



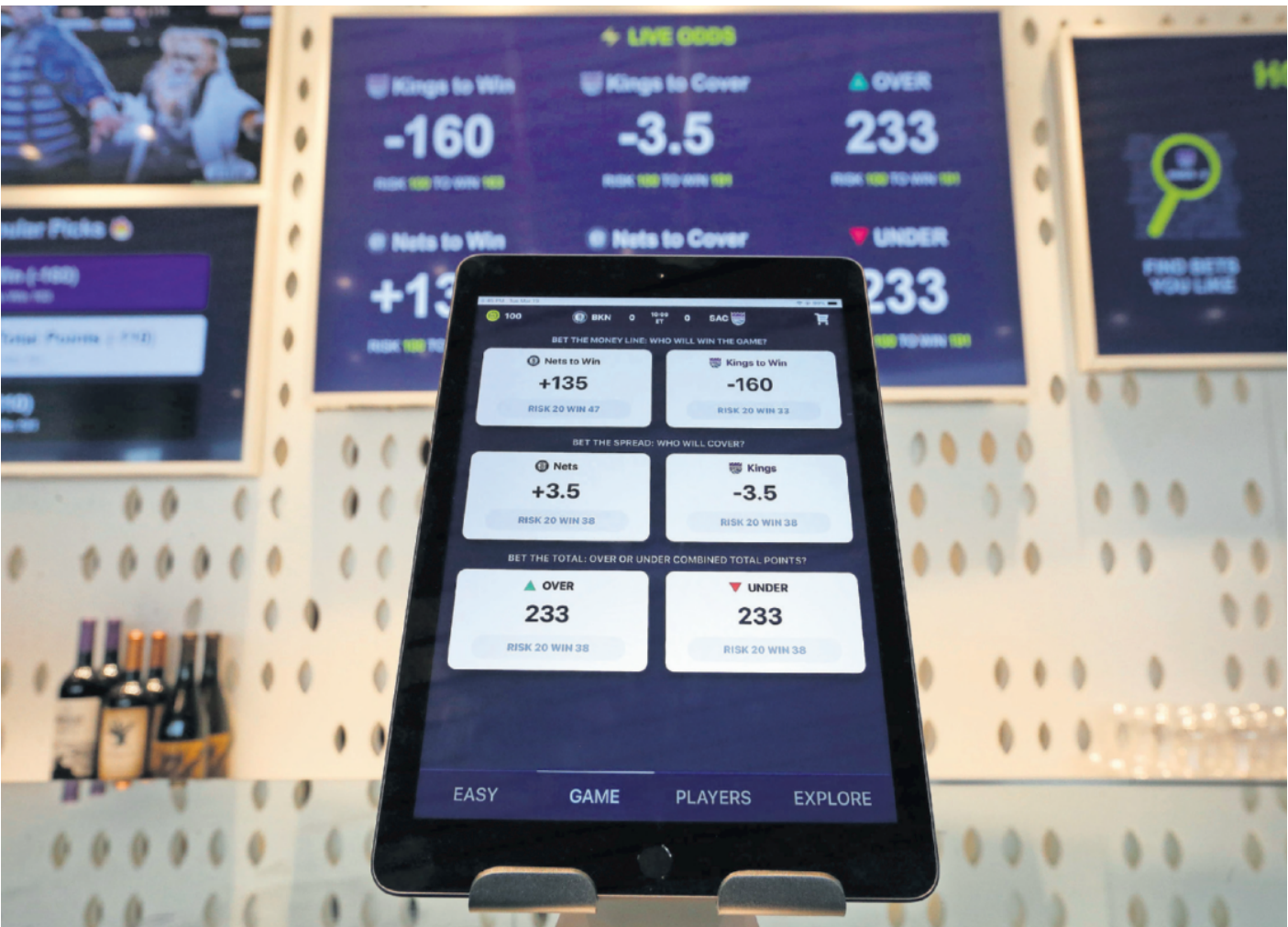
2-ON-2
WITH
LENNY

TERRY PLUTO LOOKS BACK FONDLY AT LENNY WILKENS, AND THE TIME WHEN HE AND THE BASKETBALL HALL OF FAMER TEAMED UP FOR AN IMPROMPTU PICKUP GAME. **C1**



SPORTS BETTING OHIO

Prop bets: DeWine wanted to ban them before he didn't



Gov. Mike DeWine in August: “The prop betting experiment in this country has failed badly. I call on the Casino Control Commission to correct this problem and remove all prop bets from the Ohio marketplace.” *Rich Pedroncelli, Associated Press*

The governor, who in August was emphatic about barring bets on individual sports players’ performances, now appears satisfied with MLB’s new limits on such wagers.

Jeremy Pelzer jpelzer@cleveland.com

COLUMBUS — Gov. Mike DeWine has again eased his opposition to proposition betting on sports, expressing support Monday for new Major League Baseball limits on “micro-prop” wagers on the outcomes of extremely specific situations in games.

DeWine, a Republican, had called in August for the Ohio Casino Control Commission to completely ban proposition, or “prop,” bets in Ohio after the commission and MLB launched investigations into Cleveland Guardians pitchers Emmanuel Clase and Luis Ortiz for fixing bets on specific pitches.

