

FIGHT ON



Mitzi Rivas, left, hugs her daughter Maya Iribarren during an abortion-rights protest at City Hall in San Francisco following the Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade, Friday, June 24, 2022.

Associated Press

Supreme Court's abortion ruling sets off new court fights

By KEVIN MCGILL, AMY FORLITI and GEOFF MULVIHILL

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The fall of Roe v. Wade shifted the battleground over abortion to courthouses around the country Monday,

as one side sought quickly to put statewide bans into effect and the other tried to stop or at least delay such measures. The U.S. Supreme Court's decision Friday to end constitutional protection for abortion opened the gates

for a wave of litigation from all sides. Many of the court cases will focus on "trigger laws," adopted in 13 states in anticipation of the ruling and designed to take effect swiftly. Lawsuits could also target old anti-abor-

tion laws that were left on the books and went unenforced under Roe. Newer abortion restrictions that were put on hold pending the Supreme Court ruling have also started to come back into play. "We'll be back in court to-

morrow and the next day and the next day," Nancy Northup, president and CEO of the Center for Reproductive Rights, which argued the case that resulted in the high court ruling, said Friday.

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Continued from Front

In Louisiana on Monday, a judge in New Orleans, a liberal city in a conservative state, temporarily blocked enforcement of the state's trigger-law ban on abortion, after abortion rights activists argued that it is unclear. The ruling is in effect pending a July 8 hearing.

At least one of the state's three abortion clinics said it would resume performing procedures on Tuesday.

"We're going to do what we can," said Kathaleen Pittman, administrator of Hope Medical Group for Women, in Shreveport. "It could all come to a screeching halt."

Also Monday, abortion rights advocates asked a Florida judge to block a new law there that bans the procedure after 15 weeks with some exceptions and is set to take effect this week. And a hearing was scheduled for Monday afternoon in Utah, where Planned Parenthood challenged a trigger law there that contains narrow exceptions.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Arizona and an abortion-rights group also filed an emergency motion there on Saturday seeking to block a 2021 law they worry can be used to halt all abortions.

In striking down Roe, the Supreme Court left it to the states to decide whether to allow abortion.

"The expectation is that this will result in years of legislative and judicial challenges," said Jonathan Turley, a professor at the George Washington University law



A pregnant protester is pictured with a message on her shirt in support of abortion rights during a march, Friday, June 24, 2022, in Seattle.

Associated Press

school.

As of Saturday, abortion services had stopped in at least 11 states — either because of state laws or confusion over them.

In some cases, the lawsuits may only buy time. Even if courts block some restrictions from taking hold, lawmakers in many conservative states could move quickly to address any flaws cited.

That's likely to be the case in Louisiana. The plaintiffs in the lawsuit filed in state court don't deny that the state can now ban abortion. Instead, they contend Louisiana now has multiple, conflicting trigger mechanisms in the law.

They also argue that state law is unclear on whether

it bans an abortion prior to a fertilized egg implanting in the uterus. And while the law provides an exception for "medically futile" pregnancies in cases of fetuses with lethal abnormalities, the plaintiffs noted the law gives no definition of the term.

Around the country, challenges to other trigger laws could be made on the grounds that the conditions to impose the bans have not been met, or that it was improper for a past legislature to bind the current one.

Laura Herner, a professor at Mitchell Hamline School of Law in St. Paul, Minnesota, said other challenges might call into question whether state laws sufficiently and

clearly allow for exceptions to protect the life or health of a pregnant woman.

Now that the high court has ruled that the U.S. Constitution does not guarantee the right to an abortion, abortion rights supporters will make the case that their state constitutions protect such a right.

A judge heard arguments on that issue Monday in Florida, where attorneys tried to block a new law from going into effect Friday. The ban beyond 15 weeks has exceptions to save the pregnant woman's life or prevent physical harm or in cases where the fetus has a fatal abnormality. The ACLU of Florida argued the law violates the Florida Constitution.

James Bopp Jr., general counsel for the National Right to Life Committee, said the wave of suits from abortion rights advocates is not surprising. "We know that the abortion industry has basically unlimited funds, and its allies have basically unlimited funds, and of course they're fanatical about abortion on demand throughout pregnancy," Bopp said in an interview.

But he said that that the Supreme Court ruling should preclude abortion rights supporters from prevailing in any federal challenges. And he called efforts based on state constitutions "fanciful."

Still other cases could be filed as states try to sort out whether abortion bans in place before Roe was decided — sometimes re-

ferred to as "zombie laws" — apply now that there is no federal protection for abortion.

For instance, Wisconsin passed a law in 1849 banning abortions except to save the life of the mother. Attorney General Josh Kaul, a Democrat, said he does not believe it is enforceable. Abortion opponents have called on lawmakers to impose a new ban.

In the meantime, Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin said it immediately suspended all abortions.

In Michigan, Planned Parenthood challenged a 1931 abortion ban ahead of last week's Supreme Court ruling. In May, a judge said the ban could not be enforced because it violates the state's constitution. Abortion rights supporters are now trying to get a proposed state constitutional amendment on the ballot in November to protect abortion and birth control.

Idaho, Oklahoma and Texas have adopted laws that allow people to seek bounties against those who help others get abortions. It is an open question as to whether that means people can be pursued across state lines, and legal challenges over the issue are likely to come up in cases of both surgical abortions and those involving medicine mailed to patients.

The California Legislature, controlled by Democrats, passed a bill Thursday to shield abortion providers and volunteers in the state from civil judgments imposed by other states. In liberal Massachusetts, Gov. Charlie Baker, a Republican, signed an executive order Friday that prohibits state agencies from assisting other states' investigations into anyone who receives a legal abortion in Massachusetts.

The challenge filed in Arizona, where most providers stopped offering abortions, said the legal questions are urgent. Even if abortions resume in weeks or months, the plaintiffs said, "patients may be at greater risk of medical complications or may lose access to abortion altogether as a result of the delay." □

Grand Canyon won't seek volunteers to kill bison this fall

By **FELICIA FONSECA**

Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) — A bison herd that lives almost exclusively in the northern reaches of Grand Canyon National Park won't be targeted for lethal removal there this fall.

The park used skilled volunteers selected through a highly competitive and controversial lottery last year to kill bison, part of a toolset to downsize the herd that's been trampling meadows and archaeological sites on the canyon's North Rim.

Introducing the sound of gunfire and having people close to the bison was meant to nudge the massive animals back to the adjacent forest where they legally could be hunted. But the efforts had little effect.

"They just kind of moved a bit from where the activity occurred, and sometimes they'd come back the next day," said Grand Canyon wildfire program manager Greg Holm.

New surveys also have shown the herd is closer to the goal of about 200, down from an estimated 500 to 800 animals when the park approved a plan to quickly cut the size of the herd. The park is now working with other agencies and groups on a long-term plan for managing the bison, an animal declared America's



In this photo provided by Grand Canyon National Park, an adult bison roams near a corral at the North Rim of the park in Arizona, on Aug. 30, 2021.

Associated Press

national mammal in 2016 and depicted on the National Park Service logo.

Hunting over hundreds of years and a genetic bottleneck nearly left the animals that once numbered in the tens of millions extinct in the U.S. Federal wildlife authorities now support about 11,000 bison in about a dozen states, including the largest herd on public land at Yellowstone National Park.

Yellowstone, which spans 3,500 square miles in Wyoming, Montana and Idaho, also is developing a new management plan for the roughly 5,500 bison

there. It's working with Native American tribes, state agencies and other groups to find ways to reduce the number of bison sent to slaughter.

Theodore Roosevelt National Park in North Dakota regularly rounds up bison using helicopters and corrals, then transfers some of the animals to tribes, other states and national parks. Without natural predators, bison herds can grow quickly and strain the resources, the park says.

The Grand Canyon herd didn't always live within the park's boundaries, where they can be seen along

the highway leading to the North Rim entrance. The bison are descendants of those brought to Arizona in the 1900s as part of a cross-breeding experiment with cattle.

The animals increasingly recognized they could be hunted on the adjacent national forest and sought refuge in the national park. Hunting isn't allowed at national parks, but the agency has authority to kill animals that harm resources, using park staff or volunteers.

Most of the bison at Grand Canyon have been removed by corralling them

and transferring them to Native American tribes that have been trying to reestablish herds on their land. A controversial pilot project last fall sought skilled volunteers to shoot up to 12 of the animals.

