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## Turkish city resorts to mass burials

The corpses and mourners keep coming as excavators dig 200-foot trenches.

By NABIH BULOS  
REPORTING FROM  
KAHRAMANMARAS, TURKEY

There is an almost assembly-line quality to the burials in this southern Turkish city near the epicenter of one of the world's deadliest natural disasters in years. The exigencies of mass death have left little other choice since Monday's magnitude 7.8 earthquake transformed the area into a charnel house of mangled bodies and crushed masonry.

And so, with every day as the death count climbs higher — on Thursday, it leaped past the 20,000 threshold across southern Turkey and northern Syria — excavators lumber across the pine-forest cemetery on Kahramanmaras' outskirts, scooping out 200-foot trenches to receive victims.

Every yard of trench was claimed Thursday as soon as it was turned over. The digger would barely lift its bucket before survivors would appear, chanting "*La ilaha illa Allah*" (There is no god but God) as they lifted yet another body bag and heaved it into the fresh opening.

A harried-looking imam stood by the side, intoning a quick, half-minute-long collection of Koranic verses before briskly moving along the trench to the next grave in line, leaving family members to finish the grim work of constructing a canopy of wooden slats placed widthwise over the corpse.

Then the excavator covered the trench with earth; no headstone, but a piece of wood hewed from one of the nearby pines with a name and date scribbled with [See **Turkey**, A4]



Photographs by TOM NICHOLSON For The Times  
**FAMILY MEMBERS** help bury loved ones in a series of trenches outside Kahramanmaras, Turkey, on Thursday as crews continued searching piles of rubble for more victims of Monday's magnitude 7.8 earthquake.

## Deadly flaw found here too

A significant factor in the seismic destruction in Turkey involved a building design common in California, other parts of the U.S.



**TWO MEN** outside their destroyed home in Kahramanmaras after the temblors that killed thousands in Turkey and Syria this week.

### Quakes' death toll passes 20,000 in Turkey, Syria

As chances of finding survivors in freezing temperatures dim, focus shifts to demolishing dangerously unstable structures. **WORLD, A4**

By RONG-GONG LIN II

As seismic engineers study the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria that killed more than 20,000 people this week, it's becoming clear that a significant factor in the destruction involved a building design common in California and other parts of the U.S.

The flaws of non-ductile concrete construction are found across the Golden State, with many buildings having not been evaluated or retrofitted and at risk of collapse in a serious earthquake.

It can be tempting for Californians to assume that their structures are inherently better than those in Turkey. But the state hasn't been tested with a magnitude 7.8 earthquake in more than a century. And that event — the great 1906 earthquake — destroyed much of San Francisco.

It will take time for structural engineers to compile a comprehensive report on the damaged and destroyed buildings in Turkey and Syria. But several experts, looking at photos and videos of the pancaked [See **Flaw**, A4]

## CHINA BALLOON PART OF FLEET, U.S. SAYS

Washington accuses Beijing of running a vast military spying program across globe.

By TRACY WILKINSON

WASHINGTON — The Chinese balloon that traveled thousands of miles across the United States before being shot down over the Atlantic Ocean was part of a vast military espionage program that Beijing launched over more than 40 countries in five continents, the Biden administration said Thursday in releasing the most detailed description yet of the intelligence-gathering project.

The U.S. assertions come as Navy divers, FBI agents and salvage crews comb the debris field and recover pieces from where the balloon went down off South Carolina, felled by an Air Force F-22 fighter jet firing a single Sidewinder missile Saturday. U.S. officials also want to put to rest Beijing's claims that the balloon was a civilian aircraft being used for weather research that accidentally strayed into U.S. airspace.

The high-altitude balloon was part of a fleet equipped with high-tech equipment and an array of antennae capable of eavesdropping, collecting signals intelligence and geolocating communications, administration officials said, noting that the balloon also had solar panels for sustained power. Officials were able to make those determinations and reveal the information to the public upon declassifying high-resolution imagery from flybys made by U-2 spy planes.

"The high altitude [balloon's] equipment was clearly for intelligence surveillance and inconsistent with the equipment onboard weather balloons," a senior State Department official said in a statement. "We know these balloons are all part of a [People's Republic of China] fleet of balloons developed to conduct surveillance operations."

The balloons are almost certainly the work of China's military, the People's Liberation Army, the statement said, maintaining anonymity of the official to discuss intelligence matters.

The information provided by the Biden administration offered the first look at how extensive the Chinese surveillance program may be. Officials said they were reaching out to [See **China**, A7]

BURT BACHARACH, 1928 - 2023

## Hailed as one of the greatest pop music composers

By DENNIS MCLELLAN

At the Brill Building, the legendary songwriters' mecca on Broadway in New York City, composer Burt Bacharach first teamed with lyricist Hal David in 1956. Over the next decade, the two helped define the broad reaches of popular music with a run of hit songs that poured from the radio, added depth and emotion to films and evoked memories with listeners.

Through their collaboration, Bacharach emerged as a commanding figure in popular music as a composer, arranger and record producer whose musically sophisticated songs had cross-generational appeal.

A multiple Grammy [See **Bacharach**, A12]

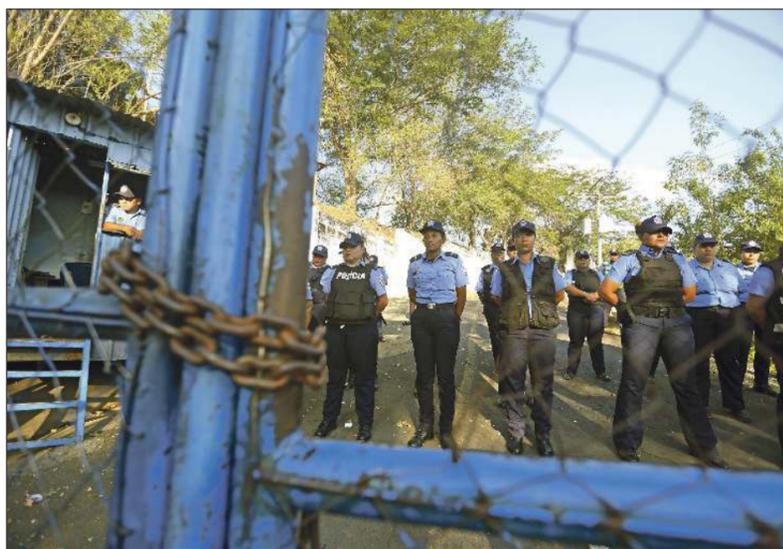


JOHN SALANGSANG Invision/Associated Press

### 'A TRUE LEGEND'

Hit after hit, Burt Bacharach created sophisticated songs with cross-generational appeal.

**MUSICAL GEMS:** Twenty cool, elegant songs from the composer and producer. **CALENDAR, E1**



ALFREDO ZUNIGA Associated Press

**POLICE** stand guard in 2018 at El Chipote prison in Managua, Nicaragua. Torture was common, and food and medical care were scant there, inmates said.

## Nicaragua releases 222 political prisoners to U.S.

Surprise move by Ortega is seen as an effort to ease stiff economic sanctions.

By KATE LINTHICUM, TRACY WILKINSON, PATRICK J. McDONNELL AND LEILA MILLER

MEXICO CITY — Nicaragua's authoritarian government freed 222 political prisoners and sent them to the United States on Thursday in a surprise move that

appears aimed at easing stinging U.S. economic sanctions.

The former prisoners, some of whom spent years in jail, landed at Washington's Dulles International Airport, where a crowd of tearful friends and family members waited, clutching blue-and-white Nicaraguan flags.

The prisoner release was a stunning turn of events for Nicaragua, which has been punished by stiff sanctions after its ruler, former Sandinista revolutionary Daniel Ortega, rigged elections, violently repressed protests

and jailed hundreds of critics, including business and religious leaders, activists, journalists and presidential candidates.

The release was a "unilateral" action taken by Ortega, U.S. officials said, but it came after a lengthy campaign of public and private pressure on his government from Washington, the Vatican and countries across Latin America. U.S. officials said they promised nothing concrete in exchange for the release but praised the move for its potential to improve [See **Nicaragua**, A5]

### Lakers make key roster moves

Additions, two subtractions make team better, but James is still key, Bill Plaschke writes. **SPORTS, B10**

### Disney proxy fight is 'over'

Board seat dispute ends after CEO Bob Iger outlines his re-vamp plan and job cuts. **CALENDAR, E1**

### Mixed signals on recession

Layoffs, employment growth and lingering inflation have clouded the economic outlook. **BUSINESS, A8**

### Weather

Partly sunny, warm. L.A. Basin: 78/49. **B6**

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## PERSPECTIVES

## Cuban sisters' 4,200-mile trek to the U.S.

Siblings, both medical students, flee Havana and arrive before Biden curbs migrants from their homeland.

By MEGAN JANETSKY

HAVANA — The Rolo González sisters walked out of Nicaragua's main airport and peered out onto a sea of young men.

The Central American "coyotes" squinted back, trying to find the people they would smuggle to the United States. These were the first steps that 19-year-old Merlyn and 24-year-old Melanie took outside Cuba. Toting two small backpacks and Melanie's 1-year-old daughter, the women realized just how alone they were.

Their odyssey of more than 4,200 miles would lead the medical students to question their past lives, race unknowingly against a ticking legal clock and leave them teetering on the edge of death as they tumbled down a cliff.

The sisters' voyage is one that hundreds of thousands of Cubans have made over the last two years in a historic wave of migration, fueled by a crisis in the island's troubled economy sparked in large part by the COVID-19 pandemic and one of the world's highest rates of inflation.

The exodus prompted a measure by the Biden administration in January to cut back on Cuban migrants, whom the U.S. had historically welcomed even as it turned away Haitians, Venezuelans, Mexicans and people from other Latin American and Caribbean nations.

The Rolo González sisters, like other Cuban migrants, lost hope for the future in their country. Their optimism rested in the hazy prospect of life in the U.S. and a brighter future for the little girl who would have no memories of the island.

"All you know is that you're going to a foreign country where you've never been, to put your life in the hands of people you've never met, to another place you don't know," said the younger sister. "You have your destination, but you don't know what awaits you on your journey."

Over the last two years, American authorities have detained Cubans nearly 300,000 times on the border with Mexico.

Some have been sent back, but the vast majority have stayed under immigration rules dating to the Cold War. That's more than half the population of Baltimore, or nearly 3% of the people in Cuba.



THE ROLO GONZÁLEZ sisters Merlyn, left, and Melanie pack supplies in Havana in December before migrating, with Melanie's baby, from Cuba to the U.S.

Although they had trained as doctors, the Rolo González sisters spent their free time on the outskirts of Havana scraping together enough to buy basics like baby formula for Melanie's daughter.

The women once dreamed of traveling as doctors, but they quickly grew disillusioned about life in Cuba due to frequent blackouts, medical supply shortages and other restrictions.

When Madison was born, Melanie and her economist husband began to discuss their family migrating to the U.S. He would go first, they decided, and then they would seek to migrate through legal, less dangerous routes.

In May, he flew to Nicaragua. Shortly after, Melanie said, he left her for another woman.

She still planned to migrate, though now with her little sister.

The vast majority of Cuban migrants over the last year have flown to Nicaragua — where Cubans don't need a visa — and head overland to Mexico.

A growing number also take a dangerous route by sea, traveling on packed, precariously constructed boats almost 100 miles to Florida.

The sisters sold a house left to them by their father, along with the refrigerator, television and anything else of value in exchange for American dollars. With money from friends and family in Florida, they had \$20,000.

It bought the Rolo González sisters flights to Nicaragua and passage overland to the U.S. border with one of the smuggling networks.

They took leave from medical school and told only five close friends and family that they were going.

Days before their flight, the two meticulously sorted

through stacks of medicine, winter clothes and powdered baby milk — as much of their lives as they could fit into two blue-and-pink backpacks.

The sisters, like many Cubans, were counting on the relative but disappearing ease with which Cuban migrants could enter the U.S.

Just after midnight on Dec. 13, the Rolo González sisters walked past a hallway lined with family photos and out of their home potentially forever.

The last thing they told their mother before leaving her standing alone in the Havana airport was "I love you."

"Until then, it seemed unreal to me," Merlyn said. "When I saw myself sitting there on the plane, the only thing I thought about was what we had achieved. When the plane took off, we looked at each other and said 'We're free.'"

They walked out of the Nicaragua airport with a smuggler who had a picture of them on his phone and received instructions via WhatsApp.

It was time to make the first payment: \$3,600 in cash. Their "guide" was a vague but constant presence, sending them messages with instructions as they were handed off from smuggler to smuggler.

Once they paid, they began a 12-hour drive with the coyote, or guide, arriving at a ramshackle house at midnight. They were awakened before sunrise. With chilly air cutting at their lungs, Melanie and Merlyn began to trek a rugged mountain dotted with corn and coffee farms — the border between Nicaragua and Honduras.

The sisters continued this way for days, winding up through Honduras and Guatemala by bus, car and foot along Central America's volcano-speckled landscapes.

They marveled at jagged mountains and rolling clouds as endless as the oceans that had once surrounded them.

"Everything was new," said Merlyn. "It felt like: 'We've left Cuba.'"

Back home, their mother clung to texts and photos as signs they were OK.

"There's a horrible emptiness in this house. I look over here, look over there and it's like I have nothing," she said.

## High-end underworld guide dog

Hairless Xolos, known for loyalty and sacred role in Mexico's past, can now go for \$3,500.

By MARÍA TERESA HERNÁNDEZ

MEXICO CITY — Mezcal is not your ordinary pet. Hundreds of years ago, the Nahuas, a Latin American Indigenous group, believed that a hairless dog like him, a Xoloitzcuintle, was a sacred creature that could guide its deceased master through the underworld.

On a late January day, dozens of people gathered in Mexico City for a meet-and-greet with Mezcal and three more "Xolos," as these slender dogs are known here. The canines were at the San Idefonso art and culture museum to help raise awareness about responsible adoption of Xolo puppies and to promote the significance of the breed.

"Can I touch him?" asked a woman working security for the museum as she nervously brought her hand closer to the dog's head.

"Absolutely! He loves to be petted," said Mezcal's

The Rolo González sisters dozed and rode along with 18 other migrants at 3 a.m. as their old blue van whizzed through dense pine forests in Chiapas, Mexico, in a line of five cars carrying mostly Cubans. They were cutting through an informal passage built by smugglers, and the drizzling sky turned the dirt pathway slick.

Merlyn was cradling her niece when the car slipped and spun, flipping over 10 times as it fell off a cliff. The jolt threw Merlyn and the baby out of the windshield. The young Cuban enveloped her niece with her body. A piece of glass cut a deep gash in the back of the woman's head.

When she landed on the muddy earth, the woman peered down and panicked as she saw the baby's short strands of hair and face coated in blood as she peered up wide-eyed.

Melanie rushed over, checking the vitals of her family with the light of a phone, and bandaged her sister's head the way she had learned in medical school.

In the coming days, they would learn that the mother of an 8-year-old Cuban boy had died that night.

"We felt like it meant that we had a lot more life to live," Melanie said.

On New Year's Eve, the Rolo González sisters

waded through the Rio Grande from Juarez to El Paso in the early morning. They were immediately met by Border Patrol agents, detained in Texas and quickly released under 60 days' parole.

Days later, the new Biden restriction was announced. They had made it just in time.

Back in Cuba, their mother watched her phone with shaking hands. It had been three weeks since Marialys had seen her daughters and granddaughter.

In Daytona Beach, Fla., family friends waited for them. Balloons decorated their beds and there was a pink baby cradle in the corner.

Marialys' phone rang. She squinted at the grainy video.

"Look there, there's the car, there they are!" Marialys cried as a silver car rolled up the screen. Three girls swaddled in jackets walked up the driveway.

"HOLA, mami," one murmured with a smile.

"Se acabó la pesadilla, mi hija," the mother choked out.

The nightmare is over, my daughter.

Janetsky writes for the Associated Press. AP writer Ariel Fernandez contributed to this report.



NEMILIZ GUTIÉRREZ and Mezcal promote responsible adoption and Xolos' role in Mexican history.

owner, Nemiliz Gutiérrez, who with her sister leads a project that promotes the breed.

By reviewing ancient codices and records written after the Spanish conquest in 1521, experts have determined the dogs' religious reverence among Mesoamerican civilizations.

"We are privileged because we have among us some precious jewels of history that are living cultural heritage," said Gutiérrez's sister, Itzayani, who owns a playful Xolo named Pilón.

Experts say the Nahuas believed Xolos' ancestors represented the god Xólotl, the twin brother of deity Quetzalcóatl. While the latter personified life and light, the former was an effigy of the underworld and death. The Xolo, thought to be capable of moving through the darkness, was conceived as a guide for their owner's soul after dying, historian Mercedes de la Garza wrote in an article published by the National Autonomous University of Mexico.

Burial sites in central Mexico show the remains of men and dogs were found lying side by side, which suggests that Xolos may have been sacrificed as part of their masters' funeral rites. It was thought to be a way the living could ensure that when the soul of a loved one reached the river of the underworld, it could reunite with its dog and mount its back to cross together.

In the Nahuatl language, "Xolo" means "monster," and though some dislike the appearance of these dogs, many find them fascinating. Mezcal's hairless skin is as dark as a shadow and feels soft and warm.

At January's event, he posed for pictures like a movie star and leaned his head toward visitors wanting to pet him.

Like his predecessors, Mezcal never loses sight of his owner, Nemiliz Gutiérrez, who constantly puts her loving dog.

"Xolos are loyal by nature," said Gutiérrez. "If one is adopted by a family, it will choose a member to stick with."

The closeness between Xoloitzcuintles and their

owners was also noted by the Nahuas, according to experts. In addition to being buried with their masters, Xolos were sometimes sacrificed to please the gods in order to spare their masters' lives.

The dogs were killed in ceremonies by extracting their hearts, a method that distinguished them from any other animal offered in sacrifice, wrote De la Garza.

The dogs also are a part of modern-day culture in Mexico and beyond. At least a couple of Xoloitzcuintles can be seen in Frida Kahlo's paintings. A few more appear in portraits where the artist posed with her husband, Mexican muralist Diego Rivera.

Their love for these pets was shared by friend and art collector Dolores Olmedo, whose home in Mexico City became a museum that until recently took care of a few Xolos that visitors could approach.

In 2016, the capital's mayor gave the Xoloitzcuintle a cultural heritage designation, and a year later a cartoon Xolo named Dante reached world fame after his appearance in the animated film "Coco," which portrayed the adventures of a Mexican boy through the underworld.

At San Idefonso, the Gutiérrez sisters said they hoped more people would come to appreciate the breed's significance and help it thrive. Once thought by experts to be headed toward extinction, Xolos can be spotted in upper-class Mexico City neighborhoods. Nemiliz Gutiérrez adopted Mezcal, but said some breeders sell the dogs for more than \$3,500.

Not every Xolo is in demand, though, especially the variety with fur.

"Almost nobody wants them," said Gutiérrez, who works with her sister to find caring homes for all Xolos, regardless of their coats.

Through that process, they enjoy sharing about the breed's historic significance — when Xolos embodied an endless love believed to transcend death.

Hernández writes for the Associated Press.

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## THE WORLD

## Ukraine seeks prompt membership in EU

Zelensky makes the case for joining bloc at European meeting, as nations pledge further military aid for Kyiv.

BY RAF CASERT  
AND SAMUEL PETREQUIN

BRUSSELS — Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky pressed the case Thursday for his country's membership in the European Union, arguing that the bloc wouldn't be whole without Ukraine being an integral part of it.

Zelensky made his comments during an address to the European Parliament in Brussels on a rare trip outside his war-torn country, which has been trying to repel a full-scale invasion by Russia for nearly a year.

The visit came as Russia intensified its attacks in eastern Ukraine amid signs that a major new offensive by Moscow was underway before the Feb. 24 anniversary of the war.

Zelensky, who also visited Britain and France on a whirlwind European tour that started Wednesday, will head home with heaps of goodwill and commitments of more military aid.

He arrived at the European Parliament to rapturous applause, cheering and hoots from legislators, insisting in his plenary speech that Ukraine's fight against Russia was one fought for the freedom of Europe as a whole.

"A Ukraine that is winning is going to be [a] member of the European Union," Zelensky said to applause, building his address around the common destiny that Ukraine and the 27-nation bloc face in confronting Russia head-on.

"Europe will always be and remain Europe as long as we are together and as long as we take care of our



OLIVIER MATTHYS Associated Press  
**UKRAINIAN** President Volodymyr Zelensky, center, arrived to rapturous applause at the European Union summit Thursday in Brussels with Parliament President Roberta Metsola, right, and other global leaders.

Europe, as we take care of the European way of life," he said.

Zelensky added that Russia wants to destroy the European way of life, but "we will not allow that."

He held up an EU flag after his address, and the legislature stood in silence for the Ukrainian national anthem, the EU anthem and Beethoven's "Ode to Joy."

Zelensky then headed to the urn-shaped Europa building where the 27 EU leaders were meeting to push those same points.

Before Zelensky spoke, European Parliament President Roberta Metsola said allies should consider "quickly, as a next step, providing long-range systems" and fighter jets to Ukraine. Metsola said the response to Russian President Vladimir Putin's war against Ukraine

"must be proportional to the threat, and the threat is existential."

Metsola also told him that "we have your back. We were with you then, we are with you now, we will be with you for as long as it takes."

EU leaders were hoping to impress on Zelensky that the powerful bloc is steadfast in its support for Ukraine as Russia is feared to be making moves for a new offensive around the Feb. 24 anniversary of the war.

The latest draft of the summit conclusions, seen by the Associated Press, says that "the European Union will stand by Ukraine with steadfast support for as long as it takes."

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz said the bloc would send Zelensky "this signal of unity and solidarity, and can

show that we will continue our support for Ukraine in defending its independence and integrity for as long as this is necessary."

Estonian Prime Minister Kaja Kallas said that "it is my plea that everyone will do what they can. The price will go up with every delay."

Zelensky's high-profile pursuit of more Western military aid came as evidence mounted that Russia's anticipated offensive around the anniversary of the invasion is starting to take shape.

Zelensky stepped up to the dais of the European Parliament hoping to match his Wednesday speech to the British Parliament, when he thanked the nation for its unwavering support.

That same support has come from the EU. The bloc and its member states have

backed Kyiv with about \$53.6 billion in aid, provided military hardware and imposed nine packages of sanctions on the Kremlin.

French President Emmanuel Macron's office has already confirmed that the bloc "will reiterate Europeans' unwavering support to Ukraine and the Ukrainian people." Few would expect anything less.

The EU is in the midst of brokering a new sanctions package worth about \$10.7 billion. And there is still plenty of scope for exporting more military hardware to Ukraine.

Russia is also watching Zelensky's movements closely. On Wednesday, Russian state television showed the flight path of a British Royal Air Force plane that Zelensky used to travel to London, taken from a flight

monitoring site. The news anchor noted that the plane flew from the Polish air base in Rzeszow, which serves as a hub for Western arms deliveries to Ukraine.

One topic that wasn't on the agenda in Britain but will be in Brussels is Ukraine's desire to become a member of the European Union as soon as possible.

A high-profile visit to EU headquarters can only add to the goodwill to help his country on to the road of accession talks. Ukraine is talking about joining the EU in a matter of years, but past examples have shown that it can take decades before aspiring members are considered fit to join.

Meanwhile, fighting intensified in Ukraine on Thursday.

In the eastern Donetsk region, the front line expanded significantly over the previous day, with fierce battles taking place as Moscow's forces closed in on key Ukrainian-held towns, according to regional Gov. Pavlo Kyrylenko. Russian shelling struck a kindergarten, hospital, cultural center, factory and apartment buildings, he said.

"The intensity of the shelling has increased dramatically, and we are seeing a significant intensification of activity by the Russian army immediately in the south, center and north of the region," Kyrylenko said. "Russia is again actively using combat aircraft to shell our cities and villages."

Russian forces also stepped up their attacks in neighboring Luhansk province, launching "a broad offensive," regional Gov. Serhiy Haidai said.

In northeastern Kharkiv province, 23 cities and villages came under shelling, officials said. In the border city of Vovchansk, shelling damaged about 10 apartment buildings.

Casert and Petrequin write for the Associated Press.

## Spotlight on Kim's daughter stirs speculation

North Korean media have signaled a lofty future for the girl.

BY KIM TONG-HYUNG

SEOUL — North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and his young daughter took center stage at a huge military parade, fueling speculation that the girl is being groomed as a future leader as her father showed off his latest, largest nuclear missiles.

Wednesday night's parade in the North Korean capital, Pyongyang, featured the newest hardware in Kim's growing nuclear arsenal, including what experts said was possibly a new solid-fuel intercontinental ballistic missile that he might test in the coming months.

The missile was one of about a dozen ICBMs Kim's troops rolled out at the event — an unprecedented number that underscored how he continues to expand his military capabilities despite limited resources in the face of deepening tensions with his neighbors and the United States.

The parade was the fifth known public appearance by Kim's daughter, Kim Ju Ae, his second-born child, who is believed to be around 10 years old. On Tuesday, Kim brought her to visit troops as he lauded the "irresistible might" of his nuclear-armed military.

State media have signaled a lofty role for Kim Ju Ae. She's been called "respected" and "beloved," and a photo released Wednesday showed her sitting in the seat of honor at a banquet, flanked by generals and her parents.

North Korean photos released Thursday showed Kim, wearing a black coat and fedora, attending the parade with his wife and daughter. From a balcony,

Kim smiled and raised his hand as thousands of troops lined up in a brightly illuminated Kim Il Sung Square, which is named after his grandfather, the nation's founder.

North Korea's official Korean Central News Agency said all of the soldiers and spectators at the square cheered and chanted the name of their ruler, a "great brilliant commander" who is "beefing up the military muscle with his outstanding military strategic ideas."

The parade marked the 75th founding anniversary of North Korea's army and came after weeks of preparations involving huge numbers of troops and civilians mobilized to glorify Kim's rule and his relentless push to cement his country's status as a nuclear power.

State media photos showed transport and launcher trucks carrying about 10 of the country's Hwasong-17 ICBMs, which demonstrated a range that would allow them to reach deep into the U.S. mainland during a flight test in November. Those missiles were followed by another large missile encased in a canister and transported on a nine-axle vehicle.

It wasn't immediately clear whether the missile was a model or an actual rocket, but Kim Dong-yub, a professor at Seoul's University of North Korean Studies, said the missile was probably a version of a solid-fuel ICBM that North Korea has been trying to develop for years. He added that the unprecedented number of Hwasong-17s paraded in Wednesday's event suggests progress in efforts to produce those weapons in larger numbers.

State media reports didn't immediately mention whether Kim Jong Un delivered a speech during the event. The parade came after Kim met with his top military brass Monday and ordered an expansion of com-



Korean Central News Agency  
**NORTH KOREAN** leader Kim Jong Un attends a military parade in Pyongyang this week with his daughter, Kim Ju Ae, believed to be about 10. He may be preparing her for a big future, even as his successor, some say.

'At a minimum, he seems to be trying to reiterate the importance, status and legitimacy of a direct Kim bloodline offspring.'

— DUYEON KIM,  
Center for a New American Security

bat exercises, as he continues to escalate an already-provocative run of weapons demonstrations.

"This time, Kim Jong Un let North Korea's expanding tactical and long-range missile forces speak for themselves," said Leif-Eric Easley, a professor of international studies at Ewha Womans University in Seoul.

"The message Pyongyang wants to send internationally, demonstrating its capabilities to deter and coerce, will likely come in the form of solid-fuel missile tests and detonation of a

miniaturized nuclear device," he said, echoing U.S. and South Korean assessments that the North could be preparing to conduct its first nuclear test since September 2017.

The Korean Central News Agency confirmed that the parade featured a variety of nuclear-capable weapons, including tactical nuclear weapons targeting South Korea. The agency described the ICBMs as key in supporting the North's stance of "nuke for nuke and an all-out confrontation" against its enemies.

Lee Sung-jun, spokesperson of South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff, said at a briefing that the South Korean and U.S. militaries were closely analyzing the North Korean photos and reports to evaluate the weaponry.

North Korea is coming off a record-breaking year in weapons testing; the dozens of missiles it fired in 2022 included potentially nuclear-capable systems designed to strike targets in South Korea and the U.S. mainland.

The intensified testing activity was punctuated by fiery statements and a new

law threatening preemptive nuclear attacks against its neighbors and the U.S. in a broad range of scenarios.

Kim continued his nuclear push as 2023 dawned.

In December, he supervised a test of a "high-thrust solid-fuel motor" for a new strategic weapon he said would be developed in the "shortest span of time," which experts said probably referred to a solid-fuel ICBM. All the ICBMs the country has flight-tested since 2017 used liquid propellants. Solid fuel could allow shorter preparation time and more mobility on the ground.

Solid-fuel ICBMs were on a wish list Kim announced under a five-year arms development plan in 2021. It also included tactical nuclear weapons, hypersonic missiles, nuclear-powered submarines and spy satellites.

Analysts say Kim's decision to bring his daughter to major publicized events tied to his military was meant to send a statement to the world that he has no intention to surrender his nuclear weapons, which he apparently sees as the strongest guarantee of his survival and

the extension of his family's dynastic rule.

An official from South Korea's Unification Ministry, who spoke on condition of anonymity according to department rules during a background briefing, said Kim Ju Ae's repeated appearances at significant events and her prominent exposure in state media were also aimed at strengthening domestic loyalty to the Kim family. The official said it was too early to determine whether she was being groomed as her father's successor but added that "all possibilities are open."

"We can only speculate at this point," said Duyeon Kim, a senior analyst at the Center for a New American Security in Washington. Kim Jong Un is "obviously showing her off intentionally and, at a minimum, he seems to be trying to reiterate the importance, status and legitimacy of a direct Kim bloodline offspring. It's too soon to assume that she will be his heir because the son has always succeeded the throne in North Korea."

Kim writes for the Associated Press.



TOM NICHOLSON For The Times

**A BURIAL** takes place Thursday as mass graves are dug on the outskirts of Kahramanmaras, Turkey, after Monday's earthquake. Vast surrounding areas of Turkey and Syria have seen severe damage to infrastructure.

## Peril of non-ductile concrete

[Flaw, from A1] structures, said the primary flaw is already obvious: They were non-ductile concrete buildings, which have an inadequate configuration of steel reinforcing bars that allows concrete to become brittle and explode out of the structure's columns when shaken.

"The residential apartment buildings in the area are mostly made of brittle concrete and are extremely vulnerable to the shaking caused by earthquakes," structural engineering firm Miyamoto International said in a statement.

Concrete frame buildings were popular after World War II and line many of Los Angeles' most famous boulevards. But their lethal flaws became evident internationally during the 1971 Sylmar earthquake, which occurred 52 years ago Thursday.

In that quake, officials were stunned to find the newly built Olive View Medical Center heavily damaged. The five-story hospital lurched sideways when some of its first-floor columns broke. Three concrete stairwells toppled. A two-story psychiatric building collapsed. Three people died.

A U.S. Geological Survey simulation said it is plausible that a magnitude 7.8 earthquake in Southern California could cause 50 non-ductile concrete buildings to fully or partly collapse, with as many as 7,500 people in them.

"We have many thousands of them throughout California, and many tens of thousands of Californians live and work in these buildings," said USC earth sciences Professor James Dolan, an expert on California's and Turkey's fault systems.

"We know they're not going to perform well in earthquakes. It's not a knowledge gap. We understand what's going to happen to them when they're shaken in large earthquakes."

These buildings have shown vulnerabilities in quakes around the globe for half a century, including in Mexico and New Zealand.

The flaw was so egregious that officials quickly banned construction of the non-ductile concrete design after the Sylmar quake and updated minimum building requirements to ensure that future concrete-frame structures erected in the 1980s and beyond would be ductile — or flexible — when shaken. But for decades, governments around the world haven't required older buildings to be retrofitted.

Many local governments have not required the evaluation or retrofitting of concrete buildings, including some of California's most populous cities, including San Jose, San Francisco and Long Beach. Three cities — Los Angeles, Santa Monica and West Hollywood — have ordered retrofits. But the deadline in L.A. is decades away, scheduled for the 2040s.

Structural engineers have praised the mandatory retrofit orders, enacted after a 2013 Times investigation highlighted city officials' failure to act. And they have voiced grave concern that other cities haven't taken the same steps.

The USGS said in 2008 that non-ductile concrete structures are one of two building types "most likely



BRUCE COX Los Angeles Times

**THE RUINS** of the Veterans Administration hospital in Sylmar after the 6.6 earthquake on Feb. 9, 1971.

to kill people during an earthquake." Unreinforced masonry, including older brick buildings, is the other type. Many cities in California have ordered unreinforced masonry buildings to be retrofitted or demolished, although some — especially in the Inland Empire — don't have such a requirement.

The chief executive of Miyamoto International, structural engineer Kit Miyamoto, warned in an interview that the inaction to require retrofits of non-ductile concrete buildings will end up costing lives in California. He said L.A.'s deadline was too far away, "but at least they have something there. At least the public awareness is there."

But if other cities don't act, "that political weakness will kill people," said Miyamoto, who is also a California seismic safety commissioner and added that his comments were not on behalf of the commission. "They need to be retrofitted. Otherwise, you're going to see some consequences."

Non-ductile concrete buildings in Los Angeles suffered catastrophic collapses in the 1971 Sylmar quake — a magnitude 6.6 — and the 1994 Northridge earthquake, a magnitude 6.7. When the Veterans Administration Hospital in Sylmar pancaked during the 1971 quake, 49 people were killed. In the Northridge quake, a Kaiser

Permanente office and clinic and a Bullock's department store partly collapsed.

"If your columns explode outward, your floors are just going to pancake," Dolan said. "It's the same thing over and over and over in earthquakes all over the world, where this building type is extremely common. We know that they're going to fail the same way."

Another reason why the buildings can be vulnerable to collapse is a lack of proper connections between the vertical columns and the horizontal floors, which break when shaken, Dolan said.

Other factors — including corruption in safety inspections, negligence and incompetence in design practices — have contributed to collapses elsewhere. Government investigators probing the collapse of the CTV building in Christchurch, New Zealand, during a 2011 earthquake found that a person handling its structural design in the 1980s "was working beyond his competence." The structure's collapse killed 115 people.

The collapse of the Pyne Gould Corp. building in the Christchurch quake caused 18 additional deaths. In that case, investigators determined that the structure, built in the early 1960s to standards in place at the time, could not have been

lawfully constructed in 2011. Investigators also uncovered documents from 1997 showing that structural engineers hired by the building's owner warned of the potential of a collapse in an earthquake but also noted that "damage reduction measures are optional."

Some California cities say they are exploring retrofits of a different type of flawed structure: soft-story apartment buildings — also called dingbats — that have flimsy ground stories often to accommodate carports or garages. The collapse of one such complex in the 1994 Northridge earthquake left 16 people dead.

"At this time, we are not addressing non-ductile concrete buildings," Lisa Joiner, a San Jose building division deputy director, said in a statement.

However, San Jose — Northern California's most populous city — has ordered an inventory of soft-story apartments and is discussing ordinances to require retrofits of them. Long Beach, L.A. County's second-most populous city, is doing the same.

A decade ago, San Francisco became one of the first cities to require retrofits of soft-story apartments. Of nearly 5,000 buildings covered by the city's ordinance, 90% are now retrofitted.

But San Francisco still has no requirement to retrofit non-ductile concrete buildings, of which there are 2,000 to 3,000 in the city.

"We've been making steady progress toward developing an ordinance," Brian Strong, San Francisco's chief resilience officer and director, said in an email.

Los Angeles, Santa Monica and West Hollywood have laws that cover retrofitting of both non-ductile concrete buildings as well as soft-story apartment buildings.

But Dolan urged other California cities to work faster to address these fatal building flaws.

"This is a really significant threat to life and limb that needs to be taken much more seriously," he said.

# Quake deaths eclipse 20,000 and counting in Turkey, Syria

As chances for finding survivors dim, focus shifts to demolishing unstable structures.

By MEHMET GUZEL, GHAITH ALSAYED AND ZEYNEP BILGINSOY

**KAHRAMANMARAS, Turkey** — Rescue workers made a final push Thursday to find survivors of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria that rendered many communities unrecognizable to their inhabitants and led the Turkish president to declare it "the disaster of the century." The death toll topped 20,000.

The earthquake affected an area that is home to 13.5 million people in Turkey and an unknown number in Syria and stretches farther than the distance from London to Paris or Boston to Philadelphia. Even with an army of people taking part in the rescue effort, crews had to pick and choose where to help.

The scene from the air showed the scope of devastation, with entire neighborhoods of high-rises reduced to twisted metal, pulverized concrete and exposed wires.

In Adiyaman, Associated Press journalists saw someone plead with rescuers to look through the rubble of a building where relatives were trapped. They refused, saying that no one was alive there and that they had to prioritize areas with possible survivors.

A man who gave his name only as Ahmet out of fear of government retribution later asked the AP: "How can I go home and sleep? My brother is there. He may still be alive."

The death toll from Monday's magnitude 7.8 catastrophe rose to nearly 21,000, eclipsing the more than 18,400 who died in the 2011 earthquake off Fukushima, Japan, that triggered a tsunami and the estimated 18,000 people in Turkey who died in a temblor near Istanbul in 1999.

The new figure, which is certain to rise, included over 17,600 people in Turkey and more than 3,300 in war-torn Syria. Tens of thousands were also injured.

Even though experts say people could survive for a week or more, the chances of finding survivors in the freezing temperatures were dimming. As emergency crews and relatives dug through the rubble — and occasionally found people alive — the focus began to shift to demolishing dangerously unstable structures.

The DHA news agency broadcast the rescue of a 10-year-old in Antakya. The agency said that medics had to amputate an arm to free her and that her parents and three siblings had died. A 17-year-old girl emerged alive in Adiyaman, and a 20-year-old was found in Kahramanmaras by rescuers who

shouted, "God is great."

In Nurdagi, a city of around 40,000 set between snowy mountains some 35 miles from the epicenter, vast swaths were leveled, with scarcely a building unaffected. Even those that did not collapse were heavily damaged and unsafe.

Thongs of onlookers, mostly relatives of people trapped inside, watched as heavy machines ripped at one building that had collapsed, its floors pancaked together with a few inches in between.

Mehmet Yilmaz, 67, watched from a distance as bulldozers and other demolition equipment began to bring down what remained of the building where six of his family members had been trapped, including four children.

He estimated that about 80 people were still beneath the rubble and doubted that anyone would be found alive.

"There's no hope. We can't give up our hope in God, but they entered the building with listening devices and dogs, and there was nothing," Yilmaz said.

Mehmet Nasir Dusan, 67, sat watching as the remnants of the nine-story building were brought down in billowing clouds of dust. He said he held no hope of reuniting with his five family members trapped under the debris.

Still, he said, recovering their bodies would bring some small comfort.

"We're not leaving this site until we can recover their bodies, even if it takes 10 days," Dusan said. "My family is destroyed now."

In Kahramanmaras, a sports hall the size of a basketball court served as a makeshift morgue to accommodate and identify bodies.

On the floor lay dozens of bodies wrapped in blankets or black shrouds. At least one appeared to be that of a 5- or 6-year-old.

At the entrance, a man wept over a black body bag that lay next to another in the bed of a small truck. "I'm 70 years old. God should have taken me, not my son," he cried.

Workers continued to conduct rescue operations in Kahramanmaras, but it was clear that many who were trapped in collapsed buildings had already died. One rescue worker was heard saying that his psychological state was declining and that the smell of death was becoming too much to bear.

In northwestern Syria, the first United Nations aid trucks since the quake to enter the rebel-controlled area from Turkey arrived, underscoring the difficulty of getting help to people there.

In the Turkish city of Antakya, dozens sought aid in front of a truck distributing children's coats and supplies.

Guzel, Alsayed and Bilginsoy write for the Associated Press.

## A nonstop procession of bodies and mourners

[Turkey, from A1] black marker.

And that was that, other than the smell of earth, fresh-cut wood and rotting flesh.

"We've buried four of our relatives today," said Mohammad Abu Khaled, a 42-year-old tailor from Syria who has lived in Turkey for many years. The dead were all from one family, whose apparent toll includes a grandfather, grandmother, their son, his wife and their three children.

"The children were sleeping in the same room as their grandparents. They were all curled up together when we found them," he said. "We barely got them out three hours ago. We've been trying since Monday."

The body of one child, a 7-year-old boy, was wedged too tightly into the rubble to be removed. His parents were still missing too; Abu Khaled doubted they survived, but "was hoping for a miracle."

And still the corpses

kept coming.

Kahramanmaras was once an elegant city, nestled at the foot of Mt. Ahir and famous for its version of dondurma, a Turkish ice cream.

Now most of its buildings are in ruins. In many, the floors collapsed into one another like smashed-up layer cakes; others simply crumbled into incoherent hills of rubble.

Almost every corner is replete with disaster crews manning bulldozers and using jackhammers to cut through the concrete.

At the remains of one building, a rescue worker squeezed into a foot-high opening between two floors to take out a body.

A woman nearby — one of the building's residents — shouted that her son remained buried but was still alive. A police officer to the side muttered that that was impossible and gave a small shake of his head as he looked at his colleague.

All day long, hearses with green sirens ferried the lat-



TOM NICHOLSON For The Times

**WOOD MARKERS** identify the quake victims in one of many mass graves near Kahramanmaras, Turkey.

est victims removed from the rubble. They brought the corpses to the cemetery's edge, where authorities had prepared a sort of reception point.

Police officers in white coveralls took out the body bags, placed them on the ground, then unzipped them to expose a glimpse of bruised, detritus-scarred skin before snapping a photo for documentation.

On one side were the unidentified or unclaimed, where survivors — their faces grimacing at both the stench and the sight of so many dead — trudged past, seeking to learn the fate of their lost loved ones.

Dotted around the cemetery were aid organizations distributing ready-cooked meals. One offered chicken doner (the Turkish version of shawarma), drawing lines

of people not far from a heap of now-empty body bags.

As night fell, the excavators continued making furrows. To the four trenches they had dug in one section of the graveyard they added another quartet, and then another.

They weren't enough. At one of the trenches, Abdul Qader Ahmad and his brother Jihad worked together to complete their parents' graves, hammering a piece of wood into the soft earth with a stone.

Abdul Qader choked out strained, high-pitched sobs that seemed at odds with his bodybuilder frame. Jihad too was crying, ignoring family members telling him it was time to go.

He sat on the grave, hugging the mound of soil. His relatives walked a short distance away, then turned to watch him.

He didn't move. Instead, he repeated the Koranic verse, "We belong to God and to him we return," his chest heaving with the sobs.

# Nicaragua sends political prisoners to U.S.

[Nicaragua, from A1] relations with Managua, with Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken deeming the release “a constructive step” that “opens the door to further dialogue between the United States and Nicaragua.”

News of the release was celebrated worldwide, yet for many Nicaraguans it was bittersweet.

“The political prisoners ... were put on a chartered plane and sent into exile at dawn in the same arbitrary manner in which they were detained,” wrote famed writer and former Ortega ally Sergio Ramírez in a column in *El País* newspaper. Their release, he said, is a “small joy” for a country “that has not yet awakened from its long nightmare.”

Hours after the prisoners were released, the country’s legislature declared them “traitors to the nation” and modified the constitution to strip them of their citizenship.

The prospect that the United States and Nicaragua could be inching toward rapprochement speaks not just to the severity of the sanctions in Nicaragua, already one of the poorest countries in the region, but also to a strategic shift by the Biden administration, which has shown new willingness to engage with Latin American autocracies long blacklisted by the U.S.

The prisoner release, which Blinken attributed to “concerted American diplomacy,” represents the Biden administration’s latest engagement, however limited, with three socialist nations — Nicaragua, Cuba and Venezuela — that John Bolton, former national security advisor under President Trump, once labeled the “troika of tyranny.”

In Venezuela, the Biden White House has ditched the confrontational approach of the Trump administration, which fruitlessly sought to overthrow the government of Nicolás Maduro, and last year sent a high-level delegation to negotiate the release of several U.S. citizens detained there. Nine were eventually freed, and



**NICARAGUAN PRESIDENT** Daniel Ortega has jailed hundreds of critics, including religious leaders and journalists. Above, authorities stand guard in Managua in 2020 outside a TV station shut by the government.

GARY CORONADO Los Angeles Times

Maduro’s government agreed to renew talks with the opposition.

In exchange, the U.S. slightly eased sanctions to allow energy giant Chevron to resume oil production in Venezuela, which is home to some of the world’s largest petroleum reserves.

Also last year, Washington relaxed some sanctions against communist-run Cuba, which has been the target of a six-decade U.S. trade embargo.

Among other steps, the Biden administration agreed to bolster consular services in Havana, expand authorized travel to the island and increase limits on family remittances sent to Cuba.

Whether any sanctions relief will be forthcoming for

Nicaragua remains to be seen.

The sanctions have targeted Ortega and his family, many of their backers and key industries including sugar production and gold mining.

The country’s economic situation has become more precarious as one of its longtime backers — Russia — has been sapped by war in Ukraine and sanctions of its own.

Analysts said that while relaxing sanctions is of critical importance to Ortega, his motives may be more complex: Ortega may have decided that it is advantageous to have his most vocal opponents out of the country and disenfranchised.

“It’s hard to read Ortega’s mind,” said Michael Shifter,

senior fellow at the Inter-American Dialogue, a Washington think tank, who has tracked Central America for decades. “Perhaps he acted now because the costs of keeping these prisoners, with the chance that more would die, outweighed the benefits.”

