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Miami Herald



Miami Dolphins quarterback Tua Tagovailoa was released Monday after six years in Miami.

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WHAT LESSONS CAN DOLPHINS TAKE FROM TUA'S DISAPPOINTING TENURE?

The "Tank for Tua" era — or error — was rooted in failure from the very start, and that's exactly how Tua Tagovailoa's tenure as the Miami Dolphins' starting quarterback should be remembered. One misstep after another, an avalanche of miscalculations, and doubling down on bad decisions. It was yet another era of failure for South Florida's once proud NFL franchise. There's no shame in making mistakes, even if the franchise

BY OMAR KELLY
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has made the same mistakes for two-plus decades. The important thing is to take the lessons that come with those

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missteps, and turn them into something useful. That's why the Dolphins must digest these valuable teaching tools from the Tagovailoa era, **SEE KELLY, 2A**

Injured by your city or county? Florida state lawmakers may help you get more money

BY ALEXANDRA GLORIOSO
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TALLAHASSEE

In 2021, Jose Correa was in a crosswalk at the intersection of Le Jeune and Bird roads when a Miami-Dade County bus making a left-hand turn slammed into him. After a lawsuit, the county settled for \$4.3 million for Correa's injuries.

Two years later, Heriberto A. Sanchez-Mayen, arrested for sleeping in a St. Petersburg Park during the day, was so abused by police en route to the Pinellas County jail that he had to have both legs amputated above the knees. The city settled for \$2.5 million.

In practicality, those settlements were only a ticket to a new fight for compensation, this time with the Florida Legislature.

Under state law, no one can get more than \$200,000 from a judgment or settlement against the government in cases of negligence without the Legislature passing a bill to pay out the rest. State agencies, cities, counties, sheriff's offices, state universities, public hospitals and schools are immune from payment in negligence lawsuits above that amount without legislative intervention.

Lawmakers have taken up the call eight times this legislative session to pay out injured Floridians and

tourists — who are owed a collective \$47.2 million — for injuries caused by local governments, distinct from other claim bills moving this session for injuries caused by state agencies. With session scheduled to wrap on Friday, the Legislature has passed just two of those bills, including one that would pay Sanchez-Mayen his remaining \$2.3 million.

But some lawmakers think it should be easier for injured Floridians and tourists to get a bigger slice of the money they are owed from settlements and judgments against state and local governments. A bill in the Senate, SB 1366, would increase the payment cap per injured person to \$350,000. A bill in the House, HB 145, would go further and increase the payment cap per person to \$500,000.

The Senate bill would also increase the payment cap per incident when more than one person is owed damages, from \$300,000 to \$500,000. The House bill would increase it to \$1 million.

State representatives passed the House bill in January 104-7. A third committee passed the Senate version 21-1 on March 3. It is ready for a full vote by the chamber.

Florida's payment caps haven't increased since 2011. But lawmakers have

SEE LAWSUITS, 2A

Inside World Cup's three-week, \$15M Miami party plan — look for Jet Ski soccer

BY DOUGLAS HANKS
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The \$15 million budget for World Cup's three-week watch party on the Miami waterfront includes televisions the size of houses, temporary fields for youth games and Biscayne Bay turned into a salt-water soccer pitch, with the players riding personal watercraft and aqua jet packs.

Those details behind Fan Fest are revealed in a partially redacted 322-page report submitted to Miami-Dade County, which is funding most of the event at Miami's Bayfront Park.

The Miami Herald obtained the document through a records request. It offers the most detailed look yet at the tax-funded viewing party and festival that's set to overlap with five of the seven matches the FIFA World Cup is bringing to Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens between June 15 and July 18. FanFest will run seven days a week between June 13 and July 5.



Rodney Barreto

SEE WORLD CUP, 2A

He spent seven months in ICE detention in Florida. Now, he's a permanent resident

BY ANA CLAUDIA CHACIN
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Rogelio has lived in the United States for nearly half of his 39 years, but the life he and his family have built together was at risk of coming to an end when he was taken into custody last summer as part of President Donald Trump's immigration crackdown.

The Guatemalan immigrant is married to a U.S. citizen and has two children and three stepchildren — four girls and a boy, ages 5 to 18, all born in the United States.

Since his detention in La Belle, a small rural city 30 miles east of Fort Myers, Rogelio — who asked to be identified by his first



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Yanet, left, and Yolanda look at Rogelio, 39, right, a Guatemalan citizen who has lived in the United States since 2007 and is married to a U.S. citizen, as he embraces his daughter Daniela, center, after being released by ICE on Feb. 18.

SEE ROGELIO, 5A



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