

Local **Small Business** Saturday today Page A-3

Area death Old-time music community celebrates Travis Stimeling's life Page A-3

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OBITUARIES

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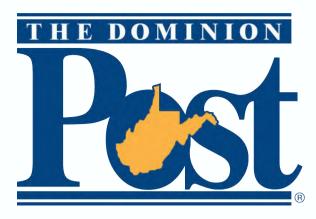
Crytser, James Roberts, Larry Sr. Wolfe, Charles

WAR

Hamas frees 24 hostages in swap

Associated Press

RAFAH, Gaza Strip — Hamas on Friday released 24 hostages who had been held captive in Gaza for weeks, and Israel freed 39 Palestinians from prison in the under a



SERVING NORTH-CENTRAL WEST VIRGINIA SINCE 1864

MORGANTOWN

Basketball Women undefeated in San Juan Shootout



Page B-2

WVU football Brown wants his team focused on Baylor Bears Page B-1

City purchases property in Richwood redevelopment area

BY BEN CONLEY BConley@DominionPost.com

Long before details of a 10-acre land deal and visions of redevelopment came to Richwood Avenue and the doorstep of downtown Morgantown, there was a glaring problem.

Looking down, as if a bird, on the scattershot tangle of streets and intersections along lower Richwood, you can't help but

configuration came to be.

Why does East Prospect Street abruptly end and Richwood Avenue loop around an empty parking lot, creating a strange confluence of intersections with Weaver and Snider streets before terminating at a dangerous, angled intersection with Willey Street?

Before you get to any of that, Richwood avenues.

wonder why, and how, this Richwood passes by Locust Avenue. The confluence of those two streets may be the most geometrically challenged of the lot.

And it's going to be addressed.

During its most recent regular meeting, Morgantown City Council approved, on first reading, the purchase of two parcels at the intersection of Locust and

The two properties, a total of .06 acres at 549 and 553 Locust Avenue, will be purchased from the Monongalia County Development Authority for \$216,600, which is the total appraised value of the properties.

Morgantown Area Partnership CEO Russ Rogerson previously said the city is looking to use some \$700,000 available

SEE CITY, A-2



RATE-HIKE PLAN Mon Power, **Potomac** Edison respond to criticisms

BY DAVID BEARD DBeard@DominionPost.com

Mon Power and Potomac Edison offered some defenses against criticisms leveled against them in one of their rate-hike cases, in a recent filing with the Public Service Commission.

But they did agree to some of the suggestions offered.

\$2.00

first stage of a swap four-day cease-fire deal.

The freed hostages included 13 Israelis, 10 people from Thailand and one from the Philippines, according to Qatar.

The agreement opened the way for sorely needed aid to flow into Gaza for beleaguered residents. It was also a moment of hope for families in Israel and elsewhere worried about loved ones taken captive during Hamas' Oct. 7 attack, which triggered the war.

With the truce's start Friday morning, Gaza's 2.3 million Palestinians saw quiet for the first time after seven weeks of relentless Israeli bombardment, which has killed thousands, driven threequarters of the population from their homes and flattened vast swaths of residential areas. Rocket fire from Gaza militants into Israel went silent as well.

The freed Israeli hostages included eight women — six of them in their 70s and 80s — and three children. Their release was followed in the evening by the freeing of the Palestinian prisoners — 24 women, including some convicted of attempted murder for attacks on Israeli forces, and 15 teenagers jailed for offenses like throwing stones.

But joy at the deal has been tempered — among Israelis by the fact that not all hostages will be freed and among Palestinians by the briefness of the pause. The short truce will leave Gaza mired

SEE HAMAS, A-2

Black Friday shoppers make their way through Menards, looking for deals.

Shoppers show up for those post-Thanksgiving deals

BY ERIN CLEAVENGER

ECleavenger@DominionPost.com

On Friday, the Morgantown area was bustling with shoppers hoping to catch some of those Black Friday deals, but some stores were busier than others.

Menard's management said they had customers lined up outside the store in Westover for its 5 a.m. opening. Many of those early birds made off with a \$150 7.6-cubic-foot retro refrigerator, a \$300 heated and massaging recliner, or a \$50 luggage set. A 10-foot-by-10-foot blanket selling for \$15 was also one of the best-selling items of the day, they said.

Bass Pro Shop may have been one of the busier retailers in town with people lining up as early as 2 a.m. for its 5 a.m. opening. The first 250 people through the door received a gift card with a surprise amount off of their purchase. Aside from deals on rifles, bows and clothing, the retailer had food trucks serving up coffee and barbecue in the parking lot.

Throughout the season, Bass Pro Shop hosts "Santa's Wonderland," where children can meet Santa and receive a free 4x6 photo. Reservations can be made to visit Santa on the website, basspro.com.

At Target, customers flocked toward the toy department for a buy one, get one 50% off deal on select toys, games and puzzles.

Stand-alone stores weren't the only ones to see crowds on Friday. At the Morgantown Mall, shoppers were out in full force, many retailers said.

Employees at Victoria's Secret said this year seemed more like the Black Fridays from seasons past, with a constant flow of customers coming in the door, many looking for outwear and sweatsuits.

Amanda Morgan, manager of JC Penney, said the store has been running its Black Friday sales for about a week, but, surprisingly, still had around 100 people lined up for its 5 a.m. opening.

The hot ticket items were small appliances, she said, selling out of Crock-Pots within 10 minutes of opening. Another draw to the mall's lone department store were the giveaways throughout the day. Shoppers who arrived at opening had a chance to receive various gift cards, including one for \$100 off \$100.

Morgan said unlike previous years. Penney's continued the giveaways throughout the day with prizes given away at 5 a.m., 9 a.m., 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.

According to a study by Wallethub, JC Penney was the best place to shop on Black Friday with an average discount of 59.1%. Its sales included extreme discounts on some pricier items too like a \$6,250 engagement ring marked down to \$1,666.

Macy's, Belk, Kohl's and Target rounded out the top five best places to shop on Black Friday this year, according to the study.

While area stores seemed to be seeing a higher number of in-store customers than last year, many customers came to pick up items already purchased online.

Totals for 2023 were not available in time for this report, but according to WalletHub, in 2022 Americans shopped from home on Black Friday more than they did in stores, with 122.7 million people getting their deals in person vs. 130.2 million making purchases online.

Many name brand or chain retailers will end or change their sales for the weekend.

Local businesses will be the focus today, as Small Business Saturday gets underway.

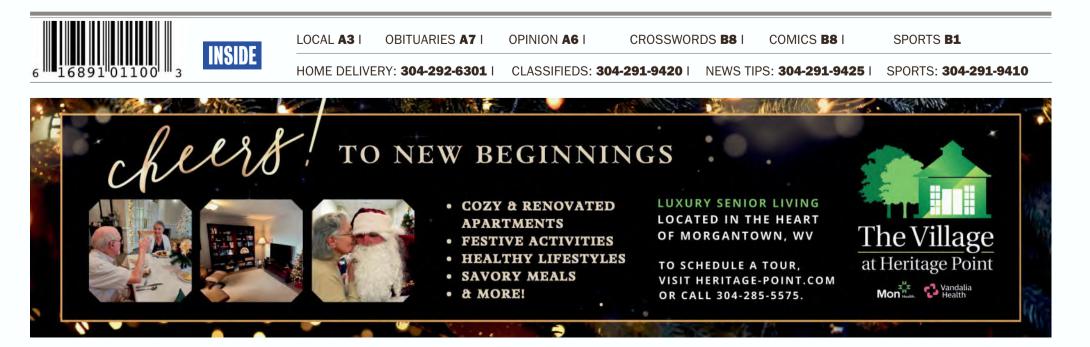
In this case, they are asking for \$167,465,330, which they project would add \$9.19 to the average monthly residential bill, raising it from \$120.20 to \$129.39 — a 7.8% hike. It is an ENEC case expended net energy cost designed to allow utilities to cover their costs of producing power.

Earlier this month, Philip M. Hayet testified on behalf of West Virginia Energy Users Group, a group of large industrial customers of Mon Power and Potomac Edison. He said the proposed hike imposes significant increases in ratepayer bills.

WVEUG proposed that instead of approving two ENEC rate hikes in 2024 — on Jan. 1 and an adjustment on March 27 - the PSC approve a single 2024 ENEC hike coinciding with a separate base increase expected rate on March 27.

And instead of spreading ENEC hikes across two years, as the companies proposed in this case (asking this time for \$167.5 million of a total \$243,032,313 under-recovery), WVEUG recommends spreading it across three years. And that the companies be directed to forego filing a 2025 ENEC case, meaning they would not make an ENEC filing in August/September 2024 for new rates to be effective on January 1, 2025. They would then file ENEC their next case in

SEE CRITICISMS, A-2



EDUCATION

WVU Purpose2Action serves communities, helps students

BY MIKE NOLTING WVMetroNews.com

The Purpose2Action program at West Virginia University gives Pell-eligible students the opportunity to gain experience working with nonprofits while completing their education.

Wood-Turner, Kristi director of the Center for Community Engagement, said the program immerses students in local problems that require real-world solutions.

"All students at West Virginia University have an

opportunity to be engaged with the community," Wood-Turner said. "So, they have an opportunity to get those 'best practice' outcomes that we know make for a better student and eventually a better worker in the career they choose."

The program encourages an interface between students and local nonprofits with defined critical needs to solve issues. The program puts students in real-life situations to use their skills and what they're learning to improve the community.

"There's nothing more important than being able to take the lessons and knowledge you have and apply it in a way that is functional to meet real-life needs," Wood-Turner said. "With that, you can have anv career you want because you are able to find a problem and solve it."

According to Woodthe students Turner. engage with the organization for about the length of a part-time job, but with a different schedule. During that time, students are encouraged to share their

values and lived experiences with the community to ensure the interaction is respectful and authentic.

"Anywhere from 10 to 15 hours of service and really getting to have the engagement with a nonprofit locally to meet a defined need and a project, they have to gain that experience," Wood-Turner said.

The program is also offered to Pell-eligible distance learners who can bring a need from their community for review by the university. If approved, the student can begin periodic work to satisfy the requirements of the program and search for a solution to the problem.

"We are not just placing students; we are meeting the true identified needs they have," Wood-Turner said. "So, if a student comes to us with a community partner in their hometown and has a true identified need and would like support, we are happy to make that connection.'

Wood-Turner said the program pushes students into situations where they interact with agencies and

high humidity we need

temperatures in the mid-

20s. If we have very low

humidity, which isn't very

common around here, we

can make snow up in the

had one cold snap that

enabled any measurable

But so far, they've only

30s," he explained.

use components of their education to help. Students not only engage in the practical application of their education, but they also learn about interacting with a wide range of people.

"It really gives students that kind of opportunity that they can dig deep into the course work and theories they're learning in class and be able to apply in a way that will set them apart," Wood-Turner said.

Students can sign up for the program at careerser vices.wvu.edu/stu dents/handshake-login.

CRIME

Pistorius granted parole, will be released from prison on Jan. 5

Associated Press

PRETORIA, South Africa — Double-amputee Olympic runner Oscar Pistorius was granted parole on Friday, more than a decade after shooting his girlfriend through a toilet door at his home in South Africa in a killing that jolted the world.

He will be released from prison on Jan. 5, but will be constantly monitored by parole officials for five years until his sentence expires, the Department of Corrections said.

Pistorius' parole will come with other conditions, Department of Corrections spokesman Singabakho Nxumalo said outside of the prison where Pistorius has been incarcerated in the South African capital, Pretoria, killing Reeva for

attend a program to deal with anger issues and another program on violence against women. He will have to perform com-

CITY

FROM PAGE A-1

the Willey, through Spruce, Brockway TIF district to begin razing the 55 or so structures spread across the roughly 10-acre planned area for redevelopment.

This is the first of those activities

"The plan is to facilitate road improvements," Attorney Ryan City Simonton explained. "The Steenkamp. Pistorius will also

munity service.

realignment with the redevelopment plans in the area."

This is also likely the first of the transportation infrastructure projects coming to the lower Richwood area.

In 2018, the city of Morgantown, working with consultant Aecom and in conjunction with the Morgantown Monongalia Metropolitan Planning Organization, identified

STATE

Ski industry waiting on colder weather

BY CHRIS LAWRENCE WVMetroNews.com

CHARLESTON — The state's largest ski resort has reset its planned opening day for the 2023-24 ski season to Dec. 1.

Snowshoe Mountain Resort hopes there will be enough cold weather by then to create the right series of circumstances to allow for snow-making.

in humanitarian crisis

and under the threat that

Israel says the cease-

hostages

fire could be extended if

released, but it has

vowed to resume its mas-

sive offensive once the

truce ends. That has

clouded hopes that the

deal could eventually

help wind down the con-

flict, which has fueled a

surge of violence in the

occupied West Bank and

stirred fears of a wider

conflagration across the

Middle East.

could soon

are

HAMAS

FROM PAGE A-1

fighting

resume.

more

Some natural snow wouldn't hurt either.

"We're definitely seeing some cold in the forecast for the days leading up to that," said resort spokesman Shawn Cassell. Cassell said the number

one thing they need, besides natural snow, is cold temperatures.

"That's the main thing, cold and dry preferably for snowmaking. If we have

CRITICISMS

FROM PAGE A-1

August/September 2025 for new rates in 2026.

Ravmond E. Valdes, representing Mon Power and Potomac Edison, said he doesn't agree with delaying the ENEC rate change from January to March, or with the additional year proposed for recovery.

Rate hikes are supposed to be gradual, he said, to mitigate large and abrupt changes in customer bills. So, synchronizing this case with the base rate case in March would result in a large and abrupt change in customer bills. The companies want to minimize the impact by having most of their ENEC increase occur on the traditional date: Jan. 1, with the small adjustment in March, He also disagreed with the idea of spreading the hike across three years and delaying their next (usually annual) ENEC case to September 2025. That proposal sets up a three-year delay for the recovery of ENEC-related costs, he said. "ENECrelated costs can be volatile and difficult to forecast due to constantly changing market dynamics as well as weather-related variations that can affect customer usage levels." It's risky to anticipate needed cost recovery over a year away. In a previous filing, Longview Power CEO Stephen Nelson recommended to the PSC that Mon Power and Potomac Edison retain an experienced, outside consultant, selected by the PSC, to conduct a thorough review of their next ENEC filing, alleging their filings force intervenors to "ferret out" the real issues in the case.

snow-making on the mountain. One weekend there was actually snow falling on the mountain, but iron-

testimony has provided

suitable and sufficient

results to all other involved

Brian

and environmental man-

ager, who said the compa-

nies purchased more NOx

emission allowances than

necessary because they

failed to properly operate

and maintain the NOx

emission controls at Fort

Martin. The companies

waited too long before

purchasing the emission

allowances they needed

and bought them at three

times the price they should

have. Longview recom-

mended disallowing recov-

ery of \$42.2 million of exces-

sive 2022 Ozone Season

Valdes also disagreed

Hoyt,

compliance

parties.

Longview's

with

ically Cassell said that did very little to help since the natural snow was so wet.

"There's a lot of science behind this stuff." he added.

Resort staff is encouraged by El Nino conditions. According to Cassell past El Nino years have been slow to get started with warm temperatures early on, but things have historically gotten way better than usual in the middle of the season.

Power And Potomac Edison representative Mark Valach did agree with some PSC Consumer Advocate **Division recommendations** about managing coal inventories.

One, they agree with the proposal to develop a plan to manage off-site inventories. Storing coal off site in 2023 was driven by the idea of acquiring coal at a belowmarket price to use in 2024. Their 2024 plan incorporates using that off-site coal, and they will analyze the cost to customers of keeping coal on-site versus potential supply challenges.

They also agree, Valach said. with CAD's recommendation to formalize a coal procurement procedure, and will develop a formal coal procurement manual. Their strategy of buying certain percentages of forecasted coal needs over a three-year period allows for leveling of short-term variations in the coal market. They review the strategy annually.

corner where Richwood Avenue approaches Locust Avenue is a very difficult angle. These properties are near that intersection. So, the city plans to use this for roadwav widening or

the need for significant changes, including the elimination of the Richwood Avenue loop and the extension of East Prospect to form a more functional, signaled intersection with Willev Street.

MORGANTOWN AREA MEALS ON WHEELS Need affordable meals prepared and delivered to your home? To enroll call: 304-599-1954 or email: morgantownareamow@gmail.com Our service area includes 10 routes extending to a 10-mile radius of Morgantown Volunteers, food couriers and shoppers are always needed.

After nightfall Friday, a line of ambulances emerged from Gaza through the Rafah Crossing in Egypt, carrying the freed hostages, according to live footage on Egypt's state-run Al-Qahera TV. Israel's Channel 13 showed an older woman exiting an alongside ambulance young girl, then walking slowly into a building. An Egyptian medical team held another older woman's arms as she walked.

Under the deal, at least 50 are to be released, though it is not clear if the Thai and Filipino captives would be included in that count. Israeli is to free 150 Palestinian prisoners.



