



CASH FOR HATE

Muslim advocacy group Council on American-Islamic Relations gave out \$1,000 checks to reward protesters at Columbia University and other schools who trashed buildings and harassed Jews while declaring their hate for Israel.

PAGES 4-5

**Muslim activist group
CAIR paid money to
antisemitic militants who
trashed college campuses**



By CARL CAMPANILE

Voters down on their Chuck

Sen. unpopular as ever: poll

He's Chucked!

Only 32% of New York state voters have a favorable view of Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) — his lowest approval rating in 21 years of surveys conducted by Siena College.

A whopping 55% of respondents in the new Siena poll said they had an unfavorable view of the Senate Democratic leader.

Schumer's rising unpopularity comes as ascendant left-wing Democrats have called on the longtime New York lawmaker to step down as Senate leader amid fury over not winning concessions from President Trump and Republicans to end the record-breaking government shutdown.

Schumer was viewed negatively by virtually every demographic group — liberals and moderates as well as conservatives, voters of all ages, from all regions of the state and both sexes.

His support was split among registered Democrats — 45% to 43%.

The lone bright spot for Schumer was among black voters, with 59% viewing him favorably compared to 22% who didn't.

But 63% of white voters and 58% of Hispanics gave him a thumbs down.

AOC over Chuck: poll

Jewish voters were also meh on Schumer, with 46% of the faith viewing the proudly Jewish senator favorably and 47% unfavorably.

Schumer, 74, has been a force in New York politics for five decades.

He's held public office since the 1970s — first as a state assemblyman, then as a Brooklyn congressman before being elected to the US Senate in 1998.

That makes his plummeting stock all the more stunning.

"In February 2005 — the first Siena Poll in its current incarnation — Schumer had a 63%-20% favorability rating.

"In July 2005, he had his all-time best favorability rating, 70%-22%," said Siena College pollster Steven Greenberg.

"Schumer is viewed unfavorably by a plurality of New York City voters, and strong majorities of downstate suburbanites and upstaters," Greenberg said.

The survey also noted that lefty

55%
Have an unfavorable view of Sen. Chuck Schumer

32%
Have a favorable view

democratic socialist firebrand and "Squad" member Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY) is more popular than Schumer.

Some allies are urging AOC to challenge Schumer in a Democratic primary if he decides to seek re-election in 2028.

"It's worth noting that Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez has an overall 42-37% favorability rating.

"But it's 62%-20% with Democrats and 55%-27% with city voters," Greenberg said.

By comparison, only 38% of Big Apple voters have a favorable view of Schumer, while 48% have a sour view.

AOC's primary concern

Progressive stalwart Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez is pouring cold water on a lefty New York City lawmaker's attempt to unseat House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries.

The far-left "Squad" member originally said she was "not aware" of Councilman Chi Ossé's recently filed primary bid, a new Democratic Socialists of America member chal-

lenging Jeffries for the Brooklyn House seat.

"But I certainly don't think a primary challenge to the leader is a good idea right now," she then added to reporters Monday, according to Fox News.

Ocasio-Cortez echoed Mayor-elect Zohran Mamdani's reluctance to endorse a fellow lefty in a primary challenge against Jeffries. *Matthew Fischetti*

Reuters



Bombs away, Babe

The Post is counting down to America's 250th birthday next year with a look back at the nation's — and the paper's — history. Every day leading up to July 4, 2026, we're publishing notable covers and stories from our archives:

Oct. 8, 1927 — Yankees' 'Murderers' Row'

"The Babe Comes Home—Smiling" the front page of The New York Evening Post declared above a photo of Babe Ruth crossing the plate, and being congratulated by Lou Gehrig, after hitting the first home run of the

World Series in Game 3. Ruth's two-run homer off

Pittsburgh's Carmen Hill in Game 4 broke a 1-1 tie and sent the Yankees to a sweep, justifying the star-packed team's menacing nickname: Murderers' Row.

It was the second of the Yankees' now-record 27 world titles, and the first of three championships won by the Ruth-Gehrig tandem. "In this series the Yanks are getting great pitching, good hitting and fine fielding," wrote Frederick G. Lieb. "When all departments are functioning on the Yankees the aggregation is unbeatable." — Dave Blezow



INSIDE TODAY

News Columns

E.J. McMahon 12
Michael Goodwin 15
Rikki Schlott 28
Steve Cuzzo 32

Gossip

Page Six 20
Cindy Adams 22

Weather p. 34

Fun & Games

Horoscope 34
Su Doku 38
Crosswords 38

Post Opinion p. 35-37

Business p. 39-41

Classifieds p. 42-43

Sports p. 43-61

TV Decider p. 62-63

LOTTERY

NEW YORK

■ Midday Nos. Tue.: 557
■ Midday Win-4 Tue.: 4470
■ Midday Take-5 Tue.:
■ Evening Nos. Tue.: 583
■ Evening Win-4 Tue.: 5466
■ Evening Take-5 Tue.: 11, 14, 22, 24, 29
■ Pick-10 Tue.: 2, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13, 16, 19, 23, 30, 33, 39, 43, 50, 54, 56, 59, 68, 75, 76
■ Cash-4-Life Tue.: 1, 11, 34, 51, 56; Cash Ball: 1
■ Mega Millions Tue.: 5,

10, 23, 27, 30; MB: 10

NEW JERSEY

Pick-3 Tue.: 239; Fireball: 4
Pick-4 Tue.: 4011; Fireball: 4
Cash-5 Xtra Tue.: 8, 16, 23, 33, 42; Xtra: 3

CONNECTICUT

Play-3 Tue.: 372; Wild: 7
Play-4 Tue.: 8736; Wild: 1
Cash-5 Tue.: 1, 2, 16, 23, 31
Lucky 4 Life Tues.: 4, 8, 30, 31, 37; Lucky Ball: 3

POST CONTACTS

Editorial

Main Office (212) 930-8000
News Tips (212) 930-8500
Sports Desk (212) 930-8700

Circulation and Home Delivery

Customer Service (800) 552-7678

Mail subscription & back issues only:

Phone 1-888-208-4157 or contact
New York Post, P.O. Box 1407,
Bellmawr, NJ, 08099. Foreign and
domestic mail subscription rates
available upon request to the
Publishers Information Center, Inc.

Postmaster: Send address changes to The New York Post, 1211 Ave. of the Americas, NY, NY 10036-8790.

Vol. 225 No. 4 Copyright 2025, NYP Holdings Inc. (USPS-383200)
Published daily by NYP Holdings Inc., 1211 Ave. of the Americas, New York, NY 10036-8790.



Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY, and additional offices. The Post uses recycled paper.

'Wicked: For Good' resumes bewitching tale



Johnny Oleksinski

MOVIE REVIEW

WICKED: FOR GOOD

Running time: 137 minutes. PG (some suggestive material, action and violence). In theaters Nov. 21.

★★★

THUS ends the longest intermission ever.

A whole year after Elphaba belted "Defying Gravity" midair and the credits of "Wicked" rolled, the witch is back in "Wicked: For Good," an emotional and elongated version of the Broadway musical's second act.

Theater-lover common wisdom has it that the first half of composer Stephen Schwartz's "Wizard of Oz" riff, based on Gregory Maguire's novel, is infinitely better than what comes after the bathroom break.

Onstage that's true. All its best ballads ("The Wizard and I") and company numbers ("Dancing Through Life") are frontloaded. It's a bright and poppy boarding-school story about a misunderstood cultural icon that ends with power.

Darker and grimmer Act 2, though, by a hair, makes a meatier movie because characters aren't as silly and they are actually propelling toward a satisfying conclusion.

"Wicked" was mostly fun; a Dylan's Candy Bar with singing. "For Good" is all

tears — to the point I'm not sure kids will enjoy it much. The creatives were dumb (or greedy, or both!) to imbalance the musical by splitting it in two.

But the path of Elphaba (Cynthia Erivo) as an activist rebel

trying to inform oppressed Ozians that their vaunted wizard is a fraud and that of Glinda (Ariana Grande) as a popular-if-conflicted government official tasked with raising morale with

glittery propaganda, is far more compelling than "We weren't friends, and then we were!"

There's a sole beam of lightness through the storm clouds.

That belongs to Jeff Goldblum's Wizard, who croons an old-fashioned showbiz song called "Wonderful," playfully telling idealist Elphaba, "You've got to give the people what they want."

OZ-FEST: "Wicked: For Good" wraps up the adapted adventures of feuding witches played by Ariana Grande (far left) and Cynthia Erivo.

Plenty of L. Frank Baum's magical creations make their awaited entrances.

The Wicked Witch of the East, Cowardly Lion, Tin Man, Scarecrow and Dorothy all shuffle in. And, like the Tin Man, the film finds a beating heart. The love triangle between Elphaba, Glinda and Fiyero (Jonathan Bailey) hits harder than it tends to do on Broadway thanks to Bailey's fervor and genuine concern.

Erivo, who has an easier handle on the Wicked Witch of the West's serious side than her cackle, is giving the best movie-musical vocal turn since Jennifer Hudson in "Dreamgirls."

Mixing strong, to-the-raffers singing with intimate, subtle scene work isn't easy. Thank goodness Erivo can do it.

And she continues to have a wonderful rapport with the delightful Grande, who digs deeper as Glinda's engagement is on the rocks and she questions the meaning of her life.

Why, oh, why?

Beefing up Grande's role is one of the forgivable ripples of tacking on so much padding to the "Wicked" films, which total nearly five hours.

What should have never happened, however, is allowing no-good-deed Schwartz to transparently compete for an Oscar by ramming in two atrocious new songs: "There's No Place Like Home," for Erivo, which just makes you wish you were listening to "Home" from "The Wiz" instead. "Girl in the Bubble," a soft, existential-crisis ditty that would be forgettable were it not for its moronic lyrics. "It's time for her bubble to pop," sang Glinda as my ears handed in their two weeks' notice.

Once we arrive at the sweet climactic friendship duet "For Good," though, those indulgences are forgiven. Director Jon M. Chu shoots it with tender simplicity and lets the pair connect and feel. He wisely shows much more restraint in Part Two. There was a symphony of sniffles in my theater, and not because of cold-and-flu season.

WE'RE BACK ON TO SEE THE WIZARD

Zohran 'backs' pol tied to group

Mayor-elect Zohran Mamdani is reportedly supporting an Assembly candidate who is linked to the Council on American-Islamic Relations and once described 9/11 as a terrorist attack that a "couple of people did."

Mamdani's backing of Aber Kawas (below), a longtime Palestinian-American activist, was relayed by a member of his mayoral transition team during a closed-door Democratic Socialists of America meeting in Manhattan last week, according to a Daily News report.

"[Mamdani] told me that while he has tremendous respect



for everyone in this race, he has said that he will support Aber in whatever she pur-

sues," top political adviser to the Mamdani transition Sam McCann said during the meeting, according to the News.

Neither McCann nor a Mamdani spokesperson returned requests for comment Tuesday.

Kawas, an organizer in the city's Arab and Muslim communities since 2010, is trying to garner support from the NYC DSA for her run in the 34th Assembly District in Queens.

Outgoing Assemblywoman Jessica González-Rojas has endorsed a primary bid by her chief of staff, Brian Romero.

Kawas has been listed among speakers for CAIR, a Muslim charity accused of Hamas links.

She also has a history of incendiary comments, which resurfaced on X following reports of Mamdani's support.

In one unearthed clip, posted by X user Drew Pavlou, Kawas says of 9/11, "The idea we have to apologize for a terror attack that a couple of people did and then there is no apology or reparations for genocides ... I find reprehensible."

Matthew Fischetti

PROTESTERS

Given checks from Muslim nonprofit for 1G

By ISABEL VINCENT

Anti-Israel agitators who spread disruption at American colleges and were punished by authorities were awarded checks for \$1,000 by a Muslim nonprofit, The Post has learned.

The money was given to students who faced penalties for leading pro-Palestinian protests before and after the Hamas attack on Israel on Oct. 7 2023, according to a bombshell report by the Network Contagion Research Institute and the Intelligent Advocacy Network.

It was awarded from a Champions of Justice Fund fund, set up by the California chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations as "institutional endorsement," the report claims.

CAIR California's affiliates in San Francisco and Los Angeles raised more than \$100,000 in donations for campus radicals, while the main group solicited \$64,000 in donations, records show.

The money was then offered as interest-free loans in grants of \$1,000 to students who lost "scholarships, housing or other support because of their advocacy," according to CAIR's website.

In October 2024, CAIR-California awarded \$20,000 in loans and scholarships to 20 student protesters from the Champions of Justice Fund.

The identities of the student recipients were not revealed, but the institutions they attend were in CAIR's literature, including Columbia University, the University of Pennsylvania and Harvard.

That means students suspended or expelled from Columbia for storming and occupying the uni-

versity's Hamilton Hall, barricading themselves inside the building with furniture and padlocks on April 30, 2024 — an incident that resulted in the building being stormed by police — could have potentially qualified for the \$1,000 checks.

"These programs support students after acts of criminality and violence, creating a reward structure for building the most militant face of the movement. This is how ideologies metastasize," NCRI founder Joel Finkelstein warned to The Post.

'Swift and severe'

One testimonial published by CAIR in literature about their fund read: "The consequences of my pro-Palestine advocacy have been swift and severe. As a safety marshal at a protest against the bomb-



Getty Images

ing of the Al-Shifa hospital, I was doxxed by Zionist students, leading to my information being spread to the far-right media.

"I have endured relentless death threats, lost my summer law firm offer and its accompanying diversity scholarship. This ordeal has set me back at least \$115,000 in lost income and legal fees, an overwhelming burden for my working class family."

Although the quote is anonymous, the details match those of Ibrahim Bharmal.

Jewish students at Harvard
surrounded by anti-Israel
protesters and cornered
when trying to get away



Twitter/AvivaKlompas

CAIR PACKAGES:

Campus agitators like this trio (left) cleared by cops last year from Columbia University's Hamilton Hall were able to apply for grants in the form of \$1,000 no-interest loans for students who felt they lost funds because of their advocacy, in a program by Muslim nonprofit CAIR (opposite far right).

He was arrested on Oct. 18 at Harvard Business School campus after participating in a "die in," the night after Gaza's Al-Shifa hospital was bombed. At the time he was volunteering as a safety marshal.

He also told The Boston Globe he lost his summer placement at a prominent law firm as a result of the altercation.

Bharmal, 29, was later sentenced to 80 hours of community service and to complete an anger-management program for an assault of a Jewish student during the campus

protest. He and others surrounded the student, Yoav Segev, and waved kaffiyehs at him while yelling "Shame!" to his face, blocking Segev from leaving.

Focus on Harvard

Bharmal never received any punishment from Harvard for his conduct. In fact, a year after his arrest he was even awarded a \$65,000 fellowship by Harvard Law Review, a publication he had contributed to, for graduates who plan to go into the public sector.

Bharmal graduated from Harvard in 2025 and now works at CAIR-Los Angeles as an immigration-rights legal fellow. He did not respond to The Post's request for comment about how much money he had received from CAIR.

CAIR leaders backed many of the anti-Israel encampments. On the second day of a student encampment at University of California, Riverside in the spring of 2024, Hussam Ayloush, executive director of the Greater Los Angeles

GET 'SICK' PAY



AFTER IBRAHIM BHARMAL WAS ARRESTED FOR HARASSING JEWISH STUDENTS AT HARVARD, CAIR GAVE HIM CASH AND LATER HIRED HIM.



Area office of CAIR led a teach-in and gave a talk to the anti-Israel protesters, according to a report.

CAIR says it is the largest Muslim charity in the US, receiving hundreds of thousands in donations from progressive nonprofits, including Tides Foundation and the California-based Weingart Foundation.

It claims that less than 1% of its funding comes from outside of the US. However, when an ex-employee, Lori Saroya, filed a lawsuit against CAIR for defamation, which asked for details on who their foreign sources of funding were, and a judge ruled they had to disclose them, the charity abruptly settled the case out of court.

The charity had previously been awarded \$500,000 from Saudi Prince Alwaleed ibn Talal, according to a 2002 report in Arabnews.com

Separately, CAIR-California is under probe by the Department of Justice, according to IAN, and the California Fair Political Practices Commission over alleged financial misrepresentation of federal funds.

In one instance, the charity took \$7.2 million in taxpayer cash intended to

settle impoverished immigrants in California between 2022 and 2024.

The cash, which was intended to assist 1,800 Afghan refugees, only helped 177 Afghan refugees from 2021 to 2023, only 10% percent of the total it was meant to serve.

Follow the money

Much of the money could not be accounted for within CAIR's official filings, reviewed by The Post.

NCRI and IAN told The Post they are demanding a forensic audit of CAIR-California, which received more than \$17 million in donations from individuals and businesses as well as the government in 2023, according to their latest publicly available filings.

A lawyer representing CAIR-California denied there has been any misuse of funds.

"The false claims alleged are part of a larger defamation campaign targeting Muslim Americans by fringe anti-Muslim groups," said Amr Shabaik, the legal director of CAIR-California.

isabel.vincent@nypost.com



Abbott: CAIR a 'terror org'

By RONNY REYES

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott formally labeled the Council on American-Islamic Relations, one the nation's largest Muslim civil rights groups, a foreign terrorist organization.

In his Tuesday declaration, Abbott vowed to go after the Washington-based group, accusing it of having direct ties to Hamas and vowing to have the state attorney general "sue to shut them down" in Texas.

Abbott's declaration also included the Muslim Brotherhood, a transnational Sunni Islamist group founded in Egypt with offshoots linked to past violent attacks.

"The Muslim Brotherhood and CAIR have long made their goals clear: to forcibly impose Sharia law and establish Islam's 'mastership of the world,' " Abbott claimed. "These radical extremists are not welcome in our state and are now prohibited from acquiring any real property interest in Texas."

There is no evidence that either CAIR or the

Muslim Brotherhood is seeking to impose Shariah law in America.

Neither group is listed as a terrorist group by the federal government, with the Muslim Brotherhood disavowing any previous violence linked to the group, which now provides hospitals and schools in the Arab world, according to the Council on Foreign Relations.

CAIR, which has operated in the US for about 30 years, has long denied any association with Hamas or other terrorist cells, with the civil rights group slamming Abbott's declaration as "defamatory and lawless."

"We are not and will not be intimidated by smear campaigns launched by Israel First politicians by Greg Abbott," the group's Texas branch said in a statement.

"We plan to continue exercising our constitutional rights, defending civil rights, and speaking truth to power, whether in defense of free speech, religious freedom and racial equality here in Texas or in defense of human rights abroad."



In 2024, ACC and CAIR proudly launched the **Champions of Justice Fund**, dedicated to supporting students who were targeted for their advocacy of Palestine on college campuses. In October 2024, this fund awarded \$1,000 educational grants to 20 deserving students. As the fund continues to grow, we aim to expand our support to stand up for justice.

Universities Attended by Our Grant Recipients



\$oaring UWS skyline's ultra-rich draw

Uptown to new heights

UPPER HAND: Views like in this condo rendering helped fetch eight-figure sales at 50 W. 66th St. — the tallest skyscraper on the Upper West Side (right). A unit on the 42nd floor sold for \$44.93 million Monday.

By EMILY DAVIS

This Manhattan neighborhood might be losing its bohemian bonafides — one eight-figure sale at a time.

The Upper West Side has racked up two sky-high sales in recent weeks, one of which broke a neighborhood record, all thanks to a massive luxury development.

The sales reflect a prominent shift in the uptown enclave. Once the domain of rent-controlled apartment blocks filled with writers and artists, the historic neighborhood is attracting an ever-wealthier set.

Extell Development Company changed the Upper West Side's skyline when it constructed 50 W. 66th Street. If the name Extell sounds familiar, that's because it's the developer behind Central Park Tower and One57 on Billionaires' Row.

On Monday, according to records filed with the city Department of Finance, a 50 W. 66th St. unit traded hands for a cool

\$44.93 million.

The 42nd-floor sponsor unit spans 7,000 square feet, the Real Deal reported, with five bedrooms and seven baths. Lisa K. Lippman of Brown Harris Stevens represented the buyer, whose identity is shielded behind Pipedream 66 LLC.

That deal came on the heels of a 47th floor apartment selling in late October for a whopping \$46.77 million, according to city records, which marked the Upper West Side's priciest-ever home sale.

Selling like hotcakes

Despite the 127-unit building lacking a dedicated website or much advertising — the tower is enjoying a popular streak. A source familiar with the building to The Post that it's more than 75% sold.

Corcoran agent Kirsten Jordan, an Upper West Side local, told The Post that New Yorkers with generational wealth are buying

into the area. Wealthy buyers are recognizing the area for its proximity to two of Manhattan's best parks and easy access to the West Side Highway.

"There's a lot of people moving uptown from downtown who need space and are willing to be on the West Side," Jordan said, noting the area offers better value per square foot and more available product than the East Side of Central Park.

An influx in development in recent years coincided with an influx in new, attractive retail offerings as far up at the West 80s, Jordan said, with boutique shops and gluten-free bagel spots catering to wealthy newcomers.

"It has really gone through a transformation over the last five years," Jordan said.

Plans for a second, taller tower from Extell Development Company are already underway on the former site of ABC Studios. Slated for 77 W. 66th St., the luxury turbo-tower is planned to top out at 1,200 feet.



NY Post: Tamara Beckwith



JANNO LIEBER
Wrong MetroCard cost.

Price is wrong, Janno!

MTA boss Janno Lieber didn't seem to remember how much a monthly MetroCard costs Tuesday as he claimed commuters are "loving the benefit" of the potentially more expensive tap-to-ride system.

The decades-old MetroCard system will officially vanish by year's end, to be fully replaced by the pay-as-you-go OMNY system.

"You don't have to have \$100 bucks in your pocket to pay for a monthly," the transit agency's CEO said on WNYC's "The Brian Lehrer Show" — even though a month of unlimited rides actually costs \$132.

OMNY is flexible but caps weekly charges at \$34 — which could total \$1,768 for a year — or nearly \$200 more than a current unlimited pass costs.

"People are loving those benefits," Lieber bragged about the new program, which was riddled with software bugs at launch.

Haley Brown

'Taylor-made' word of 2025

The term "parasocial" was named Cambridge Dictionary's 2025 word of the year — and its popularity was partly inspired by Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce's engagement.

It refers to when a person feels like they have a relationship with a famous person despite not knowing them personally.

Psychologists looking into the recent rise of parasocial relationships observed the intense interest when Swift and her NFL beau broke the internet with their August engagement. *Emily Crane*

LI mom's life-saving move for tot, 4

A terrified Long Island mom's quick-thinking choice helped save the life of her toddler son over the summer — and eventually revealed the exceptionally rare condition he suffers from.

"Picture breathing through a milkshake straw, then breathing through a

regular straw, then trying to breathe through a coffee straw," Maria Carlin, 36, recently told The Post of her 4-year-old Jack's harrowing experience in late July.

Carlin, a nurse at North Shore University Hospital, got her stricken son — previously undiagnosed — into

the car and began driving to the medical facility after he spent the night crying in agony without "a single symptom of anything."

Jack suddenly lost all of his air halfway into the 10-minute drive.

Carlin decided to continue to the ER, knowing

immediate resuscitation wouldn't be enough, given Jack would need rapid intubation among other urgent procedures.

Further examinations showed he had a laryngeal cleft, which impacts between 10,000 and 20,000 annual births, according to

Northwell.

Jack is now a happy, healthy pre-K-enrolled kid who, along with his mom, dad and siblings Luke and Emma, makes up a family incredibly grateful to the frontline workers who brought about their happy ending. *Alex Mitchell*

Kat plan vs. troop deploy

Gov. Hochul is reportedly teaming up with Wall Street executives in an effort to talk President Trump out of sending National Guard troops to New York City in the wake of socialist Mayor-elect Zohran Mamdani's victory this month.

A top aide to Hochul has reached out to leaders of the Big Apple's finance industry in hopes of convincing the Trump administration to refrain from deploying federal troops to the city — arguing that doing so would harm the economy, according to The Wall Street Journal.

Jackie Bray, Hochul's director of homeland security and emergency services, is spearheading the effort and has reportedly met one-on-one with top New York executives to get their buy-in.

According to the Journal, Bray shared data with executives showing that National Guard troop deployments would harm local businesses and tourism.

Hochul's team has yet to ask business leaders to convey the concerns to Trump since there is no immediate threat of a federal takeover, the publication reported.

Along with considering sending the National Guard to the city, Trump has reportedly weighed funding cuts in response to Mamdani's win. *Ariel Zilber*

NY prison closure

Another New York prison is set to shut down, The Post first reported Tuesday, as Gov. Hochul's administration continues to grapple with a staffing crisis at state lockups.

The state Department of Corrections and Community Supervision confirmed it would close Bare Hill Correctional Facility in Franklin County and part of the Collins Correctional Facility in Erie County, forcing almost 300 workers to move to another premise.

The move, approved in May, allows Hochul to close up to three prisons. Two were shut before Christmas last year. *Vaughn Golden*

Famed twins, 89, in assisted suicides

By ALEXANDRA BELLUSCI

The Kessler twins, a German singing and dancing duo popular in the '50s and '60s, have died by joint assisted suicide — saying they couldn't bear if one sister died before the other.

Alice and Ellen Kessler died at age 89 at their home in Grünwald, near Munich, on Monday.

The sisters “no longer wanted to live” and “they had chosen to end their lives together,” as reported by the German newspaper Bild.

Alice and Ellen were assisted by the German Society for Humane Dying, an advocacy group that provides people with access to lawyers, doctors and other tools.

“The decisive factor is likely to have been the desire to die together on a specific date,” group spokesperson Wega Wetzel told CNN.

“Their desire to die was well-considered, long-standing and free from any psychiatric crisis,” she added.

In an interview last year with Italy's Corriere della Sera, the sisters said their wish was “to leave together, on the same day . . . The idea that one of the two will go first is very difficult to bear.”

Leg-endarry duo

Assisted dying was made legal in Germany after it was ruled in 2020 that an individual has the right to end their life and to seek help from a third party as long as the decision is made freely without outside pressure.

“They had been considering this option for some time. They had been members of the organization for over a year,” the group said in a statement to NBC News. “A lawyer and a doctor conducted preliminary discussions with them.”

In April 2024, Alice and Ellen told Bild that they wanted their ashes to be buried in the same urn, alongside their mother, Elsa, and dog Yello.

The siblings were born in Nazi Germany, and their family fled East Germany for West Germany in 1952. After taking ballet from a

young age, they launched into international fame as they performed at the Lido in Paris, a hot spot for cabaret performances.

They also appeared on the Italian variety show “Studio Uno,” represented Germany at the 1959 Eurovision Song Contest and made history by being the first female stars to show their legs on-screen.

Over the years, they appeared on popular variety shows such as “The Ed Sullivan Show” and “The Dean Martin Show.” They also were close to Frank Sinatra, Fred Astaire, Elvis Presley and Rock Hudson during their time performing.

Radio Monte Carlo shared a touching tribute to Alice and Ellen following their deaths.

“Alice and Ellen Kessler left together, just as they lived: inseparable,” the Instagram statement read. “Born in 1936, they were an absolute symbol of European spectacle, including music, dance and television. In Italy, they became celebrities as the ‘legs of the nation,’ icon of elegance and stage presence since the Fifties.”

INSEPARABLE:
The Kessler twins, Alice and Ellen, died Monday by joint assisted suicide in their native Germany at 89, saying neither wanted to live without the other.



Arthur Grimm/United Archives via Getty Images

Bid to halt hosp takeover D4vd ‘eyed’ in teen death

Trustees of the financially struggling Maimonides Hospital, located in heavily Orthodox Jewish south Brooklyn, filed a lawsuit early this week to stop a government takeover of the 80-year-old medical facility.

Maimonides' leadership plans to merge with the city's public hospital system — Health + Hospitals — converting the private, independent hospital into a city-run facility overseen by a board and president/CEO appointed by the mayor.

As part of the merger, Maimonides would receive a desperately needed \$2.2 billion over five years through a state grant, according to a spokesperson for the cash-strapped hospital.

But trustees of the medical center and nearby Borough Park residents, particularly Jewish locals, fear the level of care at a public Maimonides — named after 12th-century Rabbi Moshe Ben Maimon, an advocate for medical training — would drastically decline. *Carl Campanile*

D4vd is reportedly being eyed as a suspect in the death of teen Celeste Rivas Hernandez, whose severely decomposed body was discovered two months ago in the back of the rapper's Tesla.

Police are probing Hernandez's death as a possible homicide, sources told TMZ, though the medical examiner has yet to make a ruling.

Hernandez was found Sept. 8, the day after she would have turned 15, sources told TMZ. She had run away

from home at 13 after getting into a relationship with a “David,” her mother previously told the outlet.

Hernandez likely was dismembered by multiple suspects, a police source told NBC4 Investigates.

The 20-year-old singer, real name David Anthony Burke, hasn't been officially classified as a suspect.

The LAPD would not confirm to The Post whether D4vd was a suspect. The singer did not return a request for comment. *Zoe Hussain*



TRUMP 2.0

Don rolls out red carpet for MBS

By CAITLIN DOORNBOS

WASHINGTON — In a display of pageantry fit for a king, President Trump welcomed Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman to the White House with full-dress military honors and a dramatic flyover of military to celebrate a \$1 trillion partnership.

The Saudi leader was greeted on the South Lawn by an Army mounted honor guard and black horses bearing American and Saudi flags, with six warplanes conducting a flyover of the White House for a touch of military drama as bin Salman reached Trump's side.

The pomp and circumstance came despite the event not being an official state visit, as bin Salman serves as the prime minister of Saudi Arabia — not the head of state. That role belongs to his father, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, though bin Salman is considered the country's de facto leader.

Trump praised the prince, saying they've been "really good friends."

Inside, the president and crown prince were chummy before reporters in the Oval Office during the visit, with Trump poking fun at bin Salman's infamous fist bump with former President Joe Biden in 2022 — joking that he is not afraid to touch the Saudi leader as he grabbed his hand.

"Trump doesn't give a fist bump," Trump said after shaking the crown prince's hand in the Oval Office. "I don't give a hell where that hand has been, I grab that hand."

Al investment

The centerpiece of the visit: Saudi Arabia pledged to increase its US investments from \$600 billion to almost \$1 trillion — with investments across the US economy and a focus on sectors including artificial intelligence and rare earth materials.

"Today and tomorrow, we are going to announce that we are going to increase that, that \$600 billion to almost \$1 trillion of investment, real investment and real opportunity in many areas," bin Salman said.

Trump celebrated the scale of the commitment, saying, "we're doing numbers that nobody's ever done."

"That means investments in plants, in companies, money on



REGAL: There was plenty of pomp and circumstance to mark Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's visit to the White House, where President Trump and First Lady Melania hosted the royal for dinner.

Trump scolds ABC reporter

By CAITLIN DOORNBOS

President Trump on Tuesday called for ABC News to lose its license after one of its reporters peppered him with Oval Office questions — including whether his family's business dealings with Saudi Arabia constituted a conflict of interest.

ABC's Mary Bruce used Trump's meeting with the Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman to also ask about the killing of Washington Post journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

"People are wise to your hoax," Trump said. "Your crappy company is one of the perpetrators."

"I think the license should be taken away from ABC because your news is so fake and is so wrong."

Ultimately, he answered the question, explaining that he

was not involved with the Trump Organization any longer to make overseas business decisions.

"I have nothing to do with the family business," Trump said.

Bruce's question about business ties came intertwined with a more explosive one: US intelligence's conclusion that Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman approved the 2018 killing of Khashoggi.

In defending the crown prince, Trump said: "You're mentioning somebody that was extremely controversial . . . A lot of people didn't like that gentleman."

"Things happen, but he knew nothing about it. And would you leave it at that?" he added. "You don't have to embarrass our guest by asking a question."

Wall Street," Trump said. "And what it really means for everybody, what really counts is jobs. A lot of jobs. We have a lot of jobs."

Trump further noted that the investment was a reflection of the state of the US economy under his leadership.

"In all fairness, if you didn't see potential in the US, you wouldn't be doing it," he said. "You don't want to lose money."

Details on the defense and minerals investment were not yet available, but the prince told the president the US is the "hottest



country on the planet" for foreign investment.

"What you're creating is not about an opportunity today. It's also about long-term opportunity," Mohammed said.

Trump has repeatedly spoken about the strategic importance of

Saudi investment in the US — and his own Trump Organization has had real estate dealings in Jeddah.

The president brushed off a reporter's question about whether his family's business dealings with Saudi Arabia constituted a



to celebrate a \$1T partnership

SAUDI PRINCE'S ROYAL WELCOME



conflict of interest in the Oval Office on Tuesday.

'Left' family biz

"I have nothing to do with the family business. I have left and I've devoted 100% of my energy

[to running this country]," Trump said.

"What my family does is fine. They do business all over. They've done very little in Saudi Arabia, actually, though I'm sure they can do a lot, and anything they've done has been

very good."

On defense, Trump indicated that Saudi Arabia would buy F-35 stealth jets, a move that would mark a major policy shift as critics warned that the deal could lead to the highly advanced aircraft ending up in the

wrong hands.

During a black-tie dinner in the crown prince's honor Tuesday night, Trump announced the US would designate Saudi Arabia as a "major non-NATO ally."

"We're taking our military cooperation to even greater heights

by formally designating Saudi Arabia as a major non-NATO ally, which is something that is very important to them," Trump said, noting that the designation came shortly after he and bin Salman signed "a historic strategic defense agreement." *With Wires*

Manse too rich for aide's salary: feds

China's

'lapdog'

of luxury

By BEN KOCHMAN

Former top state aide Linda Sun lived large in a Long Island mansion with a Ferrari parked in the garage and Birkin handbags in her closet — all thanks to her alleged secret gig as a Chinese foreign agent, a court heard this week.

Sun, who served under Gov. Hochul and her predecessor Andrew Cuomo — with a salary that never exceeded \$145,000 per year during a decade-plus stint in Albany — could only afford the luxuries by cashing in on her lofty position to advance China's agenda, federal prosecutors allege.

Photos of the spoils from the purportedly crooked plot made public on Tuesday were shown to jurors in Brooklyn federal court during Sun's ongoing corruption trial.

The jury got a glimpse of the loot, including a snazzy brown Hermès Birkin bag seized from Sun's walk-in closet in the \$3.6 million Manhasset manse, and a Patek Philippe watch with a receipt showing it was bought by Sun's husband and now co-defendant, Chris Hu.

Federal agents testified Monday about recovering the gaudy goods, which included a 2024 Ferrari Roma and 2022 Mercedes GLB SUV, plus \$130,000 in cash from a Queens safe deposit box.



ACCESSORIES TO 'CRIME': Brooklyn federal prosecutors shared images Monday of the Ferrari, Birken bags and Patek Philippe watch that Linda Sun and Chris Hu allegedly paid for with kickbacks.

"There was a bar area. There was a golf simulator," FBI Special Agent Edward Tam said of what the feds found inside the basement of the couple's home, according to Courthouse News.

Mom takes stand

The US Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York claims the cash and goods were all tied to the pair's alleged scheme, pointing to Sun's salary and the modest income that Hu reported from his lobster export business.

Prosecutors revealed in court that the FBI also seized a 2018 letter sent to Sun from the Chinese consulate office in New York, which read in part, "Your personal friendship

and kind support will always be cherished."

The feds separately searched Sun's parents' home in Flushing, where according to trial testimony they discovered her dad wearing a silver Rolex, Courthouse News reported.

Sun's mother, Mei Ping Sun, took the stand begrudgingly Tuesday after receiving an immunity deal from the feds — plus a subpoena ordering her to testify — and told jurors that her ex-husband was sporting the flashy timepiece despite not being able to afford his own apartment.

At the time of the 2024 raid, she was still living with her ex after their divorce during the COVID-19 pandemic "because he has no money to rent a

place," Mei Ping said.

She also provided jurors with details about a Signature Bank account that her daughter and Hu had opened in her name, and which she testified she had no involvement with.

Under questioning from Hu's defense lawyer Nicole Boeckmann, Mei Ping gripped the microphone tightly as she claimed through a Mandarin interpreter that the account was to be used to buy a house for her.

But she admitted that she mentioned nothing about the house when questioned by the FBI and that the home was never purchased because "I didn't like it."

Sun is accused of abusing her position as a deputy chief of staff in the ex-

ecutive chamber under Hochul and director of Asian-American affairs under Cuomo to do favors for Chinese officials, like swaying the governors not to meet with officials from Taiwan, which Beijing does not recognize as a sovereign nation.

Sun's alleged handlers showered her family with gifts like salted duck prepared in the style of Nanjing, her mother's hometown and steered millions of dollars to Hu's business, the feds claim.

Sun and Hu have pleaded not guilty to charges of bribery, fraud and money laundering, while Sun has denied a charge of failing to register as a foreign agent of China.

The trial is expected to last until mid-December.



MOHAMED BAHİ
Defrauded taxpayers.

Ex-Eric liaison escapes jail time

A disgraced former aide to Mayor Adams cried Tuesday as he dodged prison time after defrauding taxpayers in a straw-donor campaign scheme.

"I'm feeling content and just so happy it's over," said Mohamed Bahi, Adams' former liaison to the Muslim community, on his way out of Manhattan federal court.

Bahi, a 41-year-old married dad of two, already pleaded guilty to felony conspiracy to commit wire fraud when he was sentenced to three years probation, including one year on house arrest.

He will be allowed to leave home to go to work, volunteer and attend religious events.

Bahi was expected to serve around six months in prison for reporting "phantom donations" to boost public matching funds for his boss Adams' coffers.

Judge Dale Ho cited the defendant's years of public service to his Muslim community — where he is beloved as an activist — for his no-prison decision.

"It's impossible not to be moved by the scope of your work," Ho told Bahi, adding that Adams remains "the elephant in the room."

"Mr. Bahi is placed in the pyramid and there's a notable absence of the apex of that pyramid," Ho said of Hizzoner, whose related charges were famously quashed by President Trump in March.

Bahi received his light sentence after making an emotional plea to the judge.

Erin Maher and
Hannah Fierick

Gregory P. Mango

Indies move to Stefanik

US Rep. Elise Stefanik (R-NY) is gaining ground on Gov. Hochul in what is shaping up to be a bruising general election for the Empire State's next governor — with the Republican firebrand gaining support among independents, a new poll shows.

Stefanik notched a notable 5-point increase in a head-to-head matchup against Hochul in Siena University's latest survey, shrinking the incumbent's lead in the closely watched race.

The poll, conducted Nov. 10-12 and released Tuesday, has Hochul leading Stefanik 52% to 32% in the general election.

Hochul, meanwhile, didn't gain any extra support in the latest survey. The Democrat led her Republican challenger 52% to 27% in September.

"In the race against Stefanik, Hochul continues to run very strongly with Democrats, 78-9%, however, Stefanik has now widened her lead among Republicans, 79-11%, up from 68-15% in September, and significantly narrowed the gap among independents, with whom Hochul now leads 40-36%, down from 43-25% in September," Siena pollster Steven Greenberg said. *Craig McCarthy*

JD jailed, just not VP

A Michigan maniac with the same name as Vice President JD Vance will spend the next two years behind bars for threatening to kill the veep, President Trump, Elon Musk and Donald Trump Jr., officials said.

James Donald "JD" Vance Jr., 67, of Grand Rapids, pleaded guilty to threatening to kill and injure the president and VP in several posts on the BlueSky social media app using the alias, "Diaperjd," per the US Attorney's Office for the Western District of Michigan.

Vance is not related to the VP, whose birth name is James Donald Bowman.

Ronny Reyes

FBI 'stonewalled' probe: GOP pols



By MARISA SCHULTZ and ALEX OLIVEIRA

The FBI "stonewalled" the House investigation into Thomas Crooks' attempted assassination of President Trump, two congressmen involved in the probe told The Post.

On Monday, The Post reported on violent social media posts that are believed to be tied to Crooks.

The online activity included numerous endorsements of political violence, and a severe turn from being a hardcore advocate for Trump to coming within a few millimeters of killing him.

The FBI never shared those files with the congressional investigation, said Rep. Mike Kelly (R-Pa.) and Rep. Pat Fallon (R-Texas).

"I think that there's so many unanswered questions about it," Kelly said.

"We all know it wasn't done, it wasn't complete and the reason for that is they can't handle the truth," he said of how the FBI treated the congressional investigation. "They don't want people to handle the truth."

That was just one of several roadblocks the congressional investigators faced — ranging from Crooks' body being quickly cremated to his blood being washed from the roof he shot from, Kelly said.

The House report was released in December, five months after Crooks nearly killed Trump at a campaign rally in Butler, Pa.

"I don't think any of us came out of that feeling, 'You know what, we really got the answers we were

HMMM: Pols say would-be Trump assassin Thomas Crooks' online activity was never shared by the FBI.



AP (2)

'CAN'T HANDLE THE TRUTH'

looking for," Kelly said of the committee's meetings with the FBI. "We were stymied so much by the feds on what we

could look at, what we couldn't look at.

"We knew we were going to get stonewalled on a lot of stuff," added Kelly, who is from Butler and was at the rally the day Trump was shot.

Fallon called for a new probe in light of the new info — saying he doesn't recall the FBI ever sharing the newly revealed details of Crooks' online footprint when he sat on the congressional investigation committee.

"I don't think it would do any harm at all," Fallon said, echoing Kelly's complaints about the FBI

being cagey with Congress. "You can't investigate these things enough."

The FBI did not respond to a request for comment on Tuesday.

Kelly and Fallon were among 13 members of the House who led the bipartisan investigation into the shooting, which concluded that Crooks had little notable digital footprint and left behind little indication that he might be a threat to anyone.

'Terrorism-style attacks'

But the new trove of social media posts paints a different picture.

Crooks' activity online and on social media ranged from researching how to produce homemade bombs and how to shoot an AR-15 assault rifle "as fast as possible," calling for the deaths of Jews and politicians, to advocating violence as the only way to bring about political change.

"IMO the only way to fight the

gov is with terrorism style attacks, sneak a bomb into an essential building and set it off before anyone sees you, track down any important people/politicians/military leaders etc and try to assassinate them," he wrote in an Aug. 5, 2020, post.

Crooks' online accounts also had videos of him practicing shooting stances with what appeared to be a real handgun in his bedroom.

But after reports of that activity emerged, FBI Director Kash Patel doubled down and insisted in an X post that Crooks' digital footprint was unremarkable.

Many aren't buying it, however, and are demanding the assassination attempt be re-examined.

"Those questions are definitely deserving of answers and I understand why the public wants those answers, and I believe the president does too," White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt told The Post's Miranda Devine on "Pod Force One."

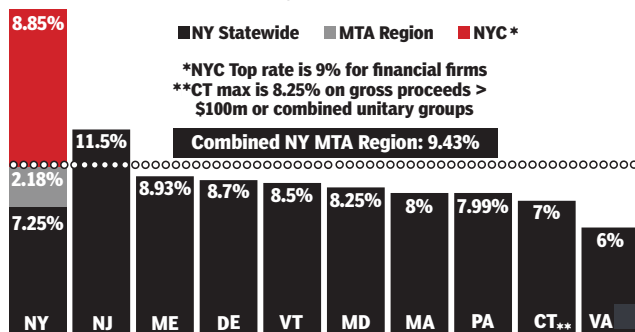


Zo hike on NY biz would top all states

Big Apple taxed to its 'corp'

HIGH COST OF DOING BUSINESS

Gov. Hochul is considering raising the corporate tax rate, but between state taxes, MTA taxes and city taxes, New York City companies already can pay as much as 18.3% in taxes -- the highest in the nation.



HOT 'TAKE': Gov. Hochul and Albany are unlikely to reject Zohran Mamdani's corporate tax hike but would lower his proposed rate.



WHEN Zohran Mamdani and his supporters talk of taxing the rich, they usually mean it on a personal level — referring to his proposal to raise income taxes on New York City residents with annual incomes over \$1 million.

He estimated this would raise \$4 billion a year to help fund his expansive agenda, including universal child care.

Less attention was paid to the larger of Mamdani's tax bids — a proposal to raise \$5 billion by elevating New York's top tax rate on corporations from 7.25% to match New Jersey's highest-in-the nation level of 11.5%.

"If it works for our regional neighbor, why can't it work for us?" Mamdani said in a June interview.

After all, as his campaign issue guide put it: "New York's corporate tax rate now lags behind 15 other states and Washington, DC."

This was highly misleading, however.

In New York City, Long Island and five northern suburban counties — where the bulk of the state

tax base is concentrated — the corporate tax rate is compounded by a 30% surcharge for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

This raises the top rate throughout the region to 9.43%.

Mamdani's proposal would take this up to 13.7%, easily topping all states.

That's not all: In addition to the state and regional corporate tax surcharge, New York City imposes its own corporate income tax of 8.85% (or 9% on finance firms), bringing the current combined state and city rate to well over 18%.

Stacking rates

Adding this to the mix, Mamdani's tax hike would bring the combined New York state and city corporate tax rate to 22.5% — above the federal rate of 21%.

