FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 2022

AGASSIZ WATER USERS DISTRICT

Meeting marked by heated exchanges

By Adam Kurtz Grand Forks Herald

MANVEL, N.D. – Rural residents who live within the boundaries of the Agassiz Water Users District on Wednesday re-elected two board members and directed the board to resume work on a new set of bylaws that some residents claim was either discriminatory or did not offer a fair election procedure.

Residents re-elect-ed Chad Thorvilson and Diane McDonald to the seven-member board at the rural water district's annual meeting. The meeting, held in the community center in Manvel, drew about 40 attendees, with a few hundred more voting by proxy, in a mailed-in ballot.

The meeting was marked y heated exchanges between board members and some rural water users. Ed and Theresa Shulz, of Arvilla, North Dakota, claimed that proxy ballots allowed the board to re-elect any sitting board member who wanted to run for another term on the board. The proxy ballots are sent in by water district customers who have decided to let the board cast the ballot in the manner board members deem most appro-

Ed Shulz made a motion, which ultimately failed, to do away with the proxy ballots, and instead allow attending members to vote directly on who they wanted to serve on the board. It's unclear how effective this maneuver would have been since Thorvilson and McDonald were running unopposed, but Shulz and his wife took issue with how candidates for the board were nominated.

"This is going to go to the state's attorney because this is crap," Theresa Shulz said after the failed motion.

The meeting was characterized by back-and-forth exchanges between some water district customers, and board members, as they argued about voting methods and points in a proposed set of new bylaws. At one point, board President Eric Stanislawski pounded his hand on the table in order to move the meeting forward. Calls frequently came from other members to let people finish speaking or to have order.

Another issue, raised by LouAnn Hagen of Gilby, was allegedly inappropriate or secret meetings between Stanislawski and Bret Burkholder, who is one of the board's four directors and administrator of the Grand Forks County Correctional Center, and a consultant.

MEETING: Page 5

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STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS



East Grand Forks Mayor Steve Gander speaks on Thursday at the annual State of the City Address and Luncheon.

'IT'S BRIDGES, PLURAL.'

East Grand Forks Mayor highlighted top projects currently underway

By Meghan Arbegast Grand Forks Herald

East Grand Forks nfrastructure plans, revamping of recreational venues and the need for two new bridges — not one new bridge — linking the city with Grand Forks and rural Polk County were among the priorities East Grand Forks Mayor Steve Gander shared on Thursday

during his annual State of

the City address.
Throughout the event, Gander had many guest speakers present updates

on some major projects or proposals in the city. Perhaps most notable was the update on a proposed bridge project that would add another link, or two, over the Red River between East Grand Forks

and Grand Forks. "It's bridges, plural. It's very important that we need two bridges to keep up with

the growth that we're seeing in our community," said City Councilman Brian Larson, one those invited to the stage by Gander to add context to city priorities.

One bridge is proposed at Merrifield Road into rural Polk County, serving as a southside bypass around Grand Forks and East Grand Forks for heavy truck and agricultural traffic, as well as traffic from Interstate 29

that seeks to bypass both

communities on the way to

eastbound Highway 2. "This will help keep sugar beet trucks and a lot of that heavy, heavy truck traffic that we see come right through downtown Grand Forks and downtown East Grand Forks and in front of our schools outside of our town but still able to access our industrial zones to keep our economy growing," Larson said.

ADDRESS: Page 12

Molly Yeh restaurant to replace Sickies

Mayor confirms local Food Network star to open restaurant

By Iacob Holley Grand Forks Herald

EAST GRAND FORKS -After months of rumors, East Grand Forks Mayor Steve Gander confirmed Thursday that local Food Network star Molly Yeh will be opening a new restaurant this fall in the historic Whitey's Underground building in East Grand Forks.

Molly Yeh is the host of Girl Meets Farm on the Food Network channel and is a resident of East Grand Forks with her husband Nick and daughters Bernie

Gander addressed the rumors while speaking at the State of the City Address & Luncheon, where he confirmed what had long been suspected.

"We've gotten confir-

mation through Molly Yeh and Nick Hagen," Gander said. "They've been married since 2014 living on Nick's family farm, and many of you probably watch her syndicated show on the Food Network every single week. They're going to open a restaurant in this location in the fall of 2022, so they are actively involved with their contractor clearing out the space and preparing it for what they're going to put in there."

Gander remarked does not know what will be served there, but said, "I know it will be tasty."

Sickies announced would be closing its restaurant occupying the space in a Facebook post in August

MOLLY YEH: Page 12



Molly Yeh, food blogger, flips through some pages in her cookbook "Molly on the Range" while sitting at her kitchen table.

Trelstad / **Grand Forks**

LIVING IN A WAR ZONE

Lindquist works to get supplies to Donbas region

By Tammy Swift The Forum

Lviv, Ukraine ark J. Lindquist is living in the middle of a war zone. Lindquist, an entertainer

and motivational speaker who lives in Moorhead, felt called to drop everything including a political campaign and travel to war-ravaged Ukraine three weeks ago after watching hours of news

coverage about Russian attacks

on the former Soviet republic. Nowadays, he describes life in a lodging in Lviv where he and seven other humanitarian workers "are stacked

everywhere we could possibly sleep."

He is in a corner of the

world where air raid sirens go off every day, panic-stricken citizens are lined 20 to 30 people deep at ATMs and an Easter Monday missile strike killed 7 people.

WAR ZONE: Page 5



Third

April 23

New

April 30

First

May 8

May 15

UND receives federal grant for drone research

By Adam Kurtz Grand Forks Herald

GRAND FORKS UND has received two Federal Aviation Administration grants totaling more than \$400,000 for drone research.

The grants were announced in a pair of Thursday, April 21, releases from North Dakota Sens. John Hoeven and Kevin Cramer, as well as UAS Magazine, an online publication for commercial unmanned systems manufacturers and operators. The grants to UND are part of a larger research initiative by the FAA to help advance unmanned technology and educate the next generation of aviation professionals.

"We've worked hard to make North Dakota a premiere hub for UAS research, development, training and operations," Hoeven operations," said. "These grants will support UND's continued efforts to research safely advance UAS technologies as it expands throughout the nation's airspace."

BRIEFS

Person found dead, floating in slough in **NW Minnesota**

HAWLEY, Minn. Police are investigating the death of a person found floating in a slough in rural Hawley in northwest Minnesota.

According to the Clay County Sheriff's Office, Hawley police received information at around 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 20 regarding something suspicious floating in a slough. When officers arrived,

they found it to be a deceased person. They also noticed vehicle tracks entering into the ditch, along with small trees and branches knocked over. Police found vehicle parts in the area and saw what appeared to be vehicle tire rims under the water, approximately 50 yards into the slough.

Valley Water Rescue responded to the scene, entered the water and confirmed it was a vehicle. A tow truck was called to the scene and recovered the vehicle.

The sheriff's office says it is unknown what time the crash happened or if weather was a factor. There were periods



ance for safer electromagnetic compatibility with emitted and static fields. The second grant is for \$80,000 and will be used to investigate

detect and avoid technology for drones. The technology is meant to allow unmanned vehicles to avoid collisions with other aircraft or structures. Findings will be used to support a drone flying beyond the visual line of sight of the operator.

UND is among seven other universities across the country that received FAA funding. The research focuses on electromagnetic comation's airspace." patibility, detect and The first grant comes avoid classifications and in at slightly more than cybersecurity oversight.

of fairly heavy snow throughout the area Wednesday.

The investigation into the crash continues; the name of the victim will be released once family has been notified.

Woman, 72, dies in **NW Minn. crash**

BRECKENRIDGE Minn. — A 72-year-old Fergus Falls woman died in a crash with a semi on Wednesday, April 20, just after 9 a.m. in Breckenridge.

Roads were covered with snow and ice at the time of the crash, said the Minnesota State Patrol.

The patrol said her 2006 Jeep was westbound on Minnesota Highway 210 when her vehicle lost control and spun out, crossing the centerline in front of a semi in the eastbound lane.

The crash took place near the highway's intersection with Minnesota Highway 9.

The driver of the 2022 semi was a 56-yearold Milnor, N.D., man. His condition wasn't released by the state patrol.

- Forum News Service

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 112th day of 2022 and the 34th day of spring.

TODAY'S **HISTORY:** In 1889, the Oklahoma Land Rush began at high noon as thousands of settlers were allowed into the state to claim land.

In 1954, live television broadcasting of the U.S. Senate's Army-McCar-

thy hearings began. In 1970, an estimated 20 million Americans participated in nationdemonstrations marking the first Earth

In 2000, federal agents seized 6-year-old Elian Gonzalez from his relatives' house in Miami to return him to his father in Cuba.

Areas of Russian control



StormTRACKER Woodc



Piepenburg

Ritka

radar and more with the Stormtracker app.

Meteorologist John Wheeler

Get the latest weather news and alerts with up-to-date forecasts, current and future

Poynter

StormTRACKER Forecast

Breezy with scattered showers. Snow may mix in early in the day. Scattered T-storms and near 70 Saturday.

Almanac Through 6 pm Thursday

Temperature		High		Low
Thursday		41°		33°
Normal		58°		34°
Record	98° in	1980	16° in	1945
Precipitation			In I	nches
Thursday				0
Month To Da	ite			1.56"
Departure Fr	om Avg	Month 7	To Date	.96"
Year To Date	Э			3.38"
Departure Fr	om Ava	Year To	Date	.46"

Sunrise: 6:25 a.m. Sunset: 8:28 p.m. Moonrise: 2:58 a.m. Moonset: 10:48 a.m.

Wednesday Saturday Friday Sunday Monday Tuesday Thursday 46/42 63/38 38/24 30/17 39/28 45/35 51/37 Scattered Scattered Rain/Snow Cloudy Partly Cloudy Partly Cloudy Mostly Cloudy Thunderstorms Showers Wind: SE 22 mph Wind: NW 22 mph Wind: N 20 mph Wind: NE 13 mph Wind: SE 21 mph Wind: S 15 mph Wind: SE 20 mph

*Average wind speed for each day

WEATHER TALK

Tornado Alley is shifting eastward

By John Wheeler FARGO - The climate of

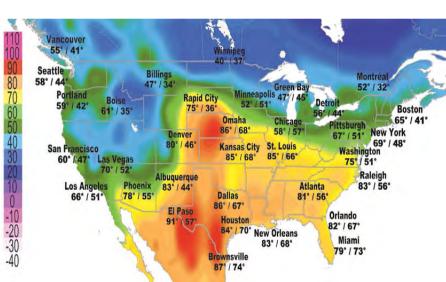
the western and southern Great Plains has dried slightly in the past couple of decades. This trend may well have been partially caused by the global climate change brought on by increased carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, but that is not certain. What is known for certain is this. Related to the drier air in the southern and central Great Plains, there has been a slight decline in the annual number of tornadoes and tornado outbreaks.

The area known as "Tornado Alley" is losing the right to its moniker to the mid-South. As tornado frequency has been reduced in Kansas and Oklahoma, there has been a simultaneous increase in the frequency of tor-nadoes in the Southeast; Mississip-Arkansas, pi, Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Georgia; the New Tornado Alley. During this time, there has been no clear trend in tornado frequency across the Dakotas and Minne-

John Wheeler is Chief Meteorologist for WDAY Television.

Williston 50s 40s 50s 70s Grand Forks Snowfall Report Month To Date

	Too	day	Tomo	orrow	Co. Factor State Co.	Too	lay	Tomo	worn
North Dakota	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo	Minnesota	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo
Bismarck	43	36	39	30	Bemidji	45	41	62	40
Devils Lake	41	35	46	32	Duluth	39	35	44	43
Fargo	52	46	70	38	International Falls	41	37	52	43
Minot	37	32	34	30	Minneapolis	52	51	75	46
Williston	40	33	35	30	Rochester	53	52	72	46



CALENDAR

Calendar listings are free. Email news@gfherald.com with the name of the public event, day and time, plus contact info. Send 10 days in advance of the event. The Herald does not guarantee publication of all events.

- ► Covid-19 walk-up testing event, 7 to 11 a.m., Monday through Friday, Fritz D. Pollard Jr. Athletic Center, 2419 Second Ave. N., Grand Forks. Free, all ages, wear masks, PCR and BinaxNOW rapid antigen tests available. Register at testrea.nd.gov.
- ► Friends of the Library book sale is 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., today and Saturday. in the East Grand Forks Campbell Library, 422 Fouth St. N.W., East Grand Forks, Also Saturday: \$5 bag sale from noon to 5 p.m., and teachers shop free from 4:30 to 5 p.m. http://www. egflibrary.org/ or call (218) 773-9121. ► Valley Senior Living at
- Woodside Village spring employee craft and bake sale is 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., today, in the Woodside Village auditorium, 4004 24th Ave. S., Grand Forks. All are welcome. (701) 787-7500.
- ► Contact-free hot meal drive-thru at the Grand Forks Senior Center is 11:30 a.m. to noon, 620 4th Ave S, Grand Forks and inside dining serving from noon to 12:15 p.m. Monday through Friday. For 60+ (need full name and birthdate). Order frozen meals ahead of

time, www.gfseniorcenter.

org/frozenmeals, by calling

during the drive-thru. www.

701-772-7245, pick up

gfseniorcenter.org/menus.

- ► KEM Shrine Circus is 3 p.m. and 7 p.m., today; 11 a.m., 3 p.m. and 7 p.m., Saturday; and 1 p.m. and 5 p.m., Sunday, in the Ralph Engelstad Arena, One Ralph Engelstad Arena Drive. Grand Forks. Kids through grade 8 are free. Info: www. kemshrinecircus.org.
- ► Jazz Vibist Jim Popejoy is playing from 4 to 6 p.m., today, in Archives Coffee House, 3012 University Ave., Grand Forks. Free. (701) 740-6778

► Northland Community

- **Band and Northern** Jazz spring concert in honor of Earth Day's 52nd anniversary is 7 p.m., today, at Northland Community & Technical College, 1101 State Hwy. 1, Thief River Falls. A dessert potluck will follow; those that bring a dessert will receive free admission. Free to Northland students and employees. Info: Linda Samuelson, Music Instructor, at (218) 683-8717 or linda.samuelson@ northlandcollege.edu.
- **▶** Production of Unrehearsed Shakespeare: "A Comedy of Errors," "Romeo and Juliet," and "All's Well that Ends Well," is 7:30 p.m., today and Saturday, in UND Burtness Theatre. 281 Centennial Road, Grand Forks. Actors rehearse on their own, with limited group rehearsal. \$20 tickets can
- be purchased at https:// burtness.und.edu/. ► 7th annual Around

Our Table: A Virtual Table

Event and Online Auction

is April 23 through May 1,

for the Valley Senior Living

Foundation in Grand Forks. Funds will support the Chaplaincy Ministry, which sustains 550 residents and their families, and over 850 employees at Valley Senior Living. For more info, call Sally Grosgebauer at (701) 787-7984 or email sgrosgebauer@ valleyseniorliving.org. Donate at https://www. classy.org/campaign/around-

► April Mudder of the month: Ceramic art of Butch Holden of Bemidji, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturdays in March, Muddy Waters Clay Center front gallery, 2014 13th Ave. N., Grand Forks. Also by appointment. Call (218) 799-2514 or visit https://www. muddywatersclaycenter. com/.

our-table-2022/c394911

- **▶** Overeaters Anonymous is 10:30 a.m., Saturday, in Sharon Lutheran Church. 1720 S. 20th St., Grand Forks. Also 5 p.m., Tuesday. Info, call Lvnn at (651) 210-3356. ► The spring salad
- luncheon buffet is 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, in University Lutheran Church, 2122 University Ave., Grand Forks, \$8 for adults and \$3 for children. Also included are a bake sale, quilts and raffle. Info: (701) 775-4745.
- ► Northern Valley Youth Orchestras auditions are 1:30 to 4:30 p.m., Saturday, in Grand Forks Central High School, 115 N. Fourth St., Grand Forks. Video option available. Musicians age 11-21. Scholarships available. www.nvyo.org/join-nvyo.
- Contact Naomi at info@

Homegrown Filmmakers Series: "A Heart Like Water," "Badlands Girl," and "To Be, or Not," at 2 p.m., Saturday, in the Empire Arts Center, 415 DeMers Ave., Grand Forks. Info: www.empireartscenter. com or call (701) 746-5500.

- ► North Dakota's Champions Ball is 5 to 11 p.m., Saturday, in the Alerus Center, Grand Forks. Fundraiser for UND Athletics. To RSVP and check availability of tickets, visit https://www. ndchampionsclub.com/ball.
- ► Hugo's Toughest Monster Truck Tour is 7 p.m., Saturday, in the Alerus Center, Grand Forks. Tickets start at \$12. Info: www. aleruscenter.com.
- ► Battle of 2000s Bands and Beyond drag show, is Saturday, with doors open at 7 p.m., the show at 9 p.m., in the American Legion Post #157, 1009 Central Ave. NW, East Grand Forks. For 18+, \$10 cover. (218) 773-1129 or @ bjarmanigrandforks.
- ► Entertaining History: "The History of our Area through Old Maps," is 2 p.m., Sunday, in the Myra Museum, 2405 Belmont Road, Grand Forks. Presented by Wes Rogers. Free and open to the public. For more info, call (701) 775-2216 or email gfhistory@ midconetwork.com.

Lottery numbers Daily 3: 0-4-9

Northstar Cash: 9-13-16-20-25 2 by 2: Red numbers: 9-10 White numbers: 19-26 Lucky for Life: 6-11-12-30-31 Lucky Ball: 3

novyo.org with questions. ► Empire presents:

Motorists travel west

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Avenue in

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David Samson

/ The Forum

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Bismarck, Fargo among cleanest US cities for low air pollution levels

By Michelle Griffith The Forum

BISMARCK — Bismarck and Fargo ranked among the cleanest cities in the U.S. for its low levels of year-round harmful air pollution, according to a

new report by the Ameri-

can Lung Association. Each year, the American Lung Association releases an air pollution "report card" which details levels of smog and particle pollution in the U.S. and the effects they have on people's health. In its latest 2022 report, which analyzed data from 2018 to 2020, Bismarck ranked eighth and Fargo ranked 25th for cleanest U.S. cities for year-round particle pollution. The ALA says particle pollution comes from a variety of sources, such as gas-powered vehicles, factories, power plants and wildfires, and it can cause breathing

talization. North Dakota monitors air pollution the report states.

problems, illness and an

increased risk of hospi-

for 10 of North Dakota's 53 counties, nine of which had complete data included in the report. Five counties, Billings, Burleigh, Dunn, McKenzie and Mercer, were given better grades for particle pollution compared to last year's report, the ALA said.

In addition to particle pollution, the report analyzed the nation's levels of smog, which is also known as ozone air pollution. Ozone gas can cause lung irritation and breathing problems.

All nine of North Dakota's counties with complete data in the report were given an "A" for low levels of ozone pollution.

Both particle pollution and smog are prevalent in communities across the U.S., with more than 137 million people living in counties with unhealthy levels of both types of according pollutants, to the report. People of color are disproportionately exposed to air with unhealthy levels of par-Department of Health ticle and smog pollution,



North Dakota has seen improving grades for particle pollution and continued its trend of no ozone issues," said Jon Hunter, American Lung Association's senior director of clean air, in a statement.

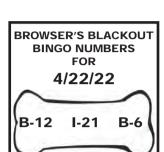
The report also includes some information about

and how air pollutants are harmful to a person's immune system. Data from 2020 indicate that the initial lock down period at the start of the pandemic did not greatly affect air quality, the report states.

Because many Ameri-

the COVID-19 pandemic cans live in counties with a high prevalence of air pollution, the American Lung Association recommends individuals and governmental entities at all levels take action to clean up air pollution.

Readers can reach Forum reporter Michelle Griffith, a Report for America corps member, at mgriffith@forumcomm.com.





Ask Amy

Amy Dickinson SYNDICATED COLUMNIST 4/22/22

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

FARMS THAT GROW FRUITS

Now arrange the circled letters

to form the surprise answer, as

suggested by the above cartoon.

REBUKE

PUZZLE-

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It's a good thing sweet potatoes can't talk. If they

could, there'd be a lot of - YAMMERING

MUDDY

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Sudoku puzzle

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION:

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6

(Answers tomorrow)

MOTION

AND VEGETABLES -

Dear Amy: Occasionally, I get together with a few of my

people not getting the COVID vaccine. I refuse to get this shot. Should I admit my decision not to vaccinate -- and tell

Should I just not be their friend anymore?

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

WNDUE

RUCOT

PRCOEP

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- SUDOKU

2

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6

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5

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them about it?

regarding your refusal to vaccinate against a highly contagious virus that is the cause of a global pandemic.

You likely believe this is a personal and private decision, but - unlike other choices you might make -- this is a personal choice with communal consequences. Their vaccinations would likely protect your neighbors

"Fortunately,

from the more severe forms of this illness, but - they may have elders or other more vulnerable people in their circles who might not be so lucky.

Where I live, currently cases are way up and hospitalizations are down. But getting sick from this virus can have a huge impact on people who get it (and vaccinated people do get it). The symptoms can be lingering and severe, and they (and family members) will be forced to quarantine. Whether you wish to attempt to continue on in friendship

with these neighbors is up to you. But honesty is a necessary aspect of friendship, and so you should disclose your vaccination status, and give them the opportunity to reconsider in-person contact. Given that you haven't disclosed something obviously very

important to them, they may reconsider having a friendship with you, and you should prepare yourself for that. **Dear Amy:** Our granddaughter has a 5-year-old daughter whose father, "W," was convicted of a felony involving a gun.

He was a previous felon W has been in and out of my great-granddaughter's life for the past five years. He is now facing some serious jail time.

W's mother and his sister have been involved with our great-granddaughter and have been consistently in her life

What is the best way for our granddaughter to deal with her child's grandmother and aunt when it comes to the child siting them? My granddaughter doesn't want her daughter going to

jail to visit, nor does she want her to talk to W on the phone, because the child becomes too emotional.

I asked her to see a counselor, but she says she cannot afford one

I think it would be good for the child to continue to have contact with her father's family members.

Your suggestions? - Concerned

Dear Concerned: I agree that this child is too young to visit her father in prison. I disagree, to some extent, regarding phone calls. Depending on the context and on the father's ability to communicate appropriately with his daughter, monitored phone or video calls should be considered. The child's father should be encouraged to write

to his daughter, and - once the mother has vetted his communication - the daughter can write back.

Not knowing the context, backstory, or personalities of any of the people involved. I mainly note that this child's mother is the custodial parent, and it is her duty to always make choices in the child's best interests. If she decides that no-contact with "W" is best for her child for the next few months, then "W's" family members must respect that.

Studies show that having an incarcerated parent can have a profound impact on a child's physical and mental health. Your granddaughter should research the impact of incarceration on families. She is mistaken that she can't afford a counselor, Licensed social workers are eminently qualified to work with this family, and by making some phone calls, she

can get low or no-cost help. Youth.gov has a wealth of information for families of those incarcerated. A film featuring four young people reflecting on their experience with an incarcerated parent is both illuminating and heartbreaking. (Youth.gov/coip)

Dear Amy: I'm laughing about your issue with the use of the term "maiden name." Aren't there bigger fish to fry? Some women, such as my daughter, took her husband's last name when they got

married, so if she's filling out any legal paperwork, it will ask for her maiden name. What's the issue? Dear Reader: "Maiden" as a term refers - or implies a reference -- to a woman's presumed "maidenhood," or

> by mail to Ask Amy, Chicago Tribune, TT500 435 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago IL 60611.

neighbors.