Shop Our Holiday **Storewide Sale**

Nov. 24th-Dec. 5th Food, Drink, Music! 20-70% OFF in stock items



Valdes disagreed, saying that would result in an unnecessary cost for their customers. The current

NISSAN

NOx Allowance costs and \$18.3 million of 2023 Ozone Season NOx Allowance costs.

Valdes said the companies, "when purchasing allowances during the unprecedented 2022 Ozone NOx market spike chose to take a more measured approach to purchasing our expected shortfall for the year, versus overreacting and purchasing a large tranche of allowances all at once." If power demand or prices had dropped significantly over 2022, then Mon Power would have incurred unnecessary costs for its customers.

The companies had previously been criticized for failure to maintain proper fuel supplies at their two coal-fired plants, which allegedly led to higher rates. Also, in a recent filing, Chelsea Hotaling testifying on behalf of a coalition of the West Virginia Citizens Action Group, Solar United Neighbors and Energy Efficient West Virginia, said the plants maintain coal inventory above their safety levels.

On that topic, Mon

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SERVICE !

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Japanese Automotive Specialists

PREMIER NISSAN

MORGANTOWN

EXPERT

SERVICE.

The companies have two other rate-hike cases pending before the PSC.

One is their base rate hike request: \$207.5 million for infrastructure and for their energy assistance program. The hike would cost the average residential customer \$18.07 per month — raising a bill from \$120.20 to \$138.27.

The other is to fund their Vegetation Management Program. It proposes an increase of \$16,969,398 to take effect Jan. 1, 2024, and \$16,989,110 to take effect Jan. 1, 2025 — for a total of \$33.938.795.

They say this reflects an overall 1% increase aggregated against all their customer classes. For the average residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt hours per month, they project a hike of \$2.47 per month, raising the bill from \$120.20 to \$120.67.

CONTACT

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CLARIFY

The Dominion Post strives to publish accurate information. If a factual error does occur, notify: Editor Pam Queen, 304-291-9425 or editor@dominionpost.com



SATURDAY 11.25.23



LCa

dominionpost.com

BY JIM BISSETT

JBissett@DominionPost.com

Chris Stimeling was a study in four-string stoicism that Sunday afternoon back in 2019.

The middle-schooler was bearing down on his Epiphone bass guitar from one fixed spot on the stage.

He was rocking the root note for all it was worth, as he and buddies of that same vintage they called themselves Chorus of Chaos — were tearing through "Come On, Feel the Noise," by Quiet Riot, their forefathers of distorted guitars and big hair, as mattered on this day. it were.

The young outfit (not yet in their teens) was on the bill for an annual concert from PopShop, a School of Rock-type enterprise that puts people of all ages together, as a band.

While Stimeling, the bass player, didn't necessarily share the same sonic proclivities of his father, Travis — a nationally known WVU musicologist who headed the bluegrass and oldtime music divisions of the College of Creative Arts — it also needed noting that none of that Nope, not one bit.

The elder Stimeling was headbanging with the best of them from a perch in the audience midway back from the stage.

And that's because the professor was also a performer could never help enjoying and celebrating that wondrous act of making music in front of people, no matter the genre.

Double-coil humbuckers coexisting with the Delmore Brothers, as it were.

who preferred Stimeling, they/them pronouns for that

desire of inclusivity in the arts and society, died last week after battling an illness.

It didn't take long for the tributes to cascade in, like a fiddle break in an old-time jam session.

"Travis was radically inclusive," their best friend and fellow musician Mary Linscheid said Friday.

wanted to bring "They everybody into the circle.'

Fiddling, full circle

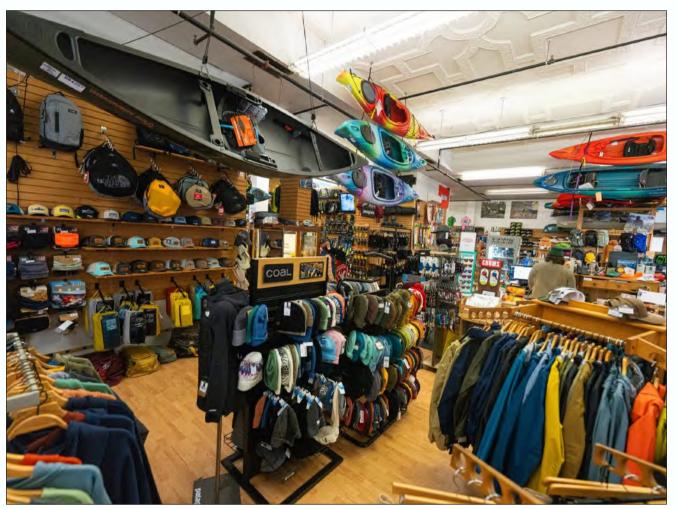
As a kid in Morgantown, Linscheid, who grew up playing classical violin, found herself gravitating more and more to old-time music, as she got older.

She switched over to guitar and mandolin as she explored the music in earnest, and met Travis when she joined the WVU Bluegrass Band on her way to graduating with an English degree last spring.

Linscheid fully committed to her first instrument during that tenure. Like her professor's inclusivity, her shift was just as radical.

SEE CELEBRATES. A-4

Small Business Saturday



PRESTON **County clerk not** happy with the mishandling of funds

BY JENIFFER GRAHAM

DPNews@DominionPost.com

KINGWOOD — Preston County Clerk Linda Huggins said she is not happy about a \$500,000 miscalculation.

During an interview, Huggins said she was told the commission had more money than they ever had and it was accumulating a lot of extra money in carryover. She said she wondered what they were talking about when the they hadn't increased the tax rate.

"We only know what we get from the sheriff's office. We don't see the money; we just see the receipts," she said.

working with the sheriff's department, said both she and Sheriff Paul Pritt are aware of the urgency in correcting the problem.

"We are going back through information from prior years no one else has looked at," she said.

Sheriff Moe Pritt said the \$500,000 is basically money from the fire excess levy that they were told to put in the general county fund. He said he later found out a percentage should go to the local fire departments.

"It was a misdirection of where the fees were to go to based on advice at concep-

Benjamin Powell/ The Dominion Post photos

A photo of Pathfinder's unique outdoor essentials on Friday morning. The High Street store is ready for Small Business Saturday shoppers to descend today.

DPNews@DominionPost.com

Small Business Saturday kicks off the holiday shopping season today with downtown's signature celebration of small and local.

Presented by First Energy Foundation, Small Business Saturday will run from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. with the Holiday Hub by Breezeline offering a lounge in the Ward Building, 238 High St., where shoppers can take a break.

Shoppers can take photos with the Grinch by the holiday tree and enjoy a hot cocoa bar and cookie station. The first 50 visitors will receive a Shop Small reusable tote bag. Shoppers can also enter to win a smart TV, pick up a gift guide to plan the day and visit kids' activity tables.

Across from the Ward Building, there will be a Holiday Vintage Pop-Up Market on the Monongalia County Courthouse Square with music and food trucks.

At 2 p.m., the Moonlight Market opens at Morgantown Market Place on Spruce Street with artisans and music.

There are many reasons to think Downtown Morgantown when deciding on a holiday shopping plan.

"Behind every small business is a family. Downtown's specialty shops offer unique gift opportunities including handmade, artisan and locally made,' Amy Loomis, executive director of Main Street Morgantown, which is part of Morgantown Area Partnership, said previously. "For those who like experiences and food, consider a gift card from a favorite local coffee shop, brewery, or restaurant."

According to Loomis, citing the 2022 American Express Small Business Consumer Insights Survey, 68 cents of every dollar spent at a small business in the U.S. stays in the local community and that every dollar spent at small businesses creates an additional 48 cents in local business activity as a result of employees and local businesses purchasing local goods and services.





Top, Co-owner of Coni and Franc Connie Merandi (left) assists Helena Jackson as she looks for new shoes on Friday morning. Above, Black Friday shoppers explore Hoot and Howl downtown on Friday morning. More shoopers will be in downtown for Small Business Saturday.

The money is from an excess levy that was put into the wrong county fund. It is now being corrected.

During the meeting, Huggins said the commissioners and the sheriff knew about the money. She said monthly reports were not being submitted so she reported it and the auditor told her that was not her duty.

tion," he said. "We want to make this right. I don't want to put my name to anything that's not right. We have a CPA working on it and we sent out pages and pages of numbers. Some of the stuff was from 2006, 2011 and 2018. We've identified the problem and we're trying to fix it," Pritt said

In other business, Preston County's 89-year-old courthouse is about to be reconfigured inside. The

SEE FUNDS, A-4

Melissa Hardy, a CPA

STREAMING REVIEW 'May December' not an easy watch, but worth it

IN ONE OF MY FAVORITE TELE-VISION SHOWS, "TED LASSO," one character asks another if his partner makes him a better man. It is meant to shock him out of the toxic romance he's a part of, but they're still a couple at the end of the episode.

Something I have discovered is that when you're in an unhealthy relationship, it can be hard to recognize it from the inside. Director Todd Haynes examines this in his latest film, "May December," coming to Netflix on Friday.

Elizabeth (Natalie Portman) is an actor preparing for a new role in a film she is producing and starring in. To fully understand the woman that she is portraying, she spends a week with Gracie (Julianne Moore) and Joe Yoo (Charles Melton), a couple who rose to notoriety when their relationship was exposed decades earlier because she was 36, married with children, and he was 13. They now



ALISE CHAFFINS

have three children, two about to graduate high school, with Joe as an Xray technician and Gracie running a small home-bakery business. As Elizabeth meets with people from Gracie's past, she begins to better understand these two people, both from the time of the initial incident and now.

I found "May December" to be a profoundly upsetting movie, largely because Hayes, along with writers Samy Burch and Alex Mechanik, refuse to allow this to be a movie that is black and white. Obviously, it is abusive for a 30-something woman to initiate a relationship with

SEE MAY, A-4



NEWS BRIEFS

Associated Press

Sean 'Diddy' Combs accused of sexual abuse

NEW YORK — Two more women have come forward to accuse Sean "Diddy" Combs of sexually assaulting them in the early 1990s. In one of the suits, a woman said Combs sexually assaulted her after plying her with drugs, then filmed the abuse without her knowledge. In a second suit, an unnamed woman said the producer and a friend took turns raping her and a friend during an after party. The lawsuits were filed hours before the expiration of a New York law that gives victims of sexual abuse a one-year window to file civil action regardless of the statute of limitations. In an emailed statement, a spokesperson for Combs denied the allegations.

Trump plans to visit Buenos Aires

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina — Former President Donald Trump has told Argentina's President-

FUNDS FROM PAGE A-3

construction is necessary to meet the Supreme Court's requirements to accommodate a second circuit judge who will take office in 2025.

The Mills Group is working with the commission to do the work

According to its web site, the Mills Group of architects, designers, planners and historians collaborate their clients to with improve communities through the latest design techniques while reserving the architectural character of the past.

The current courthouse took the place of the one that was torn down in 1933. The sandstone for its facades was quarried locally, and the final cost of

a teenage boy, but we are

MAY

FROM PAGE A-3

elect Javier Milei that he plans to travel to the South American country so the two can meet. Milei's office said Thursday that Trump called Milei to congratulate the right-wing populist on his election victory. The office didn't give a date for when Trump intends to be in Buenos Aires. Milei's inauguration is scheduled for Dec. 10. He has expressed admiration for Trump and been compared to him in the past. His conversation with Trump on Wednesday night took place a few hours after Milei spoke with President Joe Biden.

U.N. chief Guterres visits crucial Antarctica

KING GEORGE ISLAND, Antarctica — U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres is visiting Antarctica just before the COP28 climate talks begin. He called the continent's warming devastating. He is on a three-day visit and was accompanied by Chile's president. Warming air and

the courthouse was \$113,500.19. It was dedicated Aug. 25,

1934.

Magistrate Bo Ward, speaking as a citizen and not a magistrate, told commissioners he wanted to propose a new plan for the courthouse changes that would save taxpayers money.

He said even though the magistrate court is housed in the courthouse, members of that court have had no say in the reconfiguration plans.

"We had two people at the reconfiguration meeting but they were told they couldn't be there," Ward said. "We were not included in any of this."

Commissioner Hunter Thomas said until an architect looked at Wards plans, no changes can be made.

part of a national scandal. Watching Moore in this reminded me of her role in "Magnolia" with the

ocean temperatures are causing Antarctic ice to melt. The frozen continent plays a significant role in regulating Earth's climate because it reflects sunlight away and drives major ocean currents.

Daryl Hall is suing music partner John Oates

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Daryl Hall has sued his longtime music partner John Oates, arguing that his plan to sell off his share of a joint venture would violate a business agreement the duo had. The move quickly prompted a judge last week to temporarily block the sale during legal proceedings and arbitration. The lawsuit contends that in their roles as co-trustees, Oates and other defendants were moving to sell their part in Whole Oats Enterprises LLP to Primary Wave Music. The lawsuit says they were doing so without Hall's consent and in violation of their business agreement while arbitration hadn't been completed.

"Our plan was approved by the Supreme Court, but some things can be tweaked," Commission President Samantha Stone said.

Commissioner Don Smith said the plans had to be very explicit and the architects (the Mills Group) had to go to the Supreme Court to get the sizes and what was needed.

County Coordinator Nate Raybeck said the commission received a \$100,000 grant based on the current architectural design.

"Isn't grant money taxmoney?" Ward payer asked.

No further action was taken.

The next meeting of the Preston County Commission will be 9:30 a.m. Monday.

Beyond that, it is a masterful piece of filmmaking. There is a tendency to treat abuse from older

NATION

Internet casinos thrive in 6 states. So why hasn't it caught on more widely in the U.S.?

Associated Press

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. — In the 10 years that it has been operating in New Jersey, internet casino gambling has generated nearly \$7 billion in revenue for casinos and their affiliates, sent over a billion dollars in tax revenue to the state's coffers and helped keep Atlantic City's nine casinos afloat while they were shut down during the COVID-19 pandemic.

So why hasn't it caught on more widely across America?

Currently, only six states offer internet casino gambling: New Jersey, Connecticut, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Michigan and West Virginia. (Nevada offers internet poker but not online casino games; Rhode Island has passed an online casino bill, but it is not expected to go into effect until March 2024.)

Casino operators, online gambling companies, analysts and elected officials offer a number of reasons why they think it has yet to widely: expand more among them, including fears (unfounded, analysts say) that internet gambling

will draw gamblers away from physical casinos, and a higher priority effort to approve sports betting nearly 90% of which is done online in two-thirds of the states.

Proponents say they expect additional states to adopt online casino gambling soon, in part because a wave of federal pandemic stimulus funding from the federal government is ending, and states are once again looking for new sources of tax revenue.

gambling Internet 'stands out as the most lucrative revenue source from any gaming launch in history, and New Jersey is 'exhibit A' for its success," said Howard Glaser of the internet gambling technology company Light & Wonder. He predicted dozens of states will adopt it in the near future.

However, Chris Krafcik, managing director of the Eilers & Krejcik gambling analytics firm, said some states may be hesitant to forge ahead with internet casinos, which some lawmakers may view as a more serious, high-stakes form of gambling than online sports betting. Another factor is competition from online giants like DraftKings and FanDuel that control nearly half the online casino market in the U.S.

Krafcik predicted "only a very small number of states" will legalize online casinos by the end of 2027.

"Online casino has always been a tough sell,' Krafcik said.

One of those states may be Indiana, where an online casino bill died in February due in large part to fears that it would hurt the state's existing physical casinos. A report from the state's Legislative Services Agency warned of that, citing "loss of tax revenues from displacement of gaming activities at brick-and-mortar casinos and racinos" of \$134 million to \$268 million a year. Lawmakers plan to try again next year.

Elaine Vallaster of New Jersey has been playing internet slots for about three years on the BetRivers.com site, where she also likes the free bingo games and a chat function that has enabled her to make several friends with whom she socializes in real life.

CELEBRATES

And yes, they are two said, with a little laugh.

about strict rehearsals and staid concert halls, the fiddle trends more organically to that circle Travis always talked about, the musician said.

about it," she said, of the contrast — from the way one bows the instrument to the way one simply approaches the music.

For her, old-time over the old masters is just more freeing, she said.

that will take place at 4 p.m. that day at The Encore music venue on Powell Avenue.

Chris Haddox, a fellow WVU professor and oldtime music buddy, will be there.

Haddox, a songwriter who also plays several stringed instruments in that style, is in possession of a self-titled album currently making a solid run up the Americana music charts here in the U.S. and overseas.

The album was produced by Ron Sowell, the music director of public radio's famed "Mountain Stage" show out of Charleston.

Stimeling profiled Sowell and Haddox in his 2018 he said, reminded him that music — especially music of the Appalachian ilk can build whole communities spanning generations across the Mountain State.

The last time they played was at The Encore in October, for an old-time honky-tonk show, where Haddox led a band that worked through tunes by Webb Pierce, Lefty Frizzell and other vanguards of a golden age of Nashville music that peaked in the 1950s.

Stimeling, an authority on that music, played bass in the band, and grooved on the walking, boogiewoogie lines just a couple of steps away from the jump blues.

