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DAVID L. RYAN/GLOBE STAFF

Spotted lanternflies have been found in almost 150 communities in Massachusetts, about triple last year's infestation.

A gooey invasion spreads

Lanternfly nymphs threaten trees, bedevil farmers and homeowners

By Bryan Hecht
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

The spotted lanternfly, an invasive insect that can imperil certain kinds of trees and create headaches as its sticky excrement mists down onto patios and cars, has now been found in almost 150 communities in Massachusetts, about triple this time last year, officials say.

Just weeks ago, New Hampshire officials recorded what could be their first ever wild lanternfly population, spurring concerns that the pests are moving north.

Native to Asia, spotted lanternfly larvae pierce plants and the bark of trees, feeding on their sap, leaving behind a sticky residue, and inviting mold growth. They can be especially active around grapevines and maple, apple, and black walnut trees. While the adult bugs can fly, they mostly hop rapidly from place to place.

During a serious infestation, hundreds

PESTS, Page A10



Nymphs of the lanternfly have accumulated in Worcester. The city's Green Hill Park also has signs warning of another invasive insect: the Asian longhorned beetle.

Schools brace for cellphone fallout

Lawmakers' lack of action, transparency on proposed ban intensifies concerns

By Samantha J. Gross
GLOBE STAFF

Tens of thousands of Massachusetts children will pack their backpacks, board buses, and return to classrooms this week for the coming school year, joining thousands more who've already had their first day.

All the while, a major change that would shake up school districts sits untouched by the state Legislature.

Language creating a statewide cellphone ban in schools is among a dozen proposals in legislative purgatory on Beacon Hill. That's because lawmakers last year approved an internal rules change that gives them until early January to strike deals on policies locked in closed-door negotiations.

Talk to proponents, and each of the bills demands urgent action in some form or another. But it was the proposed cellphone ban that faced one of the more finite timelines, with schools reopening to students and widespread agreement among lawmakers that the state needed to do something to get cellphones out of their hands.

"It's a huge lift, no matter what you do," Newton Superintendent Anna Nolin said of implementing a classroom cellphone ban, which her district did

CELLPHONES, Page A6

After years, CVS returns to Roxbury

Pharmacy-only store doesn't include retail

By Alexa Gagosz
GLOBE STAFF

For years, many Roxbury residents who needed a prescription filled had to travel outside the neighborhood. Now, CVS is coming back.

But the storefront that recently opened in Nubian Square won't look very familiar. There are not aisles of makeup, birthday cards, sodas, or snacks. Instead, this stripped-down version is almost entirely centered on pharmacy services: Fill your script, get a flu shot, speak to a pharmacist, or pick up some Tylenol. Shampoo and deodorant are there — but everything is behind the cashier's glass barrier.

This format is part of a broader effort by CVS to provide pharmacies where communities lack access to them and to rethink its traditional stores. It comes while drugstores everywhere face pressure.

Insurance reimbursements, labor, and real estate costs have squeezed margins as drugstores have lost market share on everyday retail to competitors, including Amazon. Meanwhile, executives have said shoplifting has become an increasing concern.

CVS, Page A7

The T, as in tardy, trying, tiresome, terrible . . .

Can Boston pretend to be world-class when it can't even get folks to their destinations?

By Kara Miller
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

Several years ago, I was invited to a fancy party on Beacon Hill. One of the invitees asked the hostess what T stop she lived near, and she replied she had no idea.

The answer floored me, because she probably lived 150 feet from the Park Street Station. I bet you

COMMENTARY

could have seen it from her amazing balcony.

But it served as a good reminder that lots of people with power — either financial or political — know next to nothing about the T. Because they don't ride it.

Earlier this year, when I was

writing about concerns that the tech scene in Massachusetts is slowing, one of the power players I talked to noted — in passing — that, though the state faces problems with high costs and talent retention, it's good, at least, that the T has been fixed.

I wanted to stop the conversation and take an hourlong detour into why the T is still incredibly unreliable and too often disappointing, but I swallowed it and stayed focused.

Yes, some improvements have

been made. After 2024 — dubbed "the year of the shutdown" — speeds on the Orange Line and Red Line improved considerably, though, as Transit Matters noted, the Red Line was still plagued by "frequent delays caused by disabled trains and signal problems."

The improvements are not nearly good enough. And the quality of the T has real bearing on Massachusetts' competitiveness and its ability to retain workers trying to build careers here.

MBTA, Page A6

In the news

Israel struck southern Lebanon with an intensifying bombardment that fueled fears the war in the Middle East will reignite. **A3.**

The promising developments around a personalized vaccine for melanoma have experts hoping for a broader horizon for mRNA technology. **D1.**

The average price of regular gas nationwide soars past the record high for Labor Day weekend. **A2.**

The Red Sox won their fifth consecutive game, topping the Angels, 5-2, behind Adley Rutschman. **C1.**

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BostonGlobe.com

A loss of coverage amid a bitter breakup

MGB Health Plan cuts Dana-Farber from its Medicare Advantage network

By Marin Wolf
GLOBE STAFF

Eldon Clingan has had the same cancer specialist at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute for more than two decades. He trusts her, he said, and credits her with saving his life.

Starting Oct. 1, though, the 88-year-old retired accountant will either have to find a new oncologist or change insurance plans because his Medicare Advantage plan is dropping Dana-Farber from its network.

The Medicare plan, run by the insurance arm of Mass General Brigham, has about 20,500 members, though only a fraction are receiving cancer care at Dana-Farber at any one time.

MGB Health Plan said the change is driven by financial considerations, including limited federal reimbursements.

But the split comes amid a very public breakup of the longtime partnership between the two institutions, in which Dana-Farber provided inpatient cancer treatment to Mass General Brigham's vast network of patients. US News and World Report ranked Dana-Farber, in partnership with MGB's Brigham and Women's Hospital, as the top cancer hospital in Boston and the third-best capital.

HEALTH PLAN, Page A7



MELECK ELDAHSHOURY FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE

Eldon and Carol Clingan worry over insurance changes.



Going, glowing, gone

Tuesday: Sunny late. High 76-81, low 61-66.

Wednesday: More clouds. High 74-79, low 68-73.

Sunrise: 6:17. Sunset: 7:06.

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

Obituaries, **C9.**

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Deadly cargo plane crash under investigation

5 people killed on the ground, 3 critically hurt

By David Fischer, Marc Levy, and Jeffrey Collins
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIAMI — The five people killed when an Amazon cargo jet ran off a runway at Miami International Airport were all inside a van carrying seven people from a cleaning company, and an SUV hit outside of airport property, National Transportation Safety Board chairwoman Jennifer Homendy said Monday.

Homendy called the scene of Sunday’s crash “utter devastation.” She didn’t detail how many people were in the SUV or where the dead were located.

Homendy walked the route the Boeing 767 followed, noting tire marks from the pavement into the grass, the destroyed van carrying the cleaning crew, torn fencing, navigational equipment, and the crushed SUV outside airport property.

The debris included vehicle air bags, equipment from the vehicles, the airplane, and the airport, and “fencing everywhere,” Homendy said.

“It’s pretty extensive. Hard to see and I’m sure it must have been very difficult for the responders as well,” Homendy said.

The airplane, all told, traveled about 1,300 feet past the paved surface. Debris was everywhere, she said.

“I would describe it in one word as devastating, utter devastation,” Homendy said.

The van with seven people inside was “torn apart,” she said. The van was owned by Professional Ocean Service Corp., an airline cleaning contractor.

Homendy said the NTSB would issue more information on Tuesday. Federal investigators examining the crash spent Monday determining whether the plane touched down too late to stop safely.

Video of Sunday’s landing appears to show the Boeing 767 remaining airborne well down the

runway before touching down. Aviation experts said investigators will seek to determine exactly where the plane landed, whether it was beyond the normal touchdown zone, and why the pilots did not abandon the landing.

Investigators will also examine the plane’s speed and braking, weather and wind conditions, the aircraft’s mechanical condition, and other factors that could have contributed to the deadly overrun.

The aircraft on Sunday flew from Cincinnati to Miami and then to San Juan, Puerto Rico. It was returning to Miami when it overran the runway around 2 p.m. and plowed across a road used by warehouse workers and other businesses that surround the airport.

Aside from the five who died, three people were critically injured and two others were hospitalized with less severe injuries, officials said.

The crash, which sent thick black smoke billowing into the sky, trapped the pilot and copilot



LYNNE SLADKY/ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Amazon plane that crashed in Miami on Sunday was still on the runway on Monday as investigators worked.

in the cockpit and some occupants in cars, said Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Chief Ray Jadallah. The agency said crews also had to extricate a person who was trapped under a vehicle.

The typical landing zone for a plane is within the first 3,000 feet of a runway, experts said. If the cargo jet was beyond that area, it should have aborted the landing and gone around for another try, aviation safety specialist Steve Arroyo said.

Mary Schiavo, who is a pilot and former Inspector General of the Transportation Department, said video posted online shows the Amazon plane floating above the runway for an extended period without flaring the nose upward to force the main landing gear onto the ground.

It wasn’t raining at the time,

but dark storm clouds loomed and strong winds were reported. Schiavo said that if the plane had a tail wind, that could have contributed to it floating further down the runway.

The flight had been operated by 21 Air, a cargo carrier based in North Carolina. The 32-year-old Boeing 767 was originally built to carry passengers and flew for several airlines before more than two decades before being converted to a cargo plane in 2015, according to flight-tracking site Flightradar24.

An airport spokesperson said there were 160 cancellations and more than 300 delayed flights Sunday, plus another 69 canceled flights Monday through mid-afternoon.

Amazon said it would cooperate with any investigation.

“We’re heartbroken to learn that five people lost their lives in today’s incident at Miami International Airport,” the company said. “Our deepest sympathies go out to the families, loved ones, and all those affected by this devastating loss.”

DAILY BRIEFING



ERIN SCHAFF/NEW YORK TIMES

Waves rolled onto the beach at Poipu, Kauai, Hawaii, as the Category 3 storm neared on Monday.

Kauai braces for heavy rain and wind as Hurricane Lowell approaches

KAPAA, Hawaii — Residents of the Hawaiian island of Kauai were preparing over the weekend for heavy rain and strong winds while trying not to let the approach of Hurricane Lowell derail their holiday plans.

Rain bands from Lowell, a Category 3 storm late Sunday, were spreading over Kauai and

Oahu early Monday local time. The storm’s core was expected to pass to the west of the islands late Monday or early Tuesday, sparing residents from a direct hit, but experts at the National Hurricane Center and emergency officials in the state have warned people to take its threats seriously.

Forecasters estimated that it could bring 2 to 10 inches of rain statewide, with isolated totals of up to 14 inches possible in some areas of Kauai and the Big Island of Hawaii.

Rain had begun falling on Sunday afternoon. Kauai officials were bracing for the storm and urged residents on Sunday

to stay home as conditions worsened.

Kauai County was under a hurricane watch Sunday evening, meaning hurricane conditions were possible within 48 hours. County parks and campgrounds were closed, and officials opened five shelters.

NEW YORK TIMES

Fla. inmate seeks stay of execution

WASHINGTON — Attorneys asked the Supreme Court Monday to stay the execution of a Florida death row inmate scheduled to die by lethal injection Thursday for the 1996 kidnapping and strangulation of a man who was found nude and emasculated.

Daniel Conahan Jr., 72, was sentenced to death for the April 1996 killing of Richard Montgomery. The victim was found in a wooded area in Charlotte County, Fla., which was described as what appeared to be a dumping area that contained a lot of trash.

Authorities said Conahan killed Montgomery after paying

him to pose for nude photos. Authorities suspect him of similar homicides committed in the 1990s in southwest Florida.

Conahan has denied his involvement in Montgomery’s murder. The petition said he has been requesting DNA testing since March 2025 of evidence collected at the scene and from Montgomery’s body to “conclusively establish that he is not responsible for the death.”

Governor Ron DeSantis signed his death warrant Aug. 11 while his motion for DNA testing was pending, the petition for the stay says.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mom accused of murder followed trial

An Illinois woman charged with killing her 2-year-old son had been closely following the murder trial of Massachusetts mother Lindsay Clancy and was texting friends about the case just hours before her son was found dead, prosecutors said.

Corie Walsh, 40, was charged with three counts of first-degree murder after her son, Barrett, was found dead in the basement of the family’s suburban Chicago home on Sept. 1, according to court records obtained by NBC Chicago.

Prosecutors said Walsh had become “very invested” in

Clancy’s nationally watched trial and was discussing it with friends until about 12:30 p.m. that day. A neighbor found Barrett less than four hours later.

Walsh was found elsewhere in the home with injuries authorities said were self-inflicted. Prosecutors said she later told investigators that she killed her son because she believed he was the “devil” and the “anti-Christ.” Her attorney, Andrea Lyon, told reporters Walsh was experiencing a psychotic episode and called the boy’s death a tragedy for the entire family.

ASSOCIATED PRESS



LOREN ELLIOTT/NEW YORK TIMES

A black bear in the backyard of a home in Monrovia, Calif., on Aug. 29.

Bears in LA are getting their close-ups, ready or not

MONROVIA, Calif. — On hot days, they have their pick of swimming pools. They pluck avocados from backyard trees with impunity. When they amble down shaded streets, they are treated like celebrities: given a wide berth and photographed surreptitiously — except when they attract news helicopters.

They are California’s black bears, and there are, experts es-

timate, roughly 60,000 of them. Of the world’s eight bear species, including polar bears and giant pandas, the American black bear population is the only one that’s growing. In fact, there are more American black bears — omnivorous as raccoons and skittish around people — than bears of all other species combined.

In recent years, black bears have expanded their range from

remote mountains into suburbs that have increasingly blurred the line between city and wilderness.

Last year, officials with the state’s Department of Fish and Wildlife recorded 2,735 calls and reports about black bears. That’s up from 425 a decade prior, though they warned that the tally was skewed by changing tracking systems and staffing.

NEW YORK TIMES

Gasoline prices reach new high for Labor Day

US average for gallon of regular hits \$4.14

By Jeffrey Collins
ASSOCIATED PRESS

It’s never been more expensive in the United States to fill up the tank and take one last summer trip over the Labor Day weekend.

The average price of regular gas was \$4.14 a gallon heading into the holiday, nearly a dollar higher than last year and well above the Labor Day weekend record of \$3.82 from 2012, according to AAA motor club.

Nicole Collins planned to head from Philadelphia to South Carolina to visit friends, but she said her family has spent most of the summer close to home and not taking their typical weekend trips because driving has gotten so expensive.

“Gas is pretty high right now. It doesn’t help that we also have a baby, so we also have to pay for that,” Collins said outside a gas station in Claymont, Del., where regular gas was \$4.199 a gallon.

Prices shot up after the United States and Israel attacked Iran in February and have not settled down since. Crude oil traffic through the key Strait of Hormuz has plunged, and Iran has refused to reopen the waterway.

“Everything points to the Iran war and the Strait of Hormuz,” said Tom Seng, a professor of energy finance at Texas Christian University.

Energy Secretary Chris Wright offered few specifics on when the nation’s drivers might see relief at the gas pump, acknowledging that prices are higher now than Labor Day 2025.

“Yes, they’re higher today, but we’re doing everything we can to push them down,” Wright said Sunday on ABC’s “This Week.”

The national average for regular gas prices is still well below the record of \$5.02 a gallon set in June 2022.

But diesel is a different story: It hit a national average of \$5.85 a gallon Friday, a record.

Trucks and other freight delivery systems use a lot of diesel, and that increased transportation cost is being passed on to consumers, whether at the grocery store or through package delivery services.

“It doesn’t really seem like there’s an end to it,” Collins

said.

Gas prices typically drop as the summer driving season ends and refineries turn to making a cheaper winter blend.

But Seng said there are other factors this year even beyond the volatile situation in the Middle East that make future prices unpredictable. US refineries are working at 98 percent capacity, many in the unusually harsh Texas heat.

If there are problems there or a hurricane knocks some systems offline, prices will struggle to drop.

And it’s not just a Middle East problem. Ukrainian drone attacks on Russian refineries are squeezing diesel supplies. Chinese refiners are seeing declining outputs as well, said

‘Everything points to the Iran war and the Strait of Hormuz.’

TOM SENG, *energy finance professor at Texas Christian University*

Matthew Metzgar, a clinical professor of economics at University of North Carolina Charlotte.

“There’s just less gasoline coming out of those refineries,” Metzgar said.

Wright, the energy secretary, said the Trump administration was taking steps to increase production and that the markets forecast lower prices in the coming months.

“If you look at the futures prices, if you wanted to buy today in bulk gasoline for two months out in November, it’s about 35 cents cheaper than it is today.

So the marketplace thinks gasoline prices are going to move meaningfully lower,” he said.

Geopolitically, though, there is little a driver can do to knock down gas prices.

But using price apps can help save a little money, especially on long trips where gas by the interstate could be 10 to 15 cents per gallon more expensive than at stations a short drive down the road, Metzgar said.

The World

Israel fires deadly strikes in Lebanon

27 killed over last three days as conflict worsens

By **Christina Goldbaum**

NEW YORK TIMES

BEIRUT — The Israeli military launched a new wave of deadly strikes in southern Lebanon Monday, part of an intensifying bombardment in recent days that has fueled fears that Israel could push deeper into Lebanese territory as it entrenches control of land it has seized.

Over the past three days, the strikes have killed 27 people and wounded 69 others, according to the Lebanese Health Ministry, one of the deadliest waves of attacks since a US-brokered cease-fire with Lebanon was announced in June. The bombardments occurred days after Israeli officials announced that the military had captured a strategic ridge that Israel had sought to control for months.

On Monday, Israeli strikes in the village of Kfar Roummane in southern Lebanon killed at least 11 people, including two children and four women, the Lebanese Health Ministry said. Eight others, including three children, were injured.

The Israeli military said it launched the strikes in response to drone attacks by Hezbollah, the Iran-backed Lebanese militant group, and targeted what it described as Hezbollah infrastructure, including a weapons-storage facility.

The latest escalation in the conflict began after Israel said Friday that it had seized the ridge near the Lebanese city of Nabatieh, about 6 miles from the border.

The ridge, known as Ali Taher, had become a focal point in the conflict, which reignited in March when Hezbollah fired on Israel after the US-Israeli assault on Iran. Ali Taher sits above a sprawling underground Hezbollah base, and offers a commanding view across the valleys and roads of southeastern Lebanon.

Israeli Defense Minister Israel Katz said in a video statement Friday that the capture of the ridge marked “the completion of the process of consolidating our hold on the security zone in southern Lebanon,” referring to an Israeli-occupied strip of Lebanese territory along the border.

Israeli officials have issued evacuation warnings for two villages over the past two days, both of which are outside that swath of southern Lebanon, which Israel has occupied since the latest war broke out. Israel has issued only one other evacuation warning since the US-bro-



MOHAMMED ZAATARI/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mustafa Farhat, 8, who lost his parents in an Israeli airstrike, was visited by his grandmother in a Lebanese hospital.

Britain set to impose trade ban on W. Bank settlements

By **Adam Rasgon**
and **Aaron Boxerman**

NEW YORK TIMES

Britain is set to announce wide-ranging economic restrictions targeting Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank as soon as Tuesday, according to seven officials briefed on the measures, in what experts say would be a significant censure of Israeli policy toward Palestinians.

The measures are expected to include a trade ban on goods produced in the settlements, the officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media. Three of the officials said the measures could also include sanctions on companies

helping to build settlements.

Israel has become increasingly isolated on the world stage in the aftermath of the devastating war in the Gaza Strip, and international attention has focused on Israel’s tightening grip over the West Bank. The sanctions come at a time when Israeli extremists have been repeatedly attacking Palestinians, on occasion assailing homes with little intervention by Israeli forces.

Some analysts say Britain’s move could foreshadow decisions by other European countries to impose harder-hitting and broader sanctions.

While the details are still unclear, a British product ban is likely to have a limited impact on the \$8 billion in annu-

al trade between the countries, given that goods made in Israeli settlements are only a small fraction of that amount. But the measures go well beyond previous British sanctions related to the West Bank, which targeted some extremist Israeli settlers and two far-right ministers.

“The government is broadening the extent of the sanctions from individuals to looking at processes and the system,” said Lord Tariq Ahmad, who was a British minister for the Middle East until 2024 and has knowledge of the expected policy.

Gideon Saar, the Israeli foreign minister, said last week that “Israel will act” against any new British sanctions,

without elaborating. The Israeli Foreign Ministry did not respond to a request for comment Monday. The British Foreign Office declined to comment.

British Jewish groups have lobbied against the move in meetings with government officials, arguing that the measures were driven by domestic politics, could stoke antisemitism at home, and were unlikely to compel Israel to change course.

Britain, a longtime ally of Israel, has long condemned Israeli settlements in the West Bank, which are widely considered illegal under international law, saying they undermined the possibility of a future Palestinian state.

kered cease-fire in June.

On Sunday, Israeli strikes killed seven people, including two women, in southern Lebanon, according to the Lebanese Health Ministry.

Since June, the truce has frayed, with fighting continuing between Hezbollah and Israel across southern Lebanon. Hezbollah was not involved in the cease-fire and does not answer to the Lebanese government, raising questions about how it would be enforced.

On Saturday, Hezbollah condemned the escalating Israeli

bombardment and said it was aimed at pressuring the Lebanese government — which has been engaged in US-brokered talks with Israel — to capitulate to Israel’s demands.

The office of Lebanese President Joseph Aoun said Sunday that the new Israeli bombardment represented “a dangerous escalation.”

“President Aoun held the Israeli side fully responsible for this ongoing escalation, calling on the United States and the international community to take immediate action to stop these

violations and hold the perpetrators accountable,” it said.

The Israeli military has entrenched its control of the swath of Lebanese territory it holds, which stretches as deep as about 6 miles into the country, prompting increasing uncertainty in the south. Israel has insisted that its forces will remain until Hezbollah is disarmed.

Since the cease-fire was declared, Lebanon and Israel have been engaged in direct, US-brokered talks to end the conflict. The discussions led the two sides to agree in principle to a

phased arrangement, under which the Lebanese military would disarm Hezbollah and move in to secure areas in southern Lebanon as Israeli forces withdrew.

But that process has largely stalled, with Israel and Hezbollah at odds over which side must act first. Hezbollah has consistently rejected demands to put down its weapons.

The lack of progress has led to frustration among residents of southern Lebanon, who have been displaced from their homes during the war.

After victory in German state, far right needs help

AfD, combined foes have equal House presence

By **Christopher F. Schuetze**

NEW YORK TIMES

MAGDEBURG, Germany — The far-right party Alternative for Germany fell short of an outright majority in crucial elections in the state of Saxony-Anhalt, according to final results posted on Monday. But it could still take power there if it wins the support of a minor populist party.

All eyes in Germany have now turned to that party, the Alliance Sahra Wagenknecht, before negotiations to form a new state government that could take weeks or even months.

If the Alternative for Germany, known by its German initials AfD, does find a way to power in Saxony-Anhalt, it would mark the first time since the end of the Nazi era in 1945 that a part of Germany is ruled by a far-right party.

That would spell the end to the country’s postwar political consensus to keep the extremist far right out of government.

Saxony-Anhalt is a relatively poor state of 2.1 million people in what used to be communist East Germany, with high unemployment and one of Germany’s oldest populations. The AfD capitalized on national pessimism about Germany’s economy and on lingering resentment in the East about how left behind it felt in the aftermath of reunification with West Germany in 1990.

But the scope of the upheaval in Saxony-Anhalt, with the AfD getting nearly 44 percent at the ballot box, has stunned many in Germany, where the election was closely watched because the AfD also leads in national polls.

Chancellor Friedrich Merz said Monday that “something has changed not only in Saxony-Anhalt, but in all of Germany.”

“We are all deeply shocked,” he told reporters in Berlin, noting that his conservative party had never experienced such a big loss in a state election. “We did not expect this outcome in this form.”

The elections in Saxony-Anhalt gave the AfD its biggest electoral success since its founding in 2013. The AfD now has 39 seats in a state house with 83



KAY NIETFELD/DPA VIA ASSOCIATED PRESS

Co-leaders of Alternative for Germany party, or AfD, Tino Chrupalla (left) and Alice Weidel in Berlin on Monday.

seats, meaning they are three short of a full majority.

But there is no straightforward path to a new state government. The AfD and the parties that would try to block it both now hold an equal number of seats in the state house, where members elect the state governor.

That has put a spotlight on the Alliance Sahra Wagenknecht, a minor populist party that is known by its German initials BSW and that has five newly elected state house representatives.

The BSW had ruled out supporting Ulrich Siegmund, the local leader of Alternative for Germany, as state governor. But it has not ruled out supporting his party, which mainstream politicians have vowed not to work with.

“The firewall does not interest us, and we will speak with all parties,” Thorsten Schulze, a BSW state leader, told German news media Sunday night, referring to the longstanding promise by other parties not to work with the AfD.

Founded in opposition to

Germany’s adoption of the euro, the AfD evolved rightward and became strongly antimigration after the government of Angela Merkel let more than 1 million refugees into Germany in 2015 and 2016.

Some AfD leaders are close to Russia, others have questioned Islam’s right to exist in Germany, and some have made dog-whistle comments about the Nazi era, including by minimizing the Holocaust.

German domestic intelligence has classified the party as “suspected extremist,” giving it wide powers to surveil the party and its leaders. The AfD has rejected that label.

Siegmund, the AfD leader in Saxony-Anhalt, campaigned on a promise to rule only if his party got an outright majority. But he moderated his tone after the polls closed and said that he would talk with all parties.

“Of course I will stand as a candidate for minister-president in Saxony-Anhalt if it becomes apparent that we have established a stable majority,” Siegmund said Monday in Berlin at a news conference with other AfD leaders, without elaborating about where the party was seeking support.

DAILY BRIEFING

Syrian reactor was configured for nuclear weapons

VIENNA — The Assad-era government in Syria was constructing a nuclear reactor that was configured to produce fissile material for possible use in nuclear weapons, the head of the International Atomic Energy Agency said on Monday.

The “configuration” and the “technical features” of the nuclear reactor under construction in Syria during the leadership of ousted former president Bashar Assad were “very efficient in the production of fissile material that could be directly used for the fabrication of nuclear weapons,” IAEA director general Rafael Grossi said.

“Of course, that was never declared, that was always denied, so, and again, intentions cannot be judged, but that was a very serious proliferation concern that we had, and this has been difficult work,” he told reporters on the first day of a regular meeting of the IAEA Board of Governors, in Vienna.

Syria was believed to have operated an extensive undeclared nuclear program under Assad that included a nuclear reactor built by North Korea in eastern Deir el-Zour province.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

King clarifies status of Prince Harry, Meghan

LONDON — King Charles III has reiterated that Prince Harry and his wife, Meghan, remain nonworking members of the royal family following their return to the United Kingdom.

A letter sent on behalf of the king to senior government officials said the couple will continue to refrain from using their royal titles as they have done since stepping back from official royal duties in 2020. Any charity work the couple undertakes will be carried out in a private capacity, and operational security decisions are matters for the relevant police agencies, the letter adds.

The letter was sent by the Lord Chamberlain, the most senior official in the royal household, to senior officials in the government and military.

While the communication simply confirms that Harry and Meghan’s status remains unchanged, the decision to send the letter and release it publicly demonstrates the concern among some that the couple’s status could allow them to become a sort of parallel royal court, competing with working members of the royal family.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Serbs gather to mourn ‘Butcher of Bosnia’

Thousands of mourners gathered in Belgrade, the capital of Serbia, on Monday for the funeral of Ratko Mladic, bowing their heads in respect before the coffin of the former Bosnian Serb general and convicted war criminal known as the “Butcher of Bosnia.”

Serbia’s strongman president, Aleksandar Vucic, a onetime champion of Mladic, who died Aug. 27 in custody in The Hague, Netherlands, stayed away from what the government insisted was a private, rather than state, event.

But state-controlled television and media outlets close to Vucic hailed the former general as a hero, without mentioning his conviction by a Hague tribunal for genocide, crimes against humanity, and other offenses. After the service, soldiers in camouflage uniforms and helmets carried the coffin out of St. Luke the Apostle church to a cemetery.

Among those paying their respects at the church were Vucic’s son, Danilo; several ministers; and Aleksandar Vulin, a longtime ally of the president and former senior official.

NEW YORK TIMES

‘Peace express’ to Ukraine likely to face detours

Trump envoys say ending war a ‘hard problem’

By **Cassandra Vinograd and Andrew E. Kramer**
NEW YORK TIMES

KYIV — The Americans arrived on a train that the Ukrainians called the “peace express.”

NEWS ANALYSIS Yet nothing about the process of ending the war with Russia has been fast or direct, and there is no sign that will change anytime soon.

US envoys Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner went to Ukraine Sunday fresh off a trip to Moscow bearing what President Trump said was a proposal to end nearly five years of war.

But the Trump administration itself, consumed by its war with Iran, had allowed the peace process to enter such a deep freeze that the trip was just a preliminary step — talks about how to resume talks. And President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine said it appeared that the war would continue at least into what analysts say could be a devastating winter for the country.

“It’s a very, very hard problem, but we’re going to try,” Kushner said of negotiations to end the war. “And I think if we can achieve that, it’d be an incredible thing. That doesn’t mean we will achieve it, but it’s very important to try.”

Kushner said “new ideas” were presented to Zelensky in a series of discussions Sunday. He gave no details and also declined

to give a timeline for reaching any potential settlement.

The Ukrainian leader offered little more detail about the talks with the Americans. “All the possibilities” for resuming negotiations were discussed, he said at a news conference after the meetings, as were “several genuinely new ideas.”

When pressed on when further talks would be held, the responses from Witkoff, Kushner, and Zelensky seemed to follow a pattern: “Soon” or “hopefully soon.”

Ukrainian officials had been saying before the Americans arrived that they expected negotiations to resume in earnest later this month, after Russian parliamentary elections but before the US midterms.

Those talks, if they happen, would be held alongside an escalation in the air war between Moscow and Kyiv, and a Russian push to accelerate its slow territorial gains in the Donbas region of eastern Ukraine. The war, analysts say, is likely to get only uglier in the months to come, as Russia seeks a knockout winter-time blow against Ukraine and the two sides try to gain the upper hand in eventual settlement negotiations.

While it remains to be seen if peace negotiations can be revived after a six-month lull, the visit by Witkoff and Kushner was meaningful for Ukraine because it finally brought the two Americans out of a Moscow bubble.

The envoys’ visit to Kyiv, which ended late Sunday, was their first after several trips to Russia. It gave the Ukrainians the chance to show, and not just tell, as they try to make their



US Special Envoy Steve Witkoff (left) and Jared Kushner held talks with Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelensky before they boarded a train out of Kyiv on Sunday.

case and ensure that the Trump administration does not revert to clearly favoring Russia in talks, as it did earlier in the process.

The Ukrainians started serving up symbolism before the en-

voys even reached Kyiv. A refined meal was laid out on the train ride for Witkoff, a known gourmand, and Kushner. It included a selection of Crimean Tatar dishes, highlighting Ukraine’s ties to the peninsula

that Russia illegally annexed more than a decade ago.

Upon arrival, Zelensky greeted the envoys on the landmark Sophia Square, whose display of tributes to fallen soldiers is impossible to ignore, then brought

them into a historic cathedral, a symbol of Ukrainian national identity.

Zelensky’s negotiator later wore a joke T-shirt emblazoned with the words “Kyiv Regime” — poking fun at the sneering term used by President Vladimir Putin of Russia to refer to Ukraine’s government.

Zelensky offered jokes, too, in telling Witkoff and Kushner to “come more often,” since the Kremlin agreed to temporarily halt during their trip what have been especially intense all-day strikes on Kyiv.

For many Ukrainians, that was the best and only anticipated result, at least in the near term.

“Thank you, dear Steve, and thank you, dear Jared, for giving us this afternoon without air-raid alerts,” a Kyiv tour guide, Dmytro Soloviov, said with a touch of sarcasm while leading a walking tour of the city’s architecture.

Yana Vilimetova, a procurement manager, said Ukrainians would use the brief respite to recharge a little. It felt like Groundhog Day to many — another flurry initiated by the Americans, with little expectation of any change in Putin’s determination to continue fighting.

“We’ll just sleep for three days without strikes, reset our mental health during these days, and that’s it,” Vilimetova said.

While no one expects a lasting cease-fire anytime soon, a placard on the dining car table in the US envoys’ train offered a hopeful thought.

“Peace,” it read, “arrives on time.”

Trade war shaping fight for Congress

Colo. farmers struggle with Trump’s tariffs

By **Carl Hulse**
NEW YORK TIMES

PUEBLO, Colo. — Colorado’s annual state fair in historic Pueblo is a celebration of the state’s deep farming and ranching roots and agriculture’s significant contribution to the state economy, a reality sometimes lost in the public focus on the region’s stunning mountain vistas, adventurous outdoor sports, and glitzy ski towns.

This year, the party was a bit muted.

Colorado’s farmers and ranchers are struggling against factors beyond their control, with higher costs for fuel and fertilizer resulting from President Trump’s decision to wage a trade war featuring steep tariffs and an actual war against Iran. In a bid to lower meat prices last month, the president also agreed to allow cheaper beef imports to compete with domestic cattle producers who were finally turning the corner after difficult years.

“For the first time, our cow-calf producers are making a living and being able to sell their calves at a reasonable price,” said Erin Spaur, the executive vice president of the Colorado Cattle-men’s Association, as youngsters showed off their prize hogs in the fair’s livestock exhibition hall. “We believe in fair trade, but we don’t believe this is the best avenue forward,” she said of the administration’s move to temporarily lift duties on beef.

The economic anxieties of these generally conservative Coloradans — as well as voters in similar communities throughout the country buffeted by Trump’s whipsawing trade decisions — are one reason Democrats are hopeful about their chances of winning control of Congress in November. The party is optimistic about picking up at least one seat in Colorado, and potentially more as the president’s popularity sinks.

Two House Republicans fighting to hold onto their jobs have responded with divergent strategies — one stressing his op-



Representative Jeff Hurd of Colorado, a Republican, has leaned into his differences with President Trump.

position to Trump’s moves and the other hugging him tightly — in a state where the president has grown more unpopular.

In the state’s Third Congressional District, which sprawls across almost its entire western half, Representative Jeff Hurd, a first-term Republican, has leaned into his differences with Trump. This year, the president unendorsed and then reendorsed Hurd, who broke with him and voted in February to end his tariffs on Canada.

“I value the relationship that I have with the president, with the administration, and I support his goals,” Hurd said during an interview after a fair luncheon recognizing families that have owned their ranches for at least a century. “But at the end of the day, Congress has a role under Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution,” he added, referring to the portion that gives the legislative branch power to regulate trade, “and also, I have a duty to serve the people that elected me.”

In the more competitive Eighth District immediately north of Denver, with its mix of economically pressed blue-collar workers and ranchers, Representative Gabe Evans, another first-term Republican, has instead emphasized his allegiance to the president. He has been a reliable supporter of Trump’s tariff policy and blames Democrats, including his state’s governor, Jared Polis, for regulatory restrictions he argues have pushed up fuel prices and contributed to high costs.

“There are national drivers, but here in the state of Colorado, the state has declared war on oil and gas,” Evans said as he accepted an endorsement from the US Chamber of Commerce at a Mexican restaurant on his district’s border with Denver. “People know that Jared Polis and his Democrats have wrecked this state. They have uniquely

wrecked my district, which is based on oil, gas, and ag.”

It is a high-stakes strategy in a state where Trump has grown unpopular after targeting Colorado for its resistance to some of his policies, as well as the jailing of a former county elections official and 2020 election denier before Polis reduced her sentence under White House pressure. Tariff and trade issues could be decisive not just here in the Rocky Mountains, but also in marquee contests for the Senate in Maine, Michigan, Alaska, New Hampshire, and Ohio, as well as competitive House races across the Midwest.

Underscoring the potential for conservative backlash, Senator Mike Rounds, Republican of South Dakota, said ranchers feel like Trump “pulled the rug right out from underneath” them. “They’re hurt. I mean, they feel like they’ve been let down,” Rounds told reporters at the Capitol last week.