More than 45,000 people applied for the chance. Ultimately, 10 were picked, and they were able to kill four bison. Although the animals are massive, they're quick and agile and can hide among thick stands of trees.

Grand Canyon officials say they won't repeat the program this fall, but it won't be excluded as a tool in the future. Another corralling effort is planned.

The latest bison population estimate based on aerial surveys and tracking devices shows 216 bison on the expansive Kaibab Plateau, according to Grand Canyon National Park. Agencies that manage the land and wildlife in far northern Arizona and study the bison's movement are meeting in July to start talking about the long-term plan.

Part of that discussion will include creating more gaps in the state-sanctioned bison hunting seasons outside Grand Canyon National Park to see if bison will move outside the boundaries, said Larry Phoenix, an Arizona Game and Fish Department regional supervisor. □

White House to resume its full tour schedule next month

WASHINGTON (AP) — Public tours of the White House will return to a full operating schedule next month, after nearly a year and a half of disruptions due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Free tours of the executive mansion were suspended when President Joe Biden took office, as officials tightened virus protocols in line with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. They resumed on a limited basis, being held only Friday and Saturday mornings, on April 15, and will return to their normal schedule from Tuesday through Saturday,

excluding federal holidays, beginning on July 19.

The White House said Monday it will "continue to closely monitor the COVID-19 situation with guidance based on recommendations from the CDC, and other public health officials and medical experts, and reserves the right to adjust availability of the public tours as necessary to adhere to the latest health guidance."

It added that, within 10 days prior to going on a tour, anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19, has had any virus symptoms, or been in close con-

tact with someone who is suspected of having the virus "should stay home."

Face masks will also be made available for visitors who want them, though use will be optional.

Tours had been canceled for months by then-President Donald Trump at the onset of the pandemic but resumed in September 2020 as he tried to project normalcy, prompting a new suspension when the Biden administration began.

Other White House events, including the Easter Egg Roll in April, have resumed this year after a two-year hiatus. □



The North Lawn of the White House is seen from a newly reopened section of Pennsylvania Avenue, July 4, 2021, in Washington.

Associated Press

Judge says NYC can't let noncitizens vote in city elections

NEW YORK (AP) — New York City can't let noncitizens vote for mayor and other city officials, a judge ruled Monday, siding with Republicans who challenged the measure as unconstitutional.

In January, New York became the first major U.S. city to grant widespread municipal voting rights to noncitizens, though none had cast ballots yet. The law didn't affect presidential, congressional or state elections.

The law's supporters said it gave an electoral voice to many people who have made a home in the city and pay taxes to it but face tough paths to citizenship. New York GOP Chair Nick Langworthy and several Republican elected officials said the law violated provisions in the state constitution and state election law that specifically confer voting rights on citizens. State court Judge Ralph Porzio agreed with the GOP.

"Though voting is a right that so many citizens take for granted, the City of New York cannot 'obviate' the restrictions imposed by the Constitution," wrote Porzio, whose court is on Staten Island. His ruling blocks the



New York City Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez speaks during a rally on the steps of New York City Hall, ahead of a City Council vote to allow lawful permanent residents to cast votes in elections to pick the mayor, City Council members and other municipal officeholders, Dec. 9, 2021.

Associated Press

city from registering potentially more than 800,000 new voters without U.S. citizenship.

Langworthy hailed the ruling as a "victory for citizen rights, election integrity and the rule of law."

He and other plaintiffs accused the Democrat-led city government of passing the law for partisan gain.

"As the son of immigrants

that came to this country legally and worked tirelessly to become citizens, I consider voting to be a sacred right bestowed on American citizens," added state Assembly Member Michael Tannousis, whose parents were originally Greek nationals. He represents parts of Staten Island and Brooklyn.

The city said it was consid-

ering next steps.

"This is a disappointing court ruling for people who value bringing in thousands more New Yorkers into the democratic process," the city Law Department said in a statement.

Immigrant rights advocates decried the ruling and were looking ahead to a potential appeal.

"The decision strikes at the

core of our democracy and values as a city of immigrants," said Ahmed Mohamed, the legal director for the Council on American-Islamic Relations' New York chapter.

The city had argued that the state Constitution leaves room for the city to make rules about its own elections, and that the law would help ensure that local officials are representative of the population.

Legally documented, voting-age noncitizens comprise nearly one in nine of New York City's 7 million voting-age inhabitants.

More than a dozen communities across the United States allow noncitizens to cast ballots in local elections, including 11 towns in Maryland and two in Vermont. In San Francisco, noncitizens can vote in school board races; New York City allowed the same for three decades, until its school board was disbanded in 2002.

Meanwhile, Alabama, Colorado and Florida have in recent years adopted rules that would preempt any attempts to pass laws like the one in New York City. Arizona and North Dakota already had prohibitions on the books. □

Heckler charged with assault after confronting Rudy Giuliani



Andrew Giuliani, left, a Republican candidate for Governor of New York, is joined by his father, former New York City mayor Rudy Giuliani, during a news conference, June 7, 2022, in New York.

Associated Press

By KAREN MATTHEWS
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A heckler who clapped former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani on the back at a

campaign event was arrested, jailed for more than 24 hours and now faces an assault charge.

The episode Sunday at a Staten Island supermar-

ket produced dueling accounts, with Giuliani likening the touch to being hit by a bullet, saying it could have killed him, while the man's lawyers described it as a tap, meant to get the mayor's attention.

Security camera video obtained by the New York Post captured the encounter, which happened as Giuliani was campaigning for his son, Andrew, who is seeking the Republican nomination for governor in Tuesday's primary.

Giuliani was standing with a group of people when a man walking past reached out, touched the Republican's back with an open palm, and then said something as he walked away. Police said the man said, "What's up scumbag?" Giuliani said the man accused

him of being "a woman killer," which he took to be a reference to the Supreme Court's ruling overturning *Roe v. Wade*.

In the video, Giuliani barely reacts when his back was touched, but in interviews afterward he said it knocked him forward and nearly caused him to fall. Speaking to fellow Republican radio host Curtis Sliwa on WABC, he said it felt "Like somebody shot me." Later, in a news conference on Facebook, he said it was "as if a boulder hit me."

"I might have ordinarily ignored it," Giuliani told Sliwa, but he said he decided to call the police because "these Democrats get away with everything."

"I called the 1-2-3 precinct ... and I told the people

there, 'I want this guy held and I want him arrested,'" he said.

The Legal Aid Society, which is representing the man, disputed Giuliani's account.

"Our client merely patted Mr. Giuliani, who sustained nothing remotely resembling physical injuries, without malice to simply get his attention, as the video footage clearly showed," the society said, adding that the man "was then needlessly held by the NYPD in custody for over 24 hours."

"Given Mr. Giuliani's obsession with seeing his name in the press and his demonstrated propensity to distort the truth, we are happy to correct the record on exactly what occurred over the weekend on Staten Island," it said. □

U.K. presses on with Brexit rules rewrite; EU calls it illegal

By JILL LAWLESS and SYLVIA HUI

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — British Prime Minister Boris Johnson signalled Monday that a plan to rip up parts of the post-Brexit trade deal he signed with the European Union could become law by the end of the year.

Lawmakers began debating legislation that rewrites trade rules for Northern Ireland on Monday, the first step on what could be a rocky journey through Parliament.

If approved by lawmakers, the legislation would remove checks on goods entering Northern Ireland from the rest of the U.K., thereby scrapping parts of a trade treaty that Johnson signed before Britain left the EU in 2020.

Johnson said he thought the plan could be approved "fairly rapidly" if Parliament cooperates. Asked if the measures could be in place this year, he said: "Yes, I think we could do it very fast, Parliament will."

The British government says the rules, known as the Northern Ireland Protocol, are burdening businesses and undermining peace in Northern Ireland.

It argues the unilateral



Demonstrators protest outside Hillsborough Castle, ahead of a visit by British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, in Hillsborough, Northern Ireland, Monday, May, 16, 2022.

Associated Press

move is justified under international law because of the "genuinely exceptional situation."

Johnson's opponents, however, say the move is illegal. "Many of us are extremely concerned that the bill brazenly breaks a solemn international treaty, it trashes our international reputation, it threatens a trade war at a time when our economy is flat and it puts us at odds with our most important ally," Conservative Andrew Mitchell said in Par-

liament Monday.