FROM PAGE A-3 Goodbye, violinist. Hello, fiddler. different animals and instruments, Linscheid

While the violin is

"Everything's different

looking at it some 20 years later when they have built a life together. However, even now, we see that there are numerous cracks in their relationship and that despite the years together, the abuse and power imbalance are never addressed.

The performances in this film are stunning. The actors playing the kids are all wonderful, managing to bring a genuine love for their dad with a disdain for their mom that is part teen angst and part anger from being an unwitting

energy that she brought. Portman gives a beautifully nuanced portrayal of a woman trying to find a balance between professionalism and friendship. But the most impressive showing comes from Melton, who finds a way to portray naivete without ever succumbing to seeming ignorant.

Aside from the unsettling subject matter, my only frustration with this movie was the score. It is heavy-handed in a way that took me out of the moment more than once.

women to young boys with less gravity than we do when the situation is reversed, and this movie tackles that imbalance with a deft hand. This is not a film that is easy to watch, but nevertheless, it is a movie that is worth watching.

ALISE CHAFFINS is a

Morgantown writer who loves movies and sharing her opinions, as well as a member of the International Film Society Critics Association. She reviews a movie from a streaming service every Saturday and one newly in theaters every Sunday. Find more at MacGuffin or Meaning on Substack.

"When you're playing old-time fiddle, you're almost always sitting knee-to-knee with someone who's probably actually teaching you the tune at the same time," she continued.

"Travis was all about that. They'd always say, 'People first, then the music.' They always celebrated that connection."

'I gotcha, Boss'

This coming Thursday, people and music will be part of the celebration of Stimeling's live and times

"Songwriting in book, Contemporary West Virginia: Profiles and Reflections," which gave a look at performers who sing songs and craft them, too.

"I wouldn't have an album if it hadn't been for Travis," he said.

"That book got me on Ron's radar."

Haddox and Stimeling picked music together and collaborated on songs and academic works, also.

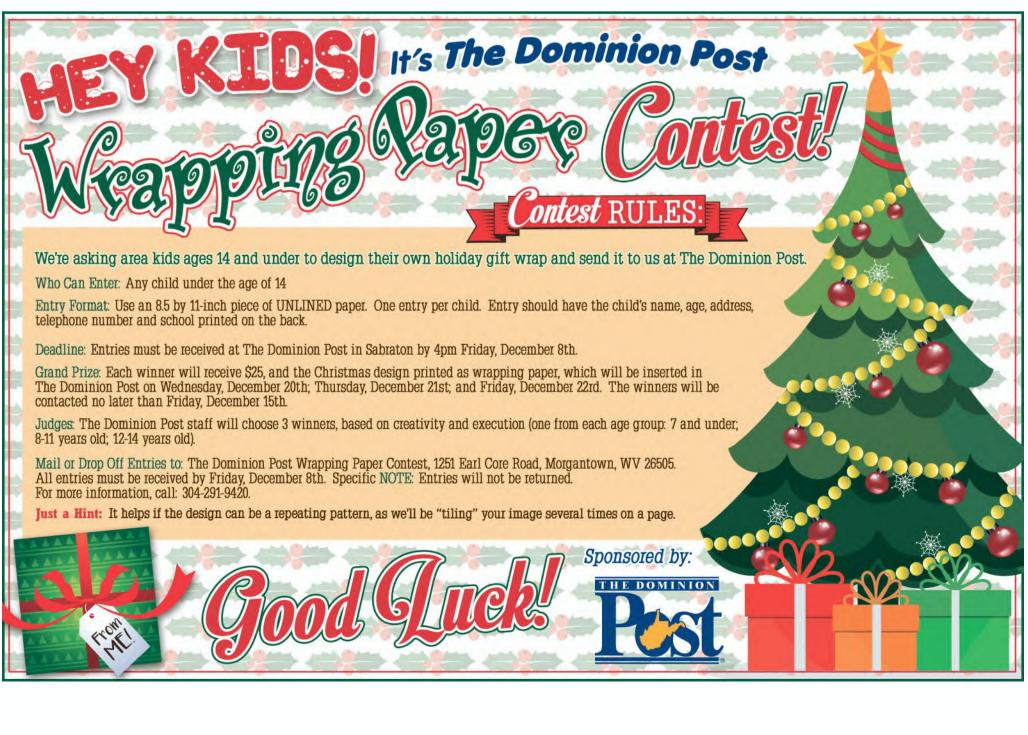
WVU, At Haddox teaches sustainable design practices in new building construction. Stimeling,

He was looking forward to another such show on Dec. 16, which will be dedicated to Stimeling's memory.

Their final gig, Haddox said, was magic.

"Every time I looked back, Travis would be there with this giant grin," he said.

"I might say, 'Hey, Travis, it's in A, buddy,' and he'd say, 'I gotcha, Boss.' Now, he's not gonna be there when I turn around. I'm getting emotional, just thinking about it."



HEALTH

WVU Medicine Diabetes Education Center assists patients with disease management

WVU Health System

November is American Diabetes Month.

According to the American Diabetes Association (ADA) more than 37 million children and adults have diabetes in the United States.

In West Virginia, they estimate more than 220,000 people, 15% of the adult population, have been diagnosed with diabetes and another 45,000 are unaware they have it.

The WVU Medicine Diabetes Education Center (DEC) is ADA accredited and works diligently to positively affect the health of those living with the disease through inpatient and outpatient services, including blood glucose monitoring, insulin and non-insulin injection training, hypoglycemia treatment, meal planning and carbohydrate counting, medication management, and physical activity counseling.

Patients must be referred by their primary care, endocrinology, inpatient, or emergency medicine provider to receive services.

For Dominick Barbetta, 66, from Clarksville, Pa., this referral would have been made sooner if he had sought diagnosis when his doctor first mentioned it to him.

"He had been on me about it for a while," Barbetta said.

His family history combined with complaints of persistent fatigue were enough for Barbetta's doctor to suggest the screening. First-hand knowledge of the dangers of uncontrolled diabetes finally were enough to make Barbetta act and get help.

"My grandmother lost her leg," he recalled and added that maintaining an active lifestyle is important to him. Now retired, he is an avid fisherman, works on his farm daily and enjoys spending time outdoors.

Barbetta completed a twoday class at the DEC and said he learned a lot, including how to check his sugar, what to eat and how his food choices can affect his levels. He credits DEC staff with educating him on continuous glucose monitors and the process for requesting one from insurance. They even helped him work through some initial issues he had setting up the device.

"They are nice people," Barbetta said. "They told me if I need anything to stop in and see them."

Now a couple months into actively managing the disease, he has lost 12 pounds, feels fuller and more satisfied after he eats, and has renewed energy.

Emily Smaniotto, registerd nurse and coordinator of the DEC, said Barbetta's experience is what she and her team want to see for all their patients.

"All of our diabetes educators are passionate about the care they provide and the lives they influence," she said. "We love to see our patients succeed in managing their diabetes, and if they are struggling or need support, that's what we are here for."

Diabetes education is more than a profession for Smaniotto, as she, too, has diabetes.

"I have been living with Type 1 Diabetes for 20 years," she said. "I enjoy helping others with diabetes, especially introducing them to the latest technology."

DEC efforts extend to the community. They manage a support group for individuals affected by Type 1 Diabetes, a newsletter for those affected by Type 2, and supported the recent JDRF Community One Walk in Morgantown, which Smaniotto chaired and raised money for juvenile diabetes research.

This summer, representatives from WVU Medicine's Diabetes Education Center traveled to the 2023 Association of Diabetes Care and Education Specialist (ADCES) Conference, held in Houston, where Smaniotto and Mary Treadway, inpatient diabetes educator at WVU Medicine Camden Clark Medical Center, presented posters.

"We wanted to point out all the great diabetes providers from the state and the educators that work for WVU Medicine," Treadway said. "They are the heartbeat of stopping the epidemic of pre-diabetes and Type 2 diabetes mellitus."

Smaniotto and Treadway are also co-leading revitalization efforts for the ADCES West Virginia Coordinating Body/Local Networking, education, and professional development for local diabetes care and education specialists.





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GUEST EDITORIAL Critical thinking is losing to TikTok

We've seen contagions induced by social media before. But the sudden popularity of TikTok videos in which confused young people muse on the merits of Osama bin Laden's "Letter to America" reveal the depths of this particular app's ability to corrupt young minds.

Yes, that would be the deranged and paranoid thoughts of the terrorist mastermind of the murderous Sept. 11 attacks. On TikTok, you can find folks wondering aloud if he might just have had a point. The stupidity and ignorance of history boggles the mind.

Voices on the left, such as National Public Radio, have tried to argue that the TikTok problem is overblown and white supremacists are the real problem when it comes to rising antisemitism.

And, indeed, there is a growing amount of that poison on the far-right fringes.

But the left also has to recognize that antisemitism has reemerged in troubling ways within its core communities, taking parents, ill-prepared college campuses and even some media organizations by surprise.

Denying it exists is not the solution. Rather, it's time for good people of all political stripes to admit that some Jewish young people are being very poorly protected, despite the colossal campus infrastructure created in recent years to attend to "inclusion" and students' mental and physical health.

To say those bureaucracies have been slow to react to what even nonpolitical Jewish students have been feeling as their sense of personal security has been upended, and the pressures they've faced on America's campuses in recent weeks, is to grossly understate.

No wonder many Jewish donors are incensed.

TikTok, in particular, has become such a cesspool of antisemitism that some Jewish parents have taken to social media themselves to say that the app is traumatizing their teenagers, thanks to the current force-fed diet of lightning videos twisting Michael Jackson's "They Don't Care About Us," offers of support for jihadism against the West, and even setting the thoughts of the Ayatollah Khamenei to sympathetic music.

"TikTok risks turning a whole generation into antisemites," wrote British columnist Jake Wallis Simons, adding that the app is "torturing" his Jewish daughter. "This is moral and intellectual vacuity," Simons wrote, "an internet brain-rot arising from a propaganda mechanism the like of which the world has never seen.'

How much of what TikTok serves us has to do with Chinese interests and how much follows from the dangers of its effective and amoral algorithm is a contested matter.

But this we know to be true.

When we see the scrawled word "Nazis" defacing the fence of former Mayor Rahm Emanuel's longtime summer home in Michigan, there is reason to worry. As our former colleague turned political influencer David Axelrod noted on X, formerly Twitter, on Monday morning: "It's despicable. It's disgusting. It's just one more flashing red light. Like Axelrod, we see those same lights flashing everywhere. It behooves the adults in the room, those who understand the lessons of history, to intervene.

I oversaw border protection. NYC and Chicago are doing what they can

As America's IMMIGRATION CRISIS **EXPANDS AND EVOLVES, MIGRANTS** ARE BEING BUSED TO URBAN CENTERS IN THE INTERIOR OF THE U.S.,

PUTTING AN UNPRECEDENTED STRAIN on cities that have never had to grapple to this extent with challenges deeply familiar to American border communities.

New York and Chicago have experienced the brunt of these relocations, with more than 12,000 migrants arriving on buses since spring 2022 from Texas, Florida and even Denver after the Mile High City decided to cap the number of migrants it would take on itself.

These migrants, an increasing number of whom are escaping tough conditions in Venezuela, have been living in police stations, repurposed commercial buildings and even O'Hare International Airport as many seek formal asylum. Many have even been forced to live on the streets in subfreezing temperatures. The status quo is untenable.

With their cities the new epicenters of the migrant crisis, New York Mayor Eric Adams and Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson have called on Washington and the White House to do more to provide critically needed federal assistance.Adams and Johnson have also taken decisive action at home.

Johnson, for example, just months into his role, has moved quickly to advance the city's efforts to expand temporary housing, case management and medical support infrastructure for the 20,000 migrants who now call Chicago home in advance of the frigid Midwestern winter.

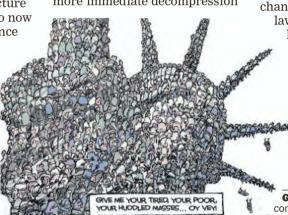
The city has opened two dozen emergency shelters in unused buildings across the city and is repurposing several vacant lots to accommodate the thousands still without shelter — and those still to come — in winterized encampments staffed by professionals, with climate control, meal and shower facilities and security.

This is a daunting task — in governing and execution. Chicago will likely have spent \$360 million on the migrant surge by the end of this year, with local leaders and residents demanding more answers and solutions than what city leaders, navigating what is clearly uncharted territory, have developed.

Johnson is doing the best he can with what he has.

Chicagoans, understandably frustrated by the city's efforts to balance resources for feeding and sheltering migrants with the needs of the city's own citizens, are generating immense political pressure for the mayor. That kind of pressure had, until last summer, been reserved for border communities and the federal government. And, as they learned long ago, it's the kind of decisions that must ultimately be balanced against the harrowing human reality of the migrant crisis. As so many communities are learning for the first time, it is a nearly impossible situation, with no easy answers.

In New York, Adams also has worked to honor the city's role as a migrant destination by matching local resources with federal support. He has called on President Joe Biden to launch a "decompression strategy" for newly affected cities and recently made headlines for a more immediate decompression



by offering migrants one-way plane tickets to leave the Big Apple. It was a move that followed months of strained social services, the closure of several shelters for asylum-seekers due to safety concerns and relocation of some to other cities in New York, including Buffalo.

There are no easy solutions to America's growing immigration challenges. Migrants have a right to seek asylum when they encounter a U.S. border official, a mechanism established by international law following the atrocities of the Holocaust and World War II and later adopted by Congress in 1980.

Under U.S. law, a person can seek asylum if they feel they face persecution at home due to their race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group or political opinion. Once their claim is made, they have the right to remain in the United States as they begin a complex process involving the Departments of Justice, State, Health and Human Services, and the court system.

If status is granted, asylumseekers qualify to work and may apply to become a permanent resident and eventually an American citizen if they meet the criteria of U.S. citizenship.

While vital today, temporary housing and services are, by definition, not a long-term solution. Any significant, durable relief from our immigration challenges will come only through changes to our immigration

laws in Congress, a body that has kicked this can down the road for decades without meaningful progress.

And, until those changes come, the new mayors of two of America's largest and most welcoming cities should be recognized for continuing to meet this incredibly challenging moment.

GIL KERLIKOWSKE was commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection from 2014 to 2017

THIS EDITORIAL first appeared in the Chicago Tribune. This commentary should be considered another point of view and not necessarily the opinion or editorial policy of The Dominion Post.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

EMAIL submissions to opinion@dominionpost.com. MAIL submissions to: The Dominion Post, 1251 Earl L. Core Road, Morgantown, WV 26505. INCLUDE your name, hometown and phone number for confirmation. Letters should not exceed 300 words.

Costs of climate change are falling on states that can't afford them

BETWEEN 2018 AND 2022 MANY OF THE STATES WITH HIGH RATES OF **POVERTY** — Oklahoma, New York were also the states that suffered the most damage from extreme weather. A new climate study indicates things are going to get worse for those places and for poor people.

The federal government's Fifth National Climate Assessment was published last week and concludes that we are literally running out of places to hide.

Right now, according to the report, more than half of all Americans live somewhere that's projected to have more extreme weather more often. No matter how much humans might try to put a red-blue spin on climate issues, the weather doesn't care: The climate damage price tags for Texas and California were roughly the same during the span the report assessed.

In 2021, future presidential candidate Ron DeSantis referred to aggressive climate change pol-icy as "left-wing stuff." But

The



LZ GRANDERSON

wouldn't you know it, Florida the state where DeSantis is in charge — spent the most in those years.

So far this year the country has experienced 25 weather disasters that cost at least 1 billion - arecord number. "Left-wing stuff" is a political stance, not a practical one. Here's a practical concern: To deal with climate damage, Louisiana is spending like Texas, but it's in no position to do so. Louisiana has a poverty rate of 18.6%, the second highest in the country. Neighboring Mississippi, which has the country's highest child poverty rate at nearly 28%, will be forced to

devote more and more cash toward disasters, an expense it can ill afford.

Even before the climate price tag has ballooned further, the nation is already struggling to come to terms on financial priorities. As Republicans in the House are forever pushing for spending cuts, and reminding us of our \$33-trillion debt, it's easy to forget that people are attached to those cuts in programs such as Medicare and Medicaid: people on fixed incomes, including seniors — 23% of whom live in poverty already; people without a lot in the bank, like much of America. The Motley Fool reported the average American has \$1,200 in savings, not a lot of wiggle room.

The new report on the climate is a cry for help, and yet Republicans in some of our poorest states continue to make it political. We are way past the point of politicking. Recently, about 125,000 homes and businesses in Florida lost power because of heavy rainfall. That's "left-wing stuff," Gov. not DeSantis. It's a major reason insurance companies are abandoning the state.

This is why it is simply not possible to have substantive policv conversations about spending cuts with politicians who rely on climate change denial to get elected. They're in no position to talk about budgets, because they're committed to denying one of the biggest elephants in the room.

