

IT'S DO-OR-DIE TIME  
FOR STEELERS, RAVENS

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START THE NEW YEAR

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Carnegie's new leader

At 23, Sam Bigham is set  
to become one of the youngest  
mayors in Pennsylvania. **Local, C-1**

Sunday

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2026

VOL. 99, NO. 156, 1/4/26

FINAL

## TRUMP: U.S. WILL 'RUN' VENEZUELA

Country's oil reserves will be tapped, president says, as captured  
Maduro and his wife face federal charges in New York

By Regina Garcia Cano,  
Konstantin Toropin  
and Eric Tucker  
Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela — Hours  
after a military operation that  
plucked leader Nicolás Maduro from  
power and removed him from the  
country, President Donald Trump  
said Saturday that the United States  
would run Venezuela at least tem-

INSIDE

McCormick, Fetterman laud U.S.  
action in Venezuela as Lee, Deluzio  
denounce attack. **Local, C-1**

porarily and tap its vast oil reserves  
to sell to other nations.

The action capped an intensive  
Trump administration pressure  
campaign on the South American

nation and its autocratic leader and  
months of secret planning, resulting  
in the most assertive American ac-  
tion to achieve regime change since  
the 2003 invasion of Iraq.

Legal experts immediately ques-  
tioned whether the operation was  
lawful, and Venezuela's vice presi-  
dent demanded in a speech that the  
U.S. free Mr. Maduro and called him

SEE MADURO, PAGE A-7



President Donald Trump's Truth Social account

This image  
shows what  
President  
Donald  
Trump says is  
Venezuela's  
President  
Nicolás Ma-  
duro onboard  
the USS Iwo  
Jima after the  
U.S. military  
captured him.

### POST-GAZETTE SPECIAL: NEW MAYOR'S VISION



Steve Mellon/Post-Gazette  
Corey O'Connor, 41, will be sworn in Monday  
as Pittsburgh mayor, succeeding Ed Gainey.

## A focus on growth, families

O'Connor aims to bolster  
city services, affordability

By Hallie Lauer  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

As Corey O'Connor prepares to be sworn  
in Monday as Pittsburgh's next mayor, he's  
looking to change how government ap-  
proaches long-standing problems in an effort  
to reshape the city into a hub for businesses  
and families.

Mr. O'Connor's inauguration will take  
place Monday afternoon at Carnegie Music  
Hall in Oakland — almost 20 years to the date  
that his father, Bob O'Connor, became  
mayor.

His return to the city's seat of government  
on Grant Street brings him back to where his  
political career began. He spent a decade on  
City Council before serving three years as Al-  
legheny County controller.

Taking office as the 62nd mayor of Penn-  
sylvania's second-largest city will come with  
immediate challenges.

Mr. O'Connor, taking the reins from outgo-  
ing Mayor Ed Gainey, likely will bear the brunt

SEE O'CONNOR, PAGE A-6



Pittsburgh Post-Gazette photos/James Hilston/Post-Gazette photo illustration

## QUARTER-CENTURY REFLECTIONS

FROM Y2K TO ROBOTICS ROW

BY BOB BATZ JR.  
PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE

Sometimes it hits you how  
much Pittsburgh has  
changed over the past 25  
years.

One such epiphany un-  
folded during a December 2023  
concert at City Winery, a trendy  
franchise venue in The Terminal  
in the Strip District that bustled  
that frigid night with shoppers  
and diners at restaurants such as  
the upscale Argentinian Bal-

vanera. Karin Bergquist and Lin-  
ford Detweiler, of the duo Over  
the Rhine, looked out at the twi-  
nking lights and mused that the  
last time they'd played the city in  
2002, it was in a dark, gritty, even  
scary warehouse district that was  
nothing like this.

Except that earlier show was at  
Rosebud — a club that had been

SEE OVERVIEW, PAGE A-10

IT'S 2026 AND WHAT'S NEXT?

BY ANYA SOSTEK  
PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE

The Pittsburgh of 2025  
would have been dif-  
ficult to envision a  
quarter century ago.  
Artificial intelli-  
gence was a term known  
mainly in the computer labs  
of Carnegie Mellon Univer-  
sity. Real estate in Law-  
renceville was selling for  
closer to \$100,000 than \$1  
million. And the city was on

the verge of literal bank-  
ruptcy.

So picturing the Pitts-  
burgh of 2050 — jumping  
ahead a quarter century  
from now — may be a fool's  
errand. But it's worth a try.

"I think Pittsburgh's best  
days are ahead of it," said ur-  
ban theorist Richard Florida.

SEE FUTURE, PAGE A-11



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