In Colorado, Evans is being challenged by Manny Rutinel, a 31-year-old state representative who emphasizes his family’s economic struggles as he was growing up — noting that he used to sell his blood plasma to help pay the bills.

As he mingled with supporters at the popular Tacos Los Viejones Mexican street food stand across from a gas station that showed diesel selling at nearly \$5.50 a gallon, Rutinel said Evans’s constituents deserved a change given Evans’s support of White House policies making their lives unaffordable.

“Tariffs are the reason why our grocery prices are soaring at the moment, and they are also at the same time kicking the teeth of our farmers and ranchers and putting their livelihoods at risk,” Rutinel said. “And Gabe Evans has been in lock step with Donald Trump in enabling these policies that are making life impossible in America.”

Records detail bad air quality

Suggest New Yorkers were misled after 9/11

By **Sally Goldenberg and Nina Agrawal**
NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK — In the harrowing months that followed the attacks on the World Trade Center, New Yorkers were repeatedly assured that the air around the fallen towers was safe to breathe.

But 10 months later, health officials were still finding evidence of asbestos as far as half a mile away, according to a sample of air quality records being released Tuesday.

The documents, reviewed by The New York Times in advance of their release, include more than 170,000 pages of air quality reports, contamination records, and correspondence among city officials that were stored in 68 boxes in a city office, shielded from public view for more than two decades, and, according to city officials, discovered only last year.

Mayor Zohran Mamdani has directed his administration to release the records to the public through an online portal, timing it to the commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the attacks in lower Manhattan.

Over the course of the next year, his administration intends to review, redact, and publicize many more papers, found in municipal and insurance offices, that relate to the environmental toxins brought about by Sept. 11.

The records being released Tuesday provide a snapshot of the frenzied months following the attacks, when New York City and its leaders were struggling to balance the city’s recovery with fears of terrorism and lingering toxins.

The documents are limited in scope, offering only a fraction of the air quality reports taken around ground zero. And while they also include a smattering of internal memos — including the so-called Harding memo, in which the city discussed its potential liability stemming from the Sept. 11 air quality — many more are presumably absent.

But even in a scattershot way, the records seem to strengthen the notion that New Yorkers were instructed to return to the ground zero area before it was safe to do so, potentially exposing workers and residents to dangerous toxins.

“The very least our city owes the families, survivors and first responders whose lives were forever changed by the horrific terror attack of Sept. 11 is transparency and accountability,” Mamdani said in a statement.

Releasing the documents was both a massive logistical hurdle, for which the mayor budgeted \$34 million, and an acknowledgment that, even after so many years, as fewer Americans remember the attacks, the health effects persist. More people are believed to have died from illnesses related to the attacks than the nearly 3,000 people who were killed Sept. 11. They are succumbing to lung and blood cancers and heart and respiratory diseases.

Records related to 15 John St., a building less than a mile from the World Trade Center, offer a glimpse into the prolonged, frenzied, and often confusing cleanup work that took place around ground zero.

On July 13, 2002, with New Yorkers still reeling from the attacks on the World Trade Center that blanketed lower Manhattan in debris, inspectors were busy collecting dust samples from the building.

Each report echoed the last: Asbestos present on the facade ledge. Asbestos present on the west side roof. Asbestos present on the top electrical cable.

Some reports show that asbestos levels appeared to stay under limits set by environmental and worker protection agencies; others indicate they may have been too high, though many of the papers are not accompanied by written analysis.

The documents show that the asbestos found at 15 John St. was not an outlier: Lists of environmental quality measurements taken by city agencies, the Environmental Protection Agency, and privately contracted laboratories demonstrate the presence of asbestos and other contaminants, sometimes at levels exceeding acceptable limits, in dust and air in other parts of lower Manhattan after Sept. 11.

They include records preserved by the Giuliani administration, as well as documents related to 7 World Trade Center, which collapsed on the afternoon of Sept. 11.

A letter to the city’s Department of Environmental Protection from a New Yorker in February 2002 underscores how isolated and frightened people felt at that time.

A resident of 333 Rector

Place detailed what she viewed as extensive missteps by city officials and her building’s property manager in attempting to remove asbestos and other contaminants from the premises.

“Sept. 11, 2001. Felt I had to do something,” the resident, Marisa Ramírez de Arellano, wrote, describing how she had “scooped up dust from coffee table into a paper bag. Also started to clean the floor with wet paper towels,” an effort she acknowledged was “mostly futile.”

Reached Monday, Ramírez de Arellano, 80, said she had spent several years after the attacks under the care of an allergist and a pulmonologist. She was prescribed steroids and other medications because respiratory tests led doctors to fear she had suffered lung damage, she said.

She said she spent several hours in her apartment Sept. 11 because she “didn’t realize that very lightweight dust that was coming in was as bad for human beings as it turned out to be.” She left the apartment when firefighters came to evacuate her.

By the time she returned several weeks later, officials said the air was safe to breathe, but she had doubts, especially one night when a hazmat team came to dig up the grass from a small roundabout in the neighborhood.

“They dug several inches down and took it all away and replaced it with new dirt, new sod, new grass,” Ramírez de Arellano said. “And I thought, if they were thinking the grass is contaminated, then what are we all breathing?”

A draft document of data collected by the city’s DEP listed locations throughout lower Manhattan where asbestos levels in some dust samples exceeded hazardous limits in the days immediately after the attacks. Another undated document lists ambient samples that were also above acceptable asbestos limits.

An audit from November 2001, prepared by a private firm and submitted to the federal EPA based on data collected by New York City and state agencies, showed other troubling findings. That audit demonstrated that air concentration of the carcinogen benzene was still spiking near the towers’ footprint, and that the concentration of asbestos in the air at the Fresh Kills landfill on Staten Island had increased after the attacks.

Trump basks in D.C. makeover

Projects in full swing as Iran war grinds on

By Luke Broadwater and Maggie Haberman
NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — Howard Lutnick, President Trump's billionaire commerce secretary, was holding court before reporters outside a Washington courthouse recently when he acknowledged what had become readily apparent inside the White House.

As the war with Iran grinds on, Trump finds reprieve by focusing on the minutia of an endeavor much more within his grasp: renovating Washington with ornate projects.

“He loves to build,” Lutnick said, shortly before an emergency hearing about Trump’s desire to rename the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in his own honor. Lutnick added: “This is what he enjoys. So late at night, 11 o’clock at night, he calls me and wants to talk about things he’s building, because it’s fun for him.”

“If you sat with him, would you have a nice chat with him? No, you’d ask him about Iran, then you’d ask him about this, then you’d ask him about that,” he noted. “Everybody does that. And the one thing he likes to do during the week is construction.”

As the United States appears mired in another intractable conflict in the Middle East, Trump has basked in the momentum he has on the half-dozen makeover projects he has set in motion throughout the capital.

The Supreme Court gave him a green light to race forward with construction of the White House ballroom. The administration said it planned to start excavation work for a 250-foot-tall triumphal arch near Arlington National Cemetery even before a federal review panel had approved the project. The Kennedy Center board, stocked with the president’s loyalists, voted to add Trump’s name below the main sign on the building, and abruptly removed a large outdoor sculpture, “Blue,” from the



MARK SCHIEFELBEIN/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Workers removed the sculpture “Blue” by artist Joel Shapiro on the grounds of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., on Wednesday.

grounds.

Trump’s primary background is not in government or finance, but in construction and real estate. In New York City, he often lamented the never-ending series of zoning regulations, permits, and community-level approvals needed to get projects built.

Making changes to a project there requires hours of sitting in community meetings listening to complaints from residents, and getting sign-off from city officials. But in his second term as president, he said, he realized he could barrel over many of those impediments. He stocked review panels with White House appointees. Court challenges have failed to keep pace with the administration’s rapid construction. He can finally just have fun.

“You’re the president of the United States. You can do anything you want,” Trump has said he has been told.

In a statement, a White House spokesperson, Davis Ingle, said, “President Trump can walk and chew gum at the same time. As a result, the Trump Administration continues to deliver on the president’s campaign promises.”

Trump’s breakneck makeover efforts in Washington have illustrated the administration’s willingness to sidestep laws and intimidate critics.

Trump abruptly tore down the White House’s historic East Wing without seeking approval from Congress, after saying that the ballroom would be next to the older structure but would not touch it. He constructed an imposing White House helipad also without going through any review process. And the administration has announced that it is moving ahead with his giant arch before the review process is complete.

Trump’s remaking of the Reflecting Pool near the Lincoln Memorial began as another such adventure in speed, with the president telling people he brought in his “pool guy” to fix leaks and damage to the decades-old site. Instead, it became a symbol of dysfunction, as the new coating peeled. The president blamed “vandals,” without providing evidence.

The tab for the various construction projects that Trump has launched come with a potential cost of as much as \$1 billion, much of it at taxpayer expense. Nearly two-thirds of Americans have a negative view of his three main projects, according to a Washington Post/Ipsos poll taken in July.

In a White House where one meeting often rolls into another, Trump’s visits with old friends or administration officials have invariably collided with his many planning sessions for his beautification and building projects, from the remodeling of a golf course along the Potomac River to what some have referred to as the “Arc de Trump.”

He is at his most animated, White House aides and visitors say, when showing off designs for the ballroom, boasting about the size of the columns and their designs, or taking officials on tours to show off where he has gilded the interiors. His personal touch has been quite literal: He has used super glue to affix gold pieces onto the walls and the Oval Office mantel, among other places.

Other presidents have had monuments built in their honor by future generations. There is no tradition in the United States of presidents naming buildings for themselves. Trump does not appear to expect anything like that will happen unless he builds the structures himself.

“Nobody will do it once I’m gone,” he recently told New York Magazine. “When I leave here, nobody will.”

Crypto scammers head to court over \$240m theft

Comes amid a rise in cybercrime complaints

By Michael Kunzelman
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — They pulled off one of the largest cryptocurrency thefts in US history, duping a stranger out of bitcoin worth more than \$240 million. They tried to hide their digital fingerprints, carrying out a sophisticated scheme to launder the proceeds.

And then the party started. The scammers — a network of young men in their late teens or early 20s — celebrated the August 2024 heist by embarking on a wild spending spree. They purchased fleets of sports cars, flew on private jets, hired security guards, and rented mansions in Miami and the Hamptons. An alleged ringleader, 22-year-old Malone Lam, spent more than \$569,000 in one evening at a Los Angeles night club.

Their bender lasted a month before FBI agents arrested Lam on charges that he organized a “social engineering” attack on the Washington, D.C., resident. Lam, an eighth-grade dropout from Singapore, has a plea agreement hearing set for Tuesday. His conviction would be a capstone for the government’s investigation.

The charges against Lam and 17 others are an extreme example of an increasingly common form of cybercrime. Complaints of cryptocurrency investment fraud to the FBI rose by nearly 50 percent in 2025, while Republican President Trump’s administration largely abandoned a regulatory crackdown on the volatile industry.

Last year, the Justice Department disbanded a unit dedicated to prosecuting crypto-related crimes. Meanwhile, crypto companies that complained of unfair treatment during Joe Biden’s presidency are enjoying the government’s hands-off approach under Trump, who took in roughly \$1.2 billion from his crypto businesses in 2025.

Cybersecurity researcher Allison Nixon, who has spent years tracking The Com, a subculture of young hackers united by the “insane amount of money” crypto fraud can generate, advocates for more law enforcement resources to go after them.

“If we don’t seriously ramp up the resources to take these people down and do it faster, then it’s going to spread more and more,” she said.

A man identified as “Victim 7” in court filings was at home in Washington on Aug. 18, 2024, when his phone rang. The first caller claimed to be a Google representative inquiring about attempts to breach his account. A second, claiming to be from the Gemini crypto exchange, warned the man of a malware attack affecting his crypto wallet.

The callers manipulated the man into giving them access to his Google Drive and revealing security codes that allowed Lam to siphon off more than 4,100 bitcoin, according to prosecutors.

Once they swiped the man’s savings, they used money laundering specialists to wash it through multiple exchange platforms and convert virtual currency into government-issued cash.

It wasn’t the first social engineering scam for the friends. They had teamed up on other multimillion-dollar thefts since late 2023 using a similar playbook, according to prosecutors.

Eighteen defendants have been charged. Lam would be the 11th to plead guilty. At Lam’s first court appearance, a prosecutor estimated that his sentencing guidelines would recommend a prison term of at least 14 years upon conviction.

US District Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly, who presides over Lam’s case, already has sentenced three of his co-conspirators. She sentenced two money launderers to prison terms of approximately six years.

Trump floats renaming New Mexico as ‘New America’

President Trump appeared to suggest over the weekend that New Mexico should be renamed “New America,” prompting swift backlash from the state’s Democratic leaders over his latest effort to put an American stamp on geographic names.

On social media, Trump on Sunday shared an image of a map of New Mexico with the word “Mexico” crossed out with a red X and replaced with “America.” The White House re-shared the image shortly after on its official X account.

The president posted again several hours later, with what appeared to be an artificial intelligence video of him placing a label with the word “America” over “Mexico” on a “Welcome to New Mexico” road sign.

Trump has no legal authority to rename any state, which in New Mexico’s case is written into its Constitution. Any proposed change would have to originate within the state, a prospect that New Mexico’s Democratic leaders rejected forcefully Sunday.

“New Mexico’s name isn’t up for debate — it’s been ours since before the United States existed,” Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham wrote on social media.

Representative Melanie Stansbury was more blunt: “Oh hell no!” she wrote on X, adding, “Our state’s name carries generations of history, culture, and family — and it belongs to us.”

The origins of New Mexico’s name predate the founding of the United States. In the 16th century, Mexicans called the territory north and west of the Rio Grande “New Mexico,” according to the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

New Mexico’s two Democratic senators also pushed back on Trump’s post. “Three things I will always call by their actual names ...” Senator Martin Heinrich wrote on X, before listing the Gulf of Mexico, Lake Ontario, and New Mexico.



ELLEN SCHMIDT/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rebecca Cooke, Democratic candidate for Wisconsin’s Third District, at Monday’s Labor Day parade in Readstown, Wis.

On the day Trump returned to office last year, he signed an executive order directing the federal government to rename the Gulf of Mexico as the Gulf of America.

Last month, Trump signed another executive order to change the name of Lake Ontario to Lake America.

NEW YORK TIMES

Wis. Democrats aim for state Assembly and Senate control

MADISON, Wis. — Sixteen years ago, Republicans in Wisconsin rode a national wave of discontent to wrest control of the Legislature in Madison. Then they approved maps that locked in their power, even after Democrats took back nearly every statewide office.

This November, Democrats have a chance to do what seemed implausible a few short years ago: take control of the state Assembly and Senate while holding on to the governor’s mansion.

“I sincerely think this is the most important election that Wisconsin has ever seen,” said Dianne Hesselbein, the Democratic minority leader in the state Senate.

That is a well-worn, election-year trope but one the Democrats in Wisconsin may well believe. With a trifecta, Democrats would pivot away from a rightward shift defined by tax cuts, neutered labor unions, and voter restrictions. It would also empower them to redraw a congressional map for 2028 to counter Republican gerrymandering

threats throughout the South.

The reversal of fortune comes courtesy of a 2023 ruling by Wisconsin’s newly liberal state Supreme Court, which concluded that the Republicans’ legislative maps were unconstitutional and forced their replacement. In 2018, for instance, Democratic Assembly candidates won 53 percent of the vote across the state, but claimed only 36 of 99 seats.

Those maps made Wisconsin a case study in undemocratic gerrymandering. But after Republicans begrudgingly accepted maps proposed by Governor Tony Evers, a Democrat, resurgent Democrats parlayed intense field organizing into big gains in 2024 — leaving them two seats shy of a state Senate

majority, and five in the House.

Now, after democratic socialist candidate Francesca Hong was defeated last month in the Democratic primary for governor, Democrats believe they can finish the job.

NEW YORK TIMES

For Cohen, a tortured path from ‘rat’ to reconciliation

WASHINGTON — On a radio show last month, President Trump welcomed Michael Cohen, the former fixer he once denounced as a “rat” for testifying against him, back into the fold. “I respect the fact that you recanted everything you said,” Trump said. He went on to use the word “recant” three more times.

In case anyone missed it, the

president posted a message on social media Friday claiming that Cohen, a key witness against Trump in criminal and civil trials, “has just fully RE-CANTED his testimony.” Trump demanded “that any remnant of those Politically Weaponized Cases against me be immediately terminated and dismissed.”

Except that Cohen has not, in fact, recanted his testimony.

In his eagerness to return to the president’s good graces, Cohen now says he “felt pressured and coerced” by prosecutors to testify. But he has not actually disavowed anything that he swore to under oath about Trump’s hush money scheme to cover up an affair with an adult film actor or about his former boss’s efforts to defraud his lenders.

And so this unlikeliest of rapprochements between two men who helped get each other convicted of crimes is built not on an emotional outpouring of forgiveness but on what looks like a pretty straightforward bargain.

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Cellphone ban bill remains stuck on Beacon Hill

►CELLPHONES
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in 2024.

Other districts, including Brockton, Fall River, Methuen, and Ipswich, have similar rules in place.

The pending measure, which follows similar bans on cellphones in more than a dozen other states, would require every public school and district to have a policy on limiting cellphones and other devices, such as tablets and smart watches, on school grounds.

Nolin said implementing the ban in just one of her district's middle schools cost \$80,000, mainly to purchase small pouches to store students' phones — money that had to be approved in the district's budget the year before.

The proposed statewide language doesn't include a dedicated funding stream, which raised concerns with Nolin about how schools across Massachusetts would comply should the change go into effect in the middle of the school year.

"It's not realistic that a mid-year vote is going to be implemented within the school year," she said. "It's not like schools are going to be able to just find this funding. ... While this is well-intentioned, it's a difficult execution."

The bill's language originally required school districts to introduce policies by Sept. 1, but that date came and went after lawmakers largely drifted from Beacon Hill for their typical August recess.

Many in the Legislature then spent last Tuesday running for reelection in the statewide pri-

mary.

Under the Legislature's new rules, legislators can pick up the conversation around major bills each chamber passed and work out the differences at their leisure through the summer and fall, and into the winter.

Talks around the cellphone bill are complicated, but House lawmakers also tied the measure to an even thornier one intended to limit teens' social media use. The House version would also ban children under 14 from using it entirely.

The Senate, meanwhile, passed the bills separately. Senators voted to ban cellphones in schools more than a year ago before passing legislation this summer that would require social media platforms to put restrictions on minors' use of their "most addictive" features, but stopped short of the sweeping

ANNA NOLIN,
Newton superintendent



DAVID L. RYAN/GLOBE STAFF

Malden's Salemwood School started classes last week. State school districts face a challenge to fund a proposed ban on cellphone use in school, once the bill gets through Beacon Hill.

ban the House sought.

"We recognize the sense of urgency of the issue," said state Senator Brendan Crighton, who is part of the team negotiating the cellphone ban bill. He said lawmakers plan to "create reasonable timelines" for school districts to comply.

"With the school year starting, we need to be thoughtful," he said. "We don't want to do anything that forces communities to rush throughout the process."

Supporters of the ban said curbing cellphone use for children and teens is needed to combat bullying and that cutting

down on screen time allows them to spend more time developing relationships and a sense of community.

The idea has the backing of Governor Maura Healey, Attorney General Andrea Campbell, and the state's two largest teachers' unions.

A 2025 poll conducted by Boston-based nonprofit The MassINC Polling Group found 66 percent of parents said they would either "somewhat" or "strongly" support a state ban on cellphones and smartwatches during the school day.

Jay Kaufman, a former state representative, said the fact that

even a popular idea has been put off for months points to the Legislature's lethargy in getting things done on time.

"The word urgency does not exist in the Legislature's vocabulary," said Kaufman, who now serves on the steering committee of the Coalition to Reform Our Legislature.

"There are so many black holes that legislators can send bills to. It's a shame that conference committees have been one of them."

Priya Tahiliani, the superintendent in Brockton, said banning cellphones two years ago has been "a game-changer."

"When they are walking in the halls, eyes are up," she said. "It changes the entire vibe."

But Tahiliani said that it took lots of time and care to get buy-in from parents, train staff, and acquire the magnetic pouches that lock up phones during the day.

"There needs to be a funding stream," she said of the legislation. "But unfortunately, schools are familiar with unfunded mandates."

For now, school districts must wait and see.

To be sure, the cellphone bill isn't the only legislation sitting in limbo.

The Legislature is staring down a pile of unfinished work after wrapping its final scheduled formal sessions on July 31, including legislation to address high energy costs and a bill to make "critical investments" in primary health care.

Other legislation locked up in talks includes measures that would apply the state's public records law to the governor's office, a sweeping economic development package, and a data privacy proposal.

Earlier this summer, Senate President Karen Spilka said the extended deadline under the new rules "just gives us a little more time" on all the legislation.

"It's more important to get it right and not just to do it to say that we do it," she told the State House News Service in July. "I believe we need to do these bills, and I know we will."

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When the 'transportation' part is missing from the MBTA

►MBTA
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Can you be a world-class city when getting to work means relying on a slow, uneven transportation system that has years of rolling shutdowns? Can you truly offer a green alternative to driving — despite what Massachusetts leaders might hope — when your public transit system is so poor?

Let's be honest. In this state, most people who worry about global warming still commute in their SUVs.

On a Saturday in August, my mom boarded the Green Line to meet me. Because it was closed down for nine days from North Station to Kenmore, a trip that would have taken 24 minutes involved both a train and a shuttle and took 90 minutes.

You'd be crazy to take public transportation in that situation, unless you have to. But my mom gave up driving years ago and mostly tries to take the T.

Of course, you might argue that you have to endure some pain during a temporary shutdown. But at least it's temporary!

I wish.

The Green Line had a partial shutdown Aug. 8 to 16.

It will also be shutting down Sept. 19 and 20.

And Sept. 26 to Oct. 4.

Earlier in the year, there was a partial shutdown from April 22 to 30.

And another one from May 30 to June 5. (And that's just the Green Line. The other lines have had their own issues.)

The T website cautions that "Riders using shuttle bus service should budget ample extra travel time." But who can possibly plan for commutes that are sometimes double what they should be? What are you supposed to do with your children, if you have to leave home far earlier than normal and get home far later than expected?

As the Globe recently found, parts of the Green Line had been shut for nearly 80 days by Aug. 30. Who can rely on public transit, if they can't get to work a quarter of the time?

It gets worse. Imagine if your commute touches two lines, which have different shutdown weeks.

Unfortunately, I don't have to imagine. My husband, Zhe, often takes the Green Line to the Red Line, and he's generally so angry about the T, it's a bad idea to broach the subject.

During the shutdowns, he has spent \$500 on Ubers in a



FINN GOMEZ FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE FILE

Commuters waited for a Green Line train at Park Street Station in Boston earlier this year. Parts of the Green Line have been shut down for nearly 80 days by September. Below, workers repaired track on the Red Line in North Quincy in 2024.

single week, because he just can't lose three hours of his day to commuting on the T and still get any work done.

But it's more than shutdowns.

Even when the T is functioning — and I use the term advisedly — it's simply not equipped to serve a large, busy city. Frequently, at the Longwood stop, masses of people flow out of hospitals at 5 p.m. And you can see, up on the board, that the next train is 16 minutes away.

Everyone at the stop is screwed, and they know it. By the time the T arrives, the crowds waiting to get on will be three-people deep. Many folks won't be able to board. And nobody can get an Uber because dozens of people are trying to call them.

People who ride the T know that it's slow and often crowded. Two years after "the year of the shutdown," the Green Line runs more slowly than it did in January of 2023.

Guobiao Mei, who boards the Green Line in Newton and works in tech, said that when there are shutdowns, alternative transportation can be too annoying or time consuming. "Sometimes I try to work from



DAVID L. RYAN/GLOBE STAFF FILE

home," he said.

Overall, he believes "the T is doing OK," though he "would like more transparency about what's going on." After shutdowns, the improvements aren't apparent to him. Mei also wishes that guides were positioned at stations during closures.

He remembers once getting out at Park Street, finding no shuttle bus, and seeing only similarly confused riders.

The Red Line — while running faster than three years ago — generally experiences between two and five hours of delays each week, similar to the

weekly numbers from the fall of 2022. And if you're at a standstill — or "standing by," as they say on the T — it doesn't really matter how much faster the train *could* go.

Lots of people give up and drive. They stop caring about the T, because they don't feel

like it serves them. And I can't say that I blame them.

But how did we get here — to a place where rolling shutdowns and delayed trains fall particularly heavily on those who don't have cars or parking? How is there not an outcry in a state that values both government services and equality?

When the Globe reported on Aug. 15 that the MBTA will pay \$495,000 to a former employee whose hair was pulled by general manager Phil Eng, it felt like adding insult to injury. This is a dispute between two people, so why is it an expenditure of the MBTA? Doesn't the T have transportation-related items it could spend this money on?

What is most disappointing about the T is that it leaves us without a real choice. Either venture out on car-choked roads or use a public transit system that's out of commission or overburdened. It's a competitiveness issue, without question.

The view from T leadership, of course, is very different. Eng told me that he has made huge strides in his three-year tenure as general manager. "What we did in 14 months, eliminating every speed restriction, really got our head above water where the public felt the immediate benefit right away after each opening," he said.

He notes that he has grappled with decades of deferred maintenance. The MBTA, he said, is "really building a new system, a modern system." And what the public will see "over the next three, six months, year or [future] years, [is] that service has been reliable."

When will the shutdowns end, I asked him. Eng didn't answer directly. "I don't have an exact answer on how much more work needs to be done," he said. "But what we don't want to do is keep kicking it down the road to the point where all of a sudden we find a condition that we didn't touch, and now we're closing something."

The morning after I spoke to Eng, Zhe texted that there was a disabled train, and passengers were complaining about long delays. I asked Zhe how he would sum up his experience with the T. "It's an organization that does not value my time," he said.

Kara Miller is the host of the podcast It Turns Out. Send comments to kara.miller@globe.com.

MGB cuts Dana-Farber from its health plan

►HEALTH PLAN
Continued from Page A1

cer hospital in the country.

Dana-Farber is instead planning to build a cancer hospital with MGB's rival, Beth Israel Lahey Health. Mass General Brigham, meanwhile, plans to invest \$400 million in its own cancer institute as the Dana-Farber partnership ends in 2028.

But Clingan and his wife can't help but suspect the exclusion of Dana-Farber from his insurance plan must be related to the breakup, given Dana-Farber's prominence in oncology.

"It only makes sense in terms of this war that is going on [between MGB and Dana-Farber]," Clingan said. "I feel like I'm collateral damage. ... For that matter, other cancer patients who are similarly situated, we're all collateral damage."

Currently, about 250 members of the MGB Medicare Advantage plan are actively going through cancer treatment, including radiation or chemotherapy, at Dana-Farber. They're among 1,000 members who had or are slated to have appointments with Dana-Farber this year, a Dana-Farber spokesperson said.

Jennifer St. Thomas, MGB Health Plan's senior vice president of commercial and Medicare markets, attributed the decision to the "challenging environment" in which Medicare Advantage plans contend that federal reimbursements are not keeping pace with rising care costs.

She said the choice was not related to "any discussions, agreements, or activities between" the two health systems.

An MGB spokesperson added that the organization's health insurance unit makes decisions separately from the health care provider side for "both legal and business reasons."

Regardless of motivation, the move will undoubtedly affect patients fighting cancer, said David E. Williams, president of Health



MELECK ELDAHSHOURY FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE

Carol and Eldon Clingan of Dedham read a letter saying their MGB Health Plan will no longer cover visits to Dana-Farber.

Business Group, a Boston management consulting firm.

"Why would you do that to patients?" Williams said. "If you're trying to be a good health plan, why would you go and say you suddenly can't have access to the top cancer center in Boston?"

The decision "fits the pattern of MGB trying to win all the cancer business that they can," he said.

A Dana-Farber spokesperson said this is the first time in memory that a health insurer has removed Dana-Farber from its network.

The network change begins Oct. 1, although patients can maintain in-network coverage of Dana-Farber providers for 90 days or through the end of their

treatment plans, which could extend beyond the start of the year for people undergoing chemotherapy, radiation, cell therapy, or participating in a clinical trial, according to a letter sent to MGB Health Plan Medicare Advantage members.

In another letter to patients, Dana-Farber offered access to financial counselors as well as a list of alternative insurance options, including Medicare Advantage plans that include the cancer institute as an in-network provider.

"Dana-Farber's primary concern is continuity of care for our patients," a Dana-Farber spokesperson said in a statement.

Meanwhile, MGB Health Plan directed its members to other cancer care providers still

in its Medicare Advantage network, including Mass General Brigham Cancer Institute, UMass Memorial Health, and Southcoast Health.

Unlike other health systems in the state that treat cancer, Dana-Farber holds a special designation with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, or CMS, that recognizes the cancer institute's particularly complex patient population and the expensive, highly specialized care required to treat them.

As a result, such specially designated hospitals — of which there are only 11 nationwide — are given higher reimbursements by Medicare.

Medicare Advantage plans, which are an alternative to original Medicare coverage and are

administered by private insurers, have the ability to negotiate lower rates with hospitals, although both parties would have to agree to that pay cut.

Those plans can also limit which providers are covered, an increasingly common trend known as "narrow networks." It's one of "a limited number of ways" the private insurers administering the plans can make money, Williams said, since they have to adhere to other strict federal requirements.

"Because some hospitals are a lot more expensive than others, if [insurers adjust their networks], then they can really make a material difference to their own costs, which they can then use for offering richer benefits or lower premiums," Williams said.

After years of closures, Roxbury gets new, limited pharmacy

►CVS
Continued from Page A1

CVS isn't alone in experimenting with a smaller drugstore footprint. Walgreens has tried outlets that are about 20 to 25 percent of the size of their typical stores, said Neil Saunders, managing director at GlobalData Retail, a retail consulting agency.

At the same time, drugstores' basic retail business has weakened, Saunders said. Dollar stores have eroded their convenience advantage, while Amazon and Walmart have made it easier to have goods delivered. Meanwhile, drugstores often charge more than Target and Walmart for the same everyday items.

Pharmacy chains "have kind of have lost the battle on retail," said Saunders. "They don't really want to do that on pharmacy."

In Roxbury, CVS tried a new path: bringing back the pharmacy without the drugstore. It's one of roughly 20 such concepts that CVS plans to roll out in cities nationwide. The Boston move triggered mixed feelings, with some arguing it represents an inequity.

Rahsaan D. Hall, president and CEO of The Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts, said CVS should be praised for returning a pharmacy to the community, but added the company was "creating a two-tier retail experience."

"Residents in one community can browse products, compare ingredients and prices, and purchase ordinary household necessities while residents in another community, made up of a completely different racial and socioeconomic demographic, cannot," said Hall. "That difference deserves a level of scrutiny."

The new format comes after a string of pharmacies, including Walgreens and CVS, have pulled out of the neighborhood over the last decade. In fact, the community lost five drugstores since 2017, with only one family-owned shop — Kornfield Pharmacy — left standing.

Renewed pharmacy access fills one major gap in Roxbury. But CVS isn't filling another: the loss of a local drugstore where residents can pick up toiletries,

food, and other everyday necessities. For a neighborhood that has lost pharmacies and drugstores, is it enough?

"I'm glad there's a new pharmacy here, but I wish they sold retail goods," said Alex DiMario, 38, who lives near the new store. "There's not enough real convenience stores in the neighborhood."

CVS, based in Rhode Island, calls this model a new answer to an old problem of how to put pharmacies back into communities where access has become increasingly challenging.

"People [have been] taking the bus to go pick up their prescriptions," said Siddharth "Sid" Tenneti, the senior vice president and interim president of CVS's pharmacy and consumer wellness division. "This is our attempt to be a health care answer to the community."

The first pharmacy-only CVS opened earlier this year on Chicago's West Side, a dense and diverse neighborhood. Others opened in Houston, Detroit, Birmingham, and Washington, D.C. CVS is also opening a dozen traditional stores and more than 30 pharmacies inside Target stores across the United States.

Chris Ribeiro, the founder of retail strategy firm Starlight Analytics, said this format signals a broader shift in the economics of retail drugstores, particularly in places with high rents.

"The question to ask is whether prescription revenue alone is enough to justify even these smaller footprints," Ribeiro said.

Michelle Fenstermaker, the executive strategy director of consulting firm Landor, is blunt about the industry's future: "The era of the monolithic, one-size-fits-all, 14,000-square-foot corner drugstore is officially over."

Rite Aid, which operated more than 5,000 stores at its peak, is now defunct after filing for bankruptcy twice. To survive, Walgreens has also closed underperforming stores, cut corporate positions, and invested in technology such as prescription-filling robots.

Walgreens's small-format stores, which the company began testing in 2019, mostly offer



PHOTOGRAPHS BY PAT GREENHOUSE/GLOBE STAFF

All items in CVS's Roxbury pharmacy are behind a barrier. Siddharth Tenneti (at left with pharmacist Marco Mares) says CVS is trying to "be a health care answer to the community."



Walgreens-branded health-related products. As of 2024, Walgreens had reportedly opened about 100 mini drugstores nationwide.

At the same time, pressure from competitors seems to be coming from everywhere: Club chains, such as Costco, have continued to grow and compete with drugstores' convenience-based demand for beauty and hygiene products, said Jeremy Bowman, a retail analyst for investment research company The Motley Fool. Online pharmacies, such as Amazon, GoodRx, and

Hims & Hers Health Inc., have also exploded, said Bowman.

The vast majority of Roxbury has long qualified as a pharmacy desert — meaning a poorer, urban area with low car-ownership rates, where the nearest pharmacy can be at least a half-mile away. In contrast, many white and wealthier residents in the Back Bay can walk to two or three pharmacies within a half mile.

The disparities extend beyond convenience. Pharmacy access is among the factors that health experts say can worsen

health disparities. The average life expectancy in Roxbury is 68, 23 years fewer than in the Back Bay. And the neighborhood has higher rates of chronic diseases.

At 3,000 square feet, the new CVS store is less than half the size of the company's urban stores in the area.

The format comes as CVS has restructured its portfolio in recent years: Coming out of COVID, the company closed 900 stores, while theft is one complication in "certain markets," CVS CEO David Joyner has said. Merchandise is often locked behind

liams said.

The cohort of patients affected by MGB Health Plan's decision is a small chunk of the entire plan's members. Medicare Advantage represents about 5 percent of more than 400,000 people insured by MGB Health Plan.

The insurer's MassHealth and commercial options will maintain access to Dana-Farber, MGB Health Plan said.

Dana-Farber has never been in-network for MGB's plans that serve people who qualify for both Medicare and Medicaid.

Still, the Medicare Advantage patients are inherently at higher risk for needing cancer treatment since they must be 65 or older to qualify for the insurance.

From 2019 to 2023, people ages 65 to 74 were diagnosed with cancer at more than three times the rate of people ages 40 to 64. That rate was even higher among people aged 75 and older.

Ever since the letter disclosing the change arrived at Clingan's home in Dedham, he has been racked with anxiety, knowing he might have to leave his beloved doctor, said his wife, Carol Clingan.

Clingan was first diagnosed with prostate cancer in 1999 and relapsed in 2003. His oncologist put him on a \$10,000-per-month drug, which Clingan expects to be on for the rest of his life, that keeps the cancer at bay.

Now, Clingan said he's left with a tough choice: Stay with MGB Health Plan, which he knows covers his expensive-but-life-sustaining medication, but lose access to a doctor he's trusted for 23 years; or find another insurance plan that includes Dana-Farber, but take on the risk it won't cover his treatment.

"It could bankrupt us if we can't get coverage for the medicine," Carol Clingan said. "Or he could stop taking the medicine. Well, guess what that would do?"

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glass to deter theft, a practice Joyner has acknowledged creates a "horrible customer experience."

For years, customers of CVS, and its competitors, have complained about having to wait for employees to unlock everything from toothpaste to deodorant. Some analysts have warned that the practice has undermined the convenience factor that's supposed to be the stores' selling point.

Joyner didn't want security guards in every store where there's a high theft rate, he said during a talk at the Boston College Chief Executives Club in June.

One solution, he said, was to roll out pharmacy-only stores like the one in Roxbury — "where we can still meet the clinical needs of the population, but not feel like you're constantly trying to deal with the safety of running a front store."