And it's not just the denial that is of concern, but the people most likely to suffer because of it: the poor. The trend of moving cities least likely to have major storms in the future — is monetizing the despair of the wealthy while highlighting the vulnerability of the poor. This means there will be more climate migrants within the U.S., aggravating the competition for

homes in some areas and driving up housing costs. That's not an issue that can be solved by austerity.

Nor can it be helped by nonsensical ramblings about offshore wind farms making whales "crazy." That was among the most recent comments on climate change from the GOP's presidential front-runner, Donald Trump. Some states that backed him in 2016 are on the list of biggest spenders on climate damage, even if they are also very poor. You'd think they would be ready for real talk on climate policy – which is not, in fact, just "leftwing stuff."

I don't know what all the strategies against climate change should be or where the money will come from. I do know it's impossible to find answers with leaders who benefit from avoiding the problem.

LZ GRANDERSON is an op-ed columnist for the Los Angeles Times

BY STEPHAN PASTIS

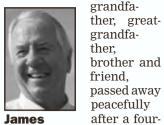
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OBITUARIES

James Franklin Crytser, a beloved husband, father,



James Crytser

tle with cancer in his hometown of Morgantown, on Nov. 22, 2023. He was born Oct. 17. 1936, in Morgantown, leaving a lasting legacy for his family and community.

month bat-

Jim was a dedicated family man who was deeply loved by his family. He is survived by his devoted wife, Patricia Laurie Crvtser. his children Jimmy Crytser and wife Kelley, Laurie Barbe and husband Steve, Tim Crvtser and wife Leslie. and his daughter-in-law Becky Crytser. He was a grandfather to proud Rachel, Alli, Derek, Drew, David and Dillon, and a doting great-grandfather to

HEALTHCARE

Cecilia, Tommy, Cole and one on the way. He is also survived by his brother Bud Crytser and wife Marge, and his sister Sharon Crytser Petitte.

James Crytser

Jim was preceded in death by his parents, James Edward and Rena Pearl Baker Crytser; grandson, Derek Crytser; brother-inlaw, Jasper Petitte; and his father- and mother-in-law, Louis and Sophie Laurie.

He proudly served his country as a member of the United States Air Force. Jim was a man of many talents and interests, known for his ability to fix anything and his knack for creative solutions. He was a natural handyman, even building his own home. He spent his professional life as a quality control engineer for Consolidation Coal Co., where he was respected for his intelligence and attention to detail. Jim was also a member of the Masonic Lodge and Elks Lodge, contributing his time and skills to these organizations.

Outside of work, Jim had a zest for life that was infectious. He was an avid golfer and had a passion for classic cars, which he shared with his brother Bud and son-in-law Steve. He was particularly proud of his 57 Buick, which he purchased after high school. In his younger years, he drove race cars, a testament to his adventurous spirit. In his later years, he found enjoyment at the shooting range and, alongside his daughter, watching Fox News for hours at a time. He also enjoyed two simple pleasures in life — Yuengling and Fritos.

Jim's family would like to recognize the excellent care he received while at Morgantown Healthcare Center (formerly Stonerise) and the guidance and passionate care he received from Amedisys Hospice. His family will be forever grateful.

Family and friends are invited to gather at Fred L. Jenkins Funeral Home from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m alhome.com

Monday, Nov. 27, and again on Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2023, from 10 a.m. until the time of the funeral service at 11 a.m. with the Rev. Junius Lewis officiating. Following the service, Jim will be laid to rest at Pleasant Hill Cemetery with full military honors.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Jim's memory to The Derek Crytser Memorial Education Fund, P.O. Box 1297, Ashland, VA 23005. Donations can also be made by calling The Hanover Education Foundation: 804-365-4560 or 804-365-4565 online or at http://hcps.us/staff/ hanover_education_foun

dation/donate. Click on the blue "donate online" button. Enter "Derek Crytser Memorial Scholarship" in the details box below Hanover Education Foundation (HEF) Donation.

Condolences: www.fredjenkinsfuner

Charles Wolfe "Buzzy"





Charles Wolfe

Oct. 31, 1936, a son of the late Kenneth Kelsie Wolfe and Mabel Ruby Opal Cale Wolfe.

Charles is survived by his loving wife of 68 years, Martha Jane Shaffer Wolfe; daughters, Deborah Wolfe Irvine (Roger) of Marlinton, and Crystal Lea Crossland Offutt of Fairmont; grandson, Keifer Crossland (Katlin) of Fairmont; greatgrandchildren, Kyndal and Crossland; Kamrynn brother, Donald Wolfe (Carol) of Moody's Run; sister, Barbara Mullenax (Raymond) of Pine Grove; sisters-in-law, Charlotte Wolfe of Monumental and Beverly Wolfe of Idamay; as well as many nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents. Charles was preceded in death by a sister, Betty Louise Wolfe; three broth-Kenneth "Sonny" ers, Wolfe (Maggie), Jerry Wolfe and Edward Wolfe.

Charles worked for 23 years as a miner and mine foreman at Bethlehem Mines Corp., Barrackville No. 41, until his retirement on Nov. 30, 1982, when the mine closed. He then

DEATH NOTICE

Larry Roberts Sr., 77, of Morgantown, passed away Nov. 21, 2023, at his home. Cremation arrangements, which are incomplete, have been entrusted to Hastings Funeral Home.

Want to see your news in The Dominion Post?

Let us know what's going on with your business, club or

Ohio voters just passed abortion protections. When and how they take effect is before the courts

Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio -Ohio's new constitutional protections for abortion access and other reproductive rights take effect Dec. 7, a month after voters resoundingly passed them. How and when their impacts are felt remains unclear.

abortion-Existing related lawsuits are moving again through the courts now that voters have decided the issue, raising questions about implementation.

amendment The declared an individual's right to "make and carry out one's own reproductive decisions" and passed with a strong 57% majority. It was the seventh straight victory in statewide votes for supporters of abortion access nationally since the U.S. Supreme Court overconstitutional turned protections. But the amendment voters approved Nov. 7 did not repeal any existing Ohio laws, prompting some antiabortion activists to step up pressure on Republican elected officials to extend their efforts to halt, delay



People gather in the parking lot of the Hamilton County Board of Elections as people arrive for early in-person voting in Cincinnati, Nov. 2.

right, you win. We're going

that have caused abortion rights organizations and attorneys ethics to question their objectivity on the subject.

Minority Democrats in the Ohio House announced legislation two days after the election aimed at avoiding a piecemeal approach to implementing the amendment. Among other steps, they called for repealing the state's ban on most abortions after fetal cardiac activity is detected, which is around six weeks, and a 24-hour waiting period.

"There are over 30 different restrictions in place," said state Rep. Beth Liston, a physician and coauthor of the Reproductive Care Act. "And I think that it is important that we don't require citizens to go to court for every restriction, and, quite frankly, that we don't let harm occur in the interim." House Minority Leader Allison Russo was careful not to criticize the high court, which holds sway over the fate of those laws. "My hope is they will uphold the rule of law and constitution," the she said.

Charles Franklin Wolfe, 87, of Bar-

rackville, passed away on Saturday, Nov. 18, 2023, at WVU Fairmont Medical Center.

bors and friends. Charles was a member of Bar-He was rackville United Methodist born in Church, Fairmont Masonic Pine Grove Lodge #9 A.F. & A.M., and the Morgantown Scottish

Rite. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, feeding his deer, spending time and working at the farm, going to Canada with his wife, watching the Steelers and WVU and spending time with his family.

worked as a bus driver and

carpenter for the Marion

County Board of Education.

He helped building the

Sturgiss United Methodist

Church in Masontown.

Also, he used his carpentry

skills helping family, neigh-

The family will receive friends at Ford Funeral Home, 201 Columbia St., Fairmont, from 1-5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 26, and Monday, Nov. 27, from 2-8 p.m. The casket will lie in repose at Sturgiss United Methodist Church, 1861 Snake Hill Road, Masontown, Tuesday, Nov. 28, from 10-11 a.m. The funeral service will be held in the church at 11 a.m. Tuesday with the Rev. David Myers officiating. A committal service will follow at Mt. Zion Cemetery in Masontown, where masonic ritualistic services will be provided by Fairmont Masonic Lodge #9 A.F. & A.M. A dinner will be provided at the church following the committal service. Condolences:

www.fordfuneral homes.com

Published obituaries can now be viewed for free at dominionpost.com.

or significantly water it down. "A lot of that hard work

of figuring out what state laws are inconsistent with the amendment and what state laws can remain. does tend to devolve to the courts," said Laura Hermer, a professor of law at Mitchell Hamline School of Law in St. Paul, Minnesota, who studies access to health coverage and care in the U.S. "It's difficult to imagine that the Legislature will say, 'All

to repeal the heartbeat ban' and so forth."

The state Legislature is controlled by Republicans whose leaders opposed the November ballot amendment, which was known as Issue 1. The Ohio Supreme Court also is controlled by Republicans, who have a 4-3 majority, and will be the final judge of constitutional questions. Several of the Republican justices have taken actions or made statements over the years

NATION **Officials begin clearing debris while 3 remain** missing in Alaska landslide that left 3 dead

Associated Press

WRANGELL, Alaska -Searchers looking for three people who remain missing after a massive landslide that killed three others and injured a fourth have changed their strategy from holding an active search to a reactive search that will involve methodically clearing the highway, officials said Thursday.

"During active search periods we have searchers in the field meticulously looking for missing persons," Austin McDaniel, a spokesperson with the Alaska Department of Public Safety, told the Associated Press. "During reactive searches, search teams are not actively in the field but will react to new information and then actively search that area supported by the new information."

Since Monday night's officials slide. have inspected the site by air with drones, helicopters and planes while teams using detection dogs and sonar covered the ground



Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management via AP

This photo provided by Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management shows a helicopter arriving near mile 11 of the Zimovia Highway where ground teams, including search and rescue dogs, are actively working to search areas that state geologists have determined safe for entry Wednesday, Nov. 22, in Wrangell, Alaska, following a massive landslide earlier in the week.

and water, but the three people — one adult and two juveniles — remain missing, McDaniel said.

The slide churned up the earth from near the top of the mountain down to the ocean, tearing down a wide swath of evergreen trees and burying a high-

way in the island community of Wrangell, about 155 miles south of Juneau. Rescue crews found the body of a girl in an initial search Monday night and the bodies of two adults late Tuesday.

Around 54 homes are cut off from town by the landslide, and roughly 35 to 45 people have chosen to stay in that area, interim borough manager Mason Villarma said. Boats are being used to provide supplies, including food, fuel and water, and prescription medications to those residents. Given the geography of the island — with the town at the northern point and houses along a 13-mile stretch of paved road — currently "the ocean is our only access to those residences," he said.

Wrangell usually celebrates Thanksgiving with a tree lighting and downtown shopping events but could replace that with a vigil, he said.

In that way, the town "can come together physically and recognize the tragedy and the loss of life ... but also the triumph of a small community that's really come together and been able to pull off some remarkable successes, even in the face of all this adversity," Villarma said in a phone interview with The Associated Press.

team. Email news tips, photos or press releases to DPNews@DominionPost.com **Questions: 304-291-9425**

The Dominion Pest.

Remembering loved ones every day, especially during the holidays, is the best way to keep them alive in your heart.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND OUR 9th Annual Service of Remembrance SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, AT 2:30 PM

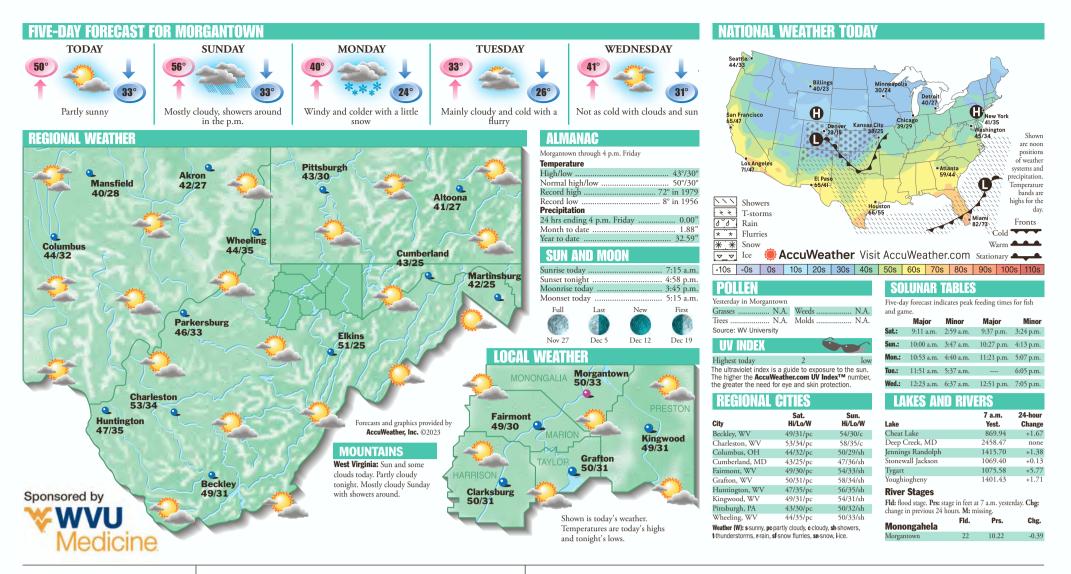
Everywhere we go this time of year, we are reminded of the holiday season. For some, it is a time for celebration, cheer, happiness, and joy. For others, it is a somber reminder of the first Christmas season without their loved ones.

We will remember the lives lost in 2023 with a candle lighting ceremony and a message of encouragement and hope.

Families that we served in 2023 will receive a commemorative keepsake ornament to remember and honor their loved one.

Light refreshments will immediately follow. We hope you can join us to remember, celebrate, and reflect on lives well lived.





ALMANAC

Associated Press

Today is Saturday, Nov. 25, the 329th day of 2023. There are 36 days left in the year.

Highlight:

In 2016, Fidel Castro, who led his rebels to victorious revolution in 1959, embraced Soviet-style communism and defied the power of 10 U.S. presidents during his half-century of rule in Cuba, died at age 90.

On this date:

In 1961, the first nuclearpowered aircraft carrier, the USS Enterprise, was commissioned.

In 1963, the body of President John F. Kennedy was laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery; his widow, Jacqueline, lighted an "eternal flame" at the gravesite.

In 2001, as the war in Afghanistan entered its eighth week, CIA officer Johnny "Mike" Spann was killed during a prison uprising in Mazare-Sharif, becoming America's

Siblings discover they're incompatible as roommates

DEAR ABBY: I'm 20,

and I recently moved into an apartment with my 19-year-old sister. I thought it would be a great idea because we'd get to see each other more often and we'd be more comfortable living together than with strangers. Recently, however, she has gotten a new boyfriend she brings over all the time.

I don't like people. Having him in my home makes me feel threatened for some reason I can't figure out, especially since he hasn't done anything. I acknowledge that fact. and I try not to be nasty to him because of it. The problem is, he comes over during the day, and my sister also has him sneak out of his parents' house at 2 a.m. so he can sleep here with her. This happens almost every night, and I'm usually awake and hear them. I have told my sister I don't like it and asked her not to do those things when I'm home, but she won't listen. She gets upset and defensive and tries to take the blame off of herself by saying there's nothing else they can do since I am always home.



JEANNE PHILLIPS

with this anymore, but I can't decide if I'm making it worse like she says. I'm thinking about moving out and finding her a new roommate, but I don't want to offend her because I like being able to see her. What should I do? — TROU-BLED SISTER IN IDAHO

DEAR SISTER: Face it: Your idea of living with your sister was a dud. Your sister is immature and unwilling to compromise. If she wants a future with boyfriend, encouraging him to sneak out of his parents' home to sleep with her won't endear her to them when they catch on, which they will eventually. It should not offend her if you explain calmly that your lifestyles are polar opposites, so you will be finding another place to live.

TV LISTINGS

11/25/23	▶ 6 PM	▶ 6:30	▶ 7 PM	▶ 7:30	▶ 8 PM	▶ 8:30	▶ 9 PM	▶ 9:30	▶ 10 PM	▶ 10:30	▶ 11 PM	▶ 11:30
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11) WPXI	11 News	NBC News	Wheel	J. Bettis	The Nation	al Dog Shov	N		Dateline NI	BC	Channel 11	SNL
12) WBOY	12 News	NBC News	The Holida	y	The National Dog Show			Dateline NBC		12 News	SNL	
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53) WPGH		the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N) Ultimate Update (L) (N)			▶ 8 PM ▶ 9 PM				► 10 PM ► 11 PM			
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first combat casualty of the conflict.

In 2009, Toyota said it would replace the gas pedals on 4 million vehicles in the United States because the pedals could get stuck in the floor mats and cause sudden acceleration.

Today's birthdays:

Actor Kathryn Crosby is 90. Actor Christopher Riordan is 86. Pro Football Hall of Fame coach Joe Gibbs is 83. Singer Bob Lind is 81. Author, actor and economist Ben Stein is 79. Actor John Larroquette is 76. Actor Tracey Walter is 76. Movie director Jonathan Kaplan is 76.

