



# BATTLING BACK



K.C. ALFRED U-T

The Padres' Ha-Seong Kim scores from first base on a single by Austin Nola in the fifth inning of Game 2 of the National League Championship Series Wednesday at Petco Park. The Padres won 8-5, tying the series 1-1 and sending it to Philadelphia for Game 3 Friday.

BRYCE MILLER Columnist

## Padres rally from hard-luck 4-run deficit to beat Phillies 8-5, tying NLCS 1-1

As the National League Championship Series between the Padres and Phillies teetered on the brink of being seismically altered early Wednesday afternoon at Petco Park, it seemed on the verge of earning one of those painfully unforgettable sports names.

### The Inning.

Instead of the 37-pitch horror show fueled by meek contact off Padres starting pitcher Blake Snell and a rainbow lost in the sun by right fielder Juan Soto almost dooming the Padres' World Series chase in the second inning, what came after recalibrated everything.

Along with the moniker. Call it

### The Comeback.

The Padres clawed back from a one-inning, four-run disaster to storm into Game 3 of the NLCS on Friday in Philadelphia tied and electrified after an 8-5 thriller. Gauging the importance of the finish ranged from critical to flat-out mandatory.

"You go down (0-2), that would be quite an uphill battle," Padres manager Bob Melvin said.

Starting a seven-game postseason matchup dropping two at home is the place where World Series dreams go to die. Since the 1985 advent of seven games in league championship series, 12 teams lost the first two games in comfy confines. All soon tumbled

### ANOTHER COMEBACK

■ D1 • Padres storm back to top the Phillies before a raucous crowd.

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out of the tournament.

Seven teams were swept in four games, while just two made it to Game 6.

What came after the second — including a five-run inning, if that sounds familiar — changed the entire complexion and trajectory

of the NLCS. If the Padres steady themselves and charge into the World Series, surviving that inning and finding that type of answer could become the monumental turning point.

"It shows you how good a team we are," said Juan Soto, who provided an RBI double in the fifth-inning uprising. "... It feels amazing to go 1-1 over there. We're going to try our best to finish it there."

Baseball dishes out plenty of hard-luck frames, but the Padres suffered a criminally cruel-luck second inning, an energy-sapping head shaker where ball after ball found holes all over the field after meek contact.

SEE MILLER • A9

# TAILGATE PARK DEAL TRIPPED UP BY LAWSUIT

S.D. City Council extends deadline to close escrow on \$35.1M sale of the site

BY JENNIFER VAN GROVE

The city of San Diego's sale of the four-block, East Village parking lot known as Tailgate Park to a development team led by the San Diego Padres will not close this year as planned. Instead, the deal will remain in limbo until the parties can resolve a lawsuit challenging the legality of the transaction.

Tuesday, City Council members

voted unanimously to amend the sale contract and extend the original escrow closing date beyond a Dec. 23, 2022 deadline, as well as clean up language in a past council resolution. Councilmember Vivian Moreno, who previously voted in opposition to the sale, was absent.

In April, city leaders OK'd the sale of Tailgate Park for \$35.1 million to the Padres development team, which includes Tishman Speyer and Ascendant Capital Partners. The original closing deadline was memorialized in a detailed development agreement governing the sale and was imposed to ensure that the transaction would close in time

to remain shielded from the state's stricter disposition rules for surplus land.

"I remain convinced that this is the appropriate project, and legally appropriate project, for this area. I'm reminded that this is a redevelopment site wherein we have obligations to other agencies to make sure that it is the best sale for the city," said Councilmember Raul Campillo. "It's a very complicated set of circumstances. And ... the litigation is designed to simply put us past that (deadline). So we have to correct that."

A city-owned asset since the formation of downtown's ballpark dis-

trict, Tailgate Park is bounded by 12th and Imperial avenues, and K and 14th streets. It is leased to the Padres through the end of 2043 for use as a parking lot and special event space. The site is governed by a complex set of state regulations because the parcels were owned by San Diego's now-defunct redevelopment agency, Centre City Development Corporation. The city took over the land after redevelopment agencies were dissolved by the state, and earmarked the site for future development.

