



**Red Robin**  
GOURMET BURGERS AND BREWS






Proud sponsor of the 2024 **Job Fair**



722 SW Greenville Blvd. Greenville, NC 27834  
252-558-4308



**VANESSA'S**  
Sewing & Alterations  
(252) 756-1707  
(252) 258-3376cell

Hours- Mon.- Fri. • 9:30 AM until 6:00 PM  
Saturday by Appointment Only  
Located 216 Main Street,  
Winterville, NC 28590  
**252-756-1707 • 252-258-3376**  
**vanessatheseamtress@gmail.com**

Proud sponsor of the 2024 Job Fair/Street Summit, Aug, 24th at  
J.H. Rose High School



FOR THE LATEST IN NEWS  
Check us out at

May 2 - 15, 2024

# TDD

## The Daily Drum

**READ ONLINE** [www.dailydrummedia.com](http://www.dailydrummedia.com)





@thedailydrum  
[www.dailydrummedia.com](http://www.dailydrummedia.com)  
252-933-5406  
mobile


Quality is Our Standard, Integrity is Our Tradition.

A Biweekly Newspaper


Serving Down East North Carolina

### BREAKING NEWS: HARVEY WEINSTEIN FACES NEW YORK HEARING ON POSSIBLE RAPE RETRIAL

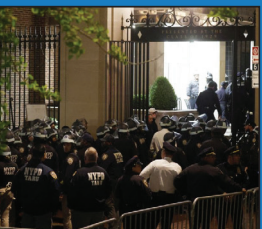
**INSIDE THIS EDITION:**




Fed expected to leave interest rates unchanged amid poor inflation data  
Page 3



Rep. Elise Stefanik files complaint against Jack Smith over Trump investigations  
Page 4



NYPD enters Columbia University, arrests dozens of protesters  
Page 5



Falcons wanted to trade Jets for No. 10 pick in 2024 NFL Draft, GM says  
Page 9

## Suspect ID'd after 4 law-enforcement officers gunned down in Charlotte, N.C., day before

### GUNMAN HAD EXTENSIVE CRIMINAL BACKGROUND, AUTHORITIES SAY

**By Mike Heuer**  
UPI

A day after a shooting left four law-enforcement officers dead in North Carolina, authorities on Tuesday identified the suspected gunman, saying he had a lengthy criminal record.

Police said Terry Clark Hughes Jr., 39, had faced 49 criminal charges since 2001 and was convicted of crimes in many parts of North Carolina, The Charlotte Observer reported Tuesday. He served time in prison in 2011 and 2013, and in 2021 he was accused of

marijuana-related offenses.

Hughes died in the gunfight on Monday in which he and possibly others shot and killed three U.S. Marshals and another officer and wounded four others at about 1:30 p.m. EDT in the 5000 block of Galway Drive in Charlotte, WXII 12 reported.

The officers were trying to serve two warrants for Hughes' arrest on charges of being a felon in possession of a firearm and fleeing and eluding, both of which are felonies.

Three of the slain officers were

See **SUSPECT**, page 4



## 6-week abortion ban takes effect in Florida; South Dakotans put access on ballot



**By Joe Fisher**  
UPI

Florida's six-week abortion ban took effect Wednesday after being signed into law a year ago, while abortion advocates are submitting about 60,000 signatures to put access on the ballot in November.

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis signed the law in April, banning abortion after the gestational age of a fetus is determined to be more than six weeks, including exceptions for pregnancies as a result of rape, incest or human trafficking if a physician reports the crime to a central abuse hotline.

Debbie Deland, president of women's rights advocacy organization Florida NOW called the six-week ban a "near total ban" in an interview with UPI, explaining that most women do not

See **ABORTION**, page 3

PROUD SUPPORTER OF THE STREET SUMMIT JOB FAIR 2024 | AUG. 24TH JH ROSE HIGH SCHOOL



**PITT-GREENVILLE AIRPORT**

Now Boarding...  
**American Airlines**



[www.flypgv.com](http://www.flypgv.com)



400 AIRPORT RD., GREENVILLE, NC 27834 • 252-902-2025

# OPINION

## NPR Whistleblower Highlights Everything Wrong With Journalism Today

As a career broadcaster and journalist, I've always believed honesty wins a reader's or viewer's trust. Honesty may require confessing errors or reporting inconvenient truths. I am an unapologetic conservative. But I will never allow my political leanings to compromise my journalism. Edward R. Murrow is my model.

As polarizing Trumpian politics was born, journalism took a hit on both sides. Opposition to former President Donald Trump found expression in highlighting the allegations of Trump's collusion with Russia but burying the conclusion that evidence disproved the allegations. Support for Trump found expression in giving prime time to hallucinatory claims of electoral fraud while ignoring 61 court decisions proving the contrary and the volumes of discovery that poured forth in Dominion Voting Systems' defamation suit against Fox News that resulted in a staggering settlement.

The media is now suspect across the board --

megaphones for liberal or conservative biases.

A lengthy article in The Free Press by Uri Berliner, a senior business editor at taxpayer-funded news outlet National Public Radio, highlights the evil. Berliner, who was suspended after 25 years at NPR following the article, resigned in a letter to NPR's CEO, Katherine Maher. "I am resigning from NPR, a great American institution where I have worked for 25 years," Berliner explained. "I don't support calls to defund NPR. I respect the integrity of my colleagues and wish for NPR to thrive and do important journalism. But I cannot work in a newsroom where I am disparaged by a new CEO whose divisive views confirm the very problems at NPR I cite in my Free Press essay."

Berliner's article elaborates on NPR's unusual

reliance on Rep. Adam Schiff (D-Calif.), Trump's greatest foe at the time of the Russian collusion investigation, as a major source for their reporting on the issue. Berliner counts around 25 Schiff interviews and laments, "But when the Mueller report found no credible evidence of collusion, NPR's coverage was notably sparse. Russiagate quietly faded from our programming."

The Hunter Biden laptop reveals a similar NPR bias. It contained credible evidence of Biden family influence peddling that was dismissed as Russian disinformation by relying on Biden intelligence poodles. NPR fumbled. It did no independent verification. As Berliner states, "During a meeting with colleagues, I listened as one of NPR's best and most fair-minded journalists said it was good we weren't following the laptop story because it could help Trump."

And finally, the COVID-19 lab leak theory -- the supposed right-wing conspiracy theory that COVID-19 may have

leaked from a lab in Wuhan and might not have had natural origins -- was similarly dismissed by NPR's science team. According to Berliner, their reasoning was related to "the Bush administration's unfounded argument that Iraq possessed weapons of mass destruction, apparently meaning we won't get fooled again."

Journalistic malpractice, whether about Russiagate, concocted claims of electoral fraud, COVID-19 or Hunter Biden's laptop, is epidemic. Speak no evil, see no evil, hear no evil about anything disturbing to a journalist's liberal or conservative dogmas.

Newsrooms today have been weaponized to advance a partisan political agenda through propaganda. What ever happened to Sgt. Joe Friday in Dragnet? "Just the facts, ma'am."

Journalists were once a proud few who fought back against tyranny and government lies. Now they have become party political agents ready to be summoned into service at a moment's notice.

## Social media can shape teens' personalities, and they don't see a risk

By Nora McDonald  
George Mason University

Social media apps regularly present teens with algorithmically selected content often described as "for you," suggesting, by implication, that the curated content is not just "for you" but also "about you" -- a mirror reflecting important signals about the person you are.

All users of social media are exposed to these signals, but researchers understand that teens are at an especially malleable stage in the formation of personal identity. Scholars have begun to demonstrate that technology is having generation-shaping effects, not merely in the way it influences cultural outlook, behavior and privacy, but also in the way it can shape personality among those brought up on social media.

The prevalence of the "for you" message raises important questions about the impact of these algorithms on how teens perceive themselves and see the world, and the subtle erosion of their privacy, which they accept in exchange for this view.

### Teens like their algorithmic reflection

Inspired by these questions, my colleagues John Seberger and Afsaneh Razi of Drexel University and I asked: How are teens navigating this algorithmically generated milieu, and how do they recognize themselves in the mirror it presents?

In our qualitative interview study of teens 13-17, we found that personalized algorithmic content does seem to present what teens interpret as a reliable mirror image of themselves, and that they very much like the experience of seeing that social media reflection.

Teens we spoke with say they prefer a social media completely customized for them, depicting what they agree with, what they want to see and, thus, who they are.

If I look up something that is important to me that will show up as one of the top posts [and] it'll show, like, people [like me] that are having a nice discussion.