Recently these people have commented negatively about

What is your advice? - I Refuse Dear You Refuse: You have the right to roll the dice

You do NOT have the right to withhold your decision - when you know this is important to people you have been spending

JUMBLE

HOROSCOPE -

"Royal Stars Horoscope."

BY GEORGIA NICOLS Note: Royal Stars is based on the degree of your sun at birth. The sign name is simply a label that astrologers

readers should refer to the dates following each sign.

Moon Alert: Avoid shopping or important decisions after 11:30 p.m. EDT today (8:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. PDT). After that, the Moon moves from Capricorn into Aquarius.

Happy Birthday for Friday, April 22,

You are a perfectionist who is bold, daring and sometimes eccentric, and People find you charming and witty. This year, you will experience some exciting changes along with greater freedom. Be ready to act on opportunities when they arise. You might travel more.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average;

2-So-so; 1-Difficult ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ This is the perfect day to approach the boss or any authority figure to ask for what you want. You might be surprised by how easily you will get their backing. You will be especially successful if this involves some kind of group involvement. Tonight: Looking good!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ This is a strong day for you! Move forward with confidence, especially with travel plans or ideas you might have related to publishing, the media, medicine or the law. This is also a great day to seek out ways to get further education or sign up for a course. Tonight: Explore.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★ Financial discussions will favor

you today, because people in power are ready to endorse you. This is a good day to ask for a loan or a mortgage. Likewise, it's a good day to do fundraising or convince others with resources to do your bidding. Tonight: Satisfaction. CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ This is a great day to deal

with partners and close friends as well as professional contacts, because people are ready to work together for a common goal, especially to benefit others. You'll find it easy to get the cooperation of others, especially people from different cultures. Tonight: Be friendly. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Work-related travel will appeal to you today. Whatever you do today will shine with success because this is a lucky day for you regarding your job and also your health. Even your

pet will be a source of joy. (Sometimes

things just go your way.) Tonight: Relax. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★ It's Friday, and you're

ready for fun! Enjoy a long lunch. Make plans with loved ones for a fun evening. It's a great day to socialize. It's also a wonderful day to enjoy fun activities with children. Note: Financial speculation is favored before the Moon

Alert begins. Tonight: Socialize! LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Two lovely options are yours today. You might enjoy entertaining at home, which means inviting others over for pizza and some laughs. Alternatively, some of you will enjoy some peace and quiet at home. It's your call. Look for excellent real-estate opportunities before the Moon Alert. Tonight: Mellow

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ This is a marvelous day for you! You feel enthusiastic, exuberant and eager to explore new ideas by talking to others, especially in group situations. You will love to learn new things. Likewise, you will love to teach others. It's a win-win day. Tonight: You're pleased.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ Business and commerce are favored today; however, whatever negotiations you agree to must be completed before the Moon Alert. Or you can explore financial negotiations today and then sign on the dotted line tomorrow. It's a good day for real-estate opportunities! Tonight: Be alert.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Today the Moon is in your sign dancing with lucky Jupiter, which makes you feel good. You will enjoy the company of congenial people. In particular, you will like to be with old friends. You will especially be concerned for the welfare of loved ones. All group activities will shine! Tonight: Be friendly.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Solitude *** in

beautiful surroundings will please you today, because you feel happy in a personal, quiet way. Your confidence is strong. You might be happy with financial deals or researching ways to promote your earnings. Tonight: Check your finances. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ This is a wonderful day

to enjoy the company of others, especially groups. Make a point to attend conferences and organizations, because you will enjoy the interaction with others. They'll be glad to have you on board because you obviously want to benefit and help. Tonight: Warm conversations **BORN TODAY**

Actor Jeffrey Dean Morgan (1966) actress Cassidy Freeman musician Peter Frampton (1950)

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Chanel 17 Good-looking 19 Afternoon hour

Our 22 Church volunteer 24 British bathroom 25 Suffered rapid

decline 27 Wild animals

30 Set free 31 Stream 33 __ tree; cornered 35 ln a __; pouty

36 Show gratitude to 37 Carey, for one 38 Family tree members 39 Daring deeds

40 Solitude lover 41 Self-centered person 43 Disease

44 End of some website addresses 45 Money-hoarder

46 This month 49 "Thou __ not kill" 51 One kind: unusual thing 54 Finder of those

56 Spoil 57 Skinny 58 Jane Curtin's sitcom role

ost

59 Exclusively 60 All __; listening 61 Back tooth 62 Presidential monogram

DOWN 1 Word attached to eye or high

2 CPA's college

major

characterized that way. Send auestions via e-mail to askamv@tribune.com or

virginity. Some women really don't want our surnames

- CROSSWORD PUZZLE-FOR RELEASE APRIL 22, 2022

THE Daily Commuter Puzzle by Jacqueline E. Mathews



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 3 Cartoon dog

Scooby-_ 4 Petrified 5 Modify 6 New York team

7 Rower's needs 8 Santa __, CA 9 Cookout sites 10 UTEP or UCLA 11 Relocate

12 Choppers 13 Pretend 18 Outer garment 20 You

23 Short one-act play

24 Scallion's cousin 25 Elephant's tooth 26 " Get Your Gun" 27 Franklin &

Savage 28 Reverse course

29 Miles per hour 31 Informal talk 32 Traitor 34 Amiss 36 SAT, for one

37 Clinton's 1996

opponent

39 Open area of land

Thursday's Puzzle Solved COMBO

APOORCAGE PERSECUTES ASST Y E T HONK AMASS I R E RAINS S Q U I R E F R O N D S LUCRE SPOOL ELF OATSSTAINSPUR TKOSMELLDDIRGE E N O W L A T E S T D I G T A L E S ERENOW STRIPMIRESUB PROCEEDINGWIRE HOGS ONES ©2022 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved.

40 Endure 42 Chili dog toppers, for some 43 Not as harsh 45 Excessive

enthusiasm 46 Qualified 47 "Not guilty," for

board 53 Not __ longer; no more 55 Pork product

56 Hot __; fast car

48 Lion's cry

49 Song for one

50 Ship's frame

52 Use an emery

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Simply find the puzzle in the e-paper and click on it. On the new screen that pops up, select the print option on the top menu. Members can also use the snipping tool. For detailed instructions visit grandforksherald.news/crossword

How many police is enough?

Minneapolis residents who sued city for more cops will have their day at the state Supreme Court

By Nina Moini MPR News

ST. PAUL — The Minnesota Supreme Court will review a decision by a lower court over requiring the City of Minneapolis to maintain a minimum level of 731 police officers by the end

In 2021, a Hennepin County judge sided with a group of north Minneapolis residents who sued the city, saying it failed to meet the minimum staffing required for the MPD as established in the charter.

In March, the Min-nesota Court of Appeals reversed that decision.

In its reversal, the three-judge panel said the charter requires the city council to "continuously fund" a police ly impacted by the rise why they have not force of a minimum in crime in their neigh- been able to reach the size, but said there is borhoods and they said "no clear duty under the the diminishing number charter for the mayor to continuously employ" that minimum number.

supreme court following the plaintiffs. the panel's decision.

as community activists, as well as members of the city council, called for replacing the Minneapolis police department with a new agency following the murder of George Floyd. The number of officers dwindled while gun violence and homicides increased sharply compared to the previous year. Plaintiffs

of officers was partially responsible.

Attorney Doug Seaton The residents vowed of the Upper Midwest to appeal to the state's Law Center represents

he panel's decision. "We are glad the They filed the law- Supreme Court sees this suit in August of 2020 as an important case that they should take on, and our clients are elated by that," Seaton said. "They have neighbors that are leaving because they are so frustrated and frightened by the violence that's been continuing for the past two years.

Seaton said if the Minnesota Supreme Court sides with plaintiffs, the

required number of officers by June 30, if that is the case at that time. From there, the Court could impose sanctions or other requirements.

Minneapolis police did not provide the number of officers it is looking to hire or how close the department is to 731.

Police Minneapolis Department Chief of Staff Christopher Gaiters leads recruitment efforts for the department. Gaiters said the department is authorized to have 888 sworn officers, which is his ultimate goal.

"Individuals who have great character, that's primary," Gaiters said. Gaiters said while there

said they were direct- city will have to explain are shorter and longer who visit our city, those

MPR News file photo

New police officers raise their hands to take an oath at a Minneapolis Police Academy graduation ceremony in July 2020 at the Minneapolis Convention Center.

term paths to becoming a police officer, the fastest way to get more officers is through lateral hires from other agencies. Gaiters said those officers would still undergo background checks and have to meet the criteria to be hired on.

Gaiters said new officers will be encouraged to listen to critical feed-

"That includes those

who conduct commerce and business within our city," Gaiters said "It starts with listening, and it starts with listening to everyone."

While MPD is offering hiring incentives, including a \$7,000 hiring bonus, Seaton said it is too little too late.

The hearing before the Minnesota Supreme Court will take place on June 9.



Brandon Bell / Getty Images file photo via MPR News

Demonstrators march in the street during the "Cancel Rent and Mortgages" rally on June 30, 2020, in Minneapolis. The rally was organized to demand the temporary cancellation of rents and mortgages as COVID-19 continued to adversely impact the economy.

Eviction lawsuit revived

Suit could let landlords seek money from state over COVID eviction moratorium

By Matt Sepic MPR News

MINNEAPOLIS — A federal appeals court has revived a lawsuit challenging the eviction moratorium that Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz put in place at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Walz's executive orders have long since expired. But the decision this month from a threejudge panel in St. Paul could eventually allow landlords to seek financial damages from the state.

Two landlords filed this suit in September 2020, six months after Walz signed the first of several executive orders mandating a moratorium on residential evictions. It was aimed at preventing renters from becoming homeless as many busicouldn't work.

Under the order, landlords could only kick out tenants if they seriously endangered the safety of other residents or engaged in illegal activity.

Heights Apartments and Walnut Trails — two property management companies - are the plaintiffs, but only Heights is part of the appeal. They argue that the order was an unconstitutional interference in their leases with tenants. The landlords also argue that the state appropriated the door for what is essen-

their property in violation tially a recalculation of the considered and rejected these of the Fifth and Fourteenth cost of the COVID pandemic Amendments by forcing them to continue renting to people they wanted to evict.

At the end of 2020, Judge Nancy Brasel sided with Walz and dismissed the lawsuit. Among other things, she said the executive order was a "merely temporary" incursion on one of the landlords' property rights; they still owned the buildings and could continue to operate them as they saw fit.

This was one of many lawsuits challenging various executive orders in Minnesota, and one of many to be dismissed. But the plaintiffs appealed, and the appellate court ordered it back to the district court.

Michael Kemp, the landnesses shut down and people lords' attorney, said the lawsuit is not political and does not challenge the governor's authority to issue executive orders. Kemp said Walz showed extraordinary leadership during the pandemic, but got the eviction moratorium

If his clients prevail through the rest of the appeals process, they may be able to seek financial damages from the

state, and it's possible other businesses could too. "Potentially this could open on businesses, whether it's restaurants, landlords or any other," Kemp said.

Attor-

The Minnesota ney General's Office, which

is defending the governor against the lawsuit, said in a release Thursday morning that the decision represents a major departure from how federal courts have analyzed eviction orders so far.

"No other appellate court has said there are plausible claims of takings or contracts-clause violations," Attorney General Keith Ellison said in the release. "I believe the analysis is mistaken: it conflicts with Supreme Court precedent as well as other circuit court decisions.'

Ellison added that 33 other governors around the country took a similar approach to pausing economic evictions, and the state Legislature set rent.

aside \$500 million to help renters keep up with their In October, assistant attorney general Michael Goodwin

told the three-judge panel that the landlords' arguments have been litigated before. "What the appellant is asking this court to do is ignore

the precedent, and ignore the

conclusions of federal courts

around the country that have

very claims," Goodwin said at

the time. John Pollock, with the Baltimore-based National Coalition for a Civil Right to Counsel, helps low-income tenants involved in civil suits

 particularly evictions. Pollock said the opinion from the Eighth Circuit panel in St. Paul is an outlier.

"We've been tracking dozens of these lawsuits around the country, and none of them have succeeded. And the courts uniformly have rejected the kinds of arguments that the Eighth Circuit made in its ruling. So we're baffled," Pollock said.

Pollock also points out that the federal government pumped a lot of money into rental assistance programs during the pandemic; that money ultimately benefited landlords, so he says it could make their claims for financial damages difficult to

Pollock stressed that it's still very early in the appeals process.

The state attorney general's office indicated in a filing last week that they plan to ask for a re-hearing, which likely means that all 11 judges on the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals would decide the

New Jersey administrator to be next provost at Mankato

The Free Press, Mankato, Minn.

MANKATO — An adminis-trator at New Jersey's Montclair State University will be the new second-in-command

at Minnesota State University.

David Hood, the associate provost for undergraduate education and founding dean of University College at Montclair State University, was named by MSU President Edward Inch Wednesday as the university's new provost and senior vice president of academic affairs.

"Dr. Hood is a strategic, innovative, collaborative and transformational leader in higher education," Inch said in a statement. "I am thrilled he is joining our team and I know that his background and expertise will help the university advance our goals around student success, Equity 2030 and our overall strategic plan and objectives."

Hood, who will become provost July 1, has held his current position at Montclair since 2018, part of a 14-year administrative career in higher education.

Inch cited that experience and an ability to bring data-driven solutions to problems as his top attributes.

The provost position, added to MSU's administrative structure in 2007, is the second-ranking administrator at the university. Hood will be the fifth person to serve in the position and the first African American, following Scott Olson (2007-2012), Marilyn Wells (2013-2020) and two interim provosts — Matt Cecil and Brian Martensen.

Prior to Montclair State, which has just over 21,000 students, Hood spent eight years at North Carolina Central University as associate dean and dean, leading efforts to boost retention and graduation rates.

He has held administrative and/or faculty appointments at Central Michigan University (2011-2015), Virginia Union University (2009-2010), Elizabeth City State University (2007-2009), Tennessee State University (2007) and J.F. Drake Technical College (2001-

Hood has a doctorate of education in administration and supervision from Tennessee State University in Nashville, an education specialist and master's degree in administration and supervision from Tennessee State, and a bachelor's degree in secondary education, biology and history from Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University in Normal, Alabama.

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Your views. Our views. Opinion from across the world. THE OPINION PAGE

► In the Mail: letters@gfherald.com; Box 6008, Grand Forks, N.D. 58206

VIEWPOINT

Attention, seniors: Medicare isn't free

Americans turn 65 each day. Many may soon leave the workforce and claim the Medicare benefits they believe they're entitled to after paying Medicare taxes for decades in the workforce.

But they may be in for a rude awakening. Even after paying tens or hundreds of thousands of dollars in Medicare taxes over their working careers, beneficiaries spend thousands of dollars more each year for coverage during retirement.

That coverage doesn't always guarantee them timely access to the doctors or specialists they might like to see. It's no wonder seniors are increasingly opting for privately administered Medicare Advantage plans, which often offer more value than the conventional government-administered Medicare program.

People start paying for Medicare long before they're elderly. To fund certain parts of the program, the government levies a 2.9 percent payroll tax. Technically, workers pay half and employers pay half. But economically, it's all compensation for the employee — so it all comes out of the employee's paycheck.

Those with high incomes pay an additional 0.9 percent Medicare surtax.



SALLY C. **PIPES**

That money adds up. According to the Urban Institute, an individual in his mid-20s earning less than \$23,400 annually will pay \$60,000 in Medicare taxes by the time he turns 65. If that same individual made \$83,000 each year over his lifetime, he'd pay \$220,000 in total Medicare taxes. A mid-20s couple pulling in \$134,900 each year, meanwhile, would pay \$375,000.

Once Americans turn 65 and enroll in Medicare, they face premiums, deductibles and copays that can run thousands of dollars a year.

In a new survey, nearly 60 percent of respondents reported not knowing that Medicare premiums vary by plan and income. Roughly the same share didn't know there were different deductibles for the parts of Medicare that cover hospital care, outpatient care and prescription drugs.

The deductible for Part A, which covers hospital and inpatient services, is \$1,556 this year. The deductible for Part B, which covers outpatient visits, is \$233. And the maximum deductible for Part D,

Medicare's prescription drug benefit, is \$480 this year.

That means seniors could pay more than \$2,000 out of pocket — in addition to the thousands they may already be spending on premiums, depending on their income — before Medicare even begins paying for their care.

After they've hit their deductible, patients must cover a part of their treatment costs through copays and coinsurance. And since Parts A and B don't have an out-ofpocket maximum, there is no limit to what seniors might face in cost-sharing, no matter how sick they get or how much care they require.

Altogether, the typical couple with Medicare will need \$300,000 to cover their healthcare costs after they retire, according to a report from Fidelity Investments. But that estimate accounts only for the out-of-pocket costs of Medicare Parts A, B and D — not the cost of other health-related services the government won't cover.

Seniors who are in the hospital for an extended time could rack up additional bank-breaking bills. Medicare will cover the first 60 days of a hospital stay. But on day 61, a patient has to pay \$389 daily until the 91st day, when the daily bill goes up

to \$778. If she has to stay in the hospital long enough or return to the hospital often — she could be on the hook for the full cost of additional days in the hospital.

Similarly, Medicare won't cover extended stays in skilled nursing facilities. And even though there's a 70 percent chance that someone turning 65 today will need long-term care in the future, Medicare won't cover that, either.

To help seniors cover the out-of-pocket costs of all of these services — and others Medicare doesn't cover such as hearing, dental and vision — the government recommends purchasing a Medigap plan. But these supplemental insurance plans can cost an additional \$300 each month.

Most seniors don't have nearly enough savings to cover these expenses. The Fidelity report revealed that half of workers who have spent time thinking about retirement expenses believe they'll need \$50,000 or less to pay for medical care. Unsurprisingly, more than one in 10 Medicare beneficiaries have delayed care because they can't afford it.

Medicare isn't free. Those approaching — or in retirement need to prepare for that reality.

Sally C. Pipes is president, CEO and Thomas W. Smith fellow in Health Care Policy at the Pacific Research Institute She wrote this for InsideSources.com.

OTHER VIEW

Mandates? Time to toss them forever

The Detroit News he Biden administration's latest

defeat in its stubborn fight to keep in place COVID-19 safety protocols should bring the president to the reality that Americans are done with pandemic mandates. They're ready to make their own decisions about how to protect themselves.

Airline passengers can literally breathe easier now after a federal judge in Florida on Monday struck down President Joe Biden's recent extension of the national mask mandates covering public transportation, including airlines, trains, subways and even ride-sharing.

Americans are ready to make their own decisions about about how to protect themselves.

Major airlines, including Delta, American and Southwest, announced right away that masks would no longer be required on domestic flights.

through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, had been extended several times this year — most recently last week, when Biden said it would continue through May 3. U.S. District Judge Kathryn Kimball

The mandate, which was issued

Mizelle said the agency had exceeded its authority and not offered proper rationale for the extension the CDC had good intentions.

"Because our system does not permit agencies to act unlawfully even in pursuit of desirable ends, the court declares unlawful and vacates the mask mandate," she wrote.

Thank goodness for the courts. This is the third time in the past year that the Biden administration has had its mandates overturned for their overreach. The U.S. Supreme Court last summer ended the CDC's eviction ban, saying it didn't have the power to issue such sweeping orders without approval from Congress.

Early this year, the Supreme Court in a 6-3 ruling quashed Biden's mandate that all employees of private businesses with more than 100 workers be vaccinated against the

COVID-19 virus or tested weekly. The court said that Congress hadn't given the Occupational Safety and Health Administration the authority to issue orders of that magnitude.

Business groups, including those in Michigan, had warned Biden the vaccine mandate would worsen workforce shortages and that they should be free to set their own rules.

But Biden refused to listen, just as he ignored the pleas from airline industry leaders that placing the burden of mask enforcement on them was unfair and even dangerous for flight attendants stuck with making unruly passengers cooperate.

Vaccines are readily available and the threat of COVID-19 is receding. It's also clear the coronavirus is not going away, and we have to learn to live it.

After the judge's decision, White House press secretary Jen Psaki called it "disappointing," noting the CDC is still recommending masks on public transit.

A recommendation is fine. Those who wish to continue wearing masks should do so.

Yet pandemics don't give federal agencies unlimited authority to control our lives. It's time for the rest of the top-down government mandates to end.

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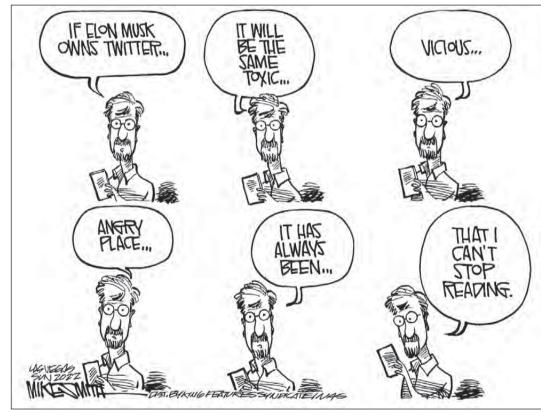
LETTER TO THE EDITOR

A false interpretation of Republican politics To the editor, other

self-proclaimed atheists, Rob Port is probably not a very good authority on any subject that includes traditional moral principles as to what is right or wrong on a particular issue. After all when you come to think about it, where would his moral authority come from? What he thinks is right and wrong? Heaven forbid (sorry Rob). I am referring to his com-

mentary ("NDGOP State Convention's Going to be Ugly") that was written prior to the NDGOP convention that was held in Bismarck on April 2. Port first made reference to district Republican meetings that occurred in Minot prior to the convention where he insin-uates that "Trumpy law-makers and activists "took or district NDGOP proceover" the meeting by being "insufferable."

By being "insufferable" Port also insinuates a group of highly motivated patriotic individuals created their own rules and did not abide by established procedure for nominating people who they wanted to represent meeting lasted past midthem. This was not even close to true. They abided Bell's supporters leaving by the process and won. The early. This resulted, Port "other side" lost. As far as I says, in her not getting know their actions did not the nomination. Some delegates who



dures. Was that an example fight for it. of being "insufferable?"

Republican candidate race Bell and challenger Keith Boehm. Port again claims that Boehm supporters did not play fair because the night resulting in some of

believe in something you

As far as Port's predic-In District 33, the Senate tion in his article that the NDGOP convention would was between Sen. Jessica be ugly, not even close. If there was a problem with any "ugliness" it was due to the totally preventable lack of a decent sound system. Most people at the convention got a little ugly because at times they could not hear

what was going on. The record number of attendviolate any established state might say that if you really ed the convention and

the extremely close vote between Rick Becker and John Hoeven may indicate a big change - a change that the citizens of North Dakota will benefit from.

One of the things that helps to make North Dakota Republican politics so toxic are the false interpretations by some of what is really going on within the party, and the sometimes vicious way of reporting those false interpretations.

Tom J. Tracy Jamestown, N.D.

