

Chicago Tribune



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BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM



Suburban bus drop-off leaves migrants stranded

Wearing T-shirts and sandals, group eventually reaches Chicago by Metra

By Nell Salzman | Chicago Tribune

After they missed their train from Glen Ellyn to Chicago early Friday morning, migrants wrapped themselves in thin white blankets on the concrete platform. They were left at the Metra station after a ride in a large charter bus from El Paso, Texas, and given train tickets by their bus driver. They ran toward a train that was just pulling out of the station, but had gotten there too late. Police said the next train wouldn't come for five hours.

"It's so bad," said 22-year-old Daniel Torres from Maracay, Venezuela, after riding the bus for over 30 hours. "Look at the time we arrived."

A complex humanitarian crisis in Venezuela that has brought record numbers of migrants to the U.S. border is now being twisted into a game of human transport where people are passed off like cargo.

Above: After missing a Metra train to Chicago, migrants re-board the bus they traveled on from El Paso, Texas, early Friday morning in Glen Ellyn. Glen Ellyn police asked the bus to return so the migrants would have a warm place to wait before the next train at about 5 a.m. Buses began arriving in the suburbs once Chicago tightened rules to ask for more communication and coordination about drop-offs from Texas. **ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Texas Republican Gov. Greg Abbott has sent more than 630 buses to Chicago in the past 16 months carrying some 29,000 migrants, as of city data Friday. He began sending migrants on buses from his state to suburbs of Chicago when the city tightened rules in mid-December to ask for more coordination and communication about drop-offs with Texas.

Prior to the city's rules, buses were coming at all hours of the day and night, without warning. Now, in order to skirt new \$3,000 fees issued by the city, they're doing the same in the suburbs — leaving some migrants in uncertainty and forced to stand or walk long distances outside in the cold. Friday was the second day in

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Ethics package could be limited

Uncertain whether City Council will act if mayor is hands-off

By A.D. Quig
Chicago Tribune

In the wake of former Ald. Edward Burke's blockbuster racketeering conviction, his onetime colleagues on the Chicago City Council are faced with a choice: whether to hold themselves to tougher ethical standards.

They're largely weighing that decision without input from Mayor Brandon Johnson, who, unlike his predecessor, is taking a hands-off approach to anti-corruption reforms.

The fresh debate is spurred by a slew of new recommendations from the Chicago Board of Ethics tightening rules for city contractors, campaign fundraising and advertising that a key committee chairman pledged to take up in the new year. It could be Johnson's first significant opportunity to start to establish his "good government" bona fides.

The issue was front and center in the 2019 campaign after a raid on Burke's office that Lori Lightfoot successfully seized on to help propel her to victory.

But Johnson and many coun-

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INSIDE



WARNER BROTHERS

Winter movies

The Tribune's Michael Phillips screens his top 10, including the "Mean Girls" musical, a new "Dune" and a Bob Marley biopic. **A+E**

Home repairs as art

The "unBlocked" project helps Englewood reinvest in the disinvested as a way to uplift and heal the community. **Life+Travel**

Jets grounded

The FAA grounded some 737 Max 9 jets until they are inspected after an Alaska Airlines plane suffered a blowout. **Nation & World**

TODAY'S WEATHER

High **36**
Low **30**



Complete Chicagoland forecast on Page 22

\$5.75 city and suburbs and elsewhere
176th year No. 7
© Chicago Tribune



As girls wrestling grows, equity proves elusive

With participation up, parents say programs are lacking resources

By Jonathan Bullington
Chicago Tribune

The match was over in seconds. New Trier High School junior Jillian Giller, 16, yanked her opponent to the ground, wrapped her right arm under the girl's right leg and, with a few quick thrusts, pinned the girl's shoulders to the mat. It was the first of what would be two victories for Jillian that Friday night, both against opponents above her 140-pound weight class.

Jillian was one of at least 60 other girls from area high schools who packed a curtained-off section of Adlai E. Stevenson High School's sprawling field house for the Dec. 15 girls invitational wrestling tournament, competing in what has become the fastest growing high school sport in Illinois.

In years past, girls who wanted to wrestle in high school either had to do so at the club level or



Jillian Giller, of New Trier High School, pins Lilliana Lara, of Marist High School, during a girls wrestling invitational match at Stevenson High School in Lincolnshire on Dec. 15. **TRENT SPRAGUE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

"We need a place for girls to understand how to use their strength, how to find their voice and use their power."

— Sally Roberts, Wrestle Like a Girl founder and CEO

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