It turns out that the teens we interviewed believe social media algorithms like TikTok's have gotten so good that they see the reflections of themselves in social media as quite accurate. So much so that teens are quick to attribute content inconsistencies with their self-image as anomalies -- for instance, the result of inadvertent engagement with past content, or just a glitch.

At some point I saw something about that show, maybe on TikTok, and I interacted with it without actually realizing.

When personalized content is not agreeable or consistent with their self-image, the teens we interviewed say they scroll past it, hoping never to see it again. Even when these perceived anomalies take the form of extreme hypermasculine or "nasty" content, teens do not attribute this to anything about themselves specifically, nor do they claim to look for an explanation in their own behaviors. According to teens in our interviews, the social media mirror does not make them more self-reflective or challenge their sense of self.

One thing that surprised us was that while teens were aware that what they see in their "for you" feed is the product of their scrolling habits on social media platforms, they are largely unaware or unconcerned that that data captured across apps contributes to this self-image. Regardless, they don't see their "for you" feed as a challenge to their sense of self, much less a risk to their self-identity -- nor, for that matter, any basis for concern at all.

Research on identity has come a long way since sociologist Erving Goffman proposed the "presentation of self" in 1959. He posited that people manage their identities through social performance to maintain equilibrium between who they think they are and how others perceive them.



Daily Drum Media Group  
PO Box 965  
Greenville, NC 27835  
www.dailydrummedia.com  
tdd@dailydrummediagroup.com

Roger Johnson.....Publisher  
Ben Johnson.....CFO  
Alishia Albrooks.....Sales Consultant  
George Ayino.....Sales Consultant  
Ben Ayino.....Sales Consultant  
Data Group.....Web Host  
Jasmine Smith.....Accounting Consultant  
Restoration NewsMedia.....Graphic Design & Layout

THE DAILY DRUM IS PUBLISHED BI-WEEKLY FOR \$25.00 (PLUS TAX) PER YEAR BY THE DAILY DRUM MEDIA GROUP, P.O. BOX 965, GREENVILLE, NC 27835. PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT GREENVILLE, NC.

POSTMASTER: ADDRESS CHANGES TO THE DAILY DRUM, P.O. BOX 965, GREENVILLE, NC 27835.

## Severe crises like the war in Gaza have the potential to become famines in five stages

By Paul Howe  
Tufts University

The United Nations' latest report on hunger makes for grim reading. On April 24, 2024, the international body released its annual Global Report on Food Crises, showing that 281.6 million people faced acute hunger in 2023.

And indications for 2024 suggest worse may be to come. In March, the United Nations' highest technical body for assessing food and nutrition crises warned of an "imminent famine" in Gaza. The U.N. also raised the alarm about situations in Sudan, Haiti and other countries around the world.

To those of us who study global hunger issues, the situations in Gaza, Sudan, Haiti and a host of other countries reflect a growing trend in which severe crises -- often, but not only, related to conflict -- have the potential to become famines.

But how and under what conditions do famines form?

Recent academic thinking suggests that famines can be viewed as complex systems. As a scholar who researches hunger and humanitarian relief efforts, I wanted to see if it was possible to identify a consistent underlying pattern in the way these systems formed.

So in 2018 I developed a famine systems model that identifies five elements that describe the evolution of these crises. First, they require severe pressure on a population that is then kept in place by a "hold" that prevents the release of this pressure. This then creates self-reinforcing dynamics that can tip over into a famine system -- which is when a "famine" is often officially declared -- involving rapid increases in malnutrition and mortality. Finally, there is a rebalancing.

To better understand how the model works, it is worth examining each of its stages:

### 1. Intensifying pressure

Pressure in a famine cycle results from a combination of disruptive factors and vulnerability. Disruptive factors are things that affect the ability of a population to obtain the food it needs

from normal sources. For example, in the Somalia famine of 2011-2012, a combination of successive droughts and a rise in global food prices made it difficult for communities to grow or buy food and maintain their livestock.

Vulnerability refers to the susceptibility of a population -- or parts of that population -- to experiencing these crises based on the resources and options available to them, and their food and nutrition status. In the case of Somalia, certain clans with limited support networks to reach out to for help were particularly at risk.

If there are strong and comprehensive disruptive factors and high vulnerability, the pressure can be severe.

### 2. Persistent holds

A hold is a condition that prevents the affected population from receiving release from famine pressure. Natural holds occur after a drought, when the rhythms of the agricultural cycle mean that the next harvest will not arrive for another year. Economic holds could relate to an extended period of elevated global food prices. Political holds can involve ongoing conflict or policies that make an area inaccessible.

When these holds prevent assistance from getting in to alleviate famine pressures -- or prevent populations from leaving -- they are highly impermeable. This frequently happens in sieges, such as Germany's encirclement of Leningrad during World War II.

During the siege of Sarajevo in the 1990s, however, the hold was more permeable, and some assistance and trade reached the populations, helping to prevent famine.

### 3. Self-reinforcing dynamics

If severe pressure is kept in place by a hold, it generates self-reinforcing dynamics, such as rapid rises in local food prices, declines in wages and asset prices and a resulting deterioration of terms of trade. This makes it even more difficult for affected people to obtain sufficient nutrients.

The dynamics can also lead to a breakdown in social norms. Popula-

tions may resort to stealing or rioting. Where possible, populations often migrate in search of better conditions or assistance. Combinations of these dynamics have been observed across historical contexts, from the biblical siege of Samaria to the Great Irish Famine of the late 1840s to the more recent crisis in Somalia.

### 4. Emerging famine systems

If the self-reinforcing dynamics are not stopped, at a certain point the ability of a population to stave off the crisis will be exhausted, and the situation will tip over into a famine system. A key feature of this model is the recognition that these interacting parts of the system often work together to generate a relatively sudden rise in malnutrition and deaths.

Although not always the case, a "classic" pattern for famine systems -- whether in Somalia during 2011-2012 or Leningrad in 1941-1942 -- is a steep rise and high peak in mortality. This is the period in which a famine can be unambiguously declared, but it is also too late to prevent the loss of life.

### Rebalancing

Finally, there is a rebalancing of the system -- often signaled by a decline in mortality. This may take place for two principal reasons. The first is that the famine system has already affected the most vulnerable people -- such as children and the elderly or socially marginalized groups -- and therefore cannot sustain the high levels of mortality. The second is when the key holds are removed and the self-reinforcing dynamics are counteracted by, for example, a new bumper harvest or the provision of scaled-up humanitarian assistance.

### How Gaza fits the model

In terms of the crises currently facing the world, I'm deeply worried when I see elements of this model coming together in multiple places.

For instance, the severe pressure in northern Gaza stems from the disruptive factor of the conflict affecting a vulnerable population with few livelihood options.



# Fed expected to leave interest rates unchanged amid poor inflation data

By Doug Cunningham  
UPI

The Federal Reserve is expected to hold interest rates steady again as it meets Wednesday, with inflation remaining above the central bank's 2% threshold. Fed Chair Jerome Powell will

announce the interest rate decision at a press conference at 2 p.m. EDT following a meeting of the central bank's Federal Open Market Committee. If the Fed does leave interest rates unchanged they will be within the range of 5.25%-5.5% for the overnight bank borrowing rate.

Despite inflation's persistence, it has dropped dramatically from a high point of 9.1% annually to 2.7% as measured by the personal consumption expenditures or PCE index. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Sta-

See FED, page 4

## Abortion

continued from page 1

know they are pregnant within six weeks.

Florida also requires two appointments with a medical professional before an abortion can be performed. Deland said it is difficult to get one appointment, let alone two, within such a brief window.

Deland's organization and others have been preparing for the six-week ban to take effect. Several funds have been established to support travel, lodging and meals for women who need to travel out of state for an abortion. However those resources will still be limited, she said.

"The problem there is there are so many people that need abortions outside of six weeks that we need so much funds to do that," Deland said. "But we're doing what we can with the contributions that we get."

Florida already banned abortion after 15-weeks of pregnancy under a law passed in 2022.

The Florida Supreme Court on April 1 upheld that law, amid a challenge from Planned Parenthood and other abortion access advocates, while also allowing a standalone question on whether or not to enshrine abortion into the state's constitution to be placed on the ballot in November's elections.

The constitutional amendment would guarantee access to an abortion before viability. It requires a 60% vote of approval to pass.

A coalition of abortion advocates collected 910,046 signatures to get the amendment on the ballot. The state requires more than 890,000 valid signatures.