Foreign Secretary Liz Truss replied that the government's plans are the only solution to resolve trade problems in Northern Ireland because the EU has been unwilling to reopen negotiations.

The plans have caused concern among some of Johnson's fellow Conservatives, already worried about his judgment and popularity following a series of ethics scandals and two special election de-

feats.

But Johnson said Monday that questions about his leadership were no longer relevant.

"We settled that a couple of weeks ago," he told reporters in Germany, referring to his survival in a no-confidence vote three weeks ago.

The EU has threatened to retaliate against the U.K. if it goes ahead with its plan to rewrite the rules of the post-Brexit deal, raising the specter of a trade war be-

tween the two major economic partners.

Irish foreign affairs minister Simon Coveney said he was "hugely disappointed" that the U.K. government is still pursuing its "unlawful" approach to the Northern Ireland Protocol.

"This is not the way to find sustainable solutions to the genuine concerns of people and business in Northern Ireland and only adds to uncertainty," he said.

The bloc's ambassador to Britain, Joao Vale de Almeida, said Britain's plan was "illegal because it is a breach of international law, a breach of EU law, U.K. law and international law."

"It is a treaty that we signed, ratified and even went through a general election in this country," he told Times Radio.

Northern Ireland is the only part of the U.K. that shares a border with an EU country, Ireland.

When Britain left the European Union and its borderless free-trade zone, the two sides agreed to keep the Irish land border free of customs posts and other checks because an open border is a key pillar of the peace process that ended decades of violence in Northern Ireland. □

Angry farmers block Dutch highways to protest pollution plan

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — Farmers driving tractors blocked highways in the Netherlands on Monday and set small blazes outside at least two town halls in the latest protest sparked by a government pledge to rein in pollution emissions, a move that will hit the country's agriculture sector.

Authorities urged motorists to check traffic updates before setting off, amid the protests that follow a gathering last week of tens of thousands of farmers in the central Netherlands that also caused traffic chaos around the country.

"We advise road users to be extra alert," the government's road and water department said in a statement. Several highways

around the country were affected by the protests.

Justice Minister Dilan Yesilgöz-Zegerius condemned the protests.

"Several highways are currently blocked by farmers. You don't make your point by endangering road users. This can have serious consequences. Then the police have no choice but to intervene where possible, if necessary afterwards. Don't let it get that far," the minister tweeted.

Dutch broadcaster NOS reported that farmers lit small fires outside town halls in the city of Apeldoorn and the town of Epe in the central Netherlands.

Earlier, local broadcaster Omroep Brabant showed a truck dumping large, plastic-covered bales of hay on

a highway near the town of Liessel, some 150 kilometers (93 miles) southeast of the capital, Amsterdam. On at least two more highways, farmers drove or parked their tractors, snarling traffic. The Dutch governing coalition has mandated reductions in emissions of nitrogen oxides and ammonia of up to 70% in many areas of the country close to protected nature areas even reaching as high as 95% in some places. The government has been forced to act after courts in recent years began blocking permits for infrastructure and housing projects because the country was missing its emissions targets. The government has earmarked an extra 24.3 billion euros (\$25.6 billion)



Dutch farmers protesting against the government's plans to reduce emissions of nitrogen oxide and ammonia gather for a demonstration at Stroe, Netherlands, Wednesday, June 22, 2022.

Associated Press

to finance agricultural reforms that will likely make many farmers drastically re-

duce their number of livestock or to get rid of them altogether. □

Iran launches rocket into space as nuclear talks to resume

By **NASSER KARIMI** and **ISABEL DEBRE**

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iranian state television said Sunday that Tehran had launched a solid-fueled rocket into space, drawing a rebuke from Washington ahead of the expected resumption of stalled talks over Tehran's tattered nuclear deal with world powers.

It's unclear when or where the rocket was launched, but the announcement came after satellite photos showed preparations at Imam Khomeini Spaceport in Iran's rural Semnan province, the site of Iran's frequent failed attempts to put a satellite into orbit. State-run media aired dramatic footage of the blast-off against the backdrop of heightened tensions over Tehran's nuclear program, which is racing ahead under decreasing international oversight.

Iran had previously acknowledged that it planned more tests for the satellite-carrying rocket, which it first launched in February of last year.

Ahmad Hosseini, spokesman for Iran's Defense Ministry, said Zuljanah, a 25.5 meter-long rocket, was capable of carrying



In this frame grab from video footage released Sunday, June 26, 2022 by Iran state TV, IRINN, shows an Iranian satellite-carrier rocket, called "Zuljanah," blasting off from an undisclosed location in Iran.

a satellite of 220 kilograms (485 pounds) that would ultimately gather data in low-earth orbit and promote Iran's space industry. Zuljanah is named for the horse of Imam Hussein, the grandson of the Prophet Muhammad.

The White House said it was aware of Iran's announcement and criticized the move as "unhelpful and destabilizing."

The launch comes just a day after the European Union's foreign policy chief, Josep Borrell, traveled to Tehran in a push to resus-

citate negotiations over Iran's nuclear program that have stalemated for months.

A few significant sticking points remain, including Tehran's demand that Washington lift terrorism sanctions on its paramilitary Revolutionary Guard. Borrell said on Saturday that talks over the nuclear deal would resume in an unnamed Persian Gulf country in the coming days, with Iranian media reporting that Qatar would likely host the negotiations.

Former President Donald

Trump withdrew the U.S. from the nuclear deal in 2018 and reimposed crushing sanctions on Iran. Tehran responded by greatly ramping up its nuclear work and now enriches uranium closer than ever to weapons-grade levels.

In a further escalation that limits the international community's view into its nuclear program, Iran removed over two dozen International Atomic Energy Agency cameras from its nuclear sites this month. The agency's director called the move a "fatal blow" to

the tattered nuclear deal. Tehran's rocket launches have raised alarm in Washington amid the unraveling of the nuclear deal. The U.S. warns the launches defy a United Nations Security Council resolution calling on Iran to steer clear of any activity related to ballistic missiles capable of delivering nuclear weapons.

The White House on Sunday said it was committed to using sanctions and other measures to prevent further advances in Iran's ballistic missile program.

The U.S. intelligence community's 2022 threat assessment, published in March, claims such a satellite launch vehicle "shortens the timeline" to an intercontinental ballistic missile for Iran as it uses "similar technologies."

Iran, which long has said it does not seek nuclear weapons, maintains its satellite launches and rocket tests do not have a military component.

Even as Iran's government has sharpened its focus on space, sending several short-lived satellites into orbit and in 2013 launching a monkey into space, the program has seen recent troubles. □

Associated Press

Israel loosens abortion regulations in response to Roe



Protesters fill the street in front of the Supreme Court after the court's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade in Washington, June 24, 2022.

Associated Press

By **EMILY ROSE**
Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel on Monday eased its regulations on abortion access in what the country's health minister said was a response to last week's "sad"

U.S. Supreme Court ruling overturning Roe v. Wade. The new rules, approved by a parliamentary committee, grant women access to abortion pills through the country's universal health system and remove a long-

standing requirement that women appear physically before a special committee before they are permitted to terminate a pregnancy.

The decision came after the U.S. Supreme Court on Friday stripped away women's constitutional protections for abortion, a fundamental and deeply personal change for Americans' lives after nearly a half-century under Roe v. Wade. The decision has triggered protests across the U.S. and set the stage for a wave of litigation.

Health Minister Nitzan Horowitz, who heads the small liberal Meretz party, said the U.S. decision had turned back the clock for women's rights.

"A woman has a complete

right over her body," he said. "The SCOTUS decision to negate a woman's right to make a choice over her own body is a sad process of women's repression, setting the leader of the free and liberal world a hundred years back."

Abortion is widely available in Israel and far less controversial than in the U.S., but women still don't automatically have the right to the procedure.

Under the new rules, Israeli women will now have access to abortion pills at their local health clinics. They also will no longer need to physically appear before an abortion approval committee, and the application form will be shortened and simplified.

Abortion approval com-

mittees have been heavily criticized in Israel over the years. While most requests are approved, women have objected to being subject to bureaucracy and a humiliating and intrusive process. Women also can face long wait times before they can be seen by a committee.

Instead, the process will be digitized, and a requirement to meet with a social worker will become optional. The new regulations are set to take effect in three months.

