



Final Four power rankings: How do remaining squads stack up?

SPORTS, 1B

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Grads find challenging job market



The unemployment rate for recent college graduates ages 22 to 27 stood at 5.7% in the fourth quarter of 2025, up from 5.3% in the previous quarter.

MARIO TAMA/GETTY IMAGES FILE

Rebound doesn't change U.S. economic 'narrative'

Rachel Barber
USA TODAY

In 2025, new college graduates wanted remote, high-paying jobs that aligned with their values. In 2026, they just want a job.

With 89% worrying artificial intelligence could replace entry-level roles – up from 64% last year – 67% of graduates

now say they would accept a lower-paying position if it offered more job security, Monster's 2026 State of the Graduate Report found.

"They do not want to be 'the last one in, first one out' of their new job," Monster career expert Vicki Salemi said, adding that young people are noticing waves of corporate layoffs. "They really want to feel like they're going to be in a job for the long term."

An April 2 Challenger, Gray & Christman report may have confirmed some of their fears. It found employers announced 60,620 layoffs in March – up 25% from February – with AI adoption

the primary reason behind the cuts.

Overall, the U.S. economy added 178,000 jobs in March, the Bureau of Labor Statistics estimated April 3 – a figure well above forecasters' expectations. This news comes after the revised jobs report for February showed a loss of 133,000 jobs. The return to work in March of about 31,000 striking Kaiser Permanente health care workers accounts for some of the rebound.

The unemployment rate ticked down to 4.3% in March from 4.4% in February.

Andrew Stettner, senior director of

See **JOBS**, Page 2A

'Celebrate our extraordinary cultural democracy'



Brulé is a contemporary Native American music group that performed Saturday, July 30, 2022, at Levitt at the Falls, drawing a crowd of over 10,000 people. PROVIDED BY OLIVIA BERTINO

Levitt at the Falls is partnering with the Smithsonian for America 250

Angela George Sioux Falls Argus Leader | USA TODAY NETWORK

The Levitt's annual All My Relatives event, a free music festival that honors the multi-generational Indigenous community every summer, will get national attention this year. • Representatives with the Smithsonian Museum in Washington, D.C., announced March 31 as part of their America 250 anniversary celebrations that they will be collaborating with 30 festivals around the country, including Levitt at the Falls as one of the stops "on the road." • Mitakuye Owas'in * All My Relatives * Mitákuye Oyás'in Festival will be Aug. 29.

What is this festival in D.C. now traveling across the nation?

Since 1967, the Smithsonian D.C. hosts what is called their Folklife Festival, a weeks-long program in July surrounding the National Mall that "honors international and American living cultural traditions and celebrates those who practice and sustain them."

The festival, produced by the Smithsonian's Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage, usually features participants from all 50 states who share music, dance, crafts and food demonstrations and attracts over one million visitors each year.

To celebrate the 250th anniversary of the nation's founding this year, the Smithsonian wants to expand the

event and "bring the spirit of the Folklife Festival to you."

"The 250th anniversary is a time to celebrate our extraordinary cultural democracy, to visit with the people, places and traditions within it, and to contemplate our shared future," said Clifford Murphy, director of the Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage.

"By taking the Folklife Festival beyond Washington, we will recommit to our original purpose to take the Smithsonian beyond objects and buildings and carry out our mission to connect communities across cultures."

The modified D.C. celebration will be called "Of the People: The Smithsonian Festival of Festivals" and will run through November.

See **FESTIVAL**, Page 3A

Tribal health care on next session's agenda

Legislators plan to learn about emergency services, disability care

Makenzie Huber
South Dakota Searchlight

South Dakota lawmakers plan to learn more about emergency medical services, Native American health care and services for disabled people ahead of the next legislative session.

After the annual session ends in March, legislative leaders typically identify a few issues to delve into as "summer studies" before the next session in January. This year, lawmakers adopted legislation creating a committee and two task forces, and the legislative Executive Board decided Monday against creating any additional summer study committees.

Several lawmakers are also on the governor's Correctional Rehabilitation Task Force, which was created last year and will continue meeting ahead of the 2027 legislative session. That group is seeking ways to reduce the number of people who return to prison after their release.

"It seems like we have plenty of work to discuss and move forward with next year," said Rep. Brian Mulder, R-Sioux Falls.

Tribal-managed Medicaid model 'better than our current model,' sponsor says

One of the task forces created by the Legislature will study "the creation of Indian Medicaid managed care entities."

Rosebud Sioux Tribe President Kathleen Wooden Knife called on lawmakers at the beginning of the legislative session to support tribal efforts to establish the model, which she said has the potential to improve outcomes and efficiencies for tribal members on and off the state's reservations.

In such a model, tribes could contract with the state of South Dakota to direct federal Medicaid dollars into a pool of funds for health care. An entity

See **LEGISLATORS**, Page 3A

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