



New coach brings ‘no nonsense’ to Lancaster volleyball

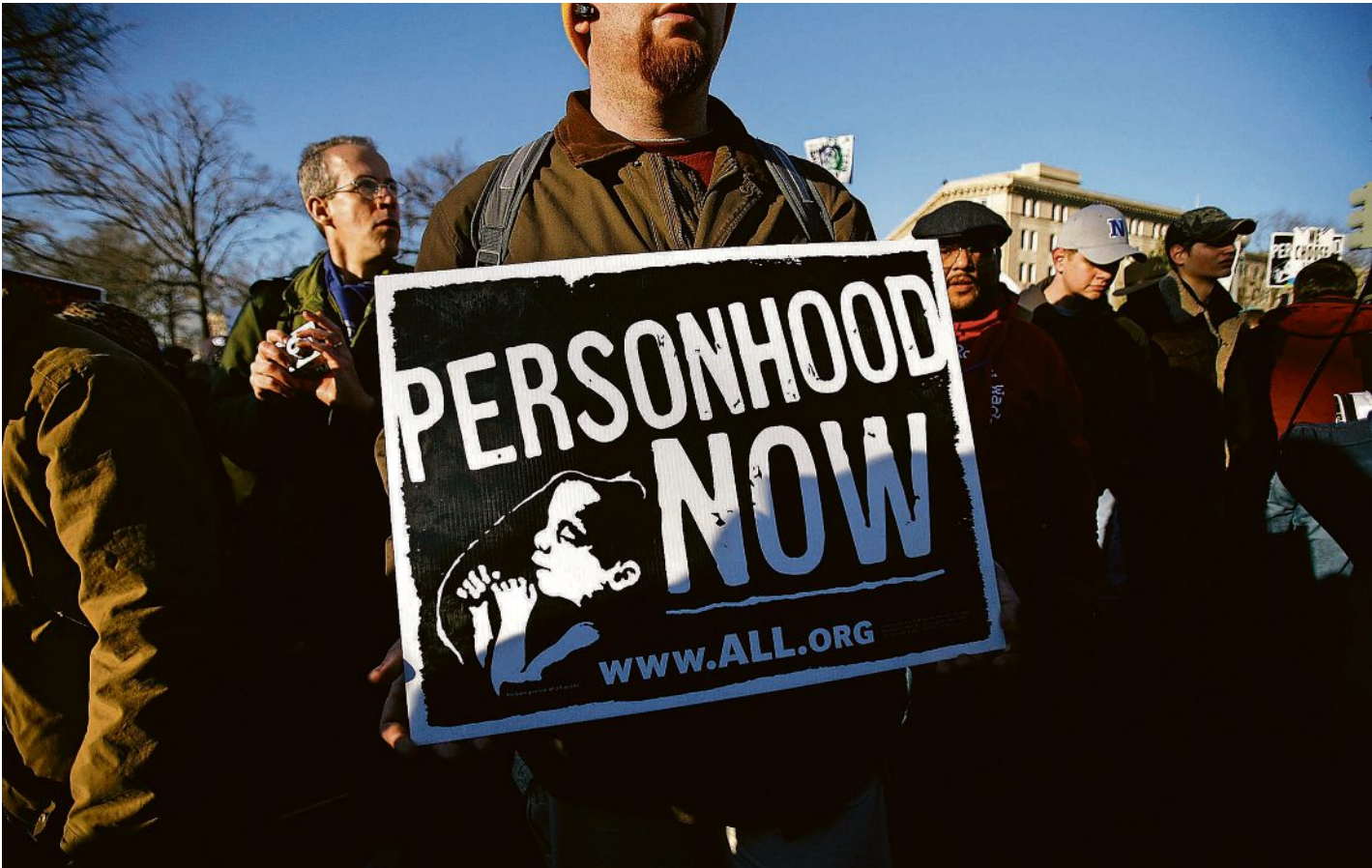
SPORTS, 9A

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Activists have intensified efforts to extend legal rights to embryos and fetuses. Personhood arguments now surface in not only abortion restrictions but also disputes involving pregnancy loss, child support and taxes.

ALEX WONG/GETTY IMAGES FILE

Embryo personhood debate gains notice

HHS guidelines add to movement’s momentum after Dobbs decision

Risa Cromer
Purdue University
THE CONVERSATION

About 100,000 babies were born through in vitro fertilization in 2024, according to the most recent U.S. data. But IVF commonly involves trying to create multiple embryos, because success is never guaranteed. If unused, those embryos can be frozen, discarded, donated to research or donated to another fertility patient.

In the eyes of some anti-abortion activists, those frozen IVF embryos are already children – children who need to be “adopted” into families. And that idea now appears in a federal document: grant guidelines announced by the Department of Health and Human Services in June.

The department’s Embryo Adoption Awareness and Services program has existed since 2002. But this year’s funding notice describes IVF embryos as “children who already exist and are in need of a family.” Rather than present-



An embryologist pulls out vials of human embryos from a liquid nitrogen storage container at a California IVF clinic in 2007. Grant guidelines announced by the Department of Health and Human Services in June describe IVF embryos as “children who already exist and are in need of a family.”

SANDY HUFFAKER/GETTY IMAGES

ing “embryo adoption” as one option among many for patients with remaining embryos, the document describes the practice as centered on embryos’ “rights” and “best interests.”

This language draws from a decades-long movement to give personhood status to fetuses and embryos, including

those made in fertility clinics. The personhood movement is rooted in a belief embraced by many conservative Christians: that human life begins at fertilization and should receive legal protection from that moment.

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A series of Flock Safety cameras monitor license plates heading into and out of the Graceland shopping center in Columbus on Aug. 13.

ADAM CAIRNS/COLUMBUS DISPATCH

Privacy concerns fuel push to regulate cameras

Haley BeMiller
State Bureau
USA TODAY NETWORK

An Ohio senator wants to crack down on people who misuse Flock cameras as pushback against the technology grows statewide.

Sen. Al Cutrona, R-Canfield, will introduce legislation to prevent police and government officials from selling or sharing information with third parties and require them to delete data after 10 days. Anyone caught using Flock cameras or other automatic license plate readers for personal use would face a

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Wexner steps down as chair of the OSU medical board

Samantha Hendrickson
Columbus Dispatch
USA TODAY NETWORK

Les Wexner has stepped down as chair of the Ohio State University Wexner Medical board after failing to attend meetings for over a year and amid renewed scrutiny over his ties to convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein.

However, he’s not disappearing entirely from the board bearing his name and one he’s chaired since 2013. The New Albany billionaire is staying on as

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