"The reform we approved today will create a simpler process, that is more respectful, advanced, and maintains a woman's right to make decisions over her own body a basic human right," Horowitz said. □

U.N. chief: national selfishness delaying global oceans deal

By BARRY HATTON

LISBON, Portugal (AP) —

Some countries has been holding up a global agreement on protecting the world's oceans because of their "egoism," U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said Monday.

Some countries — which he did not identify — won't accept that the world's oceans belong to everyone, he said.

"International waters are ours," Guterres insisted, referring to all the planet's inhabitants.

The U.N. chief was with senior officials and scientists from more than 120 countries attending a five-day U.N. Ocean Conference in Lisbon, Portugal. Also present were activists frustrated by the failure to come up with international rules that might ensure ocean sustainability.

The U.N. is hoping the conference that got underway Monday will bring fresh momentum to the protracted efforts for a global ocean agreement.

No comprehensive legal framework covers the high seas. Oceans cover some



Actor Jason Momoa holds the "Nature Batton" after arriving to meet participants at the United Nations' Youth and Innovation Forum at Carcavelos beach, outside Lisbon, Sunday, June 26, 2022.

Associated Press

70% of the earth's surface and provide food and livelihoods for billions of people. Some activists refer to them as the largest unregulated area on the planet.

The conference is set to adopt a declaration that, though not binding on its signatories, could help implement and facilitate the

protection and conservation of oceans and their resources, according to the U.N.. The declaration is due to be endorsed on Friday. But still beyond reach is a vital new international agreement on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction, also known as the Treaty of the High Seas.

That treaty is being negotiated within the framework of the United Convention on the Law of the Sea, which is the main international agreement governing human maritime activities.

After 10 years of talks, however, including a fourth round of negotiations

three months ago, a deal is still not within sight. A fifth round is scheduled for August in New York.

"The world's largest ecosystem ... is still unprotected and is dying as we watch," the activist group Ocean Rebellion said.

Guterres said "significant progress" has been made toward a deal on a high seas treaty and that the world stands at "a crucial moment" for the future of the oceans.

"We need to make people put pressure on those who decide," Guterres said, appealing for people to make themselves heard.

Threats to the oceans include global warming, pollution, acidification and other problems, the U.N. says. Potentially harmful deep-sea mining also lacks rules.

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Ecuador president cuts gasoline price amid Indigenous strike

QUITO, Ecuador (AP) —

Ecuadorian President Guillermo Lasso announced a cut in gasoline prices Sunday that fell short of the reduction demanded by Indigenous leaders to end a strike that has paralyzed parts of the country for two weeks. The reduction cuts the price of gasoline by 10 cents per gallon, and early Monday the main Indigenous organization rejected it, calling the measure "insufficient."

The Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador has demanded compliance with a 10-point agenda, including the reduction of the price of extra gasoline from 2.55 to 2.10 dollars a gallon and diesel from 1.90 to 1.50.

Speaking on national television late Sunday, Lasso said the price of fuel "has become the cornerstone



A demonstrator dressed as a llama takes part in a protest and national strike against the government of President Guillermo Lasso, near the National Assembly, in Quito, Ecuador, on Saturday, June 25, 2022.

Associated Press

that maintains the conflict." "Ecuadorians who seek dialogue will find a government with an outstretched hand, those who seek chaos, violence and terrorism will face the full force of the law," he said, emphasizing that the country must re-

turn to normality. The Indigenous confederation criticized the announcement, and said in a press release that it shows that the government is not sympathetic to the millions of people in poverty in Ecuador. □

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Sometimes combining the best of the best is a matter of all things falling into place. Every Wednesday from 7pm to 10pm you are welcomed to enter a world where food is a passion. Papillon Restaurant presents their guest chef Patrick van der Donk - and with The Chef's Garden menu being a fresh concept on the island, we're sure you will fall completely in love with this.

A bit about guest chef Patrick

Chef Patrick van der Donk is a true legend on Aruba. Chef Patrick attended culinary school in the Netherlands where he worked with several of the



best Dutch chefs, including two 3-star Michelin chefs who taught him all the tricks of the trade. He was also inspired by self-taught Michelin star chef Raymond Blanc OBE who has educated the most prominent British chefs of today.

The menu is carefully done with local products, fresh and perfectly matched with a selection of wines by local sommeliers. Vegan options are available; please inform them when you make your reservation.

The Secret Garden & Papillon

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Joshua Paredes Honored to Represent Aruba in Nation's Historic IMMAF Debut

ORANJESTAD - Aruban athlete Joshua Paredes is more than prepared heading into the 2022 IMMAF Pan American Championships, admitting the biggest fight is the road to the competition.

Entering the tournament, Paredes finds himself in the intriguing position of being the only Aruban athlete to be competing at the Pan Am Championships. For many, the thought of this could well be intimidating but the 19-year-old is feeling very level headed as the tournament approaches. He said:

"As the only competitor I don't feel nervous at all. Maybe when the fights are closer I will but right now, no. I have a few MMA amateur fights already, I am used to the pressure and the fight camps so I am not nervous at all. I know the biggest battle is against myself so I am not nervous at all."

Further expanding on the internal battle, Paredes opened up on exactly what it has taken for him to represent his nation at the championships. He said:

"The real fight is against myself because the real fight is getting up every day, six in the morning to go training five times a day and dropping your weight to the fight weight. Once

you get to that point where you are mentally strong in the fight, you don't show any emotion or fear in a fight, you become just a brick wall and you do what you have got to do. To get to that point the fight is against yourself, the routine, the camp, the weight, the food, the training, the pains, you just have to stay focussed. Once you're in the cage I am just a brick wall, ice cold, you can't hurt me.

The bantamweight will make his IMMAF debut at the championships, a feat which he is very proud to achieve.

"There are several reasons I decided to enter the Pan Ams. I wanted to represent my country, Aruba, at a bigger level internationally. I want to prove myself against high level fighters, the best in the world and I know I will get that at the Pan Ams and prove to myself what I am capable of.

"This will be a great honour for me to represent Aruba at the Pan American Championships and to be the first one to do it!"

Paredes oozes confidence & believes all of his hard work up until this point will lead to success at the championships.

"I am very excited and very happy to have the oppor-



tunity to compete in the IMMAF tournament, training all day, all night, hard work preparing for this. I am ready."

All the preparation paid off, giving amazing results that show his great capabilities as an athlete and brings light to all the talent Aruba has to offer.

The IMMAF Pan American Championships took place from June 22nd to June 24th, where Joshua Paredes won a silver medal in the Bantamweight 61.2 kg (135 lbs) category.

Congratulations to Joshua Paredes and his team for the amazing accomplishment. □

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For Directions

Why You Should Not Miss Aruba's Free City Center Street Car Tour



ORANJESTAD - Aruba's City Center Street Car - or as we call it in Dutch; "Tram van Oranjestad" - is a single track tram line in Oranjestad, the capital city of Aruba. It was inaugurated on 22 December 2012, being the first and so far the only passenger rail service on Aruba and the rest of the Dutch Caribbean. There are two trolleys, a single-deck one with 42 seats and a double-decker with 64 seats. The line was inspired by the popular battery-powered streetcar operation at the Grove in

Los Angeles, USA. Aruba's street-cars are powered by hydrogen fuel cells, which are charged by the island's year-round trade winds.

Caya Betico Croes, mostly referred to as our "main street" has been developed into a pollution-free pedestrian mall. The double-decker offers you a 360 degree view of the down town area with a picture perfect scenery of the island's clear blue skies. Who would not enjoy a ride on this beautiful

and naturally air-conditioned vehicle? The tour consists of a total of 9 stops approximately 200 meters apart from each other; all stops are clearly marked. The tram will bring you close to different museums, historical plazas, monuments, the Protestant church, Aruba's high-end mall, retail shops, and a variety of local and international cuisine restaurants. The "I love Aruba" trademark also belongs to that list. The third stop on the route is close to a 5-minute walk to the famous

Renaissance Marina showcasing luxurious yachts and Aruba's blue waters.

