on Tuesday, met briefly with reporters in the Twins' clubhouse before Wednesday's game. Duran has yet to pitch for the Twins this season as he recovers from a right oblique strain.

Duran pitched one inning for the Saints, allowing two runs on four hits, and acknowledged that his velocity was down. Duran said he was mostly focused on throwing all of his pitches, and not necessarily the results.

He expects to pitch for the Saints again on Friday, with a decision to be made after that on whether he should be activated.

"He doesn't have a hard timeline," Baldelli said. "At this point we want to get him feeling good. When he threw his live (batting practice) here his stuff was basically normal. I don't think anything has changed between then and now.

"He's probably just getting settled back in on the mound. He also threw a lot of pitches (27), more than you would think most rehab (appearances) would be. But it's good for him to get out there and put a little stress on his body, because when he comes back we want him to be ready."

Minnesota Twins Report: Breaking news, weekly updates, and insights about the Minnesota Twins.

MLB SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

Professional

American League

	W	L	Pct	GB
East				
NY Yankees	17	8	.680	—
Baltimore	16	8	.667	.5
Boston	14	11	.560	3.0
Toronto	13	12	.520	4.0
Tampa Bay	13	13	.500	4.5
Central				
Cleveland	17	7	.708	—
Kansas City	15	10	.600	2.5
Detroit	14	11	.560	3.5
Minnesota	10	13	.435	6.5
Chi. White Sox	3	21	.125	14.0
West				
Texas	13	12	.520	—
Seattle	12	12	.500	.5
LA Angels	10	15	.400	3.0
Oakland	9	16	.360	4.0
Houston	7	18	.280	6.0

National League

	W	L	Pct	GB
East				
Atlanta	17	6	.739	—
Philadelphia	15	10	.600	3.0
NY Mets	13	11	.542	4.5
Washington	10	13	.435	7.0
Miami	6	20	.231	12.5
Central				
Milwaukee	15	8	.652	—
Chi. Cubs	15	9	.625	.5
Cincinnati	14	10	.583	1.5
Pittsburgh	13	12	.520	3.0
St. Louis	11	14	.440	5.0
West				
LA Dodgers	15	11	.577	—
San Diego	14	13	.519	1.5
Arizona	12	14	.462	3.0
San Francisco	12	14	.462	3.0
Colorado	6	19	.240	8.5

American League
Tuesday's Results
Cleveland 4, Boston 1
Detroit 4, Tampa Bay 2
NY Yankees 4, Oakland 3
Kansas City 3, Toronto 2
Minnesota 6, Chi. White Sox 5
Seattle 4, Texas 0
LA Angels 7, Baltimore 4
Wednesday's Results
Baltimore 6, LA Angels 5
Boston 8, Cleveland 0
Tampa Bay 7, Detroit 5
NY Yankees 7, Oakland 3
Kansas City 3, Toronto 2
Minnesota 6, Chi. White Sox 3
Texas 5, Seattle 1
Thursday's Games
Boston (Anderson 0-0) at Cleveland (McKenzie 2-2), 12:10 p.m.
Chi. White Sox (Soroka 0-3) at Minnesota (Woods-Richardson 1-0), 12:10 p.m.
Toronto (Berrios 4-0) at Kansas City (Ragans 0-2), 1:10 p.m.
Seattle (Castillo 1-4) at Texas (Heaney 0-2), 1:35 p.m.
Oakland (Wood 0-2) at NY Yankees (Cortes Jr. 1-1), 6:05 p.m.
Friday's Games
Kansas City at Detroit (Olson 0-3), 12:10 p.m.
Oakland at Baltimore (Burnes 3-0), 6:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Chi. White Sox (Flexen 0-3), 6:40 p.m.
Minnesota at LA Angels (Sandoval 1-3), 8:38 p.m.
National League
Tuesday's Results
Cincinnati 8, Philadelphia 1
Pittsburgh 2, Milwaukee 1
LA Dodgers 4, Washington 1
Atlanta 5, Miami 0
Arizona 14, St. Louis 1
Colorado 7, San Diego 4
San Francisco 5, NY Mets 1
Wednesday's Results
St. Louis 5, Arizona 1
NY Mets 8, San Francisco 2
Cincinnati 7, Philadelphia 4
Milwaukee 3, Pittsburgh 2
LA Dodgers 11, Washington 2
Atlanta 4, Miami 3, 10 innings
San Diego 5, Colorado 2
Thursday's Games
Milwaukee (Peralta 2-0) at Pittsburgh (Keller 2-2), 11:35 a.m.
Philadelphia (Wheeler 1-3) at Cincinnati (Martinez 0-0), 12:10 p.m.
San Diego (Vasquez 0-1) at Colorado (Hudson 0-4), 2:10 p.m.
LA Dodgers (Yamamoto 1-1) at Washington (Gore 2-1), 3:05 p.m.
Friday's Games
St. Louis (Mikolas 1-3) at NY Mets (Butto 0-0), 6:10 p.m.
Washington at Miami, 6:10 p.m.
Philadelphia at San Diego, 8:40 p.m.
Pittsburgh at San Francisco (Harrison 2-1), 9:15 p.m.
Interleague
Tuesday's Results
Chi. Cubs 7, Houston 2
Wednesday's Results
Chi. Cubs 4, Houston 3
Thursday's Games
Houston (Verlander 1-0) at Chi. Cubs (Assad 2-0), 1:20 p.m.
Friday's Games
LA Dodgers at Toronto, 6:07 p.m.
Chi. Cubs at Boston, 6:10 p.m.
Cleveland (Allen 3-0) at Atlanta, 6:20 p.m.
Cincinnati (Ashcraft 3-1) at Texas, 7:05 p.m.
NY Yankees at Milwaukee, 7:10 p.m.
Arizona (Gallen 3-1) at Seattle, 8:40 p.m.

Wednesday's box scores

Minnesota 6, Chi. White Sox 3

CHW	ab	r	h	bi	MIN	ab	r	h	bi
Mendick 3b	4	0	0	0	Jeffers dh	4	0	2	0
Sheets rf	4	0	0	0	Buxton cf	4	0	1	0
Jimenez dh	4	0	0	0	Margot rf	5	1	2	0
Vaughn 1b	4	0	0	0	Miranda 3b	2	0	0	0
Bnntnd lf	4	0	1	0	Julien ph	1	0	0	0
DeJong ss	3	0	0	0	Santana 1b	4	1	0	0
Pillar cf	3	1	1	1	Martin lf	2	1	1	0
Shwmak 2b	3	1	1	0	Kepler ph	2	1	2	1
Lee c	2	1	1	1	Vazquez c	4	1	3	1
					Farmer 2b	4	0	0	0
					Castro ss	4	1	2	3
Totals	31	3	4	2	Totals	36	6	13	5

Chi. White Sox 002 010 000 — 3
Minnesota 040 020 00x — 6

LOB—Minnesota 11, Chicago 3. 2B—Benintendi (2), W.Castro (4), Kepler (2), Margot (1), A.Martin (5). HR—W.Castro (2), K.Lee (2), Pillar (1). SB—K.Lee (1), Shewmake 2 (4).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Chi. White Sox						
Crochet L, 1-4	4	7	5	5	2	6
D.Garcia	1 2-3	4	1	1	0	2
Hill	1-3	1	0	0	1	0
Leone	1	0	0	0	0	3
Brebbia	1	1	0	0	0	2
Minnesota						
J.Ryan W, 1-1	6	4	3	3	1	8
Bowman H, 2	1	0	0	0	0	0
B.Stewart H, 5	1	0	0	0	0	1
Jax S, 3	1	0	0	0	0	1

Inherited runners-scored—D.Garcia 1-1, Hill 2-0, Leone 1-0. HBP—Julien (by Brebbia), Buxton (by Crochet), DeJong (by Bowman). WP—D.Garcia (2).
Umpires—Home, Lazaro Diaz; First, Nate Tomlinson; Second, Mike Estabrook; Third, Erich Bacchus.
T—2:29. A—12,546 (42,035)

St. Louis 5, Arizona 1

AZ	ab	r	h	bi	STL	ab	r	h	bi
Smith rf	2	1	1	0	Donovan lf	4	1	2	0
Grichuk ph	0	0	0	0	Contrrs dh	3	1	1	0
Alxandr ss	4	0	1	0	Arenado 3b	3	1	1	1
Pdrson dh	3	0	1	0	Gldschmdt 1b	4	1	2	0
Walker 1b	3	0	1	1	Herrera c	3	0	0	0
SuÃ¡rez 3b	4	0	0	0	Pages c	0	0	0	0
McCrthy lf	4	0	2	0	Nootbr rf	4	0	1	2
Carroll cf	3	0	0	0	Winn ss	3	1	0	0
Newman 2b	3	0	0	0	Gorman 2b	4	0	1	1
Marte ph	1	0	0	0	Siani cf	3	0	0	0
Brnhrt c	2	0	1	0					
Moreno ph	1	0	0	0					
Totals	30	1	7	1	Totals	31	5	8	4

Arizona 100 000 000 — 1
St. Louis 000 002 12x — 5

E—B.Alexander 1. LOB—St. Louis 6, Arizona 7. 2B—Ws.Contreras (7), Goldschmidt (1), Nootbaar (3).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Arizona						
Montgomery L, 1-1	7	6	3	2	1	4
Jarvis	1-3	1	2	2	2	0
Saalfrank	2-3	1	0	0	1	0
St. Louis						
Gibson W, 2-2	6	5	1	1	2	6
Romero H, 8	1	0	0	0	1	0
Kittredge H, 8	1	1	0	0	0	0
Helsley	1	1	0	0	0	1

Inherited runners-scored—Saalfrank 3-2. HBP—Pederson (by Gibson). WP—Montgomery (1), Gibson 2 (2).
Umpires—Home, D.J. Reyburn; First, Brennan Miller; Second, Brian O'Nora; Third, Paul Clemons.
T—2:21. A—36,390 (46,861)

