



PITT BLOWS OUT VMI, 93-48

SPORTS, C-1



SKENES NAMED NL ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

SPORTS, C-1

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

ONE OF AMERICA'S GREAT NEWSPAPERS

\$4.00 238 YEARS OF SERVICE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2024 VOL. 98, NO. 110, 11/19/24 FINAL

Justices: No on undated ballots

Pa. Supreme Court ruling provides clarity ahead of Casey-McCormick Senate recount

By Benjamin Kail
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

WASHINGTON — The Pennsylvania Supreme Court on Monday ruled that undated or misdated mail-in and absentee ballots “shall not be counted” by any of the state’s boards of elections — including in the handful of counties where Democratic officials already voted to defy the high court’s previ-

ous rulings on the matter in the middle of a high-stakes U.S. Senate race that’s headed to a recount.

State and national Republican leaders have pledged to fight what they describe as a brazen betrayal of public trust by Pennsylvania Democratic election officials as the heated race between Sen.-elect David McCormick and incumbent Sen. Bob Casey plays out in court.

Mr. McCormick leads Mr. Casey

Election 2024 AFTERMATH

by about 17,000 votes — a margin that’s within the half-a-percentage-point threshold for a state-mandated recount, but one that Republicans say is insurmountable. The race was called by the Associated Press two days after Election Day.

But the race is also tied up in Pennsylvania’s court system after

at least Philadelphia, Bucks, Montgomery and Centre counties chose to count batches of hundreds of undated or misdated mail ballots — with some officials openly acknowledging they’re doing so in defiance of state Supreme Court rulings.

Democrats, including Mr. Casey’s campaign attorneys, say the defiance is grounded in protecting voters’ rights according to the state constitution. Republicans blast it as electioneering on Mr. Casey’s behalf, and pledged Monday to pursue

SEE SENATE, PAGE A-2

WAR IN UKRAINE MOSCOW ISSUES STERN WARNING

U.S. adding ‘fuel to the fire’ with missiles

By Illia Novikov
and Samya Kullab
Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine — The Kremlin warned Monday that President Joe Biden’s decision to let Ukraine strike targets inside Russia with U.S.-supplied longer-range missiles adds “fuel to the fire” of the war and would escalate international tensions even higher.

Mr. Biden’s shift in policy added an uncertain, new factor to the conflict on the eve of the 1,000-day milestone since Russia began its full-scale invasion in 2022.

It also came as a Russian ballistic missile with cluster munitions struck a residential area of Sumy in northern Ukraine, killing 11 people and injuring 84 others. Another missile barrage sparked apartment fires in the southern port of Odesa, killing at least 10 people and injuring 43, Ukraine’s Interior Ministry said.

Washington is easing limits on what Ukraine can strike with its American-made Army Tactical

SEE UKRAINE, PAGE A-10

THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT



Lucy Schaly/Post-Gazette

Mural artist Alison Zapata, of Aspinwall, puts the finishing touches on a mural of monarch butterflies on the wall of a pavilion in Carnegie Park on Monday. Ms. Zapata collaborated with the Pittsburgh Center for Arts & Media’s Artists, School and Community Program, along with the Pennsylvania Council for the Arts, the borough of Carnegie and art students from Carlynton High School to create the work. It is also part of the National Wildlife Federation Mayor’s Monarch Pledge, where mayors from all over the U.S. pledge to create habitats for migrating monarchs. It was a two-year project, and the students studied butterflies provided by the Carnegie Museum of Art and History for the design.

Spirit Airlines files for bankruptcy

By David Koenig
Associated Press

Spirit Airlines said Monday that it has filed for bankruptcy protection and will attempt to reboot as it struggles to recover from the pandemic-caused swoon in travel, stiffer competition from bigger carriers, and a failed attempt to sell the airline to JetBlue.

Spirit, the biggest U.S. budget airline, filed a Chapter 11 bankruptcy petition after working out terms with bondholders. The airline has lost more than \$2.5 billion since the

start of 2020 and faces looming debt payments totaling more than \$1 billion in 2025 and 2026.

The airline said it expects to continue operating normally during the bankruptcy process. Spirit told customers Monday they can book flights and use frequent-flyer points as they ordinarily would, and said employees and vendors would continue getting paid.

The airline said it received commitments for a \$350 million equity investment from existing

SEE SPIRIT, PAGE A-4



Benjamin B. Braun/Post-Gazette

TALKING POINTS Dennis Biondo, executive director of Kane Community Living Centers, left, and Allegheny County Executive Sara Innamorato converse Monday at a news conference at the Kane Center in Scott. Ms. Innamorato pointed to services for the county’s aging population in her latest defense of her proposed budget. Story, **A-11**.

Candidates avoiding disclosures

Bigger fines sought for missed filings

By Ford Turner
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

HARRISBURG — A Department of State report shows sixty-six candidates for the state Legislature — including 22 incumbents — missed a deadline for filing campaign finance reports just before the Nov. 5 election, a dynamic that has sparked bipartisan condemnation and calls for bigger penalties.

State Rep. Valerie Gaydos, R-Allegheny, pointed out that some campaigns are pulling in hundreds of thousands of dollars in short periods of time, and the state-set maximum penalty of \$250 for missing a report filing deadline is — in comparison — a pittance.

“That means the general public will have no way of knowing who is bankrolling these campaigns,” said Ms. Gaydos. She said she intends to file legislation that among other

SEE DONORS, PAGE A-11



ONLINE TODAY:
Get real-time breaking news and much more at post-gazette.com

Weather
Mostly cloudy, then showers late. Daytime high, 65; tonight’s low, 54.
Page B-6

Bridge..... B-4
Business..... A-14
Classified..... B-5
Comics..... B-3
Crosswords..... B-4

Editorials..... A-16
Horoscope..... B-4
Local News..... A-11
Lottery..... A-11
Magazine..... B-1

Obituaries..... A-12
Perspectives..... A-17
Scoreboard..... C-7
Sports..... C-1
Television..... B-2



Fast Parking for PIT • No Walking, No Waiting

Airport Parking

Serving PIT

\$8 Per day

Plus applicable taxes and fees
Offer Expires 12/31/2024

TheFastPark.com

Take I-376 West to Exit 51. Continue onto Flaugherty Run Rd. Turn right on Moon Clinton Rd. Fast Park is on the right.
651 Moon Clinton Rd • 724-858-3278

Car Door to Terminal Service

FasPark & Relax

724-858-3278 • 651 Moon Clinton Rd