The "Tram van Oranjestad" starts from a balloon loop near the Port of Call and serves the downtown area and ends at Plaza Nicky. The first ride starts at 10:00 am sharp with intervals of 25minutes. The last trolley departs from the cruise port at 5:00 pm. Don't miss this tour of the beautiful Aruba's City Center – it is free for all! □

Aruba's current weather forecast for the upcoming days

A tropical wave located about 700 miles east-southeast of the southern Windward Islands is producing a large area of showers and thunderstorms.

The environmental conditions appear conducive for development, and a tropical depression or a tropical storm is likely to form during the next day or so before

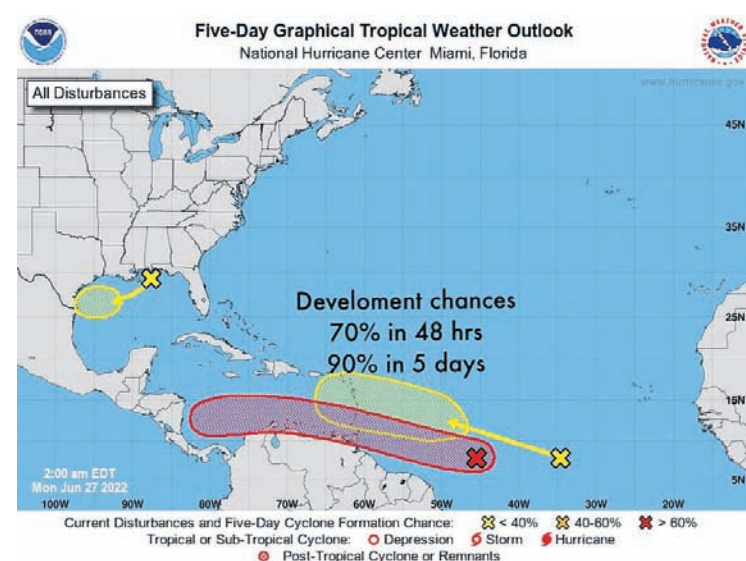
the system reaches the Windward Islands Tuesday night or possibly while moving westward across the southern Caribbean Sea Wednesday through Friday. A tropical storm brings very high winds, torrential rain and high waves.

A NOAA Hurricane Hunter aircraft had been investigating the system and has

found winds with tropical storm force. Those interested in the Windward Islands and along the northeastern coast of Venezuela should monitor the progress of this system, and tropical storm watches or warnings could be required for portions of these areas later today. Regardless of development, locally heavy rainfall is possible over the Windward Islands and the northeastern coast of Venezuela Tuesday night and Wednesday.

Aruba's weather forecasting services aim to continuously keep the community and visitors alike informed of all developments.

Recently, they reported that a tropical wave keeps producing a wide area of heavy rain. The atmospheric conditions remain favorable for the development of this tropical wave into a tropical depression or a tropical storm. This formation can occur within the

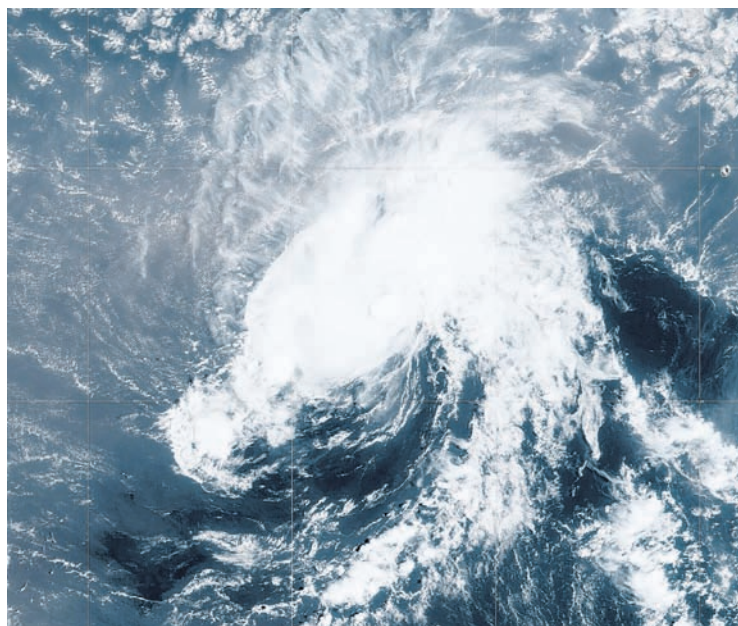


next few days or before the tropical wave reaches the Windward Islands during Tuesday night.

This tropical wave will continue its course and enter the Caribbean Ocean moving up between Tuesday and Friday. Up until now, it is expected that this tropical wave will pass through the north side of the ABC Islands. It is said reported that the effects of this tropical wave on the

ABC Islands, namely Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao will be moderate and this can be felt between Tuesday and Friday. The possibility of a Tropical Storm Watch or Tropical Storm Warning is issued remains.

A Hurricane Hunter aircraft continues to investigate the tropical wave and is continuously registering the winds in order to keep the community and visitors alike well informed. □



How to pay for summer fun: Financing boats, RVs and more

By **JACKIE VELING** of **Nerd-Wallet**

Summer is the season to hit the great outdoors, and having a new toy, like a boat or RV, is a dream for many people. But with interest rate hikes, spikes in the cost of oil and general economic uncertainty, you may be hesitant to make a big purchase right now.

Financing options, such as a secured loan, can make the purchase more manageable by spreading out payments. But borrowing isn't right for everyone. Look at your budget and take into account other expenses, like storage, maintenance and gas.

SHOULD YOU FINANCE A BIG SUMMER PURCHASE?

Before deciding if and how you should finance, check in with yourself about why you want to make the purchase, says Jarrod Sandra, a certified financial planner based in Crowley, Texas. According to Sandra, clients are sometimes motivated by the idea of a boat or RV, not the reality. "I think especially around toys, you get this 'American dream feeling' of waterskiing behind the boat every Saturday or being out in the beautiful wilderness," he says.

Sandra, who once owned



In this June 12, 2007 file photo, shoppers look at recreational vehicles for sale at a dealership in Salt Lake City.

Associated Press

a camper, says this dream doesn't always pan out. Maybe you rarely have time on the weekends to hit the water, or the remote campsite you envisioned is actually loud and crowded.

For those sure they want to buy, the choice of whether to borrow money depends largely on your overall financial picture, says Marianne Nolte, a certified financial planner based in Fallbrook, California, and an avid boater.

"Everything comes back to budgeting," Nolte says.

"It doesn't matter if you're a 25-year-old and you're saving for your first house or you're a 50-year-old who is settled in their financial journey. You have to make sure, cash-flow-wise, you're not going to do damage to your monthly expenses."

Nolte adds that just because you can afford the monthly payments on a loan doesn't mean you should automatically get one. Make sure you're also not forgoing larger goals, like saving for retirement, in order to cover the payments.

Both Nolte and Sandra recommend a test drive, like joining a boat club or renting an RV for the weekend, to get your feet wet before committing to the purchase.

FINANCING FOR BOATS, RVs AND SMALLER TOYS

If you're going to finance a large summer toy, you'll probably need a secured or unsecured loan.

Secured loans are generally the most affordable option and are available at banks, credit unions and some dealers. Since the purchase itself serves

as collateral, interest rates tend to be lower, and you can often qualify for a longer repayment term, sometimes up to 20 years.

One of the best ways to get approved for a secured loan is to provide a down payment of at least 10%, says Michael Lax, executive vice president and head of RV Marine Sales at Bank of the West.

Credit history also matters. If you've financed a similar purchase in the past, like with a car loan, it can go a long way toward making the approval process easier, Lax says.

Unsecured personal loans are another financing option and are offered by online lenders, banks and credit unions. These loans don't require collateral, so you won't risk losing the item if you fail to repay.

Lending decisions are based on creditworthiness, income and existing debt, but annual percentage rates may be higher and repayment terms shorter, compared with a secured loan.

Some lenders let you pre-qualify for an unsecured loan, which is a smart way to check potential terms and compare different loans without affecting your credit score. □

Airline merger: Frontier sweetens offer for Spirit Airlines

By **DAVID KOENIG**
AP Airlines Writer

Frontier Airlines on Friday added more cash and a larger breakup fee to its offer to buy Spirit Airlines, and the Spirit board repeated its preference for Frontier over a rival bid by JetBlue Airways.

Frontier added \$2 per share to its previous offer, boosting it to \$4.13 in cash plus 1.9126 shares of Frontier for each Spirit share.