As economists point out, higher corporate taxes don't dissipate into the ether — nor are they subtracted from notionally lavish CEO paychecks.

One way or another, they are absorbed by shareholders (including pension and retirement savings plans), workers, clients and customers.

While a portion of corporate taxes on multistate firms is exported beyond New York's borders, any new tax hike also would

come on the top of this year's \$1.4 billion increase in the separate MTA-dedicated payroll tax on large employers in the city and suburbs.

So be sure, given the need for formal state approval of both tax increases, the new mayor is highly unlikely to get everything he wants — or even most of it — from Gov. Hochul and his fellow Democrats in the Legislature.

However, he's equally unlikely to come away empty-handed.

Hochul's mid-September endorsement of Mamdani included the disclaimer that she wasn't "aligned with him on every issue," taxes being the primary point of difference.

"I'm not raising taxes on high-net-worth people right now, because we cannot have them leave the state," she explained before the election.

The governor is hardly an anti-tax hard-liner, though.

Her most recent budget included a preemptive five-year extension of the significantly higher "millionaire tax" rates signed into law by Andrew Cuomo in 2021, which were otherwise scheduled to expire in 2027.

Taunted by "tax the rich" chants at a pre-election Mamdani rally, Hochul failed to make the obvious response: Thanks to a tax hike she's perpetuated, New York

City's millionaire earners already are taxed at the highest rates in the country.

Primary concern

While still sounding reluctant to go along with a tax hike targeting individual income millionaires, the governor pointedly didn't deny a Politico report last week that she and her staff had begun "quiet, back-of-the-napkin style discussions about how to increase the corporate tax rate."

She cited uncertainty over the impact of federal budget cuts as a reason to keep options open in planning for her next budget, due in January.

Not incidentally, she faces a Democratic primary challenge on the left from Lt. Gov. Antonio Delgado.

Members of the large Democratic majorities in the state Senate and Assembly already are on record as supporting both higher corporate and personal income taxes, albeit at lower rates than Mamdani has proposed.

In an election year, they won't want to risk primaries from the new mayor's energized supporters.

And so, as usual in Albany, the buck will stop in the governor's office.

E.J. McMahon is an adjunct fellow at the Manhattan Institute.



REP. TOM SUOZZI
Hit for tax-hike idea.

Hach hacks away at Suozzi

A Republican running to unseat Long Island Rep. Tom Suozzi slammed the Democrat for proposing a federal tax hike on people making over \$400,000.

Air Force veteran Greg Hach said self-styled moderate Suozzi is sounding like socialist Mayor-elect Zohran Mamdani, and labeled him "Taxman Tom."

"There's no difference between a socialist tax hike and a Suozzi tax hike: They both accelerate the exodus [from New York]," Hach, an attorney, told The Post.

"Tom Suozzi wins the sophistry award this week for the most duplicitous and ridiculous attempt to hoodwink his own voters," he railed. "Mr. Suozzi has pledged to raise federal taxes next year on his own constituents because he doesn't believe they pay enough in taxes now. What planet is he living on?"

Hach and others in the GOP embraced Suozzi's tax-hike pitch as a political gift they can hammer the rep with in next year's campaign for the swing 3rd Congressional District.

The top 1% of state taxpayers pay over 40% of the state's income tax, and raising the federal levy increases the burden, Hach said.

Long Island alone has lost tens of thousands of high-earning families and small-business owners in the past five years, he claimed.

Suozzi told The Post last week that revenue raised from a federal tax hike would be used to lower state and local taxes.

A rep for Suozzi said Tuesday he stands by his proposal. *Carl Campanile*

Hammer 'thug is illegal'

A teenager charged with attacking a female jogger in Texas with a hammer is an illegal migrant who was cut loose by the Biden administration, despite having a lengthy rap sheet, officials said.

Sergio Noe de Nova Duarte, 17, of Mexico, attacked the woman as she was running in Plano's Bob Woodruff Park last Thursday, cops said Sunday.

The baby-faced perp then allegedly tried to duct tape the victim before she fought him off and he fled, Fox 4 reported.

When cops tracked him down, he was hit with aggravated-kidnapping and bodily-injury charges.

ICE officials Monday lodged a federal request to detain him, revealing he has been in the US illegally since overstaying a tourist visa in 2016.

Duarte has also had prior run-ins with cops, including busts for burglary and larceny last year, the feds said.

The victim was treated in a hospital following the ordeal, cops said. The extent of her injuries wasn't known.

Emily Crane

'Terrorist' got truck OK

A terrorism suspect from Uzbekistan entered the US illegally and, after being released under the Biden administration, got a commercial truck driver's license, federal officials said.

Akhror Bozorov, 31, was arrested in Kansas earlier this month while working as a truck driver, the Department of Homeland Security said Monday.

Although he was wanted on terrorism raps in his home country when he entered the US in 2023, he was granted a work permit, and got the license from Pennsylvania, the DHS said.

Emily Crane

BEND THE LAW

By VAUGHN GOLDEN,
BRANDON CRUZ and
JORGE FITZ-GIBBON

An illegal immigrant and international criminal fugitive managed to get a legal New York state driver's license to pull off a jewelry heist — using the name of British soccer great David Beckham, Nassau County officials said Tuesday.

The Romanian national, who snuck across the US border via Mexico in 2022, is part of a "gypsy" crime ring and has used so many aliases that cops don't know his real name, County Executive Bruce Blakeman said at a press conference.

"We were visited, apparently, by a celebrity in Nassau County — David Beckham," Blakeman told reporters. "Although this isn't a soccer player, this is a celebrity because this individual is wanted in many countries."

Nassau cops said the fugitive and his girlfriend, identified as Veta Rostas, walked into Kravitz Jewelry in Oceanside on Oct. 23 and slipped out with an \$11,000 diamond bracelet.

Cops used face-recognition technology from security surveillance cameras and released an intelligence bulletin that reached a crime analyst in the UK who ID'd the fugitive.

Nassau County cops were then able to track him down and bust him Sunday in the jewelry heist.

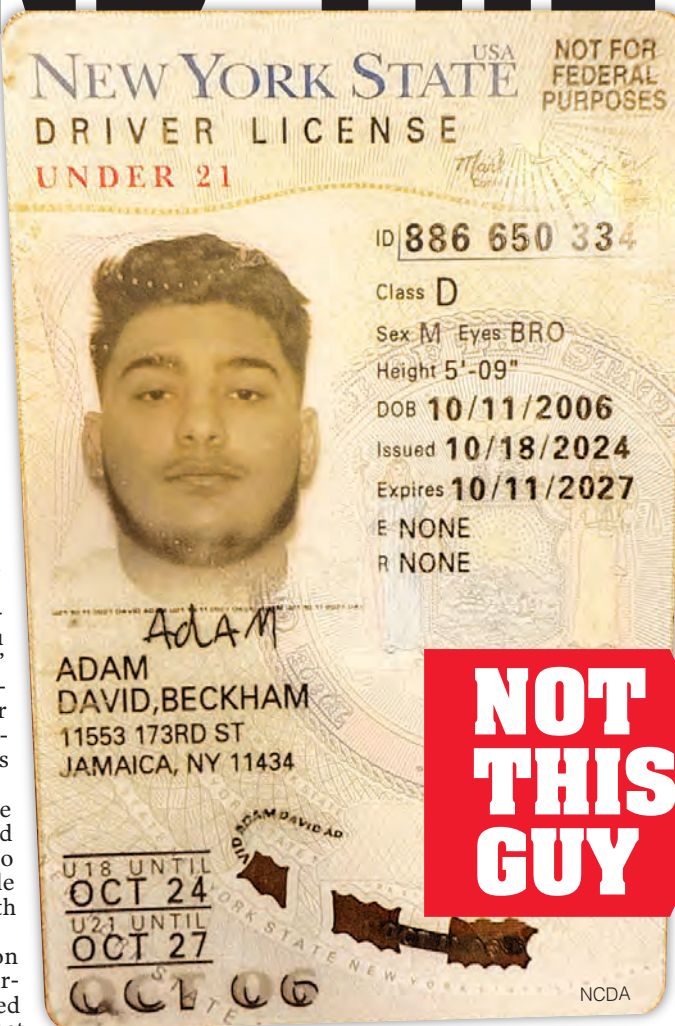
The scandal over the license is just the latest example of illegal immigrants getting driving privileges, primarily in migrant-friendly sanctuary states.

In September, Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt flipped out after cops

in his state nabbed an immigrant with an Empire State commercial driver's license that bizarrely identified the migrant with the last name "Anmol" and the first name "No Name Given"

The migrant was swept up with 125 others in a raid.

"If New York wants to hand out CDLs to illegal immigrants with 'No Name Given,' that's on



Fugitive immigrant Beckham license



BOOKED:

Cops busted an illegal immigrant — who secured a New York driver's license (middle) using soccer legend David Beckham (inset) as his alias — before allegedly robbing a jewelry store.

them," Stitt railed

said.

Gov. Hochul and DMV officials did not respond to a request for comment on the latest case.

"Beckham" has now been turned over to federal immigration officials for deportation — even though only one thing is certain about the name on his driver's license.

"I'm sure that's not his real name," Nassau County Police Commissioner Patrick Ryder said Tuesday.

NYC ICE operations ramp-up: Homan

President Trump's border czar Tom Homan warned New Yorkers will see increased federal immigration enforcement ahead of Mayor-elect Zohran Mamdani taking office.

Homan, during an interview Tuesday morning on Fox News, said he also plans to hold Mayor Adams'

administration accountable for its commitment to reopen ICE's office on Rikers Island.

"Me and Mayor Adams at one point had an agreement to let ICE into Rikers Island so we could arrest the public safety threats and the safety and security of that facility, but the City

Council shut it down," he said on "Fox & Friends."

Homan also said he planned on coming back to the Big Apple soon, and that there would be more immigration agents on city streets, as part of a federal crackdown that has already made headlines.

"I plan on being in New

York City in the near future. We're gonna do operations in New York City — we're already there now, the teams are there now," he said.

"But we will increase the enforcement presence in New York City," Homan added. "Again, because they're a sanctuary city

and there are public safety threats hitting the streets every day."

The vows come just weeks before democratic socialist Mamdani is set to be sworn in as mayor, replacing Adams, who had been an ally of Homan and the Trump administration.

Craig McCarthy

Larry's lusted-after lass an econ prof

By MEGAN PALIN

The woman Larry Summers asked for advice on how to get “horizontal” with in emails to Jeffrey Epstein is a high-flying economist, *The Post* can reveal.

The ex-Treasury secretary was referring to Chinese macro-economist Keyu Jin, 43 — then a tenured London School of Economics professor and Harvard graduate — and daughter of a top Chinese associate of President Xi Jinping.

In several messages from 2018 and 2019, married former Harvard president Summers, 70, confided in his “wing man” Epstein about a woman he was chasing.

Throughout their correspondence, Summers and Epstein referred to the woman as “peril” — never using her name in messages, but he also forwarded some of her emails for commentary, in which Jin’s name is unredacted.

In one such exchange, Summers asked Epstein whether it was “meaningful” to talk about the probability of “my getting horizontal w peril.”

“U r better at understanding Chinese women than at probability theory,” Summers told Epstein.

Epstein went on to suggest the probability of Summers ending up in bed with her was “0,” then added: “she is never ever going to find another Larry summers. Probability ZERO.”

People speculated online the nickname was drawn from the racist, anti-immigrant “yellow peril” trope of the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Civil-rights attorney Alejandra Caraballo, a clinical instructor at Harvard Law School’s Cyberlaw Clinic, described the exchanges as “absolutely disgusting” and wrote on-

TARGET OF KING LEER

XXXPOSED: The woman Larry Summers (left) asked Jeffrey Epstein advice on bedding was Keyu Jin (right), a London prof.



romantic relationship with Summers, and it’s unclear if she even knew he was pursuing her.

Asks pedo for tips

The earliest interactions about Summers’ pursuit of the woman appear in late November and early December 2018, when he and the person — apparently Jin — crossed paths at an academic conference, according to the Harvard Crimson.

“Think for now I’m going nowhere with her except economics mentor,” Summers wrote in November 2018, adding that she had not wanted to have a drink

with him “cuz she was ‘tired’” and he feared he was “in the ‘seen very warmly in rear view mirror’ category.”

On Dec. 1, Summers — who married Elisa New in 2005 — bragged that she’d been “interested in my commentary on her outfits” but confessed to feeling torn.

“When I’m reflective I think I’m dodging a bullet,” he wrote. “Think right thing is to cut off contact. Suspect she will miss it. Problem is I will too.”

By the next morning, he’d flipped: “Game day at conference she was extremely good Smart Assertive and clear Gorgeous. I’m f-ked.”

romantic relationship with Summers, and it’s unclear if she even knew he was pursuing her.

Asks pedo for tips

The earliest interactions about Summers’ pursuit of the woman appear in late November and early December 2018, when he and the person — apparently Jin — crossed paths at an academic conference, according to the Harvard Crimson.

“Think for now I’m going nowhere with her except economics mentor,” Summers wrote in November 2018, adding that she had not wanted to have a drink

with him “cuz she was ‘tired’” and he feared he was “in the ‘seen very warmly in rear view mirror’ category.”

On Dec. 1, Summers — who married Elisa New in 2005 — bragged that she’d been “interested in my commentary on her outfits” but confessed to feeling torn.

“When I’m reflective I think I’m dodging a bullet,” he wrote. “Think right thing is to cut off contact. Suspect she will miss it. Problem is I will too.”

By the next morning, he’d flipped: “Game day at conference she was extremely good Smart Assertive and clear Gorgeous. I’m f-ked.”

Hakeem funding pitch to Jeffrey

House Oversight Committee Chairman James Comer (R-Ky.) charged Tuesday that Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries’ campaign “solicited money from Jeffrey Epstein.”

The Kentucky Republican, who is leading the oversight panel’s investigation into Epstein, cited a 2013 email from a political consulting firm inviting the notorious pedophile to a Democratic Party dinner and to “get to know” Jeffries.

“Democrat fundraisers invited Epstein to attend an event or meet privately with Hakeem Jeffries as part of their 2013 effort to win a majority,” Comer said on the House floor.

“So, Hakeem Jeffries’ campaign solicited money from Jeffrey Epstein,” he claimed.

“That’s what we found in the last document batch.”

“Rising Star,” read the subject line on the May 7, 2013, email, which was sent to Epstein from Lisa Rossi, a partner at the New York City-based consulting firm Dynamic SRG.

The email was also forwarded to Epstein by his former executive assistant, Lesley Groff.

“Dear Jeffrey,” the message stated. “We are thrilled to announce that we are working with Congressman Hakeem Jeffries, one of the rising stars in the New York congressional delegation.

“Sometimes referred to as ‘Brooklyn’s Barack,’ he is a staunch supporter of President Obama and a progressive voice for the people of New York City.”

The firm’s pitch to Epstein included a video and article touting the Brooklyn Democrat’s work during his first year in Congress.

The invite was sent about five years after Epstein pleaded guilty to charges of solicitation of prostitution and solicitation of prostitution from a minor in Florida in 2008. *Victor Nava*

Congress clears release of Epstein files

Congress was overwhelmingly unified Tuesday, voting in both chambers to release federal investigative materials on notorious sex trafficker Jeffrey Epstein (left) and sending the bill to President Trump’s desk.

The swift turnaround was remarkable after

lawmakers and the Trump administration had been at odds for much of the year on releasing the so-called Epstein files.

The measure would mandate the Department of Justice turn over all “unclassified records, documents, communications and investigative materials” — and all classified information to the maximum extent possible — within 30

days of becoming law. It sailed through the House of Representatives in a 427-1 vote.

A few hours later, Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) moved to immediately send the bill to the White House and received no objection.

“The Senate has now passed the Epstein bill as soon as it comes over from the House,”

Schumer proclaimed.

Schumer’s move came as Trump expressed no preference for how quickly the Senate got the bill.

“I don’t care when the Senate passes the House Bill, whether tonight, or at some other time in the near future,” Trump wrote on Truth Social.

Josh Christenson and Victor Nava



Photo by Xinhua/Shutterstock



Michael Goodwin

mgoodwin@nypost.com

MIRACLES come in all shapes and circumstances, but here is a truly remarkable one: The New York Times has said something positive about President Trump.

All he had to do was get most of the world to back his sweeping plan for bringing peace to Gaza. It was a long shot, but he and his skilled negotiating team pulled it off.

So much so that a Monday Times headline called it “A Major Breakthrough.”

The story went on to declare that the United Nations Security Council vote to support the president’s plan represents “a major diplomatic victory for the Trump administration.”

It is that, and a helluva lot more, including the fact that it already has saved untold lives, both Jewish and Arab, and will save many more each day if it is fully implemented.

The 13-0 vote, with China and Russia abstaining, increases what was already the only chance for a broad Mideast peace the region has had in decades.

It is also worth noting that China and Russia, as permanent members of the Security Council, chose not to use their veto powers, which reveals that they, too, realize there is no realistic alternative in Gaza other than more war.

Hissy fit to print

One takeaway of the good news is that a word of caution is in order to the Times reporter whose byline is on the complimentary article. Farnaz Fassihi covers the UN, and so she might have missed the Times’ newsroom edict that all employees shall speak only evil of Trump.

The daily drumbeat of anti-Trump screeds in the leftist paper is as predictable as it is nauseating. The formula is mindlessly simple: If Trump is for it, the Times is rabidly against it.

Facts and fairness don’t enter into the decision.

That could mean some of Fassihi’s rabid colleagues will use social media to try to drive her out of her job, as they have others who dared to display insufficient hate for Trump and his every word, idea and action.

For the rest of the world, the Security Council vote marks what I see as Miracle No. 2 that Trump and his team have delivered for Gaza.

The first came in September when he unveiled the 20-point plan for a cease-fire and a hostage and prisoner swap.



THE GRAY LAUD-Y: A displaced mother Tuesday holds her baby in Gaza, where President Trump’s plan may be the only hope for peace.

EPA/Shutterstock

calls for a “technocratic, apolitical Palestinian committee,” to deliver basic services in Gaza.

In part to satisfy Israeli concerns about the committee, it will be supervised by an international body called the “Board of Peace,” which will be headed by Trump. Former British Prime Minister Tony Blair is set to join the group, which will also handle the envisioned international funding for Gaza redevelopment.

Meanwhile, another part of the plan declares that Hamas and other factions agree to not have any role in governing Gaza. And all “military, terror, and offensive infrastructure, including tunnels and weapon production facilities, are to be destroyed.”

Palestinian state-craft

The sweeping yet detailed plan reflects Trump’s ambitious commitment to peace in the Middle East. Another sign is the lavish praise he heaped on Saudi Arabia’s crown prince, Mohammed bin Salman, during a White House visit Tuesday.

In giving MBS a pass on having any role or knowledge about the 2018 murder of a critic turned Washington Post columnist, Trump exhibited how eager he is to get the prince to join the Abraham Accords, a breakthrough pact achieved in his first term, and fully normalize relations with Israel.

In the past, the Saudis have insisted that a Palestinian state has to be part of any deal. There is mention of such an entity in the Trump plan, but no commitment, and the president has said that creating one now would be rewarding Hamas.

He’s right about that, and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has declared that such a state will not happen on his watch. Nor is there a sign of any possible Israeli successor who would endorse such a state after what Hamas did on Oct. 7 and since.

In addition, there are many practical complications, including the actual borders. And given Trump’s statements about not wanting to reward Hamas, I don’t see how a Palestinian state emerges from the Gaza rubble.

If the Saudi ruler is as smart as his fans say, he will not allow the issue to stand in the way of all the good things that would result for millions of people in the region under the Trump plan.

Indeed, the plan is so good and far reaching that, if fully implemented, the president should hands down win that elusive Nobel Peace Prize.

Times praise for Don? A miracle!

It seemed like a waste of time when he first talked about the idea, but with some arm-twisting, Israel signed on immediately. So, too, did much of Europe and important regional powers, including Turkey, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Qatar.

The Arab buy-in, especially from Qatar, which has been Hamas’ principal funder and protector, gave the plan a burst of momentum that even the terror group’s leaders could not ignore.

They soon saw the light, gave their approval and began returning the first of the 20 living hostages they had been savagely holding in Gaza tunnels for more than two years, along with the remains of others who were almost certainly murdered in captivity.

The weeks since have been among the quietest since the war began with Hamas’ savage invasion of Oct. 7, 2023. And now UN

support offers reasons to hope the guns will stay silent.

Still, there remains a large hurdle, and getting the Trump plan over it would constitute Miracle No. 3.

It will need to be achieved if all the dramatic and lasting benefits the plan envisions are to be realized.

MAGA hat trick

As I see it, Miracle No. 3 would be the disarming of Hamas. Without it, all the other gains are vulnerable and subject to being reversed by crazy dead-enders who live to kill Jews.

Hamas savages also seem to enjoy killing fellow Palestinians in Gaza, as recent events show. The videos of their gruesome public executions capture the hell on Earth they have created.

The White House maintains the terror group promised to give up all its weaponry when it endorsed the original plan, but there’s no sign that is actually happening.

A fall-back possibility is the plan’s provision calling for an International Stabilization Force to help demilitarize the strip and secure and maintain peace.

The force, to be made up of troops from various countries, will also take over land held by Israel inside Gaza as the IDF withdraws.

That provision is one that makes the measure’s adoption by the Security Council so crucial. Several countries have said approval would make it more likely they would contribute armed forces to the stabilization group because Security Council passage makes the Trump plan legally binding under international law.

Another key measure in the plan

Faux foodie influencer 'ripped off'

By JEANETTE SETTEMBRE

Brooklyn's dine-and-dash influencer shows no signs of stopping.

Fresh off her arraignment on theft of service charges Friday — after she was arrested five times for non-payment at trendy Williamsburg restaurants — Pei “Lu” Chung was almost immediately accused of ripping off even more restaurants.

The faux influencer was arrested twice Saturday, at Sea Thai and Michelin-star Italian hot spot Misi, NYPD reports show, and given supervised release.

On Monday night, Chung took to Instagram to post photos of a full mezze platter, lamb and coconut milk pudding from popular Israeli restaurant 12 Chairs — where she walked out without paying her bill, management claimed to The Post.

“She left and didn’t pay,” a source close to the restaurant told The Post, adding that 12 Chairs did not call police.

Chung, 34, has been arrested seven times since late October, after skipping out on high-tally tabs at restaurants like Peter Luger, Francie and Lavender Lake.

‘Dressed to the nines’

Owners and chefs told The Post Chung comes in “dressed to the nines,” takes photos of her food, then tries to barter with social media posts or uses credit cards that are inevitably declined.

A manager at Peter Luger alleged that Chung even tried to offer a sexual favor to cover her meal, The Post reported Sunday.

Former friends told The Post that, prior to her savory scams, Chung was a regular on the city’s glittering social scene — elegantly dressed in Prada and Louis Vuitton at classical music galas and nightclubs — but disappeared a couple of years ago.

Born in Taiwan, Chung says on her personal website that she studied ballet and classical piano, started playing the violin at age 3 and earned a 99th percentile rank on that country’s national exam. She also notes that she was “operating a rifle at age 17.”

After earning a master’s degree in fine arts at the National University of Kaohsiung, she seems to have moved to New York around 2019 to attend Pratt University on a “full-ride merit scholarship,” according to her LinkedIn profile, studying information experience design and information technology.

She was regularly photographed with Taiwanese socialites around Manhattan in 2021, partying at the DiMenna Center for Classical Music in Midtown in October 2021 and at Budakan in the Meatpacking District.

A friend who met Chung during the COVID-19 pandemic told The Post they bonded over classical music and that she was active on the Taiwanese

‘A bill of goods’

Pei Chung allegedly dined-and-dashed at these NYC hot spots.



social circuit in New York.

“She invited me to concerts and museums. We also had meals together several times, either alone or with friends,” the young man said, asking to remain anonymous. “She treated me before, after I invited her to a concert. She wasn’t the kind of girl that expects guys to pay. When we went out as a group, she also paid for her portion. I don’t know about her other actual dates though.”

“She was always very polite, well-mannered, and showed strong interest in art and education. She’s a smart girl.”

‘Off the grid’

But things took a dark turn, the friend said, when Chung suddenly started talking about an “ex-boyfriend.”

“She had been acting a bit strange, so I reached out to check in and ask if she was OK or needed any help. She started messaging me saying she wasn’t well — that her ex had come to New York, was stalking her, and that she was scared. We spoke on the phone a few times because it seemed like she needed someone to talk to and calm her down,” the friend said, adding that Chung sounded like “a completely different person” than before.

“It felt like there were two sides of her, and she was extremely distressed . . . different person, different voice, tone, personality and way of thinking. At one point, she was so frightened that she asked if I could stay with her and pretend to be her boyfriend. I told her that if she truly needed someone for safety, I could go accompany her. But her behavior became increasingly

unusual, so I never went.”

Then, the friend said, Chung disappeared.

Another source confirmed she “went off the grid all of the sudden” after December 2021.

“A lot of our friends stopped seeing her. She doesn’t come out anymore,” said the source, who asked to withhold his name. “We tried to see if she’s OK. We got concerned. We’re like, ‘Why did you stop coming out?’ She mentioned it was something about her ex that he was tracking her down. She was in hiding.”

After that, the source said Chung, “didn’t reply and she was gone. She unfollowed me. All the people that I know who once knew her don’t talk to her.”

‘Semi-retired’

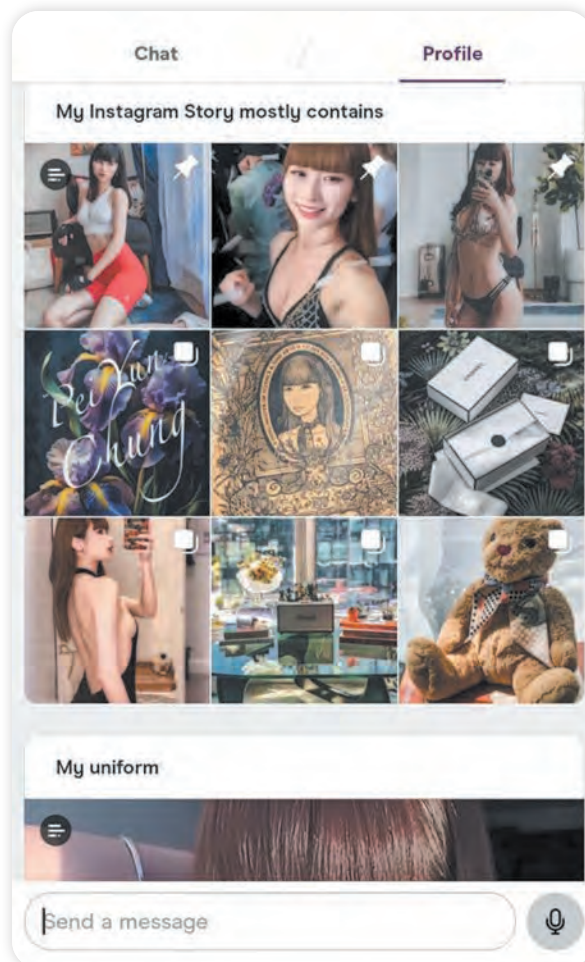
According to Chung’s LinkedIn, she briefly worked as a contract user-experience designer for companies including Chase, Comcast and Vanguard. But her last posted job was in March 2023 — and she lists herself as “semi-retired.”

She began posting influencer-style food photos that year — from places like L’abeille, a French restaurant in Tribeca, and Jean-Georges.

Chung, who lives in a luxury apartment tower in Williamsburg, also tags brands for the clothes and accessories she’s wearing: Prada, Dior, Cartier, Burberry.

Chung also seemingly got a new plan up her designer sleeve.

According to a Reddit user who claims to have matched with Chung on the dating app Hinge, she’s ready to exchange her nightlife knowledge for tips on equity trading.



more eateries, busted twice in 1 day

SHE WENT BACK FOR 2NDS



Dasher free to 'scam' again

The drippy dine-and-dasher repeatedly busted for allegedly scamming top city restaurants is still free to fraudulently feast after a Brooklyn judge released her without bail over her latest stunt.

Prada-loving Pei Chung, 34, was cut loose on supervised release at her arraignment Sunday by Brooklyn Criminal Court Judge Jevet Johnson despite prosecutors seeking to lock up the accused stingy diner for scamming two more hot spots over the weekend.

Brooklyn prosecutors sought \$1,500 cash bail or \$3,500 bond to keep the wannabe influencer behind bars after she allegedly noshed on pricey plates at a pair of posh Williamsburg restaurants Friday into Saturday, then couldn't, or wouldn't, pay.

She had already been busted five times since late October for allegedly pulling the same stunt at other local hot spots — including a Michelin star restaurant — near her home in a luxury high-rise.

As in her previous cases, Chung was charged with theft of services in the weekend incidents, a non-bail-eligible rap, before she was freed by the judge. It wasn't clear why prosecutors sought bail.

Legal experts said Chung's continued stunt could eventually land her behind bars on enhanced charges if prosecutors decide to charge her.

"If she does this 10 times or more, they could charge her with scheme to defraud, which is a felony," defense lawyer Mark Bederow told The Post on Tuesday. "At least for now, unless she spends over a \$1,000 or uses a stolen credit card, they are going to be stuck with misdemeanors and have to deal with her."

But the real deterrence for Chung could likely come with sentencing if she is convicted, should a judge choose to throw the book at her to try to keep her from reoffending.

Defense lawyer Jason Goldman told The Post that prosecutors could also refuse to offer Chung — whose lawyer didn't return a request for comment — a plea agreement to lessen her sentence.

*Kyle Schnitzer
and Priscilla DeGregory*



A WOMAN ABOUT TOWN: Pei "Lu" Chung was regularly photographed with Taiwanese socialites around Manhattan in 2021, including at Buddakan (above left) in the Meatpacking District, before friends said she disappeared.

Instagram@lu.pychung/draviditai

ADAMS' ADVENTURES



UP IN THE AIR: Mayor Adams met with Albanian Prime Minister Edi Rama (above) last month and visited a kibbutz attacked by Hamas in Israel (right) Tuesday. Adams has about six weeks left in office.



Worldwide job hunt on taxpayers' dime

By CRAIG MCCARTHY
and MATT TROUTMAN

He's leavin' on a jet plane, don't know if swagger will be back again...

Eric Adams has spent his final weeks as New York City's mayor flying around the world on the taxpayers' dime — as he admits he's hunting for a jet-setting new gig with first-class benefits.

Speculation over his future job prospects comes as Hizzoner bolted to Uzbekistan in Central Asia on Tuesday, after wrapping up a high-profile, five-day jaunt in Israel.

Sources said Adams is leaning toward a job offer with an Israeli-owned international construction company, but still has potential ambassadorships with President Trump's administration in the pipeline, with one to the Republic of the Congo recently being floated.

"Countries are calling me and asking me to come and do what I did in New York City," he told reporters on Election Day.

Adams, who has roughly six weeks left in office, has noticeably been more absent from the city since he finally dropped his long shot re-election bid on Sept. 28.

Within days of that fateful decision, Adams traveled to Alba-

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS ERIC ADAMS?

Lame-duck mayor jets around world on taxpayer dime as overseas job rumors swirl



nia — a Balkan nation where his raunchy rapper son Jordan Coleman famously competed in an "American Idol" knockoff.

He then traveled to Washington Nov. 6 for a business roundtable — and prelude to his upcoming trip this week — with Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev.

Adams then flew to Israel Friday, his second visit to the country since taking office in 2022.

He took veiled swipes at Mayor-elect Zohran Mamdani during the jaunt, which Adams' office said was meant to highlight the threat of growing antisemitism and his administration's commit-

ment to protecting Jewish New Yorkers.

Adams met with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Monday, and on Tuesday, visited a kibbutz attacked by Hamas on Oct. 7, 2023 and then the offices of a cybersecurity company, Armis, and a weather technology

firm, Tomorrow.io.

The mayor's fondness for flying off to faraway places has been a frequent feature and punchline of his public life, notably his lavish, perk-filled Turkish Airlines trips while serving as Brooklyn borough president which led to his since-dropped historic federal bribery indictment.

Grounded

His first and only term saw him travel to Mexico, Ecuador and Colombia on a voyage to visit the dangerous Darién Gap at the height of the migrant crisis in 2023. He also visited Greece and Qatar.

Those conspicuous overseas trips stopped after Adams' corruption case cast a shadow over his globetrotting.

The dismissal of Adams' case arguably killed his re-election chances, but he pressed with his campaign for months — even as many pols, Trump included, worried it would help socialist mayoral contender Mamdani's chances of winning.

Adams ultimately faced an extraordinary pressure campaign to stand aside and give former Gov. Andrew Cuomo a fighting chance of thwarting Mamdani.

Additional reporting by Hannah Fierick and Matthew Fischetti

Power, politics, and the stories behind the headlines.

**POD
FORCE
ONE** WITH MIRANDA DEVINE



NEW EPISODE OUT NOW

WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

KAROLINE LEAVITT



nypost.com/pod-force-one



Pals get 'Live' at after-party

Page Six®

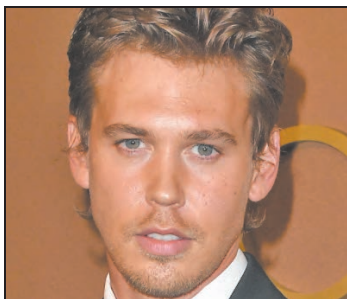
Ian Mohr

imohr@nypost.com

Oli Coleman
ocoleman@nypost.com
Mara Siegler
msiegler@nypost.com
Carlos Greer
cgreer@nypost.com

Smoked by revenge

THEY say the best revenge is living well, but, surely, it doesn't hurt to look fab, too. **Lily Allen** made a case for both at the 16Ar-lington x Antony Price salon show in London Monday, walking the runway in a look inspired by Audrey Hepburn's iconic Holly Golightly of "Breakfast at Tif-fany's," reports The Post's **Hilary George**. The pop star, 40, whose scorched-earth breakup album, "West End Girl," has earned raves since its release, sashayed down the catwalk with a lit ciggie in hand. Allen's album chronicles the dramatic dissolution of her four-year marriage to "Stranger Things" actor **David Harbour**, and she's been racking up a series of revenge-dress moments.



Hunka hunka BS

AUSTIN Butler addressed **Em-ily Ratajkowski** romance rumors after the two were photographed on a dinner date in the West Vil-lage. "The true answer is that I have a lot of friends, and we're friends and we had dinner, and that we're friends," the actor, 34, told Vanity Fair, insisting he is sin-gle. In September, Butler and Rat-ajkowski, also 34, were snapped looking cozy while grabbing food and drinks at the Waverly Inn. A spy told Page Six at the time that the "Elvis" star (above) had his arm "around her" and "kept nod-ding at what she said."

THEY didn't go to Puerto Rico, but pals **Marcello Hernandez** and **Tate McRae** were spotted hanging out late night at Noho hot spot Jean's over the weekend.

The duo had fans typing "iconic" under a video of them dancing in an "SNL" promo to **Bad Bunny**'s "Voy A Llevarte Pa PR," earlier this year. Their hang on Saturday, however, was a bit more low-key, we're told.

McRae arrived to the "Saturday Night Live" after-party with her influencer pal **Jake Shane**, and we're told Hernandez dashed straight to their booth when he arrived.

"He was mostly talking to Tate. He didn't leave their area until [McRae and Shane] did,"

a spy told Page Six.

And while they described Hernandez as "flirting" with McRae, we're told the comedian may already be involved. He brought **Ana Amelia Batlle Cabral** as his date to the New York City "Happy Gilmore 2" premiere in July. They have reportedly been dating since Janu-ary, according to gossip blog DeuxMoi.

Hernandez found himself in a "Summer House" scandal around the same time with **Paige DeSorbo** apologizing to him for "em-barrassing" cheating rumors amid her split from **Craig Conover**.

DeSorbo said on her "The Giggly Squad" pod-cast that she had to inform Hernandez about the

rumor spreading that she cheated on Conover with him. Hernandez responded "like, f--k yeah!" DeSorbo said. She revealed Hernandez received hate messages over the rumor and "I was like, 'Marcello, I am so f--king sorry — like this is so embarrassing,'" she said.

Back at Jean's, we hear the club kicked civil-ians out at 3 a.m. to accommodate the late-night bash for the "SNL" crew. The celebrity host, **Glen Powell**, was on the scene yapping it up with the show's producers, we're told. **Nina Dobrev** was one of his guests at the show, and was also spotted at Jean's, we're told.

Reps for McRae and Hernandez did not comment.



Mila Kunis flashes her killer smile at the Los Angeles pre-miere of her new Net-flix film "Wake Up Dead Man: A Knives Out Mystery."

Big 'Cover' story

TOP reporters from outlets including Bloomberg, Status, Rolling Stone and more will join Academy Award-winning filmmaker **Laura Poitras** and investigative journalist **Seymour Hersh** at the Committee to Protect Journalists' Interna-tional Press Freedom Awards tomorrow in honor of Poitras' latest film, "Cover-Up," we hear. The film on Pulitzer Prize-winner Hersh is getting Oscar buzz and comparisons to Poitras' 2014 **Edward Snow-den** doc, "Citizenfour," and de-buts Dec. 26 on Netflix. CNN's **Christiane Amanpour** will serve as emcee and was hon-ored by the org in 2016.

We hear

THAT jeweler **Jennifer Fisher** has a new cookbook out, "Trust Your Gut" ... THAT **Hilary** and **Wilbur Ross** threw a party for Fox News host **Bret Baier**'s new book, "To Rescue the American Spirit" ... THAT **Audra McDonald** was honored at **Audrey Gruss**' Hope for De-pression Research Foundation luncheon.



Empathy gene

TRACY Pollan believes that her and husband **Michael J. Fox**'s children are more empa-thetic because of their dad's 30-year battle with Parkinson's dis-ease. Pollan (above) said that she "definitely" believes it led to their four kids having greater compassion for others. "I do think that growing up with a par-ent who has a health challenge, it just brings out an empathy and protection naturally, and they've always been like that," she told Page Six at the annual "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to Cure Parkinson's" gala Saturday night at Cipriani South Street. The 25th gala was hosted by **Denis Leary**, with stand-up from **Jon Stewart**, **Colin Quinn** and **Nikki Glaser** and a per-formance by **Jackson Browne**.

NYC's best-written guest list

"IF this bar burned down, nobody in New York would have any-thing to read," said a partygoer of a bash hosted by writers **Molly Jong-Fast** and **Carson Griffith** at the elegant Bar Bastion. The wordy crowd included "Empire of the Elite" author **Michael Grynbbaum**, "Motherload" author **Sarah Hoover**, "Gay Like Me" author **Richie Jackson** and partner **Jordan Roth**, **Naomi Fry** of the New Yorker, Dream Baby Press' **Matt Starr**, Times types **Carolyn Ryan**, **Vanessa Fried-man**, **Jessica Testa**, **Alex Vadukul**, **Jacob Bernstein**, **Dionne Searcey**, **Katie Rosman** and **Carl Swanson**, New York's **Eric Mazza**, "Sex and the City" author **Candace Bushnell**, **Zoe Dubno**, "It Girl" author **Marisa Meltzer**, **Ca-role Radziwill**, **Michael Hailey**, Air Mail's **Linda Wells**, **Adam Faze**, speechwriter **Alex Levy**, **Alison Roman**, "Paper of Wreck-age" author **Frank DiGiacomo**, **Sarah Harrelson** of Cultured, **Thom Bettridge** of i-D, actor **Griffin Dunne**, MSNBC's **Ari Mel-ber**, publicist **Elijah Harlow**, producer **Jonathan Wald** and more. Happily, the fire extinguishers didn't see any action.

Follow us on X

@Page Six



THE **ONLY** BID FOR ALL OF NEW YORK



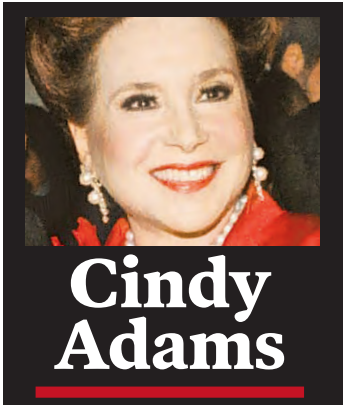
DELIVERING FROM **DAY ONE**

PAID FOR BY RESORTS WORLD NYC

MUST BE 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER TO PLAY THE NEW YORK LOTTERY GAMES.
PLEASE PLAY RESPONSIBLY.

24- HOUR PROBLEM GAMING HOTLINE: 1-877-8-HOPENY (846-7369)

Learning to clown around



Cindy Adams

BRETT Alters. Californian. Studied musical theater at Tisch, saw Cirque du Soleil, loved improv, got hooked, “auditioned in my 20s, got accepted and as the son of a psychiatrist, whatever he did came to mind.”

“Maybe that’s why I became a clown. Now in my 40s I’m ring-master of the 48th season of the Big Apple Circus.”

“The lifestyle? Double-wide trailer with two slide-outs. Positioned between the Met and NYC Ballet. The heart of Lincoln Center and plenty of good restaurants. Can be a dream but there’s tons of

sacrifices. I don’t have to find a grocery store. We have families and must negotiate that. There’s disagreements. You come together. Works well but it’s not perfect. Also, we’re all together like a family. Any disfunction you come together. We’re like MIT in a way. Everybody’s a genius at their skill.

“I work with some of the strongest people in the world. And it’s a lot. Three shows a day. Wake up time 4 a.m. to do press, sleeping in a trailer, there are some barriers — but we love it.

“Hey, there’s days it’s a bit of a slog — and even if our popcorn’s pretty good I wouldn’t want to eat it every day.”

Besides looking good and being a high-class MC, what’s a ring-master do?

“My job is to host the show, explain who the audience is seeing and control the flow of the show. Something goes wrong, there’s always that adage ‘Send in the clowns.’ Ours is a well-oiled machine. My goal is not to start arguments because each kid can say, ‘My dad’s the strongest in the world’ — and might really be! I mean, a trapeze star doing quadruple somersaults beats me. My



Walt Disney Co.

Awards season begins soon for “Freakier Friday” and its stars.

Winning screens tapped

CBS’s 28th “Family Film and TV Awards” will air Saturday, Dec. 13, and be hosted by **Julie Chen Moonves**. She’s great, was a great TV star, then retired and is now unretiring. After 50 seasons, “Survivor” host **Jeff Probst** will receive the TV Icon Award.

Also nominated: “Superman,” “The Simpsons,” “Dancing With the Stars,” “Big Brother,” “The Price Is Right.”

It’s movies, TV, fave game shows, fave competition shows. Plus an award for fave iconic family film: “Home Alone,” “The Karate Kid” or “ET”

Favorite actor in a movie could be **Adam Sandler**, “Happy Gilmore 2,” **Helena Zengel**, “The Legend of Ochi,” **Jamie Lee Curtis**, “Freakier Friday” and **Liam Neeson**, “The Naked Gun.” And, probably, a partridge in a pear tree.

musculature doesn’t usually exceed that of a trapeze star. Also putting on a costume early in the morning after a cold night’s sleep is not always a thrill. So we avoid stuff like that.”

Oh, my God, you sound like a great husband.

“Not so sure. Last night I got to sleep 11:45 p.m. — and up 4 a.m. for press.”

I took back my temporary marital offer.

Burn-ing bridge

WHAT they’re saying: **Christine Baranski** said that **Ken Burns** once told her: “When I was working on 1981’s ‘Brooklyn Bridge’ I went to visit Arthur Miller, who said, ‘I don’t know a damn thing about the Brooklyn Bridge.’ My only thinking was, ‘Do something and make it beautiful.’ That’s all I know.”

AND overheard in Midtown, a husband saying: “Darling. Good news. We don’t have to move to a more expensive apartment. The building just raised our rent.”

Only in New York, kids, only in New York.

**KitchenSaver®**

332-240-6934



We make it easy to transform your kitchen!
IN AS LITTLE AS 3-5 DAYS!

The kitchen of your dreams is closer than you think. Proudly family owned and locally operated in NYC, we bring you our high-quality Custom Cabinet Renewal process that saves you time, money, mess and hassle all backed by a 10-Year-Limited Warranty!

CONTACT US TODAY TO RECEIVE A FREE ESTIMATE AND IN-HOME DESIGN CONSULTATION!