Deland said she is confident the ballot measure will pass in November. In the meantime she said thousands of women will be impacted by the ban.

"It will be months before we pass Amendment Four on the 2024 ballot," Deland said. "It's a really serious impact on women in Florida and across the southeast."

While Florida's 15-week ban already offered little access to an abortion, women from neighboring states with total bans like Alabama could come to the state, according to Deland.

For Floridians and others in the southeast region, Virginia and North Carolina, will be the closest states where women can access an abortion beyond six weeks of pregnancy.

Since turning in the petition for the constitutional amendment, Florida NOW has been working on shoring up votes. The group turned in more than enough signatures to put the amendment on the ballot but thousands of signatures were ruled invalid.

Signatures were rejected for a number of reasons, including addresses that did not match. More than 21,000 were rejected in Orange County alone.

Florida NOW is using a

postcard campaign to notify individuals whose signatures were rejected that they must update these details to insure they are able to vote in November.

"We're really focused on people we know would vote 'yes' but have to fix their registration," Deland said. "We had plenty of signatures -- but that's why you've got to have a lot more than that."

Despite Deland's confidence in passing Amendment Four, she is not looking past the possibility that the state legislature may yet attempt to undermine the measure.

She recalled the amendment passed in Florida in 2018 to restore the voting rights for people with felony convictions. The legislature passed a law the following year to require those individuals to pay all fines, fees and restitution before being eligible to vote.

"They will try to figure out something to work against the abortion access amendment," Deland said. "They'll take it to the courts. We don't think it's necessarily a done deal. But it's really hard to fight a constitutional amendment."

South Dakota's petition

The petition to put abortion access on the ballot in South Dakota greatly surpassed the 35,017 signature requirement. The measure, if passed by simple majority, would guarantee the right to an abortion throughout the first trimester.

After the first trimester, the state can regulate abortion but it would still be allowed to protect the health of the mother. The language closely mirrors the precedents established in Roe vs. Wade. Rick Weiland, chairman of Dakotans for Health, told UPI this is by design. He calls it the "Restore Roe Amendment."

"We took the language from Roe vs. Wade. It's based on three trimesters as was Roe," Weiland said. "It says pretty much the same thing."

Dakotans for Health took some lessons from a failed effort to repeal a grocery tax and a successful effort to raise the minimum wage, notably finding that initiated laws are not ironclad enough to be used to protect abortion access.

"So initiated laws, the legislature can mess with them. Constitutional amendments they can't," Weiland said.

The petition effort was also faced with challenges from the state and local governments and opposing organizations, Weiland said.

"Throughout our whole signature collection process there's been an effort to try to intimidate people that were circulating the Restore Roe petition by people called the Life Defense Fund," Weiland said. "They usually show up wherever our folks are collecting signatures. They've been very combative. They haven't been very successful."

The legislature, with a super-Republican majority, passed a bill during the last session to allow people to

withdraw their names from the petition. Ninety-four of 105 legislators are Republicans.

Minnehaha County Auditor Leah Anderson and the county commission enacted a measure to restrict Dakotans for Health's ability to petition outside of the Minnehaha County Administrators Building. This has been a popular location for candidates and ballot measure petitioners to collect signatures over the years, Weiland said.

Currently, petitioners can use any part of the parking lot to gather signatures. The measure would reduce their access to 0.7% of the parking lot and that space would be away from most of the foot traffic.

Dakotans for Health filed for a restraining order in federal court. Ultimately a judge ruled the auditor's measure was not allowed.

A similar effort took place in Lawrence County, but was quickly withdrawn after Dakotans for Health filed a restraining order there.

In 2022 the legislature attempted to raise the requirement to pass a citizen-driven ballot initiative from a simple majority to a three-fifths or 60% supermajority. Voters struck down the attempt with more than 67% voting against it.

"They're pulling out all the stops because they know that if this gets on the ballot it's likely to pass," Weiland said.

South Dakota joins Florida, Colorado at ballot box

A group in Colorado completed a signature campaign last month to add a constitutional amendment to its ballot as well. Unlike South Dakota and Florida, abortion is legal without restrictions in Colorado.

The measure, called Proposition 89, requires 55% approval to pass.

Along with guaranteeing the right to access an abortion, Proposition 89 would prohibit state and local governments from denying insurance coverage to government employees for abortion services.

Colorado has long been at the forefront of providing access, passing the first law in the country to legalize abortion in 1967. But a law adopted in 1984 restricted the use of tax dollars for abortion, making it illegal for government-issued insurance to cover the procedure.

Petitions for ballot measures have become common across the country following the Supreme Court's Dobbs decision in 2022.

Proponents of abortion access have since been successful on a number of fronts, either knocking down attempts to make it more difficult to pass such measures -- such as Ohio's Issue 1 -- or approving measures to protect access.

Six ballot measures related to abortion access were on the ballot during the 2022 midterm elections, including measures in California, Michigan and Vermont.

Vermont passed a con-

stitutional amendment to enshrine the right to reproductive autonomy. Michigan also passed a constitutional amendment to guarantee access. It was brought to the ballot by petition. California passed Proposition 1, barring the state from denying or restricting abortion access.

**Rest Assured**  
LIFE SOLUTIONS

**Your Trusted Insurance Broker**

**Protecting What Matters To You!**

Whole Life, Term Life, Mortgage Protection, Business Solutions, Infinite Banking  
252-324-9166

**Weyco**  
COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION  
SINCE 1959

Experience the Difference at Weyco Community Credit Union - Big enough to service your financial needs, Small enough to know you by your name.

**Competitive Rates - Unbeatable Service**

Now Serving 13 Eastern North Carolina Counties  
Check your eligibility at [www.weycocreditunion.com](http://www.weycocreditunion.com)

Visit our locations at  
1785 Weyerhaeuser Rd., Vanceboro, NC 28586  
316 NC-149, Plymouth, NC 27962  
210-West Blvd., Williamston, NC 27892

Or Call 252-793-7000

NCUA MEMBER LENDER

**MARK ROBINSON**  
**IS WRONG FOR BLACK NORTH CAROLINIANS**

**BELIEVES THE BLACK COMMUNITY SHOULD PAY FOR THE SINS OF SLAVERY, SAYING "NOBODY OWES YOU ANYTHING FOR SLAVERY" AND "YOU KNOW WHO OWES REPARATIONS? WE DO."**

**CELEBRATES POLICE VIOLENCE, SAYING "YOU BETTER BE GLAD IT WASN'T ME. I WOULD HAVE SHOT YOU 30 TIMES. I WOULD HAVE EMPTIED EVERY MAGAZINE I HAD."**

**THREATENS VIOLENCE AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT, SAYING "IN CASE THE GOVERNMENT GETS TOO BIG FOR ITS BRITCHES... I'M GONNA FILL THE BACKSIDE OF THEM BRITCHES WITH SOME LEAD."**

**WANTS TO MAKE ABORTION ILLEGAL IN NORTH CAROLINA WITH NO EXCEPTIONS, EVEN WHEN A WOMAN IS RAPED, THE VICTIM OF INCEST, OR MAY LOSE HER LIFE.**

**WANTS TO DEFUND OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND REMOVE SCIENCE AND HISTORY FROM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CURRICULUM, ENSURING OUR CHILDREN WILL FALL BEHIND THEIR PEERS IN OTHER STATES.**

PAID FOR BY PROGRESS NC ACTION

# Josh Stein to Tour Barber Academy, Highlight Importance of Trade Skills

Tomorrow, Attorney General and Democratic nominee for Governor Josh Stein will tour Just For You Barber/Styling Academy in Charlotte and highlight the importance of supporting apprenticeship programs and trade skill development.

Wednesday, May 1

Just For You Barber/Styling Academy

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

5108-5 Reagan Dr, Charlotte, NC 28206

# Rep. Elise Stefanik files complaint against Jack Smith over Trump investigations

By Mike Heuer UPI

Special prosecutor Jack Smith is interfering with the 2024 election by filing charges against former President Donald Trump, Rep. Elise Stefanik, R-N.Y., said in an ethics complaint filed Tuesday.

Smith has filed two cases against Trump -- one is for allegedly mishandling classified documents and the other for allegedly interfering in the 2020 election.

"It's obvious to any reasonable observer that Jack Smith is trying to interfere with the 2024 election and stop the American people from electing Donald Trump," Stefanik said Tuesday morning in a post on X.

