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Voters cool to Markey-Moulton matchup

Many turned off by the negative tone, and say they're focused on national races

By Anjali Huynh
and Samantha J. Gross
GLOBE STAFF

Unlike others she knows, Lynn Chenevert said she was energized enough by Massachusetts' US Senate Democratic primary that she tuned in to Monday's debate to see if it would help her decide between the incumbent, Senator Ed Mar-

key, or his challenger, Representative Seth Moulton.

She had been leaning toward the latter, but said any enthusiasm she might have had about one or the other quickly turned to disgust.

Markey and Moulton spent the hour taking shot after shot at each other over age versus the age of ideas, votes on foreign wars that

reached back over decades, and Moulton's vague accusations that Markey's name appeared in files related to convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein.

"They were really aggressively going after each other rather than talking about the issues — just attacking each other," said Chenevert, 65, of Jefferson. "That doesn't teach me anything about either one of their policies and their issues."

That dissatisfaction isn't limit-

ed to Chenevert. More than a dozen Democratic and independent voters who are planning to vote in the Sept. 1 primary said in interviews that they're disappointed or even just plain disinterested in the state's premier, but somewhat plodding, primary.

Chenevert was among the 20 percent of voters who said in a Suffolk University/Boston Globe poll in April that they were undecided in the race so far. A more recent

ELECTION, Page A5

Mother who killed 2 kids gets new trial

SJC ruling could have major impact on others using insanity defense, like Clancy

By John R. Ellement and Sean Cotter
GLOBE STAFF

The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court on Thursday ordered a new trial for a Brockton mother convicted of killing her two children in 2022, a decision that could have a wide impact for criminal defendants claiming insanity.

In a unanimous ruling, the seven-member court said Superior Court Judge William F. Sullivan was wrong to withhold from the jury details of Latarsha L. Sanders' psychiatric history from the four years she spent awaiting trial in prison and in a state psychiatric hospital.

►Spotlight now on the judge in Clancy case. **A7.**

The Sanders case has striking echoes to another in Massachusetts in which a mother is on trial for murdering her children; in that one, Lindsay Clancy of Duxbury is also claiming an insanity defense, and not only is the district attorney the same in both trials, but so too is the judge — Sullivan.

The high court's decision will have immediate and broad consequences for others claiming insanity, and, specifically, Sanders.

Her lawyers will, at the very least, get a second chance to argue that her mental health was in such precipitous decline when she murdered her sons Marlon, 8, and La'son, 5, in 2018 that

SANDERS, Page A7



PHOTOS BY JONATHAN WIGGS/GLOBE STAFF

A SIGHT THEY'LL NEVER FORGET

"The Great Elephant Migration," an installation highlighting conservation issues, is taking over the Commonwealth Avenue Mall for the next month. About 100 life-size statues, crafted by Indigenous artisans in India, are spread out over nearly a mile. At top, Zabel Vergara, 8, made a friend. **B3.**



Newton ordered to refund \$2m to pot shops

Judge says fees weren't meant for projects, police dog

By Yogev Toby
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

Officer Leo is a one-of-a-kind Newton cop. He has over 2,200 followers on Instagram, where he can be seen playing in the snow and donning a Patriots jersey. He's also

a golden retriever.

The City of Newton contends Leo has an important job: helping keep kids off drugs. But a judge this week ordered Newton to pay back the \$71,734 it spent on Leo, along with another \$2 million it collected from licensed marijuana companies, because the city improperly spent the money on projects unrelated to regulating their businesses.

"[T]here is no record evidence that the City incurred the costs as-

sociated with purchasing and training Officer Leo because of the Plaintiffs' specific marijuana establishments," wrote Middlesex Superior Court Judge Asha White in a ruling Tuesday.

The judge's order underscored the degree to which the legal pendulum has swung back in favor of marijuana companies after years of cities and towns requiring pot businesses to pay "community impact fees" to offset costs specifically re-

lated to their operations, such as police and traffic details. Such fees prompted allegations of extortion and eventually, the Legislature and, later, the Cannabis Control Commission, took steps to limit them.

The fees stemmed from concerns that marijuana businesses would wreak havoc on communities, by increasing crime, substance abuse, and traffic.

NEWTON, Page A10

State decries using police to probe students

Milton defends residency practice, denies profiling

By John Hilliard
GLOBE STAFF

Massachusetts Education Secretary Stephen Zrike on Thursday condemned the use of police to investigate potential residency violations at public schools and made clear the state would not allow any enforcement practices that suggest racial profiling.

His remarks came in response to a Globe story that found in suburban Milton, Black students were disproportionately investigated and expelled for residency violations. And unlike similar suburban school districts, Milton has paid police officers to conduct some of those investigations.

Milton police have been used to surveil the homes of some children, even searching the residences and their bedrooms as part of residency checks, those records show. Officials from seven other local school districts told the Globe they do not use police for such investigations.

In a statement, Zrike said school districts should be "creating safe, respectful and supportive environments" for all students and their families.

"There is zero tolerance for racial profiling or

MILTON, Page A6

Outside Fenway, off-color T-shirts never wear thin

By Karyna Cheung
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

While the Red Sox tee off on summer nights under the bright lights of Fenway Park, a different battle is unfolding outside on Commonwealth Avenue: call it the war of the dirty T's.

Nearly every night of a home game in Boston, whether the Red Sox, Bruins, or Celtics, Matt Doyle and Ivan Zavala, set up competing shops outside Fenway Park and TD Garden. Former co-workers turned rivals, they're both in the business of selling raunchy Boston-sports-themed T-shirts. (To spare the more graphic details, we'll just say the Yankees do not merely suck.)

And with the Sox on a tear lately, the raunchy T business has been particularly good.

Doyle estimates he's made hundreds of designs over the years. Most come and go depending on the season, though one of his first designs — a Kelly green T-shirt that reads "LeBron is a [hygiene product that starts with D]" in all-caps — remains a perennial bestseller.

"All I had to say was 'LeBron,'" Doyle recounts, and customers respond: "What size?"

His designs have traveled near and far, from locals after games to website orders from Singapore and Australia, where the shipping fees cost

T-SHIRTS, Page A6



MITCHELL LEFF/GETTY IMAGES

A NEW START — Former Celtics star Jaylen Brown was introduced as a 76er on Thursday and spoke to the media for the first time since his trade on July 1. He gave few details, saying, "I'm moving on." **C1.**



Ready to rumble

Friday: Very hot, storms. High 90-95. Low 72-77.

Saturday: More of the same. High 87-92. Low 71-76.

High tide: 6:19 a.m., 6:39 p.m.

Sunrise: 5:43 Sunset: 7:56

Weather and Comics, G6-7.

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Suggested retail price
\$4.00



The Senate Homeland Security Committee voted to hold Dr. Anthony Fauci in contempt of Congress for his refusal to answer questions at a hearing. **A2.**

The FDA approved Moderna's flu vaccine, the first licensed flu shot using messenger RNA technology. **B5.**

At 95, William Shatner reflects on 60 years of "Star Trek" before his appearance today and tomorrow in Boston. **G1.**