332-240-6934

\$0 DOWN, \$0 INTEREST, IF PAID IN FULL IN 12 MONTHS*

 **SAVE TIME**

 **SAVE MONEY**

 **CUSTOMIZE**

 **LESS MESS**

*Offer expires: 01/31/26. All offers apply to purchase of Kitchen Saver Custom Cabinet Renewal only and must be presented and used at time of estimate. Minimum purchase and deposits required. Qualified buyers only. Subject to credit approval. Rates range from 15.85% - 21.19% APR (interest rates range from 17.99% - 24.99%). Loan amount and rate will vary based on your income and creditworthiness. 12 month promotional period ("Promo Period") during which interest is billed but will be waived if the amount financed is paid in full before Promo Period expires. Monthly payments are not required during the Promo Period. Any unpaid balance and amounts owed after Promo Period will be paid over 84 monthly payments. For example, assuming the full credit limit is used on loan approval date and no payments are made during Promo Period, for every \$1,000 financed at a fixed interest rate of 24.99%, 12 monthly payments of \$0 followed by 84 monthly payments of \$28.29. This example is an estimate only. Actual payment amounts based on amount and timing of purchases. Call 866-936-0602 for financing costs and terms. GreenSky® program consumer loans are made by Synovus Bank, Member FDIC, NMLS #408043, without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender, disability, or familial status. GreenSky Servicing, LLC ("GSS", NMLS #1416362, www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org) is a financial technology company that manages the GreenSky® program by supporting originations and servicing the loans on behalf of banks and other financial institutions that make or hold program loans. GreenSky® is a registered trademark of GreenSky, LLC and is licensed to banks and other financial institutions for their use in connection with the GreenSky® program. GreenSky LLC and GSS are not lenders. All credit decisions and loan terms are determined by program lenders. May not be combined with other offers or applied to previous purchases. Valid only at select Kitchen Saver locations. See location for details. Cabinet style and feature availability varies by location and may be different than pictured. PA HIC #PA063180, DE Contractor #2013605887, NJ HIC #13VH08343300, NJ HIC #13VH12694800, SC Gen. Contractor CLG124859, WV Contractor WV063413, and IN BTL 0158230795-002.

Minaj in UNifying Nigeria call-out

By CAITLIN DOORNBOS

Rapper Nicki Minaj dropped the mic at the United Nations Tuesday, delivering a stark warning about the plight of Christians being “targeted, driven from their homes and killed” in Nigeria.

Minaj was invited to address the international body by US Ambassador Mike Waltz, who hailed her as a “fearless advocate” whose message “echoes the UN’s own Universal Declaration of Human Rights.”

“She steps onto this world stage not as a celebrity, but as a witness,” Waltz gushed. “She could be living the good life, but she’s here rolling up her sleeves to try to save lives.”

Minaj, who has 28 million followers on X, has been using her social media platform to bring attention to the plight of slaughtered Christians in Nigeria.

“In Nigeria, Christians are being targeted,” Minaj said. “Churches have been burned, families have been torn apart . . . simply because of how they pray.”

Her activism came after President Trump, in a Truth Social post on Nov. 2, threatened that the US could go to Nigeria “ ‘guns-a-blazing,’ to completely wipe out the Islamic Terrorists who are committing these horrible atrocities” should the country not stop the bloodshed.

Minaj, during her speech, thanked Trump for his leadership, commending him for calling for urgent action “to defend Christians in Nigeria, to combat extremism and to bring a stop to violence against those who simply want to exercise their natural right to freedom of religion or belief.”

The Trinidad-born artist described Nigeria as a “beautiful nation with deep faith traditions,” and even shouted out the “beautiful ‘barbs’” — her fans — affected by the violence in West Africa.

Libby Eamons / Page 37



BlayzenPhotos / BACKGRID

AIRLINE FEE'S A PANE!

‘Wall, no window seat’

By BROOKE STEINBERG

These travelers unknowingly threw their money out the window.

When you book a window seat on a plane, you’re likely expecting to be seated next to a window — but some airlines argue otherwise.

In response to a class-action lawsuit against Delta Air Lines and United Airlines filed by passengers who paid extra money to sit in “window” seats, only to be seated next to an empty wall, United has asked a federal judge to dismiss it.

The airline is arguing that a window seat means a seat next to a wall — not necessarily a seat with a view.

“The use of the word ‘window’ in reference to a particular seat cannot reasonably be interpreted as a promise that the seat will have an exterior window view,” the airline’s lawyers wrote in a motion to dismiss the case.

“Rather, the word ‘window’ identifies the position of the seat — i.e., next to the wall of the main body of the aircraft.”

The lawyers also noted that United’s contract of carriage does not explicitly guarantee that a window seat will have an exterior view next to it.

One plaintiff in the suit against United, Aviva Copaken, claimed that she paid as much as \$169.99 for a window seat, and when she boarded, there was only a view of the cabin wall.

Some rows none

Boeing 737s have at least one row with a missing window at the window seat because of the placement of components such as ducts or electrical conduits — and these planes make up over half of United’s fleet. Missing windows can also be found on Airbus A320s and Boeing 757s.

Carter Greenbaum, who is representing plaintiffs against United and Delta, told People, “As airlines have begun charging for services that were once free, passengers should at least expect upfront disclosure of the fees and that if they pay an extra fee, they will get the product they paid for.”

A bald-space lie

A former Air Force Intelligence officer has pleaded guilty to lying to law enforcement when she claimed her then-estranged astronaut wife committed the first crime in space, prosecutors said.

Summer Worden, 50, faces up to five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine after pleading guilty Thursday to falsely alleging her now ex-wife, Anna McClain, accessed her bank account from the International Space Station, said the US Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of Texas. Worden accused McClain

of guessing the password to her bank account to access it in January 2019 while deployed on a six-month ISS mission, prosecutors said.

The false claim — leveled amid a separation and parental dispute ahead of their divorce in 2020 — sparked Federal Trade Commission and NASA investigations. The New York Times reported.

Investigators determined Worden had granted McClain access to the account and other records, the feds said.

Worden will be sentenced Feb. 12.

Zoe Hussain



Hale
GROVES®

SAVE OVER
52%
includes shipping

#483X | **Hale Select Deluxe Gift Box**

This gift box is the ideal gift for fruit and snack lovers alike. Perfect for sharing or gifting, this box brings a taste of sunshine and sweetness straight to your door.

- 4 Grove Navels
- 4 Honey-Sweet Tangerines
- 4 Petite Navel Oranges
- 2.5 oz. Chocolate Chip Cookies
- 4 oz. Grower's Choice Fruit & Nut Snack Mix
- 3 oz. Foil-wrapped Milk Chocolates

REG. \$49.99

NOW
\$34.99
+\$7.99 shipping

SAVE OVER
46%

BONUS DEAL! REG. \$39.99
NOW \$29.99
+\$7.99 shipping



#485X Hale Select Gift Box

Hale
GROVES®

Call 833-987-1584 or visit HaleGroves.com/H6YF93

Mention Code H6YF93 for your savings on Items #483X or #485X.

*\$7.99 shipping & handling. Satisfaction completely guaranteed. This gift ships in December at the peak of freshness. Order by Dec. 19, 2025 for GUARANTEED Christmas delivery. AZ, CA, TX & LA order by Dec. 12, 2025.

SINCE 1947 - HALE GROVES, VERO BEACH, FL 32966

IC: H6YF93



Calls to bust the filibuster

Karoline Leavitt, chief White House flack, doubled down on her calls for the GOP to abolish the filibuster to pass President Trump's agenda, in an interview with "Pod Force One" released Wednesday.

Leavitt argued that much of the president's efforts to reform federal voting laws in particular would be eased if Senate Republicans agreed to do away with the 60-vote threshold needed to pass most legislation in their chamber.

"Republicans need to get off their butts and move, and that's what the president wants to see them do, and that's what the American people are expecting," she said.

"There's so much more work to do — election integrity, voter ID, getting rid of universal mail-in ballots — all of that can be done if Congress works together and gets rid of the filibuster," she added.

"So, the President is definitely talking a lot about that, both publicly and privately. I know he's expressed his opinion on that to leaders in the Senate who may agree or disagree. We'll have to see how it shakes out."

Senate Majority Leader John Thune (R-SD), in his first speech after assuming his position, vowed to keep the filibuster.

"[The Founding Fathers] made the Senate smaller and senators' terms of office longer, with the intention of creating a more stable, more thoughtful, and more deliberative legislative body to check ill-considered or intemperate legislation," he said in a Jan. 3 address on the Senate floor.

Without the filibuster, legislation could be passed by a simple 51-vote majority.

Josh Christenson

WH chief spokesperson remakes office

By RYAN KING

White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt touted the control she has of the briefing room and defended a recent crack-down on reporter access in an interview on "Pod Force One" out Wednesday.

"I try, thank you," Leavitt replied when "Pod Force One" host Miranda Devine gushed that she ruled the White House press briefing room with "an iron fist."

"I prepare a lot for the briefings, and I walk in there with a good grip on what they're going to ask, because I read and I watch and I prepare all day, all morning," Leavitt, 28, explained.

Be 'professional'

Leavitt, the youngest White House press secretary in history, stressed that she wants her team to be "professional" with reporters.

"The press briefing room can be combative, and sometimes it is behind the scenes as well, but I tell our team that we need to be professional and get them facts," she said.

During Leavitt's tenure, the White House has cracked down on the press, taking control of the pool reporter rotation from the White House Correspondents' Association.

Pool reporters are journalists who get closer access to the president than the rest of the press corps, with the task of sending their colleagues notes and other information.

Late last month, the Trump administration

also restricted reporters from freely wandering to the Upper Press area, where Leavitt and other White House communications officials work. It's above the Lower Press area, where the press briefing room is located.

Under the new rules, reporters have to make appointments to get into the Upper Press.

"What was happening up here is now that we have taken over the responsibilities of the National Security Council, thanks to the restructuring of Secretary [of State Marco] Rubio when he became national security adviser," Leavitt explained.

"So we felt it became very inappropriate for reporters to be loitering around sensitive information in our offices."

Leavitt claimed that, privately, many reporters are OK with the new system as long as they still have access to appointments.

One step the Trump administration has taken to expand access for reporters is its creation of a new seat in the press briefing room for independent media.

The White House press team also added a dedicated new-media spot in the pool rotation.

In reflecting on the differences between the first and second Trump administrations, Leavitt concluded that the media treats the president with more respect.

"I think they realized that maybe there's something to this guy. If 70 million Americans elected him, not once, but twice, maybe we should have a little bit more respect."

HERSTORY: Karoline Leavitt, the White House's youngest press secretary, has radically altered how the press office and press pool operate.

LEAVITT'S PRESSING BUSINESS

NY Post: Tamara Beckwith

Don aide's older hubby now part of family

Karoline Leavitt had an awkward talk with her parents when she revealed she was dating a man who was nearly their age, the White House press secretary revealed to The Post.

"It's definitely a challenging conversation to

have at first," Leavitt recently told Miranda Devine on her "Pod Force One" podcast.

Leavitt, 28, became the country's youngest press secretary when President Trump appointed her last year, but that wasn't the only age barrier she's

pushed: her husband is 32 years her senior.

Leavitt and Nicholas Riccio started dating in 2022 when she was 25 and running for a New Hampshire congressional seat.

The age gap left her parents a little skeptical at first, Leavitt said, until

they all spent more time together.

"Once they got to know him and saw who he is as a man and his character and how much he adores me, I think it became quite easy for them, and now we're all friends," she said.

And despite the rigors

of Leavitt's high-pressure job, the couple's relationship has thrived.

They welcomed a son — Niko, now 1 — in July 2024, then they tied the knot in January, just two days before President Trump was sworn in.

Alex Oliveira

UNITED METRO ENERGY

WITH THE COLD UPON US, MAKE SURE YOUR TANK IS FULL!

A UNION COMPANY A RED APPLE GROUP COMPANY

HONESTY & INTEGRITY

HEATING OIL - DIESEL - GAS



UNITED METRO ENERGY

**HEATING OIL | NATURAL GAS
INSTALLATION | MAINTENANCE
BUDGET PLANS | PRICE PROTECTION**

**FUELING THE CITY THAT NEVER SLEEPS
AND THE COMPANY THAT NEVER SLEEPS**



BIOHEAT.

IT'S WHAT'S BEHIND THE TRUCK THAT COUNTS



**OUR OWN REFINERY
AND MULTIPLE
TERMINALS**

**ONE OF THE
LARGEST FLEET
OF TRUCKS**

**HUNDREDS OF
EMPLOYEES**

**WE'RE HERE FOR
YOU 24/7/365**



**WHOLESALE
LARGE, MULTI-FAMILY
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL
TONY CAMODEO
VICE PRESIDENT, SALES & MARKETING
718-383-1400**



**HOMEOWNERS
1, 2 & 3 FAMILY HOMES
EILEEN MARCIANO
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS, RESIDENTIAL SERVICES
929-608-4052**



**JOHN MCCONVILLE
PRESIDENT
"WE SOLVE ALL PROBLEMS."
718-383-1400**



**WATCH THIS VIDEO
TO LEARN MORE AT:
WABCRADIO.COM/UMEC**

NEW YORK'S LARGEST FAMILY-OWNED & OPERATED ENERGY COMPANY

718-383-1400 • UnitedMetroEnergy.com

Serving the 5 Boroughs, Nassau, Suffolk & Westchester

Fatal shots in illegal B'klyn club

A 31-year-old man was riddled with bullets in a deadly early-Monday burst of violence inside an illegal Brooklyn nightclub, cops and sources said.

Giovanni Rivera was fatally blasted multiple times in the torso and back around 5 a.m. in the shady storefront night spot on Third Avenue near 50th Street in Sunset Park, authorities and law-enforcement sources said.

Rivera, who lived in Kensington, was rushed to NYU Langone Hospital-Brooklyn, where he succumbed to his injuries hours later, cops said.

Gabriel Hernandez, 27, of Greenwood Heights, was taken into custody from the scene and charged Tuesday with manslaughter and criminal possession of a weapon, police said.

It remained unclear Tuesday whether the men knew each other. *Joe Marino and Amanda Woods*

GENDER STORM

Makeup big: Trans-pushing parents 'weirdos'

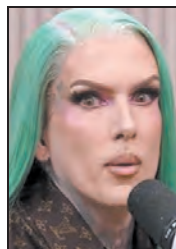
By EMILY CRANE

Makeup mogul Jeffree Star ripped progressive parents shoving gender and transgender issues in their kids' faces as "f--king weirdos."

The 40-year-old OG influencer, widely recognized for his flamboyant looks and long locks, waded into the divisive issue on Monday, bluntly telling The Skinny Confidential blog's podcast that children should not be encouraged to choose their gender.

"Why are we encouraging our kids to be a different gender and feed them false information when they're so young?" Star (inset) told "The Him and Her Show" hosts.

"When I grew up and started looking different, my mother encouraged me to just be myself. When I started wearing makeup and being more feminine and wanting to do certain things . . . it wasn't like 'Oh my God, Jeffree needs, what do they call it



now — gender affirming care?"

"It's like when you're a tomboy. Did your mom . . . did she cut your t-ts off at 13? Nowadays, it's all these f--king weirdos telling their kids, 'OMG you like a Barbie? You're a woman!' No that's just a little boy experimenting and not knowing what the f--k he's doing."

Star, who noted he is a man who just happens to look feminine, said he was never "sexualized and weird" as a child.

"Why are we putting in cartoons, trans flags and all this stuff? I don't agree with it, I think it's too young," he said. "Why does a 5-year-old watching a Netflix cartoon show need to know about that right now?"

The beauty icon also ripped into pronoun culture, arguing that identifying as gay, lesbian or bisexual was a sexuality choice — not a gender.

"You can only be a man, female or trans," Star said.

"What you think your identity is

has nothing to do with what you're sexually attracted to."

Star raged, too, that the LGBTQI acronym should be stripped back to just "LGB."

Down on pronouns

"LGB, that is your preference for what you are attracted to and what you like," Star continued. "Your identity issues and who you think you are is so separate. I don't agree that they should be together."

The button-pushing makeup bigwig, who rose to fame creating tutorials on YouTube, has gone viral in the past over his remarks on nonbinary pronouns.

"You're not 'they' and 'them,'" Star said in a 2023 podcast interview. "You're trans, you're male or you're female."

"'They' and 'them' and all that extra s--t that we added during the pandemic. Because everyone is so bored in their f--king houses they just started to make up more s--t."

Lower tab to get high on weed

It's getting cheaper to get high in New York.

The average price of pot has plummeted 17% since legalization in New York state, with a market ramp up that has boosted the availability of marijuana brands in more stores, industry officials said.

In 2023, the average "unit price" for cannabis was \$38.61. It's now \$32.15, the state Office of Cannabis Management reports.

The number of licensed pot stores in the Empire State has soared past 500, stocking products from a growing group of farmers growing marijuana and more cultivators manufacturing gummies, vapes and even beverages.

Regulators with OCM said it's normal for prices to come down as more pot stores open and more products become available, spurring competition.

Carl Campanile

The Daniel Steiger Regency Rose: A Classic Dial With a Steely Smile!

Online Price ~~\$179~~ - **On Your Wrist \$79** - Saving You \$100

Step back in time with the **Regency Rose**, the watch that has everyone buzzing from our latest jaunt to the legendary Basel watch fairs in Switzerland! This gem boasts a stainless steel and rose gold strap with a snazzy woven design, perfectly paired with a center color that harmonizes with the bezel. And oh, that bezel! It's adorned with **12 sparkling Diamondeau®**, flawless simulated diamonds that will make you the talk of the town.

But that's not all, folks! **The classic and clean white dial is a showstopper**, featuring not one, not two, but three sub-dials for day, date, and 24-hour time. Designed for the dapper gentleman who knows that style and punctuality go hand in hand, **the Regency Rose is where classic charm meets modern marvel**. And here's the kicker – you can secure your very own Regency Steel for the amazing low price of just **\$79 plus S&H!** It's an absolute steal! Use offer code **NP5REG** and be among the **first 500 orders** to grab this special early **Black Friday price**. Hurry, don't miss out as our Regency Steel sold out within five days last year! **Please quote the unique insider code to qualify for a \$100 discount.*



5 YEAR
MOVEMENT
WARRANTY

ONLINE PRICE
~~\$179~~

56% OFF
NOW JUST
\$79
PLUS S&H
YOU SAVE
\$100

DS
DANIEL STEIGER

Watch Specifications:

- Classic White Dial
- 12 Stunning Diamondeau® (Flawless Simulated Diamonds)
- Precision Quartz Movement
- Premium Grade Solid Stainless Steel
- Day, Date and 24-Hour Functions
- Five Year Movement Warranty
- 30 Day Money Back Guarantee

CALL NOW TOLL FREE 24/7 ON: 1-800 733 8463

PLEASE QUOTE NP5REG OR ORDER ONLINE AT:

www.timepiecesusa.com/NP5REG

PAY BY CHECK: Timepieces International Inc. 10701 NW 140th Street, Suite 1, Hialeah Gardens, FL 33018

Rise of an antisemitic 'pod piper'

RIKKI SCHLOTT



IT'S tempting to think that young leftists who flock to streamer Hasan Piker and edgelords who listen to podcaster Nick Fuentes are two sides of the same coin.

Both are radical influencers who are pulling boys to the fanatical edges of their side of the political spectrum.

But, while Piker's far-left fans swap radical ideas about socialism and Israel on message boards, echoing the streamer's disturbing rhetoric, Fuentes' fans seem to be up to something quite different.

The "groyper" — as they are known — who venerate Fuentes appear far more interested in posting the most offensive memes possible than engaging in actual political discourse. They are spraying an indiscriminate firehose of offense wherever they possibly can, in a cathartic rebellion against the politically correct culture they grew up in.

"You can call me a Nazi — you better be careful," Fuentes recently warned on his podcast "Because if I'm a Nazi, then there's millions of young people that are following a f--king Nazi, so you better be careful about those words."

'Groyper' fall in line

Fuentes' influence is taking off online — and increasingly in real life, too. Over the weekend, "Nick Fuentes was right about Israel" was written in chalk on a bike path on Stanford University's campus, according to StopAntisemitism. The school did not respond to a request for comment.

Fuentes is a Holocaust denier who regularly espouses antisemitic views and advocates for an "America First" agenda that puts immediate domestic interests before all international conflicts.

Meanwhile, tweets like, "We have a leader. Fall in line," referring to Fuentes, regularly get tens of thousands of likes on X.

"By using humor and presenting himself as a moral authority, he packages hateful ideas in ways that can seem normal, entertaining or even principled," Oren Segal of the ADL told The Post.

"Parents should know that his content can pull teens into spaces where antisemitism and bigotry are openly encouraged."

The 27-year-old host of the "America First" show has a million followers on X and gets hundreds of thousands of views on his show, which airs daily on Rumble (he was kicked off YouTube for hate speech in 2020). According to The New



York Times, his views on the platform, where he now has 525,000 followers, have quintupled in just over a year.

He casually drops the N-word, has declared a "crusade" against women in politics and publicly professed love for Hitler in an opening to a speech. His predominantly young male disciples are eating it all up.

Fuentes once commanded his followers in a pledge during his show, asking them to "raise your right hand, repeat after me: I will kill, rape and die for Nicholas J. Fuentes."

His fans call themselves "groyper" in a reference to an alt-right meme of a cartoon toad. According to the ADL, they "believe they are fighting against demographic and cultural changes that are destroying the 'true America' — a white, Christian nation."

The tweets and memes they share are almost as incoherent as they are offensive. A groyper account with more than 40,000 followers on X posted a photo-shopped image of Donald Trump smiling at his phone while apparently listening to Nick Fuentes's podcast. A speech bubble says, "Jews run society, women need to shut the f--k up and blacks need to be imprisoned for the most part."

Trump met Fuentes in 2022 when Kanye West brought him to a dinner with him, but there is no evidence the president has ever listened to his podcast.

While the picture is fake, the quote is one of Fuentes' own. Why offend one group, when you can kill three birds with one stone?

A disturbed father wrote on X, "My son is 19. Yesterday I asked a group of friends if they ever heard of Nick. They all have [the afore-

mentioned quote] memorized and repeated it like a mantra to me."

In the online groyper world, the lower you go, the more praise you receive. "Women are so cringe like how do you f--k up a suicide," an account called Voluntary Conscript Groyper posted on X. "I swear I've seen more 'failed suicides' from women than real ones ... It's all attention bulls--t. If [you] were serious you would tie a noose around [your] neck and be done with it."

Kids who grew up in an era of political correctness are stomping on every PC eggshell they can come up with, hiding behind anonymous avatars of frog cartoons as they unleash their pent-up anger and one-up each other with how far they're willing to go. But how much of it is simply courting shock value, and how much is a reflection of what they're actually thinking?

The same can be asked of Fuentes. Is he the same to politics as Andrew Tate is to women's rights?

Appalling speech

In a recent episode of his podcast, Ben Shapiro pulled some of Fuentes' most shocking statements through the years. He said of black people under Jim Crow in one clip, "Who cares? Enough with the Jim Crow stuff. Who cares? 'I had to drink out of a different water fountain.' Big f--king deal ... It was better for them, better for us, better in general."

In another he proclaimed, "A lot of women want to be raped ... There's a lot of women who really want a guy to beat the s--t out of them, but part of it is that they have to pretend that they don't."

And in a third clip, Fuentes declared, "White people are every single bit justified in being racist, every single bit justified, to the extent that it means going out of your way to avoid black people when you see them."

Shapiro is a vocal opponent of Fuentes, particularly taking issue with his antisemitic views.

In an interview with Tucker Carlson in late October, Fuentes said, "As far as the Jews are concerned, you cannot actually divorce Israel and the neocons and all those things that you talk about from Jewishness: ethnicity, religion, identity." He also called Jews "a stateless people" and described them as "unassimilable."

And his followers echo this antisemitism. In a world full of pearl-clutching teachers and suffocating wokeness, a grassroots ascendance of edgelord kids was surely inevitable. Until young people no longer feel like they can't say what they really mean, some will resort to saying what they don't really mean just to get a rise.

Slaying caught on 911

A Maryland couple was murdered in their home, allegedly by a business associate enraged over money, with one of the victims heard pleading for her life in a chilling 911 call.

William "Charlie" Hayes, 56, and his wife, Jeanna Hayes, 54, were found shot inside their Pasadena home at around 2 p.m. Sunday, according to Anne Arundel County Police.

In the moments leading up to the killing, a 911 call from the couple's home revealed the woman pleading with a man she identified as "Tony" not to shoot her.

A short time later, the call captures the man quarreling with "Charlie" about money before gunshots erupt. Then everything fell quiet.

The couple, who operated a home improvement business out of their house, were pronounced dead at the scene by responders.

Through the 911 call and "additional investigative means," detectives quickly identified Anthony Louis Reyes, 61, a business associate and friend, as a suspect, police said.

When a cop tried to pull over Reyes' vehicle, the suspect fled, triggering a seven-minute chase before officers caught up and arrested him.

Richard Pollina, Wires

2 confess to hack kill

An Amityville couple confessed in court Tuesday to hacking up two housemates with meat cleavers and scattering their remains across Long Island.

Jeffrey Mackey, 40, was spared a life sentence, instead receiving 22 years behind bars, after he claimed he was abused by the victims, while his girlfriend, Alexis Nieves, 35, landed 11 years as part of plea deals.

The killers confessed to murdering Malcolm Craig Brown, 53, and his wife, Donna Conneely, 59, in the home they shared in 2024. Two other people have pleaded guilty to dumping the remains. *Brandon Cruz*

HOLEY MOLEY!

Wait — what the hole?

Brace yourselves, New York — according to experts, the best bagels are no longer boiled and baked in the Big Apple, but in Texas.

The shock schmear on Gotham's reputation came courtesy of a panel of judges at the 2025 BagelFest, held at Citi Field over the weekend — where Starship Bagel, an upstart from Fort Worth, took top honors over dozens of local greats.

In addition, the People's Choice award at the event — attended by thousands of New Yorkers — went to Baltik's Bagel in Richmond, Va.

Brooklynite Sam Silverman, who founded the festival five years ago, told The Post he stands by the astonishing verdict — and says it's time for New York bagel shops to up their game.

NY challenge

"I think [New York bagel makers] need to be more competitive," said Silverman, 33, noting that too many local joints think they don't even need to attend the event to defend their honor. "Bagel shops from around the city, Long Island and New Jersey need to step it up and put their product to the test. Let's duke it out!"

He did note that one of his local favorites, the Whitestone, Queens-based Utopia Bagels, snagged the top prize last year.

The surprising slight comes amid a recent shift in the New York scene, where brash new entrants like Apollo Bagel draw lengthy lines for their lighter sourdough bagels, a style popularized in cities like Los Angeles.

BagelFest began in 2019 as a semi-small gathering in Bushwick though Silverman said he first cooked up the idea in 2017 when he realized New York City had never hosted a festival of this kind before. Approximately 300 fans got together the first year.

Since then, the event has grown into a comprehensive trade and consumer show. This year, around 2,000 attendees joined in the making, judging and eating of their favorite carb creation.

Recipes ranging from tradi-



CREAMED: Judges at BagelFest (left) in Queens over the weekend rejected a dozen local greats in picking Fort Worth's Starship Bagel (inset) as the maker of the "Best Bagel."

Schmear madness: 'Best bagel' honor to Texas shop

tional favorites to new spins on classics are swapped at the event during live demos and tastings. Bagel-making classes, panel discussions with top industry leaders and networking opportunities are also included.

Additionally, Silverman said, the gathering propels the expansion and funding of established and up-and-coming bagel shops that are awarded each year with some of BagelFest's most significant achievements.

"[In 2021] was the first time we held a Best Bagels competition," the Greenpointer explained. "To

everyone's surprise, a small upstart from Westport, Conn., beat out all these really established shops. It was PopUp Bagels."

Outsiders add variety

PopUp, another shop that has brought a new type of bagel experience to the city, has since gone on to build a cult following and has expanded to scores of locations nationwide.

Mike Varley, a longtime contest judge and creator of Everything-isEverything.NYC, a website where he has reviewed more

than 200 bagel shops across the five boroughs, agrees the growing presence of non-local bagels at BagelFest is a good thing for the NYC bagel scene.

Varley told The Post outsiders often believe: "I'm not trying to be a New York bagel. I'm trying to add to the conversation."

"It's actually great for New York City, because it's not just about, 'Oh, I have this one style,'" Varley continued. "The thing about New York City is, if you can make it here, you can make it anywhere — for anything. The bagels are no exception."

Deserving of your dough

You don't have to go all the way to Texas for a great bagel — here are five of the best NYC bagelries to visit (or revisit!) right now.

▼ **Bo's Bagels:** Uptown newbie that's overtaken much of the classic competition.



■ **Utopia Bagels:** Winner of last year's BagelFest, with multiple shops in Manhattan and Long Island City.

■ **Tompkins Square Bagels:** A trendy downtown favorite that manages to respect local tradition.

■ **Broad Nosh:** Another newer add that manages to keep the classic feel; now has four Manhattan locations.

■ **Ess-a-Bagel:** Too often hit or miss, but when they're on, there are few better than this Midtown staple with multiple locations.

Strike 3 for Don-pardoned con

A New Jersey man who was pardoned by President Trump during the tail end of his first term was imprisoned again Friday for his third fraud conviction.

Eliyahu "Eli" Weinstein, 51, a man who has also used the alias Mike Konig, was handed a 37-year sentence in Trenton.

Prosecutors estimated he milked approximately \$35

million from investors, to whom Weinstein promised access to deals involving dwindling medical supplies, baby formula and first-aid kits intended to be sent to Ukraine, according to his most recent indictment.

US District Judge Michael Shipp also ruled that Weinstein, who was convicted last March, must pay \$44,294,803 in restitution,

according to court documents.

The con artist's prior two convictions, for which he was originally set to serve 24 years in prison, were commuted by Trump on Jan. 19, 2021, his last full day before leaving office.

Trump ordered that Weinstein be released on the measly eight years he'd served. *Caitlin McCormack*



FLUSH WITH CASH:

This solid gold toilet was auctioned at Sotheby's Tuesday.

A \$12M potty of gold

A solid gold toilet that was made by the same controversial artist who duct-taped a banana to a wall sold for a staggering \$12.1 million at a Sotheby's auction on Tuesday.

The 223-pound toilet, dubbed "America" by its provocative maker Maurizio Cattelan, is entirely made up of 18-karat gold and had a starting bid of \$10 million, which matched the current pricing

for the precious metal.

The art, which functions just like a regular toilet and was even installed in Sotheby's New York headquarters for public viewing before the auction, is intended to satirize excessive wealth in the US, Cattelan said.

"Whatever you eat, a \$200 lunch or a \$2 hot dog, the results are the same, toilet-wise," he once quipped.

Caitlin McCormack, Wires

LISTEN NOW

NY POST CAST

Smart, fast, & fearless news

Introducing a bold, new daily news podcast from the New York Post.

The Post's signature mix of politics, business, pop culture, true crime, and everything in between.

10-minute episodes every morning Monday - Friday.



Hosted by Emmy award-winning
journalist **Caitlyn Becker**

NEW YORK POST



nypost.com/ny-postcast

LISTEN AND FOLLOW



Diddy in new LA probe

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department is investigating a new sexual assault claim alleging Sean "Diddy" Combs masturbated on a shirt belonging to late rapper Biggie and tossed it at a music producer.

The sheriff's office received an official copy of a Sept. 20 police report including the allegations from a man in Largo, Fla., on Friday, the department told The Post.

Jonathan Hay told cops that Combs masturbated into a shirt and tossed it on him — while declaring "Rest in peace BIG," the police report said.

The publicist and producer had been working with Combs and Biggie's son CJ Wallace in California in February 2020, the report said.

Hays also said Combs at another time forced his penis in his mouth.

Combs is serving a 50-month sentence after being convicted of transportation to engage in prostitution in July.

He denies any claims of sexual abuse as "false and defamatory," Combs' lawyer said. *Zoe Hussain*

High pilot's chill judge

A former Alaska Airlines pilot who tried to crash flight while off duty and on psychedelic mushrooms won't serve additional prison time, a federal judge ruled.

Joseph Emerson was sentenced Monday to time served and three years' supervised release by Judge Amy Baggio in Portland, Ore., dodging a year in prison sought by prosecutors for the October 2023 incident.

"Pilots are not perfect. They are human," Baggio said. *Zoe Hussain, Wires*



GLAM EYE ON THE SLAM

UGLINESS:

Italian influencer Chiara Ferragni faces jail if convicted in her home country (inset) on charges of fraud for allegedly pocketing charity funds.



Influencer fraud trial

By MARK ELLWOOD

Chiara Ferragni, a wildly glamorous fashion influencer who still boasts more than 28 million Instagram followers, was once a fixture on the Big Apple fashion scene.

At New York Fashion Week, she would post pictures of herself sitting front row at coveted catwalk shows, cozying up to Karlie Kloss and "The Real Housewives of New York City" star Rebecca Minkoff, and using landmarks like the Empire State Building as backdrops in enviable Instagram snaps shared with social-media fans.

And when she donned a crocheted lace Christian Dior dress to marry Italian rapper Federico Leonardo "Fedez" Lucia in 2018, her extravagant wedding at a 19th-century Sicilian palazzo was featured in American Vogue, not to mention observed by a documentary film and reality TV crew.

But the 38-year-old Italian — who used her fame to build a fortune in the millions of dollars — is now facing five years in prison after being indicted on charges of aggravated fraud in her home country.

She already appeared at the Court of Milan for pretrial hearings on Sept. 23 and Nov. 4, with another court appearance set for next Tuesday.

She's been fined \$1.27 million for conning the public into thinking she was selling Christmas treats for charity when the vast bulk of cash was going straight into her pockets (she paid an extra \$1.39 million for a similar scheme

over fake claims that Easter eggs would also underwrite a kids' hospital).

The Italian government went further after those fines, though, charging her with aggravated fraud at a criminal trial this month in Milan. If she's convicted, Ferragni could spend up to five years behind bars. Ferragni has gone from being the darling of Dior, Gucci and Versace, married to a famous rapper and earning up to six figures for a single Instagram post, to divorced, disgraced and seeing her company, Fenice Srl, make a loss of \$6.65 million last year.

Kardashian of Italy

"She's the Kim Kardashian of Italy," Lauren Beeching, a crisis p.r. expert who specializes in sticky situations like this, told The Post. "She's super glamorous, business-minded and commercially unstoppable. At least until now."

However, the prospect of a half-decade behind bars has not stopped the mother of two, who — rather than retreat gracefully until the trial has concluded — swanned around fashion weeks this fall, snapping pics and posting with her usual diligence.

Perhaps a Martha Stewart-style spell in the clink would be the best outcome for everyone, Beeching said.

"The influencer world isn't playing by the rules, and they know they can get away with it," she told The Post. "So this might be a bit of a lesson for everyone."

Targeted oasis of his own voters

STEVE CUOZZO



SOcialism's true believers who cast their ballots for Zohran Mamdani should take note of how the perpetually grinning mayor-to-be thanks them for their votes: with a big, fat kiss-off.

Mamdani coldly blew off lower Manhattanites who overwhelmingly voted for him by taking the wrong side in the long-running dispute over the beloved Elizabeth Street Garden, which City Hall earmarked for demolition until Mayor Adams came to his senses last spring.

Mamdani wants to replace the green oasis with low-income housing.

But Adams, in one of his finest moments, thwarted him by designating the city-owned parcel as a public park — a brave stroke that left Mamdani fuming.



TROUBLE IN PARADISE: Mayor-elect Zohran Mamdani set his sights on the tranquil Elizabeth Street Garden before Mayor Adams protected it.

Stephen Yang

Beware, New Yorkers!

Let it be a wake-up call to woke New Yorkers who sucked up to Mamdani: He repaid the favor by biting them on their commie-coddlng butts.

Residents of the garden's Nolita neighborhood, and of bordering Soho, Greenwich Village and the Lower East Side, swallowed Mamdani's "democratic socialist" malarkey to give him up to 70% in some election districts, according to Board of Elections records. They surely weren't counting on their grinning idol to ruin their modestly sized paradise they spent years fighting to preserve.

The irony would be exquisite if it weren't so infuriating.

The Elizabeth Street garden between Prince and Spring streets has been a beloved neighborhood gathering place since the 1990s when a next-door gallery owner leased it from the city, provided new landscaping and installed a jolly mix of old statues, funky art and seats.

Local organizations that fought to save the garden were an all-star

Mamdani the garden weasel

activist lineup whose names alone conveyed their political and cultural postures.

Among them: Downtown Independent Democrats, Loisaia United Neighborhood Gardens, the Municipal Art Society of New York, the NoHo Neighborhood Association, the Soho Alliance, Earth Justice, Farms Not Arms, Green Guerrillas, the New York City Community Garden Coalition and the Trust for Public Land.

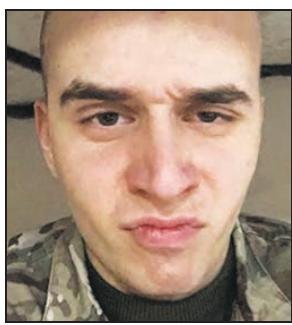
Why would Mamdani run roughshod over community wishes to pave over more green space just to create a whopping 123 apartments, which would do zero to alleviate a citywide scarcity of hundreds of thousands of them?

That he trampled on his enthusiasts came as no surprise in light of his graceless post-victory remarks that were less an "acceptance speech" than a revival of Fidel Castro's anti-western tirades

after his communist brigades took over Cuba.

He can't let a few neighborhood cranks stand in the way of his zeal to "rescue" the poor, irrespective of its ineffectiveness or collateral damage it brings to neighborhoods or to the city as a whole.

So thanks, Eric Adams, for keeping the Elizabeth Street Garden out of his clutches. Too bad he won't be around to save other fine neighborhoods from Mamdani's cruel whims.



CHKHIKVISHVILI
"Hater's Handbook."

Guilty plea in 'Santa' terror plot

A neo-Nazi cult leader has pleaded guilty to plotting a New Year's Eve attack in New York City using a terrorist dressed as Santa Claus dishing out poisoned candy to children.

Michail Chkhikvishvili, 22, known as "Commander Butcher," admitted soliciting hate crimes and providing instructions on how to make bombs and the poison ricin as part of "monstrous plots and propaganda" leading his international Maniac Murder Cult, according to the feds.

The Georgian neo-Nazi — who also inspired mass shooters with his "Hater's Handbook" — pleaded guilty in Brooklyn federal court on Monday after being hauled back to the United States from Moldova to face justice.

He "admitted his vile actions, including recruiting others to commit acts of violence against Jewish and racial minority children," said US Attorney Joseph Nocella Jr. *Anthony Blair*

Max sought in web cat 'kill'

A Bronx judge isn't pussy-footing around with a wannabe rapper accused of butchering a helpless house cat online in a satanic ritual.

David Mosley, 26, who goes by the alias Church of Ububal, may get a plea deal in the social-media stunt — but only if he agrees to the maximum prison sentence on animal-cruelty charges, Bronx Judge Linda Poust Lopez said in court Tuesday.

Under the 2019 reforms passed by lawmakers in Albany, animal cruelty is not eligible for bail. *Georgett Roberts*

Fed up with 'Apprentice girl' crack

The federal prosecutor at the center of former FBI Director James Comey and New York Attorney General Letitia James' criminal cases had a classy clapback for a CNN commentator — who mocked her on air as "one of 'The Apprentice' girls."

Lindsey Halligan, the in-

terim US Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, took aim at Stacy Schneider — a fellow attorney who also notably starred on President Trump's hit reality TV show — for claiming Halligan was nothing more than just a pretty face.

"When women like Stacy

Schneider criticize me based on appearance, it reinforces my belief in supporting and empowering women instead," Halligan told The Post Tuesday. "Attempts by other women to tear us down only strengthens my resolve to lift us up."

Halligan's prosecutions of

Trump foes were the subject of heated debate between Schneider, a New York-based attorney and CNN legal commentator, and conservative panelist Scott Jennings on the network's "NewsNight" Monday.

"You know what's so funny? Lindsay Halligan to

me looks just like Hope Hicks, his former aide from the Trump administration, with the big flowing, long hair and the same kind of makeup and the same look," Schneider said. "She looks like one of 'The Apprentice' girls. It's bizarre."

Josh Christenson

Cruise death twist

Federal authorities may be investigating the stepsibling of the Florida high school cheerleader whose body was found wrapped in a blanket and stuffed under a bed on a cruise ship, a new court filing revealed.

The potential federal probe comes nearly two weeks after Anna Kepner, 18, was discovered dead in her cabin on Nov. 7 during a six-day Caribbean cruise with her family aboard the Carnival Horizon.

In an emergency motion first obtained by The Daily Mail that was filed Monday in Brevard County, Kepner's stepmom, Shauntel Hudson, requested extra time to respond to filings tied to her 2024 divorce.

"Currently there is an investigation being conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigations arising out of the sudden death of eighteen-year-old Anna Kepner," the filing states, noting that Hudson and her children were all on the cruise with the teen and her father, Christopher.

"The respondent has been advised through discussions with the FBI investigators and her attorneys, that a criminal case may be initiated against one of the minor children of this instant action," the filing continued, according to ABC News.

Anna Young

Boy knifed in robbery

Four masked muggers stabbed a 15-year-old boy in a Hell's Kitchen robbery during Monday's evening rush, cops and law-enforcement sources said.

The crew approached the teen around 5:20 p.m. on West 51st Street near 10th Avenue and knifed him twice in the lower back, police said. The thugs grabbed his cellphone and backpack and fled, authorities said.

The victim was rushed to Weill Cornell Medical Center, where he was listed in stable condition, cops said. The muggers are still on the loose, sources said.

Amanda Woods

SHEDDING UGLINESS

New designs for sidewalk scaffolding

CLEARLY BETTER: New sidewalk structures around buildings under repair will feature transparent roofs to let in sunlight and provide a less obstructed view of storefronts.

By NICOLE ROSENTHAL

Mayor Adams on Tuesday unveiled sleek new designs for city sidewalk sheds so radical that pedestrians may not be able to tell they're temporary structures.

The new structures will replace Gotham's long-despised hunter green pipe-and-plywood scaffolding eyesores in a bid to enhance city street aesthetics while also boosting pedestrian safety, proponents said.

"Today marks a major step forward in our mission to reimagine New York City's streetscape," Adams said. "For too long, outdated and cumbersome sidewalk sheds have blocked sunlight, hurt small businesses, and cluttered our neighborhoods," he said.

Six new designs

The new versions of the sheds, crafted by city architecture and design firms Practice for Architecture and Urbanism, and Arup, will be used at construction projects and buildings undergoing



facade work as early as next year.

PAU's Baseline Shed involves a transparent roof angled upward from the building toward the street to let light onto the sidewalk.

The firm's lightweight Speed Shed, for short-term work including emergency repairs, has a similar angled roof with netting.

Its third design, the Wide Baseline Shed, is a heavy-duty model for wide sidewalks and major thoroughfares, and features columns spaced far apart.

Arup's models include the light-

duty, balcony-inspired Air Shed, which is completely lifted off the ground and anchored into a building for facade repair and window-replacement projects.

The firm's lightweight Flex Shed can be modified around street signs, bus stop shelters and unique building structures.

Its Rigid Shed will be used for heavy-duty repair work that involves tower cranes and high-rise construction.

The two firms were hired in February 2024 to develop the "innovative designs" and improve

the current shed model, which is a frequent "source of frequent public complaints," City Hall said.

Sidewalk sheds are mandated under the city's building code and erected to protect pedestrians from falling debris at construction sites and buildings under repair, but the green blights have also posed public safety and crime concerns.

The development comes as the latest installment of the mayor's years-long Get Sheds Down Initiative, which has razed more than 400 long-standing sheds since July 2023, including some that had stood for nearly two decades.

Through a joint study last year with Mastercard, the Adams administration found that sidewalk sheds can cost Manhattan businesses \$3,900 to \$9,500 in consumer spending each month.

Registered design professionals will be able to get permits to use the new shed plans through the same permitting process employed for the old structures.

nrosenthal@nypost.com

Practice for Architecture and Urbanism

Child-sex raps for ex-mayor

A Democratic ex-New Jersey mayor and current police sergeant was arrested Monday for allegedly drugging and sexually assaulting a child he met online, officials said Tuesday.

Jersey City Police Sgt. Andrew LaBruno, 44 — who unsuccessfully ran for a state assembly seat in the Garden State's election earlier this month — went to the Engle-

wood home of a child he met online Monday and sprayed "an unknown substance into his hand" before "placing it over the victim's mouth and nose, causing the victim dizziness," according to a criminal complaint.

LaBruno, a married dad of two who is the former mayor of the Bergen County town of Dumont, then sexually assaulted the child, who was

"physically helpless" from the drugging, all while the victim was home alone, the complaint alleges.

LaBruno, who ran on the Democratic ticket this year for the 39th legislative district in Bergen County, has been charged with aggravated sexual assault, sexual assault and endangering the welfare of a child.

Priscilla DeGregory

Brooklyn 'rapist' flees

A stranger punched and tried to rape a 25-year-old woman in a terrifying Brooklyn encounter over the weekend, cops said.

The perv approached the victim around 11:30 p.m. Sunday at Watkins Street and Livonia Avenue in Brownsville, authorities said.

He slugged her in the face before trying to take off her clothes, police said.

The attacker then bolted — though it was not immediately clear whether the victim fought him off or he fled for another reason.

The victim was hospitalized in stable condition.

NYPD footage shows the creep wearing a green jacket with white sleeves over a black sweatshirt with the hood pulled up.

Amanda Woods

Sally Brompton



Daily Horoscope

DISCOVER MORE ABOUT YOURSELF AND WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS AT
SALLYBROMPTON.COM

♏ SCORPIO
(Oct. 24-Nov. 22)
Tomorrow's new moon in your sign will help you focus on your No. 1 aim and see it through to a successful completion. Don't listen to those who urge caution because they don't know what they are talking about. Follow your instincts all the way.