NY Mets 8, San Francisco 2

NYM	ab	r	h	bi	SF	ab	r	h	bi
Nimmo lf	3	2	0	0	Slater rf	2	0	1	0
Marte dh	5	0	0	0	Wade Jr ph	1	1	1	0
Lindor ss	5	2	4	4	Flores 1b	4	0	2	0
Alonso 1b	4	1	1	0	Cnfrt lf	5	0	1	0
Baty 3b	4	1	1	0	Soler dh	4	0	0	0
Taylor rf	5	2	2	3	Chapman 3b	4	0	1	0
McNeil 2b	4	0	2	1	Bailey c	3	0	1	0
Bader cf	4	0	0	0	Estrada 2b	2	0	0	0
Nido c	3	0	0	0	Lee cf	1	0	0	0
					Ftzgrld cf	4	1	1	1
					Ahmed ss	4	0	0	0
Totals	37	8	10	8	Totals	34	2	8	1

NY Mets 002 130 002 — 8
San Francisco 000 000 101 — 2

E—Alonso 1, M.Chapman 1. LOB—San Francisco 11, New York 7. 2B—Conforto (6), McNeil (6), T.Taylor (3). HR—Fitzgerald (1), Lindor 2 (4), T.Taylor (2). SB—Bader (5), Slater (1).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
NY Mets						
Manaea	4 2-3	4	0	0	4	6
R.Garrett W, 4-0	2	2	1	1	1	4
Ottavino	1 1-3	0	0	0	1	3
Ed.Diaz	1	2	1	0	0	0
San Francisco						
R.Walker	1	1	0	0	0	2
Hjelle L, 0-1	2 2-3	2	3	3	1	2
Roupp	1 1-3	3	3	3	2	1
E.Miller	1	0	0	0	0	1
L.Jackson	1	1	0	0	0	0
Ta.Rogers	1	1	0	0	0	0
White	1	2	2	2	1	0

Inherited runners-scored—R.Garrett 2-0, Ottavino 2-0, Roupp 1-0. HBP—Alonso (by R.Walker).
Umpires—Home, Mark Ripperger; First, Roberto Ortiz; Second, Alfonso Marquez; Third, Lance Barrett.
T—2:50. A—30,183 (41,915)

Baltimore 6, LA Angels 5

BAL	ab	r	h	bi	LAA	ab	r	h	bi
Hndrson ss	3	3	3	3	Trout dh	4	1	1	1
Rtschmn dh	5	0	2	1	Schanul 1b	3	1	1	0
Mntcstl 1b	4	0	0	0	Drury ph	1	0	0	0
Sntndr rf	2	0	1	0	Ward lf	4	1	1	2
Wstburg 3b	5	0	1	0	SanÃ³ 3b	2	0	0	0
Mullins cf	4	0	0	0	Adrinz 3b	2	1	1	0
McCann c	5	1	1	0	O'Hoppe c	4	0	0	1
Cowser lf	2	1	0	0	Moniak cf	3	0	0	0
Mateo 2b	4	1	1	1	Thaiss ph	1	0	0	0
					Adell rf	3	0	1	0
					Rengifo 2b	2	0	0	0
					Neto ss	3	1	1	1
Totals	34	6	9	5	Totals	32	5	6	5

Baltimore 001 014 000 — 6
LA Angels 000 003 011 — 5

E—Mateo 1. LOB—Los Angeles 2, Baltimore 11. 2B—Henderson (3), Mateo (5), J.McCann (3). HR—Henderson (8), Neto (1), Trout (10), Ward (7). SB—Henderson (5), Rengifo (7). CS—Adell (4).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Baltimore						
Kremer W, 1-2	5 1-3	3	2	2	1	10
J.Webb	1	1	1	1	0	2
Cano H, 4	1	1	1	1	0	2
Coulombe H, 4	2-3	0	0	0	0	1
Kimbrel S, 7	1	1	1	0	1	1
LA Angels						
Ty.Anderson L, 2-3	5	4	2	2	4	7
J.Suarez	2-3	4	4	4	1	0
Cisnero	1 1-3	0	0	0	1	0
Fulmer	2	1	0	0	1	2

Inherited runners-scored—J.Webb 1-1, Cisnero 1-0. HBP—Henderson (by Ty.Anderson), Henderson (by Fulmer), Santander (by J.Suarez). WP—Ty.Anderson (1).
Umpires—Home, Lance Barksdale; First, Gabe Morales; Second, Nic Lentz; Third, Emil Jimenez.
T—2:57. A—19,557 (45,050)

Boston 8, Cleveland 0

BOS	ab	r	h	bi	CLE	ab	r	h	bi
Duran cf	5	0	0	0	Kwan lf	4	0	1	0
Devers dh	4	2	3	2	Gimenez 2b	3	0	0	0
O'Neill lf	5	1	1	0	Ramirez 3b	4	0	1	0
Abreu rf	5	1	4	1	Naylor 1b	4	0	0	0
Valdez 2b	4	0	0	1	Brennan rf	3	0	0	0
Wong c	4	2	4	3	Freeman cf	3	0	0	0
Reyes 3b	5	1	1	0	Florial dh	3	0	1	0
Dalbec 1b	5	0	1	0	Naylor c	3	0	1	0
Rafaela ss	4	1	2	1	Rocchio ss	3	0	0	0
Totals	41	8	16	8	Totals	30	0	4	0

Boston 110 013 002 — 8
Cleveland 000 000 000 — 0

LOB—Cleveland 4, Boston 9. 2B—W. Abreu 2 (7), Devers (4), Rafaela (3), J.Ramirez (5). HR—Devers (3), Wong 2 (5). SB—Rafaela (3), J.Ramirez (2), Reyes (1).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Boston						
Criswell W, 1-1	5	3	0	0	0	3
Jo.Rodriguez	2	1	0	0	0	1
Z.Kelly	2	0	0	0	0	3
Cleveland						
Carrasco L, 1-2	5	9	5	5	1	4
Beede	1	2	1	1	0	2
Avila	3	5	2	2	0	2

Inherited runners-scored—Beede 1-1. HBP—Gimenez (by Criswell), Wong (by Carrasco). WP—Avila (1), Carrasco (3).
Umpires—Home, Dan Iassogna; First, Scott Barry; Second, Brock Ballou; Third, Adam Beck.
T—2:28. A—13,916 (45,274)

Milwaukee 3, Pittsburgh 2

MIL	ab	r	h	bi	PIT	ab	r	h	bi
Contrrs c	4	1	3	1	Joe lf	3	1	0	0
Adames ss	4	0	1	0	Rynolds dh	3	1	1	2
Miller 1b	1	0	0	0	Hayes 3b	4	0	0	0
Bauers ph	4	0	0	0	Tellez 1b	3	0	0	0
Hoskins dh	4	0	0	1	Suwnsk cf	4	0	1	0
Perkins cf	1	0	0	1	Olivars rf	4	0	0	0
Ortiz 3b	4	0	0	0	Taylor pr	0	0	0	0
Frelick lf	4	1	2	0	Cruz ss	4	0	1	0
Chourio rf	2	0	0	0	Triolo 2b	3	0	0	0
Dunn ph	1	0	0	0	Davis c	3	0	1	0
Wiemer lf	0	0	0	0	McCtchn ph	1	0	0	0
Turang 2b	3	1	1	0					
Totals	32	3	7	3	Totals	32	2	4	2

Milwaukee 003 000 000 — 3
Pittsburgh 002 000 000 — 2

E—L.Ortiz 1, Payamps 1, Tellez 1, Wiemer 1. LOB—Pittsburgh 7, Milwaukee 10. 2B—Suwinski (3). HR—Reynolds (3). CS—Frelick (2), Perkins (1).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Milwaukee						
B.Wilson	4 1-3	3	2	2	3	3
B.Hudson W, 2-0	1 2-3	1	0	0	0	1
Peguero H, 4	1	0	0	0	1	1
Tr.Megill H, 3	1	0	0	0	0	1
Payamps S, 4	1	0	0	0	0	2
Pittsburgh						
Fleming L, 1-1	2 1-3	1	2	0	2	1
L.Ortiz	2 2-3	2	1	1	2	4
R.Contreras	2	2	0	0	1	2
H.Stratton	2	2	0	0	0	1

Inherited runners-scored—B.Hudson 1-0, L.Ortiz 2-2. HBP—Hoskins, Adames (by L.Ortiz).
Umpires—Home, Mark Wegner; First, Tom Hanahan; Second, Jeremie Rehak; Third, Clint Vondrak.
T—2:42. A—10,370 (38,496)

Cincinnati 7, Philadelphia 4

PHI	ab	r	h	bi	CIN	ab	r	h	bi
Schwrbr dh	4	1	1	0	Benson rf	5	1	2	2
Turner ss	4	2	1	0	DLaCruz ss	5	1	3	1
Bohm 1b	4	0	4	2	Steer lf	3	0	0	1
Cstllns rf	5	0	0	0	Encrncn-Strnd 1b	3	1	0	0
Mrrfld 2b	4	1	2	1	Martini dh	4	0	1	0
Sosa 3b	4	0	2	0	Thmpsn pr	1	1	0	0
Pache lf	2	0	0	0	Stphnsn c	3	1	2	0
Marsh ph	1	0	0	0	Cndlrio 3b	2	0	0	0
Rojas cf	4	0	1	1	Espinal 2b	3	1	2	3
Stubbs c	4	0	0	0	Frchld cf	3	1	0	0
Totals	36	4	11	4	Totals	32	7	10	7

Philadelphia 101 001 100 — 4
Cincinnati 001 004 11x — 7

E—Lodolo 1, Jh.Rojas 1. LOB—Cincinnati 10, Philadelphia 9. 2B—Bohm (8), E.De La Cruz (5), Merrifield (1), Sosa (1), T.Stephenson (3). HR—Benson (3). SB—E.De La Cruz 3 (15), Espinal (4), Merrifield (2), Jh.Rojas (7), Steer (5), T.Turner (6). CS—T.Turner (1).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Philadelphia						
Turnbull	5	3	1	1	3	8
S.Dominguez L, 1-1 BS, 1	2-3	2	4	4	2	1
Strahm	1-3	2	0	0	0	1
G.Soto	1	2	1	1	1	2
Alvarado	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cincinnati						
Lodolo	5	6	3	3	3	4
Sims	2-3	1	0	0	0	1
J.Wilson W, 1-0	1-3	0	0	0	0	0
PagÃ¡n H, 1	1-3	3	1	1	0	0
F.Cruz H, 6	2-3	0	0	0	0	1
Suter H, 1	1	0	0	0	0	2
Ax.Diaz S, 5	1	1	0	0	0	0