The Denver-based airline also raised the amount it would pay Miramar, Florida-based Spirit if antitrust regulators stop the deal — from \$250 million to \$350 million — matching JetBlue's proposed breakup fee.

Spirit said that, given the

sweetened terms, its board reiterated its unanimous recommendation that shareholders approve the Frontier offer at a special meeting next Thursday.

JetBlue said its proposal remains better than Frontier's with a higher value, more cash, "more certainty, and more regulatory protections."

Frontier's move was the latest gambit in a fight between Frontier and JetBlue to see who gets the nation's largest discount airline. On Monday, New York-based JetBlue raised its all-cash offer to \$33.50 per share, or more than \$3.6 billion.

At current value, JetBlue's proposal is worth more. JetBlue proposes to buy all Spirit shares and recon-

figure the budget airline's planes into JetBlue's less-cramped layout.

Frontier's stock-and-cash offer would give Spirit shareholders 48.5% of the new, combined airline — which does not yet have a name. That means investors willing to hold the stock could come out ahead if the shares rise enough in price.

Spirit's board has cited another reason for favoring Frontier, which, like Spirit, is an ultra-low-cost carrier that charges rock-bottom fares but also many extra fees.

Spirit has maintained that antitrust regulators are very unlikely to let JetBlue buy Spirit and remove its low fares from the market.



A line of Spirit Airlines jets sit on the tarmac at Orlando International Airport on May 20, 2020, in Orlando, Fla.

Associated Press

JetBlue disputes Spirit's conclusion. It bypassed Spirit's board and appealed directly to Spirit shareholders to reject the Frontier offer. Frontier and JetBlue agree

on one thing: Both say that buying Spirit would make them a stronger competitor to the nation's four leading airlines, American, Delta, United and Southwest. □

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

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Pago
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- 7 Cooking
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- 11 Come
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- 12 Rocker
Collins
- 13 Pane
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- 15 Follow
- 16 Trial
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- 18 Nasty
- 21 A lot
- 22 Twister
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- 24 Co. abbr.
- 25 Travel
aid
- 26 Compete
- 27 Basement
- 29 Not too
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- 31 Cotton
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- 32 Once
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- 43 Hot and
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- 5 Extreme
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- 6 Anchor's
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- 7 Ill humor
- 8 Cry of
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- 9 USO
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- 10 High
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- 14 Bungle
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- 17 Cry of
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Yesterday's answer

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| 20 Sam of
"Jurassic
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| 21 Quirk | 34 Ran into |
| 22 Distant | 35 Devon-
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| 23 Was a
pioneer | 36 Chimp,
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| 25 Juicy
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| 28 Entice | 38 Total |
| 29 Madison's
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6-28

A X Y D L B A A X R
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

6-28

CRYPTOQUOTE

W T B O B Y A X U B B V Q T V M B C
Y V B R M V W J V M J B U M W T B F B B ;
E J N V D B U , E M C W A G B , W V T A G ,
A R E U A R W V J U E J C . — B G A N C
Y A J I A M R V M

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THE BEST FATHERS HAVE THE SOFTEST, SWEETEST HEARTS. IN OTHER WORDS, GREAT DADS ARE REAL MARSHMALLOWS. — RICHELLE E. GOODRICH

To combat coral bleaching, Kenya turns to reef nurseries



Coral reef restoration ranger Yatin Patel measures an artificial reef structure in the Indian Ocean near Shimoni, Kenya on Monday, June 13, 2022.

Associated Press

WASINI, Kenya (AP) — Minutes away from the Kenyan mainland, the densely forested island of Wasini is one of several starting lines for coral reef restoration efforts in the western Indian Ocean. On a rare calm day during the normally turbulent monsoon season, four divers, carrying measuring equipment, shoes and toothbrushes descended in turns to the sea-bed reef restoration site on the Shimoni channel.

"We use coral fragments collected from wild populations to establish the nurseries," said diver Yatin Patel, before slipping into the turquoise waters. "After growing, they're taken to the coral garden." Patel and his team, who are part of the REEFolution foundation, clean the coral nurseries and measure the sizes of the growing corals, which are supported by plastic pipes and pyramid structured steel nets.

The marine area, jointly managed by the foundation and the island's community, has been planting over 8,000 corals a year since 2012 and placed about 800 artificial reef

structures in the channel in a bid to restore Wasini's coral gardens. But the project is threatened by growing costs and a planned fishing port in Shimoni, a mere 3 kilometers (1.9 miles) away on Kenya's coast.

The United Nation's Ocean Conference, which begins Monday in Lisbon, Portugal, is set to put protection and restoration efforts for coral reefs back on the agenda. Small island states and coastal African nations will be following up on access to "blue financing" mechanisms, including a \$625 billion coral reef funding scheme aimed at protection and restoration efforts as well as cushioning communities who rely on oceans for their livelihoods. Previous commitments to reef restoration by the European Union and coral reef insurance will also be discussed.

The threat of waning fish populations due to dying corals adds to the woes of east African communities, millions of whom are already facing a worsening food crisis because of a prolonged drought in the east and Horn of Africa, as

well as ripple effects from the war in Ukraine. In early March, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change issued a dire warning on the threats faced by African coastal and island nations and a complete collapse of corals in the western Indian Ocean.

The Wasini Island coral initiative is one among many dotted across the Africa's western shores, after a series of severe coral bleaching bouts due to warming ocean waters. After a particularly devastating year in 1998, due in large part to the natural weather phenomenon El Nino, huge stretches of the Indian Ocean's corals — from Somalia to the South Africa — were badly affected.

Coral bleaching occurs when extreme temperatures and sun glare simultaneously trigger corals to flush out algae, causing them to turn white. Corals can survive bleaching events, but are under greater stress and can't effectively support marine life, threatening the populations that depend on them. Tim McClanahan, a senior conservation zoologist at the Wildlife Conservation Society said that 1998 wasn't the first such event — there was one in 1983, and since then there have been three in the past two decades, in 2005, 2010 and 2016. The prevalence of mass coral bleaching along the western Indian Ocean has worried scientists for decades and intensive studies to understand and map out interventions to curb the phenomena are ongoing. Many of these bleaching events are directly linked to climate change, McClanahan said. The Wasini coral restoration project followed in the footsteps of Nature Seychelles, a conservation non-governmental organization in the Seychelles archipelago which initiated the western Indian Ocean's first coral replanting exercise in the same year and is still ongoing over a decade later. □

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Company buying Trump's social media app faces subpoenas

NEW YORK (AP) — The company planning to buy Donald Trump's new social media business has disclosed a federal grand jury investigation that it says could impede or even prevent its acquisition of the Truth Social app. Shares of Digital World Acquisition Corp. dropped 10% in morning trading Monday as the company revealed that it has received subpoenas from a grand jury in New York. Trump's social media venture launched in February as he seeks a new digital stage to rally his supporters and fight Big Tech limits on speech, a year after he was banned from Twitter, Facebook and YouTube.



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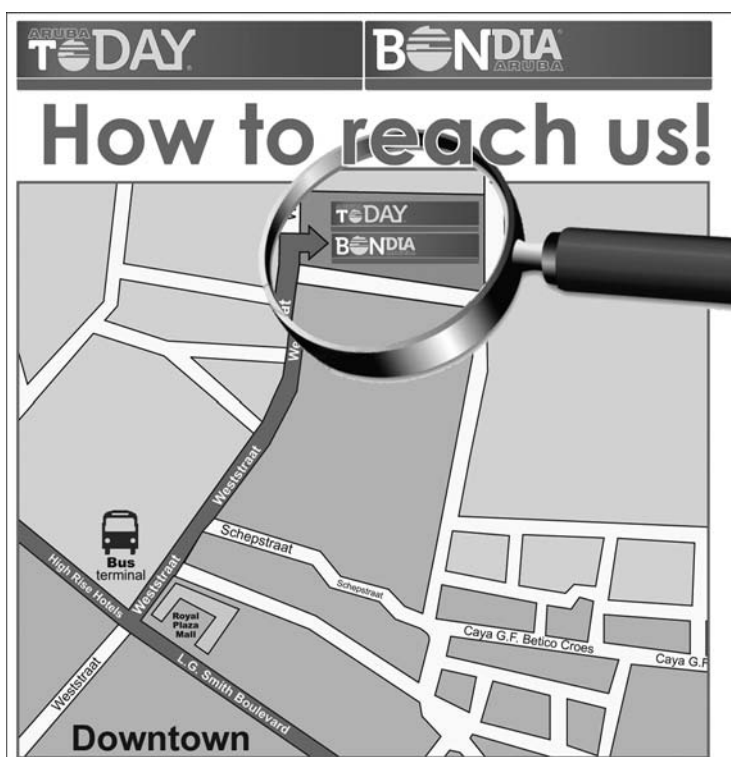
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A big heart and one googly eye in 'Marcel the Shell'

By **JAKE COYLE AP Film Writer**

It's boom times for googly eyes.