I go to work and school most days, but at night there's nowhere for me to be but in my bed. I'm not sure what to do. I don't want to put up

JEANNE PHILLIPS writes "Dear Abby" under the pseudonym Abigail Van Buren. Write Dear Abby at DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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SATURDAY 11.25.23

ENDING ON A HIGH NOTE

Sports

dominionpost.com



West Virginia Mountaineers defensive lineman Mike Lockhart (93) tackles Cincinnati Bearcats quarterback Emory Jones (5) last week.

Mountaineers want to close regular season strong with a win at Baylor

BY CODY NESPOR

CNespor@DominionPost.com

West Virginia football coach Neal Brown believes there is a season for everything.

"There's a season where people are going to worry about NIL, and there's a season when they're going to worry about transferring and there's a season when they're going to worry about bowls," said Brown, whose 7-4 Mountineers are bowl-bound this season. "We're in the season of there's one game a week, we're in the regular season and we need to have a singular focus on this week.' Without classes this week due to Thanksgiving break, Brown wants West Virginia (7-4, 5-3 Big 12) to be singularly focused on their regular-season finale against Baylor (7 p.m./FS1). The Bears (3-8, 2-6) haven't had the season they've wanted and will be without starting quarterback Blake Shapen, who suffered a

head injury at their end of their game last week.

"I'm not sure we need to be overlooking anybody," Brown said. "To me, it's just about finishing. We've got a singular focus this week, it's the only game where there's not any school stuff to worry about."

The Mountaineers are coming off of one of their most impressive performances of Brown's five-year tenure, a 42-21 win over Cincinnati in which they rushed for 424 yards and five touchdowns. Baylor has the second-worst rushing defense in the Big 12, allowing 179 yards per game, and last in scoring defense, allowing 33.3 points per the Big 12 in scoring (22.4) and fourth-worst in yards (381.8).

You can see the team, on both sides of the ball, has real strong identities," Baylor coach Dave Aranda said of WVU. "On offense, running the ball and on defense a 3-4 structure with single high (safety). You know what you're going to get, the problem is you've got to deal with it."

Without Shapen, Baylor will start either Sawyer Robinson or RJ Martinez at quarterback. Robinson started games earlier in the year in place of Shapen and has thrown for 349 yards with one touchdown and four interceptions. Running backs Dominic Richardson (494 vards) and Dawson Pendergrass (322, five touchdown) lead the rushing attack while Monaray Baldwin leads the team with 623 receiving yards and four touchdowns. Drake Dabney has set a new Baylor single-season high for receiving yards by a tight end with 529 to go with five touchdowns. WVU is 1-4 all-time in Waco, with the lone win coming in 2017.

MEN'S HOOPS

RaeQuan **Battle's** eligibility situation with WVU is not dead

BY JUSTIN JACKSON

JJackson@DominionPost.com

The afternoon gathering came at Suburban Lanes in Morgantown, and what was a day of giving thanks also turned into a much needed day of rest and getting away from reality for a while for the WVU men's basketball team.

Players slept in after returning from Fort Myers, Fla., early Thanksgiving Day morning, and then it was time to eat and bowl.

"It certainly wasn't me," WVU head coach Josh Eilert replied when asked who won the bowling match. "I was experimenting with some different spins. I took a (loss) to my son, I know that. I had to pay him some cash on the side. When you get to the point where they're old enough to beat you, that's a hit on your old ego."

WVU, too, took a hit of sorts at the Fort Myers Tip-Off, losing two games to SMU and Virginia. Bouncing back from those setbacks will be the reality the Mountaineers (2-3) will have to face again when they hit the practice floor Friday.

Their situation remains the same. Guards Kerr Kriisa (suspended) and RaeQuan Battle (eligibility denied) and forward Akok Akok (medical issue) can only give support from the sidelines and not on the court, meaning WVU will continue to play with a shortened rotation for the time being.

That could change over time and Eilert remains optimistic about the impact Kriisa will bring once he returns from his suspension on Dec. 16, as well as possibly getting Battle and Akok back.

game.

"For me, it starts with their d-line," Brown said. "They're extremely well-coach, they've got great size and length, they rotate a lot of guys in there, they can rush the passer and they can play you in a lot of different fronts."

The Bears are led by senior linebacker Matt Jones, who leds the team with 74 tackles and 10 tackles for loss with three sacks. Lineman TJ Franklins leads the team with 3.5 sacks and has eight tackles for loss. True freshman cornerback Caden Jenkins has a trio of interceptions this season.

On offense, Baylor ranked second-last in

"It's a tough place to play. We haven't had a lot of success there as a program," Brown

SEE BAYLOR, B-2

"I haven't lost all hope for Rae-Quan," Eilert said. "I still think

SEE BATTLE, B-2

Bellarmine at WVU

WHEN: 5 p.m. Sunday WHERE: WVU Coliseum **TV:** ESPN+ (Online subscription needed) RADIO: 100.9 JACK-FM **WEB:** dominionpost.com

PREP SPORTS

Audrey Buck and Paige Brink named 1st team All-State for champion Morgantown

BY JAY W. BENNETT

Parkersburg News and Sentinel

CHARLESTON — Greenbrier East senior libero Dia Sauvage and her team didn't qualify for the state volleyball tournament this fall.

Nonetheless, the Spartan earned her third nod on the Class AAA all-state first team and was honored as captain by the West Virginia Sports Writers Association.

Sauvage, who was named third team All-American by the American Volleyball Coaches Association, finished with 123 aces and served at 94.6%. Along with registering 104 assists, the Spartan made 711 digs at 97.5% and also had 1,047 serve-receptions which she handled at 94.8%.

"The awesome thing about Dia is that she never worried or worries about individual awards," admitted father and Greenbrier East head coach Matt Sauvage. "She gets so excited for her teammates, whether it be her team winning or her teammates accomplishing goals or her teammates getting awards. She wants the best for the whole team, but in that process she succeeded individually beyond expectations.

"She will never take credit for her accomplishments, but she put in the time and effort for many years to get to where she is. As a player on the court she can pass, use her hands and serve well, but the three things that set her completely apart are her ability to read the game, her ability to make those around her better and Dia is very humble."

The only repeat honoree on the first team was Woodrow Wilson junior Abby Dillon, who had 1.340 assists. The Flying Eagle added 55 aces, 480 digs and served at 99.3%.

> SEE ALL-STATE, B-2 AAA.



Benjamin Powell/The Dominion Post

Morgantown's Audrey Buck (7) was named first team All-State in Class

CONNECT

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TWITTER: DomPostSports



SCOREBOARD

CALENDAR

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25 COLLEGE FOOTBALL West Virginia at Baylor, 7 p.m. (FS1)

MEN'S SOCCER NCAA Tournament Vermont at West Virginia, 4 p.m. WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

San Juan Shootout West Virginia vs. Southern Illinois, 11:00 a.m.

ON TV

AUTO RACING 3:30 a.m.: FS1 — FIM World Supercross: Championship, Melbourne, Australia 5:25 a.m.: ESPN2 — Formula 1: Practice, Yas Marina Circuit, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates 8:55 a.m.: ESPN2 — Formula 1: Qualifying, Yas Marina Circuit, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S) 12 p.m.: FS2 — Jackson St. at Georgetown 7 p.m.: BTN — South Alabama at Maryland CBSSN — Emerald Coast Classic: TBD, Championship, Destin, Fla. FS2 — Holy Cross at St. John's 9 p.m.: FS2 — N. Illinois at DePaul **COLLEGE FOOTBALL** 12 p.m.: ABC — Kentucky at Louisville ACCN — Pittsburgh at Duke BTN — Indiana at Purdue CBSSN — Miami (Ohio) at Ball St. ESPN — Texas A&M at LSU ESPN2 — Navy at SMU ESPNU — Troy at Southern Miss. FOX — Ohio St. at Michigan FS1 — Houston at UCF SECN — Texas A&M at LSU (Command Center) **2 p.m.:** CW — Wake Forest at Syracuse NBC — Southern U. vs. Grambling St., New Orleans PEACOCK — Southern U. vs. Grambling St., New Orleans **3 p.m.:** PAC-12N — Colorado at Utah 3:30 p.m.: ABC — BYU at Oklahoma St. ACCN — Virginia Tech at Virginia BTN — Regional Coverage: Maryland at Rutgers OR Northwestern at Illinois CBS — Alabama at Auburn CBSSN — Liberty at UTEP ESPN — Arizona at Arizona St. ESPN2 — James Madison at Coastal Carolina ESPNU — Georgia Southern at Appalachian St. FS1 — Wisconsin at Minnesota SECN — Vanderbilt at Tennessee 4 p.m.: FOX — Washington St. at Washington 7 p.m.: ESPN — Florida St. at Florida FS1 — West Virginia at Baylor NFLN — South Alabama at Texas St. PAC-12N — Notre Dame at Stanford 7:30 p.m.: ABC — Georgia at Georgia Tech ESPN2 — Kansas at Cincinnati ESPNU — Charlotte at South Florida SECN — Clemson at South Carolina 8 p.m.: ACCN — North Carolina at NC State FOX — Iowa St. at Kansas St. 9 p.m.: CBSSN — Wyoming at Nevada 10:30 p.m.: ESPN — California at UCLA FS1 — Fresno St. at San Diego St. COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL (WOMEN'S) 12 p.m.: FS2 — Big East Tournament: TBD, Championship, Milwaukee 9 p.m.: BTN — Nebraska at Minnesota NBA 10:30 p.m.: NBATV — Dallas at LA Clippers NHL 1 p.m.: NHLN — Boston at NY Rangers 7 p.m.: NHLN — Toronto at Pittsburgh

6 a.m.: TENNIS — Davis Cup Finals Semifinal

TENNIS

PRO FOOTBALL

NHL

Alex Tuch's late goal caps Sabres' 3-2 comeback win against Penguins

Associated Press

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Alex Tuch scored with 2:44 left in regulation, Jeff Skinner had a goal and an assist, and the Buffalo Sabres came back to beat the Pittsburgh Penguins 3-2 on Friday night.

Kyle Okposo also had a goal in the third period, Victor Olofsson had two assists, and Ukko-Pekka Luukkonen made 31 saves as the Sabres bounced back from an overtime loss in Washington for their second win in three games.

"I thought we played probably our best period of the year," said Okposo, the Sabres captain. "We just have been a little bit too much on our heels and just thinking a little bit too much for the past few weeks, and I just think we came out and attacked. It was a ton of fun to watch."

The Sabres rallied after Okposo gave a spirited speech during the second intermission.

"We were on the attack. We were aggressive. We were fearless," Sabres



Buffalo Sabres right wing Alex Tuch (89) celebrates his game winning goal during the third period of an NHL hockey game against the Pittsburgh Penguins Friday, in Buffalo N.Y.

coach Don Granato said. "After the game, I turned it right back over to Okie. I thought he did a great job between the second and third, and postgame we went right back to him for further comments because it was a great job. It was a leadership move but a collective effort."

Sidney Crosby scored his 13th goal for the Penguins, who have lost four of five games following a fivegame winning streak. Lars Eller also had a goal, and Alex Nedeljkovic stopped 31 shots.

Skinner set up Tuch's winning goal with a pass from behind the net, after Skinner scored his ninth goal on a power play earlier in the third period.

"They got a power-play goal that got them some juice," Penguins coach Mike Sullivan said. "And we've just got to be better in pushing back."

Okposo got his first of the season when he poked in a rebound with 9:08 remaining in the third.

Rasmus Dahlin recorded his 200th assist on Okposo's goal, and his 250th point in 375 NHL games.

Pittsburgh went ahead late in the first period when Jake Guentzel stole the puck from Buffalo defenseman Mattias Samuelsson and fed Crosby in the high slot for a one-timer over Luukkonen's glove.

Matt Nieto's forechecking made it a 2-0 advantage toward the end of the second period. The Penguins' fourth-liner took advantage of Dahlin's giveaway to set up Eller alone in the left circle.

"We probably should have been a bit better at possessing the puck," Crosby said. "I thought we didn't get a lot of zone time and allowed them to come back at us. Even with that, we had our looks to extend the lead and didn't do that."

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Milestones hit as WVU cruises to win over Charlotte

Sports@DominionPost.com

The WVU women's basketball team remained undefeated Friday, but did so in unconventional fashion.

The Mountaineers ran past Charlotte 84-56 at the San Juan (P.R.) Shootout inside the Coliseo Guillermo Angulo, but did so without much help from star guard J.J. Quinerly.

The team's leading scorer got in early foul trouble and then a technical foul led to her fourth foul



town was the only program

with a pair of players on the

top unit thanks to junior

Audrey Buck and sopho-

more Paige Brink. Entering

the state tournament. Buck

had 69 aces, 204 kills, 218

digs and 494 assists, while

Brink had 30 aces, 116 digs

Smell helped the Indians to

the big show. The junior

earned her spot on the first

team thanks to 508 kills

where she hit .274. Smell

also had 71 aces (93.7%

server), 45 blocks, 384 digs

and 523 serve-receptions at

Gracie Brown also was

named to the first team

after helping the Eagles

Brown hit .241 and had 480

kills, 52 aces, 34 blocks, 368

digs and 570 serve-recep-

man was represented by

there's a possibility for Rae-

Quan. I hope things change

in that regard. Maybe some

of these tests going on with

Akok can give us an oppor-

tunity to see him back on

the court in some fashion.

RaeQuan's situation is cer-

Battle's appeal for imme-

diate eligibility was denied

Tuesday by the NCAA Com-

mittee for Legislative

Relief. Eilert said after the

loss against Virginia the

situation is now in the

hands of Battle's family

lawyers, who could bring a

tainly not dead."

State runner-up Mussel-

to Charleston.

Hedgesville sophomore

a 92.9% success rate.

qualify

tions at 90%.

BATTLE

FROM PAGE B-1

Myleigh

and 262 downed spikes.

Bridgeport's

FROM PAGE B-1

PA

170 249

220 284

before halftime. Quinerly ended up foul-

ing out of the game in the second half, having played just 16 minutes and scoring two points. The rest of the team

picked up the slack, as the Mountaineers (5-0) used a run late in the second quarter and then a strong third quarter to seal the victory.

Jordan Harrison led the way with a double-double (18 points, 10 assists) and Lauren Fields surpassed 1,000 points for her college career — she's also played

junior masher Ada McCoy,

at Oklahoma State and Ari- zona — and finished with 17 points, four rebounds and four assists.

WVU's full-court pressing defense was the real story, forcing the 49ers (3-3) into 30 turnovers, the most forced by the Mountaineers this season.

WVU scored 29 points off those turnovers, while also recording a season-high 20 steals. Fields led the Mountaineers with eight of them, the most by a WVU player since 2021.

WVU connected on nine

Musselman senior Ava who had 708 kills and hit Dunnigan was named cap-.267. She also had 16 aces. 37 tain of the second team.

3-pointers and shot 46.4% (26 of 56) from the floor. Charlotte was held to just 14 baskets and shot 36%, but the 49ers did go 25 of 30 from the foul line.

Tirzah Moore added 12 points off the bench and Jayla Hemingway and Danelle Arigbabu each scored nine for the Mountaineers.

WVU concludes play in the San Juan Shootout at 10 a.m. today, when the Mountaineers play Southern Illinois.

