

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

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\$3.00 236 YEARS OF SERVICE WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2023 VOL. 96, NO. 261, 4/19/23 FINAL

'Tranq' called 'a serious threat'

Shapiro initiates tighter controls for animal drug

By Ford Turner
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

HARRISBURG — Seeking to curb a dramatic rise in deaths from a powerful nervous system de-

pressant typically used to sedate large animals, Gov. Josh Shapiro is ordering that the drug xylazine be temporarily classified in Pennsylvania as a Schedule III controlled substance.

The move, Mr. Shapiro said Tuesday, will allow for tighter controls, record-keeping and security around manufacturing and delivery of the drug, sometimes called "tranq." It will also give police and prosecutors more tools to crack down on illicit use, he said. Mr. Shapiro said xylazine

contributed to about 90 deaths in Pennsylvania in 2017 and more than 620 last year, an increase of about 700%.

"As governor, I have the authority through my secretary of health to temporarily schedule

SEE **DRUG**, PAGE A-2

Fox settles suit for \$787M

Dominion OKs deal in defamation case

By David Bauder,
Randall Chase
and Geoff Mulvihill
Associated Press

WILMINGTON, Del. — Fox and Dominion Voting Systems reached a \$787 million settlement Tuesday in the voting machine company's defamation lawsuit, averting a trial in a case that exposed how the top-rated network chased viewers by promoting lies about the 2020 presidential election.

"The truth matters. Lies have consequences," Dominion lawyer Justin Nelson said in a news conference outside the courthouse after a judge announced the deal.

Dominion had asked for \$1.6 billion, arguing that Fox had damaged its reputation by helping peddle phony conspiracy theories about its equipment switching votes from former President Donald Trump to Democrat Joe Biden. Fox said the amount greatly overstated the value of the Colorado-based company.

The resolution in Delaware Superior Court follows a recent ruling by Judge Eric Davis in which he allowed the case to go to trial while emphasizing it was "CRYSTAL clear" that none of the allegations about Dominion aired on Fox by Trump allies was true.

In a statement issued shortly after the announcement, Fox News said the network acknowledged "the court's rulings finding certain claims about Dominion to be false." It did not respond to an inquiry asking for elaboration.

Inquiries to Dominion and Fox Corp. were not immediately returned.

Records released as part of the lawsuit showed how Fox hosts and executives did not believe the claims by Mr. Trump's allies but aired them anyway, in part to win back viewers who were fleeing the network after it correctly called hotly contested Arizona for Mr. Biden on election night.

The settlement, which does not need the judge's approval, will end a case that has proven a major embarrassment for Fox News. If the case

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Groups of people protest two conservative speakers Tuesday evening at the O'Hara Student Center on the University of Pittsburgh campus, prompting a large law enforcement response. Numerous other campus buildings were closed as a result of the protest.

PROTEST ERUPTS AT PITT

Transgender rights debate prompts 'public safety emergency'

By Maddie Aiken
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Protests over two conservative speakers at the University of Pittsburgh on Tuesday night prompted the university to issue a public safety emergency as crowds blocked off the area around the O'Hara Student Center and jammed surrounding roadways, spurring a large law enforcement response.

The university issued its public safety alert just after 7:30 p.m. as the debate — "Should transgenderism be regulated by law?" — between Daily Wire commentator Michael Knowles and libertarian journalist Brad Polumbo was ongoing.

Pitt advised people to stay away from the area around the student center, and numerous other campus buildings were closed as a result of the protest.

Residence halls remained open to those with proper identification, and guests who were not affiliated with the university were not allowed to enter.

Thaw Hall, Thackery Hall, Old Engineering Hall, Gardner Steel Center, Benedum Hall, University Club, Allen Hall and the Space Research Coordination Center were all closed as of 8:30 p.m.

After the debate ended about 9

p.m., attendees waited 30 minutes to safely exit the building as protests continued. Officers formed two lines barricading the building as attendees were escorted out a back door. By about 10 p.m., the protesters had dispersed after law enforcement officials told them they would face arrest if they continued to block the street.

SEE **PROTEST**, PAGE A-8

Shapiro reaffirms commitment to boost region's tech industry

By Michael Korsh
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Gov. Josh Shapiro delivered remarks Tuesday at the Pittsburgh Aviation and Robotics Summit, where he reaffirmed his administration's commitment to stimulating innovation and economic development in Pennsylvania.

Speaking at The Vision on Fifteenth in the Strip District, Mr. Shapiro pointed to industries such as robotics and artificial

SEE **TECH**, PAGE A-2



PA Cast

Gov. Josh Shapiro spoke at the Pittsburgh Aviation and Robotics Summit in the Strip District Tuesday.

Airport, British Airways partner on innovation

By Mark Belko
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

When British Airways resumed nonstop flights to London from Pittsburgh International Airport last year, the region was thankful just to have the service back after a 27-month hiatus.

Now the parent company of

the famous airline is further cementing its presence in the Steel City — with the region's robust tech community at the forefront.

Under an agreement announced Tuesday, the airport and International Airlines Group will work to find ways to make travel easier through the

SEE **TRAVEL**, PAGE A-8



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Weather

Partly sunny and warmer.
Daytime high, 65;
tonight's low, 50.
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