

WNBA announces plan to expand league to 18 teams

Riding wave of interest in women's basketball, franchises to be added in these cities. **In Sports**

Column: Time is now for Iran to take back country

World must help Iranians end tyranny once and for all, writes Iran crown prince. **In Opinion**

Streisand soars with duets on new album

USA TODAY

THE NATION'S NEWS | \$3 | TUESDAY, JULY 1, 2025

JASON MERRITT/GETTY IMAGES FOR NETFLIX



She shares mic with familiar friends, including Sting, McCartney and Dylan, in "Partners, Volume Two." Here are the best songs. **In Life**



Dogs make flying safer

Meet the four-legged wildlife patrol protecting West Virginia's busiest airport

Kathleen Wong USA TODAY

Even though border collies Hercules and Ned are panting after running around all morning, the second their human partner Chris Keyser says, "Ready" or "Bird," the dogs will spring into action and start barking. • That's because these dogs are trained as airport wildlife patrol for West Virginia International Yeager Airport, the state's busiest airport. Eight-year-old Hercules and his younger coworker, Ned, 3, work with Keyser, the airport's wildlife specialist, nearly every day to chase away any animals from the airport that could collide with aircraft. • Whenever birds are on the airfield – most often killdeer or geese in the West Virginia vicinity – the tower communicates with Keyser over the radio to command the dogs to run them off, rain or shine, from the taxiways to the grassy areas next to the fence. • "Anywhere there are birds, that's where we go," Keyser told USA TODAY.

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In addition to keeping the airfield clear of birds, border collies Hercules and Ned, have become beloved airport ambassadors, comforting travelers and even inspiring a children's book.

Three-year-old Ned, left, has been shadowing Hercules, 8, to learn the ropes of wildlife patrol, and they get along just like brothers, their handler Chris Keyser says. PROVIDED BY WEST VIRGINIA INTERNATIONAL YEAGER AIRPORT

Mentally unfit detainees lose aid

DOJ cuts leave migrants to fight without lawyers

Nick Penzenstadler
USA TODAY

The message came over a jail video call between an attorney and her client locked away in immigration detention. In an echoey windowless room she said: "I'm sorry, I can't be your lawyer anymore."

Sophie Woodruff had to tell him twice. Her client could hear the words she was saying, but he didn't understand them.

Grevil Paz Cartagena is mentally ill and legally incompetent. He has been in detention for nearly 600 days. Woodruff was the only person the 31-year-old Honduran immigrant could talk to. That was aside from the voices in his head.

She had promised not to abandon him, but the Trump administration quietly canceled a \$12 million annual contract on April 25. Since 2013, it had paid private attorneys to represent detainees deemed mentally or cognitively incompetent and unable to represent themselves.

Those attorneys filed a federal lawsuit in May challenging the abrupt change. In an April memo reviewed by USA TODAY, Department of Justice contractors crossed out any reference to "nationwide" protections for detained noncitizens with serious mental disorders.

By law, detainees with severe disabilities are still supposed to be given a fair hearing where they can present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. But now they're caught up in the administration's zest to ramp up removals under the auspices of saving taxpayers money.

That means 289 immigrants like Paz Cartagena facing removal around the country are suddenly adrift. Any newly detained immigrants deemed incompetent will not be afforded attorneys.

In a legal twist, hundreds of other mentally incompetent detainees in three states – Arizona, California and Washington – are still offered attorneys due to a previous court ruling.

"So, are you still going to be there in court?" a still-confused Paz Cartagena asked Woodruff before hanging up the video call.

Now formally withdrawn from the case, Woodruff says she's struggling to

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Victors may write history, but they rarely name wars

Historians, media often craft enduring monikers

Erin Mansfield
USA TODAY

President Donald Trump wants to call the most recent round of fighting between Iran and Israel the "12-Day War," but he may not get his wish. That's because journalists and

historians are usually the ones who put names on wars, and they often don't choose the titles that government officials put on them.

It's even less likely that the conflict could be named World War III, even though Trump has been warning about it for more than a decade, and even told the leader of Ukraine this year he was risking starting it.

"There's no official naming body, international or national," said David Sibley, a military historian for Cornell University who is based in Washington, DC. "It's really just kind of agreed on by historians, by countries, and sometimes not even that."

USA TODAY interviewed experts on international relations and military history to talk about what is happening in the world, and how it should be



The apparent remains of a ballistic missile launched by Iran into Israel lodge deep in the ground. Recent fighting between the two countries has been dubbed the "12-Day War" by U.S. President Donald Trump. AVI OHAYON/REUTERS

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