Stefanik included a copy the ethics complaint filed Tuesday with the DOJ's Office of Professional Responsibility against "Biden special counsel Jack Smith." "At every turn, [Smith]

has sought to accelerate his illegal prosecution of President Trump for the clear (if unstated) purpose of trying him before the November election," Stefanik added.

"The Justice Department's own policies clearly prohibit Smith from doing so," she said. "And as a DOJ employee, he is bound by those policies."

In the complaint, Stefanik said Smith has made "multiple attempts to rush to trial the federal Jan. 6th case against President Trump" in violation of DOJ policies and repeatedly violated a stay on proceedings by continuing the discovery process in the case.

"President Trump is now the presumptive Republican nominee for president," Stefanik said. "Biden special counsel Jack Smith is attempting to expedite the trial in order to influence the general election in November." She said federal prosecu-

tors can't select the timing of any legal action to create an advantage or a disadvantage for any candidate or political party, but Smith, she said, petitioned the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia by requesting a Jan. 2 trial date.

She said Smith's legal team produced 13 million pages of discovery and 3,000 hours of camera footage, which Trump's legal team must review.

Stefanik said Smith also violated DOJ rules against choosing trial dates by petitioning the Supreme Court to bypass the federal appellate process to expedite the trial, but the court on Dec. 22 denied his request.

"That Jack Smith was solely motivated by the desire to interfere in the November election was effectively proven two months later" when Smith opposed Trump's request to bypass the federal appellate court process to

determine whether presidential criminal immunity applies in the case against him, according to Stefanik.

Smith argued the nation has a "compelling interest" in promptly resolving the case, which Stefanik questions in her ethics complaint against him.

"Aside from the upcoming election, what 'compelling interest' does the public have in the prompt resolution of this case?" she asks. "Why should this interest -- based on an unstated reason -- override the due process rights of a criminal defendant?"

Stefanik in a separate statement Tuesday also cited Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg's criminal case against Trump for allegedly committing fraud when paying former adult film actress Stormy Daniels \$130,000 in exchange for signing a nondisclosure agreement in the run-up to the 2016 general election.

## Fed

continued from page 3

tistics said seasonally unadjusted Consumer Price Index inflation was 3.5% in March compared to the last

12 months.

Economists speaking to ABC News have indicated that sustained consumer spending is maintaining stable economic growth despite the lower-than-expected GDP growth reported last week.

GDP grew by just 1.6% in the first quarter of 2024 triggering a Dow Jones drop of 629 points. Dow economists had expected GDP to grow by 2.4%.

Overall, economists indicated the recent inflation data would see the Fed keep interest rates in place once again.

"Pretty much everybody on the FOMC is talking from the same script right now. With maybe one or two exceptions, policymakers pretty universally agree that the last few months of

inflation data are too warm to justify action in the near term. But they're still hopeful that they will be in a position to cut rates later," economist Guy LeBas with Janney Montgomery Scott, told CNBC.

In March Fed Chair Jerome Powell said the FOMC remains confident that inflation will fall to 2%, but the Fed will wait until economic data shows that inflation level before deciding to cut rates.

According to Powell U.S. inflation had nine months of 2.5% inflation before January 2024. In March he said progress is being made bringing inflation down and said he anticipates three interest rate reductions by the end of the year, as economic data allows.

## Suspect

continued from page 1

police investigators found more than 100 bullet casings and projectiles inside the home.

He said Hughes was on the home's second floor when he opened fire and he had the officers at a tactical disadvantage.

Jennings said investigators are looking into how Hughes obtained the firearms and, he said, the woman and teen are cooperating with the investigation.

The slain officers were identified as Sam Poloche, Alden Elliott, Joshua Eyer and Thomas Weeks Jr.

members of the U.S. Marshals Fugitive Task Force, and the fourth victim was a member of the local Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department.

Police officers recovered an AR-15 rifle and a .40-caliber pistol inside the home and detained a woman and a 17-year-old, ABC News reported.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Chief Johnny Jennings told news media that

**Jasmyne Inkrote**  
Associate VP of Mortgage Lending

o: (252) 419-4451 c: (984) 833-8027  
www.Rate.com/jasmyneinkrote  
jasmyne.inkrote@rate.com



guaranteedRate

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER Guaranteed Rate Inc.; NMLS #2671; For licensing information visit nmlsconsumeraccess.org. Equal Housing Lender. Conditions may apply. • Jasmyne Inkrote NMLS ID: 2104835

See dead grass or plants?  
**IT COULD BE A GAS LEAK**



If you **SEE** signs of a gas leak, leave the area immediately and call 1-855-767-2482

### Ways you can detect a gas leak:

- **HEAR** a hissing sound
- **SMELL** an odor similar to rotten eggs
- **SEE** blowing dirt, bubbling water, or dead plants
- **DO NOT** search for the leak, try to stop it, smoke, or use anything that may create a spark or flame



**guc.com**  
(252) 752-7166  
401 S. Greene St.  
Greenville, NC 27834





**2024 JOB FAIR & STREET SUMMIT**  
Aug. 24 | 12-6 pm  
JH Rose High School



# HELLO BEAUTIFUL BY J BOUTIQUE

Slacks, Tops, Dresses, Blazers, Clutch Bags

DESIGNS BY FREE PEOPLE.  
AND TOPS STARTING AT 19.99.

**NOW OPEN**

Hours: Wednesday-Saturday  
1:00 pm-5:00 pm.  
200 Eastbrook Dr. Ste. D  
Greenville, NC 27858  
252-341-0950

## NYPD enters Columbia University, arrests dozens of protesters inside Hamilton Hall

By Clyde Hughes & Sheri Walsh  
UPI

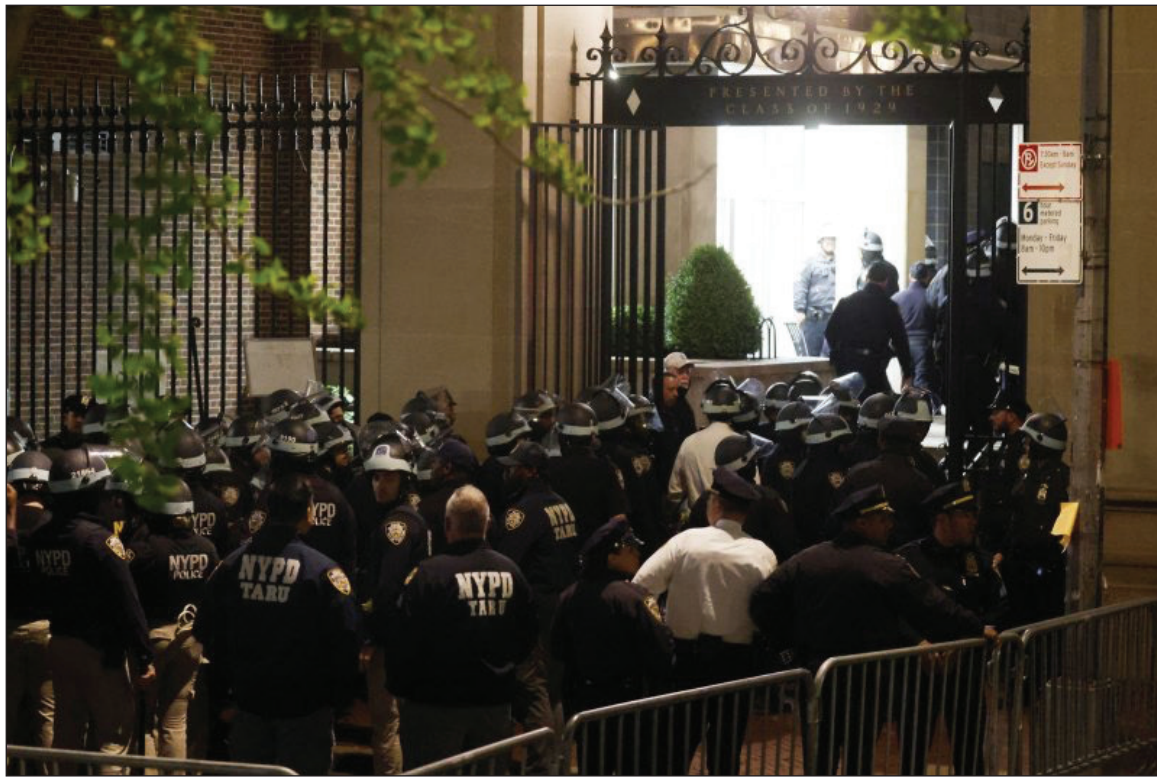
Hundreds of New York Police Department officers wearing riot gear swarmed Columbia University's campus Tuesday night and entered Hamilton Hall, where they cleared the building and arrested dozens of protesters at the request of university administrators.