Myleigh Smell, Bridgeport, JR Ada McCoy, Musselman, JR Gracie Brown, Hedgesville, SO Maja Johnson, Parkersburg Sou

Audrey Buck, Morgantown, JR

Paige Brink, Morgantown, SO

Olivia Perkins, Parkersburg, SR

Ava Katz, George Washington, JR

NFL

AMER		CO EAS		REN	CE				
	w	L	Τ.	Pct	PF	PA			
Miami	8	3	0	.727	339	251			
Buffalo	6	5	Ō	.545	294	190			
N.Y. Jets	4	7	Õ	.364	163	238			
New England	2	8	0	.200	141	238			
SOUTH									
	W	L	Т	Pct	PF	PA			
Jacksonville	7	3	0	.700	230	204			
Houston	6	4	0	.600	238	208			
Indianapolis	5	5	0	.500	242	248			
Tennessee	3	7	0	.300	168	214			
NORTH									
	W	L	Т	Pct	PF	PA			
Baltimore	8	3	0	.727	304	177			
Cleveland	7	3	0	.700	227	180			
Pittsburgh	6	4	0	.600	166	195			
Cincinnati	5	5	0	.500	202	226			
		VES							
	W	L	Ţ	Pct	PF	PA			
Kansas City	7	3	0	.700	225	164			
Denver	5 5	5	0	.500	217	268			
Las Vegas		6	0	.455	185	225			
L.A. Chargers	4	6	0	.400	259	238			
NATIO		EAS		RENC	E				
	w	L	'т	Pct	PF	PA			
Philadelphia	9	ī	0	.900	273	212			
Dallas	8	3	0	.700	347	185			
Washington	4	8	0	.333	246	350			
N.Y. Gignts	3	8	0	.333	149	285			
N. 1. Olullis		οΰτ		.275	147	205			
	w	Ľ	Τ	Pct	PF	PA			
New Orleans	5	5	0	.500	214	198			
Atlanta	4	6	ŏ	.400	189	217			
Tampa Bay	4	6	ŏ	.400	192	200			
Carolina	ī	9	õ	.100	163	275			
Curonna		0Ŕ1			100	2/0			
	w	Ľ	Ť	Pct	PF	PA			
Detroit	8	3	0	.727	294	258			
Minnesota	6	5	Ō	.545	253	230			
Green Bay	5	6	0	.455	231	224			
Chicago	3	8	0	.273	230	286			
WEST									

Pct .727 .545 .400 .182 San Francisco 310 229 L.A. Rams 195 192 0 0 Arizona THURSDAY'S GAMES Green Bay 29, Detroit 22 Dallas 45, Washington 10 San Francisco 31, Seattle 13 FRIDAY'S GAMES Miami 34, N.Y. Jets 13 SUNDAY'S GAMES Carolina at Tennessee, 1 p.m. Jacksonville at Houston, 1 p.m New England at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m. New Orleans at Atlanta, 1 p.m. Pittsburgh at Cincinnati, 1 p.m. Tampa Bay at Indianapolis, 1 p.m. Cleveland at Denver, 4:05 p.m. L.A. Rams at Arizona, 4:05 p.m Buffalo at Philadelphia, 4:25 p.m. Kansas City at Las Vegas, 4:25 p.m Baltimore at L.A. Chargers, 8:20 p.m. MONDAY'S GAMES Chicago at Minnesota, 8:15 p.m THURSDAY, NOV. 30 Seattle at Dallas, 8:15 p.m SUNDAY, DEC. 3 Arizona at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m. Atlanta at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m. Denver at Houston, 1 p.m. Detroit at New Orleans, 1 p.m Indianapolis at Tennessee, 1 p.m. L.A. Chargers at New England, 1 p.m. Miami at Washington, 1 p.m. Carolina at Tampa Bay, 4:05 p.m Cleveland at L.A. Rams, 4:25 p.m. San Francisco at Philadelphia, 4:25 p.m Kansas City at Green Bay, 8:20 p.m. Open: Baltimore, Buffalo, Las Vegas, Chicago Minnesota, N.Y. Giants MONDAY, DEC. 4 Cincinnati at Jacksonville, 8:15 p.m

PRO HOCKEY

NHL

					ENCI	E			
	ATLA	NTI	СD	IVIS	ION				
	GP	W	L	от	Pts	GF	GΑ		
Boston	19	14	2	3	31	65	43		
Florida	19	12	6	ĩ	25	58	52		
Toronto	18	10	5	3	23	65	63		
Detroit	19	10	6	3	23	70	59		
Tampa Bay	20	9	6	5	23	70	72		
Montreal	21	10	9	2	22	62	73		
Buffalo	19	8	ý	2	18	54	61		
Ottawa	15	8	7	0	16	57	49		
					visio		47		
	GP	Ŵ		OT	Pts	GF	GΑ		
N.Y.	18	14	3	i	29	59	41		
	10	14	3		29	27	41		
Rangers	17	10	~	•	00	10	10		
Washington	17	10	5	2	22	43	48		
Carolina	18	11	7	0	22	62	57		
Philadel-	20	10	9	1	21	63	58		
phia		_		_					
N.Y.	18	7	6	5	19	47	58		
Islanders									
Pittsburgh	18	9	9	0	18	58	47		
New Jersey	18	8	9	1	17	60	68		
Columbus	21	6	11	4	16	60	74		
WE	STE	RN (CON	FER	ENC	E			
(CEN.			VIS					
	GP	W	L	ОΤ	Pts	GF	GΑ		
Dallas	18	12	4	2	26	62	50		
Colorado	18	12	6	0	24	70	55		
Winnipeg	18	11	5	2	24	66	56		
St. Louis	19	10	8	1	21	56	60		
Nashville	19	9	10	0	18	64	62		
Arizona	19	8	9	2	18	63	63		
Minnesota	17	5	8	4	14	54	70		
Chicago	18	6	12	0	12	47	66		
0	PAC			viši					
GP W L OT Pts GF GA									
Vegas	20	14	4	2	30	69	48		
Los Angeles	18	12	3	3	27	72	47		
Vancouver	20	13	6	ĩ	27	80	51		
Seattle	20	8	8	5	21	61	73		
Angheim	20	9	11	0	18	56	65		
Calgary	19	7	9	3	10	50	67		
	19	6	12	3 1	13	58	0/ 72		
Edmonton	17	0				JQ	12		
San Jose	21	3	15	3	9	32	89		

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to

playoffs. THURSDAY'S GAMES No games scheduled FRIDAY'S GAMES N.Y. Rangers 3, Philadelphia 1 Detroit 5, Boston 2 Chicago 4, Toronto 3, OT Columbus 2, New Jersey 1 Nashville 8, St. Louis 3 Edmonton 5, Washington 0 Los Angeles 5, Angheim 2 Montreal 3, San Jose 2, SO Buffalo 3, Pittsburgh 2 N.Y. Islanders at Ottawa, night Tampa Bay at Carolina, night Winnipeg at Florida, night Calgary at Dallas, night Colorado at Minnesota, night Vancouver at Seattle, night TODAY'S GAMES Boston at N.Y. Rangers, 1 p.m. Montreal at Los Angeles, 4 p.m. Buffalo at New Jersey, 7 p.m. Toronto at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m. Philadelphia at N.Y. Islanders, 7:30 p.m. Arizona at Vegas, 10 p.m. Calgary at Colorado, 10 p.m Vancouver at San Jose, 10 p.m SUNDAY'S GAMES Minnesota at Detroit, 1 p.m. St. Louis at Chicago, 2 p.m. Columbus at Carolina, 5 p.m Winnipeg at Nashville, 8 p.m. Anaheim at Edmonton, 9 p.m MONDAY'S GAMES Boston at Columbus, 7 p.m. Buffalo at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m Florida at Ottawa, 7 p.m. Tampa Bay at Colorado, 9 p.m.

Vegas at Calgary, 9:30 p.m. Washington at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

blocks and 246 digs. State champion Morgan-

Also landing spots on the first team were Parkersburg South senior Maia Johnson, Parkersburg senior Olivia Perkins and George Washington junior Ava Katz.

Johnson helped the Patriots reach the state tournament for the first time in more than a decade. Prior to losing in the state quarterfinals to the Mohigans, Johnson had amassed 573 kills with a .418 hitting efficiency. She also produced 59 blocks, 63 aces and 380 digs.

Perkins, who was named the Mountain State Athletic Conference's Player of the Year. served at 88%, had 52 aces, 328 digs and 490 serve-receptions at nearly 91%.

Katz, also a libero, served at 91.5% and had both 124 aces and 124 assists. The Patriot also had 506 digs and 758 servereceptions at almost 98%.

lawsuit against the NCAA

and ask a public court for

the guard's reinstatement.

is time, as in how quickly

could a lawsuit and a judg-

would it be worth it for

Battle to be reinstated and

use his final season of col-

lege eligibility to play in

a lot," Eilert said. "If it is

something that's drug out

too long, there will be a

decision on what's best for

RaeQuan. That would be a

decision I would have to

Eilert said the concern

make with RaeQuan."

"I've thought about that

just eight or nine games?

ment actually come?

The issue there, though,

If it were to drag out,

The rest of the second

team featured Bridgeport senior Ella Sorine, Woodrow Wilson junior Salia Harris, Hurricane junior Layla Swint, Huntington junior Mallori Dunn-Martin, Cabell Midland sophomore Jillian Yost, Ripley senior Emily King, Parkersburg senior Caelyn Wise, Morgantown senior Grace DeVall and George Washington junior Reva Sangrampurkar.

Wooden plaques in the shape of West Virginia that include the high school player's name. name. licensed WVSWA logo, and year of the honoree, are available to all-state first team, second team, and honorable mentions and can be purchased from the Bear Wood Company through WVSWA.org or Bearwoodcompany.com.

CLASS AAA FIRST TEAM

Dia Sauvage, Greenbrier East, SR (Captain) Abby Dillon, Woodrow Wilson, JR

now is how Battle deals with the situation.

"From my perspective, what's best for RaeQuan is not happening by the NCAA," Eilert said. "It's a shame to see a kid who thrives on hope and thrives on having the game of basketball in his life; it's dragging on him. It's a huge drag on him.

sad."

For certain, the only thing Eilert can count on is having Kriisa return on Dec. 16, but even then, the Mountaineers still face

"He's starting to lose that hope and I worry like hell for RaeQuan and his mind set. It's sad. It's really

SECOND TEAM Ava Dunnigan, Musselman, SR (Captain) Ella Sorine, Bridgeport, SR

Salia Harris, Woodrow Wilson, JR Layla Swint, Hurricane, JR Mallori Dunn-Martin, Huntington, IR Jillian Yost, Cabell Midland, SO Emily King, Ripley, SR Caelyn Wise, Parkersburg, SR Grace DeVall, Morgantown, SR Reva Sangrampurkar, George Washington, JR

SPECIAL HONORABLE MENTION

Kaitlyn Anderson, Morgantown; Tylie Barton, George Washington; Alexa Smith, Hedgesville; Alanna Penn, Woodrow Wilson; Reagan Parsons Parkersburg South; Alexis Stack, Greenbrier East: Maddie Stull, Princeton: Olivia Bell, Huntington; Kaylie Derrow, John Marshall; Addisor Kitzmiller, University; Jillian Huffman, Wheeling Park; Keleigh Chrisman, Musselman; Kaylee Enfield, Bridgeport: Addyson Brill, Hampshire: Parker Sutherland, Hedgesville; Cyniah Winsto Jefferson

HONORABLE MENTION

Emily Gallaher, Woodrow Wilson; Kiki Brum field, Spring Valley; Gracie Gumm, Greenbrier East; Hailey Maxwell, South Charleston; Josie Ramsey-Smith, Ripley; Katelyn Cremeans Cabell Midland; Reese Parsons, Hurricane; Lilly Adkins, Spring Valley; Caroline Deniker, Bridge port; Mollie Pack, Greenbrier East; Kendal Watcher, Musselman; Kennasyn Kveton, Lincoln County; Jadan Bishop, Capital; Brooke Snyder, Preston; Natalie Voithofer, University; Jordan Bostic, Riverside

depth challenges.

"There's plenty of challenges still," Eilert said. "I see down the road, we get some help with Kerr, definitely. Does that entirely help our depth? It doesn't hurt anything whatsoever.

"I think he'll help us get better shots and he'll create us some better shots. To bring more depth at the guard position and a guy who has been so proven. The last two years, he's led the Pac-12 in assists, so to have a guy like that create for people is going to be extremely valuable to our offense."

BAYLOR

FROM PAGE B-1

said. "The key for us is we've got to have a good week. And then we've got to handle the travel and handle playing at night down in a venue we've struggled at."

West Virginia is 2-3 on the road this season. The team's latest trip was a 59-20 loss at Oklahoma.

"We didn't handle our last road trip very well, so that's extra incentive," Brown said.

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PREP SPORTS

Philip Barbour's MacKenna Halfin wins volleyball Player of the Year

BY TYLER KENNETT WV NEWS

PHILIPPI — Philip Barbour's two-time state champion and three-time allstate member MacKenna Halfin was once cut from a volleyball team, if you can believe it.

By her mom, Philip Barbour coach Heather Halfin, in fact.

"Mom cut me when I was in fifth grade trying out for a seventh-grade volleyball team," MacKenna said. "I was mad at her for a while."

Coach Halfin, all these years later, has a defense.

"She was two years younger and had never played organized volleyball," Heather remembered. "She had picked up a volleyball a million times, but she was among some pretty talented girls."

Heather told MacKenna the words that most parents say when their kid reels from being cut:

"Michael Jordan got cut too," she said.

MacKenna got to work. "She did let me practice with them," MacKenna

said of that team. "Growing up in the Philip Barbour volleyball family, I always felt like I had a bunch of older sisters. The girls would always pass with me or teach me how to do different things."

"She didn't stop," Heather said. "She let me know every day that she was not a part of the team and that it was my fault."

Lifting two state championships and a state runner-up, recording 1,444 kills and being named captain of the Class AA all-state first team for 2023, MacKenna's list of accomplishments is often unbelievable.

"That was my first loss ever in the Civic Center," the junior said in reflection of her third state title match.

To add to her list, Halfin

was named the 2023 West Virginia High School Volleyball Player of the Year, chosen by the West Virginia Sports Writers Association.

"I cannot even describe what this means to me," MacKenna said. "I have loved volleyball my whole life, and to win something this big is a dream come true."

She is the second Colt, joining 2018 winner McKenzie Carpenter, to win the award.

Halfin will be recognized at the 77th annual Victory Awards Dinner on May 5, 2024 at River City in Wheeling.

Coach Halfin shed her title when she learned her daughter won the award. It was time to be a mom.

"I cried like a baby," Heather said. "As a mom, I cried for my kid. This is one of those things that you kind of dream about for your kids. It's unreal."

She made MacKenna a tray of brownies, "Player of the Year" written in icing on top, and flowers to surprise her with the news.

"When she looked at it, she was like, 'I got it?' She was just — wow," Heather said.

MacKenna remembers riding in ball carts and learning fundamentals from older Philip Barbour players.

"McKenna DeLancey from Ritchie County babysat me at tourneys," MacKenna said.

DeLancey was the volleyball player of the year winner in 2015.

"We joked that maybe having the same name would make me just as good as her one day," MacKenna said.

She saw much of the Colts' success, five state championships since 2015.

"I remember being in Charleston watching Mom and her teams play at states and win," MacKenna said.



Tyler Kennett/WV News

Philip Barbour's MacKenna Halfin was named the 2023 volleyball Player of the Year.

"I remember being so g excited to play on that w court, thinking one day is that it would be me down there winning it all." th

MacKenna's numbers are robust. Halfin recorded 605 kills in 135 sets. It's good for over four kills per set. Over 35% of her attacks end in a kill.

It's easy to wonder how she does it.

"I do a lot of vertical training, conditioning and weightlifting in the offseason," Halfin said of what it takes. "I met a phenomenal coach at a camp named Ray (Gray). He's given me workout programs to help me prepare physically."

Mentally, Halfin's ability to forget any missed chances and immediately

go for another swing is what makes her elite. There is no lost power.

"He taught me that training my brain and being right mentally is just as important as being prepared on the outside," MacKenna said of Gray.

All the while, she has had coaches pushing her to be successful — including Mom.

"Being the coach's daughter is not always fun," MacKenna said. "She's always harder on me than anyone else — at least it seems that way. As I've gotten older, I know that she is only hard on me because she wants me to be the best. If she wasn't, I know that I would not be half the player I am today." Heather finds limitless potential.

"I've been around volleyball for a long time, and she's one of the best that I have ever seen," coach Halfin said. "Cameron Yoho from Tyler Consolidated went on to play for Marshall. She was phenomenal. As soon as MacKenna started playing, I was like, 'Gosh, that's who she is.' She reminds me so much of the way that she played."

MacKenna also led her team in digs in 2023 with 491.

It's common for her to defend the attack, jump out to the line and then make the kill. She rarely leaves the court.

"One thing a lot of people don't know about me is that I love playing back row," MacKenna said. "Everyone sees the hit, but my mom has always preached to us that it starts in the back."

"She's very defense-oriented," coach Halfin said. "I like that about her as a player. Sometimes you have solid front-row players and good back-row players. You don't see a lot of players that are good at both."

MacKenna joined teammate Katie Kennedy, assist leader, on the all-state first team.

"My setters over the last few years have been great," MacKenna said. "Without them, I truly would not be as successful as I am. They put a lot of faith in me to do a job, and I do my best to try and not let them down. I appreciate them so much."

Others considered for the award include Greenbrier East's Dia Sauvage, Wayne's Gabby Elliott, Musselman's Ada McCoy, Williamstown's Claire Strobl, Oak Glen's Ashlyn Six and Bridgeport's Myleigh Smell.

"Over the last three years, I have played with and against so many great players from across the state, so to be named the best is the biggest honor a player can receive," MacKenna said. "I feel like all those very worthy players helped drive me to become the best player I can be."

Halfin still has a senior season to play, eyeing a third state title.

"This is a lot of pressure to win this award as a junior," she said. "That just means that I need to work even harder next year to be even better."

In the meantime, she is focusing on swim season and club volleyball. Collegiate volleyball is the goal, but she is also open to swimming at the next level.

"I'm playing for RISE volleyball this year on their 17's national team," MacKenna said. "I'm also swimming this year. Last year, I placed third in the state in the 50 free. This year, I want to win it."

Looking back, MacKenna remembers her freshman-season teammates as influences to her present success. Most of them were on that seventhgrade team that she practiced with.

"When I was a freshman, I had some awesome older girls who took me under their wing and were like older sisters to me — huge role models," MacKenna said.

She looks now to be the same — an inspiration to a younger generation.

"Now, I am the upperclassman, and I want to do all I can to lead my younger teammates and be a role model to them. I love my PBVB family," she said. "I want to be the best for both myself and my team."

