

An unlikely Final Four

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The goat raising life

Forrest Hartley on calling in the 'kids' **LOCAL, A3**



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2009 Pulitzer Prize winner

Mascot options down to four

Glens Falls announces finalists in process to replace 'Indians'

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GLENS FALLS — The Glens Falls City School District's student cabinet has gathered the data and put forth a recommendation of four different mascot finalists.

The top four choices of Knights, Wolves, Black Bears and Hawks was announced by Superinten-

dent Krislynn Dengler last week.

"From hundreds of additional data points, the cabinet distilled the final choices for Glens Falls' new mascot: Knights, Wolves, Black Bears, and Hawks! It is very important to note that we will remain GF Nation, and continue using that moniker going forward," she said in an email that was also posted to the district website.

The student cabinet began the process of collecting data in February from rounds of surveys to find what values the district embodies and to identify drivers

through a workshop.

The student cabinet also provides periodic updates to the district's board of education, most recently on March 13. Liam Burgess, a student on the cabinet, has expressed joy about working on such an impactful project.

"It's really cool to be the head of such a big project," he said.

Dengler said in the release that the district and cabinet members "are simply choosing a mascot to go with" GF Nation. She has stood behind when the students have presented at board meetings and

has highlighted some of the members' work outside of the cabinet meetings.

"The cabinet has already agreed to keep GF Nation, as it embodies our core values. The mascot gives us an icon to rally school spirit around. Please be sure to watch for the community survey release on GFSD.org later this week, and participate in the process," she said in Tuesday's email.

The community survey for input on Knights, Wolves, Black Bears and Hawks will be open until March 30. During the coming

week the cabinet and Dengler will prepare their recommendations for the board and present them Monday, April 3.

On June 30, the Glens Falls City School District will remove all former mascot identifiers and they will be retired. Dengler has said throughout the transition that the mascot change will not change the history of what district officials and supporters refer to as "GF Nation."

Burgess urged the same at the

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BRUCE SQUIERS, SPECIAL TO THE POST-STAR

SWEET BOIL

Partially enveloped in steam from an evaporator at work Saturday at the Dry Brook Sugar House in Salem, Bob Chambers monitors boiling activity as sap is turned into maple syrup. Chambers, who runs the facility along with Kevin Keyes, hosted the public to the closing weekend of the 2023 Maple Weekends held throughout the area. Visitors at some of the locations also enjoyed pancake and sausage breakfast meals, topped of course, with maple syrup.

City parking talks progress

Committee gets feedback from officials on overnight proposal

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GLENS FALLS — Safety and emergency service officials continue to work on safety concerns for overnight parking in Glens Falls.

Fire Chief James Schrammel, Police Chief Jarred Smith, and Tom Girard, city Department of Public Works field operations manager, were all in attendance at last week's Special Projects Committee meeting.

They gave their opinions on the board's idea of trying to introduce overnight parking between the hours of 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. at their meeting on Tuesday.

"I think not only should we weigh in on the idea, the community should too. Some of our issues with the fire department is the city having a lot of narrow streets so they are already limited in the ability to pass through," Schrammel said.

Schrammel, Smith and Girard gave Mary Gooden, committee chairwoman and fifth-ward councilwoman, and the other members recommendations for proper safety as well ideas that might work for the city.

Smith said he had little to no concerns about the board's action, saying the department would back the laws city officials propose.

"Officers are out on patrol between the hours of 2 a.m. to 6 a.m.," he said. "Operational wise, from the department, we're going to enforce the law and that's why we're here."

Schrammel added concerns about needing their largest trucks to be able to access homes if there ever were a fire emergency. He said snow also could add trouble to the mix during the winter.

The tankers that respond to fires need a 16-foot clearance on both sides when making turns, making it difficult to have parking on the streets when large

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Republican bills push cash bail

HARM VENHUIZEN
Associated Press/Report for America

MADISON, Wis. — Just two days before he drove his SUV through a Christmas parade in suburban Milwaukee, killing six people and injuring more than 60, Darrell Brooks Jr. posted bail for charges of domestic violence.

He had been accused of using his SUV to run over the mother of his child, and a pretrial assessment found Brooks was at high risk of reoffending. But a court official set that bail at a mere \$1,000 cash at the request of prosecutors, who later called their recommendation a mistake. For the parade killings, Brooks was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Brooks quickly became the poster child for a Republican-backed push to enact tougher bail policies. The Republican-controlled Wisconsin Legislature is asking voters to ratify a constitutional amendment that would make it harder for violent criminals to get out of jail on bail.



MORRY GASH, ASSOCIATED PRESS

A prisoner stands inside an isolation cell Sept. 16, 2014, at the Dane County Jail in Madison, Wis.

GOP lawmakers in other states also are scrambling to make it harder for defendants to get out of jail before trial after branding themselves as tough on crime in the 2022 midterm elections. Their efforts led to a fierce fight with Democrats over public safety and the rights of criminal defendants.

Recent Democratic overhaul measures in states such as Illinois and New York have sought to eliminate cash bail and lessen pretrial detention on the premise they do more harm than good, especially to marginalized groups.

But Republican lawmakers in at least 14 states have introduced

some 20 bills so far this year to do just the opposite. Their proposals include increasing the number of non-bailable offenses, requiring more people to pay cash bail and encouraging or requiring judges to consider a defendant's criminal record when setting bail.

Criminal justice experts and advocacy groups warn the Republican-backed measures aren't supported by research and could worsen crime rates and disparities between rich and poor. Bail is meant to ensure a defendant returns to court and isn't supposed to be a punishment, since the defendant hasn't yet been convicted.

"Cash bail is not a benefit to defendants or to public safety," said Shima Baradaran Baughman, a law professor at the University of Utah who studies bail.

"When people are detained before trial even for a few days, they are dramatically more likely to reoffend later," Baughman said. "In other words, it is much

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