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SCENE, 1C

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A railing collapsed in the student section during a Seventh Region Tournament semifinal soccer game at Waggener High School on Oct. 16, injuring at least six St. Xavier High School students. JASON FRAKES/COURIER JOURNAL

St. X students injured after railing collapses

Followed soccer team's semifinal victory at Waggener High

Jason Frakes

Louisville Courier Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

At least six St. Xavier High School students were injured the evening of Oct. 16 in the aftermath of the soccer team's 1-0 victory over Trinity in a Seventh Region Tournament semifinal at Waggener High School.

St. X soccer coach Andy Schulten confirmed that students — including soccer players Jackson Riggle and Brady Youssefi — were injured in the celebration following a penalty-kick shootout.

When the game ended, St. X's players rushed toward the visitors' bleachers to celebrate with the student section.

St. X senior Ben Pinkston, a linebacker on the school's football team, suffered

Inside

Seventh Region soccer finals moved from Waggener after railing collapse.
Sports, 1B

a broken arm below his left elbow, according to his mother, Lisa Pinkston, who also is the athletics director at Assumption High School.

The extent of the injuries to the other students was unknown.

"The student section was leaning on the railing, and the railing collapsed and players were trapped under the railing," Pinkston said. "I was on the first row, and I fell. Then people fell on top of me."

Several ambulances arrived at Waggener to assist the injured students.

The visitors' bleachers at Waggener were part of a stadium renovation — including a new turf field — that was completed in September.

It was a chaotic scene following the exciting match between two of the state's top soccer programs: No. 2-ranked Trinity and No. 3 St. Xavier.

After 80 minutes of regulation and 10 minutes of overtime, the match went to a penalty-kick shootout that the Tigers won 4-2.

When the game ended, St. X's players rushed toward the visitors bleachers to celebrate with the student section. Video shows the railing collapsing and members of the St. X student section falling to the ground.

See **COLLAPSE**, Page 8A

Council passes microchip mandate for pets

Owners in violation face fines up to \$500

Killian Baarlaer

Louisville Courier Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

Louisville residents will soon be required to have their pets microchipped under an ordinance passed by the Louisville Metro Council on Oct. 16.

Supporters of the law say it will help Louisville Metro Animal Services return lost pets to their owners more efficiently, and, in turn, reduce the shelter's intake and population.

The ordinance requires all dogs and cats over the age of three months to be microchipped. If a pet owner moves or gets a new phone number, they must update the microchip within 30 days. And if a pet is transferred to a new owner, both the old and new owners are responsible for ensuring the pet's microchip is reprogrammed.

Louisville animal control officers will check for compliance when responding to calls for help, and those found in violation could be issued a citation, LMAS Director Andy McClinton previously said. Pet owners found in violation of the law could be fined up to \$500.

LMAS expecting surge in microchip requests

McClinton has acknowledged to council members at past meetings that the mandate will likely induce a surge of pet owners looking to get their pets microchipped.

LMAS estimates roughly 25,000 pets will be microchipped in the first year after the ordinance takes effect, McClinton said at an Oct. 8 public safety committee meeting — a burden that will need to be addressed through various initiatives.

Because of the volume, a six- to 12-month grace period will be necessary to give pet owners time to comply. In an email, LMAS spokesperson Stephanie Jackson said the agency is "actively working on the details for the grace period and will share the specifics in a future update."

Veterinarians across the county will be notified of the mandate, McClinton said. His hope is that owners who are able will have the procedure done when they visit their veterinarian for other reasons, like vaccinations.

Various events that encourage microchipping, like pop-up and mobile clinics, could improve access for pet owners, he added. And, when possible, offering the procedure for free at sponsored clinic events could reduce the cost barrier of the mandate.

"We know five or six of the ZIP codes where we get the highest amount of strays," McClinton said. "This is where I would need council, I would need community partners. We would have to go into those

See **MICROCHIPS**, Page 8A

ANALYSIS

Trump seeking charges for more foes

3 already indicted, but others on president's list

Josh Meyer

USA TODAY

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's former national security adviser John Bolton on Oct. 16 became the third high-profile Trump critic to be criminally charged after the president repeatedly attacked him publicly. All three maintain their innocence and plan to contest the charges.

The day before, Trump rattled off other names of people to be "looked into" as Attorney General Pam Bondi, Deputy Attorney General Todd Blanche and FBI Director Kash Patel stood beside him at a news conference, smiling. "I hope they're looking at all of these people," Trump said of former Justice Department Special Counsel Jack Smith, former Justice Department sen-



President Donald Trump has publicly listed a number of his political opponents he thinks should be "looked into." KEVIN DIETSCH/GETTY IMAGES

ior prosecutor Andrew Weissmann and Sen. Adam Schiff, D-California. "And I'm allowed to find out. I'm allowed, you know, I'm in theory chief law enforcement officer."

This presidential interference represents a major breach in the once-firm firewall between the White House

See **TRUMP**, Page 8A

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