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Astronomers find new type of star explosion: A micronova

By Will Dunham Reuters

WASHINGTON Astronomers have detected a previously unknown type of stellar explosion called a micronova involving thermonuclear blasts at the polar regions of a type of burned-out star called a white dwarf after it has siphoned material from a compan-

Wednesday a micronova is by far the least powerful type of star explosions now known - less enera nova in which a white dwarf's entire surface blows up and tiny com-

pared to a supernova that and sporadic. Finding with another star. occurs during the death them requires looking throes of some giant at the right place at the

Micronovae as bursts of light lasting about 10 hours. They were documented on three white dwarfs - one 1,680 light years away from Earth, one 3,720 light years away and one 4,900 light years away. A light travels in a year, 5.9 the size of Earth in diamtrillion miles (9.5 trillion

getic than a blast called unexpected surprise. It form. goes to show just how dynamic the universe

right time," said astron-England, lead author of the study published in the journal Nature.

the densest objects in the universe, result from the collapse of a dying star's core. They have the mass "The discovery was an end their existence in this the auroras.

Micronovae happen in very specific binary systems - with a white are omer Simone Scaringi dwarf star possessing a observed from Earth of Durham University in strong magnetic field and a low-mass normal star. The white dwarf's gravitational pull can strip White dwarfs, among hydrogen gas from the companion star's surface. The hydrogen then flows toward the white dwarf's magnetic poles, simi-The researchers said on light year is the distance of our sun but are about lar to how Earth's magnetic field channels the eter. Most stars, including solar wind to our planet's the sun, are destined to magnetic poles, causing

At the base of accumu-

clear fusion that converts hydrogen into helium.

"Only a very small percentage of the white dwarf participates in this rather than concentrating explosion, roughly about one millionth of the surface area. Translated to the Earth this would be an area of about, say, the city of London," Groot added.

Each micronova event burns through materione millionth of Earth's mass, Scaringi said.

to a nova, a thermonu-Some white dwarfs are lating columns of gas at clear explosion engulfing scope to confirm the part of what is called a the white dwarf's poles, a white dwarf's entire is. These events are fast binary system, in an orbit pressure and temperature surface. With novae, the dwarfs.

rise, causing thermonu- white dwarf lacks a strong magnetic field, meaning that hydrogen stolen from the companion star is distributed globally at the poles. Novae can last for weeks or months, burning through about a million times more mass than micronovae, Scaringi said.

The researchers discovered the micronoal the equivalent of one vae when analyzing data large asteroid, or just over from NASA's TESS space ne millionth of Earth's telescope. They used nass, Scaringi said. the European South-A micronova is similar ern Observatory's Chilebased Very Large Teleexplosions involved white

MEETING

From Page 1

Hagen claimed the pair of board members met with the consultant, who apparently charged the water district about \$3,000. She wondered if other board members knew about these meet-

that topic, The-On resa Shulz detailed a series of three meetings that allegedly took place on or after Feb. 27, 2019, with specific dollar amounts charged by the consultant. It's unclear how Hagen and Shulz obtained the specific dollar amounts of the alleged

private meetings. After the meeting, Stanislawski and Burkholder told the Herald the meetings were authorized by the board, and were held to, among other things, learn what it takes to hire a new manager for the water district. The consultant was an engineer that works for Grand Forks civil and environmental consulting firm AE2S.

"I was just on the board a year and a half and now we have to hire a manager, so we went and talked to her to get questions to interview for a manager,' Stanislawski said.

Board members also tabled a motion to accept the new set of bylaws that Theresa Shulz claimed was discriminatory. In addition to how board some water district resi- relocated. dents objected to a section that forbade a relative of an employee, either by blood or by law, from serving as director on the board. That same familial provision, had the bylaws

been adopted, also stood for former employees of the district. Some members said the restrictions prevented suitable people from serving on the board.

"That's discrimination," said Theresa Shulz. Burkholder replied: "That's pretty standard," thereafand shortly ter explained that some district members would prefer there be no ties between decision makers and water district

employees. The topic of adopting a new set of bylaws will be taken up at a subsequent

meeting. meeting also included the reading of various reports about construction work and Concerning finances. the latter, Phil Kraemer, board chairman in Falconer Township — which is included in the water district — asked how many customers would be lost should the proposed Fufeng corn-milling plant come to fruition. The plant is set to be located on a portion of

the township's land. John Eaton, manager for the district, said about 22 commercial customers would be lost, meaning the district would be out about \$17,000 per year. Eaton said he's had dis-cussions with Grand Forks city leaders about the possibility of com-pensation for the loss of revenue. Also, he said the city has indicated it would pay for water diselections are conducted, trict infrastructure to be

The Agassiz Water Users District is a rural utility that covers Gilby, Honeyford, Johnstown, Inkster, Forest River, Ardoch, Manvel, Mekinock and north Grand Forks.

Adam Kurtz / Grand Forks Herald



Something as basic as rolling luggage can make the journey easier for refugee mothers, who often had to flee their homes with a couple of things crammed in a grocery sack. Here, Mark J. Lindquist helps drop off donations of rolling luggage at the largest refugee transit station in Ukraine, a place where at its peak 110,000 refugees passed through every day. When the mothers see the new luggage, Lindquist says they "look as though it is Christmas morning.'

Contributed photos /

WAR ZONE

From Page 1

Lindquist said it initially was difficult to enter such unfamiliar and chaotic territory and try to figure out how to help. However, he has made progress. Through his network of contacts, he was able to connect with a Ukrainian translator who made it possible to communicate with officials who can help him expand his network of contacts and find the most

effective ways to help. Lindquist also pivoted from his original plan to buy a vehicle with thé \$50,000 in donations he raised via

GoFundMe and Venmo. "We decided (to) source it (transportation) locally with Ukrainian drivers who need a day's income (as low as \$10 USD/day), borrow it, get it for free (as we are arranging for tomorrow), or use our network of transporters who are already making those runs and are looking for things to deliver," he says. "We're trying to be as careful as we can to not spend donor money on things that we don't need.

formed nonprofit, "Ukrainian Children," is not only sourcing supplies from eastern Poland and western Ukraine but has also become a contact

"They had said they

wanted to donate

but weren't sending

Target.

donations to the Ukraine because there was no one here to receive it," Lindquist said, sounding a bit baffled. "I'm that guy now."

Éven then, Lindquist said the next challenge was getting the supplies to the eastern part of Ukraine, especially the Donbas region, where Ukrainians are cut off with little to no clean

water or food. "Fifty days in, their worry isn't so much death by missile but death by starvation," Lindquist said.

The problem, he said, is that travel across the Texas-sized country is extremely difficult, with motorists encountering one military checkpoint after another.

Enter Harrison Jozefowicz, a former police officer from Chicago. Josefowicz set up a volunteer unit called "Task Force Yankee: Ukraine," consisting of civilians and military veterans with the skills and training to deliver humanitarian aid to parts of Ukraine too volatile for most non-governmental organizations.

Lindquist and Jozefowicz met last week and quickly discovered they had a few things in common: They were Midwesterners and veterans of the Afghanistan war who felt compelled to do something for the people of Ukraine.

In fact, both left behind important commitments to do so. Lindquist suspended his congressional campaign; Josefowicz quit his job with the police force. Lindquist knew

Josefowicz, a member of the U.S. Army's 82nd Airborne in Afghanistan from 2017-18, was more than qualified to take on the difficult assignment to get supplies into one of Ukraine's most beleaguered areas.

"His team is the

missing link that we needed," Lindquist said. "We have the experience, training and operational security knowledge to get people

and supplies safely from

point A to B, as we have

run convoys through

Afghanistan during



Mark Lindquist says \$29 in U.S. dollars goes a long way in the Ukraine. That's what it cost to buy new bags for this family of 3 who were carrying their possessions in plastic bags.

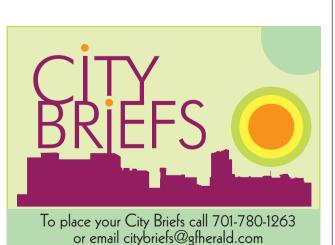
wartime," Jozefowicz

said. Lindquist is still looking to activate "packets of volunteers" in the U.S. He is inviting church groups and other organizations to book a Zoom call with him so

volunteer efforts and how they can help.

He can be reached through his Facebook page at www.facebook. com/positivityliveshere or by emailing mark@ markilindquist.com.

Tammy Swift is a business reporter at The Forum. She can be reached



Members of the Agassiz Water Users District debate

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... You change plans and tactics based on what you see on the ground." Instead, Lindquist said, the \$50,000 will go toward desperately needed essentials for the Ukrainian people, like diapers, medical supplies and food. "The dollar is so strong over here, I can get three to four times what I could get in Walmart in Fargo over

here," he says. Lindquist's recently

point for American corporations like



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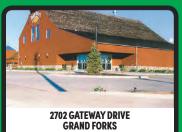
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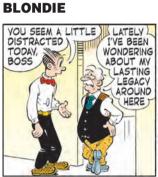




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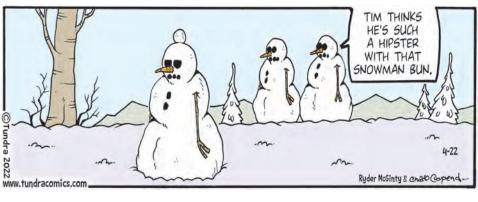








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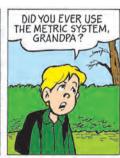


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SPORTS



Brad E. Schlossman / Grand Forks Herald

Crowds were sparse at the Albany Regional in MVP Arena in March 2022.

IT'S TIME TO REVISIT THE IDEA OF HOME REGIONALS

Grand Forks ine years ago, UND played Yale in the NCAA West Regional final. A trip to the NCAA Frozen Four was at stake. It was one of the biggest games of the college hockey season.

The game, played in Grand Rapids, Mich., drew the smallest crowd to watch any UND men's hockey game in seven years.

Down the road in Toledo, Ohio, St. Cloud State reached its first-ever Frozen Four by winning a game in front of the smallest crowd to watch the Huskies all season outside of a series at Alaska Anchorage.

The NČAA men's hockey regionals were a highly debated topic at the time because of the attendance

But the overwhelming majority of Division-I men's hockey coaches remained steadfast in their belief that regionals should be played at neutral sites — not on campus or in home arenas. It's too big of an advantage to play NCAA tournament games at home, the vast majority of coaches said.

They vowed to explore other avenues to improve $regional\ attendance\ --\ ticket$ prices, fan experience, locations and more.

But here we are, a decade later, and nothing has changed.

When Minnesota State and Harvard took the ice to open this year's NCAA tournament in Albany, N.Y., there were roughly 500 fans in the stands.

The nightcap in Albany featured two of college hockey's heavyweights

- North Dakota vs. Notre

Dame. It drew 2,345 fans, the smallest crowd to watch a North Dakota hockey game all year and second smallest to see Notre Dame. This is not a slight at

Albany. The people there did a it special.



SCHLOSSMAN Sports writer

BRAD E.

fine job running the regional. But with three participating teams more than 700 miles from home, there was no saving it — not game times, not ticket prices, not fan experience.

The NCAA men's hockey coaching body will meet this week in Naples, Fla. to discuss issues facing the sport. The regionals should be a priority. Coaches and administrators cannot avert their eyes from this recurring problem or pretend that it's not bad and will go away.

Is there another sport, anywhere, that accepts playing its biggest games in front of its smallest crowds?

There are a number of college hockey players and fans who have stories similar to the one Mike Commodore

The towering defenseman from Alberta had no plans to play college hockey. He took a to North Dakota because it was a free trip. When he got to the arena and experienced the packed crowd, the students, the band, the chants everything that makes a college hockey atmosphere like nothing else in the sport

— Commodore was hooked.

He went to UND, won an NCAA national championship and remained so tied to the school and city that he brought the Stanley Cup back to campus after winning it in 2006.

Every fan probably has their own story of how they got hooked.

But when college hockey gets to the national tournament, it does away with much of what makes

The players, competing in what should be the most memorable games of their lives, too often do it in front of empty stadiums with no atmosphere.

The fans, who pack arenas all season along, too often don't have a chance to attend. If it requires a plane flight, few are booking tickets on less than a week's notice. They'll wait for the Frozen Four instead.

And there's little chance to win over new fans.

The NCAA tournament games are on national television in both the United States and Canada. When casual fans or NHL prospect followers flip it on, they too often see empty seats.

Some will turn the channel immediately and understandably so. Look at TV sports ratings during the pandemic, when teams were playing in limited-capacity buildings. They plummeted across the board. Great atmospheres are a huge part of what makes sports compelling.

The fans who don't turn the channel watch a version of college hockey that's completely foreign to what we witness all season long

Men's hockey coaches, administrators and the NCAA don't need to make any big decisions this week or this summer. The tournament format will remain the same for at least the next four years, because regional sites are locked in for 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026.

But the debates, research and discussions need to begin now, so college hockey is prepared to make a wellinformed decision on the regionals when bids come up again in two or three years.

Home sites revisited

One idea college hockey needs to seriously explore is going to home sites for the NCAA regionals.

We've seen the potential in the Big Ten and the WCHA/ CCHA, which recently moved their postseason conference tournaments entirely to home

The Mayo Clinic Event Center in Mankato, Minn., was packed for the CCHA title game between Minnesota State and Bemidji State. Mariucci Arena in Minneapolis set an attendance record for Minnesota's Big Ten title game against Michigan this season.

The raucous atmospheres at both of those games is how you get new fans hooked on the sport and it's how you create longtime memories for the players and coaches.

Considering that, the idea that makes the most sense to me is opening the 16-team with eight best-of-three series at the home site of the higher seed. That guarantees incredible atmospheres for every game, revenue for the NCAA and a reward for teams that finish in the top eight of the Pairwise Rankings.

The following week, there could be a super regional, much like the NCAA does for its postseason baseball tournament. The higher seeds could once again host either a series or a single game to go to the Frozen Four.

If you want the week off heading into the Frozen Four to remain in place, the calendar would have to be adjusted or else teams would have to get rid of a bye week to fit it in.

If not, the other option is rolling right into the Frozen Four with no week off, just like basketball does for the Final Four.

The Frozen Four itself can remain the same. It continues to be very successful at predetermined NHL arenas whether local teams make it or not, as this year proved.

SCHLOSSMAN: Page 10

Wolves aren't ready

This series might be over

7ith their first-round series hanging in the balance, the Timberwolves landed a devastating haymaker

> night at Target Center. Twice. On both occasions, the Memphis Grizzlies took it square on the chin, staggered to their feet, and went to

Thursday

DANE **MIZUTANI** St. Paul Pioneer Press

work. That's what true

contenders do. It's clear the Timberwolves aren't that. Not yet. Not even close

After leading by as many as 26 points in the first half and as many as 25 points in the second half, the Timberwolves proved they aren't ready for success in a crushing 104-95

The Grizzlies now hold a 2-1 lead in the series. Not that it matters. This series might be It's hard to imagine the

from something like this. They have very little playoff experience on the roster, and even worse, they have a star who can't be trusted to stay

Timberwolves bouncing back

on the floor. Both of those things were on display in Game 3.

Maybe the Timberwolves thought it was going to be easy after jumping out to a 12–0 lead in the first quarter. Maybe they thought the Grizzlies would go away when they trailed by 26 points in the second quarter. Instead, the Timberwolves

got complacent when the scoreboard read 47-21 with 10:28 left in the second quarter. They started taking bad shots, got careless with the ball, and the Grizzlies fought their way back into the game. Thanks to a 15-0 run to close out the first half, the Grizzlies cut the deficit to

Shockingly, the Timberwolves were able to respond to that bout of adversity by taking control of the game early in the third quarter. They got some inspired play from D'Angelo Russell, who helped his teammates regain their composure and helped the Timberwolves restore their lead to 25 points.

The scoreboard read 83-62 in favor of the Timberwolves with 1:05 left in the third quarter. That's when the lack of playoff experience reared its ugly head once again as some sloppy play opened the door.

MIZUTANI: Page 10

Wolves cough up 26-point lead, lose to Memphis



Brad Rempel / USA Today Sports Memphis Grizzlies guard Desmond Bane (22) talks to fans in front of Minnesota Timberwolves forward Anthony Edwards in the fourth quarter of Game 3 of their 2022 first-round NBA playoff series Thursday at Target Center in Minneapolis.

Minnesota stunned by Grizzlies in Game 3

By Jace Frederick St. Paul Pioneer Press

MINNEAPOLIS — The Minnesota Timberwolves spent 2½ quarters Thursday showing the type of team they can

Unfortunately for Minnesota, the rest of the game revealed the truth of who it appears to be — one not capable of putting it all together for a long enough period of

Despite building two separate leads of 25-plus points
— one in each half — Minnesota disappeared in the final frame, falling 104-95 to Memphis. The Grizzlies now lead the best-of-7 series 2-1, with Game 4 set for Saturday night at Target Center.

Then look at Minnesota's. The two look fairly even in talent. If you squint, you might even be able to convince yourself the Timberwolves have more.

So why did Memphis win 10 more games than Minnesota? Because of everything it displayed in the fourth frame. On a night when everything was going against them, the Grizzlies fought to the finish and found a way.

On a night when everything was coming up Timberwolves, they wilted the moment things started to go awry. After leading 79-54 with three minutes to play, the Timberwolves were out-scored 50-13 over

the next 15 minutes. "You have to give them **WOLVES:** Page 10

Look at Memphis' roster. credit, man. They came out here. They were down big. They stayed in the fight. They kept swinging. They didn't let go of the rope," Patrick Beverley said. "I felt like once we got the big lead we were kind of on our heels. .. This is a learning lesson." Minnesota built major

advantages in each half by dominating defensively, flying around and making life difficult for Ja Morant and Co. The Timberwolves executed a brilliant game plan to sag off everyone, forcing Memphis — a non-shooting team - to fire away from deep or attack multiple defenders in the paint.

LOCAL BRIEF

College tennis

UND players honored: Two North Dakota tennis players were honored by the Summit League on Thursday. Senior transfer Nikita Snezhko earned the Summit League Men's Tennis Newcomer of the Year award while sophomore Sapir Sela joined SnezLeague Team.

"We are exceptionally proud of these accomplishments by Sapir and Nikita and for the recour tennis program," awards are a true reflec-

the collective efforts fifth court. The Plymof every member of the team and coaching staff."

Snezhko joined the season following three said UND head coach years at Iowa, making Tom Boysen. "These an immediate impact for UND. The senior paced tion of the entire team's the team with 14 victohard work, dedication ries during singles play,

outh, Minn., native suffered only five defeats all season in singles action, rolling to a 4-1 record went 13-5 on the doubles Gerhard Sullwald.

"In only nine months at UND, Nikita has estaband results. They would winning six at the No. 4 lished himself as a leader team victories this year." hko on the All-Summit not be possible without position and eight on the on-and-off the court for

our men's team," said standout freshman sea-Boysen. "This spring, his singles and doubles results have been terrific, but more than that, ognition they bring to Fighting Hawks this in league play. He also I've been so impressed with his composure and courts, playing the top tenacity at crucial points pairing with teammate of his matches. He has come through in several big moments for the team in our signature Sela followed up her

p.m. Texas at Oakland (Oller 0-1), 8:40 p.m.

Saturday's Games
Cleveland at NY Yankees (Cortes Jr. 0-0),

1-1), 3:10 p.m.
Boston at Tampa Bay, 5:10 p.m.
Baltimore (Watkins 0-0) at LA Angels (Syn-

National League

son in 2021 with no signs of a sophomore slump, once again leading the UND women's team with 14 singles victories.

"Sapir has been an integral part of the success the women's team has had during her first two years at UND, both in singles and doubles," said Boysen.

Western Conference

SCOREBOARD

PREP BASEBALL

	EDC						
	Conf.	Overall					
Wahpeton	1-0	2-4					
GF Red River	0-0	3-0					
Devils Lake	0-0	2-0					
WF Sheyenne	0-0	2-2					
Shanley	0-0	1-1					
West Fargo	0-0	1-1					
Fargo Davies	0-0	0-0					
GF Central	0-0	1-3					
Fargo North	0-0	1-3					
Fargo South	0-0	0-2					
Valley City	0-1	1-2					
Thursday's resi	Thursday's results						
Devils Lake at Va	alley City						

Central at Davies, ppd to May 14
West Fargo at Red River, ppd to May 17
Shanley at WF Sheyenne, ppd

Friday's games
Devils Lake at Wahpeton
Fargo Davies at Lincoln, S.D.
Valley City at Shanley
GF Red River at South, 5 p.m. Central at Fargo North, 5 p.m. Saturday's games Valley City at GF Central, 3 p.m.

Tuesday's results Red River vs. Fargo Davies, postponed to 5/12 EGF Senior High DH vs. Roseau, post-

poned to 4/25 Sacred Heart at Grafton, canceled Bismarck 5-13, Watford City 4-0 Badger-Greenbush-Middle River vs. Red Lake County Central, postponed
Crookston vs. Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton,
postponed

Kittson County Central at Northern Freeze, postponed Thief River Falls at Fosston, postponed

Fergus Falls at Wilmar, postponed

PREP SOFTBALL

Thursday's results Lake Park-Audubon 9, Mahnomen-Wau-

Mahnomen-Waubun 6, Norman County East/U-H 5
Badger-Greenbush-Middle River 15, War-

	EDC Conf.	Overall
West Fargo	2-0	1-0
Devils Lake	0-0	0-0
Fargo Davies	0-0	0-0
Fargo North	0-0	0-0
Fargo South	2-0	1-0
GF Central	0-2	0-1
GF Red Rive	r0-0	0-0
WF Sheyenne	0-0	0-0
Valley City	0-0	0-2
Shanley	0-2	0-1
Thursday's resu	ults	

Valley City at West Fargo, canceled Davies at North, ppd Hawley at Sheyenne, ppd Shanley at GF Central, ppd to 4/28 Friday's games Devils Lake at Shanley

Red River at Thompson, canceled Bismarck Century at WF Sheyenne, can-

North at West Fargo, ppd Tuesday's results GF Central at Valley City, postponed to

Red River at Devils Lake, postponed to EGF Senior High at Red Lake Falls, post-

poned to 4/28 Sacred Heart vs. Northern Freeze, postponed Crookston vs. Thief River Falls, postponed

Badger-Greenbush-Middle River vs. Warpostponed to 4/21

Red Lake County Central vs. Ada-Borup/ West, postponed East Polk vs. West Marshall, postponed Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton DH at Frazee. postponed

Blackduck at Lake of the Woods, post-

BOYS TENNIS

Thursday's results East Grand Forks 6.

Moorhead 1 Singles
1. Carson Knutson, EGF, over Oscar Bergerson 6-0, 6-3; 2. Thomas McMahon, EGF, over Henry Skatvold 6-1, 6-1; 3. Isidro Lopez, M, over Kai Campos 6-2,

6-1; 4. Jeb Haaven-Farstad, EGF over Jinu Lee 6-4, 6-4 Seth Aaker-Jonah Tollefson, EGF, over

Brody Hansen-Adam Pettys 6-3, 6-2 Brody Hansen-Adam Petrys 6-3, 6-2 2. Tommy Loer, Campos over Ben Vox-land-Kaden Fillipi 6-3, 6-1' 3. Trey D'Hei-lly-Tate Steenerson, EGF, over Fi Kjos, Elliot Lien 6-2, 6-4 Coach Kyle Hanson: "It was nice to be

able to get outside again. It was cold on the hands but the boys weren't complain-ing. The crazy thing is that was our sec-ond outdoor match day, but we've only been able to practice once outside. It was a really good, smart and patient win for us. Throughout the lineup, we weren't over swinging and stayed consistent."