In many ways, though, she already has.

Perhaps the wide-eyed kids from Kasson, Belington and Philippi who miss an early cut for volleyball can hear something like this:

MacKenna Halfin got cut, too.

PRO FOOTBALL

Hill's special TD catch and Holland's 99-yard INT return lead Dolphins past Jets 34-13

Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Tyreek Hill celebrated a touchdown catch by giving the ball to his new wife in the stands, Jevon Holland returned an intercepted first-half Hail Mary attempt 99 yards for a score, and the Miami Dolphins cruised past the New York Jets 34-13 in the NFL's first game played on Black Friday.

Raheem Mostert also ran for two touchdowns for the Dolphins (8-3), who cushioned their lead atop the AFC East by sending the Jets (4-7) to their fourth straight loss.

Tua Tagovailoa was intercepted twice, including one returned for a score by Brandin Echols, but Miami was in control for most of the game. Tagovailoa finished 21 of 30 for 243 yards with the TD to Hill and the two INTs.

Tim Boyle started at quarterback for the Jets in place of the benched Zach Wilson, but New York's stagnant offense failed to get much going other than Boyle's 1-yard TD pass to Garrett Wilson with 4:37 remaining.

The Dolphins took a 10-0 lead when Tagovailoa connected with Hill, who avoided a tackle attempt by Jordan Whitehead and zipped into the end zone for a 7-yard touchdown with 8:21 left in the second quarter.

Hill took off his helmet and looked into the MetLife Stadium stands, found wife Keeta Vaccaro and blew her a kiss before tossing her the football. The two were married during the Dolphins' bye two weeks ago.

Hill's touchdown catch was his 10th of the season, making him the first Dolphins player since Mike Wallace in 2014 to have double-digit TD receptions. With the Jets' offense struggling — as usual — the defense stepped up to get the Jets into the game.

On first-and-10 from the Dolphins 27, Tagovailoa threw a pass intended for Braxton Berrios, but Echols jumped the route, intercepted the toss and took it 30 yards to the end zone.

The usually reliable Greg Zuerlein was wide right on the extra-point attempt, and Miami's lead was 10-6 with 58 seconds left in the opening half.

D.J. Reed intercepted Tagovailoa on the Dolphins' next possession, giving the Jets the ball at their 49 with 2 seconds left.

Instead of taking a knee and going into halftime down by 4, New York tried a Hail Mary — and it went embarrassingly wrong.

Boyle's throw to the end zone was picked off by Holland, who took off down the field, weaved his way past some would-be Jets tacklers — including Boyle and took it in untouched for a 99-yard interception return.

The Dolphins went wild on their sideline. The Jets stood stunned on theirs.

And many fans headed for the concourses to find some relief after another brutal half of football for their team.

Mostert's 13-yard touchdown run on the first play of the fourth quarter gave the Dolphins a 27-6 lead and tempers flared after that.

There was some pushing and shoving between several players and the Jets' C.J. Mosley and Micheal Clemons were flagged for personal fouls — including Clemons appearing to inadvertently make contact with an official. Clemons wasejected. Dolphins right tackle Austin Jackson was also kicked out of the game.

Mostert added a 34-yard TD run with 3:35 left.





MEN'S SOCCER

Mountaineers set to host **Vermont in NCAA Round of 16**

Sports@DominionPost.com

The No. 5 West Virginia University men's soccer team continues its NCAA Tournament run with a third-round matchup against Vermont today. Kickoff from Dick Dlesk Soccer Stadium is set for 4 p.m.

The Mountaineers are coming off a 1-0 victory over Louisville in the second round on Sunday which improved WVU to 15-2-4 on the season, matching a program record for wins originally set in 2006. Senior Yutaro Tsukada scored the gamewinner against the Cardi-

PRO TENNIS

nals, his 10th goal of the season.

Tsukada leads the Mountaineers with 29 points with nine assists to go along with his 10 goals. Sophomore Marcus Caldeira leads WVU with 12 goals while seniors Sergio Ors Navarro (seven) and Luke McCormick (six) have also found the back of the net multiple times for the Mountaineers this season.

Senior Jackson Lee has made 50 saves while playing every minute for the Mountaineers in goal this vear while allowing just 0.952 goals per game.

Lee, Tsukada, Caldeira,

McCormick and junior Frederik Jorgensen all earned All-Sun Belt honors this season.

Vermont is led by seventh-year head coach Rob Dow, who is 79-37-10 during his time in Burlington. The Catamounts are 13-5-2 this season and advanced to the round of 16 by defeating Rider, 3-1, in the first round, and No. 12 UCF, 3-2, in overtime in the round of 32.

Yaniv Bazini leads Vermont with 11 goals while Nick Lockermann has a team-high seven assists. Owen Jack has made 52 saves and has a .765 save percentage in goal.

NFL

New Steelers offensive coordinator Eddie Faulkner is focusing on the present

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — This isn't the way Eddie Faulkner wanted to get the biggest job of his professional life.

Faulkner and Matt Canada are friends. Their wives are friends. Their families are friends. It's a bond that goes back well over a decade, a bond that hardly ended when the Pittsburgh Steelers fired Canada as their offensive coordinator on Tuesday and replaced him with Faulkner, the energetic 46year-old running backs coach who is well aware of how the promotion could alter the trajectory of his career.

Not that he wants to talk about it much. Yes, Faulkner is thankful and excited for the opportunity. No, he's not thrilled it had to come at Canada's expense, particularly when the blame for Pittsburgh's offensive struggles goes far beyond someone who means so much to him.

"We feel like we let (Canada) down," Faulkner said Thursday.

Maybe, but head coach Mike Tomlin had seen enough to feel a rare midseason move was required for a franchise that's among the most stable in professional sports.

Tomlin selected Faulkner as the coordinator on an interim basis, with quarterbacks coach Mike Sullivan handling the play-calling duties on Sunday when Pittsburgh (6-4) visits Cincinnati (5-5).

The move makes Faulkner one of a handful of Black men currently in the position in the NFL, a job considered a primary stepping stone to becoming a head coach.

"I'd be lying if I said I didn't think it was a blessing" Faulkner said "I



Pittsburgh Steelers running back coach Eddie Faulkner watches on the sideline during NFL football practice, May 11, 2019, in Pittsburgh. Faulkner was promoted to interim offensive coordinator on Tuesday, following the firing of Matt Canada.

Canada's two-plus year tenure was over and the detail-oriented Faulkner found himself in charge of restoring some of the potency and swagger to an offense that has lacked it far too often.

The inventive Faulkner has spent five years working with Pittsburgh's running backs, where he's developed a reputation for a "sure, why not?" approach to his job.

He'll scour social media for drills he thinks might work, the former college running back at Wisconsin with a brief stint in training camp with the Steelers in 2001 — taking great glee in challenging the group of 20-somethings at his disposal.

"He's maybe one of the most influential coaches I've ever had in my life," said second-year Steelers running back Jaylen Warren. "The way he goes about his job. The energy he brings. It can rub off on us."

Pittsburgh's offense could use a jolt. Faulkner plans to be on the sideline the tablets. That's something that happens in the offseason, not during the stretch run.

"You've got to roll with what we've been doing," he said.

They just need to do it at a higher level. The son of educators, Faulkner believes in taking a collaborative approach and using all the resources on his staff to help tweak things in search of progress. He pointed out the team has several assistants who were offensive coordinators at some point in their careers — including Faulkner, who did it for two years at Ball State in 2009-10.

Back then Faulkner thought his skill set might best be served at the collegiate level. Not so much anymore.

He's one of the main reasons Warren has evolved from undrafted rookie free agent to the 1B in the backfield to 2021 first-round pick Najee Harris' 1A.

The two have helped the Steelers pile up 543 yards rushing over the past three weeks. While there will be a

concerted effort to make

the passing game more

dynamic, Pittsburgh fig-

ures to try and let Warren

and Harris go to work and

fueled a 7-2 run to end the

2022 season, an approach

that Canada put together

and that seemed to hint at

better days in 2023. That

through 10 games and now

Faulkner finds himself in a

spotlight he is both trying

to welcome and also block

wanted. Maybe it will lead

to bigger things down the

road. Maybe it won't. At

the moment, it doesn't

like, 'Oh, this could segue

into this or that," he said.

"This was all about getting

ready for the Bengals, and

that's been my only focus."

"There was really no

This is a job he always

out at the same time.

materialized

It's an approach that

build out from there.

hasn't

matter.

Australia beats Finland 2–0 to reach 2nd straight Davis Cup final

Associated Press

MALAGA, Spain — Alex de Miñaur and Alexei Popyrin put Australia back into the Davis Cup final for a second straight year after winning their singles matches in a 2-0 victory over Finland on Friday.

Popyrin gave Australia a 1-0 lead in the semifinal match after beating Otto Virtanen 7-6 (5), 6-2. De Miñaur then finished off Finland by beating Emil Ruusuvuori 6-4, 6-3.

Novak Djokovic's Serbia will face Jannik Sinner's Italy on Saturday in the other semifinal match on the indoor hard court at Martin Carpena arena in Malaga, Spain.

"No Davis Cup match is easy and you don't take anything for granted, rankings get thrown out the window," said Australia captain Lleyton Hewitt. "We knew they were going to be tough opponents. I'm really proud of the boys."

Popyrin edged Virtanen in the first set, saving a set point when trailing 6-5 and forcing a tiebreaker that he clinched when his opponent slapped a forehand long.

Virtanen was Finland's hero in its upset of defending champion Canada on Tuesday, winning both his singles and doubles matches. But his serve let him down against Popyrin in the second set when his

fifth double-fault cost him a break.

"(That was) probably the biggest win of my career so far," Popyrin said. "To win a match that means so much for us is an honor and something I will never forget."

De Miñaur converted five of 18 break chances against Ruusuvuori. He ended the match by landing a backhand winner on the sideline.

Australia has the second-most Davis Cup titles, with 28 to 32 for the United States, but its last success came in 2003.

Before beating Canada to reach the semifinals for the first time, the Finns had overcome the United States and Croatia at the group stage.

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totally understand it. You know what I'm saying? Like, I'm at the point in my career where I totally understand the opportunity that's there. But at the same time, it's not clouding what the task at hand is."

Namely, trying to get Pittsburgh's 28th-ranked offense to show signs of growth. The Steelers have remained in the crowded AFC playoff race despite a unit that struggles to generate points or yards with any regularity.

Pittsburgh has survived on the strength of its defense and the ability to find a way to pull out close in the final games moments.

It's not a formula that's sustainable long term, and the tipping point came after a 13-10 loss to Cleveland last Sunday in which quarterback Kenny Pickett threw for just 106 yards.

By Tuesday morning,

during games so he communicate with position groups and collaborate with Sullivan in between series.

One of his biggest tasks will be finding a way to help Pickett evolve. The secondyear starter has just six touchdown passes on the season and only two since Oct. 1. Getting the ball downfield has been an issue, and Pickett has looked tentative and unsure in the pocket of late.

Faulkner understands his relationship with Pickett will shift over the next two months, but he also has no plans to change everything and start over.

"I don't plan on doing anything crazy in the sense of 'OK, now all of a sudden you listen to me," Faulker said.

The same can be said of Canada's playbook from

the approach. Faulkner isn't going to delete

AUTO RACING

F1 sprint races set to be held before main qualifying session starting next season

Associated Press

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates — Formula One sprint races are set to be held before qualifying for the main Grand Prix race starting next season, after a proposal to change to the format was approved on Friday.

The decision to tweak the weekend schedule was reached following discussions with the F1 commission at the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix. The commission includes governing body FIA, the teams and commercial rights holder F1.

"The commission gave overall support for an update to the sprint format for 2024," the FIA said in a statement. "A final proposal will be presented to the F1 commission for the first meeting of 2024."

Weekends that included a sprint race have previously seen qualifying for the main Grand Prix race held on Friday instead of the usual Saturday. A qualifying session — known as a shootout — for the sprint, followed by the sprint race itself, has been held on Saturdays.

That has proved unpopular with some teams because it leaves too much of a gap between Friday's qualifying and Sunday's main race.

Under the new format, the sprint shootout would instead take place on Friday with the sprint race then held on Saturday, followed by the main qualifying later that day.

The changes still have to be approved in the new year by governing body FIA's World Motor Sport Council.

"The sprints need to evolve a bit," Red Bull team principal Christian Horner said. "I understand the concept and action on all three days, but they have at been slightly times underwhelming."

The F1 commission also approved an extra cooling duct to be fitted onto cars.

The change comes after several drivers struggled badly amid intense heat during the Qatar GP in October.

Alex DeBrincat leads Detroit Red Wings past Boston Bruins 5–2



AP photo

Detroit Red Wings' Alex DeBrincat (93) celebrates his goal against Boston Bruins' Jeremy Swayman (1) on a breakaway during the first period of an NHL hockey game, Friday, in Boston.

Associated Press

BOSTON ____ Alex DeBrincat and J.T. Compher each had a goal and an assist, and the Detroit Red Wings beat Boston 5-2 on Friday for their second victory over the NHL-leading Bruins this season.

Robby Fabbri, Dylan Larkin and David Perron also scored for the Red Wings, who are the only team to beat Boston (14-2-3) in regulation. Shayne Gostisbehere had two assists and Ville Husso stopped 25 shots.

In their third meeting in a month — the Bruins won the first game on Oct. 28 — Detroit took advantage of six Boston penalties to improve to 10-0-2 when scoring four or more goals.

Jake DeBrusk and Danton Heinen scored for the Bruins, who had been 5-0-2 since losing at Detroit on Nov. 4. Jeremy Swayman made 24 saves on his 25th birthday.

PREDATORS 8, BLUES 3

ST. LOUIS — Ryan O'Reilly scored for Nashville in his return to St. Louis, and the Predators earned their fourth consecutive victory.

winger T.J. Oshie to an apparent head injury from a hit from Mattias Ekholm early in the second period.

KINGS 5, DUCKS 2

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Kevin Fiala scored two goals and captain Anze Kopitar had a goal and an assist in the Kings' victory in the first Freeway Faceoff of the season.

Arthur Fiala and Kaliyev each scored a power-play goal in the first period for the Kings, who won their fourth straight overall and their ninth consecutive road game to begin the season. That's the second-longest such streak in NHL history.

Cam Talbot made 29 saves and Quinton Byfield also scored in this blowout before a bipartisan crowd in a sold-out Honda Center watching the Ducks' traditional Black Friday matinee game.

Alex Killorn scored his first goal for Anaheim, which has lost five straight after winning eight of its previous 10. Radko Gudas also scored and John Gibson stopped 27 shots.

RANGERS 3, FLYERS 1 PHILADELPHIA

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Gabriel passes for 400 yards as No. 13 Oklahoma beats TCU, 69-45, to help Big 12 title hopes

Associated Press

NORMAN, Okla. — Dillon Gabriel passed for 400 yards and three touchdowns to help No. 13 Oklahoma defeat TCU 69-45 on Fridav and improve its chances of reaching the Big 12 championship game.

Oklahoma (10-2, 7-2 Big 12, No. 13 CFP) entered the day in a three-way tie with Kansas State and Oklahoma State for second place in the conference. Those teams have games on Saturday, so the Sooners will have to wait to learn whether they will play for a 15th Big 12 title the following weekend.

TCU made it tough in the second half before the Sooners pulled away. The Horned Frogs needed a win to become bowl eligible and fell short a year after playing for the national championship.

"We knew that the fight

wasn't going to stop," Gabriel said. "You know, they're fighting for bowl eligibility and we're fighting for a 10th win. So I think everything was on the line for both teams. And we just focused on finding a way to win."

Drake Stoops caught 12 passes for 125 yards and a touchdown for the Sooners. Stoops and Gabriel were honored on Senior Day before the game, and both got loud ovations as they came off the field in the final minutes.

Gavin Sawchuk ran for 130 yards and three touchdowns for the Sooners, who won their final regular-season Big 12 game. They will join the Southeastern Conference next season.

Josh Hoover passed for 344 yards and four touchdowns and Emani Bailey ran for 150 yards, caught a touchdown pass and ran for a score for TCU (5-7, 3-

Gabriel, who left the previous game with an upper-body injury, started and completed a 50-yard pass to Nic Anderson on his first throw. Two plays later, he ran up the middle for an 8-yard touchdown.

Later in the quarter, Gabriel found Jayden Gibson deep down the field. He caught the ball and held up a finger while crossing the goal line as a TCU defender pulled helplessly on the back of his jersey. The touchdown gave the Sooners a 14-6 lead.

Oklahoma continued to pour it on during a first half in which Gabriel moved up from 10th to seventh in FBS history in yards passing. He passed Luke Falk, former Oklahoma quarterback Baker Mayfield and Kellen Moore. He passed for 278 vards and two touchdowns and ran for a score before the break to help the Sooners take a 42-16 lead. Gabriel also surpassed former Oklahoma quarterback Landry Jones and moved up from ninth to eighth in career touchdown passes in the first half. He now has 125.

TCU made a push in the second half. Hoover's 3yard touchdown pass to Jared Wiley and a 2-point conversion to Wiley cut Oklahoma's lead to 45-31.