♐ SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)
You seem to be going back to the future of late and what occurs today will give you the chance to make up for an earlier mistake. It's not often you get a second bite at the cherry, so make sure you get it right this time!

♑ CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)
A creative project seems to have hit a wall and the only way you are going to get past it is by consulting someone who has the expertise that you lack. Getting assistance does not mean you have failed, it means you are smarter than your rivals.

♒ AQUARIUS
(Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
Your responsibilities may be huge at the moment but you must keep on top of them and do what is expected of you. People in positions of power are watching you closely and you will benefit enormously if they like what they see.

♓ PISCES
(Feb. 20-Mar. 20)
Make sure you are aware what the consequences of your actions could be if you make a poor decision. At the very least that will give you a chance to reverse that decision before it costs too much. A fallback plan is always a good idea.

♈ ARIES
(March 21-April 20)
You like being No. 1 and leading from the front but it will pay you to take a backseat

over the next few days. Let other people lead the way and make the mistakes. Learn from what they do wrong and then get it right.

♉ TAURUS
(April 21-May 21)
If you find yourself involved in some kind of feud over the next 24 hours just remind yourself that in the greater scheme of things it is of no importance at all. Let others get angry while you look at life with a clear and untroubled eye.

♊ GEMINI
(May 22-June 21)
You don't lack for good ideas but do you have the drive and determination to do something with them? The message of the stars today is that if you can keep pushing yourself while others are giving up you will soon be the last man standing!

♊ CANCER
(June 22-July 23)
As one of the zodiac's Water signs you are acutely sensitive to both positive and negative vibes and that talent will come in handy today. While others are tying themselves in emotional knots you will be moving ahead with supreme self-confidence.

♊ LEO
(July 24-Aug. 23)
No matter how much you have accomplished so far in 2025 there is still a lot you can do between now and the end of the year, so don't just sit back and let life come to you. Find a new creative objective to pursue.

♊ VIRGO
(Aug. 24-Sept. 23)
The changes that are taking place in the world will go ahead whether you like it or

not, so accept them for what they are and actively look for ways to make them work in your favor. An optimistic outlook will bring hugely positive results.

♊ LIBRA
(Sept. 24-Oct. 23)
Cosmic activity in the financial area of your chart over the next two or three days will give you the chance to put right something you did wrong and in doing so save some serious money. This time, don't be so reckless with the choices you make.

BIRTHDAY WEDNESDAY
Communication is the key to success over the coming year. Make sure everything you say is clear and to the point and insist that others are open and honest with you as well, even when it's possible you might not like what they say.

Post Weather Report

Wednesday

Today: A little morning rain; decreasing clouds. High 44 to 50.

Tonight: Turning cloudy. Low 34 to 40.

Thursday

Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy. High 45 to 51.

Tomorrow night: Low clouds. Low 40 to 46.

Friday

Cloudy, a shower. High 51 to 57.

Evening Partly cloudy. Low 42 to 48.

Saturday

Partly sunny. High 48 to 54.

Evening Partly cloudy. Low 35 to 41.

Almanac

YESTERDAY'S CONDITIONS AT CENTRAL PARK THROUGH 6PM

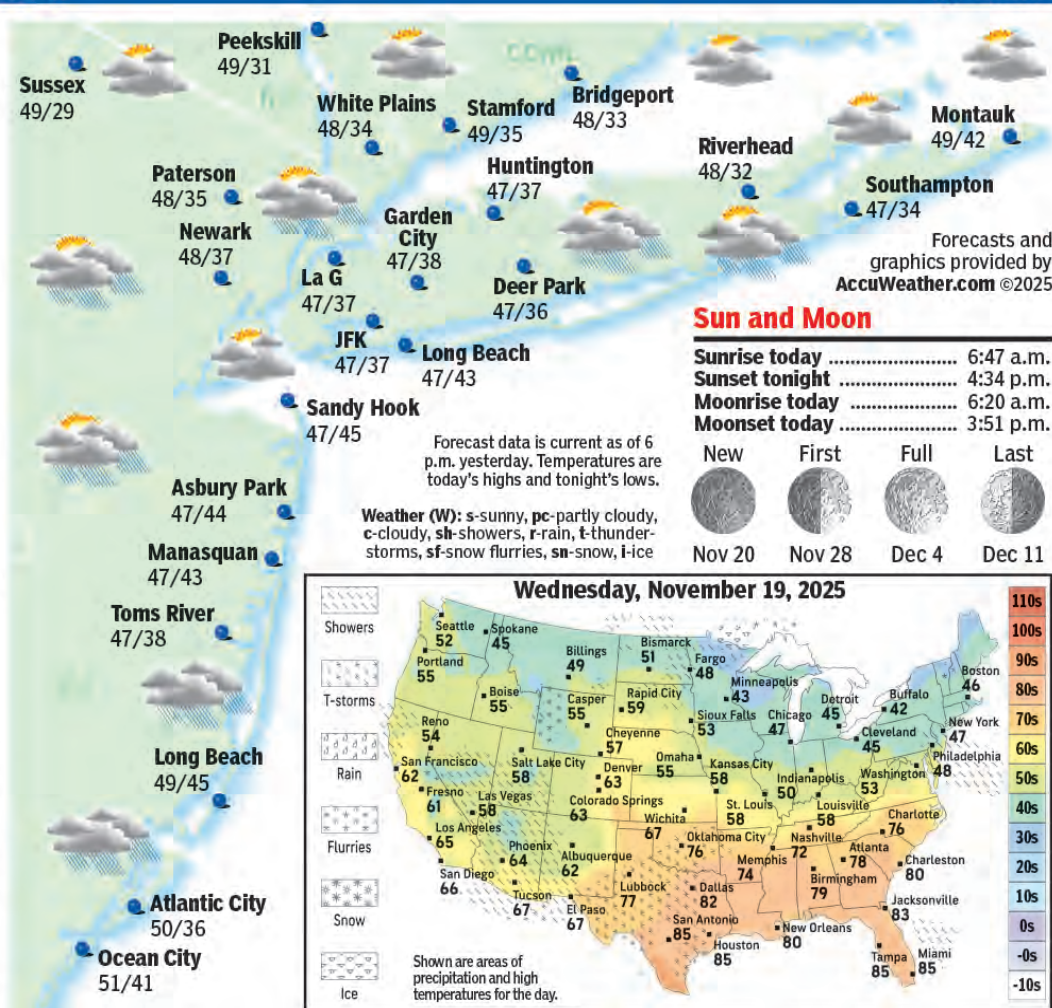
Temperature
High: 45, Low: 37, Mean: 41

Departure from Normal
Yesterday: -6 degrees

Precipitation
Yesterday: 0.00", Month: 0.75", Year: 34.85", Normal year to date: 43.63"

Heating Degree days yesterday24
Total for the month (normal)284 (275)
Total since July 1 (normal)508 (548)
Last season to date.....342
Wind Chill (at noon yest.) 38
UV Index (for Wed.) 1 (Low)
Humidity (at noon) 38%

AIR QUALITY
Pollen: Absent
AQI rating: (for Wed.)Moderate



AccuWeather

Proven Superior Accuracy™
Visit AccuWeather.com

New York Tides	TODAY		TOMORROW	
	1st	2nd	1st	2nd
High Tide for	6:43a	7:03p	7:18a	7:41p
Coney Island	6:52a	7:03p	7:29a	7:40p
Fire Island	10:40a	11:14p	11:04a	11:40p
Hempstead	10:29a	11:02p	11:01a	11:35p
Huntington	6:27a	6:47p	7:02a	7:25p
Jones Inlet	7:56a	8:20p	8:37a	9:02p
Montauk Point	10:49a	11:25p	11:09a	11:50p
Port Washington	6:47a	7:07p	7:22a	7:45p
Sandy Hook				

Regional cities	TODAY		TOMORROW	
Albany	44/26/pc		42/31/c	
Danbury	49/28/pc		48/32/c	
Glens Falls	42/23/pc		42/27/c	
Gr Barrington	44/27/pc		44/31/c	
Kingston	48/28/pc		47/33/c	
Liberty	45/25/pc		43/36/c	
Monticello	45/26/pc		42/30/c	
Newburgh	49/29/pc		48/36/c	
Poughkeepsie	48/27/pc		46/32/c	
Saratoga Springs	43/25/pc		43/32/c	
Stroudsburg	48/30/pc		49/38/c	
Torrington	47/28/pc		45/33/c	
Syracuse	43/28/pc		46/35/c	

World cities	TODAY		TOMORROW	
Athens	73/64/pc		74/66/pc	
Baghdad	80/53/pc		81/51/s	
Beijing	58/35/pc		55/33/s	
Berlin	41/36/c		38/27/pc	
Calro	81/63/pc		82/65/pc	
Dublin	41/30/pc		41/29/s	
Geneva	45/34/c		39/30/sn	
Hong Kong	70/59/c		68/60/pc	
Jerusalem	70/60/s		76/59/pc	
Kabul	64/43/s		60/43/pc	
London	42/29/r		41/33/pc	
Madrid	53/36/pc		51/35/pc	
Mexico City	78/47/s		76/52/s	
Montreal	35/25/pc		35/28/c	
Moscow	35/28/c		34/29/c	
Paris	46/34/r		41/32/s	
Rio de Janeiro	80/68/s		77/67/sh	
Rome	63/51/sh		63/52/c	
Sydney	83/67/s		73/63/t	
Tokyo	58/46/s		58/41/s	

Latinos Lost?

How Republicans can get these voters back

IS President Trump losing the winning coalition he built just a year ago? He's been the subject of premature political obituaries before — but Republicans are worried about signs his gains with Hispanic voters are evaporating.

Trump stunned pundits last year by very nearly winning the Hispanic vote outright: A constituency Democrats had come to take for granted suddenly seemed ready to realign with Republicans. But the numbers from the off-year elections earlier this month tell a different story.

New Jersey townships with high proportions of Hispanic voters shifted heavily to the Democrats in the state's race for governor, according to a New York Times analysis of exit polls. "Nine of the 10 townships that shifted the most toward Democrats from 2024 to 2025 had a Hispanic population of at least 60%," the paper noted.

There's less data on Latino voters in Virginia, but the results there appear tell the same story.

If this is a backlash against immigration enforcement, the GOP is in a bind: That issue is integral to the MAGA agenda and non-negotiable with the base.

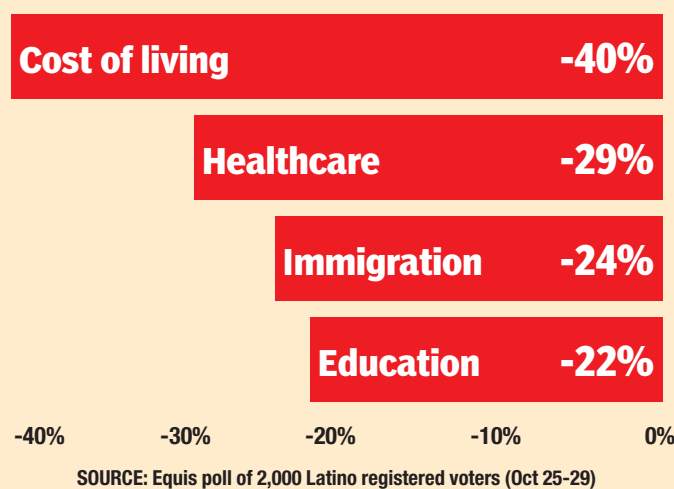
Off-year elections have nothing like the massive turnout of presidential contests, and with fewer people voting, it takes fewer people to produce a big swing. Hispanics moved to the Democrats by significantly bigger margins than other constituencies, but it's possible that the most politically active Hispanics — the most likely to vote even in an off-year — are disproportionately Democratic.

Trump is known for doing exceptionally well with "low-propensity" voters of all backgrounds, who often don't turn up at all if he isn't on the ballot. But it's not only these election results that are sounding the alarm — opinion polling of Hispanic voters also shows their support for Trump plummeting.

The economic concerns weighing on all voters weigh on Hispanics as well, and as a heavily working-class demographic, they may be especially worried by the high price of beef and other staples at the supermarket.

Trump's Hispanic Slump

Latino voters' approval on several major issues declined from 2024 to 2025



A survey by the polling firm Equis, conducted before the elections this month, found Hispanic support for Trump on "cost of living" is 40 percentage points lower now than it was in 2024, the biggest change in his approval levels among this group (by comparison, he's lost 24 points with them on immigration).

Nevertheless, the media spectacle of ICE rounding up Latino illegal immigrants or raiding Hispanic-owned bakeries and other small businesses adds to the strain on the winning coalition Trump built in 2024, even if Hispanic citizens also want to see stronger border enforcement and a crackdown on unlawful migration. The administration has to stand firm on immigration control without unnecessarily alienating the Hispanic voters Republican need — and who've already shown they're willing to give Trump a chance.

One way Trump can do this is by emphasizing that his exertions against illegal immigration aren't only directed at those who come from Latin America.

He also must prioritize — and publicize — the worst offenders, countering the media's tendency to promote only the most sympathetic migrants' stories.

Beyond that, the administra-

tion should reinforce its ties to American Hispanics, particularly those who own small businesses.

It's legacy-media wishful thinking when CNN's chief data analyst Harry Enten says, "Latinos hate Donald Trump" — his overperformance with them in 2024, compared to what all analysts expected, is proof of that. What Trump and other Republicans have to do is show the relationship goes both ways, with Hispanic citizens a vital component of the GOP coalition.

There's no lack of prominent Hispanic leaders in the GOP — some of them, notably Texas Sen. Ted Cruz and Secretary of State Marco Rubio, with presidential aspirations. But what came within a hair's breadth of winning a majority of Hispanics for the Republican presidential ticket last year wasn't running an ethnic candidate, but running a candidate who stood firmly for both immigration restriction and working-class opportunity — Donald Trump.

What Trump did in 2024, the GOP can do again: MAGA is more compelling to Hispanics than the halfhearted compromises Republicans served up in the past. But the GOP can't afford to be tone-deaf — and the new voters Trump has brought in will soon depart if he doesn't do his damndest to keep them.

THE WEEK'S BEST OF **The Babylon Bee**
Headlines from America's satirical news source, babylonbee.com



"Mrs. Obama doesn't seem like the most oppressed person ever, but after analyzing the data, it's clear she is. You'd think it was a coal miner in Appalachia or a child slave in Africa, but nope, it's the woman who had to wear dresses off the rack to attend state dinners when she was First Lady."



Five Guys Now Offering 50-Year Burger Financing

"J. Wellington Wimpy from 'Popeye' simply wanted to pay people Tuesday for a hamburger today," Five Guys CEO Jerry Murrell explained. "This is the same principle. We'll gladly give you a burger today, and you can gradually pay it off for the rest of your life."

Shoe Manufacturers Rush To Design New Nickel Loafers

At publishing time, President Donald Trump had announced that all coins would be phased out, leading to the design of the bitcoin loafer.



Scholars Now Believe Number Of The Beast Is Actually 67

"The number 67 is definitely satanic, all right," said Jake Williams, who owns a gospel preaching radio station in southern Georgia. "A sure and sterling indicator of the great time of suffering to come."



The Epstein Distraction

We're glad to see the House and Senate vote to release the Epstein files — clearing away a *ridiculous* distraction.

Normal Americans will wonder why *this* was a top order of business after 42 days of government shutdown. What the heck is going on in DC? The answer: Democrats pushed this red herring to keep the GOP majority from getting *real* work done.

All for a law that does next to *nothing*.

Rep. Ro Khanna (D-Calif.) and anti-Trump Rep. Thomas Massie (R-Ky.) make all manner of noise about what the files will reveal, yet their measure lets Attorney General Pam Bondi “withhold or redact” material for a range of reasons, including shielding “personally identifiable information of victims” that “would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.”

In June, a Justice Department memo cited “over one thousand victims” to protect in any release. The nation won't see a *full* release of Epstein docs while those victims live — just more of what came out in the 20,000-plus pages released last week: more deeds on mucky-muck slimeballs who were chummy with Epstein, like fabulist author Michael Wolff.

Khanna pretends the files hold scandalous revelations, but that's just a bid to exploit the MAGA factions who screamed *foul* after Bondi and FBI chief Kash Patel announced Epstein *didn't* keep a client list and there was no evidence he “blackmailed prominent individuals.”

It's always been a divide-and-conquer bid to disrupt the Republican majority with a media circus. Epstein, vile as he was, was mainly on the hunt for victims for his own sick pleasure, *not* procuring teens for the rich and powerful (even if the odd prince joined in). No sign has come to light of major sex-trafficking operation — no “client list” nor other smoking-gun document exposing the supposed global pedophile ring.

Those who claim Team Trump is suppressing the docs to protect the prez forget the feds have had it all for *years*. No way the Biden administration sat on *real* dirt as it pulled out every other stop against Trump.

The GOP needs to wake up and stop letting the minority party grind the lawmaking wheels to a halt: Draw a line on this nonsense and get going on tackling the issues the voters actually care about.

A Wrist-Slap for Shameless Killings

If killing a mom and two young children isn't a horrific enough crime to warrant serious punishment in New York, what is?

A Brooklyn judge handed Miriam Yarimi just three to nine years in prison after she pleaded guilty to manslaughter for mowing down Brooklyn mom Natasha Saada and her three kids in March. Natasha, Diana, 7, and Deborah, 5, were killed, while Philip, 4, was critically injured. Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzalez called it “one of the worst collisions” he's seen in his 25-year career.

His office sought a sentence of up to 15 years, which Judge Danny Chen arrogantly ignored — for zero reason: Yarimi has a history of *shamelessly* flouting the laws of the road, earning more than 93 traffic violations, 20 of which are speeding tickets.

She'd long been *routinely* contemptuous of the law and public safety. Indeed, she was driving on a suspended license and *going nearly three times the speed limit* when she

ran a red light on Ocean Parkway and careened into a Camry, sending her Audi flying into Natasha and her children.

After ramming through the young family, Yarimi told first responders that she was “possessed” by the devil, ranting: “I didn't kill anyone. I didn't hurt anyone. Prove it. Show me proof.” *This* is the woman Chen thinks should be out among the unsuspecting general public within as few as three years.

No: She should pay the price for her selfish, lawless actions that cut so short the lives of a young mother and two of her children.

It's flat-out obscene that our political machines install judges like Danny Chen who go beyond New York's too-permissive statutes to *further* encourage lawless contempt for public safety. With soft-on-crime Mayor-elect Zohran Mamdani set to roll back law enforcement even more, we have to wonder how bad things will have to get before the voters finally revolt.

Cheer the Quashing of Chi Ossé

Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez is right: Far-left City Councilman Chi Ossé's bid to unseat House Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries is not “a good idea.”

Per Post sources, the privileged Brooklyn radical launched this challenge against the explicit objections of Mayor-elect Zohran Mamdani, who's focused on pursuing his agenda — *not* a Democratic civil war.

Ossé is an opportunistic twit who quit the local Democratic Socialists of America chapter years ago, saying he was “not aligned with the organization itself” . . . but recently rejoined after Mamdani showed what a force the DSA can be.

Of course, many DSAers *despise* the left-

centrist Jeffries, who only endorsed Mamdani shortly before Election Day and is backing multiple moderate Dems in order to win a House majority next year.

We'd be happy to see the DSA fall into faction-fighting over gunning for Jeffries vs. capturing Rep. Jerry Nadler's seat or ousting insufficiently anti-Israel Rep. Dan Goldman.

Yet it's amusing to watch onetime fire-brand AOC play the responsible stateswoman. And to track Mamdani's attempts to pragmatically work the halls in Albany to fund his \$10 billion first-year plans.

Even if it *does* serve Mamdani's needs, we'll be happy to see him join AOC in squashing the insufferable Ossé.

Is the Spread of Socialism America's Biggest Threat?

THE ISSUE: Increasing support for socialism amid New York City Mayor-elect Zohran Mamdani's win.



Zohran Mamdani

•All of you who smugly vote for socialists should heed Margaret Thatcher's words of wisdom: “The problem with socialism is that you eventually run out of other people's money (“Socialist NYC? Yes we ‘Khan,’” Nov. 15).”

This is the most basic flaw in socialism's economic structure. It will never succeed in New York City or anywhere else.

Betty Schwartz
Livingston, NJ

•It seems that New Yorkers suffer from not knowing history and economics. Too many ignorant people are voting in too many ignorant politicians.

Millions of the illegal immigrants who flooded the United States were escaping from socialism in South America, Central America and Cuba.

Socialism is a system that makes everyone poor except for those in control. Meanwhile, capitalism is the best source of social justice ever devised by man; no other system comes close.

Hopefully New Yorkers can figure this out before their state nearly goes bankrupt again. I don't think the federal government will bail them out this time. **Jay Lindquist**
Great Bend, Kan.

•Today's Gen Z voters do not know what communism or socialism really are. They don't know what the Holocaust and World War II were about. Undereducated voters just know what the word “free” means, and if they don't get it, they will riot.

Michael Shapiro
Massapequa

•Trump says, “If you have a communist running New York, all you're doing is wasting the money you're sending there.”

It's strange he doesn't know the difference between a socialist and a communist. That's like the difference between Bernie

Sanders and Joseph Stalin. Quite a distance between the two, really.

On the other hand, Trump says he likes Chinese communist Xi Jinping “a lot.” My head is spinning.

Kimball Shinkoskey
Woods Cross, Utah

•It must be very confusing for young voters today. They're told that with capitalism, you do as well in life as the effort you put forth, whereas with socialism, everyone receives the same treatment — effort or not — which must seem a lot fairer. What they don't understand is where the money to pay for this comes from.

I guess we'll see how successful Mamdani is as mayor with his plans for a socialist utopia.

Angela Lennox-Kay
Hackettstown, NJ

•It's a sad state of affairs for New Yorkers with Mamdani about to become mayor. Residents are moving out of the city with fears of impending socialism, and Jewish people are applying for gun permits. **Matt Engel**
Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

The BBC: Bad, Biased & Corrupt

•President Trump is threatening to sue the BBC for editing his Jan. 6, 2021 speech to make it look like he incited the violent Capitol riot (“Sorry, not \$orry: BBC to Trump,” Nov. 14).

The Jan. 6 committee, which did similar editing of evidence and withheld evidence to make Trump look bad, should be held accountable next.

Robert Neglia
The Bronx

THE ISSUE: The BBC airing deceptively edited footage of President Trump's Jan. 6, 2021 speech.

•After the BBC's editing of Trump's speech, I want to propose a new name for the vaunted public broadcaster: Big Biased Chatterbox.

David Tulanian
Henderson, Nev.

•The BBC — London's version of NPR, MSNBC and CNN wrapped into

one — was caught editing one of Trump's speeches.

It's ironic that the United Kingdom makes several arrests daily for hate speech, yet officials are “mum” about this slanderous Panorama documentary on Trump.

Thomas De Julio
Delray Beach, Fla.

E-MAIL: letters@nypost.com or **WRITE** to The Editor, The New York Post, 1211 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036. Include name, address and daytime phone number. No unverifiable letters will be published. The Post reserves the right to edit all letters.

The New York Post is published by N.Y.P. Holdings Inc., 1211 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036. Lachlan Murdoch, Chair; Rupert Murdoch, Chairman Emeritus; Sean M. Giancola, Publisher; Keith Poole, Editor-in-Chief; Stephen Lynch, Print EIC; Mark Cunningham, Editorial Page Editor

Minaj Takes a Stand

As Islamists slaughter in Nigeria

NICKI Minaj made her name as a raunchy rapper — but on Tuesday, the iconic superstar put do-nothing diplomats to shame when she picked up a mic at the United Nations to denounce the world's failure to defend religious liberty.

Minaj didn't invent the dirty rap song, but with tracks like "Anaconda" and "Stupid Hoe" she changed the rules for female artists. She ushered in a generation of vulgar songstresses and became a liberal darling for her explicit rhymes about women's sexual equality.

Now she's backing President Trump's efforts to quell the ongoing violence against Christians in Nigeria — and his White House is releasing TikToks with her raps as the backing track.

"Religious freedom means we all can sing our faith regardless of who we are," Minaj said Tuesday, standing alongside US Ambassador Mike Waltz. "In Nigeria, Christians are being targeted, driven from their homes, and killed."

"Churches have been burned. Families have been torn apart, and entire communities live in fear, constantly, simply because of how

they pray."

Minaj, who had a son in 2020, has said her Christian faith guides her — but faith is not something Americans often hear about from their celebrity activists. Instead, these pampered scolds lecture us about oppressors and victims as they seek to create a socialist utopia on earth — and by their lights, Christians can never be victims.

That's why most of the world's humanitarian apparatus has remained silent on the continuing attacks on Nigeria's Christians, who've been slaughtered and terrorized in huge numbers since 2009.

Islamic extremist group Boko Haram has been responsible for much of the violence, along with Fulani herdsman who routinely target Christian farmers.

Just this week, Waltz said, 25 little girls were "ripped out of their school" by gunmen in Nigeria's northwest. And "80% of the violence against Christians worldwide" is happening in Nigeria.

Roman Catholic Bishop Wilfred Anagbe has said the directed targeting of Nigeria's Christians is "nothing short of a Jihad clothed in many names."

Yet when President Joe Biden's



Standing strong: Minaj (l.) and Waltz defended Nigerian Christians at the UN.

administration authorized \$27 million in aid for Nigeria in 2024, he made no mention of the killings of Christians — and spoke only vaguely about the "needs of vulnerable individuals" there.

Other celebrities (ahem, Billie Eilish) complain that billionaires aren't doing enough to fix the world. They offer nothing but criticism, but Minaj is actually using her status to help.

With her influence and her 28 million followers, Minaj has brought vital attention to the continuing violence — in a voice loud enough to drown out the leftist NGOs pretending these

massacres aren't happening.

"She's one of the most followed people in the world," Waltz told Fox News. "She is reaching a whole other swath of people who may not follow these issues." And she's bold enough to brush off the backlash for aligning with Trump.

In October, when Trump posted that "Christianity is facing an existential threat in Nigeria" and denounced the ongoing atrocities, Minaj responded with public thanks. "Reading this made me feel a deep sense of gratitude," she wrote on X. "We don't have to share the same beliefs in order for us to respect each other."

AFP via Getty Images

Some followers lashed out: One claimed that Trump was trying to "weaponize religion so YOUR GAY FANS can be pushed into a corner and silenced." Retorted Minaj: "Imagine hearing the Christians are being MURDERED & making it about you being gay."

Hollywood celebrities have spent months on end complaining about Trump and reveling in their own hysteria. They've devoted countless hours to social-media freak-outs about a nonexistent genocide in Gaza while ignoring the very real carnage directed at Christians.

Meanwhile, the United Nations and organizations like Amnesty International and the International Crisis Group have downplayed the atrocities, claiming "complex drivers," not religious hatred, is causing unrest in Nigeria.

Few groups or nations have stood up for these Christians facing persecution for their faith — until Trump. Western nations seem to have far more interest in upholding the rights of other cultures and faiths than their own.

Minaj — an immigrant, a "proud New Yorker," a global sensation, and now a Trump ally — is not ashamed to stand for faith and freedom.

"Protecting Christians in Nigeria is not about taking sides or dividing people," she said at the UN. "It is about uniting humanity."

Those who have turned their backs on this crisis look like fools in the face of her strength.

Libby Emmons is editor-in-chief at the Post Millennial.

FIGHTING THE WRONG CLIMATE WAR

WESTERN politicians and climate activists are using the jungle backdrop of the poor Amazon city of Belém, Brazil for photo ops as they lecture the world on carbon emissions at the COP 30 climate summit this week.

Leaders from Europe, Australia and Canada, making ever-larger climate promises with ever-emptier rhetoric, ignore the crucial reality that Western actions are no longer central to solving climate change. It's time they recognize that real progress depends on innovation, not increasingly costly restrictions.

For decades, Western governments have made carbon cuts their mission. They've spent trillions pushing electric cars and unreliable wind and solar energy, but their pricey programs are barely making a dent. The global decarbonization rate has stayed roughly constant since the 1960s.

The 2015 Paris Agreement brought no improvement — in fact, global emissions hit a new record high in 2024. Yet climate campaigners unrealistically demand the world *quadruple* its decarbonization rate.

Why are emissions still rising, even though the EU and US spent more than \$700 billion in 2024 on green investments? Because rich-world emissions now matter

less than ever before. While the West dominated carbon emissions in the past, future emissions will overwhelmingly come from China, India and other countries clambering out of poverty. One recent scenario shows that with current policies, just 13% of CO₂ emissions for the rest of this century will come from OECD countries.

So the West's net-zero pledge for 2050 will cost hundreds of trillions, but deliver little. Most likely, these policies will push energy-intensive industries to the rest of the world — as electric-car battery manufacturing has shifted to China's *coal-powered* economy.

Even if the West managed to eliminate *all* its emissions by 2050, the impact on global temperatures would be tiny: a 0.04°F reduction by 2050 and less than 0.2°F by 2100, according to the UN.

Despite this limited relevance, protesters glue themselves to highways in Europe and the United States while largely ignoring China and disregarding India, Africa and the rest of the developing world. Small wonder: Their message of self-sacrifice holds no appeal in countries that urgently need affordable energy for development.

There is a cheaper and more promising alternative: innovation. Throughout history,

humanity has overcome major challenges not by restricting growth, but by inventing better solutions. When smog choked Los Angeles in the 1950s, we created the catalytic converter. When much of the world faced hunger in the 1960s, we developed higher-yield crops.

We now need similar breakthroughs in green energy — yet innovation is precisely what the world is neglecting. In 1980, after the oil shocks, rich countries spent more than 8 cents of every \$100 of GDP on green R&D to find energy alternatives.

But as fossil fuels became cheaper, that investment dropped — and when climate concerns rose, governments funneled funds into subsidizing inefficient wind and solar rather than boosting innovation. By 2023, the rich world spent less than 4 cents per \$100 of GDP — just \$27 billion, under 2% of all green spending — on research.

This must change. The West should increase green-energy R&D to around \$100 billion a year. That relatively modest investment could enable breakthroughs across a broad range of technologies: fourth-generation nuclear, scalable green hydrogen and water purification, next-generation batter-

ies, CO₂-free oil harvested from algae, carbon capture, fusion, advanced biofuels and many others.

None of these promising technologies is efficient — yet — but innovation only needs to make one or a few of them a better deal than fossil fuels. That promises a global solution, whereas Western emissions cuts barely register.

Crucially, innovation costs only a tiny fraction of what today's net-zero plans demand. Instead of pouring resources into subsidies and mandates, we could spend comparatively little to make clean energy inherently competitive. Yet the climate-obsessed politicians negotiating in Belém remain blind to the necessity of green R&D.

President Trump didn't show up at COP30, or even send a representative. Instead, his administration should lead the charge on pragmatic energy policies. His practical influence could rally others toward an affordable path that's far smarter than pouring billions into symbolic gestures.

It's time for the West to recognize its limitations — and pivot from wasteful spending to game-changing tech investments that actually deliver results.

Bjorn Lomborg is president of the Copenhagen Consensus.

BJORN LOMBORG

The Post Puzzle Page

SCRABBLE

Hasbro and its logo, SCRABBLE®, associated logo, the design of the distinctive SCRABBLE brand game board, and the distinctive letter tile designs are trademarks of Hasbro in the United States and Canada. ©2025 Hasbro. All rights reserved. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

A1E1I1G2L1P3L1

A1E1O1D2G2R1C3

A1A1I1W4T1N1R1

A1I1O1Y4B3T1N1

Double Word Score

1st Letter Triple

RACK 1

RACK 2

RACK 3

RACK 4

PAR SCORE 145-155

BEST SCORE 204

FOUR RACK TOTAL

TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

SOLUTION

RACK 1 = 70

RACK 2 = 61

RACK 3 = 62

RACK 4 = 11

TOTAL 204

SCRABBLE

G2R1A1M3S1

TODAY'S ANSWER

SCRABBLE

G2R1A1M3S1

L1D2I1A1N1

L1R1T1T1

I1O1N1O1

P3C3A1B3

PAR SCORE 145-155

Directions:

Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7 Letter words get 50 point bonus. "Blank" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE players Dictionary, 4th Edition.

Bridge

South dealer
N-S vulnerable

NORTH

♠ 7 4

♥ 9 8 3

♦ 6 4

♣ K Q 6 5 3 2

WEST

♠ J 10 9 8 3

♥ J 10 6 4

♦ A 7 3 2

♣ None

EAST

♠ 6 5 2

♥ Q 7 5 2

♦ K 5

♣ A 10 9 8

SOUTH

♠ A K Q

♥ A K

♦ Q J 10 9 8

♣ J 7 4

South

2 NT

West

Pass

North

3 NT

East

All Pass

Opening lead

— ♠ J

©2025 Tribune Content Agency, LLC

Word Force

AMPLIFIED

From the word or phrase above, form **AT LEAST 22** five-letter words, without using more than one form of the same word. For example, drink or drank (not both).

ANSWERS IN TOMORROW'S POST

Yesterday's word:

INVERTING

given

inert

inner

inter

niter

reign

riven

rivet

tiger

tinge

"Why do they call Cy 'the Cynic'?" a new member of my club asked me.

"His partners and teammates always let him down," I said, showing today's deal from a team match.

"Cy was East at one table, and West led the jack of spades against 3NT. Declarer won and led a low club. West threw a diamond, and Cy captured dummy's king and returned a spade. Declarer was sunk. He couldn't use dummy's clubs, and when he went after the diamonds, the defense continued spades and won two spades, two diamonds and a club."

"South should have led the jack of clubs at Trick Two. Then if Cy plays low, South can switch to diamonds for nine tricks; if instead Cy takes his ace and returns a spade, South can win and duck a club effectively."

"Cy was unhappy at being plus 100 points when 3NT was cold?" my friend asked.

"At the other table," I said, "his teammates bid the North-South cards to five clubs, got doubled and were minus 500."

"I begin to understand," our new member said.

Wonderword

How to play: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **Circle their letters only. Do not circle the word.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

WHOOPING CRANES

Solution: 7 letters

E C N A D A N A C I T A U Q A

T O R E S N E E R G R E V E L

T N S A R G N O S E E D S N B

A S T N B A P M A W S T P D E

L E S D A S R D R O E A W A R

P R E R T K I M S X K L I N T

S V R I E R E H A N A L S G A

A A O B O H O S A R L I C E N

K T F L K R T P G T S B O R A

S I F C E N S A A E C H N E I

A O E L E G E C E R L H S D S

R N I D N O I S E F K G I T I

B N O I E G G S T C E S N I U

E R W H I T E R O V I N M O O

N O R T H A M E R I C A L L L

© 2025 Andrews McMeel Syndication

www.wonderword.com

11/19

Alberta, Aquatic, Bill, Bird, Call, Canada, Conservation, Crabs, Dance, Eggs, Endangered, Evergreens, Feathers, Florida, Forest, Hatch, Insects, Lake, Long Legs, Louisiana, Marsh, Nebraska's Platte, Neck, Noise, North America, Omnivore, Park, Rare, Rodents, Seeds, Shoreline, Snakes, Song, Swamp, Tall, Texas, White, Wingspan, Wisconsin

Yesterday's Answer: Attractive

For WONDERWORD apps, books & more, visit Wonderword.com, or call 1-855-232-2367.

POST SUDOKU

To solve a Su Doku, you must put a number from 1 to 9, in each empty box.

Each number must appear once in each horizontal row, as well as in each vertical column and in each of the 3-by-3 grids.

Impossible? Not once you get the hang of it.

Tips and in depth strategies at

www.SudokuWiki.org

PLAY MORE GAMES!

NYPOST.COM/GAMES

Solutions on Page 44

© Syndicated Puzzles

Very Easy #7,102

Difficult #6,892

7

3

1

5

7

6

1

3

7

8

9

5

6

4

1

7

9

8

2

5

4

5

6

2

1

4

8

8

9

6

5

3

8

7

5

3

7

2

4

8

6

1

4

6

2

5

2

8

3

Quick Crossword

Across

1 Debit card feature

5 Petro-Canada rival

9 God, in the Haggadah

15 Frost

16 Flirty growl

17 Swerve dangerously

18 Wildflower with showy red bracts

21 Only

22 MIT Sloan deg.

23 Photoreceptor cell

24 Mockumentary about "one of England's loudest bands"

30 "so fast!"

31 With 1-Down, martial art involving slow movements

32 Leaves partway through

33 Unexpected turn

36 French article

38 Fabrication

39 Line in Hamlet's "To sleep, perchance to dream" soliloquy

43 Peace activist Yoko

44 Sigma follower

45 Ice cream utensil

48 Fairy tale fiends

50 Gravel size

52 Mare's meal

53 Style in a swimming medley

58 Boxer Muhammad

59 Sweets

60 McDonald's magnate Ray

61 Details that make things perfect, and what 18-, 24-, 39-, and 53-Across have

68 Timing of many first steps

69 Ashram adviser

70 Box

71 Good Thinking

72 Cranky state

73 "Get outta here!"

Down

1 See 31-Across

2 Sweets

3 Fault line?

4 Gets too personal

5 "Ready Player One" author Cline

6 Tree goo

7 Most bogged down?

8 Savanna grazer

9 Do something

10 Blot

11 NHL great Bobby

12 Like brain activity

13 Fables

14 With crisp resolution

19 D-backs, on a scoreboard

20 Photographer Goldin

24 Big bang letters?

25 "That shouldn't have been possible!"

26 Holiday weekend retail event, often

27 In a position (to)

28 Hideouts

29 Bog down

34 Curt

35 Article of faith

37 Roofer's tool

40 Followed a standing order?

41 Lewis in the News

42 Fashion style related to luxe grunge

46 Bourbon barrel wood

47 Dec. 31

48 Do a kindness for

49 Liberia neighbor

51 Invite to coffee, say

54 Slugger's stat

55 Viper teeth

56 "Ur not wrong"

57 Is awesome

58 In the distance

62 Apple platform

TEMPS BOB SODS

STOOP TRUE CROC

PAPERCHAIN RAGE

MAORI PUTIN

RED THUNDERBOLT

ITISSO ATO RES

STEP CIRCLE

KATIEBARTHEDOOR

TIAARAS INTO

SOB GRE ASTUTE

CROCHETHOOK SOS

ADULT INNIE

MENU HAMMERLOCK

FACE ALOE USEUP

SLED DAM NERDS

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

(C) 2025 Tribune Media Services

63 Commercial prefix that evokes winter weather

64 Female lobster

65 Three-legged race, briefly?

66 Best guess as to when, initially

67 Matching game with diamonds, squiggles, and ovals

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Jobless rise

The number of Americans filing for new unemployment claims reached 232,000 in the week ending Oct. 18. That's up from 219,000 claims filed during the week ending Sept. 20, the last week for which federal data were released.

\$1B nuke loan

The Trump administration will give Constellation Energy a \$1 billion loan to restart the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant in Pennsylvania, which suffered a partial core meltdown in 1979.

Spirit pay cut

The unions representing Spirit Airlines pilots and flight attendants said they reached an agreement with the company for pay and benefits cuts as the carrier tries to rein in costs as part of its ongoing Chapter 11 restructuring process.

Topgolf deal

Topgolf Callaway Brands agreed to sell a 60% stake in its Topgolf unit to private-equity firm Leonard Green. The deal values the unit at \$1.1 billion.

Roblox repair

Gaming platform Roblox, accused in lawsuits of enabling pedophiles, will require users to verify their age using facial recognition software to chat with other players.

Sources: Reuters, Dow Jones, AP

Follow us on



@NYPOSTBIZ

Warning



Google CEO Sundar Pichai said he sees some "irrationality" driving the artificial intelligence boom and flagged the risk to markets amid a Wall Street debate about whether AI companies are overvalued.

[N]o company is going to be immune, including us.

— Google CEO Sundar Pichai

AI/ hate to burst your bubble

By THOMAS BARRABI

Google boss Sundar Pichai admitted that he sees some "irrationality" driving the artificial intelligence boom and warned that "no company" would emerge unscathed if the bubble bursts.

Pichai — whose company teed up \$93 billion in capital expenditures this year alone as it boosts development of the fledgling technology — flagged the risk to markets amid a raging debate on Wall Street about whether AI companies are overvalued.

"Given the potential of this technology, the excitement is very rational," Pichai said in a BBC interview published Tuesday.

"It's also true, when we

go through these investment cycles, there are moments we overshoot collectively as an industry."

'No immunity'

The Google CEO drew some parallels between current market conditions around AI investment and the internet boom in which valuations of early tech companies soared until the "dot-com bubble" burst in 2000.

"We can look back at the internet right now. There was clearly a lot of excess investment, but none of us would question whether the internet was profound," Pichai said. "I expect AI to be the same. So, I think it's both rational and there are elements of irrationality through a

moment like this."

When asked how Google could handle the potential bursting of the AI bubble, Pichai said the company was prepared but admitted that "no company is going to be immune, including us."

Pichai also spoke glowingly about AI's potential to reshape the economy for the better — even as he acknowledged it was likely to cause labor upheaval including job losses as businesses adopt AI technology.

Tech stocks have been especially volatile during a recent downturn in US markets.

So far, Google has remained resilient, with shares surging more than 50% since the start of the year.

ZUCK'S COURT FAVOR

Meta beats FTC

By THOMAS BARRABI

Mark Zuckerberg's Meta dodged a forced sell-off of Instagram and WhatsApp after beating the Federal Trade Commission's landmark antitrust case on Tuesday — potentially sapping the government's momentum to keep going after Big Tech.

US District Judge James Boasberg, who presided over the bench trial in Washington, DC, federal court, said the FTC failed to prove that Meta held a monopoly over social media sites built on "friends-and-family" connections.

"The Court ultimately concludes that the agency has not carried its burden: Meta holds no monopoly in the relevant market," Boasberg wrote.

The ruling marked a major setback in a long-running campaign by regulators to rein in Big Tech. In September, Google dodged the Justice Department's request to force a sell-off of its Chrome browser despite being dinged by a federal judge as a "monopolist."

Still, Big Tech isn't out of the woods yet, according to Christine Bartholomew, an antitrust expert and professor at the University at Buffalo School of Law.

"I think it would be wrong to say tech antitrust is over," she told The Post. "But hopefully the case will serve as a strong reminder

to the government to take merger analysis seriously."

The ruling affirmed it is "easier to prevent a problem at the merger stage than try to fix a resulting monopoly through post-merger antitrust enforcement," she added.

'Buy or bury'

The ruling capped a five-year legal saga for Meta, which was accused of utilizing a "buy or bury" strategy of acquiring upstart firms before they could threaten its empire.

Facebook bought Instagram for \$1 billion in 2012 and WhatsApp for \$18 billion in 2014.

Earlier this year, Meta argued that it actually faces intense competition from the likes of Google-owned YouTube, TikTok and other social media platforms.

Meta, which called the FTC's case "weak" in the final days of the trial, praised the judge's ruling.

"The Court's decision today recognizes that Meta faces fierce competition," a Meta spokesperson said in a statement. "Our products are beneficial for people and businesses and exemplify American innovation and economic growth."

The FTC said it would review its options in light of the ruling.

Meta shares were down about 1% in Tuesday trading.

DIY delays hurt Home Depot

Home Depot forecast a bigger drop in full-year profit after missing Wall Street estimates for quarterly earnings Tuesday, as tariff-driven economic uncertainty dampened demand for big-ticket renovations and do-it-yourself projects.

The shift in tone from the company comes as executives said that a widely expected pick-up in demand from easing US interest and mortgage rates had failed to mate-

rialize, likely amplifying concerns over a slowing economy.

The world's top home-improvement chain set the ball rolling for a week packed with earnings reports from big-box retailers, including Walmart and Target, as investors track consumer spending ahead of the all-important holiday season amid tariff-driven cost pressures.

Home Depot's shares fell about 6% and those of rival Lowe's de-

clined 2.4%. Lowe's is set to report results Wednesday.

"Company's margin performance remains soft due to increased operating expenses, tariffs on imported goods, rising wages, and logistics costs," said Brian Mulberry, senior client portfolio manager at Zacks Investment Management.

For the third quarter, Home Depot reported net income of \$3.6 billion, down from \$3.65 billion a



year earlier. Sales rose 2.8% to \$41.35 billion. *Reuters*

More Dow 'bubble' trouble

The Dow Jones Industrial Average plunged nearly 500 points, or 1.1%, Tuesday as fears over an AI bubble shook the market and traders fretted that rate cuts from the Federal Reserve aren't a sure thing.

It was the fourth straight decline for the blue-chip index and the S&P 500, which dipped 0.8%. The tech-heavy Nasdaq slid 1.2% as investors panicked over whether AI firms have been overvalued, extending a rocky tech rout into its third week.

Shares in Nvidia fell nearly 3%. The chipmaker is reporting its third-quarter results Wednesday, toward the end of an especially upbeat earnings season.

But "Magnificent 7" tech stocks have dropped amid fears that AI enthusiasm is reminiscent of the "dot-com bubble" of the 1990s and early 2000s.