Councilor Miniard Culpepper, a longtime Roxbury pastor, said he disagrees with Joyner. When he protested against Walgreens closing in Roxbury, Culpepper presented data that showed theft wasn't as high as executives made it out to be.

"I challenge the CVS executive to cite the data that supports his statement," said Culpepper.

Hall said while he understands theft is an issue broadly, CVS's response to "the behavior of a small number of people should not be to punish an entire neighborhood by removing resources from everyone."

The new Roxbury store can order products for customers and deliver them to their homes free of charge.

Lauren Beitelspacher, a Babson College marketing professor, said she expects dollar stores to try to fill the in-person retail void.

"However, I do think that establishing yourself as a leader in the health care and wellness space in a neighborhood that doesn't have access is a way to really build up brand loyalty," Beitelspacher said.

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Editorial

Meta settlement shouldn’t stop Legislature from crafting youth social media protections

Meta, the parent company of Facebook and Instagram, will change its platforms to better protect teenagers from addictive social media behavior, under a legal settlement the tech company reached with 47 states, including Massachusetts, as well as Washington, D.C., and several US territories on Aug. 26.

But those positive steps shouldn’t stop Massachusetts’ Legislature from passing its own bill to protect young people from harmful social media features. Both the House and Senate have passed bills to regulate social media for minors, and a conference committee of lawmakers is currently negotiating a final version.

As Massachusetts Attorney General Andrea Campbell said at a press conference announcing the settlement, the protections established by the settlement are a “floor” but don’t prevent states from going further.

Ideally, Congress would regulate social media’s ability to target kids with addictive features, so tech companies aren’t faced with 50 sets of regulations in 50 states. The Meta settlement provides a template for legislation.

But if Congress doesn’t act, states shouldn’t use the settlement as a reason not to implement any additional protections that lawmakers feel are in the best interests of their young people.

Under the terms of the settlement, which was swiftly approved by a judge, Meta will pay the states approximately \$12.7 billion over 10 years. If YouTube and TikTok, which are also facing litigation over allegedly harmful practices targeting youth, agree to join the settlement and impose similar restrictions on their platforms, rather than face the uncertainty of a trial, Meta will pay an additional \$5.3 billion — reflecting the fact that Me-

ta would be at a competitive disadvantage if the other platforms don’t join. Massachusetts expects to get \$366 million, plus another \$150 million if YouTube and TikTok settle.

Under the settlement, children under 13 will not be allowed to use Facebook or Instagram. Users ages 13 to 18 will only be allowed to use Meta apps for two hours a day, unless a parent removes that limit. Apps will be blocked between midnight and 6 a.m. and notifications will be muted during school hours, unless a parent removes those restrictions. Teenagers will be given an option to opt out of addictive features, including personalized algorithmic feeds and autoplay. Meta will block filters that mimic cosmetic surgery and disable, by default, options that count “likes” or otherwise quantify reactions to users’ posts. The settlement restricts adults who a teen has not connected with from contacting a minor or viewing a minor’s account.

The settlement is an important one, in no small part because it got Meta to agree to restrictions which, if they were imposed by law, Meta would probably challenge in court. For example, laws blocking specific filters or imposing time limits on usage could be challenged as limiting Meta’s free speech rights.

But the settlement also has its limits — and that’s where the Legislature should step in. The most glaring omission is it only applies to Meta and, potentially, YouTube and TikTok. Passing legislation with similar restrictions would ensure the same terms apply to all social media companies — those that exist today and any future platforms. Legislation would also make protections permanent, while the settlement imposes most terms for 10 years.

In addition, lawmakers may choose to impose

additional restrictions. For example, the House and Senate bills would each prohibit social media platforms from providing addictive features — including autoplay, infinite scroll, and algorithm-driven feeds — to at least some teenagers (the age limits differ in each bill). The settlement will only give teens an option to opt out, and it doesn’t restrict infinite scroll. Lawmakers could also consider imposing stricter age or time limits — for example, the House bill would prohibit users under 14 rather than 13.

Another important question for Campbell and the Legislature will be how to best spend the money. The settlement contains a list of potential uses aimed at addressing the harms posed by social media, including expanding mental health crisis hotlines; funding after-school programs, summer programs, or outdoor activities; implementing phone-free school zones; teaching students about digital literacy; and training medical providers on media use and body image. Campbell said some money will also go to the state’s general fund.

If lawmakers ban in-school cellphone use, which this board supports, there will be a need for money to help schools implement these policies — for example, purchasing phone storage pouches. But lawmakers should also think more broadly about ideas like expanding training for mental health clinicians on social media addiction or implementing digital literacy curricula in schools.

Used correctly, social media can provide a valuable tool for young people to connect with friends, create community, and find support. But when misused, social media can hurt young people’s mental health. Restricting addictive features and imposing time limits are important steps toward limiting social media’s potential for harm.

Emergency room waits are too long. Here’s how Massachusetts can fix it.

By Jonathan Olshaker and Scott Weiner

Dr. Jonathan Olshaker is former chairman of the emergency department of Boston Medical Center and professor emeritus of the Boston University Chobanian and Avedisian School of Medicine. Dr. Scott Weiner is an associate professor of emergency medicine at Harvard Medical School and director of the emergency department-based Substance Use Disorder Initiatives at Brigham and Women’s Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital.

A trip to the emergency department is stressful. Patients with chest pain, trouble breathing, headaches, trauma, or other complaints are worried that something serious is wrong with them.

Already nervous and scared patients are routinely met with packed waiting rooms, long waits to get triaged by nurses, and even longer waits to be seen by physicians. There is a high likelihood of being evaluated and staying in a hallway with no privacy or basic comforts for hours or, if admitted to the hospital, even days. They often will experience delays in pain control and frequently are witness to violence against health care workers.

This is not a reflection of the emergency department physicians, nurses, and staff who do an outstanding job of evaluation, diagnosis, and treatment as well as comforting and reassuring their patients. Obviously life-threatening cases get immediate care. But the present conditions of almost every emergency department make the already tough task of providing safe and compassionate care for patients with potential serious illness or injury increasingly difficult. The main cause of emergency department

overcrowding is boarding, or the time between when the clinical team decides to admit a patient to the hospital and when the patient actually leaves the emergency department for that inpatient bed. Boarding has for too long been accepted by hospital administrators as the “new normal” because it is ubiquitous and extremely difficult to solve.

Massachusetts’ Health Policy Commission, an independent agency that monitors health care costs, documents in its March 2026 report that Massachusetts is the second worst state for average time spent in the emergency department, trailing only Maryland. Waits for inpatient hospital beds can last more than 24 hours, and for patients who need to be transferred elsewhere, the wait can sometimes last days or even weeks. Strained community hospitals sometimes can’t transfer critically ill patients because tertiary care and academic hospitals are already full. Some patients who visit the emergency department leave without being seen at all.

Over a decade of peer-reviewed research has documented the association of boarding with increased numbers of medical errors, treatment delays for time-sensitive conditions, patient frustration, and death. Emergency department overcrowding is also associated with higher staff burnout, which in turn contributes to the vicious cycle of increased medical errors and staffing shortages.

Some of the major causes of boarding are fewer staffed inpatient beds, the need to keep almost all hospital beds full to sustain thin hospital financial margins, shortages of rehab and other post-discharge facilities for patients who need more time to recover, and the purposeful prioritization of more lucrative elective admissions, often for procedures.

There is no simple or single fix to emergen-



HEATHER HOPP-BRUCE/GLOBE STAFF; PF-IMAGES/ADOBE

cy department boarding. At the federal level, regulators such as The Joint Commission and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services must continue to address the crisis through measurement, reporting, rewards, and penalties. But statewide legislative efforts combined with increased focus from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and health care systems are also necessary to address financial drivers and implement best practices. Legislative levers that can help are mandating transparent reporting, requiring all hospitals to have “full capacity response plans,” expanding downstream capacity, building behavioral health alternatives, and realigning payment and oversight so hospitals are rewarded for flow, not chronic over-occupancy.

Although it will not be simple or easy, Massachusetts can become a model state by addressing this challenge. We propose six concrete steps:

1. Create real-time all-cause and behavioral health boarding dashboards, as has been done in neighboring Connecticut.

2. Evaluate, audit, and enforce hospital full-capacity protocols and escalation plans with penalties for deviations.
3. Fund and/or incentivize workforce and bed expansion across inpatient, post-acute, and community settings. This can be aided by measures like the recently passed law to expand primary care.
4. Strengthen MassHealth and insurer payment policies that support behavioral health crisis services and rapid placement.
5. Support regional bed-availability and transfer-coordination systems.
6. Ensure access to post-acute care to improve outflow from our hospitals.

Massachusetts legislators can reduce boarding by changing incentives, expanding capacity, and requiring accountability across all health care systems. The consequences of not doing so will lead to continued long emergency department waiting times, poor patient experience and satisfaction, burnout of health care workers, and most importantly, worse health outcomes.

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BENJAMIN FANJOY/GETTY IMAGES

Nancy Pelosi and congressional candidate Connie Chan, right, interacted at a “Get Out the Vote” rally on May 29 in San Francisco.

Why is Nancy Pelosi fighting so hard in the race to replace her?

By Mariel Garza

Mariel Garza is executive editor of the Los Angeles-based publication Golden State and a contributing Globe Opinion writer.

Former House speaker Nancy Pelosi is retiring when her term ends in January, and at first it seemed as if she would sit out of the race to replace her.

After all, there are few safer Democratic seats than San Francisco’s District 11, and the front-runner is Scott Wiener, a well-known state legislator who had long ago wrapped up broad support among the Democratic establishment, including the endorsement of the state party. Surely Pelosi’s energy and political capital would be better spent attending to tossup races around the state and nation.

But perhaps it was too much to expect that one of the most powerful people in the nation would remain quiet on a successor to a seat she held for nearly 40 years. Two weeks before the June 2 primary, Pelosi threw herself into the fray with a surprise endorsement of Connie Chan, a San Francisco supervisor who hadn’t seemed to be on the former speaker’s radar until then.

It was a game changer for Chan, who wasn’t well known outside the neighborhood she represents on the 11-member Board of Supervisors. Chan had been polling neck and neck with another progressive Democrat in the race, Saikat Chakrabarti, a wealthy tech engineer and former chief of staff to Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez of New York, a frequent thorn in Pelosi’s side. Chan beat Chakrabarti for second place by almost 12 points, advancing to the general election with Wiener.

But the primary endorsement was only the beginning. Pelosi has since directed the full weight of her considerable political machinery into getting Chan elected on Nov. 3, including holding fund-raisers, sharing her comms team, and leading attacks on Wiener.

It’s a curious choice, even if Wiener did annoy Pelosi by announcing he was running before she had made her retirement official. Chan is a progressive Democrat who has gained a reputation during her six years on the board as someone who opposes things — public transportation projects, housing development, and even Sunset Dunes, the city’s newest park — and not very successfully.

Meanwhile, Wiener checks all the boxes. Like Pelosi, he’s a moderate Democrat, at least by San Francisco’s peculiar standards. He’s a frequent target of Republican attacks due in large part to his support of the transgender community (and his penchant to never back down from a fight, another characteristic he shares with Pelosi).

Wiener is also one of the most successful and high-profile state legislators, with a long list of notable bills passed to ramp up housing production and counter President Trump’s agenda, including writing the law that prohibited immigration agents from hiding their faces. (A court challenge stayed the law, but this year the Legislature passed another bill to address the judge’s concerns.) Wiener is also behind Senate Bill 79, the wildly controversial housing law passed last year that forcibly upzones areas around transit stops in the state’s largest counties, including San Francisco.

Political insiders I spoke to said the local rumor mill is brimming with speculation that Pelosi’s involvement in the race is less about Chan and more about Pelosi’s daughter, Christine Pelosi. Could the support of Chan be payback for Wiener’s relentless pursuit of a seat she

had hoped to pass on to Christine, or just the first move in a complicated long game intended to install her daughter in the seat in the future? The latter seems a stretch, but the younger Pelosi did announce she is seeking her first elected position just a week after her mother stepped down: Wiener’s seat in the state Senate in 2028.

The congressional race has divided the state’s Democratic establishment, with Pelosi reportedly twisting the arms of her allies to back Chan (which perhaps explains why Senator Adam Schiff, who is from Southern California, is backing this relatively unknown San Francisco supervisor) and trying to lure a coveted endorsement from labor leader Dolores Huerta away from the Wiener camp.



JIM VONDRUSKA/GETTY IMAGES

Nancy Pelosi attended the dedication ceremony for the opening of the Barack Obama Presidential Center in Chicago on June 18.



ANASTASIIA SAPON/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Scott Wiener, left, a Democratic state senator vying to succeed Nancy Pelosi, campaigned with three drag queens in San Francisco on Jan. 17.

And the race is getting nasty. After the Wiener campaign rolled out a gimmicky mock AI chatbot intended to parody Chan’s stance on housing and transit, Pelosi led a group of women to write a letter condemning it as sexist and racist. In response, prominent Democratic women, including Democratic donor Susie Buell Tompkins and Nancy Tung, the chair of the San Francisco Democratic Party, organized a rally in Wiener’s defense, calling out Pelosi for “fake outrage.”

Pelosi’s meddling isn’t doing her otherwise remarkable legacy any favors. And what might it say about her influence at home if Chan loses the race, which is a distinct possibility? Or, more importantly, about her pettiness if this ploy works and tanks the opportunity that her seat could be filled by someone who has a track record of being as tenacious, pugnacious, and stubborn as Pelosi herself?

For years Pelosi has given this city outsized power in Washington, D.C., through the force of her personality and extraordinary political prowess. Who can forget the image of her standing behind President Trump and tearing up a copy of his State of the Union speech? And although Wiener certainly wouldn’t shy away from a fight with Donald Trump, no one could ever truly fill her 4-inch stilettos.

INBOX

Pulling our health care system back from the grip of catastrophe

Rein in insurance companies and pharmaceutical ads

I think John E. McDonough missed the heart of the problem in “The little-understood roots of the American health care catastrophe” (Ideas, Aug. 30). There are two factors at the root of our awful health care system: insurance companies and pharmaceutical advertising.

Insurance companies are our de facto health care providers. They control the services you get and when you get them. They dictate to doctors what they can and cannot do, what they can and cannot prescribe, and what will be reimbursed from the ridiculously high cost of providing health care.

They are doing this at great cost to the American public. Just look at their profits and the compensation their executives receive.

Another huge cost to the American public is pharmaceutical companies’ direct advertising to patients. These advertisements are pushing prescription-only medicines to the consumer rather than to the only people who can prescribe them: authorized health care professionals.

So you now have an entire country seeing these ads and basically self-prescribing them by “asking their doctor.” The patient should not be making these decisions — qualified and trained professionals should be.

Tobacco and alcohol have strict restrictions on their advertising. Why not prescription medicine?

Until the insurance companies and their profits are reeled in and Big Pharma stops spending billions of dollars on advertisements, the health care catastrophe will go on.

DAN FENNELLY
Scituate

Essential to the debate over Medicare for All: Who pays, and how?

John E. McDonough is right that Medicare for All would address the fragmentation that contributes substantially to the dysfunction of American health care. But any serious proposal for universal coverage must answer a question its advocates too often avoid: Who pays, and how?

In a recent analysis using data from the Congressional Budget Office, the Joint Committee on Taxation, and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, I estimated what would be required to finance Medicare for All’s roughly \$25 trillion to \$35 trillion 10-year federal cost. Taxing only the wealthy cannot do it. At the \$30 trillion point, the federal government would need to raise the top four income-tax brackets by roughly 105 percentage points.

The arithmetic that works reaches the middle class: roughly a 23-point increase in the payroll tax, a 25-point across-the-board income-tax increase, or a national value-added tax.

That does not vindicate the status quo. The average employer-sponsored family premium was \$26,993 last year, according to KFF’s annual survey, and private premiums and out-of-pocket spending could approach \$30 trillion over the next decade, according to my analysis.

Americans already pay an extraordinarily high health care bill, much of it through premiums and cost-sharing collected under a system nobody voted for. The honest debate is how, through whom, and how fairly we pay it.

DR. GILBERTO DE LIMA LOPES JR.
Miami

The writer is a professor of clinical medicine at the University of Miami and a medical oncologist and researcher.

The impeachment compulsion

Third time against Trump would not be the charm for Democrats

Re “If Democrats win the House, Trump must be impeached” (Opinion, Sept. 2): The definition of insanity, it’s been said, is doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different outcome. As my “No Kings” sign says, I am pro-America and anti-Trump, so my disagreement with Renée Graham is based on practicality, not ideology.

Justified as they were, the House’s two impeachment efforts during President Trump’s first term served only to increase his victimhood in the eyes of enough independent voters that he was elected again in 2024. Better that the Democrats, if they should retake the House in November, should introduce legislation that addresses the horrors of Trump at a policy level and attempt to rescue the legislative branch of our government from the path to irrelevance on which it currently travels.

TOM STACEY
Milford

An impeachment conviction in Senate is a long shot, to say the least

Although President Trump assuredly deserves to be impeached again, Democratic Representative James Clyburn of South Carolina was right when he said that pursuing a third impeachment should not be the party’s priority if it regains a majority in the House in the midterm elections.

Renée Graham noted that impeachments are tried in the Senate, but she failed to mention that a president can be removed from office only by a two-thirds vote to convict. Because Trump can depend on the loyalty of nearly every Republican senator, Democrats would need to retain every contested seat they currently hold and pick up 20 of the 22 contested seats Republicans now hold to secure a conviction.

That’s like winning back-to-back Megabucks jackpots. Another impeachment invariably followed by a third acquittal in the Senate would be a colossal waste of time.

SCOTT A. BIRNBAUM
Waban

Lanternfly infestation intensifies, spreads across region

►PESTS
Continued from Page A1

of flies can swarm tree trunks, yards, even decks, generating a mess for homeowners. Residents in other states have reported having to use umbrellas as a shield against deluges of lanternfly poop while their backyard trees turned an apocalyptic black from the waste.

September is considered peak season for the bugs, which mature into gray winged insects about an inch long with black spots and red accents.

“Massachusetts is just now getting to the point where there is such a heavy infestation of spotted lanternfly that the general public is starting to take notice,” said Jennifer Forman Orth, an environmental biologist with the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources. “They just [keep] spreading.”

Last August, state officials reported lanternflies in more than 50 cities and towns. Now, infestations have spread to almost 150 communities, where large lanternfly populations lay eggs and feed on local plants.

“Once those eggs hatch,” said Piera Siegert, a New Hampshire state entomologist, “you can reduce” the lanternfly populations, “but it would be very difficult” to eradicate them. By spring, the eggs hatch into tiny black nymphs that disperse quickly and become hard to catch.

Massachusetts hasn’t seen significant reports of tree death or long-term damage from lanternflies, but that can take years, Orth said, even with a strong infestation.

Harmless to humans and pets, lanternflies are what’s known as a nuisance pest, according to the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, which has logged the species in all of its counties.

But for some farmers, particularly growers of fruits, the insects represent a greater danger.

“They attack our grapes more than any other plant,” said John Galvan, a commercial small-fruit production researcher with UM-

ass Extension.

He estimates roughly 10 percent of all orchard and berry farmers in Massachusetts may eventually be affected.

Agritourism ventures including pick-your-own orchards are especially at risk, both from lanternflies feeding on tree sap and the unpleasant swarms driving away visitors, Siegert said.

Their main host plant is tree-of-heaven, an invasive species from China.

Even if you were to cut those down, you shouldn’t be surprised to find the insects infesting your backyard maple instead, said Rolf Briggs, owner of Holliston-based Tree Specialists Inc., who has been getting two to three calls a week from homeowners about lanternfly outbreaks.

He describes patios and cars that have turned completely black under layers of sooty mold that feeds on the lanternflies’ sugary excrement.

The bugs “pass so much liquid that it comes to be like a misting of rain across your property,” Briggs said. “The layers of fungus get thicker and thicker until you can’t see the green of the leaves anymore, it’s all black.”

In Pennsylvania, where lanternflies first appeared in the US, “they had it so bad that people were using umbrellas to go from their front doors to their cars,” Briggs added. “That’s the future of what we’re going to see.”

The insects are thought to have arrived in the US as eggs inside a shipment of stone bound for Pennsylvania from Asia sometime between 2012 and 2014.

In 2019, Penn State economists estimated that unchecked growth of spotted lanternfly populations was costing their state around \$324 million a year in losses to fruit growers and the forestry industry.

But seven years later, such losses haven’t fully materialized, said Timothy Kelsey, a professor in agricultural economics at



DAVID L. RYAN/GLOBE STAFF

Spotted lanternflies have been in Worcester since 2022. They now infest at least one city or town in every Massachusetts county except for those around Cape Cod and the Islands.

Penn State. Still, lanternfly prevention efforts are costing producers and homeowners, he added, and will likely do the same in a denser state like Massachusetts.

“The out-of-pocket costs for the homeowners will exist in Massachusetts regardless of what the type of agricultural production you have,” he said.

Several states, including Pennsylvania, have imposed quarantining measures, which heap extra costs onto farmers who must now check their plant shipments to ensure they are free from claylike egg deposits or

the small black bugs hiding inside, Siegert said.

In spite of those efforts, Pennsylvania still has lanternflies in more than 80 percent of its counties as of 2026, state data show.

“We already know from other states we can’t stop the spread,” Orth said, but “if you slow it down you can give people time to prepare to manage this pest.”

Lanternflies have already been spotted in every county of Connecticut as of this year, and on Aug. 25, New Hampshire officials confirmed their first field detection of spotted lanternflies

in Salem.

The Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources has so far focused on trying to “slow the spread” to uninfested northern states, Orth said.

That means dealing with lanternfly populations in Massachusetts is mostly left up to residents.

Irene Phipps, who lives in Framingham, said it seemed like hundreds of lanternflies appeared in her neighborhood overnight recently.

“It’s upsetting,” she said, adding she had noticed them first in New York City over a year ago

and heard friends complaining about lanternflies in Boston last year, before finally finding trees near her apartment covered.

Massachusetts officials have not mandated quarantining methods but have released multiple training guides on lanternfly removal and containment.

Experts previously advised people to squash the bugs on sight. Now the state’s fly management guide advises residents to use a plastic card to scrape their eggs off of trees, vacuum up live bugs with a shop vac, or employ sticky traps to catch them. Home remedies such as soap sprays are also popular, though Penn State Extension experts caution against using them as they could also harm plants.

Various insecticides, when professionally applied, are more effective, officials said. Cutting down an infested tree is unlikely to be a permanent solution, according to the guide.

Residents should also avoid parking under trees and check their vehicles before departing an infested area, Siegert said, as lanternflies are plant-hoppers that get around mostly by hitchhiking.

In 2021, Fitchburg was the first Massachusetts city to be infested with lanternflies.

But in an anomaly that has confounded researchers, surrounding towns and cities in northern Worcester County haven’t seen outbreaks, even as lanternflies have traveled to the farthest reaches of the Berkshires, the Merrimack Valley, and Bristol County.

Lanternflies now infest at least one city or town in every Massachusetts county except for those around Cape Cod and Islands, though Orth doesn’t hold out much hope that will continue.

“The host plants are there, and a lot of people will vacation to the Cape from infested areas,” she said. “We hope that people are being diligent.”

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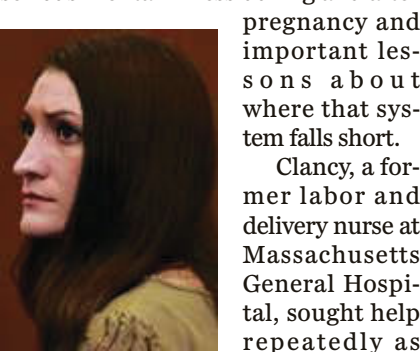
Clancy case
puts focus
on mental
health care

Raises questions
about issues during,
after pregnancy

By Sarah Rahal
and Jason Laughlin
GLOBE STAFF

For help with postpartum mood disorders, contact Postpartum Support International at www.postpartum.net or call or text 800-944-4773. If you or someone you know is having thoughts of suicide, call 988 or go to <https://988lifeline.org/> to chat online.

Lindsay Clancy's murder case, which ended in a mistrial on Friday, leaves behind larger questions about how the health care system treats women with serious mental illness during and after pregnancy and important lessons about where that system falls short.



The judge in Lindsay Clancy's case declared a mistrial on Friday.

Clancy, a former labor and delivery nurse at Massachusetts General Hospital, sought help repeatedly as her mental health deteriorated after the birth of her third child.

The case was both an opportunity and a curse for those seeking to raise awareness of postpartum mental illness, said Wendy Davis, chief executive of Postpartum Support International, a perinatal health organization based in Pennsylvania.

"We're seeing awareness is raised, and that is a step forward," Davis said. "We're also seeing much more, especially on social media, misinformation, more fear, more fearmongering."

Here are the main takeaways from the trial about the state of maternal mental health care:

CLANCY, Page B5

State Police
in N.H. lag
on sharing
ICE reports

Agency sued for
details on arrests

By Steven Porter
GLOBE STAFF

CONCORD, N.H. — New Hampshire State Police partnered with US Immigration and Customs Enforcement in April 2025 to allow certain troopers to take people into ICE custody during routine traffic stops, yet the state's largest police force has released little information about its involvement in dozens of immigration-related arrests.

While smaller police departments have released their ICE arrest reports within weeks, the New Hampshire Department of Safety has estimated it needs six months to figure out what information to make public about incidents involving State Police, leaving the public in the dark about how troopers decide whom to arrest and why.

That glacial pace has inspired at least two lawsuits under the state's public records law, one filed by the Boston Globe in late July, and one by the American Civil Liberties Union of New Hampshire in late August.

Tyler Dumont, a Department of Safety spokesperson, declined to comment on the pending litigation but said in a statement that the department "remains committed to providing public access to information while balancing operational priorities and available resources." He said the department carefully reviews thousands of records requests each year and often must redact information before releasing documents.

Gilles Bissonnette, legal director for the ACLU of New Hampshire, said in an

ICE, Page B4

STAN GROSSFELD
AS I SEE IT



Red Sox fans went "tarps off" as the Red Sox launched a ninth-inning rally on Sept. 1. On the next night, former Sox reliever Joe Kelly heaved a wild ceremonial first pitch during Fenway's first-ever "Baseball Isn't Boring Night." That motto is tattooed onto the bicep of Kelly.

Baseball is boring?
Get ready for a high, hard one.

Boring? Baseball??
Not a chance, according to "Fighting Joe" Kelly.
The former Red Sox star reliever fired in the first pitch on the first-ever "Baseball Isn't Boring" night at Fenway Park last week.

He's the California-born three-time World Series winner better known in these parts for his nickname. The moniker stuck after he fought the Yankees' Tyler Austin after plunking him with a 98-mph fastball.

Kelly says Yankee great Aaron Judge restrained him from behind "in a loving sort of way" from destroying Austin.

"He saved his teammate's life," says Kelly.
That was in 2018, when he won the WS title with the Sox, their most recent.

Kelly was a fan favorite in his 13 years in the majors, which also included stints with the Cardinals, the White Sox, and his hometown Dodgers.

Now 38, he officially retired this year and signed on as an assistant coach at his alma mater, Corona High School, in California.

Nothing about Kelly is boring. He has "Baseball Isn't Boring" tattooed on his left bicep.

"It's been kind of my life motto along with my career motto. Something new happens every day at the baseball field," he says at Cisco Brewers Fenway, before signing autographs for fans. "And, you know,

GROSSFELD, Page B4

UNITED FOR UNIONS



JESSICA RINALDI/GLOBE STAFF

From left, Senator Elizabeth Warren, Chrissy Lynch of the AFL-CIO, Governor Maura Healey, Senator Ed Markey, and Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll joined Boston's Labor Day parade. B3

For almost three decades,
Germans have reenacted
the American Revolution

By Christopher Huffaker
GLOBE STAFF

EICHENZELL, Germany — On Aug. 27, 1776, German soldiers hired by Great Britain took part in their first major battle of the American Revolution, playing a key diversionary role in the Battle of Long Island so that British troops could outflank the American forces.

The British victory resulted in their capture of New York City and some 2,000 Americans killed, injured, or captured.

Two and a half centuries later, hundreds of Germans gathered on a recent weekend in a small town near Frankfurt to reenact that moment of

glory, at the annual Hessian military "Time Travel Festival."

The importance of Germans in the American Revolution is still relatively underexplored on either side of the conflict. But each year for almost three decades, history buffs convene in August at Schloss Fasanerie, a former palace of the Hessian princes, to revive their forgotten history that lies between, as one of them put it, the Middle Ages and the 1930s.

This year, on the 250th anniversary of the Revolution, they also reflected on what American democracy has meant for their own country.

"It's a reason to remember for Germans," he said.

HESSIANS, Page B5

New England could be in for a fall foliage rebound

By Ken Mahan and Taylor Johnston
GLOBE STAFF

Cue the crimson, folks!

After back-to-back disappointing foliage seasons across New England, I have plenty of reason to believe that our region's trees should finally put on a more classic show this fall — a long, colorful, and slow transformation from summer greens to brilliant reds, oranges, and yellows that makes New England, well, New England.

Honestly, even an average foliage season would feel pretty special after the last couple of years in which drought stress left trees struggling, and the result was a rushed and muted season that was over before we really had a chance to enjoy it. This year is much more encouraging, and it goes back to the winter we experienced. Plus, even though we've seen periods of extended drought during 2026, New England as a whole has seen much closer to average precipitation than years past.

For instance, Vermont this year “had plentiful rain through June and into early July. Things have dried out a bit since then, but most trees still have great-looking leaves ready to pop with color,” said Joshua Halman, a forest health program manager for Vermont's Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation.

When can we expect colors to peak this autumn?

As always, don't expect certain regions, especially in Vermont and New Hampshire, to flip a switch on the same day. In a typical year, the first meaningful foliage color shows up during the second half of September across the northern mountains and higher elevations, with peak color arriving across Northern New England in late September into early October before gradually working its way south and downhill through October.

Vermont and New Hampshire's mountains will be among the first places to really light up, with sugar maples producing those fiery reds and oranges while birches and aspens add plenty of yellow.

By mid- to late October, the colorful canopy reaches Boston and much of Massachusetts. The more southern parts of New England and coastal areas are usually the last to peak, with some locations holding onto color into early November. Here in Southern New England, oaks will be major players, bringing those deep burgundy and rusty-red hues, with maples, birches, and aspens filling in the gaps.

“Red maple and sugar maple are the mainstays of fall color in Northern New England and



JOHN TLUMACKI/GLOBE STAFF/FILE

Brilliant maple leaves framed First Parish Church in Milton last year. A longer, more vibrant foliage season is expected in 2026.

highland areas like the Berkshires, while oaks and hickory do a lot of the heavy lifting in Central and Southern New England,” said Brian Milakovsky, a senior forester with the New England Forestry Foundation. “Maples are generally early and long, while oaks come late and end the season with their copper color.”

Did our snowy winter help?

One of the biggest advantages heading into this fall comes from the several feet of snow we picked up last winter. That snow eventually translated into valuable moisture in the soil over the spring, nourishing our forests before we entered another summer of hot and dry stretches. Even though temperatures have been warmer than average, the ground has had higher reserves to combat the heat.

“New England had a much colder and snowier winter than in recent years, helping replenish soil moisture and helping our forests recover from prior drought stress that resulted in a disappointing and short fall color season last year,” said Cakey Worthington, a certified forester and senior vice president of sustainability for North Carolina-based Aurora Sustainable Lands, which focuses on maintaining a natural mix of tree species across Northern New England.

And while it did turn a bit dry again in August, we're not starting from the same place we

were a year ago. Plus, July's surplus of precipitation certainly helped. In Vermont, “the trees look far better than 12 months ago,” Halman said.

“Assuming we can get enough rainfall during the first half of September, this year could be a big one for a long and vibrant fall color season,” Worthington said.

And I do think we'll end up with normal amounts of precipitation this September, and maybe even wind up with a bit of a surplus in spots. Even drought has been curbed in many fall foliage hot spots heading into fall, including the Berkshires, Vermont, and northern New Hampshire.

Let's hope for a slow and steady transformation

Give me a long, slow progression of color working south through New England. There's no need to rush this season!

Evan Fisher, a meteorologist and founder of Explore Fall, an interactive site that tracks and predicts the changing leaf colors and when they're at their most vibrant, said the biggest wild card every autumn is also what happens from late September into early October, and striking that weather balance.

“A cool stretch with crisp nights and mostly dry days would help color develop on schedule and with better vibrancy,” Fisher said. “Persistent warmth could delay the process, while expanding drought or re-

peat heavy and windy storms could shorten the display.”

That's where our developing Super El Niño could potentially help. A consistent weather pattern, with light rain at times, heading into fall could keep trees healthier and allow the colors to develop more gradually, extending the foliage season.

Spring warmth did push the growing season along early, so Fisher says that could nudge the start of autumn colors a little earlier, as well. But whether that happens will ultimately depend heavily on September and October temperatures, and an El Niño usually doesn't bring the warmth until later in the fall.

Still signs of a ‘false fall’

Although much of New England has rebounded, at least for now, from several years of drought, some areas like Cape Cod and parts of Maine are still dealing with “moderate to severe” drought. Signs of a “false fall” are already appearing in stressed trees, particularly along the coast, as excessively dry conditions, pests, or disease trigger premature color changes.

“This is likely to result in more subdued colors and a shorter foliage season in those parts,” NEFF's Milakovsky said. “For example, I live in midcoast Maine, which is experiencing severe drought, and I already observe some red maples changing color on shallow, dry soils. This is a red flag of sorts for me. We should not expect trees like that

to still be in color when the typical peak foliage season reaches us in early October.”

But, he noted, other portions of New England lucky enough to pull out of the drought this year should “be especially good destinations for leaf peepers, for instance the Green Mountains, Berkshires, and northeastern Connecticut.”

It's more than just the jaw-dropping sights, though. There's another reason this year's foliage season matters. Healthy, well-hydrated forests are better equipped to deal with many more stresses that come with a changing climate. “Recovering from drought, and other impacts, also means our forests will be better able to protect against forest fires, pests, and disease,” said Worthington.

That doesn't make our warming climate suddenly disappear. Far from it. Worthington and other forest experts emphasized that broader climate pressures continue to put the future of New England's prized forests and colorful canopy at risk. But at least this autumn, the forest appears to be getting a much-needed chance to recover and give us a decent foliage season.

Ken Mahan can be reached at ken.mahan@globe.com. Follow him on Instagram @kenmahantheweatherman. Taylor Johnston can be reached at taylor.johnston@globe.com. Follow her on X @TF_Johnston.

Milford man held after stabbing

18-year-old critically injured in Sunday attack

By Chloe Craft
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

A Milford man was taken into custody following a stabbing Sunday night that left an 18-year-old in critical condition, Milford police said.

According to a statement by the Milford Police Department on Monday, 19-year-old Edwyn Sanchez of Milford is being held in custody without bail on multiple charges, including assault to murder.

Around 6:24 p.m. on Sunday, multiple emergency calls reported a stabbing around Hayward Street. According to the statement, one caller told dispatchers that they were on their way to the hospital with one 18-year-old victim.

Milford police said officers first arrived at the crime scene between 5 and 7 Hayward St. at 6:25 p.m., and found Sanchez nearby at approximately 6:31 p.m.

Upon arrival, officers observed several blood stains on the pavement and on Sanchez's arms and legs while questioning him, according to the statement. Sanchez was arrested just before 7 p.m.

The victim, who police have not identified, was taken via LifeFlight to UMass Memorial Medical Center in Worcester with what police described as life-threatening injuries.

Areas of Hayward Street remained closed for several hours after the arrest while Milford police and State Police investigated, the statement said.

Sanchez is charged with assault to murder, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon resulting in serious bodily injury, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, disturbing the peace, and disorderly conduct, according to the statement.

“We're learning more of what led to this act of violence as our detectives continue to investigate,” said Milford Police Chief Robert Tusino in the statement. “We're fortunate to have quickly taken the suspect into custody without further incident.”

Chloe Craft can be reached at chloe.craft@globe.com.

This day in history

Today is Tuesday, Sept. 8, the 251st day of 2026. There are 114 days left in the year.