Oklahoma went for it on fourth-and-1 from its 33, and Gabriel broke off a 40yard run. A tough sideline catch by Stoops held up after review, then Stoops caught a 9-yard touchdown pass from Gabriel on the next play to help Oklahoma regain control.

ma's Billy Bowman returned an interception for a touchdown in the fourth quarter, prompting fans to chant "S-E-C! S-E-C!" The extra point gave the Sooners a 69-38 lead.



Filip Forsberg and Luke Evangelista each had two goals and an assist for Nashville, which dropped six of seven right before its win streak. Kiefer Sherwood had a goal and two assists, and Yakov Ternin and rookie Spencer Stastney also scored.

It was O'Reilly's first game back at Enterprise Center since his trade from the Blues to Toronto in February. The forward signed with the Predators in free agency this summer.

O'Reilly was the 2019 Conn Smythe winner as the MVP of the Blues' Stanley Cup Championship playoff run. The team recognized its former captain with a tribute on the videoboard during a first-period break.

Pavel Buchnevich, Robert Thomas and Jake Neighbours scored for the Blues.

OILERS 5, CAPITALS 0

WASHINGTON — Leon Draisaitl scored twice, Connor McDavid had four assists and Edmonton stopped a three-game skid.

Draisaitl also had an assist, and Stuart Skinner stopped 25 shots for his first shutout of the season.

Evander Kane and Ryan Nugent-Hopkins each had a goal as the Oilers for one afternoon looked like the Stanley Cup contenders they were supposed to be. The victory ended Edmonton's trying road trip on a positive note.

The Capitals' five-game win streak came to an end just before they embark on a lengthy Western Conference trip. They also lost ski's second career goal.

Mika Zibanejad scored two goals, leading the Rangers to the victory.

Chris Kreider had a goal and an assist for the Metropolitan Divisionleading Rangers, who improved to 12-1-1 in their last 14 games. Blake Wheeler had two assists, and Igor Shesterkin made 36 saves.

Sean Couturier scored for Philadelphia, which dropped its second straight after winning five in a row.

New York jumped on the Flyers early, scoring twice in the opening 1 minute, 53 seconds. Carter Hart made 16 stops.

BLACKHAWKS 4 MAPLE LEAFS 3, OT

CHICAGO — Rookie defenseman Kevin Korchinski scored 4:30 into overtime, and the Blackhawks stopped a five-game slide.

Jason Dickinson scored three times for Chicago, completing his first career hat trick 15 seconds into the third period. Arvid Soderblom finished with 34 saves.

The last-place Blackhawks improved to 4-10-0 in their last 14 games.

Calle Jarnkrok, Ryan Reaves and Nicholas Robertson scored for Toronto, which had won four in a row. Max Domi had two assists and Ilya Samsonov made 30 stops.

Korchinski backhanded a rebound past Samsonov from the left corner of the crease after Connor Bedard's shot caromed off the backboard and the top of the net. It was Korchin-



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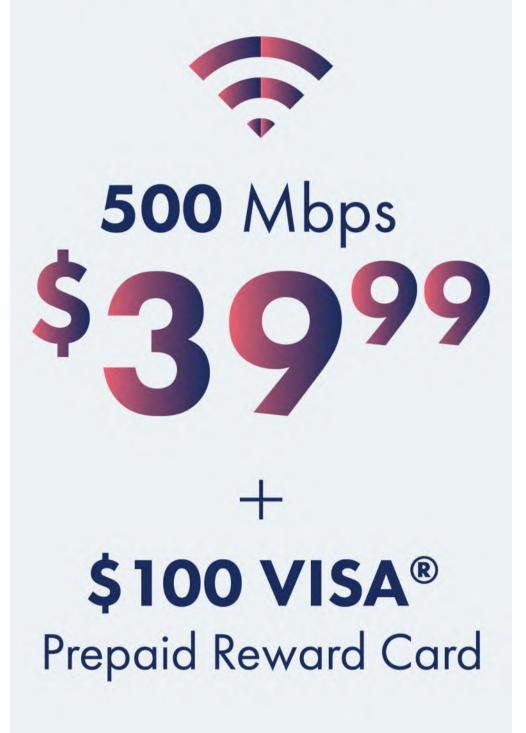
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ENVIRONMENT

Sea turtle nests break records on US beaches

Global warming threatens their survival

Associated Press

INDIAN ROCKS BEACH, Fla. — Just as they have for millions of years, sea turtles by the thousands made their labored crawl from the ocean to U.S. beaches to lay their eggs over the past several months. This year, record nesting was found in Florida and elsewhere despite growing concern about threats from climate change.

In Florida, preliminary state statistics show more than 133,840 loggerhead turtle nests, breaking a record set in 2016. Same for green turtles, where the estimate of at least 76,500 nests is well above the previous mark set in 2017.

High sea turtle nest numbers also have been reported in South Carolina, Alabama, North Carolina and Georgia, although not all set records like Florida, where Justin Perrault, vice president of research at Loggerhead Marinelife Center in Juno Beach, said the number of nests is remarkable this year.

'We had more nests than we had ever seen before on our local beaches," said Perrault, whose organization monitors Palm Beach County and broke a local record by 4,000 nests. "That's quite a bit of nesting."

There are seven species of sea turtles: loggerhead, green, leatherback, hawksbill, Kemp's ridley, olive ridley and flatback. All are considered either endangered or threatened. They come ashore on summer nights, digging pits in the sand and depositing dozens of eggs before covering them up and returning to the sea. Florida beaches are one of the most important natcheries for loggerheads in the world. Only about one in 1,000 sea turtle hatchlings live to adulthood. They face myriad natural threats,



A Green Sea Turtle hatchling heads for the Atlantic Ocean in this Aug. 8, 2020, in Cape Canaveral, Fla.

including predators on and sand and changes in land and in the ocean, disruptions to nests and failure to make it to the water after hatching. This year along one stretch of Florida's Gulf Coast where 75 nests had been counted, most were wiped out by the surge from Hurricane Idalia in August.

"Unfortunately, the nests pre-Idalia were almost all lost due to the high tides and flooding on our barrier islands," said Carly Oakley, senior turtle conservation biologist at Clearwater Marine Aquarium.

Female turtles generally lay eggs in a three-year cycle, leading to up-anddown years of nests, she said. "The nesting process is very exhausting and, in this break, females regain the energy to do the process again," Oakley said.

Climate change has

the ocean currents turtles use to migrate also lower the odds of surviving, according to Oceana, an international conservation group.

Sand temperatures play a major role in determining sea turtle sex. In general, temperatures warmer produce more female turtles, and sand temperatures are projected to increase dramatically around the world by 2100, according to researchers at Florida State University.

"So the warmer the nest is, the more likely that nest is to produce females," Perrault said. "Additionally, hatchlings that come out of warmer nests are much smaller and often slower."

A study led by FSU professor Mariana Fuentes that was published recently in the Global Change Biology journal found sea turtles will have to nest much later or much earlier than they currently do to with cope changing environmental conditions.

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added to those challenges, reducing beaches as sea levels rise and causing more powerful tropical storms. Hotter air, water

CLIMATE

Rapidly melting Antarctica gets the attention of UN chief ahead of COP28 talks

Associated Press

KING GEORGE ISLAND, Antarctica — On the cusp of the COP28 climate talks, U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres visited frozen but rapidly melting Antarctica and said Thursday that intense action must be taken at the conference where countries will address their commitments to lowering emissions of planet-warming gases.

"We are witnessing an acceleration that is absolutely devastating," Guterres said about the rate of ice melt in Antarctica, which is considered to be a "sleeping giant."

"The Antarctic is waking up, and the world must wake up," he added.

Guterres is on a threeday official visit to Antarctica. Chilean President Gabriel Boric joined him for an official visit to Chile's Eduardo Frei Air Force Base on King George Island.

Guterres also was scheduled to visit the Collins and Nelson glaciers by boat.

He described the U.N. climate change conference that begins in Dubai next week as an opportunity for nations to "decide the phase-out of fossil fuels in an adequate time frame" to prevent the world from warming 2.7 degrees Fahrenheit above preindustrial temperatures.

conference also gives nations the chance to commit to more renewable energy projects and to improve energy efficiency of existing grids and technologies.

The U.N. chief also said he thinks that Sultan al-Jaber, the president of the upcoming climate talks and head of the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company, has a "bigger responsibility" to encourage the fossil fuel industry to make more clean energy investments because of his ties to the sector.

"He needs to be able to explain to all those that are responsible in the fossil fuel industry, and especially to the oil and gas industry that is making obscene profits all over the world, that this is the moment to use those profits instead of doubling down on fossil fuels," Guterres said.

Warming air and ocean temperatures are causing Antarctic ice to melt. The frozen continent plays a significant role in regulating Earth's climate because it reflects sunlight away and drives major ocean currents.

For years, scientists and environmentalists have kept an eye on the West Antarctic Ice Sheet as an important indicator of global warming. A study published in Nature

Guterres said the COP28 Climate Change last month warming said has increased to the point that the ice sheet will now experience "unavoidable" melting regardless of how much the world reduces emissions of planet-warming gases like carbon dioxide.

The study's lead author, Kaitlin Naughten, estimated that melting ice in Antarctica's most at-risk areas could raise global sea levels by about 5.9 feet over the next few centuries.

Another study published in Science Advances, also last month, reported that nearly 50 Antarctic ice shelves have shrunk by at least 30% since 1997 and 28 of those have lost more than half their ice in that short period of time.

WARMING AIR AND OCEAN TEMPERATURES

ARE CAUSING ANTARCTIC ICE TO MELT. THE FROZEN **CONTINENT PLAYS A** SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN **REGULATING EARTH'S CLIMATE BECAUSE IT REFLECTS SUNLIGHT** AWAY AND DRIVES **MAJOR OCEAN** CURRENTS.

NATION

Retailers offer bigger Black Friday discounts to lure hesitant shoppers hunting for the best deals

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Shoppers hunting for big deals packed malls and stores on Black Friday as retailers stepped up discounts to entice customers who are sticking to stricter budgets this year and resisting impulse buying.

Consumers are under pressure as their savings dwindle and their credit card debt grows. Although they have gotten some relief from easing inflation, many goods and services like meat and rent are still far higher than they were three years ago.

Yvonne Carey, 72, was among the first shoppers at Macy's Herald Square store snapped up discounted Michael Kors slippers and Ugg boots for herself. But Carey said she plans to stick to the same \$1,000 budget as last year as she shops for gifts for her six grandchildren and her husband.

"The prices are crazy on everything food, clothes," Carey said.

Many retailers ordered fewer goods for this holiday season and pushed holiday sales earlier in October than last year to help shoppers spread out their spending. The early shopping trend accelerated during the pandemic when clogs in the supply network in 2021 made people buy early. But

in Manhattan where she this year, retailers said more shoppers are focusing on deals and waiting until the last minute.

At Macy's Herald Square shoppers store. began streaming in soon after the doors opened at 6 a.m., finding discounts of between 40% and 50% on boots and shoes and handbags. Diamond jewelry was discounted by 60%.

Facing competition from travel and restaurants, Macy's stepped up experiential shopping this season. At Herald Square, the Disney Princess shop had augmented reality allowing delighted youngsters to virtually step into one of the princess dresses.

"The customer is under

what is going on in luxury. That is a recent development," Macy's CEO Jeff Gennette said in an interview with The Associated Press, adding that shoppers across all income levels are "more discerning about how they are spending their budget."

About 12,000 customers showed up at Mall of America in Bloomington, Minn., in the first hour of its 7 a.m. opening -20% more than last year, said Jill Renslow, executive vice president of business development and marketing for the shopping center.

She said that discounts are roughly in line with a year ago and she expects sales to be up anywhere

pressure. You see it with from 3% to 4% at the mall. Gone are the Black Fridays of years ago when customers would stand in line for hours in the middle of the night, or brawls would break out over high demand items. Still, Black Friday shopping remains a cherished tradition for many.

"I love doing it. I stay up the whole night just waiting for this day," said Lisa Brooks, 45, a nurse from the Bronx who was at Macy's early looking for perfume, socks and other items for herself and her mother.

Samuel Alvez, 44, and his wife ventured out for Black Friday shopping for the first time in years. At a Walmart in Germantown, Md., the couple bought two computer monitors and a pressure cooker but came away disappointed in the discounts.

"Back in the day, they had these good deals in stores,' Alvez said. "Now, we don't see that anymore.'

Friday's scene was similarly tame in other regions. At the Westfield Garden

State Mall in Paramus, N.J., on Friday, "the traffic was good but it wasn't the kick the doors opening, of years gone by," said Michael Brown, America's retail leader at global strategy and management consulting firm Kearney who visited the shopping center.



Reader stressed out by strict family dynamics

the holiday season approaching, I am struggling with how to deal with my family. I come from a strict household that allows little freedom. Many of the adults are blatantly disrespectful toward me, my siblings. my cousins and each other. It is hard for me not to speak up, but I do not want to come off as disrespectful. I have tried to bring it up to my parents before, but they often find a way to shift the blame or dismiss the issue entirely.

Ever since I started noticing these comments, I have not enjoyed the holidays or spending long stretches of time with my extended family. I am an adult now, so technically I do not have to go, but I do not want to cut off contact from my family. I do not know how to combat their hurtful words without raising my voice, but I cannot be silent any longer. How do you suggest I confront a family member without coming off as disrespectful? FAMILY DRAMA

DEAR FAMILY DRAMA: Plan out your time before you head to

WHAT DO YOU

WANT, CURTIS

CURTIS

HI. MY

LITTLE

DEAR HARRIETTE: With be with your family. As an adult, you can go for part of the visit but not the

whole time. If you can afford it, you can rent a hotel room rather than stay in the family home. Or stay somewhere other than the main residence so that you have a built-in getaway

In advance of your visit, reach out to the relative who bothers you the most. Assume the positive. Say that you will be joining the family for the holidays and you look forward to a positive experience. Ask your relative to be kind. Explain that when they speak harshly to you and other family members, it is hurtful and makes you not want to be there. Yes, this is risky, but somebody has to stand up and demand respect. Do so calmly and without judgment. You can say that you worry that the family will grow apart if the negativity does not die down. Ask your relative to help to make the gathering a wonderful experience for all. Your positivity may ignite some softness in their approach.

OH YES, I GOT SOME BOTOX, HAD MY NAILS

Saturday, Nov. 25, 2023

You can be charming and entertaining while still sticking to the truth. Someone will correct you this year if you exaggerate, so keep your facts straight. Changing how you handle your professional responsibilities will help you maintain your position. High energy and discipline will help attract opportunities if you diligently finish what you start.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) - Promote what you do best and fine-tune your image to create a buzz among your peers. **CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-

Jan. 19) — Open your doors to family and friends and use your space to create opportunities.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Be wary of any-

one trying to push you in a direction that's not suitable.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) - Stick to your

original plan. Don't be tempted by something that doesn't fit your schedule or budget.

ARIES (March 21-

April 19) — Motivation, charm, enthusiasm and physical action will lead to stellar results if you do what's necessary and go through the proper channels.

BY RAY BILLINGSLEY

THANKSGIVING OF

THE VAIN AND VAPID



attitude will bring positive

June 20) — Analyze your

relationships and something

you improve how people treat

July 22) — Get serious and

do your best to achieve your

goal. Start the learning pro-

cess, sign up for a seminar

Aug. 22) — Take control, do

your thing and refuse to let

anyone interfere with your

or contact someone in the

will stand out that can help

see things your way.

CANCER (June 21-

GEMINI (May 21-

vou.

know.

LEO (July 23-

feedback and get others to

CROSSWORD

13

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ACROSS 37 Body art, for short 38 Old Italian Supporting 4 Grow dim money "What a 39 Admit Difference 42 Bird with a - Makes pouch 12 Small guitar 44 Agt. 46 Deciduous **Clearly Now**' tree 14 Poet 47 Angler's gear 50 Utah town Teasdale 15 Gun rights 52 "Arsenic and grp. 16 Island goose Old -" 53 Musical work 17 Ailing a little 55 Kid 18 — Romeo 57 Taj Mahal site 20 Surprise 58 — qua non 59 Notable time attack 22 Unwell 60 Fruit skin - Kippur Thinks highly of School event DOWN 31 Spanish 1 Enjoyment 2 Pod vegetable painter Borrower's promise 34 Take into 3 "The Kardashians." custody for example 36 Repeatedly (2 wds.)

plans.	
VIRGO (Aug. 23-	31
Sept. 22) — A change is	36
overdue. Put your feelings	
aside before entering poten-	
tially nasty conversations.	
LIBRA (Sept. 23-	

Oct. 23) — There is plenty to learn if you listen and read between the lines

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-

Nov. 22) — Your determination will draw support and make your pursuit enjoyable.

MARMADUKE BY BRAD & PAUL ANDERSON



61 School jacket LEER 62 Papa



Answer to Previous Puzzle

11-25



Solutions — B-7



DID YOU HAVE A

GOOD THANKSGIVING ?