Amazon, Microsoft and Meta also fell Tuesday.

"All technology revolutions create bubble-like stock price performance — but this bubble is still inflating at a healthy pace with no signs of popping anytime soon," James Denmert, of Main Street Research, said in a note Tuesday.

Investors are looking ahead to the release of Fed minutes Wednesday. The September jobs report is due out Thursday.

Taylor Herzlich

Toyota gets revved ... to go with nearly \$1B investment in US

By TAYLOR HERZLICH

Toyota on Tuesday unveiled a \$912 million investment in US manufacturing, days after CEO Akio Toyoda hosted a red, white and blue NASCAR event in Japan while sporting a Trump-Vance T-shirt and red MAGA hat.

The Sunday spectacle at Toyota's Fuji Speedway featured top drivers, a crowd waving American flags and an appearance from US Ambassador to Japan George Glass, according to Automotive News.

The top Toyota exec nodded to recent US-Japan trade tensions during his bold display of pro-Trump sentiment.

"I'm not here to argue whether tariffs are good or bad. Every national leader wants to protect their own industry," Toyoda said ahead of the endurance race.

"We are exploring ways

Start your hybrid engines



Toyota CEO Akio Toyoda, in MAGA gear at a NASCAR event in Japan over the weekend, announced Tuesday that his company will boost production of hybrid vehicles in the US.

Getty Images

to make tariffs a winner for everyone. The people we want most to be winners are our customers."

Japan is facing a roughly 15% baseline tariff on auto imports, slashed down from 27.5% as part of a

trade agreement in September.

"Start your engines!" Glass' account tweeted Sunday alongside pics of him and Toyoda, who's the grandson of Toyota Motors founder Kiichiro Toyoda.

"Looking forward to celebrating the culture of [US] motorsports again next year" as part of America's 250th-anniversary festivities in Japan, he added.

Toyota, the second-largest seller of new vehicles

in the US behind General Motors, said its nearly \$1 billion investment will ramp up hybrid vehicle production across the southern US.

It's part of a previously announced plan by the Japanese automaker to invest up to \$10 billion in the US by 2030, a project President Trump revealed last month. Most of the investments are expected to be completed by 2027.

Toyota already leads hybrid vehicle production with more than 51% market share through the third quarter of this year, according to Motor Intelligence data. But the company is looking to further increase manufacturing of hybrid-compatible engines and vehicles at certain American facilities.

The single largest piece will be \$453 million toward Toyota's Buffalo, W.Va., plant.

therzlich@nypost.com

P'mount-Mideast denial Lettuce rebrand: Panera

Paramount Skydance rejected a report that it's working with a consortium of Middle Eastern sovereign wealth funds on a \$71 billion offer for Warner Bros. Discovery, calling it "categorically inaccurate."

Variety reported Tuesday that David Ellison's Paramount Skydance is putting together the massive bid in conjunction with Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund, the Qatar Investment Authority and the Abu

Dhabi Investment Authority, citing anonymous sources.

"The information Variety published is categorically inaccurate," a rep for Paramount said in a statement to The Post. "This is a confidential process, which we respect and, as such, will not be commenting until the process is over."

The offer would value WBD at about \$28.65 a share. Shares rose 4.2% to \$23.69. *Alexandra Steigrad*

Panera Bread is readying a multi-million-dollar turnaround strategy, and its chief executive wants less iceberg lettuce in the mix.

The St. Louis-based chain known for its sandwiches and salads is overhauling its menu, operations and decor as part of an effort to reverse years of stagnant sales growth. Among the changes: Many salads will again feature romaine lettuce, after Panera last year

swapped in lower-cost iceberg greens in some of its mixes.

"No one likes iceberg," said Paul Carbone, CEO of Panera Brands, parent company to Panera Bread, Einstein Bros. Brands and Caribou Coffee. The company said that it aimed to boost annual sales to \$7 billion by 2028, from around \$6 billion.

"The guest doesn't dislike us, they just have forgotten about us," Carbone said. *Dow Jones*

Gold losing its \$hine

Gold prices Tuesday plunged to their lowest levels in more than a week on diminishing hopes for an interest-rate cut at the Fed's December meeting.

Gold futures dropped 0.2% to \$4,061.30 per ounce — the fourth straight day of declines. Gold hit its lowest price since Nov. 10 earlier in the session.

"Market participants are pricing out US interest rate cuts following more hawkish comments from Fed officials," UBS analyst Giovanni Staunovo said Tuesday. *Taylor Herzlich*



LUCA DE MEO
CEO outlines vision.

Kering's Gucci factor

Kering's return to growth will require reducing its reliance on struggling flagship Gucci, further scaling back its store network and chasing more synergies, Chief Executive Luca de Meo said in a memo.

"We remain humble," de Meo wrote, saying that his ambition was to "become the undisputed challenger in luxury" in five to 10 years.

Long seen as a threat to its larger French rival LVMH, Kering has been grappling with a double-digit sales decline at its flagship label Gucci while piling up debt through acquisitions.

In the memo, De Meo sets an 18-month timeline to get all brands back on the growth track, while saying that restoring a "top financial performance" will take three years.

It also must cut back on an "overdependency" on Gucci by developing its Saint Laurent, Bottega Veneta and Balenciaga brands. *Reuters*

BeatBox, InBev talks

Bud Light parent Anheuser-Busch InBev is in talks to buy BeatBox, a maker of fruity and highly alcoholic punch and tea drinks, The Wall Street Journal reported Tuesday.

The deal would value BeatBox at around \$700 million and could come together soon, sources said.

Austin, Texas-based BeatBox, known for its brightly colored Tetra Pak boxes with screw caps, was founded in 2011 and has gained traction with younger drinkers.

Dow Jones

SCOLD-MAN SACHS

By LYDIA MOYNIHAN

Days after her name appeared in a tranche of newly released Jeffrey Epstein emails, Goldman Sachs General Counsel Kathy Ruemmler sent a company-wide message that some employees found tone-deaf.

She wrote that "what and how you communicate reflects on you and the reputation of the firm" in a Tuesday memo reminding staffers to complete mandatory training — including a module on "communications at Goldman Sachs."

The message was not well-received by employees who are disturbed that the firm has yet to even acknowledge that its top legal officer had questionable judgment when it came to advising Epstein.

'Under the rug'

"The fact they'd put her name on this after last week's emails ... it's beyond offensive," one insider said.

Sources also said a handful of employees have left Ruemmler's team over the last few months, frustrated over perceptions that the ongoing scandal has seemingly been swept under the rug. A September report in The Wall Street Journal claimed she was close to Epstein and once even named the executor of his estate.

And a 2023 WSJ story said that Ruemmler "had dozens of meetings with Epstein in the years after her White House service and before she became a top lawyer at Goldman Sachs ... [Epstein] also planned for her to join a 2015 trip to Paris and a 2017 visit to Epstein's private island in the Caribbean."

Emails reveal Ruemmler, a former Obama White House attorney who also referred to herself as Epstein's lawyer in one email, had a friendly relationship with the disgraced financier.

She wrote to Epstein on Sept. 19, 2014: "I'll be here all week ... you may get sick of me ..."

After Ruemmler messaged Epstein "Most girls do not have to worry about this crap," he replied: "Girls?," careful I will renew an old habit." Their banter contin-



Chatty Kathy

Goldman Sachs General Counsel Kathy Ruemmler had long ties with disgraced financier Jeffrey Epstein (inset), a background that put some of the bank's employees in no mood to receive her recent message that warned, "What and how you communicate reflects on you and the reputation of the firm."

"It's beyond offensive."

— Goldman insider

Ep-tied lawyer's memo riles bank's staffers

ued for years.

In July 2016, Epstein wrote, "pretty black dress. you and ruth ginsburg." Ruemmler replied, "I like that dress ... narciso Rodriguez. Where did you see that picture? RBG was my date to state dinner."

Also in 2016, Epstein wrote, "do you think Bill Clinton would like to join you me chud and steve? could

be very funny, all off the record." She replied, "While he might like to, his lawyer would advise him against it. :-)."

The emails predate Ruemmler's time at Goldman Sachs, said bank spokesman Tony Fratto.

"Kathy is an excellent general counsel who always serves the firm with integrity ... there is no change

in attrition in that office for any reason.

"As Kathy has repeatedly said, she regrets ever having met Jeffrey Epstein," Fratto told The Post.

Some Goldman staffers were quick to note that others tied to Epstein have publicly had their hands slapped.

Former Treasury Secretary Larry Summers, who was revealed to have exchanged emails and texts with Epstein well after his 2008 guilty plea for sex crimes and up until Epstein's July 2019 arrest on federal child sex trafficking charges, said Monday he is "stepping back from public commitments."

lmoynihan@nypost.com

Houston Chronicle / REUTERS

AI titans triad invest

Three of the biggest companies in artificial intelligence announced a partnership featuring tens of billions of dollars in spending, adding to an investment spree that is aimed at supercharging AI model development.

Under the partnership, Nvidia and Microsoft will invest up to \$15 billion in

Anthropic, a competitor to OpenAI whose models are popular with coders and businesses. Anthropic, in turn, said it would buy \$30 billion of computing capacity from Microsoft Azure running on Nvidia AI systems. The chip titan will also work with Anthropic on design and engineering.

Dow Jones

Fannie, Freddie re-list pitch

Bill Ackman's big plan for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac: Don't do an IPO right now.

The Trump administration for months has been discussing plans to list the mortgage giants' stocks, and the CEOs of the six largest banks in the country have pitched the president to be

a part of the offering.

The billionaire investor has a different idea he pitched to an audience on X Tuesday.

Instead of selling stock, the Treasury should agree to cancel the government's senior preferred shares, and exercise its warrants to purchase nearly 80% of Fannie

Mae and Freddie Mac common stock.

Fannie and Freddie could then move their shares from the over-the-counter market to the New York Stock Exchange, Ackman said.

This re-listing could happen as soon as this year, Ackman said. *Dow Jones*

Classifieds

- CAREERS
- CAREER TRAINING
- BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
- FINANCIAL SERVICES
- REAL ESTATE SERVICES
- MERCHANDISE FOR SALE
- PETS
- AUTOMOTIVE
- LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICE

PLACE AN AD

Email: cloyd@nypost.com

DEADLINES

Monday: Friday 2:30PM
Mon @Work: Friday 2:30PM
Tuesday: Monday 2:30PM
Wednesday: Tuesday 2:30PM
Thursday: Wednesday 2:30PM
Friday: Thursday 2:30PM
Saturday: Friday 2:30PM
Sunday: Friday 2:30PM

PAYMENTS

We Accept
Visa, Mastercard,
American Express,
checks and money orders

The New York Post reserves the right to edit, reclassify, reject or cancel an ad at any time. We can only give appropriate credit, not to exceed the cost of the ad, for one insertion. We are not liable for complete omissions. Any discrepancies must be brought to our attention within 30 days of the first day the ad runs, in order to receive consideration for credit.

Want it sold?

Sell it in the
NEWYORKPOST
Classifieds

Email cloyd@nypost.com

Classifieds

- CAREERS
- CAREER TRAINING
- BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
- FINANCIAL SERVICES
- REAL ESTATE SERVICES
- MERCHANDISE FOR SALE
- PETS
- AUTOMOTIVE
- LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICE

PLACE AN AD

DEADLINES

CLASSIFIEDS

EMPLOYMENT

PROFESSIONAL

Associate, Global Trade Solutions w/ BNP Paribas in NY, NY. Propose/ assess structurl features of trans-actns (acrss receivables optimizatzn, payables extensn, inventory mgmt solutns, structurd trade fin, & documentry & standby ltr of crdit facilities) Positn reqs a Bach deg (US or Foreign Equiv) in Econ, Fin, Bus, or rel field & 2 yrs of exp in trade fin, supply chain mgmt, bankg, or other financl services. Must have 2 yrs of exp w/: Deliver transactn bankg sol-utns focused on liquidity optimizatzn, principally thru trade fin & supply chain mgmt (receivables optimizatzn, payables extensn, inventory mgmnt) prodcts/services for corp clnts w/ internat'l activity; Track recrd of executg complex &/or syndicatd/ distributd trade &/or supply chain mgmt transacts & product enhancemnt initiatives w/in transactn bankg; App of acctg princ-iples & financd statemnt analysi. Conductg peer grp wrking capitl analysi; (gen'l understandg of how such indicators drive compan performance & the relevance of transactn bankg solutns across different sectrs); Understandg & negotiatg legal documentatn. Wrkg w/ crdit rel legal documentatn (credit agreemnts, reimbursemnt agreemnts, receivables purchase agreemnts, paying agency agreemnts, platform service agreemnts, participatn agreemnts, collectn acctnt control agreemnts, etc.); & Draftg prodct memos & correspond w/ var stakeholders/deal teams, & presentg in pitch & clnt meetgs as well as in internl meetgs. Must have 1 yr of exp w/ thorough know of internat'l transactn bankg practices wrking w/ all trade in-strumentts such as SBLCs, guarantees, or documentry Ltrs of Credit as well as internat'l practices (ISP98 or UCP600) governing the use of these instrumentts & operatnl aspects involved in their processg, incl structurl features of such instrumentts/facilities (incl fronting risk). *Telecommuting permitted 20%; wrk may be performed w/in normal commuting distance from the BNP Paribas office in NY, NY. Sal: \$125,000-\$140,000/yr. Qualified Applicants: Apply at https://bwelcome.hr.bnpparibas/su/016beac5e8dc041a

TECH CAREERS

Android Engineer w/ Spotify USA Inc. in NY, NY. Contribute to designg, buildg, evaluatg, shippg, & refing Spotify's product by hands-on Android dvlpmnt. Bach deg (U.S. or foreign equiv.) in Comp. Sci. or rel field & 5 yrs of exp in Android engg or rel occupatn. Must have 5 yrs of exp w/: designing public APIs; use of common tools in Android dvlpmnt incl Gradle, Sonatype nexus Proguard, Android Studio GPU profiler, SQLite; designg & buildg automatd test flows using Junit UI Automator, Espresso, & Roboelectric; & custom w/o dvlpmnt. Must have 4 yrs of exp w/: dvlpng multi global Android apps using Java & Kotlin; & change mgmt w/in a Front Office environmnt; & Projct Mgmt. Must have 2 yrs of exp w/: Lrge scale change mgmt w/in a Front Office environmnt. *Telecommuting per-mitted 40%; wrk may be performed w/in normal commuting distance from the BNP Paribas Securities Corp. office in NY, NY. Sal: \$180,107-\$220,000/yr. Qualified Applicants: Apply at https://bwelcome.hr.bnpparibas/su/d8eab2eb8d7751e0

Associate, Research Analyst w/ BNP Paribas Securities Corp. in NY, NY. Assist the sr analyst on buildg, reviewg & maintaing financd models, analyzg company & industry data, buildg investmnt thesis, & publish-ing investmnt-drivn resrch reports. Positn reqs a Bach deg (US or For Equiv) in Bus, Acctg, Fin, Econ, or rel & 2 yrs of exp in job offered or rel role OR Master's deg (US or For Equiv) in Bus, Acctg, Fin, Econ, or rel & 1 yr of exp in job offered or rel role. Must have 1 yr of exp w/: Analyzg & understandg company financl repots; Usg mkt data tools (Bloomberg); Performg financl modelg, stock analysis & valuatzn in Excel; Producg in depth resrch rptgs & prepg presentatns; Proficient in quant analysi such as financl ratios & valuatzn methds; Acctg know & deep understandg on how the financl statemnts (Bal Sheet, Income Statemnt & Cash Flow) are rel to ea. other; Understandg macroecon trends & its implicatns to the coverage universe; & Provide takeaways & read thrus on relevant Asia compa-nies & China macro news. FINRA Licenses: SIE, 86 (or passing level 1 & 2 of the CFA exam), & 87. *Telecommuting permitted 20%; wrk may be performed in any loc in the U.S. Sal: \$179,088-\$200,000/yr. Qualified Applicants: Apply at https://bwelcome.hr.bnpparibas/su/921ace2109aa6d4

Assistant Vice President – End to End Coordinator w/ BNP Paribas RCC, Inc. in NY, NY. Liaise for SBO's & Mktg As-socs btwn Due Diligence, onboarding/ Recertificatn, Compliance, & Corp Social Responsibility (CSR) to en-hance lv of executn for clnts. Positn reqs a Bach deg (US or For Equiv) in Fin, Bus, Mgmt, Enterprise Risk. Mgmt or rel & 3 yrs of exp in a job offered or a rel. role. Must have 3 yrs of exp w/: the following: wrking in the financl services industry; basic know of global mktts & lifecycle of a trade; basic understandg of reg & tradg documentatn; KYC Know; Anti-Money Laundering Know; Exp w/ supportg problm resolutn or issue spottg for internl systms used by the fin or bankg industry; Client (KYC) onboardg exp; & Client data interpretatn to ensure accuracy of data provided, incl company data (address, industry code, nature of bus, mgmt/brd of directors, source of funds & wealth), registratn data, financd data, MSC exposure data, ownrshp data, & prodct dealt info. *Telecommuting permitted 50%; wrk may be performed w/in normal commuting distance from the BNP Paribas RCC Inc. office in NY, NY. Sal: \$93,390-\$105,000/yr. Qualified Applicants: Apply at https://bwelcome.hr.bnpparibas/su/e1dd7c176e19ac94

Vice President, e-Credit Quant (Multi positns) w/ BNP Paribas Securities Corp. in NY, NY. Function as a Front Office Quant Analyst w/ a focus on products traded in The Americas w/ continuous bus interactn. Positn reqs a Master's deg (US or For Equiv) in Math, Comp Sci, Fin, Financd Engg, Physics, or rel field & 2 yrs of exp w/ job offered or rel role OR Bach deg (US or For Equiv) in Math, Comp Sci, Fin, Financd Engg, Physics, or rel field & 4 yrs of exp w/ job offered or rel role. Must have 2 yrs of exp (or 4 w/ Bach) w/ the following: Exp as a VP (Front Office Quant Analysis) or rel occupatn performg modelizatzn & prog in fin w/in an internat'l bank or internat'l financl svices organizatn. Must have any demonstratd exp (DE) w/ the following: producg productn ready code w/ respect to modelg, pricg tools, fair value, or risk representatn using Python, C++, or Java, in a financl svices environmnt; collaboratg w/ internl clnts to gathr reqs & dvlpt techs & models meeting bus needs; & wrking w/ fixed income products & their risk representatn. *Telecommuting permitted 40%; wrk may be performed w/in normal commuting distance from the BNP Paribas Securities Corp. office in NY, NY. Sal: \$150,000-\$225,000/yr. Qualified Applicants: Apply at https://bwelcome.hr.bnpparibas/su/ca841834d953720f

Designer (New York, NY) - Haddad Apparel Group. Work cross function-ally with Graphic Design, Sales & Merchandising to create & develop seasonal apparel lines while sup-porting overall brand's objective. \$129,605-\$129,605/Year. Apply online at www.haddad.com/careers

To place your ad in the New York Post Classifieds
Email cloyd@nypost.com

Find Your Next Career in the

NEWYORKPOST

Classified Employment Listings

NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

NASSAU COUNTY PUBLIC NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT THE NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE WILL HOLD A MEETING OF THE FULL LEGISLATURE ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2025, AT 1:00 PM FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE BELOW PROPOSED ORDINANCES IN THE PETER J. SCHMITT MEMORIAL LEGISLATIVE CHAMBER, 1ST FLOOR, THEODORE ROOSEVELT BUILDING, 1550 FRANKLIN AVENUE, MINEOLA, NEW YORK 11501. THE FULL TEXT OF THESE ORDINANCES (INCLUDING EXHIBITS, IF ANY) THAT ARE SCHEDULED TO BE HEARD AND VOTED ON BY THE NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE ARE LOCATED AT THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE FOR INSPECTION DURING NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS. COPIES CAN ALSO BE OBTAINED FREE OF CHARGE BY CALLING 516.571.4252 OR VIEWED ONLINE AT WWW.NASSAUCOUNTY.NY.GOV/AGENDACENTER. ORDINANCE NO. 69 – 2025 AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE CAPITAL BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF NASSAU FOR THE FIRST YEAR OF THE FOUR-YEAR CAPITAL PLAN, TO COMMENCE ON JANUARY 1, 2026, PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 310 OF THE COUNTY. 301-25 (PW) ORDINANCE NO. 70 – 2025 AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTAL TO THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE IN CONNECTION WITH THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. 306-25 (OMB) ORDINANCE NO. 71 – 2025 AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTAL TO THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE IN CONNECTION WITH THE POLICE DEPARTMENT. 307-25 (OMB) ORDINANCE NO. 72 – 2025 AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTAL TO THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE IN CONNECTION WITH THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT. 308-25 (OMB) ORDINANCE NO. 73 – 2025 AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTAL TO THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE IN CONNECTION WITH THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY. 309-25 (OMB) ORDINANCE NO. 74 – 2025 AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTAL TO THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE IN CONNECTION WITH THE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT. 310-25 (OMB) ORDINANCE NO. 75 – 2025 AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTAL TO THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES. 311-25 (OMB) ORDINANCE NO. 76 – 2025 AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTAL TO THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE IN CONNECTION WITH THE CORRECTIONAL CENTER. 312-25 (OMB) ORDINANCE NO. 77 – 2025 AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTAL TO THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES. 339-25 (OMB)

NASSAU COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE

NASSAU COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Request for Proposals

RFP No. PW-B90406-02D

The Nassau County Department of Public Works intends to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Design services in connection with the following:

“On-Call” Building Design

The County of Nassau desires to retain a Firm or Firms to provide “On-Call” Building Design Services to the Department’s Division of Engineering. These services may involve, but not limited to, providing study, investigation, engineering, architectural/design/planning, CAD drafting, scheduling, constructability review, design review, surveys for County infrastructure, and other design related tasks on an as needed basis to address a wide variety of potential building improvements or issues.

Sealed Proposals regarding this project are due on or before **3:00 P.M. on Friday, December 19, 2025**, at the location specified within the RFP. **No late proposals will be accepted.**

Please note that this is not the Request for Proposals. An actual copy of the RFP and related Addenda may be obtained here: <https://apex5.nassaucountyny.gov/ords/f?p=533:226>. To access these documents, click on the “Vendor Portal” link.

Vendors doing business with Nassau County, including those responding to this solicitation, must register with the County. The Nassau County Bid Solicitation Boards are open to all registered vendors. Vendors that have not registered are able to view open solicitation opportunities, but they are not able to download solicitation documents or submit bids or proposals.

To complete the registration process, please click on the New Vendor registration link: <https://apex5.nassaucountyny.gov/ords/f?p=CEVM:VREG>

Proposals should only be submitted after careful examination of the complete RFP and its requirements. The selected firm will be required to provide proof of general and professional liability insurance in the minimum amounts of \$2,000,000 in the aggregate and \$1,000,000 per occurrence, respectively.

The proposer shall be required to comply with a good faith effort M/WBE goal and good faith effort minimum of 6% SDVOB goal for this project and with the requirements of Local Laws No. 14-2002, “Participation by Minority Group Members and Women in Nassau County Contracts,” and 2-2016, “Participation of Service-Disabled Veterans in County Contracts.” All Proposers should review the provisions of Appendix EE (included as an attachment to the RFP) which outlines the requirements of Local law No. 14-2002. Technical proposals shall include information regarding the Proposers plan to comply with Local Law No. 14-2002 and Local Law 2-2016. MWBE UTILIZATION PLAN – In accordance with Title 53, Nassau County Local Law No. 14-2002, all Vendors shall submit a MWBE Utilization Plan with their Proposal.

All questions regarding this RFP should be submitted by email, prior to close of business on **Friday, December 5, 2025**, to Valiant Yeung, R.A., at VYeung@nassaucountyny.gov

Dated: November 19, 2025
By: Michael Kwashyn, P.E.
Commissioner of Public Works

QUEENS COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of formation of Samady Sweet Bakery LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 06/05/2025. Office location: Queens County, SSNY designated as an agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Walter T.Mosley: Newyork. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

LLC Formation Notices: All NYS Counties

Place your notice in NYP classifieds.
Email Karen at kinscho@nypost.com

NEW YORK POST

MERCHANDISE

COLLECTIBLES

BUYING BASEBALL CARDS

And All Other Sports Cards, Cert. Memorabilia & Graded Vintage Cards. Prefer Pre-1980
Paying Top Dollar \$\$\$
small or large collections
Call Henry 917-273-2353

NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK: COUNTY OF QUEENS. SPRINGFIELD EQUITY PARTNERS LLC, Pltf v. 171 LIBERTY INC. et al., Defts. Index No. 717077/2020 pursuant to the Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale dated October 11, 2024 and entered on October 21, 2024, I will sell at public auction public auction at the Queens County Courthouse, 88-11 Sutphin Blvd, Jamaica, New York, Courtroom 25 on December 12, 2025 at 11:00 a.m., prem. k/a 122-48 Montauk Street, Queens, New York, (Block 12700, Lot 33) and 122-32 Montauk Street, Queens, New York (Block 12700, Lot 28). Approx. amt of judgment is \$2,803,876.79 together with interest, plus costs, attorneys' fees and interest.
Alan Kestenbaum, Esq., Referee. Jacobowitz Newman Tversky LLP, Attys. for Plaintiff, 377 Pearsall Ave., Ste C, Cedarhurst, NY.

NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

ASSOCIATION FOR ENERGY AFFORDABILITY, INC. (AEA) is inviting contractors/vendors to place their names on our bidders' list for (1) Performing weatherization work in small homes and multiple dwellings and/or (2) Supplying weatherization materials for the same and/or (3) Performing boiler work in 1-4 family homes and multifamily residential. This list will be used to solicit bids for energy conservation improvements that will be performed during our 2025-2026 WAP HEAP/DOE Program Year. Job size typically can range from \$1k-\$60k in small homes and \$5k-\$1,000k in multiple dwellings in locations throughout the Bronx, Queens, and other counties in NYC. Car dealers are also invited to place their names on our bidder's list to solicit bids for trucks, vans, electric and hybrid vehicles. Work/materials will include, but not be limited to: heat pumps for heating and cooling, DHW, refrigerators, electric stoves; window and door replacement and/or repairs, insulation of attics, sidewalls and crawl spaces with cellulose blown in, fiberglass batting and foam; water heater and pipe insulation; heating system supplies including ventilators, thermostatic radiator valves, air valves and handles; low flow showerheads and faucet aerators; caulking and weatherstripping materials and air sealing work; replacement and cleaning and tuning gas and oil fired boilers, burners and water heaters including condensing and direct vent systems, cleaning vertical HVAC, exhaust ventilations system & roof fans; roof repairs and/or replacements, gutters; minor electrical work; photovoltaics and solar thermal installation; painting; hardwire lighting and LED lighting; cleaning and tuning stoves; asbestos removal; air conditioners, and other related weatherization work/materials. Interested contractors must be trained in lead safe work practices and possess insurance covering general, automobile, umbrella, and workers' compensation liability and in some cases, possess pollution occurrence. Projects over \$250k will require bond insurance. Some multifamily projects will require workers to be paid Davis Bacon wages. AEA reserves the right to request a financial statement from any contractor expressing interest in being placed on our bidders' list. AEA's Weatherization Assistance Program is federally authorized and funded through the Dept of Energy and the US Dept of Health and Human Services through an allocation from the NYS. Program is administered by the NYS Homes and Community Renewal, Office of Housing Preservation. There will be multiple solicitations throughout the contract year. Contractors on the bidders' list will be notified of all future solicitations by email. To be placed on these lists, please send a letter of interest describing what services/materials you provide, contact person and email no later than 12/1/25 to: Attn: Wx Dept., Association for Energy Affordability, Inc., 105 Bruckner Blvd, Bronx, NY 10454 or email bvila@aeacleanenergy.org AEA is a non-profit and EEO organization that encourages MWBE and SDVOB to participate. WAP is a federal and state funded grant program to improve energy efficiency and comfort in low-income buildings and houses. Building and homeowners seeking information and qualification for WAP can contact us at (718) 292-6733 x8212.

Thanksgiving Day
Early Deadlines
for Classified!

Publication Date	Ad Deadline
Thurs. Nov.27th to Fri. Nov. 28th	Wed. Nov. 26th 11:00 AM

WE WILL BE CLOSED
on Thursday, November 27th.

NEW YORK POST

Need a tax deduction?
Donate your car!

Place an ad or check out
your options daily in the

NEW YORK POST

Classified
Autos Wanted Listings



PET PLACE

DOGS



MALTESE PUPPIES
Adorable males and females, toy or teacup sizes, shots and papers.
Call 718-306-4136.

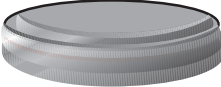
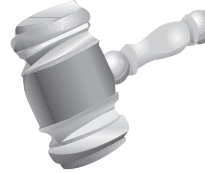


SHIH-TZU PUPPIES
Beautiful Males & Females
Price to Sell
Call 718-306-4136



YORKIE PUPPIES
ADORABLE, pure bred,
toy & teacup sizes.
Call 718-306-4136

Legal
Notices
published
in all NYS
counties.



Place your notice
in NYP Classifieds.

Email Karen at
kinscho@nypost.com

NEW YORK POST

EASTERN CONFERENCE						
Atlantic	W	L	OL*	Pt	GF	GA
Detroit	12	7	1	25	62	62
Boston	12	9	0	24	69	69
Montreal	10	6	3	23	63	66
Tampa Bay	10	7	2	22	59	56
Ottawa	9	6	4	22	64	65
Florida	10	8	1	21	58	59
Toronto	9	9	2	20	70	74
Buffalo	7	8	4	18	56	65
Metropolitan	W	L	OL*	Pt	GF	GA
Carolina	13	5	1	27	70	54
Devils	13	5	1	27	62	57
Pittsburgh	10	5	4	24	62	50
Islanders	11	7	2	24	64	64
Columbus	10	8	2	22	62	65
Rangers	10	9	2	22	53	52
Philadelphia	9	6	3	21	51	51
Washington	9	8	2	20	53	49

WESTERN CONFERENCE						
Central	W	L	OL*	Pt	GF	GA
Colorado	13	1	5	31	78	47
Dallas	12	5	3	27	66	57
Winnipeg	12	7	0	24	64	52
Chicago	10	5	4	24	64	49
Utah	10	7	3	23	62	61
Minnesota	9	7	4	22	56	61
St. Louis	6	9	5	17	55	78
Nashville	6	10	4	16	49	70
Pacific	W	L	OL*	Pt	GF	GA
Anaheim	12	6	1	25	70	60
Vegas	9	4	6	24	60	55
Los Angeles	10	6	4	24	56	57
Seattle	9	5	5	23	51	54
Edmonton	9	8	4	22	63	75
San Jose	9	8	3	21	59	65
Vancouver	9	10	2	20	67	77
Calgary	5	13	3	13	45	67

OL*: Lost in OT (for 1 point)

Tuesday
Tampa Bay 5, Devils 1
Islanders 3, Dallas 2
Vegas 3, Rangers 2
Toronto 3, St. Louis 2, OT
Detroit 4, Seattle 2
Winnipeg 5, Columbus 2
Chicago 5, Calgary 2
San Jose 3, Utah 2, OT
Wednesday
Edmonton at Washington, 7pm
Calgary at Buffalo, 7:30pm
Carolina at Minnesota, 9:30pm
Boston at Anaheim, 10pm

Jets 5, Blue Jackets 2						
Columbus	W	L	OL*	Pt	GF	GA
Winnipeg	1	0	1	2	2	5

First Period: 1, Winnipeg, Lowry 1 (Pionk, Niederreiter), 7:35. 2, Columbus, Wood 5 (Merzlikins, Severson), 18:27. **Penalties:** Provorov, CBJ (High Sticking), 1:37. **Second Period:** 3, Winnipeg, Morrissey 4 (Connor, Scheifele), 1:12. 4, Winnipeg, Pionk 1 (Niederreiter, Nyquist), 15:30 (pp). **Penalties:** Del Bel Belluz, CBJ (Holding), 14:50. **Third Period:** 5, Winnipeg, Connor 11 (Scheifele, Morrissey), 2:45. 6, Columbus, Werenksi 6 (Sillinger, Coyle), 4:04. 7, Winnipeg, Stanley 3 (Schnen, Scheifele), 6:23. **Penalties:** Barron, WPG (Interference), 6:47. **Shots on Goal:** Columbus 11-4-7—22. Winnipeg 11-8-11—30. **Power-play opportunities:** Columbus 0 of 1; Winnipeg 1 of 2. **Goalies:** Columbus, Merzlikins 4-4-0 (30 shots-24 saves). Winnipeg, Comrie 4-1-0 (22-20). **A:** 13,847 (15,321). **T:** 2:29. **Referees:** Cody Beach, Chris Schlenker. **Linesmen:** Bevan Mills, Travis Toomey.

Blackhawks 5, Flames 2						
Calgary	W	L	OL*	Pt	GF	GA
Chicago	1	1	3	5	5	5

First Period: 1, Chicago, Donato 7 (Crevier, Moore), 15:05. **Second Period:** 2, Chicago, Bedard 11 (Rinzell), 15:11. 3, Calgary, Coronato 6 (Kadri, Andersson), 19:32 (pp). **Third Period:** 4, Calgary, Andersson 4 (Klapka, Backlund), 3:02. 5, Chicago, Bedard 12 (Burakovsky, Greene), 4:57. 6, Chicago, Moore 2 (Nazar), 13:04. 7, Chicago, Bedard 13, 19:19 (en). **Shots on Goal:** Calgary 4-7-9—20. Chicago 5-9-9—23. **Power-play opportunities:** Calgary 1 of 4; Chicago 0 of 4. **Goalies:** Calgary, Wolf 5-11-2 (22 shots-18 saves). Chicago, Soderblom 3-2-1 (21-19). **A:** 17,518 (19,717). **T:** 2:39.

Golden Knights 3, Rangers 2						
Rangers	W	L	OL*	Pt	GF	GA
Vegas	1	1	1	3	3	3

First Period: 1, Vegas, Bowman 2 (Hertl, Marner), 11:40 (pp). **Penalties:** Panarin, NYR (Tripping), 11:14. **Second Period:** 2, Vegas, Hutton 1 (Hertl, Dorofeyev), 3:23. 3, Rangers, Brodzinski 2 (Cuyllie), 8:56. **Penalties:** Korczak, LV (Tripping), 12:36. **Third Period:** 4, Vegas, Theodore 2 (Hanifin, Sissons), 7:18 (pp). 5, Rangers, Trocheck 3 (Miller, Panarin), 17:17. **Penalties:** Soucy, NYR (Interference), 5:35. **Shots on Goal:** Rangers 5-6-8—19. Vegas 8-7-11—26. **Power-play opportunities:** Rangers 0 of 1; Vegas 2 of 2. **Goalies:** Rangers, Shesterkin 7-7-2 (26 shots-23 saves). Vegas, Schmid 8-1-2 (19-17). **A:** 18,008 (17,500). **T:** 2:29. **Referees:** Francis Charron, Kyle Rehman. **Linesmen:** Brandon Gawryletz, Kiel Murchison.

Maple Leafs 3, Blues 2, OT						
St. Louis	W	L	OL*	Pt	GF	GA
Toronto	1	1	0	1	3	3

First Period: 1, Toronto, McCabe 3, 5:36. **Penalties:** Buchnevich, STL (Holding), 3:25; Tucker, STL (High Sticking), 16:37. **Second Period:** 2, Toronto, Lorentz 2 (Blais, Ekman-Larsson), 9:32. 3, St. Louis, Dvorsky 3 (Fowler, Thomas), 13:18 (pp). **Penalties:** McCabe, TOR (Tripping), 12:06; McCabe, TOR (Tripping), 15:25. **Third Period:** None. **Penalties:** Maccelli, TOR (Delay of Game), 3:10. **Overtime:** 4, Toronto, Nylander 9 (Rielly, Tavares), 4:06. **Penalties:** None. **Shots on Goal:** St. Louis 4-12-13-0—29. Toronto 10-11-7-1—29. **Power-play opportunities:** St. Louis 1 of 3; Toronto 0 of 3. **Goalies:** St. Louis, Binnington 4-5-4 (29 shots-26 saves). Toronto, Woll 1-1-0 (29-28). **A:** 18,353 (18,819). **T:** 2:32.

Red Wings 4, Kraken 2						
Seattle	W	L	OL*	Pt	GF	GA
Detroit	1	1	0	2	4	4

First Period: 1, Seattle, Eberle 8 (Tolvanen, Beniers), 19:02 (pp). **Penalties:** Edvinsson, DET (Roughing), 17:50. **Second Period:** 2, Detroit, Raymond 6 (Seider, DeBrincat), 1:19. 3, Detroit, Danielson 1 (Appleton, Sandin-Pellikka), 2:04. 4, Seattle, Evans 2 (Wright, Tolvanen), 7:26. 5, Detroit, Finnie 5 (Copp, Danielson), 10:56 (pp). **Penalties:** Nyman, SEA (Interference), 9:37; Montour, SEA (High Sticking), 18:51. **Third Period:** 6, Detroit, Larkin 12 (Raymond, DeBrincat), 19:30 (en). **Penalties:** Chiarot, DET (Slashing), 3:19. **Shots on Goal:** Seattle 11-6-5—22. Detroit 10-10-8—28. **Power-play opportunities:** Seattle 1 of 2; Detroit 1 of 2. **Goalies:** Seattle, Daccord 6-2-3 (27 shots-24 saves). Detroit, Talbot 7-2-0 (22-20). **A:** 0 (20,000). **T:** 2:37. **Referees:** Jake Brenk, Kendrick Nicholson. **Linesmen:** Dan Kelly, CJ Murray.

Sharks 3, Mammoth 2, OT						
Utah	W	L	OL*	Pt	GF	GA
San Jose	0	0	2	0	2	3

First Period: 1, San Jose, Celebrini 11 (Smith, Kurashev), 1:47. 2, San Jose, Celebrini 12 (Graf), 5:58. **Second Period:** None. **Third Period:** 3, Utah, Peterka 7 (Crouse, Cooley), 9:25. 4, Utah, Peterka 8 (Schmidt), 17:09. **Overtime:** 5, San Jose, Celebrini 13 (Smith, Eklund), 2:52 (pp). **Shots on Goal:** Utah 7-7-12-1—27. San Jose 7-9-4-2—22. **Power-play opportunities:** Utah 0 of 2; San Jose 1 of 5. **Goalies:** Utah, Vanecek 2-3-1 (22 shots-19 saves). San Jose, Askarov 6-5-1 (26-24). **A:** 12,101 (17,562). **T:** 2:39.

Islanders 3, Stars 2						
Islanders	W	L	OL*	Pt	GF	GA
Dallas	0	1	2	3	3	2

First Period: None. **Penalties:** None. **Second Period:** 1, Islanders, Ritchie 1 (Pulock, Duclair), 10:31. 2, Dallas, Robertson 10 (Heiskanen, Seguin), 12:26. **Penalties:** None. **Third Period:** 3, Islanders, Horvat 13 (Heineman, Palmieri), 3:12. 4, Islanders, Palmieri 6, 7:38 (sh). 5, Dallas, Robertson 11 (Seguin, Rantanen), 18:01. **Penalties:** Islanders bench, served by Shabanov (High Sticking), 6:48; Horvat, NYI (Misconduct), 6:48; Benn, DAL (High Sticking), 7:52; Schaefer, NYI (High Sticking), 13:08; Robertson, DAL (Hooking), 14:29; Rantanen, DAL (Boarding), 19:32; Rantanen, DAL (Misconduct), 19:32. **Shots on Goal:** Islanders 10-5-7—22. Dallas 10-5-9—24. **Power-play opportunities:** Islanders 0 of 2; Dallas 0 of 3. **Goalies:** Islanders, Rittich 5-2-0 (24 shots-22 saves). Dallas, Oettinger 8-4-2 (22-19). **A:** 18,532 (18,532). **T:** 2:28.

Lightning 5, Devils 1						
Devils	W	L	OL*	Pt	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	0	1	0	1	5	5

First Period: 1, Tampa Bay, Guentzel 9, 11:40. 2, Tampa Bay, Kucherov 9 (Cirelli), 19:38. **Penalties:** Point, TB (Holding), 7:34; Raddysch, TB (Tripping), 13:15. **Second Period:** 3, Tampa Bay, Guentzel 10 (Bjorkstrand, Raddysch), 10:38 (pp). 4, Devils, Hischier 4 (Bratt, Gritsyuk), 17:47. **Penalties:** Noesen, NJ (Roughing), 4:43; Hughes, NJ (Hooking), 9:18. **Third Period:** 5, Tampa Bay, Raddysch 2 (Point, Moser), 4:49. 6, Tampa Bay, Guentzel 11 (Kucherov, Raddysch), 7:48 (pp). **Penalties:** Gritsyuk, NJ (Holding), 6:48; Kucherov, TB (High Sticking), 12:09; Tampa Bay bench, served by Goncalves (Faceoff Violation), 15:04; Nemec, NJ (Interference), 19:16; Douglas, TB (Roughing), 19:16. **Shots on Goal:** Devils 14-13-5—32. Tampa Bay 7-10-12—29. **Power-play opportunities:** Devils 0 of 4; Tampa Bay 2 of 3. **Goalies:** Devils, Markstrom 5-3-1 (29 shots-24 saves). Tampa Bay, Vasilevskiy 7-5-2 (32-31). **A:** 19,092 (19,092). **T:** 2:32.

MLS Playoffs

Conference Semifinals Eastern Conference
Sun., Nov. 23: Miami at Cincinnati, 5pm
Sun., Nov. 23: **NYCFC** at Philadelphia, 7:30pm
Western Conference
Sun., Nov. 23: LAFC at Vancouver, 9:30pm
Mon., Nov. 24: Minnesota at San Diego, 10pm
Conference Final Nov. 29 - Nov. 30
Semifinal winners, TBD
Championship
Saturday, Dec. 6: Conference Final winners, 2:30pm

NWSL Playoffs

Semifinals
Saturday: Washington Spirit 2, Portland Thorns 0
Sunday: **Gotham FC** 1, Orlando Pride 0
Final-at San Jose, Calif.
Sat., Nov. 22: **Gotham FC** vs. Washington Spirit, 8pm

Soccer

FIFA World Cup Qualifying - UEFA
Austria 1, Bosnia & Herzegovina 1
Belarus 0, Greece 0
Belgium 7, Liechtenstein 0
Bulgaria 2, Georgia 1
Kosovo 1, Switzerland 1
Romania 7, San Marino 1
Scotland 4, Denmark 2
Wales 7, North Macedonia 1
FIFA World Cup Qualifying - Concacaf
Costa Rica 0, Honduras 0
Guatemala 3, Suriname 1
Haiti 2, Nicaragua 0
Jamaica 0, Curacao 0
Panama 3, El Salvador 0
Trinidad and Tobago 2, Bermuda 1
FIFA World Cup Qualifying - AFC
Iraq 2, United Arab Emirates 1 (Iraq adv. 3-2 on aggreg.)
International Friendly
United States 5, Uruguay 1

Yonkers Raceway entries

Post time: 6:45 p.m.

