

# Good day mate: USA blanks Australia

## Advances to knockout stage at World Cup

**SEATTLE (AP)** The U.S. national soccer team advanced to the knockout round at the World Cup without injured forward Christian Pulisic on the field, beating Australia 2-0 on Friday.

A deep U.S. roster earned a knockout berth after only two matches for the first time. The last time the Americans served as World Cup hosts in 1994, they advanced by being one of the best third-place teams. They then lost to eventual champion Brazil in their next match, which was in the round of 16.

Pulisic, who plays for AC Milan and has 33 goals in 87 international appearances, missed Friday's match because of a calf injury.

"C.P. is a fantastic player — the quality and the leadership that he gives us," said



**Australia's Aiden O'Neill (3) appeals for offside after United States' Alex Freeman (16) scored a goal past Australia goalkeeper Patrick Beach (18) during the World Cup Group D match in Seattle on Friday.**

AP PHOTO

Folarin Balogun, who scored two goals in the 4-1 victory over Paraguay on June 12.

"We didn't have him today, but I think you saw we're still capable to go out there and

get a result and put up a performance." Alex Freeman, the young-

est player on the team at 21 and son of Super Bowl champion Antonio Freeman, gave the Americans a 2-0 lead in the 43rd minute off a set piece. Freeman headed in a deflected shot by Sergiño Dest for his first career World Cup goal. The goal was confirmed after a video review.

The U.S. took a 1-0 lead in the 11th minute after a run down the left sideline by Balogun.

He directed a centering pass towards striker Ricardo Pepi, who started in place of Pulisic. The ball never reached Pepi, deflecting off Australia defender Cameron Burgess and into the Soccerroos' net for an own-goal.

"I want to be dangerous, I want to create opportunities," Balogun said. "It might not always be myself that scores, but if I can force an error that gives us the lead, then for me it's like a goal as well. It was a special start to the game to give us the momentum."

## SPARKS

From Page B1

Atlanta Braves game.

My brother is an expert in the medical field and a father of two, but for years, and maybe he still believes it to this day, he thought the Cincinnati Bengals were a baseball team. His talents lie elsewhere, away from a playing field.

I never had a father-son sports connection, at least not one I can remember. I have been told that my father brought me to the Sweet Sixteen basketball tournament when I was a baby, and my mother often recalls how he kept a 3-year-old toddler awake as long as he could during the 1978 national championship game. I nodded off before Goose Givens finished off his 41-point masterpiece to lead Kentucky to the title. If I could have held my head up on my own, I probably would have watched Big Red Machine games with him in the years after I was born in 1974.

Life can be cruel sometimes, and I've never had any more of those moments in the last 44 years, unfortunately, since I don't have any kids of my own. As hard as I fight it, you try to focus on what you have rather than what you don't.

I have other interests, but I have a sports-dominated mindset. Other than family, it's the one thing I can cling to every day. My memory banks contain mostly sports.

It's where I have found my closest friends. I can't remember what I did last week. I can never find my keys, but I can recall where I was during every game of the Comeback Cats' 1998 championship run. I can recite every last detail in the final seconds of Game 5 in the 1987 Eastern Conference Finals when Celtics legend Larry Bird stole a late pass and dished it to Dennis Johnson for the game-winning layup against Detroit. I



BRAYLEIGH BOGGS | FOR THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

**Boyd County huddles together in the dugout prior to the state championship game at Kentucky Proud Park on June 13.**

still remember broadcaster Johnny Most's call: "On my, this place is going crazy."

I've made a late connection through my current profession. I never played in a state tournament or a region tournament for that matter, but I was fortunate enough to attend a state championship game last Saturday. Of course, it will never be about me, and I wasn't the one playing, but you still take the time to soak in the environment.

It's what this job gives me. More sports moments to cherish. I will keep them to myself (unless I want to share them in a column). Journalists should never root for one team. If that's what you are looking for, you can find it elsewhere online and on social media. We want all our area teams to achieve success. We report events and facts, whether you agree with them or not.

I always congratulate players and coaches before interviews on their efforts after a win or after a great game or season. I should also say thank you for allowing me to share the moment and making a new memory, even if for a

very short time.

We will have new features in our newspaper this fall, including a special weekly page. With only one person in the sports department, we can't be everywhere.

Moms were recognized, and rightfully so, during every state baseball tournament game, but don't forget about the dads, especially this weekend. Forget the ties and dinners, just thank him for being there. It will go a long way.

During the state fi-

### PUBLIC NOTICES

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

Shogun Z & J Corp, Mailing address 418 River Hill Drive, Ashland, KY 41101, hereby declares its intention to apply for NQ2-Restaurant Liquor, Wine and Malt Beverages (beer) by the Drink, Special Sunday, Transitional Spirits and Wine, and Transitional Malt Beverage licenses no later than June 24 2026.