Inherited runners-scored—Strahm 2-2, F.Cruz 2-0, Sims 2-1, J.Wilson 2-0. HBP—T.Turner (by Lodolo).
Umpires—Home, Tony Randazzo; First, Alex Tosi; Second, Daniel Bellino; Third, Phil Cuzzi.
T—3:4. A—14,145 (44,599)

LA Dodgers 11, Washington 2

LAD	ab	r	h	bi	WAS	ab	r	h	bi
Betts ss	6	2	4	2	Abrams ss	3	0	0	0
Ohtani dh	6	2	3	2	Winker lf	3	0	0	0
Freeman 1b	5	0	1	2	Meneses dh	3	0	1	1
Smith c	6	2	4	1	GrciJr 2b	4	0	1	0
Muncy 3b	3	1	2	1	Gallo rf	4	0	0	0
Hrnandz lf	5	0	1	0	Adams c	4	0	0	0
Outman cf	5	0	0	0	Rosario cf	4	0	0	0
Lux 2b	5	1	2	2	Senzel 3b	3	1	1	1
Pages rf	5	3	3	1	Lpscomb 1b	2	1	0	0
Totals	46	11	20	11	Totals	30	2	3	2

LA Dodgers 121 020 023 — 11
Washington 020 000 000 — 2

LOB—Washington 5, Los Angeles 11. 2B—Betts (7), T.Hernandez (5), Muncy (6), Ohtani (14), A.Pages (3), W.Smith (7). HR—A.Pages (2), Senzel (2).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
LA Dodgers						
Knack W, 1-1	6	3	2	2	3	5
Brasier	1	0	0	0	0	1
Yarbrough	2	0	0	0	0	1
Washington						
J.Irvin L, 1-2	4 2-3	12	6	6	1	3
Law	1 1-3	0	0	0	0	2
Floro	1	1	0	0	0	0
Rainey	1	3	2	2	2	1
M.Barnes	1	4	3	3	0	0

Inherited runners-scored—Law 1-0. HBP—Abrams (by Knack). WP—Rainey (3).
Umpires—Home, Larry Vanover; First, Brian Walsh; Second, Chris Segal; Third, David Rackley.
T—2:40. A—26,298 (41,888)

Tampa Bay 7, Detroit 5

DET	ab	r	h	bi	TB	ab	r	h	bi
Greene lf	5	1	1	0	DÃaz 1b	4	0	2	1
Canha dh	4	0	1	2	Plcios lf	4	0	0	0
PÃ©rez rf	3	0	0	0	Arozrn cf	4	1	1	1
Trklsn 1b	4	0	0	1	Paredes 3b	4	1	2	0
Virling 3b	4	1	2	0	Rosario rf	4	0	1	0
Meadows cf	3	0	0	0	RamÃrez dh	4	1	1	0
Carpntr ph	1	0	0	0	Rortvdt c	4	2	2	2
Kennedy 2b	4	1	1	1	Mead 2b	3	1	1	2
Baez ss	3	1	1	1	Cbllro ss	3	1	1	1
Rogers c	3	1	1	0					
Totals	34	5	7	5	Totals	34	7	11	7

Detroit 100 022 000 — 5
Tampa Bay 130 003 00x — 7

LOB—Tampa Bay 3, Detroit 5. 2B—Baez (4), Paredes (3), Rortvedt (3). 3B—Vierling (1). HR—Arozarena (3), Mead (1). SB—Caballero (9), Kennedy (1).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Detroit						
Flaherty	5	7	4	4	0	6
Vest L, 1-1 BS, 2	1	3	3	3	0	1
S.Miller	1	1	0	0	0	2
Chafin	1	0	0	0	0	2
Tampa Bay						
Armstrong	1	1	1	1	1	2
T.Alexander	4	3	2	2	1	4
Devenski W, 1-1 BS, 2	1	3	2	2	0	1
Adam H, 7	2	0	0	0	0	2
Cleavinger S, 2	1	0	0	0	1	1

WP—Flaherty (1).
Umpires—Home, Ryan Blakney; First, Sean Barber; Second, Alan Porter; Third, Bruce Dreckman.
T—2:32. A—13,754 (42,735)

NY Yankees 7, Oakland 3

OAK	ab	r	h	bi	NYY	ab	r	h	bi
Noda 1b	3	1	0	0	Volpe ss	5	1	2	1
Nevin 3b	4	1	1	0	Soto rf	3	2	1	2
Bleday cf	4	0	1	0	Judge cf	5	1	2	2
Rooker dh	2	1	1	3	Stanton dh	4	1	1	0
Brown lf	4	0	0	0	Rizzo 1b	4	1	2	1
Toro 2b	4	0	0	0	Torres 2b	4	0	1	0
Butler rf	3	0	1	0	Verdugo lf	1	0	0	1
Lnglirs c	3	0	0	0	Cabrera 3b	4	0	0	0
Allen ss	3	0	0	0	Wells c	3	1	2	0
Totals	30	3	4	3	Totals	33	7	11	7

Oakland 000 003 000 — 3
NY Yankees 200 211 10x — 7

E—N.Allen 1, Noda 1. LOB—New York 8, Oakland 3. 2B—Bleday (4), Nevin (2). 3B—Volpe (1). HR—Judge (4), Rizzo (3), Rooker (5), J.Soto (6).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Oakland						
Boyle L, 1-4	3	3	2	2	4	6
Mi.Kelly	2	3	3	3	0	1
D.Jimenez	1	1	1	1	0	1
Muller	2	4	1	1	0	0
NY Yankees						
Schmidt W, 2-0	5 1-3	4	3	3	2	6
Weaver H, 2	2 2-3	0	0	0	0	3
I.Hamilton	1	0	0	0	0	0

HBP—Noda (by Schmidt).
Umpires—Home, Nick Mahrley; First, Marvin Hudson; Second, Hunter Wendelstedt; Third, John Tumpane.
T—2:33. A—31,179 (52,325)

Atlanta 4, Miami 3, 10 innings

MIA	ab	r	h	bi	ATL	ab	r	h	bi
Arraez 2b	5	1	3	0	AcunaJr rf	3	2	0	0
DLaCruz dh	4	1	1	0	HrrisII cf	5	1	3	1
ChshlmJr cf	4	0	1	0	Riley 3b	4	0	0	0
Bell 1b	4	0	0	1	Olson 1b	3	1	1	0
Brujan pr	0	0	0	0	Ozuna dh	4	0	3	2
Sanchez rf	3	1	1	1	Arcia ss	4	0	0	0
Andrson ss	4	0	0	0	Kelenic lf	4	0	1	0
Gordon lf	4	0	0	0	Tromp c	2	0	1	0
Rivera 3b	4	0	1	0	Duvall ph	1	0	1	0
Bthncrt c	4	0	0	0	Willims pr	0	0	0	0
					Fltchr 2b	0	0	0	0
					Gullorm 2b	3	0	0	0
					d'Arnud ph	0	0	0	0
Totals	36	3	7	2	Totals	33	4	10	3

Miami 010 000 002 — 3
Atlanta 201 000 000 1 — 4

E—M.Olson 1. LOB—Atlanta 8, Miami 7. 2B—Duvall (2), Harris II (5), M.Olson (8), Rivera (1). HR—J.Sanchez (2). SB—Acuna Jr. (11), Chisholm Jr. (5). CS—Harris II (2).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Miami						
S.Sanchez	2 2-3	5	3	3	1	3
B.Smith	1 1-3	2	0	0	1	1
Hoeing	2	0	0	0	0	1
Nardi	1	0	0	0	1	3
Faucher	2	2	0	0	1	2
Tn.Scott L, 0-4	0	1	1	0	0	0
Atlanta						
R.Lopez	7	3	1	1	2	6
JimÃ©nez H, 6	1	0	0	0	0	1
Iglesias BS, 1	1	3	2	1	0	1
Minter W, 4-1	1	1	0	0	1	1

Inherited runners-scored—B.Smith 1-1. HBP—M.Olson (by S.Sanchez).
Umpires—Home, Jonathan Parra; First, John Libka; Second, James Hoye; Third, Rob Drake.
T—2:40. A—38,950 (41,500)

NBA PLAYOFFS

Tyler Herro, Heat shoot down Celtics in Game 2

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Tyler Herro sank six of Miami's franchise-playoff-record 23 3-pointers as the Heat evened their Eastern Conference first-round playoff series with the Boston Celtics by earning a 111-101 road victory in Game 2 on Wednesday night.

Miami shot 23 of 43 from long distance, with Herro going 6 of 11 on 3-point tries en route to a team-high 24 points. Herro also had 14 assists.

"Everybody came to play," Herro said. "We lost bad in Game 1 and everybody responded. That's all you can ask for from a group of guys. ... We love to compete and that's what it's all about."

Eighth-seeded Miami led 102-91 after Bam Adebayo made a hook shot with 4:12 to play, and top-seeded Boston failed to get closer than six points after that. The Heat outscored the Celtics 53-40 in the second half.

Adebayo collected 21 points and 10 rebounds. Miami also received 21 points from Caleb Martin, who made 5 of 6 shots from 3-point range.

"We understood how many missed opportunities we had hesitating to shoot the threes in Game 1, and we had the mentality coming in of just let it fly," Martin said. "We were hungry. The only way you beat a team like that is come in and try to play on the same level."

Boston's Jaylen Brown led all scorers with 33 points, and Jayson Tatum finished with 28 points. Brown and Tatum each had eight rebounds.

The Celtics were limited to 12 3-point field goals (on 32 attempts) after they went 22 of 49 from distance during their 114-94 victory in Game 1.

