



Predictions and analysis for Week 5 football slate

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The Bulletin

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Next steps in Pike case are uncertain



Photographs are set up in memory of Colleen Slemmer, the woman Christa Pike was convicted of murdering in 1995, on Sept. 30, the day of Pike's was scheduled to be executed at a Tennessee prison. DENNY SIMMONS/NASHVILLE TENNESSEAN

Inmate may face the possibility of second execution attempt

Amanda Lee Myers
USA TODAY

With the astonishing news that Christa Pike is conscious, talking and making a “medically unprecedented” recovery following her botched execution, Tennessee is now facing a critical question: Will the state try to kill her again?

“Against all odds, Christa Pike is conscious, speaking, and continues to receive critical medical care,” her attorneys said in a statement on Oct. 6. “Her prognosis remains unclear but, at a minimum, we expect a long recovery.”

They said that despite “severe damage” to Pike’s arms, “she is still handcuffed and shackled to the bed.”

“She survived two complete rounds



Pike

of lethal injection per Tennessee’s protocol, despite her attorneys’ warning to the state of specific challenges with her veins,” her attorneys said. “She is the only person known to have survived a complete execution attempt in the U.S. Christa is a survivor and will take recovery one day at a time.”

So far, Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee has not responded to repeated calls from Pike’s attorneys and death penalty observers to commute her sentence to life in prison. That leaves open the possibility that Pike will face a second execution, even after her attorneys said the first attempt on Sept. 30 amounted to unconstitutionally cruel and unusual

punishment.

“We’re in uncharted territory,” said Robin Maher, executive director of the nonprofit Death Penalty Information Center, which does not take a stance on the death penalty.

“The U.S. Supreme Court has not decided whether a second execution attempt would violate the constitution since 1947,” Maher told USA TODAY. “These are questions that have never needed to be asked before and no one knows the answers.”

Tennessee was supposed to execute Pike, 50, by lethal injection on Sept. 30 for the brutal and prolonged 1995 murder of 19-year-old Colleen Slemmer. The execution failed after Pike survived

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State getting less federal money

Sasha Allen
The CT Mirror
USA TODAY NETWORK

Connecticut is receiving an estimated \$2 billion less in federal funding under the Trump administration, according to a new tracking tool released by two nonpartisan pro-democracy organizations.

The tool, Lost Funds, tracks federal funding by compiling publicly available data from USAspending and Court Listener. The tool found that across the nation, states are getting an estimated \$174 billion less in federal funding under the Trump administration.

This funding in the state used to go to things like emergency preparedness, fighting pollution and health education.

The largest single cut was for Connecticut disaster relief funds that were originally granted to state and local agencies. Roughly \$341 million in disaster funds were “disrupted” through funding slowdowns.

Funding to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program going to Connecticut residents was also heavily impacted, reflecting decreases in the program’s enrollment.

Health-related grants, taken together, have lost the most money out of all funding categories in the state. For Connecticut, this includes money going towards infectious disease control as well as biomedical research and

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Library program to offer tips for preserving family recipes

Beth McDermott
Norwich Bulletin
USA TODAY NETWORK

Families looking to preserve a favorite recipe and the memories attached to it can learn practical archiving techniques during an upcoming online program hosted by Otis Library in Norwich.

The program, “Preserving Family Recipes: How to Save and Celebrate

Your Food Traditions,” is scheduled for 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Oct. 13 and will be presented live on Zoom, according to a community announcement.

Archivist and author Valerie J. Frey will discuss ways to preserve family recipes, heirloom photographs and kitchen artifacts so they can be passed down to future generations. The program also will examine how recipes can serve as historical records, offering insight into family traditions, daily life and the people who created them.

Organizers say participants will learn methods for protecting treasured family documents, whether recipes are preserved in a cookbook or written on informal materials such as envelopes or note cards.

Looking at recipes as pieces of family history

In addition to preservation tech-

niques, the presentation will encourage attendees to view family recipes through a historian’s perspective. Recipes can provide clues about cultural traditions, household routines and the lives of earlier generations.

The event is part of Family History Month programming and is designed for anyone interested in safeguarding family food traditions.

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