Tuesday's result Thief River Falls 5, Crookston 2

Singles
1. Jack Onkka, TRF, over Erik Coauette 6-1, 6-0; 2. Dylan Hahn, TRF, over Mason Owens 6-0, 6-1; 3. Reece Janisch, TRF, over Reggie Winjum 6-4, 6-2; 4. Isaac Thomforde, CRO, over Spencer Hempel 4-6, 6-4, 10-6 **Doubles** Evan Christensen/Jack Garmen, CRO,

JJ Cornelious/Rhett Janisch over 3J Comeious/Knett Janisch 1-o, 6-4, 18-16; 2. Geran Gonsorowski/Jett Cornelius, TRF, over Nathan Kelly/Kaleb Armstrong 6-2, 6-4; 3. Justin Funk/Lu-cas Rantanen, TRF, over Tim Brule/Sam Widseth 6-1, 7-5

GIRLS TENNIS Thursday's results

GF Central 6, Fargo North 3

Singles

1. Madi Stauss, GFC, over Erika Spanjer
6-2, 6-3; 2. Sydnee Lemieux, GFC, over
Lainy Latunski 6-4, 6-3; 3. Mallory Pladson, FN, over Magdalene Spicer 2-6, 6-1, 6-0; 4.Ellen Erickson, FN, over Gianna Blue 4-6, 6-4 6-4; 5. Jennifer Wang, GFC, over Lizzie Hardie 6-1, 6-3; 6. Lauren Tran, GFC, over K. Abhijna 7-5, 6-1 Doubles

Joubles

I. Stauss-Spicer, over Spanjer Latunski
4-6, 6-2, 6-1; 2. Semieux-Wang over
Pladson-Hardie 6-4, 6-2; 3. Erikson- Julia
Puhl, FN, over Stella Blue-Alli Wilhelmi
6-1, 6-3

GIRLS SOCCER

Thursday's results West Fargo 2, GF Central 1 West Fargo Sheyenne 3, GF Red River 1 Fargo Davies 4, Fargo North 1 Friday's games
GF Red River at West Fargo
GF Central at West Fargo Sheyenne
Shanley at Fargo South Tuesday's results GF Central vs. West Fargo, postponed to

BOYS GOLF

Red River at West Fargo Sheyenne, post-poned to 4/21

West Fargo Sheyenne Invite At Village Green Golf Course, Moor-head, Tuesday

Canceled due to weather

PREP TRACK

Eagle Relays

Thursday, at Fargo
Boys team totals
Fargo Davies 188.5, West Fargo Sheyenne 148.5, Red River 119, West Fargo 89, GF Central 61 Individual winners, GF top 3

100 – 1. Alonn Salman, Mhd, 10.87 200 – 2. Carson Hegerle, WF, 22.56 400 – 1. Parker Nelson, WF, 51.14; 3. Wy-att Mutzenberger, GFC, 52.42 800 – 1. Hunter McHenry, RR, 2:01.44; 2. Tanner Schiller, RR, 2:05.64

1600 – 1. Regan Bosch, Davies, 4:34.59 3200 – 1. Aiden Johnson, WFS, 9:29.27 110 hurdles – Carter Elde, GFC, 15.29; 3. Carter Byron, RR, 15:95 300 hurdles – 1 Josh eil Davies 40:61: 3

Sub nurdies – 1. Josh eii, Davies, 40.61; 3. Lukas Heydt, RR, 41.56 4x100 relay – 1. Moorhead 43:27 4x200 relay – 1. Moorhead 131.31 4x400 relay – 1. Moorhead 43:27 4x800 relay – 1. Red River (Jonah Dafoe, Dameon Zenawick, Elijah Dafoe, Hunter McHenry) 8:14.28
Shot put – 1. Elinneus Davies, Moorhead, 52.3.5

Discus – 1. Logan Arason, RR, 167-6 Javelin -1. Logan Arason, RR, 189-9
High jump - 1. Michael Nhial, WFS, 6-8
Pole vault - 1. Hudson Flom RR, 11-6
Long jump - 1. Michael Haugo, Mhd, 22-0;
3. Erick Pay, GFC, 19-5.5

Girls team totals
Fargo Davies 181.5, West Fargo 116,
Moorhead 104, West Fargo Sheyenne
78, Minot 72.5, Red River 67, GF Cen-Individual winners, GF top 3

Individual winners, GF top 3 100 – 1. Cece Deebom, Davies, 12.52 200 – 1. Cece Deebom, Davies, 25.34 400 – 1. Ara Warren, Mhd, 1:00.15 800 – 1. Jocelyn Schiller, RR, 2:21.67; 2. Lauren Dosch, RR, 2:23.79 1600 – 1. Jordan Knudsvig, WF, 5:27.00 3200 – 1. Kinley Steckler, Davies, 11:50.45 100 hurdles - 1. Cece Deebom, Davies

14.63 300 hurdles – 1. Kate Laqua, Davies, 45.32 4x100 relay – 1. Davies 50.98
4x200 relay – 1. Davies 1:47.49
4x800 relay – 1. Davies 1:02.69
4x400 relay – 1. Davies 4:15.29; 2. RR
(Sophie Brakke, Emerson Byron, Lauren Dosch, Ella Heilman) 4:29.70
Shot put – 1. Adisyn Schenck, WFS, 29-

Discus – 1. Elsie Hardy, Minot, 107-0 Javelin – 1. Ella Weippert, RR, 113-2 High jump – 1. Haleigh Cleem, Mhd, 4-11 Pole vault – 1. Onya Kretechman, Davies,

Long jump - 1. Cece Deebom, Davies, 18-4.75

Triple jump - 1. Cayla Sailer, Davies, 33-9

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

Summit League

Juli	IIIIII Lee	igue				
	Conf.	Overall				
South Dakota S	t.10-229-10)				
Omaha	8-4	20-12				
South Dakot	8-4	23-17				
N.D. State	7-4	25-17				
St. Thomas	5-7	10-28				
Kansas City	4-7	8-29				
Nestern III.	3-9	7-28				
North Dakota	2-10	12-32				
Saturday's games						
North Dakota at	St. Thoma	s, noon				
Omaha at South	n Dakota					

Western Illinois at Kansas City S.D. State at N.D. State Sunday's games North Dakota at St. Thomas, 11 a.m.

Omaha at South Dakota Western Illinois at Kansas City S.D. State at N.D. State Wednesday's result

St. Thomas at Iowa State, postponed Tuesday's result
Omaha 9, Creighton 3 Omaha 9, Creighton 3
Summit League players of the week

Pitcher — Kamryn Meyer, Omaha Player — Rozelyn Carrillo, S.D. State

Big Ten Wednesday's results

Minnesota DH vs. Wisconsin, postponed

viii i i cocta Bi i vo. vii cociicii i, pocipei					
North	าern Sเ	ın			
	Conf.	Overal			
Augustana	18-2	34-7			
Vinona St.	13-3	27-11			
∕linn. State.	14-4	32-10			
St. Cloud	14-6	26-15			
∕linnDuluth	14-6	29-12			
∕linot St.	8-6	27-11			
Concordia-SP	8-8	25-10-1			
Southwest Minn.	8-8	16-23			
Jpper Iowa	7-10	16-21			
Vayne State	8-10	11-28			
Sioux Falls	5-8	17-17			
Bemidji St.	7-11	10-28			
/linnCrookston	5-13	14-29			
JMary	3-11	5-29			
MSU Moorhead	3-15	6-27			
Northern State	3-15	11-29			
Thursday's result	s				
Ainot State 6-0. MinnCrookston 5-3					

Winona State 11-14, Wayne State 1-4 Minnesota State at Sioux Falls U Mary 5-1, Bemidji State 4-0 Augustana 10-3, Upper lowa 2-2 Southwest Minnesota 5-1, Concordia-St. Paul 4-6

Wednesday's results Minnesota Duluth 4-17, MSU Moorhead

2-3 St. Cloud State 4-0, Northern State 0-1 NSIC athletes of the week Pitcher — Mackenzie Ward, MSU Mankato Player — Jordyn Thomas, Minnesota Du-

	North St	tar					
	Conf.	Overall					
evue	16-2	30-11					
ey City	12-4	25-14					
ota St.	11-7	16-21					
dorf	7-9	7-21					
sentation	5-7	11-16					
inson St.	5-7	13-21					
ville St.	5-9	8-21					
rbo	1-17	4-30					
rsday's r	esults						
ey City Sta	ate 8-10, Ma	ayville 0-4					
inson at Presentation							
evue at Dakota State							
rbo at Wa	ldorf						
inesday's	s results						

Valley City State 7-4, Mayville State 2-7

Waldorf at Northwestern College, canceled

Waldorf 9-9, Viterbo 5-0
Bellevue 8-5, Dakota State 1-4
Tuesday's results
Waldorf at Northwestern College

NSAA athletes of the week Pitcher — Katie Cunningham, Bellevue Player — Michelle Evdos, Dakota State

Belle

Dak

Wald

Thu

NSIC tournament In Sioux Falls, S.D. Friday's quarterfinals No. 7 Sioux Falls vs. No. 2 Winona State.

No. 6 Upper Iowa vs. No. 3 Southwest Minnesota State, 11:30 a.m. No. 8 St. Cloud State vs. No. 1 Augustana, 2 p.m. No. 5 UMary vs. No. 4 MSU Mankato, 4:30

Saturday, April 23 Semifinals, 2 p.m Sunday, April 24 onship, 10:00 a.m

TODAY'S LOCAL CALENDAR

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

Boys tennis

East Grand Forks at Grand Rapids, 4 p.m. Men's tennis

North Dakota vs. Drake, Summit League tournament, 6 p.m., Men's and women's track and field North Dakota at South Dakota Challenge, Vermillion

Prep track East Grand Forks Invitational, 2 p.m., Fritz Pollard Center

TODAY'S TV-RADIO

Auto racing:

Formula One: Emilia Romagna Grand Prix qualifying, 9:55 a.m., ESPN2

NASCAR Xfinity Series: Talladega qualifying, 4:30 p.m., FS1 NHRA Drag racing: Houston qualifying, 6 p.m., FS1 Baseball:

MLB: 1 p.m., MLBN College: Ohio State at Michigan, 3 p.m., BTN MLB: Chicago at Minnesota, 7 p.m., BSN College: Maryland at Illinois, 8 p.m., BTN

Basketball: NBA playoffs: First round game, Miami at Atlanta, 6 p.m., **FSPN**

NBA playoffs: First round game, Milwaukee at Chicago, 7:30 p.m., ABC

NBA playoffs: First round game, Phoenix at New Orleans, 8:30 p.m., ESPN Football:

USFL: Michigan at New Jersey, 7 p.m., USA Golf: DP World Tour Golf: ISPS Handa Championship in Spain, 7

a.m., GOLF PGA Tour Champions: ClubCorp Classic, 11 a.m., GOLF PGA Tour: Zurich Classic of New Orleans, 2:30 p.m., GOLF LPGA Tour: DIO Implant LA Open, 5:30 p.m., GOLF

Great Plains Wednesday's result Dordt 4, Jamestown 3

COLLEGE BASEBALL

Summit League Wednesday's results Nebraska 4, N.D. State 3

S.D. State 13. Briar Cliff 2 Summit League players of the week Pitcher — Isaac Coffey, Oral Roberts Player — Joshua Cox, Oral Roberts Big Ten

Tuesday's result

St. Thomas	6, Minnes	sota 0
1	Northe	rn Sun
	Conf.	Overal
Minn. State	20-3	27-5
Augustana	21-4	31-7-1
St. Cloud St.	17-4	25-10
Minot St.	15-6	21-15
Wayne St.	10-9	16-17
Sioux Falls	13-12	21-19
Northern St.	7-9	12-17
Winona St.	7-10	9-19
MinnDuluth	8-12	14-19
UMary	10-11	18-18
Concordia-S	t. P9-14	15-20
Upper Iowa	7-13	9-22
Minn-Crooks	ton6-10	14-21
Bemidji St.	2-18	5-29

Southwest Minn.1-18 Thursday's results UMary 4-12, Bemidji State 3-9 St. Cloud State 3-16, Northern State 0-6
Minot State 7-10, Southwest Minnesota

Augustana 3-9 Winona State 2-2 Minnesota-Crookston 5-10, Minnesota-Duluth 2-5

UMC 130 100 0 – 5 81 UMD 010 000 1 – 2 10 1 **WP –** Jake Dykhoff; **LP –** Aaron Wukmir Highlights – UMC: Jake Hjelle 1x3, HR, Chad Musser 1x2, HR, RBI, Mitch Good-win 1-3, HR, 2 RBI, Ben Bryant 1x3; UMD: Tosten Mann 2x3, Tim Pokornows ki 2x4. RBI. Brodie Paulson 2x3, Alex

Wattermann 2x4, Sam Tanner 2x3 (GAME 2) UMC 321 030 010 – 10 18 1 UMD 200 120 000 - 5 13 0 WP - Jake Osowski; LP - Eric Hinnen

Highlights – UMC: Brad Morris 3x5, RBI Matt Nunn 3x4, 2 RBI, Jake Hjelle 3x5, RBI, Ben Thoma 2x5, HR, 2 RBI, Ben Goelz 2x4, RBI, Mitch Goodwin 2x4, HR, 2 RBI: UMD: Brandt Kolpack 3x5, Tosten Mann 3x5, Sam Tanner 2x3, Austin Gor-

Tuesday's results Upper lowa 4-6, Sioux Falls 3-7 William Jewell 22, Wayne State 14 MSU Mankato 6-11, Concordia-St. Paul NSIC athletes of the week Pitcher — Seth Miller, Augustana Player - John Nett, St. Cloud State

North Star Overall 34-8 25-11 Bellevue Dakota State 12-4 Mavville St. 11-9 14-17 8-7 8-8 14-17 14-19 17-17 7-25 Dickinson St /alley City St 6-10 Waldorf

Viterbo 4-16 12-29 Thursday's results Valley City at Dakota State Friday's games
Mayville at Bellevue
Valley City at Dakota State Wednesday's result
Mayville State at Valley City State, can-

Tuesday's results Grand View 8. Waldorf 5 NSAA athletes of the week
Pitcher — Elijah Johnson, Bellevue
Player — Payton Higgins, Bellevue

WOMEN'S TENNIS Northern Sun

MEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

Summit League Summit League athletes of the week Field — Merga Gemeda, South Dakota Track — Trevor Otterdahl, N.D. State Northern Sun

NSIC athletes of the week

Field — Shyrone Kemp, MSU Moorhead Track — Austin Miller, Augustana North Star NSAA athletes of the week Field — Conner Tordsen, Dakota State Track — Jalen Anderson, Viterbo

South Dakota Challenge

Thursday's UND results 1,500 – 1. Luke Labatte, UND, 3:54.89 800 – 6. Zach Long, 1:55.48 Summit League Summit League athletes of the week Field — Elise Ulseth, North Dakota

Track — Kelby Anderson, N.D. State **North Star** NSAA athletes of the week Field — Tyra Payne, Dakota State Track — Josie Wolf, Dakota State

WOMEN'S GOLF

NSAA athlete of the week Tylah Saifoloi, Bellevue

BASEBALL

Professional MLB

American League w L Pct GB

	VV	_	PCt	GB
Toronto	8	5	.615	_
NY Yankees	7	6	.538	1.0
Tampa Bay	7	6	.538	1.0
Boston	6	7	.462	2.0
Baltimore	4	9	.308	4.0
	Central			
	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	7	5	.583	_
Chi. White Sox	6	6	.500	1.0
Kansas City	5	6	.455	1.5
Detroit	5	7	.417	2.0
Minnesota	5	8	.385	2.5
	West			
	W	L	Pct	GB
LA Angels	8	5	.615	_
Seattle	7	5	.583	.5

Houston 6 2 6 .500 9 .182 Texas **National League**

W

NY Mets

GB

L 4 8 Pct .714 .429 4.0 Atlanta 6 5 Miami .417 4.0 Washington Philadelphia .400 .385 6 9 8 Central W Pct GB St. Louis .636 Milwaukee Pittsburgh Chi. Cubs 8 5 .615 6 7 .462 6 7 .462 2 11 .154 2.0 2.0 6.0 Cincinnati

West **L** 3 4 5 **W** 9 Pct GB .750 .667 LA Dodgers Colorado 1.0 San Diego .643 San Francisco .615 .385 American League Wednesday's Results
Cleveland 11, Chi. White Sox 1

Cleveland 2, Chi. White Sox 1 Baltimore 1, Oakland 0 LA Angels 6, Houston 0 NY Yankees 5, Detroit 3 Toronto 6, Boston 1 Kansas City 2, Minnesota 0 Seattle 4, Texas 2 Thursday's Results Cleveland 6, Chi. White Sox 3 Detroit 3. NY Yankees 0. Toronto 3, Boston 2
Minnesota 1, Kansas City 0
Oakland 6, Baltimore 4
Texas (Hearn 0-1) at Seattle (Gonzales 1-1), 8:40 p.m

Friday's Games
Cleveland at NY Yankees (Taillon 0-1), 6:05 p.m. Boston (Wacha 0-0) at Tampa Bay (Kluber Boston (Wacha 0-0) at Tampa Day (Nulvei 0-0), 6:10 p.m.
Chi. White Sox (Kopech 0-0) at Minnesota (Ober 1-1), 7:10 p.m.
Toronto (Stripling 0-0) at Houston (Verlander 1-1), 7:10 p.m.
Baltimore (Zimmermann 0-0) at LA Angels

(Detmers 0-0), 8:38 p.m.

National League
Wednesday's Results
Milwaukee 4, Pittsburgh 2
Philadelphia 9, Colorado 6
LA Dodgers 5, Atlanta 1
San Diego 6, Cincinnati 0
St. Louis 2, Miami 0
Arizona 11, Washington 2
San Francisco 5, NY Mets 2
Thursday's Results Thursday's Results
NY Mets 6, San Francisco 2
Arizona 4, Washington 3
Miami 5, St. Louis 0 Pittsburgh 4, Chi. Cubs 3

Friday's Games

Pittsburgh (Quintana 0-1) at Chi. Cubs (Smyly 1-0), 1:20 p.m.

St. Louis (Matz 1-1) at Cincinnati (Greene 1-1), 5:40 p.m. San Francisco at Washington (Corbin 0-2), Milwaukee (Peralta 0-1) at Philadelphia (Suarez 1-0), 6:05 p.m. Miami (Rogers 0-2) at Atlanta (Wright 1-0), 6:20 p.m. NY Mets (Peterson 0-0) at Arizona (Gallen 0-0), 8:40 p.m. LA Dodgers (Urias 0-1) at San Diego (Martinez 0-1), 8:40 p.m. Saturday's Games San Francisco (Wood 1-0) at Washington. San Francisco (Wood 1-U) at vvasilingun, 12:05 p.m.
12:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Thompson 0-1) at Chi. Cubs (Hendricks 0-1), 1:20 p.m.
Milwaukee (Houser 0-2) at Philadelphia (Wheeler 0-2), 3:05 p.m.
St. Louis (Hudson 0-1) at Cincinnati (Mahle 1-1), 3:10 p.m.
Miami (Hernandez 1-1) at Atlanta (Anderces 14), 6:20 p.m. son 1-1), 6:20 p.m. NY Mets at Arizona, 7:10 p.m. LA Dodgers at San Diego (Darvish 1-1), 7:40 p.m. Wednesday's Results
Tampa Bay 8, Chi. Cubs 2, 6 innings
Friday's Games
Colorado (Senzatela 1-0) at Detroit (Skubal 0-1), 6:10 p.m. Saturday's Games

Colorado (Gomber 0-1) at Detroit (Brieske 0-0), 12:10 p.m. Thursday's results

Minnesota 1, Kansas City 0 Larnach ph 2 0 1 0 Mondesi ss 3 0 0 0

Kansas City 000 000 000 — (000 000 000 — 0 Witt Jr. (3). 3B—Benintendi (1). CS—Witt Jr. (1). H R ER BB SO

Minnesota 2 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 Ryan W, 2-1 Duran H. 2 J.Smith H, 2 Pagan S, 1 Kansas City Greinke L, 0-1 5 6 1

BASKETBALL

Professional NBA Playoffs

Wednesday's Games Boston 114, Brooklyn 107 Boston 114, Brooklyn 1U0 Philadelphia 104, Toronto 101, OT Chicago 114, Milwaukee 110 Thursday's Games Memphis 104, Minnesota 95 Dallas 126, Utah 118 Golden State at Denver, 9 p.m. Friday's Games Miami at Atlanta, 6 p.m. Milwaukee at Chicago, 7:30 p.m. Phoenix at New Orleans, 8:30 p.m. Saturday's Games Philadelphia at Toronto, 1 p.m Dallas at Utah, 3:30 p.m. Boston at Brooklyn, 6:30 p.m. Memphis at Minnesota, 9 p.m

Thursday's result Memphis 104, Minnesota 95 Memphis Minnesota 21 23 23 37 — 104 39 12 32 12 — 95 MINNESOTA 39 12 32 12 — 95 MEMPHIS (104) Morant 5-18 5-10 16, Bane 8-19 3-4 26, D.Brooks 4-14 2-4 11, Anderson 2-3 0-0 4, Jackson Jr 2-6 1-1 6, Clarke 6-9 8-8

4, Jackson Jr 2-6 1-1 6, Clarke 6-9 8-8 20, Tillman 2-2 1-4 5, Ty.Jones 4-6 0-0 11, Z.Williams 2-4 0-0 5, Melton 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 35-83 20-31 104.

MINNESOTA (95)

A. Edwards 6-13 3-6 19, Russell 9-21 0-0 22, Beverley 5-13 4-5 14, Towns 3-4 2-2 8, Vanderbilt 2-8 6-8 10, Beasley 4-12 1-1 11, Jd.McDaniels 3-7 0-0 8, Reid 1-5 1-1 3, Prince 0-2 0-0 0, Monroe 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 33-85 17-23 95.

3-Point Goals—Memohis 14-37 (Bane

O. Totals 33-85 17-23 95.
3-Point Goals—Memphis 14-37 (Bane 7-15, Ty.Jones 3-3, Morant 1-3, Z.Williams 1-3, Jackson Jr 1-4, D.Brooks 1-6, Clarke 0-1, Melton 0-2), Minnesota 12-35 (Russell 4-8, A.Edwards 4-9, Jd.McDaniels 2-4, Beasley 2-7, Reid 0-1, Towns 0-1, Beverley 0-5). Fouled out: None. Rebounds—Memphis 64 (Morant 10), Minnesota 53 (Vanderbilt 13). Assists—Memphis 22 (Morant 10), Minnesota 21 (Russell 8). Total Fouls—Memphis 20 (Jackson Jr 5), Minnesota 28 (Reid, Towns, Vanderbilt 5). A—19,634.

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division
GP W LOTSO Pts GFGA
77 56 15 2 4118325222
78 51 21 5 1108301245
y77 47 22 3 5102261217 Florida Toronto Tampa Bay77 47 22 3 5 102261217 47 25 3 2 99236209 30 38 8 3 71224280 30 38 8 2 70220299 29 41 5 2 65210251 20 47 9 2 51200303 Boston 77 79 78 77 78 Montreal Metropolitan Division

Western Conference
Central Division
GP W LOTSO Pts GFGA
77 55 16 5 1116298212
77 49 21 3 4 105289238
77 46 20 8 3 103290222
77 44 28 3 2 93247227
78 43 30 3 2 91225236
78 35 32 7 4 81237252
77 26 40 9 2 63208276
77 22 49 2 4 50189296
Pacific Division 12:05 p.m. Chi. White Sox (Velasquez 0-1) at Minne-Texas at Oakland (Montas 2-1), 3:07 p.m.
Toronto (Manoah 2-0) at Houston (Urquidy 1-1), 3:10 p.m. Nashville Dallas Winnipeg Chicago Arizona | Pacific Division | Pacific Di Pacific Division dergaard 2-0), 8:07 p.m.

