

# Detroit Free Press

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**Windsor: Can U-M and Dusty May win title?** SPORTS, 1C

**TIGERS WIN IN A SHUTOUT AND THE WEATHER WAS PERFECT**

## A BEAUTY OF A HOME OPENER



Amelia Sharpe, of Detroit, left, dances to the Sister Sledge classic “We are Family” with Sharon Hale, of Southfield, before the Detroit Tigers take on the St. Louis Cardinals for Opening Day at Comerica Park on April 3. MANDI WRIGHT/DFP

### Thousands of fans enjoy the unofficial holiday

Julie Hinds, Nour Rahal and Natalie Davies  
Detroit Free Press  
USA TODAY NETWORK

In Detroit, we treat Opening Day like an unofficial holiday, with parties and events happening all around downtown leading up to the game. We were on the ground to cover it all.

#### Getting the party started

Thousands of Tigers fans, dressed in orange, blue and all kinds of gear, flocked to downtown Detroit by 9:30 a.m. Friday, April 3. Songs like “Lose Yourself” by Eminem, “Eye of the Tiger” by Survivor and “Come and Get Your Love” by Redbone blasted through speakers as fans dined at restaurants and bars near Comerica Park, and partied and played games like cornhole at Grand Circus Park.

#### Sun shines on fans

Mike Lennox, 60, came from Waterford in his Tigers overalls, jersey, bucket hat and necklace with his apprentice and friend Gordon Ritter, 31, who was also decked out in a Tigers bandanna, hat and other gear.

See **OPENER**, Page 7A



Dave Theisen stands next to his wife, Pam Theisen, during Opening Day as the Detroit Tigers host the St. Louis Cardinals at Comerica Park on April 3. DAVID RODRIGUEZ MUÑOZ/DETROIT FREE PRESS

#### Inside

- Opening Day in photos, **3A**
- Dinger's dinger powers Tigers to victory, **1C**



Todd Foster, of Grass Lake, finds good luck in painting his beard as he makes his way to watch the Detroit Tigers take on the St. Louis Cardinals for Opening Day.

MANDI WRIGHT/DETROIT FREE PRESS

#### WAR IN IRAN

## 1 rescued after U.S. fighter jet downed

Status of other crew member is unclear

Thao Nguyen and Cybele Mayes-Osterman  
USA TODAY

One crew member of a U.S. F-15E fighter jet that went down over Iran on April 3 has been rescued, according to a U.S. official.

President Donald Trump has been briefed on the jet, White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt said in a statement without providing details.

CBS News first reported the crew member's rescue.

The status of the other crew member from the two-seater fighter jet was unclear. News outlets including The Wall Street Journal and The New York Times reported that a search and rescue operation was ongoing.

The regional governor promised a commendation for anyone who captured or killed the pilot, according to the semi-official Iranian news agency ISNA. Iranian news agencies said U.S. helicopters were flying low on

See **IRAN WAR**, Page 5A

## Ex-Michigan inmate gets \$307.6M in prison suit

Paul Egan  
Detroit Free Press  
USA TODAY NETWORK

A federal civil jury on April 2 awarded a \$307.6 million verdict to a Detroit man who alleges he suffered in prison for more than two years because the state's former prison health care contractor would not pay to reverse his colostomy.

Former Michigan inmate Kohchise Jackson alleged in a lawsuit filed in 2019 that he had to serve his entire prison sentence with a stinky and leaky plastic bag attached to his side because the state's former prison health care contractor, Corizon Health, didn't want to pay for surgery to reverse his colostomy, as a cost-cutting measure.

A jury deliberated just a little over two hours in federal court in Detroit April 2 before returning the verdict.

See **PRISON LAWSUIT**, Page 5A

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