The NYPD strategic response officers could be seen standing on top of a large vehicle parked next to Hamilton Hall, where they gained access to the building via a ramp through a second-floor window.

While the officers used no tear gas and said there were no injuries, they were forced to use flash-bang grenades to get past doors barricaded with chairs, tables and vending machines inside the building, the department told CNN.

Dozens of protesters were taken into custody, zip tied and escorted outside to NYPD buses. The rest of the campus was on lock-down, as students were ordered to stay inside their dorms.

Columbia University issued a statement Tuesday night, saying



"the NYPD arrived on campus at the university's request."

"We believe the group that broke into and occupied the building were led by individuals who are not associated with the university," Columbia administrators said, adding that they have requested NYPD to maintain a presence on campus through

graduation, until May 17.

Earlier Tuesday, Columbia University warned the protesters, who entered and occupied Hamilton Hall after defying orders to vacate encampments, that they will face expulsion.

"We regret that protesters have chosen to escalate the situation through their actions," Columbia

wrote Tuesday in a communication to alumni, emailed to UPI.

"We made it very clear yesterday the work of the university cannot be endlessly interrupted by protesters who violate the rules. Continuing to do so will be met with clear consequences," the university said.

"Protesters have chosen to

escalate to an untenable situation -- vandalizing property, breaking doors and windows, and blockading entrances -- and we are following through with the consequences we outlined yesterday."

Columbia University alumni demanded school officials end the occupation of Hamilton Hall "immediately" with the assistance of the NYPD and expel all students involved.

The takeover of Hamilton Hall "has crossed an indefensible line far beyond legitimate protest," the Columbia Jewish Alumni Association wrote in a statement.

Late Tuesday afternoon, more protesters gathered on Amsterdam Avenue near the public safety checkpoint for the campus, chanting "Disclose, divest, we will not stop we will not rest," as the presence of NYPD officers also grew.

"We're in constant dialogue with the officials at Columbia University, so right now there is no timetable. We have no letters from them. We are here ready to assist them whenever they need our help," NYPD Commissioner Edward Caban told reporters Tuesday afternoon.

See **PROTEST**, page 6



# Committed to saving you more

Learn more at [foodlion.com/save](https://www.foodlion.com/save)



# KINGS

## BAR-B-QUE & CHICKEN

Eat In-Take Out-Catering

Thursday Night Breakfast Buffet & check out our Twofor Special!  
Twofor Tuesday Buy one Dinner Get one Free 4:00 until Close

World Famous Chicken & BAR\*B\*QUE Since 1936

405 E. New Bern Rd. Kinston, NC 28504 252-527-2101  
910 W. Vernon Ave. Kinston, NC 28501 252-527-1661

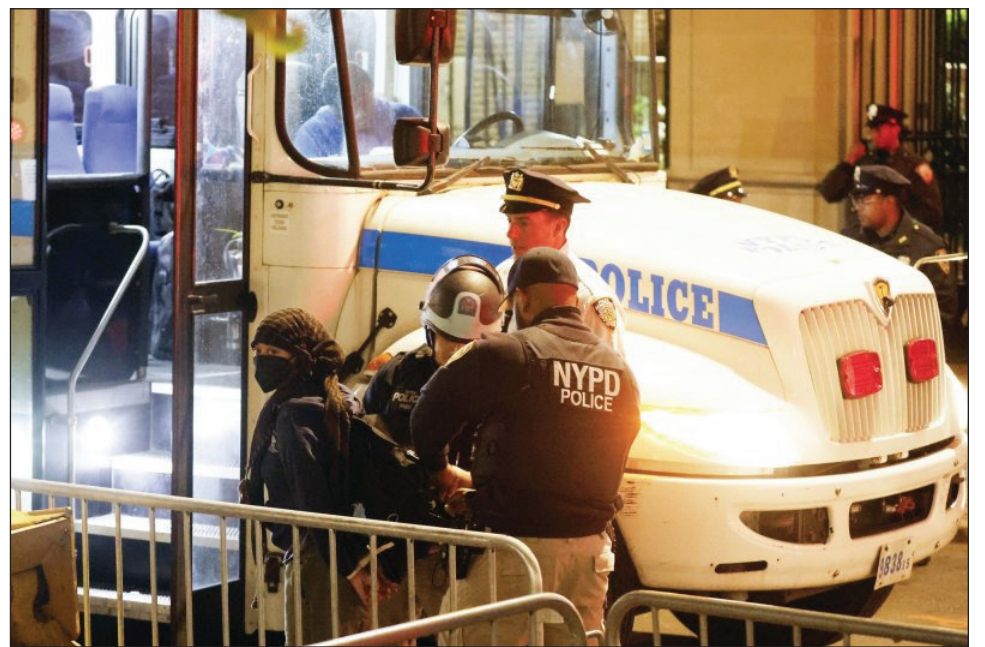
### Congressman Don Davis Announces Community Health Funding

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, Congressman Don Davis (NC-01) is pleased to announce the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has awarded the Economic Improvement

Council and Gateway Community Health Centers with grant funding to help promote the economic and social well-being of families, children, youth, individuals and communities through new infrastructure and Head Start programs.

“Rural communities lack the health funding they need to succeed,” said Congressman Don Davis. “These grants provide the necessary programming and resources to modernize our health systems for children and families. Head Start provides the next generation with the skills they need to live the American dream in eastern North Carolina, and these vital federal funds will only help make the future for our children that much brighter.”

HHS approved the following grants for NC-01: Economic Improvement Council Inc.: \$2,596,317 Gateway Community Health Centers: \$1,394,305



### Protest

continued from page 5

New York City Mayor Eric Adams blamed “external actors” during the news conference, and called on protesters to “leave the area now.”

“They’re not here to promote peace or unity or allow a peaceful display of voice, but they’re here to create discord and divisiveness,” Adams told reporters, as he urged the parents of protesters to call their children and urge them to leave campus.

Protesters, occupying Hamilton Hall, unfurled a Palestinian flag outside the building earlier Tuesday and were seen getting crates of supplies from other organizers using a pulley system of ropes.

Education Secretary Miguel Cardona called the protesters’ behavior “abhorrent.”

“I think what’s happening on our campuses is abhorrent,” Cardona said Tuesday at the Senate’s budget requests hearing for fiscal year 2025. “It’s unacceptable and we’re committed as

a Department of Education to adhering to Title VI enforcement.”

A steady stream of Columbia students were seen moving out of their dorms Tuesday, with Monday having been the last day of classes and final exams now remote due to the protests, while administrators warned people to stay away from campus.

“In light of the protest activity on campus, members of the university community who can avoid coming to the Morningside campus today should do so,” the university said in a public safety statement Tuesday morning. “Essential personnel should report to work according to university policy.”

Hamilton Hall stands in distinction for being taken over during campus anti-Vietnam demonstrations in 1968. Protesters came together outside of the building early Tuesday before a small group broke off and stormed the hall.

That group barricaded themselves inside using vending machines, chairs and the desk inside of Hamilton Hall. The demonstrators appeared to break windows from the inside as they were cheered on by the outside crowd.

The group Columbia University Apartheid Divest took responsibility for the Hamilton Hall storming on social media.

“This escalation represents the next generation of the 1968, 1985 and 1992 student movements which Columbia once repressed yet celebrate today,” the group’s message on X said. “Protesters have voiced their intention to remain at [Hamilton Hall] until Columbia concedes to CUAD’s three demands: divestment, financial transparency and amnesty.”

The occupation came hours after Columbia’s President Minouche Shafik said that talks had broken down between the university and protesting students by a deadline set for them to vacate encampments erected over Israel’s response to Hamas in Gaza since last October.

Columbia said it began suspending students who violated the deadline, barring them from entering university buildings and revoking their eligibility to complete the semester or graduate.

## REALO X DRUGS

“We give you more than just low prices.”

**LOW DISCOUNT PRICES. FAST FRIENDLY SERVICE.**

Serving the prescription and durable medical equipment needs of the people of Eastern North Carolina for over 23 years.

