

Gambling machines could make comeback

Big money shapes Va. debate on previously banned slots-like games

BY LAURA VOZZELLA

RICHMOND — The slots-like gaming machines that Virginia has twice banned from gas stations, restaurants and convenience stores would blink back to life under legislation that lobbyists and legislators are pushing through the General Assembly.

The measure could pave the way for slots-style gaming in every corner of the state, which approved the lottery and betting at horse tracks a generation ago but has long shunned other forms of gambling. One of the nation's last holdouts against casinos, Virginia allowed them just three years ago, lured by promised jobs and tax revenue; it already has three operating casinos, a fourth in the works, a fifth permitted under existing law and a sixth proposed for Fairfax County in a separate bill filed last week. The state also has more than a half-dozen "historical horse racing" (HHR) parlors, which feature a video horse-racing game that, like the "skill" or "gray" machines trying to make a comeback, are often likened to slots.

"It looks like the train has left the station," Del. Paul E. Krizek (D-Fairfax) said last week after a Senate committee advanced a bill to legalize, regulate and tax "gray" or "skill" machines, so called because they occupied a legal gray area before the state banned them and because operators claim that winnings depend on a player's skill, not pure chance like conventional slots.

Supporters say the bill, which would have to clear at least one more committee before reaching the Senate floor, represents a lifeline for small businesses and a source of new revenue for the state.

But Krizek and other skeptics, including the state's casinos and the anti-gambling Family Foundation of Virginia, warn the measure would let tens of thousands of mini-slots parlors pop up in places that are accessible to

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D.C. betting: City looks to turn over sports app to private operator. B6



MELINA MARA/THE WASHINGTON POST

In N.H., last two standing

To close a daunting double-digit deficit, Haley focuses on being the antithesis

BY MARIANNE LEVINE, SABRINA RODRIGUEZ AND DYLAN WELLS

MANCHESTER, N.H. — Nikki Haley blitzed through New Hampshire on Monday as the last candidate standing against Donald Trump, urging voters not to take for granted that he will be the Republican presidential nominee as she tried to blunt his momentum on the eve of a critical primary.

With the party increasingly falling in line behind the former president, polls showing Haley facing double-digit deficits and a window for her best chance to stop or slow him about to close, the former U.N. ambassador made a final pitch as the candidate who is best equipped to defeat President Biden and usher wins down the ballot for Republicans in November.

SEE HALEY ON A8



JABIN BOTSFORD/THE WASHINGTON POST

TOP: Nikki Haley meets New Hampshire voters at a restaurant in Concord on Monday. She has pinned much of her hopes on Tuesday's primary. **ABOVE:** Donald Trump, who has a double-digit polling lead, speaks to supporters in Laconia on Monday.

Roe v. Wade anniversary: In Wisconsin, Harris takes on abortion. A4

Once manic, now meh: The N.H. primary isn't what it used to be. A6

Boosting Biden: Granite State allies lodge a write-in campaign. A8

Loyalty, long lines, 'civil war' talk: A raging movement propels Trump

BY HANNAH KNOWLES AND MERYL KORNFELD

NEWTON, N.H. — Sel Mize was just starting to walk again after a bad fall that hurt his hip and sent him to the hospital. But Donald Trump was coming to town, and he and his girlfriend weren't going to miss it.

He got to the Atkinson Country Club around 10 a.m. to wait in line outside in the snow, dressed in shorts, his hip still tormenting him. "Mega, mega pain," the 59-year-old said. Trump was late and didn't speak until about 7 p.m., but it was worth it, Mize said.

Back at his home in Newton — where an American flag with Trump's face hangs in the front yard, with the words "NEVER SURRENDER" — Mize described a dark mood among Trump die-hards, with some

SEE TRUMP ON A10

Biden presses abortion access

PRESIDENT PITCHES NEW MEASURES

Harris blames Trump for Roe v. Wade reversal

BY CLEVE R. WOOTSON JR. AND DAN DIAMOND

BIG BEND, WIS. — Vice President Harris framed the fight for abortion access in searing terms in this battleground state Monday afternoon, highlighting what she called "the horrific reality that women are facing every single day" since the Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade* 18 months ago.

Harris left little doubt that her remarks were aimed in large part at former president Donald Trump. "As we face this crisis and as we are clear-eyed about the harm, let us also understand who is responsible, shall we?" she said. "The former president hand-picked three Supreme Court justices because he intended for them to overturn *Roe*. He intended for them to take away your freedoms. And it is a decision he brags about."

Harris's remarks on the 51st anniversary of the decision in *Roe*, the Supreme Court case granting a constitutional right to an abortion, came as the Biden administration is trying to mobilize the Democratic base around the fight for reproductive freedom. Her appearance was part of a full-court press on abortion rights being unleashed by the Biden team this week, as the administration announced new steps Monday intended to ensure access to contraception, abortion medication and emergency abortions at hospitals.

President Biden, Harris and their spouses will attend a joint campaign rally on Tuesday focused on abortion access. Biden on Monday convened two dozen senior officials in the White House for a meeting of his reproductive health task force, where he was joined by several physicians who have practiced in states with abortion bans. The Biden

SEE BIDEN ON A4

Carjackings underscore risks of food delivery in D.C.

Violence encountered on the job leaves DoorDash, Uber Eats and Grubhub drivers with trauma, anxiety

BY PAUL SCHWARTZMAN

The DoorDash driver had just delivered a bottle of liquor to a Northeast Washington apartment and was back in his car, engine running, when he noticed a man in the darkness by his window, aiming a gun at his face.

Alemsegd Wolderufael stepped on the gas, lurched forward and heard the sound of gunfire and shattering glass. A bullet had pierced the passenger-side window and — as he would learn later when his wife saw blood — lodged in his back.

An emergency room doctor told Wolderufael that he was lucky to survive that night in September, a pronouncement that made him contemplate what he had avoided by speeding away. "If I don't move, the bullet is here," Wolderufael, 58, recalled in an interview, pointing to his left temple.

The alarming rise in carjack-

SEE DELIVERY DRIVERS ON A22



SARAH VOISIN/THE WASHINGTON POST

Grubhub driver Mohamad refuses to make deliveries in D.C., having been a victim of multiple crimes.

After nearly giving up on Israel, they're all in

BY STEVE HENDRIX AND ITAY STERN

TEL AVIV — Last summer, the Shapiros gave Israel a deadline. If the right-wing government continued its push to take power from the courts — a campaign that the couple believed put democracy, women's rights and LGBTQ+ progress in jeopardy — they would leave.

"We said, 'Let's give it six months,'" recalled Hanna Shapiro, a 35-year-old graphic designer. She protested the government almost weekly, pushing the strollers of two boys she didn't want serving in the army of a country they saw drifting from their ideals of equity and justice.

Then came Oct. 7, when Hamas-led fighters streamed out of Gaza to rampage through Israeli communities. Authorities say they killed about 1,200 Israelis, most of them civilians, and kidnapped about 240 more.

Now, as the Israel Defense Forces devastate Gaza, rockets fly overhead and war looms in Lebanon, the Shapiros say they can no longer imagine living anywhere else.

"I feel more Israeli than ever," said Shapiro, who immigrated here from Paris a decade ago. "Last year, I thought I don't need to be Israeli; I can just be a Jewish woman somewhere in the world living my life."

"Now, I can't pretend that I'm not part of these people."

For thousands of liberal Israelis, Oct. 7 spurred an impulse not to flee, but to double down on a nation they had feared was heading toward autocracy and theocracy. Many Israelis overseas hurried home. Military reservists who had been boycotting their training raced back to their units. Democracy activists retooled the move-

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