



# Final Four bound

➔ Miami earned its first trip to the Final Four with an 88-81 win over Texas on Sunday. The Hurricanes, who are the ACC's remaining team in the NCAA Tournament, will face UConn on Saturday. **SPORTS, B1**

# NEWS & RECORD

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WALT UNKS PHOTOS, STAFF

E Street Band guitarist Nils Lofgren, left, and Bruce Springsteen come down the runway to play for the crowd Saturday at the Greensboro Coliseum.

# 'Classic Bruce'

Springsteen delivers in Greensboro with a rousing performance

LISA O'DONNELL  
Staff Reporter

Trim, toned and dressed in no-nonsense black and gray, Bruce Springsteen stepped onto the stage of the Greensboro Coliseum at 7:43 p.m. Saturday, his famous beat-up Telecaster guitar slung behind his back, twirled his right hand in the air a few times and launched into "No Surrender," kicking off a nearly three-hour concert of sing-alongs, fist pumps and nonstop groove-busting that surely had thousands of Baby Boomers and Gen X-ers reaching for their Ibuprofen after the show.

In an arena that has been host to so much basketball over the last two weeks, Springsteen's show was a rim-rattling slam dunk, proving that at 73, Springsteen remains an age-defying, transcendent performer, who has apparently decided to flip the bird to Father Time.

It was the kind of soul-lifting concert that twin sisters Bridget Raber and Margaret Casey-Kruger of Myrtle Beach, S.C., had hoped for.

The twins were among the thousands of fans who gathered in the parking lot on a sun-soaked afternoon, priming themselves for the show.

Self-described "New Jersey girls," the sisters were celebrating their 60th birthday. Last week, a friend, unable to attend the show, asked them if they



E Street Band saxophonist Jake Clemons, left, and Bruce Springsteen play for the crowd on Saturday at the Greensboro Coliseum.



Twin sisters Bridget Raber, left and Margaret Casey-Kruger, who are originally from Bordentown, N.J. tailgate before the Bruce Springsteen concert Saturday at the Greensboro Coliseum. The two were celebrating their 60th birthdays.

wanted his second-row tickets for free.

"Are you freakin' kidding me?" Raber asked.

Raber and Casey-Kruger grew up in central New Jersey and feel a kinship with Springsteen, whose working-class Jersey roots are central to his identity.

"We grew up with him," Casey-Kruger said.

Springsteen's music, they said, reflects the lives of waitresses, factory workers and working people trying to get by.

"It's real life," Raber said. "It's America."

Her sister chimed in: "It's not divisive. It's, 'Let's celebrate our journey.'"

The convivial atmosphere that Springsteen creates in his shows was evident all over the parking lot on Saturday, with folks blasting his music, playing cornhole and sipping on drinks.

On one end of the parking lot, another pair of fans from Jersey — Barbara Frycz and her daughter, Courtney, 23, — sat under a shade tree before the show. Courtney was dressed in one of her mom's vintage Springsteen concert T-shirts.

"I grew up on Bruce Springsteen," said Courtney, who now lives in Raleigh. Saturday's Springsteen was her first.

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**LOOK:** To see more photos of the Springsteen show, point your smartphone camera at the QR code, then tap the link. **NEWSVU**

■ **Inside:** Springsteen helps raise money, awareness about a local nonprofit, *The Green Team Helping Hands*. A6

## New voter photo ID rules stir concern

Many GOP-led states are pressing changes, with unclear effects

JULIE CARR SMYTH  
Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — As Ohio's primary approaches, a strict new photo ID requirement is stirring concerns for military veterans and out-of-state college students, in Amish communities and among older voters.

Other Republican-led states are moving in the same direction as they respond to conservative voters unsettled by unfounded claims of widespread fraud and persistent conspiracy theories over the accuracy of U.S. elections. Critics characterize such requirements as an overreaction that could end up disenfranchising eligible voters.

Ruth Kohake is among those caught up in the confusion over Ohio's law, which is going into effect this year. The retired nurse from Cincinnati gave up her driver's license and her car in 2019. Now 82, she thought she might never have to step foot in another state license agency.

But Ohio now requires an unexpired photo ID in order for someone to vote, and she'll have to get that at the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. The law adds passports as valid ID, but eliminates non-photo documentation such as a bank statement, government check or utility bill for registration and in-person voting. Military IDs also are no longer acceptable when registering to vote.

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## Documents: Neglect may have raised explosion risk

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Neglected structural deficiencies at a Winston-Salem fertilizer plant may have heightened the risk for what fire officials feared at the time could have been one of the most destructive explosions in the nation's history, a state investigation following a blaze that destroyed the facility in early 2022 found.

In more than 80 pages of documents, obtained by the Winston-Salem Journal through a public records request, the N.C. Department of Labor details post-fire interactions with employees and management of Winston Weaver Co.

Please see **RISK**, Page A8

## Aftermath

Help began pouring into one of the poorest regions of the U.S. after a deadly tornado tore a path of destruction in the Mississippi Delta. **PAGE A9**



## Weather

Mix of sun and clouds with a shower in the morning.  
**High 76**  
**Low 47**  
FORECAST • A10

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