Birthdays: Senator Bernie Sanders is 85. Civil rights activist Ruby Bridges is 72. Author Terry Tempest Williams is 71. Basketball Hall of Famer Maurice Cheeks is 70. Singer Aimee Mann is 66. Alternative country singer Neko Case is 56. TV personality Brooke Burke is 55. Actor Martin Freeman is 55. Actor David Arquette is 55. Actor Larrenz Tate is 51. Singer-songwriter Pink is 47. Actor Jonathan Taylor Thomas is 45. Rapper Wiz Khalifa is 39. MLB pitcher Gerrit Cole is 36. Actor Sierra Capri is 28. Choreographer Grant Gilmore is 28. Actor Gaten Matarazzo (TV: “Stranger Things”) is 24.

► In 1504, Michelangelo's towering marble statue of David was unveiled to the public in Florence, Italy.

► In 1565, a Spanish expedition established the first permanent European settlement in North America at present-day St. Augustine, Fla.

► In 1664, the Dutch surrendered New Amsterdam to the British, who renamed it New York.

► In 1774, delegates from Suffolk County towns led by Dr. Joseph Warren unveiled the Suffolk Resolves, a document signed in Milton that would be a precursor to the Declaration of Independence. The document called for towns to reject the royal colonial government set up to punish rebellious Boston, to boycott British goods, and to create



AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES FILE

After more than seven decades on the British throne, Queen Elizabeth II died in 2022 at age 96.

independent militias that trained regularly. Paul Revere would deliver the Resolves to the First Continental Congress in Philadelphia, where delegates there endorsed it, essentially linking the fate of the other 12 colonies to that of Massachusetts, the colony at the center of the emerging rebellion.

► In 1795, several Harvard students gathered in a dorm room and formed a secret social club to cultivate “friendship and patriotism.” Members agreed to take turns providing a pot of hasty pudding for meetings. (In its early years, the Hasty Pudding Club, the nation's oldest dramatic institution, staged mock trials; it put on its first show in 1844, according to Mass Humanities.)

► In 1860, the steamboat Lady Elgin was rammed by a schooner during a storm in Lake Michigan and sank; about 300 people perished, making it the deadliest loss of life on the Great Lakes.

► In 1900, Galveston, Texas, was struck by a hurricane that killed an estimated 8,000 people; it remains the deadliest natural disaster in US history.

► In 1919, about 1,100 members of Boston's 1,500-member police force went on strike. The strike was broken by Massachusetts Governor Calvin Coolidge with replacement officers.

► In 1935, US Senator Huey P. Long, Democrat of Louisiana, was fatally shot in the Louisiana State Capitol building.

► In 1941, the 900-day Siege

of Leningrad by German forces began during World War II.

► In 1951, a peace treaty with Japan was signed by 49 nations in San Francisco.

► In 1957, Althea Gibson became the first Black tennis player to win the US National Championships, now known as the US Open.

► In 1964, public schools in Prince Edward County, Va., reopened after being closed for five years by officials attempting to prevent court-ordered racial desegregation.

► In 1974, one month after taking office, President Gerald R. Ford granted a “full, free, and absolute pardon” to former president Richard Nixon for any crimes committed during Nixon's presidency.

► In 1986, “The Oprah Winfrey Show” began the first of 25 seasons in national syndication.

► In 2016, California and federal regulators fined Wells Fargo a combined \$185 million, alleging the bank's employees illegally opened millions of unauthorized accounts for their customers in order to meet aggressive sales goals.

► In 2022, Queen Elizabeth II, who spent more than seven decades on the British throne, died at age 96; her then 73-year-old son became King Charles III.

► In 2023, a magnitude 6.8 earthquake rocked Morocco late at night, killing more than 2,100 people. Many of the deaths were concentrated in mountain villages near the epicenter as homes and other buildings collapsed into rubble.

The Boston Globe

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Lottery

MONDAY MIDDAY	6010
Payoffs (based on a \$1 bet)	
<u>EXACT ORDER</u>	
All 4 digits	\$5,547
First or last 3	\$777
Any 2 digits	\$67
Any 1 digit	\$7

<u>ANY ORDER</u>	
All 4 digits	\$462
First 3	\$129
Last 3	\$259
MONDAY NIGHT	7039
Payoffs (based on a \$1 bet)	
<u>EXACT ORDER</u>	
All 4 digits	\$4,773
First or last 3	\$668
Any 2 digits	\$57
Any 1 digit	\$6

<u>ANY ORDER</u>	
All 4 digits	\$199
First 3	\$111
Last 3	\$111
MILLIONAIRE FOR LIFE	
Sept. 06	17-30-39-40-55
Millionaire Ball 04	

Jackpot: \$1 million a year for life ; winners

MASS CASH	
Sept. 07	07-12-22-25-31
Jackpot: \$100,000; no winners	
MEGABUCKS	
Sept. 07	21-28-31-34-40-44
Jackpot: \$29,710,000; one winner	

PREVIOUS DRAWINGS		
	Midday	Night
Sunday	5484	3876
Saturday	9129	5562
Friday	0034	7110

MONDAY NUMBERS AROUND NEW ENGLAND
Maine, N.H., Vermont
Day: 3-digit **374** 4-digit **4040**
Eve: 3-digit **886** 4-digit **6347**
Rhode Island **2118**

Connecticut
3-digit **826-1** 4-digit **4403-0**
POWERBALL
Sept. 07 **15-19-28-39-56**
Powerball **03** Powerplay **3x**
Estimated jackpot: \$190 million

Walking in step with workers, with barbs aimed at the billionaires

‘While this is the day that the country celebrates your labor, in Boston we celebrate working people every day.’

MICHELLE WU
Mayor of Boston

‘The only reason Encore exists is because unions backed the building of Encore.’

LAURA MOYE, *an organizer with Local 26 UNITE HERE, representing Encore workers*

‘People are starting to realize [billionaires] are not out for the good of the community and the citizens.’

KAREN COUGHLIN,
Massachusetts Nurses Association board member

‘Boston is a union town. Let’s keep it that way.’

CLAUDE JANVIER, *member of the new App Driver Union*



PHOTOS BY JESSICA RINALDI/GLOBE STAFF

By Bryan Hecht
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

Thousands of union workers marched through downtown Boston Monday with labor organizers and Democratic politicians in a Labor Day celebration that served as a sharp rebuke of billionaires and wealth inequality.

Copley Square Park, where members of more than 50 local unions gathered, was awash with rally signs, colorful balloons, and the sound of drums, whistles, and horns, as the parade kicked off at 10 a.m.

“While this is the day that the country celebrates your labor, in Boston we celebrate working people every day,” Mayor Michelle Wu told a crowd after the parade, between a flurry of musical performances and fiery addresses by prominent labor leaders.

Wu spoke in front of a banner that read “Workers over Billionaires.”

The parade, which for the second straight year replaced the customary Labor Day breakfast at the Park Plaza Hotel, brought together organizations representing numerous professions, from teaching to music to carpentry, along with various unions either currently or recently embroiled in contract fights.

Dozens of workers from Encore Boston Harbor casino, where more than 1,300 walked off the job Friday amid stalled contract talks, circled Copley Square Park during the parade, which ran along Dartmouth Street and Commonwealth Avenue before returning to the park.

Keenan Green, a staff dining employee at Encore, said the love and support at the parade will help keep worker spirits high.

“Everybody’s out here supporting everybody,” Green said. “We’ve got plenty of energy in us.”

Workers at Encore are seeking wage increases they say they have long needed to match the livable standard found at many other hotels in the area.

“The only reason Encore exists is because unions backed the building of Encore,” said Laura Moye, an organizer with Local 26 UNITE HERE, representing Encore workers. “They promised us good union jobs ... and here we are, out on strike, because the five-star casino can’t pay workers the same as the Hampton Inn in South Boston.”

Encore maintains its wages have outpaced inflation and the casino’s revenue, which has slightly declined in recent years.

Echoing anger over wealth inequality expressed by many leaders throughout the day, two nearby inflatable balloons depicted a pig and a cat dressed as 19th-century robber barons.

As crowds gathered before the march, unionized workers for Mass General Brigham rallied on the grass outside 200 Clarendon St., home of Bain Capital, where billionaire MGB board member John Connaughton chairs the board of the private investment giant.

In July, 4,000 MGB nurses picketed for seven days in the largest nursing strike in state history, but they returned to work without a settled con-



tract in what is an ongoing dispute.

Still, Karen Coughlin, a board member of the Massachusetts Nurses Association, said that events like Labor Day “move us forward in our willpower to get what we deserve and what our workers should have.”

She added she feels like the tides of labor organizing are rising amid anger over data centers, AI, and deregulation.

“People are starting to realize [billionaires] are not out for the good of the community and the citizens,” she said.

“This whole movement is so much bigger than Brigham ... It’s actually democracy in danger with the oligarchs,”

added Katie Murphy, the nurses association president and an intensive care nurse at Brigham and Women’s Hospital.

Amid the flurry of pro-union signs in the parade, many carried banners expressing support for incumbent Democrats and get-out-the-vote initiatives.

Governor Maura Healey, taking the stage, criticized her Republican gubernatorial challenger, Mike Minogue, whom she also branded as an “out-of-touch ... billionaire,” noting his donations to President Trump, in continued efforts to frame the governor’s race as a referendum on Trump.

Groups of people cheered as their union was called during the Greater Boston Labor Council’s speaking program in Boston on Labor Day. At left, young members of the Roberto Clemente Dancers brought a little sparkle as they made their way to the stage to perform for the crowd. Also providing entertainment was the Pipes and Drums of the Edmonton Police Service, all the way from Alberta, Canada. Cheerleaders from Brighton also added to the parade’s lively festivities.

Minogue, she said, “can’t hide the fact that he supports Trump’s agenda to take away workers’ rights in his war that’s raising the cost of everything.”

Healey, who is endorsed by the AFL-CIO, added that voters who care about protecting unionization rights and jobs have “only one choice in this race.”

Minogue, a former CEO of a medical device company, celebrated Labor Day on social media, and has promised to grow jobs in the state by slashing red tape and drawing on his experience as a business executive, according to his campaign website, though he lacks major union endorsements.

In her speech, Wu also highlighted the still too-close-to-call state Senate primary race between her endorsed candidate Daniel Lander, a former aide whom she lauded as a pro-worker advocate, and incumbent Democrat William N. Brownsberger.

That race, she said, reminds “everyone that when we organize, we can send a big message and fight for our futures.”

Other politicians, including Senators Elizabeth Warren and Ed Markey, Representative Ayanna Pressley, and Secretary of State William Galvin also marched in the parade.

Labor voices at the event included Chrissy Lynch, president of the AFL-CIO Massachusetts, and Darlene Lombos, president of the Greater Boston Labor Council, which hosts the parade.

Also present at the event, for their first time as a recognized bargaining group, was the App Drivers Union, a first-of-its-kind bargaining collective representing some 70,000 rideshare workers in the state, which was formally recognized after years of organizing in May.

They will have their third day of bargaining with corporations including Uber and Lyft later this month, according to Mike Vartabedian, principal officer of the union who also works with the International Association of Machinists.

“Boston is a union town. Let’s keep it that way,” added Claude Janvier, an App Driver Union member, in a speech.

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Take me out to the old, non-boring ballgame

►GROSSFELD
Continued from Page B1

there's kids out there who enjoy playing the game at a young age and then kind of fade away?"

Kelly wants to lure them back.

"It's a fun and beautiful game and everyone in Boston knows that," he says. "But throughout the country it's not the same. There's not as many people that are as diehard as here."

He and broadcast journalist Rob Bradford founded the "Baseball Is Not Boring" Audacy podcast in 2022 and sell merchandise printed in English, Japanese, and Spanish.

Even his ceremonial first pitch was well, less than boring.

"I went into deep squats and I tore my pants wide open. There's a huge hole in the bottom of my crotch and I knew I wasn't going to be able to lift my leg or push off the mound."

His pitch sailed all the way to the backstop.

He laughs.

"I'd rather throw a wild pitch than have it all hang out."

Kelly says that those who find baseball boring are misguided. "It's usually means they don't really have a grasp or understanding of the game itself."

On a four-game Globe tour of Fenway, the faithful won't admit that baseball *can* be boring.

Kyle Wassaberger, a fan taking his family to the game, says the boring tag is just a cheap shot.

"Do people call football boring?" he says shaking his head.

A Wall Street Journal study found there are only 11 minutes of action in an NFL game compared to 18 minutes in an MLB game.

Tre Walton, a motivational speaker, gets riled when he hears the dreaded B word.

"No, hell no. Here at Fenway Park, it starts from before you even get to the (ballpark). It's when you get on the train. It's the whole atmosphere of being with people that are of the same accord. It's being close to the players and yelling out their names."

Fenway Park is like Disney World for baseball. These fans are here to have fun.

Jenny the Juggler creates massive colorful bubbles on Jersey Street. Some are bigger than Wally the Green Monster's head.

She encourages fans to pop them.

"It brings out people's inner joy and inner child even in grown tough-guy men," she says.

Many fans cite the pitch-clock era, which started in 2023, with speeding up the pace of play.

The average length of a nine-inning MLB game has gone from 3 hours, 10 minutes in 2021 to just 2 hours, 41 minutes in 2026.

Liz Pardo, an event marketer, says she wants more entertainment.

"They need more Savannah Banana theatrics and more music like "Shipping Up to Boston" and "Sweet Caroline."

Like it or not the middle of the eighth inning singalong of "Sweet Caroline" remains wildly popular. Even in the sensory room, a quiet spot under the left-field grandstand, Neil Dia-



Fenway was lively last week with fans. Clockwise from top: Kayla Fitzgerald signals toward the heavens after talking about her donations and karma, then watching the Sox' latest hero, Mickey Gaspar, blast a home run; 10-month-old Matteo Pernice almost makes it through the whole game without falling asleep; Jenny the Juggler entertains outside the ballpark; fans climb the stairs to the center-field bleachers; and season-ticket holder Javier Alvarez dances down the runway after another Sox win.

mond's baritone-like voice booms loud and clear.

Kayla Fitzgerald sits on top of the Green Monster for her first game at Fenway on Aug. 31. Her brother treated her to tickets in memory of their dad, who passed away.

"My dad loved me and he loved baseball," she says.

She had just celebrated her 13th birthday when the Sox broke the Curse in 2004. Her dad worked at Logan Airport, and they watched the team and

the trophy arrive at dawn.

"I have the picture on my fridge," she says.

She says baseball is an acquired taste.

"It is a slower game, but it's the fans that make it so passionate, and you just get caught up in it."

In the first inning, she buys a bunch of 50-50 raffle tickets and donates them to the Red Sox Foundation.

"It's about karma," she says.

Up next is Mickey Gaspar,

who is back in the lineup after a temporary trip back to the minors. He returns to his previous Ruthian-like form, smacking a homer.

"Karma is real! You gotta believe in the karma," says Fitzgerald.

This summer of Fenway love is personified by star pitcher Peyton Tolle. In one play in the third inning, the joyous giant doesn't just tag Seattle's Dominic Canzone on a soft ground ball. He brings him in for a hug.

When has anybody seen that before?

The game's end is electric. The Sox walk it off in 10, with the oft-injured Trevor Story the hero.

Then, the next night, a reality check.

On Sept. 1, the Sox bring up Jedixson Paez from Worcester for his first major league start. They quickly fall behind, 9-1. The home plate umpire Will Little gets hit in the neck in the sixth inning and there's a 15-

minute delay. The field is empty and fans are mugging for the cameras and resorting to the tired "Yankees suck!" chant.

Boring?

"No, it's a night out with the friends, enjoying the beer, enjoying some food," says Collin Ray, who works for GE Aerospace in Lynn.

"Fenway is a one-of-a-kind ballpark. You can't beat it, so I am going to enjoy it while I am here."

With the Sox rising from the dead this summer, whining about ticket prices, lower batting averages, increased strikeouts, and cries to sell the team have largely vanished.

Lauren Fletcher, standing in a concession line with friends under the bleachers, is an outlier.

She's one of 12,000 fans here for "Heated Rivalry Night," a celebration of the hockey romance drama best seller and TV series.

"Yeah (baseball) is kind of boring. It needs more electronic music, but other than that, the sausages are great."

Don't tell a big leaguer baseball is boring.

Willson Contreras, the explosive Red Sox first baseman, is signing "Baseball Isn't Boring" jerseys before a game.

"Those people have no idea what they are talking about it," he says. "People have different perspectives playing sports, but I don't think baseball is boring."

It's a cerebral game, he says.

"It's a mental battle just knowing the game, studying the game, knowing the situations. You're thinking about what (the pitcher) is going to throw or what he's not going to throw at you. There's a lot going on in baseball. It's not just running the bases and hitting homers."

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N.H. State Police lag on releasing data about ICE detentions

►ICE
Continued from Page B1

interview that delayed access to information about how officers are exercising their authority can carry serious consequences for detainees and inhibit the public's ability to hold the government accountable.

"Transparency doesn't just mean producing the information that the public is entitled to," he said. "It also means doing so in a timely fashion."

There are now 28 state and local law enforcement agencies participating in ICE's "task force model" program in New Hampshire, which is the only state in New England with any such agreements in place. Half of those agencies signed up since May 1, as the Trump administration has continued recruiting local partners to help carry out an aggressive agenda of mass detentions and deportations. Across the country, nearly 1,700 agencies are participating in the

program, which was revived in 2025 after it had been suspended in 2012 amid racial profiling concerns.

Bissonnette said arrest reports help shed light on how officers come to suspect someone may be unlawfully present in the United States.

"What causes a local police officer, for example, to decide during a traffic stop that a person might be undocumented? Is it their race? Is it the type of car they have? Is it the language that they speak?" he said. "You can only learn that information from the documents themselves, and that's why the production of this information by local police is so critical."

In June, the Globe submitted records requests to the 15 agencies in New Hampshire that had signed ICE agreements prior to May 1, including State Police. All but three finished processing the requests within eight weeks and released hundreds of pages

of arrest reports.

Those records, combined with information from one prior request to State Police, show that at least 55 people were taken into ICE custody by state and local police between September 2025 and early June. The overwhelming majority of these arrests stemmed from traffic stops that local police initiated under state law, not from targeted federal enforcement.

One of those arrests was made by State Police in late October, when a trooper stopped a driver who had allegedly failed to change lanes before passing two police cruisers that had their emergency lights illuminated on the side of Interstate 93 in New Hampton, according to an incident report. The trooper said the driver admitted he didn't have a license and had walked into Texas from Mexico two years earlier.

It took eight months for the Globe to secure a copy of that fairly straightforward report.

The Globe filed a formal records request in November. In March, a government attorney said the state had identified a single record relevant to the request, but needed to consult with ICE before releasing anything. For four more months, the state repeatedly said it needed more time to process the request.

The Globe filed suit on July 27. The state released the incident report 34 minutes later. Additional records obtained by the Globe showed that the State Police forwarded their incident report to ICE on July 13, several months after saying they needed to consult with ICE to determine what could be released.

The ACLU's lawsuit said State Police leaders seem to have "a systemic issue" on their hands. The advocacy group said the agency hasn't substantively responded to four records requests since September 2025 about immigration enforcement activity, which deprives the public of in-

formation about how this program is being implemented.

"If the State Police can devote time to enforcing federal immigration law," the ACLU's lawsuit states, "then it can devote time to timely informing the public about the nature of this enforcement."

The ACLU of New Hampshire is also suing ICE in federal court under the Freedom of Information Act, seeking access to the materials used to train state and local police participating in the task force program.

It's not yet clear how many more immigration arrests State Police may have performed since that first incident in late October 2025. Dumont said troopers had "assisted with" 35 detentions in immigration-related circumstances as of early August. But that could include arrests already counted by other agencies.

The burden of processing records requests has weighed on at least some of ICE's other part-

ners in New Hampshire. In Colebrook, a northern border town of about 2,000 residents, Police Chief Paul M. Rella said his small department has made two immigration arrests and received 20 or more records requests about the program. He processes each request himself.

"I have no secretary to do it," he said, "so I have to take away from my other duties as the chief to prepare these documents and make sure that I'm doing things correctly."

Meanwhile, the New Hampshire Department of Safety estimated it would be able to respond to the Globe's June request sometime in December.

"This timeframe is necessary," a paralegal wrote, "due to personnel availability, current workload, and the volume of pending requests submitted prior to yours."

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The Germans who reenact the American Revolution

►HESSIANS
Continued from Page B1

mans that there’s a history before 1933, because most of the people don’t have any idea of the 18th century,” said Karl-Matthias Gross, 63, a reenactor in the “Feldjäger” corps — “hunters” who served as the equivalent of special forces.

This year’s milestone anniversary also comes at a time when Germans are finding themselves forced to doubt the longstanding eight-decade-old American security umbrella and wondering whether values across the Atlantic are as closely shared as they’d long believed.

Post-medieval reenactments are rare in Germany, in part because of the dark legacy of the Nazi period, added Gross’s captain and one of the festival’s organizers, Andreas Clemens. Clemens was inspired to get involved in living history by travels in North America.

“There’s a multitude of facets in [German] history,” Clemens said. “It’s a history that connects, especially Hessians, with the States.”

The 30,000 “Hessian mercenaries,” as they’re commonly known, were really troops hired out by their own governments, not private sellswords. They came from not just Hesse-Kassel and Hesse-Hanau but also from other small German states including Waldeck and Anhalt. For Germans outside those territories, their role in the American Revolutionary War is best known, if at all, from a 50-year-old book and TV miniseries.

At the festival, multiple forces in the war — German auxiliaries, American Patriots and Loyalists, and Redcoats — were portrayed almost exclusively by Germans. The festival was founded in 1997, with the help of American war reenactors serving in the US military in Germany, longtime participant Klaus Schäfer said.

Today the festival attracts an overwhelmingly local crowd. But Luci Spahr, a Franklin native who lives in Frankfurt, was one of the rare American attendees. She and her husband like to seek out “pockets of American history and culture” in Europe, she said.

“I missed the Fourth of July living here,” Spahr said. “I have to be honest, I missed that.”

In addition to the culminating Battle of Long Island each day of the weekend, festivities ranged from shooting and fencing lessons led by “barons” in fancy dress to an evening Baroque music festival in the historic palace. Vendors set up stands to sell books, antiques, and textiles, as well as some period cooking and, of course, multiple beer gardens.



PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER HUFFAKER/GLOBE STAFF



Above, Germans portraying American Loyalist troops, with British redcoats in the background, reenacted the Battle of Long Island at the annual Hessian Time Travel Festival in Eichenzell, Germany, on Aug. 8. At left, Karl-Matthias Gross, 63, (left) and Andreas Clemens, 55, portrayed Hessian feldjäger soldiers.

The performers’ reasons for reenacting the Revolution varied. Many reflected on the particular importance of the American Revolution to their own country.

Matthias Kowalczyk, a 30-year-old from Kassel sporting period facial hair to portray a Hessian soldier, said that while he wasn’t “celebrating” the anniversary, exactly, he valued the war’s outcome.

“You invented democracy,” Kowalczyk said of the United States. “You had the counterpart in Europe, so much absolutism.”

Added comrade Tobias Breuer, 33: “You were the first to have something different, which apparently worked out in the end. So, from a political perspective, how it happened, is good for us.”

Many also participated out of a broad love for America, inspired in part by the tens of

thousands of US troops who have been stationed in Germany continuously since World War II. One trio of attendees, part of the festival’s “civilian camp,” also reenact an American-occupied village in 1947.

“The best thing that could happen to Germany was to lose the war,” said Henrike Schwark, 64. “The Allies, they helped the people to get to their feet again, and they really gave people a

good chance, so they could learn democracy.”

Others were drawn to America by Hollywood.

Manfred Schmitz, a retiree from Cologne, got into reenacting by way of a widespread German fascination with the American West. He went on to reenact World War II — but from the American side, even jumping out of a plane at Normandy.

“When you have love for America, you play an American soldier,” Schmitz said.

Multiple reenactors also mentioned the 2000 Mel Gibson movie “The Patriot” as an inspiration. A costume from it, a British red coat, even became the first reenacting uniform for Jens Hartmann, 50. He’s now visited the United States dozens of times and recently reenacted the American Revolution in France for a 250th event at Versailles.

At the time of the Revolution, the Hessian troops stirred fear

and outrage among colonists, thanks to propaganda that painted them as cold-blooded killers. Many of the Germans were hardened by fighting in prior conflicts like the Seven Years’ War — also for the British.

The Declaration of Independence complains of the British king “transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat the works of death, desolation, and tyranny”

Not long after the Battle of Long Island, the Hessians’ fearsome image was punctured. In the pivotal Battle of Trenton, Hessian troops were the main victims following George Washington’s famous Christmas Night crossing of the Delaware River, when the Continental Army surprised the Hessians and captured most of the garrison with little fighting.

Still, the Germans remained visible throughout the colonies, including in New England. For much of the war, Rhode Island was occupied by Hessian troops, and after British General John Burgoyne surrendered his army at Saratoga in 1777, thousands of Germans were held in Cambridge.

At the Siege of Yorktown, in Virginia, German soldiers fought on both sides — French forces who were fighting alongside the Americans had recruited them from the German Duchy of Palatinate-Zweibrücken.

Following the war, thousands of German troops remained and settled in the United States.

Clemens, the jäger captain reenactor, said the Hessians were typically shocked by Colonial wealth.

“They saw what the people had, the livestock, farmland, the houses, and they paid less tax than the Hessians themselves,” Clemens said. “What are they moaning about? There was disbelief.”

Many Germans who stayed were prisoners of war who escaped or deserted. Christopher DeLew, a US Army officer currently based in Germany, attended the last two Hessian “Time Travel” festivals after learning that he descends from Georg Zacharias Hatstatt, an Ansbach Jäger whose transport ship was captured in April 1777 before his unit even reached America.

Imprisoned in Massachusetts, Delew’s ancestor found work on a farm near Worcester, married the farmer’s daughter, and swore allegiance to the United States.

“He went on to have 13 children,” DeLew said.

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Clancy trial puts the spotlight on postpartum health care

►CLANCY
Continued from Page B1

1. Massachusetts has made strides, but gaps remain.

Clancy’s trial offered a rare window into a system that can be difficult for patients, families, and even clinicians to navigate.

Massachusetts is a leader in addressing perinatal mental health. State law requires pediatricians, OB/GYNs, and primary care doctors to screen for postpartum depression and, if necessary, prescribe medication and/or refer the patient to a mental health provider.

But screening is only the beginning. The Clancy trial highlighted shortages of specialized providers and programs and gaps in follow-up care.

Experts say Massachusetts, like other states, needs more psychiatrists specializing in reproductive mental health, more options for specialized outpatient treatment, more support groups specifically for postpartum mood and psychiatric disorders, and better training for providers to recognize postpartum psychiatric illness. The state also lacks a dedicated mother-baby psychiatric unit, common in some other countries, where a mother who needs inpatient care can remain with her infant.

2. Postpartum psychosis is distinct from postpartum depression and far more rare.

The case brought awareness to postpartum psychosis, a rare but dangerous psychiatric emer-

gency that is different from postpartum depression.

Although most mothers will experience the “postpartum blues,” about 1 in 8 will experience postpartum depression, which involves persistent sadness, anxiety, and other depressive symptoms. Even rarer, 1 or 2 in 1,000 women will experience postpartum psychosis, which can involve mania (periods of unusually high mood and energy), severe confusion, paranoia, delusions, or hallucinations, and a loss of touch with reality. It can also worsen rapidly, appearing within weeks after giving birth.

Yet postpartum psychosis does not have its own entry in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, the handbook widely used by clinicians to diagnose psychiatric illnesses.

Specialists have been pushing to change that, arguing that formally recognizing the condition as a part of bipolar disorder could make it easier for clinicians to identify it.

Experts also stress postpartum psychosis is treatable, and most women who develop it do not harm their children. The most effective treatment has been lithium and electroconvulsive therapy, which Clancy wasn’t given because none of her providers diagnosed her with psychosis or bipolar disorder before she killed her children.

3. Patients or their families should be prepared to

coordinate their own mental health care.

When a patient is seeing several doctors, who is responsible for making sure they are all talking to one another?

The answer: no one. Clancy received psychiatric treatment from multiple clinicians and institutions as her symptoms changed. Testimony showed that providers did not always have records from the other clinicians treating her.

Behavioral health records can be especially difficult to obtain and share. Psychotherapy notes receive additional federal privacy protections, and independent mental health practices may not use the same electronic medical record systems as hospitals.

Experts said patients and families should ask explicitly who is coordinating care, who is tracking medication changes, and whether each provider has the records they need. Without a clinician taking that role, the burden can fall to the patient or a family member.

4. A steep decline in mental health may not fit the system’s definition of an emergency.

One of the starkest lessons from Clancy’s treatment was how difficult it can be to get urgent help for someone who is deteriorating but does not meet the threshold for an immediate psychiatric emergency.

Clancy was screened for postpartum depression using the Ed-

inburgh Postnatal Depression Scale, a widely used questionnaire that asks about symptoms including anxiety, depression, and thoughts of self-harm. Her scores worsened as her condition deteriorated, testimony showed.

She also called a suicide hotline twice in the month before the killings. Defense experts testified that she was redirected to her providers rather than hospitalized because she did not report a specific plan to kill herself.

5. Finding the right medication can involve trial and error.

In the four months before the killings, Clancy received some 30 prescriptions for 13 different psychiatric medications. Providers repeatedly started medications, stopped them, and changed their dosages; Clancy also did not always take the medications as prescribed.

Some experts say Clancy was misdiagnosed and overprescribed, while others emphasize that finding an effective medication regimen can be a complex process that often requires trying multiple medications, dosages, or approaches.

Several providers considered whether Clancy had bipolar disorder but did not diagnose it at the time. During the trial, experts testified about whether her strong reactions to antidepressants should have been a warning sign.

The diagnosis would have

mattered because antidepressants such as SSRIs, while commonly used to treat depression and anxiety, can sometimes trigger or worsen manic symptoms in people with bipolar disorder.

6. A history of mental health challenges can elevate the risk of postpartum mental distress.

A person with a family history of mental illness, including depression, bipolar disorder, psychosis, or prior postpartum illness, has an increased risk of experiencing postpartum mental health challenges, experts said. One 2018 study found women with a history of depression were 20 times more likely to experience postpartum depression than women without that history.

Mothers who “toughed it out” through postpartum mood disorder symptoms after a prior birth may be those who need the most help, advocates said.

“If you were previously pregnant and had a new baby and your primary response to it was to hide your distress and put on a brave face, that’s actually for me a warning sign,” said Davis.

Women treated for mental health conditions in the past or currently receiving treatment should consult health care professionals about treatment options during and after pregnancy, build a support system, and strategize about ways to reduce stress and maximize healthy sleep after childbirth.

Many common medications

for depression, anxiety, or bipolar disorder are safe for pregnant and new mothers.

7. The legal system outside the United States treats crimes influenced by postpartum mental illness very differently.

In the United States, most states do not have criminal laws that grant special consideration to mothers who kill their children while suffering from postpartum mental illness. That’s not the case elsewhere. Unique infanticide laws, which acknowledge postpartum mental illness as a mitigating factor when a mother kills a child, exist in two dozen countries.

These laws trace their origin to English laws established in the 1920s and 1930s that grant leniency if a mother can demonstrate she was unable to distinguish right from wrong due to childbirth or severe postpartum mental illness. Convictions or pleas under this law almost never result in incarceration. Commitment to a mental institution is more common.

Illinois became the only state with a criminal law that mirrors the statutes in other countries in 2018, but even there it only applies to sentencing after a guilty finding. Massachusetts is among the states that have considered such laws.

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LivingArts

By Andrew Dalton
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — “Widow’s Bay” ran away with eight early Emmys for its debut season Sunday at a ceremony eight days before the main awards show and telecast, while “The Pitt” had a strong second-year showing with four of its own and Rob Reiner posthumously won an acting Emmy nearly nine months after his killing.

“DTF St. Louis” won big with six awards in the limited series categories, with costars and veteran actors David Harbour and Linda Cardellini both becoming first-time Emmy winners.

“Widow’s Bay,” the Apple TV horror comedy with Matthew Rhys as the mayor of a small New England town dealing with a centuries-old curse, won categories including cinematography, sound, music, and production design.

Betty Gilpin won best guest actress in a comedy for her role on the show, and read a rapid-fire comic poem as her acceptance speech. It included the lines “our business is stupid, but actors are the bomb” and “let’s all lean more toward Sam Shepard and less toward Sam Altman.”

‘The Pitt’ has strong second-year showing
HBO Max’s day-in-the-life medical series “The Pitt” — the year’s top nominee with 25 and the reigning best drama winner for its first season — had wins Sunday in categories including prosthetic makeup and best guest actor in a drama for 73-year-old first-time nominee Ernest Harden Jr.

Harden, who won for portraying the last days of Louie Cloverfield, the emergency room’s constant presence and constantly struggling alcoholic on “The Pitt,” wept when his name was called.

“I am just on cloud 25,” he said backstage at the Peacock Theater in Los Angeles. “I’m not saying it’s a complete surprise because ‘The Pitt’ is such a powerful show to come from, but just to get it in your hands is unreal.”

Harden’s first speaking role was in the 1975 Robert Redford-Faye Dunaway thriller “Three Days of the Condor” and he had a three-season role on the sitcom “The Jeffersons” in the 1970s, but has acted for decades without awards recognition.

Singer-songwriter Andrew Bird and Gavin Brivik won for original music and lyrics for a song they wrote about the character.

“It’s not a music-heavy show,” Bird said backstage. “But they gave us a beautiful moment with a character that we love.”

Rebranding the Creative Arts Emmys and adding some star power

The Television Academy hands out well over 100 primetime Emmys, and most of them were presented this past weekend in a pair of ceremonies.

They were previously known as the Creative Arts Emmys but have now been rebranded as simply the first two nights of the 78th Emmy Awards.

The weekend’s awards primarily go to behind-the-scenes crew members, but they include the guest-acting awards that tend to go to bigger names. And the shows’ star power got a boost when five categories normally on the main telecast were bumped to the earlier weekend, among them best supporting actor in a limited series, won by Harbour in his third nomination, and best supporting actress in a limited series, won by Linda Cardellini in her fourth nomination in an elite TV career that has



PHIL MCCARTEN/INVISION FOR THE TELEVISION ACADEMY/AP CONTENT SERVICES

Ernest Harden Jr. accepts the Emmy for outstanding guest actor in a drama series for his work on “The Pitt” at Sunday’s ceremony.

‘Widow’s Bay’ dominates with 8 Emmys at early ceremonies while ‘The Pitt’ takes 4

The two-day event, formerly known as the Creative Arts Emmy Awards, precedes Primetime Emmys, set for Sept. 14

included roles on “Freaks and Geeks” and “Mad Men.”

“Thank you to everybody who along the way through the years helped me get to this moment of a real dream come true,” Cardellini said from the stage, through tears.

Rob Reiner gets a somber ovation
At a ceremony that otherwise moved at a blazing-fast clip with a breezy mood, a long, thoughtful ovation came when Reiner was announced as best guest actor in a comedy for his work on “The Bear.” Reiner’s friend and fellow “Bear” guest star Jamie Lee Curtis was among those in the crowd paying him tribute.

Reiner was killed along with his wife Michele Singer Reiner in December. Their son, who has pleaded not guilty, has been charged

with stabbing them to death. Rob Reiner’s win came about 50 years after he won two Emmy Awards for his acting on “All in the Family.”

Saturday and Sunday’s ceremonies will be edited together to air Sept. 12 on FXX and stream on Hulu the following day. The prime-time Sept. 14 ceremony, also at the Peacock Theater and hosted by Mariska Hargitay, will air live on NBC and stream live on Peacock.

Both “Widow’s Bay” and “The Pitt” can add up to six more Emmys to their totals on that final night.

“Pluribus,” another Apple TV Emmy rookie from “Breaking Bad” creator Vince Gilligan that could challenge “The Pitt” in the top drama categories, won four trophies Sunday night including editing, production design, and sound mixing.

Shailene Woodley and a canceled ‘Spider-Noir’ are also winners

Shailene Woodley won best guest actress in a drama for her role on “Paradise.” It was her first Emmy.