Within months of "Everything Everywhere All at Once," the metaphysical sci-fi comedy whose panoply of metaverses memorably included one that made magic out of a pair of stones and some plastic eyeballs, arrives "Marcel the Shell With Shoes On."

Marcel is an inch-tall sea-shell with a single googly eye, a pair of Polly Pocket shoes and a very big heart. He introduces himself as a shell, "but I also have shoes and a face."

"I like that about myself," says Marcel.

"Marcel the Shell With Shoes On," which opens Friday in theaters, is a feature-length, stop-motion animation film based on the YouTube shorts made by Jenny Slate, who voices Marcel with a snuggly high pitch, and director Dean Fleischer Camp. It's a leap in scale that Marcel, who sleeps on a slice of bread and plays "Taps" through a macaroni, would probably appreciate, himself.

The experience of being small, and knee-weakeningly cute, is much at the heart of "Marcel the Shell," very possibly the sweetest movie ever made about a mollusk. To Marcel, there's great joy and pride in get-



This image released by A24 shows a scene from "Marcel the Shell with Shoes On," releasing June 24.

Associated Press

ting around as a little guy, and only occasional trepidation. The sight of the housecleaner — "the harbinger of the vacuum" — is one example of concern. But mostly Marcel does just fine. He uses a mixer tied to a branch to shake fruit from a tree outside the window. When he wants to get around quicker, he uses his "rover," a tennis ball with a hole to climb into.

In the film, which takes the same sunny spirit and loose mockumentary style of the shorts, Marcel lives largely out of sight in a California home with his gardening

grandmother, Connie (Isabella Rossellini, an all-time great bit of voice casting). They have passed unnoticed until a documentary filmmaker, Dean (Camp) moves in and begins filming Marcel. And, like an imaginative child, Marcel likes the attention, constantly showing Dean little tricks of being small and eagerly sharing a steady stream of non-sequitur thoughts and motivational slogans. One comes from the athlete Marcel calls "Whale Jetski": "You miss 100% of the shots you don't take."

Marcel's unpredictable ref-

erences and tastes are part of his charm. He and Connie, for example, are huge fans of Lesley Stahl on "60 Minutes," and watch regularly.

"She blows cases wide open," explains Marcel. After Dean posts clips of Marcel on YouTube that garner millions of views, fame comes a little uncomfortably for Marcel. TikTokers turn up outside the house. Even Stahl comes calling. How much sensation a shell can handle is part of the story of "Marcel the Shell." But it's more about preserving, in the face of

heartache and self-doubt, a childlike appreciation for the littlest things in life.

Melancholy surrounds the film. It takes place almost entirely within and around the house, giving it a homebody's loneliness. Something uncertain has happened that has uprooted Marcel's larger community, leaving only him and Connie, whose health is slipping. Dean, too, is nursing heartbreak. We don't learn much about his life, or even often see him, but we know he's just gone through a divorce. (Slate and Camp were themselves divorced in 2016. Their handmade movie is, in part, the tender product of a relationship that receded.)

"Marcel the Shell" may verge, or even tip, into cloying territory — such is the ever-present danger of googly eyes. But it may be the only movie that can pull off a line like, "Guess why I smile a lot? Uh, cause it's worth it." There's something unexpectedly tough about Marcel, a resilient soul who faces the ups and downs of life with pluck and playfulness. "Marcel the Shell With Shoes On" could be considered a kids movie or an art-house indie (A24 is releasing). But its proper audience might be anyone who's ever felt sanded down by life, and could use a roll in Marcel's rover. □

Review: A hunting trip turns deadly when a blizzard strikes



This cover image released by Minotaur shows "Outside" by Ragnar Jonasson.

Associated Press

By **BRUCE DESILVA Associated Press**

It's reunion week in Iceland

for Daniel, Armann, Gunnlaugur, and Helena, who were tight in college and like to get together every year or so to drink heavily and catch up.

They all have issues. Daniel has been lying about how poorly his acting career is going. Armann, owner of a multi-million-dollar travel-guide business, is a recovering drug addict. Gunnlaugur, an alcoholic lawyer who once got away with rape, is obsessed with Helena. And she, an engineer at a tech startup, is mourning the death of her boyfriend and thinks his so-called accident was actually a murder.

As "Outside" — Ragnar Jonasson's ninth thriller translated from Icelandic to English — opens, they gather expecting to party in the capital city of Reykjavik. However, Armann, the acknowledged leader of the group, makes a last minute change of plans. They will go ptarmigan hunting on the desolate moors of Iceland, even though most of them have scant experience with guns.

Armann checks the weather report before they set out, but as they trudge across the moors, nary a bird in sight, a blizzard screams out of the west, the snow so thick that they

can see only a few feet in front of them. With his skills as a guide, he leads them to a derelict hunting cabin, but once inside, they discover they are not alone. A man with a shotgun sits in a corner, a gun cradled in his arms. No matter how hard they try, can't get him to speak a single word.

As the hours crawl by, the author gradually builds the tension. The occupants of the claustrophobic cabin have nothing but their clothes to keep them warm. Their cell phones aren't working. Rescuers could never reach them anyway until the storm subsides.

And the armed stranger just stares in silence — for hours — as the blizzard rages.

The author alternates points of view, each of the four friends taking turns as their backstories are revealed and as they gradually discover that maybe they aren't such great friends after all.

Jonasson and translator Victoria Cribb do a fine job of setting the scene, developing the characters, and keeping readers in suspense with a tight, clean, noir prose style.

"Somebody," Helene says prophetically, "is going to end up dead before this trip is over." □

Junior Circuit: Big league sons making own names in majors

By JIMMY GOLEN

AP Sports Writer

BOSTON (AP) — Growing up as the son of a major league ballplayer, Terry Francona knew the rules: "Talk only when spoken to, or I'd be spanked."

When Francona became a big league manager and his players would bring their kids around, he ran a more hospitable clubhouse.

"There used to be a big sign that said 'No kids,' or whatever," said Francona, who followed his father, Tito, to the majors and is now the Cleveland Guardians' manager. "My rule was: You can come in, but you've got to come in and say 'Hello' to me."

Major league clubhouses are more welcoming to the children of players these days — and not just to toddlers raiding the bubble gum bin. Some of those tykes turn out to be big league ballplayers themselves.

In all, more than two dozen major league offspring are on AL or NL rosters this year. The Blue Jays alone have three, the sons of Hall of Famers Craig Biggio (Cavan) and Vladimir Guerrero (Vlad Jr.) and Bo Bichette, whose father, Dante, was a four-time All-Star with the Rockies.

"Everything I know about baseball, I learned from him," said the younger Bichette, whose dad was the Blue Jays' hitting coach before he stepped down so he could work with his son during the lockout.

"I was super grateful for my dad," he said. "But at the same time, just wanting to be myself out there. Play as hard as I can. Not necessarily make a name for myself, but just be my own player."

With a boost from genetics, access to good coaching and equipment — and certainly a little name recognition, too — major league players' offspring have long followed in their dads' spike marks.

According to the Baseball Almanac, 252 sons of major leaguers have made it on their own, from Cubs left-hander Jack Doscher in 1903 to Roger Clemens' son



American League's Vladimir Guerrero Jr., of the Toronto Blue Jays, holds the MVP trophy after the MLB All-Star baseball game, Tuesday, July 13, 2021, in Denver.

Associated Press

Kody, who made his debut with the Tigers last month. Along the way have been superstar fathers with forgettable sons — no offense, Pete Rose Jr., aka "The Hit Prince" — and kids who surpassed their dads' careers, including Barry Bonds and Ken Griffey Jr.