A former leader of the leftist Sandinista rebels, Ortega helped overthrow the country’s right-wing dictatorship in 1979.

He first served as president in the 1980s during a civil war that pitted Sandinista fighters against U.S.-backed Contra rebels. He was voted out in the 1990 presidential election but returned to power in 2007.

By manipulating elections, he has remained president ever since, becoming

the longest-serving leader in Latin America.

After violently suppressing pro-democracy protests in 2018, Ortega and his wife, Vice President Rosario Murillo, cracked down further, imprisoning hundreds of people whom they derided as “coup plotters,” “terrorists” and “termites.”

Those jailed in recent years include presidential candidate Miguel Mora, two adult children of former President Violeta Chamorro and several Catholic priests. They also include some of Ortega’s former leftist comrades, among them Dora María Téllez, a Sandinista commander who accused Ortega of betraying the revolution’s promise of a socialist utopia and coming to resemble the dictator they

once helped overthrow.

Many were jailed at Managua’s infamous El Chipote prison, where, according to people imprisoned there, torture was common and food and medical care were scant. At least one political prisoner, 77-year-old former Sandinista leader Hugo Torres, died while in custody.

News of a possible surprise release began circulating on Wednesday night.

Dolly Mora, a 30-year-old leader of the Nicaraguan University Alliance, a political youth movement, said she began hearing reports that inmates were being moved out of various prisons.

She was so excited she didn’t sleep. The group that landed in Washington included four people from her university group who had been sentenced to years in prison, including for violating a sweeping treason law, she said.

“We are happy that our friends and all the prisoners are going to be free,” said Mora, who left Nicaragua last year — one of hundreds of thousands of people who have fled the country — and is living in the United States.

But she added: “This is not over. They freed the prisoners, but there’s still the fight for freedom in Nicaragua.”

Luis Carrillo, a Colombian priest who was forced to leave Nicaragua in 2020 after he had his permanent residency revoked for speaking out against the government, said the country’s decision to strip the former prisoners of their nationality suggests there is a long road ahead in the quest of restoring the country’s democracy. “Simply for not thinking like them and not agreeing with all the barbarities and Machiavellian atrocities, today they are practically exiled,” he said of the released prisoners.

“I’m very grateful to the United States for receiving them,” he said. “But it also hurts a lot.”

Linthicum, McDonnell and Miller reported from Mexico City and Wilkinson from Washington.



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## THE NATION

## Pence subpoenaed in Trump investigation

Special counsel seeks ex-vice president's testimony on efforts to overturn 2020 election, a source says.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Former Vice President Mike Pence has been subpoenaed by the special counsel overseeing investigations into efforts by former President Trump and his allies to overturn the results of the 2020 election, according to a person with direct knowledge of the event.

The subpoena to Pence as part of the investigation by special counsel Jack Smith was served in recent days, according to the person, who spoke on condition of anonymity Thursday to discuss a sensitive issue.

The extraordinary scenario of a former vice president potentially testifying against his former boss in a



**FORMER** Vice President Mike Pence, shown visiting Iowa last year, could testify against ex-President Trump in a criminal investigation and then run against him.

criminal investigation comes as Pence considers launching a 2024 Republican presidential bid against Trump. The two have been

estranged since a mob of Trump's supporters stormed the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, in an attempt to stop Democrat Joe Biden's

victory.

The subpoena is an aggressive step from a prosecutor who for years led the Justice Department's

public corruption section and who oversaw indictments against major political figures. The move sets the stage for a likely executive privilege fight, given Pence's proximity to Trump for four years as major decisions were being contemplated and planned. It is unclear whether efforts to secure voluntary testimony from Pence stalled before the subpoena was issued.

Spokespeople for Pence and Smith declined to comment on the issuance of the subpoena, which was first reported by ABC News.

Pence was a central figure in Trump's efforts to stay in power after losing the 2020 election. Trump falsely insisted that his vice president, who had a ceremonial role in overseeing the certification of the election, could simply reject the results and send them back to the battleground states he contested.

On Jan. 6, Trump supporters driven by the lie that the election was stolen marched to the Capitol, bru-

tally pushed past police and smashed through windows and doors while Pence was presiding over the certification of Biden's victory. The vice president was steered to safety with his staff and family as some in the mob chanted, "Hang Mike Pence!"

While the mob was in the Capitol, Trump tweeted, "Mike Pence didn't have the courage to do what should have been done to protect our Country and our Constitution."

Smith, who was named special counsel in November by Atty. Gen. Merrick Garland, has been tasked with overseeing investigations into Trump's attempts to subvert his defeat, his actions leading up to the Jan. 6 insurrection at the Capitol and his possession of top-secret government documents at his Florida estate, Mar-a-Lago.

Federal prosecutors have been especially focused on a scheme by Trump allies to elevate fake presidential electors in key battleground states won by Biden as a way to subvert the vote, issuing subpoenas to multiple state Republican Party chairs.

Federal prosecutors have brought multiple Trump administration officials before the grand jury for questioning, including former Trump White House counsel Pat Cipollone and Pence's own former chief of staff, Marc Short.

In a sign of the expanding nature of the investigation, election officials in multiple states whose results were disputed by Trump have received subpoenas asking for communications with or involving Trump and his campaign aides.

A House committee investigating the Jan. 6 attack recommended that the Justice Department bring criminal charges against Trump and associates who helped him launch a pressure campaign to try to overturn his 2020 election loss.

## Toxic train derailment shows peril of even one accident

ASSOCIATED PRESS

OMAHA — The fiery derailment of a train carrying toxic chemicals — sending a huge plume of smoke in the air and forcing residents of a small Ohio town to evacuate — has highlighted the potentially disastrous consequences of train accidents and raised questions about railroad safety.

The railroad industry is generally regarded as the safest option for most goods and federal data show accidents involving hazardous materials are exceedingly rare.

But with rails crossing through the heart of nearly every city and town nation-

wide, even one hazardous materials accident could be disastrous, especially in a populated area.

Rail unions believe the industry has gotten riskier in recent years after widespread job cuts left workers spread thin.

"It raises all kinds of questions," Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine told "Fox & Friends" this week when he was asked whether hazardous materials are too dangerous to transport by rail.

"We've seen it up close and personal the last few days," DeWine said. "This is a big, big deal."

About half of the 4,800 residents in the eastern Ohio town of East Palestine and those in the surround-

ing area, including parts of Pennsylvania, had to evacuate as officials monitored air and water quality after a controlled burn of chemicals released from tank cars.

The evacuation order was lifted Wednesday after the air was deemed safe.

"I'm scared to go back home," resident Brittany Dailey said Monday. "I'm eventually going to have to go back, but it makes me want to sell my house and move at this point."

Ian Jefferies, head of the Assn. of American Railroads trade group, said 99.9% of all hazardous materials shipments reach their destinations safely.

Federal Railroad Administration data showed haz-

ardous chemicals were released during 11 train accidents nationwide last year, out of roughly 535 million miles, with only two injuries reported. In the last decade, releases of hazardous materials peaked at 20 in both 2018 and 2020.

"Railroads are the safest form of moving goods across land in the country without question," Jefferies said. "But railroads are also working to drive toward zero incidents."

Railroads try to route hazardous materials shipments on the safest path. Most of the worst derailments in recent years happened in rural areas, but a 2013 derailment in Canada killed 47 people in the town

of Lac Megantic and caused millions of dollars in damage.

A 2005 derailment in Graniteville, S.C., killed nine people and injured more than 250 after toxic chlorine gases were released.

Hazardous materials account for about 7% to 8% of the 30 million shipments that railroads deliver across the country every year. But because of the way railroads mix freight together, at least a couple of cars of hazardous materials can be found on nearly any train besides grain or coal trains.

An East Palestine business owner and two other residents sued the rail operator in federal court Tuesday, alleging negligence.

## Rioter with battle flag is sentenced

Kevin Seefried, 53, of Delaware gets three years for threatening officer as he and his son stormed Capitol.

BY MICHAEL KUNZELMAN

WASHINGTON — A Delaware man who threatened a Black police officer with a pole attached to a Confederate battle flag as he stormed the U.S. Capitol was sentenced on Thursday to three years in prison.

Kevin Seefried, 53, tearfully apologized for his participation in the Jan. 6, 2021, riot before U.S. District Judge Trevor McFadden sentenced him.

"I never wanted to send a message of hate," Seefried said.

McFadden said it was deeply troubling that Seefried wielded the flagpole as a weapon against the officer.

"Bringing a Confederate flag into one of our nation's most sacred halls was outrageous," the judge said.

McFadden allowed Seefried to remain free until he must report to prison at a date to be determined.

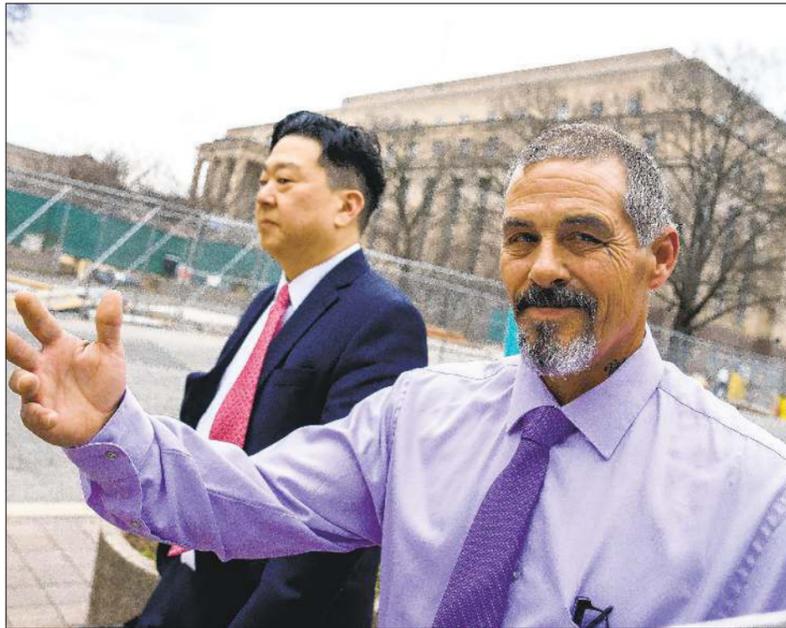
Justice Department prosecutors had recommended a prison sentence of five years and 10 months for Seefried, a drywall mechanic from Laurel, Del.

Seefried and his adult son, Hunter, stormed the Capitol together after attending the "Stop the Steal" rally, where then-President Trump addressed thousands of supporters in Washington. Kevin Seefried was the 12th rioter to set foot inside the building that day, according to prosecutors.

In October, McFadden sentenced Hunter Seefried to two years of imprisonment.

Widely published photographs showed Kevin Seefried carrying his Confederate flag inside the Capitol after he and his son, then 22, entered the building through a broken window.

Kevin Seefried told an FBI agent that he did not view the Confederate flag as a symbol of racist hate. FBI



**KEVIN SEEFRIED**, right, with public defender Eugene Ohm after his sentencing. Prosecutors said he was the 12th rioter to enter the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021.

agents said they did not find any evidence linking him or his son to far-right extremist groups.

Seefried is embarrassed and ashamed that many may view him as a racist, his lawyers said in a court filing.

"He had brought the flag as a symbol of protest, but had not considered the logic of those who see the flag as a symbol of American racism," they wrote. "Now that photos of him with the flag have become iconic symbols of the horror of January 6, Mr. Seefried completely understands the harm he has caused."

Within a minute of entering the building, Kevin Seefried jabbed his flagpole at Capitol Police Officer Eugene Goodman and joined other rioters in chasing the officer up a flight of stairs, a harrowing scene captured on video. Seefried was the first rioter to encounter Goodman near the base of the staircase, prosecutors said.

Goodman, who testified at the Seefrieds' trial, said Seefried cursed at him and jabbed at him with the base of his flagpole three or four times without making con-

tact. Goodman recalled that Seefried asked where members of Congress were counting the votes and said, "You can shoot me, man, but we're coming in."

"That flagpole was not only a weapon capable of causing serious injury; a Confederate Battle flag was affixed to it and it was brandished by a man standing at the front of a volatile, growing mob towards a solitary, Black police officer," prosecutors wrote in a court filing.

Goodman led rioters away from the Senate chamber as senators and then Vice President Mike Pence were being evacuated. He also directed Sen. Mitt Romney (R-Utah) to turn around and head away from the mob.

McFadden convicted the father and son of riot-related charges in June after hearing two days of trial testimony without a jury. The judge convicted both of obstructing an official proceeding, the Jan. 6 joint session of Congress for certifying President Biden's 2020 electoral victory.

McFadden also convicted the Seefrieds of misdemeanor charges that they

engaged in disorderly conduct and illegally demonstrated inside the Capitol. The judge acquitted Hunter Seefried of other misdemeanor charges for clearing a shard of glass from a broken window.

The judge described Kevin Seefried as the "prime mover" in his family's decision to travel to Washington on Jan. 6. McFadden rejected the defense argument that the elder Seefried never intended to interfere with the congressional proceedings.

"I find that he knew what he was doing," McFadden said.

The Seefrieds were the first Capitol riot defendants to get a bench trial on a felony charge. Neither testified.

Nearly 1,000 people have been charged with federal crimes related to the riot. More than 500 have pleaded guilty, mostly to misdemeanors. About 400 have been sentenced, with more than half getting terms ranging from seven days to 10 years.

Kunzelman writes for the Associated Press.

## Fetterman didn't have new stroke, aide says

Pennsylvania senator remains hospitalized, undergoes tests after feeling lightheaded.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Pennsylvania Sen. John Fetterman, who had a stroke during his campaign last year, remained hospitalized and undergoing tests after feeling lightheaded, with tests so far negative for another stroke or seizure, his office said Thursday evening.

An MRI at George Washington University Hospital, along with other tests run by doctors, rules out a new stroke, Fetterman's communications director, Joe Calvello, said in a statement.

Fetterman was being monitored with an electroencephalogram — an instrument that measures brainwaves — for signs of a seizure, Calvello said.

"So far there are no signs of seizure, but he is still being monitored," Calvello said.

Calvello gave no indication about when Fetterman might leave the hospital, but had said late Wednesday that Fetterman was "in good spirits and talking with his staff and family."

In November, Fetterman, 53, won the seat held by now-retired Republican Pat Toomey after a hard-fought contest against GOP nominee Mehmet Oz. Fetterman, who was the lieutenant governor, defeated the celebrity

heart surgeon by 5 percentage points, flipping a seat that was key to Democrats holding on to their Senate majority.

More than \$300 million was spent during the campaign, the most expensive Senate race in 2022.

Fetterman's campaign was derailed May 13 when he had what he later called a near-fatal stroke. He refused to drop out and spent much of the remaining months of the campaign in recovery, declining to release his medical records or allow his doctors to answer reporters' questions.

Oz made an issue of whether his opponent was honest about the effects of the stroke and whether Fetterman was fit to serve, but the Democrat insisted his doctors said he could have a full recovery.

In an Associated Press profile just weeks after his victory, Fetterman was described as still suffering from auditory processing disorder, a stroke's common aftereffect. The disorder can leave a person unable to speak fluidly or quickly process spoken conversation.

The effects of the stroke were apparent in Fetterman's uneven performance during the fall campaign's only debate. He struggled to complete sentences and jumbled words, causing concern among Democrats.

On election night, he told cheering supporters that he ran for "anyone that ever got knocked down that got back up."



**SEN.** John Fetterman (D-Pa.), shown in November, underwent an MRI and other tests, an aide said.

# Balloons flew over 40 countries, U.S. says

[China, from A1] counterparts in dozens of the 40 nations where the balloons are believed to have flown, including parts of Latin America and Europe.

"They have a lot of explaining to do," State Department spokesman Ned Price said of the government of President Xi Jinping.

The balloon's flight over the U.S., which started in Alaska on Jan. 28, detoured over Canada and then traversed the American Midwest and South before being shot down seven days later, forced Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken to cancel a trip to Beijing. His visit, which would have been the first by an American official of his rank in nearly five years, was meant to find ways to ease the fraught geopolitical issues straining U.S.-Chinese ties, including Taiwan, trade and human rights.

Instead, the relationship has grown even more tense.

Administration officials also gave classified briefings to members of Congress on Thursday. Republicans and some Democrats have criticized President Biden for failing to destroy the balloon sooner.

Pentagon officials said it was their recommendation to wait until the gigantic craft — larger than the size of three buses — was no longer over land to avoid harming



NAVY personnel recover parts of the Chinese balloon off South Carolina. Pentagon officials said that the balloon was larger than the size of three buses and that they took care to avoid harming people when they shot it.

people and property. In addition, the officials said, they were able to monitor the balloon and gather intelligence from it as it tried to surveil targets in the United States, an effort U.S. officials said they were able to block.

Democratic Sen. Jon Tester of Montana, the first continental state where the balloon was detected and home to one of America's three nuclear missile silo fields at Malmstrom Air Force Base, was critical of

Biden, saying he was in the "shoot-it-down-now" camp. But after a classified briefing with military and intelligence officials, Tester said he had come around to understanding the delay in destroying the balloon.

Sen. Mitt Romney of Utah broke with most of his Republican colleagues to agree with the Biden administration's actions.

"I believe that the administration, the president, our military and intelligence agencies acted skillfully and with care," he told CNN as he emerged from a classified briefing. "At the same time, their capabilities are extraordinarily impressive. Was everything done 100% correctly? I can't imagine that would be the case of almost anything we do. But I came away more confident."

Other Republicans, though, faulted the administration, saying it shot down the balloon too late and failed to inform the public about the situation in a timely fashion.

"As an Alaskan, I am so angry," Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) said during the public hearing, noting that Biden was not even briefed about the balloon until it had left Alaskan airspace. "The fact of the matter is, Alaska is the first line of defense for America."

"If you're going to have Russia coming at you, if you're going to have China coming at you, we know exactly how they come," she said.

The Pentagon also said on Wednesday that the Chinese surveillance program had been going on for years and that there were at least four additional balloon spottings — three during the Trump administration and another one under Biden — in recent years, though at the time they were not identified as belonging to the Chinese government.

U.S. officials also said Thursday they will consider sanctions against Chinese firms or entities involved in the balloon project, which

they said constituted an unacceptable violation of U.S. sovereignty. "We will also look at broader efforts to expose and address the PRC's larger surveillance activities that pose a threat to our national security, and to our allies and partners," said the State Department official speaking on condition of anonymity.

The expansive surveillance program is further evidence of China's aggressive attempts to dominate world order, Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman testified Thursday to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

"This irresponsible act put on full display what we've long recognized: that the PRC has become more repressive at home and more aggressive abroad," Sherman said. "The PRC is the only competitor [to the U.S.] with the intent and means to reshape the international order."

In a rare display of overwhelming bipartisanship, the House on Thursday passed a resolution unanimously blaming China for a "brazen violation of United States sovereignty." China is trying to "deceive the international community through false claims about its intelligence collection campaigns," the resolution said.

Rep. Michael McCaul (R-Texas) introduced the resolution as chair of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. He said he helped steer the measure away from attacking Biden and instead aimed it squarely at China.

"We wanted it to be America against China — not internal fighting, because China would see that as a moment of weakness, that we're divided on party lines, and we didn't want to project that," McCaul told CNN. "We want to project that we're unified with one voice against China."

Despite the swirl of controversy around and revelations about the incident in Washington, China continued to insist its balloon was innocuous and to accuse the U.S. of overreacting for propaganda purposes.

## Misgendering bill advances in the Kentucky Legislature

ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT, Ky. — Republican lawmakers in Kentucky advanced a bill Thursday to allow teachers to misgender their transgender students — plunging into a culture war issue despite pleas to resist doing so from a state Senate colleague whose transgender son died recently.

The GOP-dominated Senate Education Committee heard impassioned pleas from transgender advocates warning that the measure would put transgender youths at greater risk of harm. The bill won overwhelming approval from the committee to advance to the full Senate.

Democratic Sen. Karen Berg watched from the audience, saying later that she wanted her colleagues to "have to make that vote in front of me." Berg's son, Henry Berg-Brousseau, was a transgender rights advocate who died late last year at age 24. The cause was suicide, his mother said.

"I was praying that my colleagues would have enough respect for me not, at least, to do it in the Senate," Berg said later in an interview. "To let them do it in the House and say: 'This session we won't bring it here.' But clearly I was wrong."

The measure won committee approval a day after being introduced by Republican Sen. Max Wise, the running mate for GOP gubernatorial candidate Kelly Craft, a former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, is among a dozen Republi-

cans seeking their party's nomination in Kentucky's May primary. Democratic Gov. Andy Beshear is seeking a second term in the GOP-trending Bluegrass State.

In a Senate floor speech promoting his bill on Wednesday, Wise said: "School administrators and faculty are being unnecessarily pressured to conform to an agenda that has no place within our public schools. It's time to remove these unnecessary distractions from our classrooms."

Berg spoke next, urging her colleagues to "avoid politicizing issues that are literally killing our children."

Craft has railed against the state's education department in campaign speeches, accusing top education leaders of "pushing woke agendas in our schools."

Wise said Thursday that his bill would enhance communication between schools and parents regarding health services and school curriculum around sexuality.

The measure would prohibit education leaders from requiring policies to keep students' information confidential from their parents, he said. Schools could choose to withhold the information if, based on past conduct, they believe the information would lead to parental abuse.

Another key provision in the bill would prevent policies compelling school staff to use pronouns that don't conform to a student's biological sex.

"The bill does not pre-

vent students from requesting identification by a non-birth-conforming pronoun, nor prevent staff and students from addressing those students with non-conforming pronouns," Wise told the committee.

Transgender advocates pushed back, saying the bill would hurt transgender youths.

"I was 'out' at school because it was so nice to have one place where I could just be myself and have people call me the right name," Mason Chernosky, a transgender man, said in recalling his youth. "However, I was terrified that someone at my school was going to tell my parents."

If that had happened, "everything was going to get so much worse for me," Chernosky said.

While his friends benefited from mental health support, he didn't seek out the assistance out of fear that school officials would tell his parents, Chernosky said.

The bill would require that parents get two weeks' notice and an opportunity to review materials before human sexuality instruction begins at their children's school. An alternative assignment would have to be made available for students whose parents disapprove of the instruction.

Asked about the issue Thursday, Beshear said he was "struck by the callousness" of the bill, coming less than two months since the death of Berg's son. He also expressed concerns that the measure would lead to increased bullying in schools.

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## BUSINESS

## Suddenly, recession doesn't seem certain

Mixed signals, such as layoffs, job growth and lingering inflation, have clouded the economic outlook.

BY DON LEE

WASHINGTON — Only a few months ago, many economists warned that a recession was not just inevitable, it was around the corner. Inflation would take years to curb. Surging unemployment was on its way.

But a funny thing happened on the way to hard times: The “Big R” for the U.S. economy now looks like it’s “Resilience,” not “Recession,” as economists at Bank of America recently put it.

Instead of showing a slowdown in hiring last month, as normally happens in the prelude to a recession, employers added more than half a million jobs.

Unemployment, which rises during a downturn, plunged to 3.4%; it hasn't been this low since the spring of 1969.

Meanwhile, the inflation dragon continued to calm down, dropping to 6.5% from its high last year of 9.1%.

So what's going on? Although recessions are a regular feature of economic history, warnings of imminent trouble are looking exaggerated.

Digging a little deeper, here are some of the questions economists and policymakers are wrestling with, along with the best answers available now.

**Are we heading into a recession or not? Prices are still high and big companies, especially in tech, are announcing layoffs.**

Yes, there has been a surge in layoffs. But it's been largely offset.

Technically, you can't have a recession without higher unemployment. A recession is commonly defined as two consecutive quarters with negative growth in the overall economy. As long as employers keep hiring more workers, the economy will keep growing because more and more people have jobs and money to spend.

The economy on average added a robust 400,000 net new jobs a month in 2022. And hiring was even stronger at the start of 2023, with employers across a broad spectrum of industries fattening their payrolls by



AL SEIB Los Angeles Times

**RICHARD CASTRO** spent \$164.58 for 23.5 gallons of gas at a Mobil station in May 2022. Gas prices have eased since then, helping consumer sentiment. But a run-up could tip the economy over the edge, an economist says.

517,000 in January.

And the Labor Department says the number of job openings rose at the end of last year, to more than 11 million. That's double the number of vacancies of a few years ago.

**Where is this job growth coming from?**

Consumer spending, mostly. That's the biggest driver of the U.S. economy, and so far it hasn't gone off the rails.

In fact, it's held up pretty well. Although Americans aren't buying as much furniture, in-home gym equipment and other stuff, they've stepped up their spending for services such as travel, eating out and entertainment.

The change reflects an apparent easing of the COVID-19 threat. During the worst of the pandemic, people tended to stay home and, not surprisingly, focused their spending on things that made staying home seem better.

Now, the pattern has reversed.

That's not to say there are no trouble spots in the economy. Manufacturing and housing, always sensitive to interest rates, are both in a slump.

But with consumer demand still growing overall, many businesses see good reasons to bulk up.

Others are expecting any near-term recession to be relatively short and mild, so

they're not slashing operations.

**Does that mean the fate of the economy now hinges on the whims of consumers?**

No, employers have other reasons to avoid big cutbacks. Overall in the United States, workers are in short supply. Higher levels of immigration during the Biden administration have eased the pressure, although skilled workers are still relatively scarce.

Also, many employers who laid off workers en masse during the pandemic have discovered it's surprisingly hard to reassemble teams and get a business running smoothly again, especially a smaller business.

There is a lot of labor hoarding going on, says Diane Swonk, chief economist at the accounting firm KPMG US.

**Then what's going on with tech companies?**

It's true that technology companies have sharply cut back after years of expansion — and overexpansion, in many cases. The list is a who's who in tech: Microsoft, Amazon, Meta, Google, IBM, Dell, Cisco and Twitter have announced thousands of layoffs.

In all, more than 1,000 tech companies announced cuts of almost 160,000 jobs last year, according to the tracking website Layoffs.fyi. And more than 100,000 jobs

already have been tagged this year.

Even so, the blow to the overall economy isn't as big as these numbers may make it appear. For one thing, many tech workers seem to be getting reemployed quickly. In a survey by ZipRecruiter, 8 in 10 had found a job within three months of a layoff.

What's more, although they are among the best-paying jobs, the tech layoffs represent just a speck of total payroll employment. The category of business and professional services, which includes many tech workers, has almost 23 million jobs and continues to grow. New jobless claims, a proxy for layoffs overall, remain at historically low levels.

That helps explain why the latest Bay Area unemployment rate, for December, was just 2.4%. And it was 2.7% for Austin, Texas, another tech center.

**With inflation and a tight job market, shouldn't wages be increasing?**

Economic theory does suggest that wages should be growing faster as employers compete for a shrinking pool of available workers. There are about two job openings today for every unemployed worker.

Yet the average hourly wage for all private-sector workers rose 4.4% in January from a year earlier, down from recent months when

earnings were increasing at an annual rate of well above 5%.

“All of this adds up to a job market that is a bit schizophrenic — where job growth is booming but wage growth is cooling,” wrote Harry Holzer, a Georgetown University professor and former chief economist at the Labor Department.

Maybe, he speculated, workers have used up money in the bank from the extra savings they amassed during the pandemic and so are more concerned with staying on the job than demanding more pay.

Similarly, with inflation declining in recent months, pay increases may feel less urgent to workers.

There's also evidence that workers are quitting at a somewhat lower rate than they did in 2021 and the first half of 2022. Workers tend to get the biggest bump up in pay when they change jobs.

A final factor: Businesses are hiring more people who have traditionally been on the economy's margins, such as workers with disabilities and those with criminal convictions, said Jeffrey Korzenik, managing director at Fifth Third Bank in Florida.

“When you broaden your effective applicant pool, you don't have to pay up as much for labor, hence the moderating wage inflation,” he said. “We have a big gap between job seekers and job openings — the business

community is doing a better job of eliminating the barriers that have created this historically large gap.”

**Inflation is falling but is still pretty high. Is the Fed finished with the rate hikes?**

Inflation, as measured by the consumer price index, appears to have peaked at a 40-year high of 9.1% in June. CPI growth has since come down to 6.5% as of December, thanks to softer inflation readings for energy and a variety of goods, including vehicles, apparel and appliances.

Most experts expect CPI growth to keep trending lower this year. But Fed Chair Jerome H. Powell suggested again this week that it could be a long and hard battle to bring inflation down further.

Over the last year, the Fed has lifted its benchmark rate from near zero to a range of 4.5% to 4.75%. Many investors are betting that the central bank will make two more smaller rate increases of a quarter of a point each, stopping at the upper limit of 5.25%. But that may not be enough.

“If we continue to get, for example, strong labor market reports or higher inflation reports, it may well be the case that we have to do more and raise rates more than has been priced in,” Powell said.

On the positive side, price pressure for many goods has let up as pandemic-induced supply bottlenecks and excessive demand have eased. And slowing employee compensation growth has quieted concerns about a wage-price spiral.

**So we can stop worrying about a recession?**

Hold on. No one said that. There are still several things that could derail the economy.

At the top of economist Mark Zandi's worries is a resurgence of oil prices. Though the chief economist at Moody's Analytics now sees less than a 50% chance of a recession, he says anything triggering another big run-up at the gas pump will probably push the economy over the edge.

The surge in crude prices, triggered by the war in Ukraine, was central to the outbreak of inflation and was felt broadly across the economy, especially in consumer confidence. In recent days, regular gas prices nationally were averaging about \$3.45 a gallon.

“If we go back up to \$4 or \$5 a gallon, that will be too much to bear,” Zandi said.

So far, Fed officials have aggressively raised interest rates to help bring down inflation without quashing the economy. Whether policymakers can keep threading the needle remains to be seen.

The Fed doesn't want to take its foot off the financial brakes before getting inflation under control, but restraining activity too hard or too long will almost surely induce recession.

And like the sword of Damocles, the debt ceiling deadline hangs ominously over the economy.

Technically the U.S. last month already hit the debt ceiling, or the amount Uncle Sam is able to borrow. In practice, the Treasury Department can keep paying the nation's bills by employing so-called extraordinary measures, but only until about early June.

A repeat of the kind of political standoff seen in 2011 would have potentially grave and far-reaching consequences, and it's not clear that lawmakers have learned the lessons from that tumultuous period.

During President Obama's first term, partisan brinkmanship over the budget took the country to the edge of defaulting on its debt. That prompted Standard & Poor's to downgrade the U.S. from its top credit rating for the first time in history, wreaking havoc on Wall Street and shaking the stability of the U.S. and global financial systems.

With a newly installed Republican House eager to flex its muscles, analysts fear the stage is set for an even worse and potentially calamitous outcome this time.

## ‘Rust’ cinematographer’s family files lawsuit

Parents and sister of Halyna Hutchins sue Alec Baldwin and others over the fatal on-set shooting.

BY ANOUSA SAKOUI

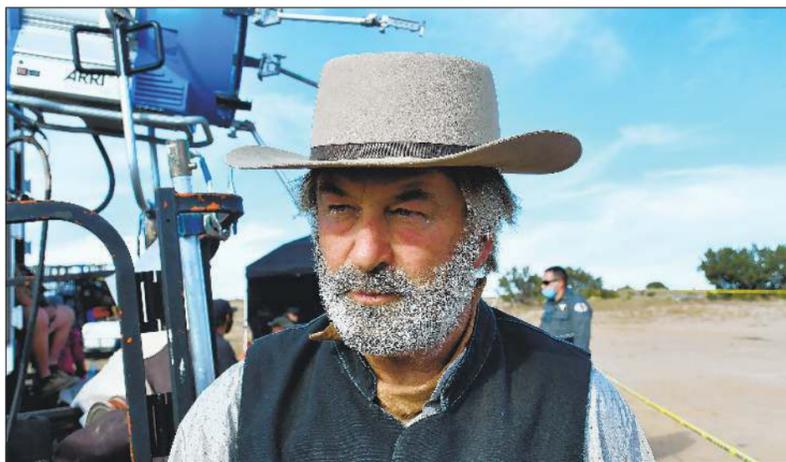
Alec Baldwin is being sued again for the fatal shooting of cinematographer Halyna Hutchins on the set of the western “Rust” in 2021.

In a lawsuit filed Thursday, Hutchins' parents and sister alleged battery, intentional infliction of emotional distress and negligence against Baldwin and other producers and members of the production.

“We have filed a lawsuit today in Los Angeles County Superior Court against Alec Baldwin, producers of ‘Rust,’ and other defendants who may have been responsible for the tragic death of Halyna Hutchins,” said attorney Gloria Allred, who is representing the family. “We want accountability and justice for them.”

During a news conference at her Los Angeles office, Allred and co-counsel John Carpenter of Carpenter & Zuckerman shared pictures and a video message from the family members, who they said remain in Hutchins' native country of Ukraine.

“To lose my sister, at least personally for me, was a horrible experience,” Hutchins' sister Svetlana Zemko said in a video message trans-



Santa Fe County (N.M.) Sheriff's Office

**THE SUIT** filed Thursday is the second from Halyna Hutchins' relatives; her husband and son settled a suit against Alec Baldwin, above, and “Rust” producers.

lated into English and played during the news conference. “It is one of the biggest losses of my life. Even more devastating is to see the utter suffering of our parents and how their health has sharply declined. I believe to let this go and to leave this unpunished is unacceptable.”

The lawsuit is the second from Hutchins' family members; her husband and son previously sued Baldwin and the film's producers in New Mexico. That lawsuit was settled late last year.

As part of that deal, the beleaguered western would be completed with Matthew Hutchins serving as an executive producer.

The lawsuit is the latest in a string of civil and criminal litigation Baldwin faces as a result of his accidental

shooting of Hutchins.

Representatives for Baldwin and for the producers declined to comment.

Allred also represents the film's script supervisor, Mamie Mitchell, in her lawsuit against Baldwin and others connected to the “Rust” production. That case is pending.

At Thursday's news conference, Allred described the Hutchins family as being financially and emotionally dependent on Halyna Hutchins, who had planned to help them move to the U.S. from their war-torn country.

“But now her mother and sister know that their dream to be together with Halyna, Matt and their grandson Andros will never happen,” Allred said. “They still hope, however, that one day they

will be able to come to live in the United States and be an important part of their grandson's life.”

In their lawsuit, the cinematographer's mother, Olga Solovey, an emergency operating room nurse; father, Anatolii Androsovich; and Zemko alleged that safety problems on the set of “Rust” — including accidental gun discharges — were rampant and producers should have taken steps to correct them.

They alleged that producers cut corners and hired inexperienced crew members to keep costs down. They noted that shortly before the fatal shooting, camera crew workers walked off the set in a dispute over pay and working conditions.

Rust Movie Productions has previously denied

allegations of wrongdoing, saying that it had relied on specialists such as armorer Hannah Gutierrez Reed to ensure there was no live ammunition on set and that it had not received complaints from union representatives about weapons-related safety problems.

The attorney for Halyna Hutchins' husband threw cold water on the lawsuit, saying that not only had he not been notified in advance but he didn't think their claim had merit.

“We do not believe any other family members have a claim under New Mexico or California law,” said Brian Panish, attorney for Matthew Hutchins. “Neither Mr. Hutchins nor his attorneys were made aware of the family's intention to file a lawsuit before today.”

New Mexico prosecutors charged Baldwin with involuntary manslaughter last month.

They alleged the actor didn't attend sufficient weapons training and didn't follow industry protocols to ensure a prop gun was safe before he used it. Baldwin and his attorney have denied the claims, saying that others were responsible for the tragedy and that he would fight the charges.

The New Mexico prosecutors also charged Gutierrez Reed with involuntary manslaughter. If convicted, she and Baldwin could face mandatory five-year prison sentences.

Assistant director Dave Halls pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor and will be a witness in any trial.

MARKET ROUNDUP

# Stocks fall as mixed earning reports stifle early rally

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Stocks dropped Thursday after another mixed set of profit reports from companies, as expectations for higher interest rates keep up the pressure on Wall Street.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 0.9%, the Dow Jones industrial average lost 0.7% and the Nasdaq composite sank 1%. All three indexes had been up nearly 1% in the morning before momentum gave out.

Stocks have been shaky this week, flipping from gains to losses and back again amid uncertainty about where interest rates and inflation are heading.

A still-strong jobs picture has markets buying more into the Fed's forecast that it will raise rates a couple of times more before holding them at a high level through this year. High rates can drive down inflation but also raise the risk of a severe recession and hurt investment prices.

A narrowing disconnect between markets and the Fed could lead to less volatility in markets in the future, said Thomas Martin, a senior portfolio manager at Globalt Investments. But for now, with a jumble of earnings reports pouring in from companies and questions remaining about whether the economy can avoid a sharp recession, swings are likely to continue.

"There's continuing evidence that the economy is stronger than people thought it was going to be,"



RICHARD DREW Associated Press

**BIG COMPANIES** have been reporting relatively lackluster results for the end of 2022, but Walt Disney surprised the market with a stronger-than-expected profit.

## Major stock indexes

Index	Close	Daily change	Daily % change	YTD % change
Dow industrials	33,699.88	-249.13	-0.73	+1.67
S&P 500	4,081.50	-36.36	-0.88	+6.30
Nasdaq composite	11,789.58	-120.94	-1.02	+12.64
S&P 400	2,632.64	-32.78	-1.23	+8.32
Russell 2000	1,915.34	-27.26	-1.40	+8.75
EuroStoxx 50	4,250.15	+40.00	+0.97	+12.07
Nikkei (Japan)	27,584.35	-22.11	-0.08	+5.71
Hang Seng (Hong Kong)	21,624.36	+340.84	+1.60	+9.32

Associated Press

Martin said. "The question is what is the economy's ability to continue that resilience in the face of interest rates that are a lot higher than they were a year ago."

In the bond market, at least, a warning signal is continuing to flash red with yields on shorter-term Treasuries well above those on longer-term Treasuries.

It's an unusual occurrence that has often preceded past recessions.

The two-year Treasury yield, which tends to move with expectations for Fed action, climbed to 4.48% from 4.43% late Wednesday. It reached its highest level since mid-November during the day, according to Tradeweb. The 10-year Treasury, which helps set rates for mortgages and other loans, rose to 3.66% from 3.62%.

"We're still somewhere in that 40% to 60% area of a recession," Martin said. "I'm not trying to be wishy-washy about it, but there are so many ways to go. The level of

uncertainty has been high and remains high."

High inflation and worries about a slowing economy have already hit corporate earnings, and big U.S. companies have recently been reporting relatively lackluster results for the end of 2022.

Walt Disney surprised the market when it reported stronger profit for the latest quarter than analysts expected. It also said it will cut about 7,000 jobs as part of a plan to reduce costs by \$5.5 billion. Its shares fell 1.3% after being up more than 5% in the morning.

The media giant joins the growing list of high-profile companies to announce layoffs amid an uncertain economy. The bulk began in the technology industry, where companies acknowledged misreading the boom coming out of the pandemic and hiring too many people. But job cuts have since spread to other industries.

"Things have gotten good on the inflation front, but now I think the next cause of volatility is beginning to shift to recession fears," said Brent Schutte, chief investment officer at Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Co.

Overall, though, the job market has remained resilient. Last week, 196,000 U.S. workers filed for unemployment benefits. That was slightly more than in the previous week, but it remained below the 200,000 level for a fourth straight week.

Although a strong job market is good for workers

and for sales of companies selling to them, the Federal Reserve also worries that it could lead to upward pressure on inflation. If employers have to give big raises to keep and attract workers, the worry is that could force them to raise prices for their own products and services.

Shares of casino operators were strong Thursday after earnings reports raised optimism about momentum in both Las Vegas and Macao in Asia. MGM Resorts International climbed 6.4%, while Wynn Resorts rose 4.8%.

On the losing end was Baxter International, which dropped 12.1% after the healthcare company reported weaker quarterly profit than forecast. It also gave a forecast for earnings this year that fell below Wall Street's expectations. Baxter also announced layoffs to cut costs, saying it would reduce its global workforce by less than 5%.

Mattel tumbled 10.7% after the toymaker reported a big decline in sales and weaker profit than expected for the holiday quarter.

Another drop for Google's parent company, Alphabet, also weighed heavily on the market. It fell 4.4% amid worries about competition from Microsoft, which has unveiled a new Bing search engine powered by artificial intelligence.

All told, the S&P 500 fell 36.36 points to 4,081.50, the Dow lost 249.13 points to close at 33,699.88 and the Nasdaq slid 120.94 points to 11,789.58.

## Crypto Super Bowl ads are so last year

The once-rising sector is a no-show this time. More booze brands get into the game.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

The hottest ticket in town for advertisers sold out days ago. Fox said Monday that in-game ads for Super Bowl LVII have all been sold.

The big game between the Kansas City Chiefs and the Philadelphia Eagles takes place Sunday.

The Super Bowl is advertising's biggest stage, with advertisers jockeying to get their products in front of the more than 100 million people who watch each year.

Mark Evans, executive vice president of ad sales for Fox Sports, said a few ads went for more than \$7 million for a 30-second spot. Most sold for between \$6 million and \$7 million.

Anheuser-Busch remains the biggest advertiser with three minutes of national airtime. The beverage giant gave up its deal to be the exclusive alcohol advertiser this year, so Heineken, Diageo, Remy Martin and Molson Coors are also in the game.

Other big advertising categories include packaged foods such as Doritos and M&Ms, movie studios and streaming services, automakers and tech companies, Evans said. Out this

year: crypto companies.

Last year's Super Bowl was dubbed the "Crypto Bowl" because four cryptocurrency companies — FTX, Coinbase, Crypto.com and EToro — ran splashy commercials. It was part of a larger effort by crypto companies to break into the mainstream with sports sponsorships.

But in November, FTX filed for bankruptcy and its founder was charged in an alleged scheme to defraud investors.

This year, two crypto advertisers had commercials "booked and done" and two others were "on the one-yard line," Evans said. But once FTX news broke, those deals weren't completed.

Now, "There's zero representation in that category on the day at all," he said.

Evans said most Super Bowl ads sold much earlier than usual, with more than 90% of the Super Bowl ad inventory gone by the end of summer, as established advertisers jockeyed for prime positions.

But the remaining spots sold more slowly. Partly that was because of the implosion of the crypto space, as well as general advertiser concerns about the global economy, Evans said.

Last year, NBC sold out of its ad space briskly and said an undisclosed number of 30-second spots went for \$7 million, a jump from the \$6.5 million that 2021 ads went for.

## Southwest execs' bonuses to be cut

Leaders' payouts will be reduced because of December meltdown.

BY ALAN LEVIN AND MARY SCHLANGENSTEIN

Southwest Airlines leaders will take a pay cut after the December breakdown that resulted in thousands of flight cancellations and more than \$1 billion in added costs.

"Executive bonuses for 2022 will be reduced because of this," said Andrew Watterson, the carrier's chief operating officer. The payouts will be awarded next month, though the amount of the cut hasn't yet been determined, he said.

Watterson spoke with reporters Thursday during a break in a U.S. Senate hearing over the airline's December crisis. Southwest has come under intense scrutiny in recent weeks from lawmakers, regulators and passengers over the meltdown, which led to more than 16,700 flight cancellations when its systems became over-



MARIAM ZUHAIB Associated Press

**SOUTHWEST** has upgraded part of its crew scheduling system, COO Andrew Watterson told senators.

whelmed during a winter storm.

"What happened over Christmas was appalling," said Sen. Tammy Duckworth (D-Ill.), joining other panel members during the hearing in telling stories of constituents affected by the cancellations.

Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas), who referred to himself as a big fan of Southwest, called the December crisis "an epic screw-up."

The carrier on Friday will begin using an upgraded version of part of its crew scheduling system, Watterson told lawmakers during

the hearing. Before the crisis, it had been evaluating whether to upgrade or replace a separate scheduling system that was developed in-house.

The airline expects to receive an independent assessment of what went wrong and suggestions for fixes next month, he said. Southwest is also upgrading its technology and has additional reviews underway.

"We will invest what's needed to execute that plan in a timely and efficient manner," Watterson told senators, including amounts above the \$1.3 bil-

lion the airline already had committed for technology spending this year.

Although executive bonuses will be reduced, separate stock awards are based on long-term performance and haven't been changed, he said.

Southwest has awarded loyalty points to affected travelers and has been reimbursing hotel, food and other expenses for passengers and providing refunds for canceled flights. The company won't provide cash in lieu of points in its loyalty program that have already been awarded, Watterson said.

He defended the company's reimbursement policy, saying it paid per diem expenses that were higher than government recommendations.

"We reimbursed tire chains, strollers, car seats, pet sitters and stuff like that," he said. "But things we didn't reimburse were like \$7,000 shopping sprees at luxury stores or chartering a private jet."

Levin and Schlangenstein write for Bloomberg.

## Yahoo to cut 1,000 jobs as it restructures ad unit

BY LUCY PAPACHRISTOU

Yahoo Inc. will eliminate about 1,000 jobs beginning this week, or roughly 12% of its employees, the first round of cuts in a larger plan to restructure its advertising tech division amid a wave of layoffs in the industry.

The company, owned by Apollo Global Management Inc., plans to reduce head count at its Yahoo for Business ad tech unit by almost 50% by the end of 2023, or more than 20% of the workforce at Yahoo, a company spokesperson said.

"These changes announced today are entirely within the context of creating a better business plan for that division going forward," Chief Executive Jim Lanzzone said Thursday.