“Spider-Noir,” the Nicolas Cage series which was canceled after one season last week by Amazon Prime Video, won five Emmys including visual effects and stunts.

Hargitay was among this weekend’s winners, getting two Emmys for the documentary she directed about her mother, Jayne Mansfield, “My Mom Jayne,” to go with the best actress in a drama Emmy she won in 2006 for “Law & Order: Special Victims Unit.”

Bad Bunny won his first Emmy, for his Super Bowl halftime show, which took seven trophies at Saturday’s ceremony.

Ben Affleck schooled by sports legends in new ad

By Matt Juul
GLOBE STAFF

The first ads featuring Ben Affleck and the Aflac mascot arrived on Saturday, with a trio of sports legends also joining the fun for this man-meets-duck team-up.

In a new minute-long spot, the Cambridge-raised star and his new fowl pal get schooled by decorated football coach and sportscaster Nick Saban, former star football player turned coach Deion Sanders, as well as basketball coach and Olympian Dawn Staley.

The coaches break out a blackboard in a green room to break down for Affleck the reason why Aflac has a duck as a mascot (Sanders explains, “The duck is there because ‘quack’ sounds a lot like...” before the mascot interjects, “Aflac!”), with Saban and Staley explaining to the star why he’s been enlisted by the insurance company.

“They already have a duck because of the quack thing,” Staley tells Affleck, with Saban adding, “Now they want a human, man, you Affleck, which rhymes with...”

“Aflac!” the duck again interjects, with Affleck responding, “I wouldn’t have put that together.”

In a second 30-second spot, the



AFLAC

From left: Dawn Staley, Deion Sanders, and Nick Saban appear in a new ad to explain to Ben Affleck the reason why Aflac has a duck as a mascot. The one-minute spot aired for the first time on Saturday.

coaches give Affleck a lesson in what the insurance company does, putting it in terms the actor and director would understand.

“Aflac helps you cover what you need if you got hurt and couldn’t work on another movie where you play a mathematician,” Saban tells Affleck, who responds, “Technically, I was an accountant.”

The collaboration between Affleck and Aflac was teased last month in a series of billboards set up across Los Angeles that were graffiti-tagged with Affleck’s name. The star even marked them up himself personally, Aflac confirmed in a press release.

“Americans have been making the connection between Aflac and Affleck for years. Some ideas require a leap of

imagination. This one was sitting right in front of us,” said Garth Knutson, Aflac senior vice president and chief marketing officer, in a press release statement.

The new spots are directed by Affleck and Brandon Pierce, co-president of advertising at Artists Equity, the production company founded by Affleck and Matt Damon and working with Aflac on the new campaign. According to a press release, the campaign aired during “College GameDay” prior to the Aflac Kickoff Game on Saturday. Additional commercials and content will roll out across platforms over the next year.

Matt Juul can be reached at matthew.juul@globe.com.

At Gillette, Mars proves he’s still one of pop’s most vital forces

By Maura Johnston
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

FOXBOROUGH — Bruno Mars was 1½ songs into his Gillette Stadium performance Saturday when he stepped behind a set of conga drums — a percussive set piece that was appropriate to the song he and his band were ripping through, the hip-swiveling come-on “Cha Cha Cha.” But when he threw down a spirited conga solo, it was hard not to wonder: What *can’t* he do?

Judging by Saturday’s fast-paced, hit-stuffed show — the first of two from Mars at the stadium this past weekend — the answer is “not much.” Mars has been a fundamental part of pop’s firmament since 2010, when his besotted collaboration with the Southern emcee B.o.B “Nothin’ on You” reached No. 1 on the Billboard Hot 100. Mars’s sugar-coated vocal hook showed off his acrobatic voice and ability to turn on the romantic charm; his similarly infatuated debut solo single, “Just the Way You Are,” hit No. 1 as well.

Mars’s voice is malleable enough, and his knowledge of recent popular-music history vast enough, that his catalog is mostly defined by catchiness and an exacting knowledge of form. The 2012 cut “Locked out of Heaven” is a choppy new-wave cut that builds its tension between flinty guitars and Mars’s wide-open voice; “Uptown Funk,” his dancefloor-ruling collaboration with British musician and DJ Mark Ronson, is a love letter to Minneapolis funk’s sinews and swagger; “Die With a Smile,” his duet with Lady Gaga that ended 2025 as its No. 1 single, is only one of his many entries into the neo-

MUSIC REVIEW

BRUNO MARS
With RAYE and DJ Pee .Wee.
At Gillette Stadium, Saturday

power-ballad catalog; and Silk Sonic, his collaboration with fellow multi-multi-hyphenate Anderson .Paak, digs even deeper into R&B’s past, saluting Philly soul, roller-disco-ready robo-funk, and James Brown’s boasts.

Mars — as his conga cameo might suggest — is also operating at the highest echelon as a performer. He commanded the crowd during Saturday’s speedy, pyrotechnic-studded set with a winking charm, his muscular tenor melting into a velvety croon when the mood called for it, and his choreographed moves and crowd work with his longtime band, the Hooligans, adding a bit of showbiz dazzle to the proceedings. The drummer-singer-rapper-producer-et cetera .Paak , who as DJ Pee .Wee opened the show with a hyperactive set that nodded to the cross-generational crowd, joined Mars for a mini Silk Sonic set that showed how evenly matched the pair was in both skill and playfulness.

But Mars was the star, showing off his virtuosity with a matter-of-fact joy that energized his guitar solos, his vocals, and his praise for the crowd — and showing why, even though this year’s “The Romantic” was his first solo album in nearly a decade, he’s remained one of pop’s most vital forces since his initial emergence.

TV HIGHLIGHTS

Tennis: US Open, 11:30 a.m. and 7 p.m., ESPN
Baseball: Astros-Phillies, 6:40 p.m., TBS
Baseball: Angels-Red Sox, 6:45 p.m., NESN
Baseball: Rangers-Mariners, 9:40 p.m., MLB
Listings, C6

Sports

C

THE BOSTON GLOBE TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2026 | BOSTONGLOBE.COM/SPORTS



NFL WEEK 1
PATRIOTS AT SEAHAWKS
Wednesday, 8:20 p.m., NBC



BEN VOLIN
ON FOOTBALL

Difficult road back to Super Bowl up ahead

The 2025 season was a dream for the Patriots. Mike Vrabel turned a 4-13 team into a 14-3 juggernaut. Drake Maye morphed from unproven to MVP runner-up. A three-year playoff drought ended with a Super Bowl run.

Now comes the tough part: picking themselves back up and doing it again.

“You lose a big game like that, something you dream about, and ob-

viously it was hard for a long time,” tight end Hunter Henry said. “But once we kind of got back here, we were able to get to work on this year. I think we’re all excited for just this year, and not really worried about last year.”

The idea of a “Super Bowl loser’s hangover” is more myth than reality. Forty of the 59 Super Bowl losers made the playoffs the next season,

ON FOOTBALL, Page C2



DANIELLE PARHIZKARAN/GLOBE STAFF

Kyle Williams played in all 17 regular-season games as a rookie and had three TD catches.

Williams’s abilities exciting for Patriots

WR got stronger, faster in offseason

By Nicole Yang
GLOBE STAFF

FOXBOROUGH — When asked in February at the NFL scouting combine about the challenges of finding a No. 1 receiver, Patriots coach Mike Vrabel brought up Kyle Williams unprompted.

“I’m excited to see where guys like Kyle Williams go from Year 1 to Year 2, just his development and his growth mentally and physically,” Vrabel said at the time.

When a reporter followed up to ask if he views Williams as that cali-

ber of player, Vrabel clarified.

“I’m not going to say that,” he said. “I just know I’m excited about seeing where he goes from Year 1 to Year 2. He made some fantastic plays. He has an ability to adjust down the field on the deep ball, and has got really good release skills.”

“I’m not going to sit there and say, ‘These guys are going to be a No. 1 receiver or edge rusher.’ We’re just excited that he’s with us and what he showed us. His attitude was fantastic. We’ll have to help him to reach his potential.”

In the months following those comments, the Patriots made two major additions at wide receiver by

PATRIOTS, Page C2



DANIELLE PARHIZKARAN/GLOBE STAFF

Jarren Duran (left) hit a solo homer to right field and Adley Rutschman (right) added a three-run blast off of the Pesky Pole during a four-run second inning Monday for the Red Sox.

Buddy system

ALEX SPEIER
ON BASEBALL

Teammates quick to remind Duran of value

Jarren Duran’s Red Sox teammates have heard the left fielder’s brutal self-descriptions all year: the claim that he’s the worst player in baseball, the idea that he’s an impediment to the team’s success.

Typically, they will listen and try to guide their teammate back to solid footing, reminding him of his game-changing abilities and the fact that even in a down year, he’s accomplished things beyond the reach of most. But over the weekend in Baltimore, the Sox attempted a pair of novel interventions on the weekend of Duran’s 30th birthday.

The first: A new look. Prior to Sunday’s game, reliever Greg Weissert and outfielders Eli White and Wilyer Abreu convinced Duran to get a buzz cut. Before Mon-

day’s contest back at Fenway Park against the Angels, Duran added to the experiment, dying his hair blond.

“They kind of cornered me and said, ‘Hey, man, you’ve got to change it up. Let’s cut your hair.’ Peer pressure was strong with those ones. They trapped me and got me,” Duran said with a smirk after the Sox’ 5-2 victory. “I’m so hard on myself, so it was kind of nice to worry about people seeing my hair more than [being worried about] the game today.”

The second was more serious. Trevor Story was locked next to Duran for years and accepted the role of reassuring sounding board. But in Baltimore, as Duran berated himself amid a 2-for-23 (.087/.125/.087) stretch to start

ON BASEBALL, Page C4



DANIELLE PARHIZKARAN/GLOBE STAFF

Brayan Bello threw five scoreless innings Monday for the Red Sox in his first big league start since June 4.

Rutschman homer helps power Sox past Angels

By Tim Healey
GLOBE STAFF

Red Sox 5
Angels 2

Adley Rutschman knew what he wanted and knew what to expect Monday afternoon against Grayson Rodriguez, but then came the hard part: actually doing something with it.

They were batterymates in Baltimore, and Rutschman still considers Rodriguez a “good buddy.” So when they faced off at Fenway Park, in a second-inning at-bat that registered as the biggest of the Red Sox’ 5-2 win over the Angels, Rutschman had an idea.

“His heater is very firm,” said Rutschman, who has been behind the plate for more than half of all the starts in Rodriguez’s career. “And it felt like it.”

When Rodriguez, a righthander, turned to the fastball, his best pitch, in a 1-and-0 count, it stayed over the middle of the plate.

Rutschman let it rip. And he

came up empty.

“Probably looked like I took a little bigger swing just because [he was geared up for Rodriguez’s fastball],” Rutschman said.

Rodriguez came right back with another four-seamer for a ball, then another that Rutschman turned into a hard line drive — foul. Those represented three of the five hardest pitches Rodriguez threw all day, at 98.1, 98.6, and 98.7 miles per hour.

When he tried a fourth in a row, it stuck on the inner third of the plate. Rutschman crushed it to right field, where it rang off the Pesky Pole for a three-run home run, the climax of a four-run frame and the Red Sox’ fifth consecutive win.

The ball screamed off Rutschman’s bat at 112.1 m.p.h., the hardest-hit batted ball of his career.

“That was going to be gone any-

RED SOX, Page C4

INSIDE

Starter

Falcons turn to Tagovailoa at QB for Week 1 of NFL season. **SportsLog, C2**

Advanced

Gauff (right) returns to US Open quarterfinals; Rybakina close to No. 1. **C3**



FRANK FRANKLIN II/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Afoot

Heald brothers back to bolster Duxbury boys’ soccer in new season. **C6**

Rolling

US women rout Czechia to finish FIBA World Cup group play at 3-0. **C6**



CHRISTIAN KANTOSKY FOR THE GLOBE

Rhamondre Stevenson has a career average of 4.4 yards per rush.

Stevenson ready to face Seahawks

RB may carry load if Henderson is out

By Christopher Price
GLOBE STAFF
FOXBOROUGH — Rhamondre Stevenson wants to leave no doubt. “I’m ready to go,” he said during a quiet moment in the locker room this week.

If TreVeyon Henderson is unable to play in Wednesday’s opener, the 28-year-old Stevenson knows he’ll have a lot on his plate against the Seahawks’ powerful defense. “I’m ready to go to war with our new group of offensive guys,” Stevenson said. “I’m very confident. I feel like this is one of my better camps, more healthier camps. So yeah, I’m ready to go.”

Henderson (ankle) was one of two Patriots who did not practice on Monday morning. However, Henderson did make the trip with the team to Seattle. Offensive lineman Ben Brown, who hasn’t been on the field since suffering a knee injury in the preseason opener and didn’t practice on Monday, did not travel with the team.

If Henderson doesn’t play, it’ll likely be a steady diet of Stevenson for the Patriots. His consistency and ability in blitz pickup was on full display over the course of training camp, and against a fearsome Seattle pass rush those skills will be vital to what the Patriots want to get done on offense.

“I think that there is consistency. I think that we’ve talked about his protection in the past, and that’ll be critical, I’m sure, Wednesday night. And I think that’s probably one of the things I appreciate the most about him,” coach Mike Vrabel said of the 6-foot, 227-pound Stevenson.

“I certainly love the ability to catch the football and run with it and create [explosive] plays. But also I think that the protection, for me, is what stands out.”

In almost unassuming fashion, Stevenson’s work over the last five years has put him among the franchise’s elite running backs. He enters this season in fifth place on the team’s all-time rushing list with 3,669 yards. If he gains 131 yards rushing at Seattle, he will move past Curtis Martin (3,799) into fourth.

But Stevenson’s between-the-tackles running ability is only one part of his game. As Vrabel noted, he’s the best back on the roster in blitz pickup, and he continues to display great work as a receiver. This year, Stevenson is trying to become the first Patriots running back since James White

with five straight seasons of 30 catches or more. (White did it every year from 2015-20.)

“I’ve always been confident and comfortable catching the ball and doing those routes out of the backfield,” Stevenson said. “I just think it was getting those things on film and just let everybody around me, all the offensive players, all the offensive staff, gain that confidence I’ve had in myself.”

Stevenson has quietly compiled an impressive record of durability. He’s one of a only handful of players on the roster who have stuck around since 2021. He survived back-to-back four-win seasons in 2023 and ’24, a rash of ball-security issues, and family tragedy to play a sizable role down the stretch and into the ’25 postseason.

That resilience is a point of pride for Stevenson, and something that doesn’t go unnoticed by his veteran teammates.

“I just think back on it and realize how blessed I am to be on one team as a running back,” said Stevenson, who trails only Mike Onwenu and Hunter Henry among current players for games in a Patriots uniform. “You know, that’s huge; not to be bouncing around team to team. Just finding a home in Boston. I’ve been very grateful and blessed to be here my whole career, and very comfortable here with the staff, with the front office, and with everything around me.”

“I just think he continues to show up, no matter the circumstance,” Henry said. “He’s had some high points in his career, and he’s had some pretty low points, and I just commend him for continuing to battle.”

“He’s just a lot of fun to play with. He’s an easy back to block for, too, because he’s just an effortless runner. Sets up your blocks really well and is just able to see things really well. He’s got great vision and great feet. He’s kind of everything you want in a back.”

Ultimately, regardless of who is on the field Wednesday night against the Seahawks, Stevenson is optimistic about the state of the running back depth chart.

“I’ve got some new guys in there like Corey [Kiner],” Stevenson said. “But yeah, we’re extremely confident in Lan [Larison], TreVeyon, and everybody else in our room to go out there, do what we’re supposed to do, and play hard.”

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Williams big part of Patriots’ plans

►PATRIOTS
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signing Romeo Doubs and trading for A.J. Brown. Those veteran players obviously supplant Williams on the depth chart.

But Vrabel’s comments were still an early indication of how the Patriots feel about Williams, their third-round draft pick in 2025.

The decision to trade Kayshon Boutte further spotlighted Williams, who should now have an open runway to more opportunities as a deep-ball threat.

So, can Williams actually make a Year 2 leap? There’s reason for optimism.

Williams bulked up this offseason, upping his weight to 190 pounds after ending his rookie year as “185 soaking wet.” Vrabel and executive vice president of player personnel Eliot Wolf listed strength as an offseason focus, in order to aid him with the physicality not only off the top of his routes but also at the catch point.

Williams also boasts tremendous speed, an attribute that sets him apart from the rest of the receiver room. Last year, Williams reached a maximum speed of 21.78 miles per hour on his 72-yard touchdown reception in Tampa. He finished the season as the league’s second-fastest ball carrier on a reception, behind only Jaguars receiver Brian Thomas Jr.

This offseason, Williams worked on not only maintaining his speed with his added strength, but also building even more speed. In addition to working with Dee McKeely, his personal wide receivers coach, Williams spent time with David Musa, a sports performance training and functional movement specialist.

Musa detected that Williams was overcompensating in one leg, so he devised a program that included significant single-leg isometric work in order to reach bet-

ter balance.

“We didn’t want him to be too dominant on one side because, with that, there’s a high percentage of leading to injuries,” Musa said. “If you’re depending on just one side and one leg, there’s a lot of wear and tear there also. We did a lot of corrective exercises with that, and a lot of plyometrics.”

The two also worked on Williams’s overall mobility, flexibility, stabilization, and conditioning. Musa wanted to show him how he could leverage his increased power with his newfound strength, translating the functional exercises to acceleration and explosiveness on the field.

“We don’t want to drop anything off his speed, so now it’s how do you control that speed as you get faster?” Musa said. “It’s kind of like his body is a Ferrari, and we kind of did a lot of the alignments. We had to put more air pressure in the tires, make sure no water was in the radiator. A lot of stuff, to make the car, the engine, drive smoother, is what we kind of did.”

Musa also came away impressed with Williams’s fortitude. One day, when Williams was running hill repeats — an exercise in which he would sprint up an incline and then return within a certain time — he continued to push through despite throwing up and feeling dizzy.

“When things were very difficult, he had to go into a different state of mind,” Musa said. “A lot of people will tap out or stop or wait or want to lower the reps, find the easier way out. He never wanted an easy way out.

“Mentally, it pushed him to a different level, which I think is going to prepare him for the season. He’s ready to push through different types of thresholds.”

Williams seemed poised for a productive training camp, based on his offseason work as well as the excitement from the coaching staff and front office. He was

one of the team’s four offseason award winners for his attitude and approach.

During camp, though, Williams rarely shared the field with starting quarterback Drake Maye and caught only two passes from him across weeks of practices. When Williams shined during the preseason games, hauling in multiple deep touchdown passes, he was working with backup quarterback Tommy DeVito and often also facing reserve defensive backs.

Amid Williams’s limited first-team reps during practice, Vrabel offered reassurance.

“I really, really know that Kyle is going to help us . . . I know he is going to be a large part of what we’re going to do, and those opportunities will continue to come. His release skills, his speed, his vertical speed, those are all things that we have to continue to take advantage of as we progress.”

It’s clear the Patriots want Williams to take the next step — and are hopeful he can do so.

Only time will tell if Williams will earn, and capitalize on, more snaps this season. Last season, he was on the field for 30.7 percent of the offense’s snaps, and caught 10 passes for 209 yards and three touchdowns.

Until the season starts, there will be questions about whether Williams can expand his role and showcase his offseason improvements. For his part, Williams said his preseason performance helped build his confidence.

“It’s something I knew I could always do,” he said. “It’s just putting it on display. That confidence is going to keep carrying over week by week and stay growing.”

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Difficult road back to SB up ahead

►ON FOOTBALL
Continued from Page C1

while the 1971 Cowboys, 1972 Dolphins, and 2018 Patriots all won the Super Bowl. More recently, the 2021 Chiefs and 2022 Bengals were back in the AFC Championship game following Super Bowl losses.

But that also means 19 of 59 didn’t make the playoffs the next year — basically a one out of three chance. The last two Super Bowl losers, the 49ers and Chiefs, missed the following postseason. Before that, the 2023 Eagles started 10-1 but lost six of their last seven games and were blown out in the wild-card round.

The challenges are daunting — the offseason is shorter, the schedule tougher, and the target on their back exponentially larger.

“You don’t get the same kind of offseason, and I think it does lead to more injuries and I guess a more tired team the next year,” said CBS analyst Ross Tucker. “You already know about the Patriots’ schedule and how it’s harder, but it’s just different. Everybody wants what you had last year, and so they’re not going to sneak up on anybody.”

The Patriots didn’t start their offseason until mid-February, and they were back in the building for spring workouts just 10 weeks later. But the players say any fatigue has long worn off.

“It was a little bit shorter on the front end of offseason, but we still got the same summer that everyone else did,” linebacker Robert Spillane said.

The Patriots still have a couple of key players banged up from last season — edge defender Harold Landry and special teamer Brenden Schooler — and Vrabel went easy on the starters, sitting them for all three preseason games. Last year, the starters played at least two series in two games.

“I will say it backfires a little bit from a nerves standpoint,” said former offensive tackle Andrew Whitworth, who played in

many preseason games with the Bengals for 11 years and then none over five years with the Rams. “We were full-on panic attack at the pregame meal, because we’re just like, ‘I have no idea how my body’s going to be, how we’re going to play.’ And then once you get that out of your system, you’re all right.

“But the first game, there were a lot of nerves when you haven’t taken a single snap against live action.”

The Patriots are also a far more known quantity this year compared to last. The league now has a full year of tape of Maye in Josh McDaniels’s offense and saw the weaknesses in the Patriots’ offensive line during the playoffs and Super Bowl.

“We are the team that’s being hunted, and we have to wear that chip on our shoulder every single time we get out there,” cornerback Marcus Jones said.

The road to the Super Bowl will be far more difficult. Last year, the Patriots had the NFL’s easiest schedule in a quarter-century. They also played most of their games at 1 p.m. on Sundays, didn’t travel west of the Mississippi until the AFC Championship game, and their short-week game came against the hapless Jets.

This year’s schedule is tougher, because of a combination of the Patriots’ first-place schedule, the luck of the draw in the NFL’s schedule rotation, and the TV networks’ desire to air Patriots games.

They enter the season with the sixth-hardest strength of schedule (.531 win percentage last season). They play two games out west, one in Germany, and one in the scorching Jacksonville heat in September. They play four night games on the road — at Seattle, Chicago, Kansas City, and the Chargers in Los Angeles. The short-week Thursday game is at the Bears. And they play the entire NFC North and AFC West, two of the best divisions in the NFL from top to bottom.

“We understand that the journey’s going to be a lot more difficult just based on how we finished,” Vrabel said. “Just have

to try to stay consistent and continue to improve. The teams that do that are usually the ones that play in January.”

One aspect could help the Patriots avoid a hangover: They have a lot of new faces. The Patriots will return 16 starters from the Super Bowl, but 24 of the 53 players on the active roster are new to Foxborough.

NBC analyst Mike Tomlin, who went 10-7 and lost in the wild-card round with the Steelers the year after losing the Super Bowl, thinks “that it’s going to be easier for [the Patriots] to turn the page than we, as outsiders, would think.

“I read they’ve got [24] new players. That’s half the guys suited or so on game day that weren’t a component of that experience. And so, it’s not their individual story.”

NBC Sports broadcaster Cris Collinsworth thinks the Patriots will be much stronger this year with the additions of receivers A.J. Brown and Romeo Doubs, guard Aljahj Vera-Tucker, and Will Campbell’s return to full health from a torn MCL.

“This feels like a very different team to me,” Collinsworth said. “You don’t add A.J. Brown and Romeo Doubs to a football team with a guy with the ability to throw the deep ball like Drake Maye does and not get better, not be more intimidating as an offense.”

Tomlin thinks losing the Super Bowl may benefit the Patriots this year.

“We all hate it, but sometimes you’ve got to lose before you learn how to win,” he said. “It’s really kind of the same feeling that I had watching the San Antonio Spurs in the NBA playoffs. And I just think there’s no substitute for experience.

“I think it’s going to be a positive experience for guys like Drake Maye — guys who are 23, 24 — I just think it’s part of their growth process.”

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SportsLog

Falcons pick Tagovailoa as starting QB for opener vs. Steelers

The Falcons have chosen **Tua Tagovailoa** as their starting quarterback for their NFL season opener against the Steelers. The decision comes after Tagovailoa’s monthslong competition with **Michael Penix Jr.**, who started nine games for the Falcons last year before suffering a season-ending torn ACL in November. Coach **Kevin Stefanski** said Monday that **Cooper Rush** will back up Tagovailoa and Penix will be inactive. He declined to speculate on who the team might start at QB beyond Week 1.

Center of Ravens’ attention

Baltimore will start **Jovaughn Gwyn** at center in their opener at Indianapolis, after the Ravens lost standout center **Tyler Linderbaum** to free agency, and **Danny Pinter** injured a leg last month. Gwyn is entering his fourth NFL season after three with Atlanta. This will be his first career start. The Ravens also have **Ethan Pocic** as an option . . . Titans linebacker **Cedric Gray** sustained a concussion and minor injuries in a UTV accident over the weekend that puts his availability for Tennessee’s opener against the Jets in question. Gray led the Titans

with 160 tackles last season, fifth most in the NFL . . . The Giants released wideout **Darius Slayton**, moving on from the team’s longest-tenured player. The 2019 fifth-round pick played in 108 regular season and playoff games in New York, with 301 catches for 4,527 yards and 92 touchdowns . . . Cowboys left guard **Tyler Smith** will miss at least a month due to a left thumb injury that needs surgery . . . Carolina running back **Jonathon Brooks** missed his third straight practice with “general soreness,” but the Panthers remain hopeful he will be ready for the opener against the Bears . . . **Matt Suhey**, the fullback who helped **Walter Payton** and the 1985 Bears beat the Patriots in Super Bowl XX, has died. He was 68.

SOCCER

Lazio forges tie atop Serie A

Lazio has gone joint top of Italy’s Serie A with a comeback 2-1 win away at Udinese. Debutant **Albert Gudmundsson** got the winner after **Davide Frattesi** scored for the third game in a row for the

Roman side which is even on 9 points with Roma and Inter Milan . . . Former Italian international and 2006 World Cup winner **Fabio Grosso** became the first coach fired in Europe’s five top soccer leagues this season, when Fiorentina axed him after an 0-3 start. Fiorentina rehired **Paolo Vanoli**, who was replaced by Grosso in June . . . In Spain’s La Liga, Real Sociedad won away from home for the first time since February, 3-2 over Elche, thanks to a 90th-minute winner from **Luka Sucic** . . . Belgium is the latest soccer federation to withdraw its support for **Gianni Infantino’s** bid for another term as FIFA president.

AUTO RACING

Lawson stays with Red Bull

For this weekend’s new Madrid Grand Prix, a third consecutive race, **Liam Lawson** will join **Max Verstappen** in the Red Bull Formula 1 paddock, while **Isack Hadjar** is still recovering from a broken wrist . . . FIA president **Mohammed Ben Sulayem** has defended the wait for clarity over how this

year’s F1 season will end amid uncertainty over the Middle East security situation, but tells The Associated Press that drivers and team staff will not be put “at risk.” The F1 season is still scheduled to end with the Qatar Grand Prix on Nov. 29 and the season finale in Abu Dhabi on Dec. 6, but F1 has been examining potential alternative venues.

MISCELLANY

Indiana loses RB Martin

Defending national champion Indiana expects running back **Khobie Martin** to be out until about midseason with an arm injury he sustained during the first quarter of Saturday’s 52-16 victory over North Texas. That timeline means Martin could return in time for the sixth-ranked Hoosiers’ Oct. 17 matchup against college football’s No. 1 team, Ohio State . . . Olympic champion sprinter **Noah Lyles** shut down his season because of a left hamstring injury, so the American will not compete for the \$150,000 top prizes in this week’s track Ultimate Championships in Budapest.

US OPEN

Rybakina, Zheng, Gauff all reach quarterfinals

By Brian Mahoney
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Elena Rybakina overpowered Naomi Osaka at the US Open and is a win away from the No. 1 ranking in women's tennis.

She just has to beat Zheng Qinwen, which won't be easy. Even when Zheng goes down — way, way down — she refuses to stay there.

Rybakina advanced to the quarterfinals Monday with a 6-1, 6-4 victory over Osaka in a matchup of power-hitting Grand Slam champions. The No. 2-seeded Rybakina is guaranteed to replace Aryna Sabalenka atop the WTA rankings if she reaches the semifinals in Flushing Meadows.

“Of course I want it, I don't know anyone who wouldn't wish this, but definitely that's one of my goals,” Rybakina said. “I try to approach the same way, try to do everything I can, fight until the end my next match and let's see what's going to happen.”

Trying to stop her will be Zheng, who made a daring escape from a 5-0 deficit for the second straight match. The 2024 Olympic gold medalist from China beat No. 8 seed Iga Swiatek 7-5, 6-3 to become the first qualifier to reach the final eight in Flushing Meadows since Emma Raducanu won the title in 2021.

Two days after she was down 5-0 in the third set before winning the final seven games to stun No. 22 Madison Keys 1-6, 7-6 (3), 7-5, Zheng quickly dropped the first five games against Swiatek, the 2022 US Open champion.

“I guess to come back 0-5 yesterday is not lucky, that's all I can say,” Zheng said.

Rybakina won the Australian Open this year for her second major title and her No. 2 ranking is her career best. Even if she loses Wednesday, she can still get to No. 1 if neither Sabalenka, Coco Gauff, or Jessica Pegula wins the title.



ANDRES KUDACKI/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Zheng Qinwen pulled off a second straight stunning comeback in her win over Iga Swiatek.

Rybakina was too good for Osaka, who won two of her four Grand Slam titles at the US Open but appeared to be struggling with a foot or ankle problem. The match lasted just 1 hour, 6 minutes, with Rybakina closing it out with an ace. She leads the WTA Tour in that category.

Zheng was a US Open quarterfinalist in 2023 and 2024 — the year she reached the Australian Open final — but after her ranked dropped following elbow surgery she had to go through qualifying this year to reach the main draw. Raducanu's title five years ago made her the first

qualifier to win a Grand Slam title in the Open era, which dates to 1968.

Swiatek couldn't convert two set points serving at 5-1 and Zheng fought off another when Swiatek served with a 5-3 lead. She said she was so focused on each point that she even forgot the score.

Swiatek came in with a 7-1 record against Zheng, with the only loss two years ago in the Olympic semifinals in Paris. Zheng came back from a 4-0 deficit in the second set that day to stop Swiatek's 25-match winning streak at Roland Garros, where she has won four French

Open titles.

Swiatek got treatment on her left thigh in the second set but said her problems were neither physical nor mental.

“It was more that I started making mistakes from easy balls and Qinwen stopped doing mistakes,” Swiatek said. “She played the balls better.”

Gauff beat No. 14 Iva Jovic 6-1, 6-4 to return to the US Open quarterfinals for the first time since winning her first major title at the tournament in 2023. She lost in the fourth round in each of the last two years.

The No. 4 seed will face French Open champion Mirra



PATRICK SMITH/GETTY IMAGES

US Open quarterfinalist Elena Rybakina is closing in on replacing Aryna Sabalenka at No. 1 in the WTA rankings.

Andreeva, the No. 5 seed who came back to beat No. 24 Anastasia Potapova 5-7, 6-4, 6-3, after helping her opponent when she injured her knee in the final game of the match.

Botic van de Zandschulp outlasted Arthur Gea 3-6, 6-7 (0), 7-6 (7), 7-6 (3), 6-4 in 5 hours, 13 minutes, the fourth-longest match in US Open history.

Gea, a Frenchman who got in the tournament when 2022 runner-up Casper Ruud pulled out with a back injury, had a match point in the third-set tiebreaker in a bid to become the first lucky loser to reach the quarterfinals of a men's major. A lucky loser is a player who loses in the final round of qualifying but reaches the main draw when another player withdraws.

Also going five sets — though

a mere 3 hours, 50 minutes — was Karen Khachanov's 7-5, 4-6, 6-7 (6), 6-1, 6-4 victory over No. 14 Learner Tien. Tien was trying to give the host country four men in the US Open quarterfinals for the first time since five made it in 1995. No. 8 Ben Shelton, No. 11 Frances Tiafoe and Alex Michelsen all advanced Sunday, along with defending champion Carlos Alcaraz.

No. 28 seed Alexander Blockx beat No. 24 Francisco Cerundolo 6-3, 4-6, 7-5, 7-5 to become the first man from Belgium to reach the US Open quarterfinals, where he will play Khachanov.

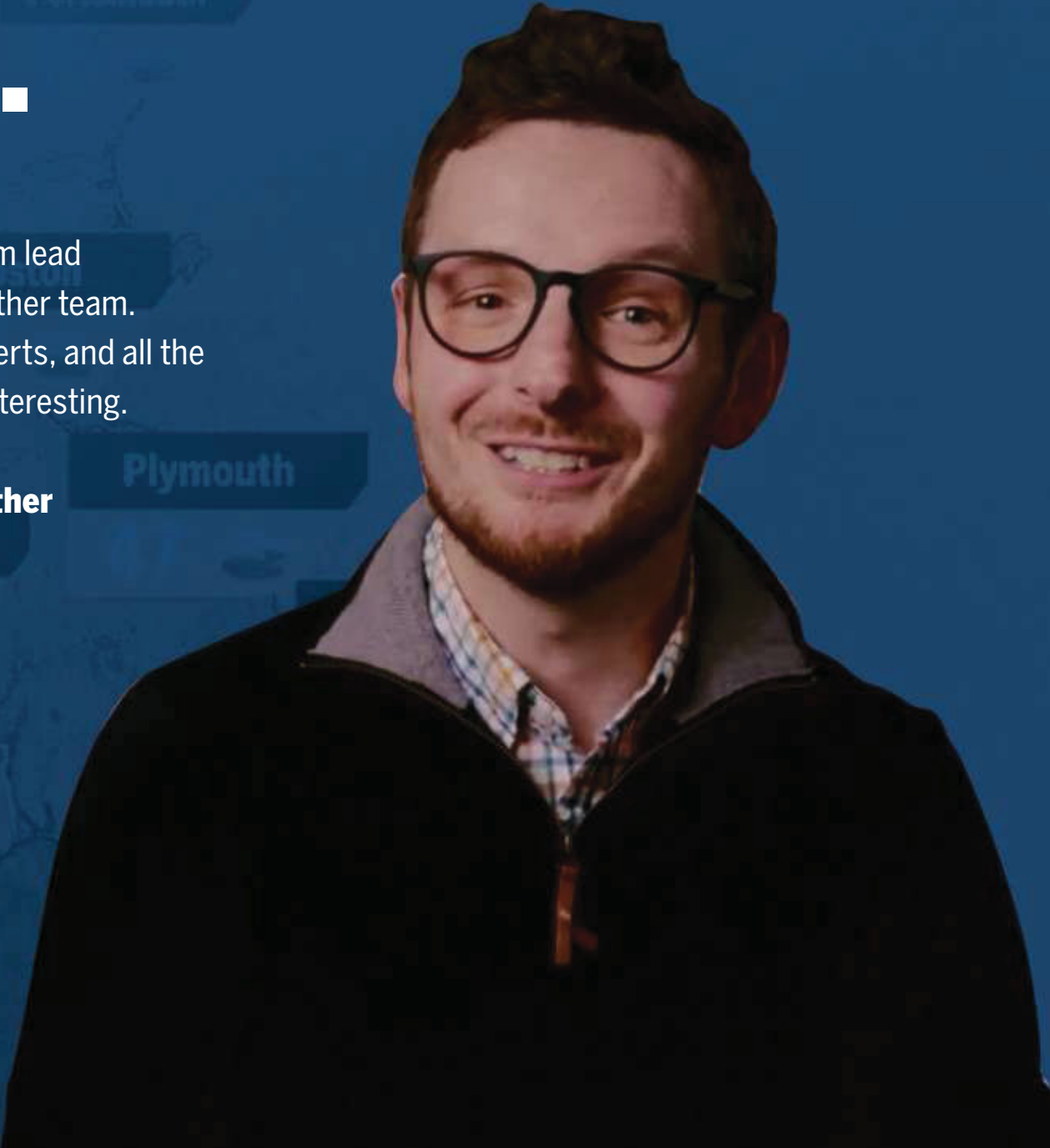
Top-seeded Alexander Zverev finished Monday's slate with a 6-2, 6-2, 7-6 win over No. 21 Luciano Darderi, and next will face van de Zandschulp.

