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End is in sight for extension

First sections of \$1.3B toll road will connect Jefferson Hills, W. Mifflin beginning next fall

By Ed Blazina
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

A 50-year wait for the extension of the Mon-Fayette Expressway through the Monongahela Valley should end next fall.

That's when the Pennsylvania Turnpike expects to open the first two sections of the \$1.3 billion toll road that eventually will link Jefferson Hills and Duquesne.

The first section — 3.1 miles from Route 51 Coal Valley Road in Jefferson Hills — is nearly complete and the next chunk from Coal Valley to Camp Hol-

MON-FAYETTE EXPRESSWAY

low Road near Curry Hollow Road in West Mifflin is right behind it heading into winter.

Once both are completed, the turnpike will open those sections as construction shifts next year to the third section, from Camp Hollow to Pittsburgh-McKeesport Boulevard in Dravosburg, near the Mansfield Bridge.

Four more sections remain to get

SEE **MON-FAYETTE**, PAGE A-3



Steve Mellon/Post-Gazette

This bridge on the Mon-Fayette Expressway passes over Coal Valley Road in Jefferson Hills.

CLAIRTON COKE WORKS EXPLOSION

FED PROBE FLAGS SAFETY CONCERNS

Identifies problems with U.S. Steel's rebuild

By Anya Litvak
and Evan Robinson-Johnson
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

U.S. Steel did not follow industry standards in rebuilding facilities that were damaged by the fatal August explosion in Clairton, the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board said Tuesday.

Although the federal agency is still investigating the blast at Clairton Coke Works that killed two workers and seriously injured five others, it "already has identified potentially unmitigated hazards for workers" and issued two recommendations for U.S. Steel as it rebuilds and relocates its damaged facilities.

They are calling for U.S. Steel to analyze all of its buildings in Clairton to make sure workers are properly protected.

"Even though our investigation into this terrible tragedy is ongoing, the CSB is issuing these initial recommendations to ensure that workers at the Clairton Coke Works facility are not put in harm's way hereafter," the board's chairman, Steve Owens, said in a statement.

The agency wants U.S. Steel to perform

SEE **STEEL**, PAGE A-5



Matt Freed/Post-Gazette

Nathan Mallett, left, of Smithville, Ohio, talks with former Steelers linebacker James Harrison at Napa Prime Chophouse & Cigar Bar in Marshall. Mallett was tackled by Mr. Harrison after running onto the field during a 2005 game in Cleveland.

Clues sought in nursing home blast

Bucks County explosion killed worker, resident

By Mingson Lau,
Marc Levy and Mark Scolforo
Associated Press

BRISTOL, Pa. — Construction crews worked to clear the collapsed walls and roof from a Pennsylvania nursing home Wednesday to help investigators find the cause of an explosion that killed a resident and employee, and set off a dramatic evacuation amid falling debris and shooting flames.

The Tuesday afternoon blast sent 20 others to hospitals, including one person in critical condition. The rest of the employees and 120 residents were accounted for after hours of searching the wreckage, said police Chief Charles Winik, of Bristol Township.

Survivors were transferred to nearby nursing home properties owned by the same company, the police chief and health officials said.

The Bucks County coroner's office said the employee who died was 52-year-old Muthoni Nduthu. Authorities didn't immediately identify the resident who died.

SEE **BLAST**, PAGE A-2

LESSON LEARNED

How a viral Harrison tackle changed a fan's life for the better

By Noah Hiles
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Outfitted in a gray Kent State football sweatshirt and black Nike sneakers, former Steelers linebacker James Harrison quietly made his way through the lobby and into the main dining area of Napa Prime Chophouse & Cigar Bar in Marshall.

There, sitting alone at a candlelit table with a fireplace at his back, was a face familiar to the four-time All-Pro linebacker, but one he hadn't seen in quite some time.

"You look a little different from the last time I saw you,

baby," Mr. Harrison said, taking a seat.

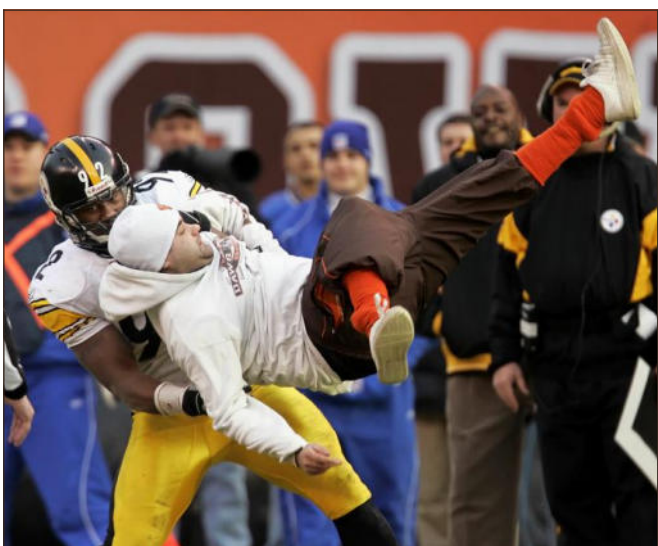
"You look the same," Nathan Mallett responded, generating a chuckle from both parties.

In 2005, a crowd of 73,136 fans in Cleveland witnessed Mr. Harrison's and Mallett's first meeting. That brief interaction was far less cordial than their reunion last Wednesday, as the first one ended with Mallett spending Christmas morning in a jail cell.

Much has changed.

Two decades after his biggest embarrassment, Mallett has a fresh lease on life. He has become a completely different man since

SEE **LESSON**, PAGE A-6



Tony Dejak/Associated Press

Mr. Harrison slams Mallett, a Browns fan, to the turf after he ran onto the field during the fourth quarter of the Steelers' 41-0 victory in Cleveland on Dec. 24, 2005.



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Weather

Morning mist; partly cloudy. Daytime high, 44; tonight's low, 28.

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