"The company has taken many bites of the apple here in trying to make it work over

the years, but as a stand-alone company we had to take a very honest view in how we apply our resources," Lanzzone said.

Digital advertising providers have had to grapple with skittish customers who are concerned about the uncertain economic climate.

Yahoo's restructuring will create a new division called Yahoo Advertising, which will focus ad sales teams on the company's properties, including Yahoo Finance, Yahoo News and Yahoo Sports.

The company is "very profitable," Lanzzone said, adding that the job cuts were due more to the division's restructuring than troubles in the ad market. "We would've made these changes even at the peak of the market," he said.

Papachristou writes for Bloomberg.

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## OPINION

## EDITORIALS

# Keeping L.A. reform on track

Pressure from state lawmakers can help ensure the city adopts independent redistricting

**C**AN MEMBERS of the Los Angeles City Council be trusted to ignore their own political interests and hand over power to an independent redistricting commission?

Perhaps. With the cloud of scandal still hanging over City Hall and overwhelming public support for an independent commission that would draw City Council and school board district boundaries without political interference, city leaders are under pressure to put good government policy over personal agendas.

But a bill being carried by state Sen. María Elena Durazo (D-Los Angeles) is a valuable backstop if the City Council can't — or won't — fully relinquish power. Senate Bill 52 would establish an independent citizen redistricting commission for the city, modeled on L.A. County's and California's independent commissions.

Replacing L.A.'s politically tainted redistricting process was a good idea even before a recording caught then-Council President Nury Martinez, former Councilmember Gil Cedillo and current Councilmember Kevin de León scheming to draw district lines to help themselves and hurt their foes. But calls to enact truly independent redistricting have been ignored in City Hall for decades, which is why Durazo began looking at a bill to impose it shortly after the leaked audio scandal.

There is precedent for this kind of pressure. The Legislature passed a bill in 2016 requiring L.A. County to enact an independent commission — though there is legal debate over whether the state can force the same change on a charter city like L.A. that has more independence.

Durazo's bill has problematic details, such as calling for 24 commissioners, which is nearly double the number on the county and state panels. A commission of two dozen people is just too large and unwieldy. But SB 52 is a first draft, and Durazo's office said they're working on amendments and consulting redistricting experts, including UC Berkeley Law School Dean Erwin Chemerinsky, who helped draft L.A.'s last charter update in 1999.

So it was a bit premature when, last week, Council President Paul Krekorian came out in strong opposition to SB 52. His

office called it a “power grab by the state Legislature.” On Monday, the council's Ad Hoc Committee on City Governance Reform unanimously voted to have the city officially oppose the bill.

Krekorian's argument is that the City Council is already evaluating options for creating an independent redistricting commission with public participation, and Los Angeles voters “deserve to decide the terms of their own redistricting process.” That's true. A bill passed by the Legislature and signed by the governor would bypass meaningful public input and a local vote.

There is real momentum for change within Los Angeles. Community groups are organizing for major governance reform, including expanding the City Council to improve representation and giving the Ethics Commission more independence. A group of academic leaders that includes Pat Brown Institute Executive Director Raphael Sonenshein, who also helped write the 1999 charter update, is working on its own set of recommendations. There is time to develop a well-rounded reform package for the ballot in 2024.

However, despite the pledges by Krekorian and other council members, there's no guarantee the City Council will end up putting an independent redistricting charter amendment on the ballot. And even if it does, there's no guarantee that the council's proposal will be the right or best version. There are plenty of examples of city leaders writing bad or self-serving charter amendments in the name of governance reform.

Besides, the City Council shouldn't be tinkering too much with the structure and rules of a commission.

“There is a really well-established and very successful model of independent redistricting,” said Jonathan Mehta Stein, executive director of California Common Cause, which is following L.A.'s process. “If they mess with that, they're going to lose the trust of voters.”

Are we being pessimistic? Perhaps. But independent redistricting is such an overdue and important reform of L.A. city government that we'd prefer to hope for the best and prepare for the worst — and have SB 52 ready just in case.



ELISE AMENDOLA Associated Press

**GOODRX** offers deals on prescription drugs— at the cost of privacy.

## GoodRx's bad medicine

Kudos to the FTC for fining the company for sharing consumers' private data without permission.

**S**INCE 2017, GoodRx has helped millions of people find deals on prescription drugs via an app and website. But what its customers may not have known is that the Santa Monica-based health company had also been sharing information about their prescriptions and illnesses with third parties such as Google and Facebook for advertising purposes.

Last week, the Federal Trade Commission fined GoodRx \$15 million for violating customers' privacy by failing to notify them about how their data were being used. This is the first time the FTC has used a law known as the Health Breach Notification Rule, which is designed to hold accountable for data privacy protections the companies that aren't covered by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, the federal health privacy law known as HIPAA.

Good. The enforcement action is a warning to other tech firms at a time of growth in the industry. Increasingly consumers are using apps and wearable devices to monitor their health, and they should know exactly how their personal information is being used.

It's heartening that the administration is taking action to protect consumers. In his State of the Union address this week, President Biden advocated for stronger data privacy controls and other protections to rein in technology firms.

The FTC says GoodRx, whose founders

include former Facebook employees, used tracking technology and other software that captures consumer information such as the drugs for which a consumer had requested a coupon, the condition those drugs treat and personally identifiable information such as IP addresses. If a user inquired about a prescription drug for a sexual dysfunction condition, that user might have been targeted by ads for that condition on social media.

GoodRx, which claims to have saved consumers about \$45 billion in prescription drug costs since the company was founded in 2011, denies any wrongdoing. The company says it never shared medical records, that third parties were not allowed to share health data further, and that the same tracking technology is used on many websites, including some used by the U.S. government. But the company agreed to the terms of the settlement, which needs to be approved by a judge, to avoid the costs of further litigation.

Seeing ads mentioning an embarrassing medical condition in your personal social media feed may seem like a small price to pay to get a reduced price for a medication, but data privacy specialists say that it could come with serious consequences. For example, data brokers could compile a list of people with cancer that could be used by scam artists marketing a fraudulent treatment.

This action by the FTC is a step in the right direction in guarding consumer health data. For too long, consumers have unwittingly handed over sensitive health information simply by using health apps or other technology devices. This makes it clear that these tech firms must disclose their intentions when collecting consumers' health data.

## LETTERS



GINA FERRAZZI Los Angeles Times

**LAKERS FORWARD** LeBron James, seen in a game against the Clippers last month, set the NBA's all-time scoring record in Los Angeles on Wednesday.

## Great — but the greatest?

Re “LeBron sets records — but what about the Lakers?” Opinion, Feb. 8

**I** ENJOYED READING LZ Granderson's op-ed column on LeBron James becoming the National Basketball Assn.'s all-time scoring leader.

But the NBA is about winning championships, and that's why my all-time favorite NBA player is the late Bill Russell.

Russell won 11 NBA titles in 13 seasons on the Boston Celtics. He also won two college titles at the University of San Francisco and an Olympic gold medal as well.

VAUGHN HARDENBERG, Westwood

It is interesting that none of the articles about James breaking Kareem Abdul Jabbar's record mentions that for half of Abdul Jabbar's professional career, there was no three-point shot in the NBA.

So, it was easier for James to beat Abdul Jabbar's record than it was for Abdul Jabbar to accumulate the amount of points he did. It is not quite fair to say

that James has beaten the record.

Still, Abdul Jabbar was very gracious to present the ball to James after James set the record.

DAFNI BLACK  
Culver City

::

James deserves the accolades he's receiving. He also deserves praise for

being the mensch he is.

He has never forgotten where he's from, who helped him along the way and what it means to be a leader in philanthropy and a passionate citizen who responds to the inequities in our lives.

He has also learned from his past of growing up without his father present. He is there for his wife, his three children, his mother and his friends. He acknowledged

all of them after breaking the scoring record.

I hope more athletes follow in his footsteps.

BARBARA AZRIALY  
Los Angeles

::

Mad props to James of course, but maybe now he can finally relax, turn the spotlight away from himself and let it shine back onto his Lakers teammates.

Basketball is a team sport, so hopefully James will help his team jell, see all the Lakers achieve their potential as individual players and maybe win another NBA championship along the way.

ANN BOWMAN  
Santa Monica

::

The Feb. 8 front page gave more attention to James breaking the NBA scoring record than President Biden delivering the State of the Union address.

That is a sad commentary on the people of Los Angeles and their newspaper.

SAM PLATTS  
Sylmar

## A telling choice to rebut Biden

Re “State of Joe Biden: feisty,” Feb. 8

Thanks to Arkansas Gov. Sarah Huckabee Sanders and the Republican Party. They could not have chosen a better spokesperson to represent the GOP in responding to President Biden's State of the Union address.

I am a Democrat who

believes in having a strong two-party system. How could the Republicans have someone who served as former President Trump's press secretary to represent their party? Sanders is the worst person it could have selected for this (or maybe Rep. George Santos would have been worse).

Sanders' rebuttal to Biden was delusional and did not actually respond to any issue raised in the State of the Union address. If this is the best the GOP has, I would advise other Republicans to run for the door.

Republicans, you are digging yourself into a bigger hole. In that sense, Democrats thank you for your continued help in handing them the next election.

DEBRA GREEN  
Pacific Palisades

::

It never occurred to me that I could find anything on which to agree with Sanders. Then, I heard her rebuttal to the State of the Union address.

I found myself agreeing with her as she described our national problem as, “The choice is between normal or crazy.”

I was stunned to hear such a perceptive analysis come from one of the crazies.

CHARLES M. WEISENBERG  
Los Angeles

::

Sanders decided to mention Biden's age and the fact that she is the youngest governor in the country.

In the words of a former president, I would like to say this to her: “I am not going

to exploit, for political purposes, my opponent's youth and inexperience.”

LINDA COOPER  
Studio City

## Metro, take a hint from Dallas

Re “Blinded by the billboard blight,” editorial, Feb 6

In the early 1990s, American Airlines erected huge electronic signs in a freeway median just outside Dallas Fort Worth International Airport, where it has a major hub. The signs listed gate information for arriving and departing flights.

After enough collisions to finally alert the powers that be to the folly of this effort — along with a lawsuit — the signs were taken down a few years later.

Perhaps the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority needs to call airport officials in Dallas and get an earful of the problems they had before making a final decision on putting up billboard-sized digital signs around L.A.

TOM LOCKHART  
Long Beach

::

Want to get a good idea of what L.A. would look like if Metro put up digital signs all over Los Angeles? Watch “Blade Runner.”

LUIS TORRES  
Pasadena

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## OP-ED

# Voters can't see what Biden has done. What gives?

The president's polls don't match his impressive two-year record

JACKIE CALMES



POLITICAL POLLS COME AND GO, the results often unsurprising in a polarized, tribal America. Yet early this week, one poll's finding brought political nerds from the White House to Washington's watering holes up short.

More than 6 in 10 Americans, according to a Washington Post-ABC News poll published on the eve of President Biden's State of the Union address, said that the president — widely credited by historians and nonpartisan analysts for having achieved more legislatively in his first two years than any president since Lyndon B. Johnson — had accomplished “little or nothing.”

Talk about a communications crisis for the White House. Biden as a do-nothing president was of course the overwhelming sentiment of Republican respondents, 93% of them, which skewed the overall result. Yet more than 1 in 5 Democrats also dismissed the president's record to date and, ominously, so did nearly two-thirds of those in the often decisive ranks of political independents. That left just 36% of all Americans saying Biden had done “a great deal” or “good amount.”

You could almost hear the groans from the comms folks in the West Wing. Although some Americans don't like what Biden has done along with a Democratic-controlled Congress, there shouldn't be any argument that he's done a lot. Right?

Right. The Biden record: A nationwide COVID-19 vaccination program and economic relief. A \$1.2-trillion infrastructure package, the largest in many decades. A program to rebuild a domestic semiconductor chips industry. New aid to veterans exposed to toxins. The first gun safety law in three decades. A U.S.-led coalition to help counter Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Authorization for lower prescription drug prices, including insulin, for older Americans. A bipartisan law to protect democracy, by preventing efforts in Congress to overturn presidential election results.



JACQUELYN MARTIN Associated Press

**PRESIDENT BIDEN** delivers his State of the Union address Tuesday.

There's more, much more. So what gives? Why the disconnect between the reality and the perception of the Biden record? I turned to two go-to pollsters, one from each party.

Geoff Garin, a longtime pollster for Democratic candidates and progressive groups, wasn't all that surprised by the Post/ABC poll finding. “We see in our research that a lot of voters simply are not aware of what Biden has been able to accomplish,” he told me, adding, “That is what high-profile speeches like the State of the Union and, more importantly, campaigns are for.”

But in the recent midterm elections, Democrats did not run on Biden's record. Instead they emphasized — effectively, it turned out — Republicans' extremism, abortion rights and protections for democracy. They distanced themselves from the president given his low poll ratings. So although they fared better in the elections than just about anyone expected them to, they did so at the expense of promoting the Democratic agenda. To the extent Democrats did boast about the administration's first two years, “they claimed Biden's accomplishments as their own,” Garin said, “without giving Biden much of the credit.”

“The other reality,” he said, “is that voters care less about legislation being passed than about concrete results.” Biden himself acknowledged that dynamic in his State of the Union address, noting that many of the things he has achieved “are only now coming to fruition.” Thus, his latest refrain, “Let's finish the job.”

Veteran Republican pollster Bill McInturff, half of the bipartisan duo that polls for NBC News, cited two reasons for Biden's messaging problem: The distraction of other news. And tribalism.

“Three massive news stories during President Biden's term — COVID, inflation, and the Russia/Ukraine war — have crowded out the usual attention a president might receive for his actions,” McInturff wrote in an email. “That and this hyper-partisan period are major barriers in getting credit for his administration's actions.”

Americans who don't like Biden might well be disinclined to give him any credit even if they know he's gotten things done. Among the findings that McInturff passed along from an NBC News survey last month was this: A plurality of respondents, 42%, said Biden has “brought the wrong kind of change,” while 26% said he has “not really brought much change either way.” Fewer than a third, just 30%, said he has brought the right change.

Despite this backdrop, Biden delivered his nationally televised State of the Union speech Tuesday not defensively but opportunistically. He ballyhooed his achievements like a happy warrior — sharing credit with Republicans when appropriate, at other times drawing partisan contrasts with them like the candidate-in-waiting he is, and deftly parrying the knuckleheads who heckled him.

“I'll see you at the groundbreaking,” he ad-libbed to those who opposed his infrastructure spending.

Expect to see Biden at a lot of groundbreakings in his term's second half, given that it probably will double as his reelection campaign. Clearly, he has to get out of Washington a lot more if he's going to run on a record that's impressive but has yet to make an impression. (He won't be adding to that record much, that's for sure, now that the House is under Republican control and functioning as a graveyard for progressive initiatives.)

In the two days after his speech, Biden jetted to Wisconsin and Florida to spread the word about his achievements, generating local coverage about the jobs and other benefits his initiatives will bring to those swing states. (No, Democrats haven't given up on winning in Florida. Yet.)

In Baltimore recently, he crowed about plans to rebuild a 19th century tunnel essential to rail shipments, and on the Ohio-Kentucky border he took credit for what will be a new bridge over the Ohio River.

The president is flying high after good reviews for his Tuesday performance from pundits, politicians and quickie polls. He got extra points for the contrast between his can-do optimism and the vile negativity of some Republicans in the audience.

But when it comes to fixing his messaging problem, he hasn't finished the job.

@jackiecalmes



MYUNG J. CHUN Los Angeles Times

**BACKYARD HOMES**, or accessory dwelling units, are booming in cities. Duplex projects are not.

## A housing law designed to fail

California's legislation to create more duplexes has barely made a dent in the state's building crisis.

By Jason Ward

**I**N LATE 2021, the future for California housing suddenly looked bright.

After the failure of numerous bills aimed at “up-zoning” — allowing multiunit housing on residential land, the vast majority of which is restricted to single-family homes in Southern California — the state Legislature passed a new housing production bill, Senate Bill 9. The legislation allows homeowners to convert a single-family home into a duplex or split a single-family lot into two parcels, with the potential to build a duplex on each, without needing discretionary approval from local government (a streamlined approach often referred to as “by right”).

One article captured the mood of pro-housing advocates at the time: “With a stroke of his pen, Gov. Gavin Newsom has officially ended the over 100-year scourge of single-family-only zoning in California.”

And yet a year after the law took effect, the housing production pipeline resulting from SB 9 looks to be trivial. According to a recent analysis by UC Berkeley's Turner Center for Housing Innovation, SB 9's streamlined pathway to producing duplexes and split lots was used across 13 major cities a total of just 282 times by November. Only 100 of these applications were for a lot split, the mechanism enabled by the bill that holds the most promise for adding significant amounts of housing.

By comparison, nearly 20,000 accessory dwelling units — freestand-

ing homes typically built in the yards of single-family houses — were permitted across the state in 2021 alone, following the passage of substantial legislation aimed at removing barriers to this modest approach to increase housing density.

So why has the law that some were convinced would make the sky fall barely registered?

SB 9 has two requirements that dramatically reduce its scope, curbing its ability to boost housing production. The first is that the law requires property owners looking to split a lot, the most consequential part of the bill, commit to living on the property for at least three years after approval. The second is that one individual cannot invoke SB 9 to split two adjacent lots, even if they own both.

Such restrictions were added late in the process of creating this bill to assure Californians that SB 9 “benefits homeowners NOT institutional investors,” as the Senate's website puts it. But there is one major problem with these limits if the law is intended to spur housing production: It is builders, not homeowners (nor institutional investors, for that matter), who are in the business of producing housing.

SB 9's stipulation that owners live in one of the property units for three years from the time the project is approved probably dampens even homeowners' capacity to use the law, since it pushes them to either live on a construction site or pay for another place to stay during construction. More importantly, such restrictions effectively rule out any professional builder, large or small, from using SB 9 unless they want to purchase one property at a time and live on it while the lot is split and, at most, three new units of housing are created. This is an unlikely approach to making a feasible living in California.

The restrictive requirements within SB 9 are of a piece with the recent history of housing policy in our

state. Promising bills or programs that might broadly increase affordability by spurring significant construction of new homes get characterized as giveaways to greedy developers. This playbook has dramatically circumscribed what is politically possible in creating effective housing production policies across the state. Like it or not, it is primarily builders, not homeowners, who take on millions of dollars in financial risk and wade through the fraught process of producing new housing in California. And housing is what California needs a whole lot more of.

The state's Regional Housing Needs Allocation process recently challenged Los Angeles County to produce more than 800,000 new units by the end of the decade so that the region can have a future with sufficient housing for individuals and families from all socioeconomic levels. It would be all but impossible to reach 800,000 new housing units under the best circumstances. Restrictions like those in SB 9 effectively guarantee that the region will fail on this ambitious goal.

The Legislature can remove these highly consequential restrictions — or at least make them optional provisions for cities as was originally proposed. Even a turbocharged SB 9 would not solve our housing crisis, but it could make a meaningful, positive contribution.

More broadly, it is time for California to come to terms with the fact that our state cannot quickly exit its dire, decades-long housing shortage without builders — both nonprofit and for-profit — producing all the housing that state and local policy can promote.

JASON WARD is an associate economist at the nonprofit, nonpartisan Rand Corp. and associate director of the Rand Center on Housing and Homelessness in Los Angeles.

## I was shot in the California desert. Why? That's the wrong question

By Calina Ciobanu

**W**HY DO WE KEEP treating gun violence in the U.S. as a series of isolated incidents instead of an out-of-control epidemic?

Why do we seek the motive of the shooter, as if that knowledge offers protection from future acts of violence, perpetrated by other shooters?

A year and a half ago, on a morning in late summer, I was driving through the California desert, leaving a school camping trip early to make it back to Los Angeles for a cousin's wedding. It was an ordinary morning, until it wasn't.

I came upon a man weaving on foot in the middle of the empty two-lane highway. On the side of the road was another man, standing next to a white car. A red gasoline container sat on its hood.

I had no intention of stopping. I knew better.

But I slowed down to avoid hitting the man in the middle of the road, and suddenly he was in front of my car, pointing a gun at me.

I stopped. With the gun aimed at me, he walked toward me, then past me, then opened the door to the back seat on the driver's side. He hadn't even noticed the wallet I'd tried to hand him through the crack in my window.

I remember looking over my shoulder and seeing him lean into the car, rifling through the heap of camping gear in my back seat, looking confused. I don't know how many seconds passed between when he opened the door and when I hit the accelerator.

I was frozen, until I wasn't. I hit the gas, and the man stumbled back, thrown off balance. Before my car had picked up any significant speed, with the back door still wide open, I heard a pop.

I didn't realize it until much later, but I survived by the breadth of a breath. I had been leaning forward in



CHRISTOPHER REYNOLDS Los Angeles Times

**AFTER** fleeing a carjacking attempt, the writer wanted answers.

my seat. The bullet went through my backrest and hit a spring. The body of the bullet went right, and a sliver of a fragment hit me when it deflected left. I ended up with a grotesque bruise and scrape the size of a fist on my back and the lingering effects of the trauma in my body and my brain.

It's hard to make sense of both how unlucky and lucky I was, all at the same time.

Then again, the senselessness of gun violence defies logic.

In the end, the question I was left with was not why the shooter did it, but why he *could* do it. What are the larger systemic structures that leave us so unprotected, so vulnerable to the vicissitudes of a would-be-shooter's possible motives?

The truth is that even as I hold the man who perpetrated the crime against me fully responsible for his actions, trying to imagine the paths that might have led him to the middle of the desert that day was an exercise in empathy. But trying to pinpoint his motive was an exercise in futility; it brought me neither clarity nor comfort.

I know that the story is not as straightforward as the crime of attempted carjacking that he eventually pleaded guilty to. I know that the man who shot at me was a person with a felony record who shouldn't have been in possession of

a firearm. I know that the night before I came across him on the road, he pulled a gun on police, leading them in pursuit and evading arrest.

I also know that I was the predictable victim of a political system that has allowed close to 400 million guns to flood every part of our country.

The man was captured and brought into custody without incident two days after our encounter. He is in prison now, but the truth is that I don't feel any safer.

The truth is that what I feel is rage.

But my rage is not reserved for him. My rage is reserved for the courts that place greater value on an antiquated interpretation of the 2nd Amendment than they do on human lives.

My rage is reserved for the politicians who fail to pass common sense gun reforms, including universal background checks and assault weapons bans, that would make all of us safer.

In 2020, 45,222 people died from gun-related injuries in the United States. Of those, 19,384 were murders. That's nearly 53 each day, or a little over two every hour.

Why do we keep allowing this?

CALINA CIOBANU is a teacher and writer in Los Angeles.

BURT BACHARACH, 1928 - 2023

# Prolific composer defined pop music success

[Bacharach, from A1]

and Oscar winner, Bacharach died of natural causes Wednesday at home in Los Angeles with his family by his side, his publicist Tina Brausam confirmed to The Times on Thursday.

"Burt Bacharach. The very name is a synonym for pop-music success in the 1960s," wrote Leonard Feather, The Times' former jazz critic.

Composer Paul Williams said Bacharach set a high bar for songwriters like himself.

"It was complex, yet elegant — a combination that produced hit after hit. The iconic songs he wrote with lyricist Hal David and others are an indelible part of our culture."

The beneficiaries of the Bacharach-David partnership were simply staggering: Gene Pitney ("Only Love Can Break a Heart," "Twenty Four Hours From Tulsa"), Jerry Butler ("Make It Easy on Yourself"), Bobby Vinton ("Blue on Blue"), Jack Jones ("Wives and Lovers"), Tom Jones ("What's New, Pussycat?"), Dusty Springfield ("The Look of Love," "Wishin' and Hopin'"), Herb Alpert ("This Guy's in Love With You"), Jackie DeShannon ("What the World Needs Now Is Love") and B.J. Thomas ("Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head"), among others.

But Bacharach and David are most closely associated with Dionne Warwick, a talented young backup singer whom they initially enlisted to sing on their demo records.

Beginning with "Don't Make Me Over" in late 1962, Warwick scored with a slew of Bacharach-David songs, including "Walk on By," "You'll Never Get to Heaven (If You Break My Heart)," "Anyone Who Had a Heart," "I Say a Little Prayer," "Do You Know the Way to San Jose," "Alfie," "Promises, Promises," "I'll Never Fall in Love Again," "Message to Michael" and "Trains and Boats and Planes."

"We were lucky," Bacharach told the Chicago Tribune in 1987. "It was a case of all the right people in the right place at the right time. Hal and I found the perfect partnership, and Dionne was the perfect voice for our songs."

Singer and music historian Michael Feinstein told The Times in 2011 that Bacharach and David were "absolutely the greatest songwriters of their generation," standing shoulder to shoulder with the most treasured American composers.

Music historian and journalist Paul Grein said Bacharach, the winner of three Oscars and six Grammys, was "one of the greatest composers in pop music history." (Bacharach was also given the Recording Academy's 2008 Lifetime Achievement Award, the 1997 Grammys Trustees Award and was presented with the Gershwin Prize by President Obama.)

Bacharach and David "are, in some ways, the bridge between the Great American Songbook writers from the 1930s and the contemporary writers from the rock era," Grein said.

And in the 1960s, when there were two distinct markets — "music for kids and music for adults" — Bacharach and David uniquely appealed to both, Grein said.

Unlike most songwriters who are not recognized in public, Bacharach became a well-known performer and recording artist in his own right.

As a piano-playing singer, he appeared in sold-out concerts and starred in his own TV specials, including the Emmy Award-winning "Singer Presents Burt Bacharach" in 1971.

"He was not a great singer, but he was a charming performer," Feinstein said. "He knew how to put an entertaining show together. With backup singers, great orchestration, it was a great theatrical show. So he compensated for his own vocal shortcomings by creating a very entertaining, musically rich concert."

The boyishly handsome Bacharach, whose aura of glamour benefited from his 1965 marriage to



BETTMANN ARCHIVE/Getty Images

## OSCAR GOLD

Burt Bacharach, left, won an Oscar in 1970 for his "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid" score and shared another with lyricist Hal David for the film's "Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head."



MARTYN GOODACRE/Getty Images

## ANOTHER WINNING DUO

Bacharach and Elvis Costello won a Grammy for "I Still Have That Other Girl" from the 1998 album "Painted From Memory." "The Songs of Bacharach & Costello" is set for release March 3.

actress Angie Dickinson, continued to tour in concert well into his later years.

During their '60s heyday, Bacharach and David also worked in film and shared Academy Award nominations for the title songs "What's New, Pussycat?" and "Alfie" and for the song "The Look of Love" from "Casino Royale."

In 1970, Bacharach won an Oscar for his score for "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid," shared another with David for their hit song from that film, "Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head," and won a third for "Best That You Can Do" from the 1981 Dudley Moore comedy "Arthur."

The duo also worked on Broadway, writing the music and lyrics for "Promises, Promises," the long-running 1968 hit musical comedy whose book was written by Neil Simon.

In 1970, the Carpenters scored a No. 1 hit with Bacharach and David's "(They Long to Be) Close to You" and the 5th Dimension had a No. 2 hit with "One Less Bell to Answer."

But the celebrated songwriting team broke up after collaborating on the 1973 musical remake of "Lost Horizon."

After that critically drubbed box-office failure, Bacharach recalled in a 2003 Associated Press interview, "I didn't want to write with Hal or anybody. It became a problem because we had a commitment to record Dionne for her next album. I didn't feel like doing it, and that's wrong."

"Dionne didn't get recorded, and she sued us. And Hal, to protect himself, sued me. It was just ugly and stupid on my part."

The lawsuits were settled and all three later reunited. David died

at 91 in 2012.

Bacharach's post-David collaborators included lyricist Carole Bayer Sager, whom he married in 1982 after he and Dickinson divorced.

Among Bacharach and Sager's hits are the Oscar-winning "Best That You Can Do," which they co-wrote with Christopher Cross and Peter Allen for "Arthur."

The couple also wrote "That's What Friends Are For," a 1982 song for the film "Night Shift" that was introduced by Rod Stewart. A 1985 cover version of the song recorded by Warwick and "Friends" — Elton John, Gladys Knight and Stevie Wonder — benefited the American Foundation for AIDS Research and became a No. 1 hit.

"Burt Bacharach was one of the greatest songwriters of our time, a true legend," Sager said in a statement to The Times. "The origi-

nality of his rhythms, the greatness of his melodies are brilliant and unique. It was an honor for me to write the songs I did with Burt."

Bacharach and Sager, who later divorced, also wrote the 1982 single "Heartlight" with Neil Diamond, and they collaborated with Bruce Roberts on "Making Love," the title track of the 1982 film, which became a hit for Roberta Flack.

Bacharach, who by then owned a stable of racehorses, underwent a renaissance in the 1990s, a time in which the hit movie "My Best Friend's Wedding" featured a rousing rendition of "I Say a Little Prayer" in a restaurant scene.

He also teamed with singer-songwriter Elvis Costello on the 1998 album "Painted From Memory," which resulted in the duo winning the Grammy for pop collaboration with vocals for their song "I Still Have That Other Girl." A box

set, "The Songs of Bacharach & Costello," is due to be released March 3.

In "Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery" in 1997, Bacharach made the first of three cameo appearances in actor-comedian Mike Myers' 1960s spy-movie spoofs.

An only child, Burt Freeman Bacharach was born May 12, 1928, in Kansas City, Mo. His father, Bert, was a department store clothing buyer who later became a syndicated newspaper columnist; his mother, Irma, was a painter and occasional songwriter.

In 1932, the family moved to Kew Gardens in Queens, N.Y., where Burt began taking piano lessons in elementary school.

"People always think I was this child prodigy on the piano, that I just couldn't wait to sit down and practice," Bacharach said. "But you want to know the truth? I hated it. In fact, I only did it to please my mother. She was the one who encouraged me."

In high school, Bacharach and some friends formed a 10-piece band that played at parties and local dances.

After graduating from Forest Hills High School, he studied music at McGill University in Montreal. He later studied under French classical composer Darius Milhaud at the Mannes School of Music in New York.

After a stint in the Army, Bacharach played piano in nightclubs in and around New York and became an accompanist and arranger for singers such as Vic Damone, the Ames Brothers, Polly Bergen and Paula Stewart, who became his first wife in 1953.

After he turned to songwriting, Bacharach and David had their first hit together in 1957 with Marty Robbins' recording of "The Story of My Life," which was followed by a 1958 hit for Perry Como, "Magic Moments."

Before he and David began writing songs together exclusively, Bacharach teamed with other lyricists, including Bob Hilliard ("Any Day Now," "Tower of Strength") and David's brother Mack and Barney Williams ("Baby, It's You").

For a few years beginning in 1958, Bacharach also toured with legendary German-born actress and singer Marlene Dietrich as her conductor, arranger and pianist.

"We traveled the world together," he told the Times of London in 2000. "And though she could be hard on those who worked for her, she was very generous to me."

Though his songs helped form the soundtrack of a tumultuous era, Bacharach's music was largely apolitical until late in life, when his songs began touching on school shootings, the 9/11 terror attack and racial intolerance. He said as he looked backward, he realized that some of his earlier songs, including "What the World Needs Now," were likely a response to the Vietnam War.

In 2016, Bacharach wrote "Dancing With Your Shadow," a tribute to his daughter Nikki, who struggled with Asperger's syndrome and took her own life in 2007. The song was recorded by Sheryl Crow. That same year, Bacharach scored the soundtrack of the award-winning film "A Boy Called Po," the story of an overworked father trying to care for a son who has autism.

In 2018, Bacharach and Cuban musician Rudy Perez wrote and recorded "Live to See Another Day," which raised money for the Sandy Hook Promise, a nonprofit that works to protect children from gun violence. The next year, he released "Blue Umbrella," a five-song collaboration with Grammy-winning writer Daniel Tashian.

His projects with Tashian and Steven Sater earned him additional Grammy nominations in 2021 and 2022, respectively.

Bacharach is survived by his fourth wife, Jane Hansen, and their children, Oliver and Raleigh, and son Christopher from his marriage to Sager.

McLellan is a former Times staff writer.

# New York mayor's war on rats takes a personal turn

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Every New York City mayor in history has battled rats. But for the current one, Eric Adams, the war on vermin has taken a peculiar turn as he tries to burnish his image as the city's exterminator in chief.

Adams went before a hearing officer Thursday — for the second time — to contest two tickets he got from his own health department for allegedly allowing broods of rodents to take residence at his Brooklyn townhouse.

Participating via telephone, Adams contested the findings of an inspector who found rat burrows along a

fence line and "fresh rat droppings" in front of the mayor's garbage bins.

The city issued the summonses Dec. 7, a day after another hearing officer dismissed an earlier \$300 ticket for failing to control the rat population at the same property. Each of the new tickets could also carry a fine of \$300 or more.

The mayor, who often tries to convey an image of swagger during his public appearances, was subdued and respectful during the hearing.

Adams denied he has a rat problem. His own inspections of his property, he said, did not produce signs of any rodents.

Adams said he pays an exterminator monthly and spent \$7,000 a year ago to keep the property rodent-free. At one point, the mayor could be heard during the half-hour hearing searching his electronic files for receipts and other documents to make his case.

Adams, a Democrat, also assured the hearing officer his tenants were heeding city rules about how to handle garbage and recyclables. "We all don't like rats, and we're all cooperating together," Adams said.

A handful of reporters listened in as the mayor seemed to profess surprise over the most recent citations, saying some of the in-

fractions alleged were actually on his neighbor's property.

City records show that Adams has gotten at least 18 summonses over the years at his Brooklyn address, many of them related to the handling of garbage.

Many times he simply paid the fines, but not this time.

The hearing officer told Adams that she would decide within 30 days if any fines are due.

In his first year in office, Adams launched battles against guns and homelessness — and rats have also proved vexing for a mayor who is currently interviewing applicants for a new di-

rector of rodent mitigation, dubbed the "rat czar."

Before he became mayor, Adams, as the Brooklyn borough president, was known for his dislike of rats. He famously turned stomachs when he demonstrated a trap for reporters that relied on a bucket filled with a vinegary, toxic soup to drown rats.

The trap wasn't very effective, nor was every other attempt by previous mayors to vanquish the city's rat population.

Former Mayor Bill de Blasio spent tens of millions of dollars on efforts to reduce the rat population in targeted neighborhoods through more frequent

trash pickup, more aggressive housing inspections and replacing dirt basement floors with concrete.

City officials once unveiled a scheme to use dry ice to suffocate rats in their burrows but elicited guffaws when workers chased — but never caught — one of the fleeing vermin.

In November, Adams signed a slate of legislation intended to reduce the city's rat problems, including new rules limiting how long garbage can sit out on curbs.

Soon after, he began looking for a rat czar, who, according to the job description, would be "highly motivated and somewhat bloodthirsty."

# CALIFORNIA

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2023 :: LATIMES.COM/CALIFORNIA



ALLEN J. SCHABEN Los Angeles Times

**THE MOON** rises during a lunar eclipse in Joshua Tree National Park in May. Nearly half of the western Joshua tree's range is on private land that includes Palmdale, Lancaster and other rapidly growing cities.

## Legislation focuses on protecting the Joshua tree

Bill would also permit development in the species' range

BY LOUIS SAHAGÚN

Gov. Gavin Newsom's administration on Wednesday proposed the first legislation focused on protecting a climate-threatened species while also permitting development across Southern California's sunniest desert parcels.

The Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act was

prompted by the California Fish and Game Commission's inability to act on a petition filed more than three years ago seeking to list the living symbols of the California desert as threatened under the California Endangered Species Act.

"Compromise is always painful," said Brendan Cummings, conservation director of the Center for Biological Diversity and an author

of the petition. "But at the end of the day, I'll be happy if this bill passes."

The Newsom administration's intervention reflects a volatile reality: Opponents of the petition warn that listing the western Joshua tree could derail private property improvements and renewable energy projects designed to help meet California's climate change goals of shifting the

state's electricity system entirely off fossil fuels by 2045.

To hear renewable-energy industry representatives tell it, helping to eliminate greenhouse gas emissions would also help to mitigate climate change and the threat it poses to sensitive desert species such as the western Joshua tree.

"The solar and storage [See Joshua tree, B2]

## Driver's mental health in doubt in biker's death

Man accused of killing cyclist was diagnosed with schizoaffective disorder, family says.

BY SUMMER LIN, SALVADOR HERNANDEZ AND HANNAH FRY

In the years before he was accused of running down and stabbing an Orange County bicyclist in a shocking, apparently unprompted assault, Vanroy Evan Smith struggled with his mental health, according to his family and court records.

In a petition filed in Los Angeles County Superior Court in December seeking full custody of their two children, Smith's ex-wife wrote that the 39-year-old was "diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia and bipolar disorder."

A family member who spoke to The Times on condition of anonymity because of fears for their safety said the diagnosis came after an incident in 2020 that drew police to Smith's home in Long Beach. In that incident, Smith allegedly attacked a friend who was trying to subdue him during a mental health episode, according to the relative. Smith was hospitalized and released after a few days.

"He's attacking, not realizing that we're trying to help him," the relative said.

In the child custody papers, Smith's ex-wife wrote that he "destroyed property at his home in a violent men-

tal health episode."

On Dec. 19, 2020, Long Beach police officers were called at about 12:12 p.m. to Smith's home on the 6400 block of Atlantic Avenue after receiving reports of a "violent, mentally ill person," according to a summary of the call obtained by The Times.

"Upon arrival, officers contacted a male adult subject who was inside a residence causing property damage and was involved in an altercation with an acquaintance," according to the summary.

Firefighters took Smith to a hospital, where he was placed on a "5150 hold," meaning he was detained for 72 hours after he was believed to be a danger to himself or others due to a mental health disorder.

Smith is now accused of striking Dr. Michael John Mammone, 58, with his white Lexus on Feb. 1 while Mammone was riding his bicycle in Dana Point, Orange County sheriff's officials said. Smith then got out of the car and repeatedly stabbed Mammone with a knife, authorities said.

Mammone died at Providence Mission Hospital in Mission Viejo, where he sometimes worked as an emergency room physician, deputies said.

Smith was pinned down by bystanders, who had rushed to help Mammone after the attack, according to authorities. A knife believed to have been used in the assault was recovered at

[See Bicyclist, B4]

## Anti-chromers miss full picture

Not much evidence driving push to ban plating process

GUSTAVO ARELLANO



As far back as he can remember, Luis "Speedy" Rodriguez has been all about chrome.

Growing up in his native Mexico City, he confessed, "I wouldn't get on buses if they weren't *arreglados*" — tricked out.

After migrating to the United States as a teenager, Rodriguez so wanted to work at a chroming facility that he started by cleaning bathrooms and delivering parts. For free.

All these decades later, Rodriguez, now 50, is a chroming legend. His filigreed handiwork decorates hundreds of lowriders across Southern California. His cars have appeared in Audi commercials, Travis Scott music videos and promotions for Hollywood films.

Rodriguez's "retirement" is a collec- [See Arellano, B2]



LUIS SINCO Los Angeles Times

**A LOOK** under the hood of a custom Chevrolet Impala at the Long Beach shop of metal plating specialist Luis "Speedy" Rodriguez.

## Lawyer's death called suspicious

BY ALEXANDRA E. PETRI AND TERRY CASTLEMAN

The Orange County public defender who died while on vacation in a popular tourist area of Mexico last month sustained dozens of skull fractures, according to the family's lawyer.

Case Barnett, the lawyer for the family of Elliot Blair — whose mysterious death at a resort in Rosarito in January has raised questions among his loved ones — said that an independent pathologist in Los Angeles hired by the family to perform an autopsy found Blair had about 40 fractures in the back of his skull.

The pathologist did not rule on a cause of death, and the report could take five or six weeks to publish, Barnett said.

Blair and his wife, Kimberly Williams, had gone to the Las Rocas Resort and Spa in Mexico to celebrate their first wedding anniversary.

But Blair, who at 33 was forging his path as a dedicated attorney for indigent

clients, was found dead at the hotel on Jan. 14, several floors below the couple's room in his underwear, a sleeping T-shirt and socks. Mexican authorities have said his death was the result of an accidental fall, but Blair's family has insisted it was a "brutal crime."

In her first public interview on Thursday with ABC News' "Good Morning America," Williams, who is also an Orange County public defender, shared new details about the night her husband died, saying ultimately that "someone did this to him."

Williams said she and Blair were driving back to the resort from a local restaurant on the night of Jan. 13 when they were stopped by police, who claimed the couple rolled through a stop sign. The officers asked for money, she said. Blair, who was fluent in Spanish, explained that they didn't have the amount of cash police wanted. Another officer asked where the couple was staying, and Blair told authorities they

[See Lawyer, B2]



Blair family

**AN AUTOPSY** commissioned by his family found that Elliot Blair had about 40 fractures in his skull.

## Slain mom mourned; ex is held

BY LIBOR JANY

Ashley Gjurich was in the middle of a eulogy for her slain sister, Nicole Santillanes, when a small hand reached up and squeezed her shoulder.

It belonged to her 8-year-old niece — Santillanes' daughter — who had sidled up next to Gjurich when her voice began to crack with emotion.

More than 50 of Santillanes' friends and relatives gathered Tuesday for a candlelight vigil outside a South Los Angeles apartment building where police say

the nursing assistant and mother of four was stabbed to death over the weekend by her estranged boyfriend, Richard Lara.

"Everything's going to remind me of her when I'm going to take care of her kids, because I know she would do the same thing for me," Gjurich told the crowd, wiping away tears.

Many of those present held prayer candles with Santillanes' picture and shared tearful laughs over stories about the feisty and outspoken 38-year-old, who also went by "Nikki."

Tiffany Molina stopped to exchange hugs with sev-

eral women as she headed to the front of the crowd to remember her childhood friend.

Molina, who lives in Alhambra where Santillanes grew up, said she felt the need to "say something for my bestie, for my 'compa,'" whose death underscores the difficulties of dealing with domestic violence. "Get out, get help, get therapy, use your resources," Molina urged those present.

Last year, at least 17 people citywide died at the hands of a spouse or intimate partner, up from the average of roughly 14 domes- [See Vigil, B5]

### Plaintiffs settle in 2021 oil spill

Companies agree to pay \$45 million to end litigation over leak in Huntington Beach. **B3**

### Off-duty deputy is killed in crash

O.C. sheriff says Brian Haney was a six-year veteran and father to a 1-month-old son. **B3**

### Italian model sues Weinstein

Her testimony led to an L.A. jury finding fallen film producer guilty of rape. **B3**

Lottery ..... **B3**

# Anti-chromers blinded by bureaucracy

[Arellano, from B1] tion of Chevrolet Impalas from 1958 to 1964 — the best years of the iconic model — stored in a garage at his business, Speedy's Metal Finishing in Long Beach. They're plated with enough shiny material — chrome, yes, but also copper, rose gold, stainless steel, even 24-karat gold — to make diamonds seem as bright as a cardboard tube.

All around us were hundreds of chromed parts — bolts, suspension coils, A-Arms, gas tanks, tire rims — on the ground, on shelves, on tables and even offices.

"Chrome is magic," Rodriguez said as we walked around his compound. "When you see it on a car, it's inexplicable."

I agree. When I look at the grille of my 1974 Cadillac Eldorado convertible, it's like a portal to another world, one where everything is gleaming, hardworking people take care of what they own, and life is just cruising.

I visited Rodriguez with the hopes of seeing a rusty bumper transform into a shimmering beaut. But he now outsources that work to finishers in Santa Fe Springs and Fullerton. When I asked why, he laughed.

"Oh, no," Gonzalez replied. "They have to deal with everything. City. Fire department. OSHA, AQMD. Even if I had the money, I wouldn't do it. Let them deal with the headaches."

Last month, the California Air Resources Board held a public hearing to discuss the use of hexavalent chromium, a compound that gives chromed products — not just automobile parts but faucets and appliances — their alluring shine. The finished product is harmless, but the plating process, which involves dunking parts in a chemical bath, produces airborne emissions 500 times more toxic than diesel exhaust.

The air resources board has heavily regulated hexavalent chromium in California since it was identified as a toxic air contaminant in 1986. Now the board is

considering a total ban on its use by 2039. So-called decorative chrome platers like Rodriguez would have to stop by 2027, because many operate near working-class neighborhoods. Platers will have to switch to less toxic — and less shiny, and more expensive — chroming material, something Rodriguez doesn't think his peers and customers will embrace.

We stood in front of a black 1960 Impala to admire the trim that spanned the length of the car's side. One half was chromed, the other stainless steel.

Which was which? I guessed correctly — the stainless steel was slightly duller. Only a gearhead could tell the difference.

Gonzalez explained that the steel is far cheaper than chroming, but few customers ask for it. "It's always about *el bling*," he explained with a sympathetic shrug.

The board will make its final decision in May. Gonzalez was matter of fact when I asked about the possible ban. "There's been talk about it for years, so I'll believe it when I see it," he said. But the usually jovial man then turned quiet. "This is the majority of my life. ... It would be sad. There's people who've been doing this for a lot of years and — boom! — no job." He noted that customers would just ship out parts to other states, or drive down to Tijuana.

"What makes it funny," Gonzalez concluded, "is [California] wanted to make marijuana legal, and now chrome is illegal. Drugs are poison, but it's now more respectable in California to sell drugs."

Banning carcinogenic pollutants is a noble cause. But the more I read through the California Air Resources Board's 253-page report, the more I felt its authors were committing two bureaucratic sins more and more in vogue in Sacramento: Create a solution in search of a problem, and miss the forest for the trees.