"I was certainly proud of my family, and what my brothers or dad or grandpa were able to do in their careers," said former infielder and current Yankees manager Aaron Boone. "But the pressure I had was the guy 60 feet, 6 inches away, and that's how I always approached it. Nothing was going to get in the way of that."

Boone and his brother Bret are the sons and grandsons of major leaguers; Bret's son Jake was drafted but hasn't yet made it as the first fourth-generation big leaguer. (Gus Bell's great-grandson Luke, the nephew of Reds manager David Bell, is also in the running.) And it's not just baseball: Arch Manning, the grandson of Hall of Famer Archie and the nephew of Peyton and Eli, is the top-ranked college football recruit coming out of high school. The NBA champion Golden State Warriors had four players whose fathers played in the league: Stephen Curry, Klay Thompson, Gary Payton II and An-

drew Wiggins.

For all of them, being a second-generation professional athlete has its perks. After Kody Clemens was called up for the first time, dad's old teammates Derek Jeter and Jeff Bagwell texted to offer advice. Francona said he would ride home from the ballpark in the backseat of the car while his father and Expos reliever Claude Raymond would talk pitching. "I think I was like the only 10-year-old who knew you pitched up and in, down and away," Francona said. "I just listened to everything. Probably too much."

Cavan Biggio said he inherited a passion for the game from his father. But for the most part, just being around professional athletes was an education.

"Seeing how they go about their business and whatnot, I was able to see that as a young kid," he said. "Growing up and being able to see at the highest level what it's supposed to look like, I feel that gave me a little bit of an advantage." Teams seem to relish the connection, with the Blue Jays scheduling a "Vlad and Dad" bobblehead later this season that has both Guerreros on one pedestal. Clemens was given the No. 21 that his father wore for most of a career in which he won a record seven Cy

avoid comparisons.

"I'm trying to create my own career path here," said Clemens, whose only pitching appearance was a mop-up role in a blowout. "We always say that I'm glad I'm a hitter, not a pitcher, so I don't have to live up to what he did. Half a career as his is unbelievable."

The sons of Red Sox players Pedro Martinez, David Ortiz, Manny Ramirez and Keith Foulke — all members of the team that won the World Series in 2004 — are playing together on a summer league team outside of Boston. (Jaden Sheffield, whose father, Gary, played on the rival Yankees that year, is also on the team of college players hoping to attract the attention of pro scouts.)

Francona managed the Red Sox to their first championship in 86 years that season. □

Young Awards; three generations of Bells wore No. 25.

But mostly, the kids try to



Top, Toronto Blue Jays' Cavan Biggio at bat against the Kansas City Royals during the sixth inning of a baseball game, Wednesday, June 8, 2022, in Kansas City, Mo. Bottom, former Major League Baseball player Craig Biggio throws out the ceremonial first pitch before Game 1 in baseball's World Series between the Houston Astros and the Atlanta Braves Tuesday, Oct. 26, 2021, in Houston. In all, more than two dozen major league offspring are on AL or NL rosters this year.

Associated Press

Even Djokovic knew he wasn't at his best in Wimbledon debut

By **HOWARD FENDRICH**

AP Tennis Writer

WIMBLEDON, England (AP)

— Novak Djokovic's play was not particularly, well, Djokovic-esque, at Wimbledon on Monday.

Even he acknowledged as much.

He got broken early and trailed 3-1 as he began his bid for a fourth consecutive championship and seventh overall at the grass-court Grand Slam tournament. He recovered to take that set, then dropped the next. He slipped and fell to the grass. He accumulated more unforced errors than his opponent. Maybe he was a bit under the weather; he grabbed tissues from a black box on the sideline and blew his nose. Maybe he was simply a bit off, not having played a match that mattered in nearly a full month.

This, though, is the top-seeded Djokovic, and there's a reason he extended his winning streak at the All England Club to 22, and his career victory total there to 80 — making him the first player in tennis history with at least that many at each major — by beating Kwon Soon-woo of South Korea 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 at Centre Court under the retractable roof.



Serbia's Novak Djokovic returns to Korea's Kwon Soonwoo in a men's first round singles match on day one of the Wimbledon tennis championships in London, Monday, June 27, 2022.

Associated Press

And there's a reason that friends of the wife of Kwon's coach, Daniel Yoo, held up decorated signs in a player guest box bearing Korean messages that Yoo said meant "Fight!" and "Don't get hurt!"

So Kwon walked on court jittery. But after just two games, the 81st-ranked Kwon said through Yoo's translation, "I felt like, 'Oh, this is doable. ... I can hang with him a little bit.'"

With the exception of a

loss for No. 7 seed Hubert Hurkacz, a semifinalist at the All England Club a year ago, Day 1 signaled a fairly routine return to pre-pandemic normal, with capacity crowds, zero masks, the Wimbledon Queue in full effect and, of course, on-and-off-and-on-again showers.

Hurkacz, coming off a grass title over the weekend, lost 7-6 (4), 6-4, 5-7, 2-6, 7-6 (10-8) to Alejandro Davidovich Fokina in a match that

featured Wimbledon's new final-set format: women's third sets and men's fifth sets that get to 6-all will go to a first-to-10-and-win-by-two tiebreaker.

That might as well be called the John Isner Rule, owing to the American's 70-68 fifth-set victory over Nicolas Mahut in 2010 and 26-24 fifth-set loss to Kevin Anderson in 2018, both at Wimbledon, both before the tournament adopted deciding-set tiebreakers.

On Monday, Isner was back on Court 18, the site of the Mahut marathon, and smacked 54 aces in a 6-7 (6), 7-6 (3), 4-6, 6-3, 7-5 victory over Enzo Couacaud. Isner's next match figures to be held at a bigger court, because he'll be facing Andy Murray, who has won two of this three major championships at Wimbledon.

Murray's 4-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4 win over James Duckworth came at Centre Court and followed another triumph there by a British major title winner, reigning U.S. Open champ Emma Raducanu.

"From the moment I walked out through those gates, I could really just feel the energy and the support and everyone was behind me from the word 'go,'" the 19-year-old Raducanu said after defeating Alison Van Uytvanck 6-4, 6-4. "I just really tried to cherish every single point out there. Played every point like it could have been one of my last on that court."

Djokovic, a 35-year-old from Serbia, had not played since losing to rival Rafael Nadal in the French Open quarterfinals and it seemed to show. Kwon's piercing, flat groundstrokes and soft drop shots were effective for stretches. □

Guardians complete minority sale to billionaire Blitzer



David Blitzer participates in a New Jersey Devils press conference Thursday, Aug. 15, 2013, in Newark, N.J.

Associated Press

By **TOM WITHERS**

AP Sports Writer

CLEVELAND (AP)

— Billionaire sports businessman David Blitzer has officially joined the Cleveland Guardians as a minority

owner and will eventually take control of the ballclub. The team announced its agreement with Blitzer and his investment group on Monday, the final step in him taking a minority stake

in the American League team.

Owner Paul Dolan had been looking for a minority investor for several years and ended his search with Blitzer, who also has ownership stakes in the NBA's Philadelphia 76ers and NHL's New Jersey Devils.

"I am very excited about bringing on David Blitzer and his group as our partners," Dolan said. "David brings a wealth of experience in the sports industry that we believe will be a complementary addition to our organization."

"I look forward to collaborating with David for years to come to achieve our goal of winning a World Series."

Major League Baseball ap-

proved Blitzer's purchase earlier this month. In addition to the Sixers and Devils, the 52-year-old Blitzer also has sports holdings with soccer clubs Crystal Palace and Real Salt Lake.

"I am thrilled to join the ownership group of the Cleveland Guardians, a storied Major League Baseball franchise with a loyal, engaged fanbase," Blitzer said. "Our goal is to support Paul and the incredibly talented Guardians leadership team in delivering to Cleveland a team that can contend for a World Series. "We also look forward to assisting the Guardians in their mission of using the platform of baseball to drive positive change in the communities our team

serves. I thank Paul and the Dolan family, as well as our partners in this investment, for this amazing opportunity."

It's believed Blitzer initially will have 25-30% ownership and will have the right to increase his stake to a controlling interest in several years.

Blitzer's addition should give the Guardians an infusion of capital to perhaps be more aggressive in free agency and in signing some of their younger players.

Despite having one of baseball's lowest payrolls, the Guardians are just two games out of first place in the AL Central. They open a five-game series against first-place Minnesota on Monday. □