Kansas City (Bubic 0-1) at Seattle, 8:10

Kansas City (Keller 0-1) at Seattle, 8:40 Philadelphia78 24 43 7 4 59204286

Colorado

Minnesota 77

Wednesday's Games Edmonton 5, Dallas 2 Chicago 4, Arizona 3, OT Vegas 4, Washington 3, OT Seattle 3, Colorado 2 Thursday's Games Finiaday's Games
Philadelphia 6, Montreal 3
Florida 5, Detroit 2
Buffalo 5, New Jersey 2
Pittsburgh 4, Boston 0
Carolina 4, Winnipeg 2
NY Rangers 6, NY Islanders 3 Minnesota 6, Vancouver 3 Tampa Bay 8, Toronto 1 Calgary 4, Dallas 2 Chicago at Los Angeles, 9:30 p.m. St. Louis at San Jose, 9:30 p.m. Friday's Games

Friday's Games
Ottawa at Columbus, 6 p.m.
Seattle at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
Colorado at Edmonton, 8 p.m.
Washington at Arizona, 9:30 p.m.
Saturday's Games
NY Islanders at Buffalo, 11:30 a.m.
Pittsburgh at Detroit, 11:30 a.m. Carolina at New Jersey, 11:30 a.m. NY Rangers at Boston, 2 p.m. Montreal at Ottawa, 6 p.m. Nashville at Tampa Bay, 6 p.m. Toronto at Florida, 6 p.m. Chicago at San Jose, 7 p.m Seattle at Dallas, 7 p.m.
St. Louis at Arizona, 9 p.m.
Vancouver at Calgary, 9 p.m.
Anaheim at Los Angeles, 9:30 p.m.

SOCCER

Professional MLS Eastern Conference

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

D.C. United 0 6 GF GA: Los Angeles FC Austin FC LA Galaxy FC Dallas 10 10 9 8 8 Houston Real Salt Lake Minnesota United 3 Nashville SC 3 10 8 7 10 9 6 13 11 7 14 14 17 Portland 2 3 6 5 Colorado Seattle FC Sporting KC Vancouver FC

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point saturday's Games
CF Montreal at Philadelphia Union, 2 p.m. Houston Dynamo at FC Dallas, 2 p.m. Chicago Fire at Minnesota United FC,

New England Revolution at D.C. United, 6:30 p.m.
Vancouver Whitecaps FC at Austin FC, 7:30 p.m. Columbus Crew SC at Sporting Kansas City, 7:30 p.m.
Charlotte FC at Colorado Rapids, 8 p.m.
Real Salt Lake at Portland Timbers, 9 p.m.
Seattle Sounders FC at San Jose Earth-

England Revolution at D.C. United,

quakes, 9 p.m. Nashville SC at LA Galaxy, 9:30 p.m. Sunday's Games
Atlanta United FC at Inter Miami CF,

12 p.m.

New York Red Bulls at Orlando City SC, 2:30 p.m. Toronto FC at New York City FC, 4 p.m. Los Angeles FC at FC Cincinnati, 4 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

Thursday

Baseball
American League
Boston Red Sox - Activated C Christian
Vazquez from the 10-day IL. Optioned
C Ronaldo Hernandez to Worcester (IL).
Chicago White Sox - Optioned RHP Jimmy
Lambert to Charlotte (IL). Recalled CF
Adam Haseley from Charlotte (IL).
Cleveland Quartians - Recalled SS Cabri.

Houston Astros - Placed 2B Jose Altuve on the 10-day IL, retroactive to April 19. Placed 1B Taylor Jones on the 10-day IL. Selected the contract of 1B J.J. Matijevic from Sugar Land (PCL). Dakland Athletics - Activated LHP A.J. Puk from the 10-day IL. Optioned LHP Zak Logue to Las Vegas (PCL). Placed SS Kevin Smith on the 10-day IL, retroactive to April 19. Selected the contract of CE

Kevin Smith on the 10-day IL, retroactive to April 19. Selected the contract of CF Mickey McDonald from Las Vegas (PCL). Sent RP James Kaprielian on a rehab assignment to Las Vegas (PCL). Seattle Mariners - Placed RHP Paul Sewald on the 10-day IL. Selected the contract of RHP Penn Murfee from Tacoma (PCL)

ma (PCL). National League

Tyler Gilbert to Reno (PCL).
Atlanta Braves - Acquired RHP Jesse Chavez and cash from the Chicago Cubs for RP Sean Newcomb. Placed 3B Austin Riley on the paternity list. Recalled LF Travis Demeritte from Gwinnett (IL).
Cincinnati Reds - Placed C Tyler Stephenson on the 7-day IL. Recalled C Mark Kolozsvary from Chattanooga (SL).
Los Angeles Dodgers - Placed LHP Andrew Heaney on the 10-day IL. Recalled 2B Zach McKinstry from Oklahoma City (PCL).

Recalled 2B Zach McKinstry from Oklahoma City (PCL).
Miami Marlins - Placed RHP Paul Campbell on the 10-day IL, retroactive to April 18. Recalled LHP Daniel Castano from Jacksonville (SL).
New York Mets - Activated RHP Jake

10-day IL. Designated SS Matt Reynolds for assignment. Optioned RHP Yoan Lopez to Syracuse (IL).

HOCKEY

Professional NHL

| Metropolitan Division | February | Metropolitan |

Baseball

Adam Haseley from Charlotte (IL).
Cleveland Guardians - Recalled SS Gabriel Arias from Columbus (IL). Selected the contract of LHP Kirk McCarty, LHP Tanner Tully, and RHP Enyel De Los Santos from Columbus (IL).
Detroit Tigers - Outrighted RHP Bryan Garcia to Toledo (IL). Placed RP Matt Manning on the 10-day IL, retroactive to April 17. Recalled SP Angel De Jesus from Toledo (IL).

from Toledo (IL). Houston Astros - Placed 2B Jose Altuve

Arizona Diamondbacks - Optioned LHP Tyler Gilbert to Reno (PCL).

Reed, optioned him to Syracuse (IL). Activated LF Mark Canha from the

Ryan, bullpen shine as Twins blank Royals

By Betsy Helfand St. Paul Pioneer Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Joe Rvan didn't feel as crisp as he wanted. He didn't have the best slider early on, he said, spending the beginning of the game searching for consistency with the pitch. His fastball wasn't where he wanted it to be to start, either.

But watching it, it was hard to see any of that — even for his manager.

"Maybe he didn't feel like himself, but he looked like himself in a lot of ways," manager Rocco Baldelli said. "I still think he threw strikes, and I think he missed some bats. And he did everything you would want to see and I thought it was an outstanding

Ryan's "outstanding" outing, coupled with strong performances out of the bullpen and a game-saving outfield assist from Nick Gordon in center helped lead the Minnesota Twins to a 1-0 win over the Royals on Thursday afternoon at Kauffman Stadium, staving off a series sweep.

Ryan threw six scoreless innings and faced little trouble in his start, giving up just a pair of hits and walking one batter, Bobby Witt Jr., whom he



Jay Biggerstaff / USA Today Sports Minnesota Twins starting pitcher Joe Ryan pitches against the Kansas City Royals during the first inning Thursday at Kauffman Stadium in Kansas City, Missouri.

promptly picked off first base.

"I think it's a good one just for learning experience to just take note of," Ryan said. " ... Nothing was really that crisp. I think the fastball command there was huge, and I just kept trying to find that slider that I had last week and I got it later, so I was excited to see that evolution."

Whether or not he felt his best, the results were there for the second straight start and Ryan, in the process, dropped

his earned-run average to 1.69. The only serious threat he faced came in the fourth inning when Ryan gave up a triple to left fielder Andrew Benintendi — the prevailing westerlies, Ryan surmised, helped keep the ball in the park. Benintendi then tried to score on a Salvador Pérez flyout to center.

Nick Gordon had other ideas. Gordon, in center for Byron Buxton, caught the ball and then threw a strike to catcher Ryan Jeffers, the ball getting to the plate on a hop with more than enough time for Jeffers to lay the tag down on Benintendi. The throw preserved the Twins' slim lead, which they grabbed ahold of in the second inning on a Miguel Sanó sacrifice fly that plated Gio Urshela.

Gordon, when he let go of the ball, knew it had a chance as he watched the play unfold from his spot in center field. He was, understandably, excited.

Just not as excited as Buxton, who was watching from the dugout.

'I was pumped. I said, 'He's going to be the new Superman," Buxton said. " ... Definitely that to me was my highlight of the day."

The highlight of a day that

included a return to the field for the first time since last Friday when he left in the first inning with right knee soreness. Serving as the team's designated hitter, Buxton went 1-for-4 with a single, and he said his knee felt good after the

"Obviously I had to shut it a couple of days down to let the knee get un-inflammed a little bit but (I) still feel good, still feel locked in, so that's the biggest thing for me," Buxton

His return is a big boost for a lineup that has been struggling

to score runs. While the Twins (5-8) finished with eight hits on the day, they again didn't collect an extra base hit and weren't able to create any separation for their pitchers.

Flame-thrower Jhoan Duran, in just his fifth major league outing, was called upon in the seventh inning to protect the lead. With his electric stuff and general poise, it seems likely that the Twins will be turning to the reliever in similar — and even higher-leverage — situations in the near future.

Duran responded to the new situation on Thursday, striking out a pair of batters in a perfect

"I think he can pitch at any point in the game," Baldelli said. "But when the moments really count, and you have a lead, and you're trying to hold it. I think he has the, not just the stuff, but I think he has the overall ability to do that.

Duran, followed by Joe Smith and Emilio Pagán, who picked up the first save of the season for the Twins, all showed their ability to do that on Thursday, helping make a winner of Ryan and the Twins.

"We're not going to hesitate to let him pitch us to some wins," Baldelli said of Ryan. "And he sure as heck pitched us to this win, to a win today."



Brad Rempel / USA Today Sports

Minnesota Timberwolves center Naz Reid (11) fouls Memphis Grizzlies guard Ja Morant (12) in the third quarter during Game 3 of their 2022 NBA playoffs first-round series Thursday at Target Center in Minneapolis.

MIZUTANI

From Page 8

It shouldn't come as a surprise that the Grizzlies walked right in. They are as gritty a bunch as there is in the NBA, and they mounted an incredible 21-0 run to tie the game at 83-83 early in the fourth quarter.

After a couple of free throws from Anthony Edwards helped momentarily stop the bleeding, Minnesota native Tyus Jones nailed a 3-pointer to make it 86–85, and the Grizzlies never trailed again.

The inability to hold on to a massive lead shows the lack of playoff experience. That's going to be a tough pill to swallow moving forward.

The more pressing issue for the Timberwolves, however, is that Karl-Anthony Towns continues to come up small when the lights get bright. He battled foul trouble for the umpteenth time this season and was on the bench when the Timberwolves needed him most.

While nobody on the Timberwolves played well down the stretch — not Russell, not Edwards, not anybody — Towns wasn't even on the floor.

This isn't suddenly going to change. This is who Towns is as a player.

He couldn't stay on the floor in the play-in game against the Los Angeles Clippers, and despite a dominant performance in Game 1 against the Grizzlies, he struggled with foul trouble in Game 2 and clearly didn't learn his lesson in Game 3.

That might be the biggest takeaway from this loss. As much as the Timberwolves are going to lament the blown leads and they absolutely should - the fact Towns wasn't on the floor was a big part of their

After watching the Grizzlies get knocked down and get up again, the Timberwolves are going to have to do the same in

Do they have that in them? It sure doesn't look like it.

WOIVES

From Page 8

The Grizzlies did neither with success for three quarters. Minnesota, meanwhile, found success moving the ball and generating good looks.

Sure, there was a hiccup over the final five minutes of the second quarter, when the Wolves allowed a once-26 point lead to shrivel to just seven at the break. But Minnesota responded resiliently in the third, delivering another titanic blow to the Grizzlies.

As was the case in Game 1, Minnesota just looked better. It matches up so well with Memphis. The cards are the Timberwolves' favor. Memphis' flaws play directly into the Timberwolves hands. You see that whenever the Wolves simply bother to play good basketball.

But they only do so in stretches, as has been the case all season. Memphis, meanwhile, is relentless. That's why a team that's similarly as youthful as the Wolves won 56 games this season. Because it never stops coming at you. And if you slip up, the Grizzlies will make you pay.

ror film for Timberwolves fans, who watched the lead dwindle away in front of their very eyes as their team shriveled down to nothing. Memphis went on a 21-0 run between the third and fourth quarters — a span in which Chris Finch used zero timeouts. Though, to be fair, the Timberwolves had plenty of opportunities to save them-Instead, though, Minneso-

ta players essentially stood around and watched one another, hoping someone else would come up with the game-saving answer.

It didn't happen. The Wolves went 3 for 19 in the final frame - the third make was a meaningless Anthony Edwards triple in the closing seconds.

"I'm sure they did tense up. We missed a lot of really good shots. Some of them looked tight," Timberwolves coach Chris Finch said. "But I didn't necessarily feel it. I thought we were still in the game. Everything was there to win. They had all the momentum late, but we didn't make enough plays to tighten the thing back up."

Karl-Anthony Towns made a shot — his only attempt of the quarter as he was again a The fourth quarter was a hor- ble and Memphis' defensive er — went o for 5 in the fourth



Brad Rempel / USA Today Sports

Memphis Grizzlies guard Desmond Bane (22) shoots against the Minnesota Timberwolves center Karl-Anthony Towns (32) in the first quarter during Game 3 of their 2022 NBA playoffs first-round series Thursday at Target Center in Minneapolis.

scheme that's rendered him quarter and wasn't nearly the moot. That was a major contrast to Morant, who was bottled up for much of the night, but still found a way to record a triple-double and play a large role in his team's success when it mattered most.

D'Angelo Russell was so good for much of the night, but went o-for-3 down the stretch. Patnon-factor due to foul trou- rick Beverley — the team lead-

same emotional nor defensive

"They forced us to pass the ball. We were passing it. We were moving it," Russell said. "At some point it kind of switched and I think that's what hurt us the most. Our style of play kind of was affected somewhere." Minnesota forgot who it was.

Memphis beat Minnesota to be fine."

a pulp. The Grizzlies grabbed 19 rebounds in the fourth quarter to Minnesota's five. To put those five in perspective, Tyus Jones grabbed four boards of his own in the fourth, and he played just six minutes in the frame. Brandon Clarke dominated the game late, tallying 12 points and four rebounds over the final four minutes.

What can that be chalked up

"Mental toughness," Bever-

Memphis has that in spades. It remains a question mark for Minnesota. All season, the Grizzlies' confidence and swagger was lauded around the nation, while the Wolves' similar antics were looked down

upon. Perhaps because most

assumed Memphis could back

its up. As things got difficult Thursday, Minnesota's confidence was no where to be found. Perhaps it was unfounded arrogance all along. The Timberwolves have the rest of this series to prove otherwise.

"Obviously they're disappointed," Finch said of his locker room. "But we've got Game 4 here and we're not going to let this game affect that one, for sure. We'll

SCHLOSSMAN

From Page 8

The biggest pushback will be from coaches who think the home regional setup is too big of an advantage for the home teams. It certainly is an advantage. But at least it's an advantage earned through five months

of regular-season play — not because their administration submitted a good bid

four years ago. There will be pushback from those who think this stacks the deck in favor of the bigger and more prominent schools. But under the current system, UND could bid for a regional in Fargo every year and play

de facto home games

annually en route to the NCAA Frozen Four. Right now, UND has been bidding every other year for Scheels Arena — and winning every bid.

There will be pushback from those who thinks this format eliminates upsets and the Cinderella story. But is there even such thing under the current

format anymore? No.

4 seeds beat No. 1

seeds so often that it barely creates a ripple anymore.

When it comes down to voting on potential new regional formats, most coaches and administrators will vote based on what they think gives their teams the best shot to get to the Frozen Four. Some programs quietly don't mind the idea of playing in an empty building. It's

better than playing a road game from their perspective.

But that's not good

for the sport. In the meantime, the new day off between the regional semifinals and the regional championship was a big hit with the coaches even those that played Thursday and

had a quick turnaround

from their conference

championship the

week prior. The day off also

allowed all 15 NCAA tournament games to have their own timeslot and spotlight — a great development for college hockey fans. While both of

those were big wins for the tournament, attendance was again a problem — and not one NCAA coaches and administrators should overlook.

Fiala helps Wild pull away from Vancouver

By Drew Cove Special to the St. Paul Pioneer Press

ST. PAUL — Minnesota and Vancouver fought for the tying goal all night. Minnesota had three leads, the third being the charm as Kevin Fiala continued his torrid pace of late and scored a goal to put Minnesota

up 4-3 with 7:43 remaining. That goal held up as the winner as the Wild beat the Canucks 6-3 in a must-win game as Minnesota fights to gain home-ice advantage in the first round of the playoffs.

Fiala's game winner was his second of the game and 32nd of the season. He also scored the team's opening goal in the second period, which continued his eight-game point

His first goal of the game sparked an onslaught of goals that highlighted the second period after a sloppy and scoreless first. Minnesota's top players had begun the game fanning on shots and missing the net, but Fiala was determined to change that in the second.

Vancouver's Elias Pettersson quickly evened the scoring at 1-1, Minnesota captain Jared Spurgeon followed with another goal for Minnesota and Vancouver's Matthew career.

Highmore had a tying marker again for the Canucks to make

Pettersson gave Vancouver its only lead of the game when he took a Conor Garland rebound and sent it past goaltender Cam Talbot with less than five minutes left in the second to give Vancouver its first lead of the game.

Mats Zuccarello was the beneficiary of a silky play and pass from Kirill Kaprizov to even the score near the end of the middle frame. Kaprizov was hit hard into the boards just a few minutes earlier and skated to the bench in pain. He looked like that pain had been long forgotten when he was dancing through the neutral zone to set up his longtime linemate in Zuccarello for a shot that left him a lot of time and space to beat Canucks goaltender Thatcher Demko.

To seal the victory, Minnesota's top line scored again, with one goal from Kaprizov and another less than a minute later from Ryan Hartman at the empty net as Vancouver coach Bruce Boudreau pulled Demko for an extra attacker.

Talbot, starting his second consecutive game, made 21 saves in the victory. The win was also Talbot's 200th of his



Matt Krohn / USA Today Sports

Vancouver Canucks defenseman Tyler Myers (57) battles with Minnesota Wild left wing Kevin Fiala (22) battle for the puck during the second period of their game on Thursday at Xcel Energy Center

Talbot starts as Evason pauses goalie rotation

By Dane Mizutani

St. Paul Pioneer Press

ST. PAUL — Though he spent the past month rotating his goaltenders, Minnesota Wild coach Dean Evason refused to call it a rotation.

Never mind Marc-Andre Fleury and Cam Talbot traded starts for 15 straight games.

Whenever someone insinuated that the Wild were rotating their goaltenders, Evason was quick to correct them, claiming the Wild were simply going with what they felt was the best option on any given

night.
"It looks like we've been going one and one," Evason said. "We honestly have not."

The pattern finalbot getting the nod for al Canadiens. Thursday night's home game against the Van- played extremely well, has started consecu- pipes.

couver Canucks. That and got a shutout," Eva- tive games since Fleury "We've got a back- Wild are slowly but played? came after Talbot looked son explained. "We just joined the Wild shortly to-back," Evason said. surely getting back to risk it?"



Minnesota Wild goaltender Cam Talbot looks on against the Pittsburgh Penguins in the first period on March 31 at Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul.

ly changed with Tal- victory over the Montre- right into this game."

"You know, Cam time either goaltender with Talbot between the

sharp in Tuesday's 2-0 felt that he would roll after the March 21 trade deadline, Evason down-While this is the first played the decision to go

"They're both going to full strength. play.

Fleury will get the nod for Friday's home game against the Seattle Krak-

Merrill returns

After missing the past 10 games with an upperbody injury, Jon Merrill was set to return to the Wild lineup against the Canucks.

He hasn't played since blocking a shot during a March 31 game against the Pittsburgh Penguins. It's likely that Merrill slides in alongside Alex Goligoski on the blue

Meanwhile, after filling in admirably over the past few weeks, Jordie Benn was set to be a healthy scratch.

Injury updates

As for the other inju-

Matt Dumba (upper Thus, it sounds like body) and Jordan Greenway (upper body) both participated in morning skate on Thursday as they continue to work their way through the recovery process. Nei-ther will be available for the back-to-back against the Canucks and

the Kraken. "The progression is to be with us," Evason said. "We will evaluate as we

As for Tyson Jost (lower body), while he wasn't available against the Canucks, he was expected to return to the Wild lineup against the

Kraken. "The projection is that Jost will play (on Friday night)," Evason said. "Just with him coming off an injury, back-toback games, we didn't want to put him in that situation. Could he have Maybe. Why

Vikings considering cornerback for No. 12 pick

By Chris Tomasson

St. Paul Pioneer Press Vikings veteran cornerback Patrick Peterson has provided plenty of tips to teammates and lately he's also been giv-

ing one to the front office.

Peterson has been saying regularly in recent weeks on his "All Things Covered" podcast that the Vikings should try to land LSU cornerback Derek Stingley Jr. in the first round of the April 28-30 NFL draft. It must be said that Peterson also once starred for

"His talent is unmatched," Peterson has said of Stingley.

Peterson said it would be a "steal" if the Vikings could land Stingley with their No. 12 pick. But he has acknowledged after Stingley's strong April 6 pro day that they likely would need to trade up to get the former LSU star.

The Vikings are strongly considering taking a cornerback in the first round. Peterson, an eight-time Pro Bowl selection entering his 12th season, is likely to start at one outside spot but it's up in the He can play outside. I think he air who will hold down the other one. Cameron Dantzler, the leading current candidate, has been up and down in his

Most analysts rate Cincin-nati's Ahmad "Sauce" Gardner as the top cornerback in the draft, and he might not get past the New York Giants, who pick No. 7. And there has been recent speculation that Stingley might not get past Seattle

two NFL seasons.

at No. 9.

Stingley was perhaps the nation's top cornerback as an LSU freshman in 2019, but he wasn't the same player the next two seasons. He missed three games during the COVID-affected season of 2020 and then sat out the final nine games last year due to a Lisfranc fracture in his left

foot. "There had been a lot of speculation that Derek Stingley could be available (at No. 12), but I think that's less likely now," NFL Network draft analyst Charles Davis said. "He's come back from his injury and he's tested well and he was in shape. ... I think he's the best corner in the

draft when he's on his game." So if Gardner and Stingley are both gone when the Vikings pick in the first round, and they want a cornerback, where do they turn? Davis has them taking Washington's Trent McDuffie in his mock

"I like him a lot," Davis said. "He's got a toughness to him. ... He can play the slot. makes a lot of plays on balls in coverage."