Hexavalent chromium contamination is no joke. It was the pollutant in the lawsuits that made Erin

Brockovich famous. In the late 1990s, a cancer cluster sprouted in Suva Elementary and Intermediate Schools in Bell Gardens that led to a legal settlement against a nearby chromer. In 2017 and 2018, a Paramount company temporarily suspended some operations thrice after it exceeded hexavalent chromium levels set by the South Coast Air Quality Management District, a case study that the board's report cited.

I expected to find more examples like these that might justify the accelerated push against decorative chromers like Gonzalez. But when I asked the board for stats on elevated rates of cancer among Californians who live near such businesses, information officer Melanie J. Turner responded, "We are not aware of any data." Turner also forwarded a statement from the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment that admitted the same.

Both agencies emphasize the potential risks of any exposure near platers that use hexavalent chromium. But if the mere hint of danger is what's driving the ban, then the California Air Resources Board is ignoring its own findings. Decorative and industrial chromers accounted for just 0.4% of all hexavalent chromium emissions in 2020 that board staffers were able to trace. Far worse polluters are lumber manufacturers, glass producers and even the gas stoves that so many Californians use.

The biggest culprit by far? Vehicle exhaust and burning fossil fuels.

So why focus on decorative chromers, I asked Gonzalez? Or why not just relocate them far away from residents, or just require even more regulations?

"*Es pura política*," he replied, using a line — it's pure politics — the rancho libertarians in my life always use to explain away political silliness. "There's some better things we need to take care of."

State lawmakers have zeroed in on California's car

'This is the majority of my life. ... There's people who've been doing this for a lot of years and — boom! — no job.'

— LUIS 'SPEEDY' RODRIGUEZ, owner of Speedy's Metal Finishing in Long Beach

culture for years in the name of environmental justice and fighting climate change. The air resources board already voted last year to stop the sale of all new gas-powered cars by 2035. Legislators passed two laws aimed at targeting noisy cars. Los Angeles is considering banning new gas stations.

All these moves are well-intentioned. But they target a way of life whose last admirers and defenders are mostly working-class people of color — an easy sacrifice on the altar of saying you're saving the planet. The board admits as

much: It forecasts that banning hexavalent chromium in favor of more expensive alternatives will "result in a further competitive disadvantage and potential closures of chrome plating businesses" and "negative employment impacts."

But oh well! Rodriguez's workers began to stroll in as I prepared to leave. They greeted Erasmo Gonzalez, a winemaker who's been a customer for a decade. He drove in that morning from Delano to check on parts for his 1975 Chevrolet Caprice convertible.

"I think they're full of it," said the 42-year-old, who wore a Los Angeles Dodgers cap with his last name stitched on the side. "Wildfires put all sorts of bad stuff in the air. Why don't they ban those?"

Erasmo noted that air quality in Southern California has dramatically improved over the decades through cleaner fuels and better engines even as the population has increased and more vehicles are on the road than ever.

"Technology improves things," he said. "There's always a way to fix it. Don't just ban to ban."

## Aiming to protect iconic desert plant

[Joshua tree, from B1] industry is encouraged by this proposed legislation and appreciates the work of state leaders to maintain California's clean energy leadership and protect the iconic Joshua tree," said Sean Gallagher, senior vice president of policy for the Solar Energy Industries Assn.

Because the western Joshua tree is widespread on both public and private lands in urban and rural communities, the permitting process for the species "is more complex than for any species currently listed under the California Endangered Species Act," state wildlife authorities said Wednesday.

The commission in June deadlocked 2 to 2 on whether to make the protection sought by the Center for Biological Diversity permanent. On Wednesday, the commissioners voted to postpone a decision on the petition until the bill is approved or rejected by the Legislature.

The proposed legislation is based on input from stakeholders including conservationists, lawmakers, tribal leaders, property owners, renewable energy companies, labor organizations and the construction industry, officials said.

It calls for preparation of a range-wide conservation plan for the species by 2024 and would authorize the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to permit the taking of a western Joshua tree only if certain conditions were met.

For instance, permittees would be required to mitigate losses due to construction or pay mitigation fees that would be used to fund conservation projects and the administrative costs of policing development projects.

Nearly half of the western Joshua tree's range is on private land that includes the rapidly growing communities of Palmdale, Lancaster, Hesperia, Victorville and Yuca Valley.

Temporary protections offered candidates for listing normally remain in place until a final vote is taken by the commission.

The proposed legislation recognizes the importance of resolving conflicts between conservationists and developers, and the critical role renewable energy projects play in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and the negative effects of climate change, and current housing needs in California, including single-family, multi-family and mixed-use projects.

At stake is the survival of more than 1 million of the sensitive spindly trees facing a relatively distant but potentially lethal climatic scenario unfolding across their ancient domain.

Both the bill and the petition argue that California will see more frequent and intense droughts and floods because of a warming climate, as well as increasing extreme heat days, in-

creased wildfire intensity, worsening air quality and increasing electricity demand because of these same issues.

The effects, scientists say, will combine with other factors to reduce survival of western Joshua trees, which in some areas are already clinging to existence at the extremes of their ability to tolerate these environmental parameters.

Conservationists fear that without special state protections, the species could lose 90% of its range by 2100.

A year ago, however, state wildlife biologists recommended against listing the species after concluding that claims in the petition about the effects of climate change on the large yuccas were premature.

They questioned the reliability of computer models suggesting the species is in decline throughout its range. That's because, they said, while there has been a decline in the western Joshua tree population in certain portions of its historic range, in other areas the species numbers in the millions.

The bill aims to avoid leaving the plants' fate up to local jurisdictions, where many residents and policymakers believe the species scientists know as *Yucca brevifolia* is already protected in many city and county native plant ordinances, and within 800,000-acre Joshua Tree National Park.

Listing the species, they argued, would hamper job creation and restrict development on private property. Researchers for decades have warned about existential threats to the plants, which grow about 40 feet in height and live about 200 years.

In the 1930s, the soft, light wood of Joshua trees was used to manufacture furniture for the entertainment industry, including prop chairs that actors and comedians slammed one another over the head with.

Since the 1980s, hundreds of thousands of the plants have been removed to make way for renewable energy facilities or housing and shopping centers in desert boom towns such as Lancaster and Palmdale.

Now, scientists say the plants are failing to reproduce at hotter and drier lower elevations. Drought conditions, which are expected to occur with greater frequency over the coming decades, they say, will lead to higher mortality rates for mature Joshua trees.

In addition, exotic grasses feeding off nitrogen-laden smog wafting in from the Los Angeles area are leaving existing western Joshua tree woodlands vulnerable to wildfire.

In 2020, the Cima Dome fire killed as many as 1.3 million of the plants across more than 40,000 acres of California desert, including a large portion of Mojave National Preserve.

## Lawyer victim of 'brutal crime'

[Lawyer, from B1] were staying at Las Rocas and were on vacation, Williams said. He also explained the couple were both attorneys and showed the police his work badge. Eventually, they paid the officers \$160 — all the cash they had — and were let go, she said. "We were both rattled," Williams said, "but at the same time we both had this feeling of thank God they didn't do anything more to us."

Back at the resort, the couple went to the lobby bar, where they danced before going up to their room. Williams got into bed and Blair took a shower, she said, adding that she eventually fell asleep.

Williams said she was woken by a security guard and the hotel manager, who were in her room asking her if it was her "boyfriend down here." She ran toward the hotel door and saw they were pointing to the ground in an area below the resort's open-air walkways just outside their door, she said. The couple had been staying in a room on the third floor, which was 20 to 25 feet from the ground, the family's lawyer said.

"That was my Elliot down there," Williams said through tears. "I just kept yelling at them to call an ambulance. They said an ambulance came an hour ago."

In a previous interview, Barnett told The Times that a plainclothes police detective who was wearing a badge told Williams at the scene that Blair had a bullet wound in his head. Williams told ABC News on Thursday that authorities also used "accident" and "suicide" to explain Blair's death.

"It was a roller coaster," Williams said of the police explanation. "I mean, everything under the sun, except for what I think happened: Someone did this to him."

Mexican authorities attributed Blair's death to an accidental fall from the hotel's outdoor walkway. Baja California Atty. Gen. Ricardo Iván Carpio Sánchez said an autopsy by the Forensic Medical Service ruled that Blair died of a traumatic brain injury. The report did not indicate injuries consistent with a firearm or sharp weapon, Carpio said. The prosecutor's office also said a toxicology report showed Blair had a "considerable" amount of alcohol in his blood.

But on Thursday, Barnett said that an autopsy report produced in Mexico and dated Jan. 14 characterized Blair's death as an "aggravated homicide."

The family hired Dr. Rami Hashish, a biomechanical expert, to review images included in the report, which showed bruising on Blair's arms and legs, "road rash" on Blair's knees and an injury to his left toe, Barnett said.

Hashish told ABC that evidence that Blair died because of an accident appeared thin.

"There's bruising marks on the body. There's indications of [potentially] being dragged on the front of the body. There's fractures to the back of the skull," Hashish said. "Nothing really points to the fact that it was necessarily an accident."

Barnett provided copies of the autopsy report in both Spanish and English, translated by the American Translators Assn., as well as Spanish and English copies of the toxicology report, which indicated Blair had a blood alcohol level of 0.10 percent, 0.02 above California's legal driving limit. (Williams told ABC that Blair had five or six drinks, with his last beverage around 11:30 p.m., and that she had never seen Blair become so intoxicated that he couldn't "care for himself.")

A spokesperson for the Baja California attorney general's office said the autopsy conducted by Mexican officials did not determine that the death was an aggravated homicide but pointed to "expert opinions that the death was by accident."

The investigation remains open, and the attorney general's office is investigating it as an accident because it "doesn't have factors to determine it otherwise," the spokesperson said.

Los Angeles Times

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## CITY &amp; STATE



GARY CORONADO Los Angeles Times

## A LIFE REMEMBERED

Mourners at the funeral of Xiujuan Yu, who was killed in the Monterey Park mass shooting, included her husband, Wenju Liang, 66, second from left, and 19-year-old twins Weiqi Liang and Weishan Liang.

## Plaintiffs to settle in O.C. oil spill

BY HANNAH FRY  
AND LAURA J. NELSON

Companies linked to two cargo ships accused of damaging a pipeline months before it ruptured, sending crude oil gushing into the waters off Orange County, have agreed to pay \$45 million to settle lawsuits brought by business owners and residents, attorneys said Thursday.

If approved by a judge, the settlement would end the legal wrangling by those whose livelihoods were affected after 25,000 gallons of crude oil gushed into the waters off Orange County in October 2021.

Attorneys representing the plaintiffs in the class action lawsuits said Thursday that they are also finalizing non-financial terms with the companies that owned and operated the MSC Danit and Cosco Beijing container ships to prevent "similar events." The full settlement details have not been disclosed.

Capetanissa Maritime Corp., Dordellas Finance Corp. and their subsidiaries have been accused of allow-

ing their ships to drag their anchors across the sea floor during a storm in January 2021, about nine months before the oil spill.

The shipping companies have denied any wrongdoing. Attorneys representing the shipping companies could not immediately be reached for comment.

Houston-based Amplify Energy Corp., which owns the pipeline, agreed last fall to pay \$50 million to residents and business owners affected by the spill, including a Huntington Beach surf school, coastal property owners, a Seal Beach bait and tackle store, and several groups of fishing and seafood sales companies.

The combined settlements, totaling nearly \$100 million, will be distributed among three classes: one representing the fishing industry, another for coastal homeowners and a third for individuals and businesses whose livelihoods relied on the use of the ocean for tourism, said attorney Wylie Aitken.

Aitken, Lexi Hazam and Stephen Larson, the attorneys representing the plaintiffs, described the tentative

settlement agreement as a "result the Orange County coastal community and our Orange County community overall can be proud of."

"It sends a clear message to large corporations operating off the coast of California that they will be held responsible for their negligence," they said in a statement.

Amplify is squaring off in federal court against the shipping firms over responsibility for the spill, accusing them of improperly allowing their ships to stay in San Pedro Bay during a bad winter storm in January 2021.

Amid 60-mph winds and 17-foot waves, the MSC Danit and Cosco Beijing dragged their anchors "into areas where federal law prohibits anchoring," including across the pipeline, Amplify's lawyers said in their 2022 complaint against the shipping companies. Underwater footage showed parts of the pipeline displaced by more than 100 feet.

The U.S. Coast Guard has said that the displaced pipeline could have been more vulnerable to damage and to environmental stressors.

Amplify has alleged that the shipping companies failed to notify authorities after the damage occurred. The firm is seeking punitive damages, as well as reimbursement for legal fees, the costs of repairing and replacing the ruptured portions of the pipeline, and revenue lost while the pipeline was offline.

Last year, Amplify agreed to plead no contest to state environmental charges and pay \$4.9 million in fines and penalties in the aftermath of the spill. About \$3.45 million was earmarked for the state and the rest for the county.

Under the agreement with prosecutors, Amplify was placed on a yearlong probation and was required to install a new leak detection system in the pipeline. The company was also mandated to train employees to immediately notify regulators of potential spills and conduct other operational safety measures.

Amplify and its subsidiaries also agreed to plead guilty to federal environmental charges and pay nearly \$13 million in connection with the oil spill.

Despite hours of signals that their 17.3-mile oil pipeline may have been leaking, the companies continued to negligently pump crude into the waters off Huntington Beach, according to county and state prosecutors.

## 'Our hearts break': O.C. deputy killed in off-duty crash

BY SALVADOR  
HERNANDEZ

An off-duty Orange County sheriff's deputy died early Thursday in what authorities said was a single-vehicle crash in Lake Elsinore as he headed home at the end of a shift.

Officials identified the deputy as a six-year veteran of the department and a new father to a 1-month-old.

"Our hearts break with the news of the death of our fallen brother, Deputy Brian Haney," Orange County Sheriff Don Barnes said in a statement Thursday. "On behalf of the entire family at the Orange County Sheriff's Department, our thoughts and prayers are with his family and his friends."

Haney's body was escorted by colleagues from the crash site to the Riverside County coroner's office, said Sgt. Mike Woodroof of the Orange County Sheriff's Department.

The crash was reported at 5:14 a.m. in the 25000 block of Railroad Canyon Road in Lake Elsinore.

No other vehicles were involved in the crash, and the deputy was the only occupant of the car, according to a statement released by the Riverside County Sheriff's Department.

In a statement, Orange County Supervisor Katrina Foley said Haney was most recently assigned as a patrol deputy in San Juan Capistrano.

"Today, Orange County Deputy Brian Haney tragically lost his life on his way home from a shift of keeping San Juan Capistrano families safe," the statement read.

"I'm grateful for his service, and my heart goes out to Deputy Haney's loved ones. His young family will need our strong community support through the grief."

Haney is survived by his wife, Leslee, and 1-month-old son, Cole, Barnes said.

"I'm both shocked and deeply saddened to learn of the loss of one of our finest, Deputy Brian Haney this morning," San Juan Capistrano Mayor Howard Hart said in a Facebook post. "I am especially devastated to learn that he leaves behind a loving wife and a newborn baby to whom he was returning home after protecting and serving our community."

Details on how the crash occurred are under investigation, a department spokesperson said.

Images from a KTTV-TV Channel 11 journalist showed a vehicle that appeared to have crashed into a palm tree in the center median. A line of deputies stood at attention on the road as the deputy's body was placed on a stretcher and draped with a U.S. flag.

Haney joined the department on Aug. 19, 2016, and began working at Theo Lacy jail, Barnes said. The deputy then joined San Juan Capistrano Police Services, as the contract service with the Sheriff's Department is known.

"His brothers and sisters in our department described him as a quick learner, hard worker, and a team player," Barnes said. "He was known for his infectious smile, humorous and timely wit, and love for his peers."

Haney was also a member of the department's Critical Incident Response Team.

## Italian model files civil lawsuit against Weinstein

BY CHRISTIAN MARTINEZ

An Italian model whose testimony led to a Los Angeles jury in December finding Harvey Weinstein guilty of rape has filed a civil suit against the fallen film producer.

The woman, identified as Jane Doe 1, is suing Weinstein for sexual battery, intentional infliction of emotional distress and other unnamed parties for negligence, according to a complaint filed in L.A. County Superior Court on Thursday. In the complaint, the victim's attorneys wrote that "had said [unnamed parties] fulfilled their duties and responsibilities, plaintiff would not have been assaulted or raped."

"Harvey Weinstein has been convicted of raping Jane Doe 1. Her lawsuit seeks to recover compensation from him for the horrific rape she endured and all of the issues she has suffered through for the past 10 years because of that rape," attorney Dave Ring said in a statement. "We look forward to having Weinstein finally testify under oath in this case."

Weinstein "has always denied the allegations" and "maintained that he was never together with her in [the] Mr. C hotel," Juda Engel-mayer, Weinstein's spokesman, said in a statement to The Times.

Engelmayer alleged that "certain witnesses lied about crucial evidence that could have exonerated Mr. Weinstein ..."

After his conviction, Weinstein filed a motion asking for a new trial.

According to the suit, Weinstein, 70, assaulted the woman at the Mr. C Beverly Hills hotel after a film festival in 2013. The woman met

Weinstein at an event but returned to her room alone. Weinstein showed up at the hotel "unannounced" and called her from the front desk or lobby and demanded that she tell him her room number, which she declined to do.

Weinstein still appeared at her door and "bullied his way into the room," where the woman was assaulted.

"He grabbed me by the hair and forced me to do something I did not want to do," she told The Times in 2017. "He then dragged me to the bathroom and forcibly raped me."

The woman reported the assault to the Los Angeles Police Department in 2017 amid the start of the #MeToo movement.

After a trial that spanned weeks, Weinstein was convicted of forcible rape, forcible oral copulation and sexual penetration by a foreign object in connection with the incident.

"Harvey Weinstein forever destroyed a part of me that night. I will never get that back," the woman said in a statement after the conviction.

"But I knew I had to see this through to the end ... I hope Weinstein never sees the outside of a prison cell during his lifetime."

However, the jury, which deliberated for more than nine days, acquitted Weinstein or could not reach a verdict on charges of rape and assault of three other women.

Weinstein is serving a 23-year prison sentence for his 2020 conviction for rape and sexual assault in New York. He faces a 24-year sentence in connection with the Los Angeles County conviction, pending the request of a new trial. It cannot be served until his New York sentence is completed in full.

## Man held in 1981 killings of two

BY NOAH GOLDBERG

An Oxnard man was arrested and charged this week in connection with two 1981 "cold case" homicides in which he is accused of strangling the young women, including one who was raped, Ventura County prosecutors said.

Tony Garcia, a 68-year-old Navy veteran and karate teacher, was taken into custody Tuesday by authorities and charged with two counts of murder, as well as an enhancement for alleged rape, according to Ventura County Dist. Atty. Erik Nasarenko.

"This suspect has been hiding in plain site for more than 40 years," Ventura County Sheriff Jim Fryhoff said at a Thursday news conference announcing the charges.

The arrest is the culmination of a decades-long inves-

tigation into the deaths of Rachel Zendejas, who was 20 when she was killed on Jan. 17, 1981, and Lisa Gondek, 21, who was killed in December of the same year.

Zendejas, a mother of two, was killed after a night out in Camarillo. She had hired babysitters that evening to take care of her young daughters, authorities said. The single mother, who was taking industrial art classes at Oxnard Community College, drove the babysitters home and was accosted while returning to her car, investigators believe.

Her body was found the next morning by a pair of delivery boys, who called police. Zendejas' cause of death was strangulation, and the medical examiner also found that she had been sexually assaulted, Fryhoff said.

On Dec. 12 of the same year, just 10 miles away, Lisa

Gondek was dropped off at her apartment in Oxnard around 1:30 a.m. after a night out with friends, Police Chief Jason Benitez said.

An hour and a half later, a neighbor called police alerting them to a fire coming from her apartment. Firefighters found her body in the bathtub, and her cause of death was determined to be strangulation, according to Benitez.

Despite the similar nature of the homicides, the cases were not connected until 2004, when forensic investigators found a link between the suspect DNA profile in the two cases. But both cases went cold again.

It took another 19 years before investigators were able to pin down Garcia as a suspect in the murders using "genetic genealogy," which is the creation of family history profiles using DNA and traditional genealogical methods.

## Mother of 4 killed in Lake Balboa crash

BY ALEXANDRA E. PETRI

A mother of four on her way to work early Wednesday was killed in a Lake Balboa car crash that sent debris flying dozens of feet and left two vehicles mangled at the scene, a friend of the woman confirmed.

Kathy Chavez, 45, was heading to the Castaic post office, where she worked as a clerk, when her car was hit by a driver in a Chevrolet Corvette who police said was speeding and was believed to have run a red light.

The crash happened around 3:46 a.m. at Balboa

and Victory boulevards, according to the Los Angeles Police Department.

Chavez was pronounced dead at the scene. The Corvette driver, who has not been identified, later died at a hospital.

A passenger in the Corvette was hospitalized in critical condition. Both had been trapped in the wreckage, the Los Angeles Fire Department said.

Michelle Matsuo said she met Chavez through church when they were both 15. Chavez grew up in Reseda after her family emigrated from Peru when she was young. Matsuo described

Chavez as a single mother who was a go-getter and full of smiles, and who worked tirelessly to provide for her children.

"She was just a beautiful, loving and caring mother, friend, daughter," said Matsuo. "She was so hardworking, she was so self-determined."

Chavez leaves behind four children, ages 11 to 26.

Chavez lived in Bakersfield and commuted to work, but sometimes stayed at her mother's house in Reseda, Matsuo said.

The LAPD's Valley Traffic Division is investigating the crash.

### Lottery results

**Tonight's Mega Millions**  
Estimated jackpot: \$50 million  
Sales close at 7:45 p.m.

For Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2023

**SuperLotto Plus**  
Mega number is bold

16-21-34-39-40—Mega 9  
Jackpot: \$31 million

Winners per category:	No. of winners	Amount of prize(s)
5 + Mega	0	—
5	1	\$42,421
4 + Mega	16	\$1,325
4	365	\$96
3 + Mega	590	\$53
3	14,408	\$10
2 + Mega	8,323	\$10
1 + Mega	41,001	\$1
Mega only	65,326	\$1

**Powerball**  
Mega number is bold

52-58-59-64-66—Powerball 9  
Jackpot: \$20 million

California winners per category:	No. of winners	Amount of prize(s)
5 + P-ball	0	—
5	0	—
4 + P-ball	0	—
4	24	\$472
3 + P-ball	87	\$135
3	1,518	\$8
2 + P-ball	1,340	\$9
1 + P-ball	10,211	\$5
P-ball only	31,142	\$3

Winning jackpot ticket(s) sold in other states: None

For Thursday, Feb. 9, 2023

**Fantasy Five:** 9-18-30-35-37

**Daily Four:** 0-6-3-1

**Daily Three (evening):** 1-2-7

**Daily Three (morning):** 2-2-7

**Daily Derby:**

(12) Lucky Charms

(6) Whirl Win

(9) Winning Spirit

Race time: 1:43.69

**Results on the internet:**

www.latimes.com/lottery

**General information:**

(800) 568-8379

(Results not available at this number)

# Driver's mental state deteriorated before O.C. cyclist's death, family says

[Bicyclist, from B1] the scene.

Investigators are not aware of a connection between Smith and Mammone and are trying to determine what prompted the assault.

"An innocent man is dead because he took a bike ride to enjoy a beautiful California day along the beach and he was hit with a car and stabbed to death by someone he apparently never met," Orange County Dist. Atty. Todd Spitzer said in a news release last week. "The murder of a complete stranger in broad daylight for what appears to be absolutely no reason is the stuff of nightmares."

Smith pleaded not guilty Feb. 3 to a murder charge and a sentencing enhancement alleging personal use of a deadly weapon, according to Orange County Superior Court records. Smith, who is listed as unemployed in jail records, is being held on \$1-million bail.

If convicted, Smith faces a maximum sentence of 25 years to life in prison.

Smith was born and raised in Jamaica and moved to the U.S. around 2008 after getting married, the family member said. After his divorce in 2012, he stayed in the Long Beach area to help look after his children. Smith had his own

accounting business and lived alone.

Alexander Solhi, whose law firm is in the same building as Smith's accounting business, said Smith did his firm's bookkeeping for at least two years. Smith attended two of the firm's Christmas parties and would occasionally go out to dinner with Solhi, he said.

"He was a very polite, nice guy," Solhi said. "He didn't seem like a violent guy whatsoever. There were no dangerous propensities that would stick out. That's why I was pretty shocked to see it was him doing that. Definitely completely out of character."

By late 2019 and early 2020, Solhi said, Smith appeared increasingly strained.

"He looked very stressed and not comfortable in his own skin," Solhi said. "I couldn't differentiate if it was work-related. He had two children, but it seemed like it was very peaceful between him and his ex-wife."

Solhi last saw Smith about a year ago, when Smith told him that he was vacating the building and intended to work from home.

Smith's family member who spoke to The Times said they hadn't seen him since around Thanksgiving. Two days before Mammone's

killing, the family member said, they reached out to Smith by text to check in.

"I said, 'Is there anything we can do? We want to help you,'" the relative said. "He was very calm and said, 'No, I'm OK. I'll let you guys know if I need help.' That was it."

The family is devastated about what happened. "The person who he was is gone," Smith's family member said. "There's no coming back from this situation."

Friends and family of Mammone, meanwhile, have struggled with the loss.

Dr. William Dodge became close friends with Mammone while the two worked in the emergency de-

partment at Providence Mission Hospital in Laguna Beach. Mammone covered the night shifts and earned a reputation as a level-headed, thorough and kind doctor.

"He had the reputation of being a nice guy, a cool guy who would bend over backwards for his patients," Dodge said.

"The entire Mission Hospital family is grieving over the loss of an incredible physician and friend," representatives for the hospital wrote in a statement last week. "We will honor Dr. Mammone's dedication to our community and passion for medicine."

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**LEGAL NOTICES**  
**1300**

### ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLIC REVIEW AND PUBLIC HEARING

The Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACL) is proposing to make significant changes to the Section 8 Administrative Plan and Fiscal Year 2023 Agency Plan in compliance with the Housing Reform Act of 1998. The proposed Section 8 Administrative Plan changes will be available for public review and comment beginning **February 10, 2023 - through March 28, 2023**. The proposed Plan can be reviewed at HACL's website at <http://www.hacla.org/About-Us/Public-Documents>, and at the Section 8 satellite offices in Torrance and Van Nuys, and

### Legal Notices

also at:  
Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles - Central Office  
2600 Wilshire Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90057  
Please note that comments received after the Public Hearing will not be considered. Please address any written communications to:  
Section 8 Administration  
2600 Wilshire Blvd., 3rd floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90057  
The Public Hearing for the proposed amendment to the Section 8 Administrative Plan and 2023 Draft Agency Plan will be held:  
March 28, 2023  
At 9:00 a.m.  
Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles - Board of Commissioners Room  
2600 Wilshire Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90057  
Should increases in COVID-19 cases or local regulation prohibit an in-person meeting, the meeting will be held virtually via Zoom. If needed, Zoom call-in information will be available at [www.hacla.org](http://www.hacla.org) one week prior to the meeting.  
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### Legal Notices

**SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)**  
CASE NUMBER (Número del Caso): **21CHLC34530**  
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): JUM Y JUNG,  
YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.  
**NOTICE:** You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.  
There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site ([www.lawhelpcalifornia.org](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. **NOTE:** The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.  
**¡AVISO!** Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.  
**Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO** después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California ([www.sucorte.ca.gov](http://www.sucorte.ca.gov)), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.  
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The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, 9425 PENFIELD AVENUE, CHATSWORTH, CA 91311  
The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): CLAUDIA GAVRILESCU, ESQ. (CA BAR NO.: 333030), REESE LAW GROUP, 3168 Lionshead Avenue, Carlsbad, CA 92010; 760/842-5850 (file No. 565587)  
DATE (Fecha): 09/24/2021  
SHERRI R. CARTER EXECUTIVE OFFICER / CLERK OF COURT, Clerk (Secretario), by L.RAMIREZ, Deputy (Adjunto) (SEAL)  
1/27, 2/3, 2/10, 2/17/23 **CNS-3663683#**

### Legal Notices

**SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)**  
CASE NUMBER (Número del Caso): **21STCV08577**  
**NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):** LESLIE HERRERA, individually and dba MADISON TENANTS UNION; GUILLERMO GARCIA, individually and dba MADISON TENANTS UNION; ANA MARIA GARCIA, individually and dba MADISON TENANTS UNION; REINA P. ESTRADA, individually and dba MADISON TENANTS UNION; MARIA PONCE DE LEON individually and dba MADISON TENANTS UNION; TONY RAMIREZ, individually and dba LOS ANGELES TENANTS UNION; MARIA LUISA XOCOY, individually and dba LOS ANGELES TENANTS UNION, and DOES 1 through 100, inclusive  
**YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):** Aaron Marzwell, an individual  
**NOTICE:** You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.  
There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site ([www.lawhelpcalifornia.org](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. **NOTE:** The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.  
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Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services ([www.lawhelpcalifornia.org](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California ([www.sucorte.ca.gov](http://www.sucorte.ca.gov)) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. **AVISO:** Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desear el caso.  
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The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): DANIEL L. GOODKIN (SBN 131347), 1800 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 675 Los Angeles, CA 90067 (310) 552-3322  
DATE (Fecha): 03/04/2021  
Sherri R. Carter Clerk (Secretario) N. Alvarez Deputy (Adjunto)

### Legal Notices

**SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)**  
CASE NUMBER (Número del Caso): **19STCV46481**  
**NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):** Yu Cao  
**YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):** Remedios Meraz  
**NOTICE:** You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.  
There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site ([www.lawhelpcalifornia.org](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. **NOTE:** The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.  
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The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles 312 North Spring Street Los Angeles, CA 90012  
The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): Carpenter & Zuckerman 8827 West Olympic Blvd. Beverly Hills, CA 90012 310-273-1230  
DATE (Fecha) December 27, 2019  
David W. Slayton Clerk (Secretario) M. Valenzuela Deputy (Adjunto)

### Legal Notices

**SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)**  
CASE NUMBER (Número del Caso): **BD630484**  
**NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):** Robert K. Ralls, Jr.  
**YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):** Rowena G. Farinas  
**NOTICE:** You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.  
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DATE (Fecha) 03/04/2021  
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### Legal Notices

**SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)**  
CASE NUMBER (Número del Caso): **21STCV08577**  
**NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):** LESLIE HERRERA, individually and dba MADISON TENANTS UNION; GUILLERMO GARCIA, individually and dba MADISON TENANTS UNION; ANA MARIA GARCIA, individually and dba MADISON TENANTS UNION; REINA P. ESTRADA, individually and dba MADISON TENANTS UNION; MARIA PONCE DE LEON individually and dba MADISON TENANTS UNION; TONY RAMIREZ, individually and dba LOS ANGELES TENANTS UNION; MARIA LUISA XOCOY, individually and dba LOS ANGELES TENANTS UNION, and DOES 1 through 100, inclusive  
**YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):** Aaron Marzwell, an individual  
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DATE (Fecha) December 27, 2019  
David W. Slayton Clerk (Secretario) M. Valenzuela Deputy (Adjunto)

### Legal Notices

**SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)**  
CASE NUMBER (Número del Caso): **19STCV46481**  
**NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):** Yu Cao  
**YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):** Remedios Meraz  
**NOTICE:** You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.  
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DATE (Fecha) December 27, 2019  
David W. Slayton Clerk (Secretario) M. Valenzuela Deputy (Adjunto)

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**L.A. Times Real Estate Classified**  
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To advertise, call (800) 234-4444  
**Los Angeles Times**

### Rentals San Fernando/Antelope Valley

**HUD SUBSIDIZED HOUSING: FICKETT TOWERS STUDIO & 1 BEDROOM & HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE APARTMENTS**  
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You may also mail in, or email, all completed and signed documents by Feb 28.

### Legal Notices

**SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)**  
CASE NUMBER (Número del Caso): **BD630484**  
**NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):** Robert K. Ralls, Jr.  
**YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):** Rowena G. Farinas  
**NOTICE:** You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.  
There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site ([www.lawhelpcalifornia.org](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. **NOTE:** The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.  
**¡AVISO!** Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.  
<

# Mother fatally stabbed at home with kids; cops arrest ex

[Vigil, from B1]

tic homicides annually from the previous 10 years, Det. Marie Sadanaga, of the LAPD's domestic violence, unit said in an email. That number peaked in 2021, when the city had 22 such killings.

Oralia Alcorta, a longtime friend of the family, said the underlying tragedy of Santillanes' death is that her "kids are going to have their mom gone and their dad incarcerated."

The couple had three daughters, ages 7, 8 and 13. Santillanes also has a 20-year-old son from an earlier relationship. The girls were in the apartment the night Santillanes was killed and tried to intervene when their father began stabbing their mother, Alcorta said in a phone interview before the vigil. The oldest daughter was cut while defending her mother, Alcorta said.

Alcorta said she was especially worried about the younger two girls, for whom the reality of their mother

being gone hadn't sunk in.

"Later on tonight, they'll sit down and think about it," she said. "That's when it's gonna hit them."

Police and relatives say Lara, 38, confronted Santillanes at a liquor store Saturday night. Their argument continued back at their apartment in the 9800 block of South Broadway. At some point, Lara grabbed a knife and plunged it into Santillanes' face and torso in front of the couple's daughters, family members said.

One daughter called a relative, who instructed her to call 911. Santillanes was pronounced dead at the scene.

Over the next few days, South Bureau homicide detectives worked to track Lara's whereabouts through social media posts and surveillance footage. They arrested him Tuesday on suspicion of murder. His bond was set at \$2 million.

The arrest came as a relief for members of the Santillanes family, who said they

worried Lara might try to abduct his children, after he continued monitoring his daughter's Instagram stories.

At Tuesday's vigil, Alcorta watched Santillanes' two youngest daughters darting through the crowd of mourners. Her brow was knitted in concern. She said the girls seemed fine at the moment, but they had broken down in tears earlier in the day after seeing a photo of their mother.

Santillanes, she said, had been trying to leave Lara for several months, with the support of her friends.

In an earlier interview with The Times, she described Santillanes as a "survivor" who overcame a traumatic childhood in which she dealt with the death of her father and occasional brushes with the justice system. Although most people knew her as "selfless" and "sensitive," she had a toughness about her that would surface when needed, Alcorta said.

So her friends were surprised that Santillanes had remained in an increasingly toxic relationship, Alcorta said. Santillanes confided that the couple's arguments sometimes turned physical, Alcorta said. Looking back, she said, it showed the difficulty that some women have in extricating themselves from cycles of abuse.

Santillanes' children were struggling to process what happened, she said, adding that the youngest two girls sometimes acted as though they expected their mother to come back.

"Nobody really knows exactly how they feel, because one minute they're OK, the next minute one of them is sitting on the couch looking like she's just stuck in her thought," she said. "They're just trying to deal with it, just minute by minute."

Santillanes, she said, had always put her children first. She had supported the family for the past few years by working as a certified nursing assistant and she was

considering going back to school to become a registered nurse — which she saw as her ticket to financial freedom.

The job fit her caring nature, Alcorta said: "She did have a good heart, she was a sensitive person, she was selfless" and often left "everlasting impressions even on strangers."

Virginia Molina chuckled to herself as she recalled how Santillanes' independent streak sometimes tested her patience. But, she would remind herself that Santillanes "had it tough," said Molina, whose daughter had known Santillanes since Tiffany was 12. Santillanes "had to grow up real fast, and she pulled herself up."

Tiffany Molina said Santillanes took a job at a care facility where she could set her own hours so she could spend more time at home with her kids. Her patients loved her, too, she said.

"This is a horrible time. It's horrible that we knew she [was] in that situation

and we tried to help her, and she was trying to get out of it," she said, lamenting "how hard she worked to get the life that she wanted and how someone that supposedly loved her took that away from her."

Monique Alvarado, who befriended Santillanes in elementary school, said her childhood friend "was actively trying to get away from the relationship."

"Nikki was a fighter, she was just a really amazing individual who had an amazing tenacity for life," said Alvarado, a project manager with Los Angeles Mission, a homeless shelter.

Alvarado stopped by the vigil Tuesday, where heads nodded as Santillanes' oldest daughter said she was "just glad now [her mother is] in a happy place, where she's safe."

Alvarado also worried about the possibility of Santillanes' children being forced into foster care — something she said Santillanes had struggled to avoid.

## OBITUARY NOTICES

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### Los Angeles Times



**ANVICK, Lenore**

July 20, 1930 - January 24, 2023

Gladys Lenore Anvick left this world on January 24, 2023 knowing that she was surrounded by her loving family in her home in Arcata, California. Lenore was a woman of exceptional grace, style, and character.

Born to Harry and Gladys Riegel in Shamokin, PA, Lenore enjoyed growing up with her brother, Harry, and her cousins. The family moved to Ontario, California where she attended Chaffey High School. Upon graduation, she enrolled at UCLA where she would become president of Alpha Delta Pi sorority and forge friendships that would last a lifetime. After graduating with a Bachelor's degree in Fashion Design, she married her high school sweetheart, Robert Wattenbarger, and together, they had two very blessed children, Don and Jan, who grew up on the Palos Verdes Peninsula.

An artist in her own right, Lenore later worked as a middle-school art teacher. When the children reached adulthood, she and Robert amicably divorced, and Lenore began an exciting new passage in her life when she met and married Theodore E. Anvick, a renowned structural engineer, in 1979 at the Wayfarers Chapel on the Palos Verdes Peninsula.

Soon after Lenore and Ted married, they made the decision to relocate to Ted's family property in Humboldt County on Anvick Road in Arcata to be near his family. Lenore's children soon followed suit and joined them in Arcata to work for Ted's structural engineering firm, Anvick Engineering.

Lenore's kind heart and benevolent spirit will be remembered by many. She exemplified what it means to live a Christian life and touched all whom she met with her heartfelt generosity and thoughtfulness. Family, friends, and strangers, who quickly became friends, all basked in the warm light of her kindness. We are forever honored and grateful to have been a part of her life and she will be missed every day.

Preceding her in death were her loving husband, Ted; her parents Gladys and Harry Riegel; her brother Harry; her sisters-in-law Irma Riegel and Grace Greenwood.

Lenore is survived by her loving children, Donald Wattenbarger (Lina Carro) and Janet Ware (Robert); her five loving stepchildren; her 7 loving grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; her brother-in-law, William Greenwood (Marty Carlson); her former husband, Robert Wattenbarger, and a large community of friends. She was laid to rest at Oceanview Cemetery in Eureka on February 3, 2023.

#### DON, Lucinda L

October 23, 1934 - January 26, 2023  
Lucinda Low Don, 88, of South Pasadena, passed away peacefully on January 26, 2023.

"Lucy" is survived by her three children, Stephen K. Don, DDS (Meredith), Debra M. Don, MD and Karen M. Don, MD and her granddaughters, Stephanie Don and Madison Don. She is preceded in death by her beloved husband of 65 years, Richard Shing Don. Lucy was the founding partner of Don and Johnson Realty in Monterey Park.

Her children were so very proud she was their mom. Lucy's infectious smile and personality will live on in everyone who knew her.

Services will be held Friday, February 17, 2023, 9:00 am in Memorial Chapel at Rose Hills Memorial Park, Whittier. Tributes in Lucinda's honor may be directed to Orange Coast Medical Center Foundation in Fountain Valley, CA ([www.memorialcare.org/giveoc](https://www.memorialcare.org/giveoc))

#### GLAUB, Edith

Mount Sinai Memorial Parks  
Hollywood Hills 800-600-0076  
[www.mountsinainaparks.org](https://www.mountsinainaparks.org)

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1-800-234-4444

Los Angeles Times

#### OTSUKI, Hideo

Hideo was born in Puente, CA and raised on a farm in Norwalk, CA. Hideo who was predeceased by his parents (Midori and Mon), his 3 sisters (Michiko, Hideko and Fumiko) and 3 brothers (Michio, Isami and Isawo) and is survived by 13 nieces and nephews, 15 grand nieces and nephews and 7 great grand nieces and nephews with one on the way.

Hideo and his family were interned during WWII in Jerome then Rohwer, AK. Hideo left the camp and found work in Chicago, IL. While in Chicago, he was drafted into the US Army's Military Intelligence Service Unit. After WWII, he worked for North American Rockwell (Boeing) on the Space Station and Space Shuttle programs. Hideo and his brothers built a house in Long Beach, CA and it is there where he lived the rest of his 100 year old life. After retirement, he enjoyed watching the news and tending to his fruit trees. He was affectionately known as "The Persimmon Man". Hideo was a lifetime bachelor who passed away peacefully at his residence on January 14.

[www.fukui-mortuary.com](https://www.fukui-mortuary.com)

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Los Angeles Times



**ROQUE, Carrie Lingle**

January 28, 1966 - February 2, 2023

Born to Iowa Sports HOF basketball coach John Lingle and artist Diane Rozanski, Carrie Ann Lingle was born on January 28, 1966, in Clinton, Iowa, the first of three daughters the Lingles would raise, along with Jennifer and Stacy. Fifty-seven years later, on February 2, 2023, Carrie Lingle Roque passed away surrounded by her family at 10:30 am, from Metastatic Breast Cancer, in San Pedro, California. Carrie's legacy is carried on by her three daughters, Siena, Carina, and husband Eddie Roque.

She excelled for 31 years as a teacher, eight at Cathedral Chapel School, and 23 years in the Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District. Carrie is most beloved for building classrooms that she would call her, and the student's, second family. Multiple memorial services are planned for Los Angeles (March) and Clinton (September). Notices will be sent via Facebook and text messaging.

Place an Obituary Online go to [latimes.com/placeobituary](https://latimes.com/placeobituary)

#### ROSENBERG, Ruth

March 30, 1919 - February 1, 2023

Ruth passed away peacefully in her sleep just shy of her 104th birthday. She was the wife of Jack (deceased), the mother of Ilene Nathan (Jeff), Steven Ross (deceased), and the grandmother of Gregory Nathan (Michelle), Jon Nathan, Jennifer Hopkins, and Hilary Ross (Josh). Great-grandmother of Dustin and Chloe Hopkins and Jonah and Spencer Nathan. Ruth led an amazing life first in Atlantic City, NJ with her husband as hotel owners and operators and later retired to Florida. She was greatly loved and will be missed terribly by her family and phenomenal caregivers, Divinia Torralba, Niezel Boot and Dina Vergara. Burial will be in Florida and a memorial service will take place at a later date.

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1-800-234-4444

Los Angeles Times



**SINGER, Julian**

May 26, 1927 - February 8, 2023

Dr. Julian Singer, D.D.S., amazing man, beloved father and husband, and eternal Cal Bears alumnus and fan, passed away on February 8, 2023. He was 95 years old, jogging three times a week, playing golf twice a week, and even doing consulting work until just before he died.

Julian was born in Los Angeles in 1927 and lived most of his long and active life there, except for precious time in the 1950's at Cal in the Bay Area, where he met his wife of 53 years, Corinne, who passed away in 2007.

Dr. Singer was a popular orthodontist in Westwood Village for nearly 50 years and continued working in his field, even at 95 years old. He was an educator for decades at USC and UCLA, and returned to school at age 70 to earn a Masters Degree in Public Health from UCLA in 1998.

He leaves behind three adoring children, Alan 67, Michael 64, and Marti 62, as well as his loving daughter-in-law Sabina Wyss (married to Michael) and long-time companion Lois Abramson.

Services will be held Monday, February 13 at Hillside Memorial Park in Culver City, California at 2:00 pm.

#### STEINBERG, Molly K.

Mount Sinai Memorial Parks  
Hollywood Hills 800-600-0076  
[www.mountsinainaparks.org](https://www.mountsinainaparks.org)

#### Xenophon Constantine Colazas

October 8, 1931 - January 22, 2023

It is with deep sadness, we announce the passing of a great and inspirational man, Xenophon Constantine Colazas. He passed away peacefully at home at the age of 91, with his beloved wife Mila by his side.

Xenophon was born in Agrinio, GR and raised in Athens, GR. He moved to the U.S. at the age of 17 speaking little English, and soon after married his first wife Donna. He joined the U.S. Army, serving overseas in Europe in the aftermath of WWII. Upon his return, he moved his young family to California, where he then obtained a BA in Geology from UCLA, and an MA from USC. He served the City of Long Beach DOP for over 40 years, retiring as Director.

Xen remarried to Mila in 1992, and was happily married for 30 years until his passing. He always made time every year until the pandemic to visit his beloved sisters, nieces and nephews and other extended family in his home country of Greece. Father to Zan, Greg and John. Husband to Mila. Pappou to Nick, Joe, Bill, Sam, Kristin, and great pappou to Caden, Jonathan, Eleni and Riley. May his memory be eternal.

Funeral services will be held Monday, February 13, 2023 10:30 AM at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary G.O.C. Long Beach, CA. Makaria luncheon and interment to follow.

## Share a memory

To sign a guest book please go to [latimes.com/guestbooks](https://latimes.com/guestbooks)

Los Angeles Times



**Louise "Weezie" Grant Garland**

November 5, 1941 - January 26, 2023

Louise Grant Garland was born, raised and lived her life in Los Angeles, California. She passed away after a brief, heroic fight with Multiple Myeloma on January 26, 2023. She passed away in Santa Monica, California surrounded by her children and their families including her grandchildren.

