

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

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\$4.00 239 YEARS OF SERVICE SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2026 VOL. 99, NO. 246, 4/4/26 FINAL

Fetterman wants DHS help

Senator asks feds to increase security level for Pittsburgh's NFL Draft

By Hallie Lauer
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette



Fetterman

With just weeks left until the NFL Draft comes to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania Sen. John Fetterman has asked the Department of Homeland Security to increase the security assessment level as a result of the war in Iran.

DHS ranks large events through the Special Event Assessment Rating, which ranges from a level 5, the lowest threat, to a level 1, based on threat, vul-

nerability and consequences for each event, according to the agency.

It is typically used for events that draw large crowds such as the draft, the Super Bowl, the Kentucky Derby and the Indianapolis 500. The Kentucky Derby and the Indianapolis 500 are commonly ranked as Level 2s, the level at which

Mr. Fetterman says the Pittsburgh draft should be placed.

Pittsburgh's draft now is rated as a level 3 on the scale, meaning that it requires "only limited federal support," according to the agency's descriptions. Other level 3 events include the National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade and the Masters Golf Tournament.

A level 2 would require "some level of federal interagency report" and

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INSIDE

For an expansive summary of the PG's draft coverage, go to post-gazette.com/nfdraft.

WAR IN THE MIDEAST

2 U.S. AIRCRAFT SHOT DOWN

Iran urges residents to find, 'hand over' pilot

By Sam Mednick, Konstantin Toropin and Seung Min Kim
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Iran shot down two U.S. military planes in separate attacks Friday, with one service member rescued and at least one missing, in a dramatic escalation since the war began nearly five weeks ago.

It was the first time U.S. aircraft have been downed in the conflict and came just two days after President Donald Trump said in a national address that the U.S. has "beaten and completely decimated Iran" and was "going to finish the job, and we're going to finish it very fast."

One fighter jet was shot down in Iran, officials said. A U.S. crew member from that plane was rescued, but a second was missing, and a U.S. military search-and-rescue operation was underway.

Neither the White House nor Pentagon released public information about the downed planes. In a brief telephone interview with NBC News, Trump declined to discuss the search-and-rescue efforts but said what happened would not affect negotiations with Iran.

"No, not at all. No, it's war," he said.

Separately, Iranian state media said a U.S. A-10 attack aircraft crashed in the Persian Gulf after being struck by Iranian defense forces.

A U.S. official who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss a sensitive military situation said earlier that it was not clear if the aircraft crashed or was shot

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PIRATES 5, ORIOLES 4



Matt Freed/Post-Gazette

The Pirates' Konnor Griffin hits an RBI double during the second inning of Friday's home opener against the Orioles at PNC Park. The 19-year-old's first major league hit electrified the sold-out crowd and served as the catalyst for four Pirates runs that inning.

REASON FOR HOPE

Enthusiastic crowd, Griffin's debut shift fans' perspective during a festive home opener

By Matt Press
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

A year and a day ago, fans at PNC Park attending the Pirates home opener had quite a bit to get off their chests.

They booed then-manager Derek Shelton and implored owner Bob Nutting — both with chants and a particularly jaded fan who rented a plane carrying the message — to sell the team. Friday's 2026 home opener, a 5-4 win against the

Baltimore Orioles, on a warm and breezy afternoon on the North Shore took on a different tenor.

Traffic cones were hoisted. Flags were waved. During pregame introductions, the chorus of cheers nearly drowned out the lineup announcement of starting shortstop Konnor Griffin, the 19-year-old top prospect who was promoted from Triple-A Indianapolis on Thursday.

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Giuseppe LoPiccolo/Post-Gazette

Fans stood for the duration of Mr. Griffin's first at-bat. The highly anticipated debut of the rookie shortstop did not disappoint. **Story, B-1**

PRESIDENT'S BUDGET

Trump seeks \$1.5T in defense spending

By Lisa Mascaro and Kevin Freking
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump has proposed boosting defense spending to \$1.5 trillion in his 2027 budget released Friday, the largest such request in decades, reflecting his emphasis on U.S. military investments over domestic programs.

The sizable increase for the Pentagon, some 44%, had been telegraphed by the Republican president even before the U.S.-led war against Iran. The president's plan would also reduce spending on non-defense programs by 10%.

"President Trump promised to reinvest in America's national security infrastructure, to make sure our nation is safe in a dangerous world," wrote Budget Director Russell Vought.

The president's annual budget is considered a reflection of the administration's values and does not carry the force of law. The massive document typically highlights an administration's priorities, but Congress, which handles federal spending issues, is free to reject it and often does.

This year's White House document is intended to provide a road map from the president to Congress as lawmakers build their own budgets and annual appropriations bills to keep the government funded. Mr. Vought spoke to House GOP lawmakers on a private call Thursday.

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Site of popular race track sold for \$50 million

Is data center next for large property?

By Chloe Jad
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The owners of the former Pittsburgh International Race Complex have sold the property for \$50

PITTSBURGH INTERNATIONAL RACE COMPLEX

million, six months after they said the track in Big Beaver wouldn't make it to 2026.

Jim and Kathy Stout purchased the property in 2011 and renamed it Pitt Race from its original BeaveRun namesake, investing more than \$15 million over the

years, according to Pitt Race.

Wampum I LLC bought the more-than-400-acre property from BeaveRun Founders Development LLC on March 19, according to Beaver County real estate records. Wampum listed its address as Suite 300 on 10210 North

Central Expressway, in Dallas, Texas — a suite shared by multiple offshoots of a company named Provident. The document is signed by Julian Hawkes Jr., president of Provident Data Centers.

Provident has dealings in real estate, renovation work and data centers. Neither representatives

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Weather

Very warm.
Daytime high, 83;
tonight's low, 49.
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