FIRST: 1 Mile \$14,000 3-6YO20CLM; PACE					SIXTH: 1 Mile \$17,000 FMW2BNM4PM; PACE				
1	Well That's Marky (Yingras)	7-7.8	9-2		1	FoxValleyShowgal (BHolland)	3-5.3	10-1	
2	Pirates Code (MKakaley)	7-1.1	8-1		2	Lucean (CKelly)	6-3.8	20-1	
3	Americagreatagain (JBrtlett)	3-2.6	2-1		3	Dream Shot (JStratton)	4-4.8	12-1	
4	I'm The Prince (JMarohn)	8-4.2	8-1		4	Beach Babe (Yingras)	1-4.1	7-5	
5	Foxhunt (TButer)	2-3.6	7-2		5	Win With Lynny (MKakaley)	2-1.4	2-1	
6	Over The Horizon (CKelly)	1-1.5	10-1		6	Pap'i's Oppinion (SSmith)	4-7.7	6-1	
7	Aussie Hanover (BHolland)	5-8.2	20-1		7	Shesingredible Deo (TButer)	1-9.4	8-1	
8	Captain T Hanover (DDube)	2-2.3	6-1		8	Qumbell (JMarohn)	2-2.7	20-1	
SECOND: 1 Mile \$17,000 W2BNMT4; TROT					SEVENTH: 1 Mile \$14,000 FM20000CLM; PACE				
1	Six Questions (JBartlett)	2-1.4	5-1		1	ChillinBythePool (ASiegelmn)	5-7.4	12-1	
2	Wish List (JMarohn)	6-2.5	12-1		2	On The Money Gb (CKelly)	5-8.2	6-1	
3	Bless Me Father (MKakaley)	5-3.1	4-1		3	Harper Seelster (DDube)	3-6.7	20-1	
4	You Guesseed It (DDube)	1-1.4	5-2		4	LinemupKnockmbck (JMrhn)	3-2.4	7-2	
5	Eugenio RI It (JStratton)	2-3.1	3-1		5	Big City Daisy (JBartlett)	1-3.5	7-5	
6	Manforce (TButer)	5-4.2	10-1		6	Who's Perfect (Yingras)	8-4.1	5-1	
7	Gillys De Vie (BHolland)	4-3.2	20-1		7	DefiningtheMoment (JStrtrtn)	2-6.3	20-1	
THIRD: 1 Mile \$17,000 W2BNMT4; TROT					8	You Beda Rock (BHolland)	7-5.4	15-1	
1	Seven Layer (BHolland)	3-1.2	9-5		EIGHTH: 1 Mile \$20,000 W5BNMT7; TROT				
2	Big Shot (CKelly)	4-7.2	7-2		1	Sensi Amnesia (BHolland)	1-2.6	5-1	
3	Jakey Jumpup (JMarohn)	6-6.4	20-1		2	Green Mel (TButer)	1-8.2	9-5	
4	Kewpie Doll (JBartlett)	8-3.3	5-2		3	All Too Well (SSmith)	4-1.3	20-1	
5	Bizzy Brenda (SSmith)	4-5.4	8-1		4	Mispanzee (JBartlett)	2-6.3	2-1	
6	Bo Silas (TButer)	2-4.3	4-1		5	First Class Rule (Yingras)	1-7.3	6-1	
FOURTH: 1 Mile \$17,000 FMW2BNM4PM; PACE					6	Sunday's Brunch (JStratton)	5-3.3	8-1	
1	Time To Strike (MKakaley)	3-2.3	5-2		7	Cousin Halifax (MKakaley)	4-7.6	20-1	
2	ShangRiLaHanover (JMarohn)	1-5.4	12-1		8	Incantation (CKelly)	3-2.1	12-1	
3	Millie MayHanover (JBartlett)	6-7.4	8-5		NINTH: 1 Mile \$14,000 20000CLM; PACE				
4	PromisingMoment (BHolland)	5-2.7	15-1		1	DelightfulTerror (ASiegelmn)	7-4.7	15-1	
5	Th Sandra Dee (ASiegelman)	3-3.5	6-1		2	Donitellmenow (TButer)	5-7.8	6-1	
6	Th Rizzo (Yingras)	1-5.3	8-1		3	TovilleSomebeach (BHllnd)	8-1.1	3-1	
7	Bettor's Ticket (JStratton)	6-4.4	10-1		4	Shadow Cat (JBartlett)	4-7.5	5-2	
8	Crystal Coast (DDube)	3-1.3	20-1		5	Family Recipe (JMarohn)	6-6.7	9-2	
FIFTH: 1 Mile \$15,000 25000CLM; PACE					6	Cellmate (Yingras)	1-6.4	5-1	
1	Ilkimebettor A (JStratton)	6-6.2	5-2		7	On Dayboo (DDube)	3-6.8	20-1	
2	C-Bet Hanover (BHolland)	2-4.1	3-1		8	Black Hawk Joe A (CKelly)	2-1.3	20-1	
3	Scrubblers (TButer)	4-6.2	6-1		TENTH: 1 Mile \$12,000 15000CLM; PACE				
4	Karlool Bradley N (JBartlett)	6-1.5	4-1		1	Neyreit (DDube)	1-8.1	2-1	
5	Heave Away (CKelly)	3-5.6	8-1		2	Groick Rock (CKelly)	4-7.2	8-1	
6	Goliath Hanover (Yingras)	2-4.5	5-1		3	Century Iglesias (JStratton)	5-4.4	15-1	
7	My Ultimate StarA(JMarohn)	4-7.6	20-1		4	Thrasher (Yingras)	3-4.7	9-2	
8	Chantee (MKakaley)	7-7.8	20-1		5	Muscle Bart A (TButer)	2-1.3	7-2	
					6	Hoosier Celebrity (BHolland)	4-3.6	10-1	
					7	Dance On TheBeach(SSmith)	2-7.5	20-1	
					8	Deedenuto A (ASiegelman)	6-3.7	20-1	

Yonkers Results

FIRST: mile pace; fm20000clm; purse \$14,000					\$10 Superfecta (1/3/5/7) \$8.93 • \$1 Pick 3 (3/2/1) \$70.70				
TRACK: CONDITION-T OFF: 6:52 TIME-27:0; 57.2; 1:26.1; 1:56.1					SEVENTH: mile pace; nw10000ls; purse \$17,000				
4	EbonyLdy(ASegelm)	10.12	5.46	4.14	TRACK: CONDITION-T OFF: 9:04 TIME-27.3; 56.3; 1:24.4; 1:52.4				
1	PineBushMaga(Plachance)	5.18	5.92		2	Pirny Igga(JBartlett)	2.30	2.10	2.10
2	Cannery Row (C Kelly)		7.24		4	Camara Moment (D Dube)	2.84	2.10	
•	Exacta (4/1) \$36.26 • Triple (4/1/2) \$167.73				1	Night Hawk (Y Gingras)		2.10	
•	\$10 Superfecta (4/1/2/8) \$308.10				•	Exacta (2/4) \$2.45 • Triple (2/4/1) \$3.88 • \$10 Superfecta (2/4/1/5) \$1.25			
SECOND: mile pace; nw15000ls; purse \$19,000					EIGHTH: mile pace; nw20000ls; purse \$23,000				
TRACK: CONDITION-T OFF: 7:12 TIME-28.1; 57.3; 1:25.0; 1:53.2					TRACK: CONDITION-T OFF: 9:25 TIME-27.2; 56.1; 1:24.2; 1:52.1				
1	Levine (J Bartlett)	7.38	2.86	2.36	1	DancnSancho(TButer)	5.98	2.66	2.10
2	Hazeville (B Holland)		2.20	2.10	2	Curly James A (J Bartlett)	2.76	2.10	2.10
5	Benhope Ruiz N (C Kelly)		4.18		5	Jumpingjackmac N (Y Gingras)		2.46	
•	Exacta (1/2) \$6.36 • Triple (1/2/5) \$23.42 • \$10 Superfecta (1/2/5/4) \$5.67 • Daily double (4/1) \$18.43				•	Exacta (1/2) \$6.44 • Triple (1/2/5) \$13.58 • \$10 Superfecta (1/2/5/3) \$5.87 • \$1 Pick 3 (1/2/1) \$15.76			
THIRD: mile pace; fm30000clm; purse \$16,000					Scr: Hickfromfrenchlick.				
TRACK: CONDITION-T OFF: 7:33 TIME-28.0; 56.4; 1:25.2; 1:54.2					NINTH: mile pace; nw75000ls; purse \$15,000				
4	Katies Up (J Bartlett)	5.24	2.98	2.40	TRACK: CONDITION-T OFF: 9:45 TIME-27.2; 56.0; 1:24.2; 1:53.3				
1	YSensationalcty(BHolland)	3.36	2.56		2	Air Guitar (J Bartlett)	38.90	9.00	6.02
5	Kissin Joy (J Stratton)		3.68		4	Pop It (B Holland)	3.60	2.54	
•	Exacta (4/1) \$7.32 • Triple (4/1/5) \$22.07 • \$10 Superfecta (4/1/5/3) \$5.97				5	Surfside Beach (J Stratton)		3.62	
FOURTH: mile pace; fm50000clm; purse \$20,000					TENTH: mile pace; hgw2bn4pm; purse \$17,000				
TRACK: CONDITION-T OFF: 7:52 TIME-27.3; 57.1; 1:25.1; 1:54.1					TRACK: CONDITION-T OFF: 10:07 TIME-28.2; 58.4; 1:27.0; 1:55.3				
3	MissPergnonN(TButr)	13.06	5.22	2.98	6	AlabamALucky(RSchnnttker)	13.92	5.68	2.24
2	Ambushed (A Siegelman)		3.14	2.34	4	Arlrteairlitalrite (T Buter)		3.96	
4	Access Granted (J Bartlett)		2.66		•	Exacta (6/2) \$18.19 • Triple (6/2/4) \$128.48 • \$10 Superfecta (6/2/4/5) \$29.28			
•	Exacta (3/2) \$17.06 • Triple (3/2/4) \$46.65 • \$10 Superfecta (3/2/4/6) \$82.21 • \$1 Pick 3 (1/4/3) \$100.09 • \$1 Pick 4 (4/1/4/3) \$674.50				ELEVENTH: mile pace; nw50000ls; purse \$13,000				
FIFTH: mile pace; hgw2bn4pm; purse \$17,000					TRACK: CONDITION-T OFF: 10:29 TIME-28.3; 58.2; 1:25.1; 1:55.2				
TRACK: CONDITION-T OFF: 8:20 TIME-28.1; 57.4; 1:25.4; 1:53.2					3	TwNBpwrbl(PLchnc)	2.90	2.12	2.10
2	SterlingChoce(JBrtltt)	3.10	2.30	2.10	2	Vici (J Marohn)	4.48	2.64	4.16
4	Lochlan Hanover (T Buter)	4.48	2.68		•	Exacta (3/2) \$4.25 • Triple (3/2/4) \$16.26 • \$10 Superfecta (3/2/4/1) \$3.66 • Late double (6/3) \$3.08 • \$1 Pick 3 (2/6/3) \$69.67 • Pick 4 (1/2/6/3/6) \$552.60			
1	No Tresspassing (C Kelly)		2.46		Scr: Bondi Shake N.				
•	Exacta (2/4) \$5.10 • Triple (2/4/1) \$9.45 • \$10 Superfecta (2/4/1/5) \$3.10 • \$1 Pick 3 (4/3/2) \$39.97				Total Handle-\$494,504.				
SIXTH: mile pace; fm25000clm; purse \$15,000									
TRACK: CONDITION-T OFF: 8:42 TIME-27.3; 57.4; 1:26.1; 1:54.3									
1	Kat (J Stratton)	5.90	2.90	2.24					
3	Stormy Serena (B Holland)	2.36	2.10						
5	Coalfordssnshine Gb (P Lachance)		3.92						
•	Exacta (1/3) \$6.64 • Triple (1/3/5) \$20.62 •								



Puzzles on Page 38

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

Solution to Very Easy #7,102

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

Solution to Difficult #6,892

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic	W	L	Pct.	GB
Toronto	9	5	.643	—
KNICKS				
Philadelphia	8	5	.615	½
NETS				
Boston	8	7	.533	1½
Southeast				
W	L	Pct.	GB	
Atlanta	9	6	.600	—
Miami	8	6	.571	½
Orlando	8	7	.533	1
Charlotte	4	10	.286	4½
Washington	1	12	.077	7
Central				
W	L	Pct.	GB	
Detroit	13	2	.867	—
Cleveland	10	5	.667	3
Chicago	7	6	.538	5
Milwaukee	8	7	.533	5
Indiana	1	13	.071	11½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest	W	L	Pct.	GB
Houston	9	3	.750	—
San Antonio	10	4	.714	—
Memphis	4	11	.267	6½
Dallas	4	11	.267	6½
New Orleans	2	12	.143	8
Northwest				
W	L	Pct.	GB	
Oklahoma City	14	1	.933	—
Denver	10	3	.769	3
Minnesota	9	5	.643	4½
Portland	6	7	.462	7
Utah	5	9	.357	8½
Pacific				
W	L	Pct.	GB	
L.A. Lakers	11	4	.733	—
Phoenix	8	6	.571	2½
Golden State	9	7	.563	2½
L.A. Clippers	4	10	.286	6½
Sacramento	3	11	.214	7½

Minnesota	6	9	.345	4 1/2
Portland	5	7	.462	7
Utah	5	9	.357	8 1/2
Pacific	W	L	Pct.	GB
L.A. Lakers	11	4	.733	—
Phoenix	8	6	.571	2 1/2
Golden State	9	7	.563	2 1/2
L.A. Clippers	4	10	.286	6 1/2
Sacramento	3	11	.214	7 1/2
<u>Tuesday</u>				
Boston 113, Nets 99				
Orlando 121, Golden State 113				
Detroit 120, Atlanta 112				
San Antonio 111, Memphis 101				
L.A. Lakers 140, Utah 126				
Phoenix at Portland, (n)				
<u>Wednesday</u>				
Knicks at Dallas, 9:30pm				
Charlotte at Indiana, 7pm				
Houston at Cleveland, 7pm				
Toronto at Philadelphia, 7pm				
Golden State at Miami, 7:30pm				
Denver at New Orleans, 8pm				
Sacramento at Oklahoma City, 8pm				
Washington at Minnesota, 8pm				
Chicago at Portland, 10pm				
<u>Thursday</u>				
Clippers at Orlando, 7pm				
Atlanta at San Antonio, 8pm				
Philadelphia at Milwaukee, 8pm				
Sacramento at Memphis, 8pm				

NEW YORK POST

BLACK FRIDAY

BIGGEST DEAL OF THE SEASON

50¢ A WEEK
FOR
12 WEEKS

SAVE ON HOME DELIVERY

Visit **NYPPost.com/GetOffer** or call **1-800-552-7678** code: **GetOffer**



Terms & conditions apply. Offer valid for new households that have not had New York Post home delivery in the past 60 days. After the introductory period, your subscription will automatically renew at the then prevailing rate until you cancel. Offer expires 12/1/2025.

The *POST* Line

NFL- Week 12

Favorite	Thursday PTS (O/U)	Underdog
Bills	5.5 (43.5)	TEXANS

Favorite	Sunday PTS (O/U)	Underdog
LIONS	10.5 (49.5)	Giants
RAVENS	13.5 (44.5)	Jets
PACKERS	6.5 (41.5)	Vikings
CHIEFS	3.5 (49.5)	Colts
Patriots	7.5 (49.5)	BENGALS
Seahawks	13.5 (40.5)	TITANS
BEARS	2.5 (44.5)	Steelers
Jaguars	2.5 (47.5)	CARDINALS
LAS VEGAS	3.5 (36.5)	Browns
Eagles	3.5 (47.5)	COWBOYS
SAINTS	1.5 (39.5)	Falcons
LA RAMS	6.5 (49.5)	Buccaneers

Favorite	Monday PTS (O/U)	Underdog
49ERS	7 (48.5)	Panthers

Home team in CAPS

NHL

Favorite	Wednesday Money Line	Underdog
CAPITALS	-104-115	Oilers
SABRES	\$136-164	Flames
Hurricanes	\$136-164	WILD
DUCKS	\$138-166	Bruins

Home team in CAPS

College Basketball

Favorite	Wednesday PTS	Underdog
MICHIGAN	24.5	Mid. Tenn.
PENN STATE	12.5	Harvard
Villanova	10.5	LA SALLE
MARYLAND	19.5	Mt. St. Mary's
UCONN	5.5	Arizona
Wyoming	1.5	SAM HOUSTON
MARQUETTE	5.5	Dayton
CREIGHTON	25.5	North Dakota
OKLAHOMA ST.	4.5	South Florida
TCU	24.5	Umkc
AUBURN	31.5	Jackson State
ILLINOIS	3.5	Alabama
WEBER STATE	2.5	Campbell
SAINT MARY'S (CA)	19.5	Arkansas St.
WASHINGTON ST.	11.5	Southern Utah

Home team in CAPS

College Football

Favorite	Wednesday PTS (O/U)	Underdog
C.I Michigan	7.5 (49.5)	KENT STATE
Miami (Oh)	1.5 (39.5)	BUFFALO

NBA
Wednesday

Favorite	PTS	Underdog
MAVERICKS	OFF	Knicks
76ERS	2.5	Raptors
CAVALIERS	2.5	Rockets
PACERS	1	Hornets
HEAT	OFF	Warriors
TIMBERWOLVES	15.5	Wizards
Nuggets	13.5	PELICANS
THUNDER	OFF	Kings
BLAZERS	OFF	Bulls

Home team in CAPS

College Football

Favorite	Thursday PTS (O/U)	Underdog
ARKANSAS ST.	2.5 (54.5)	Louisiana

Favorite	Friday PTS (O/U)	Underdog
Florida State	4.5 (61.5)	NC STATE
UNLV	2.5 (64.5)	Hawaii

Favorite	Saturday PTS (O/U)	Underdog
Miami (Fl)	17.5 (48.5)	VA. TECH
W. FOREST	17.5 (52.5)	Delaware
OHIO STATE	31.5 (55.5)	Rutgers
SMU	2.5 (53.5)	Louisville
OKLAHOMA	7.5 (42.5)	Missouri
IOWA STATE	4.5 (54.5)	Kansas
N'WESTERN	3.5 (40.5)	Minnesota
ARMY	9.5 (45.5)	Tulsa
GEORGIA	43.5 (52.5)	Charlotte
ARIZONA	6.5 (62.5)	Baylor
J. MADISON	13.5 (42.5)	Washington St.
WYOMING	6.5 (40.5)	Nevada
TOLEDO	27.5 (47.5)	Ball State
Marshall	4.5 (54.5)	APPALACHIAN ST.
South Florida	21.5 (69.5)	UAB
UConn	7.5 (65.5)	FLORIDA ATL.
NOTRE DAME	35.5 (50.5)	Syracuse
TEXAS	8.5 (57.5)	Arkansas
Duke	6.5 (51.5)	UNC
OREGON	9.5 (59.5)	Usc
IOWA	16.5 (42.5)	Michigan St.
E. Carolina	2.5 (62.5)	UTSA
VANDERBILT	9.5 (53.5)	Kentucky
Tulane	7.5 (56.5)	TEMPLE
UTAH	17.5 (53.5)	Kansas State
Michigan	13.5 (45.5)	MARYLAND
HOUSTON	1.5 (54.5)	Tcu
UCF	14.5 (48.5)	Oklahoma St.
S. CAROLINA	23.5 (50.5)	Co. Carolina
PENN STATE	9.5 (44.5)	Nebraska
BOISE STATE	16.5 (44.5)	Colorado St.
New Mexico	3.5 (56.5)	AIR FORCE
GA. TECH	2.5 (61.5)	Pittsburgh
Cal	3.5 (47.5)	STANFORD
N. Texas	18.5 (55.5)	RICE
Illinois	8.5 (40.5)	WISCONSIN
Tennessee	3.5 (57.5)	FLORIDA
LSU	22.5 (50.5)	W. Kentucky
Arizona State	6.5 (48.5)	COLORADO
Byu	2.5 (54.5)	CINCINNATI
SAN DIEGO ST.	12.5 (49.5)	San Jose St.
Washington	10.5 (51.5)	UCLA

Home team in CAPS

Hornets gonna sting
shorthanded Pacers

By DOUG KEZIRIAN

The Indiana Pacers did more than just crush the dreams of Knicks fans last year. They also came within a whisker of winning a championship, losing in Game 7 of the NBA Finals.

That feels like an eternity ago. Not only is Tyrese Haliburton likely out for the season, but other injuries have mounted. Indiana owns the league's worst record at 1-13 overall and just 5-9 against the spread (ATS), which is surprising because Rick Carlisle is widely regarded as an elite coach.

The Pacers host the Charlotte Hornets on Wednesday as one-point favorites with a total of 237.

Eventually Indiana will string together some wins, especially with Bennedict Mathurin recently returning from injury, but I do not think it starts against Charlotte. The Hornets are 4-10 but injuries to stars LaMelo Ball and Brandon Miller have dis-

rupted a season that began with promise.

However, lottery pick Kon Knueppel has delivered right out of the gates. The rookie out of Duke is averaging 17.6 ppg on 46.5 percent shooting to go along with six rebounds. He has fit it in perfectly alongside the ball-dominant Ball.

Ball recently returned, so I firmly believe this version of Charlotte, which is still without Miller, is better than the Pacers with Mathurin and T.J. McConnell returning from injury. They will certainly help, but there is only so much they can do for an offense that ranks dead last in efficiency.

Both teams struggle defensively, ranking in the bottom 10 of efficiency, but I feel the Hornets with Ball, Knueppel and Miles Bridges will have a much easier time generating points.

I have a 77-63-2 ATS record in this Post sports section, pending a Tuesday night play. My next pick is the Hornets +1 at the Pacers on Wednesday.

SPORTS SHORTS

NBA: LeBron makes more history

In Los Angeles, **LeBron James** had 11 points and 12 assists in the first game of his unprecedented 23rd NBA season, and **Luka Doncic** had 37 points and 10 assists in the Lakers' 140-125 victory over the Jazz on Tuesday night.

James, 40, made his season debut in the Lakers' starting lineup and played 30 minutes after missing training camp and their first 14 games due to sciatica. **Vince Carter** is the only other player in NBA history to participate in 22 seasons, but James passed him while opening the next chapter of a pro career that began in 2003.

● Bucks coach **Doc Rivers** said he expects **Giannis Antetokounmpo's** groin strain to keep the two-time MVP out for "probably two weeks."

● In Atlanta, **Cade Cunningham** returned from injury with 25 points and 10 assists as the Pistons won their 11th straight game, 120-112 over the short-handed Hawks.

NHL: Devils struck by Lightning

Jake Guentzel scored three goals for his eighth career hat trick and the Lightning beat the Devils 5-1 in Tampa, Fla.

Nico Hischier scored for New Jersey, which got **Dougie Hamilton**, **Connor Brown** and **Evgeni Dadanov** back in the lineup. **Jakob Markstrom** stopped 24 shots for the Devils, who lost in regulation for the first time since Nov. 2 to end a five-game point streak (4-0-1).

NCAA: UGA to No. 4 in CFP rankings

Georgia nabbed the fourth and final projected first-round bye in the College Football Playoff rankings, while undefeated Ohio State, Indiana and Texas A&M held onto the top three positions.

The Bulldogs rose one spot thanks to Alabama's loss to Oklahoma over the weekend — a result that dropped the Crimson Tide six spots to No. 10 and lifted Oklahoma three notches to eighth.

The top four teams in the rankings released Dec. 7 will receive byes in this season's playoff, which starts Dec. 19 with the 5-8 seeds hosting first-round games on campus and concludes with the title game a month later.

● Ole Miss football coach **Lane Kiffin** disputed a report from The Athletic that the school has given him an ultimatum to decide on his future before the next Rebels game, against rival Mississippi State on Nov. 28, but he did not close the door on the possibility that he could be leaving.

LSU and Florida, two prestigious programs with high-profile openings, reportedly flew his family to Baton Rouge and Gainesville, although he did not travel with them.

HOOPS: Pirates plunder New Haven

TJ Simpkins led Seton Hall with 18 points off the bench in a 68-45 victory over New Haven at Prudential Center. Seton Hall (5-0) took the lead for good 1:19 into the game. The score was 42-28 at halftime, with Simpkins racking up 13 points.

● **Donnie Freeman** scored 18 points and made two late free throws to help Syracuse hold off visiting Monmouth in a 78-73 win.

● In Piscataway, N.J., **Dylan Grant** had 22 points and 11 rebounds, **Tariq Francis** added 19 points and Rutgers held off American University 80-71 to begin a season with a 4-0 record for the first time since 2020-21.

● In New Rochelle, **Toby Harris** scored 13 points as Iona (4-0) beat Princeton 89-69.

Home Team Lineups HOME AWAY

	TODAY November 19	THU Nov. 20	FRI Nov. 21	SAT Nov. 22	SUN Nov. 23	MON Nov. 24	TUE Nov. 25
	Dallas 9:30 MSG, ESPN WHSQ 880 AM	NO GAME	NO GAME	Orl. 5:00 MSG WHSQ	NO GAME	Nets 7:30 MSG WHSQ	NO GAME
	NO GAME	NO GAME	Bos. 7:30 YES WFAN	NO GAME	Tor. 6:00 YES WFAN	Knicks 7:30 YES WFAN	NO GAME
	NO GAME	Col. 9:00 MSG WHSQ	NO GAME	Utah 9:00 MSG WHSQ	NO GAME	St. L. 7:00 MSG 2 WEPN	NO GAME
	NO GAME	Det. 7:00 MSGSN 2 WRHU WRCN	NO GAME	St. L. 3:30 MSGSN WRHU WRCN	Sea. 5:00 MSGSN WRHU WRCN	NO GAME	NO GAME
	NO GAME	Fla. 7:00 MSGSN	NO GAME	Phila. 7:00 MSGSN	NO GAME	Det. 7:00 MSGSN	NO GAME
	NO GAME	Buckn. 7:00 TNT WEPN	NO GAME	NO GAME	NO GAME	Iowa State 4:30 truTV	NO GAME

Sunday		Saturday	
	Conference Semifinals Philadelphia Union 7:30 p.m. TV- Apple TV+		NWSL Championship Washington Spirit 8 p.m. CBS Paramount +

Sunday		Sunday	
	Detroit 1 p.m. TV - Fox Radio- WFAN 660 AM/101.9 FM		Baltimore 1 p.m. TV - CBS Radio - WAXQ 104.3 FM

Today's Sports on the Air

NBA	7 p.m.	Rockets at Cavaliers	ESPN
	9:30 p.m.	Knicks at Mavericks	MSG, ESPN, WHSQ (880 AM)
NHL	7 p.m.	Oilers at Capitals	TNT
	9:30 p.m.	Hurricanes at Wild	TNT
College Basketball	6 p.m.	Women: Coastal Carolina at NC State	ACCN
	6:30 p.m.	Middle Tennessee at Michigan	BTN
	7 p.m.	Arizona at UConn	FS1
	7 p.m.	Villanova at La Salle	CBSSN
	7 p.m.	Women: Delaware State at Fairleigh Dickinson	YES
	7 p.m.	Women: Winthrop at South Carolina	SECN
	7:30 p.m.	Dayton at Marquette	truTV
	8 p.m.	Women: Morehead State at Louisville	ACCN
College Football	9 p.m.	Alabama at Illinois	FS1
	9 p.m.	Jackson State at Auburn	SECN
	7 p.m.	Miami (Ohio) at Buffalo	ESPN2
Tennis	7 p.m.	Central Michigan at Kent State	ESPNU
	10 a.m.	Davis Cup Finals Quarterfinals: Italy vs. Austria	Tennis
Soccer	12:30 p.m.	UEFA Women's Champions League: Manchester United at VfL Wolfsburg	CBSSN
	3 p.m.	UEFA Women's Champions League: Real Madrid at Arsenal	CBSSN
	5:30 p.m.	2025 NWSL Awards Show	ESPN2
Horse Racing	2 p.m.	FanDuel Racing	MSGSN

ODDS & ENDS

MLS PLAYOFFS	
Quarterfinals Saturday LAFC at Vancouver	
3-WAY BETTING	ODDS
Los Angeles FC	+200
Draw	+260
Vancouver Whitecaps	+115
TO ADVANCE	ODDS
Los Angeles FC	+115
Vancouver Whitecaps	-160
Sunday NYCFC at Philadelphia Union	
3-WAY BETTING	ODDS
NYCFC	+280
Draw	+260
Philadelphia Union	-115
TO ADVANCE	ODDS
NYCFC	+155
Philadelphia Union	-225
Inter Miami at FC Cincinnati	
3-WAY BETTING	ODDS
Inter Miami	+125
Draw	+275
FC Cincinnati	+175
TO ADVANCE	ODDS
Inter Miami	-145
FC Cincinnati	+100
LIONEL MESSI PROPS	ODDS
Anytime goal	-145
First goal	+280
Last goal	+280
Scores anytime goal and team wins match	+150
Scores first goal and team wins match	+425
Minnesota United at San Diego FC	
3-WAY BETTING	ODDS
Minnesota United	+375
Draw	+320
San Diego FC	-165
TO ADVANCE	ODDS
Minnesota United	+220
San Diego FC	-325
Odds to win MLS Cup championship	
TEAM	ODDS
Philadelphia Union	+333
Inter Miami	+350
Vancouver Whitecaps	+450
San Diego FC	+500
Los Angeles FC	+600
FC Cincinnati	+800
NYCFC	11/1
Minnesota United	16/1
NHL Calder Trophy favorites	
PLAYER	ODDS
Matthew Schaefer	-230
Ivan Demidov	+260
Beckett Sennecke	35/1
Zeev Buium	50/1
Matthew Wood	55/1

BET SMART

100/1 on USC title may not last long

By MICHAEL LEBOFF

Just when it felt as if the College Football Playoff picture was starting to get settled, it got blown up.

At this time last week, Alabama seemingly was a safe bet to make the dance, but a loss to Oklahoma in Tuscaloosa has put the Crimson Tide under some pressure. They've got Eastern Illinois on deck this week, but a must-win Iron Bowl awaits the Tide in Week 14.

Oklahoma's win vaulted its prospects of making the Playoff from long shot to coin-flip territory, which is bad news for the likes of Notre Dame, Utah, BYU, Miami, Vanderbilt and Georgia Tech.

Adding even more confusion to all of this is the fact that there are 19 Power 4 teams still mathematically alive to win their respective conference.

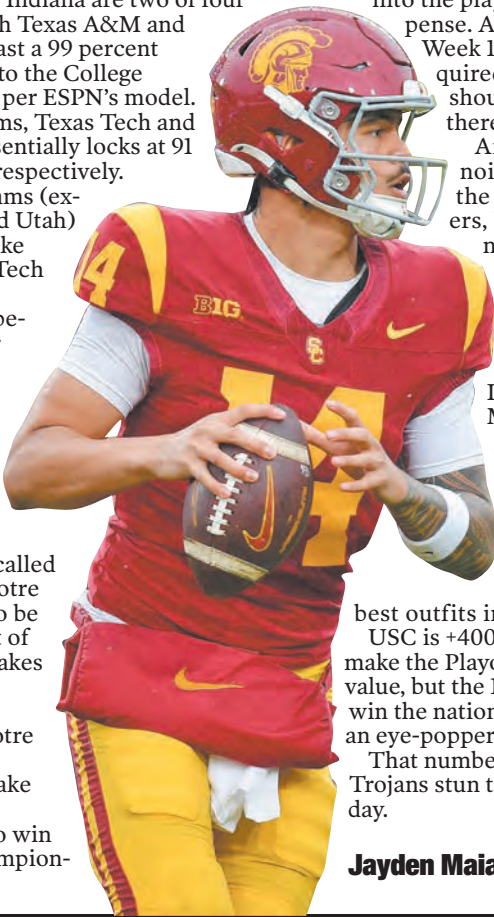
The only conference that seems straightforward is the Big Ten, where Ohio State seems to be on a collision course with Indiana. But that game will almost certainly be largely ceremonial, as the loser of the Big Ten Championship will almost certainly get an at-large bid.

Ohio State and Indiana are two of four teams, along with Texas A&M and Georgia, that boast a 99 percent chance of going to the College Football Playoff, per ESPN's model.

Two other teams, Texas Tech and Ole Miss, are essentially locks at 91 and 89 percent, respectively.

The bubble teams (except for BYU and Utah) will be rooting like crazy for Texas Tech to win the Big 12 Championship, because a win over West Virginia in Week 14 would lock up an at-large bid for the Red Raiders, even if they were to fall in the title game.

One of the so-called bubble teams, Notre Dame, is going to be hard to leave out of the picture if it takes care of business against Syracuse and Stanford. Notre Dame is -2500 at DraftKings to make the CFP, and the fourth favorite to win the national championship.



When you sort through all of this, the likeliest scenario is that there are three at-large bids up for grabs and over a dozen teams with their sights set on them.

And it may be wiser to assume it's just two spots. Alabama is going to be a big favorite over Auburn in the Iron Bowl, and while the Tigers are dangerous, the Tide have been on a completely different level compared to their in-state rival this season.

That leaves two spots among many worthy candidates, including a 100/1 shot that has a real path to the playoff, and more importantly, the upside to make a run if it gets in.

USC may be the most underrated unit in the country. According to SP+, the Trojans grade out as the 13th-best team in FBS, powered by the sixth-best attack. The defense lags behind, but it's still a top 40 unit by most metrics, and that's good enough to play a supporting role behind Jayden Maiava and the high-flying offense.

For USC, the calculus is pretty simple. If the Trojans beat Oregon on the road on Saturday, they will likely get into the playoff at Oregon's expense. A win over UCLA in Week 14 will also be required, but the Trojans should have no issues there.

An early loss to Illinois seemed to cast the Trojans as outsiders, but the Illini are no shrinking violets, and USC's only other defeat came on the road against Notre Dame. Wins over Iowa, Nebraska, Michigan, and hypothetically, Oregon, would be enough to not only get the Trojans an invite but also prove that they're one of the best outfits in the sport.

USC is +400 at DraftKings to make the Playoff, which is fine value, but the 100/1 at FanDuel to win the national championship is an eye-popper.

That number will tank if the Trojans stun the Ducks on Saturday.

Jayden Maiava

Imagn Images

HIGH POINT!

Americans rout Uruguay, continue roll toward Cup



FIVE ALIVE: Sebastian Berhalter celebrates his goal as the USMNT run over Uruguay 5-1 Tuesday. Getty Images

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Alex Freeman scored twice and Sebastian Berhalter and Diego Luna had one goal each as the United States overwhelmed Uruguay with a four-goal first half in a 5-1 win on Tuesday night to head into a World Cup year with a five-game unbeaten streak.

Tanner Tessmann added a 68th-minute goal for the U.S., which scored five times against a South American opponent and a top 30 team for the first time.

The 16th-ranked Americans continued their autumn turnaround after lackluster performances in the CONCACAF Nations League and Gold Cup.

They have just two more games, March friendlies likely against Belgium and Portugal, before coach Mauricio Pochettino selects his World Cup

roster.

Freeman, Berhalter and Tessmann all scored their first international goals as the U.S. got five goals against a team outside the CONCACAF region for the first time since beating Scotland 5-1 in 2012. The Americans have won four games, including three straight, during the five-game unbeaten streak against World Cup-bound teams.

Uruguay's Rodrigo Bentancur was sent off in the 64th minute for a high sliding tackle on Berhalter.

La Celeste, ranked 15th and headed to its fifth straight World Cup, had entered the friendly with a six-game unbeaten streak.

Berhalter, a son of former coach Gregg Berhalter, put the U.S. ahead in the 17th minute off a free kick and Freeman headed in Berhalter's corner kick in the 20th. Freeman added a 31st-minute goal and Luna opened a four-goal lead in the 42nd.

Fielding a starting lineup of mostly backups, the U.S. scored four goals in a half for the first time against a South American team.

Uruguay's Giorgian de Arrascaeta scored on a 7-yard overhead kick in the first minute of first-half stoppage time, his 13th international goal, after goalkeeper Matt Freese and defenders Auston Trusty and Mark McKenzie converged and all failed to clear the ball.

"We need to keep our intensity and our concentration," Pochettino said during an interview with TNT at half-time. "That can't happen. Now we need to control the emotions and control the second half. That is the most difficult thing."

The U.S. went ahead after Manuel Ugarte fouled Haji Wright just to the side of the penalty area. Berhalter exchanged passes with Sergiño Dest and one-timed a shot past goalkeeper Christopher Fiermarin inside the far post.

USA
URUGUAY

5
1

Bradley in running to lead Red Bulls

By CHRISTIAN ARNOLD

It was only 10 days ago that Michael Bradley coached MLS Next Pro side New York Red Bulls II to a championship after taking the helm of the Red Bulls development team in the middle of the season.

Soon enough, Bradley, a U.S. Men's National Team great, could be taking charge of the first team.

One of the first tasks Julian de Guzman — the newly installed Red Bulls head of sport — must address is finding a new head coach, and Bradley is among the candidates being considered, he told The Athletic on Tuesday.

"Absolutely, he deserves to be," de Guzman told the outlet, indicating Bradley was in the mix for the job. "He is somebody who has a very bright future as a wonderful coach in the long run. He's definitely somebody we're looking at."

The Red Bulls parted ways with head coach Sandro Schwarz following the season after the club failed to make the playoffs for the first time since 2009.

The decision came a year after Schwarz led the Red Bulls to an MLS Cup Final appearance against the LA Galaxy.

De Guzman told The Athletic that it wasn't just that Bradley helped coach the second team to an MLS Next Pro Cup title that caught the head of sport's attention.

"I'm very impressed by what he's done. ... Beyond winning MLS Next Pro itself, it's his [playing] style," de Guzman told the outlet. "It's attractive for players, for fans. You can see how calm he is, how he delivers his message to the players. I must say it's refreshing."

Bradley was hired by the Red Bulls in June, and it marked the first head coaching position he's held. He previously coached under his father, former USMNT coach Bob Bradley, in Norway and had a brief stint helping Canadian National Team Coach Jesse Marsch.

carnold1@nypost.com



FOR THE BIRDS: Jermaine Eluemunor, who organized the event with a personal donation, hand out 200 turkeys for needy North Jersey families. Charles Wenzelberg / NY Post

Lending a Giant hand

Eluemunor knows importance of giving

By RYAN DUNLEAVY

Jermaine Eluemunor was proud Tuesday to host a giveaway of 200 turkeys to feed needy families.

Just like he's proud to be part of a Giants offensive line that no longer is considered to be the Thanksgiving birds of the NFL after a blame-filled decade.

"It's going really good, just keep it up," Eluemunor said of the offensive line's play during an otherwise dismal 2-9 season. "We just do what we have to every week to try and win games. I love the guys I get to play with. I feel like the O-line is probably one of the best units on the team just because of the relationships you build and the character. It's a lot of different personalities that come together."

Eluemunor was joined by teammates John Michael Schmitz Jr., Josh Ezeudu, Austin Schlottmann and Reid Holskey at the American Eagle Food Pantry of Northern New Jersey for his second annual turkey drive. His personal donation supplied 200 turkeys along with 200 bags of fixings.

"In times like this, things can be tough and the price of food can be a little high, so to give back and put a smile on their faces is the coolest thing you can do as an athlete, in my

opinion," Eluemunor said. "I know how tough it can be and both my parents worked their butts off to help me get to where I am now, so it was always a plan of mine to make sure I made time to give back to the community."

Eluemunor was born in England before coming to New Jersey for high school. He lived in government housing, which made a story from last year's event stick with him.

"I had this one single mother who came up to me with her little daughter saying how grateful she was because they were going through hard times and it was tight for them," Eluemunor said. "Having an event where they could put food on the table was huge for her. Things like that put everything in perspective for me."

Eluemunor, who is having a career-best year at right tackle for an offensive line ranked No. 11 in the NFL by Pro Football Focus, will be a free agent after the season. He is cherishing his two-year stint near his Denville roots and would like to make his turkey giveaway an offensive-line-wide event in the future.

"This is my home away from home," Eluemunor said. "To be able to give back in the first place I lived in America is a huge thing for me."

Men's College Hoops

- East**
Albany 106, Paul Smith's 57
Boston College 63, Hampton 52
Brown 68, Holy Cross 49
Buffalo 94, Vermont 90
Columbia 54, Boston University 49
Cornell 86, Army 73
Dartmouth 113, Maine-Augusta 68
Delaware 81, Saint Peter's 70
Delaware State 88, Cheyney 70
Drexel 75, NJIT 43
Fairleigh Dickinson 100, Saint Elizabeth 58
Iona 89, Princeton 69
Lehigh 79, St. Francis (PA) 62
North Carolina A&T 79, Morgan State 73
Providence 98, New Hampshire 66
Rhode Island 86, Yale 77
Rutgers 80, American 71
Seton Hall 68, New Haven 45
Syracuse 78, Monmouth 73
- South**
Charleston So. 103, IU Indianapolis 91
Duke 78, Kansas 66
Florida State 87, Tennessee-Martin 73
George Mason 79, Jacksonville 57
Georgia Tech 68, Georgia Southern 66
James Madison 81, Towson 75
LSU 107, Alcorn State 81
Michigan State 83, Kentucky 66
North Carolina 73, Navy 61
Ole Miss 72, Austin Peay 65
South Carolina 87, Radford 58
UNC Wilmington 85, East Carolina 60
- Midwest**
DePaul 93, Gardner-Webb 62
Eastern Michigan 72, Detroit Mercy 62
Iowa 99, Southeast Missouri State 70
Kent State 93, Eastern Kentucky 78
Minnesota 66, Chicago State 54
Northern Iowa 70, Northern Illinois 57
- Southwest**
Arkansas 84, Winthrop 83
SMU 106, Arkansas-Pine Bluff 60
Texas 99, Rider 65
Texas A&M 86, Montana 81
- Far West**
Boise State 62, Wichita State 59
Fresno State 80, Stephen F. Austin 78
Pepperdine 90, New Orleans 79
San Diego 78, Grambling State 68
Santa Clara 64, Idaho State 55
Utah 85, Purdue Fort Wayne 77

Women's College Hoops

- East**
Colgate 60, Cornell 54
Georgetown 77, Sacred Heart 44
La Salle 83, West Chester 50
Penn 55, Norfolk State 50
Pittsburgh 87, Le Moyne 65
Providence 50, Northeastern 45
Quinnipiac 69, Yale 46
UMass 85, UMass Lowell 45
- South**
Kentucky 76, Purdue 35
Ole Miss 73, Memphis 64, OT
Richmond 72, Temple 57
- Midwest**
Illinois 84, Murray State 64
Illinois State 59, Loyola Chicago 44
Kansas State 81, Troy 59
Michigan 120, Binghamton 50
Missouri 81, Southern Illinois 50
Missouri State 69, Georgia Southern 58
Southeast Missouri State 69, Wichita St. 62
- Far West**
Air Force 65, Portland State 55
Colorado 83, Boise State 53
Grand Canyon 76, SMU 60
Montana State 94, UNLV 81
Oregon State 71, Utah State 52
USC 78, Portland 51

2025 CFP Rankings

2025 College Football Playoff Rankings		
Rank	Team	Overall Record
1	Ohio State	10-0
2	Indiana	11-0
3	Texas A&M	10-0
4	Georgia	9-1
5	Texas Tech	10-1
6	Ole Miss	10-1
7	Oregon	9-1
8	Oklahoma	8-2
9	Notre Dame	8-2
10	Alabama	8-2
11	BYU	9-1
12	Utah	8-2
13	Miami	8-2
14	Vanderbilt	8-2
15	Southern California	8-2
16	Georgia Tech	9-1
17	Texas	7-3
18	Michigan	8-2
19	Virginia	9-2
20	Tennessee	7-3
21	Illinois	7-3
22	Missouri	7-3
23	Houston	8-2
24	Tulane	8-2
25	Arizona State	7-3

The four highest-ranked teams determined by the selection committee will be seeded Nos. 1-4 and receive a first round bye. Seeds 5-12 will play each other in the first round.

Libs like Warriors' DeMarco

Strong candidate to be next coach

By MADELINE KENNEY

Warriors assistant coach Chris DeMarco has emerged as a serious contender for the Liberty head coaching job, multiple sources told The Post on Tuesday.

He joins a pool of finalists that includes former Nets assistant Will Weaver, Raptors assistant Jama Mahlalela and Mercury associate head coach Kristi Toliver.

DeMarco, 40, is a four-time NBA champion assistant coach and has more than a decade of coaching experience at the NBA and international levels.

He's spent the past 14 years with the Warriors, working his way up from video coordinator to his current role as an assistant on Steve Kerr's staff.

He runs the Warriors defense, which is currently ranked in the top seven in the league.

In 2019, DeMarco was appointed head coach of the Bahamian men's national team.

Under DeMarco's guidance, the Bahamian men's team, featuring Buddy Hield, Eric Gordon and Deandre Ayton, won the 2023 Olympic Pre-Qualifiers in South America. DeMarco also had them one win away from earning a spot in the Paris 2024 Games, a massive accomplishment for a low-resource program that has yet to compete on the Olympic stage in its history.

DeMarco is billed as more of a defensive-minded and player-development coach, but he's experienced with modern offensive styles that prioritize space, player movement and favors skill versatility. He's spent years studying how opponents guard Stephen Curry.

DeMarco has also worked closely with dozens of players, including Klay Thompson and Jordan Poole, and was credited with helping Poole have his breakout season during the team's 2022 title run. His championship pedigree, paired with his ex-



GIVE HIM LIBERTY? Warriors assistant coach Chris DeMarco just might have inside track to become the Liberty's next head coach. *Getty Images*

perience seeing the integration of stars, including Kevin Durant, Chris Paul and Jimmy Butler, into a team could serve him well in a job like the Liberty, who are loaded with talent.

The Liberty's search for Sandy Brondello's replacement has entered its eighth week. It's the league's only remaining opening.

The process has included a vast pool of candidates who've gone through multiple rounds of interviews and exercises.

Whomever GM Jonathan Kolb picks to lead the franchise into its next chapter will be put into a win-now

situation, with sky-high expectations.

Brondello's departure was due to multiple irreconcilable differences, including rotation patterns and play style that were exacerbated by the Liberty's injury woes and inconsistency issues this past season. The partnership and trust between Brondello and the front office also eroded as time went on.

The Liberty have prioritized candidates with NBA backgrounds and modern, innovative views on the game.

mkenney@nypost.com

Dëmin placed on the bench before run

By DAN MARTIN

Egor Dëmin was part of a starting unit that Jordi Fernández sat in the third quarter and the Nets responded by having their second team get them back in a game they ultimately lost to the Celtics 113-99.

But Fernández insisted he wasn't singling out the rookie guard, whose struggles on defense were on display again Tuesday at Barclays Center.