Louise "Weezie" Garland was born on November 5, 1941 to her parents Dorothy and Richard Grant in Los Angeles, California. In high school, Weezie attended the Santa Catalina School in Monterey, California where she met many of her dearest friends and spent some of her happiest days. She was planning on one last reunion to celebrate her 65 years of friendship with her extraordinary class of 1959. Later, she graduated from University of Southern California with a degree in education. She taught elementary school in East Los Angeles for several years.

Louise married William May Garland II in 1964. They had two children, Bill (Katie) and Hilary. In 1975, her husband passed away in a small plane crash and Louise became a single parent overnight. She embraced the challenges of parenting and felt proud that her daughter became a psychologist and her son an equity trader. Louise's six grandchildren were her greatest source of joy and she was immensely proud that each child was pursuing their passions in college and have great senses of humor.

Louise loved her large, extended family. She mourned the passing of her eldest brother Richard Grant in 2022 and loved connecting with her siblings Melinda Grant (Tom Quinn), Susan Grant Maisel (Larry), Andrew Grant (Sue) and Joseph Grant (Beth). She adored her weekly lunches with her cousin, Maria Brant. She was always so happy to see her other nieces/nephews including Jill Grant, Nick Maisel (Kate), Sam Grant (Emily) and Elizabeth Grant Usher (John). She was always so grateful to her sister in law Maria Grant for her conversation and knowledgeable tours of the Huntington Gardens. Her connection to her late husband's family, Gwendolyn Garland Babcock (Guil) and her nieces and nephew, Sarah Babcock, Ann Babcock, Susan Babcock and John Babcock (Laura) brought her joy and laughter.

Louise loved her work as a mother but also as a volunteer where she served as a longtime docent at UCLA's Hannah Carter Japanese Gardens and working with underrepresented youth as CASA volunteer.

Louise was most passionate about classical chamber music and the opera. Her beloved LA Opera friends Carol Henry and John Nuchols fostered her passion and knowledge for music to develop and flourish. Her philanthropic dedication to the Colburn School and her desire to keep classical music alive and thriving in the younger generation was a top priority in her later years.

Weezie was loved deeply by all who knew her. She was a role-model for her children and grandchildren in life and in death. She connected deeply with everyone through her endless questions and her boundless sense of play. Her vibrant personality and easy laugh will be missed by all.

The family requests in lieu of flowers and cards, donations be made to the Santa Catalina Scholarship (<https://www.santacatalina.org/upper-school/giving/ve-online>) or the Colburn School (<https://www.colburnschool.edu/louise/>).

At her request, in her final wishes there will be no public memorial service but a private one attended by family and close friends. She will be remembered and acknowledged as a dedicated and loving mother, an adoring grandmother, an unwaveringly supportive family member and a friend who "was allergic to boredom."



**LINDA WEIDE**



LINDA WEIDE, my remarkable wife, believed everybody's age was nobody's business. Let's just say she was ageless and timeless. She had a kind of elegance from another era. She studied acting under Stella Adler, who told her, "My dear, you should only play queens." She was certainly my Queen for 28 years, 25 married. In 2018, she was diagnosed with Progressive Supranuclear Palsy, a rare but fatal neurological disease. (Please Google it.) Her bravery and dignity in the face of this illness were awe-inspiring. But unfortunately, the House always wins. She died on Christmas Day, 2022, peacefully, at home, and in my arms. If you must die, try to do it in the arms of someone who loves you. It helps.

She was born in Follansbee, West Virginia, to Lucy Gianinni and Victor Ubieta. Her Aunt Lee and Uncle Eli Rabb were important figures in her upbringing. She attended Bethany College, where she received a B.A. in Liberal Arts.

She lived for a time in Boston, then Manhattan. In 1989, she moved to Los Angeles. Thank G-d for that last move, because on September 30, 1994, I walked into Café Aroma in Studio City, and there she was. She had it all — beauty, style, grace, intelligence, wit, a great laugh, a blinding smile and (can I say this in 2023?) legs that demanded to be shown off, and were. That night, I wrote in my journal, "I think I may be in big trouble." We were married on July 11, 1998.

She was remarkably low maintenance. We both appreciated the occasional meal in a fine restaurant and traveling abroad, but some years I'd ask what she wanted for her birthday, and she would answer, "a grilled cheese sandwich." Typical. She was generous to a fault, always putting others' needs before her own. Her softest spot was reserved for animals, especially those in need. Our own animals were all rescues, and friends would tell her, "If I can come back in another life, I want to be one of your animals." Her favorite charity was Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, but she donated to many others.

Understandably, she would become disenchanted with acting, but two memorable roles were that of "Penelope" in the 2001 L.A. stage revival of Kurt Vonnegut's "Happy Birthday, Wanda June" (she was asked to play the part by Vonnegut), and the role of "Mindy Reiser" in the "Curb Your Enthusiasm" episode, "The Terrorist Attack." She is also featured in the 2021 documentary "Kurt Vonnegut: Unstuck in Time," which is dedicated to her.

What a team we made. She was Gracie to my George. After we purchased side-by-side cemetery plots years ago, I asked her what she wanted her marker to say. She answered, "I'm with Stupid." (That request will not be honored.) Oh, dear -- what am I ever supposed to do without her?

They say, "Nothing lasts forever," but they didn't know about my love for her. 28 years wasn't nearly long enough. Still, I may just be the luckiest SOB who ever lived. Rest well, Bunnie. I hope we'll be together again.

For those who never knew her, I'm sorry for your loss.

THE WEATHER

Today in Southern California

Mild, before a cooler weekend: Although still mild today, it will not be as warm as Thursday, as offshore flow weakens and areas of high clouds stream across the sky.

5-day forecasts

High/low temperatures are average forecasts for entire zone.

Table with 5 columns: L.A. Basin, Valleys, Beaches, Mountains, Deserts. Rows for Today, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday.

Air quality



Surf and sea

POINT CONCEPTION TO MEXICO Inner waters: Wind northeast 10-20 knots, becoming northwest 10-15 knots.

Surf zone: The risk of strong rip currents is high at Ventura County beaches, moderate at L.A. County beaches and low at S.B., S.D. and O.C. beaches.

Table with 5 columns: County, Height, Period, Direction, Temp.

Tides

L.A. Outer Harbor, in feet.

Table with 5 columns: Day, Time, Height, Direction, Temp.

UV index

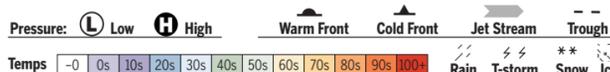
Minutes to burn for sensitive people. Las Vegas, 45; Phoenix, 45; Los Angeles, 45; San Francisco, 60.

California cities

Large table with 4 columns: City, Thursday, Today, Saturday. Lists temperatures for various California cities.

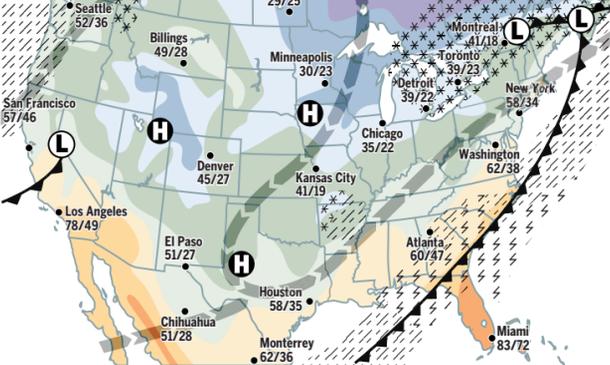
Today in North America

Southeast soaker: A front and developing low pressure will bring rain, some heavy, and even a few thunderstorms across the Southeast today.



Pressure: Low High Warm Front Cold Front Jet Stream Trough

Temps: -0 0s 10s 20s 30s 40s 50s 60s 70s 80s 90s 100+



U.S. cities

THURSDAY'S EXTREMES FOR THE 48 CONTIGUOUS STATES

High 87 in Fort Myers, Fla. Low -23 in Farson, Wyo.

Table with 4 columns: City, Thursday, Today, Saturday. Lists high and low temperatures for various U.S. cities.

World

Table with 4 columns: City, Thursday, Today, Saturday. Lists high and low temperatures for various world cities.

Key: Su sunny; Pc partly cloudy; Cy cloudy; Fg foggy; Prcp precipitation; Dr drizzle; HZ hazy; Sf showers; Ts thunderstorms; R rain; Sn snow; Sf snow flurries; I ice; Rs rain/snow; W windy; Tr trace. Notes: National extremes exclude Alaska and Hawaii. Missing data indicated by "xx". Thursday's readings as of 5 p.m.

Forecasts by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2023

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THE DAY IN SPORTS

Darvish, Padres agree to new deal

STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

Yu Darvish agreed to a new contract with the San Diego Padres that guarantees the 36-year-old ace an additional \$90 million and will keep him with the club through the 2028 season.

The person spoke to the Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the deal hadn't been announced.

The right-hander, who he be under contract until he's 42, will make \$108 million over six years, including the \$18 million he was already due in 2023 before he was set to become a free agent.

Rosters were announced for next month's World Baseball Classic and 10 players on the Angels' 40-man roster and eight from the Dodgers' will participate.

ETC.

Rangers acquire Blues' Tarasenko

The New York Rangers acquired All-Star Vladimir Tarasenko from the St. Louis Blues, a trade that answers a recent move made by a rival and sets the stage for more to come before the March 3 deadline.

The Seattle Kraken put leading scorer Andre Burakovsky on injured reserve because of a lower body injury. ... Colorado Avalanche star defenseman Cale Makar will sit out the final two games of a current trip because of a head injury.

Boston Celtics All-Star Jaylen Brown has a broken bone in his face, the team confirmed in an injury update that did not specify how long he would be out.

Cristiano Ronaldo had four goals for his Saudi Arabian team, Al Nassr, bringing his career total in domestic leagues to 503.

Texas and Oklahoma are heading to the Southeastern Conference in 2024 after Big 12 officials cleared the way for the schools to exit their league a year earlier than planned.

Ten retired players accused the NFL of lying and flagrantly violating federal law in denying disability benefits. The allegations were found in a potential class-action lawsuit filed in Baltimore.

The Houston Astros beat Kyle Tucker in arbitration, and the All-Star outfielder will make \$5 million rather than his \$7.5 million request. ... Toronto Blue Jays infielder Bo Bichette avoided a hearing by finalizing a \$33.6-million, three-year deal.



KYUSUNG GONG Associated Press

THE CLIPPERS RESHUFFLED their roster Thursday, adding backup center Mason Plumlee (24) at the trade deadline while also acquiring wing Bones Hyland from Denver and guard Eric Gordon from Houston.

Suns get upgrade with Durant

[Clippers, from B10] three in the East. Four league insiders surveyed on the condition of anonymity believed nearly every Finals aspirant in the West had improved, intensifying the playoff fights to come in the spring.

Denver added former Lakers big man Thomas Bryant and traded second-year wing Bones Hyland to the Clippers, a move the Denver Post described as "addition by subtraction" after Hyland had grown unsatisfied with his role.

Memphis added Luke Kennard, a 44.8% three-point shooter during three seasons with the Clippers, as an outlet for dynamic point guard Ja Morant.

Dallas looked dynamic in Irving's debut, teasing the team's possibilities when Luka Doncic returns from a heel injury.

The Clippers added backup center Mason Plumlee to fill a void on its depth chart while acquiring Hyland and guard Eric Gordon from Houston, reshuffling

its guard rotation. Golden State brought back Gary Payton II from last season's championship team, and Minnesota grabbed a point guard — Mike Conley — familiar with center Rudy Gobert.

Only Sacramento stood pat at the deadline. And in 13th place are the Lakers, after they upgraded their rebounding and shooting while sending out five players and taking back five more. More transactions are coming in the buyout market. The star power of Durant, Paul and Booker could attract the best available free agents.

One of the people surveyed cautioned that

Phoenix, because of how many picks and players it sent to Brooklyn to get Durant had locked itself into what was perhaps a two-year championship window at most — but also acknowledged that in that window, it would have the services of Durant, who remains at 34 one of the most dangerous offensive weapons in the NBA.

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Nikola Jokic and Jamal Murray looking like their 2020 selves. Golden State's aspirations to repeat, once again, center on Stephen Curry, Draymond Green and Klay Thompson.

The Clippers' aspirations hinge on Kawhi Leonard and George playing like All-Stars at each end of the court, just as the Lakers' hopes are tied to LeBron James and Anthony Davis.

In Memphis, Morant holds the keys, and Zion Williamson's health is the wild card in New Orleans.

Even if Durant returns to his unstoppable offensive form, it will take Paul and Booker learning how to play off him for Phoenix's big bet to pay off. One needs only to look at his experience in Brooklyn to understand how a three-star team can crumble.

"I don't know who's more talented, on paper," one scout said of Phoenix. The caveat is important. The trade calls are finished, and now the games begin.

## NBA

## Abdul-Jabbar seeks out James bond

By THUC NHI NGUYEN

He extended an orange basketball, but it might well have been an olive branch.

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar passed the all-time scoring record to LeBron James on Tuesday, joining the current Lakers forward on the court, raising the game ball and handing it over in a symbolic in-game ceremony. It was a warm moment in a mostly icy relationship that Abdul-Jabbar hopes can thaw in years to come.

"To me, I feel like I did it the right way," Abdul-Jabbar said in a news conference before Thursday's game against the Milwaukee Bucks at Crypto.com Arena. "And made sure that LeBron knew I supported what he was doing, and this is something very special and I'm happy to help him celebrate it."

The six-time NBA champion said he first met James five or six years ago during a

playoff game in Cleveland. James introduced the Lakers legend to his mother. They didn't get to talk personally until a Halloween event the Lakers hosted this past year when Abdul-Jabbar attended with his grandchildren. Even then, it was brief.

"I didn't get a chance to get into a conversation where we got to know each other, it was just moments, really," Abdul-Jabbar said. "So that is something that has to happen. But looking forward to it."

Abdul-Jabbar, who lamented that Wilt Chamberlain wasn't in attendance when he established the scoring record in 1984, wrote in an essay called "What I think about LeBron breaking my NBA scoring record" on Wednesday that he blamed himself for not establishing a relationship with James earlier. He noted their age difference; the year Abdul-Jabbar established the scoring record was the

same year that James was born. By the time James began taking over the league, Abdul-Jabbar was mostly "watching games on my TV in my sweatpants while munching on too many unhealthy snacks," he wrote.

"I knew the pressures he was under and maybe I could have helped ease them a bit," the essay continued. "But I saw that LeBron had a friend and mentor in Kobe Bryant and I was just an empty jersey in the rafters. I couldn't imagine why he'd want to hang with someone twice his age. How many do?"

Before taking his court-side seat for Thursday's pregame ceremony honoring the new scoring champion, Abdul-Jabbar gave fist bumps to a group of young fans standing near the baseline. He sat down courtside and watched as James addressed the crowd, recalling the Little Tikes basketball hoop he received for Christmas in 1988 and how his

mother's \$20 gift became the "biggest investment in the history of mankind." He recalled dreaming of playing in the NBA and how he felt growing up in an underprivileged, single-parent household threatened to crush those dreams.

"I had dreams of being able one day to throw no-look passes like Magic Johnson, to be able to shoot fade-aways like Michael Jordan, to be able to have a crossover like Allen Iverson, to be able to have an Afro and jump in the dunk contest like Kobe Bryant," James said to loud cheers from fans who dutifully took their seats 30 minutes before tipoff.

"I looked up to so many athletes and so many people along my journey and they gave me the inspiration and they allowed my dreams to not die.

"As I got older and older... I always felt it was my job and my responsibility to play the game at a high level and be as great as I can be be-

cause there is a kid in the inner city somewhere that's looking for inspiration and that's going to need it and maybe get it from me."

Among the congratulatory messages played in the arena Tuesday after James eclipsed Abdul-Jabbar's record were videos from students at James' I Promise School in Akron, Ohio.

For Abdul-Jabbar, whose post-basketball career as a humanitarian and writer has rivaled his on-court accomplishments, James' commitment to community service bonds them almost as much as their scoring numbers.

"He's sending an entire school district to college to pay their tuition. This is awesome," Abdul-Jabbar said. "I wish I had the means to do it myself, you know. His thinking on this is right in tune with what Dr. King was talking about. A rising tide lifts all boats. LeBron has done that in his own way."

## STANDINGS

Standings have been arranged to reflect how the teams will be determined for the playoffs. Teams are ranked 1-15 by record. The top six teams in each conference qualify for the playoffs. Teams seven through 10 will participate in a play-in tournament with the top-seeded play-in team meeting the lowest qualifying play-in team. The next-lowest qualifying team would play the second, etc. Head-to-head competition is the first of several tiebreakers, followed by conference record. (Western Conference divisions: S-Southwest; P-Pacific; N-Northwest; Eastern Conference divisions: A-Atlantic; C-Central; S-Southeast.)

## WESTERN CONFERENCE

Team	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	Rk.
1. Denver	38	18	.679	5-5	N1	
2. Memphis	33	21	.611	4	2-8	S1
3. Sacramento	31	23	.574	6	5-5	P1
4. Dallas	30	26	.536	8	6-4	S2
5. CLIPPERS	31	27	.534	8	7-3	P2
6. Phoenix	30	27	.526	8½	7-3	P3
7. New Orleans	29	27	.518	9	3-7	S3
8. Minnesota	30	28	.517	9	6-4	N2
9. Golden State	28	27	.509	9½	6-4	P4
10. Portland	27	28	.491	10½	6-4	N3

11. Utah	27	29	.482	11	5-5	N4
12. Oklahoma City	26	28	.481	11	5-5	N5
13. LAKERS	25	31	.446	13	4-6	P5
14. San Antonio	14	41	.255	22½	0-10	S4
15. Houston	13	42	.236	24½	3-7	S5

## EASTERN CONFERENCE

Team	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	Rk.
1. Boston	39	16	.709	6-4	A1	
2. Milwaukee	38	17	.691	1	9-1	C1
3. Philadelphia	34	19	.642	4	7-3	A2
4. Cleveland	35	22	.614	5	7-3	C2
5. Brooklyn	33	22	.600	6	5-5	A3
6. Miami	30	25	.545	9	6-4	S1
7. New York	30	26	.536	9½	5-5	A4
8. Atlanta	28	28	.500	11½	4-6	S2
9. Chicago	26	29	.473	13	5-5	C3
10. Toronto	26	30	.464	13½	6-4	A5

11. Washington	25	29	.463	13½	7-3	S3
12. Indiana	25	31	.446	14½	2-8	C4
13. Orlando	23	33	.411	16½	6-4	S4
14. Charlotte	15	41	.268	24½	3-7	S5
15. Detroit	14	42	.250	25½	2-8	C5

## THURSDAY'S RESULTS

Milwaukee 115, LAKERS 106	Orlando 115, Denver 104
Atlanta 116, Phoenix 107	Brooklyn 116, Chicago 105

## TODAY'S GAMES

Favorite	Line	Underdog	Time
at CLIPPERS	OFF	Milwaukee	7:30 p.m.
at Indiana	OFF	Phoenix	4 p.m.
at Philadelphia	OFF	New York	4 p.m.
at Detroit	3	San Antonio	4 p.m.
at Toronto	7½	Utah	4:30 p.m.
at Boston	11	Charlotte	4:30 p.m.
at Miami	OFF	Houston	5 p.m.
at Memphis	OFF	Minnesota	5 p.m.
at New Orleans	OFF	Cleveland	7 p.m.
at Portland	3½	Oklahoma City	7 p.m.
at Sacramento	OFF	Dallas	7 p.m.

## Lakers finish roster upgrades

[Lakers, from B10]

Vanderbilt are already with the team and watched Thursday's game from the bench. They were able to get to Los Angeles following a three-team deal that sent Westbrook, Jones and Toscano-Anderson to Utah and Jazz point guard Mike Conley Jr. and a future Lakers' second-round pick to the Timberwolves.

The Lakers fought through and tested the Bucks before eventually losing 115-106.

Dennis Schroder scored 25 points and Anthony Davis had 23 points and 16 rebounds. Giannis Antetokounmpo had 38 points for the Bucks.

"I saw what I've always seen... just competitive spirit," coach Darvin Ham said.

The Lakers have lost three in a row.

Ahead of Thursday's deadline, the team made two other moves — trading Bryant to Denver for three second-round picks and Davon Reed. The team then routed one of those picks and Beverley to Orlando for center Mo Bamba.

"I just think we added some pieces that are young and still on an uptick that have proven themselves to be really effective NBA players and also fit the needs that we have in terms of creating more spacing for [James] and [Anthony Davis] — while also bringing in some guys making a huge impact on the defensive end and rim protection," Ham said of the deals. "It's great. You're constantly in this league trying to make your team better. All 30 teams have that mindset. If there are ways that we can get better, we explore them."

"And so we saw the opportunity to make our team better and we pushed the button on it. And it's as simple as that, the business of basketball."

The Lakers were left with a fraction of their roster, a problem made worse with LeBron James sitting out with a sore foot one game after breaking the NBA's career scoring record.

"He was able to get some pictures of it and we're thankful that there's not anything extensive," Ham said



MARK J. TERRILL Associated Press

WENYEN GABRIEL drives for a basket in front of forward Giannis Antetokounmpo, who finished with 38 points for the Bucks.

pregame. "It's just normal wear and tear. So, the biggest thing for him is for us to be efficient with his availability as well as his minutes and try to give him a chance, his body a chance whenever we can to recover."

James was honored pregame in a ceremony with his family after breaking Kareem Abdul-Jabbar's scoring record, thanking his family and the fans.

"When I was 3 years old, on Dec. 25, 1988, my mother bought me a Little Tikes hoop. There's actually a photo floating around of that Christmas gift. That moment, I fell in love with basketball," James said to the crowd. "I was about to turn 4 years old on Dec. 30 of that year. But from that moment on, I knew that that orange sphere was something that I always wanted to be a part of my journey."

The Lakers, in turn, thanked James by upgrading the roster with a serious of moves.

After acquiring Russell, Beasley and Vanderbilt on Wednesday, the team began its dealing on Thursday with trading Bryant. Sources with

knowledge of the Lakers' thinking not authorized to speak publicly said the team wouldn't likely be able to resign Bryant in the offseason, electing to find him another team while recouping some of the second-round picks they used to trade for Rui Hachimura last month.

The Lakers then addressed some of their rim-protection issues by trading for the 24-year-old Bamba. The team also removed Beverley from their crowded backcourt equation, freeing up more minutes with Beasley and Russell joining the team and Reaves returning from injury.

The Lakers explored deals to the wire of the noon deadline, looking for possible upgrades on the wing but ultimately decided the options were either not good enough or too expensive.

Internally, the team was satisfied with the moves, feeling it improved in the short-term and created more options in the future despite sacrificing cap space this summer.

The Lakers' newest players could debut Saturday.

back then. He could always score, but the guys would never play with him because of what he did. But now all those guys are gone and he's on another level now."

Three teams later — Brooklyn, Golden State, Minnesota — Russell is back as a good shooter and strong competitor, and it will be interesting to see the results of his growth.

Not that it's going to mean anything if James isn't on the court making him shine.

At the end of Thursday's pregame ceremony honoring James for setting the scoring record, James addressed the crowd and, for one of the first times, publicly talked about belonging to the home team.

"You guys over the last five years have become family as well," he said to the cheering crowd. "Every time I step on the floor, I understand... what it means to be a Los Angeles Laker."

The good news for Lakers fans is that it was moments before tipoff against the Milwaukee Bucks and James was standing at midcourt.

The bad news was, he was wearing a blue suit.

## BOX SCORES

## BUCKS 115, LAKERS 106

MILWAUKEE						
	Min	FG-A	FTA	OR-T	A	P T
G. Antetokounmpo	35	14-23	9-13	2-10	6	3-38
Connaughton	27	2-8	0-0	2-5	2	0-5
Lopez	32	3-8	2-2	6-10	3	3-9
Allen	28	4-11	0-0	1-4	0	1-12
Holiday	36	8-16	0-0	1-7	7	2-18
Middleton	24	10-18	1-1	0-5	3	2-22
Matthews	22	1-5	0-0	2-6	1	2-2
Carter	13	0-2	0-0	0-0	2	3-0
Mamukelashvili	12	2-4	1-2	2-3	0	2-6
Beauchamp	5	1-4	0-0	0-1	0	2-3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>45-99</b>	<b>13-18</b>	<b>16-51</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>115</b>

Shooting: Field goals, 45.5%; free throws, 72.2%						
Three-point goals: 12-47 (Allen 4-11, Holiday 2-7, Mamukelashvili 1-2, Lopez 1-3, Beauchamp 1-4, G. Antetokounmpo 1-4, Connaughton 1-5, Middleton 1-6, Carter 0-2, Matthews 0-3); Team Rebounds: 11; Team Turnovers: 2; Blocked Shots: 7 (Lopez 3, Carter, G. Antetokounmpo, Matthews, Middleton); Turnovers: 10 (Beauchamp 2, G. Antetokounmpo 2, Allen, Connaughton, Holiday, Lopez, Mamukelashvili, Middleton); Steals: 5 (Connaughton 2, G. Antetokounmpo, Mamukelashvili, Matthews); Technical Fouls: None.						

LAKERS						
	Min	FG-A	FTA	OR-T	A	P T
Brown Jr.	38	4-9	0-0	1-8	2	11-21
Hachimura	32	3-9	2-4	1-6	1	1-8
Davis	35	9-22	5-6	5-16	2	5-23
Christie	12	0-2	0-0	0-1	0	0-0
Schroder	34	10-17	4-4	0-2	12	5-25
Walker Jr.	30	6-14	3-3	1-3	3	0-15
Gabriel	28	3-5	0-2	2-4	0	3-6
Reaves	24	7-11	1-2	1-4	2	3-18
Swaid	3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>42-89</b>	<b>15-21</b>	<b>11-43</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>106</b>

Shooting: Field goals, 47.2%; free throws, 71.4%						
Three-point goals: 7-18 (Brown Jr. 3, Walker Jr. 3-4, Schroder 1-4, Gabriel 0-1, Walker IV 0-1, Davis 0-2, Hachimura 0-2); Team Rebounds: 7; Team Turnovers: None; Blocked Shots: 2 (Hachimura, Walker IV); Turnovers: 12 (Davis 5, Brown Jr. 2, Reaves 2, Walker IV 2, Gabriel); Steals: 2 (Reaves, Schroder); Technical Fouls: None.						

Milwaukee	26	24	38	27	115
LAKERS	31	27	23	25	106

A-18,997, T-216.

## Magic 115, Nuggets 104

DENVER						
	Min	FG-A	FTA	OR-T	A	P T
Gordon	37	15-21	4-7	3-13	3	1-37
Porter Jr.	34	3-16	3-3	0-3	0	2-12
Jokic	37	10-19	6-9	2-12	6	3-29
Brown	33	3-7	1-2	0-2	3	1-7
Caldwell-Pope	39	4-7	1-1	1-4	5	3-9
Braun	19	0-2	0-0	0-0	0	3-0
Smith	14	0-3	0-0	0-1	5	2-0
Green	12	3-6	1-2	1-3	1	0-7
Cancar	11	1-3	0-0	0-1	1	0-3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>39-84</b>	<b>16-24</b>	<b>7-39</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>104</b>

Shooting: Field goals, 46.4%; free throws, 66.7%						
Three-point goals: 10-33 (Jokic 3-5, Gordon 3-6, Porter Jr. 3-12, Cancar 1-2, Green 0-2, Brown 0-3, Caldwell-Pope 0-3); Team Rebounds: 14; Team Turnovers: None; Blocked Shots: 5 (Jokic 2, Braun, Cancar, Gordon); Turnovers: 16 (Jokic 7, Brown 2, Gordon 2, Porter Jr. 2, Caldwell-Pope, Cancar, Smith); Steals: 6 (Brown 2, Braun, Caldwell-Pope, Gordon, Jokic); Technical Fouls: None.						

ORLANDO						
	Min	FG-A	FTA	OR-T	A	P T
Banchero	33	5-12	0-2	2-10	2	2-11
FWagner	34	3-9	3-3	1-2	6	2-10
Carter Jr.	28	7-11	3-6	1-6	2	2-19
Fultz	31	3-13	2-2	5-8	4	2-8
Suggs	26	5-11	0-0	1-4	1	1-11
Anthony	24	8-14	1-2	0-7	7	2-17
M.Wagner	19	5-9	0-0	1-2	1	3-12
Houston	16	3-4	0-0	2-2	0	1-7
Bol	14	8-11	0-0	1-3	0	1-17
Isaac	11	0-3	3-4	1-3	1	0-3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>47-87</b>	<b>12-19</b>	<b>15-47</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>115</b>

Shooting: Field goals, 48.5%; free throws, 75.9%						
Three-point goals: 9-27 (Carter Jr. 2-3, M.Wagner 2-5, Banchero 1-2, Bol 1-2, Houston 1-2, FWagner 1-4, Suggs 1-5, Fultz 0-1, Anthony 0-3); Team Rebounds: 10; Team Turnovers: None; Blocked Shots: 6 (Anthony 3, Bol, Carter Jr., Isaac); Turnovers: 10 (Anthony 2, Houston 2, Carter Jr. 2, Fultz 2, M.Wagner, Suggs); Steals: 12 (FWagner 3, Fultz 3, Isaac 3, M.Wagner 2, Houston); Technical Fouls: Magic, 1:58 first.						

Denver	26	29	20	104
Orlando	29	36	24	115

A-18,846, T-205.

## Hawks 1

GOLF

# Taylor, Hadwin lead at blustery Phoenix

Morning frost gave way to gusting wind Thursday in the WM Phoenix Open, leading to tricky scoring conditions at TPC Scottsdale.

The frost delayed the start for 1 hour, 50 minutes, with the wind picking up from the northeast and gusting to 25 mph. The temperature climbed from the low 40s in the morning to the high 60s in the afternoon as golf's biggest party kicked off Super Bowl week in the Valley of the Sun.

Canadian friends Nick Taylor and Adam Hadwin shared the lead at five-under 66 when play was suspended because of darkness with the entire afternoon wave unable to finish.

Xander Schauffele opened with a 67. Jason Day and Jim Herman also were four under, with Day finishing 10 holes and Herman 13.

Taylor played the back nine in six-under 30 after making the turn at one over. The two-time PGA Tour winner lives in the area and often practices at TPC Scottsdale.

"I don't see a whole lot of northeast wind here," Taylor said. "It's definitely the tougher of the winds, especially coming down the stretch. All those holes are playing a lot longer than typical. I've seen a lot of wind conditions, but this was one of the toughest stretches I've played out here."

Hadwin also lives in area. "You had to be a lot more patient than you normally do around this place," Hadwin said.

"You couldn't really chase birdies like we typically do out here."

He parred the last four holes to miss out on bragging rights over Taylor.

"I'm really disappointed I didn't get to six under because I saw Nick up there, and I wanted to hold it over him tonight," Hadwin said.

## Ames has early edge in Morocco

Stephen Ames had eight birdies in a six-under 67 for three-shot lead after the first round of the PGA Tour Champions' Trophy Hassan II in Rabat, Morocco.

## GOLF LEADERS

\$20-MILLION WM PHOENIX OPEN  
At Scottsdale, Ariz.—Par 71  
TPC Scottsdale—7,261 yards  
18-hole leaders  
(Round suspended because of darkness)

Nick Taylor	36-30-66	-5
Adam Hadwin	33-33-66	-5
Xander Schauffele	33-34-67	-4
Charley Hoffman	34-34-68	-3
Sam Ryder	34-35-69	-2
Aaron Rai	35-35-70	-1
Troy Merritt	33-37-70	-1
Sungjae Im	36-34-70	-1
Tony Finau	33-37-70	-1
Matt Fitzpatrick	37-33-70	-1
Sam Burns	34-36-70	-1
Tyrell Hatton	32-38-70	-1
Corey Conners	35-35-70	-1
James Hahn	34-36-70	-1
Adam Long	36-35-71	E
Jhonattan Vegas	36-36-71	E
Keith Mitchell	36-35-71	E
Jordan Spieth	36-35-71	E
Robert Streb	33-38-71	E
Lucas Herbert	37-34-71	E
Lucas Glover	34-37-71	E
Ricky Wernicki	36-37-71	E
Kevin Tay	35-36-71	E
Brandon Wu	35-36-72	+1
Tommy Fleetwood	34-38-72	+1
Erik van Rooyen	36-36-72	+1
Andrew Landry	35-37-72	+1
Gary Woodland	36-36-72	+1
Harris English	37-35-72	+1
Tyler Duncan	37-35-72	+1
Lee Hodges	37-35-72	+1
Scott Piercy	36-37-73	+2
Taylor Pendrith	35-38-73	+2
Garrick Higgo	38-35-73	+2
Rory McIlroy	37-36-73	+2
Collin Morikawa	36-37-73	+2
Patrick Cantlay	35-38-73	+2
K.H. Lee	36-37-73	+2
Cameron Young	37-36-73	+2
Peter Malnati	35-38-73	+2
Callum Tarren	35-39-73	+2
Ricky Barnes	36-37-73	+2
Patrick Rodgers	38-35-73	+2
Matt Wallace	38-35-73	+2
Greyson Sigg	36-37-73	+2
Kevin Streelman	36-38-74	+3
Davis Thompson	36-38-74	+3
Hideki Matsuyama	36-38-74	+3
Kevin Kisner	36-38-74	+3
Mackenzie Hughes	36-38-74	+3
Chez Reavie	37-37-74	+3
Nick Watney	34-41-75	+4
Taylor Montgomery	35-40-75	+4
Brendon Todd	36-39-75	+4
Shane Lowry	38-37-75	+4
Martin Laird	37-38-75	+4
Denny McCarthy	36-39-75	+4
Stephen Jaeger	40-36-76	+5
Emiliano Grillo	38-36-76	+5
Ryan Brehm	40-36-76	+5
Andy Metzger	38-39-77	+6
Rory Sabbatini	40-38-78	+7
Chad Ramey	42-36-78	+7
Cameron Champ	42-36-78	+7
Matthew NeSmith	39-40-79	+8
Jimmy Walker	42-38-80	+9

CHAMPIONS TOUR  
\$2-MILLION TROPHY HASSAN II  
At Rabat, Morocco—Par 73  
Royal Golf Dar Es Salam—7,618 yards  
18-hole leaders

Stephen Ames	33-34-67	-6
Paul Broadhurst	33-37-70	-3
Paul Lawrie	35-35-70	-3
Brett Quigley	34-34-70	-3
Jeff Sluman	35-35-70	-3
Colin Donnelly	36-35-71	-2
Glen Day	35-36-71	-2
Cory Pavin	37-34-71	-2
Richard Green	35-37-72	-1
Thongchai Jaidee	38-36-72	+1
Brandt Jobe	34-38-72	+1
Bernhard Langer	34-38-72	+1
Billy Mayfair	35-37-72	+1
Wes Short	33-39-72	+1
Duffy Waldorf	35-37-72	+1



PURDUE'S ZACH EDEY shoots over Iowa's Filip Rebraca (0) and Connor McCaffery in the second half. Edey had 14 points and 14 rebounds in the 87-73 win.

## TOP 25 COLLEGE BASKETBALL

# Loyola Marymount shocks Saint Mary's

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cam Shelton scored all of his career-high 31 points after halftime, enough to overcome him mistakenly taking a timeout late in overtime and lead Loyola Marymount past No. 15 Saint Mary's 78-74 Thursday night in Westchester.

Loyola Marymount (17-9, 7-5 West Coast) had lost 21 straight to Saint Mary's (21-5, 10-1) and trailed 16-0 less than six minutes into this game.

The Lions led 76-73 with 2.6 seconds left in the extra session before Shelton called a timeout when his team had none left.

Alex Ducas made just one of the two technical fouls shots, then Loyola Marymount's Keli Leaupepe hit two free throws with one second remaining to seal it.

No. 4 Arizona 85, at California 62: Azuolas Tubelis had 23 points, 14 rebounds

## Results

**MEV'S TOP 25**  
No. 1 Purdue 87, Iowa 73  
No. 4 Arizona 85, California 62  
No. 7 UCLA 62, Oregon State 47  
Loyola Marymount 78, No. 15 Saint Mary's 74 (OT)  
No. 16 Gonzaga 99, San Francisco 81

**OTHER PAC-12**  
Oregon 78, USC 60  
Arizona State 69, Stanford 65

**WOMEN'S TOP 25**  
No. 2 Indiana 87, No. 5 Iowa 78  
No. 9 Duke 69, Boston College 27  
Syracuse 75, No. 14 North Carolina 67  
No. 1 South Carolina 83, Auburn 48  
No. 22 N.C. State 51, Wake Forest 42  
No. 8 Maryland 79, Northwestern 54  
No. 6 Stanford 84, No. 17 Arizona 60  
No. 18 Notre Dame 69, Pittsburgh 63  
Miami 86, No. 19 Florida State 82

and four steals to lead the Wildcats past the Golden Bears. Tubelis, the conference player of the week, recorded his Pac-12-leading 11th double-double of the season.

at No. 16 Gonzaga 99, San Francisco 81: Rasir Bolton scored 23 points and had six assists, and Drew Timme added 21 points to lead the Bulldogs past the Dons. Gonzaga (20-5, 9-2 West

Coast) extended its streak of seasons with at least 20 wins to 26. The streak is the second longest in the country behind Kansas at 32.

Arizona State 69, at Stanford 65: DJ Horne scored 18 points and grabbed six rebounds and Frankie Collins added 15 points to lead the Sun Devils (17-8, 8-6 Pac-12) over the Cardinal (10-14, 4-9).

## Women

at No. 2 Indiana 87, No. 5 Iowa 78: Grace Berger finished with a season-high 26 points, nine rebounds and six assists, and Mackenzie Holmes added 24 points as the Hoosiers (23-1, 12-1 Big Ten) used a late scoring run to pull away from the Hawkeyes (19-5, 11-2).

No. 6 Stanford 84, at No. 17 Arizona 60: Cameron Brink and Haley Jones each scored 18 points and the Cardinal (23-3, 11-2 Pac-12) beat the Wildcats (18-6, 8-5).

# USC's streak ended by Ducks

Dante scores 17 points as Oregon leads wire to wire and stops the Trojans' run at four.

## OREGON 78 USC 60

ASSOCIATED PRESS

EUGENE, Ore. — N'Faly Dante scored 17 points, Will Richardson added 16 and Oregon posted a wire-to-wire 78-60 victory over USC on Thursday night.

Dante sank eight of 11 shots from the floor for the Ducks (15-10, 9-5 Pac-12). He added five rebounds, three blocks and three steals. Richardson made four of six shots with two three-pointers and hit all six of his free throws. Jermaine Cousnard had 13 points and Nate Bittle contributed 11 points and six rebounds.

Boogie Ellis led the Trojans (17-7, 9-4) with 19 points and four assists. Drew Peterson and Kobe Johnson added 11 points apiece. USC's four-game winning streak ended.

Cousnard scored 11 points and Dante added nine to guide the Ducks to a 42-27 lead at halftime. Peterson hit a three seven minutes into the game to

Oregon 78, USC 60									
USC									
	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OR-T	A	P	T		
Iwuchukwu	13	4-5	0-1	2-6	0	2	8		
Ellis	37	7-15	2-2	2-4	4	2	19		
Johnson	34	4-10	2-3	1-4	2	3	11		
Peterson	36	3-8	5-7	0-0	2	1	11		
White	23	2-8	1-2	1-6	0	5	5		
Niagu	16	1-5	0-0	0-1	1	2	2		
Thomas	15	1-5	0-0	0-1	1	2	2		
Wright	12	0-0	0-0	0-2	0	2	0		
Sellers	10	1-3	0-0	1-1	0	1	2		
Hornery	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	1	0		
Totals	23-56	10-15	7-24	9	20	60			

Shooting: Field goals, 41.1%; free throws, 66.7%. Three-point goals: 4-16 (Ellis 3-7, Johnson 1-4, Peterson 0-1, Thomas 0-1, White 0-1, Sellers 0-2). Team Rebounds: 4. Team Turnovers: 1. Blocked Shots: 2 (Niagu, Wright). Turnovers: 11 (Iwuchukwu 3, Peterson 3, Ellis 2, Johnson, Niagu, White). Steals: 8 (Johnson 2, Peterson 2, Ellis, Niagu, Sellers, Thomas). Technical Fouls: None.

OREGON									
	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OR-T	A	P	T		
Bittle	18	3-5	4-4	2-6	0	3	11		
Dante	27	8-11	1-1	1-5	0	2	17		
Cousnard	32	5-9	1-2	0-2	2	4	13		
Richardson	37	4-6	6-6	0-6	9	1	16		
Soares	21	0-5	0-0	0-1	2	0	0		
Barthelemy	26	3-8	2-2	0-1	4	1	8		
Guerrier	21	2-4	0-0	2-6	1	0	5		
Ware	12	3-4	2-3	2-3	1	1	8		
Rigsby	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0		
Williams	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0		
Wur	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0		
Totals	28-52	16-18	7-30	18	14	78			

Shooting: Field goals, 53.8%; free throws, 88.9%. Three-point goals: 6-18 (Richardson 2-4, Cousnard 2-5, Bittle 1-2, Guerrier 1-3, Soares 0-1, Barthelemy 0-3). Team Rebounds: 4. Team Turnovers: None. Blocked Shots: 5 (Dante 3, Guerrier, Ware). Turnovers: 11 (Cousnard 3, Richardson 3, Dante 2, Barthelemy, Bittle, Guerrier). Steals: 7 (Dante 3, Cousnard 2, Guerrier, Richardson). Technical Fouls: None.

USC	27	33	60
Oregon	42	36	78

A-N.A. pull the Trojans within 11-10. It was all Ducks after that.

Dante answered with a three-point play, igniting an 18-1 run and Oregon led 29-11 with 12 minutes left in the half. USC got no closer than 14 points in the second half.

## SOUTHLAND MEN

at Pepperdine 92, Brigham Young 80: Jevon Porter had 30 points and 10 rebounds as the Waves (9-17, 2-10) used a late 15-4 run to knock off the Cougars (16-11, 6-6) in a West Coast Conference game. Fousseyni Traore led BYU with 19 points.

at UC Irvine 55, Cal Poly 54: DJ Davis scored 16 points and Dawson Baker had 12 as the Anteaters (16-8, 9-3) avoided an upset against the Mustangs (7-18, 1-12) in a Big West Conference game. Cal Poly missed two shots in the last 10 seconds.

UC Santa Barbara 75, at Long Beach State 72: Marcus Tsohonis missed a long three-pointer at the buzzer to end a six-game win streak for the Beach (14-11, 8-5) in a Big West game. Ajay Mitchell led the Gauchos (19-4, 10-2) with 17 points.

at UC Riverside 72, UC Davis 65: Zyon Pullin led five players in double figures with 16 points as the Highlanders (16-9, 9-4) never trailed against the Aggies (14-10, 7-5) in a Big West game. Elijah Pepper tied his season high with 32 for Davis.

at Cal State Bakersfield 73, Cal State Northridge 58: The Matadors (5-19, 2-11) were led by De'Sean Allen-Eikens' 14 points but fell to the Roadrunners (9-15, 5-8) in the Big West.

## WOMEN TONIGHT

Oregon State at UCLA	5
Oregon at USC	7

# Bailey and Clark carry the Bruins

[UCLA, from B10] that had sidelined him for more than a month.

The infusion of points from two new sources kept things comfortable for the Bruins (20-4, 11-2 Pac-12) even with Jaime Jaquez Jr. (seven points, 12 rebounds) and Tyger Campbell (three points, five assists) combining to make four of 15 shots.

"We gotta get to a point where we can win games when Tyger and Jaime don't score a lot," UCLA coach Mick Cronin said after his team maintained its half-game lead over Arizona in the Pac-12 standings.

Cronin was relieved he was able to hold Campbell and Jaquez to under 30 minutes of playing time, providing a breather of sorts before UCLA's showdown against Oregon on Saturday. Their workload was reduced in large part because the Bruins' defense made this game a runaway by early in the second half.

UCLA's defense gave up a season low for points, even if a small asterisk should come with the strength of the opponent. Oregon State (9-16, 3-1) didn't reach 30 points until there were 7:34 left in the game and finished with just four assists to go with 18 turnovers, a sign of little ball movement as well as plenty of sticky defense.

The Beavers were also helpless against UCLA's freshman phenom. After Bailey set his career high with a driving layup with just under six minutes left, he quickly came up with a steal leading to another layup. His night finished with one more layup before he headed to the bench with more than two minutes left. Bailey made 10 of 16 shots, most of them of the high-percentage variety as he continued to grow up before Bruins' fans eyes.

"He's playing in the super senior era against a lot of 22- to 24-year-olds, and the kid's out there, he's only 18, which



UCLA DEFENSE is on display in the first half as Jaime Jaquez Jr. left, and Will McClendon try to intercept a pass meant for Oregon State's Rodrigue Andela.

shows you how talented he is," Cronin said of a player who will turn 19 later this month.

"He's just got unbelievable talent. My job is to help him figure all that out and how to use it. But we got him in a lot of good positions tonight."

Clark also scored in a variety of ways, a few unconventional. He banked in a forced floater at the end of the shot clock in the first

half, perhaps the best sign that his luck had turned after a horrid shooting stretch.

"He's worked really hard getting his head up where he sees his target when he's driving, not just his perimeter shooting," Cronin said. "I'm more worried about, you know, his finishing eight feet and in."

Clark's final act was to provide some more ribbing about his onetime high school rival turned team-

mate after Bailey had departed for the bus.