Opinions differ on McDuffie, who might be a player the Vikings could trade down and still get in the first round. One drawback on McDuffie is he's

5-foot-10½. Dane Brugler, draft analyst for The Athletic, has McDuffie rated ahead of the 6-foot

Stingley and puts him as the

No. 2 cornerback in the draft the Vikings should "trade back

after the 6-2½ Gardner. But and accumulate some more





Scott Clause / USA Today Sports

LSU Tigers cornerback Derek Stingley Jr. (7) reacts after making a tackle Sept. 18, 2021, against the Central Michigan Chippewas at Tiger Stadium.

ESPN draft analyst Jordan Reid has McDuffie rated as the No. 4 cornerback, with Clemson's 6-foot Andrew Booth being

"I just like the length a little bit more," Reid said of ranking Booth ahead of McDuffie. "McDuffie is a terrific prospect, but I just like the play-

making ability of Booth more than McDuffie." If both Gardner and Stingley are gone by No. 12, Reid said picks" if they want a cornerback in the first round.

Gardner, Stingley, McDuffie and Booth could be the only cornerbacks taken in the first round. If the Vikings decide to take an edge rusher at No. 12, such as Eden Prairie native and Florida State star Jermaine Johnson II, they could look to take a cornerback in

the second round. Cornerbacks who could be available with Minnesota's

McCreary, Nebraska's Cam Taylor-Britt and Houston's Marcus Jones.

Whichever well-regarded rookie cornerback the Vikings bring in, Davis figures Peterson would be a top-notch tutor. "Whether it's Stingley or

someone else, Patrick is the ultimate pro," Davis said. "If it's Stingley, they're both speaking the same LSU language. Both of them wore No. 46 pick include Florida's number 7 there. But if it's Kaiir Elam, Washington's someone else, he's going to be Kyler Gordon, Auburn's Roger a great mentor.'

FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 2022 | A FORUM COMMUNICATIONS EXTRA

'It's very good to have a dream'

Hockey is making inroads in Mexico

By Kevin Baxter and Gary Coronado Los Angeles Times

MEXICO CITY — Ian Tarazona's black helmet is so big it looks like an upside-down satellite dish, and his oversized hockey sweater hangs to his knees. But don't let appearances fool you. Ian is a terror on the ice.

At one point during a recent practice, Ian skat-ed up to another player, pulled his stick back and cracked him over the head. And that player was a teammate.

It didn't qualify as assault because Ian is only 3 years old and the player he whacked, who was unhurt, is 5.

But it did serve as proof that it can be a challenge introducing little kids to any sport. And when the sport is hockey and the location is a shopping mall in Mexico City, that challenge only grows.

Luis González often has to suppress laughter while coaching four dozen kids, the oldest of whom are 7.

"Obviously the little kids are harder because you just have to keep them focused," he said.

In between coaching sessions, González, who answers to Oso or "Bear," a childhood nickname he can't fully explain, plays for Mexi-co's national ice hockey team. If you didn't know Mexico had a national ice hockey team, don't feel bad. Aside from the 22 players and their families, few others know either.

But the sport is gaining a foothold, or at least a toehold, in Mexico.

According to the Mexico Ice Hockey Federation — there's one of those too — 2,690 players participate in the Spanish, although most ers, meanwhile, simsport in Mexico, 1,600 of whom are junior players like stick and puck, go like the ones González coaches.

It's a small number and certainly an underestimate — but it still has drawn the attention of several NHL teams, which see a chance to grow the game and develop a new fan base with the hope of playing an NHL game in Mexico in the near future.

"I don't see any reason for us to wait," Kings President Luc Robitaille said. "It's more important for us to go out of our way and to make it available. There's enough kids we know like to play."

Many of them play at an ice rink tucked into a dark corner of a Mexico City shopping mall, between a Dairy Queen and a Carl's Jr. and below a Sears.

The Centro Santa Fe, Mexico's second-largest shopping mall, sprawls along a major boulevard in a tony neighborhood of skyscrapers and gated apartment buildings on the western edge of the capital.

Roberto Arriaga, whose three boys all play hockey, makes the three-hour round trip there from Toluca as many as five nights a week, spending almost as much time in the chilly bleachers overlooking the ice as he does running his business in aftermarket car

sales. "A lot of friends tell me that I'm crazy," said Arriaga, who discovered hockey almost by accident. After introducing his eldest son, Beto, to

such as soccer without success, on a whim he put the boy in skates and hockey gear at age 6. Nine years later, Beto is still playing, as are brothers Mateo, a speedy 12-year-old defenseman, and Paulo, a skinny 10-year-old goalie so small he can fit inside the net without having to duck his helmeted head.

The two younger boys say they want to play in the NHL someday, something no Mexican has done. Arriaga chuckles when he hears that.

"At that age," he said "it's very good to have a dream."

That dream isn't what motivates the four coaches at the rink, who work with more than 140 players in six divisions. ranging in age from 3 years old through high school. Nor is produc-ing professional players what has led the Kings to partner with the rink, offering in-person and virtual clinics as well as material assistance.

The goal, the Kings insist, is simply to introduce the kids to hockey, teach them how to play (and sometimes to even the reach of most famskate) and to fuel a passion for the sport.

"It's just a totally different vibe over there," said Derek Armstrong, who spent six seasons playing for the Kings and is now the team's community and hockey development specialist. "We want to bring hockey to Mexico, but we also want them to embrace it themselves and put their own little twist on it, their own little culture on it."

Instructions and encouragement vámonos! vámonos! dále! dále! — ring out in For the youngest playhockey the terms, untranslated.

to create, then, is hockey with a Mexican accent and Latin sensibility. They're not looking to import a sport wholesale but rather to create a hybrid. What they want are players such as 15-year-old Paula Martínez, one of two girls in the bantam age group — and one 270 girls playing hockey nationwide, according to the federation.

She started skating at 3 and has been playing hockey with boys almost as long, tucking as much of her long brown hair inside her helmet as she can, then letting the rest spill down to her shoulsaid, don't understand the game — or why she plays it.

you play hockey, they're thews, whose mother amazed. So you have to explain what it is. They think it's only fighting, and it's really not just that," Paula said, flipping through cellphone photos of a trip to the University of Wisconsin, where she skated with members of the school's women's team.

"If I had to choose a sport again," she said, "I would still choose hock-

Many in Mexico don't have that choice. Cost and access to an ice rink are major obstacles to hockey's growth in Mex-

Players in Guillermo Díaz's program at the reach the NHL. Santa Fe rink pay a \$125 more traditional sports and \$146 a month for people to assume that I las Stars, who play in similar hopes.



Photos by Gary Coronado / Los Angeles Times / TNS

Players with the Mexico City Jr. Kings youth hockey league skate through training drills at the ice skating rink in Centro Santa Fe shopping mall in the Santa Fe neighborhood on March 23 in Mexico City. Mexico City Jr. Kings is a youth hockey league that has been organized and supported by the Los Angeles Kings in an effort to grow the game in Mexico, an untapped market.

instruction and ice time. That doesn't include the brightly colored composite sticks, durable skates and other equipment such as pads and helmets, which can easily top \$1,000 combined more for goalies.

That's well beyond ilies in a country where the typical salary hovers around \$17,000 a year. And while Mexico City has four rinks, there are just 14 in the rest of the country, according to the national ice hockey federation.

The level of play at the Santa Fe rink varies widely depending on the age group. On a recent Monday night, the peewees' game, for kids 11 and 12, was so quick and well-played, dozens of shoppers stopped to peer down from the mall's upper floors and watch.

ny staying upright and focused is the goal, which is why Díaz spent What the Kings want most of an hourlong practice simply trying to herd his toddler students into a straight line.

"You have to invent some things," González, the coach, said when asked how he kept the youngest players focused.

González's time with the national team makes him an elite player in a country that has had few success stories to emulate in hockey. That could be changing.

Héctor Majul, was lured away from a soccer field and into a Mexico City ice rink as a 6-year-old because his sister was a skater, followed his first coach ders. Her friends, she to Arizona, where he attended high school. He practiced there alongside a local standout "Every time you say named Auston Matwas born in Mexico.

> While Matthews went on to become the first overall pick in the 2016 NHL draft, Majul played at Curry College in Massachusetts before being deported back to Mexico after his student visa was suspended.

> That led to a nomadic journey that took him to hockey rinks and professional teams in Serbia, Lithuania, Finland and Italy. He will turn 28 next month, far too old to be considered a top prospect but not too old to give up his dream of becoming the first Mexican-born player to

"Many times, being annual registration fee from Mexico causes following. The Dal- have also acknowledged



The Mexico City Jr. Kings youth hockey league in a scrimmage at the ice skating rink in Centro Santa Fe shopping mall in the Santa Fe neighborhood on March 21 in Mexico City. Mexico City Jr. Kings is a youth hockey league that has been organized and supported by the Los Angeles Kings in an effort to grow the game in Mexico, an untapped market. The league has around 140 players.

can't play hockey well and they don't take me seriously until they see me play," said Majul, who had a career-high 21 goals and 19 assists in 22 games this season for Como in Italy's second-tier hockey league. "They wonder how it's possible, which makes

me laugh. "I do think if I was Canadian or American, I definitely would have had better opportunities. But at the same time, it's part of being the first Mexican to play at the level I'm playing and breaking the mental barrier that the hockey world has of not accepting players who don't come from countries where hockey is popu-

country that has nearly three times as many as it does ice rinks and the rinks that do exist are almost always shopping center.

"I think there's only

with a sigh. Paula, Even so, her father, Francisco, a researcher at the National Autonomous University of Mexico, and dozens of other kids and parents crowd into the dark corner of the Centro Santa Fe as many as five nights a week. And the NHL has taken note.

to the Latino commu-California but quickly reached south.

Yet the sport still a market that is more seems a strange fit in a than 40% Latino, have broadcasting begun their games on Spaninternational airports ish-language radio and are developing a relationship with the Mexico Ice Hockey Federation.

jammed into a light- "We're trying to be ly trafficked nook of a Mexico's team," said Stars President Brad Alberts, who sees that one ice rink that isn't effort as targeting at a mall," Paula, the Mexicans and Mexican 15-year-old center, said Americans on both sides of the border in much the same way football's Dallas Cowboys did. "We look at it as a longterm, authentic com-munity investment," Alberts said. "We're going to look at the Hispanic community in a much different way that we have ever before."

At some point, Alberts said, that will mean The Kings' outreach playing a regular-season game in Mexico, as nity began in Southern the three other major U.S. pro sports leagues have done. The Kings Now other teams are and Arizona Coyotes

Sebastian Becerril, 13, left, Paula Martínez, center, 15, and Manuel Torres, 16, all members of the Mexico City Jr. Kings youth hockey league, in the locker room before a scrimmage at the ice skating rink in Centro Santa Fe shopping mall in the Santa Fe neighborhood on March 21 in Mexico City. Mexico City Jr. Kings is a youth hockey league that has been organized and supported by the Los Angeles Kings in an effort to grow the game in Mexico, an untapped market.

"We look at [Mexico]

Back at the Santa

as an untapped market,"

Alberts said. "We're try-

Fe rink, it's appar-

ent Alberts' timing is

right. Kids roll in from

the covered parking lot

wearing hockey uni-

ing to capitalize now."

forms and riding in-line skates, their parents following behind carrying heavy equipment bags and hockey sticks. "Saturdays, we stay here from 12 o'clock until nighttime," said Cindy Rojas, the mother of an excitable rosy-5-year-old cheeked named Sebastian, whose black No. 17 Kings jersey fits him like a tunic. "I can see that he enjoys it. That's why it doesn't matter if we have to

more than 10 hours. "It doesn't matter because I love when he's happy."

come four or five times

per week or stay here

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Minn. up to 50 sites infected with avian flu

By Susan Lunneborg West Central Tribune

WILLMAR, Minn. — The daily update on the status of avian flu in Minnesota now shows 50 sites of infection and nearly 2.3 million birds impacted.

According to the state Board of Animal Health web page, H5N1 highly pathogenic avian influenza was confirmed Wednesday, April 20, at two commercial meat turkey sites in Todd the first confirmed sites in that county, each holding 30,000 birds.

A third new site listed Thursday was in Stearns County, a flock of 63,746 commercial meat turkeys, bringing that county to six total is receiving updat-

Based on West Central Tribune archives, the fourth new flock listed Thursday appears to be the seventh site identified in Kandiyohi County, a commercial meat turkey flock of more than 38,000. The eighth site had been listed one day earlier on the web page devotin the state at bah.state. mn.us/hpai.

Crusan, Michael communications director for the Minnesota Board of Animal Health, did not have information immediately available to confirm that, but been "Todd 01" never told the West Central

ed information many times a day, while the site linked to another web page is updated just once a day. He said that location will not it is entirely possible be part of the board's that results for the seventh site arrived later in the day than results for the site designated as eighth, and thus ended up being reported on different days.

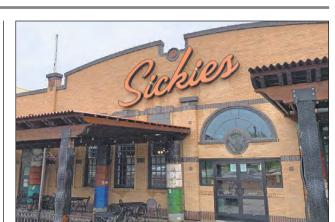
ed to avian flu response listed Thursday on the board's web page are designated as "Todd 02" and "Todd 03," but the county has just those two confirmed

Crusan said that the site that would have received a confirmed accurate information is Tribune that the board diagnosis. Birds at that gathered later.

site were depopulated as it was a high-risk infected premises, but public list as there was never a positive confirmation.

The flock inventory affected by avian flu in Minnesota now stands at 2,282,594, the vast The Todd County sites majority in commercial meat turkey operations.

The board's web page is updated by noon each weekday with the information that is known about infection sites. Data from previous days also may be updated by quality control staff if more



Jacob Holley / Grand Forks Herald

Storefront of Sickies, shown here, to be replaced by Molly Yeh's restaurant in the historic Whitey's building.

MOLLY YEH

From Page 1

"Due to the initial pandemic shutdown and the ongoing staffing issues experienced thereafter, we have no choice but to cease operations in East

Grand Forks," the post read. "Employees are encouraged to move with the team to our upcoming new Fargo location or for those looking for more adventure, position relocation to other Sickies Garage locations across the U.S. are also available."

ADDRESS

From Page 1

The second is a so-called "neighborhood bridge," which Larson said would serve "a very different function." He noted heavy traffic on the south sides of both communities, "creating a number of traffic congestion problems now and into the future."

Larson said traffic volumes in the coming decades will only increase and thus add more congestion in both communities.

"So as you can see, we're really headed for a problem and I think we can even see it now," he

said. Although there has been discussion throughout the years of adding another bridge across the Red River between the communities — three exist today — East Grand Forks has taken a leading role in recent months to push forward the proposal. Earlier this week, the East Grand Forks City Council voted 5–1 to purchase a parcel of land that can be used for construction of a bridge. The land is across the river from Grand Forks' 32nd Avenue South.

In Grand Forks, the decision isn't coming as quickly. Earlier this week — during a City Council discussion about the proposal — Council President Dana Sande said Grand Forks and East Grand Forks are developing differently, adding layers of difficulty to the decision about a bridge location. In Grand Forks, city leaders have debated the merits of a bridge on 32nd, as well

as one on Elks Drive. "The problem is our communities are growing in different directions and at different rates and I don't know how we're ever going to marry this

up," Sande said. But Larson, during Thursday's State of the



Eric Hylden / Grand Forks Herald

East Grand Forks Lt. Detective Rodney Hajicek shares a laugh with East Grand Forks City Councilman Dale Helms as council members serve lunch to guests at the annual State of the City Address and Luncheon on Thursday at the East Grand Forks Civic Center.

City event, said "the 32nd Avenue bridge location does provide a positive net economic growth-to-bridge cost ratio, meaning that it provides a greater good than the overall cost to the taxpayers.'

He said "this bridge has to be a complete and total partnership with the city of Grand Forks."

Also during Thursday's two-hour meeting, Gander outlined the current state of revamping recreational facilities within the city, which was his top goal last year.

"Our number one goal for 2021 was to move forward with our parks and recreation updates, including our ice arenas and baseball diamonds, Gander said. "I'm proud of all of our parks and recreation programs. I'm a big believer in lifelong fitness and everything we do requires teamwork."

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Reid Huttunen came to the stage to outline the latest updates of the long-planned upgrades to the city's two aging ice arenas and baseball diamonds. Huttunen said throughout 2021, community input was received on what improvements should be made and how the facilities can better serve the community.

"The first goal we have is placed on taking care of the facilities we currently have, Huttunen said. "We looked at this as a reinvestment plan in our facilities — number one being we have great indoor arenas already that we would like to see continue to stand the test of time."

A proposed citywide 20-year, 1.25% sales tax will help pay for upgrades and renovations to the cityowned VFW Memorial Arena, the East Grand Forks Civic Center and Itts Williams Park. The improvements would include getting the facilities in compliance with the American with Disabilities Act, attaching a baseball complex to the civic center and creating a shared viewing area at the VFW arena and the adjacent Blue Line Club Arena. Maintenance on the facilities is included

within the renovations. Huttunen said the sales tax proposal is making its way through the Minnesota Legislature in St. Paul and has one more hurdle to pass before it can return to East Grand Forks for a citywide vote. The sales tax should be heard in the Minnesota Senate Tax Committee in the coming weeks.

Huttunen also outlined improvements on the Greenway, which have been planned for several years. A master plan, created in 2019, received input from the public on where improvements were desired and what amenities should be

added to LaFave Park. Huttunen said a 75% matching grant from the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission is allowing \$850,000 of state funds to be invested into the park along with a 25% matching grant of city funds. Improvements to the park are planned to be made during the 2024 construction season and will include replacing the only boat ramp on the East Grand Forks side of the Red River.

During his segment on infrastructure, Larson also discussed improvements to the Rhinehart Road and Bygland Drive intersection, where a roundabout is being considered to help with traffic flow.

"Based on population growth and projected traffic volume, by the year 2030 at the very peak morning rush it's estimated that it will be a three-minute wait per car to turn from Rhinehart onto

Bygland," Larson said. Along with community-wide infrastructure projects were mentions of residential infrastructure needs. East Grand Forks resident Misti Koop was invited to speak about repairs needed to her residential street on 20th Street Northwest. She also discussed the burden special assessments will put on residents.

Koop told attendees she has been determined to find state funding for the repairs, even reaching out to state officials and Gov. Tim Walz. Despite her work, no funding could be

secured this year. Gander also highlighted the importance of business development in the community. He said

last year's goal was to enhance the business community, focusing on business retention and expansion while also keeping the city's financial reserves in

"We're actually coming through COVID and out the other end in about as good of shape as we were, which again strong reserves and not having to raise local property taxes any more than about the rate of

inflation," Gander said. Gander then showed a pre-taped visit to several local businesses, including American Crystal Sugar, Northern Valley Machine, North Country Food Bank, outlining what they do and their importance to the community.

Gander also announced Molly Yeh will be opening a restaurant at the old Sickies location in the fall of this year.

Gander ended his speech by thanking everyone for making the community "a great place to live."

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New Jersey legal weed sales begin Page 2





Mortgage rates are rising

FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 2022 | NATION PLUS - A FORUM COMMUNICATIONS EXTRA

RUSSIA CLAIMS MARIUPOL UKRAINIAN FIGHTERS HOLD ON

By Pavel Polityuk Reuters

Kyiv ussian President Vladimir Putin claimed victory on Thursday in the biggest battle of the Ukraine war, declaring the port city of Mariupol "liberated," although hundreds of Ukrainian troops and civilians were still holding out inside a giant steel works.

The United States disputed Putin's claim and said it believed Ukrainian forces still held ground in the city. Putin ordered his troops to blockade the steel complex, where Ukrainians were told earlier to either surrender or die.

Ukraine said Putin wanted to avoid a final clash with its forces in Mariupol, as he lacked troops to defeat them. But Ukrainian officials also appealed for help to evacuate civilians and wounded soldiers.

In a televised meeting at the Kremlin, Putin congratulated his defense minister and Russian troops for having "successfully completed the combat effort to liberate Mariupol."

He said it was unnecessary to storm the industrial zone containing the Azovstal steel plant.

"There's no need to climb into these catacombs ana crawi underground through these industrial facilities... Block off this industrial area so that not even a fly can get through," Putin said.

Mariupol, a major port in Ukraine's eastern Donbas region, sits between areas held by Russian separatists and Crimea, the Black Sea peninsula Moscow seized in 2014. Capturing the city would allow Russia to link the two areas as it intensifies its offensive in Ukraine's east.

Even as Putin claims his first big prize since his forces were driven away from the capital Kyiv and

northern Ukraine last month, it falls short of the unambiguous victory Moscow has sought after months of combat in a city reduced to rubble.

In a late-night address, Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Russia was doing all it could "to talk about at least some victories," including mobilizing new battalion tactical groups.

"They can only postpone the inevitable - the time when the invaders will have to leave our territory, including from Mariupol, a city that continues to resist Russia regardless of what the occupiers say,' Zelenskyy said.

Humanitarian catastrophe

Russia calls its invasion a "special military operation" to demilitarize and "denazify" Ukraine. Kyiv and its Western allies reject that as a false pretext for a war that has killed thousands and uprooted a quarter of Ukraine's population.

Moscow stepped up its attacks in eastern Ukraine this week and made longdistance strikes at other targets including Kyiv and the western city of Lviv, where missiles killed seven people on Monday.

Heeding continued Ukrainian calls for new weapons, Washington authorized another \$800 million in military aid for Ukraine on Thursday,

including heavy artillery. Asked about Putin's victory declaration in Mariupol, U.S. State Department spokesman Ned Price said it was "yet more disinformation from their well-worn playbook."

Mariupol, once home to 400,000 people, has seen not only the most intense battle of the war that started when Russian forces invaded on Feb. 24, but also its worst humanitarian catastrophe.

Ukraine estimates tens of thousands of civilians



Chingis Kondarov / Reuters An armoured convoy of pro-Russian troops moves along a road Thursday during Ukraine-

Russia conflict in the southern port city of Mariupol, Ukraine.

have died in Mariupol. The United Nations and Red Cross say the civilian toll is at least in the thousands.

Journalists who reached Mariupol during the siege found streets littered with corpses, nearly all buildings destroyed, and residents huddled freezing in cellars, venturing out to cook scraps on makeshift stoves or to bury bodies in

gardens. Ukrainian fighters remain inside the Azovstal steel complex, one of the biggest metallurgical faciliti in Europe, covering 11 sq km with huge buildings, underground bunkers and

tunnels. Mariupol's mayor, Vadym Boichenko, told Reuters on Thursday that Putin alone can decide the fate of the 100,000 civilians still

trapped in the city. "It's important to understand that the lives that are still there, they are in the hands of just one person - Vladimir Putin. And all the deaths that will happen after now will be on his hands too," Boichenko said in an interview.

Areas of Russian control



Ukrainian Deputy Prime Minister Iryna Vereshchuk said 1,000 civilians and 500 wounded soldiers needed to be brought out from the plant immediately, blaming Russian forces for the failure to establish a safe corridor that she said had

been agreed.

Moscow says Russia has taken in 140,000 civilians from Mariupol in humanitarian evacuations. Kyiv says some were deported by force, in what would constitute a war crime.

Florida set to strip Disney of self-governing status



Octavio Jones / Reuters file photo

A person wearing a mouse costume dances Saturday while holding a Governor Ron DeSantis poster where supporters of Florida's Republican-backed "Don't Say Gay" bill that bans classroom instruction on sexual orientation and gender identity for many young students gather for a rally outside Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida.

Action seemingly retaliatory in dispute against LGBTQ law

By Maria Caspani and Ďawn Chmielewski Reuters

Florida lawmakers Thursday gave their final approval to a bill ending Walt Disney Co's designation as a self-governing entity in an apparent response to its opposition to a new state law limiting the teaching of LGBTQ issues in schools.

