



## Venezuelan debt rally belies deep complexities

BUSINESS, 4A

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## No. 750! Izzo marks another milestone as he moves up the all-time wins list



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**A**nother game, another career milestone for Tom Izzo. • Michigan State's longtime basketball coach earned career win No. 750 on Monday, Jan. 5, in an 80-51 victory over USC at Breslin Center. Izzo, who began as the Spartans' coach in the 1995-96 season, ranks 23rd on the all-time list for Division 1 coaching victories. • For more, see Graham Couch's quick takes about Monday's game in Sports. Page 1B

▲ Michigan State's head coach Tom Izzo thanks the alumni Izzzone on Jan. 5 for supporting the Spartans in the victory over USC at the Breslin Center in East Lansing.  
NICK KING/LANSING STATE JOURNAL

## Man gets decades in prison for Lansing killing

**Ken Palmer**  
Lansing State Journal  
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

LANSING — A man who shot and killed another during an altercation involving a woman in November 2024 in north Lansing was sentenced Jan. 5 to more than two decades in prison.

Xavian Soto, who was 19 at the time, apologized for killing Braylon Shepherd, 18, during the incident on Sadie Court, in the area of North Grand River Avenue and North Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. Authorities said Soto had a Jackson address.

Ingham County Circuit Judge M organ Cole sentenced him to 250 months to 700 months for second-degree murder, 15 months to 60 months for carrying a concealed weapon and the mandatory 24 months for felony firearm possession. The weapons sentences will run concurrently with each other but consecutive to the murder sentence. Soto will get 424 days jail credit on the weapons sentences.

Soto described himself as "just a scared kid who made a terrible mistake."

His attorney, Stephen Milks, acknowledged Soto had an "imperfect self-defense" case but said the shooting wouldn't have happened if Shepherd hadn't assaulted the mother of his child. Soto made a bad decision but didn't want to kill anyone, Milks said.

Assistant Ingham County Prosecutor Nattalie Macomber said Soto fired 11 rounds at Shepherd as Shepherd was trying to drive away. Soto was arrested in Calhoun County, authorities said at the time.

Soto was convicted of second-degree murder and the two weapons charges after a jury trial in October.

Contact Ken Palmer at [kpalmer@lsj.com](mailto:kpalmer@lsj.com). Follow him on X @KBPalm\_lsj.

## As CPB is dissolved, PBS and NPR remain for now

**Jenna Prestinzi**  
Detroit Free Press  
USA TODAY NETWORK

The nonprofit institution that provided significant funding for PBS and NPR is disbanding after nearly 60 years in operation.

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting — created by Congress in 1967 — has been dissolved because of federal budget cuts pushed by the Trump administration, the CPB announced in a Jan. 5 news release.

"What has happened to public media is devastating," said Ruby Calvert, chair of CPB's Board of Directors, in the release. "After nearly six decades of innovative, educational public television and radio service, Congress eliminated all funding for CPB, leaving the Board with no way to continue the organization or support the public media system that depends on it. Yet, even in this moment, I am convinced that public media will survive, and that a new Congress will

address public media's role in our country because it is critical to our children's education, our history, culture and democracy to do so."

While the nonprofit group provided substantial funds for PBS and NPR stations, those will remain in operation for now, although they will have to address the funding shortfall.

Congress voted in July to claw back \$1 billion that had been earmarked for public broadcasting over the next two years, prompting the corporation to announce the following month that it was starting an "orderly wind-down of its operations."

In Michigan, the cuts represent \$24 million in public media funding "that will not be put into our economy" over the next two years, says Molly Motherwell, president of the Michigan Association of Public Broadcasters.

Detroit PBS said when Congress eliminated two years of federal funding for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) it included nearly

\$3 million annually for Detroit PBS and about \$173,000 for 90.9 WRCJ.

The advocacy group Protect My Public Media ranks Michigan as the state with the seventh-highest amount of funding for public broadcasting. However, Motherwell notes that Michigan has rural areas that are not reached by broadband or digital and satellite services.

In those cases, NPR stations can be the "only source for not only news and information, but emergency alerts," she says.

Here's what to know about funding cuts and changes to public television:

### What's happening to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting?

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting board of directors voted on Monday, Jan. 5, to dissolve the institution, the CPB announced in the release.

"For more than half a century, CPB existed to ensure that all Americans — regardless of geography, income, or background — had access to trusted news, educational programming, and local storytelling," said President and CEO Patricia Harrison in the release. "When the Administration and Congress rescinded federal funding, our Board faced a profound responsibility: CPB's final act would be to protect the integrity of the public media system and the democratic values by dissolving, rather than allowing the organization to remain defunded and vulnerable to additional attacks."

CPB previously announced on Aug. 1, 2025, that it would shutter following over \$1 billion in federal funding cuts to the organization, USA TODAY reported.

The corporation said its "orderly closure" would include distributing remaining funds and supporting the American Archive of Public Broadcasting

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