"It's different going against him to playing with him because he's a whole different person off the court," Clark said.

"Like that kid you see off the court, he acts like he's 12, if you know what I mean, but he's also 18, so sheesh, he's super young, super talented, a lot of upside. I'm happy to see him go ahead and crack off 24."

## PAC-12 STANDINGS

TEAM	Conf.		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
UCLA	11	2	20	4
Arizona	11	3	22	3
USC	9	4	17	7
Utah	9	5	16	9
Oregon	9	5	15	10
Arizona State	8	6	17	8
Colorado	6	8	14	11
Washington	5	9	13	12
Washington State	5	9	10	15
Stanford	4	9	10	14
Oregon State	3	11	9	16
California	2	11	3	20

## THURSDAY'S GAMES

UCLA 62, at Oregon State 47  
Oregon 78, USC 60  
Arizona State 69, at Stanford 65  
Arizona 85, California 62

## SATURDAY'S GAMES

USC at Oregon State, 3 p.m.  
UCLA at Oregon, 7 p.m.  
Arizona at Stanford, 5 p.m.  
Arizona State at California, 5 p.m.  
Colorado at Utah, 7 p.m.  
Washington at Wash. State, 7:30 p.m.

## NO. 7 UCLA 62, OREGON ST. 47

UCLA									
	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OR-T	A	P	T		
Bona	24	1-1	1-2	1-5	0	2	3		
Bailey	27	10-16	4-4	0-2	1	1	24		
Campbell	27	1-5	0-0	0-2	5	0	3		
Clark	30	7-11	1-2	2-3	3	5	16		
Jaquez	28	3-10	0-1	3-12	2	3	7		
Singleton	21	2-4	0-0	0-1	1	6	6		

**SUPER BOWL NOTES**

# Mahomes selected NFL MVP

BY GARY KLEIN AND JEFF MILLER

PHOENIX — Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes picked up another major award on his way to his third Super Bowl appearance.

On Thursday night, during the “NFL Honors” broadcast, Mahomes was announced as the NFL’s most valuable player, which is determined by Associated Press balloting.

Mahomes, who also won the award in 2018, is preparing for Sunday’s matchup against the Philadelphia Eagles in Super Bowl LVII at State Farm Stadium.

“First of all, I want to thank God for giving me this platform and putting so many amazing people around me to help support this dream I’ve had since I was a little kid,” Mahomes said in a recorded statement. He thanked his wife and family, Chiefs owner Clark Hunt, general manager Brett Veach and coach Andy Reid and his staff.

“And most of all my teammates,” Mahomes said. “I would never be standing here today without y’all. Every day, giving everything that we have together to go for the ultimate goal: the Super Bowl. Let’s continue to go for that dream this weekend.”

Mahomes, 27, this season passed for a career-best 5,250 yards and 41 touchdowns, with 12 interceptions, and has led the Chiefs to their third Super Bowl in four seasons.

Minnesota Vikings receiver Justin Jefferson was offensive player of the year, San Francisco 49ers end Nick Bosa defensive player of the year.

Dallas Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott won the Walter Payton Man of the Year award.

Former Chargers coach Don Coryell was part of a Hall of Fame class that included defensive back Ronde Barber, cornerback Darrelle Revis, offensive tackle Joe Thomas, linebacker Zach Thomas, edge DeMarcus Ware, linebacker Chuck Howley, defensive lineman Joe Klecko and defensive back Ken Riley.

**Reid’s influence**

Andy Reid was the Philadelphia Eagles coach when

**NFL awards winners**

**MOST VALUABLE PLAYER**  
Patrick Mahomes, QB, Kansas City

**OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR**  
Justin Jefferson, WR, Minnesota

**DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR**  
Nick Bosa, DE, San Francisco

**OFFENSIVE ROOKIE OF THE YEAR**  
Garrett Wilson, WR, New York Jets

**DEFENSIVE ROOKIE OF THE YEAR**  
Sauce Gardner, CB, New York Jets

**COMEBACK PLAYER OF THE YEAR**  
Geno Smith, QB, Seattle

**COACH OF THE YEAR**  
Brian Daboll, New York Giants

**WALTER PAYTON MAN OF THE YEAR**  
Dak Prescott, QB, Dallas

the team drafted linebacker Brandon Graham in 2010, center Jason Kelce in 2011 and defensive lineman Fletcher Cox in 2012.

The three players remain stalwarts for a team that will try to prevent Reid and the Kansas City Chiefs from winning a second Super Bowl title in four years.

Reid gave all three players hugs Monday during the so-called Super Bowl opening night.

“We go our separate ways and get ready to play,” Reid said this week, “but I’m proud of ‘em.”

Graham said it was the first time he had spoken with Reid since Reid led the Chiefs to a Super Bowl victory at the end of the 2019 season.

“We had won the Super Bowl already,” Graham said of the Eagles’ victory over the New England Patriots in Super Bowl LII to end the 2017 season, “and to see him finally win one, it was definitely a great feeling.

“So, yeah man, it’s come full circle for me now playing against my former coach and going into Year 13 still with the Eagles. I couldn’t ask for a better year going to the Super Bowl.”

Kelce, the older brother of Chiefs star tight end Jason Kelce, said he has remained in touch with Reid.

“Andy was an incredible meaningful mentor, coach and person in my life when I first got to the NFL,” he said. “He’s been really meaningful to my brother. ... I consider it an honor to have been drafted by such a legendary coach. I guarantee Brandon and Fletcher feel the same

way.”  
Said Cox: “He gave me a chance. He drafted me and believed in me. I’m sure I’ll see him before and after the game, so that’s a relationship you’ll never lose.”

**Super different**

A year ago, tight end Kendall Blanton started for the Rams in their 23-20 Super Bowl LVI victory over the Cincinnati Bengals at SoFi Stadium.

Now Blanton is a practice squad player for the Chiefs.

“Everyone should get a chance to experience the Super Bowl,” Blanton said. “The fact that I get to do it twice, back to back, is awesome.

“I’m blessed. I thank God for it, but it’s different.”

Blanton, who caught a touchdown pass in an NFC divisional-round victory over the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, started the Super Bowl in place of injured Travis Higbee, playing 30 snaps on offense before he suffered a shoulder injury.

But last summer, the Rams released him before the end of training camp. He spent time with the Washington Commanders and Chiefs before the Rams resigned him in late September.

Blanton played in four games and caught two passes but the Rams released him again in late November, and he signed with the Chiefs.

Blanton, a Kansas City native and the son of former Chiefs linebacker Jerry Blanton, said he watched last year’s Super Bowl for the first time last week.

“I got hurt in the game and I just didn’t want to see it,” he said. “I went back and watched it — and I played pretty well. ... It’s crazy how one year ago I was starting in it and now I’m still here but in a completely different role.

“That’s just how life goes. I’m not bitter about it. I just know this is part of my journey. For whatever reason, it is. I’m going to take it and I’m probably going to be back on this stage one day in a whole ‘nother situation, a whole different role.

“That’s just my mentality.”

**Rivers cheering for the Eagles**

Eagles offensive coordinator Shane Steichen reported this week that at least one former Charger is pumped for the game Sunday: Philip Rivers.

“He’s fired up,” Steichen said. “He obviously knows our offense well. I’m sure he recognizes a lot of it on TV. He’s the best. I loved my time with him.”

Steichen spent nine seasons with the Chargers, including three as Rivers’ position coach. He also was the team’s offensive coordinator for part of 2019 and all of 2020.

After Anthony Lynn was fired, Steichen departed to become the Eagles’ offensive coordinator. He said he and Rivers still communicate at least once a week.

**Unlikely path**

Marcus Epps had no scholarship offers coming out of high school, walked on at Wyoming, was waived during his rookie season in the NFL and now will start Super Bowl LVII for the Eagles.

“There never was a doubt in my mind,” the safety said. “I always knew that I had the ability and the work ethic.”

Epps grew up in Eagle Rock and attended Sherman Oaks Notre Dame High for one year before moving to Orange County and transferring to Huntington Beach Edison.

After becoming a four-year starter at Wyoming, Epps was drafted in the sixth round by Minnesota in 2019. He was released that November and signed with the Eagles.

He started all 17 regular-season games this year, compiling 94 tackles.

# Chiefs’ secondary evokes old 49ers

[Chiefs, from B10] because you want to make the team, so you already have got the hunger of just wanting to belong.”

Though his team is four decades removed from the ‘80s, Chiefs coach Andy Reid referenced the 49ers’ Super Bowl-champion secondary to his staff after the Chiefs selected five defensive backs in the 2022 NFL draft.

The Chiefs took cornerback Trent McDuffie in the first round, safety Bryan Cook in the second, cornerback Joshua Williams in the fourth and cornerback Jaylen Watson and safety Nazeeh Johnson in the seventh.

In the AFC championship game against the Cincinnati Bengals, McDuffie and Watson started, and Williams and Cook also played key roles for a defense that lost veteran cornerback L’Jarius Sneed because of a concussion on the fourth play.

Watson intercepted a pass, and Williams intercepted a pass that was tipped by Cook in a 23-20 victory that put the Chiefs in the Super Bowl for the third time in four seasons.

“These guys are very gifted athletes, very talented to start with,” Reid said this week. “These kids have been willing to listen and gain knowledge. ... They work hard, they want to be good, and every week they’ve gotten a little bit better.”

That progression resonates with the former 49ers’ experience.

Lott was selected in the first round of the 1981 draft, Wright the second, safety Carlton Williamson in the third and cornerback Lynn Thomas in the fifth.

Hicks, a third-year pro, provided leadership and a veteran presence for a group coached by George Seifert and Ray Rhodes.

“We were taught to be physical, to be a pain in the ass on the receivers and knock the [crap] out of



PAUL SAKUMA Associated Press

**RONNIE LOTT** was the cornerstone of a 49ers secondary during the team’s Super Bowl season in 1981.

them,” Wright said. “And when they caught the ball, we wanted to let them know that was going to happen every snap.

“That’s what we were coached to do, and the game plan we had implemented.”

Hicks said he knew during training camp that his rookie teammates would be fine. His main job was to make sure they were in the correct alignments. The players were so talented, Hicks said he told them they should negotiate future contracts collectively, not as individuals.

“They looked at me like I was nuts,” said Hicks, who had nine interceptions that season. “In 1984, we all made the Pro Bowl. I knew they were going to be good. I knew they would compete.”

In their 26-21 Super Bowl XVI victory over the Cincinnati Bengals, Hicks and Wright intercepted passes. Wright also forced a fumble. Lott was in on the final stop of a legendary goal-line stand.

On Sunday, the Chiefs will be counting on their young defensive backs to make plays against Eagles quarterback Jalen Hurts and a receiving corps that includes A.J. Brown and DeVonta Smith.

Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes said the potential of the rookie defensive backs was obvious from their first workouts.

“McDuffie seemed like he was a vet the moment he stepped on the football field and so I knew he was going to be a great player,” Mahomes said. “And then you could see the talent, especially out of Watson, Williams and Cook, those guys were super talented from the day they got there, and you just knew they had to refine the technique.

“They took coaching well, worked their tails off and now they’re on this stage.”

Dave Merritt, the Chiefs’ defensive backs coach, said the rookies came in “so green” but were given “simple tools” to build upon. He compared the process to training toddlers, and he indicated he does not want his charges to overthink the moment.

“All of sudden they’re rookies and they’re here at the Super Bowl — it’s like ‘how did we get here?’” Merritt said, chuckling. “Don’t worry about it. Stay asleep, stay asleep until the end of the game. After the game, we’ll talk about it.”

“We have them hypnotized, man. So, we’re fooling them. We’re tricking them all. Right now, it’s just been beautiful to see them grow.”

Watson, 24, is in the Super Bowl three years after pondering his future while working at a Wendy’s restaurant in Augusta, Ga.

After playing two seasons at Ventura College, Watson’s

plan to transfer to USC went awry because of academic requirements. He spent fall 2019 working alongside his mother and took online classes so he could transfer to Washington State.

“It was a great learning experience,” he said.

When the rookie defensive backs showed up for minicamp, Watson said he knew it was a special group.

“It was good having four other people that you could communicate with and, if you’re struggling with the playbook, we’re all there struggling together, getting it together,” he said. “So, it helped out a lot.”

Said Cook: “Everybody was just, ‘How do we do this?’ And leaning on our brothers next to us. It was a phenomenal thing, and it still is.”

In September against the Chargers, Watson returned an interception 99 yards for a touchdown. McDuffie came back from an early season hamstring injury and developed into a lockdown defender.

“We know we’re rookies,” McDuffie said. “We know, yeah, we’re new to this. But at the end of the day our confidence and knowing the defense takes over.”

The former 49ers said the Chiefs rookies will need to settle in and not be overwhelmed by the excitement and spectacle of the Super Bowl.

“They’ve got to be patient in this game,” Lott said. “They’ve got to know that they don’t have to make every play. You can’t miss a tackle. You just got to do all the things you’ve done all year long.”

Watson said he was confident he and his teammates would rise to the occasion.

“We feel like this is what we were made for,” he said. “We knew drafting five rookies, that was historic, and we still want to reach the ultimate goal and that’s here.

“One more game and get the job done.”

**PRO CALENDAR**

	FRI 10	SAT 11	SUN 12	MON 13	TUE 14
LAKERS		at Golden State 5:30 Ch. 7		at Portland 7 SpecsN	
CLIPPERS	MILWAUKEE 7:30 BSSC				GOLDEN STATE 7:30 TNT
KINGS		PITT. 7:30 BSW		BUFFALO 7:30 BSW	
DUCKS	PITT. 7 BSW		at Vegas Noon BSSC		

Shade denotes home game.

**TODAY ON THE AIR**

TIME	EVENT	ON THE AIR
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**BASEBALL: CARIBBEAN SERIES**  
3:30 p.m. Championship, Dominican Republic vs. Venezuela **TV:** ESPN

**BASKETBALL**

4:30 p.m. Charlotte at Boston **TV:** ESPN  
7 p.m. Cleveland at New Orleans **TV:** ESPN, ESPN2  
7:30 p.m. Milwaukee at Clippers **TV:** BSSC **R:** 570, 1330

**COLLEGE BASKETBALL**

3 p.m. Kent State at Buffalo **TV:** ESPN2  
4 p.m. Xavier at Butler **TV:** FS1

4 p.m. Fairfield at Rider **TV:** ESPNU  
4:30 p.m. Akron at Ohio **TV:** CBSSN

5 p.m. Women, Oregon State at UCLA **TV:** Pac-12, Pac-12LA

5 p.m. Saint Louis at Dayton **TV:** ESPN2  
6 p.m. New Mexico at Air Force **TV:** FS1

6 p.m. Northern Kentucky at Wright State **TV:** ESPNU  
7 p.m. Women, Oregon at USC **TV:** Pac-12, Pac-12LA

**COLLEGE WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS**

2:30 p.m. Minnesota at Michigan **TV:** ESPNU  
4 p.m. Missouri at Florida **TV:** SEC  
5:30 p.m. Louisiana State at Auburn **TV:** SEC

**COLLEGE HOCKEY**

6:30 p.m. North Dakota at Denver **TV:** CBSSN

**COLLEGE WRESTLING**

4 p.m. Nebraska at Ohio State **TV:** Big Ten  
4 p.m. Duke at Virginia **TV:** ACC  
6 p.m. Michigan at Iowa **TV:** Big Ten

**GOLF**

5 a.m. Champions Tour, Trophy Hassan II, second round **TV:** Golf  
12:30 p.m. Waste Management Phoenix Open, second round **TV:** Golf  
9 p.m. DP World Tour, Singapore Classic, third round **TV:** Golf

**HOCKEY**

4 p.m. Seattle at New York Rangers **TV:** NHL  
7 p.m. Pittsburgh at Ducks **TV:** BSW **R:** Ducks Stream

**HORSE RACING**

Noon America’s Day at the Races **TV:** FS2  
1 p.m. America’s Day at the Races **TV:** BSSC

**RUGBY**

11 p.m. Australia, Parramatta vs. Penrith **TV:** FS2

**SOCCER**

Noon France, Ajaccio at Nice **TV:** beIN1, beINes  
Noon Spain, Girona at Cadiz **TV:** ESPN2

3 p.m. Uruguay, Cerro Largo at Nacional **TV:** GOLTV  
7 p.m. Mexico, Atletico San Luis at Tijuana **TV:** FS2, FOXD  
4:30 a.m. England, Chelsea at West Ham United **TV:** USA

**TENNIS**

11 a.m. ATP Dallas, Montpellier and Cordoba tournaments; WTA Abu Dhabi and Linz tournaments, quarterfinals **TV:** Tennis

5 p.m. ATP Dallas Open, quarterfinals **TV:** Tennis

**NHL STANDINGS**

WESTERN CONFERENCE						EASTERN CONFERENCE							
Pacific	W	L	OL	Pts	GF	GA	Metropolitan	W	L	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Vegas	31	18	4	66	170	150	Carolina	34	9	8	76	173	136
Seattle	29	17	5	63	178	158	New Jersey	34	13	4	72	179	136
Edmonton	29	18	5	63	193	167	NY Rangers	29	14	8	66	166	136
KINGS	28	18	7	63	173	183	Washington	27	20	6	60	166	152
Calgary	24	18	10	58	165	160	Pittsburgh	25	16	9	59	163	154
Vancouver	21	27	4	46	179	210	NY Islanders	27	23	5	59	159	151
San Jose	16	26	11	43	162	203	Philadelphia	22	22	9	53	145	165
DUCKS	17	29	6	40	130	210	Columbus	15	32	4	34	131	198
Central	W	L	OL	Pts	GF	GA	Atlantic	W	L	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	30	13	10	70	180	136	Boston	39	7	5	83	192	111
Winnipeg	32	19	1	65	167	137	Toronto	31	13	8	70	175	141
Colorado	27	19	4	58	152	140	Tampa Bay	33	16	2	68	184	152
Minnesota	27	20	4	58	155	150	Florida	26	22	6	58	189	185
Nashville	24	19	6	54	138	146	Buffalo	26	20	4	56	186	170
St. Louis	23	25	3	49	156	185	Detroit	22	20	8	52	149	166
Arizona	17	28	6	40	134	179	Ottawa	24	23	3	51	151	159
Chicago	15	29	5	35	120	179	Montreal	20	27	4	44	134	189

Note: Overtime or shootout losses worth one point.

**RESULTS**

AT PHILADELPHIA 2 EDMONTON 1 (SO)	James van Riemsdyk and Morgan Frost scored in the shootout, and Carter Hart made 34 saves for the Flyers.
AT NEW JERSEY 3 SEATTLE 1	Dougie Hamilton scored two power-play goals and the Devils improved to 10-1-1 in their last 12 games.
AT FLORIDA 4 SAN JOSE 1	Sam Reinhart and Eric Staal each scored a pair of goals for the Panthers’ season-high third straight win.
AT DETROIT 2 CALGARY 1	Filip Zadina made a successful return to the Detroit lineup, scoring the go-ahead goal at 5:51 of the third.
AT TAMPA BAY 5 COLORADO 0	Andrei Vasilevsky made 30 saves to stop an 84-game regular-season shutout drought for the Lightning.
VANCOUVER 6 AT NY ISLANDERS 5	Elias Pettersson scored twice in the third and the Canucks stopped a two-game skid. Collin Delia made 24 saves.
VEGAS 5 AT MINNESOTA 1	Jack Eichel had a goal and an assist during a four-goal second period for the Golden Knights vs. struggling Wild.

TODAY’S GAMES	
Pittsburgh at DUCKS, 7 p.m.	Seattle at N.Y. Rangers, 4 p.m.
Toronto at Columbus, 4 p.m.	Arizona at Chicago, 5:30 p.m.
SATURDAY’S GAMES	
Pittsburgh at KINGS, 7:30 p.m.	Vancouver at Detroit, 9 a.m.
Calgary at Buffalo, 9:30 a.m.	Edmonton at Ottawa, 9:30 a.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Montreal, 9:30 a.m.	Nashville at Philadelphia, 9:30 a.m.
Tampa Bay at Dallas, 10 a.m.	Washington at Boston, 12:30 p.m.
Colorado at Florida, 3 p.m.	Columbus at Toronto, 4 p.m.
NY Rangers at	

# SPORTS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2023 :: LATIMES.COM/SPORTS

## MILWAUKEE 115, LAKERS 106



PHOTOGRAPHS BY MARK J. TERRILL Associated Press

**MAX CHRISTIE**, left, and Anthony Davis defend Giannis Antetokounmpo for the undermanned Lakers, who acquired Mo Bamba for frontcourt help and moved Patrick Beverley to free up their crowded backcourt as they filled needs and complemented their stars.

## Suns retool, shine brighter out West

Durant's arrival in Phoenix shifts power, much to dismay of Clippers and others.

**ANDREW GREIF**  
ON THE NBA

Late Wednesday night, in the back hallways of Crypto.com Arena, there was a nervous energy as executives, staffers and players from the Dallas Mavericks and Clippers checked their phones while milling around in the aftermath of Dallas' victory. It was the last night before the NBA's noon Thursday trade deadline, and while the Mavericks' roster had already undergone a radical reshuffling, the Clippers were waiting for their own.

Typically, activity around trade deadlines picks up in the immediate hours beforehand. But with 13 hours remaining, as Paul George was addressing reporters about Kyrie Irving's Dallas debut and the Clippers' defense, those once listening to George began staring at their phones with incredulity at news of Phoenix's late-night strike to acquire Kevin Durant from Brooklyn, and pair him alongside Chris Paul and Devin Booker.

It was, by far, the biggest and most stunning trade of the deadline. But when it had passed, five days of trade activity that began in earnest with Dallas adding Irving had left a clear take-away.

"The demise of the Nets just made the West a lot tougher," one league insider said.

As trade season intensified last week, Denver sat atop the West as the conference's clear-cut leader in record and consistency. It was trailed by a pack united by vulnerability, from Sacramento's lack of postseason experience to Dallas' defensive holes, to the lack of continuity established by Phoenix, Memphis the Clippers and Lakers because of injuries.

After the deadline, one league executive believed there are now six bona fide contenders in the West and [See Clippers, B6]

# Clearance before takeoff

Lakers need older, wiser Russell and a healthy James

**BILL PLASCHKE**

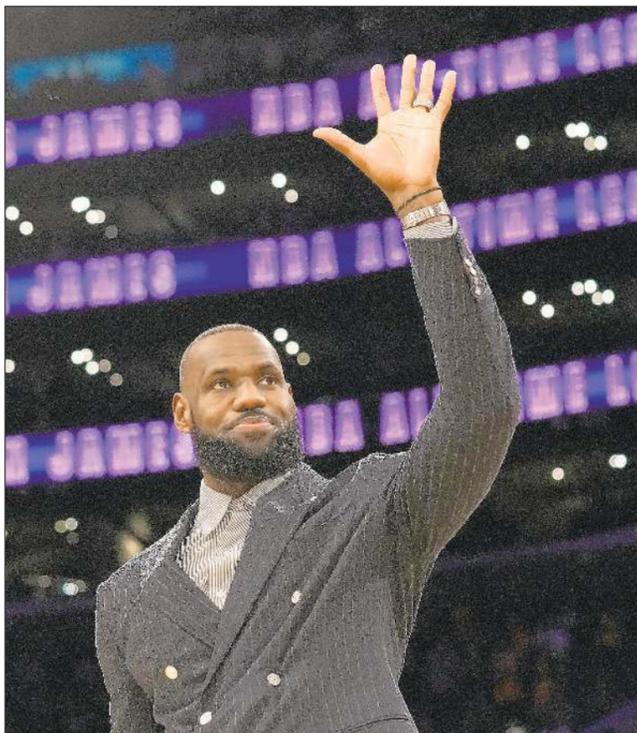
The toxic Russell Westbrook is gone. A grown-up D'Angelo Russell is here.

The distracting Patrick Beverley is gone. The skilled Malik Beasley, Jarred Vanderbilt and Mo Bamba are here.

By the time the NBA trade deadline passed Thursday afternoon, Rob Pelinka had enjoyed one of his best days as a Lakers general manager, emptying the locker room of two huge troublemakers while adding two shooters, a rebounder and some backup length.

But then, 1 hour 25 minutes later, the Lakers announced one more move that contained a more powerful message than all the trades combined.

LeBron James (left ankle soreness) has been downgraded to OUT for that night's game versus [See Plaschke, B7]



**LEBRON JAMES**, who sat out with a sore foot, waves to fans during a ceremony honoring him as the NBA's all-time leading scorer.

Trades leave L.A. short-handed but roster is upgraded

**BY DAN WOIKE**

There were smiles — lots of smiles — in the back hallways of the Crypto.Com Arena on Thursday evening, the Lakers purging roster problems in the previous two days, restocking the roster with younger players more suited to complement the team's stars.

Following trades that sent out Russell Westbrook, Thomas Bryant and Patrick Beverley and popular reserves Damian Jones and Juan Toscano-Anderson — the team's locker room seemed vacant.

Austin Reaves sat by himself on one side of the room when Lonnie Walker IV bounced into the room.

"We made it!" he said with a laugh, two trade deadline survivors representing a quarter of the healthy main roster players available to the team Thursday against the Bucks.

The short-handed rotations were only temporary — D'Angelo Russell, Malik Beasley and Jarred [See Lakers, B7]

## SUPER BOWL LVII :: KANSAS CITY VS. PHILADELPHIA

AT GLENDALE, ARIZ. | SUNDAY, 3:30 P.M. PST | TV: CHANNEL 11

# Young Chiefs evoke memories

When 49ers drafted a secondary before '81 season, it ended up in a Super Bowl victory.

**BY GARY KLEIN**

PHOENIX — Ronnie Lott has seen this before. Likewise, Eric Wright and Dwight Hicks.

All were members of a secondary that included four rookies during the San Francisco 49ers' run to their first Super Bowl title to end the 1981 season.

So, none question the ability of a rookie-rich Kansas City Chiefs secondary that will try to neutralize the Philadelphia Eagles on Sunday in Super Bowl LVII at State Farm Stadium.

"You have to have people that are committed," said Lott, a Hall of Fame safety who was a rookie cornerback for the Super Bowl champions of the 1981 season. "As a rookie you are committed [See Chiefs, B9]



JAE C. HONG Associated Press

**BRYAN COOK**, left, and Joshua Williams, right, are two of five rookies the Chiefs drafted to revamp their secondary, which will be key against the Eagles.

# UCLA dominates Oregon St. with emerging stars

Bailey's career-high 24 points, plus Clark's 16 and a lockdown defense lift Bruins.

**NO. 7 UCLA 62**  
**OREGON STATE 47**

**BY BEN BOLCH**

CORVALLIS, Ore. — Amari Bailey had finished talking to reporters about his midseason revival, about silky jumpers, about instant bursts to the basket, when someone standing behind a nearby curtain gushed in a falsetto voice, like a teenage admirer.

"Amari Bailey!" the voice exclaimed. "Oh my gosh! Career high!"

As Bailey stepped toward the curtain inside a dank hallway in the basement of Gill Coliseum, Jaylen Clark emerged from behind it, sharing a laugh and a hand slap with his UCLA team-

mate. The duo could do whatever they wanted. This was their night.

With the Bruins' usual stars uncharacteristically quiet Thursday, Bailey and Clark provided more than enough offense to carry seventh-ranked UCLA to a 62-47 victory over Oregon State.

Bailey scored 18 of his career-high 24 points in the second half and Clark broke out of an extended shooting slump with 16 points on seven-for-11 shooting to go with his usual feisty defense that resulted in three steals.

"It felt great," Bailey said, "I was just looking for instant offense with it starting on defense, and when we were able to get collective group stops and push in transition, you get to see more glimpses in my game."

That game included an array of offensive moves relying heavily on quickness that appeared fully restored in only his fourth game back from the foot discomfort [See UCLA, B8]

# CALENDAR

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2023 :: LATIMES.COM/CALENDAR



CHRISTINA HOUSE Los Angeles Times

JENNIFER LEE, left, and Irene Mecchi wrote the librettos for Disney musicals “Frozen” and “The Lion King,” respectively.

## Disney proxy fight is ‘over’

Board seat dispute ends after CEO Bob Iger detailed major restructuring, job cuts.

BY RYAN FAUGHNDER

Billionaire activist investor Nelson Peltz on Thursday ended his proxy fight with Walt Disney Co. after Chief Executive Bob Iger announced details of a major restructuring and cost-cutting program that included 7,000 job cuts.

“Now Disney plans to do everything we wanted them to do,” Peltz told Jim Cramer on CNBC. “We wish the very best to Bob, this management team and the board. We will be watching. We will be rooting.”

Peltz added, “The proxy fight is over.”

The influential investor had been lobbying Disney executives and board members since July in an effort to join the company’s board of directors. He began to wage the proxy fight last month after being rebuffed by the company.

His hedge fund, Trian Fund Management, had amassed 9.4 million shares worth roughly \$900 million. Trian sent letters to Disney stockholders asking them to vote for Peltz (or his son Matthew) to join the board and to not vote for current board member Michael Froman, a former U.S. trade representative.

Peltz sharply criticized the company, alleging poor succession planning and “self-inflicted” wounds such as the \$71.3-billion acquisition. [See Disney, E6]

## Musical powerhouse

Jennifer Lee and Irene Mecchi are part of an extremely rarefied club. They were integral to the success of Walt Disney Animation Studios’ three top-grossing films of all time: “Frozen,” “Frozen II” and “The Lion King,” which have cumulatively earned more than \$3.8 billion globally.

Lee wrote and co-directed the first two, and Mecchi co-wrote the latter. Both women wrote the librettos for the stage adaptations of their respective films too. All of which is remarkable not just for the stunning success of the franchises they helped cultivate, but also because they are women in industries (both theater and film) that have notorious histories of being unwelcoming to women. The two remain committed to giving other women in the field advice

Disney Animation’s Jennifer Lee, Irene Mecchi help pave the way for women

By JESSICA GELT

and helping them get a foot in the door.

On a recent weekday afternoon, Lee and Mecchi sat together in the Disney lot’s Animation building in Burbank to celebrate a unique moment: the fact that their stage shows are running simultaneously in Southern California — “The Lion King” at the Pantages, through March 26, and “Frozen” at

the Segerstrom Center for the Arts, through Feb. 19.

The women had met only one other time — when “Frozen” opened on Broadway in 2018 (“a very intimate evening of 1,200 people,” Mecchi quipped). But they laugh and joke — and relate — as if they’ve been friends for life. It’s the kind of bond that only shared experience, and creating world-dominating art, can cultivate.

Mecchi recalls feeling supported when she joined the creative team for “The Lion King” in 1992. Brenda Chapman was the head of story — the first woman to serve in that role on an animated feature film. (In 1998, Chapman became the first woman to direct an animated feature for a major studio with DreamWorks [See Musicals, E6]



JASON ARMOND L.A. Times

### Path for young Black artists

Lee Edward Colston II, above, takes his “First Deep Breath” at the Geffen. E2

### ‘Godland’s’ tale of ice and men

A bleak and beautiful Icelandic drama is a study of sociopathy in frigid isolation. E3

Comics ..... E4-5  
Puzzles ..... E4

### THEATER REVIEW

## Wooster Group finds a soul mate in Brecht

The avant-garde troupe vibes with the disruptive sensibilities of ‘The Mother.’

CHARLES McNULTY  
THEATER REVIEW

The Wooster Group and Bertolt Brecht might seem like strange bedfellows, but the New York experimental troupe’s staging of “The Mother,” one of Brecht’s “learning plays,” left me wondering what took the company so long.

Aesthetic differences shouldn’t be painted over, but there’s a surprising degree of compatibility in their innovative theatrical methodologies. At REDCAT,

where the Wooster Group returned Wednesday for a five-day run of “The Mother,” techno postmodernism finds its political heart.

Brecht’s epic theater was born in opposition to the traditional Aristotelian formula. The goal wasn’t to hypnotize an audience through an emotional narrative. Rather, the mission was to wake spectators up to the reality that their society is a construction every bit as contrived and changeable as the performance they’re currently watching.

Instead of catharsis, Brecht aimed for critical consciousness. To achieve this end, he elaborated a series of distancing tactics, or alienation effects, that were designed to disrupt the spell [See “The Mother,” E2]

## What the world needs now ...



Bettmann Archive / Getty Images

THE LOOK OF LOVE: Composer Burt Bacharach plays the piano in his Hollywood home in 1969 as his then-wife, actor Angie Dickinson, enjoys the music.

Cool, sophisticated and elegant — 20 essential songs from Burt Bacharach.

MIKAEL WOOD  
POP MUSIC CRITIC

Music poured out of Burt Bacharach like martinis out of an ice-cold shaker.

For more than half a century, the composer, producer, conductor and sometime performer provided the soundtrack for a persuasive and accessible idea of American sophistication — on the radio, in movies, on television and on Broadway. Bacharach, who died Wednesday at age 94, used his songs to toy with harmony and rhythm and to sneak elements of jazz and classical music into hit [See Bacharach, E6]

# A few detours on journey to stage

Lee Edward Colston reflects on his road to the Geffen and a West Coast debut.

BY STEVEN VARGAS

Lee Edward Colston II called his friend and artistic collaborator Malika Oyetimein at 2 a.m. one day with the semblance of a story. Over the phone, he pieced together a massive idea for a play.

"Being a good friend, she listened," Colston recalls. "And then she said, 'Lee, it's 2 in the morning. It's 2 in the morning and this sounds brilliant. Let's talk about it in the morning.'"

That idea became "The First Deep Breath," which opened Thursday at the Geffen Playhouse in Westwood. It follows Pastor Albert Jones, whose eldest son, Abdul-Malik, returns home from prison as the family is preparing for a memorial service on the sixth anniversary of daughter Diane's death. Abdul-Malik's homecoming, coupled with the grief surrounding Diane's passing, uproots the household's unspoken truths.

About 10 years in the making, the play's origins reflect Colston's journey to the stage. While his love for theater began early in life, he took a detour to work as a corrections officer before studying drama at Juilliard. And through it all, the aching for a story he could call his own lingered, resulting in an epic, political family drama centered on Black voices. Now his story is making its West Coast debut.

"The First Deep Breath' was born out of not seeing what I hoped to see as a young Black artist," he says.

Colston was a teenager when he saw a play for the first time. A mentor took him to a production of "For colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuf" in downtown Philadelphia, even though he showed no interest in sitting through a show.

"I watched this production in my hoodie and my Timberlands with my arms crossed, but by the story's



PLAYWRIGHT Lee Edward Colston's "The First Deep Breath" opened this week at the Geffen Playhouse.

JASON ARMOND Los Angeles Times

## 'The First Deep Breath'

**Where:** Geffen Playhouse's Gil Cates Theater, 10886 Le Conte Ave., Los Angeles  
**When:** 1 and 7 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Ends March 5.  
**Tickets:** \$30 to \$129  
**Info:** [geffenplayhouse.org](http://geffenplayhouse.org)  
**Running time:** 3 hours and 45 minutes, including two intermissions

end, something changed in me," he says.

In a show written by and starring Black women, he saw his mom, grandmother, sisters and aunts. "That production kicked me in my chest, and I knew in the back of that theater, 'Oh God, I know what I want to do with the rest of my life,'" he recalls.

He trained as a martial artist and had ambitions of going pro, but after graduat-

ing from the Community College of Philadelphia, he dreamed of a theater career. His dad, a former corrections officer, had other plans for him: following in his footsteps.

Colston thinks the pressure stemmed from his father's fear that a future in the arts could not be as stable. Working in a state prison would guarantee a steady income. Colston obeyed his dad's wishes.

## DUTIFUL SON

He took a psychological evaluation, a requirement to become a corrections officer. In a cadet class of 30 to 40 people, Colston says his evaluation was the only one flagged. When the doctor learned of Colston's aspirations to be in theater, it clicked. The psychologist informed him that he could succeed as a corrections officer, but that he'd be miserable and advised him to follow his dreams of being an actor.

"I didn't listen to him," he says. "I was afraid of disappointing my father, so I did

the job."

The psychologist's words ended up being prescient. But, Colston believes, "If I hadn't worked there, I wouldn't have become the playwright that I am today. I really discovered writing on a cellblock."

Colston started writing poems in his downtime. One became 10; 10 became hundreds. The poems soon developed into his first play, "Solitary." Even while working a job he didn't feel passionate about, he continually found his way to the arts. Some of his biggest supporters were the men in his unit who wanted to see him succeed as an artist.

"There wasn't really a pathway that had been written for young Black artists to model themselves after, at least one that was visible to me in my community," he says. "And these incarcerated men were like, 'Yo, you gotta get out of here. You're not supposed to be here. You're meant for bigger.'"

He adds, "I just know in my bones this is not what I'm

meant to do."

While a corrections officer, he smashed his hand in a mechanical door in 2005 and went on disability leave. During recovery, he made a quiet promise that he wasn't going to work a regular job again. But first, he had to persuade his father.

"I asked him, 'Did you make sacrifices so that I could do the same as you, or did you make those sacrifices so that I could do better than you?'" Colston says. "And if you made those sacrifices so that I can do better than you as your son, then you got to let me do better.'"

## PUSHING FOR MORE

He went on to graduate from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, tour with "The Color Purple" and perform in "Othello" for the North Carolina Shakespeare Festival. Still, he craved more.

He had his eyes on Juilliard, but had already applied three times — twice for acting and once for playwriting. Oyetimein pushed him

# Disruptors are well matched

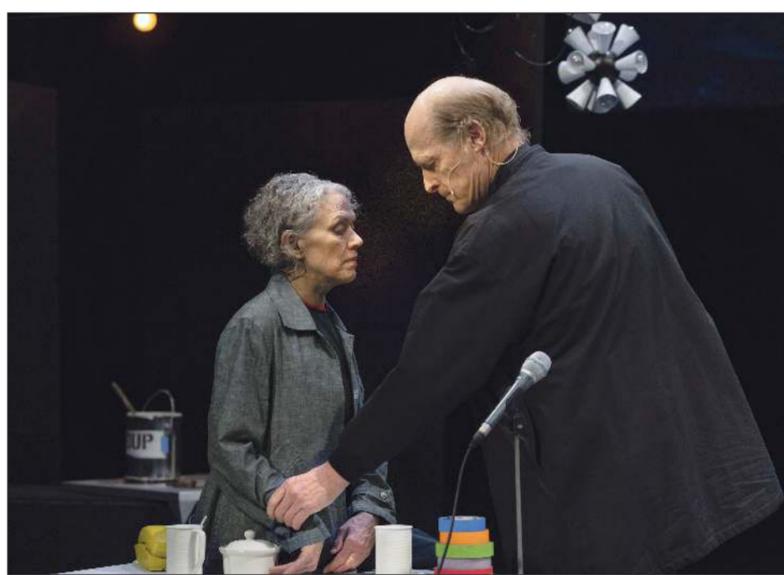
['The Mother,' from E1] of the performance and expose the machinery behind theatrical illusion.

The Wooster Group has been alienating audiences in its own avant-gardist way for decades. The company's multimedia collages, often blending canonical treasures with campy bric-a-brac, have worked to undo entrenched assumptions of theatrical perception. The stage is defamiliarized so that audiences can refamiliarize themselves with possibilities long obscured by convention and habit.

In turning in recent years to key theatrical figures of the 20th century — Tennessee Williams, Tadeusz Kantor, Harold Pinter — the Wooster Group has sought

rejuvenation for itself and new life for the artist or artwork under investigation. The group's homage to the Polish artistic visionary Kantor, "A Pink Chair (In Place of a Fake Antique)," seemed a natural symbiosis of sensibilities. "Vieux Carré," Williams' somewhat louche 1977 memory play often unfairly consigned to the detention table with the playwright's other disobedient late works, thrived in the Wooster Group's weirdo company.

I feared that "The Mother" might repeat the mistake of "The Room," the troupe's staging of Pinter's early one-act that only exposed an unbridgeable gulf in poetics. But Brecht's play turns out to be both theo-



ANGEL ORRIGO

THE WOOSTER GROUP'S "The Mother" features Kate Valk and Jim Fletcher.

retically and practically amenable to Wooster Group director Elizabeth LeCompte and her veteran company, led by Kate Valk in

the title role.

Distilled from Maxim Gorky's 1906 novel of the same name, "The Mother" arose out of the economic turmoil of the early 1930s and sought to instruct its audience in the morality of class struggle. The cause Brecht is explicitly championing is worker solidarity. Marxism informs the play's didactic thrust. But this is no high-flown intellectual teach-in. The approach is unpretentiously human.

Short scenes are punctuated with songs. The fourth wall is shattered to remove the division between actors and audience. The work isn't participatory, but the feeling is that we're all in this mess together and that sustained collective action is the only answer.

Valk plays Pelagea Vlasov, a middle-aged Russian widow who lives with her son, Pavel (Scott Shep-

taken in by Teacher (Jim Fletcher), who provides safe harbor under the condition that she keep her trouble-making politics out of his apartment. Before long, he's teaching her and her friends how to read and writing pamphlets to aid in their class war.

"The Mother" makes a more direct emotional appeal than Brecht's more complex dramatic works, such as "Mother Courage and Her Children," written several years later for a more traditional theater audience. I couldn't help craving a touch more emotive power from the Wooster Group, which interrupts the political sentiment with its usual ironic antics.

The use of microphones, recorded voice and episodes of lip-syncing doesn't allow us to mindlessly settle into the story. This added layer of opacity might understandably provoke frustration in the uninitiated. (The Wooster Group isn't for reluctant beginners.)

But the play's meaning comes through in the steady, determined gaze of Valk's Pelagea, who unsentimentally arrives at the understanding that a world without economic justice is itself a prison.

Once fearful of running into trouble with the law, Pelagea is now the first to take up the workers' flag. A magnificent line from the play, not included in the Wooster Group adaptation, is silently communicated by the shifting consciousness of Valk's character: "Do not fear death so much, fear an inadequate life."

Amir ElSaffar has composed new music, an atonal jazz that Shepherd bangs out on keyboard when Pavel transitions into talky song. As occasional narrator and commentator, Fletcher ensures the production's gears shift smoothly.

The cultural stew includes the influence of 1930s Hollywood gangster movies, most notably in the mannerisms and vocal inflections of Fliakos. But Brecht, postmodernized, comes through. "The Mother" still speaks with urgent clarity about a struggle that, as Pelagea illustrates, you're never too old or insignificant to join.

## 'The Mother'

**Where:** REDCAT, 631 W. 2nd St., downtown Los Angeles  
**When:** 8:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday (all performances sold out)  
**Tickets:** \$50  
**Info:** [redcat.org](http://redcat.org)  
**Running time:** About 80 minutes, no intermission

herd), a factory worker whose wages keep getting cut. Not even frugal Pelagea can make the watery soup stretch long enough. They're behind on their rent, and factory management does not seem to care whether its employees and their families go hungry.

Distrustful of political action when the play begins, the illiterate Pelagea becomes an accidental activist after volunteering to distribute leaflets calling for a strike. Her motive is to protect her son, who has begun fraternizing with revolutionary workers (played by Ari Fliakos and Erin Mullin). She fears for his safety, but the more state brutality she encounters, the more committed she becomes to toppling the existing system.

After her son is imprisoned for his role in a demonstration, she is reluctantly

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## MOVIE REVIEW

## Icy priest is tested in a land of cold beauty

‘Godland’ delivers an elemental tale about human nature and the sins of colonization.

**JUSTIN CHANG**  
FILM CRITIC

In the bleak and beautiful “Godland,” a 19th century Danish priest named Lucas (Elliott Crosset Hove) makes the long, arduous trek north to Iceland, where he seeks to build and lead a church in a small coastal settlement.

Lucas also happens to be an amateur photographer, and the heavy camera equipment he carries on his back suggests he isn’t the brightest or most practical of ministers. Rather than simply sail to his destination, which would be safer and faster, he has decided to travel on foot and horseback over miles of harsh, unforgiving terrain, taking pictures of the Icelandic people and landscapes he encounters along the way. It’s an artistic impulse and an arrogant, imperialist one, and it will have severe consequences for Lucas and those accompanying him on his journey.

Lucas is of course an unwitting camera subject himself, namely that of the gifted Icelandic writer-director Hlynur Pálmason and his cinematographer, Maria von Hausswolff. “Godland,” stunningly shot on 35-millimeter film, mimics the look of old photographs with its square frames and rounded corners — a visual choice that initially suggests we’re discovering Iceland and its natural wonders through Lucas’ eyes.

Some scenes do appear to have been filmed over the priest’s shoulder, such as an intimately detailed sequence in which he painstakingly sharpens his photographic plates and prepares them with egg white. (The movie was loosely inspired by seven wet-plate photographs, taken by a Danish priest, that are considered the first visual record of Iceland’s southeastern coast.)

But while this is Lucas’ mission and his story, it



Cannes Film Festival

**ELLIOTT CROSSET HOVE** portrays a 19th century Danish priest sent to Iceland to establish a church.

## ‘Godland’

In Danish and Icelandic with English subtitles  
Not rated

**Running time:** 2 hours, 23 minutes

**Playing:** Laemmle Glendale and Laemmle Monica Film Center, Santa Monica

pointedly does not unfold entirely from his perspective. At times, Pálmason frames the action from a God’s-eye distance, dwarfing Lucas and his fellow travelers against grassy slopes and craggy mountains. Later in the story, the editor, Julius Krebs Damsbo, will cycle through the seasons in a few brief still-frame montages, focusing on a stretch of wilderness or a dead horse’s remains, as if to remind us of the impermanence and cosmic insignificance of all living things.