Losing the designation may represent a big blow to Disney's sprawling Orlando theme parks, which for over half a century have managed to operate with a high degree of autonomy, with the freedom to control everything from road maintenance to building projects.

Even so, experts say the financial impact of the legislation on the company and the state is still unclear.

Governor Ron DeSantis, a potential 2024 Republican presidential nominee who fiercely backs the ban on classroom instruction on sexual orientation and gender identity for children under age 9, is expected to sign the bill

The bill would effectively strip Disney of a status that allowed the company to self-govern an area of roughly 25,000-acres in Central Florida where Walt Disney World resort is located.

The area called the Reedy Creek Improvement District encompasses four Disney theme parks, two water parks and 175 miles of roadway, and functions like a county government, providing services such as fire-fighting, power, water and roads within the Orange and Osceola counties.

Disney, whose Florida resort is known the world over for its pristine streets, colorful rides and family-friendly image, in turn gets relief from taxes and

The special status also allows the district to issue bonds with tax advantages to pay for improvements and for Disney to avoid the process of obtaining building permits for some projects.

The Florida Parental Rights in Education legislation is one of a series of moves by Republican-controlled states to enact new restrictions on public education in the run-up to the midterm elections later this year.

Supporters say such measures give parents more control over their children's education, but opponents say they mostly unfairly infringe the rights of transgender and other marginalized students.

Biden predicts additional Senate seats

By Jeff Mason and Nandita Bose Reuters

PORTLAND, Ore. - President Joe Biden on Thursday predicted that his fellow Democrats could win two more U.S. Senate seats in November's midterms, strengthening the party's majority to pass his agenda despite sagging approval rat-

Speaking at a political fundraiser in Portland, Biden said he needed to make the case around the country about what his administration had accomplished and that was a reason he was traveling more.

"I'm determined to make sure we keep the House and the Senate," Biden told the donors. He offered no prediction for the party's prospects in the House.

High inflation and the ongoing pandemic have contributed to low poll numbers for Biden and sparked concerns Demo-crats may lose control of the House of Representatives and the Senate to Republicans after the November election.

touted his administration's Earth Day and talk about his administration's accomplishprogress on infrastructure. including new spending made possible by the passage of the roughly \$1 trillion infrastructure law that includes investments in highways and broad-band. The bill allocates \$1.2 billion for Oregon and \$8.6 billion for the state of Wash-

Biden visited Portland's airport to talk about investing in a runway that can withstand earthquakes. He will spend Thursday night and Friday in Earlier on Thursday, Biden Seattle, where he will observe

administration's plans to tame

"We're here today to talk about investments we're making to modernize this airport," Biden said in his ear-lier address. "So through the bipartisan infrastructure law, we're investing \$25 billion to upgrade and modernize American airports."

White House officials have said in recent weeks that they hope to shift their outreach strategy to voters by visiting more states to talk about the

ments rather than describing the need for legislation that remains stalled.

Biden's public approval rating stands at 43%, according to a two-day Reuters/Ipsos opinion poll completed on Tuesday. The two-day national poll found 51% of Americans disapprove of Biden's job performance as the country struggles with high inflation and Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

That compares with approval ratings hovering above 50% at the start of his term.

New Jersey legal weed sales begin

13 stores begin selling recreational cannabis across state

By Joseph Ax Reuters

LAWRENCE, N.J. - Last year, Xavier Rodriguez got two convictions for marijuana possession expunged from his record, thanks to a new law legalizing the drug in New Jersey.

On Thursday, the 28-yearold was among the initial wave of New Jerseyans waiting in long lines to buy marijuana lawfully, as 13 dispensaries around the state began selling to all residents 21 and older for the first time.

"No more being hassled and having to hide out," said Rodri-guez, standing outside the Zen Leaf dispensary in Lawrence, New Jersey, with his 60-yearold mother, Debra, who uses marijuana for pain caused by rheumatoid arthritis.

Thursday's debut marked the culmination of a decade-long effort by advocates in the state to legalize recreational use and end years of racially unbalanced criminal prosecution. New Jersey is one of 18 states and the District of Columbia to have legalized adult marijuana

"We see it as the end of Prochief executive of Green Thumb



Eduardo Munoz / Reuters

A man arrives to buy recreational marijuana at the Apothecarium marijuana dispensary Thursday on the first day recreational sales are allowed for customers over the age of 21, in Maplewood, New Jersey.

Industries, which operates dispensaries in Paterson and Bloomfield.

The 13 locations are owned by Ascend Wellness Holdings Inc, Columbia Care Inc, Acreage Holdings Inc, Green Thumb Industries Inc, Curaleaf Holdings Inc, Terrascend Corp and Verano Holdings Corp. Industry executives and ana-

eventually exceed \$2 billion. reational customers.

Governor Phil Murphy's proposed budget anticipates \$121 million in cannabis revenue, mostly from taxes and fees, in fiscal year 2023.

There are currently 130,000 medical marijuana patients in New Jersey, and the state's Cannabis Regulatory Commission estimates there are hibition 2.0," said Ben Kovler, lysts expect the market will roughly 800,000 potential rec-

the safe, legal market," said George Archos, chief executive of Verano, which owns the Zen Leaf in Lawrence.

More than 100 people stood in a line snaking around Zen Leaf's building on Thursday morning. Employees with tablets offered advice on choosing from a menu of products ranging from Ethos Cook-ies ("frosty and delicious") to Chemlatto 33 ("earthy and right") both hybrid strains of rich") - both hybrid strains of smokable cannabis.

Dean Miller, 39, said he has a medical card for marijuana but chose to wait in the adult-use line to show support for what he called "a big day for New Jersey."

He said he hoped legalization would help educate people on marijuana's therapeutic effects, without the downsides of substances such as alcohol.

"I'm not just looking to get high," said Miller, who relies on daily marijuana to cope with pain from six surgeries.

'Pursuing equity'

Only medical marijuana dis-pensaries can sell to adults for consumer," said Joe Bayern,

"The goal here is to take weighing hundreds of applica-people away from the black tions from start-up businesses. market and bring them into Those owned by people with marijuana convictions, as well as minorities, women and disabled veterans, receive priority consideration under the law.

The law requires much of the state's cannabis revenue to be invested in communities most harmed by the "war on drugs." In 2018, Black people were

arrested more than three times as often as white people for marijuana offenses despite similar usage rates, according to the American Civil Liberties

Union of New Jersey. "That's the whole point here: making sure we're pursuing equity every step of the way and ending our reliance on a criminal response for something that people consume all over the country," said Amol Sinha, the group's executive director.

Cannabis executives hope a successful launch in New Jersey will spur other East Coast states to take action, noting that polls show a majority of Americans support legalizing marijuana.

"It's time for legislators to now, but the commission is the chief executive of Curaleaf.

Puerto Rico excluded from federal welfare program

By Lawrence Hurley

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Supreme Court on Thursday rejected a bid to extend a federal program offering benefits to low-income elderly, blind and disabled people to residents of Puerto Rico, finding that Congress had the authority to prevent those living in the American territory from receiv-

ing the assistance. The justices ruled 8-1 in favor of President Joe Biden's administration, reversing a lower court's ruling that a 1972 decision by Congress to exclude Puerto Rico from the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program violated a U.S. Constitution requirement that laws apply equally to everyone.

The ruling denies the welfare benefits to an estimated 300,000 people on the Caribbean island who otherwise might qualify. The federal government has said an expansion covering P to Rico would have cost \$2 billion a year.

"Enough of this colonial status that discriminates against us and affects our quality of life. The only and the best solu-tion is statehood," Pedro Pierluisi, Puerto Rico's pro-statehood governor, said in a statement.

Puerto Rico's status is a divisive issue on the island, with some favoring remaining a territory while others push for statehood or even independence from the United

The ruling, authored by conservative Justice Brett Kavanaugh, found that Congress acted validly under a constitutional provision letting lawmakers treat territories not require that extreme differently than states.

Kavanaugh said a ruling extending benefits to Puerto Rico could have "far-reaching consequences" inflicting additional financial burdens



Tom Brenner / Reuters file photo The Supreme court rejected a bid to extend a federal benefits program to elderly, blind and disabled people

on its residents - including that they be required to pay federal income tax, which they do not currently do.

in Puerto Rico.

"The Constitution does outcome," Kavanaugh wrote.

Liberal Justice Sonia Sotomayor, whose parents were from Puerto Rico, was the sole dissenter. Sotomayor pointed out that as the island does not have voting representation in Congress, its people cannot rely on Congress to recognize their rights.

"Equal treatment of citizens should not be left to the vagaries of the political process," Sotomayor wrote.

A provision extending SSI benefits to Puerto Rico is part of Democrat-

stalled in Congress.

'A DEVASTATING DAY' Iose Luis Vaello Madero, the disabled 67-yearold man at the center of the case, received SSI benefits when he lived in New York but lost eligibility when he moved to Puerto Rico in 2013. The U.S. government sued him in federal court in Washington in 2017 seeking more than \$28,000 for SSI payments he received after moving to Puerto Rico.

"It is unfortunate the court failed to see the discrimination faced by the most needy Puerto Rican Americans whose only distinguishing feature is that they choose to remain in Puerto Rico, their home on U.S. soil. This is a devastating day for Mr. Vaello Madero and for Puerto Rico," said Hermann Ferre, Vaello Madero's lawyer.

The Justice Department declined comment.

ic-backed social spend- Many Puerto Ricans ing legislation that has have long complained that the island's residents are treated worse than other Americans despite being U.S. citizens. Puerto Rico, which is not a state, is the most-populous of the U.S. territories, with about 3 million people.

SSI benefits are available to American citizens living in all 50 states, Washington, D.C. and the Northern Mariana Islands, but not the territories of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Guam.

The Supreme Court has been instrumental in defining the legal status of Puerto Ricans dating to a series of rulings starting more than a century ago called the Insular Cases, some suffused with racist language. Those rulings endorsed the notion that the people of newly acquired U.S. territories could receive different treatment than citizens living in U.S. states.

BRIEFS

Iran refuses to abandon avenging Soleimani despite **US** offers

DUBAI - Iran will not abandon plans to avenge the 2020 U.S. killing of Quds Force Commander Qassem Soleimani, despite "regular offers' from Washington to lift sanctions and provide other concessions in return, a top Iranian official said on Thursday.

Over the last year, Iran and the United States have engaged in fitful, indirect talks in Vienna to revive a 2015 nuclear not confirmed.

Donald Trump reneged on in 2018 and that Iran, in turn, began violating

Death toll from South African floods revised down to 435

JOHANNESBURG - The death toll from severe flooding in South Afri-KwaZulu-Natal province last week has been revised down to 435 from 448, Police Minister Bheki Cele said on Thursday.

Cele said the number of missing people was

deal that then-President **US judge** temporarily blocks enforcement of Kentucky's new abortion law A federal judge on

Thursday temporarily blocked Kentucky officials from enforcing a sweeping new abortion law that Planned Parenthood said would force abortion clinics to stop offering the procedure until they can meet certain requirements.

U.S. District Judge Rebecca Grady Jennings in Louisville issued a temporary restraining order at Planned Parenthood's request a week after the Republican-led legislature overrode a veto by the state's Democratic governor to enact the law.

Donald Trump Jr. agrees to meet with House panel probing Jan. 6 Capitol attack

Donald Trump Jr. has agreed to meet in the near future with the U.S. House of Representatives panel that is probing the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol, the New York Times reported Thursday, citing a source.

Trump, the eldest son of the coronavirus panof former President Donald Trump, is set to meet with the House committee under his own will and without the threat of a subpoena, the outlet more lives. said without reporting when the testimony was scheduled.

Some Canadian hospitals face COVID cancellations - again

TORONTO - Some hospitals in Canada's most populous provinces are canceling or postponing medical procedures in the face of another wave

demic, increasing backlogs of procedures that health practitioners say will take years to work through and could cost There are some signs

the sixth COVID-19 wave may be peaking in Ontario, Canada's most populous province. But hospitals are facing a double whammy of new COVID infections and, to a much greater degree, health workers off sick or isolating due to COVID just as some had begun to tackle pandemic back-Reuters

11 dead after Shi'ite mosque explosion

Deadly blasts claimed by Islamic State hit northern Afghan cities

claimed by the Islamic State at a Shi'ite mosque in the northern Afghan city of Mazar-e-Sharif on Thursday killed at least 11 people, a health official said, one of a series of blasts around the country.

A separate blast caused at least 11 more casualties in Kunduz, another northern Afghan city, according to a provincial health official.

Islamic State claimed responsibility for both attacks, according to statements on the group's Telegram channel.

The explosions happened during the Islamic holy month of Ramadan and two days after blasts tore through a high school in a predominantly Shi'ite Hazara area in western Kabul, killing at least six.

"A blast happened in 2nd district inside a Shi'ite mosque,"

Mohammad Asif Wazeri, the tal, Kabul, had wounded three, An explosion spokesman for the Taliban including a child. commander in Mazar-e-Sharif told Reuters.

Zia Zendani, the spokesman for the provincial health authority, said 11 people had been killed and 32 wounded in

The Shi'ite community, a religious minority in Afghanistan, is frequently targeted by Sunni militant groups, including Islamic State.

Hospitals in Kunduz had received 11 killed or wounded people in a separate explosion, according to Najeebullah Sahel, from Kunduz's provincial health authority.

An Interior Ministry spokesman said a roadside blast had targeted a van of military mechanics in Kunduz and said school students were among the wounded. He added another roadside blast in the capi-

Wazeri, the spokesman, also said Taliban forces had come under attack from unknown gunmen at a property in Mazar-e-Sharif, the provin-cial capital, on Thursday evening and that both sides were exchanging gunfire. He did not confirm whether the attackers were linked to the blasts and said their identity was unknown.

Richard Bennett, the United Nation's Special Rapporteur for Afghanistan on human rights, condemned the blasts.

"Today more explosions rocks Afghanistan... systematic targeted attacks on crowded schools and mosques calls for immediate investigation, accountability and end to human rights violations," he said in a Tweet.



An Afghan man receives treatment in a hospital after he was injured Thursday in an explosion at a Shi'ite mosque in Mazar-e-Sharif, Afghanistan.

said she was shopping with her sister in a nearby market when she heard a large explosion and saw smoke rising from the area A resident of Mazar-e-Sharif around the mosque.

"The glass of the shops was broken and it was very crowded and everyone started to run," the woman, who declined to be named, said.

Johnson to face contempt probe

Investigation reignites doubts about PM's leadership

By Alistair Smout and William James

LONDON - British Prime Minister Boris Johnson suffered a blow to his authority on Thursday when lawmakers triggered an investigation into whether he had misled parlia-

ment and an influential for-mer ally called on him to quit. Johnson has been fight-ing for political survival for months after he told parlia-ment that his Downing Street office had followed all lock-down rules during the COVID pandemic only for an internal pandemic, only for an internal report to find it had held alcohol-fueled parties at that time.

Police have since fined Johnson. He denies deliberately misleading parliament, which is a resigning matter, and says he did not realize he was breaking the rules. He has apologized for his conduct.

During a parliamenta-ry debate politicians from all sides called on Johnson to go, and lawmakers backed an opposition motion that his statements "appear to amount to misleading the House" and should be investigated by its Committee of Privileges. Johnson's Conservatives did not oppose the move.

The episode reignites questions about Johnson's future, with further revelations and fines over lockdown parties possible and local elections on May 5 expected to reveal that voters' trust in his leadership has been badly damaged.

"I don't want this thing to endlessly go on. But I have absolutely nothing, frankly, to hide," Johnson told Sky News when asked about the investigations during a visit to India.

In the parliamentary debate before lawmakers approved the motion, one once loyal lawmaker from the ruling Conservatives said the prime minister should now quit.

Steve Baker accused John-



Stefan Rousseau / Pool via Reuters

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson poses for a picture as he visits the Swaminarayan Akshardham temple Thursday in Gandhinagar, India.

should just know that the gig's

Baker, a former minister, strongly supported Johnson over taking Britain out of the European Union and he retains influence among some Conservative lawmakers after successfully coordinating their resistance to efforts to water down Brexit.

Grave accusation'

The approach of Johnson's government to the debate appeared in disarray, as they pulled an amendment designed

should be long gone... (He) tigation had finished, even without their amendment.

Johnson's position had recently been strengthened by his support for Ukraine following Russia's invasion, with some of his lawmakers saying it is not the time to change

However some Conservatives had been uneasy at the prospect of being ordered to oppose greater scrutiny of an issue that has damaged voters' trust in the government.

Johnson now could face the release of further evidence of parties at the heart of gov-

although police said they

would delay further updates on their investigation until after local elections on May 5.

To mount a challenge to Johnson's leadership, 54 Conservative lawmakers must write letters expressing no confidence in him. That would lead to a confidence vote and, if he lost, a contest to replace

Opposition leader Keir Starmer led the criticism of

"The prime minister has been accused of repeatedly, deliberately and routinely misleading this House over

accusation. It amounts to contempt of parliament."

to delay the motion the mornernment during the stringent parties held in Downing Street during lockdown," Starmer ing after they announced it. lockdowns he had ordered the The government said it was country to observe. son of breaking the "letter now satisfied that any parlia-"This is a serious and grave He may also be fined and spirit" of the law, add-ing: "The prime minister now place after the police invesmentary probe would only take again for further gatherings,

China's Xi proposes 'global security initiative'

Xi gave no details as to how the initiative would be implemented

By Kevin Yao and . Yew Lun Tian Reuters

BOAO, China - Chinese President Xi Jinping on Thursday proposed a "global security initiative" that upholds the principle of "indivisible security," a concept also endorsed by Russia, although he gave no details of how it would be implemented.

During a video speech to the annual Boao Asia Forum, Xi said that the world should respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries, while paying attention to the "legitimate"

security concerns of all.

"We should uphold the principle of indivisibility of security, build a balanced, effective and sustainable security architecture, and oppose the building of national security on the basis of insecurity in other countries," Xi told the gathering on the southern Chinese island of Hainan.

In talks over Ukraine, Russia has insisted that Western governments respect a 1999 agreement based on the principle of "indivisible security" that no country can strengthen its own security at the expense of others.

China and Russia have grown increasingly close, and China has refused to condemn Russia's Feb. 24 invasion of Ukraine, which Moscow calls a

"special operation" to demilitarize the country. China has blamed the Ukraine crisis on NATO's eastward expansion.

U.S. State Department spokesperson Ned Price, responding to a question about Xi's speech at a regular briefing in Washington, said China continued to "parrot some of what we have heard "indivisible security."

coming from the Kremlin,' including the concept of Price reiterated that China would face serious consequences if it gave materi-

al support for Russia's war effort in Ukraine, but that Washington had not yet seen

Beijing provide that kind of assistance to Moscow. The United States would

continue to uphold the rules-

based international system it had built with like-minded partners based on respect for human rights, sovereignty, and self-determination, Price

"We are committed to upholding the various systems that certain countries around the world - and Russia and the PRC are among them - seek to challenge, and in certain instances, seek to tear down and even destroy," he said, referring to the People's Republic of China.

Analysts note that this is the first time China has argued for "indivisible security" outside the context of the Russia-Ukraine crisis, with implications on U.S. actions in Asia.

Mexico confirms closure of drug team

Counter-narcotics unit working with US was infiltrated by criminals

Reuters

MEXICO CITY - Mexico's president said on Thursday that an elite unit which worked on narcotics investigations with the United States was closed last year, confirming a Reuters report, and alleging the group had been infiltrated by criminals.

On Tuesday, Reuters reported Mexico had disbanded the group that for a quarter of a century worked hand-in-hand with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to tackle organized crime.

The closure complicates U.S. efforts to help combat organized crime inside Mexico, one of the epicenters of the multi-billion dollar global narcotics trade, and makes it harder to catch and prosecute cartel leaders, security experts

Speaking at a regular news conference, President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador said the unit was shut down "over a year ago" and that cooperation with international security bodies was continuing, provided Mexico's sovereignty was respected.

"That group, which was supposedly a high-level strategic group, was infiltrated (by criminals)," he said.

The president said he had "put in order" Mexico's relations with the United States. Past administrations had allowed those ties to infringe on Mexico's sovereignty, he

argued.
"It's another kind of relationship now," he said. In Mexico, the officers in

the Sensitive Investigative Units (SIU) police unit were considered many of the country's best and worked on the biggest cases such as the 2016 capture of capo Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, erstwhile boss of the Sinaloa Cartel.

Though the SIU's reputation was damaged when its former chief, Ivan Reves Arzate, was detained in 2017 and pleaded guilty in a U.S. court to taking bribes to leak tips to a drug gang, the unit was seen as vital by DEA officials who needed Mexican officers to help their investigations in the country. the Reuters

Following report, U.S. congressman Michael McCaul - the head Republican on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs - said he was concerned by the Mexican decision.

Beirut blast suspect faces extradition

By Emma Pinedo and **Catarina Demony**

MADRID - A Portuguese man is set to face an extradition hearing in Madrid over allegations he was involved in the devastating 2020 port explosion in Beirut, authorities said on Thursday.

The man, named in court as Jorge Manuel Mirra Neto Moreira, flew to Chile from the Spanish capital this week but was put on a plane back to Madrid after Chilean authorrequest of global police agency Interpol.

He appeared before a Madrid high court judge on Wednesday and was released on bail while he awaits an extradition hearing.

Lebanon's justice minister Henry Khoury did not immediately respond to a request for comment on whether Lebanon would seek the man's extradition. Extradition processes in Spain can take several months.

been taken away and he must appear before authorities on a weekly basis, a judicial source

At least 215 people died in August 2020 in Lebanon when ammonium nitrate stored at the port for nearly seven years exploded in one of the biggest non-nuclear explosions ever recorded.

Lebanon's NNA news agency said in January last year that Interpol Red Notices had been issued for the Russian captain Moreira is not allowed to and owner of the ship that

for a Portuguese trader who examined the cargo at Beirut port in 2014.

The Spanish judicial source said Moreira faced charges of terrorism and possession of explosives, which carries a maximum sentence of life imprisonment. He did not elaborate on the nature of the charges.

A source from Portugal's national criminal investigation police unit PJ said that Moreira had previously appeared before a court in the northern

ities detained him at the leave Spain. His passport has brought the chemicals in, and Portuguese city of Porto as a result of the Interpol notice, but the court shelved the case because Lebanon failed to send the required documentation.

The same could happen in Spain if Lebanon does not send the needed documentation, the PJ source said.

Chilean authorities confirmed Moreira was detained at the airport and sent back to Spain due to the Interpol warrant, while Spanish sources did not explain why Moreira was not arrested before boarding the flight to Chile.

Muslims targeted by demolitions

Court will decide whether destruction of Delhi shops is lawful

By Aftab Ahmed Reuters

NEW DELHI - India's Supreme Court will soon rule on whether the demolition of shops in a residential area on the outskirts of New Delhi is legal but, for Mohammed Akbar, whatever decision it makes will come too late.

Authorities say they want to remove illegal stores in Jahangirpuri, where clashes broke out between Muslims and Hindus over the weekend near a mosque and temple in which several people, including police officers, were

As the bulldozers moved in on Wednesday, India's highest court intervened to stop them, but not before Akbar's shop selling cigarettes and cold drinks was destroyed.

