

# Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

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## O'CONNOR TRIUMPHS

CHALLENGER WINS PITTSBURGH'S DEMOCRATIC  
MAYORAL PRIMARY, UNSEATING INCUMBENT ED GAINEY



Justin Guido/Post-Gazette

Corey O'Connor is congratulated as he arrives at his election party Tuesday at Nova Place on the North Side. Mr. O'Connor defeated incumbent Mayor Ed Gainey in the Democratic primary.

### EXPANDED COVERAGE

• Moreno defeats West in GOP primary. **A-5**  
• Krasner wins Philadelphia DA primary. **A-6**  
• Madonna-Emmerling, Adams appear poised to win county council primaries. **A-5**  
• Newcomers elected to the school board; one race yet to be decided. **A-5**

By Hallie Lauer  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Allegheny County Controller Corey O'Connor pulled off a rare political feat Tuesday night, unseating incumbent Mayor Ed Gainey in an intense, competitive primary that at times appeared to be a proxy for the national battles between the progressive and moderate wings of the weakened Democratic party.

Mr. O'Connor received 53% of the votes, while Mr. Gainey tallied about 47% as of 10:50 p.m. Tuesday. Although rare for a challenger to unseat an incumbent, particularly in a dark blue area like Pittsburgh, this marks the second time in a row that voters have decided to make a change in city hall.

"We've only started this journey," Mr. O'Connor said, taking the stage around 10:30 p.m. "I entered this race with the simple message that Pittsburgh deserves better. I looked around the city as a father of two young

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Lucy Schaly/Post-Gazette

Pittsburgh Mayor Ed Gainey shakes hands after voting Tuesday at the Paulson Recreation Center.

### ANALYSIS

## Gainey's defeat highlights era of political upheaval

By Mike Wereschagin  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

A historic mayoral administration met a stunning end on Tuesday as Democratic voters ousted the city's first Black mayor as their nominee for the November ballot.

In the first high-profile loss for the progressive juggernaut that has reshaped the region's politics in recent years,

Mayor Ed Gainey lost his primary to Allegheny County Controller Corey O'Connor.

It was the second time in two elections that Democrats ousted an incumbent mayor — something that hadn't happened in Pittsburgh in nearly a century before Mr. Gainey accomplished the feat just four years ago when he

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## Charges filed in fan's fall from the stands at PNC Park

By Megan Guza  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The friend of a man who fell headfirst onto the field at PNC Park last month has been charged with buying alcohol for the 20-year-old, court records show.

Ethan Kirkwood, 21, of McKeesport, allegedly told investigators that he bought two beers for

Kavan Markwood during the Pirates game against the Chicago Cubs on April 30. Mr. Kirkwood faces two misdemeanor counts of furnishing alcohol to someone under the age of 21.

Mr. Markwood, a McKeesport native, fell over the 21-foot Clemente Wall during the seventh inning. Videos of the incident seemed to show Mr. Markwood jumping up from his

seat to celebrate an Andrew McCutchen double and then toppling over the 3-foot railing.

The footage showed Mr. Markwood, a 2022 South Allegheny High School graduate, landing hard on the warning track. Medics and trainers from both teams rushed to his aid, and he was placed on a backboard and carted from the field within minutes of the fall.

The former high school football linebacker suffered injuries to his skull, spine, lungs, ribs and brain.

Court records did not list an attorney for Mr. Kirkwood as of Tuesday afternoon. He faces a preliminary hearing June 23.

Security footage from inside PNC Park showed Mr. Kirkwood buying two 24-ounce cans of Miller Lite from a kiosk shortly before the game's first

pitch, according to the criminal complaint filed by a Pennsylvania State police liquor control enforcement officer. Another clip shows Mr. Kirkwood carrying the beers back to his group of three other people, while a subsequent clip shows Mr. Kirkwood and Mr. Markwood with beers in hand, police wrote.

SEE **MARKWOOD**, PAGE A-2



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