## For your safety

The Times is committed to covering indoor arts and entertainment events during the COVID-19 pandemic. Because attending carries risks during this time, we remind readers to follow health and safety guidelines as outlined by the CDC and local health officials.

From time to time too, the camera aligns itself with the silent, contemptuous gaze of Ragnar (Ingvar Eggert Sigurðsson), the Icelandic farmer hired to guide Lucas on his way north. For if “Godland” is a pitiless epic of man versus nature, it also pits man against man.

Ragnar, the kind of fellow for whom riding a horse and fording a river are second nature, despises Lucas from the moment they meet, and the antipathy proves more

than mutual. It doesn’t help that Lucas can’t speak Icelandic and that Ragnar can’t or won’t speak Danish. (Their kindly interpreter, played by Hilmar Guðjónsson, has his work cut out for him; so do the movie’s carefully delineated English subtitles.) Both men are fatally stubborn, though Ragnar is the humbler, wiser one by far. He knows the region and its elemental perils, and he knows only a fool would try to test those perils or bend them to his will.

Lucas has no such knowledge and even less self-knowledge, and his trip, which he only barely survives (at least one fellow traveler does not), is a record of persistent arrogance, reckless stupidity and dismal failure. And Crosset Hove’s performance, from which he has purged every whisper of charm if not sympathy, is an excellent reminder of the difference between a protagonist and a hero. Kindness

and patience, among other Christian ministerial imperatives, seldom manifest themselves in Lucas’ pinched, unsmiling countenance, his hard stares and occasional death glares. Nor does he seem to evince any consideration or curiosity with regard to the locals he meets and sometimes photographs. Iceland itself, with its stunning rock formations, crashing waterfalls and impossibly gorgeous sunsets, duly transfuses him, but that vindicates only his eyesight, not his character.

“Godland” isn’t Pálmason’s first study of sociopathy in frigid isolation; nor is it his first time working with the well-paired Crosset Hove and Sigurðsson. (You can see them in the director’s earlier features “Winter Brothers” and “A White, White Day,” respectively.) Even more than “Silence,” Shusako Endo’s much-adapted novel about 17th century Portuguese

missionaries in Japan, the movie is a withering chronicle of spiritual hubris.

Unsurprisingly, it’s also a story about the willful blindness of colonialism, and one that benefits from Pálmason’s own dual-layered identity as an Icelandic-born filmmaker who spent many years studying and living in Denmark. From the opening scene of Lucas receiving his instructions from an older priest, there’s a clear, if understated, tension between the Danish ruling powers and what they assume to be their untamed island subjects, so desperate in their need for order, civilization and God.

That assumption is quietly, surgically dismantled once Lucas arrives at the settlement and the difficult work of church building begins. His routine, though easier and less physically arduous than his travels, feels no less calculated to reveal his every fault and weakness. Lucas spends some time recuperating in the home of a farmer, Carl (a superbly restrained Jacob Hauberg Lohmann), who, not unlike Ragnar, sizes up the priest with withering accuracy. Carl’s two daughters — the younger, free-spirited Ida (Ída Mekkin Hlynisdóttir) and especially the older, marryable Anna (Vic Carmen Sonne) — look upon their visitor more favorably, even as they play their parts in a drama that is destined to end badly for him.

That inevitability might leech the movie of some surprise in its grim final moments, which is not to say that the rest of this steadily gripping, often mordantly funny movie is easy to predict or pin down. While more than one of Lucas’ future parishioners professes a weary disinterest in God, Pálmason himself seems to strike a more ambivalent pose. The problem with this priest — one of them, anyway — may not be an excess of spiritual fervor but rather a dearth of it, a lack of reverence for the beauty that Pálmason’s camera exalts in every magisterial frame. Lucas may be a blind wretch, but the creation through which he stumbles is a source of never-ending awe.

## MOVIE REVIEW

## A ‘Full Time’ struggle

BY ROBERT ABELE

A high-speed movie about the grind of responsibility, the French nail-biter “Full Time” paints a working mom’s commuter life in skyline smears, hard-won favors and quick changes of dress and mood. In a performance that rushes by in the gear of stress, all the while leaving potent afterimages with each vexing swerve in her character’s day, Laure Calamy (“Call My Agent!”) contributes an all-timer to the slice-of-life canon — the “Mission: Impossible” of mother tales.

In writer-director Éric Gravel’s thumping narrative — starting with the sound of breathy sleeping, interrupted by an alarm clock — divorced mother of two Julie (Calamy) is having a real tornado of a week. Getting from the suburbs of Paris to the high-end hotel where she toils on a tightly run schedule as head maid is exasperating enough without one more transit strike making hay of her mobility options, not to mention testing the patience of an older kid-sitting neighbor (Geneviève Mnich).

Julie also is navigating an upcoming important interview for a better-paying job — a corporate gig closer to a skill set she hasn’t tapped since having to make ends meet. But that’s in another area of the city, requiring its own time-stealing management away from the watchful eyes of her understanding-to-a-point boss (Anne Suarez), and appeals to work colleague goodwill (the other maids’ lives aren’t easy either) alongside the ever-worsening transportation snafus.

And while Julie handles the logistical obstacles and piled-on pressures with warrior-like swiftness and even the occasional forbearing smile, it’s an inherently mad-



Music Box Films

**LAURE CALAMY** portrays a working mother having a terrible week in French movie “Full Time.”

## ‘Full Time’

In French with English subtitles  
Not rated

**Running time:** 1 hour, 28 minutes

**Playing:** Laemmle Royal, West Los Angeles

dening heroism to be exhilarated by — like watching someone succeed simply by not losing her mind when given every conceivable chance. (There’s also an alimony-owing ex not answering Julie’s calls, as she in turn ignores her bank’s over mortgage payments. And did I mention her young son’s upcoming birthday party?) “Full Time” is canny enough to understand that many people’s make-do existences are ready-made for compassionate thriller-ization. Gravel, in the heart-stopping vein of Belgium’s social-realism-minded Dardennes brothers, invests his protagonist’s one-challenge-at-a-time needs with the kind of visual intimacy and racing rhythm that makes us feel intensely close to Julie, from first sprint in her dehumanizing day to the exhaling bathtub soak she takes nightly.

French techno artist Irène Drésel’s percolating electronic score, like Giorgio Moroder sweating through a bender, certainly does its part, as does cinematographer Victor Seguin’s documentary-like viscerality and editor Mathilde Van de Moortel’s versatility with

both adrenaline-charged sequences and quieter human moments.

It’s Calamy’s show, though, and in Julie’s gantlet of duties and drags — running, cleaning, cajoling, collapsing, recharging — she brings as much no-nonsense physicality as Keanu Reeves would fending off an array of “John Wick” assassins. (She even finds time to flirt with a helpful neighbor played by Cyril Gueï — and the pocket of joy that creates is thoroughly charming.) Overall, it’s a dazzlingly exterior and interior portrait of supreme capability and grit — what will seem like momentary bravery to some but is more like a granite truth about workforce motherhood. Things get done. “Full Time” is just expertly dramatic packaging on an invisible given.

Wondering if Julie will crack may be the knee-jerk source of tension, but it’s worth remembering that embedded in Gravel’s scenario, in what we hear in the background on TVs and radios, is where things will go the more we push workers to the breaking point: strikes that expand, and protests that can bring a city to its knees. Julie’s having a go at coping without exploding, but there’s a world around her that is fed up, and it’s that macro detail inside this micro character study that shrewdly keeps us from simply enjoying “Full Time” as some nerve-racking one-off in a woman’s life. The movie concludes on a rare moment of stillness and emotion for Julie, but it’s not an ending. It’s just a break.

## MOVIE REVIEW

## Horror in the loss of self

BY CARLOS AGUILAR

Haunted by the regret of surrendering to what others deemed appropriate for her life, young Valeria (Natalia Solián) faces a tempestuous pregnancy in “Huesera: The Bone Woman,” a Mexican entry in the body horror subgenre. The remarkable debut from writer-director Michelle Garza Cervera is as effectively blood-curdling as it is intellectually incisive.

Motherhood as a mark of fulfilled womanhood weighs heavy on Valeria in a country that venerates the figure of the selfless matriarch willing to sacrifice it all for her children — a devotion entangled with the religious idolization of the Virgin of Guadalupe. Not even the joy her husband, Raúl (Alfonso Dosal), radiates can ease her discomfort with this choice.

The more the gestation progresses, the more Valeria’s mind debilitates. Only anxiously cracking her knuckles offers her relief amid microaggressions from the women in her family, save for her aunt Chabela (Mercedes Hernández), happily single and child-free but judged for it.

Soon, Valeria’s general malaise escalates into vivid visions of a horrifying female entity whose broken bones force her to slither. The grotesque sound of skeletal breakage pierces our ears with skin-crawling effect. “When you become a mother, you feel like you are split in two,” Valeria’s mother-in-law explains to soothe her, but only augments her dread.

Garza Cervera cleverly orchestrates each scene to confront her tormented protagonist with a situation that, in the eyes of those around her, puts her readiness to be a mother in question. Solián’s harrowingly physical performance of heart-wrenching screams and painful facial expressions does more to frighten the viewer than the well-executed otherworldly incidents, because the horror



XYZ Films

**NATALIA SOLIÁN** plays a young and conflicted expectant mother in “Huesera: The Bone Woman.”

## ‘Huesera: The Bone Woman’

In Spanish with English subtitles  
Not rated

**Running time:** 1 hour, 33 minutes

**Playing:** Draffhouse Cinema, downtown Los Angeles

is in her mounting desperation.

“Huesera” includes no sharper visual representation of the expectations placed on women than seeing Valeria tear down her carpentry workshop to turn it into the newborn’s room while her partner’s music room remains intact. In several of cinematographer Nur Rubio Sherwell’s precise shots, the pattern on the crib Valeria built by herself resembles a spiderweb that has entrapped her, and that motif reappears when she delves deeper into the occult.

Early on, Raúl refuses to have sex with her over concern for their growing offspring, and later he and his mother decide whether Valeria should start on antidepressants. To them, her personhood and agency become secondary to her child-bearing and child-rearing

roles. Even the seemingly throwaway dialogue in a dinner scene reinforces how society perceives women struggling to balance the unfair demands of family and career.

“You wanted it?” a healer asks Valeria about the pregnancy, to which her modest nod reads as far from enthusiastic. Reasons for such a doubtful response, and Valeria’s overall inner disarray, come in flashbacks to her once-rebellious identity, the parts of herself she has repressed to preserve the status quo. Crucial to that forgotten, more honest version of herself was a bond with Octavia (Mayra Batalla), a non-conformist feminist woman.

Despite what one might anticipate, “Huesera” does not culminate with a birth, nor does it go in a “Rosemary’s Baby” direction. Instead, the terror pushes beyond that deadline and almost drives Valeria to commit an unspeakable act. She must seek assistance from women versed in the forces we can’t fully comprehend for a sequence that ties together all of the story’s symbols by successfully mixing digital effects and earthy mysticism.

Though the movie does ultimately give in to its supernatural elements, Garza Cervera makes it known that the most terrifying nightmare in “Huesera” is the loss of self.

COMICS

SUDOKU

9x9 Sudoku grid with numbers 4, 9, 6, 7, 3, 9, 5, 7, 2, 3, 3, 8, 4, 7, 1, 2, 4, 1, 7, 5, 3, 5, 2, 6.

9x9 Sudoku grid with numbers 1, 6, 3, 5, 1, 2, 3, 6, 1, 2, 5, 3, 4, 1, 6, 2, 6, 5, 3, 4, 1, 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 2, 6, 4, 3, 1, 2, 5, 2, 1, 6, 3, 4.

©2023 The Mepham Group. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency. All rights reserved. Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 or 2-by-3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 (or 1 to 6 for the smaller grid). For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

KENKEN

Every box will contain a number; numbers depend on the size of the grid. For a 6x6 puzzle, use Nos. 1-6. Do not repeat a number in any row or column. The numbers in each heavily outlined set of squares must combine to produce the target number found in the top left corner of the cage using the mathematical operation indicated. A number can be repeated within a cage as long as it is not in the same row or column.

6x6 KenKen puzzle with cages and target numbers like 1, 1-, 2+, 24x, 3-, 4, 4+, 2+, 3.

6x6 KenKen puzzle with cages and target numbers like 2+, 3-, 11+, 2, 90x, 11+, 3, 2+, 10+, 11+, 2+, 6x, 2-, 7+, 5, 3-, 5, 3-.

PREVIOUS ANSWERS grid with numbers 1, 4, 3, 2, 2, 1, 4, 3, 3, 2, 1, 4, 4, 3, 2, 1, 4, 5, 1, 6, 2, 3, 4, 5, 1, 6, 2, 3, 4, 3, 2, 4, 1, 6, 5, 2, 6, 5, 3, 4, 1, 1, 3, 2, 4, 5, 6, 6, 4, 3, 5, 1, 2.

HOROSCOPE

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

Aries (March 21-April 19): There are those who give advice and opinions as though they are essential to the economy. Avoid them. Taurus (April 20-May 20): Any chance you get to surrender to the fun offers you the feeling of being more than alive. Gemini (May 21-June 21): Because you're always changing and growing, it's very easy to forget who you are. Remind yourself. Cancer (June 22-July 22): Happiness experts say that true joy comes from within. Maybe so, but what if there's more than one way to travel to happiness? You'll consider new routes. Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): You accept everyone and include people so no one feels left out. Your popularity rises. Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): So what if your mind flits

from subject to subject, trying to tie disparate bits of information together? In the moments of focus you achieve, you will produce brilliant results. Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23): You learn quickly today, so apply it to the subjects you care most about. Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21): You cannot know what it's like to be another person, but imitation tells you something about how it feels to do what they do. Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): After you cultivate the peaceful feeling in your own mind and heart, little more will need to be done. People around you will feel calm without really knowing why. Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You know what you admire about a loved one, though you haven't shared it yet. Make the moment happen. Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You're a gifted commu-

nicator. Because you speak the truth consistently and well, you'll be asked to speak on behalf of a group. Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Life delivers poetic truths, stark contrasts and fascinating contradictions. Don't worry too much about putting this puzzle together. Don't make sense, make art. Today's birthday (Feb. 10): You may feel the year progress slowly, and this is a good sign. Magical transformations happen in increments. A special pursuit will give you the sense of rising above the ordinary world, an earned transcendence. You'll win hearts as you go. More highlights: a group victory, a keen instinct for investing and family pride. Leo and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers: 7, 18, 19, 12 and 5. Mathis writes her column for Creators Syndicate Inc. The horoscope should be read for entertainment.

CROSSWORD

Edited By Patti Varol and Joyce Nichols Lewis By Sara Muchnick and Doug Peterson

- ACROSS 1 Hullabaloo 5 Regional spinoff starring LL Cool J 11 Detergent brand 14 Take a turn 15 Led Zeppelin drummer John 16 Sheepish sort 17 \*Sailing-inspired sportswear brand based in Montana? 19 LG rival 20 Dazzled 21 Ballet move 22 -Magnon 23 Marks with a sale price, say 25 Magnificent 28 Long hoops shot 29 \*Luxury watchmaker based in Washington? 32 Actress Edelstein 33 T. rex and others 34 \*Athleisure company based in Hawaii? 39 Dwarf planet in the asteroid belt 40 Rolled up unannounced? 41 \*High-fashion label based in Colorado? 44 Threads 48 L'Oréal rival 49 Synagogue instrument 51 Some NPR stations 52 Reid of "American Pie" 55 Blood line 56 Draft pick 57 Good news for investors, as seen literally in the answers to the starred clues 59 Shing liquor, maybe 60 Gliding state 61 Swedish soprano Jenny 62 Choose 63 Past, present, and future 64 Provocative

15x15 crossword grid with numbers 1-64.

- DOWN 1 Concert souvenir 2 Top remover 3 Grow wider 4 Words inside an arrow 5 Sports org. with 30 franchises 6 Clever stroke 7 Like a global corp. 8 Branch of Islam 9 Don, as a corset 10 Revealing Reddit session, for short 11 "The Incredible Hulk" star 12 "You've gotta be kidding!" 13 Emmy-winning Arthur 18 Abbr. in blood types 22 Adjuster's case 24 Terrarium foundation 27 \_ one's time 26 Some CGI creations 30 Joe Burrow's alma mater: Abbr. 31 Resort city on the Black Sea 32 Runner-up 34 Skateboarding leap 35 Fir ball 36 St. Kitts neighbor 37 Scanned bars, briefly 38 Levi's alternative 39 Atlanta-based health agcy. 42 Make the rounds? 43 Apply carelessly 44 Website that regularly features doodles 45 Ready to run, perhaps 46 G, PG, or R 47 Shing liquor, maybe 50 Country singer Ketchum 53 Material flaws 54 End in \_ 56 Earlier 57 Share 58 Small cells

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE grid with words like ESME, OTRA, ACES, GOAS, CHOUI, STOMP, OUTS, IDEAGITATOR, TAOIS, SLIDE, IPAP, AHH, PRIDE, ANDJOY, SPARSER, CRAPS, KARAP, PEA, DIY, WIDE, ANGLE, LENS, OXY, OAF, RILO, STAMP, MOISTEN, HIDEAWAYBED, RUT, EVE, RAVES, IGOT, HOLDTHATTHOUGHT, ELISE, STEP, REEK, RIEL, TOWS, UNDO.

BRIDGE

BY FRANK STEWART

The tale may or may not be true, but supposedly Pepsi's ad agency miscalculated years ago when it introduced the phrase "Come alive; you're in the Pepsi generation" in China. When translated, the ad came out as "Pepsi brings your ancestors back from the grave." Today's declarer had a major miscalculation. After leaping to six spades, reasonably enough, he won West's club opening lead with the ace and took the A-K-Q of trumps. When East discarded, South lost the fourth trump to West, won the next club in dummy and tried the A-K of diamonds. He hoped for a 2-2 break, but no luck: The result was down two.

South succeeds with a little care. After he takes the top trumps, he leads a diamond to dummy, ruffs a heart and leads a second diamond. If West ruffs with his jack of trumps, South plays low from dummy and easily takes the rest. If instead West discards on the second diamond, South wins in dummy and ruffs a diamond. West can get only his high trump. You hold: ♠ J 5 4 3 ♥ K 8 7 2 ♦ J ♣ Q J 10 9. Your partner opens one diamond, you respond one heart and he bids two clubs. The opponents pass. What do you say? Answer: Partner's hand is limited to 18 points, and he may have as few as 11 or 12. Your game chances are almost nil. Pass. You would raise to three clubs with A 5 4 3, K 8 7 2, J, Q 10 9 4, but

North dealer N-S vulnerable. NORTH: ♠ None, ♥ J 10 6, ♦ AK 7 6 4 3 2, ♣ K 6 4. WEST: ♠ J 5 4 3, ♥ K 8 7 2, ♦ J, ♣ Q J 10 9. EAST: ♠ 6 2, ♥ AQ 9 5 4 3, ♦ Q 10 9, ♣ 8 7. SOUTH: ♠ AK Q 10 9 8 7, ♥ None, ♦ 8 5, ♣ A 5 3 2. NORTH 1♦ Pass, EAST 2♥ 6♠ Pass, SOUTH 2♣ All Pass, WEST 4♥. Opening lead - ♣ Q. Tribune Content Agency

ASK AMY

Piercing veil of his privacy

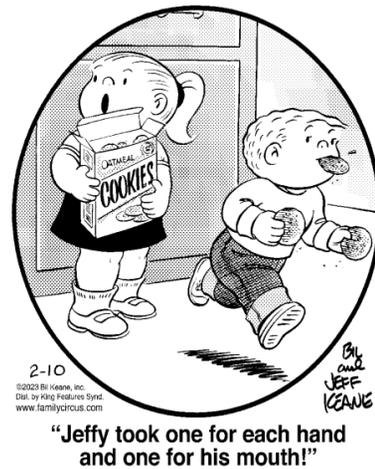
Dear Amy: I am engaged to marry a wonderful man who treats me like a queen. I do not have any evidence of infidelity, but he is a naturally private person, and I harbor fear that he may have another woman on the side — not so much sexually as emotionally. He is communicating with other women on an intimate level during the start of our relationship, without my knowledge, and that experience has left me uncertain of his commitment to me. I have asked him if I'm the only one, and he swears that I am, but I can't shake the feeling that there's something he isn't telling me. He is extremely clever, and I am incredibly trusting. I'm left with lingering doubt. How can I move past what I consider irrational insecurity before my fear predicts my future? FEAR OF INFIDELITY

You make an excellent point that "irrational insecurity" could actually inspire the situation you're most fear. Responding to a partner's constant suspicion or trying to boost them from truly irrational insecurity is exhausting and depleting. However, your own instincts are your best tool for determining the course of your own life. Never ignore them. You believe there is something he isn't telling you? There is a high likelihood that you are right. Have you demonstrated a tolerance for hearing the truth and responding calmly and rationally, or does your partner believe that the truth will break you? Your relationship started off on a challenging note. Do not submerge your own instincts in order to continue. Your fiancé may have to lift the veil of his well-tended privacy to reassure you.

four years ago. She has been in a memory-care unit at a very good facility for the last 18 months. She feels productive and stays busy, and neither of us regrets this choice. I visit her often, but she remembers me as a good friend, not as her spouse. I'd love to stop working and begin to enjoy life, but when I mention my "wife," prospective partners don't think it appropriate to seek more than a friendship. At this stage of life, I don't need another friend. I need a partner. Suggestions? DVM

Dear DVM: I'm sorry you and your wife are going through this. It interests me that you say she knows you now only as a good friend, proving friendships can outlast partnerships. To nitpick: You don't "need" a partner. You "want" a partner. That desire is understandable, but if you are approaching women as potential partners and they offer friendship instead, I suggest you accept this offer. All of the things you love to do — hiking, camping, traveling, movies — can be enjoyed with a friend. Email questions to Amy Dickinson at askamy@amydickinson.com.

FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



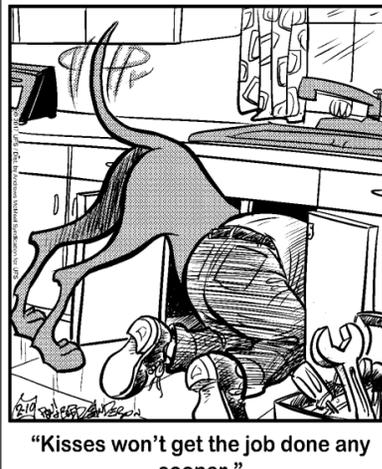
DENNIS THE MENACE By Hank Ketcham



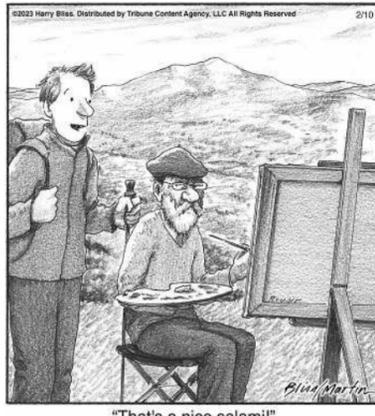
REPLY ALL LITE By Donna Lewis



MARMADUKE By Brad & Paul Anderson



BLISS By Harry Bliss



SPEED BUMP By Dave Coverly



COMICS

LA CUCARACHA By Lalo Alcaraz



DILBERT By Scott Adams



CRABGRASS By Tauhid Bondia



BABY BLUES By Jerry Scott & Rick Kirkman



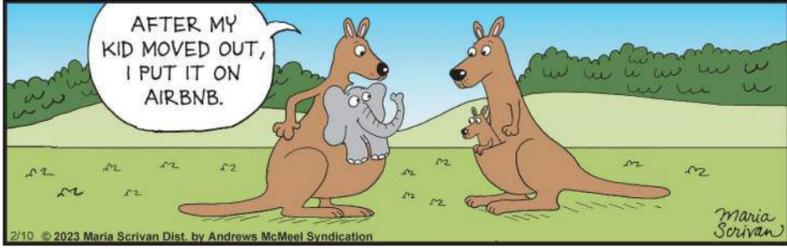
CANDORVILLE By Darrin Bell



CRANKSHAFT By Tom Batiuk & Chuck Ayers



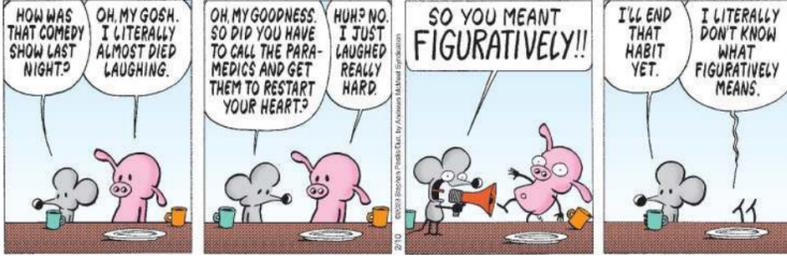
HALF FULL By Maria Scrivan



JUMP START By Robb Armstrong



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE By Stephan Pastis



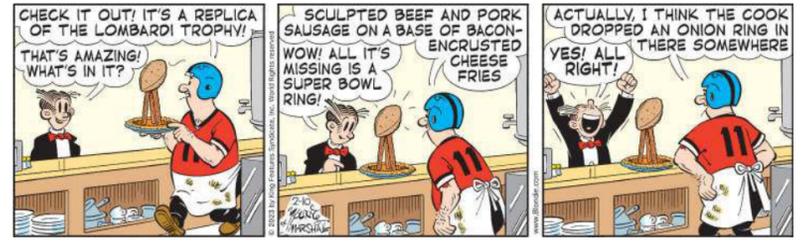
MACANUDO By Liniers



LIO By Mark Tatulli



BLONDIE By Dean Young & John Marshall



ZITS By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman



BETWEEN FRIENDS By Sandra Bell-Lundy



TUNDRA By Chad Carpenter



BIZARRO By Wayno and Piraro



SIX CHIX By Maritsa Patrinos



DRABBLE By Kevin Fagan



FRAZZ By Jef Mallett



MUTTS By Patrick McDonnell



NON SEQUITUR By Wiley



PEANUTS By Charles M. Schulz





MATTHEW MURPHY/Disney

CAROLINE Bowman, left, as Elsa and Lauren Nicole Chapman as Anna in "Frozen," now onstage in SoCal.

## Opening doors for women

[Musicals, from E1] Animation's "The Prince of Egypt." And Lorna Cook ("The Land Before Time," "Mulan," "Beauty and the Beast") was key story artist. "We were with a group of men who heard women," Mecchi says of "The Lion King," which was directed by Roger Allers and Rob Minkoff. "And I think that was one of the keys to [the film]. From the beginning it was very, 'Yes, and?' There was never a 'No, this is a terrible idea.'"

Lee, too, remembers a receptive room of creatives when she was working on "Frozen." At the time she was new to Disney, having just co-written the screenplay for "Wreck-It Ralph," and she says she was "desperate for the job."

Lee says she was hired after she saw an early screening of a draft of "Frozen" and voiced some concerns about character: "I don't understand — these women are their sisters, but they're jealous? Why? Why is Anna so persnickety? Why does she demand butter-colored flowers instead of the yellow? They're not likable. I don't relate. And I've seen this before," Lee recalls saying at a meeting afterward.

That was all it took for co-director Chris Buck and songwriters Robert Lopez and Kristen Anderson-Lopez to want Lee on board. From there, says Lee, the team dove into the ways women can feel misunderstood, the power that love and fear hold, and how fear can often take over, as well as "how much we mess up in love all the time."

When "Frozen" was released in 2013, Lee became the first female director of a Disney Animation Studios film, and the first female director of a feature film that crossed the \$1-billion mark at the box office. Today she is Disney Animation Studios' chief creative officer. To say her rise through the ranks at the storied studio

### 'Frozen'

**Where:** Segerstrom Center for the Arts, 600 Town Center Drive, Costa Mesa  
**When:** 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays; 2 and 7:30 p.m. Saturdays; 1 and 6:30 p.m. Sundays, through Feb. 19  
**Cost:** Starting at \$29  
**Contact:** [scfta.org](http://scfta.org)  
**Running time:** 2 hours, 15 minutes with intermission

### 'The Lion King'

**Where:** Hollywood Pantages Theatre, 6233 Hollywood Blvd., L.A.  
**When:** 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays; 8 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays; 2 and 8 p.m. Saturdays; 1 and 6:30 p.m. Sundays  
**Cost:** Starting at \$33. Best availability: weeknights in March  
**Contact:** [broadwayinhollywood.com](http://broadwayinhollywood.com)  
**Running time:** 2 hours, 30 minutes with intermission

was supersonic would be an understatement.

Lee still remembers the day a decade ago when "Frozen" had just been released and she attended a showing with a friend in New York City around Christmastime. There was a promotional Olaf statue in the lobby that was dressed in a hula skirt, and it was wrecked.

"Someone stole his ukulele, and his skirt was gone, and he had no arms. He was just standing there in the corner broken," Lee laughs, adding that she felt it didn't necessarily bode well for the success of the film. But when she sat in the audience, she realized everyone was not only singing along, but they were also actually

reciting the lines.

"It was after that I think people really started paying attention," she says. "It was like, 'This isn't going away. It's getting bigger.'"

Mecchi says she had a similar moment of realization about the scope of what she had helped to create with "The Lion King" the first time she saw the opening sequence cut together as a trailer. It was undeniably moving.

The film's success was all the more exciting, Mecchi says, because at the time Disney had what she called "an A-B" system, "where they were going to do one big movie, and a small one. And 'Lion King' was going to be the smaller one."

Mecchi remembers then-Walt Disney Studios Chairman Jeffrey Katzenberg remarking, "If this makes \$45 million in its life, we'll be happy."

The anecdote makes Lee laugh.

"I won't tell you what the diapers still make!" she says.

Despite the myriad ways "Frozen" and "The Lion King" have impacted pop culture and informed the childhoods (and parent-hoods) of millions of people, Lee and Mecchi both hold a soft spot in their hearts for the stage musicals. To them, musicals represent an intimacy and an immediacy that can't be achieved through film.

"The Lion King" opened on Broadway in 1997 and won six Tony Awards, including best musical and direction of a musical for Julie Taymor — who became the first woman to nab the honor. (Mecchi was nominated for a Tony, for book of a musical.) "The Lion King" has gone on to become the third-longest-running show in Broadway history, and the highest-grossing, having crossed the \$10-billion mark worldwide.

The COVID-19 crisis forced the "Frozen" musical to close in March 2020. It had

cost \$35 million to mount and grossed more than \$150 million, making it one of the biggest hits of the season. But pandemic pressures made it untenable to keep on Broadway alongside "Aladdin" and "The Lion King."

Lee says she still gets the stage manager reports from every single show, and though she doesn't necessarily read them, she can't bring herself to filter them.

"Every now and then I just go, 'Oh, what happened in Australia today?'" she says.

Lee loves seeing the names of the current stage managers because she recognizes them from the Broadway production — and many of them weren't stage managers then. She says she feels so proud of them for progressing in their careers.

That's what she hopes to keep doing for women, she says — opening doors so they can step in.

"For many women I speak to in the industry, access is the issue," Lee says, adding that she's working on building an environment at Disney Animation "with more creative leaders being women — and not just women, but people of color. The more they're in the room, the more they support each other, and our rooms are stronger."

Lee's advice for women striving to succeed in male-dominated fields?

"It's the work, it's the discovery, it's being willing to fail, but also a willingness to listen to criticism, and to let go of what hurts," she says. "It's really hard in a world where you feel like you have to do more just to be considered average. But it's the best thing you can do."

Mecchi nods in agreement, adding a bit of wisdom that could have been culled from a Disney script. As dark and dreary as things may sometimes seem, she says, "Keep an open mind, and an optimistic heart."

## Revamp plan forms

[Disney, from E1] tion of 21st Century Fox, which brought in valuable properties such as "Avatar" and "The Simpsons" but increased Disney's debt load significantly.

"We respect and value the input of all our shareholders and we appreciate the decision by Trian Fund announced by Nelson Peltz this morning," Disney said in a statement.

### STREAMING FOCUS

Peltz's lobbying began when Bob Chapek (Iger's handpicked successor) was still running the company. Chapek was fired abruptly in November, and the board brought Iger in to replace him.

Iger's restructuring and cost-cutting program is meant in large part to get the company back on track to make its popular streaming services profitable.

The streaming strategy, which Iger spearheaded before he stepped down as CEO in 2020, has won over customers but is bleeding cash. The company on Wednesday said its direct-to-consumer business — which includes Disney+, Hulu and ESPN+ — lost more than \$1 billion during the most recent quarter.

Disney is targeting \$5.5 billion in cost savings, largely from its content and marketing. Disney said it plans to achieve \$3 billion in content savings, excluding sports, over the next few years.

Iger did not specify the timeline for job cuts, nor did he say which divisions would be hit hardest. However, analysts expect much of the pain to be felt in the company's media and content businesses.

At the same time, Disney has said it is focusing on its big franchises, particularly in animation, which has struggled at the box office lately. Iger said sequels to "Toy Story," "Zootopia" and "Frozen" are in the works.

Cuts will probably include reducing costs from a separate distribution division that Chapek created and "removing duplicative costs" at Disney's TV networks and film studios, wrote Morgan Stanley analyst Benjamin Swinburne in a note to clients.

Disney on Thursday detailed the company's long-expected reorganization, which divides the company into three distinct units: Disney Entertainment (composed of film, TV and streaming), ESPN, and Disney Parks, Experiences and Products.

The goal, Iger said, is to return power and accountability to the company's creative executives, instead of distribution chiefs and financial types.

Swinburne was supportive of the move but acknowledged challenges that come with the strategy.

"The risks are fairly clear as well," Swinburne wrote. "Specifically, how does Disney decide which content ends up on its still unprofitable streaming services?"

Iger has tasked film studio chief Alan Bergman and TV veteran Dana Walden with leading the entertainment side of the business, including the big streaming operations of Disney+ and Hulu. ESPN and ESPN+ will be headed by Jimmy Pitaro. Josh D'Amato will run Parks, Experiences and Products. Iger has tasked the executives with a clear mandate for "driving business efficiencies globally," Disney said.

As part of the reorganization, several back-end departments will be consolidated to support both Disney Entertainment and ESPN, including groups in charge of product and technology, advertising sales and distribution, excluding theatrical and music.

International entertainment divisions will now report to Bergman, Walden and Pitaro. As a result, Rebecca Campbell, chairman of international content and operations, will leave the company in June.

The organizational challenges take immediate effect.

The company also said it would ask the board to approve the reinstatement of shareholder dividends, though they will start as a fraction of what they once were.

ESPN being its own unit led to renewed questions about whether Disney would spin off or sell the cable sports giant. Iger has dismissed such speculation.

### AGGRESSIVE MOVES

While much of the cost-cutting is aimed at correcting some of the moves that made streaming such a money-loser, Disney said it was not backing away from its goals for Disney+.

"The streaming business remains a top priority for the company," Disney said.

Iger has acknowledged that some of the tactics to grow the streaming business, which started under his watch, were too aggressive. For example, Disney+ came to market in 2019 with a price of \$6.99 a month, far less than most comparable services. The company has since hiked subscriber fees.

"We got maybe intoxicated by our own sub growth," Iger said in a CNBC interview Thursday.

Asked whether he truly planned to retire for good after his two-year contract runs out, Iger, who turns 72 on Friday, insisted it was his intention to leave.

"Well, my plan is to stay here for two years, that's what my contract says, that was my agreement with the board, and that is my preference," he told CNBC's David Faber.

Disney's financial results beat Wall Street estimates. It posted sales of \$23.5 billion, up 8% from the same quarter last year. Analysts on average had been expecting \$23.4 billion in revenue. Profit rose 11% to \$1.28 billion. Disney's earnings of 99 cents a share exceeded projections of 78 cents.

The stock increased 2% to \$114.54 in midday trading.

## The best of Bacharach

[Bacharach, from E1] parade pop.

Yet to listen to one of his dozens and dozens of classic tunes — which he wrote with lyricists including his most steadfast collaborator, Hal David, and his ex-wife Carole Bayer Sager — was never to feel intimidated by the expertise that close listeners knew he was showing off.

Here, in chronological order, are 20 of his finest songs.

**1. The Drifters, "Mexican Divorce" (1962)**  
After crafting a witty arrangement to illustrate Bob Hilliard's lyric about "an old adobe house where you leave your past behind," Bacharach met Dionne Warwick, then a background singer, at the recording session for this Drifters tune.

**2. Dionne Warwick, "Don't Make Me Over" (1962)**  
Bacharach and David's first hit with Warwick can still startle you with its blend of romantic desperation and rock-ribbed defiance. No wonder Warwick borrowed its title for a recent documentary about her life and career.

**3. Jackie DeShannon, "What the World Needs Now Is Love" (1965)**  
Listen to the way this waltz-time classic moves between



EARL GIBSON III/FilmMagic

BURT BACHARACH performs with Dionne Warwick at the Grammy Museum in Los Angeles in 2012.

### Gifted songwriter

Pop icon Burt Bacharach has died at age 94. **A1**

the certainty of the chorus and the uncertainty of the verse; it's as though the music itself were convincing DeShannon that what she's singing is true.

**4. Dionne Warwick, "Alfie" (1967)**  
One of Bacharach's trickiest melodies — and the one he identified as his personal favorite — was also one of his most interpreted. Yet nobody navigated the song's unusual intervals as crisply as Warwick did.

**5. Dusty Springfield, "The Look of Love" (1967)**  
Has any film comedy ever yielded a song sexier than Springfield's sultry invitation to take a lover's vow (and seal it with a kiss)? Composed for the 1967 James Bond spoof "Casino Royale," "The Look of Love" literally defines the concept of bedroom eyes.

**6. Aretha Franklin, "I Say a Little Prayer" (1968)**  
Franklin's lead vocal cooks, obviously. But pay attention to how much fun the Sweet Inspirations are having with Bacharach's melody on backgrounds.

**7. Herb Alpert & the Tijuana Brass, "This Guy's in**

**Love With You" (1968)**  
A comically straightforward sentiment becomes an improbably dramatic proclamation.

**8. Dionne Warwick, "Do You Know the Way to San Jose" (1968)**  
Warwick famously disliked this sprightly character sketch about a failed actress who ditches cutthroat L.A. for her quieter hometown. Or at least she did until it earned her her first Grammy.

**9. Isaac Hayes, "Walk on By" (1969)**  
For all their complexity, Bacharach's structures were exceedingly tidy, which is why Hayes blew so many minds with the 12-minute psychedelic-soul odyssey he made of "Walk on By." Among those minds: the RZA, who sampled Hayes' version in the Wu-Tang Clan's "I Can't Go to Sleep," and Beyoncé, who did the same in her "6 Inch."

**10. B.J. Thomas, "Raindrops Keep Fallin' on My Head" (1969)**  
An Oscar winner, a No. 1 hit and a Bacharach specialty: a happy song that sounds sad (or is it the other way around)?

**11. The Carpenters, "(They Long to Be) Close to You" (1970)**  
Instantly recognizable from its opening piano plinks, the sibling duo's first chart-

topper is a master class in yearning whose gorgeous melody credibly embodies David's lyric about angels sprinkling moon dust. See also: Stevie Wonder's live talkbox rendition from "The David Frost Show" in 1972, later sampled by Frank Ocean on 2016's "Blonde."

**12. The 5th Dimension, "One Less Bell to Answer" (1970)**  
Swanky grown-up soul music in no hurry to get anywhere.

**13. Burt Bacharach, "Something Big" (1973)**  
Bacharach wasn't a powerhouse singer by any means, but his laid-back croon had an undeniable vibe, as heard in this gently philosophical bossa nova in which he compares himself to "a grain of sand that wants to be a rolling stone."

**14. Luther Vandross, "A House Is Not a Home" (1981)**  
An R&B slow jam so perfect that Kanye West sampled it for his song "Slow Jamz." Vandross' epic reading of this jilted lover's lament carried Bacharach's songwriting to new emotional heights.

**15. Christopher Cross, "Arthur's Theme (Best That You Can Do)" (1981)**  
Bacharach's second Oscar-winning tune took Dudley Moore's drunken playboy character more seriously than the character did himself.

**16. Naked Eyes, "Always**

**Something There to Remind Me" (1983)**  
First cut in the early '60s, this bouncy meditation on the painfulness of memory could still pull heartstrings two decades later.

**17. Dionne & Friends, "That's What Friends Are For" (1985)**  
A song of the year Grammy winner for Bacharach and Sager, "That's What Friends Are For" offered Warwick and her famous friends — Stevie Wonder, Gladys Knight and Elton John — all the room they needed to play.

**18. Patti LaBelle and Michael McDonald, "On My Own" (1986)**  
As good a song as anyone's ever written about the reality of romance in middle age.

**19. Elvis Costello, "God Give Me Strength" (1996)**  
The post-punk troubadour teamed with Bacharach to write this sumptuous ballad for Allison Anders' sort-of Carole King biopic, "Grace of My Heart." Then, they kept at it and made a whole album of original tunes, 1998's "Painted From Memory."

**20. Ronald Isley, "Anyone Who Had a Heart" (2003)**  
Bacharach followed the Costello collab by drafting Isley to sing an album of his classics, including this one, in which Isley runs the full gamut from whispering to pleading.



# Now KOREA



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By YOO Hwan-Young

## Looking at Incheon, we can see a new future for Korea-US relations

The new year of 2023 marked a strong start like the rabbit's hopping at the fresh start of the morning. The reason why the rabbit came to mind at the start of the year is because this year is 'Gye-Myo-Nyon(癸卯年)', which means the Year of the Black Rabbit. The rabbit is a very friendly and clever animal that often appears in our old folktales and has been considered a symbol of wisdom and abundance. For the Republic of Korea, this year marks the 70th anniversary of the Military Armistice Agreement that stopped the Korean War, as well as the 70th anniversary of the signing of the ROK-US Mutual Defense Treaty, so the symbol of the Year of Rabbit seems to be more meaningful. In 1950, the U.S.-led U.N. forces succeeded in landing in Incheon under General MacArthur when the North Korean military repeatedly retreated to the Nakdonggang River front due to a surprise invasion by the North Korean military turning

the tide of Korean War at once. Incheon, geographically located at the center of the Korean Peninsula, served as a foothold for today's Republic of Korea through MacArthur's Incheon landing operation. It has always played a central role in major scenes in Korea's modern and contemporary history, as it was the first place to sign a trade treaty with the U.S. during King Gojong's reign in the late Joseon Dynasty and the laying of railroads for the first time in Korean history. Personally, when I think of Incheon, I think of a black and white photo framed in a country house in my childhood. It was a commemorative photo taken in front of the statue of General MacArthur, wearing sunglasses and smoking a pipe cigarettes in his mouth, with my grandfather and a few people in the neighbourhood, all dressed up in style. During the Korean War, General MacArthur argued that the intervention of the Chinese army should have been prevented by attacking

the plains of Manchuria with nuclear weapons. I even fantasize about what he would think of while looking at today's Republic of Korea under the nuclear threat from North Korea. Korea and the United States often use the expression blood alliance, but it can be said that it is a special relationship as they share the experience of bleeding towards the same goal on a common battlefield. This is the case with The Korean War, which fought against North Korea, and the Vietnam War, which fought against the North Vietnamese army. Historically, the relationship between Korea and the United States began with a bad meeting called Shinmi and Yangyo, but during the Korean War, it became a closest ally. As of 2023, the American culture, such as language, food, and music, is deep in our daily lives, and just as our K-music and K-food are attracting young Americans. Korea and U.S. are now developing into an inseparable bond. As you well know, the 21st century is defined as a century of culture. This culture has the characteristics of being fed by human emotions. Now, Korea is proudly acting as a cultural producer on the world stage with the confidence that the most Korean thing can appeal to the World. The reality is that the Korean Wave has led to the economic ripple effect of cultural product exports, generating more than tens of trillion won in annual profits. In 2002, the drama "Winter Sonata" announced its start by creating new words such as



Incheon Landing Operation in the Korean War, By News1

"Yonsama" and "Hallyu" in Japan, and now, more than 20 years later, it has enthusiastic young people around the world. Following the "Squid Game," which has attracted viewers from around the world to the TV by sweeping various film awards, led by BTS, the "Casino Game" featuring actor Choi Min-sik is creating another craze earlier this year. It even makes us feel that Korea is now positioning itself as a cultural center rather than a cultural periphery. Incheon is a unique city that retains the traces of the glory and the shame of Korea's opening port. It has the first railroad in Korea, Daebul Hotel, the first Western-style hotel, and the first lighthouse on Palmido Island off the coast of Incheon. and the stone steps that were used as the boundary between the Qing Dynasty and Japan's leased territory from the late Joseon Dynasty, which shows the pain of modern Korean history, and there is also the Jajangmyeon

Museum, which was remodeled from the restaurant building 'Gonghwachun', the birthplace of jajangmyeon, which is a very famous Koreanized Chinese food. Incheon is reborn as an attractive city with state-of-the-art smart cities coexisting as various historical sites where you can see Korea's modern and contemporary history at a glance and Korea's first free economic zone. As we know, the Korea-U.S. relation has created a new turning point at Incheon in the past, we hope that Incheon will once again play an important role in promoting friendship and mutual development with the wisdom of the black rabbit. Just as Incheon International Airport has established itself as a hub airport in Northeast Asia, we hope that Incheon will be able to play a pivotal role in expanding Korea to the world in the global era through a strong Korea-U.S. alliance in this year of 2023.