"They took my only source of earning. How will I feed my children?" the father-of-three asked. "I have loans to pay and how will I pay for clothes for children for Eid?" added Akbar, whose daily earnings are less than \$5.

He, along with some other Muslims in the area, suspect that authorities are punishing those they blame for recent communal violence. Akbar, who said he was not involved in the clashes, has had his small shop in Jahangirpuri for the past 20 years.

Residents said fighting broke out on Saturday when a

area during a Hindu religious festival. At least 20 people were arrested.

Similar clashes in other parts of India have been followed by demolition drives, which critics say are an attempt by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) to intimidate India's 200 million Muslims.

Vinit Goenka, a BJP spokesman, said the demolitions were not related to religion or retribution.

"Indian criminal proce-dure code deals with rioters and municipal law deals with illegal structures and illegal construction," he said, when asked about the criticism. "When implementing the law, name and religion is never asked."

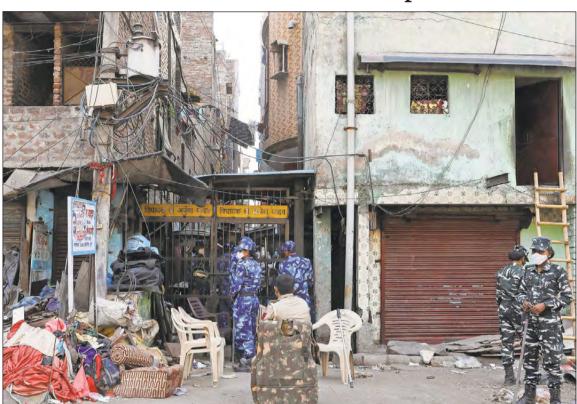
Goenka added that people who attacked peaceful celebrations should be punished.

"A message has to be sent to rioters as prescribed in law, irrespective of his language, community, religion or belief."

Commissioner The Municipal Corporation of Delhi responsible for overseeing the demolitions, which target buildings that authorities say encroach on to roads and pathways, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Justice for all

Hundreds of police in riot crowd of Hindu worshippers, gear armed with batons, come families, some resisome carrying sticks and guns and tear gas canisters dents of the area in northknives, moved through the were deployed on Wednesday west Delhi complained that India's Hindu majority and nated against them.



Anushree Fadnavis / Reuters

Paramilitary force stand guard at an alley after Wednesday's demolition of illegal encroachments in a communally sensitive area Thursday in Jahangirpuri, in New Delhi, India.

morning in the area before the heavy security presence Muslim minority live in the drive to remove illegal structures.

intervening Wednesday, the country's top court on Thursday asked authorities to halt demolitions until further notice. The Jahangirpuri case will be

Home to scores of low-in-

made it hard for them to wor-

holy month of Ramadan. days. In the month of Rama-

besides the main mosque.

close quarters along the narship freely during the Islamic row alleys of Jahangirpuri. oly month of Ramadan. Around a dozen shops were "We have been locked in flattened before the court's our alleys for the past four intervention, of which one was Hindu-owned.

dan police have restricted our movement. We cannot even go to pray," Mohammed Ish- of India in 2019 and 2020, in tiyaq shouted from a locked the country's worst commugate in an residential alley nal clashes in decades over Modi's new citizenship law Marginalized members of that Muslims said discrimi-

Rep. Omar's Pakistan visit draws India's ire

By Abu Argam Nagash and Krishna N. Das Reuters

MUZAFFARABAD, Pakistan - Congresswoman Ilhan Omar made a rare visit by a U.S. lawmaker to Pakistan's part of the disputed Himalayan region of Kashmir on Thursday and said the issue should get more attention from the United States, prompting an angry response from India.

The Muslim-majority Kashmir region has long been the source of tensions between nuclear-armed neighbors India and Pakistan, leading them to fight three wars since winning independence from the British Empire in 1947.

Both countries claim the territory in full but rule it in part.

"I don't believe that it (Kash- the extent it needs to in Con- istration," Omar told report-



Stringer / Reuters

U.S. Representative Ilhan Omar speaks to the media Thursday during her visit to Muzaffarabad, Pakistan-administrated Kashmir, Pakistan.

mir) is being talked about to gress but also with the admin- ers after visiting the de facto portion of the territory, charges the visit is condemnable."

border dividing the disputed New Delhi denies. territory between Pakistan and

Omar, a Somali American who belongs to President Joe Biden's Democratic Party, is the first naturalized citizen of

African birth to sit in the U.S. Congress. Earlier this month she questioned what she called the reluctance of the U.S. government to criticize Indian Prime

ernment on human rights. Days later, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said the United States was monitoring what he described as a rise in human rights abuses in India by some officials, in a rare direct rebuke by Washington of

Minister Narendra Modi's gov-

New Delhi's rights record. India has long faced allegations of rights abuses in its

It tightly controls access to Kashmir for foreign observers,

including the UN. "On the question of Kashmir, we held a hearing in the foreign affairs committee (of Congress) to look at the reports of human rights violations," said Omar, who arrived in Islamabad on Tuesday and has met Pakistan's leaders.

New Delhi sharply criticized Omar's visit.

"Let me just say that if such a politician wishes to practice her narrow-minded politics at home, that's her business," said Arindam Bagchi, spokesperson for India's foreign min-

"But violating our territorial integrity and sovereignty... makes this ours and we think

UN orders Colombia to leave Nicaraguan waters

By Stephanie van den Berg Reuters

THE HAGUE - Judges at the International Court of Justice ruled on Thursday that Colombia must "immediately cease" patrolling and trying to control fishing in parts of the Caribbean that the ICJ said are within Nicaragua's exclusive economic zone.

The ICJ ruled that Colombian activities in the Nicaraguan zone, including giving out fishing rights to others and interfering with maritime ordered Colombia to amend a requests were granted.

sovereign rights.

handed down a judgment that belonging to Colombia.

The new sea borders increased Nicaragua's continental shelf and economic exclusion zone in the Caribbean, giving it access to underwell as fishing rights in those

The judges on Thursday also gua because not all Managua's

research, violated Nicaragua's 2013 presidential decree that established a zone around In 2012, the world court Colombian islands in the disputed area. According to the reduced the expanse of sea court, the zone, as mentioned in the decree, is too large and the powers Colombia says it has in the document are not

in line with customary international law. After the ruling, a reprewater oil and gas deposits, as sentative of the Colombian government said he did not see it as a victory for Nicara-

"We are satisfied with San Andres and Providencia, today's ruling," Carlos Arrieta Padilla told journalists outside the court. He added that Colombia can-

not implement aspects of the ruling before going through a "special procedure." Bogota has argued that it can only change its borders by bilateral treaty and cannot therefore fully implement the court's 2012 ruling.

Joseph Jessie, a representative of the Afro-Caribbean ethnic group which lives

said in an audio shared by the foreign ministry that he felt a sense of "mission accom-plished" because the court recognized his community's fishing rights. Lawyers for Nicaragua at the

court declined comment on the ruling. The ruling reiterated Colom-

bia's right to patrol the area to fight drug trafficking and trans-national crime, Colombian President Ivan Duque said early on Thursday from on the Colombian islands of San Andres.



Rising mortgage interest rates should slow price growth.

Dreamstime / TNS

Will that slow our out-of-control housing market?

By Andrew Khouri Los Angeles Times

or a decade, rock bottom mortgage rates helped home buyers steadily bid up the cost of housing. That includes the last few years, during the pandemic, when rates fell to unheard-of levels and home prices exploded across Southern California and the

Now, things are changing. Mortgage interest rates are rising fast, hitting 5% last week for the first time since 2011, according to a widely watched gauge from Freddie Mac. Just six weeks ago, average rates for a 30-year fixed mortgage were under 4%. In November, they were below 3%.

The swift rise, on top of soaring prices, has made homeownership suddenly more expensive. So, if people can afford less, are

home prices about to fall? Several top real estate experts said they don't foresee price declines — at least meaningful ones absent a recession. Prices are most likely going to continue to climb, but in smaller increments than Southern California's current 17% annual rate.

Economists and other experts pointed to several factors that should largely uphold home values: a severe shortage of homes for sale, rising incomes, falling unemployment and — in plain language — a tendency for homeowners to be greedy.

"A lot of times people go, 'Well, if I can't get the price my neighbor got, I am not going to sell,'" said Bill McBride, author of the financial blog Calculated Risk who famously called the housing crash two

decades ago. In the past, sharp rises in mortgage rates have slowed home price growth, and experts said higher rates should have the same effect this time around as well.

The simple reason is people can afford less, and this is starting to show. Industry professionals report fewer people at open houses, fewer multiple offers per home and fewer

mortgage applications. "It's cooled quite significantly," said John Underwood, who manages a team of Redfin agents in the San Fernando, San Gabriel and Conejo valleys.

While it's still solidly a sellers' market, Underwood said houses that just a few

"The fear that I have is mortgage rates peak out around here ... and mortgage rates go back down."

LOGAN MOHTASHAMI, LEAD **ANALYST FOR THE TRADE PUBLICATION HOUSINGWIRE**

months ago might have gotten 15 or 20 offers now get five or six. It's become harder for sellers to make special demands, including that prospective buyers waive loan and appraisal contingencies that let buyers back out if a problem arises.

Agent Randy Conrad, who works throughout L.A. County, said he's seen a few deals fall out of escrow because buyers didn't lock their rates and could no longer afford the home when borrowing costs jumped.

Cooling demand hasn't yet translated into a slowdown in what homes are selling for, according to

the latest available data. The median home price across the six-county Southern California region rose 16.7% in March from a year earlier, to \$735,000, according to data published Wednesday by the research

firm DQNews. That's slightly faster than the 15.4% year-over-year gain posted in February. In Orange County, the March median price soared 22% and topped \$1 million, the first time the median price in any Southern California county has crossed the

million-dollar mark. The March data reflect closed sales; many of those buyers opened escrow in February, when rates were rising but were still more than a percentage point below rates today. A more up-to-date view on the direction of the market can come from looking at price

Michael Simonsen, founder of Altos Research, said that the number of sellers trimming their asking prices is still way less than normal. But price cuts are becoming more common at a time of the year when they usually decline or don't rise much at all. In the city of Los Angeles,

17.5% of listings had a price cut as of April 8, up from 14% on March 11, according to Altos figures.

"Last year, when the market was hot, [price cuts] were declining notably week over week," Simonsen said.

'Piles of cash'

Price cuts could translate into a decline in actual home values, eventually, if wide swaths of people stop being able to afford today's prices and sellers adjust their expectations — a possibility that becomes more likely as rates head higher.

Take the current Southern California median-priced

home, at \$735,000. Assuming a buyer puts down 20% to buy a \$735,000 house, the monthly mortgage payment including property tax and insurance — would be \$3,450 if the interest rate was 3.22%, the average at

the beginning of the year. At last week's average nortgage rate of 5%, tha monthly payment would be \$4,045 — an increase of \$595 a month, according to a Redfin mortgage calculator.

For a \$1-million house a price point that became much more common around the L.A. region during the pandemic — the rate increases add \$827 a month. Compared with the below-3% rates in November, that represents an increase of nearly \$1,000.

Given the long run-up in home values, many homeowners have lots of equity, and they could sell for less than what their neighbor sold for last year and still make gobs of money.

But homeowners often have a number in their head — their sales threshold based off of recent area sales. And if they don't need to move, they are reluctant to sell for less, agents and experts said.

Some might even have a below-3% mortgage and are reluctant to ditch it to buy another house at a higher

rate. The reason home prices declined as much as they did when the early 2000s housing bubble popped was because a wave of forced selling — through foreclosures and short sales brought down the entire market.

This time around, loan underwriting has been far stricter, with less-exotic debt structures, leaving owners less vulnerable to changes in personal or such as job loss or rising

macroeconomic conditions That means even in the case of a recession, there would be fewer forced sales

and smaller price declines,

said Ralph McLaughlin, chief will be higher than if rates economist with real estate data firm Kukun.

In today's environment, price declines would probably need to follow at least two years of rising inventory and falling sales, according to Logan Mohtashami, lead analyst for the trade publication HousingWire.

That's a long ways off.
As the spring home buying season kicks off, more homes are coming on the market, but in March there were still 31% fewer homes for sale across Los Angeles and Orange counties than a year earlier, according to

The people who want those homes didn't disappear once rates hit 5%. Millennials are currently the diggest generation and a large cohort are in their late 20s and early 30s, which is when many people buy their first

home. Mohtashami said there has never been more Americans ages 28 to 34, creating a "once in a lifetime event" underpinning home buying demand through 2024.

Many Americans millennials or not — have also seen their wealth grow during the pandemic, a result of a booming stock market, rising home equity, government relief and less money being spent on restaurants and travel.

"There is just piles and piles of cash," said Christopher Thornberg, founding partner with Beacon Economics, who said people can use that stockpile to offset higher borrowing costs through larger down payments.

McLaughlin said that if rates stay around 5%, he would expect the rate of price growth to be cut in half in three months.

Southern California home prices might fall 1% or 2% on an annual basis if rates rose to 7% or 8%, McLaughlin said. But for prices to fall meaningfully 4% or more — he said it may take not only 7% rates at a minimum but also an economic downturn and a restrained government response in which Washington doesn't step in quickly to help homeowners avoid foreclosures, as it did throughout the pandemic.

Bad news

For those looking to buy a home later this year or next, will higher rates automatically mean the monthly mortgage payment stayed low?

That's a question without an easy answer.

But for those looking now, it's more expensive. McLaughlin said higher rates will probably be "very, very bad news" for people who barely qualified for a loan, since higher borrowing costs may very well knock them out of the market.

For others who have more wiggle room, it could open up more opportunities if inventory rises.

"They may be more content in the home that they find even if they have to pay a higher mortgage rate and a higher monthly payment," McLaughlin said.

Keller Williams agent Amber Dolle got a realtime taste of the changing market two weekends ago when she held an open house for a Valencia threebedroom townhome priced

at \$680,000. She said attendance was about half what it would've been last year, with 35 prospective buyers coming

The number of offers was also less than Dolle would have expected last year. but there was still six of them and all were over the asking price, showing how even a reduced number of buyers can easily send prices up when there are so few

homes for sale. That's why Mohtashami said he's rooting for mortgage rates to stay high for a prolonged period to bring more balance to the market.

In 2018, mortgage rates neared 5% and home price growth proceeded to slow dramatically. In March 2019, the Southern California median price even dipped 0.4% from a year earlier, the first decline since 2012,

according to DQNews. But after that dip, home prices started their upward march once again, helped by mortgage rates that then fell below 4%.

"The fear that I have is mortgage rates peak out around here ... and mortgage rates go back down," Mohtashami said, of the current market.

"(Home sellers, home builders and home investors) have way too much pricing power as a collective whole and look what they are doing: They are all pushing it to the limit."

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David Livingston / Getty Images / TNS

Stephen Root attends the season three premiere of HBO's "Barry" at Rolling Greens on Monday in Culver City, California.

STEPHEN ROOT ON 'GOOD WRITING'

'Barry' star is just fine being best known as Milton from 'Office Space'

By Neal Justin Star Tribune

tephen Root has over 250 acting credits, including smug station owner Jimmy James in "NewsRadio," staplerobsessed Milton in "Office Space" and characters in four Coen brothers' movies. But he didn't earn his first Emmy nomination until he snagged the part of assassin handler Monroe Fuches in "Barry, which returns for its third season at 10 p.m. ET Sunday on HBO.

In a Zoom interview recently, Root, 70, spoke about his most famous roles and what he hopes for next.

Q: You've played the

the slowest guy in the room. Where does Fuches rank on that scale?

A: Fuches is smart enough to manipulate the people around him. What he can't seem to do is manipulate Barry. In season three, he's kind of reached his limit. His revenge becomes a lot crueler than what we've seen before.

Q: I first became a fan of yours watching "NewsRadio." And then I saw "Office Space," which was a complete 180. Do you purposely choose roles that are completely different?

A: It's very much a conscious thing. I did so much sitcom work in the '90s that I wasn't getting offers smartest guy in the room and to do anything else. So I sat

around for a while, waiting for dramatic stuff. I did some "CSIs" and then I got "West Wing." That really helped changed the perception.

Q: It's getting harder to distinguish comedyc from dramas on TV. Maybe we should just stop separating

A: I think so. Let's just call it what it is: Good writing. Although that's not true in terrestrial TV. We had some good network sitcoms in the 90s. They're worse now. Think of all the thousands of medical shows and police shows. They're pretty much all the same. I wish terrestrial TV would take more chances.

Q: You've become a familiar face in Coen brothers movies. Why do you think they keep calling on you?

A: One of my strong suits as a character actor is a "bent"-approach to the work. That's kind of a natural mesh with them. I think it's fun for them to have New York theater types like me and John Goodman who can adapt quickly.

Q: How is being directed by Bill Hader on "Barry" different from working with the Coens?

A: It's different. It was harder for me the first two seasons to get used to doing the improv stuff he throws at you. But I've gotten better at

Q: Are you recognized more these days for "Barry" than

your past roles? A: It's always Milton, except for a certain generation that has a love for "Dodgeball." "Office Space" was a flop, but it came on home video just as Blockbuster was getting huge and the word of mouth was really good. It's a movie that keeps being discovered by a new wave of computer geeks every five years. It was "The

Office" before "The Office." Q: Any roles you haven't tackled yet that are on your wish list?

A: Like every character actor, I'd love to be a lead in a film. I'd like to have my chance to do that.

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Lawyer: Baldwin cleared in 'Rust' probe

Report states actor believed his gun held only dummy rounds

A lawyer for Alec Baldwin said on Thursday that an investigation by New Mexico has cleared his client of wrongdoing in the fatal shooting on the set of "Rust," pointing out that its report stated the actor believed his gun held only dummy rounds.

New Mexico's Occupational Health and Safety Bureau on Wednesday released the findings of a six-month investigation of the shooting during the filming of the Western movie last October. It blasted Rust Movie Productions LLC for "willful" safety lapses leading to the death of cinematographer Halyna Hutchins and fined the company \$137,000, the maximum amount pos-

In response to the findings, Baldwin's attorneys said in a statement that his authority on the production was limited to approving script changes and creative casting and that he had no authority over matters that were subject to the investigation.

"We appreciate that the report exonerates Mr. Baldwin by making clear that he believed the gun held only



Erik Thomas / Pool via Reuters / File Photo

Actor Alec Baldwin appears in court in January 2019 in the Manhattan borough of New York City.

dummy rounds," the state- critical issues." ment posted on Baldwin's Inspleased that the New Mexico on the statement. officials have clarified these

The agency was not imme-

Hutchins was killed during movie's director Joel Souza in

a rehearsal when a revolver that Baldwin was holding tagram account said. "We are diately available to comment fired a live round that passed through her and struck the

the shoulder, wounding him.

The investigation found the production firm had been aware that firearm safety procedures were not being followed and demonstrated "plain indifference" to the hazards, the New Mexico **Environment Department said** in a statement.

Rust Movie Productions spokesman Stefan Friedman said in a statement on Wednesday that the company disagreed with the findings and planned to appeal.

The probe found that Rust management ignored concerns raised by crew members about firearm and pyrotechnics misfires on set.

The report said Rust management failed to give staff responsible for firearms safety sufficient time to inspect ammunition received to ensure no live rounds were present.

The Santa Fe County Sheriff's Office and the Santa Fe County District Attorney have ongoing criminal investigations into the death of the cinematographer.

Mayo Clinic Q and A: Testing for food allergies and sensitivities

By Cynthia Weiss Mayo Clinic News Network

DEAR MAYO CLINIC: I have struggled with stomach issues for many years. Is it possible my upset stomach can be an allergy or sensitivity to certain foods? I want to feel better, and I am curious about testing that may be available to identify food sensitivities and food allergies.

ANSWER: Gastrointestinal issues are challenging, and it can be difficult to identify what may be causing you distress. It is important to recognize that food allergies and food sensitivities are not interchangeable terms.

A food allergy is the body's immune response where an immunoglobulin E antibody, also known as an allergy antibody, binds to an allergy cell. The allergy cell releases chemicals, namely histamine, that causes a reaction

 typically within a few minutes. Though rare, there is the possibility of a delayed reaction of up to two hours after time of contact with the allergen. The most typical allergic reactions include itching, hives, rash, or an anaphylactic reaction, where breathing becomes impaired.

Approximately 32 million people in the U.S. have food allergies. The most common allergens are peanuts, tree nuts, fish and crustacean shellfish, wheat, soy, sesame, milk, and eggs.

When someone has difficulty processing or digesting a food properly, that is known as a food intolerance or food sensitivity. Intolerance occurs in the intestines, and it is related to how people break down components or enzymes of what they eat. Lactose



Dreamstime / TNS

Gastrointestinal issues are challenging, and it can be difficult to identify what may be causing you distress.

intolerance, for instance, is a common food sensitivity. People who are sensitive to lactose do not have enough enzymes to break down the lactose in food and beverages, which will cause symptoms. Use a food diary to track what food you had prior to having symptoms. If you note anything in your diet that is different, try taking it out.

There is no immune response in a food intolerance or sensitivity, and it does not harm a person. But it can be uncomfortable. Symptoms can include extreme bloating, fullness, abdominal pain or cramping, brain fog, headaches, and altered stool patterns of loose stools or constipation.

In most situations, a food allergy will cause a more immediate reaction; whereas, food sensitivities may develop over time — anywhere from 30 minutes up to four or five hours later, which is the average time it takes for food to move from the stomach.

It can be challenging for some people to determine if they have a food allergy or a sensitivity, and a health care professional should make the diagnosis.

Food allergy testing The gold standard of allergen testing is a skin test, where a small amount of an allergen is placed on the skin — typically on the back or forearm. Next the skin is gently scratched to introduce the allergen into the skin. Within 10-15 minutes, histamine is released, and a red bump will appear if there is possibly an allergy. The size of the redness and bump determine if an allergy is present and the severity.

A trained allergist should perform food allergy testing. Some patients may undergo an immunoglobulin E antibody food-specific blood test. Although this can help identify an allergy, this test alone does not mean there is a food allergy and an allergist should interpret the lab results to confirm.

Food sensitivity testing No single test is available for food sensitivity or intolerances. Although many tests are advertised, the recognition that there is not one test is a statement supported by the American Academy of Allergy Asthma & Immunology, the Canadian Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, and the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology.

The advertised food sensitivity kits typically use what is known as an immunoglobulin G antibody assay to test if a person has food sensitivities. These companies claim that if foods high in immunoglobulin G that were tested are removed, symptoms will improve for multiple conditions. An immunoglobulin G antibody is a memory antibody, and it determines exposure to a food — not an allergy, though some research shows that higher levels of immunoglobulin G4 are associated with better

tolerance to foods. When you are unable to find answers or want to find a way to treat symptoms without medication, it can be frustrating. However, research does not support immunoglobulin G food sensitivity tests.

Food sensitivity or intolerance testing can lead to unnecessary food restrictions, increased stress and anxiety surrounding food, fear of foods, as well as overall poor nutrition and wellness. Also, these tests may lead to misdiagnosis of possible underlying conditions. And in some cases, they may worsen gastrointestinal symptoms.

If you are having stomach or bowel issues, and are concerned about a food allergy, seek out a trained allergist, or a gastroenterologist. It also would be recommended to talk to a dietitian before making any drastic nutritional changes.

- Krista Kerlinske, R.D.N., and Lindsey Sefried, R.D.N. - both in Clinical Nutrition, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota

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