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The Boston Globe



Baseball

Crochet tracking toward a return for playoffs

By Tim Healey
GLOBE STAFF

Garrett Crochet returning to the Red Sox as a reliever is starting to feel real.

RED SOX NOTEBOOK

Amid recent steady progress, he is tracking toward being ready for the first round of the playoffs, despite likely not pitching in a game — majors or minors — before then.

It raises the possibility of a fascinating, perhaps tantalizing scenario: Crochet emerging from the visitors' bullpen at Yankee Stadium (the Sox' most likely venue for the first round) with his high-90s heat in the biggest games of the year — after missing more than five months because of a left shoulder injury.

“Someone brought it up the other day. They were like, isn't that crazy? I'm like, not really,” Crochet told the Globe on Monday morning at Fenway Park. “I mean, not [to be all] me, me, me, me, but I've done crazy things before. I'm not Joe Schmo. I've done impressive things. I think that that would be a big ask for some people, but I don't think it's a crazy ask for me.”

Crochet has plenty of boxes to check across the next three weeks before the postseason begins Sept. 29.

Up next: a bullpen session Tuesday, his second since getting shut down in May. In his first such session, on Friday, his fastball was in the upper 80s, he said.

“There's going to be a time where I need to step on it,” Crochet said of the velocity. “First bullpen, not the time.”

He will not be ready for a rehabilitation assignment before the Triple-A season ends on Sept. 20, he said. But he is on pace to face hitters in a live batting practice/simulated game sort of setting during the final week of the regular season, during which the Red Sox are home against the Guardians and Cubs.



DANIELLE PARHIZKARAN/GLOBE STAFF

Mickey Gasper celebrated after working a second-inning walk, one of the Red Sox offense's five free passes to go with nine hits against the Angels.

If all that goes well, it could serve as a springboard to his rejoining the active roster, either for the very end of the regular season or for the playoffs.

“That's pretty similar,” Crochet said, “to how I made my debut.”

Yes, he has lived a version of this before.

In 2020, Crochet pitched in one game for the University of Tennessee before the pandemic triggered the cancellation of the season.

The White Sox drafted him in the first round and sent him to their alternate site. For months, he had minimal game action.

Crochet made five relief appearances in the regular season and was on the

White Sox' postseason roster.

“It was electric,” said White Sox general manager **Chris Getz**, who ran the club's player development then. “For that short window of time — when he was 100-plus — yeah, hitters wanted no part of him.”

The Red Sox imagine the same. “He's become an even better pitcher, clearly,” Getz said. “That could be a significant weapon for them, assuming that health is there and enough of a runway is there for him to build up and be effective.”

Houck in the house

Among other Red Sox starters attempting to return as relievers in 2026:

Red Sox 5, Angels 2

At Fenway Park										
LA ANGELS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.			
Neto ss	4	0	0	0	0	1	.236			
Trout dh	4	0	1	0	0	3	.243			
Meckler lf-rf	2	1	1	0	2	0	.299			
Grisson 3b-1b	3	0	0	0	1	3	.244			
Ballesteros 1b	4	1	3	1	0	0	.195			
Siri cf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.219			
Moore 2b	4	0	1	1	0	2	.171			
Lowe rf	3	0	0	0	0	1	.207			
a-Guzman ph-3b	1	0	0	0	0	0	.217			
Paris cf-lf	3	0	0	0	0	3	.000			
b-Frazier ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.233			
Heineman c	4	0	0	0	0	2	.170			
Totals	33	2	6	2	3	15				
BOSTON	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.			
Anthony dh	4	1	1	0	1	1	.243			
Gasper 1b	3	0	0	0	1	0	.270			
Rutschman c	4	1	1	3	0	1	.237			
Abreu rf	3	0	0	0	1	1	.255			
Story ss	4	0	0	0	0	0	.232			
Durbin 3b	4	1	2	0	0	1	.249			
Duran lf	4	1	2	1	0	1	.204			
Kiner-Falefa 2b	2	1	1	0	2	0	.277			
White cf	4	0	2	1	0	1	.296			
Totals	32	5	9	5	5	6				
LA Angels.....				.000	001	010	2	6	0	
Boston.....				.041	000	00x	5	9	0	
a-lined out for Lowe in 8th, b-flied out for Paris in 9th.										
LOB—LA Angels 8, Boston 8. 2B—Ballesteros (4), Durbin (23), Duran (15). HR—Ballesteros (2), off Olds, Rutschman (12), off Rodriguez, Duran (20), off Rodriguez. SB—Lowe (8), Kiner-Falefa (8). RISP—LA Angels 0 for 4, Boston 3 for 10.										
LA Angels	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA		
Rodriguez L 4-7	4	6	5	5	4	3	82	6.28		
Farris	2	2	0	0	1	3	36	4.11		
Weiman	1	0	0	0	0	0	10	2.38		
Joyce	1	1	0	0	0	0	18	2.61		
Boston	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA		
Bello W 6-7	5	4	0	0	2	7	103	4.82		
Olds	2	1	1	1	0	5	30	1.59		
Gamboa	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	1.33		
Whitlock S 3	1	0	0	0	0	2	15	1.88		
HBP—by Bello (Neto). Umpires—Home, Mark Wegner; First, Bruce Dreckman; Second, Carlos Torres; Third, Jacob Metz. T—2:46. A—36,787 (37,755).										

HOW THE RUNS SCORED

SECOND INNING
RED SOX — Duran homered to right, Kiner-Falefa walked. White grounded to shortstop, Kiner-Falefa to second. Anthony walked. Gasper flied to right, Kiner-Falefa to third. Rutschman homered off the right field foul pole, Kiner-Falefa and Anthony scored. Abreu grounded to first, pitcher covering.

THIRD INNING
RED SOX — Story popped to shortstop. Durbin singled to center. Duran struck out. Kiner-Falefa singled to left, Durbin to third. Kiner-Falefa stole second. White singled to second, Durbin scored, Kiner-Falefa to third, Anthony struck out.

SIXTH INNING
ANGELS — Ballesteros homered to right. Moore struck out. Lowe struck out. Paris struck out.

EIGHTH INNING
ANGELS — Meckler walked. Grisson struck out. Ballesteros doubled to right, Meckler to third. Moore grounded to shortstop Story, Meckler scored, Ballesteros to third. Guzman, hitting for Lowe, lined to shortstop.

Ahead of his rehabilitation appearance with Double-A Portland on Tuesday, **Tanner Houck** returned to Fenway for the first time in months. He spent the summer based in Fort Myers, Fla., working his way back from August 2025 Tommy John surgery.

Rutschman home run leads Sox past Angels

►RED SOX

Continued from Page C1

where,” interim manager Chad Tracy said. “Just a matter of if it stayed fair or foul, and it stayed fair. That pole being close helped. Ten feet deeper, it's probably going to hook to the right.”

Rodriguez gave up five runs in four innings for the Angels (54-90).

A quirk of the early goings of Rutschman's Sox stint: Three of his four long balls have come against former teammates. On Thursday, in his first game against the Orioles, he went deep twice against Brandon Young.

“I know kind of what they want to do with their arsenal. I know what makes them really good, so definitely have a game plan going in,” Rutschman said of hitting against pitchers he has caught. “It's such a different visual, though, catching vs. hitting that sometimes I'll step into the batter's box against guys and it just looks so much different than when you're catching them. But you do know what makes them really good.”

The Red Sox, at 80-65, are a season-high 15 games above .500. They became the third American League team to win that many games, following the Yankees and Rays. And they inched to within two games of the Yankees for the top AL wild-card spot.

Jarren Duran launched his 20th homer of the season, Caleb Durbin collected two hits, and Garrett Whitlock recorded the save in place of Aroldis Chapman (rest).

A theme of the Sox' latest win streak: dominant starting pitching, including a 1.16 ERA (four earned runs in 31 innings) over the past five games.

This time, it was righthander Brayan Bello. He navigated five innings without allowing a run in his first start since June 4, first win as a starter since April 12, and first scoreless start since Aug. 22, 2025.

“It was a very good outing,” Bello said through an interpreter. “At the beginning, I felt kind of weird, but I was able to find myself again and I was able to get the rhythm back on quickly.”

Tracy said: “It wasn't perfect. . . . He did a great job in the bases-loaded spots, making pitches. He got into some three-ball counts that can swing anything,

For more than a year, Houck consistently said he sought to return this month, even as he and the Sox acknowledged it was improbable. And now he has positioned himself to do so.

“It's been a long year, long process,” he said. “I've stuck with that dream the entire time. I've never faulted from it. Even being down in Florida, I knew what the goal was, and so to reach it [Tuesday in the minors], to finally hit that checkpoint of a real game where it matters, it's a good feeling.”

Houck said he is due to throw about 20 pitches Tuesday, then 40-45 (across two or three innings) Friday in another game with Portland. Then he'll join Triple-A Worcester for at least one game next week.

Call from the Hall

Aroldis Chapman donated to the Hall of Fame the cleats he wore Sunday, when he recorded his 400th save in a win over the Orioles. He became just the ninth pitcher to reach that milestone . . . **Justin Slaten** (right elbow inflammation) remains shut down from throwing as the Red Sox wait for his symptoms to resolve. “If he can get up and go and start throwing, there's still time,” interim manager **Chad Tracy** said. “That would be awesome if he's able to, but he's got to be healthy. I don't think we're at the point yet where I'm thinking we're completely out of room.” . . . Before a 5-2 win over the Angels, Tracy and chief baseball officer **Craig Breslow** presented **Willson Contreras** as the Sox' nominee for the Heart and Hustle Award, as chosen by the Major League Baseball Players Alumni Association . . . The Red Sox held a pregame moment of silence for former manager and Walpole native **Joe Morgan**, who died Saturday at 95.

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AL wild card

	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York.....	81	62	.566	—
Boston.....	80	65	.552	—
Cleveland.....	73	72	.503	—
*Toronto.....	72	72	.500	½
Texas.....	71	73	.493	1½
Baltimore.....	70	75	.483	3
Minnesota.....	68	76	.472	4½
Seattle.....	67	77	.465	5½
Detroit.....	66	78	.458	6½
Kansas City.....	64	81	.441	9
*Athletics.....	57	87	.396	15½
* — Not including late game				

and he made pitches and kept getting in the zone.”

Altogether, he scattered four hits and two walks and struck out seven.

Bello's biggest bugaboo from his early-season issues — the first inning, in which he had a 16.20 ERA — was not a problem this time. He worked around Wade Meckler's two-out walk.

In the third, he stranded the bases loaded.

“You can see it building, the confidence,” Tracy said.

Bello said: “My mentality changed. Before, I was just trying to locate pitches. Right now, just trying to be aggressive in the zone and not thinking much about end results, just being aggressive and attacking batters.”

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DANIELLE PARHIZKARAN/GLOBE

Wilyer Abreu (left) helped **Adley Rutschman** celebrate his three-run homer.



DANIELLE PARHIZKARAN/GLOBE STAFF

Jarren Duran displayed his new hairdo after hitting his 20th home run of the season in the Red Sox' 5-2 win over the Angels.

Teammates remind Duran of value

►ON BASEBALL

Continued from Page C1

the month, Story struck a different tone.

“[Story] finally heard it enough in Baltimore. He's like, ‘Dude, that's enough. All this negative self-talk, you're just making it a reality instead of [saying] if I talk positive, then positive outcomes will come,’” Duran recounted. “I'm very thankful for [teammates] always keeping me positive, and reminding me of how good I can be.”

On Monday, Duran offered his own reminder against the Angels, going 2 for 4 while kickstarting the offense with a solo homer (his 20th) in the second inning and adding a double in the fifth. It was Duran's first game with multiple extra-base hits since May 20.

His .204 average, .259 on-base percentage, and .365 slugging mark remain among the worst in baseball and drastically short of his career norms. Yet even against a landscape of struggles, there's plenty of evidence of an ability to take over games.

“He's hard on himself and it's not what he's wanted, but there's still a lot of production,” said interim manager Chad Tracy. “Not every year is going to go exactly how you want it to. You kind of look up there and glance, and . . . [he's got a] chance at 20/20 and a very legitimate chance with a good couple of weeks of having 80-plus

RBI.”

The best version of the Sox is one where the team benefits from Duran's multidimensional upside. To try to achieve it, the team has been willing to endure troughs while remaining committed to Duran as a lineup regular. Could that change when Willson Contreras returns from the injured list, with Mickey Gasper potentially getting more time at designated hitter, thus moving Roman Anthony to left field? Perhaps.

Still, the Sox don't want to retreat from what Duran can be. And despite his unsparing self-critiques, Duran has remained mindful that a better on-field version of himself remains within reach.

“That's the thing that's been bugging me all year. I've been so close all year, and I just haven't been able to click. . . . It's just the most frustrating thing, but it's baseball,” said Duran. “I know I can do better than what I'm doing, and it's the littlest details that literally keep me in a cage till 1 a.m. or have me taking a bat home, and I'm doing dry swings and looking in the mirror and watching video till, like, 4 a.m.”

Against that backdrop, perhaps a change of perspective can be freeing: a birthday (“I did wake up a little sore that day,” Duran said), a new hairstyle, or a reminder from teammates that Duran (two steals away from his second 20/20 season) is still im-

pacting games, or perhaps most importantly, a suggestion that the baseball calendar is about to reset with the Sox increasingly certain to be in the postseason field.

Veteran Isiah Kiner-Falefa has been in Duran's ear regularly, encouraging him to look forward rather than dwelling on what has transpired.

“[Kiner-Falefa] is like, ‘Let's just get hot and get you rolling into [the playoffs].’ That's kind of helped me [say], ‘Who cares about the numbers this year?’” relayed Duran. “He's like, ‘Just keep it simple and just have fun and think about getting to that next [stretch] of the season.’”

The Sox are hopeful that the best version of Duran will help spearhead their October push.

“He's a game-changer,” said catcher Connor Wong. “As bad as the year is that he feels like he's having, teams still have to prepare for him and take him seriously because he's such a threat not only at the plate but on the bases when he gets on. He's very dynamic. He plays a great left field. He's a key part of who we are as a team, our mind-set, and what we do. So, him being him is really important for us.”

Alex Speier can be reached at alex.speier@globe.com. Follow him @alexspeier.

San Diego	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Pivetta W 2-2	5	2	0	0	0	2	4.43
Hart	1	2	2	2	0	1	3.12
Rodriguez	1	0	0	0	0	2	1.93
Morejon	1	0	0	0	1	1	2.90
Miller S 3-4	1	1	0	0	0	2	1.17

Inherited runners scored—Simpson 1-0. **HBP**—by Sinclair (Campanuso). **NP**—Irvin 102, Simpson 15, Sinclair 18, Pivetta 63, Hart 23, Rodriguez 12, Morejon 9, Miller 15. **Umpires**—Home, Morales; First, Eddings; Second, Muchlinski; Third, Jimenez. **T**—2:25. **A**—38,149 (39,860).

Abreu, Bos.....	70	Olson, Atl.....	80
Repintendi CWS.....	70	Harner Phi.....	80



ALEX YU FOR THE GLOBE

Cam Heald (10), his brother Lucas (far left), and Duxbury teammates look for a return to the Division 2 state final.

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' SOCCER NOTEBOOK

Brotherly bonds on the field

Healds look to get Duxbury back in final

By Alex Yu
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

Lucas and Cam Heald have played soccer since age 5.

This fall will be the last for the two brothers from Duxbury suiting up on the same high school team.

“Lucas will continue to be an issue for opposing teams, and Cam is one of the best players in South Shore, even Eastern Mass.,” said Duxbury coach **Brian Johnson**, who watched the pair lead the Dragons to an 18-4-1 season and the Division 2 final against West Springfield last November, a 3-0 loss.

Lucas, a senior, is committed to Bentley University for lacrosse. Cam, a junior, is about to enter the recruitment process too, also for lacrosse.

The pair transferred from BC High two years ago due to the long commute and haven’t looked back.

“I love Duxbury, and it was just so easy to come back home. I think this is where we’re meant to be. Definitely have no regrets at all,” said Lucas.

The Healds play with a commanding style, each using their 6-foot frames to box out effectively and stay on the attack longer. The duo plays with controlled physicality and can wear down their opponents as a game goes on, all while staying vocal and keeping teammates focused.

“Speed and body control carry over the most from lacrosse,” said Lucas, “Whether it’s on offense or defense, the ability to use your body to win matchups is so important in both sports.”

Lucas excels at striker, coming off a 24-goal junior senior season and propel-

Globe Top 20

No.		Rec.	Last
1.	Natick	0-0-0	1
2.	Needham	0-0-0	2
3.	Duxbury	0-0-0	3
4.	Oliver Ames	0-0-0	4
5.	St. John's Prep	0-0-0	5
6.	Concord-Carlisle	0-0-0	6
7.	Newton South	0-0-0	7
8.	BC High	0-0-0	8
9.	Framingham	0-0-0	9
10.	Weymouth	0-0-0	10
11.	Medfield	0-0-0	11
12.	St. John's (S)	0-0-0	12
13.	Cambridge	0-0-0	13
14.	Brookline	0-0-0	14
15.	Dover-Sherborn	0-0-0	15
16.	Dartmouth	0-0-0	16
17.	Arlington	0-0-0	17
18.	Winchester	0-0-0	18
19.	New Bedford	0-0-0	19
20.	Norwell	0-0-0	20

ling the formerly defensive-oriented Duxbury squad into an offensive power. Cam has moved more to the attacking side, where he can better assist Lucas and command more of the field.

“I love playing with Lucas,” said Cam, “You know, since we didn’t always get to do this, especially at the youth level. I’m definitely just trying to take this all in. One last year [playing] with Lucas.”

In Friday’s scrimmage against Bridgewater-Raynham, Lucas found the net in the second half thanks to a crafty assist in traffic from Cam. This chemis-

try, and not just between the two brothers, has been vital leading up to the season for Duxbury.

“On Lucas’s goal, I somehow managed to get a pass to him, and then I got taken out, but it was all worth it,” said Cam, who left the game later due to cramping. Duxbury won the scrimmage, 2-0.

The Dragons will go into this year with state championship aspirations. When asked about goals, the two Healds pointed to winning a state title over any personal milestone or achievement.

“Each practice they’re building on what we did last year,” said Johnson, “As a final-four program with the amount of talent we have, you’re going to have a target on your back, no matter what.”

Corner kicks

■ It didn’t take long for new Central Catholic coach **Dimitrios Petrides** to record his first win, doing so on the first day of games with Sunday’s 3-2 non-league win over Revere. Petrides was a former assistant at Medford from 2014-19, when the Mustangs made two Division 1 North finals.

■ The MIAA has adopted the most recent NFHS rule changes for high school soccer. A few key changes to note: the time limit for goalkeeper possession increases from six to eight seconds and is penalized by awarding a corner, not an indirect free kick, clarifying guidance for officials for denial of goal scoring opportunities, dangerous play, and allows officials to award indirect free kicks for disciplining verbal offenses.

Correspondent Mike Puzanghera contributed to this story. Alex Yu can be reached at alex.yu@globe.com.

Scoreboard

	TUE 9/8	WED 9/9	THU 9/10	FRI 9/11	SAT 9/12	SUN 9/13	MON 9/14
	LAA 6:45 NESN	LAA 6:45 NESN		KC 7:10 NESN	KC 4:10 NESN	KC 1:35 NESN	
		SEA 8:20 NBC					
		NYC 8:00* AppleTV				CHI 5:30 AppleTV	
						WAS 1:00 ESPN	

Home games shaded
On the radio, unless noted: Red Sox, WEEI-FM 93.7; Patriots and Revolution, WBZ-FM 98.5. * – WBZ-FM 98.5-HD2.

ON THE AIR

BASEBALL		
6:40 p.m.	Houston at Philadelphia	TBS
6:45 p.m.	LA Angels at Boston	NESN
9:40 p.m.	Texas at Seattle	MLBN
CYCLING		
8:30 a.m.	Tour of Spain	NBCSN
MEN'S COLLEGE GOLF		
9:30 a.m.	Folds of Honor Collegiate	Golf
4:30 p.m.	Folds of Honor Collegiate	Golf

MEN'S SOCCER		
12:45 p.m.	UEFA Champions: Aston Villa at Brugge	CBSSN
3 p.m.	UEFA Champions: Villarreal at Dortmund	CBSSN
WOMEN'S SOCCER		
8:45 a.m.	U-20 World Cup: Brazil vs. Canada	FS2
11:45 a.m.	U-20 World Cup: Poland vs. Mexico	FS2
TENNIS		
11:30 a.m.	US Open	ESPN
7 p.m.	US Open	ESPN
WOMEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL		
7 p.m.	Auburn at Florida St.	ACC
9 p.m.	Oklahoma at Georgia Tech	ACC

■ For updates, go to bostonglobe.com/tvlistings

Schools

FIELD HOCKEY
NORTHEASTERN
Marblehead 6.....Danvers 2
Bp. Fenwick 3.....Swampscott 1
Groton-Dunstable 8.....Tyngsboro 2
Ipswich 1.....Mascomet 0
BOYS' GOLF
CAPE ANN
Ipswich 164.....Georgetown 101
SOCCER
BOYS
HOCKMOCK
Oliver Ames 3.....Taunton 0
SOUTH COAST
Fairhaven 3.....Joseph Case 0
NONLEAGUE
Amherst-Pelham 4.....Longmeadow 1
Framingham 3.....Boston Int'l 2
Mt. Greylock 2.....Hadley 2
New Bedford 2.....Bp. Feenhan 2
GIRLS
SOUTH COAST
Fairhaven 5.....Joseph Case 0
NONLEAGUE
Mt. Greylock 2.....Walcohonah 0
Norbridge 1.....Lunenburg 1

GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL
NONLEAGUE
Barnstable 3.....Danvers 0
■ For updated scores and highlights, go to bostonglobe.com/sports/high-schools .

FIBA Women's World Cup

MONDAY'S RESULTS	
Belgium 80.....	Australia 68
Puerto Rico 75.....	Turkey 71
Hungary 82.....	Korea 73
France 111.....	Nigeria 56
Spain 79.....	Japan 59
Germany 83.....	Mali 58
United States 105.....	Czechia 64
China 71.....	Italy 51
TUESDAY'S GAMES	
Hungary vs. Japan.....	11:45a
Germany vs. Korea.....	2:45
SUNDAY'S RESULTS	
Australia 87.....	Turkey 71
Belgium 76.....	Puerto Rico 64
China 74.....	Czechia 70
United States 55.....	Italy 52

MLS

EASTERN CONFERENCE					
	GP	W	D	L	P.Ls.
Nashville.....	23	16	5	2	53
Miami.....	23	12	7	4	43
Chicago.....	22	11	5	6	38
New England.....	23	11	4	8	37
Charlotte.....	23	10	6	7	36
Cincinnati.....	22	8	7	7	31
NYCFC.....	23	7	8	8	29
Orlando.....	23	8	4	11	28
Philadelphia.....	23	7	6	10	27
NY Red Bulls.....	23	7	6	10	27
Toronto.....	23	5	7	11	26
D.C. United.....	22	5	10	7	25
Columbus.....	23	6	5	12	23
Atlanta.....	23	6	4	13	22
Montreal.....	22	6	2	12	21
WESTERN CONFERENCE					
	GP	W	D	L	P.Ls.
Vancouver.....	22	13	4	5	43
Arson.....	23	9	0	9	31
Hull City.....	23	12	4	7	40
Dallas.....	23	10	7	6	37
St. Louis.....	23	10	7	6	37
San Jose.....	23	10	5	8	35
Colorado.....	23	10	1	12	31
Portland.....	23	9	10	31	
San Diego FC.....	23	8	6	9	30
Real Salt Lake.....	22	8	5	9	29
Minnesota.....	23	7	8	8	29
LA Galaxy.....	24	7	8	29	
Newcastle.....	22	6	7	9	27
Austin.....	23	6	7	10	25
Sporting KC.....	23	4	3	16	15

NWSL

GP	W	D	L	Pts.
Gotham FC.....	23	13	6	4
Washington.....	23	13	4	6
North Carolina.....	23	12	3	8
Utah.....	23	12	3	8
San Diego.....	23	12	7	37
Portland.....	23	11	5	38
Kansas City.....	23	11	4	8
Seattle.....	22	10	4	8
Angel City.....	22	9	5	8
Man. United.....	23	9	10	31
Orlando.....	23	9	2	12
Houston.....	23	7	5	26
Louisville.....	23	7	2	14
Boston.....	23	6	5	12
Bay FC.....	22	6	12	22
Chicago.....	23	5	1	17

Premier League

GP	W	D	L	Pts.
Manchester City.....	3	3	0	9
Arsenal.....	3	2	0	6
Hull City.....	3	2	1	7
Chelsea.....	3	2	0	6
Brentford.....	3	1	2	5
Liverpool.....	3	1	2	5
Newcastle.....	3	1	2	5
Everton.....	3	1	2	5
Leeds United.....	3	1	2	5
Brighton.....	3	1	1	4
Man. United.....	3	1	1	4
Sunderland.....	3	1	1	4
Crystal Palace.....	3	1	2	3
Bournemouth.....	3	1	2	3
Nottingham Forest.....	3	0	2	1
Aston Villa.....	3	0	2	1
Tottenham.....	3	0	2	1
Fulham.....	3	0	3	0
Coventry City.....	3	0	3	0

College football

MONDAY'S RESULT
SMU.....Florida State
EAST
Scranton/W-B.....36 25 590 —
Rochester.....37 26 587 —
Worcester.....34 27 557 2
Syracuse.....34 28 548 2½
Durham.....33 29 532 3½
Charlotte.....32 31 508 5
Buffalo.....30 31 492 6
Lehigh Valley.....29 33 468 7½
Jacksonville.....27 35 435 9½
Norfolk.....24 36 400 11½
WEST
Indianapolis.....36 27 571 1
St. Paul.....35 28 556 1
Columbus.....33 28 541 2
Nashville.....33 29 532 2½
Gwinnett.....32 31 508 4
Toledo.....32 31 508 4
Omaha.....29 32 460 7
Memphis.....29 34 460 7
Iowa.....27 36 429 9
Louisville.....20 43 317 16

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Indianapolis	36	27	.571	1
St. Paul	35	28	.556	1
Columbus	33	28	.541	2
Indianapolis	32	29	.522	2 1/2
Toledo	32	31	.508	3
Omaha	29	32	.508	4
Memphis	29	34	.467	6
Iowa	27	36	.429	9
Louisville	20	43	.317	16

MONDAY'S RESULTS

At Rochester 3.....Scranton/W-B 1
Nashville 3.....at Durham 0

TUESDAY'S GAMES

Worcester at Lehigh Valley.....6:45
Columbus at Louisville.....6:35
Omaha at Indianapolis.....6:35
Buffalo at Charlotte.....6:35
Gwinnett at Jacksonville.....7:05
Syracuse at St. Paul.....7:37
Toledo at Iowa.....7:38

Eastern League

NORTHEAST	W	L	Pct.	GB
Reading.....	36	25	.581	
Binghamton.....	33	30	.524	3½
Somerset.....	33	30	.524	3½
Portland.....	32	31	.508	4½
Hartford.....	25	38	.397	11½
New Hampshire.....	24	39	.381	12½
SOUTHWEST	W	L	Pct.	GB
Erie.....	41	22	.651	
Chesapeake.....	34	28	.548	6½
Akron.....	31	30	.508	9
Harrisburg.....	30	31	.492	10
Richmond.....	30	32	.484	10½
Altoona.....	25	37	.403	15½
TUESDAY'S GAMES				
Binghamton at Portland.....6				
Akron at Altoona.....6				
Harrisburg at New Hampshire.....6:03				
Hartford at Somerset.....6:35				
Erie at Reading.....6:45				
Chesapeake at Richmond.....7:05				
SUNDAY'S RESULTS				
Portland 9.....at Chesapeake 7				
Altoona 8.....at Hartford 4				
Reading 6.....at Hartford 2				
At Erie 11.....Somerset 10				
New Hampshire 7.....at Binghamton 6				
At Akron 14.....Richmond 6				

South Atlantic League

NORTH	W	L	Pct.	GB
Frederick.....	42	23	.646	—
Greensboro.....	41	25	.621	1½
Wilmington.....	38	28	.576	4½
Hudson Valley.....	35	31	.530	7½
Brooklyn.....	32	34	.485	10½
Ashville.....	25	40	.389	14½
Hub City.....	26	40	.394	9½
SOUTH	W	L	Pct.	GB
Bowling Green.....	35	30	.538	—
Winston-Salem.....	35	30	.538	—
Greenville.....	34	32	.515	1½
Rome.....	28	37	.431	7
Delmarva.....	22	44	.333	18
TUESDAY'S GAMES				
Bowling Green at Winston-Salem.....6:30				
Frederick at Hickory.....6:30				
SUNDAY'S RESULTS				
At Bowling Green 4.....Greenville 3				
At Rome 12.....Winston-Salem 4				
At Wilmington 6.....Hudson Valley 5				
Frederick 6.....at Brooklyn 5				
At Hub City 1.....Jersey Shore 0				
Greensboro 6.....at Asheville 4				

Carolina League

NORTH	W	L	Pct.	GB
Fayetteville.....	39	25	.609	—
Fredericksburg.....	31	33	.523	5½
Salem.....	31	35	.470	9
Wilson.....	28	36	.438	11
Ashville.....	25	40	.389	14½
Delmarva.....	22	44	.333	18
SOUTH	W	L	Pct.	GB
Hickory.....	48	17	.738	—
Kannapolis.....	38	28	.576	10½
Charleston.....	36	30	.545	12½
Augusta.....	35	30	.538	13
Columbia.....	30	33	.476	17
Myrtle Beach.....	23	40	.365	24
TUESDAY'S GAMES				
Fredericksburg at Fayetteville.....6:35				
Charleston at Hickory.....7				
SUNDAY'S RESULTS				
Hill City 10.....at Salem 7				
At Kannapolis 14.....Delmarva 3				
At Fredericksburg 7.....Wilson 2				
Augusta 3.....at Charleston 2				
Fayetteville.....at Hickory (canc.)				
Columbia.....at Myrtle Beach (canc.)				

Transactions

MLB
Chicago White Sox: P Chris Murphy removed from 15-day IL, sent to minors.
Cincinnati: SS Edwin Arroyo sent to minors. 3B Ke'Bryan Hayes removed from 10-day IL.
Colorado: SS Ryan Ritter sent to minors. 3B Kyle Karros recalled from minors rehab, removed from 7-day IL.
LA Dodgers: P Bobby Miller sent to minors.
Milwaukee: P Brandon Sproat called up from minors. P Grant Anderson placed on 15-day IL.
Minnesota: P Garrett Acton sent to minors. P Joe Ryan removed from 15-day IL, recalled from minors rehab.
NY Mets: P Justin Hagenman sent to minors. P Jonah Tong called up from minors.
San Diego: P Jhony Brito to minors. C Blake Hunt designated for assignment. P Nick Pietta removed from 60-day IL, recalled from minors rehab.
San Francisco: P Braxton Roxby sent to minors. P Philip Abner called up.
Washington: P Yovanny Cruz called up from minors. P Orlando Ribata placed on 15-day IL.
NFL
Cleveland: DT Zion Logue pract. squad add. DE Tyreek Sapp pract. squad del.
Denver: S Taylor Rapp pract. squad add. TE Luke Basso pract. squad del.
Detroit: C Seth McLaughlin, RB Jabari Small pract. squad add. G Mason Miller pract. squad del. LB Joe Bachie active/prac. squad.
Las Vegas: TE Patrick Grud pract. squad add. DT Gary Smith III, S Devin Lafayette pract. squad del.
LA Chargers: CB Isaac Waxter pract. squad add. WR Gary Jennings Jr. pract. squad del.
LA Rams: DT Tim Keenan III pract. squad add.<

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BY CITY AND TOWN

BOSTON O'NEIL, Richard James SEARS, Lawrence B.	SALEM LITTLE, Selina
BROOKLINE LITTLE, Selina	WAKEFIELD LARSEN, Allan R.
COTUIT LARSEN, Allan R.	WELLESLEY CORCORAN, Nancy (Harrington)
DEDHAM CORCORAN, Nancy (Harrington)	WESTON LARSEN, Allan R.
DORCHESTER CICCOLO, John M.	WESTWOOD CORCORAN, Nancy (Harrington)
NAHANT RYDER, John E.	WEYMOUTH CICCOLO, John M.
NATICK CORCORAN, Nancy (Harrington)	
NEEDHAM CORCORAN, Nancy (Harrington)	
PEABODY LITTLE, Selina McGRAY, Michael Edward	
QUINCY O'NEIL, Richard James	
READING LARSEN, Allan R.	

CICCOLO, John M. “Chick”



 Passed away peacefully at home on September 4, 2026.

He grew up in Dorchester's St. Brendan's parish and graduated from Boston English High in 1950 where he was a gifted athlete, captaining the basketball team when it won the City Hub Championship and co-captaining the football team.

He attended Suffolk University and served in the U.S. Navy.

He retired from the Boston Police Department in 1992, with the rank of Captain, and subsequently served as a Captain for the Boston University Police. He was awarded the Department's Medal of Honor for neutralizing the threat posed by a gunman who had shot and wounded his partner.

As the President of Police Promotional Services, he taught and mentored officers across the Commonwealth.

John was known for his honesty, integrity and kindnesses to those less fortunate. He never missed the opportunity to help people.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 70 years, Joan (Maloney) Ciccolo. Also survived by his four sons, Jack (Sid), Michael, Christopher (Angela), and Steven; as well as eight grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to greet the family during the visiting hours on Friday, September 11, 2026, from 4-7 PM, in the McDonald Keohane Funeral Home, SOUTH WEYMOUTH, at 809 Main Street (Rte. 18 opp. So. Shore Hospital).

Funeral Services will be celebrated on Saturday September 12, 2026, at 10 AM, in the McDonald Keohane Funeral Home. Burial will follow in Cedar Grove Cemetery, Dorchester.

See keohane.com for directions and online condolences.

Funeral Services

**CANNIFF MONUMENT**
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800-439-3690 • 617-876-9110
531 Cummings Highway, Roslindale
583 Mt. Auburn Street, Cambridge
MON-FRI 9-9; SAT 9-5, SUNDAY 12-5

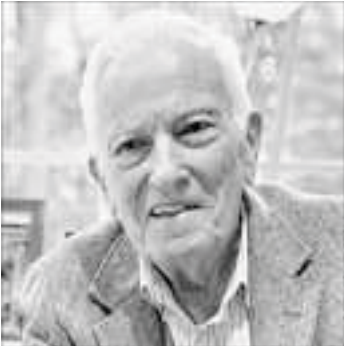
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The Boston Globe

LARSEN, Allan R.



 Age 96. Of Wakefield. September 3. Husband of Esther (Madsen) Larsen.

Father of Richard Larsen of Wakefield, Janet Logan (husband, Paul) of Cotuit, Christine Hylan (husband, Gary) of Reading and Ruthanne Brown of Weston. Grandfather of Kristen and husband, Matt, Lauren and husband, Jared, Erik, Julia, Michael, Travis, Hannah, Daniel, and Garrett.

Great-grandfather of Milo, Jackson, Adeline, and Hallie. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to “Friends of Lake Quannapowitt,” P.O. Box 517, Wakefield, MA 01880 or online, at mail@folq.org. A Celebration of Life will take place in Allan's honor at a later date this fall. For obit and guestbook, www.mcdonaldfh.com

LITTLE, Selina Fletcher

Of Peabody, MA, formerly of Salem and Brookline, died on Friday, August 28, 2026, in Peabody, MA. She was 93 years of age. Selina was born on January 12, 1933, in Boston, MA. She attended The Winsor School and Bennington College. Selina worked as an Entertainment Director for the U.S. Army in West Germany and for the Swedish-American Line. She was the daughter of Bertram Kimball Little and Nina Fletcher Little. Selina was predeceased by her two brothers, John B. Little and Warren M. Little. She is survived by a niece and nephews and grandnieces and grandnephews.