“Serving the community for over 33 years”

Most prescriptions filled in 15 minutes or less

300 N. Queen St. Kinston, NC 28501 • 252-527-6929  
104 Parkwood Dr. Snow Hill 28580 • 252-747-7004

## Perdue-Red Robin & Vanessa’s Alterations Presents

# the 3rd Annual Phelps Chevrolet & Daily Drum Job Fair 2024

presented August, 24th 2024  
J.H. Rose High School  
Located at 600 W. Arlington Blvd. Greenville, NC 27834  
Greenville, NC from 12:00 until 6:00

**Come in and register to win a free flat screen**

**Free Pizza**  
Provided by the Daily Drum

**Free BBQ by Moores BBQ**

**Free Kutz by Another Level to school-age kids on-site**

**200 CASES OF CHICKEN**  
Provided by Perdue farms

**FOR MORE INFO CONTACT BEN JOHNSON AT 252-258-6827**  
Look for companies like those listed below

**SPONSORS:** PERDUE, Phelps Chevrolet, ROYAL FARMS, Red Robin, VANESSA'S, meineke, MORGAN PRINTERS, Inc., OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE, Another Level, EASY TRAVEL INC, Walmart, sam's club, JAY DUPREE LAW OFFICE, Edgecombe-Martin County Electric Membership Corporation, GRADY-WHITE BOATS, BROWN & WOOD, PUGH'S, Greenville Utilities, Barbour Hendrick, Honda Greenville, Greenville Police Department, TRUIST, PITT COUNTY SCHOOLS, LOUISIANA KITCHEN, POPEYES, GREENVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT.



**Greenville**  
NORTH CAROLINA  
POLICE DEPARTMENT

# JOIN GREENVILLE POLICE • NC

**MORE THAN A JOB • CAREERS WITH GPD**

### CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Center City Unit
- Emergency Response Team
- Federal Task Force (FBI, DEA, ATF)
- Field Training Officer
- Gang Unit
- Gun Violence Unit
- Hostage Negotiation Team
- Police Athletic League
- Major Crimes Unit
- Motorcycle Unit
- Neighborhood Unit
- Patrol Officer
- School Resource Officer
- Special Victims Unit
- Regional Drug Task Force
- Traffic Safety Unit
- K-9 Unit
- Drone Unit

**Starting Salary: \$53,664**  
(Sworn and after 6 months probation)

Greenville, NC Police Department • 500 South Greene St • Greenville, NC 27834  
Recruiting Division • (252) 329-4102 • joingpd@greenvillenc.gov



# Local detainees

Sponsored by Inner-City Return Service



**OLIVIA RAMSEY ARMSTRONG**

FTA-FELONY LARCENY – FELONY  
FTA-POSS STOLEN GOODS/PROP – FELONY



**TRAVONE EUGENE BLAND**

PROBATION VIOLATION – FELONY  
FTA-DWLR NOT IMPAIRED REV – MISDEMEANOR



**KUMASI LAMONT DANIELS**

POSSESSION FIREARM BY FELON – FELONY  
POSSESS STOLEN FIREARM – FELONY  
PROBATION VIOLATION-INTERFERE ELECTRONIC – FELONY



**ALTON QUANTIVIAN FREEMAN**

BREAK/ENTER MOTOR VEH – FELONY  
INTERFERE ELECT MONITOR DEV – FELONY  
POST RELEASE VIOLATION – FELONY  
RESISTING PUBLIC OFFICER – MISDEMEANOR



**STEVEN OMAR INGRAM**

LARCENY OF MOTOR VEHICLE – FELONY  
FELONY LARCENY – FELONY  
MISDEMEANOR LARCENY – MISDEMEANOR  
MISDEMEANOR PROBATION VIOL – MISDEMEANOR



**JASON DONNELL JOYNER**

TRAFFICKING OPIUM OR HEROIN – FELONY



**ANTHONY JAMAAL LEE**

FEDERAL – FELONY



**FREDRICK LYNN MANNING**

DV PROTECTIVE ORDER VIOL – FELONY  
PROBATION VIOLATION – MISDEMEANOR



**DONALD RAYQUAN NEWTON JR**

ASSAULT SERIOUS BODILY INJURY – FELONY

**Shaw's Bar-B-Que**  
 Under New Ownership With The Same Great Flavor  
 202 West Boulevard, • Williamston, NC 27892  
 252-792-5339 • www.shawsbarbecue.com

## New York Mets fan pelted with hot dogs on \$1 night; record 44,269 sold

By Alex Butler  
UPI

A shower of moderately priced meaty treats rained down on a New York Mets fan during \$1 hot dog night, resulting in his removal in the ninth inning of the victory over the Chicago Cubs in Queens.

The dogged deluge, which was caught on video and posted on social media, occurred Tuesday at Citi Field.

Mets officials announced that they sold a stadium-record 44,269 hot dogs during the promotion. The Mets announced an attendance of 22,880, meaning they sold about two hot dogs per fan.

One of those fans sported a custom T-shirt, which he wrote on to keep track of his consumed hot dog and beer tally. The shirt read "bad day to be a glizzy" -- referring to the nickname for a hot dog.

Fans started launching hot dogs at him later in the game before several police and security staff went down to his section and escorted him out of the area. He consumed nine hot dogs and 10



beers at the time of his departure, according to his shirt tally.

The man also wore a hot dog hat, in honor of the frank feast.

Mets officials did not respond to a request for comment about

the incident.

Several fans who claimed to be at the game said they were also hit by hot dogs and that the tosses could be seen from the other side of the stadium. The man who was

removed from the stadium was later seen riding on a subway train, while still wearing his hot dog hat.

SNY field reporter Steve Gelbs also relished the opportunity, wearing a hot dog costume during

the broadcast.

During one of his segments, Gelbs spoke to a group of men who painted the letters for "\$1 Weiners" across their chests.

Gelbs also tracked that 102 hot dogs were sold from one register during one half-inning of play. The Mets typically sell an average of 4,100 hot dogs per night. Gelbs said they ordered 70,000 for Tuesday's game. They needed an extra refrigeration truck as part of that effort.

Gelbs started the broadcast with a pregame hot dog eating contest.

In the game, Mets right fielder D.J. Stewart went 1 for 3 with a three-run homer in the 4-2 win. He hit that 388-foot shot in the sixth inning. First baseman Pete Alonso drove in the other Mets run with a first-inning sacrifice fly.

Mets starter Sean Manaea allowed just three hits and one run over five innings, but was not on record as the weiner.

The Mets (15-14) will host the Cubs (18-12) at 7:10 p.m. EDT Wednesday at Citi Field.

## College basketball: Univ. of North Carolina All-American R.J. Davis to return

By Alex Butler  
UPI

All-American guard R.J. Davis will return for a fifth season of college basketball at North Carolina, he announced Wednesday on social media.

"I'm back," Davis wrote on an X and Instagram post, which included a highlight video.

Davis, 22, averaged a career-high 21.2 points, 3.6 rebounds and 3.5 assists per game over 37 appearances last season for

the Tar Heels. The 2023-2024 ACC Player of the Year made nearly 40% of his 3-point attempts.

He averaged 15.1 points, 3.9 rebounds and 3.1 assists per game over his first 138 collegiate appearances.

Davis led the Tar Heels to a 29-8 record last season, resulting in a No. 1 seed in the 2024 NCAA Division I men's basketball tournament. Their season ended with an Elite Eight loss to No. 4 Alabama.

He was not projected as a first-round pick in the 2024 NBA Draft.



## Golfer Will Zalatoris reports back flare-up, withdraws from Byron Nelson

By Alex Butler  
UPI

Will Zalatoris experienced a flare-up in his back and withdrew from the CJ Cup Byron Nelson, the No. 30 player in the Official World Golf Ranking announced Tuesday on Instagram.

Zalatoris had back surgery last April and missed the remainder of the PGA Tour season. He played in 10 events this year, including last week's Zurich Classic. Zalatoris and partner Sahith Theegala failed to make the cut for the team event.

"I am frustrated to miss a tournament I've enjoyed going to since I was 9 years old," Zalatoris wrote on his Instagram story. "The Nelson and the Salesmanship Club have been so great to me my entire playing career and I hope to win Mr. Nelson's trophy someday."

"My back needs some rest and recovery. I am ahead of schedule according to my doctors, but unfortunately the first six months back are the most important for the long term health of my back.



I need to be prudent to make sure I don't miss a big chunk of time again."

The CJ Cup Byron Nelson will be held Thursday through Sunday at TPC Craig Ranch in

McKinney, Texas. Zalatoris, a San Francisco native who moved to Texas as a child, apologized to his

hometown fans. He said he plans to compete at the tournament next year.