"Two completely different games from Game 1 to Game 2 based on the schemes, so we have to adjust to that," Boston coach Joe Mazzulla said. "More switching on their part. Higher pick-up points, and obviously their adjustment to shoot more. We're going to have to find a balance, because a lot of those guys who made shots are also good drivers, especially getting downhill.

"When you play a little bit inefficient offense from the standpoint of fighting for your space and getting there, it puts a ton of pressure on your defense, and that's the kind of team that takes advantage of inefficient offense because of their ability to attack at that other end."

Miami's Jaime Jaquez Jr. added 14 points while Nikola Jovic finished with 11 points, nine rebounds and six assists.

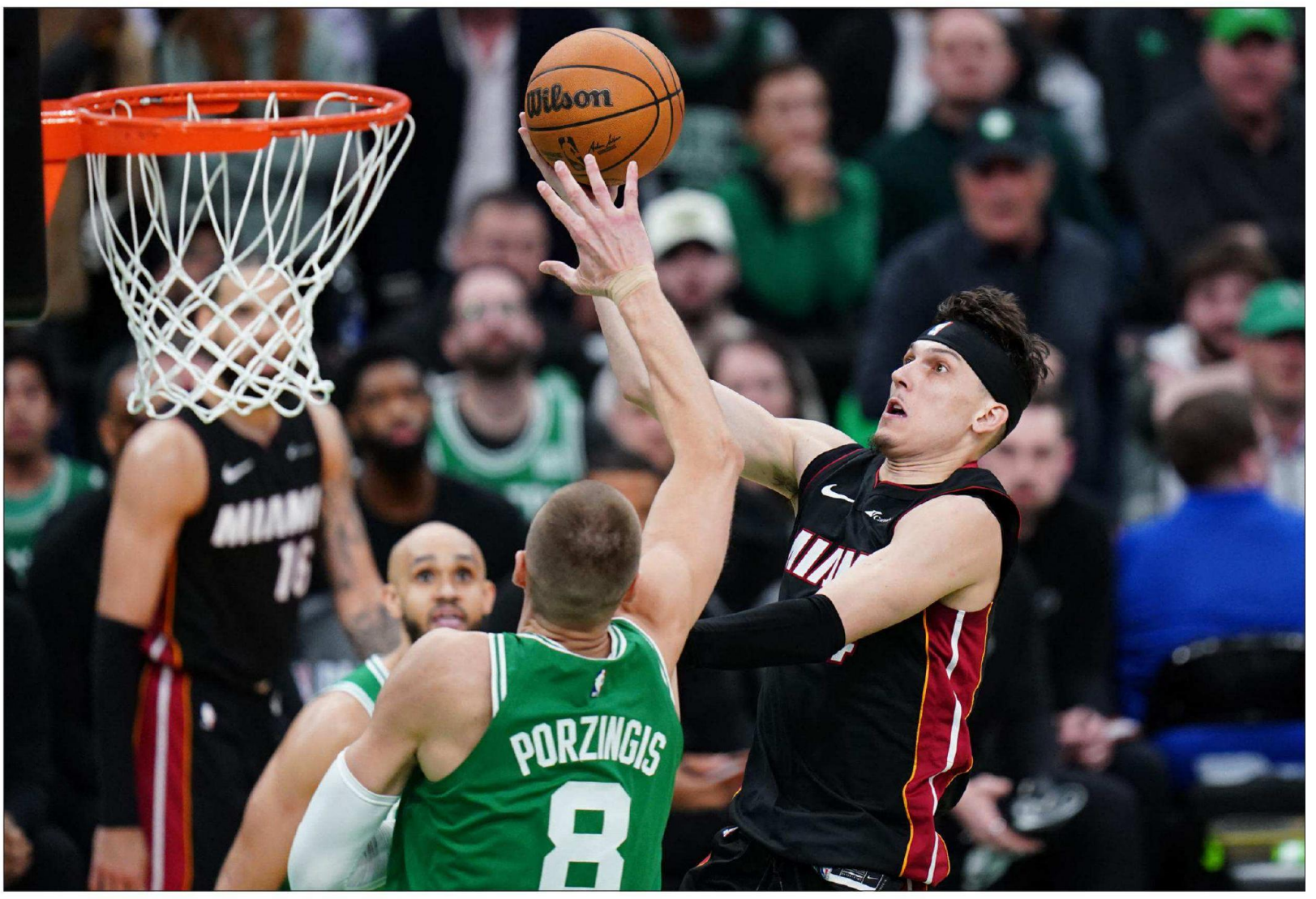
Boston's Kristaps Porzingis shot 1 of 9 from the field and finished with six points.

Miami led 28-27 after one quarter but trailed 61-58 at halftime. The Heat made 13 3-pointers (on 24 tries) in the first half.

The Heat had a five-point lead with 2:09 left in the half, but the Celtics closed the period on an 11-3 run. Brown scored all 11 Boston points in the sequence, during which he sank three consecutive treys. Neither team led by more than six points in the first two quarters.

A 15-3 run put the Heat up 82-70 with 3:36 remaining in the third quarter. Miami was on top 85-79 entering the fourth.

Game 3 will be played Saturday in Miami.

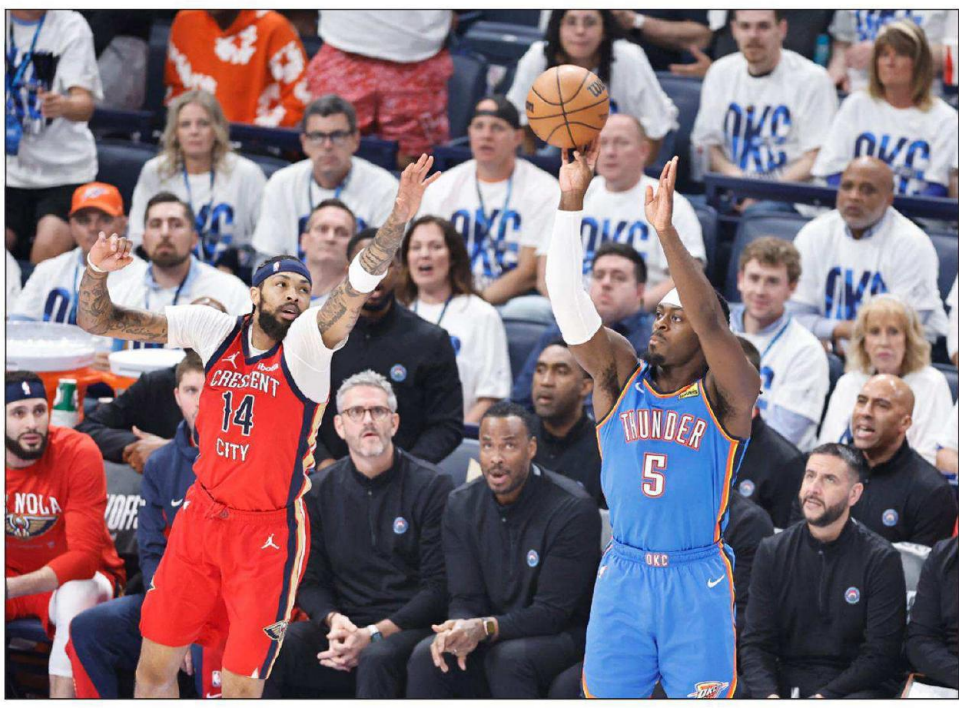


David Butler II / USA Today Sports

Miami Heat guard Tyler Herro drives to the basket against Boston Celtics center Kristaps Porzingis in the second half during game two of the first round for the 2024 NBA playoffs at TD Garden on Wednesday.

Thunder 124, Pelicans 92

The Oklahoma City Thunder (1) beat the New Orleans Pelicans (8) just before the deadline.



Alonzo Adams / USA Today Sports

Oklahoma City Thunder guard Luguentz Dort shoots a three-point basket as New Orleans Pelicans forward Brandon Ingram defends during the first quarter during game two of the first round for the 2024 NBA playoffs at Paycom Center on Wednesday.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Trophy Trust reinstates Bush as 2005 Heisman winner

Due to an evolving landscape in college football, the Heisman Trust ran a reverse to reinstate 2005 winner Reggie Bush on Wednesday.

Bush was honored in a brief ceremony attended by college football dignitaries, who share his status as members of the Heisman club.

Tim Tebow, Earl Campbell, Eric Crouch, George Rogers, Steve Spurrier, Ricky Williams and Archie Griffin were among the 11 fellow Heisman winners in attendance.

Bush won the 2005 Heisman Trophy in his final season at Southern California, where he amassed 3,169 rushing yards, gained 1,301 receiving yards and returned kickoffs and punts for a combined 2,081 yards. He totaled 42 touchdowns and also threw a 52-yard touchdown pass.

The physical trophy was returned to Bush by the trust and a replica will be given to USC, which returned its facsimile of Bush's award in 2010.

In 2005, Bush was named first-team All-American and the Associated Press College Football Player of the Year.

But he was stripped of his Heisman and his stats in 2010 after a four-year investigation by the NCAA showed that Bush and his family took improper financial benefits, including cash and paid-for housing.

When name, image and likeness legislation was enacted in 2021, Bush asked the NCAA to reinstate his status. The Heisman Trust said at the time it would consider giving back his trophy if the NCAA agreed to reinstate him, but the organization declined.

In part due to a 2021 Supreme Court decision that questions the legality of the amateurism model, the Heisman Trust said it was forced to reconsider "reinstating" the 2005 award and welcoming Bush back to the annual award ceremony. Fellow Heisman winners, most recently former Texas A&M quarterback Johnny Manziel and Notre Dame wide receiver Tim Brown, said they would skip future ceremonies unless Bush got his trophy back.

Bush was named to the College Football Hall of Fame last year.

He received 784 first-place votes during the 2005 Heisman Trophy balloting, the fifth-most in Heisman Trophy history.

Lions wide receiver St. Brown gets $120M extension

The Detroit Lions have agreed to a four-year, $120 million extension with All-Pro wide receiver Amon-Ra St. Brown, NFL Network reported Wednesday.

The deal runs through 2028 and reportedly includes $77 million guaranteed, supplanting Cooper Kupp's $75 million as the highest total among NFL wideouts.