A Requiem Mass will be at The Church of the Advent, Boston, MA, at 10:30 a.m., on September 12, 2026. Burial will be private.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to The Rectors Fund for the Poor and Needy, The Church of the Advent, 30 Brimmer Street, Boston, MA 02108.

McGRAY, Michael Edward



God has welcomed home his beloved son, Michael Edward McGray, on September 2, 2026, at 61 years of age. Michael passed away peacefully, surrounded by his loving family. Michael was born on May 25, 1965, the eighth of nine children of Carolyn McGray of Peabody, MA, with whom Michael lived happily for his entire life, along with his twin brother, David.

Michael had Down syndrome and graduated from Peabody Veterans Memorial High School in 1987. He was a productive member of his community and worked in several positions for many years through the Northeast ARC.

Michael lived a full and rich life. He was a devoted member of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Peabody. A Special Olympics athlete, he won a silver medal in gymnastics at the International Summer Special Olympics in 1987. Michael was passionate about music, singing, dancing, photography, and played the piano, harmonica, and ukulele. He was a huge Celtics fan.

Michael was adventurous, witty, and friendly to all. He loved to meet new people, and had a sweet, caring, and genuine nature. He blessed everyone with unconditional love. He was the best “hugger,” and said “I love you” often to his friends and family.

Michael was a beautiful gift from God. Hearts are broken everywhere with his passing, and he will be missed forever. Michael leaves behind his beloved and devoted mother, Carolyn; siblings, William McGray (Mary Blaisdell), Linda McGray, Laurie Wilson (Charles Wilson), Susan Ricciardelli (Albert Ricciardelli), Julie Carleton (Tom Carleton), Kevin McGray (Cathy McGray) and Mary Hall (Eric Hall); Goddaughter, Sarah McGray; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, grandnieces and grandnephews. Michael was predeceased by his twin brother, David; and his nephew, Benjamin Blaisdell.

A vVisitation will be held at the Conway Cahill-Brodeur Funeral Home, 82 Lynn St., PEABODY, MA, on Friday, September 11, from 4 to 7 pm. His Funeral Mass will be held at 10 am, on Saturday, September 12, at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 17 Chestnut Street, Peabody, MA. Relatives and friends are kindly invited to attend. Burial will follow at St. Mary's Cemetery, 226 North Street, Salem MA. For full obituary and online guestbook, please visit www.ccbfuneral.com

O'NEIL, Richard James



April 14,1941-August 24, 2026

Of Quincy, passed away on August 24, 2026, at Lakeview House Nursing Home in Haverhill, MA, after a period of declining health.

Richard was born in Quincy, the older son of the late Natalie D. (LeBlanc) O'Neil and Cornelius O'Neil. He was the brother of the late Edward T. O'Neil. He grew up in Charlestown and resided in North Quincy for many years. As a young person, Richard spent much time at the Boys Club of Boston. He was honored at the age of 17, as the first “Boy Ambassador” of the Boys Club, winning a seven-week stay in England.

He received his undergraduate degree in education and history from Boston University and his master's degree from Boston State College. He began teaching in Boston in 1963.

As a young teacher, he enjoyed supervising aspiring teachers through the Teacher Corps. Richard had a lifelong career in education, teaching history and social studies in junior and senior high schools in Boston public schools.

He retired from South Boston High School in 2001. Richard enjoyed extensive travels throughout the U.S., Canada and Europe.

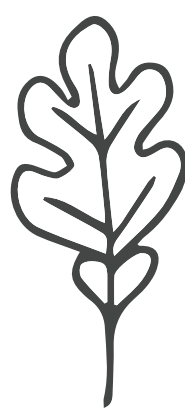
He was a lover of history, the fine arts, opera and classical music. Richard had a great sense of humor and was a wonderful storyteller.

He is survived by his cousins, Barbara Howes of Lowell, MA, Richard Howes of Exeter, NH and his wife, Joanne, and Elaine (LeBlanc) Golubisky and her husband, Bill Golubisky; and by a dear and faithful friend, Kathleen McGrath Fitts.

Many thanks to the nurses, especially Dale Gordon-Payette, the aides, particularly, Joleen Labour and to Bill King, volunteer at Lakeview House Nursing Home, for their care, kindness and friendship to Richard during the three years he was a resident.

His Funeral will be at 11 a.m., on Friday, September 11, at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, 237 Sea Street in Quincy, followed by a graveside service at Pine Hill Cemetery, 815 Willard Street in Quincy. Donations in his memory may be made to the Pine Street Inn, 444 Harrison Avenue, Boston 02118.

Deware Funeral Home
617-472-1137
www.dewarefuneralhome.com



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RYDER, John E.



 Of Nahant, MA

It is with gratitude for a life well lived that we announce the passing of John E. Ryder, who peacefully passed away in North Palm Beach, FL, on August 2, 2026, at the age of 89. Jack graduated from St. John's Preparatory School (1955) before earning a degree in civil engineering from Norwich University (1959).

He was a professional engineer, real estate investor, sailor, gardener, craftsman, and proud Rotarian. Jack lived a life defined by hard work, commitment, and a deep appreciation for the outdoors.

He was predeceased by his beloved wife of 50 years, Rosalie (Bergeron) Ryder, with whom he shared a lifetime of love and partnership. Together, they built a large family. Jack leaves behind four children, John Ryder, Jr., Marion Webster, Carolyn Crawford, and Christopher Ryder; ten grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Later in life, Jack spent most of his time in North Palm Beach, FL with his loving companion, Andi Taffe.

He will be remembered for his steady presence and wisdom. Whether under sail, in the garden, or in his workshop, he found purpose in building, teaching, and sharing. He will be deeply missed and remembered with love.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday, Sept 11, 2026, at 11 am, at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 248 Nahant Road, Nahant, MA 01908. Burial will follow immediately after the Mass at Greenlawn Cemetery,195 Nahant Road.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in John Ryder's memory to Camp Rotary, PO Box 270 Rd., Boxford, MA 01921 c/o Susan Gallant or <https://camprotary.networkforgood.com/projects/190995-support-our-work> .

Arrangements are under the direction of Cartier's Funeral Home, BELLINGHAM, MA. For complete obituary and to sign the guestbook, visit www.cartiersfuneralhome.com

SEARS, Lawrence “Larry” B.



Of Back Bay passed away on September 4, 2026, after a short stay at B&W Hospital.

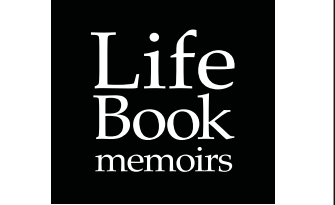
Larry was born to Dr. and Mrs. John Sears of Brookline, MA, on June 3, 1936. As a young man, he lived on Amory St. in Brookline and credited his love and ability in tennis to learning to play at the Amory St. playground. Larry graduated from Phillips Andover Academy, Harvard University (1958), and Stanford Business School (1960), before moving to Paris, France, where he worked at Le Printemps, Columbia Pictures, and, for many years, the International Herald Tribune (“IHT”). While at IHT, he traveled extensively throughout Europe and Africa and assisted in the start of the Asian IHT in Hong Kong.

Larry was dedicated to both IHT and racket sports. He was a varsity tennis player at Harvard in the 1950s and captained the Harvard squash team. He played for both the U.S. and French teams in numerous national and international tournaments and won first place in many USTA and ITF tournaments across the U.S. and around the world. Larry returned to Boston in 2008 to live with his partner, Carol Chandler, and became an active senior player at the Longwood Cricket Club.

Larry was a kind and gentle soul who never forgot the errors he had made in games he had lost. He was also a talented amateur magician who performed for his many friends. He enjoyed seeing and playing with friends and sharing good food. Larry loved his many friends, his partner Carol, brother, Harry Sears of Brookline and his cousins Harry and Thuong Ringel. He also delighted in traveling with Carol, with whom he shared the many places around the world where he had spent time and the friends he had made there. Together, they traveled to the Near and Far East, Europe, North Africa, Southeast Asia, and South America.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Friends of Harvard Tennis at gocrimson.com/giving

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Obituaries

Timothy Carney, diplomat who went places others avoided, at 82

By Adam Nossiter
NEW YORK TIMES

Timothy Carney, a diplomat who relished difficult assignments in war-torn countries and pushed against bureaucratic restrictions, died Aug. 10 at his home in Cambridge. He was 82.

His death, from cancer, was confirmed by his wife, Victoria Butler.

In a State Department career that took him from Vietnam and Cambodia during the Vietnam War, to South Africa during the final years of apartheid, to ambassadorships in Sudan and Haiti as those countries disintegrated, to Iraq after the US invasion, Mr. Carney proved to be willing to challenge conventional thinking and to go places other diplomats avoided.

He foresaw the looming menace of the Khmer Rouge dictatorship in Cambodia in the mid-1970s and engaged with Afrikaners in the mid-1980s, convinced they were opening up to the idea of majority rule in South Africa. He opposed closing the US Embassy in Khartoum, the capital of Sudan, in 1996 while Osama bin Laden established himself there — the closure deprived the United States of a valuable listening post. He was skeptical of Jean-Bertrand Aristide, seen by many in Washington as a valuable ally, as Aristide prepared to retake power in Haiti. In Iraq, Mr. Carney was publicly disgusted with the absence of US planning.

Colleagues said he didn't hesitate to engage with US foes, believing that to be the diplomats' best role. "He wasn't afraid of anybody," former US ambassador Robin Raphael, who knew Mr. Carney for decades, said in an interview.

"You don't make deals with your friends, you make deals

with your enemies," Raphael said, describing Mr. Carney as "pro-engagement in a way that makes perfect sense." She added: "Serious people paid attention to him."

Unusually for a diplomat, Mr. Carney insisted on seeing things for himself, even at the cost of incurring the wrath of his superiors.

As Phnom Penh, the capital of Cambodia, was being rocketed by rebels in 1972, Mr. Carney — then a junior official in the US Embassy — jumped into a car with a Cambodian journalist and soon found "a little kid" who "had been chopped up by a chunk of casing from this 122 mm rocket, and was dead," Mr. Carney told an interviewer in 2002 for a State Department oral history project.

Undeterred, "we heard a lot of automatic weapons fire from further south," he said, "and we drove down there to see what was going on."

The next day, he reported all of it to his bosses at the embassy. They were horrified.

"One didn't do that," Mr. Carney told the interviewer in 2002. "You weren't supposed to put yourself at risk, which struck me as a very bizarre way to do foreign affairs reporting in a war. You have to get out, meet people, and be out of the embassy as much as you possibly could."

That approach — leaving the embassy — was, and remains, untypical for State Department officials. In an era of heightened security concerns, US diplomats typically stay behind the embassy's Marine-guarded walls, venturing out only for official events.

"He was where no other foreign service officer would be," Elizabeth Becker, a journalist with extensive reporting experi-

ence in Cambodia, said in an interview. "He treated Cambodians with a kind of dignity I did not see from others."

In April 1975, with the murderous Khmer Rouge closing in, he drove to the prime minister's house to urge government ministers to evacuate via helicopter. "Nope," he recalled. "Only one went with us."

He followed the same path 10 years later in South Africa, where, as a political counselor at the US Embassy in Pretoria, he went to parties with Afrikaners, some of whom defended apartheid, while meeting others who were "serious, engaging, ruthless, but they had the real interest" in ending it, unlike more outwardly liberal South Africans who he believed paid lip service to change.

Then-president Bill Clinton appointed Mr. Carney as ambassador in Sudan and Haiti. "No matter how unstable the political environment and how tense relations could be, Tim always maintained the highest level of professionalism and tenacity," Clinton wrote on Facebook after his death, adding that Mr. Carney "always believed that diplomacy was the essential key to reducing instability and promoting peace and prosperity."

When Clinton sent Mr. Carney to Sudan in 1995, the country was a safe harbor for Islamist terrorists, and boiling with insurgency. Bin Laden had found refuge there after leaving Saudi Arabia in 1991. For Mr. Carney it was an ideal spot from which to gauge the terrorist threat ahead.

But officials in Washington, led by Susan Rice, the National Security Council senior director for African Affairs at the time, were nervous about threats to the diplomats in Khartoum and moved them to Kenya early in



KENT GILBERT/ASSOCIATED PRESS/FILE

Timothy Carney met with Boniface Alexandre, the interim president of Haiti, in 2005.

1996.

For Mr. Carney, it was a big mistake. He had been keeping an eye on bin Laden but could no longer do so. "We took our eye off the ball," he later told Roger Cohen of the New York Times. "We did not know what was happening in Khartoum, a center of extremist Islam."

The same bluntness characterized his response to the chaos of Haiti, where he arrived as ambassador in January 1998 — "no trees except at the embassy residence" he said in the State Department oral history interview — and quickly took the measure of Aristide, who was regarded with indulgence on Capitol Hill.

"He was more of the same," Mr. Carney told the State Department interviewer. "He himself certainly tolerates corruption as a way of manipulating people. Interesting."

Timothy Michael Carney was born on July 12, 1944, in St. Joseph, Mo., one of three children of Colonel Clement Carney, a career army officer who was a judge in the Judge Advocate

General Corps, and Jane (Byrne) Carney, an English teacher. The family moved often when Mr. Carney was growing up, and two of those years were spent in Taiwan.

He graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with a bachelor of science in 1966.

His first foreign service job came the following year with a junior posting at the embassy in Vietnam, and from 1969 to 1971 he was posted to the embassy in Lesotho.

After his tour in Cambodia ended in 1975, Mr. Carney studied at Cornell University, served in Washington on the State Department's Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia desk and was appointed to the US mission in Thailand from 1979 to 1983.

During the 1990s, Mr. Carney undertook several missions for the United Nations, including as adviser to the UN representative in Somalia in 1993.

Mr. Carney retired from the State Department in December 1999. He returned to govern-

ment service for several months in 2003 as a member of the Office of Reconstruction and Humanitarian Assistance, the agency established under the Department of Defense to help reconstruct Iraq.

He left Baghdad after two months, frustrated by what writer David Rieff called a "dialogue of the deaf between ORHA officials and the US military on the ground in Iraq." He returned to Iraq for several months in 2007 and assisted the State Department in Afghanistan in 2009.

In addition to his wife, a journalist and writer whom he married in 1983, Mr. Carney leaves his daughter, Anne Carney, from his previous marriage with Demaz Tep Baker; his sister, Sheri Carney; and two grandchildren.

"Tim was very deeply committed everywhere he served," Butler said in an interview. "Everywhere we went he got to know the people where we lived. He believed very strongly in soft power versus hard power. He was an old school kind of diplomat."

Noël Godin, prankster who threw pies at the powerful

By Michael S. Rosenwald
NEW YORK TIMES

Noël Godin, a Belgian entertainer and anarchist who demonstrated his distaste for pomposity by hurling cream pies at executives, politicians, and celebrities, a dessert-based form of protest that splattered Bill Gates, Nicolas Sarkozy, and Jean-Luc Godard, among many others, died Aug. 23. He was 80.

His partner, actor Sylvie Broodthaers, confirmed the death in a statement to Agence France-Presse. No other details were provided.

A self-described "anarcho-confectioner," Mr. Godin led the International Pâtisserie Brigade, a gang of custard commandos who referred to their assaults as entartements. They deployed pies with soft crusts to ensure that their caloric projectiles would only injure pride.

"We use only the finest patisserie, ordered at the last minute from small local bakers," Mr. Godin told The Observer, a British newspaper, in 1995. "Quality is everything. If things go wrong, we eat them."

Mr. Godin — "pie-eyed, pudding-faced and potbellied," in one writer's description — was a pain in the derriere most of his life, beginning in Catholic school when he complained to the priests about his lackluster sex life.

In 1968, after participating in the student uprisings in Paris, he was expelled from the University of Liège in Belgium for dousing a right-wing law professor with a pot of glue.

Unsuited for regular employment, Mr. Godin found work writing for Friends of Film, an obscure entertainment magazine for which he fabricated articles, including one about jazz trumpeter Louis Armstrong's investment in a movie titled "The Vegetables of Good Will," starring Claudia Cardinale as a giant endive.

He also concocted filmmakers. One was Georges Le Gloupier. In 1969, Mr. Godin reported that Le Gloupier had attacked (real) director Robert Bresson with a cream pie. In the next issue, Mr. Godin reported that (real) writer Marguerite Duras, a friend of Bresson's, tossed a pie



GETTY IMAGES/FILE

Mr. Godin's pies hit Bill Gates in 1998, but he was removed by security (right) before taking aim at the Cannes Film Festival in 2004.

at Le Gloupier in retaliation.

"Madame," Le Gloupier supposedly shot back, "I prefer your pastry to your literature."

A few days after making up the reprisal to the made-up attack, Mr. Godin heard that Duras was (really) set to appear at a cinema in Belgium. He hatched a plan to (really) pie her in the face; succeeded; and then reported that Le Gloupier had been the launcher.

A nemesis was born.

Taking on the persona of Le Gloupier, Mr. Godin formed his brigade, a ragtag group of filmmakers, writers, and anarchist gadflies who shouted "Gloup, Gloup, Gloup!" as they flung their pastries.

While Charlie Chaplin, Laurel and Hardy, and the Three Stooges were among the first to demonstrate the hilarity of pie throwing, Mr. Godin refined the art of using whipped cream as a kind of protest.

"There are a thousand forms of subversion, all of them interesting," he told The Observer. "But few, in my opinion, can equal the convenience and immediacy of the cream pie."

He followed a self-imposed code of ethics when choosing targets. "They're always very rich," Mr. Godin told The New York Times in 1998. "We never attack inoffensive, harmless celebrities or people who are now in a weak position."

He and his co-conspirators had a particular revulsion to French public intellectual Ber-



FRANCOIS GUILLLOT/VIA GETTY IMAGES

nard-Henri Lévy, who once called himself "the most gifted writer of my generation," a statement of such pomposity that the brigade was moved to pie him eight times.

While most pie victims took their lickings by licking the payload — Godard, the filmmaker, earned kudos from the brigade for slurping whipped cream off his fingers — Lévy knocked Mr. Godin down and yelled, "Get up, or I'll kick your head in."

"When I was a child and adolescent, I used to fight antisemites," Lévy, who is Jewish, said during an interview on France 3, a public television network. "And that's what I was taught: that there's no point arguing, that you needed to hit. So I hit."

Mr. Godin's signature operation was pieing Gates, the co-founder of Microsoft, during a visit to Brussels in 1998. More than 30 people, carrying two dozen pies, were involved in the stunt.

"On the actual day of the hit, we had to wait all afternoon," Mr. Godin told Dazed magazine. "We congregated at the pub and drank monks' beer to give us all courage."

Sufficiently tipsy, they fanned out to a hotel where Gates was arriving to give a speech.

"We shouted the war cry — 'Let us flan, let us flan the tainted money!' — and then went into action," Mr. Godin said. "In total, he received three pies outside and a further one straight in the

face when he entered the hotel lobby."

Gates declined to press charges. His only complaint, The Seattle Times noted, was that the pie wasn't tasty.

Mr. Godin was born in Liège, Belgium, on Sept. 13, 1945. His father was a lawyer, and his mother was active in the Catholic Church.

He did not yield to authority, especially in school. "Young Godin's spirited anticlerical capers would stop at nothing," Andrew Gallix wrote in the online cultural journal 3:AM Magazine, including "hitching up the nuns' skirts" and "playing a recorded concert of farts during Mass."

Like other anarchists, he was shaped by the tumultuous 1960s, especially his experiences in the Paris student uprisings.

"I have always remained true to the spirit of May '68," he told Dazed. "I still live for that time and have always advocated direct sabotage, the sabotage of the professions, the sabotage of the roles into which we are trapped by our day-to-day boredom."

Mr. Godin had a hodgepodge of professions. As a writer, he published books on film theory and the history of radicalism, as well as a memoir, "Cream and Punishment." He directed several short Dada-punk films and had cameos in films made by his friends, including Jan Bucquoy.

Visiting Mr. Godin's home in

Brussels in 1998, a reporter from The Wall Street Journal found the floors "strewn with cat litter and cigarette butts. Half-empty wineglasses and dirty plates jockey for space with piles of books and papers."

Mr. Godin had a collection of more than 10,000 videos, most of which were slapstick movies. He viewed his life's work as a series of miniature blockbusters. "Pastry attacks are made like films," he said in 2022. "Except that their main protagonists don't know that they are playing in it."

Information about his survivors was not immediately available. Mr. Godin told The Observer that he did not have children "because it would be irresponsible to bring them into this bleak and tragic world."

Over the years, Mr. Godin was offered large sums of money to attack certain celebrities.

"For instance, I had an offer to pie Catherine Deneuve in Cannes and also Sharon Stone," he told The Netly News, a web zine. "I refused. I love Catherine Deneuve and the movies of Jacques Demy. And that year Sharon Stone was in a Western I really liked. So I had nothing against her."

Also, it would have been unseemly to accept cash.

"We want to be freebooters, pirates with pies," Mr. Godin told the Los Angeles Times in 1997. "We will never be mercenaries, because then we'd be a pathetic bunch, indeed."

At 91, Niels Refsgaard; transformed tableware

NEW YORK TIMES

Niels Refsgaard, a Danish ceramist and designer for Dansk, the company that put Scandinavian design on the postwar American table, died July 14 in Copenhagen.

His death, in a hospital at 91, was announced by his daughter Marie Louise Refsgaard.

Despite its name, Dansk — which is Danish for Danish — was an American company founded in the mid-'50s by Theodore and Martha Nierenberg, an engineer and a biochemist, out of their garage in Great Neck, N.Y.

They built it around the designs of Jens Quistgaard, a Dane who was known for his handmade flatware. For a decade, it was Quistgaard's work that defined the company. His minimalist stainless-steel cutlery with wooden handles, wooden salad bowls, cutting boards, ice buckets and enameled steel cookware were ubiquitous in some households.

When Nierenberg wanted to expand, he looked again to Denmark. Niels Refsgaard was a ceramist collaborating with companies such as Saxbo, a noted studio pottery manufacturer in Copenhagen — studio pottery is work that is handmade in small batches — and in the mid-'60s he joined Dansk.

He was a devotee of English potter Bernard Leach, whose "A Potter's Book" (1940) was a touchstone for generations of artists and who believed that the imperfections and distinct flourishes of handmade clay objects were what made them beautiful.

Mr. Refsgaard had developed an ingenious way of firing stoneware with a glaze flecked with iron. His first designs for Dansk were cannily branded as Generation, a line of dinnerware that looked like it had been made by a hippie potter in Vermont — and yet not.

Generation marked a shift in the culture — the dining room had become vestigial and fine china an anachronism.

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STAT

Cancer vaccines helping to dispel stigma about mRNA

Experts hope successful use of technology can rehabilitate the field

By Angus Chen

STAT

The mRNA technology that built Moderna and BioNTech’s COVID-19 vaccines and is now being used to build cancer vaccines has been through political whiplash. But now, with clinical success from Moderna and Merck on using a personalized mRNA vaccine for melanoma, experts are hoping for a more stable future for the field.

“I don’t know how this will be received

among parts of our society that have become suspicious of the word ‘vaccine.’ There’s a possibility that people will say, ‘Oh, if we can vaccinate against cancer, that’s good,’” said Ryan Sullivan, a Mass General Brigham melanoma physician and immunologist who has worked with Moderna. “Maybe that will thaw some of the stigma around vaccines. I don’t think it’ll fix all of it, but maybe just a little bit helps us think of ‘vaccine’ not as a dirty word, ‘mRNA’ as not a four-letter word.”

mRNA technology allows scientists to instruct cells to construct practically any protein or protein pieces by simply rewriting the mRNA’s genetic code. That is one of the technology’s greatest strengths, and

what made it possible for scientists to develop Covid vaccines in under a year. It was also possible in part thanks to Operation Warp Speed, which helped fund and push the vaccine’s development. President Trump still calls it a “monumental national achievement” of his first term.

Nonetheless, just five years later, the same agency that funded this achievement pulled back more than half a billion dollars in grants supporting mRNA vaccine development projects under Trump’s second term. Health secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. shut the door on future mRNA projects meant to protect against infectious diseases like Covid and flu, though he subsequently

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DAVID L RYAN/GLOBE STAFF/FILE

Cambridge-based Moderna’s new cancer vaccines have showed promise in helping treat pancreatic cancer.

Unwelcome competition

Curaleaf’s new downtown Boston store draws complaints by social equity-owned pot shops



MELECK ELDAHSHOURY FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE

A view of Curaleaf’s new downtown storefront from inside Ogawa Coffee across the way on Milk Street Thursday.

By Bryan Hecht

GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

Curaleaf, one of the largest multistate cannabis companies in the United States, opened its first Boston store in downtown on Friday.

The company celebrated the move, which restores Curaleaf to having three recreational marijuana stores in the state after shuttering a Provincetown shop last week, and said in a news release the company is excited to join Boston’s “thriving cannabis community.”

But some of the marijuana shop’s new neighbors aren’t so happy, and said they’re hardly thriving.

The arrival of Curaleaf at 21 Milk St. has revived old debates about whether regulators are allowing too many pot shops to saturate the same neighborhoods. Meanwhile, several entrepreneurs and industry watchers said its approval downtown exemplifies a shift in the



Former Boston city councilor Tito Jackson worries the new business will harm equity operators.

city away from supporting small Black and Latino marijuana business owners in the state’s social equity programs.

“Really all this does is cannibalize other businesses and it puts equity operators in a precarious situation,” said Tito Jackson, a former Boston city councilor and owner of Apex Noire, a dispensary located within a half-mile buffer zone from the new Curaleaf shop.

He argues downtown is already too crowded with small local competitors, let alone now dealing with a well-heeled chain store.

“Nothing against Curaleaf but ... having small, local Black-owned businesses competing against multistate operators in an area that has already had multiple approvals is not the direction that we should be going in,” Jackson said.

Representatives of the city’s cannabis li-

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BOLD TYPES

Monotype’s Pat Lightizer gets unusual retirement gift: a font named after her

Plus, new Massport board member; Vertex’s C-suite gets bigger

By Jon Chesto

GLOBE STAFF

If you’re the longest-serving employee at the country’s biggest owner and distributor of fonts, you deserve more than a gold watch or fancy dinner for your retirement.

That’s why, when **Pat Lightizer** retired last month after 53 years with **Monotype**, the company created an unusual gift for her service: her own font. The new Lightizer font was supposed to be a surprise. But she accidentally got an early glimpse because the file was sent to her to upload it before its launch

to join Helvetica, Times New Roman, and the company’s thousands of other fonts. She says she didn’t say anything at the time, so her colleagues could enjoy the moment.

Seeing it live, though, on the Woburn company’s site, really drove home what had happened.

“So when Lightizer finally went up, and I got to show my family, it hit me,” said Lightizer, who retired as a senior type partner operations manager. “This is a legacy.”

She had no idea she would spend her whole career at the same company

when she joined the “type” division at age 18, straight out of high school, at what was then called Compugraphic Corp. in Wilmington. At the time, every font designer drew each letter by hand on a drawing board, and her job was to test the work, seeing how fonts looked after they were set.

The name and ownership changed several times over the years; private equity firm HGGC bought Monotype, then a publicly traded company, for \$825 million in 2019.

For the past five years, she’s been

BOLD TYPES, Page D3



Pat Lightizer, former partner manager at Monotype, recently retired after 53 years with the company.

CHRIS MORRIS FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE

By Ian Austen
NEW YORK TIMES

OTTAWA, Ontario — With an insulted and angry nation solidly behind him, Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney is charging ahead in a bitter trade war with the United States, risking a further fraying of what once was one of the world's closest friendships.

Retaliatory tariffs, which took effect Tuesday, demonstrate Carney's defiance toward increasing bombast by President Trump, who has been trying to humiliate Canada economically after more than two weeks of finger-pointing and threats.

Carney's response has distinguished him as one of the few world leaders standing up to Trump as he lashes out at US allies on a range of issues.

The new measures will double the rate of existing tariffs that Canadian businesses pay on imported US steel and aluminum products and affect about 700 products, including aluminum foil, railway locomotives, and steel bridges.

Polls show that Canadians strongly back Carney's decision to end trade talks with Washington last month and hit back with tariffs on about \$20 billion in US products entering Canada. But there is also concern over what might happen next.

Trump has repeatedly threatened another round of US tariffs if Canada follows through on its plan.

Some in Canadian industry say they are inclined to take Trump at his word, at least on this threat.

People in the Trump administration "are willing to hurt themselves, their own sectors and industries, in pursuit of their goal, however misguided I think it is," said Flavio Volpe, president of the Automotive Parts Manufacturers' Association of Canada. "So they may escalate. I hope that we don't end

up in a tit-for-tat situation."

In what appeared to foreshadow Trump's latest intensions, he announced on Monday that Bombardier, the Montreal-based aerospace company, would be banned from selling in the US market unless it built in the United States.

"They live off American buyers, American companies, American airports, and American service — all while Canada blocks our GREAT American banks, and companies, throughout the USA," Trump wrote in a social media post announcing the ban.

Carney announced Canada's new tariffs after he pulled Canadian negotiators out of talks in Washington last month — an ultimately unsuccessful attempt to stave off 50 percent US tariffs on \$20 billion in Canadian exports and to reduce or eliminate tariffs of up to 50 percent on Canadian steel, aluminum, and automobiles.

The Trump administration said the tariffs it imposed last month were in part a response to retaliatory tariffs Canada placed last year on some US imports, particularly autos. US officials have repeatedly noted that only China and Canada retaliated against the United States since Trump began upending global trade.

Since tensions began to rise with Canada at the start of Trump's second term, the United States has lashed out in ways substantive and symbolic, including threats to block the reopening of a US-Canada bridge and an executive order to rename Lake Ontario as "Lake America."

At a news conference after a sternly worded speech announcing the tariffs, Carney declared that Canada had been attacked by the United States and that the two countries are now "at war."

Last week, US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent rejected that framing, arguing that Can-

ada is too small an economic power to battle the United States. "I don't think you can be in a tit-for-tat with someone who's 13 times larger than you are," Bessent said on CNBC.

On Friday, Trump escalated his trade rhetoric even further. He said that he might "end all trade with Canada" and other countries that have trade surpluses with the United States. Trump has frequently made dramatic threats during trade negotiations that have gone unrealized, such as floating the idea of a 100 percent tariff on Canadian goods in January.

Separately, US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick said Carney had shut down the talks to gain "political leverage" at home, not because of what the US side had offered.

Carney made clear last week that he was in no hurry to return to negotiations and was focused instead on diversifying Canada's trade and expanding its domestic economy.

"At the appropriate time, the conversation will happen," he said. "But the most important thing we can do is not to spend all our time waiting by the phone, waiting for a call, refreshing on social media to see what's coming across."

Many of the American items that will soon face Canadian tariffs of 15 percent, 25 percent, or 50 percent mirror the Canadian exports that now face 50 percent US tariffs, particularly clothing and wood products. Canada revised the list to remove dozens of fish products after the Canadian fishing industry said that tight cross-border integration meant its members would also be harmed.

Canadian officials have suggested that many of the targeted American items come from states where voters supported Trump, though some political analysts question how much pressure that will put on the White House.

Curaleaf opens Boston dispensary amid social-equity objections

► CANNABIS
Continued from Page D1

censing board referred to the public meeting where the license was approved but did not answer additional questions on Friday.

Jackson's shop is one of roughly 100 in the state licensed through the state's social equity programs. These programs are aimed at trying to repair some of the harms done to vulnerable communities that were disproportionately targeted by marijuana policing.

Following a whirlwind year of plummeting pot prices and sweeping legislative reforms, just Apex Noire and two other social equity dispensaries, Primitiv and Firebrand Cannabis, remained in the downtown area.

Now, they'll be competing with Curaleaf, a cannabis giant listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange with a \$2.6 billion market valuation and over 160 stores active in 15 states, according to its website.

Curaleaf did not respond to multiple emails requesting comment.

Jackson said he hopes Boston will commit to advancing other policies that would help social equity businesses, like approval of zoning for social consumption, or pot cafes, in light of Curaleaf's arrival.

"Big business doesn't mean good business," said Shanell Lindsay, entrepreneurship director at the Parabola Center, a Malden-based equity-focused think tank. She called Curaleaf's location near social equity businesses that thought they were safe from neighboring wealthy competitors, "very concerning."

According to buffer zone rules established in 2016, Boston dispensaries are meant to sit at least half a mile apart, which, if followed, would have precluded the large chain from moving downtown. However, the city cannabis board has repeatedly waived the buffer-zone rule.

MELECK ELDAHSHOURY FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE

Two social equity dispensaries closed downtown this year.

Even before Curaleaf's opening, Jackson said the market has made it clear it can't handle more shops.

So far this year, two social equity dispensaries closed downtown, citing financial hardships.

The first, Rasta Rootz, had only just opened in 2025, but its owner, Fernando Bent-Mullings, had previously said "false promises" around the rollout of social equity programs like indoor smoking lounges contributed to a fast decline, the Globe reported.

The other social equity-owned cannabis store that closed was Pure Oasis, which shuttered in April after the state froze its accounts for unpaid taxes.

"Even if we fought to stay open, splitting that small market with Curaleaf would have been untenable," said Kobie Evans, co-owner of Pure Oasis.

He's since begun efforts to reopen another of the company's stores in Grove Hall, but said he decided against doing that downtown after learning that Curaleaf was set to move in just blocks away.

"It made the decision super easy," said Evans, whose downtown store was also the first ever Black-owned dispensary in the city.

Still, a city-commissioned study performed by cannabis research firm Whitney Economics in February concluded that downtown fields enough foot traffic to possibly support as many as 15 dispensaries.

According to its location proposal, Curaleaf's Milk Street dispensary also revives a storefront that has been empty since multistate cannabis operator The Cannabist, shuttered in the same spot in 2024, and offers something to downtown consumers they haven't had since that closure: access to medical cannabis.

In a March meeting before the Boston Cannabis Board, Pete D'Agostino, a partner at government relations firm Tenax Strategies speaking for Curaleaf, detailed what he called a Curaleaf Downtown Boston Equity program.

The program, which became a key condition for the company's approval downtown, offers discounted rates on Curaleaf wholesale cannabis products to downtown equity businesses.

"With this program, people that prefer Curaleaf products will be able to go into any store, so we're not creating a monopoly," D'Agostino said at the meeting.

Still, according to Evans, the discounts would not "move the dial" when competing with a Curaleaf store.

Their approval, he said, "was just a clear indication that whatever the controls that were there to protect the equity organizations just aren't there anymore."