"I hate that a flare-up happened during one of my favorite weeks all year, but we knew something like this was a possibility early on in my return to golf," Zalatoris wrote. "Thanks to the Nelson's new partner in CJ in making a long term commitment to my hometown event."

Zalatoris, 27, tied for ninth earlier this month at the Masters Tournament. He tied for second in February's Genesis Invitational.

He earned his lone PGA Tour win at the 2022 FedEx St. Jude Championship.

The PGA Tour said Nick Watney will replace Zalatoris in the 156-player field. Watney, 43, is the No. 1,261 player in the Official World Golf Ranking.

No. 20 Jordan Spieth, No. 22 Jason Day and No. 23 Tom Kim are the top players in the field. The Top 65 scores and ties through 36 holes will make the third-round cut. The winner will receive \$1.71 million of the \$9.5 million prize purse.



**FOR ALL OF  
YOUR HOUSING NEEDS**  
Flooring, Junk Removal,  
Installation,  
Windows and Doors

## The House Depot, LLC

For All Your HOUSING Needs!

**Gary Roach** Manager

4149 E Ave., Ayden, NC 28513  
252-318-2525 • Cell 252-647-6797 • admin@grhousedepot.com  
Flooring, Appliances, Tools and More

## Punches fly during Rays-Brewers brawl in Milwaukee

By Alex Butler  
UPI

A confrontation between pitcher Abner Uribe and outfielder Jose Siri led to punches and triggered a bases-clearing brawl during the eighth inning of the Tampa Bay Rays latest meeting with the Milwaukee Brewers in Milwaukee.

The incident occurred after Siri grounded out during the 8-2 Brewers win Tuesday at American Family Field. MLB will likely investigate the matter and issue suspensions and/or fines.

"I think there were some words shared that didn't have much to do with the game," Uribe told reporters. "They probably shouldn't have been shared. It was one



of those hot situations.

"The league will make whatever decision they are going to make. The only thing I can do now and wait for the decision."

Siri came to the plate to lead off the eighth. Uribe started the exchange by throwing a ball to the Rays center fielder. He then

found the strike zone with a high-and-inside 99.5-mph fastball. Uribe's final pitch was a slider, which went low and outside.

Siri made contact, slicing a roller to the left of first base, which was fielded by first baseman Rhys Hoskins and flipped back to Uribe for the first out of the in-

ning.

Siri and Uribe then exchanged words, prompting an umpire to step in between the heated interaction. Uribe then used his right hand to slap the Siri's helmeted head.

Siri returned an overhead punch, which hit Uribe in the arm. Uribe returned two more punches, which failed to land. He then knocked over Hoskins while trying to pursue his foe.

Uribe and Siri rendezvoused for another first flurry before they were surrounded by players from both teams near home plate. The quarrel was eventually diffused and Siri and Uribe were ejected.

"When I went to first base, I just went there nor-

mal and he kind of hit me on the shoulder," Siri said of Uribe. "I asked him why he did that and he said 'because I felt like it.' From there, nothing was said. Then he threw the first punch and I defended myself with the two punches.

"I don't have much else to say about it."

Siri went 1 for 2 with a home run and two runs scored in the loss. Brewers starter Freddy Peralta allowed just one hit and two runs over 5 1/3 innings to earn his third win this season. He was ejected in the sixth inning after hitting Siri with a 95.2-mph fastball.

Brewers manager Pat Murphy also was ejected after that exchange.

"I wasn't trying to hit

him," Peralta said. "The home plate umpire just came and threw me out. I got mad, but I didn't say anything."

Crew chief Chris Guccione said in a pool report that umpires considered earlier events in the game before determining that Peralta "intentionally" threw at Siri.

"You put what happened previously in the game together, and we get together as a crew and we discuss all the events, and we determined as a crew that Peralta was intentionally throwing at Siri," Guccione said. "And with that comes an ejection."

The Brewers will host the Rays in the series finale at 1:10 p.m. EDT Wednesday in Milwaukee.

## Falcons wanted to trade Jets for No. 10 pick in 2024 NFL Draft, GM says

By Alex Butler  
UPI

A shock first-round quarterback selection grabbed most headlines, but the Atlanta Falcons also attempted a trade to acquire the No. 10 overall pick in the 2024 NFL Draft, New York Jets general manager Joe Douglas said.

The Jets-Falcons negotiations were revealed in a video posted Tuesday on the Jets' YouTube channel. Douglas and the Jets ultimately opted to send the No. 10 pick to the Minnesota Vikings, who used it to acquire former Michigan quarterback J.J. McCarthy.

"They [the Falcons] want to come back up to No. 10," Douglas told Jets coach Robert Saleh and other front office staff members while in the draft room. "So they want No. 8 and 10."

The Falcons shocked many, including their

own starting quarterback, when they selected former Washington quarterback Michael Penix Jr. with the No. 8 overall pick.

The Chicago Bears then snagged Penix's former teammate, wide receiver Rome Odunze, at No. 9. The Vikings then sent the No. 11 overall pick, a fourth-round pick and a fifth-round selection to the Jets in exchange for the No. 10 pick and a sixth-round pick.

The Jets used the No. 11 pick to select former Penn State offensive tackle Olumuyiwa Fashanu. They included reaction video from the draft room and Fashanu's draft party, where he was surrounded by his family, in their YouTube footage.

"We had plenty of strategy meetings, just talking about scenarios where you move up and scenarios where you move back," Douglas said.

"It was just the way the board fell. We had the op-

portunity to make a small move backward, with the Vikings, and [were] still able to get who we think will be a dominant left tackle in this league."

The Jets-Vikings swap was the first of five separate first-round trades that occurred during the first day of the event Thursday in Detroit.

"There were a lot of calls leading up to that pick and there were a lot of calls when we were on the clock," Douglas said. "It was really active."

The Jets went on to trade the latter two picks they acquired in the Vikings trade. They sent the fourth-round selection to the San Francisco 49ers in exchange for two fifth-round picks. The 49ers used that selection to draft running back Isaac Guerendo.

The Jets used the fifth-round selections on running back Isaiah Davis and cornerback Qwan'tez Stiggers.

The Jets also sent the Detroit Lions a fourth-round pick in exchange for a third-round pick in 2025. The Lions picked offensive tackle Giovanni Manu with that selection.

The Jets traded a fourth-round pick to the Green Bay Packers in exchange for a fourth-round pick and sixth-round selection. The Packers used that pick on defensive back Jaylen Key were the other players who joined the Jets in the 2024 NFL Draft.

The Falcons, who could have been targeting one of several available top pass catchers, pass rushers or offensive linemen with the No. 10 pick, went on to complete a trade with the Arizona Cardinals for the third pick of the second round. They used that selection on defensive tackle Ruke Orhorhoro.

Fashanu, fellow offensive tackles Taliese Funga, Amarius Mims and Troy Fatanu, edge rushers Laiatu Latu, Dallas Turner

and Jared Verse, defensive tackle Byron Murphy, tight end Brock Bowers, wide receiver Brian Thomas Jr., and cornerbacks Quinyon Mitchell and Terrion Arnold were among the top players available after nine selections in the draft.

The Falcons picked pass rusher Bralen Trice in the third round and defensive tackle Brandon Dorlus in the fourth round. They also picked up linebacker J.D. Bertrand, running back Jase McClellan, wide receiver Casey Washington and defensive tackle Zion Logue in the 2024 NFL Draft.

Fashanu could play a backup role early on, with Tyron Smith and Morgan Moses expected to start at the tackle spots for the Jets. Douglas said Fashanu also will practice at other positions.

The Falcons also committed to Cousins as their starting quarterback this season.

## All-Pro cornerback Chris Harris Jr. retires from NFL after 12 seasons

By Alex Butler  
UPI

Former Denver Broncos cornerback Chris Harris Jr. will retire from the NFL after 12 seasons, the four-time Pro Bowl selection, 2014 first-team All-Pro and 2016 Super Bowl champion announced.

Harris told the Denver Gazette about his decision in an article published Tuesday. He later acknowledged several congratulatory posts about his retirement with likes on X.

"I just waited a year and I stayed in shape, but I realized that everybody was pretty much moving on with the younger players, the younger wave," Harris told the Gazette. "So I thought it would be great to just call it an end."

Harris, 34, entered the league in 2011 as an undrafted free agent signing with the Broncos. He remained with the franchise until 2020, when he signed with the Los Angeles Chargers. Harris signed with the New Orleans Saints in 2022.

He teamed up with fellow star cornerbacks Champ Bailey and Aqib Talib during



his tenure with the Broncos, which included a stretch of four Pro Bowl selections in five years.