In September 2020, San Diego selected the Padres development

SEE LIMBO • A8

## UC URGED TO HIRE UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS

BY MIRIAM JORDAN

### LOS ANGELES

They have attended school in the United States, spent their childhoods in U.S. neighborhoods and grown up as Americans in every way but one — brought to the country by their parents, who entered the country illegally, as children, they have no legal authority to live in the United States.

The political and legal turmoil over the federal program that since 2012 has shielded many of them from deportation, the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, has left thousands of the so-called "Dreamers" — immigrants whose plight has won sympathy at times from Democrats and Republicans alike — in legal limbo. Federal law makes it illegal to hire immigrants without legal status, and, under the law, many of these young immigrants will graduate from college

SEE DACA • A10



JENNA SCHOENEFFELD NYT

A group of UCLA students meets at nearby St. Alban's Episcopal Church last week. With a soaring number of immigrant students not eligible to work legally, a campaign is urging the UC system to employ them.

## WOMAN WHO BLINDED SELF IN JAIL AWARDED \$4.35M

San Diego County settles lawsuit with Tanya Suarez

BY KELLY DAVIS

A young woman who blinded herself in a jail cell in 2019 will receive \$4.35 million from San Diego County, the latest in a string of multimillion-dollar legal settlements the county has paid out over deaths and serious injuries in its jails.

In March 2020, Tanya Suarez sued the county, arguing that staff at the Las Colinas women's jail in San-tee had failed to protect her from harming herself. Nearly a year earlier, Suarez, then 23, was under the influ-

ence of methamphetamine and hallucinating when she removed both of her eyes, believing that if she didn't, jailers would torture her and her family.

In her lawsuit, Suarez argued that jail staff had multiple opportunities to intervene to prevent her from harming herself. She told The San Diego Union-Tribune that a simple conversation could have prevented her injury.

Suarez had first started clawing at her eyes while waiting to be fingerprinted. Instead of placing her in a restraint chair or closely monitoring her until she was sober, staff put her in a cell by herself.

According to her lawsuit, SEE LAWSUIT • A6

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### U - T INDEX

Comics	C5	Editorial	B6	Lottery	A4	Scores	D5
Crossword	C7	Horoscope	C7	Obituaries	B8	Television	A13
Dear Abby	C7	Letters	B6	Stocks	C3	Weather	A14



7 35944 00074 7



Local

B2 Local reports B6-7 Editorial & Opinion B8 Obituaries



DIANE BELL

Columnist

Padres-Phillies series brings out friendly city rivalry

A lot of people have allegiance to both San Diego and Philadelphia, so deciding how to dress for the Padres-Phillies National League Championship Series can be a daunting task.

Maxine Gellens, a Padres season ticket holder for decades, was bombarded by calls from friends asking what she was planning to wear to Petco Park for Tuesday's series opener.

They were asking because, along with being a lifelong fanatic Padres fan, she is the grandmother of Garrett Stubbs, a back-up catcher for the Phillies.

"It's a wonderful problem to have," says Gellens, a local real estate agent. "Either way I'm a winner."

She sits in the same Petco Park seats she has bought since the ballpark opened in 2004 — seats that Garrett used to occupy when she brought him to Padres games when he was a kid.

"I never missed a game of the Padres until my grandson started playing ball," Gellens confesses.

How did she resolve her clothing dilemma?

"I'm wearing a Philly's shirt and a Padres cap."

Her dilemma pales in comparison to that of the parents of Aaron and Austin Nola. At Wednesday's game, Austin, catcher for the Padres, was facing his younger brother, Aaron, a Phillies' pitcher, and Austin got a crucial base hit.

Betting action

Another San Diegan with torn allegiance is Julie Coker, president and CEO of the San Diego Tourism Authority.

She moved here in 2020 from Philadelphia after leading the Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau for nine years.