With an average annual value of $30 million per season, St. Brown would trail only Miami Dolphins star Tyreek Hill's annual compensation of $31.3 million, according to Spotrac.

A fourth-round pick in 2021, St. Brown had been scheduled to earn $3.366 million in base salary in the final year of his rookie contract in 2024.

St. Brown, 24, caught 119 passes for 1,515 yards and 10 touchdowns in 16 starts in 2023, adding 22 receptions for 274 yards and one score in three postseason games.

The two-time Pro Bowl selection's career totals include 315 catches for 3,588 yards and 21 TDs in 49 games (41 starts).

Bengals defensive end Hendrickson requests trade

Cincinnati Bengals Pro Bowl defensive end Trey Hendrickson requested a trade on Wednesday, according to reports from ESPN and NFL Network.

Hendrickson signed a one-year, $21 million extension that included an $8 million signing bonus last year, but now he is looking for a long-term contract outside of Cincinnati. However, the Bengals do not want to deal him to another team, per the reports.

In 17 games (all starts) last season, Hendrickson tied for second in the NFL with 17.5 sacks. He recorded 43 tackles and also forced three fumbles.

A Pro Bowler in each of the past three seasons, Hendrickson, 29, has amassed 59.5 sacks, 174 tackles, 12 forced fumbles and 119 quarterback hits in 93 career games (64 starts) with the New Orleans Saints (2017-20) and Bengals (2021-23).

New Orleans selected Hendrickson in the third round (103rd overall) of the 2017 draft.

Jones begins workouts, returning from pectoral surgery

Jon Jones is back on the comeback trail and has an eye on resuming his career.

The heavyweight champion has been sidelined with a torn pectoral muscle that required surgery in October.

Jones worked out for the first time since his recovery period and was encouraged.

"First day back in the gym since my injury, felt amazing. And so it began," Jones said on his Instagram account on Tuesday night.

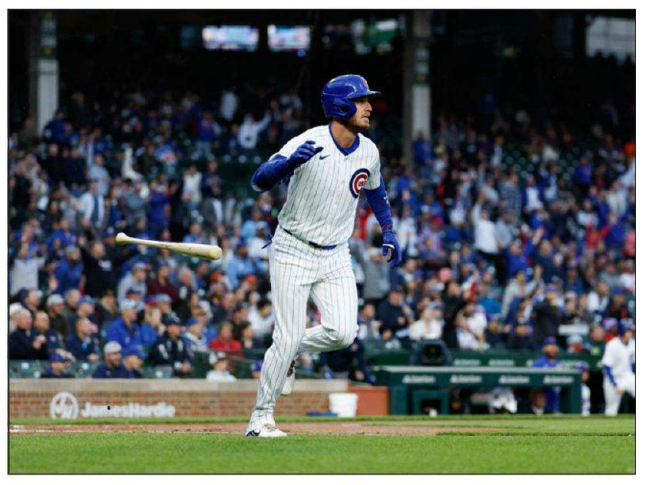
When Jones was hurt, he was scheduled to defend his title against Stipe Miocic. He withdrew from that bout as part of UFC 295.

Jones, 36, might be able to return this summer or early fall.

Jones is 27-1 plus one no-contest in 29 bouts.

Cubs outfielder Bellinger (fractured rib) lands on IL

The Chicago Cubs placed two-time All-Star Cody Bellinger on the 10-day injured list Wednesday with a fractured right rib.



Kamil Krzaczynski / USA Today Sports

Chicago Cubs outfielder Cody Bellinger watches his two-run home run against the Houston Astros during the first inning at Wrigley Field on Tuesday.

The Cubs called up their top prospect, Pete Crow-Armstrong, in a corresponding move. Cubs manager Craig Counsell announced the moves in a radio interview.

Bellinger was injured during Tuesday night's win over the Houston Astros after running into the center field wall chasing down a ball. He left after the fifth inning with what the team called bruised ribs. Bellinger hit a two-run homer in three at bats before departing.

Bellinger, in the midst of a seven-game hitting streak, is up to .226 on the season with five home runs and 17 RBIs.

He's a lifetime .257 hitter with 183 career home runs for the Los Angeles Dodgers (2017-22) and Cubs.

Crow-Armstrong, 22, made his major league debut last September and went 0-for-14 with three walks. He's batting .203 with two home runs, five doubles and seven RBIs at Triple-A Iowa this season.

Ravens wide receiver Bateman agrees to 3-year extension

Baltimore Ravens wide receiver Rashod Bateman on Wednesday agreed to a three-year contract extension through the 2026 season.

Financial terms were not disclosed.

Bateman, 24, had 32 catches for 367 yards and one touchdown in 16 games (12 starts) last season.

He has 93 catches for 1,167 yards and four touchdowns in 34 career games (21 starts) since being selected by the Ravens with the 27th overall pick of the 2021 NFL Draft.

Field Level Media

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Where will Gophers players be selected in the NFL draft?

Nubin is projected to be selected in the second or third round, while a few others could be late picks

BY ANDY GREDER
St. Paul Pioneer Press

Tyler Nubin's legacy as a Gophers football player will add another chapter this weekend. The Illinois native might be the first collegiate safety selected this weekend.

The Gophers' career interceptions leader is projected as a second- or third-round pick in the NFL Draft, which starts Thursday with Round 1. The second and third rounds will take place Friday.

Nubin was hanging around the Gophers' Larson Football Performance Center during spring practices, fitting considering the impact he had during his five years in Dinkytown.

"I don't want to put one word on it because (Nubin) is that special of a player, a special person," linebacker Cody Lindenberg said this month. "Just being around him changed the atmosphere."

NFL.com analyst Lance Zierlein pegs Nubin as an "eventual starter," while The Athletic's Dane Brugler said Nubin is a "four-down player with a coveted skill set because of his split-field range, playmaking, instincts and toughness versus the run."

Gophers safeties coach Danny Collins said Nubin was "so fun to coach" because he never had to be reminded about effort.

"He would look you in the eye and whatever you wanted to get done, he would do it for you," Collins said this month. "He would do it for the team. He's a guy who played 100 miles an hour, played as hard as he could, played through injuries and was incredibly smart. I think when you add all those things together, that is when you have a really special player. Super excited for his future."

Matt Krohn / USA Today Sports

Minnesota Golden Gophers defensive back Tyler Nubin celebrates a stop against the Nebraska Cornhuskers during the fourth quarter in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on August 31, 2023.

Nubin last season played through a meniscus injury that required surgery and left him less than 100 percent at the NFL scouting combine. He was around 90 percent healthy when he ran a 4.59 second 40-yard dash at the U Pro Day in March.

At 6-foot-1 and 205 pounds, Nubin's speed and movement in the secondary is considered a slight concern, Zierlein and Burger noted. But Nubin might join Antoine Winfied Jr., as U safeties taken on the second day of the draft. Winfield went 45th overall to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in 2020.

"Just hoping the best for him in his future — whatever that holds," Lindenberg said. "I hope it holds 10-plus years in the NFL, which we know he can do. We are very excited to watch him do that."

The Gophers had three players taken in the 2023 draft, which wrapped up a record-tying four-year streak for the U. They had 14 total players taken from 2020-23, which equaled its best run from 1988-91.

Zierlein analyzed only two other Gophers — tight end Brevyn Spann-Ford and defensive tackle Kyler Baugh. Brugler had Nubin as his third-best safety and Spann-Ford as the 13th tight end.

Spann-Ford, a St. Cloud native, dealt with dropped passes during his senior season but his body of work, success in run blocking and his 6-foot-7 frame earned him an invite to the Senior Bowl and combine.

NFL.com slotted Spann-Ford as a candidate to be a Round 7 pick or priority free agent come Saturday. Zierlien gave him a grade of "candidate for bottom of the roster or practice squad."

Like Gophers fans over the past few years, Brugler is intrigued by Spann-Ford's upside.

"Overall, Spann-Ford must improve his consistency — especially in the red zone — for him to stay to an NFL field," Brugler wrote in his "The Beast" draft dossier. "But he is a smooth athlete with body flexibility and toughness to translate to the pro game. He will interest NFL teams looking for a promising 'Y' tight end prospect with rotational upside."

Baugh impressed during Gophers' Pro Day, a similar showing to what tight end Ko Kieft made in 2022 before rising up and becoming a sixth-round pick that April.

Baugh might not hear his name called; the 6-foot-2 and 305 pound lineman is considered a priority free agent, per Zierlein. Brugler has Baugh as his 38th defensive tackle.

Like Nubin, teammates raved about what Baugh meant to the Gophers program on and off the field.

The Gophers had six other players from the 2023 team compete at its Pro Day, and they hope to catch on with an NFL team this weekend: receivers Chris Autman-Bell and Corey Crooms, running back Sean Tyler, cornerback Tre'Von Jones, defensive end Chris Collins and long snapper Brady Weeks.

A few former Gophers players are expected to be selected in the draft, including defensive end Austin Booker (Kansas) and running back Bucky Irving (Oregon).

STANLEY CUP PLAYOFFS

Marchand powers Bruins to 2-1 series lead against Leafs

Marchand ultimately sealed the win by scoring into an empty net with 36 seconds left in the third

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Brad Marchand scored the go-ahead goal with 8:07 remaining in the third period, lifting the visiting Boston Bruins to a 4-2 victory over the Toronto Maple Leafs on Wednesday in Game 3 of their Eastern Conference first-round playoff series.

The Bruins lead the best-of-seven series 2-1.

Marchand sealed the win by scoring into an empty net with 36 seconds left in the third. The Boston captain has 55 career goals in the playoffs, tying Hall of Famer and current team president Cam Neely for the most in franchise history.

Marchand notched an assist on Jake DeBrusk's third power-play goal of the series. Trent Frederic also scored and Jeremy Swayman made 28 saves for the Bruins, who rebounded from a 3-2 setback in Game 2.

Game 4 is Saturday in Toronto.

Toronto's Matthew Knies and Tyler Bertuzzi each scored a goal and Mitch Marner had an assist to notch his first point of the series. Ilya Samsonov turned aside 30 shots for the Maple Leafs.