Senior Reporter Samuel Han



Sunrise at Gyeongpodae Beach, By News1

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By News 1

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First Lady Kim Keon-hee volunteers in Daegu ahead of the Lunar New Year holiday to encourage self-employed people in Seomun Market

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Seoul Plaza Ice Skating Rink has returned after 3 years

Chicken is the best K-food that the world is paying attention to

Incheon city office planning to set up the Office of Overseas Koreans to become the center of 7.5 million Koreans abroad

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"Achieving the UNESCO World Heritage Grand Slam"



By Andong City

Who IS ? "Be yourself, no matter what they say"

BAECHU-KIMCHI

Page 7. ARTS &



Soojin Han, Korean-Born World-Class Violinist

The Oriental painter Yoo Hwan-young, I met.

"Until the Day of Unification"



By News 1

## The Yoon Suk-yeol administration spurring on 'reform in labor, pension, and education' at the beginning of the new year



By News 1

First Lady Kim Keon-hee volunteers in Daegu ahead of the Lunar New Year holiday to encourage self-employed people in Seomun Market. On the 11th of last month, ahead of the Lunar New Year holiday, First Lady Kim Keon-hee paid a visit to the Seongseo Social Welfare Center in Daegu and partici-

pated in meal service with college students from the Korea Saemaul Undong Center.

Invited to participate in volunteer activities by the Korea Saemaul Undong Center, she served meals for more than 120 elderly people living in the nearby area. Also, she delivered New Year's greetings to each of them presenting them with

In his second year in power, President Yoon Suk-yeol is accelerating the three major reforms of labor, pension and education. Although it is unlikely that those reforms will be promoted as planned due to difficulties in coordination with the huge opposition party, he is doing his utmost to push the reforms through. We have looked at the direction and roadmap of his major reforms.

### ◆“Driving economic growth through labor reform”

The fastest of the three major reforms is labor reform. In his New Year's address, President Yoon stated, “There is no future for a country that is preoccupied with vested interests and rent-seeking (competitively wasting resources on unfair activities for gain without effort).” “We must drive the growth of our economy through labor reform,” he stressed.

President Yoon said, “The starting point of labor reform is establishing “the rule of law in labor relations,” which is the way to avoid unnecessary walkouts and disputes and truly respect the value of labor.”

The labor reform is expected to be promoted based on the recommendations presented by the

Future Labor Market Research Association, which include Δ flexibility of working hours, Δ re-organization of the wage system to narrow the wage gap and restore fairness, Δ elimination of blind spots including the application of the Labor Standards Act for workplaces with less than 5 employees, and Δ measures to strengthen employment

### ◆“Education reform “ensuring diversity and nurturing talents that will help the industry”

Regarding education reform, President Yoon said, “We will boldly transfer the authority for higher education, which is directly related to our nation's competitiveness, to local areas and provide them with the support needed, so they can link education to their specific industries.” He added, “Curricula will be diversified, so future generations will be able to receive the types of education they desire, and we will ensure that everyone enjoys equal opportunities.”

Most notably, President Yoon said at the Ministry of Education's new year business report on the 5th, “In the era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, the most important

thing in education is diversity, and the key is that the system should guarantee that consumers and suppliers can freely choose educational services.” He emphasized, “Education is also responsible for mass-producing digital talent and supplying them to relevant industries and fields.”

### ◆Pension reform, whether to pay more and receive less or to pay more and get more?

President Yoon said, “It will be difficult to maintain the sustainability of the pension system if we cannot resolve the growing deficit in pension finance.” He went on to say, “We will submit a legislative proposal on this reform to the National Assembly after conducting scientific research and investigations on pension finance, collecting public opinions and referring the issue to public discussions in a prompt manner.”

The government plans to come up with a pension reform plan by October and gather public opinions through a public deliberation process including discussion and analysis from all walks of life.

By B.H.Kim

## First Lady Kim Keon-hee volunteers in Daegu ahead of the Lunar New Year holiday to encourage self-employed people in Seomun Market

winter items such as scarves and overshoes.

She then visited Seomun Market where she purchased various items and food ingredients to prepare for the Lunar New Year's Day as well as a variety of foods that could be eaten on the spot to encourage small enterprises and self-employed people who are struggling financially.

She visited a multitude of famous stores in the market and tasted food with the citizens, sharing New Year's greetings and good wishes with small enterprises and citizens. Regarding the first lady's visit to Daegu, the Presidential Office said, “She arranged the visit to express gratitude to the volunteers for their hard work to deliver hope to neigh-

bors in need during the Lunar New Year holiday and to encourage local traditional market merchants who are struggling with recent high prices and economic deterioration through her traditional market shopping.

By B.H.Kim

## Startup (IT)

### Whale Shark—Data Centric (AI & Big softwares)

Datacentric (CEO Jang Dong-hoon) signed an all-round MOU with Mongolia University of Science and Technology (MUST) on January 27, and announced that the project carried out starting with the ‘OSS with AI + IoT(WhaleShark AIoT)’ seminar at Ulaanbaatar Mongolia on November 21.



From the right 6th CEO Jang Dong-hoon Datacentric, Photo By DataCentric

Under the agreement, Director S. Dolgorsuren (Communications Regulatory Commission of Mongolia) and officials of Mongolian University of Science and Technology launched a project to foster talented IT professionals in Mongolia, apply SW convergence technology in various fields such as smart city, smart farm, smart factory, smart airport and smart logistics, and prepare a guide to the data-based government and promote industrial revitalization.

From January 2023, they will carry out a talent development project and a smart farm pilot project with the Mongolian University of Science and Technology. To this end, through consultation with related ministries, including the Ministry



Photo By DataCentric

of Science and Technology, Information and Communication, they intend to promote it in a form suitable for the local environment.

They will form an educational curriculum using WhaleShark (data analysis tool) developed by Datacentric in cooperation with the Korea IT Business Promotion Association (IPA) for the talent development project. In addition, the AI developer training project will be promoted in Korea during the first half, and during the second half, it will be expanded to other universities in Mongolia. The smart farm pilot project is planned to proceed in cooperation with Chungcheongbuk-do and Datacentric, and will also conduct PoC with Mongolia.

Jang Dong-hoon, CEO of Datacentric, said, “We will work hard to become like the representative squid game of K-Hallyu in the K-ICT area, which is a national prestige and another Korean Wave, by contributing to the global SW ecosystem of K-ICT through cooperation with Mongolia.”

DataCentric specializes in AI & Big Data softwares and aims for open source SW.

By interpreting data dam as data sea, we are running a solution brand, WhaleShark, and are expanding our business areas through the advancement of industries such as aviation, manufacturing, medical care, and shipbuilding and marine. DataCentric is a startup that consists of professional developers with more than 5 to 20 years of experience in AI & big data platform development, and has received various awards

and experience as a planning committee member of public institutions.

Our solution brand ‘WhaleShark’, with the spread of data-based industries and economies, provides services that integrate usual data into one and facilitate the identification at a glance, utilization, and distribution of integrated data.

The solution brand ‘WhaleShark’ provides services for small and medium-sized manufacturing companies that support AI & big data analysis in the 5G high-speed IoT environment where hundreds of thousands of time series data are generated per second. Recently, beyond time series and structured data collection tools and processing and utilization services, the technology area is expanding to unstructured and image data.

By Data Centric

## Startup (BIO)

### Beauty Life September Questionnaire

#### 1) Introduction and pride of PNL BIO

PNL BIO Co., Ltd., which aims for healthy beauty, is a company that manufactures and distributes the best quality products with safety as the top priority with love for mankind. Invention patented products consisting of main ingredients approved by the Food and Drug Administration and safe basic ingredients obtained from nature are made based on honesty without fear of responsibility. We provide solutions so that you can comfortably manage all uncomfortable places from head to toe. It is our product's characteristic and pride that you can immediately feel the effect of substances that are quickly and deeply absorbed. Because it is comfortable and easy to use,

and the effect progresses quickly, they are active in using the product from the beginning, and their trust in the product is very high.

#### 2) I know you have won many awards. What are the awards?

2021 Korea Excellent Product Award (National Assembly Science and Technology Information Committee), 2021 Korea Model Entrepreneur Award (National Assembly Planning and Finance Committee), The 10th Asia LOHAS Industry Fair Eco-friendly category silver prize, 2021 Korea Best Brand Award Grand Prize in the immunity enhancement category, Korean culture and arts world grand prize / global consumer grand prize

#### 3) What is your company's main product introduction, characteristics and distribution channels?

Our representative products and management solutions are as follows. You can perform basic body care with Biotox, L Point Gel 1, and Body Cell 2. You can manage the whole body such as scalp care, back care, abdomen care, leg care, foot care, joint care, etc. We provide a catalog solution. In particular, the uncomfortable parts related to skin and pain We help quickly and comfortably. As for the face care solution, Nexol series such as Nexol I and Nexol V are proving their outstanding effectiveness. is. The high-content active ingredi-

ents are absorbed deeply as well as immediately, so the satisfaction is very high. wow high The distribution channel of PNL BIO Co. Ltd. is distributed nationwide through the franchise of PMC Co., Ltd. Whole Body Immune Management Center, a subsidiary company that started in January of this year.

#### 4) Why are your products popular with consumers?

A lot of people are paying a lot of time and money for the pain they put themselves through. However, it is very difficult to obtain satisfactory results. That's why you like our products, you can say the immediate effect. It is. Substances that are delivered through rapid absorption have good effects immediately on the customer's uncomfortable areas. is the biggest advantage of our product. In addition, safe products It is trust. Anyone can use it, and it is safe and effective even for continuous use. I think it is loved by many customers.

#### 5) What are your long-term and short-term plans?

PNL BIO Co., Ltd. aims to have 500 PMC centers by 2023 and 1000 PMC centers by 2024, so that anyone across the country can easily and comfortably experience our products and make T-purchase possible. Also, for the health of the underprivileged in difficult circumstances, the peer 1004 club volunteer group was established. Through this, we will proceed with continuous interest, service, and donation. Overseas, we will constantly pay attention to places where our hands are needed, and in particular, we will strive to improve the health of Africans. PNL BIO Co., Ltd. will leap forward as a healthy bio company that practices true sharing.

By PNL BIO CO.



John Park



## Dreaming of a great transition of Korea itself by starting 'the era of provinces'



Governor Lee Chul-woo

Governor Lee Chul-woo analyzes that the social problems that Korea is facing are caused by the concentration of the metropolitan area. He points out that this is because half of the population lives in the metropolitan area, which accounts for only 10% of the national land area, and as the unipolar system in the metropolitan area has continued for over 50 years, everything such as businesses, jobs, education, medical care, and culture is concentrated in the metropolitan area. Governor Lee expressed his determination as follows 'Gyeongsangbuk-do is taking the lead in opening up the era of provinces and setting an example for creating a new Korea.

**- How do you feel about being inaugurated as the first president of the 8th Civil Election Association of City and Province Governors of Korea?**

First of all, thank you to our residents who always support us. And I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude once again to the mayors and governors who nominated me as the president. Since the first president took office in 1999, the Council of Provincial and Provincial Governors has contributed to the strengthening of decentralization, development of local autonomy, and balanced development among regions, and has also functioned well as a channel through which the common voices of cities and provinces are conveyed to the government.

This year, the City and Governor Council also turned 24 years old. I will work hard so that the 24-year-old City and Governor Council can be reborn as a competent worker who will change the game in Korea.

**- What is the reality of local autonomy that you personally felt as a 3-term member of the National Assembly and re-elected as a provincial governor?**

It is because of the reality that elections are held without any serious meaning until the end of 30 years of local autonomy, remaining in 'local autonomy' superficially.

The reality of local autonomy is bleak. Looking back on the past four years as a provincial governor, it is not an exaggeration to say that all I did was visiting the heads of the bureau departments of the central ministries. When I meet central government officials, they often complain, "I can't even move a single pine tree in front of my house. What kind of local government is this?" So, what I have been saying all along is that 'we must change Korea itself and we must open a revolutionary era of province.

**- What does 'revolutionary local era' mean?**

As the Yoon Seok-Yeol administration came into office, it declared an era of province and declared a 'provincial era that is good for living anywhere in Korea' as a national goal. However, the reality is that there is a small population in the provinces, and because the population is small, they are excluded from SOC projects, and due to lack of accessibility, they are excluded from jobs such as industrial complexes, and the 'vicious cycle of rural deterioration' continues. Changes cannot be expected with the preliminary feasibility study that measures the current B/C economic feasibility, and all infrastructure is inevitably concentrated in the metropolitan area.

In order to heal the disease in the metropolitan area and break the vicious cycle of rural deterioration, there must be a fundamental change in the overall local autonomy, such as legislation, finance, education, and organization, like a revolution, so that all citizens in the metropolitan area and local areas can be happy.

**- The Central Local Cooperation Council Act, which was initiated while being a member of the National Assembly, was implemented in January this year, and the first meeting was also held. Do you have any opinions about the Central Regional Cooperation Council?**

In the Central Local Cooperation Council, the president runs the meeting, and the Prime Minister and I, the chairman of the provincial and provincial councils, become co-chairs. It is a place to discuss and deliberate on local issues. The composition of the presidency of other councils is being delayed, but a meeting will be held when the composition is finalized.

The Central Regional Cooperation Council is an important place to directly deliver the local voices to the president and central government agencies, but there is a limit in that it cannot guarantee implementation. It is necessary to upgrade it to the level of the second State Council, which can decide on systems or policies that impose administrative and financial restrictions on the provinces in the future.

**- When you were inaugurated as the head of the Provincial Association, you said, 'I will open an era of people's happiness and strive to make Korea respected by the world.' What does that mean?**

South Korea ranks 12th in the world's GDP ranking as an advanced economy, but the World Happiness Index is only 59th out of 146 countries surveyed. The economic development centered on the metropolitan area involved local sacrifices and instilled a sense of relative deprivation in the provinces. On the other hand, the sense of deprivation in the metropolitan area is indescribable due to excessive competition and crowding, and social disparities between the rich and the poor. Only when these gaps are narrowed can we usher in an era of national happiness.

The world is amazed at the Republic of Korea's ability to achieve unprecedented economic growth and handle disaster situations wisely, and pays homage to Korea's growth from an economic powerhouse to a cultural powerhouse. In the future, we should become a happy Korea where the people are happy and move toward a respectful Korea beyond envy. The beginning is to create a 'local era that is good for living anywhere in Korea' with complete decentralization, and the national income of \$50,000 and the era of national happiness will naturally follow.

**- You have emphasized decentralization several times. What are the reasons and challenges for decentralization?**

To solve local problems locally, local powers must be expanded. It should be a local government in name and reality. We need to make laws suitable for the region, tax to secure finances, and invest in education to revive local universities.

Like other developed countries, the state must specify in the

constitution the 'principle of subsidiarity', which states that local governments can only perform tasks such as foreign affairs and defense that local governments cannot. The current Constitution has become obsolete. The current Constitution, which has only two provisions on local autonomy, must be changed to a constitution that fully guarantees local autonomy through the 'decentralization constitution'.

**- What are the ideas of Gyeongbuk in the transition to the local era in the Yoon Seok-yeol administration?**

At the same time as the re-election, the 'Local Era Preparation Committee' was launched instead of the transition committee. Composed of 5 subcommittees and 1 TF, it was led by the region to find a development strategy with unique strengths for good jobs in innovative growth. In order for Gyeongbuk, which led the Korean economy in the 1970s and 1980s, to stand up again, its industrial structure must be innovated to fit the 4th industrial era. We plan to focus on promoting the five mega-techs (battery, bio, semiconductor, robot, and metaverse) that have strengths in our region. Taking advantage of the strengths of Korea's largest nuclear power plant cluster, we intend to create a national clean energy industry belt by utilizing small module reactors (SMRs) and hydrogen fusion clusters. We are planning to create a digital K-culture renaissance centered around the Nakdonggang River and the three major cultural areas, and to transform Gyeongsangbuk-do's agricultural and fishing villages with 4th industrial technologies such as smart farms. Local era need to be led by the provinces, not the central ones, to bring about change. We will secure food for future generations so that all citizens of Gyeongsangbuk-do can enjoy a happy life.

By J.S.OH

## Subsidy24, the Beginning of the Era of Digital Platform Government

Office workers who combine work and childcare must use at least half-day leave to visit administrative agencies. How convenient would it be if you could immediately check what kind of subsidy you can receive regardless of place and time and even apply for it?

In Korea, the central and local governments and public organizations offer more than 10,000 services to citizens. When converted into US dollars, the value of these services would reach about \$77 billion. However, citizens who needed to receive benefits had to visit the institution in charge of the service to check eligibility or sign up for the institution's website to inquire whether they could receive benefits.

In many cases, applicants have difficulty applying or don't know where to apply, so they miss out on benefits as eligibility criteria, application details, and documents to be submitted vary from service to service. A survey by Tax Policy Center revealed that 22% of Americans didn't claim the earned income tax credit because they didn't know how to file. Subsidy24 is a service that allows you to check and apply for the benefits you can receive at once by logging on to Government24 (www.gov.kr), and is configured to prevent cases where you do not miss out on benefits because you do not know it. Starting with 1,000 services from the central government agencies in April 2021, 6,800 services provided by local governments were added in December. From December of this year, 10,000 services can be checked and applied for at once, adding about 2,200 services from the public enterprises and education offices.

Moreover, a function has been added that allows members of a family living in different regions to check the benefits of their family members only with

their consent. The service has been expanded to check the benefit available for parents



Han Chang-seob

living in rural areas, educational services to support children's after-school activities, and search for train ticket discounts. If you are a citizen of the Republic of Korea, you can access Subsidy24 anytime, anywhere, and find all the government benefits to which you and your family are entitled.



Statistics show that Subsidy24 is widely used. In 2021, when the service was introduced, 2.31 million cases were recorded, and at the end of November this year, 6.72 million cases were recorded, a nearly tripling in two years of implementation. As people's satisfaction with actual use is also high, positive user reviews on Subsidy24 are spreading on social media channels.

The Yoon Suk Yeol government aims to implement a digital platform government in which the people, businesses, and the government work together to solve social problems and create new values on a digital platform. Subsidy24 is a representative example of 'preemptive public service that comes to you,' one of the five major initiatives of the digital platform government by the Republic of Korea. It is significant in that citizens can comfortably receive public services.

Subsidy24 is shifting the government's administrative services paradigm by preemptively informing and fining necessary services for the people, going beyond the previous administrative service of responding to requests. We look forward to the new era of digital platform government through Subsidy24.

By Han Chang-seob  
Vice Minister of the Ministry of the Interior and Safety Republic of Korea



## The Transformation of Pohang, the steel city

Pohang, a steel city, is seeking a transformation into a global hub city for new industries.

As it has emerged as the 'best place for future new industries' such as secondary batteries, bio-health, and hydrogen fuel cells, it is now playing an important role in taking a leap forward as a global powerhouse, looking forward to the next 100 years of Korea.

It was in 2014 that the inauguration of Mayor Lee Kang-deok began to materialize a blueprint for industrial innovation that made full use of Pohang's city capabilities, cutting-edge scientific infrastructure, and human resources, including POSTECH, a world-class research-oriented university, and 3rd and 4th-generation synchrotron radiation accelerators.

It became a representative city of K-battery by winning as the "2022 Battery Leading City" and succeeded in attracting investment of more than \$3 billion, establishing a virtuous cycle value chain for battery core material production.

Accordingly, a plan is underway to secure Korea's competitiveness in the global electric vehicle market by attracting Tesla's second plant in Asia.

As COVID 19 and population aging accelerate, the importance of the 'bio-health industry' is emphasized, and various core infrastructures, including 'Bio Open Innovation (BOIC)', are being emphasized in reality. With the establishment of various R&D facilities, a research collaboration network is being established. Aiming to become the world's top 3 hydrogen fuel cell power genera-

tion cluster, taking the lead in revitalizing the hydrogen economy, the 'hydrogen fuel cell cluster' project is undergoing a preliminary feasibility study, and it has been selected for the 'hydrogen city development project' to produce, move, and charge hydrogen energy. We plan to present a standard model of a hydrogen city with full-cycle infrastructure.



Pohang Mayor Lee Kang-deok

With the goal of becoming a city-dwelling marine tourist city Pohang city made an Asia's largest experiential sculpture 'Space Walk', which has reached 1 million visitors within a year of opening, and now is focusing on promoting the creation of the Ocean Skywalk and National Marine Garden.

As Pohang Mayor Lee Kang-deok said, "We will grow beyond a global steel city to become a global hub city for key new industries in the future and leap to an innovative city that opens new possibilities in the era of the 4th industrial revolution."

By J.S.OH



The world map and the map of Korea to inform the world of Korean documentary heritage, Source: VANK

VANK (Voluntary Agency Network of Korea) serving as a cyber diplomatic mission has produced and distributed 10,000 maps that promote Jikji and Korean documentary heritage.

Korea has 16 items on the list of UNESCO Memory of the World Programme, ranking 4th in the world and 1st in Asia. In addition to Korea's 16 items registered on the list, the Korea Documentary Heritage Map also introduces the world's oldest woodblock print, the Great Dharani Sutra of Undeified Pure Radiance, printed around 751.

It also introduces national flags, the world atlas, and 35 items on the list of World Memory Heritage. VANK said, "We hope that through the Korean documentary heritage map, we will properly inform the world of Korea's documentary heritage and Korean history and culture contained in it while Koreans will also learn about the world's documentary heritage and the world's history and culture."

VANK said, "We have marked Jikji, East Sea, and Dokdo in large letters on the world atlas as well as the map of Korea so that people around the world pay attention naturally to Jikji, Dokdo, and the East Sea, which are Korea's brilliant heritage."

VANK is distributing 10,000 copies of the Korean documentary heritage map to its members and VANK SNS channel campaign participants.

# VANK produces and distributes 10,000 copies of an English world map to promote Jikji and Korean documentary heritage across the world

## Chicken is the best K-food that the world is paying attention to



Amid growing global interest in Korean culture, the K-food that the world has paid attention to and enjoyed the most has turned out to be chicken.

The results of a Korean food consumer survey conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture, the Food and Rural Affairs and the Korean Food Promotion Institution in July and August of last year targeting 8,500 citizens in 17 major foreign cities, including New York, Paris, and Beijing indicated that the Korean food they liked most and often ate throughout the year was "Korean chicken."

Of the total respondents, 76.1% answered that they had experienced Korean food.

Among them, Korean-style chicken accounted for 30.0%, ahead of kimchi (27.7%), bibimbap (27.2%), tteokbokki (18.0%), and gimbal (15.5%).

Korean chicken was ranked first with 16.1% as the most preferred Korean food menu by foreigners. The rise in favorability for Korean cuisine is presumed to be the results of Korea's rising image in association with its culture such

as K-pop and K-dramas as well as the country's steady overseas promotion of Korean food.

The most notable is the fact that Korean chicken has taken the place of the hottest K-food, overtaking kimchi, which was considered synonymous with Korean food to foreigners for so long.

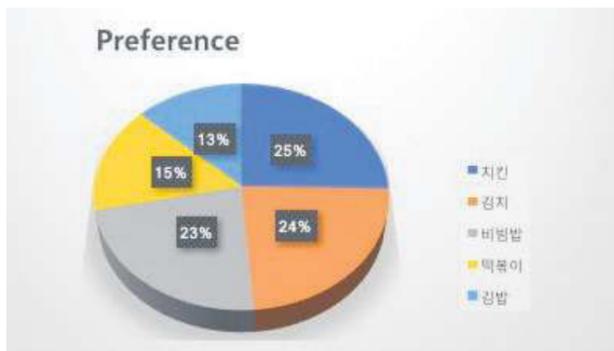
Korean-style chicken has featured a variety of tastes while showing unique characteristics through the combination of Korean ingredients. The evolution is still in progress.

The fact that Koreans are really serious about fried chicken is evident in K-dramas and K-movies, with the dish appearing as a favorite food of performers regardless of genre.

Seeing the main characters in K-movies and K-dramas enjoying chicken, foreigners have naturally paid attention to the dish highly favored by Koreans.

Let's see how Korean-style chicken further develops and globalizes down the road.

By KOREA BROILER COUNCIL



By News 1

## Seoul Plaza Ice Skating Rink has returned after 3 years

The "Seoul Plaza Ice Skating Rink" opened three years after COVID-19 broke out.

The Seoul Plaza Ice Skating Rink is going to be open from December 16, 2022 to February 5, 2023, the Seoul Metropolitan Government announced.

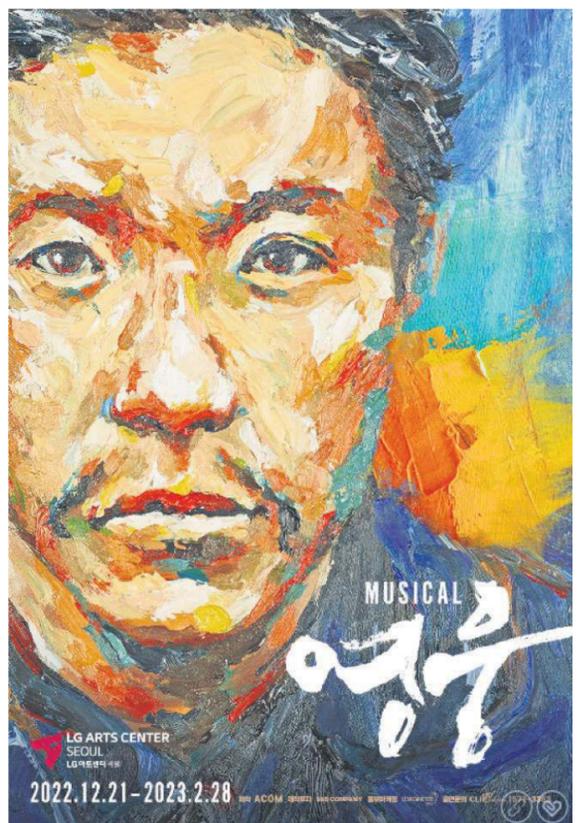
The ice skating rink created at Seoul Plaza in front of Seoul City Hall is divided into a large rink and a children's rink.

The children's rink also features family-oriented programs along with ice sledding. The admission fee is KRW 1,000 per person including skate rental.

An online reservation system is available. The ice skating rink also offers skating and curling lessons.

The operating hours of the rink are from 10:00 am to 11:00 pm on public holidays, Fridays and Saturdays. It opens from 10:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Sunday through Thursday.

By B.H.Kim



# Incheon city office planning to set up the Office of Overseas Koreans to become the center of 7.5 million Koreans abroad



YOO jeong-bok, mayor of Incheon

Incheon is bidding to host the APEC Summit in 2025. What would be the implications and impacts of this event would deliver?

○ APEC, short for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, is the world's largest regional cooperation forum that promotes the dialogues among members regarding economy, society and culture to realize greater prosperity and growth in the Asia-Pacific region.

○ Although Incheon has continuously hosted large-scale in-

ternational events such as the Incheon Asian Games(2014), World Economic Forum(2015) and OECD World Forum(2018) with a resounding success, it has yet to hold any summit meeting. By hosting the APEC summit in 2025, Incheon would be able to take another leap forward to become the world's renowned host city for international conferences and to realize its brand value as 'the world's best city with happy citizens'.

○ In September 2022, I visited the APEC Secretariat in Singapore to meet with Executive Director Rebecca Fatima Sta Maria and explained why Incheon is the optimal city to host the APEC summit in 2025 and exchanged various ideas.

○ Also, we have installed a sculpture in front of the City Hall to express the wishes of Incheon citizens for APEC 2025, formed the Citizens Committee for Incheon's bid to host the summit, and is carrying out 'One Million Signatures Campaign', in order to garner the public support.

○ We expect that hosting the APEC summit in Incheon would not only contribute to revitalizing the local economy both directly and indirectly but also play a great role in raising the city brand of Incheon. In this sense, I kindly ask for your support towards hosting the APEC summit in Incheon

You presented your vision to realize 'the world's best city with happy citizens'. What are the plans to make it happen?

○ The 8th popularly elected administration of Incheon has set its vision of realizing 'Incheon, the world's best city with happy citizens', which implies that happy citizens will lead to further development of the city, contributing to growth of the Republic of Korea.

○ The key directions are set to make 'a balanced city with co-prosperity', 'a global city with fulfilled dreams', 'a communicative city with sincerity and caring', and 'an innovative city with value creation for the future' and 10 major policies have been developed based on such directions.

○ First, for 'a balanced city with co-prosperity', we plan to promote the 'Jemulpo Renaissance Project' and construct 'Baengnyeong Airport' with an aim to generate balanced development of old downtown and expansion of transportation network with

greater accessibility. Second, for 'a global city with fulfilled dreams', we will open an era of 100 trillion won GRDP(Gross Regional Domestic Product) in Incheon and create a green, eco-friendly city by building an alternative landfill site. Third, for 'a communicative city with sincerity and caring, we have reflected various tasks in public health and welfare as well as education and safety including the establishment of the second city-run Incheon Medical Center. Lastly, for 'an innovative city with value creation for the future', we have developed the tasks to foster the new growth engine industries such as the creation of a bio innovation cluster and the designation of the Urban Air Mobility(UAM) demonstration routes. Also, we have a plan to build a baseball dome in Cheongna to create an environment where culture and arts blend into our daily lives

Incheon is working on hosting an Overseas Koreans Agency. What would be the justification and Incheon's competitiveness for such move?

○ An Overseas Koreans Agency is a new government agency to overtake the functions of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs related to overseas Koreans affairs which will facilitate cooperation and exchanges with Korean communities abroad, boost the network with them and promote education programs for the next-generation overseas Koreans as well as cultural programs. Incheon is the most optimal place to host this agency in terms of user convenience and historically symbolic significance.

○ First, among all cities in Korea, Incheon is where people from all over the world can reach in the shortest time through the Incheon International Airport. The city also has the metropolitan transportation network connected to the capital region and each part of the country while serving as a gateway to neighboring countries in East Asia such as China and Japan. Given

all these aspects, there is no better place than Incheon to host the agency.

○ In addition, Incheon is where the first wave of Korean emigrants departed in 1902 and has preserved tangible and intangible assets to commemorate the emigration history of the Republic of Korea. Having an authority for overseas Koreans in Incheon would add a symbolic meaning as the city demonstrates the root and pride of all overseas Koreans.

○ Starting with the Association of Korean Residents in Europe in November 2022, we have received the support and endorsement of Korean communities abroad such as the Association of Korean Cultural Centers of the Republic of Uzbekistan and Korean communities in Hawaii, which proves Incheon is the best location for an Overseas Koreans Agency.

Could you elaborate on the New Hong Kong City and the Jemulpo Renaissance Project?

○ Through my business trip to Singapore and Sydney and Brisbane in Australia in September 2022, I became more convinced that the two key pledges of my administration - the New Hong Kong City Project and the Jemulpo Renaissance Project - would provide the opportunity to take Incheon to new heights to become a truly global city and realize the world's best city where all citizens are happy.

○ The New Hong Kong City Project includes various strategies designed to go beyond attracting financial capital moving away from Hong Kong and to unlock Incheon's seemingly unlimited potential for the city to become more globally-oriented. It also aims to bring anchor companies into the city in various sectors including finance, aviation and ocean while

increasing the brand value of Incheon.

○ The Jemulpo Renaissance Project aims to transform Incheon Inner Port, which had once served as a springboard for Korea's modernization, into a new town and bring it back to the citizens, and rebuild the inner port's surrounding areas in Jung-Gu and Dong-Gu as a new city center that attracts people, knowledge and wealth. Inner port redevelopment and old downtown regeneration in the surrounding areas will be implemented with a two-track approach. As we have learned from the cases in other countries, this would be the mid-to long-term project taking 20 to 30 years. So, rather than being bound by short-term outcome, we will carry out the project at a speedy pace so as to rejuvenate the old downtown area in the long run.

Expansion of the metropolitan transportation network is one of the key tasks for Incheon, including the KTX Line from Incheon, GTX Line, Gyeongin Line 2 Railway and extension of Incheon Metro Line 2 to Goyang. How have these projects been proceeded?

○ One of this administration's key policy goals is to create 'a city with convenient public transportation to which all ways are connected'. Major tasks include completion of the KTX(Korean Train Express) Line departing from Incheon by June 2025, GTX(Great Train Express) Line by 2030, and opening of the Baengnyeong Airport in 2027.

For Gyeongin Line 2 Railway construction and Incheon Metro Line 2 extension to Goyang, discussions are underway with the relevant authorities.

○ By actively responding to the demand for metropolitan transit network and promptly implementing the planned projects, the city will double its efforts to enhance

public transport convenience and make all citizens happier.



By Incheon city

You have declared to open an era of 100 trillion won GRDP in Incheon. What are the specific implementation plans?

○ Ushering in an era of 100 trillion won GRDP means balanced development all across the city of Incheon.

○ Along with two core projects under the 8th democratically elected city administration - 'The Jemulpo Renaissance Project' and 'The New Hong Kong City Project', the city government will foster strategic industries that could

lead to greater regional productivity in order to improve the industrial fundamentals by shifting from the traditional manufacturing sector to high value-added industries. This will bring about both quantitative and qualitative economic growth, opening an era of 'Incheon 100 trillion won GRDP'.

○ But we also need to note that there are increasing uncertain-

ties hovering over the future of Incheon's economy due to various factors at home and abroad such as the prolonged COVID-19 pandemic and the Russian-Ukraine War. For more swift responses to changes in external environment, Incheon will establish 'Incheon Economic Trend Analysis Center' to make customized economic analyses and to proactively respond to external economic crisis.

Senior Reporter Han Sang-duk

Please explain the restructuring of the administrative divisions in Incheon.

○ Currently, Incheon has two counties(Gun) and eight districts(Gu). And we plan to restructure this system into two counties and nine districts. There have been many changes to the administrative environment over past three decades. With the population of Dong-Gu being less than 60,000 and that of Jung-Gu including Yeongjong area standing at only 100,000, the current system is inefficient and poses a challenge to create a new momentum for the regional growth.

○ Particularly, Yeongjong, home to the international airport, and its surrounding areas, need

to be developed as a specialized zone to nurture relevant industries such as tourism. So, Incheon will make adjustment to its administrative zones in consideration of their geological, societal and administrative features. And upon the completion of Geomdan New City development, Seo-Gu's population is likely to reach 700,000, which would require Seo-Gu to be divided into Seo-Gu and a newly created Geomdan-Gu. We will make thorough preparation to offer quality services for the citizens and generate a synergy for future development of the region.



By Incheon city



## “Achieving the UNESCO World Heritage Grand Slam”

Korean mask dance has been registered as a UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Andong achieved the UNESCO World Heritage Grand Slam for the first time among local governments in the country by solving the final puzzle of the three UNESCO categories (World Cultural Heritage, Intangible Cultural Heritage, and Documentary Heritage).

Andong is known to achieve industrialization and tourism resources of World Heritage with a Creation of brand value of ‘Andong, a representative city of World Heritage’ in connection with regional projects such as tourism base city, historical site development, restoration of Imcheonggak, and tourism resource Andong Dam.

Andong, which is called the capital of Korean spiritual culture and has preserved the original form of Confucian culture, and also is the hometown of famous

scholars such as Ryu Seong-ryong and Kim Seong-il.

In addition, various folk cultures are fully transmitted along with Confucianism, Buddhism, shamanism, Christianity, and modern religious thought. After Seoul and Gyeongju, 334 cultural assets, the largest number, have been passed down intact throughout the region.

Andong's Hahoe Village was listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in July 2010, Korea's Confucian Book Plate in 2015, Bongeonga Temple as a Sansa, Korea's Mountain Site, and Dosan and Byeongsan Seowon as a Korean Seowon in 2019.

Andong listed "World Heritage" and "World Record Heritage" followed by Hahoe Byeolsinguttalnori as "Integrated Cultural Heritage" and dominated all three UNESCO categories.

These cultural assets have succeeded in attracting the 2020 ‘Tourism Hub City’, the ‘Balanced Development Fair’ in 2021, the 18th ‘World Historic Cities Conference’, and the 16th International General Assembly

of the ‘International Education Cities’

Poet Yu An-jin said, “This is Andong, where today ripens with yesterday’s sunlight,” and “a place where shamelessness was ahead of the law.” Andong has maintained a culture base, not a rule base, and now the seeds of cultural heritage and spiritual culture will shine even brighter as a strong bastion that drives and leads regional development in all fields such as culture, tourism, economy, and industry.

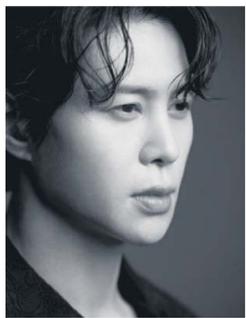
Andong Mayor Kwon Ki-chang said, “The identity of Andong, which achieved the grand slam of the UNESCO triple crown and firmly established itself as a world heritage city, has been recognized for its global value. And he emphasized also, “We will make sure to create content that is fun and touching that people all over the world like and spread the value and meaning of world heritage around the world.”

By J.S.OH



By Andong City

### Who IS ?



Lee Sang-Hyun

We met actor Lee Sang-Hyun, who starred in about 10 independent films and web dramas.

While studying fashion in California, he had a chance of getting a magazine photo shoot and could not forget the joy of the spotlight he received that day. Due to this, after being discharged from the military he became a full-fledged fashion model.

“Be yourself, no matter what they say”

-Sting ‘English man in New York’

While appearing mainly overseas (New York, Europe, Singapore, etc) he felt a lack of his acting skill and started to study acting in Korea at the age of 28, which is a relatively late age to start learning to act.

In 2022, he made his first appearance in writer TSK’s independent film “Special Pineapple Cat”, and starting with this film he began to make an appearance in a number of web dramas and independent films.

Currently, he has been cast as the lead role in director Choi Han-El’s “Opera Runway,” based on the true stories of Korean models, and is preparing for a crank-in.

We pay attention to actor Lee Sang-Hyun, who says “I will always learn and grow to become a Trustworthy actor.”

By C.K.Yoo



<Movie "Special Pineapple Cat"> 2023

## BAECHU-KIMCHI

▶ Salted cabbage, filled with a mixture of julienned radish, dried red pepper powder, spring onion and salted seafood.

The mixture is inserted between the leaves of he salted cabbage to evenly distribute the flavor.



### INGREDIENTS

-10 whole cabbages (about 44lb, 20kg)

▶ Brine for cabbage  
-4lb(2kg) natural sea salt  
-5gal(20L) water



### ▶ Filling

-3 white radishes  
-50 green onion  
-10 large green onion  
-1/2 Korean pear  
-14oz(400g) salted shrimp  
-3 cups(750ml) water  
-1kg gochut-garu

### PREPARATION

1. Trim off the stem of the cabbage.

2. Dissolve the natural sea salt in water and soak the cabbage in the brine.

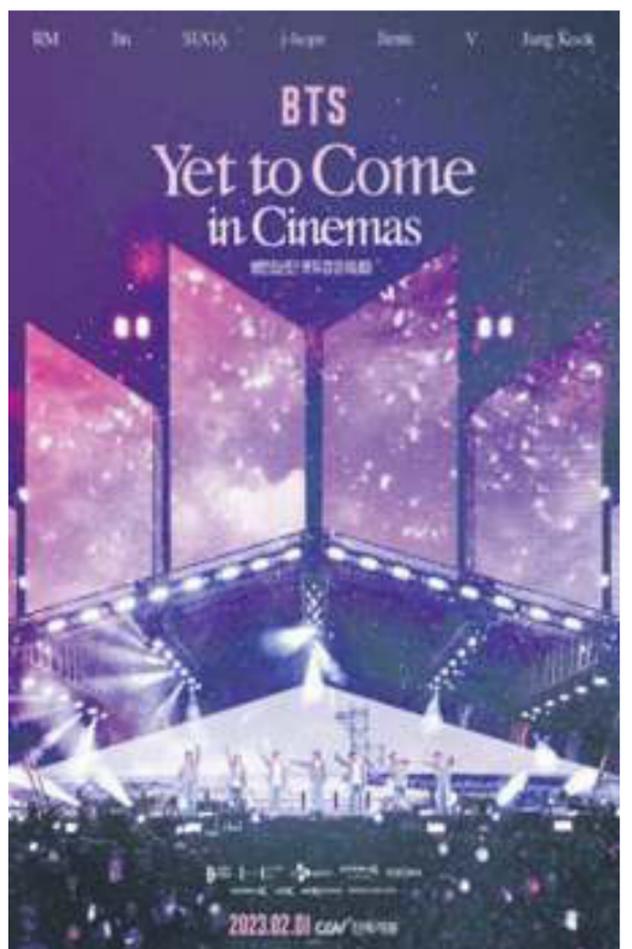
3. Remove the cabbages from the brin if they are limp and Rinse the cabbages thoroughly.

4. In a large bowl, combine the white radish strips and gohut-garu paste and toss gently to tint the radish.

5. Add the minced garlic and ginger, salted shirimp, green onions and Korean pear.

6. Insert the filling between the leaves of the cabbages and wrap tightly the stuffed cabbage with the largest outer leaves of the cabbage.

By. KOREAN FOOD PROMOTION INSTITUTE



By BTS : Yet to Come in Cinemas Poster



# Soojin Han, Korean-Born World-Class Violinist

## Soojin Han moves global audiences with her music

Soojin Han, the Korean-born world-class violinist, was appointed a member of the advisory committee on cultural diplomacy on December 14th, 2022. As a special advisor on cultural diplomacy, she now shares the responsibility of spreading Korean culture throughout the world. Born in 1986, she moved to the

UK when she was two years old with her parents where her father, who now serves as the campus president of Ghent University Global Campus in Incheon, was then pursuing a doctorate degree. Her interest in the violin started early after hearing her mother play and she tried playing it for a while, but found it too difficult and

learned to play the piano instead. Maestro Myung-whun Chung praised her talent as “given by the heavens” and she has captured audiences around the world with her mesmerizing performances – which led to her appointment as an ambassador for Korean culture. She picked up the violin again when she was seven and, at fif-

teen, she entered the International Henryk Wieniawski Violin Competition as the youngest-ever participant and won Second Prize. She studied at Oxford University and the Royal Academy of Music where she obtained her Master’s degree. Her ability to play beautifully with extraordinary subtlety and expressiveness comes from her determination to overcome a genetic condition with a passionate love for music. She sees the deafness in her left ear as “simply a physical difference” which has helped her “connect with others on a spiritual level.” She adds, “I immersed myself in music to overcome my physical disability.” Despite her busy schedule with invitations flooding in from all over the world, she recently signed a contract with Warner Music Korea to produce an album with renowned British pianist Freddy Kempf. The album will be available on CD when released. “The album will consist of pieces that are special to me and also includes

pieces that I wish to dedicate to those to whom I have much to be grateful,” she explains. As of 2009, she plays on a 1666 Antonio Stradivarius, provided by an anonymous benefactor. It is known to be an extremely rare instrument and the earliest known violin labeled by the violin maker, Stradivari. She has garnered world recognition and continues to exert positive influence through her performances for charity and other causes. Last November, she collaborated with the Vietnam National Symphony and Orchestra for a special concert to commemorate the 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations between South Korea and Vietnam. In regard to her plans and aspirations, she says, “I hope to increase awareness of Korean culture and serve the socially weak and underprivileged in any way I can.”

By S.H.Park



Soojin Han, a world-renowned violinist, was appointed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as a special advisor on cultural diplomacy



Yoo Hwan-yeong

# The Oriental painter Yoo Hwan-young, I met.

In the middle of the winter of 2022, I met Yoo Hwan-yeong, an oriental painting artist who is active as a calligrapher and oriental painter.

After graduating from Hongik University and graduate school, he has held about 10 solo exhibitions and 150 special invitational exhi-

bitions. Currently, he is holding a special exhibition of Byeongja Horan hosted by the National Museum of History in Jinju.

It is an exhibition that sheds light on the process of the Byeongja Horan from a comprehensive perspective in connection with the Joseon Ming and Qing Dynasty. It is an exhibition that helps the spectators understand along with the exhibited relics and the artist’s many various ink-and-wash works. In harmony with his popular, con-



notative and restrained art style, it is gaining a great response from the spectators by approaching Byeongja Horan with a

feeling of vividly experiencing the site of history.

In a conversation about future work plans, the artist said, “The power of art is to influence someone, so I will communicate with the public with the spirit of the times, and work that will resonate and move with good influence”: I could see that they were active in various media such as high school textbook illustration and ink illustration work.

The exhibition period is from December 13, 2022 (Tuesday) to March 26, 2023.

Currently, his works are being displayed at the National Jinju Museum located in Jinjuseong.

By c.k.Yoo



CEO Joo Myung-shin

# “Until the Day of Unification”

In order to accelerate unification through the alleviation of cultural differences between the South and the North, the Pyongyang Folk Art Group-Korea is making efforts to introduce North Korea’s popular culture and folk songs to South Korean society.

CEO Joo Myung-shin emphasizes that it is the reason for existence and value of the art group.

Since its establishment in December 2002, the Pyeongyang Folk Art Group\_Korea has made more

than 80 television appearances, more than 1,600 guest performances, and more than 10 overseas performances.

Its diverse programs include Jangu dance, Jangu performance, folk dance, fusion dance, solo singing, and vocal ensembles. The Pyongyang Folk Art Group-Korea presents a high level of performance by selecting people through auditions from those with extensive experience in North Korean dance, vocal music, popular songs, instrumental music, and dance.

By Pyongyang Folk Art Group-Korea



2023 전북 생활체육 국제종합대회  
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