Despite her lengthy time there, Coker made it clear on social media that she is rooting for the Padres. "I have loved all Philly sports since childhood, however, on this one gotta go with my new hometown team," she posted.

Coker challenged her counterparts in Philadelphia to a bet: tourism reps of the losing destination would make a charitable contribution to a worthy cause chosen by those in the winning city.

Then, to make it more interesting, she stipulated that the loser would have to wear the jersey of the winning team on stage at their organization's annual luncheon.

Seeing Visit Philadelphia's leader, Angela Val, and Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau head, Gregg Caren, wearing Padres jerseys on the big screen at their annual meeting next month will be awesome, Coker says.

They both responded: "Game on."

Val accepted the wager with a good-hearted reply that California may have the perfect weather "but we have a team with heart and grit!"

Caren was more realistic, noting that Philly sports fans don't take kindly to anyone wearing outta town gear. "I think we need a sweetener (if not protection) for this deal," he replied.

"Philly fans will be sportsmanlike — win or lose — he'll be safe," assures Coker.

Her wager is not without precedent. During the Padres National League Division Series against the Dodgers, L.A. Tourism & Convention Board CEO Adam Burke initiated a similar

SEE DIANE BELL • B2

PARKING TICKET FEES MAY INCREASE

Proposal forwarded to City Council is part of push to boost revenue

BY DAVID GARRICK

SAN DIEGO

A street-sweeping parking ticket could soon get a lot more expensive.

San Diego officials want to raise the cost of a street-sweeping traffic citation by more than 30 percent to boost revenue by about \$5 million and encourage more people to clear curbs so city sweepers can keep streets cleaner.

The proposal, which would in-

crease the cost of a citation from \$52.50 to \$68.50, comes one month after city officials announced they were revamping street-sweeping routes following a study that showed the system could be more efficient.

Increasing revenue from citations is part of a broader campaign by San Diego to raise more money to help comply with new state stormwater mandates that aim to clean up waterways.

Other efforts include raising stormwater inspection fees, stepping up enforcement of stormwater regulations and making plans for a ballot measure that would create a dedicated funding stream for stormwater.

San Diego now generates an aver-

age of \$61 million per year for stormwater funding but is expected to need an average of \$335 million per year over the next two decades, city officials said.

The cost of street-sweeping tickets, issued to vehicles parked in sweeping areas during designated sweep times, hasn't risen since 2003, officials said. The proposed increase would take effect Jan. 1.

About 102,000 citations are issued every year for violations of street-sweeping parking restrictions. The city collected \$7.3 million in fines during the fiscal year that ended June 30.

There are no plans to raise the fines for other types of parking citations.

The increase would move San Diego from the middle of the pack for local street-sweeping fines up to the top, surpassing UC San Diego's fine of \$65.

Encinitas charges \$53, Chula Vista \$47.50, Escondido \$46, La Mesa \$42.50, National City \$35 and Del Mar \$33.

But compared to other large California cities, San Diego would be in the middle of the pack. San Francisco charges \$85, Los Angeles \$73, Oakland \$66 and San Jose \$60.

The City Council's Budget and Government Efficiency Committee forwarded the proposal Wednesday to the full City Council for approval.

SEE FEES • B2

TAKE YOUR PICK



EDUARDO CONTRERAS U-T

United Way of San Diego County President and CEO Nancy Sasaki helps Aria Larios (middle), 6, and Liliana Rodriguez, 5, pick out school supplies at Sherman Elementary on Wednesday during a give-away sponsored by the local United Way and SAY San Diego.

S.D. COUNCIL SEAT FOES CLASH ON HOUSING, LEADERSHIP

District 6 opponents Hough, Lee vie to replace termed-out Chris Cate

BY DAVID GARRICK

SAN DIEGO

Candidates in San Diego's most competitive City Council runoff debated Tuesday aggressive housing solutions, the importance of candi-

date ethnicity, leadership styles and the potential to shift some Miramar industrial areas to residential.