The business to be licensed will be located at 418 River Hill Drive, Ashland, Kentucky 41101 doing business as Shogun Japanese Steakhouse.

The (owner(s); Principal Officers and Directors; Limited Partners; or Members) are as follows: President, Pan Zhu of 1053 Sawgrass CV, Lexington, KY 40509.

Any person may protest the approval of the license by writing the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control within thirty (30) days of the date of legal publication.

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nal, you saw dads who brought their kids to a big game to enjoy another special moment, dads in the dugouts and dads in the stands cheering on and watching their son do what they love.

If he were alive, I guarantee my dad would have been in attendance, enjoying a ball game with an overpriced hot dog.

### PUBLIC NOTICES

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

##### BEVERAGE NOTICE

Revolutionary Racing Kentucky, LLC, with a mailing address of 10775 US 60 Ashland, KY 41102 hereby declares its intention to apply for NQ1 Retail Drink, Extended Hours Supplemental, and Sampling licenses no later than 6/16/2026. The business to be licensed will be located at 11000 Paul Coffey BLVD. Ashland, KY 41102 doing business as Sandy's Racing and Gaming/ Sandy Ridge. Revolutionary Racing Kentucky LLC is a Delaware limited liability company authorized to do business in Kentucky. Revolutionary Racing Kentucky LLC is owned by ELS-RRKY Holdings, LLC and EBCI Holdings, LLC. The managers of Revolutionary Racing Kentucky LLC are Prentice Salter, 13284 Barkstone Ct Richmond, VA 23238 and R. Scott Barber 530 Augusta Lane Chattahoochee Hills, GA 30268. Any person, association, corporation, or body politic may protest the approval of the license by writing the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, 500 Mero Street, 2 NE 33, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, within (30) days of the date of legal publication.

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He probably would even cheer for Boyd County, even though he was an Ashland guy. Maybe.

Most of all, he would be there for one main reason.

Watching his son do something he loves.

Reach **MATTHEW SPARKS** at msparks@daillyindependent.com or (606) 326-2671. Follow @SparksWillFly35 on Twitter (X).

### PUBLIC NOTICES

#### PUBLIC NOTICE - MEETING

Ashland-Boyd County Board of Health will hold a meeting on June 22, 2026 at 6:30 PM, to address budget, tax rate and increments. For more information, call (606) 329-9444.

Published: June 20, 2026

#### PUBLIC NOTICE ORDINANCE NO. 5, 2026

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CATLETTSBURG, KENTUCKY, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING FAITH DAY, MAYOR, TO EXECUTE AGREEMENT WITH MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS FOR THE PURCHASE AND IMPLEMENTATION OF BODY CAMERAS FOR THE CATLETTSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT.**

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**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF CATLETTSBURG, KENTUCKY:**

**SECTION. 1.** That Faith Day, Mayor of the City of Catlettsburg, Kentucky, is hereby authorized and directed to execute the attached Agreement with Motorola Solutions for the purchase and implementation of body cameras for the Catlettsburg Police Department. The Agreement is attached hereto and made a part hereof by reference.

**SECTION 2.** This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption, re-adoption, and publication, as required by law.

*Faith R. Day*  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

*Jenny Clark*  
CITY CLERK

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: MAY 21, 2026  
READOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: JUNE 16, 2026  
Published: June 20, 2026

### PUBLIC NOTICE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS

City of Ashland  
June 2026

The City of Ashland, Kentucky has received funds from settlement of National Prescription Opioid Litigation. All sums received must be expended for opioid abatement purposes related to opioid use disorder consistent with the criteria set forth in KRS 15.291(5).

The City is requesting submission of proposals from interested parties for such uses of City funds in whole or in part, or in conjunction with applications for award of funds from the Commonwealth of Kentucky Opioid Abatement Advisory Commission.

Please submit proposals by 4:00 PM EST on Tuesday, June 30, 2026. Address the submittal to:

Susan Maddix, City Clerk  
City of Ashland  
P.O. Box 1839  
Ashland, KY 41105-1839  
606-385-3307  
smaddix@ashlandky.gov

For any questions regarding the scope of the project, contact:

Andrew K. Wheeler  
Corporation Counsel  
City of Ashland  
P.O. Box 1839  
Ashland, KY 41105-1839  
606-385-3307  
awheeler@ashlandky.gov

The City of Ashland reserves the right to accept or reject any and all proposals in its complete and absolute discretion.

Published: June 6, 13 & 20, 2026