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TALKING POINTS

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

OPENAI’S TOP SCIENTIST URGES ‘EXTREME CAUTION’ WITH PACE OF AI

OpenAI’s top scientist has warned that artificial intelligence is evolving so rapidly that it is becoming increasingly difficult for humans to understand and control and said he expects AI labs to voluntarily slow development for safety reasons. In a relatively short space of time, AI models can operate computers, collaborate with humans and other AI systems, and carry out research projects, wrote chief scientist Jakub Pachocki in a post on Sunday. It won’t be long until they can also improve themselves without human intervention, a process known as recursive self-improvement, he said. “This is a time that calls for extreme caution,” Pachocki wrote in the post. “I am concerned no one is prepared for the consequences of a continued rapid rise in machine intelligence.” Developers can either try and steer AI more closely to align with human interests or “slow down future development as needed,” he wrote. “I expect and hope for voluntary slowdowns to become commonplace until shared safety bars are established.” Pachocki’s remarks are consistent with broader doomsaying by AI technology executives. Anthropic PBC chief executive Dario Amodei warned that AI could replace half of all entry-level jobs. — BLOOMBERG NEWS

JOBS

JAGUAR LAND ROVER WILL CUT 4,000 POSITIONS TO REDUCE COSTS AND COMPETE WITH CHINA

Jaguar Land Rover said Monday it will cut 4,000 jobs across its global workforce as it tries to cut costs and compete with Chinese carmakers. Britain’s biggest automaker said the job cuts will take place over the next two years as it targets \$2.3 billion in savings to make it more competitive as the industry transitions to electrification. “The automotive industry faces significant challenges, with technological change amidst intense competition and ongoing geopolitical uncertainty,” chief executive PB Balaji said. The job cuts and savings will help the company invest \$20 billion-24 billion over the next five years in electrification and digital technologies, he added. Jaguar Land Rover, which makes the Range Rover, Discovery, and other luxury SUVs, has reported slumping profits and sales in the face of intense competition from cheaper Chinese EVs, soaring costs, and the impact of President Trump’s tariffs. The tariff policy introduced a 10 percent import tax for British-made cars, with the tax rising to 27.5 percent after the first 100,000 vehicles produced in a year. The company’s sales were also hit last year when a cyberattack forced it to halt production for a month. The company, owned by India’s Tata Motors, makes most of its cars in factories across the UK. It employs around 34,000 people in the country and the majority of the job cuts are expected to affect its UK operations. — ASSOCIATED PRESS

DIPLOMACY

EU SEEKS TO REASSURE GREENLAND AS TRUMP THREATENS SOVEREIGNTY

The European Union on Monday sought to reassure a jittery Greenland with the promise of a stronger partnership and hundreds of millions of euros in investment following repeated threats from President Trump to take control of the island. During a visit to the capital Nuuk, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen offered \$232 million in support over the next two years to help Greenland tackle climate change, boost internet connections, and improve hydropower plants, fisheries, and education. The EU has increased its focus on Greenland since Trump began insisting that the United States should take control of the island for security reasons. His persistent claims raised sovereignty concerns and pushback from Greenlandic and Danish leaders and heightened tensions among NATO allies. “Greenland’s future is for the people of Greenland and Denmark to decide. No one else,” von der Leyen said. “Territorial integrity, sovereignty, the inviolability of borders. These are fundamental principles of international law.” EU promises money for Greenland’s development. Funds are also earmarked for better housing, support to small businesses, and sustainable tourism. Von der Leyen also said that she wants to double EU budget support to Greenland to around half a billion euros (\$580 million) from 2028. “Greenland can count on the EU,” she said, after signing an EU-Greenland declaration with Prime Minister Jens-Frederik Nielsen and Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen. Greenland is a semiautonomous territory of NATO ally Denmark. Nielsen described the 27-nation EU as “a loyal and trusted friend,” notably at a time when the island faces “new challenges that we cannot tackle alone.” “Through these challenging times, your support to us is unfailing,” he said. “You have stood by us and continue to stand by us. We feel it and are deeply grateful.” Denmark and European allies resist Trump’s pressure. The Trump administration also leaned on Denmark. “We have been under pressure,” Frederiksen told reporters. “It has been very clear, and we are very thankful for the great support we have received from our European partners but, by the way, also globally.” Denmark and seven of its European allies sent a small group of military personnel to the island in January for military exercises focused on strengthening Arctic security, but with the intention of showing support for Greenland’s sovereignty. In response, Trump threatened to slap new tariffs on them all: Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom. — ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cancer vaccines help dispel mRNA stigma

►STAT
Continued from Page D1

said he believed mRNA may have promising applications in cancer. Despite that allowance, cancer scientists told STAT at the time they worried the antagonism toward mRNA, and vaccines more broadly, would ripple out and dampen cancer vaccine efforts, particularly because skepticism toward vaccines and toward mRNA — was so conflated during the Covid pandemic and has persisted since.

According to a KFF poll, 29 percent of respondents said the myth that mRNA vaccines can change your DNA was true or probably true in 2025; that figure dropped slightly, to 24 percent, this year.

Experts told STAT that, with public skepticism and the Trump administration’s antipathy toward a proven use of mRNA, investors also seemed to become more wary of cancer vaccine development; companies working in the space began to quietly drop the word “vaccine” from websites and media.

“We saw people switch from ‘vaccines’ to ‘individual cancer therapies,’” said Agnete Fredriksen, co-founder of Nykode Therapeutics, a biotech company working on cancer vaccines. “We sensed this irrational negativity around the term ‘vaccines’ in particular having this spillover effect for cancer vaccines.”

Researchers and executives involved in the development of cancer vaccines have, for decades, experienced ups and downs. There were early clinical failures, where vaccines used alone didn’t seem to benefit patients, and more recent ones, like a failed Phase 2 BioNTech trial in colorectal cancer announced just last week. There have also been moments of elation, like when Memorial Sloan Kettering researchers announced that an mRNA individualized cancer vaccine for pancreatic cancer seemed to produce durable results for some patients this year.



ROGELIO V. SOLIS/ASSOCIATED PRESS/FILE

Stigma surrounding Moderna’s COVID vaccine, which used mRNA technology in development, has persisted with other vaccines since the pandemic.

But the highest high thus far is Moderna and Merck’s positive Phase 3 trial, which just may secure the field’s future, Fredriksen said. For one, she said, the word vaccine seems to be less taboo than it once was. “This entering normal treatment for patients is definitely going to change minds. Now everyone is saying cancer vaccines again instead of therapy,” she said. “It feels good to use that term again.”

Fredriksen and others told STAT that they expected pharma and investor interest in the field to bloom now, potentially giving fuel to different kinds of cancer vaccines. That could include vaccines that target commonly shared cancer antigens, like KRAS or HPV proteins, as well as individualized vaccines like those made by Moderna, which is headquartered in Cambridge.

Many of these are likely to be made with mRNA, since the material is particularly well suited to this application, said

Elizabeth Jaffee, the deputy director of the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University and a cancer vaccine researcher.

“There are a lot of groups in academia working on additional mRNA vaccines. I suspect this will be the major technology. I suspect it will be scientifically evolve,” Jaffee said. “I know [Moderna] has vaccines in other cancers coming along, and certainly BioNTech has been working on their share of vaccines as well. We’ll see where those lead.”

If efforts are successful there as well, experts told STAT that could shift the way many cancers are treated to include a vaccine. Jaffee said that regardless of politics, if this technology can help patients live longer or better, people will demand it.

“People with cancer, they will want this. The National Cancer Institute director also has an initiative. He wants to do a big study on cancer vaccines,” she said. “People do believe we need this in cancer.”

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Lawyer starts new chapter with nonprofit

►BOLD TYPES
Continued from Page D1

thinking about retiring. She always thought it would happen sooner. But she’s now 70 and wants to spend more time doing things other than work, though she concedes that deciding to finally retire was one of the toughest decisions she ever made. Watching a font go from a designer’s sketch to something used by the public never got old for her.

“I once said to a colleague that I sometimes felt like I’d slid under the radar after all these years,” Lightizer said. “He corrected me: The people who slide under the radar are the ones who leave. You stayed, he told me, because people saw what you did. That stuck with me.”

New board member lands at Massport

When Massport’s board members gather on Thursday for the first time since their summer breaks, there will be a new face at the table.

Real estate consultant **Taidgh McClory** has been appointed by Governor **Maura Healey** to be the port authority’s newest board member. He’s the first newcomer since **Fidelity Investments** executive **Pam Everhart** joined two years ago.

Board membership on Massport is staggered, except for the governor’s automatic seat for the state transportation secretary, with terms ending after seven years. McClory takes over for **Pyramid Global Hospitality** CEO **Warren Fields**, a **Charlie Baker** appointee whose term ended last year but who was asked to stay on for another year.

Massport chief executive **Rich Davey** wanted another board member with real estate experience, so he reached out to former board member **Duane Jackson** and **Bill Weld**-era transportation secretary **Richard Taylor** for suggestions. Both suggested McClory.

“He’s got really deep real estate experience, which is a really important part of our business,” Davey said.

Davey joined McClory, as well as board chair **Patricia Jacobs** and board member **Sean O’Brien**, the **International Brotherhood of Teamsters** president, for the swearing-in with Healey at the State House on Aug. 31.

McClory spent most of his career at **CBRE**, a commercial real estate brokerage, but eventually stepped out on his own to form **THM Advisors**, a consulting firm that helps assemble diverse teams of real estate investors and contractors. Notably, he worked with **Tishman Speyer** and its **Breakthrough Properties** affiliate on **Harvard’s** Enterprise Research Campus to bring together \$30 million in equity investments from Black and Latino investors.

For McClory, joining the Massport board, an unpaid role, represents an opportunity to learn more about other aspects of the state’s economy, such as aviation and maritime trade, while putting his real estate experience to use by contributing to an organization with broad civic impact. He notes that Massport is the home of what’s known as the “Massport Model,” in which developers are encouraged to recruit diverse groups of investors and contractors, a model that helped guide his own consulting practice.

“It demonstrated that economic development and inclusion didn’t have to be separate conversations,” McClory said, “and that public-private partnerships could create broader access to careers, contracts, capital, and long-term economic opportunity.”

Vertex grows its C-suite

Vertex Pharmaceuticals just completed the biggest acquisition in its history. Now, chief executive **Reshma Kewalramani** is expanding her top leadership team to support the Boston bio-

tech’s growth.

The company announced several personnel moves as it finalized its acquisition of **Crinetics**, a San Diego-based maker of endocrine disease treatments, valued at \$8.8 billion (excluding the cash acquired in the deal). **Charlie Wagner**, Vertex’s chief operating officer and chief financial officer, will take on an expanded COO role and oversee the Crinetics integration, while **Jonathan Poole**, senior vice president of finance, will become the new CFO on Jan. 1.

Meanwhile, **Jasper van Grunsven** will join Vertex as an executive vice president from Amgen on Tuesday. In a LinkedIn post, he described the new job (without naming Vertex) as a “very exciting new opportunity ... that felt like the right next chapter for me and my family.”

These personnel changes will mean Kewalramani will have two new direct reports. Wagner and Poole are already based in Boston, and van Grunsven is expected to move here from California.

Vertex executives have been working hard to grow the company’s portfolio beyond its successful cystic fibrosis treatments. They expanded into three other focus areas: hematology, acute pain, and kidney disease. With Crinetics, endocrine diseases now represent what the company calls its fifth “pillar of growth.”

When the deal was announced in July, one analyst asked Kewalramani why the time was right to add a fifth pillar, given everything else Vertex has going on.

“We see ourselves as a company that is looking to bring transformative medicines to patients around the globe,” Kewalramani said. “We see ourselves as a company that has the ability, bandwidth, resources, judgment, taste, commercial prowess to do this in many areas.”

Dick Glovsky’s new legal chapter

After more than 50 years as a lawyer, **Dick Glovsky** could have traded in his briefcase for golf shoes and a one-way ticket to Florida.

Nope. That’s not his style. Glovsky says he’s most satisfied when he’s doing something he’s passionate about. In this case, that means leaving a national law firm to guide the **Baker Center for Children and Families** as the Boston nonprofit’s first general counsel.

Glovsky has been advising the Baker Center for more than two decades, most recently while at **Troutman Pepper Locke**. He even helped hire the Baker Center’s current chief executive, **Bob Franks**. A few months ago, Glovsky approached Franks with a request: Could Franks hire him to join his 300-person workforce?

Glovsky began the new part-time role last month. The Baker Center, with locations in Mission Hill and Waltham, provides mental-health services and helps students with behavioral and learning challenges.

“The Baker Center’s mission is so important, and not just for the children and families that benefit from it,” Glovsky said. “It’s dealing with issues that are of paramount importance to society.”

It’s a mission that resonated with Glovsky, especially because he suffered from spinal meningitis as a young child that caused him to lose a significant amount of hearing.

For Franks, it was easy to answer Glovsky’s employment proposal. Glovsky, after all, had become one of his trusted advisers.

“I’m really grateful to be able to call upon Dick’s knowledge and expertise,” Franks said. “What a great opportunity this is after such an illustrious career he’s had, to be able to do something he feels is meaningful.”

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UNIVERSAL CROSSWORD PUZZLE

IT TIES TOGETHER BY MIKE GRACZYK | EDITED BY DAVID STEINBERG

ACROSS

1 Wading bird

5 Nike competitor

10 "You bet, captain!"

13 Docile

14 It's spotted in the Andes!

15 Peppa, for one

16 Say "I've had it!"

18 EMT procedure

19 Scintillate

20 Wet dirt

21 "Let's roll the ____!"

22 People began searching for him in the 1980s

23 Meaty brunch offering

25 Morning hrs. (too early for me)

26 Mineral spring

28 Fairy-tale starter

29 Tourney ranking

31 Start to cycle?

33 "The Simpsons" character Szyslak

34 Group of instruments, and what can follow the starts of 16-, 23-, 48- and 58-Across

39 Well-suited

40 "lol my bad"

41 "The cheap yacht was on ____" (dad joke)

43 Food brand for Fido

45 Acquired

47 "Stop sharing!"

48 Sole proprietorship?

52 Exciting March Madness result

54 Hardly docile

55 Sorority letter hidden in "sisterhood"

DOWN

1 "____ be my pleasure!"

2 Darts and pool, for two

3 "Ready when you are!"

4 Left in stitches?

5 Amazing tennis serve

6 2014 Ava DuVernay film about an Alabama march

7 Troy, to the Romans

8 Complex residence

9 Sault-Marie connection

10 HS class that might push you to the limit!

11 "Huzzah!"

12 Wading bird

14 Unit of resistance

17 New Mexico art colony

21 Principles

22 Used to be

23 Chill

24 "Wuthering Heights" landform

27 Football kick

30 Like a 63-Across

32 Mensa measures

33 "Hold the ____!"

35 NYSE debuts

36 Impel

37 Consumes some humble pie

38 "Pack it up!"

42 Kindled

43 "OK, makes sense"

44 "I Can Has Cheezburger?" feline

46 Word with "melt" or "roll"

48 Peachy

49 Found family, e.g., to a film critic

50 "Now that's impressive!"

51 Speckled steeds

53 First section of a novel

56 Rave music genre: Abbr.

58 Nickname that drops -jamin

59 Judge's group, on scoreboards

60 Pallid

JUMBLE CROSSWORDS™

by David L. Hoyt 9-8-26

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66

CLUE

1. Vast grassy plain

5. Blunder

6. Path

7. Secret plan

ANSWER

EPEPST

RROER

RTLIA

CSEHEM

CLUE

1. Foul odor

2. Unpredictable

3. Crisp cotton fabric

4. Develop

ANSWER

HETNSC

EAITRCR

PACLREE

LVEVEO

CLUE: The first mass-produced ____ was the Sikorsky R-4 (1942).

BONUS

How to play

Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

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Send comments to DLHoyt@HoytInteractiveMedia.com

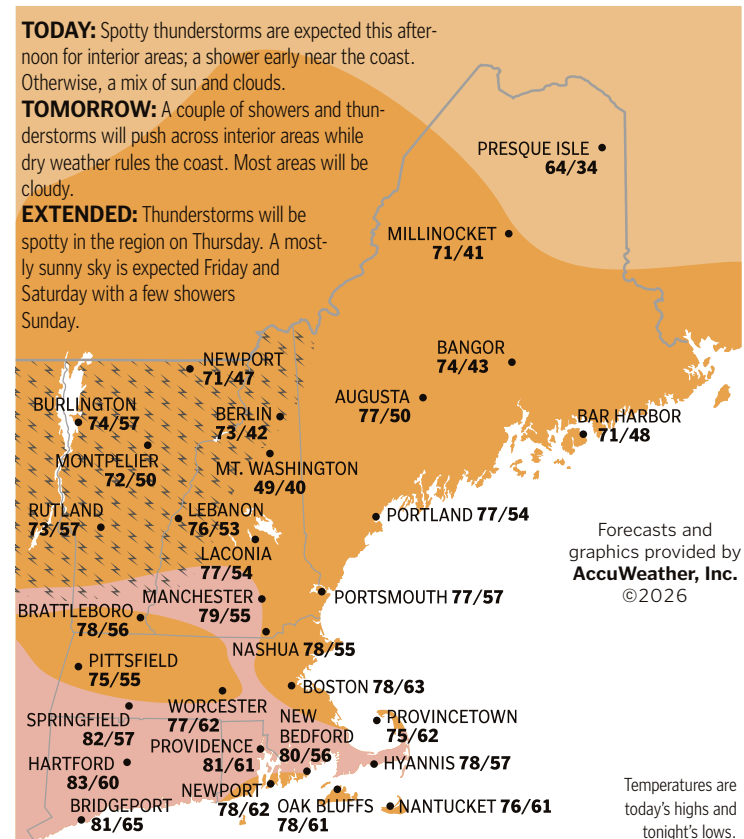
Boston's forecast

TODAY			WEDNESDAY			THURSDAY			FRIDAY			SATURDAY		
6 A.M.	NOON	6 P.M.	6 A.M.	NOON	6 P.M.	6 A.M.	NOON	6 P.M.	6 A.M.	NOON	6 P.M.	6 A.M.	NOON	6 P.M.
HIGH 76-81	Clouds giving way to sun. Winds N 7-14 mph. Partly cloudy tonight. Winds ESE 6-12 mph.		HIGH 74-79	Cloudy. Winds SSE 7-14 mph. Cloudy, breezy and warm at night with a shower late. Winds SSW 12-25 mph.		HIGH 83-88	Sun, then cloudy with a thunderstorm; breezy and very warm. Winds WSW 10-20 mph. Partly cloudy at night. Winds WNW 7-14 mph.		HIGH 75-80	Pleasant and less humid with sunshine. Winds NW 8-16 mph. Clear at night. Winds NW 6-12 mph.		HIGH 70-75	Mostly sunny and nice. Winds E 6-12 mph. Variable clouds at night. Winds SSW 7-14 mph.	

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New England



Cities

Forecast high and low temperatures and conditions				Forecast high and low temperatures and conditions				Forecast high and low temperatures and conditions			
● Travel delays possible, ● C Clouds, ● F Fog, ● H Haze, ● I Ice, ● Pc Partly Cloudy, ● R Rain, ● Sh Showers, ● S Sun, ● Sn Snow, ● Fl Flurries, ● T Thunderstorms, ● W Windy				● Travel delays possible, ● C Clouds, ● F Fog, ● H Haze, ● I Ice, ● Pc Partly Cloudy, ● R Rain, ● Sh Showers, ● S Sun, ● Sn Snow, ● Fl Flurries, ● T Thunderstorms, ● W Windy				● Travel delays possible, ● C Clouds, ● F Fog, ● H Haze, ● I Ice, ● Pc Partly Cloudy, ● R Rain, ● Sh Showers, ● S Sun, ● Sn Snow, ● Fl Flurries, ● T Thunderstorms, ● W Windy			
Today	Tomorrow	Today	Tomorrow	Today	Tomorrow	Today	Tomorrow	Today	Tomorrow	Today	Tomorrow
Atlanta 88/71 Pc	87/73 C	Los Angeles 94/76 Pc	99/76 S	Seattle 73/53 Pc	78/56 S	Jerusalem 88/67 S	87/66 S	Atlanta 88/71 Pc	87/73 C	Los Angeles 94/76 Pc	99/76 S
Atlantic City 83/64 S	85/72 Pc	● Miami 92/79 T	93/81 Pc	Washington 86/67 S	90/71 Pc	London 64/52 R	69/52 Pc	Atlantic City 83/64 S	85/72 Pc	● Miami 92/79 T	93/81 Pc
Charlotte 86/64 Pc	87/68 Pc	● New Orleans 91/79 T	89/77 T	Beijing 75/55 Sh	79/53 Pc	Moscow 59/43 S	69/52 Pc	Charlotte 86/64 Pc	87/68 Pc	● New Orleans 91/79 T	89/77 T
Chicago 86/72 S	82/64 T	New York City 82/67 S	85/71 Pc	● Cancun 94/76 R	94/77 Sh	● Paris 76/55 Sh	71/50 S	Chicago 86/72 S	82/64 T	New York City 82/67 S	85/71 Pc
Dallas 101/81 S	100/79 S	Philadelphia 84/67 S	87/73 Pc	● Mexico City 74/56 R	75/56 Sh	Rome 88/72 S	88/72 S	Dallas 101/81 S	100/79 S	Philadelphia 84/67 S	87/73 Pc
● Denver 85/57 T	82/56 T	Phoenix 109/86 S	109/88 T	Montreal 73/58 Pc	71/66 T	San Juan 92/79 Pc	91/79 R	● Denver 85/57 T	82/56 T	Phoenix 109/86 S	109/88 T
Detroit 81/70 Pc	81/66 T	Salt Lake City 82/58 S	84/60 C	Toronto 77/66 C	78/64 T	Stockholm 65/53 Sh	62/45 R	Detroit 81/70 Pc	81/66 T	Salt Lake City 82/58 S	84/60 C
● Fort Myers 91/76 T	93/76 T	San Francisco 83/66 S	86/65 C	Vancouver 68/54 S	67/57 Pc	Tokyo 87/81 Pc	90/69 T	● Fort Myers 91/76 T	93/76 T	San Francisco 83/66 S	86/65 C

HOROSCOPES

HAPPY BIRTHDAY For Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2026: You are determined and have strong convictions. You're dynamic, confident, and organized. This year is the completion of a cycle. Take inventory of your life. Let go of people, places, and things that hold you back. Do some internal and external housecleaning. Relax and commune with nature.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You are the artisan of the zodiac, and today is a creative and productive day! Socialize, enjoy sports events and the company of kids. It's the perfect day to hone a technique and improve your creative skills. You rock! Tonight: Socialize!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) This is a great day to improve your home or expand it somehow. Or you might explore ideas about a different home. Listen to the advice of someone older or more experienced. Look for ways to improve family connections, because you can. Tonight: Take it easy.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Today you're filled with optimism and the power of positive think-

ing! Discussions about home and family will go well. You might pursue home repairs. Decisions to socialize and have fun will please you. An older friend might benefit you. Listen to what is offered! Tonight: Enthusiastic conversations!

CANCER (June 21-July 22) This is an excellent day for financial decisions and discussions about speculation and investments. Admittedly, something might look too good to be true. Be aware of this. Nevertheless, someone in power, a boss, or an older advisor might share some wisdom with you. Tonight: Money ideas.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) This is an amazing day because the Moon is in your sign lined up with lucky Jupiter! This is why you feel generous, optimistic, and sociable! Be aware that today you will get what you give. (It's important to know this.) Explore opportunities in publishing, the media, higher education, and the law. Tonight: You're in the zone.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) This is a feel-good day for you! The Sun and your ruler Mercury are in your sign boosting your confidence and communication

skills. You can attract money to you. You also might feel competitive with a friend or a group. Basically, a warm feeling in your tummy makes you a winner today. Tonight: Enjoy solitude.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Conflicting energies are in the air today. Because you might want to be low-key and private, you might choose to work alone or stay at home. However, your public is calling! This is a great day to schmooze with friends, groups and organizations. How you handle this is your call. Tonight: Be friendly.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You make a wonderful impression on parents, bosses, and VIPs today. They see you as wise, generous, and successful. (Great! Appearances are everything.) Enjoy this great press. Talk to friends and groups. This is a solid day to make goals for the future. Tonight: You're high-viz.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) This is a winning day for you! The Sun at the top of your chart makes you look great in the eyes of others. Furthermore, opportunities to travel and expand your world through further education, medicine, the law, or publishing

are abundant! Lucky you! Tonight: Explore!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Discussions about inheritances and how to divide or share something will go well today. In fact, you'll be laughing all the way to the bank. Meanwhile, travel plans and chances to explore publishing, the media, medicine, and the law are excellent. Doors will open for you today. Tonight: Check your finances.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) In one way, you have to go more than halfway when dealing with others today. (It is what it is.) Nevertheless, this is a productive day for you! You can get a lot done. Travel will beckon. Partners and friends will be behind you 100%. Tonight: Cooperate.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) We know that this year you have a chance to improve your job or get a better job. With this in mind, today is one of the best days for you to pursue opportunities to do this! Work-related travel will delight some of you. Be ready to act. Tonight: Get organized.

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SUDOKU

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

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3X3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Puzzle difficulty levels: Easy on Monday and Tuesday, more difficult on Wednesday and Thursday, most difficult on Friday and Saturday. Tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com.

DAILY BRIDGE CLUB

BY FRANK STEWART

South dealer — N-S vulnerable

North

♠ A J 7 3

♥ 4

♦ 10 5 3

♣ 8 6 5 3 2

East

♠ Q 10 4

♥ Q 10 9 6 3

♦ K 8 4

♣ 10 9

South

♠ K 9 8 6 2

♥ A K 2

♦ A J

♣ A 7 4

South

1 ♠

4 ♠

West

Pass

All Pass

North

2 ♠

All Pass

East

Pass

Opening lead — ♠ K

Question: Grace's mom has five daughters: ChaCha, CheChe, ChiChi, ChoCho and ...

If you answered ChuChu, you may be the type of person who would play today's four spades the same way as the actual declarer.

When West led the king of clubs, South grabbed the ace. He next took the A-K of trumps. When West discarded a diamond, South led a club, and West won with the jack and shifted to a diamond: three, king, ace. When declarer conceded another club, West cashed his queen of diamonds, and East's queen of trumps won the setting trick.

South could succeed if he resisted playing impulsively: He must let West's king win the first club. If West leads a second club, South takes the ace, cashes his high trumps and loses a club, setting up a club in dummy to pitch his jack of diamonds.

If instead West shifts to a diamond at Trick Two, South captures East's king and returns the jack. Dummy's ten furnishes a club discard.

The fifth daughter, of course, is Grace.

DAILY QUESTION You hold: ♠ A J 7 3 ♥ 4 ♦ 10 5 3 ♣ 8 6 5 3 2. Neither side vulnerable. Your partner opens one spade, and the next player doubles. What do you say?

ANSWER: You should bid the limit of your hand immediately, both to inform your partner and to make it harder for the opponents to come in. Bid three spades. Your jump-raise over the double is weak and preemptive. If you had a good hand, you would have options, perhaps including a redouble.

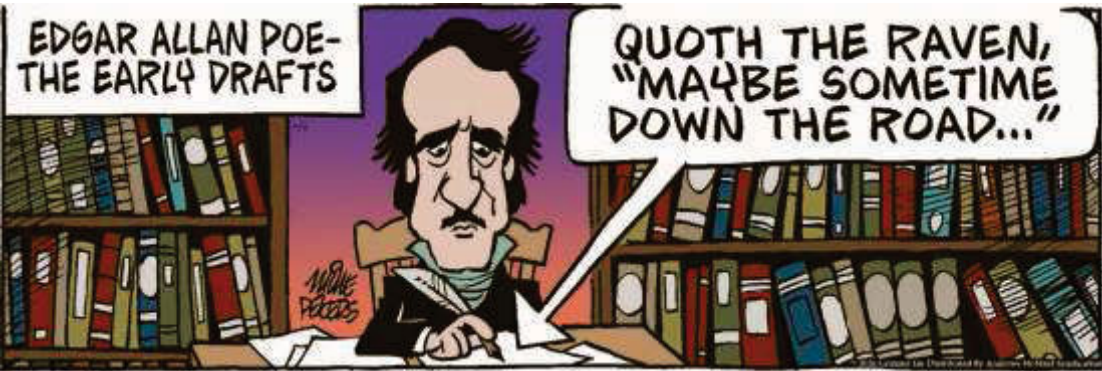
ZIPPY "A Nose by Any Other Name" by Bill Griffith



BIZARRO by Wayno & Piraro



MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM by Mike Peters



ADAM@HOME by Rob Harrell



ROSE IS ROSE by Pat Brady & Don Wimmer



Today's Crossword Solution

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

Today's Sudoku Solution

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

BY LISA WEIDENFELD



‘DANG!’ brings sharp comedic sensibility to story of codependent siblings

The series is a barrage of pop culture references.

“DANG!” also inevitably calls to mind Netflix’s other recent animated sitcom about adult siblings, “Long Story Short.” There are parallels — both are interested in the ways dynamics formed in childhood resonate into adulthood. “Long Story Short” is more grounded and melancholy in tone, but both have a joyfully distinct sense of what family can mean as adult siblings settle into their lifelong selves. It’s a nice opportunity to see what different comedic voices can do with similar thematic material.

LOVE LETTERS

BY MEREDITH GOLDSTEIN

He flew me out to Texas for
a visit, and then ...

He has not texted since the trip. I texted him, "Thank you for the trip." He said, "You're

Bad feelings can make some of us feel like we need to *do* or *resolve* something, but there is no agenda right now. You learned that grand gestures don't always mean much, and that you'd rather meet someone who's curious about you. What a great thing

You spent a weekend with a guy. You didn't like him very much. Neither of you has followed up to keep something going. What additional closure do you need? Not every situation requires a deep analysis or diagnosis.

Send your own relationship and dating questions to loveletters@globe.com. Catch new episodes of Meredith Goldstein's "Love Letters" podcast wherever you listen to podcasts. Column and comments are edited and reprinted from boston.com/loveletters.

Tuesday September 8, 2026

Tuesday September 8, 2026								Movies	Sports		
	7 pm	7:30	8 pm	8:30	9 pm	9:30	10 pm	10:30	11 pm	11:30	
2	WGBH PBS	BBC News	GBH Rooted	Finding Your Roots Danielle Deadwyler	Experience "Bonnie & Clyde"		Frontline "The Man Who Knew"		Amanpour and Company (N)		
4	WBZ CBS	Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy!	NCIS "Bad Impressions"	NCIS: Origins		NCIS: Origins "Johnny B. Goode"		News (N)	(:35) Comics	
5	WCVB ABC	News (N)	Chronicle	Jeopardy! "The Finals" (N) (SF)	R.J. Decker "Burn the Boats"		R.J. Decker "Even Walls Fall Down"		NewsCenter 5	(:35) J. Kimmel	
6	WLNE ABC	Videos		Whose	Whose	Whose	Whose	Saturday Night Live	Saturday Night Live		
7	WHDH	Inside (N)	Extra (N)	Family Feud	Family Feud	7 News at 9PM (N)	7 News at 10PM (N)	7 News at 11PM (N)	7 News at 11PM (N)	(:35) Inside	
9	WMUR ABC	Chronicle	News (N)	NH Votes (N) (Live)	R.J. Decker		R.J. Decker		News (N)	J.Kimmel	
10	NBC Boston	Boston News (N)	Hollywood (N)	America's Got Talent "Quarterfinals 4" (N) (Live)			America's Got Talent (N)		Boston News (N)	(:35) J. Fallon (N)	
10	WJAR NBC	News (N) (Live)	Extra (N)	America's Got Talent "Quarterfinals 4" (N) (Live)			America's Got Talent (N)		News (N) (Live)	(:35) J. Fallon (N)	
11	WENH PBS	Week-ends	In the America	Finding Your Roots Danielle Deadwyler	Experience "Bonnie & Clyde"		Frontline "The Man Who Knew"		Amanpour and Company (N)		
12	WPRI CBS	Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy!	NCIS "Bad Impressions"	NCIS: Origins		NCIS: Origins "Johnny B. Goode"		12 News at 11 (N)	(:35) Comics	
25	WFXT FOX	ET (N)	TMZ (N)	Kitchen Nightmares (N)			Boston 25 News at 10PM (Live)		News (N) (Live)	(:35) News (N)	
27	WUNI	Rosa "Sin culpa" (N)		Tan cerca de ti, nace el amor (N)		Tierra de amor y coraje (N)		Corazón de oro (N)		Noticias Univiñón (:35) Noticiero	
36	WSBE PBS	Last/- Wine	Served?	As Time Goes By	Waiting for God	Upstart Crow	Keep-Appear	Doc Martin		PBS News Hour	
38	WSBK	Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy!	WBZ News 8p		Patriots 1st Down	Patriots	Perfect	Perfect	Flip Side	
44	WGBX PBS	Test Kitchen	Antiques	Marlow Murder Club (SP)		Marble Hall Murders (P)		Downton Abbey Change affects many at Downton Abbey; cricket match.			
50	WWEJ	Murder USA		Heartland Homicide		Killer Cases		Crime Stories		Unusual Suspects	
56	WLVI CW	Young Sheldon	Young Sheldon	WWE NXT September 8th 2026 (N) (Live)						7 News at 10PM on CW56	Modern Family
64	WNAC FOX	Family Feud	Family Feud	Kitchen Nightmares (N)				12 News on Fox Pr	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	
68	WBXP ION	(:55) Chicago Fire "Damage Control"		Chicago Fire "Acting Up"		Chicago Fire "The First Symptom"		Chicago "Danger Is All Around"		Chicago Fire "Take a Shot at the King"	
PREMIUM CABLE											
Cinemax	(:15) ★★★ Eyes Wide Shut ('99) Nicole Kidman, Sydney Pollack, Tom Cruise.					(:55) ★★★ Full Metal Jacket ('87) Adam Baldwin, Matthew Modine. (P)			(:50) A Clockwo...		
Flix	(6:30) ★★★ Red Eye ('05)		★★★ Airplane! ('80) Julie Hagerty, Robert Hays.					★★ Airplane II: The Sequel ('82) Robert Hays.		★★ Road Trip	
HBO	(5:25) ★★ Us	(:25) Conan O'	(:10) Lanterns		(:05) ★★★ Pearl ('22) David Corenswet, Mia Goth.			(:50) ★★★ X ('22) Jenna Ortega, Mia Goth.			
HBO 2	(5:30) Mortal K...	(:25) Monsters	(:25) ★ Little Fockers ('10) Ben Stiller, Owen Wilson, Robert De Niro.			Conan O'Brien	(:40) Lanterns	(:35) Whitmer			
Paramount-Sho	(6:25) The Dutchman ('25)		★★ The Dark Tower ('17) Idris Elba.			(:35) ★★★ Edge of Tomorrow ('14) Emily Blunt, Brendan Gleeson, Tom Cruise.			★★★ Se7en		
Showtime 2	(6:15) ★★★ Bridget Jones's Diary ('01)		★★ You've Got Mail ('98) Meg Ryan, Parker Posey, Tom Hanks.					★★ What Women Want Helen Hunt, Marisa Tomei, Mel Gibson.			
Starz!	(6:50) ★★ The Kingdom ('07) Chris Cooper, Jamie Foxx.				(:45) Beast ('26) Bren Foster, Mojean Aria, Daniel MacPherson.			(:45) ★★ Deliver Us From Evil ('14) Edgar Ramirez, Eric Bana.			
TMC	(6:30) South Park: Bigger, Longer & Un...		★★ Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa ('13)			(:35) Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa 0.5 ('14)			(:05) Cheech & Chong's Last Movie		
SPORTS											
CBSSN	PWBA Bowling				Inside College Football (N)						
ESPN	2026 US Open Tennis Men's & Women's Quarterfinals From the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in Flushing, N.Y. (N) (Live)								SportsCenter (N) (Live)		
ESPN2	NFL Live Marcus Spears		30 for 30 The '85 Bears					30 for 30 Four Falls of Buffalo The Bills made it to four straight Super Bowls.			
Fox Sports 1	College Football North Texas at Indiana						College Football Boston College at Cincinnati				
Golf	(4:30) Col.	Central (N) (Live)	College Golf Folds of Honor Collegiate, Second Round			Central					
NBA	(6:30) NBA Shot	Hardwood Classics				Basket		Stories	Best of Vol. 4		
NBC Sports	(6:30) Early (N)	Early Edition	Best of Zolak and Bertrand		Tom Curran's		Boston Sports (N) (Live)		Boston Sports		
NESN	(6:30) MLB Baseball					Extra (N)	Red Sox	Chat (N)	Batting		
FAMILY											
Cartoon	Burgers	Burgers	Burgers	FamilyGuy	FamilyGuy	FamilyGuy	FamilyGuy	FamilyGuy	RickMorty	RickMorty	
Disney	ZOMB-IES: Re-	Series Shorts	Kiff	Kiff	Kiff	Kiff	Vampi-rina	Place	Ladybug	Ladybug	
Encore Family	A.R.C.H.I.E. 2: Missio...		Chestnut: Hero of Central Park			(:45) ★ The Cup ('11) Brendan Gleeson.			Movie		
Nickelodeon	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	
Nick Jr.	PAWPatr..	PAWPatr..	PAWPatr..	PAWPatr..	Peppa Pig	Peppa Pig	Peppa Pig	Peppa Pig	PAWPatr..	PAWPatr..	

Content Ratings: **TV-Y** Appropriate for all children; **TV-Y7** For children age 7 and older; **TV-G** General audience; **TV-PG** Parental guidance suggested; **TV-14** May be unsuitable for children under 14; **TV-MA** Mature audience only **Additional symbols:** **D** Suggestive dialogue; **FV** Fantasy violence; **L** Strong language; **S** Sexual activity; **V** Violence; **HD** High-Definition; **(CC)** Close-Captioned