Democrats Kent Lee and Tommy Hough agree that San Diego needs more affordable housing, but the two candidates battling for north central District 6 endorsed different solutions during a forum hosted by the San Diego Union-Tribune's editorial board.

Lee supports the city's ongoing

efforts to allow dense housing projects along existing transportation routes, including major streets and trolley lines. Hough contends those efforts have been damaging neighborhood character.

Instead, Hough wants to explore city-sponsored rent regulation, a vacancy tax and a city-run public bank that could issue low-interest loans to families who need help with housing down payments.

Hough said a public bank would

push back against real estate speculators that have inflated local housing costs, lifting prices out of reach for many families. "It's hard to come up with a competitive down payment because of these other market forces," he said.

Lee said he opposes city rent regulation, contending state-sponsored rent stabilization that took effect last year should be adequate. He said city officials should make

SEE SAN DIEGO • B8

'Birds, Bees, Flowers and Trees' eco fair Saturday



KARLA PETERSON

Columnist

In the spirit of the blossoms and blooms for which it is famous, the San Diego Floral Association wants its third

"Birds, Bees, Flowers and Trees" eco fair to be bursting with life, color

and beauty. And like the stunning plumeria and protea that will have attendees buzzing, Saturday's Balboa Park event is plugged into a larger ecosystem that deserves its moment in the sun, too.

"It is my theory that you are not going to work toward conservation or environmental issues if you don't love what you're working for. And if you love flowers, you'll work to preserve them," said Kathy Esty, the fair's committee chair.

"So you're going to help the honeybees, because flowers can't exist without them. And if you love birds, you can't have a healthy bird unless you have healthy wetlands and healthy mountains and healthy rivers. You have to bring it all together, and that's what we're trying to do with this fair. It's not just flower arranging anymore."

In addition to a massive plant sale and such green-thumb friendly exhibitors as Momma Pots, Mission Hills Nursery and Master Gardeners of San Diego,



KRISTIAN CARREON FOR THE U-T

Kathy Esty is co-founder of the S.D. Floral Association's "Birds, Bees, Flowers and Trees" eco fair, in Balboa Park on Saturday.

the "Birds, Bees, Flowers and Trees" lineup will also include demonstrations, giveaways, activities and information galore from a host of local environmental, conservation and community groups.

So while you're stocking up on succulents, grabbing a geranium or browsing the La Playa Books booth, you can find out how to help nature help you save the planet.

"Any organization that deals with anything that involves nature or conservation has to be awakened to the fact that it's all interconnected," said Esty's sister, Abby, who is co-chair of the event.

"Conservation is necessary for healthy food, healthy water, healthy people and healthy attitudes."

The San Diego Audubon Society will be on hand Saturday with free native-seed packets and tips on how to bring native birds into your garden. The San Diego River Park Foundation will have a bird-feeder craft for the kids and details about the San Diego River's 434 square-miles of watershed for anyone interested in preserving resources for the future.

There will also be informational exhibits from the San Diego Beekeeping Society, the San Diego Turtle Society and the Resource

SEE PETERSON • B3

TWO OCEANSIDE COUNCIL SEATS TO BE DECIDED IN NOVEMBER

District 1 voters will pick new person; incumbent, 4 others in District 2 race

BY PHIL DIEHL

OCEANSIDE

Only half of Oceanside voters will have a City Council candidate to vote for in November, those who live in Districts 1 and 2.

Both seats are for full four-year terms. All elected positions in Oceanside are considered part time. Council members earn an annual salary of \$33,993.

District 2 voters will choose a new person to represent them after Councilmember Christopher Rodriguez, first elected in 2018, decided not to seek a second term. After losing his bids for mayor in 2020 and for a seat in Congress earlier this year, Rodriguez said will step down to spend more time with his family and his business

Two names — Richard Robinson and Daniel Dominguez — will be on the ballot for District 2, which covers the city's northeastern quadrant.

Robinson, 67, is a 34-year Oceanside resident who retired in July as

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