He totaled at least three interceptions in a season four times during his nine-year run with the Broncos. Harris went unsigned last off-season and did not play in 2023-24.

The 2010 All-Decade Team selection finished his career with 621 combined tackles, 97 passes defended, 25 tackles for a loss, 22 interceptions, seven forced fumbles, six sacks, four fumble recoveries and four touchdowns over 172 appearances.

## HELLO BEAUTIFUL BY J BOUTIQUE

Slacks, Tops, Dresses, Blazers, Clutch Bags

DESIGNS BY FREE PEOPLE.  
AND TOPS STARTING AT 19.99.

**NOW  
OPEN**



Hours:  
Wednesday-Saturday  
1:00 pm-5:00 pm.

200 Eastbrook Dr. Ste. D  
Greenville, NC 27858  
252-341-0950

## AREAS DE PRÁCTICA

- LESIONES PERSONALES
- ACCIDENTES DE AUTO
- MUERTE INJUSTA
- ACCIDENTES DE CAMIÓN

- DISABILIDAD DEL SEGURO SOCIAL
- ACCIDENTES DE MOTOCICLETA
- COMPENSACIÓN LABORAL
- DEMANDAS COLECTIVAS

# KELLUM LAW FIRM

Estamos contigo hasta el final!

1.800.ACCIDENT



**ATENCIÓN ANTIGUOS RESIDENTES Y TRABAJADORES DE LA BASE MILITAR DE CAMP LEJUENE.** Si tú o alguien que conoces vivió o trabajó en la base militar Camp Lejuene durante 1953 a 1987 o ha sido diagnosticado o muerto a causa de cáncer, tú podrías ser candidato a recibir una compensación monetaria. Llama o visita nuestra página de internet para más información.

# La Voz Latina

## Sofia Vergara discusses beauty, dating in People's Beautiful Issue

Annie Martin

May 1 (UPI) -- Sofia Vergara is the face of People's new Beautiful Issue.

The 51-year-old Colombian-American actress appears on the magazine cover and discusses beauty, dating and motherhood in the interview.

Vergara is known for playing Gloria Delgado-Pritchett on the ABC sitcom Modern Family and recently starred on the Netflix series Griselda.

The actress is also a mother to her son, Manolo Vergara, 32.

In the cover story, Vergara said beauty has "always been very important" in her life.

"I think because I'm Latin, we always grow up thinking about looking good, doing your hair,



your makeup. It's something that makes you feel good," she said, adding that, "I just do what feels good, makes me feel confident

and beautiful."

Vergara, who gave birth to her son when she was 19 years old, said she loves "everything" about motherhood.

"It's an experience that's unique. It changes you, and it's very rewarding and gives you a lot of headaches too," she added.

Vergara said she can't wait to have grandkids but confirmed that not wanting more children of her own was a contributing factor in her divorce from her ex-husband, actor Joe Manganiello.

"I was a mother already. I know what it means to be a good mother or to try to be the best mother that you can, and that takes a lot of sacrifices, takes a lot of energy," the star said.

"I didn't think because of my

career, the way I live my life, the way my marriage was, that it was fair to bring a kid to this world, and I'm not going to be able to give 100 percent," she added.

Vergara is open to dating and is looking for "Health. Money. Fun. With kids" in a new relationship. She also said she would date someone in the entertainment industry again.

"I mean, it's already hard for a fiftysomething-year-old women to find someone. I'm not going to be now picky about, 'Oh, he can only be a doctor. Oh, he can only be an astronaut,'" she added with a laugh.

Hola! reported in February that Vergara is dating orthopedic surgeon Justin Saliman and has introduced him to her family and friends.

## Concern rises over possible ICC arrest warrants for Israel's Netanyahu, military leaders

Chris Benson

April 29 (UPI) -- An Israeli official on Monday said the government is working to stop possible arrest warrants by the International Criminal Court for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and other top officials.

The ICC, based in the Hague, Netherlands, told NBC News Monday that there is "an ongoing independent investigation in relation to the Situation in the State of Palestine" but the ICC would "have no further comment to make at this stage."

Israel is now reportedly working diplomatic channels in order to try to stop the warrants from being issued, the official said Monday in discussion on the possible arrest warrants for Defense Minister Yoav Gallant and other senior military officials.

The western Europe-based ICC investigation goes back to 2014.

Later that year, Palestinian foreign minister Riad al-Maliki sent a letter to then-United Nations Secretary-General Ban

Ki-moon, the United Kingdom, United States, France, Australia, Canada, South Africa and five Latin American countries urging them to investigate Israel for war crimes allegedly committed during its 50-day conflict in Gaza -- also during Netanyahu's premiership.

While both Israel and the United States do not recognize the ICC's jurisdiction and any such warrant does not include any possibility of prison, it could impede foreign travel in Europe for some Israeli officials.

But a warrant would serve mostly as a public rebuke of Netanyahu's leadership and would put him on the same mantle as Russia's President Vladimir Putin.

The ICC is different of the International Court of Justice -- also in the midst of its own investigation on possible acts of genocide in Gaza -- and can only charge individuals with war or other-related charges.

Seemingly in response to the ICC rumors, Netanyahu said Friday on social media that Israel "will never accept any attempt by



the ICC to undermine its inherent right of self-defense" as Israeli officials reportedly are becoming more worried about the possibility of the warrants.

"The threat to seize the soldiers and officials of the Middle East's only democracy and the world's only Jewish state is outrageous. We will not bow to it," Netanyahu posted on X.

Palestine is a member of a range of international organizations, such as the Non-Aligned Movement, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the International Criminal Court.

The International Criminal Court had already prepared war crimes charges against Russia for alleged atrocities committed by Russian soldiers in Ukraine.

In early March, the ICC had issued warrants for Russian military officials for attacks on Ukrainian infrastructure.

And in March last year, the ICC had issued arrest warrants for Putin and children's commissioner Maria Lvova-Belova for illegally transferring children from Ukraine to Russia.

## Eugenio Derbez: 'Acapulco' mirrors real-life second chance

Fred Topel

LOS ANGELES, April 29 (UPI) -- Actor Eugenio Derbez said the storyline of his Apple TV+ series, Acapulco Season 3, which premieres Wednesday, reflects the second chance he feels he received in life. The season picks up with Derbez's character, Maximo, meeting his long-lost daughter (Vico Escorcia).

"I feel that he made a lot of mistakes," Derbez told UPI in a recent Zoom interview. "Now, he's trying to fix all the mistakes."

Derbez, 62, said he regrets focusing on his acting career while his first three children were growing up.



Aislinn, Vadhira and Jose Eduardo Derbez are in their 30s and have become actors, too.

"Sometimes, we start working more than we should," Derbez said. "I missed a lot of birthdays, graduations, important dates because I was work-

ing. Now I know that it was not worth it."

Like Maximo, Derbez said he has a second chance with his 9-year-old daughter, Aitana.

"Life has given me a second chance to fix all the mistakes I made, especially as a father," Derbez said.

"Maximo is the same. He's trying to go back to Mexico to fix all the mistakes that he made in the past."

Maximo's daughter already is an adult and married when he finds her. So, he tries to make up for lost time, Derbez said, adding, "He hasn't been a real father until now, I think he needs to catch up a lot."

When Acapulco began in 2021, Maximo returned to the Las Colinas Resort, where he began as a pool boy in the '80s. The show marks Derbez's return to Mexico, albeit in an American and Mexican co-production that has both Spanish and English spoken.

Derbez became a star

in Mexican television and film in the '80s and '90s, with his own show, Derbez en Cuando, and movies like Instructions Not Included.

His English language Hollywood crossover, 2017's How to Be a Latin Lover, led to Hollywood movies like the Overboard remake, Dora and the Lost City of Gold and the Oscar winner, CODA.

"I feel that it's a perfect mix between doing a crossover, but coming back to my roots in Acapulco," Derbez said.

He said he recently recovered from a shoulder injury, and that Season 3 of Acapulco was the first project he filmed after he

fell in his house, which he described in an Instagram post in Spanish.

"I broke my shoulder in 17 pieces," Derbez said. "I'm good right now."

With the redemptive themes and personal connections Derbez feels to Acapulco, the show remains a comedy. He said Maximo will still be funny as he navigates his second chance this season.

"He's just funny because of his ego, his huge ego," Derbez said. "I think it's funny to watch how he feels he deserves everything in the world."

New episodes of Acapulco premiere Wednesdays on Apple TV+.