The governor was emphatic then. “The evidence that prop betting is harming athletics in Ohio is reaching critical



Guardians pitcher Emmanuel Clase was indicted Sunday on federal charges that he threw specific pitches during games that netted co-conspirators more than \$450,000. *David Dermer, AP*

MORE INSIDE

Federal prosecutors say Guardians pitcher Emmanuel Clase lived a double life as a record-setting closer — and a pitch fixer. **C4**

mass,” DeWine said in a statement. “First, there were threats on Ohio athletes, and now two high-profile Ohio professional

athletes have been suspended by Major League Baseball as part of a ‘sports betting investigation.’

“The harm to athletes and the integrity of the game is clear, and the benefits are not worth the harm,” DeWine said. “The prop betting experiment in this country has failed badly. I call on the Casino Control Commission to correct this problem and remove all prop bets from the Ohio marketplace.”

Late last month, the governor softened that stance, telling The Plain Dealer and cleveland.com that he was waiting for MLB and five other major U.S. pro sports leagues to seek a 50-state ban on microprop bets.

While prop bets are made on individual players’ performances — such as whether a player will hit a home run in a given game — microprop bets involve money placed on actions within a game, such as the velocity of a specific pitch or whether it’s a ball or a strike.

But now, DeWine appears comfortable — at least for the time being — with MLB’s new limits on microprop bets, announced after Clase and Ortiz were indicted Sunday on federal charges that they threw specific pitches during games that netted their co-conspirators more than \$450,000.

SEE SPORTS BETTING, A2

STATE LEGISLATION

Lawmakers want teens to be able to work later

A critic blasts the measure as a ploy to boost cheap labor.

Laura Hancock lhancock@cleveland.com

COLUMBUS — Gov. Mike DeWine is considering whether to sign a bill that would allow 14- and 15-year-olds to work later on school nights.

Senate Bill 50 passed the Ohio House last week in a 62-30 vote, largely on party lines. It passed the Senate on April 9.

DeWine hasn’t made any public statements about whether he supports the bill.

“We are reviewing it,” said his spokesman, Dan Tierney.

Ohio employers must generally pay work-

ers a minimum wage of \$10.70, tied to inflation, for non-tipped workers, according to the Ohio Department of Commerce. They can pay 14- and 15-year-olds \$7.25 per hour, which is the federal minimum wage.

SB 50 would allow the teens to work between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. at any time of the year if their parents or guardians permit it.

Current law only allows 14- and 15-year-olds to work these hours between June 1 and Sept. 1, or during any school holiday.

The bill has the support of the Ohio Restaurant & Hospitality Alliance, the billionaire Koch Industries-backed Americans for Prosperity-Ohio, and small business association NFIB in Ohio.

While some local chambers of commerce supported the bill, the influential Ohio Chamber of Commerce did not wade into

the debate.

During debate on the House floor last week, Rep. Mark Johnson, a Chillicothe Republican, expressed his support for the bill by talking about the value of hard work in his family, going back to his grandfather, a West Virginia coal miner who was paid in company scrip that he spent at a company-affiliated store.

“I never had to look for a job because I learned how to work and be productive at a young age,” he said. “So, there’s lessons to be learned, and I believe that (bill sponsor) Sen. (Tim) Schaffer does not want to water down the (federal) Fair Labor Standards Act, but give 14- and 15-year-olds another opportunity to stay an extra hour to work in a grocery store, bagging groceries, or

SEE STATE LEGISLATION, A2

STATE LEGISLATION

Tired of paying income tax to multiple cities?

Pending legislation would change how the system works.

Anna Staver astaver@cleveland.com

COLUMBUS — In Ohio, driving to work in another city can mean paying income taxes to both places.

Some cities give you a credit to help with commuter taxes, but others don’t. That leaves people with the same salary paying very different municipal income tax rates based on where they live.

“This patchwork creates confusion for taxpayers, compliance burdens for employers, and financial inequities among residents of different communities,” said Rep. Heidi Workman, a Portage County Republican.

Her legislation, House Bill 503, would give Ohioans more say over those credits by requiring voter approval for changes and allowing residents to petition for new ones.

Workman said she’s “giving taxpayers a voice in decisions that directly affect their take-home pay.”

But the Ohio Mayors Alliance said the proposal adds to a growing series of state-level changes that, taken together, put a real strain on local budgets.

PUTTING TAX CREDITS IN VOTERS’ HANDS

Ohio law mandates cities ask voters to raise income tax rates above 1%. But it doesn’t consider whether you pay that amount to multiple communities.

In many metro areas, people live in one community and work in another, so a 1% tax can be withheld from both.

Many Cleveland suburbs offer their residents credits (discounts) to offset those commuter taxes, but others don’t.

For example, a person who lives in Marysville and works in Columbus pays 4% in total taxes because Marysville does not give a credit for what its residents pay in Columbus.

Commuters tried to challenge this “double taxation” in a 1965 Ohio Supreme Court case, *Thompson v. Cincinnati*.

SEE INCOME TAX, A2



House Bill 503 would require voter approval for changes to the tax credits that affect how much people pay when they live in one Ohio city and work in another. *ODOT*

WASHINGTON

An unruly house

Republican Speaker Mike Johnson is recalling lawmakers back into session — and facing an avalanche of pent-up legislative demands. **A6**

VETERANS DAY

Duty and loss

Eight decades later, World War II veterans describe the battles they saw, the friendships they made and the memories that linger. **A11**