Toronto tied the score 2-2 at 11:25 of the third period after defenseman Morgan Rielly's shot deflected off two Bruins and Bertuzzi and went into the net. Boston responded 28 seconds later, as Marchand's wrist shot from the right circle sailed over the left shoulder of Samsonov.

DeBrusk, who scored twice with the man advantage in 80 games during the regular season, gave Boston a 2-1 lead at 1:07 of the third period. He deftly used his skate to kick the puck to his stick and clean up the rebound after a shot from Marchand.

Marner found Knies on the left doorstep for a tap-in goal as Toronto opened the scoring with 6:50 remaining in the second period.

Boston leveled the contest at 1-1 with 2:23 remaining in the second period after Frederic fired a shot from the left circle that sailed under Samsonov's blocker and inside the near post for his second goal of the series.

Golden Knights vs. Stars

The Golden Knights held a 2-1 lead over the Stars in the third period at the deadline.

Kings vs. Oilers

The Kings were up 4-3 over the Oilers early on in the third at the deadline.

John E. Sokolowski / USA Today Sports

Boston Bruins forward Jake DeBrusk and forward David Pastrnak congratulate forward Brad Marchand on his first goal of the game against the Toronto Maple Leafs during the third period of game three of the first round of the 2024 Stanley Cup Playoffs at Scotiabank Arena on Wednesday.

NATIONAL SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

Professional

NBA

Eastern Conference

Atlantic

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	64	18	.780	—
New York	50	32	.610	14.0
Philadelphia	47	35	.573	17.0
Brooklyn	32	50	.390	32.0
Toronto	25	57	.305	39.0

Central

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	49	33	.598	—
Cleveland	48	34	.585	1.0
Indiana	47	35	.573	2.0
Chicago	39	43	.476	10.0
Detroit	14	68	.171	35.0

Southeast

	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	47	35	.573	—
Miami	46	36	.561	1.0
Atlanta	36	46	.439	11.0
Charlotte	21	61	.256	26.0
Washington	15	67	.183	32.0

Western Conference

Northwest

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oklahoma City	57	25	.695	—
Denver	57	25	.695	—
Minnesota	56	26	.683	1.0
Utah	31	51	.378	26.0
Portland	21	61	.256	36.0

Pacific

	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Clippers	51	31	.622	—
Phoenix	49	33	.598	2.0
L.A. Lakers	47	35	.573	4.0
Sacramento	46	36	.561	5.0
Golden State	46	36	.561	5.0

Southwest

	W	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	50	32	.610	—
New Orleans	49	33	.598	1.0
Houston	41	41	.500	9.0
Memphis	27	55	.329	23.0
San Antonio	22	60	.268	28.0

Tuesday's Games
Minnesota 105, Phoenix 93
Indiana 125, Milwaukee 108
Dallas 96, L.A. Clippers 93

Wednesday's Games
Miami 111, Boston 101
New Orleans at Oklahoma City, 8:30 p.m.

Thursday's Games
Cleveland at Orlando, 6 p.m.
New York at Philadelphia, 6:30 p.m.
Denver at L.A. Lakers, 9 p.m.

Friday's Games
Milwaukee at Indiana, 4:30 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Dallas, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Phoenix, 9:30 p.m.

HOCKEY

Professional

NHL

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	SO	Pts	GF	GA
Florida	82	52	24	4	2	110	268	200
Boston	82	47	20	12	3	109	267	224
Toronto	82	46	26	8	2	102	303	263
Tampa Bay	82	45	29	7	1	98	291	268
Detroit	82	41	32	8	1	91	278	274
Buffalo	82	39	37	5	1	84	246	244
Ottawa	82	37	41	4	0	78	255	281
Montreal	82	30	36	8	8	76	236	289

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	SO	Pts	GF	GA
NY Rangers	82	55	23	1	3	114	282	229
Carolina	82	52	23	2	5	111	279	216
NY Islanders	82	39	27	11	5	94	246	263
Washington	82	40	31	6	5	91	220	257
Pittsburgh	82	38	32	9	3	88	255	251
Philadelphia	82	38	33	8	3	87	235	261
New Jersey	82	38	39	3	2	81	264	283
Columbus	82	27	43	10	2	66	237	300

Western Conference

Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	SO	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	82	52	21	7	2	113	298	234
Winnipeg	82	52	24	5	1	110	259	199
Colorado	82	50	25	5	2	107	304	254
Nashville	82	47	30	5	0	99	269	248
St. Louis	82	43	33	4	2	92	239	250
Minnesota	82	39	33	7	3	88	251	263
Arizona	82	36	41	5	0	77	256	274
Chicago	82	23	53	5	1	52	179	290

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	SO	Pts	GF	GA
Vancouver	82	50	23	7	2	109	279	223
Edmonton	82	49	27	5	1	104	294	237
Los Angeles	82	44	27	6	5	99	256	215
Vegas	82	45	29	6	2	98	267	245
Calgary	82	38	39	1	4	81	253	271
Seattle	82	34	35	9	4	81	217	236
Anaheim	82	27	50	3	2	59	204	295
San Jose	82	19	54	4	5	47	181	331

Monday's Games
Toronto 3, Boston 2
Carolina 5, NY Islanders 3
Vegas 4, Dallas 3
Edmonton 7, Los Angeles 4

Tuesday's Games
NY Rangers 4, Washington 3
Florida 3, Tampa Bay 2, OT
Colorado 5, Winnipeg 2
Nashville 4, Vancouver 1

Wednesday's Games
Boston 4, Toronto 2
Vegas at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Los Angeles at Edmonton, 9 p.m.

Thursday's Games
Florida at Tampa Bay, 6 p.m.
Carolina at NY Islanders, 6:30 p.m.

PWHL

	GP	W	L	OT	SO	Pts	GF	GA
Toronto	21	14	7	0	0	38	54	45
Montreal	21	11	10	6	1	35	50	51
Minnesota	21	12	9	6	0	35	50	43
Ottawa	20	8	12	6	0	30	54	50
Boston	21	10	11	6	0	28	42	50
New York	20	7	13	7	0	20	40	51

Thursday, April 18
Boston 2, Toronto 1
Montreal 4, Minnesota 3

Saturday, April 20
Toronto 3, Montreal 2
Boston 2, New York 1
Ottawa 4, Minnesota 0

SOCCER

Professional

MLS

Eastern Conference

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA:
Inter Miami CF	5	2	3	18	22	15
NY Red Bulls	4	1	4	16	13	9
FC Cincinnati	4	2	3	15	10	8
Columbus SC	3	1	5	14	12	9
Toronto FC	4	4	1	13	9	12
Philadelphia	3	0	4	13	14	9
Atlanta United FC	3	3	2	11	13	9
NYC FC	3	4	2	11	9	9
Charlotte FC	3	4	2	11	9	11
CF Montreal	3	3	2	11	12	16
D.C. United	2	3	4	10	12	14
Orlando City SC	2	3	3	9	10	15
Chicago	2	4	3	9	11	18
Nashville SC	1	3	4	7	9	16
New England	1	6	1	4	5	14

Western Conference

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA:
LA Galaxy	5	1	3	18	21	15
Vancouver FC	5	2	1	16	17	9
Real Salt Lake	4	2	3	15	15	8
Colorado	4	2	3	15	15	13
Minnesota United	4	2	2	14	13	9
Houston	4	3	1	13	9	8
Los Angeles FC	3	3	3	12	15	14
Austin FC	3	3	3	12	12	13
St. Louis CITY SC	2	1	6	12	15	14
Sporting KC	2	2	5	11	17	16
Portland	2	3	4	10	18	18
Seattle FC	1	4	3	6	9	9
FC Dallas	1	5	2	5	7	12
San Jose	1	8	0	3	13	24

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for draw.

Sunday's Games
Minnesota United FC 3, Charlotte FC 0
LA Galaxy 4, San Jose Earthquakes 3

TENNIS

Professional

ATP Tour
Mutua Madrid Open
Wednesday
Madrid, Spain
Singles
First Round
Facundo Bagnis, null, def. Brandon Nakashima, United States, 6-3, 7-6 (5).
Juncheng Shang, China, def. Corentin Moutet, France, 6-7 (9), 6-2, 7-6 (10).
Lukas Klein, Slovakia, def. Pablo Llamas Ruiz, Spain, 6-1, 4-6, 7-6 (4).
Borna Coric, Croatia, def. Benjamin Hassan, Lebanon, 6-7 (5), 7-5, 6-3.
Jack Draper, United Kingdom, def. Thanasi Kokkinakis, Australia, 6-3, 3-6, 7-5.
Alexander Shevchenko, Russia, def. Arthur Rinderknech, France, 6-4, 5-7, 6-3.
Thiago Seyboth Wild, null, def. Roman Safiullin, Russia, 6-4, 6-4.
Jaume Munar, Spain, def. Nuno Borges, Portugal, 7-5, 6-4.
Botic Van de Zandschulp, Netherlands, def. Christopher Eubanks, United States, 6-3, 6-3.
Mariano Navone, Argentina, def. Alexei Popyrin, Australia, 7-5, 6-2.
Taro Daniel, Japan, def. Aleksandar Vukic, Australia, 6-2, 6-7 (1), 6-1.
Denis Shapovalov, Canada, def. Facundo Diaz Acosta, Argentina, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3.
Fabian Marozsan, Hungary, def. Aslan Karatsev, Russia, 7-6 (6), 7-6 (2).
Luciano Darderi , Italy, def. Gael Monfils, France, 6-4, 6-2.
Luca Van Assche, France, def. Zizou Bergs, Belgium, 6-4, 6-7 (0), 6-1.
Daniel Altmaier, Germany, def. Martin Landaluce, Spain, 6-1, 7-5.