Fernández wasn't discouraged that Dëmin scored all 12 of his points in the first half and was part of an offense that wasn't as crisp after half-time.

NETS NOTES

"Mistakes are fine," Fernández said of Dëmin's play late in the game. "I'm happy with the mistakes. I'm happy with the way he played. I wanted him to be aggressive, to keep taking shots and challenge himself defensively."

Dëmin is part of a rookie class that has a lot of developing to do.

Danny Wolf was back in Brooklyn after spending much of the early part of his rookie year in the G-League, where he had solid numbers.

"It's about being where your feet are, no matter where you're at," Wolf said after shootaround prior to Tuesday's game against the Celtics at Barclays Center. "Whether it's here or Long Island, I try to get better."

► **Michael Porter Jr.** entered Tuesday having come off back-to-back season highs in assists, with seven apiece in a loss at Orlando and a win in Washington.

Fernández credited the veteran forward with his unselfish recent style of play, but the coach also knows the team — and Porter — will have to get creative as opposing teams adjust.

"His usage has been different than in the past," Fernández said of how Porter has played in Brooklyn as opposed to being Nikola Jokic's teammate in Denver. "When you have the best defenders on you, it's hard to shoot over people."

CAN'T GO WRONG

Boozer one of three worthy prospects at top of draft who could change Nets

By BRIAN LEWIS

While the tanking Nets were losing to the visiting Celtics, one of the prospects they're tanking for was putting on a show on the other side of the East River.

Cameron Boozer showed the limelight of the Garden wasn't too bright for him, leading Duke to a 78-66 win over Kansas in the Champions Classic. And while he didn't face injured Darryn Peterson — one of his two main rivals to be drafted first overall — Boozer showed more than enough Tuesday to impress the entire NBA.

There were 67 reps from 23 of the league's 30 teams watching Boozer, the son of former NBA All-Star Carlos Boozer. They saw the freshman forward shake off a slow start to finish with 18 points, 10 rebounds and five assists, a plus-10 in the most comfortable he's been in college.

"Yeah, for sure. Obviously I've had to get used to playing college basketball because last year I was in high school. This is a com-

pletely different game. It's faster. It's obviously more physical," said Boozer, just 18. "Obviously it was a big matchup. But I like to rise to the occasion, so I felt like I was very comfortable."

The thing is, he can get far more comfortable, far more dominant.

That's what excites Duke, and what would excite the Nets about landing him.

The Nets are tanking hard — tied for the league's third-worst record at 2-12 — because they desperately need a young star unafraid of a challenge.

"Cam had 18, 10 and five. I still don't even think he played incredible; that's the thing that's really exciting," Duke coach Jon Scheyer said. "He made some key plays like the rebound in the first half, the outlet to Isaiah [Evans]. He did a great job putting pressure on the defense."

"I think there's more to be had, and that's the exciting part. I thought he did a really good job. This place is different, playing at MSG. It's different. He did a really good job handling that."

Boozer didn't wow with athleticism or explosiveness, but he impressed with his IQ, passing and winning plays. He moved without the ball, got into good spots and used his 6-foot-9, 250-pound frame to bully when needed. And when Kansas doubled him early, he showed passing chops that scouts say could make him a half-court hub.

He showed why — along with Peterson and BYU's AJ Dybantsa — the Nets are tanking so hard.

"They'd all definitely be the top pick [next year], every one of them," one scout told The Post.

A longtime Eastern Conference scout that spoke with The Post at the Garden said the Nets should feel good about their position.

"If you have the worst record in the NBA, you're feeling really, really, really good about yourself. You're not praying you're getting a top two [like last year]; you're just like, 'Let me get top five. Let me not drop out of the top five,'" ex-76ers scout Michael VandeGarde told The Post.

"Those [three stars] are special."

"The [Nets] are going to be feeling pretty good about themselves. But it's going to be hard [to get the top seed]."

Unlike this past year — when Cooper Flagg was seen as the lone franchise prospect — finishing with even a top three seed would give the Nets a 40 percent shot at Boozer, Peterson or Dybantsa.

"To me Cam Boozer is super, super, super good, and I love him. ... Paolo Banchemo reminds me of Boozer, and I really think he's a stud," one scout told The Post, adding he feels the 18-year-old is a future All-Star.

VandeGarde seconded the Banchemo comparison.

"That's what I see in him. He's got a lot of skills. He's not a freakish athlete, but he's strong, he's got great positional size, can play [multiple] positions. You'd be ecstatic," VandeGarde said.

"Last year after you got past Cooper and Dylan Harper, you were nervous



PICK ME! Cameron Boozer, who finished with 18 points, 10 rebounds and five assists in a 78-66 win over Kansas, would be a worthy pick for a Nets team in need.

what you were getting. ... There's a lot more depth to this year's draft. You'll be ecstatic as of today if you'd have a top four pick, maybe even top five."

That's plainly the Nets' plan.

Boozer — along with Peterson and Dybantsa — would be why.

brian.lewis@nypost.com

THE TRANSFER portal All-Stars were on one side, a collection of talent that reportedly cost more than \$20 million.

Kentucky had a big spring, bringing in high-upside talent like Denzel Aberdeen of Florida, Mouhamed Dioubate of Alabama, Jayden Quaintance of Arizona State and Jaland Lowe of Pittsburgh. The Wildcats were supposed to be one of the premier teams in the country, a deep and talented group that could reach the final weekend of the season.

But so far, coach Mark Pope's team has been a disappointment, partly due to injuries to Quaintance and Lowe. Their struggles continued Tuesday night at the Garden, in a one-sided 83-66 loss to No. 17 Michigan State, a team built the old-school way, almost entirely through player development and high

Sparty proves continuity can still

school recruiting. Contributors Trey Fort (Samford) and Divine Ugochukwu (Miami), it should be noted, are transfers new to the program.

The opener of the Champions Classic, the annual showcase featuring Michigan State, Kentucky, Duke and Kansas, provided a reminder that the old method can still be effective. You don't need to be atop transfer portal rankings or land elite freshmen to be a Final Four contender. Michigan State's four leading scorers — Jaxon Koh-

ler, Carson Cooper, Coen Carr and Jeremy Fears Jr. — are all returning players. Carr and Cooper weren't starters last season, but that didn't make them want to look elsewhere.

"How about 100 freakin' percent," longtime coach Tom Izzo said, when asked if his way is undervalued.

"Homegrown, people that are playing for the name on the front of the jersey, because they know the name on the front of the jersey, people that care about the place they're at and players they're with."



Zach Braziller

"The transfer portal recruitment is almost bigger than winning games, but not at Michigan State. Someday it could hurt me. I'm going to do what I gotta do. I don't give up on the people I got. That's what we call development and that's what you call working with players and you stick with them and they stick with you."

His Spartans aren't on their own. Several teams with rare continuity are off to strong starts this season, from Gonzaga to Houston and Connecticut to Purdue. It still matters. Last year's national champion, Florida, was mostly together for a few years. The dynamic backcourt

of Walter Clayton Jr., Alijah Martin and Will Richard were transfers, although Clayton and Martin were Gators for multiple seasons. The same could be said for forward Rueben Chinyelu. Florida beat Houston in the title game, and those Cougars were a group of transfers who had spent more than one year at Houston or were homegrown.

That's not to say teams built in one offseason can't win. Right here in New York City, we saw St. John's enjoy its best season in 25 years on the strength of a stellar transfer class that featured Kadary Richmond, Deivon Smith and Aaron

Robert Sabo (2)

B'klyn fights, but fades again in 4th

By DAN MARTIN

The Nets lost again Tuesday night.

They played poorly again in the fourth quarter, dropping a game in which they led in that final quarter, outplayed thoroughly by the Celtics in a 113-99 defeat at Barclays Center.

Despite the latest loss, Jordi Fernández was left mostly optimistic, especially compared to where his team was a couple of weeks ago, when they were routinely getting blown out.

“Playing this competitive brand of basketball against a very competitive team is important,” Fernández said. “I wasn’t happy with the way we were competing a few games ago and now for four straight games, we’ve played competitively.”

Just not well enough to win.

That’s even after opening an early nine-point lead against Boston and going up on a Michael Porter Jr. 3-pointer with 9:06 left in the fourth quarter.

The Celtics responded with an 18-3 run, led by Jaylen Brown, to put the game away.

Not only did the defeat drop the Nets to 2-12 on the season, it also dropped them to 0-7 in Brooklyn, matching the longest home losing streak in franchise history, previously set in the 2009-10 season.

That ugly year landed the Nets the third pick in the NBA draft and they ended up with Derrick Favors.

They’re hoping for a more impactful player this time around, as they tank for a second straight year, with only the Pacers and Wizards entering Tuesday with fewer wins than the Nets.

Still, rather than slamming themselves for another rough final quarter, Fernández and Porter pointed to the growing pains this team expected.

“I think we’ve got a young team and we’re newly playing together,” Porter said. “And they’ve been in so many situations in the fourth quarter as a group. They knew how to execute down the stretch and we’re still figuring that out. We’ve got to get organized and get on the same page.”

They played fast in the first half, shooting well from 3-point range and running well, as the Nets outscored the Celtics 22-0 in fast break points before halftime.

But they scored just two points after the half on the break, plagued by fouls and missed shots.



NOT AGAIN! Ziaire Williams drives to the basket as the Nets weren’t able to come through in their loss to the Celtics. AP

“When it tightens up, you’ve got to play a different style of basketball game,” Porter said. “There’s not as many easy looks. We’re still learning. We’re young. We’ll get there. It’s just experience.”

Fernández praised the play of the second unit, which helped the Nets get back in the game after Boston opened up an 11-point lead midway through the third.

Day’Ron Sharpe scored six consecutive points as they closed to within a point at the end of the quarter before Porter gave them their final lead of the game.

Egor Dëmin, who put up 12 points — with four 3-pointers in the first half — didn’t score in the second and struggled defensively and Nic Claxton finished just 1-of-9 from the field.

Brown, who had 17 points in the third after being held to six in the first half and finished with a game-high 29 points.

And even without Jayson Tatum, out with a torn Achilles, and mostly rebuilding for the future, Boston had too much firepower for the Nets, having won three of their previous four games and seven of 11 after opening the season 0-3.

Derrick White’s 3-pointer after the Celtics gathered three consecutive offensive rebounds helped put the game away.

They face the Nets again in Boston on Friday and will try to put together two good halves as they try to learn not just how to play better, but to win.

dan.martin@nypost.com

lead to greatness

Scott. But it often takes time. The Johnnies didn’t hit their stride until January a year ago. Rick Pitino’s team is looking to win that way again — Zuby Ejiofor is the Red Storm’s lone returning starter — and like Kentucky it is very much a work in progress.

During his postgame news conference Tuesday, Pope used his words carefully, perhaps sensing he has a fragile team that was just overwhelmed at the Garden and is going in the wrong direction. He took ownership of the early-season problems, and alluded in a roundabout way to what is holding Kentucky back.

“If you build an organization the right way, then your identity is not about an individual person,” he said, and later added: “We will build an organization where it won’t be interrupted every time someone steps in or steps out, but we’ll have a team identity and not an individual identity. Until we get there, we’re going to really struggle.”

Basically, for Kentucky it’s too much “me” and not enough “we,” which can happen when you slap a new group of players together every year. That’s not a knock on Kentucky; it’s the way college basketball now operates for so many high-powered programs.

But it was also a stark contrast to what Izzo had said earlier about players playing for the name on the front of their jersey and caring deeply about their school.

“Everybody does it a different way. I’m saddened that it’s become a transitional society as far as [college] football and basketball,” Izzo said. “But I’m just going to keep hanging in there until it doesn’t work. I’ll still get a transfer here and there, I just don’t want to get rid of guys that have put in a lot of time and put in a lot of effort. Their loyalty to me has to be my loyalty to them, and loyalty still freakin’ matters.”

His way still works. It got Michigan State all the way to the Elite Eight last March, and the early read on the physical, experienced and balanced Spartans is that they can go even further this year.

zbrazilier@nypost.com

By MOLLIE WALKER

LAS VEGAS — The Rangers' early reputation as road warriors was never going to be sustainable, but it has already begun to wane.

Limited to fewer than 20 shots on goal on the road for the first time this season, the Blueshirts offense stalled once again in a 3-2 loss to the Golden Knights on Tuesday night at T-Mobile Arena. The regulation loss counted as just their second away from Madison Square Garden so far this season, with the prior one coming over three weeks ago in Calgary.

GOLDEN KNIGHTS 3
RANGERS 2 **Summary**
Page 43

Offense has been in short supply for the Rangers as a team for most of the 2025-26 campaign.

The lack of production from key players, however, is quickly approaching worrisome territory.

One goal in the past eight games from captain J.T. Miller isn't enough.

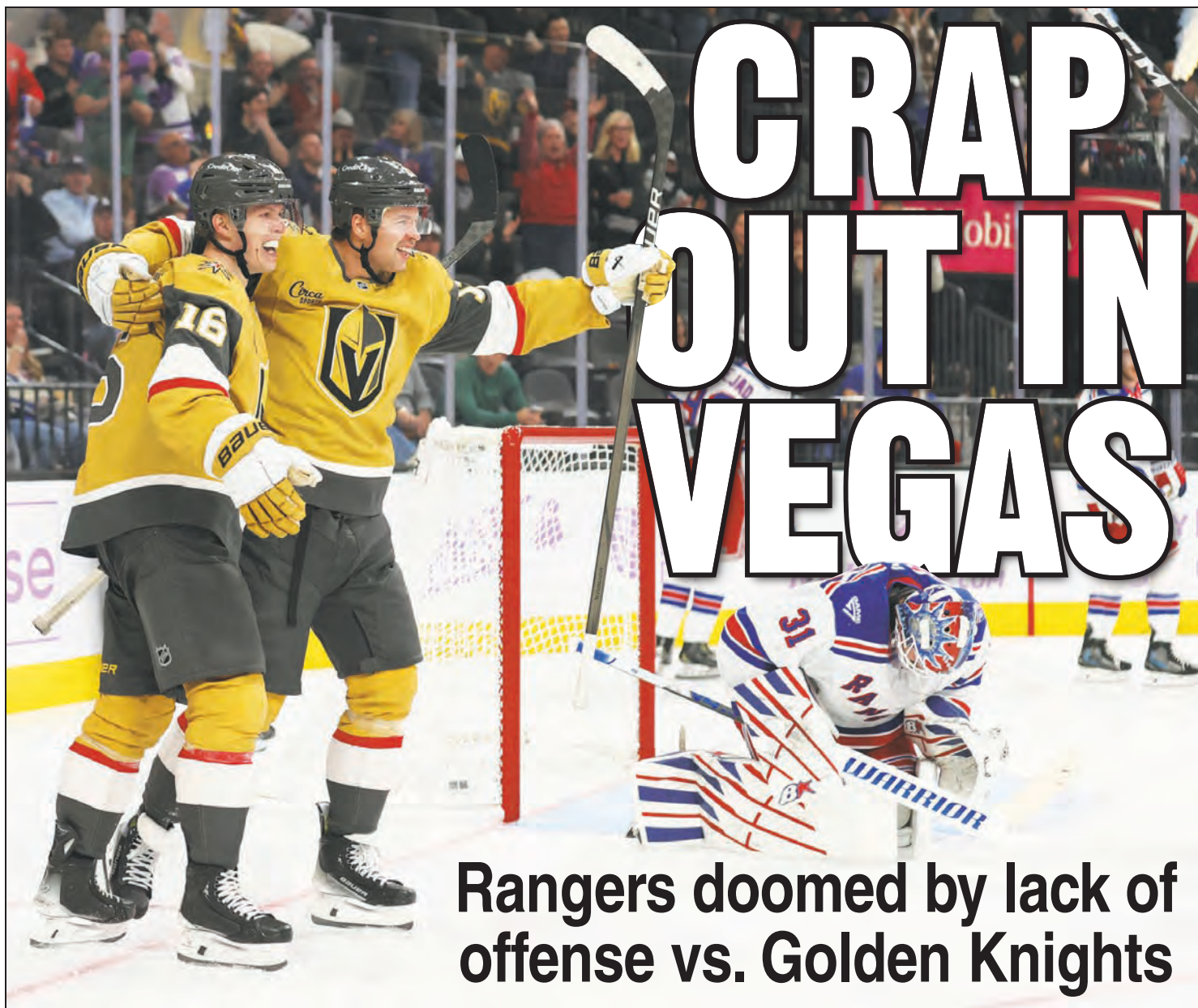
Four goals in 21 games from Alexis Lafrenière isn't enough.

Taylor Raddysh, who has skated the past four games on the fourth line, being tied for the third-most goals on the team (5) is indicative of how much more they need from their marquee skaters.

Jonny Brodzinski scoring the only Rangers goal through 57 minutes of the 60-minute contest Tuesday night in Vegas tells you all you need to know about how this one went. The veteran depth skater almost had another in the third period, but the play was challenged for offside and quickly waved off.

Neither team gave up much through the opening 20 minutes, but the Golden Knights were the only one to find the back of the net.

With Artemi Panarin in the box for tripping, Vegas scored just 26 seconds into the man-advantage after Braedon Bowman capitalized on a juicy rebound. It marked the third straight game the Blueshirts gave up a power-



CAN'T DENY IT: Igor Shesterkin hangs his head after giving up a goal to Ben Hutton (right) on Tuesday night in Las Vegas.

Getty Images

play goal.

The Golden Knights made it a 2-0 game early in the second period, when Ben Hutton scored his first goal of the season less than three and a half minutes in. Failing to get the puck out, the Rangers lost it to Pavel Dorofeyev, who found Hutton for a shot that trickled through Rangers goalie

Igor Shesterkin.

Head coach Mike Sullivan then began tweaking the forward lines to try to jump-start the Rangers offensively.

It proved effective, with Brodzinski cleaning up a rebound off Will Cuyll's shot on a two-on-one rush to cut the Vegas lead in half. Still, the Rangers did not

produce nearly enough quality scoring chances to really threaten despite the low-scoring affair.

After 40 minutes, Jusso Parssinen — back in the lineup for the first time in four games — led the Rangers with two shots on goal despite logging the lowest time on ice.

The Golden Knights capitalized

on their second straight power play at the 7:18 mark of the third period, when Shea Theodore's shot from the top of the zone found twine through traffic.

The six-on-five Rangers goal from Vincent Trocheck with 2:43 left in regulation was ultimately too little too late.

mwalker1@nypost.com

Sullivan, Blueshirts 'really excited' about youngster Morrow

By MOLLIE WALKER

LAS VEGAS — The recalling of Scott Morrow by the Rangers amid uncertainty surrounding Will Borgen's status provided some insight into the team's approach to configuring the defense.

As the Rangers prepared to face the Golden Knights at T-Mobile Arena, Borgen, who missed the previous two games with an upper-body injury, was a game-time decision once again Tuesday

night. Borgen ultimately dressed and lined up alongside Carson Soucy, while Matthew Robertson slotted next to Braden Schneider on the third pair.

After making his season debut Sunday against the Red Wings, Morrow, 23, was scratched Tuesday night amid Borgen's return.

"We've been really excited about Scotty's game," head coach Mike Sullivan said after the morning skate on Tuesday. "I think he's a good,

solid two-way defenseman. I think he's a good puck mover, in particular. Given the fact that we have a right-handed shot that was questionable [Borgen], both [assistant coach David Quinn] and I prefer to have defensemen on their strong side, for a lot of reasons. We could talk for three days on it. The other aspect of it is some of our lefties just aren't comfortable playing the offside ... it's very different. We didn't want to put any of the players in diffi-

cult circumstances. So that was part of the decision for Scotty to get called up.

"We're also excited about his game and potentially where it could go. He's a really good puck mover. We think he has decent instincts offensively. He can help us with a transition game. He's pretty good along the offensive blue line. He has good size. I think, positionally, there's an opportunity for growth there and I think we've got a chance to help

him. Physically, I think he's capable of playing at this level. He's hockey strong, and he has good size.

"Those are all the things that attracted us to him in the first place. We think potentially he has the ability to be an impact player at this level at some point in time. When that happens, I think it depends on him and it depends on the situation. He'll get an opportunity to play and has got an opportunity to play. We'll see where it goes."

Before he made his Rangers debut on Sunday, Morrow's last NHL appearance came with the Hurricanes in last season's Eastern Conference final against the eventual Stanley Cup champions, the Panthers.

Sunday counted as Morrow's 17th regular-season contest of his NHL career. He logged just 9:56 of ice time in the 2-1 loss, which was largely due to the Rangers' surplus of shorthanded ice time in the third period.



Alexander Romanov

Roy blasts hit on defenseman

By ETHAN SEARS

DALLAS — The Islanders were left shaken by Mikko Rantanen's hit on Alexander Romanov that appeared to cause the defenseman serious injury with 27.3 seconds to go in their 3-2 win over the Stars on Tuesday night, and Patrick Roy blasted the Finn for a move he saw as "disrespectful to our guys."

With Romanov's numbers facing him and both players going full steam toward the end boards, Rantanen pushed Romanov hard into the glass. Romanov, whose head appeared to hit the boards first, went down in a heap and needed help off the ice. An Islanders spokesman said Romanov did not need to be taken off-site for treatment, but otherwise there was no further update on his status.

Rantanen was assessed a five-minute boarding major and a 10-minute game misconduct. As he went down the tunnel, Roy exchanged words with him.

"I hope he's gonna be OK at this moment," Roy said. "I don't know exactly what it is. All I'm gonna say is, when you see the number, you have to lay off. Everybody knows that. You don't go through the guy."

"And I'm proud [of] the way that our guys handled it afterwards. No one was happy to see someone get hurt like this. To me, it's disrespectful to our guys." Stars coach Glen Gulutzan spoke in defense of Rantanen, saying his skates were clipped by Scott Mayfield, causing him to come into Romanov off-balance.

"I've seen Rants play enough over the last 10 years that it's just one of

ISLANDERS NOTES

those hockey plays that happens," Gulutzan said. "I hope Romanov is OK."

Roy, who was coaching the Avalanche when Rantanen was drafted there, did say that such a play was unlike him.

"That's not his style. At the same time, that should not be a part of our game," Roy said. "That should not be a part of our game."

Despite a gutty win that snapped a five-game Stars winning streak and brought the Islanders to 5-1-0 through six games of this road trip, the mood in the dressing room had a somber tone.

"You put yourself in my shoes. Whenever your friend gets hurt on the ice, it's way more important than hockey me," Jean-Gabriel Pageau said. "And obviously, we get two points, we're happy about that. Everyone, I think, our first concern was Rommy."

Romanov missed five games earlier this season with an upper-body injury, during which the Islanders called up Marshall Warren to fill in. It would not be surprising if Warren joined the team again for Thursday's game in Detroit.

► **David Rittich** started in net, despite **Ilya Sorokin** being the hot hand, and stopped 22 of 24 shots. Roy said the Islanders are prioritizing keeping both goalies fresh over riding Sorokin.

► **Simon Holmstrom** was out with illness, and **Maxim Tsyplov** drew into the lineup in his place.



Aiming for the Stars

Isles beat Dallas to stay hot on road, but Romanov suffers late injury

TALLY IN TEXAS: Calum Ritchie celebrates his second-period goal against the Stars on Tuesday night in Dallas. AP

By ETHAN SEARS

DALLAS — If not for what looked like a serious injury to Alexander Romanov in the final minute of Tuesday's game, you would call this the best road trip the Islanders have had in a hot minute.

Their fifth win in six on a trip that saw its fourth time zone Tuesday, which snapped a five-game Stars winning streak by a 3-2 score that came in gritty, grinding fashion, confirmed as much. Not one of those wins have come easily for the Islanders, but Tuesday was — by far — the toughest, both emotionally and on the ice itself.

There was the matter of their play, which started bad and slowly got better. There was a 10-minute misconduct assessed to Bo Horvat. And there was a final minute of play that featured Romanov's injury and what looked for a brief second like the tying goal scored by the Stars at the buzzer — before that was wiped off for goaltender interference, saving two points for the Islanders.

The injury — which came on a brazenly illegal hit from Mikko Rantanen, who drove Romanov head-first into the end boards, with the defenseman needing help off the ice — cast a shadow over the postgame dressing room. Coach Patrick Roy had words for Rantanen as he left the ice after being assessed a five-minute boarding major and a 10-minute game misconduct, and added some more afterward, saying such a play "should not be a part of our game."

"That's scary stuff," Anders Lee said. "Game's fast, game's heavy. It happens sometimes. You just hate to see it. Doesn't matter when. Just hoping he's doing all right right now."

Aside from making clear that Romanov did not need to go to the hospital, there was no update on his status from the Islanders.

And after things calmed down from the injury, they still had 27.3 seconds over which to defend a tenuous 3-2 lead. They defended it for 27.2 seconds, and then Wyatt Johnston poked in a rebound that appeared to add another heartbreak onto the night for the Islanders.

After a review, it was determined that Jason Robertson had interfered with David Rittich, so a rule that Roy has often derided — including on this very trip — finally interceded on his behalf.

"I felt like I bumped him a little bit, [but] I felt like he was already in on the goalie before we made a little bit of contact," Ryan Pullock, who was tied up with Robertson in front of the net, told The Post. "Obviously he took the goalie right out."

Once you got past a hectic final minute, the rest of the game marked a feather in the Islanders' cap.

Early in the night, they managed the puck poorly, played far too much east/west and couldn't seem to get through the neutral zone. As it went on, they solved the problem in real time, then gutted out a trio of penalty kills for good measure.

You could see in Cal Ritchie's opening goal — No. 64's first as an Islander, a one-timer from the low slot off Anthony Duclair's feed — the Islanders beginning to work through their issues. So too in their response to Robertson's 1-1 goal, which came on a three-on-one rush that followed a Tony DeAngelo turnover a few minutes later.

By the third period, when the game's decisive notes were played, they were in the dogfight fully — and there would have been no winning this otherwise.

Just 3:12 into the final period, Horvat got the greasy goal the Islanders needed, cleaning up the garbage on Kyle Palmieri's rebound.

Horvat appeared to give the Stars a window back into the game when he caught Oskar Bäck with a high stick a few minutes later, and earned a 10-minute misconduct along with the double minor penalty. But instead, the Stars imploded.

Palmieri made it 3-1 on a short-handed rush on what was the league-leading fifth short-handed Islanders goal of the season. Jamie Benn wiped out two of the four minutes with a high stick of his own, and the Islanders dutifully killed off the rest of the penalty.

"I feel our guys are playing solid hockey right now," Roy said. "... I thought it was a hard-fought game. We played well enough to win."

Robertson scored to pull the Stars within one with 1:59 to go. Had he been in just a slightly different position 1:58.59 later, the night may have ended very differently indeed.

esears@nypost.com

3 Summary
2 Page 43

ISLANDERS
STARS

CHECKERED FLAGG

A rookie and a Kidd stand between Knicks and first road victory

By JARED SCHWARTZ

The next chance for the Knicks to capture their first road win of the season comes against the coach they coveted to fill their vacancy this past offseason.

And the league's top rookie. And a team that has become the face of dysfunction.

There is plenty of reason for intrigue.

The Knicks carry an 0-4 road record to Dallas for Wednesday's clash against Jason Kidd and Cooper Flagg's Mavericks.

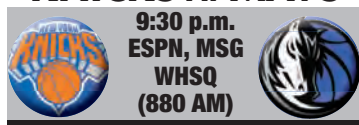
After the Knicks fired Tom Thibodeau, there was mutual interest between them and Kidd, The Post's Stefan Bondy reported at the time. Kidd's final season as a player was with the Knicks, and as a coach, he led the Mavericks to a NBA Finals appearance after the 2023-24 season.

But the Mavericks rejected the request by the Knicks to interview Kidd and then reportedly gave him a multiyear contract extension. The Knicks eventually hired Mike Brown as coach.

Brown and Kidd have started the season on completely different trajectories.

The Knicks, though they lost Monday to the Heat, look dangerous at 8-5 under Brown's free-flowing, 3-point-happy offense along with a much-strengthened bench.

Wednesday KNICKS AT MAVS



The potential that his changes could bring is evident.

Kidd's Mavericks, meanwhile, are a mess, owning a 4-11 record. They recently fired GM Nico Harrison, who had become persona non grata following his controversial decision to trade away Luka Dončić to the Lakers last season. Anthony Davis, the main return in that trade, remains out with a calf injury. Kyrie Irving is not close to returning after tearing his ACL in March.

Mavericks home games had grown toxic this year, with fans constantly chanting "Fire Nico," which Kidd had called "disrespectful." That dynamic has cooled since Harrison's firing. "They got their point

across as fans, but we have to move forward," Kidd said after the firing. "I understand the healing process for the fans, but these guys are playing hard. Ever since the trade, these guys have given everything."

Flagg's early days in the NBA as the youngest player in the league have been a mixed bag. Largely considered a generational prospect and the consensus No. 1 pick in June's draft, he's had some early growing pains. He is averaging 15.5 points and 6.3 rebounds per game, shooting 45.5 percent from the field and 29.3 percent from 3-point range.

He's played better his past five games, averaging 21.0 points, 7.5 rebounds, 5.0 assists, 2.5 steals and 1.5 blocks per game while shooting 50.0 percent from the field and 33.3 percent from deep. It's been a result of him transitioning away from playing as a point guard, where Kidd had used him in order to "make him uncomfortable" and speed up his development. He's

since looked much more comfortable as a wing.

"It's a lot of pressure and a lot of responsibility that comes with being a point guard," Flagg said recently. "I don't know if I was ready to handle that right off the bat. I tried my best and that's not to say I can't go back to it and I can't work on it and get better. I think it's just worked out lately where it's been better to have somebody else help and relieve pressure. It doesn't mean I can't bring it up and initiate offense."

And the Knicks are without their best wing defender in OG Anunoby. Flagg could present a matchup problem — Mikal Bridges might be too small to guard him and Karl-Anthony Towns might be too slow.

Along with the Pacers, the Knicks are one of just two teams winless on the road across the league.

"They're all different," Towns said. "It's tough, I know for everyone in this locker room, it's tough. We got competitors, we wanna win. On top of that, we were always known for winning those types of games. So it's a different feeling when you're not doing that. Just stay confident. We got a great group of guys, great talent, keep fighting."

Kidd and Flagg stand in their way.

jschwartz@nypost.com



Brunson could be back running point tonight

By JARED SCHWARTZ



GETTING CLOSER: Jalen Brunson went through a workout before Monday's game in Miami. Getty Images

Jalen Brunson's recovery has moved right along.

He has been upgraded to questionable for the Knicks game against the Mavericks on Wednesday night at American Airlines Center, which comes exactly one week after he suffered a Grade 1 right ankle sprain during a loss to the Magic. Brunson has missed the past two games, which the Knicks split

with the Heat.

Grade 1 ankle sprains typically carry a recovery period of 1-3 weeks. It appears Brunson is on track to return toward the beginning of that time frame.

He was on the court and took shots during warmups ahead of Monday's loss to the Heat and was not limping, an encouraging sign for his progression.

Miles McBride has started at point guard in

Brunson's place the past two games, recording nine and then 25 points. Brunson's absence has also led to coach Mike Brown giving Josh Hart his two biggest workloads of the season, as the Knicks have leaned on him as a ball handler and orchestrator without Brunson.

The Knicks clearly missed Brunson, the NBA's reigning Clutch Player of the Year, down the stretch of Monday's loss. They had

a chance to tie the game or take the lead in the final seconds, but McBride and Karl-Anthony Towns each missed shots.

They will still be without OG Anunoby for at least the near future. He suffered a left hamstring strain during a win over the Heat on Friday and was ruled out for at least two weeks. On Monday, Landry Shamet started in his place and finished with 10 points.



Football follies

Jets, Giants on crash course toward wrong kind of history

DO NOT relish this. Honestly, I don't. It is the middle of November. In so many other cities, scribes are scribing about their football teams and they get to write uplifting prose about uplifting pros.

In Indianapolis, they write hopeful words that an old Giant named Daniel Jones can continue the home team's march toward the top of the AFC, and in Seattle, they draft cautious essays about an ex-Jet named Sam Darnold shaking off a tough afternoon in Los Angeles, reverting to Pro Bowl form.

In Kansas City, they are worried about their football team, a concern magnified by all the glorious seasons that have preceded this one; in Boston and Providence and Hartford, they are ecstatic about their team, their coach, their quarterback, the prospect that a new hint of old glories are afoot. In Buffalo, they dream of a February parade amid lake effect snow. In LA, they are preparing the well-worn route of the Dodgers should the Rams keep this up.

In New York we write about ... losing. We write about lots and lots of losing.

It is ruinous to trod these waters year after year. It is tiresome to look forward to another draft, and ultimately to another allegedly hopeful season that will take place in a year other than the one we're presently living in. Football is no longer a season in New York but a yearly reminder than in other cities, other teams really do play important games after Columbus Day.

Are we used to it? Sure we are. Are we inured to it? That's when Woody Johnson and John Mara and Steve Tisch really need to start worrying. Because that's when the anger morphs to apathy, when the fans become agnostic about the secular part of their Sundays. Most aren't quite there yet. But it keeps getting harder. And here's the thing:

It keeps getting worse.

Here are the worst combined seasons, 1960-2024, in New York's football history:



Mike Vaccaro

1976: The Giants and Jets each went 3-11. In the era of a 14-game season, no singular year was worse than the 6-22 put up by the Giants (who started 0-9) and the Jets (in Joe Namath's swan song).

1973: This was spared the tie with '76 only because the Giants managed a grisly 23-23 tie with the Eagles in the last NFL game ever played at Yankee Stadium. The Giants were 2-11-1, the Jets the king of the town at 4-10. That's 6-21-1 in anyone's calculator.

1996: In the years from 1978-2020, when the NFL played 16-game schedules, this one stood alone: a 7-25 slog, with Dan Reeves' farewell 6-10 looking downright dominant next to Rich Kotite's singular 1-15 masterpiece.

2021, 2024: Twice since the NFL expanded to 17 games, the Giants and Jets have combined to go 8-26, including just last year (Giants 3-14, Jets 5-12).

So that leaves us with this cheery possibility: In 2025, if things continue to go as they're going (and I haven't seen any compelling reason to believe they won't keep going the way they're going, have you?) The Jets/Giants Dyspeptic Duo have a wonderful chance to not only set civic records for fewest wins (they still need to find two to tie) but also most losses.

So for the record: If it feels especially bad this year?

It's because it is especially bad this year.

Now look, speaking with just a shred of optimism — as little as we have to be optimistic about — we *should* be able to crack six wins, right? The Giants still have home games against the Commanders, Cowboys and quickly fading Vikings. The Jets have home games against the Falcons and Dolphins and a road game at New Orleans.

Can they win half those six games? That would get them to seven, and they'd be spared losing more games than their ancestors of 1973 and '76 (who played three fewer games apiece). But it would leave them with 27 losses, and that would be a record, and not the kind for which anyone would reserve the Canyon of Heroes (much better to just boot all the game films into the Grand Canyon).

That's what we write about in New York in the middle of November.

What are they writing about in Philadelphia? What are they writing about in Chicago?

mvacarro@nypost.com

IT'S IN THE BAG: With their teams posting four combined wins more than halfway through the season, Jets and Giants fans have endured more losing than most fans should have to bear.

Corey Sipkin; Robert Sabo

As bad as it gets

At a combined 4-17 the Jets (2-8) and Giants (2-9) could be headed for the worst combined season no matter how you measure it. Here's a look at the company they are trying to avoid:

1964	
7-18-3 (.304)	
Jets	5-8-1
Giants	2-10-2
1966	
7-18-3 (.304)	
Jets	6-6-2
Giants	1-12-1
1973	
6-21-1 (.232)*	
Jets	4-10
Giants	2-11-1
1975	
8-20 (.400)	
Giants	5-9
Jets	3-11
1976	
6-22 (.214)*#	
Jets	3-11
Giants	3-11
1977	
8-20 (.400)	
Giants	5-9
Jets	3-11
1980	
8-24 (.250)	
Jets	4-12
Giants	4-12
1995	
8-24 (.250)	
Giants	5-11
Jets	3-13
1996	
7-25 (.218)	
Giants	6-10
Jets	1-15
2017	
8-24 (.250)	
Jets	5-11
Giants	3-13
2020	
8-24 (.250)	
Giants	6-10
Jets	2-14
2021	
8-26 (.235)+	
Giants	4-13
Jets	4-13
2024	
8-26 (.235)+	
Jets	5-12
Giants	3-14

*Fewest wins
#Worst winning pct.
+Most losses

BIG TROUBLE IN BIG

D: No. 1 pick Cooper Flagg got off to a rocky start and coach Jason Kidd (inset) shot back at fans who were calling for GM Nico Harrison to be fired. The Knicks visit 4-11 Dallas on Wednesday night.

Getty Images (2)



Carter was getting treatment

By PAUL SCHWARTZ

Abdul Carter was receiving treatment in the red light therapy bed at the Giants facility Friday morning when his team was on the field, The Post has learned. Missing that 15-minute walk-through was the reason interim head coach Mike Kafka decided to discipline Carter by not starting him in Sunday's 27-20 loss.

Initial reports that Carter missed the walk-through because he was sleeping are inaccurate.

Kafka, since taking over for fired Brian Daboll, made some nuanced changes to the practice schedule, and one of those changes was the quick walk-through for Friday morning. Players were alerted of this alteration at a team meeting and Carter evidently did not hear that announcement. So, he thought he had time to use the red light therapy bed in the recovery room. Players use that low-level red light therapy to help with pain relief and reduce inflammation.

The recovery room is not located in the trainers room. It is also not in a highly trafficked area, meaning it is certainly possible no teammate or member of the training staff was around to alert Carter that there was a walk-through at the time he was in the therapy bed. These are factors in how Carter missed the walk-through and not excuses.

Kafka opted to keep Carter off the field for the first series on defense — six plays. After the game, Kafka admitted this was “the coach’s decision.” Asked if he wanted to make an example of Carter, Kafka added, “he played his butt off. He practiced his tail off, played his butt off. I’m really happy about Abdul and excited to watch him continue to grow and continue to play a lot more as a pro.”

There are conflicting accounts from The Post’s sources regarding whether Carter has had issues with repeated lateness this season.

Carter on Tuesday told ESPN’s Adam Schefter that “my mistake was an honest mistake. I own the fact that it was an honest mistake. I was getting treatment and I told coach Kafka that, too. But to say I was sleeping at that time just wasn’t true. And it also wasn’t a trend. This was the only time it happened.”

“I don’t want anonymous sources to say these types of things about me that are untrue. I did make a mistake, and I own up to what I did.”

How Giants secondary went from high hopes to a unit riddled with issues

By RYAN DUNLEAVY

Joe Schoen joked in April that he was already fretting about four starters in the Giants secondary reaching free agency at the same time in 2028.

That’s a rich man’s problem compared to the poor reality emerging a few months later that the embattled general manager’s handpicked secondary — made up of four premium draft picks and two high-priced free agents, all 26 years old or younger — has vastly underwhelmed.

“The whole big picture, two things have happened,” secondary coach Marquand Manuel told The Post. “Not executing in the time that you need to execute, whether it be [a] penalty or not doing your job in the critical moments. And then injuries — next man up. Every team has them.”

With all the attention paid to pass rushers Dexter Lawrence, Abdul Carter and Kayvon Thibodeaux combining for just 3.5 sacks, it has flown under the radar that the Giants rank No. 22 in passing defense (225.2 yards per game) and the secondary has contributed just three interceptions and two forced fumbles in 11 games.

“The room has not lost its unison,” Manuel said. “You continue to see them play hard. [Pressing] becomes natural from anybody, playing within the scheme. We didn’t have five games together to figure it out.”

Here is a closer look at how the secondary has gone from a reason for preseason optimism — with the possibility that at least 67 percent of the group would play together for three seasons — to a cause for concern.



CB PAULSON ADEBO (21)
(three years, \$54 million)

Adebo missed his fourth straight game Sunday, when he tried to return from a sprained right MCL but felt discomfort during warmups. Not putting Adebo on injured reserve turned out to be a mistake.

Showing confidence in Adebo’s recovery from a broken right leg last season, the Giants targeted him over four other free agents who signed deals for at least \$16 million per year. If it’s any consolation, D.J. Reed (Lions) and Charvarius Ward (Colts) also have missed big chunks of time.

In seven games, Adebo has allowed 32 catches for 352 yards and a touchdown. His high-water introduction of stifling Terry McLaurin was followed by two near-identical games in the NFC East of allowing seven catches and more than 80 yards to the Cowboys’ George Pickens and Eagles’ A.J. Brown.

CB COR'DALE FLOTT (28)
(2022 third-round pick)

It took the Giants too long to stop rotating Flott with Deonte Banks and give him the full-time job.

Flott is playing at a career-best level in a contract year, with the route-breaking interception that all but clinched the win against the Eagles and no touchdowns allowed.

The key? He has stayed healthier than normal (one game missed) and been allowed to focus on one position instead of using his slot versatility as a crutch.



CB DEONTE BANKS (2)
(2023 first-round pick)

When Banks is in tight coverage, he doesn’t make a play on the ball. Even getting his hand in didn’t break up a TD pass to Christian Watson.

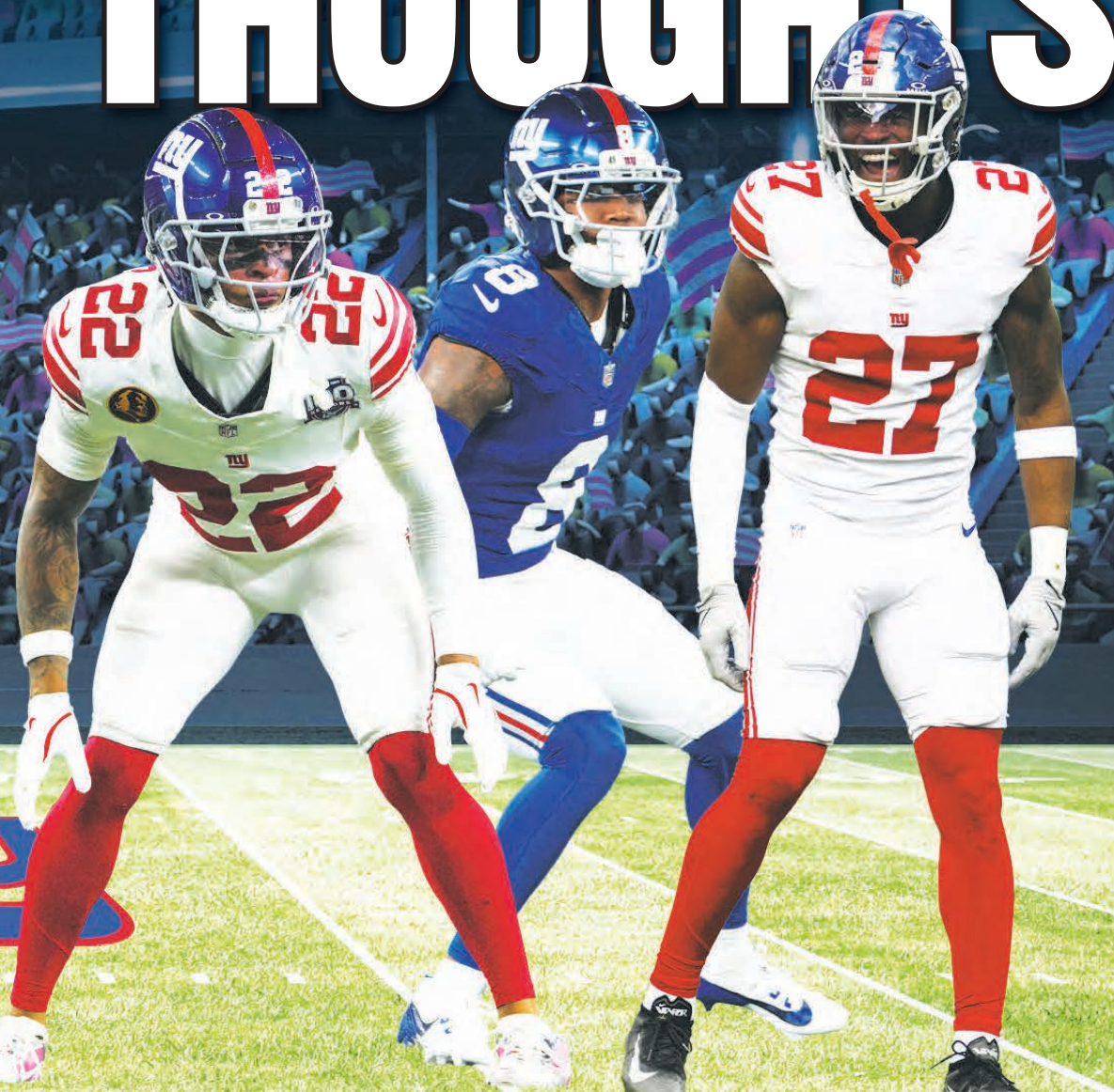
And he is a disinterested tackler. Two games after he was run over by 49ers running back Brian Robinson Jr., Banks escorted Emmanuel Wilson into the end zone.