WTA Tour
Mutua Madrid Open
Wednesday
Madrid, Spain
Singles
First Round
Caroline Dolehide, United States, def. Zhuoxuan Bai, China, 6-3, 6-3.
Emiliana Arango, Colombia, def. Amanda Anisimova, United States, 1-6, 6-4, 7-6 (2).
Sara Bejlek, Czechia, def. Anna Blinkova, Russia, 4-6, 6-3, 6-3.
Lucia Bronzetti, Italy, def. Varvara Gracheva, Russia, 6-3, 6-3.
Sara Sorribes Tormo, Spain, def. Bernarda Pera, United States, 7-5, 6-2.
Daria Saville, Australia, def. Hailey Baptiste, United States, 6-4, 7-6 (5).
Jacqueline Cristian, Romania, def. Magdalena Frech, Poland, 7-5, 6-2.
Olga Danilovic, Serbia, def. Clara Burel, France, 3-6, 7-6 (8), 6-4.
Cristina Bucsa, Spain, def. Harriet Dart, United Kingdom, 6-4, 6-4.
Donna Vekic, Croatia, def. Laura Siegemund, Germany, 6-1, 6-2.
Maria Carle, Argentina, def. Emma Raducanu, United Kingdom, 6-2, 6-2.
Naomi Osaka, Japan, def. Greet Minnen, Belgium, 6-4, 6-1.
Sara Errani, Italy, def. Caroline Wozniacki, Denmark, 3-6, 7-5, 7-5.
Jessica Bouzas Maneiro, Spain, def. Paula Badosa, Spain, 2-6, 6-3, 6-3.
Magda Linette, Poland, def. Elisabetta Cocciaretto, Italy, 3-6, 6-4, 6-4.
Robin Montgomery, United States, def. Elina Avanesyan, Russia, 6-2, 6-2.
Victoria Jimenez Kasintseva, Andorra, def. Lin Zhu, China, 6-4, 6-3.
Xinyu Wang, China, def. Viktoriya Tomova, Bulgaria, 5-7, 7-5, 6-4.
Mirra Andreeva, Russia, def. Taylor Townsend, United States, 4-6, 6-1, 7-5.
Shelby Rogers, United States, def. Shuai Zhang, China, 6-3, 6-2.
Mayar Sherif, Egypt, def. Lauren Davis, United States, 4-6, 7-6 (4), 6-4.
Ashlyn Krueger, United States, def. Nao Hibino, Japan, 6-4, 6-4.

SOCIAL MEDIA

TikTok CEO expects to defeat US restrictions

REUTERS

WASHINGTON — TikTok's chief executive said on Wednesday the social media company expects to win a legal challenge to block legislation signed into law by President Joe Biden that he said would ban its popular short video app used by 170 million Americans.

"Rest assured — we aren't going anywhere," CEO Shou Zi Chew said in a video posted moments after Biden signed the bill that gives China-based ByteDance 270 days to divest TikTok's U.S. assets or face a ban. "The facts and the Constitution are on our side and we expect to prevail again."

Biden's signing sets a Jan. 19 deadline for a sale — one day before his term is set to expire — but he could extend the deadline by three months if he determines ByteDance is making progress. Biden is seeking a second term against former President Donald Trump.

"We don't want to see a ban," White House spokeswoman Karine Jean-Pierre said on Tuesday. "This is about PRC ownership," she added, referring to the People's Republic of China.

In 2020, Trump was blocked by the courts in his bid to ban TikTok and Chinese-owned WeChat, a unit of Tencent, in the United States. Trump has reversed course and said on Monday that Biden was "pushing" for a ban on TikTok and would be the one responsible if a ban were imposed, urging voters to take notice.

"Make no mistake — this is a ban on TikTok," Chew said, emphasizing that TikTok would continue to operate as the company challenges the restrictions.

Many experts question if any potential buyer has the financial resources to buy TikTok and if China and U.S. government agencies would approve a sale.

Driven by widespread worries among U.S. lawmakers that China could access Americans' data or surveil them with the app, the bill was overwhelmingly passed late on Tuesday by the U.S. Senate. The U.S. House of Representatives approved it on Saturday.

The four-year battle over TikTok is a significant front in a war over the internet and technology between Washington and Beijing. Last week, Apple said China had ordered it to remove Meta Platforms' WhatsApp and Threads from its App Store in China over Chinese national security concerns.

TikTok is set to challenge the bill on First Amendment grounds and TikTok users are expected to again take legal action. A U.S. judge in Montana in November blocked a state ban on TikTok, citing free-speech grounds.

PRO-PALESTINIAN PROTESTS

House speaker heckled and booed at NY Gaza protest

REUTERS

NEW YORK/LOS ANGELES — Columbia University students heckled House Speaker Mike Johnson on Wednesday as he visited the flashpoint of nationwide student demonstrations over the Israeli war in Gaza, even as the New York school agreed to 48 more hours of negotiations to end a protest encampment.

Johnson's visit, which he said was meant to support Jewish students intimidated by some anti-Israeli demonstrators, took place shortly after the university extended a deadline from Wednesday morning to Friday morning to reach an agreement to remove an encampment that has come to symbolize the campus protest movement.

Some of the campus protests taking place coast to coast were met with shows of force from law enforcement.

In Texas on Wednesday, state highway patrol troopers in riot gear and police on horseback broke up a protest at the University of Texas in Austin and arrested 20 people.

The University of Southern California declared its campus closed and asked the Los Angeles Police Department to clear a demonstration. Police arrested students who peacefully surrendered one-by-one, hours after campus police who took down an encampment were overwhelmed by protesters and requested LAPD help.

Other demonstrations took place at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge and California State Polytechnic in Humboldt.

Protesting students have demanded universities divest assets from Israel and seek to pressure the U.S. government to rein in Israeli strikes on Palestinian civilians.

Israel's fierce response followed a deadly Oct. 7 cross-border raid by Islamist militants from Hamas, which controls the Gaza enclave.

Nuri Vallbona / Reuters

Pro-Palestinian protesters clash with law enforcements officers at the University of Texas on Wednesday in Austin, Texas.

The at times vulgar heckling and booing that greeted Johnson did not drown him out, though he was hard to hear because he spoke to media microphones, not through loudspeakers.

"As Columbia has allowed these lawless radicals and agitators to take over, the virus of antisemitism has spread across other campuses," Johnson said from the steps of the university library, calling on violent protesters to be arrested and threatening to cut off federal funding to universities that fail to impose order.

Johnson, whose job as House Speaker has been threatened by ultraconservative Republicans in his caucus, could have expected a cold welcome from students on a New York City campus known as a liberal bastion.

In a politically polarized country, conservatives can score points by being seen as standing up to liberal activists, many of whom say the Republican portrayals of antisemitic violence on campus are greatly exaggerated for political purposes.

Johnson also met with Jewish students who said they were fearful to come onto the campus, citing testimony from Jewish students who said they had been spat on and seen swastikas drawn on the walls.

Before his press conference, Johnson met with about 40 Jewish students on campus, according to students who were there.

Students at the encampment say their protest has been peaceful, and that outsiders not connected with their movement are behind any inflammatory confrontations off-campus.

NATIONAL BRIEFS

Arizona House votes to repeal 1864 abortion ban

Lawmakers in Arizona's House of Representatives on Wednesday voted to repeal an 1864 ban on abortion that may go into effect next month.

In a 32-28 vote, lawmakers decided that the old abortion ban should be repealed. The Arizona state Senate must now also vote to repeal the bill before the 160-year-old ban is knocked down.

Arizona's fight over the Civil War-era abortion ban is the latest flashpoint on women's reproductive rights in the United States since the U.S. Supreme Court ended the constitutional right to abortion in 2022, leaving it up to states to decide the issue. Conservative-led states quickly invoked strict bans on abortion within their borders.

The old law was revived by a state Supreme Court ruling on April 9, and unless the legislature intervenes, it could take effect within 60 days of that ruling.

Even if Democrats in Arizona manage to repeal the 1864 abortion ban, restrictions on the procedure would still be in place. Arizona Republicans in 2022 passed a law that bans abortion after 15 weeks of pregnancy.

Rebecca Noble / Reuters

Republican Arizona State Sen. Anthony Kern speaks with anti-abortion protesters at the Arizona State Capitol in Phoenix on Wednesday.

House Democrat Donald Payne Jr. dead at 65

WASHINGTON — Donald Payne Jr., a Democrat in the U.S. House of Representatives who represented a northern New Jersey district, has died after a cardiac episode, the state's governor's office said on Wednesday.

"As a former union worker and toll collector, he deeply understood the struggles our working families face, and he fought valiantly to serve their needs, every single day," Governor Phil Murphy said in a statement.

With Payne's death, Republicans now hold a 218-212 majority in the House, and with a fractious majority at times bucking leadership single votes have the power to change legislative outcomes.

Payne Jr., 65, was first elected to the seat in 2012, after the death of his father, Donald Payne. The older Payne had represented the district since 1989.

Bird flu tests required for dairy cattle moving between states on Monday

CHICAGO — The U.S. government will require dairy cattle moving between states to be tested for bird flu starting on Monday as federal officials ramp up their response to an outbreak that has bled over into the U.S. milk supply.

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack on Wednesday said all laboratories and state veterinarians in the country must report positive tests, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture would pay for increased testing.

The measures aim to contain the spread of bird flu, which has been reported in eight states and 33 dairy herds since it was first detected in late March in Texas. A person exposed to cattle tested positive for the disease and suffered conjunctivitis.

Dr. Michael Worobey, an evolutionary biologist at the University of Arizona, said on Wednesday that based on new information, it appears that the H5N1 infections in dairy cattle occurred through a single transmission event from a bird to a cow sometime in late 2023, likely in December.

US mandates new airline refund rules, fee disclosures

ARLINGTON, Virginia — The U.S. Transportation Department finalized new rules Wednesday requiring upfront disclosure of airline fees and mandates quick cash refunds for canceled flights, as well as for delayed baggage or inoperative services like onboard Wi-Fi.

The rules, which were nearly three years in the works, will require airlines and ticket agents to tell consumers upfront about baggage or change and cancellation fees. The department said consumers are expected to save $543 million annually in excess airline fees.

President Joe Biden has repeatedly heaped criticism on the airline industry over the last two years.

The new rules require airlines and ticket agents to disclose extra service fees alongside the full fare, the first time fare and schedule information is displayed online.