It looked like Banks — whose lack of effort and development got two assistant coaches fired last season — was banished in Week 6, but then injuries to Adebo and Flott turned him into a starter again. He still is rotating with rookie seventh-round pick Korie Black, who left the team for nearly two months to join the Jets practice squad.

“Am I making the plays I’m supposed to make, communicating the way I should?” Manuel said. “It falls back on me. Are they upholding the standard? That’s why you see a rotation of guys.”

More Giants / Page 48

THOUGHTS



CB DRU PHILLIPS (22)
(2024 third-round pick)

There's a boom-or-bust element to Phillips in the slot.

Boom: Two interceptions, a fumble recovery and five tackles for loss as a run defender.

Bust: Eight penalties (tied for the No. 3 in the NFL) and 40 catches allowed for 421 yards and two touchdowns.

Phillips lost snaps to Nic Jones for the first time against the Packers. He has fallen from the No. 8 cornerback in the NFL, as ranked by Pro Football Focus, as a rookie to No. 78 because of his coverage struggles.



S JEVÓN HOLLAND (8)
(three years, \$45 million)

The Giants had interest in keeping Xavier McKinney but were priced out during 2024 free agency.

The one-year delayed pivot was signing Holland, who came advertised as a better locker room presence than his predecessor and a game-changer with 5/5/5 (career sacks/interceptions/forced fumbles).

Holland has yet to record a sack, interception or forced fumble with the Giants. He's been steady, but not at McKinney's All-Pro level with the Packers.

"We were playing our best ball before Adebo and Holland went down," Manuel said of the season-turning Oct. 19 fourth-quarter collapse against the Broncos.

S TYLER NUBIN (27)
(2024 second-round pick)

Entering the NFL with a school-record 13 career interceptions at Minnesota, Nubin (left) has two career passes defended (zero interceptions) in 23 games.

Ball hawking was supposed to make up for concerns about his lack of speed, which have shown up on three occasions when one wrong step has allowed an angled run to leak out for a huge gain (two touchdowns) because he isn't fast enough to make up ground.

Is he being miscast? He has played 49 percent of his defensive snaps as a free safety and 33 percent in the box.



Skattebo: Don't like WWE show? then ... Tough!

By COOPER ALBERS
and RYAN DUNLEAVY

Cam Skattebo isn't one to back down from a fight — whether he's healthy or not.

The Giants rookie running back stood his ground after receiving backlash for participating in a ringside fracas during a WWE event at Madison Square Garden on Monday night while still recovering from a season-ending ankle injury.

Skattebo, sitting ringside for John Cena's final "Monday Night Raw" appearance, led comedian Andrew Schulz and some Giants teammates into a shoving match with The Judgment Day faction during the show.

While the segment induced a clamoring ovation from the Garden crowd, it raised some concerns among the Giants faithful — who watched Skattebo participate in a scripted confrontation while rehabbing from the dislocated ankle and fractured fibula he suffered in Week 8.

Skattebo wasn't concerned by the outrage, saying he was simply enjoying himself during a difficult recovery process.

"Aye, honestly if you don't like that I'm having a good time while dealing with a tough time, then just go ahead and unfollow and casually move on," he wrote in a post to X on Tuesday afternoon.

"I'm not able to play football and have the fun I've been having my whole life, so I am doing things outside the box trying to find stuff to keep me happy," he added. "Enjoy the rest of y'all's week and just don't talk about me if you ain't got nothing nice to say."

Dominik Mysterio, JD McDonagh and Finn Balor of The Judgment Day crashed a ringside interview with Schulz — promoting his new Netflix special — after they lost to Cena, Sheamus and Rey Mysterio in a six-man tag match.

Dominik Mysterio snatched the mic and taunted Schulz, as well as the Big Blue members sitting behind him — centering his verbal attack on the fan-favorite back.

"The only good thing that's coming out of New York City is standing right in front of you," Mysterio said. "The only champion New York has seen in ... can you count, Cam? How many years? He don't know. He can't count."

Mysterio shoved the comedian, then Skattebo — who was ditching his scooter for the first time pub-

licly — popped up to his feet and pushed McDonagh to the ground.

Chaos ensued over the barricade, with Skattebo's teammates, including fellow rookie Abdul Carter, joining the action to push back and forth with Judgment Day until the skirmish was broken up.

Skattebo remained standing the whole time and even stuck his tongue out as the faction retreated.

The Giants weren't the only NFL squad at the Garden on Monday night, as members of the Eagles — against whom Skattebo got hurt — were also in attendance for Cena's last dance at the World's Most Famous Arena.

They were greeted with a chorus of boos.

Perhaps Skattebo, who has passed the scooter stage and is now in a walking boot, would have received a more positive reaction from fans had he gotten into it with "Big Dom" of the Eagles instead of "Dirty Dom."

Tyrone Tracy Jr., though, was right there with most Giants fans.

"I wasn't there but you best believe I was fighting," said Tracy, who replaced Skattebo as the starter. "I was fighting at home, telling him to duck. Sit down! But Cam's a wild man. Everybody knows that. He's going to go out there and do what he does."

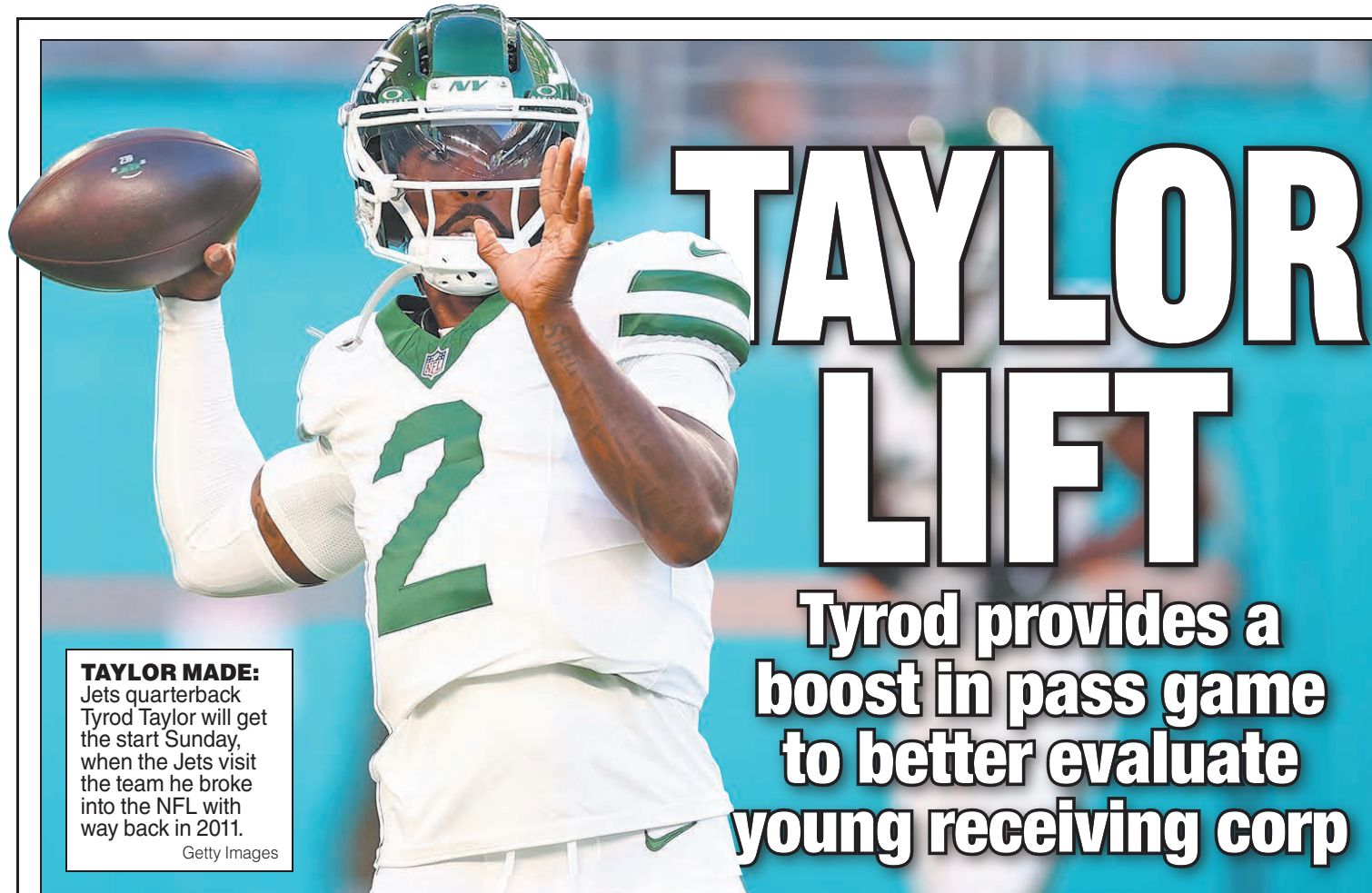
Skattebo reported to the Giants training facility Tuesday morning for his normal treatment and rehab and was no worse for the wear than he was Monday despite the angst his antics caused everyone — including Giants legend Michael Strahan.

"I was supposed to go [to Raw], but I'm glad I didn't because I would've fought Skattebo for fighting on a broken ankle," Strahan said on "Good Morning America," according to WFAN host radio Danielle McCartan. "What are you doing man?! We need you to play football! Don't hurt yourself doing that! That was 'real enough' for him to really get hurt."

Skattebo has been sidelined since undergoing season-ending surgery in the hours after his injury on Oct. 26.

"Skatt's crazy, so he probably had some extra in there," said left tackle Andrew Thomas, who has his own history of foot and ankle injuries. "But I'm not worried about him. He's going to trust and do everything it takes to be back when he's ready."

calbers@nypost.com
rdunleavy@nypost.com



TAYLOR MADE:
Jets quarterback Tyrod Taylor will get the start Sunday, when the Jets visit the team he broke into the NFL with way back in 2011.

Getty Images

TAYLOR LIFT

Tyrod provides a boost in pass game to better evaluate young receiving corp

If you're expecting Tyrod Taylor to save this Jets season from further ignominy, lower your expectations.

If you think he's any part of their murky future at quarterback, think again.

If your hope is that he'll be slinging the ball all over the field like Josh Allen when he starts in place of the benched Justin Fields against the Ravens on Sunday, look elsewhere.

One thing you can be sure of, though, is this: Taylor won't be rattled playing the surging 5-5 Ravens in Baltimore, the place where his 15-year career began in 2011.

The 36-year-old journeyman, playing for his seventh NFL team, has seen it all.

He's lived through more adversity than 10 players at his position combined. How many players can say they had their lung accidentally punctured by a team doctor minutes before the start of a game?

There are things Taylor figures to provide for the 2-8 Jets on Sunday — and going forward, as long as he can stay healthy — that Fields has simply been unable to do.

Firstly, he'll orchestrate at least some semblance of an actual NFL passing game, throwing the ball down the field and spreading it out to his receivers, including underutilized running back Breece Hall, something Fields inexplicably had problems doing.

Most importantly, a byproduct of

that will be the chance for Jets head coach Aaron Glenn and his offensive coordinator Tanner Engstrand to better evaluate the young receivers on the roster as they look toward 2026.

Taylor's ability to push the ball down the field will give the coaching staff a better understanding of how much a part of their future young receivers Arian Smith, Adonai Mitchell, John Metchie III, Tyler Johnson and Isaiah Williams will be.

Taylor behind center also should increase the production and accelerate the growth of rookie tight end Mason Taylor and elevate Hall to another level in the passing game.



Mark Cannizzaro

"Tyrod's a professional," Jets tight end Jeremy Ruckert said. "You know what you're gonna get from him. He's a guy who's played a lot of football.

And he's someone you can always lean on — whether he's playing or not — for advice.

"He's someone you come to on the sideline asking a question about what he saw or what he thinks as a guy with a lot of experience [and] a lot of ability."

Taylor's journey has been long and winding. He's started in 58 NFL games and has a record of 28-29-1.

The only time he's been a regular starter in the league came during his three-year stay in Buffalo, where he went 7-6 in 2015, 7-8 in 2016 and 8-6 in 2017.

Sunday
JETS AT RAVENS
1 p.m.
CBS
WAXQ
(104.3 FM)
Line: Jets +13.5 • O/U: 44.5

Since then, he has only 16 starts in the past eight seasons, going 6-9-1. That includes his only start with the Jets this season, a 29-27 loss at Tampa against whom he was 26-of-36 passing for 197 yards, 2 TDs and one INT.

That game, though, was a look into how much more efficiency the Jets passing game is with him playing.

Evaluating Fields is complicated, because he's produced such a great deal of the Jets offense with his arm and his legs.

Fields has 1,642 of the team's 2,815 offensive yards and he's produced 11 of the team's 18 offensive TDs — seven through the air and four with his legs.

But a Fields-led offense is not sustainable in today's NFL.

The Jets are averaging 139.9 yards passing per game. In case you've missed the memo on this, the NFL is a passing league.

If the Jets are to continue on this path of poor passing production to the end of the season, they'll have produced the lowest passing yards average in the NFL since the 2022 Bears averaged 130.5, according to ESPN.

The Bears went 3-14 that year and Fields started 15 of those games.

Fields ran for 1,143 yards and eight TDs that year, good for seventh in the NFL. Among the star running backs who rushed for fewer yards than Fields that year included Aaron Jones, Christian McCaffrey, Jonathan Taylor, Jamaal Williams, Ezekiel Elliott and Alvin Kamara.

That's pretty impressive stuff. For the back of your football card. Not for winning.

This is why it's time for Taylor. He's all they have, but he's a better passer than Fields.

Jets defensive tackle Harrison Phillips didn't play with Taylor in Buffalo, because he joined the Bills in 2018, the year after Taylor left. But he spoke this week about the raves he heard about Taylor when he got there.

"It was great to hear how positively they talked about him," Phillips said. "I hear some of our skill position [players] and offensive line talking about how well he's able to jell with guys. He's great at that.

"He's just been super impressive. Quarterbacks have to take the approach every week that they're gonna go play 60 snaps to win the football game or maybe never play a single snap. And, with the long career he's had there's no way he'd be able to still be doing this at a high level if he didn't take that approach every day through his 15 years.

"We definitely feel comfortable with him going out there and leading our team."

mcannizzaro@nypost.com

Can Aaron grin and Bear it?

By COOPER ALBERS

Not even broken bones can stop Aaron Rodgers from wanting to "own" the Chicago Bears.

The Steelers quarterback underwent further tests this week that confirmed the fracture in his non-throwing wrist will not require surgery, head coach Mike Tomlin announced Tuesday afternoon.

"Really, it's just about bracing and securing it for his comfort and safety. And then, it's about how functional he is," Tomlin told reporters.

The veteran field general is pushing to play in Sunday's road matchup against the Bears — a team he dominated for 18 years as a member of the rival Packers — but "doctors must clear him and his status moving forward is TBD," says NFL insider Tom Pelissero.

Tomlin noted that Friday will be the "key day" in determining whether Rodgers will suit up in the Windy City.

"We'll see where the week leads us and we'll take it day by day," Tomlin said.

Rodgers exited the Steelers' 34-12 victory over the Cincinnati Bengals on Sunday after suffering a wrist injury in the second quarter.

Tomlin revealed Monday that the four-time MVP wanted to return to the game.

Mason Rudolph filled in for Rodgers to secure the win and would be penciled into Sunday's starting lineup if Rodgers doesn't get medically cleared to play.

The 21-year veteran has thrown for 1,969 yards, 19 touchdowns and nine interceptions through his first 10 games in Pittsburgh, a resurgent season following a turbulent two-year stretch with the Jets.

Rodgers has historically battered the Bears during his illustrious career, boasting a 24-5 record against Chicago while throwing 64 touchdowns and just 10 interceptions, all while he was with the Packers.

In 2021, he famously yelled "I own you!" to Bears fans after darting into the end zone for a rushing touchdown.

At 41, Rodgers could be looking at his last chance to play the Bears — and it would serve up quite a compelling finale.

Both the Steelers (6-4) and Bears (7-3) lead their respective divisions, with Chicago winning seven of eight games after an 0-2 start.

Got their Grish'

Breakout outfielder returns to Yankees on qualifying offer

By GREG JOYCE

Trent Grisham is running it back with the Yankees, who will get to find out just how real his breakout season was.

The center fielder on Tuesday accepted the one-year, \$22.025 million qualifying offer from the Yankees, giving them some insurance heading into the offseason but also potentially crowding the outfield while tying up a large chunk of money coming off a career year.

The return of Grisham should not impact the top Yankees priority — re-signing Cody Bellinger — as general manager Brian Cashman said recently he would continue to have conversations with Bellinger's agent, Scott Boras, even if Grisham accepted the qualifying offer.

"[Grisham] had a hell of a year for us, one of the big reasons why we had the level of success we did," Cashman said last week. "We'd be happy if he accepted and came back."

Grisham could have opted to test the free agent market, which is especially thin in the outfield (center field in particular), one reason the Yankees may have thought he would decline it and fetch them a compensatory draft pick if he had signed elsewhere. But there was also some internal thought that he might be more inclined to take it because of the uncertainty looming in 2027 with the potential for a work stoppage.

Now, Grisham is coming back at an average annual value higher than he likely would have gotten on the market and creating some questions about how the Yankees will handle their outfield situation this offseason. If they are also able to re-sign Bellinger, that would make Jasson Domínguez and Spencer Jones potential trade chips. If Bellinger — whose suitors are expected to include the Mets, Dodgers and Phillies, among others — does not return, Domínguez could be in line to handle left field again,

perhaps with Jones getting a chance to prove himself in camp.

The 29-year-old Grisham is coming off a career year, in which he crushed 34 home runs and posted an .811 OPS across 143 games. His return provides cover in center field if Bellinger signs elsewhere — the next best option among free agents is Harrison Bader — but could also complicate things if Bellinger returns.

"If one of those guys [Grisham or Bellinger] comes back, it creates a nice competition [for Domínguez and Jones]," Cashman said. "If both come back, maybe it creates some trade flexibility."

The move does not give the Yankees flexibility with regard to their luxury tax payroll, with owner Hal Steinbrenner having previously indicated that a \$300 million payroll is not sustainable. With Grisham and lefty swingman Ryan Yarbrough (who agreed to a \$2.5 million deal on Monday) both back in the fold, the Yankees currently have a projected luxury tax payroll of roughly \$282 million, per Cot's Contracts — and that is without adding Bellinger, potentially another starter and bullpen help.

If Bellinger does re-sign, the Yankees could try to find a trade partner for Grisham, but players who accept the qualifying offer cannot be traded before June 15 without their consent.

The Yankees should get some more clarity on their 2026 payroll by Friday, which is the deadline for tendering contracts to arbitration-eligible players on their 40-man roster.

➤ Jones was added to the 40-man roster Tuesday, along with right-handers Elmer Rodríguez and Chase Hampton, protecting them from next month's Rule 5 draft.

The Yankees left unprotected a handful of other fringe prospects like LHP Brock Selvidge, RHP Brendan Beck, 1B T.J. Rumfield, RHP Eric Reyzelman and RHP Harrison Cohen.

gjoyce@nypost.com

ENCORE!

Trent Grisham accepted the qualifying offer from the Yankees, keeping him under contract for one year at \$22.025 million.

AP

NEW
YORK
POST

New Episode
Out Now!



THE SHOW
a baseball podcast with
Joel Sherman & Jon Heyman
Veteran MLB insiders and longtime frenemies
take their three decades of baseball debates public.



NYPST.COM/PODCASTS/THE-SHOW

WITH SPECIAL GUEST CO-HOST

Chris "Mad Dog" Russo



NEW EPISODE EVERY TUESDAY

SCAN THE QR
FOR NEW YORK POST SPORTS
PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



Mets must
dive back in,
re-sign fan
fave — and
productive
— Alonso

TAKE
THE
POLAR
PLUNGE



LET'S start with something we can probably all agree on, OK? Pete Alonso is not Tom Seaver.

If Seaver had hurt his right arm in spring training of 1977 and been forced to retire after 10 seasons, he almost surely would have taken the Sandy Koufax route to the Hall of Fame: He'd have been 182-107, with a 2.47 ERA and 2,334 strikeouts in that abbreviated version of his career. He'd still have all three Cy Youngs. He'd still be the key ingredient of the '69 Mets.

Pete Alonso has been a superb Met his first seven seasons. Maybe in his next seven seasons he'll add another 236 homers to the 264 he already has, make it to 500. No "clean" player who's gotten to 500 in a career has ever been denied entry.



But right now — today — if for some reason Alonso decides to call it a career, take up golf instead, and not take another at-bat, he'll have been a very good player, but not an immortal. We can agree on *that one*, right?

So if the worst-case scenario with Alonso happens in the next few weeks and he departs for a new ballclub, this would not be the *most* egregious separation in Mets history. Seaver retired that trophy. We can agree on that one, too, yes?

OK.

That said, the Mets would be foolish to let it get that far. You could argue they've been foolish to let it get *this* far, although once it became clear Alonso would answer his troublesome 2024 with a bounce back in '25 — .272/.347/.524, 38 homers, 126 RBI, a league-leading 41 doubles — Scott Boras wasn't going to forgo another round of romancing.

So we are here.

We are about to enter the season of hot-stove hysteria when emotions become high and reason appears in short supply. And here seems to be the message of most Mets fans to Steve Cohen and David Stearns, the men who still hold it in their power to make Alonso a lifetime Met:

We want him back. We want him to retire as a Met. We want it plain that "20" will one day hang from the roof at Citi Field. We want him to at least make a case in the argument (with David Wright) for the best Met to only play as a Met.

And those are fair points. So are these: Alonso is an imperfect player. His defense is, at best, average. He is as slow as dial-up Internet. Even this season, good as he was, he was prone to deep slumps

and long home run droughts; he had four stretches when he went more than 10 games without one, and one in mid-summer when he went homerless 22 out of 23. For a player who is a slugger, first and foremost, that's at least a conversation piece.

But the truth is, Alonso is more than a player to whom many Mets fans have an emotional attachment. Yes, that matters. Yes, he remains the most popular Met, and by a large margin, and his departure would devastate an awful lot of the faithful. Just once, Mets fans would like to follow a guy through the entirety of a career in a Mets uniform. Wright's would-be final 5-7 years vaporized due to a bad back, he was gone early. Seaver was traded.

God bless the late Ed Kranepool, but an awful lot of Mets fans crave an 18-year Met who was

also a perennial All-Star.

But it's not just that. You can't just unload a 38-HR/126-RBI player and find another. A year ago, when it seemed possible that you might essentially trade in Alonso for Vlad Guerrero Jr., especially when you could at least argue Alonso seemed in decline? You could sell that. If Stearns (with Cohen's approval) really thinks a Jeff McNeil/Mark Vientos platoon is the solution for that — especially given the year Vientos just had — he's taking the wrong kind of gummies.

Will the Mets have to pay Alonso more than they'd like, longer than they'd like? Probably. Is it fair to wonder what the 30-year-old Alonso will look like at 37? Sure it is. But it's just as fair to wonder what 40-year-old Juan Soto will look like in 2039, too, when he'll still be a Met.

The biggest advantage the Mets have in Cohen isn't whether he'll spend money — he has — but that he can spend it with the idea that he can also outspend his mistakes, the way the Yankees have for years. Look, the sport might look entirely different two years from now if we get that nuclear winter after the 2026 season, and by then, if there's a salary cap, maybe it'll be impossible to behave that way.

But for now, there's no cap. For now, there's just 2026 to worry about. The Post's Jon Heyman reported not long ago that things have started off well in the negotiations. There's a long time to go. But there's really only one way for this to end. Pete Alonso isn't Tom Seaver, no.

But he's as close as the Mets have to an iconic franchise player right now. Maybe that shouldn't matter if you simply look at this with an ice-cold heart. But it does.

mvaccaro@nypost.com

BEAR AND NOW: Mets fans have witnessed bitter endings for other fan favorites — from the trade of Tom Seaver to the injury decline of David Wright — but the franchise has a chance to do right by their faithful and bring back the productive and durable Pete Alonso.

Jason Szenes;
Charles Wenzelberg/NY Post

By JUSTIN TASCH

As the Mets look to revamp their starting rotation after disappointingly missing the playoffs, they're prepared to part with one of its current key cogs.

Right-hander Kodai Senga is “extremely available,” ESPN's Jeff Passan reported Tuesday, adding that multiple executives anticipate the Mets trading the 32-year-old this offseason.

While Senga — who has two years left on a five-year, \$75 million contract — has impressed when healthy, injuries have held him back.

After a dazzling rookie campaign in 2023 in which he earned an All-Star nod while recording a 2.98 ERA with 202 strikeouts in 29 starts, he made just one regular-season appearance in 2024.

Senga suffered a shoulder injury in spring training that year, and when he made his season debut on July 26, he strained his calf running off the mound for a pop-up.

He was thought to be done for the season but ended up returning for Game 1 of the NLDS and made three playoff appearances, giving up seven runs across five innings.

Senga was spectacular again to begin 2025, posting a 1.47 ERA through his first 13 starts before he injured his hamstring falling on first base while catching a throw from Pete Alonso.

He came back after a month, had a 5.90 ERA over his next nine starts and was then sent down to Triple-A for the final month of the season.

Mets starting pitching was excellent to begin the season

Senga ‘extremely available’: report

ON THE BLOCK: Kodai Senga, who has struggled to stay healthy the past two seasons, could be traded away this offseason.

Getty Images



but fell off mightily in the second half.

Sean Manaea, whom the Mets re-signed to a three-year, \$75 million contract after a strong 2024, was out until July this past year due to an oblique strain and pitched to a 5.64 ERA in 60 $\frac{2}{3}$ innings.

Frankie Montas, who signed a two-year, \$34 million contract before last season and will likely be out all of 2026 after Tommy John surgery, was designated for assignment on Tuesday. He was out until June this year after suffering a lat strain in spring training, then made just nine appearances (seven starts) and pitched to a 6.28 ERA in 38 $\frac{2}{3}$ innings before season-ending surgery.

Griffin Canning was a pleasant surprise after signing a one-year, \$4.25 million contract

with a 3.77 ERA, but he tore an Achilles tendon in June.

David Peterson earned his first All-Star nod and had a 2.83 ERA through his first 21 starts, but he fell apart down the stretch to the tune of an 8.42 ERA over his final nine appearances.

Clay Holmes was also less effective during the second half in his first full MLB season as a starter.

The rotation was in such disarray that the Mets relied heavily on prospects Nolan McLean, Jonah Tong and Brandon Sproat in September.

According to Passan, the Mets are also interested in free agent reliever Devin Williams, the formerly dominant Brewers closer who struggled with the Yankees this year.

jtasch@nypost.com

Amazin's dump failed Montas

By GREG JOYCE

METS NOTES

Another ill-fated New York tenure is over for Frankie Montas.

The Mets designated Montas for assignment Tuesday, requesting waivers for his unconditional release.

Montas underwent Tommy John surgery in September, knocking him out for all of 2026, so the Mets freed up his spot on the 40-man roster, though they remain on the hook for the \$17 million left on his contract.

The 32-year-old Montas, who signed a two-year, \$34 million contract last offseason, ended up pitching in nine games (seven starts) for the Mets and posting a 6.28 ERA across 38 $\frac{2}{3}$ innings. It proved to be the same number of games Montas appeared in for the Yankees from

2022-2023, with injuries sabotaging his time in The Bronx as well.

Montas missed the start of 2025 with a lat strain that he suffered in spring training and then after he returned in June, was eventually demoted to the bullpen before getting injured again.

The DFA cleared a spot on the 40-man roster for the Mets to add outfield prospect Nick Morabito, protecting him from next month's Rule 5 draft. The 22-year-old speedster spent this season at Double-A Binghamton, batting .273 with 49 steals and a .734 OPS in 118 games.

► In a surprise to no one, **Edwin Díaz** officially declined the qualifying offer ahead of Tues-

day's deadline, passing up a one-year, \$22.025 million deal to pursue a bigger contract on the open market.

The Mets have already begun discussions with Díaz, who is the top free agent closer after pitching to a 1.63 ERA with 28 saves this season. He said last week there is a “50-50” chance of whether he would return after opting out of the final two years and \$37 million left on his contract.

If Díaz signs elsewhere, the Mets will at least recoup a compensatory draft pick.

“We would enjoy to stay [with the Mets], but at the end of the day, we don't know what they are thinking,” Díaz said last week. “We have got our role. My agency wants to do the best job, and I just listen to my agent.”

gjoyce@nypost.com



PBS/Alamy; Stephanie Berger (inset)

STREAM IT OR SKIP IT

"The American Revolution" (PBS) is yet another example of how **Ken Burns** (left) and his collaborators take what we already know about a historic event and go really deep into the topic in an entertaining way. **OUR CALL: STREAM IT**



WHAT TO WATCH

"Selling The OC" (Netflix) seems to have struck a solid balance between rehashing and building on old stories and introducing new players and new drama this season. Season 4 has its fair share of guests, tears, romance, heartbreak, fresh fits, and huge houses.

DECIDER

WHAT TO WATCH. WHEREVER YOU WATCH

LIKE MOTHER, LIKE DAUGHTER

'Landman's Ali Larter and Michelle Randolph talk Season 2

By KAREN KEMMERLE

LANDMAN" stars Ali Larter and Michelle Randolph form one of the most dynamic on-screen mother/daughter duos to inhabit the streaming landscape in recent years, thanks to Paramount+. As Angela Norris, the wife of Tommy Norris (Billy Bob Thornton), Larter is a force to be reckoned with. She snarls, she flirts, she yells, she curses, she cooks, and audiences eat it all up. As Ainsley Norris, Angela and Tommy's teenage daughter, Randolph brings boundless energy to her role as a wide-eyed optimist on her way to becoming every bit as savvy as her mother.

While Randolph's career is just beginning (though she's very well known to Taylor Sheridan fans from her work in "1923"), Hollywood veteran Larter feels that she is just entering her "prime." Though Angela is incredibly sure of herself, the same cannot be said for her daughter, Ainsley.

Both women are looking forward to their characters' changing dynamics, as Angela must reckon with the fact that Ainsley is leaving the Midlands to attend Texas Christian University in Fort Worth. "Ainsley is going to TCU, but Angela is not letting go easily," said Larter. Randolph, however, sees Ainsley as "just now realizing her independence." "She's learning how to navigate her identity and the attention

Michelle Randolph and Ali Larter (far right) star in "Landman."



For more on your favorite TV and films, visit [decider.com](https://www.decider.com)

she receives," said Randolph. Will Ainsley's new sense of self disrupt Angela's perfect family? Fans will have to tune in to find out!

Both Larter and Randolph spoke with DECIDER at a press junket to chat about what's next for their characters and hint at whether we'll see Randolph's character Elizabeth Stanton in Sheridan's upcoming "1944."

DECIDER: Ali, I look forward every time to seeing Angela on screen. What's it like to play a character as complex and viva-

cious as her at this point in your career?

ALI LARTER: It's enthralling. I'm so honored that Taylor chose me to bring Angela to life. I get to work with such extraordinary actors on this, in addition to our amazing crew, including our DP and director Steven Kay, who directed all the episodes. I've had to elevate my game, so that's been challenging, but in the best of ways. "Landman" is not easy, but my God, it is fulfilling. I feel like I'm a woman in my prime, and I get to play a character

who is incredibly alive. She's so present in her body. She's fiery and loves to break the rules, but has the capability to be incredibly vulnerable at times. That's the brilliance of Taylor's writing. This season, we dig into the dynamics of the family as well as Tommy's and Angela's relationship. There are so many layers to the show. That's what excites me the most.

Michelle, Ainsley is every bit as much of a force of nature as her mother. What can you tease about her journey in Season 2? MICHELLE RANDOLPH:

We first meet Ainsley when she's 17. As an actress, I find it so fulfilling to play a character with so much room to grow. She's still figuring out who she is in this world, and she's just now appreciating her independence. She's learning how to navigate her identity and the attention she receives.

This season, we'll see her going off to college and exploring what it's like to be on her own. I am as excited as the audience to figure out where that goes. Ainsley's surprising me all the time. As she heads into her most formative years, I find I'm also growing with her.

Michelle, are there any updates you can share about "1944"? If Elizabeth's story continues, what would you like to see?

MR: I'd love to see how she is doing after all that happened in "1923." She left so abruptly. I'm like, does she go back to the city? Does she stay in Montana after all? I don't know anything about "1944," but I do know that if I could, I would love to be part of it and play Elizabeth once more.

TRENDING NOW

This year's "Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade" will be particularly bewitching, as "Wicked" star **Cynthia Erivo** (below) will be opening the annual Turkey Day special with a performance. Hosted by Savannah Guthrie, Hoda Kotb, and Al Roker, the parade will air at 8:30 a.m. on NBC and Peacock on Thursday, Nov. 27.

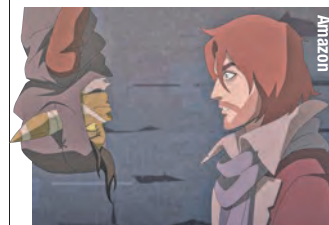


Jennifer Graylock/INSTARimages

WHAT'S NEW

ON BRAVO "Southern Charm," the Season 11 premiere.

ON PRIME VIDEO "The Mighty Nein," a new animated fantasy series (below).



Amazon

What's on Tonight



EPIC
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1: 4 p.m. on SYFY. Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson. The three friends race against time to defeat the Dark Lord.



ADVENTURE
Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl: 7 p.m. on USA. Johnny Depp, Geoffrey Rush. A young blacksmith teams up with an infamous pirate.



COMEDY
Step Brothers: 9:50 p.m. on PARSHO. Will Ferrell, John C. Reilly. Two grown men become step-brothers when their parents marry, and they discover similar interests.

Wednesday November 19, 2025

Evening	SP	C	F	6:30pm	7:00pm	7:30pm	8:00pm	8:30pm	9:00pm	9:30pm	10:00pm	10:30pm	11:00pm	11:30pm		
2	WCBS	2	2	2	CBS Evening News	Inside Edition	Entertainment Tonight	Survivor: If You're Loyal to All, You're Loyal to None		The Amazing Race: I'm Not a Big Fan of Olives			CBS News 11pm	(11:35) Late Show		
4	WNBC	4	4	4	NBC Nightly News	News 4 New York at 7	Access Hollywood	Wicked (2024, Musical): An unlikely friendship between two witches in college will be put to the test. Cynthia Erivo. PG						News 4 New York at 11		
5	WNYW	5	5	5	(6:00) 6 O'Clock News	Extra	TMZ	The Floor: Battle of the Besties		(9:02) 99 to Beat: Flipping Out!		The 10 O'Clock News		Battleground NYC	Good Night New York	
7	WABC	7	7	7	ABC World News	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	The 59th Annual CMA Awards: Lainey Wilson hosts as stars gather to honor outstanding talent.					News		(11:35) Kimmel Live	
9	WWOR	9	9	9	Family Feud (R)	Family Feud	Family Feud	The News on My 9		Dateline: Diabolical		Family Feud (R)	Family Feud (R)	Dateline: Heart of Darkness		
11	WPIX	11	11	11	(6:00) PIX11 News at 6	Sports Nightly	The Big Bang Theory	Law & Order Toronto: Criminal Intent		Wild Cards: Death By Design (R)		PIX11 News at Ten		Seinfeld: Shower Head	Seinfeld	
13	WNET	13	13	13	BBC News America	The PBS News Hour		The American Revolution: Conquer by a Drawn Game				The American Revolution: Conquer by a Drawn Game (R)				
21	WLIW	21	21	21	(6:00) News	Antiques Roadshow		TURN: Washington's		American Experience				BBC News	The Day	
25	WNYE	25	22	25	Report	92Y on NYCLife		Secrets NY	New York	Neighbor	Eat Harlem	\$9.99	Story in	Speakeasy		
31	WPXN	31	3	531	(6:00) Blue	Blue Bloods: Friends Like		Blue Bloods		Blue Bloods		Blue Bloods		Blue Bloods		
41	WXTV	41	6	41	Noticiero	La rosa de Guadalupe		Papas Por Siempre		Los Hilos del Pasado		Monteverde		Noticias	Noticias	
47	WNJU	47	16	12	Noticias	La Isla Desafio Extremo		Dinastía Casillas		Lejos de Ti		Noticiero		Noticias		
55	WLNY	55	10	10	Perfect (R)	Last Man	Ghosts	News 8pm		48 Hours: Guilty Innocent		Judge Judy	Judge Judy	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	
A&E	46	46	181	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Fugitives	Fugitives	Fugitives	Fugitives	
AMC	54	43	231	(5:00) U.S. Marshals (1998, Action) ★★★			Unstoppable (2010, Thriller)		Denzel Washington. ★★★		The Fugitive (1993, Action)		Harrison Ford. PG-13 ★★★½			
BET	37	54	270	Neighbor.	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	Tyler Perry's Sistas		106 & Sports		Tyler Perry's Sistas			
BBCAM	71	101	189	Skyfall (2012, Action)	Daniel Craig. ★★★½			A Few Good Men (1992, Drama)		Tom Cruise. R ★★★½				Criminal Minds		
BRAVO	18	44	185	Sthn Charm	Southern Charm (R)		Southern Charm (R)		Southern Charm		BravoCon	Salt Lake City (R)	(R) Sthn Charm			
CNBC	15	24	102	Money	Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		American Greed		American Greed			
CNN	78	25	100	(6:00) Lead	Erin Burnett OutFront		Anderson Cooper 360°		The Source with Kaitlan		CNN NewsNight		Laura Coates Live			
COM	45	50	190	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	Mike Judge	Daily Show	South Park		
DIS	49	31	250	Big City	Big City	Big City	Phineas	Phineas	Kiff	Kiff	Wizards	Vampirina	Miraculous	Miraculous		
DSC	66	27	120	Exp Unkwn	Expedition Unknown (R)		Expedition Unknown (R)		Expedition Unknown (R)		(10:05) Expedition Files		(11:05) Ghost Adventures			
E!	24	51	196	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office		
ESPN	28	36	70	NBA	(7:12) NBA Basketball: Golden State Warriors at Miami Heat. Live.		(9:35) NBA Basketball: New York Knicks at Dallas Mavericks. Live.									
ESPN2	29	35	74	ESPN BET L	ESPN College Football Primetime						SportsCenter		NFL Live			
FBN	43	106	117	Bottom	Kudlow (R)		FOX Business in Depth		How America Works (R)		How America Works (R)		How America Works (R)			
FNC	44	26	118	Spc. Rpt.	The Ingraham Angle		Jesse Watters Primetime		Hannity		Gutfeld!		Fox News @ Night			
FOOD	50	97	164	(6:00) Tournament of Champions	All-Star Christmas: Make It Rein		Beat Bobby Flay: Holiday		Beat Bobby Flay: Holiday		Beat Bobby Flay: Holiday		Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby		
FREFRM	38	49	199	(5:15) National Treasure: Book (2007)	(7:55) Jungle Cruise (2021, Adventure)		Dwayne Johnson, Emily Blunt. PG-13 ★★★						The 700 Club (R)			
FS1	400	99	83	Tip-Off	College Basketball Live.		College Basketball Live.						Extra	Clay Travis		
FX	10	40	53	(5:00) Thor: Ragnarok (2017) ★★★	Thor: Love and Thunder (2022, Action)		Chris Hemsworth. ★★★						Thor: Love and Thunder (2022) ★★★			
HALL	191	240	(6:00) Holiday Crashers (2024, Holiday)	A Keller Christmas Vacation (2025)		Santa Tell Me (2024, Holiday)		Erin Krakow.								
HGTV	64	98	165	(6:00) Help!	Help! I Wrecked		Help! I Wrecked		(9:01) Holmes on Homes		Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters		
HIST	40	47	128	Mntn Men	Mountain Men (R)		Mountain Men: Changing of the Guard		(9:33) Ice Road		Truckers	(10:33) Mountain Men: Backcountry Cal				
ID	23	171	123	Body Cam	Body Cam: Crying Wolf		Real PD: Kansas City		Body Cam: Race Against		The Murder Tapes		See No Evil			
LIFE	62	45	140	Equalizer	The Equalizer: Leverage		The Equalizer		The Equalizer: Followers		The Equalizer: Shooter		(11:03) The Equalizer			
MeTV	33	33	3	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Andy	Andy	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Hogan	Hogan	Burnett	P. Mason		
MSG	27	87	78	Shorts (R)	Up & Adams		New York Knicks		NY Knicks	NBA Basketball: New York Knicks at Dallas Mavericks. Live.						
MSG Plus	48	88	80	FanDuel	United Fight		United Fight		NY Knicks	NBA Basketball: New York Knicks at Dallas Mavericks. Live.						
MSNBC	14	23	103	Ari Melber	The Weeknight		All in with Chris Hayes		The Briefing Jen Psaki		Lawrence O'Donnell		The 11th Hour			
MTV	20	53	210	The Challenge: Am I Being (R)			The Challenge: Ten Toes Down		Ridiculous		Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous		
NATGEO	65	162	121	Smuggler	To Catch a Smuggler (R)		To Catch a Smuggler (R)		To Catch a Smuggler (R)		Border	Border	Catch Smuggler (R)			
NICK	6	121	252	SpongeBob	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Bang	Bang		
OWN	173	180	145	My Lottery	My Lottery	My Lottery	My Lottery	My Lottery	My Lottery	My Lottery	My Lottery	My Lottery	My Lottery	My Lottery		
PARMT	36	56	54	Men	Men		Step Brothers (2008, Comedy)		Will Ferrell. R ★★★		(10:15) The Other Guys (2010, Comedy)		Will Ferrell.			
SNY	26	60	77	Mets Reprt	Amazin'	Mets Classics: Wright Returns: New York Mets at Philadelphia Phillies.					Replay.	Mets Reprt	Sports	Sports		
SYFY	17	48	180	Hallows 1	Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2 (2011, Fantasy)					Daniel Radcliffe.		Beast (2022, Adventure)		Idris Elba. R		
TBS	8	39	52	Bang	Bang	Bang	All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite: Dynamite 11/19/2025					AEW Collision		Collision		
TCM	82	41	230	(6:00) One, Two, Three (1961, Comedy)	The Odessa File (1974, Thriller)		Jon Voight. PG ★★★		(10:15) Marathon Man (1976, Thriller)		Dustin Hoffman.					
TLC	52	28	139	My 600-lb Life: Where Are: Vianey and			Dangerously Obese		Dangerously Obese		About Face: A Real Life		(11:01) Dr. Pimple Popper			
TNT	3	37	51	NHL Pre	NHL Hockey					NHL Hockey						
TVLAND	85	34	241	(6:24) Andy	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	(9:20) Loves Raymond		Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Queens	Queens		
USA	16	38	50	(6:00) Fire	Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl (2003)					Johnny Depp.		Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest (2006)				
VH1	19	52	217	Prince	Prince	Prince	Basketball Wives (R)		Basketball Wives (R)		Basketball Wives (R)		Basketball Wives (R)			
WE	59	42	149	(6:00) NCIS	NCIS: Lt. Jane Doe		NCIS: The Bone Yard		NCIS: Terminal Leave		NCIS: Call of Silence		NCIS: Heart Break			
YES	53	89	76	Home Plate	Wom. College Basketball Live.					Sportico		Stadium		Wom. College Basketball Replay.		
HBO	511	301	400	(5:50) Weapons (2025, Horror) R			Eddington (2025, Comedy)		Joaquin Phoenix. R				The Substance (2024) R			
MAX	531	371	420	(6:49) End of Watch (2012, Drama)			Jake Gyllenhaal. R		(8:38) The Watchers (2024, Horror)		(10:20) MaXXXine (2024, Horror)		Charley McCain. R			
MGM Plus	595	395	Billy Kid (R)	Robin Hood (R)		The Wolf of Wall Street (2013, Crime)					Leonardo DiCaprio. R ★★★½		Best in Show (2000) ★★★½			
PARSHO	551	321	365	(6:25) Masterminds (2016, Comedy) ★★★½			Talladega Nights: Ballad (2006) ★★★		(9:50) Step Brothers (2008, Comedy)		Will Ferrell. R ★★★		Friendsgiv			

STREAM IT

OR SKIP IT?

SCAN THE CODE

TO GET OUR NEWSLETTERS ON WHAT TO WATCH

We'll help you decide!

DECIDER

DECIDER.COM

COMING BACK AFTER BREAKING OUT

GRISHAM ACCEPTS QUALIFYING OFFER FROM YANKS AFTER STUNNING 34-HR SEASON / P. 59



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2025

NEW YORK POST

www.nypost.com

The Best Sports In Town®

Pete Alonso may not be a great fielder and is about as slow as they come, but his home runs and RBIs would be nearly impossible to replace. A fan favorite throughout his first seven seasons for the Mets, he has a chance to retire as the best player to play his entire career in Queens.

Charles Wenzelberg / NY Post



VACCARO: Given his popularity and production, Amazin's must re-sign Alonso

PAGES 60-61

BEAR NECESSITY



CAM TAKES ON CHALLENGERS

REHABBING ROOKIE RB
DEFENDS WWE FRACAS

PAGE
57