Grand jury indicts 18 in alleged Arizona fake elector scheme

A grand jury has charged 18 people with allegedly taking part in an Arizona fake elector scheme to re-elect then-U.S. President Donald Trump in 2020, the state's attorney general said on Wednesday.

The court papers list a "former U.S. president," Trump, as an unindicted co-conspirator.

The indictment stems from efforts to reverse Democrat Joe Biden's victory in several states in 2020, based on Republican Trump's false claims that he had been re-elected.

The names of seven defendants are redacted in an indictment that names 11 others. Arizona Attorney General Kris Mayes said in a press release announcing the charges that those names would be made public after all of the defendants had been served with the indictment.

Trump lawyer Rudy Giuliani is among those indicted, said his spokesperson Ted Goodman, although the former New York mayor's name is redacted.

The indictment also identifies one defendant as chief of staff in 2020, the position Mark Meadows held in the Trump White House at that time.

Representatives for Meadows and Trump did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

U.S. presidents are chosen by electors from each state, who cast votes in the Electoral College, where votes are allotted based on each state's population.

First full-size sugar vessel reaches Baltimore refinery after accident

NEW YORK — A full-size vessel carrying raw sugar was able to navigate through the 20-foot deep temporary channel at the Patapsco River on Wednesday and reach the Port of Baltimore for the first time since an accident blocked access to the port almost a month ago.

The vessel The Jonathan carried supplies for the large sugar refinery operated by the ASR Group — the company that makes Domino Sugar — located at the Port of Baltimore.

The plant, which is one of the largest sugar refineries in the United States, has faced hurdles to keep operations at normal levels since the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge on March 26 that killed six people.

At that time, ASR Group said it had stocks to keep the refinery working for around six to eight weeks.

ASR Group said on Wednesday that a couple of smaller boats had managed to reach the refinery before Wednesday, but with much smaller cargoes.

Reuters

MIDDLE EAST

Israel plans all-out assault in south Gaza

REUTERS

CAIRO/JERUSALEM — Israeli warplanes pounded the northern Gaza strip for a second day on Wednesday in a fierce assault that has shattered weeks of comparative calm, and Israel said it was moving forward with plans for an all-out assault on Rafah in the south.

After an abrupt Israeli pullback at the start of this month, Palestinians at both ends of the Gaza Strip were again fleeing for their lives from bombing they described as some of the war's worst.

A spokesperson for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government said Israel was "moving ahead" with its plans for a ground operation on Rafah but gave no timeline.

Western countries, including Israel's closest ally the United States, have pleaded with it to hold back from attacking the city on Gaza's southern edge, which is sheltering more than half the enclave's 2.3 million people.

At the White House, U.S. national security adviser Jake Sullivan said Washington was still talking with Israel about Rafah and officials from both countries expected to meet again in person soon.

"We've had very detailed discussions ... to talk through not just our concerns, but our view that there is a different way to go about dealing with the Hamas threat in Rafah," he told reporters.

Ronen Zvulun / Reuters

Protesters attend a rally calling for the immediate release of Israeli hostages held in Gaza on Wednesday near Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's residence in Jerusalem.

A senior Israeli defense official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Israel was poised to evacuate civilians ahead of its attack and had bought 40,000 tents that could house 10-12 people each. All that remained was for Netanyahu to give the order.

Displaced people sheltering in Rafah are weighing whether to flee again. Tamer Al-Burai, who fled from Gaza City and is now living in Rafah in a cluster of tents with seven households of extended family, said the entire group was heading to the north "since Israel sounds more serious in its threats this time."

"We have women, children, elderly and sick people, who may face problems escaping should the invasion happen suddenly," he told Reuters over a chat app. "Invasions happen under heavy fire and people die as they leave. So we decided we should leave earlier."

Hostage video

At the opposite end of the Gaza Strip in the north, the city of Beit Lahiya came under massive shelling for a second day on Wednesday, a day after the Israeli military ordered residents out of four districts declared a "dangerous combat zone."

Israel said its operations there targeted areas from where the armed wing of Hamas-aligned Islamic Jihad fired rockets at two Israeli border settlements on Tuesday.

Israel has said it will eradicate Hamas following the militant group's rampage in southern Israel on Oct. 7 in which 1,200 people were killed and 253 were taken hostage, according to Israeli tallies.

Hamas released a video on Wednesday that apparently showed Israeli American hostage Hersh Goldberg-Polin, 23, alive. His father, Jonathan Polin, urged leaders to reach a ceasefire deal.

"We're relieved to see him alive but we're also concerned about his health and wellbeing as well as that of all of the other hostages and all of those suffering in this region," his father said in a video message.

The war, now in its seventh month, has killed more than 34,000 Palestinians, according to Gaza health authorities. The offensive has laid to waste much of the enclave, displacing most of its 2.3 million people and creating a humanitarian crisis.

CHAOS IN HAITI

Haiti transition council to be installed Thursday

REUTERS

PORT-AU-PRINCE — A ceremony to install a stalled presidential transition council in Haiti will take place Thursday morning on the outskirts of the capital Port-au-Prince, the office of outgoing Prime Minister Ariel Henry announced in a statementon Wednesday.

The statement noted that the ceremony will be hosted at the prime minister's official office, known as Villa d'Accueil, not the downtown National Palace, which has come under repeated fire from armed gangs in recent days.

Earlier on Wednesday, powerful gang leader Jimmy "Barbeque" Cherizier insisted that talks over Haiti's political future must include the gangs.

The installation of the nine-member presidential transition council that will take over from Henry has been delayed for weeks amid intense behind-the-scenes jockeying for control among various political factions.

The establishment of the council is seen as a key first step toward ending the chaos that has engulfed the Caribbean nation, largely blamed on rival gangs fighting over turf, especially in the capital, as well as mostly absent state institutions.

The council is expected to name an interim prime minister and help set up a government that will eventually organize national elections.

Ralph Tedy Erol / Reuters

Armed gang members walk through the streets near the presidential palace on Tuesday as a transition council meant to usher in a new government is set to be sworn in at the palace on Thursday.

WORLD BRIEFS

Spain's PM suspends public duties to 'reflect' on future

MADRID — Spain's Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez said on Wednesday he would step back from public duties for a week to decide whether he wants to continue leading the government after a court launched a business corruption probe into his wife's private dealings.

Sanchez, who last year secured another term for his Spanish Socialist Workers' Party (PSOE) as leader of a minority coalition government, said he would appear before the media on Monday to announce his decision.

"I need to pause and think," he wrote in a letter shared on his X account. "At this point, I have to ask myself: is it all worth it? I honestly don't know... whether I should continue to lead the government or renounce this honor."

Nacho Doce / Reuters

Spain's Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez, accompanied by his wife Begona Gomez, applauds as he addresses supporters during the general election in Madrid on July 23, 2023.

South Africa extends troop deployment

JOHANNESBURG — South Africa's military will extend the deployment of its troops in conflict-hit Mozambique and Democratic Republic of Congo, President Cyril Ramaphosa said in a statement on Wednesday.

The extension, for an unspecified amount of time, will keep 1,198 personnel of the South African National Defence Force in eastern Congo, where they are part of a U.N. peacekeeping force helping Congo fight rebel groups.

The statement also said that 1,495 SANDF members would continue their operations in Mozambique, where they have been supporting the government's fight against violent extremism in northern areas since 2021.

South Africa's military deployments abroad have come under domestic scrutiny this year, after two SANDF soldiers were killed and three wounded by a mortar bomb in Congo in February.

North Korean official lambasts US over sanctions

SEOUL — North Korea will take more action to maintain its military power despite U.S. sanctions pressure that has only made the country stronger, a North Korean foreign ministry official said on Thursday.

"U.S. heinous sanctions served as a catalyst and driving force that unleashed a gradual increase in our national strength," state KCNA news agency cited a North Korean senior foreign ministry official as saying, referring to its nuclear tests prompted by international sanctions led by Washington.

The country "will protect its sovereign rights and security interests from increasing hostile threats and sanctions pressure from the United States, and take stronger real actions to make its already established military and technological strength irreversible," the official added.

Brazil's government working on historic tax overhaul

BRASILIA — Brazil's government submitted proposed rules to Congress on Wednesday to carry out a historic tax overhaul approved last year, a key element of President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva's strategy to foster growth in Latin America's largest economy.

The Finance Ministry said in a statement the bill contains most of the regulations needed to implement the constitutional amendment approved last year, and that a second proposal will be sent to lawmakers in the coming days specifically addressing management and oversight of the new taxes.

The reform's goal is to enhance productivity by streamlining Brazil's complex tax framework, known for burdening businesses with significant compliance costs.

The reform consolidates five existing levies into a value-added tax (VAT) with separate federal and regional rates, to be determined through the complementary bills. Full implementation of the new taxes is expected only in 2033.

Brazil justice says no evidence Bolsonaro sought asylum

BRASILIA — Brazilian Supreme Court justice Alexandre de Moraes on Wednesday closed an investigation into whether former far-right president Jair Bolsonaro sought asylum at the Hungarian embassy in February, citing lack of evidence.

The New York Times revealed via security video footage that Bolsonaro spent two nights at the Hungarian embassy in Brasilia between Feb. 12 and 14, right after his passport was seized in an investigation into an alleged military coup plot.

"There are no concrete elements that indicate ... that the investigated party intended to obtain diplomatic asylum in order to flee the country and, consequently, jeopardize the ongoing criminal investigation," Moraes said in a written decision.

The embassy stay aroused suspicions that he might seek diplomatic asylum to avoid the coup plot probe and other criminal investigations.

Cuba apologizes to Canada for delivering wrong body to grieving family

HAVANA — Cuba apologized to Canada on Wednesday after authorities accidentally delivered the remains of another man to a Canadian family grieving the loss of a loved one who died while vacationing on the Caribbean island in March.

Faraj Jarjour, a Canadian citizen of Syrian descent, died of a heart attack in the Varadero beach resort two hours east of Havana on March 22, according to a report by Canada's CBC news agency.

Weeks later, his family was shocked to find the body of a tattooed man many years younger in the casket delivered from Cuba to a funeral home near Montreal, the family told the CBC. The body delivered looked nothing like their father, the family said.

Reuters